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**Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1, Fifth strip
Assessment report**

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Client: RMC Aggregates (Northern) Ltd



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SUMMARY

RMC Aggregates (Northern) Ltd began to work a new quarry to the east of Wooperton, Northumberland in May 1997. The site had been identified as of potential archaeological interest by Northumberland County Council and all ground disturbance required archaeological monitoring. During the first four topsoil strips of Phase 1 for the quarry development, archaeological features were identified comprising pit alignments and ditches. Some of the pits contained Roman and Bronze Age pottery.

The fifth strip revealed further pits in the pit alignment to the south-west seen in the previous three strips. The continuation of quarry pits along the line of the Devil's Causeway seen in the previous strips was also revealed as well as a narrow slot, first seen in strip two, aligned at 80 degrees to the line of the Roman road. In addition to these, a series of pits were uncovered some of which contained sherds of Roman pot. One pit contained fragments of two Bronze Age beakers and a flint knife. A possible cremation pit was uncovered near the middle of the area.

Environmental samples were taken from selected contexts.

1. Introduction

1.1 Site location and topography

The site is located 350 m to the east of the village of Wooperton at NGR NU 049 204. The quarry development comprises two fields that cover 26.5 ha and are bounded to the southwest by the A697 and to the southeast by the B6346 and a minor road. There is considerable topographical relief within the site. A comparatively flat and broad ridge runs down the centre of each field aligned northwest to southeast. The ground slopes steeply down towards the A697 to the southwest, dropping 14 m over a distance of 100 m. Phase 1 of the quarry is located at the east edge of the site and was previously under pasture. The geology of the area comprises a deep sequence of glaciofluvial sediments of gravels and sand down to fine sand and silt.

1.2 Area investigated (Fig. 1)

The previous three seasons work investigated an area of some 21500 m² (Dalland 1997a, 1997b, 1998, Glendinning 1999). The fifth strip, the subject of this report, was between 14 m and 35 m wide and 205 m long giving an approximate area of 6000 m².

1.3 Previous archaeological work

The supposed line of a Roman Road, the *Devil's Causeway* runs across the middle of the extraction area. The line is well established to the north and the south of Wooperton but it has never before been recorded close to the quarry site.

A series of cropmarks has been seen in the southwest parts of the area of the development, some of which may have been caused by human activity in the past. In particular a possible ring ditch in the southern corner of the area was believed to be of considerable interest.

On the basis of these cropmarks the site was the subject of evaluations by Oxford Archaeological Associates (1994) and West Yorkshire Archaeological Services WYAS (1996). The OAA evaluation consisted of geophysical survey and test pitting while the WYAS investigation consisted of trial trenching designed to investigate features identified in the southwest corner by OAA. With the exception of a ditch identified in both evaluations and a hearth identified in the 1994 investigation no archaeological features were identified in the trenching and most of the cropmarks seen previously were therefore attributed to geological processes, mainly ice wedges.

The OAA geophysical survey of the site did not indicate that there would be any archaeological features in the area affected by Phase 1 of the development. However, during the archaeological investigation of first four strips of phase 1, carried out by Headland Archaeology in May and October 1997, a number of linear features and a line of pits were identified and subsequently excavated.

2. Method

The work was carried out according to the specifications set out in the project design of 15/04/97 approved by Northumberland County Council Archaeology Section.

The topsoil was removed by a 360° tracked excavator with a six-foot toothless bucket. The topsoil stripping was overseen by archaeologists from Headland Archaeology Ltd. During this watching brief several archaeological features were noted. At the start of the excavation, the areas where features had been noted were cleaned by hand and features were planned at 1:20 or 1:50. All pits were then half sectioned and the sections drawn at 1:10 and described. Colour transparencies and prints were taken of all sections. The pits were all fully excavated while 10% of all linear features were excavated. Samples for ecofactual/environmental remains were taken from contexts that were likely to contain such remains.

3. Excavated features

The features were concentrated in two areas:

- A) The south area which contained a pit alignment, a long narrow gully that cut diagonally across the strip, a number of individual pits including two pit clusters, and a cremation pit. A few isolated pits were recorded in the middle region of the strip. One of these contained sherds of beaker pottery.
- B) The north area contained two quarry pits on the southwest side of the road, two parallel gullies aligned approximately at 80 degrees to the roman road.

3.1 The south area (Figures 2, 3 and 4)

In total some 1800 m² was cleaned by hand in the south area. The pit alignment previously recorded in the south end of the previous three strips continued into Strip 5; a further nine pits were identified (Figure 1, F430, F437-F451). The pits were oval in shape orientated along the axis of the alignment and measured from 0.7 m by 0.4 m to 1.3 m by 0.65 m, and 0.07 m to 0.2 m deep. They were spaced out at a distance of 2.1 m centre to centre on average. This is similar to the spacing and dimensions seen in the alignment exposed in the three previous strips. It was only possible to trace the alignment for 20 m in from the southeast edge of the strip. There is no marked terminal of the pit alignment and its extent is more likely to reflect increased truncation rather than its original end.

In addition to the pit alignment, the south end of the area (Figure 1) contained four small sub-circular pits (F424, F426, F432 and F435) 0.3 m to 0.6 m across, and a linear cut (F428) 2.7 m by 0.6 m. One of the sub-circular pits (F432) was a post-hole with remains of a post-pipe 0.2 m in diameter.

At the northwest edge of the strip the straight gully F422 emerged from the un-excavated edge of the strip (Figure 2). It was heavily truncated and discontinuous, but could be traced across the entire strip (see below).

Figure 3 shows the features in the middle segment of the south area. The dominating feature was the linear gully F422 that cut across the entire width of the strip. It was discontinuous which in most cases is likely to reflect truncation rather than original gaps in the feature. This gully was first seen in Strip 2 where it terminated at roughly 80 degrees to the ditch on the west side of the road (Dalland 1997b). It continued across Strip 3 where it produced Roman pottery. However, it was very shallow and was not seen in Strip 4.

At the eastern edge of the strip an elongated pit (F512) was aligned across the line of the gully at a right angle. The pit was 0.46 m wide, 2.6 m long and contained fire-cracked stones, large amounts of charcoal and numerous fragments of cremated bones. There was no evidence of burning *in situ*. Although the bones have not been examined by a specialist, they are believed to be human and the pit has been interpreted as a cremation burial.

A cluster of seven pits was situated near the middle of the strip on the south side of the gully. The larger pit to the north (F518) was sub-oval. It was shallow at its northwest end with two steps leading down into the deeper and wider northeast end which was 2 m wide and 1 m deep. The pit was cut into fine sand and its shape suggests that it was a small quarry pit. A group of four intercutting pits (F500, F504, F506, F508) were situated to the southwest of the quarry pit. The function of these pits is uncertain, but the date is likely to be Roman as one of the pits contained a Roman potsherd. A larger shallow oval pit 1.3 m by 2.1 m by 0.2 m deep to the southwest (F492) contained three sherds of Roman amphora.

To the south of the cluster are five more isolated pits (F482, F484, F486, F488, F496). The two pits to the northwest (F486, F496) contained charcoal fragments, but the three other pits did not produce any finds to indicate their date or function.

A group of nine pits and post-holes were situated on the northwest side of the strip. The two pits to the north, F454 and F470 are isolated, but the pits to the south (F457 – F466, F468, F472) form two parallel rows of postholes, suggesting the outline of a rectangular structure aligned east to west, 2.4 m wide and 3 m to 4.5 m long. Three of the four postholes in the north wall (F457, F459, F466) and one in the south wall (F461) contained post packing stones. Large quantities of Roman potsherds were retrieved from posthole F457 as well as a couple of sherds from F463, indicating a Roman date for the structure.

Three pits were uncovered in the north segment of the south area (Figure 4). These pits lay in a natural depression under much deeper deposits of topsoil than on the level ground to the north and south. Pit F474 was up against the western edge of the strip. It was sub-oval and measured 0.9 m by 2.8 m by 0.46 m deep. It contained no finds to indicate its date or function. Pits F478 and F480 were situated near the middle of the strip. F478 was sub-circular, 1 m in diameter and 0.2 m deep. Pit F480 to the east was oval, 1 m by 1.85 m by 0.26 m deep. There was a slight overlap between the pits, but it was not possible to establish a definite stratigraphical relationship between the two pits. Both pits contained lenses or a band of charcoal fragments in a silty sand matrix towards the base of the cuts but with no sign of burning *in situ*.

