

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

L I N C O L N

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION REPORT;
LAND OFF GORSE LANE
GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE**

NGR: SK 9186 3407
SITE CODE: GLGAO1
LCNCC ACC. NO. 2001.67
Planning ref: AC/535/-00/CC/FST



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Report prepared for
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April 2001

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Summary

- *An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new secondary school on land off Gorse Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire.*
- *The area has produced archaeological evidence indicative of settlement activity from the prehistoric period to the present day.*
- *A preceding geophysical survey identified two rectilinear enclosures, a series of linear features, localised anomalies, and medieval ridge and furrow.*
- *This investigation has confirmed that the site was occupied during the Iron Age, and it is the deposits and features of this date that are considered to be of the greatest archaeological significance. Some of the remains may be at threat from development, at least in its proposed form.*

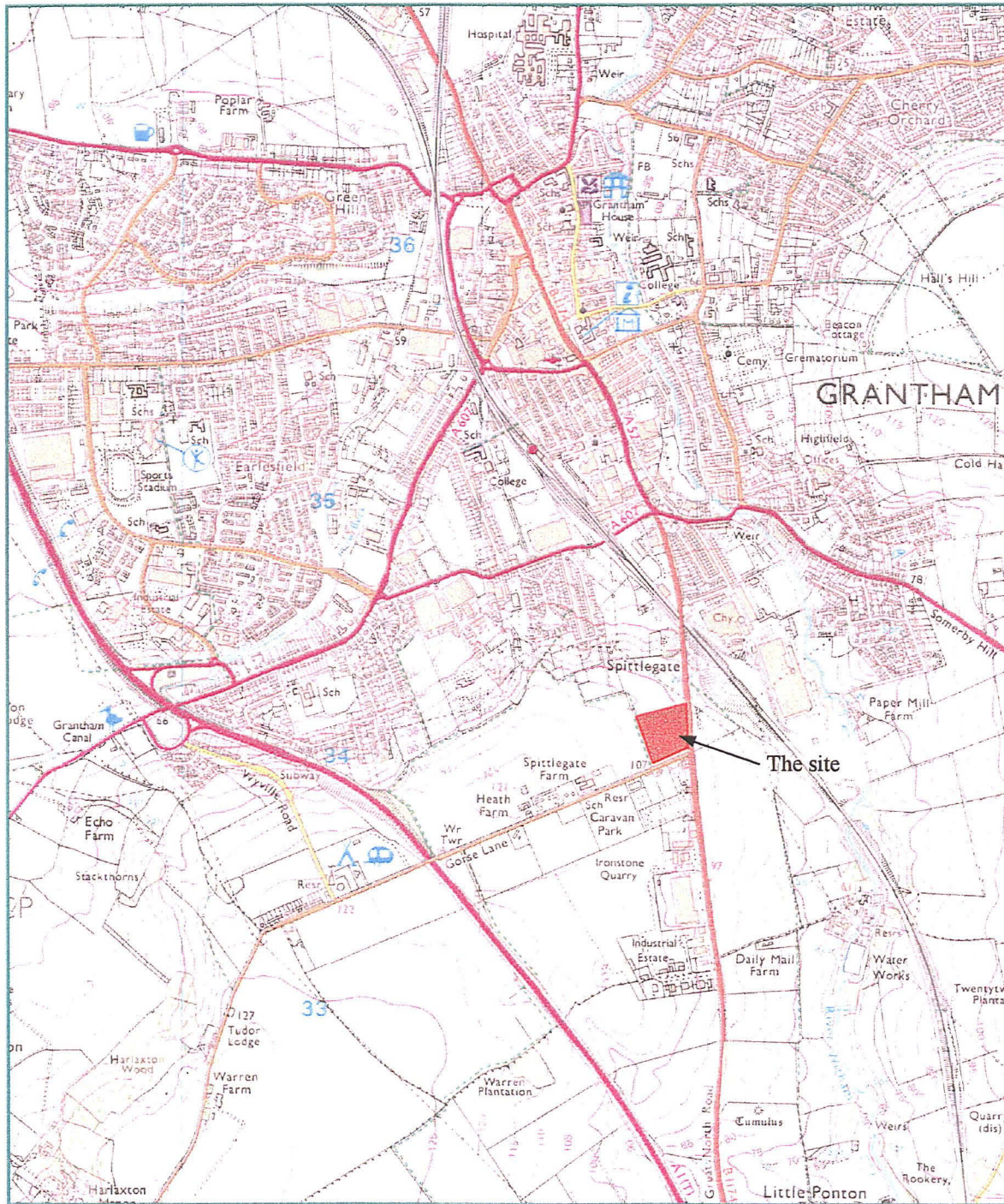


Fig.1: Site location (scale 1:25,000)
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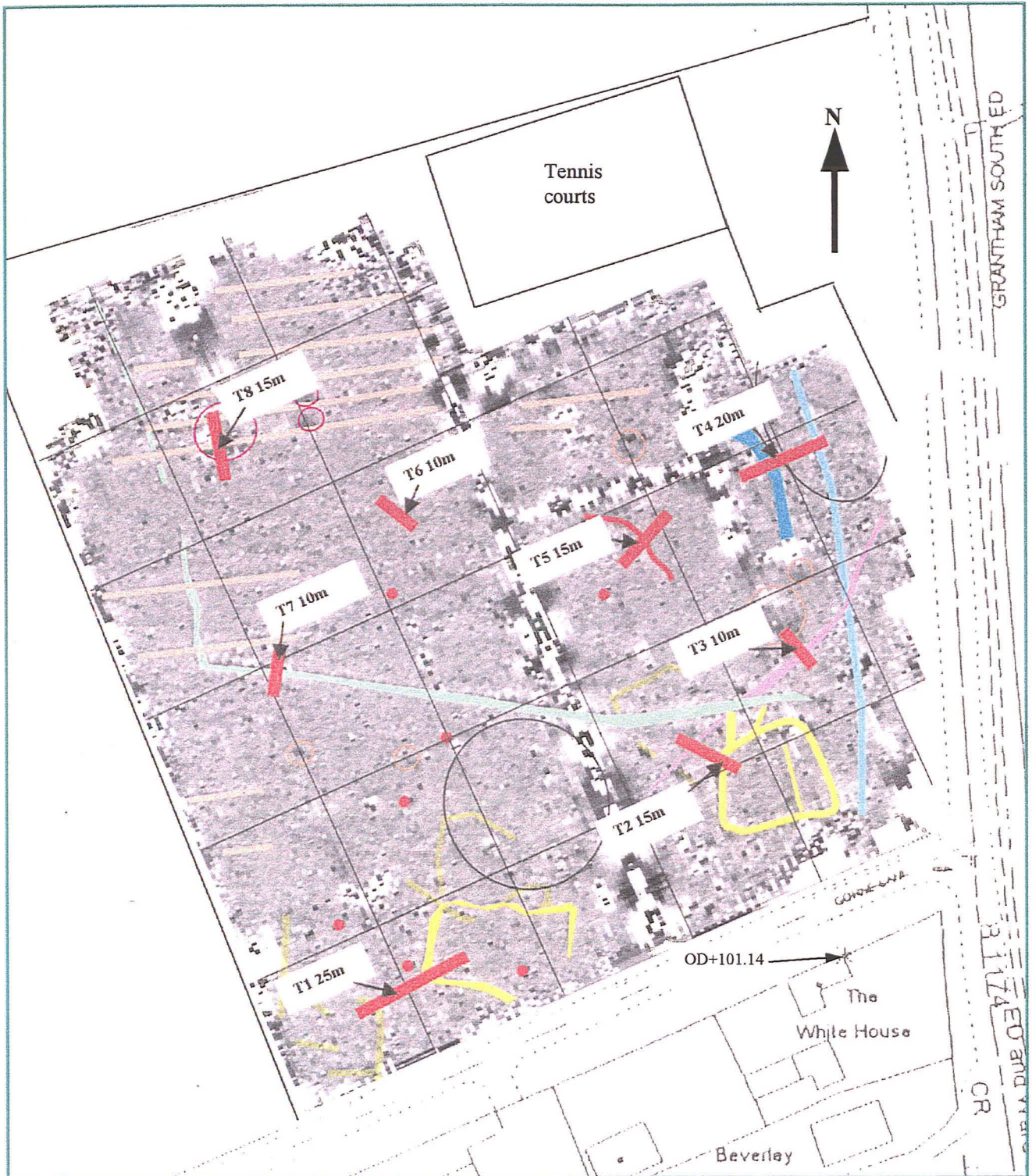


Fig.2: Site location, showing evaluation trenches in relation to geophysical anomalies (scale 1:1250)

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) were commissioned by Bovis Lend Lease Ltd. to undertake a trial excavation on the site of a proposed secondary school, on land north of Gorse Lane, Grantham, Lincolnshire. The work was undertaken to inform a planning decision.

This report details the results of the fieldwork. It is written to conform to national and local guidelines as set out in the Lincolnshire County Council document *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: A Manual of Archaeological Practice* (LCC, 1998), and to the recommendations of the Senior Built Environment Officer for Lincolnshire County Council.

2.0 Site location and description

Grantham is in the administrative district of South Kesteven, approximately 35km south of Lincoln and 18km south-west of Sleaford. The proposed development site is a sub-rectangular field of approximately 3 hectares, on the south side of Grantham. It is bordered by the B1174 to the east, Gorse Lane to the south, and open fields to the north and west. The site was previously used as a playing field, and a former bowling green is clearly visible in the north-eastern corner. The present ground cover consists of low grasses that are grazed by horses. The site slopes eastwards towards the B1174, at a height of approximately 100-105m OD. It centres on NGR SK 9186 3407.

The local geology consists of Jurassic Lincolnshire Limestone (BGS, 1972).

3.0 Planning background

Planning consent is sought for the construction of a new secondary school (planning ref AC/535/-/00/CC/FST). To inform an appropriate planning decision, Bovis Lend Lease Ltd. commissioned a program of archaeological investigation. The first phase of this work was a gradiometer survey (Bunn & Palmer-Brown, 2001). The trial excavation was carried out to examine anomalies detected by this survey, to assess the overall archaeological significance of the site, and to inform a decision in due course.

4.0 Archaeological and historical background

The earliest archaeological evidence from the area dates to the Middle Palaeolithic, as represented by a single flint hand axe. More substantial evidence comes from the Mesolithic period (8000-4000BC). A cluster of six sites has been identified by fieldwalking at Barrowby, approximately 2km east of Grantham (May, 1976).

