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Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council

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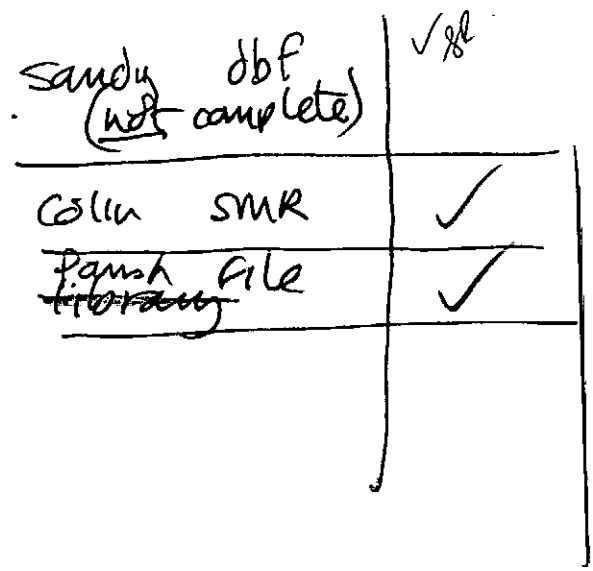
ALDHAM MILL HILL STORAGE DEPOT, HADLEIGH.
Archaeological Evaluation Archive Report
HAD 059

Planning Application No. B/99/01273/OUT
Report No. 99/53



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Ministry of Defence Depot, Aldham Mill Hill, Hadleigh (HAD 059)
Evaluation Report

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out within part of a proposed development area at Aldham Mill Hill, Hadleigh, in order to sample and record any surviving archaeological deposits. This consisted of a series of twelve linear trenches, machine-excavated to the depth of the natural sub-soil. A number of features were exposed and investigated, dated as prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post medieval. Whilst these features were quite widely spread over the site, the main areas of interest were around the Roman enclosure to the north-west of the site and the two medieval sites in the south-western corner, as well as the ring ditches identified by aerial photography. Away from the ring ditches, evidence for prehistoric activity was sparse but one isolated pit with Late Neolithic Grooved Ware was located. It was also discovered that significant depths of silty deposits had built up since the Roman period.

1. Introduction

An application (no.B/99/01273/OUT) has been made to develop the area around, and including, the former Ministry of Defence depot at Aldham Mill Hill, Hadleigh (Fig. 1). The development area is at TM027433 on the eastern side of the River Brett valley, with a tributary stream running east to west to the north of the area. The land rises gently across the 30m contour towards the south-east.

The area covers parts of two known archaeological complexes, both visible as cropmarks and one of which was confirmed by previous excavation. To the south of the area are two ring ditches, likely to be the remains of Bronze Age burial mounds (SMR numbers HAD 007, HAD 031). At the northern edge, the site impinges on a large, double ditched rectilinear enclosure of Roman date, a small part of which was excavated before the construction of the Hadleigh bypass (HAD 015). This work showed the presence of pre-Roman Iron Age activity in the area and indicated the possibility of further Roman features extending east out of the enclosure. The function of the enclosure is not known with any certainty although it may be an agricultural complex, perhaps associated with a Roman water mill (J. Plouviez, pers. comm.). In addition, the excavation also demonstrated that up to 500mm of hillwash had accumulated since the Roman period.

A desk-based assessment was prepared for the MoD by Gifford & Partners in 1997 using the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and cartographic sources including tithe maps in the County Records Office, looking for evidence of potential archaeology. An assessment of aerial photographs of the area was also produced by Rog Palmer, with all archaeological features digitally mapped out (Fig. 2). The results of these projects confirmed the view of the County Archaeological Service, concluding that investigation of the development area by field evaluation would be justified and necessary.

A 'Brief and Specification' for the archaeological field evaluation (Appendix I) was produced by Jude Plouviez of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team.

2. Fieldwork Methodology

Twelve trial-trenches were opened in locations agreed by the Conservation Team at the Suffolk County Council (Fig. 3). This was carried out by a 360 mechanical excavator equipped with a 2 metre wide trenching bucket, under the supervision of an archaeologist. Topsoil was removed from the trenches to the depth of the naturally occurring subsoil. All topsoil was kept separate from subsoil for subsequent backfilling. In all, 1246.5 metres of trench were opened over an area of *c.*74,000 square metres, representing a sample of just under two percent, in linear terms, of the area evaluated.

Both the excavated topsoil and the exposed surfaces of trenches were examined visually, and subjected to a metal detector search, for artefactual evidence.

Where features were revealed, they were cleaned manually for definition and each allocated 'observed phenomena' numbers within a unique continuous numbering system under the SMR code HAD 059 (Appendix II). Features were then partially excavated in order to recover dating evidence as well as to observe their form and possibly determine any function. Where features were present, trench plans were drawn at 1:100 (Figs. 4-8) and excavated sections drawn at 1:20 (Figs. 9-13). Features were also recorded photographically, using both monochrome prints and colour slides, to form a part of the site archive. The evaluation archive will be deposited in the County SMR at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

All finds were washed and marked before being quantified, identified and dated by the finds management staff of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (see section 4. The Finds). The evaluation was funded by Persimmon Homes.

3. Fieldwork Results

Figure 3 shows the location of the trial trenches within the development area and the findings within each trench are summarised below.

Trench 1 (Fig. 4)
The main concentration of archaeology in this trench was in the lower, south-western end where medieval boundary ditches were found. It was orientated south-west to north-east across the southern end of the evaluation area and measured 340 metres. The topsoil (0001) was a silty loam, averaging 300mm in depth, below which was a layer of silty hillwash (0037) containing flecks of brick and coal. The depth of this layer varied through the length of the trench, from *c.*300mm at the western end and totally absent on the brow of the hill at the eastern end of the trench, to *c.*1000mm in the centre. In this deeper, central part of the trench, boxes were machine excavated approximately every 20m to make sure that the clean, silty subsoil reached really was natural.

The topsoil produced various metal detector finds, largely of post-medieval date, as well as various worked flints. The hillwash layer yielded a number of iron nails, also located with the metal detector at a depth of approximately 550mm. Below this, a further layer of hillwash (0002) was located in the central part of the trench, containing a few iron nails and a dense scatter of medieval pottery, many of the recovered sherds coming from the same vessels.

Ditch [0004] was orientated south-east to north-west across the trench and measured *c.*1.33m wide and *c.*29cm deep. The fill (0003) was a dark brown silty clay from which twenty seven sherds of pottery were recovered, dating from the early to mid thirteenth century. Animal bone was also present in this context.

Ditch [0006] was *c.*1.50m wide with a depth of *c.*40cm and orientated west to east. Two sections were excavated and their respective fills numbered (0005) and (0007). Both sections contained a mid orangey greyish brown silty clay matrix form which no datable finds were recovered. The edges of (0007) were not clear at the machined level and manual cleaning did not help to define them. A box section was excavated to attempt to identify the edges but they were still not obvious until 290mm of hillwash had been removed. Two small sherds of Roman sandy greyware were found in this context along with three flints (including two blades) and one heat altered flint.

Ditch [0008] was orientated south-east to north-west through the trench and measured *c.*1.79m wide and *c.*48cm deep. The fill (0009) was a mid brown sandy loam from which two sherds of medieval coarseware pottery, two fragments of fired clay and two flints were recovered.

Ditch [0010] was a curvilinear feature running approximately south-east to north-west through the trench, measuring *c.*52cm wide and *c.*11cm deep. The fill (0011) was a dark brown sandy loam containing one flint.

Ditch [0012] was orientated approximately east-south-east to west-north-west across the trench with a butt-end at its western extent. The ditch measured *c.*46cm wide and *c.*5cm deep. Two sections were removed from the ditch, one at the butt-end (0013) and the other numbered (0014). These fills were both of a mid greyish brown silty clay from which no datable finds were recovered.

[0015] was a small, sub-circular pit with a diameter of *c.*32cm and was *c.*30cm deep. Its fill (0016) was a dark greyish brown silty clay which was flecked with charcoal and contained three worked flints, one of which was identified as an awl.

[0018] was a ditch orientated north to south and measuring *c.*37cm wide with a depth of *c.*12cm. The fill (0019) was a greyish brown sandy loam with light charcoal inclusions, from which one sherd of medieval coarseware pottery was recovered.

Pit [0042] was a sub-oval feature that extended south-south-east beyond the trench section so its full length could not be ascertained. Although it was recorded as a pit, it is equally possible that it was a butt-end of a south-east to north-west orientated ditch. It measured *c.*1.60m wide and *c.*42cm deep. Its fill (0043) consisted of a mid brown

sandy silty loam containing one flint and one base sherd from a Roman sandy greyware vessel.

[0044] was recorded as a pit but similarly to [0042], the full extent of the feature is unknown due to its proximity to the edge of the trench so it could be a butt-end of a ditch. It measured *c.*48cm wide and had a depth of *c.*25cm. The fill was a mid brown sandy silt and contained three fragments of animal bone and five lumps of fired clay, none of which were dateable.

Trench 2 (Fig. 6)
Trench 2 was orientated south-west to north-east across the southern end of the evaluation area and measured 21.5 metres. It was excavated parallel to trench 1 at the point where 0002 was located, to investigate the possibility of features associated with the dense pottery deposit. The topsoil (0001) was a silty loam, averaging 300mm in depth, below which was a layer of silty hillwash (0037) containing flecks of brick and coal, the layer getting 'cleaner' after a depth of *c.*690mm. Below this, the hillwash was allocated the number 0002 due to the appearance of the same kind of pottery deposits as those found in trench 1.

The topsoil produced a few metal detector finds of post-medieval date whilst the hillwash produced an iron nail and a few pottery sherds.

Approximately 13.3m from the western end of the trench, the hillwash became rich in charcoal flecks, below which was a hearth or oven (0017) at a depth of 760mm. This consisted of a sub-rectangular patch of dense charcoal with a central sub-circular area of greyish white clay which surrounded a mid greyish brown silty clay spread. This was half sectioned but proved to be a thin (*c.*1cm deep) layer of hillwash overlying dark, reddish coloured heat altered clay. Surrounding this dense charcoal were various smaller clay and heat altered clay features, all with moderate charcoal inclusions, and sherds of medieval pottery were scattered over the entire area. The full dimensions of 0017 could not be recorded as it extended north-north-east beyond the edge of the trench. To the east of 0017, a linear feature (0108), which was probably a ditch, ran north to south across the trench. The fill appeared to be a pale-mid brown silty clay and pottery was visible on its surface.

It was decided that none of the features in this trench would be sampled so that they could be preserved in tact in situ, but were photographed and planned at 1:50. This would allow thorough investigation should full scale field excavation be recommended.

Trench 3 (Fig. 5)
Trench 3 was orientated south to north across the southern end of the evaluation area and measured 44 metres. The topsoil (0001) was a silty loam, averaging 250mm in depth, below which was a relatively thin layer of silty hillwash (*c.*340mm) containing quite substantial flecks of brick.

Ditch [0020] was orientated south-east to north west across the trench, measuring *c.*1.08m wide and *c.*37cm deep. Its fill (0021) was a mid greyish brown sandy silty

loam from which four sherds of medieval coarseware were recovered, possibly dating from the thirteenth century.

[0022] was a ditch *c.*1.17m wide and *c.*32cm deep running south-east to north-west across the trench. It contained fill (0023), a mid brown clay silt which contained a fragment of animal bone and a lump of fired clay.

Ditch [0031] was orientated west to east through the trench and measured *c.*61cm wide at the excavated section and *c.*22cm deep. The fill (0032) was a dark reddish brown silty clay, similar in colour to the natural, and no finds were recovered from it.

Ditch [0033] measured *c.*80cm wide and *c.*16cm deep and was orientated south-east to north-west. The fill (0034) was a mid to dark brown silty clay, similar in colour to the natural, and no finds were recovered from it. Both this ditch, and [0031], may be natural features.

A small, sub-oval posthole [0027] was centrally located 5.5m from the south of the trench, measuring *c.*26cm in diameter with a depth of *c.*21cm. The fill was a pale to mid greyish brown chalky clay and contained no dateable finds. Posthole [0029] was a similar shape and size to, and located *c.*60cm north-west of, [0027]. The fill (0030) was a mid grey brown chalky clay which contained a large lump of cast iron. A third, similar posthole [0035] was identified *c.*60cm south-west of [0027] and contained a dark greyish brown silty clay fill (0036) to a depth of *c.*8cm. The extent was unknown as it continued beyond the limits of the trench.

Trench 4 (Fig. 5)
The archaeology in trench 4 was mostly located in the southern end, the trench being orientated south-south-east to north-north-west across the southern end of the evaluation area and measured 207.5 metres. The topsoil (0001) was a silty loam, averaging 320mm in depth, below which was a layer of silty hillwash, which averaged 500mm deep. Various metal detector finds were recovered from the topsoil, mostly post-medieval in date but including one medieval silver coin. Four flints were found in the hillwash layer.

Ditch [0038] was orientated east to west across the trench and measured *c.*1.06m wide and *c.*31cm deep. The fill (0039) was a mid brown silty clay with a slightly purer clay lens at the ditch base. No finds were recovered.

Ditch [0050] was orientated east-north-east to west-south-west through the trench and appeared to be slightly curved. The southern edge was easily identifiable but manual cleaning failed to define the northern edge. A box section was excavated within which the ditch was identified as being *c.*79cm wide and *c.*44cm deep with a very steep southern edge. The recorded section may be the base of a deeper ditch, the edges of which could not be seen in the trench section. The fill (0051) was a mid brown sand in which two flints were found, although these may be natural. The ditch itself may not be a genuine archaeological feature.

Pit [0040] was sub-oval in plan and measured *c.*87cm across the section and was *c.*17cm deep. The fill (0041) was a dark greyish brown silty clay with charcoal flecks

and various flint finds. These consisted of sixteen heat altered flints and four worked flints, including one scraper and a single-barbed arrowhead from the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age.

Pit [0048] was sub-oval in plan and measured *c.*108cm across the section and was *c.*28cm deep but extended beyond the limits of the trench. The fill (0049) was a dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. The finds recovered from this context consisted of forty three heat altered flints, one sherd of prehistoric pottery, four worked flints and one flint scraper.

Ditch [0046] was orientated north-east to south-west across the trench, measuring *c.*1.32m wide and *c.*29cm deep. The fill (0047) was a mid brown silty clay from which only two pieces of heat altered flint were recovered.

[0052] was a pit found to be cutting ditch [0054], *c.*66m from the southern end of trench 4. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring *c.*49cm in diameter with a depth of *c.*13cm. The fill (0053) was a light to mid brown silty clay in which two flint flakes (possibly natural) were found.

Ditch [0054] was *c.*89cm wide and *c.*18cm deep, orientated north-east to south-west through the trench, cut by pit [0052]. It was filled by (0055), a light brown sand, which was quite similar to the naturally occurring subsoil, and produced no finds.

Ditch [0056] was orientated east to west across the trench with dimensions of *c.*91cm wide and *c.*13cm deep. The fill (0057) was a brown sand from which no finds were recovered.

Ditch [0060] was *c.*1.27m wide and *c.*21cm deep, orientated east-north-east to west-south-west through the trench. It was filled by (0061), a mid orangey brown silty clay within which five flints, including one bifacially retouched tool, were found.

Ditch [0058] was orientated east-north-east to west-south-west across the trench with dimensions of *c.*80cm wide and *c.*30cm deep. The fill (0059) was a mid brown sandy silt. Fragments of lava quern, heat altered flint, ceramic building material and one sherd of glazed pottery, dating from between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, were found in this matrix which had been subject to disturbance by burrowing animals.

Trench 5 (Fig. 4)
This trench was orientated west-south-west to east-north-east across the southern end of the evaluation area and measured 184 metres. The topsoil (0001) was a silty loam, averaging 300mm in depth, below which was a *c.*100mm deep layer of silty hillwash (0037) containing flecks of brick and chalk. Various metal detector finds were recovered from the topsoil, mostly post-medieval in date. The subsoil (0037) varied in depth from 520mm at the western end to 70mm on the slope of the hill at the eastern end. Occasional iron nails were found in this hillwash.

Ditch 0107 was orientated south to north through the trench and measured *c.*50cm wide and *c.*35cm deep. It was located just below the topsoil at a depth of

approximately 320mm. The fill was a mid brown silty clay containing brick, chalk and modern glass and glazed pottery sherds.

0024 was initially thought to be hillwash collected in a natural hollow but as the feature extended east it became increasingly deeper until a steep, cut edge was found approximately 86m from the western end of the trench at a depth of *c.*2000mm. A further 7m east, a steep cut into the chalky clay natural was located at a depth of 400mm, within which fill was removed to a depth of *c.*2150mm. The feature was machine excavated but its extension beyond the trench and the unusual depth prevented its full dimensions from being ascertained. Two layers of fill were identified in this feature (0025) and (0026), of which (0026) was clearly stratigraphically overlain by (0025). (0025) was a dark brown silty clay and contained medieval coarseware pottery and worked flint whilst (0026) was a dark orangey brown silty clay contained a sherd of pottery dating from the mid twelfth to thirteenth century, lava quern, worked flint and a possible weathered building stone. It is possible that [0024] is some form of quarry, perhaps associated with an area plotted by the aerial photograph assessment as a natural occurrence of deeper soil.

Trench 6 (Fig. 6)
Trench 6 was opened perpendicular to trench 2 to look for evidence of activity that may have been associated with 0002 and 0017. It was orientated north-west to south-east and measured *c.*12.5 metres. The topsoil (0001) was a silty loam, averaging 300mm in depth, below which was a layer of silty hillwash (0037) containing flecks of brick and coal, the layer getting 'cleaner' after a depth of *c.*620mm. Below this, the hillwash was allocated the number 0002 due to the appearance of the same kind of pottery deposits as those found in trench 1. 0002 was rich in finds, producing abundant mid-late thirteenth century pottery, fired clay, animal bone and nine worked flints including two blades, a core and a scraper.

Only one feature was identified in this trench, a ditch [0062] orientated south-west to north-east. Its north-western edge was clearly defined but even after manual cleaning, the south-eastern edge was not clearly visible. Excavation showed the ditch to be *c.*1.46m wide and *c.*21cm deep and the fill (0063) consisted of a dark brown silty clay with a band of lighter, mid brown silty clay at the bottom. Recovered from this fill were eleven sherds of late twelfth to early thirteenth century pottery and thirty fragments of lava quern. A further section (0066) through this ditch was recorded as being of a mid brown silty clay matrix in which forty six sherds of mid-late thirteenth century pottery were found as well as fired clay, worked flints (including one retouched scraper) and animal bone.

