NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AT 5 PADDOCK CLOSE, ANCASTER, LINCOLNSHIRE SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT LI 105

FEBRUARY 2004

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	Ancaster Paddock Close	
Short description (250 words maximum)	A two phase programme of works, (earth resistance survey followed by trial trench evaluation) was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology. This revealed the remains of a limestone building of Roman date and the Roman ditch.	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Geophysical survey and field evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)		
Future work (yes, no, unknown)	Unknown	
Monument type and period	Settlement, Roman	
Significant finds (artefact type and period)	Roman pottery, CBM and painted wall plaster	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Lincolnshire	
Site address (including postcode)	Paddock Close, Ancaster, Lincolnshire	
Easting	59841	
Northing	34366	
Height OD	47m	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology / John Samuels Archaeological Consultants	
Project Brief originator	South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist	
Project Design originator	John Samuels Archaeological Consultants	
Director/Supervisor	Adrian Butler / Tam Webster (NA)	
Project Manager	Adam Yates (NA) / Simon Mortimer (JSAC)	
Sponsor or funding body		
PROJECT DATE		
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Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	BACKGROUND	2
	2.1 Topography and geology	2
	2.2 Archaeological background	2
3	METHODOLOGY	3
	3.1 Resistivity survey	3
	3.2 Trial trench evaluation	3
4	RESISITIVITY SURVEY RESULTS	4
5	TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION RESULTS	5
	5.1 Trench 1	5
	5.2 Trench 2	7
	5.3 Trench 3	7
	5.4 Trench 4	8
6	FINDS	8
	6.1 The pottery	8
	6.2 Ceramic building material	8
	6.3 The tesserae	11
	6.4 Painted wall plaster	11
	6.5 Post-medieval Finds	11
7	DISCUSSION	12
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	13
	APPENDICIES	14
	A1: Site data	14
	A2: Pottery data	16

Tables

Table 1: Summary of site data

Table 2: Pottery type by fabric

Figures

Fig 1 Site location, 1:15000

Fig 2 Trench locations, 1:1000

Fig 3 Earth Resistance Survey Results, 1:500

Fig 4 Earth Resistance Survey with Interpretation, 1:500

Fig 5 Plan of Trenches 1 and 2

Fig 6 Sections 1 and 2

Fig 7 Earth Resistance Survey Raw Data Plots

Plates

Plate 1 General view looking north-east

Plate 2 General view looking south-west

Plate 3 General view looking north-west

Plate 4 Wall 009 looking north-west

Plate 5 Wall 009 detail looking south-east

Plate 6 Upper fills of town ditch looking south

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND AT 5 PADDOCK CLOSE, ANCASTER, LINCOLNSHIRE SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT LI 105 FEBRUARY 2004

ABSTRACT

Archaeological evaluation was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants in March 2004 at 5 Paddock Close, Ancaster Lincolnshire. The site is subject to a planning application for the construction of a doctor's surgery and associated infrastructure. It lies within the Scheduled Area of the Roman town (SAM LI 105).

Two phases of works were undertaken; resistivity survey followed by trial trench evaluation. The fieldwork aims were to establish the character, extent and depth below the current ground surface of any archaeological remains and to determine whether a design solution for the proposed development was feasible.

This evaluation revealed the remains of a limestone building of Roman date and a Roman defensive ditch. It was agreed on site with the English Heritage Inspector that a design solution could be found for the proposed development. This report represents the final stage of reporting on the evaluation, and supersedes the previously issued interim.

1 INTRODUCTION

GPI Ltd have made a planning application (S03/0627/02) for the erection of a doctor's surgery and associated infrastructure on land at 5, Paddock Close, Ancaster, Lincolnshire (Fig 1, NGR TF 9841 4366). This lies within the Scheduled Area of the Roman Town (SAM LI 105). In response to the application a brief for evaluation works was issued by the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist acting as the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority. The works, which comprised resitivity survey and trial trench evaluation, were carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants in accordance with their specification (JSAC 2004) as approved by English Heritage and the South Kesteven Planning Archaeologist. These were carried out under Class 7 Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent (HSD9/2/5408).

The approved project specification (JSAC 119/04/01 established that a design solution would be the preferred option to minimise or remove the impact of the proposed development upon any archaeology present on site. The primary fieldwork aims were therefore to establish the character

and extent of any surviving archaeology on the site and also to determine its depth below the current ground surface. Archaeological field investigation was to be at the minimum level that allowed English Heritage and the Local Planning Archaeologist to make an appropriately informed response to the planning application.

The following comprises the final stage of reporting on the evaluation and includes a full pottery report. It supersedes the previously issued interim report.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography and geology

The site is located at 5, Paddock Close, Ancaster, Lincolnshire. It occupies an area of approximately 0.25ha, within the Scheduled Area of the Roman town (SAM LI 105, Figs 1 and 2). The topography of the site is dominated by the earthworks marking the course of the defences, comprising rampart and ditch, with slopes from 47m OD in the south to 44.3m OD in the north and east. The site is bounded to the south by the existing doctor's surgery and access and to other three sides by residential properties (Plates 1-3). The most recent land use was as allotments. Ground cover comprised vegetation and small structures, much of which had recently (late January 2004) been cleared to facilitate the archaeological works. As a result, part of the west of the site was covered by a layer of loose, disturbed allotment soil mixed with building material.

The geology is Jurassic limestone and glacio-fluvial drift (http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html) overlain by Elmton 1 (calacareous fine loams) and Blackwood (deep permeable sands and coarse loams) soil associations (SSEW 1983).

2.2 Archaeological background

Previous archaeological investigations at Ancaster have revealed a complex sequence of development (e.g. Todd 1981 and summarised in Burnham and Wacher 1990). Iron Age occupation seems to have been focussed in what later became the western part of the Roman town. Although the morphology and extent of the Iron Age settlement has not been established, finds from the town indicate that it was a settlement of some importance.

Initial Roman occupation comprised a fort constructed to the west of the town, the presence of which is postulated from the excavation of two parallel early Roman ditches of defensive character. The position of the Ancaster, strategically located where the Ancaster Gap cuts through the Jurassic limestone ridge, makes it an obvious point of control of communication routes.

It is unclear how the Roman fort and any associated civilian settlement (*vicus*) may have influenced

the subsequent town. The primary focus for this was along Ermine Street (the modern B8403), although settlement extended beyond the street frontages into areas that were later outside the town walls.

