Northern Area - TR23 NW 172.
S. Area - TR23 NW 173.
TR 23 NW 174.
TR 23 NW 175

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT

HAWKINGE AERODROME, HAWKINGE, KENT

(PHASE 1)

(Project No. 1992/49)

by

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 South Eastern Archaeological Services of university College London was commissioned by Mr. M. T. Godfrey of Truck Inns Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the former aerodrome at Hawkinge prior to the proposed redevelopment of the land for housing, and community and retail facilities. The evaluation was to also include the proposed route of the Hawkinge By-pass, owned by Kent County Council, which passes across the site (see Figs. 1-3 for location).

1.2 The evaluation was to be undertaken in two phases. The first phase, which covers the majority of the area, forms the basis of this report. The second phase, yet to be undertaken, will include the south western end of the aerodrome (which was freshly cultivated during the Phase 1 work), and the road-line to the south of the aerodrome. The specification for this work was provided by Dr. J. Williams, County Archaeologist for Kent County Council.

1.3 The site, centred at TR 212 395, is bordered by Killing Wood and Terlingham Manor Farm to the south; Gibraltar Lane to the west, Hawkinge village to the east and Aerodrome road to the north. Although situated on chalk downland, the immediate underlying geology consists of Clay-With-Flints. During the evaluation the Clay-With-Flints was found to vary considerably in colour, flint content and depth below the surface (see below).

1.4 As outlined by the County Archaeologist's specification, with the exception of some prehistoric flintwork (Palaeolithic/Mesolithic), little was previously known of the potential archaeology of the proposed development area. Little archaeological fieldwork has been conducted on the site, even after the abandonment of the airfield and the subsequent reversion of the land to pasture and arable agriculture.

1.5 The aim of the evaluation was to establish the presence/absence, extent, depth below ground surface, date, character and quality of any archaeological remains on the site.

1.6 Phase 1 of the evaluation consisted of cutting in excess of 400 machine excavated trenches within the application area (see Figs. 1-3 for trench locations). This work was undertaken during February 1993.

2. THE EXCAVATIONS: METHODS

2.1 The site was divided into 75m squares within a sample grid. The grid was subsequently divided into three parts: on the west, the grid is aligned with a slight valley (grid squares 1-44A); in the centre the alignment conforms to the National Grid (grid squares 45-103) and to the east it is aligned to the edge of the application area (grid squares 104-153). The sample grid was laid out in the field using a theodolite fitted with an EDM.

2.2 Within each 75m grid square an identical pattern of four 20 x 1.5m trenches (a-d see Figs. 1-3) was subsequently laid out by hand. The pattern of these trenches was agreed with the County Archaeologist and represent a 2% sample of the application area. A few of the planned trenches could not be cut due to lack of space, fencelines or tarmac areas. The trenches within the freshly cultivated area at the western extreme of the site will form part of the second phase of the evaluation.

2.3 The trenches excavated to sample the road line were not laid out on the above grid alignments, but were placed roughly down the centre of the proposed road at 20m intervals. These trenches, also measuring 20 x 1.5m (unless otherwise stated), gave a 2% sample of the proposed road land take. Where the land take widened (i.e. toward the south) extra lines of 20m trenches were added either side of the central line in order to give adequate coverage (Fig. 2).

2.4 All trenches were cut, using three JCB 3CX mechanical excavators fitted with 1.5m wide toothless buckets, to the top of the natural clay or archaeologically rich deposits, whichever was the higher. Some features were very indistinct and required further careful machining to clarify their presence.

2.5 Any features located were cleaned by hand in order to ascertain their edges/exact nature and to retrieve any datable material. Sections were cut (mainly by hand, some by machine) through only a few of the features located.

2.6 The trenches/features were subsequently photographed (using black and white and 35mm colour transparency film), and planned at a scale of 1:50. Sections were drawn at a scale of either 1:10 or 1:20. Archaeological features were documented individually on pre-prepared context record forms. The full set of data forms part of the Site Archive.

2.7 A careful inspection was made in both the trenches and resultant spoilheaps for any archaeological artifacts. Finds are summarised by trench and context on Table 1. Soil samples were taken from a few selected contexts (i.e. the cremation posts in Trench 80b).

2.8 After recording all trenches were backfilled by machine.

3. THE EXCAVATION RESULTS: THE WESTERN GRID

3.1 Trench 8d

Natural clay was located below 28-31cm of topsoil. The natural, which was often disturbed, was cut by a sub oval modern feature, containing slag material, 2m from the north end of the trench. No archaeological features were noted.

3.2 **Trench 9d**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil. No archaeological features were noted.

3.3 **Trench 14d**

Below 30-37cm of topsoil an interface layer of topsoil/natural clay was located. The trench was excavated to a depth of 43cm to expose the natural clay. Some bomb damage was apparent at this level. No archaeological features were noted.

3.4 **Trench 15b**

Below 32-34cm of topsoil natural clay was located. The natural contained irregular bands of grey brown silt clay. These areas were investigated by the excavation of two test pits. The first test pit revealed the silt clay pocket to be 37cm thick over the natural clay. The second test pit failed to relocate the natural Clay-With-Flints at a depth of 100cm from the surface. No finds were located and it is possible the grey brown silt clay areas are natural infill. No archaeological features were noted.

3.5 **Trench 15c**

Natural clay was located below 33cm of topsoil (Context 1). Trench depth: 37cm. No archaeological features were noted.

3.6 **Trench 15d**

Natural clay was located below 31cm of topsoil. Some bomb damage was evident at this level. The trench was excavated to a depth of 47cm. No archaeological features were noted.

3.7 **Trench 16a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (Context 1). No archaeological features were noted.

3.8 **Trench 16b** (Figs 1 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil. With the exception of a modern brick filled land drain (Fig.4) no features were noted.

3.9 **Trenches 16c,d and 17a,b,c and d**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (Context 1). No archaeological features were noted.

3.10 **Trench 18b**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) natural clay was located. The natural was disturbed in many places and was cut 9m from the eastern end of the trench by a modern brick asphalt filled feature 2.1m in diameter (2).

3.11 **Trench 24b**

The topsoil (Context 1) varied between 23-30cm thick over natural clay. Trench depth varied between 25-38cm. No archaeological features were noted.

3.12 **Trench 24c**

Natural red brown clay was located below 28-32cm of topsoil (1). The natural, which showed signs of some disturbance, presumably bomb damage, was investigated to a depth of 24cm in a mechanically cut test pit. No change was noted. With the exception of an E-W field drain no features were noted.

3.13 **Trench 24d**

Natural clay was located below 30-53cm of topsoil (1). Between the outcrops of natural were extensive areas of grey silt clay with chalk pieces. These areas were found to be in excess of 70cm deep and possibly represent infilled bomb craters/airfield levelling. With the exception of a modern E-W field drain no features were noted.

3.14 **Trenches 25a and b**

Natural clay was located below 30-35cm of topsoil (1). No archaeological features were noted.

3.15 **Trench 25c**

Below 30-35cm of topsoil (1) a 'dirty' grey silt clay layer was located. This layer contained modern ironwork and was not investigated further.

3.16 **Trenches 25d and 26a**

Below 30-35cm of topsoil natural clay was located. The natural showed signs of disturbance. No features were located.

3.17 **Trench 26b**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a disturbed natural/subsoil layer was located (2). This layer was excavated to a depth of 50cm from the surface. No finds or features were noted.

3.18 **Trenches 26c and d, 27a,b and c**

Natural clay, sometimes showing signs of disturbance, was located below 24-36cm of topsoil (1). No archaeological features were noted.

3.19 **Trench 27d**

Natural clay, frequently showing signs of disturbance, was located below 27-36cm of topsoil (1). With the exception of a modern N-S field drain no features were noted.

3.20 **Trench 28a** (Figs. 1,4 and 10. Sections AB, CD)

Below 30-39cm of topsoil (1) a layer of orange brown silty clay was located which was found to be the ploughsoil/natural interface. This layer contained a localised spread of Romano-British pottery. At a depth of *circa* 43cm the outline of an associated feature was located (Context 2/3. Figs. 4 and 10. Section AB). This proved to be a probable pit with a mid grey brown silt clay fill containing flint, chalk and charcoal along with more Romano-British pottery. This cut another feature (Context 4/5. Figs. 4 and 10. Section CD) to the south. Context 4/5 contained a similar fill to 2/3 but also included burnt clay and sandstone fragments. Its fill (5) yielded no pottery.

3.21 **Trenches 28b,c,d and 29a**

Natural clay was located below 32-39cm of topsoil (1). No archaeological features were located.

3.22 **Trench 29b**

Natural clay was located below 23-31cm of topsoil (1). A single post-hole (20cm x 16cm x 5cm) of probable modern origin was located 1m from the east end of the trench.

3.23 **Trench 34a**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a layer of medium grey brown silt clay containing some flint, chalk and finds (see Table 1) was located (Context 2). This layer was excavated to a depth of 65cm from the surface. At this level natural clay was exposed in places but 2 dipped deeper in areas presumably into undulations in the clay. No features were noted.

3.24 **Trench 35a**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a layer similar to Context 2 in Trench 34a was located (2). This was excavated to a depth of 47cm for most of the trench. 5m from the west end of the trench a test pit was dug to a depth of 72cm from the surface. The silt clay layer (2) was not bottomed at this level. No features were noted.

3.25 **Trench 35c**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Most of the trench was excavated to a depth of 40cm with the exception of a test pit dug into the natural at the south end of the trench to a depth of 65cm. No archaeological features were noted.

3.26 **Trench 36a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). The natural within the trench was interspaced with irregular hollows filled with a grey brown silt clay. No archaeological features were noted.

3.27 **Trench 36b**

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil (1). The trench was excavated to a depth of 36cm. With the exception of a possible stakehole 4m from the east end of the trench no features were noted.

3.28 **Trench 36c**

Below 30-35cm of topsoil a grey brown silt clay layer was located. This layer was excavated to a depth of 45cm from the surface but yielded no finds. No archaeological features were noted.

3.29 **Trench 36d**

Natural clay was located below 38cm of topsoil (1). The only feature noted was a narrow modern cut running NW-SE across the trench 1 - 3.5m from the north end. Its fill contained a wooden plank.

3.30 **Trench 37a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). A number of shallow scoop and fills were located cutting the clay. All were less than 6cm deep and their fills, which were identical to the ploughsoil, suggest a recent date for their formation. A practise bomb was found embedded in the natural. No archaeological features were located.

3.31 **Trench 37b**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a light to medium grey brown silt clay was located. This layer was excavated in parts to a depth of 75cm from the surface. At about 60cm from the surface the layer became more flinty but no finds were located within it and it is possible it is of natural origin. No features were noted.

3.32 **Trenches 37c and d**

Natural clay was located below 28-32cm of topsoil (1). The trenches were excavated to a depth of 34-39cm. No features were noted.

3.33 **Trench 38a**

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1). With the exception of a few shallow modern scoops in the top of the natural, no features were located. A practise bomb was located within the trench.

3.34 **Trench 38b**

Natural clay was located below 30-33cm of topsoil (1). The trench was excavated to a depth of 38-40cm. Four practise bombs were located within the trench. No features were noted.

3.35 **Trench 38c**

This trench was only 10m long due to the proximity of the freshly ploughed area (Stage 2 area). Natural silt clay, which showed frequent disturbance, was located below 32cm of topsoil (1). With the exception of a roughly NE-SW modern field drain no features were noted.

3.36 **Trench 38d**

Natural clay was located below 34cm of topsoil (1). The trench was dug to a depth of 37cm. Eight+ practise bombs were located embedded in the surface of the natural. No archaeological features were noted.

3.37 **Trench 42a**

Natural clay, with frequent modern disturbance, was located below 31cm of topsoil (1). No archaeological features were located.

4. THE EXCAVATION RESULTS: THE CENTRAL GRID

4.1 **Trench 45b**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil. The trench was excavated to a depth of 36cm. With the exception of a modern stakehole no features were noted.

4.2 **Trench 45c**

Below 27cm of topsoil a reddish grey brown silt clay layer was located. This layer, excavated to a depth of 45cm, produced no finds. No features were noted.

4.3 **Trench 45d**

Natural clay, frequently disturbed with modern material, was located below 23-25cm of topsoil (1). The trench was excavated to a depth of 32-34cm. No features were noted.

4.4 **Trenches 46a,b,c and d**

Natural clay was located below 20-30cm of topsoil (1). The trenches were excavated to a depth of 34-38cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.5 **Trenches 47a and b**

Natural clay was located below 30-38cm of topsoil (1). Trench depths - 43cm. No features were noted.

4.6 **Trench 47c**

Natural clay was located below 31cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 39cm. The natural at the southern end of the trench had been disturbed by 1940's burning and shrapnel. No archaeological features were noted.

4.7 **Trench 47d**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) was a layer of modern rubble and chalk extending 2m from the southern end of the trench. This, presumably represented an infilled bomb crater in the natural clay. No archaeological features were noted.

4.8 **Trenches 48a,b,c and d**

Natural clay was located below 20-30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 33-47cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.9 **Trenches 49a,b,c and d**

Natural clay was located below 28-31cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 33-41cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.10 **Trench 50a**

Natural clay was located below 34cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 46cm. With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

4.11 **Trench 50b**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 37cm. No features were noted.

4.12 **Trenches 50c and d**

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 39cm. With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

4.13 **Trench 51a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 38cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.14 **Trench 51b**

Natural clay was located below 38cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 45cm. With the exception of a modern land drain no features were located.

4.15 **Trench 51c**

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 45cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.16 **Trench 51d**

Natural clay, which showed signs of possible bomb disturbance, was located below 31cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 43cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.17 **Trench 52b**

Natural clay was located below 36cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 40cm. A single feature was located cutting the natural. This consisted of a 28cm wide, 18cm deep linear cut (Context 2) running in a NNW-SSE direction 6m from the west end of the trench. Upon excavation it was revealed to be a modern feature, containing a plank of wood.

4.18 **Trench 55d**

Below 28cm of topsoil (1) a layer of asphalt was revealed. This in turn rested on a compacted layer of chalk pieces which was still present at a depth of 40cm. It is possible this layer represents a hanger base.

4.19 **Trench 56a**

Natural clay was located below 28cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 34cm. No features were noted.

4.20 **Trench 56b and c**

Below 18-25cm of topsoil (1) natural clay was found to be very disturbed with patches of chalk, asphalt, brick rubble and large flint and sandstone pieces. It is likely this disturbance is the result of infilling bomb craters. Trench depth 23 - 30cm.

4.21 **Trench 56d**

Topsoil within this trench was virtually absent as the surface at this point is covered with rubble, asphalt and charred material. Asphalt was present to a depth of 23cm below which was chalk packing down to 33cm. It is possible this is the site of a demolished hanger or heavy bomb damage. No archaeological features were noted.

4.22 **Trench 57a**

The entire length of this trench was disturbed in a similar fashion to Trench 56d. Trench depth 40cm.

4.23 **Trench 57b**

Below 25cm of topsoil (1) modern disturbance, consisting of building rubble, slate, glass etc., was located to a depth in excess of 50cm. At this level the rubble was extremely compacted and the trench was abandoned.

4.24 **Trenches 57c and d**

Natural clay, with slight signs of disturbance, was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 37 - 40cm. No features were noted.

4.25 **Trench 58a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 33cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were located.

4.26 **Trenches 58b and c**

Natural clay was located below 30-34cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 35 - 37cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.27 **Trench 58d**

Natural clay was located below 23cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 31cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.28 **Trenches 59a,b and c**

Natural clay was located below 26-38cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 31 - 43cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.29 **Trench 59d**

Natural clay was located below 29cm of topsoil (1). The natural was disturbed for the southern 11m of the trench by chalk and brick rubble accompanied by signs of burning, probably the result of bomb damage. Trench depth - 38cm. No features were noted.

4.30 **Trench 60a**

Below 30-32cm of topsoil (1) a layer of light-medium brown silt clay was located. This layer was excavated to a depth of 40cm but produced no finds and possibly represents natural silting. A single feature was located cutting this layer 4.5m from the northern end of the trench (Context 2). The northern edge of the feature was marked by a line of burnt clay running E-W across the trench. No southern edge could be defined. Upon excavation the burnt clay line was found to plunge down to the south to a depth of 50cm where it bottomed out. A burnt black layer was also apparent at this depth. The main fill however was identical to the silt clay layer the feature was cut into. It is possible this feature represents an incendiary bomb crater. No finds were located in its fills.

4.31 **Trenches 60b and c**

Below 26-30cm of topsoil (1) natural was located. The natural was slightly disturbed and was excavated to a depth of 30-35cm from the surface. No features were noted.

4.32 **Trench 60d**

Natural clay was located below 25-33cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 33-38cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.33 **Trench 61a**

Natural clay was located below 29-32cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 36cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.34 **Trench 61b**

Below 27cm of topsoil (1) was a grey brown silt clay subsoil. This was excavated to a depth of 37cm from the surface to expose the natural clay. A test pit was excavated to a depth of 60cm into the natural at the western end of the trench. No features were noted.

4.35 **Trench 61c**

Below 45cm of 'disturbed' topsoil (1) disturbed natural clay was located. The disturbance in the clay disappeared at a depth of 80cm from the surface. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.36 **Trench 61d**

Natural clay, with slight signs of disturbance, was located below 25cm of topsoil. Trench depth - 31cm. No features were noted.

4.37 **Trench 62a**

Below 34-36cm of topsoil (1) the natural clay was found to be very disturbed with inclusions of asphalt etc. between 3-7m from the northern end of the trench. This disturbance petered out at a depth of 55cm below the surface and probably represents bomb damage. The natural in the rest of the trench was undisturbed. No features were noted.

4.38 **Trenches 62b and c**

Natural clay was located below 28-35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 35 - 43cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.39 **Trench 62d** (Figs. 2,4 and 10. Sections E-F, G-H)

Natural clay was located below 39cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 45-50cm. Cutting the natural were two features (Fig.4). The first was a wide ditch with gently sloping sides (Context 2). The ditch was sectioned by machine and was found to contain two fills (Contexts 3 and 4. Fig 10. Section G-H). The upper fill (3), of mid grey brown silt clay, contained a number of sherds of Iron Age and Romano-British pottery. The lower fill (4) consisted of a mid orange brown clay but contained no finds. To the north, the second feature consisted of a smaller ditch running parallel to 2. This ditch (Context 5) was sectioned by hand (Fig. 10. Section E-F) and its fill (Context 6) of mid grey brown silt clay, also produced Romano-British pottery.

4.40 **Trench 63a**

Natural clay was located below 29-34cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 39cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.41 **Trench 63b** (Figs 2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 37-40cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 43cm. Cutting the natural clay were three features (Contexts 2/3, 4/5 and 6/7. Fig. 4). Contexts 2 and 4 were two possible pits. Their fills, (3 and 5) which were unexcavated, were both similar, being mid grey brown silt clays with flint pieces and charcoal flecks. Neither produced any finds. The third feature, Context 6, consisted of a pit cut running under the south edge of the trench. Partial excavation of its mid grey brown silt clay fill (Context 7), produced several sherds of Romano-British and Iron Age pottery.

4.42 **Trench 63c** (Figs.2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 35-40cm of topsoil (1) and topsoil/natural interface. A possible ditch was located cutting the natural near the northern end of the trench (Context 2. Fig.4). Its fill (Context 3) of dull grey brown silt clay produced a number of Romano-British (R-B) pottery sherds (including a pottery spindle whorl) when it was cleaned. To the north of 2/3 was an area of mid grey brown silt loam

which contained large quantities of Iron Age and R-B pottery (Context 4). No definable edge could be found around the spread and it is possible it represents occupation levels.

4.43 **Trench 63d** (Figs.2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1) and 10cm of topsoil/natural interface. The natural in the trench varied considerably (Fig.4). The only feature located was a small 10cm deep post-hole (Context 2). Its fill of dark grey brown/black silt clay contained a high percentage of charcoal but when sectioned produced no finds.

4.44 **Trench 66b**

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) a mixed/disturbed layer was encountered to a depth of 40cm. This rested over natural clay which was disturbed to a depth of 65cm. Trench depth - 79cm. With the exception of modern drains (located at a depth of 69cm) no features were noted.

4.45 **Trench 66c**

Below 35cm of topsoil (1) was a mixed orange clay/brown silt clay layer (Context 2). This rested on the natural clay, which itself was slightly disturbed, at a depth of 42cm from the surface. Trench depth - 60cm. No features were noted.

4.46 **Trench 66d**

Natural silt clay was located below 17-19cm of topsoil (1) and a layer of chalk rubble. At the north end of the trench a test pit was excavated 75cm into the natural. No finds were made. No features were noted.

4.47 **Trenches 67a and b**

Below 15-20cm of topsoil (1) the trenches were found to be covered by a compact layer of chalk, asphalt, burnt wood, bricks, flint and sandstone etc. This layer gave way to 'dirty' natural clay at a depth of 33cm from the surface. No archaeological features were noted.

4.48 **Trench 67c**

The entire length of the trench was found to contain modern disturbance in the form of chalk and brick rubble etc. The trench was dug to a depth of 50-80cm but no undisturbed levels were located. No archaeological features were located.

4.49 **Trench 67d**

Below 22cm of topsoil a compacted layer of chalk, coke etc. was located. This modern disturbance layer proved too compacted for the mechanical excavator and the

trench was subsequently abandoned.

4.50 **Trench 68a**

At the northern end of the trench a test pit was excavated to study the stratigraphy at this point. The results were as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-30cm; light orange grey silt clay 30-50cm; light grey silt clay with chalk pieces 50-70cm; light tan grey silt clay 70-106cm+. It is possible this sequence could represent an infilled bomb crater. The remainder of the trench also showed signs of modern disturbance with chalk rubble and drain trenches. No archaeological features were located.

4.51 **Trenches 68b and c**

Disturbed natural, containing brick fragments etc. was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). The disturbance was found to peter out at a depth of 50cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.52 **Trench 68d**

Natural clay was located below 17cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 32cm. With the exception of a modern concrete drain, no features were noted.

4.53 **Trench 69a**

Below 35cm of topsoil (1) was a layer of grey orange silt clay. A test pit was excavated into this layer 2m from the northern end of the trench. The layer was found to be in excess of 60cm deep and produced no finds. No features were located.

