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JSAC JOHN SAMUELS ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

Archaeological Field Evaluation Report
Land north of Tiddington Road, Tiddington
Warwickshire
(NGR SP 2155 5555)

prepared by

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on behalf of

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION REPORT:

Land north of Tiddington Road, Tiddington, Warwickshire

Contents

Summary

In April 2001 John Samuels Archaeological Consultants conducted a field evaluation of land owned by Mr T C Longford, within Tiddington Roman Settlement, Warwickshire (NGR SP 2155 5555)(Scheduled Monument Number, Warks 184). Seven evaluation trenches, totalling an area of 304 m^2, were excavated, in two phases. The first phase of machining was limited by the high water table and the second phase sought to use some of the agreed contingency to examine a building and to delimit features and assess blank areas to improve the understanding of the site.

Four broad phases of activity were identified. In phase 1, the late Iron Age-early Roman period, a co-axial field system appears to have been laid out and it is likely that a small building was constructed. Features containing pottery dated to the 2nd century AD have been placed within phase 2, although it is not clear if they were cut, or simply filled, in this period. There was far less activity and far fewer finds deposited in phase 2.

Phase 3 was undated, but is likely to be late medieval/post-medieval in date. During this phase the site appears to have been subject to ridge and furrow ploughing, which truncated the earlier features by in excess of 0.3 m. Three probable furrows were exposed, which contained post-medieval material.

Phase 4 represents modern use of the site. A phase of subsoiling by the present landowner, prior to the site being scheduled in 1985, truncated the top of the phase 3 plough horizon and impacted onto the Roman building.

Current use of the site has resulted in significant erosion of the slope which has made the features on the gravel terrace in particular vulnerable to continued agricultural use of the site. On the lower slopes of the site the archaeology appears to be protected by a relatively substantial amount of overburden, which has resulted from centuries of ploughing and colluvial movement. All of the archaeological features exposed were concentrated in the eastern half of the site and the structure appears to have been deliberately sited on the gravel terrace, the undulating edge of which trends generally parallel to the modern Tiddington Road.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The proposed development site is located to the north of the Tiddington Road, Tiddington, Warwickshire, centred on NGR SP 2155 5555, overlooking the south bank of the River Avon (Figure 1). The whole site covers an area of approximately 0.5 ha. The ground slopes from approximately 39.6 mAOD at the top of the site, near the road, to 37.54 m AOD at the lowest extent of trenches 1 and 3. The land actually falls away more steeply than is suggested by the figures above, because the lower extent of the site was not investigated, due to the fact that it was saturated with water. The underlying geology is Glaciofluvial or river terrace drift, the Wick 541r association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). This consists of deep well drained coarse loamy and sandy soils, locally over gravel.

1.2 In March 1998, Mr M J Longford wrote to Mrs S Cole, English Heritage, explaining that the part of his land had become an "agricultural liability" due to the effects of vandalism, trespass and pollution onto both crops and livestock. He outlined his wish to seek an alternative, non-agricultural use for his land and suggested that he would like to have a geophysical survey conducted. He was advised to commission a desk-top assessment and that any further on-site work would require Scheduled Monument Consent. Mr T C Longford commissioned *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* to undertake a desk-based assessment (JSAC/449/98/01). Scheduled Monument Consent for a geophysical survey was granted on the 7th November 1998 and the survey was conducted, by GSB Prospection, on the 23rd-24th November 1998 (Report No: 98/134). The results of the geophysical survey were inconclusive, but generally appeared to suggest that any surviving archaeology was not likely to be as well preserved as that excavated at Reading Court (1982-83), 50 m to the north-east. Mr T C Longford therefore commissioned *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* to undertake a field evaluation of the site. Scheduled Monument Consent for the field evaluation was granted on the 7th February 2001. The methodology for trial trenching JSAC 449/99/003 was finally agreed with the English Heritage Advisor and the Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council in March 2001. Fieldwork was conducted in April 2001, under the management of Simon Mortimer, $MA_{(Oxon)}$.

1.3 This document forms the report on the evaluation undertaken on behalf of Mr T C Longford. It has been written by Simon Mortimer, $MA_{(Oxon)}$ and edited by Dan Slatcher BA, MA, MIFA in consultation with John Samuels, BA, Ph.D, FSA, MIFA, MLI. It conforms to 'Archaeology

and Planning' *Planning Policy Guidance Note* **16**, is in accordance with current best archaeological practice, and the appropriate national standards and guidelines, including:

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991);

Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1997);

Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994, revised 1999);

2.0 Archaeological and historical background (Figure 12)

2.1 The earliest evidence for human activity in the Tiddington area is a find of Mesolithic flints, made in the earlier part of the twentieth century AD, from a gravel pit at NGR SP 2109 5505 (SMR No. 891). The finds included six possible microliths, thirty-eight flint flakes and three possible microlithic cores.

2.2 Palmer's (Palmer 1981) excavations in advance of the construction of the National Farmers' Union building in 1980-81, NGR SP 216555 provided the earliest evidence for occupation in Tiddington. The distribution of middle Iron Age pits and gullies, suggested that occupation began as scattered farmsteads, rather than continuous settlement.

2.3 Later Iron Age features were also recorded by Palmer beneath the National Farmers' Union building and during his excavation of the Reading Trust site in 1982 (Palmer 1982). There appeared to be continuity of occupation into the Romano-British period at both sites.

2.4 Palmer (1982) concluded that the settlement of the National Farmers' Union site had begun in the first century AD, along the precursor of the Tiddington Road. This settlement expanded in the second century AD, a new roadway was constructed, extending out of the settlement to the east and rectangular timber buildings were built on the northern part of the site. In the third century AD, occupation continued to extend to the south and two stone built corn-driers were constructed. The settlement was significantly realigned in the fourth century AD, a large ditch was cut around the built-up area and further buildings were constructed, including one that was

built from stone.

2.5 Romano-British settlement of the Reading Trust site (Palmer 1982) appears to have been similar to that at the National Farmers' Union site, in that roads and buildings were constructed in the first and second centuries AD, together with corn driers. Two small kilns were also found on the site and were dated to the late 1st/early 2nd century AD. The site differed from the earlier excavation in that the latest building on the site was dated to the early 3rd century AD, after which time the site is thought to have reverted to open space. Approximately 12 burials were found on the site, which have been dated to the 4th century AD.

2.6 Archaeological excavations have been conducted in Tiddington since the 1920s, when modern development began to take place along the Tiddington Road. F C Wellstood, Secretary to the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, excavated a cemetery of 220 inhumations and cremations at 77 Tiddington Road. The same excavator excavated an L-shaped trench on the northern side of the Stratford Golf Course in 1925, which uncovered dense domestic Romano-British occupation and a group of ten inhumations, including a headless burial. A stone building was identified the following year on the north-eastern boundary of the golf course (Fieldhouse, May and Wellstood 1931). Further excavations also took place on the golf course and at 86 and 102 Tiddington Road in the years upto and including 1939.

2.7 Burials apparently took place in Tiddington into the Anglo Saxon period. Excavations in 1988 in advance of construction at 117 Tiddington Road revealed part of an early Anglo-Saxon double ditched enclosure. There is no archaeological evidence of later Anglo Saxon occupation in Tiddington, although place-name evidence indicates that it was occupied during the 10th century AD. The cartographic evidence indicates that the site has been farmland from the medieval period onwards.

2.8 The northern area of Tiddington Roman settlement was scheduled (County number 184) on the 23rd August 1985.

2.9 A desk-based archaeological assessment was carried out, on behalf of Mr T C Longford, by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants in September 1998 (JSAC 449/98/001). This concluded that although the site was probably on the periphery of the Roman settlement, it had been regularly ploughed with a subsoiling plough in the past, which may have severely degraded

any buried remains. A geophysical survey was subsequently undertaken by GSB Prospection (report no. 98/134). This revealed several features of possible archaeological interest, although the interpretation was tentative.

3.0 Research Framework

3.1 The aims of the evaluation are:

i. to determine the presence or otherwise of buried remains of archaeological interest

ii to assess the impact of recent ploughing activity; and

iii to assess the site's archaeological potential in order to allow the Secretary of State for National Heritage to make an informed decision regarding its suitability for development.

4.0 Methodology

4.1 Excavation of the evaluation trenches was begun on the 26th March, 2001 using a JCB, with a 2 m wide toothless ditching bucket. The machine was supervised by Simon Mortimer of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants and Ed Wilson, Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County Council, who was acting on behalf of English Heritage.

4.2 Trenches 1 and 2 were opened up to their full extent, as outlined in the revised specification (JSAC 449/99/03) . Only four metres at the eastern extent of trench 4 and the southernmost 12 m of trench 3 were excavated, because the ground was so saturated that the trenches filled with water before the highest archaeological horizon was exposed. Excavation of the westernmost seven metres of trench 5 were similarly abandoned because of water inundating the trench.

4.3 A second phase of machine stripping, involving the excavation of three further trenches, was agreed with Ed Wilson. These were located to examine the building in trench 2, to establish whether there were features within the possible enclosure between trenches 1 and 2 and to establish whether there was activity at the south-western extent of the site. Trench 5 was also

extended to the east, to investigate whether there were further structures or features close to the modern Tiddington Road.

4.4 In all cases machine excavation was supervised by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Mechanical excavation was halted at the highest surviving significant archaeological horizon and all spoil was mounded at a safe distance from the side of the trenches.

4.5 The sections and bases of each trench were cleaned by hand and photographed. Sections and plans were drawn of each trench at scale of 1:20. A strategy for the sampling of features was discussed with Ed Wilson before excavation of individual features was undertaken. The primary aims of this strategy were to determine the state of preservation of archaeological features at different points along the north-south slope and also across the site. Investigating the relationships between features was deemed to be of less importance than establishing their relative degree of survival. No excavation was permitted within the building in Trench 2, with the exception of a single 10 litre sample. Similarly, where a human skull was found within ditch 105, this was left "in-situ". Every effort was made to ensure that no unnecessary excavation was conducted within the scheduled monument.

4.6 Plans and sections of each of the trenches and the excavated features are included in this report.

4.7 The recording system was based upon the Museum of London's *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994). The system is centred upon scale drawing in both plan and section format, supplemented with proforma-context sheets, for the description of cuts and deposits. The trench locations are related to the Ordnanace Survey (OS) grid and levels are related to Ordnance Datum (OD).

4.4 A full photographic record was maintained during fieldwork in colour slide, together with black and white and colour print. Each trench was photographed before excavation of individual features, and all excavated features were photographed individually.

4.5 All artefacts were treated according to the UKIC guidelines, *'First Aid for Finds'* (Watkinson, D. and Neal, V.V 1998 3rd ed). All finds were bagged and marked according to the deposit (context) from which they were recovered. Following completion of fieldwork, the finds were processed and assessed and sent to appropriate specialists for analysis.

4.6 All work was undertaken with respect to statutory Health and Safety requirements. The trenches were backfilled after the completion of field work.

4.7 Copies of this report will be sent to the client, and to English Heritage.

4.8 An ordered project archive will be deposited with the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, within 6 months of completion of the field evaluation and appropriate post-excavation work. The archive will be produced in a form acceptable to the museum. The project archive will be prepared according to the recommendations in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long term storage* (UKIC 1990), *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992). This excludes items of gold and silver which by law must be reported to Her Majesty's Coroner.

4.9 An article describing the results of the evaluation will be submitted to West Midlands Archaeology. A copy will be sent to English Heritage.

5.0 Results of the field evaluation

5.1 Seven evaluation trenches (304 m^2) were excavated within Mr Longford's site. In all cases description of the deposits within the trenches begins with the earliest deposits and continues, stratigraphically, to the latest horizons. An attempt has also been made to describe the features within each trench in spatial order, from the top of the slope to the bottom, this order has been compromised to favour stratigraphic order. It should be noted that the principal aim of the evaluation was to gain an understanding of the state of preservation of archaeological deposits within the site, whilst causing the least possible damage to those remains. The English Heritage adviser cautioned against excavating within the building in trench 2 and also against removing a skull found within ditch 105 in trench 1. These restrictions obviously limit the amount that can be said about those two features. Across the site as a whole there was an agreed sampling policy, in which many features were left unexcavated. Pottery was however recovered from the surface of a number of unexcavated features. Most of the interventions through features were located to provide a representative section of those features and not to determine their relationships with other features. The site phasing, which is included in the discussion section of this document, is therefore based largely on pottery dates. The features are not described in

strict phase order, because the time frame over which the Romano-British features were cut is relatively small and therefore the phasing does not contribute significantly to an understanding of the development of the site.

5.3 *Trench 1* (37.54 m AOD at N end, 39.51 m AOD at S end) (Figures 4 and 5)

5.3.1 Trench 1 was 43 m long, north-south, and 2 m wide, east-west. The features identified within the trench are described in order, from south to north. All features cut the dark orange brown silty clay natural geology, 104, unless otherwise stated.

5.3.2 North - south aligned ditch 105 is 1.4 m wide and 0.42 m deep. Only the southern edge of this feature was fully exposed, because excavation of the intervention was halted upon discovery of a human skull, 0.1 m beneath the surface of the fill. Tentative excavation around the skull suggested that there were no associated human remains, but this is not certain. The southern edge of the feature is concave, as is the area of the base that was exposed. The ditch is filled with dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 115, which produced 7 sherds of pottery (71 g), dating the fill to the mid to late 1st century AD. The sample from this feature produced barley, spelt, stinking mayweed, dock and grasses together with a small amount of animal bone.

5.3.3 North-west - south-east aligned ditch 108 is approximately 2 m wide and 1.1 m deep. Only the northern edge of the feature was exposed within the intervention excavated through the feature, which had a pronounced step, in a generally concave and fairly steep slope. The base is gently concave. The basal fill of the ditch, 121 is mid brown fine sandy silt, which may have been deposited immediately after the initial excavation of the feature, as the edges stabilised (as a primary fill). This fill produced 4 sherds (41 g) of pottery dating the fill to the mid to late 1st century AD. Fill 120, which overlies fill 121, is dark grey brown sandy clay silt. The sample from this feature produced barley, spelt, cf emmer, grass, sedge and dock together with a small quantity of animal bone. This deposit is overlain by fill 127, which consists of mixed reddish brown redeposited silty clay and redeposited topsoil. This deposit was clearly derived from weathering of the edges of the feature together with water borne material from the surrounding land surface. The uppermost extant fill of the ditch, 117, is a layer of dark grey brown sandy clay silt, which produced an iron spur, dated to between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD. The sample from the upper fill produced spelt, barley, rye grass, grasses and a small amount of animal bone.

5.3.4 Feature 118 is located 8 m north of the southern edge of the trench. The feature was only partially exposed and is therefore impossible to interpret. As exposed, it measured 0.5 m north-south by 0.3 m east-west and it was 0.16 m deep. The feature is filled with light greenish grey brown sandy silt, 119.

5.3.5 East-west aligned ditch 107 cut the upper fill of ditch 108 and the fill of feature 118. Ditch 107 is 1.4 m wide and 0.2 m deep, with gently sloping concave sides and a fairly flat base. The ditch is filled with dark grey to black sandy clay silt, 116, which produced 5 sherds (46 g) of pottery dated to the early 2nd century AD.

5.3.6 A further ditch was identified to the north of ditch 108. This ditch is approximately 1.5 m wide, but nothing else is known about it, because it was not excavated. No dating evidence could be recovered from the surface of the feature and its relationships with ditches 107 and 108 were not established.

5.3.7 Shallow east-west aligned gully, 123 is 0.4 m wide and 0.16 m deep. The terminus of the feature was established in the centre of the trench. The gully is asymmetrical in section, the slope from north to south is short, steep and concave and the opposing slope is fairly long, straight and fairly gentle, whilst the base is gently concave. The gully is filled with dark grey brown sandy silt, 124 which produced 6 sherds (116 g) of pottery dated to the early 1st century AD. Fill 124 is cut by feature 110.

5.3.8 Feature 110 is very difficult to interpret. It is 6.3 m long, north-south, in excess of 2 m wide and it extended across the short axis of the trench where it was 0.8 m deep. The feature is fairly amorphous in plan, especially the southern edge and whilst the sides and base are generally concave they undulate significantly. The feature has a primary fill, 125 of dark brown sandy silt. This is overlain by fill 122, a dark grey black sandy clay silt, which produced 51 sherds (2232 g) of pottery dated to the early 1st century AD, together with pieces of fired clay. Context number 114 was allocated to the surface cleaning of this feature and this produced 11 sherds (260 g) of pottery dating to the mid to late 1st century AD. The sample taken from the upper fill contained barley, spelt, cf emmer, grasses and pulses.

5.3.9 Two undated features, which are either small pits or the terminals of narrow linears were identified towards the northern extent of the trench. Neither of these were excavated, nor were

there any finds from the surface of either feature. Both of these features were beneath the water level by the end of the project.

5.3.10 A broad, 3.3 m wide, linear was identified at the northern end of the trench. This was not excavated because it was beneath the water level. Fourteen sherds (261 g) of Late Iron Age pottery were collected from the surface, 126, of the feature. The fact that they were recovered from the very top of the feature reduces the security of the dating.

5.3.11 All of the features within the trench are sealed by a layer of dark grey to black sandy clay silt, 103 which appeared to be the result of medieval ploughing. It is likely that this layer was the result of ridge and furrow cultivation, which resulted in the tops of the Romano-British features being ploughed out and incorporated within the ploughsoil. Layer 103 is sealed by a layer of mid olive brown sandy clay silt, 102, which is a buried topsoil horizon, the result of Mr Longford's pre 1985 subsoiling of the site. The uppermost horizon within the trench is layer of dark grey to black sandy clay silt topsoil, 101.

5.4 *Trench 2* (39.08 m AOD at E end, 37.75 m AOD at W end)(Figures 6 and 7)

5.4.1 Trench 2 was 31 m long, east-west by 2 m wide, north-south. A second, 7.5 m by 2 m, trench was excavated at right angles to and on the south side of the main trench, to investigate a building. The features are described in order from east to west and all features cut the dark orange brown sandy silt natural geology, 204, unless otherwise stated.

5.4.2 Sub-rectangular pit 211 measures 1.1 m north-south by 0.7 m east-west. It was not excavated, but a number of large pieces of fired clay were noted within the fill, which is dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 212.

5.4.3 Building 233 measures 4.2 m wide east-west and it is probably in excess of 3.9 m north-south. The southern edge of the construction cut, 231, for the building is discernible in section, but not in plan. It is short, steep and concave and the cut is at least 0.23 m deep. It is filled with dark grey to black sandy silt, 232. As extant the building consists of an outer perimeter of unbonded mid blue grey limestone, 206 which varies in width between 0.12 m and 0.2 m. This is thought

to be a shallow stone footing for supporting a timber frame. The intervention excavated through the furrow, 205 to the south of the building was extended to investigate the outside of the footings and they appeared to be only 0.07 m deep. It is likely that the footings are deeper elsewhere around the perimeter of the building, because a sample taken from surface 207, preserved within the building, showed the surface to be in excess of 0.1 m deep and there was a worked limestone block below. The nature of surface 207 is unclear, it is composed of dark grey brown to black clay silt but there is some doubt as to whether it represents a utilised surface, occupation debris falling from a raised wooden floor above or whether it may have accumulated after the collapse of the structure. The sample taken from layer 207 produced spelt and grasses together with frog/toad and weasel bone.

5.4.4 Spreads of 0.06 m deep orange brown clay, 208 are found above surface 207, the derivation of which are unclear. A pronounced subsoiling scar, 209 is visible cutting each of the surfaces 207 and 208 within the building and also the perimeter 206. The scar was filled with topsoil material, which was given the number 210.

5.4.5 The exact north-south dimensions of building 233 were not completely clear because there is a pronounced change in the natural geology at the edge of the gravel terrace and because medieval ploughing and later subsoiling have removed the stone perimeter from the northern extent of the building.

5.4.6 Sub-circular pit 221 measures 0.9 m north-south by 0.8 m east-west and it is 0.78 m deep. The northern edge of the pit is straight and steep, the southern edge is also steep, but undulates. The initial pit fill, 230, is a mid brown sandy silt, which is overlain by a dump of dark grey brown sandy silt, 229. A single sherd (85 g) of pottery dated 1st to 2nd century AD was recovered from the higher fill. The uppermost extant fill, 222 is a mid to dark brown sandy silt, with mid orange brown lenses, from which a single sherd (14 g) of pottery provisionally dated to later 1st century AD was recovered. This upper fill is cut by ditch 213. Each of the fills of the pit was sampled. The initial fill produced spelt, free threshing internode, rye grass, dock and grasses. The intermediate fill contains spelt, barley, vetch, pulse, rye grass and other grasses. Barley, spelt, wheat, cf rye and other grasses were found within the upper fill.

5.4.7 South-west to north-east aligned ditch 213 is 0.92 m wide and as extant approximately 0.12 m deep. It has short, fairly straight sides and a slightly convex base. It is filled with dark grey to

black sandy clay silt, 220 which produced four sherds (75 g) of pottery dated to the 2nd century AD, together with post medieval brick and tile. The post medieval material is thought to be intrusive. The sample taken from this ditch produced *Ceciliodes,* spelt, barley, cf emmer, oat, rye grass and other grasses.

