

98/20.



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES 00 2 0

**Market Stainton
New Farm Crops Proposed Glasshouse
Complex**
NGR: TF 22700 80291
ELDC Planning Application No. N/117/0734/98

Archaeological Evaluation

**Report prepared for
C.R. Parrott Consultants**

**on behalf of
New Farm Crops Ltd**

**LAS Report No. 320
September 1998**

Lincolnshire County Council
Archaeology Section
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Market Stainton
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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at the above site. Three trenches were excavated, all of which contained archaeological features. Thirteen pieces of pottery were found, all but one dating to the 10/11th centuries. The evidence for occupation of this part of the village was slight but there was clearly pre-Conquest activity close by.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by C.R. Parrott Consultants (on behalf of New Farm Crops Ltd.) to undertake archaeological works on land 100m NW of Market Stainton Hall. The archaeological works comprised a desk-based assessment and earthwork survey (LAS Report No. 307, August 1998) and subsequent trial trenching, which is the subject of this report.

The Application Site

Market Stainton is situated within the Lincolnshire Wolds, 27km NE of Lincoln, 10km NW of Horncastle and 12km SW of Louth (Fig. 1). The proposed application site is located west of Market Stainton Hall within a paddock, which at present contains a small stable building, the remainder of the area being under grass.

The planning application is for the construction of four glasshouses and a shade tunnel, with an associated access road and screening. The access road is intended to lead SE of the glasshouse and join an existing drive to the Hall.

Planning Background

Planning application N/117/0734/98 was submitted to East Lindsey District Council by the client. Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section requested an archaeological evaluation in advance of determination of the application, consisting of a desk-based assessment and an earthwork survey of the site and its setting. A project brief was prepared by LCC Archaeology Section in June 1998. After consideration of the survey and assessment, it was decided that trial trenching was necessary.

Topography and Geology

Market Stainton is situated at the crest of a valley slope west of the River Bain, at an altitude of about 95m OD. A small, disused, gravel pit about 500m north of the application site marks readily accessible gravel deposits. A small pond 35m west of the application site is marked on maps from 1848 but not labelled (LAO HIG 12/3). This pond is still extant and may represent either another gravel pit or a clay pit for the bricks used in the hall and outbuildings.

A more recent pond is located to its west.

Archaeological and Historical Background

The application site lies 400m east of Caistor High Street, a road linking Horncastle with Caistor and the River Humber and has been tentatively identified as a prehistoric routeway which may have remained in use during the Roman period. Three other prehistoric sites have been noted within the parish, Ranby Hoe (SMR 40391), a barrow near Caistor High Street (SMR 40392, and Beacon Hill (SMR 40393), all may be duplications of each other.

Two late-third/early fourth century Roman coin hoards were found near the village earlier this century (SMR 40378), (SMR 40379).

The earliest recorded form of the place-name of Market Stainton is *Staintone* [1086 Domesday Survey], with the fuller name *Steynton Market* being documented from 1286. The village acquired its market by 1284, probably sited on the village green, located some 400m south of the application site.

Previous Work

The application site was surveyed in July 1998 where certain earthworks were identified. These included hollow ways directly to the west and south of the proposed glasshouses area and a raised sub-rectangular house platform to the south. Within the proposed glasshouses area itself are poorly defined undulations which have been interpreted as either recent disturbances of the ground following the removal of trees or possibly old quarry pits.

The Evaluation

In order to assess the potential for archaeological remains, three trial trenches

were excavated by a machine fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket within the area of the proposed development (Fig. 2, Pl. 1). Each trench contained more than one archaeological feature.

Trench 1 (Fig. 3B, Pl. 2, 9)

Trench 1 was located in the south-east corner of the site, positioned to target a large sub-oval depression observed during the earthwork survey. The trench was 5m long and 3m wide and was covered with a dark greyish brown silty loam **101** to a depth of 0.20m. Below **101** lay a flint and cobble surface **102** (Fig. 3A, 3C, Pl. 3) that varied in depth from 0.10m in the south-east corner to less than 0.05m in the north-west corner. A dark greyish brown silty loam subsoil **103** with an approximate depth of 0.20m was present below **102** to the western edge of the trench. The lack of subsoil to the east may suggest that it may have been removed for levelling purposes when **102** was laid. Below **102** and **103** was a natural mottled grey orange brown silty sand and clay deposit **104** in which all the archaeological features were cut.

A gully **106** (Fig 3A, 3B, 3D, Pl. 4) was located against the baulk in the south-east corner of the trench and had a single dark greyish brown silty loam fill **105**, which contained two pottery sherds, one of 10/11th century date and the other a green-glazed handle from a Lincoln-manufactured jug dating to the

first half of the 13th century. The known dimensions of the gully were 2.50m in length, 0.35m in width and 0.20m depth. Another gully **108, 110** (Fig. 3A, 3B, 3E, 3F, Pl. 5, 6) with a north-south orientation was located in the north-east corner of the trench and had a dark greyish brown silty loam fill **107/109**, similar to **105**, and contained animal bone but no pottery.

