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LAND AT 69-115 CHURCH END,
CHERRY HINTON,
CAMBRIDGE

An Archaeological Evaluation

no 487

Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust



HERTFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Report No. 487

LAND AT 69-115 CHURCH END,
CHERRY HINTON,
CAMBRIDGE

An Archaeological Evaluation

HAT 358
NGR: TL 488 575

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LAND AT 69-115 CHURCH END, CHERRY HINTON, CAMBRIDGE AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

During February and March 1998, Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (HAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at 69-115 Church End, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire (TL 488 575). The evaluation revealed archaeological features across the site, principally an undated, but possibly, Christian Roman inhumation cemetery in the western part of the site. Ploughing had caused some disturbance to the graves. Mediaeval features were found across the remainder of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During February and March 1999, Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (HAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at 69-115 Church End, Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 488 575) (Figs.1-2). The evaluation was undertaken as part of a planning condition required by the Local Planning Authority, based on advice from the Cambridgeshire County Council County Archaeology Office (CCC CAO). The works were commissioned by Cambridge City Architects on behalf of the Cambridge Housing Society, in advance of proposals to redevelop the site. The proposed development includes the construction of residential dwellings, with associated access, parking, landscaping and services.

1.2 The archaeological evaluation was conducted in accordance with a brief prepared by the CCC CAO (dated January 1999) and a specification compiled by HAT (1999a, dated January 1999). In addition it complied with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (IFA, 1994). The report was prepared according to the CCC CAO document *CAO1995/1*.

1.3 The evaluation comprised a trial trench investigation. It represented a fourth phase of archaeological investigations on the site. The first phase comprised a Desk-Based Assessment prepared by HAT in January (HAT, 1999b). The second and third phases were undertaken concurrently in February: an Air Photographic Assessment prepared by Air Photo Services Ltd. (APS, 1999); and a Geophysical Survey carried out by Stratascan (Stratascan, 1999). These reports were presented to the CCC CAO prior to the commencement of field work.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figs.1&2)

2.1 A full description of the site, its geology and topography, and the historical and archaeological background is contained in the desk-based assessment (HAT, 1999b - HAT Report No.473). It is summarised below:

- The site lies 4 km east south east of Cambridge city centre and 0.1 km south of Cambridge airport, on the north west periphery of Cherry Hinton. It comprises c.0.6ha of rough grassland, bounded by Church End road to the south, the 18th century Old Rosemary Branch house and garden to the west, an open field under crop to the north, the rear of residential properties bounding March Lane to the north east, and an electricity substation to the east.
- The site is situated on Lower chalk, with variable thin chalky drift soils locally.
- Key elements already identified in this archaeologically rich landscape include Neolithic sites such as a causewayed enclosure at Great Wilbraham, possibly with a henge monument close by, and another Neolithic enclosure at Stapleford to the south. A number of earlier Bronze Age barrows are present on the chalk landscape locally, for instance three recently-excavated ring ditches to the south of the site at Fulbourn Road and further crop-marks of ring-ditches have been noted in the lower-lying fields to the east and south east of Church End (SMR 2692, 2697 & 9593). Two circular enclosures with origins in the later Bronze/early Iron Age are present on higher ground to the south of Cherry Hinton (the War Ditches and the hillfort at Wandlebury). Excavations at Fulbourn Hospital have revealed middle/late Bronze Age occupation. Iron Age evidence is known from the far side of the airport and to the east of the site adjacent to the Roman site in Hinton Fields, Teversham. The latter is an important Roman site some 1 km to the east of Church End, where dense Roman occupation was revealed in the 1970s and 1980s, including buildings with mosaic floors, pottery and coins spanning the 1st to 4th centuries, 4th century yard surfaces and ditches and pits connected with pottery manufacture. Roman finds have been made in the area of the cement works to the south west of the site, and 4th century occupation has been found to the north at Teversham. The Worsted Street Roman road runs c.3 km to the south of Cherry Hinton. Saxon finds have been made at Coldham's Common and an inhumation with a dagger was found at the Coldham's Lane cement works. Cherry Hinton was a Domesday village. Church End was adjacent to the manor of Hinton Uphall. Mediaeval features have been found at the cement works to the east of the site suggesting occupation fronting Coldham's Lane (perhaps a larger settlement than the traces of which that can be seen as surviving on post mediaeval maps of the area would suggest) and evidence of mediaeval ridge and furrow agricultural earthworks were recently visible in a field adjacent to the north.

3 THE INVESTIGATION

3.1. The evaluation was conducted according to the brief and specification, and conformed to the guidelines of the CCC CAO and the IFA.

3.2. The primary aims of the evaluation were to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development (Section 3.1 of the brief). Specifically, the evaluation was also to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains, detailing zones of relevant importance against known development proposals (Section 3.7 of the brief).

3.3. Five trenches were excavated across the site using a 180° mechanical excavator (JCB) (Fig.3). The trenches conformed to a layout approved by the CCC CAO. Four trenches were

30 m x 2 m, the fifth (Trench 5) was 21 m x 2 m. Topsoil and subsoil were mechanically-excavated under close supervision until the underlying natural deposits and archaeological features were visible. All further excavation was undertaken by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits revealed were recorded using *pro-forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed. Inhumation burials were defined but not excavated (OD heights were recorded for the upper surface of the grave fills as revealed).

3.4 Metal detecting was undertaken by HAT along the bases of all the trenches and their attendant spoil heaps. No archaeological finds were retrieved.

4 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 3-5)

Individual trench descriptions are presented below:

Trench 1 Figs.4-5)

Sample section: (0.00 = 14.48 m AOD)

0.00 - 0.24m L1000. Topsoil. Mid greyish brown silty loam with occasional chert/flint pebbles and small nodules. Sparse chalk pebbles and nodules.

0.24 - 0.52m L1001. Subsoil. Slightly silty clay with common chalk flecks and nodules. Moderately compact and cohesive. Occasional small flint pebbles and nodules. Fragments of human bone and daub derived from underlying features have been brought into this layer from underlying features by ploughing.

0.52m+ L1002. Natural chalky drift.

Description. Archaeological features were revealed, principally relating to an undated but possible Roman inhumation cemetery. The graves had been disturbed by ploughing. The graves were unexcavated. All features were sealed by L1001. Feature F1079 was a probable grave, partially revealed within the trench and aligned roughly WSW/ENE (top of fill 13.94 m AOD). Fragments of human bone were observed on the surface of the fill (which was similar to the other grave fills in composition - see below), but the feature was unexcavated. F1080 was also probably a grave on similar alignment and with a similar fill, partially revealed within the trench (top of fill 123.96 m AOD). Feature F1081 was an ill-defined feature with fragments of human bone on the surface, almost certainly another grave (top of fill 13.74 m AOD). Feature F1082 was another partially revealed grave, with fragments of human bone on the surface, aligned approximately WSW/ENE (top of fill 13.73 m AOD). Two intercutting probable graves were adjacent to the north, on a similar alignment. F1083 was partially revealed (top of fill 13.75 m AOD), whilst F1084 to the north contained the exposed top of the skull at the excavated level (height 13.71 m AOD). F1085 was another probable grave, with exposed bone on the surface (height 13.62 m AOD), as was F1086 adjacent to the north west (height 13.60 m AOD). Feature F1087 was also another grave, with the top of the skull exposed at the eastern end of the cut (height 13.63 m AOD). Feature F1088 was partially revealed in the trench, and represented another inhumation. The top of the skull was located at 13.64 m AOD. Feature F1089 was another probable inhumation, also partially revealed within the trench (top of fill 13.38 m AOD). Feature F1090 was a inhumation disturbed by ploughing, with a parts of the articulated leg bones exposed at the surface (height 13.41 m AOD), aligned WSW/ENE.

Feature F1012 was a linear ditch, aligned NW/SE. It was 2.28 m wide and 0.8 m deep, with edges that broke sharply from the surface to steep sides leading to a narrow, concave base. It was filled with a uniform deposit of moderately compact silty clay (L1013), containing occasional small sub-rounded flint pebbles and fragments of animal bone (23, 426g). Finds from the ditch fill include 12th-14th century (4, 23g).

The inhumations continued to the north east of the ditch. F1019 represented the north-western end of a probably sub-rectangular grave cut, aligned (as is common) WSW/ENE. It was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (L1020) with moderate chalk flecks and small nodules, and was moderately compact. No finds were present at the surface, and it was unexcavated (height 13.17 m AOD). Feature F1021 was adjacent to the north, and represented a well-defined, sub-rectangular grave cut (over 2.3 m in length and 0.7 m wide). It was parallel to F1019, and filled with a similar mid greyish brown silty clay (L1022) with irregular pockets of light grey clay. No finds were present on the surface of the fill (height 13.15 m AOD). A further grave was present immediately to the north, parallel to F1021 and truncated in turn by ditch F1025 to the north. The grave (F1023) was also sub-rectangular (where visible) and filled with a similar fill to L1022. No bone or other finds were visible on the surface (height 13.03 m AOD). F1027 lay to the north, and represented another grave, also truncated by ditch F1025. Articulated human leg bones were present at a height of 12.74 m AOD (skeleton 1031). These were left *in situ* (when revealed during hand excavation of a section through the ditch).

F1009, F1025 and F1026 were a series represented a series of recut NW/SE aligned ditches. As noted above, grave F1027 was truncated by Ditch F1025.

The earliest in the sequence of ditches was F1009, which was truncated by Ditch F1025. The latter was subsequently re-cut as Ditch F1026. Ditch F1009 was up to 1.05 m in depth and 2.14 m+ wide (where not truncated). It exhibited a moderately steep, slightly stepped northern edge, breaking sharply as it steepened towards the base. The southern edge (where visible) was similar. The ditch exhibited a concave base. It was filled with an upper fill (L1010 - up to 0.55 m deep) of mid greyish brown, slightly silty clay with moderate inclusions of chalk flecks and small nodules, with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular flint pebbles and small nodules. Finds from this layer comprised an undated pottery sherd (4g), and fragments of daub (6, 46g). The basal fill (L1011) was 0.4 m thick, and was derived from slumped material infilling the base of the ditch. It consisted of a pale grey clayey chalk with minimal coarse components, also containing fragments of animal bone (2, 18g).

