



ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES
WYAS

**Land at Highfield Drive
Batley Road
Alverthorpe
West Yorkshire**

*Archaeological Evaluation
Stage 2*

July 1998

Report No. 614

CLIENT

Persimmon Homes

Land at Highfield Drive, Batley Road

Alverthorpe

West Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Stage 2

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Summary

In advance of proposed residential development an archaeological evaluation took place on land off Highfield Drive, Alverthorpe. The evaluation follows a walkover and geophysical survey which located extensive ridge and furrow earthworks, of probable medieval date, across the entire site. Archaeological features comprising small pits, gullies and a large quarry pit were identified in two of three evaluation trenches. A quantity of Romano-British brick, tile and pottery were recovered from the quarry pit. The quality and quantity of the artefacts suggests that there may be a high status building or a kiln site, of Roman date, in the vicinity of the development area.

1. Introduction and Archaeological Background

- 1.1 Archaeological Services WYAS, were commissioned by Persimmon Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Highfield Drive, Batley Road, Alverthorpe (SE 312 217). The site is designated for proposed residential development (Planning application No: 97/99/56739/D). The site covered 3.8 hectares of irregularly shaped land consisting of rough pasture with hedged and fenced field boundaries (Fig. 1). The trenches were located in adjacent fields covering a wide area of the site. The area occupies the top and south facing slopes of a spur of land with ground falling away to the north and south (Fig. 2). Although there is no known occupation of the site, the area is topographically typical for settlement in the late prehistoric/Romano-British period. The drift geology of the site comprises of topsoil overlying clay and Coal Measure sandstone and shale.
- 1.2 It is thought that the projected line of a Roman Road running from Doncaster to Bradford (Margary 1957, road 721) may have run through Alverthorpe, although it is more positively identified further to the north-west of the county. Leatham (1845, p. 108) quotes an extract from a lecture given to the Wakefield Mechanics Institute in 1842; "We are informed that Roman coins and urns have been dug up at Alverthorpe very nearly in line with the Roman Road." The same find source is also recorded in the West Yorkshire Archaeological Survey, Volume 4 (Faull and Moorhouse 1981). Other Roman finds in the Alverthorpe area include Roman coin moulds found during the widening of a brook (Boyne 1855 pp 41-4).
- 1.3 Ian Sanderson of WYAS Sites and Monuments Record, prepared a specification for field evaluation which involved two stages of work (Appendix I). Stage 1 was carried out by WYAS in March and April 1998 (WYAS report 587). This work included walkover, photographic and gradiometer surveys, which identified medieval ridge and furrow earthworks covering the whole of the development area. These extant features were visible as evenly spaced undulations of the ground surviving above ground level. Although the gradiometer survey identified some possible archaeological features, the ridge and furrow had largely masked the potential to identify earlier features at a lower ground level. The Stage 2 evaluation trenches were designed to investigate the possibility of earlier features surviving below the ridge and furrow earthworks.

2. Methodology

- 2.1 Three evaluation trenches (1-3) were located within the development area, with a total coverage of 540m². A contingency of 120m² for additional machining was provided for the investigation of any significant concentrations of archaeology. With the agreement of the WYAS SMR and within the agreed contingency for machining, an extension of 60m² was made to the north of Trench 1. Trench excavation was carried out using a 360 degree excavator fitted with a toothless ditching blade which removed the topsoil, subsoil and the fill of the furrows. The machined surface lay between 0.30m and 0.50m below the existing ground level.
- 2.2 Trench 1 was located towards the south-east of the development area to investigate the ridge and furrow earthworks and a possible large isolated anomaly identified from the gradiometer survey results (Fig. 2). The medieval ridge and furrow was visible as equally spaced north-south aligned linear anomalies approximately 6m apart. During machine excavation these shallow linear features were clearly visible and were filled with a mid brown deposit which was mechanically removed. The natural horizon within Trench 1 consisted of a laminated surface of sandstone and a total of three archaeological features were identified.
- 2.3 Trench 2 was located to investigate the ridge and furrow earthworks in a field adjacent to and west of Trench 1, and south-east of the churchyard. In contrast to the rock surface visible in Trench 1, the natural surface comprised yellow brown clay. The ridge and furrow was less visible and shallower than that observed in Trench 1. The only archaeological features identified were two pits.
- 2.4 Trench 3 was located to the west of the development area, in a field immediately east of Alverthorpe Junior and Infants School. The trench was excavated to investigate a rectangular anomaly identified from the gradiometer survey results (Fig. 2). The natural horizon was comprised of a clean yellow clay and the ridge and furrow features were not clearly visible. There was no evidence for the rectangular feature identified from the gradiometer survey, and no other archaeological features were observed in the trench.
- 2.5 All features identified within the trenches were hand cleaned and excavated and a written, drawn and photographic record was made. A number of environmental soil samples were also taken. The trenches were recorded in accordance with the Archaeological Services WYAS standard method (Boucher 1995). The trenches were located with reference to existing landmarks using a Geotronics 610 Geodimeter total station.

3. Results

3.1 Trench 1 (Figs 3-5)

3.1.1 Trench 1 measured 40m by 4m and 30m by 4m, and was located to the south-east of the development area. The trench was T-shaped with the longer axis aligned north-west to south-east and the shorter axis aligned north-east to south-west.

3.1.2 Following machine excavation and hand cleaning, three features were identified in addition to the ridge and furrow. These consisted of a large sub-rectangular pit 104, a broken north-south aligned shallow gully 101/103, and a pit 106. These features were all situated in close proximity to one another, fairly centrally within the long section of the trench.

Ridge and Furrow

3.1.3 The medieval ridge and furrow features were visible along the entire length of the trench. These parallel features were aligned north/south and were evenly spaced 6m apart. The fills of the furrows were machine excavated and a small quantity of late medieval pottery (Cumberpatch *pers. comm.*) was recovered from one of the furrows at the western end of the trench.

