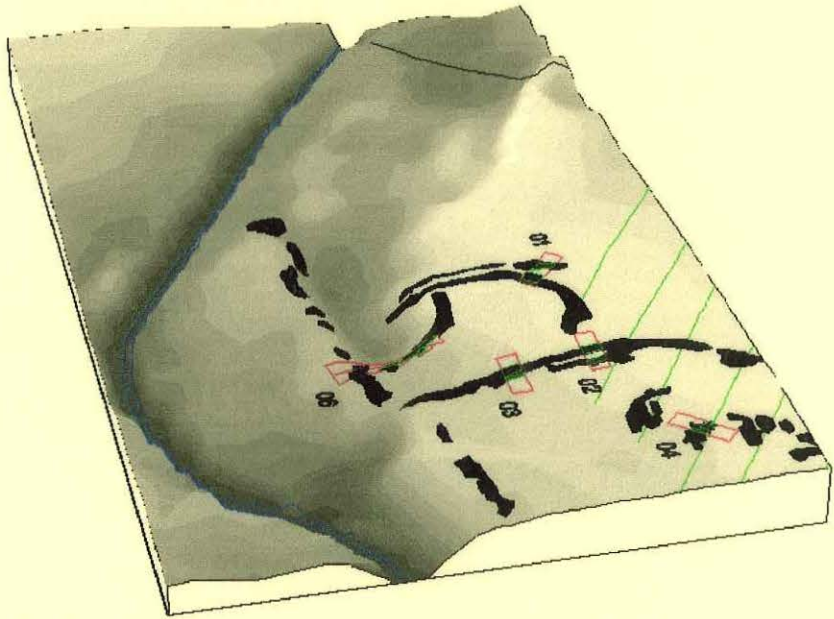


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**FURTHER EVALUATIONS OF AN IRON AGE AND ROMANO-BRITISH
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SHARDLOW & GREAT WILNE, DERBYSHIRE**

DAVID KNIGHT AND STEVE MALONE



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Prepared on behalf of Ennemix Construction Materials Ltd

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SUMMARY

- *Three evaluation trenches were excavated in 1997 to investigate geomagnetic anomalies located during a gradiometer survey of Od Meadow Leys Close and Stoneylands Close, Shardlow and Great Wilne, Derbyshire, within the proposed Chapel Farm Extension of Hemington Quarry.*
- *Trench 05, Od Meadow Leys Close (centred SK 44818 30400): a trench across a linear geophysical anomaly revealed a substantial depth of alluvium sealing an organic clay interpreted as palaeochannel fill.*
- *Trench 06, Stoneylands Close (centred SK 45292 30375): excavations of geophysical anomalies recorded at the interface between the gravel island of Stoneylands Close and the alluvial deposits flanking the Cow way Drain revealed a concentration of Romano-British features truncated by fluvial erosion. Pottery from these features indicates activity during the first to second centuries AD. Pottery had also been eroded out of these features by fluvial erosion, as indicated by the presence of Romano-British sherds in the adjacent channel fill. This redeposited material included a sherd of Iron Age scored ware, lending further weight to the case for an Iron Age origin for this settlement.*
- *Trench 07, Stoneylands Close (centred SK 45439 30561): a trench across a dense pattern of geophysical anomalies recorded south of the Trent & Mersey Canal showed a cluster of magnetic anomalies to correlate with tree-root penetration. No archaeological remains were revealed, but the high density of comparable features which is suggested by the gradiometer survey of the northern part of Stoneylands Close implies extensive woodland clearance over an unknown time period.*

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1. INTRODUCTION

Attention is focused in this report upon evaluation excavations carried out by Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust in June and October 1997 within the proposed Chapel Farm extension to Hemington Quarry, Shardlow & Great Wilne parish, Derbyshire. The work was carried out on behalf of and funded by Ennemix Construction Materials Ltd., according to a research design agreed with Dr.D.Barrett (Derbyshire County Archaeologist) and Dr.S.N.Collcutt (Oxford Archaeological Associates Ltd.). It comprised three trenches, aimed at evaluating a pattern of geomagnetic anomalies recorded during gradiometer surveys of Stoneylands Close and Od Meadow Leys Close by Oxford Archaeotechnics Ltd. (Johnson, 1996b; 1997).

A brief summary is provided in the following section of earlier work within the proposed extraction area, in order to place the 1997 evaluations in context. Sections 3.1-3.3 consider in order of trench the objectives of the most recent phase of evaluation, the field methodology and the results of excavation. The main conclusions which may drawn from this work are summarised in Section 4.

2. SUMMARY OF EARLIER WORK

A desktop assessment of the proposed Chapel Farm extension to Hemington Quarry was prepared for Ennemix Construction Materials Ltd. by Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust in May, 1995 (Knight, Appleton and Howard, 1995). Following discussions with Dr.D.Barrett, a detailed geomorphological and earthwork survey of the proposed extraction area was carried out in March and April, 1996 (Howard, Knight and Malone, 1996). This was accompanied by a geophysical feasibility survey, directed by A.E.Johnson of Oxford Archaeotechnics in April 1996, aimed at determining the suitability of magnetic survey for locating archaeological features in this area (Johnson, 1996a).

The above work raised several questions regarding the environmental and archaeological potential of the area, and the following programme of evaluation work was carried out in response to recommendations by Dr.D. Barrett:

1. A more extensive geophysical survey of Stoneylands Close was conducted to clarify the geometry of the magnetic anomalies recorded during the earlier feasibility study, and to investigate whether features might survive beneath ridge and furrow in floodplain contexts within Od Meadow Leys Close. As in previous surveys, particular emphasis was placed upon the possible preservation of medieval bridge remains adjacent to a pool on the Cow Way Drain which could represent a scour pond associated with bridge foundations. A report on this work was submitted by Oxford Archaeotechnics in September 1996 (Johnson, 1996b).
2. Trial excavations were carried out to investigate some of the anomalies recorded in Stoneylands Close during the second phase of geophysical survey. Four 10 x 3m trenches (01-04) were excavated with the aim of investigating the character, date and quality of preservation of the complex of features recorded during geophysical survey. These excavations revealed an unexpectedly dense pattern of Late Iron Age/early Romano-British

ditches, gullies and pits, correlating closely with the geophysical anomalies, including a substantial curving ditch enclosing an area of c.0.5ha at the southern edge of the gravel terrace. A full report on this work was submitted in January 1997 (Knight and Malone, 1997).

3. Ten of the palaeochannels identified during the earlier geomorphological survey of the floodplain were drilled to establish the channel stratigraphy and the character of any preserved organic remains. Palaeoenvironmental and radiocarbon samples were taken of organic deposits revealed during drilling, with the dual aim of establishing the potential of the area for reconstructions of its Holocene environmental history and of clarifying the sequence of channel development. The results of this work, carried out in November 1996, were incorporated in the report on the evaluation trenches (Knight and Malone, 1997).

The above work was supplemented by an assessment of scour pond formation by University of Leicester Archaeological Services, aimed at elucidating the possible formation processes of the Cow Way Drain Pool and the potential for the preservation at this location of medieval bridge remains (Cooper, 1997). An assessment according to *PPG 16* criteria of the Late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement located within Stoneylands Close was also prepared in order to establish the regional significance of this hitherto unknown site (Knight, 1997).

3. THE 1997 EVALUATIONS

Three phases of evaluation were conducted in 1997, in response to recommendations for further work by Dr.D.Barrett and Dr.S.N.Collcutt. These comprised a machine trench (05) across a linear anomaly recorded in the 1996 geophysical survey in Od Meadow Leys Close and additional geophysical survey within Stoneylands Close (both carried out in June), plus two trenches (06 & 07) across magnetic anomalies located in Stoneylands Close during the 1997 gradiometer survey (conducted in October). The geophysical survey, which was aimed at clarifying the spatial extent of the Iron Age and Romano-British settlement, is described in detail in a report submitted by Oxford Archaeotechnics (Johnson, 1997), while the results of excavations in Od Meadow Leys Close and Stoneylands Close form the substance of this report.

The 1997 excavations were managed for the Trust by David Knight and supervised by Vicki Priest (trench 05) and Steve Malone (trenches 06-07). A specialist report on the Romano-British pottery from trench 06 has been provided by Ruth Leary, in consultation with Kay Hartley (mortarium), together with a full archive catalogue (Appendix 1). Full excavation archives have been prepared by Vicki Priest and Steve Malone, according to the standards prescribed in the *T&PAT Field Recording Manual*.

3.1 Trench 05: Palaeochannel in Od Meadow Leys Close (centred at SK 44818 30400). D.Knight and V.Priest

Trench 05 was excavated to investigate a linear anomaly running NW-SE across Area D of the gradiometer survey conducted in September 1996 (Johnson, 1996b, 5, fig.4). The geophysical anomaly was located precisely on the ground by A. Johnson and a 2 x c.8m trench was excavated at right angles to its long axis by a 6ft toothless ditching bucket on the back actor of a JCB (extending NE-SW, from SK 44822 30404 to SK 44817 30398). This revealed beneath the turf a c.0.3m depth of topsoil above alluvial deposits. The trench was excavated to a depth of 1.1m, and the NW-facing section was cleaned by trowel, photographed and drawn. The topsoil comprised a dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty clay loam with very few small (<20mm) rounded pebbles and fine fibrous root penetration. The underlying alluvial deposit comprised a slightly lighter brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay, more clayey and with iron and manganese mottles towards the base; fine fibrous roots penetrated into the upper part of the alluvium, but were not visible towards the base of the section. No features which could explain the magnetic anomaly were observed in the base or sides of the trench. However, a magnetometer scan of the trench bottom confirmed the presence of a strong linear magnetic anomaly running at right angles to the exposed section.

It was decided to auger the base of the trench before any additional excavation, to establish whether deposits which might explain the magnetic anomaly could be detected. A series of SI volume susceptibility readings was taken at 0.2m intervals, from the ground level to the organic clay recorded at a depth of 2.2m. The first five samples were taken from the cleaned vertical face of the trench, while the remaining samples were extracted by auger from a sample location in the bottom of the trench, adjacent to the cleaned section. The readings varied as indicated below:

<i>Depth beneath ground level (m)</i>	<i>SI volume susceptibility units x 10⁵ (Bartington MS2B low frequency)</i>
0.2	38
0.4	62
0.6	36
0.8	16
1.0	13
1.2	14
1.4	11
1.6	12
1.8	15
2.0	13
2.2	156

At a depth of 2.2m beneath ground level, the auger encountered a dark organic clay, registering the above value of 156 SI. Another sample of this deposit, at the same level, yielded a yet higher value of 391 SI, readily explaining the magnetic anomalies recorded during the magnetometer survey. Field examination of the organic clay suggested that high iron sulphide levels within the sample, resulting probably from the decay of organic material, were responsible for the high magnetic signals; two 10cc samples were retained for

verification of this observation, if required. It was concluded that the anomaly most probably correlated with the organic fill of a palaeochannel, and in view of its non-archaeological origin further trenching was deemed unnecessary.

3.2. Trench 06: Iron Age and Romano-British Settlement and Fluvial Features in Stoneylands Close (centred at SK 45292 30375).

3.2.1. Objectives

The 1997 gradiometer survey identified two or possibly three roughly parallel alignments of elongated geomagnetic anomalies in a lowlying area between the Cow Way Drain and the Floodplain Terrace (Johnson, 1997, figs 4 & 6). These ran for at least 130m towards the Cow Way Drain Pool, across a magnetically stable alluvial area. It was suggested that they could relate to water management along the terrace edge, indicating perhaps a revetment or piling designed to check lateral stream migration (Johnson, 1997, 8-9). It was recommended that a trench be excavated to establish the source of these anomalies, the character, date and quality of preservation of any associated archaeological remains, and the relationship of these remains to Late Iron Age and Romano-British features surviving on the Floodplain Terrace.

