



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

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M2/34

**Main St, Torksey, Lincs.
New Medical Centre and Housing Development
Archaeological Evaluation**

NGR:SK 8377 7890

Planning Application:M00/P/0311

LCNCC Accn No.: 2001.109

Site Code: THAN 01

Report

for

Kinvena Homes Ltd

by

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LAS Report No. 557

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Fig. 2 Main St, Torksey trench location plan.

Fig. 3 Aerial view of Torksey showing the former caravan park on the site, looking west. Evaluation site comprised the small caravan field at the top. Note the earthwork remains to north (right). Copy at Lindsey Archaeological Services, NMR ref. 2952/11. (P. Everson July 1980.)

Fig. 4 Estate map of Torksey made in 1821, showing the original street layout. The building shown in the evaluation area lay west of evaluation Trench 4. (LAO ref. 3BNL15).

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Summary

Archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated prior to development, which revealed robbed out walls and floor surfaces probably relating to a substantial medieval building or range of buildings. Seven inhumation burials were excavated, five of which were buried in stone lined graves, and the remains of at least five further burials were located but not excavated. At least some of the burials appear to have been earlier than the building phase of activity on the site.

Interpretation of the excavated remains is impossible due to the small area excavated, but the presence of early medieval burials, in association with building remains of high status indicates that it is very probably the site of the lost St Leonard's Abbey.

The proposals to raise the ground level prior to excavation of foundation trenches for the housing development, may avoid damage of these important archaeological remains, but service trenches may penetrate archaeological deposits.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Kinvena Homes Ltd to carry out archaeological investigations at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the general requirements set out in the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* published by the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council (1998).

Site Location and Description

Torksey lies 6 miles (9.5km) west of Lincoln on the eastern banks of the River Trent. The proposed development plot is located on the east side of Main Street on the western part of a former static caravan site and the current Torksey Medical Centre (Figs. 1-3). It is proposed to demolish the existing building and replace it with a purpose-built medical centre and construct 12 houses to the north. The site is currently clear of buildings and mobile homes and at the time of the evaluation the ground was mainly under grass with areas of hard standing.

Planning Background

Planning permission was originally granted for 132 mobile homes to be situated on land including the area which is the subject of the current planning application. Outline planning permission was also granted in 1999 for residential development (W114/682/94). A revised application has now been made for the western part of the site to comprise twelve houses, with a purpose-built medical centre immediately to the south. An area east of the proposed housing will be landscaped to create the Hume Arms Park.

Archaeological Background

The Domesday survey of 1086, together with information from charters and other documents in succeeding years, shows that Torksey was an important Anglo-Saxon town before the Norman Conquest. It had a mint in the late 10th-11th century and in the 12th century it was recorded as possessing a court known as the *burwarmot*, a title which implies a Saxon institution. According to the Domesday survey Torksey had 213 burgesses in 1066, that is only a sixth of the number at Lincoln but more than Nottingham and twice as many as Newark. Evidence for a pre-Conquest pottery industry has been found at several locations on the south side of the existing village both west and east of the main road. The borough of Torksey went into permanent decline when the Foss Dyke silted up in the 13th-14th centuries.

The town had three parish churches and two monastic houses- the Augustinian priory of St Leonard's (which eventually impropriated all the three churches) and the small house of Cistercian nuns known as the Fosse Nunnery, whose site is located south of the modern village, close to the point where the fosse Dyke reaches the River Trent. The present parish church of St Peter's is the only surviving church in the village, the location of the other two having been lost for centuries. Excavations in the 1990s revealed Christian burials, of pre-Conquest date on land immediately east of the Torksey Castle, and probably marks the site of a church although no direct evidence of a structure was found.

In 1997 excavations to the west of the proposed development, opposite the parish church on the east side of Main St, revealed medieval buildings, with stone foundations, of unknown function (Ensor 1997). The area to the east is thought to have belonged to St Leonard's Priory and is marked as Abbey Yards on an 18th century map of 1751 (Lincolnshire Archives Office ref. 3BNL 14). Earthworks in Abbey Yards were destroyed in 1955 when the ground was landscaped for the caravan park. Archaeological evaluation in 1990 found no trace of medieval occupation on this site (Field 1990), probably because the ground levels were substantially reduced during the landscaping exercise.

The same map shows that the present road layout in Torksey has changed. Two roads originally ran north-south through the centre of the village but the easternmost road which ran behind the Hume Arms has disappeared. Its alignment is fossilised in property boundaries

shown on early estate maps (eg 1751 and 1821, LAO ref. 3BNL 15, see Fig. 4) and aerial photographs show its position preserved as a hollow way in the paddock to the north of the development site (Fig. 3).

Aims and Objectives

In general terms the purpose of the evaluation was to

- establish the presence or absence, quality and extent of archaeological remains and their location within the development area
- gather sufficient information to enable an assessment of the potential significance of any archaeological remains to be made and the impact which development will have upon them
- enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of and/or during development

Excavation

Five evaluation trenches were dug, using a toothless ditching bucket, in the area of the twelve houses at the west end of the site, to include the narrow zone immediately east of the area evaluated in 1997 (Fig. 2, Pl. 1).

Archaeological recording was carried out by a team of two experienced archaeologists, including a Site Director. The trenches were hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan. Carefully selected cross-sections through the features were excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations should these prove to be necessary.

A full written and photographic record was made of the site, to include site plans at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20, as appropriate, and section drawings at 1:10. A plan of each trench was made with section drawings of one side. A full photographic record was made during the progress of the excavation to cover each feature together with general site shots. LAS operates a standard context recording system, developed by its staff over the past 20 years based on MOLAS and CAS models.

Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes which are referred to in the report and listed in Appendix 1.

Results

Trench 1 (Fig. 5)

Trench 1 was located along the line of the proposed access road running along the centre of

the development. It was 14m long and excavated to a depth of approximately 1.30m (Pl. 2). A dark grey-brown sandy silt topsoil (**100**) overlay a lighter mid brown subsoil (**101**) which sealed a wind-blown sand (**103**). Below **103** was a thin intermittent layer of fragments of Mudstone up to a maximum of 0.2m in diameter (**105**). Below this was a brown sandy subsoil (**104**) which contained pottery dating from the 10th to 11th centuries. This, in turn, overlay a yellow sand natural (**106**) (Pls 3 and 4).

The sequence seems to represent episodes of windblown sand deposition, with **104** the remains of a previous ground surface overlain by a wind blown sand episode (**103**) which has since begun to develop subsoil characteristics.

Trench 2 (Fig. 6)

Trench 2 was located immediately east of the area evaluated in 1997 (Ensor 1997) at the west end of the proposed development site.

The sequence of deposits was similar to that found in Trench 1 although the soil profile was better developed with the wind blown sand showing a much higher organic content, which may be due to the close proximity of the hedge line (Pl. 5). A dark brown silty clay topsoil (**200**) overlay a mid brown sandy silt clay subsoil at the west and east end of the trench (**201**) which contained 14th to 15th century pottery. These appear to have been the same deposit truncated in the area crossed by the middle section of the trench. Cut through the subsoil was post hole (**205**) (Pl. 6), which had near vertical sides and was filled with a dark grey-brown soil containing tile which was 18-20th century in date. Subsoil **201** overlay a layer of crushed mudstone (**214**) which was cut by pit **222** containing a dark brown silty clay (**223**). Below (**214**) was a thick layer of clean brown silt (**203**) which may have been a previous subsoil horizon (possibly equivalent to **104** in Trench 1) separated by the same intermittent mudstone layer (**202**) at the base of **201**.

All the remaining features recorded in this trench were cut into layer **203** and overlain by layer (**202**) or (**214**). Ditch (**215**) crossed the east end of the trench and was c.3m wide (Pl. 7). Its recorded depth was 0.55m but could not be fully emptied because it filled with water. It contained (**216**) a dark brown silty sand with lenses of a black silty sand containing charcoal fragments (**217**). **216** contained two sherds of pottery dating from the 10th to 11th centuries. This ditch possibly correlates to a curving linear depression seen in the field to the north (Fig. 3). Its proximity to the road line marked on early maps (see Fig. 2) may mean that that it is in fact a roadside ditch.

Post hole (**218**) cut through an earlier pit, (**212**). It was 0.70m deep with a dark brown silty sand fill, (**219**) which contained a single sherd of 13th to 14th century pottery. (**212**) was only recorded in section and contained a mid brown mottled silt sand fill (**213**). 1.30m west of (**212**)

was a narrow slot (207) which extended the full width of the trench (Pls 8 and 9). It was 0.20m wide and 0.60m deep with vertical sides, and contained a soft, dark brown sand (208). Cutting slot 207, was a small pit 220, whose fill 221 contained pottery of 15th to 16th century date.

Opposite pit (212) was (209) a large rounded pit (Pl. 10), which contained a dark brown sand deposit (210) and a lighter brown soil (211) containing a single sherd of late 12th to 13th century pottery.

Trenches 3 and 3a (Fig. 7)

Trench 3 was 3.5m wide and 15m long and was located along the eastern limit of the proposed development (Pl. 11). It had originally been positioned further east but when machining encountered extensive stone rubble deposits it was thought that the area had been subjected to modern disturbance and the trench was moved. This smaller trench (3a) was abandoned but proved to be related to the features found in the main trench (see below).

A thin turf layer (334) overlay a thick layer of building rubble (300) which extended across most of the trench almost identical to that found in Trench 3a. The rubble layer contained fragments of mudstone, limestone and brick, and appears to have been a demolition layer associated with the dismantling of a substantial building. There were at least four walls in the trench, all of which had been heavily robbed. Three walls, approximately parallel to one another, crossed the width of the trench. A fourth wall, at right angles to the others ran north-south, along the length of the trench. The relationship between the walls was difficult to ascertain because the only surviving relationships were the robber trenches, not the foundation cuts.

Dug through the demolition layer 300 was a large robber trench 344, excavated to reach the remains of wall (303) whose lowest layers survived at a depth of 1.55m below the present ground surface (Pl. 12). The robber trench was almost 2.5m wide at ground level but tapered to the width of the wall at 1.30m deep. It contained a sandy silt fill (352) at its base, the remainder being filled with rubble (328). Beneath it was an earlier phase of robbing (301) above the wall which was filled with a number of sand and silt deposits (302, 313, 314, 347, 324, and 326) representing the filling of the robber trench and are not related to the wall construction.

The robber trench 301 continued on the same alignment eastwards into the small trench 3a which was excavated directly to north east of Trench 3. This trench had been abandoned because it was thought to be an area of modern disturbance but the subsequent excavation of Trench 3 showed the rubble encountered in it to have all been part of the robbing activity on the site, of probable early post-medieval date.

The remains of wall (303), lay beneath a yellow-brown silty sand with fragments of mudstone (302). This is likely to be a combination of original fill and material incorporated during the robbing. (303) had been extensively robbed with only the lower 0.20m remaining. It was 1.4m-2m wide and constructed in rough-hewn limestone slabs around 0.05m thick and 1m long. They were tightly packed but not mortared. The large stones were set upon a more irregular deposit of stones, up to 0.20m long, forming the foundation to the wall (Pl. 13).

A second possible robber trench (306) was located to the south of 303, sealed beneath the general demolition layer 300. It had been completely robbed out and contained a rubble fill in a grey brown sandy matrix 307. This wall was associated with a floor surface consisting of large flat tiles (311) which had been disturbed by the machine during excavation of the trench. They were set on a hard grey silt layer 310 which overlay a red sandy material 350. This sat on a clean sandy material 353 which may be natural wind blown sand but is more likely to be another levelling/bedding layer. The tiles 311 were 0.25m square by 0.05m thick with a black glaze on their upper surface and are probably of 15th century date. The outer row of tile was slightly larger at 0.26 x 0.26m and 0.04m deep made of a hard grey fabric. A single tile was retained for the finds archive. Several rectangular stone blocks, smoothed with wear were also retrieved from this end of the trench and may have been part of a threshold (Pl. 15).

Between the two walls (303 and 306) was a series of thin layers of soil and mortar deposits (338, 345, 323, 319, 354, 348, 320, 330, 324, 325, 327, 329, 348, 349). These seem to be a series of levelling and bedding deposits for floor surfaces. These overlay a wind blown sand 304 which was also present to the north of wall 303. 323 at the bottom of the sequence, contained a single tile fragment and a single pot sherd dated from the 15th to 16th centuries, although these were found adjacent to the robbed out wall 306 and may be intrusive.

At the north end of the trench was a third wall 318, parallel to 303, and in a much better state of preservation. It survived to within 0.27m below the modern ground surface and was at least 1m high. Its offset foundation was 0.50m deep and comprised irregular courses of unbonded stone dug into the natural sand (Pl. 16). The main body of the wall consisted of thin courses of irregular, but tightly packed, limestone slabs. The wall continued across the north end of the trench but had been extensively robbed as seen in the opposite side of the trench (343) and by a later robber trench 309 at right angles. A single piece of tile which was dated from 13th to 15th century was recovered from the wall foundation matrix 315.

Robber trench (309) which ran at 90° to the three walls described above was about 0.75m wide and contained a series of rubble fills in a sandy matrix (340, 341, and 347). This material contained a single fragment of tile which could only be broadly dated as being 15th to 19th centuries. In the north section the robber trench 309 could be seen cutting through (318).

Another robber trench **308** was located between **(301)** and **(306)** on a different alignment to **309**. The continuation of the slabs in **(301)** across **(309)** and **(312)** suggests either that **(301)** was butted by **308** or that the two walls were contemporary. The robber trench **306** cut through this stub of wall suggesting that it belonged to a later phase of building. This raises the possibility that walls **306** and **312** were contemporary and walls **301** and **308** were contemporary.

At the north end of the trench there was a pit **(342)**, cut through by wall **(309)**, which contained a disarticulated but otherwise well-preserved human body **(316)** in a dark brown silty clay **(338)**. It was not a grave as such; charnel pits of this sort are not uncommon. It provided evidence that burial activity on the site pre-dates the buildings as found in Trench 4 (see below).

