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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT
NORTHFIELD LANE,
WILLOUGHTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE

Work Undertaken For
Severn Trent Water Ltd

September 1994



A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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Extract from Criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken, during June and July 1994, on land to the north side of Northfield Lane, Willoughton, in response to a proposal for development of the site. It was anticipated that, by virtue of the proximity of a Romano-British settlement centred 100m to the northwest and prehistoric artefacts recovered from 300m to the south, the area of development could fall within a zone of prehistoric or Romano-British activity. The development could affect related deposits and, in consequence, fieldwalking and geophysical surveys were carried out. These examinations were supplemented by an evaluation excavation and five trenches were opened to test for the presence and survival of archaeological deposits.

Fieldwalking recovered a small amount of Roman pottery that probably constitutes spread from the adjacent Romano-British settlement. Quantities of slag were also retrieved. This material, associated with the construction of the sewage plant, was responsible for some of the anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey.

Drains, pipes and a probable stream culvert were also recognised by the geophysical examination. Additionally, geological conditions on the east bank of the stream were responsible for major electrical resistance deviations.

Excavation revealed stream and bog deposits across much of the area. Roman pottery was recovered from these layers, though no archaeological features were encountered. Containing environmental material, these sediments relate to a watercourse that formerly crossed the area. Recorded on maps as early as 1769, this stream had been culverted by 1953. Hillwash covered the water-borne deposits. Recent agricultural use of the land was

represented by field drains and ploughsoil that constituted the modern ground surface.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken northwest of Willoughton on land adjacent to Northfield Lane. This was in respect of a planning application submitted by Severn Trent Water Ltd for a proposed construction of a reed bed at the sewage works, and in accordance with a brief set by the Archaeological Officer for Lincolnshire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Willoughton lies 18km north of Lincoln in West Lindsey District, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). Spanning the western scarp edge of the Jurassic limestone ridge, the parish dips from 70m OD at its eastern limit to below 20m OD on the clay lowlands in the west.

The sewage works are located half a kilometre northwest of Willoughton village, adjacent to the boundary with Blyborough parish. Centred on National Grid Reference SK92559373, the site of the proposed reed bed covers approximately one fifth of a hectare (Fig. 2).

A small stream valley, trending northwest-southeast encloses the proposed development site. Stixwould series pelo-alluvial gley soils on thin clayey alluvium over glaciofluvial material are located in the valley, with Ragdale Association pelo-stagnogley soils developed in chalky till immediately to the northeast and southwest (Heaven 1986, 27, 24).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Northfield Lane, Willoughton, lies in an area of archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to the medieval period.

Prehistoric activity is represented by a number of artefacts from the vicinity. A Mesolithic tranchet axe was recovered c. 250m to the south and a Bronze Age axe and associated flints were discovered 1km to the east. Flint artefacts have been recovered from fields immediately north of the site, in the adjacent parish of Blyborough. Located c. 800m to the north, cropmarks of a Bronze Age barrow cemetery have been revealed on aerial photographs (SMR50437, SMR50445).

Roman activity proximate to the proposed development area is represented by the location of a settlement 100m to the northwest (SMR50550). Masonry building remains have been recovered from the occupation site, which is surrounded by an extensive spread of artefacts. Further afield, a tessellated (mosaic) pavement was discovered at a small villa or farmstead c. 1km to the northwest of the present investigation site (Archaeological Project Services 1994).

The surviving earthworks at Temple Garth, close to the centre of Willoughton village are the remains of a medieval preceptory, built and managed by the Knights Templars in the 13th century (Page 1906, 210). Adjacent to the village on the east are more earthworks, this time the site of a moated manor or grange belonging to the priory of St Nicholas of Angers (*ibid.*, 241).

Medieval pottery has been recovered from fields adjacent to the site.

3. AIMS

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. The purpose of this identification and assessment of deposits was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment that could then be integrated with any proposed development programme.

4. METHODS

4.1 Geophysical Survey

The examination area was gridded out into a rectangular block 70m by 30m and surveyed using a fluxgate gradiometer and a resistance meter. Readings were logged at 0.5m intervals along traverses 1m apart. Processing and printing of the recorded data was carried out on computers (Figs. 3 and 4).

4.2 Fieldwalking Survey

A rectangular area, corresponding to the geophysical layout was walked on the 9th June. All finds were recovered and plotted (Fig. 5) using a total station electronic distance meter.

4.3 Trial Trenching

Five trenches were opened (Fig. 6) and selected deposits partially or fully excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their nature. The trenches were located to provide sample coverage of the entire development site in order to evaluate the potential survival of archaeological deposits and features across the area. Trenches were positioned to investigate anomalies registered on the

geophysical surveys. Additionally, the trenches were distributed evenly across the site, in order to provide a representative view of conditions and deposits across the entire area.

All five trenches were opened by machine to the surface of undisturbed layers, then cleaned and excavated by hand. A sounding to a maximum depth of *c.* 1.5m below the present ground surface was excavated by hand in Trench A. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

5. ANALYSIS

5.1 Geophysical Results

Results obtained using the gradiometer (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford, 1994) feature three parallel linear responses crossing the site. Two of these trended northwest to southeast and the third entered the investigation area from the south before turning to the west. Joining with the most easterly member of the parallel group was a further linear anomaly. These were interpreted as recent land drains or pipes, though one is certain to be a conduit following an old stream bed. To the east of the investigation area, two magnetic deviations, tentatively identified as pits, were recorded (Fig. 3).

Results from the resistance survey show low background readings over most of the site, except for a small area to the east where there was a marked increase. This coincides with a slight break in slope and is likely to be a geological phenomenon (Fig. 4).

Although an archaeological interpretation for the geophysical anomalies cannot be ruled out, they are likely to be either recent

or natural in origin.

5.2 Fieldwalking Results

Finds recovered from the fieldwalking show an apparent random distribution of a wide range of material from the entire site. Most common elements were pieces of modern drain pipes and slag. Fragments of ceramic pipe support the known use of drainage in this field. The slag, concentrated along the west and north boundaries of the area, derives from the construction of the sewage works.

Isolated fragments of medieval and post-medieval pottery were also observed again in a fairly random scatter.

A few sherds of Romano-British pottery were also recovered and probably represent the spread of material from the known settlement area to the northwest (Fig. 5).

5.3 Excavation Results

Records of the deposits identified in the evaluation were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them. A stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced and phased. Two phases were identified during the evaluation:

- Phase 1 Natural deposits
- Phase 2 Modern deposits

5.3.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Layers of clay and sands (6, 14, 18, 23) were encountered in four of the five trenches, the exception being Trench C. Considered to be natural deposits of alluvial origin, the surface of these layers sloped naturally from the northeast where they were encountered at *c.* 27.7m OD,

down to c. 26m OD at the west and c. 26.5m on the southeast side of the area (Figs. 7, 8, 9).

Towards the eastern end of the investigation area, and above the basal clay in Trench D, was a moderately pebbly dark sandy clay (17). Containing fine organic matter and charcoal fragments, this is also considered to be alluvium (Fig. 8). However, the quantity and variety of inclusions suggests that this material was deposited in a higher energy environment than the underlying layers. A moderate quantity of Romano-British pottery of 4th century date, including a large piece of a Dales Ware jar (Fig. 10), was recovered from this deposit.

Above this pebbly material, and seen in the other trenches, were layers of clays (5, 11, 12, 13, 19, 22). In Trench A, a sequence of these deposits (11, 12, 13) was observed, the middle layer being a blue-grey clay. All these deposits are considered to be alluvial in origin. A small quantity of Romano-British pottery of 2nd-4th century date was recovered from these deposits.

5.3.2 Phase 2 Modern deposits

Above the final phase 1 alluvial layers, and observed in every trench, were grey or brown silty clay deposits (2, 4, 10, 21, 24). Containing occasional stones and fragments of land drain, these layers are considered to be hillwash.

Scoring the top of these silty clay deposits in Trench A was a narrow (0.2m) but deep (0.8m) linear cut (9). Filled with a grey clay silt (8), this is interpreted as a ploughmark.

In Trenches C and D, cutting the hillwash layers, were several narrow, linear features (16, 27, 29, 31). Filled with mixed deposits

(15, 26, 28, 30) and ceramic pipes, these are field drains (Fig. 9).