Ditch F1025 was 1.10 m wide and up to 0.6 m deep. It truncated Grave F1027 to the south and had been re-cut as Ditch F1026 to the north. It had a moderately steeply sloping concave southern edge. The base was not revealed. It was filled with light brown, slightly silty clay with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular flint pebbles and small nodules (L1015). Finds from this layer included a probable Roman greyware pottery sherd (3g), and fragments animal bone (14, 32g), daub (1, 6g) and quartzite (1, 148g). Feature F1026 represents a re-cut of the ditch to the north. It was 2.45 m wide at its surface and up to 0.65 m deep. It broke sharply from the surface, with concave edges that were 45-50° from horizontal and gave way imperceptibly to a concave base. It was filled with a single fill of moderately compact silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint pebbles (L1016), and contained Roman pottery (3, 14g), and fragments animal bone (7, 20g), burnt flint (2, 28g), daub/mortar (4, 24g), iron nails (2, 16g) and (?intrusive).

Ditch F1007 was adjacent and parallel to the north. It was 1.58 m in width and 0.46 m deep, with a 45° southern edge breaking gently to the base and a steeper northern edge breaking more sharply to the base (which was concave and slightly flattish). It was filled with a compact, mid grey, slightly silty clay (L1008) with moderate inclusions of chalk flecks and small nodules, sparse small flint pebbles and large nodules/cobbles. Finds from the ditch included fragments of animal bone (25, 46g) and abraded mediaeval pottery (2, 12g). Fragments of burnt stone (1, 114g), daub and mortar (12, 56g) and shell (2, 4g) were also found within the fill.

Feature F1005 was a poorly defined truncated pit or probable tree throw. It was an irregular sub-ovoid shape in plan, 1 m in length and 0.6 m wide and only 0.09 m deep, with gently sloping sides and an irregular base. The fill (L1006) contained post-mediaeval and modern pottery sherds, and fragments of animal bone (9, 68g), human bone fragment (1, 1g), plaster (3, 102g), daub (5, 34g), tile (6, 370g), clay pipe stem (1), iron nails (2, 28g), bottle glass (3, 20g) and slag (2, 48g).

Trench 2 Figs 4 & 6

Sample section: (0.00 = 14.06 m AOD)

0.00 - 0.33m L1000. Topsoil. As Trench 1

0.33 - 0.62m L1001. Subsoil. As Trench 1, though with no notable inclusions of daub.

0.62m+ L1002. Natural chalk drift. As Trench 1

Description. Archaeological features were identified, including further evidence of inhumation burials, ditches and pits. All features were sealed by subsoil L1001.

Features F1003 and F1004 were intercutting graves, on a common alignment with the graves in Trench 1. They were not excavated, but both revealed exposed human bone on the surface (at heights of 13.71 m AOD and 13.82 m AOD respectively). Grave F1003 revealed a single undated sherd of reduced ware pottery (2g) and fragments of human bone (9, 492g). Feature F1075 was on a parallel alignment to the south west, and was partially revealed within the trench. Exposed human bone was revealed on the surface of the feature at 13.76 m AOD. Grave F1076 was adjacent to the east, with the top of a skull exposed at the western end of the cut at a height of 13.79 m AOD. At least two further parallel graves were revealed to the south east (F1077 & F1078), both revealing articulated long bones at the surface revealed (at heights of 13.87 and 13.71 m AOD respectively).

F1029 was a linear ditch cut, aligned approximately NE/SW. It was 1.3 m wide and 0.54 m deep, with sides that broke sharply from the surface. The edges dropped steeply to a sharp break of slope at the base, which was flattish in profile. The ditch was filled with a single fill (L1030), consisting of a pale grey, silty clay with moderate inclusions of chalk flecks and occasional chalk nodules and small flint pebbles. Finds from the ditch included 12th-14th century pottery sherds (10, 108g), struck flints (2, 8g), and fragments of animal bone (5, 5g) and human bone (7, 16g).

Feature F1017 was a large possible quarry pit, partially revealed within the trench and up to 4.65 m wide. It was 0.53 m deep, with irregular sides and an irregular base. It was filled with a single fill (L1018) and lenses/tip lines of chalk (possibly partly derived from disturbance due

to animal burrowing). Layer L1018 consisted of a moderately compact dark grey silty clayey chalk, with sparse charcoal flecks and small flint pebbles and nodules. Finds from the fill included some 48 pottery sherds (predominantly mediaeval but including 3 Roman sherds) (252g), and fragments of daub/tile (1, 13g), animal bone (10, 30g), iron nails (2, 22g) and shell (1, 2g).

Feature F1032 was a sub-rectangular pit, partially revealed within the trench and continuing to the south west. It was 0.40 m wide, 0.98 m+ long and 0.40 m deep. It exhibited a steep (60° from horizontal) eastern edge which broke sharply from the surface before breaking to a more gently-sloping side. The north eastern edge was more gentle in profile. The base (where revealed) appeared to be flattish and slightly concave. The pit was filled with a mid to dark greyish brown, moderately compact silty clay, with pockets of mid yellow brown sandy silt (L1033). Sparse components of small, sub-rounded flint pebbles were revealed. Finds from the pit included mediaeval pottery (12, 68g).

Feature F1038 was a much truncated linear gully, with a gently sloping, bowl-shaped profile. It was aligned NW/SE, and measured 0.43 m wide and up to 0.1 m deep. It was traced for a distance of 6 m +. It was filled with a moderately compact, buff-coloured, silty and chalky clay (L1039) with occasional small flint pebbles/nodules. A single fragment of animal bone were retrieved from the fill (2g).

Two shallow areas of tree root disturbance were noted at the eastern end of the trench. No finds were made from these features. Also in the extreme eastern end of the trench were two further features. Feature F1040 was a large shallow pit, partially revealed within the trench, which truncated earlier pit F1042. Pit F1040 was 0.18 m deep, 1.6 m + long and 0.85 m + wide. Its edge broke sharply from the surface before descending at 50° from horizontal, with a moderate break of slope to a regular, concave base. It was filled with a mid grey, slightly silty clay (L1041) with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint pebbles. Finds from the pit included fragments of animal bone (4, 42g), mediaeval pottery (4, 36g) and iron nails (2, 14g).

Pit F1042 was heavily truncated by Pit F1040. Where visible, it had steep sides and a concave base, up to 0.45 m deep. It was filled with a light grey, slightly silty clay with chalk patches and occasional flint pebbles. No finds were retrieved from the fill.

Trench 3 Fig.4 & 7

Sample section: (0.00 = 14.08 m AOD)

0.00 - 0.32m L1000. Topsoil. As Trench 1.

0.32 - 0.53m L1001. Subsoil. As Trench 1.

0.53 m+ L1014. Mixed natural drift deposit. Slightly silty clayey chalk, off-white/buff-coloured with c.5% flint pebbles and small nodules.

Description. Archaeological features were revealed within the trench. All were sealed by subsoil L1001.

Feature F1052 was a possible ditch or, more probably part of a large pit, aligned WNW/ESE (where seen). It was partially revealed in the southern end of the trench. It was 1.6 m+ wide and 0.78 m deep. The north eastern edge broke sharply from the surface and descended at 60° from horizontal before breaking gradually to a concave base (forming a steep, bowl-shaped

profile). It was filled with three separate deposits. The upper fill, Layer L1053 possibly represented a dump of hearth waste or material from an industrial process. It was 0.15 m thick and consisted of a dark grey/black, loosely-compact silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint pebbles and small nodules. Finds from this deposit include fragments of animal bone (11, 80g), daub (3, 136g) and slag (1, 54g). A thin lens of compact, creamy white-coloured clayey chalk material (L1073 - 0.07 m thick) represented the intermediate fill. No finds were present. The basal fill of the ditch/pit (L1074) was 0.52 m thick. It consisted of a mid orange/brown, moderately compact silty clay, with occasional sub-angular/sub-rounded flint pebbles and nodules. No finds were retrieved from this deposit. The water table was present at the basal level of the feature.

Feature F1050 was a shallow linear gully, aligned N/S. It was truncated by pit F1048 to the north. It was 0.38 m wide and 0.07 m deep, with 45° sides breaking moderately sharply to a flattish base. It was filled with a mid orange/brown compact silty chalky clay with grey mottling. Occasional small flint pebbles and nodules but no charcoal flecks were present.

Feature F1057 was a pit, truncated to the north by the large probable pond feature F1048. Pit F1057 truncated an earlier gully (F1059). Pit F1057 was 1.8 m wide, over 0.7 m long and 0.28 m deep. It exhibited slightly irregular sides, with an upper vertically sloping edge breaking to a gentler slope before breaking imperceptibly to a flattish base. It was filled with mid grey/brown clay with orange mottling (L1058). It was a moderately compact deposit, with patches of denser pebbles and orange clay, and very sparse charcoal flecks. Fragments of animal bone (12, 66g), slag (10, 286g) and an iron object were retrieved from the fill. An earlier possible ditch or gully, aligned NNW/SSE was truncated by the pit. It was 0.44 m deep, with very steep edges breaking sharply to a concave base. It was filled with a similar fill (L1060) to L1058, though contained no finds.

Feature F1048 was a large possible former pond or water feature. It was 6.65 m long and 1.23 m + wide, and up to 0.8 m deep. It exhibited slightly irregular sides, descending fairly sharply from the top before levelling out towards the base. It was filled with two distinct fills. The upper fill (L1049) was 0.42 m thick. It consisted of a dark greyish brown/black silty clay of fine composition. It was a loosely compact deposit overall, and contained very sparse small sub-angular flint pebbles and very sparse charcoal flecks. Fifteen animal bone fragments (220g) and an iron object (4g) were the only finds from the deposit. The lower fill (L1054) was 0.16 m thick, consisting of a mid to dark greyish brown silty clay of moderate compaction, containing very occasional small flint pebbles. Finds from this deposit include fragments of animal bone (7, 130g), and 12th-14th century pottery (2, 37g).

Gully F1055 cut the fill of pond feature F1048 (and thus it probably continued in use after the infilling of the pond). It was stone-filled drainage gully, formerly feeding the pond feature, aligned ENE/WSW. It was 0.45 m wide and 0.23 m deep, traced for a distance of 3.5 m+. It exhibited a bowl-shaped profile, with a concave base, and was filled with a slightly silty, mid grey clay (L1056), with a central infill of close-packed flint pebbles and nodules forming a drain lining. Occasional chalk flecks were present in the fill. Animal bone fragments (2, 30g) were retrieved from the fill. A single very abraded mediaeval pottery sherd (jug handle) (45g) and two fragments of stone (622g) (probably re-used as a hard-core for the stone-lining of the drain) were also retrieved.