Quarry Pit 104 (Figs 3 and 4)

3.1.4 This large sub-rectangular rock-cut pit, probably represented an area of quarrying. The pit appeared to cut gully 103, to the east. A 1m segment was excavated through the feature to provide a full profile. The dimensions were 9m long by 7.2m wide, with a depth ranging from 1.4m-1.6m. To allow for safe working conditions a small amount of material remained un-excavated at the base of the feature. The pit had steep to vertical sides along the eastern and western edges, with a generally flat base. The base was less regular and slightly deeper at the western end of the pit. A slightly deeper slot was present at the eastern end of the pit, 0.4m wide and 0.15m deep.

3.1.5 The fills were largely made up of substantial deposits ranging from clay silts containing varying degrees of stone. The lower deposits 121, 111 and 123 were largely made up of small sandstone fragments within a clay silt. Overlying the above fills, deposits 110, 122, and 120 were identified. These contained larger quantities of more substantial sandstone fragments, in particular 110 which was densely packed with large sandstone fragments, some of which appeared burnt and discoloured. A degree of slumping was visible which indicated the probable direction and sequence that the material was dumped into the pit. Deposits 110, 120, 111, and 121 slumped into the pit from the eastern side, whilst deposits 122 and 123 slumped in from the west. The flat horizon of the upper fill 112 with the lower deposits, suggested that this deposit sealed the pit after its abandonment. Fragments of Romano-British pottery and tile were recovered from the above deposits.

- 3.1.6 Deposit 109, identified at the eastern end of the pit, appeared to represent a single dump of material. This fill contained burnt stone, coal and charcoal fragments, and a variety of Romano-British pottery and tile. This material suggested that the ash from a fire, along with other refuse (including the pot and tile), was dumped into the partially filled pit. Two deposits occupied a deeper slot at the eastern end of the pit, a thin band of coal 118, which overlay a mixed clay 119 containing frequent small sandstone fragments. A small quantity of Romano-British pottery was also recovered from deposit 119.
- 3.1.7 It seems likely that the quarried stone was processed close to the pit with the un-used and small fragments dumped into the pit along with other refuse. The backfilling of the quarry pit appeared to have occurred over a relatively short period of time as there was little evidence of silt deposition suggestive of prolonged accumulation.

Gullies 101 and 103 (Figs 3 and 5)

- 3.1.8 Gullies 101 and 103 appeared contemporary with one another, forming a north/south aligned linear feature. The feature was broken by a small gap of 1.2m, perhaps forming an entranceway. Gully 101 was situated against, and partly concealed by, the southern trench edge. Although the feature had been extensively ploughed away, it was visible as a rounded terminal, measuring 1.47m in width and a few centimetres in depth. No finds were recovered from the single fill 102 of this feature.
- 3.1.9 Gully 103 appeared to form a continuation of 101, running on the same north/south alignment. The gully measured 5m in length and 1.1m in width, and was truncated by the quarry pit 104 towards the north of the trench. The depth of the gully varied between 0.05m and 0.15m at its southern and northern extents, perhaps indicating less severe plough damage towards the north.

Pit 106 (Figs 3 and 5)

- 3.1.10 The southern terminal of gully 103 was cut by a later pit 106, where the entranceway was formed with gully 101. The sub-rectangular pit was steep sided with a flat base and had dimensions of 1.6m by 1.1m with a depth of 0.35m. The pit was filled by two deposits 107 and 108. Small fragments of bone were recovered from the secondary fill 107. The function of this feature is uncertain given the scarcity of finds and the lack of evidence for burning.

3.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 6)

- 3.2.1 Trench 2 measured 20 by 4m and was located west of Trench 1, in a field to the south-east of the churchyard and cemetery. In contrast to the sandstone bedrock present within Trench 1 the natural surface was a clean yellow brown clay. Following machine excavation and hand cleaning, two small pits 200 and 202 were identified. Pit 200 was sub-circular with a U-shaped profile, and measured 0.56m by 0.41m with a depth of 0.28m. The feature contained a single fill 201 with occasional stone inclusions. No artefactual evidence was recovered.

3.2.2 Pit 202 lay immediately to the north-east of 213. The pit was circular with a U-shaped profile, and measured 0.83m by 0.78m with a depth of 0.38m. Two fills were identified, 203 and 204, both of which contained few inclusions. The medieval ridge and furrow features were also visible and recorded in the trench section.

3.3 Trench 3 (*Fig. 2*)

3.3.1 Trench 3 measured 30 by 4m and was located to the west of the development area, in a field immediately east of Alverthorpe Junior and Infants School. No archaeological features were identified. The rectangular anomaly identified from the gradiometer survey results was not visible. Allotment gardens once occupied this part of the site and the anomaly may have been present within the topsoil, perhaps associated with a former allotment building. A number of modern bricks were noted during the stripping of the trench, but did not appear to form any coherent pattern.

4. Artefact record

4.1 Summary

4.1.1 The majority of artefacts recovered comprised Romano-British pottery and tile, with the addition of one nail, five sherds of medieval and late medieval pottery, and several fragments of animal bone. The artefacts were passed to an appropriate specialist for assessment and the resulting reports are reproduced in Appendices VI and VII. All finds are listed in Appendix IV.

4.2 Animal Bone

4.2.1 Several fragments of animal bone was recovered from the secondary fill of pit 106. The bone was too small and degraded to identify to species (Richardson *pers. comm.*).

4.3 Pottery

4.3.1 The Romano-British pottery sherds were analysed by Jerry Evans and are summarised below (Evans 1998). The pottery totalled 56 sherds, all of which were recovered from a number of the fills of quarry pit 104. A concentration of 46 sherds was recovered from deposit 109, situated at the eastern end of the pit. Pottery fragments were also recovered from quarry pit deposits 110, 111, 112 and 119 but in lesser quantities. The date of the pottery indicates a 2nd to early 3rd century date and includes a variety of fabrics.

4.3.2 Three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from deposit 110 and two sherds of late medieval pottery were recovered from one of the furrows. The medieval pottery was subject to brief specialist analysis (Cumberpatch *pers. comm.*).

