

R1295

~~FAIR~~

copy I

HER 4226 12146 12150

7922 12147 12151

7923 12148

12144 12149



**STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH
REQUISITION MAIN**

**Archaeological Investigations and
Watching Brief**

**Maureen Bennell MA MIFA
and
Daryl Stump BA**

**Cluttons
13 Beaumont Street
Oxford
Oxon OX1 2LP**

January 2001

CONTENTS

Summary

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Aims
- 3 Background
- 4 Methodology
- 5 Results
- 6 The Finds
- 7 Discussion
- 8 Conclusions and Assessment
- 9 Statement of Potential
- 10 Publication
- 11 Conservation and Storage
- 12 Bibliography

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Sites and Monuments Records in the Study Area
- Appendix 2 Listed Buildings in the Study Area
- Appendix 3 Context Summary
- Appendix 4 Finds Catalogues

FIGURES

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Figure 1 | Location of pipeline |
| Figure 2 | Areas of Archaeological Interest |
| Figure 3 | Location of Monitoring Areas and features |
| Figure 4 | Area 3 - Feature [308] |
| Figure 5 | Area 7 – Trench 7A plan and selected sections |
| Figure 6 | Area 7 – Trench 7A extension and Trench 7B |
| Figure 7 | Area 8 – Trench A and Feature [814] |
| Figure 8 | Area 8 - Trench B |
| Figure 9 | Area 8 – Features [820] and [822] |
| Figure 10 | Area 8 - Feature [826] |
| Figure 11 | Area 9 – Feature [928] |

Summary

- S.1 Archaeological investigations and a watching brief have been carried out on behalf of Cluttons along the route of a water pipeline constructed by Three Valleys Water plc in order to comply with both the *Water Industry Act* 1991 and also the water industry's own Code of Practice on desirable procedures. This report combines the factual data from the pre-construction investigations and the subsequent pipe-laying monitoring work and is a necessary component of an archaeological investigation as defined in *Management of Archaeological Projects II* (English Heritage, 1991).
- S.2 The archaeological fieldwork was in three phases: geophysical survey to clarify aerial photographic data and earthworks, possibly relating to Scheduled Monument 20615; excavation before construction of areas of potential in the vicinity of Scheduled Monument 27908; and monitoring of the pipeline during construction.
- S.3 The archaeological fieldwork has produced evidence for a late iron age ditch; Roman period features thought to be associated with the known Roman villa at Radwell (SM 27908); and a group of three sub-circular or oval structural features of unknown function and probable medieval date. The oval features were east of linear earthworks with associated ditches where fragments of prehistoric pottery, bronze age or neolithic in date, were recovered. Ditches and a section of a trackway, thought to be of medieval origin, were also uncovered in the environs of the Roman villa. In addition, an early post-medieval ditch running beside the A1(M) road was excavated and a probable post-medieval or modern burnt feature, interpreted as a fire-pit, was recorded. Near the village of Norton, at the south of the route, scatters of medieval pottery were recovered.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The project was commissioned in March 2000 when data collection and a walkover survey was followed by an appraisal and consultations with Hertford County Council to guide the planning of the route (*Stotfold to Letchworth Requisition Main Archaeological Appraisal, Maureen Bennell, May 2000*). Stratascan Geophysical and Specialist Survey Services whose report is included in the archive carried out a magnetometer survey in two selected areas.
- 1.2 The project was managed by Maureen Bennell MA, MIFA and the fieldwork undertaken by Daryl Stump BA and Owen Cambridge BA with the assistance of Katie-Sue Wilson BA. Archaeological fieldwork began in June 2000 and continued intermittently until August of the same year. This report has been written by Maureen Bennell and Daryl Stump.
- 1.3 The length of the pipeline under archaeological supervision ran from the village of Radwell, close to the Stotfold exit from the A1(M) motorway (Junction 10), south-west to the village of Norton on the outskirts of Letchworth, a distance of approximately 2.4km. The route was planned to avoid two Scheduled Monuments (SMs) and, so far as was possible, county council designated Archaeological Areas (AAs) shown on Figure 2. Appendix 1 contains identification of all Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs) in the study area, some of which have been identified from aerial photographs (APs). Appendix 2 records Listed Buildings in the study area.
- 1.4 The underlying geology is Chalk of the Cretaceous period. The overlying soils are shallow, well-drained calcareous silty soils in the northern part of the route and slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils towards the south. At the time of the archaeological work the area was predominately used for arable agriculture with two fields (Areas 6 and 7, see Figure 3) under pasture for grazing. The route drops down from Radwell at the north-east towards the River Ivel, rising slightly beyond the flood plain towards Norton in the south-west.

2 Project Aims

- 2.1 The general project aims were to assess the nature, date and extent of any archaeological material under threat from the current development. This led to three specific project aims prompted by AP and geophysical data. Sites and areas discussed can be located on Figures 2 and 3.

2.2 Project Aim 1

To determine the nature and extent of archaeological evidence relating to probable medieval ridge and furrow evident as cropmarks on APs in Area 1.

2.3 Project Aim 2

To determine whether activity during the Roman and medieval periods, associated with a group of linear and rectilinear crop-marks located to the west of the pipeline route in Area 8, extends into the construction area. If evidence for this is found, to characterise the date, nature, and extent of this activity. In particular, two linear crop-marks, provisionally interpreted as two Roman ditches associated with the scheduled villa (SM 27908) and a possible medieval track-way linking Radwell to Norton Mill, could be seen in aerial photographs to cross the proposed route. The project aimed to elucidate the nature of these features.

2.4 Project Aim 3

To characterise the function and date of two linear earthworks known to cross the pipeline route in Area 7 and to assess the nature and date of several anomalies located by geophysical survey to the immediate north-east of these earthworks. Emphasis was laid on determining whether features related to the bronze age barrow (SM 20615) c.80m to the north-west of the area.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The area surrounding the pipeline route is rich in multi-period archaeological remains. An SMR search collected 23 relevant records within c.200m range on each side of the construction (see Appendix 1) with an additional 17 referring to APs showing alternative views of cropmarks. The route passes through three large Archaeological Areas (AAs), a county council category which highlights areas of special potential. AA 22 contains two Scheduled Monuments, one of which (SM 27908) is surrounded by a large scheduled area (see Figure 2).
- 3.2 No sites of the palaeolithic, mesolithic or neolithic periods are recorded (c.500,000 – c.8,000 BC, c.8,000 – c.4,000 BC and c.4,000 – c.2,500 BC respectively) but it is not impossible that material of this date exists. The chalk subsoil is a good source of flint for raw material in the preparation of tools and the River Ivel, though insubstantial now, may have provided a useful route through a mainly forested landscape.
- 3.3 The earliest recorded site in the vicinity is the Scheduled Monument (SMR 4049 and SM 20615) classed as a round barrow or bowl barrow. This is visible on APs as a circular mound approximately 12m in diameter, included in which is a ditch 2.5m wide. It is recorded as 500mm high with the ditch 100mm deep but this is difficult to distinguish on the ground amongst rough pasture. Its construction is dated to the earlier bronze age, c. 2500 – 1200 BC. Barrows, which are burial monuments, are generally located where they are visible from a distance and the position of this one on a small flood plain, rather than a hillside, is unusual.
- 3.4 SMR 4470, east of the A1(M) road, is described as a group of pits, probably 15 in total, in a linear arrangement. The group is undated but this type of construction is typical of the iron age period, c.700 BC – c.AD 43. If this is the case, it suggests a pre-Roman presence in the area close to the later Roman road (SMR 4685) which at this point follows the line of the A507 road to Baldock. Baldock was a significant iron age and Roman settlement and it is possible that parts of the Roman road, number 22 in the list of Roman roads known as the *Viatores*, followed the line of an earlier route. The important but poorly charted prehistoric route known as the Icknield Way may have passed along Norton High Street before crossing the Baldock Road near its junction with Norton Bury Lane.
- 3.5 The major Roman period activity near the pipeline is the scheduled villa complex, SM 27908 and SMR 1724. This important and interesting group has been identified from APs which appear to show two substantial villas or farmhouses, two large structures which are possibly barns and surrounding enclosures and boundary ditches. The AP traces stretch down to the edge of the river at the west of the extensive scheduled area and may have included bath-house buildings and other structures for ancillary tasks. A large villa complex of this type would have been self-sufficient and, as well as producing crops and rearing animals, some minor industrial work would have taken place. An iron auger, SMR 4890, possibly of Roman date, was found in the river bed south of the scheduled area. Roman material of high quality has also been excavated at the southern end of the pipeline route in Norton (SMRs 1266/2265 and 1281/2).
- 3.6 No material or sites dated between the Roman and medieval periods has been recorded in the area although references to both Radwell and Norton in Domesday Book (AD 1086) show that these settlements were already established during the late Anglo-Saxon period (c. AD 900 – 1066). There are documentary references to a medieval shrunken village at Radwell (SMR 1813) and medieval earthworks at Norton (SMR 4203, 4226).

The church at Norton (SMR 4326, LB 3) was founded in the late 11th century. The moat at Norton Bury Farm (SMR 1931) is likely to have been constructed in the 14th century, at a similar time as the construction of the chancel arch in Radwell church (SMR 4313, LB 140). Cropmarks of more than one trackway are thought to be of medieval date, linking the settlement and farmsteads (SMRs 7922, 7923).

- 3.7 The post-medieval period (AD 1500 – 1800) is represented by a water mill for grinding corn beside the River Ivel (SMR 5800) and a historic letterbox in Norton (SMR 5293). Ten of the properties which are Listed Buildings (see Figure 2 and Appendix 2) are 17th or 18th century in date. Many of the earliest buildings, now in single occupancy, were previously several small dwellings suggesting a flourishing population in the area during the post-medieval period.

4 Methodology

- 4.1 Five areas were targeted for preconstruction investigation. Features anticipated included two possible Roman field ditches and a medieval track in Area 8 identified from APs. Two undated linear earthworks and a number of anomalies identified by geophysical survey were examined in Area 7. Geophysical survey traces in Area 5 were considered to be modern disturbance and were not examined at this stage.
- 4.2 Topsoil stripping in the targeted areas and any subsequent machine excavation of archaeological deposits was undertaken using a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. Features were then defined and excavated using hand tools. At least 50% of discrete features such as pits was removed and appropriate lengths of linear features were excavated to examine profiles and collect dating evidence.
- 4.3 Deposits or cut features thought to constitute single events were given unique context numbers to which artefacts could be assigned. Each context was recorded on individual pro-forma sheets from which a matrix of the sequence of events could be constructed. Monitoring Areas, in this case individual fields crossed by the pipeline, were numbered 1 to 9 starting at the southern end of the route. The Monitoring Area number prefixes all context numbers. A Context Summary is attached as Appendix 3.
- 4.4 Plans and section drawings of depositional events were drawn at an appropriate scale, usually 1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections. A photographic record of features and the general progress of the work was kept using black and white and colour transparency film.
- 4.5 Monitoring work was carried out throughout the period of topsoil stripping for the pipeline easement. Where the route passed through areas defined by the county council as of special archaeological significance, the easement was continuously monitored during topsoil removal. The remainder of the easement, beyond these principal areas of interest, was monitored by daily walkover surveys. Much of the pipe was laid by cut-and-cover method in a 450mm trench but, where possible, the pipe-trench was examined. In Area 3, where a length of pipe-trench was temporarily left uncovered, a below-ground feature was reported by Mr R Lancaster of Letchworth Heritage Museum. Safety regulations precluded a detailed examination of the section but it was recorded appropriately by an on-site archaeologist. Finds collected from the pipe-trench spoil, which were of considerable interest, were given the context number (304) as it could not be securely determined whether they had originated from layers (305) or (306).
- 4.6 Features were initially levelled onto a temporary benchmark. This level was later carried to a reliable Ordnance Survey benchmark at the junction of Norton Bury Lane and the A507, allowing the figures to be converted into metres over OD.
- 4.7 Finds were washed and marked with the site and context numbers and submitted to relevant specialists for analysis.
- 4.8 The Hertfordshire County Council archaeological officer responsible for this area was kept informed of the progress of the work and invited to visit the site.
- 4.9 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Institute of Field Archaeologists' Code of Conduct* and with regard to health and safety regulations.

