

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY

MARCH 2002

Mon 01D 36370

**EXCAVATION OF AN
IRON AGE AND ROMAN
ENCLOSURE AT KENNEL FARM,
BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE**

1998

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was carried out for Faulks, Perry, Culley & Rech acting for clients Grainger Investment Properties. The work was conducted to fulfil an archaeological specification issued by David Hopkins, Archaeological Planning Officer, Hampshire County Council.

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**EXCAVATION OF AN IRON AGE AND ROMAN ENCLOSURE
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by Alex Thorne and Mark Holmes

with contributions by Trevor Anderson, Andy Chapman, Karen Deighton,
Tora Hylton, Malcolm Lync and Ian Meadows

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out an archaeological recording action at Kennel Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire as part of a broader archaeological evaluation of a proposed residential development. The excavation encompassed an area previously characterised by cropmarks, geophysical survey and trial excavation as containing a small 'banjo' shaped enclosure.

Despite extensive damage from post-medieval quarrying and agricultural activity, excavation revealed two separate enclosures with outer boundary ditches. The Northern Enclosure, which was occupied between 700 and 500BC, is the earliest site known in the area. This was replaced by the Southern Enclosure, which was the focus of activity until the early Roman period, c. AD100. It was remodelled and enlarged several times culminating in a final "banjo enclosure" form. There are few signs of any structures within the enclosures, but the volume of domestic refuse in pits suggests habitation. A single inhumation, of a c.50 year old female, is of late Iron Age/early Roman date, c. AD50.

The occupants of the site practised a mixed agricultural regime, with animals presumably kept within the outer boundaries. A variety of cereal crops were cultivated, and spinning and weaving of wool is indicated by the presence of loomweights and spindle whorls. This site is unusual in that it includes a variety of exotic Gallo-Belgic and Central Gaulish pottery imports of both late Iron Age and pre-Flavian date, but no Samian ware. This could suggest that the inhabitants were of high social status.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

A multi-stage archaeological evaluation comprising a desk-based assessment, geophysical prospection, trial excavation and fieldwalking survey was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology between 1994 and 1996 at Kennel Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire (Fig 1, NGR SU 604 479; Soden 1994, Masters 1994, Holmes 1995 and 1996). Several archaeological sites were identified within the survey area, including six enclosures of probable Iron Age or Roman date (Fig 2, Sites A-C & E-G) and three possible round barrow ring ditches (Sites D, H & J).

This work supplemented and extended previous investigation in 1987 by The Trust for Wessex Archaeology (Gingell and Trott 1995). Extensive excavation of Iron Age and Roman sites at

the Brighton Hill South development, which lies to the immediate north, were carried out in the 1980s (Fasham and Keevil 1995).

The cropmark of the possible banjo-shaped enclosure being reported on, Site F, was previously recorded on the Hampshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) as site SU 64NW/28. It was characterised by a sub-rectangular enclosure with a funnelling ditch and other "antennae" like features to the east, and indications of a larger encircling enclosure to the north-east. The desk-based report showed that the site was situated within a featureless field as depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1871 and 1909 (Soden 1994, fig 3).

Geophysical survey of Site F in December 1994 confirmed the plan of the enclosure as shown on aerial photographs (Fig 3, and Masters 1994, fig 5). Selective trial excavation was carried out to verify the geophysical survey results at Site F, with a single trench located across the ditch systems at the north-east corner of the Southern Enclosure (Fig 3 and Holmes 1995, 4-5).

In February 1996 Northamptonshire Archaeology fieldwalked the three fields south of Beggarwood Lane (Holmes 1996). Concentrations of Iron Age and Roman pottery were found around Site F, presumably deriving from below ground features, whilst a thin scatter of Roman pottery on the southern slopes of the field may have derived from manuring. There was a background scatter of struck flint not only from around the site, but also from across most of the survey area.

An archaeological recording action was carried out at Site A in May and June 1996 by Northamptonshire Archaeology, entailing the excavation of approximately one half of an oval ditched enclosure of Iron Age date (Chapman 2001).

Hampshire County Council requested an archaeological recording action for Site F, and Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook the subsequent excavation work from September to November 1998, in accordance with the specification issued by the Planning Officer of Hampshire County Council (January 1996). The archive for all of the work carried out at Kennel Farm by Northamptonshire Archaeology will be transferred to the Hampshire Museum Service under accession no. A. 1996.39.

1.2 Acknowledgements

Mark Holmes directed the fieldwork, under the management of Steve Parry. The site team comprised Richard Barrett, Bridget Gallagher, Aaron Goode, Steve Hayward, Pat Kent, Kirstene McClellan and volunteers Paddy Clark and Gary Edmondson. The team was supervised by Alex Thorne. Post-excavation finds processing and archiving was organised by Pat Chapman and Tora Hylton. Alex Thorne prepared the report illustrations. Editing of the report was by Steve Parry, Pat Chapman and Andy Chapman. Nikki Kidger and Alison Stevens, work experience students, helped with drawing the pottery. David Parish of Buckinghamshire County Museum Service X-rayed the iron objects and undertook cleaning of several of the objects. Northamptonshire Archaeology would like to thank all the volunteers; Eddie and John of PSS for their superb machining of the site and to Tony the dumper driver for all sorts of help. The excavation team did a superb job despite the affects of the "monsoon" season.

1.3 Objectives and Methodology

The aims of the excavation were to record the character, extent and date of former occupation at Site F. The work also sought to establish the origins and evolution of the site as well as to determine if former occupation was continuous or intermittent.

A mechanical excavator removed the shallow plough soil over an area of 0.73ha, measuring 98 x 69m, to expose the natural chalk and clay with flints, which was then cleaned by hand in order to enhance the definition of archaeological features. Enclosure and boundary ditches were investigated by a series of cross-sections that defined their general character. All major intersections between the various phases of ditches were also investigated allowing stratigraphic relationships to be established. All pits and postholes were half-sectioned. Two areas within the excavation totalling c. 450m² contained post-medieval quarry pits. These were sampled with machine-cut sections so that their effect on any underlying archaeology could be determined (Fig 4).

1.4 Location and Topography

The site is located on a gently graded, southward facing slope, between 48 and 50mOD, and about 20m south of the summit. The M3 motorway is to the south and east of the site (Fig 2). The natural geology is chalk, which is partly capped with thick clay-with-flints deposits and pocked with solution holes infilled with either clay or Coombe rock. The Southern Enclosure of Site F was sited wholly on the pure chalk, within a slight hollow in the hillside. Although it may have been sited to take advantage of the topography, the hollow is most likely to be the result of both repeated ditch cutting and later quarrying. The Northern Enclosure straddled the chalk/clay divide, while the outlying boundaries enclosed areas of clay.

At the time of excavation, the site was under an arable agricultural regime. The water table rose over a metre during the course of excavation, resulting in features flooding only inches below the surface after torrential rain. The site was exposed to winds from all directions but attracted the best of the sunlight throughout the day. There is currently no near source of water.

2 THE FORM AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENCLOSURES

2.1 Introduction

Prior to the commencement of the excavation, evidence from both the geophysical survey and aerial photography suggested that the site was a small 'banjo'-shaped enclosure. On excavation, it quickly became apparent that there was in fact a whole series of superimposed ditches of different phases comprising two separate enclosures surrounded by a series of outlying boundary ditches. The "antennae" shaped ditches to the east of the enclosure were found to be of geological origin, and quarrying had largely destroyed the central part of the larger enclosure.

For ease of description, the separate enclosures and boundary ditches are referred to as the Northern Enclosure, the Southern Enclosure, and the Northern, Eastern and Southern Outlying Boundaries (Fig 4). Phases of development are numbered consecutively, while pit and postholes are assigned group letters.

Table 1: Summary of Site Chronology (Fig 5)

| Phase | Activity | Date range |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1 2 | Northern Enclosure established and recutting of Northern Enclosure ditch | Early Iron Age: (c. 700-500BC) |
| 3 | Large pits within the Northern Enclosure. Eastern Outlying Boundary established | Early Iron Age: (c. 500-300BC) |
| 4 | Original, oval Southern Enclosure, and pit groups Eastern Outlying Boundary modified | Middle Iron Age: (c. 300-200BC) |
| 5 | Southern Enclosure reformed to sub-square plan Pits within and postholes outside Eastern Outlying Boundary expanded to include Southern Outlying Boundaries | Late Iron Age (c. 200-0BC) |
| 6 and 7 | Southern Enclosure recut, new southern entrance established Shallow gullies across interior of enclosure. Southern Outlying Boundary recut | Late Iron Age/early Roman (c.AD0-45) |
| 7 and 8 | Southern Enclosure recut, with addition of "banjo-shaped" access connected to the Outlying Boundary system | Roman (c.AD45-60) |
| 9 | Northern part of Southern Enclosure recut | Roman (c.AD60-100) |
| 10 | Northern part of Southern Enclosure recut New Southern Boundary system (forming rectilinear enclosure?) | Roman (c.AD60-100) |
| Post-medieval | Field boundary of 1909 and undated quarry pit Modern irrigation systems cross site | 18 th century to present |

The phases are described below, with further details of excavated evidence and individual pit groups in the following sections.

2.2 Early Iron Age (c. 700-300BC): The Northern Enclosure (Phases 1 to 3)

The site was established as a sub-rectangular domestic enclosure, 28m wide by at least 44m long (Fig 6). To the south there was a 24m wide gap between the terminal of the western ditch and the truncated end of the eastern ditch, but the intervening area had been lost below the later Southern Enclosure, so the width of the original entrance at the south-western corner is uncertain. The western ditch was later recut, and it then extended at least 4.0m further south, narrowing the width of the entrance. Part of the Outlying Eastern Boundary ditch system may have been established at this time.

Large storage pits lay around the eastern and northern margins of the interior (Pit Groups D and E), indicating that there was no internal bank, and a late pit in this area was cut into the silted up eastern ditch. The area along the western side of the enclosure was largely lost to later disturbance. The central area was largely devoid of cut features apart from a cluster of postholes (C), located in and around an area of trampled soil (layer 303). Several of the features produced small fragments of burnt clay, possibly the remains of loomweights indicating an area where weaving had taken place.

While no remains of any buildings had survived, domestic occupation is well attested by the deposits of pottery, bone, burnt flint and other items recovered from the pits. There were two instances of deliberate deposition of bones, a dog within pit 488 and an ox skull in the base of pit 450. Cereal crops of oats, wheat and barley and pulses were grown as a mixed economy, with any hay by-products likely to have been used for animal fodder.

The earliest pottery recovered from the enclosure ditch and some pits in this area is dated 700-500BC, suggesting an early Iron Age origin, which would make it the earliest known Iron Age enclosure in the area. Material from later recuts and further pits indicates that activity continued through to c. 300BC. Four of the pits also produced some early Roman pottery, perhaps as a result of later disturbance.

2.3 Middle Iron Age (300-200BC): The first Southern Enclosure (Phase 4)

This phase saw the establishment of the first Southern Enclosure (Fig 7). It was oval in plan, measuring 36m x 28m, but was composed of several straighter segments linked by more abrupt curves. The ditch was V-shaped, and up to c.1.0m deep. A single entrance at the north-west corner was 14.0m wide, and appeared to coincide with the entrance to the Northern Enclosure, suggesting continuity of access from the previous phase. The outer eastern boundary was probably recut in this phase.

Post-medieval quarrying had destroyed the majority of the interior, but pit groups survived immediately inside the ditch to both the east and west (Pit Groups A and B). The group to the east (A) showed similarities in form as though cut to fulfil a similar function, or because they were excavated by the same people. There was only a posthole scatter across the surviving part of the central area, which could represent a fence-line set back within the entranceway. A solitary pit was dug outside the northern entrance in either this or the following phase.

Most of the pits and ditches contained domestic debris showing that occupation of the site was continuing, and while there was no physical evidence for structures the presence of nails and an iron joiners dog suggests the presence of timber buildings. A range of cereal crops was

grown, with spelt wheat now present, and this was the only phase where there is evidence that bread wheat was cultivated.

At least two pits within the Northern Enclosure (485 and 540) were still in the final stages of silting up, and in one a lens of stones and chalk may represent an episode of prehistoric ploughing over a turf line. This suggests that following abandonment the area of the Northern Enclosure may have been grassland that was subsequently ploughed.

The enclosure ditches appear to have become completely filled by natural silting prior to the excavation of the ditches of the successive phase, with the pits also filled in and grassed over. The presence of several small tree boles suggests that they may have grown on the site in this phase and been uprooted in the next, as though the site was neglected, although such a hiatus cannot be discerned from the pottery.

2.4 Later Iron Age (200-0BC): The Southern Enclosure (Phase 5)

A completely new Southern Enclosure was created, fully enclosing its predecessor (Fig 8). It was sub-rectangular, measuring 42.0m N-S by 37.0m, with a 12.0m wide entrance at the north-western corner. There was slight evidence for an external bank in one of the sections cut across the western ditch, where a large deposit of chalk had eroded in from one side (Fig 12, section 4, 163). A sinuous length of gully to the east of the enclosure formed a new Eastern Outer Boundary. It was very shallow and had an irregular profile, which may suggest that it had held a hedge-line. There was a narrow entrance to the south.

Much of the interior was lost to later quarrying, but there were new pits groups immediately inside the ditch to both the east and west (Pit Groups A, B and F). The new enclosure also contained two features that may have been vegetation hollows from trees that could have been uprooted during this phase.

To the south-west there was a shallow linear gully, aligned roughly west-east, that butt-ended immediately short of the enclosure ditch. A short length of similar gully beyond the south-eastern corner of the enclosure may also belong to this phase. To the north of the enclosure there were a cluster of external postholes, small pits and a tree-throw hollow.

Pits from this phase contained quern stones as well as large quantities of domestic debris, showing that a mixed economy was still being practised. In common with the preceding phases, it appears that at least the eastern side of the ditch had almost completely silted up before the next phase of the Southern Enclosure was commenced. Most ditches were naturally silted, whilst most pits were deliberately backfilled. There was no apparent break in occupation with the next phase.

2.5 Late Iron Age/early Roman (0-AD45): The Southern Enclosure (Phases 6 and 7)

The Southern Enclosure was extensively remodelled (Fig 9). The eastern side was recut, creating a new, 5m wide entrance at the south-eastern corner, which was probably related to a new Southern Outer Enclosure. The western and southern ditches were still open, and it is uncertain whether a sinuous ditch to the west was a major internal division or a new western boundary. The introduction of this ditch reduced the northern entrance to 10.0m wide.

Presumably the enclosure was still utilised for domestic occupation, as previously, but maybe a period of change was beginning, perhaps linked with a differing emphasis in animal husbandry in which an increased amount of sheep were kept. However, wheat, oats and barley were still grown as cereal crops along with pulses.

Only two pits may be assigned to this phase, one just inside the southern entrance and the other in the opposing corner of the enclosure. The pit to the south (824) was one of the larger pits on site, at nearly 3.0m diameter by 1.75m deep. It produced a significant quantity of finds and three of four instances on the site of the deposition of partial carcasses of immature animals, comprising two neonatal calves from separate layers and the remains of two piglets in a single deposit. It was also the only pit with *in situ* pick marks on the chalk sides (Plate 24).

Towards the end of this phase, a series of east-west shallow gullies traversed the interior of the enclosure, marking the beginning of the creation of the funnelled entrance of the next phase.

2.6 Roman (AD45-60): The Southern Enclosure and associated gullies (Phases 7 and 8)

The southern and western sides of the Southern Enclosure were recut, and the south-eastern entrance was remodelled. It was provided with flanking ditches that connected to a new Southern Outlying Boundary, in the manner of the funnelling ditches of a 'banjo' enclosure (Fig 10). As part of this arrangement, the northern gully continued westward forming a partition running right across the enclosure. The new form of the Northern and Southern Outer Boundary was more substantial than its predecessors and enclosed a significantly larger area. This was presumably used for grazing, and stock control would have been managed via the funnelling ditches at the entrance to the main enclosure. To the south-east, two very large but shallow tree boles suggest that trees may have been uprooted in order to make way for the new Southern Outlying ditches.

There were few pits within this phase, but an external pit to the south of the enclosure (43) contained the crouched inhumation of a mature female, laid on a lower fill and within a deposit that contained a ceramic spoon (Fig 30, 23). Roman pottery in the upper fills of some of the pits within the Northern Enclosure suggests contemporary activity beyond the confines of the Southern Enclosure.

There was still a widespread deposition of pottery and other refuse in features, but there were no suitable pit samples to provide evidence on the types of crops harvested during this phase. The features had become infilled before the final Romano-British phase ditches were begun.

Towards the end of this phase the northern ditch was recut twice to a depth of over 2.0m, perhaps in order to catch the downhill run off of water from the interior of the enclosure. These recuts blocked the north-western entrance.

2.7 Roman (AD60-100): Linear Boundary Systems (Phases 9 and 10)

During the final phases of activity on the site, the entire use of space changed (Fig 11). The enclosure was abandoned and shallow linear gullies crossed the site on a roughly east-west alignment, before turning sharply southwards, to follow the course of ditches from the previous phase. These may have marked the north-eastern corner of a rectilinear enclosure or field system. There were a few scattered pits to both the north and south of this boundary.

Abandonment of these ditches, perhaps in favour of a new site, is dated by pottery to the end of the 1st century AD.

2.8 Post-medieval to recent features

Almost the entire central sector of the site had been cut away by post-medieval quarrying (Fig 4). An east-west slot was excavated through the feature by machine in order to determine the character of the deposits, to retrieve dating evidence and to assess the impact on earlier features. The underlying chalk had been generally lowered by 0.75m, below which a series of individual pits had been dug in order to exploit the chalk bedrock. The pale grey-brown silt fill contained lenses of small chalk pieces, and post-medieval brick and tile fragments and fragments of ironwork were recovered. A smaller area of quarrying at the north-western corner of the site was also machine sampled. Both quarries had removed any earlier archaeology.

There were a whole string of disused pits in a wide belt across the landscape to the east, west and south of the site. The Ordnance Survey Pathfinder Map Sheet 1224 (SU 64/74) shows that four former pits lay within a 1km of Site F. This site was therefore part of a post-medieval trend to exploit the natural chalk, perhaps for lime and perhaps also to utilise the flint as a by-product.

A north-south linear ditch cut across both quarry pits. It was vertically sided, flat based and over 0.9m deep. It has been suggested that it may have been part of an anti-glider landing system of World War II (Hopkins pers comm), but it also appears to match a field boundary of 1871-2. There is the possibility that it was recut in 1940-5, but no finds were recovered to date it.

3 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

3.1 The Northern Enclosure ditches

The western ditch had been largely recut, but its original profile (183) was probably V-shaped (Figs 6 and 12, S1). The recut exhibited a wide, weathered V-shaped profile, over 2.0m wide and 1.0m deep with a well-defined 'ankle-breaker' slot in the base. A wide range of fills was seen in section, including several rich in burnt flint derived from localised dumping.

The eastern ditch was V-shaped but much smaller, only 1.4m wide by 0.75m deep (Fig 12, S2). It had a rapidly accumulated primary fill from weathering of the chalk sides, but the upper fill (343), contained much occupational debris.

3.2 The Southern Enclosure ditches

The earliest of the four Southern Enclosures was examined in nine sections, of which only one showed its complete profile (Figs 7 and 12, S3). The ditch was generally 1.0m deep, but shallowed rapidly at the northern end to a mere 0.30m (Fig 14, S14, 809), and at the south-east to 0.60m. It was V-shaped, with an 'ankle-breaker' in places. Several deposits of firecracked flints and occupational debris were included within the fills.

The ditch of the sub-rectangular Southern Enclosure of phase 5 was sampled in eleven places. It was V-shaped and usually over 1.0m deep, but the butt end to the north-east was again shallow (Fig 14, S14, 807). Two sections showed asymmetrical filling (Fig 12, S4, 56), which might suggest the presence of

an external bank. The terminal on the north-western side was unique, since it appeared to be cut by a large post-pit (237) when half silted (Figs 8 and 12, S5).

Thirteen sections were cut across the Southern Enclosure ditch of phase 6/7 (Figs 9 and 13, S6, 768 and Fig 14, S14, 811). This ditch was generally 1.0m deep, but had a wider base to an otherwise V-shaped profile. Ditch 329 to the north was V-shaped with an 'ankle breaker' and over 1.5m deep. The butt end at the north-west had been infilled deliberately with a very mixed series of thin deposits that included much charcoal and some grain.

The phase 7/8 Southern Enclosure ditch recut many of its precursors in the nine excavated sections (Fig 13, S7, 69 and S8, 472). It was V-shaped, but markedly wider and sometimes shallower than any other phase of ditch. Several of the excavated sections had concentrations of flint above the primary fill, possibly eroded out of the exposed sides. The fills were also rich in domestic debris pointing to episodes of deliberate filling.

3.3 The Northern and Eastern Outlying Boundary ditches

The Northern Outlying Boundary ditch of phase 3 showed a wide, very weathered V-shaped profile, in contrast to the ditches of the Northern Enclosure (Figs 7 and 13, S9, 631). The recut of this ditch was deeper with a steeper V-profile, but again very weathered (Fig 13, S9, 629). Its eastern end curved sharply southwards and was very narrow (Fig 14, S10, 749).

The ditch of phase 5 was very sinuous (Fig 14, S10, 752). It was very irregular in plan, and difficult to trace in section, with the appearance of root disturbance.

3.4 The Southern Outlying Boundary ditches (Figs 8-11 and 14)

A series of ditches at the southern end of the site gave the enclosure entrance the appearance of a 'banjo' shaped enclosure. They varied from 0.10-0.05m deep, and all appeared to have silted naturally. The earlier phase ditches of the north-south arm were all shallow (Fig 14, S11, 675 and 677), while the later ditches that formed part of the 'banjo' enclosure entrance were slightly broader and deeper (Fig 10, 840 and 841). The successive ditches forming the northern side of the entrance passage were not as substantial (Fig 14, S13, 826, 828 and 830), and some of these continued westward as an internal partition (Fig 14, S12, 703 and 709).

The largest of the ditches on the site were the final recuts of the northern arm of the Southern Enclosure Ditch, which was up to 1.10m with a broad, U-shaped profile (Fig 14, S14, 811). These late cuts silted rapidly and naturally, and the presence of large lenses of angular chalk on the southern side of 811 could point to the presence of a bank on that side.

3.5 The pits

A total of 63 pits were examined. They were almost exclusively located within the interior of the two enclosures. Although some pits were up to 2m deep, a small proportion were only slight scars in the natural chalk, having been severely truncated by later features. A variety of shapes and forms were present, including vertically-sided and 'beehive' shaped examples. In many cases, the shape was determined by the chalk bedrock, as the sloping bedding planes in the natural created a squared effect, the undercutting and the level or stepped bases. Several pits partially cut into the backfill of earlier pits, and there was one instance where rammed chalk had been used to form a solid pit floor over the exposed backfill of a deeper pit (Fig 6, Group D, 360 and 362).

Marks on the side of pit 284 and the chalk rubble from (560) show that excavation was carried out with the aid of antler picks. The rare survival of such marks may be the result of the fragility of the chalk once cut into and to the small amount of chalk spoil, apart from the unusual 'fresh' chalk backfill within several pits in group A. Within pit groups there often seemed to be a similarity of shape and size

suggesting that these were used in the same manner and were of the same date; some were perhaps excavated by the same people. The primary function of these pits was probably for grain storage. The bases of most pits were clean, sharp and unweathered, although some had clearly been trampled in wet conditions that had created a few centimetres of hard, concreted chalk sludge. Perhaps this was deliberate puddling. It was noted during excavation that the emptied features would hold water from half an hour up to several days, depending on conditions.

Similar sequences of fills were often encountered. In some examples there were primary layers of burnt material, such as pit 32 in Group B (Fig 16 and Plate 7) and pit 172 also in the Southern Enclosure (Plate 10). This phenomenon was also seen at nearby Brighton Hill South and is often associated with other special deposits (Keevil and Fasham 1995, 70-1). Pit 407, a late pit lying within the Northern Enclosure, had a clay lining substantially *in situ* around its upper sides (Fig 18). A dog burial, which had been placed standing upright, was recovered from pit 514 of Group E in the Northern Enclosure, (Fig 19 and Plate 17, 508). Two separate examples of placed animal skulls were found, including an ox skull in pit 348 (Fig 19). There were also partial skeletons of neonatal calves and piglets in the exceptionally large pit 824 in the later Southern Enclosure, and part of a juvenile pig in pit 172 in the Southern Enclosure.

Domestic refuse was often within richly humic lenses, indicating that there had been organic materials present which had been lost to decay, causing slumping of fills. Sometimes these were sealed with clay lenses or other backfill, perhaps to speed up decay and lessen smells, but there was only one instance of possible cess-like material.

A summary of each pit group follows below, with spatially isolated groups of features described together.

Pit Group A (Fig 15)

Eleven or twelve pits within the north-eastern corner of the Southern Enclosure, dating to the middle to late Iron Age (phases 4 and 5). The earlier pits (563, 568, 569 and 701) were bee-hive shaped and 1.00-1.10m or 1.30-1.40m deep. The later pits (470, 571, 572, 574 and 576) were all smaller, at 0.25-0.40m deep. Several of these pits were so similar in character that may have been dug by one individual.

Pits 701 and 569 were almost entirely filled with freshly excavated chalk rubble, loosely packed and full of voids (Plates 20, 21 and 23), presumably derived from the excavation of other pits or ditches. Pit 563 was at least half-filled with similar material, but the upper part had been recut. There was little in the way of larger flint nodules within these deposits, suggesting that they were retained for other uses.

Pit 568 was backfilled with alternate layers of redeposited natural and charcoal rich layers containing occupation debris (Plate 22). One fill, 543, contained two iron knives (Fig **, 19 and 20), and the pottery, which includes saucepan pots, dates the pit to the late Iron Age (200-0BC, phase 5).

A whole pot was abandoned on the edge of pit 577, and pit 571 was backfilled with broken flints.

Pit Group B (Fig 16)

A group of pits on the western side of the Southern Enclosure. Two pits (26 and 32) date to the middle Iron Age, phase 4, while those to the west, and cutting the enclosure ditches are of Iron Age/early Roman date.

Pit 26 was one of the smallest examples on site, at 0.46m deep. Pit 32 was one of the few pits that had vertical sides, though this may have been a result of upper edge collapse. It had a thin layer of charcoal on the base (Fig 16 and Plate 9), composed of both larger charcoal pieces and fine dust. An antler ring with an iron object inside it was recovered from this layer (Fig 29, 13).

Pit 84 was 1.5m deep. On one side it cut ditch fill but was still sharp and unweathered as though not left open long. A layer at the base of the pit contained small fragments of two querns, one saddle and one rotary (Fig 28, 4 and 5).

Pit 109 was much shallower, and cut pit 84. Both were subsequently recut by shallow, scooped cuts (106 and 107) whose fills were rich in burnt materials.

Pit Group C (Fig 17)

A cluster of pits (201, 202, 203, 250 and 75) close to the south-western entrance to the Northern Enclosure. Many of these may have been cut during phase 3 (500–300 BC), but some had been disturbed or recut in the Roman period as the upper fills contained pottery dating to phase 9/10 (c. AD60-100).

All features within the group were fairly shallow; the deepest was 0.80m deep. Pit 202 contained two complete and two partial clay loomweights, all recovered from the final fill (182) (Fig 27, 1 and 2).

Pit and Posthole Group D (Fig 18)

At the northern end of the Northern Enclosure there was a cluster of eleven pits and five postholes or post-pits. They are dated by pottery to the early Iron Age (phase 3, c. 500–300BC), although pit 534 contained post-medieval pottery and was clearly related to the more extensive quarry pits to the immediate west. A single pit (407) also contained some Roman pottery in its upper fill from later disturbance, as occurred more extensively within Pit Group E.

There was a variety in the shapes and sizes. Pit 360 was one of the largest on the site, at just over 3.0m in diameter, but it was only 1.35m deep. Within its base there was a remnant of an earlier, deeper beehive-shaped pit, bottoming 1.60m below the ground surface. At the digging of the later pit a layer of rammed chalk rubble and powder up to 40mm thick formed a clean base to the new pit, concealing the earlier fill pit. Another beehive-shaped pit, 310, contained a thin primary layer of ash/burnt material. The fills above this appeared to derive from natural silting, but the upper fills were dumped layers rich in ashy material, burnt clay, burnt flint and charcoal, and included a chalk spindle whorl (Fig 29, 9).

Pit 407 was cylindrical and 1.35m deep. It was unique as it had the remnant of a clay lining adhering to its upper sides (Fig 18). Behind the lining, the chalk was also much smoothed. It may have been used as water pit. Some Roman pottery in the middle and upper fills (phase 9, AD 60-100), suggests that the pit was either late in date had been disturbed by later activity, a small iron "washer" was recovered from these fills (Fig 29, 17).

Post-pits 176, 211 and 213 were up to 0.50m deep and 176 contained placed chalk pieces in its upper fill, although this was not *in situ* post-packing. The fill of post-pit 194 contained much charcoal, burnt clay and flint, while post-pit 191 contained a concentration of small flints that may have acted as post-packing.

Pit Group E (Fig 19)

This group of substantial pits lay along the eastern side of the Northern Enclosure, with the latest example, 601, cutting the filled enclosure ditch. Three of the pits contained Roman pottery in their middle and or upper fills indicating an episode of later disturbance (348, 413 and 514).

Most of the deeper pits, within the range 1.20m to 1.94m deep, were beehive-shaped. They were filled with a mixture of redeposited natural and a variety of dumped deposits including domestic debris. Three pits contained placed deposits of animal remains. Pit 348 contained an ox-skull that had been carefully placed on a ledge in the pit side (Fig 19 and Plate 18). In pit 450, which was 0.80m deep, an ox skull was deposited on the western side of the base. Within the lower fills of pit 488 there was a dog burial

(Fig 20 and Plate 17). The young animal was found propped in a standing position against the southern side of the pit, facing west. Because the surrounding fill was so compact, little slumping of the carcass had occurred.

Pits 450 and 540 contained humic lenses rich in burnt deposits, and the uppermost 0.30-0.40m of each had a common final fill, context 458, which included a possible buried turf-line and an episode of ploughing represented by a lens of stones and chalk. This could well reflect agricultural activity occurring over the abandoned Northern Enclosure during the later life of the Southern Enclosure (Phase 5 and onward).