4.54 **Trench 69b** (Figs. 2 and 4)

Below 30-33cm of topsoil (1) a mid grey browns silt clay layer was located containing Romano-British pottery. The area of pottery finds was quite defined suggested the presence of a feature (Fig. 4. Context 2) but despite careful cleaning no definite edges could be located. To the east of the pottery scatter a test pit was excavated to study the stratigraphy of this area. The results were as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-30/33cm, (2) subsoil 50-67/74cm; (4) very sticky compact Clay-With-Flint 67/74-135cm+.

4.55 **Trenches 69c, d and 70a**

Natural clay was located below 28-38cm of topsoil (1). Trench depths 40-46cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.56 **Trench 70b**

Natural clay was located below 34cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 48cm (including subsoil). With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

4.57 **Trenches 70c and d**

Natural clay was located below 30-40cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 40-50cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.58 **Trench 71a**

Below 32cm of topsoil (1) a grey silt clay layer/subsoil was located. This layer (2) contained odd pieces of coal and asphalt and was excavated to a depth of 50cm. Natural clay was exposed at this depth except for the northern 3m of the trench were 2 persisted to a greater, unknown depth.

4.59 **Trench 71b**

Natural clay, with signs of disturbance, was located below 27cm of topsoil (1) and 12cm of subsoil (2). Trench depth - 60cm. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were found.

4.60 **Trench 71c**

Natural clay was located below 36cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 41cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.61 **Trench 71d**

Natural clay, with extensive modern disturbance, was located below 28cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 40cm. With the exception of a modern drain no features were located.

4.62 **Trench 72a**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a mid grey/orange brown silt clay layer was located (2). This layer was excavated to a depth of 90cm where it became flint filled. No finds were located within 2 and it was assumed that the layer was natural. No features were noted.

4.63 **Trench 72b**

Natural clay was located below 28cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 37-45cm. No features were noted.

4.64 **Trench 72c** (Figs. 2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 34cm. A band of grey brown silt clay, possible representing a ditch, was located cutting the natural (Fig. 4. Context 2). A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was located in the top of this fill.

4.65 **Trench 72d**

Natural clay was located below 42cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 50cm. No features were noted.

4.66 **Trench 73a**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a light-medium orange brown silt clay layer was located (2). Its depth varied, usually being bottomed at a depth of 40cm but sometimes it dipped into the natural clay (3) to a depth of 60cm from the surface. No features were noted.

4.67 **Trench 73b**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 35cm. No features were noted.

4.68 **Trench 73c** (Figs. 2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 32-35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 37cm. Cutting the natural were two features (Context 2, 3/4. Fig.4). Context 2, consisted of a wide band of dull grey brown silt clay with odd chalk and charcoal flecks. Although the edges were often difficult to define it is likely this feature represents a ditch. A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was located in 2. To the north was a circular pit (3). The fill (4), of grey brown silt clay, yielded no finds. Both features were unexcavated.

4.69 **Trench 73d** (Figs. 2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil (1) and 10cm of subsoil. Trench depth 46cm. Two features were located cutting the natural (Contexts 2/3 and 4/5. Fig.4). Context 2 consisted of a well defined ditch. Its fill (3) of mid grey brown silt clay, yielded several large sherds of Early Iron Age pottery when the feature was cleaned (Fig. 12. No.1). Context 4, again possibly a ditch, was much harder to define without excavation. Its fill (5), of similar nature to 3, yielded a number of R-B pottery sherds.

4.70 **Trench 74a** (Figs. 2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 40cm. Cutting the natural was a linear feature (Context 2. Fig.4). The fill, of mid grey brown silt clay, produced no finds. It is possible this feature is of natural occurrence but this could not be proved without excavation. The natural within the trench proved to be very variable. A 70cm deep test pit was excavated close to the north end of the trench but revealed no archaeological material.

4.71 **Trench 74b**

Natural clay was located below 33-35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 41cm. No

archaeological features were noted.

4.72 **Trench 74c** (Figs. 2 and 4)

Natural clay was located below 31-35cm of topsoil (1) and 12cm of topsoil/natural interface. Trench depth 50cm. A number of features were located cutting the natural within the trench (Contexts 2-9. Fig.4). The northern most feature, (2/3) consisted of a small pit (2) with a medium to dark brown silt clay fill (3) which yielded several sherds of R-B pottery. To the south was an ill-defined linear cut, presumably a ditch (4). Its fill, of medium grey brown silt clay (5), produced several sherds of Iron Age and Romano-British date. This was bordered (and overlain?) to the south by a layer of densely packed small flint pieces ranging in size from 2-8cm (Context 6). It is possible this irregular layer is the remains of a cobbled surface. The flint layer was cut by an indistinct pit (9) which produced no finds. Further to the south was another ditch (7). Its fill, of mid-dark grey brown silt clay, yielded a number of sherds of R-B pottery. None of the above features were excavated.

4.73 **Trench 74d** (Figs.2, 5 and 10. Section IJ. Plate I)

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1) and 5cm of topsoil/natural interface. Trench depth 40-50cm. Cutting the natural within the trench were a number of features (Context Nos. 2-6. Figs.5 and 10). Contexts 2 and 3, representing post-holes/small pits had similar grey brown silt clay fills. Neither produced any finds during cleaning. Context 4, a linear feature to the north of 3, also failed to produce any finds. To the north of 4 was a circular pit (5) containing a large part of a collapsed Early Iron Age rusticated pot within its dark grey brown silt clay fill (Fig.10. Section IJ. Plate I). Above the darker fill was a lighter brown fill which was not recognised during machining. The highest sherd of Iron Age pottery was just below the topsoil interface (pot B. Fig.10. Section IJ). Above this level R-B pottery was present (pot A. Fig.10. Section IJ). A layer of charcoal and burnt clay was present at the base of the pit. Some of this was collected for environmental sampling. The final feature noted was a ditch filled with a dark grey brown silt clay (Context 6. Fig. 5). A number of Iron Age and R-B sherds were collected from the surface of 6.

4.74 **Trench 75a** (Figs. 2,5 and 10. Section KL)

This trench measured 17m long due to the proximity of the freshly ploughed area (which will make up Phase 2 of the assessment). Natural clay was located below 35-45cm of topsoil/subsoil (1). A number of features were located cutting the natural within the trench (Context nos. 2-7. Fig.5). Context 2 was a small pit/post-hole which, when sectioned, its fill of dark grey brown silt clay (3), yielded Iron Age and R-B pottery (Fig.10. Section KL). To the north was a large cut (4) with a mid brown grey silt clay fill (5). Part of this feature was excavated by machine which showed it to be in excess of 30cm deep and filled with small abraded Iron Age and R-B pottery sherds. Two further machine cuts at right angles to the trench (Fig.5) showed the feature to extend considerably further to the east. It is possible the feature may represent an infilled terrace or pond. At the north end of the trench was another cut (6) Its fill, of mid grey silt clay (7) contained small pottery flecks.

4.75 **Trench 75b** (Figs. 2 and 5)

Below 49cm of topsoil and subsoil (1) natural clay was located. A number of features were noted within the trench (Context nos. 2-9. Fig.5). Three pits with indistinct edges were found running under the southern edge of the Trench (2/3, 4, 5/6). Their fills were all similar, being a mid-dark grey brown silt clay with flint pieces and chalk and charcoal flecks. Most, although unexcavated, produced some Romano-British pottery. To the east was a further pit (8/9) with a mid grey brown silt clay fill. No finds were located in this feature. To the east of 8/9 was an irregular cut and fill (7). The fill, of mid grey brown silt clay, produced a single piece of worked flint when it was cleaned. Even after cleaning the edges of this feature were very indistinct.

4.76 **Trench 75c** (Figs. 2 and 5)

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil. Trench depth - 40cm. Apart from a modern drain cut (4. Fig. 5) a single ditch cut was located (2. Fig.5). Its fill, of mid grey brown silt clay (3), produced a single sherd of R-B pottery when cleaned. Both features cut natural clay.

4.77 **Trench 75d**

No distinct topsoil was located within the trench. Modern disturbance, containing barbed wire, bricks, flint and chalk was found to go to a depth in excess of 70cm in places. It seems likely this whole area has been disturbed for use as an agricultural dump.

4.78 **Trench 77a** (Figs. 2 and 5. Plate II)

Below 40cm of topsoil and modern asphalt (1) a medium red grey brown silt clay layer was located. Between 2-6m from the south end of the trench a stepped test pit was excavated to study this layer. The silt clay layer was found to extend to a depth in excess of 75cm from the surface. It contained no finds and was thus deemed to be natural. To the north of the test pit a number of features were located cutting the silt clay layer (Context nos. 2-5. Fig. 5). Their fills were all of a medium grey brown silt clay and were often only distinguished from the natural during machining by the presence of pottery. The edges of these features proved fairly irregular after cleaning by hand and it is possible they represent a number of intercutting pits and ditches. This could not be proved without excavation however. Context 2 contained a dump of Romano-British pots (Fig. 5 I-V and Plate II). Many of these pots were present in large reconstructible pieces (Fig.13. Nos. 1-2). During the removal of these pots the base of the feature was noted at a depth of *circa* 12cm suggesting the depth of 2 is not great. To the north Context 3 and 5 also produced R-B pottery. 5 was distinguished from 3 by a noticeable area of burnt clay and charcoal. At the north end of the trench was a ditch (4). Its fill, of light-medium grey brown silt clay, contained tiny fragments of R-B pottery.

4.79 **Trench 77c**

The entire length of the trench was found to be disturbed with a compacted layer of asphalt, chalk and brick rubble. Trench depth 30 -40cm. No archaeological features were located.

4.80 **Trench 78a and b**

Below 20-25cm of topsoil (1) a number of disturbed modern layers containing brick, chalk, asphalt and flint were located to a depth in excess of 53cm. A test pit excavated at the north end of Trench 78a revealed these disturbed layers to extend to a depth of 90cm. At this level clean natural clay was located. No archaeological features were noted.

4.81 **Trench 78c**

Below 24cm of topsoil (1) a compact orange clay redeposited natural layer was located 92). This rested on a mixed grey silt clay layer which extended from 48-68cm from the surface (3). This layer rested on orange brown clay (4) which was excavated to a depth of 115cm. No finds were made in 4 and it is likely to represent natural. No features were noted.

4.82 **Trench 78d** (Fig. 2 only)

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) an 8cm thick layer of orange brown silt clay was located (2). This rested on a dark brown grey layer (3) which rested on natural clay at a depth of 52-59cm. With the exception of a modern drain the only feature located consisted of an irregular linear cut and fill (Contexts 4 and 5). The fill (5), of mid-dark grey brown silt clay, although unexcavated produced several sherds of R-B pottery.

4.83 **Trench 79a**

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) a disturbed rubble layer was located (2). At a depth of 30cm this layer gave way to a layer of mid grey brown silt clay (3) which rested on natural clay at a depth of 80cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.84 **Trench 79b**

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) and 5cm of orange clay (2) a grey brown silt clay layer was located (3). This rested on natural clay, which was located at a depth of 40cm. With the exception of a modern drain and post-hole (?) no features were found.

4.85 **Trench 79c** (Figs. 2, 5 and 10. Section NM)

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a mid grey brown silt clay layer was located (2). This rested on a dark grey brown silt clay layer (3) which in turn rested on an orange brown silt clay layer (4). This rested on natural clay which was located at a depth of 76cm from the surface (Fig.10. Section N-M). Cutting the natural were two features

(Contexts 5 and 7. Fig.5). Both features had similar fills, of dark grey brown silt clay although only 5 produced R-B pottery. To the north of 5 was a layer of orange brown silt clay (6) containing large amounts of R-B pottery. Despite cleaning, no feature could be located associated with the pottery and its relationship to 5 remains unascertained. A modern land drain was also located in the trench.

4.86 **Trench 79d** (Figs.2, 6 and 10. Section O-P)

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) and 20cm of subsoil (2) natural clay was located, the northern 8m of which has been disturbed in recent times. Cutting the natural clay were three linear features (Contexts 3, 4/5 and 6/7. Fig. 6 and Fig. 10. Section O-P). All three features are likely to represent ditches. Context 3 was unexcavated, however its fill, of mid orange brown silt clay yielded R-B pottery. Contexts 4 and 6 had similar fills (5 and 7) of medium grey brown silt clay. Both were sectioned by machine to reveal their profiles (Fig.10 Section O-P). Only 5 produced R-B pottery.

4.87 **Trench 80a**

Below 24-27cm of topsoil (1) a grey brown silt clay layer containing large quantities of R-B pottery was located. No features were found associated with the pottery spread. 10m from the south end of the trench 2 was mechanically removed in shallow spits to a depth of 45cm. The pottery noticeably decreased in quantity at a depth of 40cm. This corresponded with a colour change in 2, which became lighter brown. This layer was excavated to 57cm but no further pottery was located below 42cm and it is likely the lighter layer represents a silty natural.

4.88 **Trench 80b** (Figs 2,6 and 10. Section Q-R. Plate III)

Below 28cm of topsoil (1) a mid grey brown silt clay layer containing frequent sherds of R-B pottery was located (2). (Most of these finds came from the central area of the trench). Two test pits were subsequently excavated at both the west and east ends of the trench to ascertain the depth of 2. Natural clay was located in the test pits at a depth of 48-60cm below the surface. A ditch (4) was located cutting the natural in the eastern test pit. This was partially excavated by machine and its fill of mid brown grey silt clay produced several sherds of R-B pottery (Fig.6 and Fig.10. Section Q-R). The central section of the trench was mechanically excavated in shallow spits through 2 to a depth of 40-45cm. At this level two features became apparent (3 and 5. Fig.6). Context 5 consisted of a loose setting of flint nodules in a matrix of 2. The flints seemed to be irregularly set and their function remains unascertained. Context 3 consisted of a Romano-British cremation burial containing four pottery vessels (Plate III). The largest pot, of fine greyware (pot I), contained cremated human and animal bone and was accompanied by a crushed grey fineware flagon (pot II), a small black sandy jar (pot III), (Fig. 13.No.3) and a samian bowl (pot IV) of form 18/31. The date of the burial, based on the samian vessel, would appear to be 2nd century A.D. Despite careful cleaning no cut for the cremation could be found.

4.89 **Trenches 80c and d**

Natural clay was located below 20-25cm of topsoil (1) and 25cm of subsoil (2).

Trench depths 50 - 60cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.90 **Trench 81a**

Natural, showing some signs of disturbance, was located below 30cm of topsoil. Trench depth - 40cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.91 **Trench 81b** (Figs.2,6 and 10. Sections S-T,U-V,X-W)

Below 30-34cm of topsoil (1) a mid brown grey layer (subsoil) was located (Context 8. Fig.10. Section X-W). This rested on intermittent layers (9 and 10. Fig. 10. Section XW) which rested in turn on natural clay, which was located 50-60cm below the surface. A number of features were located cutting the natural (Context Nos. 2-5 and 7. Fig.6). Context 2 consisted of a circular cut and fill, possibly a post-hole. The feature was filled with a mid grey brown silt clay containing frequent large flint and sandstone pieces to 40cm. No finds were located with 2 and its date remains unascertained. Just to the south east was a shallow scoop (3). When sectioned its fill produced no finds (Fig.10. Section S-T). A similar feature was located further to the east (4) (Figs.6 and 10. Section U-V). Two ditches were also located (5 and 7). The mid brown grey fill (5) contained R-B pottery. Further east, the second ditch (7), with a fill of dark grey brown silt clay also produced R-B pottery. Between the two ditches was a light orange brown silt clay layer (6) containing tile and charcoal flecks. It is possible this represents an occupation layer.

4.92 **Trench 81c**

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1) and 25cm of mid grey brown silt clay subsoil (2). No features were noted.

4.93 **Trench 81d** (Figs.2 and 6)

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil (1) and 28cm of subsoil. Two possible features were located cutting the natural clay (Contexts 2 and 3. Fig.6). Both features, possibly representing ditches, were filled with a medium grey silt clay. Neither produced any finds although pot/charcoal flecks were present. These could however have been deposited through worm activity which was very noticeable at the site. It is possible these features could be naturally filled undulations in the clay, however, without excavation this could not be ascertained.

4.93 **Trench 82a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 36cm. With the exception of two modern land drains no features were noted.

4.94 **Trenches 82b,c, and d**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1) and 30-40cm of orange brown silt clay subsoil (2). Natural was excavated to a depth of 80cm in a test pit within the trench. No features were noted.

4.95 **Trench 83a**

Natural, showing some signs of disturbance, was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 40-49cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.96 **Trenches 83b and c**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1) and 30cm of subsoil (2). No archaeological features were noted.

4.97 **Trench 83d** (Figs 2,6 and 10. Section Y-Z)

Below 36-40cm of topsoil natural clay was located. At the north end of the trench a pit was noted (2 Fig.6 and 10. Section Y-Z). The feature was partially excavated by machine. The fill (3) of medium to dark grey brown silt clay contained a noticeable band of charcoal but produced no finds.

4.98 **Trench 84a**

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 39cm. No features were noted.

4.99 **Trench 84b** (Figs.2 and 6)

Below 30cm of topsoil an orange brown silt clay subsoil was located (2). This rested on natural clay which was found to lie at a depth of 55-60cm. Two patches of grey brown silt clay were noted in the natural (Contexts 4 and 5. Fig.6). A test pit was excavated through 5 but the spread's nature was not ascertained. Neither feature produced any pottery.

4.100 **Trench 84c** (Figs.2 and 6)

Below *circa* 50cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) natural clay was located. Two shallow irregular features containing charcoal were found cutting the natural clay (Fig.6. Context 4). No finds were found associated with these features.

4.101 **Trench 84d** (Fig.2 only)

Natural clay was located below 48cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A single post-hole (3) was found cutting natural 9m from the north end of the trench, running under the east section. When sectioned 3 proved to be in excess of 9cm and produced Iron Age pottery.

4.102 **Trench 85a**

Natural clay with silt patches was located below 35-40cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 45cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.103 **Trench 85b** (Figs.2, 6 and 10. Section A2-B2)

Below 38cm of topsoil (1) a mid grey brown silt clay layer was located (2). This layer contained large amounts of Iron Age pottery at the western end of the trench although no associated feature could be found. To the east of the pottery scatter the trench was excavated deeper, through 2, to locate the natural clay which was found at a depth of 45-55cm below the surface. Two features were found to cut the natural (3 and 4. Fig.6). Context 3 proved to be an irregular shaped feature with a grey brown fill. Although unexcavated it yielded Iron Age pottery from its surface. Context 4 consisted of a post-hole with a similar fill to 3. (Fig.10. Section A2-B2).

4.104 **Trench 85c** (Figs.2,6 and 10. Section C2-D2)

Natural clay was located below 31-35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 40cm. Two features were found cutting the natural within the trench (Fig.6. Contexts 4 and 5). Context 5 consisted of a circular pit with at least two distinctive fills (2 and 3. Fig.10. Section C2-D2). The upper fill (2), of grey brown silt clay produced R-B pottery, while the lower dark grey brown fill (3) produced no finds. The feature was not fully excavated. At the south end of the trench was another pit (4). When sampled, its fill of light-medium brown silt clay yielded large sherds of both coarse and fine ware pottery dating to the Early Iron Age. At least three vessels were represented; two shouldered jars and an angular bowl with flaring rim, finished with haematite slip. (Fig.12. Nos.2-4). A fired clay rod was also found (possibly kiln furniture), along with an iron ard tip (Fig.14). Both these finds were wedged in the pit with the pottery.

4.105 **Trench 85d** (Figs.2 and 6)

Natural clay was located below 45cm of topsoil/subsoil (1). A single feature was noted within the trench. (Context 2. Fig.6). The fill, of mid grey brown silt clay, although unexcavated, produced some sherds of Iron Age pottery.

4.106 **Trench 86a**

Below 35cm of topsoil (1) a number of disturbed layers were located to a depth of 50cm. Below this level a mid grey silt clay layer was found. This silt clay layer rested on undisturbed natural which was found to be at a depth of 80-90cm from the surface. With the exception of two modern drain cuts no features were noted.

4.107 **Trench 87a** (Figs. 2,6 and 10. Section E2-F2)

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) an extensive layer of bomb disturbance was found overlaying a thick subsoil (Fig.10. Section E2-F2). Natural clay was located at a depth of 80cm below the surface. The whole length of the trench was not excavated down to this depth due to compacted rubble and phosphorous spreads being uncovered. One feature was found cutting the natural (Fig.6. Context 2). Its fill, of mid grey brown silt clay yielded several sherds of R-B pottery.

4.108 **Trench 87c** (Figs.2 and 6. Plate IV)

Below 25cm of topsoil (1) and 20cm of subsoil (2) natural clay was located. The clay was cut by a large ditch (3) with a dark grey brown silt clay fill. Although unexcavated the fill yielded a number of R-B pottery sherds and a worn(?) dupondius of Hadrian. Either side of 3 was a band of mid grey brown silt clay (4. Fig.6) which may represent an earlier ditch recut by 3. Without excavation this was impossible to prove. Following the findings in Trenches R10/11 and R10a (see below) Trench 87c was extended to the north for a distance of 26m. In the extension a further five ditches were located (Context nos.5-9. Fig.6). Context 5 contained a mid brown grey silt clay fill and produced no finds. The others however (6-9) all contained similar fills of dark grey brown silt clay. All produced R-B pottery and frequent charcoal flecks. It is likely that some of these ditches are connected with those found in Trenches R10/11 and R10a.

4.109 **Trench 87e** (Fig.2 only)

This addition trench was excavated to the south west of 87c to trace the extent of ditch 3 (see above). The ditch was found to extend to the south west for a distance of some 40m when its fill became so indistinct it was not followed further. The dark fill (3) was found to extend some 20m to the south west of Trench 87c where it gradually gave way to a lighter grey fill. No return for 3 was found immediately to the north (where a small machine slot was excavated). Although the ditch ran in a straight line generally, the southern edge was found to undulate considerably.

4.110 **Trench 88a** (Figs.2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 35-38cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 42cm. Two ditches were found cutting the natural (Contexts 2 and 3. Fig.7). The northern ditch contained a light-medium grey brown silt clay fill which yielded only prehistoric worked flint. The southern ditch however, with its medium to dark grey brown silt clay fill, although unexcavated, yielded R-B pottery.