Gully F1036 was situated parallel to the north of the latter. It was immediately parallel to another ditch to the north east (F1034 - see below). It was up to 0.52 m wide and 0.15 m deep, traced for a distance of 3.5 m+. It revealed a shallow, V-profile on excavation, and was filled with a pale grey silty clay (L1037), moderately compact with occasional small flint pebbles and sparse chalk flecks. A single sherd of Roman pottery was found within the fill (10g).

Ditch F1034 was parallel to the latter feature and probably represents the vestiges of a post mediaeval field boundary ditch. It was 1.43 m wide and traced for a distance of 6 m+. It was 0.22 m deep, with a shallow, bowl-shaped profile, and was filled with an uncompact mid to dark grey silty clay (L1035) with occasional chalk flecks and very sparse charcoal flecks. Finds from the ditch include post-mediaeval and modern pottery sherds (9, 418g), and fragments of animal bone fragments (27, 1276g), brick (262g), tile (86g) and bottle glass (4, 642g).

Feature F1044 was a post hole, measuring 0.42 m x 0.29 m x 0.26 m deep. It was sub-circular in plan with almost vertical sides descending to a slightly narrow concave base. It was filled with a moderately compact mid grey slightly silty and chalky clay (L1045), with occasional to moderate chalk flecks. Animal bone (2 small fragments - 1g) were retrieved from the fill.

Feature F1046 was a linear gully, aligned near NW/SE. It was 0.36 m wide and only 0.13 m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile. It was filled with a pale grey, slightly silty, chalky clay (L1047) of moderate compaction, with c.5% flint pebbles. Two struck flints (16g) and a single abraded mediaeval pottery sherd (2g) were found in the fill. It possibly corresponds with 'linear anomaly M4' as shown on the geophysical survey.

An area of animal/tree root disturbance was noted to the north of the gully.

Trench 4 Fig.4 & 8

Sample section: (0.00 = 13.80 m AOD)

0.00 - 0.32m L1000. Topsoil. As Trench 1.

0.32 - 0.53m L1001. Subsoil. As Trench 1, though no human bone/daub was noted.

0.53 m+ L1002. Natural chalky drift.

Description. Archaeological features were noted in the trench.

Intercutting linear features were located in the north western end of the trench. Feature F1071 was a partially revealed feature, probably a ditch or the edge of large pit. It is probably a pit, matching with the 'discrete negative anomaly' shown on the geophysical survey. It was over 3.5 m long and 1.4 m wide, aligned broadly E/W but curving slightly to the north east. It truncated two earlier ditches (F1067 & F1069). The sides of the feature broke moderately sharply from the surface and the edges dropped at c. 55° from horizontal to a concave base. It was filled with a mid to dark greyish brown compact silty clay (L1072), with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular flint pebbles and nodules. Finds from the deposit included undated shell-tempered pottery sherds (2, 44g), and fragments of animal bone (3, 64g) and fragments of mussel shell (43, 72g).

Ditch F1067 was truncated initially by parallel ditch F1069 to the south east (possibly representing a re-cut) and then in turn by ditch F1071 to the north. It was probably originally aligned NE/SW and was up to 1.3 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was filled with a mid orange/brown compact silty clay (L1068), with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were retrieved from the fill.

Ditch F1069 was 1.8 m wide and 0.33 m deep. It truncated ditch F1067 on its north western side, and was in turn truncated by ditch F1071 to the north. Where visible, its edges dropped sharply at 50° from horizontal. The base was not visible (it lay beneath the water table). It was filled with a mid greyish brown compact silty clay (L1070) with occasional flint pebbles and nodules. Finds included 6 fragments of animal bone (one burnt) (251g in total).

Ditch F1069 also truncated a linear ditch to the south east. Feature F1063 was aligned NW/SE and was partially revealed for a large part of the length of the trench (over 19.5 m). It was 0.57 m + wide and only up to 0.14 m deep. It exhibited moderately steep sides and a bowl-shaped profile. It was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay (L1064) with orange mottling, with occasional flints, chalk flecks and sparse charcoal flecks and lumps. A single fragment of animal bone was the only find (16g).

Ditch F1069 was truncated close to the centre of the trench by pit F1065. This was sub-circular in plan and 1.95 m x 1.4 m +. It exhibited slightly irregular sides, more steeply sloping in places than other, which commonly led to a flattish, slightly irregular base (the feature was 0.16 m deep). It was filled with a mid grey, slightly silty clay (L1066) of moderate compaction. It contained occasional chalk flecks and sparse small flint pebbles and nodules. No finds were retrieved from the feature.

Feature F1061 was a curving gully, aligned NW/SE but bending sharply to a more N/S alignment as it travelled to the south east. The feature was traced for 9.5 m +, and was 0.38 m wide and 0.16 m deep. Its sides broke sharply from the surface and dropped at 60° from horizontal before breaking sharply to a flattish, concave base. It was filled with a very similar deposit to L1064 (L1062), and also contained no finds.

A modern burial of a dog was present within L1000 and L1001 in the south eastern part of the trench.

Trench 5 Fig.4 & 8

Sample section: (0.00 = 14.08 m AOD)

0.00 - 0.28m L1000. Topsoil. As Trench 1.

0.28 - 0.47m L1001. Subsoil. As Trench 1.

0.47 m + L1002. Natural chalky drift.

Description. A number of features were revealed, including at least two further inhumation burials. Feature F1091 was a grave, on a similar alignment to those recorded in Trenches 1 & 2. It was filled with a chalky mid grey clay, with human bone (including the skull), present at the surface (skull to the south west end of the cut) (at a height of 13.44 m AOD). Feature F1092 was parallel to the north east, and was another grave. It was filled with a similar material to the latter, and human bone was visible at the surface of the feature (height 13.17 m AOD).

Feature F1093 was an irregular pit cut, possibly intercutting with an unexcavated linear feature to the south west. It truncated ditch F1095 to the north east. Pit F1093 was 2.5 m x 1.8 m +, and was 0.312 m deep. It was an irregular sub-ovoid shape in plan where visible, with steep (60°) sides breaking moderately steeply to a flattish concave base. The base had been disturbed by root activity. It was filled with a moderately compact grey, slightly silty clay (L1094), with occasional chalk flecks and sparse charcoal flecks. Animal bone fragments (2 - 20g), a lump of burnt stone (24g) and a large limestone fragment (220g) were found in the fill.

Ditch F1095 was aligned NE/SW, and was truncated by Pit F1093. The ditch in turn truncated unexcavated Pit F1098 to the north east. The ditch may represent the eastern cemetery boundary, probably the same as Ditch F1029 in Trench 2. It was up to 1.12 m wide and 0.51 m deep, with steep sides and a slightly eroded, V-profile base. It was filled with a moderately compact mid grey, slightly silty clay with occasional flint pebbles and small nodules a more sparse inclusion of charcoal flecks. No finds were retrieved from the fill.

Pit F1098 was present, partially revealed within the trench to the north east, but was unexcavated. It was over 2.5 m in length and 1.8 m + wide, and filled with slightly silty grey clay with occasional flint pebbles and nodules and sparse chalk flecks. No charcoal was seen, and no finds were retrieved from the surface of the feature.

5 CONFIDENCE RATING

5.1 It was not felt that any factors hindered the identification and recording of archaeological contexts.

6 DEPOSIT MODEL

6.1 The site is commonly covered by c.0.3 m of topsoil (L1000) which overlies a further 0.2-0.3 m of subsoil (L1001). The archaeological features lie below this level, cut into the surface of the underlying natural chalk drift (L1002 across the site and L1014 in Trench 3). The majority of the features are truncated to a varying degree by ploughing. This has resulted in quantities of material being displaced in both the topsoil (L1000) and subsoil (L1001). The subsoil L1001 had large quantities of human bone displaced into it.

7 DISCUSSION Figs. 3 & 9

7.1 Archaeological features were revealed across much of the site. An undated (probably Christian) inhumation cemetery, possibly dating from the Romano-British period is present in the western part of the site. Additional features dating to the mediaeval period, in the form of ditches, pits and gullies, were present across the remainder of the site, suggestive of occupation. Possible quarrying of chalk was also taking place on the site (demonstrated by Pit F1017) (which also revealed quantities of domestic pottery suggesting rubbish deposition from localised occupation). A large pond-like feature (F1048) possibly also dated to the mediaeval period, though finds were sparse. It was cut by a post-mediaeval stone-lined drainage ditch.

7.2 The burials had been truncated by ploughing, resulting in the displacement of human bone into the overlying soils (large quantities of disarticulated human bone were particularly apparent in subsoil L1001 in the areas of Trenches 1, 2 & 5), though some of the deeper burials appeared to be affected to a lesser degree. The graves were commonly aligned on slight variations of WSW/ENE. The 'regimented', near E/W alignments of the graves with skulls, where visible, to the western end of the graves, suggests Christian burial rite. At least 24 graves were identified, though not excavated. The limits to the cemetery were defined to the north and east. The limits of the cemetery to the north may be defined by Ditches F1009/1025 in Trench 1, though these may be later, unrelated features (Ditch F1025 truncated one of the burials). Burials were not found to the east of Ditch F1029 in Trench 2, though this was of mediaeval origin, and the run-out of graves may be coincidental.

7.3 No direct structural evidence was revealed from the site, though a single post hole was located in Trench 3 (possibly of post-mediaeval origin in association with a field/property boundary which once traversed this part of the site). The latter was not detected by the geophysical survey (it may have been a fence line/flimsy hedge rather than a large field ditch), but was removed as recently as the early years of the 20th century (as shown from cartographic evidence - see HAT Report No.473).

7.4 A number of the ditches are co-incident with the linear anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey ('linear anomalies M1 & M2'), though the 'linear anomalies M9 & M4' recorded in the east of the site did not appear as archaeological features. The area of 'notable magnetic disturbance' recognised in the area of Trench 3 by Stratascan was reflected by Ditches F1034, F1037 and F1055 (the latter being lined with flint nodules), whilst 'linear anomaly M4' was Gully F1046. Pit F1071 was almost certainly the 'discrete negative anomaly' recorded on the geophysical survey. The lack of recognition of the features on aerial photographs may be partly due to the layer of subsoil which seals the features, or due to the nature of the drift geology in this area.

7.5 Struck flint from other features suggests prehistoric occupation in the vicinity, which is also known from excavations in the locale including Bronze Age funerary monuments to the south and south east of Cherry Hinton and occupation to the south east of the site near Fulbourn Hospital (Tesco site).