Pit Group F (Fig 20)

Two pits lay within the south-western corner of the Southern Enclosure, and are dated to the later Iron Age (phases 5-7, 200BC-AD45). Pit 28 was shallow, with an uneven base, and it is uncertain whether this feature was a "working hollow" or an infilled tree bowl. To the south there was a sequence of three shallow pits (33, 334 and 35).

Other pits

There were several isolated pits located both within and outside the main enclosures. The largest pit on the site lay within the area of the Southern Enclosure entrance (Fig 6, 265, phase 3, 500-300BC). It had probably been beehive shaped, but the top had eroded into a wide cone. The fills contained large amounts of charcoal, firecracked flint and burnt clay, and fill (221) had a unique matrix, similar to Fuller's earth.

Pit 824 (dated to phases 6/7, AD0-45) lay just inside the later, eastern entrance to the Southern Enclosure. It had fairly unweathered sides, preserving *in situ* pick marks (Plate 24). The pit had been filled by a mixture of natural processes, some possibly a result of natural erosion into standing water. The backfill included concentrations of burnt materials, and included rotary quern fragments (Fig 28, 6 and 7) a Colchester derivative brooch and a piece of perforated bone (Fig 29, 10 and 14), and other finds.

3.6 The postholes

Only 35 postholes, post-pits and stakeholes were present, the majority of which lay within the northern enclosure. Although the postholes generally occurred in small groups, no patterning could be discerned which might indicate the presence of former structures.

Posthole Group A (Fig 21)

Five postholes (679, 681, 683, 685 and 687) of differing shapes and sizes formed a rough arc, possibly a fence-line, set back from the northern entrance to the Southern Enclosure. Post-pit 576, and a shallow double posthole, 471, within Pit Group A (Fig 15) may have been outliers belonging to this group.

Posthole Group B (Fig 22)

A cluster of eight postholes and small post-pits lay within the south-eastern area of the Northern Enclosure. They may represent an irregular four-post structure. Small fragments of fired clay, possibly from loomweights, were recovered from around this group and within posthole 321.

Postholes 320 and 321 were shallow, the remainder (463, 465, 467, 469, 536), were more substantial, at up to 0.50m deep. Features 536 and 463 may have been small pits, and 536 cut a tree-throw (538).

Posthole Group C (Fig. 22)

Thirteen small postholes, stakeholes and pits lay within the central area of the Northern Enclosure and to the west of an area of rutted and dirtied clay-with-flints, context 303. Some postholes contained fragments of burnt clay, and layer 303 contained many fire-cracked flints and charcoal flecks. This area may therefore have been used for weaving, possibly within a structure whose limits were not clearly defined. There was no obvious patterning to the postholes, but it is possible that some may have been pairs of posts supporting weaving frames.

Pit 160 had a beehive profile and an unusually uneven base. It was filled with silts and chalk fills rich in occupation debris and burnt material. This included small loomweight fragments, and part of ceramic spoon or ladle (Fig 30, 25). A worn nodule of iron pyrites may have been a strike-a-light. Pit 275 was of similar proportions, but had vertical sides and a flat base. Above the primary silt there was a curious layer of deliberately laid, closely fitting chalk blocks (Plate 13).

Other isolated postholes

A solitary, undated posthole (637) lay outside the Southern Outlying Boundary ditches (Fig 11). It was almost completely filled with charcoal.

3.7 The inhumation (Figs 10 and 23)

The inhumation burial of a woman aged 50 years was found in a partially filled pit outside the Southern Enclosure (43). The body was lying on its right side, tightly crouched, with the head to the south and facing east. The arms were pulled in tight towards the body, perhaps indicating that they had been bound. The skeleton was poorly preserved with few of the smaller bones surviving. There were no specific grave goods accompanying the burial, but the underlying fill contained a ceramic ladle (Fig 30, 24) and sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery (phase 7, 0-AD45).

The pit sides were near vertical but eroded towards the top, suggesting that it had been open for some time before it was used as a grave. After the addition of the burial it was backfilled with a sterile dark grey-brown silt.

3.8 Other features

A scatter of irregular disturbances of the natural chalk and clay-with-flint across the site are interpreted as possible tree-throw holes. The majority of these features were isolated and fairly shallow, possibly representing small trees or larger bushes, perhaps removed as activity encroached upon them, rather than a widespread episode of clearance. At the south-eastern corner of the site there were two substantial areas of shallow disturbance (Fig 10) dated to the early Roman period (phases 7/8, AD45-60). It may be that two large trees with shallow root boles were uprooted in order to afford better access to the new Southern Outlying Boundaries.

4 THE IRON AGE AND ROMAN POTTERY by Dr Malcolm Lyne

4.1 Introduction

The site produced 4496 sherds (51388g) of pottery from 224 contexts representing ten phases and sub-phases of occupation ranging in date from the Early Iron Age to c.AD100. The phasing at Kennel Farm is more complex than that for other contemporary sites in the Basingstoke area and has the potential to contribute to refining the dating of Iron Age pottery in Northern Hampshire and adjacent areas.

4.2 Methodology

All of the pottery assemblages were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric. These fabrics were classified using a x8 magnification lens with in-built metric scale for determining the natures, forms, sizes and frequencies of added inclusions: finer fabrics were further examined using a x30 magnification microscope with in-built artificial illumination source. None of the assemblages were large enough for quantification by Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) based on rim sherds (Orton 1975).

4.3 Fabrics

Three numbered fabric series were drawn up with the prefixes IA, GB and R, for Iron Age, Gallo-Belgic and Roman respectively. Concordances with the fabric series for Brighton Hill (Rees 1995) have been made where possible.

Iron Age

- IA.1** Soft, handmade, cream-buff fabric with sparse up to 5.0mm chalk filler.
- IA.2** Friable orange-brown fabric with moderate chaff filler. ?Briquetage.
- IA.3** Coarse, handmade, lumpy black fabric with profuse up to 6.0mm calcined flint, fossil shell and ironstone filler. The earliest fabric on the site and in the most poorly prepared clay. Represented by fragments of a cauldron from context 449, pit 450. Early Iron Age.
- IA.4** Friable brown-black fabric with no obvious filler.
- IA.5A** Soft, handmade fabric with profuse silt-sized to 0.2mm quartz sand filler. This and the following four fabric variants were by far the most common group of wares in use during the Early Iron Age and earlier part of the Middle Iron Age.
- IA.5B** Micaceous variant of the above.
- IA.5C** Soft, handmade fabric with profuse silt-sized to 0.2mm quartz-sand filler and chaff impressions.
- IA.5D** Soft, handmade fabric with profuse silt-sized to 0.2mm quartz filler and occasional up to 5.0 mm white flint and ironstone inclusions.
- IA.5E** Coarser version with up to 0.5mm quartz filler.
- IA.6** Handmade, lumpy black-brown fabric with silt-sized quartz and up to 2.0mm grog filler with occasional white flint inclusions.

- IA.7** Handmade fabric with profuse up to 1.0mm multi-coloured quartz (mainly up-to 0.3mm) and occasional larger up-to 10.0mm ironstone pebbles.
- IA.8A** Handmade, black fabric with profuse up to 2.0mm calcined-flint filler and polished surfaces. A middle Iron Age fabric used for saucepan pots and other forms.
- IA.8B** Handmade, grey-black fabric with sparse ill-sorted up to 3.0mm calcined flint filler.
- IA.8C** Similar fabric but with additional grog.
- IA.9** Handmade fabric with profuse grog and occasional up to 2.0mm white flint.
- IA.10** Handmade black fabric with profuse ill-sorted up to 1.0mm alluvial flint grit and grog filler.
- IA.11** Handmade fabric with very profuse 0.1 to 1.0mm calcined flint filler and polished surfaces. A middle Iron Age fabric.
- IA.12** Handmade black fabric with profuse up to 0.2mm quartz and sparse to moderate up to 2.0mm calcined flint filler. Included in Fabric 4 at Brighton Hill South.
- IA.13A** Patchy orange/black Silchester ware with profuse up to 5.0mm calcined flint filler. Included in Fabric 1 at Brighton Hill South, c. AD 30-60.
- IA.13B** Patchy orange/black Silchester ware with profuse up to 5.0mm calcined flint and grog. c. AD 30-60.
- IA.13C** Oxidised orange Silchester ware variant with profuse up to 1.0mm multi-coloured quartz and moderate up to 2.0mm calcined flint filler. Fabric 4 at Brighton Hill South. c. AD30-60.
- IA.14A** Handmade 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware with lumpy polished surfaces. Included in Fabric 7 at Brighton Hill South. c.50 BC-AD50.
- IA.14B** Wheel-turned 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware with smooth polished surfaces. Included in Fabric 7 at Brighton Hill South. c.50 BC-AD50.
- IA.14C** Wheel-turned fabric with grog and silt-sized quartz filler, plus occasional up to 0.5mm white alluvial flint grit. Polished surfaces. Included in Fabric 7 at Brighton Hill South. Late Iron Age.
- IA.14D** Similar but with coarser up to 0.5mm quartz inclusions. Included in Fabric 7 at Brighton Hill South.
- IA.15** Very-fine-sanded patchy fired fabric with up to 0.2mm multi-coloured quartz and glauconitic sand filler. Included in Fabrics 5/6 at Brighton Hill South.
- IA.16A** Handmade, soot-soaked black fabric with profuse up to 1.0mm quartz. A c. AD30-60 dated Wheatley/Alice Holt fabric (Lyne Forthcoming). Included in Fabrics 5/6 at Brighton Hill South.
- IA.16B** Wheel-turned version of the same. Included in Fabrics 5/6 at Brighton Hill South.
- IA.17A** Handmade soot-soaked fabric with profuse silt-sized to 0.5mm quartz and grog filler.
- IA.17B** Wheel-turned version of the same.

- 1A.18** Durotrigian Black-Burnished ware with profuse up to 0.3mm colourless quartz filler. Late Iron Age.

Gallo-Belgic Imports

- GB.1** Wheel-turned sand-free grey-ware fired polished cream-buff. Probably a Continental import but possibly of British origin.
- GB.2** Gallo-Belgic White-ware with polished pink-buff surfaces. Fabric 12 at Brighton Hill South.
- GB.3A** Pale-orange Terra Rubra with darker orange-red internal slip. Rigby's Fabric TR1C (1981). c. AD1-60.
- GB.3B** Orange Terra Rubra with darker patchy brown-black exterior. Rigby's Fabric TR3A (Ibid.). c. AD1-60.
- GB.3C** Micaceous Terra Rubra with patchy orange-red colour-coat. Central Gaulish. (Timby 2000, 210) c.15BC-AD40.
- GB.4** Micaceous Terra Nigra. Central Gaulish. Silchester Fabric E20 (Timby 2000, 208). c. AD1-20.
- GB.5** Micaceous reddish-brown fabric with profuse up-to 0.20mm white and black inclusions, some decomposed granite and occasional larger 2.00mm feldspar. External white slip. Central Gaulish. Silchester Fabric E19 (Ibid). c.15BC-AD40.

Roman

- R.1A** Wheel-turned very fine-sanded greywares from the Alice Holt/Farnham industry (Lyne and Jefferies 1979, Fabric A) and other sources. Included in Fabric 10 at Brighton Hill South.
- R.1B** Similar but with surface blackening. Included in Fabric 10 at Brighton Hill South.
- R.1C** Coarse-sanded Alice Holt/Farnham greyware with profuse up to 1.00mm. quartz and some larger such inclusions (ibid. Fabrics C and D). Included in Fabric 10 at Brighton Hill South.
- R.2** Wheel-turned very fine-sanded greyware fired polished black.
- R.3A** Orange-brown fabric with profuse up to 0.5mm multi-coloured quartz filler.
- R.3B** Wheel-turned, very-fine-sanded orange fabric with profuse up to 0.3mm multi-coloured quartz filler.
- R.4** Handmade, black fabric with sparse up-to 1.0mm calcined flint and multi-coloured quartz filler fired polished brown-black to orange with orange margins. Although this fabric is listed here in the Roman section, there is a strong possibility that it is largely pre-Conquest in date.
- R.5** Baetican Dressel 20 Amphora fabric.
- R.6** Wheel-turned sand-free fabric fired polished grey-black. Fabric 11 at Brighton Hill South.

4.4 The Assemblages

Phases 1 and 2 (c.700 – 500BC)

Assemblage 1: The Northern Enclosure Ditch

The fill of the first phase northern enclosure ditch along its western side (Context 177) was totally lacking in pottery but the uppermost fill on the east side (Context 343) produced 43 sherds (346g) of pottery from a situlate jar (Fig 24, 1).

- 1 Situlate jar in soft rough-brown/black Fabric IA.5E. Ext. rim diameter 160mm.

The second phase of the enclosure ditch on the west side produced a mere four featureless sherds from a jar in Fabric IA.9.

Assemblage 2: Pit 450, Group E

The fill of this pit produced six sherds (222g) of pottery, including two thick-walled sherds in patchy-fired Fabric IA.5A and four large fragments from a cauldron (Fig 24, 2).

- 2 Cauldron copying metal prototype in very-coarse black Fabric IA.3 with calcined-flint, fossil shell etc. Paralleled at Weybridge, Surrey (Hanworth and Tomalin 1977, fig 17, 103). Harding (1972) dates the form to c.700-500BC. External rim diameter 300mm approximately.

Assemblage 3: Pit 540, Group E.

The various fills of this pit produced a total of 119 sherds (1534 g) of pottery, which were quantified as follows:

Table 2: pottery quantification from pit 540

| FABRIC | NO. OF SHERDS | % | WEIGHT (G) | % |
|--------------|---------------|------|-------------|------|
| IA.5A | 41 | 34.5 | 635 | 41.4 |
| IA.5D | 27 | 22.7 | 288 | 18.8 |
| IA.5E | 39 | 32.8 | 285 | 18.6 |
| IA.9 | 10 | 8.4 | 294 | 19.2 |
| IA.17A | 2 | 1.6 | 32 | 2.0 |
| Total | 119 | | 1534 | |

This assemblage is rather small for accurate quantification but it seems clear that the overwhelming bulk of the pottery (90% by sherd count) was in variants of Fabric IA.5 (Fig 24, 3-10).

- 3 Situlate jar in patchy black/brown Fabric IA.5E with finger-impressions on the rim and around the slightly carinated shoulder. Context 551.
- 4 Another example in similar fabric. Context 551
- 5 Another example with finger-impressed rim but without a similarly impressed shoulder band, in lumpy brown/black Fabric IA.5D. Context 541. These vessels (Fig 24, 3, 4 and 5) copy metal situla prototypes: they were produced over a long period from the post-Deverel-Rimbury Late Bronze Age until at least 300 BC.
- 6 and 7 Two simpler jars in similar fabric, without any decoration. Context 541.

- 8 Deep convex-sided bowl in lumpy black/brown Fabric IA.9 with polished exterior. Ext. rim diameter 140mm. A similar form was present at Weybridge and thought to be a lamp (Hanworth and Tomalin 1977, fig.17-98). c.500-300BC. Context 541.
- 9 Another example in similar fabric. Context 541
- 10 Two shouldered-bowls of Longley Type 9b (1980) in handmade black Fabric IA.5A with brown patches and polished surfaces. Ext. rim diameters 160 and 180mm. The greater part of one vessel is present. A similar vessel is illustrated from Andover (Davies 1981, fig 10 -16). c.1000-500BC. Contexts 541 and 566.

Assemblage 4: Pit 485, Group E

The 99 sherds (781g) of pottery from this feature are somewhat deficient in rim and other diagnostic fragments but include the following piece (Fig 24, 11).

- 11 Rim from large situla in handmade brown-black Fabric IA.5D. Context 433.

Assemblage 5: Pit 360, Group D

This pit produced 132 sherds (1698g) of pottery, all of which came from the middle fills (355, 356 and 358) and from just a few pots (Fig 24, 12-15).

- 12 Large part of situlate jar in handmade, reddish-brown to black Fabric IA.5E with finger impressed rim and similar decoration around the shoulder. Ext. rim diameter 280 mm. Context 356. Another, similar vessel came from Context 355.
- 13 Another jar with less-developed rim in similar fabric fired reddish-brown. Context 355.
- 14 Cauldron with finger-impressed rim edge in buff-brown Fabric IA.5E (Harding 1974, fig 38B). Ext. rim diameter 140mm. c.700-500BC. Context 355.
- 15 Slack-profiled jar in grey-black Fabric IA.5D fired grey-brown with finger-impressed rim. Context 356.

Phase 3 (c.500-300 BC)

Assemblage 6: Pit 601, Group E

Of the 101 sherds (1068g) of pottery from this feature, the largest assemblage came from the bottom fill 605 (Fig 24, 16-18).

- 16 Crude, necked jar in handmade, lumpy brown/black Fabric IA.5D with vertical furrowing on its body. The form is paralleled in the earliest occupation at Brighton Hill (Rees 1995, fig 24-3) and also at Old Down Farm Andover (Davies 1981, fig 21-72). c. 500-200 BC.
- 17 Another such vessel in similar fabric but with finger-impressions on the rim top. Ext. rim diameter 200 mm. Contexts 605 and 608.
- 18 Proto-saucepan pot in similar fabric. Also paralleled in the earliest occupation at Brighton Hill (Rees 1995, fig 24-10). Ext. rim diameter 130mm. c. 500-200 BC.

The other fills produced the following pieces (Fig 24, 19):

- 19 Handmade necked-jar in lumpy black-brown Fabric IA.5D with traces of knife-trimming on its exterior. Context 610.
- NI Small jar in handmade brown-black/orange-brown Fabric IA.5D with finger impressions on its shoulder and along the outer rim edge. Context 624.

Assemblage 7: Pit 265 (Ungrouped)

The many fills of this large pit produced a total of 90 sherds (1054g) of pottery including parts of the following vessels (Fig 24, 20-21):

- 20 Handmade globular lid-seated jar in polished brown/black Fabric IA.5A. Paralleled in Phase 3 at Old Down Farm, Andover, where dated c.700-600BC. (Davies 1981, fig 16-57) and at Weybridge where dated later than 500BC (Hanworth and Tomalin 1977, fig 15-44). Context 258.
- NI Small slack-profiled jar in similar fabric fired brown. Ext. rim diameter 170mm. Similar to an example from Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995, fig 24-3). c.500-200BC. Context 258.
- 21 Handmade necked-jar in bricky reddish-brown Fabric IA.8A with diagonal body furrowing. Context 258
- NI Two handmade bead-rim jars of Early Iron Age character in lumpy Fabric IA.5A fired patchy brown/orange-black. Similar to examples from the earliest occupation at Brighton Hill (Rees 1995, fig 24-3). c.500-200BC. Context 221.

Assemblage 8: Pit 160 (Posthole Group C)

The 84 sherds (1628g) of pottery from this feature include fragments from two unusual ceramic items (Fig 24, 22):

- 22 Two fragments from large ceramic jar in grey-black Fabric IA.8B with moulded spiral Celtic ornament. Context 157.

The pottery includes the following forms (Fig 24, 23-24):

- NI Rim sherd from saucepan-pot or crucible in handmade black fabric with profuse up to 0.30mm quartz and sparse up to 5.0mm ironstone pebbles.
- 23 Handmade necked jar with carinated shoulder in lumpy black Fabric IA.5D. Ext. rim diameter 150 mm.
- 24 Bead-rim jar in similar fabric fired grey with blackened exterior extending over rim. Ext. rim diameter 160mm.

Phase 4 (c.300-200 BC)

Assemblage 9: The first Southern Enclosure Ditch

The 132 sherds (2408g) of pottery from the excavated sections are unsuitable for quantification in that nearly 100 fragments are from a single storage vessel (Fig 25, 25).

- 25 Bead-rim storage-jar in patchy black/reddish-brown Fabric IA.8A fired brown internally. Ext. rim diameter 280 mm. Context 007. There are no other rim sherds, although most of the fragments are of polished calcined-flint tempered Middle Iron Age character.

Phase 5 (c.200-0 BC)

Assemblage 10: The second Southern Enclosure Ditch

Most of the fills of this ditch were lacking in pottery: only three sherds (20g) were retrieved; suggesting that the feature may have had a very short life. One of the two sherds from the primary fill, context 46, is in the wheel-turned Belgic grog-tempered ware Fabric IA.14B, suggesting a Late Iron Age date for the feature. The pottery from the fills of the following pits in and around the southern enclosure belong to Phase 4/5.

Assemblage 11: Pit 26 (Group B)

This pit produced five fresh sherds (102g) from the following vessel (Fig 25, 26):

- 26 Saucepan-pot of St. Catherine's Hill/Worthy Down type in polished black Fabric 1A.10 with horizontal external grooves under the rim. Ext. rim diameter 150mm. c. 200-0 BC.

Assemblage 12: Pit 75 (Group C)

Most of the fills of this pit lacked pottery but one (72) produced 14 sherds (70g) from the following vessel (Fig 25, 27):

- 27 Saucepan-pot of St. Catherine's Hill/Worthy Down type in black Fabric IA.6 with decorated rim. Ext. rim diameter 200mm. c.200-0 BC.

Assemblage 13: Pit 568 (Group A)

The 29 sherds (394g) of pottery from this pit include the following (Fig 25, 28-30):

- NI Plain saucepan-pot in brown-black Fabric IA.5D with polished surfaces. c.300-50 BC. Context 567. Not illustrated.
- 28 Smaller version in similar fabric fired patchy black/brown/buff with polished surfaces. Ext. rim diameter 150 mm. Context 564.
- 29 Saucepan pot in similar fabric, polished black with brown patches and with a simple groove below the rim. Ext. rim diameter 130mm. c.300-50BC. Context 555.
- NI Saucepan-pot in soapy orange-brown Fabric IA.14A. Context 543.
- 30 Pedestal base in patchy brown/grey Fabric IA.10. Context 543.

Phase 6 (0-AD.45)

Assemblage 14: The third Southern Enclosure Ditch

The 309 sherds (3373g) of pottery from two contexts (99, 102) is large enough for quantification by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric:

Table 3: pottery quantification of third Southern Enclosure Ditch

| FABRIC | NO. OF SHERDS | % | WEIGHT (G) | % |
|--------------|---------------|------|-------------|------|
| IA.4 | 1 | 0.3 | 4 | 0.1 |
| IA.5A | 7 | 2.3 | 22 | 0.7 |
| IA.5D | 1 | 0.3 | 6 | 0.2 |
| IA.5D | 2 | 0.6 | 12 | 0.4 |
| IA.11 | 13 | 4.2 | 38 | 61.8 |
| IA.14A | 17 | 5.5 | 252 | 7.5 |
| IA.14C | 48 | 15.6 | 394 | 11.7 |
| IA.15 | 3 | 1.0 | 22 | 0.7 |
| IA.16 | 12 | 3.9 | 60 | 1.8 |
| GB.3A | 4 | 1.3 | 4 | 0.1 |
| GB.3B | 6 | 2.0 | 19 | 0.6 |
| R.3B | 15 | 4.9 | 4 | 1.6 |
| R.4 | 77 | 25.2 | 36 | 10.3 |
| R.X | 15 | 4.9 | 54 | 1.6 |
| Total | 307 | | 3373 | |

The most common fabrics are Silchester ware IA.13A (c. AD30-60), 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares IA.14A and IA.14C (c.50BC-AD50) and the handmade patchy-fired Fabric R.4. This assemblage make-up, coupled with the presence of Terra Rubra imports and an absence of Romanised grey wares suggests that the pottery was dumped in the ditch c. AD30-45 (Fig 25, 31-34).

- 31 Bead-rim jar in black Fabric IA.14A fired buff-brown internally. Ext. rim diameter 200mm. Similar to example from Well F423 at Silchester (Timby 2000, fig 138, 788). (c. 25BC - AD40)
- 32 Necked-jar in handmade black Fabric R.4 fired patchy brown-black/orange with polished surfaces. Ext. rim diameter 120mm. Another example in similar fabric (Boon 1969, fig 12-46). Ext. rim diameter 120 mm(c. AD 30-60). Not illustrated.
- 33 Butt-beaker copy in orange Fabric R.3B with bosses over rouletting. Paralleled at Silchester (Timby 2000, fig 135, 710), where an Abingdon source is suggested. The fabric appears to be the same as Timby's Silchester S16 (ibid.).
- 34 Cam.112 ovoid beaker in orange Fabric GB.3B with darker patchy brown/black exterior (TR3A). Ext. rim diameter 65mm. c.AD.10-40. Sherd from imitation Cam.112 beaker with comb-stabbed decoration in Fabric IA.16. Not illustrated.

Assemblage 15: Pit 824 (Ungrouped)

The 43 sherds (482g) of pottery from this feature are too few for meaningful quantification but rim sherds from the following three vessels were present in the material from Context 770 near the top of the pit (Fig 25, 35-37).

- 35 Bead-rim bowl with St. Catherine's Hill, Worthy Down type punched and burnished decoration, in soot-soaked Fabric IA.10. Paralleled at Oakridge (Oliver 1992, fig 4-22) where dated c.100-0 BC.
- 36 Jar of Thompson Type D2.1 (1982) in patchy buff/black Fabric IA.14A with polished surfaces. Ext. rim diameter 160mm (c.0-AD50).
- 37 Everted rim jar in grey-black Fabric IA.9. Ext. rim diameter 160mm. c. AD.45-60.

Assemblage 16: The Eastern Outlying boundary (Ditch terminal 712)

The fills of this feature produced an assemblage large enough (174 sherds, 1411g) for quantification by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric:

Table 4: pottery quantification of ditch terminal 712

| FABRIC | NO. OF SHERDS | % | WEIGHT (G) | % |
|--------------|---------------|------|-------------|------|
| IA.13A | 27 | 15.5 | 349 | 24.8 |
| IA.14B | 2 | 1.1 | 14 | 1.0 |
| IA.17A | 1 | 0.6 | 14 | 1.0 |
| GB.2 | 1 | 0.6 | 26 | 1.8 |
| R.1A | 58 | 33.3 | 410 | 29.1 |
| R.1B | 53 | 30.4 | 334 | 23.7 |
| R.1C | 14 | 8.1 | 110 | 7.8 |
| R.3A | 14 | 8.1 | 56 | 4.0 |
| R.5 | 4 | 2.3 | 96 | 6.8 |
| Total | 174 | | 1409 | |

The make-up of this assemblage differs markedly from that of Assemblage 14 for the previous phase in being totally dominated by Romanised greywares (72% by sherd count), most of which come from the Alice Holt/Farnham industry kilns and can be dated c. AD50-90. The continued presence of Silchester ware sherds and a Gallo-Belgic Whiteware sherd, however, suggest a more precise c. AD50-70 date for the assemblage (Fig 25, 38).

- 38 Jar with undercut bead-rim in Alice Holt/Farnham greyware Fabric R.1A. Ext. rim diameter 160mm. c.AD50-90.
- NI Another example without undercut bead in similar fabric. Ext. rim diameter 180 mm. c. AD 50-90.
- NI Smaller bead-rim in grey Alice Holt/Farnham Fabric R.1B fired black. Ext. rim diameter 110mm. c.AD50-90.
- NI Necked and cordoned jar (Lyne and Jefferies Class 1, 1979) in similar fabric with polished exterior. Ext. rim diameter 220mm. c. AD50-70.

The similarly dated adjacent ditch (713) produced only six sherds (20g) of very broken up pottery, all of which is of Late Iron Age character and probably residual. The various nearby pits were completely lacking in pottery.

Assemblage 17: The Southern Enclosure Ditch

The 792 sherds (9526g) of pottery from the ditch fills forms the largest assemblage from the entire site and was quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric:

Table 5: pottery quantification from southern enclosure ditch

| FABRIC | NO. OF SHERDS | % | WEIGHT (G) | % |
|--------------|------------------|------|--------------|------|
| IA.5A | 8 | 2.1 | 74 | 0.7 |
| IA.6 | 2 | 0.2 | 20 | 0.2 |
| IA.8A | 23 | 2.7 | 166 | 1.6 |
| IA.8B | 51 | 5.9 | 299 | 2.9 |
| IA.8C | 16 | 1.9 | 92 | 0.9 |
| IA.9 | 2 | 0.2 | 12 | 0.1 |
| IA.11 | 1 | 0.1 | 8 | 0.1 |
| IA.13A | 102 | 11.8 | 1972 | 18.8 |
| IA.13B | 23 | 2.7 | 926 | 8.8 |
| IA.13C | 16 | 1.9 | 360 | 3.4 |
| IA.14A | 7 | 0.8 | 66 | 0.6 |
| IA.14B | 39 | 4.5 | 470 | 4.5 |
| IA.14C | 5 | 0.6 | 48 | 0.5 |
| IA.16A | 65 | 7.5 | 730 | 7.0 |
| IA.16B | 43 | 5.0 | 508 | 4.9 |
| IA.17A | 62 | 7.2 | 260 | 2.5 |
| IA.X | 16 | 1.9 | 34 | 0.3 |
| GB.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 26 | 0.2 |
| GB.2 | 3 | 0.3 | 10 | 0.1 |
| GB.3A | 1 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 |
| GB.3C | 3 | 0.3 | 12 | 0.1 |
| GB.4 | 1 | 0.1 | 4 | 0.1 |
| GB.5 | 4 | 0.5 | 38 | 0.4 |
| R.1A | 166 | 19.3 | 1977 | 18.9 |
| R.1B | 145 | 16.8 | 2128 | 20.3 |
| R.1C | 3 | 0.3 | 48 | 0.5 |
| R.2 | 3 | 0.3 | 58 | 0.6 |
| R.3A | 4 | 0.5 | 62 | 0.6 |
| R.X | 36 | 4.2 | 54 | 0.5 |
| Total | 861 | | 10466 | |

This assemblage is characterised by a wide range of fabrics, which is in part due to its size and in part to a significant residual element derived from the fills of earlier ditches. The most significant wares are, however, Silchester Fabric IA.13A (c. AD30-60) and Romanised greyware Fabrics R.1A and R.1B (c.AD50+). These suggest a date of c. AD45-60 for the enclosure ditch. A small group of pre-Conquest Gallo-Belgic and Central-Gaulish fineware fragments may be from vessels which had been treasured for several decades and only discarded after AD43 when other fineware imports became more readily available (Figs 25 and 26):

- NI Everted-rim storage-jar in patchy orange-black Silchester Ware Fabric IA.13B (Boon 1969, fig 12-76). Ext. rim diameter 320mm. c. AD30-60. Context 45.
- 39 Necked storage-jar in similar fabric. Ext. rim diameter 280mm. c. AD30-60. Context 44.
- 40 Bead-rim jar in black Silchester Ware Fabric IA.13A fired brown internally. Ext. rim diameter 200mm. Similar to examples from Silchester (Timby 2000, fig 126-484). c.AD30- 60. Context 44
- 41 Another example with polished black exterior. Ext. rim diameter 150mm. Context 452.

