An Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Eastanton Manor Farm, Eastanton, Andover, Hampshire

Centred at SU 3720 4775

Project No. 1760

by
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October 2003

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Summary

Sixteen evaluation trenches with a total length of 800m were mechanically excavated at the proposed development site. They were located in areas were geophysical survey, fieldwalking and examination of aerial photographs suggested the presence of buried archaeological remains. A range of archaeological features including pits post-holes, ditches (including a barrow ditch) and a possible wall footing trench were encountered and recorded. The majority of excavated material was Romano-British in date, but medieval and prehistoric artefacts were also recovered.

Archaeology South-East

Archaeology South-East is a division of the Field Archaeology Unit, University College London, one of the largest groupings of academic archaeologists in the country. Consequently, Archaeology South-East has access to the conservation, computing and environmental backup of the college, as well as a range of other archaeological services.

The Field Archaeology Unit and South Eastern Archaeological Services (which became Archaeology South-East in 1996) were established in 1974 and 1991 respectively. Although field projects have been conducted world-wide, the Field Archaeology Unit retains a special interest in south-east England with the majority of our contract and consultancy work concentrated in Sussex, Kent, Greater London and Essex.

Based in the local community, the Field Archaeology Unit sees an important part of its work as explaining the results to the broader public. Public lectures, open days, training courses and liaison with local archaeological societies are aspects of its community-based approach.

Drawing on experience of the countryside and towns of the south east of England the Unit can give advice and carry out surveys at an early stage in the planning process. By working closely with developers and planning authorities it is possible to incorporate archaeological work into developments with little inconvenience.

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Archaeology South-East (a division of University College London Field Archaeology Unit) was commissioned by CPM Environmental Planning & Design (CPM), on behalf of George Wimpey UK Ltd., to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land in the vicinity of Eastanton Manor Farm, Eastanton, Andover, Hampshire (centred at NGR TQ 3720 4775).

1.2 The proposed development site is located to the north-east of the modern centre of Hampshire, in an area of open farmland (Fig. 1). The underlying geology is Upper Chalk. Evaluation trenches were located to the north, west, south and south-east of Eastanton Manor Farm (Fig. 2), in areas identified as having archaeological potential during previous phases of archaeological work (see below).

1.3 Owing to the archaeologically sensitive nature of the area, a programme of archaeological work has been carried out at the request of Mr Frank Green, the Heritage Officer at Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC). A Specification for the current phase of work was prepared by Ben Stephenson of CPM, providing a rationale for the work, giving the locations of the evaluation trenches and outlining the potential for the excavation of further contingency trenches where appropriate.

1.4 A detailed Method Statement was provided by Ian Greig of Archaeology South-East with reference to the Specification, and amending it in accordance with the contents of an email sent from TVBC to CPM dated 24.09.03. The document outlined the methodology to be used in the field and was approved by CPM prior to the commencement of work.

1.5 The on-site work was carried out by a team comprised of Simon Stevens (Senior Field Officer), Richard James (Field Officer), and Alice Thorne, Jonathan Dicks and Mike Pritchard (Archaeological Assistants). The project was managed by Ian Greig (Project Manager) and Luke Barber (Post-Excavation manager).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The archaeological potential of the proposed development area has been fully discussed elsewhere.[1] To summarise, the desk-top survey showed metal-detector finds, examination of aerial photographs and plotting of the position of stray finds suggest activity within the development area since at least the Bronze Age

[1] M. Bennell *Land Adjoining Eastanton Manor Farm, Andover, Hampshire. An Archaeological Assessment.* Unpub. Archaeology South-East Report No. 1122. (July 1999)

2.2 The proposed development area includes the sites of three potential Bronze Age barrows, the line of a Roman Road, with a crossroads to the immediate south of the area, possible Romano-British or Iron Age enclosures, the location of a possible, although 'dubious' Roman burial, potential Anglo-Saxon activity, and a candidate for a deserted medieval village.[2]

2.3 The document also summarised the results of geophysical investigations close to the junction of the Roman roads from Silchester to Old Sarum, and Winchester to Cirencester, thought to be the site of the small Roman town of *Leucomagnus*. The geophysical survey results suggested the presence of pits and an enclosure but were not consistent with the presence of the remains of a Roman town.[3]

2.4 Large-scale fieldwalking undertaken since the desk-top report was produced partially supported the conclusions of the desk-top report (although there was no obvious 'on the ground' evidence for the deserted medieval village). Work undertaken by Archaeology South-East and Berkshire Archaeological Services, whose work included some geophysics, identified a concentration of Romano-British material at the extreme north-eastern edge of the development area and the presence of Bronze Age pottery in the ploughsoil in the north-eastern portion.[4]

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 A pattern of 15 trenches, each 50m in length (a cumulative length of 750m) was originally produced by Ben Stephenson of CPM. There were four distinct groups (shown in Fig. 2).

Trenches T1 – T3	Located to test a potential ring ditch and ascertain the presence/absence of adjacent/related deposits. A Contingency Trench (*T16*) was also excavated in this area.
Trenches T4 – T8	Located to test geophysical anomalies identified in grassed paddocks surveyed in 1998. On east side of junction of Roman roads.

[2] *ibid*
[3] *ibid*
[4] Summarised in the CPM Specification

Trenches T9 – T12	Located to test fieldwalking results and geophysical anomalies and ascertain the presence/absence of adjacent deposits.
Trenches T13 – T15	Located to sample an area from which Bronze Age pottery was recovered during fieldwalking.

3.2 The trenches were surveyed in using a Sokkia Set 5a Total Station and the locations of all were checked with a CAT scanner for the presence of buried services prior to excavation. The trenches were then excavated by a JCB 3cx fitted with a six-foot (1.8m) wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of staff from Archaeology South-East.

3.3 The excavation was taken down to the top of the 'natural' deposits or any significant archaeological deposit, whichever was the higher. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the 'natural' were manually cleaned in an attempt to identify individual archaeological features. Spoil was scanned for the presence of artefacts, both visually and by use of a metal detector.

3.4 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to the Method Statement and Field Archaeology Unit Site Manuel (draft). Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.

3.5 As no Ordnance Survey Bench Mark was available in the vicinity, and following discussions with Ben Stephenson of CPM and Frank Green of TVBC, it was agreed that the depth of features below the current ground surface would be recorded at this stage, and that no attempt would be made to level to the Ordnance Datum, or to a site specific system.

3.6 A full photographic record of the work was kept as appropriate and will form part of the site archive. The archive (including the finds) is presently held at the Archaeology South-East office in Ditchling and will be offered to a suitable local museum in due course.

4.0 **RESULTS : Trenches T1 - T3 and T16** (Fig 3) 21368

4.1 Three evaluation trenches (**T1–T3**) were positioned to ascertain the state of preservation of a ring-ditch known from aerial photographs, and to establish if there was associated activity in the vicinity. At the request of Frank Green of TVBC (and with the agreement of Ben Stephenson of CPM) an additional contingency trench (**T16**) was also excavated in this area..

4.2 Trench **T1** was excavated to a length of 43m (a 7m gap was left for a frequently used footpath) and to a depth of 360mm at the south-western end and to a depth of 350mm at the north-eastern end at which the 'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden consisted of two distinct layers. The uppermost was a *c.*200mm thick mid-brown, humic topsoil (Context **1**), which overlay a *c.*150mm thick, lighter brown mixed subsoil/ploughsoil (Context **2**), which directly overlay the 'natural' chalk. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.3 Trench **T2** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 360mm at the south-eastern end and to 500mm at the north-western end. The overburden was similar in character to that found in Trench **T1**, with the upper layer (Context **1**) remaining a consistent thickness of *c.*200mm, and Context **2** becoming noticeably thicker down the south-east to north-west slope. The expected ring-ditch was observed running south-west to north-east across the trench, at a depth of 440mm below the current ground surface. It was found to be 4.25m wide.

4.4 Owing to the width of the feature, it was agreed with Frank Green of TVBC and Ben Stephenson of CPM that it would be appropriate to excavate the ditch mechanically at this evaluation stage and record the section. Subsequently, the feature was sectioned with a 750mm wide toothless ditching bucket under supervision of staff from Archaeology South-East.

4.5 The ditch (Cut **53**) was found to have a splayed 'v' profile with a depth of 1.28m (Fig 3, S1). No manual cleaning or close examination of the section was possible on grounds of safety, but it appeared to contain two distinct fills. The uppermost was a *c.*640mm thick greyish brown silty clay (Context **54**), which overlay a *c.*600mm thick deposit (Context **55**), which appeared similar in texture but darker in colour. No artefacts were recovered from the spoil of the mechanical excavation, but a sample was taken for analysis of environmental potential from Context **54** and a small scrap of probable prehistoric pottery was recovered from it (see below).

4.6 Trench **T3** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 800mm at the south-eastern end and to 680mm at the north-western end at which the

'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden was similar to that found in Trench **T1**. No archaeological features were observed and no artefacts were recovered from the overburden.

4.7 Trench **T16** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 550mm at the junction with Trench **T1** and to 500mm at the junction with Trench **T2** at which the 'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden was similar to that found in Trench **T1**. The ring-ditch was observed running south-west to north-east across the trench, at a depth of 600mm below the current ground surface. It was 3.15m wide at this point.

4.8 Again it was agreed that mechanical excavation was appropriate, and the feature was sectioned with the 750mm wide toothless ditching bucket. The ditch was found to be only 810mm deep at this point (Fig. 3, S2). However, with the depth of overburden the section was not manually cleaned or closely examined on grounds of safety. The ditch (Cut **56**) was similar in profile, though slightly more splayed, to the previously encountered part of the ditch recorded in Trench **T2**. The only recognised fill (Context **57**) was similar in colour and texture to the lower fill of that ditch (Context **55**) but no finds were recovered.

4.9 There can be little doubt that the two examined ditch sections are parts of the same ring-ditch, which was shown to have an internal diameter of *c.*23.50m. The area between the ditches had a quite obvious 'dome' effect due to the protection from ploughing previously given by the now plough-out barrow, a recognised local phenomena (Frank Green *pers. comm.*). Unfortunately there was no surviving evidence of any associated features and/or burials.

5.0 RESULTS : Trenches T4 - T8 (Figs. 2 and 4) 56466

5.1 The location of Trench **T4** was moved to the north by 10m to avoid a fenceline. It was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 700m at the southern end and 500mm at the northern end at which the 'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The overburden consisted of three distinct layers.

5.2 The uppermost was the previously encountered *c.*200mm thick humic topsoil (Context **1**), which directly overlay a looser, less humic greyish brown silty clay layer (Context **2**), which varied in thickness between 150mm and 300mm. This overlay the ploughsoil/subsoil common to all of the trenches (Context **3**), which directly overlay the chalk. The chalk in this trench was noticeably softer and darker in colour at the deeper, southern end of the trench. Two archaeological features were identified (Fig. 4).

5.3 Cut **46** was a shallow pit with a diameter of 1.32m and a depth of 300mm (Fig. 4, S3), encountered 510mm below the current ground surface. The single fill was a greyish brown silty clay (Context **47**) from which Romano-British material, including a large assemblage of pottery and the fragmentary remains of an baby burial was recovered. A sample was taken for analysis of environmental potential (see below).

5.4 Cut **48** was a broad, 3.5m wide ditch, or possibly large pit, which extended outside the trench and was encountered 460mm below the current ground surface. It was agreed to excavate the feature mechanically, and it was found to be 830mm in depth, with four discernible fills (Fig 4, S4). The upper most was Context **49**, a 370mm thick, light greyish brown silty clay, from which Romano-British pottery and animal bone were recovered.

5.5 This overlay a 380mm thick dark greyish brown silty clay (Context **50**), from which Romano-British pottery and animal bone were also recovered (see below). This fill contained a charcoal-rich lens/dump of silty clay at its base (Context **51**). The basal fill was a 150mm thick dark brownish grey silt (Context **52**) from which more Romano-British pottery was. No samples were taken on grounds of safety.

5.6 Trench **T5** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 600mm at the south-western end and to 430mm at the north-eastern end at which the 'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T4**. A number of archaeological features were identified in the trench.

5.7 Cut **25** was encountered 420mm below the current ground surface, and was a pit with a diameter of 1.55m and a depth of 570mm (Fig. 4, S5). The main dark reddish-brown silty clay fill (Context **26**) contained an assemblage of Romano-British material. A sample was taken for analysis of environmental potential (see below). There was also a 'slump' deposit on the north-eastern side of the pit. Context **27** was a light reddish brown silty clay from which Romano-British pottery was recovered.

5.8 The pit truncated another feature (Cut **28**) which contained a single light reddish-brown silty clay fill (Context **29**). This feature was interpreted as part of a solifluction channel in the chalk, and therefore geological in origin.

5.9 Cut **34** was a steep-sided, flat-bottomed feature, which extended outside of the trench, found at 430mm below the current ground surface (Fig. 4). It was 680mm wide and 740mm in depth (Fig. 4, S6) and contained a single dark greyish-brown silty clay fill (Context **35**) from which Romano-British material was recovered (see below).

5.10 Further to the north-east there were a group of linear features encountered at 400mm below the current ground surface (Fig. 4). Cut **36** was a 550mm wide, 150mm deep irregular gully (Fig. 4, S7). The light reddish-brown colour and clayey texture of the fill (Context **37**) suggested a geological origin. However, the orientation is at odds with this interpretation.

5.11 Cut **38** also appeared geological in origin with a distinct 'downhill' orientation (Fig. 4) and a light reddish-brown archaeologically sterile fill (Context **39**). It was 390mm wide and 220mm deep with a 'v' shaped profile (Fig. 4, S8). However, the feature did run parallel to another feature, Cut **40**, which contained a fill of similar texture, but slightly darker colour (Context **41**). This gully was 640mm wide and 110mm deep, with a distinctly 'flatter' profile (Fig. 4, S9). Romano-British material was recovered from the fill (see below) suggesting all these gullies may be of archaeological origin.

5.12 A further *c.*1m wide linear feature (Cut **67**) was located at the north-eastern end of the trench but was not excavated. The visible fill was a greyish-brown silty clay (Context **68**) produced no finds from its surface.

5.13 The location of Trench **T6** was moved 10m to the north to avoid the root system of a large tree. It was then excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 500mm at the southern end and to 350mm at the northern end at which the 'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T4**. A number of archaeological features were identified.

5.14 Cut **59** was a 1.44m wide, 360mm deep ditch which ran east to west across the trench, encountered at a depth of 430mm below the current ground surface (Fig. 5, S10). The single fill (Context **60**) was a light greyish-brown silty clay from which Romano-British pottery and animal bone were retrieved.

5.15 Cut **61** was a 500mm wide, 160mm deep gully which was encountered running east to west across the trench, at a depth of 370mm below the current ground surface (Fig. 5, S11). No artefacts were recovered from the single mid-greyish brown silty clay fill (Context **62**). The gully truncated another feature (Cut **63**). Limited excavation of this feature and the reddish clay fill (Context **64**) suggest that this anomaly was of geological origin.

5.16 The other feature identified in the trench was a pit, Cut **65**, found at 410mm below the current ground surface. It was 2.75m in diameter and had a depth of 700mm (Fig. 5 S12). No artefacts were recovered from the single mid-greyish brown fill (Context **66**).

5.17 Trench **T7** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 1.0m at the western end and to 400mm at the eastern end at which the 'natural' chalk

was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The character of the overburden was similar to that found in Trench **T4**, with the greater depth of the deposits at the western/downhill end due to a thickening of Context **2** as a result of downslope movement/hillwash. A copper alloy buckle was recovered from the overburden (see below).

5.18 The only feature identified in the trench was a shallow gully (Cut **17**) which ran from north to south across the trench at a depth of 550mm below the current ground surface (Fig. 5). It was 450mm wide and 130mm deep (Fig. 5, S13). The single mid-brown silty fill (Context **18**) contained an assemblage of Romano-British artefacts (see below).

5.19 Trench **T8** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 400mm at the western end and to 400mm at the eastern end at which the 'natural' chalk was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T4**. Four archaeological features were observed and excavated.

5.20 Cut **19** was a 900mm wide, 280mm deep round-bottomed ditch which ran north to south across the trench, at a depth of 390mm below the current ground surface (Fig. 5, S14). No artefacts were recovered from the single reddish brown clay fill (Context **20**). The character of the fill may suggest a geological origin but this cannot be proven at present. It was truncated by two features, a modern square post-hole (Context **21**) which was visible cutting Contexts **2** and **3** in the section of the trench. The single greyish brown loam fill (Context **22**) contained no artefacts (not illustrated).

5.21 The other feature to truncate Cut 19 was a ?post-hole (Cut **23**) with a diameter of 300m and a depth of 80mm (Fig. 5, S15). The single reddish brown natural-like clay fill (Context **24**), which was heavily derived from Fill 20, contained no datable artefacts.

5.22 A 1.54m wide, 350mm deep curving ditch (Cut **32**) was encountered at the eastern end of the trench at a depth of 400m below the current ground surface (Fig. 5, S16). The upper fill was a mid-greyish brown silty clay (Context **33**) from which Roman-British material was recovered (see below). The lower fill was a lighter coloured silty clay (Context **58**), which contained numerous fragments of burnt clay but no datable artefacts. An attempt to excavate and record a second section was made, but the feature was found to have been heavily disturbed by animal burrowing in this area, and hence the section was not recorded.

6.0 RESULTS : Trenches T9 – T12 (Figs. 2 and 6) 32758

6.1 Trench **T9** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 500mm at the north-western end and to 510mm at the south-eastern end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T4**, although Context **1** had been disturbed by recent ploughing. No archaeological features were observed, although a small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the overburden.

6.2 Trench **T10** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 500mm at the north-eastern end and to 800mm at the south-western end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T9** and contained a small assemblage of worked flint.

6.3 A shallow gully (Cut **15**) was encountered at the north-eastern end of the trench, 500mm below the current ground surface, running north-east to south-west. It was 500mm wide and 100mm deep (Fig. 6, S17), and contained a single yellowish brown silty clay fill (Context **16**). No datable artefacts were recovered.

6.4 Trench **T11** was moved to a position at a right-angle from the planned location to avoid excavating underneath overhead cables (Fig 2). The trench was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 350mm at the north-eastern end and to 700mm at the south-western end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T9** and contained a small assemblage of worked flint. No archaeological features were observed.

6.5 Trench **T12** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 320mm at the northern end and to 300mm at the southern end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered. Mechanical excavation was continued down into the clay to establish the depth and exact nature of this deposit. The surface of the chalk was encountered at depths varying between 900mm and 600mm below the current ground surface.

6.6 The layers of overburden above the 'natural' clay were found to be similar to those found in Trench **T9**. No archaeological features were observed, but a small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the overburden.

7.0 RESULTS : Trenches T13 – T15 (Figs 2 and 6) 32755

7.1 Trench **T13** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 450mm at the north-western end and to 420mm at the south-eastern end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were found to be similar to those found in Trench **T9**. A small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the overburden, and a number of archaeological features were observed and excavated.

7.2 Four shallow post-holes were observed at the north-western end of the trench, each *c.*450mm below the current ground surface. Two of the features, (Cuts **5** and **7**) intercut, but due to the similarity of their greyish brown silty clay fills (Contexts **6** and **8** respectively), it proved impossible to ascertain the stratigraphic relationship. Cut **5** was *c.*300mm in diameter and 270mm in depth and vertically-sided and Cut 7 was *c.*300mm in diameter and 210mm in depth and had a more concave profile (Fig. 6, S18). Each of the features contained a single sherd of medieval pottery. Samples were taken for analysis of environmental potential (see below).

7.3 Cut **9** was 610mm in diameter and 310mm in depth (Fig. 6, S19). The single dark-reddish brown fill (Context **10**) contained a small assemblage of medieval artefacts and large flint nodules suggestive of post-packing. A sample was taken for analysis of environmental potential (see below). The other post-hole, Cut **44** was 360mm in diameter and only 50mm in depth (Fig. 6, S20). No artefacts were recovered from the single orangey grey silty clay fill (Context **45**).

7.4 Close to the post-holes, a 'v' shaped, partly flint filled gully (Cut **30**) ran across the trench from east to west, 430mm below the current ground surface. It was 700mm wide and 250mm deep (Fig. 6, S21). No artefacts were recovered from the single mid- brown, clay-rich fill (Context **31**). The exact function remains a mystery, although the possibility that the feature formed part of the footing trench of a structure cannot be discounted.

7.5 The other two features were broad ditches running roughly east to west across the trench, encountered at a depth of 420mm below the current ground surface. Cut **11** was 3.2m wide and 410mm deep (Fig. 6, S22). The single yellowish brown silty clay fill (Context **12**) produced a small assemblage of medieval material. A sample was taken for analysis of environmental potential (see below).

7.6 This ditch truncated an earlier feature on a slightly different alignment, the full width of which could not be ascertained at this stage. Cut **13** was at least 550mm in depth (Fig. 6, S23) and contained a yellowish brown silty fill

(Context **14**) from which worked flint and fire-cracked flint (only noted in field) were recovered.

7.7 Trench **T14** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 450mm at the north-western end and to 500mm at the south-eastern end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T9.** No archaeological features were observed but a small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the overburden.

7.8 Trench **T15** was excavated to a length of 50m and to a depth of 510mm at the north-eastern end and to 300mm at the south-western end at which the 'natural' reddish clay was encountered and mechanical excavation ceased. The layers of overburden were similar to those found in Trench **T9.** No archaeological features were observed but a small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the overburden.

8.0 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Luke Barber

8.1 The evaluation produced a moderately sized assemblage of finds. These are quantified in Table 1.

Context No	Pottery No/g	Flint No/g	Bone No/g	Tile No/g	Other No/g	Comments
T2 unstrat		3/20				
T6 unstrat		1/10				
T7 unstrat		1/10			Cu 1/22	
T8 unstrat					Cpipe 1/1	
T9 unstrat	7/22	5/75	1/1		FCF2/40	Mixed LBA & PM pot
T10 unstrat		4/75				
T11 unstrat		4/49				
T12 unstrat		5/135			FCF 3/50	
T13 unstrat		3/45				
T14 unstrat		2/65				
T15 unstrat		4/73		2/50	FCF 1/15	
6 (T13)	1/10					C10th-12th?
8 (T13)	1 / 2					C10th-12th?
10	5/25		15/10		Fe 2/10	C10th-12th?
12 (T13) Surface	1/10		1/1			C12th
12 (T13)	18/65	6/42	33/247		F. clay 1/1 FCF 3/50	C10th-12th?
14 (T13)		8/74				
18 (T7)	6/90	2/25	35/50			R-B: C2nd-4th
26 (T5)	74/661	2/10	16/80		F. clay 3/5 Shell 8/35 Fe 3/50	R-B: C3rd-4th
27 (T5)	31/138	1 / 2	12/55		F. clay 1/2 Cu 1/1 Slag 3/25 Shell 1/20 FCF 1/5 Fe 2/10	R-B: C3rd-4th
33 (T8) Surface	2/20			1/48	Shell 16/105	R-B: C3rd-4th
33 (T8)	39/300	1/275	2/15	28/905 plus 2 small bags-frags 450g		R-B: C3rd-4th
35 (T5)	97/1725	2/24	75/1086		Shell 2/48 Fe 2/20 FCF 1/30	R-B: C3rd-4th
41	5/26		6/25			R-B: C2nd-4th
47 (T4) Surface	7/55		6/5		Shell 8/35	R-B: C3rd-4th
47 (T4)	307/2848	1/10	38/601 baby	2/175	Fclay 1/1 Shell 2/52 Fe 10/70	R-B: C3rd-4th

			skel? 51/10		Stone 7/720 Tesserae 1/27	
49 (T4)	63/569	5/80	9/26	12/640	Shell 2/50 Fclay 2/5 Fe 5/38	R-B: C3rd-4th
50 (T4)	22/295	2/20	3/20		Shell 1/25 FCF 1/50	R-B: C3rd-4th
51 (T4)	3/35					R-B: C3rd-4th
52 (T4)	9/110					R-B: C3rd-4th
60 (T6)	4/5		9/30		Stone 1/275	R-B

Table 1: Finds Quantification (excluding those from environmental samples)

8.2.1 The finds assemblage is dominated by pottery. Although four periods are represented the vast majority is Romano-British. The earliest material from the site consists of a few very small abraded sherds from thick-walled vessels in medium flint tempered fabrics of probable Bronze Age date. Most are residual in later contexts and only a few very small crumbs are from a sealed deposit (located in the residue from Context 54). Whatever the case, the background scatter shows the presence of Bronze Age activity in the area, possibly associated with manuring of arable land. More pottery of the prehistoric period may not have survived the intensive 20th- century ploughing at the site.

8.2.2 The Romano-British material from the site comes from both unstratified and stratified deposits. Sherd sizes are variable but are generally on the small side (up to 30mm across) though some larger pieces are present. Generally the material shows signs of low to moderate abrasion. The vast majority of the assemblage appears to be of 3rd- to 4th- century date though a little earlier material may be present. The pottery is in a wide variety of fabrics and forms. These include coarse grog tempered storage jars and amphorae, as well as 'finer' coarsewares such as jars, bowls and dishes. Fineware bowls and beakers are also present. The pottery appears to be from a number of sources, including the New Forest, Alice Holt, Upchurch and Rowlands Castle industries which appear to have supplied both coarse and finewares. A number of Samian sherds (central/east Gaulish) and other colour coated finewares are also present.

8.2.3 A number of flint tempered sherds are present from Contexts 6, 8, 10 and 12. At first appearance they appear to be prehistoric in date, due to the dominance of calcined/white flint but are too highly fired and too thin-walled. A few sherds have voids where chalk inclusions have burnt out. Unfortunately no feature sherds are present in this fabric but its association with a flaring rim from a chalk and fine flint tempered cooking pot from the surface of Context 12 suggests all are medieval in date. A 10th- to 12th- century date is suggested

for this material. Only one post-medieval sherd is present: a fragment of unglazed earthenware, possibly from a flower pot.

8.3 The worked flint from the site consists of crude, generally large hard hammer waste flakes usually with cortex remaining. Although no diagnostic tools are present a single ?blade core was located in Trench 7 (unstratified). However, the general crude nature of the assemblage would be consistent with a Late Bronze Age date and the material perhaps simply represents the background scatter of flint-working waste frequently found on downland areas.

8.4 A small assemblage of tile was recovered. Although a few pieces of post-medieval peg tile are present the majority is of Romano-British date. The Roman material is generally present as small and abraded pieces suggesting it has been re-used. Floor and box flue tiles and a single floor cube (tessera) are represented.

8.5 The other artefactual material is present in small quantities. Metalwork is dominated by iron in fair condition though the range is restricted: mainly being Roman general purpose nails although a hobnail was also noted in Context 47. A copper alloy 16th- to 17th- figure '8' buckle was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 7. In addition a few pieces of stone roofing slate were recovered from Roman contexts. A scatter of 18th- to 19th- century clay pipe stem fragments was also recovered.

8.6 The bone from the site is generally in fair to good condition. The main domestic species appear to be represented (cattle, sheep, pig) as well as domestic fowl. The vast majority of the material is of Romano-British date. In addition the fragmentary and incomplete remains of an infant burial, with bone in good condition, were recovered from Context 47.

8.7 The shell from the site is in good condition. Virtually all consists of oysters from Roman contexts (one has a nail hole showing it to have possibly been used as a roof repair) though a little mussel is also present and a single piece of cockle was recovered from an environmental residue (Context 26).

8.8 Eight environmental samples were taken during the evaluation. These are listed below in Table 2.

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample Size (litres)	Sub-Sample Size
1001	**6**	14	7
1002	**8**	14	7
1003	**10**	28	14
1004	**12**	28	14
1005	**26**	35	14
1006	**47**	35	28
1007	**54**	35	14

Table 2 : Environmental Samples

8.9 The samples were subjected to a sub-sampling policy for the purpose of assessment. Generally a 50% sub-sample was processed with a view to processing the remainder of the sample if the results from the sub-sample merited it. In the event none of the sub-samples showed a high potential for environmental/economic remains. All samples were processed using bucket flotation. The flot from each sample/ sub-sample was caught on a 250 micron sieve with the residue being retained on a 1mm mesh. Once the residues were dry they were sorted by eye to extract material of archaeological/environmental interest with the remaining stones etc being discarded. The results of this sorting are given in Table 3 below. The dried flots were also scanned by eye, and with the help of a microscope (x20 magnification) where necessary, to assess the presence/absence and quality of archaeobotoanical remains (seeds) and charcoal (Table 3) and thus the potential of the current site for addressing environmental and economic research aims.

8.10 The flots from the samples (Table 3) do not contain large amounts of charcoal and that which is present is generally of a small size and in poor condition. Without exception the flots appear to contain very few seeds. However, some cereals and wild seeds are present suggesting that the site does have some potential for holding data on the site's economy. Preservation of land molluscs was fair to good. Modern contamination on site from roots etc appears to be generally moderate.

