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The Annums, Bowes, Co. Durham: archaeological evaluation

by:
**Archaeological Services
University of Durham**

on behalf of:
Bowes Football Club

**ASUD Report 737
January 2001**

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1. Summary

- 1.1** This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation conducted in advance of a proposed development at The Annums, Bowes, Co. Durham. The evaluation comprised site reconnaissance, geophysical survey and trial trenching, followed by an assessment of the archaeological significance of the proposed development area.
- 1.2** The work was commissioned by Bowes Football Club, and conducted by Archaeological Services University of Durham in accordance with a specification provided by the Archaeology Section, Durham County Council, and English Heritage (1995) and IFA (1999) guidelines.
- 1.3** A pattern of geophysical anomalies was revealed, which are consistent with the remains of part of the Roman vicus at Bowes. Trial trenching confirmed the presence of archaeological deposits of Roman date, including pottery and amphorae, animal bone, enclosures, a road, and timber structures. Unstratified medieval ceramics were also recovered, and ridge and furrow was present as earthworks within the field.
- 1.4** The Roman remains will be considered a significant archaeological resource by the planning authority.
- 1.5** The development proposal entails cutting into the top of the slope, and using the spoil to level up the bottom part of the field in order to create a flat base for a football pitch. This will truncate or remove significant archaeological deposits.
- 1.6** It is recommended that the area to be disturbed is subject to a full programme of archaeological excavation in advance of the development, to be followed by a programme of post-excavation leading to a final archaeological report in line with English Heritage guidelines (1991).
- 1.7** The flat field required for the football pitch may alternatively be obtained by importing spoil into the area, rather than cutting into the slope. The remains would subsequently be preserved under the football pitch, and damage to the deposits and the need for excavation would be minimised.
- 1.8** The drainage required beneath the pitch is shallow, and may not impact upon the Roman archaeology: where the archaeology is likely to be disturbed, a scheme of archaeological monitoring during the works would be appropriate.
- 1.9** The deposits mostly consist of negative archaeological features cut into the subsoil, and are unlikely to be seriously affected by compaction as a result of the development.

2. Project background

Location (Figure 1)

- 2.1 The proposed development area is located at the edge of Bowes Village, Co. Durham (NY 9954 1333). The site consists of pasture land c.1 ha in size, and is adjacent to a cliff leading down to the River Greta to the south, a modern road to the east, housing to the north and pasture to the West.

Dates

- 2.2 The evaluation was conducted between 15th December 2000 and 5th January 2001. This report was written during January 2001.

Personnel

- 2.3 The evaluation was conducted by P. Carne, D. Graham and D. Still of Archaeological Services University of Durham. Sample processing was by D. Graham, macrofossil analysis was by J. Cotton, faunal analysis by L. Gidney and ceramic analysis by Dr S. Willis. The remainder of this report was prepared by P. Carne, D. Hale, and D. Graham, with illustrations by Linda Bosveld.

Archive

- 2.4 The site code for the excavation is BFF00. The excavation archive will be transferred to Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham.

Archaeological and historical background

- 2.5 Bowes is on the site of the Roman Fort of Lavatrae, which was occupied into the fourth century AD. The remains are a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SMR 2044). Investigations have revealed two timber phases of occupation and 4 stone phases (Britannia 1971). To the south and east of the fort are the remains of the vicus, the Roman town that existed around the fort (SMR 2045). Some unpublished archaeological investigations have taken place in the vicus: 400ft east of the East Gate, the remains of a road with side gullies and timber buildings were identified (Wilson 1968). Evidence for a stone structure was also revealed in 1999 between Homelea and Grey Dykes (Turnbull 1999). A large quantity of Roman pottery dating from the 2nd to the 4th centuries was also found to the south of the fort (SMR 965), which probably indicates part of the vicus in this area. The total extent and layout of the vicus is not known, although excavations in other vici have revealed significant archaeological remains (e.g. at Greta Bridge, Casey & Hoffmann 1998).
- 2.6 Bowes is also the site of a Norman Castle, built over part of the fort, significant remains of which survive above ground. It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This was built between 1171 and 1187 for Henry II (SMR 2046).

Objectives

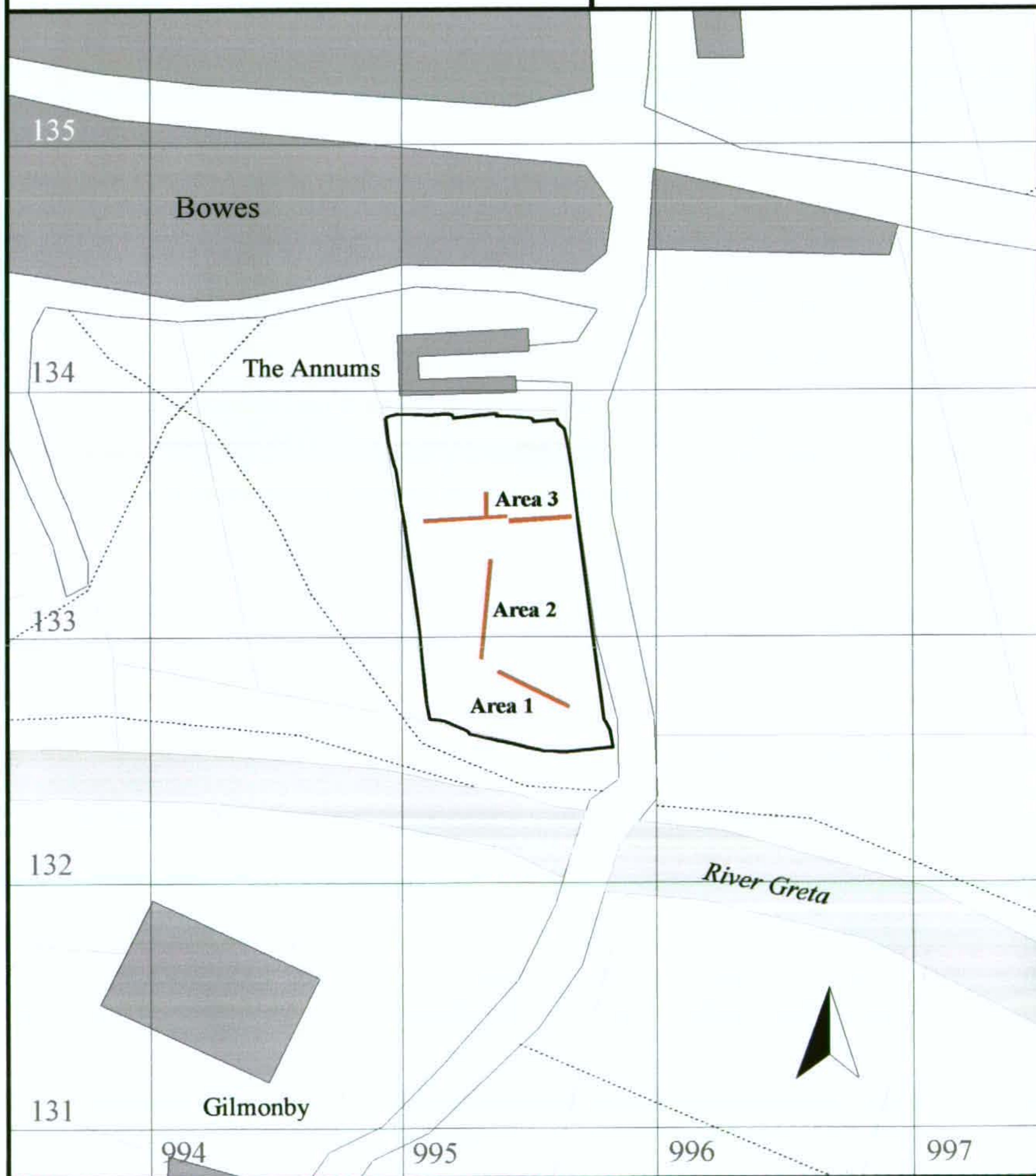
- 2.7 The objective of the evaluation was to inform the client, the planning authority and the County Archaeological Officer of the archaeological and historical importance of the site, and to make recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work.

Figure 1: *Location of the geomagnetic survey (black outline) and excavated areas (in red)*

Scale 1:2500



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Methods statement

- 2.8 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a specification provided by the Archaeology Section of Durham County Council (Appendix). This entailed an initial site reconnaissance, a geophysical survey, and targeted trial trenches.

3. Site reconnaissance

- 3.1 A field visit was undertaken in order to evaluate the archaeological potential of the proposed development area by recording visible archaeological or historic features.
- 3.2 Earthworks are present over the entire field. These are the remains of medieval ridge and furrow, on a north-south alignment. They reflect the cultivation of the area in the medieval period. Similar earthworks survive in many of the surrounding fields.
- 3.3 Other than these features, no other significant earthworks are visible. Two man-holes at the northern edge of the field indicate the presence of a modern water pipe, the construction of which is likely to have disturbed any archaeological deposits present in this area. Earthworks relating to the Roman occupation may have existed on site, but have been truncated or obscured by the ridge and furrow. The field slopes gently from the north to the south.

4. Geophysical survey

The survey area

- 4.1 The survey was positioned across the centre of the field (Figure 1).

Technique selection

- 4.2 In this instance the primary aim of the surveys was to map cut features such as ditches and pits, together with any building remains and trackways, or fired structures such as hearths and kilns. Given the non-igneous geological environment of the proposed development area a geomagnetic technique, fluxgate gradiometry, was considered appropriate for detecting each of the types of feature mentioned above.
- 4.3 This technique involves the use of a hand-held magnetometer to detect and record minute perturbations, or 'anomalies', in the vertical component (i.e. gradient) of the Earth's magnetic field caused by variations in soil magnetic susceptibility or permanent magnetisation. These anomalies can reflect archaeological features due to the significant magnetic contrast that often exists between such features and the surrounding subsoil. An apparent 'lack of magnetisation' can be detected over sedimentary stone foundations or trackways in contrast to the surrounding soil and this is recorded as a 'negative' magnetic anomaly. 'Positive' magnetic anomalies on the other hand reflect zones of increased magnetic susceptibility, typically soil-filled features such as pits and ditches. The magnetic susceptibility of the fills of these features is usually enhanced by the presence of organic material and/or burning of the soil prior to deposition.

Field methods

- 4.4 A 20m grid was established across the survey area and tied-in to known, mapped Ordnance Survey points using a Wild T1000 total survey station instrument and

SDR33 datalogger. Measurements of vertical geomagnetic field gradient were determined using a Geoscan FM36 fluxgate gradiometer fitted with an ST1 sample trigger to enable automatic logging of the data. A zig-zag traverse scheme was employed and data logged in 20m grid units. The instrument sensitivity was set to 0.1nT, the sample interval to 0.5m and the traverse interval to 1.0m, thus providing 800 sample measurements per grid.

- 4.5 Data were downloaded on-site into a RM NoteBook computer for processing and storage and subsequently transferred to a desktop computer for processing, interpretation and archiving.

Data processing

- 4.6 InSite v.3 software was used to process the geophysical data and produce both continuous tone greyscale images and profile plots of the raw data. The results are shown in Figures 2 and 3. A convention is employed that displays positive magnetic anomalies as dark grey and negative magnetic anomalies as light grey. Figure 2 includes a palette bar which relates the greyscale intensities to anomaly values in nanoTesla.