Trench 7 (Fig. 7)
This trench was situated just below the brow of the hill, where a possible circular enclosure had been seen on aerial photographs. It was orientated south-south-east to north-north-west across the eastern side of the evaluation area, measuring approximately 60 metres. The topsoil averaged 260mm deep with a thin layer of subsoil (*c.*60mm) present only at the southern end of the trench. No trace of the possible enclosure was located.

Feature 0105 was orientated west to east through the trench and measured *c.*70cm wide and *c.*30cm deep. It looked like a probable ditch on the surface, appearing as a sandy deposit through a gravel area. The fill was a reddish brown clay sand, very similar to the natural matrix, and its excavation showed no definite edges and produced no finds. Feature 0106 looked very similar to, and ran parallel with, 0105, measuring *c.*65cm wide and *c.* 27cm deep. Like 0105, the fill was a reddish brown clay sand without finds or definite edges. It is possible that these are not genuine archaeological features.

0104 was a large, rectangular pit cut into natural chalky clay in which at least three metal oil cans had been deposited.

Trench 8 (Fig. 7)
Archaeology in trench 8 was mostly concentrated at the western end. The trench was orientated approximately north-west to south-east in the northern end of the MoD compound with a length of 90 metres. The topsoil (0001) averaged 300mm in depth, below which was a layer of hillwashed subsoil (0037) of variable depth, ranging from just 140mm up to 600mm *c.*22m from the western end of the trench. Building material, pottery, animal bone, lava quern, iron nails and flints, including two scrapers were recovered from the topsoil.

[0071] was a sub-oval pit or posthole located *c.*44m from the western end of the trench, measuring *c.*51cm in diameter with a depth of *c.*30cm. The fill (0072) was a mid greyish brown silty clay, flecked with charcoal, from which one Iron Age pottery sherd, two heat altered flints and twelve worked flints, including a scraper, a core, two blades and a microlith, were recovered.

Ditch [0067] measured *c.*1.68m wide and *c.*30cm deep and was orientated north to south across the trench. Its width was only established after a 5.60m box section was excavated through an area which looked to be a single ditch on the machined surface. The fill (0068) was a mid brown silty clay which contained a number of large mammal bones and the jaw of a cow, as well as a lump of ceramic building material from the Roman period.

Ditch [0069] ran parallel with [0067], and only *c.*14cm apart. It measured *c.*2.68m wide and *c.*65cm deep. The fill (0070) was a mid brown silty clay which contained a number of bones from a variety of different animal species, as well as ceramic building material and six sherds of Roman pottery. Flint and heat altered flint were also found.

Trench 9 (Fig. 7)
This trench was orientated approximately north-west to south-east in the central area of the MoD compound with a length of 74 metres. The topsoil (0001) averaged 200mm in depth, below which was a layer of hillwashed subsoil (0037) which averaged *c.*550mm deep. Various post medieval metal detector finds were located in the topsoil whilst flints and early Roman pottery were found in (0037).

0073 was investigated as a sub-oval feature located *c.*2.60m from the western end of the trench and extending south-west beyond the trench limits. It was filled with a light greyish orangey brown silty clay which was similar in colour and texture to the natural

sob soil and once excavated beyond the surface, there was no edge distinction and no finds were recovered.

Pit [0074] was of uncertain shape and dimensions since it extended beyond the trench section, but was excavated to a depth of *c.*26cm. Its fill (0075) was a mid greyish brown silty clay from which eleven sherds of decorated, Late Neolithic Grooved Ware, probably from the same vessel, were recovered. The fill also produced two heat altered flints and seven flint flakes.

Trench 10 (Fig. 8)
Trench 10 was orientated approximately north-west to south-east in the northern end of the evaluation area and measured 101m. The archaeology was mostly concentrated in the western end. The topsoil (0001) averaged 200mm in depth, below which were various layers of hillwashed subsoil, including what was probably a *c.*230mm deep buried soil horizon (0078). Various metal detector finds of post medieval date were recovered from the topsoil.

Ditch [0088] was orientated south-west to north-east across the trench and measured *c.*48cm wide and *c.*12cm deep. The fill (0089) was a mid-pale yellowish olive brown silty clay which was very similar to the natural subsoil. No finds were recovered.

Ditch [0085] measured *c.*90cm wide and was orientated approximately north to south across the trench. It appeared just within layer 0078 and was very similar to this layer in colour and texture, making edge definition impossible until it was excavated to a depth of 1030mm. The fill (0086) was a dark brown silty clay which contained animal bone, Roman pottery and tile.

[0087] was a large feature, possibly a trackway, orientated approximately north to south through the trench, with a width of *c.*21m, and associated with seven different contexts: (0090), (0091), (0092), (0093), [0094], (0095) and (0099). A 16m section was excavated through the area, on the southern side of the trench, down to a compacted, stony surface with four parallel depressions. (0093) was a reddish brown silty clay which appeared to be a natural occurrence of gravel but contained flecks of brick or tile. It merged with (0092), a clean, orangey brown clay with granular chalk which also looked to be natural but contained brick or tile. (0099) was a mid brown silty clay containing Roman pottery and post medieval ceramic building material, which sealed the compacted, stony surface, and merged with (0092) so that the relationship between the two layers was unclear. Over (0099) was a dense layer of stones within a light brown silty clay matrix (0091) within which fragments of post medieval tile were found. These three layers were sealed by layer (0095), a dark brown loamy clay which was present below 0001 from the western end of the trench to *c.*40.60m east, where it rises slightly to merge with the topsoil. Roman pottery and ceramic building material was recovered from this context. It was noted during machining that the surface of (0095) had been disturbed by ploughing. (0095) and (0099) had been cut by ditch [0094] which measured *c.*1.98m wide and *c.*40cm deep, and was orientated north to south across the trench. It was filled by (0090), a mid olive brown silty clay from which one iron nail was recovered.

Ditch [0098] was orientated north to south through the trench and was *c.*2.30m wide. It was filled with a dark brown loamy clay which was very similar to 0095 which overlaid the ditch, making the eastern edge difficult to define until it was manually cleaned. Roman pottery was recovered from the fill.

0076 was an articulated skeleton of a medium mammal located just below the topsoil. A sample of the bones were removed for identification, leaving the majority in situ and diverting the trench north around them.

Ditch [0100] was orientated south-west to north-east with a width of *c.*1m and depth of *c.*4cm. The fill (0101) was a mid brown sandy loam, very similar to the hillwash in which it was faintly located, and contained one small sherd of Roman pottery and various flint flakes, including a blade. It is likely that this was the base of a ditch which may have been lost during machining.

Ditch [0102] was *c.*1.36m wide and *c.*34cm deep in the trench section. It was filled by (0103), a dark brown loamy clay, very similar to layer 0095 into which the ditch appeared to have been cut. Because of this similarity, the ditch may have been lost during machining and was only seen in the southern side of the trench. The orientation of the ditch could not be determined as it was not visible in the northern trench section. Roman pottery was visible in the section.

Trench 11 (Fig. 8)
This trench was orientated north-west to south-east in the northern end of the evaluation area with a length of 76 metres. The topsoil (0001) averaged 290mm in depth, below which were layers of hillwashed subsoil, one of which was probably a buried soil horizon. At the northern end and central part of the trench, hillwash reached depths of up to 1980mm, whilst at the southern end, it was only *c.*150mm deep, with no hillwash beneath the topsoil at all at its very end. One sherd of sixteenth century pottery and fragments of ceramic building material were found in 0001 but no metal finds were found in the topsoil or the hillwash. Two nineteenth century field drains were found at a depth of 250mm *c.*26m and *c.*38m from the northern end of the trench.

[0077] was a large, linear feature *c.*3m wide and *c.*1.50m deep, orientated approximately east to west through the trench. It contained quite heavily compacted rubble, chalk and brick within a brownish grey silty clay matrix, within which was a very square, linear deposit of tile or collapsed field drain. When cleaned and partially excavated manually, the feature was found to contain quantities of tarmac and due to this and the compacted nature of the fill, it was decided to machine excavate, leaving the profile of the feature in section.

0109 was a very faint, linear feature, only visible at the very bottom of the trench. It is possible that this was a ditch, orientated south-west to north-east, of which only the base was visible in the hillwash but there was no indication of a ditch in the section and no finds were recovered from the hillwash above it or from the pale orangey brown silty clay fill. This feature was not fully excavated due to time constraints.

Ditch [0083] was orientated approximately north to south through the trench. It was first seen at a depth of 1980mm and the section excavated (0096) proved to represent only the base of the ditch, measuring *c.*34cm wide and *c.*5cm deep. The fill was a light-mid brown silty clay. Further south-west, the ditch was very faintly visible at a higher level (1480mm deep) where it was wider and deeper, measuring *c.*89cm wide and *c.*28cm deep. Here, the fill was a light-mid brown silty clay cut into a layer of almost identical hillwash. No finds were recovered from either section.

Ditch [0081] ran north to south almost parallel to [0083]. It was first seen at a depth of 1480mm where section (0097) was excavated. Here, the ditch measured *c.*28cm wide and *c.*4cm deep, and proved to be only the base of the ditch. The fill was a mid brown silty clay from which no finds were recovered. The ditch became visible at shallower depths within the hillwash as the trench moved south-west, faintly visible at a depth of 960mm where another section (0082) was excavated. Here the ditch was *c.*84cm wide and *c.*17cm deep, and the mid-brown silty clay contained fragments of lava quern and a lump of ceramic building material that may date from the Roman period.

Both ditches [0081] and [0083] were cut into layer 0080 and stratigraphically sealed by layer 0078, from which medieval and Roman pottery was recovered. 0078 was in turn sealed by 0079 which contained medieval pottery.

Trench 12

Trench 12 was situated on the slope of the hill within the eastern end of the MoD compound and measured approximately 40 metres. The topsoil was a fairly uniform 340mm throughout with only a thin layer of subsoil (*c.*60mm) above the natural gravel subsoil. It had been placed where a possible circular enclosure had been seen on aerial photographs The trench was devoid of any features and therefore not planned.

4. The Finds

Sue Anderson, September 1999.
With contributions from Cathy Tester and Alexis Willett.

Introduction

A summary of finds quantities from this excavation is presented in the table below.

Find type	No.	Wt/kg
Pottery	401	5.195
Animal bone	319	2.010
CBM	77	5.088
Fired clay	33	0.148
Shell	3	0.012
Worked flint	99	1.790
Burnt flint/stone	82	2.213
Lava quern	108	2.025
Stone	2	0.168
Fe slag	1	1.009
Charcoal	1	-
Iron	24	0.404
Copper alloy	51	0.246
Silver	1	0.0005
Lead/tin (pewter)	7	0.0435
Lead	38	0.613

Table 1: Finds quantities.

The finds have been divided into categories by function.

1. Coins and Tokens

1.1. Coins

Medieval

Only one medieval coin was found.

1. Ag. Obv. .....ANG..... Rev. .....ADV?..... Ed. III? penny, very worn. 1327-77? SF No. 1004 (0001 Trench 4).

Post-medieval

Post-medieval coins included farthings, halfpennies and pennies of 17th-20th century date.

2. Ae. William III halfpenny. 1694-1704. Context 0001 Trench 5.
3. Ae. Obv. GEORGIVS [REX], Rev. Britannia. Date illeg. George I halfpenny. 1714-27. SF No. 1017 (0001).
4. Ae. George IV farthing, 2nd issue. 1825-30. Context 0001 Trench 4.
5. Ae. George V penny. Context 0001 Trench 9.
6. Ae. George VI penny. Context 0001 Trench 3.
7. Ae. V. worn ?penny. Context 0001 Trench 4.
8. Ae. V. worn, bent. Penny or earlier halfpenny. Context 0001 Trench 5.

1.2. Token

A locally-manufactured 17th century trade token was found.

9. Ae. Small token, 16mm diameter. Obv. 1661 ✵ AMOS FISHER, shield. Rev. ...DEBENHAM, AF in centre. Dated 1661. SF No. 1010 (0001 Trench 1).

2. Dress Accessories

The majority of small finds in this category were of post-medieval date and included belt fittings, buttons, a finger ring and a fragment of purse frame.

2.1. Belt fittings

10. Ae. D-shaped buckle frame with raised bar, groove for pin on outer edge. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 1.
11. Pb/Sn. Fragment of angular buckle frame, grooves engraved in frame. PMed. SF No. 1006 (0001 Trench 4).
12. Pb/Sn. Small fragment of ?buckle frame with central bar at angle and small square looped tab on outer edge. PMed? Parallel Egan and Pritchard (1991), No. 457. SF No. 1013 (0001 Trench 1).
13. Ae. Buckle plate? Sheet fragment with rivet hole at one end and square notch at other. PMed? SF No. 1014 (0001).
14. Ae. Hooked mount (hook lost). Parallel Margeson (1993) No. 258. 17th c. SF No. 1021 (0001 Trench 8).
15. Ae. Possibly strap loop fragment. Context 0001 Trench 8.

2.2. Fasteners

16. Pb. Button. Solid, domed with integral loop on backplate. Parallel Margeson (1993) No. 103. 16th-17th c. Context 0001 Trench 4.
17. Ae. Button. Plano-convex solid with large integral loop. 17th c.? Context 0001 Trench 4.
18. Ae. Button. Openwork backplate with integral loop (broken), ?12-lobed frontplate in shape of flower (broken). PMed. SF No. 1005 (0001 Trench 4).

2.3. Jewellery

19. Ac. Finger ring. Rectangular bezel, shoulders tapering to thick band, cast. 12th c.+ (probably later). Parallel Egan and Pritchard (1991) No.1623 (but the latter is not cast). SF No. 1024 (0001 Trench 10).

2.4. Purse

20. Ae. Purse frame, Type A, engraved cross-hatching on outer surface. Parallel Margeson (1993) No. 290. 17th c.? SF No. 1012 (0001).

3. Household objects

3.1. Prehistoric pottery by Alexis M. Willett

Introduction

A total of 25 Prehistoric pottery sherds weighing 109 grams was collected during the excavation of the Aldham Mill Hill site at Hadleigh. The sherds were found in a total of six contexts. Table 2 provides a summary of quantification. A more detailed list by context is available in the appendix.

Fabric	No	Wt/g
O1	11	78
Late Neolithic	11	78
F1b	6	4
Q1	2	12
Iron Age	8	16
F1a	6	15
Prehistoric	6	15
Totals	**25**	**109**

Table 2. Summary of Prehistoric pottery quantification.

The pottery in this assemblage fell into three groups: Late Neolithic, Iron Age and Prehistoric.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using both sherd count and weight. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is provided as an appendix to this report. For this small group, no attempt was made to record weights for separate body, base and rim sherds, or to quantify by form. Wares have been characterised by major inclusions. Identification of the Grooved ware is based on the SAU guide (Suffolk Archaeology Unit 1976). A ×4 hand magnifying glass was used to identify fabrics. Recording uses a system of letters and numbers for fabric codes for ease of sorting in database format. The letter prefix in the fabric codes represent the main inclusion present (F representing flint, Q quartz and O organic matter such as grass and straw). SCCAS pottery spotdating forms were used and the results were input onto MS Access 2.0.

Three fabric types, with subdivisions, were identified on the basis of inclusions. Basic fabric descriptions are provided below. All are soft and handmade.

Code	Period	Description
O1	Late Neolithic	Major inclusion common, poorly-sorted, large*, sub-angular organics. Also sparse, very well-sorted, small, sub-rounded grog/clay pellets. Exterior surface dark brown to buff to orange, exterior margin and core black to buff, interior margin and surface black. Powdery feel. Decorated with horizontal grooves around the exterior surface of the vessel and vertical incised lines on the interior surface near the rim. 'Grooved ware'. Mix of reduction and oxidisation through firing.
F1b	Iron Age	Major inclusion common, very well-sorted, small, angular calcined flint. Also common, very well-sorted, very small, rounded quartz sand. Exterior surface black to orange, exterior margin dark brown to orange, core mid-brown to orange, interior margin red to buff, interior surface red. Powdery feel. Undecorated. Mix of reduction and oxidisation through firing.
Q1	Iron Age	Major inclusion common, moderately-sorted, small, sub-rounded quartz sand. Also sparse, well-sorted, medium, sub-angular organics. Exterior surface grey/brown, exterior margin dark grey/brown, core, interior margin and surface dark grey/black. Smooth feel. Undecorated. Reduced through firing.
F1a	Prehistoric	Major inclusion common, moderately-sorted, small, angular calcined flint. Also common, well-sorted, very small, rounded quartz sand. Exterior surface and margin orange to dark brown, core buff to orange to dark brown, interior margin grey/buff, interior surface grey to orange. Rough feel. Undecorated. Oxidised through firing.

*Definition of inclusion sizes: very small < 1mm, small 1-3.5mm, medium 3.6-5.5mm, large 5.6+mm.

Pottery by Period

Late Neolithic Wares

Fabric O1 only occurred in OP number 0075 with a total of 11 sherds. All the sherds seem to be from a single vessel. There are nine body and two rim sherds. The rim form is plain and upright with decoration on the interior surface. The internal ornamentation appears as a row of vertical incised lines below one horizontal line following the rim around the vessel. The exterior surface is patterned with horizontal grooves and this fabric has the characteristics of 'Grooved Ware' and is dated to the Late Neolithic era (SAU, 1976).

Iron Age Wares

Sherds of fabric F1b were recovered from OP numbers 0002 and 0072. In total, six sherds of this flint tempered ware are present in the whole assemblage. No identification or parallels for this fabric type were made as only small body sherds were retrieved from the site. Fabric Q1 occurred in OP number 0037. Only two small sherds of this undecorated quartz sand tempered ware were found and thus a vessel form or parallel can not be ascertained. The sherds may be from the base of a vessel but their small size made even this identification difficult. Fabric types F1b and Q1 are characteristic of Iron Age material.

Prehistoric Wares

Fabric F1a has been broadly classed as being Prehistoric in date due to its composition and inclusions. The fabric is similar to many types of prehistoric pottery and thus suggesting a more specific date from only six small body sherds is unrealistic. The sherds were found in OP numbers 0002, 0037, 0049 and 0078.