Context	Date	Modern Roots	Charcoal	Seeds	Molluscs	Residue
6	Medieval?	***/****	** to 5mm	- Cereal * Wild	*/**	-
8	Medieval?	**/***	**/*** to 4mm	- Cereal ?* Wild	**/***	Pot 3/2g W. Flint 1/1g FCF2/3g Bone 1/1g
10	Medieval?	***	**/*** to 5mm	- Cereal ?* Wild	-	Pot 1/2g FCF 1/2g
12	Medieval?	**/***	**/*** to 6mm	- Cereal - Wild	*	Pot 2/5g W. Flint 2/2g FCF 3/10g Bone 8/8g

						Iron 1/20g
26	Roman	****	* to 4mm	- Cereal - Wild	****	Pot 5/15g W. Flint 3/5g Bone 3/5g Shell 1/1g
47	Roman	**/***	*** to 5mm	* Cereal - Wild	*	Pot 141/175g W. Flint 6/10g FCF 30/65g Bone 9/2g Shell 2/1g Tile 2/24g Stone 6/6g Slag 2/30g
54	?Prehistoric	***/****	* to 1mm	- Cereal - Wild	**/***	Pot – 4/1g W. Flint – 3/1g FCF –2/18g

Key : - : *None* * : *Very Low* ** : *Low* *** : *Moderate* **** : *High* (frequency)
(Wild - non-cultivated plants)
Table 3 : Results of Environmental Samples : Flots and Residues

8.11 The residues from the samples generally contain low quantities of flint chips/worked flint and fire-cracked flint. The pottery, with the exception of that from Context 54, does not add any new data to that from the hand collected assemblages. The bone and shell from the residues appear to be in good condition though present in only low quantities.

9.0 DISCUSSION

9.1 An archaeological evaluation by mechanically excavated trenches was shown to be appropriate, and proved that archaeological deposits survive within the boundaries of the proposed development area. Archaeological remains were identified in nine of the sixteen trenches, with datable pottery in the majority of excavated features.

9.2 There was unequivocal evidence of the survival of the ring ditch identified from aerial photographs and investigated in Trench **T2** (and subsequently in Trench **T16**). Although the date of the feature remains unproven, a Bronze Age date is assumed. There was no evidence of any associated activity in the surrounding trenches.

9.3 The trenches located in the grassed paddock (Trenches**T4 – T8**) uncovered a limited range of pits and gullies, and evidence of an enclosure ditch (Cut **59** in Trench **T6**) previously noted during the geophysical survey (see Section **2.3** above). The majority of the assemblage is 3rd to 4th century in date, with some earlier material (see above). The evidence supports the hypothesis formulated from the geophysics results, that the paddock area was not part of the Roman town of *Leucomagus* but does contain scattered archaeological features which may relate to a cross-road settlement of fairly open nature.

9.4 The trenches located close to the line of Icknield Way (Trenches **T9 – T12**) produced no evidence of prehistoric occupation or Romano-British roadside

activity. One undated gully (Cut **15** in Trench **T10**) was located, and small assemblages of worked flint were recovered from the overburden of the trenches. It would appear that the concentration of material encountered during the fieldwalking was due to downslope movement and that the geophysical anomalies may predominantly be of geological in origin.

9.5 The concentration of ?early medieval pottery in the area investigated by Trenches **T13 – T15** is more difficult to explain. No features were observed in Trenches **T14** or **T15**, although assemblages of worked flint were recovered from the overburdens. The features in Trench **T13** included potential evidence of a structure or structures and a substantial ditch of ?medieval date. The ?wall footing trench (Cut **30**) was somewhat enigmatic given its profile, but the four post-holes and the ditches formed clearer evidence of medieval activity.

9.6 To summarise, the evaluation uncovered features and artefacts potentially dating back as far as the Bronze Age or earlier, with clearer evidence of Romano-British and medieval activity within the boundaries of the proposed development area.

10.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

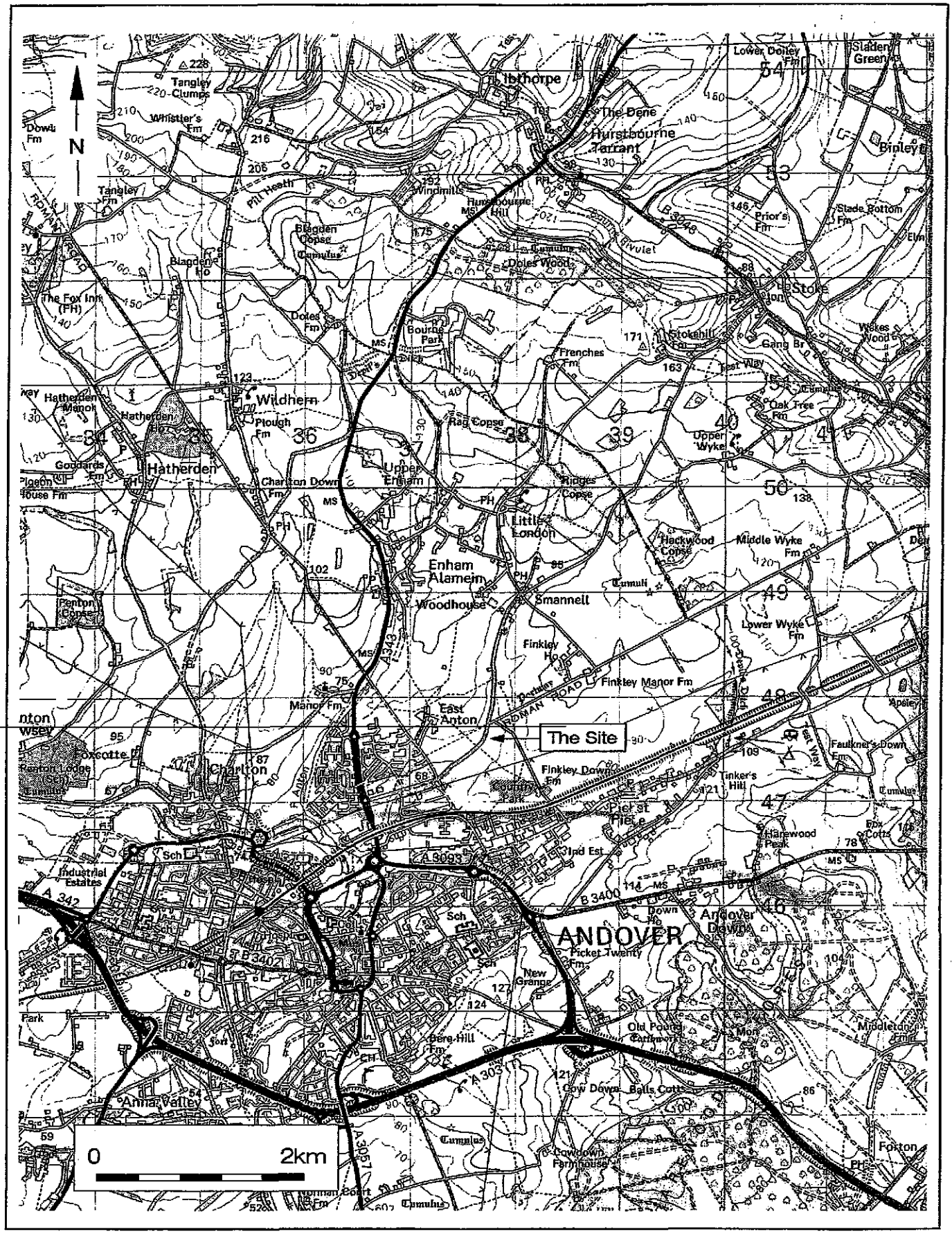
10.1 The co-operation and provision of facilities of Mr. Waters of Eastanton Manor Farm is gratefully acknowledged. Thanks are also due to Ben Stephenson of CPM and Frank Green of TVBC for their input.

SMR Summary Sheet

Site Code	EAN 03					
Identification Name and Address	Land at Eastanton Manor Farm, Eastanton, Andover					
County, District &/or Borough	Test Valley Borough, Hampshire					
Full 12 Fig. OS Grid Refs.	Centred at SU 3720 4775					
Archaeology South-East Proj. No.	1760					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field ✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. Oct. 2003	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CPM Environmental Planning & Design					
Project Manager	Ian Greig/Luke Barber					
Project Supervisor	Simon Stevens					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA ?✓	IA	RB ✓
	AS	MED ✓	PM	Other		

100 Word Summary.

Sixteen evaluation trenches with a total length of 800m were mechanically excavated at the proposed development site. They were located in areas were geophysical survey, fieldwalking and examination of aerial photographs suggested the presence of buried archaeological remains. A range of archaeological features including pits post-holes, ditches (including a barrow ditch) and a possible wall footing trench were encountered and recorded. The majority of excavated material was Romano-British in date, but medieval and prehistoric artefacts were also recovered.



© ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST		Eastanton Manor Fram, Andover	Fig. 1
Ref: 1760	Oct 2003	Site Location Plan	

N

East Anton

Portway Roman Road

Smannel Road

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

0 100m

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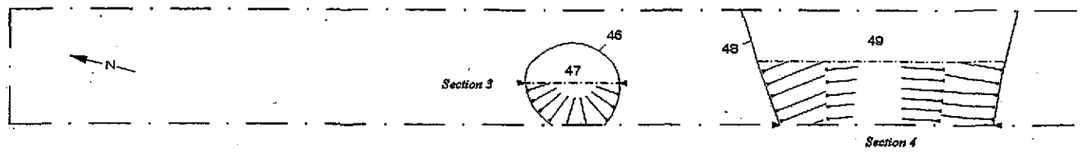
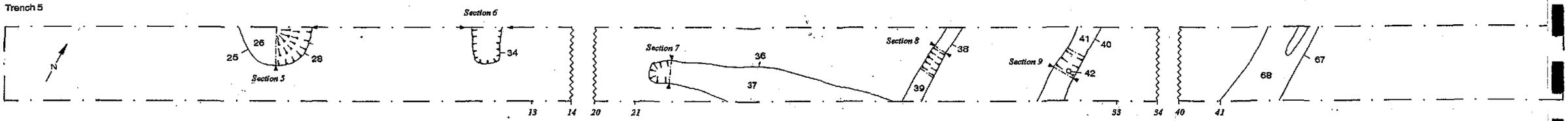
© ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST		Eastanton Manor Farm, Andover	Fig. 2
Ref: 1760	Oct 2003	Trench Location Plan	

Trench 4

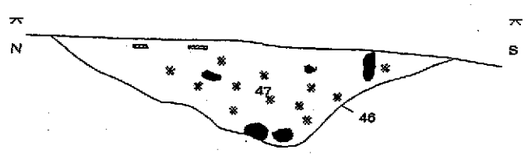


0 2m

Trench 5



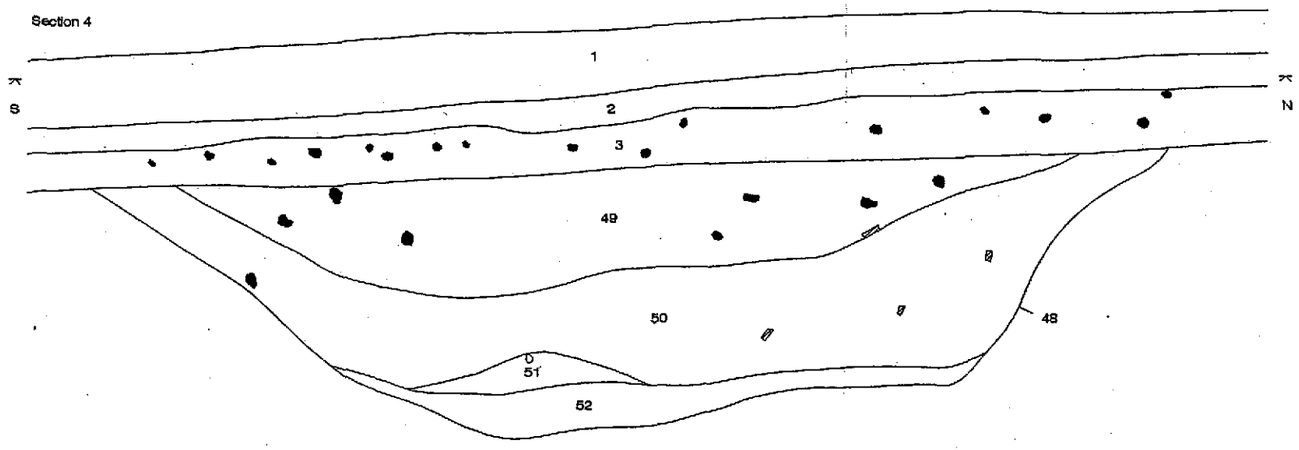
Section 3



0 0.5m

* Charcoal
Pottery
Bone
Flint

Section 4



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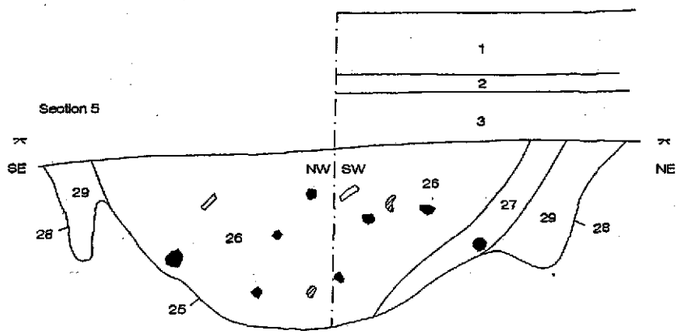

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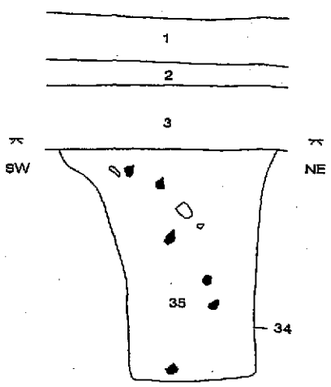

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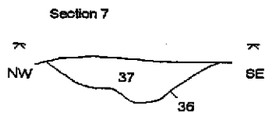

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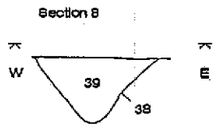

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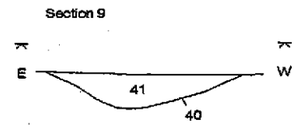
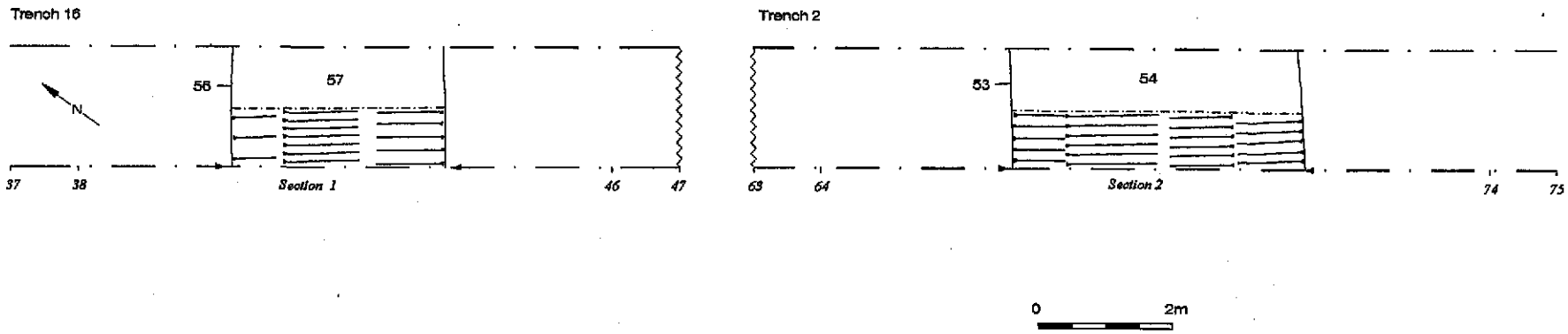
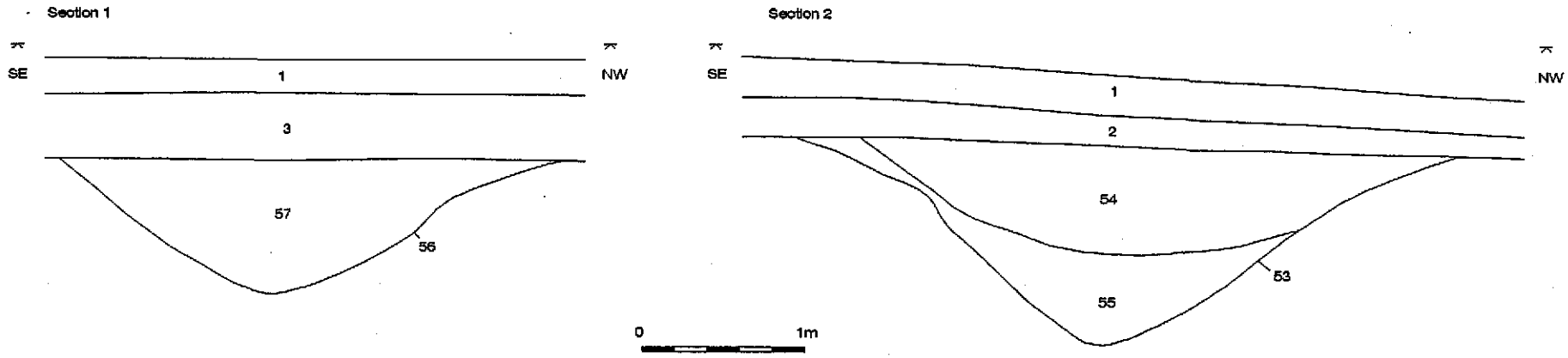


© ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST		Eastanton, Andover	Fig. 4
Ref: 1760	Oct 2003	Trenches 4 & 5: Plans and sections	





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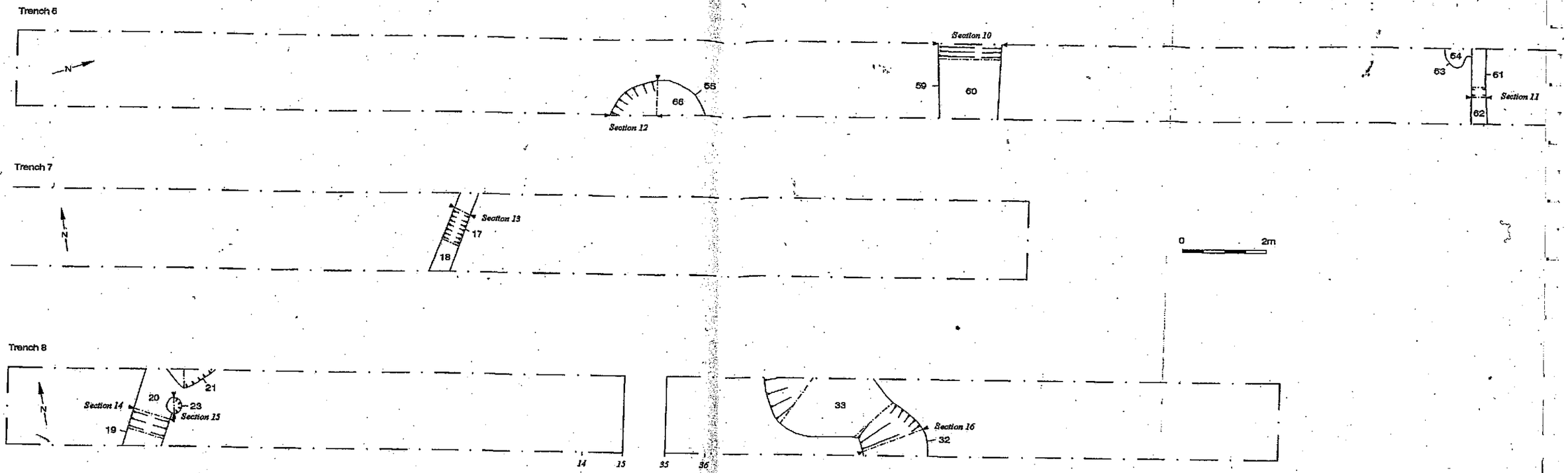
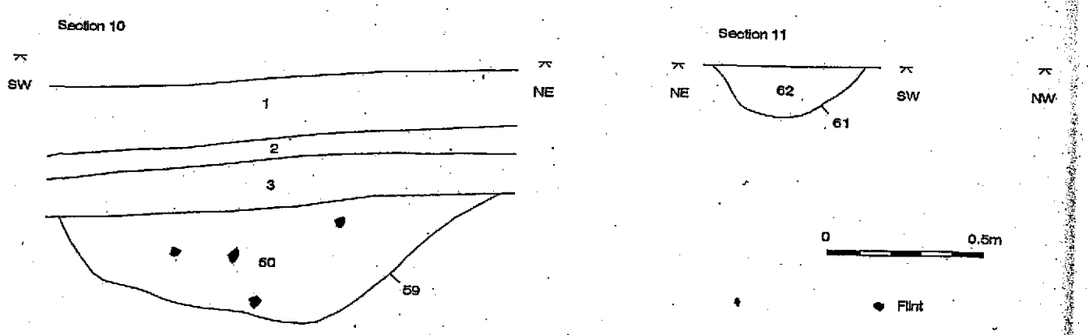
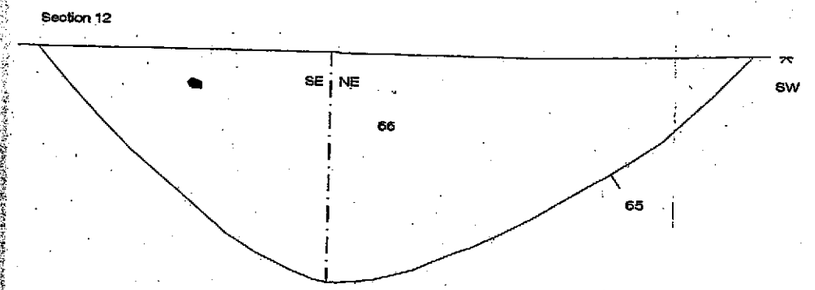
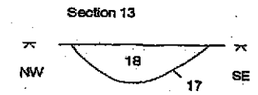
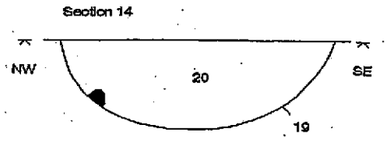
Ref: 1760	Oct 2003	Trenches 2 & 16: Plans and sections	

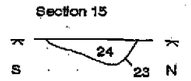


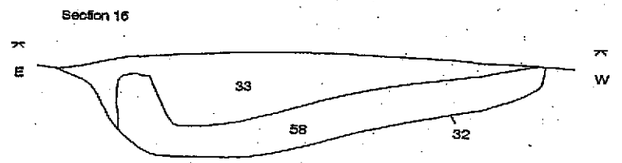












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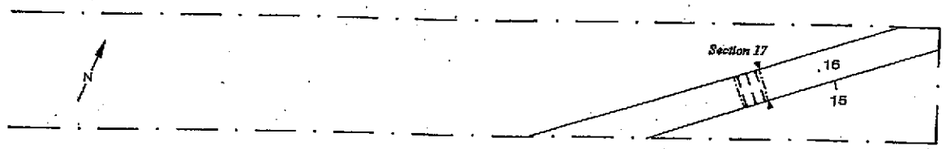
Ref: 1760	Oct 2003	Trenches 6, 7 & 8: Plans and sections	

Trench 10



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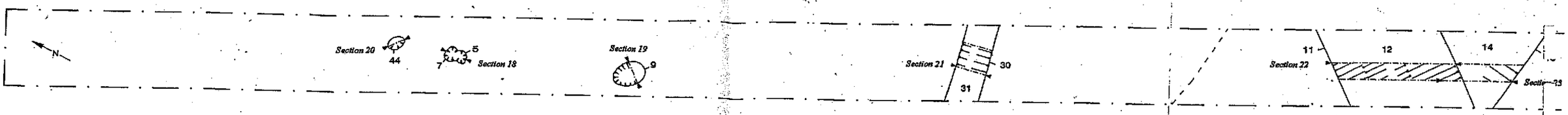

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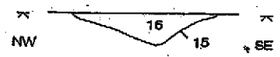
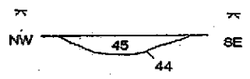


Section 18

Section 19

Section 20



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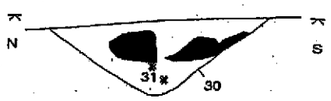
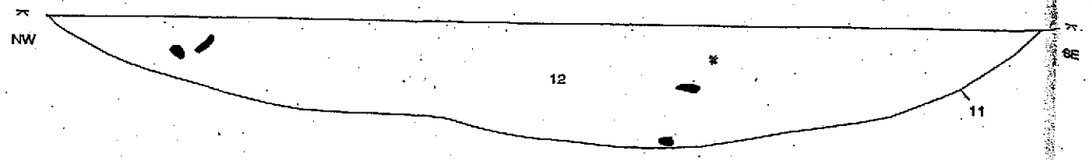


0 0.5m

Flint
Charcoal

Section 22



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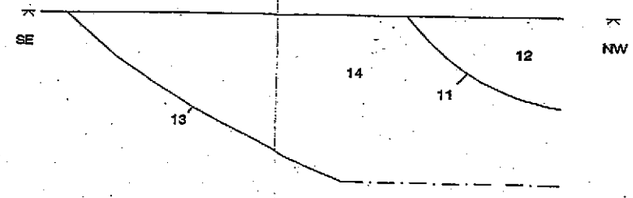


© ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST		Eastanton, Andover	Fig. 6
Ref: 1760	Oct 2003	Trenches 10 & 13: Plans and sections	

An Archaeological Study of Past Land-use on Land to the South-west of Eastanton Manor Farm, Andover Hampshire

Project No. 827

by

David Dunkin BA, PIFA

May 1998

Archaeology South-East
1, West Street
Ditchling, Hassocks
West Sussex BN6 8TS

Tel: 01273 845497
Fax: 01273 844187

Archaeology South-East

Archaeology South-East is a division of the Field Archaeology Unit, University College London, one of the largest groupings of academic archaeologists in the country. Consequently, Archaeology South-East has access to the conservation, computing and environmental backup of the college, as well as a range of other archaeological services.

The Field Archaeology Unit and South Eastern Archaeological Services (which became Archaeology South-East in 1996) were established in 1974 and 1991 respectively. Although field projects have been conducted world-wide, the Field Archaeology Unit retains a special interest in south-east England with the majority of our contract and consultancy work concentrated in Sussex, Kent, Greater London and Essex.

Based in the local community, the Field Archaeology Unit sees an important part of its work as explaining the results to the broader public. Public lectures, open days, training courses and liaison with local archaeological societies are aspects of its community-based approach.

Drawing on experience of the countryside and towns of the south east of England the Unit can give advice and carry out surveys at an early stage in the planning process. By working closely with developers and planning authorities it is possible to incorporate archaeological work into developments with little inconvenience.

Contents

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Archaeology South-East, a division of the Field Archaeology Unit, University College London, was commissioned by Mr Nigel Agg of Taywood Homes Ltd to undertake some non-invasive archaeological investigations of land to the south-west of Eastanton Manor Farm, Andover, Hampshire (SU 3711 4741).

1.2 The land adjoining Eastanton Manor Farm has been identified by Hampshire County Council as an area of intended development for the planned expansion of the town of Andover (shaded on fig. 1). Due to the archaeological potential of the area Wimpey Homes, one of the contractual owners of the land, previously commissioned Archaeology South-East (formally South Eastern Archaeological Services), to undertake an archaeological desk-top assessment of the area (SEAS Project No. 393, Feb. 1996).

1.3 The desk-top assessment, which collated information from a number of sources, confirmed the potential richness of the archaeological resource in the area with known sites spanning the prehistoric to medieval periods being identified.

1.4 The most significant site identified within the area was the site of a possible Romano-British small town at the junction of two Roman roads. Although much of the suspected area of this settlement is to remain as open ground in the proposed development further information was requested by the planning authority regarding the extent and condition of any archaeological remains at this point. As a result Archaeology South-East were requested by Taywood Homes to formulate a strategy for the non-invasive investigation of the site (Fig. 1). A strategy was therefore prepared in consultation with David Hopkins, County Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council and duly approved (see Appendix).

1.5 In view of the previous desk-based assessment of the whole area no further general work for the site was needed. Instead the new work was to be specifically aimed at trying to establish the extent and likely condition of any archaeological remains within the suspected area of the Romano-British town.

1.6 The current study therefore consisted of two main elements:

A geophysical survey (magnetometer and resistivity) to try to ascertain the extent, and possibly condition, of any archaeological remains.

A study of past land-use, including analysis of old maps, a walkover survey and discussion with the current farmer in order to try to ascertain the extent to which any remains may have been plough damaged.

1.7 The geophysical survey was undertaken by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford and forms the basis of a separate report. However, some consideration to the results is given in the current document.

1.8 The cartographic work at the Hampshire Record Office and the walkover survey were carried out by the author on 21st April, 1998. This included an interview with the farmer, Mr Waters.

2.0 Archaeological Background

2.1 Prehistoric activity in the immediate area is attested by two Bronze Age barrows, one of which has been investigated, the other ploughed out, which lie on the rising ground to the south-west of Smannell Road and therefore just outside the current area of concern (fig. 1).

2.2 There appears to have been a substantial increase in population during the Later Bronze Age and this is reflected in the 120 round barrows or burial mounds recorded in the Andover area. Many of these have now been ploughed out and are only identifiable from the air.

2.3 The area of Andover in general has also produced a series of ditched Iron Age settlements from excavations carried out in advance of the development of the town. The settlements of this period comprise both open sites and the more heavily defended hillforts.

2.4 The area subject to the present survey lies on the eastern side of two intersecting Roman Roads : the Icknield Way which runs approximately north-south (Winchester to Cirencester) and the Portway which runs east-west (Old Sarum to Silchester). The most extensive remains which have been discovered in the area are therefore, not surprisingly of the Iron Age and Romano-British period.

2.5 The crossroads of the two routes has been suggested as the location of the small Roman town of *Leucomagus,* as recorded in the Ravenna Cosmography. Limited archaeological investigations on the west side of the crossroads during the expansion of Andover during the 1970's revealed evidence of a substantial Romano-British settlement. The deposits are said to have suffered fairly extensive plough damage. Unfortunately, the results of this work have never been published and the exact nature of the deposits cannot be ascertained.