7.6 No features were firmly dated to the Romano-British period. The majority of the excavated features date from the mediaeval period (12th-14th centuries).

7.7 Post-mediaeval features recorded on the site include the principal post-mediaeval boundary ditch F1034 in Trench 3, though this feature was not shown on the available cartographic sources as far back as the early years of the 19th century (see HAT Report No. 473). The adjacent Gullies F1036 and the stone-lined Gully F1055 are on exactly the same alignment as this feature and suggest a similar date (or at least respecting the same boundary).

7.8 The aerial photographic survey conducted by Air Photo Services Ltd. (see HAT Report 473) identified no archaeological features. The AP report noted the potential of the general area for archaeological finds, '.....particularly of features which do not always show on aerial photographs', and cited the Iron Age site at Greenhouse Farm to the north of Cambridge Airport (where small-scale features mapped by aerial photography were the only traces of a

complex Iron Age settlement that was subsequently discovered when the site was stripped of overburden.

7.9 The inhumation cemetery may possibly have been a peripheral feature of the Roman settlement at Hinton Fields 1 km to the east (which exhibited dense occupation dating from the 1st-4th centuries AD), or indeed part of the settlement of which traces have been revealed close by at the cement works area (including a well containing a number of 1st or 2nd century pots, other pottery finds and ditches close to Coldham's Lane). This cemetery, if indeed Roman, adds to the recent growth in the recognised numbers of sites along the south-eastern fen edge, in the hinterland of the Roman small town of Cambridge. Roman sherds were also visible in the ploughsoil in the arable field to the immediate north of the site, suggesting that elements of the site continue into this area.

7.10 The mediaeval features were almost certainly associated with the mediaeval settlement at Church End, previously noted from the cement works area to the west of the site in the 1950s (pits, ditches and a well were found, with pottery of 13th-14th century date, indicating mediaeval occupation fronting Coldham's Lane). Church End was likely associated with the manor of Hinton Uphall during this period.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Trust would like to thank the Cambridge Housing Society for co-operation and funding of the evaluation, in particular Averil Parkinson, and also Cambridge City Architects, in particular Richard Bamford.

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Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	Building material	Animal bone	Struck flint	Other	Sample no.
1000	1000	Tr. 1; Topsoil	16th C - Mod	19 sherds (151g)	2 frags brick (252g) 1 frag daub (18g) 2 frags tile (42g)	8 frags (66g)		3 frags clay pipe stem (6g) 1 frag coal (6g) 1 Cu alloy object (6g) 2 Fe nails (32g) 1 Pb buckle (8g) 2 frags shell (10g)	
1000	1000	Tr. 2; Topsoil			1 frag brick (46g)			1 frag shell (2g)	
1000	1000	Tr. 4; Topsoil	16th C - Mod	8 sherds (168g)	1 frag brick (34g) 5 frags tile (191g) 2 frags plaster (136g)	2 frags (8g)		2 frags bottle glass (24g)	
1001	1001	Tr. 1; Subsoil	10th C - Mod	11 sherd (58g)	3 frag brick (168g) 11 frags daub ? (74g) 4 frag tile (118g)	53 frags (736g)		10 frags human bone (385g) 1 frag clay pipe stem (6g) 1 Fe nail (2g) 2 Fe pegs / rods (320g) 3 frags burnt stone (60g) 1 frag volcanic (lava?) stone (38g) 4 frag shell (28g)	
1001	1001	Tr. 2; Subsoil	12th - 15th C	8 sherds (67g)		117 frags (1128g)		87 frags human bone (1998g) 1 Fe nail (6g) 1 frag re-used lava quern (1150g) 1 frag limestone (52g)	
1001	1001	Tr. 3; Subsoil	12th C - Mod	6 sherds (25g)	7 frags daub / mortar (70g)	17 frags (152g)		10 frags human bone (2g) 1 frag charcoal (>1g) 1 Fe object (90g) 1 frag bottle glass (8g) 3 frags volcanic (lava?) stone (80g) 2 frags slag (212g)	
1001	1001	Tr. 4; Subsoil	12th C - Mod	6 sherds (29g)	3 frags (54g)	31 frags (346g)		1 Fe object (20g) 2 frags bottle glass (48g) 5 frags mussel shell (8g)	
1001	1001	Tr. 5; Subsoil	-	2 sherds (17g)	7 frags (146g)	17 frags (310g)		2 frags human bone (150g) 2 frags clay pipe stem (6g)	
1003	1003	Tr. 2; Grave	-	1 sherd (2g)				9 frags human bone (492g)	
1004	1004	Tr. 2; Grave						10 frags human bone (14g)	

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	Building material	Animal bone	Struck flint	Other	Sample no.
1005	1006	Tr. 1; Fill of pit	16th C - Mod	14 sherds (210g)	3 frags plaster (102g) 5 frags daub (34g) 6 frags tile (370g)	9 frags (68g)		1 human bone (>1g) 1 frag clay pipe stem (2g) 2 Fe nails (28g) 3 frags bottle glass (20g) 2 frags slag (48g)	
1007	1008	Tr. 1; Fill of ditch	Mediev-al	2 sherds (12g)	12 frags daub / mortar (56g)	25 frags (46g)		1 frag burnt stone (114g) 2 frags shell (4g)	4
1009	1010	Tr. 1; Fill of ditch	-	1 sherd (6g)	6 frags daub (46g)				
1007	1011	Tr. 1; Lower fill of ditch				2 frags (18g)			
1012	1013	Tr. 1; Fill of inner ditch	12th - 14th C	4 sherds (23g)		23 frags (426g)			2
1025	1015	Tr. 1; Fill of ditch	Roman ?	1 sherd (3g)	1 frag daub (6g)	14 frags (32g)		1 frag quartzite (148g)	
1026	1016	Tr. 1; Fill of ditch	Roman ?	3 sherds (14g)	4 frags daub / mortar (24g)	7 frags (20g)		2 frags burnt flint (28g) 1 frag coal (>1g) 2 Fe nails (16g)	8
1017	1018	Tr. 2; Fill of ditch	Roman - 14th C	48 sherds (252g)	1 frag (13g)	10 frags (30g)		2 Fe nails (22g) 1 frag shell (2g)	1
1029	1030	Tr. 2; Fill of ditch	12th - 14th C	10 sherds (108g)		5 frags (5g)	2 (8g)	7 frags human bone (16g)	5
1032	1033	Tr. 2; Fill of rectangular feature	12th - 14th C	12 sherds (68g)					9
1034	1035	Tr. 3; Fill of linear ditch	16th - Mod	9 sherds (418g)	1 frag brick (262g)	27 frags (1276g)		4 frags bottle glass (642g) 1 frag mica. shale stone, poss. tile (86g)	
1036	1037	Tr. 3; Fill of linear gully	Roman	1 sherd (10g)					
1038	1039	Tr. 2; Fill of linear gully				1 frag (2g)			
1040	1041	Tr. 2; Fill of pit	12th - 14th C	4 sherds (36g)		4 frags (42g)		2 Fe nails (14g)	
1044	1045	Tr 3; Fill of posthole / pit				2 frags (>1g)			

Feature	Context	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	Building material	Animal bone	Struck flint	Other	Sample no.
1046	1047	Tr. 3; Fill of gully	12th - 14th C	1 sherd (3g)			2 (16g)		
1048	1049	Upper fill of ditch				15 frags (220g)		1 Fe object (4g)	
1052	1053	Tr. 3; Fill of ditch			3 frags daub (136g)	11 frags (80g)		1 frag slag (54g)	
1048	1054	Lower fill of ditch	12th - 14th C	2 sherds (37g)		7 frags (130g)			
1055	1056	Fill of ditch	12th - 14th C	1 sherd (43g)		2 frags (30g)		2 frags volcanic (lava?) stone (610g)	
1057	1058	Tr. 3; Fill of pit				12 frags (66g)		1 Fe object 10 frags slag (286g)	
1063	1064	Tr. 4; Fill of gully				1 frag (16g)			
1069	1070	Fill of ditch				5 frags (250g) 1 burnt frag (1g)			
1071	1072	Tr. 4; Fill of ditch	-	2 sherds (44g)		3 frags (64g)		43 frags mussel shell (72g)	
1093	1094	Tr. 5; Fill of pit				2 frags (20g)		1 frag burnt stone (24g) 1 frag limestone (220g)	6
U/S	U/S	Unstratified	-	3 sherds (14g)					

POTTERY

A R Fawcett

Introduction

A broad date range for each context containing pottery is presented, based on the identification of both fabric and form where possible. A brief summary of the results of the analysis.

Methodology

The assemblage from each context was given a brief macroscopic examination, no detailed fabric description of any of the material and no comparison with other material has been attempted. The spot date for each context is based upon the most recent sherd, however, where appropriate, comments as to the majority of material have been made.

