

92.34 ST. NICHOLAS PRIORY 1983-84

(ROMAN MILITARY)

**EXCAVATIONS AT ST. NICHOLAS
PRIORY EXETER, 1983-84
PART 1: ROMAN MILITARY**

by
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Report No. 92.34

PREFACE

This report comprises two sections. The first section summarises, in the form of a site narrative, the main results of the excavation of the Roman military levels at the St Nicholas Priory site of 1983-84 (for the location of the site see Fig.1). The second section contains the more detailed archaeological evidence upon which the site narrative is based. In Section 2 the excavation records are presented in a processed form using matrices and stratigraphic groups and sub-groups with standardised descriptions of individual contexts.

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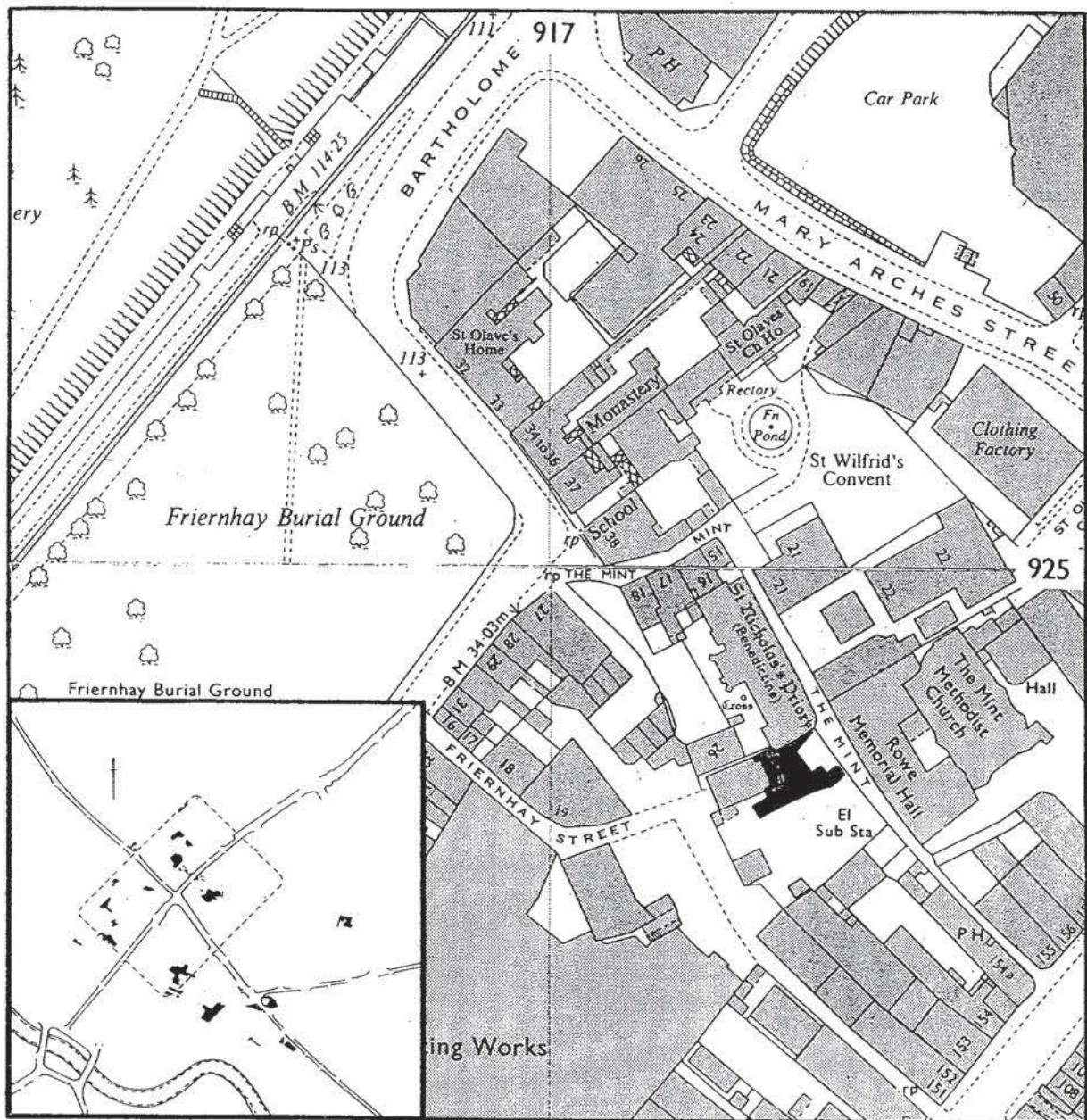


Fig. 1 The location of the St. Nicholas Priory excavations Exeter 1983-84. The inset shows the approximate position of the site within the fortress.

SECTION 1

Introduction

From October 1983 to February 1984 the Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit (EMAFU) undertook an excavation on a plot of land adjacent to the St Nicholas Priory Museum. This plot had been acquired by Exeter City Council from Messrs Knapman and Co. in order that the setting of the Museum be improved by the addition of a landscaped area within its grounds. The excavation was funded by Exeter City Council and was directed by C.G. Henderson for the Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit. The site supervisors were J. P. Allan and P. O'Hara.

Post-excavation work for this research archive report was undertaken in 1992 by J.B. Bedford and J.P. Salvatore.

1.1 The organisation of this report

Section 1 contains a site narrative for the Roman military period. This narrative is an interpretive and stratigraphic account based upon the discussion of the archaeological records contained in Section 2.

Section 2 contains the detailed archaeological evidence for the stratigraphic development of the site during the Roman military period.

1.2 The site

The excavation was undertaken in the grounds immediately to the south-east of the existing St Nicholas Priory Museum, between The Mint Lane and Friernhay Street at SX 9175 9247.

1.3 Method of excavation

Excavation was by the open-area method with accompanying sections to recover details of the stratigraphy. Within the area of excavation, which was approximately 18m x 10m, it was found necessary to empty out a massive robbing trench of the 14th century. When the fills of this, the deepest medieval foundation trenches, and later robbing trenches, had been cleared out, several first century Roman features were recognised cutting into the natural subsoil. These features were further investigated.

1.4 Excavation summary

During excavation, part of the west end of the priory church of St Nicholas, including the earliest west front, was revealed along with a subsequent 14th century tower. Robbing of these walls took place at the time of the Dissolution. Further brief discussion of the results of these aspects of the excavation are given by Allan and Henderson (1984, 14-15). The results of the excavation of the Roman military levels were also touched upon in the same publication (*ibid.*, 16-18) where two buildings of the Roman military period at Exeter (c.AD 55/60 - c.75/80) were identified, both of which were clearly barracks. The remains of these barracks were first encountered at about 33m OD.

1.5 Post-excavation applications

In the post-excavation analysis which took place in 1992 the area that encompassed the Roman military remains was divided into two areas, the boundaries of which correspond to the two Roman military buildings that had been previously

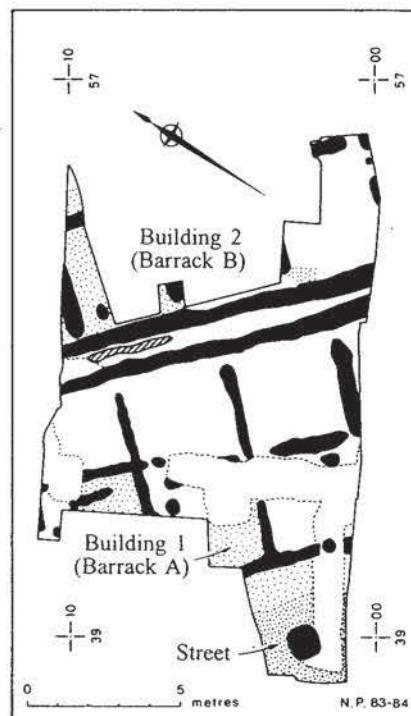


Fig. 2 A composite plan of the Roman military features at the St. Nicholas Priory site. Scale 1:250

recognised in excavation. Thus, Building 1 occupied the south-western Area 1 and Building 2 occupied the north-eastern Area 2. Likewise the matrices are matched; the contexts associated with Building 1 are found on Matrices 1a-1c, those of Building 2 on Matrices 2a-2b.

The site records, comprising context sheets, field plans, plans on drawing film, and photographic material, are stored at the EMAFU offices, Gandy St. Exeter under site code 78.

1.6 Site narrative: Roman military

Buildings 1-2 (Barracks A and B) (Fig. 2)

The remains of two barracks within the *praetentura* of the legionary fortress at Exeter were excavated. These barracks had been placed back to back and they were orientated parallel with the short axis of the fortress, and with their centurial quarters almost certainly adjacent to the *via praetoria*. The barracks were of a type of post-trench construction commonly found for the timber buildings of the Roman fortress at Exeter. The positions of the posts within the post-trenches were occasionally recognised by the archaeological traces left behind in the infilled trenches. Barrack A faced south-west and evidence of both a colonnaded verandah and a street were observed forward of the front wall of the building. The full width of the barrack, inclusive of its verandah, was 10.20m. Barrack A produced evidence of at least three *contubernia*, one of which showed clear signs of having been modified during the life of the building. This modification would have reduced the available floor area within the inner room of the *contubernium*; the outer room may have been subdivided at the same time. Some

of the original floor surfaces within the *contubernia* survived to be recorded during the course of the excavation. These surfaces were well defined within the outer rooms of Barrack A.