2.6 It is possible therefore, that if this is the site of a Roman town that it extends eastwards and underlies the area now under investigation (Fig. 1). There is however, no definite proof of this at present.

2.7 Andover was undoubtedly the most important settlement in the district by the

Late Anglo-Saxon period and probably before. It was a royal manor and the site of a minster or mother church. East Anton was peripheral to the main medieval river valley settlements (River Anton) and probably subsequent to them in date.

2.8 The site of Eastanton Farm seems to have been the centre of later medieval activity and may lay within or close to a deserted medieval village (DMV). In the field known as Bartholomewsbury to the north-east of the current survey area (fig. 2), aerial photography indicates a pattern of crofts and/or ploughed strips. Documentary evidence however, has not been able to substantiate the former existence of a DMV at this location.

3.0 Cartographic Evidence

3.1 The following maps were consulted at the Hampshire Record Office, Winchester :

Ordnance Survey 6 inch, (24) 1870 Edition
Ordnance Survey 6inch, (24.NW) 1897 Edition
Ordnance Survey 6 inch, (24.NW) 1911 Edition
Ordnance Survey 25 inch, (24.1) 1910 Edition
Ordnance Survey 25 inch, (24.1) 3rd Edition
Ordnance Survey 25 inch (24.1) 1940 Edition

Tithe Map (and Award of 1841) of the Parish of Knights Enham in the County of Hants, 1839

3.2 From a study of the 6 inch and 24 inch ordnance survey maps above, it is apparent that there has been very little change in the layout of the fields between 1870 and 1940. The main change is the removal of a relatively modern field boundary between field numbers 13 and 14 (fig. 3) sometime during the 20th century. More recent changes observed in the walkover survey will be commented upon in the appropriate section below.

3.3 A study of the parish boundaries immediately to the east of the survey area, indicates the possibility of a partially encapsulated Roman landscape feature. An arm of the parish of Knights Enham straddles the Portway Roman road on the east (Fields 17 and 18 in fig. 3), although the boundary is observed further to the south-west. The boundaries of that eastern arm run parallel to the Roman road and it is possible that they may have been aligned upon boundary ditches marking the road zone. If this is correct, it represents a rare survival of evidence for such a feature.

3.4 The field boundary which divides fields 14 and 15 runs approximately along the line of the Portway Roman road passing from north to south of the line of the road towards the western end where it intersects with the Ickneild Way (fig. 3).

3.5 The pond shown at the western end of Field 16/528 (fig. 3) and which lies

within the survey area, is shown on all the ordnance survey maps consulted above (ie 1870 –1940). However, it is not recorded on the Tithe Map of 1839 (Fig. 4) and it can therefore be reasonably regarded as a later post-medieval feature. This may indicate the importance of pastoral farming in the area by the later 19th century.

3.6 In studying the 1839 Tithe Map of the Parish of Knights Enham and Award (fig. 4) the field/plot numbers which lie within the survey area are : 58, 59, 62, 63 and 66. At that time 58 and 59 were the 'Garden' and 'Orchard' respectively of what would appear to be Eastanton Manor Farm ('The Homestead'). Field No. 62, known as 'The Little Field' was designated arable as was Field 63 which was also part of the same field. Field 66 was designated pasture.

3.7 The field known as Bartholomewsbury (No. 55) which may be the site of a putative DMV, was arable at the time of the Tithe Award which would have contributed to the destruction of any earthwork features at this location. This field lies approximately 200 metres north-east of the immediate survey area.

3.8 The eastern arm of Knights Enham parish boundary (3.3 above) are shown as Field Nos. 64 and 65 (fig. 4) and are designated arable as part of Bartholomewsbury and 'Toms Severals' respectively in the Tithe Award. This suggests that these two defined areas (the dotted lines on fig. 3) may have been maintained as separate fields in 1839 (but see below).

4.0 Walkover Results

4.1 Before the walkover of the survey area was undertaken, an interview with the farmer, Mr Waters, took place. He indicated that the lowest lying field in the survey area had been maintained as pasture in living memory (Field 4, fig. 2). This field is also very prone to flooding and this last occurred in a serious way two years ago. He also believed, but was not certain, that in the earlier part of the 20th century Field 4 had been used for allotments.

4.2 The other fields within the survey area (Nos. 1-3, fig. 2) had, until recently been intermittently cultivated, but were now maintained as pasture. These fields are now temporarily divided into paddocks for his daughter's horses.

4.3 Mr Waters indicated that the fields which had been cultivated, to his knowledge, had never produced any discrete concentrations of artefacts: for example pottery, brick, tile or other building debris. He was aware of the Roman material which had been found immediately to the west of his land (ie the western side of the Ickneild Way and beneath a modern housing development), but had never encountered such deposits on his land.

4.4 The walkover survey itself, indicated that all of the fields (Survey Field Nos. 1-4; fig. 2) within the survey area were currently pasture. Therefore, it was not

possible to locate artefact concentrations in the ploughsoil or determine whether the underlying subsoil/rock had been disturbed by deep ploughing in the past, thereby potentially destroying archaeological deposits.

4.5 The main observations of the survey area itself are : (figs. 1 and 2)

Field 1 incorporates the former garden and orchard of the homestead site (3.6 above) and part of 'The Little Field' as indicated by the Tithe Map and Award of 1839. There are slight lynchet fieldbanks within the field which appear to correlate with the western and southern field boundaries of Field 59 on the Tithe Map. Apart from these features there are no other indications of the garden and orchard.

The field boundary on the eastern side of Field 1 shown on the 19th and 20th century ordnance survey maps is extant. However, there appears to be no lynchet build-up associated with this hedgeline and since it fails to appear on the Tithe Map of 1839 it may be presumed to be a late 19th century feature. However, the presence of a small number of mature oaks along the field-side of the fenceline together with other enclaves of mature trees within the field, suggests the field may have undergone some woodland clearance, presumably for arable agriculture, during the 19th century.

Temporary electric fencing divided this field up into smaller areas for horses. The parish boundary noted on the ordnance survey and tithe map within this field is not bounded by any earthworks that were detectable.

4.6 **Field 2** : The survey area only extends approximately 80 metres into Field 2 from its southern corner. The field boundary on its northern side which extends from the eastern boundary of Field 1 is no longer extant. This feature is shown on all of the ordnance survey 20th century maps listed above. It is therefore probable that this was a late 19th century feature. No trace of this can be seen on the ground today.

The southern boundary of Field 2 closely follows the line of the Portway Roman road. This field boundary is marked by a substantial hedgeline and lynchet bank, the negative side of which is on the southern side. The lynchet bank increases in height from *c.* 0.4 metres to over 1 metre as the boundary progresses eastwards.

No further earthwork anomalies were noted in Field 2.

4.7 **Field 3** was originally part of a much longer field (Field 15, figs. 2 and 3) which extended north-eastwards along the southern line of the Port Way and has only recently been formed as the western end of Field 15 (similar to Field 4). However, the boundary between Fields 3 and 4 which extends to the eastern end of Fields 15 and 16 (fig. 3) is no longer maintained as a fenceline. It is marked however, by an intermittent but very sparse line of mature oak trees

which lie immediately on the north side of a substantial lynchet bank of rounded profile. The whole area falls away gently from the Eastanton Farm complex (ie north to south) and reaches its lowest point in Field 4. Therefore, the negative lynchet for this boundary feature lies on its southern side .

The boundary feature/bank between Fields 3 and 4 if extended eastwards, converges with the projected line of the Portway, approximately 1 kilometre to the east. Although the alignment may not be correct, the rounded profile of this bank within Field 3 is similar to an *agger* of a Roman road and it is possible this may represent a former alignment. No such earthwork is evident on the presumed alignment of the Roman road some 50m to the north.

No other notable earthwork anomalies were observed within Field 3.

4.8 **Field 4** is the lowest lying field within the survey area and as has been said, is prone to flooding (**4.1** above). The surface of this field is much more irregular than the others and 2/3 parallel linear depressions were observed crossing the field from west to east. Although this could be the remnants of ridge and furrow they are more likely to represent, in view of the low-lying nature of this field, land drainage channels.

The pond in the north-west corner of this field and shown on the 19th/20th century ordnance survey maps, is extant as an irregular earthwork, but contained no water.

The western and southern margins of Field 4, which abut the Ickneild Way and Smannell Road respectively, have evidence for a very slight fieldbank (*c.* 0.1 metres high) indicating that the former fence/hedgeline was about 1 metre inside the present one.

If, as Mr Waters says, the field has not been subjected to a ploughing regime this century and was the former site of allotments, this may explain the irregular surface of Field 4.

4.9 It is worth noting that the alignment of the eastern arm of the parish boundary of Knights Enham discussed in **3.3** and **3.8** above is not marked by any visible earthwork anomalies on the ground today.

5.0 Discussion and Summary

5.1 The results of the geophysical (see separate report) and walkover surveys together with the cartographic evidence have provided no conclusive evidence for the existence of a Roman town within the area of investigation.

5.2 At the time of the walkover survey Fields 1 – 4 (fig. 2) were under pasture. It was therefore not possible to ascertain whether any Roman or other artefactual material lay on the field surface, thereby providing clues for earlier structures or

other archaeological activity. The landowner/farmer, Mr Waters has indicated that previous ploughing in Field Nos. 1 – 3 has not revealed any discrete concentrations of pottery/brick/tile etc, which might be expected if a Roman town formerly existed at this location.

5.3 Furthermore, because the fields under investigation were under pasture it was not possible to assess the depth of topsoil and whether the underlying sub-soil/rock had been disturbed by deep ploughing.

5.4 However, the resistance data has indicated a weak north-south trend believed to be the traces of former ridge and furrow. A former, albeit intermittent arable regime within the area of investigation would suggest the movement downslope of soil from Field 1 towards Field 4. The Tithe Map and Award of 1839 and 1841 respectively show that the area at that time, was generally maintained as arable and pasture, so it may be inferred that the land has been intermittently ploughed since at least the medieval period.

5.5 However, the line of the fieldbank/lynchet which runs parallel with the Portway Roman road on the south-eastern margin of Field 1 (fig. 2) suggests that the colluvial build-up might be greatest at this point since the road may have provided an important barrier for earlier ploughing regimes. This location, lying as it does close to the intersection of the two Roman roads (ie the north-eastern quadrant of the intersection), would be an area likely to contain underlying structures, should a Roman town lie in the vicinity.

5.6 The absence of any obvious archaeological anomalies in this area from the geophysical survey, tentatively suggests that no substantial archaeological remains lie within this quadrant. It might however, be possible that they are masked from the gradiometer/resistance survey, if the colluvial deposits were of a sufficient depth, perhaps in excess of 1 metre. Alternatively the absence of positive geophysical results may indicate extensive plough damage to any archaeological deposits in the area.

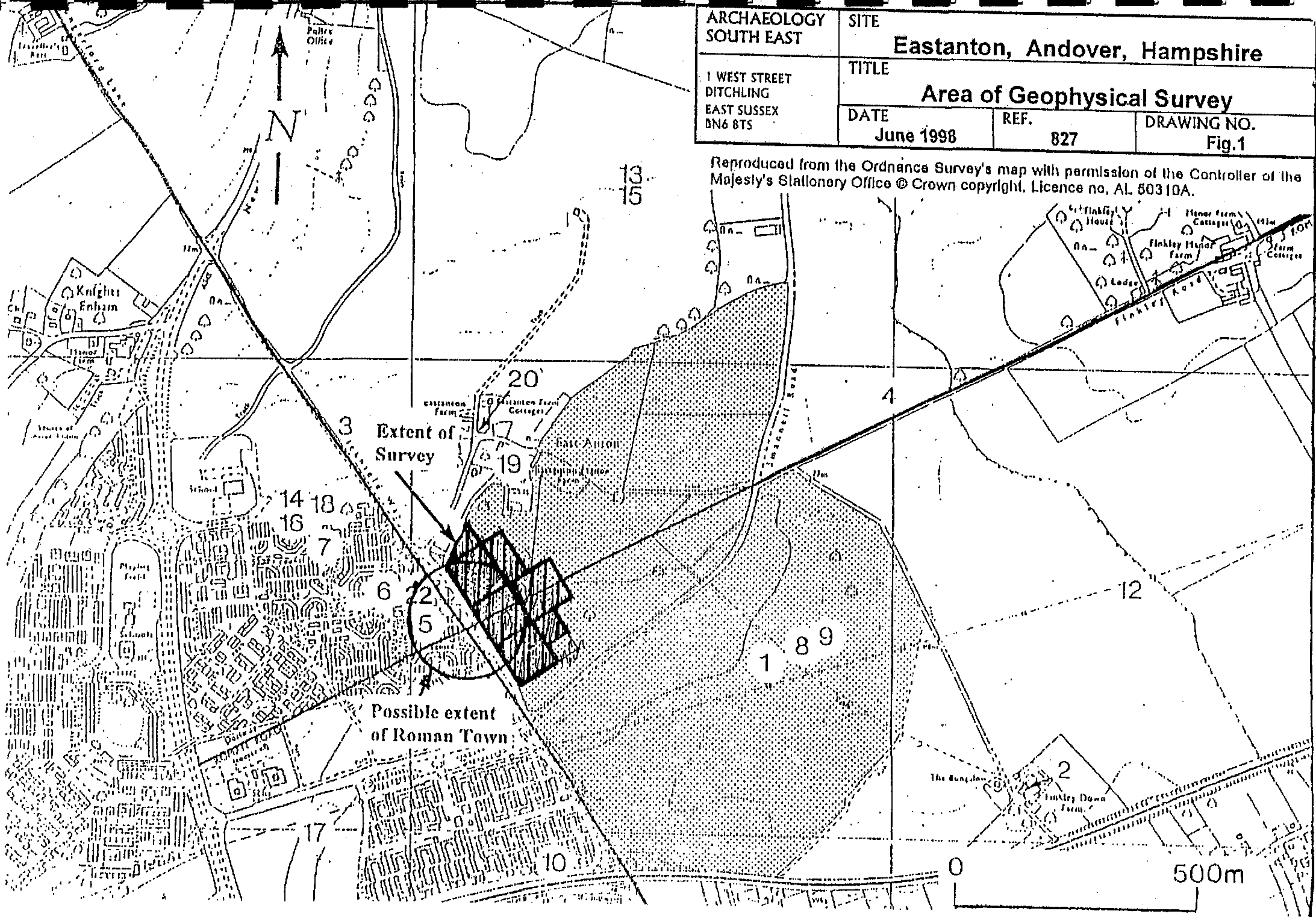
5.7 Although trial trenching would be needed to confirm the presence/absence of any archaeological remains the evidence to date suggests the probability of a Roman town or other extensive early settlement existing within the study area is less certain. The western edge of the current study area does not directly border the junction of the Roman roads. It is therefore possible that rather than a nucleated settlement the occupation at the junction may have been in the form of ribbon development along the Icknield Way and thus lie outside the study area.

5.8 If further information is required regarding this site an archaeological evaluation, using trial trenches, would now be the only cost-effective approach to prove/disprove the presence of archaeological remains. Furthermore, an evaluation could be used to test the depth of overburden across the site and would therefore assist in determining the degree of destruction of archaeological

deposits should they exist and aid further interpretation of the geophysical survey results.

5.9 If further fieldwork is required trial trenching should partly be aimed at elucidating whether archaeological deposits exist on either side of the eastern arm of the Portway, since any ribbon development of a Roman town is most likely to occur here. Such trenching should also locate any flanking ditches which may exist parallel to the Roman road within the study area.

Acknowledgements
Archaeology South-East would like to thank Mr Winters, David Hopkins, Nigel Agg and Geophysical Surveys of Bradford for their help throughout this project.



ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST
1 WEST STREET
DITCHLING
EAST SUSSEX
BN6 8TS
SITE
Eastanton, Andover, Hampshire
TITLE
Area of Geophysical Survey
DATE
June 1998
REF.
827
DRAWING NO.
Fig.1
Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey's map with permission of the Controller of the Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Licence no. AL 50310A.
N
Extent of Survey
Possible extent of Roman Town
Knights Enham
School
1
2
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7
8
9
10
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
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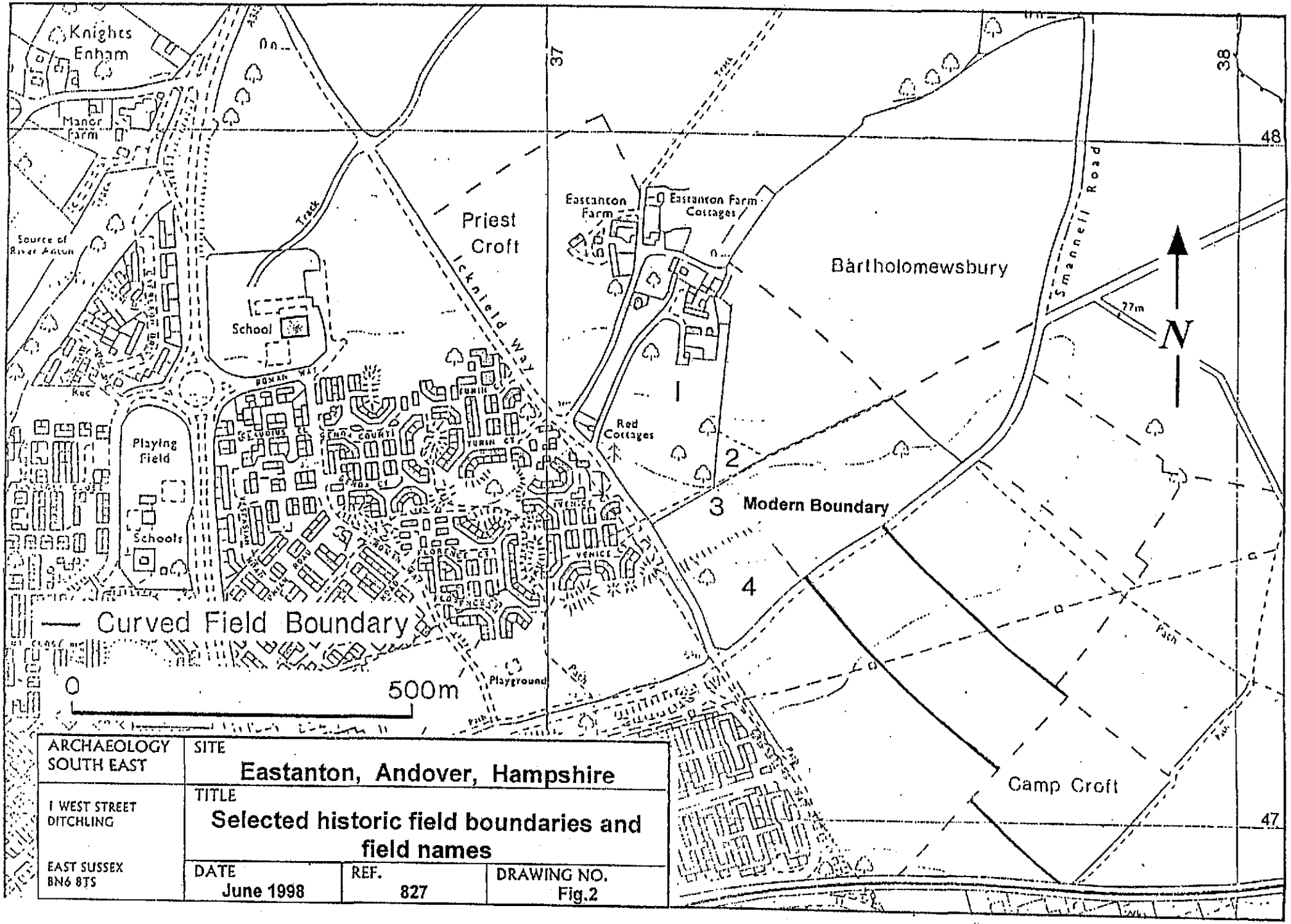
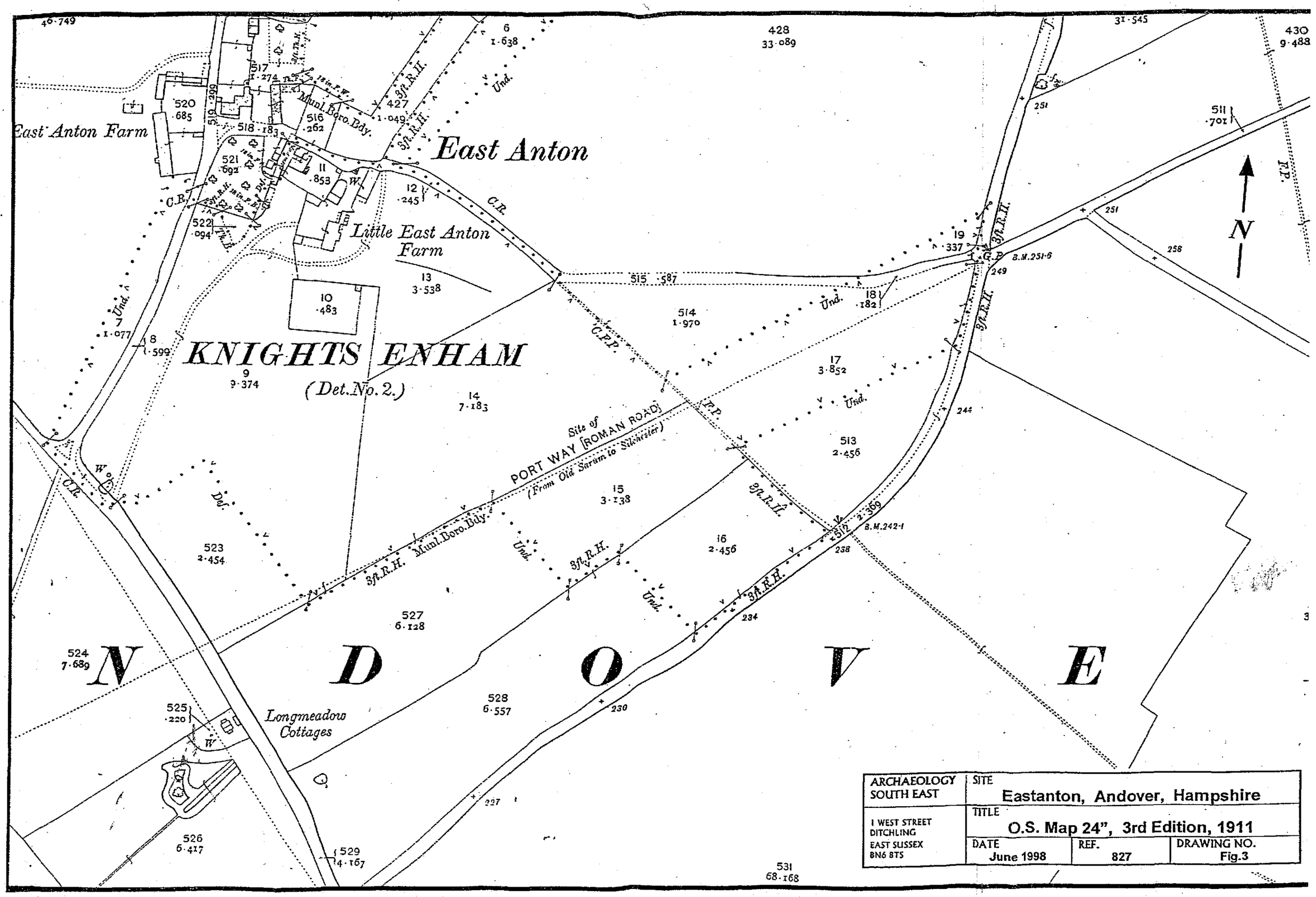
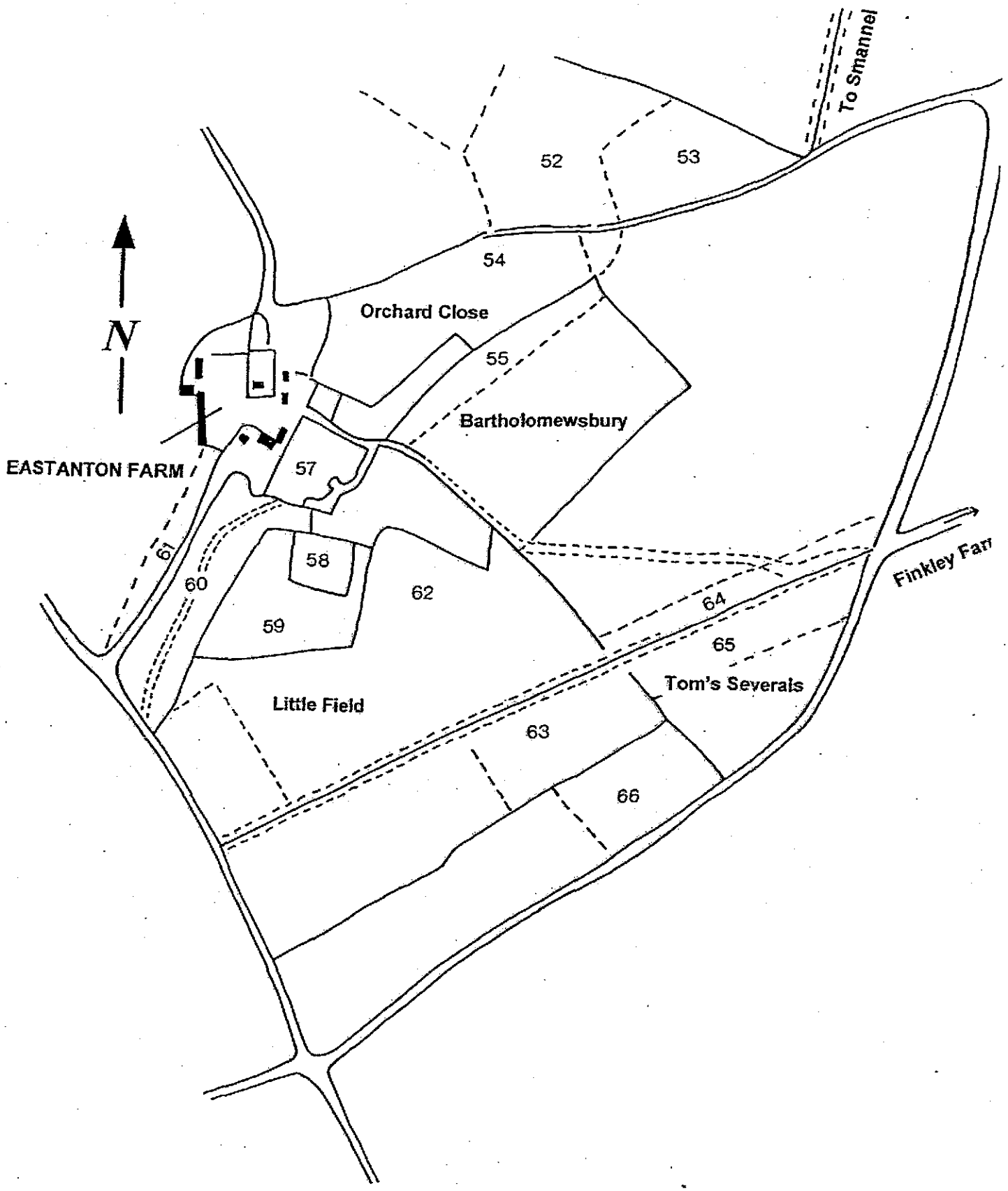
500m



ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST	SITE: Eastanton, Andover, Hampshire		
1 WEST STREET DITCHLING	TITLE: Selected historic field boundaries and field names		
EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	DATE: June 1998	REF.: 827	DRAWING NO.: Fig.2



ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST 1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE: Eastanton, Andover, Hampshire		
	TITLE: O.S. Map 24", 3rd Edition, 1911		
	DATE: June 1998	REF.: 827	DRAWING NO.: Fig.3



ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST	SITE Eastanton, Andover, Hampshire		
1 WEST STREET DITCHLING	TITLE Map of the Parish of Knights Enham in the County of Hampshire, 1839		
EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	DATE June 1998	REF. 827	DRAWING NO. Fig.4

827

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GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT 98/37

EAST ANTON

Mon UID 56466
①

Client:

ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH-EAST

WHAT WAS THIS DONE BASE - 2

SITE SUMMARY SHEET

98 / 37 East Anton, Hampshire

NGR: SU 3711 4741

Location, topography and geology

The site lies approximately 2km north of Andover town centre, and about 400m to the southwest of East Anton Farm. The area under investigation is limited to the west by The Ickenield Way. The northern, eastern and southern limits of the survey have been defined on the map to provide complete coverage of the eastern half of the suspected site and to establish if any ribbon settlement extends north-eastwards. At the time of survey all fields were under short pasture. The underlying geology comprises chalk overlain by clayey and silty soils with areas of flinty and chalky drift (SSEW, 1983).

Archaeology

The proposed development area lies at the intersection of two Roman roads: the road between Silchester and Old Sarum and the road between Winchester and Cirencester. The cross-roads is believed to be the location of the small Roman Town of *Leucomagus* as recorded in the Ravenna Cosmography. Limited excavation in the 1970s, west of the current area of investigation, revealed evidence of substantial Romano-British settlement. Although the information available from these excavations is inconclusive a number of ditches and pits were noted, with the latter suggesting a focus of settlement. Ditches were also recorded parallel and perpendicular to the road frontage, together with elements of wall footings, hearths and ovens, and a kiln. Excavation however, suggested significant plough damage. An Iron Age settlement is known to lie just to the northwest of the cross-road location. It is suggested that the focus of settlement moved from this Iron Age site to the cross-roads location.

RT ANGLES

Aims of Survey

The geophysical survey has two aims. First to establish the extent of the postulated Roman town. Second to confirm from the geophysical data, if possible, the state of preservation of any buried archaeological remains. The geophysical survey forms part of a wider archaeological evaluation being undertaken by **Archaeology South-East** on behalf of **Taywood Homes**, prior to development.