4.111 **Trench 88b** (Figs.2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 25-30cm of topsoil (1) and 15-20cm of subsoil. A single ditch was found cutting the natural (2. Fig.7). Its fill, of medium to dark grey brown silt clay yielded a single sherd of R-B pottery. It is possible this ditch is connected with ditch 3 in Trench 88a.

4.112 **Trench 88c**

Natural clay was located below 46cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

4.113 **Trench 88d** (Fig.2 only)

Natural clay was located below 50-58cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A single 10cm diameter post-hole (3) with a brown grey silt clay fill containing charcoal flecks

but no finds was located 6.8m from the south end of the trench.

4.114 **Trench 89a**

Natural clay was located below 50cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

4.115 **Trench 89b**

Below 45-50cm of topsoil (1) the subsoil (2) was found to extend to a depth of 160cm where it rested on natural clay. No archaeological features were noted.

4.116 **Trench 89c**

Natural clay was located below 42cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth - 62cm. With the exception of a disturbed area at the south end of the trench no features were noted.

4.117 **Trench 89d**

Stratigraphy similar to 89b. No features were noted within the trench.

4.118 **Trench 90a**

Below 33cm of topsoil (1) the subsoil (2) was found to extend to a depth of 85cm where it merged into natural clay. All of the finds from 2 were located in the top 20cm of the layer. No features were noted.

4.119 **Trench 90b**

Natural clay was located below 50-60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

4.120 **Trench 90c and d**

Natural clay, with some irregular silt patches, was located below 50-66cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were located.

4.121 **Trench 91a**

Natural clay was located directly below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 38cm. The northern 6m of the trench contained a light to medium orange grey brown silt clay fill containing odd R-B pottery sherds. (2) It is possible this is a depression in the clay filled by colluviation.

4.122 **Trench 91b**

Natural clay was located below 44cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

4.123 **Trench 91c** (Figs.2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 65-72cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were two features (Contexts 4 and 5. Fig.7). Context 4 consisted of a large spread/fill of dark grey brown silt clay containing fairly large quantities of Iron Age pottery. The exact nature of this feature was unascertained. Context 5 appeared to represent a ditch with a mid grey brown fill. It produced a single piece of Medieval (?) tile.

4.124 **Trench 91d** (Fig. 2 only)

Natural clay was located for the northern 12m of the trench below 63cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). For the southern 8m of the trench the natural clay dipped down toward the south end and was covered by in excess of 100cm (from the surface) of topsoil and subsoil. A single feature, a circular pit (3) (1m from the north end of the trench), was located cutting the natural. Its fill contained Iron Age and R-B pottery.

4.125 **Trench 92a**

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 42cm. No features were noted.

4.126 **Trench 92b** (Fig.2 only)

Natural clay was located below 40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were three features (Contexts 3-5). Contexts 3 and 4 proved to be of modern origin, Context 5 was older however. This feature, possible representing a ditch, yielded two sherds of Iron Age pottery from the surface of its grey brown silt clay fill.

4.127 **Trench 92c**

Natural clay was located at a depth of 60cm below the topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) layers. No features were noted.

4.128 **Trench 92d** (Figs.2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 38cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Two features were found cutting the natural (Contexts 3 and 4. Fig.7). Context 3, a ditch, yielded a single piece of Iron Age pottery from the surface of its light-medium grey brown silt clay fill. Context 4, representing a pit, yielded several sherds of Iron Age/R-B date. Its fill of medium to dark grey brown silt clay contained frequent charcoal flecks.

4.129 **Trench 93a**

Natural clay was located below 31cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 39-42cm. No features were noted.

4.130 **Trench 93b** (Figs. 2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 52cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were four features (Context nos. 3-6. Fig.7). Two of these (3 and 4) proved to be shallow (10cm deep) post-holes containing high percentages of charcoal but no finds. Context 5 appeared to be a ditch. Its fill, of mid grey brown silt clay yielded a single sherd of Medieval pottery from its surface. To the west was an irregular area of dark grey brown silt clay (6). This feature produced a number of Iron Age sherds of pottery.

4.131 **Trench 93c** (Fig.2 only)

Natural clay was located below 34cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A 50cm wide linear feature was noted cutting the natural clay 4.6m from the south end of the trench running in an east-west direction. Its fill, of dark grey brown silt clay yielded no finds and it is possible this is a naturally filled depression in the clay.

4.132 **Trench 93d**

Natural clay was located in the southern 6m of the trench below 25cm of topsoil (1). To the north of this the clay dipped down to a depth of 70cm from the surface where it was covered with a silt clay subsoil. At the north end of the trench the clay had returned to within 22cm of the surface. The reason for this apparently natural undulation in the clay was not ascertained.

4.133 **Trench 94a**

Below 30cm of topsoil the light-mid grey/orange brown silt clay subsoil (2) was found to extend to a depth in excess of 65cm. With the exception of a modern drain no features were located.

4.134 **Trench 94c** (Figs. 2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 54cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A single feature, possibly a ditch was located cutting the natural (Context 4. Fig.7). Its fill of dark grey brown silt clay yielded no finds.

4.135 **Trench 94d**

Natural clay was located below 35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 45cm. No features were noted.

4.136 **Trench 95a**

Natural clay was located below 60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

4.137 **Trenches 95b and c**

Natural clay was located below 38-44cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depths 48-56cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.138 **Trench 95d** (Fig.2 only)

Natural clay was located below 21cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 30cm. With the exception of a 27cm diameter post-hole, filled with a dark grey silt clay and R-B pottery 6m from the north end of the trench, no features were noted.

4.139 **Trenches 95e and 96a**

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil (1). Trench depths 40-55cm. With the exception of a modern land drain (95e) no features were noted.

4.140 **Trench 96b**

Below 26cm of topsoil (1) a dark grey silt clay subsoil layer (2) was found to extend to a depth of 69cm where it rested on natural clay. The subsoil contained some Iron Age and R-B pottery as well as a Neolithic polished flint axe fragment (from a depth of 65cm. Fig.13. No.4). Most of these finds were made in the eastern 8m of the trench. No features were noted.

4.141 **Trench 96c**

Natural clay was located below 42cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 48cm. No features were noted.

4.142 **Trench 96d** (Fig.2 only)

Natural clay was located below 48-52cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Two features were noted cutting the natural (Contexts 3 and 4). 3 consisted of a 10cm diameter post-hole while 4 was an irregular (natural?) area of grey silt clay. Neither feature produced any finds.

4.143 **Trench 97a** (Figs. 2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1) for the southern 1m of the trench. To the north of this point the clay dipped down and was covered by a light grey brown silt clay (2). A 3.5m length of trench was subsequently excavated to a depth of 55cm through 2 to reveal the clay. 2 was found to dip into the clay at a deeper level than this between 3-4m from the south end (Fig.7). 2 was subsequently excavated deeper from 4.5m from the southern end of the trench. 2 gradually became a darker grey brown silt clay (3) at a depth of 65cm from the surface. 3 contained Iron Age to Medieval finds. It is likely 3 represents some form of colluviation. At a distance of 12m from the southern end of the trench 3 was excavated to a depth of 85cm from the surface to reveal the natural clay. The natural clay rose gradually toward the north. Close to the north end of the trench, at a depth of 55-60cm, an

irregular feature was found cutting the natural (4). Its fill, of medium-dark grey brown silt clay contained large quantities of 13-14th century pottery (both jugs and cooking pots).

4.144 **Trench 97b** (Figs.2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 50-60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Three features were noted cutting the natural (Contexts 4-6. Fig.7). 4 and 5 appeared to be ditches. Both contained a fill of mid grey brown silt clay and both yielded R-B and Medieval pottery. Close to the eastern end of the trench was a pit (6) with a similar fill to 4 and 5. This pit also yielded R-B and (?) Medieval pottery.

4.145 **Trench 97c**

Natural clay was located below 62cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

4.146 **Trench 97d** (Figs.2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 37-40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil. At the northern end of the trench was a layer (?) of mid grey brown silt clay containing Medieval pottery (2). This appeared to be cut by an irregular feature (3. Fig.7) which produced no finds from its dark grey brown fill. It is possible 3 is simply a variation in colour of 2. To the south was a pit (4) and ditch-like feature (5). Both were filled with a mid grey brown silt clay. Only 5 produced any finds: a single sherd of R-B pottery. Context 6 consisted of a small area of yellow/brown grey clay with patches of iron rich material. It is possible this feature, which produced no finds, is of natural origin.

4.147 **Trench 98a**

Natural clay, with silt patches, was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). No archaeological features were noted.

4.148 **Trench 98b** (Figs. 2 and 7)

Natural clay was located below 54cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural clay was a linear feature (4. Fig.7). Its fill, of dark grey brown silt clay produced no finds. To the west were three regular features (5). Although these produced no finds, it is likely they are of recent origin.

4.149 **Trench 98c** (Figs.2, 7 and 10. Section G2-H2)

Natural clay was located below 32-39cm of topsoil (1). Cutting the natural were several features (Context nos. 2-5. Fig.7). Contexts 2, 4 and 5 were all irregular in plan with similar fills of light-dark grey brown silt clay. All yielded finds: 5 produced a number of Medieval sherds. The exact nature of these features was unascertained even after limited excavation of 5 (Fig.10. Section G2-H2). It is possible that some of these features, at least are the result of natural hollows in the clay being filled by colluviation. The final feature within the trench (3) appeared to be a more regular,

linear ditch? cut. Its fill, of light-medium grey brown silt clay contained a single sherd of R-B pottery.

4.150 **Trenches 98d and 99a**

Natural clay was located below 32-35cm of topsoil (1). Trench depths 35-45cm. No features were noted.

4.151 **Trench 99c**

Natural clay, with patches of yellow brown silt, was located below 52cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 60cm. No features were noted with the exception of a single modern drain.

4.152 **Trench 99d**

Natural clay was located below 23cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 37cm. No archaeological features were noted.

4.153 **Trenches 100a and b**

Natural clay, with occasional silt patches, was located below 30-35cm of topsoil. Trench depth 40-45cm. With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

4.154 **Trenches 100c and d**

Natural clay, with silt patches, was located below 60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of a modern pit cut (Context 3. Trench 100d) no features were noted.

4.155 **Trench 101a**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 40cm. No features were noted.

4.156 **Trench 101b** (Figs.2, 8 and 10. Sections I2-J2, K2-L2)

Natural clay was located below 30-35cm of topsoil (1). The only feature located consisted of a steep-sided irregular cut (Context 2. Fig.8 and Fig.10, Sections I2-J2 and K2-L2). Its fill, of mid-dark brown silt clay contained few finds. Some iron slag and brick were located however, suggesting the feature to be of recent origin.

4.157 **Trench 101c**

Natural clay, with iron stained silt clay patches, was located below 28cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 35cm. No features were noted.

4.158 **Trench 101d**

Natural clay, with iron stained silt clay patches, was located below 50cm of topsoil 91) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 60cm. No features were noted.

4.159 **Trench 102a**

Natural clay was located below 12-14cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 32cm. No features were noted.

4.160 **Trench 102c** (Figs.2 and 8)

Natural clay was located below 25-30cm of topsoil (1). A single feature was located cutting the natural (Context 2. Fig.8). This sub-oval pit was filled with a mid grey brown silt clay but produced no finds.

4.161 **Trench 103a**

Natural clay was located below only 6cm of topsoil (1). (Trench depth 35cm in places). The natural was disturbed at the north end of the trench by a modern burnt area, possibly a bomb crater. No other features were noted.

4.162 **Trench 103b**

Natural clay was located below 46cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5. THE EXCAVATION RESULTS: THE EASTERN GRID

5.1 **Trench 104d**

Below 7cm of topsoil (1) a 26cm layer of solid chalk rubble was located. This rested on a 13cm thick layer of redeposited natural. Undisturbed natural clay was located at a depth of 47cm below the surface. With the exception of a modern post-hole (still containing wood) no features were located.

5.2 **Trench 106b** (Figs. 3,8,11. Sections O2-N2, N2-M2)

Natural clay was located below 65cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A single feature was noted cutting the clay (Context 3. Fig.8 and Fig.11. Sections O2-N2, N2-M2). Its fill, of dark grey brown silt clay yielded several pieces of burnt clay when sectioned. It is likely this feature, possibly representing a ditch terminal, is related to Context 3 in Trench 106c (see below). The ditch terminal had subsequently been cut by a modern land drain.

5.3 **Trench 106c** (Figs.2,8,11. Section P2-Q2)

Natural silt clay was located below 20-35cm of topsoil (1). Cutting the natural was

a ditch filled with a dark brown silt clay (Context 3. Fig.8 and Fig.11. Section P2-Q2). When sectioned its fill yielded a number of sherds of R-B pottery. It seems likely this ditch is connected to the ditch terminal found in Trench 106b (see above).

5.4 **Trench 106d** (Fig.3 only)

Below 32cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) a brown grey orange silt clay layer was located. This layer, which contained no finds was found to be in excess of 97cm deep and was presumed to represent natural silting. The trench was extended 8m to the north to cross the projected line of the ditch found in 106c. No ditch was located and it seems likely that the ditch turns toward the north (appearing in Trench 106b) before reaching Trench 106d.

5.5 **Trench 107b**

Natural clay was located below 48cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 51cm. No features were noted.

5.6 **Trench 107c**

Below 30cm of disturbed topsoil (1) a dark grey brown silt clay layer was located (2) which extended to a depth of 70cm. This rested on further layers of cream brown and orange silt clay which where found to extend to a depth of 112cm (3,4) where they rested on natural orange clay with flints. It is likely layers 3 and 4 are the result of natural silting. With the exception of two modern drains, no features were noted.

5.7 **Trench 107d**

Natural clay was located below 113cm of overburden. The overburden consisted of 14cm of topsoil (1), 16cm of subsoil (2) and 83cm of a brown grey silt clay layer (3). This layer yielded a sherd of R-B pottery and it is possible this layer represents colluvial accumulation. No features were noted within the trench with the exception of two modern drains.

5.8 **Trench 108b**

Natural clay was located below 51cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No archaeological features were noted.

5.9 **Trench 108c**

Natural clay was located below 25cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 35-40cm. With the exception of a modern land drain no features were located.

5.10 **Trench 108d**

Natural clay was located below 31cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.11 **Trenches 109a and 109c**

Were not excavated due to the presence of fencelines and disturbance from the sewer construction.

5.12 **Trench 109b** (Fig.3 only)

Natural clay was located below 46cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of a modern field drain the only feature noted was a linear cut and fill of mid grey brown silt clay 9.2 - 9.8m from the eastern end of the trench (Context 3). Although unexcavated, this possible ditch yielded a single struck flint from its surface.

5.13 **Trench 109d** (Figs.3,8 and Fig.11. Sections R2-S2, T2-U2)

Natural clay was located below 40-45cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of a modern land drain (3) the only feature located was a shallow gulley (Context 4. Fig.8 and Fig.11. Sections R2-S2 and T2-U2). Its fill, of medium grey brown silt clay, when sectioned, yielded no finds.

5.14 **Trenches 110a and 110b**

Were not excavated due to fencelines and disturbance from the sewer construction.

5.15 **Trench 110c**

Natural clay, with some signs of disturbance, was located below 35cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.16 **Trench 110d**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 36cm. No features were noted.

5.17 **Trenches 111a and 112a**

Were not excavated due to disturbance from the construction of the sewer.

5.18 **Trench 111b**

Natural clay was located below 36cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.19 **Trenches 111c and d**

Natural clay, with some silt patches, was located below 30cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 35-38cm. No features were noted.

5.20 **Trench 113c**

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) a fine silt/sand clay layer was found to extend to a depth of in excess of 85cm. It contained no finds. With the exception of an area of modern disturbance at the north end of the trench no features were noted.

5.21 **Trench 113d**

Below 40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) a light to medium yellowish brown silt clay layer was located extending to a depth in excess of 85cm from the surface. No finds were located within this layer and it is thought to be of natural origin. No features were noted.

5.22 **Trench 114b**

The stratigraphy within this trench was similar to that found in 113d. Some modern disturbance was noted at a depth of 40cm but no features of archaeological interest were noted.

5.23 **Trenches 114c and d**

Were not excavated due to the presence of the perimeter road.

5.24 **Trench 115a**

The stratigraphy within this trench was similar to that found in 113d. With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

5.25 **Trench 115b**

Stratigraphy similar to 113d. With the exception of a modern drain no features were located.

5.26 **Trench 115c**

Stratigraphy similar to 113d. No features were located within the trench.

5.27 **Trench 115d**

Natural orange brown clay was located below 54cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A test pit was excavated to a depth of 92cm from the surface into the clay. No finds or archaeological features were noted.

5.28 **Trenches 116a and b**

Stratigraphy similar to Trench 115d. No features were noted.

5.29 **Trench 116c** (Fig.3 only)

Below 44-54cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) natural silt clay (?) was located. This was cut by an irregular ditch-like feature running in an east-west direction 4 - 4.5m from the southern end of the trench (3). Its fill, of dark grey brown silt clay, yielded several sherds of R-B pottery. It is possible this represents a field boundary ditch.

5.30 **Trench 116d**

Natural silt clay was located below 70cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A test pit was excavated to a depth of 135cm from the surface to investigate the natural silt clay. No change or finds were located in the test pit. With the exception of a modern drain no features were noted within the trench.

5.31 **Trench 117a**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) (which included a layer of chalk rubble) was a further layer of modern origin to a depth of 55-60cm (2). This rested on two further layers of orange brown silt clay which showed some signs of modern disturbance (3 and 4). These layers rested on the natural clay which was located at a depth of 90-100cm below the surface. No features were noted within the trench.

5.32 **Trench 117b**

Stratigraphy similar to 116d. No features were noted.

5.33 **Trench 117c**

The stratigraphy within the trench was as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-20cm; dark grey brown silt clay subsoil (2) 20-60cm; orange brown silt clay 60-84/98cm (3) resting on undulating natural clay with flints with cream silt clay patches. No features were noted.

5.34 **Trench 117d**

Stratigraphy similar to 117c but natural was found to be a cream grey silt clay located at a depth of 130cm below the surface. No features were noted.

5.35 **Trench 118a** (Fig.3 only)

Below 26cm of topsoil (1) the medium grey brown silt clay subsoil was revealed (2). At a depth of 58cm from the surface this merged with a layer of light yellow brown silt clay (3) which was excavated to a depth of 90cm from the surface. Cutting 3 a feature, consisting of a band of light-medium brown grey silt clay, had been noticed 4m from the northern end of the trench (4). This feature was sectioned, with 3, to a depth of 90cm. Its fill, which contained iron-rich mottles, produced no finds and it is likely 4 is in fact a naturally filled channel cut within the natural 3.

5.36 **Trench 118b** (Fig.3 and Fig.11. Sections V2-W2, X2-Y2)

Below 60-70cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) a thick layer of grey orange brown silt clay was located (Context 3. Fig.11. Sections V2-W2, X2-Y2). This overlay a complex sequence of silty and sandy clays (Contexts 4-15), some of which showed heavy iron staining (10, 11 and 14 in particular). No finds were located in any of these layers and they are likely to be of natural origin (although their exact process of formation remains unascertained). These layers do however serve to show the variable and complex geology within some areas of the aerodrome. No archaeological features were noted within the trench.

5.37 **Trench 118c**

The stratigraphy within the trench was as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-15cm; brown grey silt clay subsoil (2) 15-45cm; brown grey clay (3) 45-82cm (natural?); natural light brown/tan silt clay with iron staining (4) 82-122cm; yellow clay with small flint and gravel patches (5) 122-140cm+. No archaeological features were noted.

5.38 **Trench 118d**

The stratigraphy with the trench was as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-20cm; subsoil (2) 20-48cm; light grey yellow sandy clay (4) 180-200cm+. No finds or features were located within the trench.

5.39 **Trench 119a**

Natural light-medium grey brown silty clay with iron staining was located below 60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). The natural was excavated to a depth of 160cm from the surface. No finds or archaeological features were noted.

5.40 **Trench 119b**

The stratigraphy within the trench was as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-35cm; subsoil (2) 35-90cm; Natural cream silt clay (3) 90-114cm; natural orange brown silt clay (4) 114-120cm; natural red orange Clay- With-Flints (5) 120-140cm+. No finds or archaeological features were noted.

5.41 **Trench 119c**

The stratigraphy with the trench was as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-12cm, subsoil (2) 12-48cm; dark grey brown silt clay (buried topsoil) (3) 48-67cm; light grey brown silt clay old subsoil (4) 67-92cm; darker brown grey silt clay (5) 92-150cm. Context 5 yielded several Iron Age and R-B pottery sherds from a depth of 142-150cm. Below 5 natural Clay-With-Flint was located. No features were noted within the trench.

5.42 **Trench 119d**

The stratigraphy within the trench was as follows: Topsoil (1) 0-40cm; subsoil (2) 40-54cm; orange brown silt clay (3) 54-84cm; grey brown silt clay (4) 84-102cm; orange

brown silt clay (5) 102-120cm; natural red orange Clay-With-Flint (6) 120-142cm+. No features were noted.

5.43 **Trench 120a**

Natural red orange Clay-With-Flint was located below 62cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of a modern field drain no features were noted.

5.44 **Trenches 120b,c,d and 121a**

Natural red orange Clay-With-Flint was located below 42-50cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.45 **Trench 121b**

Natural clay was located below 65cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A test pit was excavated through the variable natural to a depth of 105cm. No features were noted within the trench.

5.46 **Trench 121c** (Figs.3, 8 and Fig.11. Section Z2-A3)

Natural clay was located below 55cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were two features (Contexts 3 and 4. Fig.8). 3 was a modern land drain. Context 4 however proved to be a ditch with a fill of mid grey brown silt clay. When sectioned (Fig.11. Section Z2-A3), 4 yielded several Iron Age and R-B pottery sherds. It is possible 4 represents a field boundary ditch. This may be the same ditch that was located in trench 122b (see below).

5.47 **Trench 121d**

Light yellow brown natural clay was located below 60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were located within the trench.