Pottery by Context

Prehistoric pottery was collected from six contexts. Table 3 shows the fabric types by context with suggested dates. The contexts only had a few sherds in each, not enough to provide conclusive evidence of their exact dates but the material from the Late Neolithic and Iron Age help to give an indication of the range of material present on the site.

OP number	Context	Feature	Fabric	Date
0002	0002	layer	F1a	Prehistoric
0002	0002	layer	F1b	Iron Age
0037	0037	hillwash	F1a	Prehistoric
0037	0037	hillwash	Q1	Iron Age
0049	0048	pit	F1a	Prehistoric
0072	0071	posthole / pit	F1b	Iron Age
0075	0074	pit	O1	Late Neolithic
0078	0078	layer	F1a	Prehistoric

Table 3. Summary of pottery by feature.

Summary and Discussion

A total of 25 sherds of prehistoric pottery was recovered from the Aldham Mill Hill site of which 44% has been classed as Late Neolithic, 32% as Iron Age and 24% as Prehistoric. These statistics do not give an accurate impression of the assemblage as the Late Neolithic material all came from one vessel in one context. This assemblage can only be considered as an indication of the range of material that occurs in particular contexts. The Iron Age material was present in the greatest number of contexts and was probably the most abundant of the fabrics on this site. A greater number of sherds is needed in order to reach more specific conclusions about this site.

3.2. Roman pottery by Cathy Tester

Introduction

Roman pottery, 71 sherds weighing 776 grams, with dates ranging from the 1st through the 4th century was collected during this evaluation. The fabric quantities are summarised in Table 4 below and the full quantification is included in the appendix.

Fabric	Code	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt
Amphora	AA	2	2.82	227	29.25
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	18	25.35	111	14.30
Grey micaceous wares	GM	1	1.41	1	0.13
Grey micaceous (black)	GMB	4	5.63	29	3.74
Grey fine wares	GRF	1	1.41	6	0.77
Grog-tempered wares	GROG	1	1.41	24	3.09
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	33	46.48	259	33.38
Hadham grey wares	HAR	1	1.41	13	1.68
Nene Valley white mortarium	NVWM	1	1.41	82	10.57
Miscellaneous oxidised finewares	RF	1	1.41	4	0.52
Central Gaulish Rhenish ware	RHE	1	1.41	1	0.13
Miscellaneous oxidised coarsewares	RX	1	1.41	7	0.90
Central Gaulish samian	SA CG	1	1.41	2	0.26
East Gaulish samian	SA EG	1	1.41	5	0.64
South Gaulish samian	SA SG	1	1.41	2	0.26
White-slipped oxidised wares	WSO	1	1.41	2	0.26
Miscellaneous white wares	WX	2	2.82	1	0.13
Total Roman fabrics		**71**		**776**	

Table 4. Roman pottery fabric quantities.

Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count and weight and classified using the form and fabric type series devised for recording Roman pottery at Pakenham (unpublished) supplemented by Going's type series for Chelmsford (1987). Quantification is essentially by fabric but separate vessels were noted as they occurred within the fabric groups. Table 4 provides a key to the fabrics or fabric groups present in this assemblage, listing them by common name followed by the mnemonic codes used for this report. The quantifications were input onto MS Access 2.0 database file.

Fabrics

The seventeen Roman pottery fabrics or fabric groups identified include imported finewares and amphorae and local and regionally produced coarsewares.

Finewares came from samian production centres in South Gaul, Central Gaul and early East Gaulish La Madeleine. Central Gaulish black-slipped or "Rhenish" ware was also present. Undiagnostic sherds of miscellaneous oxidised and white-slipped oxidised finewares were also identified.

The coarsewares consisted mainly of miscellaneous grey sandy and black-surfaced wares of unknown but presumed local origins. Sherds from Much Hadham in Hertfordshire, from the Wattisfield area in Suffolk and from the Nene Valley were also identified.

Distribution and dating

The Roman pottery came from fourteen contexts including two unstratified in Trenches 6-8 and 10-11. It was residual in four contexts which had post-Roman dates (0002 Tr. 6, 0063, 0078, & 0099).

The earliest and latest dated pieces both came from unstratified deposits in Trench 8 (0001). The earliest was a South Gaulish samian cup Dr. 27 which was Flavian and the latest was a flanged dish/bowl which was late 3rd or 4th century. Other sherds with later Roman dates were a Nene Valley Whiteware mortarium found in Ditch 0070 (later 3rd or 4th century) and straight-sided greyware dishes (mid 2nd to 4th century) found in Ditch 0098 and Layer 0095.

Discussion

The sherds which make up the Roman pottery assemblage suggest uninterrupted activity throughout the Roman period. The range of imported finewares and amphorae indicate high status occupation.

3.3. Post-Roman pottery

Introduction

A total of 305 sherds weighing 4.310 kg was assessed. Quantification by fabric is shown in Table 5, and a more detailed listing by context is included in the appendix.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using both sherd count and weight. EVEs were not measured as part of the assessment. A full quantification by fabric is available in the archive, as are full fabric descriptions. Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes (similar to that employed in London and Lincoln), together with number codes to enable ease of sorting in database format. Rim sherds were identified and dated according to the Essex type series as used at Rivenhall (Drury 1993). Data was input into Access 2.0.

Fabric	Code		No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt
Early Medieval Ware (general)	EMW	3.10	49		487	
Early Medieval Ware Gritty	EMWG	3.11	1		2	
Early Medieval Ware Sparse Shelly	EMWS	3.19	1		7	
Total Early Medieval	S		**51**	**16.7**	**496**	**11.5**
Medieval Coarse Wares (general)	MCW	3.20	248		3765	
Hedingham Fine Ware	HFW1	4.23	3		16	
Essex Sandy Orange Wares	ESOW	4.24	1		4	
Total Medieval			**252**	**82.6**	**3785**	**87.8**
Glazed Red Earthenware	GRE	6.12	1		28	
Border Wares	BORD	6.22	1		1	
Total Post-Medieval			**2**	**0.7**	**29**	**0.7**
Total post-Roman			**305**		**4310**	

Table 5. Post-Roman pottery quantification by fabric.

Pottery by period

Early Medieval Wares

A small quantity of early medieval ware was found. Fabrics were generally fairly coarse quartz-tempered and oxidised, although some were reduced on the outer surface. One body sherd (EMWSS) had a surface treatment of very fine shell. Most were body and base sherds, but one jar rim was found in ditch 0004. One body sherd was decorated with combed wavy lines.

Medieval Coarsewares

The majority of pottery from the site was medieval coarseware in typical Essex forms. Fabrics were generally sandy, containing fine to medium rounded quartz and few other inclusions. Vessels were both oxidised and reduced, and a few were buff-coloured. Some sherds contained clay pellets, similar to the fabric known as 'Suffolk buff ware' in Essex. Most rims were from jars and included Essex types B2, B4, C1, H1 and H2, all of which date to the 13th century. One jug rim was found in 0002 (Trench 2). One large vessel was decorated with applied thumbed strips.

Medieval glazed wares

Two sherds of Hedingham Fine Ware were found, one decorated with red slip on an oxidised body and glazed with yellowish lead glaze, and the other with spots of colourless glaze. A coarse sandy redware with spots of clear glaze (ESOW) was also found. These sherds are probably also of 13th century date.

Early Post-Medieval wares

A glazed red earthenware bowl rim of 16th century date was found in the topsoil of Trench 11. A small sherd of Border-type Ware with thick light green glaze was found in ditch 0058 (0059).

Pottery by context

Location	Context	Feature	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Date
Trench 1	0002 Tr.1	Hillwash layer	EMW, MCW	114	1697	M.-L.13th c.
	0004	Ditch 0004	EMW, EMWG, EMWSS, MCW	27	597	E.-M.13th c.
	0009	Ditch 0008	MCW	2	24	Med
	0019	Ditch 0018	MCW	1	33	Med
Trench 2	0002 Tr.2	Hillwash layer	HFW1, MCW	15	189	E.-M.13th c.
Trench 3	0021	Ditch 0020	MCW	4	55	13th c.?
Trench 4	0059	Ditch 0058	BORD?	1	1	16th-18th c?
Trench 5	0025	Feature 0024	MCW	3	53	Med
	0026	Feature 0024	HFW1	1	5	M.12th-13th c.
Trench 6	0002 Tr.6	Hillwash layer	EMW, MCW, HFW1	61	663	M.-L.13th c.
	0063	Ditch 0062	EMW, MCW	11	158	L.12th-E.13th c.
	0066	Ditch 0062	EMW, MCW, ESOW	46	690	M.-L.13th c.
Trench 8	0001 Tr.8	Topsoil	MCW	4	25	Med
Trench 11	0001 Tr.11	Topsoil	GRE	1	28	16th c.
	0078	Layer	EMW, MCW	13	79	Med
	0079	Hillwash layer	MCW	1	13	M.-L.13th c.

Table 6. Post-Roman fabrics by location and feature.

Post-Roman pottery was found in nine trenches, most frequently in Trenches 1 and 6. Table 6 shows the fabric types occurring in each feature by trench, together with suggested spotdates based on the pottery (there is earlier and/or later material in some contexts, so dates listed in the general finds catalogue should be used).

The largest quantities of medieval coarseware were derived from context 0002 in Trenches 1, 2 and 6. Many of the sherds were parts of the same vessels, those from Trench 1 representing approximately eight jars. This suggests a concentration of rubbish disposal in the area, possibly from dwellings located at the side of the road. Sherds were not particularly abraded.

Discussion and potential for further analysis

The assemblage of medieval pottery is unusually large for an evaluation, and may suggest a concentration of activity and/or occupation close to the present road. Previous archaeological work in Hadleigh has produced little pottery and the present assemblage is therefore of value in the study of pottery fabrics and forms in use in the south-east of the county. If further excavation takes place, it will be necessary to incorporate the evaluation assemblage into a more detailed analysis of the pottery.

3.4. Other vessels

Several fragments of copper alloy and pewter vessels were recovered.

21. Ae. Body fragment of skillet? PMed. SF No. 1011 (0001).
22. Pb/Sn. Body fragment of vessel. Context 0001 Trench 9.
23. Pb/Sn. Body fragment of ewer? PMed. SF No. 1019 (0001 Trench 6).
24. Pb/Sn. Rim fragment of ?tankard, grooved externally, 80mm diameter. PMed. SF No. 1008 (0001 Trench 4).
25. Pb/Sn. Rim fragment of ?skillet, diameter 260mm. PMed. SF No. 1001 (0001 Trench 5).
26. Pb. Large lead vessel repair. Context 0001 Trench 8.
27. Ae. Small folded sheet vessel repair. Parallel Margeson (1993) No. 575. ?PMed. SF No. 1009 (0026).

3.5. Household utensils

28. Ae. Spoon handle terminal. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 8.
29. Ae. Two spoon handle terminals. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 1.

3.6. Quernstones

Lava quern occurred in eight contexts, with the largest quantities (by weight) coming from ditch 0069 (0070), layer 0002 (Trench 2) and 0063. Most of this material was heavily abraded and probably relates to the Roman occupation of the site, although several fragments were associated with medieval pottery.

One fragment of a puddingstone quern was found in ditch fill 0070. This is probably of Roman date and is associated with pottery of the mid-late 2nd century.

4. Buildings and Services

4.1. Structural metalwork

Sixteen nails were found in six contexts (0001, 0002, 0037, 0086, 0090, 0095). One (0086) had an unusually large square head and may be a stud.

4.2. Ceramic building materials (CBM) and fired clay

A total of 77 fragments of CBM weighing 5.088 kg and 33 pieces of fired clay (0.148 kg) was found. The material was divided into five fabric types, as follows:

Fabric 1. Pale orange, sandy, soft. Apart from sand, the main inclusions are clay pellets (cream-coloured in lighter fired clay, red in oxidised material), and occasional very coarse ferrous material. Roman.

Fabric 2. Oxidised, often with reduced core. Soft. Very fine matrix with little sand and some clay pellets. Micaceous examples are recorded as '2a'. Roman.

Fabric 3. Red-orange sandy, hard. Occasional ferrous particles and very coarse flint. Clay matrix often poorly mixed with swirls of lighter coloured clays in section. General tile fabric occurring in Roman and post-medieval forms.

Fabric 4. Very gritty, hard. Occasional large quartz, calcareous and flint inclusions. Medieval?

Fabric 5. Cream coloured with white clay swirls. Fine matrix containing sand, very coarse calcareous inclusions and occasional voids. Post-medieval.

Table 7 shows the quantification of CBM by fabric and by form.

This shows that the most common fabric is Fabric 3, the red/orange sandy type which occurs frequently in most periods all over East Anglia. Most of the Roman tiles could not be assigned a form type, and these are simply recorded as 'Tile'. Of the remaining forms, the most common are those associated with roofing (flanged tegulae and imbrices). Roofing tile was also the most common post-medieval type.

Fabric	No	Wt/g	Form	No	Wt/g
1	7	468	Tile	51	3318
2	20	777	Flanged tegula	5	381
2a	2	410	Imbrex	7	444
3	45	2749	Hypocaust tile?	2	163
4	1	109	Brick	3	588
5	2	575	Peg tile	9	194

Table 7. CBM by fabric and by form.

Thicknesses of fragments were measured where possible, but no other dimensions could be recorded. Flanged tegulae varied in thickness from 21 to 24mm (4 examples), imbrices were most commonly either 12 or 17mm thick (3 examples each), although one example was only 10mm thick, and two possible hypocaust tiles were 16 and 23mm thick. The general tile category varied in thickness from 11 to 35mm, with the greatest frequencies of fragments at 16, 18, 21 and 30mm. The narrowest fragments may be part of the outer edges of imbrices, which show less curvature and are not readily identifiable, whilst those around 21mm thick could be flanged tegulae. The thickest tiles may be the remains of Roman bricks or possibly large floor tiles or pilae from hypocaust systems.

Flange profiles of four flanged tegulae were common types 1 and 4 (Brodribb 1987 Figure 6, top row left and second row right). Heights were measured and varied from 42 to 50mm.

A few fragments of tile had 'tally marks' or other forms of surface marking. One possible hypocaust tile was grooved (although this could be a flanged tegula) and the other was combed with a 7-toothed comb. One tile had a finger-tip incised curved line.

The fragments of fired clay were divided into three main types: Type 1 - poorly mixed with ferrous or chalk inclusions; Type 2 - fine matrix with large rounded chalk inclusions; and Type 3 - organic tempered. Two pieces of Type 1 were found (0001, 0023). Type 2 was the most common, 17 pieces

occurring in four contexts (0002, 0009, 0063, 0066), often with smoothed surfaces. One fragment had a clear corner with three sides, suggesting that these finer pieces may be fragments of loomweight. Small fragments of Type 3 occurred in 0002, 0049, 0066 and 0086. A few other pieces of fired clay were too small to determine their type. Types 1 and 3 are probably pieces of daub, whilst Type 2 may have been used to make small fired clay objects.

4.3. Stone

Two pieces of ?sandstone were collected, one of which may have been used as building material as it was heavily weathered on one face (0026). The other fragment (0041) showed no obvious signs of working.

5. Objects associated with agriculture and stockrearing

30. Ae. Fragment of small stock bell. PMed. SF No. 1016 (0001).
31. Ae. Half a small stock bell. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 5.

6. Military and Weaponry

32. Pb. Musket ball with mould ingate waste still attached. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 4.
33. Pb. Small musket ball, possibly fired? PMed. Context 0001 Trench 8.
34. Pb. Large musket ball with moulding waste still attached. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 9.

7. Objects associated with textile working

35. Ae. Thin Ae sheet thimble, machine made? PMed. Context 0001 Trench 1.

8. Metalworking waste

A large rounded lump of iron slag, possibly a hearth bottom fragment, was collected from pit fill 0075.

Unstratified lead waste was collected from the topsoil of trenches 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10. A small piece of lead solder was collected as small find 1020. Copper alloy waste and sheet offcuts were also found in the topsoil of trenches 3, 4, 5 and 9.

9. Miscellaneous fittings

36. Ae. Small sheet binding ring with wide raised borders. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 5.
37. Fe. Staple? Strip fragment, both ends bent and broken. 61mm long, 18mm wide. SF No. 1002 (0002 Trench 2).
38. Ae. Small cast suspension ring, 23mm diameter. PMed. SF No. 1007 (0001 Trench 4).
39. Ae. Disc with suspension loop and central stud, possibly early horse brass? PMed. Context 0001 Trench 7.
40. Fe. Heavy T-shaped fragment, possible stud or hinge fragment. SF No. 1018 (0002 Trench 2).
41. Ae? Backplate terminal for furniture or similar. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 10.
42. Ae. Sheet fragments and bindings, one tinned. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 1.
43. Ae. Sheet fragments with rivet holes. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 4.
44. Ae. Sheet fragments with holes. Context 0001 Trench 8.
45. Ae. Sheet strip fragment. Context 0001 Trench 9.

10. Objects of uncertain use

10.1. Copper alloy

46. Ae. Solid triangular fragment broken on two sides. SF No. 1015 (0001).
47. Ae. Incomplete sheet object, shaped sides and projecting pin/handle. SF No. 1003 (0001 Trench 4).
48. Ae. Disc, possible button cover, poor. PMed. Context 0001 Trench 4.
49. Ae. Disc, possible coin or token, cast, edges clipped, v. worn. 26mm diameter. SF No. 1023 (0001 Trench 10).

10.2. Lead

50. Pb. Disc, 32mm diameter. Context 0001 Trench 1.

10.3. Iron

51. Fe. Fragment, irregular. Context 0001 Trench 9.
52. Fe. Lumps. Context 0001 Trench 8.
53. Fe. Fragment. Context 0049.
54. Fe. Sheet fragment. PMed. Context 0091.

11. Flint and stone

Worked flint was collected from 28 contexts. The majority of pieces were unpatinated flakes, but there were also several tools as shown in Table 8. A full quantification is presented in the appendix.

Flint type	Unpatinated	Patinated
Flake	70	4
Core	3	
Scraper	9	
Blade	8	
Arrowhead	1	
Other tool	3	

Table 8. Flint numbers by type.

Scrapers included two side-end types, one of which had been retouched on both sides instead of the more normal single side, and a large horseshoe type. Blades were generally small and poorly formed. A single-barbed arrowhead of 'British oblique' type (Green 1980, Fig. 38) was found (0041). Other tools included an awl (0016), a microlith (0072) and a bifacially retouched flake of similar appearance to the arrowhead (0061). Diagnostic material suggests a Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date for much of the assemblage.