5 Results

- 5.1 In Area 1 (at Norton) it proved impossible during topsoil stripping to identify the medieval ridge and furrow appearing on APs. However, medieval pottery sherds were recovered during stripping and later, after rain, additional sherds were recovered from the surface of the easement. These proved to include a variety of wares dating mainly from the 12th to 14th centuries with a few potentially earlier sherds (see Appendix 4).
- 5.2 In Area 3 part of a ditch [303] was identified sealed below the subsoil in the pipe-trench. Approximately 13.80m of the feature was recorded where the pipe-trench impinged on the line of the ditch. The full depth of the feature, 900mm, was exposed near the centre of the recorded section, gradually receding on each side beyond the limits of the excavation. A light brown calcareous clay subsoil (302), 300mm thick, sealed the upper ditch fill (305) which was 200mm thick. A dark grey-brown silty clay containing charcoal and organic deposits (306) lay below this, 250mm at its maximum depth and extending over c.6m at the centre of the feature. The primary fill (307) was on average 200mm thick. Pottery sherds collected from the pipe-trench spoil were allocated the context number (304) and were subsequently dated to the late iron age period.
- 5.3 Farther to the east in Area 3, a sub-circular area of burning [308] was investigated. This proved to be a shallow (200mm) flat-bottomed feature with fills of mixed chalk and clayey silt with charcoal, the whole much affected by heat. There was no dating evidence but it is thought likely to be post-medieval or modern in date (Figure 4).
- 5.4 An area 14.5m by 11m was machine stripped under archaeological supervision to investigate various anomalies shown on a magnetometer survey. This was in Area 7, south-west of the river Ivel and is identified as Area 7A. (Figure 5). Two oval gullies, [704] and [707], partly within the area of excavation, were investigated and a linear gully [711] and shallow pit [709] sampled. Gully [713] was examined but considered to be animal disturbance. The area was generally disturbed with greyish decayed chalk and darker spreads and soft dark grey silty fills. The oval gullies were 3m across the shorter axis. A length of c.6m along the longer axis could be projected. Gully widths were 550mm to 650mm with depths ranging between 170mm and 380mm. Within gully [704] were a group of possible stake holes, group number [706]. An abraded Roman sherd and three sherds of post-Roman ceramic building material were retrieved from the topsoil and one fragment of Roman *imbrex* (curved roof tile) from the subsoil.
- 5.5 After machine stripping of the remaining area of the easement between Trench 7A and the river, part of a third oval gully, [719], was identified and also two pits, [717] and [723] and a shallow linear gully, [721] in which a medieval sherd was found. The oval gully was similar in shape and size to the two already investigated.
- 5.6 An extension to Trench 7A, 10m by 1.5m, was made (see Figure 6) to examine a linear earthwork (726) and Trench 7B, 14m by 900mm, was opened to transect the line of a second earthwork 38m to the south-west. In Trench 7A it was found that linear earthwork (726) appeared to be based on a natural ridge in the underlying chalk, possibly modified later by the addition of a bank and by a shallow ditch [715] on its south-western side. This banking deposit produced several large fragments of prehistoric pottery, possibly neolithic or bronze age in date, suggesting the earthwork may date to this period. Associated ditch [715], however, produced no datable finds and no other prehistoric material was discovered on site 7A.

- 5.7 Similarly, the second earthwork (Figure 6) to the south-west produced no conclusive dating evidence, though a ditch 1.50m wide and 650mm deep [706B] beyond the bank and probably associated with it, did produce a single small fragment of flint-tempered pottery. A small pit [704B], partly appearing in Trench 7B north-east of the bank, produced two fragments of post-Roman ceramic building material. A late medieval or post-medieval horseshoe was collected from the topsoil of Trench 7B.
- 5.8 Two sites were targeted where the pipeline ran beside the A1(M) in Area 8. These were positioned to locate two linear cropmarks shown on APs, thought to be Roman field boundaries. In Trench 8A, a v-shaped ditch [804], 1.17m wide and 640mm deep, was uncovered in the expected location (Figure 7). Within the primary fill (803) were one fragment of Roman pottery and two fragments of Roman building material, one of which was a tessera or small cube used in mosaic floor surfacing. The second linear cropmark was not located.
- 5.9 Trench 8B, on the hillside east of the river and modern farm track, aimed to locate the curvilinear cropmarks shown on APs and thought to represent an earlier, possibly medieval, track. Three ditches were uncovered, two of them, [807] and [809] on the same alignment and [811] on an alternative orientation (Figure 8). All were shallow concave ditches, 240mm, 120mm and 180mm respectively, with widths of between 800mm and 900mm. One fragment of post-Roman tile was found in the fill of ditch [807].
- 5.10 Four features were identified in Area 8 after machine topsoil stripping in areas not highlighted by AP evidence. Ditch [826] was located close to where the pipeline route makes a change of direction to run beside the A1(M) road (see Figure 3). This proved to be a substantial feature more than 2m wide at the surface before narrowing to 1m and reaching a depth of 740mm (Figure 10). It was on the same alignment as ditch [804] but contained no finds.
- 5.11 South-west of [826] and farther down the hillside was [814], a broad (4.60m) shallow, rutted feature filled with compacted silt and chalk (Figure 7). The feature sloped down from the east to a gully at the western edge with the two wheel possible ruts, [816] and [818] placed centrally. One fragment of post-Roman building material was found in feature [818].
- 5.12 At the bottom of the slope a modern farm track runs along the edge of the flood plain of the river Ivel. Just west of the track lay feature [820], a shallow sub-oval pit containing Roman pottery dating to the 2nd to 4th centuries and Roman ceramic building material. The area was waterlogged at the time of excavation and the feature partly truncated by machine.
- 5.13 On the eastern side of the farm track where the ground begins to rise, feature [822] was identified. Excavation confirmed it as a cut feature but of a very irregular shape and unknown function (Figure 9). It contained Roman pottery dated to the 2nd to 4th centuries and Roman ceramic building material including half of a large *lydion* tile.
- 5.14 In Area 9, approaching Radwell, 67m of a ditch was located after topsoil stripping. At 260mm deep this was comparatively shallow but it is likely that ploughing over a period of time has led to truncation (Figure 11). The ditch is approximately on the same alignment as the A1(M) road. Deposits of animal bone were seen in the ditch fill at intervals along its length, some of which were found to exhibit butchery marks. A deposit containing bone and large fragments of early post-medieval pottery from jugs was excavated.

6 The Finds

(Finds catalogues are to be found in Appendix 4)

EARLY PREHISTORIC POTTERY by Nigel Brown

Six sherds were recovered from context (702A) in a fabric tempered with crushed burnt flint and quartz. There are no rims, decorated sherds or other diagnostic pieces. The fabric is not closely dateable and would be appropriate for a neolithic or bronze age date. One particularly thick sherd, c.2cm thick, has a curvature and pattern of abrasion on the exterior which suggests that it might possibly be from the base of a large neolithic round-based pot.

ROMAN POTTERY by Scott Martin

Roman pottery was recovered from three contexts in Radwell parish: the primary fill of a v-shaped ditch (803), the fill of a shallow pit (819), and the fill of an irregular pit (821). A total of fourteen sherds weighing 274 grammes were recorded. Five fabrics were recognised (Baldock fabrics 4, 7, 10, 13 and 14). Very little of this material is closely dateable due to the paucity of identifiable vessel forms or the presence of long-lived types.

The only rims present were all from jars and in a shell-tempered fabric corresponding to Baldock fabric 4 (Stead and Rigby 1986, 261). This type of pottery was produced at Harrold (Bedfordshire) from the mid-1st to the late 4th/early 5th century (Brown 1994). Both rims, recovered from contexts (819) and (821), correspond to published examples from this site. The vessel from context (819) with its triangular drooping rim and upright neck is a form that has been recorded in phases 3 (cf. Brown 1994, fig. 26.95), 4 (cf. Brown 1994, fig. 29.178) and 5 (cf. Brown 1994, fig. 34.248). This provides a date range from the later 2nd century onwards. The form, however, was most common in the 4th century. The other piece is from a jar with a simple out-curved bead rim (cf. Brown 1994, fig. 26.72), a form that was common at Harrold from the later 2nd century onwards.

Letchworth parish contexts produced a total of twenty-two sherds weighing 157 grammes. This material was recovered from three contexts, (101) interface between topsoil and natural, (304), ditch fill, and (701A), topsoil. Five fabrics were identified (Baldock fabrics 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8), however, none of this material is closely dateable. Context (701A) produced a single undiagnostic sherd of Hadham red ware. This fabric (fabric 7 at Baldock) dates from the 2nd century onwards (Stead and Rigby 1986, 271). Ditch fill (304) contained mostly grog-tempered pottery (fabrics 2 and 8), including a necked jar rim. A grey ware sherd, much more abraded than the grog-tempered sherds, was also present. This is probably a late iron age feature.

MEDIEVAL POTTERY by Helen Walker

Very little pottery was excavated, a total of twenty-two sherds weighing 339g. Much of the pottery is abraded and three of the five contexts to produce pottery are from topsoils or sub-soils. The earliest and largest assemblage is from context (101), in the area of Norton village where there is evidence of farming in the medieval period. Here sherds of St Neots type ware were found. This is a late Saxon fabric dating from c.900 to the 12th century, made from clays naturally containing fossil shell (Hurst 1976, 320-3 and

Vince and Jenner 1991, 54-6). Although not made in Hertfordshire, this pottery has a wide distribution in the south and east Midlands and is therefore not an unexpected find here. A sherd of early medieval ware from this context has the date range of 10th to 13th centuries (Drury 1993, 80) and therefore may be of the same date or later than the St Neots-type ware.

There are also sherds of grey-firing coarse ware from context (101). In Hertfordshire this is known as Hertfordshire grey ware (Havercroft and Turner-Rugg 1987), but is classified as medieval coarse ware in the Essex typology (Drury 1993, 81-86). There are other sherds of coarse ware which have chalk as well as sand inclusions, and are also likely to have a local origin, as Hertfordshire lies on chalk bedrock (Turner-Rugg 1988, 17). Medieval coarse ware/Hertfordshire grey ware has a date range of 12th to 14th centuries and includes two cooking pot rims datable, according to Drury's typology, to the first half of the 13th century, although this typology may not hold true for cooking pots from Hertfordshire.

The latest pottery from context (101) is a sherd of Metropolitan slipware. This probably comes from the production site at Harlow in west Essex and dates principally to the middle years of the 17th century (Cunningham 1985b, 64, 71 and Newton and *et al.* 1960). The only other context in this parish to produce medieval/post-medieval pottery is gully fill (722). This produced a rim sherd in a fabric unknown to the author, as a Roman origin for this sherd has been precluded it is most likely a locally made medieval ware. The pottery from RAD 5/00 is comprised entirely of late medieval or post-medieval red earthenware spanning the 16th to 19th centuries, apart from one sherd of sandy orange ware which could be medieval or late medieval in date.

MISCELLANEOUS FINDS by Hilary Major

Brick and tile

A total of eighteen pieces of brick and tile were found in contexts in the parish of Radwell, weighing 5673g, of which eleven were post-medieval tile and brick. The Roman tile came from four contexts, and while not prolific, reflects the proximity of Radwell Roman Villa, as it includes a tessera and a large fragment of *lydion* (flat tile) with mortar traces which indicated that it had been used in a masonry structure. The context from which this came (821) also contained a small piece of post-medieval peg tile, but this could well be intrusive, since it is such a small fragment.

A very small amount of brick and tile was collected (eight sherds) in Letchworth parish contexts. All fragments were post-Roman except for one piece from context (702A), which was definitely Roman, and probably *imbrex* (curved roof tile).

Iron

A complete horseshoe, in good condition, with broad branches of unequal width, both with three rectangular nail holes was found in context (700B). It is 118mm in length and 111mm wide. The nail holes are not countersunk, but probably taper. There is one nail present, but the head shape is not visible. The frog is arched. This would fit into Clark's type 4 in his typology of medieval horseshoes from London (Clark 1995). The type is late medieval, but probably continues into the early post-medieval period.

In context (821) a thick strip of iron tapering to a point was found.

Stone

Quartzitic sandstone. An irregularly shaped slab fragment, with mortar traces on the bottom and edges comes from context (927). This may have been a paving slab originally, but was evidently re-used as coarse building rubble. It is not intrinsically datable, but there is post-medieval tile from the context, and this could also be post-medieval.

ANIMAL BONE by P. McMichael

Seventeen pieces of animal bone were examined from five contexts weighing a total of 1100 grams (see Appendix 4 for catalogue). The bone was in good condition, though some was fragmentary.

Four species were positively identified: *Equus* (horse), *Bos* (cattle/cow), *Cervus* (sheep/goat) and *Ovis* (deer). Four unidentifiable bone fragments were found from medium or large sized mammals.