Small amounts of Neolithic material have been recovered from the area. At Little Gonerby, on the northern outskirts of Grantham, 2 Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

ceramic vessels and a stone axe were discovered in 1875. These vessels were associated with one human cremation burial (contained within the larger of the two vessels) and two inhumations, and may represent successive phases of burial in a ploughed out barrow (*ibid.*). Another Bronze Age barrow is represented by a substantial earthwork (approximately 60m in diameter and 2m high) at Little Ponton, 1.5km south of the site (SMR ref.30082).

The site also lies within an area of Iron Age settlement activity. For example, a possible site has been postulated by ceramic evidence at Barrowby, to the west of Grantham (May, 1976). Numerous flint and pottery scatters attest further prehistoric activity from the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. The distribution of these findspots runs along the Witham Valley and the higher ground overlooking the river (see table below).

Romano-British activity in the area is centred on the settlement at Saltersford, less than 1km south-east of the current site. The site controlled a ford where the Salt Way, a prehistoric and Roman road, crossed the Witham (Whitwell, 1992). The County Sites and Monuments Record records stone buildings, painted wall plaster, hypocaust flue tiles, iron and bronze tools, window glass, coins and pottery, pointing to a moderately affluent community. The large coin assemblage shows the site to have been occupied throughout the Roman period, from the first to the fifth century AD.

Numerous villas have been recorded in the Grantham area, e.g. Great Ponton, Denton, and Stoke Rochford (Whitwell, 1992).

In the post-Roman period, the focus of settlement shifted northwards, and by the end of the Saxon period, Grantham was an established community of over a thousand people (Pevsner & Harris, 1989). The town's relative importance was indicated by the foundation of a mint, which was in operation by the end of the tenth century AD (Sawyer, 1998). At the time of the Domesday Survey, the town acted as the centre of a substantial royal manor, with jurisdictions in Gonerby, Harlaxton, *Nongtone* (Old English place name), Great Ponton, Old Somerby, Sapperton, Braceby, Welby, Belton, Harrowby, Dunsthorpe, Londonthorpe, Barkston, Denton, Skillington, Hungerton, and Stoke (Morgan & Thorn, 1986).

A geophysical survey of the site (Bunn & Palmer-Brown, 2001) detected a number of magnetic anomalies of potential archaeological significance. Up to four possible rectilinear enclosures were recorded at the southern end of the site. A series of linear anomalies were detected to the north and east of these enclosures, possibly representing boundary ditches. The northern portion of the survey indicated the presence of medieval ridge and furrow. A number of discrete anomalies were also recorded, the larger of which may represent isolated areas of burning or small pits for ironstone quarrying.

The County Sites and Monuments Record also lists a number of entries relevant to this area, which are summarized overleaf:

SMR ref.	NGR (SK)	Description
30082	9224 3260	Prehistoric round barrow (Little Ponton)
30489	9255 3415	Houghton deserted medieval village
30491	9280 3460	Medieval/post medieval pottery scatter
30507	9130 3300	Possible site of Waltham deserted medieval village
30508	9223 3334	Romano-British settlement at Saltersford
30509	9234 3329	Anglo-Saxon pottery scatter
30510	9228 3330	Iron Age/Romano-British pottery scatter Roman coin (third century AD)
30512	9240 3470	Prehistoric flint scatter from the banks of the Witham
30515	9200 3490	Romano-British remains, Bridge End Road
30516	9189 3488	Spitalgate Anglo-Saxon cemetery
30517	9230 3436	Bronze Age pottery scatter
30531	9225 3499	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint scatter
30765	9259 3370	Bronze Age scraper Roman samian ware
33819	9190 3260	Cropmarks - large oval double ditched enclosure
33848	9140 3340	Cropmarks - Double ditched circular enclosure
33895	9218 3377	Cropmarks - Ring ditch
33970	9260 3330	Anglo-Saxon scramasax, shield boss, gilt stud
33972	9265 3330	Prehistoric polished stone axe
33977	9283 3310	Iron Age/Romano-British pottery scatter
33988	9235 3325	Barbed & tanged flint arrowhead (Bronze Age?)
34910	9252 3334	Six Romano-British inhumations (third century AD)
35057	9230 3330	Early Neolithic - Bronze Age flint scatter
SK93SW AJ	9276 3328	Romano-British brooch (first century AD)
SK93NW L	9210 3540	4 Roman coins
SK93NW M	9010 3540	Neolithic/Bronze Age flint scraper
SK93NW AF	9285 3570	Hall's Hill Romano-British settlement
SK93NW AK	9119 3502	Neolithic flint axe

5.0 Methodology

Eight trenches were excavated to assess the significance of magnetic anomalies that were detected by geophysical survey. Excavation was carried out using a JCB fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching blade. Topsoil and subsoil layers were removed in spits not exceeding 0.2m in depth. When archaeological deposits were encountered, all further excavation was by hand. Archaeological features were excavated to establish depth, profile, and, where possible, date and function. All features were recorded in plan and section at an appropriate scale (1:50 or 1:20) and written accounts were prepared on pro forma context record sheets. A colour photographic record was also maintained, with selected prints being reproduced in this report (Appendix 12.1).

The location and objectives of the trenches were as follows:

Trench 1: 25m long, aligned west-south-west to east-north-east. This was positioned to examine the western edge of a probable sub-rectangular enclosure situated in the south-west corner of the site. The trench also traversed a series of very weak anomalies; potentially representing another enclosure.

Trench 2: 15m long, aligned north-west to south-east. This trench was placed across a linear anomaly running south-west to north-east and another probable enclosure.

Trench 3: 10m long, aligned north-north-west to south-south-east. This trench also traversed the south-west to north-east linear anomaly examined in Trench 2, as well as a possible large pit or quarry.

Trench 4: 20m long, aligned east to west. This trench was placed within the area of the former bowling green, crossing a linear and a curvilinear anomaly, both orientated approximately north to south.

Trench 5: 15m long, aligned south-west to north-east. Positioned to examine a possible ditch running north-west to south-east.

Trench 6: 10m long, aligned north-west to south-east. This was placed as a control trench, in order to examine an area where no geophysical anomalies were recorded.

Trench 7: 10m long, aligned south-south-west to north-north-east. This trench was designed to examine a substantial linear anomaly that runs north-west to south-east across the site.

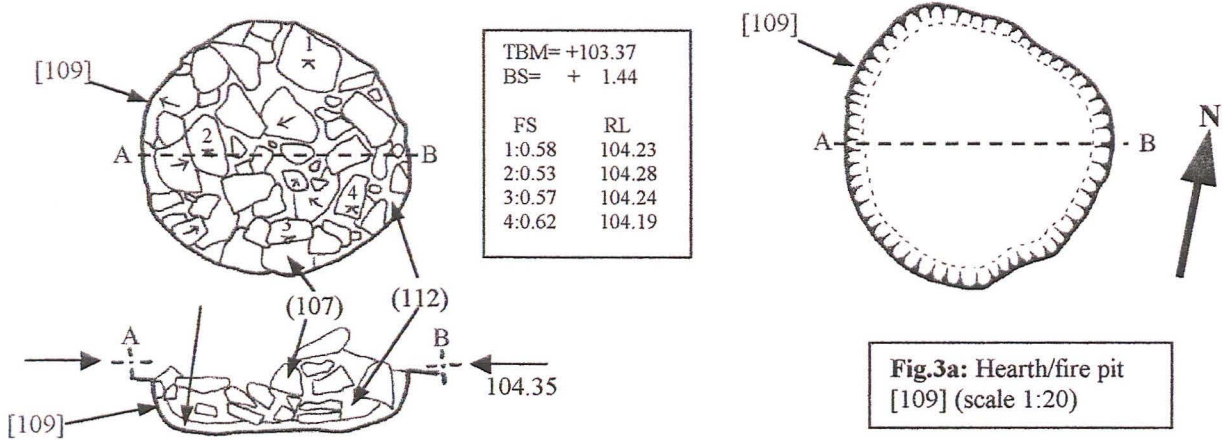
Trench 8: 15m long, aligned north to south. This trench was placed across a series of linear anomalies in the north-west corner of the site, which had been interpreted as medieval ridge and furrow.

6.0 Results

In all the trenches, the uppermost deposit was a layer of topsoil, which varied in depth from approximately 0.1 to 0.25m. The topsoil was homogenous across the site, consisting of slightly silty, dark grey clayey sand.

In several trenches the topsoil sealed a deposit of orange/brown clayey sand. Where present, this deposit was very shallow (maximum depth of 0.1m), and was taken to represent a colluvial deposit.

The natural geology was uniform across the site, consisting of an orange/brown clayey sand, containing large amounts of subangular, poorly sorted limestone brash.



6.1 Trench 1

This trench exposed two adjacent linear features, which correlated to the position of the more easterly sub-rectangular enclosure identified by the geophysical survey, and provided tentative supported for this interpretation. The two phases may represent a primary and secondary cutting of the enclosure ditch, although it should be noted that they had slightly different alignments and contrasting morphology

A possible hearth or fire pit containing burnt stone was excavated approximately 10m west of this ditch (see fig. 3a above).

The whole of trench 1 was sealed by a 0.2m deep topsoil (100). Beneath this, a colluvial deposit was present at the western end of the trench, and throughout most of the eastern half of the trench (101). A slot was excavated through this in order to establish whether archaeological features were present. Two ditches, [103] and [105] were exposed to the east of the centre of the trench, both cut into the natural limestone brash, (108). Ditch [103] was approximately 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep, with a shallow bowl shaped profile. This was aligned north-west to south-east. The ditch contained a mid-orange/brown clayey silt, (102).

Less than 0.2m west of [103] was ditch [105]. This was significantly wider, at approximately 1.8m, and was 0.25m deep. The ditch had moderately sloping sides (approx. 45°) and a flat base. It was filled by a greyish brown clayey silt with occasional limestone fragments, (104). No finds were recovered from these features.

Approximately 10m west of [103], a circular feature was exposed. This feature, [109], was approximately 0.7m in diameter. It was filled with large subangular limestone chunks, all of which were heavily burnt (fig. 3a). These stones were contained within a greyish brown clayey silt. This produced no evidence of burning, suggesting the stones were not burnt *in situ*, but redeposited from another context. On removing the stones it was observed that the feature had a thin lining of greenish grey sandy clay, (113). It is possible that the stones were so-called pot boilers, heated in a fire and thrown into this pit (?a trough hearth) to heat water.

Removal of colluvium in this area revealed a series of small circular features, apparently cut into the limestone brash, and possibly representing small postholes (given the group number [111]). They were characterized by a fill, (110) that was identical in colour to the surrounding brash matrix, but with less stone inclusion. An intermittent grey band defined the edge of each feature. They did not form any consistent pattern, and excavation of several examples revealed an irregular profile, not consistent with the morphology of a regular posthole. Consequently, the features were considered to have a geological origin (eg solution holes).