One large core (0070) had signs of percussion points in several places, and one flake had remained attached to the core. The other cores consisted of a small piece which had been used to produce blades (0072), and a large fragment (0002 Tr. 6).

A fragmentary polished axehead of late Neolithic date was found in 0037 (SF 1022). The igneous rock from which this is made has a dark greenish colour with white veins on the surface, much of which has been lost. It is currently unidentified but is thought likely to originate in the north-west of England (E. Martin pers. comm.). It is recommended that this implement should be submitted for petrological analysis.

Burnt flint and sandstone was found in 13 contexts, usually in association with worked flint. The largest groups were in pits 0041 and 0049.

12. Biological evidence

12.1. Animal bone by Alexis M. Willett

Introduction

A total of 319 animal bone fragments, weighing 2.010kg, was recovered from 14 contexts on the Aldham Mill Hill site at Hadleigh. The condition of the bone is generally good although some of the fragments are slightly crumbly.

Methods

All fragments were examined by eye and, for each taxon, were assessed in terms of skeletal elements, total numbers and weights and signs of immaturity, pathology, cutmarks and any other observations. The results were recorded on SCCAS faunal remains forms and entered into a Microsoft Access 2.0 database. A full list of the data recorded is available in the archive. References used for identification can be seen in the bibliography.

Results

Table 9 shows the summary quantification for each taxon. Of the total number of fragments in this assemblage approximately 27% were deemed to be unidentifiable but they only constitute 4% of the total weight. Eight taxon categories were identified in this assemblage, although four of these are broad groupings in order to narrow down the classification of those fragments that were not readily identifiable. The broad groups can be defined as:

deer?	although the species is unknown the bone has characteristics of deer;
large mammal	an animal the size of cattle / equid / large deer;
medium mammal	an animal the size of sheep /goat / pig / small deer;
bird	the species of bird could not be identified.

Taxa	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt
cattle (*Bos taurus*)	28	8.8	1098	54.6
equid (*Equus*)	1	negligible	28	1.4
sheep/goat (*ovi-caprid*)	10	3.3	18	negligible
pig (*Sus scrofa*)	8	2.5	21	1.0
deer?	1	negligible	23	1.1
large mammal	127	39.8	528	26.3
medium mammal	56	17.6	206	10.2
bird	1	negligible	1	negligible
unidentifiable	87	27.2	87	4.3
Totals	**319**		**2010**	

Table 9. Summary quantification totals for each taxon.

Taxa composition

The most abundant taxon in terms of weight is that of cattle accounting for 54.6% of the total. The large mammal category is the next largest group with 26.3%. Relatively small numbers of other animals are present and only a small range of taxa occurs in this assemblage as a whole.

Data by context

The fill OP number 0070, from ditch 0069 (Roman), yielded both the greatest number and the largest weight of animal bone fragments from the site with 110 fragments, weighing 721 grams, accounting for almost 40% of the whole assemblage. The next largest sample was recovered from ditch 0067 (Roman+). Its fill, 0068, produced just over 15% of the total weight. OP number 0076 (Undated) appears to be the remains of one very immature individual that may be quite a recent deposit given the nature of its bone preservation and appearance. Most of the contexts contained only small amounts of animal bone and, other than OP number 0076, do not show patterns or selectivity.

Observations

Immaturity

By examining the stages of epiphyseal fusion and skeletal development it was noted that a small number of bone fragments in this assemblage appear to be from animals that were immature at the time of death. The taxa represented by the immature fragments are cattle, pig, large mammal and medium mammal.

Cut marks

Only a few bone fragments had cut marks and those that were apparent were very faint and short in length, thus are likely to be knife marks rather than chopping marks.

Charring evidence

One unidentifiable fragment is completely white and powdery from heat exposure. One cattle femur has a crackled matrix surface appearance on its proximal articular end which is possible evidence of boiling.

Pathology

Only one cattle metacarpal fragment showed possible pathological evidence in the form a small area of pitting on the shaft surface (?an infected lesion).

Discussion

The small quantity of animal bone comprising this assemblage, along with the small number of taxa and the random distribution of the fragments, points towards small-scale food waste rather than a site concerned with farming, high consumption or a butchery for example. The majority of bone is derived from Roman contexts, with only a small amount found in association with medieval pottery.

12.2. Shell

One whelk shell was found in the topsoil of Trench 8, and two oyster shells were found in ditch fill 0004.

Summary

The earliest artefacts from the site are of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date and consist of Grooved Ware pottery, worked flints and a polished stone axehead. There is no particular concentration of this material however, since worked flint occurs in almost every trench, and the amount of Neolithic pottery is too small to suggest any patterns. A few sherds of flint tempered pottery have been dated as Iron Age, but otherwise there is no other prehistoric activity represented by the artefacts.

Roman finds consist of local and imported pottery, building material and animal bone. No metal finds of this date were recovered. There is some indication of high status settlement based on the finds. The ceramic building material is evidence for a building with the typical Roman-style tiled roof and possibly a hypocaust system, and there is a large proportion of fine wares amongst the pottery. Unfortunately, the assemblage of animal bone was small and did not produce any supporting evidence for status.

The large quantity of medieval pottery from this site is good evidence for occupation in the early and high medieval periods, centring particularly on the 13th century. Only small amounts of glazed ware were collected, in contrast to the large groups of coarsewares. This is probably related to the period of occupation rather than to status, however. The presence of several sherds of individual vessels within the excavated features suggests that there is little redeposition or residuality amongst the 13th century material, although the earlier medieval wares showed signs of abrasion and were generally represented by smaller sherds. The only small find certainly of medieval date was a 14th century coin which probably represents casual loss.

Most of the metalwork collected from the site was of post-medieval date and may be related to manuring or casual loss, the latter being the most likely in view of the small quantity of post-medieval pottery recovered.

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5. Conclusion

This evaluation has shown three main areas of surviving archaeology within the development area (see Fig. 14), all on the western side of the site where the level of preservation is better. At the eastern upslope end of the site, there is little or no subsoil and as a result, any evidence of activity on the hill may have been lost as hillwash or destroyed by continued ploughing of potentially shallow deposits. There are a number of dispersed, prehistoric features on the site, including a pit containing Late Neolithic Grooved Ware, as well as various isolated prehistoric artefacts in the topsoil and hillwash, evidence of prehistoric activity throughout the site which may be loosely connected with the group of Bronze Age burial mounds, and again, concentrated in the lower, western area.

The main area of medieval features lies in the south western corner of the site and consists of various field boundaries, some of which were observed on aerial photographs, as well as a large hearth or oven with significant quantities of associated pottery. These are indicative of roadside occupation, probably in the bend of Aldham Mill Hill and almost certainly *c.* 140m east along Boswell Lane, where the hearth was located. The pottery recovered from these two sites suggests that they may be contemporaneous.

The Roman activity was focused in the north-west corner of the development area where the site impinges on a major Roman complex, the enclosure ditches of which had been excavated prior to the construction of the Hadleigh bypass in 1982, but little Roman activity was located outside of the enclosed area.. Aerial photography had indicated the presence of enclosure ditches within the development area, although the plot placed them further apart than they were found in 1982. The feature plotted from the air photographs as the inner enclosure ditch was not located, although it may represent a part of trackway [0087]. Ditch [0085] may be one of the enclosure ditches but there was no trace of a second. Other Roman ditches were found in trench 10 but their location did not tie in with the boundaries of the known complex, and may instead be associated with activity inside the enclosure. [0067] and [0069] in trench 8 lined up with the stretch of enclosure ditch visible from aerial photography within the MoD compound. The pottery from these features indicates activity throughout the Roman period and whilst the finds do not throw any further light on the function of the enclosure, the range of imported ceramics is suggestive of high status occupation.

6. Recommendations

Areas of the site worthy of preservation either by controlled excavation and recording, or by preservation in situ, are shown in Fig. 14. The site plans show that the Roman enclosure in the north-western corner is to remain under land used for agriculture and should not be damaged by development. Similarly, the part of the enclosure within the MoD compound is to be situated beneath planned structural planting which would leave the archaeology in tact, assuming that non-intrusive plants are used in this area.

In the south-western corner, a car park is proposed which would cover the majority of the medieval deposits. To the east, the hearth and pottery scatter are probably located at sufficient depth to survive this development, but further west where deposits are more shallow, survival would depend on the construction. Where the highway

improvements intrude into areas of archaeology, some form of investigation would be necessary.

Open area excavation would also be recommended for the two ring ditches effected by the development, as well as the area surrounding pit [0074] where the Late Neolithic Groved Ware pottery and the stone axe head were found in trench 9, within the compound.

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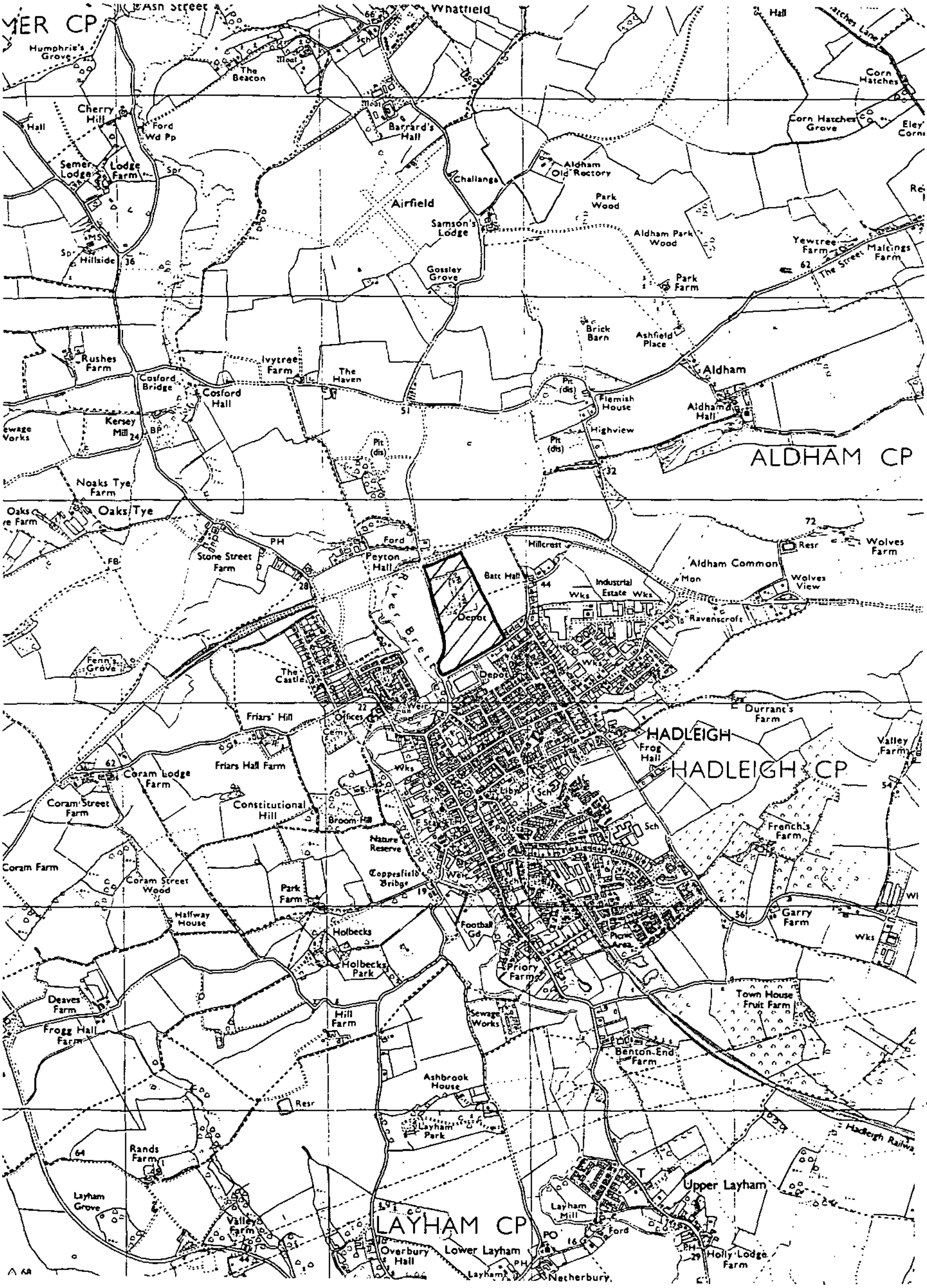


Fig. 1 Site Location Map

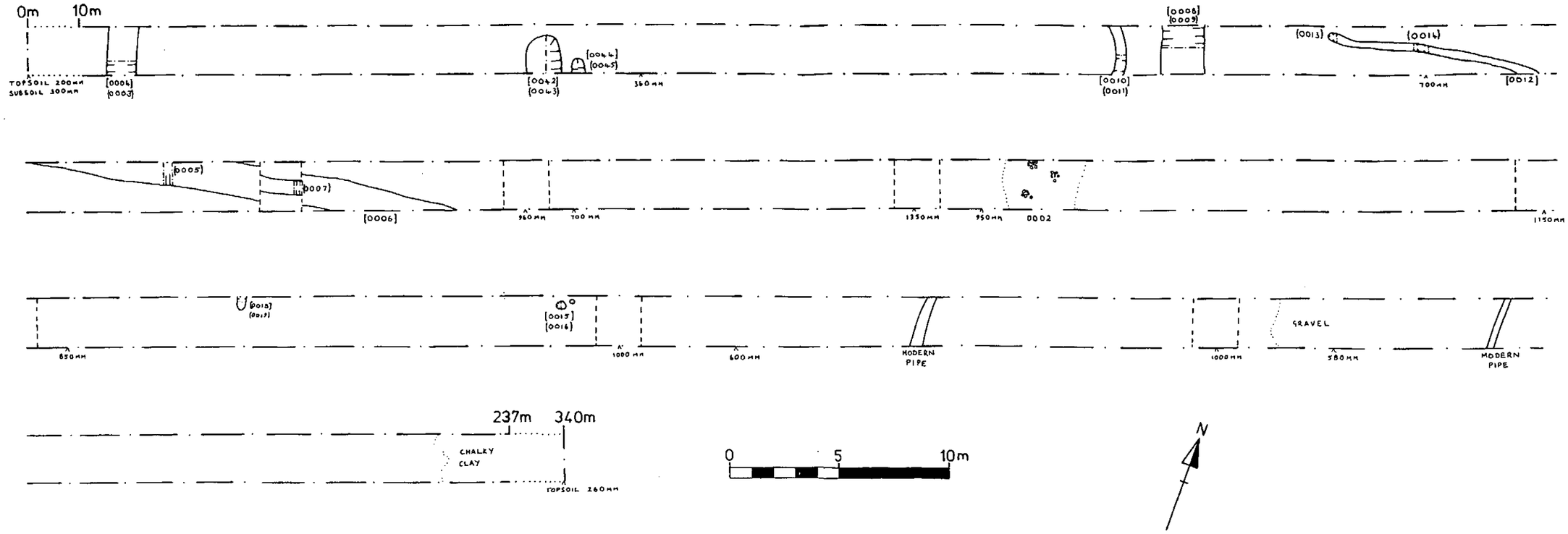
Aldham Mill Hill Storage Depot,
Hadleigh, Suffolk.
Aerial Photographic Assessment.

Fig. 2 Aerial Photography Plot

Fig. 3

Trench Location Plan

TRENCH 1



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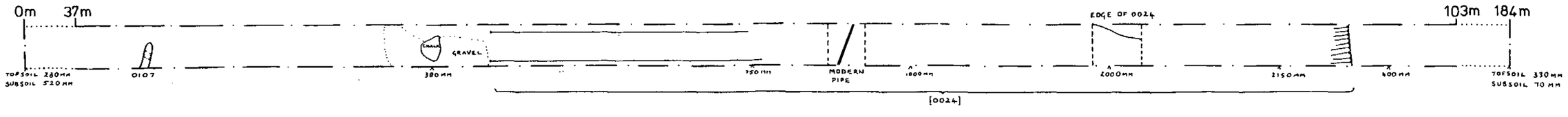