- NI Another example in similar fabric fired black with buff exterior (Timby 2000, fig 126-479). Ext. rim diameter 220mm. c. AD30-60. Context 452.
- 42 Lid in similar fabric. Ext. rim diameter 120mm. Context 452.
- NI Bead-rim storage-jar in oxidised Silchester Ware variant IA.13C. A Wheatley/Alice Holt product. c.AD30-60. Context 452.
- 43 Two small bead-rim jars in soot-soaked Fabric IA.16A. Ext. rim diameters 180mm and 140mm respectively. Context 45.
- 44 Bead-rim jar in soot-soaked Fabric IA.16B. Ext. rim diameter 160mm. Context 452.
- 45 Necked and cordoned jar with girth cordon, in patchy brown/black Fabric IA.16B with polished exterior. Ext. rim diameter 160mm. Context 61.
- 46 Necked bowl with broken spout in handmade black Fabric IA.16A. Ext. rim diameter 180mm. Context 366.
- NI Butt-beaker copy in grey-black handmade Fabric R.2 fired polished black. Context 44.
- 47 Necked and cordoned jar in handmade grey-brown Fabric R.1A. Ext. rim diameter 130mm. Context 60.
- NI Necked jar in flecky grey Fabric R.1A with external polish. Ext. rim diameter 230mm. Context 366.
- 48 Everted-rim jar in similar fabric with external polish. Similar to example from Silchester (Boon 1969, fig 11-12). Ext. rim diameter 180mm. c.AD50-100. Context 366.
- 49 Necked storage-jar in grey-black Fabric R.1B. Ext. rim diameter 160 mm. Context 366.
- 50 Bead-rim jar in handmade black Fabric IA.14B with polished surfaces. Context 45.
- NI Butt-beaker copy of Thompson Type G5-1 (1982) in black Fabric IA.14C with polished reddish-brown surfaces. c.0 - AD50. Context 44.
- 51 Unusual butt-beaker form in grey Fabric GB.1 with polished cream-buff surfaces. Ext. rim diameter 100mm. Context 45.
- 52 Handle from flagon in reddish-brown Central Gaulish Fabric GB.5 with external white slip. Paralleled at Silchester (Timby 2000, Fabric E19). c.15BC-AD40. Context 60.
- NI Beaker rim in off-white to buff Fabric GB.3C with micaceous external marbled orange-red colour-coat. Ext. rim diameter 120mm. c.15BC-AD40. Context 366.

The assemblage also includes a small, abraded fragment from an open form in micaceous Central Gaulish Terra Nigra (c.0-AD20)

Phases 9 and 10. c.AD60-100

Assemblage 18: The recut east-west ditch

The fills of the two successive enclosure ditches of phases 7 and 8 on the southern edge of the site produced very little pottery indeed: the earlier ditches produced a mere 8 sherds (69g) and the later cuts

only one sherd (2g). Most of this material is clearly residual but 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware and Gallo-Belgic Whiteware fragments are also present.

The fills of the first east-west ditch (229) produced a more substantial 46 sherds (487g) of Middle/Late Iron Age 1 character, most of which is probably derived from the Phase 4 Southern Enclosure ditches.

The fills of the recut east-west ditch (228) yielded 75 sherds (730g) of pottery of which 24 fragments came from the following vessel:

- NI Pulley-neck flagon in very-fine-sanded grey fabric fired rough light-brown with profuse up-to 0.5mm multi-coloured quartz and occasional rounded buff grog filler. Ext. rim diameter 120mm. c.AD50-100. Contexts 185,186 and 226.

Fragments from the following three vessels are also present (Fig 26, 53-55):

- 53 Butt-beaker in Gallo-Belgic Whiteware Fabric GB.2 with pinkish-buff surface. Ext. rim diameter 140mm. c.AD30-60. Context 186/226.
- 54 Necked jar in hard grey-black Fabric IA.17A fired polished black-brown. Ext. rim diameter 160mm. Context 186/226.
- 55 Seven fresh sherds from an unusual girth or carinated beaker in Terra Rubra Fabric GB.3B with combed latticing over rouletted band. Context 819.

4.5 Discussion

A considerable number of Iron Age/early Roman occupation sites have now been excavated in the Basingstoke area, including Kennel Farm (Chapman 2001), Ructstalls Hill (Oliver and Applin 1979), Viables Farm (Millett and Russell 1984), Brighton Hill South Sites B/C and K (Fasham and Keevill 1995), Site X/Y (Coe and Newman 1992), Oakridge (Oliver 1992), Cowdery's Down (Millett and James 1983) and Winklebury Camp (Smith 1977).

All of these sites, with the exception of Kennel Farm and Cowdery's Down, lack pottery earlier than c.500 BC. The pottery sequences at Oakridge, Ructstalls Hill and Brighton Hill South Sites B/C and K commence around that date with weak-profiled jars, with or without furrowing, similar to those in the Kennel Farm Phase 3 Assemblages 6,7 and 8.

The Viables Farm ceramic sequence begins two centuries later with middle Iron Age saucepan-pots and other forms in the St. Catherine's Hill/Worthy Down tradition. Pottery decorated in this tradition is also present amongst plainer forms in middle Iron Age assemblages from Ructstalls Hill (Oliver and Applin 1979, fig18), Viables Farm (Millett and Russell 1984, figs 6 and 7), Brighton Hill South (Fasham and Keevill 1995, fig 24-21,25,27), Winklebury (Smith 1977, fig 35, 2-3) and Oakridge (Oliver 1992, fig 4).

The latest Iron Age pottery from all of these sites has a similar range of fabrics and forms: most of the storage vessels, lids and bead-rim cooking-pots are in calcined-flint tempered Silchester ware variants and necked and cordoned jars and butt-beaker copies occur in both 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware and in soot-soaked very-fine-sanded fabrics of probable Wheatley/Alice Holt origin (Lyne Forthcoming). One way in which the pottery assemblages of this and pre-Flavian date at Kennel Farm differ from those from the other Basingstoke area sites lies in the presence of a variety of exotic Gallo-Belgic Terra Rubra and Whiteware and Central Gaulish imports of both Late Iron Age and pre-Flavian date. The other Basingstoke

sites are either lacking in such wares or have just one or two sherds. What this suggests is that the inhabitants of the Kennel Farm farmstead were of higher social status than those of the other sites; a situation which may have been due to the farmstead being founded earlier than those around it.

These Continental imports may have been obtained at Calleva, where such wares are quite common, or acquired through gift exchange. The sources of most of the other late Iron Age wares are unknown, but at least 6% of the Assemblage 14 sherds (Fabric IA.16) came from production sites at Wheatley and in Alice Holt on the Hampshire/ Surrey border (Lyne Forthcoming); the precursor of the Roman Alice Holt/Farnham pottery industry (Lyne and Jefferies 1979). Wares from that source in Fabrics IA.13C, IA.16A, IA.16B and R.1A, R.1B and R.1C rapidly increased in significance at Kennel Farm after the Roman Conquest to nearly half of the pre-Flavian Assemblage 17. This massive increase in supply of such wares was also noted at Ructstalls Hill (Oliver and Applin 1979, 72) and Oakridge (Oliver 1992, 68).

Some of the rural farmstead sites in the Basingstoke area show a sharp fall-off in volumes of pottery present on the sites after AD60/70 and virtually nothing later than c. AD100. This phenomenon occurs at the present site, Brighton Hill South and Ructstalls Hill: in the case of Ructstalls Hill, tiny amounts of c. AD70-270 dated pottery may indicate a cessation of occupation within the farmstead enclosure but its retention as a livestock pen visited occasionally by herdsmen.

5 THE FINDS by Ian Meadows, Tora Hylton and Andy Chapman

A total of 59 numbered finds were recovered from the excavation, as tabulated by material type and function below.

Table 6: Finds categorised by material type

| MATERIAL TYPE | QUANTITY |
|---------------|----------|
| Copper alloy | 2 |
| Iron | 18 |
| Lead | 1 |
| Bone | 3 |
| Antler | 2 |
| Baked clay | 18 |
| Stone | 14 |
| Miscellaneous | 1 |
| Total | 59 |

Table 7: Finds categorised by functional category

| FUNCTIONAL CATEGORY | NUMBER |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| <u>Personal Possessions</u> | |
| Costume and jewellery | 2 |
| Personal equipment | 1 |
| <u>Equipment and furnishings</u> | |
| General ironwork | 1 |
| Nails | 6 |
| Knives | 3 |
| Hones/rubbing stones | 3 |
| Flint tools | 1 |
| Metal working | 1 |
| Textile working | 18 |
| Misc. bone/antler tools | 2 |
| Querns | 6 |
| <u>Miscellaneous and unidentified</u> | |
| Iron | 9 |
| Lead | 1 |
| Antler and bone | 1 |
| Ceramic | 2 |
| Stone | 2 |

5.1 Clay weights

A total of 6.825kg of fired clay was recovered. The majority of this probably comes from triangular loomweights, but as a result of the low temperature firing many examples had fragmented and could not be fully reconstructed. However, as many as 15 weights may be represented. They were mainly recovered from the deep storage pits where some had been deliberately deposited as partial or near complete weights. This includes a single substantial assemblage from pit 202, which comprised two complete and two partial weights (Fig 27, 1 and 2). Another pit, 156, produced a partial loomweight, but the other contexts produced only small pieces of certain or probable loomweights. Those complete enough to identify are all triangular weights with corner perforations, Poole's type 1 (Poole in Cunliffe 1984, 401-406), apart from a single example from a cylindrical weight (Fig 27, 3).

The majority of the loomweights are in a sandy clay with sparse inclusions of flint, although these may be 10-30mm in length. A few examples have frequent inclusions of rounded chalk, from 5-20mm. The presence of voids indicated that some were grass or straw tempered, while a few had a fine almost temper-free fabric. They typically have bright orange to orange/red faces and edges, with the reduced cores dark grey to grey black in colour. The surfaces are usually roughly smoothed and sometimes wiped to a smoother finish.

- 1 Fragmented on excavation but partially reconstructed.
Fabric: Very sparse flint inclusions, includes pieces of up to 30mm, and voids from grass or straw temper. Dark grey core with orange surface and edges.
Dimensions: base to apex, 165mm x 160mm x damaged, thickness > 55mm, perforations 10mm diameter
Weight: 1.13kg (in joining pieces, approx. 45-50% of whole)
Estimated original weight: 2.25-2.50kg
SF42, Context 182, pit 202, Group C, phase 3
- 2 Fragmented on excavation but partially reconstructed.
Fabric: Very sparse inclusions of small flint pieces and voids from straw. Dark grey core and one face also dark grey, other surface and edges orange to orange/red; the presence of the reduced face indicates that it was fired whilst lying on its side. One of the faces was noticeably smoother suggesting it had been wiped, one patch of wiping marks survives.
Dimensions: base to apex, 160mm x 155mm, thickness, 69mm, side, complete side measured 175mm.
Suspension holes 11-13mm diameter
Weight: 1.42kg (in joining pieces, approx. 60-65% of whole)
Estimated original weight: 2.20-2.35kg
SF43, Context 182, pit 202, Pit Group C, phase 3
- 3 Two, non-joining, fragments probably part of a cylindrical clay weight. The surviving areas of original surface are all wet-wiped and one of the angular edges preserves a groove, possibly where the thread has cut back into the soft clay body.
SF53, Context 80, pits 84/109, Group B, phase 5

5.2 Worked stone

Querns

A total of seven fragments from five querns were recovered. There is a single example of a saddle quern, three definite examples of rotary querns (one upper stone, two lower stones) and a small fragment with a smoothed and pecked surface that is probably from a further rotary quern (Fig 28, 4-7).

- 4 Three joining fragments of a saddle quern. The grinding surface is slightly convex and moderately worn through use. The underside is very markedly convex with slight evidence for deliberate shaping.
Dimensions: width c. 195mm, up to 60mm thick.
SF6 & 7, Context 107, pit 84, Group B, phase 5
- 5 A fragment of a (?) Greensand lower stone from a rotary quern.
Dimensions: 21mm thick at edge, flaring to 40mm at break. Original diameter c.340mm.
SF5, Context 106, pit 84, Group B, phase 5
- 5 A fragment of a lower stone from a rotary quern. The outer edge is dressed with clear peck marks, and the underside has also been slightly dressed. The grinding surface has a series of concentric grooves which had not been cut though the resistant quartz pebble inclusions (?Greensand).
Dimensions: a central, drilled rynd socket is 60mm deep, and tapers from 25mm to c. 10mm diameter.
Original diameter c. 300mm, 100mm thick
SF24, Context 773, pit 824, phase 6/7
- 6 Part of a lower stone of a rotary quern. None of the original edge survives and the base has been roughly flattened. The grinding surface is convex dropping sharply from a central ridge that lay around the central rynd socket.
Dimensions: the rynd socket is c. 30mm diameter by 50mm deep. Original diameter at least 340mm
SF40 Context 790, pit 824, phases 6/7

Other stone objects

There are three other stone objects, a spindle whorl (Fig 29, 9), a possible hone (SF35, context 795, ditch 792), and an irregular piece of chalk with a groove that may have been a perforation on a fragmented chalk weight (SF59, context 560, pit 563).

- 9 A spindle whorl of chalk.
Dimensions: 44mm diameter and a maximum thickness of 20mm. The hourglass perforation flares from 10mm diameter to 15mm at the ends.
SF21, Context 454, pit 310, Group D, phase 3

5.3 Metalwork

Although some pieces of metalwork come from later Iron Age contexts (phase 5, c. 200-0BC), it is most likely that they belong to the latter part of the period, probably only shortly pre-dating the remainder of the assemblage that comes from early Roman contexts (phases 6-9, AD0-100).

Copper alloy

The two copper alloy items, a pair of tweezers and a Colchester derivative brooch (Fig 29, 10), are both likely to be of Roman date. They were recovered from the surface fill of the Southern Enclosure ditch of phase 7/8 and the upper fill of pit 824, phase 6/7, respectively.

- 10 Brooch, Colchester derivative. The surface of the bow is decorated with two converging lines of dots. The surviving fragment of catch-plate is plain. Last quarter of the first century AD.
SF23, Context 770, pit 824, phase 6/7

Lead

A single small fragment of scrap lead sheet (NI) was recovered from the surface of Southern Enclosure ditch, phase 5/6 (SF17, Context 239).

Iron

A total of 18 iron objects was recovered, including 3 knives, 6 nails and 9 miscellaneous and unidentifiable items (Figs 29 and 30, 15-23).

- 15 Nail with a massive and inverted pyramidal head with only limited edge burring.
Dimensions: rectangular sectioned head, 9 x 12mm, and a 54mm long shank.
SF11, context 470, posthole 471
- 16 Part of a joiners dog, comprising the back and one of the spikes, 20mm long, bent and missing its tip.
Dimensions: 35mm long and about 15mm wide.
SF14, metal detecting find, U/S
- 17 "Washer", probably used to reinforce the surface of an organic object into which nails had been driven.
Dimensions: 38 x 24mm, pierced by two nail holes, one fragmentary, the other 8 x 11mm.
SF15, context 406, pit 407, phase 9
- 18 Part of a blade. Both edges curved in to a point. There is a crescentic indentation on the inner edge. The piece is perhaps one blade from a pair of shears.
Dimensions: 85mm long and up to 29mm deep





SF18, Context 330, pit 348, Group E, phase 7/8

- 19 Knife with a convex back and a solid handle continuing the same line, and terminating in a round knob. The blade thickens to a maximum of 23mm wide. The handle varies from 9-13mm diameter. A slightly larger example was found at Hod Hill (Manning 1985 120-1 fig 30 no Q94).
Dimensions: a total length of 210mm of which 120mm was the blade.
SF25, Context 543, pit 568, Pit Group A, phase 5
- 20 A scale tang knife blade. The blade curves up at one end to a straight back. The scale tang is 40mm long and 20mm wide and is pierced by two rivets on the mid-line. This form is defined by Manning 1985 as type 7 and it is suggested that small examples may have served as razors.
Dimensions: 110mm long and up to 30mm deep by 3mm thick.
SF 26, Context 543, pit 568, Pit Group A, phase 5
- 21 A part of a socket from a large tool.
Dimensions: 45mm deep with a diameter of c. 35mm.
SF29, Context 570, pit 571, Pit Group A, phase 5
- 22 A short strip of iron, 50mm long with a rectangular cross-section of 7 x 2mm. One end has been twisted through 180°, but as it is incomplete it is unclear whether it was part of a larger item, perhaps as a handle.
SF27, Context 778, pit 824, phase 6/7
- 23 Object with a central groove on one side, possibly part of a gouge.
Dimensions: 130mm long, 10mm wide and 7mm thick
SF58, Context 560, pit 563, Pit Group A, phase 5

5.4 Worked bone

A total of five items of worked bone and antler was recovered. Two of these are probable pinbeaters, associated with weaving, and there is an antler handle and an antler ring of uncertain function (Fig 29, 11-14).

- 11 A pin beater formed from a sawn immature sheep metapodial. The sawn surface, although still bearing traces of lateral saw marks, is highly polished and worn through usage. At the upper end there is a 5mm diameter drilled hole, presumably to take a thong for suspension.
Dimensions: 114mm long
SF20, Context 448, pit 348, Pit Group E, phase 7-8
- 12 A handle, formed from a length of antler tine sawn at each end. A 3mm square iron tang is inserted in the smaller end and projects 5mm. Its small size suggests it is the stump of an awl rather than a blade.
Dimensions: 58mm long, 24mm to 8mm diameter
SF55, Context 83, pit 84, Pit Group B, phase 5
- 13 A ring, formed from a section sawn from an antler. It was found with a small pointed iron object loose inside the ring. A similar object was recovered from Winnal Down (Winham, in Fasham 1985, 94-5, 3).
Dimensions: 20mm long, external diameter 29mm, central perforation 15mm diameter.
SF8, Context 110, pit 32, Pit Group B, phase 4
- 14 Bone fragment, 30mm long, blackened presumably through burning. A perforation, 4mm diameter, is present in one face. Broken at both ends but is likely to be part of a pin beater.
SF 30, context 784, pit 824, phase 6/7

5.5 Ceramic

Parts of two ceramic spoons were recovered, one of which came from pit fill beneath an inhumation burial, pit 43 (Fig 30, 24-25).

- 24 Ceramic spoon, two non-joining fragments, in clay containing fine flint grits as temper. The rod shaped handle is short, at 40mm long. The bowl is 50mm wide, at least 66mm long and 10mm deep, the inner surface showing signs of finger shaping.
SF54, Context 42, Grave 43, phase 7-8
- 25 Ceramic spoon, fragment of the handle and bowl. Similar to 24 but with a steep-sided flat-bottomed bowl (Fabric IA.5D).
SF39, Context 157, pit 160, posthole group C, phase

5.6 Discussion

The finds assemblage is typical of a later Iron Age/early Roman farmstead, but it is too limited to make many general statements about the economy of the site.

Fragments and near complete examples of triangular clay loomweights indicate the on-site processing of wool, and this is further reflected by the recovery of spinning and weaving tools including a spindle whorl and pin beaters. Similarly, the possible part of a pair of shears may indicate the farming of sheep around the site. The only other tools were a knife, a possible gouge, a possible awl and the socket from a further tool.

Pieces of ironwork such as nails and a joiners dog probably derive from timber buildings. Binding strip fragments and possible handles could have been structural or from wooden boxes. The presence of both rotary and saddle querns indicates the processing of grain to satisfy domestic requirements.

Personal items belong to the early Roman activity, and include a pair of tweezers, a first century brooch, and a possible iron razor.

6 THE ANIMAL BONE by Karen Deighton

6.1 Introduction

Approximately 1750 fragments of animal bone were analysed. The fragments were sorted into identifiable and unidentifiable elements, according to selected diagnostic zones (see tables 8-14). These were then identified using Schmidt (1972) for post-cranial elements and Hillson (1983) for teeth and mandibles. Recording is in accordance with Halstead (1985), using MinA.U. (Minimum anatomical unit) whereby each bone is held to have a proximal and a distal half. Species, fusion, side, modification, butchery and fragmentation were recorded where possible for each bone element. Ribs and vertebrae were noted but not included in the quantification. Partial skeletons were excluded to avoid species bias. Fusion follows Silver (1969), butchery is after Binford (1981). Ageing of mandibles follows Payne for sheep/goat, Grant (1982) for pigs and Halstead (1985) after Payne (1973) for cattle.

Preservation of the bone was average. Fragmentation was high at 88.5 %, rendering only 51.5% of the assemblage identifiable to species level. Surface abrasion was fairly low as was

canid gnawing (noted on 14% of bone), and two possible incidences of rodent gnawing were also noted. These factors appear to be indicative of rapid burial following deposition. Evidence for butchery was low at only 4%, as was evidence for burning at 1.2%. One possible example of pathology was noted, on a Cow proximal metatarsal.

Two site phases were not tabulated due to the paucity of bone fragments: Phase 2 containing only 11 fragments from 2 contexts, and Phase 7 containing only 13 fragments.

6.2 Species present

The assemblage largely contained domestic species i.e. horse, cow, pig, ovicaprids (sheep and goat) and dog. Deer was noted in small quantities. Two indeterminate bird bones (one juvenile) were observed. Rodent bones (possibly mouse) were seen in four contexts, small mammal (possibly rabbit) in three contexts and amphibian in five. This is probably the result of burrowing activities or could suggest that features remained open and acted as pitfalls.

Table 8: Species by anatomical element

| Element | <i>Equus</i> | <i>Bos</i> | <i>Sus</i> | <i>Ovicaprid</i> | Sheep/goat/ roe | <i>Cervid</i> | <i>Canis</i> |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Scapula | | 12 | 4 | 10 | | | |
| P.humerus | | 20 | 10 | 15 | 5 | | 1 |
| D.humerus | | 23 | 14 | 14 | 5 | | 1 |
| P.radius | | 17 | 5 | 32 | 10 | 1 | |
| D.radius | | 12 | 5 | 32 | 20 | 1 | 1 |
| Ulna | | 11 | 4 | 5 | | 1 | 1 |
| P.Mc. | 2 | 9 | | 16 | 9 | | 1 |
| D.Mc. | 2 | 8 | | 16 | 9 | | 1 |
| Pelvis | | 10 | 2 | 9 | 1 | | |
| P.femur | | 9 | 4 | 15 | 6 | | |
| D.femur | | 7 | 5 | 15 | 6 | | |
| P.tibia | | 13 | 6 | 53 | 14 | | |
| D.tibia | 2 | 17 | 5 | 56 | 9 | | |
| Astragulus | | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Calcaneus | | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | |
| P.Mt | 1 | 9 | | 36 | 10 | | |
| D.Mt | 1 | 7 | | 36 | 10 | | |
| Phalanx 1 | | 2 | 1 | 5 | | | |
| Phalanx 2 | | | 1 | | | | |
| Phalanx 3 | | | | | | | |
| Horncore | | 7 | | 1 | | | |
| Occipital Condyle | | 2 | | 2 | | | |
| Antler | | | | | | 1 | |
| Mandible | 1 | 8 | 11 | 24 | | | 2 |
| Teeth | 9 | 20 | 10 | 28 | 1 | | |
| P.Mp | | 4 | 1 | 3 | 6 | | |
| D. Mp | | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | | |
| Total | 17 | 233 | 95 | 429 | 117 | 4 | 6 |
| % | 1.8 | 25.8 | 10.6 | 47.7 | 13 | 0.4 | 0.7 |

Body parts

All the major species (cow, ovicaprid, pig) were represented by all body parts except for the third phalanx and pig metapodials. A dominance of tibia is seen for sheep/goat and distal humerus for cow and pig.

Partial skeletons

Evidence for neonatal animals consists largely of partial skeletons as follows:

1. Partial calf skeleton (788, pit 824) comprising neonatal limb bones and ribs.
2. Partial calf (791, pit 824) comprising neonatal skull fragments, astragalus, phalangees, metatarsal.
3. Partial piglets (791, pit 824) comprising the remains of approximately two neonatal piglets ribs, mandibles, limb bones and skull fragments.
4. Juvenile pig (324, pit 172) comprising the mandible, fore limbs a distal tibia and calcaneum plus a few ribs and vertebrae. All the long bones were unfused and the first molar was unerupted.
5. Dog (508, pit 488). Phase 3. This skeleton was complete. The animal was on its chest with its legs and neck flexed. There was no evidence of butchery and the absence of surface weathering suggests burial took place immediately. All the long bones are fused and the presence of complete adult dentition just coming into wear suggests a young adult.

6.3 Discussion

All phases were dominated by ovicaprids followed by cow then pig. As no roe deer were positively identified it would seem reasonable to assume that elements categorised as sheep/goat/roe deer are probably ovicaprid. Comparisons between phases are unreliable due to the small numbers, although the increase in ovicaprid between phases five and six/seven is worth noting.

Patterns in kill off ages and the nature of husbandry were assessed. Dental evidence for *Bos* and *Sus* was too small to be meaningful in terms of kill off patterns and the nature of husbandry. For cattle, only four mandibles could be aged, which all represented young adult animals. Seven pig mandibles also represented young adult animals. This is further substantiated for both species by the fusion evidence, where it could be detected. For horse, the dental evidence seems to suggest mature individuals. Twenty-one Ovicaprid mandibles were aged. These were dominated by young adult animals, aged 2-3 years, but individuals of 2-6 months and 8-10 years were also represented. A comparison of sheep/goat husbandry by phase was not possible due to the small numbers of mandibles in each phase. Evidence for all species suggests a reliance on prime meat. For Ovicaprids a strategy of husbanding primarily for meat (as opposed to milk or wool) could be tentatively postulated.

The lack of butchery evidence on the neonatal partial skeletons suggests deliberate burial and not consumption waste. The low incidence of butchery evidence for the faunal assemblage as a whole renders inter-phase comparisons of butchery techniques impossible. Cut marks on

bones are mostly indicative of dismembering, although some evidence for chopping and filleting were also present. Butchery evidence was present on bones from all the major species. Patterning of body part representation is obscured by the small numbers of fragments from individual phases.

Again, comparisons with other sites are tentative due to the small quantity of material per phase. A comparison between the middle Iron Age Kennel Farm Site A (Locker, in Chapman 2001) and phase 3 at Kennel Farm F shows the same species range but with the addition of deer at the latter. Partial dog and ovicaprid skeletons are also seen at Site A in pits, but the range is extended at the present site to include calf and piglet. The low numbers of deer are expected for the Iron Age. The relative percentages of the main species compare well to the Iron Age in Britain as a whole, as does the apparent slaughter of young adult animals.

Table 9: Species by anatomical element (Phase 1)

| Element | Bos | Sus | Ovicaprid | Sheep/goat/ roe |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| Scapula | | 1 | 1 | |
| P.humerus | 2 | 2 | 6 | 2 |
| D.humerus | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| P.radius | 1 | | 2 | 1 |
| D.radius | | | 2 | 1 |
| Ulna | | 3 | 1 | |
| P.Mc. | | | 1 | |
| D.Mc. | 1 | | 1 | |
| Pelvis | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| P.femur | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| D.femur | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| P.tibia | 1 | | 2 | |
| D.tibia | 2 | | 3 | |
| Astragulus | | | | |
| Calcaneus | 1 | | 1 | |
| P.M.T. | 1 | | 5 | 3 |
| D.M.T. | 1 | | 5 | 3 |
| Phalanx1 | | | | |
| Phalanx2 | | | | |
| Phalanx3 | | | | |
| Occipital. Condyle | | | | |
| Horn core | | | | |
| Antler | | | | |
| Mandible | | | 9 | |
| Teeth | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| P.M.P | | | | 2 |
| D.M.P | | | | 2 |
| Total | 17 | 16 | 52 | 17 |
| % | 16.7 | 15.7 | 50.9 | 16.7 |

Table 10: Species by anatomical element (Phase 3)

| Element | Bos | Sus | Ovicaprid | Sh/gt/roe | Cervid | Canis |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Scapula | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | |
| P.humerus | 3 | 3 | 6 | 2 | | |
| D.Humerus | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 1 | |
| P.radius | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | |
| D.radius | | 1 | 2 | 2 | | |
| Ulna | | 5 | 1 | | | 1 |
| P.M.C. | | | 2 | | | |
| D.M.C. | | | 2 | | | |
| Pelvis | | 1 | 2 | | | |
| P.Femur | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | | |
| D.Femur | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | | |
| P.tibia | 4 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| D.tibia | 5 | 3 | 5 | | | |
| Astragulus | | | | | | |
| Calcaneus | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| D.M.T | 1 | | 6 | | | |
| P.M.T. | 1 | | 6 | | | |
| Phalanx 1 | | | | | | |
| Phalanx2 | | | | | | |
| Phalanx3 | | | | | | |
| Occipital. Condyle | | | | | | |
| Horn core | | | | | | |
| Mandible | | | 1 | | | |
| Teeth | 4 | 1 | | | | |
| P.M.P | | | 2 | 2 | | |
| D.M.P | | | 2 | 2 | | |
| Total | 32 | 25 | 73 | 17 | 2 | 1 |
| % | 21.3 | 16.7 | 48.7 | 11.4 | 1.3 | 0.6 |

Table 11: Species by anatomical element (Phase 4)

| Element | Equus | Bos | Sus | Ovicaprid | Sh/gt/roe | Cervid |
|------------|-------|-----|-----|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Scapula | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| P.humerus | | 3 | | 1 | | |
| d.humerus | | 5 | | | | |
| P.radius | | 1 | | | 2 | |
| D.radius | | 1 | | | 2 | |
| Ulna | | | | 1 | | |
| P.M.C | | | 1 | 2 | | |
| D.M.C | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Pelvis | | | | | | |
| P.Femur | | | | 3 | 1 | |
| D.Femur | | 1 | | 3 | 1 | |
| P.tibia | | | | 9 | | |
| D.tibia | 1 | | | 9 | | |
| Astragulus | | | 1 | | | |
| Calcaneus | | | | | | |
| P.M.T. | | 1 | | 4 | 1 | |
| D.M.T. | | 1 | | 4 | 1 | |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Phalanx1 | | | | 1 | | |
| Phalanx2 | | | | | | |
| Phalanx3 | | | | | | |
| Horn core | | | | | | Antler |
| Occipital Condyle. | | | | | | |
| Mandible | | | 2 | 2 | | |
| Teeth | | 4 | 1 | 6 | | |
| P.M.P | | | | | | |
| D.M.P | | | 1 | | | |
| Total | 1 | 19 | 7 | 49 | 8 | 1 |
| % | 1.2 | 22.4 | 8.2 | 57.6 | 9.4 | 1.2 |

Table 12: Species by anatomical element (Phase 5/6)

| Element | Equus | Bos | Sus | Ovicaprid | Sh/gt/roe |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Scapula | | 1 | | | |
| P.humerus | | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| D.humerus | | | 2 | 2 | |
| P.Radius | | | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| D.Radius | | | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| Ulna | | 2 | | | |
| P.M.C. | | | | 2 | 1 |
| D.M.C. | | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Pelvis | | 4 | | 3 | |
| P.Femur | | 2 | | 1 | |
| D.Femur | | 2 | | 1 | |
| P.Tibia | | 1 | | 7 | 5 |
| D.Tibia | | 2 | | 7 | 5 |
| Astragulus | | | | 1 | |
| Calcaneus | | | 2 | 1 | |
| P.M.T. | | 2 | | 6 | 3 |
| D.M.T. | | 2 | | 6 | 3 |
| Phalanx 1 | | | | 1 | |
| Phalanx 2 | | | | | |
| Phalanx 3 | | | | | |
| Occipital condyle | | 1 | | | |
| Horn core | | 2 | | | |
| Mandible | | 1 | 3 | 1 | |
| Teeth | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| P.M.P | | | 1 | | |
| D.M.P | | | 1 | | |
| Total | 1 | 26 | 16 | 59 | 22 |
| % | 0.8 | 21 | 12.8 | 47.7 | 17.7 |

Table 13: Vertebra (whole site)

| Small Ungulate | Large Ungulate | Indeterminate | Total |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| 10 | 2 | 9 | 21 |

Table 14: Ribs (whole site)

| Small Ungulate | Large Ungulate | Indeterminate | Total |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| 54 | 9 | 121 | 184 |

7 HUMAN BONE by Trevor Anderson

Two fills (42 and 61) contained human bone material.

