LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES
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The Roses, Main Street
Toynton All Saints

NGR:TF ~~372 639~~ 395 634
Site Code: TSR 96
LCNCC Museum Accn No: 127.96
Planning Application No:S/185/1250/95

Archaeological Evaluation

for

MR P. MACKINDER

November 1996

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Summary

Archaeological evaluation of land along the street frontage, at the north end of the field known as the Roses, established the presence of a boundary ditch in Trench 1 containing pottery of possibly as late as 17th century in date. Trench 2 contained a group of pits and gullies recorded as a possible ferrous anomaly during the geophysical survey. The later gullies were contemporary with the boundary ditch, whilst the pit was 13th -14th century in date. The two trenches confirmed the geophysical survey's findings that limited archaeological remains are likely to be encountered within the proposed development area.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Mr P. Mackinder to carry out an archaeological evaluation of land along the street frontage in the field known as the Roses, following a preliminary geophysical survey conducted by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford (Fig. 1). This field contained a medieval pottery kiln which was excavated in the late 1950s by Mrs E. H. Rudkin. Geophysical survey established that further kilns and waster heaps were present along the street frontage both north and south of existing buildings (Report no. 95/143). However, the northern end of the field appeared to be relatively free of archaeological features. The purpose of further evaluation was to try and confirm whether the geophysical results reflected a true absence of significant archaeological remains.

A planning decision has been deferred pending the results of this evaluation.

Archaeological Background

The village of Toynton All Saints is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 showing that it was a settlement whose origins lie in the Saxon period. In 1086 the village belonged to two manors (estates), one in Spilsby held by the Bishop of Durham and the other in Old Bolingbroke which was held by Ivo Taillebois.

Toynton All Saints on was an important pottery manufacturing centre from at least the 13th century onwards. Excavations in the late 1950s located a medieval pottery kiln and waster heap at the Roses site (Fig.2). Recent geophysical survey in that field identified at least three more kiln locations near the road and scanning of the field identified a further three more kiln

sites. Excavations in 1976 to the south of the proposed development located two kilns. Housing development elsewhere in the village has identified at least eight more kiln sites .

Method

The geophysical survey had indicated the northern end of the field, adjacent to the road, to be an area relatively free of archaeological remains. The aim of the evaluation was to check the results of the survey in order that an assessment of the likely impact of development on any archaeological remains might be made

Two 5m x 1.50m trenches were positioned, in accordance with the archaeological brief, over anomalies recorded during the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). The geophysical survey grid, left on site after completion of the survey was used to position the two trenches over the recorded anomalies. Each trench was initially opened by a toothless, 1.50m wide, bucket. However, ground conditions were such that a toothed bucket, 0.60m wide, had to be resorted to, to break up the hard topsoil and subsoil. All further investigations were carried out by hand.

An Ordnance Survey bench mark (29.96m), located on the SE corner of the Toynton All Saints school, was used to set up a temporary bench mark (26.99m) within the site.

All archaeological features were recorded and photographed. Deposits were allocated context numbers for the purpose of recording. These are referred to in the text, figures and context list (Appendix 1).

Trench 1 (Fig. 3, Pl. 3)

The purpose of Trench 1 was to locate the NW-SE aligned anomaly which was identified by geophysical survey, a presumed ditch, following the line of the present road (Pl.1). When machine excavation reached the natural blue grey clay **106** the ditch could still not be recognised. It was decided to machine down a further 0.40m to establish for certain whether it was present. Cleaning of the trench base and sections revealed that the ditch **(103)** was situated at the SW trench edge (Pl.2).

Identification had proved difficult because ditch fill **104**, a green grey silty clay, closely resembled natural **106** (Pl.2) and the ditch was not in the place predicted by the geophysical survey. Only when soil from machining was removed was it possible to see the distinction between the two deposits. Finds retrieved from ditch **103** consisted of eight jug/jar sherds which due to abrasion could not be dated and four fragments of a bowl which could only be broadly dated to a period falling between the 13th and17th centuries.

Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

The large circular anomaly, c.30m east of Trench 1 and NW of the power lines, was targeted for investigation (Pl. 4). After removal of the compact topsoil **102,** which had a maximum depth of 0.55m, a mid-brown loam sand

subsoil with a high iron panning content **105** was encountered. Both layers were cut through by an E-W land drain **115** (Pl. 6) with a mixed fill of topsoil and natural **114**, sited at the NW end of the trench.

Below topsoil **102**, a NE -SW aligned the terminal of linear gully **108** was noted projecting c. 1.40m into the trench, with a width of 0.58m (Pl. 5). Sides were recorded as being almost vertical whilst the base was flat. Fill of this gully, **107**, was very compact soil similar to subsoil **105**. The two sherds of pottery retrieved from this feature were non diagnostic and undateable .