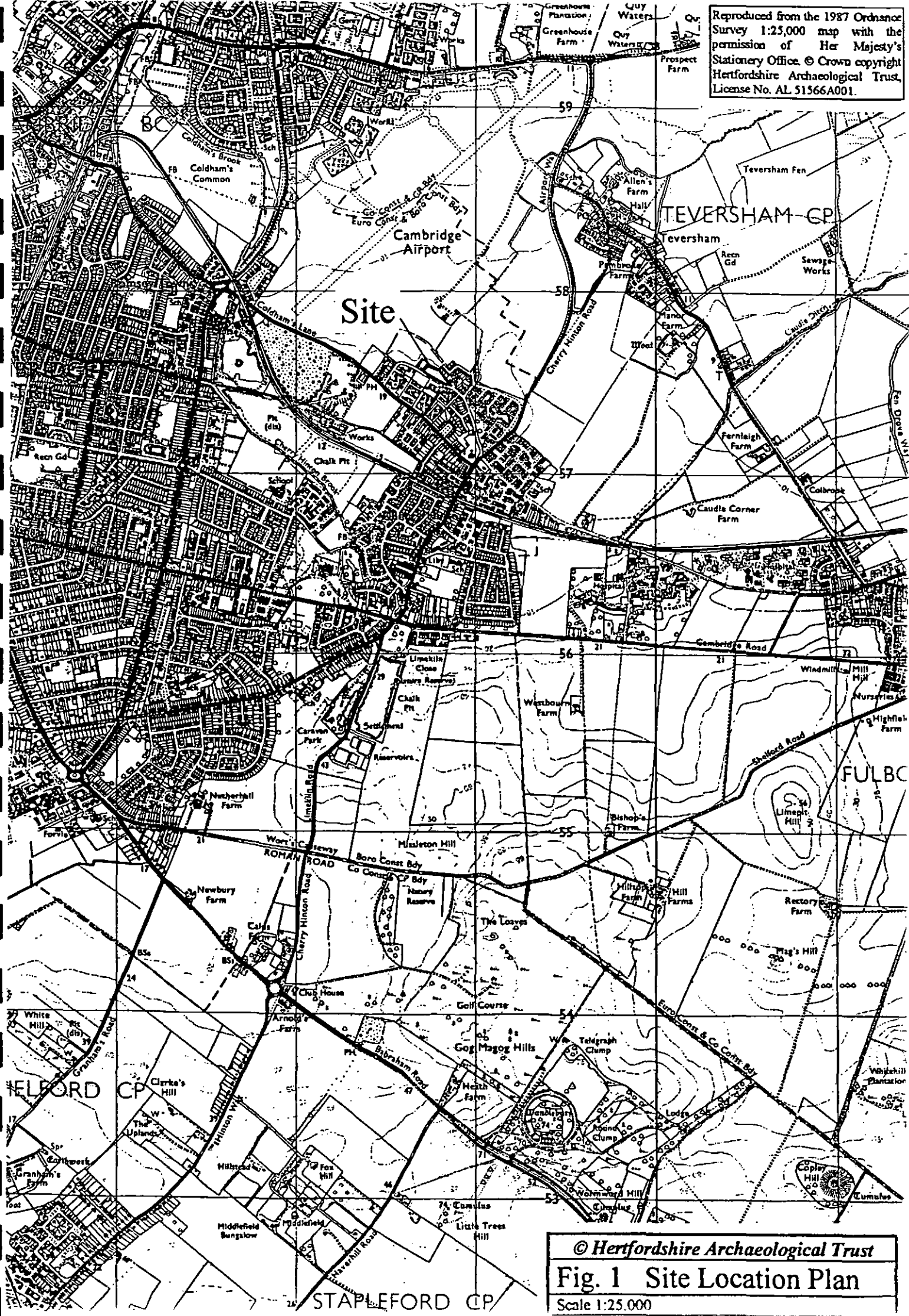
CONTEXT	CERAMIC DATA	DATE RANGE	COMMENTS
1000 (T1)	19 x Post Medieval & Modern Wares (151g)	16th C - Modern	
1000 (T4)	8 x Post Medieval Wares & Modern (168g)	16th C - Modern	
1001 (T1)	1 x Medieval Shell Tempered Ware (26g) 1 x Medieval Greyware (1g) 9 x Post Medieval Wares & Modern (31g)	10th C Modern	The shell tempered ware is the base of a cooking pot with soot marks.
1001 (T2)	2 x Medieval Brown Gritty Ware (12g) 1 x Medieval Shell Tempered Ware (36g) 5 x Medieval Light Grey Sandy Ware (19g)	12th - 15th	All are coarsewares of a local origin. Majority of sherds are small, showing signs of abrasion.
1001 (T3)	2 x Medieval Shell Tempered Ware (9g) 2 x Medieval Orange Sandy Wares (3g) 1 x Sgraffito Ware (12g) 1 x Modern (1g)	12th - Modern Majority 12th - 15th	No diagnostic features present. Sherds are small and show signs of abrasion.
1001 (T4)	2 x Medieval Shell Tempered Ware (10g) 2 x Medieval Orange Sandy Ware (3g) 2 x Post Medieval & Modern Wares (16g)	12th to Modern	No diagnostic features present. Sherds of orange sandy ware have a thin clear lead glaze.
1001 (T5)	1 x Reduced Ware (10g) 1 x Post Medieval Ware (7g)	Unknown	

1003 (T3)	1 x Reduced Ware (2g)	Unknown	
1006 (T1)	14 x Post Medieval Wares & Modern Wares (210g)	16th - Modern	
1008 (T1)	1 x Reduced Ware (7g) 1 x Shell Tempered Ware (5g)	Medieval	Sherds small and abraded.
1010 (T1)	1 x Reduced Ware (6g)	Unknown	
1013 (T1)	1 x St Neots Style Ware (3g) 3 x Sandy Greywares (20g)	12th - 14th	
1015 (T1)	1 x ?Roman Greyware (3g)	?Roman	
1016 (T1)	3 x ?Roman Black Surface Ware (14g)	?Roman	
1018 (T2)	3 x ?Roman Black Surface Ware (8g) 6 x Grey Sandy Ware (91g) 20 x St Neots Style Ware (59g) 14 x Medieval Light Sandy Greywares (65g) 3 x Unspecified Buff Wares (25g) 2 x Medieval Orange Sandy Ware (4g)	?Roman - 14th. Majority 12th - 14th	Two wide mouthed jar rims are present. The majority of sherds are small. Several diagnostic cooking pot sherds present.
1030 (T2)	6 x St Neots Type Ware (55g) 1 x Medieval Light Sandy Greyware (16g) 3 x ?Roman Black Surface Ware (37g)	12th - 14th	One cooking pot rim present. The black surface ware sherds are fragmented.
1033 (T2)	9 x St Neots Type Ware (52g) 3 x ?Medieval Reduced Ware (16g)	12th - 14th	St Neots Ware has faint traces of a green glaze.
1035 (T3)	9 x Post Medieval & Modern Wares (418g)	16th - Modern	
1037 (T3)	1 x Roman Sandy Greyware (10g)	Roman	Dish rim, burnished.
1041 (T2)	4 x Medieval Grey Sandy Ware (36g)	12th - 14th	1 cooking pot rim and base rim are present.
1047 (T3)	1 x Medieval Shell Tempered Ware (3g)	12th - 14th	Sherd is very abraded.
1054	2 x Medieval Light Grey Sandy Ware (37g)	12th - 14th	1 cooking pot rim present
1056	1 x Medieval Light Grey Sandy Ware (43g)	12th - 14th	Handle to jug
1072 (T4)	2 x Shell Tempered Ware (44g)	Unknown	
U/S	3 x Reduced Wares (14g)	Unknown	

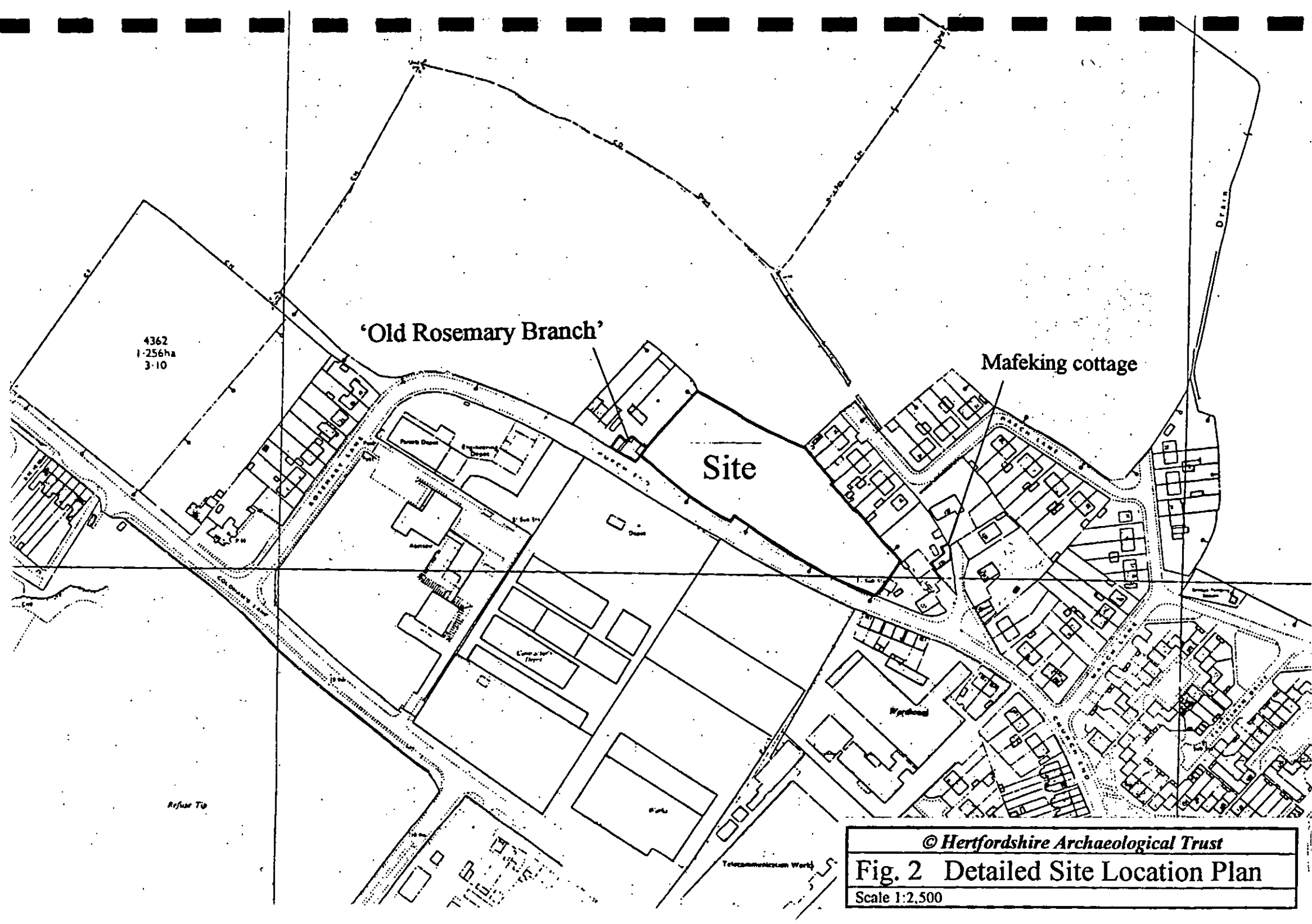
Summary

The majority of material is medieval (12th - 14th C). Many of the sherds are fragmented. Of the diagnostic sherds, cooking pots are the dominant form. The fabrics are all of the Cambridge region and the fabric types adhere to those identified by Coppack (*Archaeological Journal* Vol. 137, 1980, 224), and McCarthy & Brooks (*Medieval Pottery in England*, 1988, 273).