Barrack B lay parallel with Barrack A, back to back with it and with a space of under one metre separating the two adjacent back walls. The barrack would have faced north-east although it was not possible to locate the front wall within the area available for excavation. Traces of three *contubernia* were also recognised within this barrack but much of their detail was obscured by medieval masonry. Nevertheless, floor surfaces were noted in both the inner and outer rooms of the most westerly *contubernium*.

A feature that was found in the space between the two back walls of the barracks, and lying parallel with them, may have been a gully that drained to the north-west. Some tentative evidence for the removal of posts, perhaps during the demolition of these barracks, was recorded by the excavators. The more detailed stratigraphic evidence for the Roman military levels is found in Section 2 of this report. See particularly the matrices and the discussion of groups 1-6.

1.7 Conclusions

The investigation of the Roman military barracks at the St Nicholas Priory site was of great importance in the understanding of the layout of the Roman fortress. The unexpected orientation of the barracks, *per scamna* rather than *per strigas*, was one of the factors that enabled Henderson to postulate twelve cohort-blocks within the area of the fortress instead of the more usual ten (Henderson 1984, 20; 1988, 102-105).

The relationship of the site to the fortress as a whole will be discussed in a future Exeter Archaeological Report (Salvatore and Henderson forthcoming).

Acknowledgements

The authors of this report would like to express their gratitude to John Allan who was able to provide some additional information on the interpretation of the Roman military remains. The plans in this report with the exception of the 800 series were drawn by T. Ives and were photographed for reduction by G. Young. The 800 series plans were drawn by various members of the Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit (EMAFU). The matrices were produced by A.G. Collings who also typed Section 2 of the text. Pottery listings were provided by G. Langman.

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Salvatore J.P. and Henderson C.G. forthcoming *The Roman Legionary Fortress at Exeter*, Exeter Archaeological Reports.

SECTION 2

Introduction

This section of the report contains a record of the detailed archaeological evidence upon which the narrative produced in Section 1 is based. The stratigraphic sequences are presented in the form of context matrices. The matrices have been produced according to a series of stratigraphic groups which illustrate events in the archaeological record. Individual contexts are described in a standardised form in numerical order.

2.1 Context matrix identification

Matrices have been constructed for the contexts of the Roman military period. The matrices have been arranged to correspond with the recognised buildings within the excavation area. Thus Matrix 1 corresponds to Building 1 and Matrix 2 to Building 2. Where a one matrix diagram links directly to another this continuation is indicated thus: Matrix 1a contd.V1b. The context matrix diagrams have been divided by horizontal lines at significant points; these indicate the divisions between stratigraphic groups. The group number is located on the left hand side of the matrix diagram immediately below the horizontal line that defines its limit.

The sub-group number is found immediately to the left-hand side of the contexts that form the sub-grouping.

2.2 Group and sub-group identification

The Roman military contexts for the St. Nicholas Priory site have been divided into six groups. Each group represents an archaeological event. The nature of each group is given in the section on group discussions, this section includes the interpretational conclusions that can be drawn from a consideration of the stratigraphic evidence. Stratigraphic relationships between the groups are illustrated by the group matrix.

Where appropriate, the group may be divided further into sub-groups. These sub-groups represent distinct stages in an archaeological event and they usually consist of a number of contexts that have a clear association. The nature of each sub-group is given in the section on sub-group descriptions.

The stratigraphic relationships between the sub-groups are themselves illustrated by the group matrix.

2.3 Context information

Information about individual contexts is provided in two forms. Firstly, the context number as it appears in the context matrix is annotated with an abbreviated 'type' description (e.g. Cph = Cut, post hole). The glossary of abbreviations is given at the beginning of the series of matrix diagrams. Secondly, a standardised summary description of each context in numerical order is included in the report.

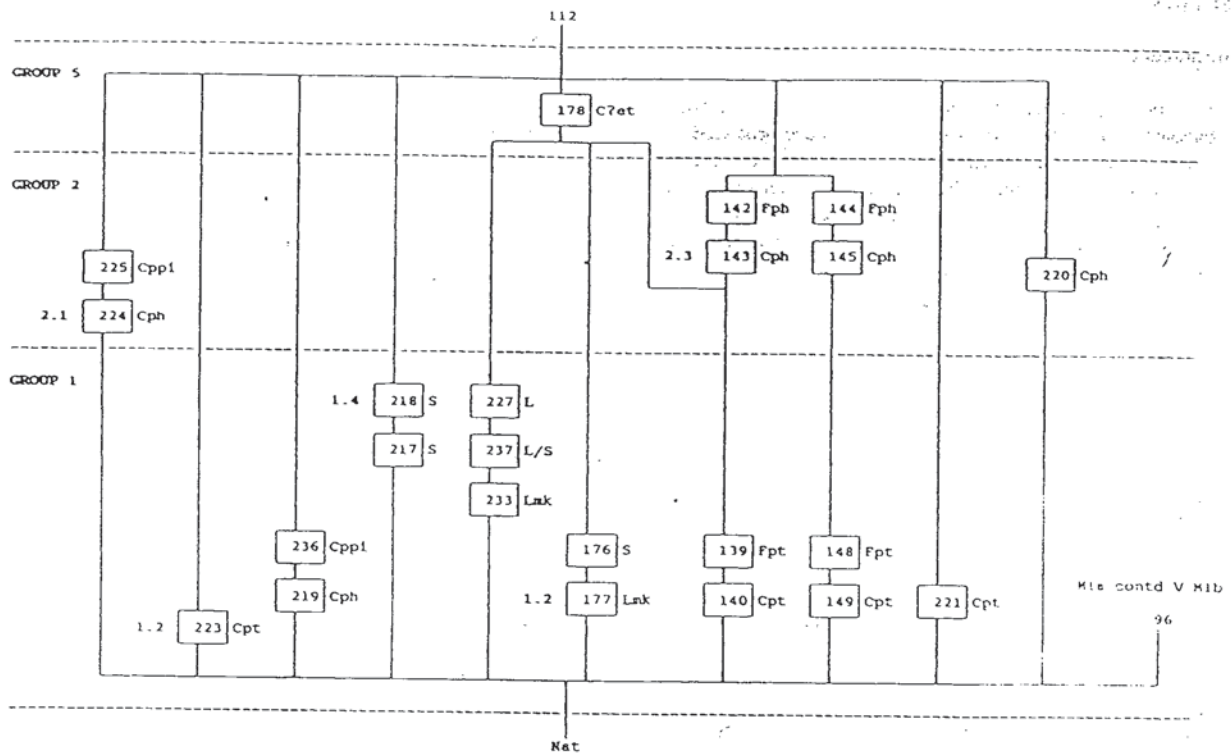
2.4 The matrix diagrams sub-group descriptions and group discussions

Glossary of abbreviations (for matrices).

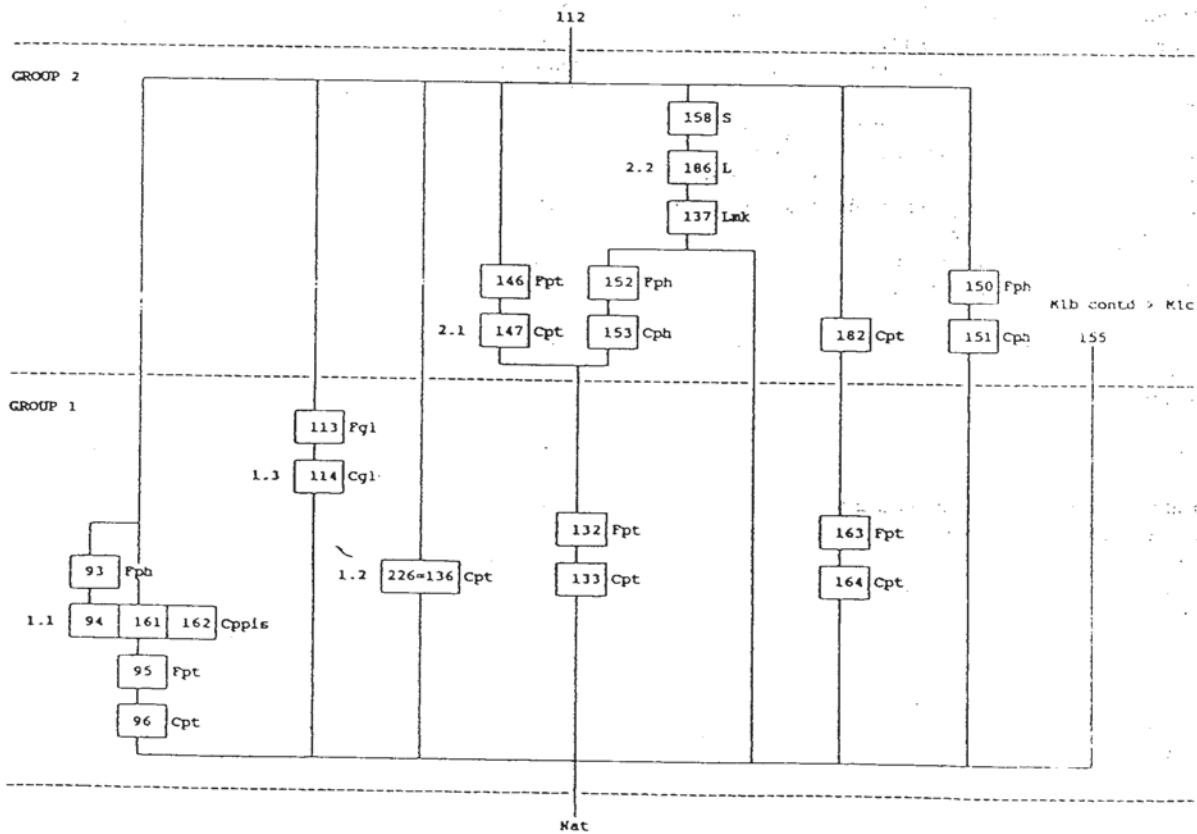
Build	B
Fill	F
Cut	C
Layer	L
Surface	S
Miscellaneous	M

