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EVENT L14391

SOURCES L18983 L18984

34885
Ronan
34890
Medieval

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF
SOUTH STREET,
BOURNE,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

Work Undertaken For
F. E. Peacock & Son Ltd

Report Compiled By
David Brown
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Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire
28 Boston Road,
SLEAFORD,
Lincolnshire NG34 7ET
Charity No: 1001463. Company No: 2554738 (England)

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1. SUMMARY

Between the 1st September and 16th October 1992, an Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken by Heritage Lincolnshire on behalf of F E Peacock & Son Ltd at land off South Street, Bourne. The aim of the watching brief was to record any archaeological deposits exposed during the construction of a carriageway for a residential development. Agricultural use of the west side of the site in the Medieval period is represented by remains of ridge and furrow ploughing and contemporary pottery. Ditches and pottery of Roman date were recorded on the east side of the area and signify Romano-British occupation of indeterminate nature.

2. INTRODUCTION

Between the 1st September and 16th October 1992, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Heritage Lincolnshire on behalf of F. E. Peacock & Son Ltd., whilst preliminary construction works for a residential development were in progress at South Street, Bourne (National Grid Reference TF 0965 1965 - see Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). The aim of the work was to record any archaeological deposits exposed during the construction of an access road, and the excavation of service trenches, for a proposed residential development (see Fig. 2).

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

3.1 ROMAN

Within the precincts of the Grammer School, located immediately south of the site, are the remains of a Romano-British pottery kiln. Further Romano-British pottery kilns have also been identified along the Bourne Eau, off Victoria Place. Aligned north-south, the line of the major Roman road, King Street, is located along the eastern side of the site. To the northwest, the remains of a Roman building were found during the construction of the railway.

3.2 SAXON AND MEDIEVAL

During the medieval period Bourne was a substantial settlement, containing features and industries, particularly the potteries in the Cherry Holt Road area, which were important to both the town and surrounding area. The archaeological features relevant to the site are:

To the northwest is the location of a Saxon Camp.

Bourne Castle, a substantial masonry structure constructed in the early 12th century,

is situated northwest of the site. The remains of the castle are visible today as earthworks.

Red Hall, a medieval house, is located approximately 150m north of the site.

Bourne Abbey, founded 1138 and dissolved in 1536, lies to the north.

To the west of the site, medieval ridge and furrow (see Appendix 1) is present.

4. TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

Oxford Clay overlying Kellaways Beds provide the solid geology of the area. The soils consist of Aswarby association, gleyic brown calcareous earths on Jurassic clays, and Badsey 2 association typical brown calcareous earths developed on calcareous gravels (Hodge et al., 1984, 99; 101).

The surface (2.4 hectares) was covered on the eastern side by layers of wood shavings and chippings, with a limestone road 120m long, aligned east-west. To the west, open field pasture, with slight ridge and furrow, dissected by drainage dykes, is visible. Additionally, a public footpath, aligned east-west, crosses the site.

5. METHODOLOGY

The recording of the archaeology took the form of each archaeological context (see Appendix 1) being allocated a unique context number with a written description. Plans and sections were drawn at scales 1:500 and 1:20 respectively. Where necessary, a photographic record was compiled.

The watching brief examined the following:

- Stage 1. A foul drainage trench, 0.7m wide by 1.8m deep by 260m long, was excavated and manholes 2m x 2.5m x 1.9m deep, inserted. The areas examined between each manhole are referred to as FM1, FM2, FM3, etc.
- Stage 2. A storm drain trench, 1.m wide by 2m.deep by 260m long was divided by manholes, 2m by 2.5m by 2.1m deep. The areas examined between each manhole are referred to as SW1, SW2, SW3, etc.
- Stage 3. The removal of overburden to a depth of 0.60m, preparatory to the construction of the access road.

6. RESULTS

6.1 STAGE 1

FM1-FM2

The earliest deposit exposed between FM1 and FM2 was a natural clay [018]. Cut into this clay layer was a ditch [065].

Due to the depth of this trench, the retrieval of dating evidence from the deposits *in situ* was not possible. However, numerous fragments of pottery, including Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval sherds, were collected from spoil derived from the trench. With the exception of a single fragment of modern pantile, the latest pottery from this area was Bourne D ware which dates to the sixteenth century.

FM2-FM3

A cable trench [100] was cut into the remains of a limestone road [097]. Sealed by this road was a cut [102] of unknown function but from which pottery sherds dating to the 19th century were retrieved. Three further cable trenches were also exposed - [108], [118] and [120].

A cut feature [114] of unknown date and function was truncated from above by a field boundary ditch [112].