Fig. 4 Trenches 1 & 5

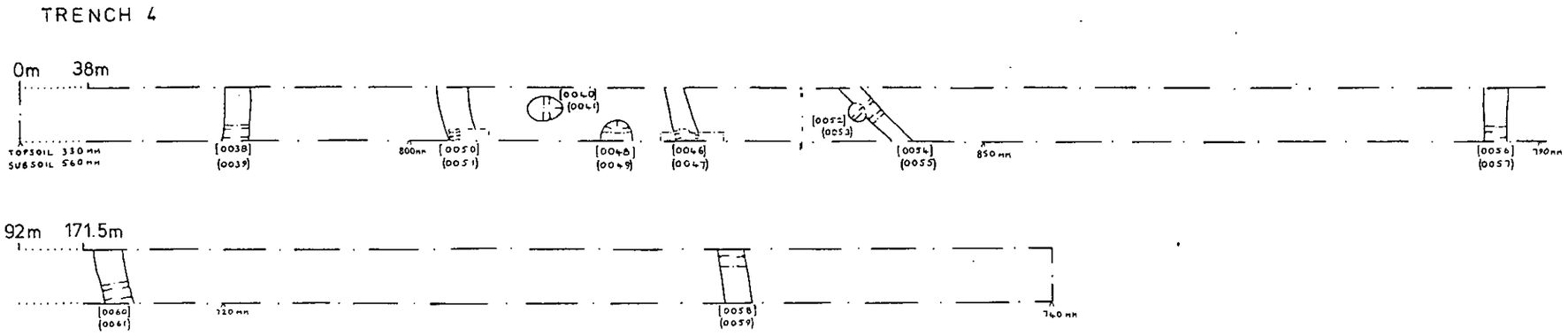


Fig. 5 Trenches 4 & 3

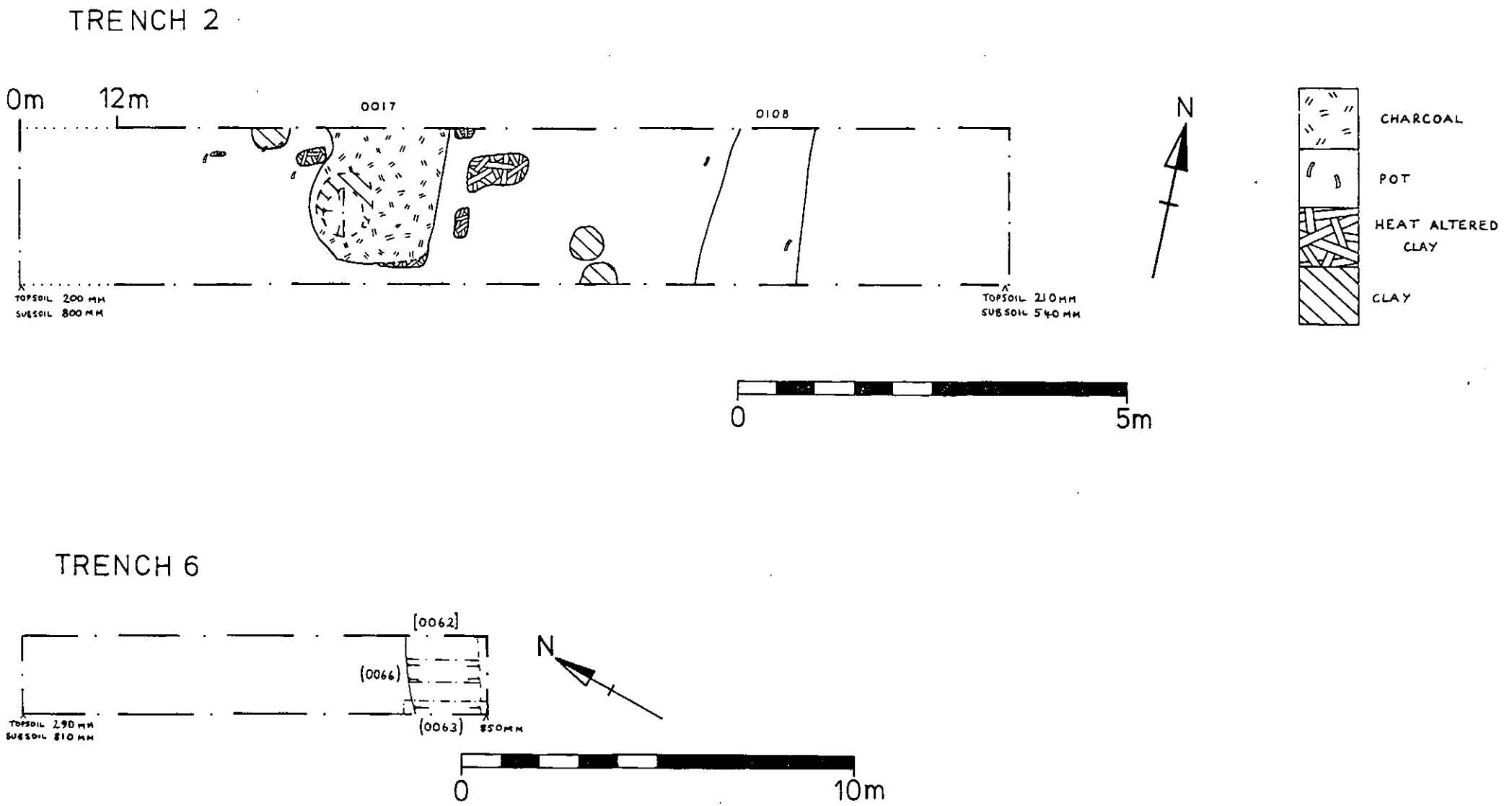
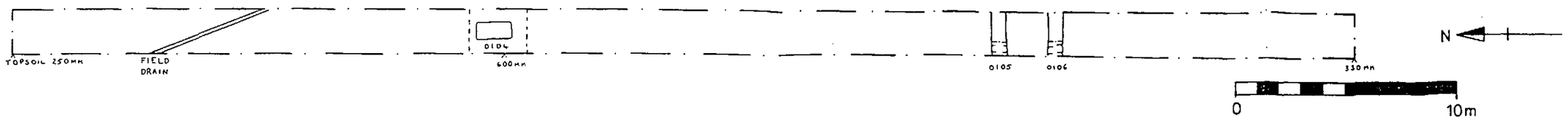


Fig. 6 Trenches 2 & 6

TRENCH 7



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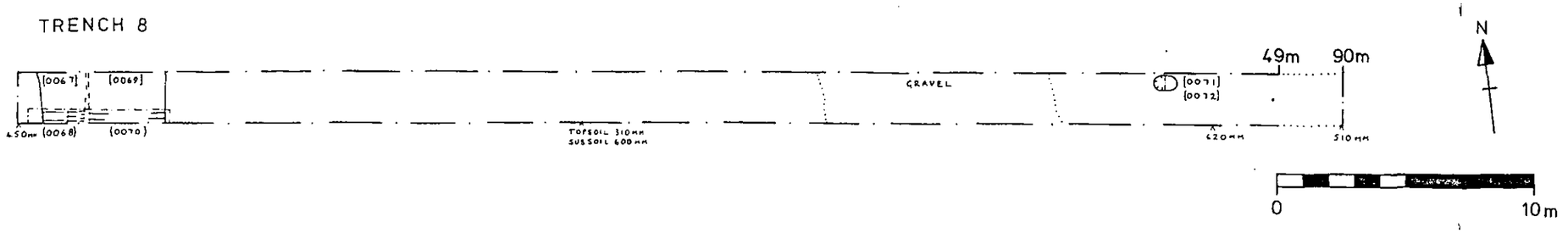

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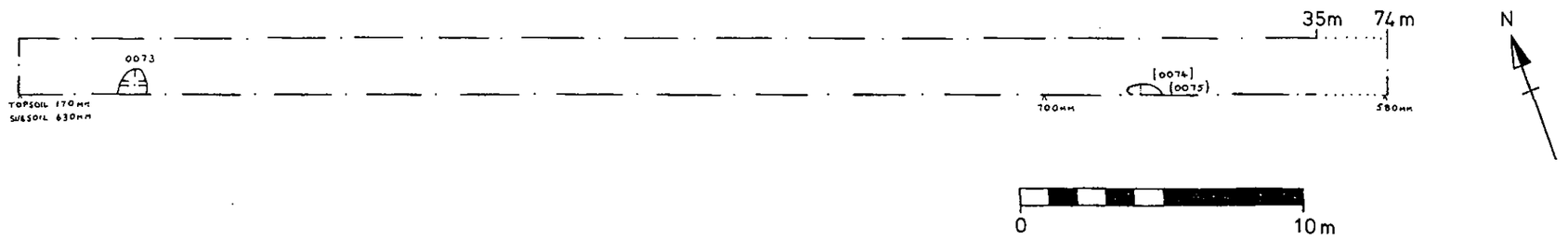
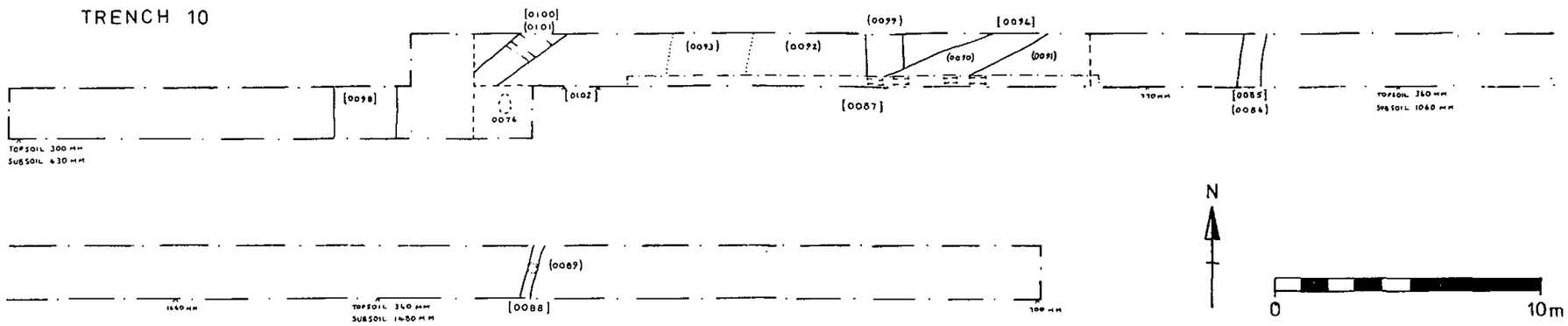