Bank	bk
Blocking	bl
Buried soil	bs
Cesspit	css
Cobbles	cb
Construction	cn
Culvert	cv
Demolition	dem
Ditch	dt
Doorway	dw
Drain	dr
Dump	dp
Extraction trench	et
Floor	fl
Foundation trench	ft
Gully	gl
Hearth	h
Make up	mk
Metalling	mt
Modern	mod
Natural	nat
Occupation	ocp
Oven	ov
Packing	pk
Partition	pa
Pit	pit
Post	pst
Post-hole	ph
Post-packing	ppk
Post-pad	ppd
Post-pipe	ppi
Post-pit	ppt
Post-trench	pt
Re-cut	rc
Repair	rp
Road foundation	rdf
Robber trench	rt
Robbing	rb
Scoop	sc
Slag	sg
Sleeper beam	sb
Slot	sl
Soil	so
Stake	st
Stakehole	sh
Terrace	te
Timber	t
Timber slot	tsl
Wall	w
Wall base	wb
Wall footings	wf

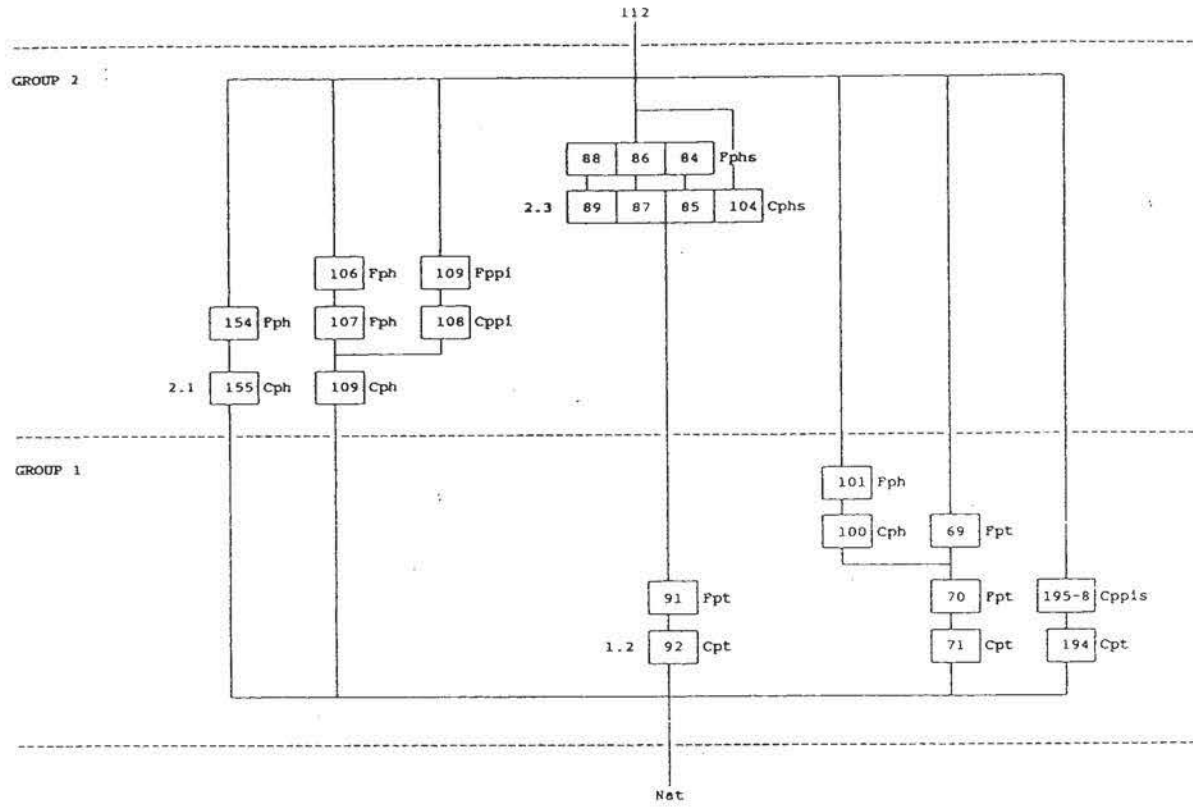
MATRIX 1a BUILDING 1 contd V 1b



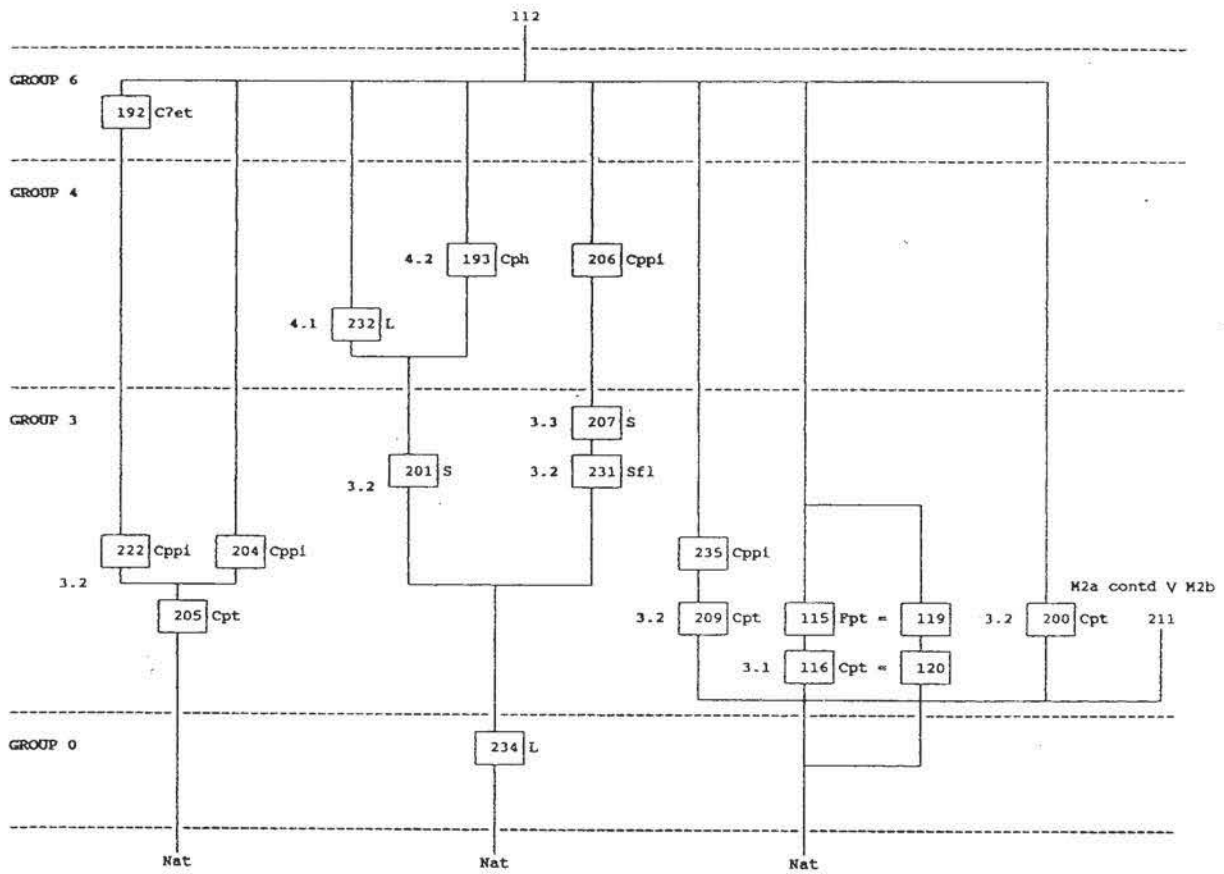
MATRIX 1b BUILDING 1 contd > 1c



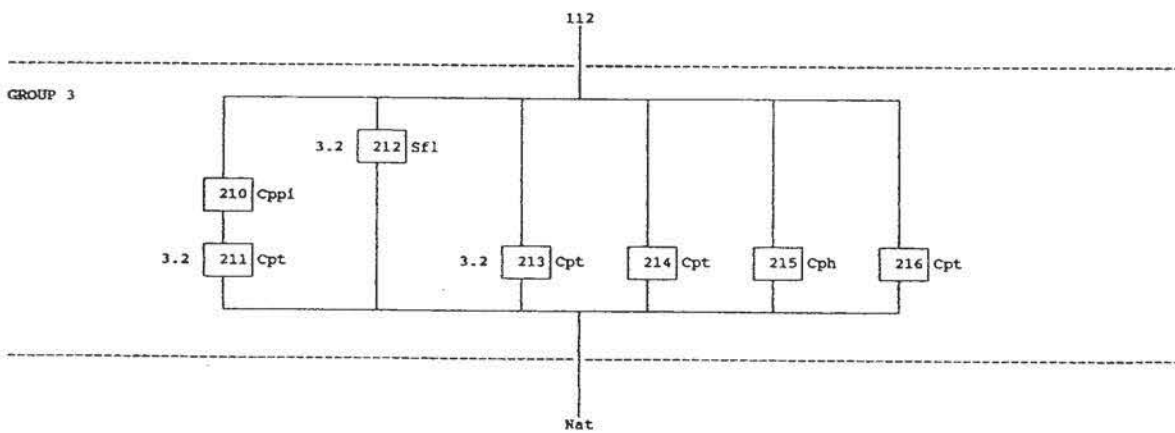
MATRIX 1c, BUILDING 1



MATRIX 2a BUILDING 2 contd V 2b



MATRIX 2b BUILDING 2



GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND SUB-GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

Group 0

Group 0 was created for one context (234) only. This was a layer of degraded turf described by the excavators as ex-humic soil beneath surface 201 and this presumably represents the pre-Roman ground surface.

Group 1 (Significant contexts are shown on Fig. 3)

Group 1 includes the primary construction of Building 1 identified as a Roman barrack. (Barrack A on Fig.3). The building was detectable from a number of narrow post-trenches that were observed cutting into the natural subsoil. In most cases these post-trenches contained the remains of post-holes or post-pipes, revealing the positions of at least some of the uprights. Traces of all of the three main longitudinal walls were recovered, 96 being the rear wall and 140 the front wall (sub-groups 1.1, 1.2). It was clear that the barrack was aligned north-west by south-east. In addition, three paired rooms or *contubernia* were identified (sub-group 1.2). The dividing walls between the inner and the outer rooms of these *contubernia* were identified in each case (71, 226/136, 164). The inner rooms of these *contubernia* (i.e. those adjacent to the rear wall) had average dimensions of 3.70m depth by 3.70m width, and the outer rooms had average dimensions of 3.50m depth by 3.70m width. (All measurements based on the centres of the wall lines; depths are taken from front to back, widths from side to side). Part of a floor surface (176) survived within the outer room of the central *contubernium* of the three which were identified. A post-pit (219) and an associated post-hole situated some 3m forward of the barrack would have supported part of a colonnaded walkway forming a verandah for the barrack. Several metallised surfaces were observed in front of the barrack (sub-group 1.4) which almost certainly formed part of a street. It was noted that the degree of metallising was lighter in the metre or so closest to the front wall of the barrack, underneath the area that would have been covered, and heavier in the area forward of the verandah post. Included within Group 1 was a gully to the rear Barrack A (114, sub-group 1.3). This feature was parallel to the Roman barracks and may have drained to the north-west. If it was indeed a gully during the life of the barracks then this has implications for the roofing of those buildings.

Contains sub-groups: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4.

Sub-group 1.1

Rear wall of Building 1, comprising a post-trench (96), in which were found three surviving post-pipes (94, 161, 162). The trench was approx. 0.70m wide.

Contains contexts: 93, 94, 95, 96, 161, 162.

Sub-group 1.2

The primary internal walls and the front wall of Building 1 including both the post-trenches and the post-pipes/holes within them. Included is a primary floor surface (176) within one of the rooms of Building 1 along with its make-up layer (177). This sub-group also includes the setting for a large post (219) exterior to the building.

Contains contexts: 69, 70, 71, 91, 92, 100, 101, 132, 133, 136, 139, 140, 148, 149, 163, 164, 176, 177, 194-198, 219, 221, 223, 226, 236.

Sub-group 1.3

This sub-group contains only one feature, a shallow trench positioned between the rear walls of Buildings 1 and 2. The feature was cut out to the north-west, and became shallower towards the south-east, until it eventually petered out. The recovered dimensions of the gully were 2.70m long and 0.40m wide, and it appeared to have been aligned parallel with the two barracks that flanked it.

Contains contexts: 113, 114

Sub-group 1.4

This sub-group includes all the surfaces and make-up layers for these surfaces that were found to the exterior (SW) of Building 1.

Contains contexts: 217, 218, 227, 233, 237.

Group 2 (Significant contexts are shown on Fig. 3)