A single bone was found in (61), Southern Enclosure ditch 88. This was identified as the anterior portion of an adult left parietal. Traces of the coronal (junction with the frontal bone) and sagittal sutures (junction with the right parietal bone) are visible. The bone is quite thin which is suggestive, but by no means diagnostic, of a female.

Context 42, pit 43, contained the an articulated skeleton, but the bones are badly eroded and highly fragmented. Available bones include: cranial vault fragments; occipital fragments; right zygomatic; hyoid and an incomplete mandible. Ribs; scapulae; right clavicle; spine and pelvis are all highly fragmented. Limb bones are represented by eroded fragments, the largest being the left humeral shaft and the right femoral proximal shaft. A medial hand phalanx and two left feet bones (metatarsal III and V) are better preserved.

Based on the gracility of the mandible, as well as the general size of the bones, the remains are considered to be female. The available molars display marked attrition and the crown of an upper central incisor is worn down to the root, with exposure of the root canal. This marked attrition indicates a mature individual, probably 50 years of age or older.

Only one measurement was possible. The upper right femur displays marked flattening (platymeria), with an index of 64.2. Modern femora are reported to be less flattened, and there is some evidence that flattening is more marked on the left side and in females (Holtby 1918). It has been suggested that the flattening may be related to mineral or vitamin deficiencies (Buxton 1938) or it could be a response to mechanical adaptation and increased muscular stresses (Schofeld 1959).

The limb bones are all thin and gracile, suggestive of osteoporosis. However, only one definite pathology was noted. An upper thoracic vertebra displayed marked osteo-arthritic degeneration of both inferior articular facets. Oral disease was restricted to a medium/ large occlusal caries of the right mandibular third molar.

8 CHARRED PLANT REMAINS by Karen Deighton

8.1 Method

Thirteen samples were floted manually and sieved using 1mm and 500 micron sieves. The flots and residues were dried and sorted, any charred plant material being examined using a 10x microscope.

8.2 Results

Preservation was fairly poor with many species exhibiting fragmentation and abrasion, which subsequently affected identification.

Table 15: Charred plant remains by context

| Plant type | Context | 258 | 336 | 420 | 431 | 453 | 770 | 543 | 555 | 567 | 595 | 272 |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Feature | 265 | 348 | 413 | 485 | 310 | 824 | 568 | 568 | 568 | 584 | 265 |
| | Type | pit | pit | Pit | pit | Pit | pit | pit | pit | pit | pit | pit |
| Phase | | 1-3 | 6 | 3 | 1-3 | 1-3 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 1-3 |
| Emmer | T.dicoccongrains | 7 | | | | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Emmer | T.dicoccon chaff | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spelt | T.spelta grains | 11 | | 1 | | | 3 | | | 2 | | |
| Spelt | T.spelta chaff | | | | | | 2 | | | | | |
| Einkorn | T.monococcon grains | 4 | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Einkorn | T.monococcon chaff | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bread Wheat | <i>Triticum aestivum</i> | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Wheat | <i>Triticum</i> sp grains | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | <i>Triticum</i> sp chaff | | | 2 | | | 3 | | | 8 | | 8 |
| Naked barley | <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> | 4 | | 4 | | | 1 | | 3 | 1 | | 3 |
| Hulled Barley | <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> | 33 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat/Barley | <i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i> | 60 | 1 | 7 | | 5 | 20 | | | 15 | | |
| Oat | <i>Avena sativa</i> | 43 | | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | | 3 | | 8 |
| Rye | <i>Secale cereale</i> | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cereal indet | <i>Cereale</i> | 155 | 3 | | 16 | 1 | 14 | 76 | 2 | | | 6 |
| Fat hen | <i>C.album</i> | | | | | | 3 | | | | | |
| Goose-foot fam. | <i>Chenopodium</i> | 16 | | | | 1 | 15 | | | 3 | | 10 |
| Dock | <i>Rumex</i> | 3 | | | | | 2 | | | 2 | | |
| Buck-wheat family | <i>Polygonum</i> | 7 | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Pulse | <i>Leguminosae</i> | 31 | | | | 1 | 23 | | | 3 | | 1 |
| Daisy | <i>Compositae</i> | 4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weed indet. | | 5 | | 1 | 33 | | | 111 | | | | |
| Rosehip | <i>Rosa sp.</i> | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |

8.3 Discussion

The dominant cereal cannot be established due to the poor preservation seen in many of the samples. The chaff present consisted entirely of glume bases. The relatively small amounts of

chaff suggest that the early stages of processing (threshing and winnowing) were taking place off site.

The weeds present appear to be typical crop weeds, although *C. album* can be used to make flour in times of famine. The presence of chenopodiums suggests a nitrogen rich soil. The rose hip could be suggestive of deliberate collection as food or for medicinal purposes, although as a single specimen it is more likely to be a contaminant.

The presence of pulses with cereals (e.g. 258 in pit 265) could suggest deliberate sowing of the two together (a maslin) or the harvesting of wild legumes along with the cultivated crop as a cheap source of protein. The small number of grains seen in 336 (pit 348) would suggest accidental deposition. However the small size (1 litre, the complete deposit) should be taken into consideration.

Samples from 431 (pit 485) and 543 (pit 568) are dominated by weeds, which would suggest that these represent by-products of crop cleaning (i.e. the separation of weeds from cereal grain). The sample from 258 (pit 265) was dominated by cereal grain, which would seem to suggest a late stage in processing, or perhaps a storage crop. The sample from 770 (pit 824) appears to be fairly evenly mixed but its position in a ditch suggests it is a waste deposit.

Inter-phase comparisons are difficult due to the small number of samples per phase and the lack of identification to species level. However it is worth noting that bread wheat is seen only in phase 4.

Tentative comparisons with Cowdery's Down (Millet and James 1983) for phases 5 and 6/7 (Cowdery Down phase 3) show a similar range of species although oat appears more frequently at Kennel Farm. The low level of chaff is also seen at Cowdery's Down.

The assemblage appears to represent the later stages in crop processing. Interpretation and comparisons are limited by the quantity of samples and the lack of material identifiable to species level.

9 CONCLUSION

9.1 The development of the enclosure

The first phase of Site F appears to be the earliest Iron Age activity in the area, predating the other excavated sites at Kennel Farm Site A and Brighton Hill South. Other sites in the area may have sprung up as offshoots from site F, spaced at close intervals due to kinship or other ties, although it must also be noted that there are other sites within the Kennel Farm development area that have not been investigated.

The enclosure had appeared to be a "banjo" type from the evidence of aerial photographs and geophysical survey. However, excavation has shown this to be rather misleading, for it was only in a very late redevelopment of the enclosure, dating to c.0-60AD, that it adopted the 'banjo' form, as the culmination of a number of alterations over a long period of time.

The later Iron Age-early Roman 'banjo-enclosures' are widespread in Hampshire, particularly in the area between Winchester and Basingstoke, possibly associated with areas of clay-with flint (Perry 1974 and Fasham 1987). Although very few sites have been excavated in any

detail, there have been a variety of associations, with either enclosures used for habitation or for stock control suggested (Fasham 1987 and Champion 1981) since there is variation in the evidence for habitation features within the enclosures. All such sites are characterised by the outer funnelling boundary ditches leading to their entrance.

9.2 The function of the enclosure

The Southern Enclosures of phases 4-6 (c.300BC– AD45) are similar in form to a later Iron Age/Roman site at Beggarwood Lane (Fig 2, site B) which also appears to have associated outer boundary ditches. Brighton Hill South site K, although of different form, contained occupation evidence, including features outside the enclosures as seen during phase 5 at Site F, Kennel Farm. The site B/C enclosure at Brighton Hill South was established in the early/middle Iron Age, inside an earlier field system. Despite the large interior area excavated, few features were found (Fasham and Keevil 1987, 66–73).

Micheldever Wood, an extensively excavated site, was “occupied, if not within the actual core enclosure, then in part of the immediately adjacent complex” (Fasham 1987) through to the mid 1st century AD. In common with Site F at Kennel Farm, Micheldever was modified in the 1st century AD with new systems of outer enclosure ditches to create the “banjo-enclosure” form.

Viabes Farm, a similar middle Iron Age-early Roman enclosure, was devoid of internal features (Fasham and Keevil 1987, 67-8; Millet and Russell 1984). Rucstalls Farm, again broadly similar, was long lived, from the 5th century BC to the 1st centuries AD (Fasham and Keevil 1987,67-8; Oliver and Applin 1978), while the two separate enclosures at Cowdery’s Down, Winnall Down and the second set of enclosures at Rucstalls Farm were more rectangular (Fasham and Keevil, 1987, 67-8; Millet and James 1983). All these sites belong to the Hampshire type 4 type (Fasham and Keevil 1995, 67, after Champion and Champion). There were no structures at Viabes Farm and very little found at either Rucstalls Farm or Cowdery’s Down, yet there were ring ditches at Winklebury.

Kennel Farm Site A (Chapman 2001) was a far simpler enclosure, dating from the middle Iron Age, with limited recutting of its enclosure ditch. There were no other evident accompanying ditches, but the area outside the western entrance was not available for study. In common with Site F, pits contained partial animal burials as special deposits, and many pits were rich in burnt flint. Chalk-filled pits and charcoal lined pits were not present, but they were noted at Brighton Hill South.

9.3 Occupation evidence

The primary evidence for occupation on the site comes from the numerous pits within the enclosures. They were apparently restricted to particular peripheral zones within the enclosures, perhaps away from habitation or activity areas. They contained large quantities of domestic debris – pottery and bone, charcoal and burnt clay, and burnt flint from domestic hearths, showing that occupation had been taking place within the enclosures, even if the evidence for actual dwellings was absent.

Only a small number of postholes were found, some of which may represent former fence lines, and a single, tentative 4-post structure. An area where weaving was taking place, possibly within a structure was identified within the northern enclosure, where a trampled and slightly dark clay area was flecked with burnt clay (possibly the remains of broken

loomweights). The presence of iron nails and the joiners' dog suggest that there were indeed buildings on the site, therefore they cannot have been earth-fast.

Where the nearest water source was is not known, but it is possible that adequate water could have been obtained from some of the deeper pits acting as wells. The occupants of the site practised a mixed agricultural regime. There was a predominance of sheep followed by cattle and pig, kept primarily for their meat, and augmented with a small amount of deer. There was an apparent change of emphasis in the subsistence pattern in the late Iron Age c. 200BC-45AD), when more sheep were kept together with fewer other species. Fields probably surrounded the site, where a variety of cereal crops were cultivated. Aerial photographs suggest that there may have been a more extensive fieldwork pattern continuing towards the north and east of the site, although this has yet to be proved. The final phase of activity saw a change of use to fields where ploughing and possibly grazing was occurring. Grinding of corn was taking place on site, as evidenced by the recovery of several querns.

Other associated activities occurring within the site were the spinning and weaving of woollen cloth, as evidenced by loomweights, pin beaters, a spindle whorl and a possible pair of shears. The presence of knives and the low incidence of butchery marks on bone suggest that all aspects of animal husbandry were carried out on site.

The majority of pits were beehive shaped in profile, and primarily used for grain storage. Three pits were lined with a layer of charcoal, as also seen at Brighton Hill South, maybe to aid the preservation of stored materials (Keevil and Fasham 1995, 70-1). Pit 407 was unique in being lined with clay. In several cases deliberate deposition of animal remains may have been ritual deposits, for example the dog in pit 514. Two further instances of ox-skulls in pits from Group E were placed deposits and not casually discarded.

In the Southern Enclosure this phenomenon was carried on with the deliberate burial of two partial calf skeletons and partial piglets in pit 824, and another partial juvenile pig in pit 172. What reason lay behind these special deposits is unclear, but it may be related to the storage of cereal crops once the harvest was gathered in. The frequency of grassland snail species *Helicella itala* and *Cepea nemoralis* noted during the excavation of pits shows that these were open when the surrounding ground cover was of grassland.

There was a concentration of complete loomweights from pit 202, but other artefacts show no definable pattern of deposition. Dumping of rubbish in the ditches was widespread, but no 'ritual' deposits were detected, although in the first phase Southern Enclosure ditch 100 sherds from the same vessel were distributed over a short length of fill.

The ditches were primarily used to define boundaries, to drain the site, and probably also to curb stock movement, particularly if accompanied by hedging; they are not defensive. There was little evidence for accompanying banks – indeed with pit groups situated so close to the ditches, there would have been little room internally for them. While some ditches were recut, most were replaced by new enclosures on different alignments once the earlier ditches had become filled. Since there was apparent continuity between phases, one has the impression that the actual physical boundary may not necessarily have been of the highest importance.

A single inhumation of a mature female of c.50 years was dated to between the late Iron Age and 50AD. This form of pit burial is not uncommon in the Iron Age, and does not appear to have been influenced by Roman practises, but clearly a majority of the inhabitants received some other form of burial.

9.4 Abandonment of the settlement

Site F and several others in the area seem to run continuously from the Iron Age through to the Roman period, when they decline. There is a tail off of pottery after c 60/70 AD and virtually nothing after 100 AD. One has to wonder whether the decline of the site was to do with social change, i.e. the impact of Roman occupation. With the onset of 'colonisation' and a different way of life, it is certainly a possibility that some of the local inhabitants were drawn into the influence of the new town at *Calleva Atrebatum* (Silchester). Certainly the wider tribal loyalties of the Atrebates towards Rome was not initially friendly (Commius fled from Ceasar to join his Belgic people in Britain, Cunliffe 1975). It is perhaps unlikely that the site was depopulated due to invasion, since the pottery continues for another c 100 years after Ceasar's invasion.

The inhabitants may well have been subject to social change in the unsettled period before the Roman invasion of AD43, with territory in the Silchester region changing hands to the Catuvellauni in around 25BC, and the tribal oppidum was established around c.200-0BC at Silchester.

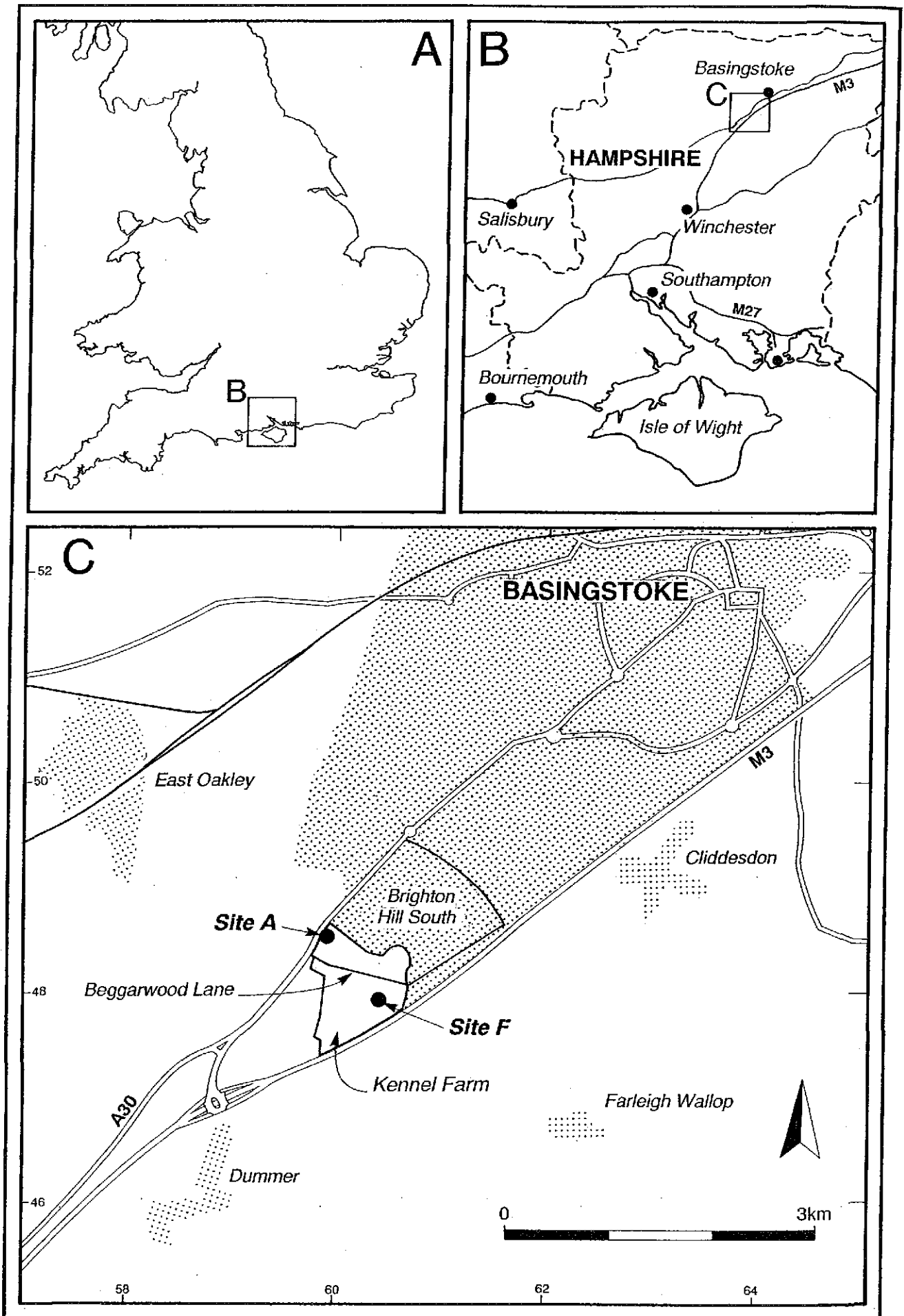
The latest Iron Age pottery assemblages from most local sites have a similar range of forms and fabrics, but this site differs in that it includes a variety of exotic Gallo-Belgic and Central Gaulish imports of both Late Iron Age and pre-Flavian date, but unusually, no Samian ware. This suggests that the inhabitants of Kennel Farm Site F were of higher social status. Much of these wares may have been obtained from *Calleva* (Silchester). Britain, according to Strabo was famed for its export of corn, hunting dogs, cloth and cloaks, gold and lead during the late pre-Roman Iron Age and Roman periods. This site may well have been contributing some items from the list from the very late Iron Age and well into the conquest period and beyond. Items suggesting trading include querns made from non-local stone and a Baetian Dressel 20 type amphorae imported in small quantities with their contents of either wine or oil (pit group A, context 712). There was only one item of personal ornamentation recovered from the site, a copper-alloy brooch from pit 824 in phase 6, which also contained some possible briquetage, indicating salt trading.

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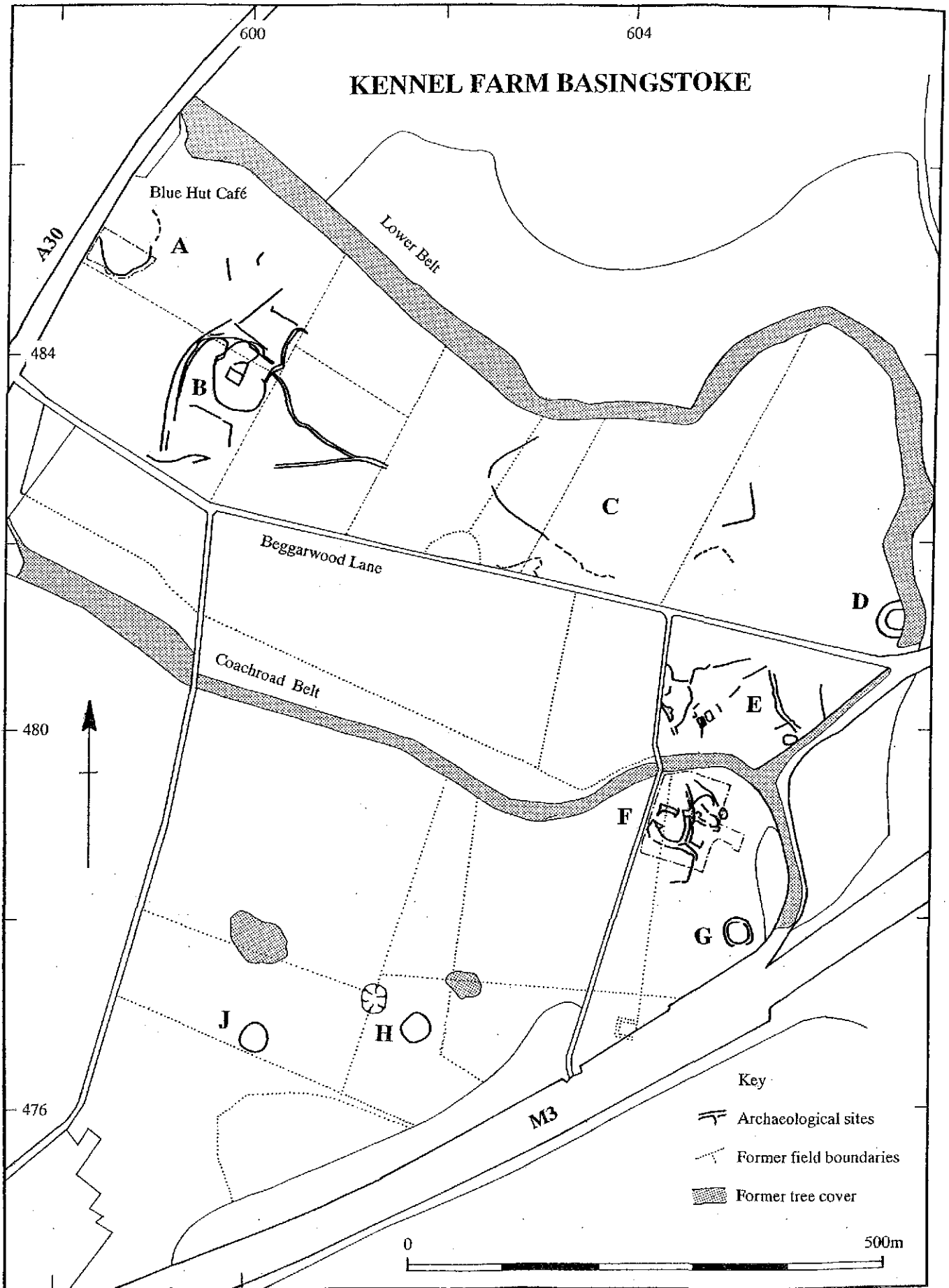
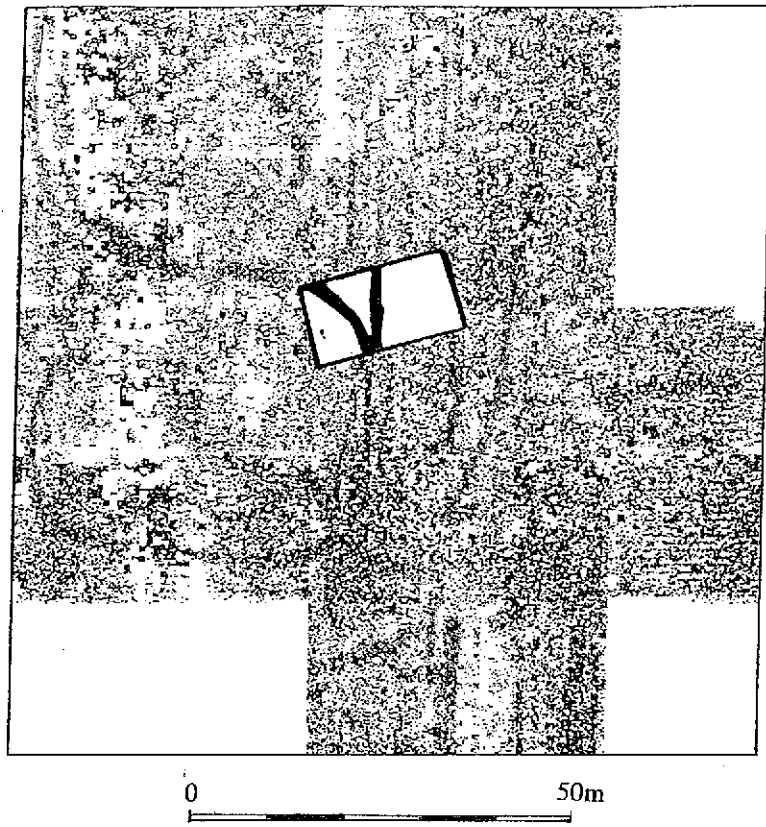
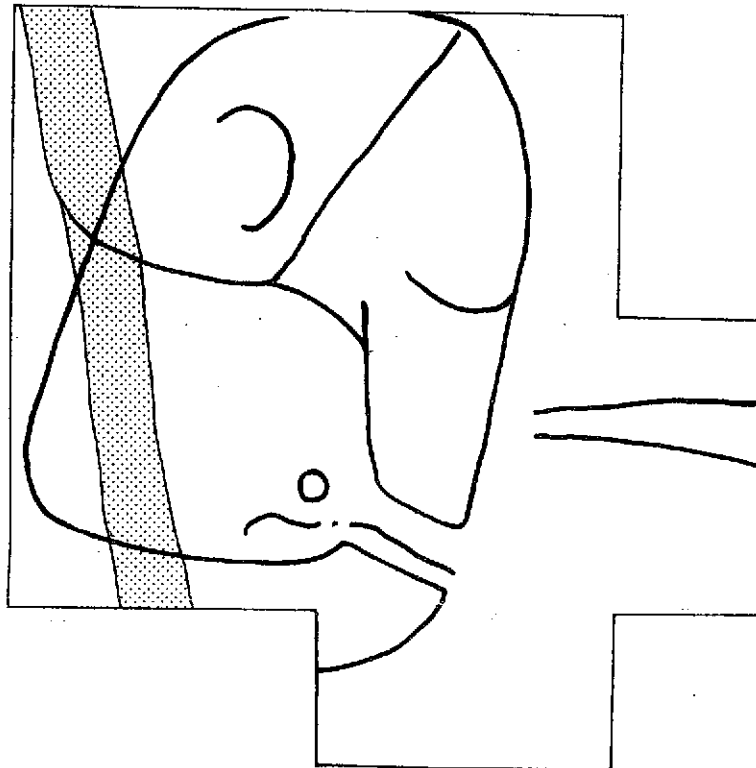