In the early 3rd century AD part of the town was enclosed in defences comprising a stone faced earthen bank and two parallel ditches. Fan-shaped corner towers were added, probably in the 4th century.

Post-Roman occupation is evidenced by a small early 5th century cremation cemetery excavated to the south of the town.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Resistivity survey

The earth resistance technique detects subtle changes in electrical resistivity when a current is passed through the ground at different points. These differences are mostly due to differences in moisture and metallic salt content between archaeological features and the natural subsoil. Mapping the differing readings across an area may thus produce a pattern of buried features.

Earth resistance survey was undertaken using a Geoscan Research RM15 resistance meter with a 0.5m twin probe array. The survey area was sub-divided into a series of separate 20m x 20m grid-squares, with transects within each of these spaced 1m apart and traversed in a 'ziz-zag' fashion. Readings were logged at 1.0m intervals.

The survey data was downloaded into a portable computer for storage and revision in the field. The data from the survey was analysed using the computer software Geoplot v.3 for Windows.

3.2 Trial trench evaluation

Initially two trenches were opened in the positions required in the specification. Trench 1 measured 20m by 10m and Trench 2 measured 24m by 1.6m. These trenches were positioned to examine the proposed footprint of the new building. Subsequently two small trenches, Trench 3 and Trench 4, were opened after consultation between English Heritage and John Samuels Archaeological Consultants to examine the deposits in the proposed car parking area (Fig 2).

All trenches were excavated using a mechanical digger fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision, to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposits, or in their absence the natural substrate.

The base and an appropriate section of each trench were cleaned by hand and planned at a scale of 1:50. Excavation was kept to a minimum in order to avoid damage to sensitive deposits; only being undertaken where clarification of important remains was required. The extent of such works was agreed on site by English Heritage and John Samuels Archaeological Consultants. Each feature or deposit was given a unique number and the details of each context were recorded on pro-forma sheets. Section drawings were made of all archaeological features and soil profiles at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Levels were taken along the top and base of each trench, with the heights being related to Ordnance Datum. Trench locations were related to the National Grid. A photographic record was made of the excavation, using both 35mm black and white negative and colour transparency films.

All works were carried out in accordance with the IFA Code of Conduct (1995, revised 2000) and the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IFA 1994, revised 1999). All procedures complied with the Northamptonshire County Council Health and Safety provisions and Northamptonshire Archaeology Health and Safety at Work Guidelines.

Two hand dug geotechnical test pits were excavated during the course of the works, these were monitored by the archaeological staff.

A site meeting with the English Heritage Inspector, a consultant from John Samuels Archaeological Consultants and the Northamptonshire Archaeology project manager established that a design solution could be achieved for the proposed development. It was therefore agreed that the only hand excavation required was a sondage to establish the date and degree of survival of the building exposed in Trench 1.

4 Resisitivity Survey Results

The results of the survey are shown as a georeferenced greyscale plot in Figure 3 and an interpretative plot generalised from this in Figure 4. For reference 'raw' unprocessed greyscale and stacked-trace plots of the data have been displayed in Figure 7.

The restricted size of the area surveyed and quality of the resistance data meant that very little processing was required. Only the extreme readings were removed from the dataset by a process of 'de-spiking', in which statistically outlying values (greater or less than 3 standard deviations) are replaced by the local average. Such extremes were caused for example by voids in the topsoil.

Care has necessarily been taken when interpreting the data from this survey, because of the multi-

phased and therefore complex nature of the site and the considerable interference due to its use as allotments. Noisy, (i.e. random high and low) data was produced in the west of the site **(1)** where the topsoil had recently been disturbed (see 2.1 above), to a degree that prospection had to cease before the site boundary was reached. A large low resistance anomaly **(2)** in the south of the site corresponds with the noted position of the remains of a bonfire, the ashes of which may have aided the local retention of water.

A polygonal high resistance anomaly **(3)** adjacent to the southern boundary reflects buried masonry. When compared to the trial trench evaluation results it seems likely that this anomaly relates to the walls of a Roman building [Trench 1 (009/010)]. Further anomalies of varying levels of increased resistance were detected to the north-west **(4)**, suggesting perhaps, a continuation of the building up to a total length of approximately 19m. However, considering the amount of rubble disturbance in the west of the site, such an interpretation must remain cautious.

A diffuse high resistance anomaly **(5)** that shadows the curve of the north side of the bank may reflect buried stony material, when compared with the trial trenching, this may represent the extent of deposit (036/037). High resistance anomaly **(6)** may indicate a large stone or masonry, but it is uncertain if it denotes the presence of *in situ* Roman remains or not. Although there was no surface expression noted, the anomaly would appear to continue some distance north-west, perhaps indicating a feature dipping in that direction. A smaller high resistance anomaly **(7)** on the detected slope of the eastern rampart would appear to correspond with rock exposed at the surface at this point.

The base of the major ditch was identifiable as a slight lowering of average resistance. Broad changes in resistance are visible across the site which may be in part due to the nature of the soil structure or the variation in moisture levels from the ground freezing and thawing after snowfall in the days immediately preceding the survey.

5 TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION RESULTS

Two trenches were positioned within the footprint of a proposed development for a new doctor's surgery and two small trenches in the proposed car parking area (Fig 2).

5.1 Trench 1

This trench was 20m long and 10m wide, the long axis was oriented east to west. It was positioned across sharp slopes to the east, north-east and north, which are thought to mark the north east corner of the rampart. Excavation ceased at the uppermost archaeological levels, no natural deposits were reached. Excavated depth ranged from 0.38m along the west edge to 1.75m at the

east edge (Figs 5 and 6).

In the south-west corner at 46.38m OD, 0.34m below current ground surface of 46.72m OD, the corner of a building was encountered. This comprised two parallel L-shaped sections of walling forming a right angle in the corner of the trench.

Only the upper surviving course of the outer wall (010) was exposed. It was faced externally on its eastern arm and on both sides along its southern, which had been partly robbed. Its construction was limestone set in a pale yellow mortar. It had been partly robbed on its northern section; the robber trench [060] was filled with brown sandy loam containing limestone, mortar and charcoal (061).

The inner wall (009), was 620mm wide and constructed of well-coursed limestone blocks and tile, both thickly / heavily bonded with a pale yellow brown mortar (Plates 4-5). A small sondage was excavated in the north-east angle after consultation between English Heritage and John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, to further investigate this feature, as it was considered important to establish its character and survival, particularly as it did not appear defensive in character.

