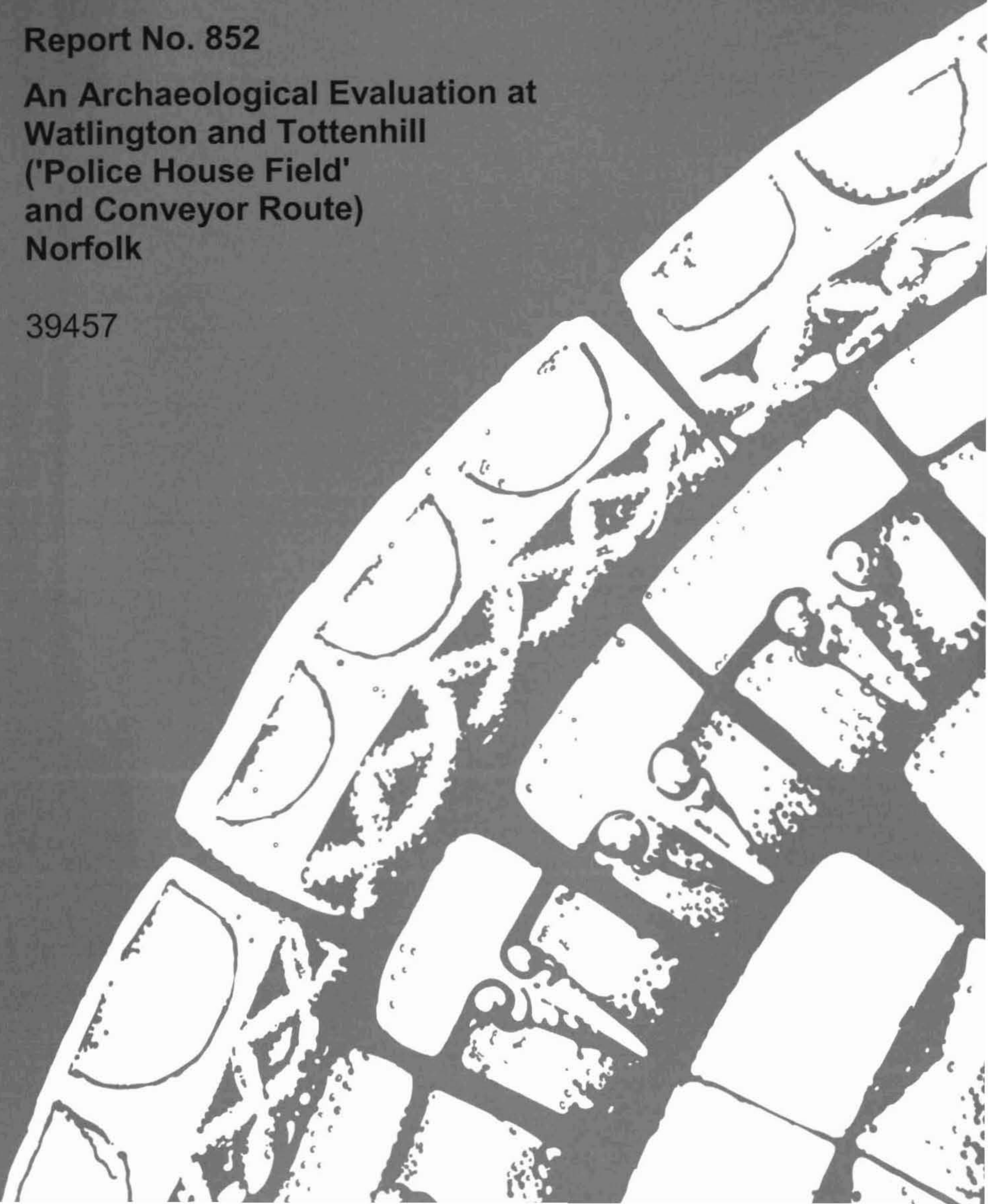


NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Report No. 852

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Watlington and Tottenhill
(‘Police House Field’
and Conveyor Route)
Norfolk**

39457



NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Report No. 852

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Watlington and Tottenhill ('Police House Field' and
Conveyor Route) Norfolk**

39457

Matthew Town
September 2003

© Norfolk Archaeological Unit

Contents

Summary

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Geology and Topography
- 3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background
- 4.0 Methodology
- 5.0 Results
- 6.0 The Finds
- 7.0 The Environmental Evidence
- 8.0 Conclusions

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

- Appendix 1: Context Summary
- Appendix 2: Finds by Context
- Appendix 3: Roman Pottery
- Appendix 4: Non-Roman Pottery
- Appendix 5: Ceramic Building Material
- Appendix 6: Faunal Remains
- Appendix 7: Flint
- Appendix 8: Small Finds
- Appendix 9: Catalogue of Other Metal Objects (not small found as they have no archaeological significance)

Figures

- Fig.1 Site Location
- Fig.2 Trench Locations
- Fig.3 Trench 3 Plan and Section
- Fig.4 Trench 15 Plan and Section
- Fig.5 Trench 16 Plan
- Fig.6 Trench 16 Sections
- Fig.7 Trench 18 Plan
- Fig.8 Trench 18 Sections
- Fig.9 Trench 23 Plan and Sections
- Fig.10 Trench 35 Plan and Section
- Fig.11 Trench 42 Plan and Section
- Fig.12 Trench 48 Plan
- Fig.13 Trench 48 Sections
- Fig.14 Trench 49 Plan and Sections
- Fig.15 Plan of Trenches in the South-East, Showing Conjectured Features
- Fig.16 Plan of Trenches to the East, Showing Conjectured Features

Local Authority No.076759

Fig.1 is based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map with the permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 'Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings' Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Norwich (4/09/2003). **Reference copy: no further copies to be made.**

Location: Police House Field and Conveyor Route (PDAN), Watlington and Tottenhill, Norfolk
Grid Ref: TF 6345 1095
HER No.: 39457
Date of Fieldwork: 7th of July to 1st of August 2003

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Watlington and Tottenhill. Twenty seven trenches were excavated, nineteen of which contained archaeological evidence.

The evaluation revealed a possible focus of activity in the south-east corner of the study area. A large curvilinear ditch was uncovered, which appears to correspond with a cropmark seen on the aerial photographs. This ditch appears to enclose an area of higher ground in the south-east corner. The feature may form the western boundary of a settlement or stock enclosure, as suggested in the desk-based assessment (Havercroft 1999, 24). The ditch yielded sherds of Roman pottery including Samian ware, and probably dated to the 1st to 3rd centuries AD. Associated with this ditch were a number of gullies; two pits of possible Saxon date were also uncovered in close association. A concentration of unabraded pottery of Romano-British date, bone and Ceramic Building Material (CBM) was found in the features and the topsoil in this area; four quern fragments were also recovered in this south-east corner. It is thought that the archaeology encountered may fringe along the southern edge of the field to the south-west corner, where further ditches, gullies and pits were identified, both of Roman and possibly Saxon date.

In the trenches to the north and north-west of the field, excavation revealed field systems mainly, comprising shallow ditches and gullies. These were undated in the majority of the trenches, but certain sections, particularly close to the large enclosure ditch, yielded Romano-British pottery of a similar date to the enclosure. A number of pits were identified, one of which contained large quantities of burnt flint and metal-working debris; a probable rectilinear enclosure in the north-west corner of the site and close to this pit produced smelting slag and possible Saxon pottery suggesting a probable metal-working area. Within the conveyor route to the north of the lane, further gullies, possibly relating to small enclosures or field systems, were identified.

1.0 Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Norfolk Archaeological Unit (NAU) at Police House Field, Tottenhill, Norfolk in July 2003. The work was commissioned by Adrian Havercroft of The Guildhouse Consultancy on behalf of his client RMC Aggregates (Eastern Counties) Ltd, in advance of proposed gravel extraction on the site.

The original scope of the evaluation encompassed the total c.42.1ha area of the extraction proposal, comprising Police House Field and the conveyor route to the north (Proposed Development Area North - PDAN; c.18.2ha), and Sixty Acre Field to the south (Proposed Development Area South - PDAS; c.24ha) (terminology following Havercroft 1999). Further to agreement with David Gurney, Principal Landscape Archaeologist with Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (on behalf of the

Mineral Planning Authority), the proposal was revised; the latter area was removed from the trenching scheme, subject to formal agreement by the applicant to a full mitigation strategy on the PDAS. This report deals with trial trench evaluation of Police House Field and the conveyor route (PDAN).

The archaeological work was undertaken to the specification set out in a Project Design prepared by NAU (NAU Ref: JB/1572/Rev2) and in accordance with a specification by Andrew Hutcheson, Development Control Archaeologist for Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in order to allow the MPA to make informed judgements and considered decisions on the Environmental Impact. The scope of works followed the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

2.0 Geology and Topography

The site is located towards the northern end, and the western edge, of an area of slightly raised ground which stretches from Downham Market, 8km to the south, to just north of Tottenhill Row, 1km to the north-west. This elevated ground lies between the River Ouse to the west and the Nar (or Setchy) River to the north, and immediately west of the A10 (Fig.1).

The area of investigation has a slight undulating surface and overall a gentle slope from east to west with contours generally running NNE-SSW. The highest point at c13m+ AOD lies in the centre of the eastern boundary immediately south of The Police House, dropping away gradually to the south-west to c. 5.2m AOD. Natural contours to the east of the area of investigation have been lost to previous gravel working and building, with the landowner infilling surface irregularities with mixed material from the A10 roadworks (Havercroft 1999, 11). At the time of evaluation, the land had mostly been ploughed, with the line of the conveyor route still in crop.

The combined depth of the topsoil and subsoils ranged between 0.32m to 0.84m. The local soils are identified as being part of the 'Downham Association' and are described as 'Gleyic argillic brown sands'. The underlying geology is formed of 'a geological basement of Kimmeridge Clay of Jurassic date which is overlain by (...) Fen and Valley Gravels or loams of varying ages' (Havercroft 1999, 12).

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

A search of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (HER) revealed that prior to the evaluation no previous archaeological work had taken place within the area of investigation defined as PDAN (the watching brief undertaken on the Shouldham to Watlington water main is not securely located, as it dealt mainly with the Shouldham area, but probably passed along the road to the south of the PDAS and therefore did not impact on the site - Bates 1996). Two archaeological desk-based assessments, by Oxford Archaeological Associates Ltd and the Guildhouse Consultancy

respectively, have been undertaken of the area; the PDAN forms a part of both studies (Griffiths 1995; Havercroft 1999). The reports demonstrated the potential for the presence of archaeological remains from the palaeolithic through to the post-medieval period within the study area. A field-walking and metal-detecting survey was conducted of the PDAS (Havercroft 2000), but this did not encroach on the current study area and is not discussed here.

Cropmarks have been identified within the study area of features of unknown date, particularly to the east and south-east of the area (HER 29697). Comparisons with cartographic evidence by Havercroft (1999, 24) from OS maps of 1905 and 1928 has clearly demonstrated the correlation between some of the cropmarks and contemporary gravel workings, now infilled (the gravel extraction sites along the east of the PDAN are recorded as Boon's gravel pit, later Collett's Pit, worked from the late 19th to the mid 20th centuries - Griffiths 1995). The whole area was subject to gravel working from at least the 18th century; the Tottenham Inclosure Award of 1780 (*sic.*) records several pieces of land intended for 'Public sand and gravel pits for the use of the inhabitants and repairs to the highways and turnpike roads' (cited in Havercroft 1999, 21) and it is certain that extraction, albeit on a limited scale, would have occurred even earlier. Aside from the infilled gravel workings to the east, other extant extraction pits are also visible in the area; a large sub-circular extraction pit, now a pond, lies immediately south of the Watlington to Tottenham road within Police House Field, and further gravel workings lie directly opposite on the other side of the road, beyond the area of investigation.

Also lying within the area defined by the HER entry is the cropmark of a discrete curving linear feature, possibly a ditch, which may be continuous, or may have a break within it suggesting an entrance to an enclosure. Two further linear features lying in the southern extension of the field, one running W-E at a right angle to the main linear and the other running southwards in a slight curve, may be associated. A further seven uneven short linears were identified to the west of the survey area, though these were thought to be possible drainage runs (Griffiths 1995, 8-10; Havercroft 1999, 24). Visibility of cropmarks within the PDAN was generally not good, and the suggestion was made that subsoil in the form of colluvium could be masking some of the features (Griffiths 1995, 8-10; Havercroft 1999, 25).

Further cropmarks were also identified to the north of the road, within the line of the conveyor route (HER 17786). These cropmarks show possible curvilinear enclosures but little further evidence is available for them as regards dating, and they are only briefly mentioned in the desk-based assessments (Griffiths 1995; Havercroft 1999, 27).

Other than the presence of the cropmarks, only isolated finds within the vicinity of the study area, often poorly provenanced, give any further indication of possible archaeological presence. Most of the objects recovered appear to have been found during the mineral extraction works, from the 19th century onwards, and only approximate locations are cited. Find-spots include objects recovered from Boon's or Collett's gravel pit located within the PDAN, though confusion exists as to which side of A10 the finds were recovered from (Griffiths 1995, 10). The objects recovered include Palaeolithic flint artefacts (HER 2266, 2268), a Neolithic Axe (HER 2266), Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery (HER 2268), and Iron Age (HER 2268), Romano-British (HER 2266, 2268) and Early Saxon pottery (HER 2266). There is evidence of an Early Saxon cemetery adjacent to the A10 to the south-east of the study area

(HER 2266), a possible Romano-British pottery kiln, represented by kiln-bars (HER 2268), and cropmarks of prehistoric features including ring-ditches in the environs of Tottenhill (HER 16232) (Griffiths 1995, 11-12; Havercroft 1999, 25-7).

4.0 Methodology

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

The Brief required that a 5% sample of the site area of 18.2ha be excavated. This was to be achieved by the excavation of 49 trenches, each measuring 50m by 2m. Six were located within the conveyor route to the north of the road and 43 excavated across Police House Field. However, following discussions with NLA it was agreed that approximately 50% of these would initially be excavated (25 trenches), including all key locations based on locations of cropmarks. Following a site meeting with NLA and the Consultant, a further two trenches were excavated at their behest (Trenches 3 and 5), and one trench (Trench 23) was extended and widened. Four trenches (Trenches 19, 29, 41, and 49) were either shortened or interrupted to avoid overhead power cables, as outlined in the Project Design. Furthermore, Trench 1 was moved approximately 14m east to accommodate a slight change in the conveyor route alignment; the conveyor route was also narrowed by 20m to reflect the actual proposed route, and a number of the trenches were shortened due to this. Trench 6 was also altered slightly to a WNW ESE alignment to avoid a farm-track which was in use during the course of the fieldwork. Twenty-seven trenches were therefore excavated; the sample number excavated providing a 2.75% sample of the site area (Fig. 2).

The trenches were located using a Trimble 3605 DR total station and a number of temporary surveying stations which were linked to the Ordnance Survey national grid. A level was transferred from a bench-mark located on the garage to the south-west of the A10 cross-roads (13.35m AOD). Six temporary benchmarks were established on site using non-permanent pegs.

Machine excavation was carried out using a 13 tonne hydraulic 360 excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All machining was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. At the request of NLA and the Consultant, a sondage no deeper than 1.5m was excavated by machine at the end of each trench to confirm the stratigraphic sequence and the 'true natural'.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the Norfolk Archaeological Unit's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

At the request of the Consultant and NLA, a number of environmental samples were taken. These have yet to be assessed at the time of report production. Results from these are not thought likely to affect the overall evaluation results.

Site conditions were generally good, with the weather in the main dry. Access was readily provided by the landowner to all parts of the PDAN.

5.0 Results

Of the twenty-seven trenches excavated, nineteen contained archaeological features and deposits constituting ditches, gullies and pits (Trenches 3, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 29, 32, 33, 35, 41, 42, 43, 46, 48 and 49). Artefacts dating mainly to the Romano-British period, between the 1st and 4th centuries AD, and the Saxon period, between the 5th and 9th centuries AD, were recovered from both stratified and unstratified contexts. Eight trenches revealed no archaeological features (Trenches 1, 24, 5, 6, 7, 25, 27 and 39).

Context numbers between 1 and 192 were assigned to features and deposits within the trenches as work progressed (Appendix 1). Numbers were not generally assigned to the topsoil and natural deposits as descriptions of both were recorded on the trench record sheets. Context numbers were assigned as finds numbers in order to locate any metal-detected or unstratified finds from the spoil-heaps of each trench. No metal-detected finds were recovered outside the limit of the trenches.

Conveyor Route

Trench 1

Fig 2

Trench 1 was located in the north of the conveyor route, aligned north-south. It measured 55m by 1.85m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.40m.

The natural subsoil was a firm flint gravel deposit within a gritty orange and yellowish brown sandy matrix. This lay directly beneath the plough-soil, a mid greyish brown clayey silt, at a maximum 0.40m in depth. There was no evidence of archaeological features or deposits; no finds were recovered during machining. A sondage was excavated at the northern end of the trench to 1m in depth.

Trench 3

Figs 2, 3

Trench 3 was located south south-west of Trench 1, and was also aligned north-south. The trench was shortened by 15m from the northern point to accommodate it within the new conveyor route. The trench therefore measured 33.10m by 1.85m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.60m.

The earliest deposit encountered was a natural subsoil, a mottled yellowish brown to greyish-white silty sand containing occasional flint gravel. Large areas of iron staining were visible, particularly towards the south end of the trench. The natural was cut by two features. Towards the northern end of the trench a gully ([070]) was identified, running NNE SSW and extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions (Fig.3). It measured 1.25m wide by 0.32m deep and contained a fill of dark brownish grey silty sand ([071]). No dating evidence was recovered from the fill.

At the southern end of the trench, a possible curvilinear gully ([068]) was identified, curving out of the east-facing, and extending into the north-facing, sections of the trench. This was filled with a dark brownish grey sandy silt ([069]), and measured 0.75m wide by 0.28m deep. No dating evidence was recovered from the fill.

No further archaeological features were identified; a land-drain cuts WNW ESE across the north end of the trench, and a probable tree-bole was identified immediately south-east of ditch [070]. All features were sealed by a mid greyish brown sandy silt plough-soil, with a maximum depth of 0.6m. A sherd of post-medieval pottery was uncovered from cleaning of the trench ([066]), probably derived from the plough-soil. No further material was recovered. A sondage was excavated at the northern end of the trench to 1.2m in depth.

Trench 4

Fig 2

Trench 4 was located south-west of Trench 3, and was aligned east-west. The trench was shortened by 3.5m from the eastern point and 18.2m from the western point to accommodate it within the new conveyor route. The trench therefore measured 28.5m by 1.85m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.45m.

The earliest deposit encountered was a natural subsoil, a pale whitish to brownish grey sand with moderate flint gravel inclusions at the east end, merging into a yellowish brown sand with iron staining and flint gravel inclusions at the west end. A large number of humic vegetationally-derived deposits were encountered across the length of the trench; each was investigated but had little form or definition. Only one possible feature was identified, the terminus of a possible gully ([093]) extending east out of the east-facing section and terminating within the trench. The feature was very shallow, measuring 1m wide by only 0.18m deep, and was filled with a mid-dark grey clayey silt ([094]). No dating evidence was recovered, and the excavator felt this feature could also be naturally derived. The deposits were sealed by a mid greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, at a maximum depth of 0.45m.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified; no finds were recovered during machining. A sondage was excavated at the western end of the trench to 1m in depth.

Trench 5

Fig 2

Trench 5 was located south-west of Trench 4, and was aligned north-south. The trench was shortened by 5.7m from the southern point to accommodate it within the new conveyor route. The trench therefore measured 44.30m by 1.90m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.45m.

The earliest deposit encountered was a natural subsoil, a pale creamy white, yellowish white and orange silty sand, with occasional pockets of gritty orange sand, as well as moderate iron pan and frequent pockets of sub-angular flint gravel across the length of the trench. A large number of humic vegetationally-derived deposits were encountered across the length of the trench; each was investigated but had little form or definition and these are thought to be tree-boles. These lay directly beneath the plough-soil, a fairly loose greyish brown sandy silt containing frequent flint gravel, at a maximum 0.45m in depth. There was no evidence of archaeological features or deposits; no finds were recovered during machining. A sondage was excavated at the northern end of the trench to 1.15m in depth.

Trench 6

Fig 2

Trench 6 was located south-west of Trench 5, and was aligned WNW ESE. The trench was altered slightly from an east-west alignment to avoid a farm-track which was in use during the course of the fieldwork. The trench was also shortened by 18m from the eastern point and 10.65m from the western point to accommodate it within the new conveyor route. The trench therefore measured 21.35m by 1.90m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.5m.

The earliest deposit encountered was a natural subsoil, a pale creamy white and yellowish brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel inclusions, and patches of iron pan particularly towards the western end. A number of humic vegetationally-derived deposits were encountered across the length of the trench; each was investigated but had little form or definition and they are thought to be agriculturally derived. These lay directly beneath a fairly loose mid greyish brown sandy silt plough-soil, at a maximum 0.45m in depth. There was no evidence of archaeological features or deposits; no finds were recovered during machining.

Police House Field

Trench 7

Fig 2

Trench 7 was located in the north-west corner of Police House Field, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 50.49m by 1.80m, and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.60m.

The main deposit encountered was the natural sub-soil in the base of the trench, a light greyish white silty sand with frequent pockets of gravel in a silty sand matrix, and frequent patches of iron pan. A number of diffuse edged humic deposits were encountered at the base of the trench. All were manually investigated, but had little form or definition and appeared to be tree-boles and other vegetation marks. A number of land-drains were also noted, mainly running east-west. The natural and all deposits lay directly beneath plough-soil, a mid brown clayey sand, at a maximum 0.6m in depth.