In the south-west corner of the trench was located an irregular hollow **112** (Fig. 3B, 3C, Pl. 7) interpreted as a tree throw-hole filled with a mid greyish brown sandy silt **111** containing six Lincoln kiln type pottery sherds of 10th century date and animal bone. To the north-west of the trench was another hollow **114** (Fig. 3B, 3C, Pl. 8) filled with a mottled grey yellow brown silty loam containing animal bone and three pieces of pottery, probably from a kiln site in the Wolds, imitating the Lincoln fabrics, and of 10/11th century date.

Trench 2 (Fig. 4A, Pl. 10, 15)

Trench 2 was located to the north-west of Trench 1, positioned to locate a small sub- oval undulation. The trench was 5m long and 2m wide and covered with a dark greyish brown silty loam topsoil **201** to an average depth of 0.17m. Underlying **201** was a 0.55m thick dark greyish brown silty clay loam subsoil **202**, this in turn overlay a mottled brown grey orange silty sand natural **203** into which all archaeological features were cut.

Against the south-west baulk of the trench was a sub circular natural shallow hollow **209** (Fig. 4A, 4B, Pl. 11) containing a single mid brownish grey silty sand fill **210**. To the east of **209** was a shallow sub circular pit **204** (Fig. 4A, 4B, 4C, Pl. 12) filled with a mid brownish grey silty sand containing no finds.

At the eastern end of the trench against the baulk was a north-south orientated gully **206** (Fig. 4A, 4B, Pl. 13, 14) with a known length and width greater than 2m by 0.40m and a depth of 0.10m maximum. Gully **206** was filled with a mid brownish grey silty sand **207** which contained the remains of an articulated pig skeleton **208**. There were no others finds from gully **206** and its date is therefore unknown.

Trench 3 (Fig. 5A, Pl. 16, 20)

Trench 3 was located to the west of Trench 2, positioned to locate a small irregular shaped undulation. The trench was 10m long and 2m wide and covered with a dark greyish brown silty loam topsoil **301** to an average depth of 0.15m. Underlying **301** was a 0.40m thick dark greyish brown silty clay loam subsoil **302**, this in turn overlay a mottled brown grey orange silty sand natural **303** into which all archaeological features were cut.

A post hole **304** (Fig. 5A, 5E, Pl. 17) truncated by animal disturbance and measuring 0.48m wide by 0.37m long by 0.35 deep was located in the south-west corner. It was filled with a greyish brown silty sand **305** and contained animal bone, which may have derived from the later animal disturbance. To the east of the southern end of the trench, against the baulk, was a possible shallow sub circular pit or natural hollow **306** (Fig. 5A, 5D, Pl. 18) filled with a mottled orange grey brown silty sand **307** containing two sherds of 10/11th century date.

Located in the centre of the trench was a square shaped post hole **310** (Fig. 5A, 5C, Pl. 19) measuring 0.33m long by 0.33m wide by 0.14m deep and filled with a dark grey brown silty sand **311** containing no artefacts.

In the north-eastern corner of the trench was a very irregular shaped tree throw hole **308** (Fig. 5A) filled with a dark greyish brown silty sand **309** containing no artefacts.

Discussion

Archaeological features were recorded in all three of the evaluation trenches, demonstrating that the surface undulations recorded during the earthwork survey may have been recent in origin, and they have not destroyed the underlying features. No substantial building remains were encountered in the three trial trenches. In Trench 1 a cobbled surface of unknown date sealed features which were 13th century and earlier in date.

The majority of the pottery found was 10th or 10/11th century in date. However, it was found in features which were irregular in shape and possibly natural in origin, for example the possible tree hole, **112**, in Trench 1 and pit **306** in Trench 3.

The cobbled surface recorded in Trench 1 was not found further west in the other two trenches. It is possible that the gully, **206**, in Trench 2 which runs north-south may delineate the edge of a plot with different land use to either side.

In conclusion, although archaeological remains were found in all three trenches they were not extensive or substantial. The early date of the small quantity of pottery found is of particular interest, especially as this part of village must have been some distance from the centre of the settlement. The lack of pottery, coupled with its narrow date range, suggests that this area of the village may have been abandoned at an early date. It does not appear to have been ploughed, either in medieval or more recent times.

The excavations have shown that archaeological horizons would be disturbed at a depth of 0.50-0.75m below existing ground levels. What is unclear is whether the land designated for development was actually occupied or if it was simply peripheral to the adjacent house platform.

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Martin Shearsmith at New Farm Crops for arranging site facilities. The excavations were carried out under the supervision of Tobin Rayner with the assistance of Sue Farr and Michael Knapton. Jane Frost collated and produced the report.