5.48 **Trench 122a**

Undulating natural clay was located below 29cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.49 **Trench 122b** (Figs. 3,8 and Fig.11. Section B3-C3)

Natural clay was located below 50-55cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A single ditch was located cutting the natural (Context 3/4. Fig.8). When sectioned, its fill of mid grey brown silt clay yielded a little prehistoric worked flint. It is likely this is the same ditch which was located in Trench 121c.

5.50 **Trenches 122c,d and 123a,b and c**

Undulating natural clay was located below 20-32cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depths 30-42cm. No features were noted.

5.51 **Trench 123d**

Natural clay was located below 30cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth - 35-50cm. With the exception of a chalk filled bomb crater (?) at the northern end of the trench no features were noted.

5.52 **Trench 124c**

Below 27cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) a light yellow brown silt clay layer was located (3). This layer was excavated to a depth of 90cm but produced no finds and was deemed natural. With the exception of the remains of a corrugated iron air raid shelter at the north end of the trench, no features were located.

5.53 **Trench 125a**

Stratigraphy similar to 116d. No features were noted within the trench.

5.54 **Trench 125b**

Stratigraphy similar to 116d but with natural yellow silt clay appearing at a depth of 64cm. With the exception of disturbance from the aerodrome roadway no features were located.

5.55 **Trench 125c**

Stratigraphy similar to 116d. With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were located.

5.56 **Trench 125d**

Natural orange brown silt clay was located below 48-55cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A test pit was excavated to a depth of 87cm into the natural (from the surface): no change was located. No features were noted within the trench.

5.57 **Trench 126a**

Below 22cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) a buried soil horizon was located (3). This layer, which contained modern bricks, represented the old topsoil. Below this was the old subsoil layer (4) which extended from 37cm below the surface to a depth of 65cm. This layer rested on a light brown clay (natural) (5) which extended to a depth in excess of 110cm. With the exception of a modern land drain (at a depth of 41cm i.e. cut into the old subsoil 4), no features were noted.

5.58 **Trench 126b**

The stratigraphy within this trench was similar to trench 125d. No features were located within the trench.

5.59 **Trenches 126c,d; 127a,b,c,d, and 128a**

Stratigraphy as 125d. With the exception of three modern land drains (Trenches 126c, 127a and 128a) no features were noted within the trenches.

5.60 **Trench 128b**

Stratigraphy similar to 137a (see below). With the exception of a modern land drain (at a depth of 40-50cm below the surface) no features were located.

5.61 **Trench 128c**

As with Trench 128b a buried topsoil (3) containing modern material was located below recent overburden (1 and 2). In this trench 3 was located at a depth of 48-59cm below the surface. This rested on the old subsoil (4) which was excavated to a depth of 74cm.

5.62 **Trench 128d**

Natural clay was located below 69cm of disturbed overburden (topsoil, redeposited layers and subsoil). With the exception of a modern land drain, no features were noted.

5.63 **Trench 129a**

Stratigraphy similar to 128c. No features were located within the trench.

5.64 **Trench 129b**

Natural clay was located below 60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were located within the trench.

5.65 **Trench 129c**

Natural clay was located below 46cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 57cm. A linear feature 1m wide was located running in an east-west direction 12m from the northern end of the trench. Its fill, of light grey brown silt clay, was sectioned to a depth of 18cm but no finds were located. It is possible this feature represents a naturally filled gulley.

5.66 **Trench 129d**

Natural clay was located below 39cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). The natural was found to undulate, the troughs being filled with subsoil (2), some of which reached a depth in excess of 65cm from the surface. A single linear feature was noted within the trench *circa* 3m from the trench's northern end running in a north east-south west direction. Its fill, which was excavated to a depth of 70cm below the surface yielded no finds and it is possible the feature is of natural origin.

5.67 **Trench 130a**

Natural clay was located below 20cm of topsoil (1). No features were located within the trench.

5.68 **Trench 130b**

Natural clay was located below 32cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A test pit was excavated to a depth of 110cm into an orange silty clay located at the west end of the trench. No change was noted and it was deemed natural. No features were located within the trench.

5.69 **Trench 130c**

Natural clay was located below 20cm of topsoil (1). No features were located within the trench.

5.70 **Trench 130d**

Natural clay, with some bomb disturbance, was located below 23cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted within the trench.

5.71 **Trench 131a**

Below 35cm of topsoil (1)/subsoil (2) an orange brown silt clay layer was located (3). This layer was excavated to a depth of 150-160cm where lighter natural was starting to appear. A number of finds were made from 3 but none were located deeper than 100cm from the surface. No features were noted within the trench.

5.72 **Trench 131b**

Below 33cm of topsoil (1)/subsoil (2) a light grey brown silt layer was exposed (3). This rested on undulating natural clay which varied between 46-81cm below the surface. No features were noted within the trench.

5.73 **Trench 131c**

Natural silt clay (which was sampled to a depth of 200cm) was located below 70cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.74 **Trench 131d**

Natural clay was located below 62cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A test pit excavated through natural, to a depth of 200cm below the surface, revealed a number of variations in flint size and density. No features were located.

5.75 **Trench 132a**

Natural clay was located below 75cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.76 **Trench 132b**

Natural clay was located below 43cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2/3). The natural was very variable within the trench, both in colour, flint content and depth below surface. No features were located.

5.77 **Trench 132c**

Natural clay was located below 27cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 38cm. With the exception of an irregular area of silt clay (which produced no finds) at the south end of the trench no features were noticed.

5.78 **Trench 132d**

Natural clay was located below 33cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth - 38cm. No features were located.

5.79 **Trenches 133a,b,c and d**

Natural within these trenches was located between 26-38cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). The natural was found to be very variable in both colour and flint content. No archaeological features were located.

5.80 **Trench 134a**

Stratigraphy similar to 116d. Several sherds of pottery were found in the subsoil but no associated features were noted. The central area of the trench showed some signs of bomb damage at a depth of 37cm+.

5.81 **Trench 134c**

Natural clay was located below 50cm of overburden, topsoil (1) and subsoil (2/3). With the exception of a modern land drain no features were noted.

5.82 **Trench 134d**

Natural silt clay was located below 40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). The natural was excavated to a depth of 82cm in a test pit. No features were noted.

5.83 **Trenches 135a and b**

Stratigraphy similar to 134d. No archaeological features were noted.

5.84 **Trench 135c**

Was not excavated due to the presence of the perimeter road.

5.85 **Trenches 135d and 136a**

Stratigraphy similar to 134d. With the exception of two modern land drains in 135d, no features were noted.

5.86 **Trenches 136b and c**

Were not excavated due to the presence of the perimeter road.

5.87 **Trench 136d**

Stratigraphy similar to 116d. No features were noted.

5.88 **Trench 137a** (Figs.3,8 and Fig.11. Section D3-E3)

Below 50cm of recent topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) a buried topsoil was located containing modern bricks etc. (3 on Fig.11. Section D3-E3). Below this were two further layers (4 and 5) of orange brown silt clay, the lower of which (5) produced a number of Iron Age pottery sherds. 5 was subsequently excavated to the top of the natural clay which was located at a depth of 125cm below the surface. Cutting the natural two features were noted (7 and 8. Fig.8). 7 consisted of an orange brown silt clay layer with ill-defined edges. When cleaned it yielded a number of Iron Age pottery sherds. Whether this was a fill of a cut was not ascertained. To the south 7 appeared to be cut by a ditch (8). The fill of 8 was partially sampled (see section) to recover some datable material. Below a dark grey brown silt clay fill with frequent flints a darker charcoal rich fill was located but not excavated. A number of Iron Age pottery sherds were found in the upper fill of 8 (Fig. 12. No.5). The depth of these features is somewhat surprising, however, if one takes the depth from the top of the buried soil (3) they are located 74cm from the surface: a depth more comparable to other trenches.

5.89 **Trench 137b**

Natural clay was located below 38cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of an ill-defined circular feature 2m from the north end of the trench (which although it produced no finds appeared to be of recent origin), and a modern land drain, no features were noted.

5.90 **Trench 137c**

Natural clay was located below 33cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). With the exception of two modern features (a ditch and pit) containing bottle glass, no features were noted.

5.91 **Trench 137d**

Natural clay was located below 17-20cm of topsoil (1). No features were noted.

5.92 **Trench 138a**

Natural clay was located below 40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth - 52cm. With the exception of modern disturbance at the southern end of the trench, no features were noted.

5.93 **Trench 138b**

Undulating natural was found at a depth of 39-64cm below the topsoil (1)/subsoil (2) layers. The undulations in the natural clay were filled with 2.

5.94 **Trench 138c**

Natural clay was located below 34cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 35-50cm. With the exception of some modern disturbance and a cable trench no features were noted.

5.95 **Trenches 138d and 139a**

Stratigraphy similar to 138c. Some modern disturbance was located within the trenches.

5.96 **Trench 139b**

Natural clay was located below only 10-12cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth 10-27cm. No features were noted.

5.97 **Trench 139c** (Figs.3 and 8)

Natural clay was located below 50cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were three features (3,4 and 5. Fig.8). Context 3 consisted of a large spread of reddish brown clay with frequent finds of R-B pottery. This extended for a distance of some 10m at the southern end of the trench. Context 4 appeared to be a pit, filled with a mid grey brown silt clay. No finds were located in 4. At the north end of the trench was a ditch (5). The surface of its mid grey brown silt clay fill produced a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

5.98 **Trench 139d** (Figs.3, 8 and Fig.11. Section F3-G3)

Natural clay was located below 30-42cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were several features (Fig.8. Contexts 3-6). Context 3 appeared to represent a ditch. Its fill, of mid grey brown silt clay, contained Iron Age and R-B pottery. To the south was a smaller ditch (4). When sectioned, its fill, of dark grey brown silt clay, produced no datable finds (Fig.11. Section F3-G3). Further to the south were two irregular features filled with mid brown silt clays (5 and 6). Neither produced any finds (although they were not excavated).

5.99 **Trench 140a**

Natural clay was located below 34cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.100 **Trench 140b** (Figs.3,8 and Fig.11. Section H3-I3)

Natural clay was located below 67-69cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A number of indistinct features/layers were located cutting the natural (Fig.8. Nos. 3-5). Contexts 3 and 4 consisted of two small post-holes/pits with similar fills of mid grey brown silt clays. 4 produced a number of R-B pottery sherds and appeared to be cut by 3. Both features were set within an indistinct localised layer containing more R-B pottery (5).

5.101 **Trench 140c**

Stratigraphy similar to 137a. Some bomb damage was located within the trench but no archaeological features.

5.102 **Trench 140d**

Natural clay was located below 25cm of topsoil (1). No features were noted.

5.103 **Trench 141a**

Stratigraphy as 140a. A test pit to a depth of 69cm revealed no variations in natural.

5.104 **Trench 141b**

Natural clay, showing frequent signs of modern disturbance, was located below 27cm of topsoil (1)/subsoil (2). No features were noted. Trench depth - 61cm max.

5.105 **Trench 141c**

Natural clay was located below 39cm of topsoil (1). No features were noted.

5.106 **Trench 141d**

Stratigraphy similar to 141b. Trench depth 33-45cm. Cutting the natural clay was an area of modern disturbance (3). No other features were noted.

5.107 **Trench 142a**

Natural clay was located below 20cm of topsoil (1). No features were located.

5.108 **Trench 142b**

Was abandoned after hard tarmac was located for almost the entire length of the trench.

5.109 **Trenches 142c and d**

Natural clay was located below 44cm of topsoil (1)/subsoil (2). No features were noted.

5.110 **Trench 145a**

Natural silt clay was located below 40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). The natural was excavated to a depth of 60cm from the surface in a test pit. No change or archaeological features were noted.

5.111 **Trench 146a**

Stratigraphy similar to 145a. (Test pit dug to 90cm with no change). No archaeological features were noted.

5.112 **Trenches 147a, 148a and 149a**

Natural clay was located below 30-40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2) in all the trenches. No features were noted.

5.113 **Trenches 150a, 151a and 152a**

Natural clay was located below 25cm of topsoil in Trenches 151a and 152a. Some signs of modern disturbance were noted in 152a. Natural orange sandy silt was located at a similar level in 150a. This was investigated by a 95cm deep test pit. No features were noted.

6. THE EXCAVATION RESULTS: THE ROAD TRENCHES

6.1 **Trenches R1 and R2**

Stratigraphy as R3 (see below). No features located.

6.2 **Trench R3**

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) the subsoil (2) was found to extend to a depth of 60cm where it gradually merged into natural light-mid brown silt clay (3). The latter was excavated to a depth of 120-130cm below the surface. No features were noted.

6.3 **Trenches R4 and R5**

Stratigraphy similar to R3. No archaeological features were located.

6.4 **Trench R6** (Figs.2 and 9)

Natural silt clay was located below 60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Cutting the natural were a couple of indistinct features (nos.3 and 4. Fig.9) possibly representing

a pit and a ditch. These features, located in the northern 7m of the trench, produced quantities of R-B pottery from the surface of their mid grey brown fills. It should be noted that as with Trench 77a (see above) these features were only located after pottery was found in the trench. It is possible they may have been truncated by machine.

6.5 **Trench R7**

Below 20cm of topsoil (1) a compacted layer of chalk rubble was located resting on a thick layer of disturbed subsoil (2). Natural clay was found to lie 100cm below the surface. No features were noted.

6.6 **Trench R8**

Natural clay was located below 50cm of topsoil (1) and disturbed subsoil (2) containing bricks etc. No archaeological features were noted.

6.7 **Trench R9**

Below 30cm of topsoil (1) a compact layer of modern chalk/brick rubble was located to a depth of 45cm. This rested on a disturbed subsoil layer (2) which rested on natural clay at a depth of 120cm below the surface. Modern disturbance continued below this level in the southern half of the trench. No features were noted.

6.8 **Trench R10/11** (Figs.2 and 9)

Trench R11 was moved 20m to the north to join Trench R10 (thus making a 40m long trench), in order to pick up the line of ditch 3 which was located in Trench 87c (see above). Natural clay was located below 80cm of topsoil (1); modern chalk rubble (2); and disturbed subsoil (3). Cutting the natural were a number of ditches (Context nos. 4-7. Fig.9). The northern most ditch (4) produced R-B pottery from its mid grey brown silt clay fill. It is possible this ditch may form an entrance way with Ditch 9 located in Trench R10a (see below). The remaining three ditches all contained a fill of dark grey brown silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks (5,6 and 7). Ditches 5 and 6 were on a similar alignment to 4, Ditch 7 however was much narrower and ran toward the south east. These ditches are undoubtedly connected with those found in Trenches 87c and R10a and probably form the south east corner of a Romano-British enclosure.

6.9 **Trench R10a** (Figs.2 and 9)

This additional 34m long east-west trench was excavated to locate the northern return of the ditches found in Trench R10/11 (Figs.2 and 9). Natural clay was found to lie between 80-96cm below the surface. The clay was overlain by similarly disturbed layers to those found in Trench R10/11. A number of ditches relating to those found in R10/11 were located cutting the natural. (Fig.9. Context Nos. 8-9 and 11-16). 8 consisted of a 10cm deep slot filled with a dark grey brown/black silt clay containing burnt clay pieces. This appeared to cut an earlier ditch terminal 9 (and thus blocking the entrance?). Context 9 contained a similar fill to Ditch 4 in Trench

R10/11 and it is likely the two are related. Further east, a modern drain (10) was located at a depth of 50-55cm below the surface. This slightly overlay a further ditch (11) with a dark grey brown//black fill. It produced a single sherd of R-B pottery. To the east was a large area of medium to dark grey brown silt clay fill which produced several sherds of R-B pottery (12). Judging from the plan it is possible 12 represents a northwest-southeast ditch with a further ditch joining the first in a northeast-southwest direction. Without excavation/stripping a larger area this could not be ascertained. To the east of 12 were a number of smaller less distinct features (13-15). These all contained a similar fill of light-medium grey brown silt clay although the fill of 15 became darker, with more charcoal flecks toward the northern end of the trench (16). It is likely these features represent small ditches, possibly connected with field boundaries.

6.10 **Trenches R12 and R13**

Natural clay was located below 30-50cm of topsoil/subsoil (1)/(2). Trench R13 had extensively been disturbed by the sewer construction. No features were noted in either trench.

6.11 **Trench R14**

Natural clay was located below 38cm of topsoil (1), and disturbed subsoil (2). A test pit was dug 80cm from the surface to study the natural. No features were noted within the trench.

6.12 **Trench R15**

Natural clay was located below 25cm of topsoil (1) and disturbed subsoil (2/3). Trench depth - 50cm. No features were located within the trench.

6.13 **Trenches R16 and R17**

Natural clay was located below 30-40cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). No features were noted.

6.14 **Trench R18**

Natural clay was located below 28cm of topsoil (1). Much of the trench had been disturbed during the construction of the sewer. No features were noted.

6.15 **Trench R19**

Natural clay was located below 18cm of topsoil (1). Trench depth - 40cm. With the exception of a modern field drain no features were located.

6.16 **Trench R20** (Figs.2 and 9)

Natural clay was located below 50cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Two features were noted cutting the natural (Fig.9. Context 4 and 5). 4 consisted of an area of mid

grey brown silt clay with ill-defined edges. It produced a number of Iron Age pottery sherds along with one of (?) R-B date. It is possible 4 represents a ditch fill. To the north was a small pit/post-hole with a dark brown silt clay fill (5). This feature only yielded burnt clay fragments from its surface.

6.17 **Trenches R21, R22, R23, R24 and R25**

Within these trenches natural clay was found below 25-35cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). The natural was found to vary but was usually a red orange clay with flints. With the exception of a few modern features (R23) and a modern land drain (R22) no features were noted within the trenches.

6.18 **Trench R26** (Figs.2, 9 and 11. Section J3-K3)

Natural clay was located below 50cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). (The subsoil within this trench contained a number of sherds of Iron Age pottery). Cutting the natural between 5-8m from the southern end of the trench was a large sub-circular(?) feature/layer (Fig.9. Context 3). Its fill, of dark grey brown silt clay, was partially sectioned by machine and produced a number of Early Iron Age pottery sherds. The feature was found to have a depth of *c.* 24cm where sectioned (see Fig.11. Section J3-K3) with shallow sloping sides. Its purpose remains unclear.

6.19 **Trench R27** (Figs.2 and 9)

Natural clay was located below 53-60cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). A single feature/pit was found cutting the natural (Fig.9. Context 3). Its fill, of mid grey brown silt clay contained charcoal and pottery flecks but no pieces large enough to identify its date.

6.20 **Trenches R28 and R29**

Natural clay was located below 23-29cm of topsoil (1) and subsoil (2). Trench depth 32-37cm. No features were located.

6.21 **Trenches R30 and R31**

The lengths of both trenches had been disturbed by the construction of the sewer. No features were noted.

7. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 During the evaluation the geology of the site was found to be more complex/variable than was expected. The Clay-With-Flints was not consistent, both in nature and depth below the surface. Although normally consisting of a red orange to orange brown clay with frequent flint many areas of natural clay were located which contained no or little flint. The flint inclusions, when present, where also found to vary considerably in size. In some areas thick deposits of natural silt clays or sandy silt clays were also noted overlying the Clay-With-Flints, (e.g. Trenches 118a, c and d),

some of which showed complex layers of deposition (Trench 118b). The natural clay was also found to undulate, with the troughs often being filled with a grey silt clay similar to the subsoil (e.g. Trenches 99c and d and 89b and d). The reason for these undulations is not fully understood, although they may be the result of former drainage patterns on the clay. Without a longer, continuous section and for larger areas in plan, few further suggestions can be put forward at this time. The geology has undoubtedly been complicated by bomb disturbance and airfield levelling.

7.2 The subsoil, which was found mainly in the southern and eastern areas of the site, also varies considerably, though mainly in thickness/depth. Some trenches contained none (e.g. Trenches 99c and d). Some of the reason for this probably lies in the undulations within the natural clay. Some may however be the result of colluviation for in many trenches, i.e. Trench 97a (Contexts 2 and 3), abraded pottery was located within the subsoil to considerable depths. The particularly deep trenches within the eastern grid alignment, (e.g. grid squares 118, 119 and 128), can be explained to a certain extent by the buried topsoil horizon located in a number of these trenches (e.g. Trench 137a). The presence of this buried soil, along with associated modern finds, suggests this area has been levelled up recently with dumped material, a theory which was confirmed by a present resident of Hawkinge.

7.3 Although the site was heavily bombed during the last war, bomb disturbance was not as severe as had previously been expected. This is probably, at least in part, due to the thick protective subsoil layer located in many trenches. Having said this however, modern disturbance was quite common, and some areas have been extensively disturbed (e.g. grid squares 56, 57, 67 and 78). Some of this disturbance was found to run to a considerable depth below the present surface (e.g. Trenches R8 and R9). It is likely that some of these areas are the site of former hangers. In some localities archaeological deposits were found below areas of modern disturbance (e.g. Trenches R10/11 and R10a). The constant bombing and levelling up of the airfield during the last war has undoubtedly added to the difficulties in understanding the underlying geology. One of the most extensive areas of modern disturbance has resulted from the recent construction of the new sewer along the proposed road line.

7.4 Although flintwork from the area as a whole suggests some activity from at least the Neolithic period the evaluation revealed two main areas of archaeological interest. The northern area consisted of a number of features, mainly ditches, and possible occupation/pottery rich layers (Trenches 69b, 77a, 78d, 79c and d, 80a and b, 87a and c, 88a and b, 106b and c and Trenches R6, R10/11 and R10a) Fig.15, spread over a considerable area. Without a larger excavated area little can be said at present about the site's layout, however, the multiple ditches located in Trenches 87c, R10/11 and R10a suggest the southeast corner of an enclosure existed at this point (the enclosure ditches must have been cut by the recent sewer trench). From the evidence gained during the evaluation the focus of this site seems to lie within grid squares 79, 87 and the northern parts of squares 80 and 88. The presence of features as far north as Trenches 77a and R6 suggest this site, as with the southern area (see below), represents a somewhat straggling settlement area. The area between the 'focus' and Trench 77a was found to contain considerable modern disturbance and for this reason it was impossible to ascertain whether these northernmost features once formed an integral part of the settlement area or represent out-lying features. The nature of the

pottery finds from 77a do however suggest an occupation site could have been situated close by. Further out-lying features were also located in Trenches 81b and d. The ditches located in Trenches 88a and b and 106b and c suggest there may be further enclosures/annexes added onto the main enclosure.