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Fig. 1 Site Location Plan
 Scale 1:25,000



4362
1.256ha
3-10

'Old Rosemary Branch'

Site

Mafeking cottage

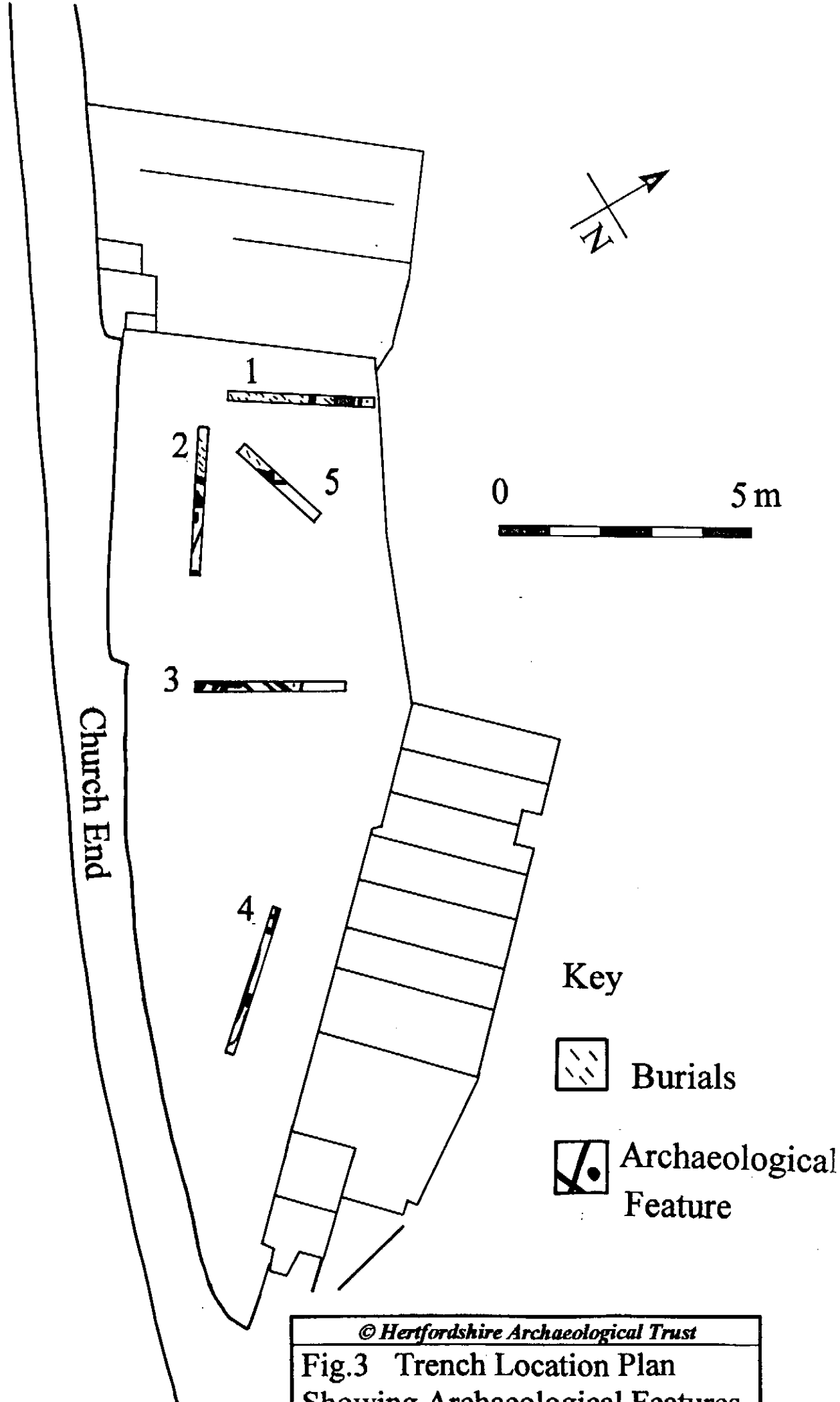
Refuse Tip

Telecommunications World

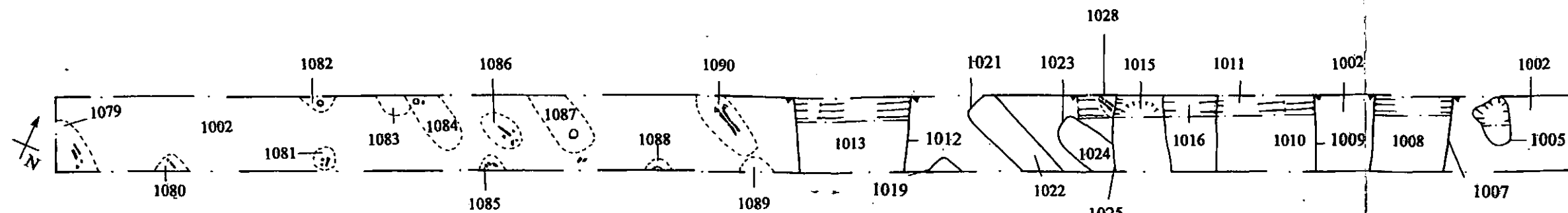
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Fig. 2 Detailed Site Location Plan

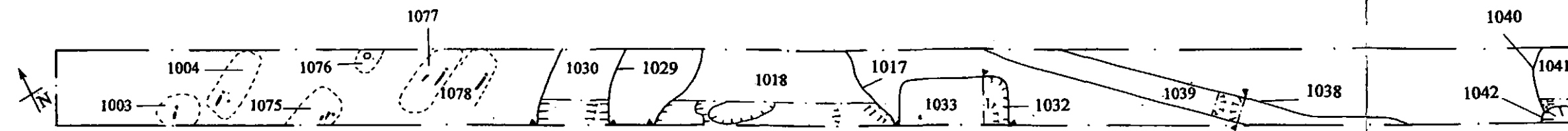
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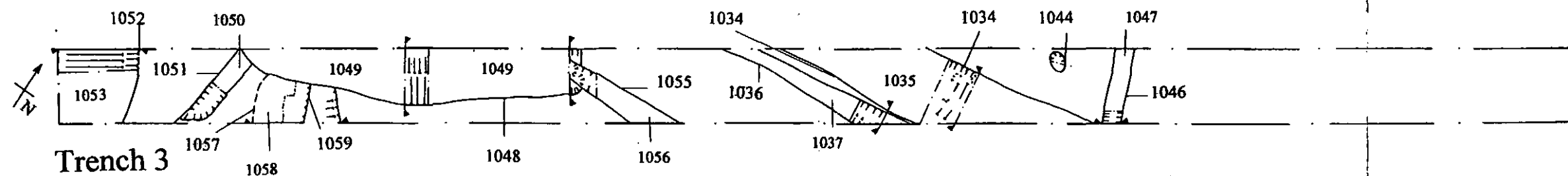
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 Fig.3 Trench Location Plan
 Showing Archaeological Features
 Scale 1:1000