No archaeological features or deposits were noted during excavation of the trench. A number of modern metal objects were uncovered during machining and metal-detecting of the spoil-heaps ([179]). A sondage was excavated at the southern end of the trench to 1.15m in depth.

Trench 12

Fig 2

Trench 12 was located in the north-east corner of Police House Field, and was aligned north-south. The trench was shortened 11.42m from the northern point to avoid cutting a track which was in use at the time of machining. The trench therefore measured 38.15m by 1.85m, and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.35m.

The natural subsoil was the earliest deposit encountered upon machining. This was a light greyish white and yellowish brown silty sand, loosely compacted with moderate root disturbance. At least one humic deposit was noted, relating to this disturbance; this lacked definition around the edges and is believed to be a tree-bole.

Frequent patches of iron pan were also noted, becoming more concentrated towards the southern end of the trench. The natural was cut by at least 5 land-drains, two of which were investigated and recorded as a matter of course ([001] and [002]). Both were filled with a mixed deposit of mid brown silty sand with lumps of redeposited natural and iron pan within the fill ([004] and [005] respectively), and contained ceramic land-drains towards the base.

At the southern end of the trench, one of the land-drains cuts a layer of mid to pale grey silty sand containing moderate quantities of sub-rounded flint gravel ([007]). This layer covers the southernmost 3.3m of the trench, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.15m. The deposit peters out to the north, possibly truncated by ploughing. The layer yielded six sherds of mid to late 2nd century to 3rd century Romano-British pottery including one sherd of 2nd century Samian ware, all moderately abraded; the deposit may be some form of relic plough-soil. This deposit was also cut by a shallow gully [003] which runs east-west across the trench, extending beyond the excavation limits in both directions. This feature measured 0.25m in width by 0.12m in depth, and was filled with a mid orangey brown clayey sand ([006]). No dating evidence was recovered from the fill. The deposits were sealed by a loose mid to dark brownish grey clayey silt plough-soil, at a maximum 0.35m in depth. No further archaeological features or deposits were encountered; part of a small copper alloy artefact was recovered during metal-detecting of the spoil-heap ([067]).

Trench 14

Fig 2

Trench 14 was located immediately south-east of Trench 7, and aligned north-south. The trench measured 50.05m by 1.86m and was machined to a depth of 0.45m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural sub-soil, a mid to light greyish white and yellowish brown sand with frequent gravel in pockets. Large areas of iron pan were noted across the trench, particularly concentrated across the southern half. A large feature ([098]), either a large ditch or a quarry pit, was encountered running broadly east-west across the northern half of the trench and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The feature measures at least 4.4m in width and 0.62m in depth. It was filled by a series of bands of sand and gravel: a band of 'dirty' greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel covered the base ([099]), with a lens of dark brown clayey sand and occasional gravel above it ([100]) and this in turn was sealed by a deposit of light greyish brown fine sand and gravel ([101]). A shallow gully ([102]) cut this upper fill centrally, running east-west across the trench and extending beyond its limits in both directions. This gully measured 0.6m in width and 0.31m in depth, and contained a fill of dark greyish brown clayey sand ([103]). No dating evidence was recovered from either feature.

The deposits were sealed by a mid greyish brown clayey sand plough-soil, at a maximum depth of 0.40m. No further archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A small flint of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, and one lead strip of uncertain date (SF5) were recovered during machining and subsequent metal-detecting ([183]). A sondage was excavated at the northern end of the trench to 1.5m in depth.

Trench 15

Figs 2, 4

Trench 15 was located immediately south of Trench 14, and aligned east-west. The trench measured 50m by 1.9m and was machined to a depth of 0.48m.

The main deposit encountered was the natural sub-soil, a deposit of mainly flint gravel in a mid orange and yellowish brown gritty sand matrix. A linear feature ([118]) was identified in the south-east corner of the trench, running westwards from the south-east corner for 8.1m and turning southwards at the western end into the north facing section. This feature appeared to be the corner of a possible rectilinear enclosure gully, and had a fairly V-shaped profile with a flat base (Fig.4). The feature measured 0.80m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.45m. Two slots were excavated across the feature, one at its north-west corner and a slot across the centre. Both slots were filled with a dark greyish brown slightly clayey sandy silt ([116] and [117] respectively), and contained four sherds of possible Saxon pottery, one abraded sherd of 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery and animal bone. Eight pieces of smelting slag (including two possible pieces of hearth bottom) and several undiagnostic metal-working fragments were also recovered.

The feature and the trench as a whole was sealed by a plough-soil of mid brown sandy loam containing frequent flint gravel, at a maximum depth of 0.48m. No further archaeological features or deposits were encountered, other than a number of land-drains which crossed the trench. No finds were recovered during machining or metal-detecting. A sondage was excavated at the western end of the trench to 1.25m in depth.

Trench 16

Figs 2, 5, 6

Trench 16 was located immediately east of Trench 15, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 49.2m by 1.9m, and was machined to a depth of 0.52m.

The natural subsoil encountered varied across the trench; to the south, bands of orange, yellowish brown and creamy white iron-stained silty sand with frequent gravel patches were visible, merging into more gravelly deposits to the north, with a large patch of very compact orange gritty gravel near the north end. Three linear features were visible cutting the natural. The southernmost linear [032] ran across just south of the mid-point of the trench in a WNW ESE direction, extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. This linear measured 0.50m in width and 0.43m in depth, and had a steep sided 'rectangular' profile (Fig.6). It is thought that it may represent a palisade slot (Gurney and Havercroft *pers. comm.*). The linear was filled with a dark orangeish brown to dark greyish brown clayey sand fill ([033]), which produced no dating evidence. Towards the northern end of the trench, a broad shallow ditch ran WNW ESE across the trench, extending beyond the trench limits in both directions ([034]). This ditch measured 1.45m in width by 0.38m in depth, and was filled by a dark orangeish to dark greyish brown clayey sand ([035]). This ditch appeared to be cut by a further ditch or gully [036], which had a broadly V-shaped profile with a flat base, and which ran in an east-west direction (Fig.6). This feature was filled by a dark blackish grey clayey sand ([037]). No dating evidence was recovered from either feature.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified. Two spreads of humic silt, in close proximity and south of the latter two ditches, were investigated and found to have fairly diffuse edges. These are thought to be the remains of tree-boles. The features and the trench were sealed by plough-soil, a mid brownish grey slightly sandy clayey silt containing frequent gravel, at a maximum depth of 0.52m. One post-medieval copper alloy artefact was recovered during routine metal-detecting of the spoil-heap ([042]). A sondage was excavated at the northern end of the trench to 1.5m in depth.

Trench 18

Figs 2, 7, 8

Trench 18 was located directly south of the pond in the central northern area of Police House Field. The trench measured 50m by 1.85m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m.

The natural subsoil encountered was a pale creamy white and yellowish brown fine sand, occasionally gritty, with frequent pockets of gravel and iron staining. Towards the northern end of the trench, measuring 16m from the northernmost point, a layer of redeposited natural was encountered ([088]). The deposit comprised a mixed white, orange and yellow silty sand with occasional sub-angular flints, excavated to a depth of 0.18m. This was investigated by two sondages; one at the northern end, excavated through the natural subsoils to test their nature and measuring 1.2m in depth; and a further sondage excavated further south measuring 6m in length and excavated down to the natural subsoils. Within the northern sondage, the redeposited natural was found to seal a layer of mid orangey brown to mid greyish brown clayey silt ([095]), excavated to a depth of 0.35m. This in turn sealed a layer of dark blackish brown to dark brownish grey very humic clayey silt ([096]), excavated to a depth of 0.32m. This latter deposit appears to fill and/or seal a possible gully with a rounded profile ([188]), 0.60m wide by 0.28m in depth, seen in section only but running in a broadly east-west direction and extending beyond the limits of the trench. This feature in turn cuts a small deposit of loose gravel in a pale greyish brown gritty sand matrix ([097]), 0.37m in depth, which may be a natural deposit. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.

In the sondage excavated further to the south, the redeposited natural ([088]) overlies a layer of light to mid-brown sandy silt ([089]), 0.32m in depth and probably contemporary with layer ([095]) in the northern sondage. Just south of the sondage, this deposit was found to seal a broad shallow ditch ([090]) (Fig.8), which runs east-west and extends beyond the limits of the trench. This ditch measured 2m in width by 0.40m in depth, and cut the natural subsoil. It was filled with a small deposit of mid to dark red clay [092] at the base of the cut, with the main fill being a very dark grey to black slightly clayey silty sand ([091]). No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. The deposit [088] peters out just south of ditch [090], probably removed by ploughing where the natural begins to rise. A further ditch or gully ([108]), was found cutting the natural south of this point, running east-west and extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. This feature measured 0.93m in width by 0.34m in depth, and was filled by a deposit of dark greyish brown to black silty sand ([109]) along the southern side of the feature, intermixed along the northern edge with a slump of pale greyish-white fine sand ([110]). No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

In the southern half of the trench, the natural again slopes down approximately 21m north of the southern point, and here a further layer of light to mid-brown sandy silt ([189]) was uncovered, probably contemporary with [089] and excavated to a depth of 0.35m. This deposit sealed a number of features, all of which cut the natural subsoil beneath. South of the base of the slope, a shallow linear ([111]), probably a truncated gully, was uncovered running east-west and extending beyond the trench limits. This gully measures 1m in width by 0.18m in depth, and was filled by a very dark grey silty sand ([112]) at the base. This was overlain by a deposit comprising laminations of creamy grey and dark brown silty sand and flint gravel ([113]), probably the result of water action. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

At the southern end of the trench, a possible curvilinear gully ([075]) was uncovered, curving out of, and back into, the west facing section. This feature was fairly irregular and the excavator felt there was a possibility this could be of natural origin. The feature was 0.68m in width, 2.68m in length and 0.30m in depth, and was filled by a dark brown humic sandy clay ([076]). No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. Around the western edge of the feature were a series of seven shallow sub-oval depressions, varying in size and definition and thought to be stake- or post-holes. Three were recorded in full ([077], [083], and [085]), depth varying between 0.10m and 0.14m, with a maximum width of 0.30m and a maximum length of 0.42m. All were filled with a mid to dark grey slightly silty clayey sand ([078], [084] and [086] respectively). No dating evidence was recovered from these features. South of the depressions, a large sub-oval pit ([072]) (Fig.8) was uncovered, measuring 1.6m in length by 1.0m in width and excavated to a depth of 0.33m. A possible square-cut post-hole was seen cutting its base ([082]) (Fig.8), measuring 0.35m in length by 0.20m in width and excavated to a depth of 0.54m from the base of the trench. The fill of the posthole was a mid to dark grey silty sand, containing occasional burnt flints and charcoal ([081]); these could be residual from the main fill of the pit ([074]) which sealed this fill, and which consisted of a very dark grey sandy clay and contained frequent small to medium burnt flints, consisting of rounded pebbles and fragments. This fill appears prehistoric in character, though several undiagnostic fragments of metal-working debris were recovered from this fill suggesting it may be of a later date, perhaps relating to an industrial use.

No further archaeological features or deposits were encountered in this trench. The trench was sealed by a mid to dark brown clayey sand plough-soil ([087]), excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m. No finds were recovered during machining or metal-detecting.

Trench 19

Fig 2

Trench 19 was located immediately east of Trench 18, and was aligned east-west. The trench was shortened by 20m from the eastern point to avoid the overhead power-cables. The trench therefore measured 30m by 1.9m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.38m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural subsoil, a mottled marble-effect pale creamy-white, orange and orangey-brown soft silty sand, with frequent iron-staining and iron-pan. Only one feature was identified cutting the natural. This was a shallow gully ([008]), running NNE SSW, extending beyond the limits of the trench in

both directions, and crossing the trench at its approximate mid-point. This gully measured 0.75m in width by 0.18m in depth, and was filled with a dark blackish brown silty sand ([009]). No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. No further archaeological features were noted; two 'linears' investigated were found to be plough-scars, and other patches of 'dirty' natural are thought to be related to vegetation staining. A land-drain was seen cutting the eastern end of the trench.

The trench was sealed by a mid greyish brown clayey sand plough-soil, which was machined to a maximum depth of 0.38m. One sherd of 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery was recovered from the spoil-heap during machining ([043]). A sondage was excavated at the eastern end of the trench to 1.10m in depth.

Trench 22

Fig 2

Trench 22 lay directly south of Trench 16, and was aligned east-west. The trench measured 50.15m in length by 1.9m in width, and was machined to a depth of 0.46m.

The natural subsoil consisted of a pale creamy white silty sand, with occasional patches of iron pan and occasional flint gravel, becoming increasingly gravelly towards the western end of the trench. Only one feature, located at the eastern end of the trench, was found cutting the natural subsoil. This was a shallow gully ([107]), running NNE SSW and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The gully measured 1.45m in width by 0.32m in depth, and was filled by a pale creamy grey sandy silt ([106]). No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. A modern land-drain ([105]), running NNE SSW, was seen to cut this feature, filled with a mixed silty sand fill and containing a ceramic pipe at its base ([104]).

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified within this trench. A further land-drain was seen, running in a similar direction to the first, approximately 10m east of the drain [105]. Several patches of humic deposit were investigated, but were found to have diffuse edges and lacked form; these are believed to be tree-boles or other vegetation staining. The trench was sealed by a mid greyish-brown sandy silt plough-soil, machined to a maximum depth of 0.46m. One post-medieval copper alloy thimble was recovered during machining or metal-detecting ([191] SF1). A sondage was excavated at the western end, to a depth of 1.2m.

Trench 23

Figs 2, 9

Trench 23 was located immediately east of Trench 22, and was aligned north-south. The trench initially excavated measured 50m by 1.80m. At the request of the archaeological consultant and curator, the trench was extended north by a further 18m, and a further area at the southern end was widened by 1.8m on the eastern side to clarify the archaeology. The trench therefore measured 68m in length by 1.85m in width and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.32m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural drift geology, a pale brownish grey to greyish white silty sand containing moderate flint pebbles and frequent lumps of iron pan. A number of archaeological features were seen to cut the natural. At the southern end, a gully ([026]) (Fig.9) runs NNE SSW, extending beyond the trench limits at its SSW end. The gully measured 0.8m in width by 0.28m in depth, and was filled with a mid to dark grey sandy silt fill ([027]); one sherd of 1st to 3rd century

Romano-British pottery was recovered from this deposit. The gully extended 11.5m northwards, where it adjoined a WNW ESE aligned gully ([024]) on its SSE side. This gully measured 4m in length by 0.85m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.18m. No dating evidence was recovered, but the fill ([025]) was identical to [027] and it seems likely that the gullies are contemporary. The gullies were cut by a modern land-drain.

Approximately 19.5m to the north, a further linear feature ([022]) was uncovered (Fig.9), running broadly east-west, and extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. The feature measured 1.10m in width by 0.65m in depth, and had a distinctive profile. The northern side of the cut was near vertical, while the southern side had a gentle sloping side, turning sharply at its mid-point into a vertical side; the base was broadly flat. It is thought the linear may represent a palisade slot (Gurney and Havercroft *pers. comm.*). The lower fill of the cut represented a primary influx of material, characterised by a pale to mid grey sand ([061]). Above this was a lens of dark grey slightly sandy clayey silt ([060]), and a further lens of very pale grey sand ([059]) overlay this, representing episodes of material washing into the cut from the edges. A lens of dark grey humic clayey silt ([058]) above this may represent organic material settling into the partially back-filled cut. Further episodes of slumping, represented in sequence by a pale grey silty sand ([057]), overlain by a mid brownish grey silty sand ([056]) and finally a pale brownish grey silty sand ([055]) then followed. The cut was finally back-filled entirely by a mid to dark grey humic sandy silt ([023]). The only archaeological material recovered from this feature was a piece of probable Roman CBM from this later deposit, which may not clearly date the feature, only its post-use abandonment.

Further north, a shallow pit ([020]) was identified. This was sub-elliptical in shape, measured 0.90m in length by 0.63m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.15m. The pit was filled with a pale brownish grey silty sand ([021]) and contained no dating evidence. Immediately north of this feature, a shallow ditch or gully ([018]) was identified running east-west across the trench. This gully measured 0.76m in width by 0.28m in depth, and contained a fill of dark grey sandy silt ([019]), with no dating evidence. The ditch or gully appears to cut a sub-elliptical shallow pit ([016]) (Fig.9) on its southern side. The pit measured 1.8m in length by 1.0m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.32m. This pit was filled by a pale grey silty sand ([017]) which also contained no dating evidence. The two pits [020] and [016] may be contemporary.

Just north of these features, a sondage measuring 1m in depth was excavated. This marked the original limit of the trench; the trench was then extended 18m further beyond this sondage. Only two further features of note were identified, both cutting the natural subsoil. The first feature lay immediately north of the sondage, and consisted of a broad shallow east-west aligned ditch ([047]), measuring 1.75m in width by 0.37m in depth. The ditch extended beyond the limits of the trench in both directions and was filled by a mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt ([048]). This ditch was cut in turn by a land-drain ([062]), filled with a mid greyish brown sandy silt containing horizontal lenses of redeposited natural ([063]). No dating evidence was recovered from these features, though the land-drain is modern (a further field drain is also noted immediately north of, and on the same alignment as, this latter feature). Approximately 8m further north, another broad shallow ditch ([045]) (Fig.9) was encountered, again running east-west and extending beyond the limits of the trench. This ditch measured 2.0m wide by 0.58m deep, and was filled with a series of fills: at

the base, a primary in-washed deposit of pale grey gritty silty sand (051) is overlain by a lens of mid to dark grey slightly sandy clayey silt ([050]), perhaps caused by standing water; sealing this is a lens of pale to mid grey silty sand ([049]), which in turn is sealed by a final deposit of mid to dark brownish grey sandy silt ([046]). No dating evidence was recovered from any of the fills.

No further archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A number of humic deposits were investigated, but these lacked form and definition, and are likely to be tree boles. The trench was sealed by a mid greyish brown slightly sandy clayey silt plough-soil, machined to a maximum depth of 0.32m. One sherd of 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery was recovered during machining ([079]).

Trench 25

Fig 2

Trench 25 was located at the western central side of Police House Field, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 49m by 1.82m, and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.53m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural subsoil, a light greyish brown to whitish grey gritty sand with patches of orange iron staining, and frequent gravel throughout. The natural lay beneath a mid greyish brown slightly sandy clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.53m. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A sondage was excavated at the southern end to approximately 1.2m in depth. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or machining of the trench.

Trench 27

Fig 2

Trench 27 was located immediately east of Trench 25, and was aligned east-west. The trench measured 50m by 1.8m, and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.34m.

The natural subsoil was the earliest deposit encountered, and consisted of frequent flint gravel in a bright yellowish orange sand matrix. The natural lay beneath a mid greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.34m. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A sondage was excavated to approximately 1m in depth at the eastern end. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or machining of the trench.

Trench 29

Fig 2

Trench 29 was located immediately south of Trench 19 and was aligned east-west. The total trench distance excavated measured 49.5m; however, 6.9m of the trench was left unexcavated to the west of centre of the trench due to the overhead power-lines. The trench therefore measured 42.60m in total length by 1.85m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural drift geology, a pale creamy white and yellowish brown fine sand, with patches of gritty orange sand and occasional flint. Two features were identified cutting this deposit. In the western half of trench, at the western end, a gully ([143]) was identified, running broadly north-south and

extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. The gully measured 0.49m in width by 0.38m in depth, and was filled with a number of deposits. At the base, a pale yellowish brown clayey sand was identified ([146]), primary slumping into the cut shortly after excavation; above this was dark greyish brown clayey silt mixed with redeposited natural ([145]), partial backfill mixed with organic material; and this was sealed by a deposit of post-use silting ([144]), in the form of a mid grey sandy silt. A fragment of non-local stone, possibly a quern fragment, was retrieved from this upper fill. In the eastern half of the trench, a further gully ([141]) was identified, running WNW ESE and extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. The gully measured 4.2m in length by 0.58m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.19m. The gully was filled by a dark brownish grey clayey sand ([142]). It contained twenty-nine sherds of mid-2nd to 3rd century, and six sherds of 1st to 3rd century, Romano-British pottery and pieces of bone, perhaps representing a dump of rubbish into the gully.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified. A number of modern drainage features and plough-scars were also seen cutting the trench. The archaeology lay directly beneath plough-soil, a dark greyish brown clayey sand, which was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m. Two sherds of mid-2nd to 4th century Romano-British pottery were recovered during machining and metal-detecting of the spoil-heaps ([182]). A sondage was excavated to 1.2m in depth at the eastern end.

Trench 32

Fig 2

Trench 32 was located south-east of Trench 27, and was aligned east-west. The trench was shortened 4m at the eastern end to preserve a track, which was in use at the time of machining. The trench therefore measured 46m in length by 1.9m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m.

The natural drift geology, the earliest deposit encountered, consisted of a pale yellowish brown and orangeish white fine silty sand, with frequent iron pan, and frequent gravel in a gritty sand matrix, the latter particularly concentrated towards the western end of the trench. Only one feature was identified cutting this deposit, a large ditch ?terminus with possible extension ([119]). The ditch appeared to run north-south, extending out of the north-facing section and terminating within the trench. This appeared to have been recut to a shallower depth; the ditch recut extending north from the terminus into the south facing section. The maximum depth of the ditch terminus was 0.85m, and it measured 2.74m in width, with ditch recut being shallower and narrower. The exact interpretation of this feature is difficult, and the feature could equally be a large irregular quarry pit. The feature was filled with two deposits of slumped in material ([129] and [130]), the former a pale-yellowish white clayey sand lying in the centre of the cut, with the latter similar but containing greater concentrations of gravel and lying directly along the cut edges. The ditch was then filled with a mid orangey-brown silty sand ([128]), which may represent post-use silting. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified. The natural was sealed by a deposit of mid to light greyish brown sandy silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or

machining of the trench. A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.2m in depth at the western end.