Covering the entire investigation area was a dark silty sandy clay ploughsoil deposit (1, 3, 7, 20, 25) that constituted the present ground surface.

6. DISCUSSION

Alluvial sands and clays occurred as natural deposits across the area (phase 1). These dipped sharply from the northeast to west and south, following the trend of the small valley that traversed the area.

At the southeastern corner of the investigation area was a clay layer that contained more and varied inclusions than generally seen elsewhere. This is considered to have been deposited in a stream.

Above this stream silting material, and occurring elsewhere across the site, were silty clays. One of these was blue-grey in colour, characteristic of deposition in standing water. As a result, these are also interpreted as alluvium, though formed in a bog or marshy environment (Plate 3).

Coarser clays and silts (phase 2), interpreted as hillwash, sealed these marsh deposits (Plate 2). Fragments of land drain included in these layers reveals their relative recent origination or transformation. Modern agricultural use of the land was represented by land drains and the ploughsoil that constituted the current ground surface (Plate 1).

Geophysical survey of the site identified several linear anomalies, interpreted as land drains or water pipes. Crossed by Trench C, the feature responsible for the most prominent of these signals was not encountered during excavation. This

suggests that the cause of the magnetic deviation lay buried beneath the modern hillwash that provided the limit of excavation in this trench. Excavation established that a further signal, interpreted as a possible pit, was generated by a land drain. On the east side of the area, a change in the local topography coincides with, and is responsible for, a zone of high electrical resistance readings.

A thin scatter of artefacts was recovered during the fieldwalking. Much of the material was post-medieval in date, predominantly fragments of field drain and tile, though there was also a limited Romano-British complement. With the exception of slag, which was associated with the construction of the present sewage plant, no concentrations of finds were recognised. Moreover, most, if not all, of the occupation debris could have derived from manuring scatter and the ploughing-up of old field drains.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex 4; see Appendix 5).

Period

Artefact scatters on and beyond the limits of settlement sites are a characteristic representation of the Roman period.

Rarity

Scatters of Romano-British occupation debris around the peripheries of known habitation sites are a common archaeological site-type.

Documentation

Records of archaeological and historical sites and finds made in the Willoughton/Blyborough area are kept in

the Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record and the relevant parish files of the Heritage Lincolnshire. A synopsis and synthesis of this evidence was produced in advance of the fieldwork reported here.

Group value

Absence of archaeological deposits in the development area assists in defining the limits of the adjacent Roman site. By virtue of this relationship, the investigation area possesses moderate group value.

Numerous Romano-British sites, including the Ermine Street Roman road and several occupation areas, are clustered in the general vicinity. Prehistoric remains also occur in the general area. The conjunction of these varied and multi-period sites confers moderate group value to the Romano-British settlement.

Survival/Condition

No archaeological deposits were encountered, consequently there is no level of survival to assess.

Environmental evidence, in the form of fine organic matter and charcoal, survived within the alluvium.

Fragility/Vulnerability

No archaeological deposits were identified, consequently, there is no vulnerability to assess.

However, environmental remains, known to occur on site, are vulnerable to the effects of development that will impact the area, possibly into natural strata.

Diversity

No archaeological deposits were encountered, consequently there is no diversity to assess.

Potential

No archaeological remains were identified during the investigation. Moreover, the thin and random distribution of artefacts collected during fieldwalking suggests that there is probably low potential for occupation remains being present on the site.

Environmental material of unknown date survives within the natural alluvial deposits but has been minimally examined and is, at present, poorly understood.

7.1 Site Importance

In summary, the criteria for assessment have established that the site is of limited local importance. Absence of archaeological deposits provides information on the extent of the adjacent Romano-British habitation area. Environmental remains present on site may contribute to the understanding of the Roman settlement.

8. EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNIQUES

The methods and strategies employed in the investigation proved to be effective in establishing that archaeological remains do not occur on the proposed development site.

Geophysical survey identified both natural and recent features, though no anomalies of archaeological origin were recognised.

Fieldwalking recorded a localised concentration of slag. Associated with the sewage works, this material was responsible for prominent geophysical anomalies in the same area. A thin and random scatter of pottery derives from the adjacent Romano-British settlement. However, this material lacked the

quantities or localised concentrations normally associated with settlement features.

Evaluation excavation determined that stream and bog type deposits exist on site but no archaeological features were identified.

9. CONCLUSIONS

This examination did not identify any archaeological deposits in the area south of the sewage plant at Willoughton.

Stream and bog or marsh type deposits, containing environmental material of unknown age, were recognised. These relate to a watercourse shown on maps from 1769 onwards, but culverted by 1953. Pottery of 3rd-4th century date occurred in these and overlying deposits, though no archaeological features were encountered.

Above these water-borne deposits were hillwash layers. Recent agricultural use of the land was represented by field drains and the ploughsoil that constituted the present ground surface.

Geophysical survey identified field drains or water pipes and, probably, the stream culvert. Additionally, geological characteristics on the east bank of the stream were also recognised by the geophysical survey.

A thin scatter of artefacts was recovered during fieldwalking. Only slag, associated with the sewage works, occurred in localised concentration. A small amount of Romano-British pottery was also retrieved. This material, originating from the adjacent Romano-British occupation site, could have derived from past scattering of manure and domestic waste on the fields.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to thank Andrew Shufflebotham of Severn Trent Water Ltd who commissioned the investigation and analysis. Mr Rowels Nickleson of the Limestone Farming Company kindly allowed access to the site. Steve Haynes coordinated the evaluation and Dave Start edited this report. Dr Helen Keeley provided an assessment of the environmental potential of the site. Barbara Davies (City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit) reported on the Roman pottery. Thanks are also due to John Walker of Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust.

11. PERSONNEL

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Supervisors: Paul Cope-Faulkner;
Mark Dymond
Site Assistants: David Brown;
Heather Knight; Fiona Walker
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Illustration: Denise Buckley; Paul
Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analysts: Paul
Cope-Faulkner; Gary Taylor

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of the Counties of England

13. ABBREVIATIONS

Numbers prefixed with 'SMR' are the
primary reference numbers used by the
Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments
Record.