3.2.2. Methodology

A 10 x 5m trench was located at the intersection between the northernmost of the alignments of elongated geomagnetic anomalies and another linear anomaly, interpreted as probably a ditch, which ran towards the Cow Way Drain from the main focus of Romano-British settlement (Figs 4 & 5A). The topsoil was removed from this area by a 6ft toothless ditching bucket on the back actor of a JCB. The exposed surface was cleaned by trowel, photographed and planned, and a full documentary record was compiled. Excavation by trowel of selected contexts demonstrated a complex sequence of fluvial deposits, and to clarify the stratigraphy two box trenches were excavated to depths of 0.5m and 1m beneath the stripped level (Fig.5B). The details of this work and the results of excavation are described below (Section 3.2.3).

The excavation was extended for 9m at its NW end by a 2m-wide trench, aimed at clarifying the relationship between fluvial features recorded in the box trenches and the adjacent Iron Age and Romano-British settlement (Fig.5B). The topsoil from this extension was removed mechanically, employing again a 6ft toothless ditching bucket on the back actor of a JCB. The exposed surface was cleaned by trowelling, photographed and planned, and an appropriate documentary record was compiled. Contexts revealed in plan were excavated selectively in spits of 50mm or 100mm depth, as deemed appropriate. Small rectangular extensions were cut by hand into the western and eastern baulks to investigate several features recorded in plan. The entire SW-facing baulk section was drawn, and is reproduced here, together with drawn sections across archaeological features located in this extension (Figs 5C-D & 6).

Most finds were recorded three-dimensionally, with the exception of finds retrieved during machine stripping of the topsoil.

3.2.3. Fluvial Features and Deposits

Removal by machine of an 0.3m depth of topsoil from the initial 10 x 5m trench revealed a discontinuous gravelly layer, comprising dense small to medium (*c.*10-50mm) rounded

pebbles within a matrix of yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy silt (0062; Fig. 5A). A large and irregular patch of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay was recorded in the middle of the trench (0063), immediately beneath the topsoil, together with an irregular spread of similar dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/4) sandy silt loam with 5% small (<20mm) rounded pebbles in the north-western corner of the trench (0061; Fig.5A).

The southernmost extension of 0061 was excavated stratigraphically by trowel, and was shown to occupy a shallow irregular hollow (maximum 50mm deep) in the top of layer 0062. An attempt was made to excavate 0063 stratigraphically, removing by trowel the fill adjacent to the shallow hollow left after the excavation of 0061. This showed 0063 to continue beneath 0062, suggesting that the latter most probably represented reworked fluvial deposits associated, in view of the size of the clasts, with a phase of high energy channel flow. It was decided to excavate manually a small box trench across the intersection of 0062 and 0063, with the aim of investigating further their stratigraphic relationships (Fig.5B). A 0.1m spit was excavated from a 1.8 x 2.2m area. The trench was subsequently reduced to a width of 1m, and another four 100mm spits were removed from the northern side of the box trench. This showed the silty clay of 0063 to underlie a c.0.2m depth of 0062, and to extend to a depth of at least 0.5m beneath the base of the topsoil.

The small box trench suggested a considerable depth of fluvial deposits, possibly indicating palaeochannel fill. In view of the limited time scale and the obvious need to clarify the stratigraphy, it was decided to excavate by machine a more substantial trench adjacent to the eastern baulk. This extended for a width of 2m and was dug to a safe depth of 1m beneath ground level. The trench showed layer 0063 to occupy the upper part of a substantial palaeochannel, cut through probably *in situ* (0091) and reworked (0067) gravels (Fig.6). The terrace edge could not be clearly discerned, while the relationship between the fluvial features recorded in the box trench and the Romano-British settlement also remained unclear. It was decided to extend the trench northwards in an attempt to resolve these questions, and a narrower (2m) trench was excavated across the terrace edge to the higher ground of the Floodplain Terrace, adding eventually an additional 9m to the SW-facing baulk section (Figs 5B & 6).

Examination of the SW-facing baulk section indicated a complex sequence of fluvial deposits, illustrated in Fig.6. These have been grouped as follows for the purposes of discussion:

a. Upper Stratigraphic Layers (0060 & 0062)

The lower deposits were sealed by an 0.3m depth of topsoil, comprising a dark brown/ very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/3-3/2) and stone-free sandy silt loam (0060). This extended over the entire trench, including the edge of the Floodplain Terrace, and yielded a sherd of Romano-British pottery and part of a possible hypocaust tile (AQK). Towards the Cow Way Drain, the topsoil overlay the discontinuous gravelly deposit (0062) revealed during the initial machining of the trench. Layer 0062 was up to 0.3m thick at the south end of the trench (NW-facing baulk) but petered out c.7m to the NW, at the edge of a palaeochannel filled with a mixture of gravelly and silty clay deposits (Section 3.2.3b; layers 0063-0066). 0062 merged at the northern edge of the palaeochannel with reworked gravels (0067a) and with a 0.1-0.2m thickness of gravelly material above the fill of feature 0069 (Section 3.2.3c). The latter could possibly represent an extension of 0062, but it is perhaps better interpreted as a

continuation of a colluvial deposit, 0082, which overlay the Romano-British features near the edge of the Terrace (Section 3.2.4). 0062 tapered significantly towards the northern edge of the palaeochannel (layers 0063-0066), and correlates strikingly with a ridge of slightly higher ground running west-east either side of the trench (Fig.10). We might postulate, therefore, a high energy flood deposit, accumulated above silty clay layers suggestive of gradual infilling of an earlier river course. Five sherds of Romano-British pottery which were incorporated within 0062 could have derived from the adjacent settlement during episodes of bankside erosion.

b. Lower Palaeochannel Deposits (layers 0063-0066)

Layers 0063-0065. Beneath 0062 was recorded a 0.75m thickness of dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay, formed of two main clay units, 0063 and 0065, separated by a thin (20-50mm) band of small-medium (mainly 10-50mm) rounded pebbles within a silty clay matrix identical to that of 0063 (0064). 0065, in contrast to the upper stone-free silty clay, contained a few (2%) small (mainly 10-20mm) rounded pebbles. 0065 also contained frequent mottles of manganese and iron, giving the context an orange tinge. The elongated magnetic anomalies, originally interpreted as possibly evidence of a bankside revetment or piling, correlate with these clay deposits, and it seems probably reflect spatial variability in the mineral composition of the channel fills. The trench was not dug to the base of these silty clay deposits, but an auger transect along the base of the trench showed the layers to dip southwards to a maximum thickness of c.1.5m (Fig.6B). Six sherds of Romano-British pottery and one sherd of Iron Age scored ware (AQV) were recovered from 0063, plus one Romano-British sherd from 0065 (Appendix 1), suggesting truncation of Romano-British features and deposits by later river erosion. The presence of a scored ware sherd is of particular interest, raising the possibility that bankside erosion had also truncated Iron Age features.

Layer 0066. Layers 0063-0065 were stratified above a thin deposit of predominantly rounded/sub-rounded clast-supported gravel (mainly 20-50mm), visible in section as a c.0.2m-thick layer which appears to occupy the base of the channel along its northern edge (0066). The channel cut through a layer of probably reworked gravel (0067), described in greater detail below, and at the extreme base of the section cut a deposit of loose clast-supported rounded/subrounded pea-grit, mainly 2-10mm in diameter (0091), interpreted below as most probably an extension of the Devensian gravels of the Floodplain Terrace.

c. Terrace-Edge Pool or Channel (0069)

A smaller roughly U-shaped feature, c.1.6m wide by up to 0.3m deep, was recorded to the NW of the palaeochannel. It was cut mainly through gravelly deposits which it is suggested below had probably been reworked (0051 & 0067a-b), but its base partially truncated the upper surface of a cleaner gravel deposit, 0050, which in common with layer 0091 may represent an *in situ* Devensian gravel. Feature 0069 was characterised by a fairly homogeneous fill of dark yellowish brown (10 YR 3/4-4/4) sandy clay loam, with 10% small rounded pebbles and sparse iron mottles, and could be distinguished clearly from 0067 by its darker colour and considerably lower stone content. The feature could indicate another infilled channel, or more likely a terrace-edge pool formed by scouring of the gravels during periods of high and turbulent channel flow. The feature was sealed by a gravelly deposit,

interpreted as possibly an extension of the colluvial deposits sealing Romano-British features on the terrace (0082). This upper gravelly deposit merged imperceptibly with layers 0067a and 0067b, while 0067b merged in turn with the gravels of the Floodplain Terrace (0050).

d. Reworked Terrace-Edge Sand and Gravel (layers 0051, 0067 & 0068)

Both the palaeochannel and the terrace-edge pool or channel cut a 0.3-0.4m thickness of mixed rounded/sub-rounded gravel (0067a). Layer 0067a comprised clasts of variable size (5-50mm) and density, set within a matrix of brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay, and incorporated occasional patches of sandy or silty material (0068). The deposit contrasts with the cleaner *in situ* gravels of the Floodplain Terrace (0050), through which many Romano-British features had been cut, and possibly represents a fluvially reworked gravel. A similar gravelly deposit, possibly of comparable origin (0067b), was truncated by the northern edge of 0069. Layer 0067b merged imperceptibly with the *in situ* Devensian gravels of the Floodplain Terrace (0050), preventing precise definition of the terrace edge. 0067b overlay a compacted layer of predominantly clast-supported gravels up to c.50mm in diameter, 0050, which appeared to represent an extension of the Floodplain Terrace. Beneath 0069, however, 0050 merged with another gravelly deposit, 0051, similar to 0050 but with a slightly denser clast content, which continued beneath 0067a and 0068. 0051 merged imperceptibly with 0067a further to the SE, and overlay a clast-supported pea-grit, 0091 (clasts mainly 2-10mm); the latter was cut by the palaeochannel, and was interpreted as probably an extension of the Floodplain Terrace gravels.

Fig 5b shows diagrammatically the complex spatial and stratigraphic relationships between the Romano-British features recorded on the gravel terrace and the fluvial features and deposits recorded adjacent to the terrace-edge. These show clearly the erosion of the Romano-British land surface by later fluvial activity, although further work would be required to establish the time scale of these changes.

3.2.4. Romano-British features

Mechanical removal of topsoil from the northern trench extension, where it extended over the uneroded terrace edge, revealed beneath the topsoil a thin layer of gravelly material up to 0.1m thick, comprising small and medium rounded pebbles (mainly 10-50mm) in a matrix of brown (10YR 4/3) silty loam (0082). This overlay ditches, pits and post-holes of several stratigraphic phases, some containing Romano-British pottery (*e.g.* 0083, 0084), but could only sometimes be distinguished where it was stratified above a gravel deposit, 0050, interpreted as *in situ* Floodplain Terrace gravel. It seem most likely that layer 0082 was formed by plough-spreading of the gravel subsoil, possibly during the phase of ploughing associated with medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. It yielded three sherds of Romano-British pottery and two possible Iron Age sherds.

Excavation revealed beneath 0082 a roughly NW-SE ditch (0080), correlating with a linear geophysical anomaly, and a variety of small pits and post-holes. These features are described in turn below, together with any associated finds.

a. Ditch 0080

The main feature of the northern trench extension was a substantial NW-SE ditch, correlating closely with a linear geophysical anomaly. After initial stripping of the topsoil and trowelling of the exposed surface, this appeared to veer eastwards along the edge of the terrace. The baulk was dug back manually where the feature appeared to disappear beneath the trench edge, with the aim of obtaining a section at right angles to its long axis. This small extension revealed several additional features in plan and in section (0081, 0083, 0084 & 0085), and contrary to expectations showed 0080 to continue southwards. The fill of a probable pit or post-hole, 0085, was shown to protrude from the eastern edge of 0080, contributing to the false impression that 0080 had veered eastwards. Feature 0085 emerged as one of a series of possible post-holes along the eastern edge of the ditch, of unknown relationship to the ditch, and described below (0085-0087; 0089).