One piece of bone in context (304) and a piece of scapula in context (927) showed signs of butchery.

7 Discussion

- 7.1 The pipeline route was revised in Area 1 in order to maintain a distance between the development and an ecologically sensitive pond. This reduced the length of the easement in this area and resulted in crop-marks visible on APs being crossed more obliquely than was initially planned. This may have hindered identification of medieval ridge and furrow which was not observed during topsoil stripping. However, evidence for medieval farming was confirmed by the presence of pottery sherds, probably distributed during manuring.
- 7.2 To the north-west of Area 3, APs show rectilinear and linear cropmarks in Archaeological Area 91 (SMR 2488). On the eastern side of the presumed settlement a substantial linear feature or ditch appears to run north/south from the Norton Road almost to the modern east/west field drain behind Norton. It seems likely that it then continued eastwards, draining naturally along the valley bottom, the line now taken by a modern drain. Feature [303] exposed a length of this early ditch, which appears to be part of a field system associated with SMR 2488, and provides evidence which may help to date the settlement. Pottery sherds collected from Feature [303] are from the late iron age period, a time when Roman ceramic styles and technology were beginning to be adopted in England. The putative late iron age/early Roman settlement may have been close to the prehistoric Icknield Way and within reach of the Roman road.
- 7.3 It is not possible to date Feature [308], a burnt pit of unknown purpose. Unlike the late iron age ditch, it was not sealed by the subsoil and is likely to be post-medieval or modern in date.
- 7.4 The magnetometry survey in Area 7 recorded several features, pits of possible archaeological significance, and an attempt was made to locate these in the Area 7A excavation. However, a problem was encountered when it was found that field boundaries shown on the Ordnance Survey maps, on which the geophysical survey had been laid out, were inaccurate. A number of shallow pits of unknown function were discovered and it must be presumed that these were the ones indicated in the magnetometry survey results.
- 7.5 The oval gullies with predominately silty fills do not appear to have registered with the geophysical equipment employed, possibly because they were too shallow. The function of these unusual features has not been determined although, stratigraphically and from very limited artefactual information, they are tentatively interpreted as medieval in date. They are obviously too small and elongated for dwellings but might perhaps have served for storage or as a form of temporary enclosure or shelter for sheep. The level of root disturbance evident across the whole of Area 7A rendered it impossible to confirm conclusively whether or not the gullies incorporated groups of stakeholes. Though these may, in fact, be solution hollows rather than stakeholes, the possibility that these small features are structural and related to the function of the gullies cannot be dismissed.
- 7.6 The banking deposit augmenting linear earthwork (726) produced several large sherds of prehistoric pottery. The pottery report suggests that a neolithic or bronze age date might be appropriate, with the earlier date being preferred if the sherds come from a round-bottomed bowl. However, early pottery forms are notoriously long-lived and the division between one archaeological period somewhat arbitrary. If the sherds are in fact from the bronze age period they may indicate a connection between the linear earthworks and the early bronze age barrow just to the north-west. It must be noted though that the banking deposit, considered to be man-made, was indistinguishable

from shallow subsoil (702) removed elsewhere in Area 7A where it sealed medieval deposits. Associated ditch [715] produced no datable finds and is clearly insufficiently deep to be the sole source of the banking material which, in any case, can be seen in places to seal the ditch fill. That is to say, the two features cannot be regarded as a ditch and its associated up-cast. Whilst it is possible that the banked deposit has merely partially slumped over the ditch fill, it would seem more likely that ditch [715] represents an earlier phase of augmentation to the natural chalk feature.

- 7.7 Similarly, the second linear earthwork produced no conclusive dating evidence although the associated ditch beside it did contain a very small fragment of pottery which appeared to be prehistoric in date. As with bank (726), however, the ditch which appears to mirror its alignment is too small to have produced the bank as a consequence of its excavation. Equally, the banking deposit is indistinguishable from the subsoil, rendering it impossible to assess conclusively whether the bank seals the ditch fill. Indeed, it would be reasonable to conclude that the bank was entirely natural except for the fact that it appears so regular in plan, runs parallel to (726) and perpendicular to another man-made earthwork to the immediate south-east.
- 7.8 It remains possible that the two linear earthworks, which seem to curve inwards at their north-western extremities to enclose the scheduled barrow, are associated with it. The existence of early pottery on site confirms prehistoric activity in the vicinity. Their purpose may have been to define a zone around the barrow or to act as a protective flood defence. Alternatively, they may be medieval or later earthworks or even medieval modifications of existing prehistoric earthworks.
- 7.9 Of the two linear features targeted beside the A1(M), thought to be associated with the known Roman villa, one [804] was located within four metres of its expected position and correlated well with the alignment shown on APs. It had a typical v-shaped profile and contained Roman pottery and building material in its primary fill, confirming its date. APs suggested that the second linear feature, approximately 160 metres to the south-east of [804], might terminate just short of the pipeline route and this was confirmed by the fieldwork.
- 7.10 Ditch [826] was not evident on APs but proved to be substantial. It contained no dating material but its nature and alignment suggest that it was also part of the Roman field system.
- 7.11 It seems very probable that the modern farm track, which skirts the river between Radwell and Norton Mill, has early origins (Figure 2). APs show it passing through the Roman villa complex, respecting structures and it would have been a convenient route from the villa to the Roman road via Norton Bury Lane. Two pits containing Roman pottery and building material were found, one on each side of the track. Pit [820], only c.6m south of the track and in a low-lying area, may well be a dump of material placed to improve ground conditions. Pit [822] is too far from the track to serve this purpose and its function is unknown. Finds within its elliptical cut appeared to be sealed with part of a large Roman floor tile. These two pits contained the majority of the dateable Roman material from the project and confirm a 2nd to 4th century date for the life of the Roman villa.
- 7.12 SMR 7922 is described as a medieval track or holloway with two parallel ditches and a stone foundation. The mapped AP evidence shows it leading away from Radwell in a sinuous curve then dropping down the slope, apparently stopping abruptly before reaching Norton Bury Lane. The curvilinear section has a ditch only on the downhill or south-western side whilst the straight downhill stretch has a firm indication of a ditch on each side. The AP cropmarks show it as 12m wide, a very substantial size compared to

the c.5m of the modern farm track, suggesting that it was once the preferred route. It was considered that the southern end of the trackway might be intersected by the pipeline easement and fieldwork showed that this was the case. The two parallel ditches excavated in Trench 8B correlate exactly in terms of position, alignment and width with the AP information. However, no evidence was found for erosion or surfacing characteristic of trackways or of the stone foundation described in the SMR. Examination of a range of additional APs held at the county council showed indistinct cropmarks of the trackway continuing to the junction of the modern farm track with Norton Bury Lane. It seems likely that the easement has crossed the trackway at the point where hard surfacing ends and only the side ditches remain. It is possible that surfacing was not considered necessary on the lower, less steep, part of the track or that it has been removed, perhaps to reinforce the present farm track.

- 7.13 A third ditch within Trench 8B was not visible on APs. This shallow ditch did not appear to be related to the trackway and was on a different alignment. Its orientation does, however, conform well with the rectilinear cropmarks of the Roman villa complex and it is possible that it is an outlying field boundary of that period. It produced no finds to date it and the junction with trackway ditch [809], which might have provided stratigraphic information, was beyond the limit of excavation.
- 7.14 SMR 7923 is another trackway leading away from Radwell, of a similar width to SMR 7922 but discontinuous and with no evidence for hard surfacing. Its location is to the east of trackway 7922 although it appears likely that the two tracks may have converged at some point. Feature [814], the shallow, rutted track to the north-east of Trench 8B, is likely to be part of this eastern track from Radwell, as it turns away uphill rather than taking the route down to Norton Mill.
- 7.15 In Area 9 the alignment of the post-medieval ditch [928] mirrors that of the A1(M), or, more correctly, the important north/south highway which preceded it. Feature [928] may originally have been a substantial roadside ditch but subsequent plough damage, and erosion accelerated by its location at the crest of the ridge, may have caused significant truncation. An unusual feature of this ditch was the dumps of animal bone, some displaying butchery marks, at intervals along its length. In a prehistoric or Roman ditch these might have been suspected of ritual significance, perhaps, for example, in the laying out of settlement boundaries. A possible interpretation in this case is that the distance between deposits represents a days work by the road gang and the butchered bone the remains of the evening meal.

8 Conclusions and Assessment of Potential

- 8.1 Factual data, comprising structural and artefactual evidence recorded during both the excavation and monitoring stages, has been compared with the specific and general project aims in order that an assessment of the potential for further work can be made. Similarly, an assessment has been made as to whether further analysis of aspects of the existing archive is likely to yield additional information. The potential of each of the above categories of data to contribute to the research aims has been assessed by appropriate specialists whilst these research aims have themselves been re-assessed. The structural data, therefore, has been assessed by the excavating archaeologists Maurcen Bennell and Daryl Stump. Artefacts and ecofacts have been assessed by members of the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit, namely, Scott Martin (iron age and Roman pottery); Helen Walker (medieval pottery); Hilary Major (ceramic building material and metal) and Phil McMichael (animal bone). Nigel Brown of Essex County Council identified the early prehistoric pottery. Finds catalogues are shown in Appendix 4 of this report.

8.2 Assessment of Project Aim 1

Despite close archaeological monitoring of topsoil stripping in Area 1, it was not possible to locate evidence for medieval ridge and furrow conclusively although this was apparent on APs. Monitoring produced early medieval pottery finds from the topsoil and surface of the easement in this area. There is, however, low potential to answer this aim through the collected structural and artefactual field data.

8.3 Assessment of Project Aim 2

There is high potential to answer this aim via the collected structural and artefactual field data. Archaeologically supervised topsoil stripping produced evidence for a Roman field boundary; two ditches of possible Roman date on a similar alignment; and two shallow Roman pits.

Attempts to identify a curvilinear feature, evident from APs and provisionally interpreted as a medieval trackway, also produced positive results. Two ditches in an appropriate location were identified, the overall dimensions of which correlated well with the AP cropmarks. Additionally, a shallow rutted feature, not visible on APs but possibly a medieval or post-medieval track, was located.

8.4 Assessment of Project Aim 3

An attempt was made to answer this multiple aim by examining the collected structural and artefactual field data from the excavation of the two linear earthworks, the assessment of the geophysical survey anomalies and the possible relationship between this information and the scheduled bronze age barrow. The date and nature of the earthwork banks has been assessed and it would seem likely that they were modified during the prehistoric period. The possibility of a connection between the early bronze age barrow and the earthworks follows on from this premise. The investigation of the anomalies shown by geophysical survey has revealed features, some of unusual form, of probable medieval date. It can therefore be demonstrated that the anomalies are not related to the barrow. Whilst the character and probable date of features has been determined, their function can only be hazarded. Therefore, the potential of the investigations to fulfill the aim is moderate to high.

General Aims

Some additional features, outside the scope of the principal project aims, were recorded. These were a late iron age ditch and a post-medieval or modern firepit in Area 3 and an early post-medieval ditch in Area 9. These provide more local information, the iron age material being of especial interest.

9 Statement of Potential

The potential to address the project aims, using the data presented above combined with the existing, documentary, cartographic and aerial photographic evidence, is considered to be:

Project Aim 1 – low

Project Aim 2 – high

Project Aim 3 – moderate to high

The data has been assessed and presents no new research questions since additional fieldwork in the area would clearly be aimed towards furthering our understanding of the project objectives. There is no potential for further analysis of the existing archive beyond that reported here because the structural, artefactual and ecofactual record is too limited to allow for more detailed analysis. The fieldwork results are considered to be of local significance.

10 Publication

- 9.1 A summary of the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis will be published within an appropriate journal, the format of which will be decided through consultation with Jonathan Smith of Hertfordshire County Council Environment Department.

11 Conservation and Storage

- 10.1 The material archive produced by the fieldwork does not require conservation and is held, in the short term, at the offices of Maureen Bennell in Sevenoaks, Kent. Following consultation with the relevant landowners, arrangements will be made to transfer the archive to the North Hertfordshire Museums Resource Centre, Hitchin under the site codes of RAD5/00 and LTCH6/00 for material from the parishes of Radwell and Letchworth respectively.