4.4 Ceramic Building Materials

- 4.4.1 The ceramic building materials were analysed by Sandra Garside-Neville and are summarised below (Garside-Neville 1998). A total of 31 tile fragments were recovered from the quarry pit 104; 18 fragments from deposit 109, and 13 fragments from deposit 110. The tile represented a variety of Roman fabric types and included fragments associated with bath houses and hypocaust systems.

5. Environmental Record

- 5.1 A number of environmental soil samples were taken and were subject to wet sieve processing in a siraf style flotation tank at the WYAS laboratory. The environmental samples are listed in Appendix V. Charcoal fragments and seeds were present in the single deposit filling gully 103. Of the deposits filling the quarry pit 104, deposit 109 contained seeds, charcoal and coal, and the deposit 119 contained fragments of bone and charcoal.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Two evaluation trenches revealed archaeological features below the medieval ridge and furrow earthworks. These earthworks had largely masked earlier features, not immediately apparent from the results of the gradiometer survey.
- 6.2 The artefacts from the site were recovered predominantly from the quarry pit and indicate occupation of the site during the Romano-British period. Over 30 tile fragments were recovered including roofing tile, and a variety of other types used in hypocaust systems and bath houses. The bath house tile is particularly rare, being found on only a few Roman sites in the country. The tile indicates the potential presence of a structure/structures, of a high status site, or of tile manufacture on or within the vicinity of the site. The range, quantity and quality of Romano-British pottery also suggests occupation of the site. The specialist analysis suggests a 2nd to early 3rd century date for the majority of the material. The artefacts were mainly recovered from the eastern side of the quarry pit, perhaps indicating occupation of the site to the east. Burnt material including coal charcoal and heat affected stone, recovered from a number of the quarry pit fills, suggests coal burning and possible industrial activity.

- 6.3 The presence of gullies 101 and 103 indicate a possible area of enclosure and associated entranceway. The extent of enclosure was not visible from the gradiometer survey results, but the excavation indicates a layout of north-south aligned ditches or gullies. The gullies within Trench 1 were heavily truncated by ploughing and may have originally formed part of a ditched field system. The two pits identified within Trench 2 suggest further archaeological activity to the west. The date or function of these features was uncertain due to the lack of artefactual evidence.
- 6.4 The Stage 2 evaluation trenches revealed that archaeological features are present on the site. The quantity and quality of tile and pottery suggests possible occupation of a high status site, whilst the burnt material indicates possible industrial activity or a kiln site in the vicinity.

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Acknowledgements

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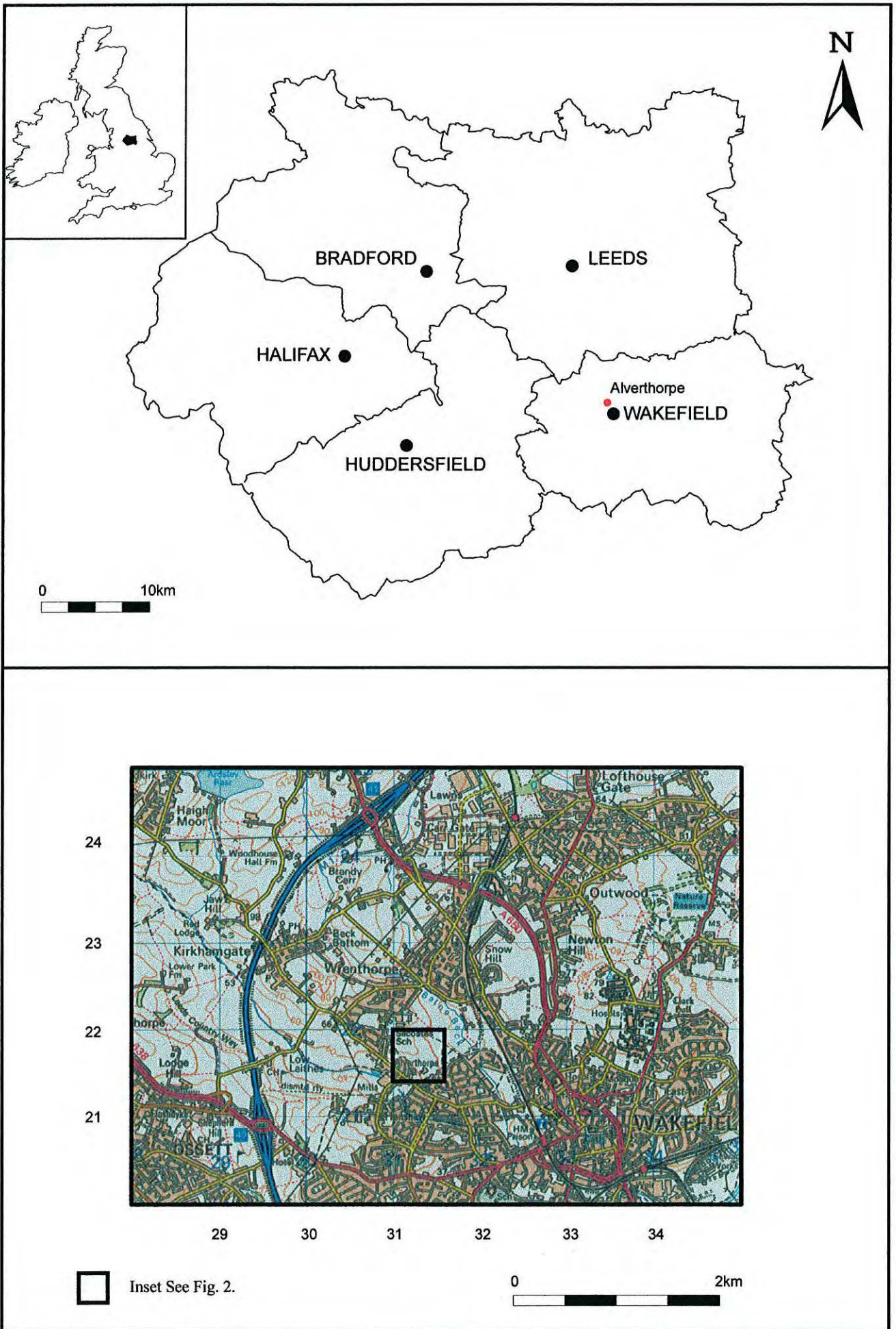