This group as a whole refers to later alterations and additions made within the existing Barrack A. All the contexts which relate to structural alterations are given in sub-group 2.1. The most clearly recognisable modification appears to be an alteration in the size and the internal arrangement of the most westerly *contubernium* of those recovered in excavation. The area of the inner room was evidently reduced by the replacement, some 0.75m further to the rear, of the dividing wall between the inner and outer rooms. The later replacement wall (147) clearly post-dated the main wall division (133) between this *contubernium* and its neighbour to the east. A group of post-holes, including 151, 153 and perhaps 155, may have been associated with this operation (John Allan pers. comm.) since 151 aligned with the end of 147. Another alteration within the same *contubernium* may have included a sub-division of the outer room but too little of this feature (182) was seen to be certain. Subsequent layers within the same outer room were recorded (sub-group 2.2), perhaps culminating in the floor surface 158. The remaining sub-group 2.3 was created to encompass a number of post-holes throughout the building that shared similar characteristics in that none showed any sign of a post-pipe. These post-holes were observed within post-trenches 92, 140 and 149. The post-pipes may have eluded detection or alternatively the post-holes may represent the results of the deliberate extraction of the posts during the removal of the walls (John Allan pers comm.).

Contains sub-groups: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3.

Sub-group 2.1

This sub-group comprises the alterations made to the internal layout of the rooms in Building 1. Also included are a series of post-holes. At least some of these seem to be aligned with the replacement room divisions. Contexts 151 and 153 appear to be the most likely to be associated with such a re-organisation.

Contains contexts: 106-110, 146, 147, 150-155, 182, 220, 224, 225.

Sub-group 2.2

This sub-group includes the surfaces, layers and make-up layers found within one of the outer rooms of Building 1.

This sub-group was not primary hence its inclusion.
Contains contexts: 137, 158, 186.

Sub-group 2.3

Sub-group 2.3 consists of a series of post-holes within post-trenches 92 and 140/149. These posts were on average larger than the post-holes found within the rear wall trench 96 and the internal trench 194.

Contains contexts: 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 104, 142-145, 220.

Group 3 (Significant contexts are shown on Fig. 3)

Group 3 covers the construction of Building 2 (Barrack B on Fig 3). The layout of the barrack appears to have been similar to that of Barrack A. (All the primary constructional elements of Barrack A are described in sub-groups 3.1, 3.2.). The rear wall post-trench (116) was recovered over a distance of approximately 11m. In two places traces of the longitudinal post-trench of the central wall of the building were located (200, 213). The remains of at least three *contubernia* were recognised but only the inner rooms survived in any detail. Whilst the average widths of these inner rooms were comparable to those in Barrack A the depths were somewhat greater. The most easterly *contubernium* had a depth of 4.40m and the most westerly, a depth of about 4m. A number of what appeared to be primary floor surfaces (201, 212, 231) were found associated with the inner rooms of the *contubernia* and a floor surface (231) in the outer room of the most westerly *contubernium* was resurfaced at least once (207).

Contains sub-groups: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3.

Sub-group 3.1

This sub-group relates only to the rear wall post-trench (116/120) of Building 2. The trench runs parallel to 96 about 1.00m to the north-east, though both trenches converge towards the south-eastern edge of excavation, leaving a gap between them of only 0.20m or so. The trench is steep sided for much of its length, the south-western widening attributable to a shallowing of the gradient of the sides, the bottom edge of the trench remaining approximately the same width (0.40m) for its entire length.

Contains context: 115, 116, 119, 120.

Sub-group 3.2

This sub-group comprises the primary build of the rooms within Building 2, including post-trenches and post-holes. The central wall of the building was located by 200 and 213. The remains of four post-trenches placed at right angles to this central wall marked three room divisions. The traces of several post-pipes were found within the post-trenches. These measured between 0.14 and 0.20m in diameter. Also included are primary floor surfaces 201, 212 and 231.

Contains contexts: 200, 201, 204, 205, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 222, 231, 235.

Sub-group 3.3

This sub-group has just one context (207), a secondary floor surface laid over 231.

Contains context: 207.

Group 4 (Significant contexts are shown on Fig. 3)

This group represents minor alterations and occupation within Barrack B. The occupation is represented by sub-group 4.1. There is only one context in 4.1, a small area of burning that left a charcoal layer (232) within the inner room of the most westerly *contubernium*. The area of burning was immediately adjacent to the central wall of the barrack. Secondary activity is indicated by sub-group 4.2. which may represent some minor constructional adjustments or additions.

Contains sub-groups: 4.1, 4.2.