FM3-FM4

Two apparently cut features [123] and [126] were exposed. One of these [123] is considered as probably natural in origin, perhaps a stream channel. Roman tile was recovered from the fill [125] of the second feature [126] which is interpreted as a ditch .

FM4-FM5

Exposed at this location were the infilled remains of a field boundary [128] from which Romano-British pot fragments, apparently occurring as redeposited finds, were retrieved.

FM5-FM6

One ditch [132] of unknown date and function, and a modern field drain [134], were recorded.

FM6-FM7

Three field drains [136], [139] and [141] were exposed. Both [136] and [139] are modern.

Field drain [141] is 19th century. Additionally, remnants of medieval ridge and furrow, [137] and [140] were recorded.

FM7-FM8

Field boundary cut 143, fill 142, contained finds of brick, plaster and glass of modern date. Ridge and furrow, context 140, continues. Worn sherds of sixteenth century Bourne D ware pottery were recovered from this context.

FM8-FM9

A field drain, cut 150, fill 149 was of modern date. Ridge and furrow, context 140, continues.

FM9-FM10

A 19th century field drain, cut 145, fill 144, and a modern field drain, cut 147, fill 146, were revealed. Ridge and furrow, context 140, continues.

6.2 STAGE 2

SW1-SW2

Four negative linear features were recorded. Most easterly of these was a large north-south aligned ditch (211), filled with a dark silty clay (200). West of, and cut by, this large ditch was a second smaller ditch (212, 213). Seen separately in opposite sections of the drain trench, this ditch, which was oriented northwest-southeast, was filled with dark silty clay (204 and 201 respectively). Further west were two, apparently parallel, north-south aligned gullies (214=215, 216=217), filled with dark silty clay (205=203, 206=207 respectively). Numerous fragments of Roman pottery were recovered from the fills of all four ditches/gullies.

6.3 STAGE 3

A 7m wide ditch (302), was observed crossing the area approximately north to south. From the fill (300) of this feature, numerous fragments of Roman pottery were recovered. Included in this assemblage was a stamped mortarium rim and two stamped sherds of samian pottery, one of them extremely burnt. Additionally, an isolated fragment of modern pantile, considered to be intrusive, was retrieved from the deposit.

Located c. 5m east of this ditch was a rectangular posthole (303) containing burnt wood and clay (301). Roman pottery sherds were retrieved from this fill.

Above both the posthole and ditch, the foundation trench (98) for the recent east-west limestone road (97) was observed.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The findings of the watching brief are consistent with previous field work. In addition, the field boundaries found relate to those recorded on previous Ordnance Survey Maps.

Romano-British artefacts were recovered from fill 124 of cut feature 126. A second though undated cut 132, contains a fill 131 of identical nature to that in the first feature (126). Correspondance of the fills of the two cuts suggests that the otherwise undated feature is also probably Roman.

A north-south aligned 7m wide ditch, and the fills 073, 200 and 300 contained within it, was recorded in all three stages of the work. This ditch may be associated with the Roman Road, King Street which is fossilised by the modern highway, South Street.

Ridge and furrow, contexts 137 and 140, resulting from arable use of the land, was recorded. Fragments of 16th century pottery from 140 suggest a Medieval or post-medieval date for this phase of ploughing. These observations are consistent with the results of previous field work (Hayes and Lane 1992). However, land width (the measurement between the furrows) recorded on that survey was 5m, whereas on this watching brief, land width measurement was 9m.

In summary, Medieval ridge and furrow is located on the western side of the site, and situated to the eastern side are remains of Roman occupation of indeterminate nature.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Heritage Lincolnshire wish to thank F.E. Peacock & Son Ltd., for funding the watching brief and post-excavation work. This report was edited by Steve Haynes, who also coordinated the work, Dave Start and Gary Taylor.

9. REFERENCES

Hayes, P P, and Lane, T W, 1992 *The Fenland Project Number 5: Lincolnshire Survey, The South-West Fens*, East Anglian Archaeology 55

Hodge, C A H, Burton, R G O, Corbett, W M, Evans, R, and Seale, R S, 1984 *Soils and their Use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales Bulletin No. 13