3.2 The north area (Figure 5)

Only four features were uncovered in the north area. Two quarry pits were exposed at the north edge of the strip, part of a line of quarry pits along the west side of the Roman road seen in the previous four strips. The pit to the south (F544) was oval and measured 5.6 m by 9 m. It was only 0.6 m deep. The depth of the pit mirrored the depth of a band of gravel overlying fine sand indicating that the pit was quarried for gravel. The pit to the north (F549) was only partly exposed in the trench. The exposed

part was 3 m long, up to 2.6 m wide and 0.8 m deep. As was the case in the pit to the south, this pit was cut through gravel and stopped at the underlying fine sand. Several sherds of Roman amphora were found in the backfill of this quarry pit, supporting the association with the construction and/or maintenance of the Roman road.

Two parallel straight gullies (F520, F536) were uncovered some 15 m to the south of the quarry pits. They were aligned northeast to southwest and set 5 m apart. The gully to the north (F520) could be traced over a distance of 18 m; the one to the south (F536) was 17 m long. The gullies were up to 0.75 m wide and very shallow, 0.02 m to 0.05 m deep. The gullies could represent beam slots of a rectangular building, but there was no trace of any gables and the evidence is too slight to identify the true function of these features. However, the alignment of these gullies is parallel with the long gully F422 of Roman date seen in Strips 2 to 5, and a gully F415 seen in Strip 4 (Glendinning 1999). The parallel alignment of these features suggests a Roman date for all of these structures.

An isolated pit (F534) was uncovered towards the eastern edge of Strip 5 at the south end of the north area (Figure 1). The pit was oval, 0.6 m by 0.74 m by 0.35 m deep. It was filled with reddish brown sandy silt with inclusions of charcoal. The fill also contained fragments of comb impressed Beaker pottery, and a flint tool, probably a knife.

3.3 Summary of results

With regard to the project design of 15/04/97, the following results were achieved:

The continuation of the pit alignment seen in Strips 2, 3 and 4, was recorded. It stopped 12 m from the northwest edge of the strip. There was no marked terminal of the pit alignment and its end is more likely to reflect increased truncation rather than its original extent.

The continuation of a gully first seen in Strip 2 was recorded. The total length of the gully exposed so far is 167 m, and it still continues into the next strip. Pottery retrieved from its fill during the excavation of Strip 3 suggests that it is Roman or later in date. The gully is aligned at 80 degrees to the Roman road and is likely to represent a boundary. A cremation pit was uncovered on the line of the gully, but there was no stratigraphic link between the pit and the gully as there was a gap in the gully at this point. It was not possible to establish whether this was caused by truncation or if it was an original gap in the gully at this point. This is the second cremation burial that has been encountered during the fieldwork at Wooperton. The other cremation was found in Strip 3 some 60 m to the northeast, also situated on the line of the gully. In that case it was clear that the pit was cut by the gully indicating that the cremation pre-dated the gully. The cremation pits could therefore be much older than the gully. However, the location of the two cremation pits is unlikely to be accidental, and there may be a short time lapse between the gully and the cremation pits and therefore a possible association between the cremations and the gully or the boundary it may represent.

The south area contained evidence of a rectangular building, defined by two parallel rows of postholes. The building was 2.4 m wide and 3 m to 4.5 m long. Pottery retrieved from the postholes indicates that the building is Roman or later in date.

Three quarries were uncovered in Strip 5. The two larger pits at the north end of the strip are part of a line of quarries situated along the west side of the Roman road. Both quarry pits have been cut into gravel. Fragments of Roman amphora were retrieved from the quarry pit to the north supporting the association with the Roman road. A third smaller sand quarry pit was recorded next to the long gully some 130 m to the southwest.

The majority of the excavated features are assumed to be of Roman date. In several cases the fills contains sherds of Roman pottery that support this assumption. However, one of the pits uncovered in Strip 5 contained pre-historic Beaker pottery indicating that some of the features could be of pre-Roman date. Another pit containing Beaker pottery was found in Strip 1 some 145 m to the south. This indicates that there are prehistoric features spread over the area, but with a much lower density than the Roman remains.

The overall density of features seen in Strip 5 is roughly the same as seen in previous strips, but the number of features encountered on the level ground to the north next to the Roman road is less than expected. The majority of the features are located at a distance of some 100 m to the west of the Roman road.

4. Artefact record

During the excavation 67 potsherds were recovered from seven different contexts. Of these were 42 Roman sherds, the remaining 25 sherds came from two beaker vessels found in pit F534. This pit also contained a flint tool, probably a knife.

The majority of the Roman sherds came from two postholes (F457, F463) associated with a rectangular building in the south area of the strip. The remaining sherds came from two pits in the south area (F492, F506), and the quarry pit at the north end of the strip (F549). Posthole F457 also contained a black circular glass(?) pendant/bead, flat on one side domed on the other.

The Roman potsherds were submitted to a specialist for preliminary examination. The pot assemblage is very similar to that recovered during the four previous excavations, indicating a Flavian date.

The collection of Roman pottery from this site is unusual. The majority has military associations and it looks increasingly likely to stem from Roman military activity. The composition of this group is not what one might expect to find on a 'normal' rural site of 1st century AD date in northern Northumberland.

5. Environmental record

Bulk samples were collected from sixteen deposits considered to have a high potential for the preservation of carbonised plant remains. These samples were floated and washed and assessed by Mhairi Hastie (see Appendix 3).

No finds of any note were recovered from the retents except for burnt bone that was recovered from the fills of the cremation pit F512. Three samples contained cereal grains identified as wheat, either emmer or spelt.

6. Storage and Curation

The written, drawn and photographic records are currently held by Headland Archaeology, as are the finds and environmental material. Where appropriate these materials are stored in controlled environments. It is anticipated that the site archive including finds will be deposited at Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne following the completion of post-excavation analysis.

7. Statement of Potential

7.1 The excavated features

The investigated features together with the composition of the pot assemblage, seems to indicate that the excavations are approaching the margins of a previously unknown Roman military site of 1st century AD date. The precise nature and extent of this site cannot be determined from the work carried out so far. Such a site would be of high significance and worthy of publication in an appropriate regional or specialist journal.

7.2 Potential for Artefactual Analysis

The collection of Roman pottery and associated finds is clearly of national significance and should be published in full.

7.3 Potential for Environmental Analysis

The material retrieved from the samples from Strip 5 has a low potential to yield useful environmental information. However, in some cases a species identification of the charred wood from the postholes might also provide useful evidence relating to the nature of any super-structural elements.

7.4 Dating

Dating material was obtained from 13 different contexts. However, most of these are likely to be dated more precisely by the Roman potsherds recovered from the site. The main exception would be the cremation pit F512 that contained no dateable artefacts.

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Illustrations

Figure 1 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 Strip 5. Location plan

Figure 2 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 Strip 5. Plan of excavated features. South Area, south segment.

Figure 3 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 Strip 5. Plan of excavated features. South Area, middle segment.

Figure 4 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 Strip 5. Plan of excavated features. South Area, north segment.

Figure 5 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 strip 5. Plan of excavated features. North Area.