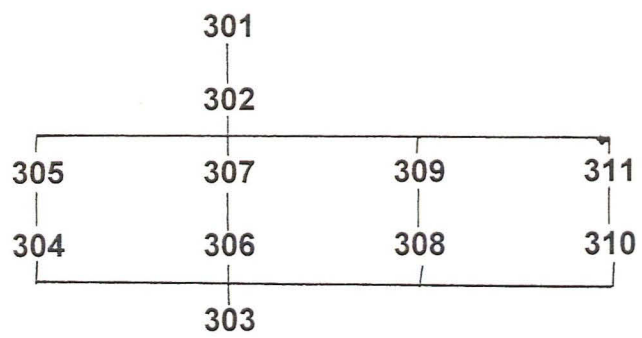
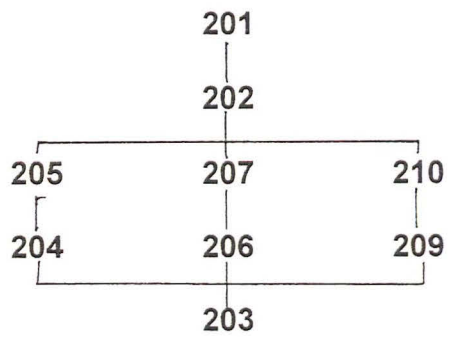
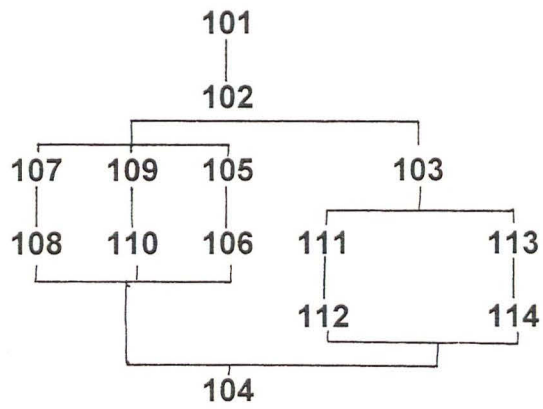
Tobin Rayner
September 30th 1998

APPENDIX 1

MSG 98 Context Summary

Context No.	Above	Below	Context Type	Description	Findings
Trench 1					
101	102		Layer	Topsoil, dark greyish brown silty loam	
102	107, 109, 105, 103	101	Layer	Flint and cobble surface, dark greyish brown silty loam	Bone, modern nail
103	111, 113	102	Layer	Subsoil, dark greyish brown silty loam	
104		106, 110, 114, 108, 112,	Layer	Natural, mottled grey orange brown silty sand and clay	
105	106	102	Fill of 106	Dark greyish brown silty loam	Pot(13 th C), tile
106	104	105	Cut	Gully	
107	108	102	Fill of 108	Dark greyish brown silty loam, same as 109	
108	104	107	Cut	Gully, same as 110	
109	110	102	Fill of 110	Dark greyish brown silty loam, same as 107	bone
110	104	109	Cut	Gully, same as 108	
111	112	103	Fill of 112	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	Bone, pot (10 th C)
112	104	111	Cut	Tree throw hole	
113	114	103	Fill of 114	Mottled grey yellow brown silty loam	Bone, pot (10/11 th C)
114	104	113	Cut	Natural hollow	
Trench 2					
201	202		Layer	Topsoil, dark greyish brown silty loam	
202	205, 210, 207,	201	Layer	Subsoil, dark greyish brown silty loam	
203		204, 209, 206,	Layer	Natural, mottled grey orange brown silty sand and clay	
204	203	205	Cut	Shallow pit / Natural hollow	
205	204	202	Fill of 204	Mid brownish grey silty sand	
206	203	207	Cut	Gully?	
207	206	202	Fill of 206	Mid brownish grey silty sand	
208				Pig Skeleton within 207	
209	203	210	Cut	Shallow hollow	
210	209	202	Fill of 209	Mid brownish grey silty sand	
Trench 3					
301	302		Layer	Topsoil, dark greyish brown silty loam	
302	305, 307, 309, 311	301	Layer	Subsoil, dark greyish brown silty loam	
303		304, 308, 310, 306,	Layer	Natural, mottled grey orange brown silty sand and clay	
304	303	305	Cut	Post hole	
305	304	302	Fill of 304	Greyish brown silty sand	Bone
306	303	307	Cut	Shallow pit / Natural Hollow	
307	306	302	Fill of 306	Mottled orange grey brown silty sand	Pot (10/11 th C)
308	303	309	Cut	Tree root disturbance	
309	308	302	Fill of 308	Dark greyish brown silty sand	
310	303	311	Cut	Post hole	
311	311	302	Fill of 310	Dark greyish brown silty sand	

Matrix (msg98)



APPENDIX 3: MSG98 Animal Bone Report*by Richard Moore*

With the exception of the pig skeleton in context (208), this is a small assemblage of eleven bones, typical of normal occupation detritus. Most came from cattle or sheep. The presence of butchery marks on some of the bones suggests that they were from food residues. The hare bones from context (305) did not appear to have been cooked. They are probably from an animal which has died naturally in the wild.