Gully **108** cut through the centre of an earlier pit **110** (Pl. 5). This oval pit, of which only the NW end was investigated, contained an orange brown loam clay fill **109**, 0.58m deep. It is uncertain whether deposit **117** to the SW (Pl. 5) was part of the fill of **110** or the continuation of subsoil **105**, as the two were very similar in composition. **117** yielded no finds to enabling dating to elucidate the relationship with these two deposits.

Pit **110** was cut at its NW end by possible gully terminal **116** (Pl. 6), c.1.20m from **108**. This feature had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Width was considerably greater to that of **108**, being c.1.56m. No finds were produced by gully fill **111**, an orange-brown loam clay, to allow dating. Alignment of the two gullies suggests they may be of contemporary date.

Oblong pit **113**, (Pl. 6), the earliest archaeological feature recorded in Trench 2, was cut to the SE by pit **110** and to the NW by land drain **115**. Excavation of **112**, revealed sides sloping at 45º before levelling out and then dropping at an angle of 30º to a fairly flat base. One sherd of 13th -14th century medieval pottery was found during excavation of this feature.

Discussion

Excavation of the two evaluation trenches showed that archaeological horizons are present at a depth, below ground level, of 0.76m in Trench 1 and 0.20m in Trench 2, the latest horizon being 17th century in date. The sherds from this period were mainly from domestic vessels which were very abraded, suggesting much usage and/or later surface exposure.

The earlier 13th -14th century horizon exposed in Trench 2, contained better preserved finds relating to a period of industrial activity. A kiln prop was retrieved, indicating the presence of nearby kilns (which were located by the geophysical team).

The ditch in Trench 1 appears to mark the western boundary of the industrial area, finds from this feature possibly marking the duration of usage.

The precise location of Mrs Rudkin's excavated kiln of 1958 (Fig. 5) was not established during evaluation. However, Mrs Rudkin's notes and photographs indicate that the kiln was situated close to the existing electricity pole. As Trench 2 showed that the anomaly recorded by the geophysical

survey was not the kiln and the feature east of the investigated anomaly was interpreted by the geophysical team to be an undisturbed kiln, it seems likely that the anomaly situated SW of Trench 2 is the excavated kiln (Pl.8). The geophysical interpretation for this feature showed five areas of ferrous concentration within a zone interrupting the workshop spread. This reading may be the result of disturbance caused by Mrs Rudkin's excavation and tallies with the five-flued structure which she found. Depressions in the ground at that area closely resemble the indentations one would expect from the excavation of a five-flued kiln - a large bowl-shaped depression with linear indentations radiating from the centre (Pl.9).

Conclusion

Evaluation of land north west of the workshop spread, confirmed the geophysical survey findings, that the archaeology encountered was generally situated towards the south end of the site and its western extreme. The boundary ditch in Trench 1 was situated close to the existing road, with no associated features close by. Trench 2 established a zone of archaeological activity not recorded by the geophysical survey. However, the restrictive area of Trench 2 meant that interpretation of these features was difficult. Later features appeared to relate to a domestic phase of usage, but their extent was not established, whilst the earlier industrial phase appeared to impinge little on the area evaluated.

The potential for archaeological remains within the proposed development area would seem to be limited given the findings of the evaluation and geophysical survey results.

M. McDaid
November 25th 1996

References

Field, N., 1996 *Proposed Residential Development, Main Street, Toynton All Saints.* Unpublished developer report.

Barton, J. K., 1975 *Pottery in England.*

Geophysical Surveys of Bradford, 1995 *The Roses, Main Street, Toynton All Saints.* Unpublished developer report.

Acknowledgements

LAS would like to thank Mr Mackinder for his help and assistance and to Mr Stainton who drove the JCB.

APPENDIX 1

The Roses, Main Street, Toynton All Saints (TSR 96)
Context List

context	trench	relationship	description
101	1 and 2		cleaning layer
102	1 and 2	above 107	topsoil
103	1	above 106	cut of ditch
104	1	above 103	fill of ditch
105	1 and 2	above 104	subsoil
106	1 and 2	below 103 and 113	natural
107	2	below 102	fill of 108
108	2	below 107	cut of gully
109	2	below 108	fill of pit
110	2	above 112	cut of pit
111	2	above 116	fill of pit
112	2	below 113	fill of pit
113	2	above 106	cut of pit
114	2	above 115	fill of land drain
115	2	above 102?	cut of land drain
116	2	above 110	cut of pit
117	2	below 108	layer/fill