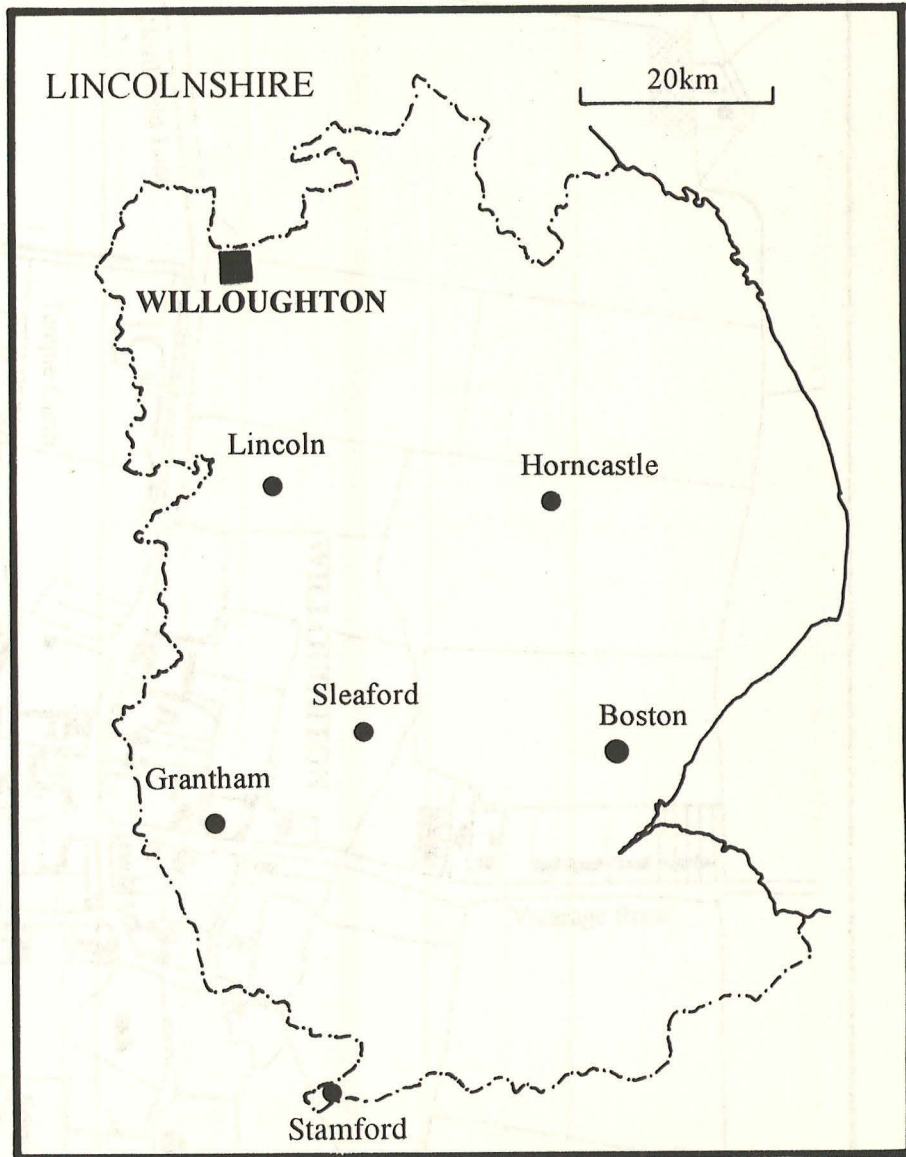
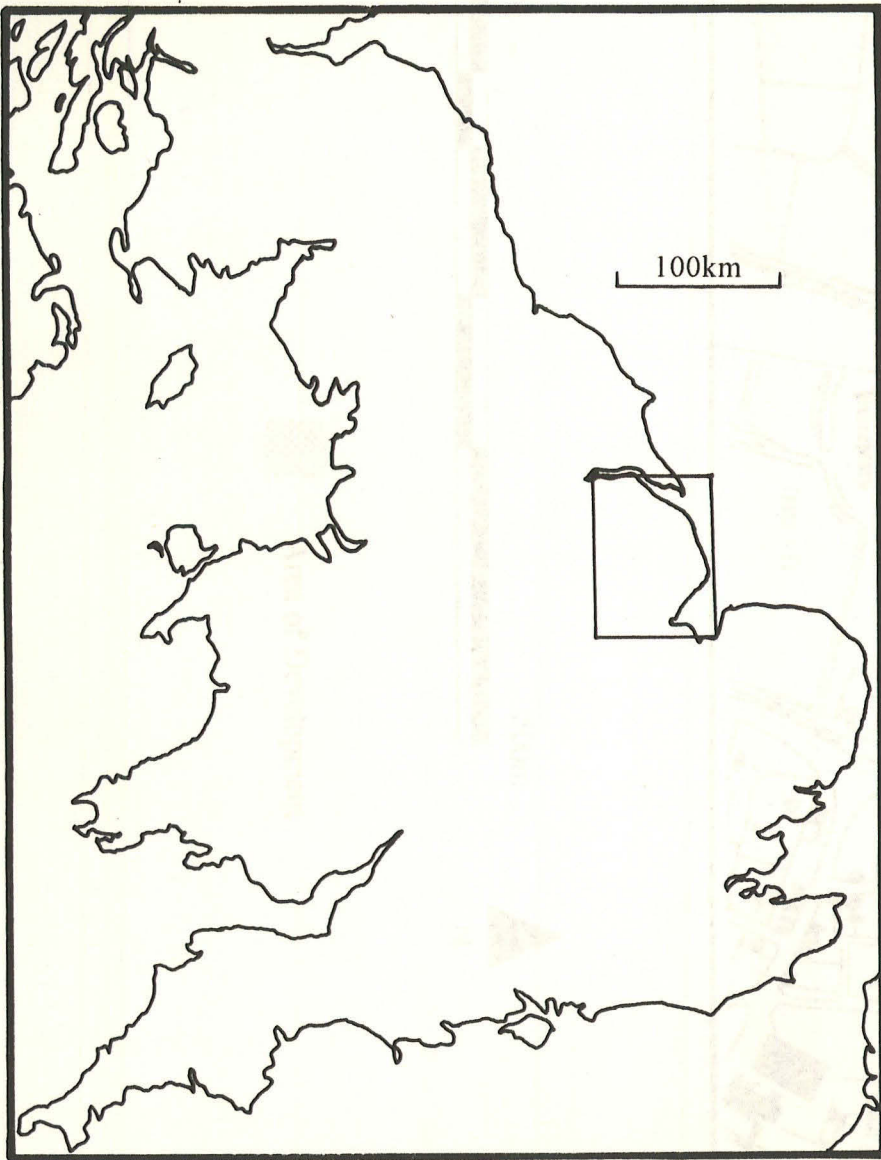
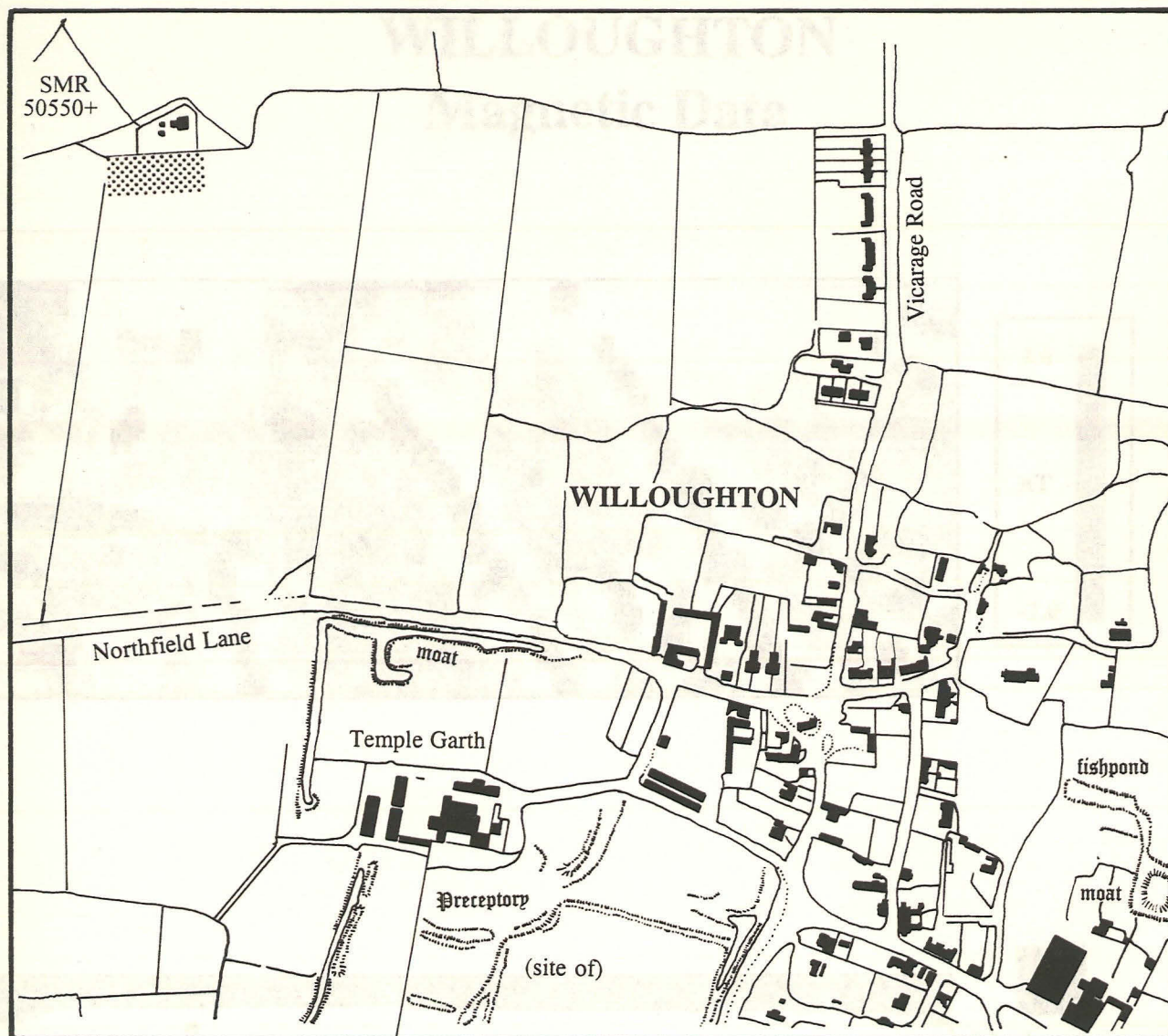