7.5 The finds from this northern area, which mainly consist of pottery, place the site within the Romano-British period. Judging from the provisional date of the cremation burial located in Trench 80b and the coin from Ditch 3 in Trench 87c, a 2nd-3rd AD date can tentatively be put forward.

7.6 The southern area of archaeological interest appeared to be less disturbed than the northern area. It mainly consisted of a number of ditches, pits and post-holes along with a few possible occupation-/pottery-rich layers (e.g. Trench 85b). As with the northern site features were found spread over a considerable area, again suggesting a straggling settlement (Trenches 62d; 63b,c and d; 73c and d; 74a,c and d; 75a,b and c; 84b,c and d; 85b,c and d; 91c and d; 92d; 93b,c and d; 96d; 97a,b and d and 98b and c. Fig.15). Further outlying features were found in Trenches 72c and 83d. The extent of the features connected with this site to the southwest will be established during Phase 2 of the evaluation, when the cultivated area will also be trenched. From the evidence gained during the evaluation the main focus of this site appears to lie within squares 62, 63, 73, 74, 75, 84, 85, 92, 93 and 97, although a number of outlying features were also present (Fig.15). As with the northern area little can be said of the sites plan/layout without larger areas being exposed in plan.

7.7 The extensive spread of this southern site can partially be explained by the pottery finds from the features. It appears that there is Early Iron Age activity within this area. Evidence for this is not only in the form of features (e.g. Trenches 74d and 85b and c) but also from considerable quantities of residual pottery incorporated into the later features. Many of the features in this southern area produced Romano-British pottery, mainly Patchgrove ware (e.g. Trench 75a), and from a provisional examination of the forms most of this appears to date to the 1st century AD. (The northern site produced much more sandy ware in ratio to Patchgrove ware than the southern site). The occupation sequence is complicated further by the presence of Medieval features. These, which produced 13th-14th century AD material were only located in Trenches 93b, 97a and b, and 98c. It is possible further features within this area are of Medieval date, however, as the small sand tempered body sherds located within some features were difficult to differentiate from the Romano-British sandy wares if no diagnostic features were present (e.g Trench 97b. Context 6 and 98c, 5). It is likely therefore, the southern area of interest has seen occupation during three distinct periods and it is for this reason the area of archaeological interest is so large. On a provisional basis it seems the Early Iron Age and Romano-British sites overlap each other considerably. (It is possible the northern site represents a shift in settlement location later in the Romano-British period). The Medieval occupation area appears to overlap the eastern edge of the two former sites.

7.8 Further outlying features were also located at considerable distances away from the two main occupation areas. A cluster of features located in Trenches R20, R26 and R27 (of Iron Age/Romano-British date), are probably outliers to the southern occupation area. The presence of further outliers, often apparently isolated, in

Trenches 28a; 109b and d; 116c; 121c; 122b; 139c and d and 140b is interesting in that it shows the potential extent to which archaeological features could be located within the application area. It is possible that many of these features (e.g. Trenches 121c, 122b and 137a etc.) may represent ditched field boundaries associated with the occupation sites. If this is the case some of the original field-system layout could potentially be gained from any future work.

7.9 The low numbers of definite structural features, i.e. post-holes, located within the evaluation trenches (particularly in the two occupation areas) is surprising. It can possible be explained however in that small features, such as post-holes, if not containing any obvious fill, may not have been located against the variable geological background. Many of the larger features which contained indistinct fills were only initially recognised due to the presence of pottery or burnt clay (e.g. Trenches 77a and R6). Small post-holes with no finds could easily therefore be overlooked. The presence of large unabraded pottery sherds, particularly of the Early Iron Age period, within features confirms in situ archaeological remains in the application area. These probably represent various domestic settlements with an agricultural-based economy. The diverse variety of Early Iron Age pottery fabrics, of both coarse and fine wares, suggests the site to have been of fairly high status during this period (Sue Hamilton pers.comm).

7.10 The lack of pottery and fire-cracked-flint on the surface of the field around the trenches producing archaeological features was very noticeable. (Fire-cracked-flint was surprisingly lacking even within the excavated trenches). Two reasons for this can be suggested:

a) the prehistoric pottery at least would soon disintegrate once it was incorporated into the ploughsoil or, more likely

b) the depth of the subsoil has prevented the plough reaching most of the archaeological deposits. (The subsoil would also hinder aerial and geophysical surveys of the site).

For this reason a surface artifact collection survey would have proved extremely misleading and trenching appears to have been the only method of effectively evaluating the archaeology of the application area. The trenches were laid out to a pattern which would minimise the chances of missing archaeological features and in this the layout pattern has proved successful. Such a trench pattern has also helped define the areas of archaeological interest.

7.11 A note should be made of the extant features of the aerodrome. Although most of the buildings associated with the airfield have been demolished the complete defensive circuit of pill-boxes still exists, as does the well preserved remains of the pop-up gun emplacement (see star on Fig.2 square 46b). If these features cannot be avoided during construction work provision should be made for their adequate recording, or, in the case of the gun emplacement, relocation.

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CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATED FINDS

FIGURE 12

1. Large jar with T shaped rim. Coarse Flint tempered ware. Early Iron Age. (TR.73d, [3]).

2. Shouldered jar with a slight rusticated finish. Medium flint tempered ware. Early Iron Age. (Tr. 85c [4]).

3. Small shouldered jar. Medium flint temper. Early Iron Age. (Tr. 85c [4]).

4. Angular bowl with flaring rim and red (haematite?) finish. Fine flint tempered ware. (EIA) (Tr. 85c [4]).

5. Shouldered jar with incised decoration. Fine sand and flint tempered ware (EIA). (TR. 137a [8]).

FIGURE 13

1. Jar in medium black sandy ware with burnished decoration. Romano-British. (TR. 77a [2]).

2. Jar in medium black sandy ware with incised decoration. Romano-British. (Tr. 77a [2]).

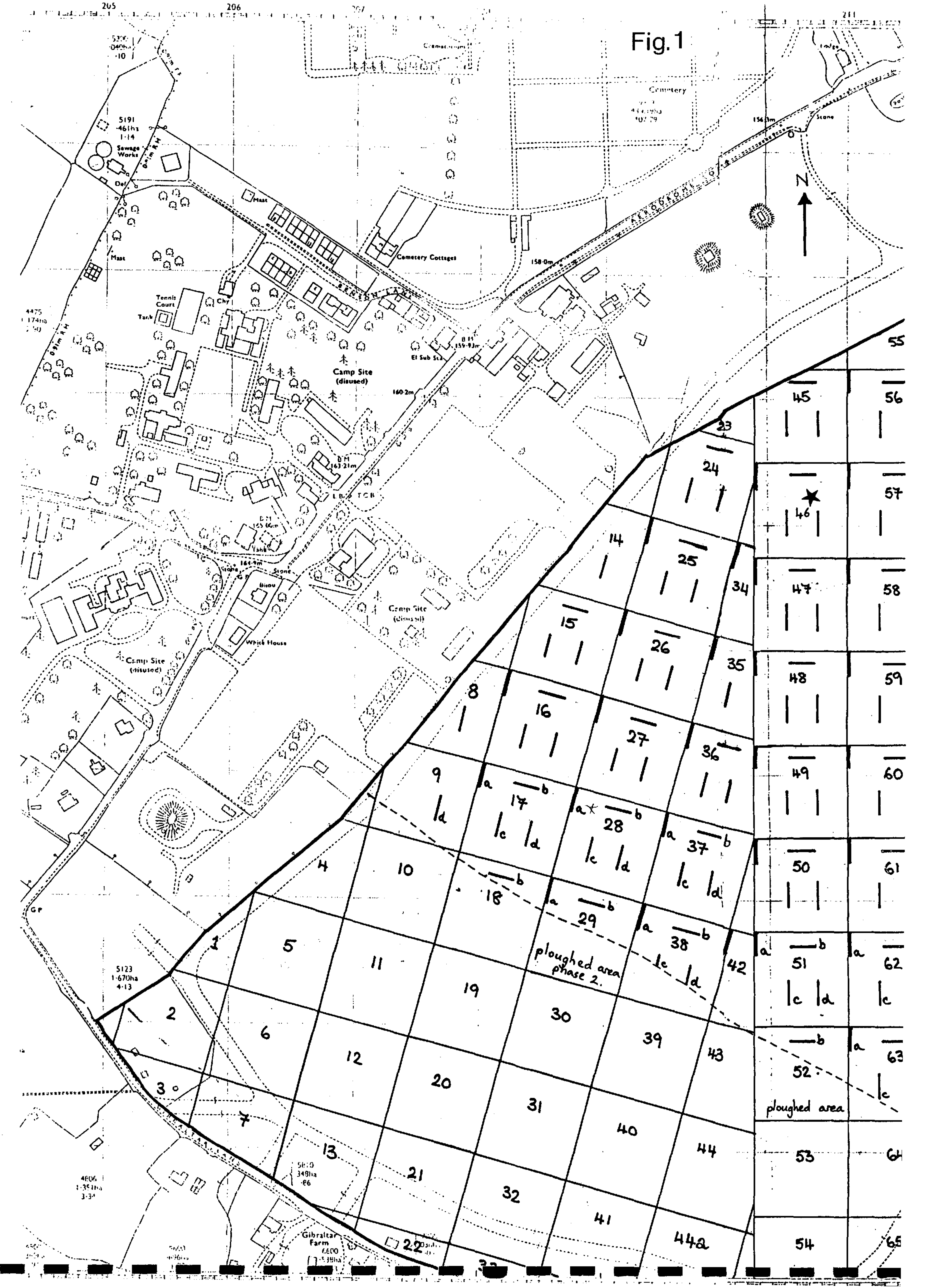
3. Small jar in medium black sandy ware with incised decoration. Romano-British. (Trench 80b [3] Pot III).

4. Broken Neolithic polished axe. (Tr. 96b [2]).

FIGURE 14

1. Iron ard tip. (TR. 85c [4]).

Fig.1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El Sub Sta
BM 159·93m
Camp Site (disused)
160·2m
BM 163·21m
LB
TCB
BM 165·06m
Tank
164·9m
Stone
Bijou
White House
Camp Site (disused)
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4·13
4806
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Gibraltar Farm
6600
·538ha
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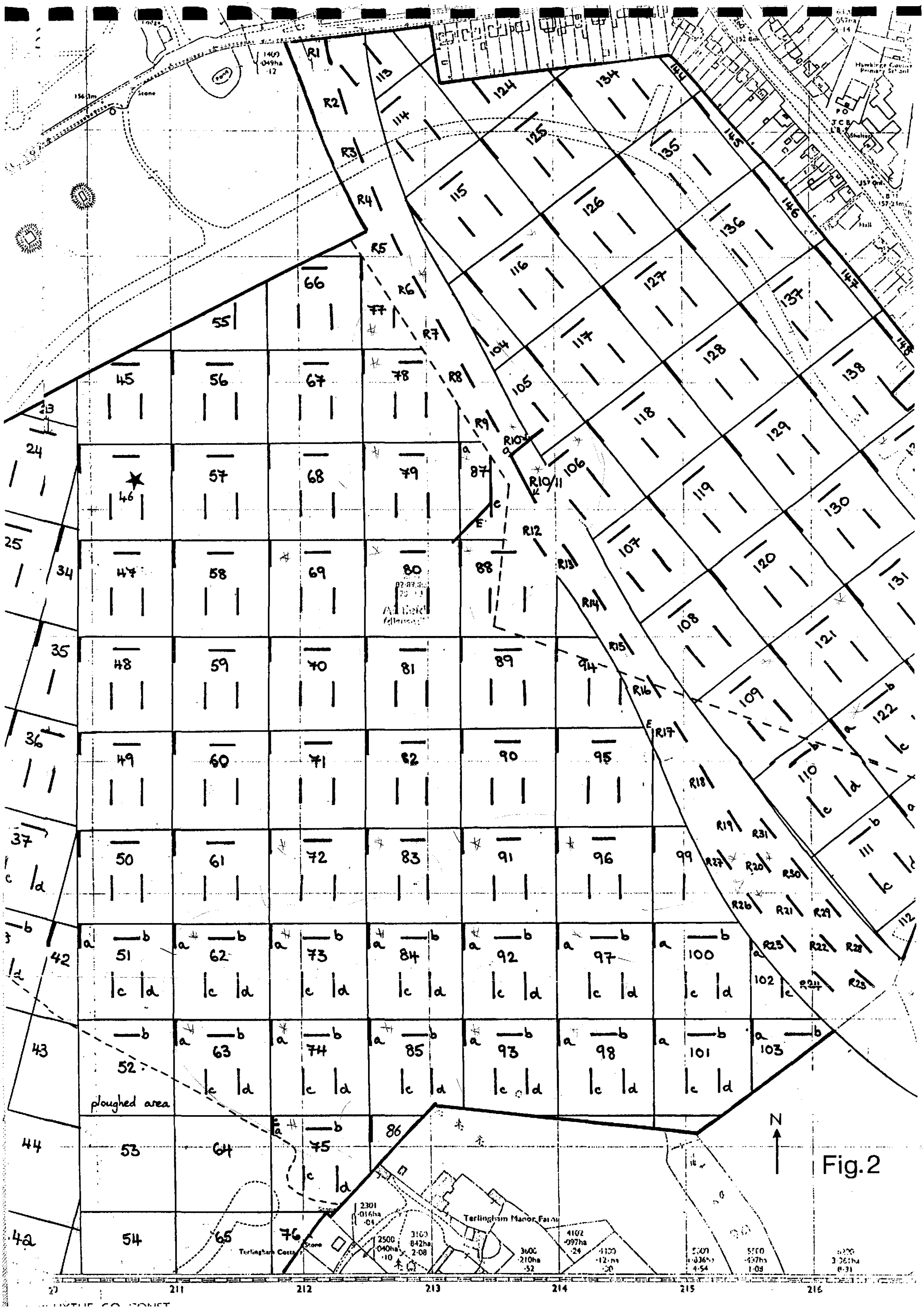
ploughed area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ploughed area
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Terlingham Cottage
Stone
Hawkinge County Primary School
JCB
Shelter
Hall
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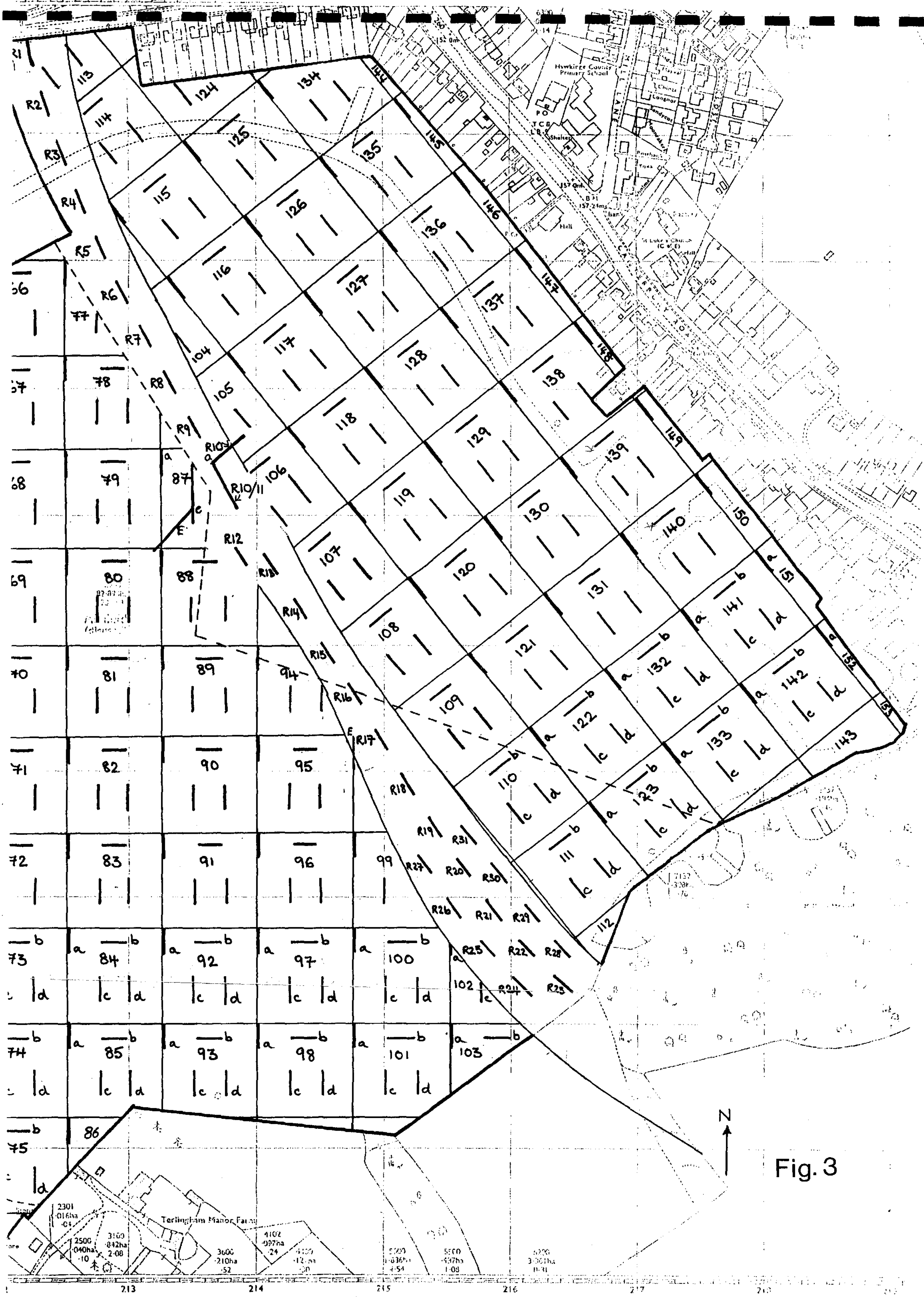
Fig.2



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Shelter
Hall
St Luke's Church (C of E)
Longnor
Sandycot
157·0m
152·0m
B M 157·24m
LANE
Terlingham Manor Farm
2301 ·016ha ·04
2500 ·040ha ·10
3100 ·842ha 2·08
3600 ·210ha ·52
4102 ·097ha ·24
5500 ·437ha 1·08
213
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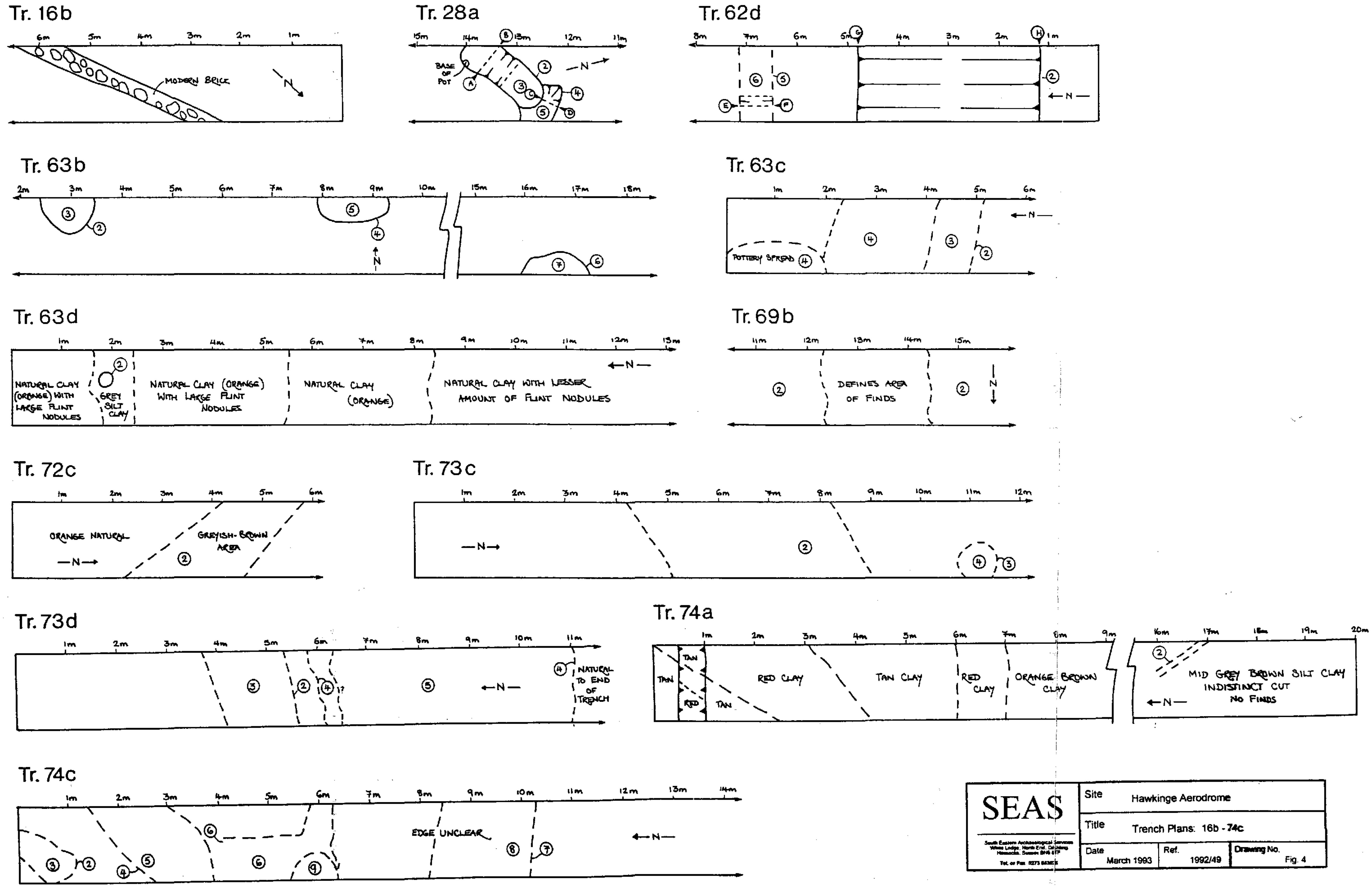
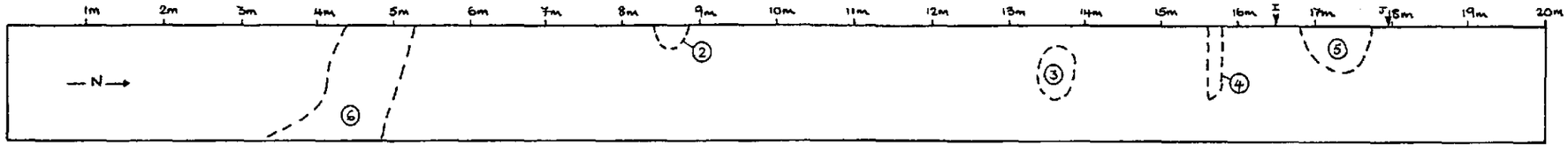
Fig. 3