APPENDIX 2

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: TSR96 WARE TYPES BY CONTEXT

Context	Ware	Sherds	Form	Comments
101	LSTON	1	BOTTLE	-
101	MISC	1	JUG	UNDERFIRED;PROBABLY TOY; BS;VERY WORN
101	MISC	1	JUG	UNDERFIRED;PROBABLY TOY; BS;VERY WORN
101	MISC	1	JUG	UNDERFIRED;PROBABLY TOY;RIM;VERY WORN
101	TOY	1	BOWL	BS;UNDERFIRED;INT GLZE?
101	TOY	1	JUG	FE STP DEC;WORN
101	TOY	1	JUG	RIBBED OVAL HANDLE
101	TOY	1	JUG;SMALL	WELL WORN;ROD HANDLE
101	VITR	1	JUG	SCUFF RIM;PROBABLY TOY
104	MISC	1	?	VERY WORN
104	TB	1	JUG/JAR	? DATE
104	TB	1	JUG/JAR	? DATE
104	TB	1	JUG/JAR	? DATE
104	TB	1	JUG/JAR	? DATE;VERY WORN
104	TB	1	JUG/JAR	? DATE;VERY WORN
104	TOY	1	JUG	LIP
104	TOY	1	JUG	ROD HANDLE
104	TOY	1	JUG	ROD HANDLE
104	TOY	4	BOWL	INT GLZE
105	MISC	2	KILN PROP?	VERY THICK BODY
105	TOY	1	BOWL	INT GLZE
105	TOY	1	JUG	BASE
105	TOY	1	JUG	BASE;UNDERFIRED
105	TOY	1	JUG	BS
105	TOY	1	JUG	BS
105	TOY	1	JUG	BS
105	TOY	1	JUG	BS
105	TOY	1	JUG	SCUFF RIM
105	TOY	1	JUG	SCUFF RIM
105	TOY	1	ODD	HANDLED;
105	TOY	2	JUG	BS
107	TB	1	?	VERY WORN;BS;COULD BE TOY
107	TB	1	?	VERY WORN;BS;COULD BE TOY
112	TOY	1	BOWL	RIM;UNDERFIRED;GLZE?

POST-ROMAN POTTERY ARCHIVE: TSR96 HORIZON DATING

Context	Earliest horizon	Latest horizon	Probable horizon	Date range
112	MH5	MH7	-	late 13th to 14th
101	PMH7	EMH	-	late 17th to modern
107	MH5	PMH5	-	late 13th to mid 17th
104	MH5	PMH5	-	late 13th to mid 17th
105	MH5	MH7	-	late 13th to 14th