Fig. 1 General Location Plan

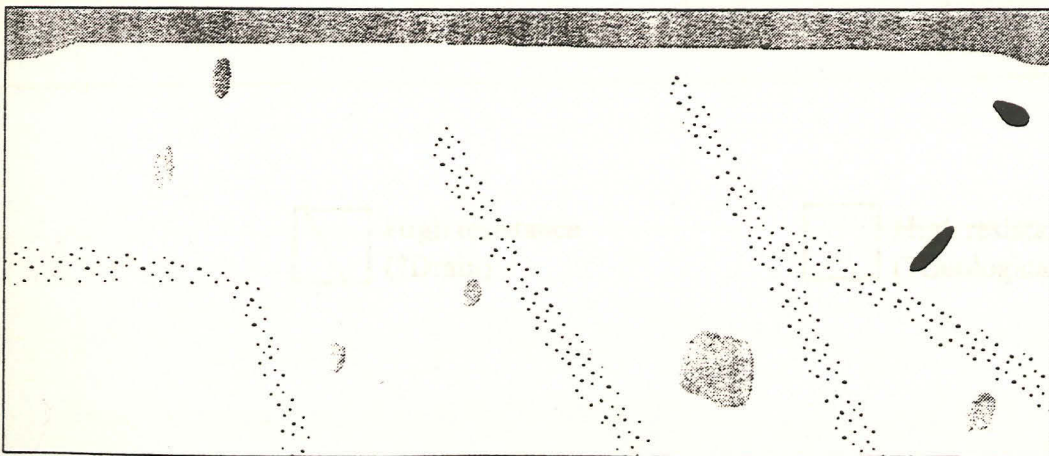
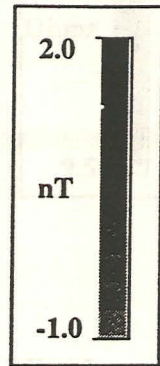
Fig. 2 Site Location Plan



Area of Development

Fig. 3 Geophysical Examination, Results of Magnetometer Survey

WILLOUGHTON
WILLOUGHTON
Magnetic Data






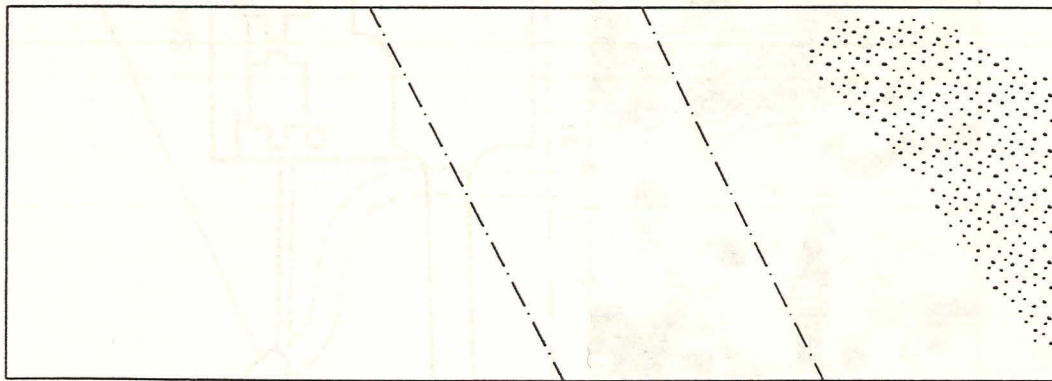
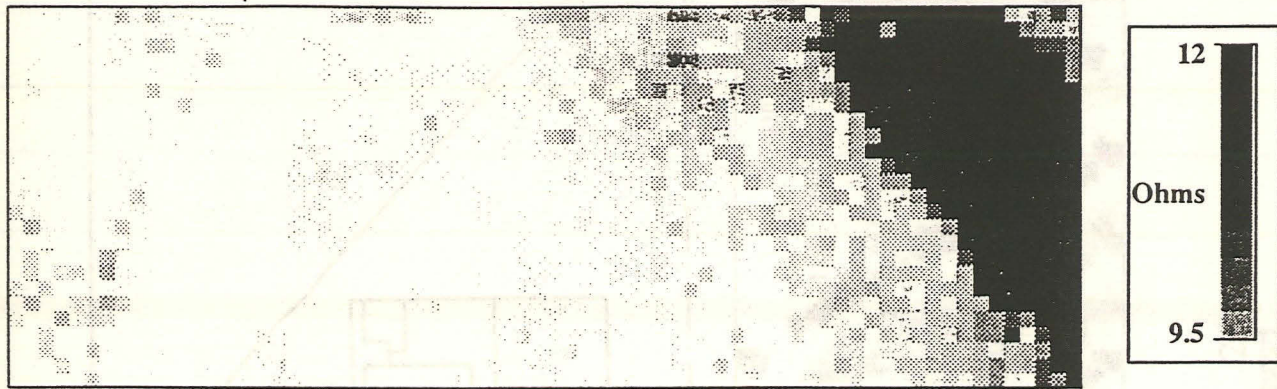
-  ?Archaeology
-  ?Land drain/pipe
-  Ferrous Disturbance



Fig. 4 Geophysical Examination, Results of Resistivity Survey

WILLOUGHTON Resistance Data



High resistance
(?Drain)

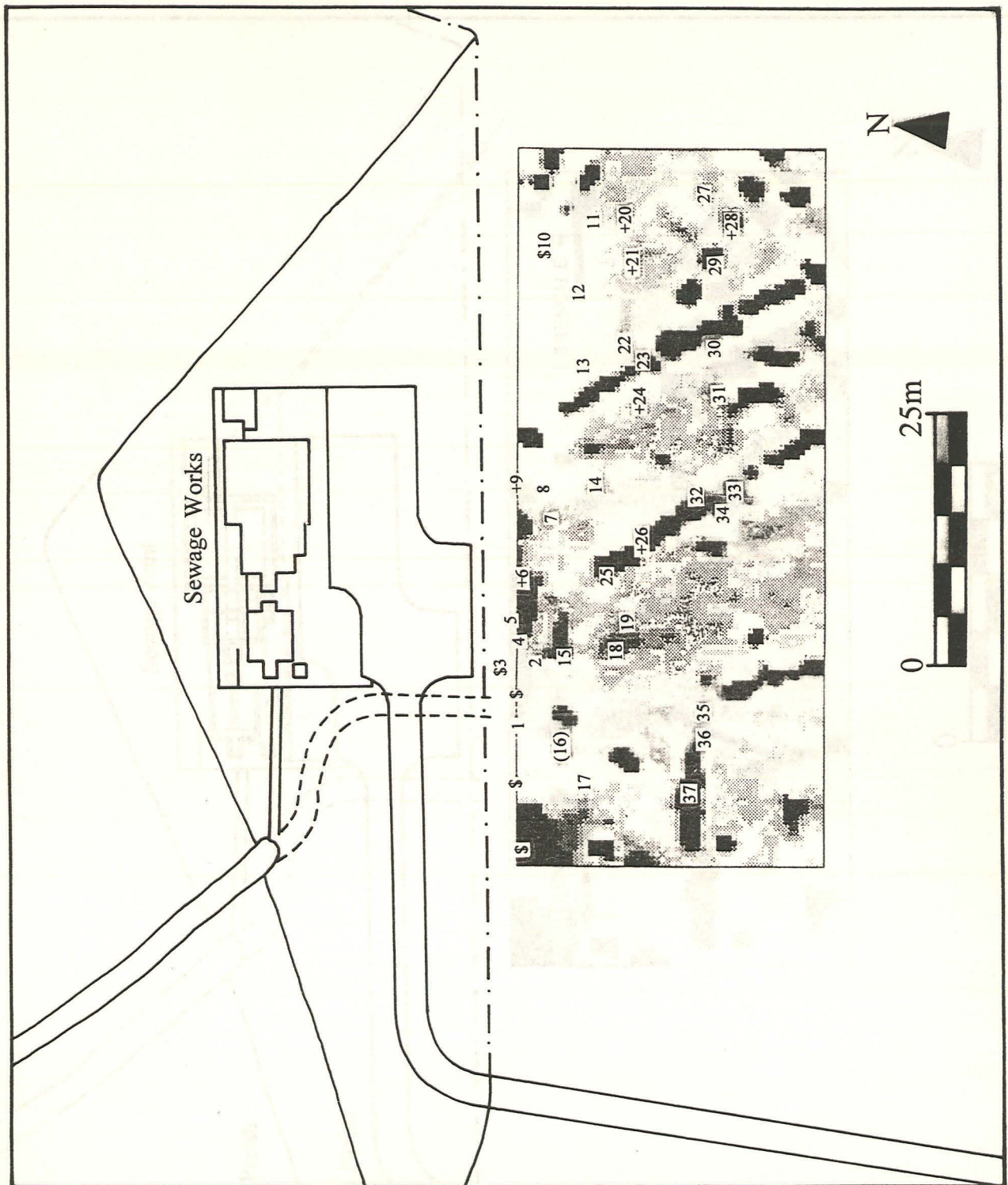


High resistance
(?Geological)