Fig. 7 Trenches 7, 8 & 9



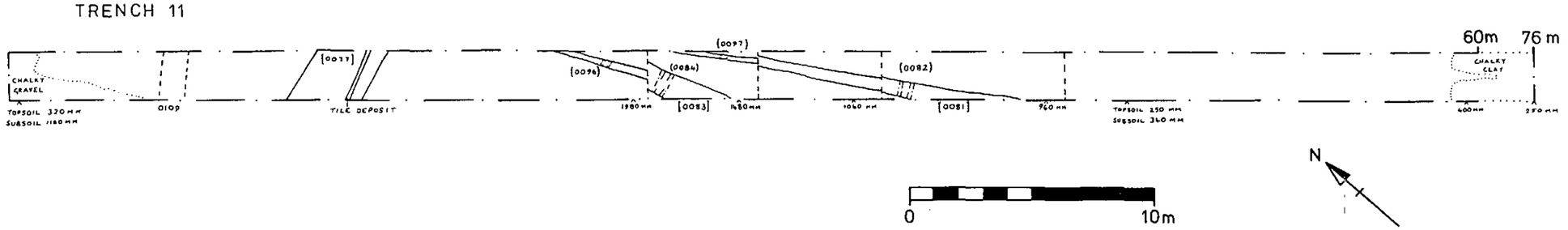


Fig. 8 Trenches 10 & 11

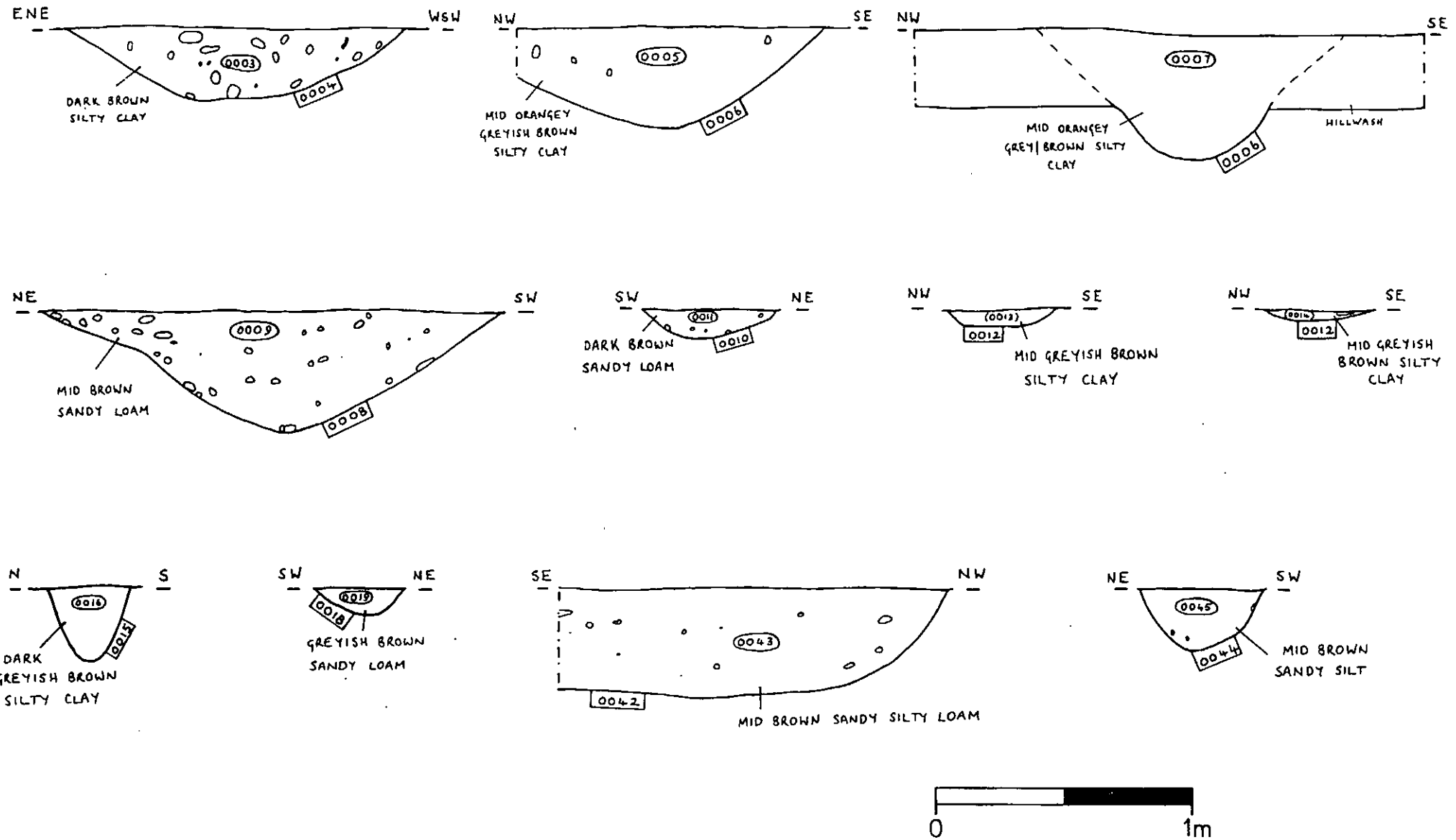


Fig. 9 Sections: Trench 1

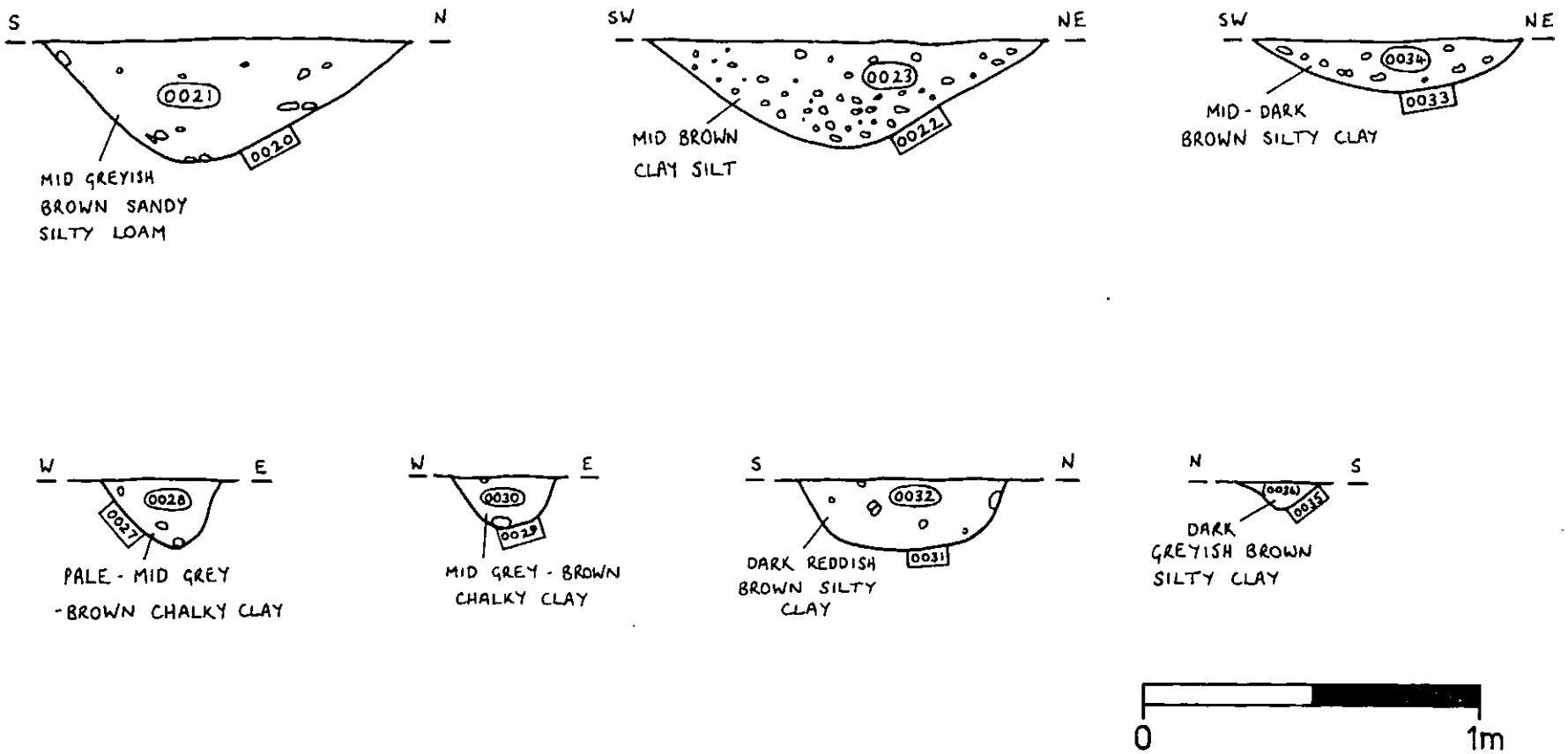


Fig. 10 Sections: Trench 3

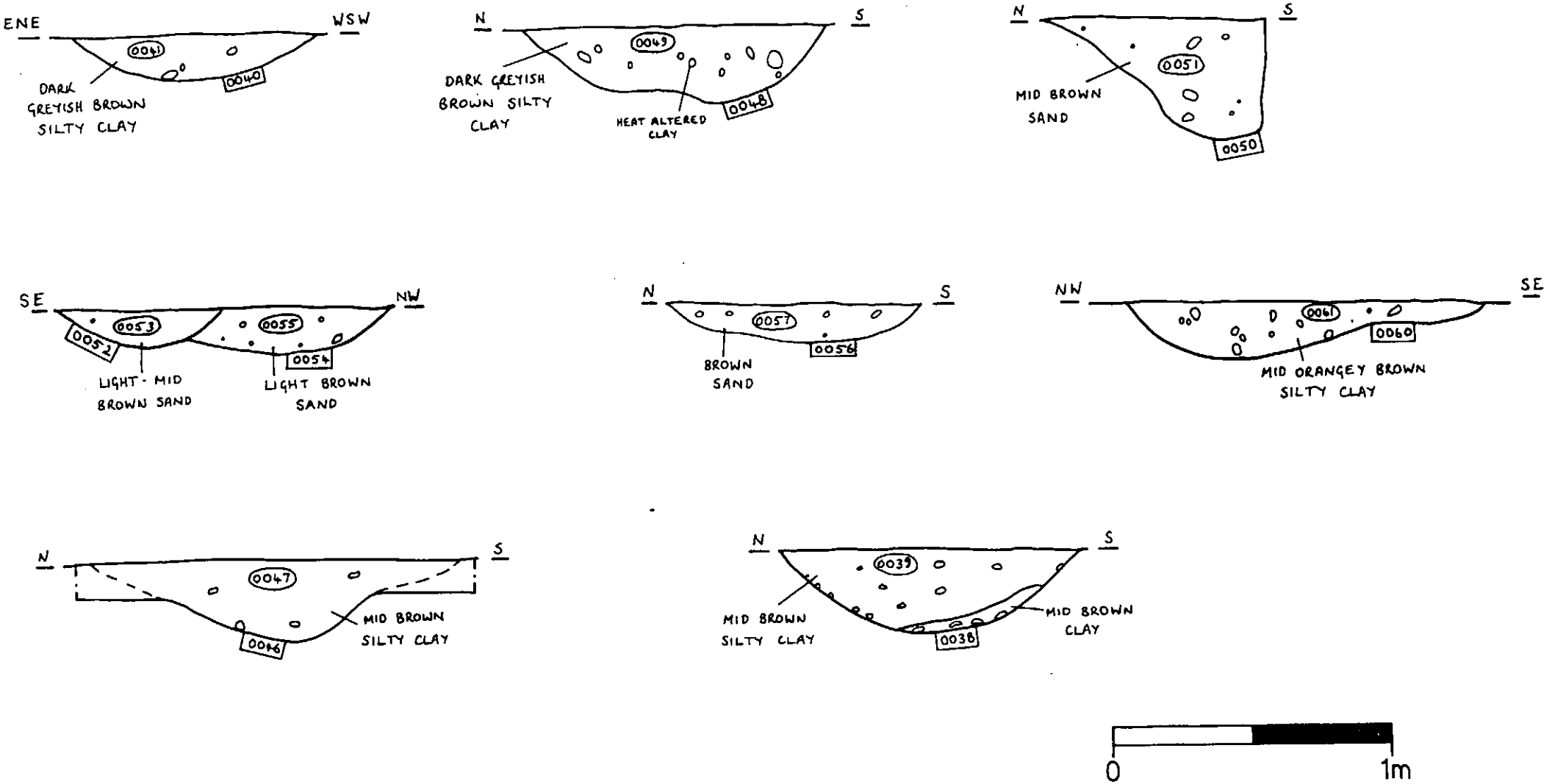


Fig. 11 Sections: Trench 4

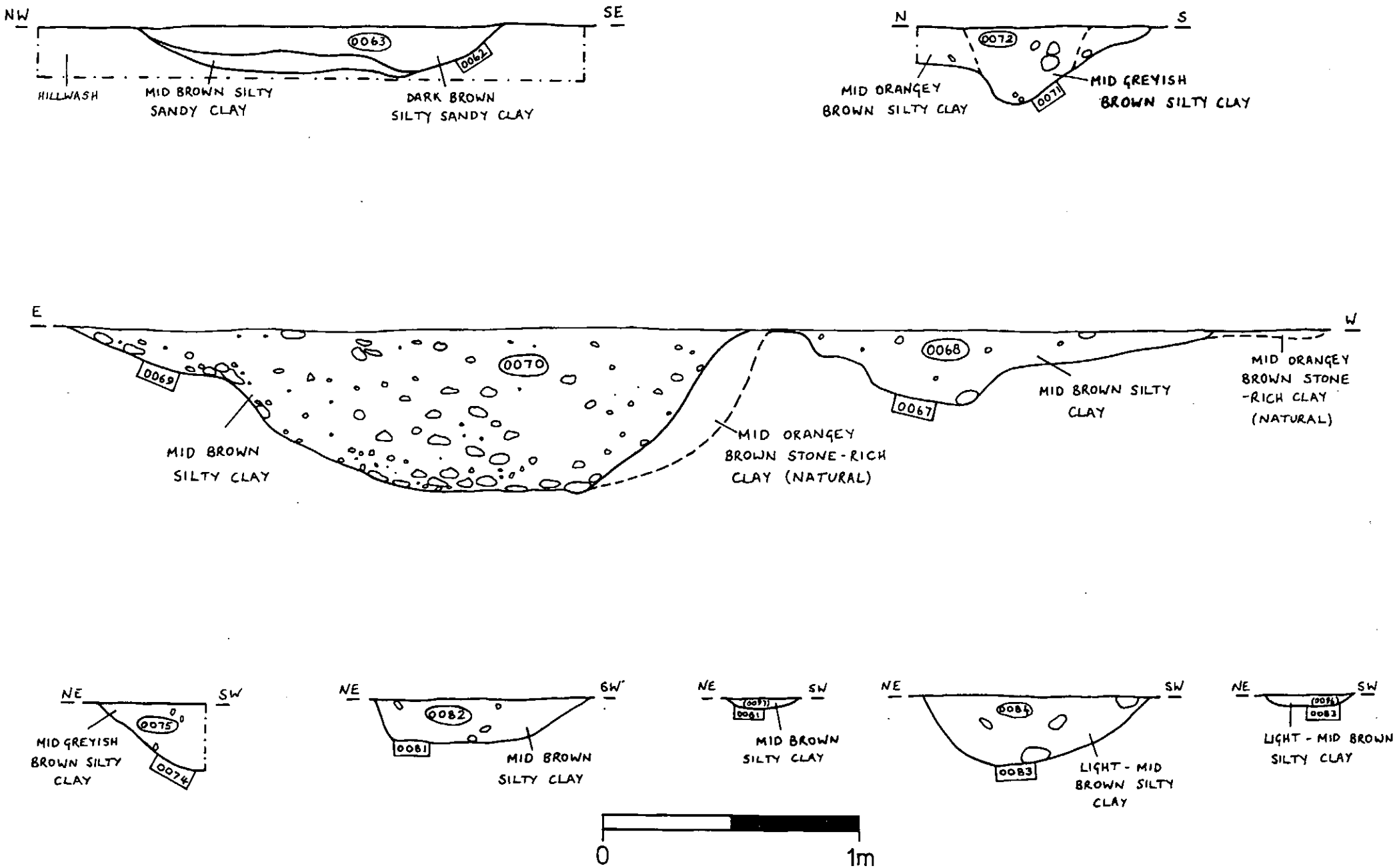


Fig. 12 Sections: Trenches 6. 8. 9. & 11

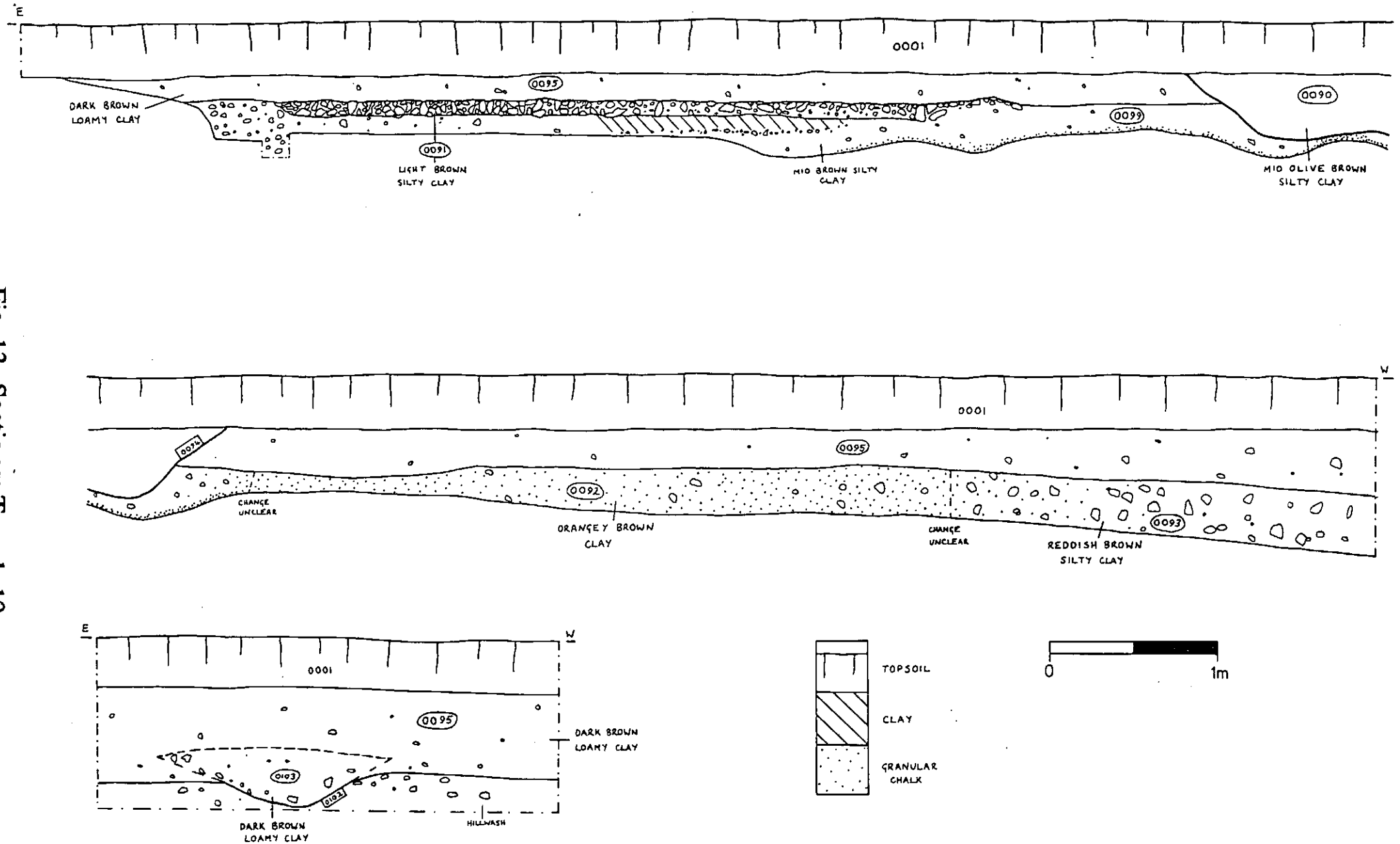


Fig. 13 Sections: Trench 10

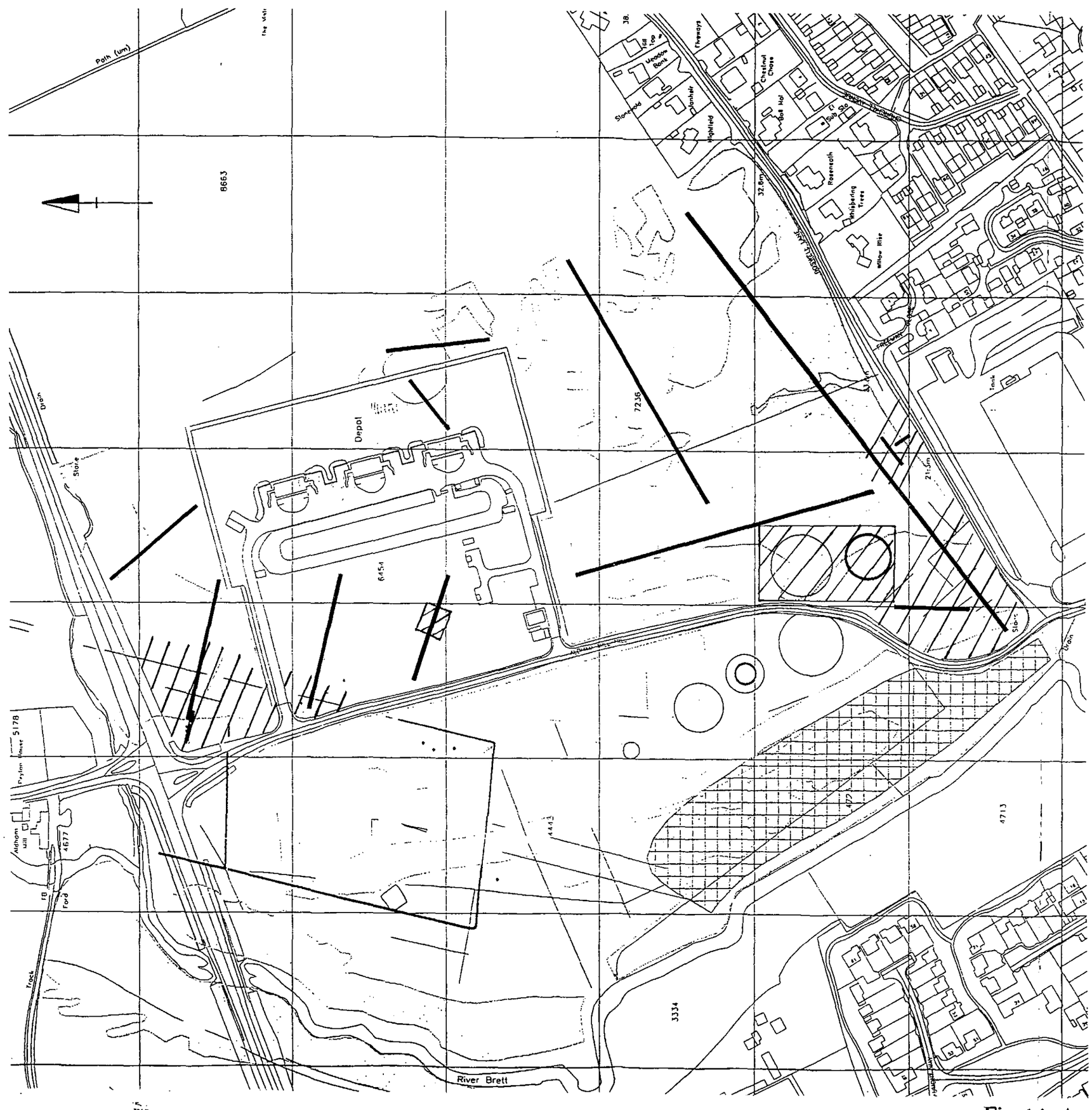


Fig. 14 Areas of Archaeological Potential

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

ALDHAM MILL HILL, STORAGE DEPOT, HADLEIGH

1. Background

1.1 The area of and around the Ministry of Defence depot has been allocated for residential development etc in the Babergh Local Plan (1992 alteration). The need for archaeological evaluation and the preservation or recording of sites in this area was also identified in the Local Plan.

1.2 A desktop survey was prepared by Gifford & Partners for the Ministry of Defence in 1997. This identified archaeological sites from the County SMR and examined tithe maps etc in the County Record Office. The survey concluded that archaeological field evaluation would be justified. The view of the County Archaeological Service has always been that field evaluation including trial trenching would be necessary in this area.

1.3 The development area is at TM 027 433, on the east side of the River Brett valley with a tributary stream running east to west to the north of the area. The land rises gently across the 30m contour towards the south-east.

It includes parts of two known archaeological complexes visible as cropmarks. At the southern end are two ring ditches, usually interpreted as the flattened remains of Bronze Age burial mounds (HAD 007, HAD 031), which form part of a group of six extending into the field west of Aldham Mill Hill. The group shows a variety of form (multiple ditched and varying ditch sizes) suggesting that this is not a simple group of barrows. To the north a Roman settlement shows as a double rectangular enclosure, a small part of which was investigated prior to the construction of the Hadleigh bypass (HAD 015). This work showed that there was also pre-Roman Iron Age activity in the vicinity and that Roman features extended beyond the enclosure to the east. It was suggested that this was a villa complex although a main building has not been located; a 'corn drying' or malting kiln was excavated on the west side which suggests an agricultural function, while the location and the more recent use of part of the area also suggests there may have been a Roman water mill on the River Brett. The excavation also showed that up to 500mm of hillwash had accumulated since the Roman period in the part of the site immediately north of the depot.

Rapid examination of the air photographs suggests that there may be other linear features in the vicinity of ring ditch, HAD 007. The area east of this shows darker overall on the photographs, which may be the result of deeper topsoil deposits and would mask any further slight archaeological features.

The development area thus includes part of a significant group of ring ditches and has good potential for more extensive prehistoric activity. The precise location and detail of all cropmarks visible on numerous oblique air photographs (the list in the desktop survey is incomplete) on the development area and adjacent land needs to be accurately plotted to inform further archaeological work. However, it is clear that recording by full excavation will be necessary for the ring ditches and an adjacent area as the plans are for road and house construction in this area. The Roman site, particularly if it is a milling and crop processing complex, will also need excavation if it is affected by any aspect of the development. Any evidence of the nature of the pre-Roman Iron Age activity would also be a significant contribution to our understanding of the development of the landscape.

Given the arable nature of the area there is unlikely to be an overriding case for preservation *in situ* of the known and potential archaeological sites. Current tentative proposals for development involve extensive planting, road building, housing and a school which would all be archaeologically destructive except in areas of deep hillwash deposits.

1.4 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, and access to the site, are to be negotiated with the commissioning body.

1.5 The submission of a Project Design based upon this brief and outline specification is an essential requirement. Selection of an approved archaeological contractor should not take place until the Project Design has been approved by this office.

2. Brief for Archaeological Evaluation

2.1 Establish what archaeological sites exist in the proposed development area and identify their extent, date, approximate form and purpose.

2.2 Establish the extent of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits, and whether there are, or are likely to be, waterlogged organic deposits.

2.3 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

3. Preliminary Work

3.1 Provide an accurate transcription of archaeological features from all available air photographs held by Suffolk County Council Environment and Transport Department, its SMR, RCHME and CUCAP, at a scale of 1:2500. Include all possible features in the development area, plus principal related features (HAD 002, 015, 20-23, 36) in adjacent fields to the north and west.

3.2 Ascertain whether there are other constraints on the site (e.g. SSSI, County Wildlife Site, AONB, Tree Preservation Order, etc).

4. Field Evaluation

4.1 Trial trenches should be excavated to cover a minimum 2% of the entire development area (see plan attached) and be positioned to sample all areas of the site. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches should be a minimum of 1m wide; the length of trench to fulfil the percentage requirement should be computed on the nominal basis of 1m wide trenches. In practice trench width will be determined by machine bucket size; a 'ditching bucket' of at least 1.40m width is expected unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. The trench design should be approved by the Archaeological Service Conservation Team before field work begins and should take account of the air photograph plot (3.1). It is not considered necessary to include the ring ditches, HAD 007 and 031.