- 4.7 The following basic processing steps have been applied to the data:

DeSpike	replaces isolated spikes in the data with the mean of near-neighbours. Such spikes typically arise due to the presence of near-surface ferrous litter.
DeDrift	corrects for a linear drift in instrument calibration with time.
DeStripe	reduces apparent striping artefact in magnetometer data collected along zig-zag traverses.
DeShear	corrects for apparent shear in geomagnetic anomalies surveyed by zig-zag traversing.
Match	adjusts for differences in mean data level between adjacent grids.
Merge	interpolates and combines grid data, using a bilinear function, to form one array of regularly-spaced data at 0.25 x 0.25m intervals.

Interpretation: anomaly types

- 4.8 Three types of geomagnetic anomaly have been distinguished in the data:

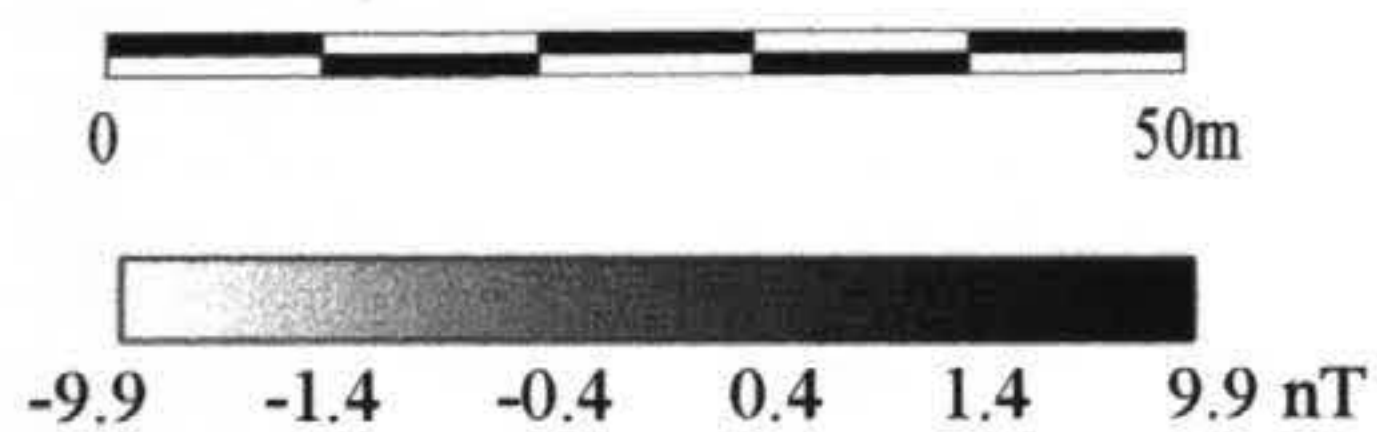
Positive magnetic: regions of anomalously high or positive magnetic field gradient which may be associated with high magnetic susceptibility soil-filled structures such as pits and ditches, or fired clay land drains

Negative magnetic: regions of anomalously low or negative magnetic field gradient, which may correspond to features of low magnetic susceptibility, such as concentrations of sedimentary rock rubble

Dipolar magnetic: paired positive-negative magnetic anomalies which typically reflect ferrous debris and/or fired materials such as housebricks, kilns or hearths

Figure 2: Results of the geomagnetic survey

Scale 1:1000



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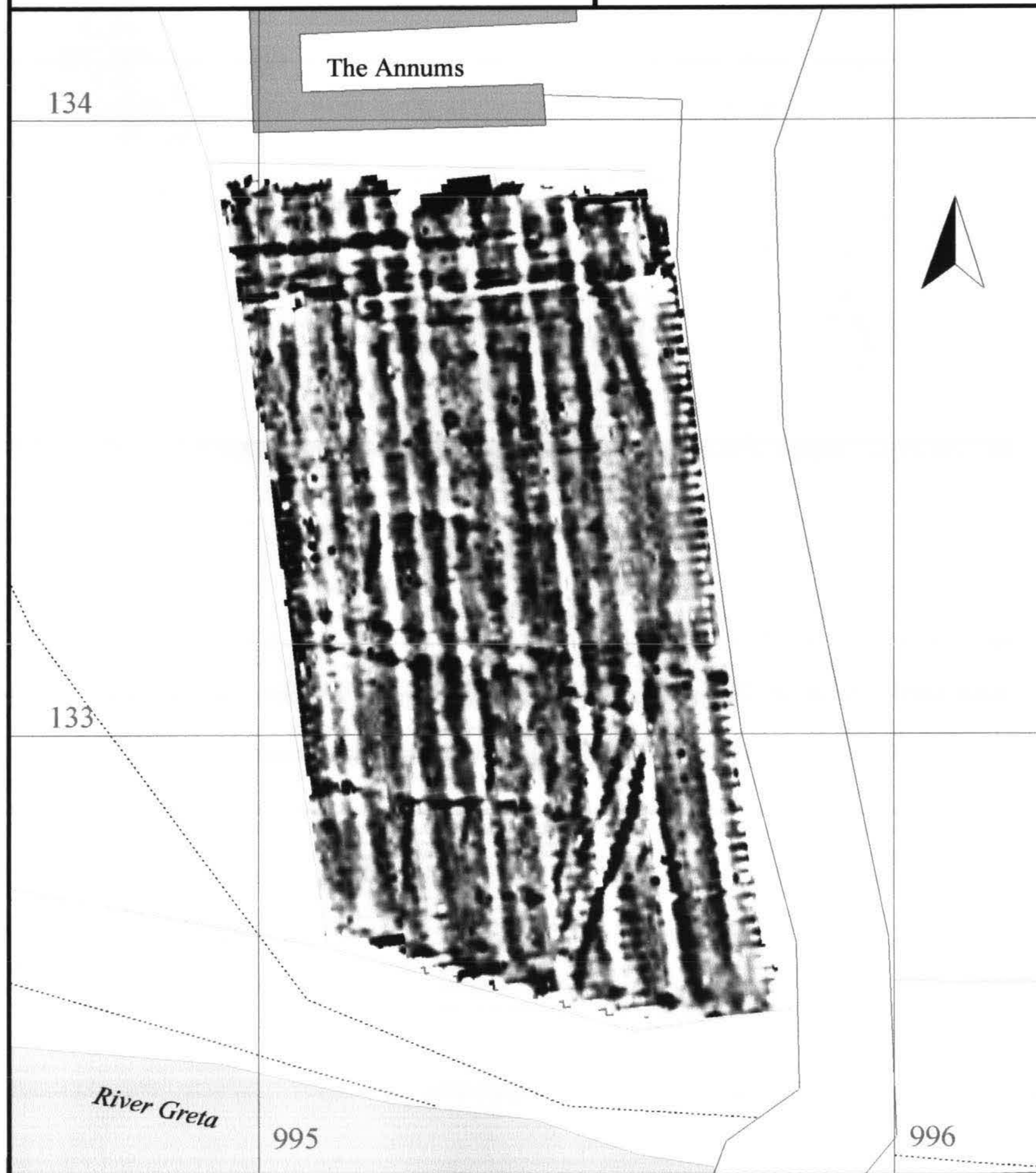


Figure 3: *Geophysical interpretation of the geomagnetic survey*

Scale 1:1000



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Outline of survey



Positive magnetic anomalies



Negative magnetic anomalies



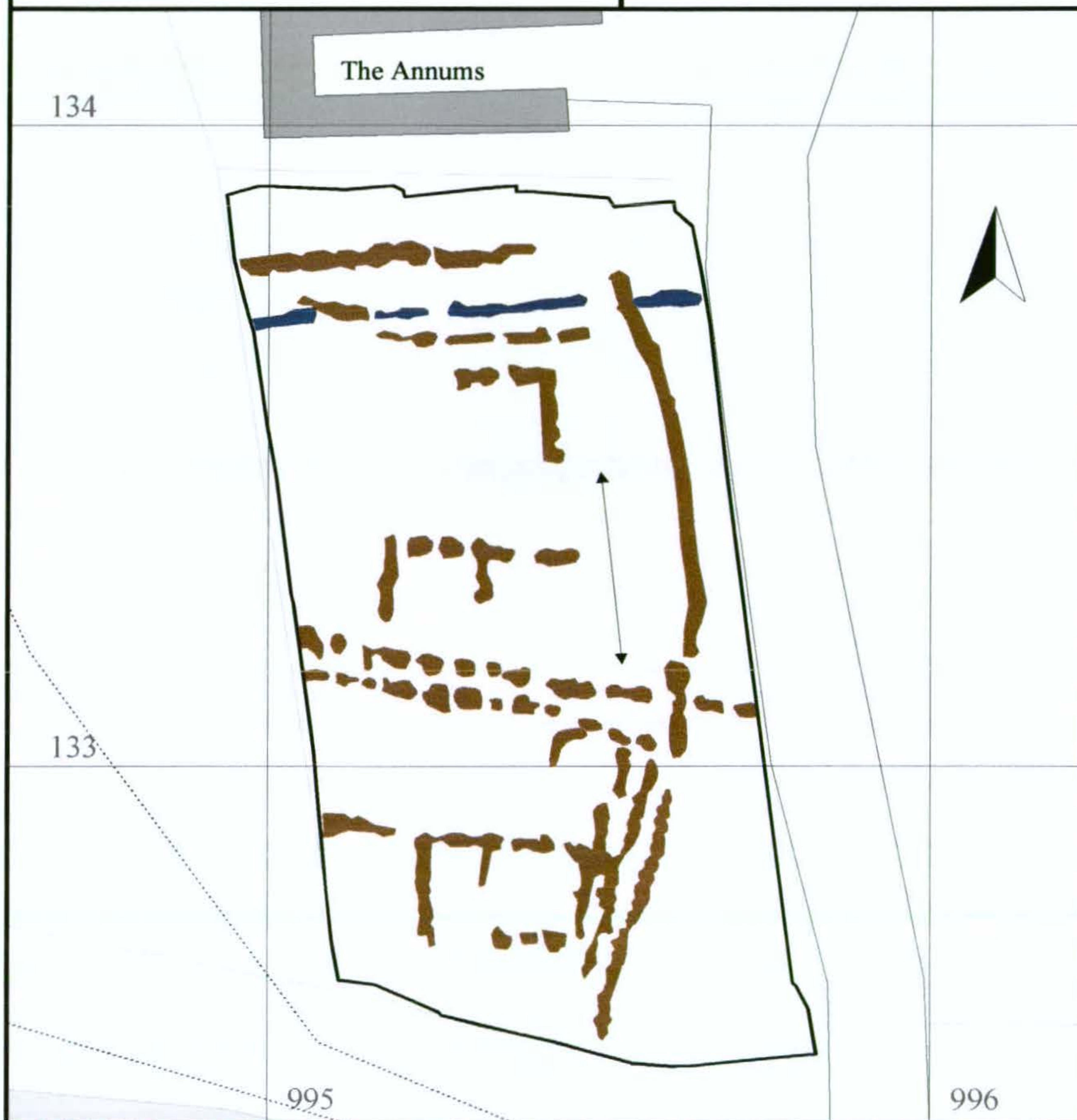
Dipolar magnetic anomalies

Figure 4: *Archaeological interpretation of the geomagnetic survey*

Scale 1:1000



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Colour-coded interpretation plans are provided in Figures 3- 4.