Appendix I

Archive listings

Description	No
Drawing record	2 sheets
Drawings	36 sheets
Post-excavation plans	6 sheets
Location map	1 sheet
South area plans	3 sheets
North area plan	1 sheet
Context sheets	122 sheets
Photographic record	4 sheets
Mono print films	5 films
Colour slides	161 slides

Appendix II:
Context Summary

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
Contexts 1 – 420 see reports Strips 1 – 4					
421	Deposit	Mid – dark brown	Silty sand	Frequent sub-angular stones <0.05m	Fill of linear feature [422]
422	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of linear feature Length: 82m Width: 0.44m to 0.66m Depth: 0.07m to 0.18m deep.
423	Deposit	Mid – dark brown	Silty sand	Rare sub-angular stones <0.03m	Fill of posthole [424].
424	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid posthole. Length: 0.65m Width: 0.45m Depth: 0.17m
425	Deposit	Dark brown	Silty sand	Occasional sub-angular stones <0.06m.	Fill of posthole [426].
426	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular posthole. Length: 0.32m Width 0.30m Depth: 0.08m
427	Deposit	Brown	Silty sand	Occasional sub-angular stones <0.03m and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of linear feature [428].
428	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid linear. Length: 2.70m Width: 0.60m Depth: 0.15m
429	Deposit	Brown	Silty sand	Occasional gravel	Moderately compact fill of pit [430].
430	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid pit. Length: 1.30m Width: 0.65m Depth: 0.18m
431	Deposit	Dark brown - black	Silty sand	Common charcoal staining	Fill of post pipe and posthole [432].
432	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular posthole with sub-circular post pipe in northwest of feature. Diameter: 0.60m Depth: 0.10m (0.20m in post pipe)
433	Natural subsoil				
434	Deposit	Brown	Silty sand	Occasional sub-angular stones.	Fill of posthole [435].
435	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-rectangular posthole Length: 0.29m Width: 0.17m Depth: 0.37m
436	Deposit	Brown	Silty sand	Occasional gravel	Fill of posthole [437].
437	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid posthole. Length: 0.70m Width: 0.42m Depth: 0.07m

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
438	Deposit	Brown to light brown	Silty sand	Occasional sub-angular gravel (<0.03m)	Fill of posthole [439].
439	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid posthole. Length: 0.68m Width: 0.40m Depth: 0.09m
440	Deposit	Brown	Silty sand	Occasional sub-angular stone <0.02m	Moderately compacted fill of posthole [441].
441	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid posthole/pit. Length: 1.27m Width: 0.50m Depth: 0.21m
442	Deposit	Brown	Slightly silty sand	Occasional stones < 0.02m	Fill of pit/posthole [443].
443	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid pit Length: 0.90m Width: 0.40m Depth: 0.23m
444	Deposit	Mid brown	Silty sand	Occasional sub-angular stones.	Fill of posthole [445].
445	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid posthole. Length: 0.24m Width: 0.16m Depth: 0.09m
446	Deposit	Mid brown	Loamy sand	Rare rounded to sub-angular gravel <0.03m	Fill of pit [447].
447	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid pit aligned NW-SE. Length: 1.10m Width: 0.48m Depth: 0.15m
448	Deposit	Mid brown	Loamy sand	Rare rounded to sub-angular gravel <0.03m	Fill of pit [449]
449	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid pit, aligned NW-SE. Length: 1.04m Width: 0.48m Depth: 0.20m
450	Deposit	Mid brown	Loamy sand	Occasional rounded to sub-angular gravel <0.05m	Fill of ovoid pit [451].
451	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid pit, aligned NW-SE. Length: 1.08m Width: 0.50m Depth: 0.20m
452	Deposit	Mid to dark brown	Silty sand	Moderate rounded and angular stones <0.04m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Moist, firm fill of possible pit [454].
453	Deposit	Light yellowish brown	Silty sand	Moderate rounded and angular stones <0.04m.	Moist, firm fill of possible pit [454].

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
454	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of possible sub-circular pit. Length: 1.20m Width: 0.90m Depth: 0.30m
455	Deposit	Mid brown	Silty sand	Common cobbles <0.15m.	Fill of post pipe within posthole [457]
456	Deposit	Light yellowish brown	Silty clay	Common sub- rounded to sub- angular cobbles <0.15m. Lumps of fired clay.	Post packing within posthole [457].
457	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of circular posthole. Diameter: 0.60m Depth: 0.23m
458	Deposit	Light to mid brown	Sandy silt	Very common to abundant large cobbles <0.20m	Fill of posthole [459].
459	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid posthole. Length: 0.55m Width: 0.42m Depth: 0.32m
460	Deposit	Dark greyish brown	Slightly silty sand	Moderate sub- angular to sub- rounded gravel <0.03m, sparse 0.10-0.15m. Rare pieces of charcoal.	Fill (post-packing) of posthole [461].
461	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid posthole. Length: 0.44m Width: 0.36m Depth: 0.19m
462	Deposit	Dark greyish brown	Slightly silty sand	Moderate sub- angular gravel <0.03m	Fill of posthole [463].
463	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular posthole. Diameter: 0.20m Depth: 0.08m
464	Void	----	----	----	----
465	Deposit	Dark reddish brown	Silty sand	Common sub- angular gravel <0.03m and 2 sub- angular stones c. 0.20m across. Rare charcoal flecks.	Fill (including packing material) of posthole [466].
466	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub ovoid posthole. Length: 0.44m Width: 0.36m Depth: 0.15m
467	Deposit	Dark brown with black mottling	Silty sand	Moderate rounded gravel <0.03m and charcoal flecks.	Fill of posthole [468].
468	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular pile driven posthole. Diameter: 0.30m Depth: 0.18m
469	Deposit	Mid brown	Sandy silt	Moderate rounded gravel.	Moist firm fill of pit [470].

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
470	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular posthole. Diameter: 0.44m Depth: 0.13m
471	Deposit	Dark yellowish brown	Silty sand	Sparse sub-rounded gravel. Rare charcoal fleck.	Fill of post hole [472].
472	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid posthole. Length: 0.34m Width: 0.32m Depth: 0.16m
473	Deposit	Mid brown	Silty sand	Moderate to common rounded pebbles 0.01-0.03m and occasional large angular pebbles. Rare charcoal flecks.	Fill of feature [474]
474	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid feature. Length: 2.9m Width: 0.90m Depth: 0.46m
475	Natural feature	----	----	----	Rabbit burrow.
476	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Sparse sub-angular to sub-rounded gravel <0.03m, rare 0.03 - 0.10m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Upper fill of pit [478].
477	Deposit	Very dark grey brown to black	Silty sand	Sparse gravel <0.06m. Abundant charcoal.	Lower fill of pit [478].
478	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub circular pit. Diameter: 1.00m Depth: 0.20m
479	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Sparse to moderate gravel <0.05m. Charcoal lenses.	Fill of pit [480].
480	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid pit. Length: 1.85m Width: 1.00m Depth: 0.26m
481	Deposit	Mid to dark brown	Silty sand	Very common rounded pebbles <0.05m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Fill of pit [482]
482	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular feature. Diameter: 0.60m Depth: 0.15m
483	Deposit	Dark yellowish brown	Silty sand	Sparse gravel <0.03m. Sparse charcoal flecks.	Fill of feature [484].
484	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of probable natural feature. Length: 0.52m Width: 0.20m Depth: 0.13m

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
485	Deposit	Very dark yellowish brown to black, with c. 30% yellowish brown lenses.	Silty sand	Moderate sub-rounded gravel <0.03m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Fill of pit [486].
486	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of small sub-ovoid pit. Length: 0.62m Width: 0.52 Depth: 0.09m
487	Deposit	Black and dark greyish brown	Silty sand	Moderate sub-rounded pebbles. Lenses of charcoal.	Fill of natural feature [488].
488	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-rectangular natural feature. Length: 0.95m Width: 0.33 Depth: 0.15m
489	Deposit	Black	Charcoal	Moderate pebbles.	Charcoal rich fill of possible hearth [490].
490	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of circular probable hearth. Base of feature appeared fire reddened. Length: 0.60m Width: 0.58m Depth: 0.15m
491	Deposit	Mid to dark grey	Sand	Frequent small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stones and pockets of pure gravel. Rare lumps of charcoal.	Fill of pit [492]
492	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-rectangular pit. Length: 2.10m Width: 1.30m Depth: 0.20m
493	Deposit	Light yellowish brown	Medium sand	Abundant sub-angular gravel 0.03-0.10m.	Loose uppermost fill of pit [496].
494	Deposit	Very dark grey to black	Silty sand	Moderate gravel <0.03m. Abundant charcoal.	Fill of pit [496]
495	Deposit	Light greyish brown	Silty sand	Sparse sub-angular gravel <0.03m. Two pieces of charcoal.	Very clean possible primary fill of pit [496].
496	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid pit. Length: 1.80m Width: 1.00m Depth: 0.30m
497	Deposit	Dark brown to black	Sandy silt	Charcoal	Fill of pit [498].
498	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of irregular feature. Length: 1.00m Width: 0.58m Depth: 0.18m
499	Deposit	Dark grey brown	Sandy silt	Occasional large cobbles	Fill of pit [500].