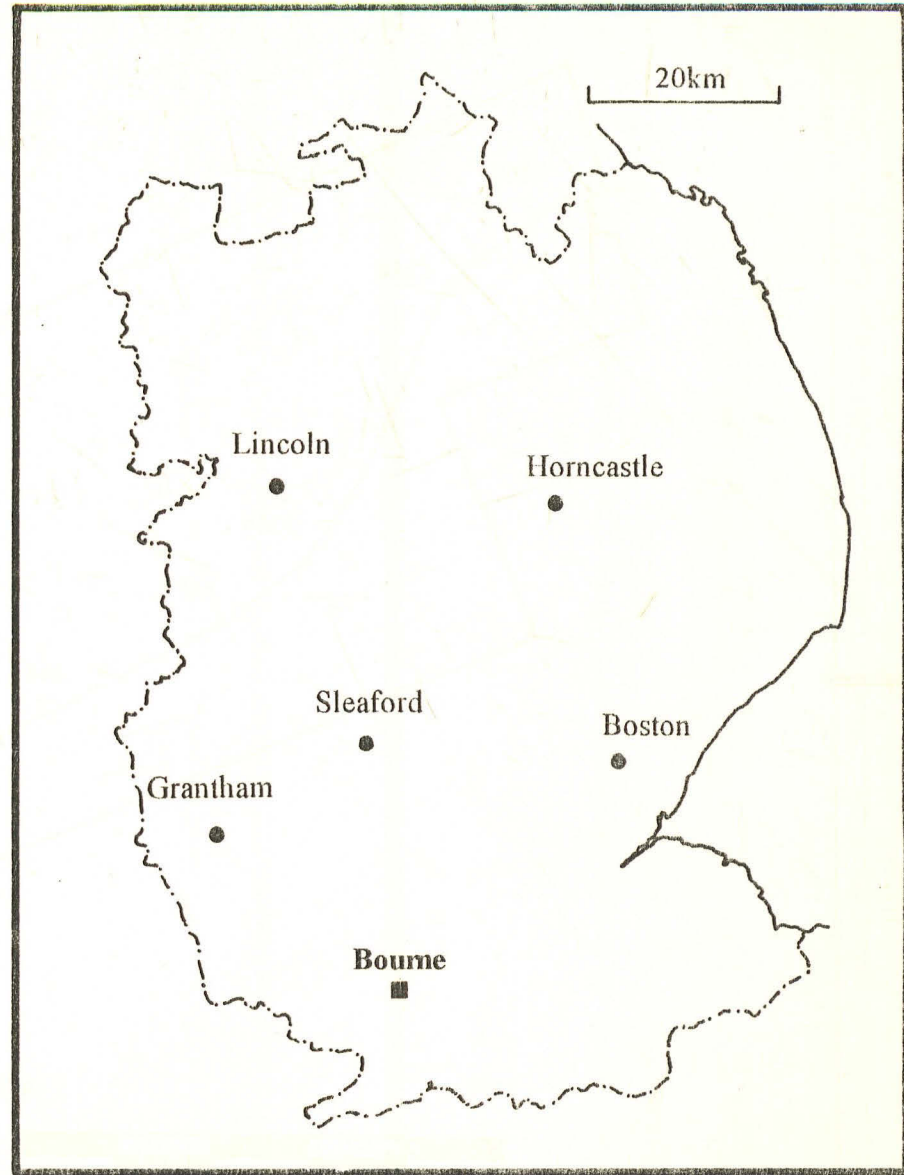
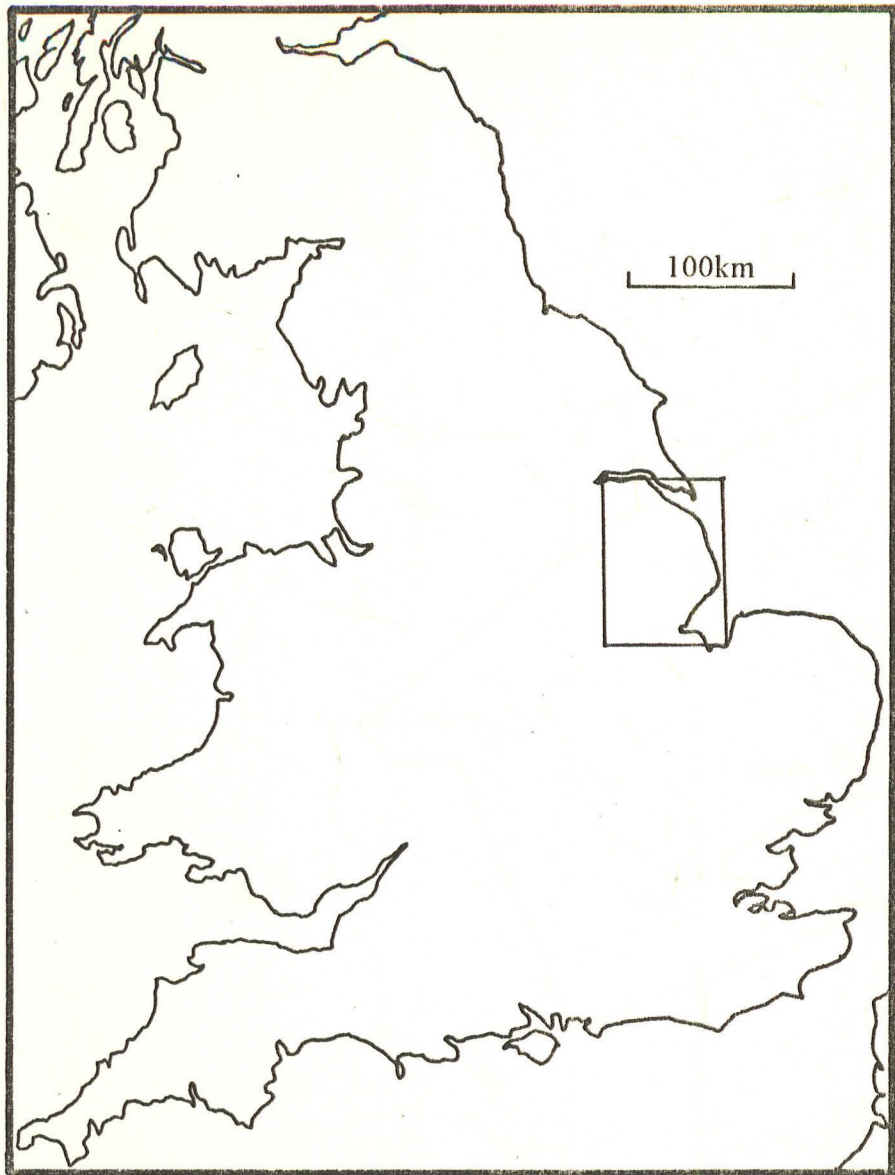