The pig skeleton in context (208) was complete, as recovered, apart from the left radius, some of the smaller foot bones, and much of the right side of the skull. The skull and some of the ribs were fragmentary, but otherwise the state of preservation was good. The vertebrae, for instance, were all present and mostly intact.

The animal was presumably deliberately buried. Unless its burial had some special significance, it must have been unfit for consumption or other use, probably because it died as a result of disease or accident.

It was a fairly large but immature individual. The dentition of the left mandible was complete apart from the third molar, which was partially erupted. The epiphyses of the vertebrae and long bones, apart from the proximal end of the radius, were all unfused, as were the distal epiphyses of the metapodials. The acetabula of the innominate bones, however, were fully fused. The animal was probably in its second year, around eighteen months old, when it died.

The front of the skull was not markedly concave, as is the case with some modern pig breeds. It appeared to be fairly long limbed, which is also a typical characteristic of relatively unimproved stock.

Animal Bone Summary

Context	Animal	Bone	Comments
102	unidentified	Fragment	?rib blade fragment.
109	Cattle	Calcaneum	Left; calcaneal tuberosity missing and some damage but otherwise complete.
109	?Cattle	?Ulna	Shaft fragment of ?left ulna; butchery cut across end.
111	Cow sized	Fragment	Shaft fragment, possibly femur.
111	Cow sized	Fragment	Shaft fragment.
113	Cow sized	Rib	Blade fragment.
113	Cow sized	Fragment	Shaft fragment, ?tibia.
113	Sheep sized	Fragment	Shaft fragment, ?femur; lateral butchery marks.
208	Pig	Articulated skeleton	Complete, apart from left radius, right mandible and right side of skull, and some of the smaller bones: metapodials, phalanges, left patella. Skull, some ribs, left ulna, sacrum and left scapula fragmentary but otherwise generally well preserved and mostly intact. Lower dentition i1,2, c, pm 2,3,4, m1,2,3 (erupting) m1 fairly heavily worn, m2 just coming into wear. Epiphyses mostly unfused (but present).
305	Hare	Femur	Left, distal end and shaft.
305	Hare	Tibia/fibula	Complete, articulates with above.
305	Sheep	Tooth	Lower right m2, fairly light wear

MSG 98 Pottery Catalogue
Jane Young

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: MSG98 WARE TYPES BY CONTEXT

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments
105	HLKT	1	?	SCRAP;? ID
105	LSW2	1	JUG	EARLY STRAP HANDLE
111	LKT	1	?	BASE
111	LKT	1	JAR	EVERA3 RIM;SOOT INT?
111	LKT	4	JAR	BS
113	HLKT	1	BOWL	BASE
113	HLKT	2	BOWL	INTURNED RIM;SOOT;FRESH
307	HLKT	2	BOWL	INTURNED RIM;WORN; COMPLETELY LEACHED

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: MSG98 HORIZON DATING

Context	Earliest horizon	Latest horizon	Probable horizon	Dating
105	MH4	MH5	-	early to mid 13th
111	ASH7	ASH11	-	10th
113	ASH9	ASH12	-	10th to mid 11th
307	ASH9	ASH12	-	10th to mid 11th

HLKT= Horncastle/Lincoln Kiln Type
 LSW2 = Lincoln sandy ware
 LKT = Lincoln kiln type

MSG 98 Finds Catalogue
Jen Mann

BULK FINDS ARCHIVE LIST: MARKET STAINTON (MSG98)

Context	Type	Count	Comments
102	NAIL	3	LATEST: PMED-MOD

TILE ARCHIVE: MSG98 TILE TYPES BY CONTEXT

Context	Form	Frag	Weight	Subform	Comments
105	PNR	1	75	-	LOCAL FABRIC? MORTAR;MED

APPENDIX 6

MSG 98 Contents of Archive

1 Box containing

3 Context registers

35 Context sheets

2 Level sheets

1 Drawing register

2 Photographic registers

Photographs

Film No. 98/113 Negs. 7, 11, 14, 16, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37.

No. 98/115 Negs. 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 17.