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
500	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular pit. Diameter: 1.00m Depth: 0.15m
501	Deposit	Mid to dark yellowish brown	Silty sand	Common sub-angular to rounded gravel <0.02m. Abundant pea grit.	Fill of posthole [502]
502	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of circular posthole. Diameter: 0.45m Depth: 0.11m
503	Deposit	Orange brown with yellowish grey mottling	Silty sand with clay.	Moderate gravel	Fill of feature [504].
504	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-ovoid feature. Truncates (499). Length: 1.20m Width: 1.00m Depth: 0.20m
505	Deposit	Mid brown	Sandy silt	Moderate gravel and medium cobbles.	Fill of feature [506].
506	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of ovoid feature. Length: 1.00m Width: 0.60m Depth: 0.13m
507	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand.	Moderate gravel.	Fill of sub-circular feature [508].
508	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular feature with gently sloping sides and slightly concave base. Length: 0.74m Width: 0.72m Depth: 0.04m
509	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare sub-angular gravel<0.05m. Rare charcoal flecks.	Fill of linear [512]
510	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown to black	Silty sand	Common large fire cracked stones <0.20m. Abundant charcoal and common burnt bone.	Probable dump of material in linear [512].
511	Deposit	Black	Silty sand	Abundant charcoal pieces. Rare gravel <0.02m	Probable dump of material in linear [512].
512	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of linear terminal aligned NE-SW. Length: 2.60m Width: 0.46m Depth: 0.18m
513	Void	----	----	----	----
514	Void	----	----	----	----
515	Deposit	Grey brown	Loamy sand	Sparse angular to rounded pebbles <0.05m	Fill of pit [518]

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
516	Deposit	Dark grey	Loamy sand	Sparse angular to rounded pebbles <0.05m. Common charcoal flecks and fragments.	Dump of material in pit [518].
517	Deposit	Orange brown	Gravel	Very common sub-rounded gravel <0.03m.	Fill of pit [518]
518	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of 'pear' shaped quarry pit, stepped at narrow end. Length: 2.80m Width: 1.00 – 2.00m Depth: 1.00m
519	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [520].
520	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of fragment of linear, aligned NW-SE. Identical to [522] Length: 0.50m Width: <0.30m Depth: 0.02m
521	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [522].
522	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of possible linear terminal, aligned NW-SE. Identical to [520]. Length: 0.50m Width: 0.36m Depth: 0.02m
523	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [524].
524	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of probable terminal of NW-SE linear. Length: 0.50m Width: 0.44m Depth: 0.04m
525	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [526]
526	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of NW-SE linear Length: 0.50m Width: 0.70m Depth: 0.10m
527	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [528]
528	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of NW-SE linear Length: 0.50m Width: 0.70m Depth: 0.12m
529	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [530].
530	Cut	----	----	----	Poorly defined cut of NW-SE linear Length: 0.50m Width: 0.30m Depth: <0.01m
531	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Sandy silt	Occasional large pebbles and sparse gravel.	Fill of pit [532].

Context	Type	Colour	Texture	Inclusions	Comments
532	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of sub-circular pit. Diameter: 0.48m Depth: 0.26m
533	Deposit	Reddish brown	Sandy silt	Moderate stones 0.02-0.10m. Occasional charcoal & pottery.	Fill of pit [534].
534	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of oval pit. Length: 0.74 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: 0.35 m
535	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [536]
536	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of end of NW-SE aligned linear. Length: 0.50m Width: 0.60m Depth: 0.05m
537	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [538]
538	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of NW-SE aligned linear. Length: 0.50m Width: 0.50m Depth: 0.04m
539	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [540]
540	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of NW-SE aligned linear Length: 0.50m Width: 0.24m Depth: 0.05m
541	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Rare gravel <0.03m	Fill of linear [542]
542	Cut	----	----	----	Scant remnants of linear aligned NW-SE. Length: <0.70m Width: <0.32m Depth: <0.02m
543	Deposit	Mid to dark yellowish brown	Silty clay	Very common gravel <0.05m	Slightly compact fill of quarry pit [544].
544	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of large sub-ovoid quarry pit Length: 9.0 m Width: 5.6 m Depth: 0.6 m
545	Deposit	Mid brown	Silty sand	Abundant gravel <0.03m. Single sherd pottery.	Uppermost fill of quarry pit [549]
546	Deposit	Light greyish brown	Sand	Nil	Localised fill of quarry pit [549]
547	Deposit	Dark grey brown	Sandy loam	Frequent sub- angular to rounded gravel<0.05m.	Fill of quarry pit [549].
548	Deposit	Mid brown	Sand	Nil	Fill of quarry pit [549]
549	Cut	----	----	----	Cut of slightly irregular sub-ovoid quarry pit only partly exposed within the trench. Length: 3 m (within trench) Width: 2.6 m (within trench) Depth: 0.8 m

Appendix III:

Photographic Register

Photo no	Colour slide	B&W print	Facing	Subject
Photo nos. 1 – 319 see Phase 1, Strips 1 – 4				
320	1	1	NE	Linear feature, cut 422
321	1	1	W	Linear feature, cut 422
322	1	1	SW	Pit 424 half sectioned
323	1	1	SW	Pit 426 half sectioned
324	1	1	N	Linear cut 428 part sectioned
325	1	1	SE	Oval pit 430 half sectioned
326	1	1	SW	Pit 432 half sectioned
327	2	2	SW	Pit 437 half sectioned
328	2	2	SW	Pit 439 half sectioned
329	1	1	SW	Pit 441 half sectioned
330	1	1	SE	Pit 443 half sectioned
331	1	1	SE	Pit 445 half sectioned
332	4	4	SE	Pit alignment 439 – 445
333	1	1	NW	Pit alignment 439 – 445
334	1	1	SW	Pit 430 half sectioned
335	1	1	N	Linear cut 428 part sectioned
336	1	1	SW	Pit 432 half sectioned
337	1	1	SW	Pit 426 half sectioned
338		1	SW	Pit 424 half sectioned
339	1	1	W	Linear feature, cut 422
340	1	1	E	Linear feature, cut 422, east end
341	1*	3	E	Linear feature, cut 422, middle section
342	1*	1	S	Cleaned area, west end of site
343	1*	1	N	Cleaned area, west end of site
344	2*	2	E	Linear feature, cut 422, middle section
345	1*	1	SW	Cleaned area, west end of site
346	1*	1	NE	Cleaned area
347	1*	1	W	Pit 454 pre-excavation shot
348	1*	1	S	Post pit 457 and post pipe fill 455, pre-excavation
349	1*	1	SW	Post pits 466 (left) and 459 (right) pre-excavation
350	1*	1	S	Post pit 457 half sectioned
351	1*	1	S	Post pit 461 half sectioned
352	2*	2	SW	Post pit 459 half sectioned
353	2*	2	SE	Post pit 466 half sectioned
354	1*	1	NW	Pit alignment 439 – 445, all half sectioned

Photo no	Colour slide	B&W print	Facing	Subject
355	1*	1	SE	Pit alignment 439 – 445, all half sectioned
356	1*	1	SE	Pits 441, 447, 451, 443
357	1*	1	SW	Pit 451 half sectioned
358	1	1	SW	Pit 449 half sectioned
359	1	1	SE	Pit 447 half sectioned
360	2	2	SE	Pit 454 half sectioned
361	1	1	S	Post pit 457 sectioned
362	1	1	S	Post pit 463 sectioned
363	2	2	S	Post pit 468 sectioned
364	1	1	S	Post pit 470 sectioned
365	1	2	S	Post pit 432 sectioned
366	0	1	NW	Pit 474 sectioned
367	0	1	SW	Pit 474 plan (sectioned)
368	1	0	SW	General site view
369	2	2	S	Post pit 472 sectioned
370	1	1	SE	Pit alignment to north end of site (landscape)
371	1	1	SE	Pit alignment to north end of site (portrait)
372	1	1	S	Working shot of 455, 456, 457 post pipe and packing
373	3	3	SE	Pits 478 and 480 sectioned
374	1	1	E	Pit 482 sectioned
375	2	2	S	Pit 484 sectioned
376	2	2	S	Pit 486 sectioned
377	1	1	N	Pit 487 pre-excavation
378	1	1	N	Pit 487 pre-excavation with outlines of burrows marked
379	1	0	N	Scenic view to North, beginning of new slide film
380	1	1	W	Pit 488 sectioned
381	1	1	W	Fire pit 490 with red oxidised sand in situ
382	2	2	E	Pit 492 sectioned
383	1	1	W	Fire pit 490 sectioned
384	1	1	W	Possible stake slot in base of cut 490
385	1	1	W	Slot in base of cut 490 sectioned
386	2	2	W	Pit 496 sectioned
387	1	1	S	Pit 497 sectioned
388	0	1	E	Slot 1 through linear cut 422
389	1	1	E	Slot 2 through linear cut 422
390	1	1	E	Slot 3 through linear cut 422
391	1	1	E	Slot 4 through linear cut 422
392	1	1	E	Slot 5 through linear cut 422
393	1	1	E	Slot 6 through linear cut 422
394	1	1	E	Slot 7 through linear cut 422