Fig. 2




Site F Geophysical survey of 1994, showing position of trial trench 7



KEY

 ditches

 pit


 hedge/ditch field boundary

Fig 3

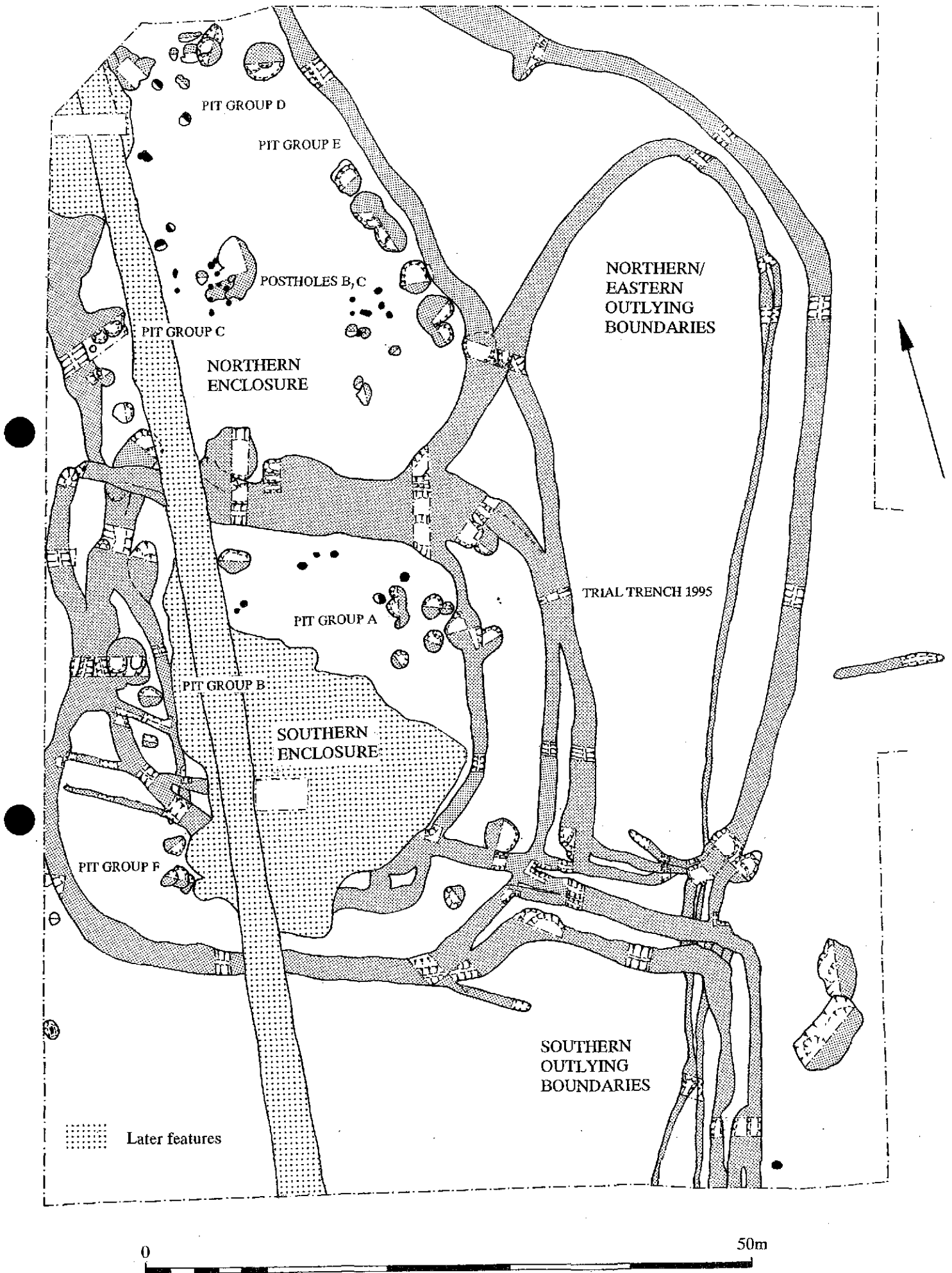


Fig 4

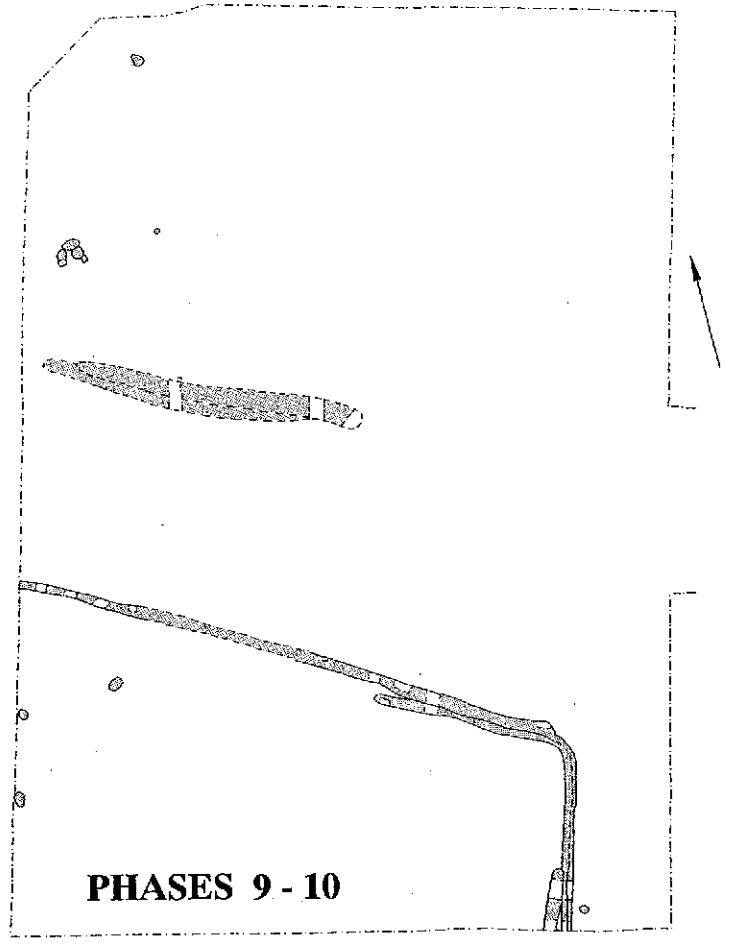
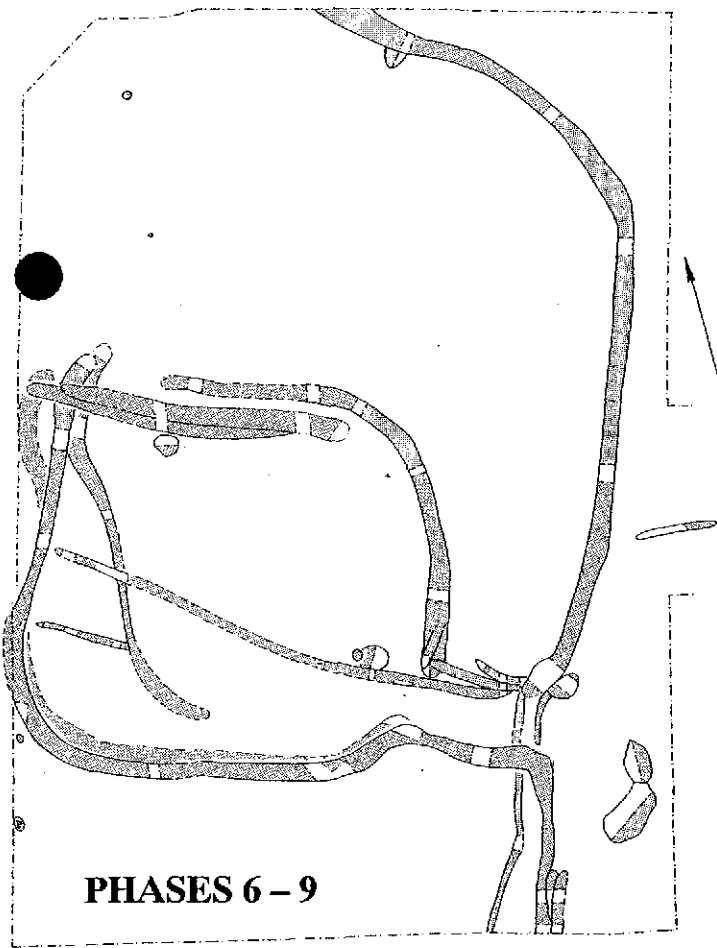
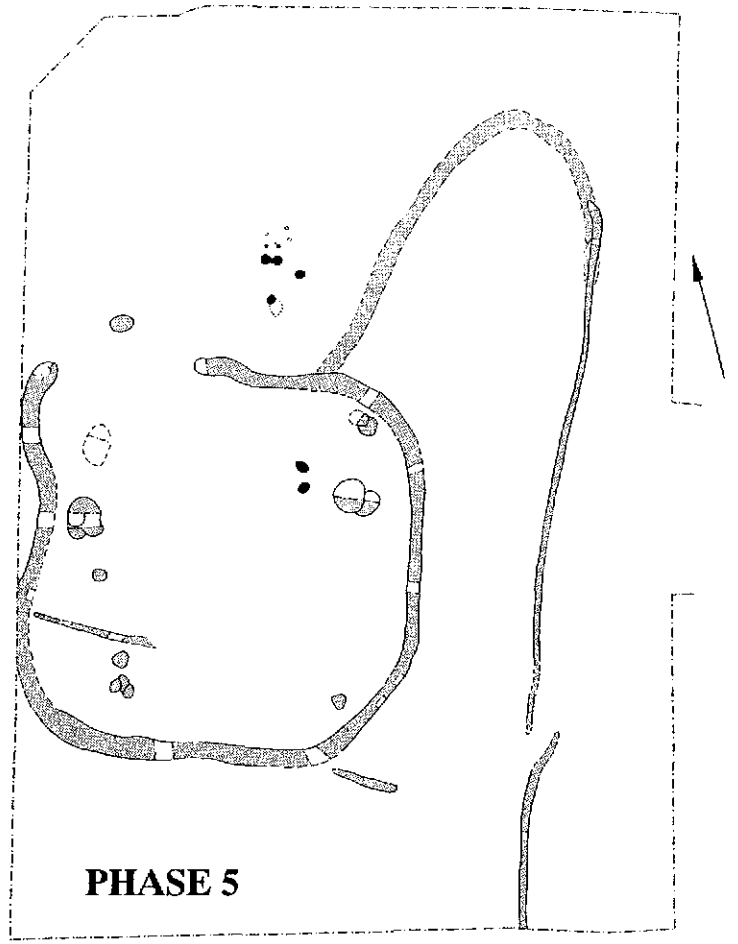
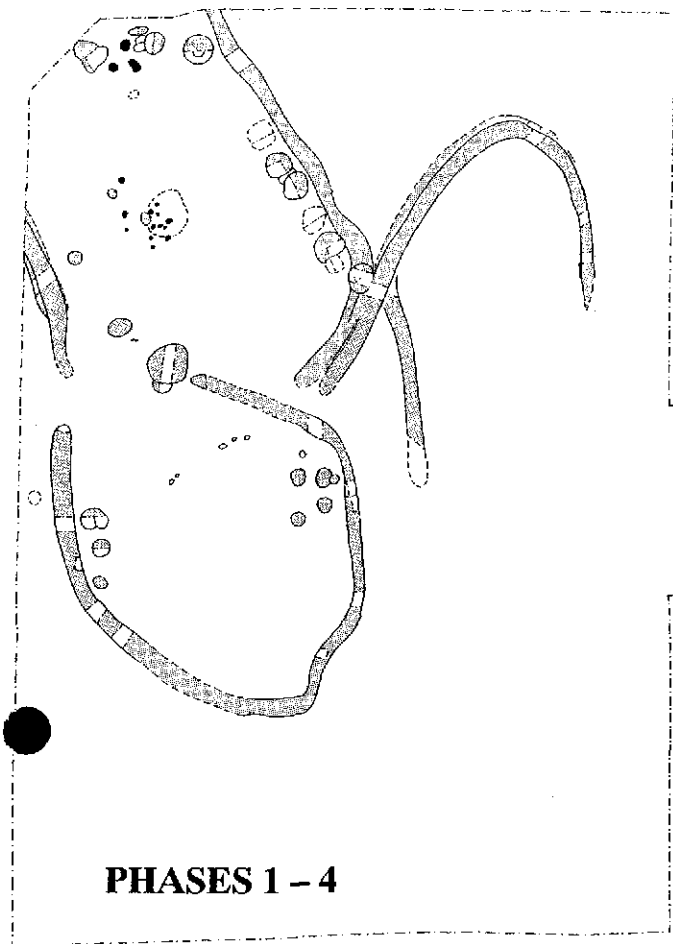


Fig 5

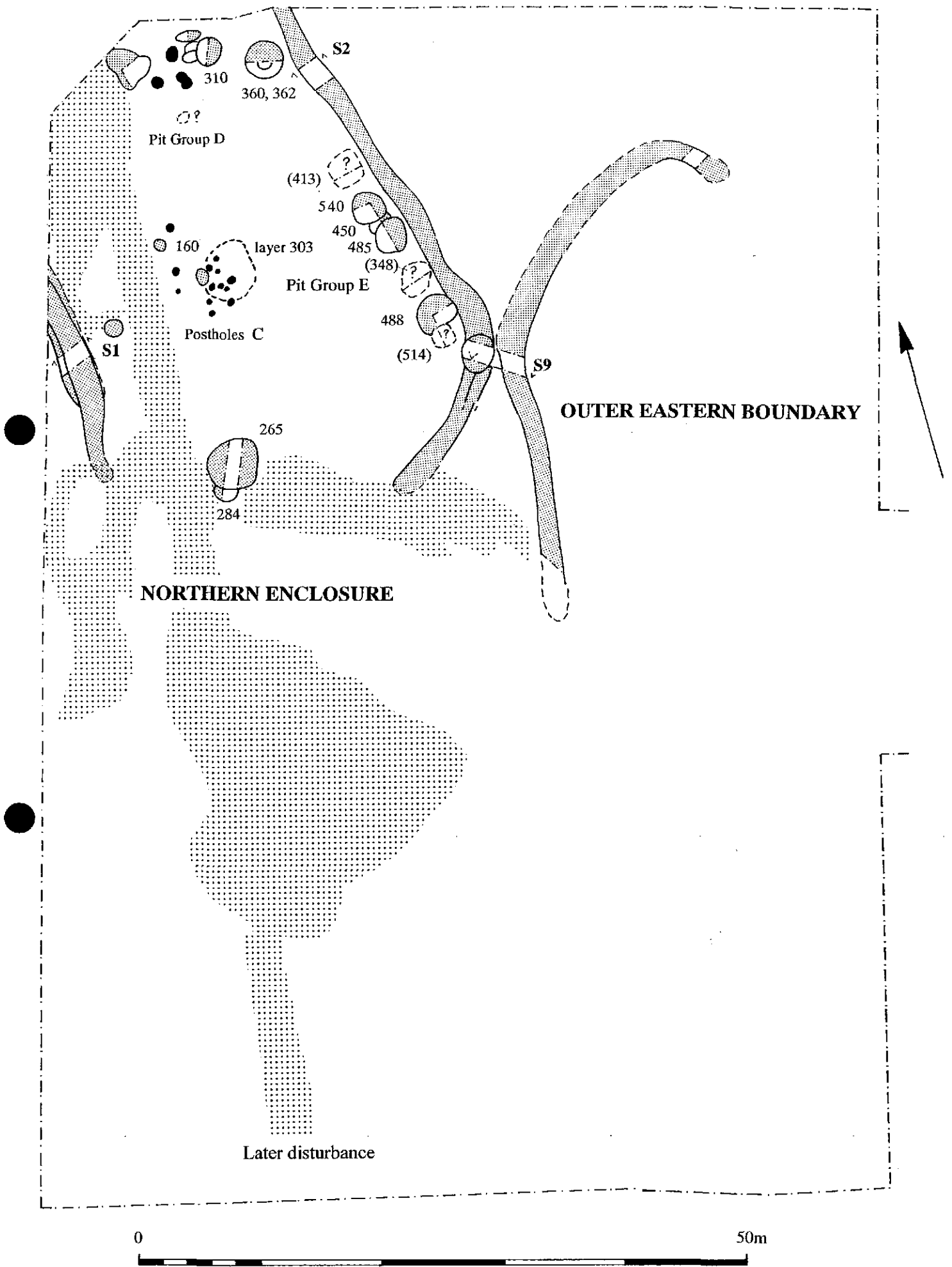


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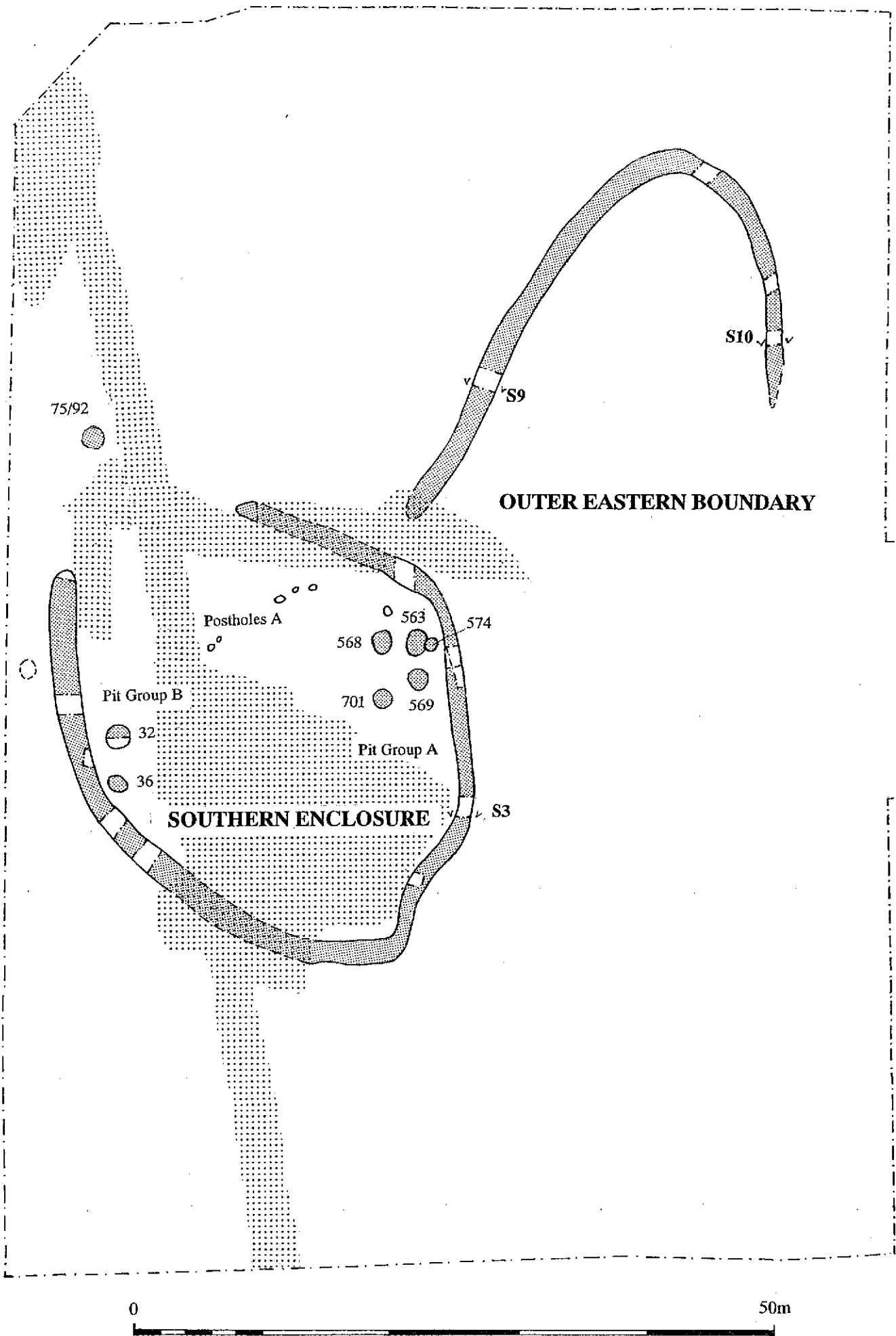