Interpretation (Figures 2-4)

- 4.9 The greyscale image is characterised by alternate positive and negative magnetic anomalies, aligned north-south throughout the survey area. These lineations are relatively intense and are evenly spaced at c.5m intervals. The anomalies correspond to ridge and furrow earthwork remains noted at the time of survey. The positive magnetic anomalies reflect the concentrations of high magnetic susceptibility topsoil forming the ridges, while the negative anomalies reflect the relative paucity of such soil in the furrows.
- 4.10 Several positive magnetic anomalies have been identified underlying the ridge and furrow earthworks. These linear anomalies also reflect high magnetic susceptibility materials, almost certainly organic-rich deposits within former ditches. Two pairs of parallel anomalies have been detected: one aligned north-east/south-west, the other aligned north-west/south-east, both in the southern half of the field. In each case the anomalies are c.5m apart and are interpreted as ditches flanking former trackways. The geomagnetic evidence indicates that one of the tracks continued northwards, curving slightly to the west. To the west of this track there is evidence for more ditches, which divide the land into small enclosures, perhaps stock pens. Some of these anomalies could reflect structural remains.
- 4.11 There is a scatter of small dipolar magnetic anomalies across the survey area. These anomalies almost certainly reflect near-surface ferrous litter. It has not been possible to determine the precise nature of some of these small anomalies due to the presence of the intense banding across the site. However, some of them may be positive magnetic anomalies reflecting the presence of soil-filled pits, which had perhaps been used for storage or refuse disposal.
- 4.12 A negative magnetic anomaly aligned east-west near the northern limit of the survey corresponds to the location of a modern water pipe.

5. Trial trenching

Methods statement

- 5.1 Following an initial examination of the geophysical data the locations of the trial trenches were agreed with Fiona Macdonald at Durham County Council Archaeology Section (Figure 1). Each trench was 1.5m in width. The trenches were positioned to sample the geophysical anomalies, and also the areas in between them: some of the anomalies probably form enclosures, in which the remains of buildings and other archaeological deposits may be present.
- 5.2 Each trench was opened, and the topsoil removed, using a JCB fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under strict archaeological supervision. In each trench the undisturbed natural subsoil or the top of the first archaeological horizon was identified, and hand cleaned by archaeologists for the identification of archaeological deposits.
- 5.3 Archaeological features were selectively sectioned in each trench. Deposits were recorded using the ASUD recording system. Plans and sections with levels were

recorded for each trench and a full photographic record maintained in the form of black and white prints and colour slides. Trench positions were surveyed by total station.

Area 1 (Figure 5)

- 5.4 This trench was located at the bottom of the field/slope. The topsoil [01] was a brown loam (as over the whole field) about 0.3m in depth - noticeably shallower than the other trenches. The subsoil [32] consisted of orange silty sand clay, with a large proportion of stone and gravel fragments, of varying sizes and density: this was more gravelly than in the other areas. There was only one feature visible in this area - a fairly substantial flat-based ditch running north-south, cut into natural. The ditch cut [F31] (1.6m wide and 0.5m deep) was filled by a light orange-brown silty loam [21]. This was later recut by [F03] - a smaller ditch (1.15m wide and 0.4m deep) which was filled by a mid-brown sandy silt [02]. Roman pottery was recovered from this recut.

Area 2 (Figure 6)

- 5.5 This trench was located on a north-south alignment down the slope on the west side of the field. The topsoil [01] here varied from 0.8m at the middle of the trench to about 0.5m at the northern and southern ends - with a slight decrease in depth over the 'trackway' feature complex in the centre. The subsoil showed similar properties to that in Area 1, with a more gravel substrate at the southern end of the trench, but with fewer stone inclusions in the middle and towards the northern end. Several medieval pottery sherds were recovered (unstratified) from this trench.
- 5.6 In the southern part of the trench, no archaeological features were identified. Towards the centre of the trench was a complex of features centered around a road. This was defined on the southern side by two small ditches/gullies running parallel with each other and to the road. The southernmost gully [F05] was relatively steep sided and flat bottomed (1.08m wide and 0.33m in depth - similar to [F03] in Area 1). It was filled with a grey silty-clay [04] which contained some degraded bone and a flint flake. To the north of [F05] was a smaller gully [F09], 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled with a black-brown sandy clay.
- 5.7 Immediately to the north of the gully was a bank of ground above the natural on which a metalled surface had been constructed. The southern edge of this had slumped in towards the gully. This slump material was a brown firm gritty clay [12] containing many small-medium sized stones. The bank itself consisted of orange clay [7], into which small-medium angular stones had been embedded (an amphora sherd was recovered from this deposit). Part of this surface was damaged by the machine during excavation. At the southern edge of the bank, several *in situ* sub-angular stone slabs were present which may have formed part of a structure post-dating the road. Amongst and immediately to the west of these stones was an area of loose black sandy gritty soil [6], from which several 2nd-3rd century pottery sherds were recovered. At the northern end of the bank, a strip of firm grey clay [13] was visible over the natural, which continued under the bank. This material may reflect a phase of activity predating the bank.
- 5.8 North of this central feature complex, a series of probable features were identified cutting into the natural. A wide (probably curving, 0.35-1.6m wide) gully or ditch

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Scale 1:50

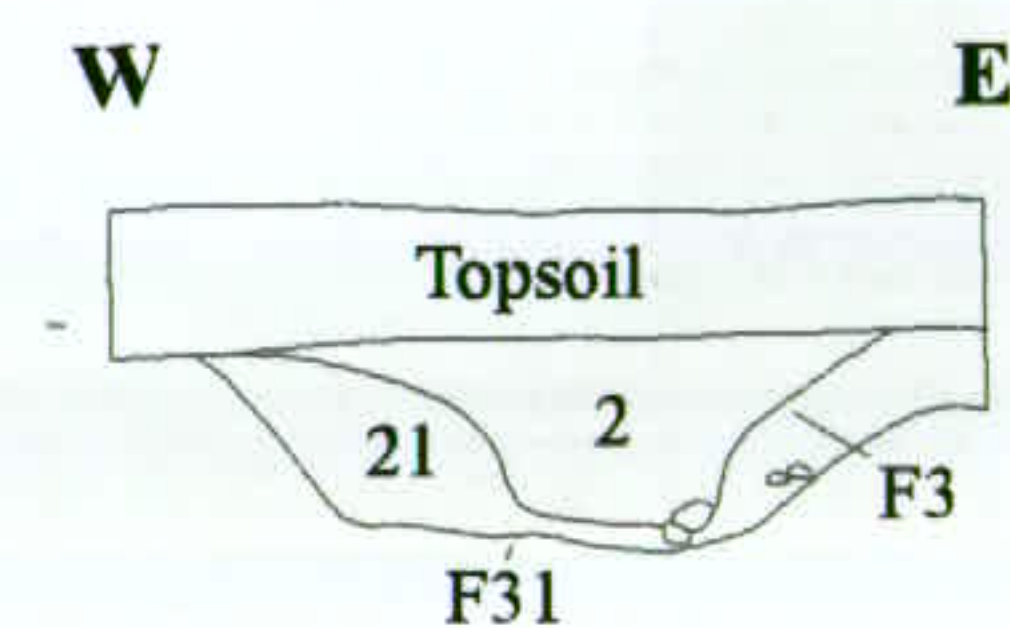


Figure 5:

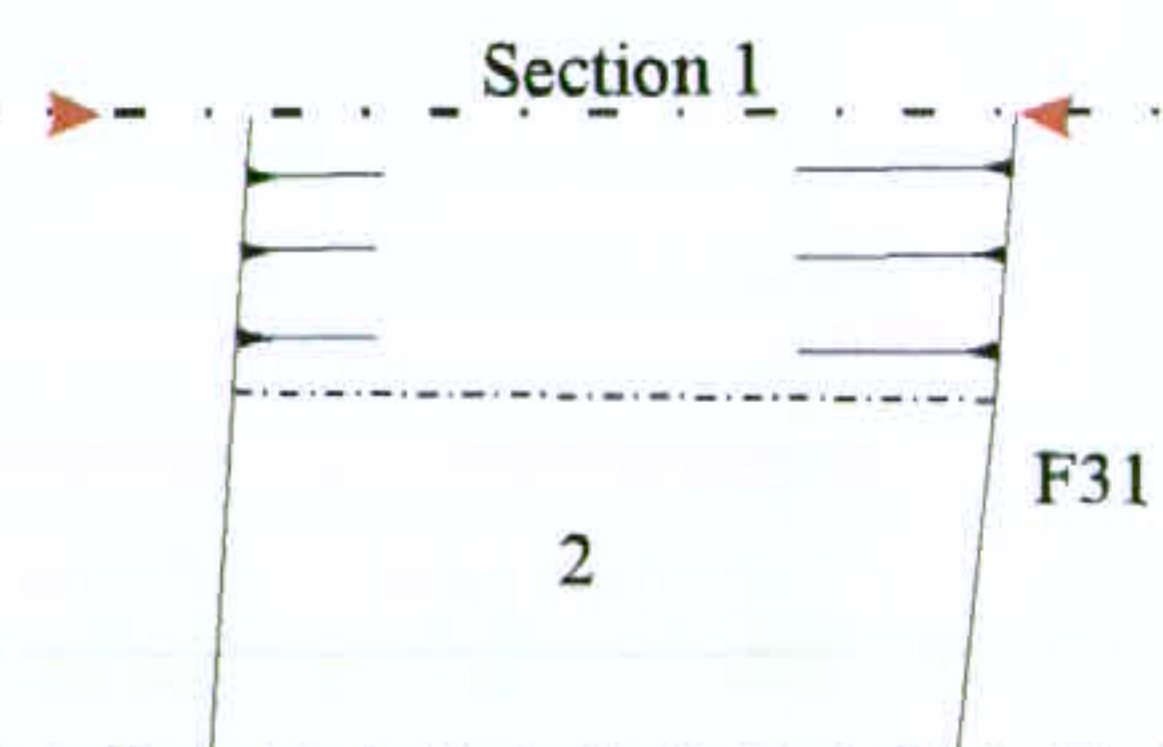
Plan and section of Area 1



Continued
below



Section 1



Continued
below

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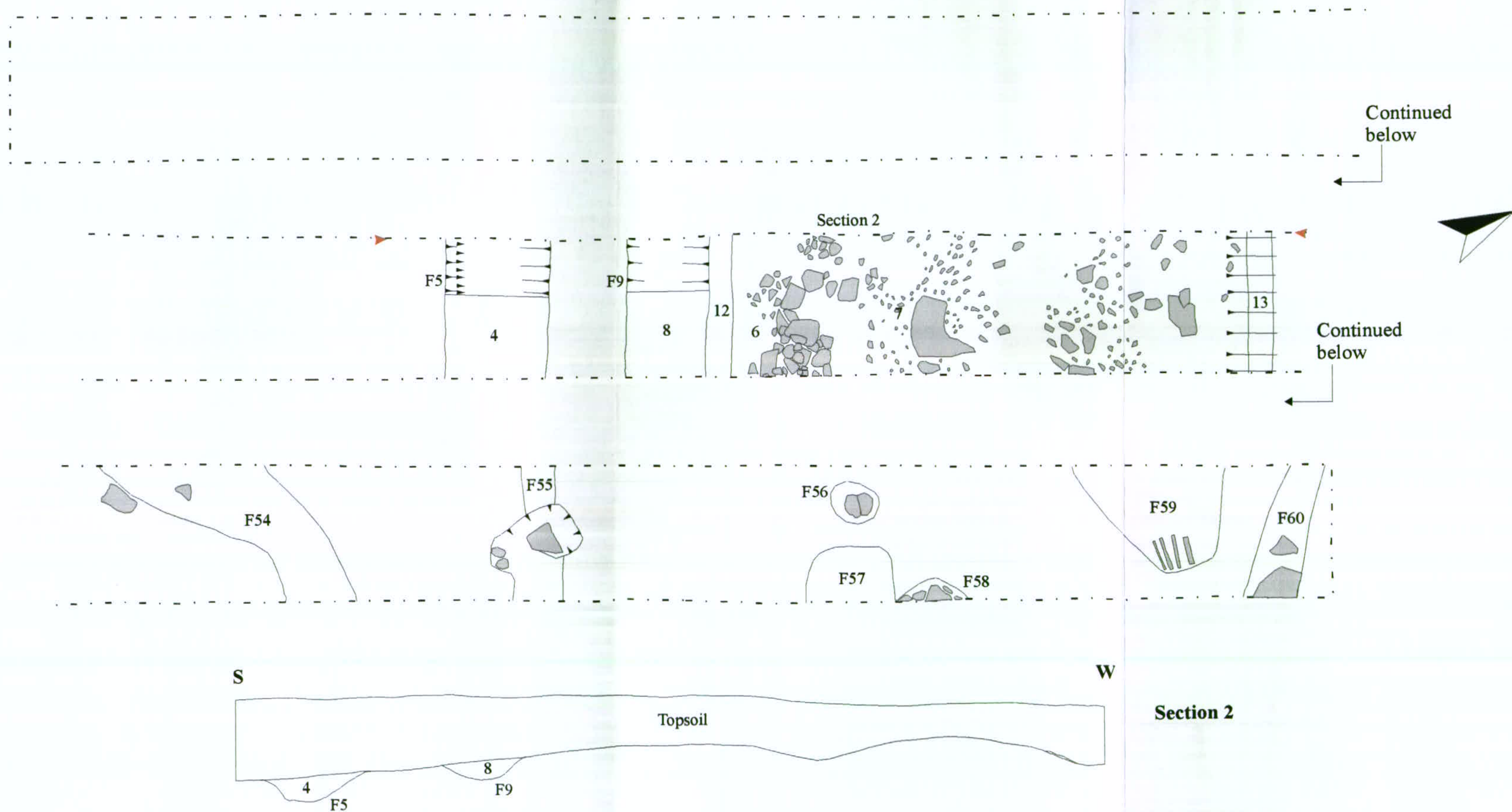


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Figure 6:

Plan and section of Area 2



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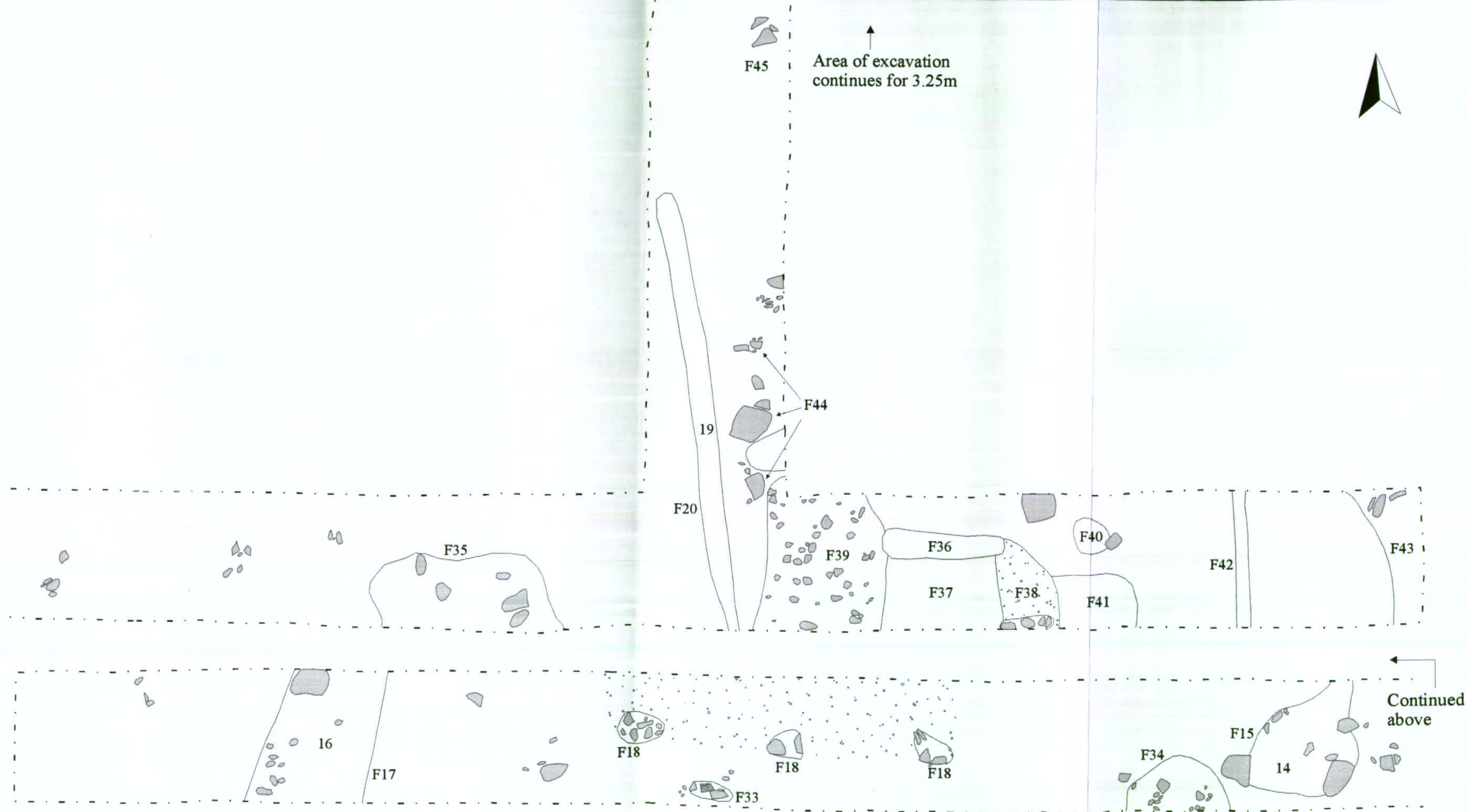


Scale 1:50



Figure 7:

*Plan of the western
part of Area 3*



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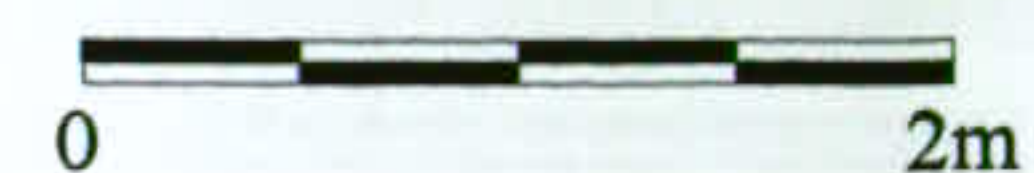
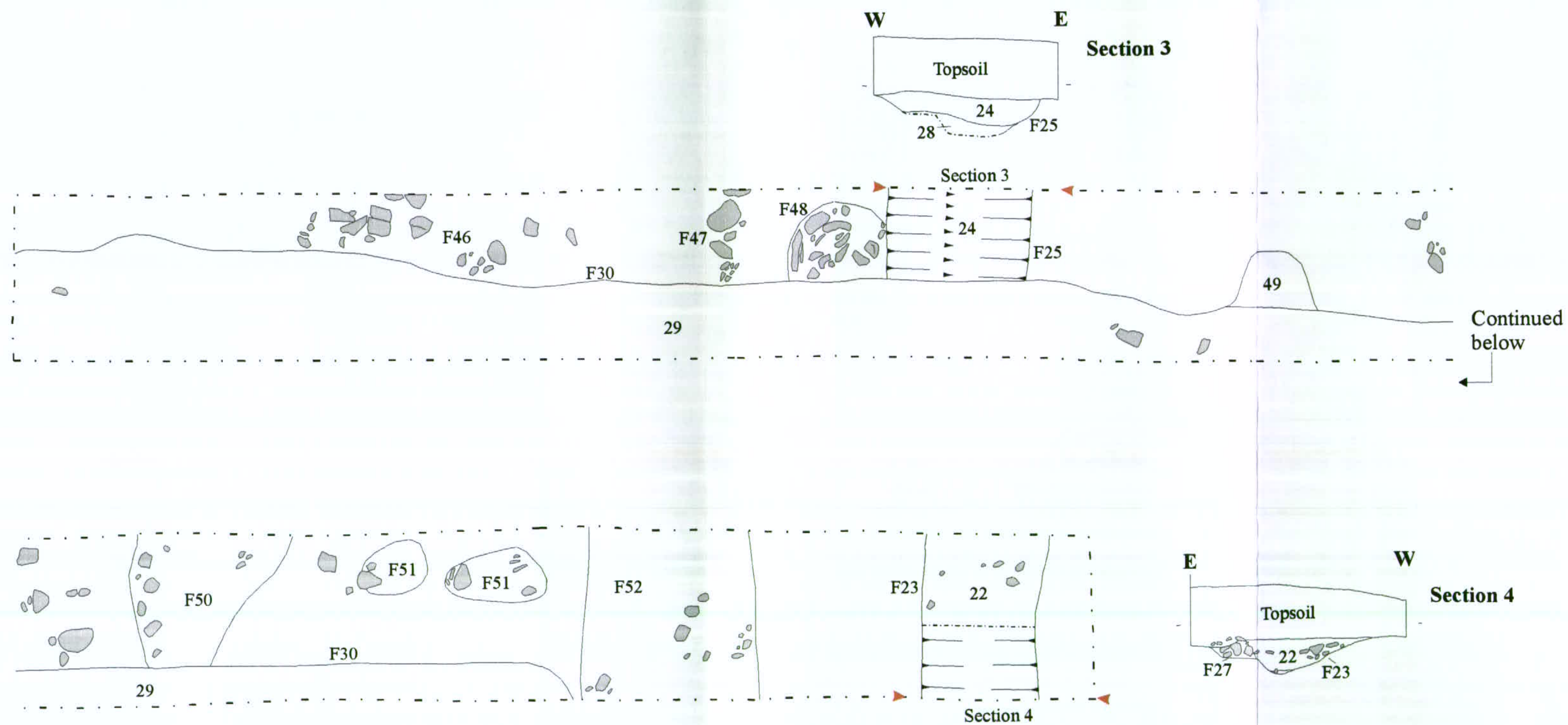


Figure 8:

Plan and sections of the eastern part of Area 3



crossed the trench a few metres north of the road on a broad north-west/south-east alignment [F54], filled with a brown clay loam including grit and small pebbles. North of here, a similarly filled linear feature [F55] cut the trench on an east-west alignment. The feature incorporated a large post hole within it.

- 5.9 Towards the north end of the trench, a circular post hole was visible, containing a brown/black clay loam and some large flat stones [F56]. This was close to a straight-edged pit or ditch end [F57 - filled with a dark brown clay loam] and another straight-edged feature filled with stones and a black clean clay [F58]: both of these features continued into the section. At the north end of the trench was a large clay loam filled feature, containing flat angular stone fragments tipping sharply down into the feature [F59], and a linear east-west gully with a similar fill and some large stones [F60].