Sealing the pit **342** this were accumulation and demolition deposits **355, 356, 331, 332** which were undated but appear to be related to an early phase of robbing of the walls **303** and **318** which pre-dated the robber trench **343**.

Trench 4 (Fig. 8)

Trench 4 was located west of Trench 3 and at the east end of the proposed new access road (Pl. 17). A thin layer of topsoil **401**, overlay a dark brown silty sand **442**. Beneath **442** was a former ploughsoil **402**. There was no sign of the thick rubble layer seen in Trenches 3 and 3a. Dug through the ploughsoil **402** was a large sub-circular pit, **405**, about half of which extended into the trench, the remainder running beneath the trench limits. It had a flue like extension to the south-west. It was 4.5m wide and 1.10m deep, containing **403** a light brown silty clay overlaying a dark brown silty clay **404**. The base was filled with limestone, turned red by intense heating. A single sherd of late Humber type pottery was found dating to the 16th or 17th century, together with tile which may have been a 20th century field drain. If the date of the context is 16th to 17th century then it shows that the wall **441** had not only fallen into disuse but also had been robbed out by this time.

Robber trench **(441)** (Pl. 21) was filled with a uniform stony red sand, up to 0.20m in depth and 1m wide. It does not appear to have been burnt in situ but its proximity to the lime kiln **(405)** which cut through it may explain the origin of this material.

Parallel to **441** and 2.5m away was robber trench **422**. It was also approximately 1m wide, and the robbing was later than for **441**, being from immediately beneath the turf line. Neither of the trenches contained any stonework and it is assumed that they were totally robbed out. **(422)** was filled with a series deposits of **(428, 429, 423, 425, 420, 434 and 433)** (Pls 18-20).

A series of deposits (432, 456, 463, 427, 465, 464) similar to those found in Trench 3 lay between the two robbed out walls. These consisted of sandy silty clays and mortar layers, and seem likely to represent makeup layers for floor surfaces but, as with the series between the walls in Trench 3, no tiles or other surfaces survived. To the south west of (422) a series of deposits (451, 455, 454, 453, 430, 449, 431, 424, and 445) again representing floor levels although (424) a thick deposit of mortar had a pit/post hole cut into it (447) containing a yellow brown sandy silt (446) (Pl. 23). These seem more substantial floor surfaces than the sequence on the north east side of (422) side of the wall.

Burials

A number of burials were recovered from Trench 4, the majority of which were clustered at the north end of the trench, beyond the structural remains described above. There were at least two phases of burials, i.e. burials on top of other burials and it is possible that there were more below those excavated, such as seen at the similarly dated site at Fillingham.

Seven burials were excavated from graves, four of which were in stone-lined cists, the information for which is tabulated below. Unstratified skeletal remains, representing a further five individuals, were retrieved although there was not enough remaining to derive osteological information (see Appendix 3). A further five graves were identified but not excavated.

All the excavated burials were orientated east-west with their heads to the west. The unexcavated graves also seemed to be orientated east-west the orientation was visible in the grave cuts). Four of the excavated bodies (466, 469, 482 and 486) were buried in stone lined cists.

Skeleton No.	Sex	Age	Height	Cut	Fill	Cist No.
414	—	5-7 years	—	415	—	—
436	Male	19-22 years	163.9 cms	419	418	—
x 466	Female	30-38 years	156 cms	474	473,475	472,476, 477
x 469	Male	25-30 years	176 cms	467	468,470, 487	496,471
x 482	Male	20-25 years	168 cms	479	481,483,494	482,484
x 486	—	5-7 years	—	485	491,489	485,487
488	—	6-9 months	—	493	492	—

Table 1: Human Remains

The top and sides of the grave **467** containing **469** were lined with flat slabs of the local lias limestone (Pls 24 and 25). The burial cut itself was rectangular, measuring 2.3m in length and 0.75m wide in width with the stone placed directly against the edges of the grave cut. The stones were irregular and ill-fitting measuring up to 0.50m long and 0.05m thick. The cist tapered at the western end to form a narrowing for the head, where the stones angled inwards, possibly due to disturbance by subsequent ploughing.

Grave **474**, containing burial **466** was found immediately adjacent to **469** and was 2.4m x 0.70m and lined in a similar fashion (Pls 24 and 25). The fills of both **474** and **467** were a similar mid brown silty sand, only slightly darker than the wind blown sand through which the grave had been cut.

These two burials partially overlay a third grave **482**, containing burial **479**, which was better preserved, due to its greater depth, although the insertion of **466** had removed some of the stones at the east end of the cist and most of the capping (Pls 26 and 27). Unlike the two cists above, slabs lined the base as well as the sides and top of the grave. This grave also tapered at the western end of the cist.

A fourth, much smaller, cist burial (**485**) was found north-east of the three adult burials, measuring only 1m x 0.60m (Pls 28 and 29). This cist was slightly higher than the adult cists and had been severely disturbed by the ploughing and the stones used to line the cist were much thinner. The burial, **486**, an infant, appears to have been placed in the grave almost upright as, with degradation, the skull had collapsed on top of the rest of the body and many of the ribs had ended up inside the skull.

A second child burial (**488**) was found immediately to the east. This child had also been severely disturbed by ploughing there was no surviving evidence of a cist although there were slabs close to the burial which may have formed a cist.

The infant burials were cut directly into the fill of another adult burial (**417**) but was this was not excavated. There were at least three other burials in this area but the exact number is impossible to determine (**409**, **411**, **413**) within the trench, which were not excavated. Further burials may lie beyond the trench .

The remaining two excavated burials were buried in unlined graves. **415** measured lay north of the three adult cist burials and a little to the west of the infant in cist **486**. The grave measured 1m by 0.60m and was heavily disturbed by subsequent ploughing. The bones were heavily damaged but were clearly those of a child (Table 1).

436 was located between the robbed out walls **422** and **441**, 5m south-west of the other

burials and orientated slightly differently. It was about 1.20m by 0.35m. The burial was sealed (by 432?) the floor surfaces described above and is therefore earlier in date.

Trench 5 (Fig. 9)

This trench was located at the northern edge of the site and was L-shaped in order to investigate several upturned stones at ground level, as well as any possible continuation of the walls into this area. Upon excavation the stones (516) appeared to have been deposited in the topsoil and were not any part of a structure. Below the topsoil (501 at the northern end of the trench were several flat slabs, up to 0.50m by 0.35m and 0.05m thick. They formed a well-defined linear feature (504) approximately 0.50m wide and 0.05m deep, set into a sand silt layer which contained limestone rubble (508) (Pl. 31). This is probably the remains of a modern boundary wall, rather than a wall related to the medieval buildings recorded in Trenches 3 and 4.

The topsoil 501 overlay a deposit of brown sand, 508, which in turn overlay a cleaner yellow brown silty clay (510) between the two layer was an isolated deposit of limestone rubble 517. The depth of excavated deposits was 1.50m over a clean yellow sand (Pl. 32). This is very similar stratigraphy to that shown in Trench 1 with the only main difference being that the clean wind blown sand is 20cm lower.

4m south of the path was a stone lined well cut through the sand deposit (510). The well was constructed within a pit (503) at least 3m in diameter (Pl. 33). The well was lined with a thin lining of yellow sand 506 which was in turn lined with a brown silty sand 507. The well was constructed in irregular limestone blocks (505). These blocks were bonded with a grey clay 517 which presumably formed a waterproofing. The feature was excavated to a depth of 0.70m below the modern ground surface but undoubtedly continues deeper. A single pottery sherd was recovered from 517, the clay packing material, and dated from the 13th or early 14th century.

Two modern pits (511, 515) were recorded at the south-east end of the trench (Pl. 34). They were both cut from immediately below the topsoil and continued beyond the base of the trench which was excavated to a depth of 1.30m below the present ground level.

Discussion

The pottery dating evidence shows that the site was occupied from the late Saxon period through the medieval period. Late Saxon pottery was found across the site with a concentration of seventeen sherds in Trench 1. The earliest, and only late Saxon, feature recorded in the evaluation trenches was the large ditch in Trench 2, which possibly flanks the road shown on the 1751, and 1821 estate maps and whose line is projected through the site (Fig. 3). This area fronted on to a possible market area opposite the church to the west and it

may be that early buildings lined the eastern side of the road. There was no evidence of late Saxon archaeological remains found during the 1997 evaluation to the west so the presence of late Saxon domestic remains from the western and central part of the field, which has not been evaluated, remains conjectural.

There was no dating evidence from the burials although they were shown to predate the building remains on the site. Their orientation east-west and the absence of grave goods indicates that they are Christian. Cist burials have been found on a number of sites in Lincolnshire. At St Mark's and St Paul in the Bail in Lincoln their position within the stratigraphic sequence of burials indicates a post-Conquest date of 11th -12th century. At Stow church they are later than the demolition of the Saxon *porticus* (side chapel/aisle) and associated rebuild of the Norman nave, which also suggests a post-Conquest date. Dating of the burials at Barton on Humber, is currently being reassessed but revised analysis of the pottery is indicating that they are later in date than originally thought (A. Vince pers. comm.). The narrowing of the cist at the head may be a local variation of the pillow stone a more widely spread burial practice (Jo Buckberry pers comm.). Both types of burial occur at Fillingham where they have also dated to the late Anglo- Saxon period, which fits well with the associated pottery from Torksey.

The walls found in Trenches 3 and 4 were the remains of a substantial building or buildings. The finds from the site included floor tiles and moulded stone, and pieces of medieval window glass (all from the spoilheap and associated with the demolition rubble which sealed Trench 3). Part of a medieval bone comb was also found on the spoilheap (Pl. 35). These finds are all indicative of a religious rather than secular building, even without the presence of the earlier burials, and the pottery also confirms this interpretation (J. Young pers comm.). Together with the field name 'Abbey Yards' on the 1751 estate map (and subsequent estate and OS maps) the excavated evidence points to the site being the lost St Leonard's Priory.

St Leonard's Priory impropriated all three parish churches in Torksey and the burials, which appear to be pre-Conquest may belong to one of the lost parish churches. The present parish church of St Peter is largely 13th century in construction and lies to the west of the site. The location of All Saints is unknown but is likely to be located to the south (Barley 1964, 172). This leaves St Mary's which was said by Leland who visited Torksey in the mid-16th century to lie not far to the east of St Peter's. Excavated remains from the 1997 excavation revealed evidence for a stone building with a possible apsidal end. This may in fact be the lost church and would fit in with Leland's suggestion. The 2001 excavations would then be the site of St Leonard's Priory; the ponds to the east would be fishponds not an unusual feature in medieval monastic houses.

The presence of a limekiln on the site, which is probably of 16th-17th century date, would tie

in well with the dismantling of the religious house after the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536. The kiln would have been used to burn the smaller pieces building stone/rubble to produce lime, the better quality stone being recycled as building stone elsewhere.

Potential Impact of Development on Archaeological Remains

The main concentration of archaeological remains is in the ^{north} south-eastern part of the site between the areas of Trenches 3 and 4. The walls exist to within 0.25m of the ground surface and the top of burials were at a depth of 0.60m below the ground surface. At the north of the site in the area of Trench 5 apart from the presence of the well, there is no evidence of other significant archaeological remains. At the western limit of the site the ditch in Trench 2 and the presence of late Saxon pottery suggests nearby late Saxon occupation.

Given the shallow depth of archaeological deposits on the site it would be impossible to avoid significant damage without raising the ground considerably. Foundation designs have not yet been finalised but it is understood that the intention is to combine a raft foundation design of the houses with raising of the ground to minimise the impact of development upon the underlying archaeological remains.

Conclusion

The evaluation excavation was successful in identifying the depth, date and extent of archaeological remains on the site. However, interpretation of these remains must remain conjectural as their complexity within such a small area made confident interpretation impossible. These remains are undoubtedly of regional importance revealing as they do evidence for late Saxon activity and the likely location of the lost Priory of St Leonard. Any disturbance to these deposits would cause damage to potentially significant archaeological deposits, but carefully designed foundations, together with initial raising of the ground levels prior to development, should enable the archaeological remains to be preserved in situ.

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Mr Kinch for his assistance and hospitality, Dr Glyn Coppack for his advice on monastic houses and Dr Beryl Lott for her help and advice on site. The excavations were undertaken by Mark Williams, Mick McDaid, Darren Pullen and Naomi Field.