Wall 009 was exposed to a depth of 0.72m at 45.10m OD. Three limestone courses were overlain by a double tile course, five further limestone coursed, a second double tile course and a limestone course. The base of the wall was not reached.

At 45.23m OD the wall was butted by a floor (043), constructed from light grey brown lime mortar, 0.045m thick, sloping away to the south and west, underlying which appeared to be a void. Overlying the floor was a layer of building rubble (017) from which fragments of tile, tesserae, Roman pottery (late 3rd – 4th century) and painted wall plaster were recovered (Figure 6 section 1). This may represent a demolition deposit.

Overlying the building and sloping to the north and east, and infilling the upper part of the earthwork depression marking the ditch were a series of deposits (003-008), (011), (012), (020), (022), (023) and (025-030). These produced quantities of Roman structural and artefactual material, Roman pottery (2nd – 4th century), together with post-medieval and modern artefacts, and demonstrate a complex sequence of post-depositional disturbance and re-deposition of Roman material. These deposits were not further investigated as the evaluation had achieved its aim of establishing the presence of archaeological remains and to avoid unnecessary damage to these deposits. The geotechnical works showed that these layers were *c* 0.5m in depth before presumed natural deposits were identified.

A layer of comprising of yellow crushed limestone and mortar (013) may represent the fill of a

robber trench of the town revetment wall, similar to (032) and (033) in Trench 2 (see below). Context 013 produced pottery dating to the late 2nd - 3rd century. A deep loamy soil (015) encountered at the east end of the trench infilled the upper part of the town ditch (Plate 6). This deposit produced Roman (late 2nd – 3rd century) and post-Roman pottery and modern material including brick and bottle glass (not retained).

Cut into the rubble spreads at the north-west part of the trench were two areas of pitched limestone lumps and blocks containing sherds of Romano-British pottery, which may represent the upper fills of pits (018) and (019). Deposit (018) produced post-Roman pottery.

A substantial east-west cut [062], 11m long by 2m wide, filled with dark grey sandy loam (021) is of recent origin. A machine cut sondage to the base of this showed it to be 0.25m in depth with near vertical sides. This trench is likely to machine cut and of recent origin. It bears resemblance to an archaeological trial trench; however, Todd (1981) does not show any works as having taken place in this area.

Topsoil (002) 0.14- 0.48m thick was overlain by dumped sand (001).

5.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was 24m by 1.6m, aligned north to south extending out from the north side of Trench 1. It was positioned to try to locate the town wall and ditch. Excavated depth varied from 0.38m to 1.10m. A hand dug geotechnical test pit within the upper fills of the main town ditch was excavated to an additional depth of 0.55mm (Figs 5 and 6).

Deposits of limestone rubble (033) and (036) may derive from robbing/collapse of the town wall. Context (033) produced pottery dating to the 4th century, context (036) pottery dating to the late 2nd - 3rd century. These were overlain by a series of levelling/demolition/collapse deposits containing re-deposited Roman structural and artefactual material (037), (038), (039) and (042). Deposits (038) and (042) probably represent recent infilling of the earthwork depression marking the line of the town ditch. Context (038) produced 2nd – 3rd century and post-Roman pottery. The uppermost deposits comprised subsoil (041) and topsoil (040).

5.3 Trench 3

This trench measured 2m north-south by 1.6m east west and was excavated to a depth of 1.25m. At the base of the trench mixed rubble and mortar (050) was revealed. This was overlain by further rubble and mortar (049), dumps of sand (048) and (047), demolition layer (046), subsoil (045) and topsoil (044).

5.4 Trench 4

This trench measured 1.6m square and was excavated to a depth of 1.35m. At the base of the trench was grey brown sandy loam with limestone, mortar and charcoal (057). This was overlain by brown grey loam (055), which was cut by a linear feature or pit [059] in the north filled with brown loam containing mortar (056) and capped with limestone blocks set in mortar (062). Overlying this was buried soil (054), levelling layer (053) and topsoil (052).

The deposits revealed in the bases of Trenches 3 and 4 equate to those seen in the base of Trench 1. The layers above demonstrate a similar sequence of post-depositional disturbance and re-deposition of Roman contexts, which includes evidence for masonry structures.

6 FINDS

6.1 **The pottery** by Margaret J. Darling

Introduction

The pottery amounted to 156 sherds, weighing 5.210kg from 22 deposits, including one unstratified group. The fragmentation of the pottery varied between Trenches 1 and 2, larger sherds coming from Trench 2, including a particularly large amphora body sherd. The overall average sherd weight was 18g. Some abrasion occurred. No problems are anticipated for long term storage. The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by The Study Group for Roman Pottery. Quantities and dates by context are detailed in Appendix 2. The archive record (contained in the site archive) will be curated for future study. The archive codes are in Appendix 2, and explanatory notes on the archive database structure in the site archive. Both are compatible with the archive structure and coding used in the City of Lincoln archive database.

Table 1: Pottery quantification by trench

Trench	Sherds	Weight	g/sherd
1	93	1213	13.0
2	62	3978	25.7
US	1	19	
Total	**156**	**5210**	**18**

The average sherd weight calculation excludes particularly large amphora sherds in Trench 2 (cxt 036 rubble). Details of the quantities by context and deposit with quantities and dates are in Appendix 2. No sherd links were noted between contexts.

The overall dating shows nearly 70% sherds in the 2nd to 3rd centuries, with the remaining sherds split between 3rd to 4th century, and definitely 4th century. Only 16 rims are represented, and the paucity of sherds diagnostic of dating has meant that only broad dates are possible, most contexts containing less than 10 sherds. Given the larger number of contexts in Trench 1, there is no discernable difference in the dating of the two trenches.