APPENDIX 3

Contents of Site Archive

Context records	17 (nos. 101-117)
Site Plans	3
Section drawings	3

Photographs
Film no. 96/59 neg. 4
Film no. 96/62 negs. 13-26, 30-36

Pottery archive list
Correspondence

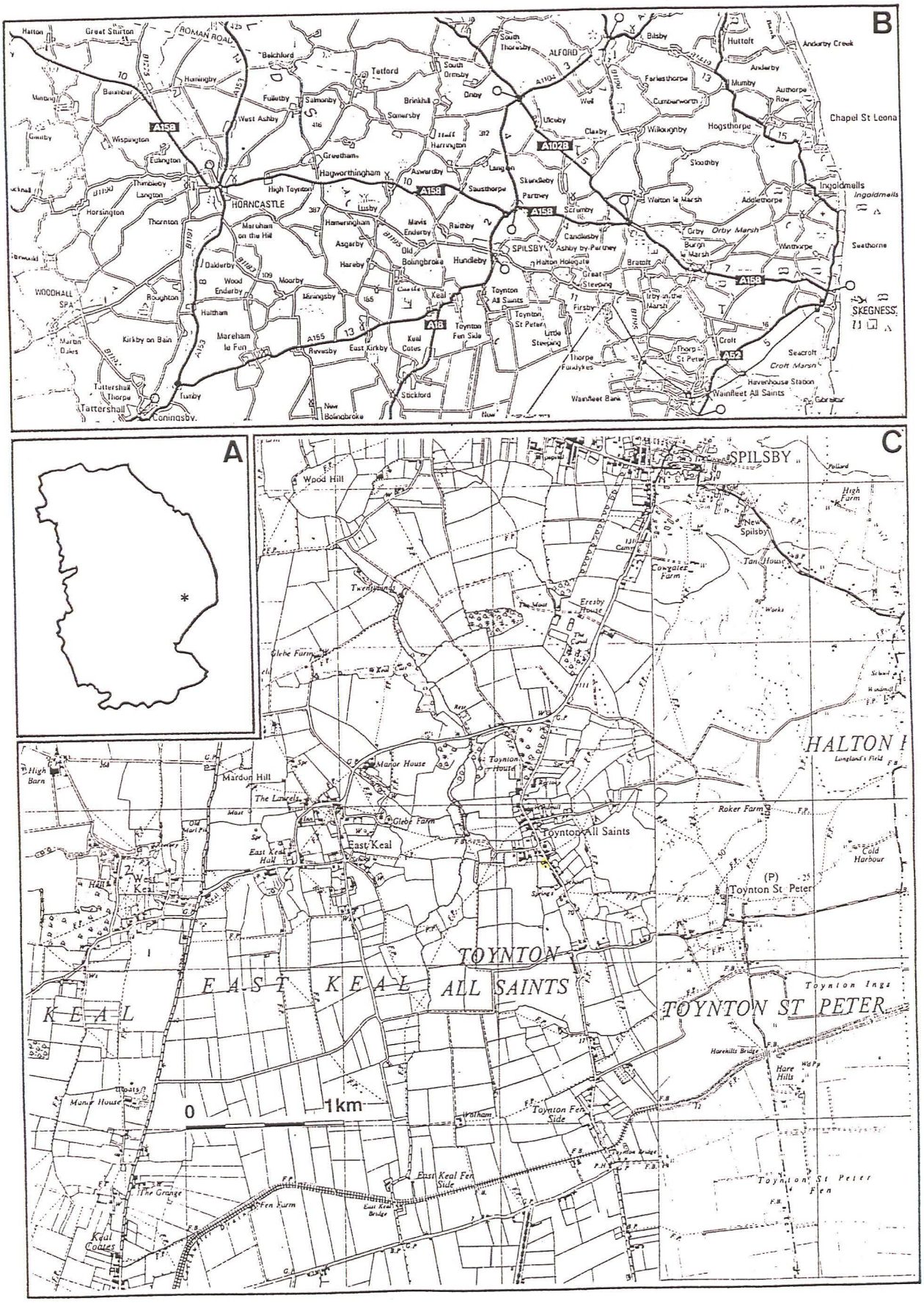

Fig. 1 Location of proposed development site. (Insert C based on the 1953 O.S.1:25,000 map reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO © Crown copyright 1953. Licence No. 50424A