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Contents of Site Archive

Context sheets : 205

Site plans and section drawings: 9

Computer generated drawings: 8

Pottery and tile archive lists

Human remains archive sheets for 12 bodies + notes

Photographs (including those used in report)

LAS Film nos. 01/36 negs. 25-36

01/41 negs. 23-37

01/42 negs. 1-37

01/45 negs. 0-36

01/48 negs. 1-20

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01/56 negs. 0-29

02/8 negs. 24-25

Correspondence

Archaeological finds

Post Roman Pottery and Tile

Special finds: Glass and worked bone

Human remains (Licence No.A3351)

THE APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

Context Summary Torksey, Main St. (THAN 01)

Context No	Type	Description	Date
<i>Trench 1</i>			
100	Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt	
101	Subsoil	Mid brown sand soil	
102	General	Machine layer for finds recovery	
103	Layer	Wind blown sand deposit.	
104	Layer	Brown sand fairly clean	10 th -mid 11 th
105	Layer	Fragments of lamina mudstone	
106	Natural	Mottled yellow sand	
<i>Trench 2</i>			
200	Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand	18 th or 19 th
201	subsoil	mid brown sandy soil	14 th to 15 th
202	Layer	Fragments of laminae mudstone	
203	Layer	Brown very sandy soil, fairly clean	
204	Natural	Mottled yellow sand	
205	Cut	Pit	
206	Fill of 205	Dark grey brown sand soil	18 th to 20 th
207	Cut	Slot	
208	Fill of 207	Soft dark brown sand	14 th to 20 th
209	Cut	Pit	
210	Fill of 209	Charcoal stained sand	Late 12 th to early 13 th
211	Fill of 209	Clean mid brown sand	13 th to 15 th
212	Cut	Pit	
213	Fill of 212	mid brown mottled sand silt	
214	Layer	Crushed burnt mudstone	
215	Cut	Ditch	
216	Fill of 215	Dark brown silty sand	10 th to 11 th
217	Fill of 215	Black silt sand contains charcoal	
218	Cut	Post hole	
219	Fill of 218	Dark brown silty sand	13 th to 14 th
220	Cut	Pit	
221	Fill of 220	Brown silty sand with patches of firm clay	15 th to 16 th
222	Cut	Pit	
223	Fill of 222	Dark brown silty clay	
224	layer	mid brown sandy soil	
<i>Trench 3</i>			
300	overburden	Rubble in brown sand silt matrix	
301	Cut	Cut for wall	
302	Fill of 301	Yellow brown silty sand with angular rock fragments	

Context No	Type	Description	Date
303	Structure	Structural remains of wall	
304	Wind blown sand	brown orange sand	
305	Mortar	Mortar in linear band	
306	Cut	Possible second wall	
307	Fill of 306	Rubble in sandy silt matrix	
308	Cut	Robber trench	
309	Cut	Robber trench	
310	Layer	Hard grey silty clay	
311	Layer	Mortared tile floor	
312	Fill of 309	Yellow brown silt sand	15 th to 19 th
313	Fill of 301	Brown sandy silt	
314	Fill of 301	Brown sandy silt with fragments of angular limestone	
315	Cut	Cut for wall	13 th to 15 th
316	Fill of 342	Skeleton	
317	Layer	Same as 304	
318	cut	wall	
319	Layer	Yellow sand	
320	Layer	mid brown sandy deposit	
321	Layer	Same as 318	
322	Layer	Same as 319	
323	layer	Yellow brown sandy silt	15 th to 16 th
324	Fill of 301	Light orange brown silt sand with 1st frags	
325	Layer	Mortar deposit	
326	Fill of 301	Light brown silt sand	
327	Layer	Brown silty sand	
328	Fill of 301	Rubble in brown sand silt matrix	
329	Layer	Rubble in brown sand matrix	
330	Layer	Yellow sand rubble	
331	Layer	Brown silty sand	
332	Layer	Light brown silty sand	
333	Layer	Tarmac	
334	Turf	Thin turf layer	
335	Layer	Brown silt sand	
336	Cut	Pit	
337	Layer	Yellow brown sand	
338	Layer	Hard red clay	
339	Fill of 328	Brown yellow silt sand with fragments of mudstone and limestone	
340	Fill of 309	Rubble in a grey brown sand silt	
341	Fill of 309	Rubble in a sand silt matrix	
342	Cut	pit	
343			
344	Cut	Robber trench	
345	Layer	Grey brown silt	
346		Not used	
347	Fill of 301	Yellow sand containing rubble	

Context No	Type	Description	Date
348	Layer	Yellow sand	
349	Layer	Yellow silty sand	
350	Layer	Yellow brown sandy silt	
351	Deposit	Yellow sand	
352	Fill of 301	Grey brown sandy silt	
353	deposit	Rubble in grey sandy matrix	
354	Layer	Grey silty sand	
355	layer	mid brown sandy silt	
356	layer	Grey brown sandy silt	
Trench 4			
400	Machining		
401	Topsoil	mid brown sandy silt	
402	Ploughsoil		
403	Fill of 405	mid/dark brown silt sand	20 th or 16 th to 17 th
404	Fill of 405	Black silt sand	
405	Cut	Kiln	
406	Fill of 407	mid dark brown silt sand	
407	Cut	Probable Grave	
408	Fill of 409	Mid dark brown sand silt	
409	Cut	Probable Grave	
410	Fill of 411	mid dark brown silt clay sand	
411	Cut	Probable Grave	
412	Fill of 413	mid brown sandy silt	
413	Cut	Probable grave	
414	Fill of 415	Dark brown sandy silt	
415	Cut	Grave	
416	Fill of 417	Dark brown sandy silt	
417	Cut	Grave	
418	Fill of 419	Orange sand and mid dark brown silt sand	10 frag tile
419	Cut	Grave	
420	Fill of 422	Orange brown silt sand	13 th to 15 th
421	Fill of 422	Light brown silt sand	
422	Cut	Robber trench / wall	
423	Fill of 422	Red brown silt sand	
424	Layer	Yellow mortar	13?
425	Fill of 422	Pink silty sand	10 th to 11 th
426	Fill of 435	Yellow sandy mortar	
427	Layer	Mid brown silt sand	
428	Fill of 422	Light orange brown silt sand	
429	Cut	Pit/ditch.	
430	Layer	Dark grey brown silt sand	
431	Layer	Light orange brown silt sand	
432	Layer	mid dark brown silt sand	10 th to 11 th
433	Fill of 422	Yellow white sandy mortar	10 th to 11 th
434	Fill of 422	mid dark brown silt sand	13 th to 15 th

Context No	Type	Description	Date
435	Cut	Robber trench	
436	Fill of 419	Skeleton	
437		Not used	
438		Not used	
439	Layer	Yellow brown silty sand	
440	Fill of 441	Red sand with mudstone frags	
441	Cut	Robber trench / wall	
442	Layer	Dark brown – black silt sand	
443	Fill of 441	Dark brown silt sand	
444	Deposit	Yellow white mortar	
445	Layer	Light to mid brown silt sand	
446	Fill of 447	Light to mid brown silt sand	
447	Cut	Post hole	
448	Fill of 452	Yellow brown sandy silt	
449	Layer	Red brown silty sand	
450	Layer	Yellow white mortar	
451	Layer	Red silty sand	
452	Cut	Pit	
453	Layer	Yellow brown silty sand	
454	Layer	Dark brown silty sand	
455	Layer	Yellow sandy clay	
456	Layer	Yellow clay and mortar	
457	Layer	Light brown silt sand	
458	Layer	Yellow white mortar	
459	Layer	Orange and dark brown sand	
460	Layer	Orange sand and dark brown silt sand	
461	Cut	Post hole	
462	Fill of 405	Orange brown and dark brown soil	
463	Layer	Yellow clay and mortar	
464	Layer	Light to mid brown silt sand	
465	Layer	mid brown silt sand	
466	Fill of 474	skeleton	10 th to 11 th
467	Cut	Burial (469)	
468	Fill of 467	mid brown silt sand	
469	Fill of 467	Skeleton	
470	Fill of 467	mid-dark brown silt sand	
471	Fill of 467	Capping stones	
472	Fill of 474	Stone lining	
473	Fill of 474	mid brown sandy silt	
474	Cut	Burial (466)	
475	Fill of 474	Yellow orange silt fill	
476	Fill of 474	Capping stones	
477	Fill of 474	Capping stones	
478	Layer	Dark brown wind blown sand deposit	
479	Cut	Burial (482)	
480	Fill of 479	Capping stones	

Context No	Type	Description	Date
481	Fill of 479	mid brown silt sand	
482	Fill of 479	Skeleton	
483	Fill of 479	mid brown silt sand	
484	Fill of 479	Stone lining	
485	Fill of 490	Stone lining	
486	Fill of 490	Skeleton	
487	Fill of 490	Stone lining	
488	Fill of 493	Skeleton	
489	Fill of 490	mid brown silty sand	
490	Cut	Burial (486)	
491	Fill of 490	mid brown silty sand	
492	Fill of 493	mid grey brown silty sand with small rounded pebbles	
493	Cut	Burial (488)	
494	Fill of 479	Dark brown silt sand	
495	Natural	Yellow sand	
496	Fill of 467	Cist sides	
Trench 5			
500	Layer	Finds from machining	2 sherds
501	Topsoil		
502	Layer	Irregular frags of limestone	
503	Cut	Well	
504	Deposit	Irregular line limestone in topsoil	
505	Structure	Well lining	
506	Fill of 503	Yellow orange sand	
507	Fill of 503	Orange brown silty sand	13 th -early 14th
508	Layer	mid brown silt sand and rubble	
509	Natural	Yellow sand	
510	Layer	mid brown silt sand	
511	Cut	Pit	
512	Fill of 511	Orange brown sandy silt	
513	Fill of 511	Dark brown silty sand	
514	Cut	Pit	
515	Fill of 514	Dark brown silt sand	
516	structure	Line of stones, possible boundary wall	
517	Fill of 503	Grey clay lining	
518	Deposit	Limestone rubble	

Archive Report on the Post-Roman Ceramic Building Material and Pottery

Jane Young

(Lindsey Archaeological Services)

Introduction and Methodology

A total of 58 sherds of pottery and 77 fragments ceramic building material were recovered from the site. The material ranges in date from the Late Saxon to the early modern period. The pottery and tile was examined visually and where necessary using a x20 binocular microscopic, then recorded using locally and nationally agreed codenames on an Access database.

Condition

The pottery and tile is in variable condition with most vessels being at least slightly abraded. The largest and freshest fragments of pottery came from Trench 5.

Overall Chronology and Source

The post-Roman pottery dates to between the 10th or 11th and 18th or 19th centuries. Little of the tile can be tightly dated, although apart from a few fragments all of the material is of medieval date, probably dating from the 13th century. A suggested date range for the deposition of each stratified context is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Suggested deposition date of stratified pottery groups from contexts

Trench	Context	Date	Comments
1	104	10th to mid 11th	
2	200	18th or 19th	
2	201	14th to 15th	
2	206	18th to 20th	tile only
2	208	14th to 20th	brick/tile
2	210	late 12th to early 13th	single sherd
2	211	13th to 15th	single sherd
2	216	10th to 11th	
2	219	13th to 14th	single sherd
2	221	15th to 16th	single sherd
3	312	15th to 19 th	tile only
3	323	15th to 16 th	single sherd & single tile
3	315	13th to 15 th	tile only

Trench	Context	Date	Comments
4	403	20th or 16 th to 17th	single sherd rest tile;poss intrusive 20th drain
4	420	13th to 15 th	mixed pot
4	424	13th ?	tile only
4	425	10th to 11 th	single sherd
4	432	10th to 11 th	
4	433	13 th	
4	434	13th to 15 th	tile only
5	507	13th to early 14th	single sherd
4	466	10th to 11 th	single sherd

Fourteen different post-Roman pottery ware types were found on the site, the type and general date range for each fabric together with those for the ceramic building material are shown in Table 2. The pottery is mainly of Late Saxon or medieval date. Vessel form types are very limited and include jars, jugs, and bowls.

Table 2: Pottery and tile codenames and total quantities by sherd or fragment count and vessel counts where appropriate.

Codename	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	Sherds/frags
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	4
BRK	Brick	post-med	early modern	3
FLOOR	Floor Tile	med	early modern	1
GFLOOR	Glazed floor tile	med	early modern	1
HUM	Humberware	1250	1550	6
LHUM	Late Humber-type ware	1550	1750	2
LSW1/2	12th-13th century Lincoln Glazed ware	1100	1300	2
LSWA	Lincoln Glazed ware Fabric A	1100	1500	3
MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450	5
MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	1150	1450	3
MODTILDISC	modern tile (discarded)	19th	20th	1
MP	Midlands Purple ware	1380	1600	1
NIB	Nibbed tile	12th	18th	2
NLFS	North Lincolnshire Fine-Shelled ware	975	1100	1
NOTG	Nottingham glazed ware	1250	1500	3
NSP	Nottingham Splashed ware	1100	1250	1
NYW	North Yorkshire whiteware	1250	1550	1
PANTDISC	Pantile (discarded)	18th	20th	1
PNR	Peg, nib or ridge tile	12th	18th	19
PNRDISC	Peg, nib or ridge tile (discarded)	12th	18th	49
POTT	Potterhanworth-type Ware	1250	1500	1
TORK	Torksey ware	850	1100	25

Trench 1

Only two of the nineteen sherds recovered from this trench post-date the Late Saxon period. The seventeen Torksey ware sherds are all abraded and one sherd is misfired. Only one sherd, a bowl with an inturned-rim is diagnostic of any period (the early/mid 10th to early/mid 11th century) within the production of the ware type. The absence of decorated sherds within this small grouping may not be significant, however it may suggest that the group post-dates the mid 10th century.

Trench 2

A small mixed group of sixteen pottery sherds was recovered from trench 2. The group includes material of Late Saxon, early medieval, high medieval, late medieval and late post-medieval date.

Trench 3

A single late medieval Humber ware sherd dating to the 15th or 16th centuries was found in Trench 3.

Trench 4

A mixed group of nineteen sherds came from Trench 4. The sherds recovered from cleaning the trench are medium to large sized and are fairly fresh in appearance. Those recovered from other deposits are mainly smaller and more abraded. Pottery of Late Saxon, early medieval, high medieval and late medieval date was recovered. Most of the tile recovered from the site came from this trench including examples possibly manufactured in Lincoln and Beverley.

Trench 5

Only three sherds were recovered from this trench, all date between the 13th and early 14th centuries. The sherds are all large fragments in a fresh condition and may represent primary deposition.

Summary and Recommendations

The material recovered represents a small assemblage, mainly of Late Saxon and medieval date. The pottery suggests nearby occupation in the Late Saxon period, probably between the mid 10th and mid 11th centuries. There is little evidence for later 11th or early to late 12th century activity. More intense occupation of the area seems to have started by the late 12th or early 13th century as is evidenced by sherds of Lincoln and Nottingham splash-glazed jugs. The largest pottery fragments found on the site are of 13th to early 14th century date and material of this period comes from a variety of sources. The only datable tile nib is of a moulded type found no later than the

end of the 13th century. Only four sherds post-date the mid 16th century suggesting that occupation in the area was not intensive after this period.

The presence of single sherds of post-medieval Bourne ware and Cistercian ware in deposits 006 and 005 suggests that the building was demolished in the early post-medieval period.

No further work is needed on the material, although it all should be retained for further study.