Overview of fabrics and vessel types

The fabrics are listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Fabric types

Fabric	Code	Sherds	%	Weight	%
Black-Burnished 1?	BB1?	5	3.21	26	0.50
Colour-coated	CC	1	0.64	15	0.29
Cream	CR	4	2.56	22	0.42
Amphorae Dressel 20	DR20	2	1.28	2439	46.81
Grey fine	GFIN	1	0.64	11	0.21
Grey quartz-gritted	GREY	102	65.38	1794	34.43
Grey fairly fine	GRFF	1	0.64	19	0.36
Grey quartz with some shell	GRSH?	1	0.64	23	0.44
IA tradition gritty	IAGR	2	1.28	37	0.71
Late coarse pebbly grey	LCOA?	1	0.64	26	0.50
Mortaria Nene Valley	MONV	2	1.28	122	2.34
Mortaria Swanpool	MOSP	1	0.64	17	0.33
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	NVCC	7	4.49	38	0.73
Nene Valley grey ware?	NVGW?	1	0.64	10	0.19
Oxidized quartz-gritted	OX	1	0.64	10	0.19
Post-Roman	PRO	5	3.21	77	1.48
Samian Central Gaulish	SAMCG	1	0.64	8	0.15
Samian South Gaulish	SAMSG?	1	0.64	2	0.04
Shell-gritted	SHEL	12	7.69	475	9.13
Shell-gritted South Midlands	SMSH	3	1.92	17	0.33

Vesicular	VESIC	2	1.28	22	0.42
Total		156	100	5210	100

Only two sherds of samian occur, from both Central and South Gaul, the earlier South Gaulish (SAMSG) being only a flake, but indicative of traces of 1st century occupation in the area, while the Central Gaulish (SAMCG) is more likely to belong to the later 2nd century. The only amphora is represented by large sherds from a single globular Dressel 20 used for olive oil from Baetica in South Spain (DR20, cxt 36), the fabric being that used in the later 1st to 2nd century. Mortaria include fragments from two vessels from the Nene Valley (MONV), only broadly datable to the later 3rd to 4th century, and a single body sherd from a mortarium from the late Roman kilns at Swanpool, Lincoln (MOSP, Webster & Booth 1947). Fine wares are limited to sparse sherds of Nene Valley colour-coated ware (NVCC), none of which are definitely from beakers, and including fragments of later open forms, a possible flagon more common from the 3rd century onwards, and a jar of similar date as is painted decoration on a body sherd. A single fine grey body sherd from a closed form was found. A body sherd from a colour-coated beaker (CC) with clay rough-cast decoration came from cxt 36; the source of this is unknown, although it is unlikely to be an import. This style of decoration is used from the 1st century, although this is more likely to date to the 2nd century. The cream sherds (CR) are all in a fine fabric, almost certainly from flagons, commoner in the 1st and 2nd centuries.

The coarse grey wares (GREY) include several body sherds from jars decorated with linear rustication, all of which would fit into an early to mid 2nd century range. Otherwise the grey wares include few notable vessels, apart from sherds from jars or large beakers with folded walls from cxts 033 and particularly 036, and a copy of the dales ware jar type (017). There are also two vessels showing carinations, suggesting 2nd century jars or bowls. The few black-burnished sherds (BB1) all appear to be hand-made but the sandy fabric is not diagnostic of the BB1 from Dorset, and are more likely to be from kilns at Doncaster; only cooking pots are represented. The shell-gritted sherds (SHEL) are very scrappy, some possibly from dales ware jars, although a storage jar and a curved-rim jar occur. A single jar of the later South Midlands type (SMSH), possibly made at the Harrold kilns in Bedfordshire (Brown 1994) is represented by typical rilled bodysherds (from 016). Also from this context is a single double-lid-seated jar in the Lincoln late gritty fabric (LCOA), datable to the later 4th century (Darling 1977, 30-1).

Discussion

The assemblage is mixed and representative of normal rubbish from domestic occupation, with all classes of pottery present. Evidence for the 1st century rests tenously on the flake of South Gaulish

samian, with the 2nd and 3rd centuries better represented, and closing with some definitely later 4th century vessels. The rubble layers adjacent to the wall 009 indicate this was out of use in the later Roman period. Post-Roman pottery indicates disturbance or contamination of the ditches 015 and 038, and the pit 018.

6.2 Ceramic building material

In total, 63 fragments of ceramic tile weighing in excess of 10 kilos (10.454kg) were recovered. Much of the assemblage is fragmentary and displays signs of abrasion, suggesting that it had been lying around for sometime prior to deposition. The bulk of the material comprises identifiable fragments (69.5%), which can be divided into two broad functional groups: roofing tile and hypocaust tile. The remaining 30.5% comprises small fragments that are difficult to identify with any certainty. The roof tile is represented by fragments of tegulae (11) and imbreces (7) and hypocaust tile is represented by one abraded fragment of box flue, identified by the presence of keying lines on the exterior surface.

6.3 The tesserae

Thirty-eight tesserae were recovered from rubble/demolition deposits (context 12, 17-19). Some of the tessera still retain patches of mortar on their external surfaces, attesting to their use within a mosaic floor. This small group comprises mainly grey limestone tessera in two sizes, large tesserae measuring *c* 25 x 25mm (37) and small tesserae measuring *c* 15 x 20mm (1).

6.4 Painted wall plaster

Thirty-seven fragments of painted wall plaster weighing 2.523kg were recovered. All the pieces retained flat painted surfaces with plaster backing ranging in depth from 15-55mm. The fabric of the wall plaster comprises an off-white sandy matrix with small rounded chalk and grog (tile?) inclusions and some small stones. The colours used on the plaster surfaces are red, white, yellow and pink. In addition there are pieces with colour combinations in the form of thin (15mm) or thick (45mm) red lines on white and thin lines of white and pale red on dark red. These may well be examples of panel divisions.

6.5 Post-medieval finds

A small number of post-medieval finds were recovered. These include fragments of 17/18th century wines bottle glass, a clay-tobacco-pipe stem, fragments of roof tile (nibbed) and brick.

7 DISCUSSION

The archaeological investigations at Ancaster have identified the presence of important surviving archaeology on the site. It has confirmed that the visible earthworks do indeed represent the corner of the town ditch, although no traces of upstanding masonry defences were seen. The Roman building seen in Trench 1 is not of defensive character, and probably represents construction just within the defences. The remains of hypercaust tile, tesserae and painted wall plaster indicate that this may have been a structure of considerable status. It fell out of use by the late 3rd century.