Fig. 1 GENERAL LOCATION PLAN

FIG. 3 FOUL DRAIN TRENCH LOCATION PLAN

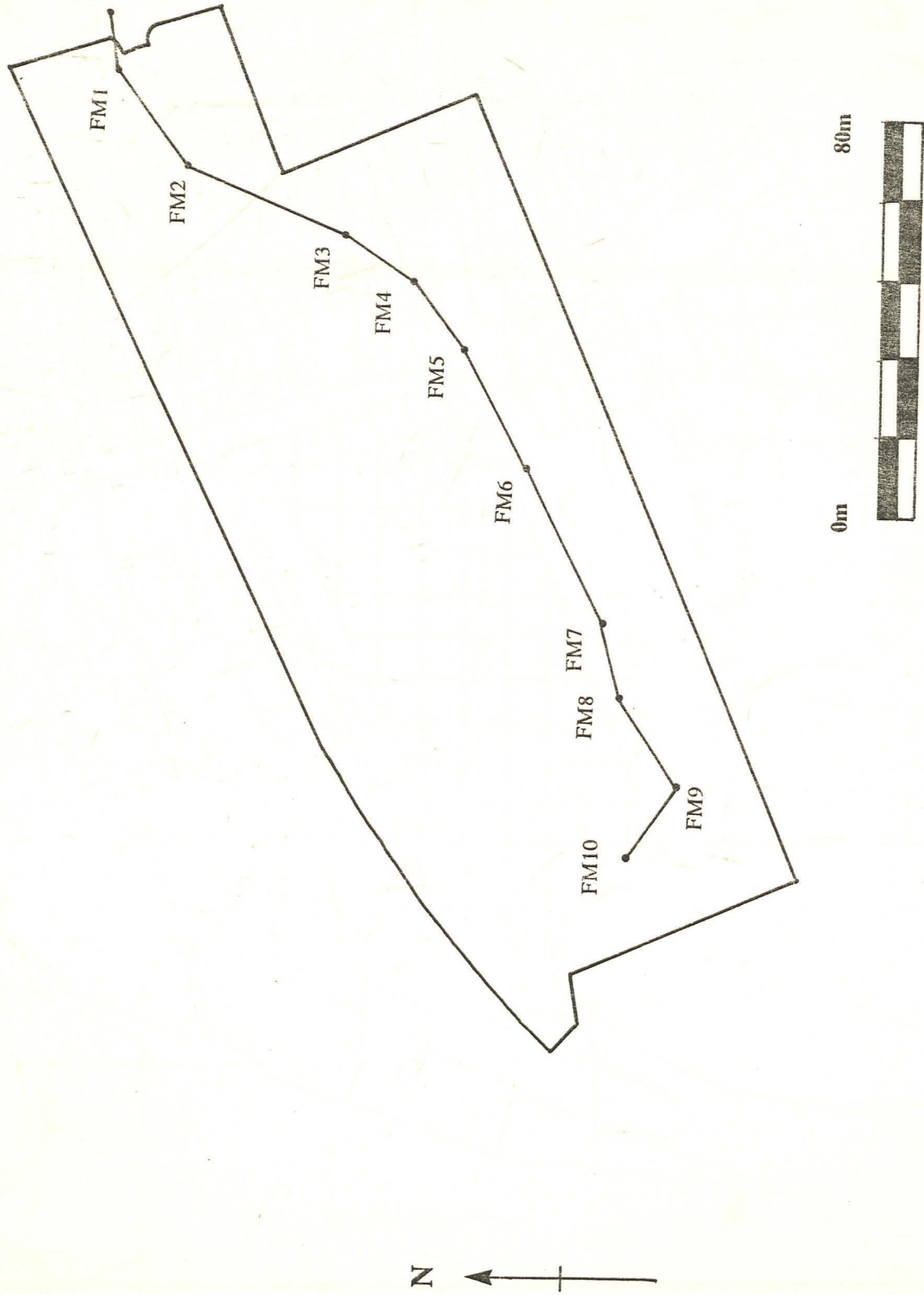


FIG. 2 SITE LOCATION PLAN