Photo no	Colour slide	B&W print	Facing	Subject
395	1	1	E	Slot 8 through linear cut 422
396	1	1	E	East end of linear cut 422
397	1	1	E	Central section of linear cut 422
398	2	2	S	Post hole 502 section
399	3	3	NW	Pit / Linear 512, pre-excavation
400	1	1	E	Pits 500 and 504 sectioned
401	3	3	NW	Stones in pit / linear 512
402	1	1	NW	Bones in pit / linear 512 : working shot
403	1	1	E	Quarry pit(?) 518 pre-excavation
404	1	1	N	Pits 500 and 506 sectioned
405	1	1	S	Pit 508 sectioned
406	2	3	NW	Pit / linear 512 sectioned
407	1	1	N	Quarry pits 544 and 549 (landscape)
408	1	1	S	Quarry pits 544 and 549 (portrait)
409	1	1	N	Quarry pit 549 pre-excavation
410	3	3	NW	Pit / linear 512 post-excavation
411	1	1	S	Quarry pit 518 sectioned
412	2	2	S	Possible post hole 514 sectioned
413	1	1	W	Two linear features
414	1	1	W	South linear feature
415	1	1	E	Two linear features
416	1	1	S	Cuts 482, 484, 486, and 496
417	1	1	NE	Cuts 492, 498, 500, 504, 506, 508 and 518
418	2	2	N	Quarry pit 518 sectioned
419	2	2	SW	Linear 520 sectioned
420	2	2	NE	Linear 522 sectioned
421	2	2	SW	Linear 524 sectioned
422	1	0	E	Machine excavating (interval shot)
423	3	3	NW	Linear 526 sectioned
424	2	2	NW	Linear 528 sectioned
425	2	2	NE	Linear 530 sectioned
426	1	1	S	Pit 532 sectioned
427	2	2	N	Gravel quarry 544 sectioned
428	1	1	E	Pit 534 sectioned
429	2	2	NE	Linear 536 longitudinal section
430	2	2	SE	Linear 538 sectioned
431	2	2	NW	Linear 540 sectioned
432	2	(2) u/e	NE	Linear 542 longitudinal section. (b+w under exposed)
433	1	(1) u/e	W	Quarry pit 544 sectioned n/s section
434	1	1	W	Quarry pit 544, both sections

Photo no	Colour slide	B&W print	Facing	Subject
435	2	2	SE	General shots of linears 520-530 and 536-542
436	2	2	SE	General shots of linears 520-530 and 536-542
437	2	2	SE	Quarry pit 518 sectioned
438	1	1	W	Quarry pit 549 e – facing section
439	1	1	NW	Quarry pit 549 se – facing section
440	1	1	NW	Quarry pit 549 both sections
441	1	1	S	Quarry pit 549 general plan

* Also as colour print

Appendix IV:

Finds list

Find no	Context	Material	No	Comment
1-87	See strip 1-4 assessment reports, May & November 1997, October 1998 & 1999			
90	455	Glass (?)	1	Black circular bead/pendant. Flat on one side, rounded on the other. 16 mm in diam., 6 mm thick.
91	455	Pot	7	Medium grained fabric. Mid orange brown amphorae.
92	455	Pot	4	Fine-grained fabric. Mid reddish brown body sherds.
93	455	Pot	2	Fine-grained mid reddish brown fabric. One rimsherd, one perforated body(?) sherd.
94	456	Pot	15	Medium to fine-grained fabric. Assorted thick- and thin-walled sherds.
95	462	Pot	2	Grey fine-grained fabric. Everted rim.
96	491	Pot	3	Medium grained fabric.
97	503	Iron	1	Corroded lump.
98	505	Pot	1	Fine-grained orange red fabric. Thin walled rim sherd.
99	545	Pot	7	Medium grained fabric. Mid orange brown amphorae.
100	533	Pot	19	Part oxidised cord and comb(?) impressed beaker? sherds.
101	533	Flint	1	Dark grey retouched flake, flint knife?
102	455	Pot/burnt clay	3	Medium grained grey fabric. Three conjoining fragments.
103	456	Pot	1	Fine-grained fabric. Mid reddish brown body sherd
104	533	Pot	6	Part oxidised cord and comb(?) impressed beaker? sherds.
105	456	Daub	9	Fragments of oxidised daub.

Appendix V:

Drawing Register

Sheet No.	Date	Scale	Drawn by	Subject
Nos. 1 – 39 see reports strips 1 - 4				
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of posthole [435]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NW facing section of pit [430]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of posthole [432]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of posthole [426]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	N facing section of linear [428]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	E facing section of linear [422]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	E facing section of linear [428]
39	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of posthole [424]
40	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of possible posthole [437]
40	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of possible posthole [439]
40	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NE facing section of pit/posthole [439]
40	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NW facing section of pit/posthole [443]
40	19/9/00	1:10	LS	NW facing section of posthole [445]
41	22/9/00	1:20	JMM	Pre-ex plan of posthole [457]
41	22/9/00	1:20	JMM	Section of posthole [457]
41	22/9/00	1:20	JMM	Pre-ex plan of posthole [459]
41	22/9/00	1:20	JMM	Section of posthole [459]
42	22/9/00	1:10	RJC	N facing section of posthole [461]
42	22/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of posthole [461]
42	22/9/00	1:10	RJC	N facing section of posthole [463]
42	22/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of posthole [463]
43	22/9/00	1:10	RJC	NW facing section of posthole [466]
43	22/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of posthole [466]
43	22/9/00	1:10	RJC	N facing section of posthole [472]
43	22/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of posthole [472]
44	22/9/00	1:10	AHB	N facing section of pit [454]
44	22/9/00	1:20	AHB	Post-ex plan of pit [454]
44	22/9/00	1:10	AHB	N facing section of pit [470]
44	22/9/00	1:20	AHB	Post-ex plan of pit [470]
44	22/9/00	1:10	AHB	N facing section of pit [468]
44	22/9/00	1:20	AHB	Post-ex plan of pit [468]
45	25/9/00	1:10	JMM	S facing section of linear [474]
45	25/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of linear [474]
46	25/9/00	1:20	MD	Post-ex plan of pits [447], [449] & [451]
46	25/9/00	1:10	MD	NE facing section of pit [451]
46	25/9/00	1:10	MD	NE facing section of pit [449]
46	25/9/00	1:10	MD	NW facing section of pit [447]
47	25/9/00	1:10	RJC	N facing section of pits [478] & [480]
48	25/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of pits [478] & [480]
49	25/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of pit/posthole [482]
49	25/9/00	1:20	JMM	W facing section of pit/posthole [482]
49	25/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of feature [488]
49	25/9/00	1:10	JMM	E facing section of feature [488]
50	26/9/00	1:10	RJC	NW facing section of possible posthole [484]
50	26/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of possible posthole [484]
50	26/9/00	1:10	RJC	N facing section of pit [486]
50	26/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of pit [486]