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Northamptonshire Archaeology

A service of Northamptonshire County Council

15th June 2004

APPENDICIES

A1: Site data

Table 3: Summary of site data

Trench No.	Context	Description
1	001	Sand dump
	002	Dark organic loam
	003	Mortar spread
	004	Organic loam
	005	Rubble layer containing Roman tile and limestone
	006	Brown sandy loam = 025
	007	Sandy loam with Roman pot, plaster, mortar and limestone = 026
	008	Stone rubble re-deposited from wall 009 = 024
	009	Wall constructed from limestone and tile
	010	Wall constructed from limestone and tile
	011	Limestone rubble
	012	Rubble layer
	013	Demolition / collapse layer
	014	Topsoil
	015	Upper infill of ditch
	016	Rubble layer
	017	Rubble layer
	018	Pit fill? Unexcavated
	019	Pit fill? Unexcavated
	020	Dump
	021	Trench backfill of 062
	022	Soil layer with limestone rubble
	023	Rubble layer
	024	Same as 08
	025	Same as 06
	026	Same as 07
	027	Buried soil
	028	Natural
	029	Collapse / re-deposited layer
	043	Plaster floor
	058	Grey brown sandy loam
	060	Robber trench

	061	Fill of 060, brown sandy loam containing limestone, mortar and charcoal
	062	Machine cut trench

Trench No.	Context	Description
2	030	Collapse / demolition layer
	031	Soil and stone spread
	032	Limestone block
	033	Limestone and mortar spread
	034	Sand, mortar and limestone spread
	035	Brown loamy soil
	036	Limestone rubble layer
	037	Ditch fill, brown loam with rubble and mortar
	038	Ditch fill, brown sandy loam
	039	Same as 037
	040	Topsoil
	041	Subsoil
	042	Ditch fill, brown sandy loam

Trench No.	Context	Description
3	044	Topsoil
	045	Buried soil
	046	Brown sandy loam with mortar and crushed limestone
	047	Brown sandy loam
	048	Dark brown loamy sand
	049	Pale brown sandy loam with limestone rubble and mortar
	050	Crushed limestone with mortar
	051	Same as 050

Trench No.	Context	Description
4	052	Topsoil
	053	Rubble and mortar layer
	054	Mid grey brown sandy loam
	055	Brown sandy loam
	056	Fill of 059, brown sandy loam with mortar and sandy lenses
	057	Mid grey brown sandy loam with limestone, mortar and charcoal
	059	Feature cut, partially seen in north-west corner of trench. Sharply sloping sides
	062	Fill of 059, horizontal layer of limestone fragments

A2: Pottery data

Fabric definition

Publication of *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection*, abbreviated NRFRC (Tomber and Dore 1998), obviate the need to describe the major imported and widely traded Romano-British wares in detail.

BB1	Black-Burnished ware category 1, **NRFRC: DOR BB1** (Dorset)**; ROS BB1** (Rossington Bridge).
CC	Colour-coated ware, unknown source.
CR	Cream, miscellaneous cream wares. Sherds attributed to a fabric group rather than a discrete fabric, mostly from flagons or closed forms.
DR20	Amphorae Dressel 20 amphorae. Peacock & Williams 1986 Class 25; **NRFRC: Baetican (Early) Amphorae 1 BATAM1; (Late) Amphorae 2 BATAM 2 (3)**
GFIN	Grey fine. This coding is used for reduced fabrics lying between the common quartz-gritted GREY used for most jars and bowls, and the very fine fabrics used for London-type ware and Parisian ware.
GREY	Grey, undifferentiated quartz-gritted grey fabrics, hard wares with sparse to common quartz inclusions.
GRFF	Grey, fairly fine fabric. This code covers fabrics intermediate between the common grey wares with sparse to common quartz and the very fine fabrics used for Parisian and 'London' wares, which are fired from silty clays with very few minute inclusions. Usually used for finer vessels for the table, particularly beakers.
GRSH	Grey quartz-gritted with some shell inclusions, wheel-made.
IAGR	Coarse tempered, often pimply with grog and other inclusions, IA tradition fabric, which continues in use into the Roman period.
LCOA	A late coarse grey fabric with pebbly inclusions, common in the latest Roman deposits in Lincoln, and used for lid-seated and double lid-seated jars.
MONV	Mortaria Lower Nene Valley **NRFRC : LNV WH**
MOSP	Mortaria from Swanpool kilns, Lincoln. **NRFRC: SWN WS**

NVCC	Nene Valley colour-coat **NRFRC: LNVCC**
NVGW	Nene Valley Grey ware, fabric similar to NVCC, usually slightly coarser, fired in reducing conditions to produce light grey, often mottled, surfaces.
OX	Oxidized, miscellaneous oxidized wares. This coding comprises all miscellaneous oxidized sherds, usually in varying red-brown shades and degrees of grittiness, for which no significant fabric groupings are evident.
PRO	Post-Roman sherds
SAMCG	Samian Central Gaul, from Lezoux. **NRFRC : LEZ SA**
SAMSG	Samian South Gaulish, from La Graufesenque. **NRFRC: LGF SA**
SHEL	Shell-gritted, miscellaneous shell-gritted ware, not certainly of local origin.
SMSH	Shell-gritted, later Roman, jars and bowls made at the Harrold kilns, Bedfordshire (Brown 1994), and probably other centres in the area. Characteristic triangular rims, often rilled bodies. Made from Oxford clays. **NRFRC: HAR SH**
VESIC	Vesicular, vesicular sherds, probably due to loss of shell-gritting.

Quantities and dates by context

Table 4: Pottery quantities and dates by context

Trench	Context	Type	Sherds	Weight	Date	Comments
1	002	Dark organic loam	8	101	L2/POSTMED	
	004	Organic loam	3	20	2-3C	
	006	Brown sandy loam = 025	6	77	2-3C	
	011	Limestone rubble	15	171	2C?	
	012	Rubble layer	4	41	2C?	
	013	Demolition / collapse	2	27	L2-3?	
	015	Ditch upper infill	5	129	L2-3/POSTRO	
	016	Rubble layer	15	109	ML4	

	017	Rubble layer	20	305	ML3-?4	
	018	Pit fill? Unexcav	2	27	POSTRO	
	020	Dump	5	56	2C?	
	022	Soil /rubble	1	17	L3-4	Only Swanpool mortaria bs
	023	Rubble layer	1	20	M3?	
	024	Stone rubble from wall 009	3	11	2C?	
	027	Sandy loam	2	9	2C?	
	029	Collapse/re-deposited	1	93	ROM	
2	030	Collapse/demolition	2	18	2C?	
	033	Limestone/mortar spread	8	428	4C PROB	
	035	Brown loamy soil	2	26	L3-4/POSTRO	
	036	Limestone rubble	39	3386	L2-3	Possibly later; lge amph. shs
	038	Ditch fill; loam w rubble/mortar	11	120	2-3C-?POSTRO	
U/S	U/S	Unstratified	1	19	2-3C?	
TOTAL			**156**	**5210**		