Trench 33

Fig 2

Trench 33 was excavated immediately east of Trench 32, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 49.5m in length by 1.84m in width, and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.43m.

The natural drift geology was the earliest deposit encountered, a pale greyish white fine silty sand and gravel, with patches of orange grittier sand, frequent iron pan and iron-staining, and occasional large lumps of iron-stone. Only one archaeological feature was identified cutting the natural: a shallow ditch ([064]), aligned east-west and extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. The ditch measured 1.03m in width by 0.32m in depth, and was filled with a dark orangey brown to dark brownish grey iron-stained silty sand ([065]). One blade-like flint flake was recovered from the fill.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified; two areas of mid-brown sandy silt were investigated but were presumed to be subsoil-filled depressions as they lacked form and depth. The natural was sealed by a deposit of mid brownish grey clayey sand plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.43m. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or machining of the trench. A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.1m in depth at the southern end.

Trench 35

Figs 2, 10

Trench 35 was located immediately south of Trench 29, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 47.8m in length by 1.85m in width and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.84m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural sub-soil, a light to mid greyish white gravelly silty sand with patches of more gritty sand. The natural was cut by a number of archaeological features. At the northern end of the trench, a shallow gully ([011]) was identified, running east-west and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The gully measured 0.8m in width and 0.19m in depth, and was filled with a mid to dark brown silty sand ([010]). Three sherds of late 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery were recovered from this fill. Further south, the terminal end of a possible gully ([013]) was identified, extending west from the west-facing section and terminating in the trench. The gully terminus measured 1.2m in length by 0.63m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.14m. The terminus was filled by a mid to dark brown silty sand ([012]). It contained no dating evidence, but was similar to ([010]) and could be contemporary.

Approximately 21m south of the terminus, a complicated sequence of gullies was uncovered. Two clearly defined linears were identified ([029] and [031]), both running broadly NE SW and extending beyond the limits of the trench in both directions. The former linear measured 0.28m in width by 0.19m in depth, and was filled with a dark brown silty sand ([028]). At its north-eastern end, the feature appeared to merge with another feature ([039]), an amorphous oval depression measuring 1.11m in width by 1.75m in length, and excavated to a depth of 0.16m. The fill of this feature ([038]) was virtually identical to that of the gully, and it was impossible to discern any clear

relationship between the two. A similar problem was encountered with the latter linear. This gully measured 0.3m in width by 0.09m in depth, and was filled with a dark brown silty sand ([030]). At its south-western end, this gully also merges with another feature ([041]), a further amorphous oval depression measuring 1.6m in length by 0.65m in width, and excavated to 0.34m in depth. The fill of this feature ([040]) was also virtually identical to this gully's fill, so no clear relation could be discerned here either. It seems possible that the gullies may be contemporary. No dating evidence was recovered from these gullies or their associated features.

Just south of these gullies, a large ditch ([015]) (Fig.10) was uncovered, running NESW and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The ditch measured 1.02m in width by 0.41m in depth, and was filled by a mid brown silty sand with frequent gravel ([014]). One abraded sherd of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill. A deposit of subsoil ([080]), a mid brown slightly gravelly silty sand, extends from just north of the ditch to the southern end of the trench, sealing the ditch. This deposit was excavated to 0.31m in depth. It produced fifty six sherds of late 1st to 4th century, and two sherds of 1st to 3rd century, Romano-British pottery, as well as two sherds of possible Saxon pottery, in a concentration towards the southern end of the trench.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified; occasional patches of humic vegetation staining were identified but on investigation proved to be tree-boles. The natural and subsoil was sealed by a deposit of mid greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.74m. A post-medieval copper alloy suspension ring was recovered during the metal-detecting and machining of the trench ([192] SF2). A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.2m in depth at the southern end.

Trench 39

Fig 2

Trench 39 was located immediately south of Trench 32, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 49m in length by 1.85m in width and was excavated to 0.50m in depth.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural drift geology, a mid greyish white silty sand and gritty orange sand, with frequent gravel and patches of iron pan. The natural lay beneath a mid greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.5m in depth at the southern end. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or machining of the trench.

Trench 41

Fig 2

Trench 41 was located immediately south-west of Trench 35, and was aligned east-west. The total trench distance excavated measured 50.1m; however, 7.1m of the trench was left unexcavated to the west of centre of the trench due to the overhead power-lines. The trench therefore measured 43m in total length by 1.85m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural subsoil, a pale greyish white and yellowish brown silty sand with frequent gravel at the eastern end. No archaeology was identified in the western half of the trench, other than modern drainage features.

In the eastern half, two shallow gullies were identified cutting the natural and lying adjacent to each other. These ran broadly NNE SSW and extended beyond the limits of the trench in both directions ([147] and [149]). The former linear measured 0.74m in width by 0.16m in depth, and was filled with a mid grey silty sand ([148]); the latter measured 0.6m in width by 0.30m in depth, and was also filled with a light to mid grey silty sand ([150]). No dating evidence was recovered from either feature; a modern land-drain cuts through linear [149]. The linears were sealed by a deposit of subsoil ([151]), an orangey brown silty sand, which extended from 2m west of linear [147] up to the eastern end of the trench. The deposit measured a maximum 0.32m in depth, and contained no dating evidence.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified; occasional patches of humic vegetation staining were identified but on investigation proved to be tree-boles and further land-drains were noted crossing the trench. The natural and subsoil was sealed by a deposit of mid greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.6m. One sherd of 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery was retrieved during the metal-detecting and machining of the trench ([190]). A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.2m in depth at the southern end.

Trench 42

Figs 2, 11

Trench 42 was located in the south-west corner of Police House Field, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 48.7m by 1.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural drift geology, a deposit of frequent flint gravel in a pale greyish white, orange and yellowish brown sand matrix. A number of features were visible cutting the natural. At the northern end of the trench, a broad ditch ([114]) was visible, running east-west across the trench and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions (Fig.11). This ditch measured 1.58m in width by 0.44m in depth, and was filled by a mid orangeish brown to mid-greyish brown slightly sandy clayey silt ([115]). The fill produced eleven sherds of mid 2nd to 3rd century Romano-British pottery. A shallow gully ([120]), running in the same direction and also extending beyond the trench limits, was seen to cut this ditch on its northern edge. The gully measured 0.72m in width by 0.30m in depth and was filled with a dark orangey brown clayey sand ([121]) (Fig.11).

Further south, a large amorphous shaped feature ([131]) was seen, measuring at least 11m in length. This occupied the central area of the trench, and was excavated to 0.33m in depth in a sondage excavated across its centre. The fill of this feature consisted of a mid orangey brown clayey sand mixed with frequent flint gravel ([132]), and produced no dating evidence. The feature was tentatively identified as an early gravel quarry, though this was less than certain. Immediately south of this feature and just visible inside the trench beneath the west-facing section was a possible gully [126]. The gully measured at least 11m in length and was visible to a width of 0.56m, but was not excavated due to the limited exposure of the feature. The fill of this possible gully was a dark orangey brown clayey sand ([127]) and produced one sherd of 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery on cleaning.

Just south of this linear was a broad shallow oval pit ([122]), measuring 1.6m in length by 1.5m in width, and excavated to a depth of 0.3m. The fill ([123]) consisted of a mid-orangey brown clayey sand and produced no dating evidence. At the

southern end of the trench, a shallow gully ([124]) was visible running east-west across the trench, and extending beyond the excavation limits in both directions. The gully measured 0.7m in width by 0.25m in depth, and was filled by a dark orangey brown clayey sand ([125]). A sherd of possible Saxon pottery was recovered from the fill.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified. The natural was sealed by a deposit of mid brownish grey clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m. One sherd of late 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery, one sherd of possible Saxon pottery and two lead waste objects were retrieved during the metal-detecting of the spoil-heaps and machining of the trench ([178]). A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.2m in depth at the northern end.

Trench 43

Fig 2

Trench 43 was located immediately east of Trench 42, and was aligned east-west. The trench measured 48.40m in length by 1.85m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.42m.

The earliest visible deposit was the natural subsoil, a mid yellowish brown to whitish grey sand with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Only one feature was visible cutting the natural. This was a ditch ([052]), running north-south and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The ditch had a fairly V-shaped profile and measured 1.2m in width by 0.57m in depth. The primary fill of this ditch consisted of an orangeish brown silty sand ([054]), which lay beneath a deposit of mid brownish grey silty sand ([053]); the latter produced three sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery and a lava-quern fragment (SF3).

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified; occasional patches of humic vegetation staining were identified but on investigation proved to be tree-boles and further land-drains were noted crossing the trench. The natural was sealed by a deposit of mid greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.42m. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or machining of the trench.

Trench 46

Fig 2

Trench 46 was located immediately west of Trench 41, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 50m in length by 1.8m in width, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural subsoil, a pale creamy white and yellowish brown fine sand and gravel. The trench was crossed from NNE to SSW by at least two modern drainage features, one at the southern end of the trench and one crossing the centre, which were investigated as a matter of course. The drainage feature located to the south of the trench produced three small lava quern fragments (SF4) from its fill, a dark brown silty sand ([140]). This drainage feature appears to cut a shallow pit ([133]), measuring 0.32m in width by 0.14m in depth. The pit was filled with a mid grey mottled fine sand ([134]), and produced no dating evidence. The pit was also sealed by a deposit of grey brown mottled sandy silt ([135]), which is thought to relate to the land-drain excavation. Two further possible

pits were noted just north of the second land-drain which crosses the centre. The southern pit was a shallow irregular but well-defined oval cut ([136]), measuring 1.3m in length by 0.85m in width and excavated to a depth of 0.23m. The fill was a mid dark brown fine silty sand ([137]), which produced no dating evidence. The pit slightly further north ([138]) was also fairly well-defined and sub-circular. It measured 0.9m in length by 0.8m in width and excavated to a depth of 0.10m. The fill ([139]) consisted of a brown fine sandy silt, and produced no dating evidence.

At least eight shallow, diffuse-edged irregular features were also investigated, all filled with humic silt and gravel fills; these were all thought to be tree-boles. It was unclear at the time of excavation as to whether the pits excavated could also be of similar derivation. No further archaeological features or deposits were identified. The natural was sealed by a deposit of mid greyish brown sandy loam plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m. No finds were retrieved during the metal-detecting or machining of the trench. A sondage was excavated to approximately 1m in depth at the northern end of the trench.

Trench 48

Figs 2, 12, 13

Trench 48 was located immediately south of Trench 41, and was aligned north-south. The trench measured 49.3m in length by 1.85m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 0.65m.

The natural subsoil was earliest deposit encountered, a light yellowish brown and greyish brown to creamy white fine sand, with fairly frequent gravel becoming more frequent towards the southern end. A number of features were seen cutting the natural. At the northern end, a shallow gully ([177]) was identified, running broadly NNE SSW from the east-facing to the north-facing sections, and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The gully had a slight eastwards curve at its mid-point, measured 4.6m in length by 0.45m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 0.18m. The gully was filled by a dark greyish brown silty sand ([176]) and produced one sherd of abraded 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery. South of this gully, a further gully ([153]) was identified, running NESW and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. This gully measured 3.5m in length by 0.85m in width, and was excavated to a depth of 0.32m. The fill of the gully consisted of mid yellowish-brown silty sand ([152]), and produced no dating evidence. Immediately south of this gully, and extending 0.94m out of the east-facing section, was a shallow pit ([174]) (Fig.13). This pit measured 1.68m in width by 0.94m in depth, and was broadly oval in shape. The pit was filled with a dark greyish brown silty sand ([175]). It contained two sherds of abraded late 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery and four sherds of possible Saxon pottery.

Running east-west across the mid-point of the trench, and extending beyond its limits in both directions, was a ditch [154] (Fig.13). This ditch measured 3m in width by 0.55m in depth and was filled with a mid greyish brown silty sand ([155]). Six sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery, and a small bladelet of Mesolithic date, were recovered from this fill. In the southern half of the trench, a deep pit ([156]) was identified, extending 0.95m out of the west-facing section. The pit measured 1.28m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.94m below the base of the trench, but not bottomed (due to safe working depth considerations). This pit was filled towards the base with a mid grey silty sand ([157]), containing frequent flints and ironstone. It

produced two abraded sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery, one sherd of possible Saxon pottery and bone fragments. The pit was capped with a mid brown silty sand ([158]), which produced one sherd of possible Saxon pottery. At the southern end of the trench, two shallow gullies were identified. The first gully ([172]) (Fig.13) extended 1.54m out of the west-facing trench in a WNW direction, and terminated in the trench. The gully measured 0.60m in width by 0.28m in depth, and was filled with a light orangey brown silty sand ([173]). It produced no dating evidence. The second gully ([160]) ran east-west across the southern end of the trench to the south of the latter gully, and measured 0.38m in width by 0.12m in depth. It was filled by a mid-brown silty sand ([161]), and produced no dating evidence.

The archaeology was sealed by a deposit of subsoil ([159]), covering the length of the trench and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.52m. This subsoil consisted of a mid orangey-brown silty sand and produced no dating evidence. The plough-soil, a mid greyish brown sandy silt, covered this subsoil deposit and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m. Three sherds of late 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery, one fragment of probable Roman CBM, and two struck flints (a single flint flake and a thermal flint fragment with possible retouch on one edge) were retrieved during the metal-detecting of the spoil-heaps and machining of the trench ([180]). A sondage was excavated to approximately 1m in depth at the northern end of the trench.

Trench 49

Figs 2, 14

Trench 49 was located south-west of Trench 48, and was aligned east-west. The trench was shortened by 12.3m from the western point to avoid the overhead power-cables. The trench therefore measured 39m by 1.8m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.62m.

The earliest deposit encountered was the natural drift geology, a pale creamy white sand and gravel to the west, becoming increasingly more gravelly to the east. Frequent large lumps of iron-pan and iron-stone were noted from the centre of the trench extending eastwards. A number of features were observed within the trench, cutting natural. At the western end, a shallow gully ([170]), measuring 0.77m in width by 0.22m in depth, ran north-south across the trench, extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The gully was filled with a dark orangey brown to dark greyish brown clayey sand ([171]), and produced a fragment of burnt rubbing-stone (SF6). East of this feature, two gullies were identified, also running north-south and extending beyond the trench limits. The westernmost gully ([168]) (Fig.14) measured 0.72m in width by 0.28m in depth, and was filled with a deposit of mid brownish grey silty sand ([169]); this deposit produced no dating evidence. The second gully ([166]) cuts the first on its eastern side, and may represent a recut of this feature. This gully measured 0.92m in width by 0.25m in depth, and was filled by a mid orangey brown clayey silt ([167]). This deposit produced a number of fragments of bone but no dating evidence. Further east, a further north-south aligned gully ([164]) was also identified, extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. The gully measured 1.08m in width by 0.33m in depth, and was filled with a light brownish orange clayey sand. This deposit produced no dating evidence.

A short distance east from this gully, a large broad shallow ditch ([162]) was identified, running generally north-south and extending beyond the trench limits in both directions. This ditch appears to have a possible pit cut into its base (Fig.14), though this appeared from the fills to be contemporary to the ditch. The ditch measured 3.2m in width by 0.78m in depth. In the base of the pit-like depression, a deposit of dark brown silty clay ([185]), probably water-borne silting, was identified; This was overlain by a dark purplish grey silty clay containing lumps of redeposited natural ([186]), which may represent back-fill. The main basal fill of the ditch was a dark bluish grey clayey silt ([187]), which represents waterborne silting of the ditch. This was sealed by a dark brownish grey clayey sand ([163]), post-use silting of the ditch hollow. Three sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery, two sherds of mid to late 2nd century Samian ware, and a number of bone fragments were recovered from this latter fill. A deposit of subsoil ([184]), comprising a dark orangey brown clayey silt, extended from 4m west of this ditch to the eastern end of the trench, sealing this feature. This was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.36m, and produced no dating evidence.

No further archaeological features or deposits were identified; occasional patches of humic vegetation staining were identified but on investigation proved to be tree-boles and further land-drains were noted crossing the trench at the western end. The natural and subsoil was sealed by a deposit of dark greyish brown clayey silt plough-soil, excavated to a maximum depth of 0.62m. Two fragments of CBM, one possibly Roman and one Post-Medieval Pan Tile, were retrieved during the metal-detecting and machining of the trench ([181]). A sondage was excavated to approximately 1.2m in depth at the eastern end.

6.0 The Finds

Introduction

The finds material from the site is presented in tabular form with basic quantitative information in Appendix 2.

In addition to this summary, more detailed information on specific finds categories is included in separate reports below. Supporting tables for these contributions are included in Appendices 3 to 8.

Particular objects or small finds are listed in Appendix 2: Finds by Context, and are catalogued in more detail in Appendix 8: Small Finds. They may also form the subject of individual reports included below.

6.1 The Pottery

6.1.1 The Roman Pottery

A total of 146 sherds of Romano-British pottery, weighing 1.964kg, were retrieved during this project. The majority of the pottery consisted of locally produced sandy reduced wares (99 sherds, weighing 1.366kg), typical of the Nar Valley (Gurney 1990) and West Norfolk Reduced Wares (Lyons in prep) produced in this area during the mid to late Roman period.

Some micaceous grey wares (36 sherds, weighing 0.410kg), probably originating from south Norfolk or north Suffolk (Gurney 1995), were also found in significant numbers. A small amount of unsourced, but probably local, sandy white ware pottery

was retrieved (8 sherds, weighing 0.119kg). The only fine ware found was a small amount of samian (3 sherds, weighing 0.069kg), that can be dated to between the mid and late 2nd century AD.

It is worthy of note that the majority of this pottery consists of locally produced utilitarian coarse ware medium mouthed jars and dish forms that can be dated between the mid 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. No early Roman material, or pottery dating to the 4th century (or later) was identified.

This assemblage seems to be fairly typical for Fen Edge settlement activity during the mid-Roman period (Gurney 1986). The dating evidence for the pottery suggests that there was a hiatus in activity between the mid-Roman and the Early Saxon periods.

Methodology

The assemblage has been given a primary scan to establish the character of the pottery. The quantity (sherd count) and weight (kg) of each broad fabric group has been established and spot-dates provided.

The Fabrics

Sandy Reduced Ware: a hard rough fabric, very dark grey throughout, with a moderate amount of quartz and the odd fragment of flint. Very similar to pot fabrics produced at Pentney, Shouldham, Middleton in the Nar Valley and Snettisham in north-west Norfolk.

References: Andrews 1985, 89-90 (RW1) and Gurney 1990, 89

Micaceous grey ware: a hard smooth fabric, grey throughout, with a high level of mica included in the matrix of the pottery, probably a natural constituent of the clay. The pottery is known to have been produced in the north Suffolk Waveney Valley area, centres around Wattisfield.

Reference: Gurney 1995

Sandy white ware: a fairly soft fabric, white to pale orange in colour, with a high level of sandy inclusions. Unsourced, but probably of local manufacture.

Reference: Andrews 1985, 92-93 (OW1)

Samian: a distinctive red glossy fabric imported from northern Italy and southern France between the 1st and early 3rd centuries AD.

Reference: Tomber and Dore 1998, 25-41

6.1.2 The Non-Roman Pottery

Introduction

A total of 17 fragments of Non-Roman date weighing 0.321kg was recovered from the evaluation, consisting of sandy fragments which are mainly hand-made, and a small quantity which are post-medieval.

Methodology

The ceramics were quantified by recording the number of sherds present in each context by fabric, the estimated number of vessels represented and the weight of each fabric. Other characteristics such as condition and decoration were noted, and an overall date range for the pottery in each context was established.

The pottery was recorded on proforma sheets by context using letter codes based on fabric and form. The fabric codes used are based mainly on those identified in *Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich* (Jennings, 1981), and supplemented by additional ones compiled by the Suffolk Unit (S Anderson, unpublished fabric list).

The Pottery

Although some of the sandy pottery is clearly hand-made, several sherds are comparatively hard-fired and show some evidence of rudimentary turning, perhaps on a slow wheel.

Fabric

These mainly hand-made wares are made in a variety of fabrics, which can all be broadly grouped under the collective term of Sandy with organic inclusions. Some of the vessels contain coarser sand than others, whilst other fragments have a higher degree of obvious organic inclusions. Other fragments contain sparse inclusions of flint. However, the chief characteristic of the pottery is the presence of abundant quartz sand with additional dark organic material, some of which has been burnt out.

Forms

No rim forms are present in the group, although there is one flattish base in [178] and one partial base in [116]. It is likely that the sherds are from cooking vessels and jars.

Surface treatment and decoration

There is no evidence of tooling on either the external or internal surfaces of any of the sherds.

One sherd in [116] a fill of the ditch in Trench 15 is from the join of the lower part of the pot and the base. It is decorated with close horizontal combing. A fragment from a second vessel present in [158], the fill of a pit in Trench 48 is decorated in a similar style.

Dating

Body sherds of such handmade sandy wares with organic inclusions can be found in pottery assemblages of both the Iron Age and the Early Saxon period in the East Anglian region. In the absence of stratigraphic evidence for activity of a particular period, the presence of diagnostic features such as rim shapes or decoration are often the determining factor in establishing the date. At the present site there is no stratigraphic evidence for either period, although there are features of Roman date. It is quite possible that the sherds represent evidence of the transitional period between the Late Iron Age and the Roman period. Iron Age and Roman pottery has also been recorded in topsoil deposits at site 2268 in the area near the northern part of the Proposed Development Area.