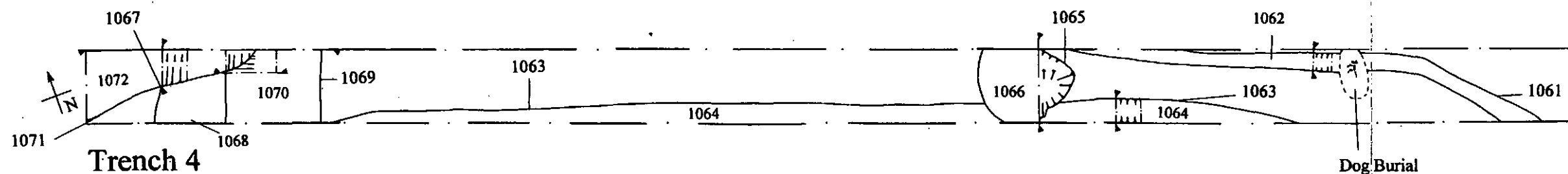
Trench 1



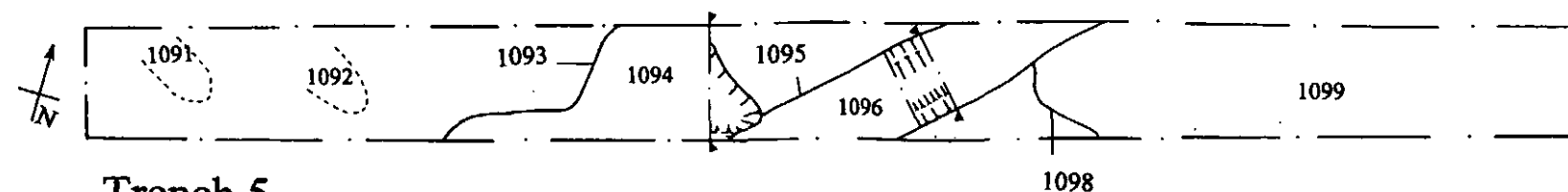
Trench 2



Trench 3





Trench 4



Trench 5

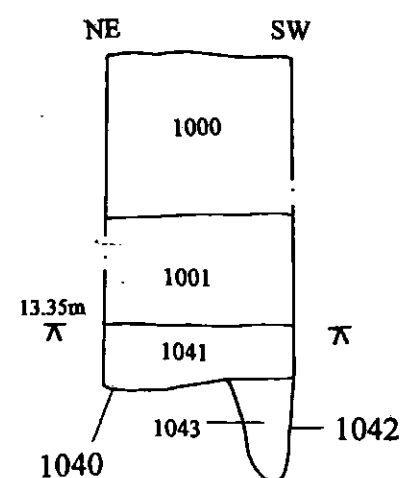
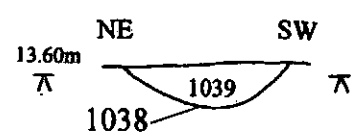
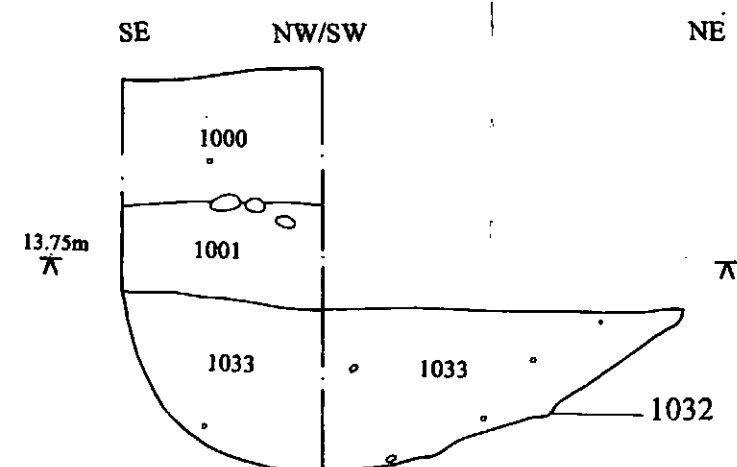
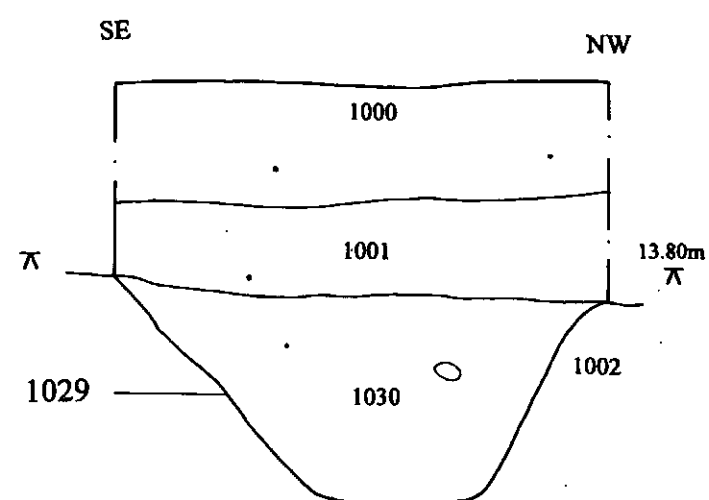
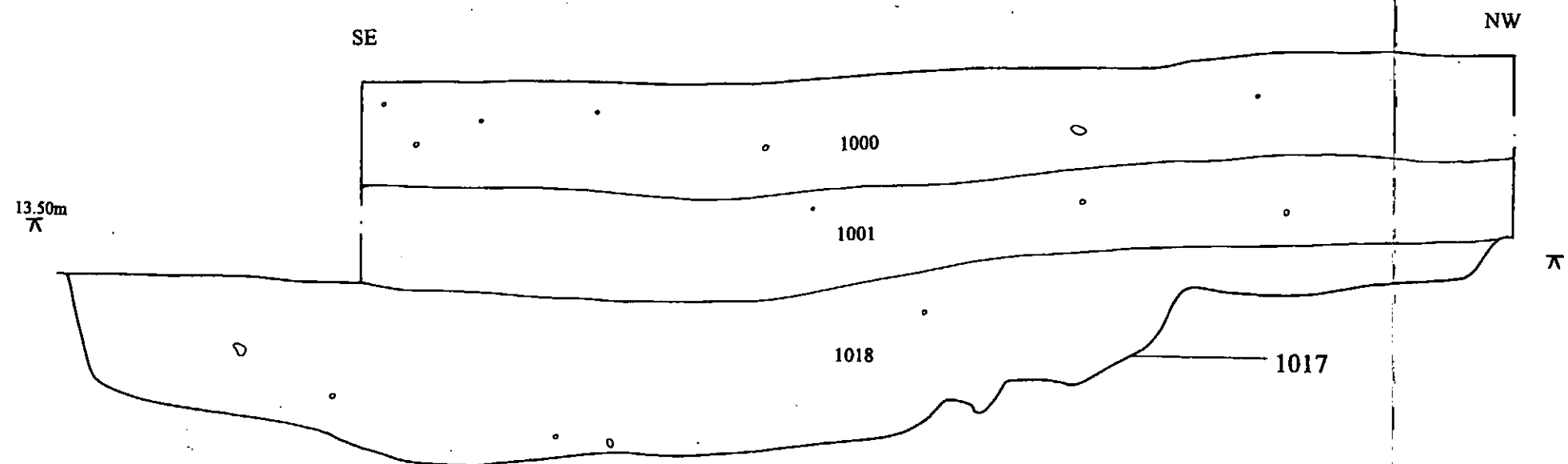
0 5m

Key

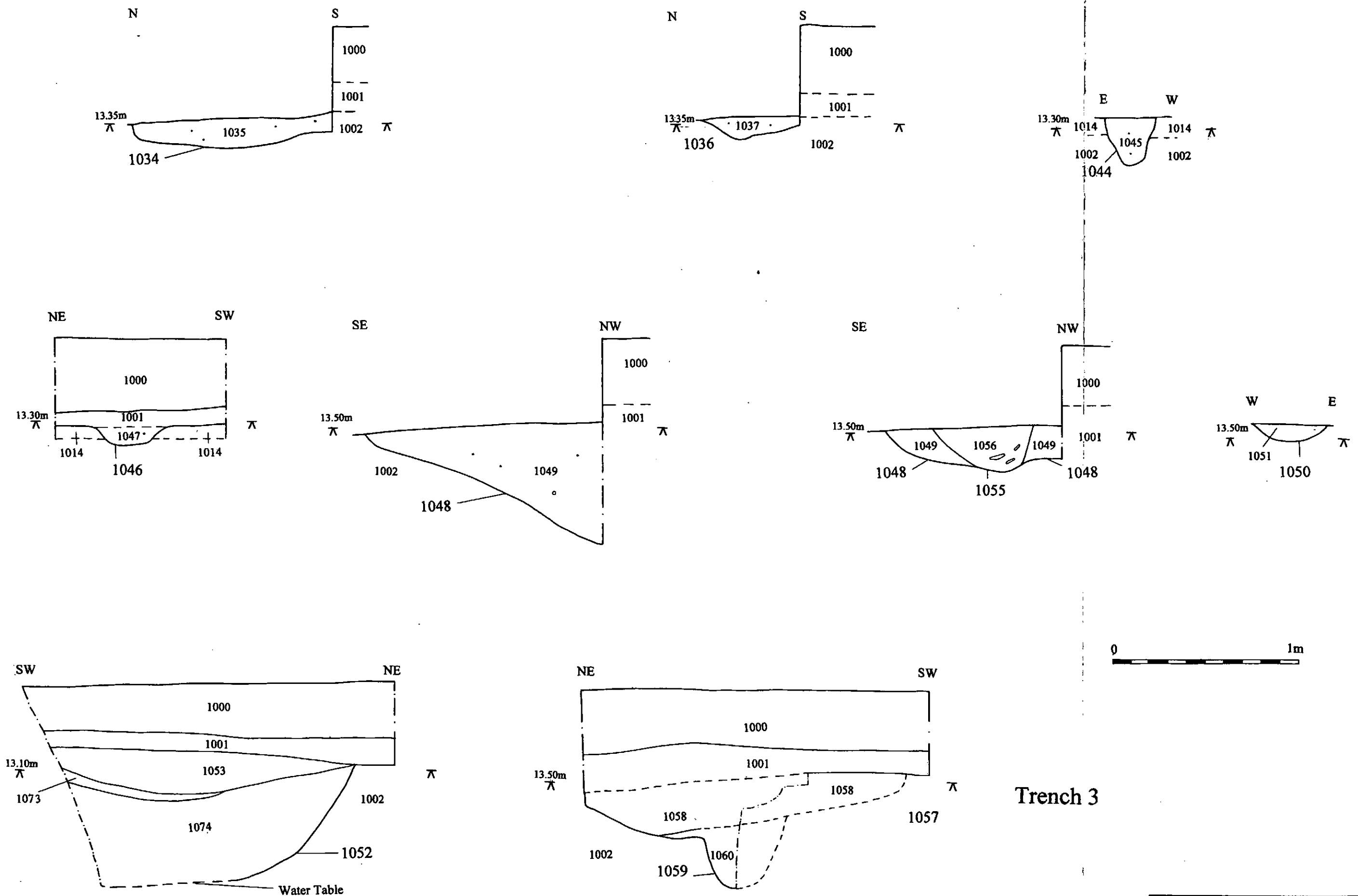
-  Exposed Skull
-  Exposed Bone

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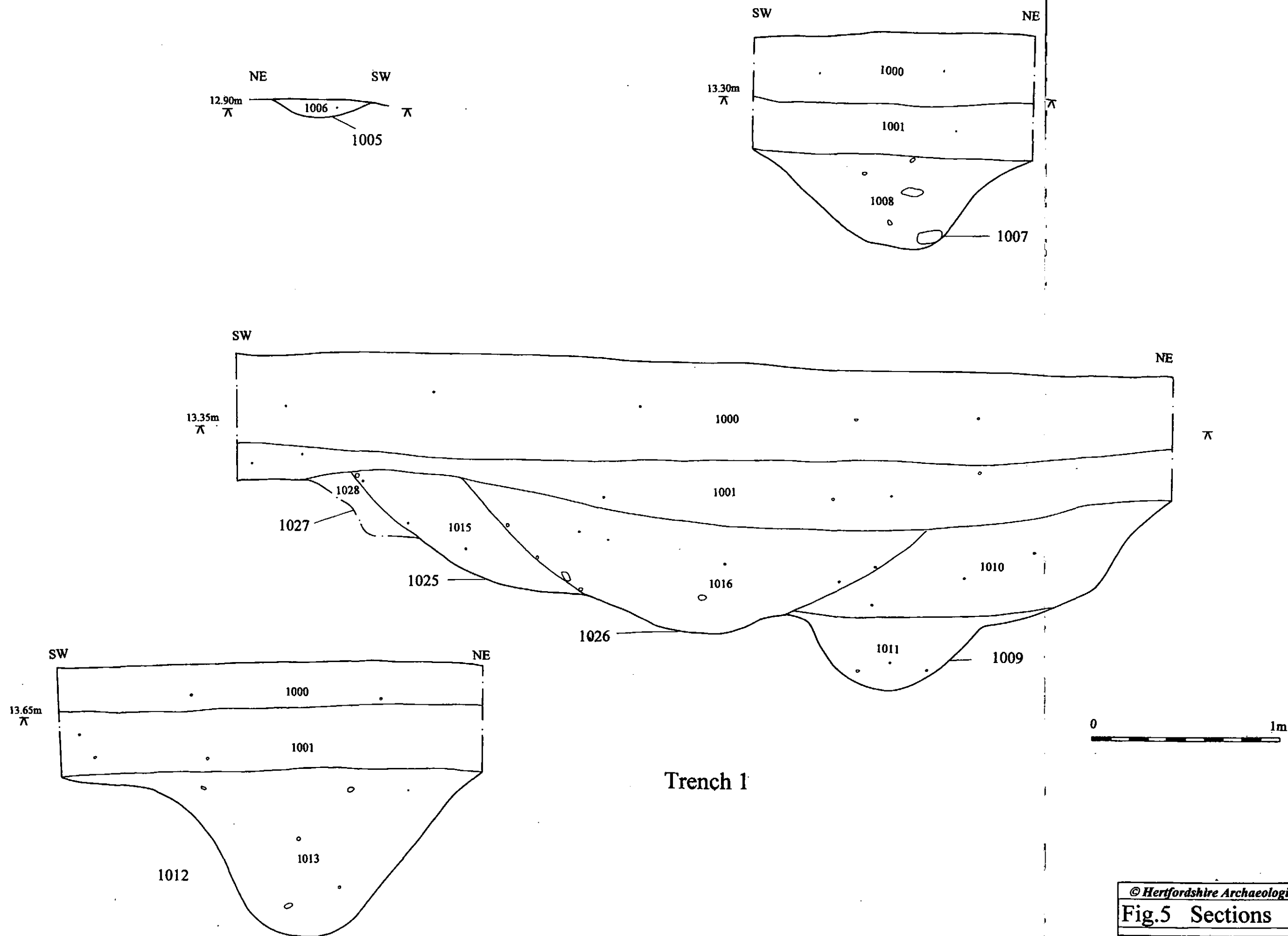
Fig. 4 Trench Plans