12 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bennell, M.	2000	<i>Stotfold to Letchworth Requisition Main. An Archaeological Appraisal.</i> Cluttons client report
Brown, A.	1994	A Romano-British Shell-Gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire, <i>Bedfordshire Archaeology</i> 21, 19-107
Clark, J.	1995	Horseshoes, 75-123 in Clark, J. (ed) <i>The Medieval Horse and its equipment. Medieval finds from excavations in London:5</i>
Cunningham, C. M.	1985a	A typology for post-Roman pottery in Essex, in Cunningham, C.M. and Drury, P.J., <i>Post-medieval sites and their pottery: Moulsham Street, Chelmsford. Chelmsford Archaeol. Trust Report 5, Counc.Brit. Arch. Res. Rep. 54, 1-16</i>
	1985b	<i>Ibid 63-78</i>
Drury, P.J.	1993	The Later Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery, in Rodwell, W.J. and Rodwell, K.A., <i>Rivenhall: Investigations of a villa, church and village, 1950-1977, Chelmsford Archaeol. Trust Rep. 4.2.Counc.Brit. Arch. Res.Rep. 80, 78-95</i>
Havercroft, A.B. and Turner-Rugg, A.	1987	Notes on 'Hertfordshire greyware' vessels from recent excavations in St Albans with particular reference to size and shape as demonstrated by two new computer programmes, <i>Medieval Ceramics</i> , 11, 31-67
Hurst, J.G.	1976	The pottery, in Wilson, D.M. (ed) <i>The Archaeology of Anglo-Saxon England</i> , 283-348
Newton, E.F., Bibbings, E. and Fisher, J.L.	1960	Seventeenth century pottery sites at Harlow, Essex, <i>Essex Archaeology and History</i> , 25, 358-77
Stead, I.M. and Rigby, V	1986	Baldock: The Excavation of a Roman and Pre-Roman Settlement, 1968-72, <i>Britannia Monograph Series</i> 7
Turner-Rugg, A.	1988	Medieval pottery production in Hertfordshire, <i>Hertfordshire's Past</i> No. 25, 17-21
Vince, A.G. and Jenner, M.A.	1991	The Saxon and early medieval pottery of London in Vince (ed) <i>Aspects of Saxon and Norman London 2: Finds and Environmental Evidence, London and Middlesex Archaeol. Society special paper no 12, 19-119</i>

APPENDIX 1

Sites and Monuments Records in the Study Area

APPENDIX 1

Hertfordshire County Council Sites and Monuments Records in the Study Area

Key: BA bronze age RO Roman MED medieval
PM post-medieval DB Domesday Book
UD undated AP aerial photograph LB Listed Building

SMR no.	NGR	Period	Description
1266	TL 232 343	RO	Pottery and glass found with SMR2265
1281	TL 2323 3437	RO	Coin, C4
1282	TL 2323 3437	RO	Pottery including sherds of C1 Samian bowl
1724	TL 2346 3549	RO	SM 27908 AP crop, soil and parch marks, large villa complex; 2 houses, 2 barns, enclosure ditch
1813	TL 233 358	MED	Shrunken village, documentary refs.
1931	TL 2355 3493	MED	Earthworks, moat, east of manor house
2265	TL 232 343	RO	Glass unguent bottles, Samian sherds
2488	TL 2270 3485	UD	AP cropmarks of linear features
2699	TL 231 344	MED	DB ref. to Norton as 'Nortone'
2708	TL 234 357	MED	DB ref. to Radwell as 'Radewelle'
4049	TL 2342 3517	BA	SM20615 Round barrow visible on APs, 12m diameter, early BA
4203	TL 232 345	UD	Earthworks of shrunken village
4226	TL 228 343	MED	Earthworks of farmstead, ridge and furrow
4316	TL 2323 3586	MED	Church, mid C14 chancel arch, part C16, restored C19. LB II*
4326	TL 2314 3445	MED	Church, late C11 and early C12, C15 tower. LB II
4470	TL 2370 3568	UD	AP crop, soil, parch marks, probably pits in linear arrangement
4685	TL 241 350	RO	Line of Roman road, Viatores no.22
4890	TL 237 351	RO/MED	Iron auger found in river, Ro, med. or Viking
5293	TL 2313 3440	PM	Letterbox in churchyard wall
5800	TL 236 351	PM	Former water mill, corn mill
7390	TL 2313 3434	MED/PM	C11 - C12 pits and ditches, PM wall trench
7922	TL 2359 3554	MED	AP cropmarks of 'holloway' c.500m long with two parallel ditches and stone foundation
7923	TL 2353 3567	UD	AP cropmarks of discontinuous trackway c.180m long

APPENDIX 2

Listed Buildings in the Study Area

Appendix 2

Listed Buildings in the Study Area

Parish	LB no.	Grade	Description
Radwell	140	II*	Church of All Saints, medieval church with mid C14 and C16 alterations. Restored C19
Radwell	141	II	Row of five cottages, mid to late C17
Radwell	142	II	House, now divided into four properties, main range C16 with C18 and C19 extensions
Norton	3	II	Church of St Nicholas, late C11 or early C12, C15 tower with later additions
Norton	9	II	House, previously pair of cottages, later C18
Norton	10	II	Cottage, later C18
Norton	14	II	House, Norton Old Manor House and adjoining outbuildings. C17
Norton	15	II	Pair of estate cottages, late C18
Norton	16	II	Inn, early C18 with later extensions
Norton	17	II	Cottage, C18
Norton	32	II	House, early C19
Norton	33	II	Pair of cottages, early C19
Norton	34	II	Vicarage, c. 1832 in Gothic style
Norton	43	II	Cottage probably C18
Norton	78	II	Dovecote formerly belonging to Norton Old Manor House, now house. Earlier C18
Norton	164	II	House, 1913 in Arts and Crafts manner

APPENDIX 3
Context Summary

Appendix 3 Context Summary

Context no.	Location	Category	Description
101	Area 1	Layer	Topsoil
301	Area 3	Layer	Topsoil
302		Layer	Subsoil
303		Cut	Ditch
304		Finds	Finds from ditch 303
305		Fill	Upper fill of ditch 303
306		Fill	Central fill of ditch 303
307		Fill	Basal fill of ditch 303
308		Cut	Shallow pit. ?firepit
309		Fill	Upper fill of 308
310		Fill	Tertiary fill of 308
311		Fill	Secondary fill of 308
312		Fill	Primary fill of 308
701	Area 7A (excavation)	Deposit	Topsoil
702		Deposit	Subsoil
703		Deposit	Natural
704		Cut	Oval gully
705		Fill	Fill of 704
706		Group number	Possible stakeholes within 704
707		Cut	Oval gully
708		Fill	Fill of 707
709		Cut	?shallow pit
710		Fill	Fill of 709
711		Cut	?linear gully
712		Fill	Fill of 711
713		Cut	?animal disturbance
714		Deposit	Fill of 713
715		Cut	Probable gully or shallow ditch
716		Fill	Fill of 715
717	Area 7A (easement)	Cut	Pit
718		Fill	Fill of 717
719		Cut	Oval gully
720		Fill	Fill of 719
721		Cut	N/S running gully
722		Fill	Fill of gully 721
723		Cut	Putative pit
724		Fill	Fill of pit 723
725		Deposit	Spread
726	Area 7A excavation	Deposit	Bank material, similar 702)
727		Deposit	Spread cut by 709
700B	Area 7B excavation	Deposit	Topsoil
701B		Deposit	Subsoil
702B		Deposit	Natural
703B		Fill	Fill of pit 704B
704B		Cut	?pit
705B		Fill	Fill of ditch 706
706B		Cut	Cut of ditch
800	Area 8	Deposit	Topsoil

801	Area 8	Deposit	Subsoil
802		Fill	Upper fill of 804
803		Fill	Primary (lower) fill of 804
804		Cut	v-shaped ditch
805		Deposit	Natural chalk
806		Fill	Fill of ditch 807
807		Cut	Ditch
808		Fill	Fill of ditch 809
809		Cut	Ditch
810		Fill	Fill of ditch 811
811		Cut	Ditch
812		Group number	Features in ?trackway
813		Deposit	Fill of linear feature
814		Cut	Cut of linear feature
815		Fill	Fill of 816
816		Rut/episode	Wheel rutting E
817		Fill	Fill of 818
818		Rut/episode	Wheel rutting W
819		Fill	Fill of shallow pit 820
820		Cut	Shallow pit
821		Fill	Fill of feature 822
822		Cut	?shallow pit
823		Fill	Upper fill of ditch 826
824		Fill	Middle fill of ditch 826
825		Fill	Basal fill of ditch 826
826		Cut	Ditch
927	Area 9	Fill	Fill of ditch 928
928		Cut	Shallow ditch

APPENDIX 4
Finds Catalogues

APPENDIX 4 Finds Catalogues

Early prehistoric pottery (Nigel Brown) Context 702, 6 sherds tempered with crushed burnt flint and quartz. ?neolithic or bronze age.

Roman and late iron age pottery by Scott Martin

Context No.: 101		Area/Trench:	On Computer?
Context Type: interface between topsoil and natural		Phase:	Size (weight): 15g
Context Status:		Date From: Roman	Size (sherds): 3
Feature No.:		Date To: Roman	Sorted? No
Feature Type:		Post Roman Material?	Compiled By: TS Martin
Segment: -		Worth Study? No	Date: 08-11-00
General Comments: Not closely datable.			
Fabrics	Sherds	Wt. (g)	Comments
14	3	15	Base and body sherd

Context No.: 304		Area/Trench:	On Computer?
Context Type: Fill		Phase:	Size (weight): 140g
Context Status:		Date From: LIA	Size (sherds): 18
Feature No.:		Date To: LIA	Sorted? No
Feature Type: Ditch		Post Roman Material?	Compiled By: TS Martin
Segment: -		Worth Study? No	Date: 08-11-00
General Comments: Probably LIA feature; Roman grey ware sherd in very poor condition.			
Fabrics	Sherds	Wt. (g)	Comments
2	13	120	Rim necked jar; misc. body sherds
6	1	6	Abraded body sherd
8	4	14	Rim unclassified; misc. small body sherds (sand and grog mixed tempered)

<i>Context No.:</i> 701A		<i>Area/Trench:</i>	<i>On Computer?</i>
<i>Context Type:</i> Topsoil		<i>Phase:</i>	<i>Size (weight):</i> 2g
<i>Context Status:</i>		<i>Date From:</i> Roman	<i>Size (sherds):</i> 1
<i>Feature No.:</i>		<i>Date To:</i> Roman	<i>Sorted?</i> No
<i>Feature Type:</i>		<i>Post Roman Material?</i>	<i>Compiled By:</i> TS Martin
<i>Segment:</i> -		<i>Worth Study?</i> No	<i>Date:</i> 08-11-00
<i>General Comments:</i> Not closely datable, but probably mid-2nd+.			
<i>Fabrics</i>	<i>Sherds</i>	<i>Wt. (g)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
7	1	2	Body sherd (Hadham oxidised)

<i>Context No.:</i> 803		<i>Area/Trench:</i>	<i>On Computer?</i>
<i>Context Type:</i> Fill		<i>Phase:</i>	<i>Size (weight):</i> 3g
<i>Context Status:</i> Primary		<i>Date From:</i> Roman	<i>Size (sherds):</i> 1
<i>Feature No.:</i>		<i>Date To:</i> Roman	<i>Sorted?</i> No
<i>Feature Type:</i> Ditch		<i>Post Roman Material?</i>	<i>Compiled By:</i> TS Martin
<i>Segment:</i> -		<i>Worth Study?</i> No	<i>Date:</i> 08-11-00
<i>General Comments:</i> Not closely datable.			
<i>Fabrics</i>	<i>Sherds</i>	<i>Wt. (g)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
10	1	3	Body sherd

<i>Context No.:</i> 819		<i>Area/Trench:</i>	<i>On Computer?</i>
<i>Context Type:</i> Fill		<i>Phase:</i>	<i>Size (weight):</i> 60g
<i>Context Status:</i>		<i>Date From:</i> Late 2nd	<i>Size (sherds):</i> 5
<i>Feature No.:</i>		<i>Date To:</i> 4 th	<i>Sorted?</i> No
<i>Feature Type:</i> Pit		<i>Post Roman Material?</i>	<i>Compiled By:</i> TS Martin
<i>Segment:</i> -		<i>Worth Study?</i> No	<i>Date:</i> 08-11-00
<i>General Comments:</i> Not well-dated. The jar in fabric 4 is a long-lived type.			
<i>Fabrics</i>	<i>Sherds</i>	<i>Wt. (g)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
4	1	31	Jar rim (cf. Brown 1994, fig 26.95 and fig. 34.248)
7	1	4	Neck of jar or bowl-jar (Hadham red ware)
13	2	16	Misc. body sherds (including open form)
14	1	6	Body sherd with acute lattice

<i>Context No.:</i> 821		<i>Area/Trench:</i>	<i>On Computer?</i>
<i>Context Type:</i> Fill		<i>Phase:</i>	<i>Size (weight):</i> 214g
<i>Context Status:</i>		<i>Date From:</i> Late 2nd	<i>Size (sherds):</i> 8
<i>Feature No.:</i>		<i>Date To:</i> 4 th	<i>Sorted?</i> No
<i>Feature Type:</i> Pit		<i>Post Roman Material?</i>	<i>Compiled By:</i> TS Martin
<i>Segment:</i> -		<i>Worth Study?</i> No	<i>Date:</i> 08-11-00
<i>General Comments:</i> Not closely datable.			
<i>Fabrics</i>	<i>Sherds</i>	<i>Wt. (g)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
4	7	200	Jar rim (cf. Brown 1994, fig. 26.72), base and misc. body sherds (including large storage jar type vessel)
??	1	14	Burnt body sherd

Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery Catalogue by Helen Walker

The pottery has been recorded using Cunningham's typology for post-Roman pottery (Cunningham 1985a, 1-16) and some of her rim-form codes are quoted. See also Drury (1993, 81-4) for the chronology of cooking pot rims used in recording this pottery.