However, the presence of the Early Saxon cremation cemetery nearby to the south-east of the study area (HER 2266) should also be taken into consideration. There are also Early Saxon inhumations in the same area. It is felt that the close association of relatively unabraded sherds of Non-Roman pottery with abraded sherds of Romano-British pottery may point to an Early Saxon date for the assemblage, though this is not certain.

6.1.3 Post-medieval

A total of 3 fragments of post-medieval date was recovered, two of which are unstratified. A single fragment of decorated Black basalt ware was found in trench cleaning [66], dating to the late 18th-19th century. The two unstratified sherds are a fragment of late slipped redware and an abraded fragment of a Nottinghamshire type stoneware decorated jar.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

The site produced four fragments of possible Roman and Post-medieval ceramic building material (0.140kg). The assemblage consists of three pieces, which look to be of Roman fabric, but no definite forms are present (contexts [023], [180] and [181]), whilst a single fragment of post medieval pan tile was also recovered (context [181]).

6.4 The Faunal Remains

Methodology

All of the bone was examined to determine species present and any butchering that has occurred. Bone was quantified, total counts were made for each context and individual species counts also were taken for each context; bone was also weighed by context. A summary of all of the information is given in a table with this report.

Results

Remains of cattle were recovered from four contexts, sheep/goat/deer from two contexts and pig was identified from one context (see Appendix 6). Three contexts produced bone that could, due to poor condition, only be identified simply as 'mammal'. The whole assemblage was in poor condition, much of the bone showed eroded surfaces and damage from roots or insects. Some of the bone was well worn and mineralised suggesting a much older date, this was particularly notable in context [157].

The cattle remains, although in poor condition, were quite interesting. Context [157] produced a fragment of a very large cattle scapula, due to the larger size it is possible to suggest that this was from the primitive cattle *Bos primigenius*. The remaining cattle remains were derived from cattle of a much smaller stature.

Sheep/goat were noted in context [006] and further butchered remains were recovered from context [157], although due to the very poor condition of the bone in [157] it is possible that the bone was actually Roe Deer. A single pig bone was produced from context [175], which had been burnt, although not at a very high temperature.

Conclusion

It is probable that most of the assemblage derives from butchering waste, however the poor condition of the bone and surface damage means that little information can be obtained, no further work is recommended on this assemblage.

The presence of the probable *Bos primigenius* is interesting; this is a large species of cattle common during the prehistoric period, although thought to have died out around the Bronze Age period; the presence of this bone in a context dated as Saxon does suggest that it is residual.

6.4 Lithics

The Assemblage

Five pieces of struck flint were recovered from the site. A total of 235 pieces of burnt flint, weighing 2.230kg, were also found. They have been discarded. The assemblage is summarised in Table 1 and the flint is listed by context in Appendix 7.

Type	Number
Flake	1
Blade	1
?microlith	1
Retouched fragment	1
Utilised flake	1
Total	5
Burnt fragments	235

Table 1: The Flint

A single flake and a thermal fragment with possible retouch on one edge are present. They came from an unstratified ploughsoil context [180] in Trench 48.

A blade-like flake which has possibly been utilised was found in fill [065], Trench 33, ditch [064] and a small blade was found in the ploughsoil in Trench 14 [183]. It has an abraded platform showing a degree of preparation in its production and, further, it is a dark reddish brown in colour suggesting that it might have been deliberately heat-treated to improve its striking quality. Such deliberate preparation suggests a Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. Part of a very small bladelet from fill [155] of ditch [154] in Trench 48 has slight probable retouch at its distal point and may be a broken microlith of Mesolithic date.

The burnt flint came from the fills of pit [072] in Trench 18. It includes many small rounded gravel pebbles and fragments which may have been used, in the form of 'potboilers', to heat water. It is associated with metal-working debris, and is probably of industrial provenance.

Discussion

The assemblage is very small but it is of some interest that at two pieces could be residual material of a relatively early (Mesolithic) date.

6.5 Small Finds

Six small find numbers were allocated to artefacts in a range of materials. These include a copper alloy thimble, crushed and folded (SF1 [191]) and a suspension ring (SF2 [192]). Four fragments of lava quern stone were retrieved, (SF's 3 [053] and SF4 [140]). No grinding surfaces remain. A lead strip (SF5 [183]) and a burnt rubbing stone (SF6 [171]), probably sandstone, were also recovered. The metal objects were all metal detected, and the assemblage is either of post-medieval date or undatable.

6.6 Metal Working Debris

Eight pieces of smelting slag were collected (1.098kg) and includes two possible fragments of hearth bottom [117], associated with the smelting process, and six undiagnostic fragments [074] and [117].

6.7 Stone

A fragment of non-local stone (0.400kg; context [143]) was collected.

6.8 Artefacts of non-archaeological value

The site produced seventeen late post-medieval or modern, metal detected finds. Although recorded and retained, they were not small found. The assemblage consists of nine copper alloy objects consisting of four buttons, a single picture fixing and four unidentified pieces. A single white metal (copper/tin alloy) button and five fragments of lead waste were also recovered. A complete list appears in Appendix 9.

7.0 Environmental Evidence

A total of eight samples were collected from contexts [027], [033], [050], [053], [065] [071], [073] and [080]. The rationale for selection and methodology employed for study are based on *A Guide to Sampling Archaeological Deposits* by P.L. Murphy and P.E.J. Wiltshire (1994). These samples have not been assessed at the time of report production.

8.0 Conclusions

Figs 15, 16

Despite the restricted sample of the proposed development area (PDAN), some broad conclusions can be drawn from the evaluation results

Evidence for early activity within the study area is limited; for example, no pottery representing pre-Roman activity was present within the assemblages recovered (the dating of a number of body sherds of pottery of potentially Iron Age date has been problematic, in that they bear close resemblance to body sherds of Early Saxon pottery - see above. It was felt that the presence of these sherds, relatively unabraded in comparison to abraded Romano-British sherds identified from the same contexts, may point to an Early Saxon rather than Iron Age date for these contexts; the contexts are therefore discussed as such below.

Evidence of prehistoric activity is limited to isolated finds of struck flints from unstratified contexts, recovered during machining of the trenches, and residual finds from excavated features. A small dark reddish brown blade with an abraded platform, possibly heat-treated to improve its striking quality and Mesolithic in date, was recovered from the plough-soil in Trench 14, and two struck flints (a single flake and a thermal fragment with possible retouch) were recovered from the plough-soil in Trench 48. Two stratified struck flints were recovered, both apparently residual finds; a blade-like flake from the fill of ditch [064] in Trench 33; and a small bladelet, possibly a broken microlith of Mesolithic date, from ditch [154] in Trench 48. The presence of Mesolithic flint artefacts is interesting. To date, there is no identified Mesolithic material from the study area; nevertheless, the absence of material does not automatically preclude the possibility of Mesolithic activity, and these finds may suggest some small-scale movement within this area. A range of prehistoric artefacts from other periods, albeit poorly provenanced, have been recovered during the 19th century gravel workings to the east and north of the area, and cropmarks of probable Bronze Age date exist to the north-east of the site around Tottenhill (Havercroft 1999, 29-30).

Of the features excavated, few displayed identifiably prehistoric characteristics. The ditch [119] excavated in Trench 32, which appears to relate to a cropmark identified in the aerial photographs, could represent an early phase of activity; the fills were relatively sterile in comparison to other features excavated, but this feature cannot conclusively be said to be prehistoric based solely on this. The cropmark identifies a return to this ditch turning eastwards into Trench 33, but this was not seen during excavation. A pit excavated in Trench 18 ([072]) contained large quantities of burnt flint and charcoal within its fill, but no evidence of *in-situ* burning. The suggestion was that this could represent a pot-boiler of likely prehistoric origin; however, a stratified find of undiagnostic metal-working debris from its fill points to a later date for this feature, and the burnt flint could represent residues from an industrial process, perhaps of Romano-British date or possibly Saxon date (see below).

The bulk of the archaeology encountered appears to be of Romano-British date; though a number of the features identified lacked clear dating evidence, these features were often of a broadly similar type to, or found in close association with, features dated to this period. The finds recovered, whether from securely stratified contexts or as unstratified finds recovered during machining and metal-detecting, point to a predominantly Romano-British presence within the area, concentrated mainly but not exclusively in the south and south-eastern portions of Police House field.

The unstratified Romano-British finds consisted mainly of sherds of pottery and rare fragments of CBM; no metal-work or coinage of Roman date was recovered during metal-detecting. These finds appeared to mirror the general pattern of finds recovery found from stratified archaeological contexts. Most of the western half of the survey area and the conveyor route lacked any unstratified finds whatsoever; of the trenches excavated, those along the western side of the survey area (Trenches 7, 25, 27 and 39), and a number of the conveyor route trenches (Trenches 1, 24, 5, and 6) were blank.

Within the conveyor route, Trenches 3 and 4 revealed two gullies and one undetermined gully terminus, all undated ([068], [070] and [093] respectively). These were located along the central area of the conveyor route, and seem to correspond with an area of cropmarks identified in the desk-based assessments, described as 'curvilinear enclosures' (HER No. 17786 - Griffiths 1995, 35; Havercroft 1999, 16). No archaeology was identified immediately north and south of these trenches, and the conclusion must be that these form a discreet area of archaeology as illustrated by the aerial photographs, perhaps relating to small-scale farming activity in the vicinity. While it is not possible to conclude exactly the date and origin of the features, the gullies excavated bear similar resemblance to features identified in the main Police House Field area, and are tentatively ascribed a Romano-British date.

The main concentration of archaeology within the Police House Field area seems to focus in the south-east corner of the study area. This appears to correspond with the greater incidences of archaeological material recovered within the area; a limited number of sherds was found in Trench 35, whilst in Trenches 48 and 49 a marked increase in pottery and mineralised animal bone fragments recovered was observed, both from features and from unstratified finds recovered during machining. A number of quern or rubbing stone fragments were also recovered during excavation of features around this area, mainly from their upper post-use fills; fragments of lava quern were recovered from features in Trenches 43 and 46 (ditch [052] and an

unnumbered land-drain respectively), a rubbing stone was recovered from a shallow gully in Trench 49 ([170]) and a possible quern fragment was recovered from a gully in Trench 29 ([143]). This distribution of finds, whilst not conclusively demonstrating activity seen in isolation, does appear to follow the pattern of archaeological features recovered during excavation of the trenches in the south-east corner. The presence of quern fragments, animal bone and pottery suggests domestic rubbish dumps, perhaps on the periphery of and/or within a settlement. The western limit of this activity seems to be marked by Trench 46, which only produced three very shallow and debatable pits ([133], [136] and [138]) as well as a number of tree-boles, and the western half of Trench 41, which produced no features of note. However, archaeology may be present along the southern fringes of the field extending as far as the south-western corner (see below).

A large curvilinear ditch of Romano-British date, identified in Trenches 35, 48 and 49 (Fig.15), appears to correspond with a known crop-mark of a ditch identified in the desk-based assessments, described as an enclosure with a possible entrance (HER No. 29697 - Griffiths 1995, 18; Havercroft 1999, 24). In Trench 35, the ditch ([015]) runs NE SW and yielded one sherd of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery; the exact alignment and continuation of this feature was not clear as it did not appear in Trench 41 excavated to the south-west, and no further trenches were excavated east of this point. It is possible that this section of ditch represents the north arm of an enclosure, and that the absence of the ditch in Trench 41 may indicate a break for an entrance, but this must remain hypothetical. In Trench 48, the ditch ([154]) appears to run east-west and produced a number of sherds of Romano-British pottery dating between the 1st and 4th centuries AD. The ditch shown on the aerial photographs curves south-wards just west of this trench, and runs in to Trench 49 towards its eastern end; a large ditch with similar fills to [154] was identified in this exact position and must relate to this feature, representing the south-arm of the enclosure. The ditch in this trench ([162]) produced a number of sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery, including two sherds of mid to late 2nd century Samian ware, and fragments of bone, from its uppermost fill. The implication is that the ditch does in fact represent the western arc of a curvilinear enclosure, perhaps with an entrance on its western side, as suggested in the desk-based assessments. The enclosure ditches were broad and fairly shallow; while truncation of the ditches through ploughing cannot be ruled out, it seems unlikely that these ditches were in anyway defensive, and may merely have marked an area of settlement, perhaps in association with a bank and palisade, or a large stock enclosure. The ditch appears to follow the edge of a line of higher ground; a contour-line mirrors the arc and direction of the enclosure to the south-east of the study area. If the enclosure did originally follow this contour line closely, this may suggest that enclosure originally extended some way east, perhaps originally incorporating the area just west of the village of Tottenhill and east of the A10 (Griffiths 1995, fig.1). The enclosure probably dates between the 1st and late 2nd centuries AD; the recovery of sherds of Samian ware dating to the mid to late 2nd century in the upper-most fill of the ditch in Trench 49 suggest it did not continue on into the 3rd century and was probably out of use by this time.

Few archaeological features suggesting a settlement were noted closely associated to the enclosure ditch; for example, no pits or post-holes of Romano-British date were found, though the restricted area sampled means these features could still be found to the east. Two gullies ([160] and [172]) excavated at the southern end of

Trench 48 could relate to internal divisions within the enclosure, but these were undated and fairly ephemeral. A 'double gully', identified in Trench 35 ([029] and [031]), Trench 41 ([147] and [149]), partly within Trench 48 ([177]) and Trench 49 ([168] and [166]), may represent a long gully with a subsequent recut. This feature cuts across the entrance to the putative enclosure. Only gully [177] produced any dating, a sherd of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery. The exact purpose of the gully is unclear; it perhaps operated as a water-channel or was used for drainage.

In the south-western corner of Police House Field, a small concentration of archaeological features was noted in Trenches 42 and 43. This may represent a continuation of the archaeology seen in the south-eastern corner, perhaps fringing along the southern edge of the field, though this cannot be conclusively stated due to the absence of trenches in this area. The archaeology definitely does not extend beyond Trenches 25, 27 and 39 to the north, and the absence of archaeology in the eastern half of Trench 43 may indicate it extends no further than this trench. The ditches excavated in Trenches 42 and 43 could be related, as their dimensions and fills are broadly similar; ditch [052], running north-south in Trench 43, produced a fragment of lava quern and sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery, whilst ditch [114], running east-west in Trench 42, produced a number of sherds of mid 2nd to 3rd century Romano-British pottery. It is possible that these ditches represent the eastern and northern boundaries of an enclosure, or parts of a small field system. The ditch in Trench 42 was cut by a later gully [120], on a similar alignment and perhaps representing a change of use for the ditch. A further unexcavated gully [126] was seen underneath the west-facing trench section, running north-south; this produced a 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery sherd on cleaning. One pit [122] was identified but yielded no finds. A large possible quarry-pit [131] was also investigated; little can be said as regards this feature as it too was undated, but early quarrying would certainly have occurred in the area perhaps dating back to the medieval period - 'it is a reasonable assumption that extraction, albeit on a limited scale, may well have been present prior to [the documented 18th century activity]' (Havercroft 1999, 32). A further probable quarry pit [098] was located in Trench 14 to the north, cut by a gully [102].

The major element of the archaeology identified in the northern half of the study area consisted of shallow rounded drainage gullies, orientated broadly NNE SSW or WNW ESE and forming small rectangular plots or fields. These were mainly filled with a light grey stone-less sandy silt. The plots lie to the north-west of the enclosure ditch, and may relate to an area set aside for arable cultivation. The exact layout of these plots cannot be securely defined from the small area excavated, but it was clear during excavation that these gullies were all broadly contemporary, due to the homogeneity of their fills. Only one corner of a plot was identified, at the southern end of Trench 23, where gully [026] is seen to abut gully [024] on its southern side (Fig.16); the latter gully extends WNW ESE in both directions. A gully [107] identified in Trench 22 runs parallel to [026], and probably forms the western side of the plot, perhaps abutting [024] outside the limits of excavation. A further gully, identified in Trench 23 as [018] and in Trench 18 as [111] (Fig.16), runs broadly parallel to, and north of, gully [024] and perhaps forms a further northern plot boundary; this may run on into Trench 16, where a 'palisade slot' [032] is visible on a similar alignment; the gully may have been extended on as a fence-line at this point (however, a possible

'palisade slot' [022] was also identified in Trench 23; though on a different alignment to [032], it could represent a different sequence of features to the gullies).

To the east, a further NNE SSW aligned plot boundary extends from Trench 19 (as gully [008]) southwards, perhaps joining gully [143] in Trench 29 (Fig.16). A WNW ESE aligned gully in Trench 29 (gully [141]) probably runs into this latter gully on its eastern side, and could hypothetically run on through to join gully [026] to the west. On a similar alignment and further south, gully [011] in Trench 35, and gully [064] in Trench 33 may also be connected. The gully identified in the southern end of Trench 12 ([003]), and the gully in Trench 14 [102] could also relate to these field systems; the latter could hypothetically relate to the gully [188] seen in section only in Trench 18. A gully with a rounded profile was excavated just north of the enclosure ditch ([153]); the continuation of the gully was not clear, but could relate to one of the gullies excavated within Trench 49, perhaps gully [164]. Both gullies lie quite close to the main enclosure ditch in both trenches and may relate to it. Very little dating material was recovered from these gullies, apart from immediately adjacent to the curvilinear enclosure ditch in Trenches 29 and 35. In Trench 29, a dump of 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pottery was recovered from gully [141]; three sherds of 1st to 4th century Romano-British pottery were recovered from gully [011] in Trench 35. Away from the enclosure, the only other dating evidence recovered was one sherd of pottery, a 1st to 3rd century Romano-British pot-base, from gully [026] in Trench 23. The gullies are likely to broadly date to between the 1st and 3rd centuries AD, and may therefore be contemporary to the large enclosure.

Within the northern sector of Police House Field, a large broad ditch runs from Trench 16 ([034]) and is thought to extend on into Trench 23 ([047]) (Fig.2), but no trace of it was seen beyond these two trenches, and it was undated (though it predates a rectilinear Saxon enclosure - see below). A further ditch runs from Trench 23 ([045]) to Trench 18 ([090]), but this was also undated and its extent was unclear. These ditches could mark the northern boundaries for the field systems, but this is not certain. Few discreet features were identified in this area. Two possible pits, [020] and [016], were identified in Trench 23, neither producing dating evidence, though the latter was cut by a gully [018] and therefore predates the field systems.

Writing on the Roman ceramic material uncovered in the vicinity of Tottenhill, Havercroft (1999, 30-31) states: 'The date range of ceramic material covers much of the Roman period and indicates a potential for continuous occupation, and this infers a well established site(s). The suggestion that the A10 may be an undefined Roman road would certainly give a sound context for such a development'. The suggestion of a well-established site may be borne out by the presence of this enclosure and field-systems, though the pottery recovered indicates a probable occupation range between the 1st and 3rd centuries only, possibly extending into the 4th century at the latest. No conclusively settlement-related archaeology was recovered for this period, though it may lie just east of the study area within the enclosure area.

The dating evidence recovered within the study area suggests a hiatus between the mid-Roman and Early Saxon periods. No 4th century pottery was recovered for the entirety of the survey area, either as unstratified finds or from stratified contexts. This may suggest an abandonment of the area by this time. The dating of the Non-Roman pottery has been problematic, in that Early Saxon body sherds bear close resemblance to body sherds of Iron Age pottery - see above. It was felt that the presence of these problematic sherds, relatively unabraded in comparison to

abraded Romano-British sherds identified from the same contexts, may point to an Early Saxon rather than Iron Age date for these contexts; the contexts are therefore discussed as such in this section.

The Early Saxon evidence recovered is not as extensive as that for the Roman periods, and suggests a less intensive use of the landscape. Only one sherd of unstratified possible Saxon pottery was recovered from Trench 42. A shallow, fairly truncated, gully ([124]) excavated at the southern end of the trench also produced pottery of possibly Saxon date.

In the south-east corner of the study area, in the vicinity of the enclosure, two pits were excavated in Trench 48; one slightly north of the ditch, and presumably external to the enclosure ([174]), and one to the south of the ditch and presumably internal ([156]). The first is likely to be a rubbish pit; it was particularly shallow and contained four sherds of possible Saxon pottery as well as residual Roman pottery and animal bone. The second is much deeper, and could not be fully excavated within the confines of the trench. The sides were near vertical, and it was felt during excavation that this could be a well; a sherd of possible Saxon pottery, two sherds of residual Roman pottery and animal bone was recovered from the lower fill, and a possible Saxon pottery sherd from the upper fill. A deposit of subsoil was identified, consisting of a mid orangey brown silty sand with moderate flint, covering the southern half of Trench 35 ([080]), the eastern third of Trench 41 ([151]), the entirety of Trench 48 ([159]) and the eastern third of Trench 49 ([184]). The deposit is closely located to the area of high ground enclosed by the putative enclosure ditch; the enclosure ditches in Trenches 35 and 49 closely match the western and northern limits of this deposit. The implication is that this deposit relates directly to the enclosure area. The deposit produced 58 sherds of Roman pottery, and two sherds of possible Saxon pottery from the southern end of Trench 35. The deposit stratigraphically post-dates all the archaeology within these trenches, and may represent a post-use and abandonment phase for the enclosure, possibly a plough-soil.

The discovery of pits, one of which may be a well, may suggest settlement within the enclosure area, perhaps making use of existing earthworks; it is unlikely the ditch would still have been visible at this time as by the late 2nd century it was already completely silted up and no Early Medieval finds were recovered from it. The settlement activity appears to have been only small-scale, though the activity may intensify further to the east beyond the survey area. The close ties between the subsoil and the enclosure could suggest it was used as a demarcation for a field.