Summary of Results *

The gradiometer survey has failed to located a concentration of archaeological type anomalies suggestive of a Roman town. However, some strong pit type anomalies have been identified and may be of archaeological interest. In addition, linear anomalies apparently forming part of a rectilinear enclosure have been detected. These are aligned east-west and north-south, i.e. 45° to the orientation of the Roman roads and may be related to the Iron Age settlement to the northwest.

The resistance data indicate broad variations in the background resistance which are likely to be natural in origin and a north-south trend believed to be due to ridge and furrow. Although some discrete high resistance anomalies have been noted, there are no clearly defined anomalies suggestive of building remains.

It is suggested that the geophysical data tend to indicate an absence of archaeological remains rather than severe damage of existing deposits.

*** It is essential that this summary is read in conjunction with the detailed results of the survey.**

SURVEY RESULTS

98 / 37 East Anton, Hampshire

1. Survey Area

1.1 An area of 5 ha was investigated by gradiometry as indicated in Figure 1 at a scale of 1:2500. Due to field divisions the survey was carried out in two parts, Areas A and B, which lie north and south of the hedge believed to delineate the course of a former Roman road. For ease of display in the archive section these areas have been further subdivided as indicated in Figure 1.

1.2 Two areas totalling 1.32 ha, were targeted for resistance survey and these are also indicated on Figure 1.

1.3 The survey grid was set out by ***GSB Prospection*** and tied in to existing field boundaries. Detailed tie-in information has been lodged with the client.

2. Display

2.1 Figure 2 is a summary interpretation diagram showing the results of the resistance and gradiometer surveys superimposed on the base map, at a scale of 1:2500.

2.2 The data from the gradiometer survey are displayed as a summary greyscale in Figure 3.1 at a scale of 1:1250 with an accompanying interpretation diagram in Figure 3.2 at the same scale. Similarly the data from the resistance survey are displayed in Figure 4.1 with an accompanying interpretation diagram in Figure 4.2, both at a scale of 1:1250.

2.3 The gradiometer data are displayed as XY traces and dot density plots in Figures MA1.1 - MB2.3 at a scale of 1:500. The resistance data are displayed as greyscale images at 1:500 and processed greyscale images at different scales. All diagrams are accompanied by digitised interpretation also at 1:500.

2.4 The display formats referred to above are discussed in the *Technical Information* section, at the end of the text. A complete list of figures included in the report precedes the diagram section.

3. General Considerations - Complicating factors

3.1 In general conditions for survey were good with the application area comprising several gently undulating fields which were under short pasture at the time of survey.

3.2 An electric fence runs diagonally across Area A. Although this fence has not resulted in any data loss there is a slight increase in noise in its vicinity. A small section of the predefined survey area at the northern limit could not be surveyed because of several closely spaced electric fences and three water troughs.

3.3 Area B consists of four fields and as a result there are bands of magnetic disturbance at the boundaries. While these are clearly visible in the data, they do not detract from the overall results.

3.4 The gradiometer data contain numerous isolated ferrous type responses. These are the product of ferrous debris within the topsoil and are normally considered to be modern in origin. Although the most prominent of these are noted on the interpretation diagrams, they are not referred to in the text unless considered especially relevant.

3.5 Letters and numbers in parenthesis in the text refer to anomalies on the 1:500 interpretation diagrams.

4. Results of Gradiometer Survey

4.1 Area A

4.1.1 The data are dominated by a linear ferrous anomaly aligned approximately north-south in the east of the area. This is due to a buried water pipe which feeds several water troughs. Ferrous type responses along the perimeter of the survey area are the result of existing wire fences.

4.1.2 The most coherent anomalies within the data set from this area are two parallel ditch type responses (A) aligned approximately east-west. The strength and nature of these responses suggest an archaeological origin. A weaker linear anomaly (B) has been noted in the south of the area, aligned north-south. While this response is weak it does suggest part of a rectilinear enclosure, although the north-south side is only apparent as a single ditch type response. The alignment of this possible enclosure is at 45° to the Roman road alignment suggesting that it is not contemporary. Although it is impossible to determine the age of buried archaeological features from geophysical data, it is tempting to view this enclosure as an extension of the known Iron Age settlement to the northwest. However, if this were correct it would have implications with regards to the state of preservation at the site, see Section 6.3.

? NOT SO

4.1.3 Several strong pit type responses have also been noted. Given the context it seems likely that these are archaeologically significant, although a modern or natural origin cannot be dismissed. There does appear to be a greater concentration of these pit type anomalies within the possible enclosure. However this could be coincidental and it cannot be assumed that the pit type responses and possible enclosure are contemporary.

4.1.4 Two weak curvilinear anomalies (C) have been noted in the south of Area A. While these may be associated with the responses referred to in paragraphs 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 a later agricultural origin cannot be dismissed. Similarly a weak curvilinear anomaly (D) in the north of the survey area seems likely to be associated with later land use.

4.1.5 A weak linear trend (E) producing a negative anomaly has been noted in the north of the area and is likely to be associated with slight earthworks visible in the field.

R & F

4.1.6 Several short linear trends (F), aligned north-south, have been detected and are likely to represent ridge and furrow or more recent agricultural activity.

4.1.7 The weak negative trend (G) running through Area A is slight magnetic disturbance generated by the electric fence, see Section 3.2.

4.2 Area B

4.2.1 The data from Area B, and in particular the western half, are dominated by bands of magnetic disturbance generated by buried pipes and existing field divisions. Ferrous responses along the northern and western perimeters are due to metal fences and water troughs.

4.2.2 The clearest anomalies of possible archaeological interest lie in the west of Area B. They comprise a series of linear anomalies aligned approximately north-south. Anomaly (H) appears to be a continuation of the enclosure anomaly (B) seen in the Area A. There is a faint indication of a parallel response suggesting a double ditched feature comparable to that seen in Area A.

4.2.3 The linear anomaly (I) appears to respect the possible enclosure and may be associated with it. The relationship between anomalies (H) and (J) is such that one possible interpretation is that they represent ditches either side of a road or street. However, this not on the same alignment as the main Roman roads.

4.2.4 Several strong pit type anomalies have been noted within the vicinity of these linear responses and may be archaeologically significant.

4.2.5 The data suggest evidence of a more substantial ditch type feature (J) with a clearly rectilinear form. While it is likely that this is archaeological, interpretation is confused by the pipe which cuts through this possible feature.

4.2.6 Two ditch type responses (K), suggesting an enclosure, are visible in the data immediately to the east of the main pipe running north-south through the survey area. There is some evidence for these responses continuing into Area A. It is interesting to note that this postulated enclosure is on a slightly different alignment to the archaeological type anomalies recorded immediately to the west.

4.2.7 A group of pit type responses (L) have been located in the east of Area B. The nature of these anomalies suggest an archaeological origin, although the lack of any associated ditches makes such an interpretation difficult. While these responses lie away from the cross-roads and the areas of known archaeological remains to the west, their location alongside the Roman road may be significant.

4.2.8 A curving anomaly (M) has been located in the south of the area, though the anomaly is extremely weak and any archaeological interpretation remains tentative.

4.2.9 Two sets of weak linear trends (N) are visible in the data. One is aligned approximately north-south and the other northwest-southeast. The nature of these responses suggests that they are due to past agricultural processes.

4.2.10 The band of ferrous disturbance (O) coincides with a former field division

5. Results of Resistance Survey

5.1 Area A

5.1.1 An area of 140m by 60m within Area A was selected for resistance survey. Given the lack of any gradiometer anomalies suggestive of building remains, this block was positioned opposite the area of known remains just to the west of Icknield Way.

5.1.2 The data indicate broad variations in the background level of response with the resistance increasing to the northeast. This is likely to be due to localised pedological variation.

5.1.3 Within this general background variation are some more discrete high resistance responses which may be of interest. There is a suggestion of a linear high resistance anomaly (1) along the western limit of the survey area. In addition, a rectilinear anomaly (2) in the north of the area is also apparent. The data suggest that these two responses may be one continuous response although the results are not conclusive. Interpretation of these anomalies is hindered somewhat by their position at the edge of the field. Given their proximity to the Roman road, an archaeological origin cannot be dismissed, although the anomalies may relate to later land use and build up of material at the limits of the field.

5.1.4 A group of discrete high resistance readings (3) have been noted on the interpretation diagram. Although these anomalies do not readily suggest building remains there is some suggestion of rectilinearity within the data. The alignment of these responses is generally north-south and east-west. However, there is a suggestion of a north-south linear trend (4) within the data which is likely to be due to ridge and furrow or later agricultural activity. A similar trend is visible in the gradiometer data. It is possible that the rectilinear nature of these high resistance responses is simply a product of a combination of later agricultural practice and natural variations.

5.1.5 Two parallel low resistance anomalies (5) correspond to the double ditch type anomaly located by the gradiometer survey (A).

5.1.6 The low resistance readings (6) coincide with a group of trees.

5.2 Area B

5.2.1 Resistance survey was carried out in this area to confirm the nature of the anomalies located by the gradiometer survey and to provide further coverage of the cross-roads location.

5.2.2 As with Area A there are broad variations in the background resistance across this area.

5.2.3 The two clear linear anomalies (7) correspond with the buried pipe located by the gradiometer survey. There is a faint suggestion of a weak linear anomaly (8) which appears to correspond with anomaly (H) in the gradiometer interpretation.

5.2.4 Two areas of increased response (9) have been noted on the interpretation diagram. While these areas may indicate spreads of building rubble, there is no clear evidence for building remains.

6. Conclusions

6.1 Although the gradiometer survey has located several ditch and pit type anomalies of possible archaeological interest, the strength of responses and the concentration of anomalies is not indicative of those expected from a Roman Town. In addition, the linear anomalies of possible significance are aligned east-west and north-south, i.e. 45° to the orientation of the Roman roads and may be related to the Iron Age settlement to the northwest. The gradiometry failed to identify discrete areas of noise that are usually suggestive of building remains.

6.2 The resistance data indicate broad variations in the background resistance which are likely to be natural in origin and a north-south trend believed to be due to ridge and furrow. Although some discrete high resistance anomalies have been noted, there are no clearly defined anomalies suggestive of building remains.

6.3 One of the aims of the survey was to determine the state of preservation of any buried archaeological remains. Although both data sets have failed to locate concentrations of potential archaeological anomalies, some conclusions can be tentatively drawn. Firstly, if the possible enclosure located in the gradiometer survey is an extension of the Iron Age settlement to the

west, rather than later field divisions, it seems unlikely that so little evidence of later archaeological activity should survive. Secondly, within both data sets linear trends consistent with agricultural activity have been noted. If this had damaged buried archaeological deposits to such a degree one would expect the ploughing trends themselves to be magnetically stronger as they cut into the magnetically enhanced archaeological deposits.

6.4 In summary, while the geophysical data has clearly located several anomalies of archaeological potential they are not suggestive of a Roman Town. The results suggest that if the excavation remains to the west are part of a Roman town there is no geophysical evidence for them having extended into this area..

Project Co-ordinator: Dr S M Ovenden-Wilson
Project Assistants: D Lucy, A Shields and C Stephens

Date of Survey: 20th - 24th April 1998
Date of Report: 13th May 1998

References:

SSEW, 1983. *Soils of England and Wales. Sheet 6, South East England.* Soil Survey of England and Wales.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The following is a description of the equipment and display formats used in **GSB Prospection (GSB)** reports. It should be emphasised that whilst all of the display options are regularly used, the diagrams produced in the final reports are the most suitable to illustrate the data from each site. The choice of diagrams results from the experience and knowledge of the staff of GSB.

All survey reports are prepared and submitted on the basis that whilst they are based on a thorough survey of the site, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omissions.

Instrumentation

(a) Fluxgate Gradiometer - Geoscan FM36

This instrument comprises of two fluxgates mounted vertically apart, at a distance of 500mm. The gradiometer is carried by hand, with the bottom sensor approximately 100-300mm from the ground surface. At each survey station, the difference in the magnetic field between the two fluxgates is conventionally measured in nanoTesla (nT), or gamma. The fluxgate gradiometer suppresses any diurnal or regional effects. Generally features up to one metre deep may be detected by this method. Readings are normally logged at 0.5m intervals along traverses 1.0m apart.

(b) Resistance Meter - Geoscan RM4 or RM15

This measures the electrical resistance of the earth, using a system of four electrodes (two current and two potential.) Depending on the arrangement of these electrodes an exact measurement of a specific volume of earth may be acquired. This resistance value may then be used to calculate the earth resistivity. The "Twin Probe" arrangement involves the paring of electrodes (one current and one potential) with one pair remaining in a fixed position, whilst the other measures the resistance variations across a fixed grid. The resistance is measured in Ohms and the calculated resistivity is in Ohm-metres. The resistance method as used for area survey has a depth resolution of approximately 0.75m, although the nature of the overburden and underlying geology will cause variations in this generality. The technique can be adapted to sample greater depths of earth and can therefore be used to produce vertical "pseudo sections". In area survey readings are typically logged at 1.0m x 1.0m intervals.

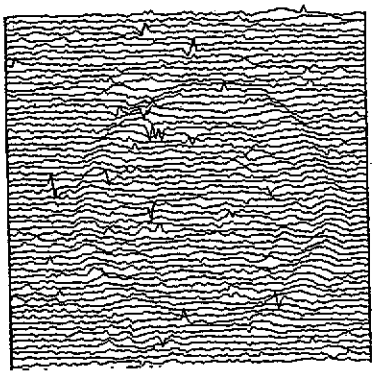
(c) Magnetic Susceptibility

Variations in the magnetic susceptibility of subsoils and topsoils occur naturally, but greater enhanced susceptibility can also be a product of increased human/anthropogenic activity. This phenomenon of susceptibility enhancement can therefore be used to provide information about the "level of archaeological activity" associated with a site. It can also be used in a predictive manner to ascertain the suitability of a site for a magnetic survey. The instrument employed for measuring this phenomenon is either a field coil or a laboratory based susceptibility bridge. For the latter 50g soil samples are collected in the field. Sampling intervals vary widely but are often at the 10m or 20m level.

Display Options

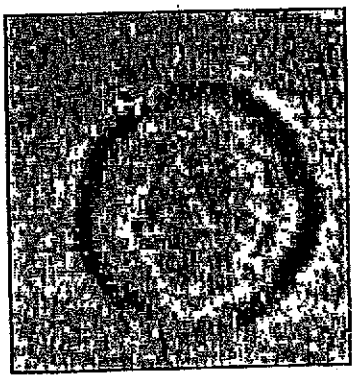
The following is a description of the display options used. Unless specifically mentioned in the text, it may be assumed that no filtering or smoothing has been used to enhance the data. For any particular report a limited number of display modes may be used.

(a) Dot-Density In this display, minimum and maximum cut-off levels are chosen. Any value that is below the minimum will appear white, whilst any value above the maximum will be black. Any value that lies between these two cut-off levels will have a specified number of dots depending on the relative position between the two levels. The focus of the display may be changed using different levels and a contrast factor (C.F.). Usually the C.F. = 1, producing a linear scale between the cut-off levels. Assessing a lower than normal reading involves the use of an inverse plot, This plot simply reverses the minimum and maximum values, resulting in the lower values being presented by more dots. In either representation, each reading is allocated a unique area dependent on its position on the survey grid, within which numbers of dots are randomly placed. The main limitation of this display method is that multiple plots have to be produced in order to view the whole range of the data. It is also difficult to gauge the true strength of any anomaly without looking at the raw data values. This display is much favoured for producing plans of sites, where positioning of the anomalies and features is important.



(b) X-Y Plot This involves a line representation of the data. Each successive row of data is equally incremented in the Y axis, to produce a stacked profile effect. This display may incorporate a hidden-line removal algorithm, which blocks out lines behind the major peaks and can aid interpretation. Advantages of this type of display are that it allows the full range of the data to be viewed and shows the shape of the indiviual anomalies. Results are produced on a flatbed plotter.

This display joins the data values in both the X and Y axis. The display may be changed by altering the horizontal viewing angle and the angle above the plane. The output may be either colour or black and white.



(c) Grey-Scale

This format divides a given range of readings into a set number of classes. These classes have a predefined arrangement of dots or shade of grey, the intensity increasing with value. This gives an appearance of a toned or grey scale.

Similar plots can be produced in colour, either using a wide range of colours or by selecting two or three colours to represent positive and negative values. While colour plots can look impressive and can be used to highlight certain anomalies, grey-scales tend to be more informative.

Glossary of terms commonly used in the graphical interpretation of gradiometer data

Ditch / Pit

This category is used only when other evidence is available that supports a clear archaeological interpretation e.g. cropmarks or excavation.

Archaeology

This term is used when the form, nature and pattern of the response is clearly archaeological but where no supporting evidence exists. These anomalies, whilst considered anthropogenic, could be of any age. If a more precise archaeological interpretation is possible then it will be indicated in the accompanying text.

? Archaeology

The interpretation of such anomalies is often tentative, with the anomalies exhibiting either weak signal strength or forming incomplete archaeological patterns. They may be the result of variable soil depth, plough damage or even aliasing as a result of data collection orientation.

Natural

These responses form clear patterns in geographical zones where natural variations are known to produce significant magnetic distortions e.g. palaeochannels or magnetic gravels.

? Natural

These are anomalies that are likely to be natural in origin i.e geological or pedological.

Areas of Magnetic Disturbance

These responses are commonly found in places where modern ferrous or fired materials are present e.g. fencelines, pylons or brick rubble. They are presumed to be modern.

Areas of Increased Magnetic Response

These responses show no visual indications on the ground surface and are considered to have some archaeological potential.

Ferrous Response

This type of response is associated with ferrous material and may result from small items in the topsoil or larger buried objects such as pipes. Ferrous responses are usually regarded as modern. Individual burnt stones, fired bricks or igneous rocks can produce responses similar to ferrous material.

Ridge and Furrow

These are regular and broad linear anomalies that are presumed to be the result of ancient cultivation. In some cases the response may be the result of modern activity.

Ploughing Trend

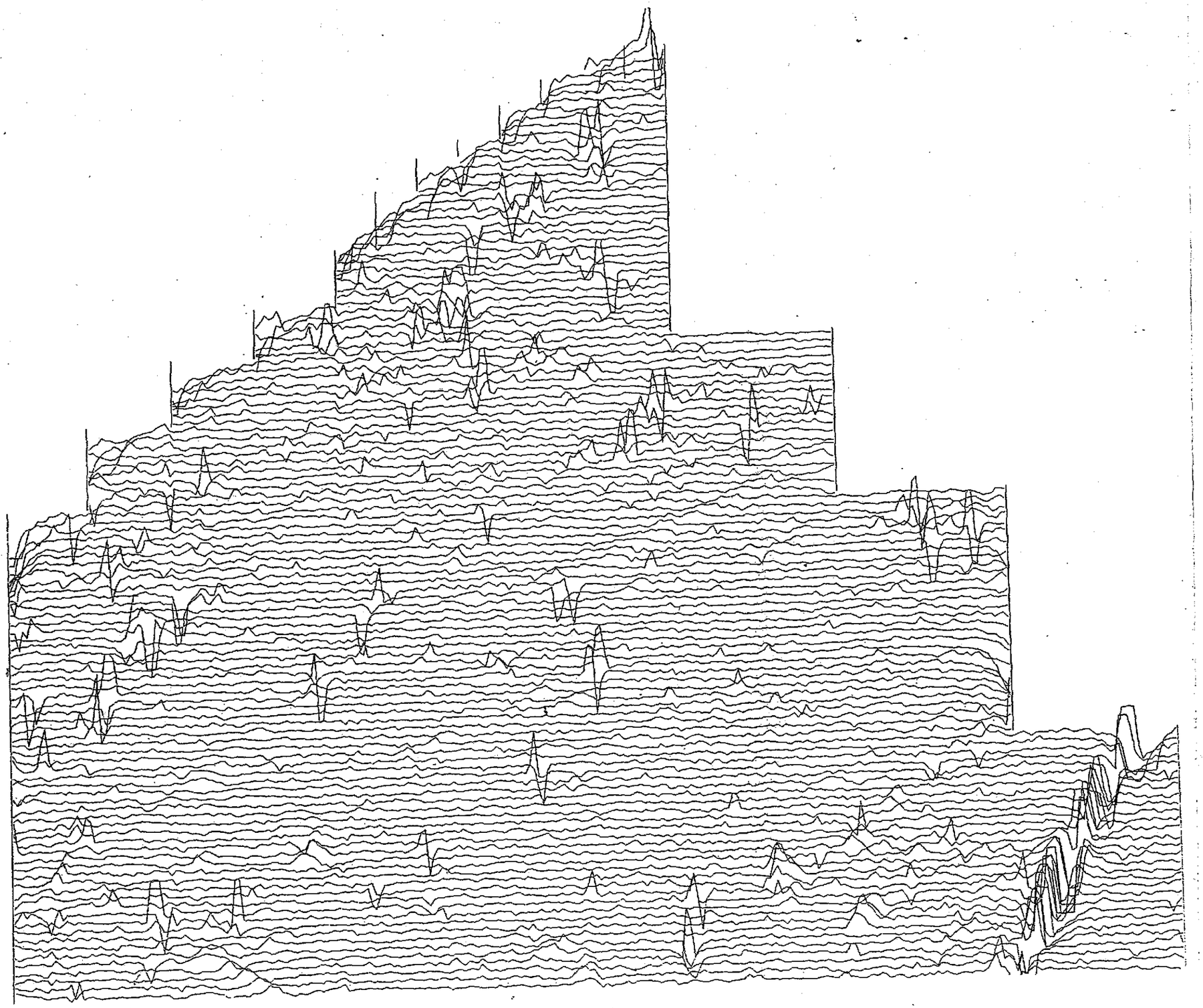
These are isolated or grouped linear responses. They are normally narrow and are presumed modern when aligned to current field boundaries or following present ploughing.

Linear Trend

This is usually a weak isolated linear anomaly of unknown cause or date.

List of Figures

EAST ANTON
Area A1
Gradiometer Data

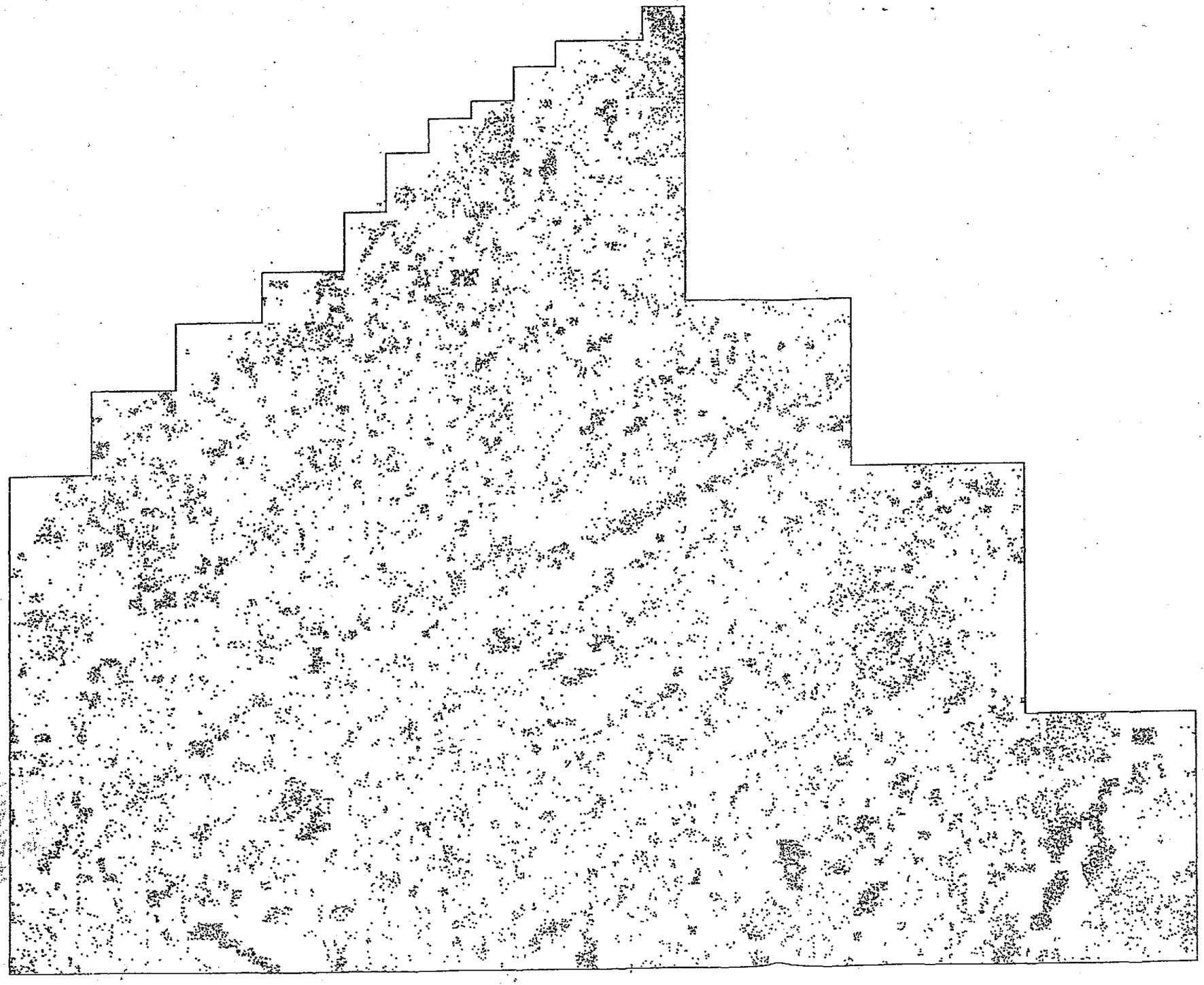


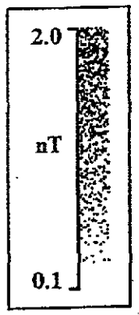
15 nT

0 m 20

Figure MA1.1

EAST ANTON
Area A1
Gradiometer Data





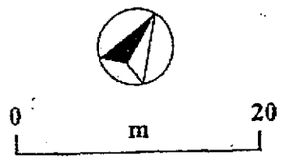
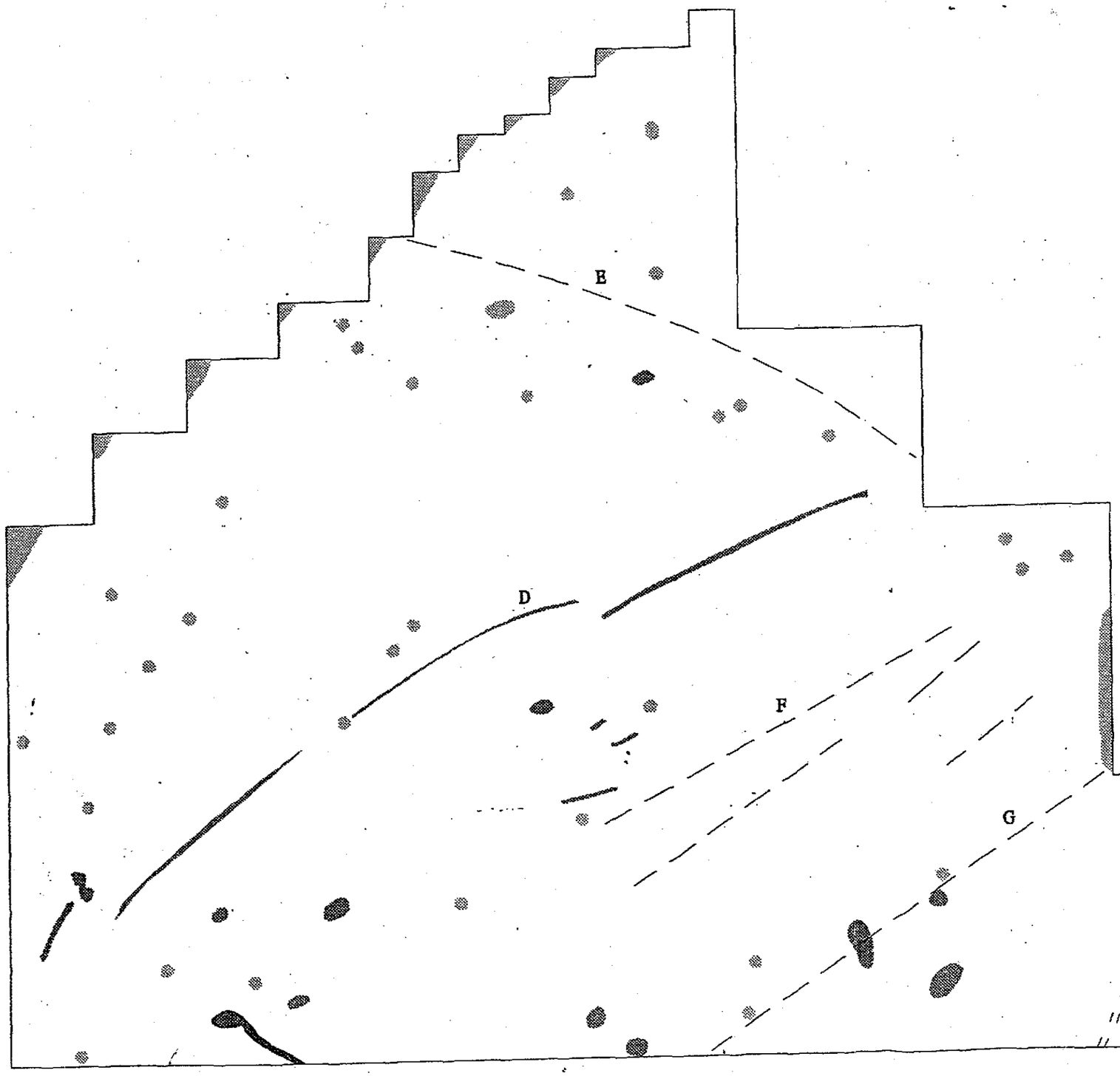