10mm spits were excavated by trowel across a 1m-wide section of the ditch, revealing an approximately U-shaped feature *c.* 1.5m wide which survived to a depth of 0.4m below the gravel surface. The fill comprised mainly a brown (10YR4/3-4/4, 5/3) sandy silt loam with a variable pebble content, and as shown by the section preserved evidence for at least two possible recuts (Fig.5D). 21 Romano-British sherds and one possible Iron Age sherd were recovered from various levels of the ditch during excavation of a *c.* 4m length (Appendix 1).

The continuation of the feature beyond this section could only be traced with difficulty. Careful cleaning showed it to terminate at the edge of the terrace gravels, where was recorded a rounded butt-end with a post-hole cut into its base (0090).

b. Post-hole 0090

One of the most significant discoveries was the base of a post-hole, *c.* 0.3m in diameter at its base and up to 0.6m in diameter at the trench surface, which was clearly visible within the terminal of ditch 0080. A large part of a mortarium was found against the west side of the feature, probably used as post packing, though no post-pipe was distinguished. The mortarium comprised two joining sherds with old breaks (ARJ, ARK), apparently broken after the piece was in the ground (Fig.7). The interior and parts of the rim display extensive use-wear, but the vessel appears to have suffered no serious abrasion subsequent to discard. The post-hole was only recognisable after excavation of the ditch terminal, its fill seemingly identical to that of 0080, and it remains unclear whether a post had been set in the terminal of this ditch or whether the post-hole represents an earlier or later feature.

c. Other Features

A scatter of other features, mainly post-holes, was also located within this trench. Their presence within such a small trench suggests a considerable density of activity, thus supporting the conclusions of the 1996 evaluations. None of these features yielded pottery or other finds, but an association with Romano-British or possibly Iron Age activity seems likely.

0081. A small (*c.* 0.4 x 0.2m) elongated patch of dark reddish brown (5YR 3/2-3/3) sandy silt loam with rare (< 5%) mainly medium (20-50mm) rounded pebbles was recorded on the eastern edge of ditch 0080. This may have formed part of the larger feature, 0083, which

flanked its eastern edge and with which its fill merged, but further excavation would be required to establish its character. The reddish colour could perhaps imply discolouration by burning.

0083. Part of an irregular deposit of brown (7.5YR 4/3) sandy silt loam with rare (5-10%) mainly medium (20-50mm) rounded pebbles was recorded in the small hand-dug eastern extension of the trench, but was not investigated further. The irregular shape of this context suggests several intersecting features, but these could not be differentiated in plan.

0084. Examination of the baulk section of the hand-dug eastern extension to the trench revealed a roughly U-shaped feature, sealed by layer 0082, which had not been observed in plan, despite manual excavation of this extension. The profile suggests a small pit or gully, filled with a brown/yellowish brown (10YR 5/4-4/4) sandy silt loam with patches of moderate (c.25%) mainly medium (20-50mm) rounded pebbles, surviving to a depth of 0.2 m by 0.5m wide.

0085-0087. A possible alignment of three post-holes may be postulated along the eastern side of 0080. These comprise a roughly oval feature protruding from the northern baulk (0085) and two features suggested by pronounced bulges in the northern edge of 0080 (0085 & 0086). Their fills were extremely similar, comprising a brown (10YR 4./3-4/4) sandy silt loam with variable proportions of mainly rounded pebbles. Their relationships with the ditch could not be determined.

0088. A discrete roughly circular patch of brown (10YR 4/3-4/4) sandy silt loam with occasional (5-10%) mainly small to medium (10-50mm) rounded pebbles, of diameter c.0.5m, was recorded near the terminal of ditch 0080. The feature was not excavated, but its plan and dimensions strongly suggest another post-hole.

0089. Part of a substantial post-hole, possibly 0.5m in diameter originally, was recorded on the eastern side of 0080, near the ditch terminal. This was only recognised after excavation of the ditch fill, its fill being indistinguishable from that of the ditch, and its relationship with this feature could not be ascertained.

Four of the post-holes which have been noted in the above discussion lie on or very close to the eastern edge of ditch 0080 (0085-0087 & 0089). This may be coincidental, but their positioning raises the possibility of an earlier or later fenced boundary along a line defined by the ditch. Post-hole 0090 might also have been related to this alignment.

3.2.5. Finds

a. Iron Age and Romano-British Pottery and Tile. R.S. Leary and D. Knight

The ceramic material was laid out by context and was examined to determine the quantity of pottery present, the range of fabrics, forms, decoration and condition. The number and weight of sherds from each context and their ware, form and decoration were recorded (Appendix 1).

Quantity

The collection comprised 41 sherds of pottery and one fragment of tile or possibly brick (AQK). The latter was *c.* 15mm thick and slightly curved. It was sanded on the side and on the outer surface. It is unlikely to be a roof tile, since these are usually sanded on the inside, and may be part of a box flue associated with a hypocaust structure.

Range and Variety of Material

The collection included material attributable to each of the three ceramic phases identified in pottery from the earlier evaluations (Knight and Malone, 1997). It comprised a group of four handmade sherds, mostly small and abraded, which may derive from Middle/Late Iron Age activity, a group of seven wheel-thrown sherds in fabrics similar to those found previously in Late Iron Age/early Romano-British forms, and a group of 32 sherds in Romano-British fabrics.

Fabrics

Three fabric groups have been defined.

Group 1: handmade, possibly Iron Age

PMM: brown ware with red-brown-buff argillaceous inclusions, probably derived from the Mercia Mudstone deposits.

PQ: brown ware with medium to coarse, quartz inclusions.

PG: brown ware with coarse quartz and granitic inclusions.

Group 2: wheel-made, Conquest period

BS: brown, quartz-gritted wares.

BSB1: medium, quartz-gritted ware.

CT: brown, shell-gritted wares.

CTB1: medium, shell-gritted ware.

CTB2: medium, quartz-gritted ware with sparse shell inclusions.

Group 3: Romano-British.

CTA1: buff, shell-gritted ware (*cf.* Dool *et al.* 1985, CTA1 in phase 1).

FLA: white ware with fine quartz inclusions.

GRA: fine grey ware

GRA1: fine grey ware with laminar fracture and grey core similar to one of the fine grey wares at Derby Racecourse (Dool *et al.* 1980, 90).

GRA2: fine grey ware. This is a broad group for fine grey wares not further subdivided.

OAA1: fine, orange ware.

OBA1: fine, yellow-buff ware.

Forms and Surface Treatment

Group 1. No forms were identified. The PG sherd preserved several scored lines, recalling Middle and Late Iron Age scored ware from other sites in the Trent Valley and East Midlands (Elsdon, 1992). Traces of finger impressions, probably formed during manufacture, could be detected on the very abraded PM sherd. All of these sherds appeared to have derived from hand-made vessels, as far as could be determined in view of their small size.

Group 2. The late Iron Age-early Roman group comprised bodysherds of CTB2 and BSB1 only. One of the BSB1 bodysherds was concave and may have derived from a carinated bowl. A CTB2 bodysherd was thick and bore a single incised line. Both fabrics compared well with those found in the previous excavations and dated to the Conquest period.

Group 3. The Romano-British pottery comprised a range of fabrics, paralleled in the pottery of phase 1 at Derby (Dool *et al* 1985; dated Flavian-Trajanic). These include bodysherds of CTA1, used to make rebated-rim jars and combed storage jars, found in phase 1 at Derby and in the Derby Racecourse kilns (Dool *et al* 1985, table 10), fine grey and oxidised wares, comparable to those made at Derby Racecourse, and some white wares also possibly made at Derby. One sherd of Derbyshire ware was recovered from cleaning over ditch 0080. The small amount of Derbyshire ware and the absence of BB1 types suggest that little material was deposited in the second century, during which period BB1 and Derbyshire ware became more common at Derby.

Spatial and Stratigraphic Distribution of Pottery

One body sherd of OBA1 (AQS) and the possible hypocaust tile (AQK) were recovered during machine stripping of topsoil (0060), and another five sherds during trowelling of the possible colluvial deposit, 0082, which sealed the Romano-British features recorded on the Floodplain Terrace. The sherds from 0082 comprised two fine grey ware body sherds, one decorated with rustication and dating to the late first to second century, a FLA1 bodysherd and two Iron Age body sherds in fabrics PQ and PM.

Ditch 0080 contained 22 sherds of pottery, including 12 from spit 3, three from spit 1 and seven from the surface, recovered during trowelling. Material from spit 3 of the ditch comprised sherds of CTA1, GRA1 and BSB1. The CTA1 sherds included sherds from a plain base from a medium-necked jar. The fabric compares well with that known at Derby Little Chester, used to make combed storage jars and rebated-rim jars, and probably came from the latter type (Dool *et al* 1985, table 10: from Flavian-Trajanic layers). The BSB1 sherds include a concave bodysherd, probably from a carinated bowl. Carinated and cordoned bowls of late Iron Age to early Romano-British type were found in the previous excavations, and the concave bodysherd compares with that group. Two fine grey ware sherds (GRA1) were found in this context: one an undiagnostic scrap and the other a concave bodysherd curving out sharply to form the rim. This latter belongs to the group of carinated and cordoned bowls or necked wide-mouthed jars made at Derby Racecourse and common in the first and second centuries (Dool *et al* 1985, tables 6 and 7 nos. 65 and 18). A PQ

bodysherd and two CTB2 bodysherds were found in spit 1. Material recovered while cleaning over the ditch included further bodysherds of PQ, CTB2, FLA1, DBY and grey ware. The single PQ bodysherd came from near the base of a bowl or jar and bore light brushing marks. One of the CTB2 sherds bore a single groove and both were thick. The thickness of the wall and the decoration compares well with cooking jars found previously in this fabric. The white ware (FLA1) sherds were exceptionally thin and may have come from a beaker rather than a flagon. Tablewares in white wares are known from Derby Little Chester and may have been made there (Dool *et al.* 1985, 93 no. 22). A white ware jar in a similar fabric is known from Barton-under-Needwood, Staffs. (unpublished report by R. Leary). The DBY sherd came from the base of a jar. The grey ware sherds were undiagnostic scraps.

The stratified sherds, together with those recovered from cleaning the feature, suggest that the ditch had silted up or had been filled in during the late first to early second century and was receiving little ceramic debris by the mid-second century.

Part of a white ware mortarium which had been extensively worn during use had been deliberately deposited in the bottom of posthole 0090 (Fig. 7), possibly as packing material. This comprised two joining sherds, and from the unworn character of the break appears to have been broken during or subsequent to deposition. This was identified by K. Hartley as a local product, perhaps more local than Derby, and was dated to the period *c.* 110-150 AD; a date towards the beginning of this range was regarded as more likely. This leaves unresolved the question of the relative dates of construction of the post-hole and ditch 0080. However, the ceramic associations of these features would support the view, based upon the close correspondence of the post-hole with the ditch terminal, that the post may have been deliberately placed in the ditch terminal, possibly after the accumulation of some depth of silt.