5.4.8 In plan ditch 215 appears to be cut by ditch 214, although this was relationship was not established in section. Ditch 215 is aligned north-north-west - south-south-east and it is 0.7 m wide. In section the feature has steep, concave sides and a fairly narrow, slightly rounded base. It is filled with dark greenish grey brown sandy clay silt, 223 which produced one sherd (14 g) of pottery dated to the 1st century AD. The sample taken from fill 223 contained barley, spelt and grasses. Context 216 was allocated to a cleaning horizon, for finds collected from the surface of the ditch, outside of the intervention and twenty-one sherds, (475 g) of pottery were recovered, together with fragments of Niedermendig lava quernstone.

5.4.9 East-west aligned ditch 214 is 2.3 m wide and approximately 0.3 m deep. Only the western edge of the feature was visible, the eastern edge has been removed by gully 227. The western edge of the ditch is concave and short and the base is irregular and undulating. The ditch is filled with dark grey to black sandy clay silt, 226 which produced nine sherds (177 g) of pottery dating the feature to the mid to late 1st century AD. The sample from this ditch contained barley, spelt, cf emmer, pulse, dock and grasses. The ditch fill is cut by a narrow, 0.2 m wide, 0.2 m deep gully, 227, which has a 'V-shaped' profile. The gully is filled with dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 228.

5.4.10 An east-west aligned linear feature, 217 crosses the northern extent of the trench. The relationship with ditch 215 is not clear and was not established because the base of the trench was under water for much of the project. Ditch 217 was approximately 1 m wide and it was filled with dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 218.

5.4.11 All of the features described above are sealed beneath a layer of dark grey brown to black sandy silt, 203 which is the base of the medieval ploughsoil. Although no relationship was established between layer 203 and features 205 and 224, because the ploughsoil has been incorporated into the subsoiling horizon, 202 at the top of the slope it is clear that both features postdate the layer.

5.4.12 Feature 224 is unusual. Only the western edge of the feature was exposed within the trench, the

remainder of the feature extended beneath the eastern baulk, making the feature difficult to interpret. It is in excess of 6 m long, north-south, greater than 0.46 m wide, east-west and it was a maximum of 0.16 m deep, within the intervention cut through the feature. The feature is filled with dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 225, which produced one sherd of pottery (174 g) dated to the mid 1st century AD, together with post medieval brick and tile. It is likely that this feature is post-medieval in date and it may have been a furrow, but further excavation would be required to be certain of this.

5.4.13 Probable furrow 205 is aligned approximately east-west and it is 2.3 m wide and 0.4 m deep. The feature has fairly gently concave sides and a slightly rounded base. It is filled with mid to dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 219 which produced four sherds of pottery with a *terminus post quem* of the post-medieval period and this date is conformed by the quantity of brick, tile and clay pipe that were also found within the fill.

5.4.14 The furrows were sealed by layer of buried topsoil, 202, which almost certainly relates to the subsoiling of the site by the present owner before the site was scheduled in 1985. This was in turn sealed by the current topsoiled/cultivated horizon 201, which is a layer of mid grey brown sandy clay silt.

5.5 *Trench 3* (37.81 m AOD at E end, 37.54 m AOD at W end)(Figure 8)
Trench 4 (37.61 m AOD at NE end, 37.67 m AOD at SW end)(Figure 8)

5.5.1 Trenches 3 and 4 were both initially intended to be excavated to a length of 30 m and a width of 2 m. In the event the base of both trenches became obscured by water very rapidly and it was therefore decided to halt excavation within the trench, in order to avoid damaging any surviving archaeology, which may have been present. It is clear however, that any archaeology present within the trenches is sealed by in excess of one metre of overburden. Trench 3 was excavated for approximately 14 m and Trench 4 measured approximately 4 m, before both trenches were abandoned.

5.5.2 The stratigraphy exposed was the same within the two trenches. The lowest layer is 304/404, a dark grey brown sandy clay silt that was initially interpreted as an alluvial horizon. James Rackham however determined that it is almost certainly a combination of ploughsoil and

colluvium, the date of which is unclear. This is sealed by a dark grey to black sandy clay silt horizon, 303, 403 which is the remnants of the medieval ridge and furrow ploughing of the site. The ridge and furrow was truncated by subsoiling of the site by the current owner, which created layer 302, 402, a mid brown sandy silt. The highest layer within both trenches is the current dark grey to black sandy silty loam topsoil, 301, 401.

5.6 *Trench 5* (39.56 m AOD at E end, 38.11 m AOD at W end)(Figures 9 and 10)

5.6.1 Trench 5 was initially intended to measure 30 m, east-west by 2 m wide, north-south. However the westernmost 7 m of the trench were abandoned because of the risk of the rising water table that was encountered flooding a large part of the trench. It was therefore decided to extend the trench by 10 m to the east, towards the Tiddington Road in a second phase of machining. The features are described in phase and then in order from east to west, and all features cut the dark orange brown sandy silt natural geology, 504, unless otherwise stated.

5.6.2 East-north-east - west-south-west orientated gully 509 is 0.4 m wide and 0.48 m deep. It has steep, straight sides and a flattish base and it is filled with dark grey brown sandy silt, 510. The gully is cut by an unusual feature, or collection of features, 507. Feature 507 is 5.6 m long, north-south and in excess of 3.2 m wide, east-west, its exact extent is unclear, because it is cut by possible furrow 505. Only the edges of the feature were investigated and the northern edge is steep and fairly straight, whilst the southern edge is shallower and concave. The base of the feature is fairly flat where it was exposed. The nature of this feature is entirely unclear, it could be a large pit, or possibly a group of recut ditches. The feature(s) is filled with dark grey to black sandy clay silt, 508, which is cut by a possible furrow, 505. The sample taken from fill 508 produced spelt, barley cf bitter vetch and grasses.

5.6.3 Each of the features so far discussed within this trench are sealed beneath layer 503, which is dark grey to black sandy clay silt and is interpreted as the truncated remnants of ridge and furrow ploughing of the site. No direct relationship was observed between layer 503 and the furrow, because of the effects of later subsoiling, but it is reasonable to assume that furrow 505 postdates layer 503.

5.6.4 North-south orientated possible furrow 505 is in excess of 1.65 m wide and it is 0.45 m deep. It has irregular, undulating sides and an irregular base and it is filled with mid reddish brown sandy silt, 506. One sherd (46 g) of 1st century AD Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill, together with tile, most of which was post medieval in date, but some of which may have been Romano-British. A small piece of glass, a ferrous nail and some brick/tile was recovered from the sample taken from the fill.

5.6.5 Furrow 505 is overlain by layer 502, a mid greenish brown sandy silt which was the result of subsoiling of the site by the current owner, before the site was scheduled in 1985. This layer is itself sealed by the current cultivation/topsoil horizon, 501, which is a dark grey to black sandy clay silt.

5.7 *Trench 6* (38.85 m AOD at SE end, 38.23 m AOD at NW end)(Figure 10)

5.7.1 Trench 6 was 10 m long, south-east - north-west by 2 m wide. It was excavated in the second phase of machining, using part of the contingency arrangement, in order to assess whether there were any discrete features within the putative enclosure between trenches 1 and 2. The features are described in order from north-west to south-east and all features cut the dark orange brown sandy silt natural geology, 604, unless otherwise stated.

5.7.2 A large feature or group of intercutting features was partially exposed at the southern extent of the trench. Feature 605 is in excess of 4 m long north-west - south-east and greater than 2 m wide. It is filled with dark grey to black sandy clay silt, 606. This feature was not excavated and therefore it is not clear what sort of feature or features it represents.

5.7.3 The feature is overlain by layer 603 which is dark grey black sandy clay silt and is interpreted as the truncated remnants of ridge and furrow ploughing of the site. This ridge and furrow has been truncated by subsoiling conducted by the present landowner which has resulted in 602, a mid grey brown sandy silt buried ploughsoil. This is overlain by a dark grey to black sandy clay silt topsoil, layer 601.

5.8 *Trench 7* (39.56 m AOD at SE end, 38.89 m AOD at NW end)(Figure 11)

5.8.1 Trench 7 was 10 m long, north-west - south-east by 2 m wide. It was excavated in the second phase of machining, using part of the contingency arrangement, in order to assess the state of preservation of any archaeological features in the south-eastern corner of the site. The features are described in stratigraphic order and all features cut the dark orange brown sandy silt natural geology, 704, unless otherwise stated.

5.8.2 North-west south-east aligned gully 705 is 0.6 m wide and 0.15 m deep, with a shallow, "dished" profile. It is filled with mid to dark brown sandy silt, 706, which produced one sherd (16 g) of pottery dated to the early 1st century AD. This fill is cut by a north-south aligned linear feature 707, which is 0.68 m wide and 0.4 m deep with steep, fairly straight edges and a gently concave base. Ditch 707 is filled with dark brown sandy clay silt, 708 which produced three sherds (35 g) of pottery dated to the mid 1st century AD, or later. This fill is cut by ditch 711 which is in excess of 1 m wide and at least 0.4 m deep. Only the western edge of the ditch was exposed, which was steep and fairly straight, with a sharp break of slope to a flat base. Ditch 711 is filled with dark grey brown sandy clay silt, 712, which produced a single sherd of pottery (9 g) which dates to the mid 1st century AD. The final ditch in this intercutting ditch sequence is ditch 709, which is in excess of 0.6 m wide and at least 0.4m deep. Only the northern edge of the feature was exposed, which is steep and slightly concave, meeting a very slightly concave base. The ditch is filled with dark brown sandy clay silt, 710.

5.8.3 Ditch fill 710 is overlain by layer 703, a mid grey sandy silt horizon, thought to be remnant ridge and furrow, which was partially truncated by subsoiling undertaken by the present site owner, prior to the site being scheduled in 1985. This subsoiling created a buried topsoil layer, 702 which consists of mid brown sandy silt. The highest layer found within the trench is the current dark grey to black sandy clay silt topsoil, 701.

6.0 Discussion

6.1 Phasing (Figure 3)

Activity on the site can be broken into four broad phases:-

Phase 1: late Iron Age/1st century AD Romano-British

Phase 2: 2nd century AD Romano-British

Phase 3: medieval/post-medieval

Phase 4: modern

6.1.1 It should be noted that only 196 sherds (5060 g) of pottery were recovered from a total of 18 features. This figure does not include the 10 sherds (141 g) of unstratified pottery. Almost half (44%) of the pottery, by weight, was recovered from the surface of a single feature (probable ditch 110 in Trench 1). Only 4 features or structures produced more than 20 sherds or 250g of pottery. The approach taken to the evaluation, which was primarily directed towards assessing the state of preservation of the features, was partially responsible for the relatively small pottery assemblage.

6.1.2 The phasing proposed for the site is deliberately broad, to reflect the nature of the pottery assemblage. The relative lack of obviously intrusive material on the site means that small pottery assemblages have been accepted as providing dates for certain features. However features that did not produce pottery have been classified as unphased to separate dates derived from material from those based upon observed spatial relationships.

6.1.3 Phase 1 includes the late Iron-age and 1st century AD Romano-British features. The 2nd century AD Romano-British features have been placed within phase 2. Phase 3 involves medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow ploughing of the site and the modern usage of the site by the current landowner has been classed as phase 4.

6.2 Phase 1: late Iron Age- Romano-British (1st century AD)

Eleven of the eighteen dated features have been placed within this phase and the bulk of the pottery (89% by weight) is also of this phase, not counting residual sherds. The earliest assemblage from the site was recovered from the surface of the ditch 126 at the northern extent of Trench 1. This assemblage appears to date the feature to the Late Iron Age, but the fact that it was collected from the surface of the feature makes its security questionable. It is possible that there is some significance in the fact that the most northerly feature excavated on the site is also the earliest, but there is insufficient evidence to speculate.

6.2.1 The major activity conducted in this phase appears to have been the excavation of ditches. Although it is not possible to confidently extrapolate ditches between the trenches, the pattern observed in Trench 2 appears to indicate that some sort of co-axial field system was laid out on a roughly north-south - east-west alignment. The north-south component of these fields appears to have been roughly aligned upon the edge of the gravel terrace. Phase 1 ditches meeting at roughly 90° were also exposed in Trench 1 (115, 108) and Trench 7 (705 and 707/711). The fact that these ditches intercut need not undermine the notion that they were cut in close association, because the primary function of the excavation of the ditches is likely to have been to create banks as field boundaries, or even property divisions.

6.2.2 It should be noted that many of the phase 2 ditches also follow similar alignments to those in phase 1 and also some of the unphased ditches, in particular 217 and 227 fit well within the scheme outlined above. There is very strong evidence for continuity between phases 1 and 2 and it could be that all of the ditches were actually cut in phase 1, but that those attributed to phase 2 simply took slightly longer to fill. Further possible evidence of ditches taking some time to fill may be provided by the iron spur from ditch 105, which has been dated 2nd to 4th century AD, but came from a ditch dated to the mid to late 1st century AD.

6.2.3 It is highly likely that the building was constructed during phase 1, it is however discussed in phase 2, because the surfaces exposed within it are likely to have been deposited in phase 2. All of the evidence available from the site thus far suggests that activity spread from the east in this period. A series of enclosures is likely to have been laid out and at least one building constructed.

6.3 Phase 2: Romano-British (2nd century AD)

6.3.1 Four of the dated excavated features have been placed within this phase, ditches 107, 213 and 227 and surfaces 207/ 208 within building 233. As detailed in phase 1, the phase attributed to the ditches is fairly arbitrary in that they are similarly aligned and thus show continuity with the phase 1 ditches and further that the material simply gives an indication of the date of the fills, as opposed to signifying a new phase of ditch cutting. This is important in attempting to phase building 233.

6.3.2 The nature of the surfaces 207 and 208 exposed within building 233 is not clear. A sample was

taken from surface 207 because it was thought important to establish whether it was a floor surface, or other surface associated with the building, or alternatively whether it could be a ground surface predating the building. The 2nd century AD pottery from the surface indicates that it is likely to be contemporary with the structure and the stone chippings within the fill also suggest a correlation with the superstructure. The prime source of the uncertainty is the lack of understanding as to how the building was constructed. The stone perimeter is too crude and apparently too shallow, (although there are good reasons for thinking that the stone footings are deeper than the 0.07 m exposed in the project sondage elsewhere along the perimeter) to have provided anything other than a support for a timber superstructure. However the surfaces exposed are bounded by the stone perimeter and thus must have been deposited within a void within the stone perimeter, suggesting that the floor of the structure is beneath the current level of the natural geology and therefore probably significantly below the Romano-British ground surface. This impression is reinforced by the discovery of a worked stone block beneath surface 207, which was exposed when the sample was taken.

6.3.3 All of the above discussion has an impact upon the phasing of the building, especially in the light of the environmental report, which highlighted the small particle size of the soils within the building, relative to the other features sampled. The small particle size suggests that the surfaces built up slowly and the charred grain found within the sample may suggest that the surface was an occupation layer. There was nothing found within the sample taken from the surface to indicate the function of the building and in fact the evidence available does not allow for detailed analysis. It is however possible that 207 and 208 represent a build up of fine particled material dropping through a raised floor during the use of the structure, or alternatively it may be wind blown material collecting within a void left after the abandonment of the building. In either case the derivation of the pottery is unclear. The 2nd century date for the material within layer 207, the lower of the two extant surfaces is unusual, given that much of the activity on site appears to date to the 1st century AD. It may be therefore that the structure was in operation during the 1st century AD and that it went out of use in phase 2, the 2nd century AD.

6.3.4 In summary the building was almost certainly constructed in phase 1. The function of the building and the exact derivation of the material exposed within it are both unclear. It is very likely that the building has a stone floor, which was significantly below the Roman ground surface. It is possible that the structure was used as a granary and that this use continued into phase 2. In this scenario surfaces 107 and 108 were derived from material falling through a

raised floor. Alternatively surfaces 107 and 108 may reflect disuse and abandonment of the structure in phase 2. The lack of later Roman material from the site suggests that activity moved to the east of the site during this period.

6.4 Phase 3: medieval/post-medieval ploughing

6.4.1 Magnetic and resistance anomalies understood as being of agricultural origin were detected on a north-west - south-east alignment across the site. These were interpreted as possible subsoiling scars (GSB 98/134). The long sections of each of the evaluation trenches contained a layer that was interpreted as evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing. During machining of the site it was apparent that the tops of all of the features had been spread and that the disturbed upper fills of the features had to be removed to obtain any definition of the edges of the features. This almost certainly explains the lack of definition of the geophysical survey plot. It is likely that this phase of ploughing had begun the erosion of the site, by which the current level of the site is over one metre beneath the pavement level of the modern Tiddington Road. No dating evidence was obtained from this horizon (103, 203, 303, 403, 503, 603, 703) and it is therefore not clear at what point this agricultural usage began. Features that are interpreted as furrows, 205, 224 and 505 were found in trenches 2 and 5, similarly aligned to the agricultural type anomalies in the geophysical survey. Each of the possible furrows contained material of post-medieval date. The effects of erosion, especially at the top of the slope and modern subsoiling and ploughing have been to remove the evidence of the relationship between the furrows and the horizon interpreted as relict ridge and furrow found across the site. In reality it is likely that the field has been used for agriculture from at least the late medieval period until the present day and that the relationship between the furrows and any particular area of ploughed out ridge and furrow would be very difficult to determine.

6.4.2 The interpretation of the horizon outlined above as ridge and furrow conceals the fact that there is also a significant amount of colluvium within the layer. The high water table prevented a full understanding of the deeper ploughed/colluvial deposits being reached. The lack of any material dating from between the 3rd century AD and the post-medieval period may suggest that there was little, or no activity on the site during that time. When activity recommenced it involved ridge and furrow agriculture and it precipitated both the colluviation identified with movement downslope and the truncation of the tops of the Romano-British features.

6.5 Phase 4: modern

6.5.1 Much of the evidence for this phase of activity comes directly from the current site owner, Mr Longford. He has explained that he subsoiled the site, following contemporary advice to farmers, until his field was scheduled in 1985, after which he has used it for arable and pastoral farming. The principal effect of the subsoiling appears to have been the truncation of the ridge and furrow, phase 3 horizon and not to impact upon the archaeology. Although, as will be discussed later, much of the archaeology on the gravel terrace is currently only *c.* 0.25 m below the current ground surface and thus vulnerable to the plough, the subsoiling undertaken does not appear to have had the catastrophic impact that may have been anticipated. The reason for this is likely to be that the archaeology at the very top of the slope was protected beneath a headland and the bank against the current Tiddington Road. The subsoiling must have dragged some material from the bank at the edge of the road across the archaeology, such that it has been reduced by in excess of 0.4 m during the use of the site by the current landowner.

6.5.2 Since the scheduling of the site in 1985 some of the top of the subsoiling horizon has been incorporated into the current topsoil and it is likely that more slope erosion has taken place.

7.0 Deposit Model

7.1 The deposit model developed from the results of the evaluation is written in terms of distances from the bank that extends parallel to the Tiddington Road. The basic stratigraphic units are firstly the underlying clay and gravel naturals, into which all of the Iron Age and Romano-British features were cut. The natural is overlain at the base of the slope by a colluvial sequence that is not fully understood, because the trenches (particularly 3 and 4) in which it was identified became inundated with water. No features were identified cutting the colluvium and it is likely that it seals the Romano-British features. The upper fills of the excavated features had clearly been spread by ploughing. No dating evidence was found for this ploughed horizon, but it is likely to have begun in the late medieval period. The agricultural anomalies identified by the geophysical survey are similarly aligned to the post-medieval furrows that were exposed and this evidence combined with the undulations seen along the long sections of the trenches suggest that there was a phase of ridge and furrow ploughing of the site. This phase of activity also

encouraged substantial colluviation. The tops of the ridges were removed and incorporated within the cultivated horizon by a phase of subsoiling by the present landowner. This activity ceased in 1985 and the site has subsequently been used for arable and pastoral purposes resulting in a relatively thin horizon of active topsoil.

Distance from bank parallel to Tiddington Road (m)	Soil type	Depth (m)	Further comments
3	Topsoil Subsoiled layer	0.22 to 0.28 0 to 0.12	Subsoiled layer is not present across the top of the Romano-British building in Trench 2, probably because it has been incorporated into the topsoil by very recent ploughing. The ridge and furrow seen further downslope is not in evidence, either because it has been incorporated into the subsoiled layer and the current topsoil, or because the area was used as a headland.
10	Topsoil Subsoiled layer Ridge and furrow	0.18 to 0.3 0.1 to 0.3 0 to 0.22	Topsoil decreases in depth with movement west across the slope. The evidence for ridge and furrow is only found in trenches 2 and 5, which are slightly away from the edge of the gravel terrace and therefore subject to a subtly different plough regime.
20	Topsoil Subsoiled layer Ridge and furrow	0.18 to 0.3 0.2 to 0.4 0.2 to 0.42	Ridge and furrow is now present in all trenches. The erosion of material from upslope means that instead of deposits simply being reworked as happens upslope some of the stratigraphy is preserved.

30	Topsoil Subsoiled layer Ridge and furrow Colluvium	0.22 to 0.3 0.22 to 0.3 0.28 to 0.3	Less data available for further downslope, because the trenches became inundated with water. Trench 3 was not excavated to natural and so the depth of colluvium is not known.
46	Topsoil Subsoiled layer Ridge and furrow Colluvium	0.3 0.2 0.3 >0.4	Sequence based solely on results of trench 4

7.2 The deposit model is heavily influenced by the underlying natural geology, which in turn is likely to have had a significant impact upon the human habitation of the site. The edge of the gravel terrace meanders between nine and fifteen metres from the bank at the northern edge of the modern Tiddington Road. It is the drop off this gravel terrace, towards the river that creates the slope within the site and it is on the slightly elevated position of the gravel terrace that the building was located.