6.2 Trench 2

A large ditch was exposed at the eastern end of the trench. This contained quantities of animal bone and a small amount of Iron Age pottery. The ditch related to a enclosure detected by geophysics.

A second, much shallower, linear feature was exposed at the west end of the trench. This also contained Iron Age pottery and correlated with the position of a linear anomaly. Less than half a metre west of this feature was a single posthole, which also produced Iron Age pottery.

The topsoil, (200), sealed a slightly darker and more silty deposit, up to 0.2m deep, (204). This contained small amounts of nineteenth/twentieth century brick and tile, and may have been a levelling deposit made during the creation of the former playing

field. At the western end of the trench this layer gradually gave way to a deposit of orange/yellow limestone brash. This was approximately 0.2m deep, and was also probably redeposited during levelling of the playing field.

There was a layer of colluvium, (205), beneath the above deposits. A slot was excavated through this material to determine whether it overlay archaeological features. The colluvium was approximately 0.05m deep and, at the eastern end of the trench, it sealed a sizeable ditch, [201]. This was approximately 2.75m wide and 0.9m deep. The upper portion of the ditch had gently sloping sides, which increased in steepness to a moderate slope of approximately 45°, forming a truncated 'V'-shaped base. The ditch was aligned north to south.

The bulk fill was an orange/brown sandy clay, containing frequent limestone fragments, (206). This produced six small and very fragmentary sherds of Early to Middle Iron Age shell tempered pottery (Darling, Appendix 12.2), and relatively large quantities of animal bone. This was predominantly cattle, but included horse, sheep or goat, and pig (Rackham, Appendix 12.3). Another orange brown sandy clay deposit, (207), formed a narrow band along the eastern edge of the ditch. This material may represent slumping of the ditch sides, but the fact that it was only present along one edge of the ditch suggests that it derived from an adjacent bank.

At the western end of the trench was a much shallower linear feature, [203], which was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east. This was approximately 1.2m wide and less than 0.2m deep, with shallow sides (approximately 30-40° from horizontal). It was filled with an orange/brown sandy clay, (210), with occasional limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. The fill produced several sherds of shell-tempered pottery, including the complete base of one vessel and a rim sherd from another. This was Middle Iron Age Ancaster/Breedon scored ware, very similar to that from ditch [201] (Darling, Appendix 12.2).

Less than half a metre to the west of ditch [203] was a circular feature, [202], approximately 0.4m in diameter, with a flat base and almost vertical sides. This probable posthole was filled with an orange-grey clay-sand, which produced a single sherd of Ancaster/Breedon scored ware (Darling, Appendix 12.2).

6.3 Trench 3

A single feature was exposed at the northern end of the trench, which may represent a quarry pit; corresponding to an anomaly detected by the geophysical survey.

A single feature, [301], was exposed at the north-west end of this trench. It was sealed by c.0.25m of topsoil, (300), and was cut into limestone brash, (303). The exposed area of [301] was shallow, not exceeding 0.2m in depth, with a gently sloping edge and relatively flat. The fill, (302), was an orange/brown sandy clay, which produced no artefactual remains.

In plan, the exposed edge of [301] suggested that it was part of a linear feature, running from south-west to north-east. However, it is possible that there is a much larger component of this feature lying to the immediate north of the area that was

investigated. Consequently, it is also possible that it represents a shallow pit or backfilled quarry; as suggested by the geophysical survey.

6.4 Trench 4

One very shallow feature was detected at the centre of the trench, while a modern service pipe was exposed at the eastern end. This pipe accounts for a linear geophysical anomaly in this location.

The topsoil, (400), was approximately 0.2m deep and overlay a thin deposit of asphalt chippings, (401), up to 0.1m deep. It is likely that (401) was laid to facilitate drainage of the former bowling green. Beneath it were a series of deposits, (402)-(405), representing material laid down to create a level surface for the bowling green. A sondage was excavated through these deposits, which demonstrated that they sealed a linear feature, approximately 1.2m wide, [409]. Upon excavation, a modern ceramic sewer pipe was exposed in its base. This feature generated the north-south orientated linear feature in this location.

The service trench cut through two deposits of orange-brown sandy clay, (410), overlying (411), which had a total maximum depth of 0.35m near the eastern end of the trench. The distinction between the two layers was somewhat vague, and both are likely to be colluvial, given that they follow the natural slope of the limestone brash, (414). It is likely that the depth increases at the east end of the trench due to the presence of a hedge running parallel with the B1174, less than 10m further to the east. This boundary would prevent colluvium from moving further down the slope. It is also possible that the levelling of the bowling green has resulted in some truncation of the colluvial layers further to the west.

A very shallow linear feature, [413], was exposed near the centre of the trench. It was approximately 0.15m deep and 3.5m wide, with a flat base and gently sloping sides. This feature had an unusual morphology and it may be related to the construction of the bowling green, as it was situated at the point where the colluvium was truncated by levelling deposit (404).

6.5 Trench 5

No features of archaeological significance were exposed in this area. A former trackway ran through the north-east end of the trench.

The topsoil, (500), was of variable depth, ranging from 0.15 to 0.25m. Directly beneath it was (501), an orange/brown clay-sand deposit up to 0.2m deep. This was interpreted as a levelling layer, relating to the creation of the playing field, and was only evident in the south-western two-thirds of the trench. A slot was excavated through this deposit in order to assess the presence of any underlying archaeological features.

Initially, a small sub-circular feature, [503], filled by a grey/brown deposit, (504), was seen in plan at the south-western end of the reduced slot. Initially, this was interpreted

as a small pit. However, upon excavation it became apparent that it was more likely to represent another small leveling deposit, as it was situated between two layers that had been previously identified as leveling (501).

(501) and (504) sealed two further layers that were deposited during the levelling of the playing field. These consisted of a small patch of redeposited natural, (502), and an area of redeposited topsoil, (505). Beneath the latter was a deposit of dark brown clay-sand, (508) which rested over natural limestone brash (507).

At the north-eastern end of the trench, (501) sealed a dark grey silty sand, (506), which was very similar to the topsoil. This contained occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments of modern brick. Local residents informed the author that this was the remains of a trackway; used until recently by cars and pedestrians. This used to run from a gate on Gorse Lane towards the bowling and cricket pavilions, which stood at the very north of the site.

6.6 Trench 6

No archaeological features were exposed in this trench.

The trench was located as a control to test the results of the geophysical survey. Following machine stripping, the trench was found to be archaeologically sterile. The stratigraphy exposed consisted of 0.2m of topsoil, (600), resting directly over limestone brash, (601).

6.7 Trench 7

Three archaeological features were exposed. The first, a large ditch, ran across the centre of the trench, respecting the position and alignment of a linear feature detected by the geophysical survey. The fill of this feature produced a small amount of Iron Age pottery.

At the south end of the trench, a small gully of unknown date was exposed, and this was on a similar alignment to the large ditch.

Lying between the two ditches was a large circular pit, also undated.

Each of the features was situated immediately beneath the topsoil, (700), and they were cut through natural limestone brash, (712).

Ditch [701] extended across the centre of the trench, on an east to west alignment. It was 1.55m wide, and 0.5m deep, with a truncated 'V'-shaped profile. The upper fill, (704) was a mid brown deposit of clay-sand. At the base of this deposit was a thin band of limestone chunks, which separated it from the slightly darker primary fill, (705). The latter was much stonier than (704). Both (704) and (705) produced small amounts of shell tempered pottery; identical to that from features in Trench 2, and dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age (Darling, Appendix 12.2). A third fill, (706), ran along the southern edge of the ditch and may represent a slumping of the side or

material from an adjacent bank.

The northern side of the the above had truncated the fills of an earlier ditch [713]. This had a 'U'-shaped profile, approximately 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep. It is probable that [713] represents the initial definition of a long east to west boundary, which was later recut by [701]. Its fill comprised an orange-brown clay-sand, from which dating evidence was not recovered.

At the south end of the trench was a narrow gully, [703], approximately 0.25m wide and 0.15m deep, which had a shallow, bowl shaped profile. Its fill, (711), was a mid brown sandy clay. No artefactual remains were recovered from this feature. However, it closely respected the alignment of ditches [701] and [713], suggesting that it may have been related.

Between the two ditches was a large feature, [702], that was only partially exposed. The visible component was semi-circular, and it may represent the western terminal of another ditch. However, it is more likely that it is a component of a sub-circular pit, as the geophysical survey did not detect two parallel linear features in this part of the site. The visible section of the feature measured 1.8 by 0.8m. It was approximately 0.5m deep, with a slightly uneven base and moderately sloping sides (ca. 40-45° from horizontal). The pit contained three fills, (708), (709) and (710), all of which were similar mid-brown clay-sands. They appeared to represent three discrete episodes. None produced any artefactual remains, and the date and function of this feature has not been determined.

6.8 Trench 8

A single large ditch was exposed in this trench, which was dated to the Iron Age. Its position related to a geophysical anomaly that was interpreted as a medieval plough furrow. However, its size and morphology suggests that it is probably some form of Iron Age boundary ditch that is on the same alignment as the later ridge and furrow.

The topsoil, (800) sealed a thin layer of colluvium, (808), which was only exposed towards the centre of the trench. When a slot was excavated through this deposit, it was shown to have slumped into a slight depression above a backfilled ditch, [801]. This was the largest (ancient) feature that was examined during the evaluation, being approximately 4.4m wide and 1.2m deep. It had uneven sides and base, resulting from its excavation through the stony limestone brash, which together gave [801] a flattened 'U'-shaped profile. The base of the feature appeared to be rising at the west side of the trench, while the two sides curved inwards. This was taken to suggest that the ditch terminated just beyond the east facing section.

The upper fill of this feature, (802), comprised slightly silty orange/brown clay-sand with occasional limestone fragments. It incorporated three sherds of Middle Iron Age shell tempered pottery. (802) sealed a similar, but stonier deposit, (803), which in turn sealed (804), a yellowish brown deposit of sandy clay. The two primary fills, (805) and (806) were mixed deposits of yellow/greyish brown and brown clay-sand.

This feature was identified by geophysical survey, but was interpreted as the most

southerly element of an area of medieval ridge and furrow. It is just possible that the most southerly of the furrows is on the same alignment as [801]. The possibility that [801] is not of extensive length is also a consideration.

7.0 Discussion and conclusion

Arguably, the most significant features on this site were the two sub-rectangular anomalies identified by geophysical survey towards the southern boundary. Trenches 1 and 2 confirmed that these features are likely to be ditched enclosures.