Area 3 (Figures 7 & 8)

- 5.10 This trench was aligned east-west towards the northern end of the field, at the top of the slope. The trench had an east and west section, with a small extension heading north towards the centre of the field. The topsoil varied in depth from 0.4-0.5m at the western end to 0.5-0.6m the eastern end. The subsoil was similar to that in the other two areas. Several features were identified within the area, which were selectively sampled to determine their nature.
- 5.11 There was a high density of features in the eastern section of the trench (Figure 8), which included four ditches on a north-south alignment. The easternmost ditch [F23] was 1.25m wide and 0.34m deep, filled with a mid-grey silty clay [22], with inclusions of relatively large stones and pea gravel: this deposit produced both cattle and horse bones (the deposition of the latter is associated with the edge of settlements (below, Section 8.2), along with one Roman pottery sherd, and one small (probably intrusive) medieval sherd. This ditch cut an earlier feature which was only visible in section (Section 4), a narrow (0.4m) and shallow (0.15m) cut [F27] of uncertain function, filled with a dark brown stone deposit [26].
- 5.12 To the west of this ditch was a parallel ditch [F52], which had a similar dark brown silty loam fill. Ditch [F50] was filled with a grey silty clay, 1.2m wide, and was similar to another ditch further to the east [F25/24] (1.5m wide and at least 0.4m deep - Section 3). This ditch was partially excavated: the bottom of the ditch filled with water, preventing full investigation. There were two fills: the upper fill was a grey silty clay (0.25m deep) [24]. The lower fill [28] was a slightly more clayey silt, and was mottled orange grey in colour: several sherds from a Roman flanged bowl (AD 135-200) were recovered from this deposit. This ditch cut a circular pit filled with a grey silty clay, and a large quantity of stones. There were also several areas of probable post-padding [F46; F47; F51 - flat stones within areas of dark silty loam which may have formed foundations for wooden posts], over the north part of the trench. These may have reflected the presence of timber buildings in the area.
- 5.13 The pit, the two eastern ditches, and an unexcavated feature filled with a dark brown silty loam [49], were cut by an east-west ditch [F30/29, filled with a dark brown loam] which ran along the length of much of this section of the trench. This ditch clearly reflects a later phase of activity. Part of a dog skull was recovered from its surface, along with a cattle metacarpal and a Roman pottery sherd.

- 5.14 In the western section of the trench, several archaeological features were present. At the eastern end, an unexcavated probable ditch was identified on a north-south alignment [F43]; it was filled with a brown loam.
- 5.15 To the west of here were several archaeological features, which were spatially associated and may have formed part of the same structure. They were defined by two narrow (0.2m) parallel gullies on a north-south alignment [F20, F42] filled with brown loam. In between these gullies were several possible post holes [F40, F45 and F44 to the north]. A possible beam slot was also identified [F36] 1.4m in length and 0.3m wide with a dark grey silty clay fill. Adjoining and to the south of [F36], and of the same width, was a deposit of decayed orange sandstone [F37]. This deposit, along with features [F38; F39 and F41], may have formed part of a foundation for the structure or part of a path or floor. [F39] was a deposit of gravel/cobbles to the west of [F36; F37], similar to [F38] to the west, which also contained some larger stones in the section which may have been stone post packing. [F41] was another possible foundation deposit, of mixed orange clay/sandstone composition.
- 5.16 To the west of this structure three possible pits were discovered. Pit [F15] (1.6m by 1.2m) contained a brown silty clay [14] and a number of burnt slate fragments and sandstone. Another possible pit [F34] (1.2m long and 0.6m+ wide) was filled with a grey clay loam with a relatively large density of stones – mostly cobble sized. Another area of grey-brown clay loam with a relatively high density of larger stones was identified [F35], 2m in length and 1m+ wide.
- 5.17 To the west of these pits were a series of other associated features which may also have formed a structure. There was an alignment of three possible stone-filled post holes [F18 - filled with a dark brown silty loam]. A gravel deposit was present to the north of this row (perhaps the interior of the structure), contrasting with the natural substrate to the south. South of [F18] was another cluster of stones [33] (relatively tightly packed, and oval/circular in shape), also interpreted as post packing.
- 5.18 At the far western end of the area a potential feature was investigated [F17/16], which on examination proved to be a layer over the natural.

6. Material culture

Ceramics

Summary

- 6.1 A total of 85 sherds of pottery, weighing 1263g, were recovered during the evaluation. Of this total, 59 sherds (69.4%) are of Roman date, while 13 are attributable to the medieval period c.AD 1000-1500, 9 to the medieval or Post-medieval period c.AD 1000-1800, 4 from the Post-medieval and modern period c.AD 1500-2000 (see Table 1). All three areas yielded sherds: 3 sherds were recovered from Area 1, 20 from Area 2, and 59 from Area 3, with 3 sherds being recovered from the general area of the works. The earliest material is the Roman pottery. This ranges in date from the earliest occupation of the north of England by the Roman army, through until the end of the Roman period (c.AD 75-400). A wide range of types are present including much exotic material imported from the continental Empire including fine tablewares and transport amphorae from southern Spain. The variety of Roman pottery present and its highly cosmopolitan flavour are consistent

with the location of the Roman site (military and civilian) at Bowes, on a major arterial routeway across the Pennines, this being the Roman road linking the key centres of the period: Carlisle and York. The presence of a number of medieval sherds demonstrates activity in this area of Bowes, approximately contemporary with the castle, probably in association with the ridge and furrow over the site. The recovered sherds, although fragmented, are in a good state of preservation, indicating benign soil environments at this location, conducive to the excellent survival of archaeological ceramics. The pottery assemblage is summarized and discussed below, and is fully catalogued in Appendix 1.

Pottery Type	Total Sherds	Weight (grams)	Rim Sherds	Approx. Number of Vessels Represented	Identifiable Forms
<i>Roman</i>	59	1128g	10	43	Amphorae, Decorated Bowls, Plain Bowls, Cups, Dishes, Flagon, Mortaria, Jars
<i>Medieval</i>	13	90g	4	13	Jars
<i>Medieval or Post-Medieval</i>	9	25g	-	9	-
<i>Post-Medieval</i>	1	3g	-	1	-
<i>Post-Medieval and Modern</i>	3	17g	-	3	-

Table 1: Summary of the Pottery

Methods statement

- 6.2 All of the recovered sherds were examined following the now standard principles set out by Prof. Peacock (Peacock 1977), supplemented by other guidelines (Young 1980; PCRG 1995). Pottery sherds were examined using a x20 binocular microscope with light source and divided into exact fabrics.

Area 1

- 6.3 Only 3 sherds of pottery were recovered from this trench (Table 2 and Appendix 1). These items derive from 2 Roman coarse ware vessels represented amongst the fills of the re-cut north-south ditch (cuts F31 and F03). They imply a Roman date for the filling of this feature, but they cannot be closely dated within the Roman period.

	No. of Sherds	Weight	No. of Vessels	Forms	c.Date
<i>Roman Oxidized Coarse Ware</i>					
Light red fabric	1	2g	1	Not Identifiable	AD 70-400
<i>Roman Unoxidized Coarse Ware</i>					
Probably Dorset BB1	2	13g	1	Jar	AD 110-400

Table 2: Summary of the Pottery from Area 1 (see Appendix 1 for fuller details)
Area 2

- 6.4 Of the 20 sherds of pottery from this trench, 15 are Roman and 5 medieval (Table 3 and Appendix 1). These items derive from 20 different vessels. Context 6 yielded 5 sherds of pottery, all Roman with a date range that is essentially 2nd to 3rd century AD. Samian from Central and Eastern Gaul occurs, as does a mortarium from the Midlands (Hartshill-Mancetter). A sherd from a Dressel 20 olive oil amphora, from southern Spain (c.AD 50-260) was collected from Context 7.

	No. of Sherds	Weight	No. of Vessels	Forms	c. Date
Roman Samian Ware					
South Gaulish	3	24g	3	Cup; Dish	AD 70-100/110
Central Gaulish	6	15g	6	Decorated Bowl; Plain Bowl; Cup	AD 120-200
East Gaulish	1	8g	1	Plain Bowl	AD 135-260
Roman Mortaria					
Hartshill-Mancetter	1	52g	1	Mortarium	AD 200-300
From NE England	1	41g	1	Mortarium	AD 70-200
Roman Unoxidized Coarse					
Grey ware with fine quartz	1	6g	1	Jar	AD 70-400
Roman Amphorae					
Early Baetican	2	152g	2	Amphora	AD 50-260
Medieval					
Various Sources	5	34g	5	Jars	AD 1000-1500

Table 3: Summary of the Pottery from Area 2 (see Appendix 1 for fuller details)

- 6.5 The majority of the Roman pottery was unstratified (9 sherds from 9 vessels) but these pieces are of much significance. They include a sherd from a further Dressel 20 olive oil amphora, from southern Spain (c.AD 50-260) and a fragment from a further mortarium, the latter being a regional product (c.AD 70-200). Of considerable interest are sherds from 3 South Gaulish samian vessels dating to the period of initial occupation following the Roman conquest of the north of England (c.AD 70-110). Represented are a Drag. 36 dish and a stamped base from a cup probably of form Drag. 27. Also amongst the unstratified pottery are sherds from 4 vessels in Central Gaulish Lezoux ware (c.AD 120-200) including fragments from a Drag. 37 bowl and a Drag. 33 cup. Apart from the South Gaulish samian, all of the other unstratified Roman pottery, plus the sherd from Context 7 could be Antonine. Indeed, amongst the diagnostic Roman pottery from Area 2 the item with the latest date range is the Hartshill-Mancetter mortarium rim which is 3rd century.

- 6.6 The medieval pottery comprised rim sherds from 2 jars, 1 lid - seated with green glaze, plus 3 body sherds. All 5 medieval sherds were unstratified.

Area 3

- 6.7 Some 59 sherds from 44 vessels were collected from Area 3 (Table 4 and Appendix 1), mainly being unstratified. The stratified pottery is of some (limited) value from the point of view of establishing chronology. Context 22, being the fill of the ditch F23 in this Area, yielded two very small sherds, one of which is Roman, the other medieval or post-medieval. Given its size, it is possible that the latter sherd is intrusive. From the ditch fill Context 28 came a Roman grey ware sherd (c.AD 100-400), and around 60% of a South-East Dorset Black Burnished Ware 1 flanged bowl c.AD 135-200 with carbonized residues upon its exterior and displaying a worn interior, both features testifying to its use in food preparation. The only other stratified item was a sherd of Roman oxidized coarse ware from Context 29, that cannot be dated more closely than c.AD 70-400.
- 6.8 A sizeable sample of samian was present amongst the unstratified sherds. This includes one sherd (the earliest) from Les Martres-de-Veyre (c.AD 100-130), plus two Lezoux items of Hadrianic to early Antonine date (c.AD 120-150). There are 6 other sherds from Lezoux vessels, comprising: 3 from decorated bowls, 1 from a further bowl, and one from a Drag. 33 cup. Sherds from 2 East Gaulish samian vessels complete the group, these fragments coming from bowls or dishes dating to the period c.AD 135/150-260. The unstratified Roman unoxidized coarse ware sherds amount to 4 pieces from 4 vessels, one is Dorset Black Burnished Ware 1 (c.AD 110-400) and another is from a Crambeck Ware jar (c AD 270/300-400). Sherds from 4 Roman oxidized coarse wares (c.AD 70-400) were recovered, at least three are likely to be of regional origin; 1 is from a flagon. Two Roman amphora sherds were recovered; one is from a later South Spanish olive oil amphora of Dressel 20 or 23 form (c. AD 175-350), the other is from an uncertain source that may well be Radlett/Brockley Hill near St Albans, where amphora production is known (Castle 1978). The latter item, if indeed from Radlett/Brockley Hill, will probably date to c.AD 70-125 (cf. Sealey 1985, 129-30).
- 6.9 Seven sherds of medieval date were recovered unstratified, including a rim and handle fragment.