The remaining pottery derived from the gravelly layer (0062) overlying the palaeochannel deposits (3 sherds), interpreted above as probably high energy fluvial deposit, and layers 0063 and 0065 of the underlying palaeochannel (7 and one sherds respectively). The pottery from 0062 included single body sherds of CTA1 and OBA1, plus a GRA1 bead rim sherd (14cm diameter) with long neck which may derive from a long-necked, carinated beaker. The latter is a common form in Lincolnshire, where it dates from the late first/second centuries (Darling 1984, no.94), although it is found in a deposit of the mid-third century at Winterton, Lincs. (Stead 1976, fig.76, nos.30-1; fig.80, no.25; fig.85, no.112; fig.87, no.152). 0063 yielded body sherds of GRA1, BSB, FLA1 (burnt) and PG (scored), plus a small flange sherd in a very fine pink OAA1, from a flanged bowl of Hadrianic-Antonine date (117-192 AD). The OAA1 sherd compares closely in its fabric with those made at Derby Racecourse (Dool *et al.* 1985, 95 no. 36). 0065 yielded an everted rim sherd from a grey ware narrow-necked jar, most common in this area in the first and second centuries.

Conclusions

The pottery from trench 06 has shed valuable additional light upon the probable date range of occupation, and has added further weight to the suggestion that some pottery may have been locally produced. The discovery of a possible hypocaust tile is particularly noteworthy, bearing in mind the discovery in the 1996 evaluation of a possible pottery tessera and of worked gritstone fragments which it has been suggested could possibly imply stone buildings.

Preliminary analysis of the pottery suggests that settlement on the Floodplain Terrace may have commenced in the Middle or Late Iron Age. The evidence for an early date is based upon the discovery of Iron Age scored pottery, which in this region could originate as early as the fifth/fourth centuries BC (*cf* Elsdon, 1992; Knight, 1992, 49-50). Pottery of this style is, however, known to continue in use in the Trent Valley well into the Late Iron Age (*op.cit.*), and hence a Middle Iron Age origin for this site cannot yet be demonstrated with certainty.

Occupation appears to have continued until around the middle of the second century AD, although it should be emphasised that this conclusion is based upon a small sample of this extensive site. Ditch 0080 appears, from its associated pottery, to have silted up by the early second century, while the mortarium sherds from post-hole 0090 suggest a date of construction for this feature within the early second century AD. Hadrianic-Antonine sherds, indicating second century activity, were restricted to the surface of ditch 0080 and the area around the palaeochannel.

The fabric of the mortarium is similar to those made at Derby, but is sufficiently distinct for Hartley to suggest a more local source. The presence of an everted-rim jar waster from the previous excavations, coupled with the unusual multiple-groove shoulder decoration on that form and the presence of fashioned fired clay on the site, raised the possibility of on-site pottery production (Knight and Malone 1996, 18). The character of the mortarium strengthens that case, and raises the possibility of an important pottery centre of the Flavian-Trajanic period.

Nearly all the other wares present were of local production or from the Derby Racecourse kilns, with the exception of the PG sherd, the CTA1 sherds and, possibly, the white wares. The granitic inclusions in the Iron Age fabric PG suggest a non-local source, possibly from the Charnwood area to the south. Swan has noted the similarity between the CTA1 vessels at Derby Racecourse and shell-gritted jars made in Northamptonshire in the mid to late first century and has suggested that they may be traded from there to Derby (Swan 1984, 125).

b. Flintwork. D. Garton

Two flint flakes were recorded during excavation.

A small butt fragment of a flake was recovered from the fill of a feature revealed in the west-facing baulk (AQF; 0083). The small, plain, platform, with abraded and worn butt and soft-hammer flaking, would fit a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic technology. A possible notch has been retouched and then broken. The flake removal scars are shiny in comparison with the dorsal and ventral surfaces, suggesting that the flake was heat treated to improve its flaking qualities.

A flake with scale-flaking on part of its left side was recovered from the upper fill of the palaeochannel (AQM; 0063). The style of flaking would be consistent with a Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age attribution.

c. Miscellaneous Stone. D. Knight and R. Firman

Part probably of the upper stone of a Romano-British rotary quern was recovered from near the base of ditch 0080, close to its southern terminal (ARM). The quern was broken in two during excavation, possibly along a pre-existing crack. Another fine crack is visible on the upper surface, together with a narrow zone of blackening along the upper margin, suggesting exposure to heat. Both fragments preserve part of central perforation, but the original shape of the quern remains uncertain. The original working surface preserves two slightly concave elongated zones of smoothing, suggesting later use as a whetstone. The raw material is a coarse feldspathic micaceous sandstone. It probably derived from a source in the 'Millstone Grit' outcrops of the south Derbyshire Peak District rather than the closer Namurian exposure near Ticknall, unless obtained from local glacial deposits.

Two large heat-affected stones were retrieved from ditch 0080, from the same location as the quern, and may have been deliberately deposited with that object (ARN; ARO). One of these is a coarse sandstone, while the other is of quartzite; both rock types are common components of the local river gravels. A small fragment of another heat-affected quartzite pebble was retrieved from the upper fill of the palaeochannel (AQN; 0063), and had presumably been redeposited by fluvial action.

3.3. Trench 07: Geophysical Anomalies in Northern Part of Stoneylands Close (centred at SK 45439 30561)

3.3.1. Introduction

A 10 x 5m trench was located above a rectilinear magnetic anomaly, interpreted as possibly the foundations of a large structure (Johnson, 1997, 7), with the aim of establishing the character, date and quality of preservation of any associated archaeological remains. The trench was deliberately positioned in order that one of the best defined examples of a group of roughly circular anomalies, interpreted provisionally as pits (*ibid.*, 6-7), could also be investigated (Fig.8).

3.3.2 Methodology

The topsoil was removed mechanically, employing a 6ft toothless ditching bucket on the back actor of a JCB. No features or deposits which might correlate with the geomagnetic anomalies were recorded at this level, and it was decided to continue machining in spits of c.0.1m until such a level was attained. The trench was excavated eventually to a depth beneath ground level of 0.7m, at which level emerged several patches of silty clay varying significantly in colour and mineral content from the overlying deposits (Fig.9; Plates 6-7). The southernmost of these rather formless patches, 0073, correlated precisely with a roughly circular anomaly which had been interpreted provisionally as a pit form.

The trench bottom was cleaned at this level by trowel, photographed and planned. An attempt was made to excavate by trowel the southern half of 0073, but the edges of this context proved so elusive that it proved necessary to excavate a small box trench over the southern half (Plate 6).

The irregular grouping of contexts in the northern half of the trench was excavated manually in several c.0.1m spits, revealing eventually the plan shown in Fig.9. This demonstrated a natural origin for these contexts, and no further excavation was carried out in this area. A plan of the trench at this level is included here, together with a drawing of the west-facing section (Fig.9).

3.3.3 Results of Excavation

Excavation demonstrated a sequence of topsoil (0070), possible medieval ploughsoil (0071) and alluvium (0072) above patches of silty clay differentiated from 0072 by merit mainly of their colour and mineral content.

Topsoil and possible medieval ploughsoil (0070 & 0071)

Excavations revealed beneath the turf a quite shallow (0.1-0.2m) depth of topsoil (0070), comprising a virtually stone-free dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) sandy silt loam. This overlay a 0.15-0.3m depth of brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt loam with very few (<5%) mainly small-medium (10-50mm) rounded pebbles (0071). The latter seems best interpreted as an old ploughsoil, possibly associated with the medieval cultivation implied by the well preserved ridge and furrow.

Alluvium (0072 & 0076)

0071 overlaid up to 0.5m of a virtually stone-free dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4-4/4) silty clay, 0072, which dried to a notably paler colour than the underlying layer. 0072 was interpreted as an alluvial deposit, generated during flooding at the Trent-Derwent confluence. This alluvium was removed to a depth beneath ground surface of c.0.7m, at which level features apparently corresponding with the recorded geophysical anomalies could first be discerned (0073, 0074 & 0075). At the base of 0072 in some parts of the trench was recorded a very thin layer, 0076, distinguishable from 0072 by merit of its slightly darker colour (10YR 4/4-3/4) but probably also of alluvial origin, and overlying 0074, 0075 and 0078.

Geomagnetic Anomalies (0073-0075 & 0077)

0073. The most conspicuous of the sub-alluvial features was recorded in the southern part of the trench, and matched exactly the position of a roughly circular magnetic anomaly. It emerged as a roughly oval patch of very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silty clay covering an area c.1.0m x 0.7m. The southern half of this feature was removed by trowel, revealing a feature only 20-30mm in depth and of irregular form, which could be differentiated from the natural alluvial clay only by its colour (Plate 6). Some small fragments of charcoal contained within the context may represent the remnant of a tree-bole or tree-throw hole. The high magnetic signal could in this case reflect the accumulation of iron minerals around the base of the tree.

0074, 0075 & 0077. These contexts, located at the north end of the trench, comprised rather formless patches of silty clays, some with rare (<5%) mainly small (10-20mm) rounded pebbles, varying significantly in colour and mineral content. Further hand-dug spits of 100mm depth were therefore removed from this end of the trench to a final depth beneath ground level of 0.9m. The patches of clays retained their amorphous character, and appear to represent variations within the lower alluvial clays, immediately above the gravel of the Floodplain Terrace. 0074 and 0077 were darker in colour (10YR 4/2), and in addition to flecks of iron appeared to contain more manganese. 0075 was bright orange and very iron-rich. These differences in mineral content appear to be sufficient to account for the magnetic variations recorded in the geophysical survey.

Sub-Alluvial gravel (0078)

Patches of fine to medium gravel <50mm in diameter (0078) were recorded in the base of the trench, overlain by 0074. These were of irregular form, and apparently indicated the top of the Floodplain Terrace gravels.

Finds

One sherd of medieval green-glazed pottery was recovered during the machining of the trench, but no other artefacts were recovered.

4. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Trench 05, Od Meadow Leys Close

A trench across a NW-SE linear geomagnetic anomaly recorded in the Trent floodplain revealed a substantial depth of alluvium sealing an organic clay interpreted as palaeochannel fill. High iron sulphide levels within this layer, caused probably by decaying organic material, probably explain the geomagnetic anomaly. No associated archaeological features were located.

Trench 06, Stoneylands Close.

A trench excavated at the edge of the Floodplain Terrace in Stoneylands Close revealed a high density of Romano-British features on the gravel terrace, supporting therefore the results of earlier evaluations in this area. These features included a scatter of pits and post-holes and, most significantly, a NW-SE linear ditch correlating with a linear geomagnetic anomaly. The ditch fill yielded late first/early second century AD pottery, part of a gritstone rotary quern re-used as a whetstone and several heat-affected stones. A post-hole in the terminal of the ditch yielded two joining fragments of a mortarium dated to the early second century AD.

The mortarium was possibly derived from a local kiln of the Flavian-Trajanic period. This recalls the evidence suggesting local pottery production which was obtained during earlier excavations in Stoneylands Close, notably an everted-rim jar waster, the presence of unusual multiple-groove shoulder decoration on that form, and the discovery of fashioned fired clay. A possible hypocaust tile was recovered from the topsoil, adding to the evidence from previous excavations for structural debris which might have derived from buildings of some architectural pretension (in particular, fragments of worked stone and a possible tessera fragment).

An alignment of elongated geomagnetic anomalies running roughly parallel with the edge of the gravel terrace was shown to correlate with variations in the mineral content of palaeochannel fill. This channel was dug into reworked gravels, and was flanked on the terrace edge by a pool or possibly a channel which had cut into the gravels of the Floodplain Terrace. Clear evidence was obtained for the truncation of the Romano-British settlement by later bankside erosion, although the chronology of fluvial activity in the disturbed zone between the Cow Way Drain and the present terrace edge remains uncertain. The fluvially redeposited material included, most significantly, a sherd of Iron Age scored ware, lending further weight to the case for an Iron Age origin for this settlement.