7.3 The evaluation results agree with previous fieldwork in the village, which suggests that it was the gravel terrace that was settled and the lower slopes on the floodplain that were farmed. The deposit model predicts that further structures will be found on the gravel terrace and that it is possible that there are further structures on the gravel terrace, within the perimeter of the current site. Most of the late Iron Age and Romano-British buildings identified in excavations in Tiddington have been post-built, occasionally with crude stone foundations, as found in the evaluation, and it is likely that any further buildings located within the site boundary would be of similar construction.

7.4 There are also known pits and relatively shallow linears on the gravel terrace and it is likely that this pattern would be replicated across the terrace within the site boundary. The proximity of the edge of the gravel terrace to the modern Tiddington Road, which is thought to follow the line of the primary Roman road through the settlement, may indicate that site is very close to the edge of the settlement. This would suggest that the extrapolated boundary of the settlement

is too extensive and may explain the apparent decrease in the density of features in the trenches to the west of the site.

7.5 Many of the features on the gravel terrace are overlain directly by the topsoil and even where there is a remnant ploughsoil from the previous subsoiling of the site, no feature is sealed by more than 0.4 m of overburden. The Romano-British building lies directly beneath only 0.28 m of topsoil and there is at least one clear subsoiling scar cutting across it. Substantial fragments of the bluish limestone foundations were observed within the topsoil as it was machined. The survival of this feature is likely to be due to the fact that it has been sealed beneath a headland and that as that headland has been removed by ploughing so the bank against the Tiddington Road has also been eroded, so as material has been removed from above the building so further material has replaced it. The fact that the subsoiling horizon, seen across the rest of the site has been incorporated into the ploughsoil above the building demonstrates the vulnerability of the building to continued ploughing. The same logic applies to the other features located on the gravel terrace.

7.6 Downslope, off the gravel terrace a number of ditches were exposed, which may be part of a co-axial field system. The ditches certainly appear to be aligned approximately north-south - east-west, but it is difficult to extrapolate the ditches between trenches. The ditches varied in depth from approximately 0.1 m to 0.9 m and all had been truncated by ploughing. The majority of the linear features were found within 30 m of the bank at the northern edge of the Tiddington Road and within 50 m of the eastern edge of the site. The feature density decreased significantly in a corridor of *c.* 30 m from the western site boundary. Only five discrete features were identified within the trenches and only one of those, pit 221 was excavated. It is therefore difficult to comment further on these features.

7.7 No evidence was found to ascertain the height of the original ground surface through which the features were cut, so the exact level of truncation is unclear. What is apparent is that all of the features exposed were truncated by the phase 3 ploughing. When the long sections of the trenches were cleaned it was very apparent that each of the features found beneath the phase 3 plough horizon had been spread significantly by the plough. The phase 3 plough horizon survived to a maximum depth of 0.42 m, in trench 5. The phase 3 ploughing is likely to have truncated the pre-existing features by in excess of 0.3 m. A consequence of the truncation and subsequent spreading of the upper fills of the features was the lack of definition of the feature

edges in the geophysical survey. What is now clear is that the area of high resistance found against the Tiddington Road is in fact the gravel terrace. The linear spread of low resistance that mirrors the plan of the edge of the gravel terrace is almost certainly relates to subsurface geology at the edge of the gravel terrace, with a build up of colluvium, although it is also clear that this may be masking features, such as the ditch at the southern extent of trench 1.

7.8 The deposits found at forty metres and beyond, north of the Tiddington Road are still fairly poorly understood, because the trenches filled so rapidly with water. Neither trench 3 or 4 was excavated to natural and no archaeology was identified in either, although it is clear, from trench 1 that features were cut at this point along the slope. The truncation of features is likely to diminish with movement downslope, as a consequence of the protection afforded by colluvial movement downslope and the redeposition of ploughsoils, although this was not proven.

8 Assessment of Importance (Figure 12)

8.1 Tiddington Roman settlement was scheduled, monument number 184, on the 23rd August, 1985. It is described thus:-

"This settlement of *c.* 22 ha has replaced a group of scattered Iron Age farmsteads in the early/mid 1st century AD. This Romano-British village/roadside settlement was located close to a crossing over the River Avon. It remained occupied until the end of the Roman period, being defended by a ditch in the mid 4th century AD. Early excavations interpreted the site as industrial, but later excavations have shown that its economic base was agricultural. The part of the settlement scheduled is the northern area where adjacent excavations suggest timber buildings and occupation along the main roads throughout the Roman period."

8.2 The importance of the monument is assessed by the following criteria:-

Criterion iii.	Rarity.	Tiddington is probably the second largest Roman settlement in Warwickshire.
Criterion i.	Survival.	The scheduled area is the only part of the settlement which remains wholly intact, though archaeological layers survive

partially elsewhere.

Criterion v.	Diversity.	A deep topsoil has preserved a stratigraphic sequence of Roman occupation, despite the presence of Medieval ridge and furrow. As well as the 400 years of domestic occupation, there is the possibility of an early military occupation within the area.
Criterion vi.	Documentation	Recent excavation in adjacent areas has enhanced the significance of this site.

8.3 The fact that the site is scheduled means *de facto* that it is considered to be of national importance. The results of the evaluation demonstrate that there are archaeological remains surviving on the land held by the current site owner and that they have all been affected, to a greater or lesser degree, by ploughing. By far the greatest damage done to the archaeology was during the phase 3, medieval/post-medieval period when ridge and furrow ploughing truncated the tops of all the pre-existing features to a depth probably in excess of 0.3 m. The soils created by the erosion of the slope and the tops of the features in this phase were sufficiently deep that subsequent subsoiling of the site, by the current landowner appears to have had little effect on the archaeology, with the possible exception of the building, which was cut by a plough scar.

8.4 Perhaps the two most important findings of the evaluation are firstly to reinforce Palmer's (1983) doubts "about the suggested extent of the area enclosed by the 4th century defensive ditch" and secondly to question the extent of the settled area of the Roman small town. The lack of evidence for late Roman activity on the Reading Court site and within the newly evaluated area casts doubt on the area enclosed by the 4th century ditch. It is of course possible, as Palmer (1983) suggested for Reading Court that Mr Longford's land was enclosed open space in the late Roman period, but it is at least as likely that the scale of Roman occupation had shrunk markedly by the late Roman period. The lack of late Roman activity from the evaluated area, when taken with the results of the Reading Court excavation (Palmer 1983), in particular the discovery of later burials within the latter site, suggest that the fourth century boundary is likely to located to the east of Reading Court.

8.5 Secondly the extrapolation of the late Roman boundary appears to have become synonymous with the edge of settlement, this terminology is used by Palmer (1983) and also by Burnham and Wacher (1990). The two things are clearly different. The fact that the modern Tiddington Road, which is thought to follow the line of the primary Roman road through the village, converges with the edge of the gravel terrace immediately to the west of Mr Longford's land is significant. It is likely that the settled area of the small town was established on the gravel terrace, above the floodplain and all of the available evidence supports that view. It is therefore possible that first century AD settlement extended little further west than the evaluated site and then contracted significantly in the later Roman period, to the eastern extent of the scheduled area. The extrapolation of the 4th century boundary to the cemetery excavated in 1923-4 is somewhat arbitrary, given that a number of inhumations are known within the proposed circuit, including those at the golf course (Wellstood 1925) and at the Reading Trust site (Palmer 1983). The

validity of this suggestion is difficult to verify, because of the relative bias of archaeological fieldwork to the east of the small town. The Warwickshire SMR contains no records for the 1939 excavation noted by Palmer in the background to his report on the 1980/81 excavation. Other, recent fieldwork along the western extent of the Tiddington Road has been fairly small scale, including the discovery of two pits beneath 82 Tiddington Road, at least one of which was Romano-British (SMR No 6862). An alternative to Palmer's proposed edge of settlement is shown in Figure 12.

8.6 The evaluation as a whole has therefore contributed a relatively small, but interesting amount of information that tends to reinforce some of the doubts about the size of the Roman small town expressed by Palmer in his interim reports. In terms of objects found the Romano-British spur is of interest, being relatively rare and in good condition, possibly attesting an environment conducive to the survival of metalwork. Beyond that very little can be sad about a solitary spur. The discovery of the human skull within ditch 105 is potentially of great interest. The ditch fill dates to the 1st century AD and no separate cut was observed for the skull and it must therefore be assumed that this skull and possibly more skeletal material was buried in the upper fill of a ditch. This would require further fieldwork to substantiate, but such a find would be extremely interesting and unusual.

8.7 The most significant find of the evaluation is the Romano-British building. Very little was established about the building, because it was suggested by the English Heritage nominated advisor that it was sufficient to establish its presence and that even limited excavation of the interior was beyond the remit of the evaluation. Ultimately a single 10 litre sample was taken from the surface found within the building. The building is similar in construction to a 4th century AD square building found by Palmer in 1981/82 in his excavation in advance of the National Farmers' Union building. The building that Palmer described measured 5.5 m by 5.5 m and he suggested that it was a timber construction set upon a rough stone footing, with a paved floor. The discovery of a worked stone block beneath the sampled surface during the evaluation suggests that the building may have had a similar function to the 4th century AD building identified by Palmer. If as seems likely the evaluated building was also square (only 2 sides of the structure were exposed) then its relatively small dimensions (4 m by 4 m), combined with the suggestion that it may have had a raised floor, may suggest that it was used as a granary. Very little is known about Roman granaries in Britain (de la Bédoyère 1991) and although there are records of a number of possible granaries within villa complexes and also

military stores there are no known free standing structures within small towns.

8.8 The identification of the evaluated building as a granary is merely an interesting hypothesis. Very little can be stated about the structure with any surety, because its dimensions were not fully established and only a small sample was taken from the interior. The discovery of a possible floor within the structure raises many interesting questions about the nature of the construction, the relationship between the floor and the original ground surface and the derivation of the sampled material.

8.9 The main difficulty that any future excavator of the site is likely to face is in attempting to reconstruct the physical landscape of the site and to write a convincing narrative of human habitation. The effect of the truncation of many of the features has been to make it difficult to establish a stratigraphic sequence, because unless features are fairly substantial the physical point at which their relationships with other features might be discerned has frequently been lost. Similarly, evidence for the location of banks is frequently found in upper fills of features, deposited as the bank weathers into a ditch that has already largely filled. Without this information although the site may contain many interesting anomalies, as outlined above, it will be difficult to set them within their immediate context. The ecofactual potential of the ditches is generally fairly good, as is the state of bone preservation and the bulk of the samples taken were rated as moderate to rich for charred material. There is clearly interesting artefactual and ecofactual material within the site, the problem will be to set this material within a developing historical context. The collection of material is of little consequence without the ability to place this within a narrative of human habitation of the site. The level of truncation of many of the features will make it very difficult to establish the sequential development of the landscape.

8.10 In conclusion the evaluation has shown the site to be borderline transitional, between the very late Iron Age and the 2nd century AD Romano-British, which is an area of current research interest. Evidence has been found to reinforce some of Palmer's doubts about the size of the Romano-British small town and whilst the amount of data from the evaluation is clearly dwarfed by that from Reading Court, there are convincing arguments that Tiddington may in fact have been less than 11 ha, rather than 22 ha as suggested by the scheduling.

8.11 All of the Romano-British features exposed were truncated by phase 3 ploughing which removed at least 0.3 m from their upper fills. The survival of the features was significantly

worse than the features excavated at Reading Court, which appear to have been typically more substantial. The ground surface through which the features were cut has been removed from across the site. Phasing many of the features, particularly those that are shallow, will be difficult as a consequence of the spreading of the upper fills of the features and clearly a large amount of dating evidence has been lost. If the site is excavated the phase 3 plough soil will have to be removed to gain any definition of the edges of the truncated features.

8.12 No evidence was found for early military use of the site and the ecofactual information from the samples is consistent with an agricultural, rather than an urban assemblage. It is entirely conceivable that all of the features exposed were cut within a period of 200 years and that they represent activity peripheral to settlement. It is possible and perhaps likely that there are further structures on the gravel terrace within the excavated site of similar date and character to that exposed in Trench 2. All of the features and structures on the gravel terrace are sealed by at most 0.4 m of topsoil and in places subsoil and are therefore extremely vulnerable on a site that is being rapidly eroded.

8.13 Much of the documentation for fieldwork in Tiddington is either missing or in interim form. Excavations conducted prior to 1939 exist primarily as archives of artefacts, without written descriptions (Wilson pers comm 27.06.01) and Palmer's excavations in advance of the National Farmers' Union building and Reading Court have been published in interim form only. Against this background it is suggested that the evaluated site does have the potential to provide interesting information about the small town. The site clearly contains interesting artefactual and ecofactual material. The problem facing any future excavator will be to place the details, the human remains in ditches, the discovery of spurs and other accoutrements into a narrative showing how the site developed, especially in the context of the small town. The effects of truncation of the phase 3 ploughing have been fairly severe and may have removed much of the information necessary to fully interpret the site. The character of the site as a whole is not particularly remarkable, the main interest is in the anomalies of rural life and to identify these much of the site needs to be excavated, before the features are removed by the plough.

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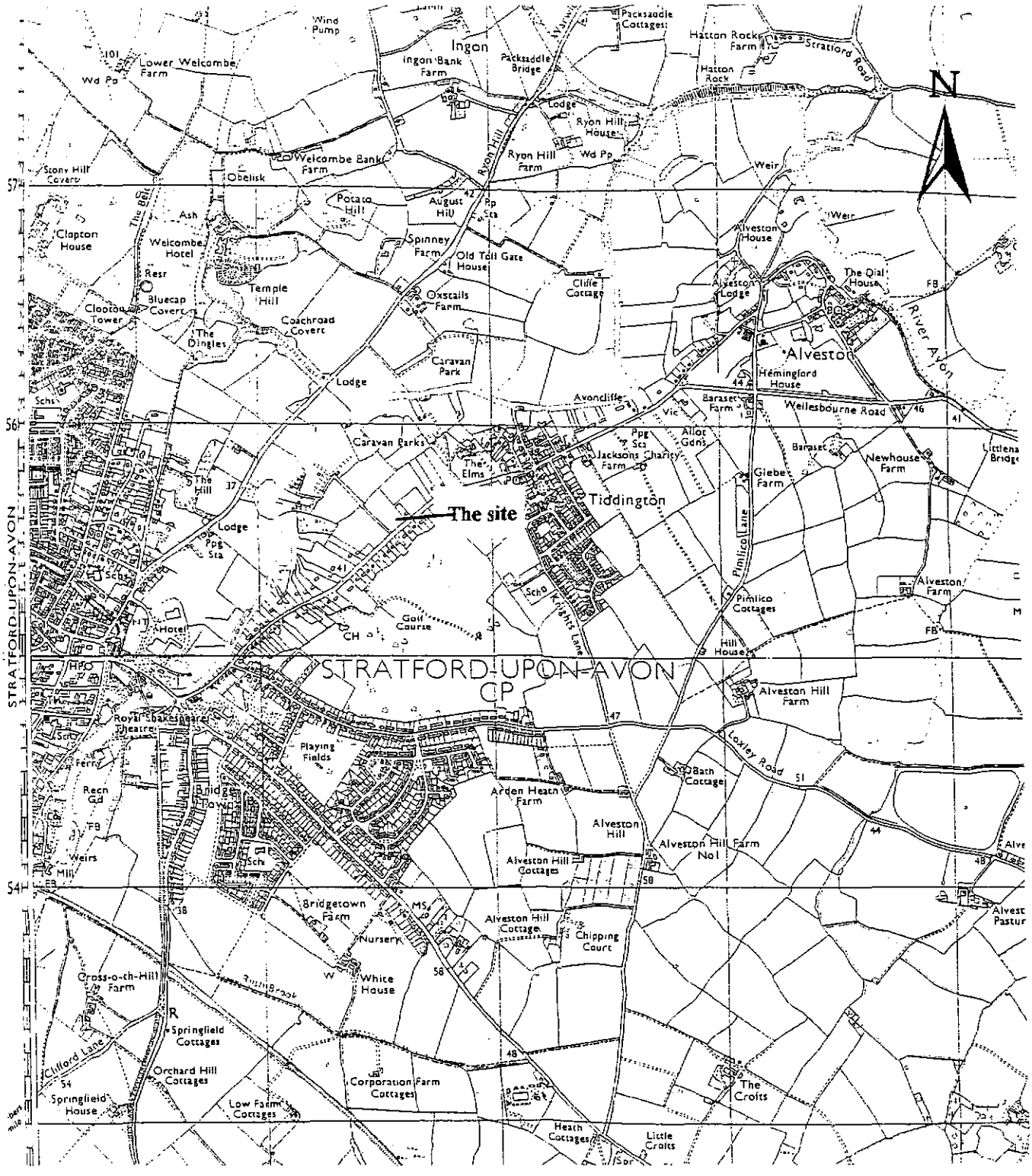
10.0 Figures and Plates



Note: Map based upon Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationary Office, Crown Copyright Reserved.

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Figure 1: Site location plan (from OS Pathfinder map at 1:25000)