Sheet No.	Date	Scale	Drawn by	Subject
51	26/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of fire pit [490]
51	26/9/00	1:10	JMM	E facing section of fire pit [490]
51	26/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of feature [498]
51	26/9/00	1:10	JMM	?? facing section of feature [498]
52	26/9/00	1:10	RJC	e facing section of pit [496]
53	26/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of pit [496]
54	26/9/00	1:20	MD	Post-ex plan of pit [492]
54	26/9/00	1:10	MD	W facing section of pit [492]
55	27/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of pits [500] & [504]
55	27/9/00	1:10	JMM	W facing section of pits [500] & [504]
55	27/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of pits [500], [504], [506] & [508]
55	27/9/00	1:10	JMM	S facing section of pits [500] & [506]
55	27/9/00	1:10	JMM	N facing section of pit [508]
56	28/9/00	1:10	RJC	SE facing longitudinal section of linear [512]
57	28/9/00	1:20	RJC	Pre-ex plan of stones within (510)
57	28/9/00	1:20	RJC	Pre-ex plan of (509) and (510)
58	28/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of linear [512]
59(A-E)	28/9/00	1:20	JMM	Plan of linear [422]
60	28/9/00	1:10	RJC	N facing section of posthole [502]
60	28/9/00	1:20	RJC	Post-ex plan of posthole (502)
61	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	NE facing section of linear [520]
61	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	SW facing section of linear [522]
61	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	NE facing section of linear [524]
61	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	SE facing section of linear [526]
61	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	SE facing section of linear [528]
61	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	S facing longitudinal section of linear [530]
62	2/10/00	1:20	RJC	Plan of linear [520] – [530] inc.
63	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	SW facing longitudinal section of linear [536]
63	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	NW facing section of linear [538]
63	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	SE facing section of linear [540]
63	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	SW facing longitudinal section of linear [542]
64	2/10/00	1:20	RJC	Plan of linear [536] – [542] inc.
65	29/9/00	1:10	MD	W facing section of pit [518]
65	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	NE facing section of pit [518]
66	29/9/00	1:20	JMM	S facing section of quarry pit [544]
66	29/9/00	1:20	JMM	Post-ex plan of pit [534]
66	29/9/00	1:10	JMM	W facing section of pit [534]
67	29/9/00	1:10	MD	S facing section of pit [518]
67	29/9/00	1:20	MD	Post-ex plan of pit [518]
68	26-27/9/00	1:10	AHB & JMM	W facing sections of linear [422]
69	2/10/00	1:20	MD	Post-ex plan of quarry pit [549]
69	2/10/00	1:10	MD	E facing section of quarry pit [549]
69	2/10/00	1:10	RJC	S facing section of quarry pit [549]
70	29/9/00	1:20	JMM	Plan of pit fills (499), (503), (505), (507) & (531).
70	29/9/00	1:10	JMM	N facing section of pit [532]

Appendix VI:

ASSESSMENT OF SAMPLES FROM WOOPERTON

Mhairi Hastie

METHOD

The samples were subjected to a system of flotation in a Siraf style flotation tank. The floating debris (flot) was collected in a 250 μm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank was wet-sieved through a 1 mm mesh and air-dried. This was then sorted by eye and any material of archaeological significance removed.

RESULTS

Charcoal was recovered from most samples. Those identified by an asterisk in Table 1 probably contain sufficient material for an AMS date. Those that also have a value of '+++' or '++++' in the charcoal column would offer the best chance of obtaining a reasonably large charcoal sample for dating purposes. Identification of the species of wood represented would need to be undertaken prior to dating.

Cereal grains were recorded from three of the flot samples. These were identified as wheat, either emmer or spelt. In all cases, however, the condition was too poor for identification to the level of species. One fragment of hazelnut shell was also recovered from Context 485.

The only additional material from the retents was a small quantity of pottery fragments and burnt bone. Context 510 did stand out with respect to concentration of burnt bone and this is thought to represent the remains of a cremation burial.

Table 1 - Flots

Context	Sample	Flot Vol (ml)	Cereal grains	Heather Charcoal	Charcoal		Comments
					Qty	AMS	
455	17	50			++	*	
456	1	10	+		+	*	3 x wheat
458	2	100			+++	*	
460	5	10	+		+	*	1 x cereal indet
465	3	50			++	*	
467	4	20			++	*	
471	7	20			+		
477	13	50			+++	*	
485	8	50		++			
491	14	50			+	*	
494	15	50			++++	*	
509	9	50			+	*	
510	10	200	+		++++	*	1 x wheat
516	12	100			++++	*	
533	16	100			+++	*	
547	18	<10			+		

Table 2 - Retents

Context	Sample	Pottery	Bone (burnt)	Human Bone (burnt)	Charcoal	Comments
455	17	+			+	
456	1	+			+	
458	2		+		+	
460	5					
465	3		+			
467	4		+		+	
471	7				+	
477	13				+	
485	8					Heather charcoal ++ Hazelnut Shell +
491	14				+	
494	15				+	
509	9		+		+	
510	10			++++	++	Heather charcoal +
516	12				+	
533	16	+			+	
547	18					No finds

Appendix VII:

Wooperton gravel quarry, Phase 1, Strip 5; pottery assessment

Jeremy Evans

Some 42 additional sherds of pottery were recovered from these excavations, making the running total to date around 424 sherds. All of the pottery is of Roman date, and there are in addition nine fragments of oxidised, 'clean' soft daub from context 456.

Yet again eleven of the 42 sherds are of Dressel 20 amphora, a far higher proportion than might usually be expected. A Noyon mortarium base is present, typical of early military assemblages (in context 491), together with a mortarium rim in a white-slipped oxidised fabric, similar to the other oxidised wares from the site, with its bead below the level of the flange, of Flavian-early 2nd century date (in context 456). Context 456 also produced a slightly unusual bowl which is probably derived from the reeded rimmed series, of Flavian-Trajanic date. Forms represented by rimsherds are a bowl, a dish, a lid, a mortarium, a beaker(?) and a jar. The overall evidence from the site continues to demonstrate a Flavian date to its occupation.

The overall collection of Roman pottery from this site is odd, most has military associations but some seems related to the indigenous tradition. The composition of this group is not what one might expect to find on a 'normal' rural site. The collection is clearly of at least regional significance and should be published in full.

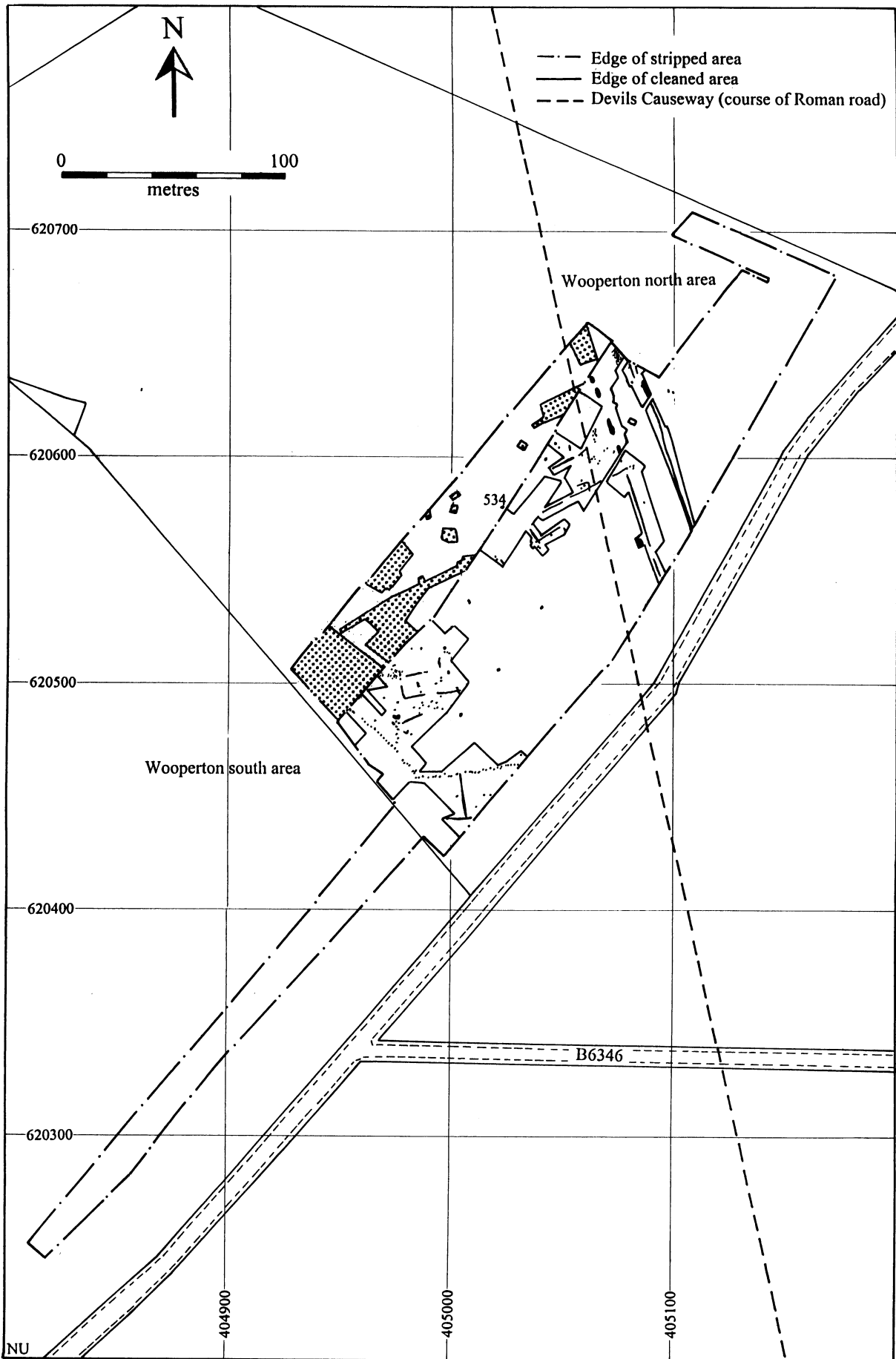


Figure 1 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 strip 5. Location plan