Sub-group 4.1

This sub-group denotes a patchy layer of burning observed over part of the floor surface 201.

Contains context: 232.

Sub-group 4.2

A sub-group for two possible constructional features of unknown purpose.

Contains contexts: 193, 206.

Groups 5 and 6

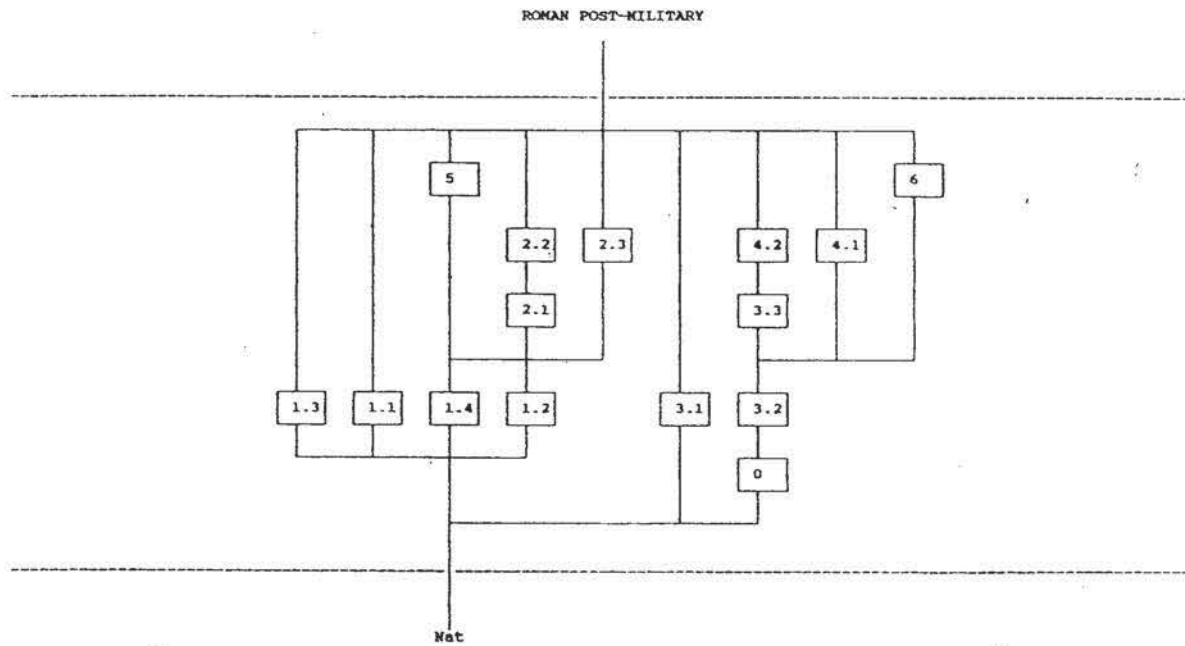
Groups 5 and 6 are represented by only two contexts (178 and 192) both of which might be the result of the extraction of posts (John Allan pers comm.). Thus in Barrack A, 178 is a possible extraction pit in the post-trench 140. In no other instance within Barrack A is there sufficient evidence to justify this interpretation but cf. sub-group 2.3.

Within Barrack B, a post, evidenced by post-hole 222 within post-trench 205, appears to have been extracted by the digging of pit 192 around it. The same sort of evidence for extraction is lacking elsewhere in Barrack B.

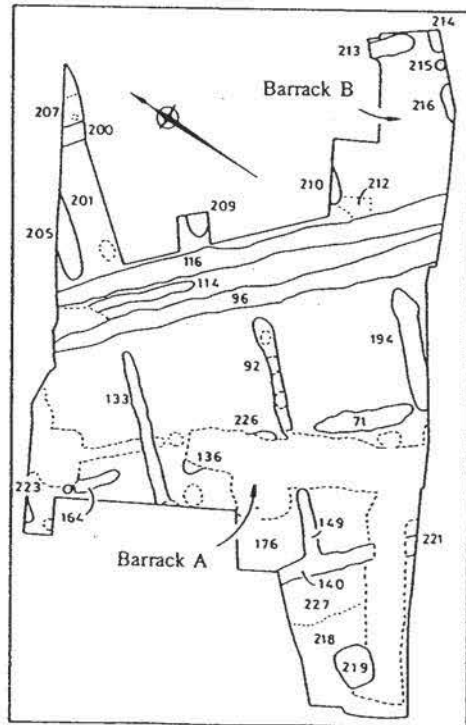
Group 5 contains context 178.

Group 6 contains context 192.

GROUP MATRIX



Groups 1 and 3



Groups 2 and 4

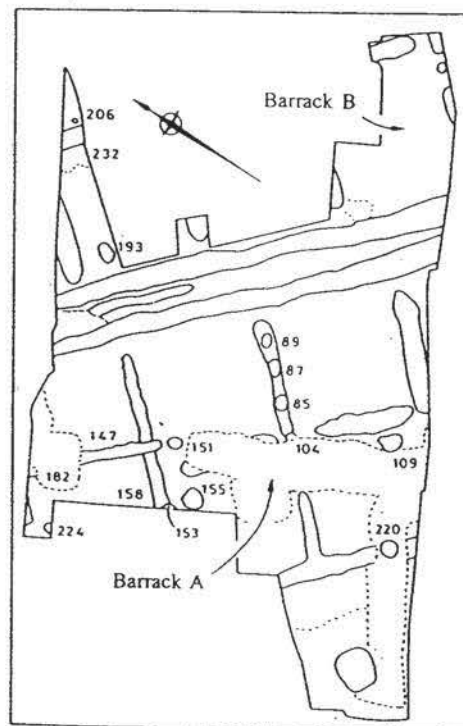


Fig. 3 Group plan of the significant Roman military features. Groups 1 and 3 show primary construction. Groups 2 and 4 show secondary activity. Scale 1:200

GROUP / MATRIX INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Matrix</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Matrix</i>
69	1.2	1c	186	2.2	1b
70	1.2	1c	192	6	2a
71	1.2	1c	193	4.2	2a
84	2.3	1c	194	1.2	1c
85	2.3	1c	195	1.2	1c
86	2.3	1c	196	1.2	1c
87	2.3	1c	197	1.2	1c
88	2.3	1c	198	1.2	1c
89	2.3	1c	199		
91	1.2	1c	200	3.2	2a
92	1.2	1c	201	3.2	2a
93	1.1	1b	204	3.2	2a
94	1.1	1b	205	3.2	2a
95	1.1	1b	206	4.2	2a
96	1.1	1b	207	3.3	2a
100	1.2	1c	209	3.2	2a
101	1.2	1c	210	3.2	2b
104	2.3	1c	211	3.2	2b
106	2.1	1c	212	3.2	2b
107	2.1	1c	213	3.2	2b
108	2.1	1c	214	3.2	2b
109	2.1	1c	215	3.2	2b
110	2.1	1	216	3.2	2b
113	1.3	1b	217	1.4	1a
114	1.3	1b	218	1.4	1a
115	3.1	2a	219	1.2	1a
116	3.1	2a	220	2.3	1a
119	3.1	2a	221	1.2	1a
120	3.1	2a	222	3.2	2a
132	1.2	1b	223	1.2	1a
133	1.2	1b	224	2.1	1a
136	1.2	1b	225	2.1	1a
137	2.2	1b	226	1.2	1b
139	1.2	1a	227	1.4	1a
140	1.2	1a	231	3.2	2a
141			232	4	2a
142	2.3	1a	233	1.4	1a
143	2.3	1a	234	0	2a
144	2.3	1a	235	3.2	2a
145	2.3	1a	236	1.2	1a
146	2.1	1b	237	1.4	1a
147	2.1	1b			
148	1.2	1a			
149	1.2	1a			
150	2.1	1b			
151	2.1	1b			
152	2.1	1b			
153	2.1	1b			
154	2.1	1c			
155	2.1	1c			
156					
157					
158	2.2	1b			
161	1.1	1b			
162	1.1	1b			
163	1.2	1b			
164	1.2	1b			
165					
166					
167					
176	1.2	1a			
177	1.2	1a			
178	5	1a			
182	2.1	1b			

2.5 The context descriptions and indices

Glossary of abbreviations (for contexts).