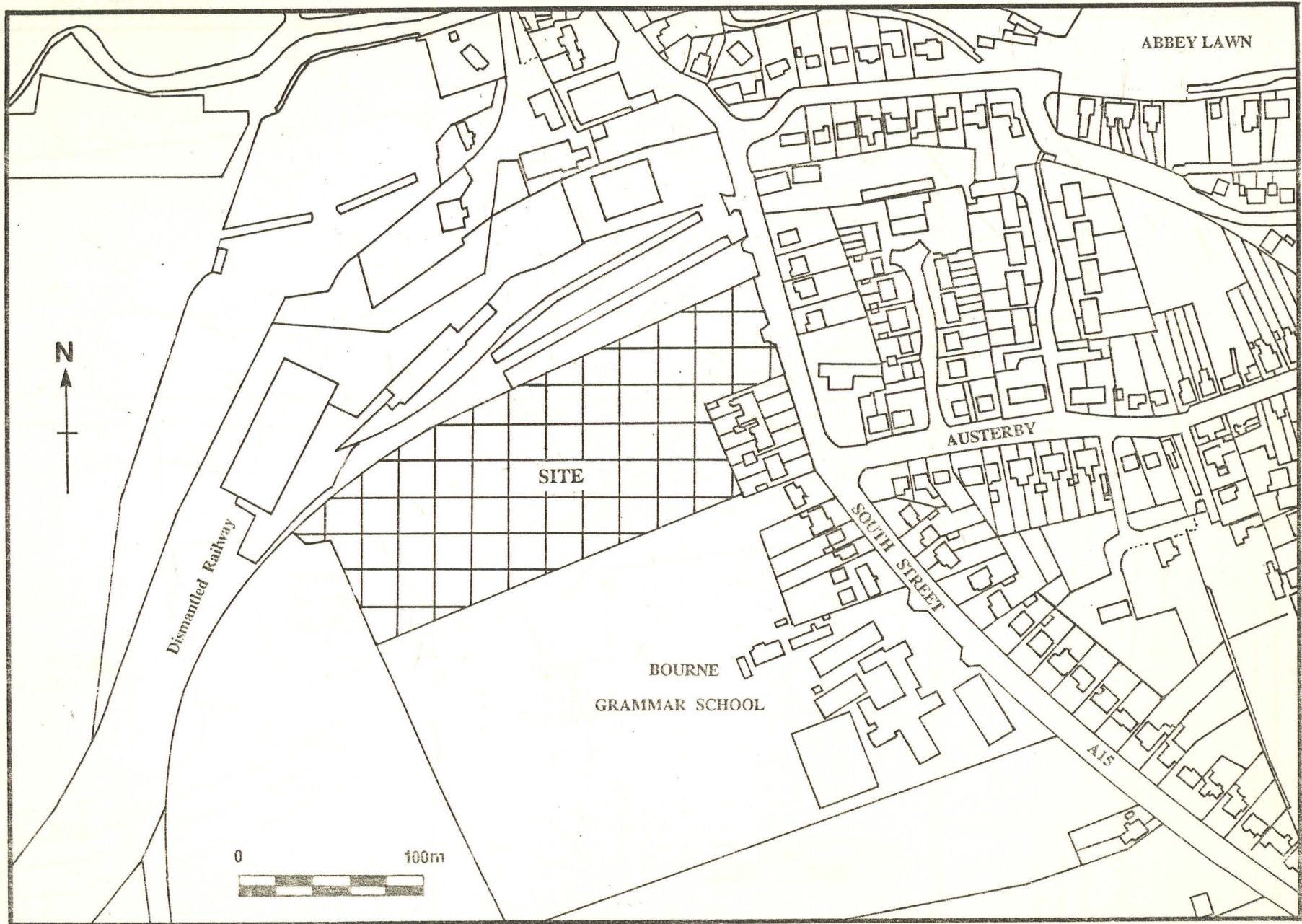
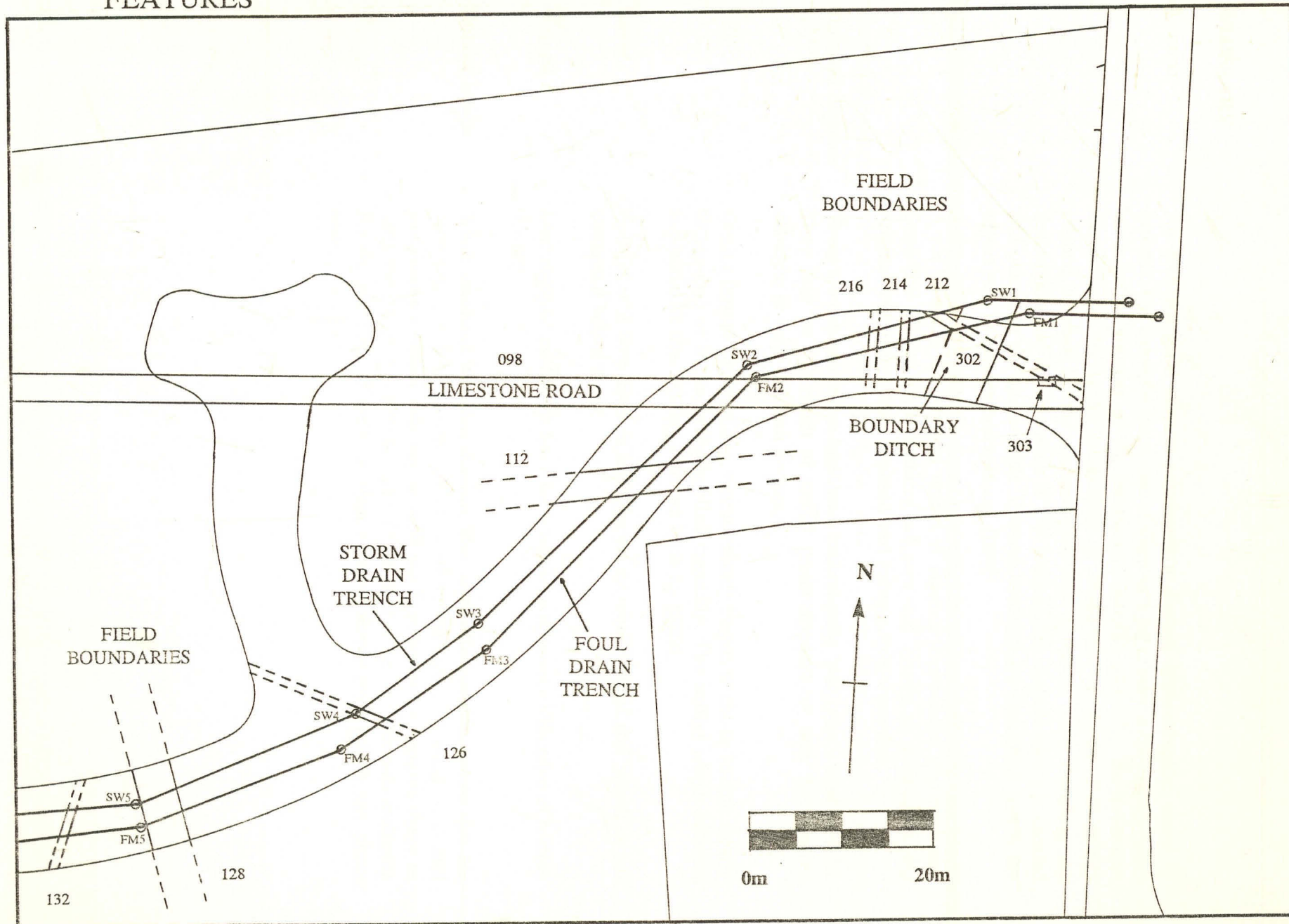