Spot dating of pottery from LTCH 6/00

Context and type	The Pottery	Wt (g)	Date range
101 interface between topsoil and natural	Condition of sherds: abraded; 2 sherds St Neots-type ware, c.900 to 12 th C; 1 sherd early medieval ware with red and amber sands, 10 th to 13 th C; 3 sherds medieval coarse ware/Hertfordshire grey ware, 12 th to 14 th C, including a sagging base sherd and a curved over flanged cooking pot rim (sub-form D2); 9 sherds medieval coarse ware with chalk as well as sand inclusions, some oxidised sherds and a cooking pot with a squared sloping rim (sub-form H2); 1 sherd from Metropolitan slipware dish, middle years of 17 th C; (Roman pottery also present)	91	c.900 to mid-17 th C
722A gully fill	1 abraded everted beaded rim from a ?cooking pot in an unidentified fine sand-tempered fabric with buff surfaces and margins and a grey core	10	?medieval

Spot-dating of pottery from RAD 5/00

Context & type	The Pottery	Wt (g)	Date range
800 topsoil	1 abraded post-medieval red earthenware beaded rim with an internal glaze, perhaps from a bowl	10	17th to 19th C
801 subsoil	1 very abraded unglazed sandy orange ware base sherd	11	13th to 16th C
927 ditch fill	2 sherds of late medieval transitional earthenware from the base of a ?jug showing all over cream slip-coating beneath a mottled green glaze, abraded, ?16th C; 1 sherd of post-medieval red earthenware from the sides of a bowl, abraded brown and green mottled internal glaze, 17th to 19th C	217	latest pottery is 17th to 19th C

Animal Bone Catalogue by P McMichael

Context	Species	Description	Weight
LTCH6/00 [304]	Equus	Two teeth	159g
	Large mammal	One fragment with chop mark	
	Medium mammal	One unidentifiable fragment	
RAD5/00 - [801]	Bos	Distal end of humerus shaft	44g
	Cervus	One fragment of antler	
RAD5/00 - [819]	Ovis	One part of pelvis [Acetabulum]	16g
RAD5/00 - [821]	Bos	Unfused distal end of shaft of radius	76g
RAD5/00 - [927]	Cervus	Fragment of metapodial shaft	805g
		One part of pelvis [Acetabulum]	
		Two pieces of scapula with chop mark near proximal end	
		Rib fragment	
	Bos	Calcaneus	
	Equus	Proximal end of humerus and two pieces of shaft	

NB: Glossary: Equus = Horse; Bos = Cattle/Cow; Ovis = Sheep/Goat; Cervus = Red Deer.

Miscellaneous Finds Catalogue by Hilary Major

Radwell (RAD5/00)

Brick and Tile

The brick and tile was recorded using standard ECC pro formas. As this was such a small assemblage, the fabrics were not recorded.

Summary of the material present

Context	Type	Tegula		Imbrex		Roman flat tile		Tessera		Post-Roman	
		No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)
801	Subsoil	1	80							2	88
803	Ditch fill			1	34			1	10		
806										1	4
817	Wheel rut									1	1
819	Pit fill	2	854								
821	Pit fill					2	4122			1	20
927	Ditch fill									6	460
Totals		3	934	1	34	2	4122	1	10	11	573

Select catalogue

- 803 Tessera, made from a Roman tile, probably a tegula. Orange, with a rather eroded surface. Sub-rectangular, c 20x20x15mm.
- 821 About half of a *lydion* tile, with a complete width (280mm). One edge had a line down in, 30mm in from the edge. There was a curved line on the surface, resembling a signature; however, it was clearly the mark of the edge of the implement used to smooth the top of the tile during manufacture.

Iron

- 821 Thick strip, tapering to a point. One edge is straight, the other slightly curved. The tip is turned up, and the broader end broken in antiquity. L. 93mm, max. section 20x7mm.

Stone

- 927 Quartzitic sandstone. An irregularly shaped slab fragment, with mortar traces on the bottom and edges. This may have been a paving slab originally, but was evidently re-used as coarse building rubble. It is not intrinsically datable, but there is post-medieval tile from the context, and this could also be post-medieval. c 124x112mm, Th. 26mm.

Letchworth LTCH6/00

Brick and Tile

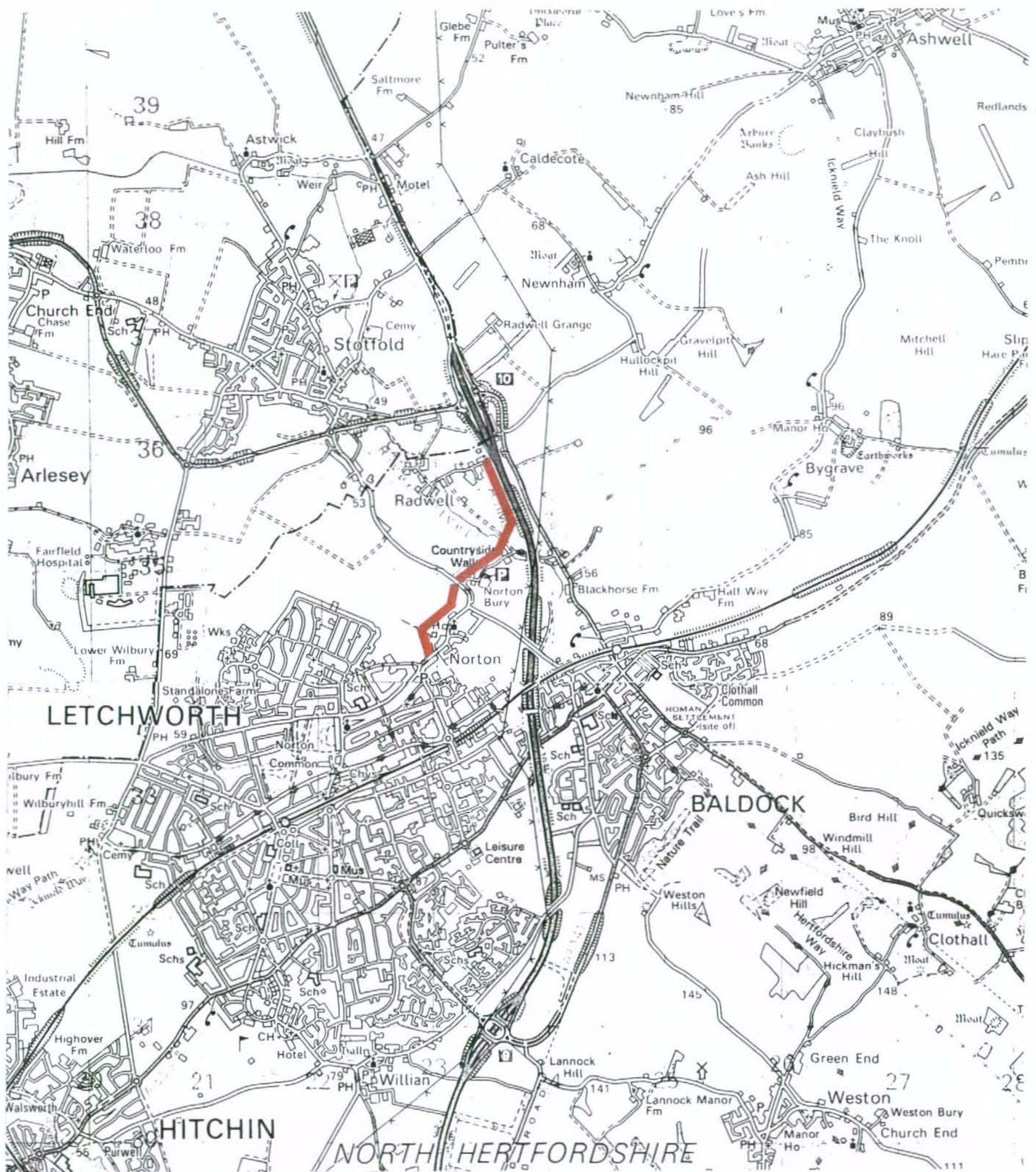
Summary of the material present

Context	Type	Imbrex?		Post-Roman	
		No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)
701A	Topsoil			3	192
700B	Topsoil			1	40
702A	Subsoil	1	48	2	94
705B	Fill of feature			2	19
Totals		1	48	8	345

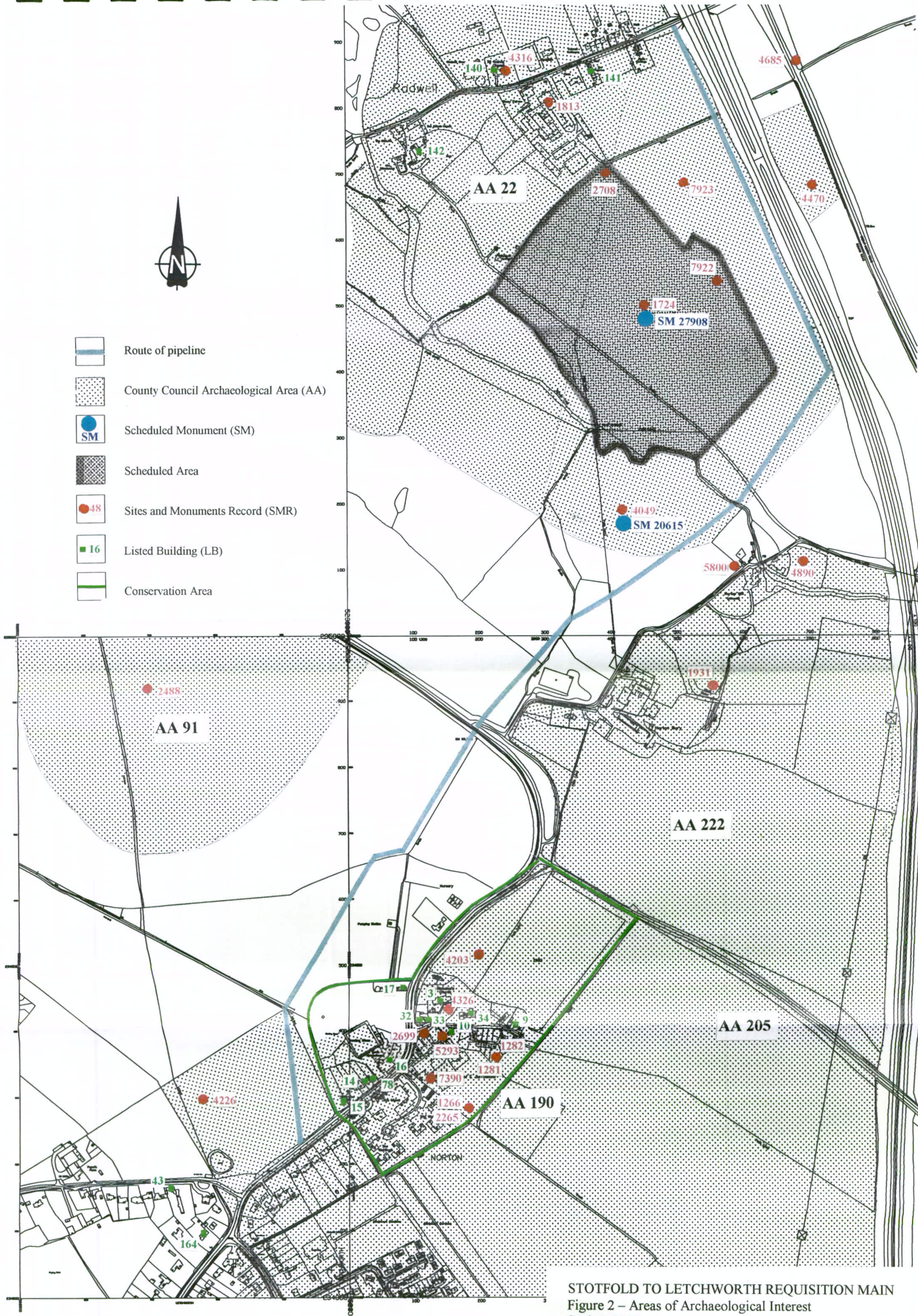
A very small amount of brick and tile was collected (eight sherds). All was post-Roman except for one piece from context 702A, which was definitely Roman, and probably *imbrex* (curved roof tile).