The simple sub-rectangular, or D-shaped form of these features is well known from a number of cropmarks and excavated sites throughout the East Midlands (*q.v.* Winton, 1998). Cropmarks rarely have sufficient resolution to record the presence of any internal features that would provide a clue to their function or date. However, numerous examples have been excavated, suggesting that these enclosures defined small settlements, perhaps family based, originating in the Late Bronze Age, and in use throughout the Iron Age, and into the Romano-British period. Excavations of a 0.5 ha D-shaped enclosure at Colsterworth, 16km south of Grantham, revealed a settlement of five or six round houses, occupied at the very end of the Iron Age (Todd, 1991).

The geophysical survey produced no evidence of any structures within the two enclosures on the current site. However, the fills of [201] raised the possibility that there was an internal bank to the more easterly enclosure. Additionally, morphological similarities to other sites, as well as the presence of pottery and animal bone from several features would strongly suggest the presence of settlement activity within the immediate area.

The pit and gully in Trench 7, the hearth/fire pit in Trench 1, and the posthole in Trench 2 offer further reinforcement to the notion of settlement on this site in the Middle Iron Age, although some of these features remain undated.

Much of the pottery from Gorse Lane could be identified as Ancaster/Breedon scored ware, which first came into use in the earlier part of the Iron Age, in the southern part of the East Midlands. Broadly dating from the fourth century BC to the first century AD, it tends towards the later end of this period in Lincolnshire (Darling, Appendix 12.2). Such broad chronologies do not provide the high resolution needed to establish whether the various enclosures at Gorse Lane existed simultaneously or represent successive phases of utilization, especially considering that no dating evidence was recovered from the enclosure examined in Trench 1.

The other features on the site were somewhat more enigmatic. The ditches in trenches 7 and 8 were sizeable features that may have defined elements of a field system associated with the enclosures. Ditch [701] turns northwards to the west of Trench 7, and it may have formed a coherent system with a continuation of ditch [801]. The probable terminal detected in Trench 8 may indicate the location of an entrance into this enclosure.

However, their contemporaneity with the enclosures cannot be assumed on the basis of the present evidence, and they may represent several phases of activity within the Middle to Late Iron Age.

8.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The geophysical survey highlighted the areas with the greatest archaeological potential, namely the two probable enclosures at the southern end of the site.

The subsequent evaluation proved the validity of the gradiometer survey, as almost all of the features identified were detected in the trial trenches. Trench 6, deliberately placed in an area without geophysical anomalies as a control, was archaeologically sterile, giving further credibility to the results of this survey.

To supplement the spatial data provided by the geophysics, the evaluation trenches helped determine the date and archaeological significance of features on the site.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) would like to thank Bovis Lend Lease Ltd. for this commission. Thanks also go to Mr. Clarke, the land owner for his cooperation during the programme of fieldwork.

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11.0 Site archive

The primary records for this investigation are currently in the possession of Pre-Construct Archaeology. They will be deposited at Lincoln City and County Museum within six months. Access to the archive may be gained by quoting the global accession number 2001.67.

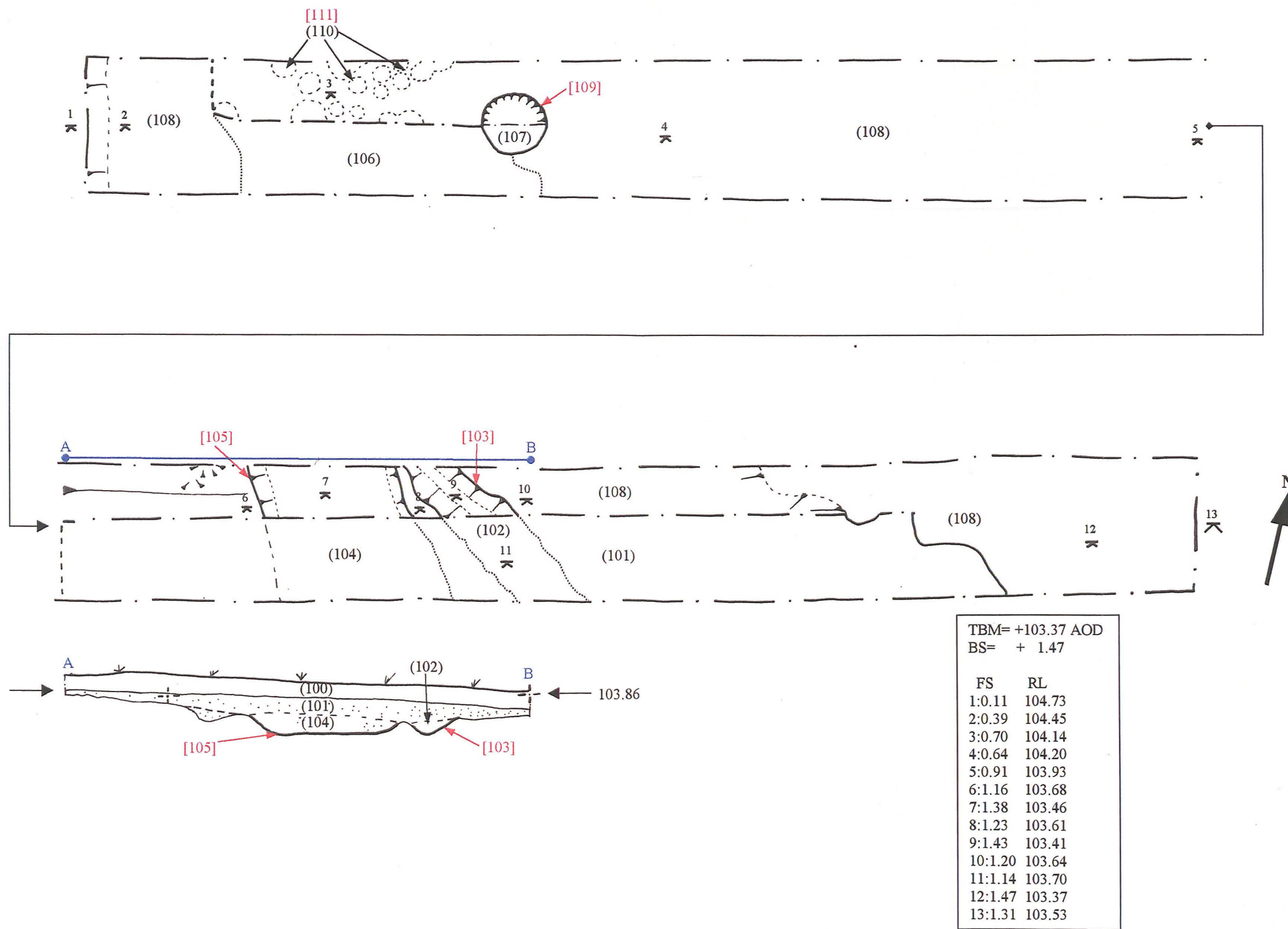
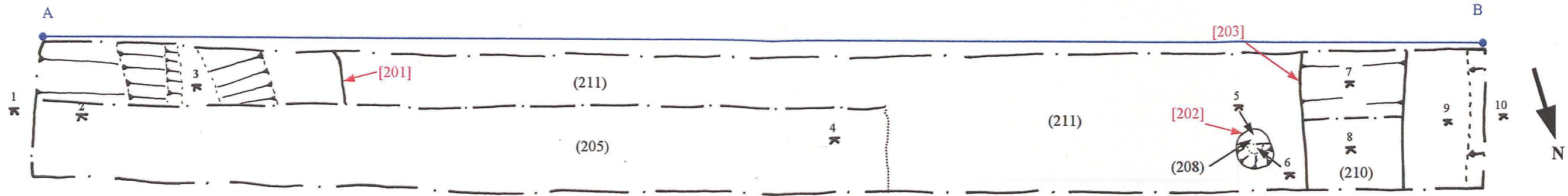


Fig.3: Trench 1 plan and section (scale 1:50)



	FS	RL	FS	RL
TBM: 101.14 AOD	1:3.11	101.28	6:2.94	101.45
BS: +3.25	2:3.34	101.05	7:2.86	101.53
	3:4.16	100.23	8:2.81	101.58
	4:3.09	101.30	9:2.57	101.82
	5:2.78	101.61	10:2.16	101.23

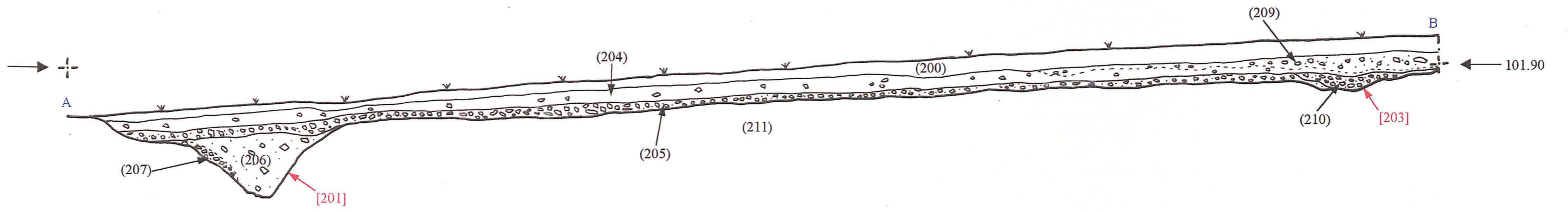


Fig.4: Trench 2 plan and section (scale 1:50)