0 m 20

Fig. 5 Fieldwalking Results, superimposed on results of magnetometer survey



KEY

- +28 Roman Pottery
- \$ Slag
- (16) Medieval Pottery

Other Finds are Modern, generally field drain or tile

Fig. 6 Trench Location Plan, superimposed on results of magnetometer survey

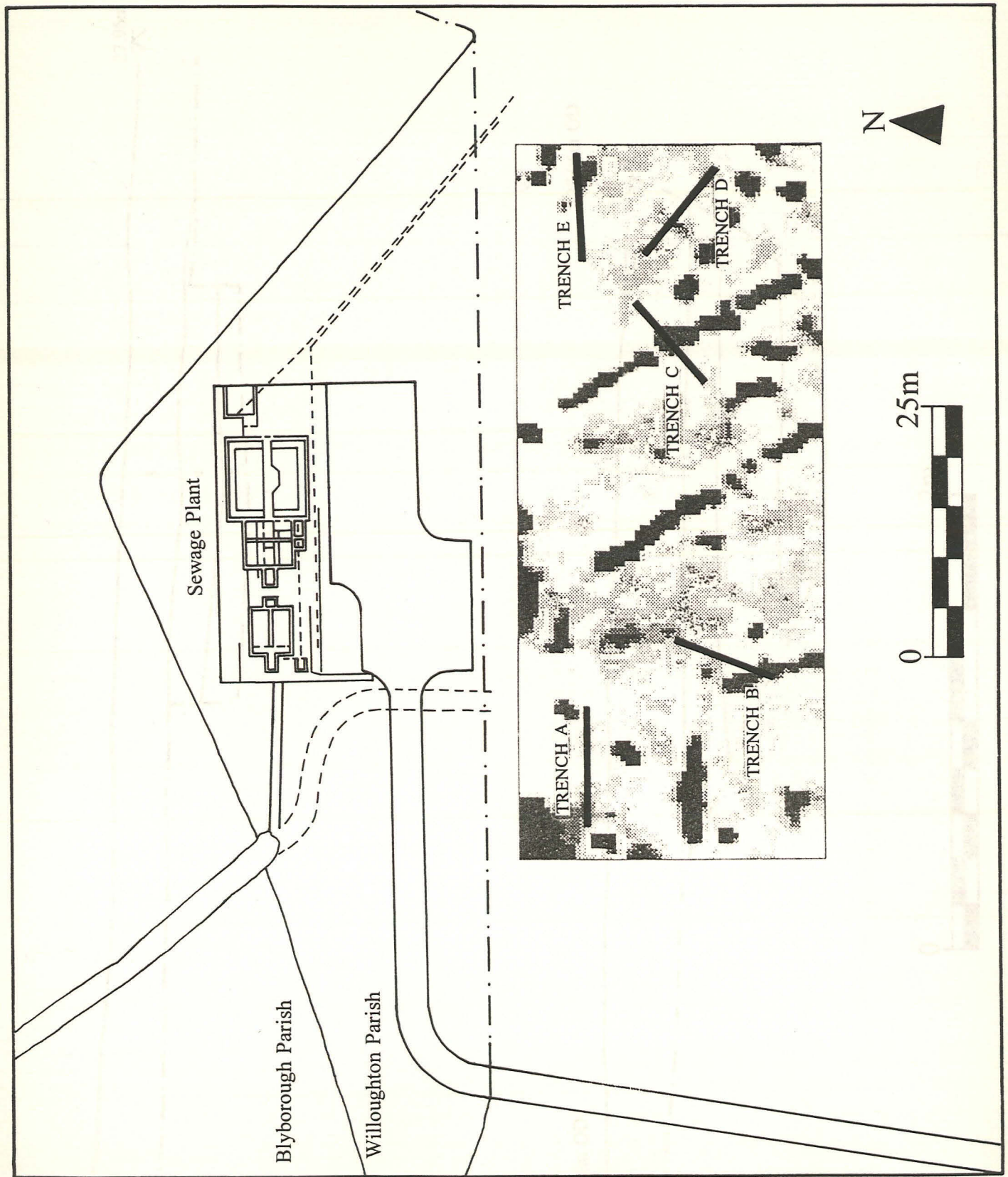


Fig. 7 Section of Trench E

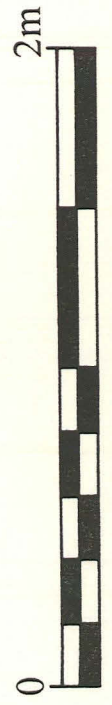
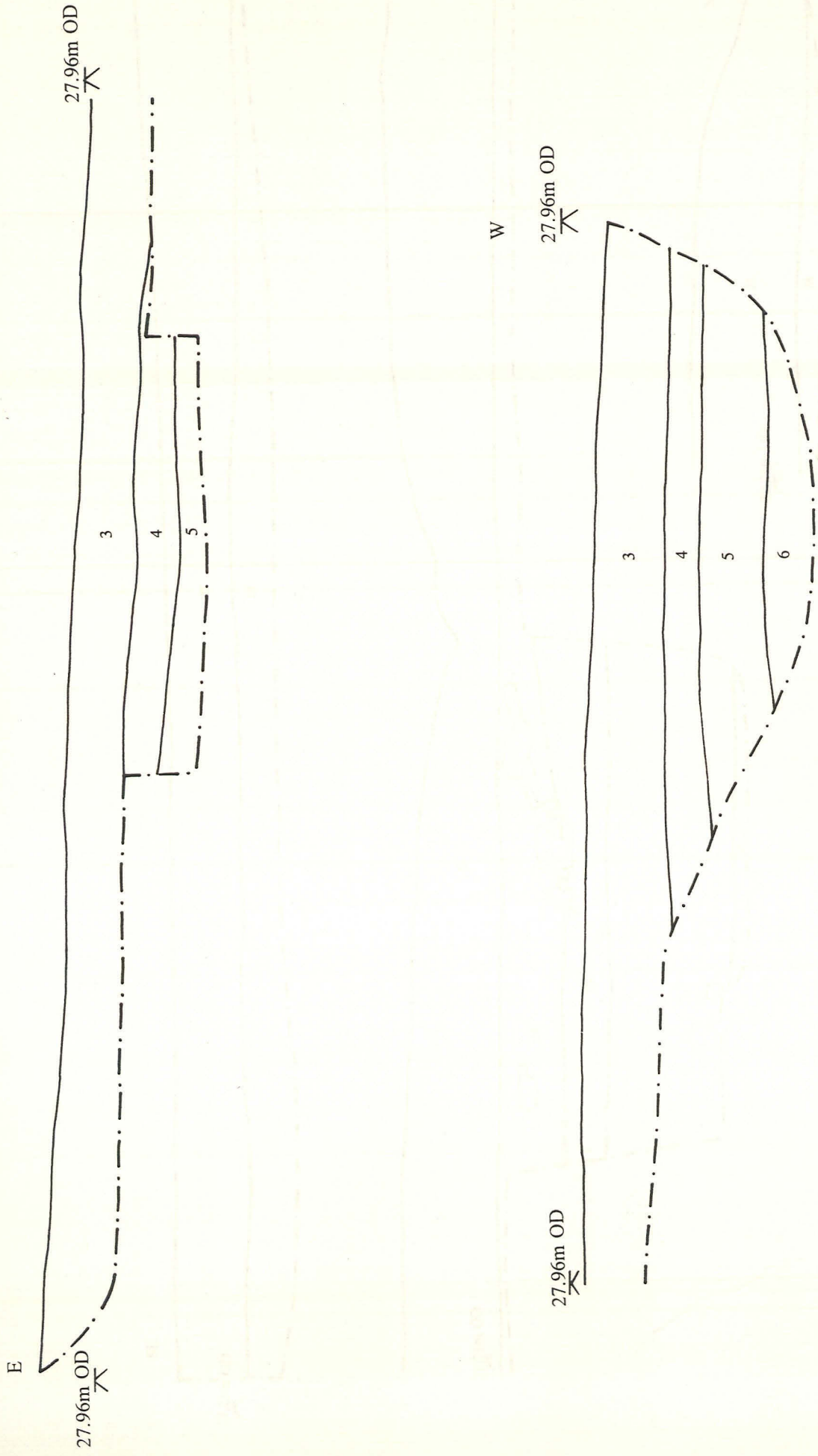