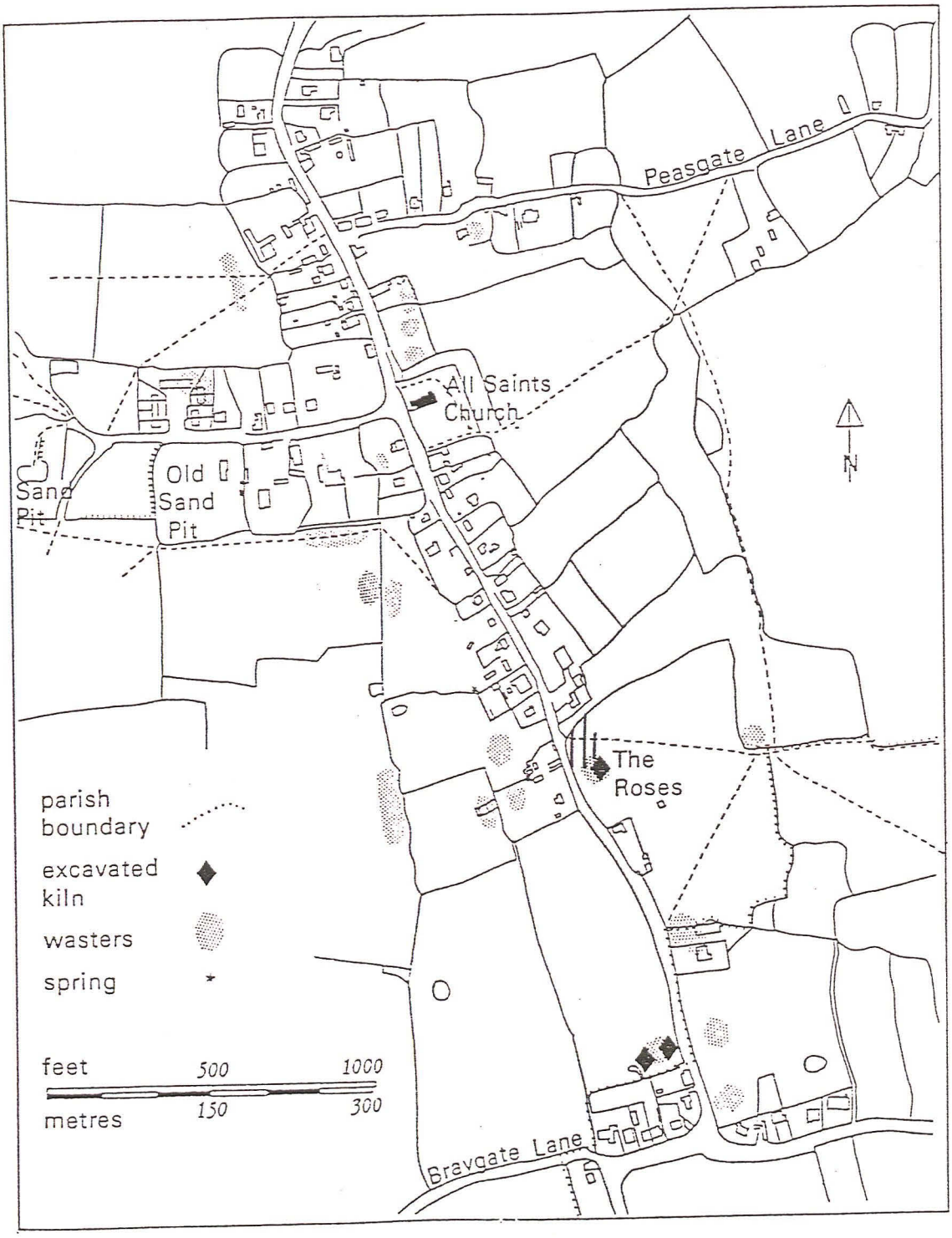

Fig. 2 Village plan showing location of proposed development site with excavated kilns and waster sites marked.