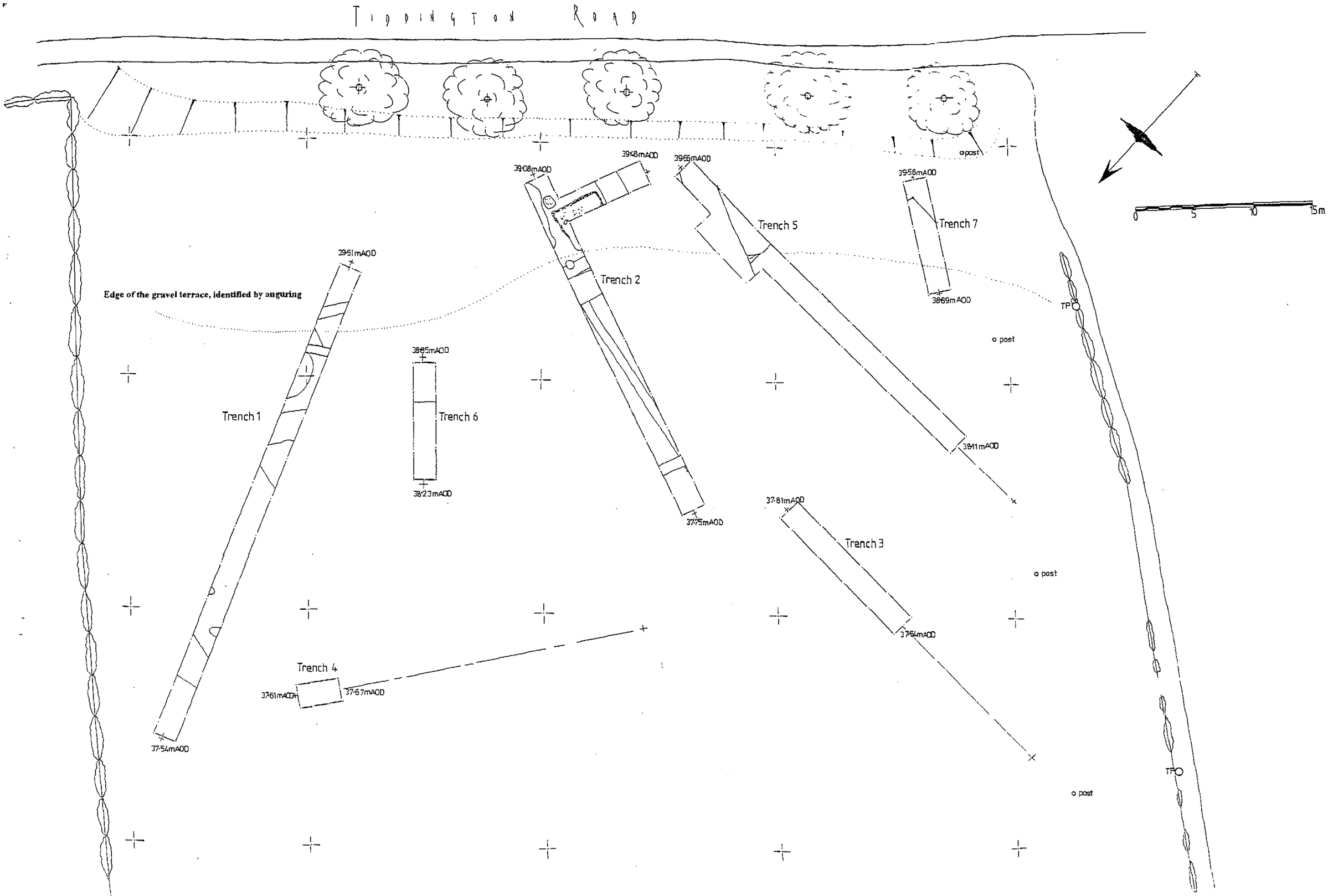


Figure 2: Trench location plan

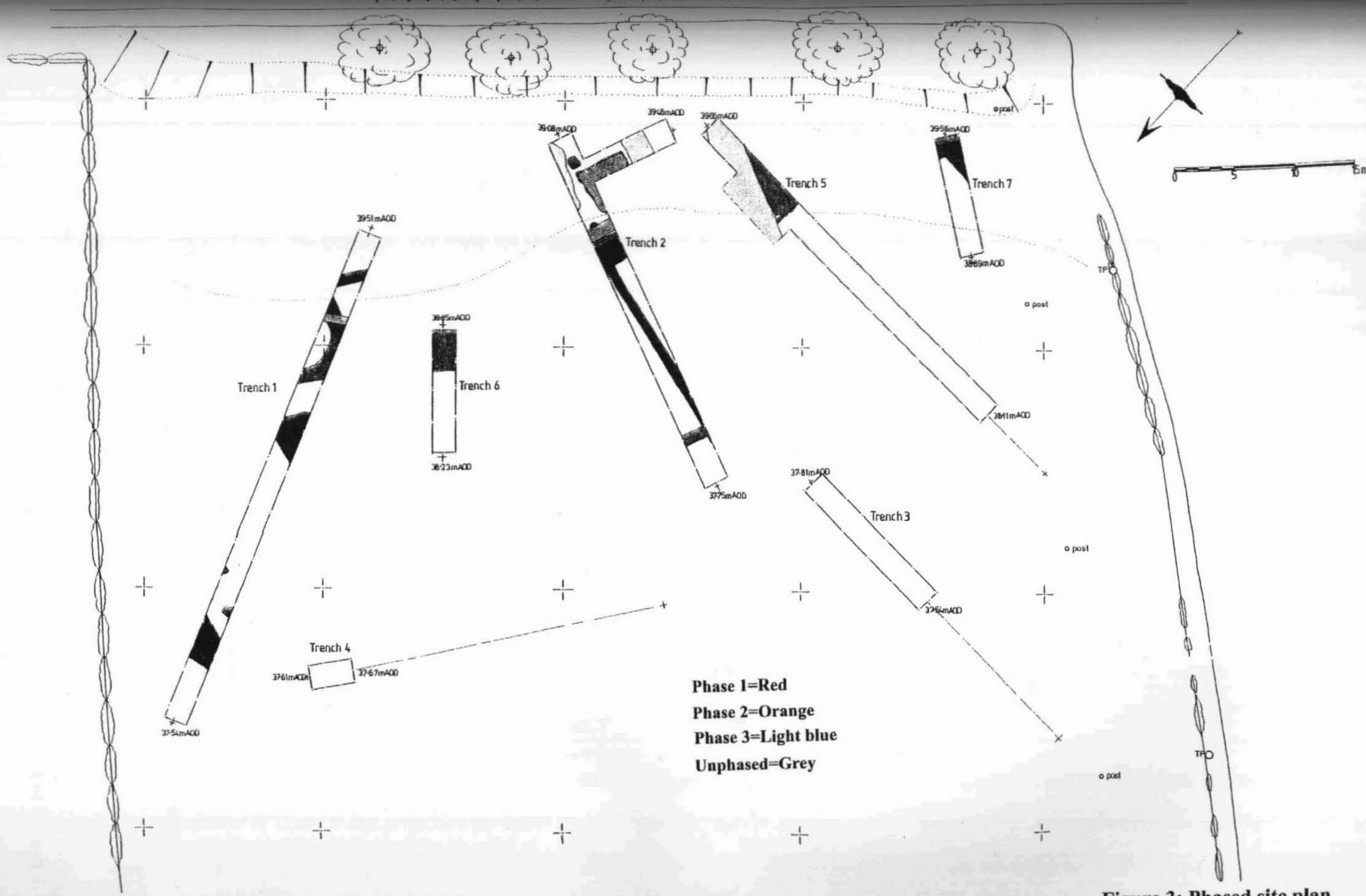
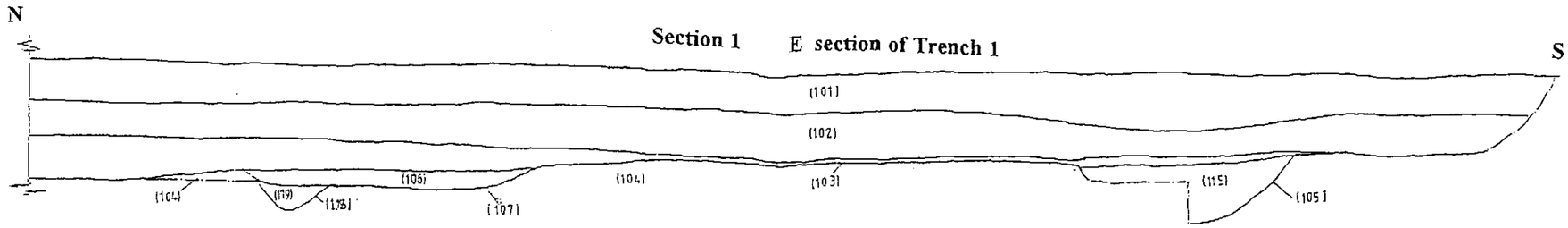
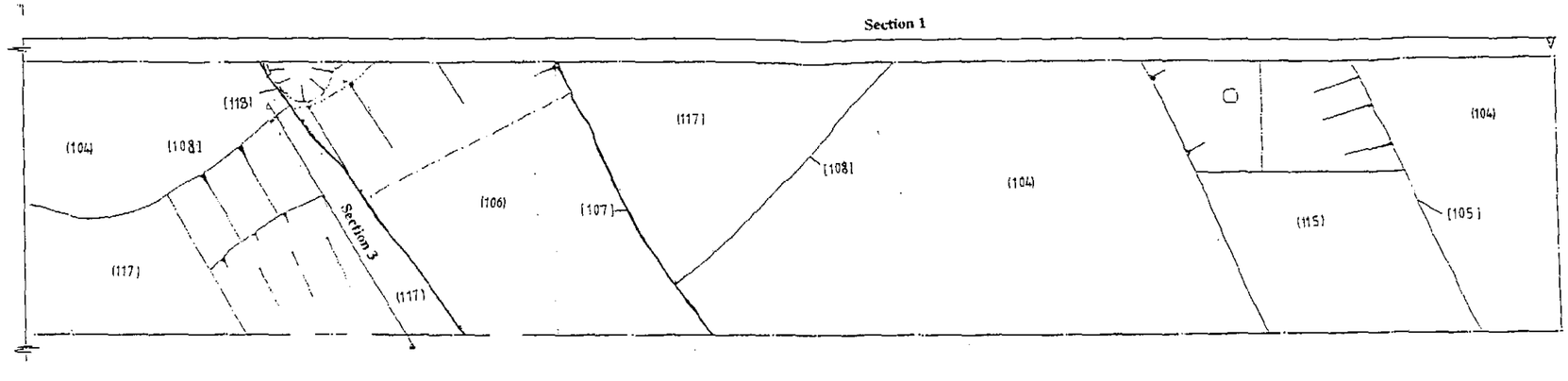
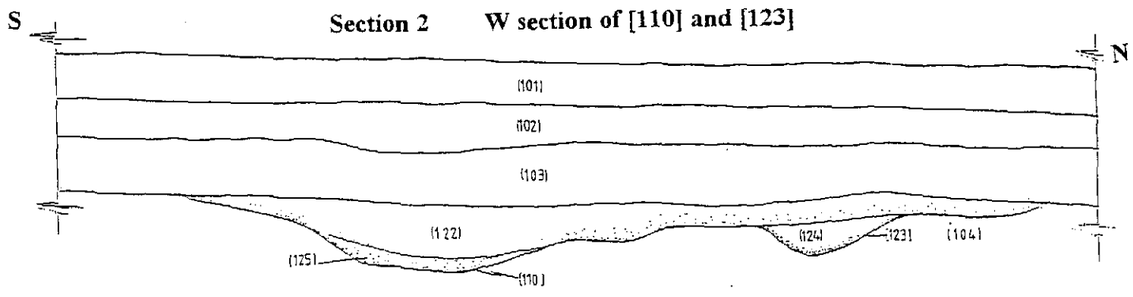


Figure 3: Phased site plan







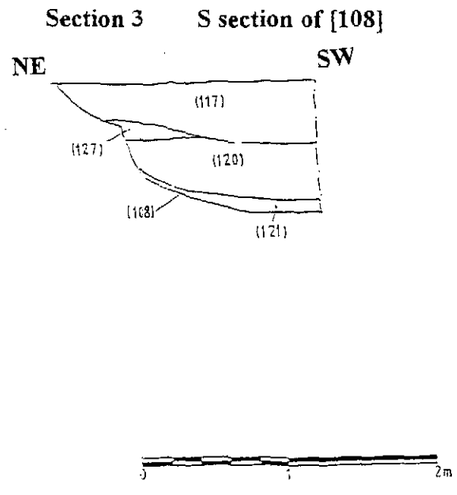


Figure 4: Plans and sections of southern extent of Trench 1

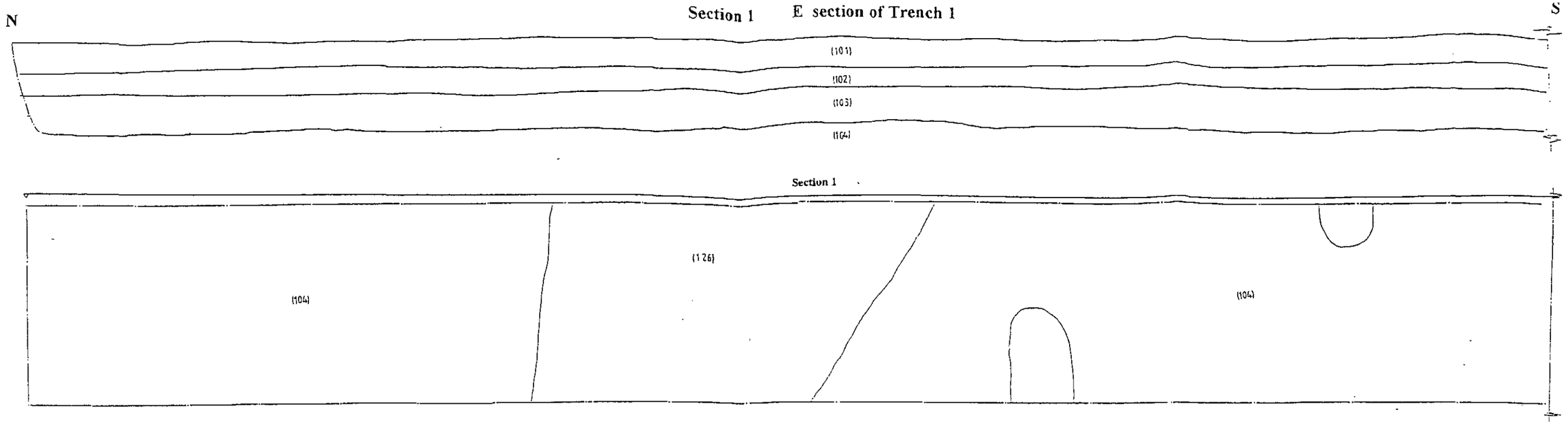


Figure 5: Plans and sections of northern extent of Trench 1

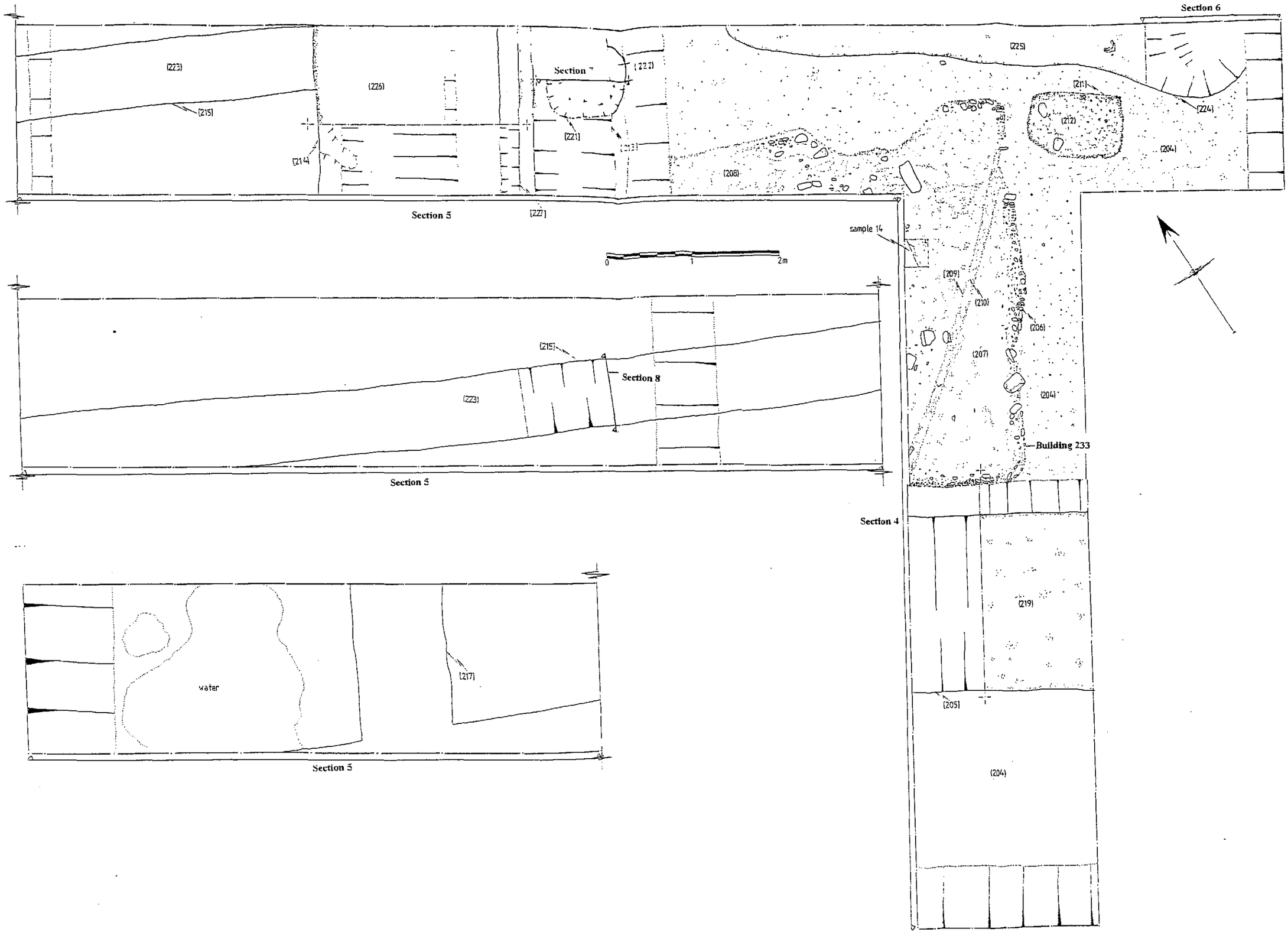
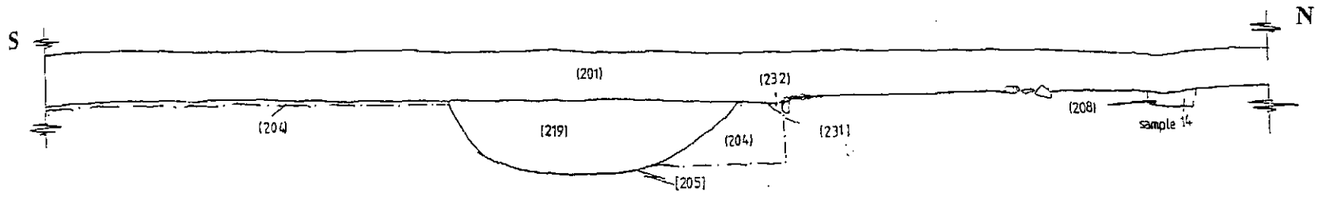
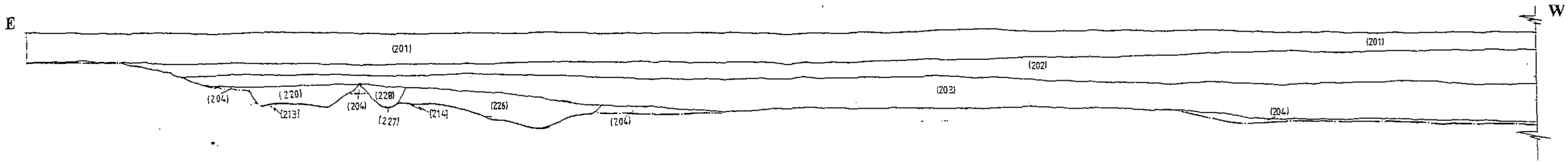


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 2

Section 4 W section of extension to Trench 2

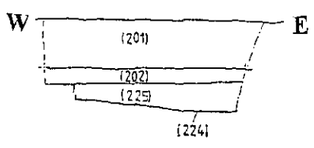


Section 5 S section of Trench 2

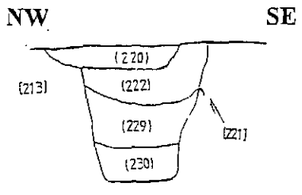


Section 5 S section of Trench 2

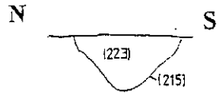
Section 6 N section of [224]



Section 7 N section of [221]



Section 8 E section of [215]



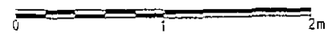
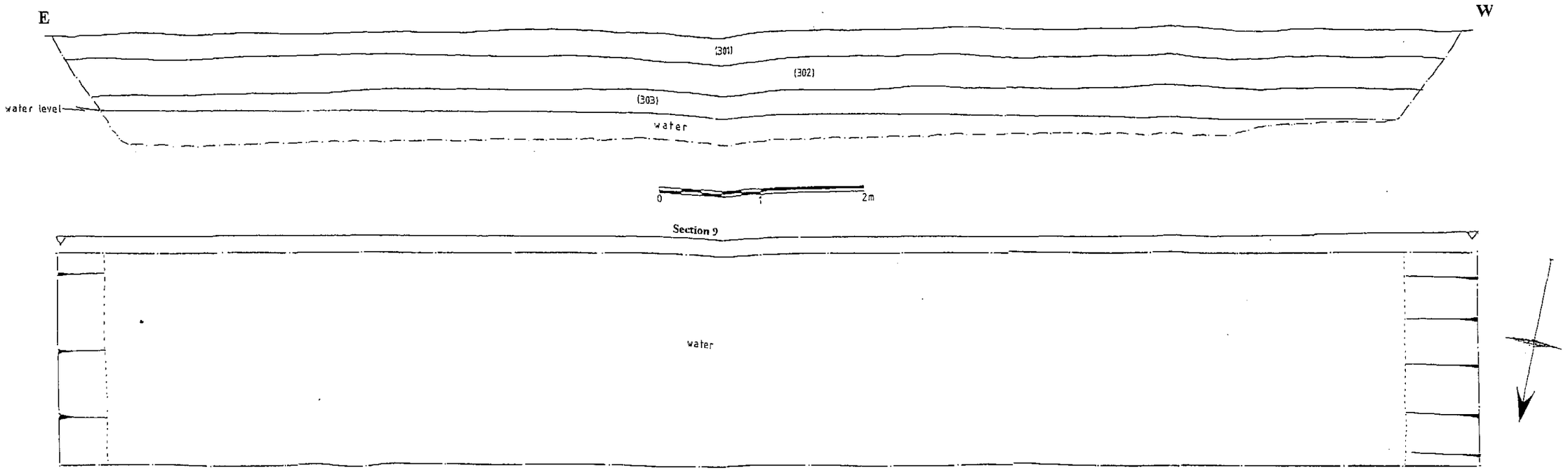