New Medical Centre and Housing Development, Main St, Torksey (THAN 01) Pottery Archive

Trench	Context	cname	Sub-fabric	Form type	Sherds	Vessels	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
1	102	TORK		bowl	1	1		base		
1	102	TORK		bowl	1	1		rim	inturned rim	
1	102	TORK		jar	2	2		base		
1	102	TORK		jar	6	6		BS		
1	102	TORK		bowl ?	3	1		BS		
1	102	TORK		?	2	2		BS		
1	102	NOTG	light firing	jug	1	1		BS	cu glaze	
1	102	BL		?	1	1		base	18th	
1	104	TORK		jar	1	1		rim	square EVERA1	
1	104	TORK		jar	1	1		rim	square EVERB;overfired1	
2	200	BL		bowl	1	1		rim		18th to 19th
2	200	BL		bowl	1	1		rim	semi vitr fabric;	17th
2	200	HUM	purple glaze	jug	1	1	applied strip with circular stamps	BS		
2	201	HUM		jug	1	1		BS		
2	201	NYW		jug	1	1		BS	? Bransby	
2	201	POTT		jar ?	1	1		BS		
2	208	TORK		jar	1	1		base		
2	210	NSP	sandy	jug	1	1	pressed edges	handle		
2	211	MEDLOC	OX/R/OX;fine- med sandy;hard	jar/pipkin	1	1		rim	comm fine-med subround quartz comm fe;??? LSW	
2	216	TORK		jar	2	2		BS		
2	219	MEDX	reduced;med sandy;hard	jug	2	1		BS	fresh frags;misfired ? mottled glaze;comm med-coarse subround quartz comm to mod fe	
2	221	HUM	purple glaze ?	large jar ?	1	1		BS	sandy fabric	
2	U/S	MP		bunghole jar	1	1		rim	cut out	

New Medical Centre and Housing Development, Main St, Torksey (THAN 01) Pottery Archive

Trench	Context	cname	Sub-fabric	Form type	Sherds	Vessels	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
2	U/S	BL		small jug/jar	1	1		rim		17th to 18th
3	323	HUM	purple glaze	jug	1	1		BS		
4	400	HUM		jug	1	1		rim		
4	400	HUM		jug	1	1		handle		
4	400	LSWA		jug	1	1	thumbed basal edge	base	abraded	
4	400	LSWA		?	1	1		base	large vessel or tile	
4	400	MEDLOC	OX/R/OX;fine sandy;hard	?	1	1		BS	?? LSW	
4	403	LHUM		jar ?	1	1		BS	int & ext glaze	
4	420	LSWA		?	1	1		BS	vessel or tile	
4	420	TORK		jar	1	1		BS		
4	420	NLFS		jar ?	1	1		BS	soot ? ID;fabric incl echinoid spine	
4	420	MEDLOC	oxid;fine sandy;hard	jar/jug	1	1		BS	moderate-comm fine subround quartz	
4	425	TORK		jar	1	1		BS		
4	432	TORK		jar	1	1		base	abraded	
4	432	TORK			1	1		BS	grey fabric	
4	433	MEDLOC	OX/R/OX;fine sandy;hard	jug	1	1		BS	abundant fine-med subround to round quartz occ larger mod fe;quartz sim to that on site	
4	433	MEDLOC	light firing;fine sandy;med hard	jug	1	1		BS	comm - abundant fine-med subround quartz mod - comm fe;quartz sim to that on site	
4	433	LSW1/2		jug	1	1		BS	? ID	
4	433	LSW1/2		jar/jug	1	1		base	? ID; abraded	
4	U/S	LHUM		?large handled jar	1	1		BS		

New Medical Centre and Housing Development, Main St, Torksey (THAN 01) Pottery Archive

Trench	Context	cname	Sub-fabric	Form type	Sherds	Vessels	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
5	500	NOTG	light firing	large jug	1	1		BS	cu mottled glaze;large fresh fragment	
5	500	MEDX	reduced;very fine;hard	large jug	1	1	fleur de lys stamps	BS	reduced glaze;large fresh fragment;? Stamp upside down;? Reduced BEVO	
5	507	NOTG	light firing	jug	1	1		BS	large fresh fragment	
4	466	TORK		jar	1	1		BS		

New Medical Centre and Housing Development, Main St, Torksey (THAN 01) Tile Archive

Trench	Context	cname	Sub-type	frags	description	wt(g)	date
2	206	PANTDISC		1		17	
2	208	PNRDISC		2	? Tile/brick	12	
2	U/S	BRK		1	handmade;local looking sandy fabric;early ?;170+ x 105 x 35mm	1103	
3	312	STILE		1	large hole	66	
3	312	PNRDISC		1	? Pantile	29	lmed + ?+
3	312	PNR		1	semi vitr;imprint ? Plant/bird	586	
3	312	PNR		1	corner;semi vitrified	309	
3	323	GFLOOR		1	complete; diagonally scored; 115 x 115 x 20;dark green/black glaze;no nail holes;mortar;similar to one from st marks lincoln	0	
3	315	PNR		2		146	
3	U/S	STILE		1	hole	700	
3	U/S	FLOOR		1	largge floor tile;mortar over all surfaces;240 x 240 x 40 mm;same fabric as brick in trench 2 U/S;p? unglazed	0	
4	400	PNRDISC		3	small frags	22	med-pmed
4	400	PNR		1		122	med-pmed
4	400	PNR		1	corner	77	lmed-pmed
4	400	BRK		2	handmade	32	
4	403	PNRDISC		7	small frags;various fabrics	154	
4	403	PNR		5	flat roofer;various fabrics	217	
4	403	PNR		1	flat roofer;corner	88	
4	403	PNR		3	flat roofer;vitrified	363	
4	403	STILE		1	hole	28	
4	403	NIB	7	1	type 7;?? Beverley	50	
4	403	MODTILDISC		1		42	19th-20th
4	420	PNRDISC		2	1 corner	15	
4	424	PNR		4	mortar;same tile	141	
4	424	NIB		1	moulded; fabric inc chalk/limestone	41	
4	433	PNRDISC		30	small frags;various fabrics;flat roofers	427	
4	434	PNRDISC		2		20	
4	U/S	STILE		1	hole	81	
4	403	PNRDISC		2		192	
4	418	STILE		10	discarded	757	

The Human Remains

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The skeletal assemblage consisted of a total of 13 individuals, 8 of which were recovered from grave contexts and 5 of which were recovered from non-grave contexts. In addition to these was an assortment of incomplete and fragmentary skeletal elements from 5 other non-grave contexts, of which no single context yielded a complete enough assemblage to be considered as representing an individual.

Burials Recovered from Graves

There were 4 adults, 3 children and one infant in this group. One child was found with the adult 466 and has been given the same context number. The relative ages at death and sexes of these individuals are shown in the table below.

Context No.	Sex	Age at Death
414	—	5-7 yrs.
436	Male	19-22 yrs.
466	Female	30-38 yrs.
	—	3.5-4.5yrs.
469	Male	25-30 yrs.
482	Male	20-25 yrs.
486	—	5-7 yrs.
488	—	6-9 mths.

It was not possible to assign a sex to the youngest individuals due to the immaturity of their remains.

Generally, the condition of the bone was very good with good preservation of the outer cortex and joint surfaces. An unusually large number of skeletal elements was also present in three of the adults. However, one individual, 469, had suffered badly from water erosion, with large areas of the outer cortex of many elements being destroyed. The lower portion of the legs of 482, from mid femora downwards, had also suffered in the same way. This severely limited the information available from these elements.

Estimation of Stature

It was possible to estimate the stature of all the adult individuals in this assemblage, placing the lengths of the femora and tibiae into one of a series of mathematical equations constructed by Trotter and Gleser. Unfortunately, this is not possible for immature individuals. The information available is shown below.

Context No.	Sex	Height
436	Male	163.9cms / 5' 5.5"
466	Female	156cms / 5' 2.5"
469	Male	176cms / 5' 10"
482	Male	168cms / 5' 7"

It is interesting to note that the female individual is a full 8cms or 3 inches shorter than the shortest male in this assemblage. However, the very small number of individuals in this sample prevent this from being statistically significant. There is no pathological reason apparent for this difference in height, so it could be caused by a genetic predisposition or socio/economic forces during the individual's lifetime.

Pathological Changes

There were very few pathological changes apparent in this assemblage. This may partly be explained by the young age of four of the individuals represented here, as children tend to be much more vulnerable to disease or malnutrition than adults, and would therefore succumb much more quickly to any such infection or physical trauma. This would not give their skeletons the time necessary to respond and therefore no indication of such an episode, if fatal, would remain.

Of the remaining four adults in the assemblage, the relatively young age at death of the three males may explain why there are very few indications of 'wear and tear' deterioration of their joints. This is limited to a few Schmorl's nodes and very slight osteoporotic pitting present in one or two vertebral joints. In contrast, the female individual, 466, has a number of indicators present of 'wear and tear' deterioration, as would be expected from an older individual. These include very mild osteoporotic pitting on the distal articular surfaces of the right and left femora, present as two small areas of slight porosity, one on the anterior portion of each condyle. The distal and medial phalanges of the fourth or fifth digit of the left foot are fused together, and the left pisiform also exhibits moderate osteoporotic pitting of the articular facet, with mild osteophytic lesions around this surface. The corresponding triquetral, which articulates with this facet, was not present. The spine of this individual exhibits a high number of Schmorl's nodes and mild degenerative changes of the vertebral bodies of the lumbar spine and the articular facets on the bodies of the lower thoracic spine.

A minor pathological change that was noted was the occurrence of osteoporotic pitting on the outer cranial vault of individual 482. This was noted on both the parietal, the occipital and the frontal bones and but was only present to a very mild degree. This is believed to be an indicator of iron deficiency anaemia, (Brothwell, 1994, p.166).

The only notable pathology in the assemblage was the occurrence of Scheuermann's disease in the spine of individual 436. This deformity develops in adolescents with great predilection for the male sex, (Scheuermann, 1921). The underlying cause of the condition is probably the extrusion of the nucleus pulposus material of the vertebral disc into the adjacent vertebral bodies. There follows an anterior narrowing of the disc space and subsequent growth disturbance in this area of the end-plate, resulting in some degree of wedging (Schmorl, 1930; Schmorl and Junghanns, 1971:345-354). If this deformity is long survived, secondary sclerotic changes and marginal anterior lipping may also occur (Ortner and Putschar, 1981:323). Individual 436, being a young man of 19-22yrs, fits the pattern of occurrence of this disease perfectly, and exhibits wedging of the 6th to 9th thoracic vertebrae with a mild degree of osteophytic lipping being present anteriorly from

the 4th to the 10th thoracic vertebrae. This deformity of the vertebral bodies would have caused a forward curvature of the spine, or kyphosis, of approximately 45°. There is also a slight vertical compression of the right hand sides of the 10th and 11th thoracic vertebrae, causing a minor curvature, or scoliosis, to the right. This is compensated for by the upper thoracic vertebrae and is barely noticeable. This secondary curvature is probably also caused by Scheuermann's disease. It is highly unlikely that this condition would have been fatal.

Trauma

There are only two occurrences of possible trauma related injuries, both of the same nature. Individual 466 has a 'punched out' lesion of the proximal articular surface of the first phalange of the left foot, and individual 482 appears to have a similar 'punched out' lesion of the articular surface of the first phalange of the right foot. This joint is partly damaged so it is not possible to be absolutely secure in this diagnosis. This type of injury is caused by the 'disruption of the articular cartilage, probably consequent upon trauma', (J. Rodgers and T. Waldron, 1995). For example, something as mundane as a badly stubbed toe could cause this type of damage to the bone.

Dental Pathology

The dental pathologies present are as limited as the skeletal pathology, being represented by 8 caries and enamel hypoplasia. This is shown in the table below.

Context No.	No. of Caries	Enamel Hypoplasia
436	1	4.5yrs.
466	6	2.25-3.25yrs.
482	1	2-3.75yrs.

The oldest individual, 466, has the most caries, following the expected pattern. The decay present on her lower right first molar and upper left first molar was extreme, with an abscess, with cloaca, fully formed in the upper jaw and one in the early stages of formation in the lower jaw. By contrast, the caries in the other two younger individuals were very mild.

The presence of hypoplastic lines on the majority of teeth was also of interest. It was not possible to fully analyse this anomaly due to the presence of dental plaque on many teeth, preventing the measurement of these lines. The measurements that it was possible to take indicated episodes of metabolic trauma between the ages of two and 4.5 years. The high occurrence of less well defined and incomplete hypoplastic lines present suggests that there were many minor occurrences of such physical trauma, such as disease or malnutrition, in early childhood, which would cause this maldevelopment of the enamel.

There was no dentition present with the other adult individual 469 or the juvenile 414, and no dental pathology present with the juvenile 486 or the infant 488.

Morphological Changes

A small number of morphological changes were present in the assemblage. The sample is not of a sufficient size to allow any meaningful correlations to be made between individuals. The information is shown in the table below.

Morphological Change	Context No.
Lambdoid Ossicles	436
Metopism	482
Parietal foramen	482
Supraorbital foramen notch	436, 466 482
Frontal foramen present	436
Access. Infraorb. Foramen present	436 482
Pterion form – H	436, 466 482
Atlas, double facet	466
Suprascapular notch	436, 466 482
Spondylolysis (C7)	466
Sternal Foramen	482
Allen's Fossa	466
Plaque	482
Third trochanter	482
Sacrum – open hiatus level S4	436 482
Sacrum – open hiatus level S3	466
Lumbarised S1	482
Tibial lateral squatting facets	466, 469
Calcaneal anterior facet double	466, 469, 482

It is not possible to look for these changes in immature skeletons. There is often an attempt to use this type of information to prove relational links between individuals, even when the assemblage is a fraction of the size necessary to attempt this. The condition of the remains within the assemblage is also extremely important, as is demonstrated by individual 469. By simply looking at the table it would appear that this individual exhibited very few of the traits listed. In fact he may well have possessed a large number of them if it had been possible to examine his complete skeleton, but as the upper half of the skeleton was not present, it was not possible to do this.

The Non-Grave Assemblage

This assemblage consists of 5 individuals and an assortment of incomplete and fragmentary skeletal elements from 5 other non-grave contexts. The general condition of the bones was mixed. Mostly they were in good condition although very fragmentary, but the remains of 400a, (as with the remains of 469, and to a lesser degree 482, from the grave assemblage), were in very poor condition with much cortical erosion due to the action of water and possibly microorganisms. The ages at death and the sexes of these individuals are shown below.