Trench 07, Stoneylands Close

A trench across a dense pattern of geophysical anomalies recorded south of the Trent & Mersey Canal showed these to correlate with features associated with tree-root penetration rather than Iron Age or Romano-British activity. No archaeological remains were revealed, but the high density of comparable features which is suggested by the gradiometer survey of the northern part of Stoneylands Close suggests extensive woodland clearance over an unknown time period.

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APPENDIX

Appendix 1: List of Late Iron Age/Romano-British Pottery

Introduction to pottery catalogue and list of codes

The pottery recording sheets list the pottery fabrics and forms. The columns record the following data: context, spit, find code, the fabric, the part of the vessel, the sherd count, the sherd weight, form, decorative techniques, decorative motifs, positions on the pot occupied by the decoration, the condition of the sherds, such as burnt, distorted or sooted, and the level of abrasion. The following abbreviations and codes are used in addition to the above fabric and form codes:-

Fabric:

Size of inclusion:

subvisible - only just visible at x30 and too small to measure
fine - 0.1-0.25mm
medium - 0.25-0.5
coarse - 0.5-1mm

Form:

B&F: bead and flange mortarium
CA: "belgic" type, cordoned or carinated bowl
CB: cordoned and carinated bowl of Flavian-Trajanic type
CD7: hemispherical flanged bowl
CV: closed vessel
DC: long-necked, carinated beaker
LC1: rusticated jar
OA1: fine, ovoid jar with everted rim
PLN: plain
TUB: *tubulus* (hypocaust tile)

Part:

PRO: profile
BDY: diagnostic bodysherd
BAS: base
B+B: base and bodysherd
SCR: scraps
FLG: flange
R+B: rim and bodysherd
BDX: undiagnostic bodysherd
HA: handle

Decoration:

Technique:

BNH: burnished
IMP: impressed
SC: scored
GRV: grooved
RST: rusticated

Motif:

FM: finger mark
SGE: single

Position:

OSB: outside body

Condition:

BR: burnt

Abrasion:

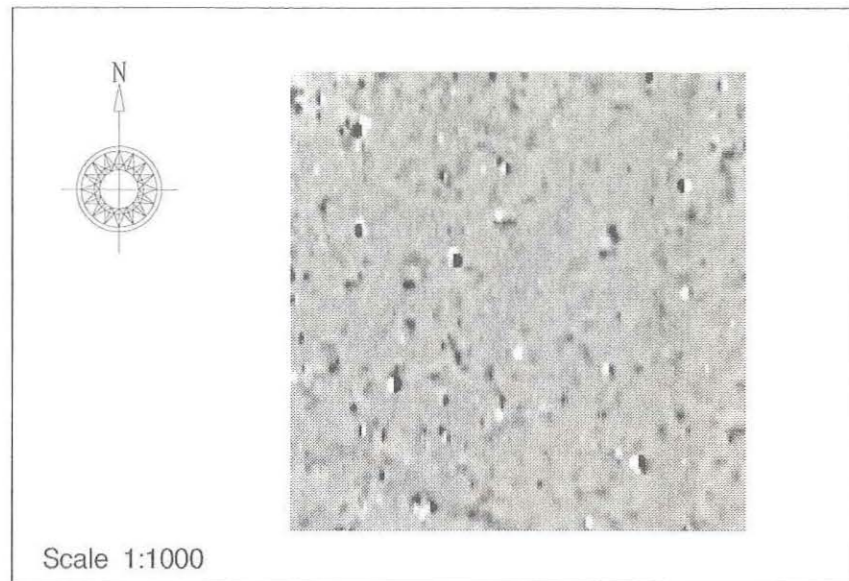
U: unabraded
M: moderately abraded on one surface and edges
A: abraded, partially on both surfaces and edges
V: very abraded, all over sherd

FIGURES

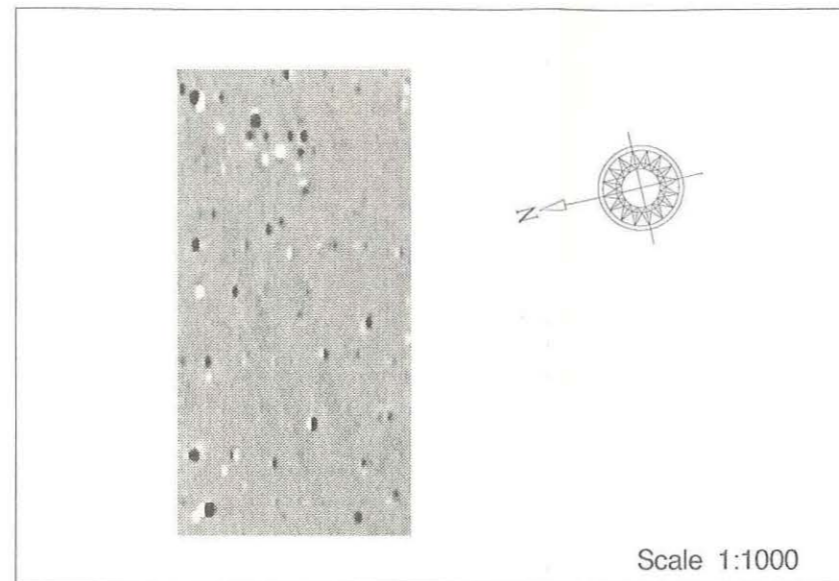
CHAPEL FARM HEMINGTON, DERBYSHIRE

Gradiometer grey shade plot: areas A, C, D & E

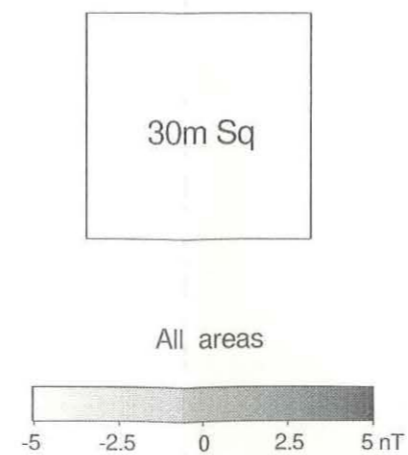
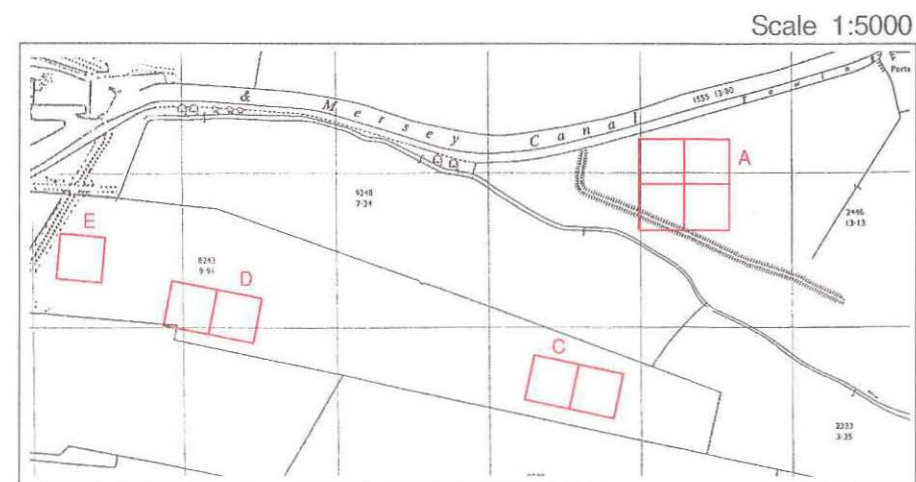
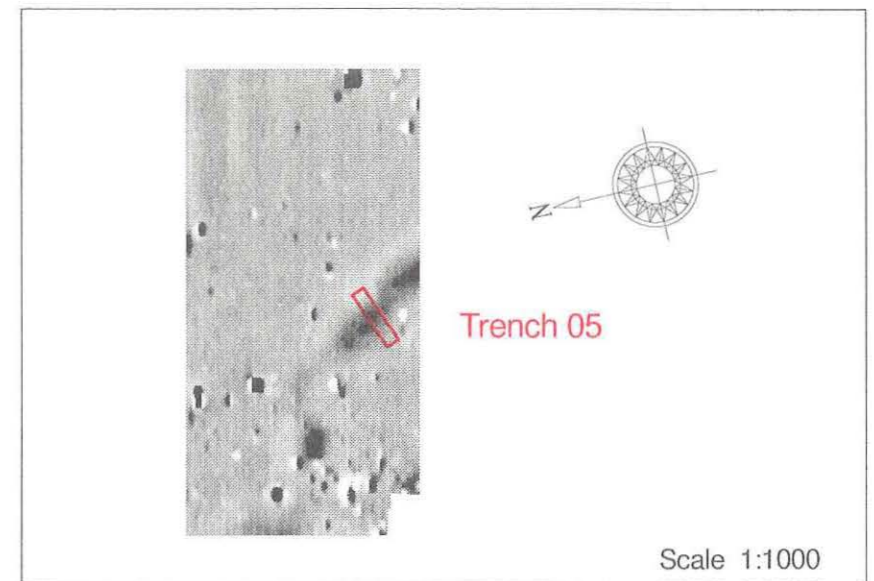
Gradiometer Survey, Area A



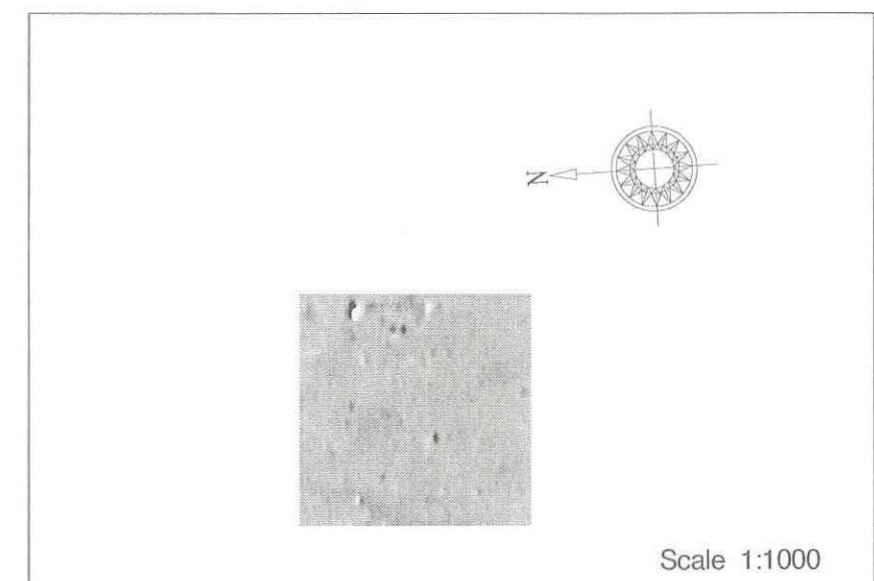
Gradiometer Survey, Area C



Gradiometer Survey, Area D



Gradiometer Survey, Area E



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Fig. 1. Gradiometer grey shade plots of Od Meadow Leys Close (Areas C, D and E) and the western part of Stoneylands Close (Area A), showing the location of trench 05 in Area D (Oxford Archaeotechnics; scale 1:1000)