Figure 7: Sections of Trench 2

Section 9 S section of Trench 3



Section 10 SE section of Trench 4

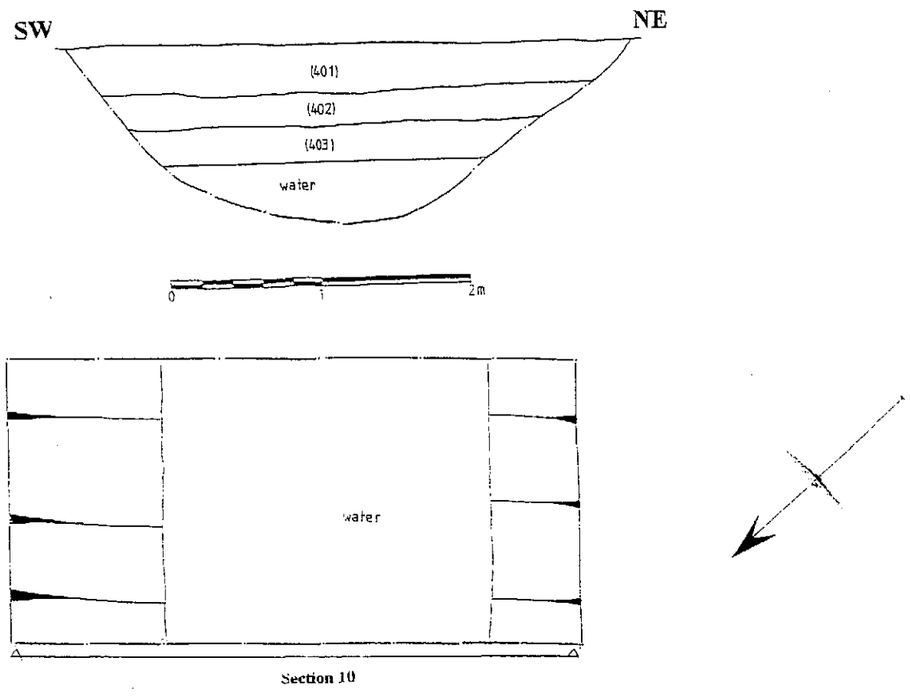
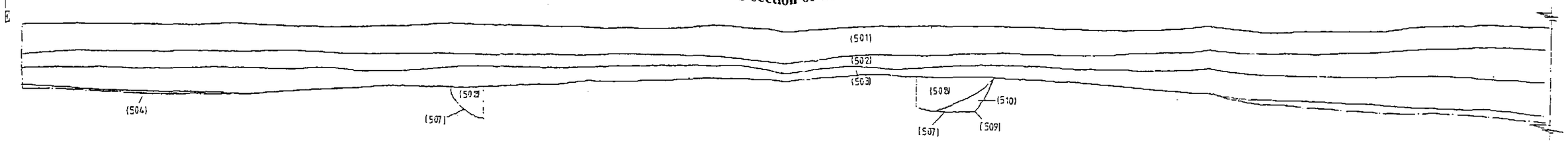
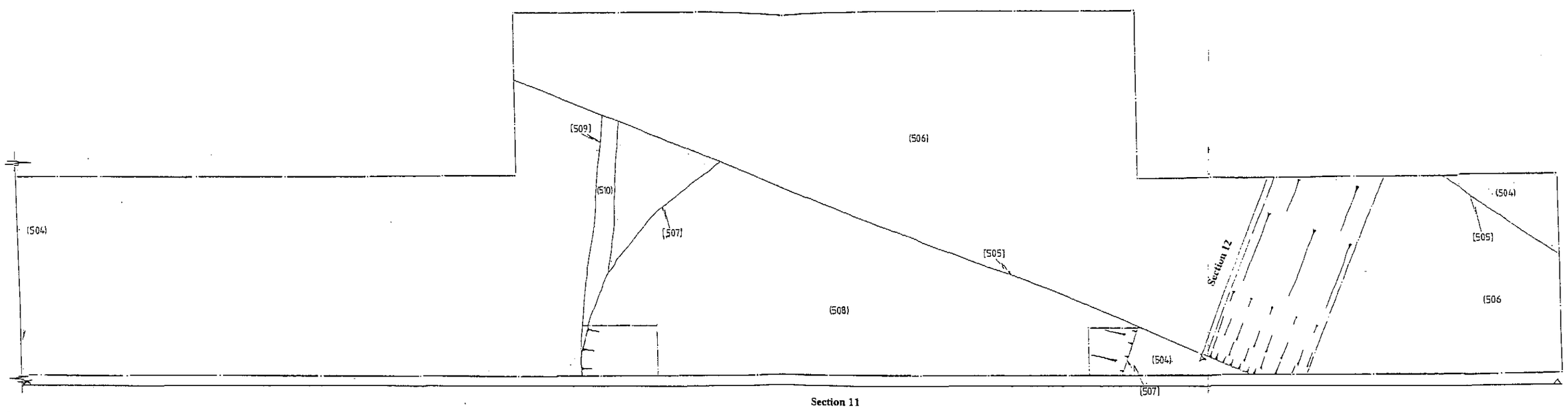


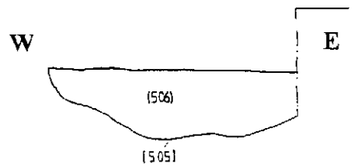
Figure 8: Plans and sections of Trenches 3 and 4

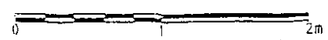
Section 11 S section of Trench 5





Section 12 N section of [505]





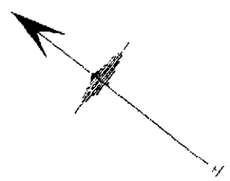
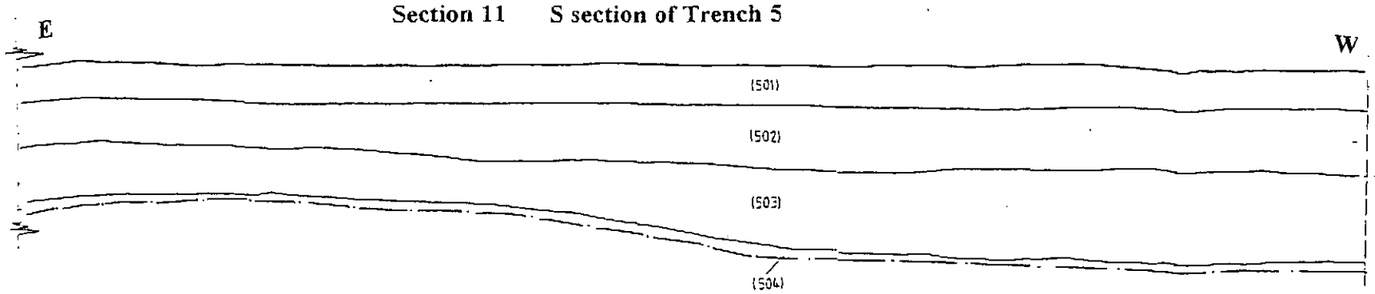
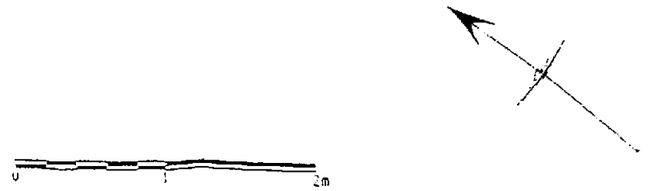
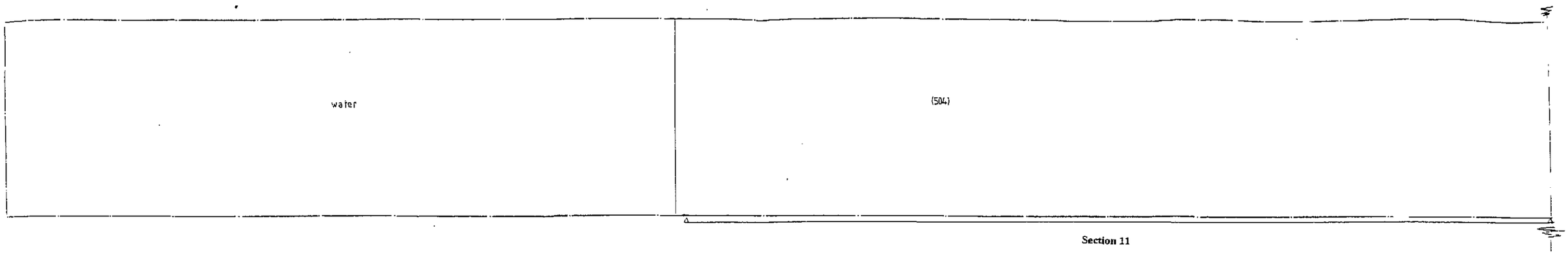


Figure 9: Plan and sections of south-eastern extent of Trench 5

Section 11 S section of Trench 5

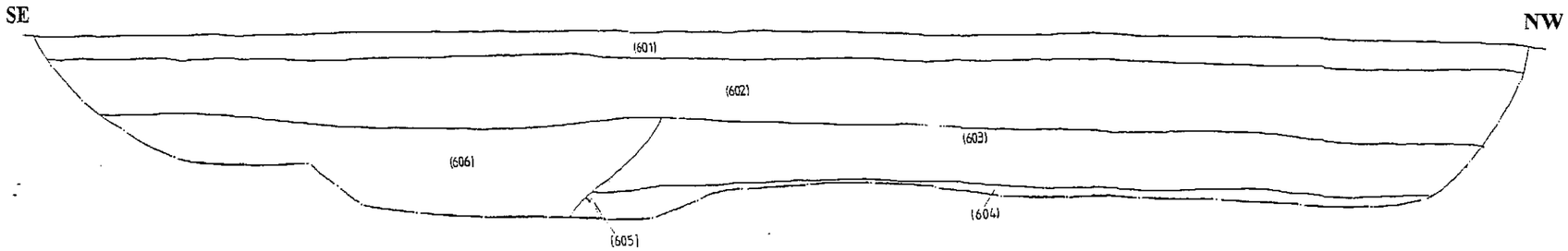




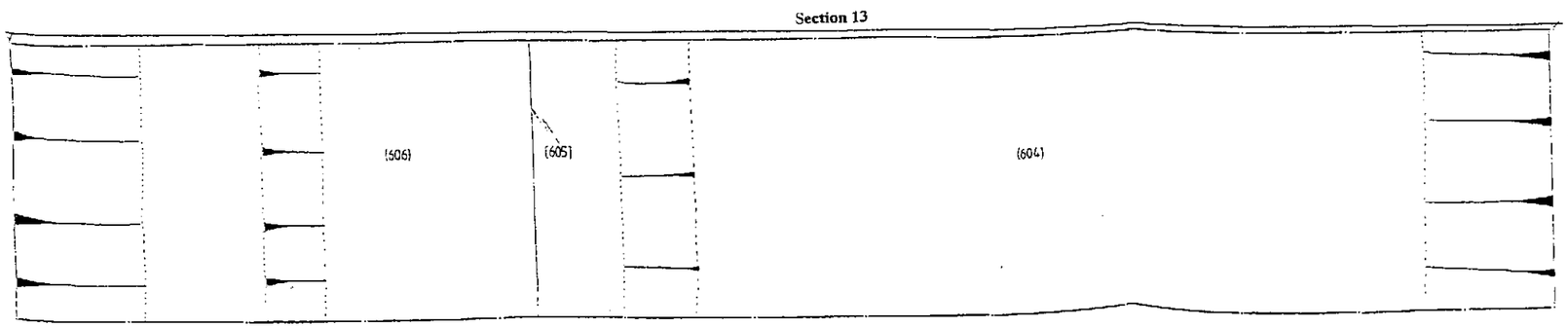


Section 11

Section 13 SW section of Trench 6



Section 13



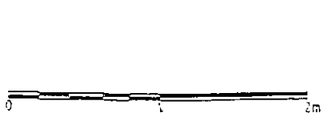
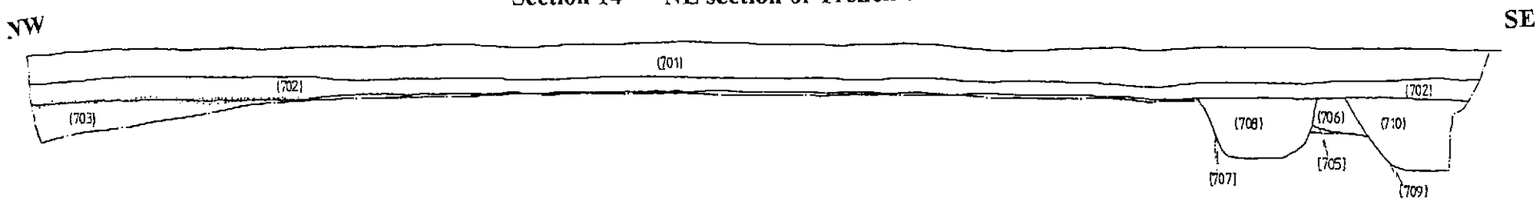
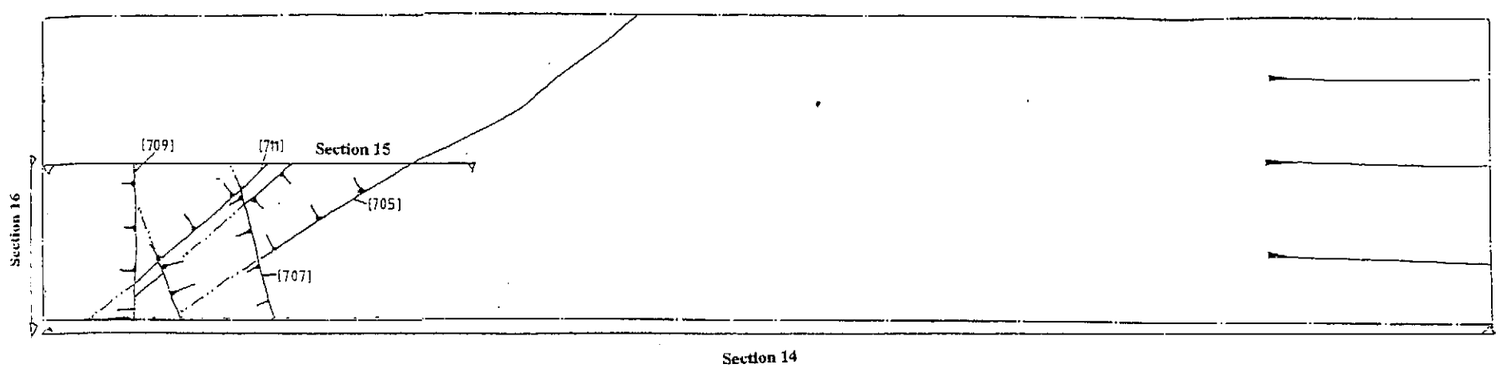


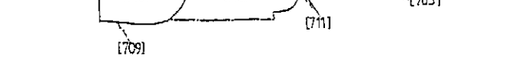
Figure 10: Plan and section of north-western extent of Trench 5 and plan and section of Trench 6

Section 14 NE section of Trench 7

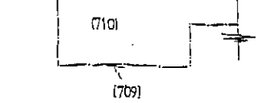


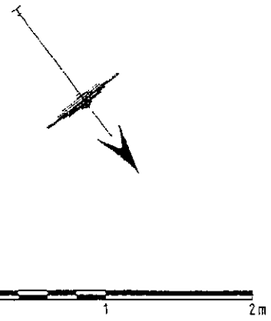


Section 15 SW section of [705], [709] and [711]

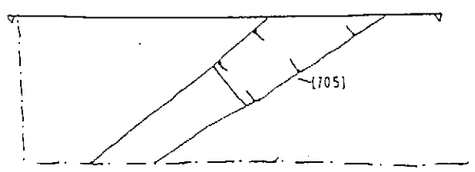


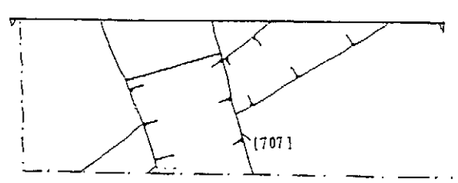
Section 16 SE section of [709]

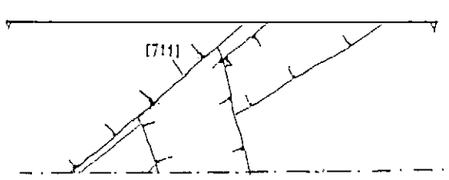




Phased plans showing relationships between ditches [705], [707], [709] and [711]







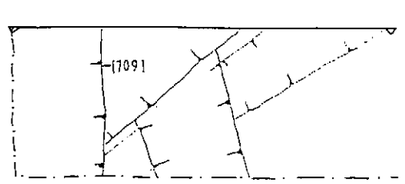


Figure 11: Plans and sections of Trench 7

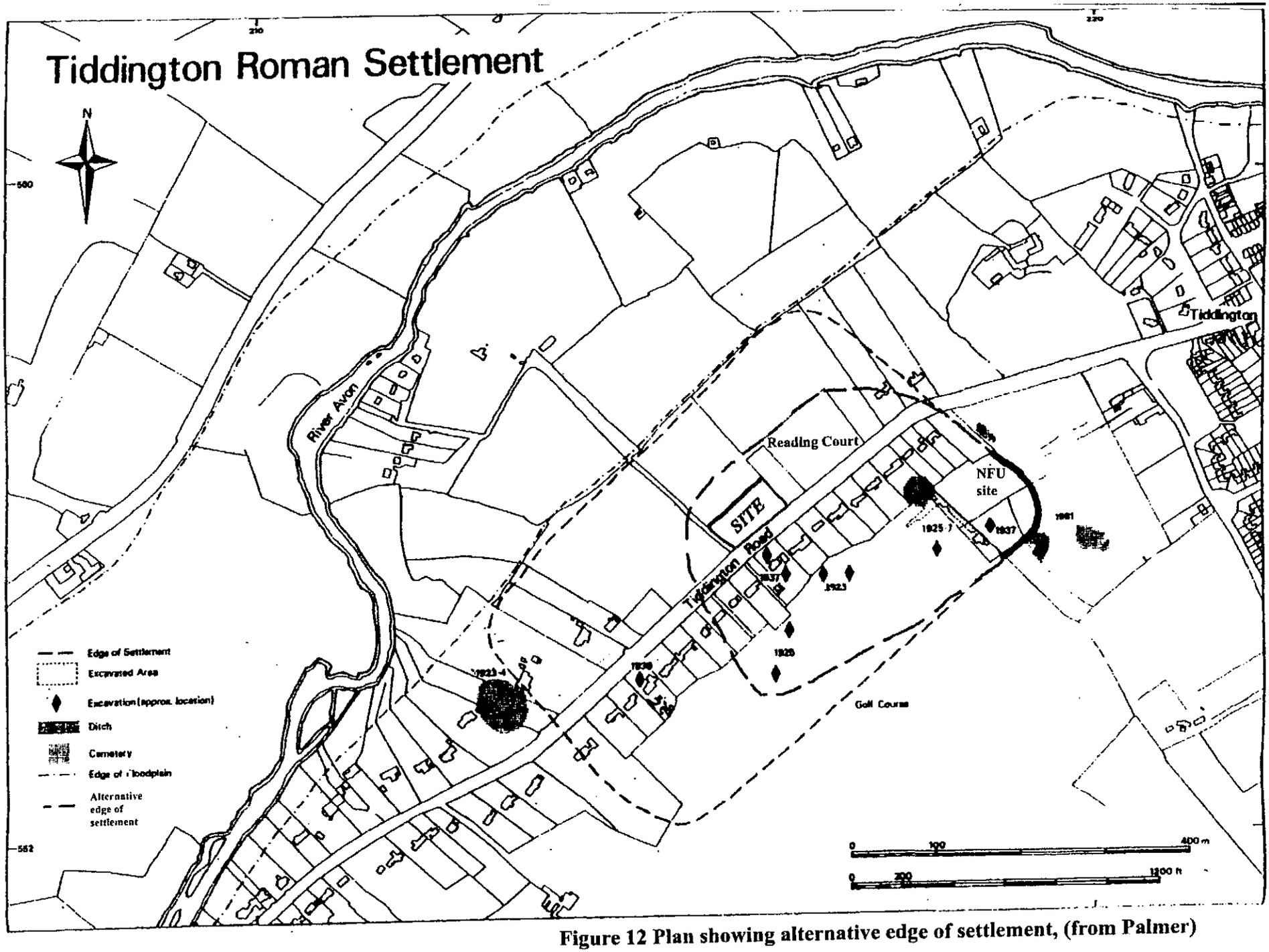


Figure 12 Plan showing alternative edge of settlement, (from Palmer)