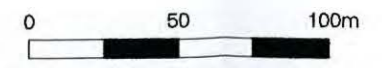


Fig. 1. Site Location



KEY

	TRENCH OUTLINE
	LIMIT OF APPLICATION AREA



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Fig. 2. Location of evaluation trenches in relation to gradiometer data

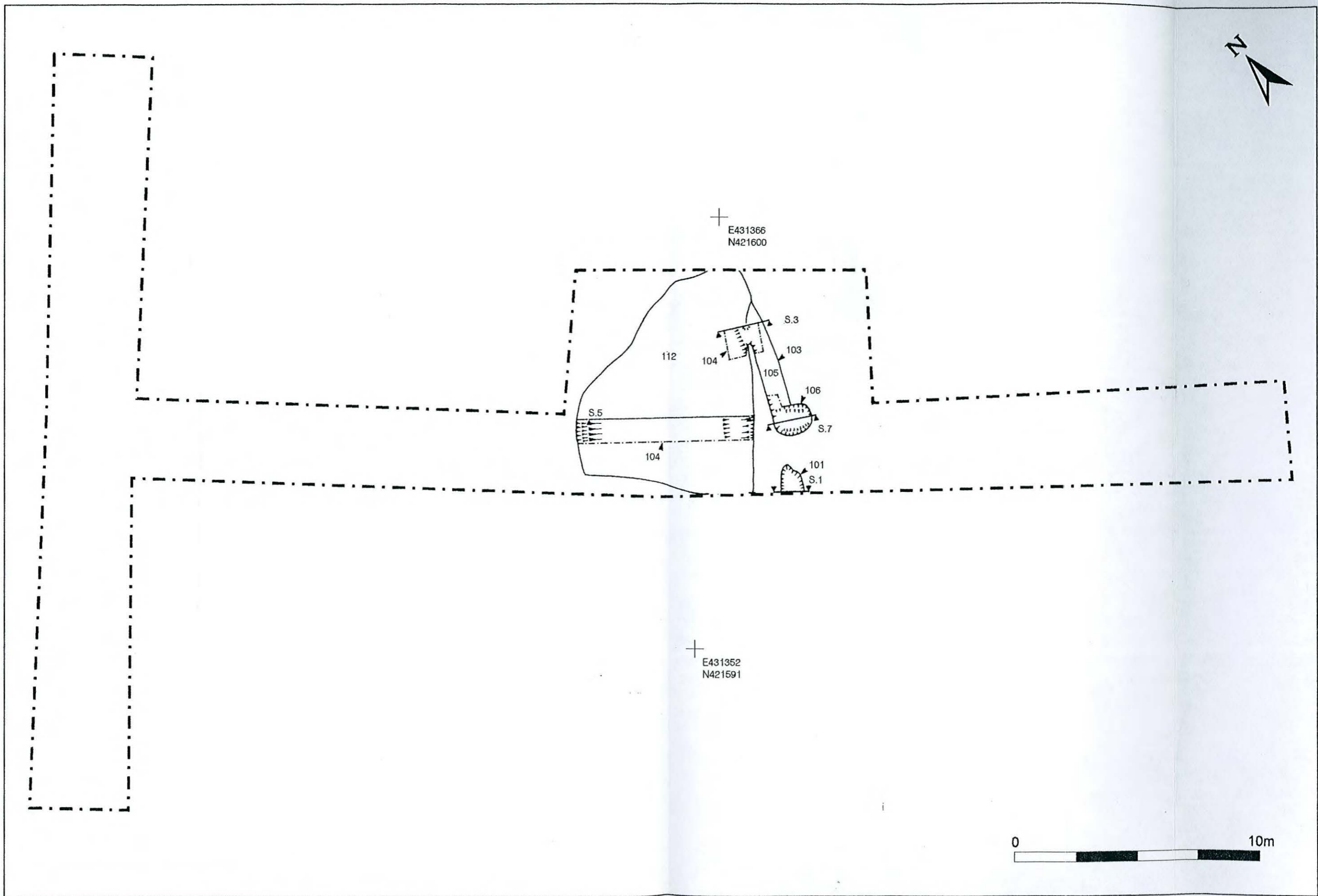


Fig. 3. Trench 1 showing location of archaeological features

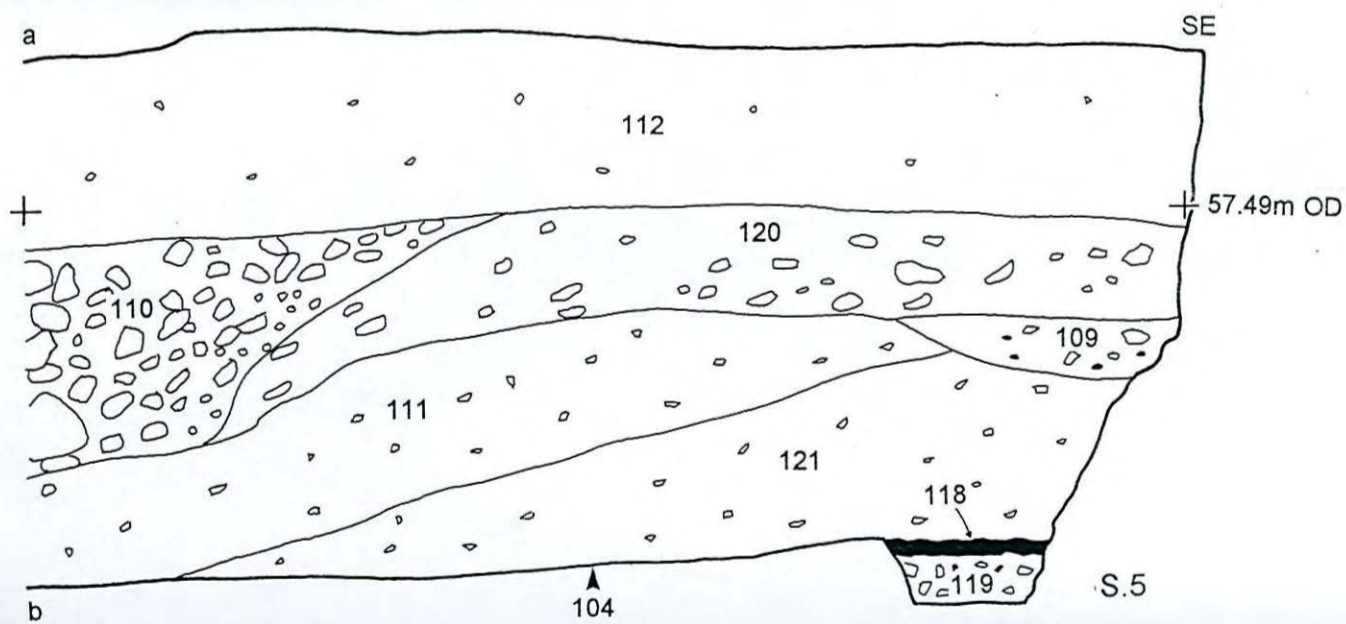
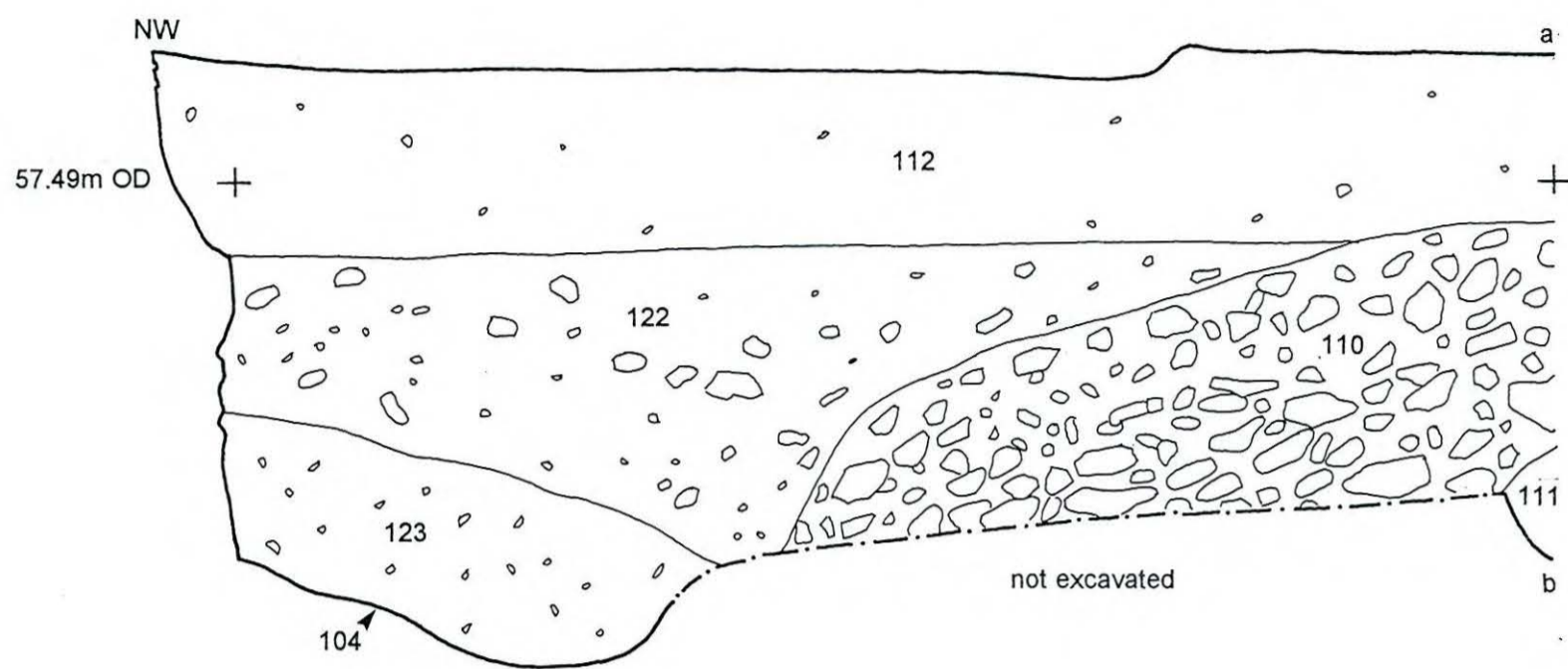