CHAPEL FARM, HEMINGTON, DERBYSHIRE
Gradiometer Survey, Grey Shade Plot 1:1250

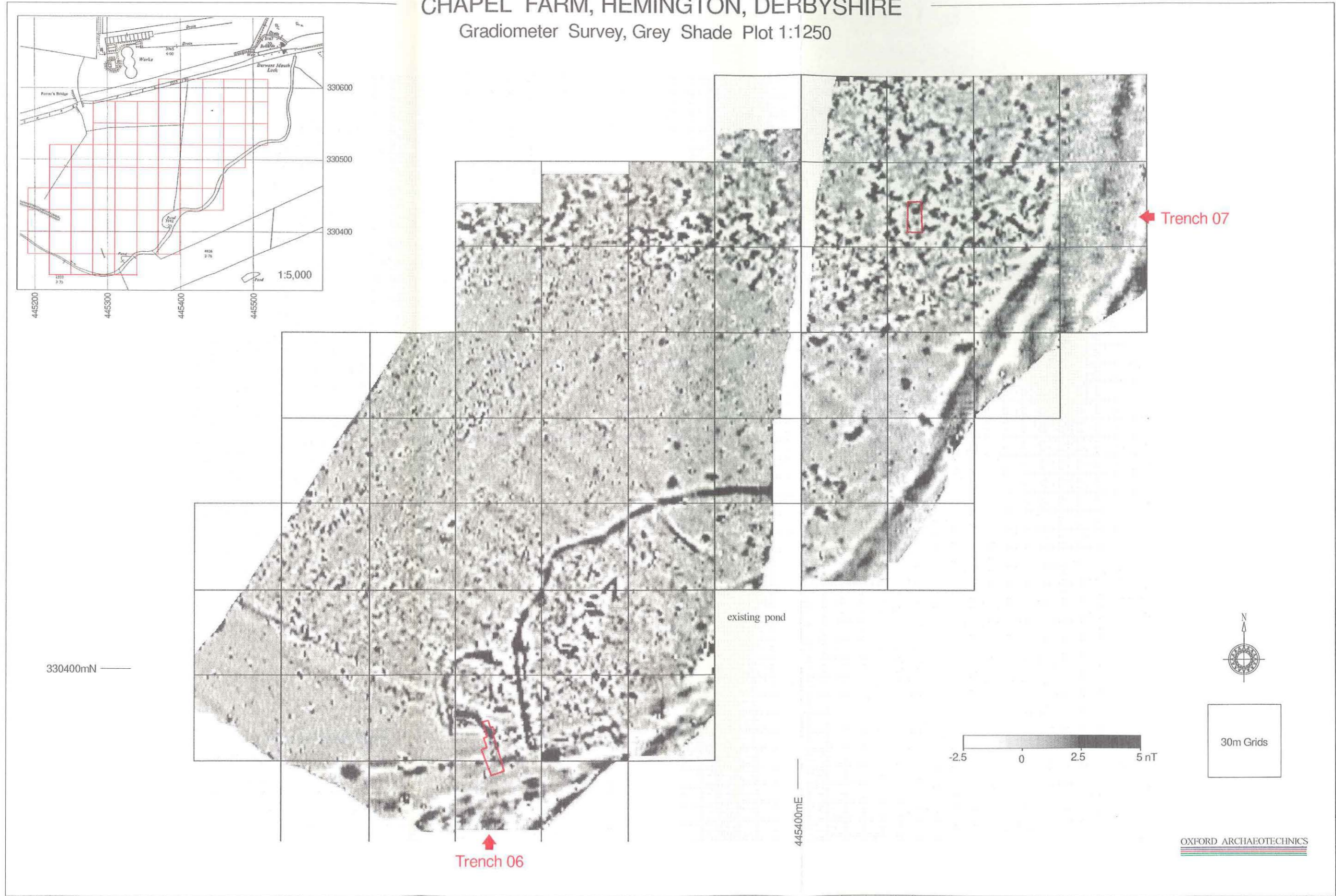
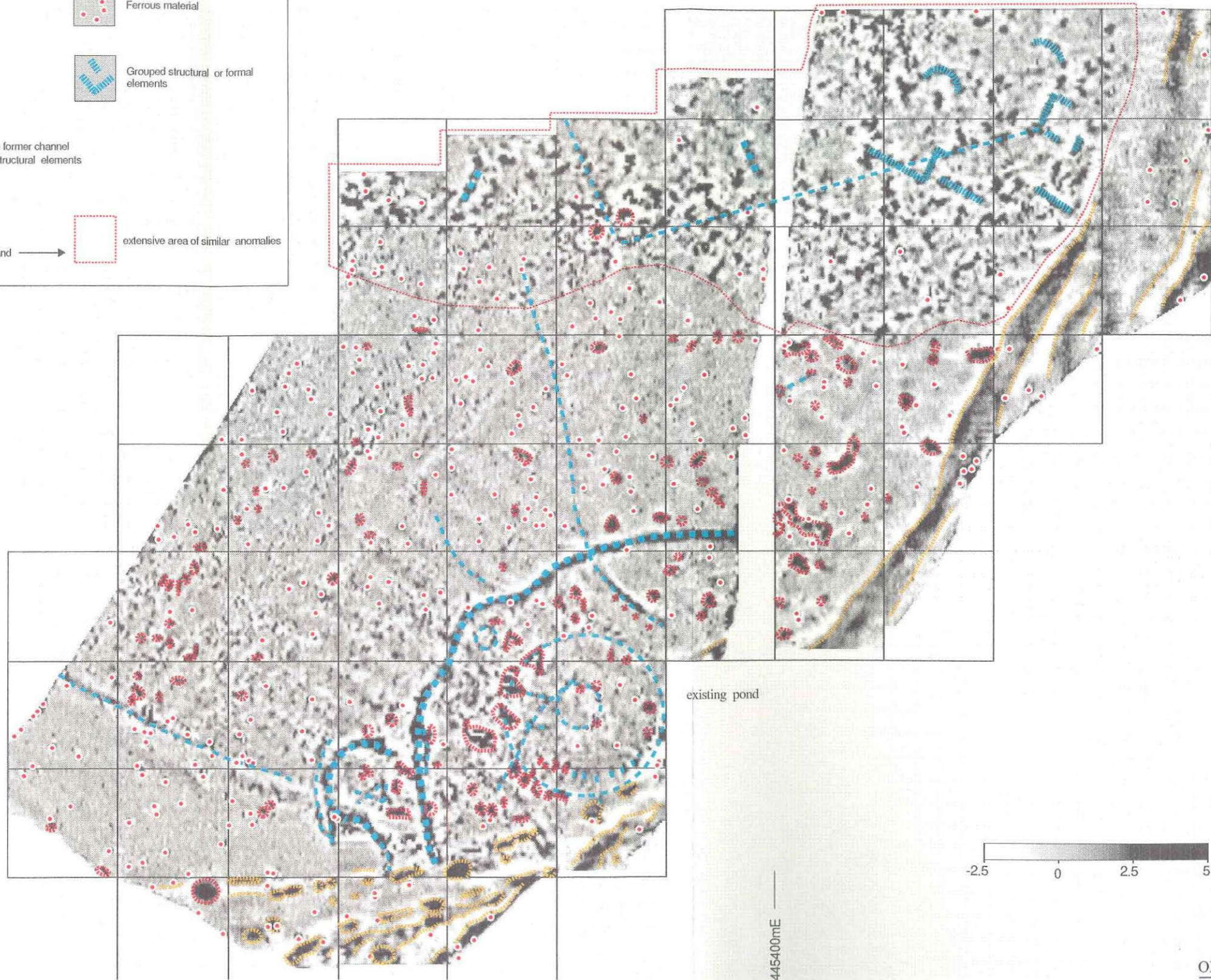
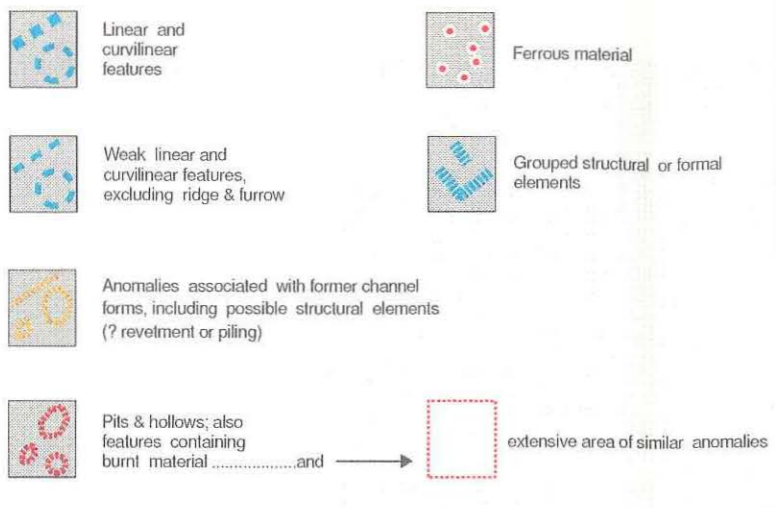


Fig. 2. Gradiometer grey shade plot, Stoneylands Close, showing location of trenches 06 and 07 (Oxford Archaeotechnics; scale 1:1250)

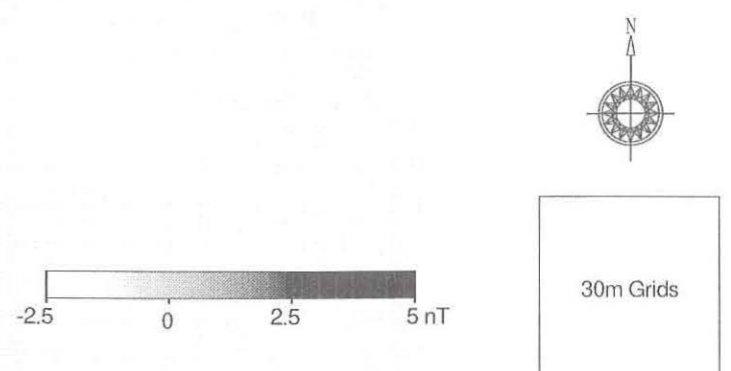
CHAPEL FARM, HEMINGTON, DERBYSHIRE

Gradiometer Survey, Grey Shade Plot, Interpretation



330400mN

445400mE



OXFORD ARCHAEO TECHNICS

1:1250

Fig. 3. Gradiometer grey shade plot, Stoneylands Close: interpretation prior to 1997 evaluations (Oxford Archaeotechnics; scale 1:1250)

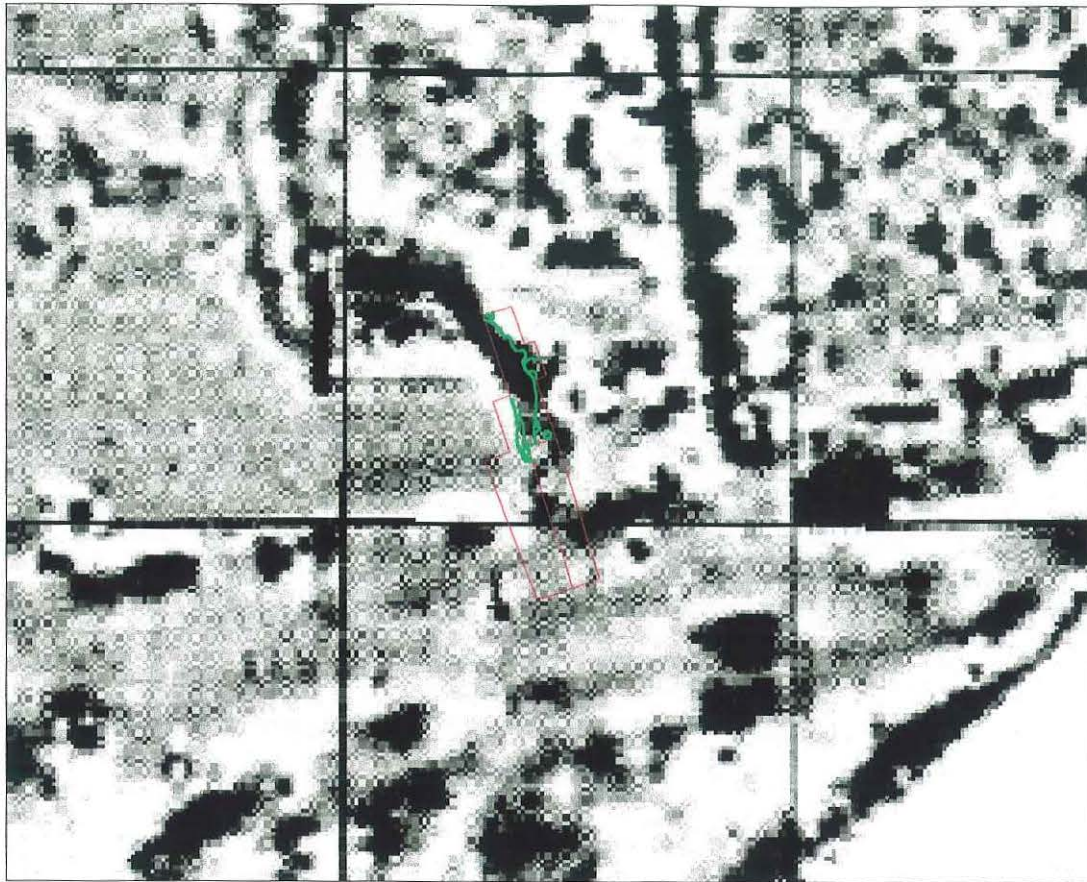


Fig. 4 Location of trench 06 (red) and excavated features (green) shown against gradiometer survey (based on plan by Oxford Archaeotechnics). Scale 1:500.