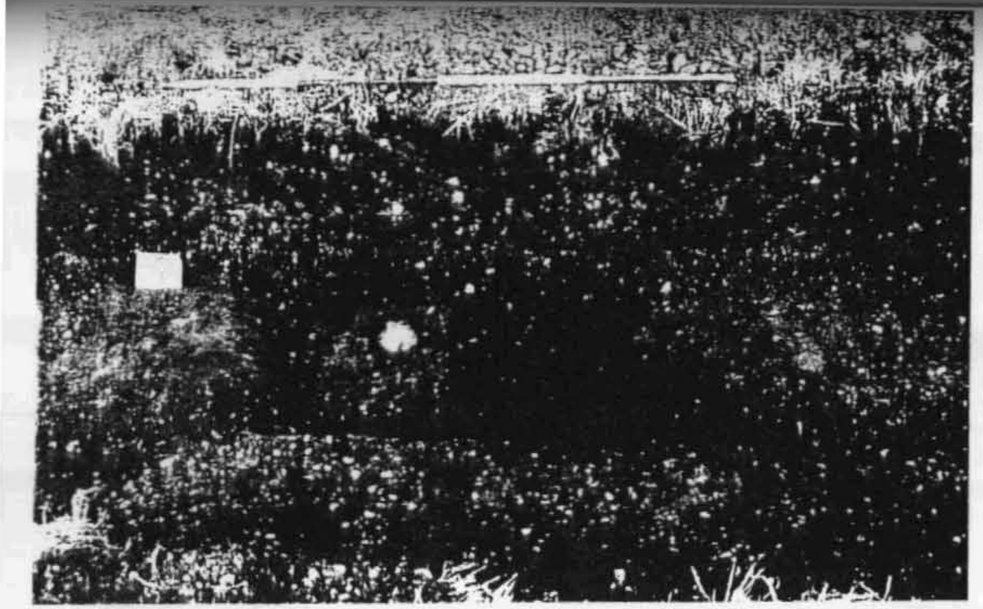


Plate 1: Ditch [105], looking E
showing human skull

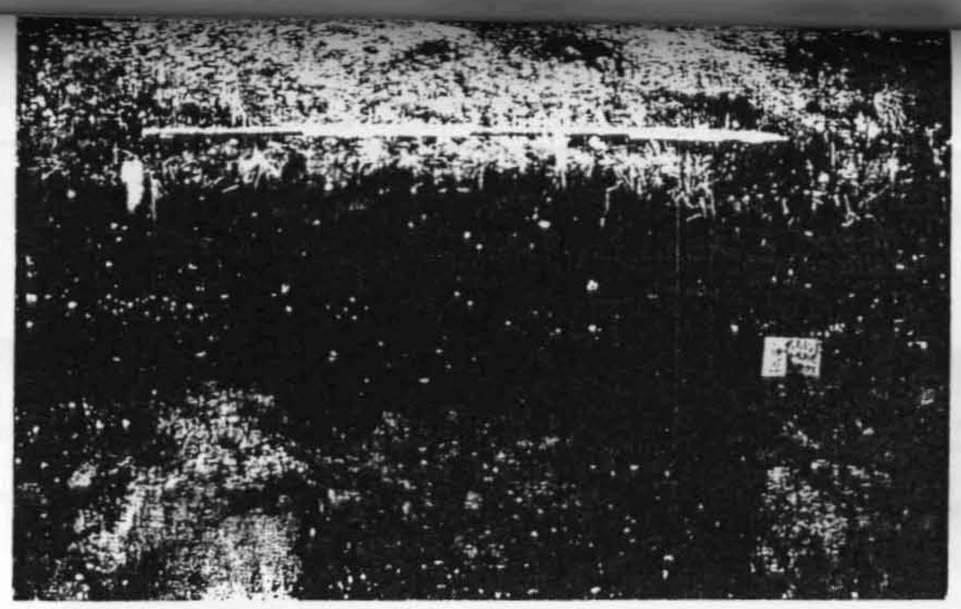


Plate 2: Ditch [107], looking E

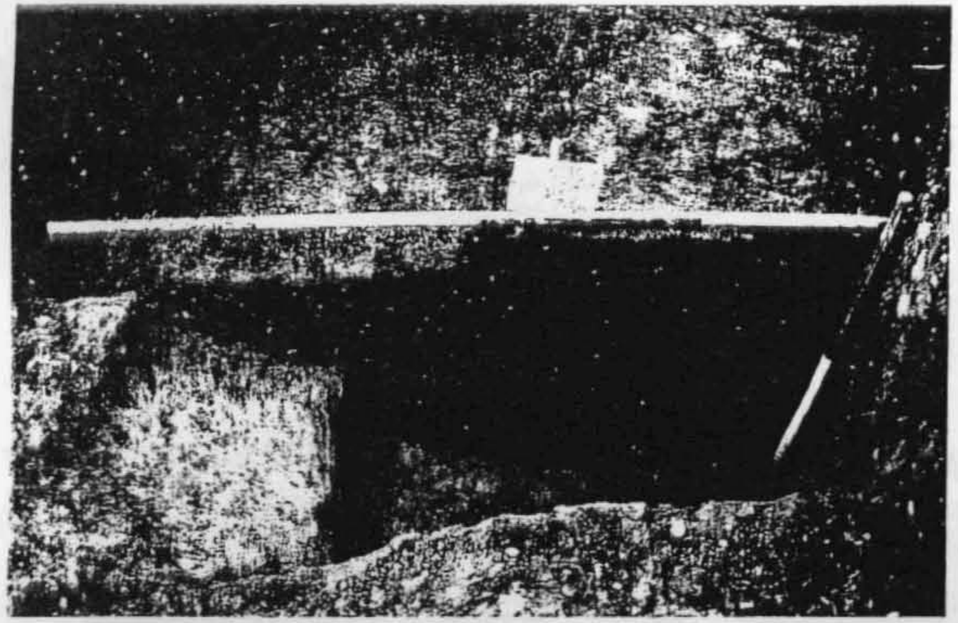


Plate 3: Ditch [108], looking SE

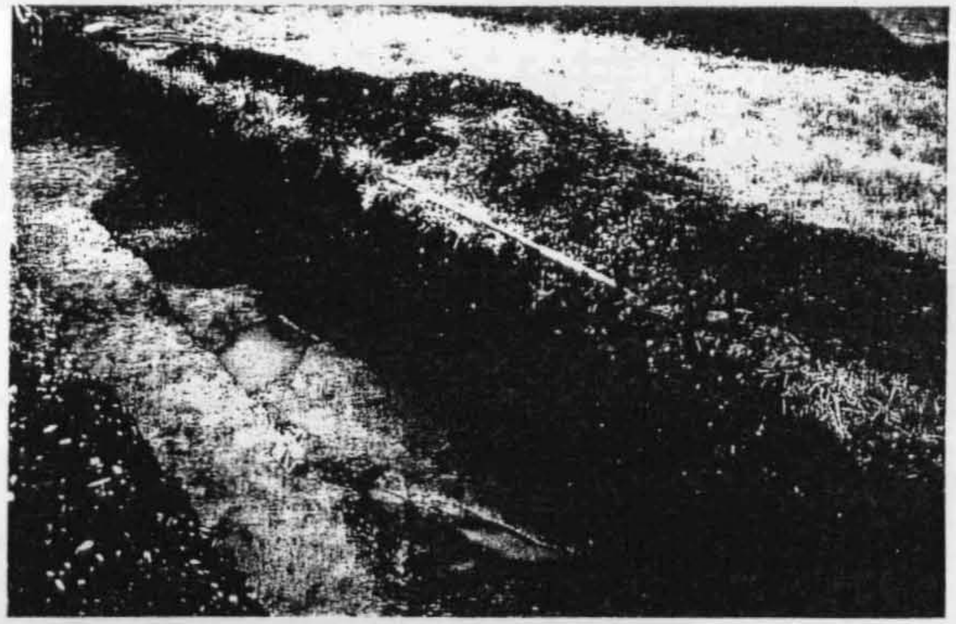


Plate 4: Ditches [110] and [123]
looking SW

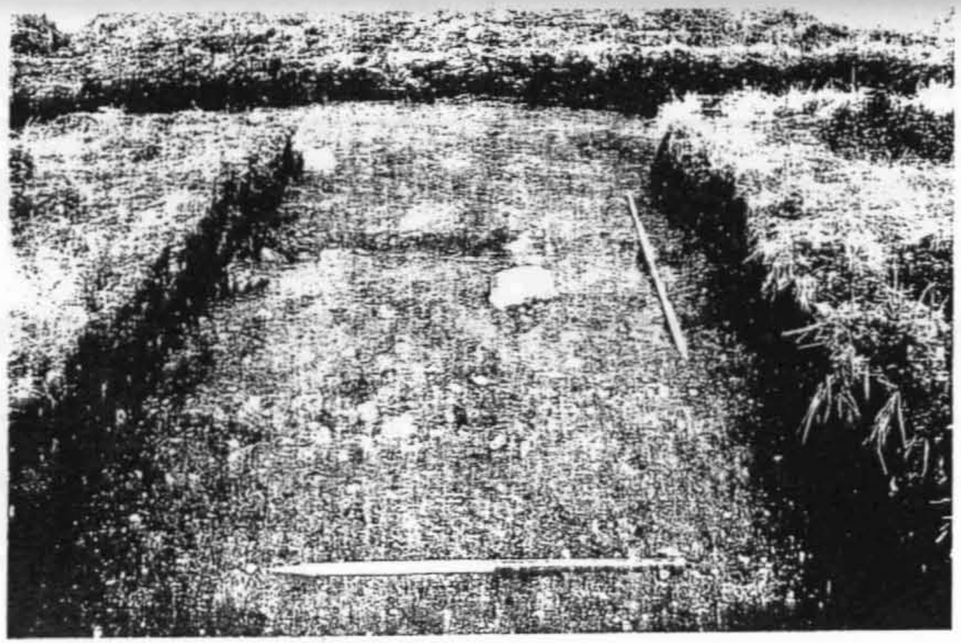


Plate 5: Building (233), looking NE

Plate 6: Building (233), looking N

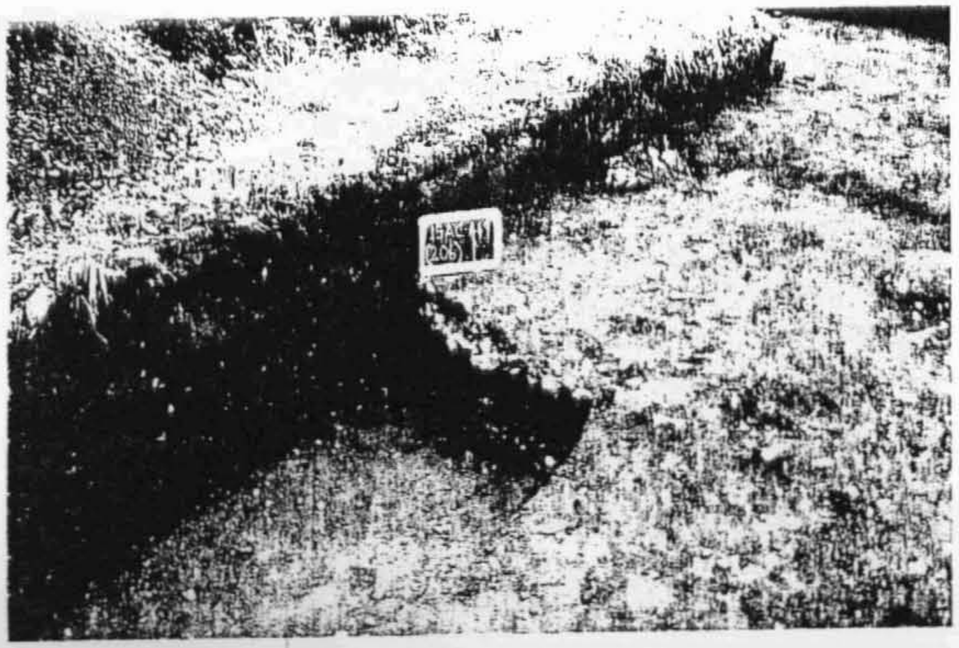


Plate 7: Section showing stone footings of building (233), looking NE

Plate 8: Pit [221], looking NE

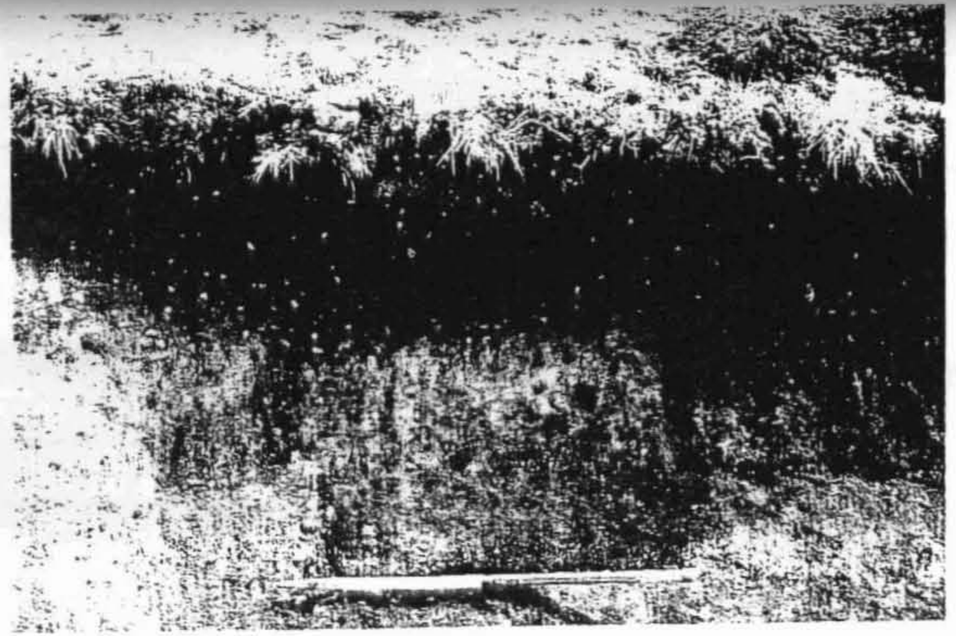


Plate 9: Ditches [213] and [221], looking SW

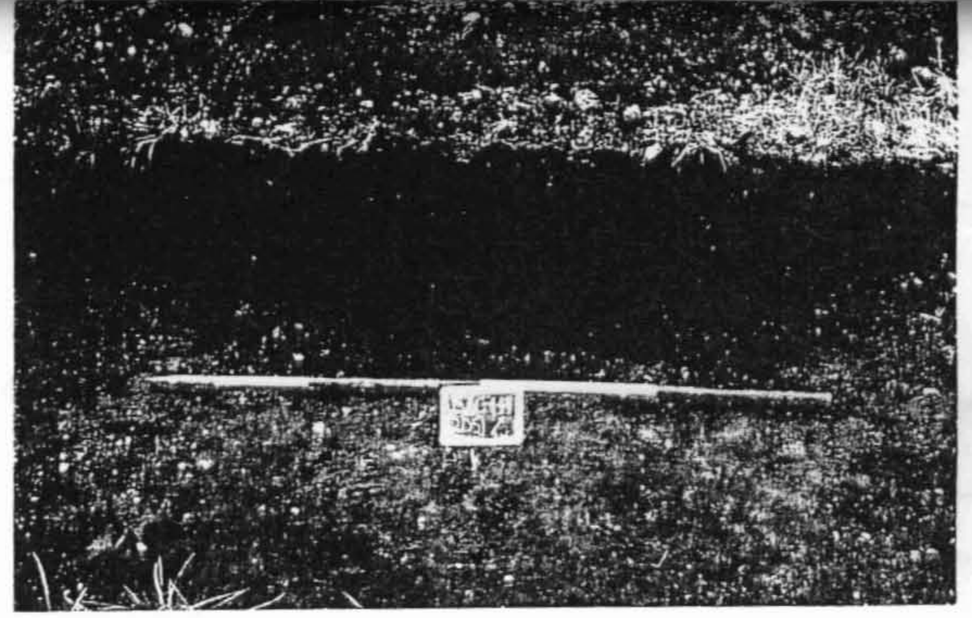


Plate 10: Furrow [205], looking NW

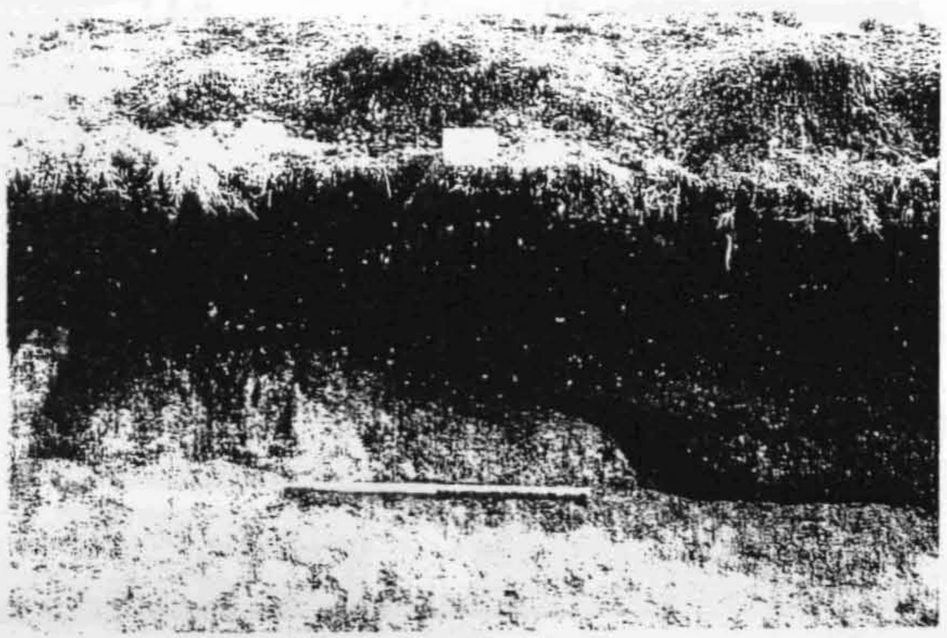


Plate 11: Ditch [214], looking SW

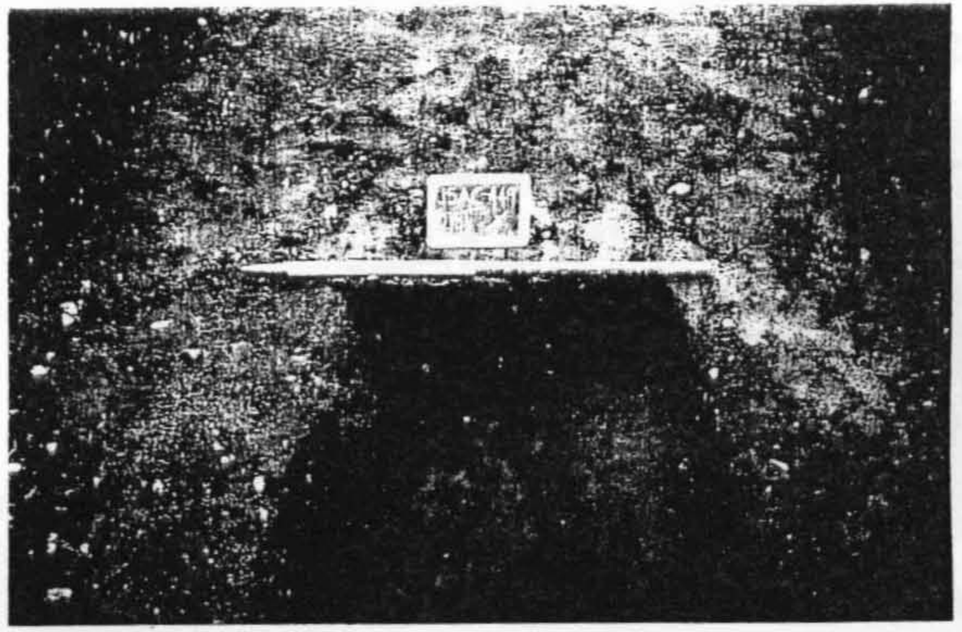


Plate 12: Ditch [215], looking SE

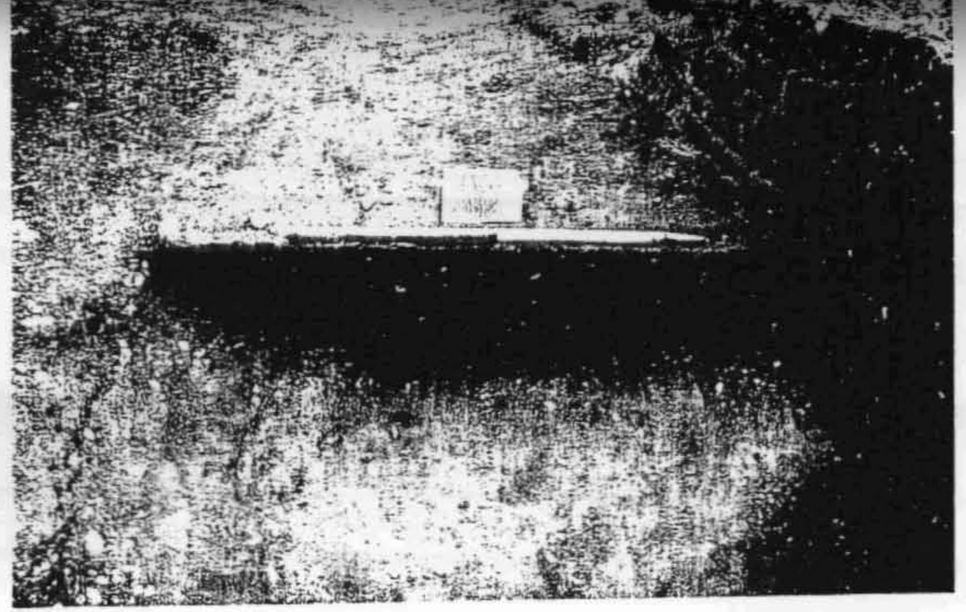


Plate 13: Furrow [505], looking NW

Plate 14: Feature [507] and gully [509] looking SW

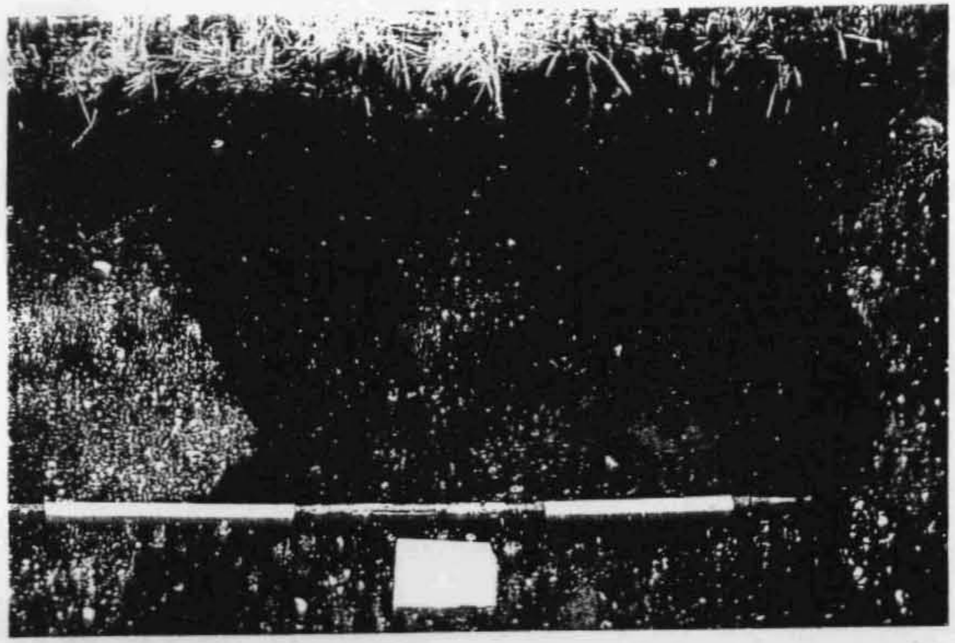


Plate 15: Ditches [705], [707] and [709] looking N

Plate 16: View NE, showing erosion of bank parallel to Tiddington road

Appendix A: Context Summary

Context No	Category	Depth (m)	Brief description	Pottery date
Trench 1				
101	Topsoil	0.30	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
102	Buried topsoil	0.20	Mid olive brown sandy clay silt	
103	Ridge and furrow	0.11 - 0.16	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
104	Natural geology	-	Dark orange brown sandy silt	
105	Cut	1.0	Ditch at south end of trench.	
106	Void			
107	Cut	0.20	Broad but shallow linear ditch, running E/W across T1	
108	Cut	1.10	NE/SW aligned ditch	
109	Void			
110	Cut	0.70	Large irregular shaped cut	
111	Void			
112	Void			
113	Void			
114	Surface cleaning horizon of [110]			M/L 1C AD
115	Fill of 105	1.0	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	M/L 1C AD
116	Fill of 107	0.20	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	E C2 AD
117	Fill of 108	0.28	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	