Figure MA1.2

EAST ANTON
Area A1
Gradiometer Data



Archaeology

?Archaeology

Linear Trend

Pipe

Ferrous

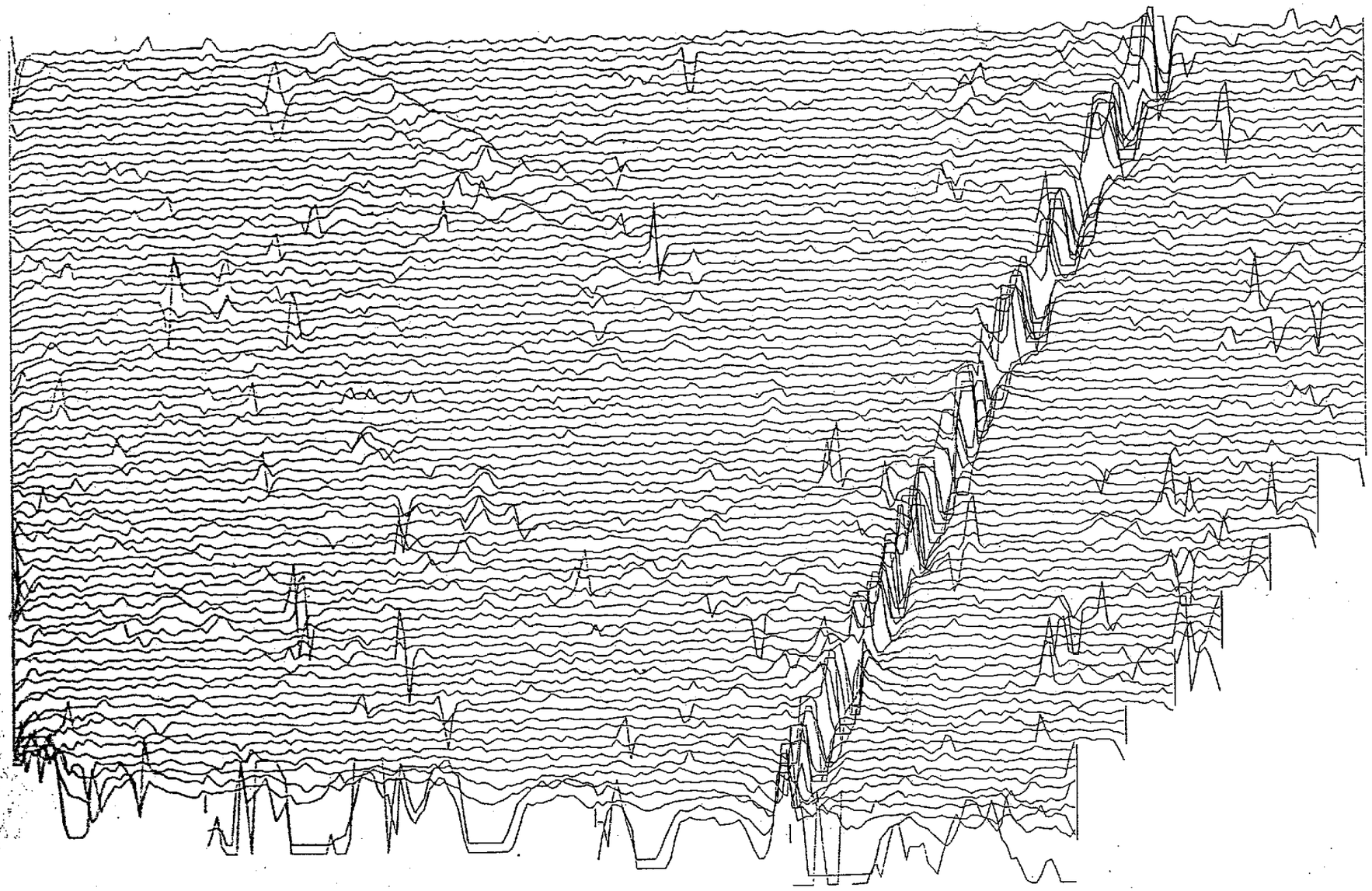
0 m 20

Figure MA1.3

EAST ANTON

Area A2

Gradiometer Data



15 nT

0 m 20

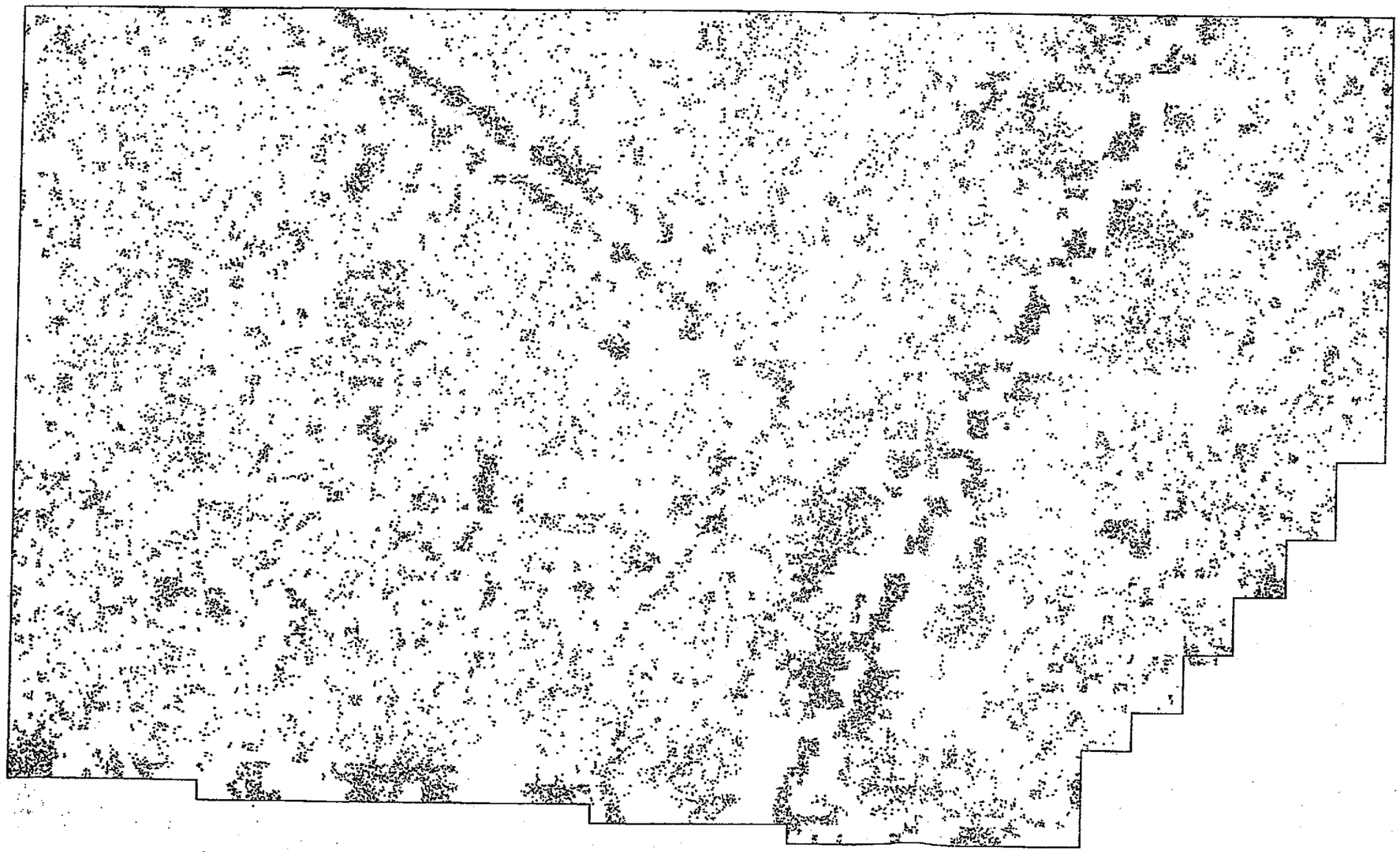
GSB Prospection 98/37

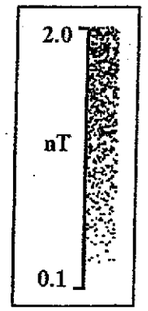
Figure MA2.1

EAST ANTON

Area A2

Gradiometer Data





0 m 20

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure MA2.2

EAST ANTON
Area A2
Gradiometer Data

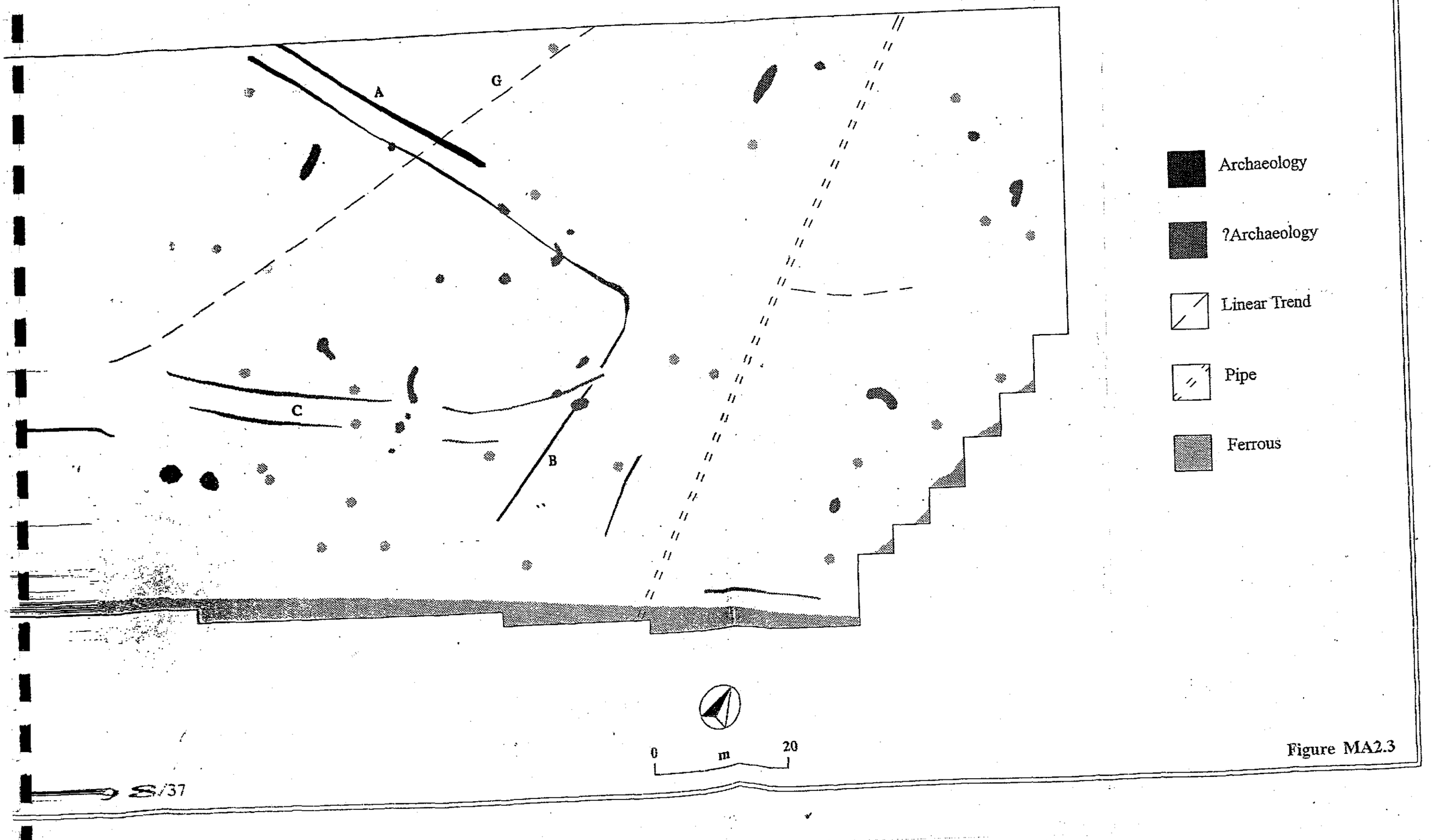
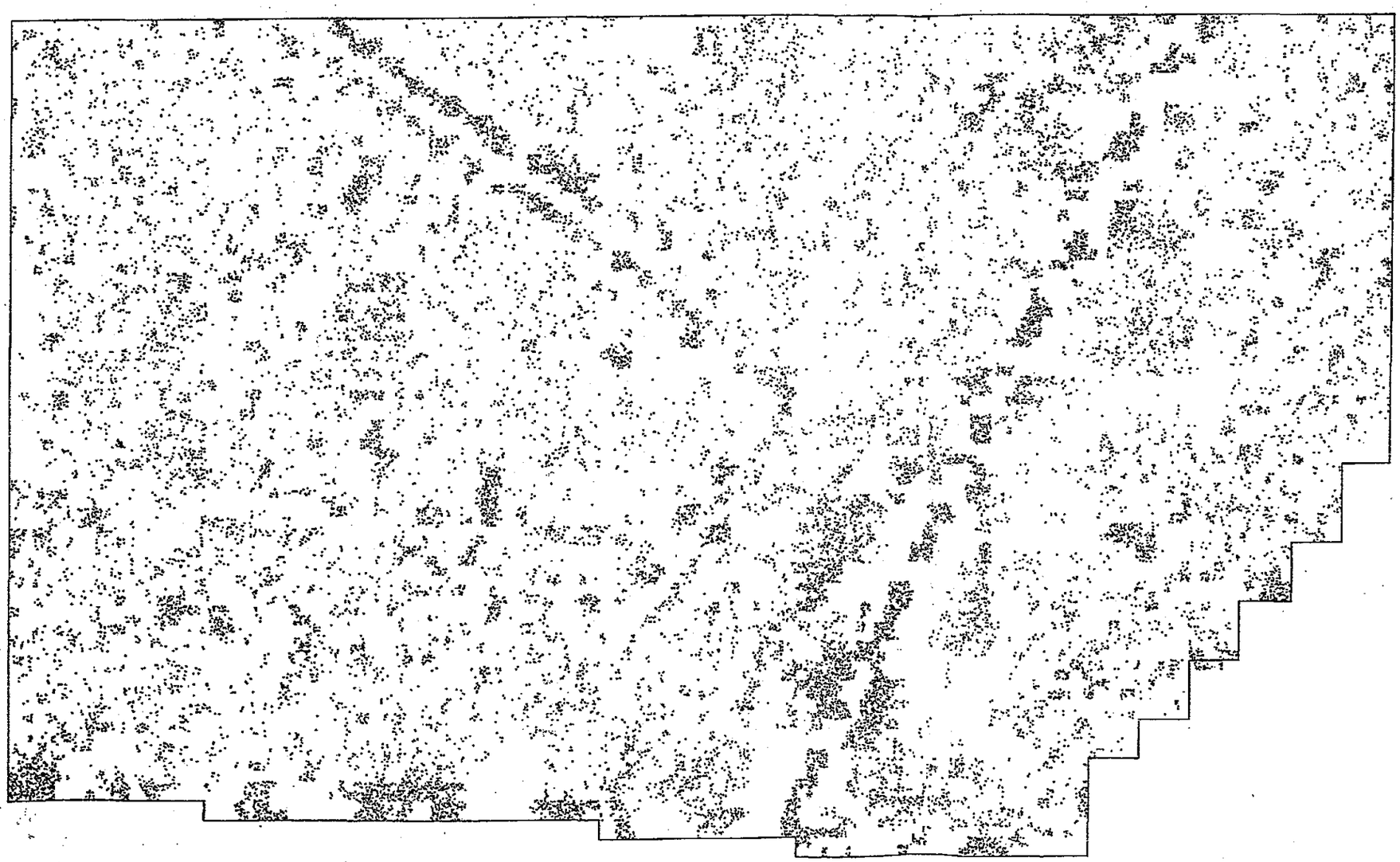
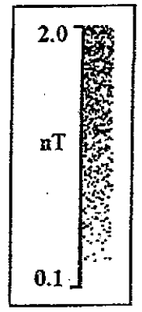