Fig 7

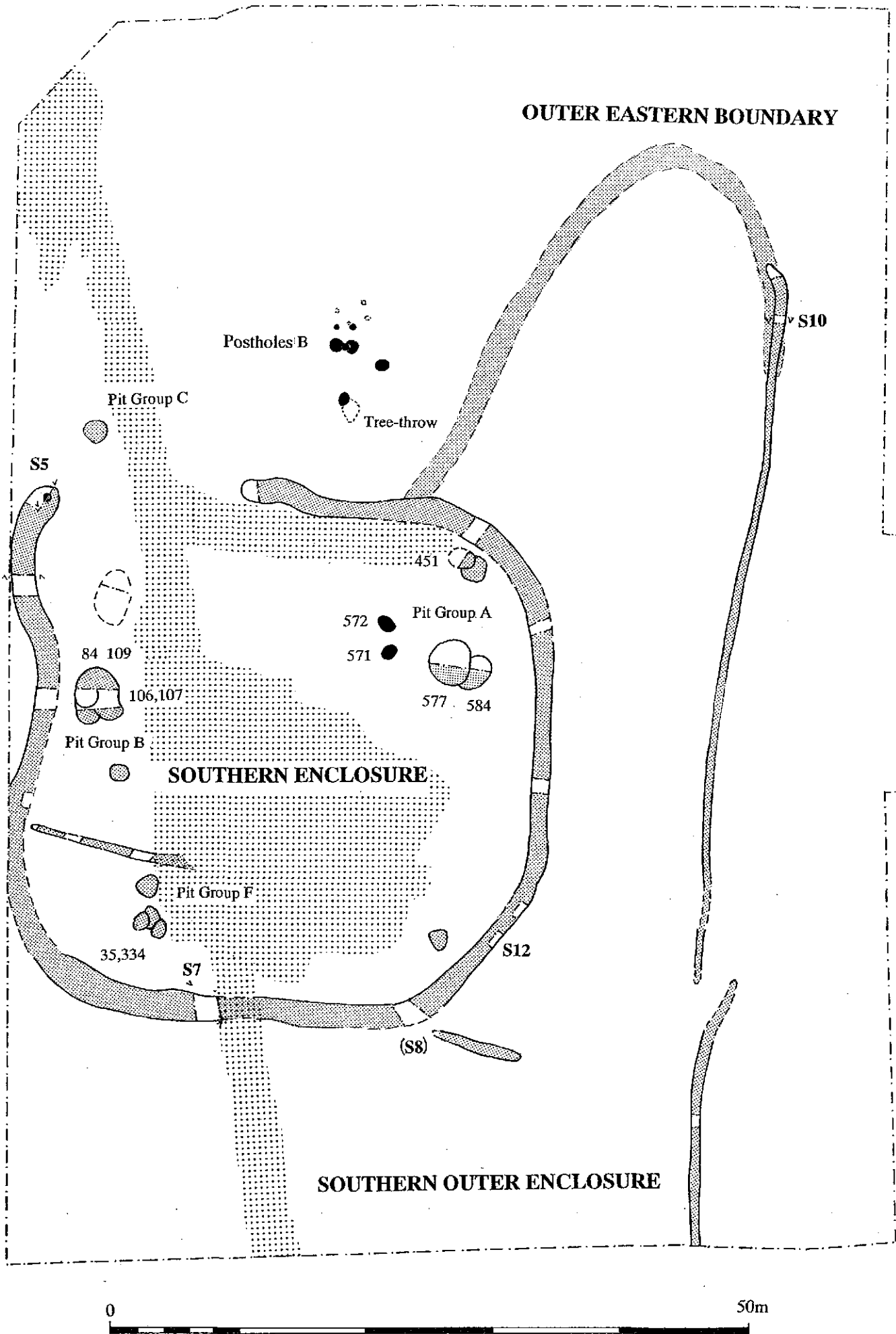


Fig 8

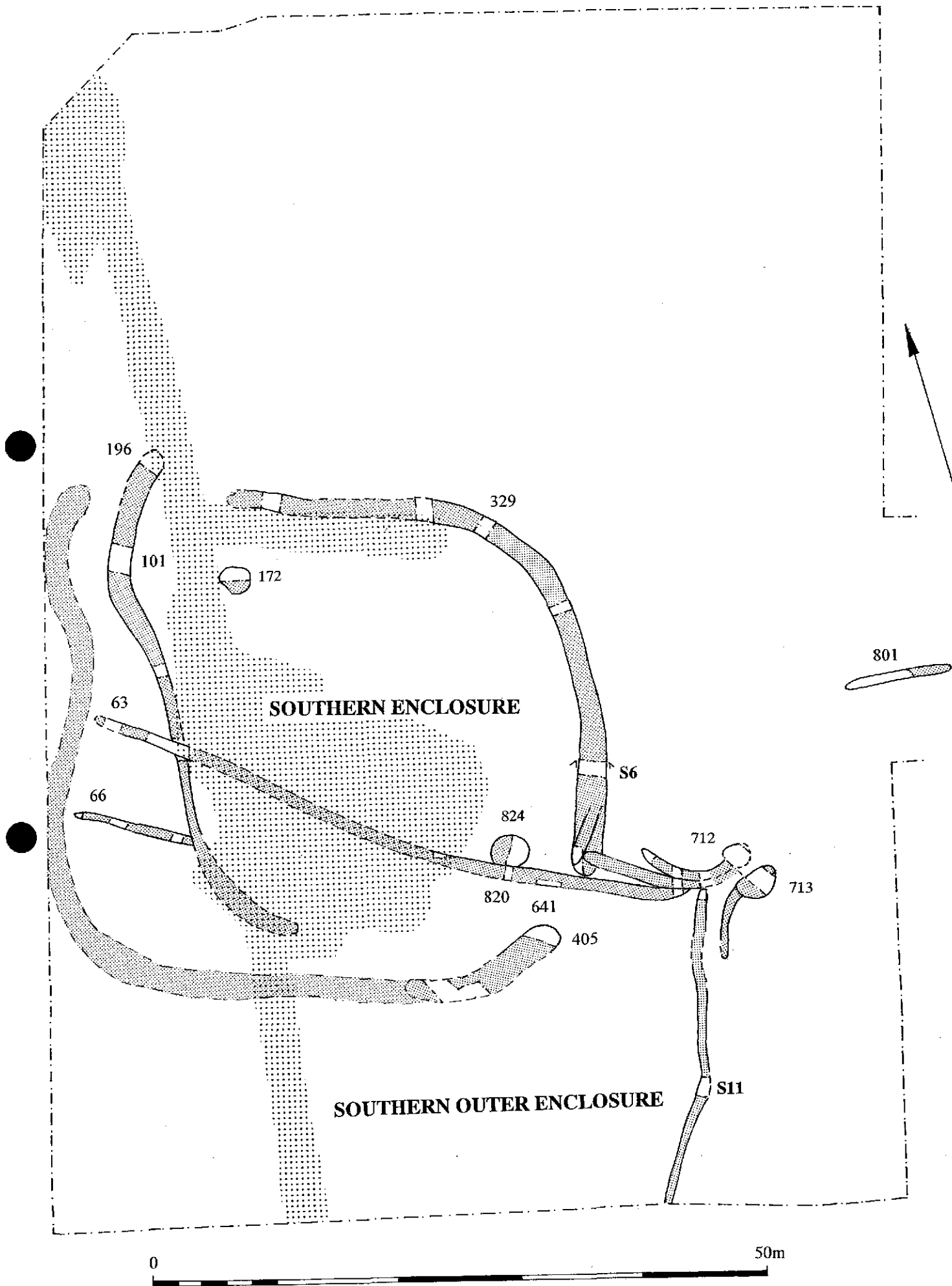


Fig 9

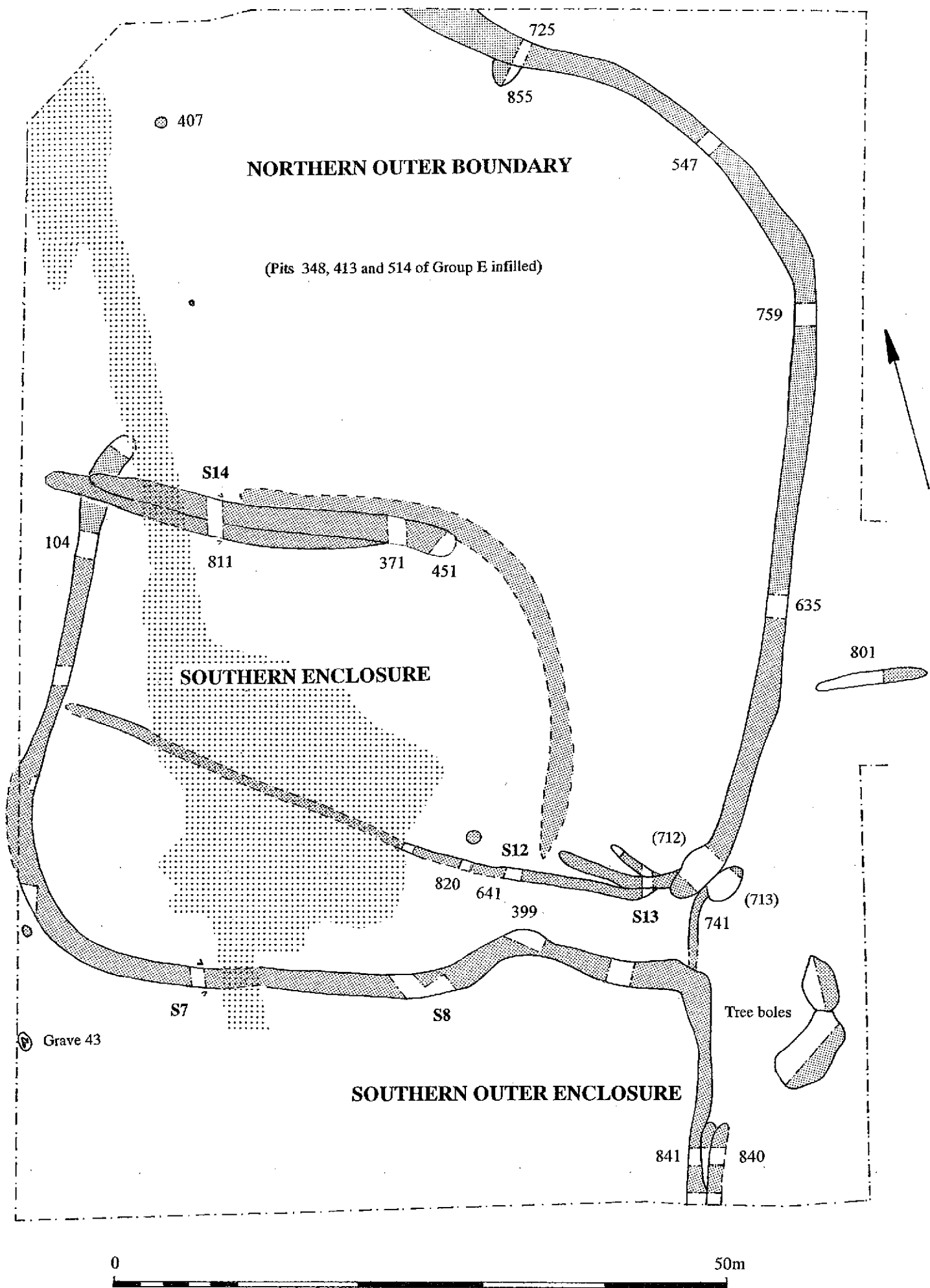


Fig 10

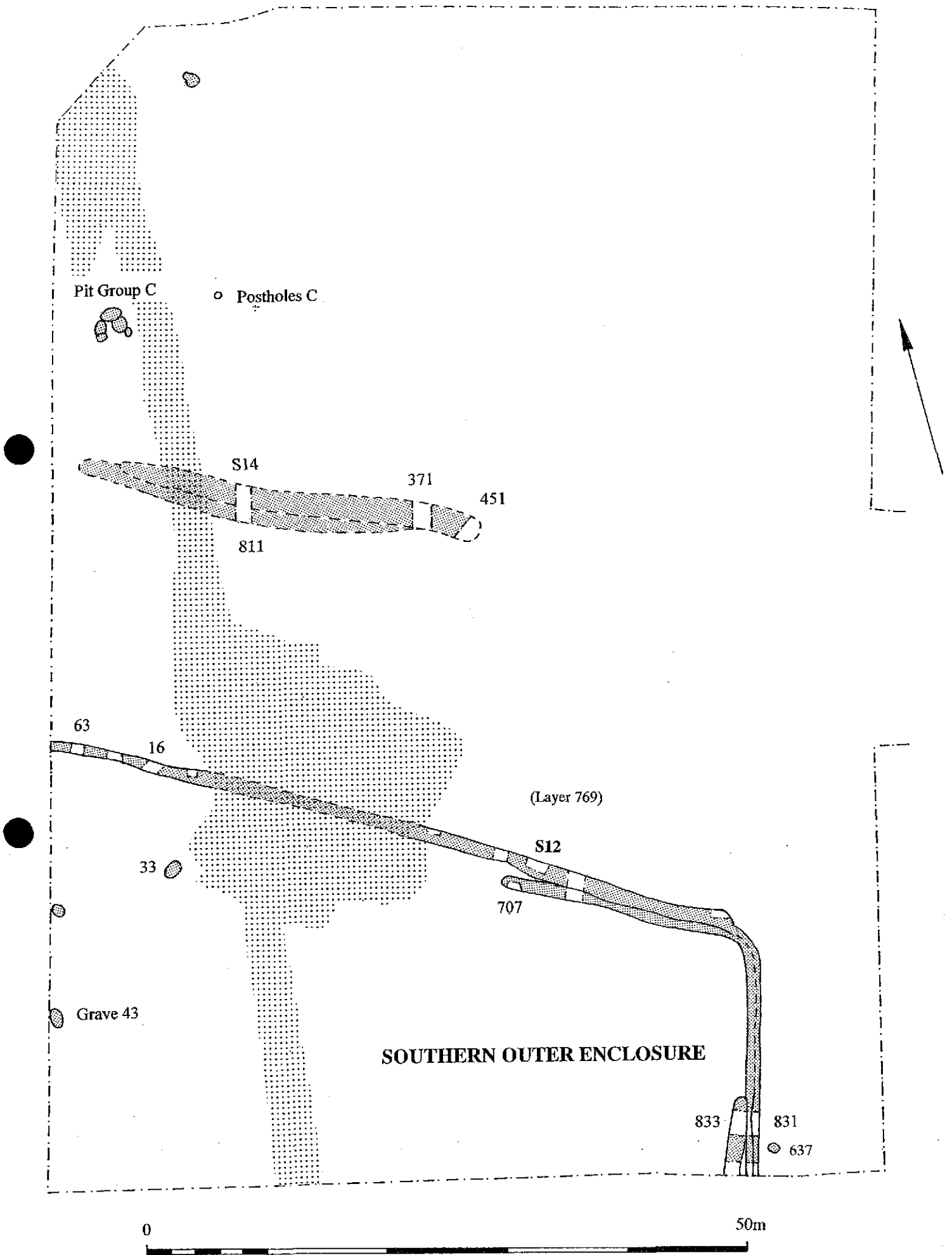
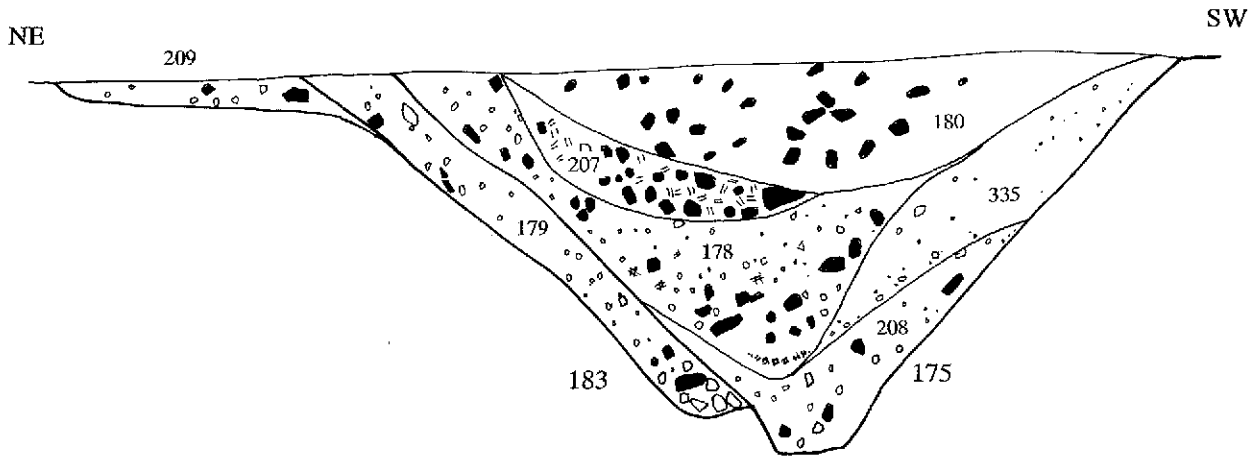
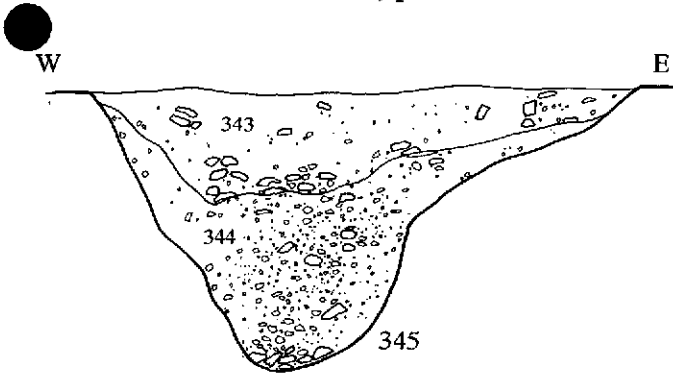


Fig 11

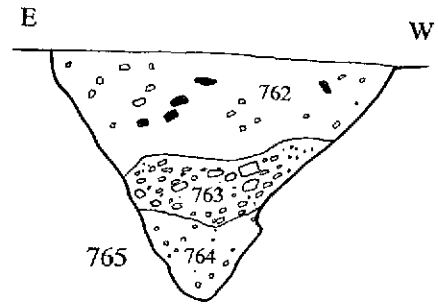
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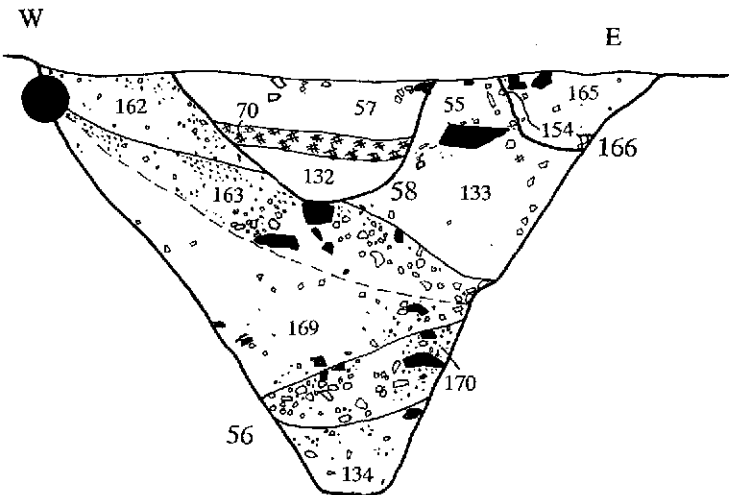
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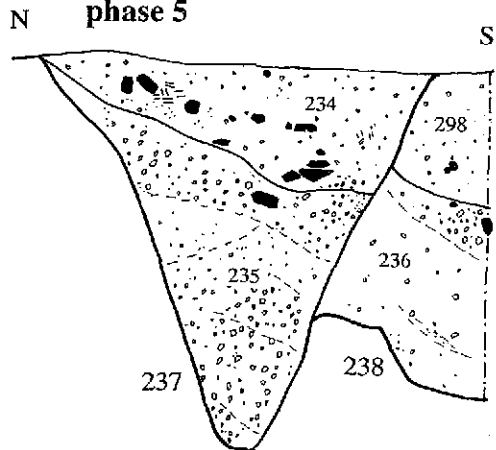
Section 3: Southern Enclosure ditch, east side phase 4



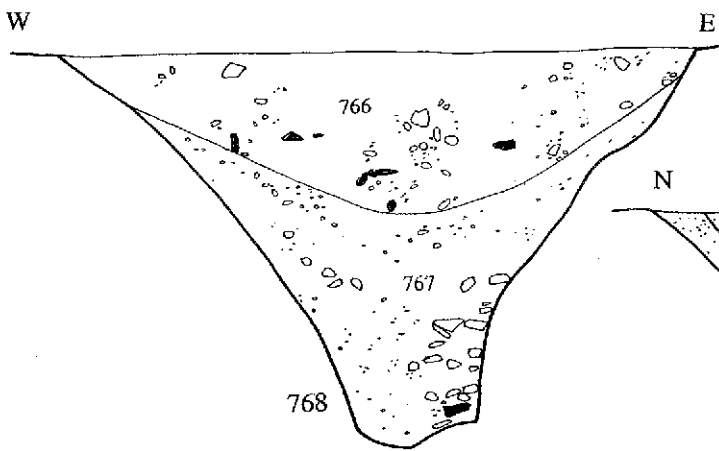
Section 4: Southern Enclosure ditch, west side, phase 5



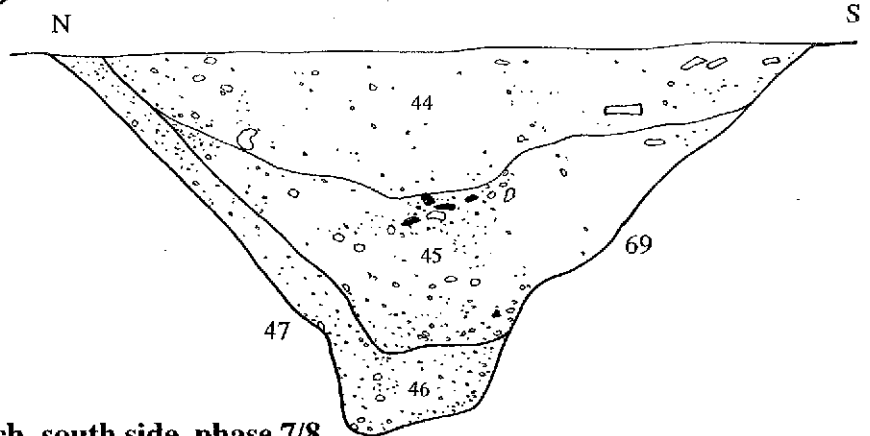
Section 5: Southern Enclosure ditch, North-west terminal with later post, phase 5



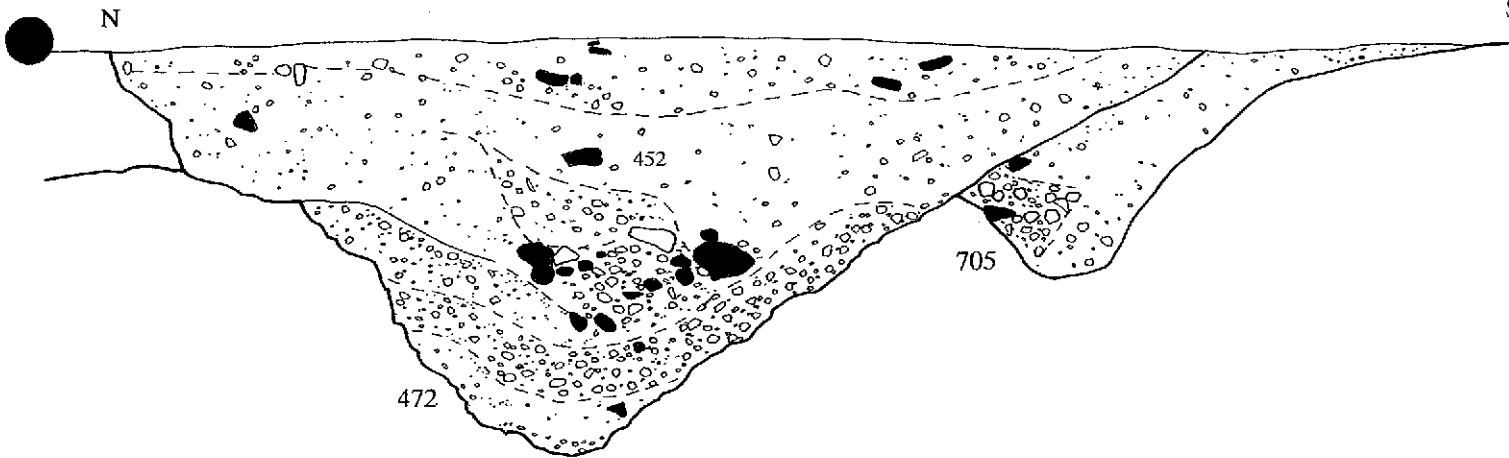
Section 6: Southern Enclosure ditch, east side, phase 6/7



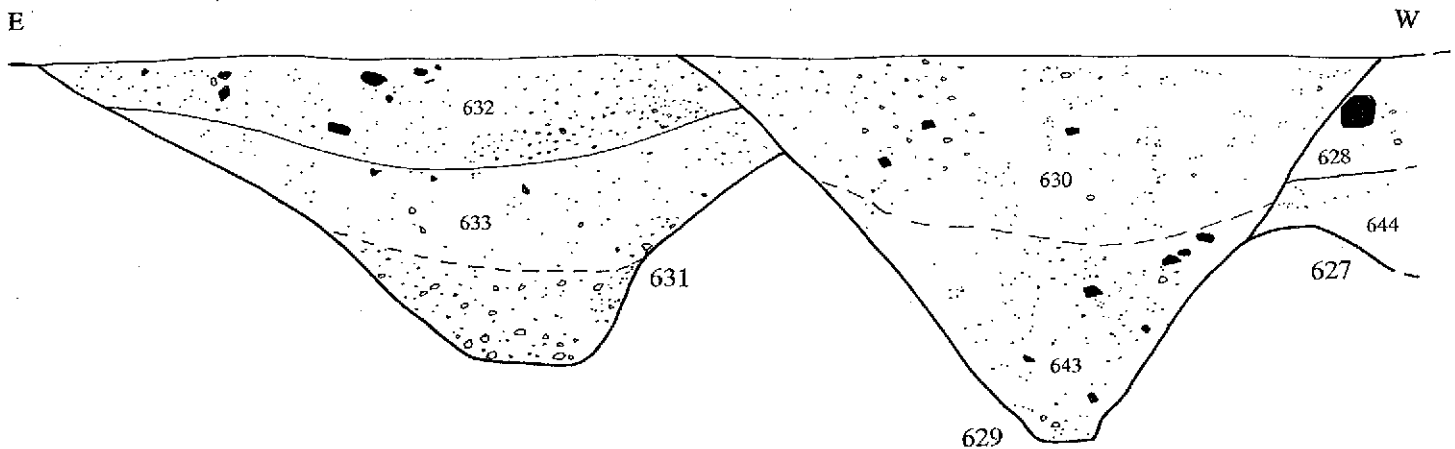
Section 7: Southern Enclosure ditch, south side, phase 5, recut phase 7/8



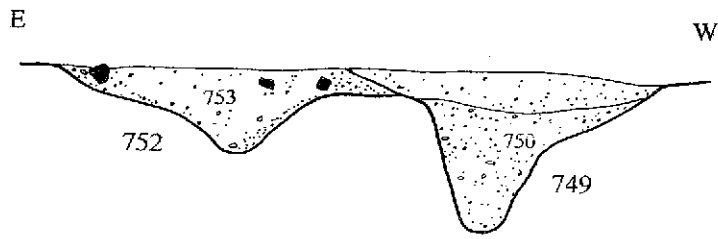
Section 8: Southern Enclosure ditch, south side, phase 7/8



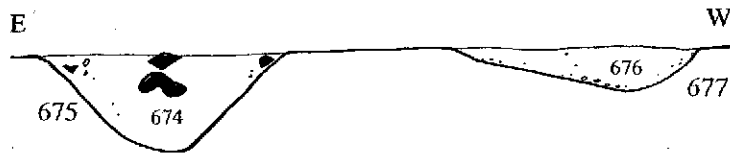
Section 9: Northern Outlying Boundary ditch, phase 1 and phase 4 recut



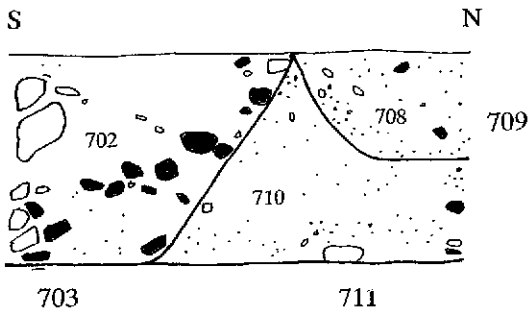
Section 10: Northern Outlying Boundary ditches of phases 4 and 5



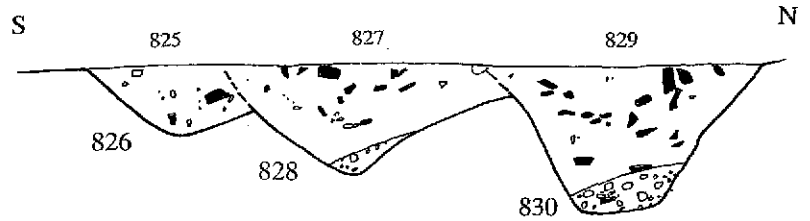
Section 11: Southern Outlying Boundary ditches of phases 5, 6/7



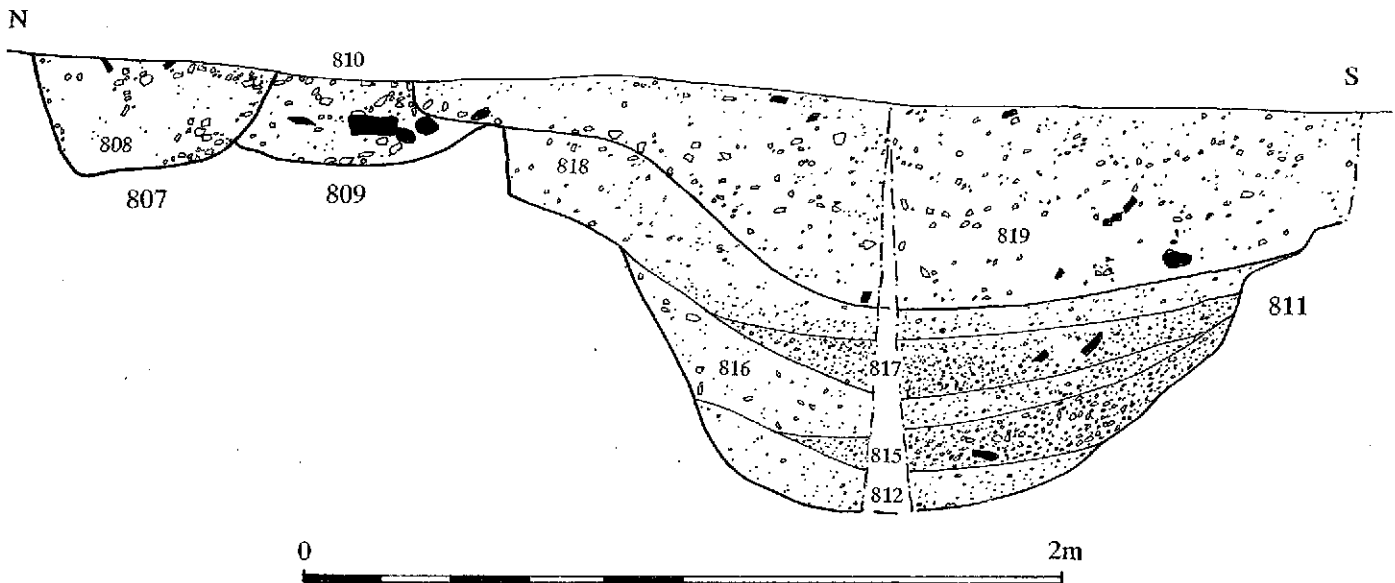
Section 12: Southern Outlying Boundary ditches of phases 9/10



Section 13: Shallow gullies of phases 6/7 and 7/8



Section 14: The east-west field boundaries of phase 9/10 cutting the butt ends of southern enclosure ditches of phases 4 and 5



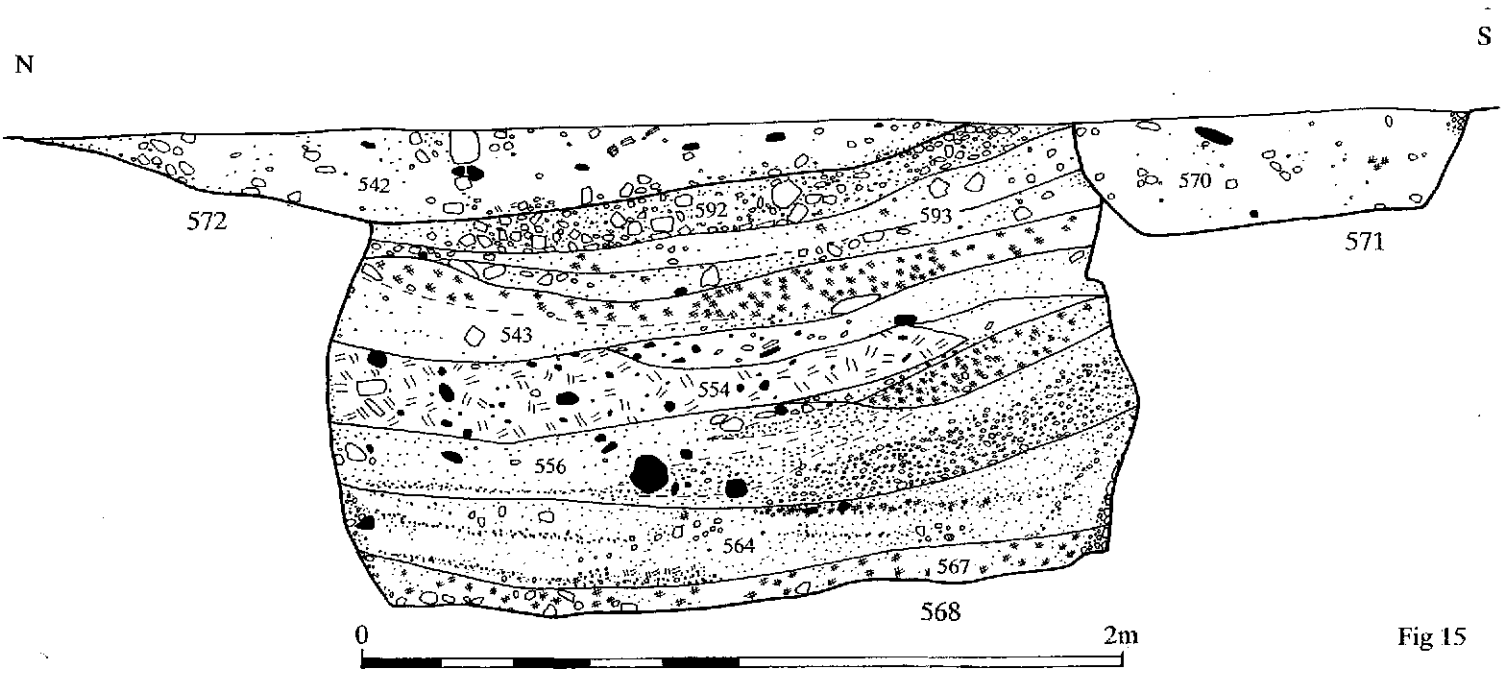
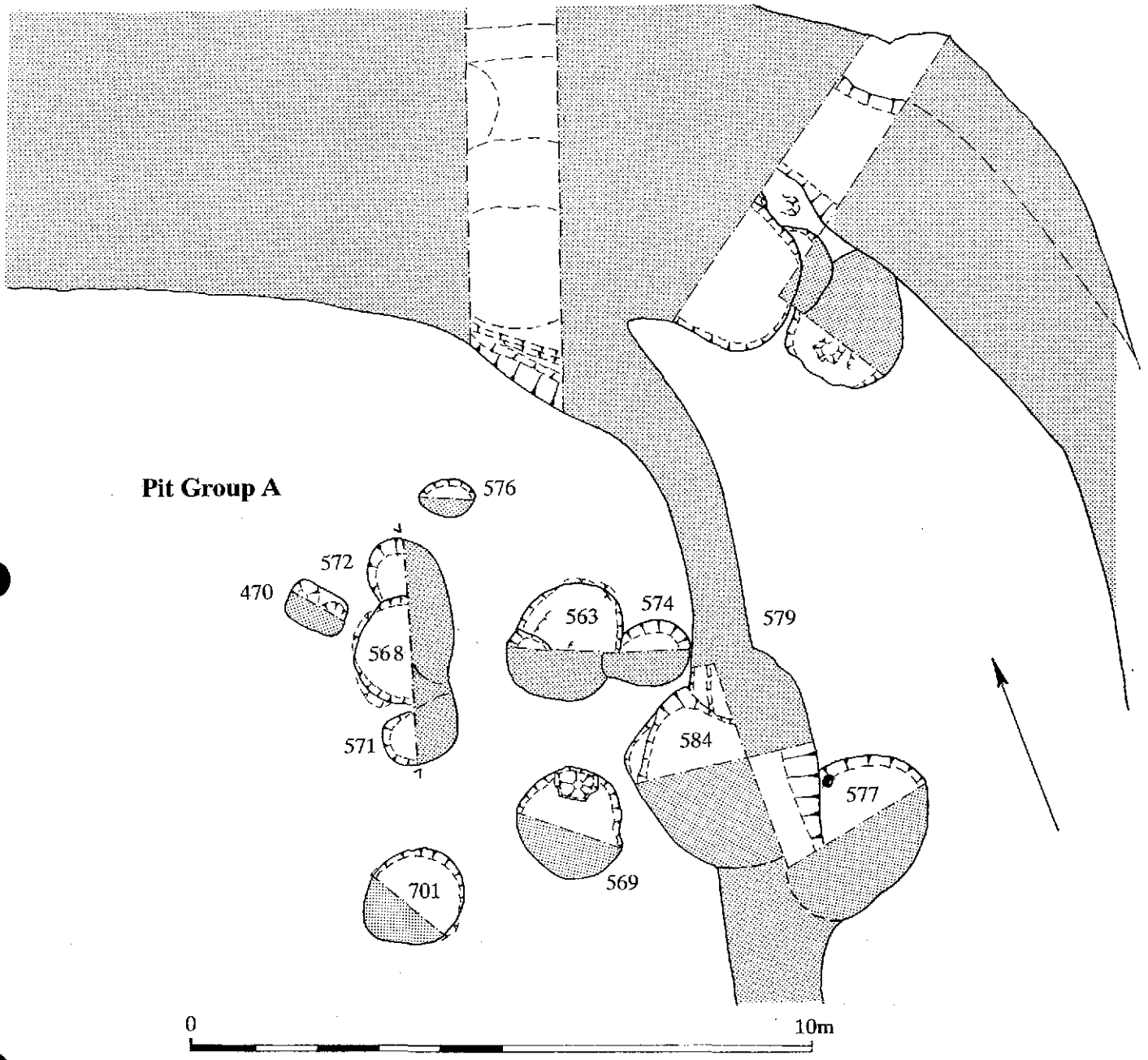