118	Cut	0.16	Small sub-circular/oval cut	
119	Fill of 118	0.16	Light greenish grey brown sandy silt	C2 AD
120	Fill of 108	0.40	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	
121	Fill of 108	0.22	Mid brown fine sandy silt	M/L 1C AD
122	Fill of 110	0.70	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	E 1C AD
123	Cut	0.16	Small gully cut	
124	Fill of 123	0.16	Dark grey brown sandy silt	E1C AD
125	Fill of 110	0.20	Dark brown sandy silt	
126	Surface	-	Surface of ditch at northern extent of trench	
127	Fill of 108	0.2	Mixed reddish brown clay and redeposited topsoil	
Trench 2				
201	Topsoil	0.30	Mid grey brown sandy clay silt	
202	Buried topsoil	0.20	Mid brown sandy silt	
203	Ridge and furrow	0.30	Dark grey brown black sandy silt	
204	Natural geology	-	Dark orange brown sandy silt	
205	Cut	0.50	Furrow	
206	Deposit	0.07	Mid blue/ grey non bonded limestone material	
207	Deposit	-	Dark grey brown black clay silt.	C2 AD

208	Layer	0.06	Strong orange brown clay	C1 AD
209	Cut	-	Subsoiling scar	
210	Fill of 209	-	Mid grey brown sandy clay silt	
211	Cut	-	Sub oval/ square small pit	
212	Fill of 211	-	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	
213	Cut	0.40	E/W aligned ditch cut	
214	Cut	0.53	E/W aligned ditch cut	M-L C1+
215	Cut	0.38	NNW/ SSE aligned ditch cut	
216	Cleaning horizon of 215			M/L C1 AD
217	Cut	-	E/W ditch cut	
218	Fill of 217	-	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	L C1+
219	Fill of 205	0.50	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	Pmed
220	Fill of 213	0.40	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	C2 AD
221	Cut	0.80	Sub circular/ oval cut	
222	Fill of 221	0.35	Dark brown sandy silt	L C1 AD
223	Fill of 215	0.38	Dark greenish grey brown sandy clay silt	C1 AD
224	Cut	0.16	Ridge and furrow?	
225	Fill of 224	0.16	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	Pmed
226	Fill of 214	0.52	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	M/L C1 AD
227	Cut	0.40	Steep sided gully feature	
228	Fill of 227	0.40	V dark grey black sandy clay silt	M C AD 2+

229	Fill of 221	0.25	Dark grey brown sandy silt	C1-C2 AD
230	Fill of 221	0.20	Mid brown sandy silt	
231	Cut	0.23	Construction cut for building 233	
232	Fill of 231	0.23	Dark grey black sandy silt	
233	Structure		Number allocated for building	
Trench 3				
301	Topsoil	0.26	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
302	Buried topsoil	0.32	Mid brown sandy clay silt	
303	Ridge and furrow	>0.14	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
Trench 4				
401	Topsoil	0.30	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
402	Buried topsoil	0.22	Mid brown sandy silt	
403	Ridge and furrow	>0.27	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
Trench 5				
501	Topsoil	0. 30	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
502	Sealed topsoil	0. 25	Mid greenish brown sandy silt	
503	Ridge and furrow	0. 45	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
504	Void			
505	Cut	0. 45	Furrow	
506	Fill of 505	0. 45	Dark brown sandy silt	M C1+ AD

507	Cut	0. 40	Sub oval/ irregular cut	
508	Fill of 507	0. 40	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
509	Cut	0. 55	Narrow gully	
510	Fill of 509	0. 55	Dark grey brown sandy silt	
Trench 6				
601	Topsoil	0. 20	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
602	Buried topsoil	0. 50	Mid grey brown sandy silt	
603	Ridge and furrow	0. 16	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
604	Natural geology	-	Orange brown sandy clay silt	
605	Cut	>1. 30	Large feature	
606	Fill of 605	>1. 30	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
Trench 7				
701	Topsoil	0. 20	Dark grey black sandy clay silt	
702	Buried topsoil	0. 14	Mid brown sandy silt	
703	Ridge and furrow	0. 07 - 0. 27	Mid grey orange brown sandy silt	
704	Natural geology	-	Orange brown sandy silt	
705	Cut	0. 15	Ditch	
706	Fill of 705	0. 15	Mid/dark brown sandy silt	E C1 AD
707	Cut	0. 40	Ditch	
708	Fill of 707	0. 40	Dark brown sandy clay silt	M C1+ AD
709	Cut	0. 40	Ditch	

710	Fill of 709	0. 40	Dark brown sandy clay silt	
711	Cut	0. 40	Ditch	
712	Fill of 711	0. 40	Dark grey brown sandy clay silt	M C1 + AD

Appendix B: Pottery Assessment Report by Dr Jane Timby

For: John Samuels, Archaeological Consultants
Site: Tiddington, Warwickshire
Site Code: JSAC 449
Status: assessment

The Pottery

1 Introduction

1.1 A small assemblage of some 196 sherds of pottery weighing approximately 5 kg was recovered from the archaeological work.

1.2 The assemblage mainly comprises wares spanning the later Iron Age through to the 2nd century AD, with a few sherds of post-medieval date.

1.3 The material is moderately well preserved with a number of quite large sherds, some clearly from the same vessels, This is reflected in the relatively high average sherd size of 26 g, particularly good in that many of the4 sherds are relatively poorly fired and thus not so robust.

1.4 Pottery was recovered from five separate trenches (Tr 1-3, 5 and 7), a total of 24 individual contexts with some additional unstratified material.

1.5 The assemblage was broadly sorted into fabrics on the basis of the main inclusions macroscopically visible in the paste and quantified by sherd count and weight. Table 1 presents a summary of the main data by context.

1.6 Any conclusions reached in this assessment must be regarded as provisional. No detailed library research has been carried out to place the assemblage into its local or regional context.

2 Late Iron Age-early Roman

2.1 Most of the assemblage comprises a mixture of handmade and wheel-made sherds typical of the 1st century AD. Fabrics include grog-tempered, grog and sand-tempered and sandy wares. In Gloucestershire to the south this grog-tempered native tradition appears in the early years of the 1st century AD and continues to occur alongside Roman wares into the later 1st or early 2nd century. Vessels are mainly closed forms and include jars/bowls with everted rims and slight carinated shoulders. The only decorated sherd is a bodysherd with a burnished line lattice from (122). A single sherd of Malvernian limestone-tempered native ware is present amongst the Tr 1 unstratified assemblage.

2.2 From around the middle of the 1st century onwards, the native wares, are accompanied by Severn Valley types and wheel-made sandy wares amongst which are necked, cordoned bowls. A single sherd of a Savernake-type handmade storage jar from (225) may also date from the 1st century.

2.3 The early Severn Valley wares are more diverse than the later more standardised types and include both reduced and oxidised fabrics. Two grey ware sherds from (216) have a rusticated finish.

2.4 The appearance of Roman wares proper seems to occur in the 2nd century. Imports to the site dating from this period include Dorset black-burnished ware, a single sherd of Oxfordshire white-ware mortarium and a single sherd of a Dressel 20 olive-oil amphora from Southern Spain (229). Contexts dating to this period include (116, 207, 220 and 228).

3 Post-medieval

3.1 Three sherds of post-medieval date were present in context (219) along with a fragment of clay pipe stem. A further sherd with a glazed interior surface came from (208).

4 Other ceramic material

4.1 In addition to the pottery a small quantity of fired clay, brick and tile was recovered.

4.2 The fired clay of which there were six pieces was generally of amorphous shape and difficult to identify to any specific object or purpose.

4.3 One fragment of fired clay from (126) may possibly be a fragment of briquetage (salt container).

4.4 In total 19 fragments of tile or brick were recorded. Whilst it appears that some of the tile may be Roman in origin, particularly that from (506) and unstratified examples, positive identification of some is uncertain. The thinness of the fragments is suggestive of post-medieval roofing tile rather than Roman tegulae although some of the pieces appear in contexts with Roman pottery, in particular (506) and (225). A fragment of abraded ?brick is present in (220).

5 Summary

5.1 The assemblage recovered from this area of Tiddington suggests a period of occupation dating to the latest phase of the Iron Age in the 1st century BC or 1st century AD, which continues into the Roman period. By the 2nd century the site is acquiring regional imports and the assemblage has a more Roman composition. There is nothing in this group to suggest later Roman occupation although this is attested elsewhere in the settlement (Booth 1986).

5.2 The assemblage here is perhaps too small to draw too many conclusions from. The absence of imported fine-wares such as samian suggests a fairly low status settlement but this is contradicted to a certain extent by the presence of the imported amphora sherd. It is also contradicted by work on other assemblages previously recovered from the same settlement (*cf.* Booth 1991).

Tiddington, Warwickshire. Pottery and ceramic material summary

Tr	Feat	Cont	LIA	cRO	C2	Pm	Tot no	Tot wt	fc/b/t	Date
1	0	116	0	0	5	0	5	46		early C2
1	0	121	2	2	0	0	4	41		mid-late C1AD
1	0	122	0	0	0	0	0	0	fclay	nd
1	0	122	51	0	0	0	51	2232		early C1 AD
1	0	124	6	0	0	0	6	116		early C1 AD
1	105	0	5	2	0	0	7	71		mid-late C1AD
1	110	114	7	4	0	0	11	260	x2 fired clay	mid-late C1AD
1	0	126	14	0	0	0	14	261	x1 briquetage?	LIA
2	0	207	0	0	22	0	22	229		C2
2	0	208	1	5	0	1	7	123		C1/Pmed
2	0	216	3	18	0	0	21	475		mid-late C1AD
2	0	219	0	0	1	3	4	34	clay pipe,b/t	Ro/Pmed
2	0	220	0	0	0	0	0	0	brick	?Pmed
2	0	220	0	0	4	0	4	75		C2
2	0	222	0	1	0	0	1	14		?later C1AD
2	0	223	1	0	0	0	1	14		C1AD
2	0	225	0	0	0	0	0	0	b/tile x2	?Pmed
2	0	225	0	1	0	0	1	174		mid C1+
2	0	226	7	2	0	0	9	177		mid-late C1 AD
2	0	228	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2 fired clay	nd
2	0	228	0	0	4	0	4	42		mid C2+
2	0	229	0	1	0	0	1	85		C1-C2
2	214	0	0	1	0	0	1	120		mid-late C1+
2	217	218	5	1	0	0	6	224		Later C1+
5	0	506	0	0	0	0	0	0	tile x4	?Pmed
5	0	506	0	0	0	0	0	0	tile x4	?Roman
5	0	506	0	1	0	0	1	46		mid C1+
7	0	706	1	0	0	0	1	16		early C1 AD
7	0	708	0	3	0	0	3	35		mid C1+
7	0	712	0	1	0	0	1	9		mid C1+
us	us	us	0	0	0	0	0	0	tile	Pmed
us	us	us	0	0	0	0	0	0	tile x2	Pmed
us	us	us	0	0	0	0	0	0	tile x4, glaz pipe	Pmed/Rom
us	us	us	2	2	0	0	4	38		mid-late C1AD
us	us	us	0	0	3	0	3	51		C2
us	us	us	0	3	0	0	3	52		C1/C2
TOTAL			**103**	**43**	**36**	**4**	**196**	**5060**		

Appendix C: Environmental Assessment Report, including animal bone, by James Rackham of the Environmental Consultancy

Tiddington - JSAC 449
Environmental Archaeology Assessment

Introduction
An evaluation conducted by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants investigated five Roman and two post-medieval features from seven trenches at Tiddington, Warwickshire, within a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Fourteen samples were taken from various features and were submitted to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy for processing and assessment (Table 1) along with a small collection of animal bone that was recovered by hand.

Table 1: Tiddington. Samples taken for environmental analysis

sample no.	context no.	trench	sample vol. (l)	feaure	phase
1	506	5	18	fill of furrow [505]	Pmed
2	508	5	17	sub-oval stone spread [502]	Roman
3	222	2	7	upper fill of pit [221]	Roman
4	229	2	9	middle fill of pit [221]	Roman
5	230	2	9	lower fill of pit [221]	Roman
6	223	2	17	fill of linear cut [215]	Roman
7	226	2	18	fill of linear cut [214]	Roman
8	220	2	19	fill of linear cut [213]	Roman
9	219	2	16	fill of furrow	Pmed
10	115	1	19	fill of ditch cut [105]	Roman
11	117	1	9	upper fill of ditch cut [108]	Roman
12	120	1	9	middle fill of ditch cut [108]	Roman
13	122	1	18	fill of cut [110]	Roman
14	207	2	10	floor? within building	Roman

Methods
The soil samples were processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The samples were washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residues subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flots was measured and the volume and weight of the residue recorded. A total of 195 litres of soil was processed in this way.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through each residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerscale and prill and a count made of the number of flakes or spheroids of hammerscale collected. The residue was then discarded. The flot of each sample was studied using x10 magnification and the presence of environmental finds (i.e. snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residue, constitute the material archive of the samples.

The individual components of the samples were then preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below in Tables 2 and 3.

Results
Most of the samples contained modern root fragments and occasional modern seeds, including *Chenopodium* spp, *Galium* spp and *Polygonum* spp. Insect larvae and beetle fragments were common in most and *Cecilioides acicula*, the blind burrowing snail was present in one. A few

shells of the snail *Punctum pygmaeum*, some in exceptional condition, were present in two samples, 9 and 13. These appear to be intrusive and may have recently entered the deposits since one or two shells appear to have the dried up snail inside. This material represents low levels of recent contamination and is not considered contemporary with the archaeology.

The bone from the samples is moderately well preserved, but there is little in the way of snail evidence, with only three samples containing molluscs, and most of these probably intrusive or recent shells.

Table 2: Tiddington. Finds from the processed samples ordered by trench and context

Tr.	sample no.	context no.	sample vol. (l)	phase	pot £/#	glass £/#	fired earth * (g.)	mag. mat. (g.)	ham'-scale no.	bone wt. (g.)	slag (g.)	coal / coke	
1	10	115	19	Rom	4/13			4	3	4			
1	11	117	9	Rom	1/1			3	6	1			
1	12	120	9	Rom	1/<1			4	3	5		+	ferrous?
1	13	122	18	Rom	4/17			5	7	1			
2	14	207	10	Rom				6	5	1	+		stone chips and fragments, flat smoothed stone
2	9	219	16	Pmed		1/<1		2	26	1	160	+	Cu alloy pin, glassy slag, charcoal fuel in slag
2	8	220	19	Rom	1/1		7	6		15	+		
2	3	222	7	Rom	2/2		32	4		2	+		ferrous nail?
2	6	223	17	Rom	1/<1			5	4	4		+	flint flake
2	7	226	18	Rom				6	3	35		+	
2	4	229	9	Rom			59	3	3	15		+	
2	5	230	9	Rom	2/7			3		15			
5	1	506	18	Pmed	3/2	1/<1		3	9	1		+	brick/tile, ferrous nail
5	2	508	17	Rom ?	1/<1			3	4	10			

+ = presence in quantities less than 1 gramme; £/# - no sherds/weight in g.
* sorted from >7mm residue fraction only

Trench 1

Four samples were taken from Trench 1, two of which came from the fill of ditch 108. All of the samples contained pottery (apparently of Roman date), bone and hammerscale and one had small fragments of coal (Table 2). Moderate to abundant grain, chaff and charred seed were present in these samples, represented by barley (*Hordeum* sp.), spelt (*Triticum spelta*) and *cf.* emmer (*Triticum dicoccum*). The chaff appears to be mainly spelt and the charred seeds are predominantly grasses, such as rye-grass (Table 3).

Trench 2

Eight samples were taken from Trench 2, three of which derive from the fills of pit 221. Half of the samples contained pottery, which, where identifiable appears to be Roman. The upper and middle fills of pit 221, both contained moderate amounts of fired earth, a small amount of which was also recorded in context 220. The upper fill of pit 221 also contained a possible ferrous nail. Post-medieval context 219 contained a tiny piece of glass, a copper alloy pin and three large pieces of slag, which have been identified by Jane Cowgill as part of a hearth bottom with hearth lining attached, and with inclusions indicating that charcoal was the fuel used. This sample also contained the highest density of hammerscale from the site. The remaining samples from this trench contained bone, small amounts of hammerscale and occasional slag and coal fragments. Variable amounts of grain and chaff were identified in the samples from this trench, with pit 221 being particularly rich and context 219 being particularly poor. The middle and upper fills of pit 221 produced the highest density of charred grain from the site (17 and 11 per litre of sample respectively), while the middle and

lower fills of this pit contained the highest density of charred cereal chaff. Spelt, barley, oat and *cf.* emmer were preliminarily identified along with pulses, possibly vetch and grasses. The majority of the chaff again appears to be spelt, although a free threshing rachis was identified. The presence of eel and cyprinid bones in the lower fill of pit 221 (context 230), and the range of other debris present perhaps indicates either a rubbish or cess pit function for this feature. Context 226 has a similar relatively rich assemblage.

A sample (14) was taken from the 'fill' or floor within the footings of the building revealed at the north end of Trench 2, to see if this could give further information on the character of this context. Apart from a litle fuel ash slag and a few flakes of hammerscale finds were infrequent, although the charred plant remains were relatively abundant in this deposit, reaching a density of over 10 grains per litre. Perhaps of more interest was the abundance of shaley stone in the residue. The residues of all the other samples were composed of coarse sand and small and medium sized flint and pebble gravel with no exotic stone. In contrast, context 207 contains abundant stone fragments from elsewhere, presumably chippings and debris from the building stone used at the site. This context also has the lowest proportion of coarse sand and gravel indicating that most of the deposit is made up of finer grained particles suggesting perhaps a slower filling and a much lower input from the natural sands and gravels at the site or perhaps intentional introduction of finer textured soils. The relatively high density of charred grain in the context suggests primary deposition and this may be an occupation layer.

Trench 5

Two samples were taken from Trench 5, one from Roman context 508 and the other from post-medieval furrow, 506. Both samples contained hammerscale and context 506 had a small piece of glass, a ferrous nail and some brick/tile. Context 506 contained only a few unidentifiable charred grains, whereas context 508 had moderate amounts of grain chaff and charred seed including spelt, barley, oat and possible vetches and grasses.

Table 3: Tiddington. Environmental finds from the processed samples

Tr.	sample no.	context no.	sample vol. (l)	flot vol. (ml)	char-coal *	charred grain *	chaff *	charred seed *	un-charred seed *	snails *	comment
1	10	115	19	6	4	2	4	3	1		barley, spelt, stinking mayweed, dock, grasses, sheep/goat, frog/toad, vole
1	11	117	9	4	3	2	3	3	1		spelt, barley, rye grass, grasses, sheep/goat
1	12	120	9	10	4	3	5	4			barley, spelt, cf. emmer, grass, sedge, dock, dog, vole
1	13	122	18	5	3	2	2	2	2	1	barley, spelt, cf. emmer, grasses, pulse, *Punctum pygmaeum*
2	14	207	10	17	5	3	2	3	2		spelt, grasses, frog/toad, weasel
2	9	219	16	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	barley, spelt, wheat, cf. rye, grasses, *Punctum pygmaeum*
2	8	220	19	7	5	2	3	2	1	1	*Ceciliodes*, spelt, barley, cf. emmer, oat, rye grass, grasses, dog, rodent, cow size bone
2	3	222	7	20	5	3	3	2	1		spelt, barley, oat, cf vetch, grasses
2	6	223	17	3	3	1	2	2	1		barley, spelt, grasses
2	7	226	18	10	4	3	4	3	1		barley, spelt, cf. emmer, pulse, dock, grasses, cow, pig, frog/toad, field vole, mole, eel, small bird
2	4	229	9	28	5	4	5	2			spelt, barley, vetch, pulse, rye grass, grasses, cf. rachis, pig, sheep/goat, mouse
2	5	230	9	15	5	3	5	3	1		spelt, free threshing internode, rye grass, dock, grasses, cow, sheep/goat, frog/toad, small bird, eel, cyprinid
5	1	506	18	1	3	1			1		
5	2	508	17	5	3	2	3	2			spelt, barley, cf bitter vetch, grasses, sheep/goat

* = abundance: 1=1-10, 2=11-50, 3=51-150, 4=151-250, 5=>250 items

In general the preservation of the charred material was fair, although a number of the specimens were quite degraded which inhibited identification. Charcoal was moderately abundant in most samples, represented, in general by small fragments. The two poorest samples, 1 and 9, are both described as ditches or furrows. Their relative lack of environmental finds by comparison with the other contexts, and their low density of charred grain (0.28 and 0.26 per litre respectively) may perhaps indicate a furrow rather than ditch context.