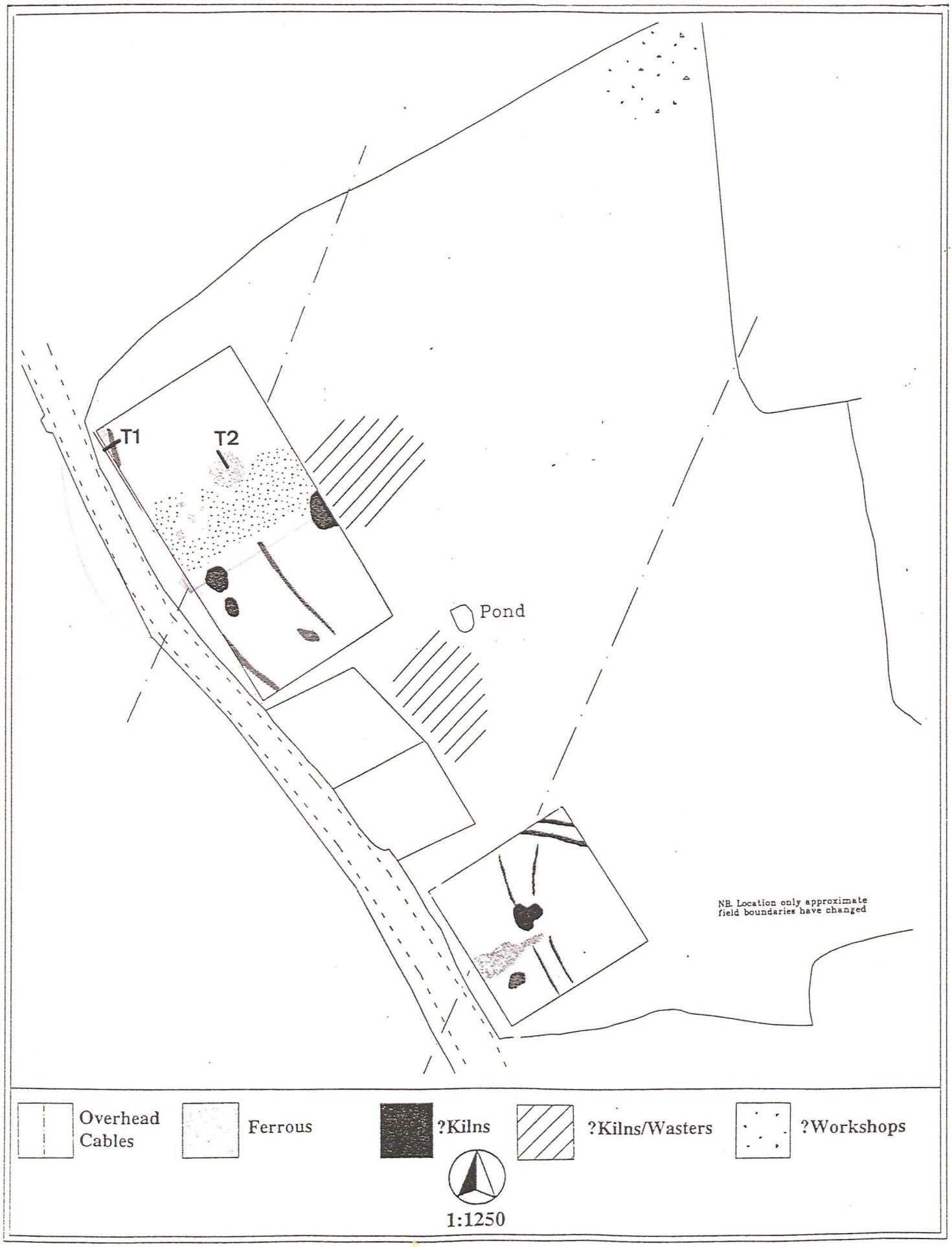

Fig. 3 Site of proposed development. Geophysical anomalies and trench positions marked. Based upon a plan produced by Bradford Geophysical Surveys.

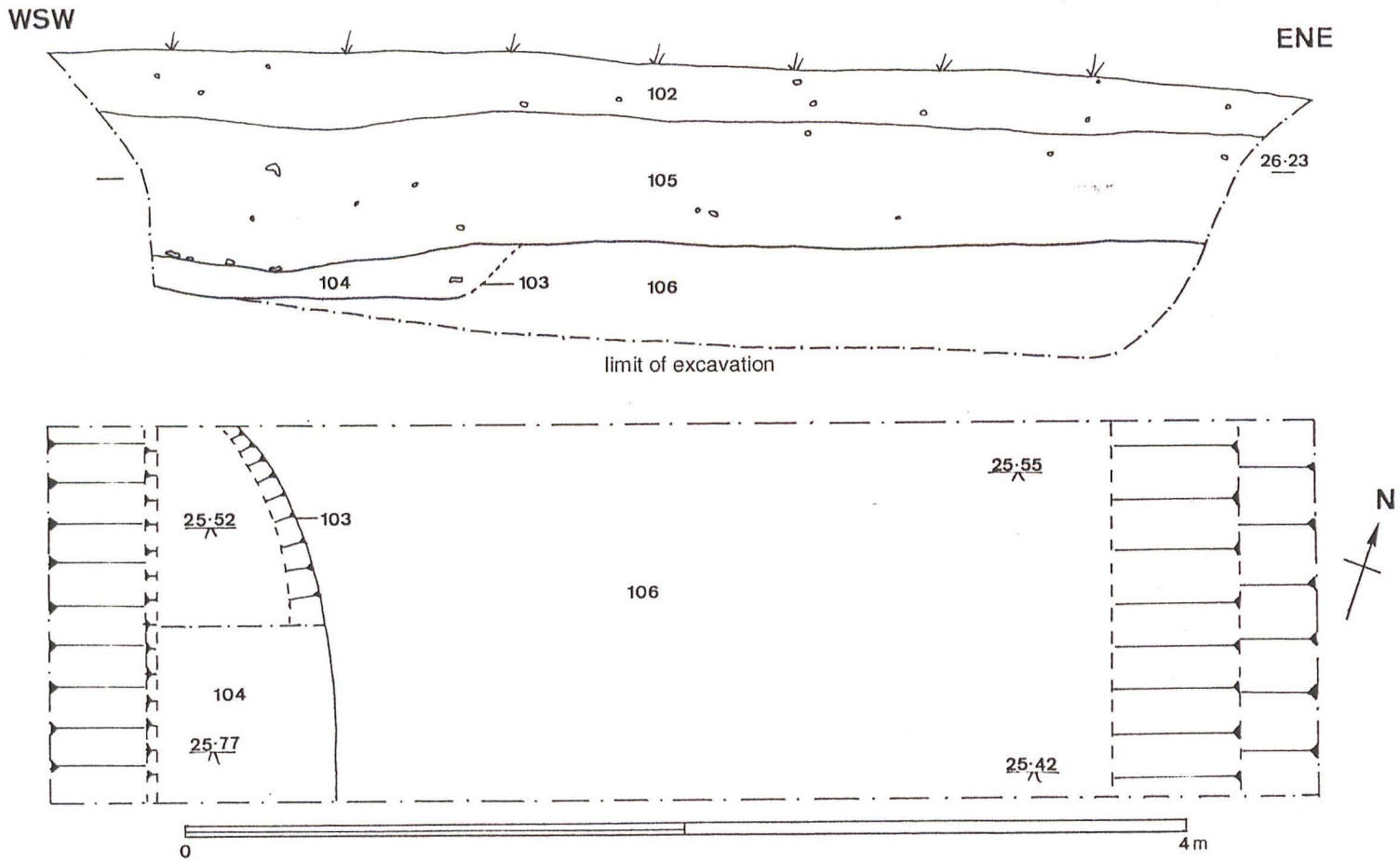

Fig. 4 Section and plan of Trench 1.