Fig 15

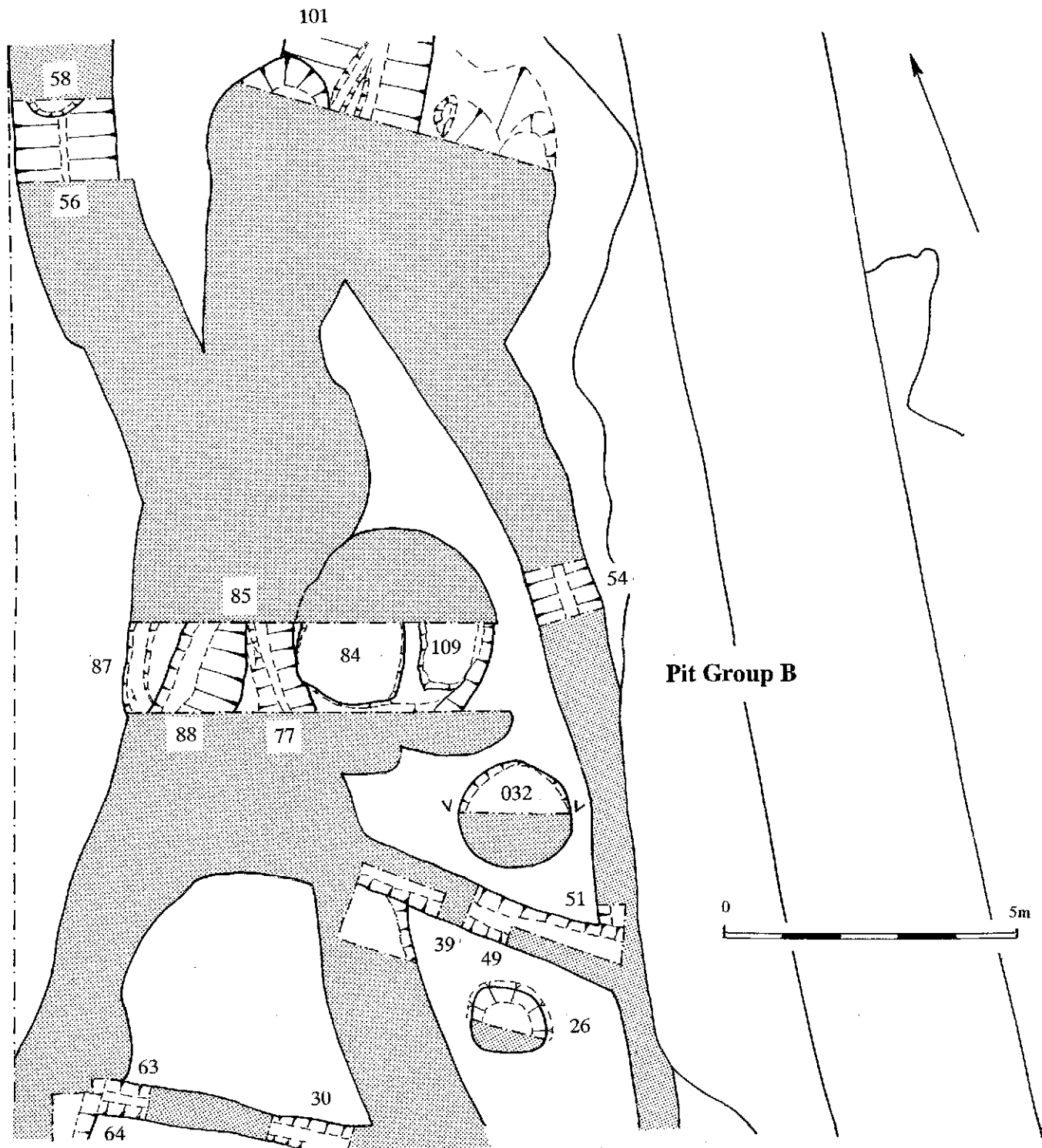
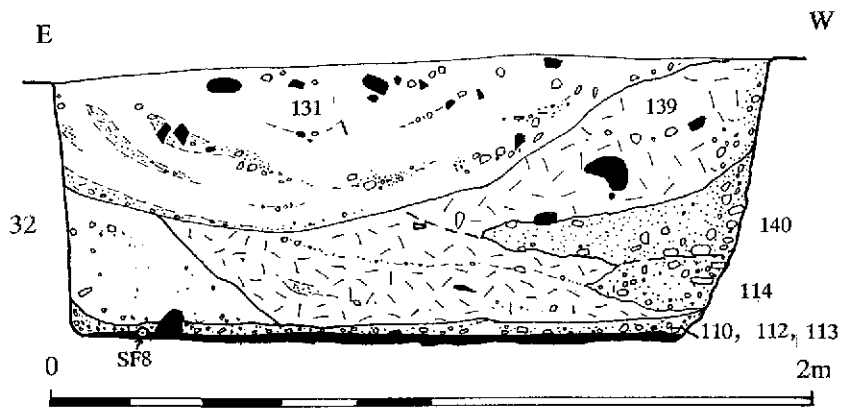


Fig 16

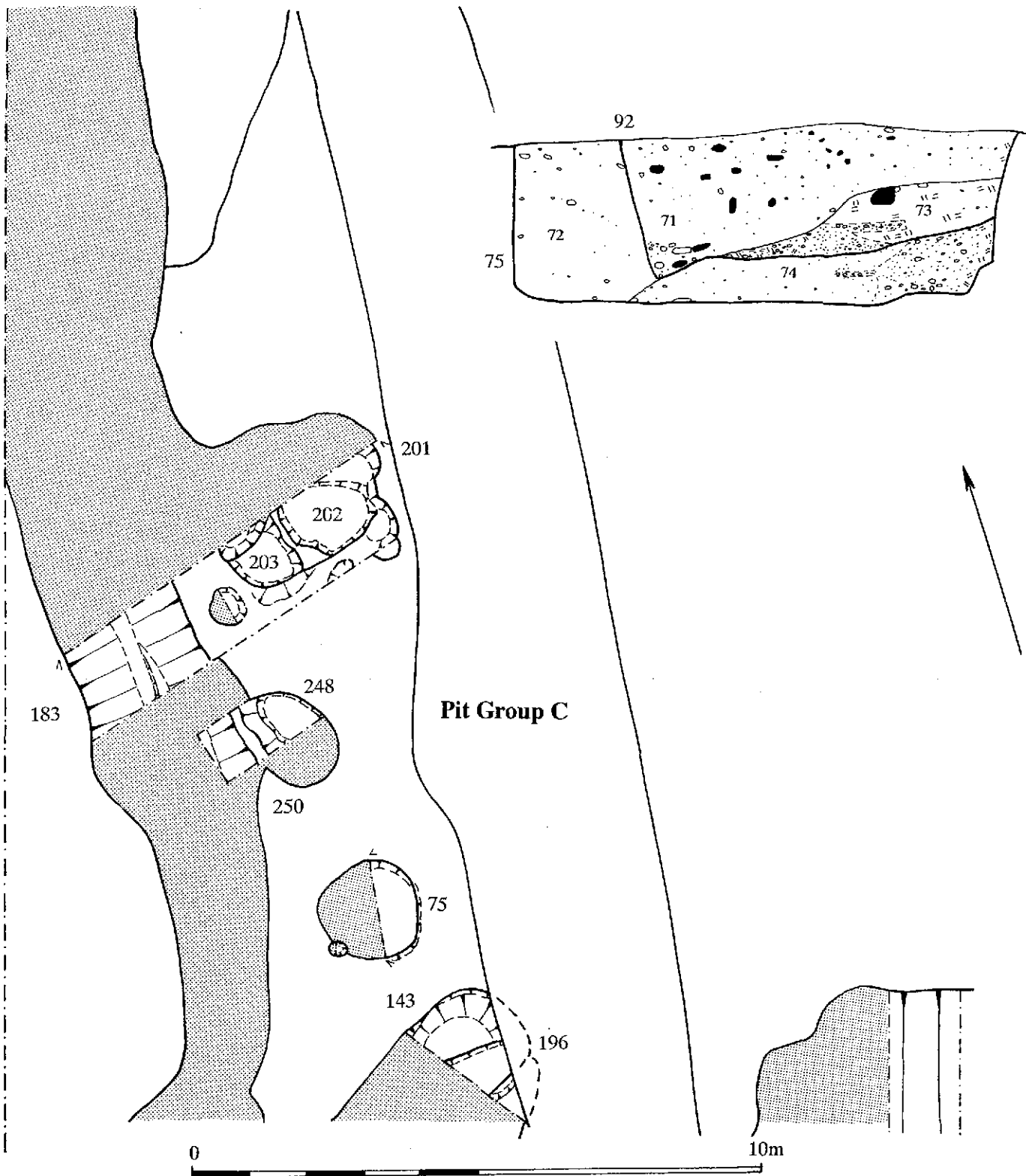
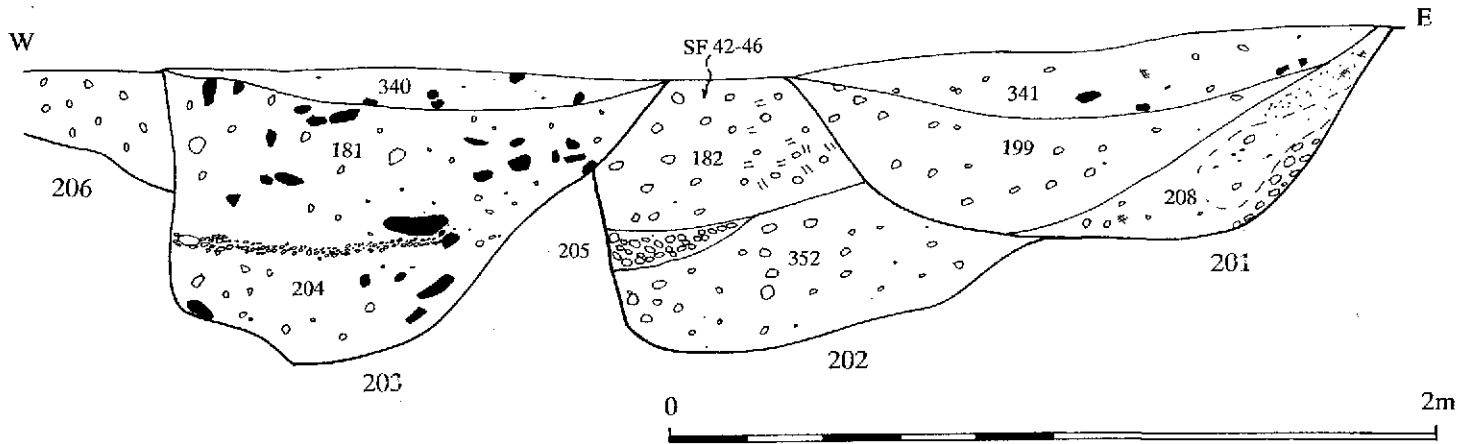


Fig 17

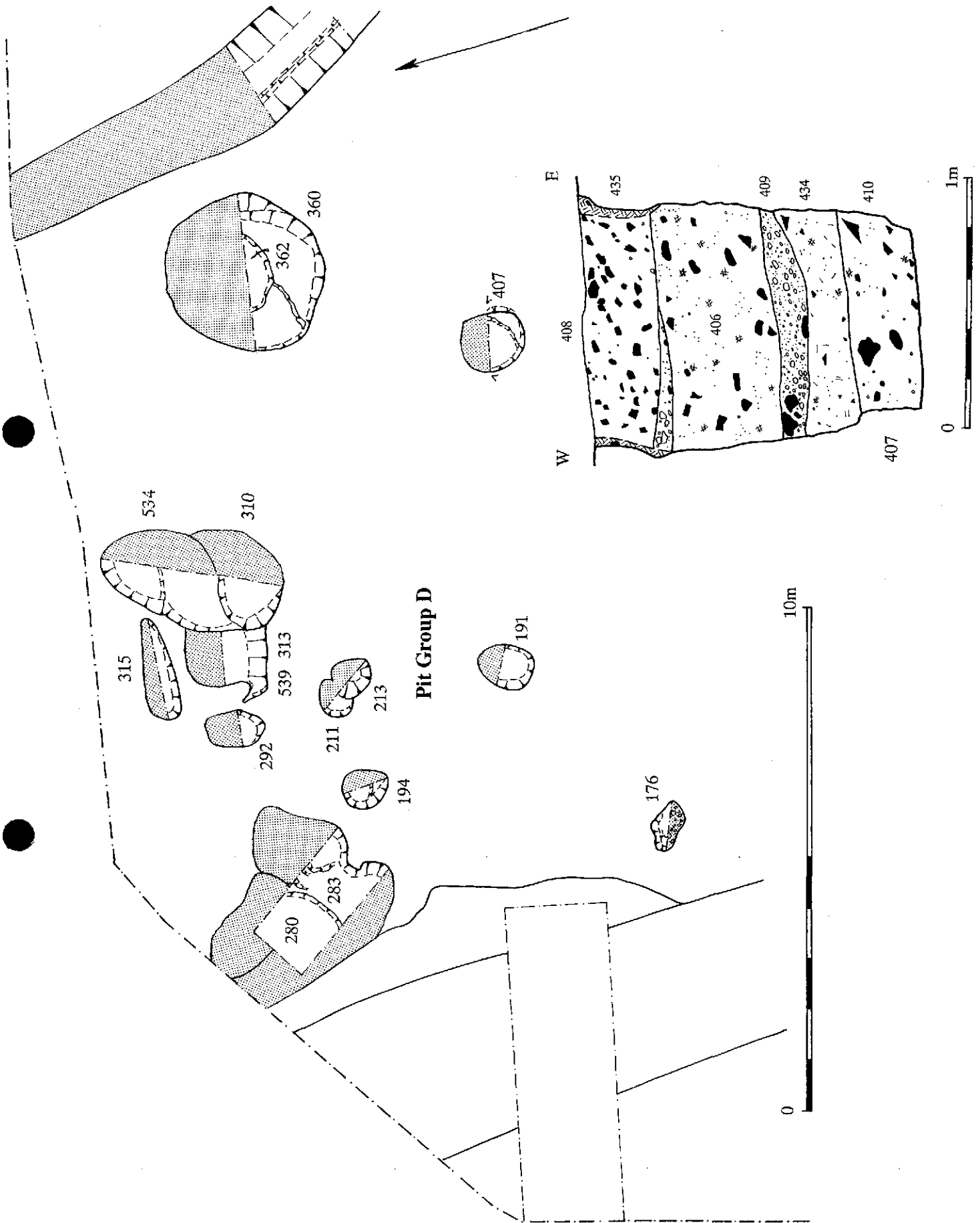
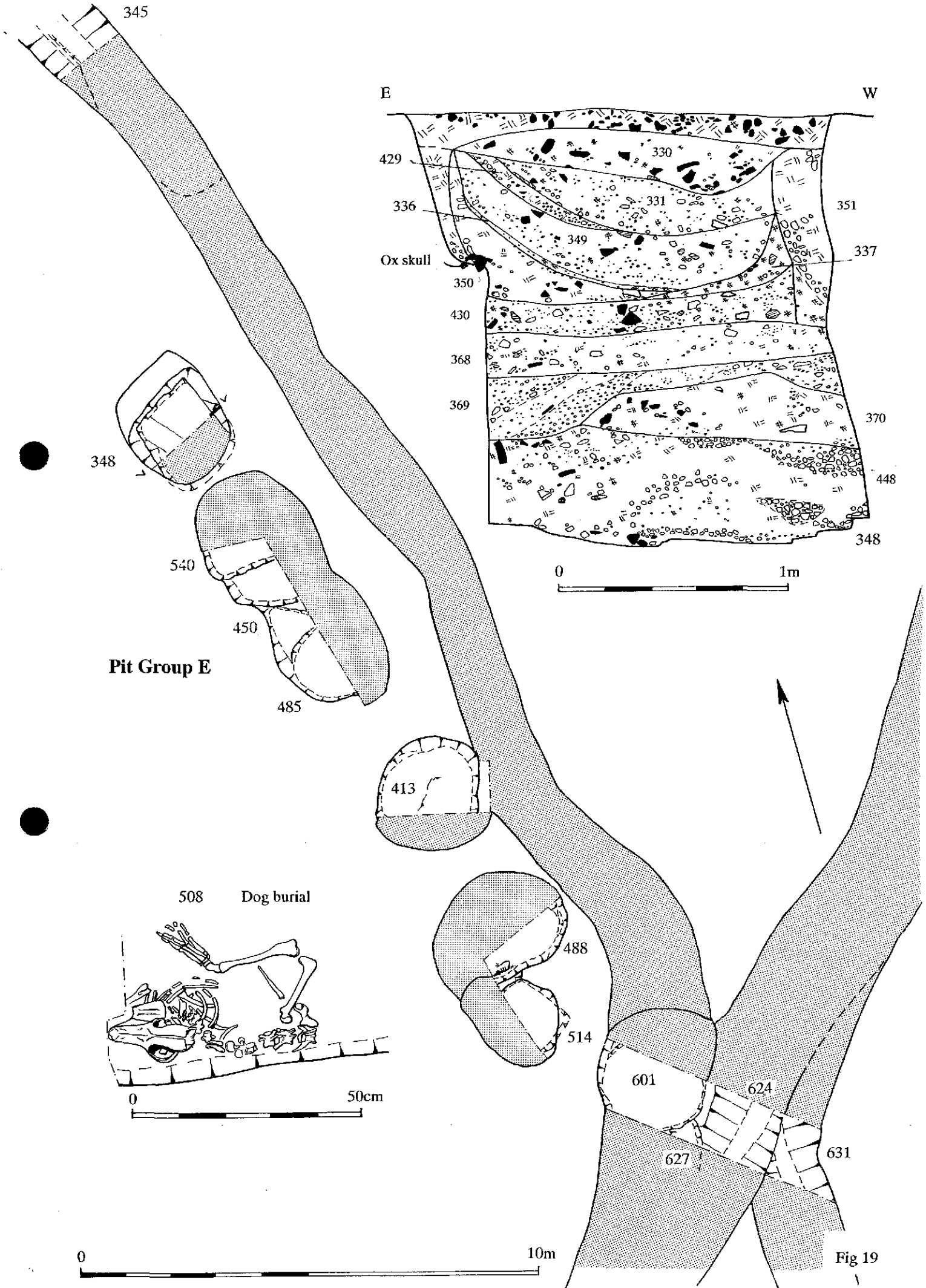


Fig 18



Pit Group E

508 Dog burial

Fig 19

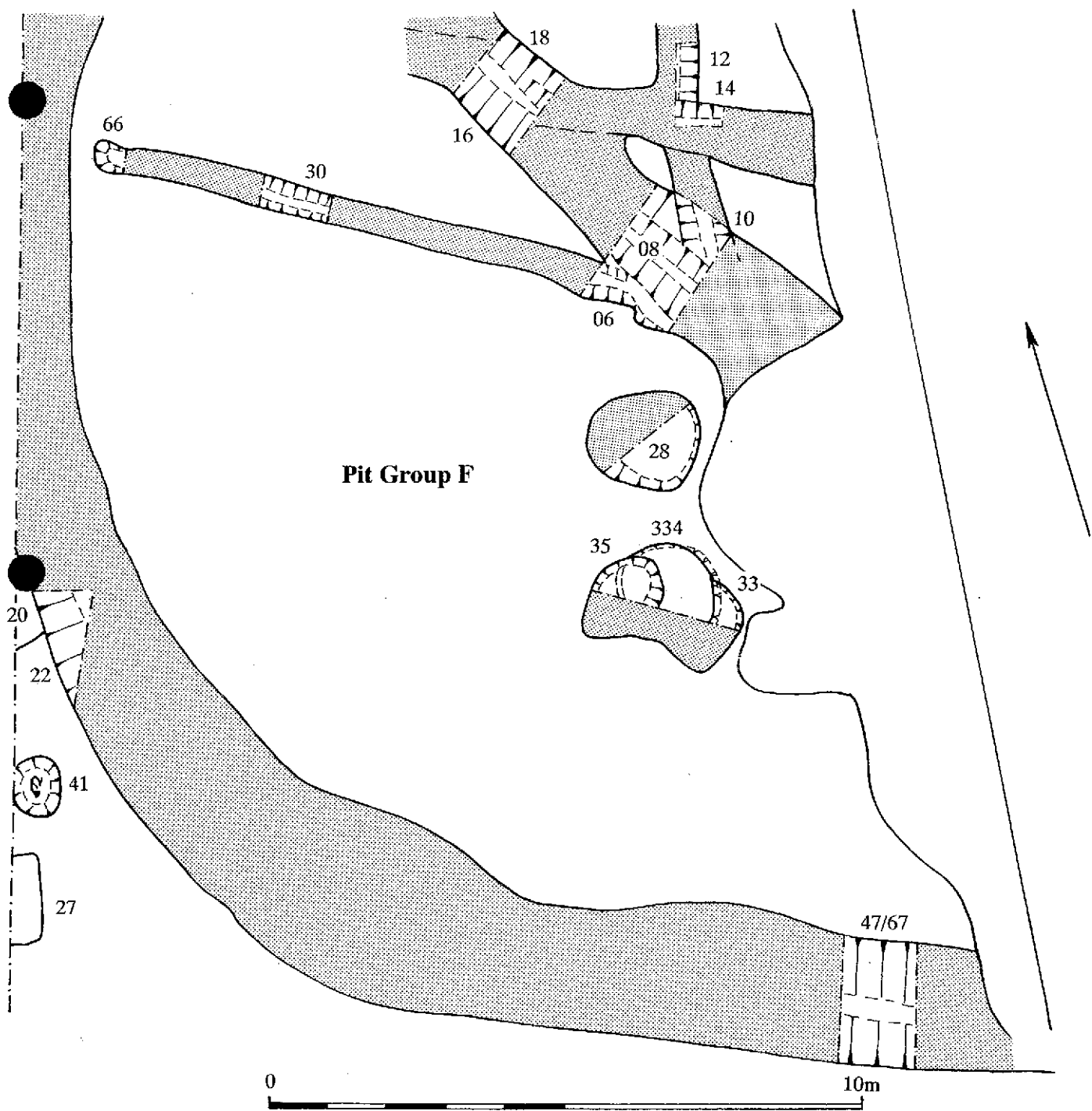
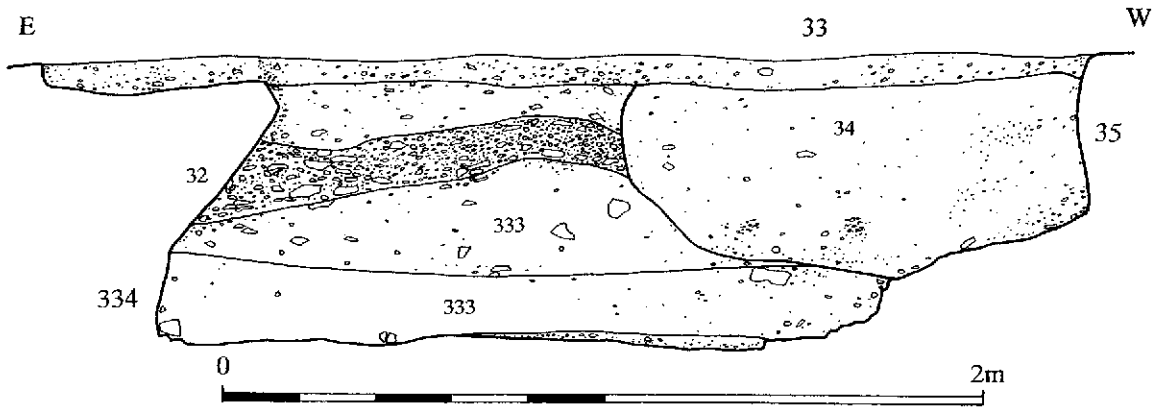


Fig 20

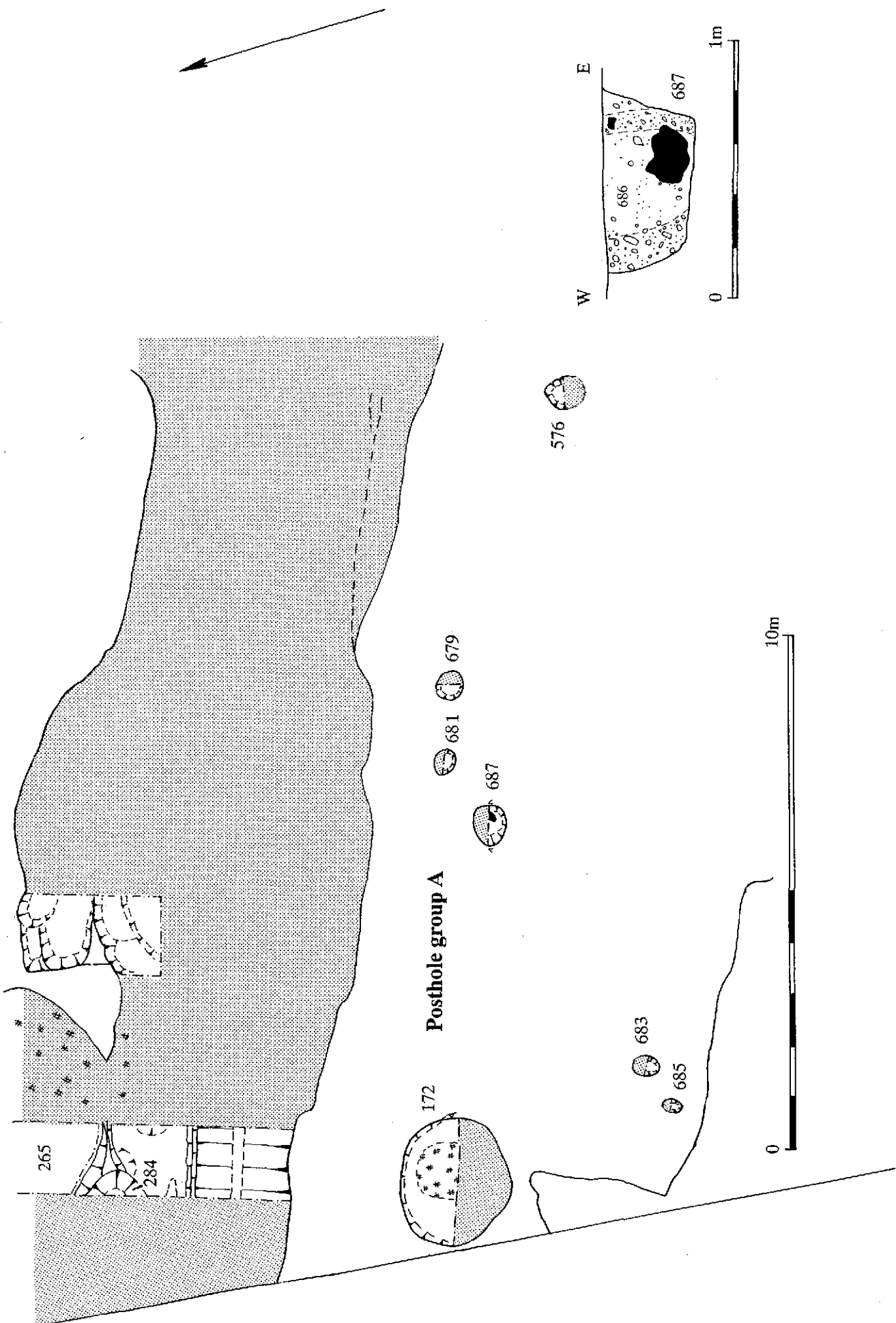
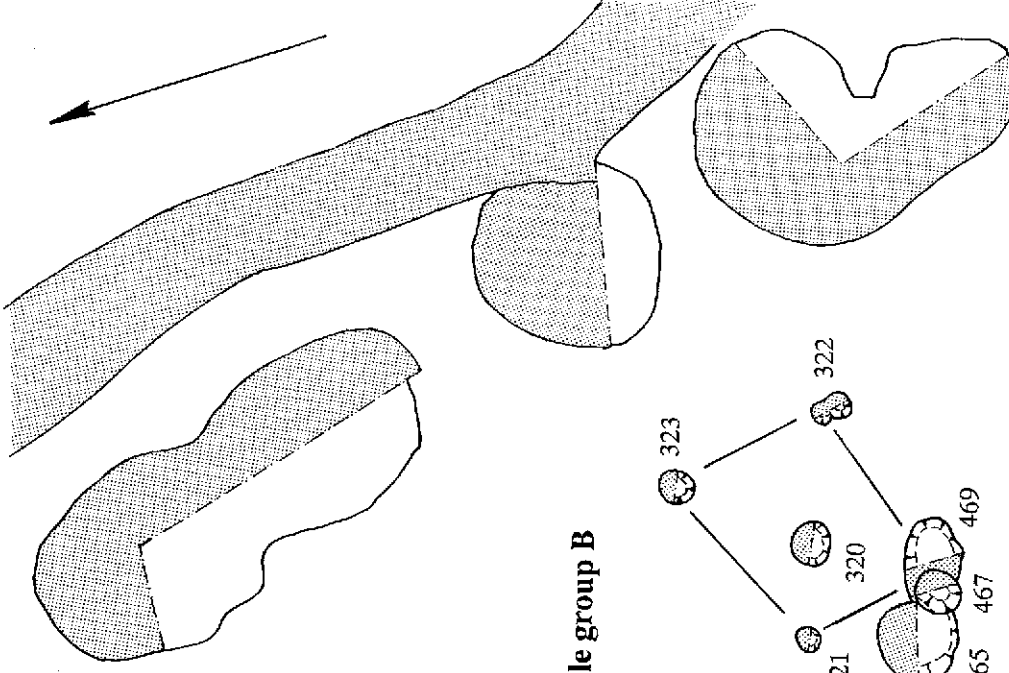
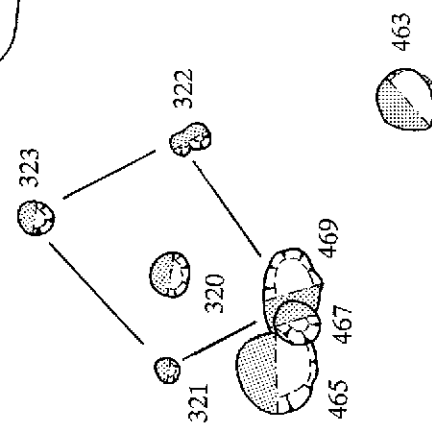