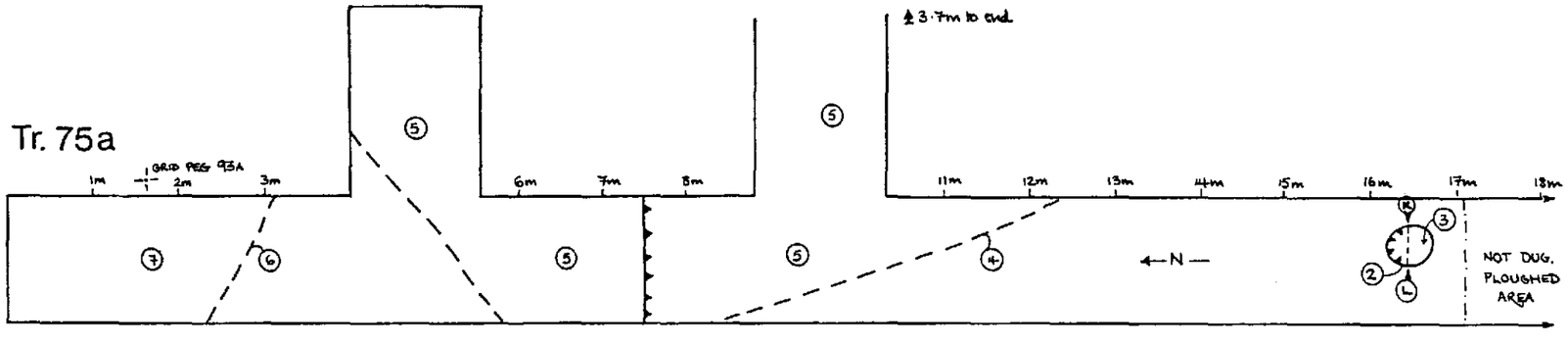


SEAS	Site	Hawkinge Aerodrome	
South Eastern Archaeological Services	Title	Trench Plans: 16b - 74c	
Tel. or Fax 0273 845625	Date March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 4

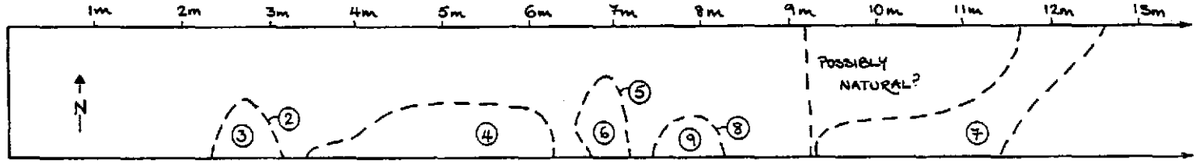
Tr. 74d



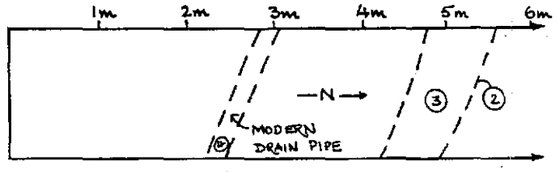
Tr. 75a



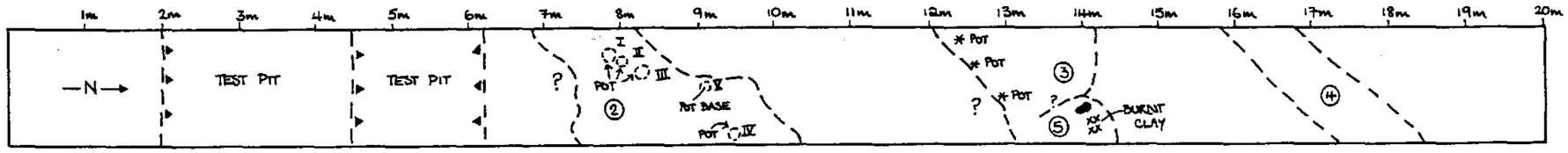
Tr. 75b



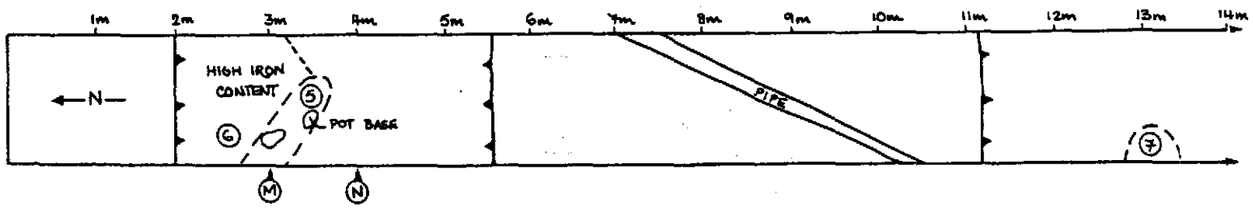
Tr. 75c



Tr. 77a

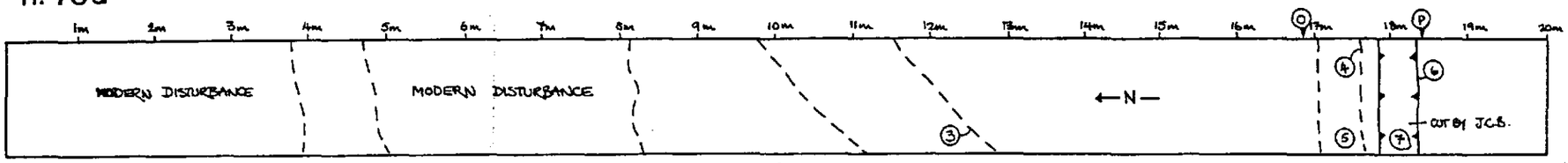


Tr. 79c



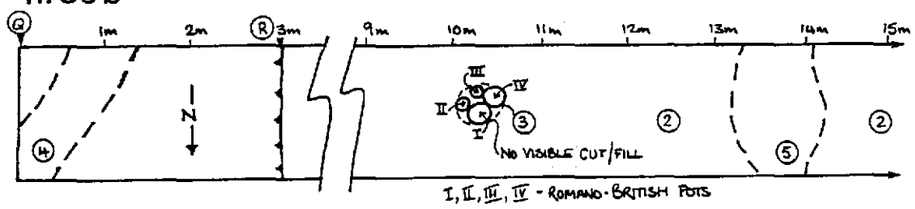
SEAS	Site - Hawkinge Aerodrome		
South Eastern Archaeological Services, White Lodge, North End, Ditchling, Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TF, Tel. or Fax 0273 843828	Title Trench Plans: 74d - 79c		
	Date March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 5

Tr. 79d

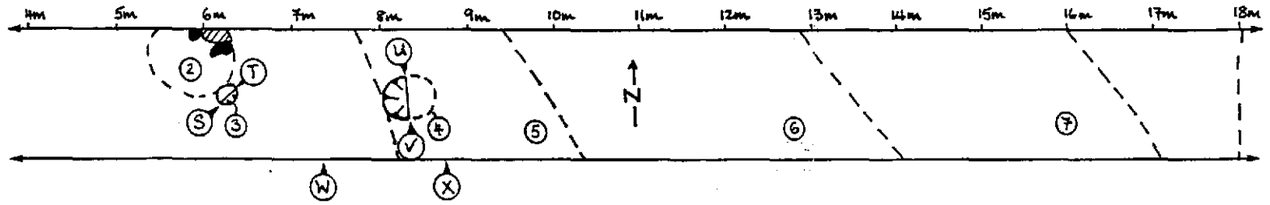


SEAS	Site	Hawkinge Aerodrome	
South Eastern Archaeological Services, White Lodge, Herne End, Ditchling, Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TF, Tel. or Fax 0273 843628	Title	Trench Plans: 79d-87c	
	Date March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 6

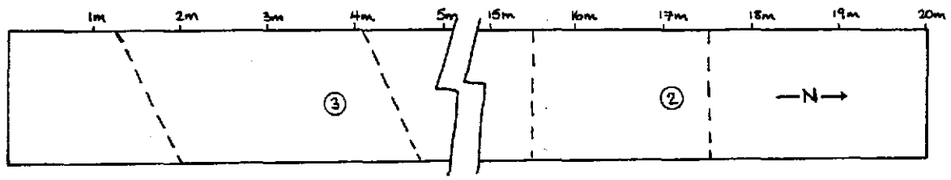
Tr. 80b



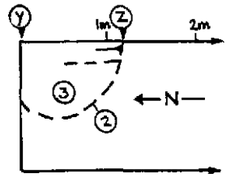
Tr. 81b



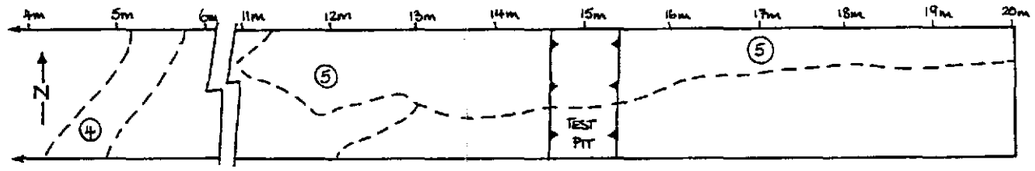
Tr. 81d



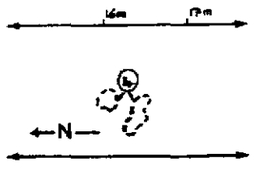
Tr. 83d



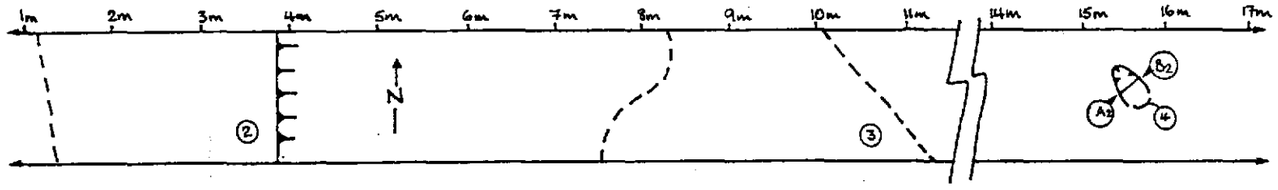
Tr. 84b



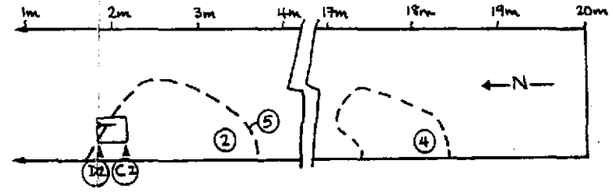
Tr. 84c



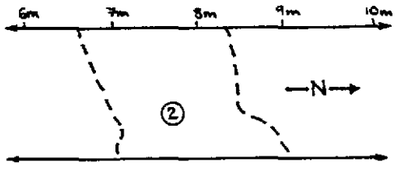
Tr. 85b



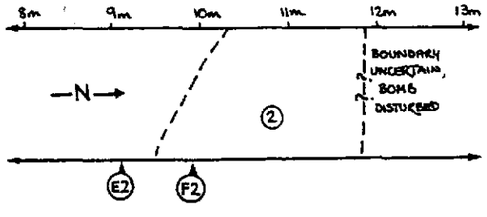
Tr. 85c



Tr. 85d



Tr. 87a



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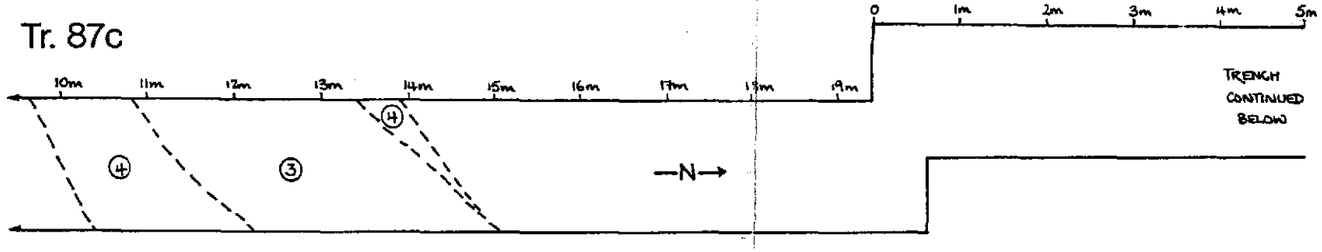
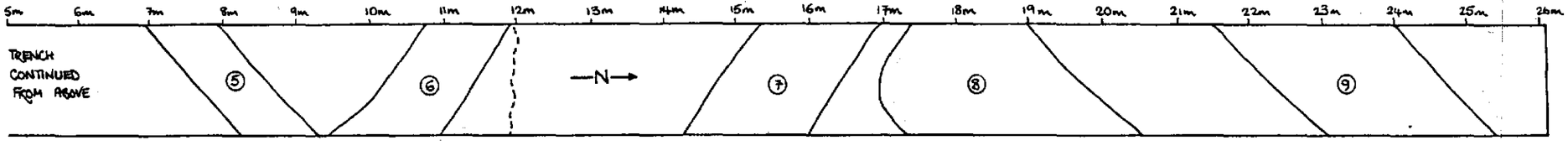
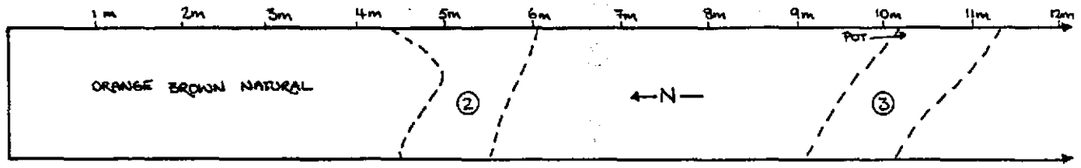


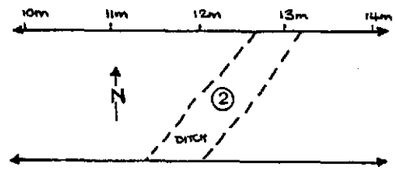
Tr. 87c



Tr. 88a

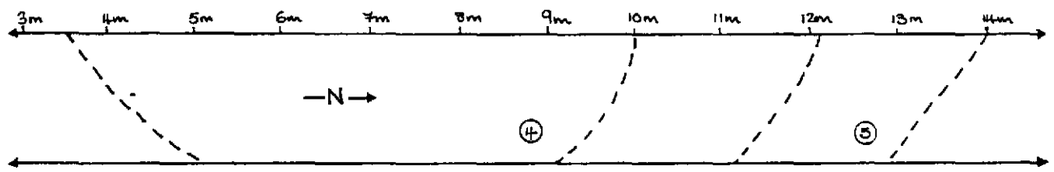


Tr. 88b

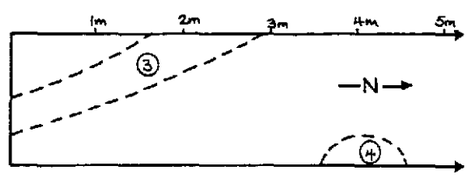


SEAS	Site	Hawkinge Aerodrome		
South Eastern Archaeological Services White Lodge, North End, Olanding Hellingly, Sussex BN6 8TF Tel. or Fax 0273 843028	Title	Trench Plans: 88a - 98c		
	Date	March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 7