3 Sheets of drawing film containing pencil drawings

3 Sheets of inked drawings

13 sherds of pottery

11 bones + pig skeleton

1 nail

1 med tile fragment

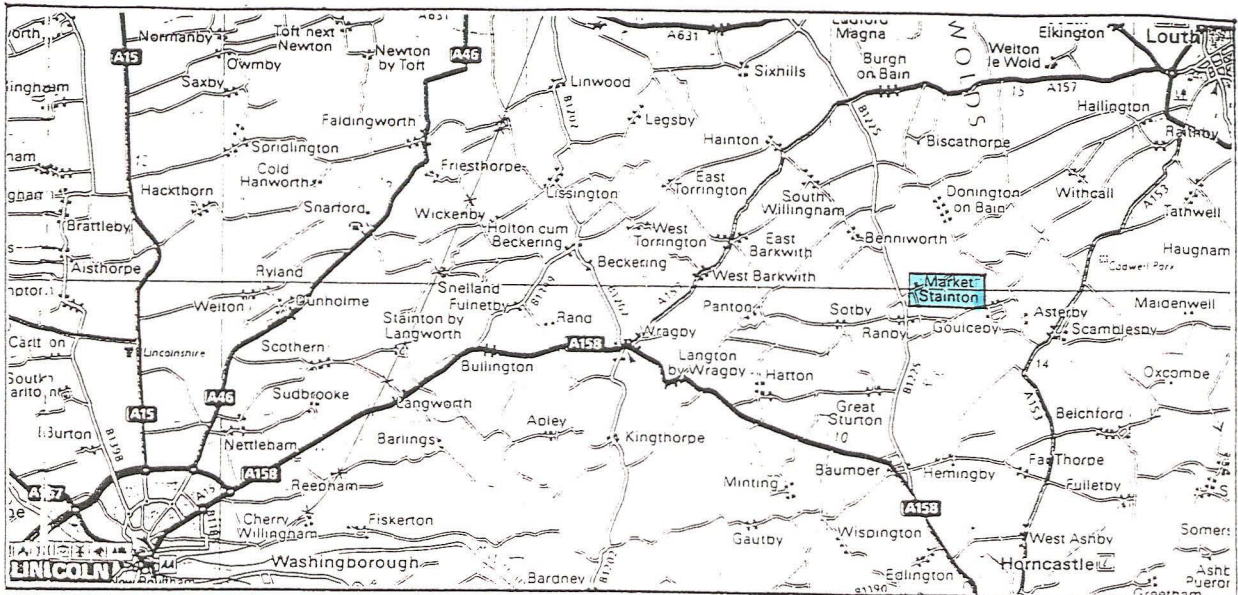


Fig. 1 Market Stainton. Site location. Reproduced from the 1956 O.S. 1:10,560 map with the permission of the Controller of HMSO, © Crown copyright. (LAS licence AL50424A).