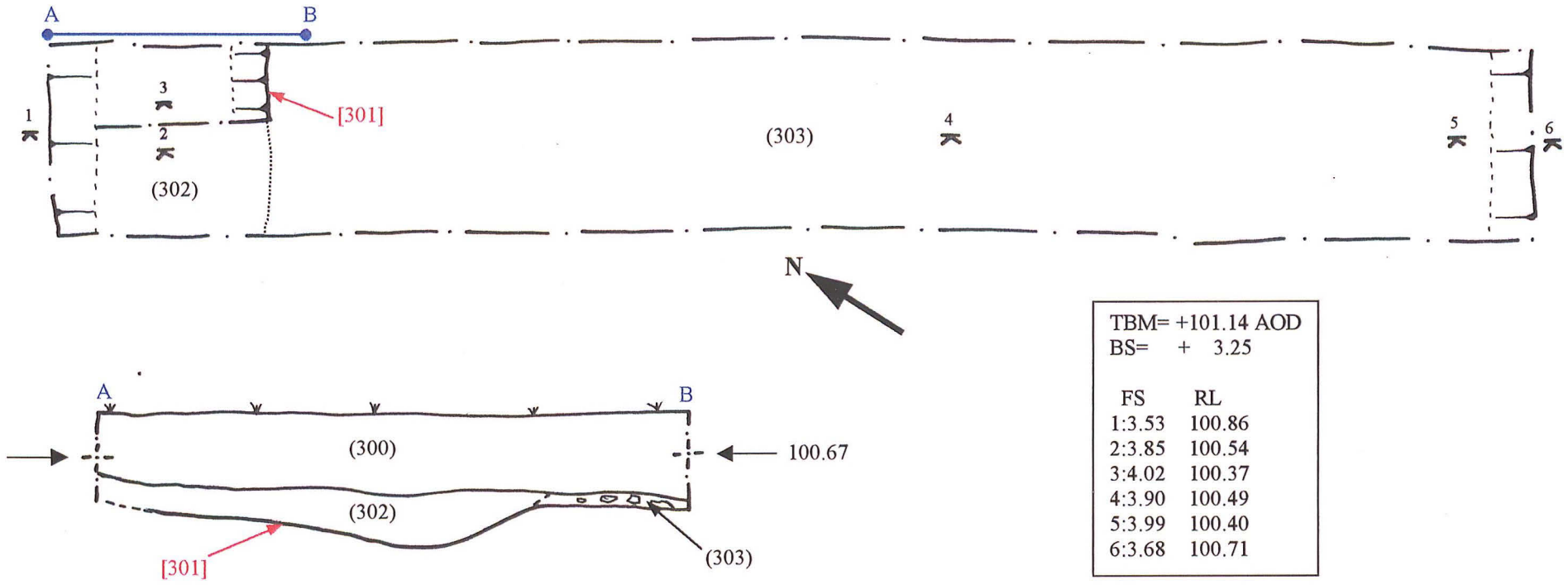


Fig.5: Trench 3 plan (scale 1:50) and section (scale 1:20)

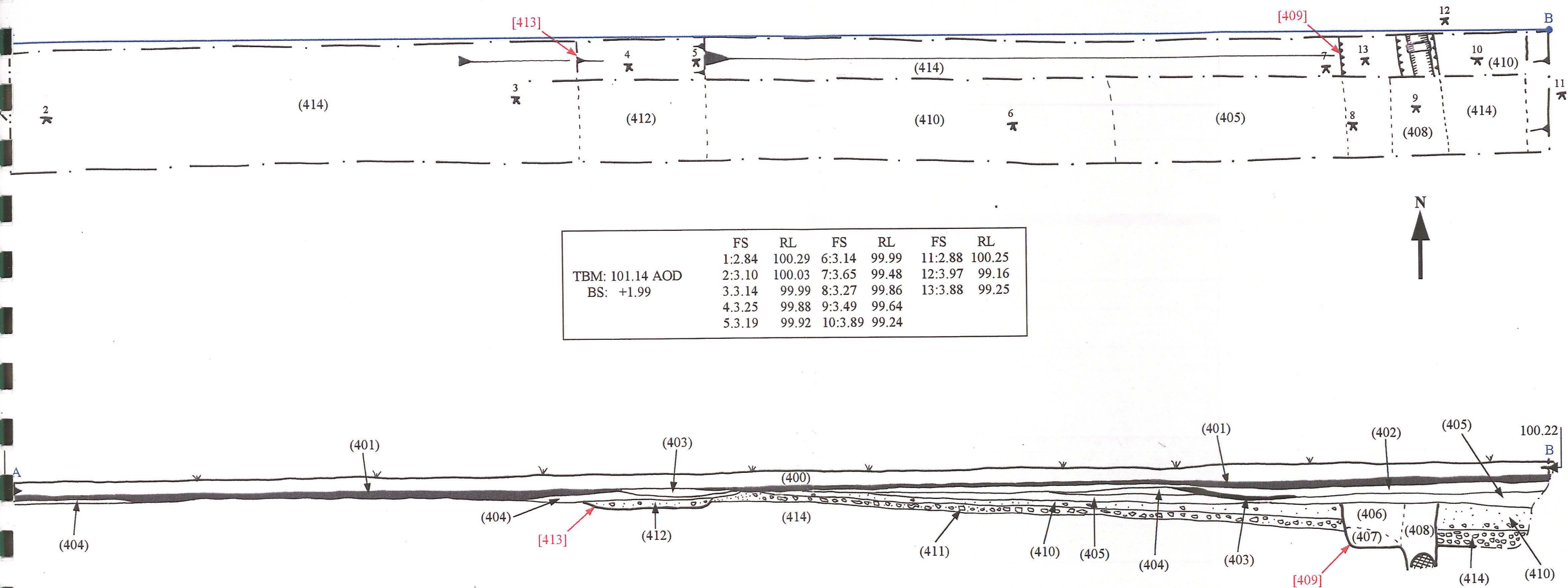


Fig.6: Trench 4 plan and section (scale 1:50)

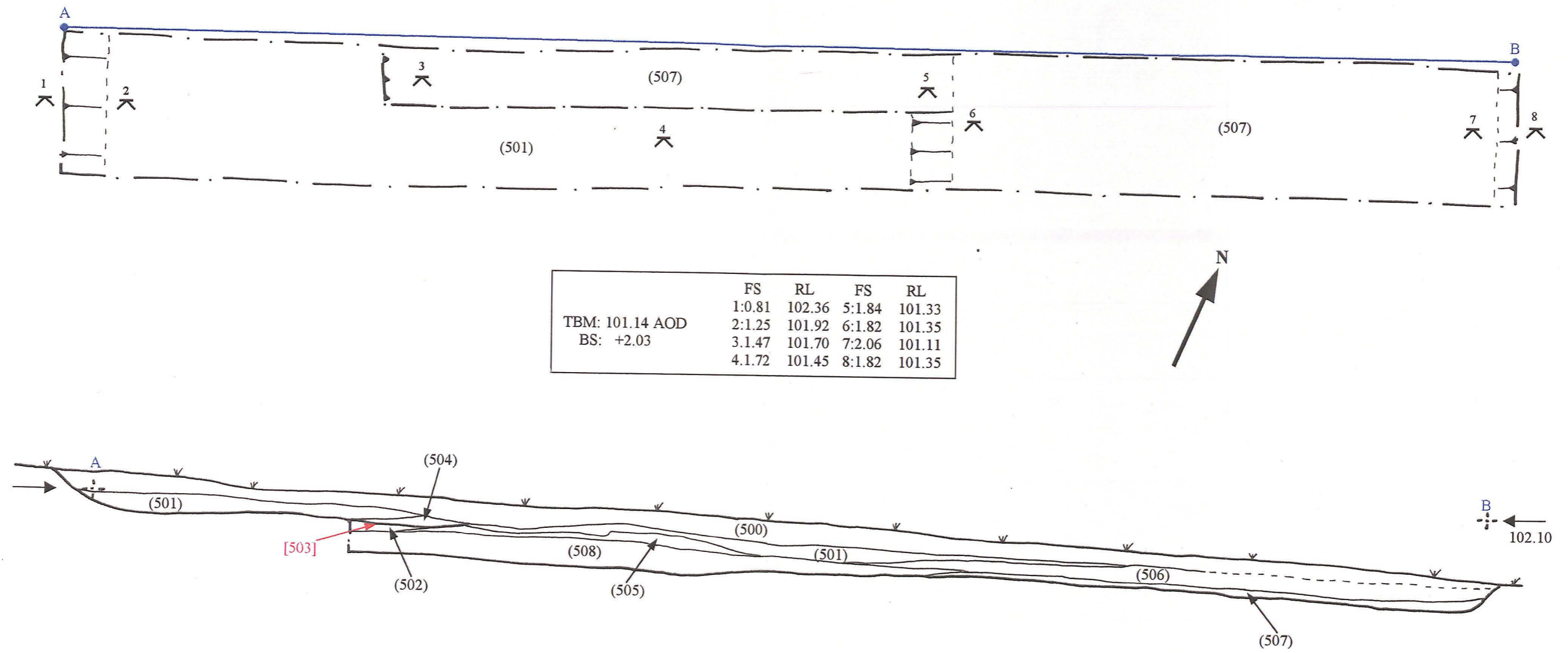


Fig.7: Trench 5 plan and section (scale 1:50)

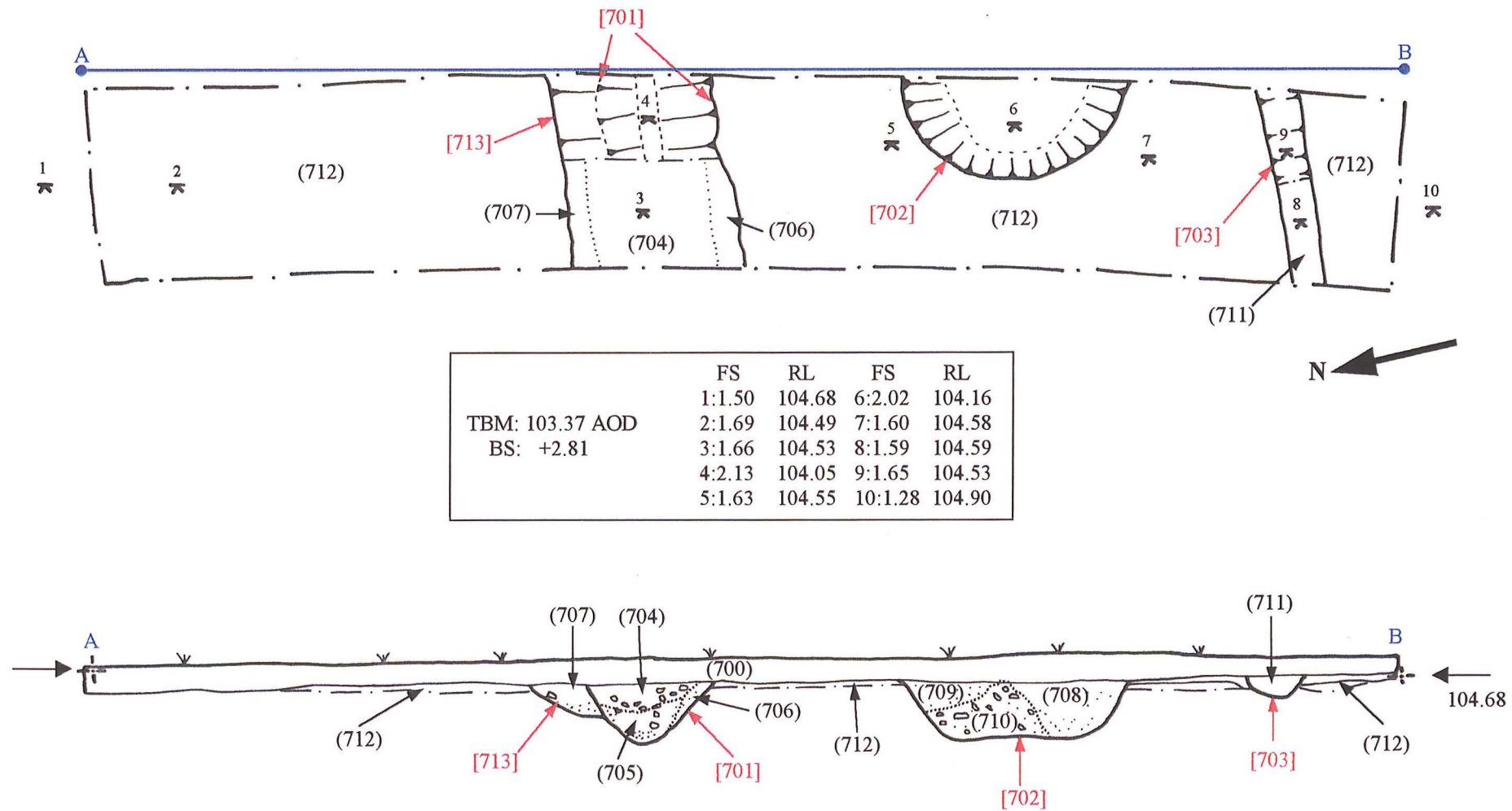
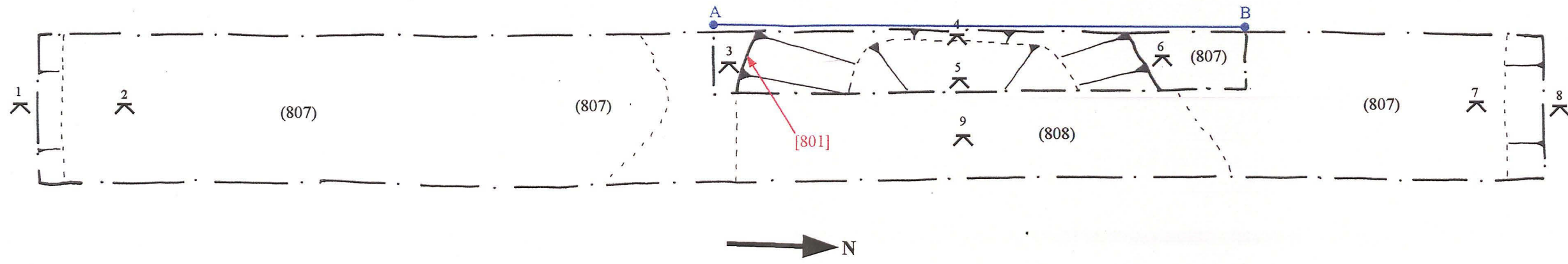