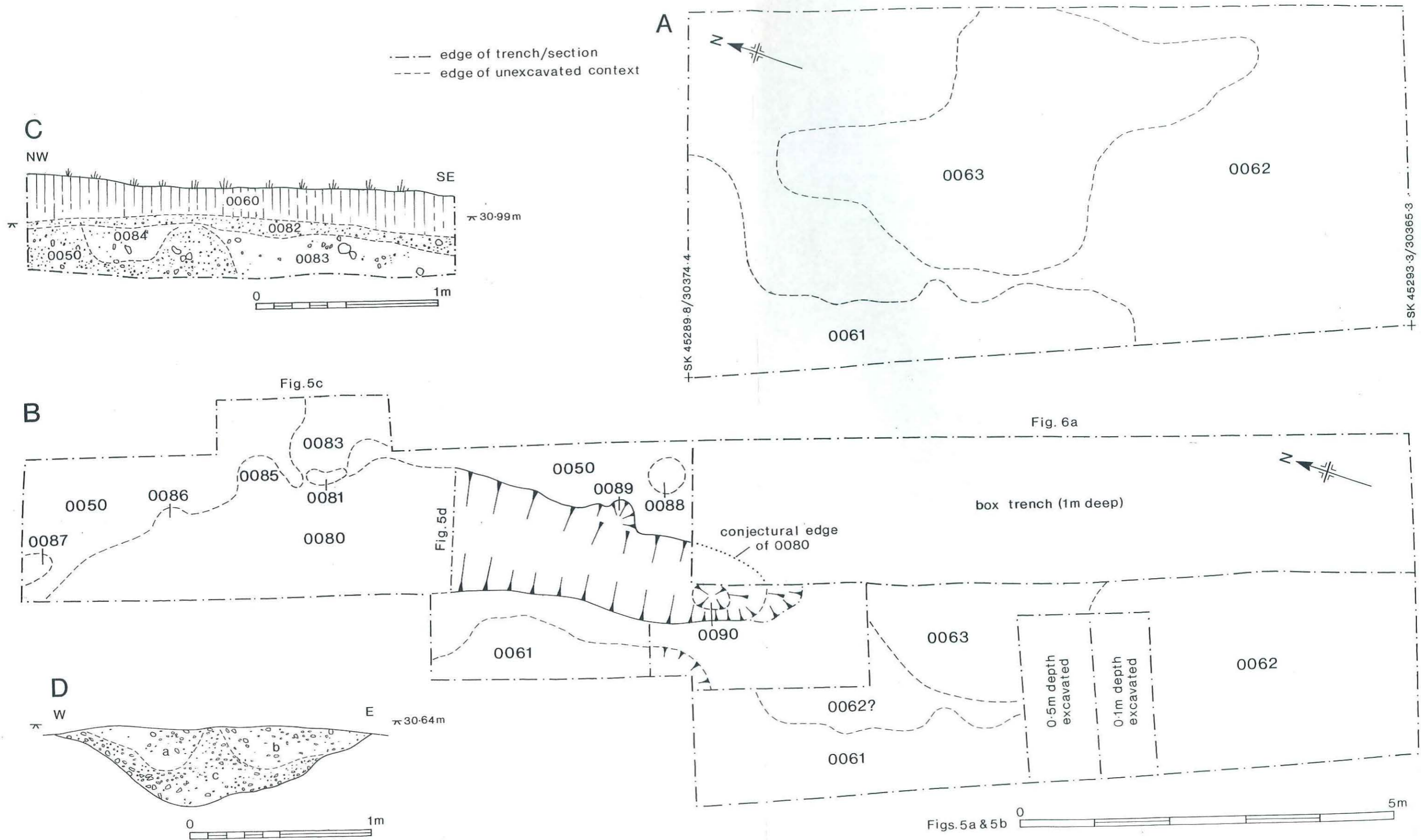


Fig.5. Post-excavation plan of trench 06 (scale 1:50), showing initial 10x5m trench after removal of topsoil (A) and the extended trench after the excavation of two box trenches and the removal from around the terminal of ditch 0080 and from the northern extension of up to 300mm of sub-ploughsoil deposits (B). Sections across ditch 0080 (D) and features 0083 and 0084 (C) are also shown (scale 1:20)

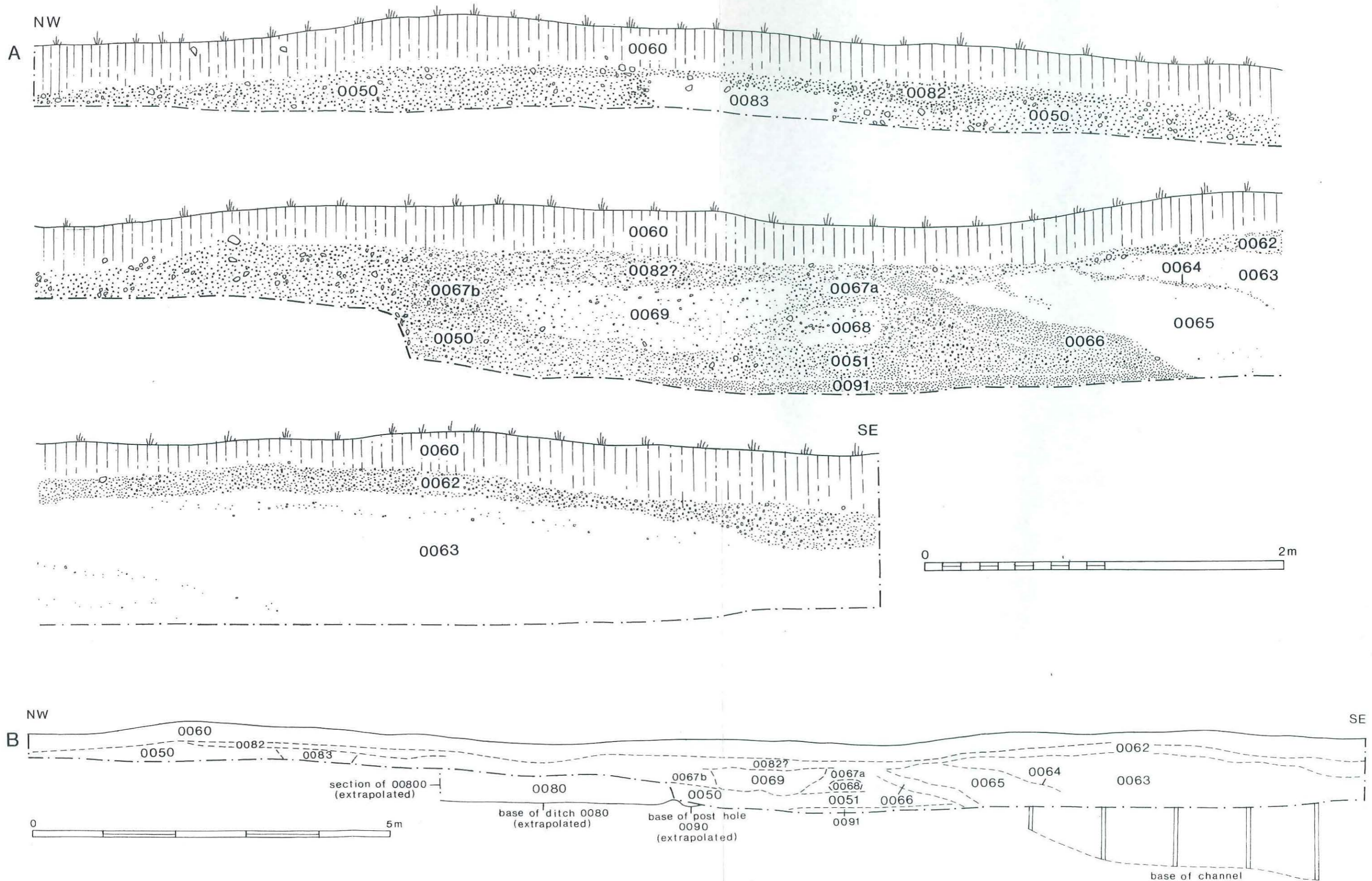


Fig.6. SW-facing section of trench 06 (scale 1:20) and diagrammatic representation of the stratigraphic relationship between the palaeochannel and Romano-British features on the Floodplain Terrace (scale 1:50)

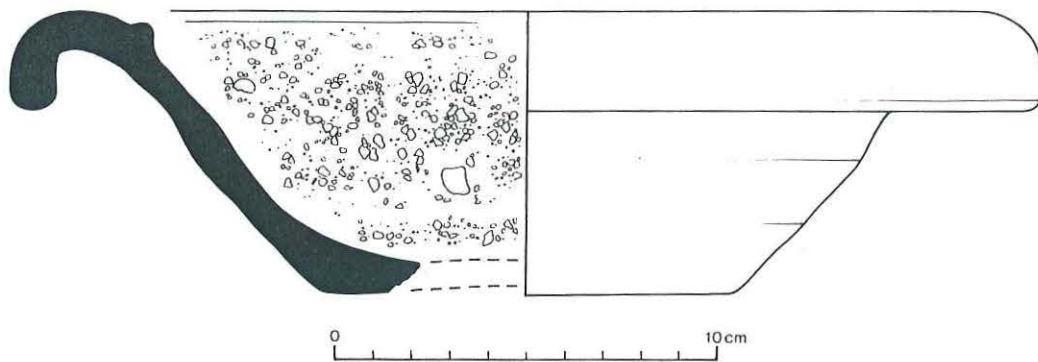


Fig. 7. Romano-British mortarium, *c.* AD110-150, from bottom of post-hole 0090 (scale 1:2)