Length	Le
Depth	D
Height	H
Width	Wth
Diameter	Diam
North	N
South	S
East	E
West	W
Frequent	Freq
Occasional	Occ
Fragment(s)	Frag(s).
Waterworn	ww
Volcanic	Volc
Roman military	Rom Mil

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS (Roman military contexts only)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>69 Fill of cut 71, dark brown clay loam, occ lumps of Culm clay. D = 0.05m.</p> <p>70 Fill of cut 71, clean red clay, very occ volc frags. D = 0.20m.</p> <p>71 Trench, cut out heavily. V-shaped, fading out to N, possibly before reaching wall trench 51. Le = 2.15m, Wth = 0.45m, D = 0.33m. Cuts natural, cut by 51.</p> <p>84 Fill of post-hole 85. Equivalent to 86, 88. Set of three post-holes by SW edge of excavation. Clean pink clay, occ small ww pebbles.</p> <p>85 Cut of post-hole, one of a series of 3 (87, 89) within post trench 92. Cut into natural, dimensions unknown. Most westerly of series of three.</p> <p>86 Fill of post-hole 87, clean pink clay, occ small ww pebbles, contained coin (Claudian copy).</p> <p>87 Cut of post-hole within 92, middle one of the series of three. Cuts natural, dimensions unknown. Equivalent to 85, 89.</p> <p>88 Fill of post-hole 89, no description. Equivalent to 86, 84.</p> <p>89 Post-hole cut within 92, most easterly of series of 3, fill 88, cut into natural. Dimensions unknown, equivalent to 87, 85.</p> <p>91 Fill of post-trench 92, cut by 50, pale yellowish-brown clay, occ ww pebbles.</p> <p>92 Post-trench, contains 84-91, aligned NNE-SSW, cuts natural. Cut by 50, under 55. Le = unrecorded, Wth = 0.33m, D = 0.15m.</p> <p>93 Fill of post-hole 94, pinkish-brown clay, occ small gravel frags, charcoal flecks.</p> <p>94 Cut of post-hole, within trench 96. Regular steep sided square, cuts 44. Le = 0.25m, Wth = 0.25m, D = 0.35m.</p> | <p>95 Fill of trench 96, not described.</p> <p>96 ?Post-trench, aligned NW-SE, between N edge of excavation and wall 23. Contains 95, 93, 94. not described.</p> <p>100 Fill of post-hole 101. Pinkish-red clay. Contained ?part of harness, nail.</p> <p>101 Post-hole within 71, fill 100. Square post-hole, similar to 94 in dimensions. Cuts natural. Le = 0.25m, Wth = 0.25m, D = 0.35m.</p> <p>104 Post-hole plus infill. Dimensions not recorded.</p> <p>106 Fill of post-hole 109. One of three (others 107, 108). Orange-yellow clay, redeposited natural containing ww gravels. Over 107. D = 0.08m max.</p> <p>107 Fill of post-hole 109, under 106, over 108. Pinkish-orange clay, occ ww gravels. D = 0.25m max.</p> <p>108 Fill of post-tube within 109, 110 under 107. Brownish-pink clay, some ww gravels, occ charcoal flecks.</p> <p>109 Cut of post-hole, contains 106-108, cut into natural. Circular, Under 55. Diam = 0.70m, D = 0.25m.</p> <p>110 Post-hole tube within 109, cuts natural, contains 108. Diam = 0.12m, D = 0.12m.</p> <p>113 Fill of gully 114. Reddish-brown gravel.</p> <p>114 Gully, linear feature running parallel with 116 and 96 very slight at SE.</p> <p>115 Fill of trench 116; pinkish-brown, cohesive clay, ww pebbles up to 0.08m, more typical 0.02m. Occ lumps of pink, orange clay, some redeposited natural gravels.</p> <p>116 Trench running parallel to 114, cuts natural, dimensions unknown, but similar to 114.</p> <p>119 Fill of trench 120; equivalent to 115.</p> <p>120 Cut of trench, cutting natural, on same alignment as 114, 116, but to S of 23. Fill 119. Dimensions unrecorded.</p> <p>132 Fill of post-trench 133, under 55. No description.</p> <p>133 Post-trench / slot, cutting natural. Aligned SW-NE, cut by 147, Le = 2.10m, Wth = 0.40m, D = 0.20m. Fill 132.</p> <p>136 ?Part of central wall post-trench.</p> <p>137 Make-up layer of greyish-green clay. D = 0.20m.</p> <p>139 Fill of post-trench 140, not described.</p> <p>140 Post-trench, very shallow in relation to 149. Possibly it does not continue to the post-hole (145). Cuts natural, Le = 1.20m, Wth = 0.40m, D = 0.10m.</p> |
|--|--|

- 141 With 141-1. Fill and cut of post-hole within 140. Cuts natural, square shaped cut, possibly overdug against NE corner. Fill: brownish-pink cohesive clay with occ ww gravels up to 0.02m. Diam 0.40m x 0.40m, D = 0.10m.
- 142 Fill of post-hole 143. Same as fill of 141, top of fill contained a large volc stone 0.30m x 0.10m x 0.10m, occupying whole of E half of post-hole.
- 143 Post-hole, circular, steep sided, flat-bottomed, fill 142, diam = 0.35m, D = 0.35m. Within 140.
- 144 Fill of post-hole 145. Pinkish-brown clay, ww gravels, otherwise clean.
- 145 Post-hole within 149, fill 144. Steep sided flat-bottomed, cuts natural, circular. Positioned in corner of 149 (NW). Diam = 0.45m, D = 0.40m.
- 146 Fill of post-trench 147. Orangey-brown clay, freq ww gravels, freq charcoal frags, one tile.
- 147 Shallow post-trench, aligned approx N-S, increasing in depth as it travels towards NNW. Contains 146, cuts 133, cut by 118. Le = 2.25m, Wth = 0.30m, D = 0.12m max.
- 148 Fill of post-trench 149, pinkish-brown clay, frequent ww gravel, otherwise clean.
- 149 Post-hole trench, fill 148, possibly slightly overdug at SW edge. The floor of this trench rises to NE at point where it is cut by 51. ?Continuous with 92. Le = 2.00m, Wth = 0.33m, D = 0.20m.
- 150 Fill of post-hole 151, pinkish-brown clay, frequent ww gravels to 0.03m, frequent charcoal frags.
- 151 Post-hole, shallow circular depression, fill 150. Cuts natural. Possibly associated with shallow post-trench 147. Diam = 0.40m, D = 0.10m.
- 152 Fill of post-hole 153, dark yellow brown cohesive clay loam, occ ww pebbles, frequent charcoal flecks; ?equivalent to 112.
- 153 Post-hole, fill 152, circular uniformly sloping inverted cone, flattening out at base where diam = 0.18m. Surface diam = 0.55m, D = 0.25m. Cuts 138, 133.
- 154 Fill of post-hole/pit 155; pinkish-brown cohesive clay, frequent small ww gravels to 0.02m. Uniform fill, partially sealed by ?occupation surface unlike adjacent fill 152.
- 155 Post-hole/pit cutting natural, fill 154. D-shaped feature with flat face facing N. Le = 0.40m, Wth = 0.35m, D = 0.15m.
- 156 Small layer of infill between 118, 147. Not described. Within 157, possible slot.
- 157 Possible slot aligned E-W at right angles to 147, which cuts it. Fill 156. Small amount left, N of 51.
- 158 Surface of bright reddish-orange clay, only surviving in an irregular shape. Over 137, under 112.
- 161 Fill of post-hole 162. Otherwise unrecorded.
- 162 Post-hole, fill 161, cut into natural, appears to be within a trench, otherwise unrecorded.
- 163 Fill of ?post-trench 164. Otherwise unrecorded.
- 164 ?Post-trench, fill 163, aligned NNW-SSE. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 165 Fill of post-trench 166. Pinkish-red clay, clean.
- 166 Post-trench, parallel to 96, but slightly to S and E, fill 165. Aligned E-W, dimensions unrecorded.
- 167 Possible post-hole within 166, contains 165 as fill also, positioned at eastern end of 166. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 176 Packed surface of ww pebbles. Disregarded during excavations - due to waterlogged state it was thought to be natural. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 177 Layer in SW corner of excavation. Not described.
- 178 Possible extraction pit for removal of post in post-trench 140.
- 182 Unclear. No description / sketch inadequate.
- 186 ?Burning layer, black decayed charcoal, slimy, with clay silt admixture. D = 0.02-0.03m.
- 192 Extraction pit against N section, dimension / fill / description unrecorded.
- 193 Post-hole not fully recorded.
- 194 Post-trench running approx NE-SW, under 112, contained post-tubes 195-198. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 195 Post-tube (most easterly). Within 194. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 196 Post-tube (next to 195 to W). Within 194. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 197 Post-tube (immediately W of 196). Within 194. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 198 Post-tube (most westerly). Within 194. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 199 Surface, under 191, in NE corner of the site, description / dimensions unrecorded. Possibly chopped straw on surface. May be infill of 205. Produced Claudian copy.
- 200 Post-trench in NE corner of the site. Dimensions / description unrecorded.
- 201 Floor surface in NE corner of site; dimensions / description unrecorded.