Figure MA2.3

EAST ANTON
Area A2
Gradiometer Data

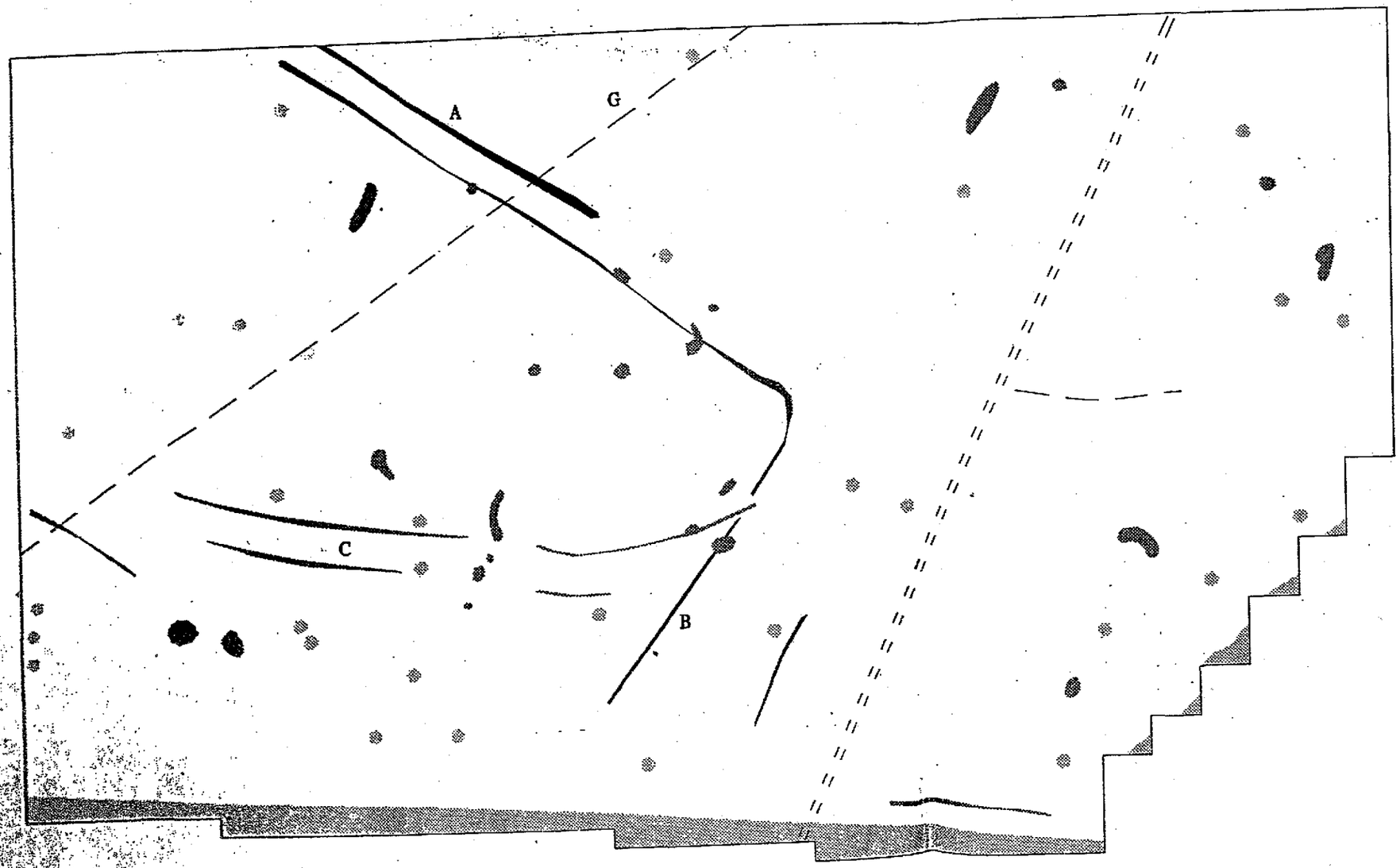




0 m 20

Figure MA2.2

EAST ANTON
Area A2
Gradiometer Data



Archaeology

?Archaeology

Linear Trend

Pipe

Ferrous

0 m 20

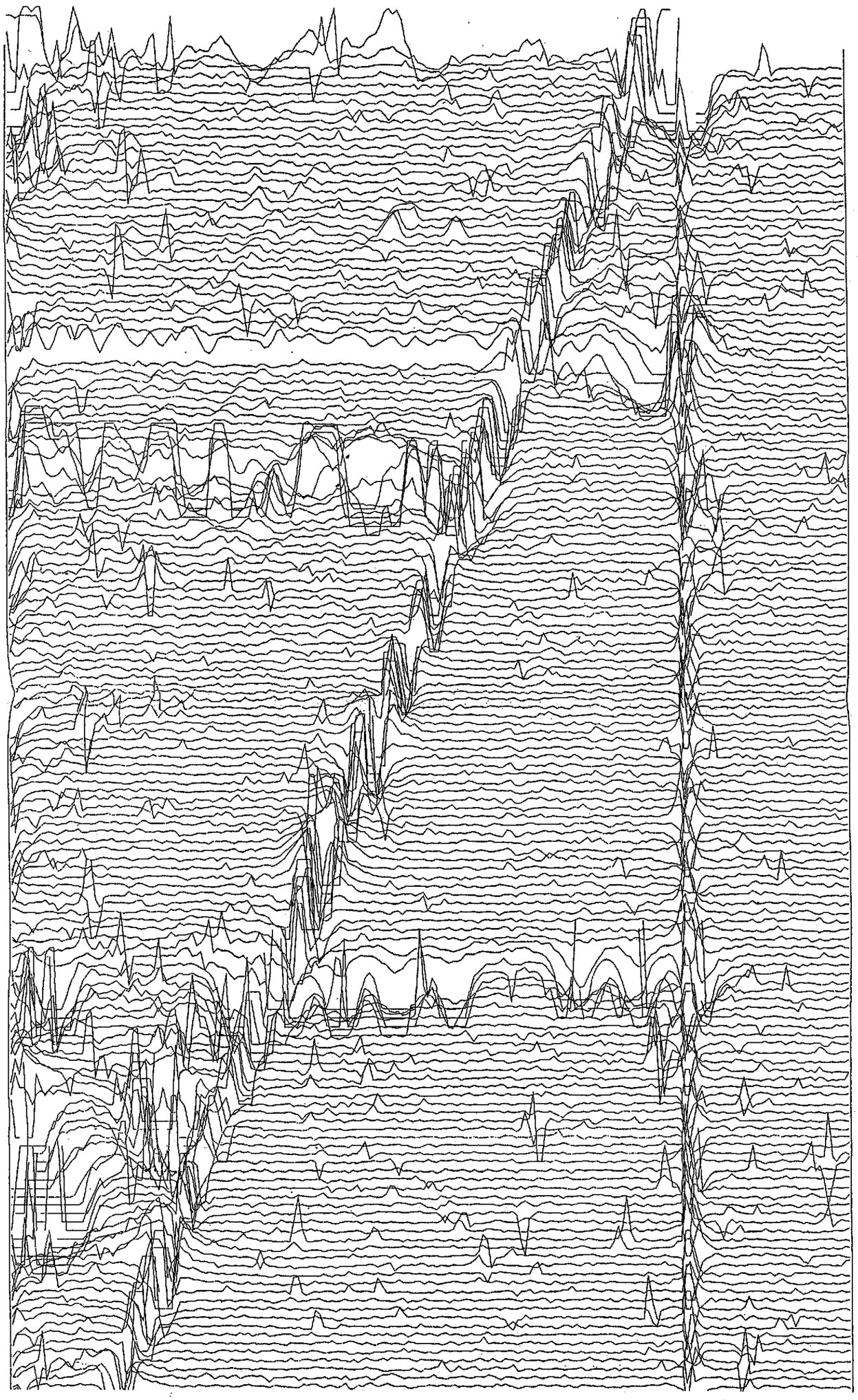
Figure MA2.3

GSB Prospection 98/37

EAST ANTON

Area B1

Gradiometer Data



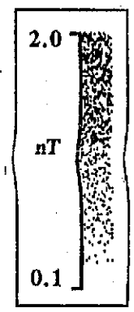
15 nT

0 m 20

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure MB1.1

EAST ANTON
Area B1
Gradiometer Data

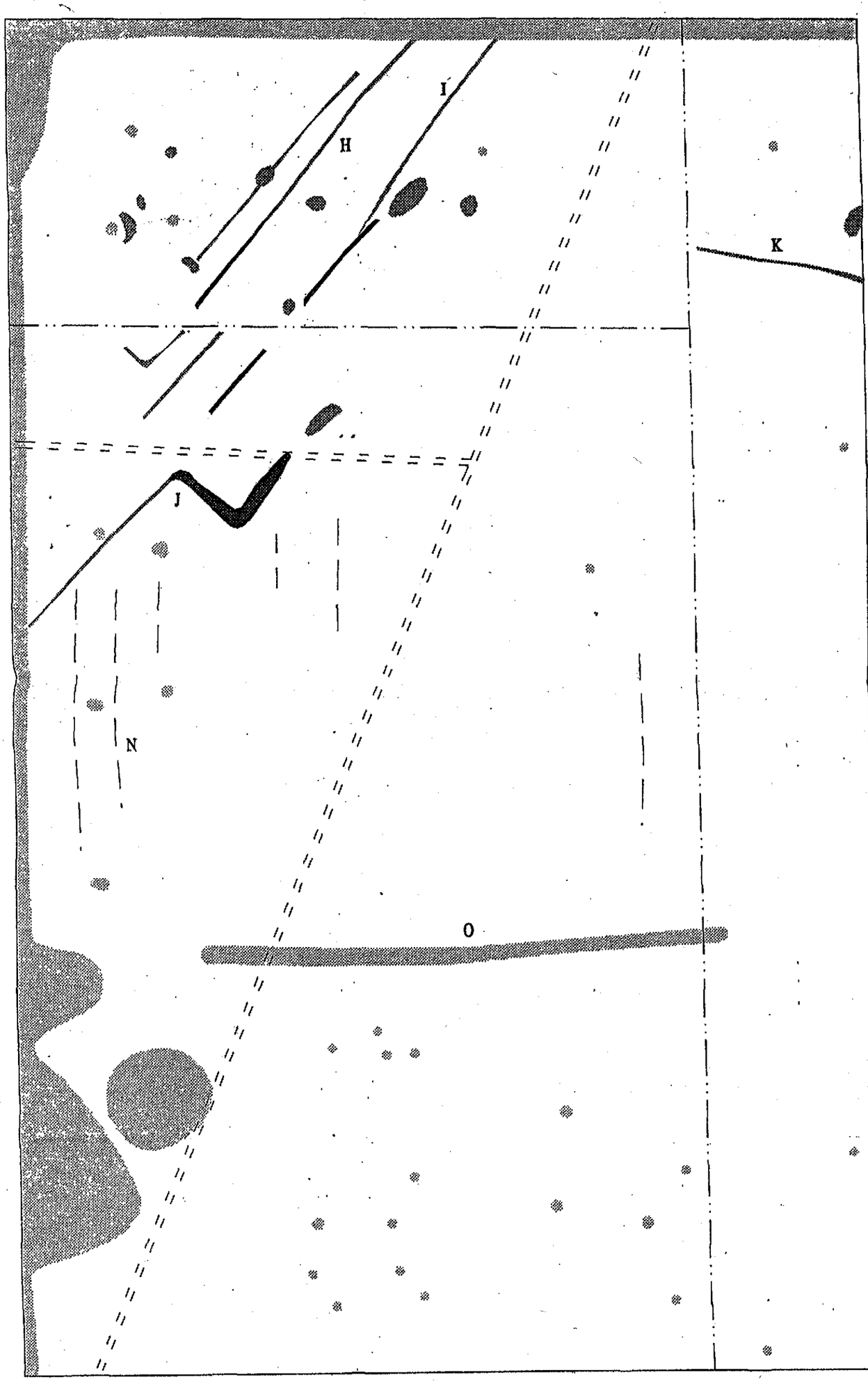


0 m 20

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure MB1.2

EAST ANTON
Area B1
Gradiometer Data



Archaeology

?Archaeology

Linear Trend

Existing Fence

Pipe

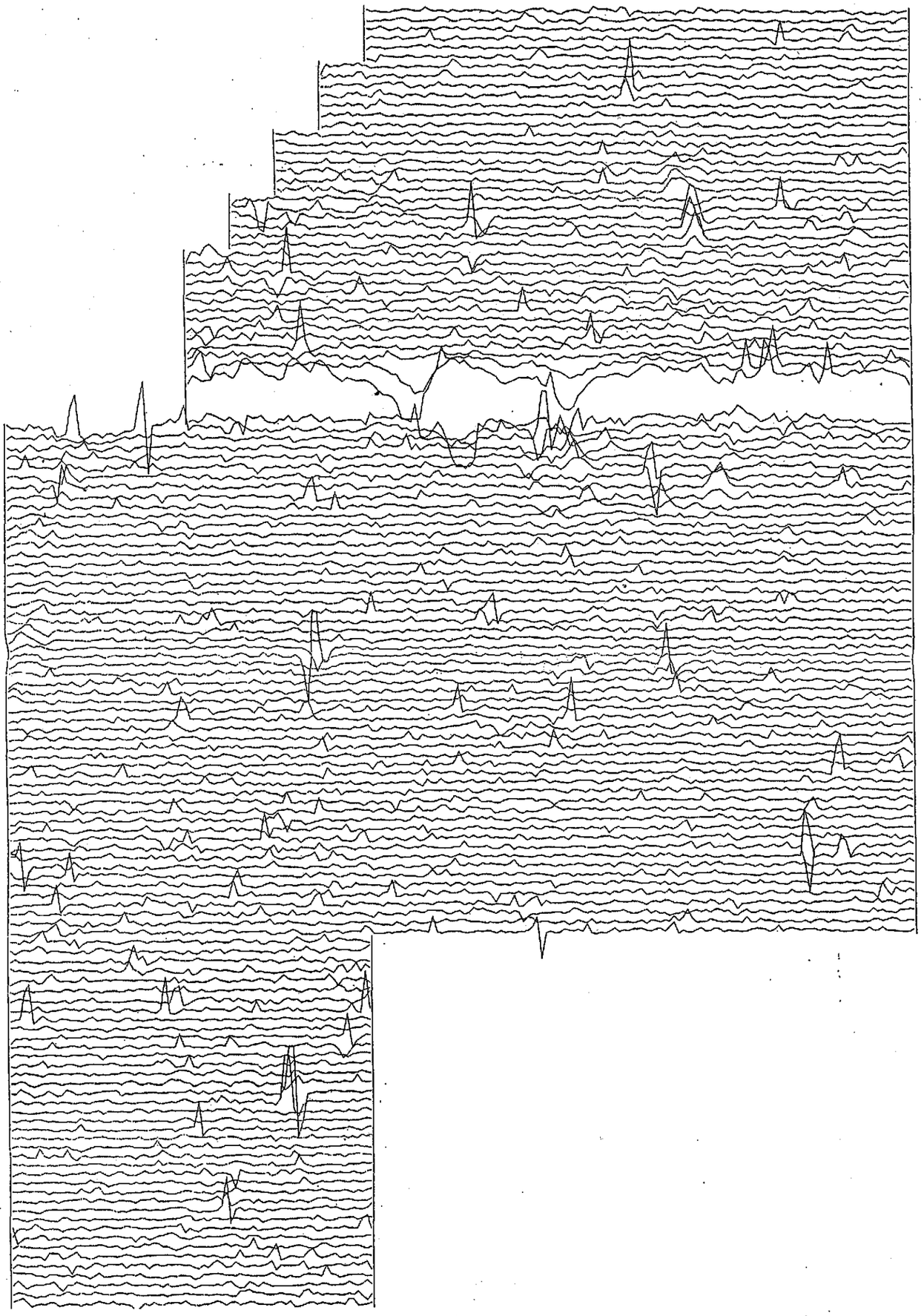
Ferrous

0 m 20

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure MB1.3

EAST ANTON
Area B2
Gradiometer Data



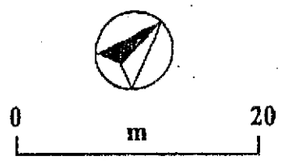
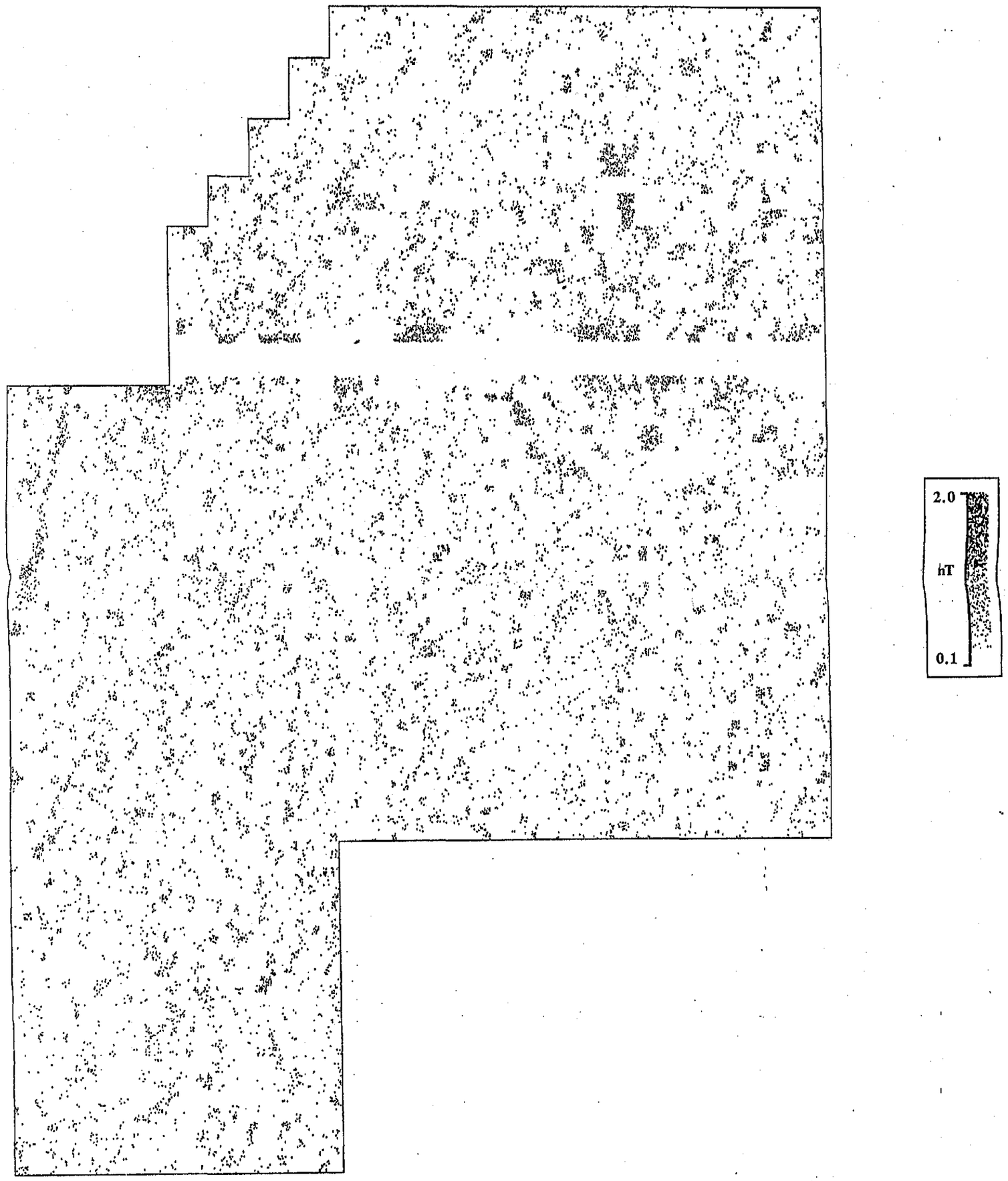


Figure MB2.1

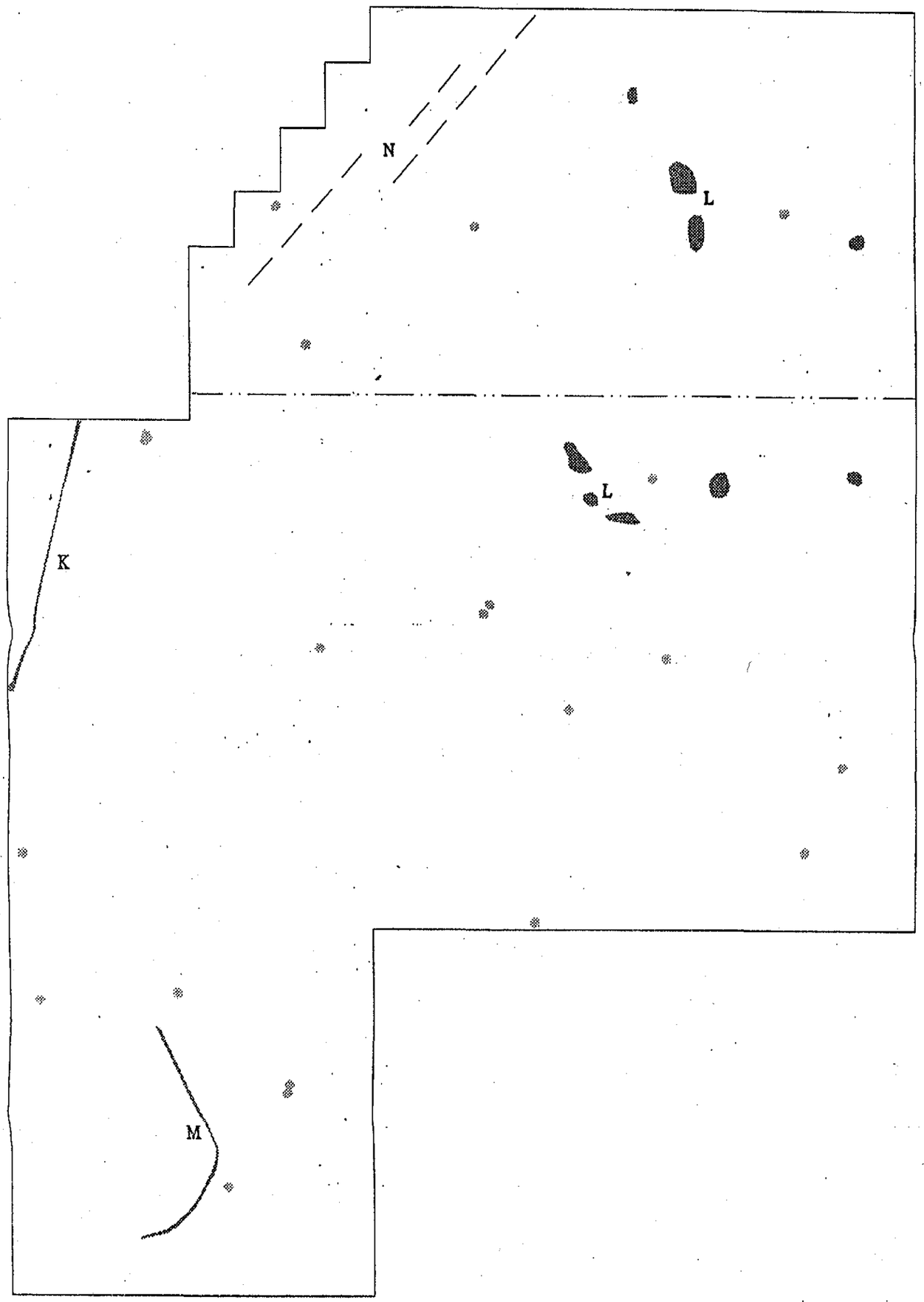
EAST ANTON
Area B2
Gradiometer Data



GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure MB2.2

EAST ANTON
Area B2
Gradiometer Data



?Archaeology

Linear Trend

Existing Fence

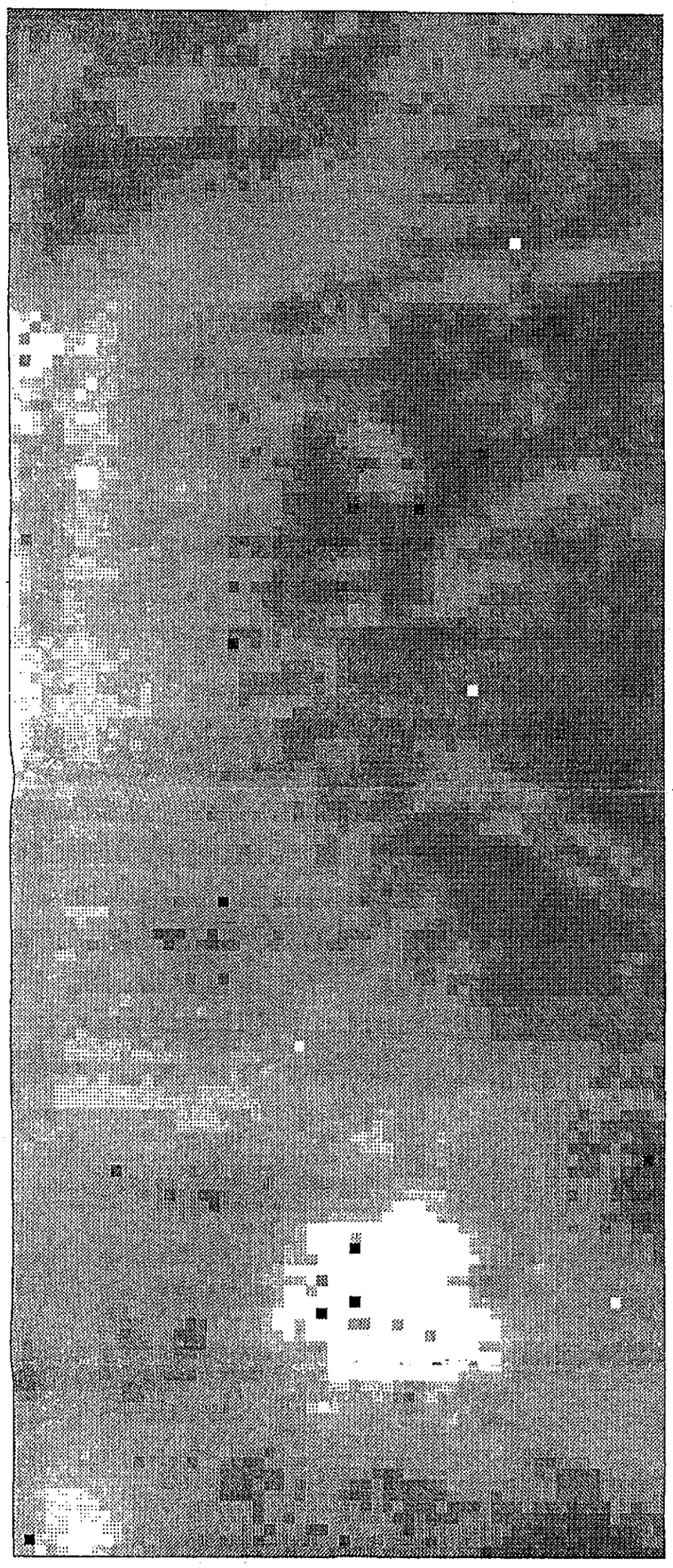
Ferrous

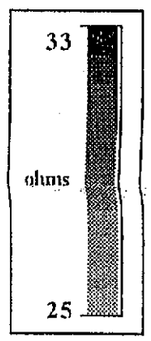
0 m 20

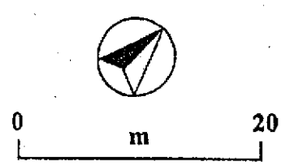
GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure MB2.3

EAST ANTON
Area A
Resistance Data







GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure RA.1

East Anton Farm

East Anton

Little East Anton Farm

Red Brick Cottages

A1

A2

A

B2

B

B1

Longmeadow Cottages

Smannell Road

Smannell Road

0 metres 100

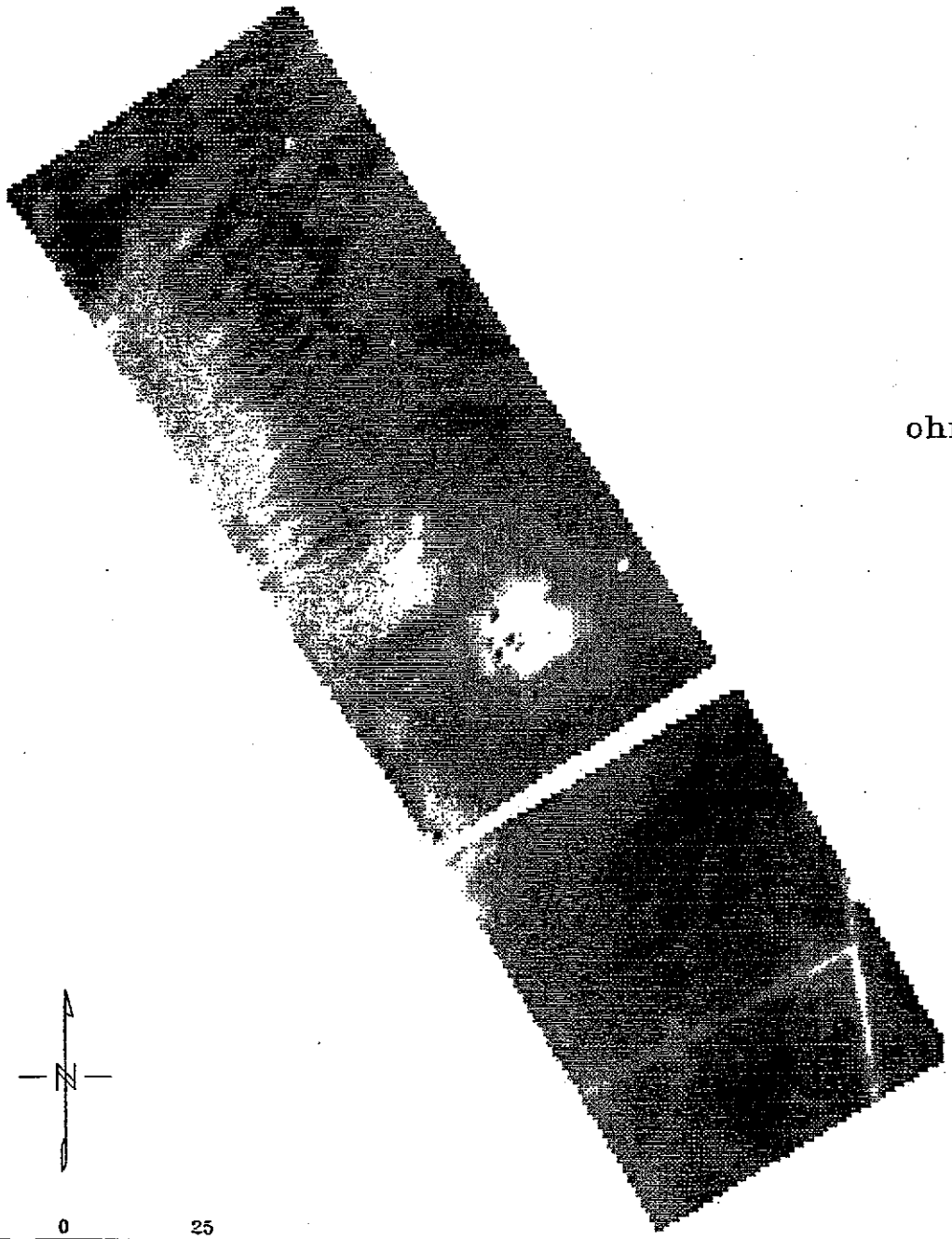
Gradiometer Survey

Resistance Survey

GSB PROSPECTION	
PROJECT: 98/37 EAST ANTON	
TITLE: Sketch Location Diagram	
Based on a plan supplied by Archaeology South-East	Figure 1

EAST ANTON

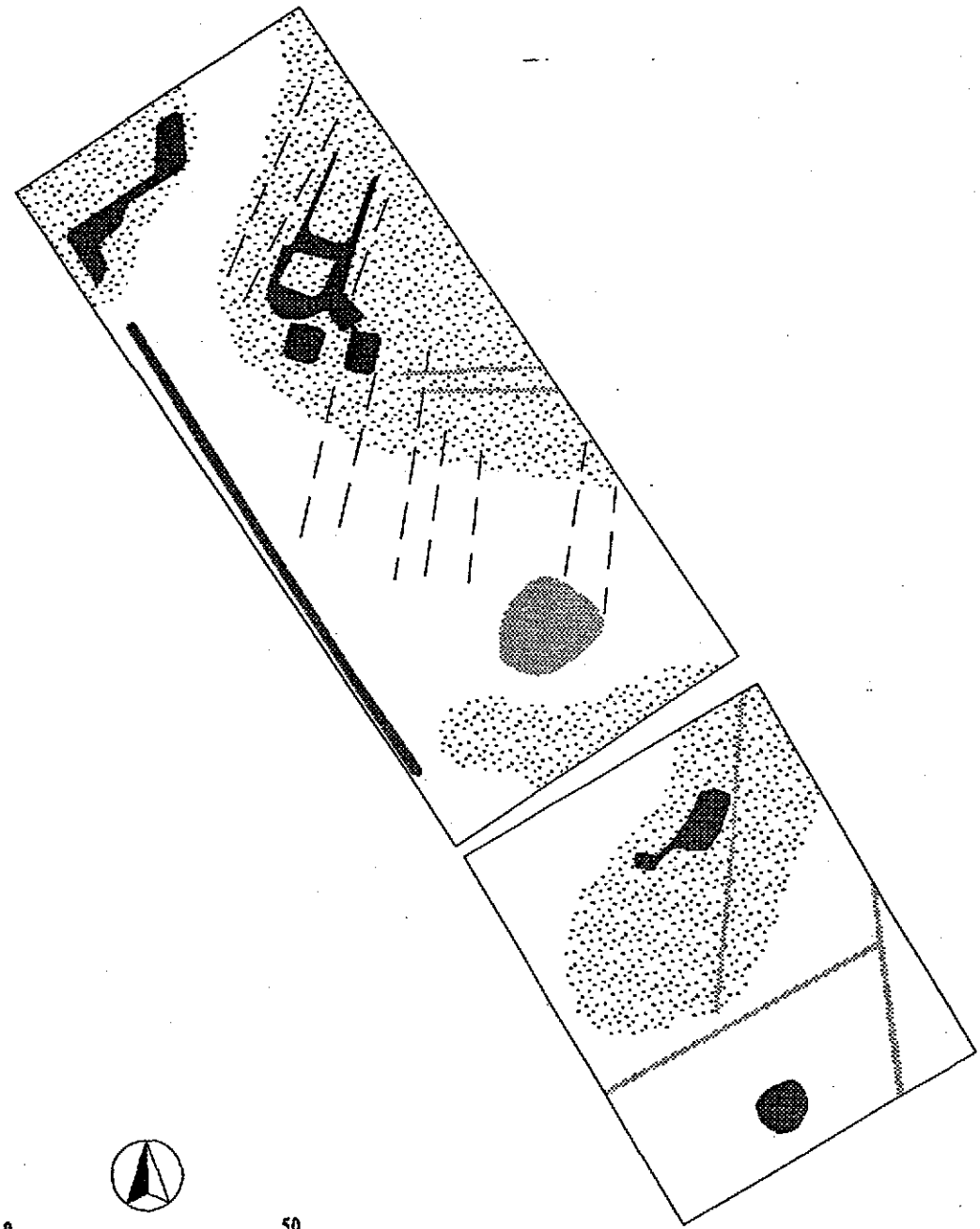
Resistance Data



GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure 4.1

GSB PROSPECTION
PROJECT: 98/37 EAST ANTON
TITLE: Interpretation - Resistance Data



0 metres 50

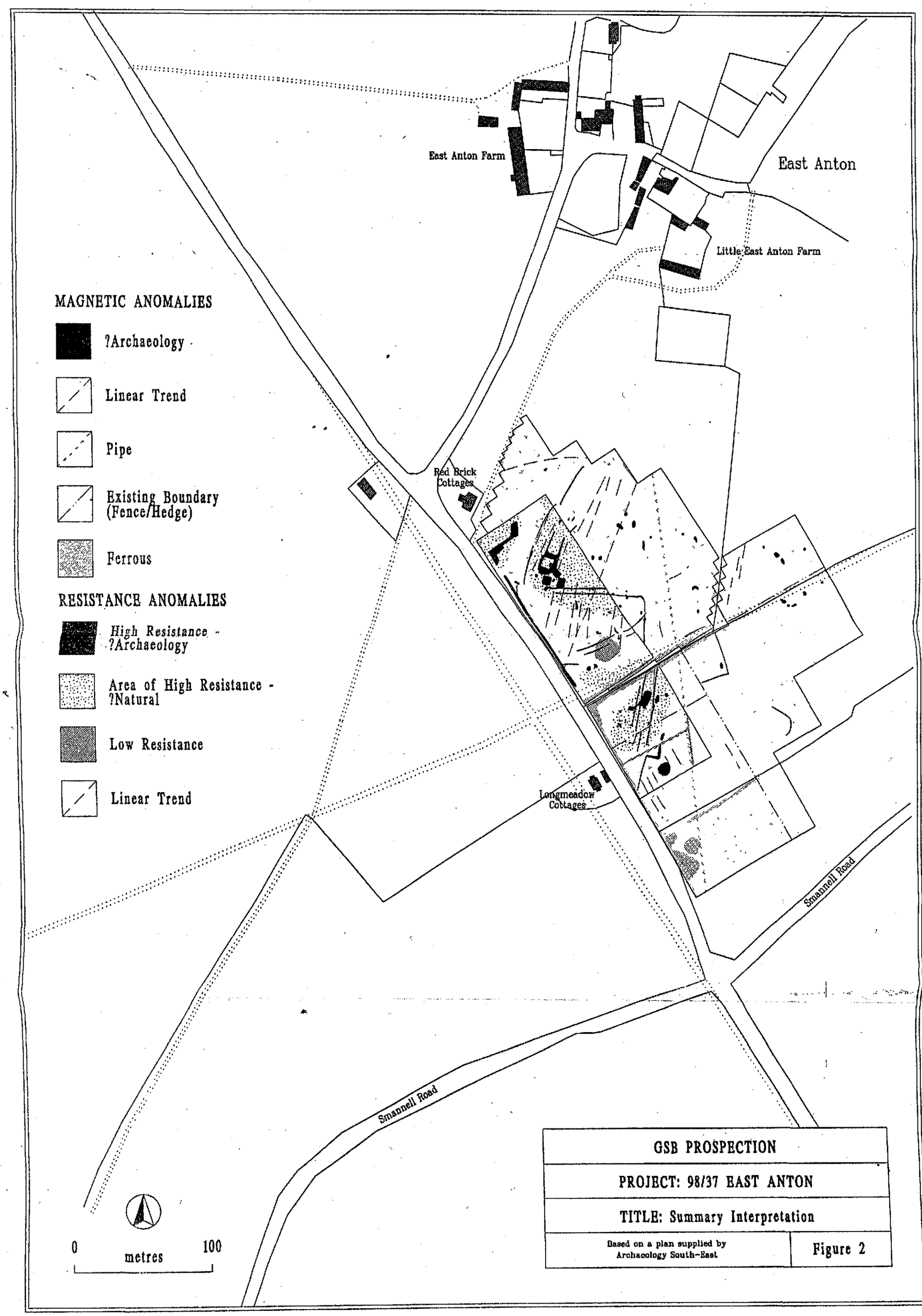
High Resistance - ?Archaeology

Area of High Resistance - ?Natural

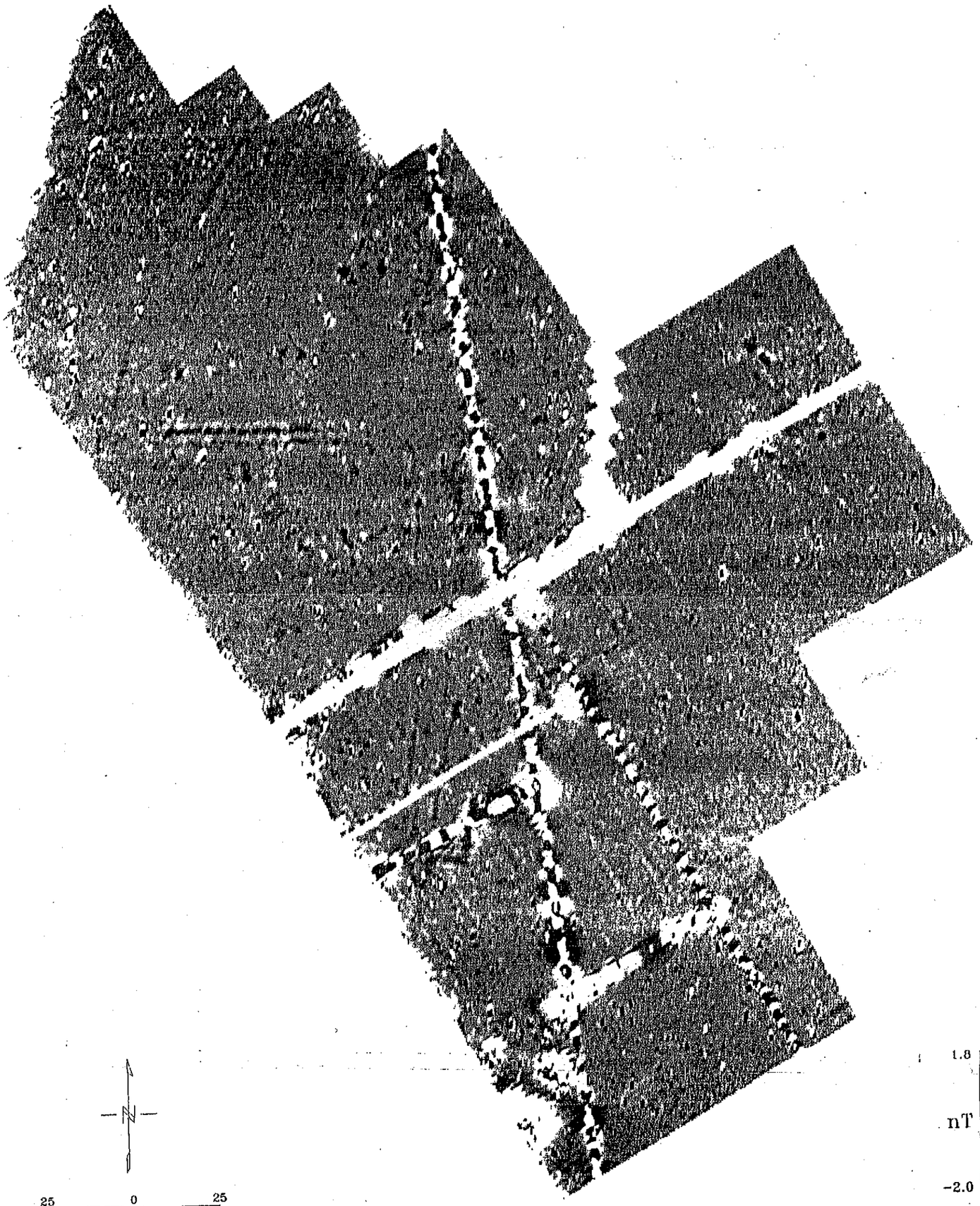
Low Resistance

Linear Trend

Figure 4.2


East Anton Farm
East Anton
Little East Anton Farm
Red Brick Cottages
Longmeadow Cottages
Smannell Road
Smannell Road
MAGNETIC ANOMALIES
?Archaeology
Linear Trend
Pipe
Existing Boundary (Fence/Hedge)
Ferrous
RESISTANCE ANOMALIES
High Resistance - ?Archaeology
Area of High Resistance - ?Natural
Low Resistance
Linear Trend
0
metres
100
GSB PROSPECTION
PROJECT: 98/37 EAST ANTON
TITLE: Summary Interpretation
Based on a plan supplied by Archaeology South-East
Figure 2