Context No.	Sex	Age at Death
300	Male	33-45yrs.
316	—	30-35yrs.
400a	—	Adult
400b	—	3-7yrs
403	—	25-35yrs.

Context 300 was the cleaning layer for Trench 3 and it would appear that the almost complete remains of a single individual were collected from this layer. However, there also appears to be some mixing of the remains between contexts as part of the mandible of 300 is recorded as 316, as is the distal portion of the right humerus. The remains of a second smaller individual appear to be mixed with the remains of the male individual, and are also spread between the two contexts. This second smaller individual is easily distinguished by the poorer condition of the remains, their smaller size and darker colouring.

Context 400 is similarly the cleaning layer for Trench 4 and two individuals were recovered from this context, hence 400a and 400b. There also appears to be some mixing of remains in this layer as a fragment of left scapula from another adult individual and the left humerus and right distal femur from a very young individual were also present.

Estimation of Stature

It was possible to estimate the stature of only one individual, 300, which was 5'2" or 157.4 cms.

Pathology

Very few pathological changes were present in these remains and were limited to the probable single individual represented by 300/316. The pathology present in the remains under context number 300 consisted of mild osteoporotic pitting in the roof of the right eye socket, thought to be possibly caused by anaemia, and a small number of Schmorl's nodes on the lower thoracic and upper lumbar spine, the early indicators of 'wear and tear' degeneration. There were also a number of small areas of periostitis on the internal surfaces of two miscellaneous ribs. These lesions were mirrored by plaques of periostitis found on the internal surfaces of three mid thorax rib fragments among the remains under context number 316. These lesions were concentrated towards the medial portion of the rib and petered out towards the sternal end. Areas of very mild porosity noted on the internal surfaces of some other rib fragments may be the early indications of similar periostitic plaque formation. This is likely to have been caused by an infection of the pleural membrane, but it does not appear extensive enough to have been long-lived.

Dental Pathology

As with the non-dental pathological changes, the dental pathology is mainly limited to the remains under 300/316. This mandible exhibited a moderate cary on the occlusal surface of the right third molar, a number of hypoplastic lesions which it was not possible to measure due to obliteration of the cemento-enamel junction by calculus, and mild reduction of the anterior alveolar margins. The presence of calculus, a hard mineral

deposit, and the reduction of the alveolar margins suggests bad oral hygiene leading to an infection of the gum. The portion of the mandible under 316 exhibited a reduction of the alveolar margin of the left third molar and badly broken enamel on the buccal face of the first and second molar, which appears to have occurred *ante mortem*.

The only other dental pathology present was the presence of indistinct hypoplastic lines and reduction of the alveolar margins of the maxilla present under context 403.

This pathology fits the pattern of occurrence already established by the skeletal material found in the graves, as discussed above.

The Miscellaneous Remains

These remains consisted of a very small number of fragmentary skeletal elements from five contexts, 406, 412, 468, 478 and 481. There were no pathological changes of any kind or morphological changes present in any of these remains. It was not possible to glean any further information from them.

Conclusion

The fact that this assemblage represents only a small portion of the cemetery from which it was excavated and the relatively small number of individuals actually represented in this assemblage means that it is not possible to draw any meaningful conclusions about the general demography of this population. However, a small number of conclusions and suggestions may be drawn from the evidence. The presence of hypoplastic lines on the enamel of the vast majority of teeth would seem to indicate that the society to which these individuals belonged was not able, or willing, to prevent them from being affected by such childhood metabolic traumas as have caused these defects.

The pattern of very limited and mild degeneration of joints and vertebrae among the young male individuals of the grave assemblage suggests that they undertook limited manual work. A comparison with the condition of the remains of the slightly older female, 466, suggests that she was used to a heavier manual workload from an early age. The presence of the individual 436 with the crippling condition of Scheuermann's disease would also suggest that the society to which he belonged was wealthy enough to support an individual who would have been very limited in his physical capabilities.

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THE FIGURES



Fig. 1 Main St. Torksey, site location. Reproduced from the 1:10,000 OS Map. Crown copyright, reproduced with the permission of the controller of HMSO, LAS Licence number AL 100002165



Fig. 2 Main St. Torksey, trench location plan

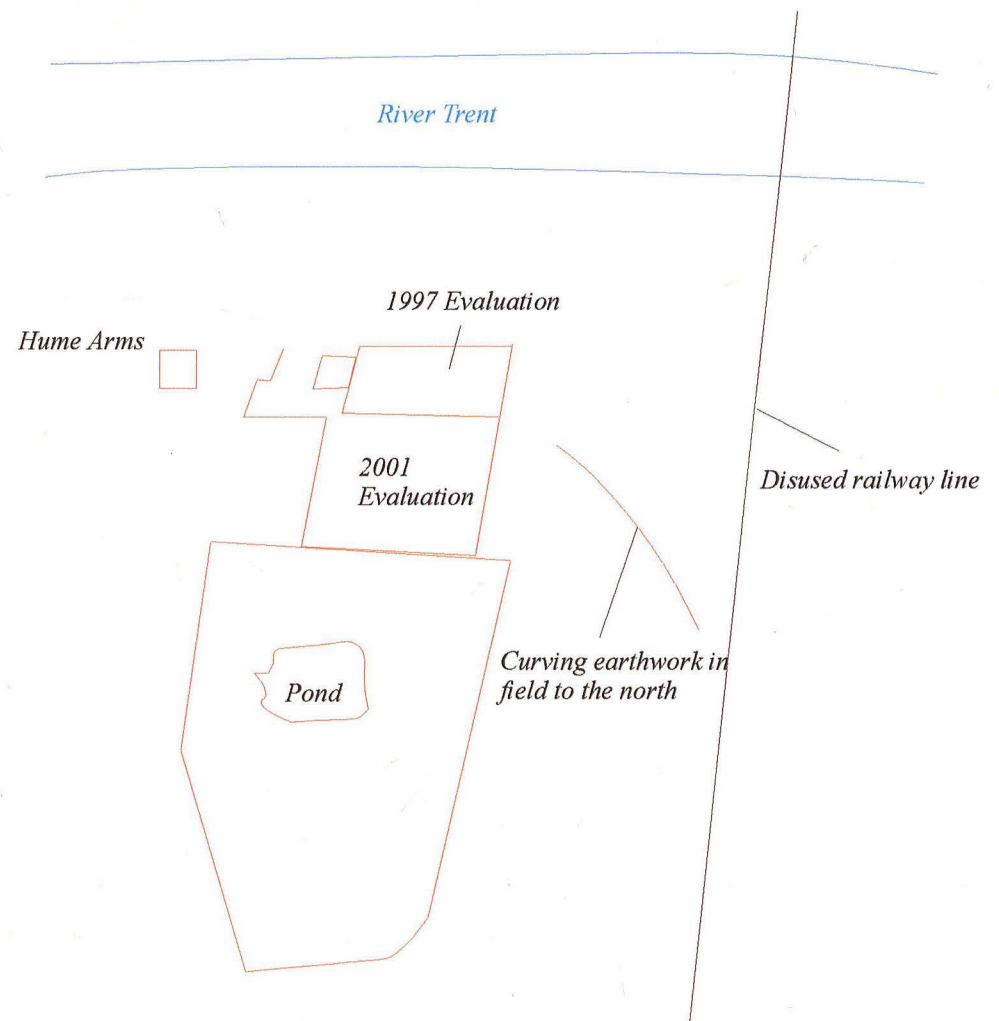
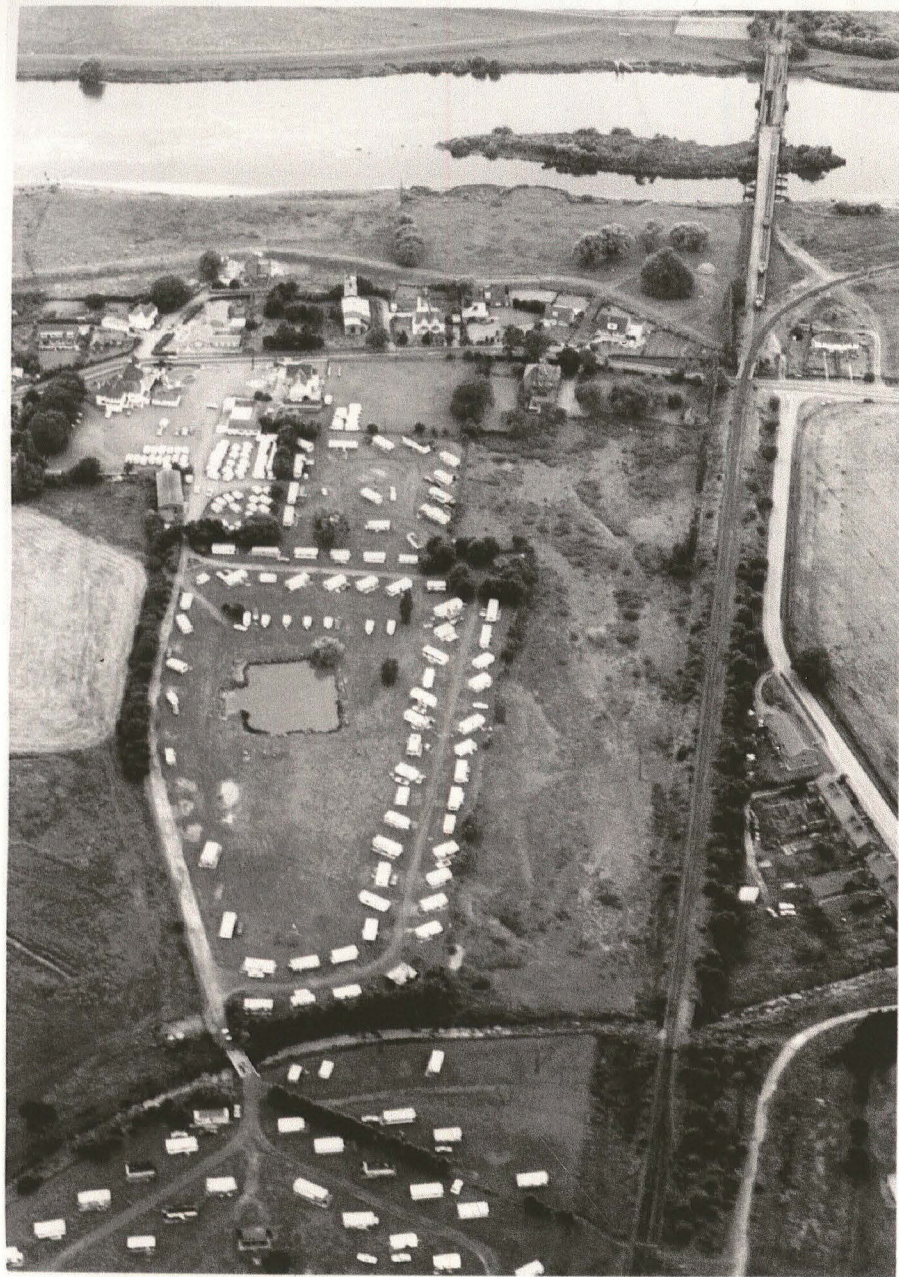


Fig 3. Aerial view of Torksey showing the former caravan park on the site, looking west. Evaluation site comprised the small caravan field at the top. Copy at Lindsey Archaeological Services, NMR ref. 2952/11. (P Everson July 1980).

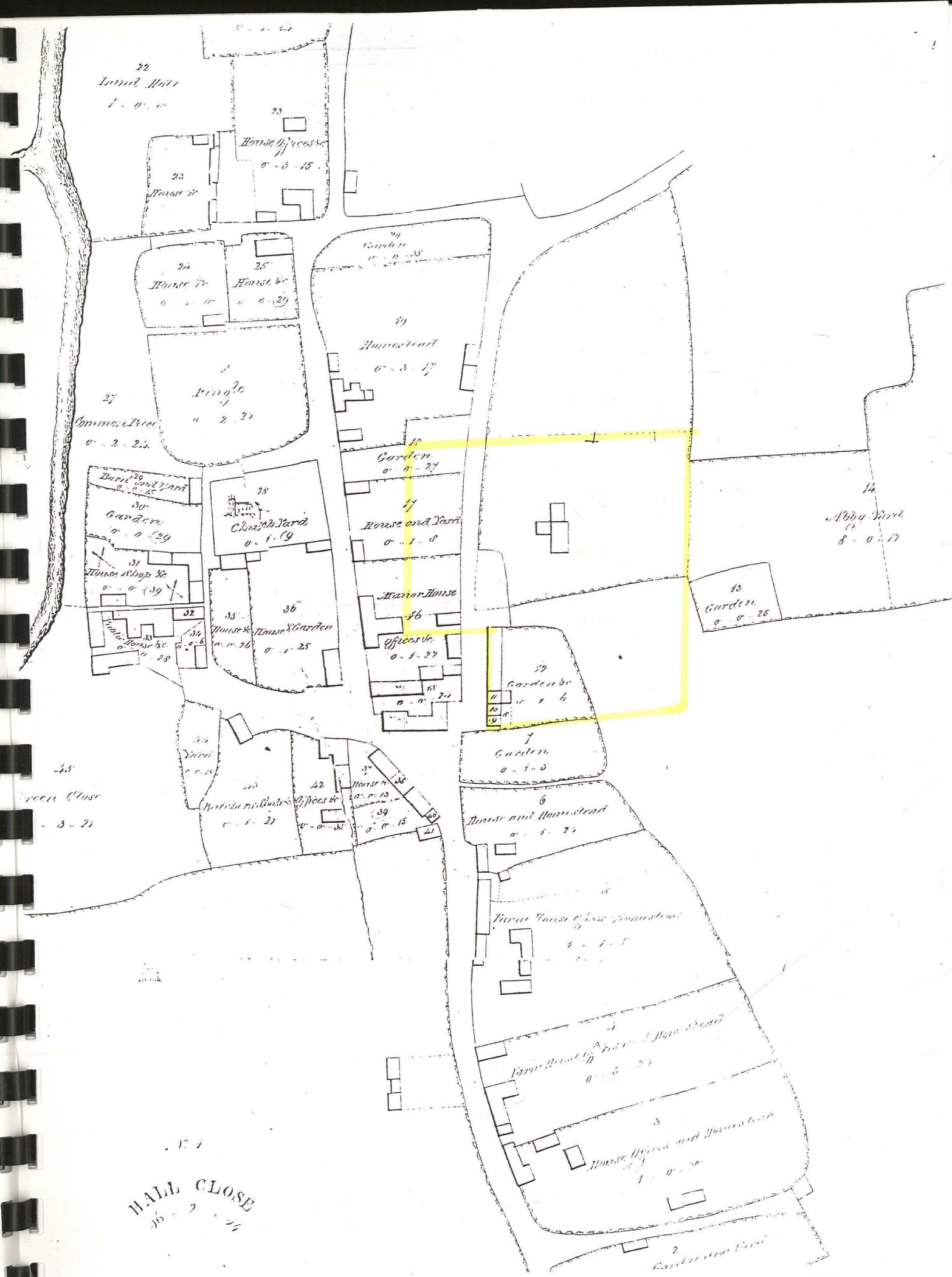


Fig. 4 Estate map of Torksey made in 1821, showing the original street layout. The building shown in the evaluation area lay west of evaluation Trench 4. (LAO ref. 3BNL15).