FIG. 4 LOCATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES



APPENDIX 1

GLOSSARY

- Context** An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an excavation or evaluation is allocated a unique context number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by square brackets e.g. [001].
- Cut** A cut refers to the physical action of digging a post-hole, pit, ditch etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an excavation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded
- Dumped deposits** These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal, or may be positive attempts to raise the land surface.
- Fill** Once a feature has been dug, it immediately begins to silt-up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
- Layer** A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil which is not contained within a cut.
- Natural** Deposit(s) of soil which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
- Robber trench** When buildings were left derelict, they were often demolished so that the materials could be re-used. Walls were dismantled to ground level and sometimes a trench was dug around the foundations to remove these as well. the trench was subsequently filled in or silted up. The only evidence for the previous of walls in such cases is this 'robber trench' (or ghost wall).

APPENDIX 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION
1	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
2	Light brown with grey mottle clay.	Redeposited natural
3	Gravel with light brown silt.	Dumped deposit
4	Brown/grey gravel with frequent silt.	Dumped deposit
5	Dark grey silty clay with occasional pebbles.	Dumped deposit
6	Light brown silty clay with frequent pebbles.	Dumped deposit
7	Pebbles with light brown silt and clay.	Stone dump
8	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
9	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
10	Dark brown clayey silt.	
11	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
12	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
13	Dark brown clayey silt.	
14	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
15	Brown/grey clay.	Natural deposit
16	Dark brown clayey silt.	
17	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
18	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
19	Dark brown clayey silt.	
20	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
21	Brown grey clay.	Layer
22	Gravel with occasional red brown silt.	
23	Black clay silt.	Layer
24	Brown/black clayey silt.	
25	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
26	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit

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27	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
28	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
29	Brown grey clay	Natural deposit
30	Brown/black clayey silt.	Layer
31	Brown black clayey silt with very frequent brick and tile fragments.	
32	Brown grey clay.	
33	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
34	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
35	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
36	Brown/black clayey silt.	Layer
37	Light brown pebbles and sand	Make-up
38	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
39	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
40	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
41	Light brown sand and pebbles	? floor level
42	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
43	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
44	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
45	Light brown pebbles and sand.	? floor level
46	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
47	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
48	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
49	Light brown pebbles and sand.	? floor level
50	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
51	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
52	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
53	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
54	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
55	Dark brown silty clay.	Fill of 68
56	Brown black clayey silt.	Subsoil

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57	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
58	Brown grey clay.	
59	Linear cut 0.60m wide and 0.60m deep orientated north south.	Ditch
60	Dark brown silty clayey.	Fill of 59
61	Red brown gravel and sand	Layer
62	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
63	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
64	Blue grey silty clay.	Fill of 65
65	Linear cut 0.20m wide and 0.80m deep orientated north south.	Ditch
66	Linear cut 0.70m wide 1.10m deep orientated north south.	Ditch
67	Blue grey silty clay.	Fill of 66
68	Linear cut 0.20m wide and 0.40m deep orientated north south.	Ditch
69	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
70	Brown black clayey silt.	
71	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
72	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
73	Dark brown silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks.	Fill of ???
74	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
75	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
76	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
77	Dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of ???
78	Brown black clayey silt.	
79	Dark brown clayey silt with occasional brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
80	Brown grey clay.	Natural deposit
81	Dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of ????
82	Brown black clayey silt.	Layer
83	Dark brown clayey silt with occasional brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
84	Linear cut 1.00m wide and 0.80m deep.	Ditch
85	Linear cut 0.80m wide and 0.60m deep.	
86	Dark brown clayey silt with very frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil