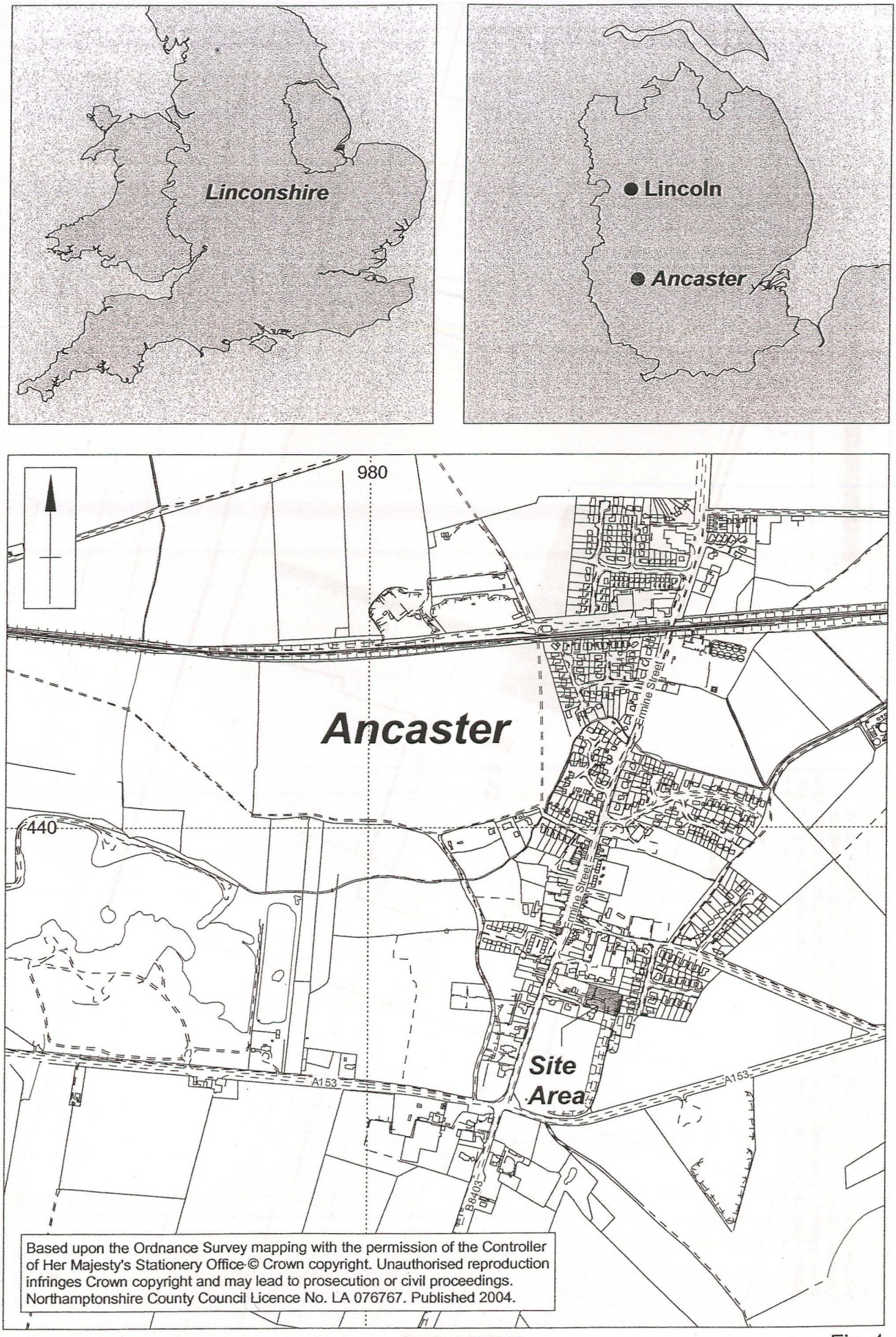

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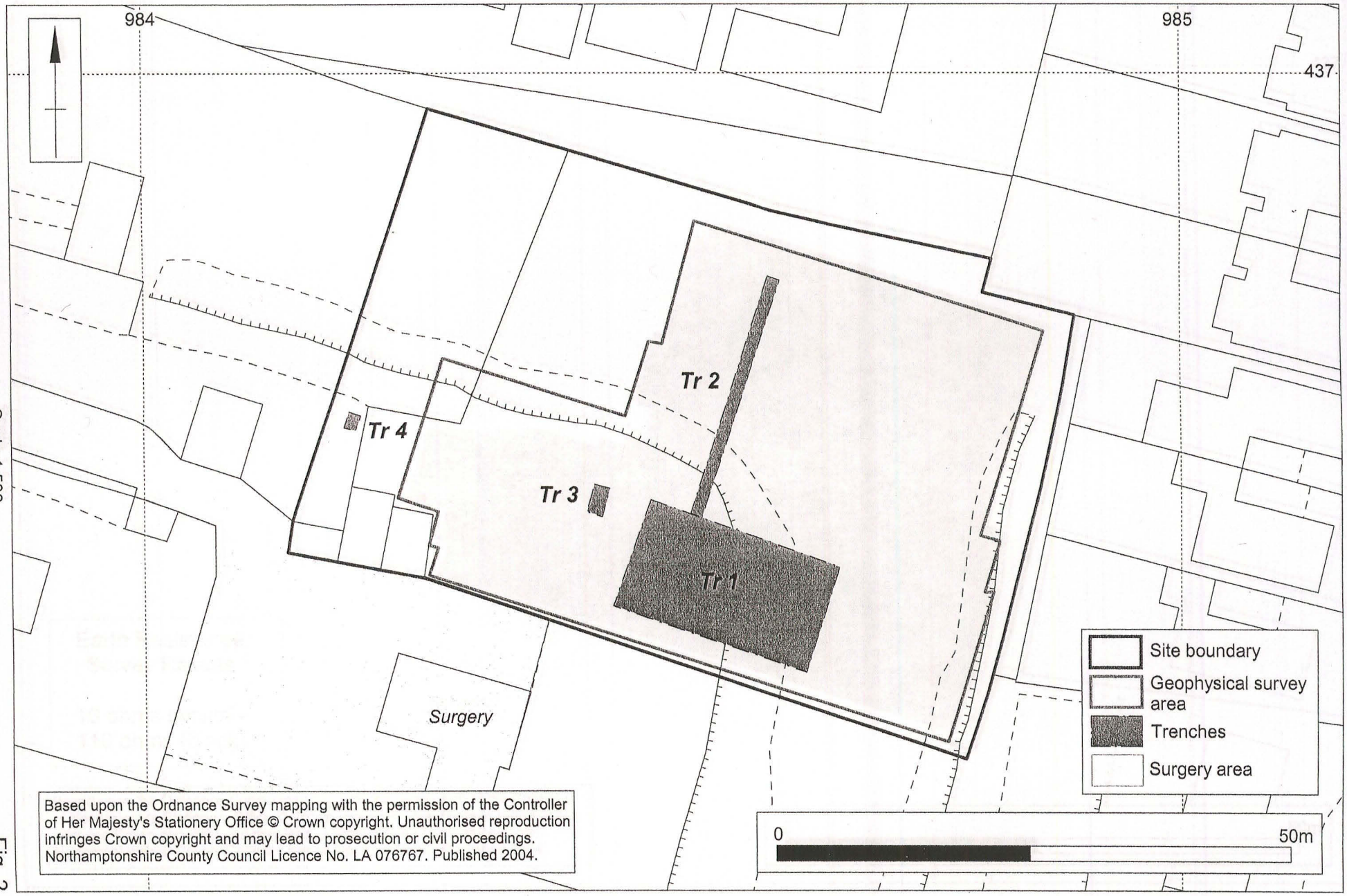
Fig. 1