Fig. 4. Trench 1: South-west facing section of pit 104

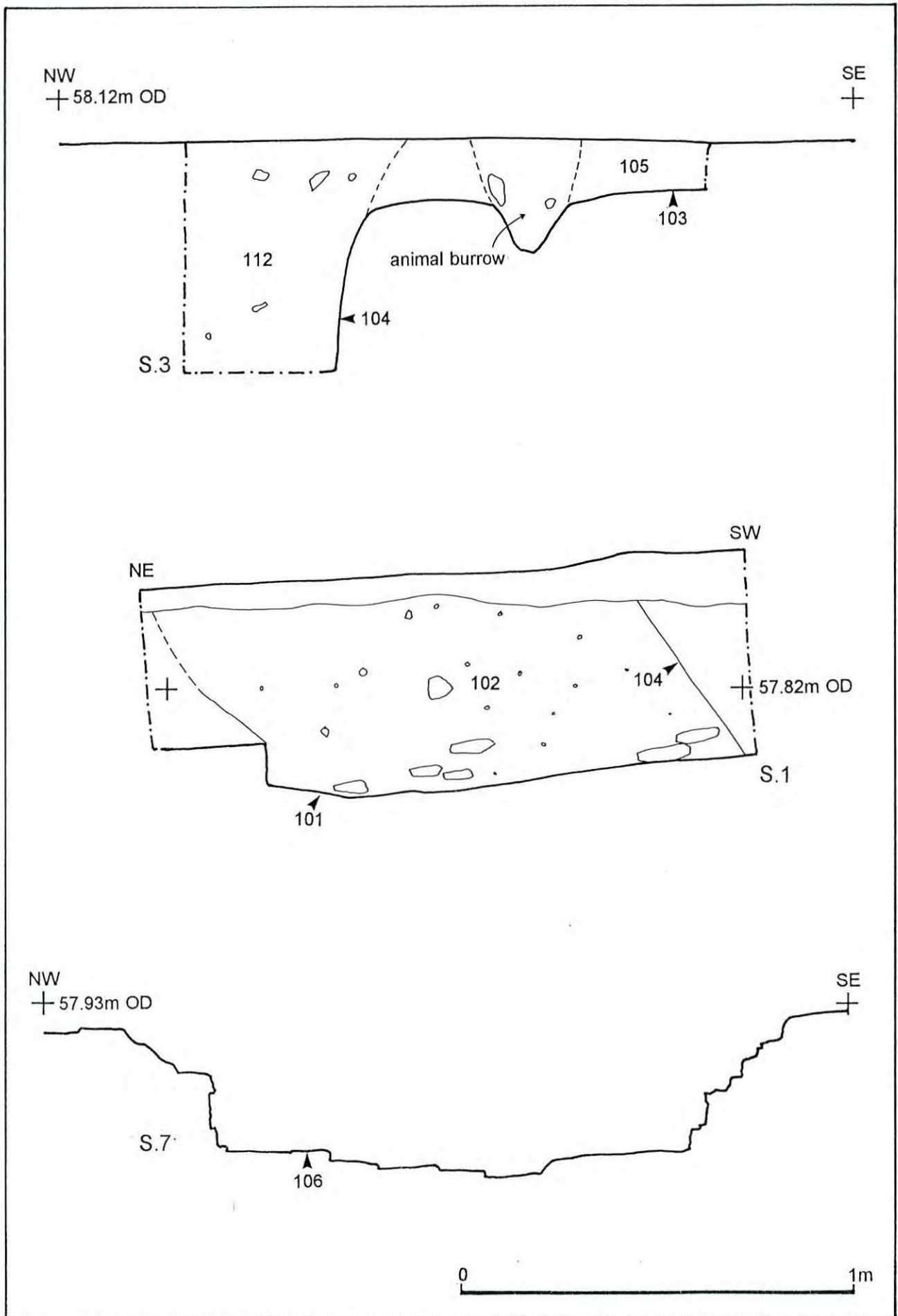


Fig. 5. Trench 1: Sections of excavated features

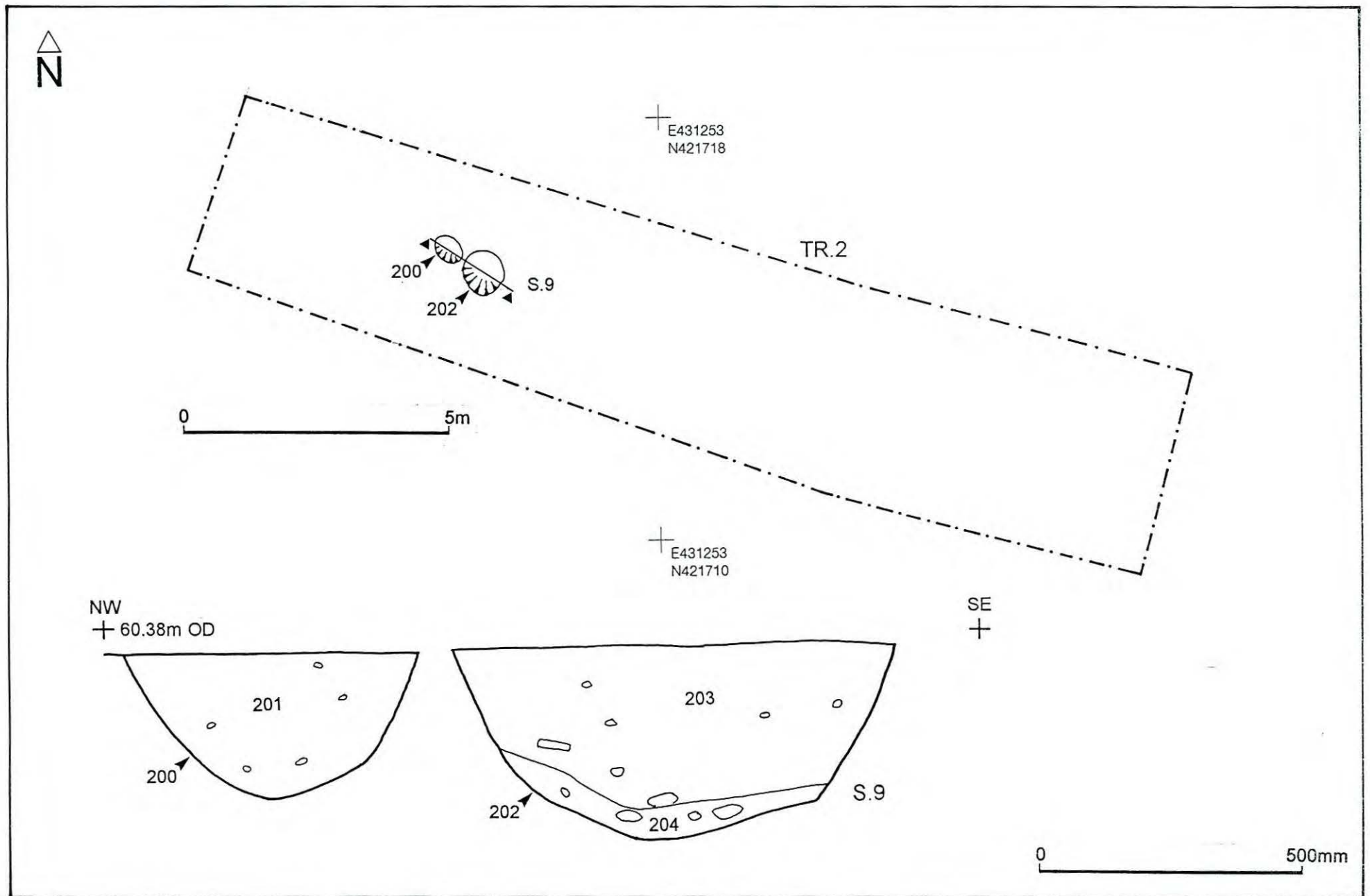


Fig. 6. Trench 2: Post-excavation plan and sections

Appendix I

WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE - SPECIFICATION FOR FIELD EVALUATION: LAND AT HIGHFIELD DRIVE, BATLEY ROAD, ALVERTHORPE

Specification of Work to Help Determine the Archaeological Sensitivity of an Area of Proposed Development

Specification prepared for Persimmon Homes on behalf of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (Planning Application 97/99/56739/D).