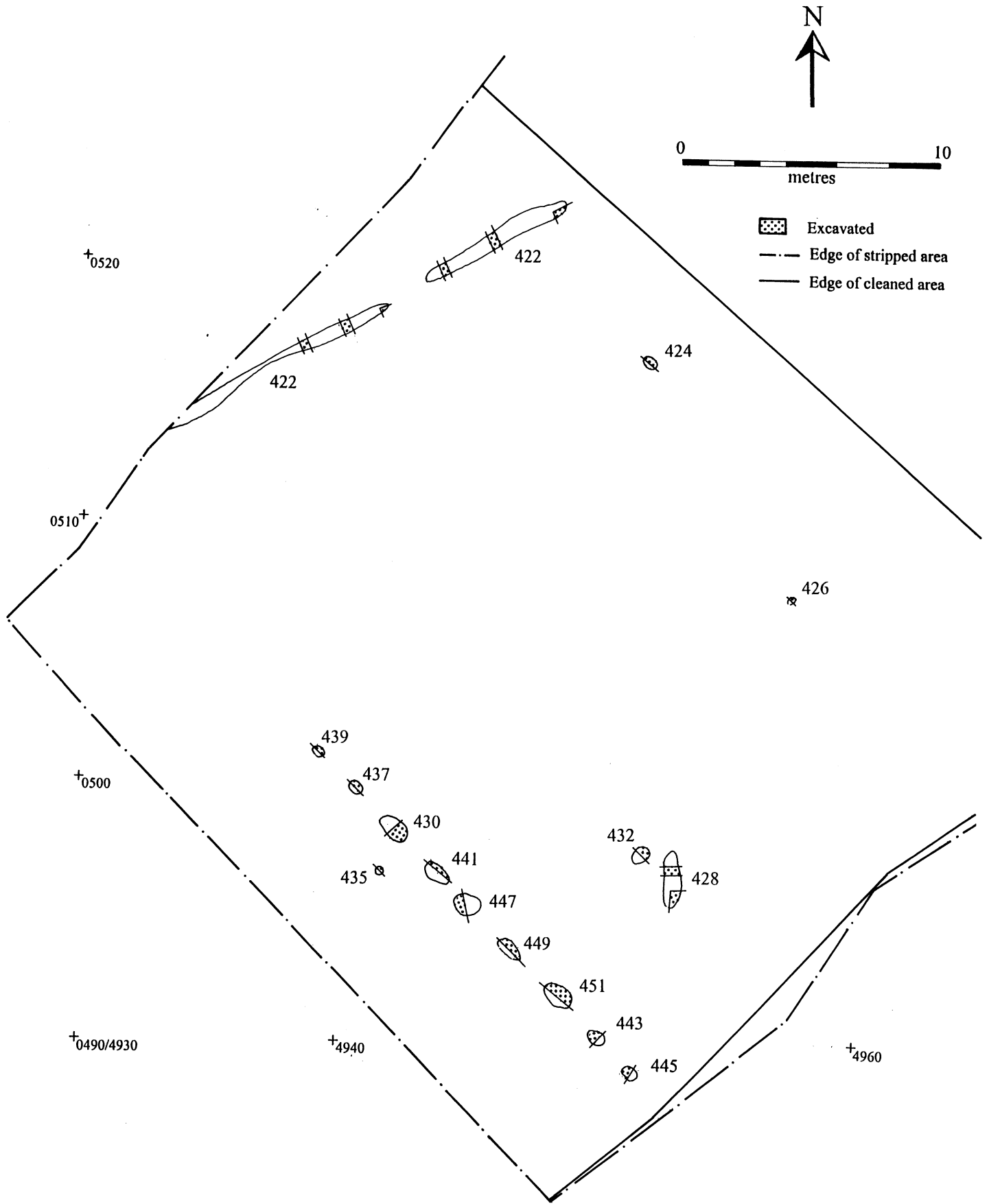


Figure 2 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 strip 5. Plan of excavated features. South Area, south segment.

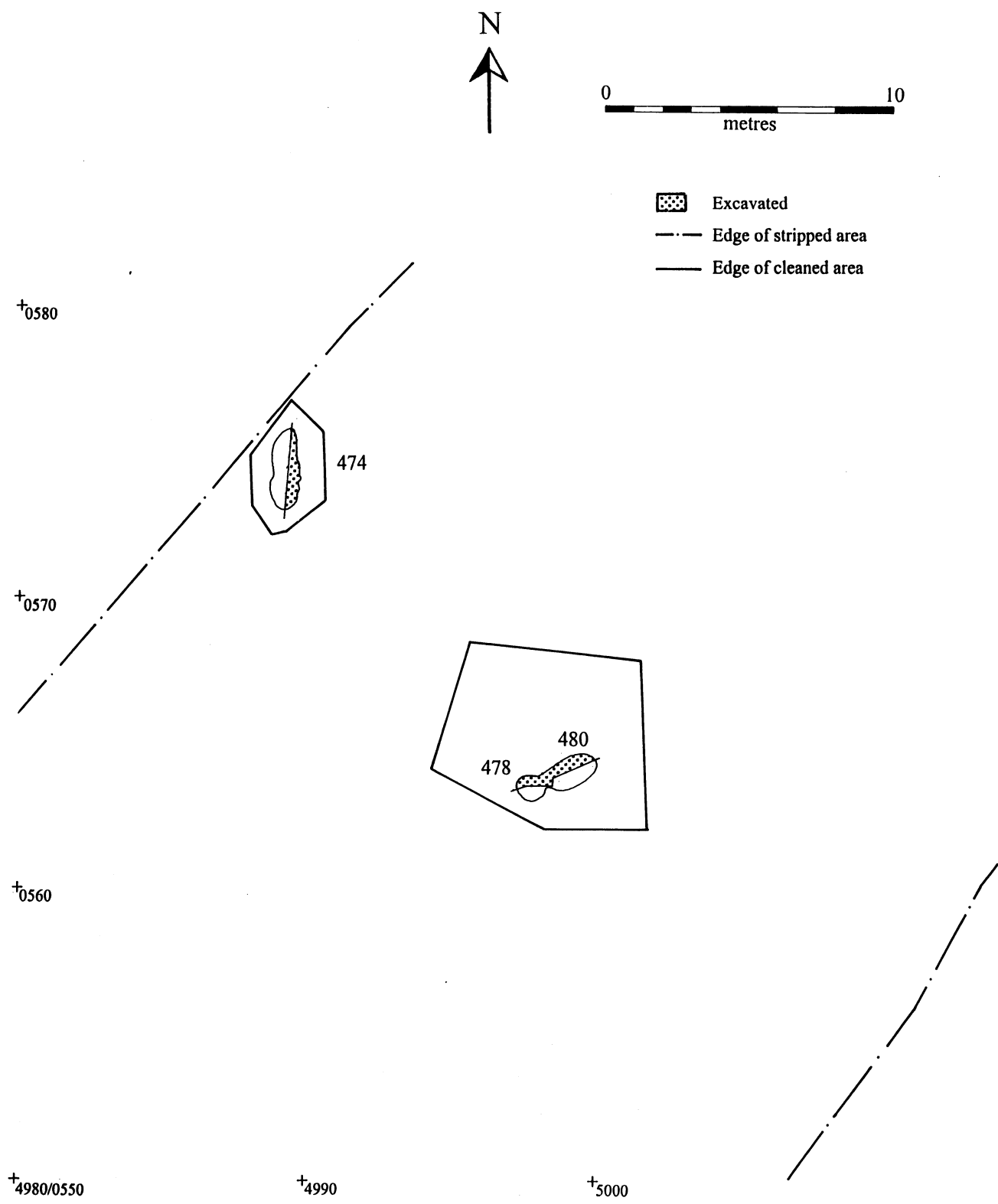


Figure 4 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 strip 5. Plan of excavated features. South Area, north segment