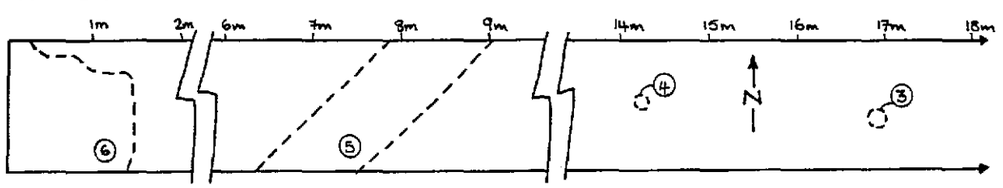
Tr. 91c



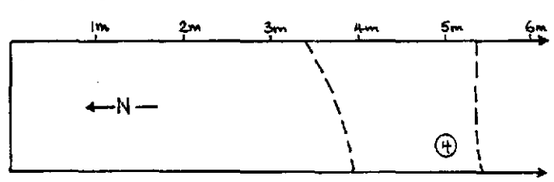
Tr. 92d



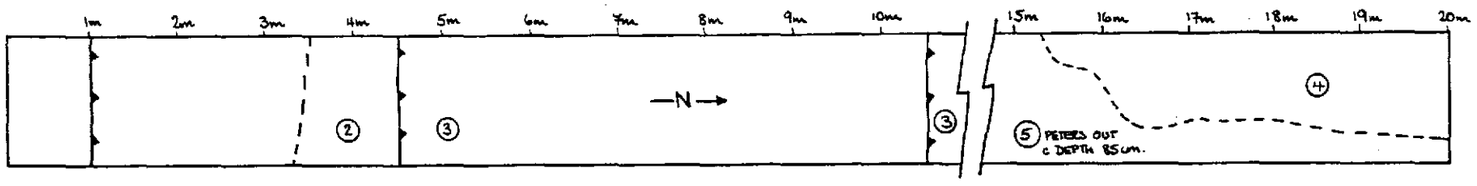
Tr. 93b



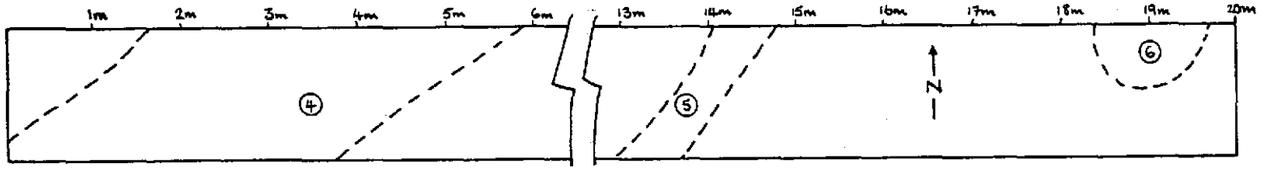
Tr. 94c



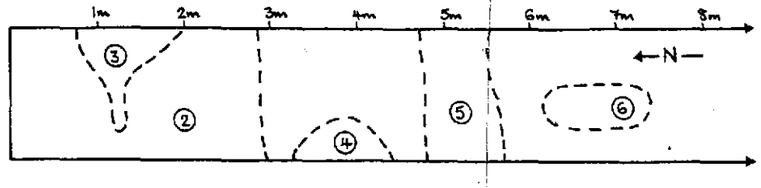
Tr. 97a



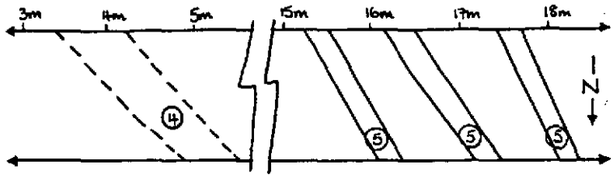
Tr. 97b



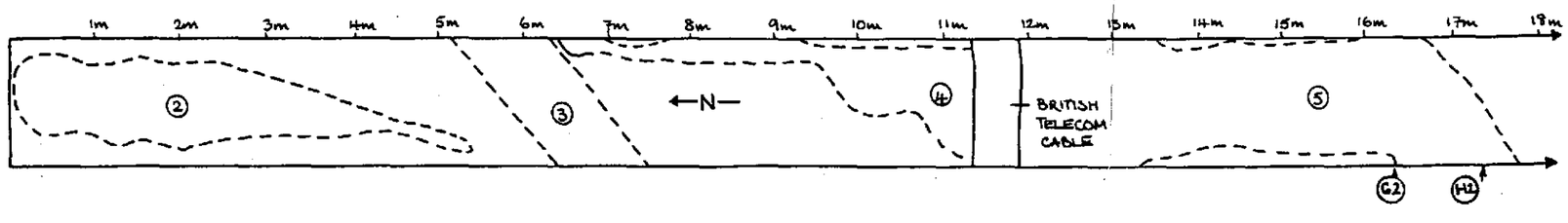
Tr. 97d



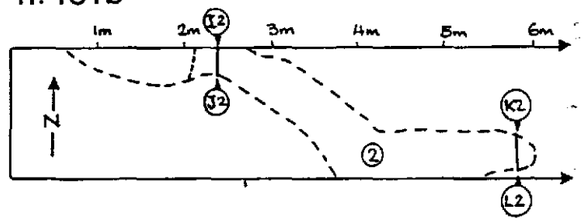
Tr. 98b



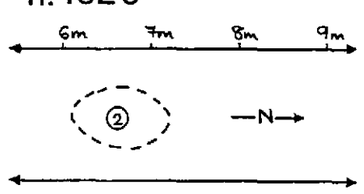
Tr. 98c



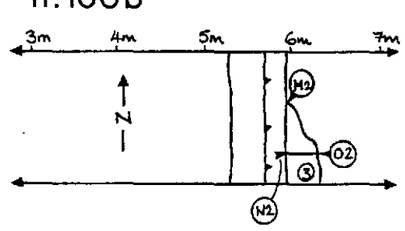
Tr. 101b



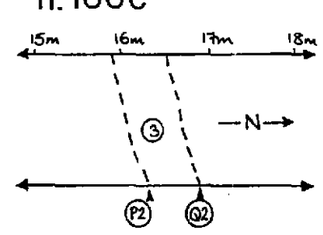
Tr. 102c



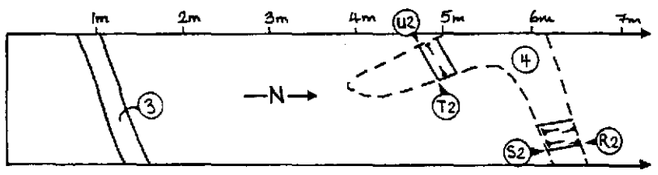
Tr. 106b



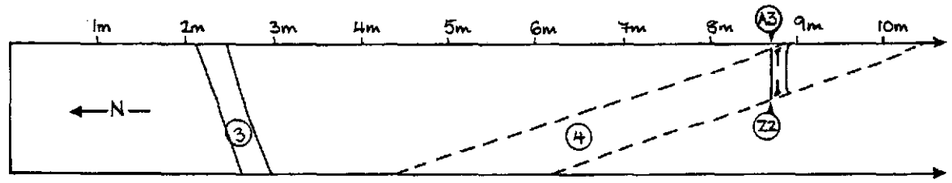
Tr. 106c



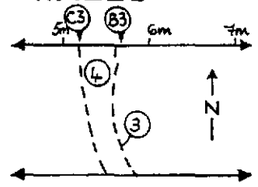
Tr. 109d



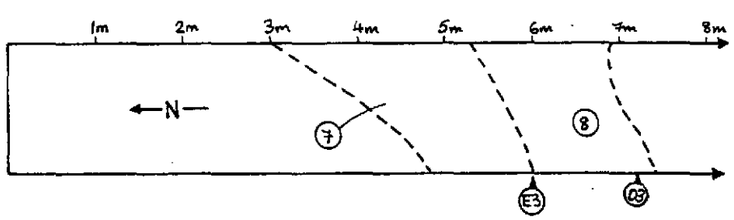
Tr. 121c



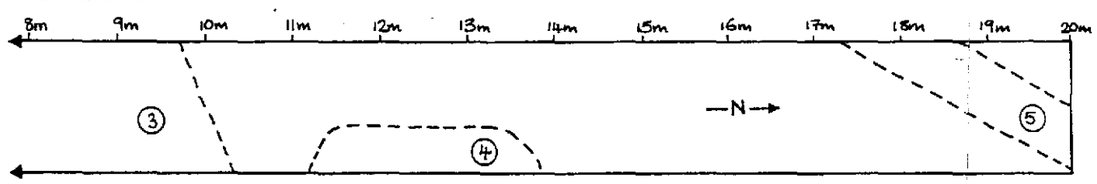
Tr. 122b



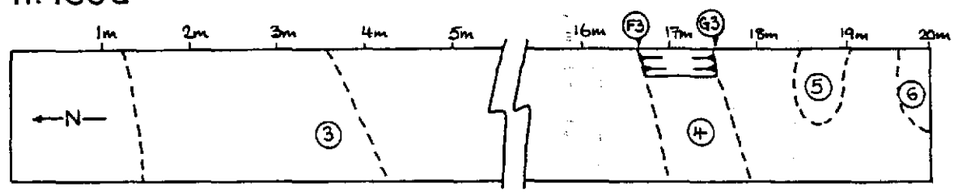
Tr. 137a



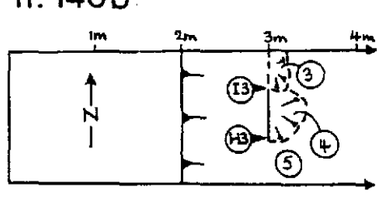
Tr. 139c



Tr. 139d

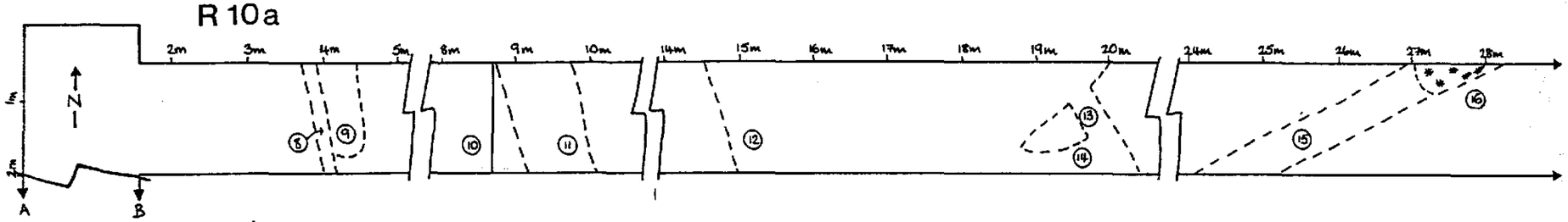


Tr. 140b

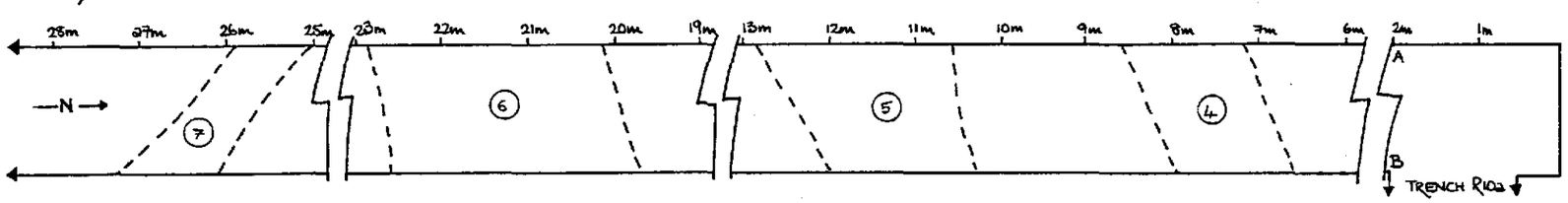


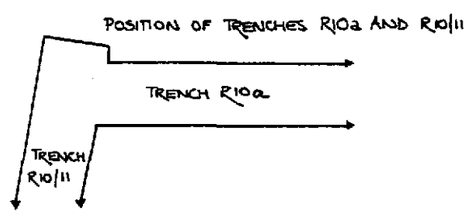
SEAS South Eastern Archaeological Services White Lodge, North End, Ospringe Faversham, Kent ME13 0TF Tel. or Fax. 0273 843929	Site: Hawkinge Aerodrome		
	Title: Trench Plans: 101b - 140b		
	Date: March 1993	Ref.: 1992/49	Drawing No.: Fig. 8

R 10a

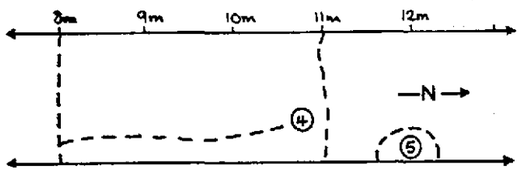


R 10/11

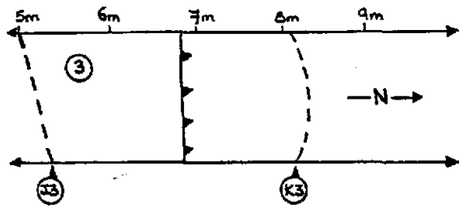




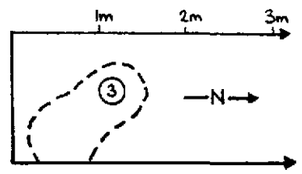
R 20



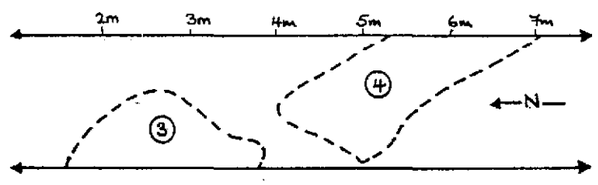
R 26



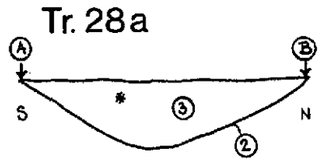
R 27

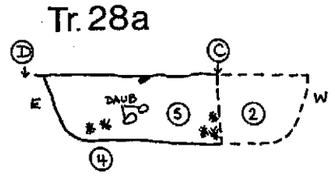


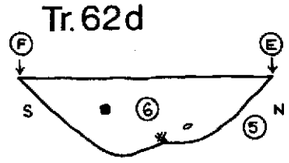
R 6

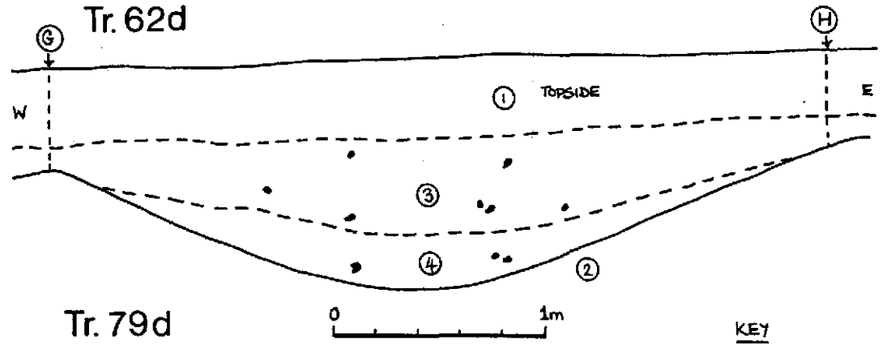


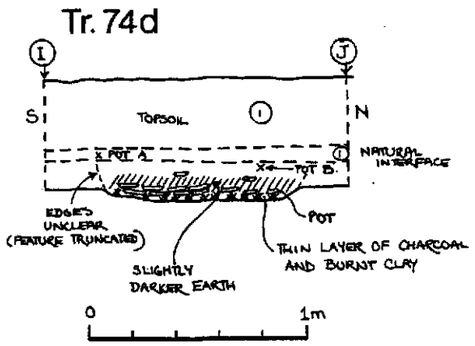
SEAS	Site	Hawkinge Aerodrome		
South Eastern Archaeological Services White Lodge, North End, Ditching Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TF Tel. or Fax 0273 843829	Title	Trench Plans: R6 - R27		
	Date March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 9	

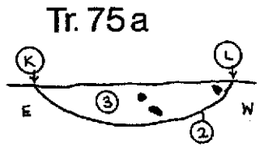


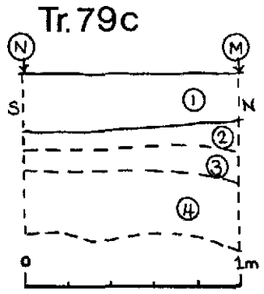


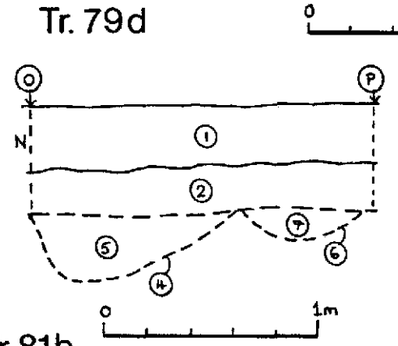


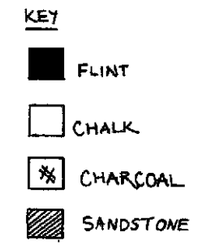


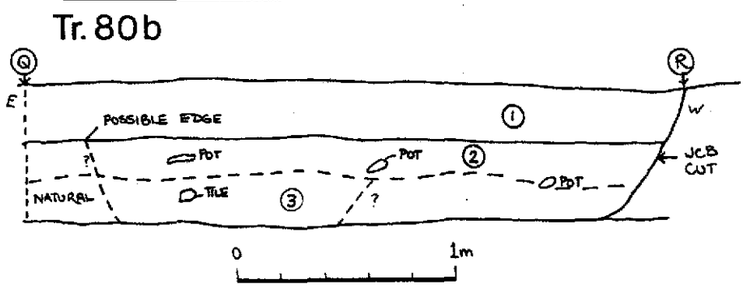


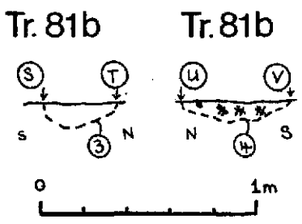


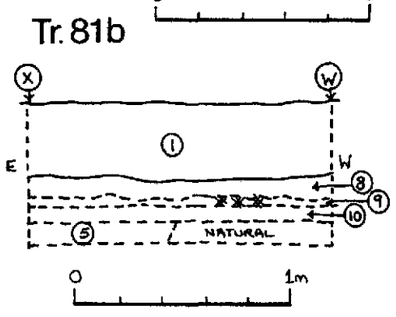


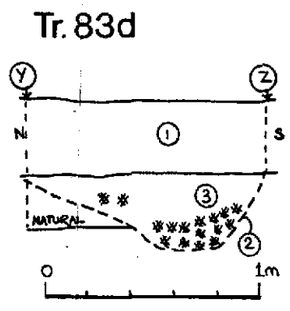


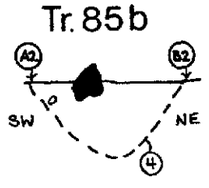


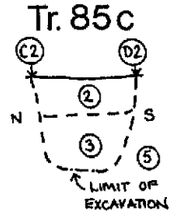


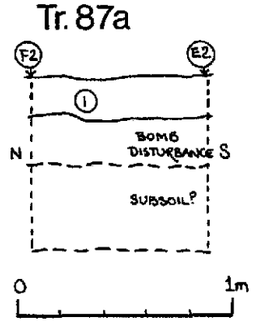


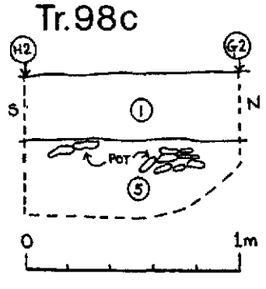


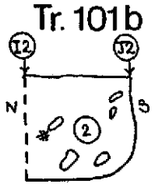


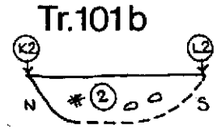






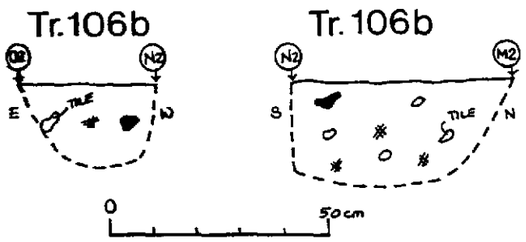


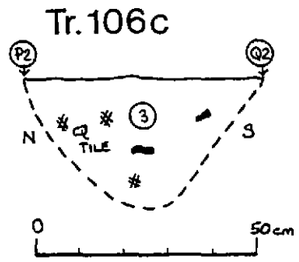


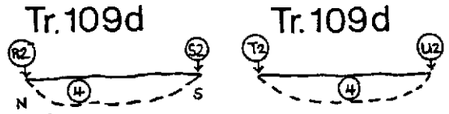


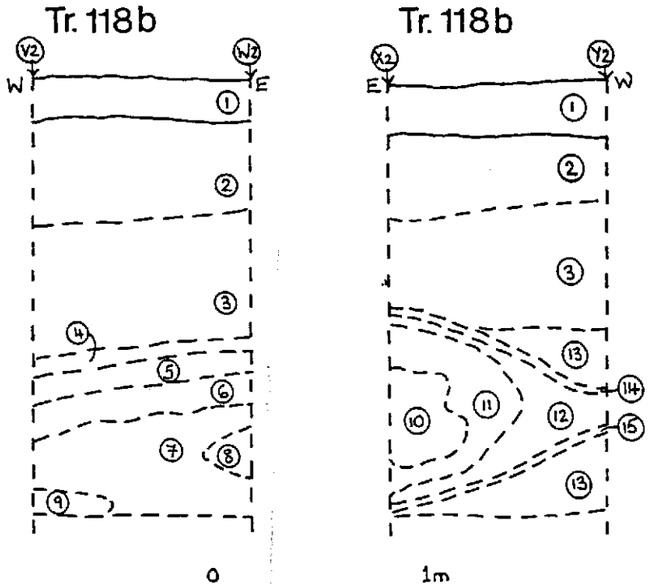
ALL SECTIONS WITHOUT SCALE DRAWN AT 0 1m

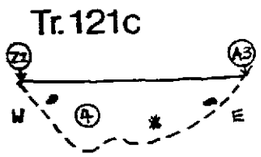
SEAS South Eastern Archaeological Services Wilkie Lodge, North End, Ditchling Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TF Tel. or Fax 0273 843026	Site: Hawkinge Aerodrome		
	Title: Sections: 28a - 101b		
	Date: March 1993	Ref.: 1992/49	Drawing No.: Fig. 10

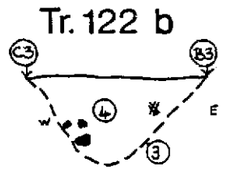


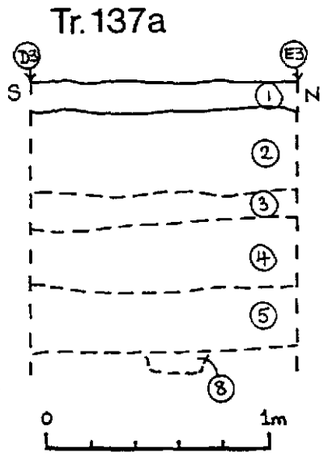


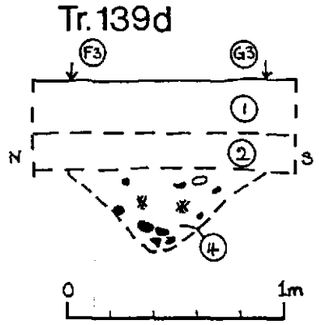


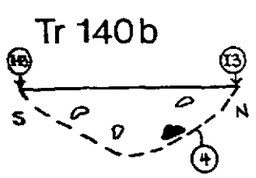


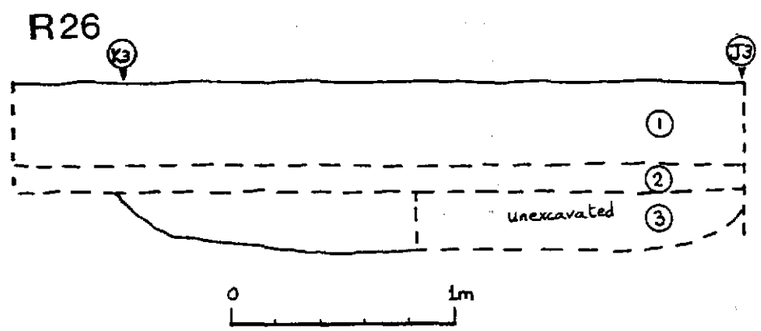












ALL SECTIONS DRAWN WITHOUT SCALE ARE AT

SEAS South Eastern Archaeological Services White Lodge, North End, Ditchling Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TF Tel. or Fax. 0273 843086	Site: Hawkinge Aerodrome		
	Title: Sections: 106b - 140b and R26		
	Date: March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 11

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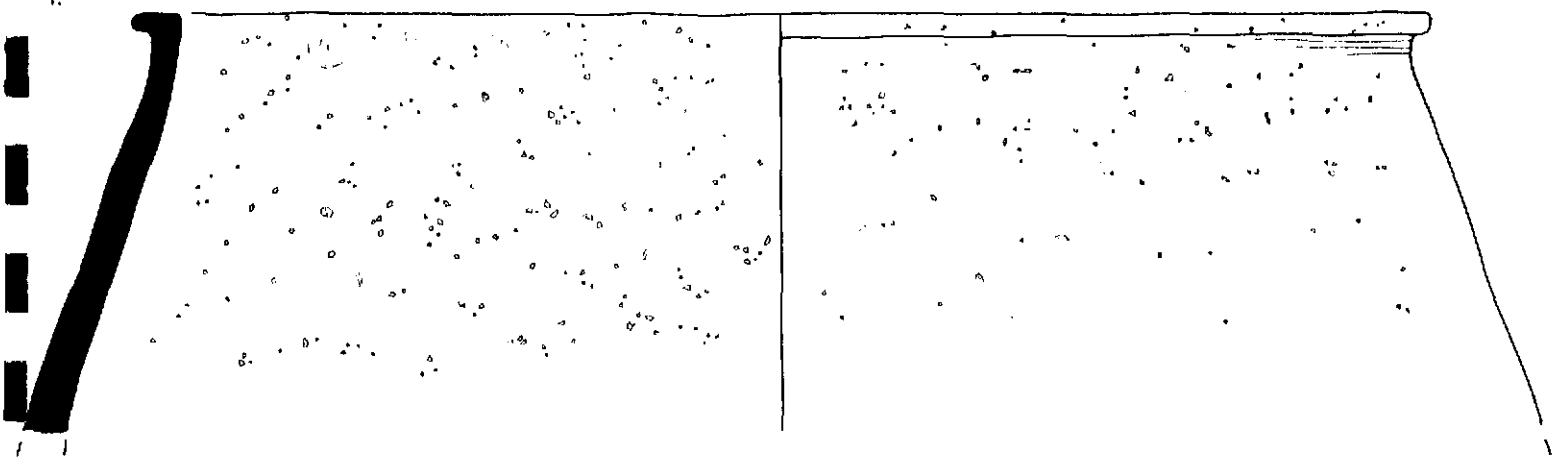

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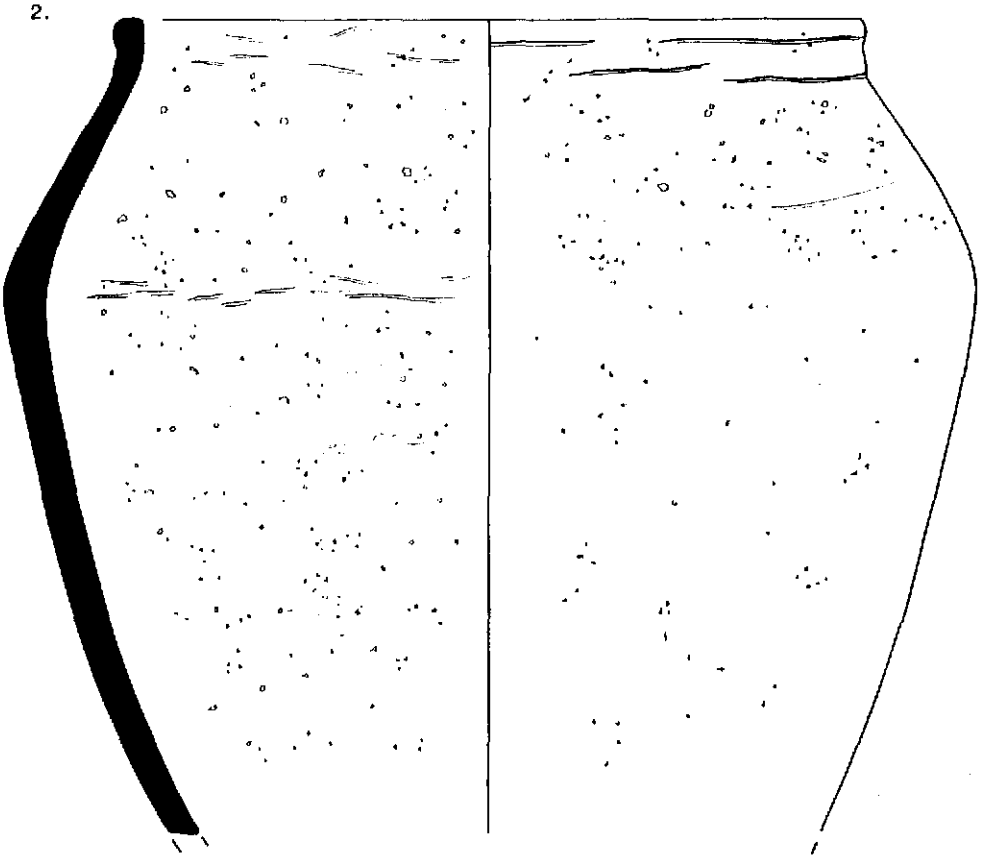

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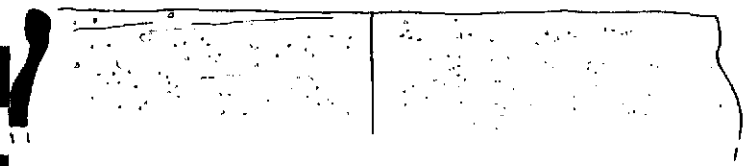

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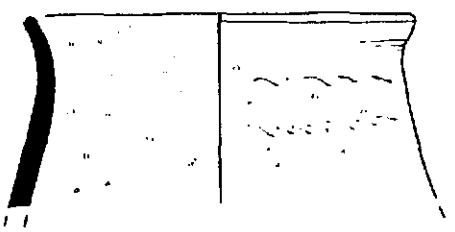

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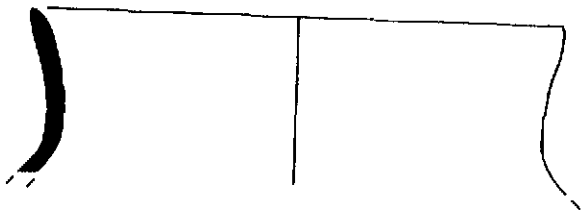
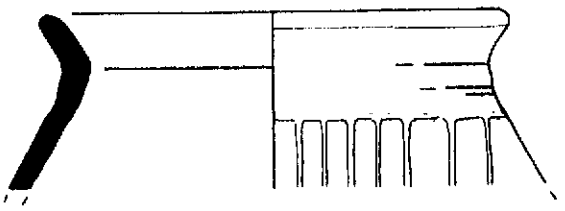


0 5cm

SEAS	Site: Hawkinge Aerodrome		
	Title: Finds Illustrations		
	Date: March 1993	Ref: 1992/49	Drawing No: Fig 12

1.