North-west of the study area, the corner of a rectilinear enclosure with a V-shaped profile was excavated in Trench 15 ([117]). This runs east-west from the eastern end of the trench, turning through right-angles and running south beyond the trench limits. The enclosure was also seen in Trench 16 ([036]), possibly cutting an earlier ditch [034]. A number of sherds of possible Saxon pottery and residual Roman pottery were recovered from this enclosure, as well as eight pieces of iron smelting slag, including two pieces of hearth bottom, all associated with the smelting of iron. The exact extent and function of the enclosure is unclear, but it could define an industrial area for the smelting and working of iron and as such could represent an important discovery. In Trench 18, a pit [072] containing large quantities of burnt flint and charcoal could also represent residues from a related metal-working process, perhaps also Saxon in date. This pit also produced three undiagnostic fragments of

metal-working debris. The pit was closely associated with a possible curvilinear gully [075], and seven shallow post- or stake-holes ([077], [083] and [085]), all undated.

The desk-based assessments illustrate that a number of Saxon findspots have been located to the immediate east of the study area. These include an Early Saxon cemetery located to the east of the A10 and the PDAN, as well as Early Saxon sherds, a Ragstone quern and an Early Saxon brooch; an 8th/9th century Viking disc brooch has also been found on the west side of Tottenhill. Havercroft (1999, 31) states: 'the distribution of finds confirms that there is a significant presence in the immediate locality during the earlier (i.e. Pagan) part of the period. The recovery of at least 40 burial urns infers settlement close by as does the finding of a Ragstone Quern - if this is correctly associated with the Pagan pottery sherds and not derived from elsewhere.' The possibility may be that, after a hiatus in the 4th century, settlement continued during the post-Roman period within the putative enclosure, but that the focus of settlement may have perhaps shifted further east of the A10 around the site of the present village of Tottenhill. The presence of a probably discreet metal-working site within the PDAN should be linked to this activity.

No Later Medieval archaeology was identified in the study area, which may mark a break in, or scaling down of, occupation in the study area during this time, with the area perhaps reverting to pasture. There is certainly continuity of settlement in the area of the present village of Tottenhill into the Later Medieval period, and on into the present day. The quarry pits identified in Trenches 42 and 14 ([131] and [098]) could be of medieval date or later date.

Little Post-Medieval activity is evident within the study area, with the primary landuse being arable and/or pastoral during most of this period. The field boundaries identified on the 1902-1907 OS maps were not visible during excavation of the trenches and the conclusion must be that these field boundaries were hedge-lines with no associated drainage ditches, or fences. Some evidence of the extraction of minerals in the study area was identified in Trench 18, immediately south of the gravel quarry to the north of Police House Field (c.f. Havercroft 1999, 32). A spread of redeposited natural [088] was identified, sealing a buried (?topsoil) deposit [095]/[089]; this is likely to be a spread of quarry upcast and is probably dated to the late 19th century.

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by the Archaeological Consultant in conference with Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken by Sarah Bates, Chris Birks, Kirsty Bone, Mick Boyle, Ben Davenport, Chris Phillips, David Robertson, Matthew Town and Danny Voisey. Additional metal-detecting was kindly undertaken by Andy Barnett. The machining was undertaken by Stephen and John Poole of EAS Plant Hire Ltd, King's Lynn.

The site drawings were digitised by Sandrine Etienne. The finds were processed by Lucy Talbot. The HER search was carried out by Jan Allen.

Sarah Bates examined the flint artefacts. Alice Lyons examined the Roman pottery and Richenda Goffin examined the Post-Roman pottery. Lucy Talbot commented on the Small Finds, CBM and metal-working debris. Julia Huddle commented on the metalwork. Julie Curl examined the animal bones. The report was written by Matthew Town, illustrated and produced by Maggie Footitt and edited by Jayne Bown.

Adrian Havercroft is thanked for his consistent support and involvement throughout the project.

Finally, grateful thanks are extended to RMC Aggregates (Eastern Counties) Ltd. for commissioning the works.

Bibliography

- Andrews, G., 1985 'The Coarse Wares' in Hinchliffe, J., *Excavations at Brancaster 1974 and 1977*, East Anglian Archaeology 23, 82-95.
- Bates, S., 1996 *Shouldham to Watlington Pipeline Watching Brief*, NAU Report 198 (unpublished).
- Department of the Environment 1990 *Planning and Policy Guide 16 - Archaeology and Planning*. Department of the Environment.
- Griffiths, DW, 1995 *Land at Watlington and Tottenhill, Norfolk. Archaeological Assessment*, Oxford Archaeological Associates Ltd. (unpublished).
- Gurney D., 1986 'Settlement, Religion and Industry on the Fen Edge Norfolk,' East Anglian Archaeology 31
- Gurney D., 1990 'A Romano-British Pottery Kiln at Blackborough End Middleton', Norfolk Archaeology 41, 83-92
- Gurney, D., 1995 'The Roman Pottery' in *Spong Hill Part VII: The Iron Age, Roman and Early Saxon Settlement on Spong Hill, North Elmham*, East Anglian Archaeology 73, 101
- Havercroft, A, 1999 *Land at Watlington and Tottenhill, Norfolk. A Desk Based Assessment, Archaeology and Historic Features (Extended Update)*. The Guildhouse Consultancy (unpublished).
- Havercroft, A, 2000 *60 Acre Field, Watlington. Archaeological Evaluation Field Survey Report (Fieldwalking and Metal Detecting)*. The Guildhouse Consultancy (unpublished).
- Jennings, S, 1981 *Eighteen Centuries Of Pottery In Norwich*, EAA Report No 13.
- Lyons, A.L., in prep 'The Roman Pottery' in Lyons in prep *Archaeological Investigations at Strickland Avenue and Station Road, Snettisham, 1991, 1994, 1998 and 2000*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper Series
- Murphy, PL, & Wiltshire, PEJ., 1994 *A Guide to Sampling Archaeological Deposits*
- Tomber, R and Dore, J., 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection. A Handbook*, MoLAS monograph 2

Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context	Trench	Category	Description	Period
001	12	Cut	Land-drain	Modern
002	12	Cut	Land-drain	Modern
003	12	Cut	Gully	
004	12	Deposit	Fill of Land-drain [001]	Modern
005	12	Deposit	Fill of Land-drain [002]	Modern
006	12	Deposit	Fill of Gully [003]	
007	12	Deposit	Subsoil	Roman
008	19	Cut	Gully	
009	19	Deposit	Fill of Gully [009]	
010	35	Deposit	Fill of Gully [011]	Roman
011	35	Cut	Gully	Roman
012	35	Deposit	Fill of Gully Terminus [013]	
013	35	Cut	Gully Terminus	
014	35	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [015]	Roman
015	35	Cut	Ditch	Roman
016	23	Cut	Pit	
017	23	Deposit	Fill of Pit [016]	
018	23	Cut	Ditch	
019	23	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [019]	
020	23	Cut	Pit	
021	23	Deposit	Fill of Pit [020]	
022	23	Cut	Palisade Slot	
023	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	
024	23	Cut	Gully	
025	23	Deposit	Fill of Gully [024]	
026	23	Cut	Gully	Roman
027	23	Deposit	Fill of Gully [026]	Roman
028	35	Deposit	Fill of Gully [029]	
029	35	Cut	Gully	
030	35	Deposit	Fill of Gully [031]	
031	35	Cut	Gully	
032	16	Cut	Palisade Slot	
033	16	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [032]	
034	16	Cut	Ditch	
035	16	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [034]	
036	16	Cut	Ditch	

Context	Trench	Category	Description	Period
037	16	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [036]	
038	35	Deposit	Fill of Pit [039]	
039	35	Cut	Pit	
040	35	Deposit	Fill of Pit [041]	
041	35	Cut	Pit	
042	16	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
043	19	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
044	27	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
045	23	Cut	Ditch	
046	23	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [045]	
047	23	Cut	Ditch	
048	23	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [047]	
049	23	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [045]	
050	23	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [045]	
051	23	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [045]	
052	43	Cut	Ditch	Roman
053	43	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [052]	Roman
054	43	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [052]	Roman
055	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
056	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
057	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
058	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
059	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
060	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
061	23	Deposit	Fill of Palisade Slot [022]	Roman
062	23	Cut	Land-drain	Modern
063	23	Deposit	Fill of Land-drain [062]	Modern
064	33	Cut	Ditch	?Prehistoric
065	33	Deposit	Fill of Ditch	?Prehistoric
066	3	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
067	12	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
068	3	Cut	Gully	
069	3	Deposit	Fill of Gully [068]	
070	3	Cut	Gully	
071	3	Deposit	Fill of Gully [070]	
072	18	Cut	Pit	?Saxon
073	18	Deposit	Fill of Pit [072]	?Saxon

Context	Trench	Category	Description	Period
074	18	Deposit	Fill of Pit [072]	?Saxon
075	18	Cut	Gully	
076	18	Deposit	Fill of Gully [075]	
077	18	Cut	Post-Hole	
078	18	Deposit	Fill of Post-Hole [077]	
079	23	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
080	35	Deposit	Subsoil	?Saxon
081	18	Deposit	Fill of [082]	?Saxon
082	18	Cut	Post-Hole	?Saxon
083	18	Cut	Post-Hole	
084	18	Deposit	Fill of Post-Hole [083]	
085	18	Cut	Post-Hole	
086	18	Deposit	Fill of Post-Hole [085]	
087	18	Deposit	Topsoil	Modern
088	18	Deposit	Subsoil - Redeposited Natural	C19?
089	18	Deposit	Subsoil - Buried Topsoil	C19?
090	18	Cut	Ditch	
091	18	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [090]	
092	18	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [090]	
093	4	Cut	Gully Terminus	
094	4	Deposit	Fill of Gully Terminus [093]	
095	18	Deposit	Subsoil - Buried Topsoil	C19?
096	18	Deposit	Subsoil	
097	18	Deposit	Layer - Natural?	
098	14	Cut	Quarry	
099	14	Deposit	Fill of Quarry [098]	
100	14	Deposit	Fill of Quarry [098]	
101	14	Deposit	Fill of Quarry [098]	
102	14	Cut	Gully	
103	14	Deposit	Fill of Gully [102]	
104	22	Deposit	Fill of Land-drain [105]	Modern
105	22	Cut	Land-drain	Modern
106	22	Deposit	Gully	
107	22	Cut	Fill of Gully [106]	
108	18	Cut	Gully	
109	18	Deposit	Fill of Gully [108]	
110	18	Deposit	Fill of Gully [108]	

Context	Trench	Category	Description	Period
111	18	Cut	Gully	
112	18	Deposit	Fill of Gully [111]	
113	18	Deposit	Fill of Gully [111]	
114	42	Cut	Ditch	Roman
115	42	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [114]	Roman
116	15	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [118]	?Saxon
117	15	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [118]	?Saxon
118	15	Cut	Ditch	?Saxon
119	32	Cut	Ditch	
120	42	Cut	Gully	Roman
121	42	Deposit	Fill of Gully [120]	Roman
122	42	Cut	Pit	
123	42	Deposit	Fill of Pit [122]	
124	42	Cut	Gully	?Saxon
125	42	Deposit	Fill of Gully [124]	?Saxon
126	42	Cut	Unexcavated Gully	Roman
127	42	Deposit	Fill of Unexcavated Gully [126]	Roman
128	32	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [119]	
129	32	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [119]	
130	32	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [119]	
131	42	Cut	Quarry	
132	42	Deposit	Fill of Quarry	
133	46	Cut	Pit	
134	46	Deposit	Fill of Pit [133]	
135	46	Deposit	Fill of Pit [133]	
136	46	Cut	Pit	
137	46	Deposit	Fill of Pit [136]	
138	46	Cut	Pit	
139	46	Deposit	Fill of Pit [136]	
140	46	Deposit	Fill of Unnumbered Land-drain	Modern
141	29	Cut	Gully	Roman
142	29	Deposit	Fill of Gully [141]	Roman
143	29	Cut	Gully	
144	29	Deposit	Fill of Gully [143]	
145	29	Deposit	Fill of Gully [143]	
146	29	Deposit	Fill of Gully [143]	
147	41	Cut	Gully	

Context	Trench	Category	Description	Period
148	41	Deposit	Fill of Gully [147]	
149	41	Cut	Gully	
150	41	Deposit	Fill of Gully [149]	
151	41	Deposit	Subsoil	
152	48	Deposit	Fill of Gully [153]	
153	48	Cut	Gully	
154	48	Cut	Ditch	Roman
155	48	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [154]	Roman
156	48	Cut	Pit/Well	?Saxon
157	48	Deposit	Fill of Pit/Well [156]	?Saxon
158	48	Deposit	Fill of Pit/Well [156]	?Saxon
159	48	Deposit	Subsoil	
160	48	Cut	Gully	
161	48	Deposit	Fill of Gully [160]	
162	49	Cut	Ditch	Roman
163	49	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [162]	Roman
164	49	Cut	Gully	
165	49	Deposit	Fill of Gully [164]	
166	49	Cut	Gully Recut	
167	49	Deposit	Fill of Recut [166]	
168	49	Cut	Gully	
169	49	Deposit	Fill of Gully [168]	
170	49	Cut	Gully	
171	49	Deposit	Fill of Gully [170]	
172	48	Cut	Gully Terminus	
173	48	Deposit	Fill of Gully Terminus [172]	
174	48	Cut	Pit	?Saxon
175	48	Deposit	Fill of Pit [174]	?Saxon
176	48	Deposit	Fill of Gully [177]	Roman
177	48	Cut	Gully	Roman
178	42	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
179	7	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
180	48	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
181	49	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
182	29	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
183	14	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
184	49	Deposit	Subsoil	

Context	Trench	Category	Description	Period
185	49	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [162]	Roman
186	49	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [162]	Roman
187	49	Deposit	Fill of Ditch [162]	Roman
188	18	Cut	Gully (Section Only)	
189	18	Deposit	Subsoil	
190	41	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
191	22	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	
192	35	Deposit	Unstratified finds from ploughsoil	

Appendix 2: Finds by Context

Context	Period	Material	Quantity	Weight (kg)
006	-	Animal Bone (sheep)	1	0.033
007	Roman	Pottery	1	0.001
007	Roman	Pottery	6	0.042
007	Roman	Animal Bone (cattle)	7	0.005
010	Roman	Pottery	1	0.002
010	Roman	Pottery	2	0.012
014	Roman	Pottery	1	0.005
023	?Roman	CBM	1	0.02
027	Roman	Pottery	1	0.008
042	-	Copper Alloy	1	-
043	Roman	Pottery	1	0.006
044	-	Copper Alloy	2	-
044	-	Lead	1	-
053	Roman	Pottery	3	0.013
053	-	Lava quern SF3	1	-
065	Prehistoric	Utilised flake	1	-
066	Post-medieval	Pottery	1	0.004
067	-	Copper Alloy	1	-
073	Saxon?	Burnt flint	127	1.223
074	Saxon?	Burnt flint	108	1.007
074	Saxon?	Metal-Working Debris	3	0.025
079	Roman	Pottery	1	0.031
079	-	Copper Alloy	2	-
079	-	Lead	2	-
080	(Roman)	Pottery	56	0.841
080	(Roman)	Pottery	2	0.085
080	?Saxon	Pottery	2	0.062
115	Roman	Pottery	11	0.101
116	?Saxon	Pottery	4	0.045
117	Roman	Pottery	1	0.004
117	?Saxon	Metal-Working Debris	5	1.073
117	?Saxon	Animal Bone (cattle)	5	0.101
125	?Saxon	Pottery	1	0.004
127	Roman	Pottery	1	0.016
140	-	Lava quern SF4	3	-
142	Roman	Pottery	29	0.364

Context	Period	Material	Quantity	Weight
142	Roman	Pottery	3	0.087
142	Roman	Pottery	3	0.009
142	Roman	Animal Bone (mammal)	2	0.021
143	-	Stone	1	0.4
155	Mesolithic	?microlith	1	-
155	Roman	Pottery	6	0.068
157	(Roman)	Pottery	1	0.004
157	(Roman)	Pottery	1	0.013
157	?Saxon	Pottery	1	0.023
157	?Saxon	Animal Bone (cattle, sheep/deer, mammal)	3	0.074
158	?Saxon	Pottery	1	0.019
163	Roman	Pottery	2	0.068
163	Roman	Pottery	3	0.111
167	-	Animal Bone (cattle, mammal)	5	0.058
171	-	Stone SF6	1	-
175	Roman	Animal Bone (?pig)	1	0.007
175	(Roman)	Pottery	2	0.018
175	?Saxon	Pottery	4	0.081
176	Roman	Pottery	1	0.005
178	(Roman)	Pottery	1	0.009
178	?Saxon	Pottery	1	0.024
178	-	Lead	2	-
179	-	Copper Alloy	1	-
179	-	White Metal	1	-
179	-	Lead	2	-
180	Prehistoric	Flake	1	-
180	Prehistoric	Retouched fragment	1	-
180	Roman	Pottery	1	0.009
180	Roman	Pottery	2	0.011
180	?Roman	CBM	1	0.032
181	?Roman/Post-medieval	CBM	2	0.088
182	Roman	Pottery	2	0.018
183	Mesolithic	Blade	1	-
183	-	Lead SF5	1	-
183	-	Copper Alloy	1	-
190	Roman	Pottery	1	0.003

Context	Period	Material	Quantity	Weight
191	-	Copper Alloy inc. SF1	2	-
192	-	Copper Alloy SF2	1	-
U/S	Post-Medieval	Pottery	2	0.056

Appendix 3: Roman Pottery

Context	Pottery Era	Fabric	Quantity	Weight (kg)	Date
007	Roman	Samian	1	0.001	2nd century
007	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	6	0.042	Mid/late 2nd to 3rd century
010	Roman	Micaceous grey ware	1	0.002	Late 1st to 4th century
010	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	2	0.012	Late 1st to 4th century
014	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	1	0.005	1st to 4th century
027	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	1	0.008	1st to 3rd century
043	Roman	Sandy white ware	1	0.006	1st to 3rd century
053	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	3	0.013	Late 1st to 4th century
079	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	1	0.031	1st to 3rd century
080	(Roman)	Sandy reduced wares	56	0.841	Late 1st to 4th century
080	(Roman)	Sandy white ware	2	0.085	1st to 3rd century
115	Roman	Sandy reduced wares	11	0.101	Mid 2nd to 3rd century
117	Roman	Micaceous grey ware	1	0.004	1st to 3rd century
127	Roman	Sandy white ware	1	0.016	1st to 3rd century
142	Roman	Micaceous grey ware	29	0.364	Mid 2nd to 3rd century
142	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	3	0.087	1st to 3rd century
142	Roman	Sandy white ware	3	0.009	1st to 3rd century
155	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	6	0.068	1st to 4th century
157	(Roman)	Micaceous grey ware	1	0.004	Late 1st to 4th century

Context	Pottery Era	Fabric	Quantity	Weight (kg)	Date
157	(Roman)	Sandy reduced wares	1	0.013	1st to 4th century
163	Roman	Samian	2	0.068	Mid to late 2nd century (Dr31R)
163	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	3	0.111	1st to 4th century
175	(Roman)	Sandy reduced wares	2	0.018	Late 1st to 4th century
176	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	1	0.005	1st to 4th century
178	(Roman)	Micaceous grey ware	1	0.009	Late 1st to 3rd century
180	Roman	Micaceous grey ware	1	0.009	Late 1st to 4th century
180	Roman	Sandy reduced ware	2	0.011	Late 1st to 4th century
182	Roman	Micaceous grey ware	2	0.018	Mid 2nd to 4th century
190	Roman	Sandy white ware	1	0.003	1st to 3rd century

Appendix 4: Non-Roman Pottery

Context	Period	Fabric	Form	Quantity	Weight (g)	Date
US	PM	Nots	Jar	1	36	18th c
US	PM	Lsrw	Body	1	19	19th-20th c
066	PM	Bbas	Lid?	1	4	
080	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	41	
080	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	21	
116	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	4	49	
125	M?	Misc	Body	1	4	
157	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	24	
158	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	19	
175	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	20	
175	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	18	
175	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	33	
175	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Body	1	9	
178	IA/R/S?	Sandorg	Base	1	24	

Appendix 5: Ceramic Building Material

Context	Form	Quantity	Weight (kg)	Period
023	Unidentified	1	0.020	?Roman
180	Unidentified	1	0.032	?Roman
181	Unidentified	1	0.033	?Roman
181	Pan Tile	1	0.055	Post-Medieval
TOTAL		4	0.140	

Appendix 6: Faunal Remains

Context	Weight	Qty	Species	Species Qty	Comments
006	33g	1	Sheep/ goat	1	Molar
007	5g	7	Cattle	7	Tooth fragments
117	101g	5	Cattle	5	Mandible fragments (adult) and teeth, very poor condition, including root or insect damage on bone surfaces
142	21g	2	Mammal	2	Large mammal fragments heavily mineralised and in very poor condition, eroded surfaces
157	74	3	Cattle	1	Large scapula fragment. <i>Bos primigenius</i> size, very poor condition, root/insect damage
157			Sheep/ Deer	1	Tibia, either sheep/goat or Roe deer, very poor condition
157			Mammal	1	Unidentifiable, very poor condition and encrusted with iron and gravel
167	58g	5	Cattle	1	Ulna, small species of cattle, butchered, poor condition, eroded surfaces
167			Mammal	4	Fragments of large mammal, poor condition
175	7g		?Pig	1	Mandible fragment, butchered, burnt black

Appendix 7: Flint

Context	Type	Quantity	Description of Context
065	Utilised flake	1	Fill of Ditch [064]
073	Burnt fragment	127	Fill of Pit [072]
074	Burnt fragment	108	Fill of Pit [072]
155	?microlith	1	Fill of Ditch [154]
180	Flake	1	Unstratified - Trench 48
180	Retouched fragment	1	Unstratified - Trench 48
183	Blade	1	Unstratified - Trench 14