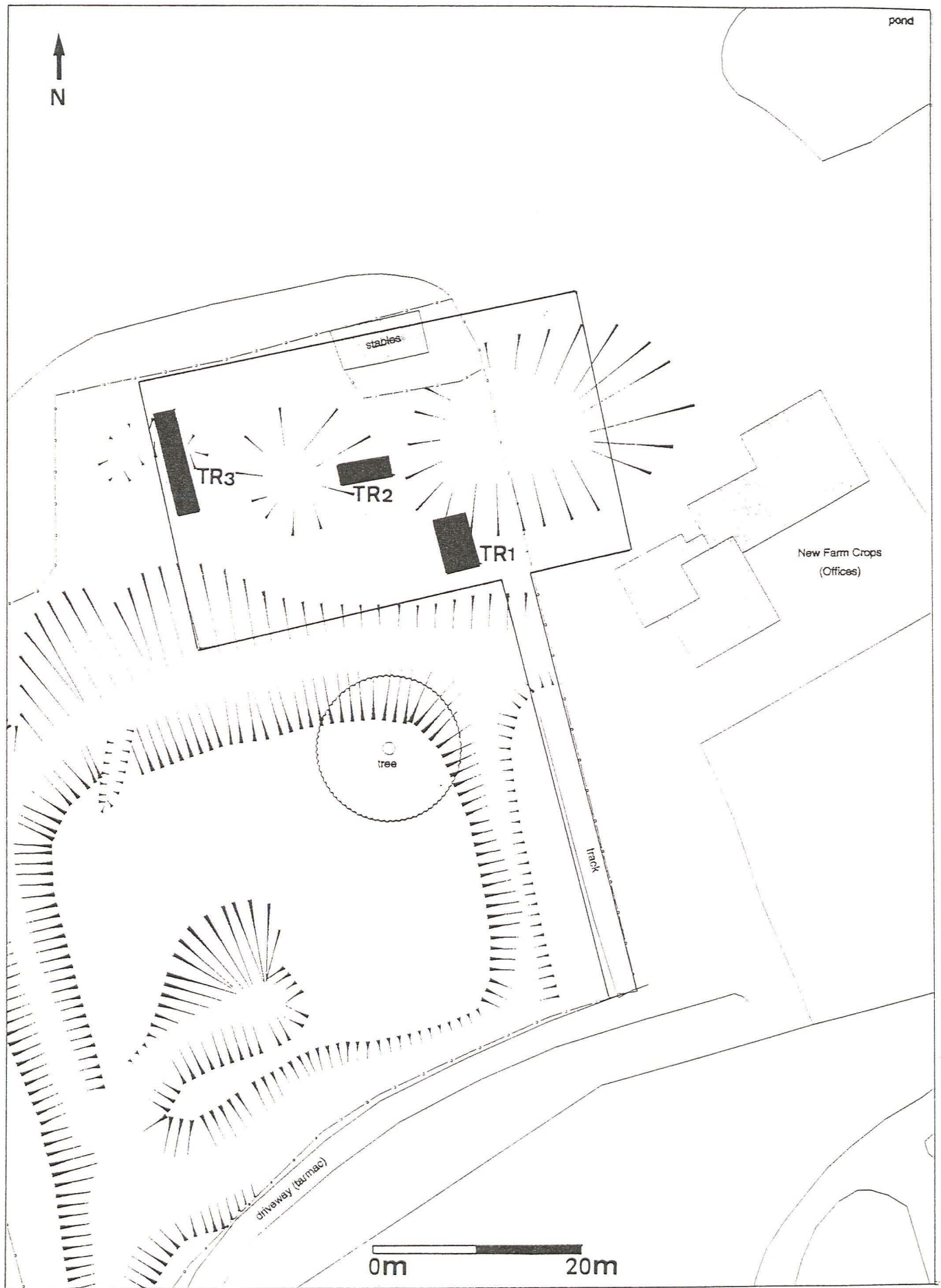


Fig. 2 Trench location plan.