Scale 1:500

Fig. 2

Scale 1:500

Fig. 3

Scale 1:500

Fig. 4

Plan 1

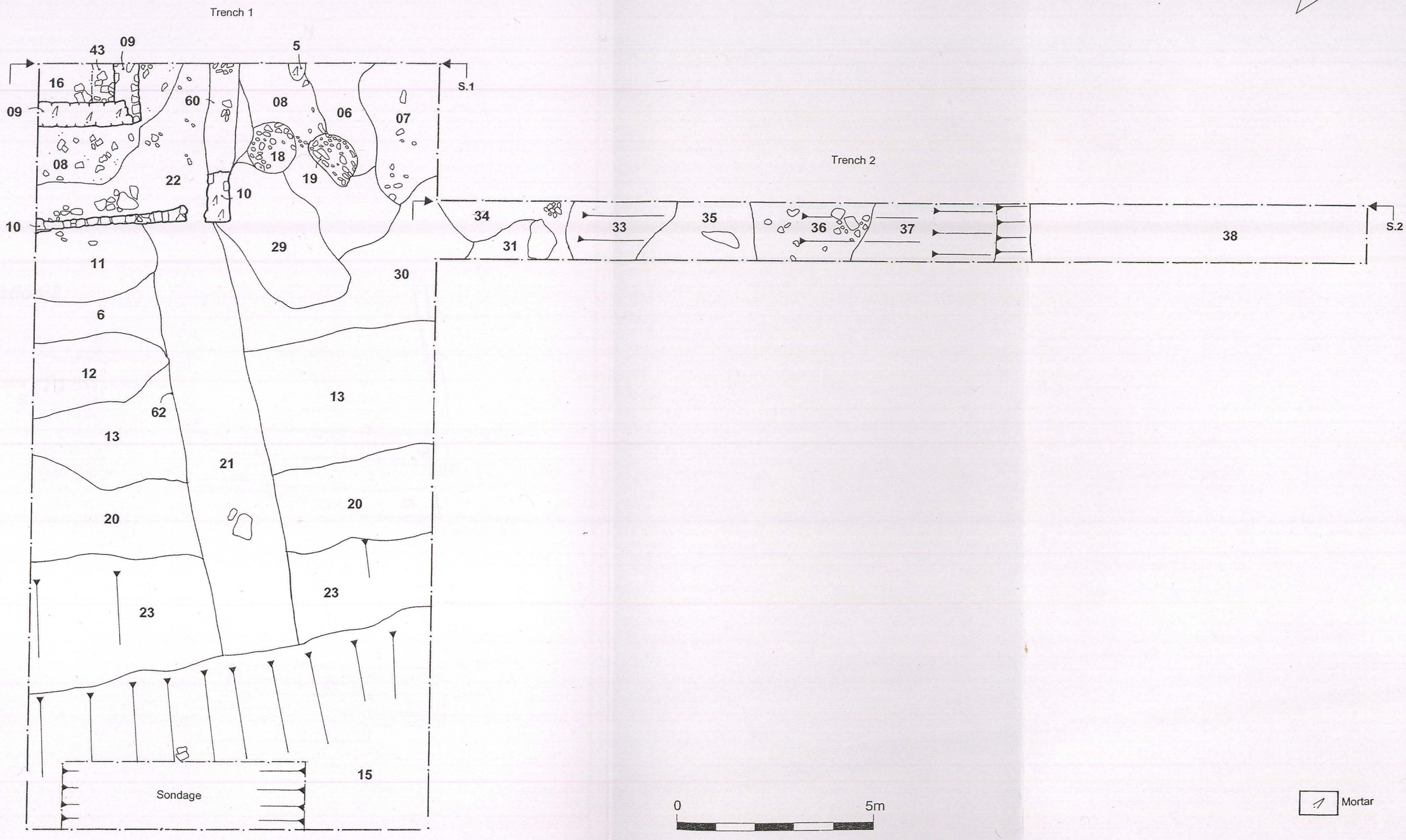
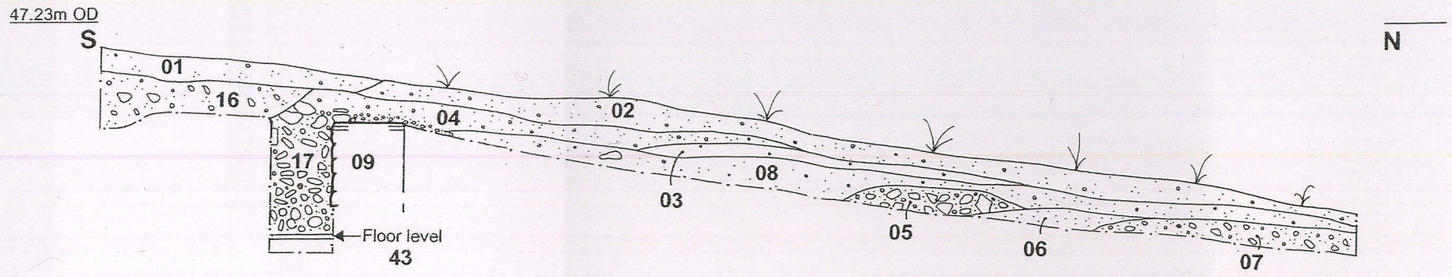