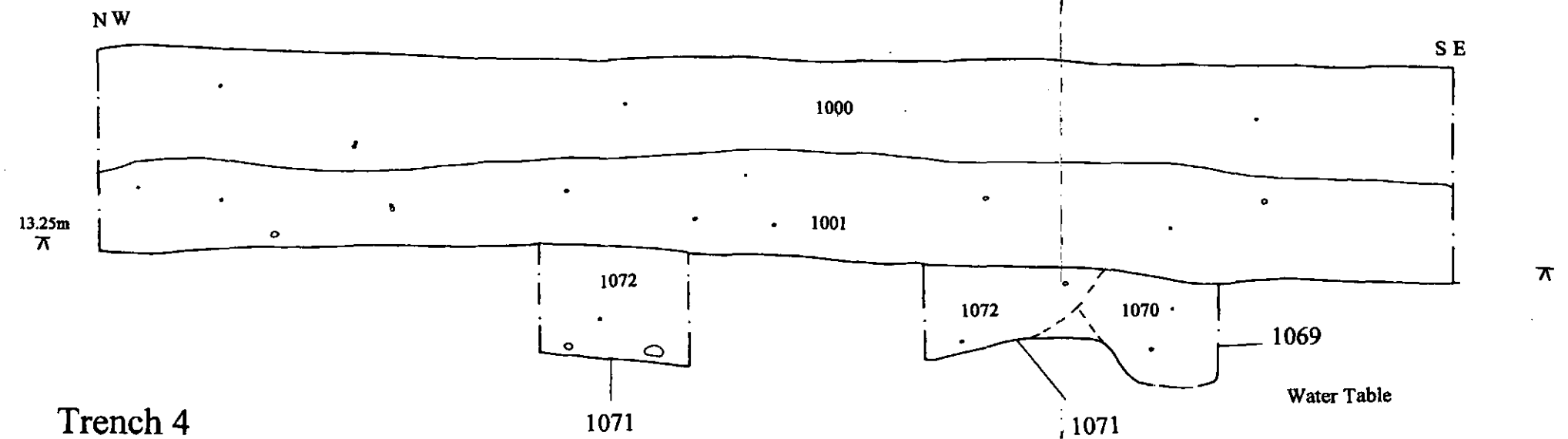
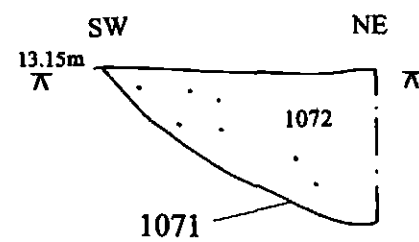
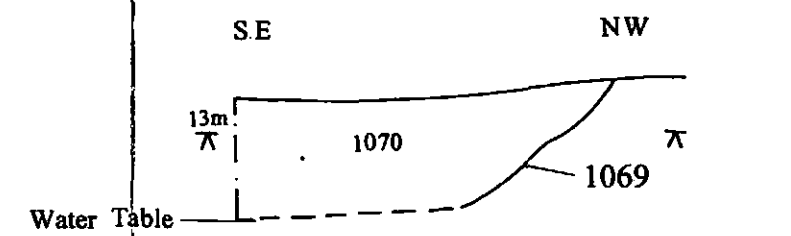
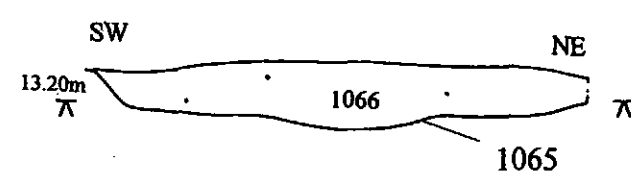
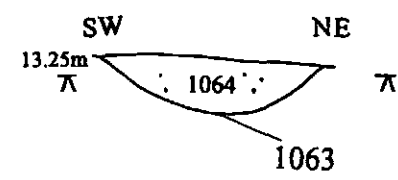
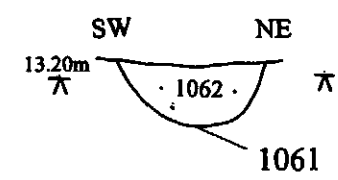


Trench 2

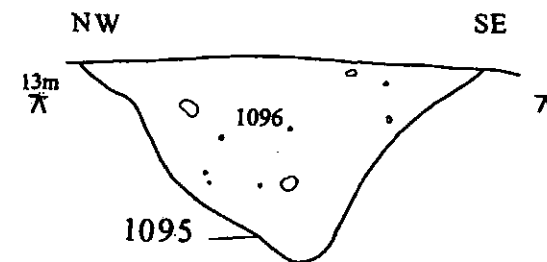
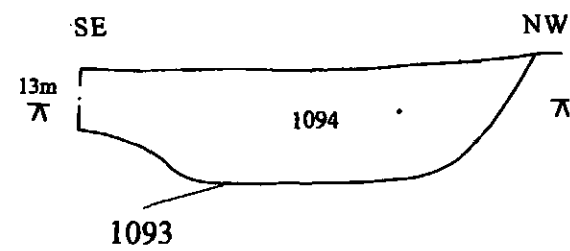


Trench 3



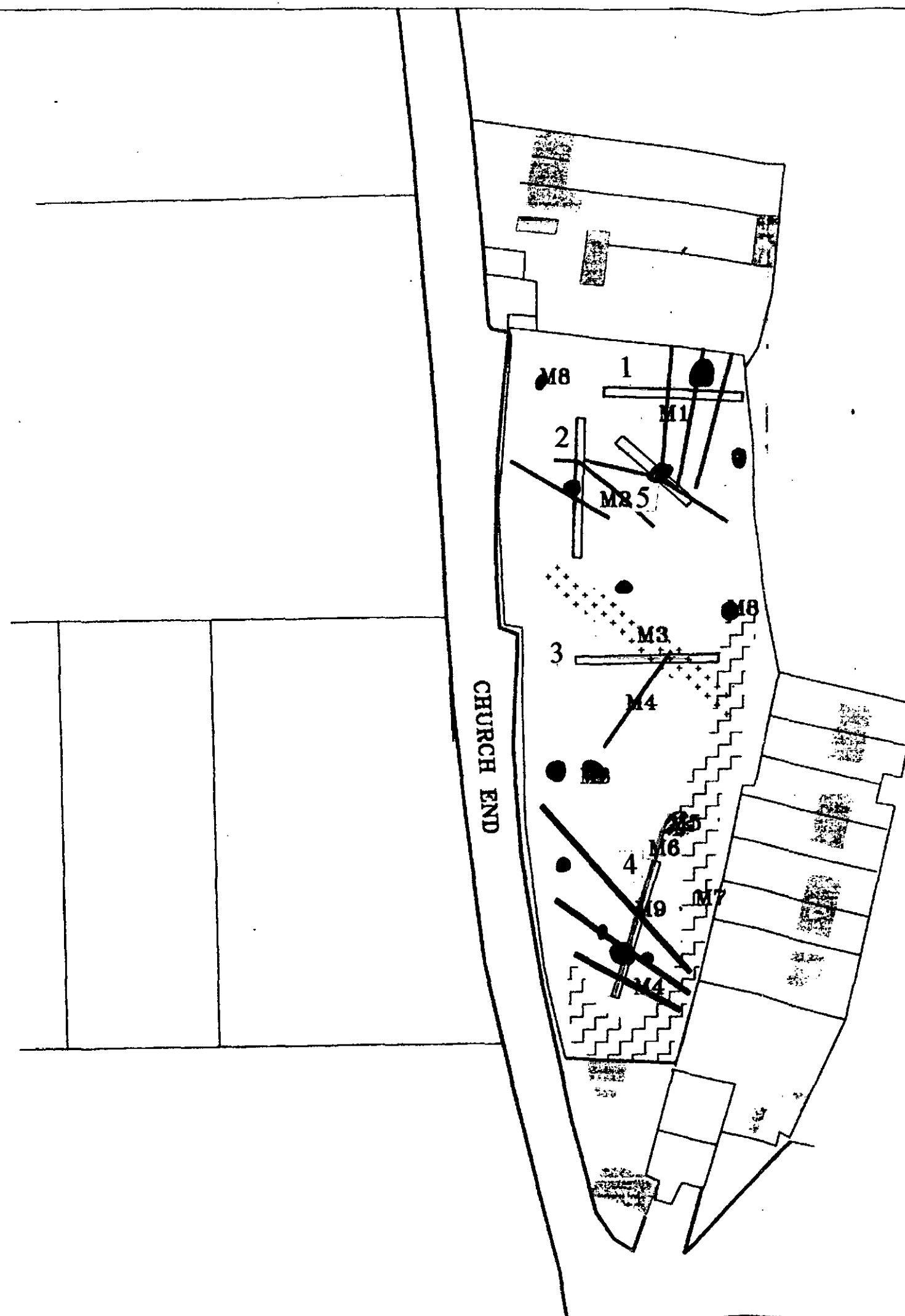


Trench 4



Trench 5





Key

	Positive linear anomalies
	Notable magnetic disturbance
	Discrete negative anomalies
	Area of positive magnetic anomalies
	Ferrous spikes
	Probable magnetic debris