EAST ANTON
Gradiometer Data



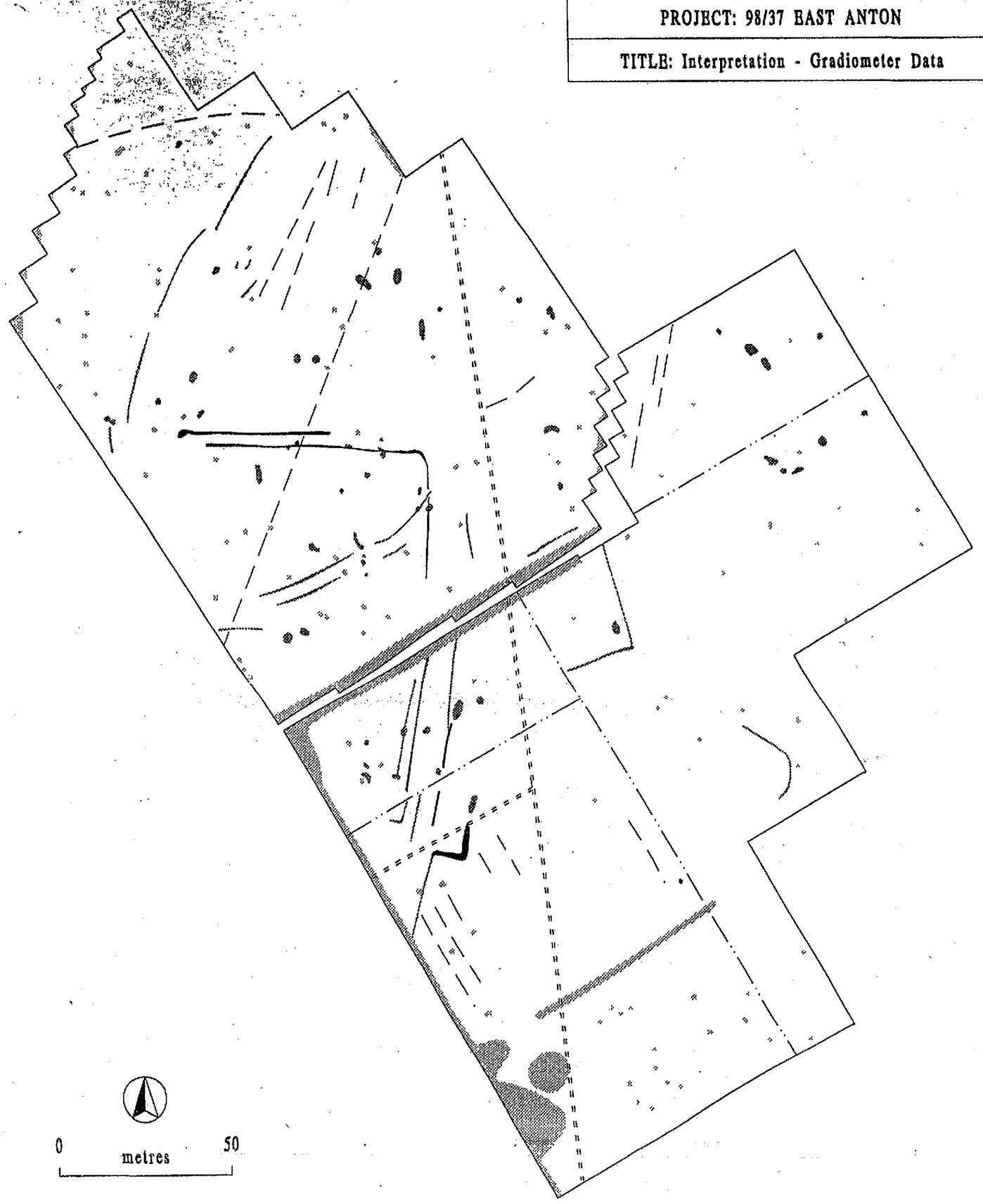
GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure 3.1

GSB PROSPECTION

PROJECT: 98/37 EAST ANTON

TITLE: Interpretation - Gradiometer Data



Archaeology

?Archaeology

Linear Trend

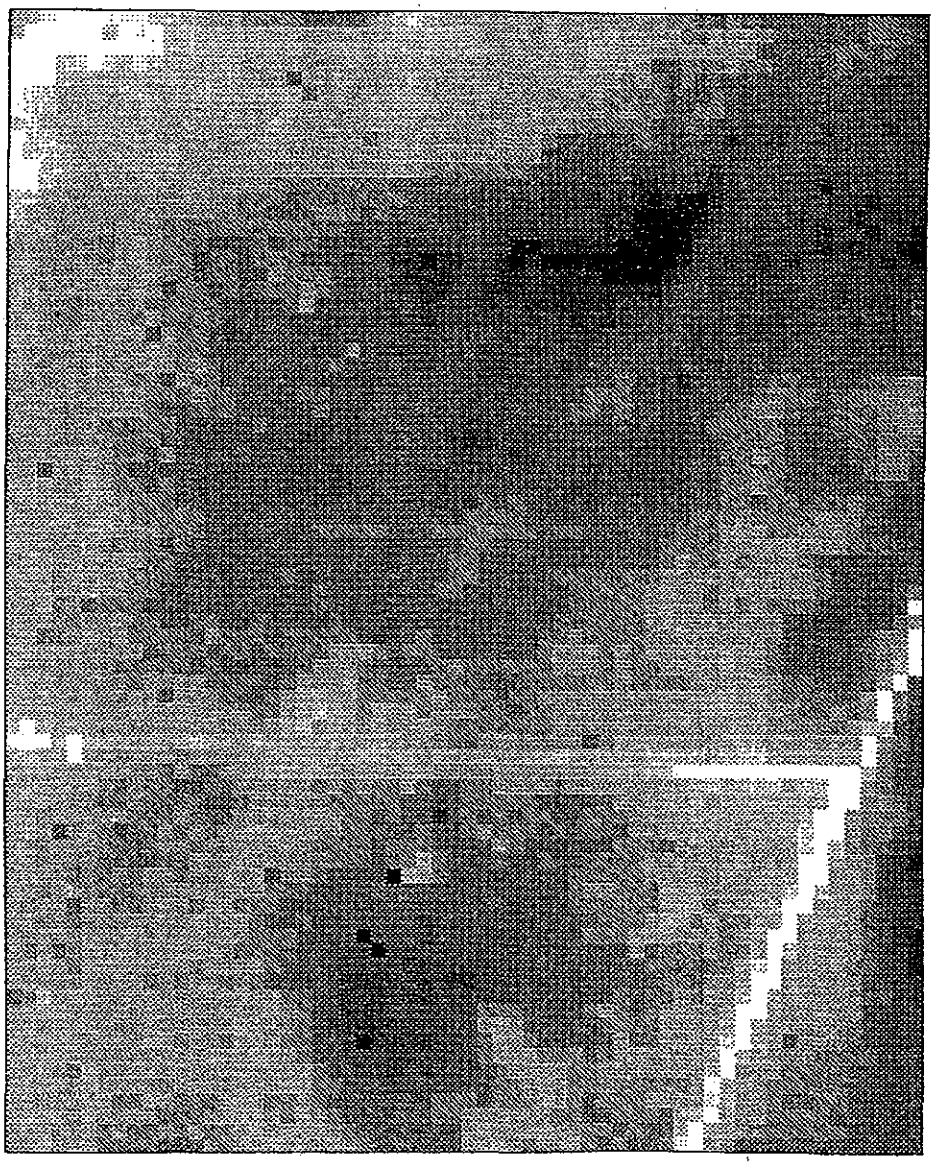
Pipe

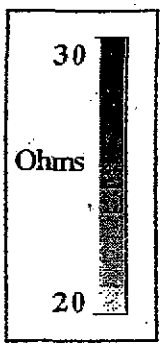
Existing Boundary (Fence/Hedge)

Ferrous

Figure 3.2

EAST ANTON
Area B
Resistance Data



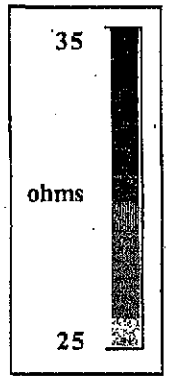


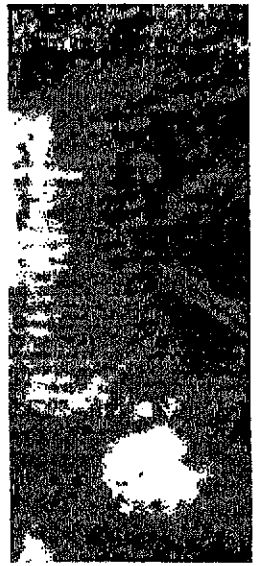
0 m 20

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure RB.1

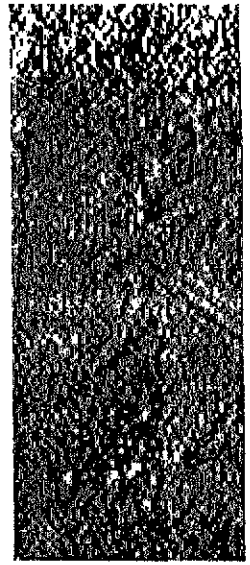
EAST ANTON
Area A
Resistance Data



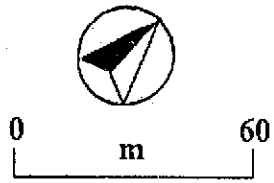


Raw Data

Interpolated Data



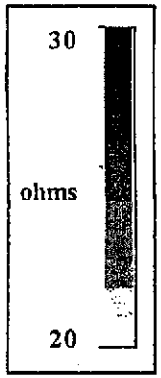
Relief Plot

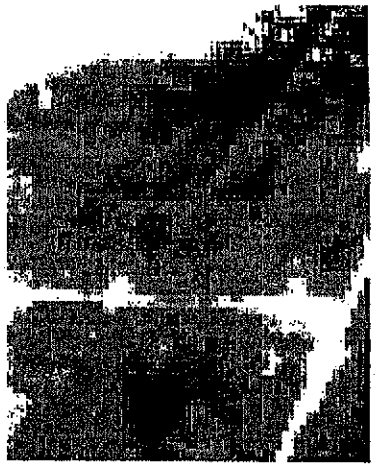


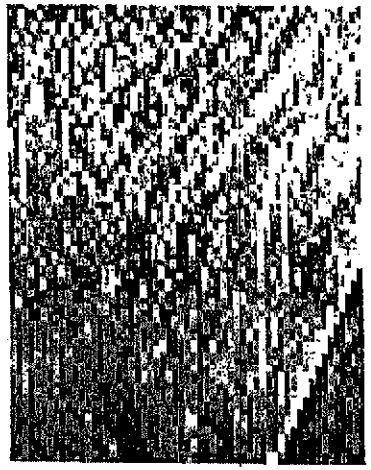
GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure RA.2

EAST ANTON
Area B
Resistance Data







Raw Data

Interpolated Data

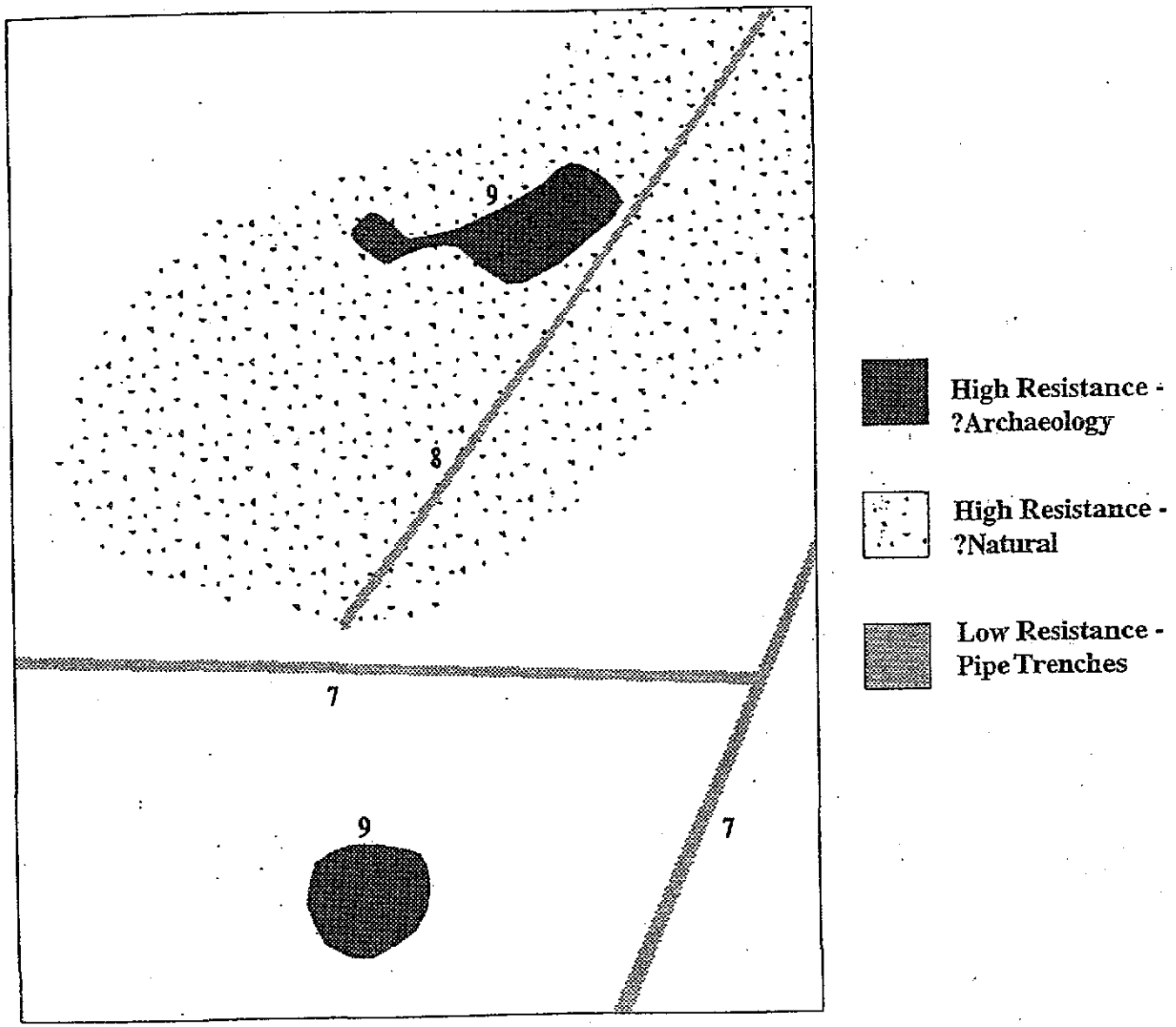
Relief Plot

0 m 60

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure RB.2

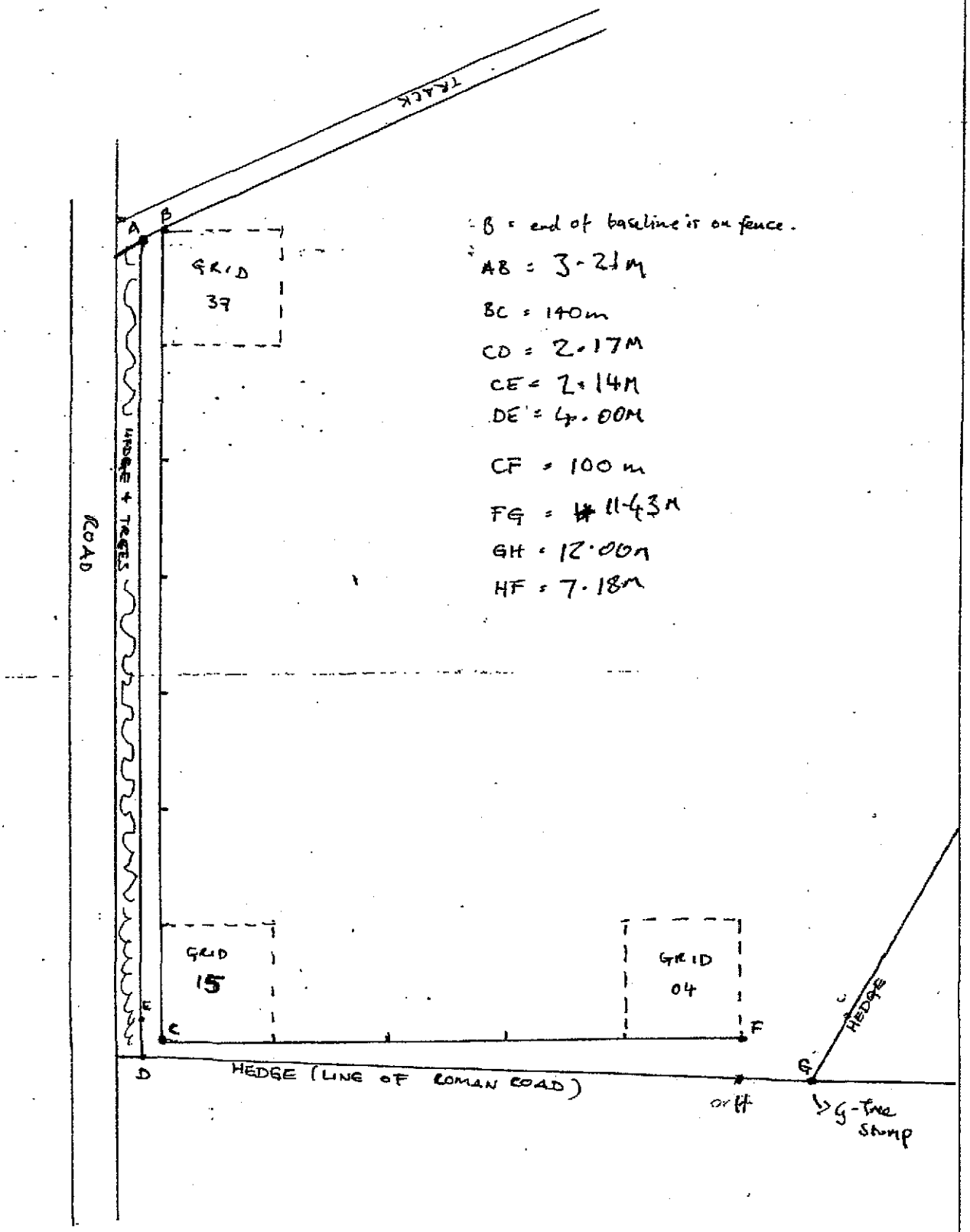
EAST ANTON
Area B
Resistance Data



GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure RB.3

Tie-in sheet	AREA A – EASTANTON	Survey No: 98/37



B = end of baseline is on fence.

AB = 3·21m

BC = 140m

CD = 2·17M

CE = 2·14M

DE = 4·00M

CF = 100 m

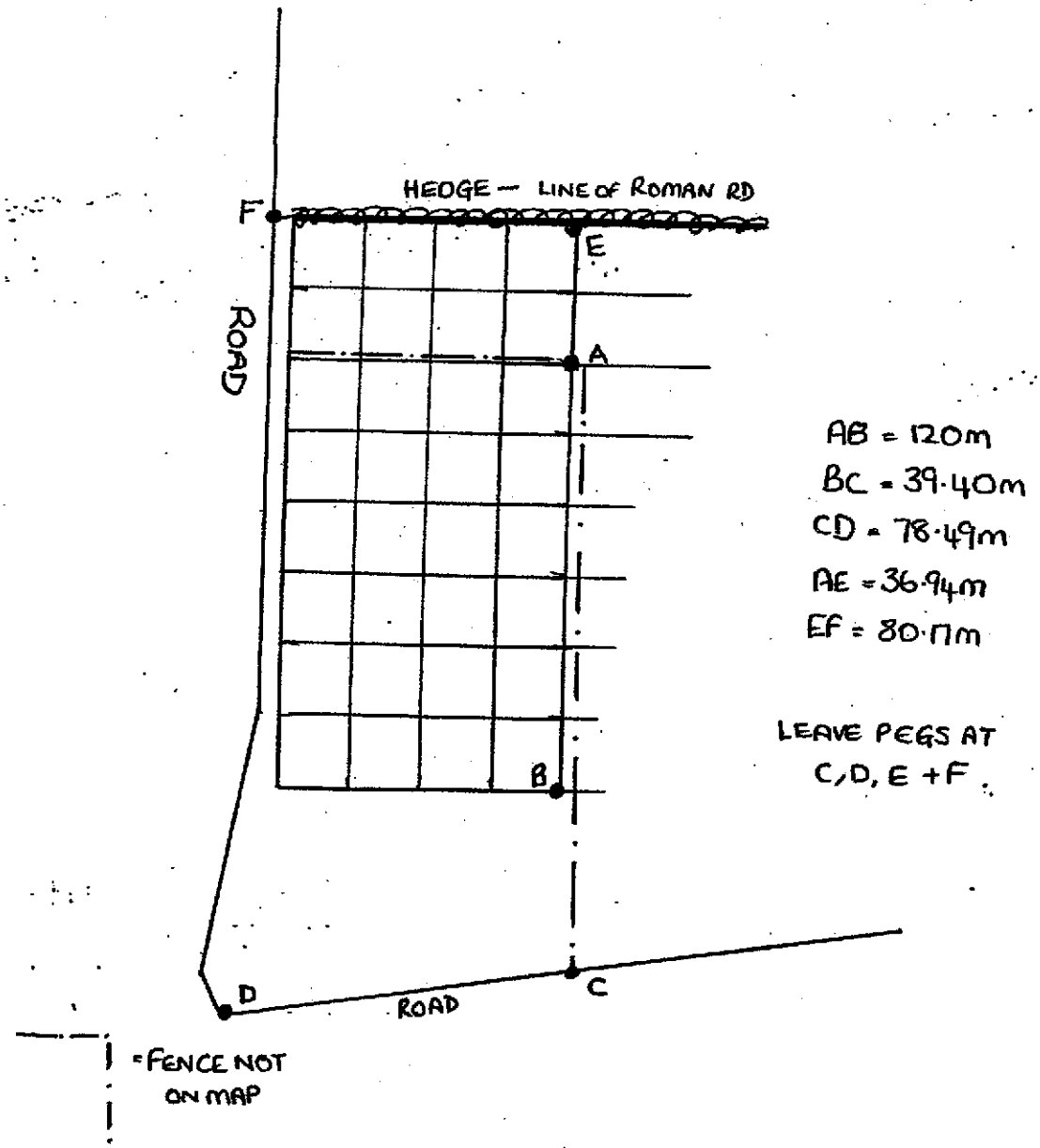
FG = 11·43M

GH = 12·00M

HF = 7·18M

GSB Prospection	N

n sheet | AREA B - EASTANTON | Survey No: 98|37



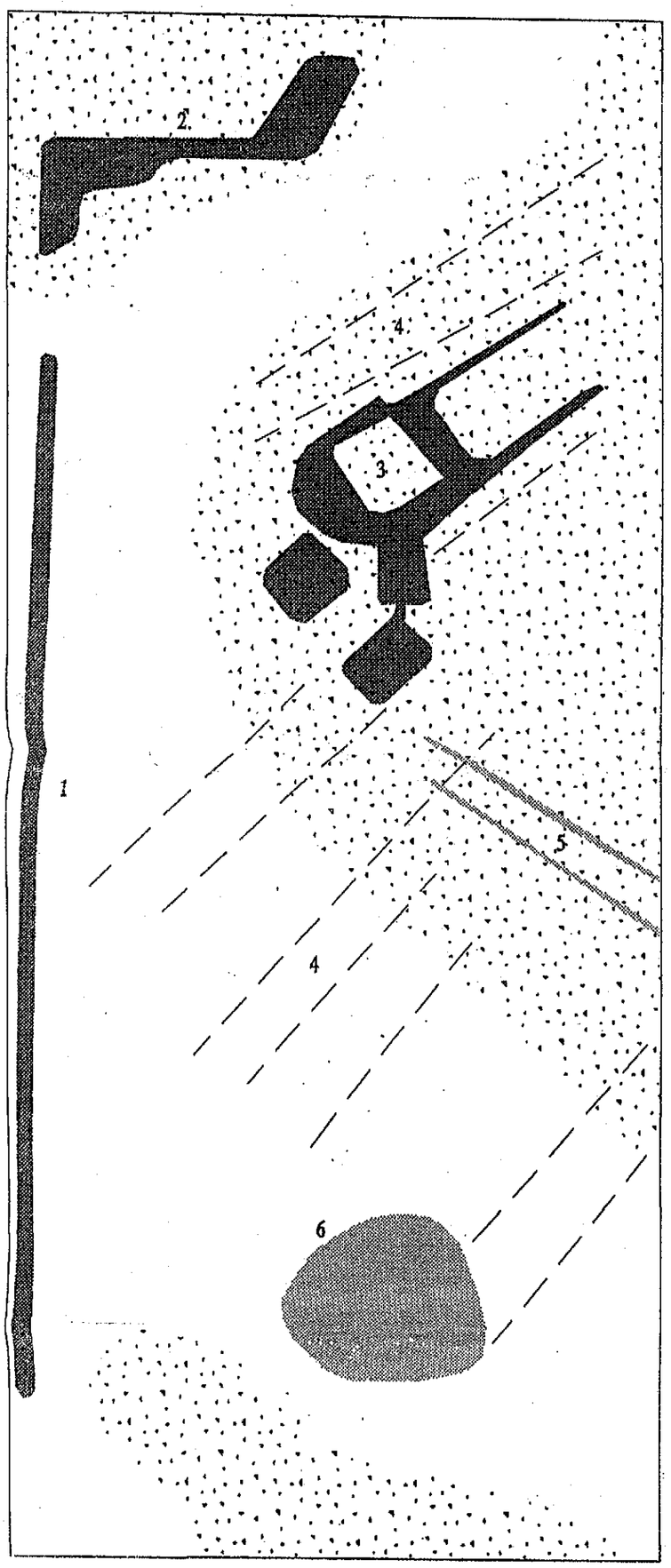
AB = 120m
BC = 39.40m
CD = 78.49m
AE = 36.94m
EF = 80.11m

LEAVE PEGS AT C, D, E + F.

GSB Prospection

N

EAST ANTON
Area A
Resistance Data



High Resistance - ?Archaeology

High Resistance - ?Natural

Low Resistance

Linear Trend

0 m 20

GSB Prospection 98/37

Figure RA.3

MONUID
56466
(4)

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF LAND ADJACENT TO EASTANTON FARM, ANDOVER, HAMPSHIRE

1 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological assessment of land in the immediate vicinity of Eastanton Farm was commissioned by Wilcon Homes Southern Ltd. The area was defined by the client (Figure 1) and comprises some 33 hectares, bounded on its south-western side by a minor road following the course of the Roman road linking Winchester and Cirencester (the Icknield Way). Approximately 200 metres beyond the south-eastern corner of the search area, the Icknield Way is crossed by a second Roman road linking Old Sarum and Silchester (the Portway). The surrounding land is notable for having produced evidence for prehistoric and Romano-British settlement, with a particular emphasis on sites of the Iron Age and Romano-British periods.

Eastanton Farm occupies the south-facing slope of a low promontory rising to 100 metres above Ordnance Datum, and is bounded to the west and east by shallow dry valleys. The solid geology of the area is Upper Chalk, which further to the north carries an extensive drift deposit of Clay with Flints. The dry valleys are part of the former drainage of the River Anton and both carry superficial deposits of River and Valley Gravel, which give way to alluvium closer to the present course of the river.

The physical character of the soils is an important factor influencing the identification of archaeological features and the recovery of surface finds. On the plateau and foot slopes the soils are mapped as the Carstens Series. Typically these soils form over aeolian drift covering Clay with Flints and Plateau Drift. They are of variable depth and freely drained, usually with clayey sub-soils. To some extent the deeper Carstens Series soils may be less conducive to creating conditions responsive to aerial photography, while their often stony and clayey character can adversely affect the recovery of surface artefacts.

In the dry valleys either side of the farm, the drift deposits support soils of the Charity Series which are generally non-calcareous and silty in texture, and are likely to have been augmented by colluvium (hill-wash) resulting from cultivation on adjacent valley slopes. This can have the affect of burying archaeological remains, thus creating the false impression of 'blank areas'. Although these deeper soils are not present in the primary search area, their close proximity may have skewed the distribution of archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity.

2 METHODS AND SOURCES

An initial appraisal of the available archaeological data for Eastanton Farm revealed a general paucity of records for the primary search area as defined by the client. However, as often is the case, the present distribution is likely to be as much a reflection of the emphasis of previous fieldwork as it is to be representative of the true distribution. For that reason the search was extended to take in an area of approximately four square kilometres surrounding the farm. This enlarged area formed the basis of the Hampshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and aerial photographic searches and provides for an assessment of the potential of the primary search area by interpolation from the surrounding distribution. However, it must be

stressed that the SMR is indicative only of the potential of an area and that land with few recorded remains is not necessarily of low archaeological significance.