Hand excavated animal bone

A small collection of 38 fragments of animal bone (Table 4) was recovered by hand during the evaluation. The small size of this sample is a reflection of the limited intrusive excavation into the features undertaken during the fieldwork. The preservation of the bone was generally good. The bones and shells have been identified and recorded following the procedures of the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy (see attached Key) and the catalogue is attached to this report.

Table 4: Frequency of fragments of hand collected animal bone of each species by context

context	105	116	120	121	122	199*	216	220	225	226	228	229	399*	506	708	u/s
Horse		1				1				1			1			
Cattle	1				1	1	1				1		1	1		2
Cattle size			2	1		1		1			2		2		1	
Sheep or goat			2	1				1		2	1	1				
Sheep size									1							
Pig								1						1		
Dog				1												
Unidentified	2									1						

* unstratified material from Trenches 1 and 3 was given the context number 199 and 399 respectively in the catalogue.

Bones of horse, cattle, sheep or goat, pig and dog were recorded. Four of the bones showed evidence of having been chewed by dogs. The horse bones were typically less fragmented than other taxa suggesting disturbance from burials rather than dietary refuse.

Discussion

The material collected from the three trenches is generally representative of debris from a domestic site, with some evidence for industrial activity. All except three samples are moderate to rich in terms of charred material with spelt appearing to be the dominant cereal, with barley, oat and *cf.* emmer present. Some pulses have been identified, predominantly vetch like, although further identification would be required. The weed seeds are mostly grasses, generally of a similar size to the grain, such as rye grass, with occasional appearances of docks and other small weed seeds. The composition of the samples is generally indicative of the final stages in the crop processing sequence (Hillman 1981), where the crop is stored as semi-cleaned spikelets and dehusking takes place piecemeal throughout the year, as represented by the large amount of grain and chaff present. Some of the samples may also represent residues of this final cleaning process, where the weed seeds and chaff are in greater concentrations than the grain. Charred grain densities varied from less than 0.3 grains per litre in context 506 to more than 17 per litre in 229. The highest concentrations occurred in Trench 2 around or within the building, although the middle fill of ditch 108 was also relatively high (>6 grains per litre). Further analysis of the richest samples would identify the processes and

could perhaps define the character of these spatial differences. The presence of eel and cyprinid bones in two contexts indicates that the local rivers were being exploited for food as well as the agricultural products of the local arable and pastoral economy.

It is interesting to note that one of the samples that contained very little in the way of charred material, contained the most hammerscale and identifiable pieces of slag. The amount of hammerscale is not sufficient to imply that the industrial activity is in the immediate vicinity of the sampled area but this and the hearth bottom, although abraded, clearly indicate iron smithing was being carried out nearby.

Conclusion and recommendations

It is clear that the features sampled represent fairly industrious activity in terms of domestic and industrial workings, with an interesting and informative amount of debris being left behind. Domestic activity, iron smithing and possibly some crop preparation or processing was being undertaken on the site, with densities of material in one or two contexts implying primary, rather than secondary or tertiary deposition. The 'floor' in Trench 2 may well be an 'occupation' layer and pit 221 appears to have been used as a rubbish pit for much of its life. Spelt would appear to be the dominant crop present, with the other species possibly representing weeds within the main crop. From the preliminary investigations, the crops appear to have been stored in a semi-cleaned state on site but it is not clear whether they were grown locally or imported. Preliminary identification only has been carried out on the charred material and further identification and quantification is needed for a confident interpretation. Cattle, sheep and pig were eaten, but the relatively undamaged horse bones suggests these derive from buried rather than butchered animals. Cattle bones predominate in the very small sample collected from the evaluation. The fish remains indicate use of the local river and are generally uncommon on Roman sites.

The location of the site at the edge of the terrace, just above the floodplain of the River Avon, indicates that it lies at the periphery of the Roman small town. The results from the samples might imply an agricultural rather than urban character to the assemblages, although further analysis would be required before definitely categorising the remains. The samples have shown that charred plant remains survive in good condition and in abundance on the site and that the animal bone is well preserved. They both therefore afford a good opportunity for the analysis of the diet and economy of the site and any spatial patterns in their distribution. The environmental assemblages from the evaluation and those from within any unexcavated features and deposits on the site certainly have the potential to define much more closely the nature of the site and the activities taking place on it. A fairly extensive sampling programme would be an essential requirement if further excavation is carried out and the collection of animal bone should be undertaken with richer bone deposits being excavated extensively to generate a useful sample and an interpretable dataset.

In the event of no further excavation on the site, a quantified analysis of the charred plant remains from the evaluation samples should afford a clearer interpretation of the character of the site. It is recommended that ten of the fourteen samples should be studied further, given the density and fairly good preservation of the material.

Acknowledgements

We should like to thank Alison Foster for the sample processing and sorting, and Jane Cowgill for her identification of the slags.

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONSULTANCY

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones and marine shells

SPECIES:

SPECIES CODE			SPECIES CODE	
MAN	human		DOVE	Dove species
EQU	Horse		FER	Feral dove
EQSZ	Horse size		PART	Partridge
BOS	Cattle		SWAN?	Swan?
BOSL	Cattle-large		WOOD	Woodcock
CSZ	cattle size		CURL	Curlew
SUS	Pig		WADE	wader
OVCA	sheep or goat		CROK	Crow or rook
OVI	Sheep		CORV	Crow or rook
CRA	Goat		JACK	Jackdaw
SSZ	sheep size		OWL	Owl indet.
FEL	Cat		BUZZ	Buzzard
CAN	Dog		GULL	Gull sp.
AUR	Aurochs			
AUR?	Aurochs?		TURD	Turdidae
CER	red deer		BIRD	Identifiable but not id'd
DAM	Fallow deer		PASS	Passerine
CLS	roe deer		LBIRD	Large bird
LEP	Hare		UNIB	Bird indet
ORC	Rabbit			
LAG	Lagomorph		FROG	Frog
CARN	Carnivore		FRTO	Frog or toad
FOX	Fox			
POLE	Polecat/ferret			
WEA	weasel		GAD	Gadid. cod family
BADG	Badger		LING	Ling
SEAL	seal		HADD	Haddock
SQU?	Squirrel?		RAY	ray
BEAV	Beaver		FISH	Fish
ROD	Rodent		UNIF	Fish indet
RAT	Rat			
AGR	Field vole		OYS	oyster
ARV	Water vole		COK	Cockle
MUS	House mouse		MUSS	Common Mussel
SORA	Common shrew		WHELK	Common whelk
MOLE	Mole		HEL	Helix aspersa
SMA	Small mammal		HELIX	Helix sp.
UNI	Unknown		HELN	Helix nemoralis
			SNAIL	snail
CHIK	Chicken			
CHKZ	Cicken size		FOSS	Fossil bone
GOOS	Goose, dom			
GOOS?	Goose, dom.?			
GSSZ	Goose size			
GSSP	Goose species			
GOSZ	Goose, poss. Wild			
DUCK	Duck, domestic sp.			
DUCK?	Duck?			
DKSP	Duck species			
DSP	Duck species indet			
MALL	Duck, dom.			
TURK	Turkey			

BONE ELEMENT:

BONE CODE		BONE CODE	
SKEL	skeleton	SCP	scapula
SKL	skull	HUM	humerus
ANT	antler	RAD	radius
ANT?	antler?	ULN	ulna
ATT	antler tine	RUL	radius and ulna
HC	horn core	C/T	carpus/tarsus
TEMP	temporal	C23	carpus 2+3
FRNT	frontal	CAR	carpus
PET	petrous	CPA	accessory carpal
PAR	parietal	CPI	intermediate carpal
OCIP	occipital	CPR	radial carpal
ZYG	zygomatic	CPU	ulnal carpal
NAS	nasal	MTC	metacarpus
PMX	premaxilla	MC1-5	metacarpus 1-5
MAN	mandible	MTP	metapodial
MNT	mandibular tooth	MPL	lateral metapodial
DLI	deciduous lower incisor	INN	innominate
DLPM1-4	deciduous lower premolar 1-4	ILM	ilium
LI	lower incisor (and 1-3)	PUB	pubis
LC	lower canine	ISH	ischium
LPM1-LPM4	lower premolar 1-4	FEM	femur
LM1-LM3	lower molar 1 - molar 3	PAT	patella
MAX	maxilla	TIB	tibia
DUI	deciduous upper incisor	FIB	fibula
UI	upper incisor (1-3)	LML	lateral malleolus
UC	upper canine	AST	astragalus
DUPM	deciduous upper premolar	CAL	calcaneum
DUPM1-4	deciduous upper premolar 1-4	CQ	centroquartal
UPM1-UPM4	upper premolar 1-4	TAR3	tarsus 3
UM1-UM3	upper molar 1 - molar 3	T4	tarsus 4
MXT	maxillary tooth	TAR	tarsus
TTH	indeterminate tooth	MTT	metatarsus
INC	incisor	MT1-5	metatarsus 1-5
HYD	hyoid	MTL	lateral metatarsus
ATL	atlas	SES	sesamoid
AXI	axis	PH1	1st phalanx
CEV	cervical vertebra (and 3-7)	PH2	2nd phalanx
TRV	thoracic vertebra (and 1-13)	PH3	3rd phalanx
LMV	lumbar vertebra	PHL	lateral phalanx
SAC	sacrum	LBF	long bone
CDV	caudal vertebra	UNI	unidentified
VER	vertebra		
STN	sternum	CLV	clavicle
CC	costal cartilage	COR	coracoid
RIB1	first rib (2 etc)	CMP	carpo-metacarpus
RIB	rib	CMC	carpo-metacarpus
		WPH1-3	wing phalanges 1-3
URO	urostyle	WPH	wing phalanx
		LSA	lumbosacrale
DENT	dentary		
CLEI	cleithrum		
RAY	fin ray		
SHELL	shell		
UV	upper valve		
VAL	valve		

NUMBER: number of fragments in the entry

SIDE: W - whole L - left side R - right side F - fragment

FUSION: records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses
P - proximal; D - distal; E - acetabulum; N - unfused; F - fused; C - cranial; A - posterior

ZONES: records the part of the bone present.
The key to each zone on each bone is on page 4

BUTCHERY: records whether a bone has been chopped (CH), cut (KN), worked (W), burnt (C)

GNAWING: records if a bone has been gnawed by dogs (DG), cats (FEL) or rodents (RG)

TOOTH WEAR - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals, in B.Wilson, C.Grigson and S.Payne (eds) *Ageing and sexing animal bones from Archaeological sites*, 91-108.

Teeth are labelled as follows in the tooth wear column:

Deciduous	Permanent
f ldpm2/dupm2	F lpm2/upm2
g ldpm3/dupm3	G lpm3/upm4
h ldpm4/dupm4	H lpm4/upm4
	I lm1/um1
	J lm2/um2
	K lm3/um3

MEASUREMENTS :Any measurements are those listed in A.Von den Driesch (1976) *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*, Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA

PATHOLOGICAL: A 'P' indicates that the bone fragment carries a pathology

COMMENTS: This may include a short description of the fragments, any pathologies, butchery or gnawing evidence

PRESERVATION: records the condition of the bone in the following manner

1- enamel only surviving
2- bone very severely pitted and thinned, tending to break up; teeth with surface erosion and loss of cementum and dentine
3- surface pitting and erosion of bone, some loss of cementum and dentine on teeth
4- surface of bone intact, loss of organic component, material chalky, calcined or burnt
5- bone in good condition, probably with some organic component

ZONES - codes used to define the zones on each bone

SKULL	1. paraoccipital process	METACARPUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MC3
	2. occipal condyle		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4
	3. intercornual protuberance		3. medial distal condyle, MC3
	4. external acoustic meatus		4. lateral distal condyle, MC4
	5. frontal sinus		5. anterior distal groove and foramen
	6. ectorbitale		6. medial or lateral distal condyle
	7. entorbitale		
	8. temporal articular facet	FIRST PHALANX	1. proximal epiphysis
	9. facial tuber		2. distal articular facet
	0. infraorbital foramen		
		INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae
MANDIBLE	1. Symphyseal surface		2. tuber sacrale + scar
	2. diastema		3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen
	3. lateral diastemal foramen		4. iliopubic eminence
	4. coronoid process		5. acetabular fossa
	5. condylar process		6. symphyseal branch of pubis
	6. angle		7. body of ischium
	7. anterior dorsal acsending ramus posterior M3		8. ischial tuberosity
	8. mandibular foramen		9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris
VERTEBRA	1. spine	FEMUR	1. head
	2. anterior epiphysis		2. trochanter major
	3. posterior epiphysis		3. trochanter minor
	4. centrum		4. supracondyloid fossa
	5. neural arch		5. distal medial condyle
			6. lateral distal condyle
SCAPULA	1. supraglenoid tubercle		7. distal trochlea
	2. glenoid cavity		8. trochanter tertius
	3. origin of the distal spine		
	4. tuber of spine	TIBIA	1. proximal medial condyle
	5. posterior of neck with foramen		2. proximal lateral condyle
	6. cranial angle of blade		3. intercondylar eminence
	7. caudal angle of blade		4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen
			5. medial malleolus
HUMERUS	1. head		6. lateral aspect of distal articulation
	2. greater tubercle		7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis
	3. lesser tubercle		
	4. intertuberal groove	CALCANEUM	1. calcaneal tuber
	5. deltoid tuberosity		2. sustentaculum tali
	6. dorsal angle of olecranon fossa		3. processus anterior
	7. capitulum		
	8. trochlea	METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal artciulation, MT3.
	9.		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4
	0.		3. medial distal condyle, MT3
RADIUS	1. medial half of proximal epiphysis		4. lateral distal condyle, MT4
	2. lateral half of proximal epiphysis		5. anterior distal groove and foramen
	3. posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen		6. medial or lateral distal condyle
	4. medial half of distal epiphysis		
	5. lateral half of distal epiphysis		
	6. distal shaft immediately above distal epiphysis		
ULNA	1. olecranon tuberosity		
	2. trochlear notch- semilunaris		
	3. lateral coronoid process		
	4. distal epiphysis		

Archive Catalogue of animal bone from Tiddington – JSAC 449

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	preservation
JSAC449	105	UNI	UNI	2	F								INDET	4
JSAC449	105	BOS	MTT	1	L	DN	12345						COMPLETE- 3 PIECES-DISTAL EPI UNATTACHED	4
JSAC449	116	EQU	MAN	1	R								POSTERIOR FRAGMENT OF ASCENDING RAMUS	4
JSAC449	120	CSZ	RIB	1	L								1ST RIB-PROX SHAFT FRAGMENT- 2 PIECES	4
JSAC449	120	OVCA	MTT	1	F								MIDSHAFT-THIN GRACILE	3
JSAC449	120	CSZ	UNI	1	F			C					CALCINED FRAGMENT	4
JSAC449	120	OVCA	TIB	1	R		4						PROXIMAL MIDSHAFT	4
JSAC449	121	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	3
JSAC449	121	OVCA]	MTC	1	F								SPLIT DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT-SL POROUS	4
JSAC449	121	CAN	MAN	1	L		7						POST TOOTH ROW-TEETH LOST	4
JSAC449	122	BOS	HUM	1	R		9						DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT - 4 PIECES	3
JSAC449	216	BOS	HUM	1	L	DF	89						DISTAL SHAFT AND PART DISTAL END- 2 PIECES	3
JSAC449	220	SUS	LI	1	R								SLIGHT WEAR-LARGE	4
JSAC449	220	CSZ	UNI	1	F								INDETERMINATE	4
JSAC449	220	OVCA	TIB	1	L								MIDSHAFT	3
JSAC449	225	SSZ	HUM	1	F								DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
JSAC449	226	OVCA	RAD	1	R		3						MIDSHAFT	3
JSAC449	226	OVCA	MTT	1	F				DG				SPLIT PROXIMAL HALF-PROX CHEWED	4
JSAC449	226	UNI	UNI	1	F								SPLINTER OF BONE-INDET	4
JSAC449	226	EQU	RAD	1	L	PFDF	2456				SD-33 Bd-68.7 Dd-37.7		SHAFT AND DISTAL END WITH PART PROX END AND ULNA- 2 PIECES	4
JSAC449	228	BOS	MAN	1	F								LATERAL FRAGMENT OF HORIZONTAL RAMUS	4
JSAC449	228	CSZ	UNI	1	F								INDETERMINATE	4
JSAC449	228	OVCA	TIB	1	F								DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
JSAC449	228	CSZ	SKL	1	F								INDETERMINATE FRAGMENT	4
JSAC449	229	OVCA	SKL	1	F								SUPRA-ORBITAL FRAGMENT OF FRONTAL- 2 PIECES	3
JSAC449	506	BOS	MAN	1	R		7						ANT FRAGMENT ASC RAMUS- 2 PIECES	4
JSAC449	506	SUS	MAN	1	L		67		DG	K4			LAST MOLAR AND ANT ASC RAMUS-2 PIECES	4
JSAC449	708	CSZ	TIB	1	L								PROXIMAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4

site	cont.	species	bone	no.	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	preservation
JSAC449	999	BOS	MAN	1	L		6						ANGLE OF JAW	3
JSAC449	999	BOS	INN	1	L		2						SACRAL SCAR	3
JSAC449	199	EQU	RAD	1	L	PF	23						SPLIT PROX END AND PART SHAFT- 7 PIECES	3
JSAC449	199	CSZ	HUM	1	F	PN							PROX SHAFT FRAGMENT - 3 PIECES	3
JSAC449	199	BOS	LML	1	F								DAMAGED	3
JSAC449	399	BOS	SCP	1	L		35		DG				PROX NECK AND DISTAL BLADE-DISTAL CHEWED- 3 PIECES	3
JSAC449	399	CSZ	TIB	1	R				DG				PROXIMAL SHAFT FRAGMENT-CHEWED	4
JSAC449	399	CSZ	LBF	1	F								SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
JSAC449	399	EQU	MTC	1	R	DF	123				GL-224 Bp-48.2 Dp-30.7 SD-32.9 Bd-48.435.6		COMPLETE-SLIGHT DAMAGE TO DISTAL END- 2 PIECES	4

Appendix D: Small finds assessment report by Jenny Mann of the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit

Four fragments of a (rotary) quern from context (216) are of (Niedermendig) lava, from the Rhineland; three of these are freshly broken and all four probably originally formed a single piece. Virtually all faces of the fourth fragment are very abraded although a hint of very shallow grooving on one face suggests that this may be part of the original grinding surface; such grooves, to facilitate grinding, occur commonly on Roman (and later) quernstones.

An iron spur from context 117 is of distinctive Roman type; it is virtually complete but heavily corroded, and certain details of construction such as the prick and heel plate are only visible on X-ray (undertaken by the Lincolnshire County Council Heritage Service Conservation Department).

The arms have flattened oval terminals which originally held rivets securing the leather strap; only one of these rivets now remains. The arms themselves are of unequal length, the right arm (as seen by the wearer) being shorter, suggesting that it was worn on the right foot. The heel plate is square, and separated from the conical prick by an onion-shaped moulding; a small hook projects upwards from the rear of the heel plate.

The three main types of Romano-British iron spur, briefly discussed by Manning (1985, 69-70), are distinguished by the method of fastening used to secure the leather straps: hook, loop or rivet. Although Roman spurs are rare in Britain the latter form - of which the Tiddington spur is an example - is by far the commonest; Shortt's study (1959) lists a total of 28, of which at least 15 are rivet spurs, dating to between the 2nd and the 4th centuries.

References

Manning, W H, 1985 *Catalogue of the Romano-British iron tools, fittings and weapons in the British Museum*

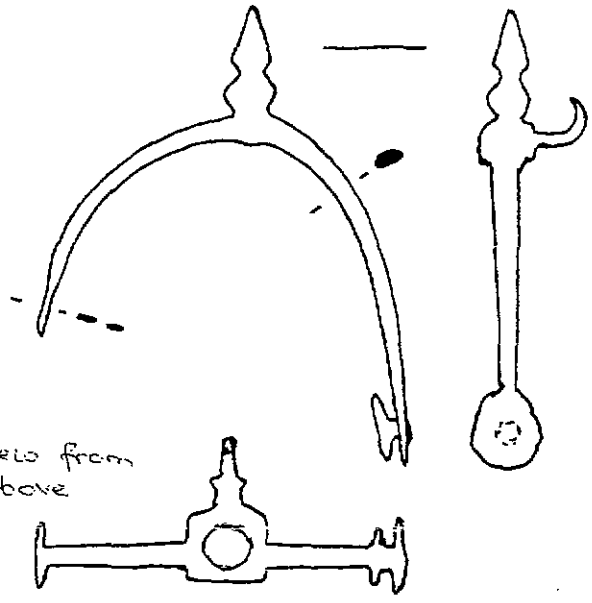
Shortt, H de S, 1959 A Provincial Roman spur from Longstock, Hants, and other spurs from Roman Britain, *Antiquaries Journal*, **39**, 61-76

TR.1

Mus Acc No	Sitecode JSAC 4449	Context 117	Reg No
Material IRON	Object SPUR	Type RIVET	Date ROMAN

Description: Complete but heavily corroded. Conical prick with onion-shaped moulding adjacent to square bed plate, from which projects a hook. Arms terminate in flattened oval perforated discs, one with rivet in situ. Other arm considerably shorter — worn on right foot?

Sketch : View on X-ray



Dimensions (in mm) L : 104

Lab Card	X-ray JSAC 4449 : 1	
B/W Photo	Drawing	Spec Report
Slide	Pub	