- 204 Post-hole within 205, at SW end. Diam = 0.12m, D unrecorded.
- 205 Post-trench, contains pit 192, post-pipe 222, post-hole 204. Aligned NE by E, S by SW. Not fully excavated. Wth = 0.56m.
- 206 Post-hole, cut through 207, diam = 0.14m.
- 207 Yellow clay floor surface, overlain by dump 112. D = 0.05m. Found in N corner of site.
- 209 Post-trench, only SW end excavated, contains one post-hole. Aligned NE-SW. Wth = 0.56m.
- 210 Post-hole within post-trench 211. Diam = 0.10m, D unrecorded.
- 211 Post-trench parallel to 209, contains 210. Not fully excavated. Le, D, Wth unrecorded.
- 212 Small amount of surface remaining beside 211. Dimensions unrecorded.
- 213 Post-trench aligned NW-SE. D unrecorded, Wth = 0.50m, contains no post-holes as far as excavated.
- 214 Part of post-trench aligned NE-SW, in SE corner of the site, at right angles to 213. D unrecorded, Le, Wth, not fully excavated.
- 215 Post-hole, 20cm radius, between break in 214, 216. D unrecorded.
- 216 Post-trench, on same alignment as 214. Post-hole 215 is some 40-50cm NE of the end of this feature. D unrecorded, Le, Wth, not fully excavated.
- 217 Earlier of two road surfaces (other 218) outside (i.e. to the SW of) Barrack A. D = 0.15m.
- 218 Possible second road surface over 217, 210, overlies 219, thinning as it gets nearer to Barrack A. D = 0.05m.
- 219 Post-pit, 1.2m in diam, D unrecorded. ?Possible verandah post at the front of Barrack A.
- 220 Post-hole / pit, 0.45m diam, truncated by part of the church, could be within 221, 140 but relationship unclear.
- 221 Post-trench, only a small amount remaining, ?possibly the same as 140, but relationship obscured. Wth = 0.50m.
- 222 Post-hole within 192, in turn within 205. Diam = 0.20m, D unrecorded.
- 223 Part of post-trench aligned NE-SW at N edge of excavation. Le, D, Wth unrecorded.
- 224 Post-hole, diam 0.20m, contains post-pipe 225.
- 225 Post-pipe within 224. Diam = 0.07m, D unrecorded.
- 226 Part of post-trench, for internal room divisions, on same alignment as, and possibly the same feature as 136.
- 227 Layer, surface of metalling in verandah area. D = 0.04m.
- 231 Floor surface of green clay, within confines of post-trenches, and therefore possibly internal. D = 0.05m.
- 232 Patchy burnt layer over 201, not present in any large areas. D = 0.02m.
- 233 Make-up for road surface 217. D = 0.10m, otherwise unrecorded.
- 234 Layer of ex-humic soil under surface 201, over natural. D = 0.05m, otherwise unrecorded.
- 235 Post-pipe within 209, at extreme western end. Diam = 0.14m.
- 236 Post-pipe of verandah post within post-hole 219. Diam = 0.24m, D = 0.52m.
- 237 Surface / make-up under road, outside 140 (i.e. to W). D = 0.12m.

GENERAL CONTEXT INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Plan</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Plan</i>
69	Rom Mil	1	F		178	Rom Mil	1	C	801
70	Rom Mil	1	F		182	Rom Mil	1	S	801
71	Rom Mil	1	C	801	186	Rom Mil	1	L	
84	Rom Mil	1	F		192	Rom Mil	2	C	801
85	Rom Mil	1	C	801	193	Rom Mil	2	C	801
86	Rom Mil	1	F		194	Rom Mil	1	C	801
87	Rom Mil	1	C	801	195	Rom Mil	1	C	801
88	Rom Mil	1	F		196	Rom Mil	1	C	801
89	Rom Mil	1	C	801	197	Rom Mil	1	C	801
91	Rom Mil	1	F		198	Rom Mil	1	C	801
92	Rom Mil	1	C	801	199	Rom Mil	2	?F	
93	Rom Mil	1	F		200	Rom Mil	2	C	801
94	Rom Mil	1	C	801	201	Rom Mil	2	S	801
95	Rom Mil	1	F		204	Rom Mil	2	C	801
96	Rom Mil	1	C	801	205	Rom Mil	2	C	801
100	Rom Mil	1	F		206	Rom Mil	2	C	801
101	Rom Mil	1	C		207	Rom Mil	2	S	801
104	Rom Mil	1	C	801	209	Rom Mil	2	C	801
106	Rom Mil	1	F		210	Rom Mil	2	C	801
107	Rom Mil	1	F		211	Rom Mil	2	C	801
108	Rom Mil	1	F		212	Rom Mil	2	S	801
109	Rom Mil	1	C	801	213	Rom Mil	2	C	801
110	Rom Mil	1	C		214	Rom Mil	2	C	801
113	Rom Mil	1	F		215	Rom Mil	2	C	801
114	Rom Mil	1	C	801	216	Rom Mil	2	C	801
115	Rom Mil	2	F		217	Rom Mil	1	S	
116	Rom Mil	2	C	801	218	Rom Mil	1	S	801
119	Rom Mil	2	F		219	Rom Mil	1	C	801
120	Rom Mil	2	C		220	Rom Mil	1	C	801
132	Rom Mil	1	F		221	Rom Mil	1	C	801
133	Rom Mil	1	C	801	222	Rom Mil	2	C	801
136	Rom Mil	1	C	801	223	Rom Mil	1	C	801
137	Rom Mil	1	L		224	Rom Mil	1	C	801
139	Rom Mil	1	F		225	Rom Mil	1	C	801
140	Rom Mil	1	C	801	226	Rom Mil	1	C	801
141	Rom Mil	1	C/F		227	Rom Mil	1	L	
142	Rom Mil	1	F		231	Rom Mil	2	S	
143	Rom Mil	1	C	801	232	Rom Mil	2	L	
144	Rom Mil	1	F		233	Rom Mil	1	L	
145	Rom Mil	1	C	801	234	Rom Mil	2	L	
146	Rom Mil	1	F		235	Rom Mil	2	C	801
147	Rom Mil	1	C	801	236	Rom Mil	1	C	801
148	Rom Mil	1	F		237	Rom Mil	1	S	801
149	Rom Mil	1	C	801					
150	Rom Mil	1	F						
151	Rom Mil	1	C	801					
152	Rom Mil	1	F						
153	Rom Mil	1	C	801					
154	Rom Mil	1	F						
155	Rom Mil	1	C	801					
156	Rom Mil	1	F						
157	Rom Mil	1	C						
158	Rom Mil	1	S	801					
161	Rom Mil	1	F	801					
162	Rom Mil	1	C	801					
163	Rom Mil	1	F						
164	Rom Mil	1	C	801					
165	Rom Mil		F						
166	Rom Mil		C						
167	Rom Mil		C						
176	Rom Mil	1	S	801					
177	Rom Mil	1	L						

ARCHIVE SECTION INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Sheet</i>	<i>Location</i>
89	4		801
92	4, 5	802	801
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101	12		
109	12		
116	11	802	801
133	14	802	801
137	13	802	801
140	18	802	801
141	12		
143	7	802	801
145	6	802	801
147	10	802	801
149	8, 9	802	801
153	14	802	801
158	14	802	801
176	13		801
177	13		801
178	13, 18	802	801
182	14	802	801
186	14	802	801
193	19	802	801
200	19	802	801
201	19	802	801
207	19	802	801
217	18	802	801
219	17	802	801
227	18	802	801
231	19	802	801
232	19	802	801
233	18	802	801
234	19	802	801
236	17	802	801
237	18	802	801