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87	Dark brown/light grey clayey silt with occasional flint pebbles.	Subsoil
88	Orange brown clay.	Natural deposit
89	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent brick/tile and wood fragments.	Topsoil
90	Dark brown/light grey clayey silt with occasional flint pebbles.	Subsoil
91	Orange brown clay.	Natural deposit
92	Blue grey clay.	Natural deposit
93	Dark brown/light grey clayey silt with frequent flint pebbles.	Subsoil
94	Dark brown/light grey clayey silt with occasional flint pebbles.	Subsoil
95	Orange grey /brown clay.	Natural deposit
96	Blue grey clay.	Natural deposit
97	Limestone blocks 0.30m x 4.5m orientated east-west.	Roadway fill of 98
98	Linear cut 0.30m deep and 4.5m long.	Cut for roadway
99	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent wood and occasional brick and tile fragments.	Fill of ??
100	Linear cut 0.30m deep and 0.60m wide.	
101	Dark brown clayey silt.	Fill of 102
102	Cut 0.60m deep and 0.60m wide.	
103	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent wood and occasional brick/tile fragments.	Topsoil
104	Dark brown /light grey silty clay with occasional flint pebbles.	Subsoil
105	Blue grey clay.	Natural deposit
106	Orange brown clay	Natural deposit
107	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent wood and moderate small pebbles.	Topsoil
108	Cut extent not discernible.	
109	Dark brown clayey silt with moderate brick and tile and frequent wood fragments.	Fill of 118
110	Grey/ orange brown silty clay with moderate limestone fragments.	Fill of 112
111	Grey brown silty clay with moderate limestone fragments.	Fill of 113
112	Possible linear cut 1.15m deep and 4.60m wide.	Ditch
113	Orange blue grey clay with occasional pebbles.	Fill of 114
114	Cut 0.60m deep and 1.80m long.	Ditch
115	Orange brown-grey clay.	Natural deposit
116	Dark brown/light grey clay with occasional pebbles.	Subsoil

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117	Orange brown clay.	Natural deposit
118	Cut not discernible.	Service trench
119	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent wood and moderate brick and tile fragments.	Topsoil
120	Cut not discernible.	Service trench
121	Grey brown/orange sandy clay with occasional; flint pebbles.	Natural deposit
122	Grey orange-brown silty clay.	Fill of 123
123	Cut 1.20m wide and 1.00m wide.	Ditch
124	Light brown clayey silt with moderate charcoal flecks and frequent shell fragments and pebbles.	Fill of 126
125	Orange brown silty clay.	Fill of 126
126	Cut 1.40m wide and 0.50m deep.	Ditch
127	Grey brown clayey silt with frequent flint pebbles.	Fill of 128
128	Cut 4m wide and 1m deep.	Ditch
129	Dark brown silty clay with occasional; brick and tile fragments.	Topsoil
130	Grey and orange sandy clay with lenses of sand and clay.	Natural deposit
131	Grey brown clayey silt.	Fill of 132
132	Cut 1.2m wide and 0.50m deep.	Ditch
133	Light brown silty clay.	Fill of 134
134	Cut not discernible.	
135	Clayey silt.	Fill of 136
136	Cut not discernible.	Field drain
137	Brown-orange clayey silt.	Ridge and furrow
138	Orange brown clayey silt.	Fill of 139
139	Cut not discernible.	Field drain
140	Brown orange clay silt	Ridge and furrow
141	Cut not discernible.	Field drain
142	Brown/grey sandy silt with frequent brick, tile and glass fragments.	Fill of 143
143	Linear cut.	Ditch
144	Brown orange clay silt.	Fill of 147
145	Cut dimensions unclear.	Field drain
146	Brown orange clay silt	Fill of 147

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147	Cut dimensions unclear.	Field drain
148	Brown grey sandy silt.	Topsoil
149	????	Field drain
150	Cut not discernible.	Field drain
	151-199 not used	
200	grey black silty clay with occasional flint pebbles.	Fill of 211
201	Grey -blue black silty clay.	Fill of 213
202	Not used	
203	Blue grey silty clay.	Fill of 215
204	Grey-blue black silty clay.	Fill of 212
205	Blue grey silty clay.	Fill of 214
206	Blue grey silty clay.	Fill of 216
207	Blue grey silty clay.	Fill of 217
208	Dark brown clayey silt with frequent wood and occasional brick and tile fragments.	Topsoil
209	Dark brown/light grey silty clay with occasional flint pebbles.	Subsoil.
210	Orange blue clay.	Natural deposit
211	Linear cut 0.50m wide and 3,20m long.	Ditch
212	Linear cut 0.80m deep and as seen 4.0m wide.	Ditch
213	Cut feature 1.0m wide and 0.20m deep.	Ditch
214	Linear cut 0.30m deep and 1.0m wide.	Ditch
215	Linear cut 0.60m wide and 0.20m deep.	Ditch
216	Linear cut 1.0m wide and 0.30m deep.	Ditch
217	Linear cut 1.0m wide and 0.30m deep.	Ditch
218	Blue grey clay	Natural deposit
219	Grey sand, cement and gravel.	Building residue
220	220-299 not used	
300	Grey black silty clay with occasional flint pebbles.	
301	Dark grey	
302	Linear cut orientated north-south and as seen 7m wide.	Ditch
303	Rectangular cut 0.30m x 0.60m and 30mm deep.	Post hole.