Appendix 8: Small Finds

Small Find	Context	Quantity	Period	Material	Object	Description	Date
1	191	1	Post-Med	Copper alloy	Thimble	Crushed MD	Post-Med
2	192	1	Post-Med	Copper alloy	Ring	Suspension MD	Post-Med
3	053	1		Lava	Quern	Fragment MD	
4	140	3		Lava	Quern	Small fragments MD	
5	183	1		Lead	Strip	Fragment MD	
6	171	1		Stone	?Rubbing	Burnt ?Sandstone MD	

Appendix 9: Catalogue of Other Metal Objects (not small found as they have no archaeological significance)

Context	Quantity	Material	Object Name	Description	Period
42	1	Copper alloy	Artefact	Unidentified – cast MD	Post-Medieval
44	1	Copper alloy	Button	MD	Post-Medieval
44	1	Copper alloy	Artefact	Unidentified – Composite MD	Post-Medieval
44	1	Lead	Waste	MD	
67	1	Copper alloy	Artefact	Unidentified MD	Post-Medieval
79	1	Copper alloy	Button	MD	Post-Medieval
79	1	Copper alloy	Artefact	Unidentified MD	Post-Medieval
79	2	Lead	Waste	MD	
178	2	Lead	Waste	MD	
179	1	Copper alloy	Button	MD	Post-Medieval
179	1	White metal	Button	MD	Post-Medieval
179	2	Lead	Waste	MD	
183	1	Copper alloy	Picture	Fixing MD	Post-Medieval
191	1	Copper alloy	Button	MD	Post-Medieval

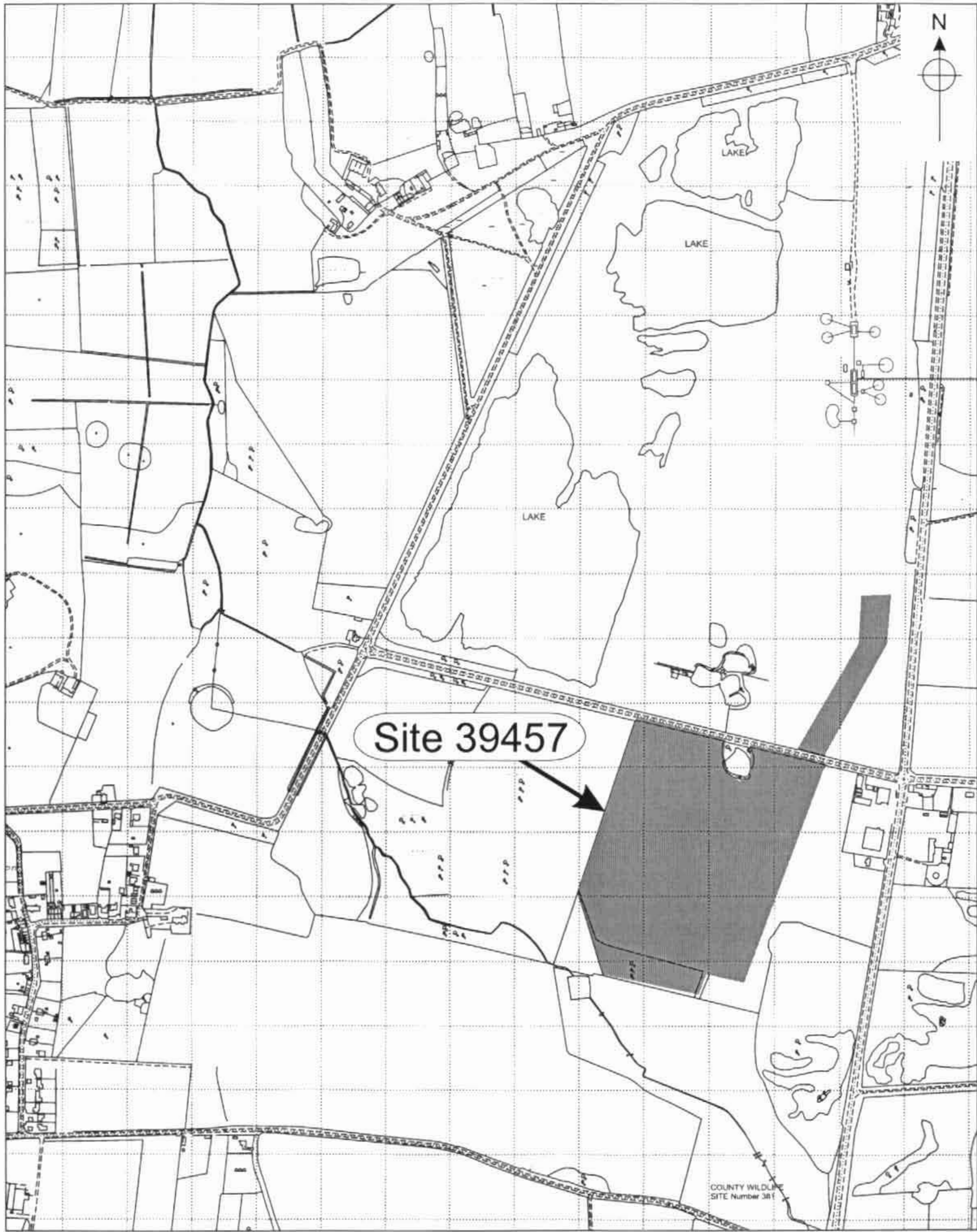


Figure 1. Site Location. Scale 1:10,000

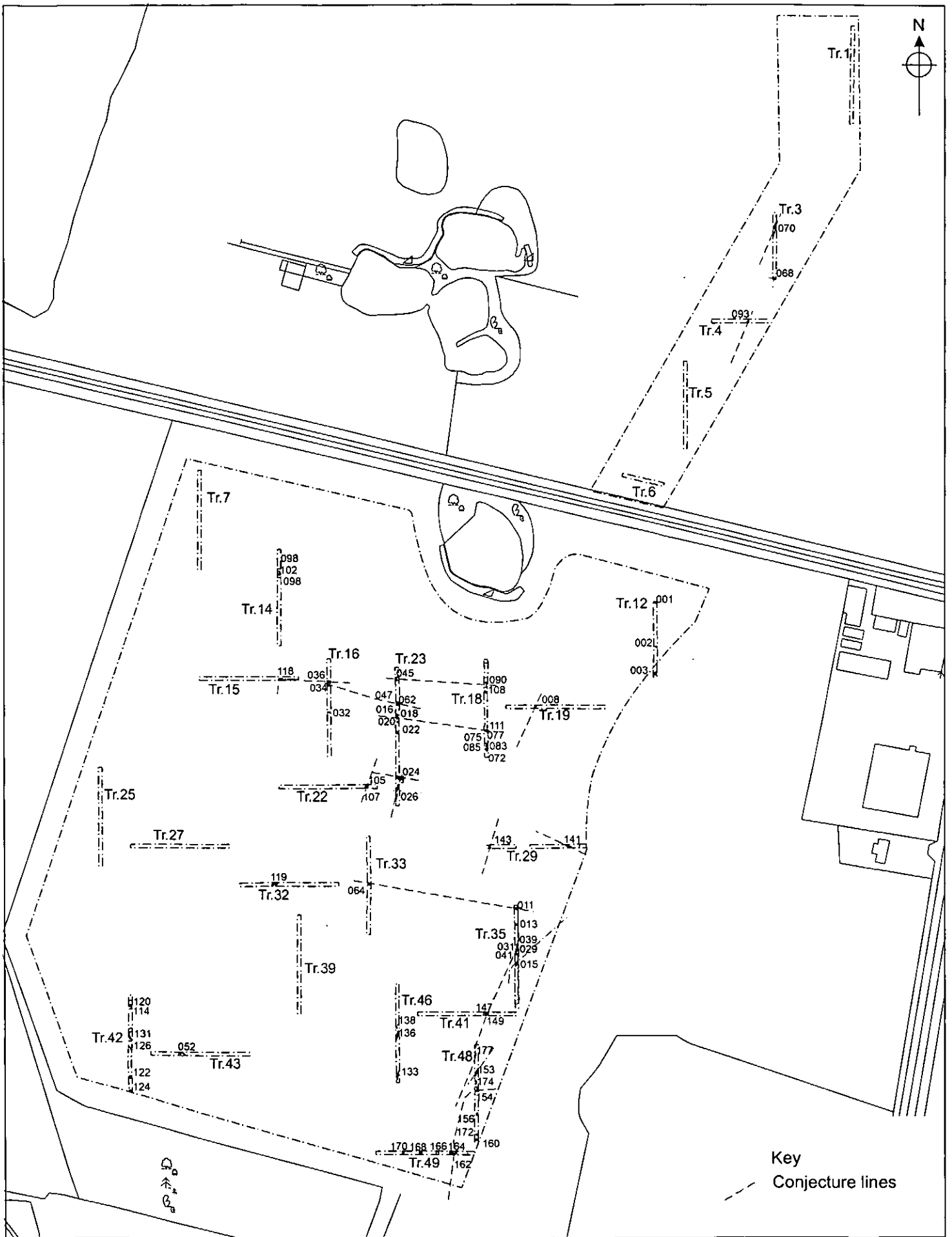
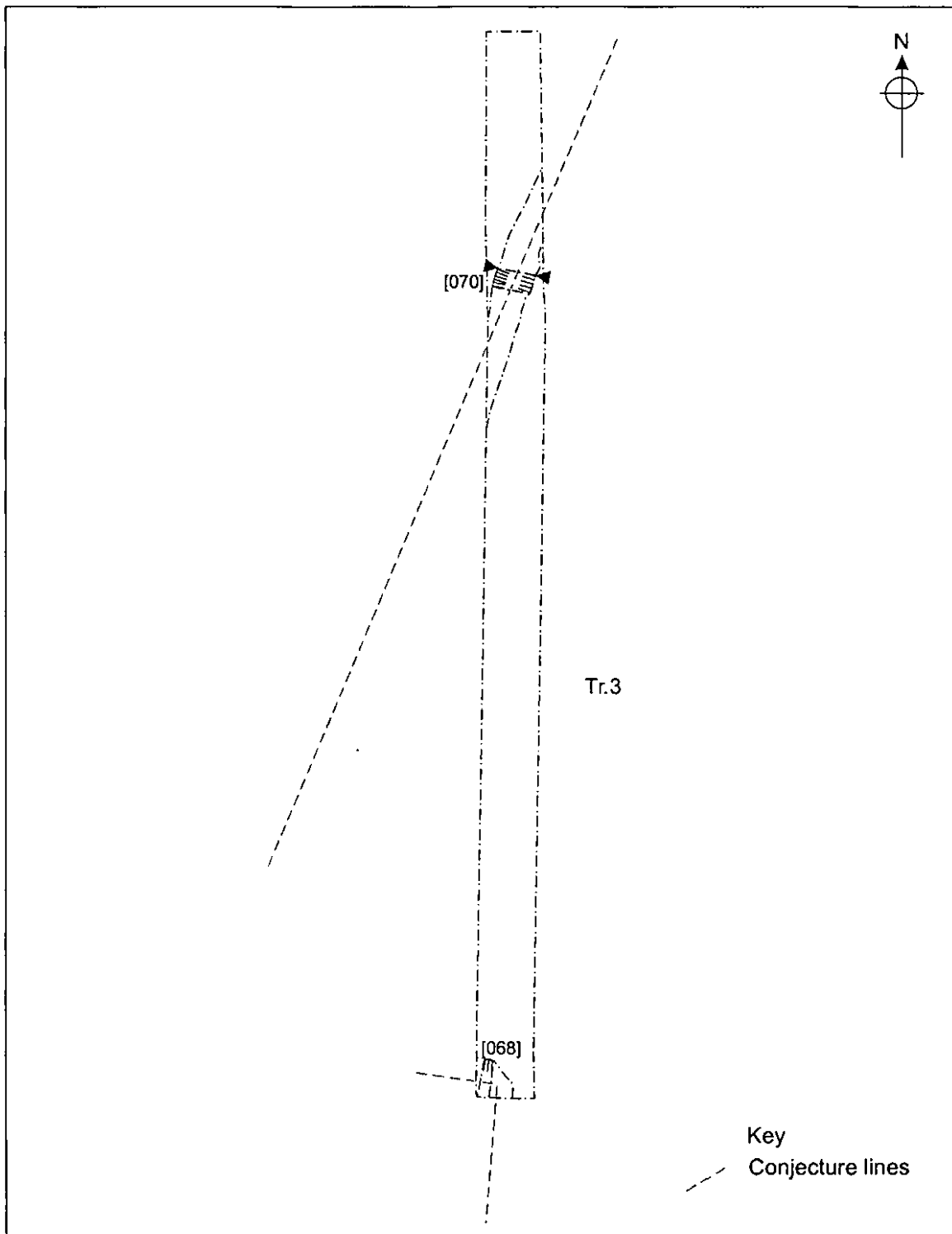


Figure 2. Trench Locations. Scale 1:2500



Scale 1:200

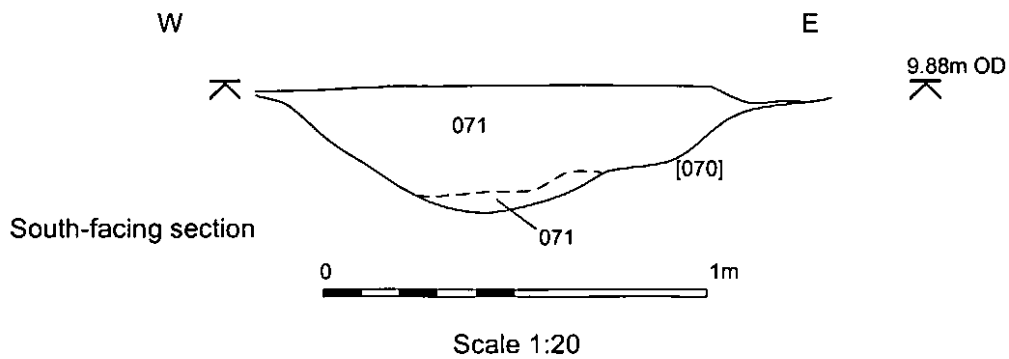


Figure 3. Trench 3 Plan and section

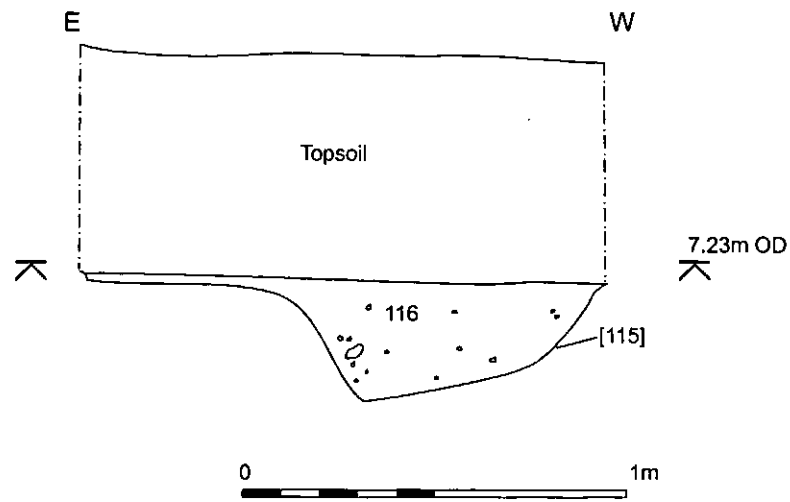
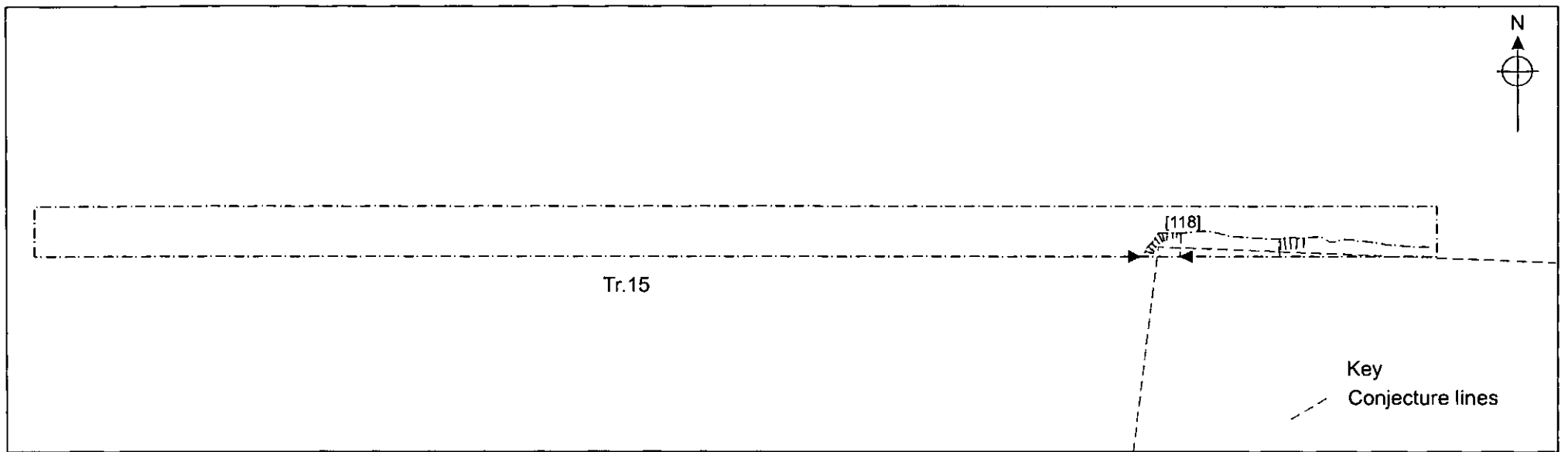


Figure 4. Trench 15 plan and section

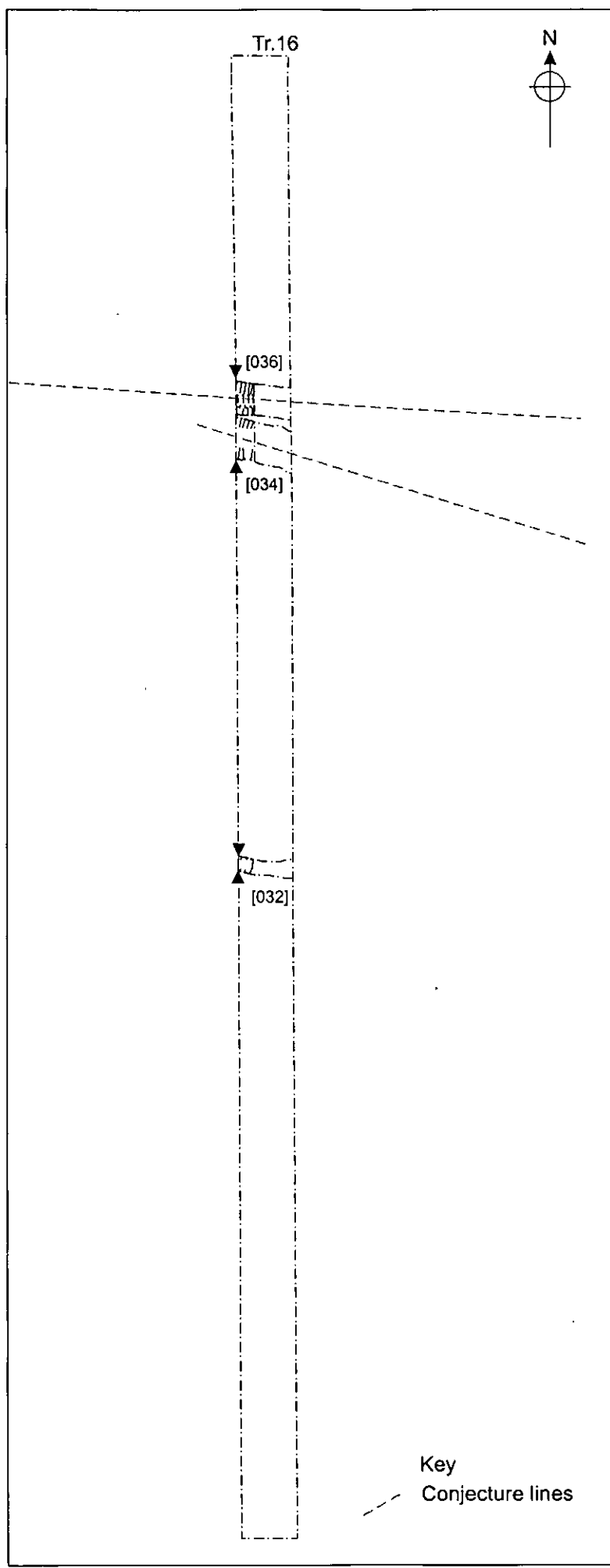


Figure 5. Trench 16 plan. Scale 1:200

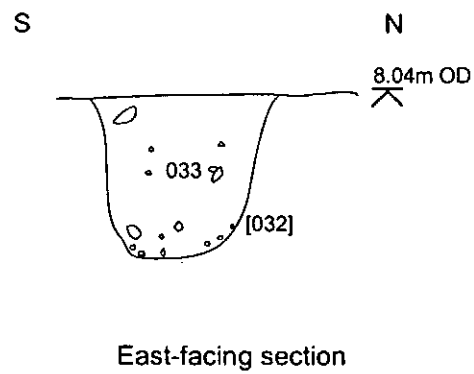
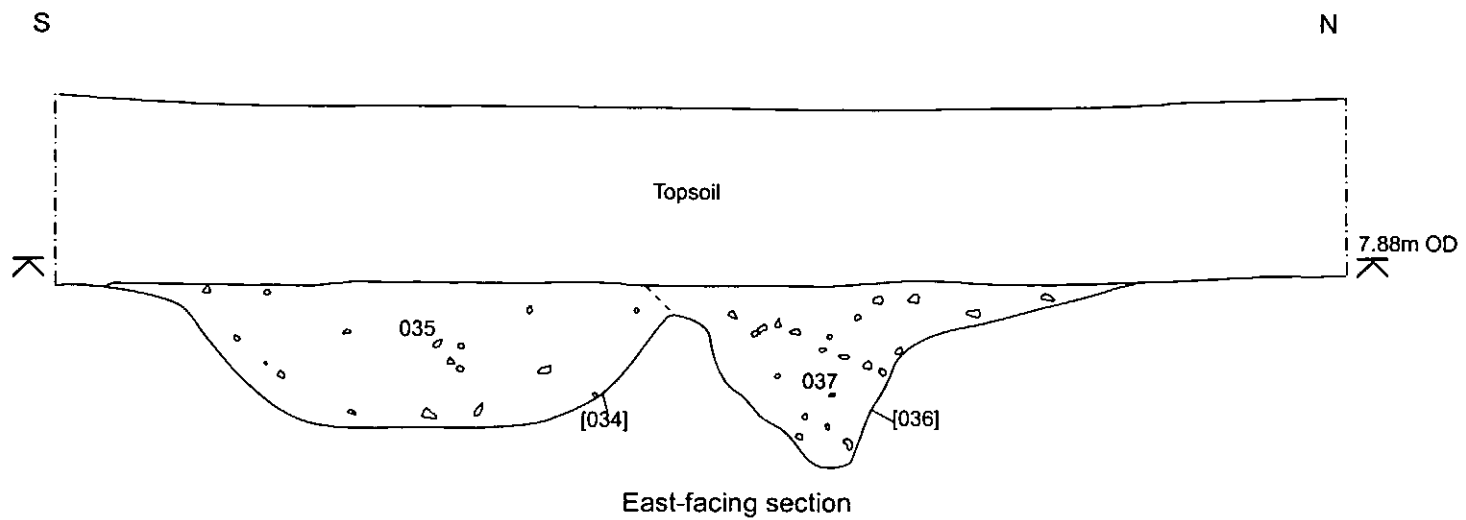