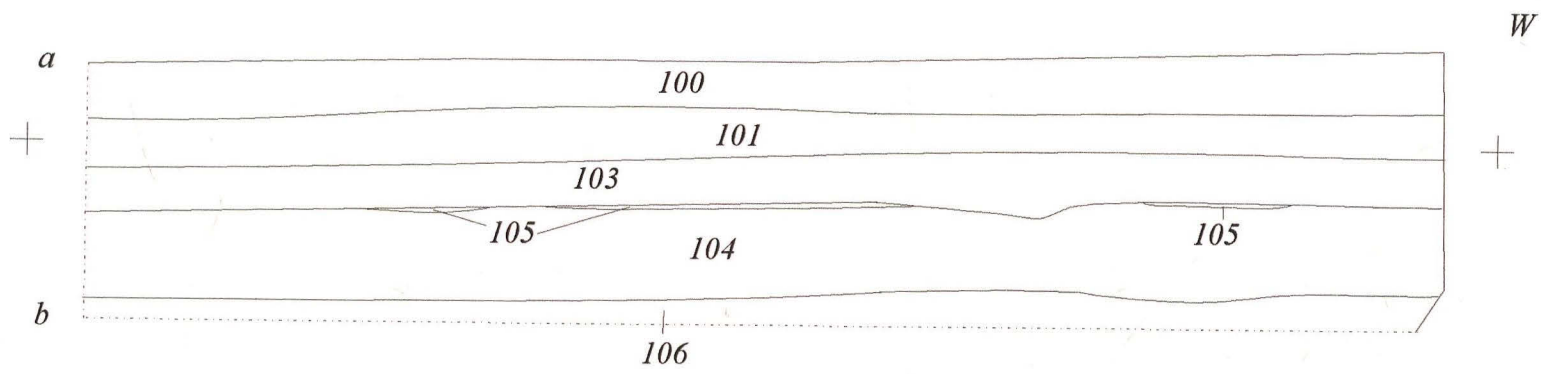
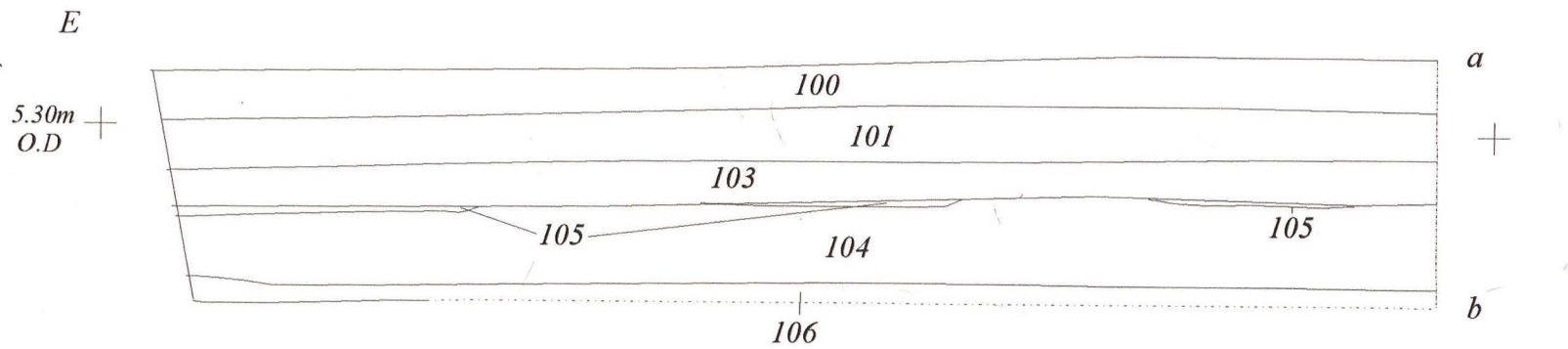


Fig. 5 Trench 1, Section

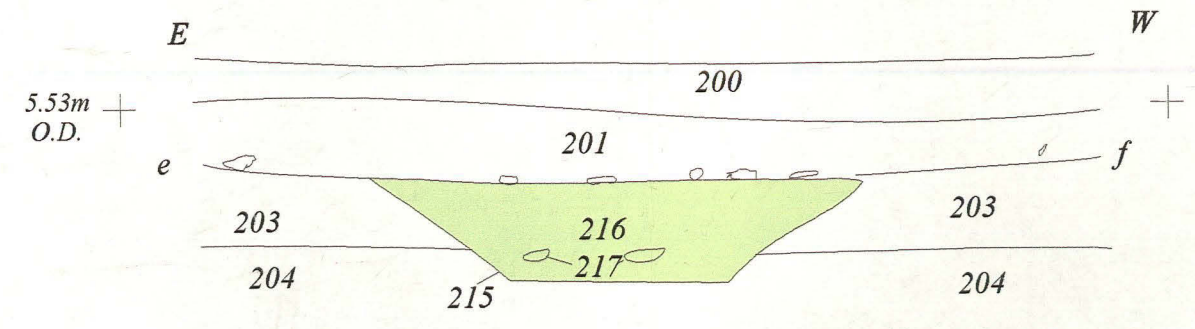
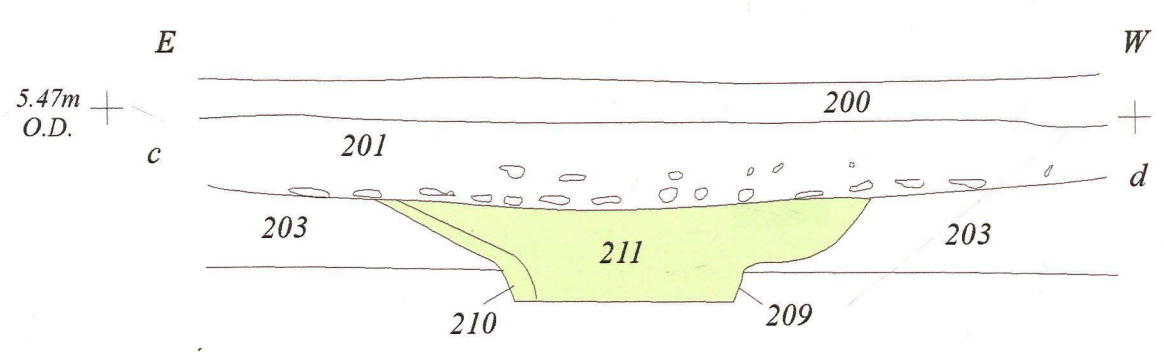
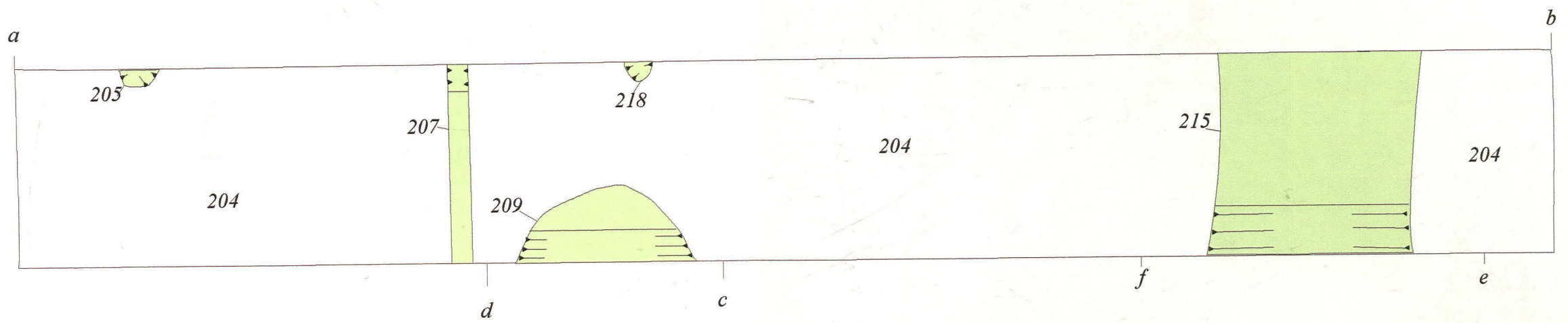
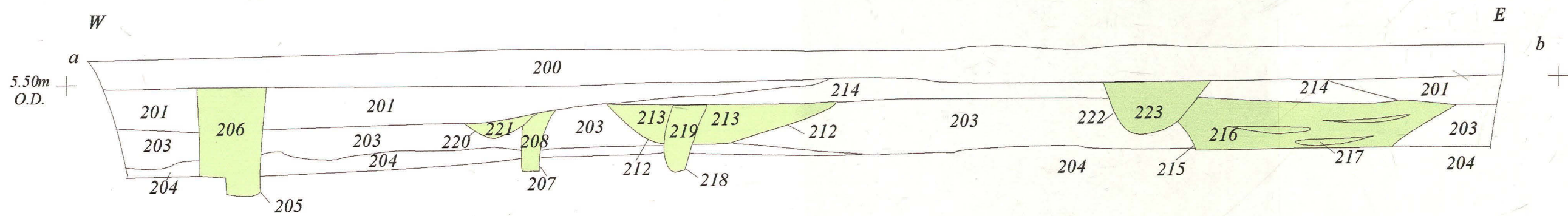
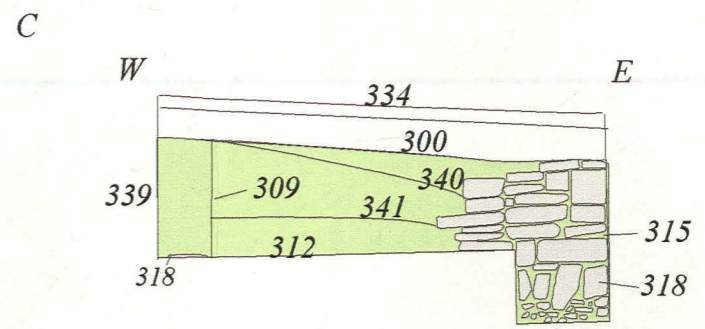
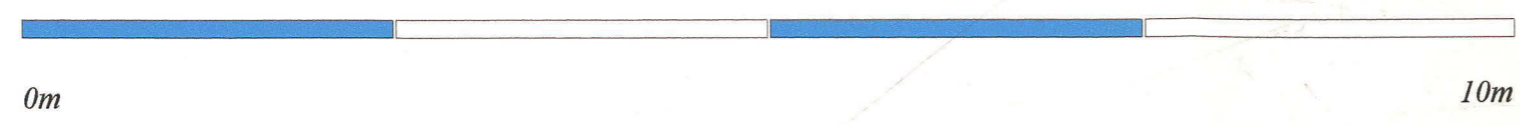
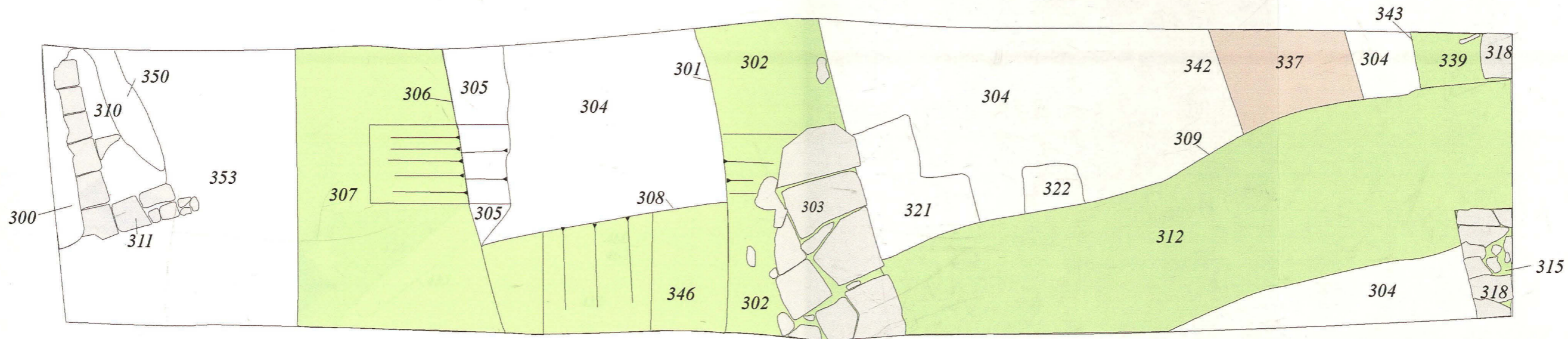
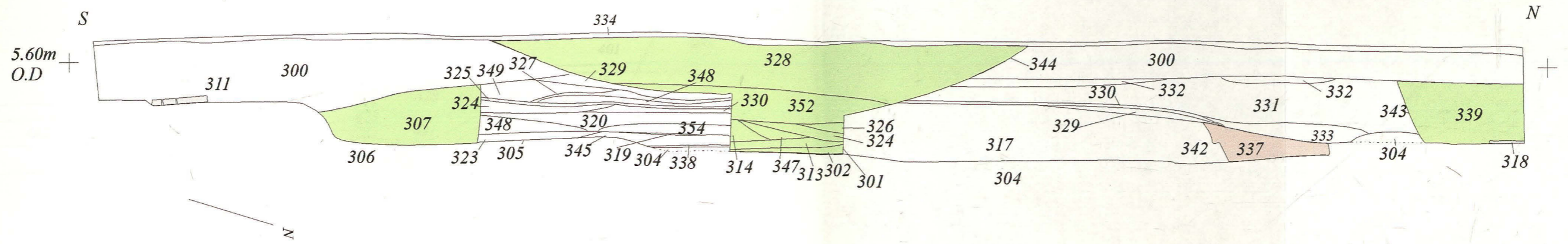