1.0 Summary

1.1 A limited amount of archaeological work consisting of geophysical survey followed as necessary by trial trenching is proposed to establish the archaeological significance of the above site. This specification has been written by the curatorial branch of the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service, the holders of the West Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record.

2.0 Site Location & Description (please refer to attached location map).

Grid Reference: the site is centred at SE 312 217

2.1 The site consists of an irregularly shaped area of land with a total area of 3.8 hectares, immediately to the west of Alverthorpe Junior and Infants School. The land is currently fairly rough pasture crossed by post and wire fences and scrubby, intermittent hawthorn field hedges. The area of proposed development occupies the top and south-facing slopes of a spur of land with ground falling away to the north and south, and with a maximum height of approximately 55m. O.D. The drift geology is Coal Measure sandstone and shales (Geological Survey Sheet 78).

3.0 Planning Background

3.1 Persimmon Homes (West Yorkshire) Ltd. (of 3, Hepton Court, York Road, Leeds LS9 6PW; tel. 0113 240 9726) have applied through their agents, Barraton Design Studio Ltd. (of 68, Bentley Road, Doncaster DN5 9TA; tel. 01302 787387) for full planning permission for residential development on land off Highfield Drive, Batley Road, Alverthorpe, Wakefield (planning application 97/99/56739/D).

3.2 Wakefield M.D.C. (the Planning Authority) have been advised by the curatorial branch of the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service that there is good reason to believe that important archaeological remains will be affected by the proposed development and that a pre-determination archaeological evaluation is warranted.

3.3 This specification has been prepared by the curatorial branch of the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service at the request of Mr. W. Gradwell (of Persimmon Homes) to detail what is required to archaeologically evaluate the site and to allow an archaeological contractor to provide a quotation.

4.0 Archaeological Interest

4.1 The archaeological interest in the area of the proposed development lies in possibility that the area may contain late prehistoric / Romano-British archaeological remains. The site occupies a topographically interesting position, encompassing the top of a ridge with extensive views and a south-facing slope, both factors that may well have favoured settlement. The area around Wakefield (where geology, topography, drainage and landuse are favourable to the formation of cropmarks) can be seen to have been fairly densely occupied in the past and it is reasonable to suggest that a site of this area and position may well contain important archaeological remains. Traces of medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow can be seen to have survived in the pasture.

5.0 Aim of the Exercise

5.1 The aim of this specification is for the archaeological contractor to gather sufficient information to establish the extent, condition, character and date (as far as circumstances permit) of any archaeological features and deposits within the proposed development area. The information gained will allow the Planning Authority to make a reasonable and informed decision on the planning application as to whether archaeological deposits should be preserved *in-situ*, or more appropriately, be recorded prior to destruction (whether this be a summary record from a salvage excavation or watching brief, or a detailed record from full open area excavation).

6.0 Approach

6.1 The archaeological contractor should confirm in writing adherence to this specification, or state (with reasons) any proposals to vary the specification. Should the contractor wish to vary the specification, then written confirmation of the agreement of the WYAS SMR is required prior to work commencing.

6.2 The entire area should be the subject of an extensive walkover to identify the nature and extent of the surviving ridge and furrow. Features such as heads, headlands, balks, joints etc. should be looked for and recorded in summary form including a written description (incorporating measurements), a measured sketch plan and photographic record (if appropriate).

6.3 Any earthwork features identified that may warrant further investigation by trial trenching (such as possible building platforms) may need to be the subject of an earthwork survey prior to trenching; if this is believed to be the case, then discussions with and the agreement of the SMR, should be sought in advance of any work.

6.4 The area of the proposed development to be subject to a magnetic (gradiometer) survey carried out on a regular 40 x 40m. grid, recording data at 0.5m. intervals in at least one direction. This to be carried out over a minimum 40% sample of the total area and the gradiometer grids to be extended out to follow any anomalies of possible archaeological significance upto a potential maximum of 100% (less areas where geophysical survey is not physically possible or worthwhile). Typically data is to be recorded at 0.5m. stations on 1.0m. spaced traverses. Data may be acquired by rapid survey measuring to (nominally) 1nT or better in the first instance. If during the survey, it appears that useful results might only be

obtained by higher resolution measurements, and if this would add significantly to the survey time, then the client and the SMR should be contacted and the matter discussed and agreed before implementation.

6.5 The results of the gradiometer survey should be processed and the results then discussed at a meeting between the contractor and the SMR (the client may also wish to attend). The results of the gradiometer survey should be presented in at least two different formats at a minimum 1:500 scale, one of which must be an X/Y plot. There must also be an accompanying interpretation drawing. If no additional work is deemed necessary, a formal report of the results should follow this meeting.

6.6 There is a possible requirement for a limited amount of trial trenching to test features identified by the geophysical survey. The amount of trial trenching that may be necessary cannot be fully defined at present, but would typically involve the digging of c. 4m. x 30m. machine-cut trenches. As a model for quoting purposes the contractor should quote for a figure of six such trial trenches. N.B. This figure should not be seen as a maximum or minimum figure; additional, or fewer trenches may be a possibility.