Figure 6. Trench 16 sections. Scale 1:20

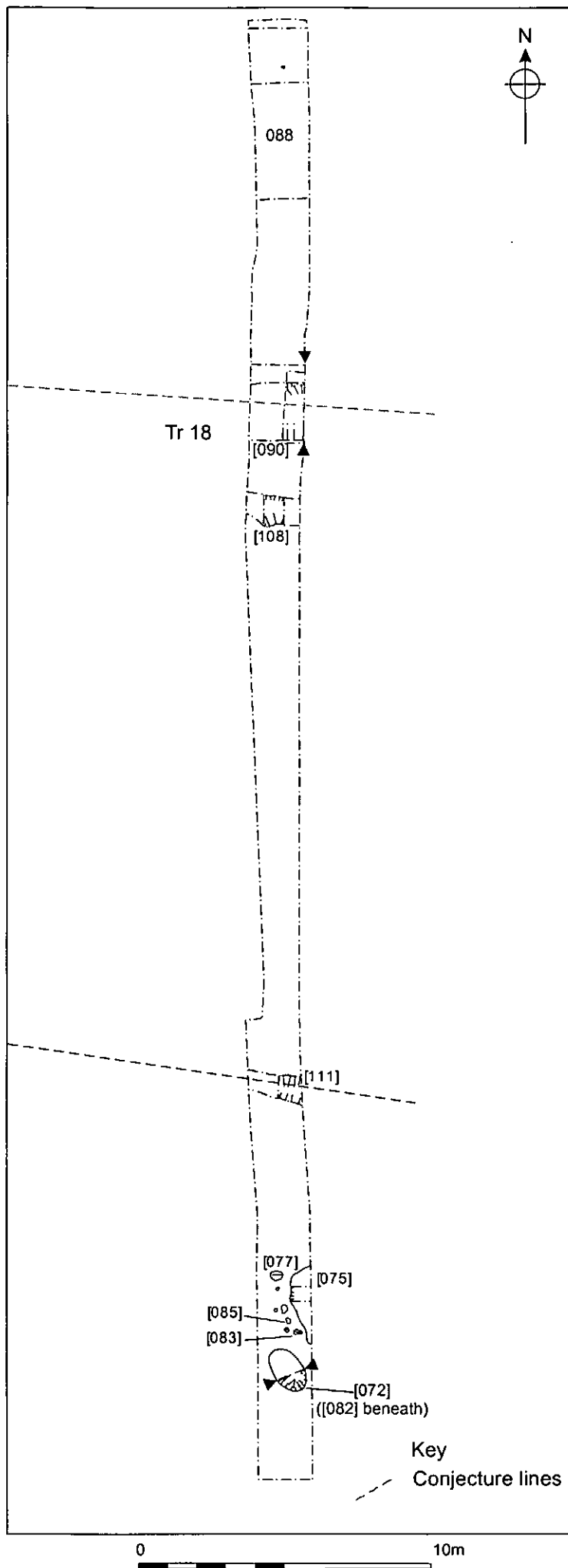
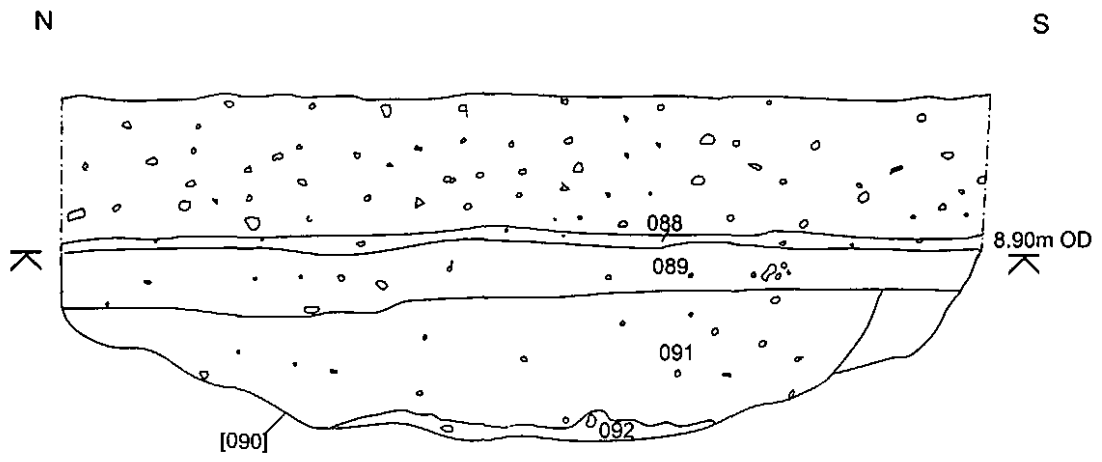
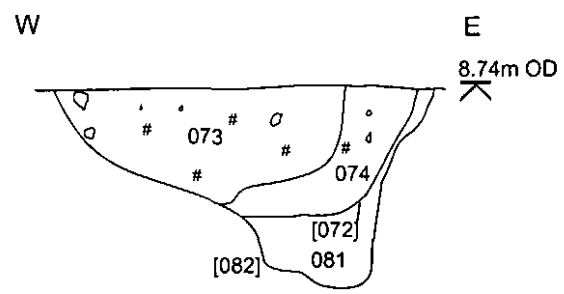


Figure 7. Trench 18 plan. Scale 1:200



West-facing section



South-facing section



Figure 8. Trench 18 sections. Scale 1:20

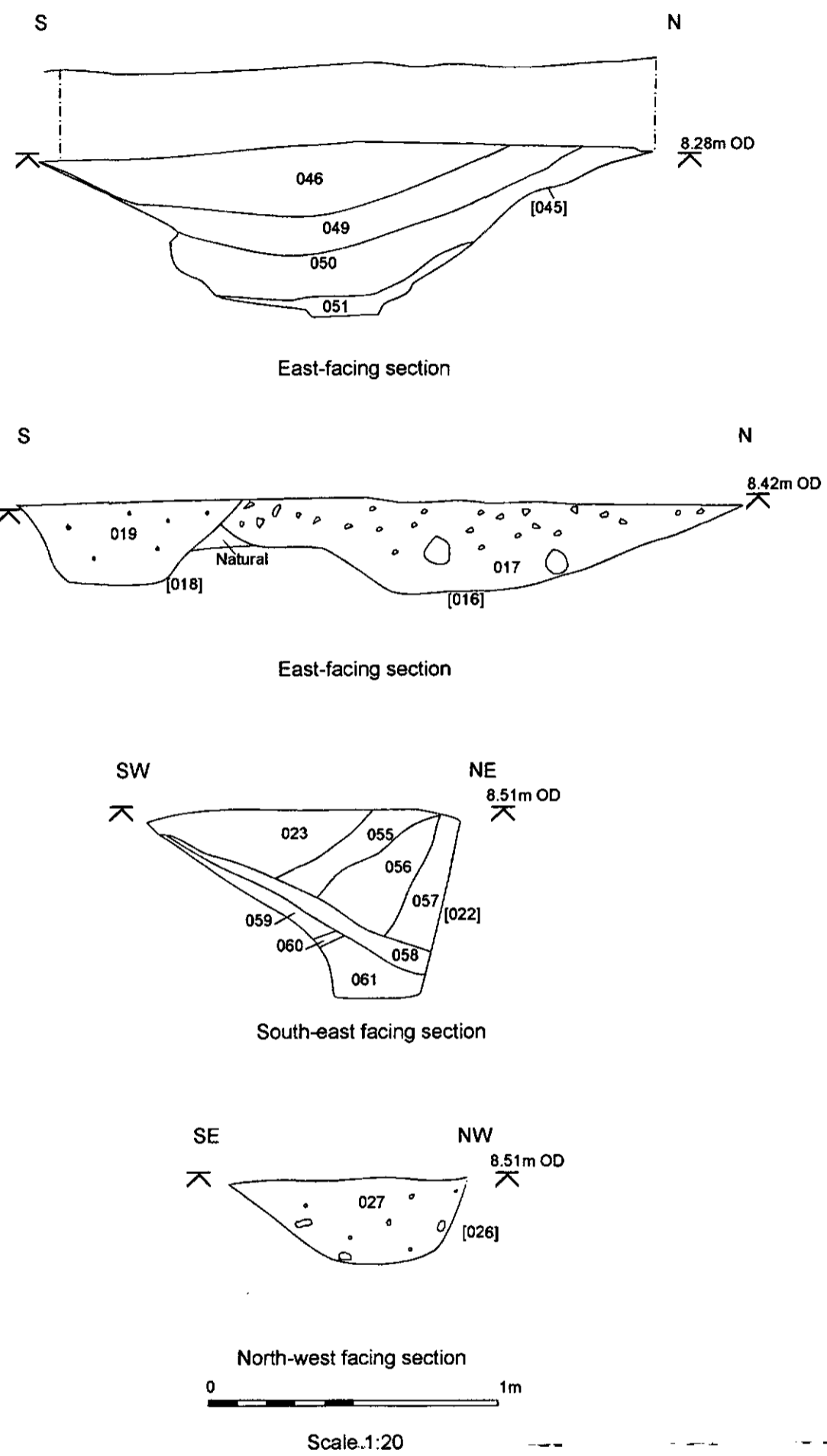
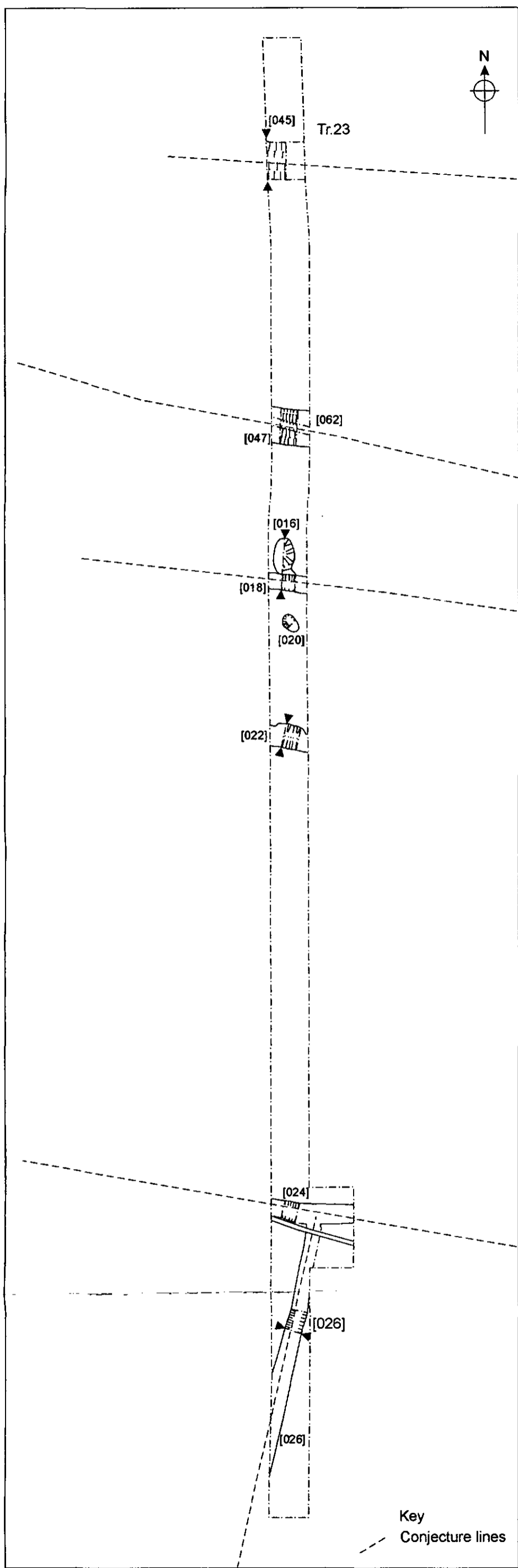


Figure 9. Trench 23 plan and sections

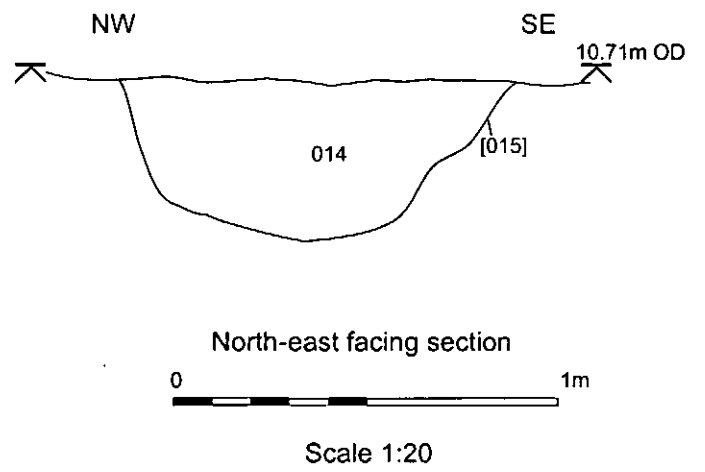
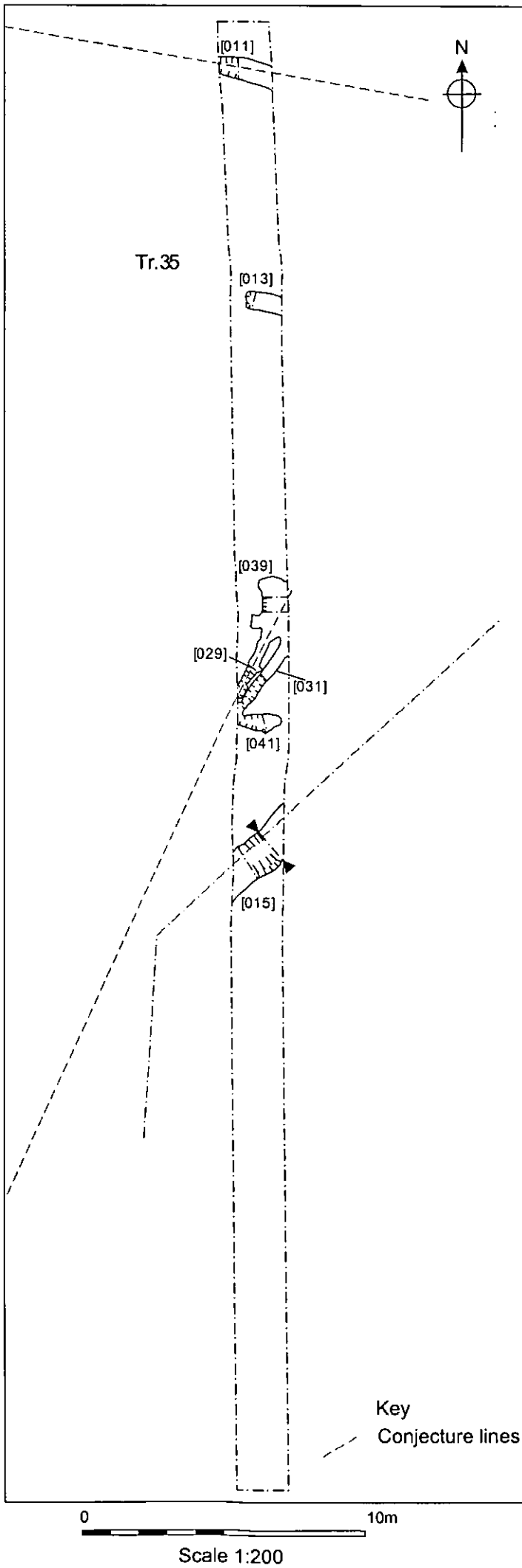


Figure 10. Trench 35 plan and section

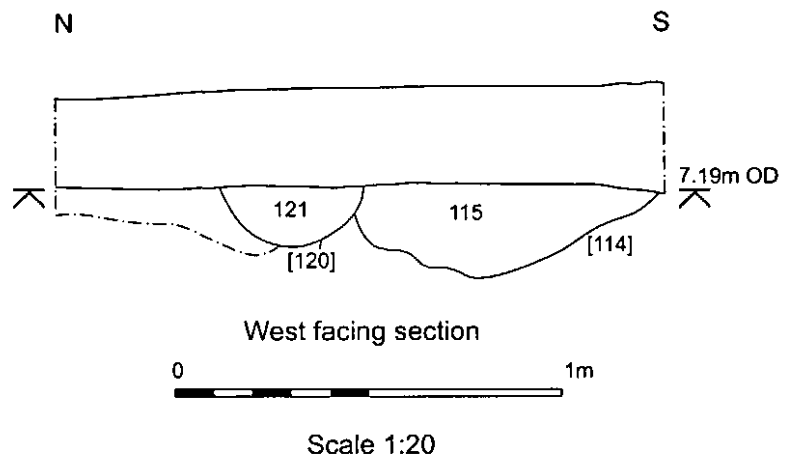
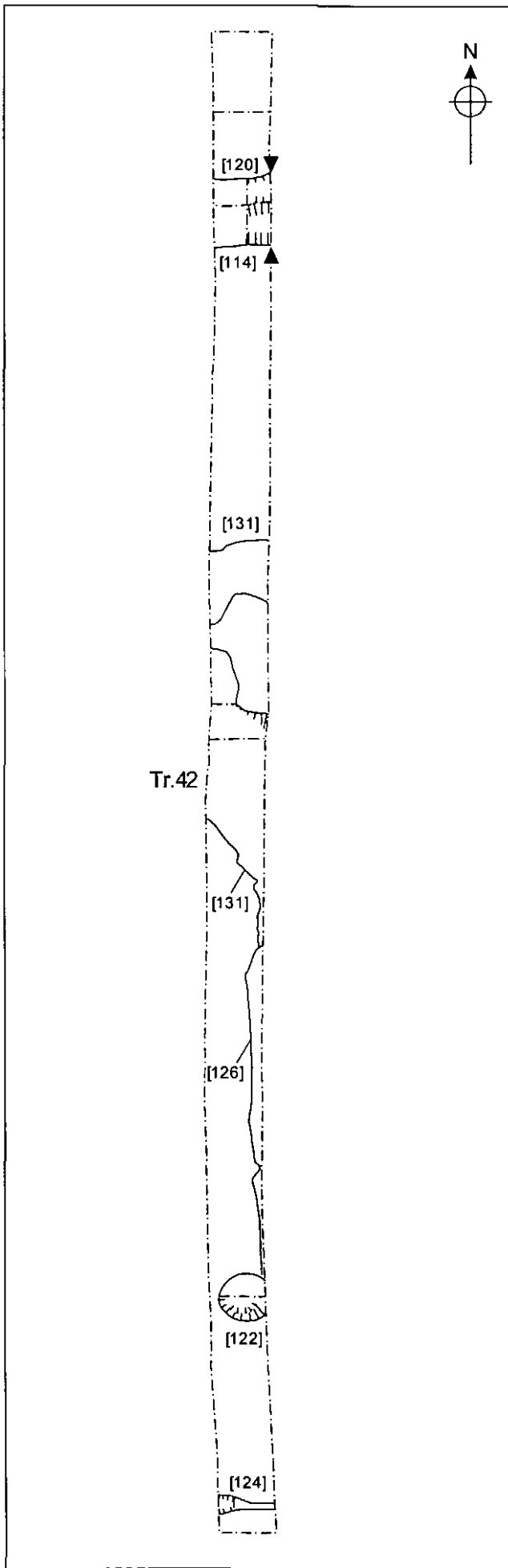