Discussion

- 6.10 All three areas examined produced pottery of note, with Roman sherds, either stratified or unstratified, coming from all three trenches. More ceramics were recovered from the middle and northerly trenches, less from Area 1 which was located nearer to the river. Various factors probably lie behind this trend, though the more northerly trench is closer to the line of the Roman road, and crosses at least 2 probable Roman buildings. Much samian was recovered, together with oxidized sherds generally. These wares seem conspicuously over-represented compared to unoxidized wares which are normally frequent finds on Roman sites, as they constitute the cooking and storage ware vessels; it is possible that some unoxidized Roman pottery sherds, being grey or brown will not have been spotted against soil backgrounds; this is a known phenomenon.

	No. of Sherds	Weight	No. of Vessels	Forms	c. Date
Roman Samian Ware					
Central Gaulish	9	27g	9	Dishes, Decorated Bowls; Bowl; Cup	AD 100-200
East Gaulish	2	2g	2	Bowl or Dish	AD 135-260
Roman Oxidized Coarse					
Red fabric	1	5g	1	Jar	AD 70-400
Yellowish-red fabric	1	4g	1	Bowl or Jar	AD 70-400
Yellowish-brown fabrics	3	45g	3	Flagon; Jar	AD 70-400
Roman Unoxidized Coarse					
BB1	17	570g	2	Bowl; Jar	AD 110-400
Crambeck Grey ware	2	27g	2	Bowl; Jar	AD 270-400
?? Crambeck Grey ware	1	21g	1	Jar	AD 100-400
Quartz tempered	1	6g	1	Jar	AD 70-400
Roman Amphorae					
Early Baetican	1	1g	1	Amphora	AD 50-260
Late Baetican	1	54g	1	Amphora	AD 175-350
White fabric, ? Radlett/Brockley Hill	1	49g	1	Amphora	AD 70-125
Medieval					
Various Sources	7	49g	7	? Various	AD 1000-1500
Medieval or Post-Medieval					
Various Sources	9	25g	9	Not Identifiable	AD 1000-1800
Post-Medieval and Modern					
Various Sources	3	17g	3	Not Identifiable	AD 1500-2000

Table 4: Summary of the Pottery from Area 3 (see Appendix 1 for fuller details)

- 6.11 The Roman pottery recovered spans the entire period of the Roman era in the north of England. In principle this is not surprising given that the fort at Bowes is understood to have been garrisoned for the whole of this period, with a possible gap in the later third century (Breeze and Dobson 1985; JRS 1968, 179-80). The features and pottery from the evaluation attest activity in this area, some distance from the fort which potentially, on the basis of the pottery, could be civil or military or both. Civil

occupation outside the fort could have continued through the whole of this period, c.AD 75-400 (though the occupation of vici on the northern frontier in the later Roman period is currently not well characterized and may be uncommon (Willis 1997). Amongst the earliest pottery is the South Gaulish La Graufesenque samian, consisting of 3 vessels, of typical Flavian-early Trajanic character. The majority of the pottery though is later and indeed most is or could be second century, that is of Hadrianic and Antonine date. The works undertaken at Grey Dykes in 1999, near to the present evaluation and similarly outside the fort seem likewise to have yielded predominantly second century Roman pottery (Turnbull 1999). An amount of later Roman pottery is represented amongst the present collection. The East Gaulish samian is potentially third century (though it could be second century), while a sherd from a late Baetican amphora has a date range of c.AD 175-350; Crambeck Grey Ware also occurs and this is normally fourth century, but whatever is not earlier than c.AD 270.

- 6.12 A wide range of forms, functional types and sources are represented amongst the Roman pottery (eg. Appendix 1). Vessel forms cover more or less the full gamut of Roman generic types, including amphorae, plain bowls, decorated bowls, cups, dishes, flagon, jars and mortaria. In sum the range is typical of a site with military and civil aspects that participated fully in the trade and supply network of the Roman period, articulated with local, regional and inter-provincial systems. Of particular note is the occurrence of an amphora sherd in a fabric and form that indicates a possible origin at Radlett/Brockley Hill near Verulamium. Such vessels, which appear to have been used to convey wine produced in southern Britain, were apparently supplied to Colchester (Symonds and Wade 1999, 162). Radlett/Brockley Hill/Verulamium region pottery is now widely attested in the north of England so the presence of a wine amphorae from such a source is explicable, though at present this case (if correct) seems to be a unique example in the north of Britain.
- 6.13 Both the Roman and later sherds are on the whole very fragmentary, with low average weights (excepting the mortaria and amphora sherds which, as is usual with these thick walled robust vessels, have higher average weights, though even in this case the sherds are comparatively small). The samian fragments exemplify this trend.
- 6.14 This is doubtless to some degree a reflection of the fact that much of the pottery comes from topsoil (unstratified) and layers at the top of the site sequence, and thus sherds are likely to have experienced considerable attritional processes. Conversely, sealed stratified deposits tend to yield larger sherds, and Context 28 in Area 3 is a case in point.

Conclusion

- 6.15 The recovered pottery assemblage from the evaluation is of modest size. Considerably more material would doubtless have been recovered from the areas examined, had not the evaluation strategy been to partially sample the exposed archaeological remains. This is clearly an area of the Bowes complex that is rich in ancient and medieval ceramics.
- 6.16 Although small the recovered pottery sample constitutes a useful 'snap-shot' of pottery supply and consumption at this site. The pottery spans the period from c.AD 70/75 through to the present, indicating use of the area in the past, particularly in the

Pottery Type	No. of Sherds	Weight (grams)	Average Sherd Weight	No. of Vessels	c. Potential Date Range
Black Burnished Ware 1 (BB1)	19	583g	30.7g	3	AD 110-400
Crambeck Grey Ware	2	27g	13.5g	2	AD 270-400
?? Crambeck Grey Ware	1	21g	21.0g	1	AD 100-400
Grey Ware with fine quartz	1	6g	6.0g	1	AD 70-400
Grey Ware with quartz	1	6g	6.0g	1	AD 70-400
Various Oxidized Coarse Wares	7	60g	8.6g	7	AD 70-400
Mortaria: Hartshill-Mancetter	1	52g	52.0g	1	AD 200-300
Mortaria: NE England	1	41g	41.0g	1	AD 70-200
Samian: South Gaulish	3	24g	8.0g	3	AD 70-110
Samian: Central Gaulish Martres	1	2g	2.0g	1	AD 100-130
Samian: Central Gaulish Lezoux	14	40g	2.8g	14	AD 120-200
Samian: East Gaulish	3	10g	3.3g	3	AD 135-260
Sub-total:	54	872g	16.1	38	
Amphora: Early Baetican*	3	153g	51.0g	3	AD 50-260
Amphora: Late Baetican	1	54g	54.0g	1	AD 175-350
Amphora: White, ? Brockley Hill	1	49g	49.0g	1	AD 70-125
sub-total: amphorae	5	256g	51.2g	5	
Totals:	59	1128g	-	43	

Table 5: The Roman pottery from the evaluation at Bowes: quantitative summary (* includes 1 sherd recovered from an environmental sample)

Roman and potentially the medieval periods. It demonstrates that a number of deposits encountered (examined by excavation or recorded but not sampled) are likely to be of Roman date. The Roman component includes a high proportion of traded wares including fine wares and amphorae, evidently testifying to the importance of Roman Bowes and of substantive activities in this vicinity during the whole of the Roman era.

Probable crucible fragment

- 6.17 A ceramic fragment, evidently from a crucible, was recovered, unstratified, from Area 3. The piece is somewhat amorphous (7g) with slag, probably from metal-working, covering the apparent interior surface and rim top of what is likely to be a crucible. The original exterior surface is missing. The date of this item is uncertain, but it could be Roman or medieval. Industrial activity in what was potentially a liminal (though significant) area of settlement during the Roman and medieval periods would not be surprising.

Tile

- 6.18 A total of 9 fragments (58g) likely to be from tiles of some type was recovered in the course of the works (see Catalogue, Appendix 2). Three small fragments probably from Roman tiles are represented, the fabric/s being rather sandy and dense. Only one tile fragment, probably from a Roman tile, came from a stratified context, namely Context 21 in Area 1, which also yielded a sherd of Roman pottery. Given the quantity of Roman pottery recovered (which indicates considerable activity in the area of the works during the Roman era) it is surprising that more Roman tile, including larger fragments, was not recovered. The work at Grey Dykes had produced an amount of diagnostic Roman tile (Turnbull 1999). The explanation for this comparative absence is unclear, though it may be that roofs in this area of the site at least were covered with some other material, such as thatch. Alternatively whilst the areas investigated may have seen much use in the Roman period, it may be that no buildings of substance were located in this vicinity. More tile from subsequent periods might also have been anticipated.

Undiagnostic Fired Ceramic Material

- 6.19 Two small fragments of undiagnostic fired clay (10g) were forthcoming in the course of the works (see Catalogue, Appendix 3). These pieces are undateable. One piece (1g) came from a Context 21 in Area 1, which also yielded a sherd of Roman pottery and a fragment that is probably from a Roman tile. The other piece was found unstratified in Area 2.

7. Environmental evidence

Introduction

- 7.1 Environmental evidence for Romano-British activity in the area is limited to a study at nearby Stainmore, which indicated localised burning of vegetation (Huntley 1991). There is environmental evidence from medieval deposits at nearby Barnard Castle (Donaldson *et al.* 1980, Donaldson 1983), which due to its high social status, may not reflect regional characteristics. Therefore, although extensive human activity around Bowes Village is recorded, environmental data regarding landscape disturbance and agricultural activity is absent.

Methods statement

- 7.2 Material from six contexts was manually floated and sieved through a 500 μ mesh. The residue was retained and the contents described. The flots were dried slowly, and scanned at x40 magnification for botanical remains. Plant macrofossils were identified by comparison with modern reference material. The abundance of waterlogged species and total counts of charred species were logged.

Results

- 7.3 The six contexts produced moderate volumes of flot containing charcoal, clinker/cinder, mammal bone fragments and minerogenic material. Five contexts contained charred botanical remains. The full set of results is detailed in Table 6.

Context	02	04	08	22	24	28
Volume processed (ml)	10,000	10,000	10,000	9,500	8,500	10,000
Volume of flot (ml)	50	75	175	40	50	60
Volume of flot assessed	50	75	175	40	50	60
<i>Residue contents</i>						
Glass				✓		
Mammal bone				✓		
Pot				✓		
<i>Flot matrix (relative abundance)</i>						
Charcoal	4	3	3	2	3	4
Cinder/Clinker	1	2	3	1	1	1
Coarse sand	2	2	3	3	3	2
Insect fragments		1				
Mammal bone fragments		1	2			
Modern roots	2	2		2	2	2
Silt/Clay	2			1	1	1
<i>Charred Remains (total counts)</i>						
Hulled barley	2		1			
Cerealia indeterminate	1	1				1
Hazel nut fragments					1	
<i>Waterlogged remains (relative abundance)</i>						
(a) Knotgrass	1					
(a) Chickweed				1		
(g) Clover				1		
(g) Dandelion					1	
(x) Stinging nettle				1		

[a-arable weed, g-grassland, x, wide niche]

Relative abundance is based on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

Table 6: Results

Discussion

- 7.4 All of the contexts contained charcoal and cinder/clinker, indicative of burning waste and evidence for industrial activity. The presence of mammal bone fragments in the flot of Contexts 04 and 08 and residue of Context 22 may suggest low magnitude domestic waste accumulation.
- 7.5 Both Contexts 02 and 08 contained charred hulled barley grains in the sample flots. Barley has been commonly grown since the Neolithic (Huntley & Stallibrass 1995). However, the presence of such small numbers of grain, with two in Context 02 and one in Context 08, is not significant and limits interpretation. Similarly, the charred hazel nut fragment in Context 24 may indicate usage of local food resources, however the quantity of remains is too low to enable explanation. Contexts 02, 04 and 28 contained degraded, unidentifiable charred cereal grain which suggests that conditions in the contexts either prior or subsequent to burial were not conducive to charred macrofossil preservation.