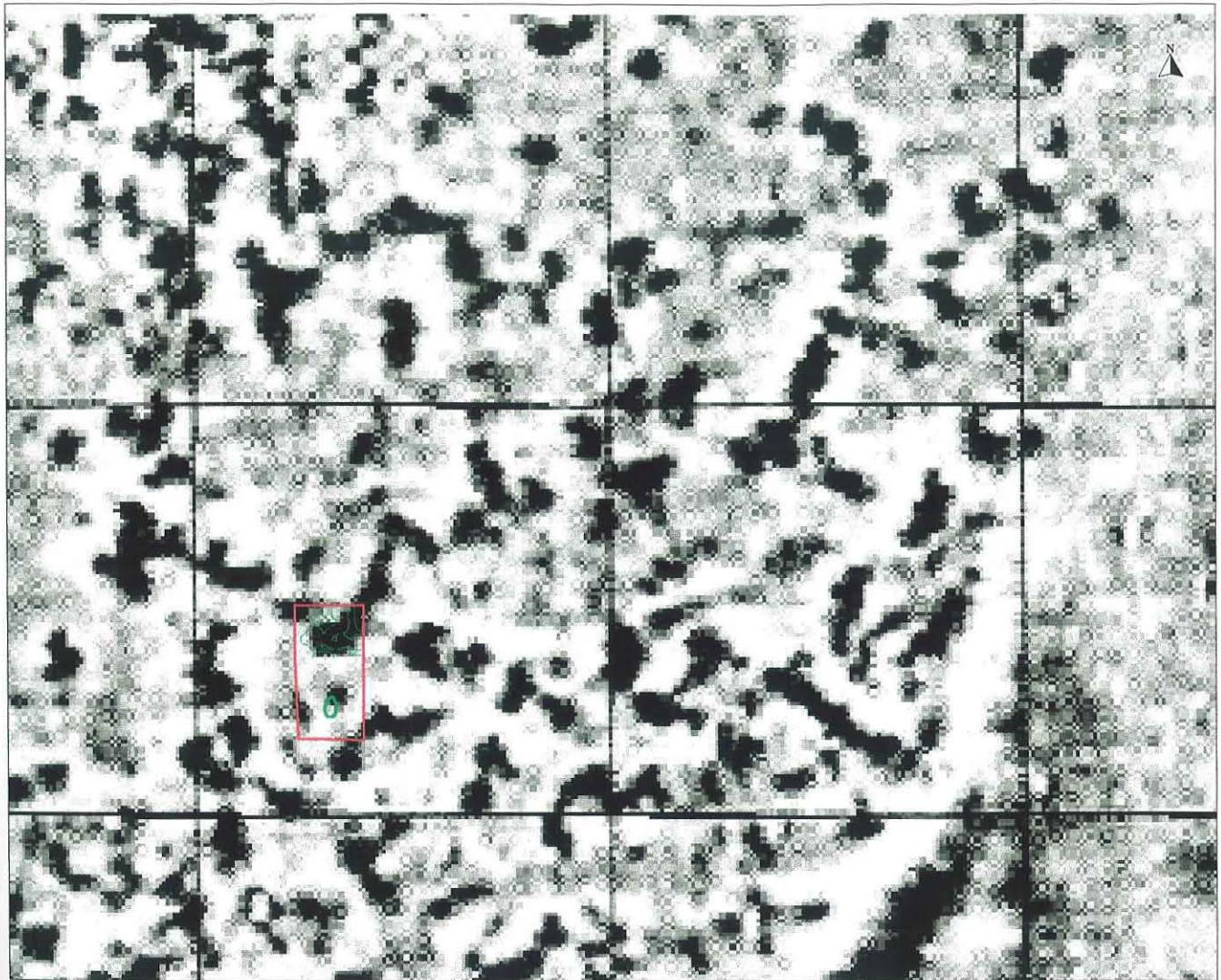


Fig. 8 Location of trench 07 (red) and excavated features (green) shown against gradiometer survey (based on plan by Oxford Archaeotechnics). Scale 1:500.

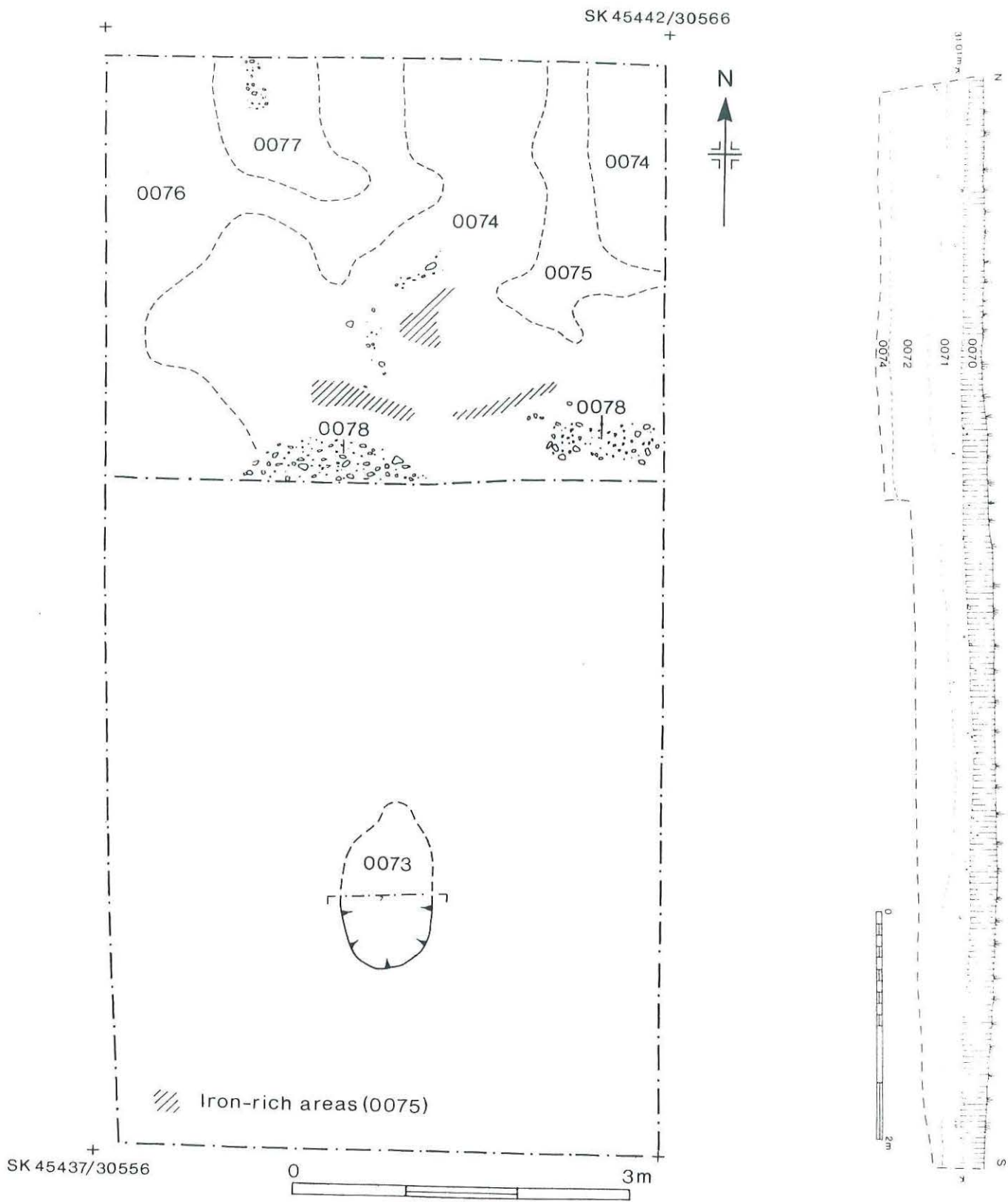


Fig.9. Post-excavation plan and west-facing section of trench 07, Stoneylands Close (scale 1:50)

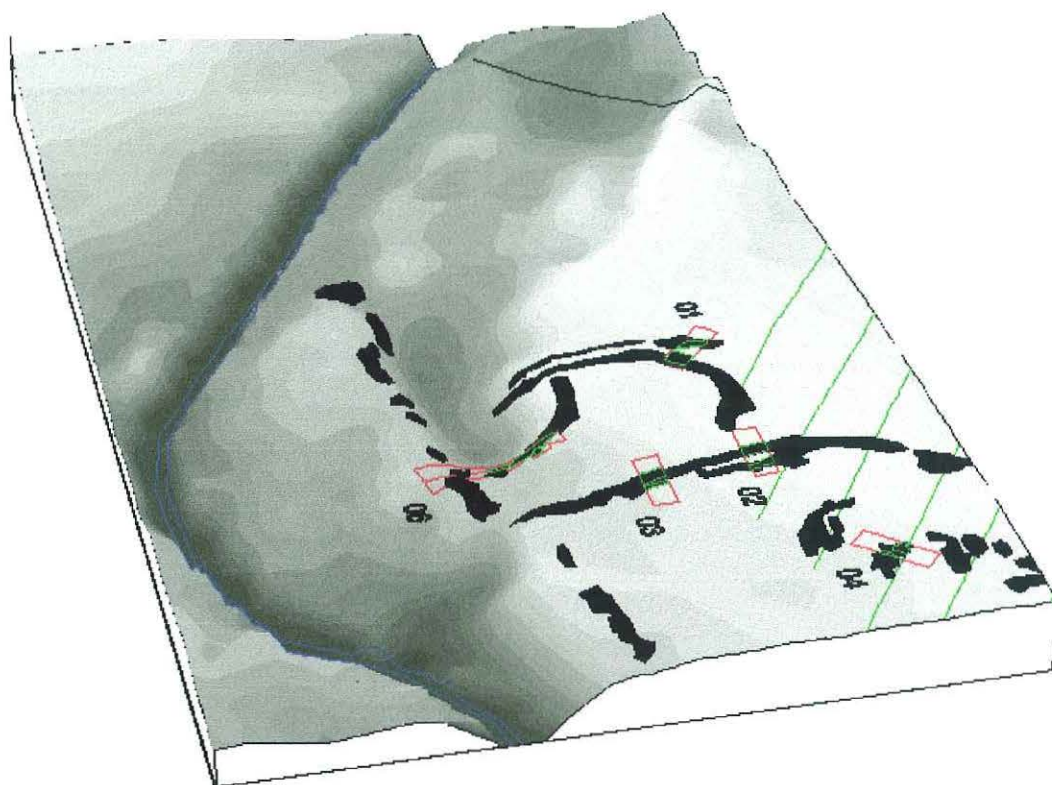


Fig.10. Three-dimensional contour plot of 175 x 100m area at edge of Floodplain Terrace, showing the location of trenches 01-04 and 06 (red) relative to the Cow Way Drain (blue), geomagnetic anomalies (black), archaeological features (green) and extant ridge and furrow (parallel green lines, indicating axis of each ridge). 0.1m contour intervals; x6 vertical exaggeration.

PLATES



Plate 1. NW-facing section across linear geophysical anomaly in trench 05, Od Meadow Leys Close, showing alluvium beneath topsoil.



Plate 2. SW-facing section across fluvial features in trench 06, Stoneylands Close, showing sequence from right to left of palaeochannel deposits, reworked gravels cut by palaeochannel, and terrace-edge channel or pool cut into reworked and *in situ* gravels.



Plate 3. NW-facing section of trench 06, close to Cow Way Drain, showing substantial depth of reworked gravel deposit (0062) above silty clay palaeochannel fill.



Plate 4. View northwards across trench 06, showing ditch 0080 and the base of post-hole 0090 in the ditch terminal. The box trench adjacent to the east baulk is visible in the right foreground. The broken line indicates the southern edge of the gully terminal, merging imperceptibly at this level with a gravelly deposit which was partially excavated to establish the exact spatial extent of the ditch.



Plate 5. View southwards across trench 06, showing terminal of ditch 0080 and post-hole 0090.



Plate 6. View northwards across trench 07, showing in the foreground a box trench across one of the geomagnetic anomalies, 0073. The trench level in the foreground represents the level at which context changes correlating with the geomagnetic anomalies were first discerned; three 100mm spits have been removed from this level in the northern part of the trench.



Plate 7. Bottom of trench 07, showing irregular gravelly patches and areas of iron enrichment after the removal of three 100mm spits from the level at which context changes correlating with geomagnetic anomalies were first discerned.