Fig.8: Trench 7 plan and section (scale 1:50)



	FS	RL	FS	RL
TBM: 103.37 AOD	1:1.16	104.61	6:1.60	104.17
BS: +2.40	2:1.44	104.33	7:1.51	104.26
	3:1.49	104.28	8:1.24	104.53
	4:2.43	103.32	9:1.47	104.30
	5:2.59	103.18		

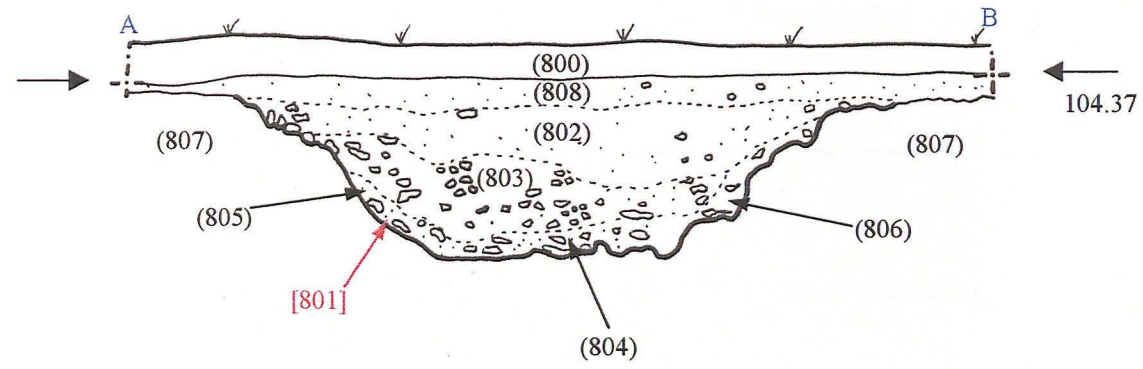


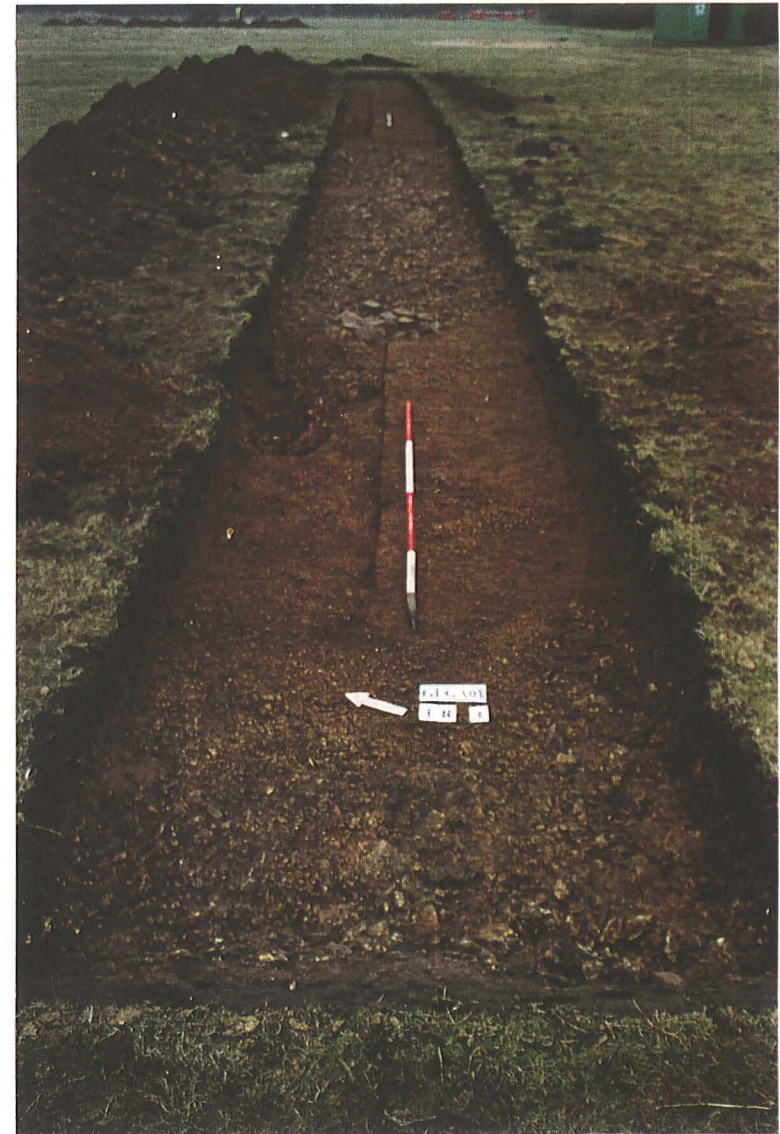
Fig.9: Trench 8 plan and section (scale 1:50)

12.0 Appendices

12.1 Colour plates



PI1: General shot of the site, looking NNW



PI12: Post excavation shot, Trench 1, looking ENE



P13: Ditches [103] and [105] in Trench 1, looking NNW



P14: Hearth/fire pit [109], Trench 1, looking south-east



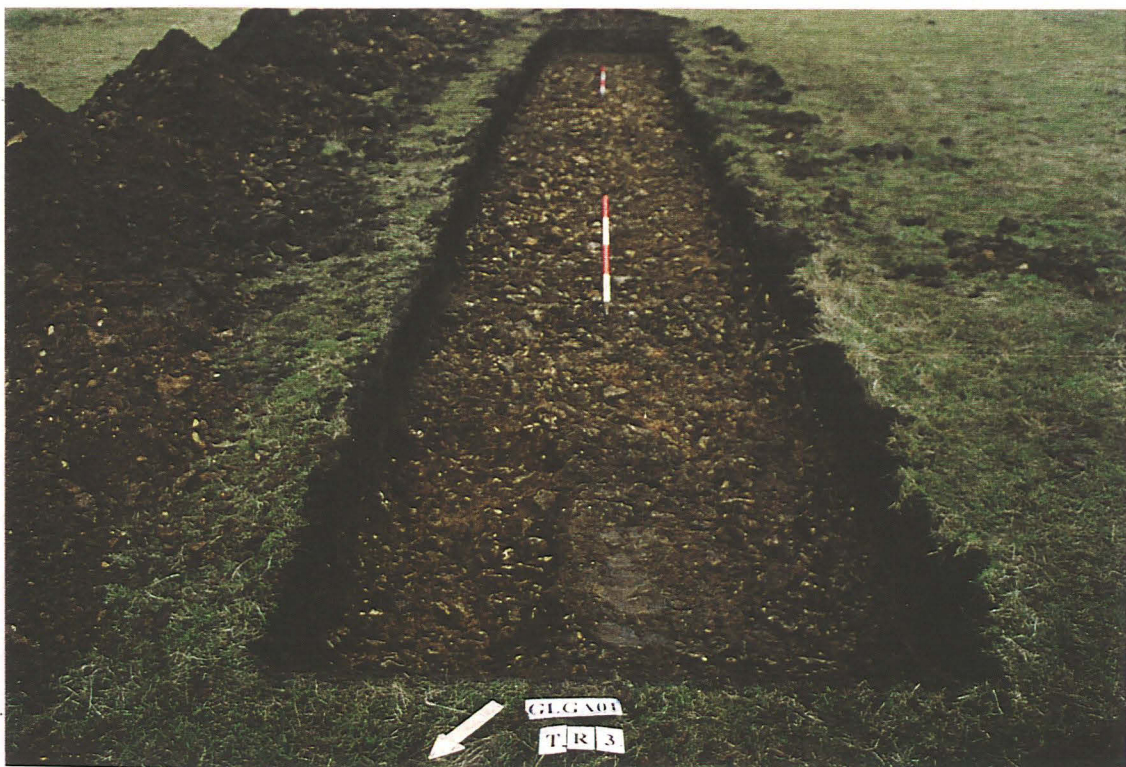
P15: Post excavation shot, Trench 2, looking west



P16: Ditch [201], Trench 2, looking south



PI7: Ditch [203], Trench 2, looking SSW. The base of the vessel recovered from this feature is visible in section



PI8: Post excavation shot, Trench 3, looking south-east. Feature [301] is visible in the foreground



PI9: Post excavation shot, Trench 4, looking SSW



PI10: Post excavation shot, Trench 5, looking north-east



PI11: Trench 6, looking NNW



PI12: Post excavation shot, Trench 7, looking north



PI13: Ditch [701], Trench 7, looking east



PI14: Pit [702], Trench 7, looking east



PI15: Post excavation shot, Trench 8, looking SSE



PI16: Ditch [801], Trench 8, looking north-west

12.2 Pottery report

by Margaret J. Darling, M.Phil., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

5 April 2001

QUANTITY AND CONDITION

The pottery came from six contexts, and amounted to 33 sherds, 0.390 kg. The condition is generally very poor, the sherds being friable and flaking. No problems are anticipated for long term storage, given suitable acid-free tissue packing. The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery*. The fabrics are defined below. A copy of the database is attached (and can be supplied on disk), and will be curated for future study.