- 7.6 The absence of amorphous organic remains, peaty material or bryophytes with the flot compositions implies that the contexts were not waterlogged. Therefore the presence of a small number of waterlogged seeds and roots suggests that this material is not contemporary.

Conclusions and recommendations

- 7.7 The charred botanical remains within the flots were present in low numbers, and hence have little potential to produce data regarding the former environmental conditions or crop husbandry practices at the site. Further evaluation or full analysis therefore are not recommended for the six contexts assessed, although further sampling should take place in the event of a further scheme of excavations.

8. Faunal remains

Methods statement

- 8.1 A basic suite of information on the presence of identifiable fragments of the three common domesticates, together with the potential for information on the age structure of the cull population from tooth wear and epiphysial fusion was recorded. The presence of other species was noted and comments made on any aspect of interest.

Results

- 8.2 Animal bone was recovered from Trenches 2 and 3. The finds from Trench 2 are in poor condition with some indeterminate scraps from Context 4 and part of a pig tooth from Context 8. Trench 3 was more prolific in finds, which are in reasonable condition but brittle, which has caused some recent breakage. Context 22 has produced four identifiable cattle bones, of which two have been chewed and one chopped, and two horse bones. Horse bones are frequently encountered in features on the agricultural periphery of Romano-British settlements. This species was not normally eaten and was therefore carrion to be disposed of away from the household middens. Context 24 has produced one fragment, possibly of cattle scapula. Context 29 contained a dog skull and a cattle metacarpal. The dog skull has retained only one tooth *in situ*, premolar 4 with extensive wear suggestive of advanced age.

Conclusion

- 8.3 The assemblage is too small to warrant further analysis. However, the finds indicate that if further excavations were to take place at the site, then a substantial and significant assemblage could be uncovered.

Context	Species	Element	Comments
<i>Trench 2</i>			
4	indet	frags	poor condition
8	pig	M3	broken, enamel only, in wear
<i>Trench 3</i>			
U/S	Cattle	M1 & M2	in wear
U/S	Pig	canine	
U/S	indet	frags	
22	Cattle	hum	dist fused
22	Cattle	hum	dist chewed
22	Cattle	jaw	chopped
22	Cattle	MC	prox chewed
22	Horse	MC	dist fused
22	Horse	hum	dist fused
24	Cattle size	frag	prob scap
29	Dog	skull	heavy wear on surviving P4
29	Cattle	MC	

Table 7: Faunal data

9. Conclusions

- 9.1 A significant archaeological resource is present within the proposed development area. This evidence relates to the Roman occupation of the vicus, the town attached to the fort. The date range for the collection of Roman pottery spans the whole Roman period in the North of England, and is typical of a civil and military site fully integrated into the Roman supply and trading network. This date range, and the density of features, some of which cut each other, indicates that the remains of several phases of activity are present. The remains include several ditch/boundary features, which indicate a settlement laid out on formal lines, as would be anticipated. Several ditches are present which are not visible on the geophysical plots: this is likely to be a result of the medieval ridge and furrow which runs over the site on the same alignment as many of the features. Many more of these types of features may therefore be anticipated than are visible on the plots.
- 9.2 The excavation indicates the presence of at least two wooden structures within these enclosures, although many more are likely to be revealed should a further scheme of excavation take place. There was a clear concentration of structural features north of the Roman road running through the centre of the site: this may be partially a reflection of the limited sample, but may be a result of a territorial division, perhaps with the area of domestic occupation to the north of the road, and associated fields or plots lying to the south.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1** The development proposal entails cutting into the top of the slope, and using the spoil to level up the bottom part of the field in order to create a flat base for the football field. This will truncate or remove significant archaeological deposits.
- 10.2** Under Planning Policy Guideline 16, Archaeology and Planning, an assumption should be made in favour of preserving archaeological remains *in situ*, and where this is not possible, archaeological remains should be preserved by record (i.e. excavated and recorded).
- 10.3** The area to be disturbed by cutting into the slope should be subject to a full programme of archaeological excavation in advance of the development, to be followed by a programme of post-excavation leading to a final archaeological report in line with English Heritage guidelines (1991).
- 10.4** The flat field required for the football pitch may be obtained by importing spoil into the area, rather than cutting into the slope. The remains would subsequently be preserved under the football pitch, and damage to the deposits would be minimised.
- 10.5** Because of the substantial overburden above the subsoil, partly caused by the presence of surviving ridge and furrow, shallow drainage beneath the pitch may not impact upon the Roman archaeology: where the archaeology is likely to be disturbed, a scheme of archaeological monitoring during the works would be appropriate.
- 10.6** The deposits mostly consist of negative archaeological features cut into the subsoil, and are protected by a build-up of topsoil, and are unlikely to be seriously affected by compaction as a result of the development.

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Appendix 1: Catalogue of the Recovered Pottery

Introduction

The catalogue, which lists all of the recovered pottery, adheres to a consistent format. Sherds are listed by area, and within each area by context and generic class (based on fabric, form type and cultural association). Under each context and generic class of pottery, each item represented is documented, with the following data given: the number of sherds per item and their type (ie. whether a sherd is from the rim, body or base of a vessel), the weight of the sherds in grams, the fabric type or a fabric description, vessel form (where identifiable), and, where the item is Roman, an estimate of the date of the sherd/s in terms of calendar years, this being the date range of deposits with which like pieces are normally associated. The presence of other features such as sherd joins and carbonized residues on surfaces is noted. In the case of sherds of samian, any decoration present is described; Oswald's figure types on samian (Oswald 1936-7) are referred to following the standard convention, for example O.1926a would be his type 1926a, without quoting the bibliographic reference on every occasion.

The Catalogue

AREA 1 (BFF00 1)

Context 2 (fill of ditch cut F03)

Roman Unoxidized Coarse Ware

2 body sherds (from the same vessel), 13g, probably Dorset Black Burnished Ware 1 (Tomber and Dore 1998, 127), from a jar, c.AD 110-400.

Context 21 (fill of ditch cut F31)

Roman Oxidized Coarse Ware

Body sherd, 2g, light red fabric with sparse quartz and calcareous inclusions, c.0.7-1mm, source not known, form not identifiable, c.AD 70-400.

AREA 2 (BFF00 2)

Context 6

Roman Samian Ware

Body sherd, 1g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, form not identifiable, c.AD 120-200.

Body sherd, 5g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, Drag. 38 bowl, c.AD 135-200.

Body sherd, 8g, East Gaulish, possibly La Madeleine or Argonne, Drag. 38 bowl, c.AD 135-260.

Roman Mortaria

Rim sherd, 52g, Hartshill-Mancetter fabric (cf. Tomber and Dore 1998, 189), no trituration grits represented, 'hammer-head' rim type with reeding, (cf. Hartley 1980, 39, No. 3, Fig. 23 No. 3), c.AD 200-300.

Roman Unoxidized Coarse

Body sherd, 6g, in hard grey ware fabric with common fine quartz, source not known, from a jar, c.AD 70-400.

Context 7

Roman Amphorae

Body sherd, 82g, early Baetican amphora fabric (Tomber and Dore 1998, 84), from an olive oil amphora, from southern Spain, of Dressel 20 form, c.AD 50-260.

Unstratified

Roman Samian Ware

Base sherd, 20g, South Gaulish, La Graufesenque, cup form, probably Drag. 27, c. AD 70-100/110; this item is stamped, but as is sometimes the case on form 27 this is not clear and cannot now be read with any confidence; hence the potter is unidentified; the stamp may read 'OF.LVISS[']'.

Body sherd, 3g, South Gaulish, La Graufesenque, Drag. 36 dish, c. AD 70-100/110.

Body sherd, 1g, South Gaulish, La Graufesenque, form not identifiable, c. AD 70-100/110.

Rim sherd, 5g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, Drag. 37 bowl (no decoration is represented), c. AD 120-200.

Body sherd, 2g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, almost certainly from a Drag. 33 cup, c. AD 120-200.

Body sherd, 1g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, form not identifiable, c. AD 120-200.

Body sherd, 1g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, form not identifiable (from a different vessel to the above item), c. AD 120-200.

Roman Mortaria

Body sherd, 41g, pale red to red-brown fabric with grey core and a creamy-buff slip on interior and exterior surfaces, this is a moderately hard fabric with a slightly rough feel and regular fractures; fine/very fine quartz/sand and mica present; trituration grits comprise coarse angular quartz fragments c. 3mm in greatest dimension, generally white; mortaria of qualitatively similar fabric/s and form are known from Stanwick (Wheeler 1954, 36, Fig. 11 No. 24), Melsonby (Fitts et al. 1999, Fabric 93, Fig. 15 No. 8) and Thorpe Thewles (Hartley 1987, Fabrics B, E and F); a source in the north-east of England seems certain, c. AD 70-200.

Roman Amphorae

Body sherd, 70g, early Baetican amphora fabric (Tomber and Dore 1998, 84), from an olive oil amphora, from southern Spain, of Dressel 20 form, c. AD 50-260.

Medieval c. AD 1000-1500

1 rim sherd from a large jar, 1 rim sherd from a medium sized (lid-seated) jar with green glaze, 3 body sherds (1 with green-glaze), from 3 different vessels, 34g.

AREA 3 (BFF00 3)

Context 22

Roman Amphorae (from Environmental Sample)

Body sherd, 1g, early Baetican amphora fabric (Tomber and Dore 1998, 84), from an amphora, from southern Spain, probably of Dressel 20 form, c. AD 50-260.

Medieval or Post-Medieval c. AD 1000-1800

Body sherd, 2g.

Context 28

Roman Unoxidized Coarse Ware

4 rim sherds, 5 base sherds and 7 body sherds, 563g, Dorset Black Burnished Ware 1, from a flanged bowl with lid seating (cf. Gillam 1976, types 37 and 40), c. AD 135-200.

Carbonized residue is present on the exterior surface of all of the rim sherds and on the exterior surface of 1 of the body sherds and 4 of the base sherds; no residues are present on interior surfaces. The interior surface of the base is worn, presumably through use during the life of the vessel. Around 60% of the vessel is represented.

Base sherd, 21g, light grey throughout with common fine/very fine quartz grains and rare ill-sorted dark grey grog pellets up to 2mm, source uncertain but probably regional (this may be a variety of Crambeck Ware), from a jar, *c.*AD 100-400.

Context 29

Roman Oxidized Coarse Ware

Body sherd, 4g, yellowish-red throughout with moderate to common quartz grains and white specks (probably of calcareous material) in moderate frequency, source uncertain, probably from a jar or possibly a bowl *c.*AD 70-400.