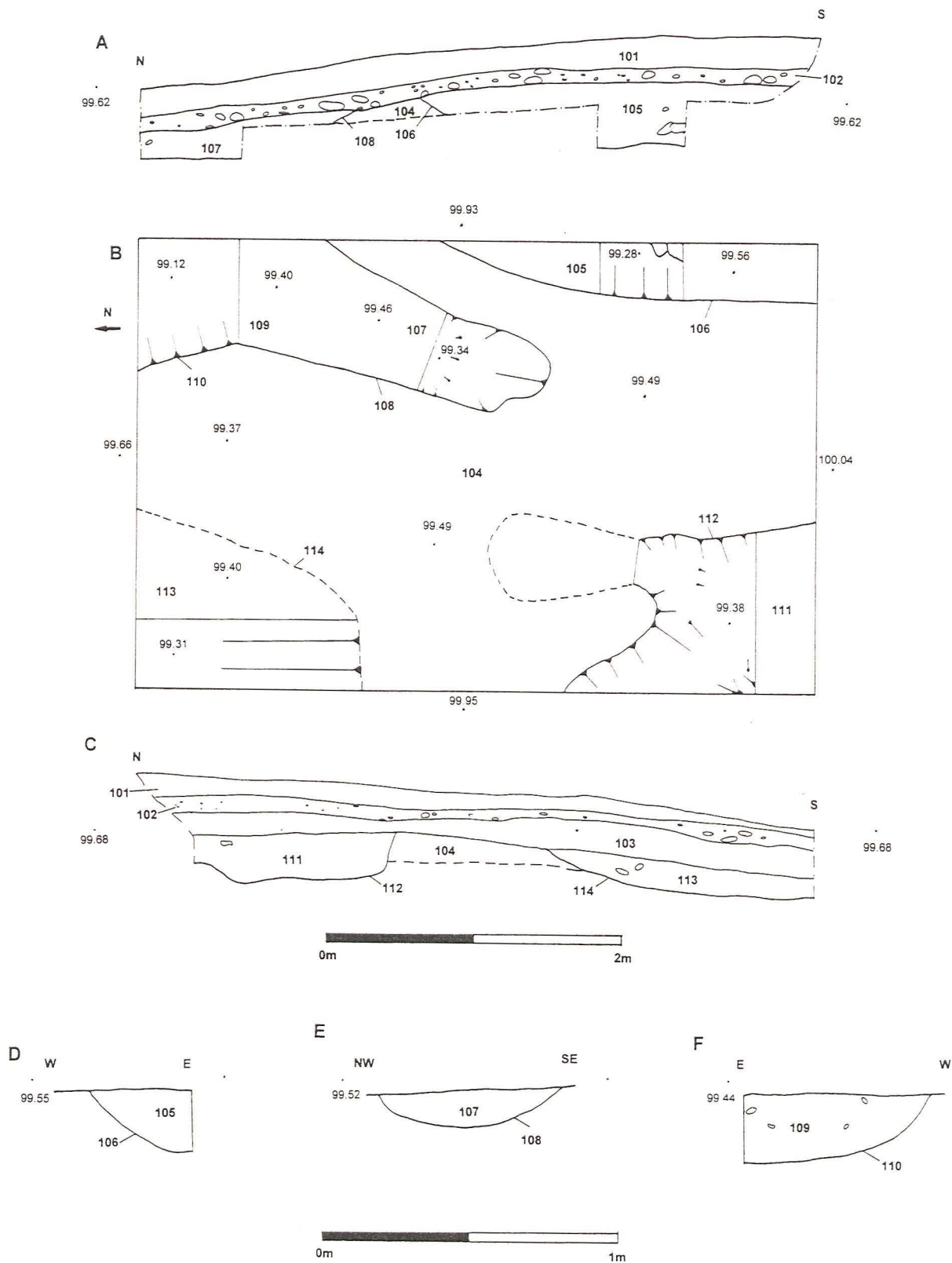


Fig. 3 Trench 1. A, West facing section. B, Plan. C, East facing section. D, South facing section of gully 106. E, South-west facing section of gully 108. F, North facing section of gully 110.

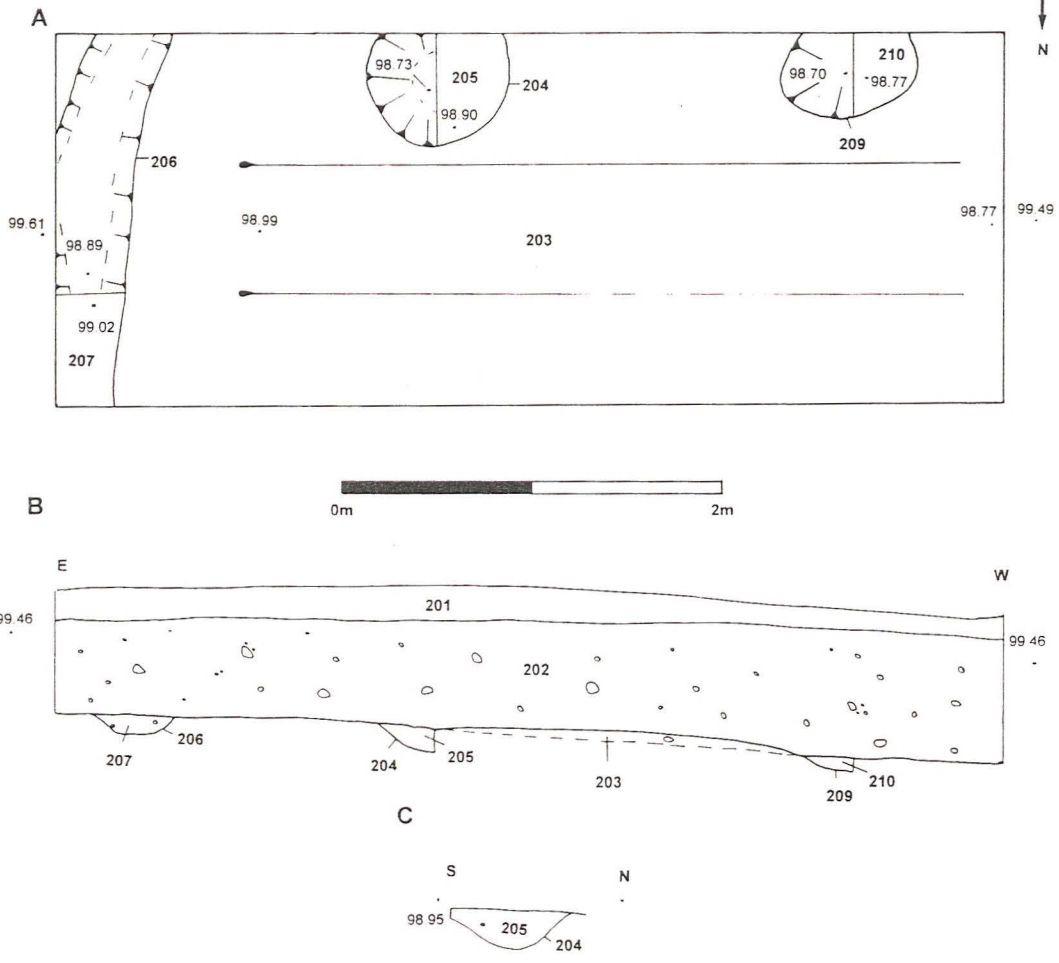


Fig. 4 Trench 2. A, Plan. B, North facing section. C, East facing section of pit 204.