Fig. 8 Section of Trench D

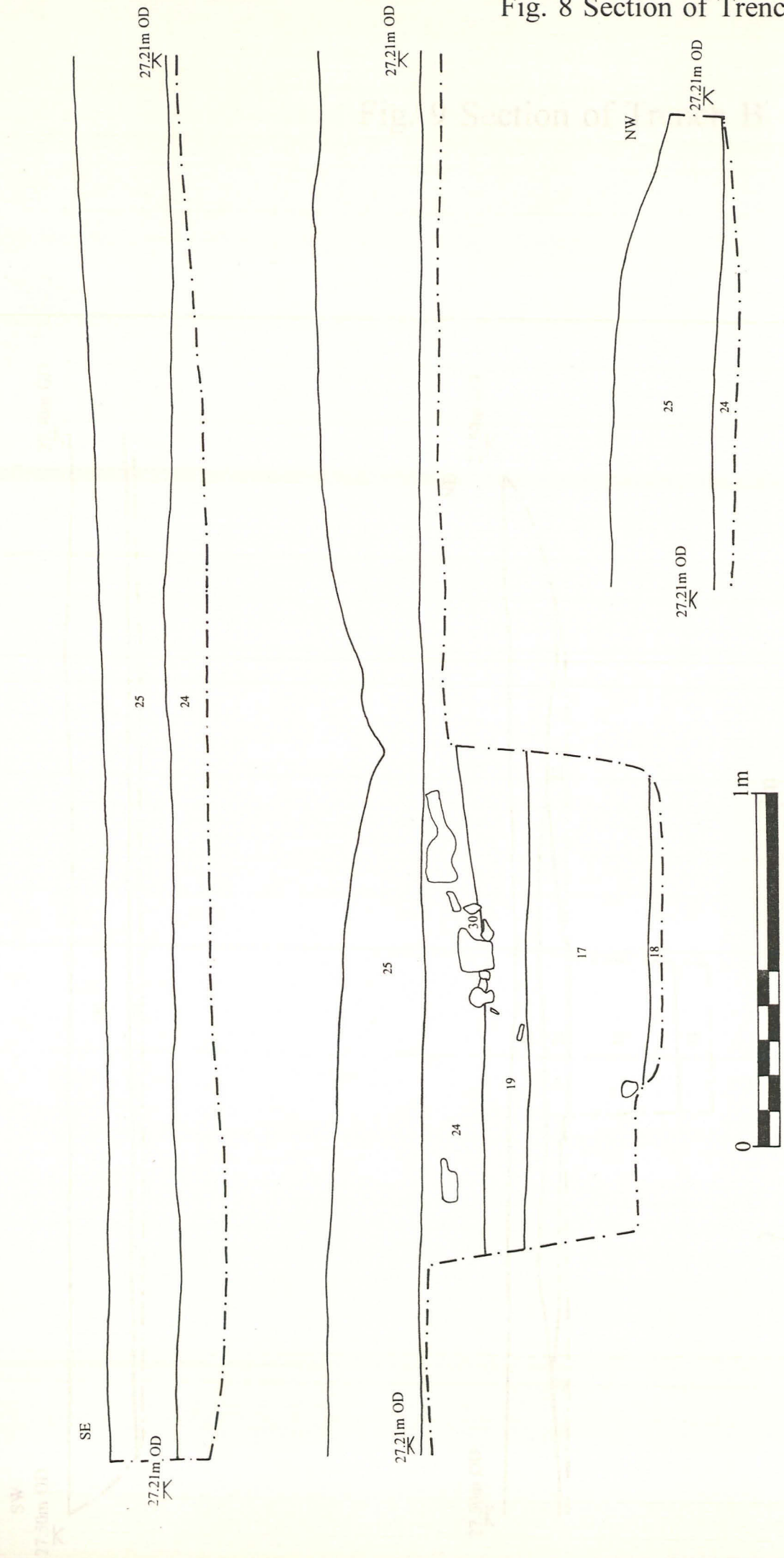


Fig. 9 Section of Trench B

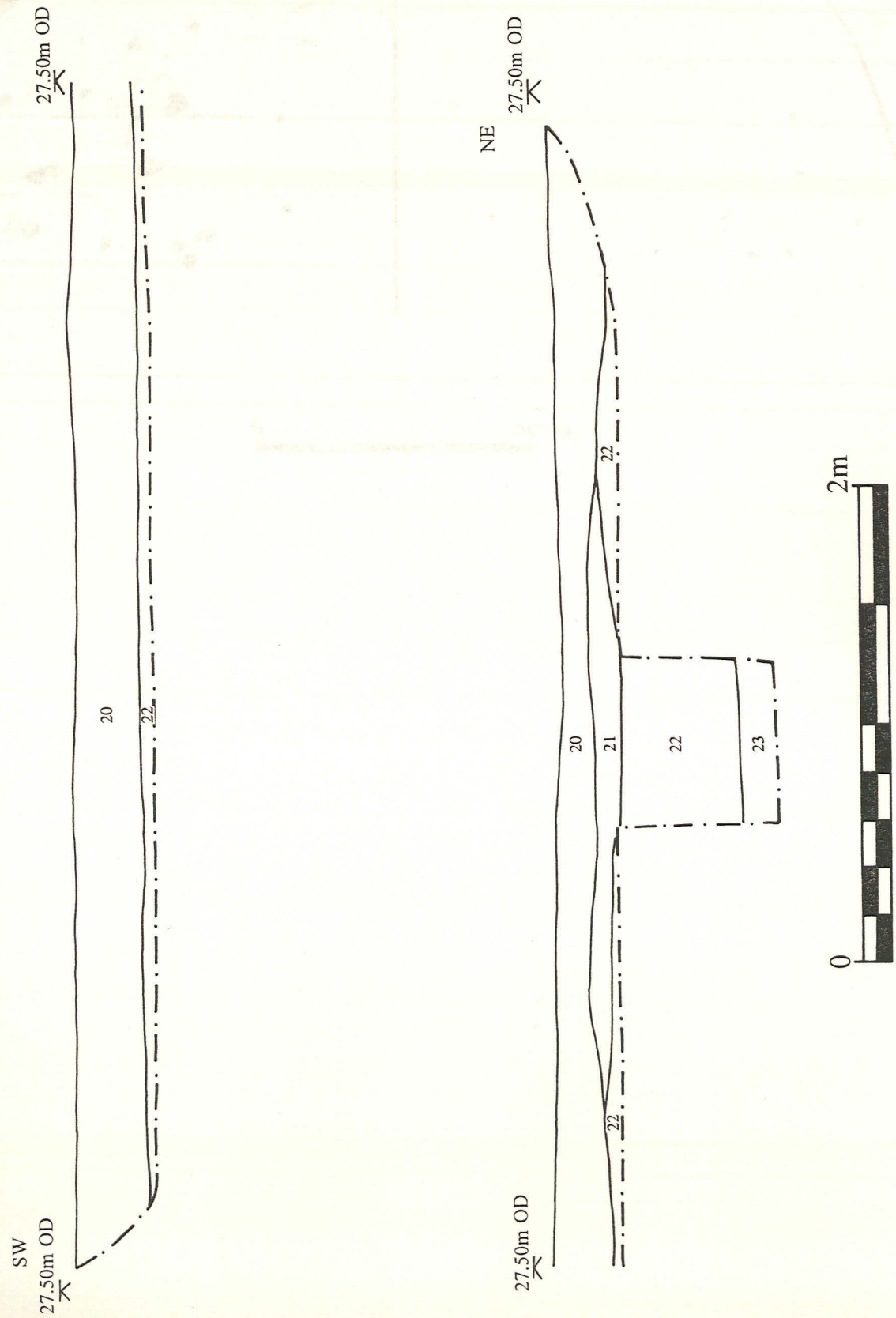
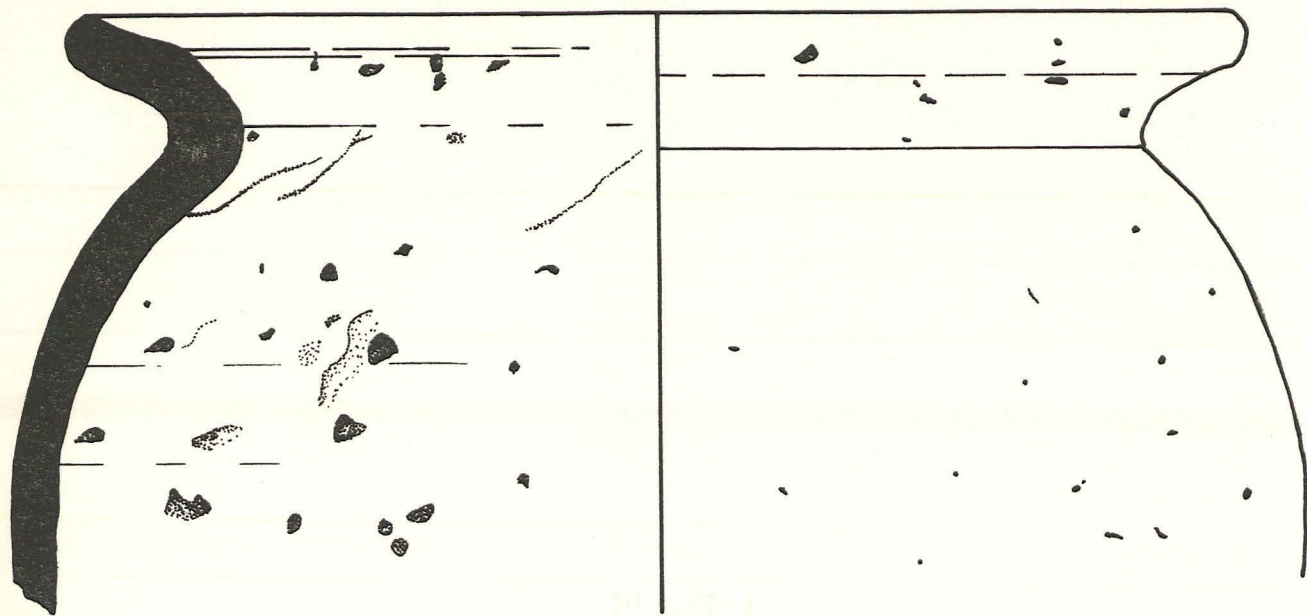