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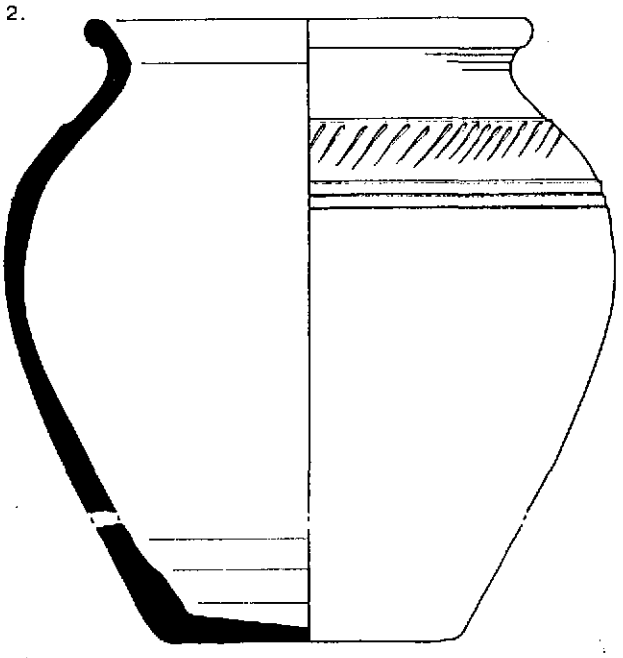

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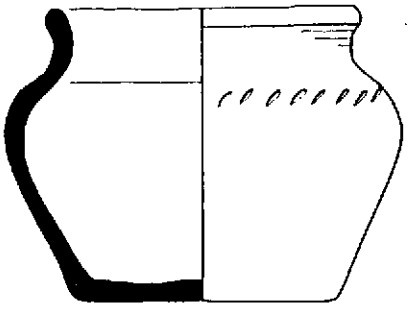

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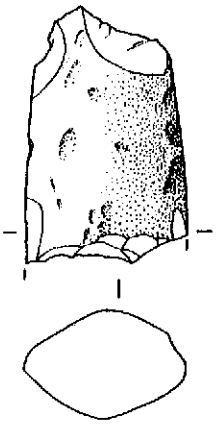
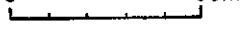
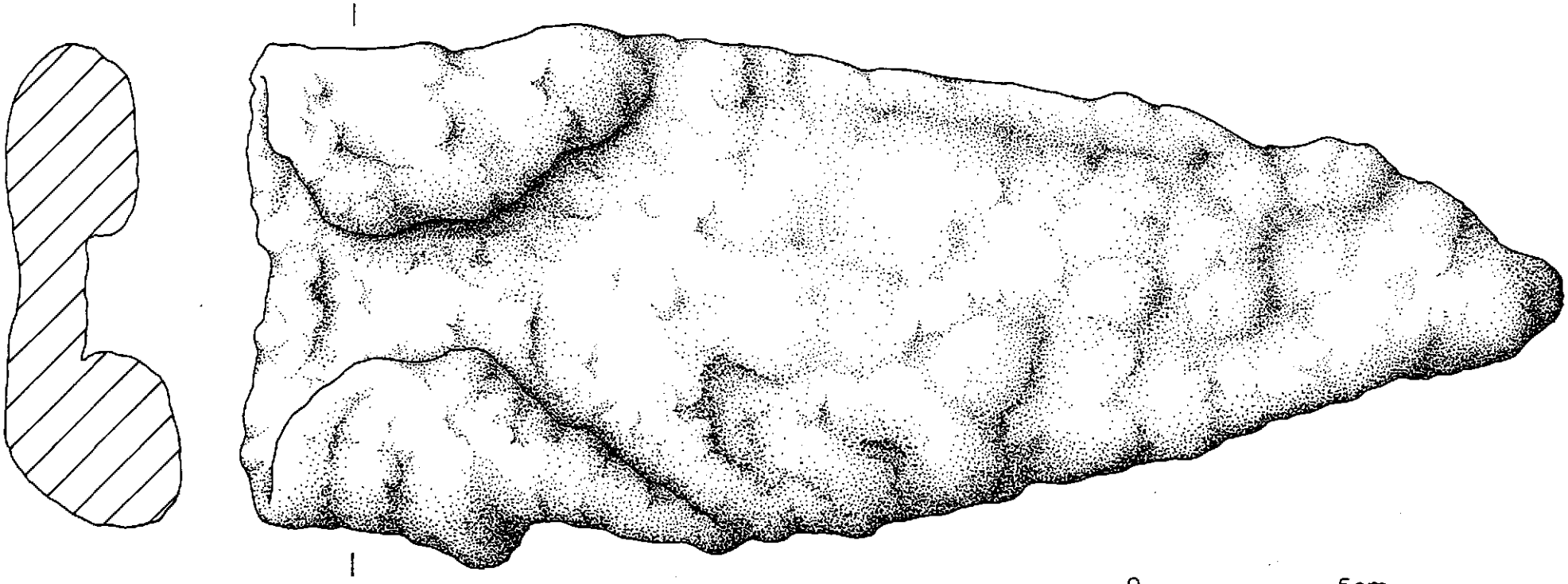




SEAS	Site	Hawkinge Aerodrome	
	Title	Finds Illustrations	
	Date	March 1993	Ref 1992/48	Drawing No Fig 11



SEAS South Eastern Archaeological Services White Lodge, North End, Ditchling Hassocks, Sussex BN6 8TF Tel. or Fax 0273 843028	Site Hawkinge Aerodrome		
	Title Finds Illustrations		
	Date March 1993	Ref. 1992/49	Drawing No. Fig. 14

Scale 1:2500

Fig.15

PLATE I: Trench 74d. Context 5.

PLATE II: Trench 77a. Context 2.

PLATE I: Trench 74d. Context 5.

PLATE II: Trench 77a. Context 2.

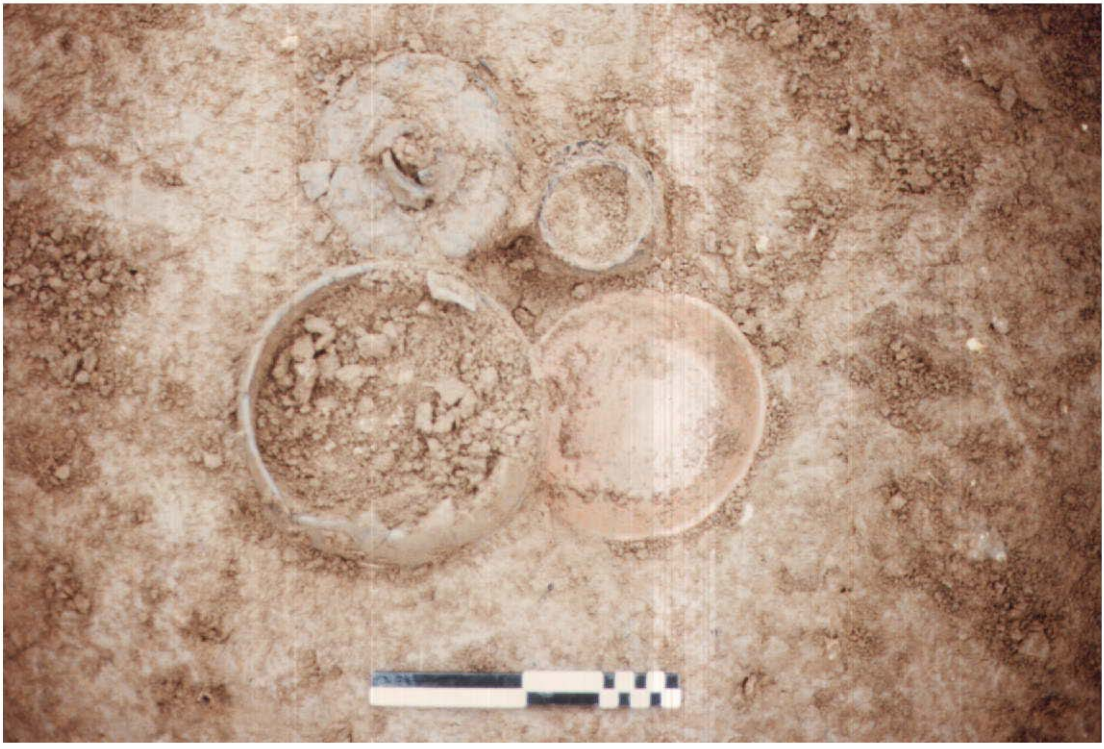


TABLE 1

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
15C (1)	1					Clay pigeon x6
16A (1)						Mod. brick & glass x 2
16C (1)	1					
16D (1)	1	1				
17A (1)	1					
17B (1)	1					Mod. brick x 1
17C (1)	2 (inc. core)					Coke x 2
24B (1)				2		
24D (1)						Mod. drain + china x 2
25A (1)				1		Coke x 1. Tile x 1
25B (1)						Mod. glass x 1 Coke x 1
25C (1)	2					Mod. iron x 3 Coke x 3
25D (1)	2 (inc. core)					Mod. pot x 1
26A (1)						Clinker x 6
26C (1)	1					
26D (1)	1					
27A (1)	1					Coke x 2 Mod. drain x 1
27B (1)	1?					
27C (1)		1?				
28A (1)	1			13		
28A (3)				18		
28C (1)	1					
29A (1)				1		

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
70B (1)	1					
70C (1)	1					
71B (1)	1		2			Mod. glass x 1
71C (1)	4		1	1		
72C (2)			1			
72D (1)						Mod. pot x 1
73C (2)		1		3		
73D (1)		1	1			
73D (3)			3	5?		
73D (5)	2			9		
74C (3)				4		
74C (4)	1		1	3		
74C (7/8)	4	1		15		
74D (5)	1	111 (101 same pot)				(Early Iron Age)
74D subsoil				1		
74D (6)	2		3	4		
75A (1)	3					Fire cracked flint x 1
75A (3)			2	6		
75A (5)	3	1	5	33		Fire cracked flint x 1
75B (1)						Mod. brick x 1
75B (3)						Burnt clay x 3
75B (4)			1	6		Burnt clay x 1
75B (6)				1		
75B (7)	1					
75C (3)				1		Tile x 2. ?
75D (1)		1				

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
77A (1)	2			3		Tile x 1
77A (2)	1			312+ (5 vessels+)		Foreign stone x 1
77A (3)				37		
78B (5)	1					Shell x 1
78C (3)	4					PM Tile + brick x 2
78D (1)	4			3		PM pot + tile x 4
78D (5)	1			5		
79A (2)	1					
79B (3)	1		1	2		
79C (5)				1		
79C (6)	1			20		
79D (1)				3		
79D (3)	1			3		
79D (5)				17 (1 vessel)		
80A (2)	1			71		Fire cracked flint x 2
80B (2)				53		Iron x 1 Tile x 1
80B (3)				4 vessels		Cremated bone
80B (4)				4		R-B tile x 2
80B (5)				6		
80B (6)				1		
80C (2)	1			6		
81A (1)	1					Tile x 1
81B (1)	2			7		
81B (3)				1		

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
29B (1)		1				
34A (2)	2					Mod. glass x 1
35C (1)						Mod. glass x 4 Coke x 6
36A (1)	2					
36B (1)	2					
36C (1)	4 (inc. core)					
36D (1)	1					
37B (1)	1					
45B (1)						Coke x 1
46D (1)		1				
47C (1)						Mod. glass x 1 Glass x 1
48B (1)	1	1				Mod. tile x 1
48C (1)	1					
48D (1)	1					Tile x 1
49A (1)	2					
49B (1)	2		3			
49C (1)	5			3		Tile x 1
49D (1)	2					
50C (1)	1			1		Mod. brick x 1
50D (1)	1		1			Slag x 2
51B (1)		1				
51C (1)		1				
51D (1)						Tile x 1
52B (1)	2					

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
56A (1)	1			2		Tile x 1
57A (1)						Tile x 2
57C (1)	1					
57D (1)	1 core?					
58A (1)						Coke x 1
58C (1)				3		
59C (1)				1		
59D (1)						Mod. glass x 1
60C (1)	1	2				
61B (1)		2	5	4		
61C (1)	2					
62B (1)	1					
62C (1)	1					
62D (3)	5	1	3	42		Worked foreign stone
62D (6)				3		
63A (1)						Modern drain
63B (7)			2	8		
63C (1)	2	1		1		
63C (3)	1		1	9 (inc. spindle whorl)		
63C (4)	2		2	60		(Patchgrove ware)
63D (1)	1					
66C (2)	2					
68C (1)	1					
69B (2)	1			17		

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
81B (5)	1			2		Charcoal
81B (7)				6		
81C (1)						Modern brick + glass x 3
81C (2)	1			1		
81D (1)	2					
82B (2)	1 (core)					
82C (1)				2		
83A (1)	1	1				
83C (2)		1	1	2		
84B (2)	2		11			
84C (1)			2			
84D (1)	2 (inc. core)		2			
84D (3)			3			
85A (1)			1	1		
85B (1)	1			2		
85B (2)	3		33		1	
85B (3)			2			Burnt clay x 3
85C (2)	3		4	4		Foreign stone x 4
85C (4)	1		85 (3 vessels)	2		Burnt clay x 17 Fire cracked flint x 2 Iron Ard tip
85D (1)	2	1				
85D (2)	2		2			
87A (1)				2		
87A (2)				8		
87C (3)			1	13		Dupondius of Hadrian?

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
87C (6)				5		
87C (7)	1			8		
87C (8)				5		Burnt clay x 1
87C (9)				12		Burnt clay x 1
87E (3)			1	46		Burnt clay x 1
88A (2)	4					
88A (3)		1		4		
88B (2)				1		
89C (1)	2			1		
90A (2)	1			3		
90B (1)	1		5			
90C (1)	2 (cores)		1	3		
91A (2)				2		
91B (1)				1		
91C (4)	1		20			
91C (5)						? Med. tile x 1
91D (1)				2		
91D (3)			1	4		
92B (5)			2			
92C (2)	2					? Med. tile x 1
92D (3)			1			
92D (4)	2		3	3?		
93A (1)				1		
93B (5)					1	Bone x 1
93B (6)	5		10			Burnt clay x 1
93c (1)						Tile/burnt clay x 1
93D (1)	1			1?	1?	

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
95A (2)	1			4		
95B (1)	2		3	1		
95C (2)				3		
95D (2)				2		
96B (2)	5	Polished Axe	2	2		
96C (1)	1		3			
97A (3)	1		1	1	10	Iron x 1
97A (4)					160 13th-14th	Slate x 1
97B (4)	1			1	1?	
97B (5)				1	2	
97B (6)	2			10	8?	
97C (1)	3		2			Slag x 1. Tile x 1
97D (2)					5	Med. tile x 1
97D (5)				1		
98A (1)	1					Fire cracked flint x 2
98B (1)	1		4			
98C (2)	1		1	1?		
98C (3)	2			1		
98C (4)	1		2			
98C (5)	2				13?	Fire cracked flint x 1
100A (1)		1		1		
100C (1)	3			3		
100D (2)		1			2	Burnt clay x 3
101B (2)						Slag x 3. PM brick x 2
104D (1)						Modern glass x 1
106B (3)						Burnt clay x 8
106C (1)	2	1		1		Tile x 4 (Med?)

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
106C (3)				17		Burnt clay x 4 Spoon?
107D (3)	1			1		
109B (2)	1					
109B (3)	1					
111B (1)	1					Tile x 1
111C (1)		1				
115C (1)	2		2	1		
115D (1)						Modern pot x 2
116A (1)	1 (core)	1				
116C (2)	1					Burnt clay x 1
116C (3)				9		
116D (1)	4			1		
117A (3)	2					
117B (2)	1					
117C (2)		1				
118C (1)		1				
119B (1)						Burnt clay x 1
119C (5)	2		5	1		Burnt clay x 1
119D (1)	1					
121B (1)	1					
121C (4)	1		3	1		
121D (2)	1					
122A (2)	1			6		
122B (1)	1 (core)					
122B (4)	2					
122C (1)						Iron ore?
125C (1)	3			3		

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
126A (4)	2					
126B (1)	3	1		2		
127A (3)						PM pot x 1
127B (2)	4			1		PM pot x 1. Shell x 2
127C (1)	2			1		
127D (1)	1		1			
128A (2)	1					
128B (1)	3		1	1	1?	Modern glass x 1
128C (4)			1			
129A (1)						Tile (Med?) x 2
129C (2)		1				
129D (1)		1				
131A (1)		2				
131A (3)	7		3	6		PM pot x 1
132A (1)	1			1	2	
133A	2			1	2	
133D (2)	2					
134A (2)			1	3		
135A (1)						Tile x 2
135B (1)	2					Modern pot x 1
136A (1)		1		4		
137A (2)	1					PM tile x 3
137A (5)	2		3			
137A (7)	3	1	13	8		Burnt clay x 1
137A (8)	7		11			
137D (1)	2			2		
138B (1)			13			

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
138B (2)	3					
138C (2)	1					
139C (3)	1	2		14		Glass x 1
139C (5)			1			
139D (3)			5	5		
140B (4)				2		
140B (5)			1	7		
141B (1)						PM pot x 2
142A (1)					2	
145A (1)	2			2		
151A (1)	1					
R1 (1)	1	1				Slate x 1
R2 (1)	1					
R3 (1)				5		
R6 (3)	2			1		
R6 (4)	1			30		
R8 (1)	1					Shell x 2
R10/11 (4)				2		R-B tile x 1
R10/11 (5)				5		Foreign stone x 1
R10/11 (6)				5		
R10/11 (7)				5		Burnt clay x 1
R10A (8)						Burnt clay x 5
R10A (11)				1		
R10A (12)				5		
R14 (2)	1		3	2		
R16 (1)				1		

Trench No. & Context	Struck Flakes	Retouched Flint	Prehistoric Pot	R-B Pot	Medieval Pot	Other
R17 (1)	1					
R20 (2)			1	1?		
R20 (4)	10		17	1?		Fire cracked flint x 1
R20 (5)						Burnt clay x 3
R22 (1)	1					
R23 (1)						Iron & modern brick x 2
R26 (2)	4		11	1?		Fire cracked flint x 1
R26 (3)			20			
R29 (2)			2			

TABLE 2:

Trenches producing archaeological/potential archaeological features

	W. Grid	C. Grid		E. Grid	Road Trenches
Trench Nos.	28a	62d	84d	106b	R6
		63b	85b	106c	R10/11
		63c	85c	109b	R10a
		63d	85d	109d	R20
		69b	87a	116c	R26
		72c	87c	121c	R27
		73c	88a	122b	
		73d	88b	129c	
		74a	88d	129d	
		74c	91c	137a	
		74d	91d	139c	
		75a	92b	139d	
		75b	92c	140b	
		75c	92d		
		77a	93b		
		78d	93c		
		79c	94c		
		79d	95d		
		80a	96d		
		80b	97a		
		81b	97b		
		81d	97d		
		83d	98b		
		84b	98c		
		84c	102c		