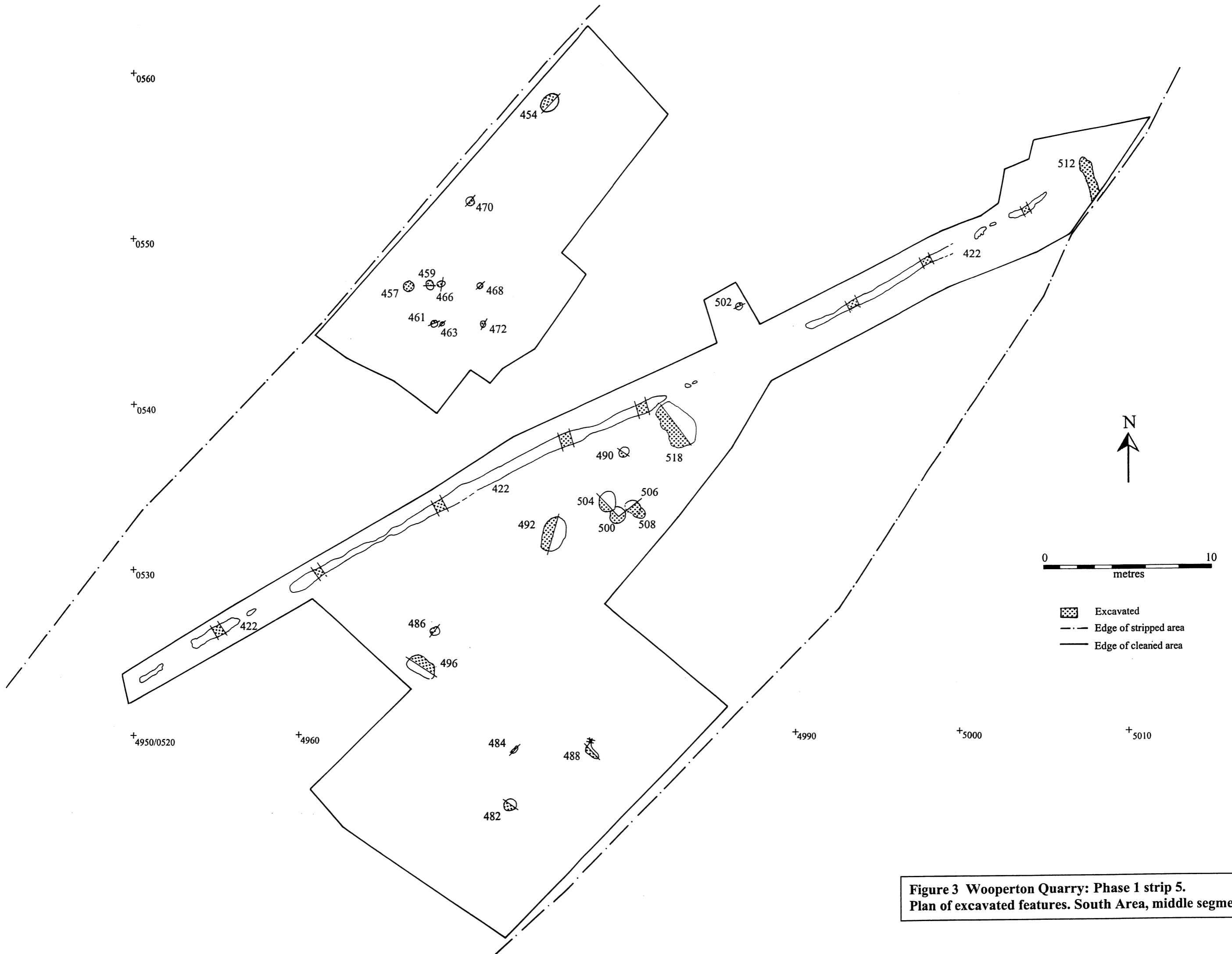


Figure 3 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 strip 5. Plan of excavated features. South Area, middle segment

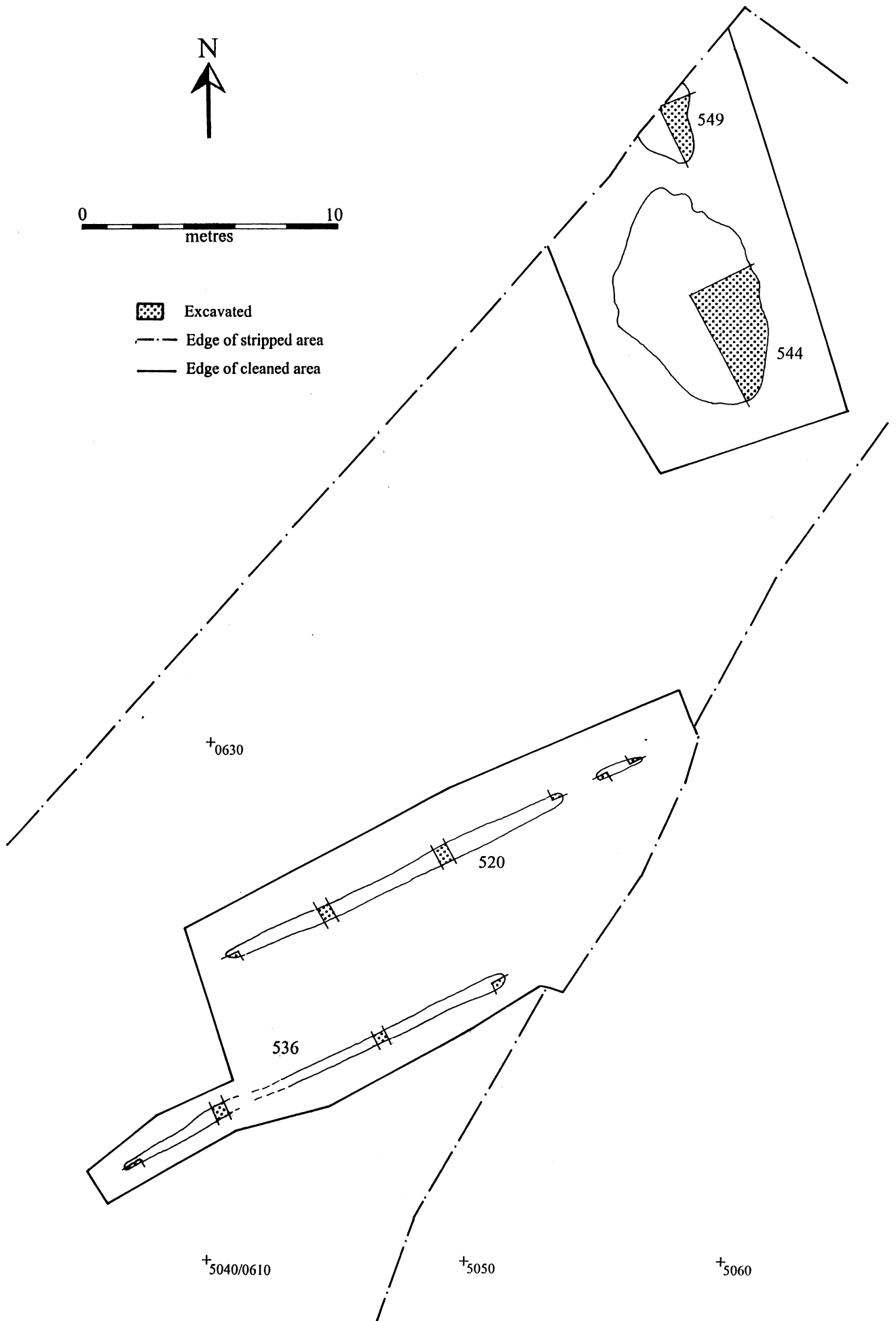


Figure 5 Wooperton Quarry: Phase 1 strip 5. Plan of excavated features. North Area