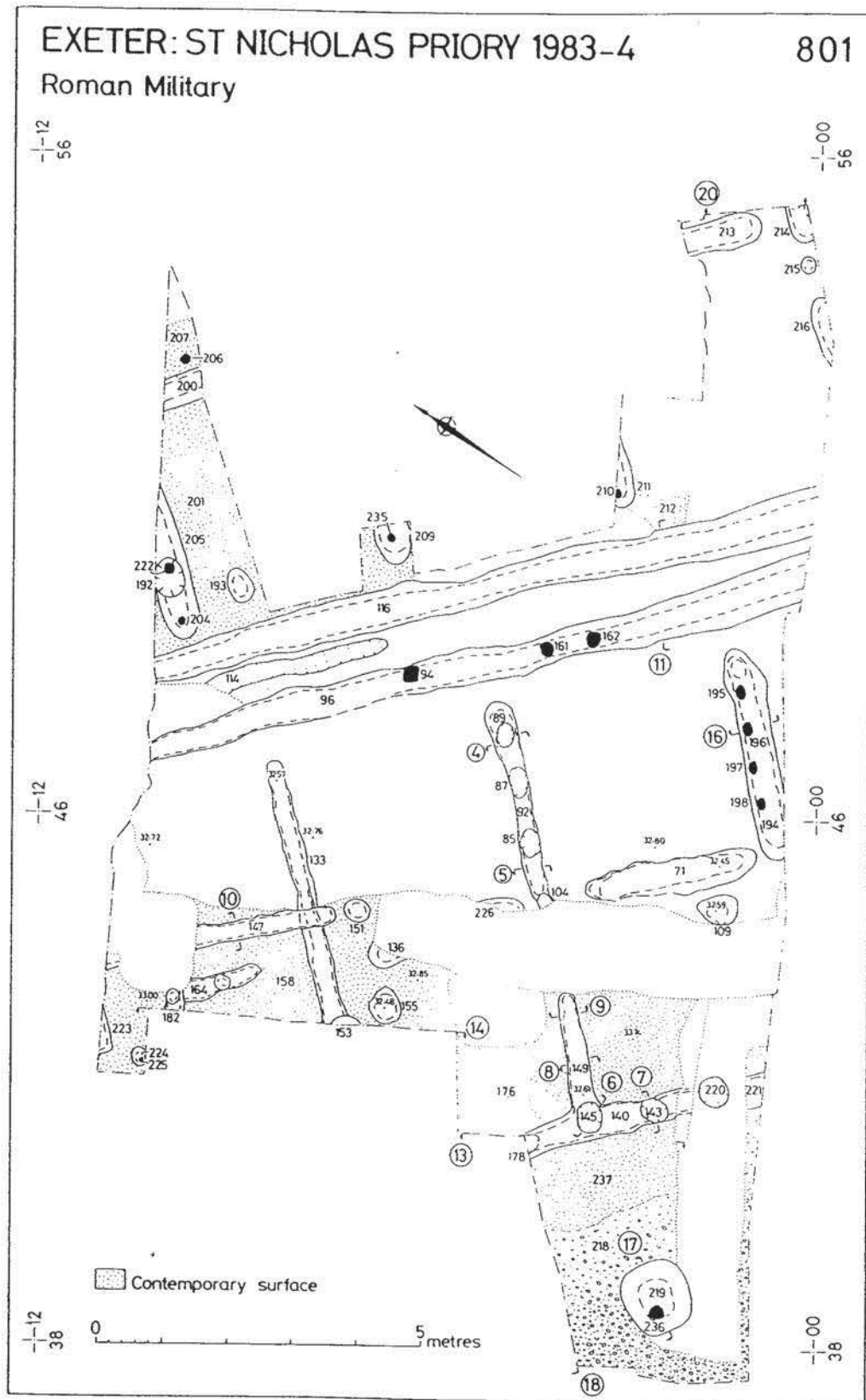


Fig. 4 Plan of the remains of the Roman military period. Scale 1:100

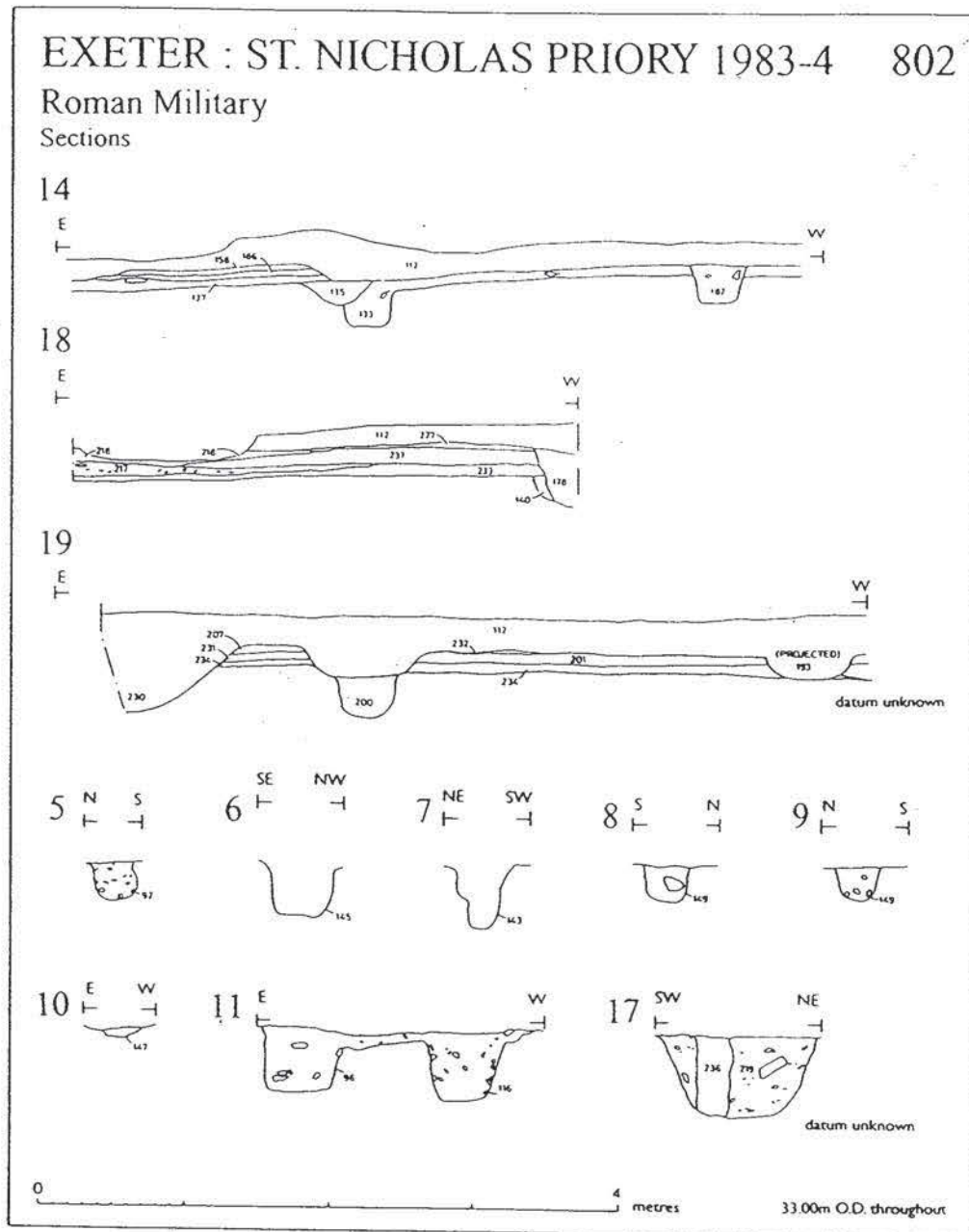


Fig. 5 Sections and profiles, Roman military. Scale 1:50

2.6 The finds listings and other indices

Glossary of abbreviations for finds inventory

<i>Fabric No.</i>	<i>Type</i>
31*	South-East Dorset Black-Burnished Ware
40*	South-Western Black-Burnished Ware
151*	Exeter Sandy Grey Ware
190*	Fortress Ware B
191*	Fortress Ware C
192	Fortress Ware D
220	Butt Beaker (EAR 1)
371*	Fortress Ware A
405*	Flagon Fabric
406*	Flagon Fabric
435*	Flagon Fabric
451*	Flagon Fabric
500	Samian-South Gaulish Type
501	Samian-Central Gaulish Type
503	Lyon Ware (Pre-Flavian)
517	<i>Terra Nigra</i> (Gallo-Belgic ware)
1000	Unspecified/Unclassified fabric

<i>Type abb.</i>	<i>Type</i>
BRB	Bead rim bowl
BRJ	Bead rim jar
CAM	<i>Camulodunum</i>
CP	Cooking pot
Dr.	Dragendorff
JAR	Jar
999	Unidentified form

Miscellaneous

ERE	Estimated Rim Equivalent as a percentage
MIL	Roman Military
Wt	Weight in grams

For descriptions and discussions of fabrics and types mentioned see Holbrook and Bidwell (1991 *Exeter Archaeological Reports*: 4)

* = Fabric number used in EAR 4

FINDS INVENTORY AND DATING EVIDENCE

Pottery

69				
Fabric	31			
Fabric	406			
70				
Fabric	31			
Type	CP			
	(upright rim)			
Fabric	151			
Fabric	190			
Fabric	405			
Fabric	406			
Fabric	500			
Type	Dr.27	Wt	4	ERE 4
	(Neronian-Vespasian)			
91				
Fabric	40			
Fabric	?191			
Fabric	435			

95				
Fabric	31			
Fabric	40			
Type	BRJ			
Fabric	500			
Type	Dr.24/25	Wt	27	ERE 5
	(Neronian, same vessel as context 141)			

96				
Fabric	40			
Type	CP			
Fabric	371			
Fabric	406			
Fabric	500			
Type	Dr.27	Wt	65	ERE 13
	(Neronian)			

107				
Fabric	405			

113				
Fabric	31			
Type	FB			
	(intrusive)			
Fabric	190			
Fabric	406			
Fabric	500			
Type	Dr.18	Wt	5	ERE 4
	(Neronian-Vespasian)			
Fabric	503			
Type	LAMP			

115				
Fabric	31			
Fabric	406			
Fabric	435			
Fabric	503			
Fabric	517			
Type	CAM 16			
	(c. 60-85 AD, Stamp fragment, Gallo-Belgic Stamp No.6)			

116				
Fabric	31			
Fabric	40			
Fabric	406			

119				
Fabric	220			
Fabric	503			

141				
Fabric	500			
Type	Dr.24/25	Wt	48	ERE 18
	(Neronian, same vessel as context 95)			

142				
Fabric	40			

150				
Fabric	500			
Type	Dr.27	Wt	5	ERE 4
	(Pre-Flavian)			

161

Fabric 31
Type BRB

165

Fabric 40
Type CP
(shouldered)

194

Fabric 31
Type 12.4
(with wavy line under rim)

207

Fabric 192
Type ?Im Dr.29
(Fig.12/12, traces of white slip)

Fabric 451
Type JAR
(handled jar)

Fabric 500
Type 999 Wt 3
(1C)

Coins

Context identification

86 D Claudian copy Grade III *As* as *RIC* 66 25? AD50s
199 D Claudian copy Grade II *As* as *RIC* 68 28V 8.28
 AD50s

Coin identifications by N. Sheil.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>B/W</i>	<i>Slide</i>
136	1050/13	
141	1050/12	
143	1050/10	
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147	1050/14	
149	1050/8	
151	1050/15	
153	1050/5	
154	1050/6	
155	1050/16	
158	1050/17-18	