The principal sources consulted for the assessment are as follows:

The Hampshire Sites and Monuments Record, Winchester.
Entries from the Test Valley Sites and Monuments Record, Winchester.
The Victoria County History for Hampshire.
An Historic Urban Survey of Hampshire's Historic Towns (H.C.C./E.H., 1999).
Danebury: an aerial photographic interpretation of its environs (R.C.H.M.E., 1984)
The National Monuments Record (NMR) Air Photographs, Swindon.

PHRO

3 THE DOCUMENTARY SEARCH RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

The numbers used to identify sites and finds spots in this section refer to the numbering sequence used in Figure 1. The sequence is cross-referenced with the SMR numbering system in the Site Gazetteer (Table 1).

In broad outline the period designations correspond to the following date ranges:

Prehistoric	
The Neolithic	4000 - 2000 BC
The Bronze Age	2000 – 600 BC
The Iron Age	600 BC – AD 43
Roman	
The Roman and sub-Roman periods	AD 43 – AD 500
Medieval and post-Medieval	
The Saxon and Medieval periods	AD 500 – AD 1400
The post-Medieval period	AD 1400 - modern

3.2 The Prehistoric Period

Neolithic/Bronze Age
The finds comprise a Neolithic polished stone axe (1), a stone mace-head (2), a scatter of worked flint of uncertain prehistoric date (3) and worked flint from an evaluation (4). Surface collection on a site close to Manor Farm produced quantities of burnt flint along with worked flint dated on technological grounds to the Neolithic or Bronze Age (5).

These are amongst the more difficult archaeological finds to assess, for settlements of the early prehistoric period appear to have been rather transient and are poorly characterised. Since the finds are from the surface of cultivated fields, and not from excavation, it is impossible to determine whether or not they are associated with surviving sub-surface features. No Neolithic or Bronze Age pottery has been discovered in the area of these finds, but this fragile

material is unlikely to survive in cultivated soils, although it would be preserved in sub-soil features such as pits or post holes.

Sites of certain Bronze Age date include five ring ditches (6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) which represent the quarry ditches of circular burial mounds which have been ploughed-out. These are the typical funerary monument of the early Bronze Age, although they continue into the middle Bronze Age and are not uncommon in the Saxon period. In the middle Bronze Age burial mounds, or barrows, were often associated with cremation cemeteries which extended beyond the barrow, generally on the southern side. The barrows were usually located a few hundred metres away from the settlements which were commonly surrounded by a ditch and bank. A single cremation dated to the late Bronze Age (11) was discovered during building work to the south-west of the primary search area, but it is unclear whether or not this was associated with a barrow.

Two enclosures transcribed from aerial photographs (Figure 2, A and B) and likely to represent settlements are located a few hundred metres to the north of the primary search area. Neither is dated, although on morphological grounds they are likely to have a prehistoric origin. The smaller of the two (A) shows similarities in form and scale to middle Bronze Age settlements known in other parts of Wessex.

The Iron Age

The most substantive prehistoric evidence around the primary search area belongs to this period. A major Iron Age settlement (12) is located some two hundred metres from the Icknield Way which forms the south-western boundary of the primary search area. The site was excavated during a watching brief and revealed a dense concentration of pits within an area defined by a ditch (Figure 2, E). The finds included Belgic pottery and a La Tene copper alloy brooch. Further work in the same area produced additional settlement evidence which extended into the Roman period, while the excavations at Viking Way (13) located features of Iron Age and early Romano-British date, including a crouched inhumation. The other Iron Age evidence in the vicinity of Eastanton Farm consists of a single coin found to the south of the Icknield Way (14), a hoard of seven gold staters found on Finkley Down (15) and Iron Age features excavated to the south of Manor Farm (16).

Some of the undated aerial photographic features are likely to have their origin in this period. The enclosure in Figure 2, (B) could be of Iron Age date, while the complex just to the north of Finkley Down Farm (Figure 2, G) may be broadly of the same period. Less certain is the date of the various linear features (Figure 2, C and F) which are widely distributed in the open country around Eastanton Farm. Their appearance is typical of a ploughed-out 'Celtic' field system, with the individual elements representing traces of the former field edges. Although 'Celtic' field systems are notoriously difficult to date, they are known to have originated in the later Bronze Age and their use continued through the Iron Age and into the Roman period. The fragmentary distribution extends across the primary search area and is associated with other linear features (Figure 2, D), which appear to be linked with the Iron Age and Roman settlement on the opposite side of the Icknield Way (Figure 1, 4/20 and 12/19).

3.3 The Roman Period

Like the Iron Age, this period is strongly represented in the area around Eastanton Farm. On its south-western side, the primary search area abuts the modern road following the course of the Icknield way, while the southern corner lies within two hundred metres of the intersection with the Portway. Land in the vicinity of this junction has been designated an area of high archaeological potential (HCC/EH 1999, 18). Excavations undertaken in the early 1970's located several buildings of Roman date, and associated features, in the angle between the two roads (17). The settlement has been linked with the name of *Leucomagus* recorded in the *Ravenna Cosmography*, although other authorities place the Roman town near Calne in Wiltshire. More recent evidence for this settlement was recovered during excavations which produced Iron Age and early Roman pottery (18). To the north-west, another Roman site consisting of two small enclosures was associated with numerous pits, cremations and coins indicating a late Roman phase of occupation (19), while Roman pottery (20) was recovered from the adjacent Iron Age site.

Other traces of Roman activity include excavated finds of Roman pottery (6), and metalwork from Finkley Down (21) and Roman pottery accompanied by stone and ceramic building material found near Ashley Copse (22). Single burials of the period are recorded at 20, 23 and 24, while a small cemetery of third to fourth century AD date was excavated at 25.

Despite the density of Romano-British sites in the surrounding land there is no direct evidence for Roman activity in the primary search area. However, elements of the 'Celtic' field system extend into the area which may contain finds or features relating to the use of the fields. Moreover the proximity of settlements to the north (22) and along the south-western boundary (17, 18, 19 and 20) increase the likelihood that further evidence remains to be discovered in the primary search area.

3.4 The Medieval period

Although the areas around Charlton and further to the south-west have produced evidence for Saxon occupation, the only Saxon find close to the primary search area is the cruciform brooch from Finkley Down (26). The first historical records for Andover date to the mid-tenth century AD when land at *Andeferas* was bequested in the will of King Eadred to the New Minster at Winchester. It seems that the terms of the will were never implemented and Andover remained in royal hands, being recorded as a royal manor in the Domesday Survey of AD 1086. Little is known of Eastanton during the Medieval period. The Victoria County History for Hampshire mentions the farm only in passing, but the recent survey of Hampshire's Historic Towns states that it was a manorial site during the Medieval period (HCC/EH 1999, 9) and includes the farm in the East Anton area of high archaeological importance.

3.5 The Post-Medieval Period

The only post-Medieval SMR record for the primary search area is for an early 19th century granary at Eastanton Manor Farm (27).

4 THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SEARCH RESULTS

For the sake of clarity the transcribed aerial photographic data from the Hampshire SMR search is identified by letter in Figure 2. Photographs consulted in the NMR collection are listed in the Site Gazetteer (Table 2) and copies of the two most relevant photographs are included with this report (SU 3647/B, NMR 1959/012 and SU 3748/5/189, NMR 929/189).

The aerial photographs in the NMR collection show a much greater density of sites around the primary search area than is recorded on the Hampshire SMR transcription. The settlement complex just to the south of the Ickneild Way (Figure 2, E) appears on NMR 1959/012 as a dense and extensive concentration of features which are known to be of Iron Age and Roman date (Figure 1, 4/20 and 12/19). Aside from the linear features passing into the primary search area (Figure 2, D), the main focus of the settlement appears to be confined to the south of the Roman road. However, slight traces of other features are visible on the two photographs included with this report and these suggest that part of the complex shown in Figure 2 (D) spreads into the primary search area. Further detail of the 'Celtic' field system appears on NMR 929/189, while the photographs covering the surrounding land show that it is part of an extensive but fragmentary distribution.

5 STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

5.1 Statement of Archaeological Potential

There is a bias inherent in the nature of the archaeological fieldwork which has been responsible for identifying many of the sites in the surrounding area. Prior to extensive housing development in the late 1960's there appears to have been little systematic study of the land around Eastanton Farm, and what we now know to be an area of dense late prehistoric and Roman settlement is largely the result of rescue work in advance of the various development phases. By extrapolation, it is highly likely that development in the farmland of the primary search area would reveal further evidence for the more northerly extent of this distribution. Indeed, the aerial photographs (copies with this report) indicate that elements of the settlement complex south of the Icknield Way continue into the primary search area, while the 'Celtic' field system appears more extensive than the SMR transcription suggests.

The areas to the south and south-east of Eastanton Farm are singled out for special mention in the recent survey of Hampshire's Historic Towns (HCC/EH 1999, 18), particularly in relation to the Roman settlement at the crossing of the Icknield Way and the Portway. The exact boundaries of this settlement are unknown, but using a hypothetical projection, based on the extent of other small Roman towns, a zone surrounding the cross-roads has been designated as an area of 'high archaeological importance'. This zone takes in the extreme south-eastern corner of the primary search area and includes both Eastanton Farm and Eastanton Manor Farm (Figure 2).

There are a number of relevant issues relating to the area of high archaeological importance. Firstly, the designated area represents an attempt to establish the limits of the Roman settlement, and it is possible that some related activity may extend into the south-eastern part of the primary search area. Secondly, there is the question of the whereabouts of the Roman town cemetery, which has not been located. Roman cemeteries were often sited along the

roads outside towns, and while there is no direct archaeological evidence to suggest that a cemetery exists along the Icknield Way west of the cross roads, this cannot be ruled out. Even if the cemetery was not located along this stretch of the Icknield Way, the dispersed pattern of Roman and prehistoric burials in the general area raises the possibility that further isolated burials may be encountered in the primary search area.

Only one of the Roman roads (the Icknield Way) abuts the primary search area, but there is no record of the agger or flanking ditches surviving as extant earthworks in this location. Although the Roman road is subsumed by its modern counterpart, there remains a possibility that the flanking ditch on its northern side may enter the primary search area. If such was the case, this would be of special interest since the silted up ditch might contain stratified dating evidence.

A third issue involves the possible Medieval origins of Eastanton Manor Farm which have yet to be confirmed archaeologically. Given that such settlements expand and contract over time, there is a concern that evidence for the earlier phases may survive beyond the present extent of the buildings. Moreover, in the fields close to the farm, domestic waste from manuring (typically including pottery) could provide crucial evidence for the origin of the farm.

More problematic to assess in terms of their archaeological potential are the linear features, probably representing fragments of a 'Celtic' field system and dating broadly to the prehistoric and Roman periods. Given the agricultural land-use history of the primary search area, it is extremely unlikely that these will survive as earthworks. However, any pottery released from the ploughed-out lynchets would be an invaluable source of evidence for dating the features more closely, while below the present topsoil the ditches or post holes defining individual fields may yet survive.

5.2 Summary

The main archaeological issues affecting the primary search area can be summarised as follows:

- There is a strong possibility that the recorded distribution of prehistoric sites is a function of the pattern of previous development and related archaeological rescue work. The apparent absence of such evidence from the primary search area is likely to be misleading, and probably results from the lack of fieldwork in the farmland. This conclusion is supported by photograph NMR 1959/012 which shows an apparent continuation of features connected with the settlement south of the Icknield Way.

- Of particular concern is the proximity of the settlement centred on the crossing of the two Roman roads. The extent of the settled area is unknown and some elements may well extend into the southern part of the primary search area.

- The southern part of the primary search area is additionally sensitive since the Roman town cemetery remains undiscovered.

- Further isolated burials of the prehistoric and Roman periods may be encountered in the primary search area.

- Some structural evidence for the Roman road (the Ickneild Way) might survive along the southern boundary of the primary search area.

- Evidence for the origins of Eastanton Manor Farm may exist in the land surrounding the present farm.

- The fragmentary 'Celtic' field system, though largely ploughed-out, is likely to retain sufficient dating evidence to identify episodes of arable activity connected with the nearby prehistoric and Roman settlements.

6 GAZETTEER OF SITES

All of the SMR record numbers in the site gazetteer refer to the Ordnance Survey 1: 10000 sheet SU 34NE. 'Not entered' refers to new data not currently on file in the SMR, while 'TVAT' denotes a Test Valley Archaeological Trust SMR record.

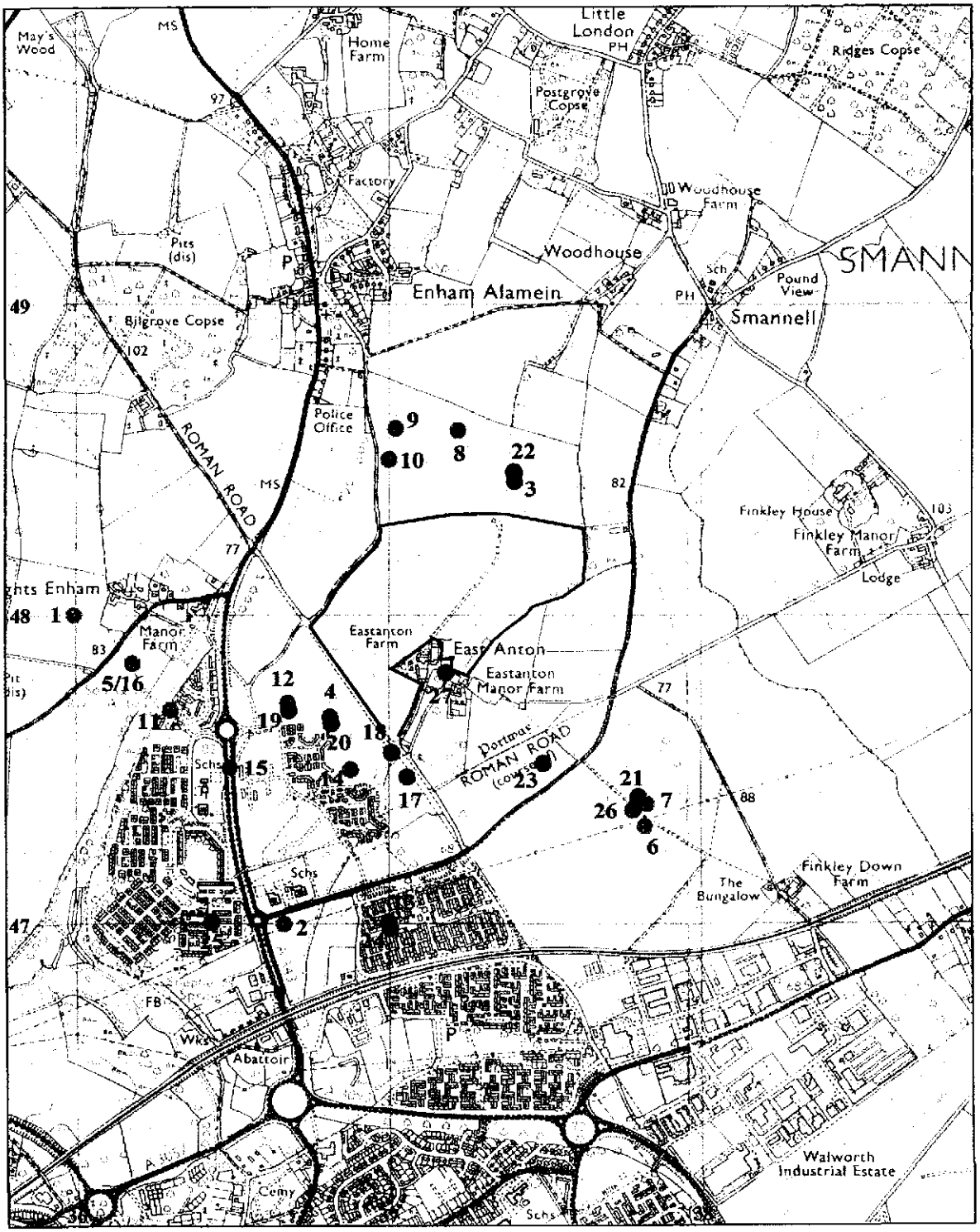
Table 1: List of SMR References

Report Reference No.	SMR Reference No.	Grid Reference No.	Description
1	55	360800	Neolithic polished stone axe
2	56	367470	Neolithic mace-head
3	69	374484	Prehistoric flint scatter
4	207	368477	Iron Age settlement
5	not entered	362478	Neolithic/Bronze Age flint scatter
6	10	378473	Bronze Age ring ditch
7	11	378474	Ring ditch
8	171	37094861	Ring ditch
9	172	37024857	Ring ditch
10	173	37004849	Ring ditch
11	152	363477	Late Bronze Age cremation
12	32	367477	Iron Age settlement
13	not entered	370470	Iron Age settlement
14	74	369475	Iron Age coin
15	198	365475	Iron Age gold coin hoard
16	not entered	362478	Late Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement
17	73	371475	Roman settlement
18	not entered	370476	Iron Age and Roman settlement
19	TVAT 54	367477	Roman settlement
20	207	368477	Roman settlement
21	101	378474	Roman metalwork
22	68	374484	Roman settlement
23	TVAT 32	375475	Roman inhumation
24	78	370470	Roman coffin burial
25	92	364470	Small Roman cemetery
26	100	378474	Saxon cruciform brooch
27	203	372478	Early 19th century granary

Table 2: List of Aerial Photographs

NMR Reference	Description
106G/UK/1035 – frames 3005 to 3008	Primary search area under cultivation in November 1945
CPE/UK/1927 – frames 2117 to 2121	Primary search area under cultivation in January 1947
OS/71008 – frame 21	'Celtic' fields to NW of primary search area
OS/71008 – frame 31	'Celtic' fields to the SE of Smannell
NMR 1959/007	Settlement to the S of the Icknield Way, Figure 2, D
*NMR 1959/012	Settlement to the S of the Icknield Way, Figure 2, D
*NMR 929/189	'Celtic' fields in primary search area

NMR references marked with an asterisk refer to photograph copies included with this report.



Key

primary search area

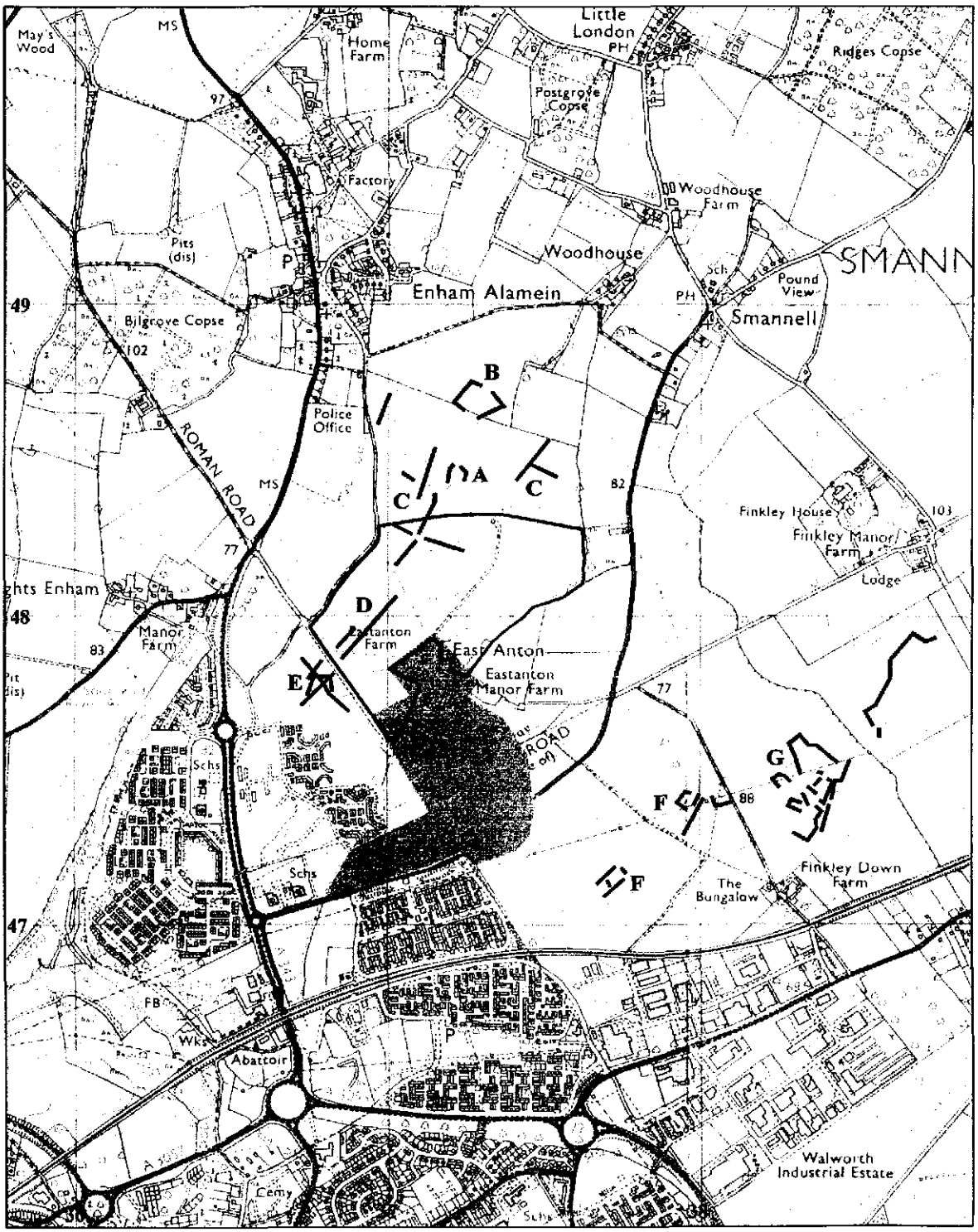
scale at 1: 20000

prehistoric sites

Roman sites

Medieval - post-Medieval sites

Figure 1: Location of primary search area and distribution of SMR sites



Key

primary search area

East Anton area of high archaeological importance

crop or soil marks

scale at 1: 20000

Figure 2: Location of aerial photographic features from the SMR transcription

A SPECIFICATION FOR A NON-INVASIVE FIELD ASSESSMENT AT EASTANTON FARM, NEAR ANDOVER, HAMPSHIRE

1 Introduction

The Wilcon Development Group Ltd have commissioned Berkshire Archaeological Services to undertake a programme of fieldwork in approximately 53 hectares of land adjacent to Eastanton Farm (SU 3748). The purpose of this work is to assess the archaeological potential of the area by means of controlled surface collection and limited geophysical survey.

2 The Archaeological Setting of the Site

The Eastanton Farm site lies within the East of Andover MDA. Existing archaeological records indicate that this area has significant archaeological potential. A recent desk-based assessment by Berkshire Archaeological Services reviewed the archaeological data contained in the Hampshire Sites and Monuments Records, published sources and the National Monuments Record (NMR) Aerial Photographic Collection.

The core search area defined by the client for the desk-based assessment comprised 33 hectares, but this has now been extended to 53 hectares by the inclusion of land to the north (Figure). The report for the original search area summarised the potential archaeological issues as follows:

- "There is a strong possibility that the recorded distribution of prehistoric sites is a function of the pattern of previous development and related archaeological rescue work. The apparent absence of such evidence from the search area is likely to be misleading, and probably results from the lack of fieldwork in the farmland. This conclusion is supported by photograph NMR 1959/012 which shows an apparent continuation of features connected with the settlement south of the Icknield Way".

- "Of particular concern is the proximity of the settlement centred on the crossing of the two Roman roads (Portway and Ickneild Way). The extent of the settled area is unknown and some elements may well extend into the southern part of the search area".

- "The southern part of the search area is additionally sensitive since the Roman town cemetery remains undiscovered".

- "Further isolated burials of the prehistoric and Roman periods may be encountered in the search area".

- "Some structural evidence for the Roman road (the Ickneild Way) might survive along the southern boundary of the search area".

- "Evidence for the origins of Eastanton Farm may exist in the land surrounding the present farm".

- "The fragmentary 'Celtic' field system, though largely ploughed-out, is likely to retain sufficient dating evidence to identify episodes of arable activity connected with the nearby prehistoric and Roman settlements".

The extended area encroaches on two additional crop-mark groups designated 15 and 18 (Figure) in a recent aerial photographic assessment by Air Photo Services Ltd (Cox 2000). Group 15 is a sub-rectangular enclosure with a possible ring ditch in the south-western corner. A smaller enclosure occupies the northern corner and surrounds a possible pit cluster. A second possible pit group is shown within the main enclosure, close to the eastern corner. Although the enclosure is mostly outside the area of the client's interest, the southern ditch circuit passes into that area and may be associated with elements not visible on the aerial photograph. Group 15 also includes a second ring ditch, outside the enclosure to the southwest.

Group 18 is wholly within the area of the client's interest and consists of parallel linear features on a north-east to south-west alignment, and which may be a continuation of the main linear element in group 14 (Figure). The fragmentary elements forming a part of group 18 suggest the presence of an enclosure.

The linear features forming Group 14 were discussed in the desk-based assessment report as C and D. These may represent fragmentary elements of a 'Celtic' field system, boundary ditch network, or they may be trackways.

3 Objectives and Methodology

The objectives of the project are to determine the extent, density, character and date of any archaeological material brought to the surface by cultivation. In addition, a record will be made of topographic variables and soil conditions in order to assess the degree of sub-soil erosion, or other factors which might bias the archaeological findings.

The surface collection data will be supplemented by targeted geophysical survey, used to define more precisely the distribution and character of the crop-marks, and to investigate significant patterns revealed by the surface collection stage.

The Surface Collection Methodology

The area of the investigation consists of a maximum of 53 hectares of arable land. A measured hectare grid based on the National Grid will be laid-out across this area using an Ordnance Survey 1:2500 base map. Each hectare grid square will be sub-divided into 25 metre collection units, which will be identified by the six figure hectare grid reference and a unique letter suffix.

Following standard practices, each collection unit will be walked from north to south, scanning one metre either side of the run. Surface material outside of the two metre strip will not be collected unless it has particular significance, in which case the exact position will be marked on the standard field recording forms used by Berkshire Archaeological Services. All artefacts, irrespective of their likely date, will be collected.

Where significant concentrations of material require more detailed investigation in order to define their extent, or to recover a more representative sample for analysis, a five ~~or ten metre~~ collection grid will be used.

Geophysical Survey
A magnetometer survey will be carried out by GSB Prospection of Bradford. This work will sample the southernmost part of the site, alongside the course of the Ickneild Way; the crop-mark elements, particularly groups 15 and 18 (Figure); and any significant anomalies in the surface collection data.

It is proposed that the geophysical survey should sample between 5% and 10% of the total area available. The survey grid established for surface collection will be used for this stage of the work, and readings will be taken at 1.0 X 0.5 metre intervals. Broad interval scanning may be used where appropriate.

4 Monitoring

In consultation with Test Valley Borough Council's Heritage Officer arrangements will be made for on-site monitoring. The Heritage Officer will be given fourteen days notice of the fieldwork starting date. No decision regarding significant changes to the survey strategy will be taken without the prior agreement of the Heritage Officer.

5 Finds processing

The finds recovered during the survey will be processes to a level suitable for archive storage, however materials such as burnt flint or ceramic building material will quantified and discarded, retaining a sample if appropriate. Other finds will be subject to analysis by appropriately qualified specialists, and assessment reports prepared.

6 Report Preparation

On completion of the field work and finds analysis a fully illustrated assessment report will be prepared. Artefact categories will be plotted-out in a series of drawings which will depict their spatial distribution. If sufficient chronological information is available, the finds may be plotted-out by period.

The report will consist of a description of the field work and the survey results, and will include an integrated discussion incorporating the geophysical results and specialist reports. This information will be used to make recommendations for mitigation strategies, which may include further archaeological investigations.

A final archive level report will be produced following completion of any subsequent stages of work and this report will synthesise all of the project findings.

In addition to the copies required by the client, four copies of the assessment report (and subsequent reports) will be required by Test Valley Borough Council's Heritage Officer.

7 Project Archive

The project archive will consist of all field records, materials and photographs along with copies of the specialist reports and a copy of the final project report. The completed archive will be retained by Berkshire Archaeological Services pending a decision on any further stages of work, finally to be lodged with the Hampshire Museums Service.

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with "Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long term storage" (Walker 1990) and "Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (1994).

All materials and documents submitted for archiving will comply with the guidelines for "Conditions of Acceptance of Site Archive" set out by the Hampshire Museums Service.

Dissemination of the project results will depend upon the significance of the findings. At the very least the work will be reported in Hampshire Archaeology, but if the results warrant wider reporting a paper will be prepared for publication in the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club.

8 Copyright

Berkshire Archaeological Services will assign copyright to the client (Wilcon Development Group Ltd), but will retain the right to be identified as the author of all documentation and reports as defined in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

9 Staff

Post-fieldwork processing, reporting and archiving will be carried out by Berkshire Archaeological Services. Finds analysis and reporting will be undertaken by an appropriately qualified specialist.

Nominated Specialists

Prehistoric pottery	Frances Raymond
Romano-British pottery	Malcolm Lyne
Medieval/post-Medieval pottery	Duncan Brown
Worked flint/stone	Martin Tingle/John Allen
Metalwork	David Richards
Animal bone	Centre for Human Ecology and Environment
Human remains	Janet Firth/ Jacqueline McKinley
Mollusca	Roy Entwistle
Carbonised plant remains	Steve Allen/Wendy Carruthers