Iron

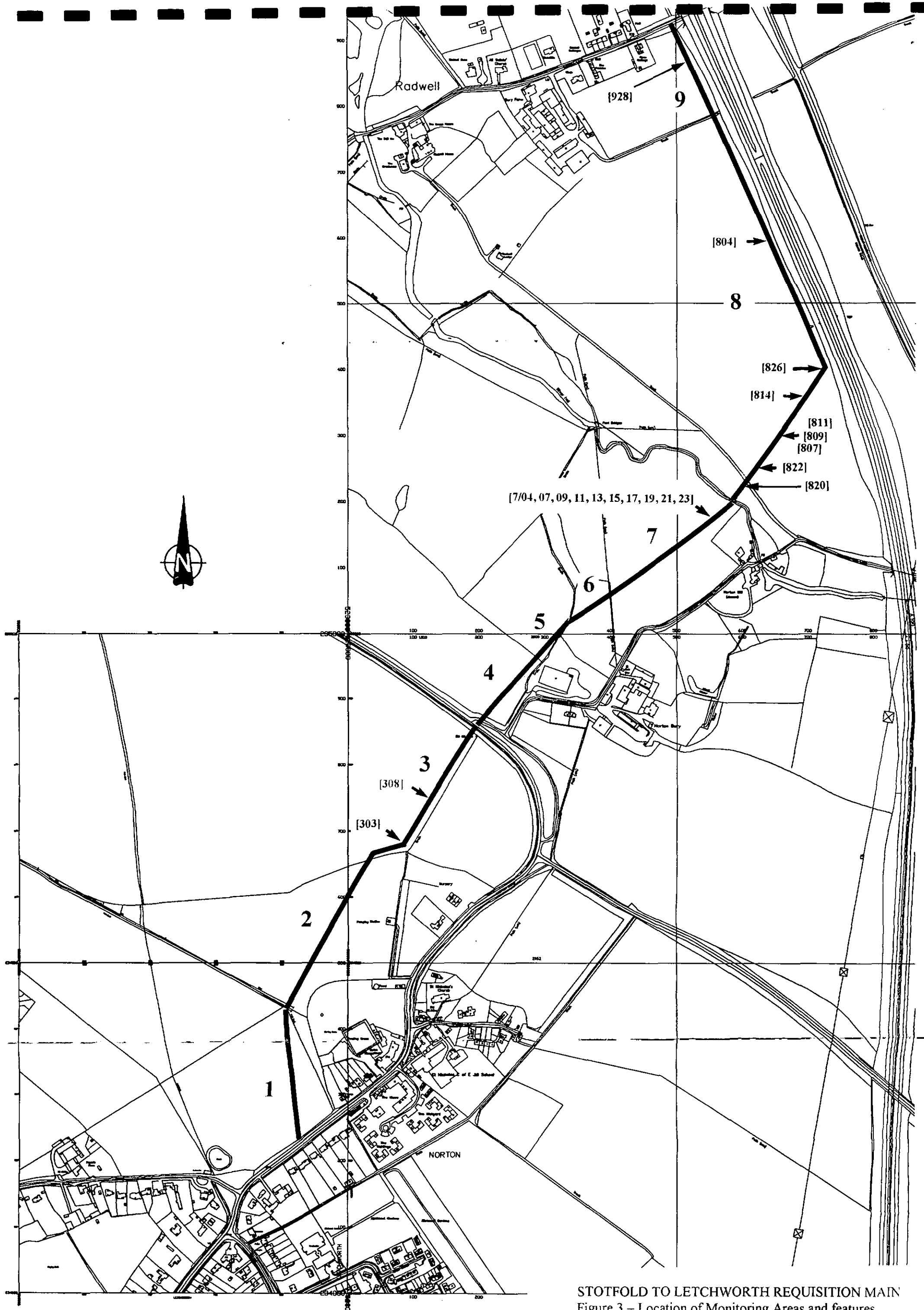
A complete horseshoe, in good condition, with broad branches of unequal width, both with three rectangular nail holes. The nail holes are not countersunk, but probably taper. There is one nail present, but the head shape is not visible. The frog is arched. This would fit into Clark's type 4 in his typology of medieval horseshoes from London (Clark 1995). The type is late medieval, but probably continues into the early post-medieval period. L. 118mm, W. 111mm. 700B (Topsoil)



STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH REQUISITION MAIN
 Figure 1 – Location of Pipeline
 Scale 1:25,000
 January 2001

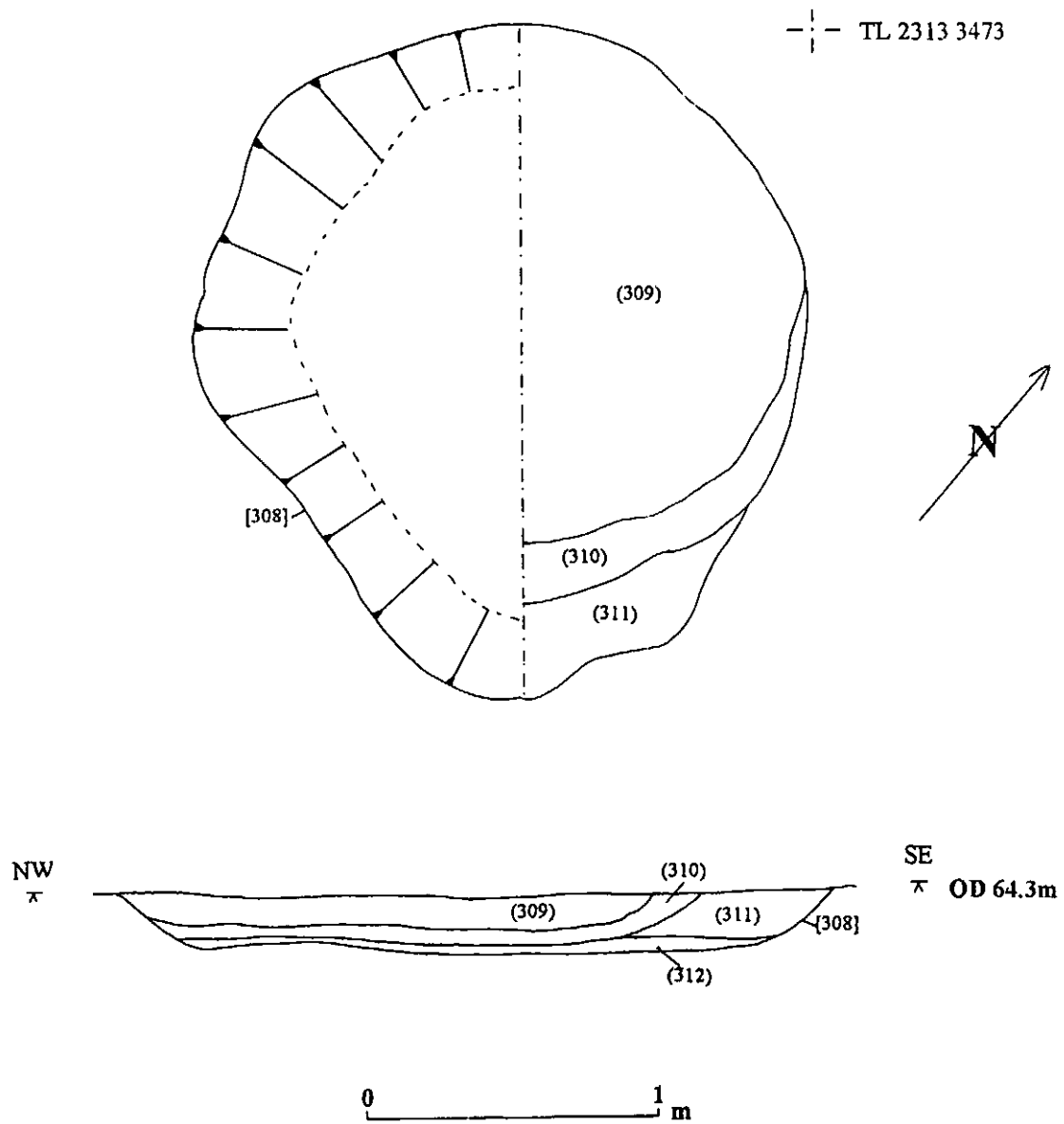


STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH REQUISITION MAIN
 Figure 2 – Areas of Archaeological Interest
 Scale 1:5000
 January 2001



STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH REQUISITION MAIN
 Figure 3 – Location of Monitoring Areas and features
 Scale 1:5000
 January 2001

STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000
Area 3

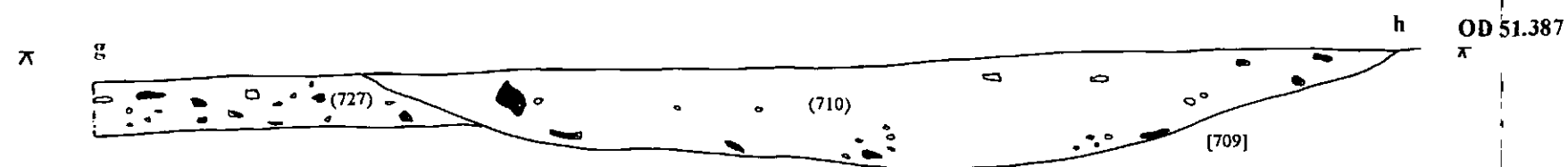
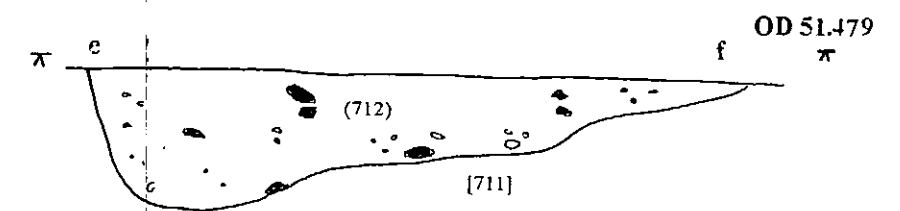
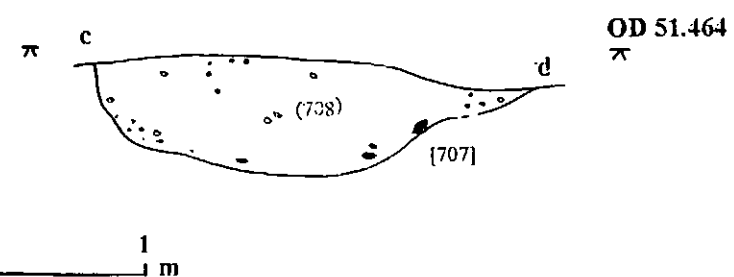
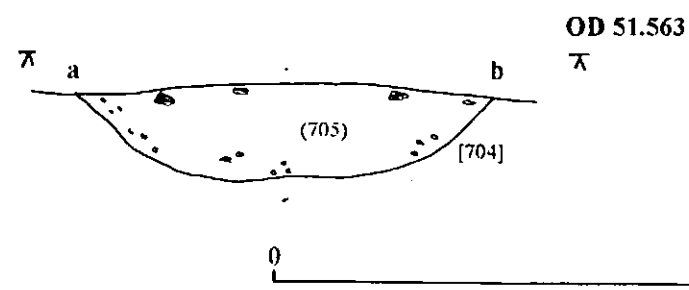
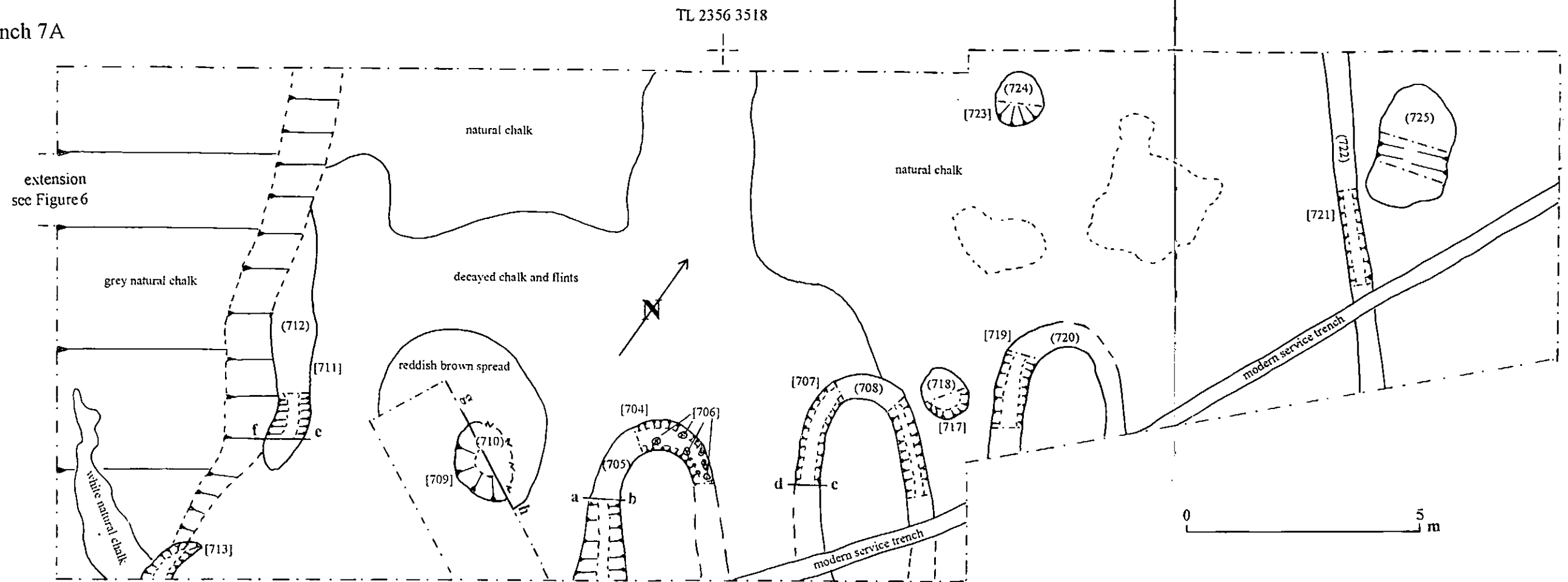


STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH REQUISITION MAIN
Figure 4 – Area 3, Feature [308]
January 2001

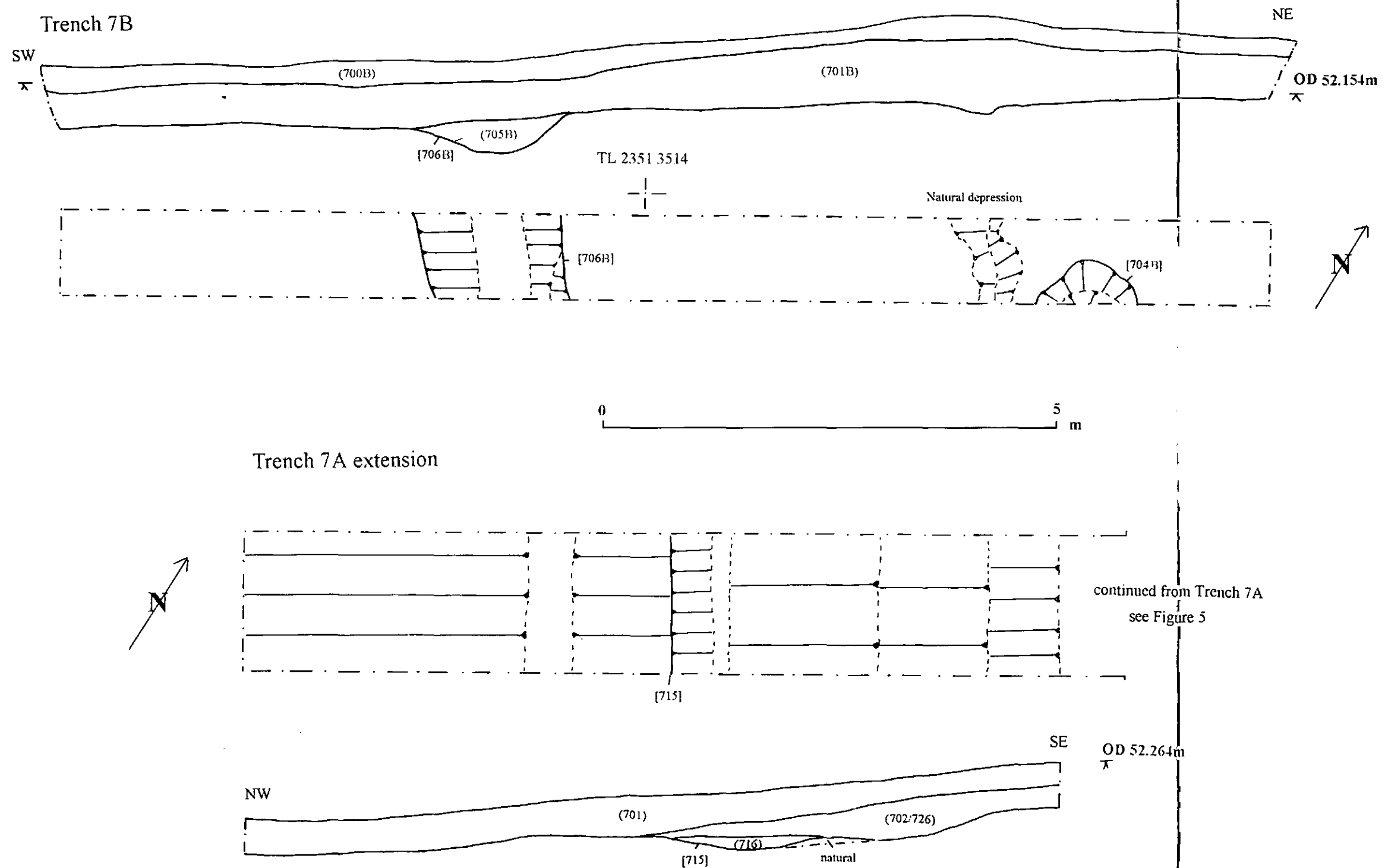
STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000

Area 7

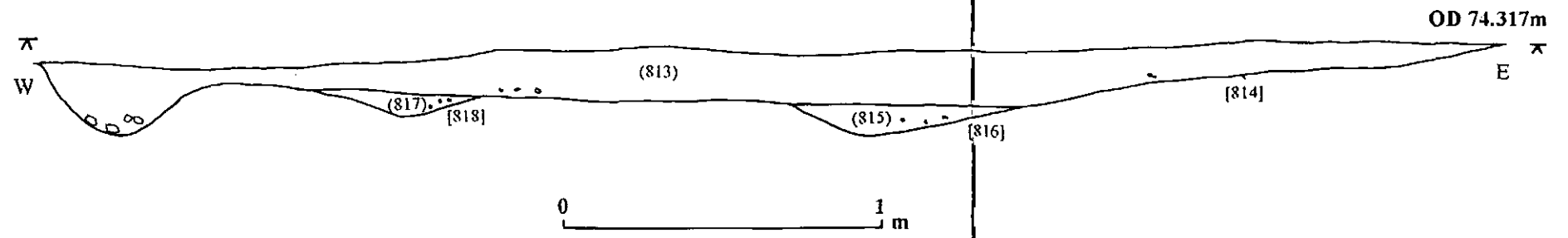
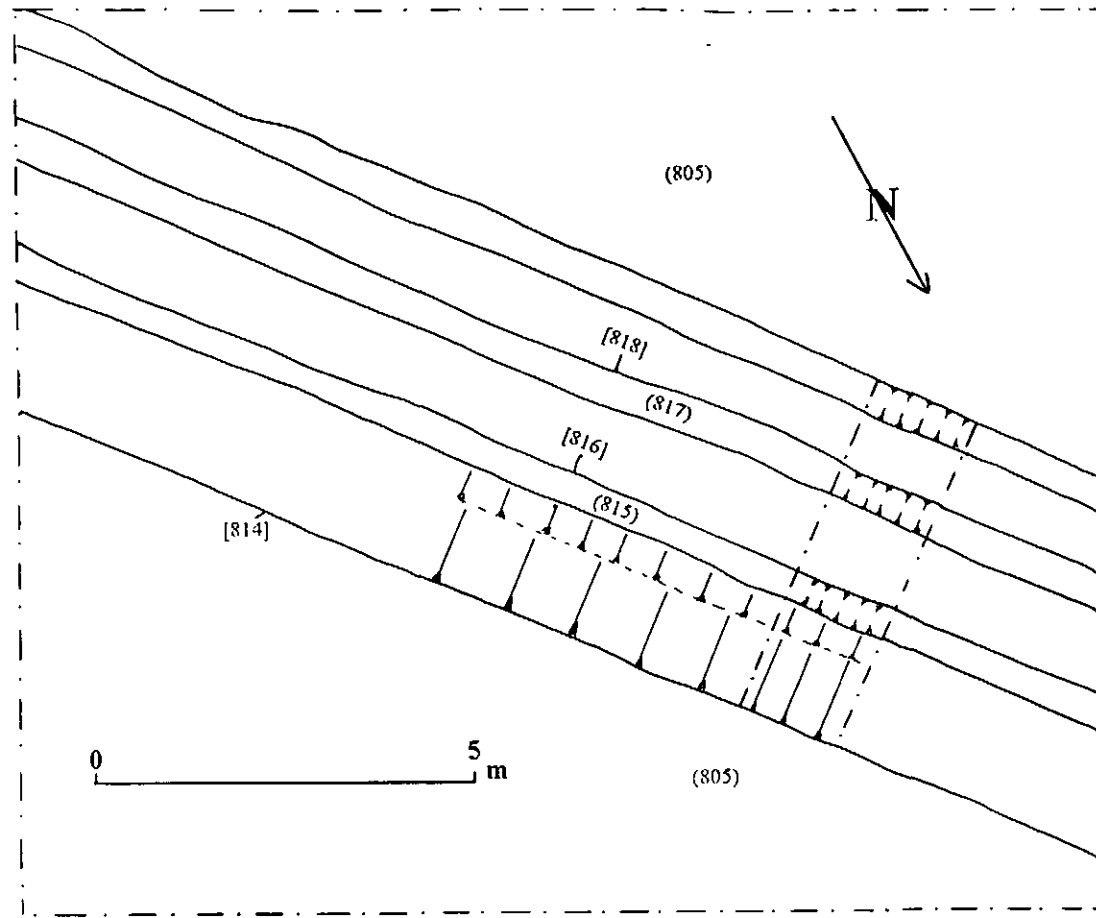
Trench 7A



STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000
Area 7



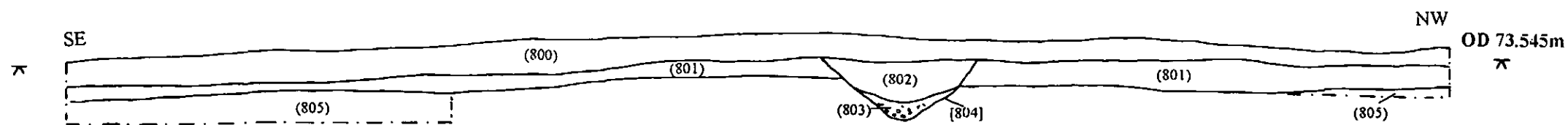
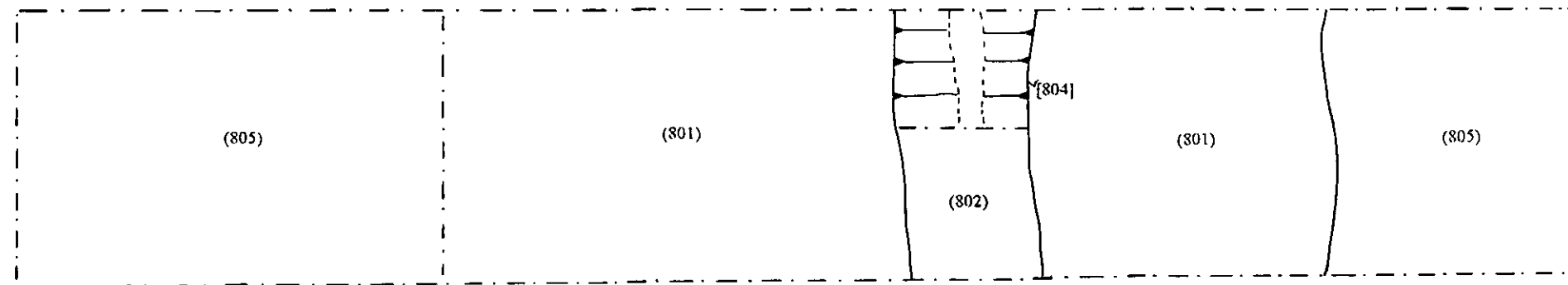
STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000
Area 8