Unstratified

Roman Samian Ware

Body sherd, 2g, Central Gaulish, Les Martres-de-Veyre, Drag. 18/31 dish, *c.*AD 100-130.

Body sherd, 5g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, probably from a Drag. 18/31 dish, *c.*AD 120-150. From the vessel floor, which appears to be have been trimmed round, possibly for re-use as a counter.

Body sherd, 1g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, possibly from a Drag. 18/31 dish, *c.*AD 120-150.

Body sherd, 2g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, Drag. 30 or 37 bowl, *c.*AD 120-200. A small area of decoration occurs but it is unclear what is depicted.

Body sherd, 3g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, Drag. 33 cup, *c.*AD 120-200.

Body sherd, 8g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, Drag. 37 bowl, *c.*AD 120-200. A part of the decorative scheme is extant, coming from the lower part of the vessel; the decoration is within panels, with bead borders; the one extant panel contains the goose O.2251 to the right looking back; the potter is unclear but this could well be from a bowl of Cinnamus ii (*c.*AD 135-170).

Body sherd, 1g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, Drag. 37 bowl, *c.*AD 120-200. A part of the decorative scheme is extant, though vestigial; the front of the hare O.2134, running to the left occurs.

Body sherd, 1g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, form not identifiable, *c.*AD 120-200.

Body sherd, 1g, East Gaulish, possibly Argonne, from a bowl or dish, *c.*AD 135-260.

Body sherd, 4g, Central Gaulish, Lezoux, from a bowl, probably *c.*AD 150-200.

Rim sherd, 1g, East Gaulish, Rheinzabern, from a bowl or dish, *c.*AD 150-260.

Roman Unoxidized Coarse Ware

Body sherd, 6g, grey throughout with common to abundant quartz grains, probably from a jar, source uncertain, *c.*AD 70-400.

Body sherd, 7g, Dorset Black Burnished Ware 1, from a jar, *c.*AD 110-400.

Body sherd, 12g, Crambeck Grey Ware (Evans 1989; Tyers 1996, 188), produced in an area near the River Derwent, south-west of Malton in North Yorkshire, this sherd is from a jar, *c.*AD 270/300-400.

Rim sherd, 15g, in a pale grey quartz grain rich fabric with darker grey surfaces, almost certainly a variant of the standard Crambeck Grey Ware fabric (see above), this item is from a bowl with an out-turned and flattened rim (internal rim diam. 180mm), *c.*AD 270/300-400.

Roman Oxidized Coarse Ware

Base sherd, 27g, yellowish brown fabric with fine quartz, iron oxide pellets and mica, from a flagon, almost certainly from a source in the north of England, *c.*AD 70-400.

Rim sherd, 5g, fine red fabric with fine quartz, from a jar, source uncertain, *c.*AD 70-400.

Body sherd, 16g, yellowish brown to grey fabric with abundant quartz temper, probably from a jar, almost certainly from a local source, *c.*AD 70-400.

Body sherd, 2g, yellowish brown to grey fabric with abundant fine quartz, (much finer than the above item), again, almost certainly from a source in the north of England, form not identifiable, c. AD 70-400.

Roman Amphorae

Body sherd, 54g, late Baetican amphora fabric (Tomber and Dore 1998, 85), from an olive oil amphora, from southern Spain of Dressel 20 or 23 form (cf. Peacock and Williams 1986, Class 25), c. AD 175-350.

Body sherd, 49g, unrecognised buff fabric with frequent coarse quartz grains and iron oxide pellets, probably from a wine amphora, source uncertain, but potentially Radlett/Brockley Hill near St Albans, where amphora production is known (Castle 1978); the fabric suggests this possibility with this item from Bowes resembling the fabric of the Brockley Hill industry (cf. Tyers 1996, 199-201; Symonds and Wade 1999, 162), c. AD 70-125.

Medieval c. AD 1000-1500

Rim sherd, 5 body sherds and 1 handle fragment, 49g.

Medieval or Post-Medieval c. AD 1000-1800

8 body sherds, 23g.

Post-Medieval and Modern c. AD 1500-2000

2 body sherds, 1 ?base sherd, 17g.

UNSTRATIFIED (from the general area of the works)

Roman Oxidized Coarse Ware

Rim sherd, 4g, red fairly soft fabric with sparse very fine grained quartz/sand and mica, source uncertain, from a jar, with short everted rim and high shoulder, probably c. AD 70-120.

Medieval c. AD 1000-1500 (recovered from a "mole hill")

Rim from a jar, 7g

Post-Medieval c. AD 1500-1800

Body sherd with glaze, 3g.

Appendix 2: Catalogue of the Recovered Tile

AREA 1 (BFF00 1)

Context 21

Probable Roman Tile

1 very small fragment, 2g.

AREA 3 (BFF00 3)

Unstratified

Probable Roman Tile

2 fragments, 28g.

Not chronologically diagnostic

6 fragments, 28g.

Appendix 3: Catalogue of the Recovered Undiagnostic Fired Ceramic Material

AREA 1 (BFF00 1)

Context 21

1 undiagnostic fragment of fired clay, 1g.

AREA 2 (BFF00 2)

Unstratified

1 undiagnostic fragment of fired clay, 9g.

Appendix 4: Project specification

Durham County Council Archaeology Section

Specification for Archaeological Evaluation Work:

Land at The Annums, Bowes

1.0 Site location and proposed works

The site is located to the west of Bowes village, south of The Annums, and is centred on grid reference NGR NY9954 1333. The site, which is currently in use for grazing, slopes down the River Tees at its south end, and has a number of faint earthworks, which may represent ridge and furrow, or trackways. A planning application for a change of use to a football pitch and playing field has been made, which would involve reducing the top part of the slope and redistributing the earth over the south end to build up the levels.

2.0 Archaeological background

The Roman station of Lavatrae at Bowes is named in the Notitia Imperii and proved by the 2nd and 5th Antonine Itineraries. The fort, considered to be of national importance and is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, was occupied until the reign of Theodosius in the 4th century, and was revealed by excavation in 1966-1967. The keep of Bowes Castle, built for Henry II, is situated in the north-west angle of the fort, and is in part constructed of reused Roman materials from the fort. Evidence of the vicus has already been found to the east of the fort, where the quality of pottery found and the scale of construction suggest that the vicus was, at least in one phase of its life, a well-planned settlement and not merely a shanty town. This site has not been investigated in the past, although there is anecdotal evidence of Roman finds being made during excavation of a water pipe trench running across the site.

3.0 Archaeological brief

Archaeological evaluation of the site will involve a phased programme of investigation of the site. It has been deemed necessary to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site because of the scale of ground disturbance involved in the proposals. Geophysical survey of the site will be followed by trial trenching, and it is hoped that this survey will allow targeting of areas of higher potential to be made.

3.1 A field visit should be made to the site, in order to assess any implications arising from ground conditions, for the choice of survey method. It should be noted that there is a (?) water main running across the site at its northern end – two manholes are visible on the ground.

3.2 A geophysical survey should be carried out over the entire site. Choice of survey method should take into account the likelihood of finding buried stone features such as foundations and floor surfaces, and also cut features such as ditches and pits.

3.4 A programme of archaeological trial trenching based, if appropriate, on the results of the geophysical survey, should be carried out. The total area of excavation will be determined following the geophysical survey, but is likely to be in the region of 5-10% of the site. Locations of trial trenches, and methods of excavation should be determined following consultation with the County Archaeology Section, and an appendix outlining this will be produced. Full excavation of trial trenches will not be necessary, provided that stripping and removal of overburden provides sufficient information on the nature of archaeological features. Appropriate specialist input in terms of palaeo-environmental sampling and conservation advice and services will be required as part of this procedure, although this can not be quantified until the geophysical survey has been carried out and the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor has been consulted.

4.0 The report

4.1 The production of a report synthesising the results of the evaluation work. This should include a site location plan with NGR references, and also be accompanied by additional plans/map extracts to display noted and recorded archaeological features as appropriate.

4.2 The report should be presented in an ordered state and contained within a protective cover/sleeve or bound in some fashion - loose leaf presentation is unacceptable. The report should contain a title page listing site/development name, district and County together with a general NGR, the name of the archaeological contractor and the developer or commissioning agent. The report should be page numbered and supplemented with sections and paragraph numbering for ease of reference.

4.3 The report should seek to identify any deposits that may require preservation in-situ and advocate areas or themes of an archaeological or historical nature, which may require further work, particularly in reference to current research agendas as mentioned below (section 5). If considered necessary appropriate methods of further assessment should be advocated, and geophysics and or trial excavation specified.

4.4 This specification, and any additions arising (see section 3.3 above) should be included as an appendix in the final report. The introduction and summary of the report should make it clear that this work was undertaken to a specification provided by the Archaeology Section of Durham County Council.

5.0 Research Framework

Through out the works questions relating to a research framework for sites of this nature should be borne in mind, with regard to interpretation in the report of any features encountered. As far as such information can be gained from a small-scale investigation of this nature, the presence of any evidence of the following should be considered:

- Points of comparison with other roadside sites in the area, particularly Greta Bridge fort
- Urban characteristics – pottery/iron production sites, urban style lay-out etc
- Morphology of the vicus and its development in relation to the fort

6.0 The tender

Tenders for work should include the following;

6.1 Brief details of the organisation and staff who are proposing to carry out the work including any relevant specialisms or experience.

6.2 The earliest date at which the work can be commenced and the amount of notice required to initiate the evaluation

6.3 Details concerning proposed methods of recording and source material.

6.4 Contingency sums should be clearly allocated for specialist reports, environmental sampling, conservation, archiving and publication.

6.5 An estimate of how long the work will take broken down by time and cost in terms of data collection and report production. This should include a breakdown of costs attributable to travelling, subsistence, printing, and administration where possible.

7.0 Health and Safety Policy

Contractors are expected to abide by the 1974 Health and Safety Act and its subsequent amendments. Appropriate provision of first aid, telephone and safety clothing as described in the SCAUM manual on archaeological health and safety should be followed. Each site should have a nominated safety officer. The undertaking of a risk assessment prior to the commencement of works is strongly recommended.

8.0 Publication

All assessments, evaluations and watching briefs which do not progress to further excavation and research (with the relevant post-excavation and publication scheme and costs), should have a time and budget allocation identified for publication. This should be to a minimum standard to include a summary of the work, findings, dates, illustrations and photographs and references to where the archive is lodged. Editors of regional journals, either the Durham Archaeological Journal or Archaeologia Aeliana should be contacted for information on outline publication costs; fuller figures may be worked out on completion of the watching brief. As the final note is largely unpredictable in advance a contingency sum should be set aside at the outset of work in the tender.

9.0 The Archive

The site archive comprising the original paper records and plans, photographs and negatives, etc, should be deposited in the appropriate museum at the completion of post-excavation. This should be in accordance with County Archaeological Archive policy, a guidance note on which can be obtained from the County Archaeology Section.

10.0 Notice

The County Archaeologist should be given two weeks notice in writing of the commencement of evaluation. Field work will be monitored by the County Archaeology Section, and during such works the County Archaeologist or his nominated representative should be allowed access to the site and excavations at all reasonable times.

11.0 This assessment/evaluation should be considered as a project in its own right and not necessarily the first stage of any further work. A copy of the report, both on paper and on disc (in a Word 6.0 compatible format) for inclusion into the County Durham Archaeological Archive, should be sent to;

The County Archaeology Officer at the Archaeology Section, Arts, Libraries and Museums Department, County Hall, Durham, DH1 5TY.

Archaeology Section
Durham County Council
July 2000