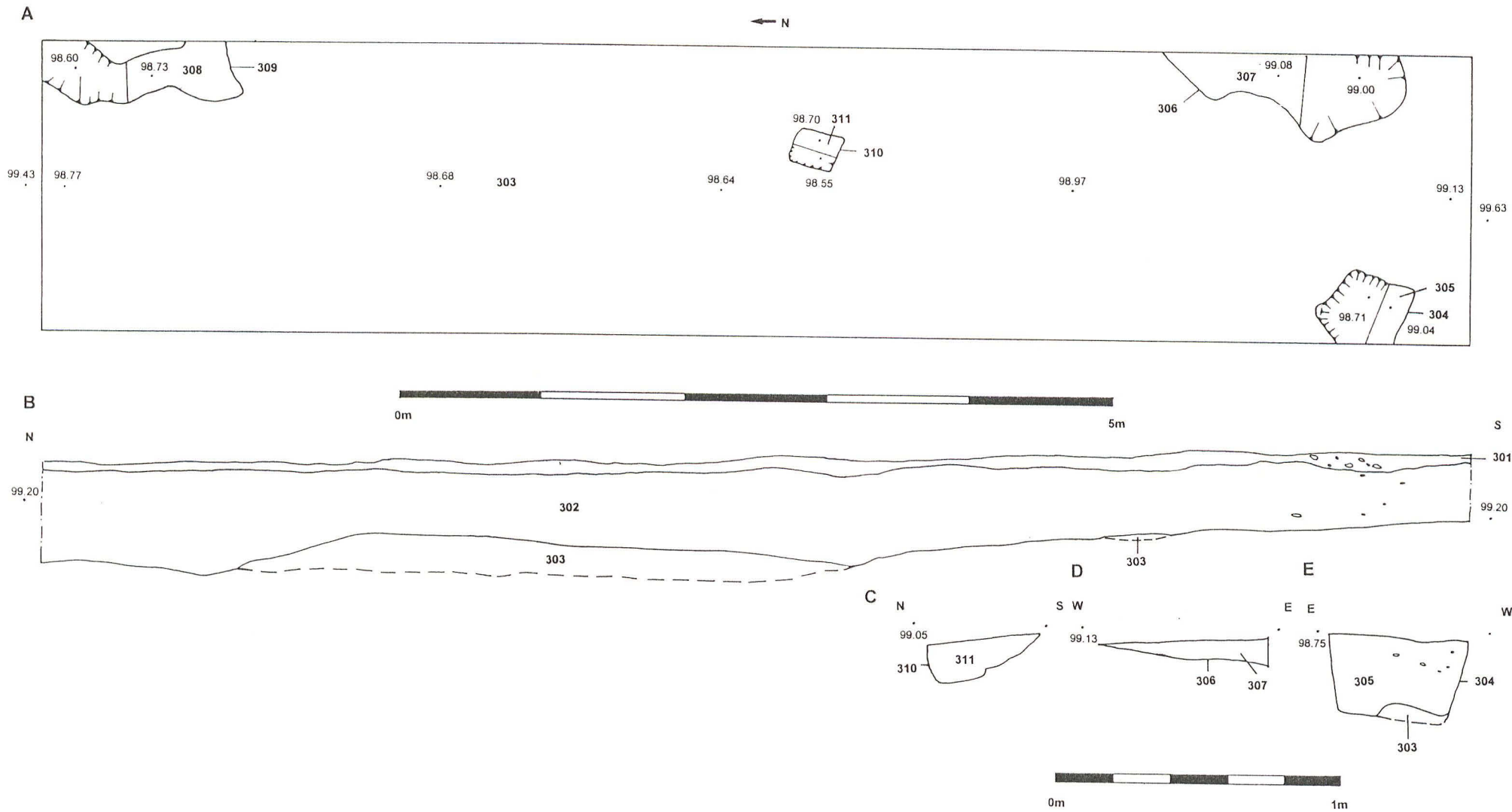


Fig. 5 Trench 3. A, Plan. B, West facing section. C, West facing section of post hole 310. D, South facing section of possible pit 306. E, North facing section of post hole 304.



Pl. 1 View of opened trenches within the application site looking north.

Pl. 2 Trench 1, looking north (pre-ex).





Pl. 3 Trench 1, east facing section showing flint and cobble layer 102.

Pl. 4 Trench 1, south facing section of gully 106.





Pl. 5 Trench 1, south facing section of gully 108.

Pl. 6 Trench 1, south facing section of gully 110.





Pl. 7 Trench 1, east facing section of three throw hole 112.

Pl. 8 Trench 1, east facing section of shallow hollow 114.





Pl. 9 Trench 1, looking south (post-ex).

Pl. 10 Trench 2, looking east (pre-ex).





Pl. 11 Trench 2, east facing view of natural shallow hollow 209.



Pl. 12 Trench 2, east facing section of pit 204.



Pl. 13 Trench 2, view of gully 206 (from the west) with pig skeleton 208.

Pl. 14 Trench 2, west facing view of gully 206.





Pl. 15 Trench 2, looking east (post-ex).



Pl. 16 Trench 3, looking north (pre-ex).



Pl. 17 Trench 3, north facing section of post hole 304 (wrongly numbered as 306).

Pl. 18 Trench 3, south facing section of possible shallow pit 306 (wrongly numbered as 308).





Pl. 19 Trench 3, west facing section of post hole 310.

Pl. 20 Trench 3, looking north (post-ex).