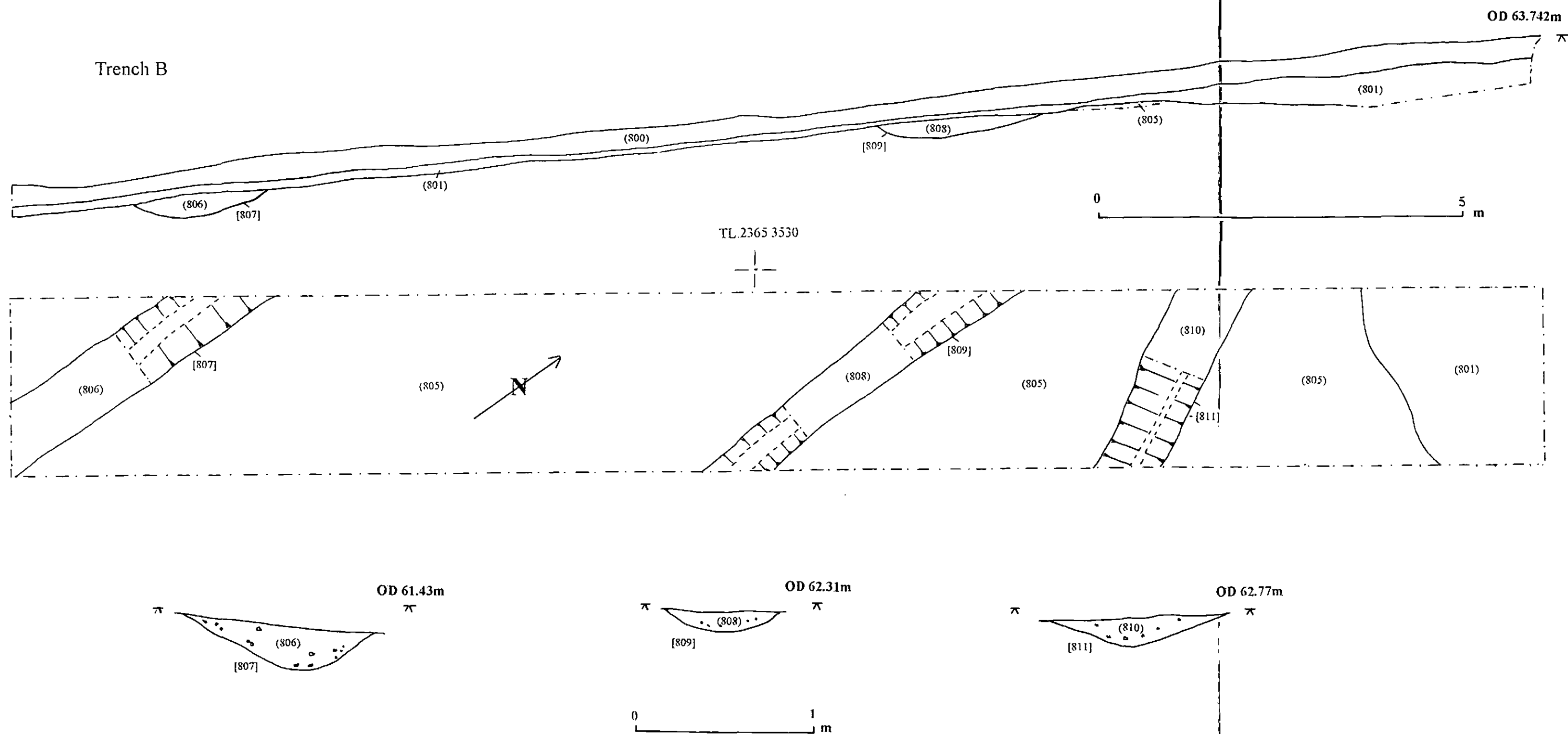
TL 2369 3536

Trench A

TL 2364 3559

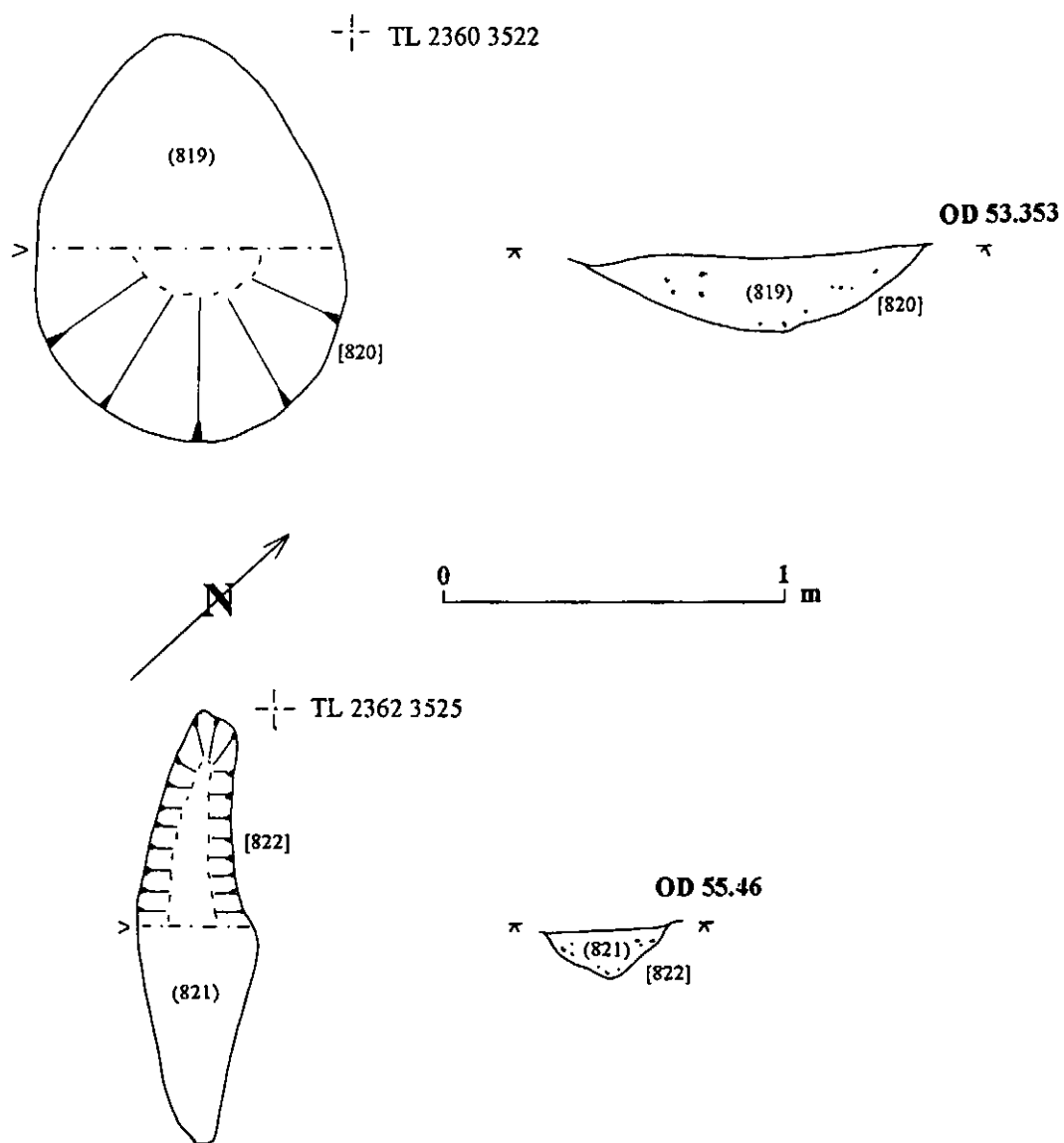


STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000
Area 8



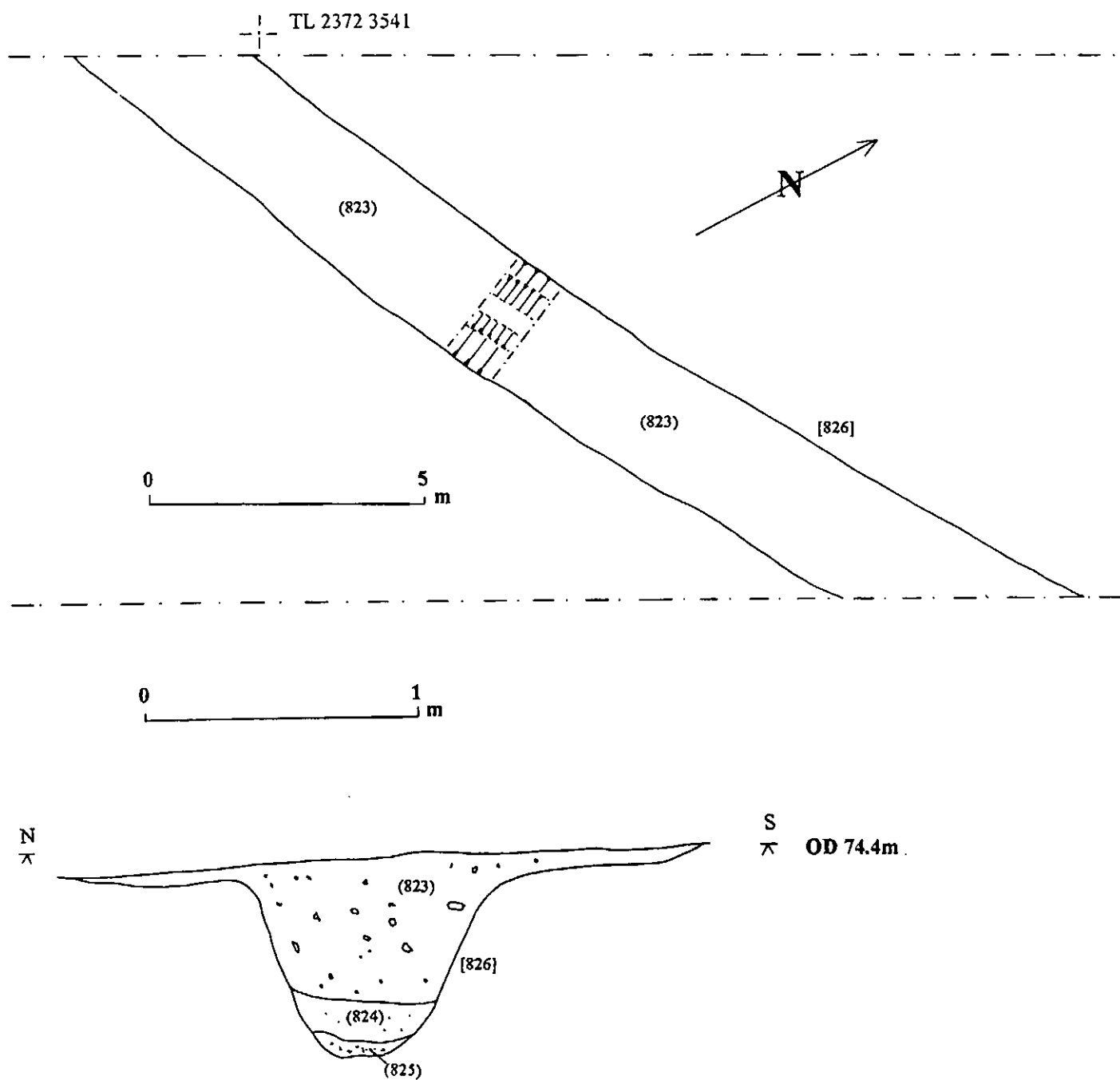
STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000

Area 8



STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000

Area 8



STOTFOLD TO LETCHWORTH 2000

Area 9