Figure 11. Trench 42 plan and section

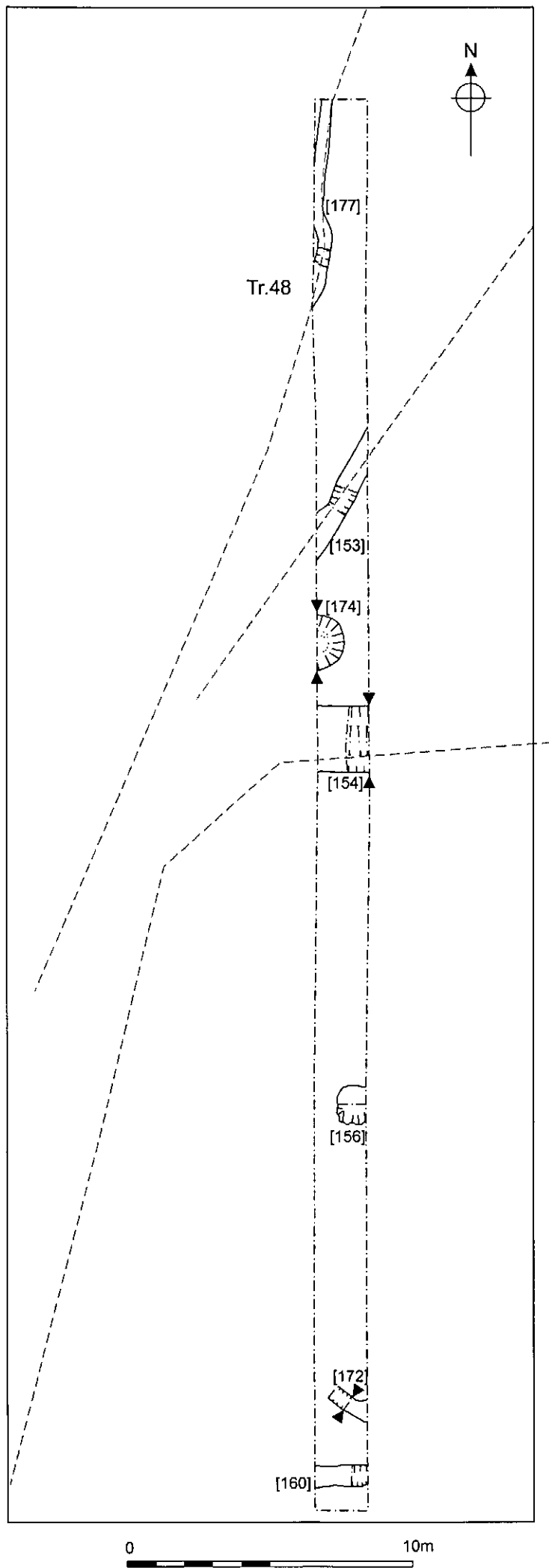


Figure 12. Trench 48 plan. Scale 1:200

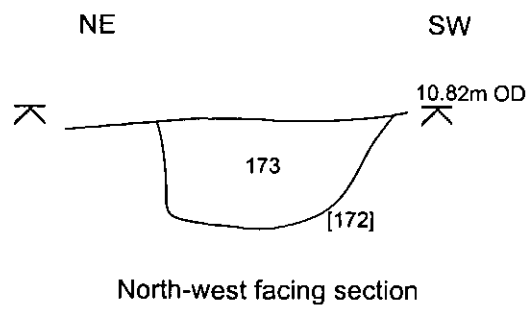
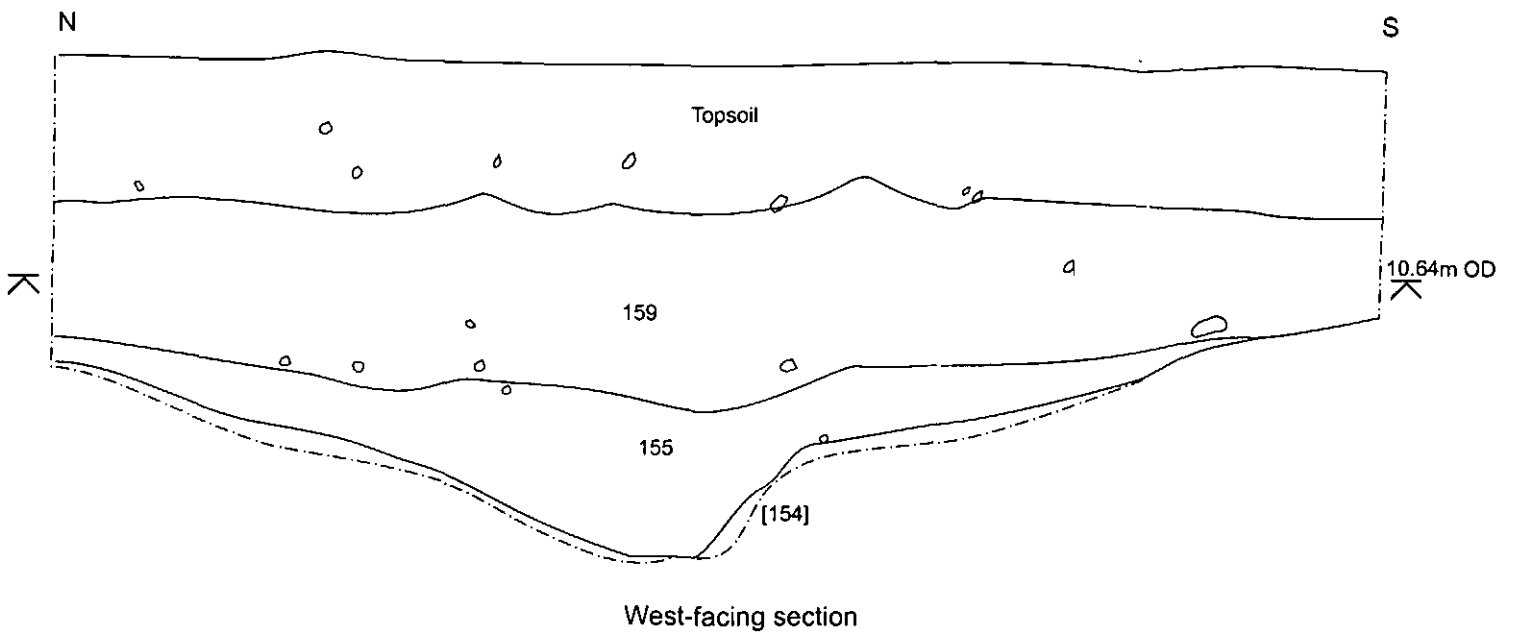
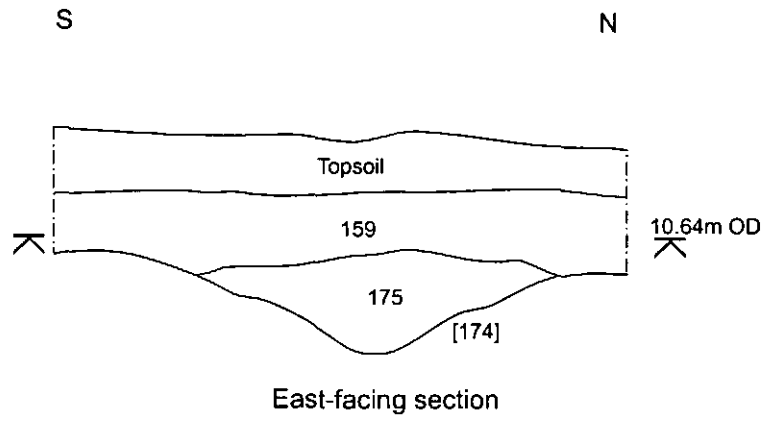


Figure 13. Trench 48 sections. Scale 1:20

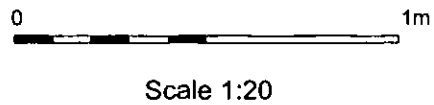
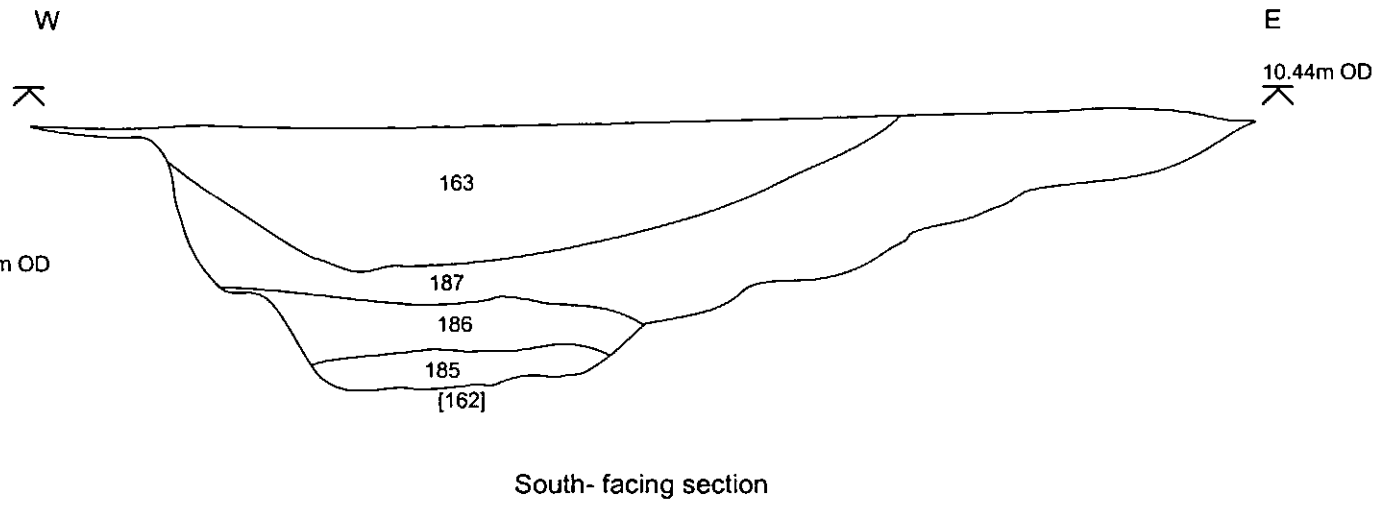
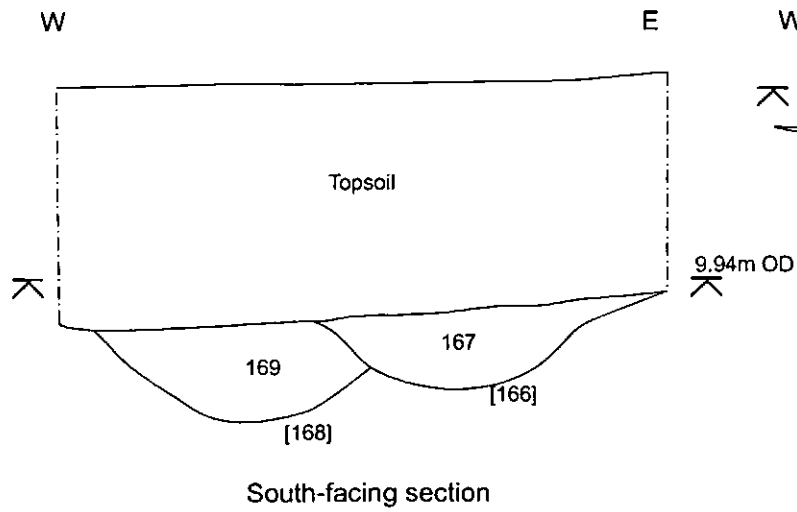
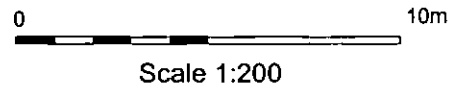
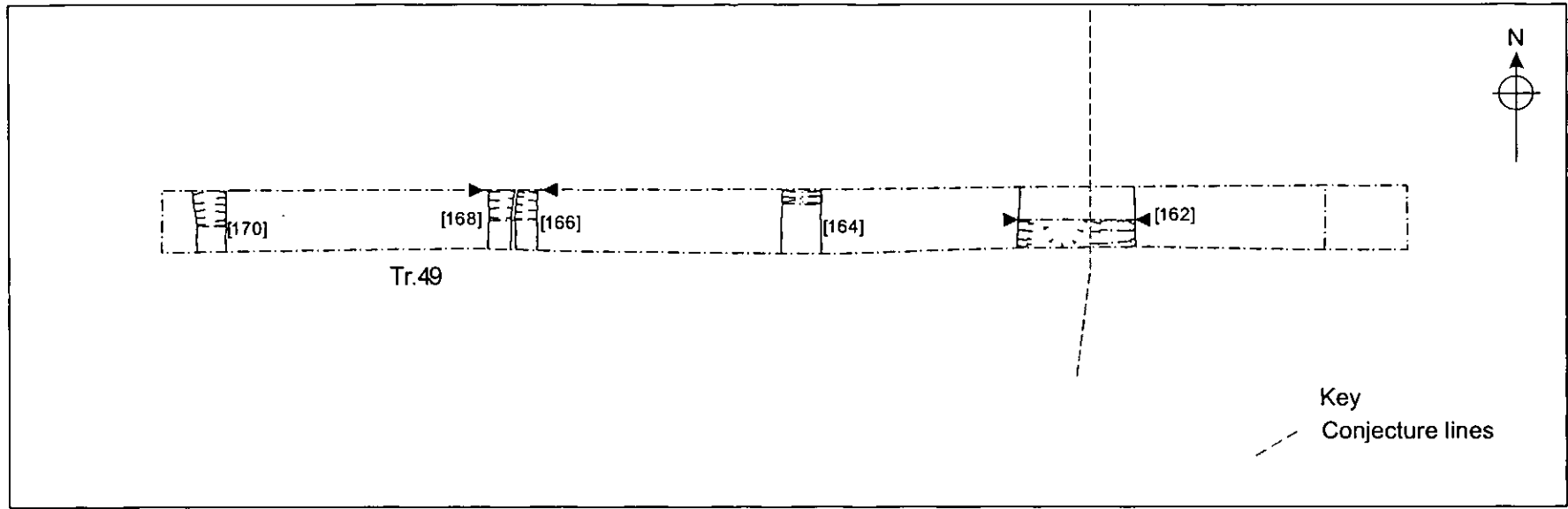


Figure 14. Trench 49 plan and sections.

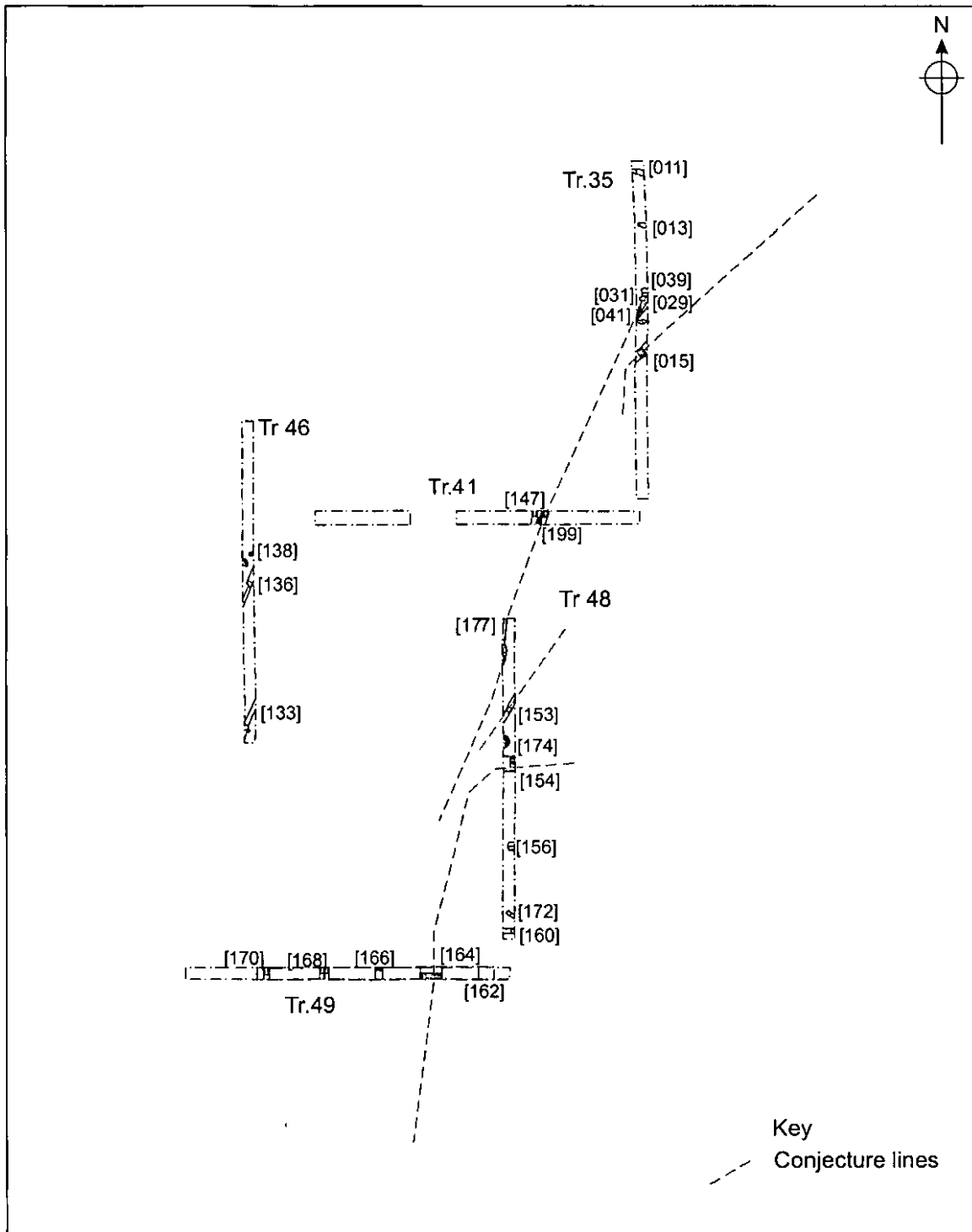


Figure 15. Plan of trenches in the south-east, showing conjectured features .
Scale 1:1000

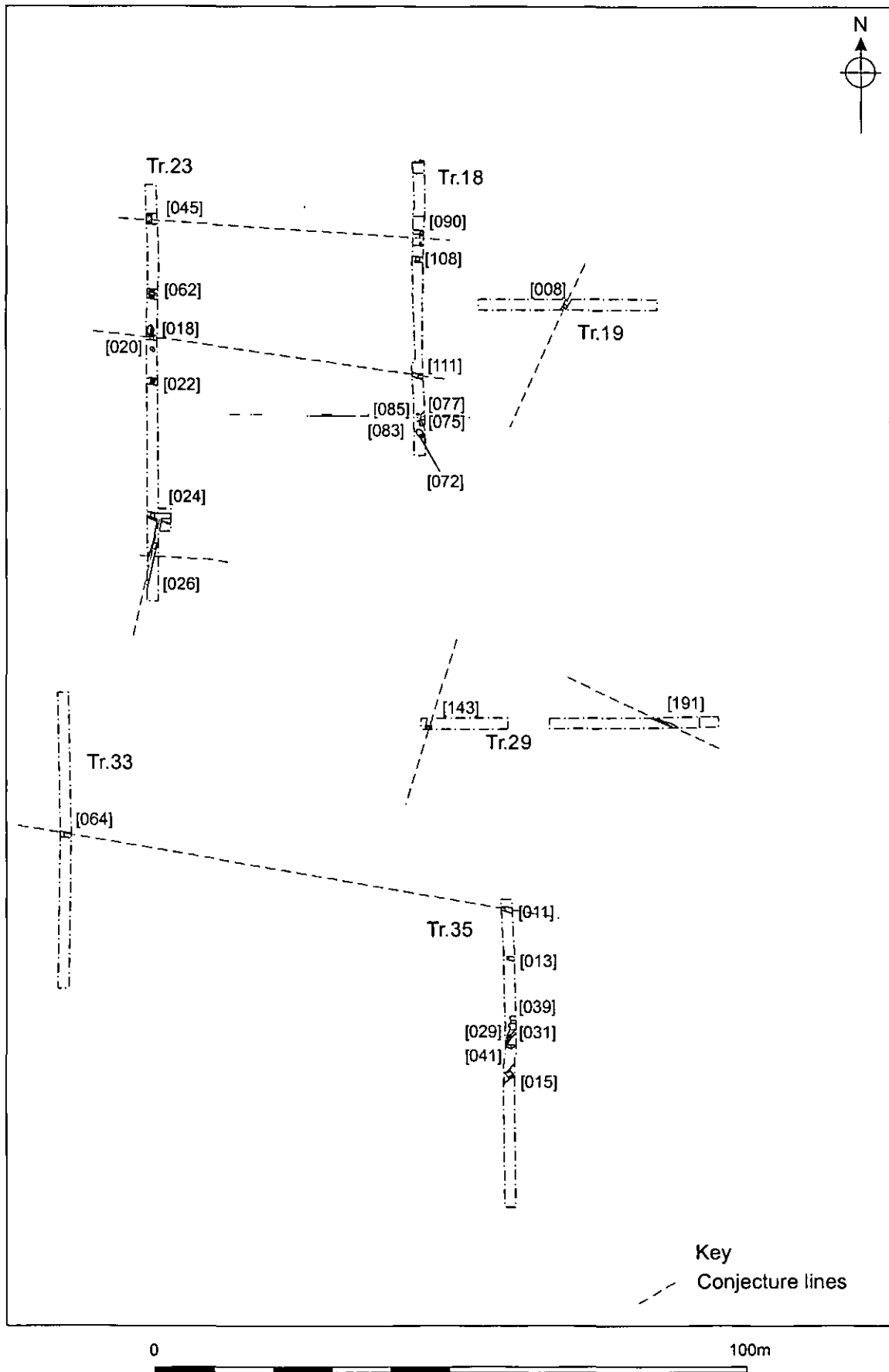


Figure 16. Plan of trenches to the east, showing conjectured features .
Scale 1:1000

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Spire House
13-15 Cathedral Street
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 1LU