Fig. 10 Romano-British Dales Ware Type Jar



GENERAL SITE VIEW, LOOKING NORTHEAST TOWARDS
TRENCHES 1 AND 2 AND 3 AND 4

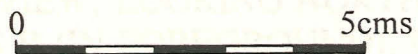


PLATE 1

GENERAL SITE VIEW, LOOKING NORTHEAST TOWARDS
TRENCHES B (IN FOREGROUND), C, D AND E



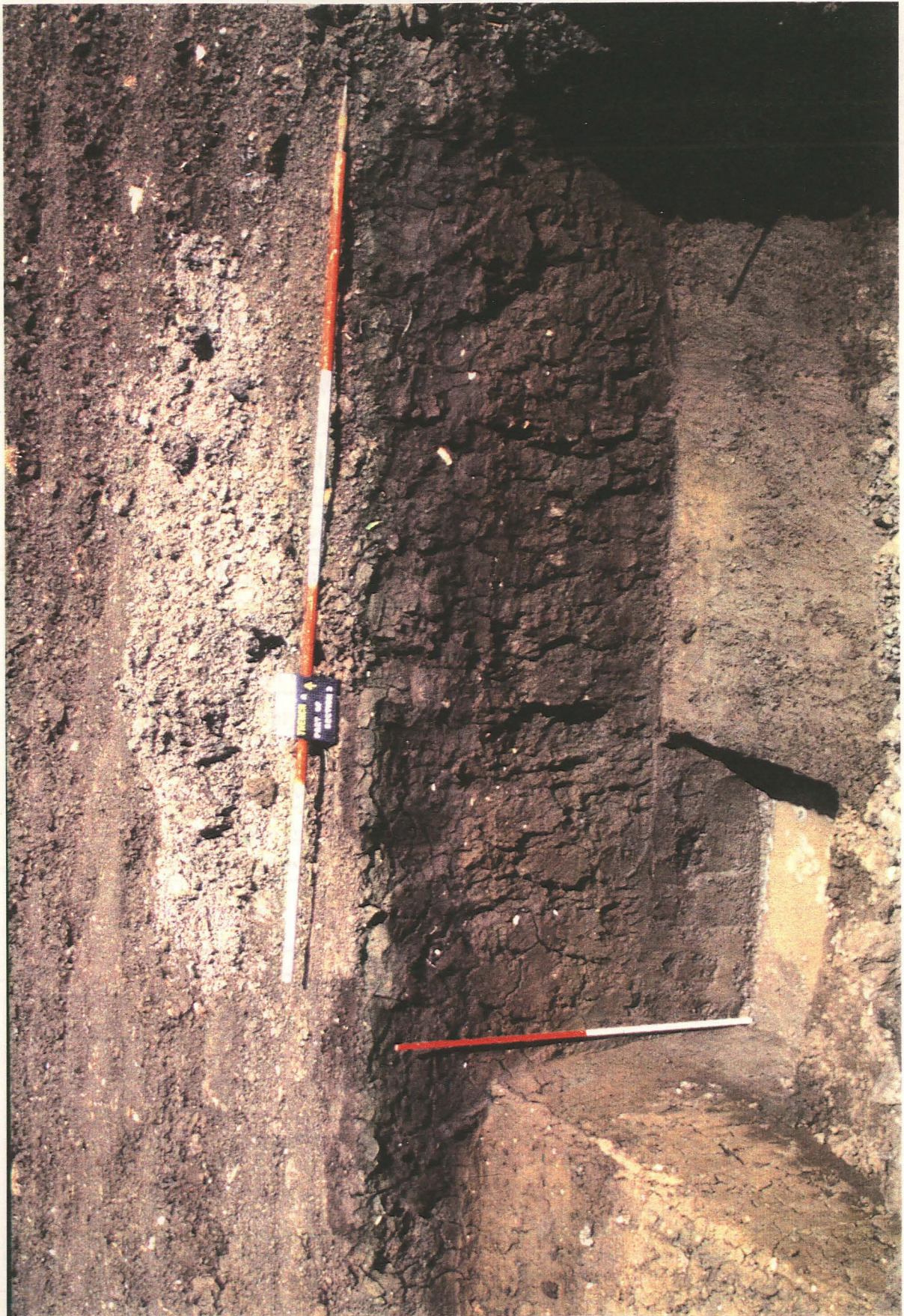
PLATE 2

TRENCH A, SHOWING TYPICAL SOIL LAYERING



PLATE 3

TRENCH A, DETAIL OF BOG-TYPE DEPOSITS



APPENDIX 1

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context Number	Trench	Description	Interpretation
1, 3, 7, 20, 25	all	Dark brown silty clay with moderate flint pebbles	Topsoil
2	C	Grey clay, occasional fragments of land drain	Subsoil
4	E	Red-brown silty sand, occasional stones	Subsoil/hillwash
5	E	Brown clayey sand, occasion stones	Subsoil
6	E	Brown-yellow sand	Natural
8	A	Grey clay-silt with occasional pebbles	Fill of 9
9	A	Linear cut, 0.2m wide, 0.8m deep	Ploughmark
10	A	Pebbly brown silty clay	Subsoil/hillwash
11	A	Grey silty clay with occasional pebbles	Alluvium
12	A	Blue-grey clay with occasional pebbles	Alluvium
13	A	Light grey clayey silt-sand	Alluvium
14	A	Brown gritty coarse sand	Natural
15	C	Grey slag and silt	Fill of 16
16	C	Linear cut, 0.14m wide, over 0.25m deep	Land drain
17	D	Grey sandy clay with pebbles, charcoal and artefacts	Alluvium
18	D	Grey clay	Natural
19	D	Grey clay	Alluvium
21	B	Dark grey clay	Subsoil/hillwash