4.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine (fitted with toothless bucket) and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

4.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit; there is a presumption that excavation of archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine.

4.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.

4.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of an archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.

4.6 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.

4.7 Metal detector searches should take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced detector user.

4.8 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service during the course of the evaluation).

4.9 Human remains should be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.

4.10 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. Any variations from this will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team.

4.11 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.

4.12 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

5. General Management

5.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.

5.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).

5.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.

5.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.

5.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

6. Report Requirements

6.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principle of *Management of Archaeological Projects*, English Heritage 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).

6.2 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

6.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation. The conclusion should include a statement of the archaeological potential of the site.

6.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope should be given. A second phase will not be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established. A second phase cannot be developed in detail at this stage.

6.5 Finds should be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.

6.6 The site archive is to be deposited with the County SMR within three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.

6.7 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, should be prepared and included in the project report.

6.8 County SMR sheets should be competed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

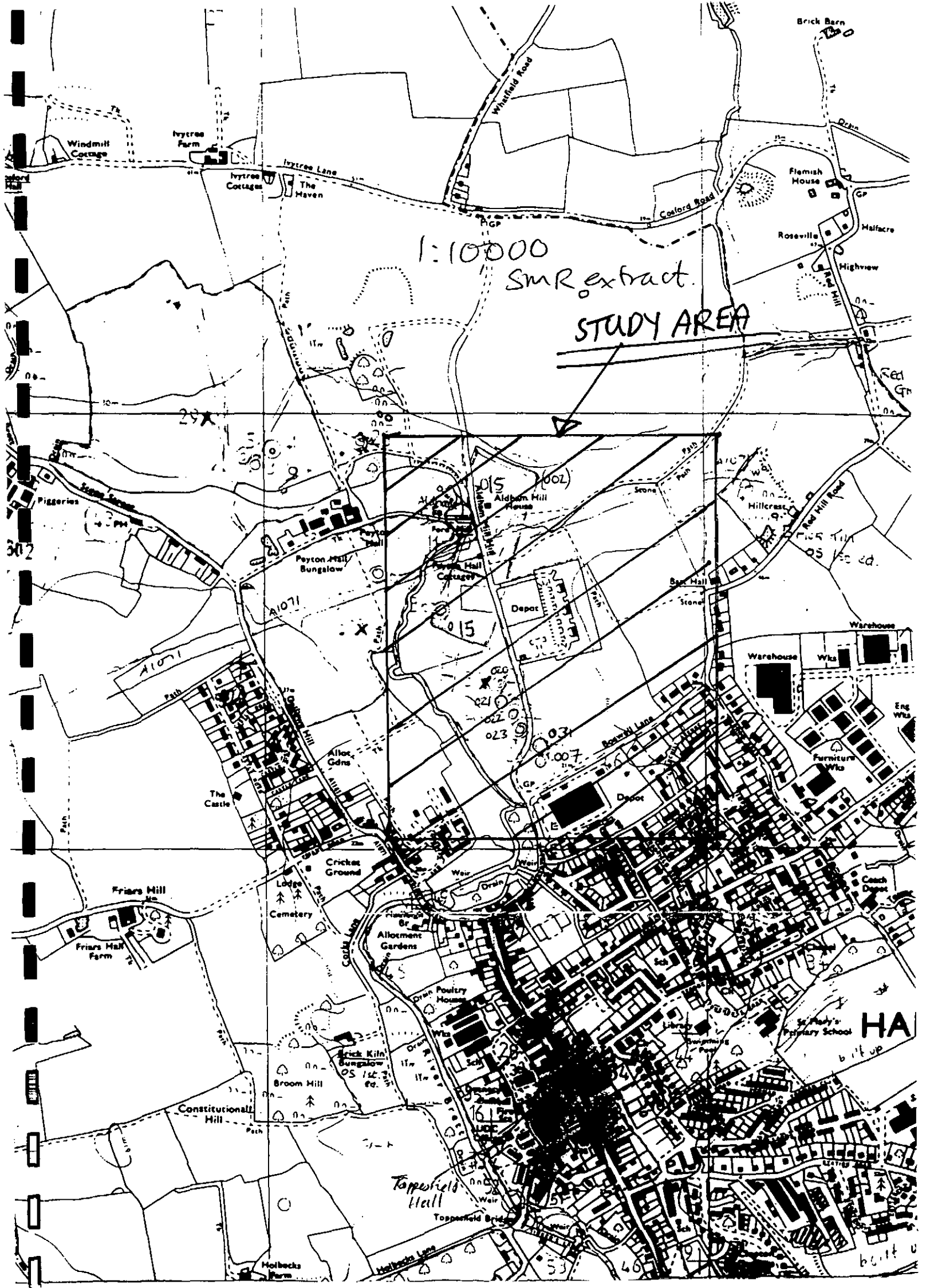
Specification by: J Plouviez

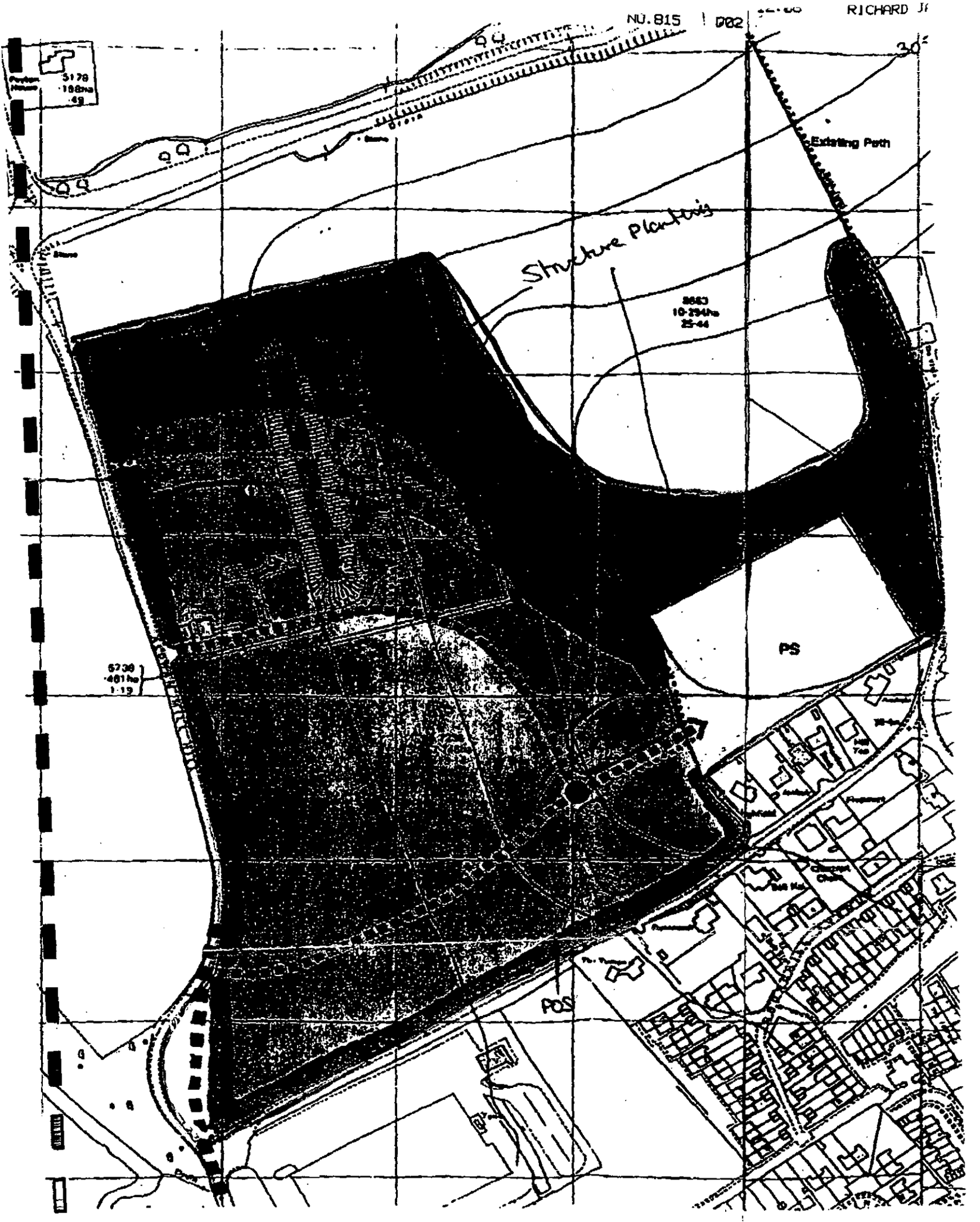
Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Environment and Transport Department
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR Tel: 01284 352448

Date: 30 July 1998 Reference: /had07

This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

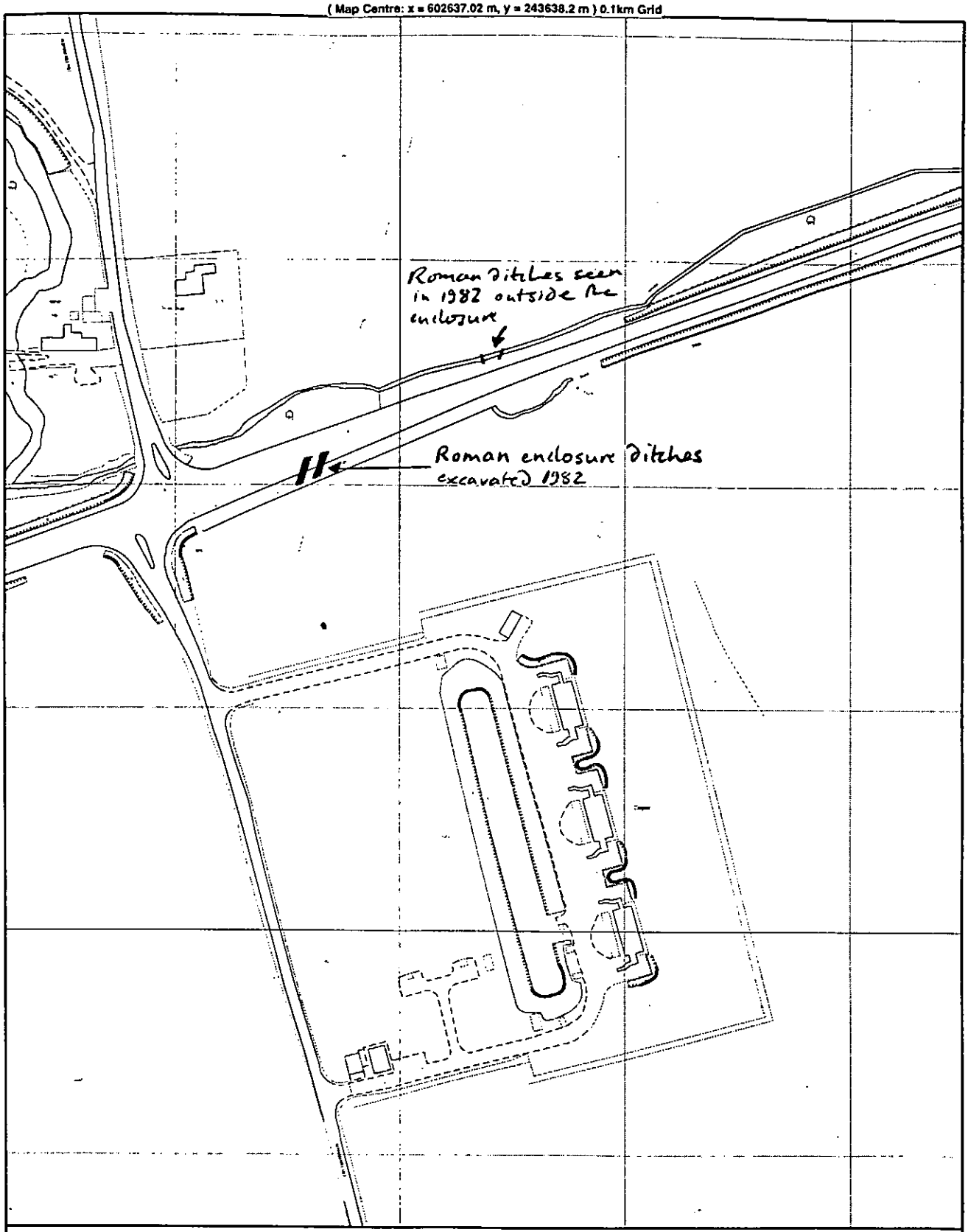
The results of this evaluation, if they are to be used as part of a planning application, will be need to be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.


1:10000
SMR extract.
STUDY AREA
Brick Barn
Whitefield Road
Windmill Cottage
Ivytree Farm
Ivytree Lane
Ivytree Cottage
The Haven
Coxford Road
Flemish House
Halfacre
Roseville
Highview
Red Hill
Piggeries
Peyton Hall
Peyton Hall Bungalow
Peyton Hall Cottages
Aldham Hill House
Hillcrest
Red Hill Road
Depot
Warehouse
A1071
Castle Hill
Allot. Gdns
The Castle
Cricket Ground
Lodge
Cemetery
Friars Hill
Friars Hall Farm
Allotment Gardens
Poultry House
Brick Kiln Bungalow
Broom Hill
Constitutional Hill
Roseyll Lane
Furniture Wks
Catch Depot
St Mary's Primary School
Library
Swimming Pool
Toppesfield Hall
Toppesfield Bridge
Holbecks Lane
Holbecks Farm
Stone
Path
Drain
Weir
Sch
Wks
GP
PH



Area to be evaluated

(Map Centre: x = 602637.02 m, y = 243638.2 m) 0.1km Grid



TITLE

Aldham Mill Hill

Suffolk County Council

Environment and Transport

P. J. Thompson, MSc. CEng FICE
County Director of Environment & Transport
St. Edmund house, County Hall, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Scale 1:2500

NORTH
Grid North

PRODUCED BY
CHECKED BY
DRAWING No.
DATE

Appendix II: Context List

OPNO	COMP	GRIDSQ	IDENTIFIER
0001			TOPSOIL
0002		tr. 1,2&3	LAYER
0003	0004	tr. 1	FILL
0004		tr.1	DITCH
0005	0006	tr.1	FILL
0006		tr.1	DITCH
0007	0006	tr.1	FILL
0008		tr.1	DITCH
0009	0008	tr.1	FILL
0010		tr.1	DITCH
0011	0010	tr.1	FILL
0012		tr.1	DITCH/GULLEY
0013	0012	tr.1	FILL
0014	0012	tr.1	FILL
0015		tr.1	POST HOLE/PI
0016	0015	tr.1	FILL
0017		tr.2	HEARTH/OVEN
0018		tr.1	DITCH
0019	0018	tr.1	FILL
0020		tr.3	DITCH
0021	0020	tr.3	FILL
0022		tr.3	DITCH
0023	0022	tr.3	FILL
0024		tr.5	FEATURE
0025	0024	tr.5	FILL
0026	0024	tr.5	FILL
0027		tr.3	POSTHOLE
0028	0027	tr.3	FILL
0029		tr.3	POSTHOLE
0030	0029	tr.3	FILL
0031		tr.3	DITCH?
0032	0031	tr.3	FILL
0033		tr.3	DITCH?
0034	0033	tr.3	FILL
0035		tr.3	POSTHOLE
0036	0035	tr.3	FILL
0037		tr.1&2	HILLWASH
0038		tr.5	DITCH
0039	0038	tr.5	FILL

OPNO	DESCRIPTION
0001	c.30cm deep across site, loose textured, moderate incl. of small stones, high organic content.
0002	layer of silty clay hillwash at break of slope, around depth of 90 cm. Sealed by layer of hillwash containing modern brick flecks, charcoal,
0003	Approx. 25cm deep ditch with v. frequent angular, sub angular and rounded stones. Also frequent pottery and some bone.
0004	ditch approx. 1.25cm wide, running SE-NW
0005	fill of 0006. Fairly deep.
0006	ditch running NE-SW. 1m wide
0007	fill of 0006
0008	large ditch running SE-NW
0009	includes flint deposit and light charcoal scattering
0010	shallow ditch
0011	
0012	very narrow ditch running NE-SW
0013	very shallow butt end of 0012. Frequent sub angular and rounded stones
0014	very shallow, section of 0012. Frequent sub angular and rounded stones
0015	circular post hole or small pit, approx. 50cm in diameter
0016	Fill of 0015. Deep post hole
0017	extensive charcoal spread with clay and burnt clay areas. Sub- rectangular in shape with circular central area of in situ burning. Probably a
0018	small, shallow ditch, 37cm wide, 12cm deep
0019	light charcoal inclusion
0020	large ditch cut into sandy gravel
0021	
0022	ditch cut into sandy gravel
0023	
0024	extremely large feature within possible slight hollow on slope of hill. Initially thought to be deep hillwash but reaches depths of 2.15m+
0025	stony hillwash, rich in charcoal, chalk, brick and some occ. worked flint and med. pottery
0026	fill at bottom of 0024, includes chalk flecks and occasional pottery sherds. Fragments of lava quern found at depth of 2.15m
0027	small, circular post hole
0028	fairly frequent sub angular and rounded stones present. Also frequent lumps of chalk
0029	small, sub-oval posthole
0030	frequent lumps of chalk and sub-angular and rounded stones. Lump of cast iron found near the surface- modern and not kept.
0031	not convincing on the surface, square ended with unclear edges. Once sectioned, small flecks of brick present in fill. Likely to be modern
0032	includes flecks of brick and frequent sub-angular and rounded stones
0033	small
0034	flint deposit and charcoal flecks
0035	small, sub-oval posthole
0036	charcoal flecks
0037	
0038	medium sized linear feature
0039	small amount of flint