Fig. 6 Trench 2, plan and section



3
Fig. 7 Trench 4 plan and section

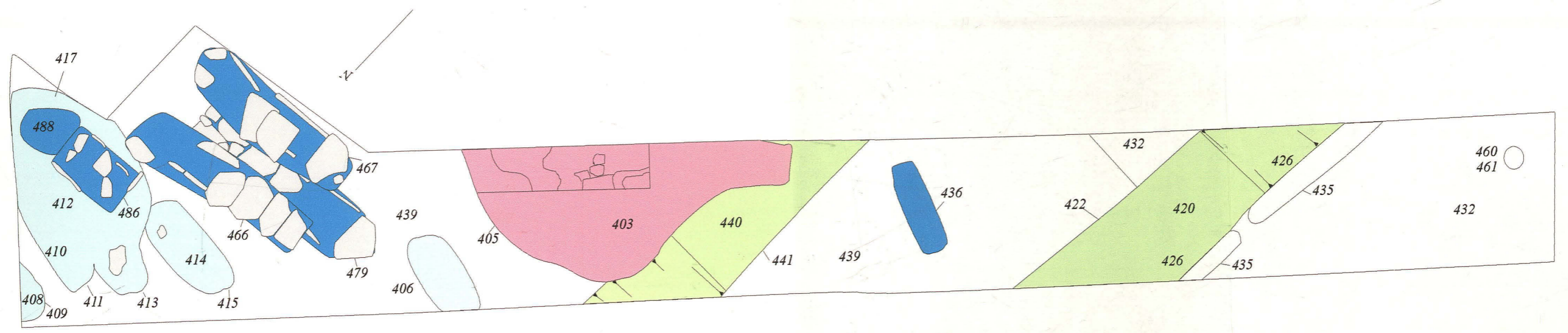
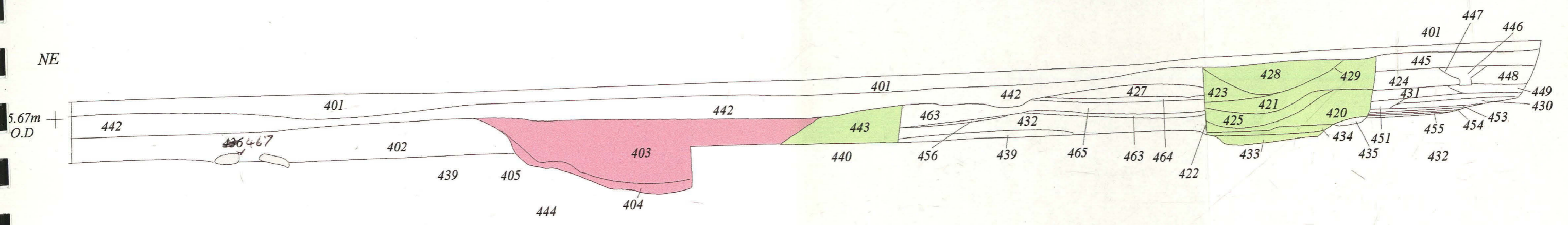


Fig. 8 Trench 4 plan and section

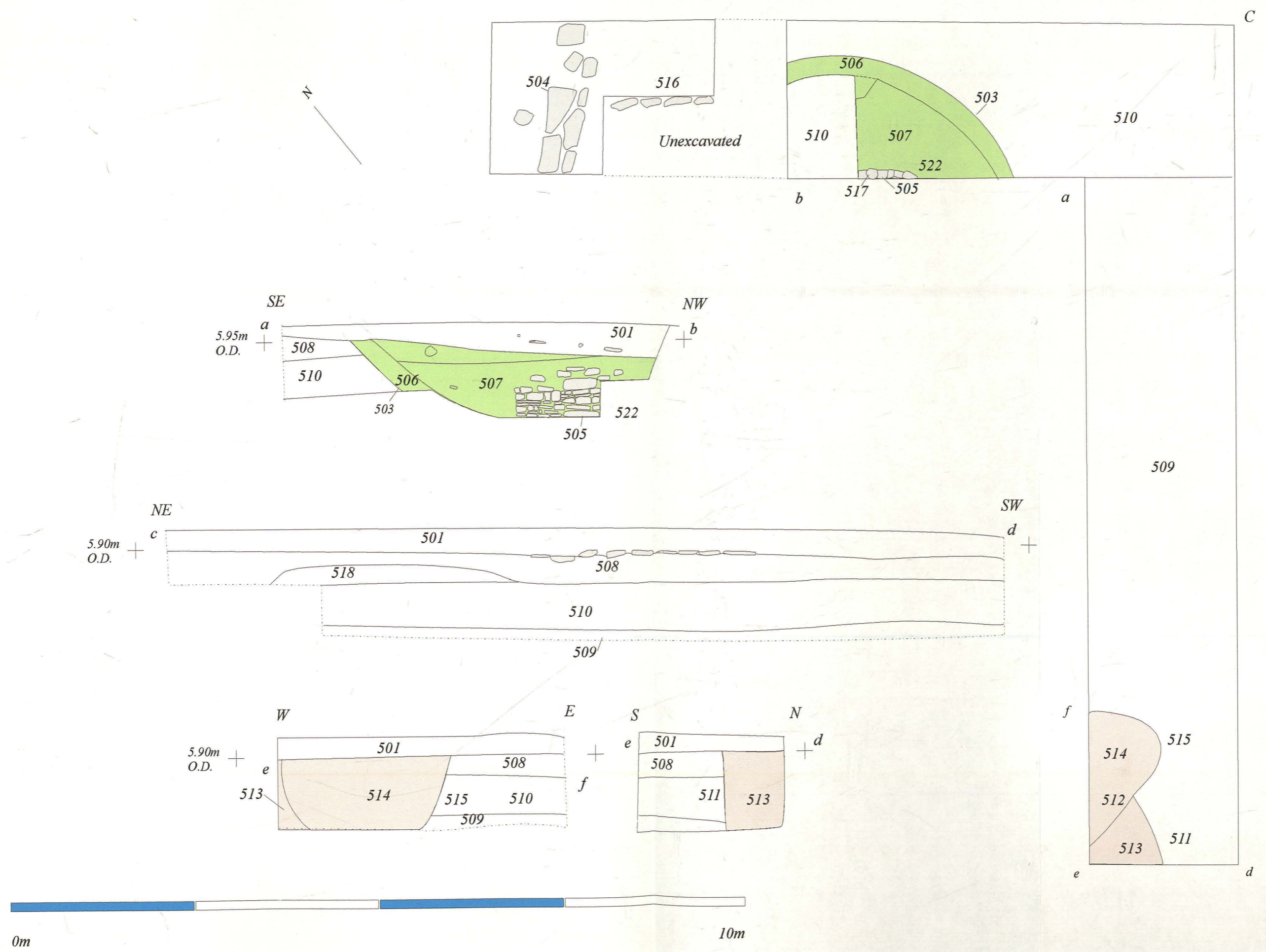


Fig. 9 Trench 5 Plan and sections

THE PLATES



PI. 1 General view of the site looking south-east with Trench 4 in the foreground. Note the old medical centre beyond the trench and the Hume Arms behind.

PI. 2 Trench 1, looking west with St Peter's church behind the trees.





Pl. 3 Trench 1, section. Horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 1m.

Pl. 4 Trench 1 west section.





Pl. 5 Trench 2, general view looking west

Pl. 6 Trench 2, pit 205. Vertical scale 1m.



Pl. 7 Trench 2, ditch 215. Scales 2m and 1m.

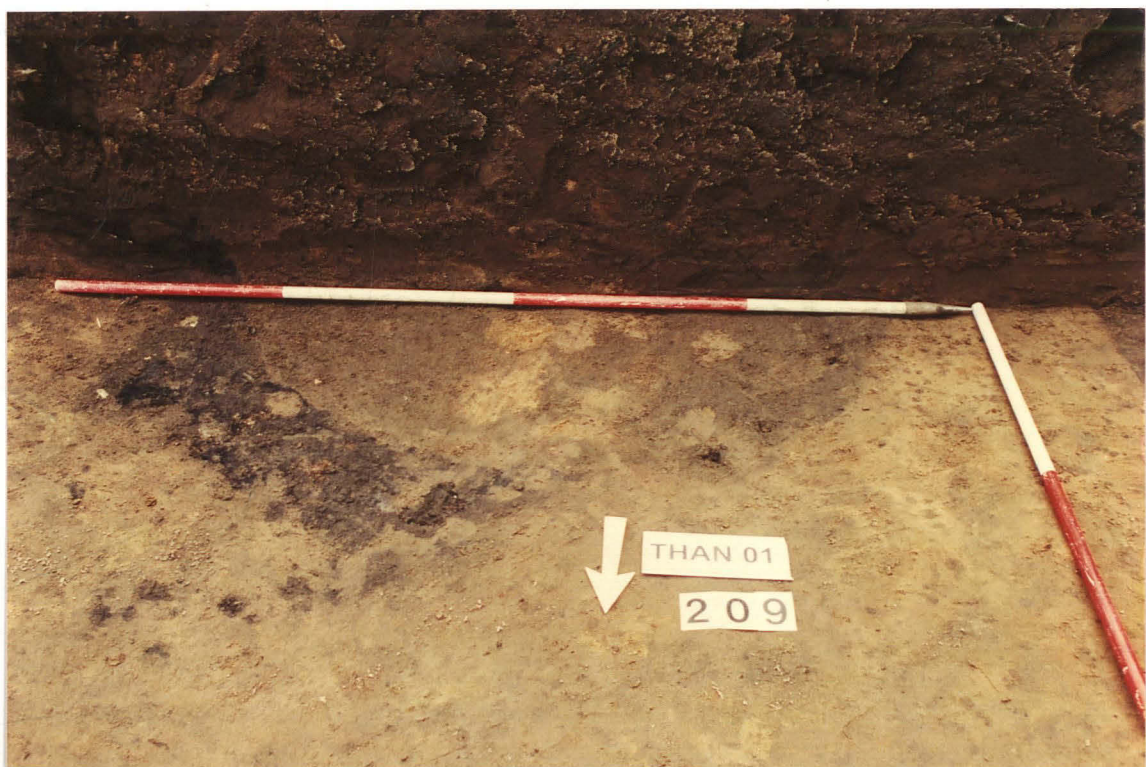
Pl. 8 Trench 2, slot 207 prior to excavation. Scale 1m.





Pl. 9 Trench 2, slot 207 after excavation. Scales 1m and 0.20m.

Pl.10 Trench 2, pit 209. Scales 2m and 1m.





PI.11 Trench 3, general view looking south. Scales 2m and 1m.

PI.12 Trench 3 section showing wall 303 together with rubble layer over the trench. Note the floor layers left (south) of wall and the wind blown sand on the right. Scales 2m and 1m.





Pl. 13 Trench 3, cut 301 containing wall foundations 303, flat limestone slabs on rubble.
Scale 0.20m.

Pl. 14 Stone slabs found on the spoilheap, presumed part of a threshold. Scale 0.20m.





Pl.15 Trench 3, wall 318. Note the off-set foundation course and the construction which is different from 303. Scale 1m.

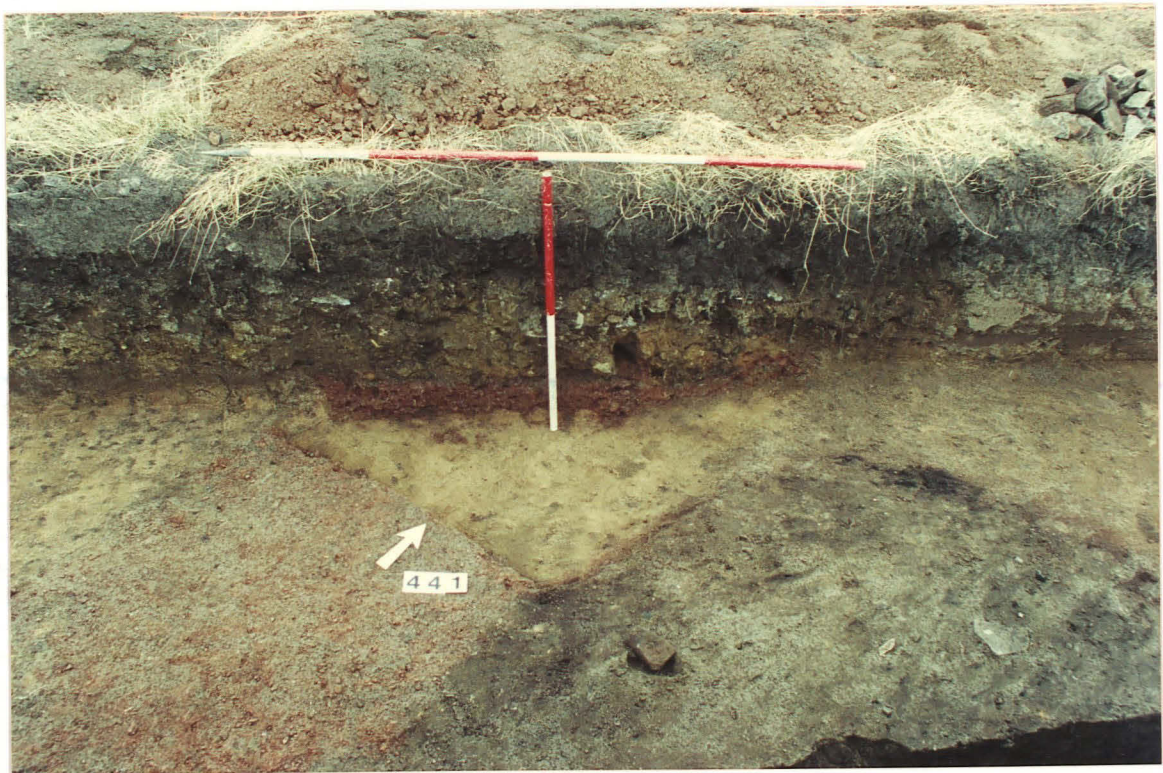


Pl. 16 Trench 4, general view looking south-west. Note stone cist graves in foreground, prior to extension of trench, and area of burning beyond ranging poles.