22	B	Red-brown silty clay with occasional pebbles	Subsoil/alluvium
23	B	Grey clay, iron stained	Natural
24	D	Yellow-grey clay, occasional pebbles	Subsoil/hillwash
26	D	Grey slag and ash, ceramic pipe	Fill of 27
27	D	Linear cut, 0.15m wide, 0.4m deep	Land drain
28	D	Mixed grey sandy clay with occasional pebbles, ceramic pipe	Fill of 29
29	D	Linear cut, 0.25m wide, 0.35m deep	Land drain
30	D	Brown-grey sandy clay with frequent pieces of limestone	Fill of 31
31	D	Linear cut, 0.2m wide, unexcavated	Land drain

Fieldwork No.	No. of sherds	Desc.	Condition
1	1	Red-brown silty clay	Very abraded
2	1	Red-brown silty clay	Abraded
16	1	Yellow-grey clay, occasional pebbles	Natural pot
21	1	Linear cut, 0.15m wide, 0.4m deep	Land drain
27	1	Linear cut, 0.25m wide, 0.35m deep	Land drain
28	1	Mixed grey sandy clay with occasional pebbles, ceramic pipe	Abraded
29	1	Linear cut, 0.25m wide, 0.35m deep	Land drain
30	1	Brown-grey sandy clay with frequent pieces of limestone	Abraded
31	1	Linear cut, 0.2m wide, unexcavated	Land drain

level of the pottery is undiagnostic but Roman in date. Contacts with domestic pottery (A, B, C, D and find 11 from field-walking) suggest a late Roman date (3rd - 4th century for the site). One fragment recovered during field-walking (item 16) was a sherd of medieval pottery, a base of a jug with a copper glaze. This is probably Northampton green glazed ware and dates from the early-mid 13th to the early 14th century. The pottery, in general, is in poor condition, abraded and in some cases burnt.

APPENDIX 2

POTTERY BARBARA DAVIES

A small (37 sherds, 14 small bags) assemblage of pottery was recovered from archaeological investigations adjacent to the Black End Roman site on the Willoughton/Blyborough border. The total Roman assemblage and a single medieval sherd was examined.

TABLE 1

Context	No. of sherds	Date	Condition
Unstratified	2	Roman	
4	5	4th century	Some burnt, some abraded
7	1	Roman	
12	1	3rd? century	
17	18	4th century	Most abraded, some burnt
22	3	2nd-4th century	One burnt
Fieldwalk item	No. of sherds	Date	Condition
6	1	3rd century or later	Very abraded
9	1	Roman	Abraded
16	1	Early-mid 13th - early 14th century	Medieval pot
20	1	Roman	Burnt
21	1	Roman	Abraded
24	1	Roman	Abraded
26	1	Roman	Abraded
28	1	Roman	Abraded

Most of the pottery is undiagnostic but Roman in date. Contexts with datable pottery (4, 12, 17, 22 and find 6 from field-walking) suggest a late Roman date (3rd - 4th century for the site. One artefact recovered during field-walking (item 16) was a sherd of medieval pottery, a base of a jug with a copper glaze. This is probably Nottingham green glazed ware and dates from the early-mid 13th to the early 14th century. The pottery, in general, is in poor condition, abraded and in some cases burnt.

TABLE 2: Roman Pottery - fabric and form by sherd count

No. of sherds	%	Fabric	Form
1	2.70	AMPHORA?	Amphora?
1	2.70	Dales Ware	Jar, Double Lid-Seated
5	13.51	GREY	-
7	18.92	GREY?	-
2	5.40	GREY	Bowl
1	2.70	GREY	Bowl?
3	8.11	GREY	Beaker?
1	2.70	GREY	Jar/Bowl
2	5.40	GREY	Jar, Large
1	2.70	GREY	Jar, Narrow Necked
1	2.70	MORTARIUM	Mortarium
2	5.40	Nene Valley Colour-Coat	Bead and Flanged Bowl
7	18.92	OXIDISED	-
1	2.70	OXIDISED	Bowl
1	2.70	OXIDISED	Jar?
1	2.70	SHELLY	Jar, Storage
37	100.00	Total	

The majority of the vessels are grey wares of probable local origin consisting mainly of bowl forms, some of which have grooves around the girth. Also present within this group is a probable beaker, a large jar and a narrow necked jar. Some sherds may have been grey originally but are now too abraded or burnt to determine more accurately. There are several sherds in an oxidised fabric which, apart from a bowl and a probable jar, are very abraded and undiagnostic. One sherd, in a very micaceous cream fabric, bears a resemblance to Gauloise 4 amphorae but, as it is very abraded, the identification is uncertain. Black, iron ore trituration grits on a very abraded orange-red, oxidised sherd suggests that it is a mortarium. There is a storage jar in a shell-tempered fabric. The only certainly sourced wares are a bead and flanged bowl in Nene Valley colour-coat and a double lid-seated jar in a Dales ware type fabric (Fig. 10). The latter, from context 17, is wheel made and is sooted on the exterior and over the rim, giving evidence that it had been used in cooking.

Evidence for building material is provided by two sherds, one in an oxidised and one in grey fabric, which are sanded on the interior, and are probably tile.

No further work is envisaged.

APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

REPORT ON SITE VISIT TO WILLOUGHTON, LINCS. 30/6/94 - WILLOUGHTON SEWAGE WORKS REED BED PROJECT

Dr Helen C.M. Keeley BSc, DIC, MIBiol, CBiol, FRGS, MIPSS

An evaluation was being carried out by Archaeological Project Services (Heritage Lincolnshire) in advance of the construction of a Reed Bed at the Willoughton Sewage Works by Severn-Trent Water. The excavation is beside a culverted stream and close to the site of a small Roman villa on a nearby hill. There have been some prehistoric finds in the area. Although the eastern part of the parish is on limestone, the site is on clay and no crop marks have been noted. The soils around Willoughton are mapped as Banbury, Ragdale and Wickham 2 Associations, of which the latter appears most appropriate to the site.

Trench A was situated at the lowest point in the field adjacent to the old water course. The modern topsoil was brown coarse sandy loam overlying yellow brown mottled sandy clay loam, which contained some abraded fragments of Roman tile and pot and was thought to comprise colluvial material. Beneath this was a mixed layer merging into greyish brown heavily mottled coarse sandy clay, which contained Roman material. The present water table occurred at about 1 metre depth. At 1.20 metres was a heavily mottled (iron and manganese) grey coarse sand, which contained no finds.

Trench B had a similar profile to A and the hillwash contained Roman pottery and a few fragments of bone.

Trench C was at a particularly low point in the valley and the colluvium was absent, the topsoil lying immediately over the grey mottled clay. It appeared that at this point erosion must have taken place, precluding the build up of hillwash.

Trench D had cut through a land drain just below the topsoil. The underlying hillwash overlay a black, slightly humic, coarse sandy clay loam containing charcoal and bone fragments. Roman pottery, including a large unabraded rim, charcoal and bone were much more abundant in this Trench than in the others. The relatively coarse texture of the black layer suggested a different origin to the equivalent layer in the other profiles, i.e. influenced by running water rather than stagnant conditions. This material overlay (at about 80 cms. depth) heavily mottled coarse sandy clay, similar to that noted in the other Trenches.

Trench E had a profile similar to A and B but the dark layer was thinner and less well defined and the basal sand layer was higher up.

General Comments

The site appears to have been a boggy area in Roman times, over which hillwash containing Roman pottery built up as a result of agricultural activity. Trench E was at the edge of the bog and Trench D could possibly be where a small stream ran into the bog. The concentration of artefacts, including a large piece of unabraded Roman pot, in the dark sandy clay loam would justify further investigation, although the material appeared to represent a natural deposit rather than an archaeological feature.

APPENDIX 4

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 31 Context records
- 5 Photographic records
- 10 Scale drawings
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 1 Box of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

City and County Museum, Lincoln Accession Number: 101.94

APPENDIX 5

Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling Ancient Monuments - Extract from *Archaeology and Planning* DoE Planning Policy Guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

i *Period*: all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.

ii *Rarity*: there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.

iii *Documentation*: the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.

iv *Group value*: the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.

v *Survival/Condition*: the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.

vi *Fragility/Vulnerability*: highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.

vii *Diversity*: some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.

viii *Potential*: on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.