Fig 21

Pits E



Posthole group B



Posthole group C

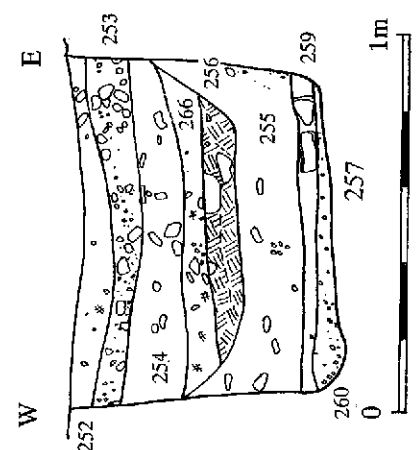
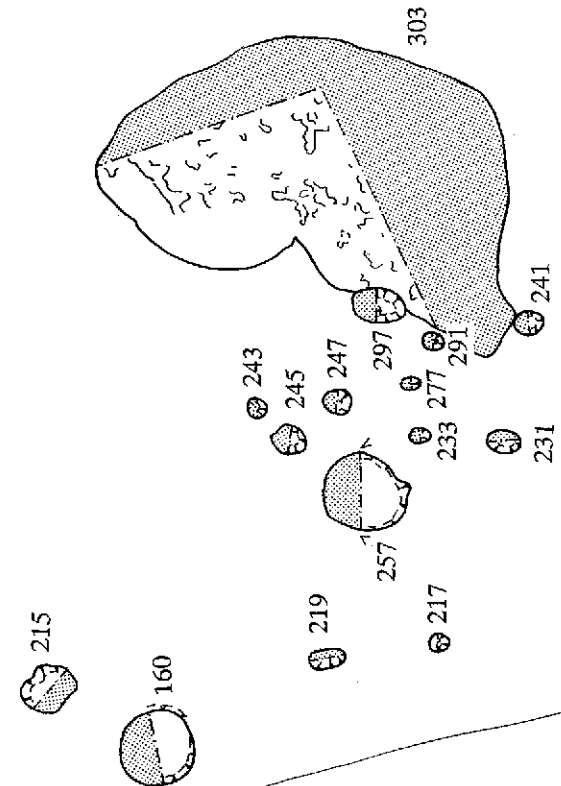
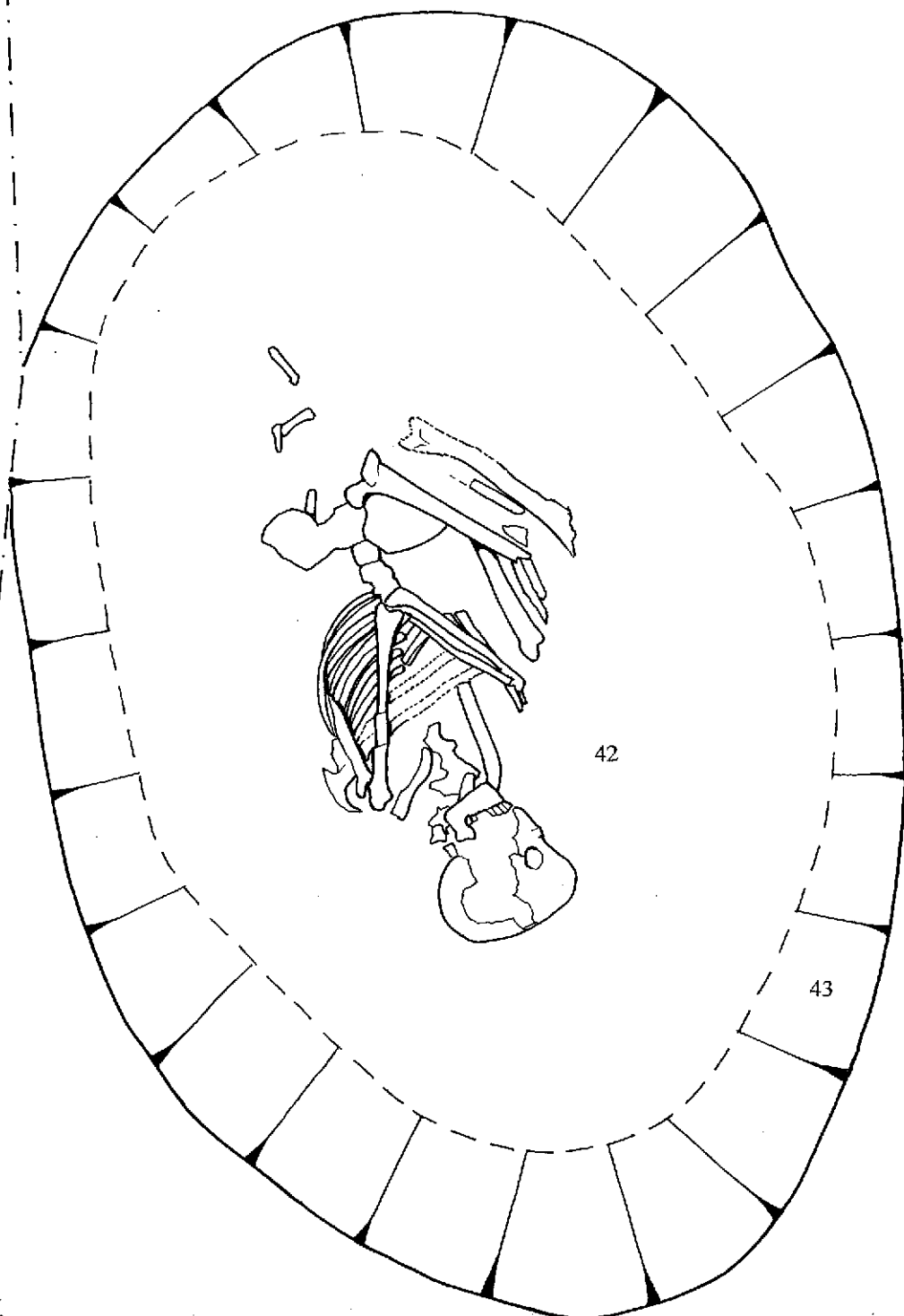


Fig 22



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Fig 23

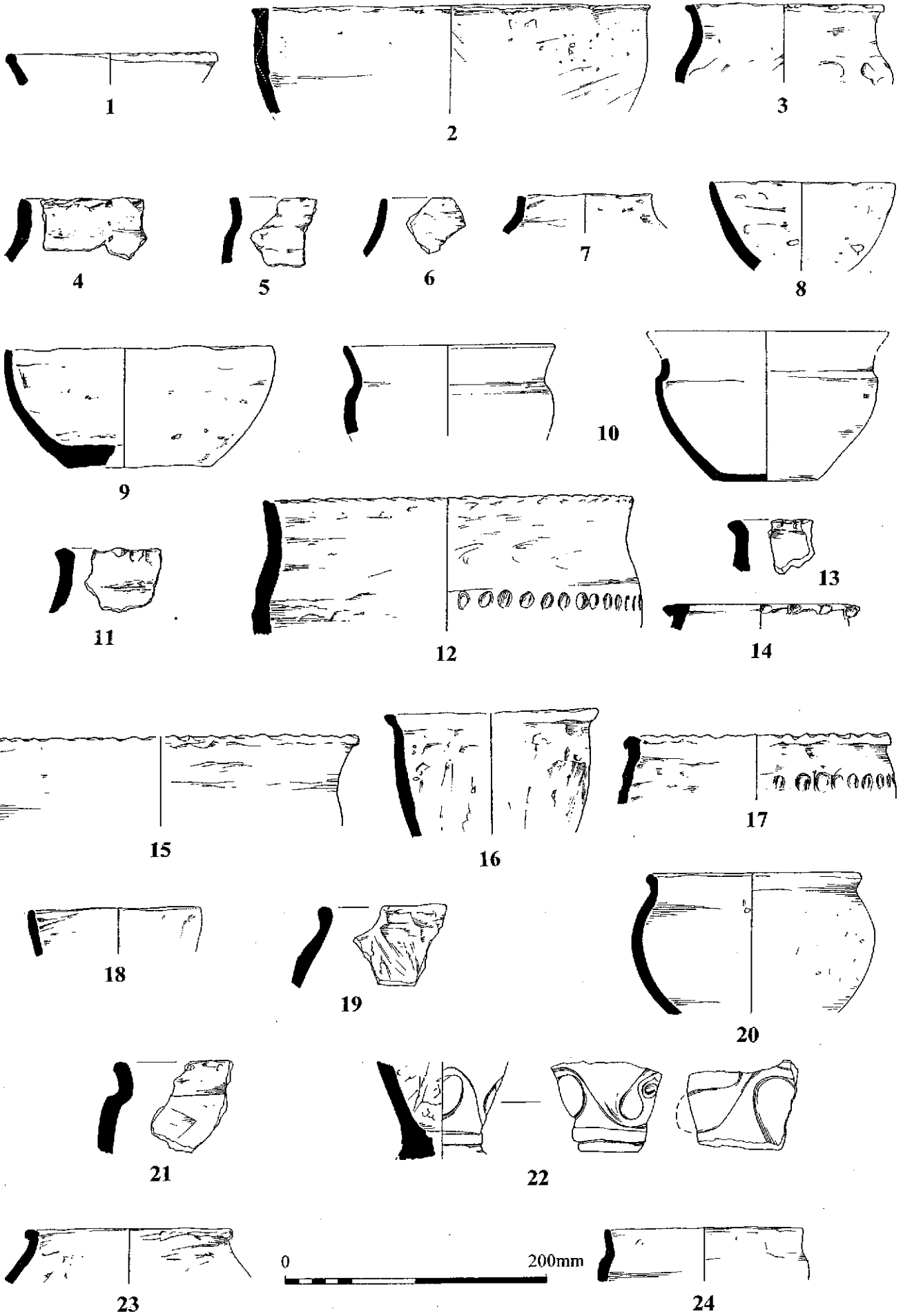
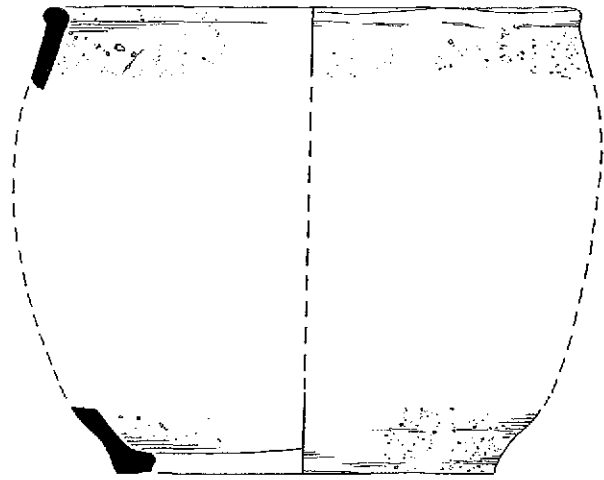
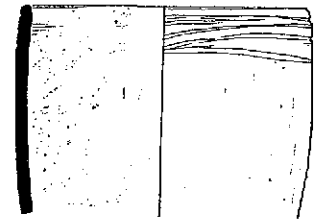


Fig 24



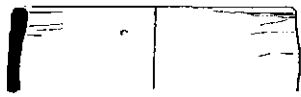
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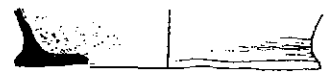
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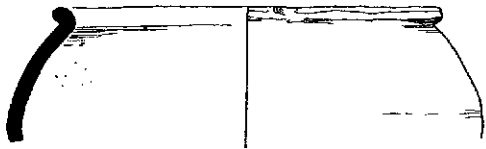
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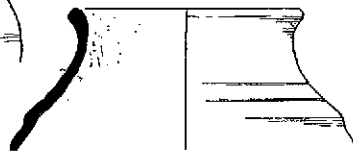
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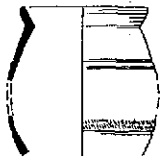
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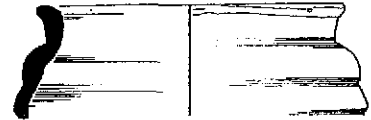
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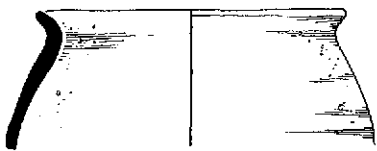
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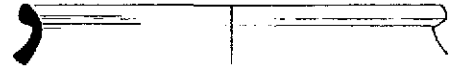
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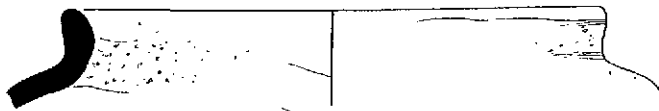
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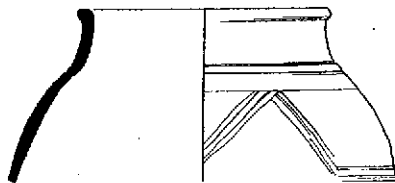
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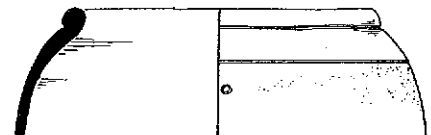
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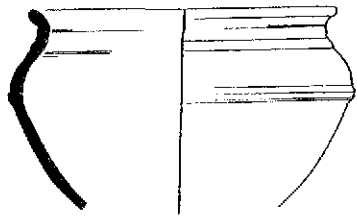


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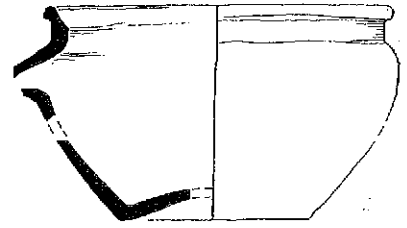


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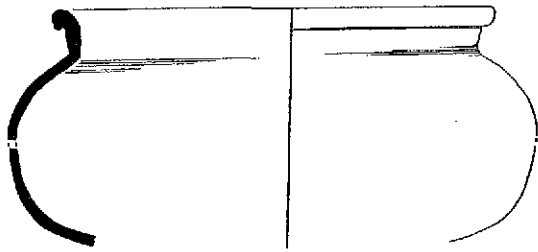
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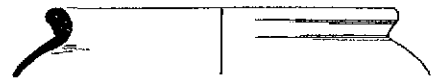
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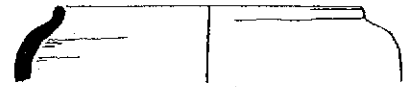
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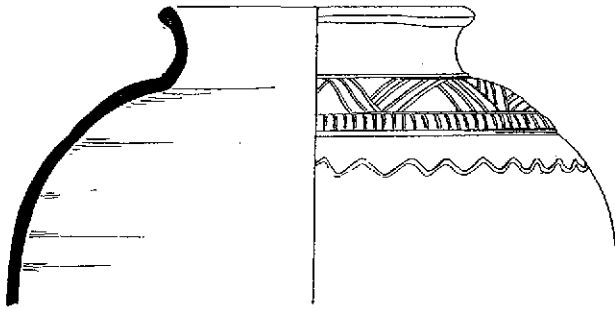
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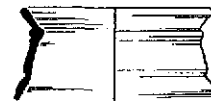
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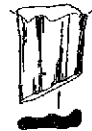
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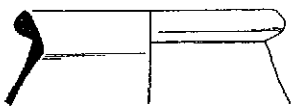
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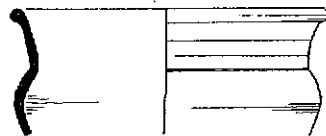
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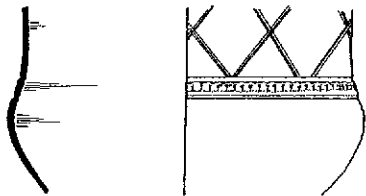
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53



54



55



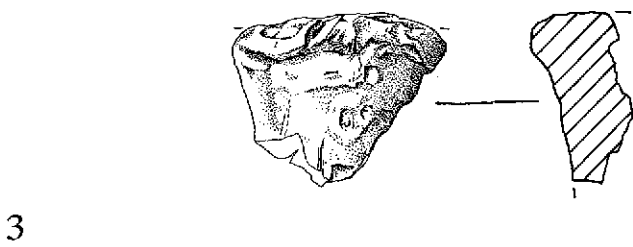
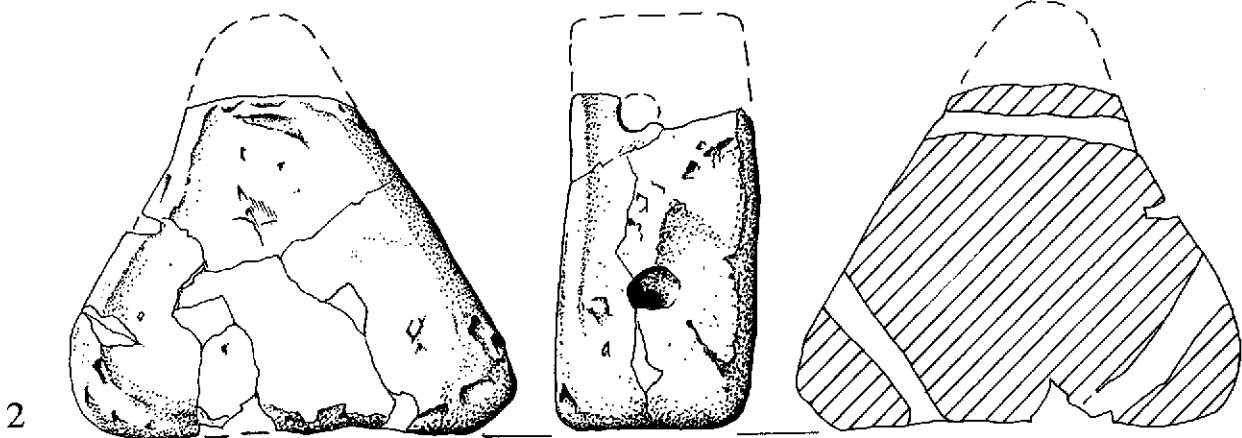
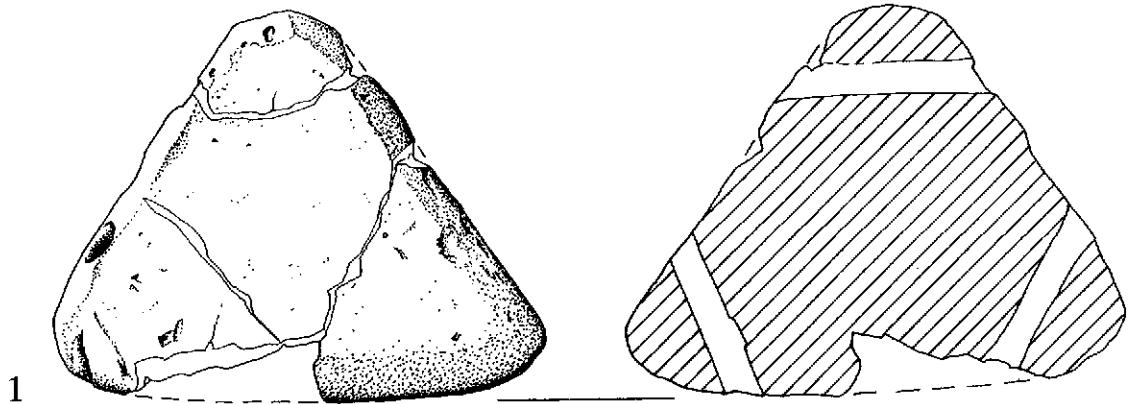


Fig 27

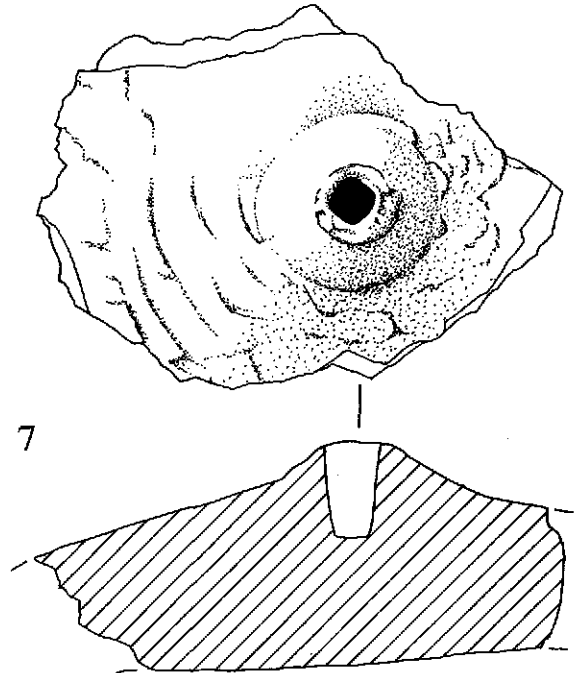
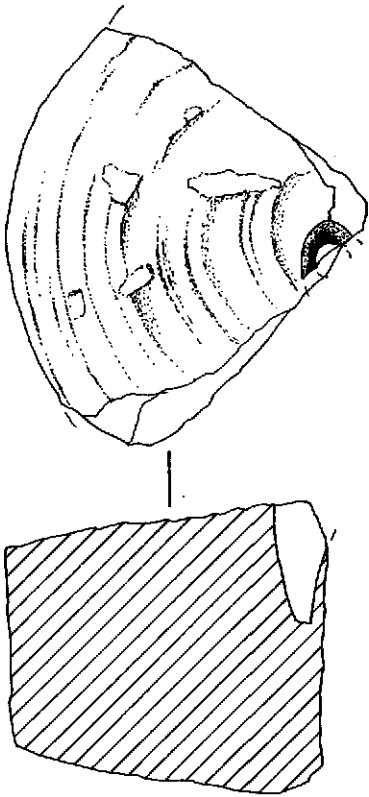
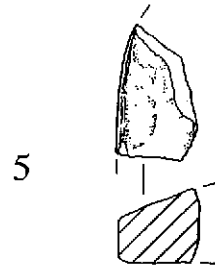
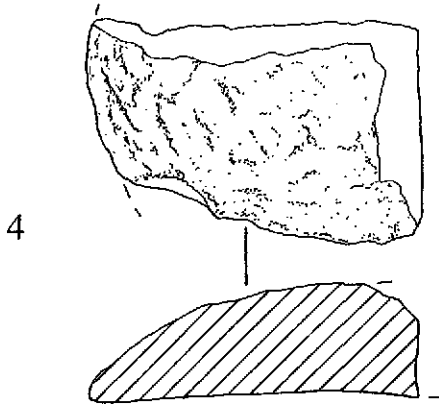


Fig 28

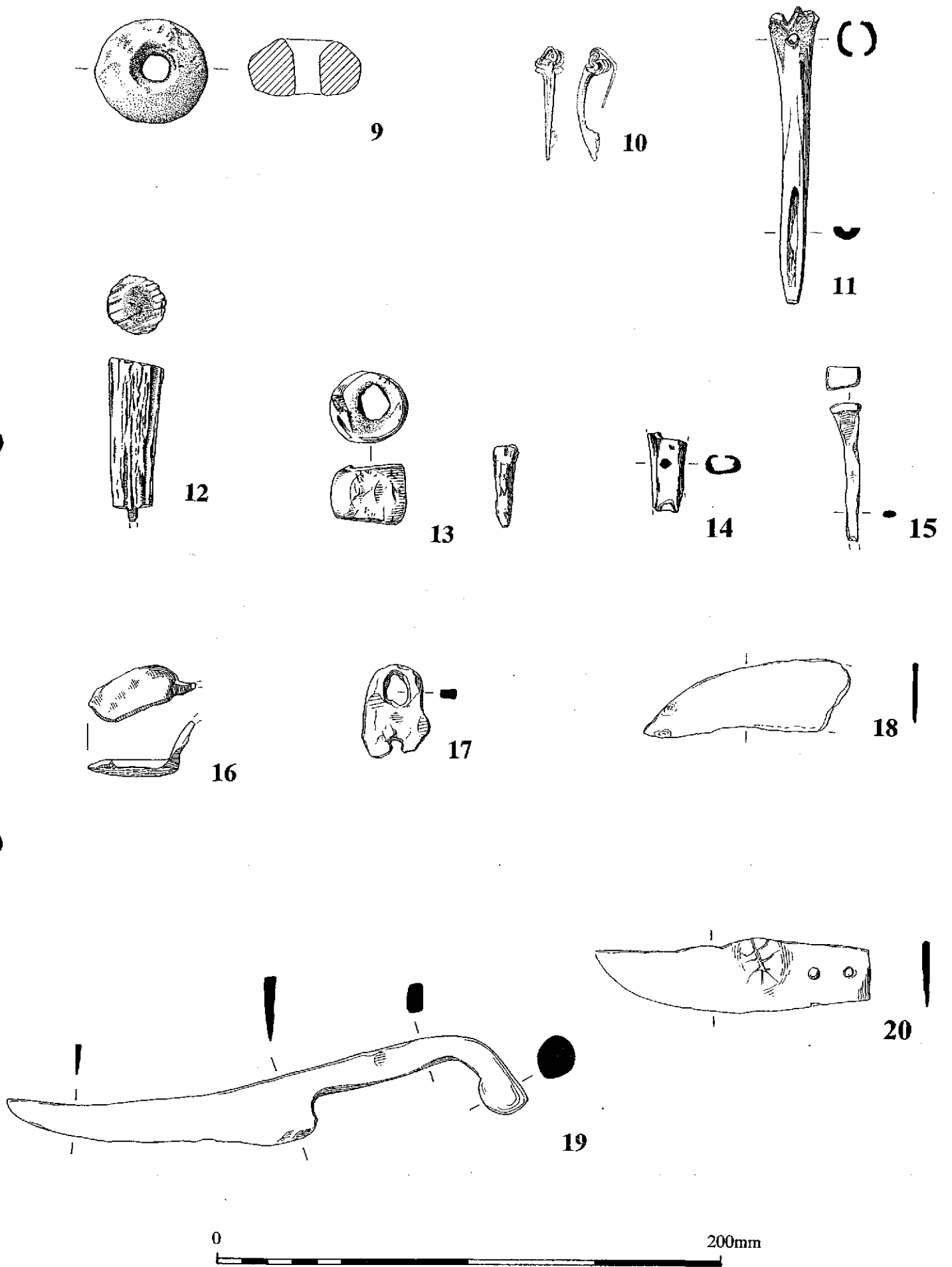


Fig 29

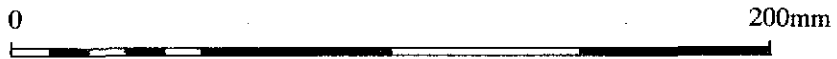
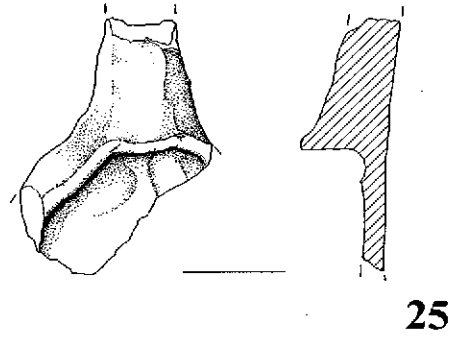
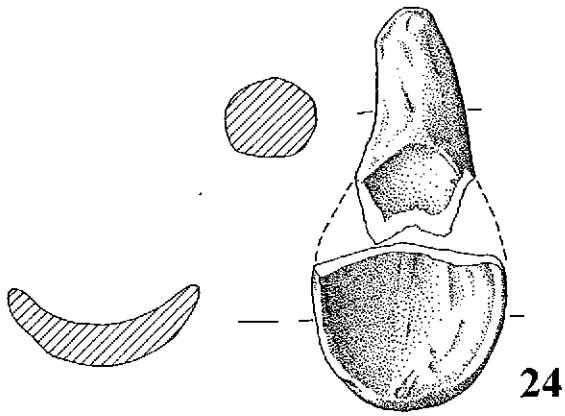
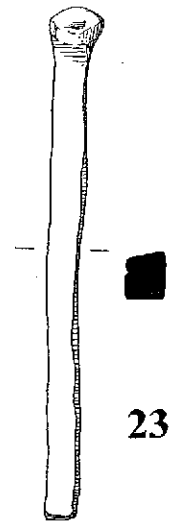
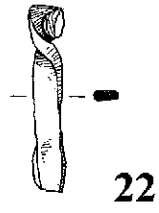
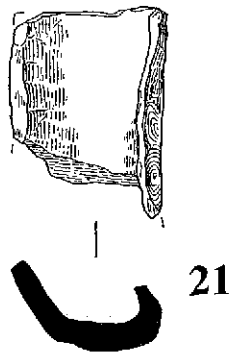


Fig 30



Plate 1: Section of Southern Enclosure ditch, (94, 96, 97, 99, 100, 101, phases 4-8) looking south



Plate 2: Section of Southern Enclosure ditch (S7, 47, phases 5 & 7/8), looking west



Plate 3: Section of the Northern Enclosure ditch (S1,183, phase 1 and recut 175), looking north

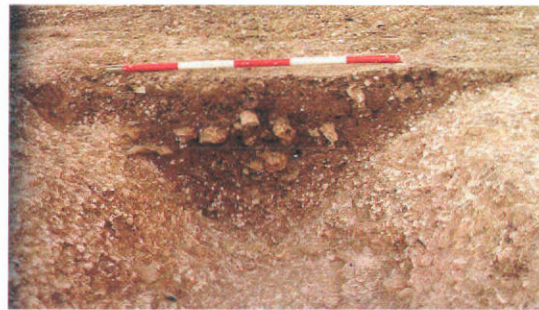


Plate 4: Southern Enclosure ditch (337-339), looking east



Plate 5: Excavated butt ends of Southern Enclosure ditches (436, 439 and 443, phases 6 and 7), looking north



Plate 6: Southern Enclosure ditches (S8, 472 and 705, phases 5-8), looking east

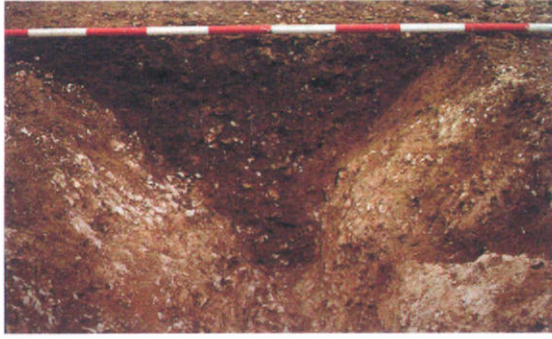


Plate 7: Section of Outer Eastern Boundary (547, Phase 7/8), looking North



Plate 8: Section of Southern Enclosure ditch (S6, 768, Phase 6/7)



Plate 9: Section of pit 32, showing lens of charcoal on the base of the pit.



Plate 10: Section of pit 172, showing the base of the pit stained black.

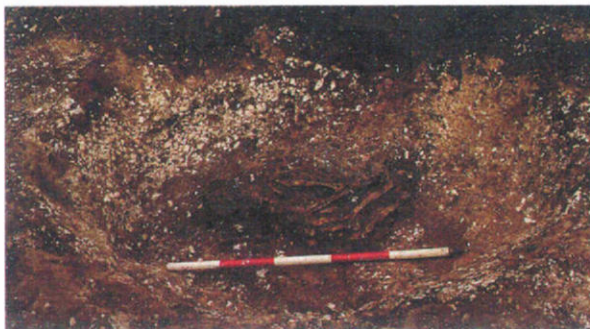


Plate 11: The inhumation, pit 43 viewed from the east



Fig. 12: An excavated section of pits and ditches showing infilling following heavy rain.



Plate 13: Deliberately placed chalk blocks
259 in pit 257



Plate 14: General view of the site during excavation
looking north



Plate 15: The later Southern Enclosure and
Southern Outer Enclosure ditches,
looking west (The spoil heap sits on the
area of post-medieval quarrying)



Plate 16: Section of pit 413, showing the
sharp chalk sides and base and the
weathered upper sides of the cut



Plate 17: Dog burial in pit 514



Plate 18: Complete ox-skull placed on a ledge
within pit 348



Plate 19: Section of pit 348, showing neatly dug base following fissures in the chalk bedrock



Plate 20: Section of pit 563, half full of chalk rubble and with asymmetrical recut, 586



Plate 21: Pit 569, almost wholly filled with clean chalk rubble



Plate 22: Pit 568, showing slumping layers of occupation debris



Plate 23: Pit 701, showing chalk rubble fill and charcoal rich lower fill



Plate 24: Pick marks in the chalk side of pit 824



Plates 25 and 26: showing enclosure ditches working well in wet weather!