OPNO	SOIL TYPE	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	SECTION	FINDSY N	SMFY N	SMALL FIND ID	SAMPLESY N	PHOTOY N	PHASE
0001							Yes	Yes		No	No	
0002	mid brown silty clay						Yes	No	1002, 1018	No	No	
0003	dark brown silty clay with frequent						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0004							Yes	No		No	Yes	med.
0005	Mid orangey grey-brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0006							No	No		No	No	
0007	Mid orangey grey-brown silty clay						No	No		No	Yes	
0008							No	No		No	Yes	
0009	mid brown sandy loam						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0010							No	No		No	Yes	
0011	mid brown sandy loam						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0012							No	No		No	Yes	
0013	mid greyish brown silty clay						No	No		No	Yes	
0014							No	No		No	No	
0015							No	No		No	No	
0016	dark greyish brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	No	
0017							No	No		No	Yes	med.
0018							No	No		No	Yes	
0019	grey/brown sandy loam						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0020							No	No		No	Yes	
0021	mid brown sandy loam						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0022							No	No		No	Yes	
0023	mid brown clay silt						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0024							No	No		No	No	
0025							Yes	No		No	No	
0026							Yes	Yes	1009	No	No	
0027							No	No		No	No	
0028	pale-mid brown grey chalky clay						No	No		No	No	
0029							No	No		No	No	
0030	mid greyish brown chalky clay						Yes	No		No	No	
0031							No	No		No	No	
0032	dark reddish brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0033							No	No		No	Yes	
0034	mid-dark brown silty clay						No	No		No	Yes	
0035							No	No		No	No	
0036	dark greyish brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0037							No	No	1022	No	No	
0038							No	No		No	No	
0039	mid brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	

OPNO	COMP	GRIDSQ	IDENTIFIER
0040		tr.4	PIT
0041	0040	tr.4	FILL
0042		tr.1	PIT
0043		tr.1	FILL
0044		tr.1	PIT
0045	0044	tr.1	FILL
0046		tr.5	DITCH
0047	0046	tr.5	FILL
0048		tr.4	PIT
0049	0048	tr.4	FILL
0050		tr.4	DITCH
0051	0050	tr.4	FILL
0052		tr.4	POSTHOLE
0053	0052	tr.4	FILL
0054		tr.4	DITCH?
0055	0054	tr.4	FILL
0056		tr.4	DITCH?
0057	0056	tr.4	FILL
0058		tr.4	DITCH
0059	0058	tr.4	FILL
0060		tr.4	DITCH
0061	0060	tr.4	FILL
0062		tr.6	DITCH
0063	0062	tr.6	FILL
0064		tr.7	DITCH?
0065	0064	tr.7	FILL
0066	0062	tr.6	FILL
0067		tr.8	DITCH
0068	0067	tr.8	FILL
0069		tr.8	DITCH
0070	0069	tr.8	FILL
0071		tr.8	POSTHOLE/PIT
0072	0071	tr.8	FILL
0073		tr.9	FEATURE
0074		tr.9	PIT
0075	0074	tr.9	FILL
0076		tr.10	SKELETON
0077		tr.11	DITCH
0078		tr.10 &11	LAYER

OPNO	DESCRIPTION
0040	sub-rounded pit, approx 1m in diameter
0041	charcoal flecks and abundant heat altered flint
0042	medium sized, oval pit with stone lining round top
0043	
0044	Part of 0042?
0045	
0046	Runs E-W. At 70cm, clear that a feature present but not until 82cm were edges definable with any certainty. Even in section of trench, ed
0047	
0048	Unsure of full extent and shape as feature extends beyond trench
0049	charcoal flecks, fairly frequent sub-angular and rounded stones and abundant heat altered flint. Burnt bone frags.
0050	running E-W. North edge 80 degrees slope, south edge vertical. 70cm wide, 45cm deep
0051	worked flint recovered. Flecked with charcoal and small pebbles in fill
0052	open profile, very shallow, cuts 0054
0053	2 flint flakes recovered
0054	possible ditch or furrow, cut by posthole 0052. V. shallow, open profile. 65cm wide, 17cm deep
0055	
0056	possible ditch, open 'u' shaped profile, runs E-W
0057	charcoal flecks and some pebbles. 70cm wide, 18cm deep
0058	possible ditch cut into hillwash. Sketch on context sheet
0059	
0060	approx. 1m wide, running NE-SW. Uneven base
0061	occasional sub-angular and sub rounded stones. Frequent flint and occasional worked flakes.
0062	flat bottomed ditch cut into sandy silty hillwash. 120cm wide, 20cm deep
0063	
0064	only visible as stoneless linear in dense, stony area. Same colour as surrounding natural soil and likely to be natural feature.
0065	almost vertical sides. Some sub angular and rounded stones and pebbles.
0066	
0067	running approx. N-S, parallel to 0069 and very close to it, suggesting a possible association. 1.8m wide
0068	fairly deep ditch with uneven base and steepish sides. Contains bone and pot.
0069	running approx. N-S, parallel to 0067 and v. close- probable association, maybe a double ditch
0070	fairly frequent sub-angular and rounded stones. Steep sides
0071	sub-circular posthole or pit. Steep sided
0072	occ. sub-angular stones and pebbles, charcoal flecks
0073	looked like possible feature on surface but after excavation, more likely to be natural. No edge distinction in colour or texture, no finds
0074	shape and extent unclear as feature extends into section
0075	Uneven base and sides
0076	articulated animal bone within topsoil. Ribs and vertebrae uncovered, most left in situ and trench diverted around.
0077	large, modern ditch. V.compact fill with layers of coarse gravel and brick/tile. 1.5m deep. Fill contained fragments of tarmac
0078	soil horizon, sealed by hillwash 0079. Slightly stony, with charcoal flecks and occ. pot sherds. Moderate incl. of tile frags.

OPNO	SOIL TYPE	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	SECTION	FINDSY N	SMFY N	SMALL FIND ID	SAMPLESY N	PHOTOY N	PHASE
0040							No	No		No	Yes	
0041	dark greyish brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0042							No	No		No	Yes	
0043	mid brown sandy silty clay						No	No		No	Yes	
0044							No	No		No	Yes	
0045	mid brown sandy silty clay						No	No		No	Yes	
0046							No	No		No	Yes	
0047							Yes	No		No	Yes	
0048							No	No		No	Yes	
0049	dark grey brown silty clay						No	No		Yes	Yes	
0050							No	No		No	Yes	
0051	mid brown sand						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0052		0054					No	No		No	Yes	
0053	mixed light/mid brown sand	0054					Yes	No		No	Yes	
0054				0052, 0053			No	No		No	Yes	
0055	light brown sand			0052, 0053			No	No		No	Yes	
0056							No	No		No	Yes	
0057	brown sand						No	No		No	No	
0058						context	No	No		No	No	
0059	mid brown silty sand						Yes	No		No	No	
0060							No	No		No	Yes	
0061	mid orangey brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0062							No	No		No	Yes	
0063	mid brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	No	
0064						context	No	No		No	No	
0065	orangey brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0066	mid brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0067							No	No		No	Yes	
0068	mid brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0069							No	No		No	Yes	
0070	dark brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0071							No	No		No	Yes	
0072							Yes	No		No	Yes	
0073							No	No		No	No	
0074							No	No		No	No	
0075	mid greyish brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0076							No	No		No	No	mod.
0077						context	No	No		No	No	
0078	mid brown clay		0080		0079		Yes	No		No	No	Rom?

OPNO	COMP	GRIDSQ	IDENTIFIER
0079		tr.10 &11	LAYER
0080		tr.10 &11	LAYER
0081		tr.11	DITCH
0082	0081	tr.11	FILL
0083		tr.11	DITCH
0084	0083	tr.11	FILL
0085		tr.10	DITCH
0086	0085	tr.10	FILL
0087		tr.10	TRACKWAY?
0088		tr.10	DITCH
0089	0088	tr.10	FILL
0090	0094	tr.10	FILL
0091	0087	tr.10	LAYER
0092	0087	tr.10	LAYER
0093	0087	tr.10	LAYER
0094		tr.10	DITCH?
0095	0095	tr.10	LAYER
0096	0083	tr.11	FILL
0097	0081	tr.11	FILL
0098		tr.10	DITCH
0099	0087	tr.10	LAYER
0100		tr.10	DITCH
0101	0100	tr.10	FILL
0102		tr.10	DITCH
0103	0102	tr.10	FILL
0104		tr.7	PIT
0105		tr.7	FEATURE
0106		tr.7	FEATURE
0107		tr.5	DITCH
0108		tr.2	DITCH?
0109		tr.11	DITCH?

OPNO	DESCRIPTION
0079	v. clean layer of hillwash with occ. pebbles and flints
0080	hillwash under 0078. Similar to 0079 but slightly stonier and with charcoal and ceramic flecks
0081	running approx. N-S. Not seen until 1.48m deep but became more apparent at higher levels the further south machined.
0082	fairly frequent sub-angular stones and flakes of charcoal. Fairly flat base, cut intoorancey brown gravelly silty clay. Ditch invisible in sectio
0083	running N-S. As with 0081, base only found at first at 197cm but became more apparent at higher level as machining progressed
0084	occ. sub-angular and rounded stones, some fairly large. Invisible within section
0085	difficult to identify- lays in/under layer of dark brown soil (0078), visible at 103cm when edges clearer but still not definate. Lies under sdg
0086	quite stony fill with bone, tile and pot.
0087	16m wide-section dug along S. side of trench. Consists of 6 distinct contexts
0088	not easy to see in hillwash. Not v. convincing
0089	only occ. stones in v. clean fill. No finds, deges diff. to define due to similarity between hillwash and 'fill'. 48cm wide, 12cm deep
0090	v.few flints and stones
0091	densely packed mix of stones and clay with area of mainly stones and flints on its upper edge. Contains frags. of red brick/tile
0092	incl. small-medium stones with a few larger ones (8cm or so). Loosely packed. Initially appears natural but contains dirty pockets of mid b
0093	incl. flint and stones and small amount chalk granules. Loose gravel layer. Relationship with 0092 unclear.
0094	possible ditch
0095	extensive, dark, organic layer below topsoil in tr.10. Seals ditches 0098, 0100 and feature 0087 before rising slightly to merge with topsoil.
0096	section excavated at very base of feature, cut into pale brown hillwash. Flat bottomed, invisible in side of trench.
0097	section of 0081 at lowest and narrowest point of ditch (base of feature at depth of 148cm) No stones present. Flattish base, invisible in se
0098	ditch, 2.3m wide with Roman pottery and CBM. Difficult to see as lies under 0095 and very similar in colour and texture
0099	high % stones densely packed in layer, similar to 0091 but stones generally larger. 4 dips in layer may be wheel ruts on metalled surface (?
0100	possible ditch, the top of which may have been removed by machining. However, no sign of a ditch was visible in the side of the trench
0101	
0102	probable Roman ditch lost in machining. Visible only in section as fill so similar to 0095 which has no definable edges. Section drawn as it
0103	
0104	rectangular, modern pit containing 3 metal oil cans. Probably associated with MOD compound. Machine excavated.
0105	linear feature visible as sandy deposit through gravel. Looked like a ditch - parallel to 0106. Excavation showed no clear shape and no find
0106	as 0105
0107	modern ditch with chalky rubble and brick inclusion. Occasional glass and glazed pot sherds.
0108	possible ditch appearing as linear feature running N-S through trench 2. Not excavated- close to hearth 0017 and left to be investigated d
0109	possible ditch running NE-SW through trench 11. Visible only at depth of 140 cm and not excavated through lack of time.

OPNO	SOIL TYPE	CUTS	OVER	CUTBY	UNDER	SECTION	FINDSY N	SMFY N	SMALL FIND ID	SAMPLESY N	PHOTOY N	PHASE
0079			0078				Yes	No		No	No	
0080				0081, 0083	0078		No	No		No	No	
0081		0080					No	No		No	No	
0082	mid brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	No	
0083		0080					No	No		No	No	
0084	light-mid brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0085					0087,007	not sectio	No	No		No	No	
0086							Yes	No		No	No	
0087				0094	0095		No	No		No	Yes	
0088						context	No	No		No	No	
0089	mid/pale yellowish olive brown silty					context	No	No		No	No	
0090	mid olive brown silty clay	0087,0					Yes	No		No	Yes	
0091	light brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0092	orange/brown clay chalky gravel						No	No		No	Yes	
0093	reddish brown silty clay						No	No		No	Yes	
0094		0095,0					No	No		No	Yes	
0095	dark brown loamy clay						Yes	No		No	No	
0096							No	No		No	No	
0097	mid brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0098	dark brown loamy clay				0095		No	No		No	No	
0099	mid brown silty clay						Yes	No		No	Yes	
0100							No	No		No	No	Rom?
0101	mid brown loamy clay						Yes	No		No	No	
0102	dark brown loamy clay	0095?					Yes	No		No	No	
0103	dark brown loamy clay						No	No		No	No	
0104							No	No		No	No	mod.
0105	reddish brown clay sand						No	No		No	No	
0106	reddish brown clay sand						No	No		No	No	
0107	mid brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	mod.
0108	mid greyish brown silty clay						No	No		No	No	
0109							No	No		No	No	

Appendix III: Finds Quantifications and Spotdates

OP No	Pottery No	Pottery Wt	CBM No	CBM Wt	Fired clay No	Fired clay W	Flint No	Flint Wt	Burnt flint No	Burnt flint Wt	Animal bone No
0001	3	0.021	7	0.354							10
0001 Tr. 1							1	0.022			
0001 Tr. 8	13	0.087	13	0.691	1	0.007	6	0.048			4
0001 Tr.11	1	0.028	1	0.008							
0002 Tr. 1	114	1.697					1	0.002	4	0.458	
0002 Tr. 2	15	0.189			2	0.004	4	0.018			
0002 Tr. 4							4	0.054			
0002 Tr. 6	69	0.680			9	0.048	9	0.245	2	0.056	12
0004	27	0.597									3
0007	2	0.001					3	0.013	1	0.029	
0009	2	0.024			2	0.001	2	0.018			
0011							1	0.002			
0016							3	0.024			
0019	1	0.033									
0021	4	0.055									1
0023					1	0.012					1
0025	3	0.053					1	0.023			
0026	1	0.005					2	0.023			
0037 Tr. 1							2	0.075	5	0.106	
0037 Tr. 6	5	0.017					2	0.008			
0037 Tr. 9	2	0.032					1	0.028			
0041							4	0.041	16	0.248	
0043	1	0.011					1	0.003			
0045					5	0.003					3
0047									2	0.045	
0049	1	0.003			2	0.026	7	0.057	43	1.122	1
0051							2	0.019			
0053							2	0.002			
0061							5	0.004			
0059	1	0.001	6	0.082					1	0.001	
0063	12	0.161			1	0.002			1	0.027	
0066	46	0.690			7	0.043	4	0.048	1	0.021	3
0068			1	0.218			3	0.031			81
0070	6	0.163	8	0.907			2	0.730	2	0.020	110
0072	1	0.001					12	0.105	2	0.030	
0075	11	0.078					7	0.032	2	0.050	
0076											42
0078	24	0.110	7	0.590	2	0.001					
0079	1	0.013									
0082			1	0.113							
0086	1	0.022	2	0.120	1	0.001					23
0090											

OP No	Animal bone Wt	Shell No	Shell Wt	Iron No	Iron Wt	Lava quern No	Lava quern Wt	Miscellaneous	Spotdate
0001	0.237					4	0.002		PMed
0001 Tr. 1								9 Ae (38g), 4 Pb (73g)	PMed
0001 Tr. 8	0.134	1	0.003	7	0.022	3	0.050	4 Ae (6g), 4 Pb (48g).	PMed
0001 Tr.11									PMed
0002 Tr. 1				4	0.016				M.-L.13th c.
0002 Tr. 2						50	0.470		E.-M.13th c.
0002 Tr. 4									
0002 Tr. 6	0.040								M.-L.13th c.
0004	0.016	2	0.009						E.-M.13th c.
0007									Rom
0009									Med
0011									
0016									
0019									Med
0021	0.012			1	0.019				13th c.?
0023	0.052								
0025									Med
0026						5	0.165	1 weathered ?building stone (0.	M.12th-13th c.
0037 Tr. 1				1	0.002				Rom+
0037 Tr. 6									LNeo+
0037 Tr. 9									ERom
0041								1 Stone (0.127kg).	LNeo/EBA?
0043									Rom
0045	0.005								
0047									
0049	0.001			1	0.004				Preh
0051									Preh?
0053									Preh?
0061									Preh?
0059						5	0.029		16th-18th c.?
0063						30	0.300		L.12th-E.13th c.
0066	0.005							1 Charcoal	M.-L.13th c.
0068	0.305								Rom+
0070	0.721					1	0.963		M.-L.2nd c.
0072									LNeo/EBA?
0075								1 Fe slag lump (1.009kg)	LNeo? (but Fe slag)
0076	0.147								
0078									Med?
0079									M.-L.13th c.
0082						10	0.046		Rom?
0086	0.177			1	0.151				Rom
0090				1	0.054				

OP No	Pottery No	Pottery Wt	CBM No	CBM Wt	Fired clay No	Fired clay W	Flint No	Flint Wt	Burnt flint No	Burnt flint Wt	Animal bone No
0091			3	0.394							
0095	11	0.249	23	1.107			1	0.015			2
0098	20	0.163	4	0.315							23
0099	2	0.010	1	0.189							
0101	1	0.001					7	0.100			
0001 Tr. 9											
0001 Tr.10											
0001 Tr. 3											
0001 Tr. 4											
0001 Tr. 5											
0001 Tr. 7											

OP No	Animal bone Wt	Shell No	Shell Wt	Iron No	Iron Wt	Lava quern No	Lava quern Wt	Miscellaneous	Spotdate
0091				1	0.047				PMed
0095	0.003			5	0.065				M.2nd-4th c.
0098	0.155								M.2nd-4th c.
0099									PMed
0101									Rom
0001 Tr. 9				1	0.007			3 Ae (18g), 1 Pb (38g), 1 Pb/Sn (5g	PMed
0001 Tr.10								1 Ae? (9g), 12 Pb (121g).	PMed
0001 Tr. 3								2 Ae (9.5g), 3 Pb (66g).	PMed
0001 Tr. 4								7 Ae (51g), 7 Pb (129g).	PMed
0001 Tr. 5								10 Ae (41g), 5 Pb (52g).	PMed
0001 Tr. 7								1 Ae (6g), 2 Pb (86g).	PMed

HAD 059

Colin - for an evaluation of this area at Hadleigh do you want to give it a new SMR No as it impinges on Roman site?

Thanks

Aldham Mill Hill Storage Depot
Hadleigh, Suffolk.
Aerial Photographic Assessment.

Figure 2: survey area, 1:2500.

evaluation area (not original detches)

Bottom of slope 0-5/0-7m topsoil