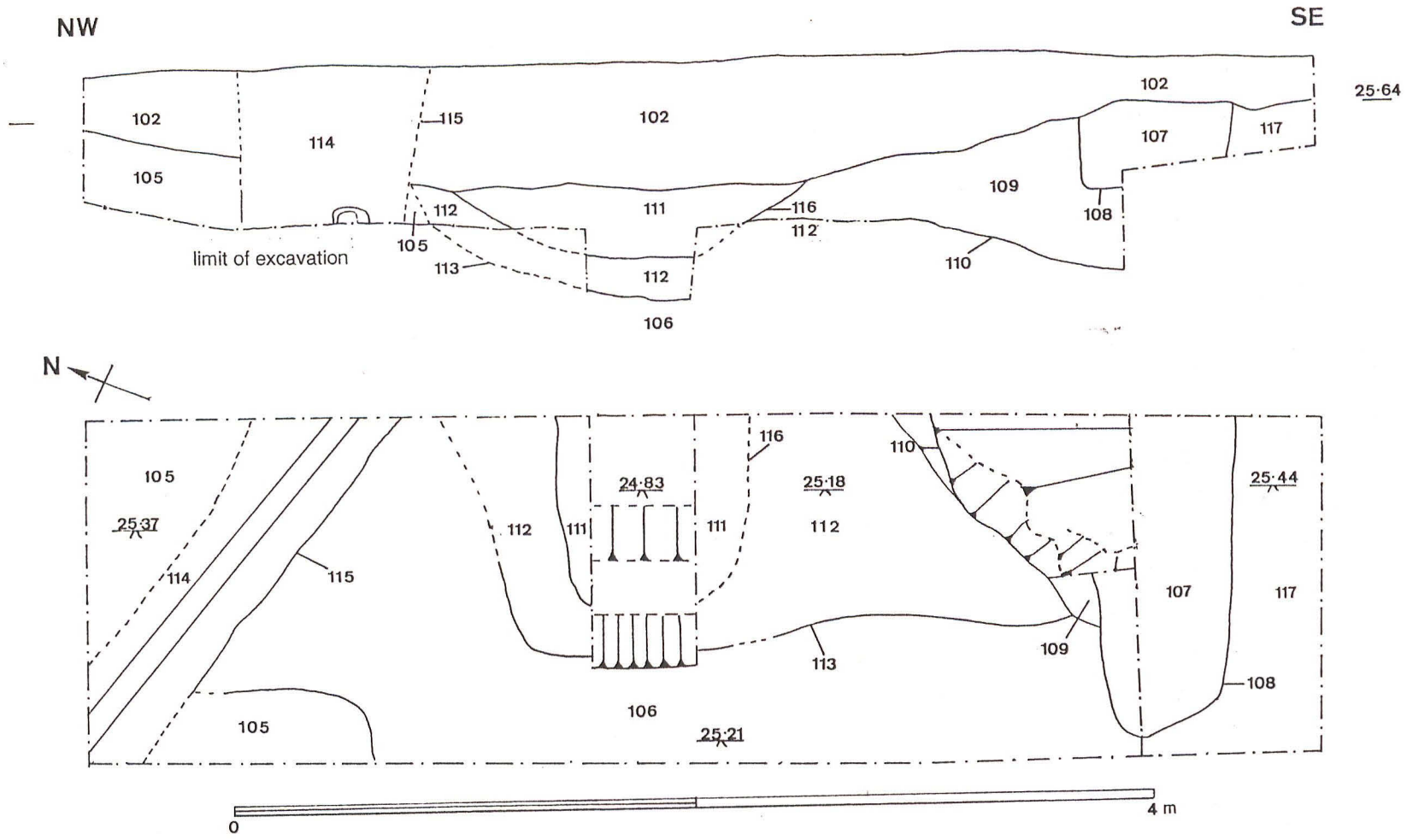

Fig. 5 Section and plan of Trench 2.