Trench 1
Trench 2
S.1
S.2
43
09
5
16
09
60
08
06
07
18
08
22
19
10
10
34
33
35
36
37
38
31
29
30
11
6
12
13
62
13
21
20
20
23
23
15
Sondage
0
5m
Mortar

Fig. 5

Section 1



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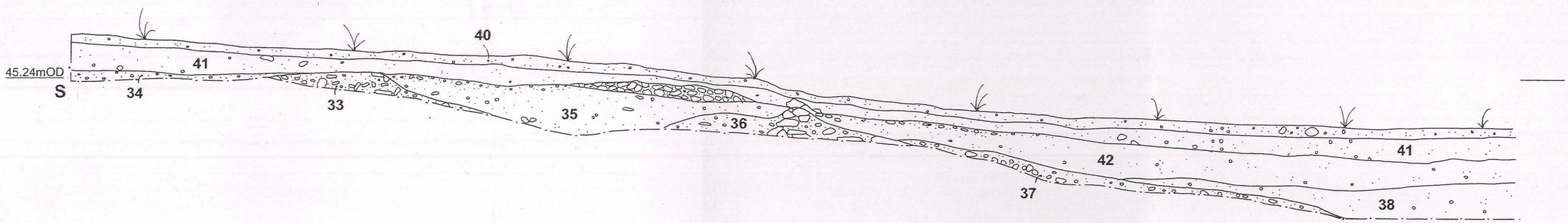


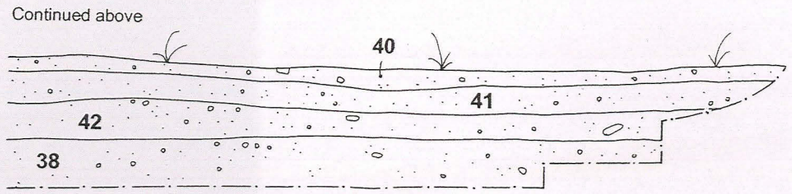
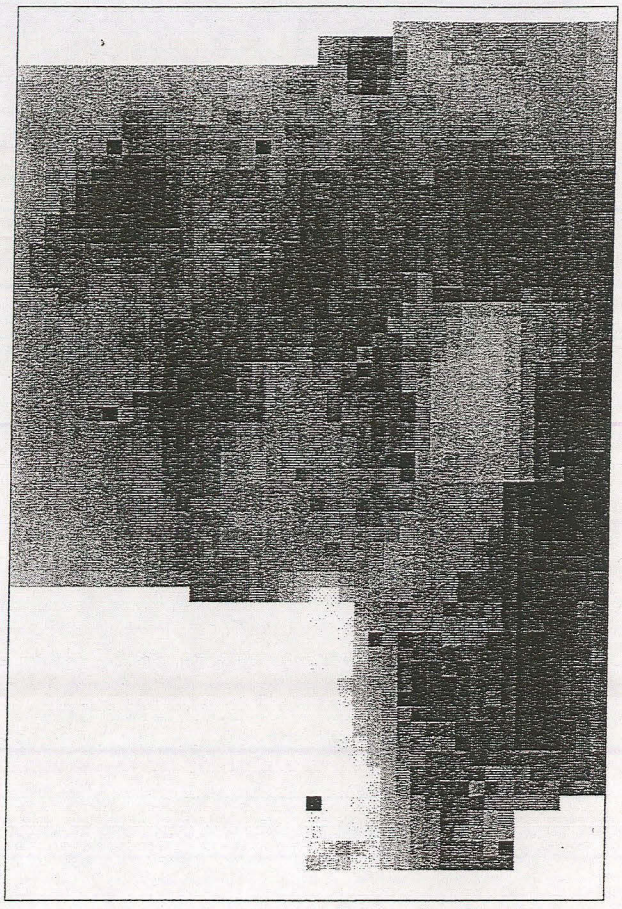
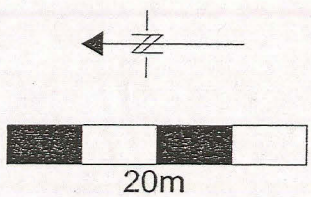


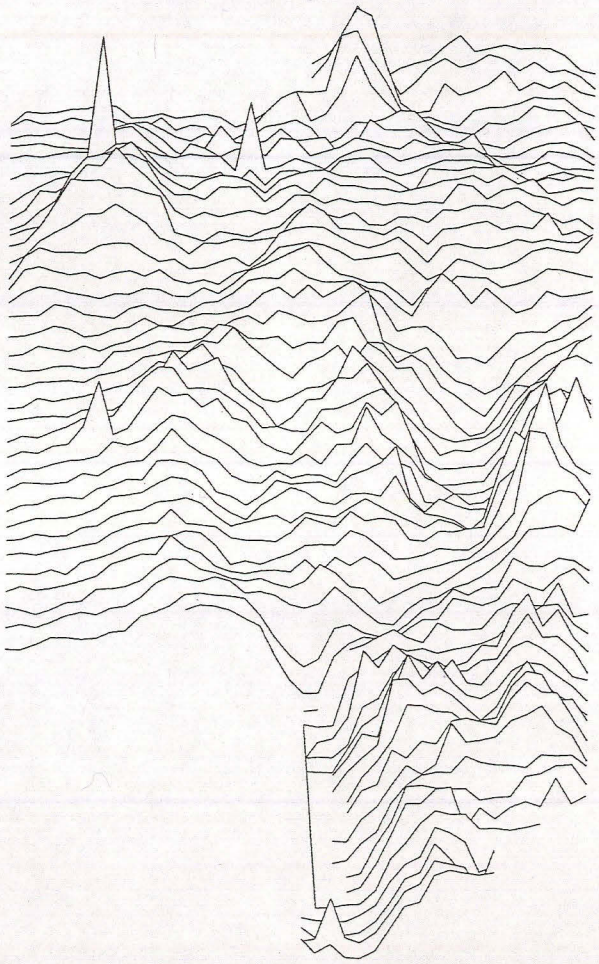
Fig. 6

Greyscale Plot





Trace Plot



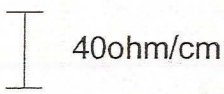


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Fig. 7