DETAILS

Three post-Medieval glazed sherds came from context 101. All the other sherds except one fragment are in shell-gritted fabrics and hand-made. The ten records (excluding the post-Medieval) probably represent ten different vessels. The fabrics varied in terms of the shell content, most being fabrics with common medium shell, two (from 206 and 210) common coarse, and one (from 704) having common fine shell. The shell content of all was, however, ill-sorted, and varying in size.

Three of the vessels are certainly scored ware vessels, and the rim from 210, No 1, is probably also from a scored ware jar. Ten sherds from 210 formed the base of a single jar, No 2, diameter 9cm. The sherd from 802 appears to be fairly thin-walled, although one surface appears to have been flaked. Five of the vessels have fabrics definitely containing *punctate brachiopods*, consistent with local clays, while these inclusions were not observed in the sherds from 206, 208, one from 210 and 802. Since where *punctate brachiopods* are present, they are fairly obvious, the absence in the other sherds are likely to indicate different clay sources.

The single fragment without shell inclusions (COAR) is a coarse lump from 705, with no surviving surfaces; this may be a fragment of fired clay rather than pottery.

DISCUSSION

Apart from the post-Medieval sherds, all the other sherds appear to be of Iron Age date. The only datable feature is the presence of scored ware, also known as Ancaster/Breedon ware, the sites where this type of Iron Age pottery was first recognised, although the main area for this ware is further south in Northamptonshire. It is considered to start in the 4th century B.C., and is characteristic of the early to mid Iron Age, although in some areas, it continues in use into the later Iron Age. The small quantity of pottery makes certainty impossible, but the absence of definitely later Iron Age sherds may suggest that these all derive from early to mid Iron Age occupation. The poor condition of the sherds may be more due to soil conditions than indicative of date.

CATALOGUE

1 Hand-made slack curved rim, diameter c. 24cms, grey fabric with grey-brown surfaces, red-brown exterior, burnt on rim and shoulder. Fabric with ill-sorted common shell, varying from fine to medium, including *punctate brachiopods*. Traces on the shoulder of probable scoring in curves horizontally. (210)

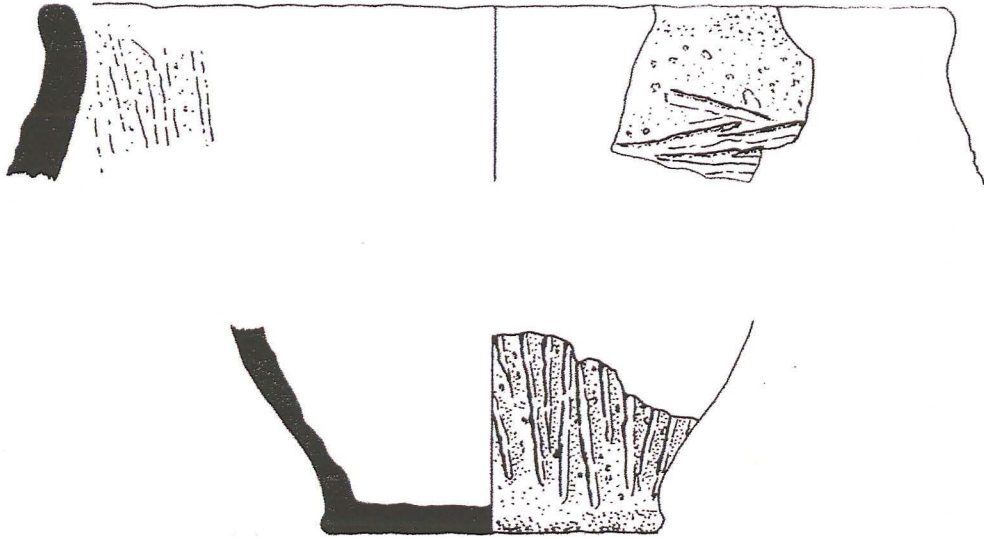
2 Hand-made base, diameter c 9cms, dark grey fabric and surfaces. Fabric with ill-sorted common shell, mostly medium, including *punctate brachiopods*. Exterior decorated with rough vertical scoring. (210)

FABRIC DEFINITION

SHCC	Shell-gritted with common coarse shell
SHCF	Shell-gritted with common fine shell
SHCM	Shell-gritted with common medium shell
COAR	A coarse poorly mixed clay, with sub-rounded black inclusions, occasional light brown rock, sparse calcareous inclusions and possible clay pellets.

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Cxt	Fabric	Form	Manuf+	Ves	D?	DNo	Details	Link	Shs	Wt
101	PRO	-	-	-	-	-	GLAZED BSS		3	45
206	SHCC	-	HM	-	-	-	BS/CRUMBS;DKGRY;LTRB CORT/SURF;ONLY 1 SURF;NO OBV.PUNC BRACH	-	6	17
208	SHCM	-	HM;SCR	-	-	-	BS GRY/BN FAB;BN SURF;NO OBV PUNC.BRACH	-	1	8
210	SHCC	CLSD	HM;SCR	1?	-	-	BSS FLAKING;GRY/RB EXT;DKGRY INT;NO PUNC.BRACH	-	5	65
210	SHCM	JB	HM;SCR?	-	D	1	RIM SLACK CURVE;RB SURF;BURNT;PUNC.BRACH;?SCR	-	1	46
210	SHCM	JB	HM;SCR	1	D	2	BASE DKGRY F/S;PUNC.BRACH;DIAM 9?	-	10	193
704	SHCF	-	HM	-	-	-	BS DKGRY;GRY/BN SURF;PUNC.BRACH	-	1	2
705	SHCM	-	HM	-	-	-	FLAKE;DKGRY FAB;PUNC.BRACH	-	1	1
705	SHCM	-	HM	-	-	-	BS RB/BRN;RB SURF;PUNC BRACH	-	1	3
705	COAR	-	HM	-	-	-	LUMP;NO SURFS;BLK SUB-R INCLS	-	1	4
802	SHCM	-	HM	1	-	-	BSS;DKGRY;LTBN SURF;?FLAKED;THIN WALL?;NO PUNC.BRACH	-	3	6
									33	390



Pottery vessels from Trench 2, context (210) (scale 1:2)

12.3 Animal bone report

site	cont	species	bone	no	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	pres
GLGA01	101	OVCA	TIB	1	R								MIDSHAFT	3
GLGA01	206	BOS	LM1	1	L					I15			ROOTS BROKEN	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	MAN	1	F								LATERAL FRAGMENT HORI RAMUS	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	MAN	1	L					FG8			3 PIECES	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	MAN	1	L								VENTRAL FRAGMENT OF HORI RAMUS	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	MAN	1	R		23			H8			DIASTEMAL FRAGMENT	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	SKL	1	F								PART PREMAXILLA	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	TIB	1	L								DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	TIB	1	R	PFD	1234567						FRAGMENTED- 11 PIECES-PROX END BROKEN	3
GLGA01	206	BOS	TIB	1	R	DF	567				SD-33.7 Bd-55.6 Dd-41		DISTAL END AND SHAFT- 3 PIECES	4
GLGA01	206	BOS	ULN	1	R		23	CH				?	SEMILUNARIS-SIDE OLECRANON PITTED-CHOPPED ACROSS EDGE SEMILUNARIS	3
GLGA01	206	CSZ	MAN	1	F								ALVEOLAR FRAGMENT	4
GLGA01	206	CSZ	RIB	1	L			CH	DG				PROX SHAFT FRAGMENT-CHOPPED AND PROX END CHEWED	4
GLGA01	206	CSZ	SCP	1	F								VENTRAL FRAGMENT CAUDAL MARGIN	4
GLGA01	206	CSZ	SKL	1	F								NASAL FRAGMENT	4
GLGA01	206	CSZ	UNI	3	F								?INNOMINATE FRAGMENTS?	4
GLGA01	206	EQU	SCP	1	L		1						GLENOID	4
GLGA01	206	OVCA	INN	1	R		39	CH					ILIAL SHAFT-CHOPPED	4
GLGA01	206	OVCA	UM2	1	L					J9			COMPLETE	4
GLGA01	206	SSZ	SCP	1	F								FRAGMENT CRANIAL MARGIN	4
GLGA01	206	SUS	FEM	1	F								SPLIT SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
GLGA01	206	SUS	MAX	1	L					F3G6			ANT MAXILLA-FEMALE	4
GLGA01	704	BOS	DLP4	1	R					h14			COMPLETE	3
GLGA01	704	BOS	INN	1	R								PART ISCHIAL SHAFT AnD ACETABULAR FRAGMENT	3
GLGA01	704	CSZ	RIB	1	F			CH					SHAFT FRAGMENT-CHOPPED- 2 PIECES	3
GLGA01	704	OVCA	TIB	1	R	DF	567				SD-13 Bd-23.2 Dd-17.7		DISTAL HALF	3

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONSULTANCY

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones and marine shells

SPECIES:

SPECIES CODE			SPECIES CODE	
MAN	human		DOVE	Dove species
EQU	Horse		FER	Feral dove
EQSZ	Horse size		PART	Partridge
BOS	Cattle		SWAN?	Swan?
BOSL	Cattle-large		WOOD	Woodcock
CSZ	cattle size		CURL	Curlew
SUS	Pig		WADE	wader
OVCA	sheep or goat		CROK	Crow or rook
OVI	Sheep		CORV	Crow or rook
CRA	Goat		JACK	Jackdaw
SSZ	sheep size		OWL	Owl indet.
FEL	Cat		BUZZ	Buzzard
CAN	Dog		GULL	Gull sp.
AUR	Aurochs			
AUR?	Aurochs?		TURD	Turdidae
CER	red deer		BIRD	Identifiable but not id'd
DAM	Fallow deer		PASS	Passerine
CLS	roe deer		LBIRD	Large bird
LEP	Hare		UNIB	Bird indet
ORC	Rabbit			
LAG	Lagomorph		FROG	Frog
CARN	Carnivore		FRTO	Frog or toad
FOX	Fox			
POLE	Polecat/ferret			
WEA	weasel		GAD	Gadid, cod family
BADG	Badger		LING	Ling
SEAL	seal		HADD	Haddock
SQU?	Squirrel?		RAY	ray
BEAV	Beaver		FISH	Fish
ROD	Rodent		UNIF	Fish indet
RAT	Rat			
AGR	Field vole		OYS	oyster
ARV	Water vole		COK	Cockle
MUS	House mouse		MUSS	Common Mussel
SORA	Common shrew		WHELK	Common whelk
MOLE	Mole		HEL	Helix aspersa
SMA	Small mammal		HELIX	Helix sp.
UNI	Unknown		HELN	Helix nemoralis
			SNAIL	snail
CHIK	Chicken			
CHKZ	Chicken size		FOSS	Fossil bone
GOOS	Goose, dom			
GOOS?	Goose, dom.?			
GSSZ	Goose size			
GSSP	Goose species			
GOSZ	Goose, poss. Wild			
DUCK	Duck, domestic sp.			
DUCK?	Duck?			
DKSP	Duck species			
DSP	Duck species indet			
MALL	Duck, dom.			
TURK	Turkey			

BONE ELEMENT:

BONE CODE		BONE CODE	
SKEL	skeleton	SCP	scapula
SKL	skull	HUM	humerus
ANT	antler	RAD	radius
ANT?	antler?	ULN	ulna
ATT	antler tine	RUL	radius and ulna
HC	horn core	C/T	carpus/tarsus
TEMP	temporal	C23	carpus 2+3
FRNT	frontal	CAR	carpus
PET	petrous	CPA	accessory carpal
PAR	parietal	CPI	intermediate carpal
OCIP	occipital	CPR	radial carpal
ZYG	zygomatic	CPU	ulnar carpal
NAS	nasal	MTC	metacarpus
PMX	premaxilla	MC1-5	metacarpus 1-5
MAN	mandible	MTP	metapodial
MNT	mandibular tooth	MPL	lateral metapodial
DLI	deciduous lower incisor	INN	innominate
DLPM1-4	deciduous lower premolar 1-4	ILM	ilium
LI	lower incisor (and 1-3)	PUB	pubis
LC	lower canine	ISH	ischium
LPM1-LPM4	lower premolar 1-4	FEM	femur
LM1-LM3	lower molar 1 - molar 3	PAT	patella
MAX	maxilla	TIB	tibia
DUI	deciduous upper incisor	FIB	fibula
UI	upper incisor (1-3)	LML	lateral malleolus
UC	upper canine	AST	astragalus
DUPM	deciduous upper premolar	CAL	calcaneum
DUPM1-4	deciduous upper premolar 1-4	CQ	centroquartal
UPM1-UPM4	upper premolar 1-4	TAR3	tarsus 3
UM1-UM3	upper molar 1 - molar 3	T4	tarsus 4
MXT	maxillary tooth	TAR	tarsus
TTH	indeterminate tooth	MTT	metatarsus
INC	incisor	MT1-5	metatarsus 1-5
HYD	hyoid	MTL	lateral metatarsus
ATL	atlas	SES	sesamoid
AXI	axis	PH1	1st phalanx
CEV	cervical vertebra (and 3-7)	PH2	2nd phalanx
TRV	thoracic vertebra (and 1-13)	PH3	3rd phalanx
LMV	lumbar vertebra	PHL	lateral phalanx
SAC	sacrum	LBF	long bone
CDV	caudal vertebra	UNI	unidentified
VER	vertebra		
STN	sternum	CLV	clavicle
CC	costal cartilage	COR	coracoid
RIB1	first rib (2 etc)	CMP	carpo-metacarpus
RIB	rib	CMC	carpo-metacarpus
		WPH1-3	wing phalanges 1-3
URO	urostyle	WPH	wing phalanx
		LSA	lumbosacrale
DENT	dentary		
CLEI	cleithrum		
RAY	fin ray		
SHELL	shell		
UV	upper valve		
VAL	valve		

NUMBER: number of fragments in the entry

SIDE: W - whole L - left side R - right side F - fragment

FUSION: records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses
P - proximal; D - distal; E - acetabulum; N - unfused; F - fused; C - cranial; A - posterior

ZONES: records the part of the bone present.
The key to each zone on each bone is on page 4

BUTCHERY: records whether a bone has been chopped (CH), cut (KN), worked (W), burnt (C)

GNAWING: records if a bone has been gnawed by dogs (DG), cats (FEL) or rodents (RG)

TOOTH WEAR - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals, in B. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne (eds) *Ageing and sexing animal bones from Archaeological sites*, 91-108.

Teeth are labelled as follows in the tooth wear column:

Deciduous	Permanent
f ldpm2/dupm2	F lpm2/upm2
g ldpm3/dupm3	G lpm3/upm4
h ldpm4/dupm4	H lpm4/upm4
	I lm1/um1
	J lm2/um2
	K lm3/um3

MEASUREMENTS :Any measurements are those listed in A. Von den Driesch (1976) *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*, Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA

PATHOLOGICAL: A 'P' indicates that the bone fragment carries a pathology

COMMENTS: This may include a short description of the fragments, any pathologies, butchery or gnawing evidence

PRESERVATION: records the condition of the bone in the following manner

- 1- enamel only surviving
- 2- bone very severely pitted and thinned, tending to break up; teeth with surface erosion and loss of cementum and dentine
- 3- surface pitting and erosion of bone, some loss of cementum and dentine on teeth
- 4- surface of bone intact, loss of organic component, material chalky, calcined or burnt
- 5- bone in good condition, probably with some organic component

ZONES - codes used to define the zones on each bone

SKULL	1. paraoccipital process	METACARPUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MC3	
	2. occipal condyle		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4	
	3. intercornual protuberance		3. medial distal condyle, MC3	
	4. external acoustic meatus		4. lateral distal condyle, MC4	
	5. frontal sinus		5. anterior distal groove and foramen	
	6. ectorbitale		6. medial or lateral distal condyle	
	7. entorbitale			
	8. temporal articular facet		FIRST PHALANX	1. proximal epiphysis
	9. facial tuber			2. distal articular facet
	0. infraorbital foramen			
MANDIBLE	1. Symphyseal surface	INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae	
	2. diastema		2. tuber sacrale + scar	
	3. lateral diastemal foramen		3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen	
	4. coronoid process		4. iliopubic eminence	
	5. condylar process		5. acetabular fossa	
	6. angle		6. symphyseal branch of pubis	
	7. anterior dorsal ascending ramus posterior M3		7. body of ischium	
	8. mandibular foramen		8. ischial tuberosity	
			9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris	
VERTEBRA	1. spine	FEMUR	1. head	
	2. anterior epiphysis		2. trochanter major	
	3. posterior epiphysis		3. trochanter minor	
	4. centrum		4. supracondyloid fossa	
	5. neural arch		5. distal medial condyle	
SCAPULA	1. supraglenoid tubercle	TIBIA	6. lateral distal condyle	
	2. glenoid cavity		7. distal trochlea	
	3. origin of the distal spine		8. trochanter tertius	
	4. tuber of spine		1. proximal medial condyle	
	5. posterior of neck with foramen		2. proximal lateral condyle	
	6. cranial angle of blade		3. intercondylar eminence	
	7. caudal angle of blade		4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen	
HUMERUS	1. head	CALCANEUM	5. medial malleolus	
	2. greater tubercle		6. lateral aspect of distal articulation	
	3. lesser tubercle		7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis	
	4. intertuberal groove		1. calcaneal tuber	
	5. deltoid tuberosity		2. sustentaculum tali	
	6. dorsal angle of olecranon fossa		3. processus anterior	
	7. capitulum		METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MT3.
	8. trochlea			2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4
9.	3. medial distal condyle, MT3			
RADIUS	0.	METATARSUS	4. lateral distal condyle, MT4	
	1. medial half of proximal epiphysis		5. anterior distal groove and foramen	
	2. lateral half of proximal epiphysis		6. medial or lateral distal condyle	
	3. posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen			
	4. medial half of distal epiphysis			
	5. lateral half of distal epiphysis			
ULNA	6. distal shaft immediately above distal epiphysis			
	1. olecranon tuberosity			
	2. trochlear notch- semilunaris			
	3. lateral coronoid process			
	4. distal epiphysis			

12.4 List of archaeological contexts

Context	Description
Trench 1	
100	Topsoil
101	Colluvium
102	Fill of ditch [103]
103	Ditch cut
104	Fill of ditch [104]
105	Ditch cut
106	Colluvium
107	Stones within hearth feature [109]
108	Natural
109	Cut for hearth/fire pit
110	Fill of geological features [111]
111	'Cut' for geological features
112	Fill of [109]
113	Lining in [109]
Trench 2	
200	Topsoil
201	Ditch cut
202	Ditch cut
203	Post hole cut
204	Levelling deposit
205	Colluvium
206	Fill of ditch [201]
207	Slump deposit in [201]
208	Fill of post hole [203]
209	Redeposited natural
210	Fill of ditch [203]
211	Natural
Trench 3	
300	Topsoil
301	Possible pit/quarry
302	Fill of [301]
303	Natural
Trench 4	
400	Topsoil
401	Asphalt layer
402	Levelling deposit
403	Levelling deposit
404	Levelling deposit
405	Levelling deposit
406	Fill of service cut [409]
407	Fill of service cut [409]
408	Fill of service cut [409]
409	Cut for modern service pipe
410	Colluvium
411	Colluvium
412	Possible ditch cut
413	Fill of [412]
414	Natural
Trench 5	
500	Topsoil
501	Levelling deposit
502	Redeposited natural
503	Possible pit cut
504	Fill of [503]
505	Redeposited topsoil

506	Former trackway
507	Natural
508	Levelling deposit
Trench 6	
600	Topsoil
601	Natural
Trench 7	
700	Topsoil
701	Ditch recut
702	Pit cut
703	Gully cut
704	Upper fill of ditch [701]
705	Lower fill of ditch [701]
706	Slump deposit in [701]
707	Fill of ditch [713]
708	Fill of pit [702]
709	Fill of pit [702]
710	Fill of pit [702]
711	Fill of gully 703
712	Natural
713	Ditch cut
Trench 8	
800	Topsoil
801	Ditch cut
802	Upper fill of ditch [801]
803	Fill of ditch [801]
804	Fill of ditch [801]
805	Primary fill of ditch [801]
806	Primary fill of ditch [801]
807	Natural
808	Colluvium