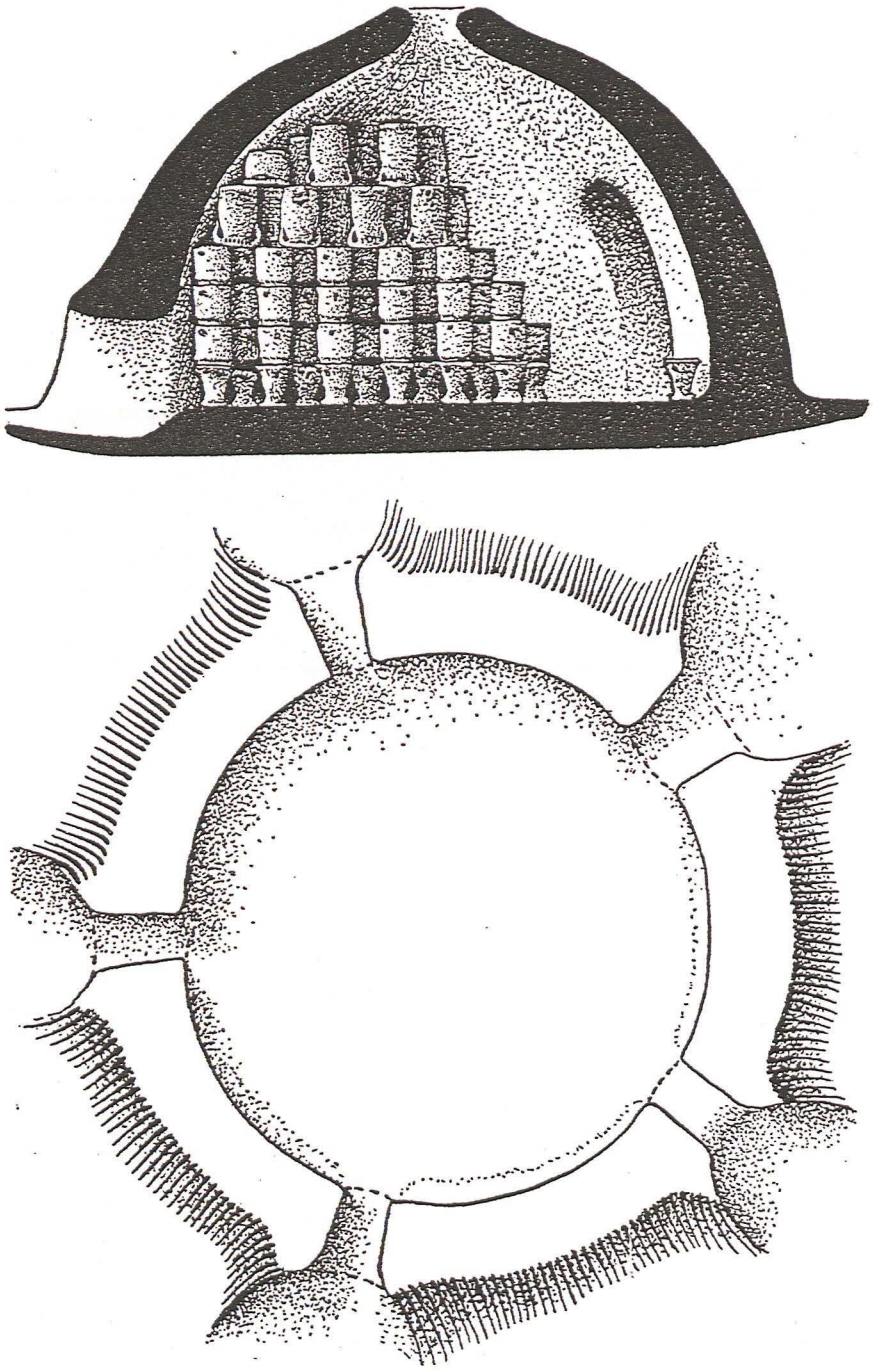

Fig. 6 Plan and interpretive drawing of a five flue kiln.

Pl. 1 Plotting of trench positions. Trench 1 peg to the left. Looking SE.

Pl. 2 Trench 1, SW end. SE facing section. Ditch 103 in plan and section. Horizontal scales 1m and 0.50m, vertical scale 0.50m.

Pl. 3 Trench 1, post excavation. Clearly showing animal disturbed natural 106. View SW. Horizontal scales 1m, vertical 0.50m.

Pl. 4 Location of trench 2. Looking ENE.

Pl. 5 Trench 2. Linear feature 108, deposit 117 and pit 110 (left), looking NE. Scales 1m.

Pl. 6 Pre excavation shot of pits 113 and 116 (right), land drain 115 (left). Looking NE. Scales 1m.

Pl. 7 Trench 2. Post excavation. Looking SE.

Pl. 8 Trench 2, with the 1958 kiln excavation behind, in line with the house. View SW.

Pl. 9 Probable location of 1958 kiln excavation (marked by central