Pl. 17 Trench 4, possible limekiln 405, both scales 2m

Pl. 18 Trench 4, robber trench 441, note red sand fill. Scales 2m and 1m.

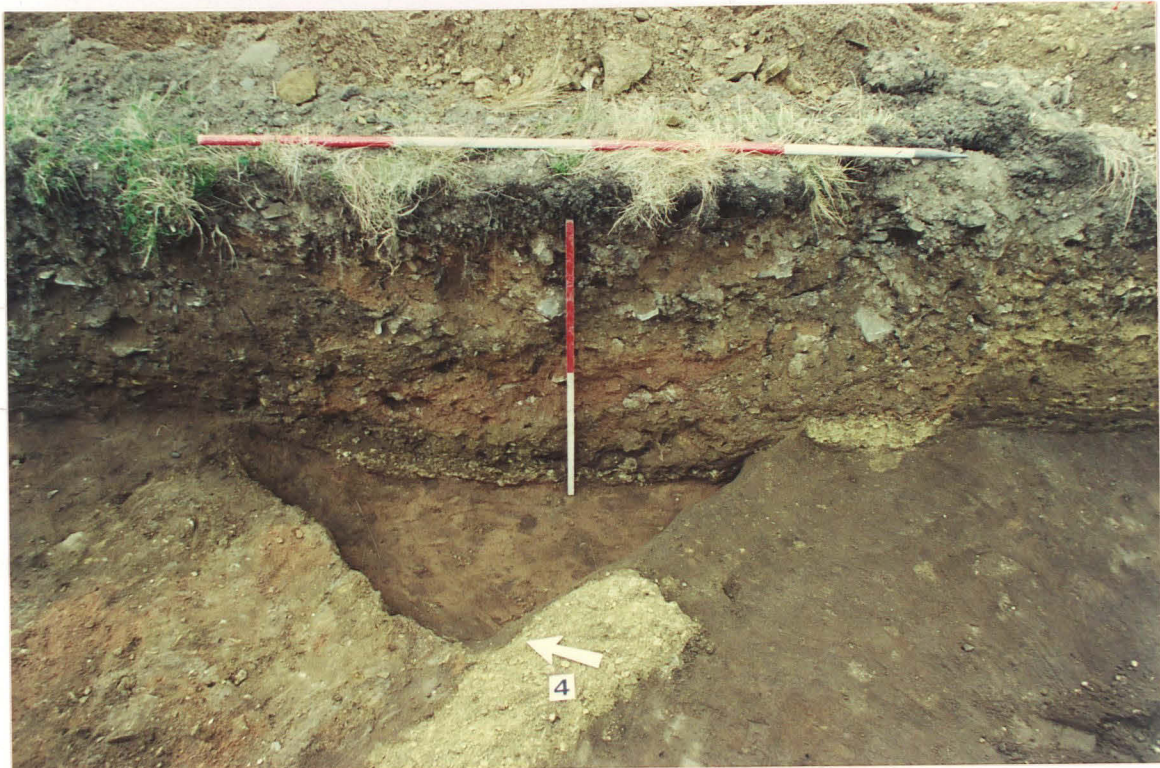




Pl.19 Trench 4, general view looking north-east with robber trench 422 in foreground.
Scales 2m and 1m.



Pl. 20 Trench 4, robber trench 422. Scales 1m and 0.20m.



Pl. 21 Trench 4, detail of section through 422. Scales 2m and 1m.

Pl. 22 Trench 4, floor surfaces and pit/post hole 447. Scales 2m and 1m.





Pl. 23 Trench 4, capping stones of graves 467 (foreground) and 474 (behind). Scales 2m and 1m.

Pl. 24 Trench 4, burial 469 in grave 467 and burial 466 in grave 474 . Scales 2m and 1m.

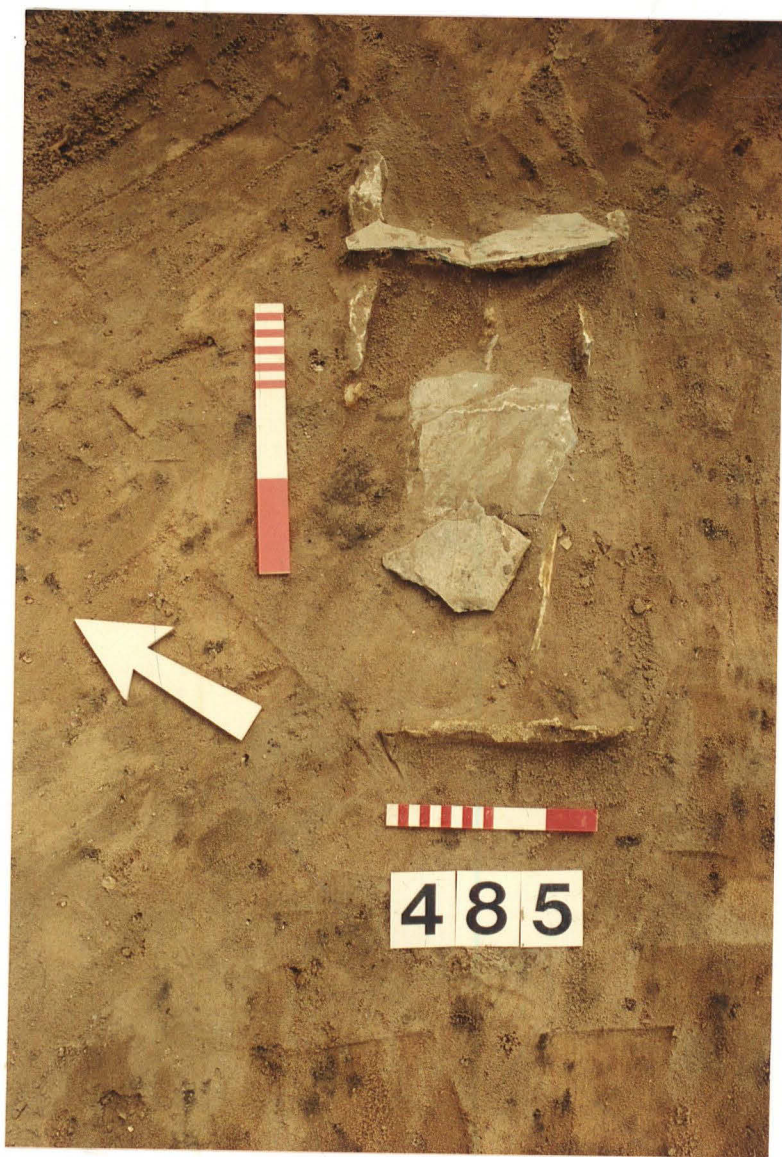




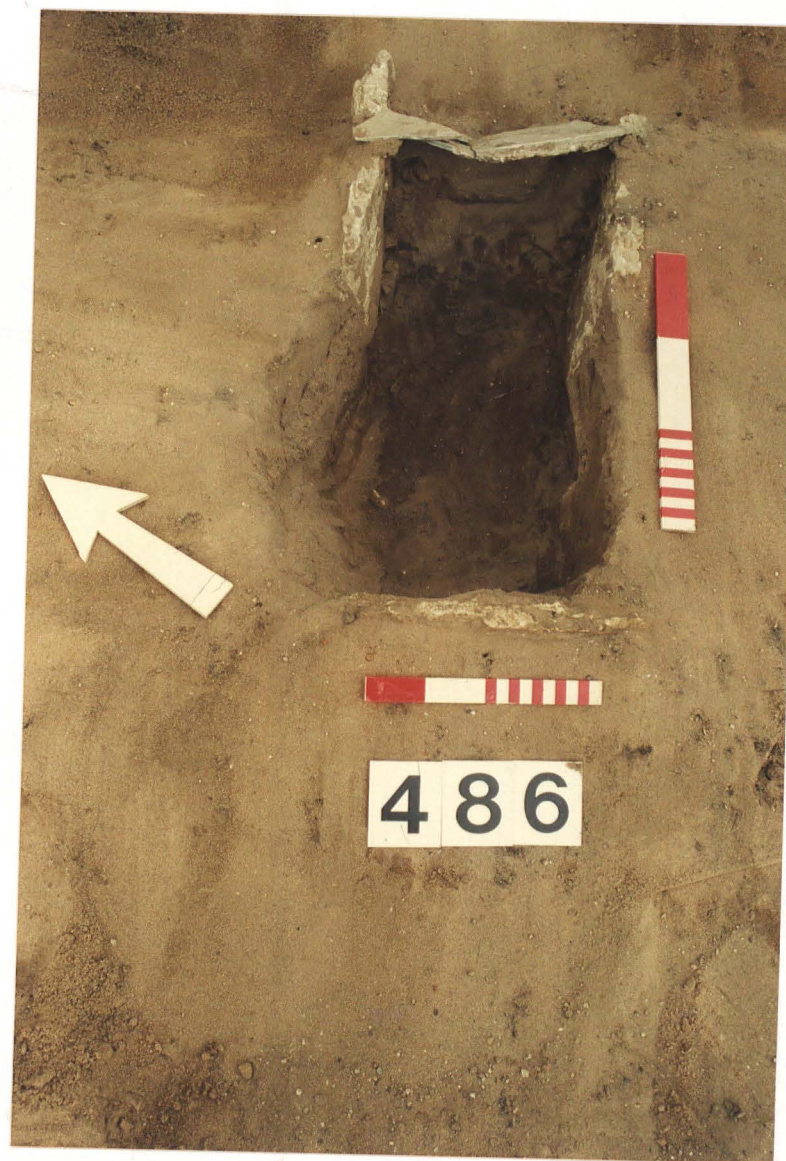
Pl. 25 Trench 4, burial 479 in cist grave 482 showing capping stones to the cist. Scales 1m and 0.20m.



Pl. 26 Trench 4, burial 479. Scales 1m and 0.20m.



Pl. 27 Trench 4, cist grave 485 with capping stones. Scales 0.20m.



Pl. 28 Trench 4, cist 485 excavated. Scales 0.20m



Pl. 29 Trench 4, burial 436. Scales 1m and 0.20m.

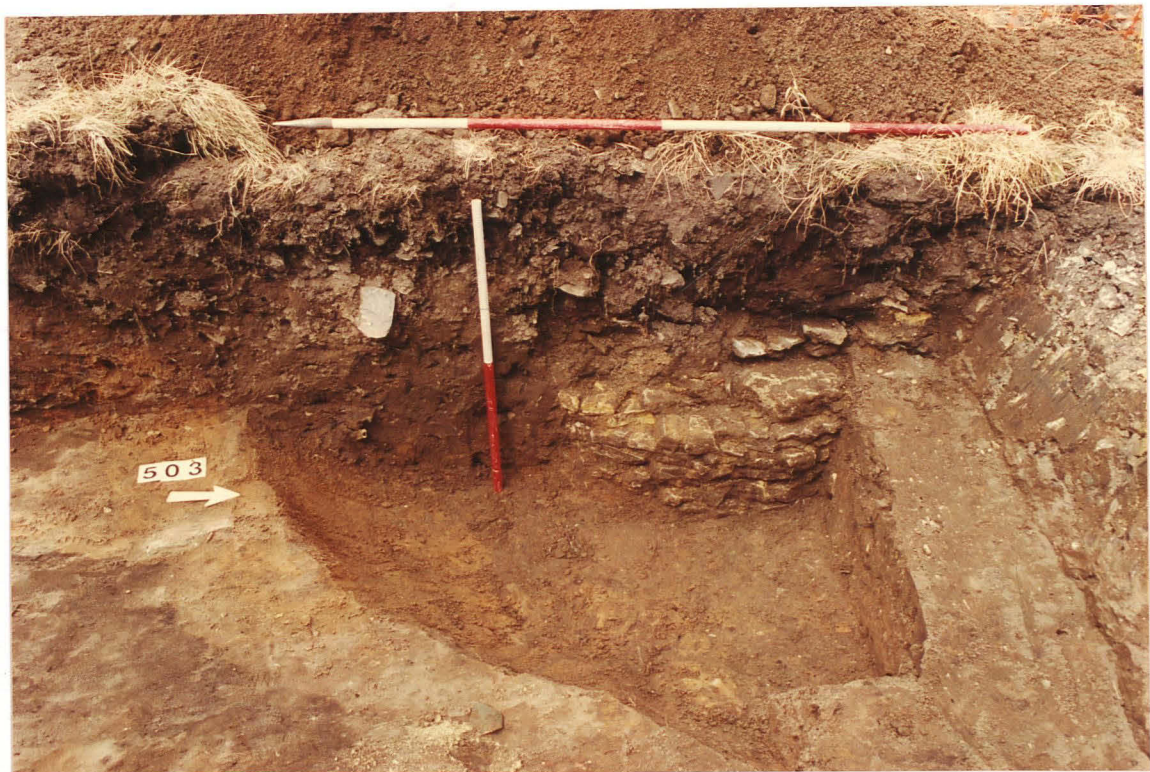


Pl. 30 Trench 5, modern wall 504. Scale 1m.



PI. 31 Trench 5, north south arm, looking south. Scales 2m and 1m.

PI. 32 Trench 5, well 503. Scales 2m and 1m.





Pl. 33 Trench 5, east west arm, looking west. Scales 2m and 1m.

Pl. 34 Bone comb found on spoilheap. Scale 0.20m.