6.7 The trial trenches can be opened and the topsoil and recent overburden removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits, by the use of an appropriate machine using a wide toothless ditching blade. Any machine work must be carried out under direct archaeological supervision and the machine halted if archaeological deposits are encountered. The top of the first significant archaeological horizon may be cleared by the machine, but must then be cleaned by hand and inspected for features and then dug by hand. The trenches to be recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation. The stratigraphy of any trial trench to be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. No archaeological deposit should be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable, although a reasonable sample of any features identified is expected to be half-sectioned. Spoil heaps are to be monitored in order to recover artefacts to assist in the spatial distribution of finds. Modern artefacts are to be noted but not retained.

6.8 The actual areas of trenching and any features of possible archaeological concern noted within the trenches, should be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs, summary scale drawings and written descriptions as judged adequate by the archaeologist in charge of the evaluation exercise. The site grid to be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the 1:2500 map of the area.

6.9 Experience gained over the last few years has shown that the dating of apparent late prehistoric / Romano-British sites in West Yorkshire is frequently problematic. There is an apparent paucity of any prehistoric material culture, and all too often there is a dearth of Roman pottery. No substantial typology of late prehistoric pottery exists for this region. The possible requirements for thermoluminescent dating, archaeomagnetic dating and carbon-14 dating would be included in the specification for further work (if deemed necessary) and need not be included in contingency provision for this stage of the exercise. However, suitable samples for carbon-14 dating should be taken if encountered during trial trenching.

6.10 Environmental samples should be taken from any suitable features encountered during trial trenching and examined for pollen, molluscan and seed remains etc. However, should detailed analysis be warranted, this would be included in any additional specification to be

agreed, and the only analysis required in the phase covered by this specification is the presence or absence of environmental remains.

6.11 The archaeological contractors will be responsible for locating any service pipes, cables etc. which may cross any of the trench lines, and for taking the necessary measures to avoid disturbing such services.

6.12 The archaeological contractor will be responsible for ensuring that Health and Safety requirements are met, with regard to site personnel and to members of the public. The West Yorkshire Archaeology Service cannot be held responsible for any accidents which may occur to outside contractors engaged to undertake this work while attempting to conform to this specification.

6.13 Before commencing any fieldwork, the archaeological contractor must contact the relevant District museum archaeological curator to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive. In this case the contact is Wakefield Metropolitan District Council Museums and Arts, Wakefield Museum, Wood Street, Wakefield WF1 2EW; telephone 01924 305351; Keeper of Archaeology: Pam Judkins.

6.14 It is the policy of Wakefield MDC Museums and Arts to accept complete excavation archives, including primary site records and research archives and finds, from all excavations carried out in the District which it serves.

6.15 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to endeavour to obtain consent of the landowner, in writing, to the deposition of finds with Wakefield MDC Museums and Arts.

6.16 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to meet Wakefield MDC Museums and Arts' requirements with regard to the preparation of excavation archives for deposition.

6.17 The museums officer named in para. 6.13 above should be notified in writing of the commencement of fieldwork at the same time as the West Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record.

6.18 Any human remains which are discovered must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. If removal is necessary, this must comply with the relevant legislation and any Home Office and local environmental health regulations.

6.19 The terms of the Treasure Act 1996 must be followed with regard to any finds which might fall within its purview. Any finds must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures as laid down in the "Code of Practice". Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

7.0 Monitoring

7.1 The evaluation will be monitored as necessary and practicable by the West Yorkshire SMR in its role as "curator" of the county's archaeology. The SMR should receive as much notice as possible and certainly one week, of the intention to start the evaluation.

8.0 Post-Excavation Work

8.1 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples taken shall be processed and all finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed, spot-dated, marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with national guidelines. A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs. An index to the field archive is to be deposited with the West Yorkshire SMR, the original archive is to accompany the deposition of any finds, providing the landowner agrees to the deposition of finds in a publicly accessible archive. In the absence of this agreement the field archive (less finds) is to be deposited in the West Yorkshire SMR.

9.0 Results

9.1 A report shall be produced. The report should include a full description and interpretation of results produced. It is not envisaged that the report is likely to be published, but it should be produced with sufficient care and attention to detail to be of academic use to future researchers. Plans should be at an appropriate scale showing trench layout (as dug) and features located, and where possible, predicted archaeological deposits. Artefact analysis to include the production of a descriptive catalogue with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated. Details of the style and format of the report are to be determined by the archaeological contractor, but should include a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive, and as an appendix, a copy of this specification.

9.2 The report should not give an opinion on whether preservation or further investigation is considered appropriate, but should provide an interpretation of results, placing them in a local and regional, and if appropriate, national context. However, a client may wish to commission the contractor's opinion separately as to an appropriate treatment of the resource identified.

9.3 If the project is to be publicised in any way (including media releases, publications etc.), then it is expected that the WYAS SMR will be given the opportunity to consider whether it wishes its collaborative role to be acknowledged, and if so, the form of words used will be at the WYAS' discretion.

9.4 A copy of the report is to be supplied to the Sites and Monuments Record held by the WYAS within a period of two months unless specialist reports are awaited: in the latter case a revised date should be agreed with the WYAS SMR. The report will be supplied on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time (generally not exceeding six months).

10.0 General Considerations pertaining to archaeological evaluations specified by the West Yorkshire Sites and Monuments record

10.1 If, on first visiting the site or at any time during the course of the evaluation work, it appears in the evaluator's professional judgement that:

10.1.1. a part or the whole of the site is not amenable to evaluation as detailed above, and/or

10.1.2. an alternative evaluation technique may be more appropriate or likely to produce more informative results,

then it is expected that the evaluator will contact the WYAS SMR urgently to resolve the matter.

10.2 Any queries relating to this specification should be addressed to the County Sites and Monuments Record, West Yorkshire Archaeology Service, 14, St. John's North, Wakefield WF1 3QA (tel. (01924) 306801, fax. (01924) 306810), f.a.o. Ian Sanderson.

West Yorkshire Archaeology Service
IS/25.02.98

PLAN REFERRED TO



AREA OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
- LAND OFF HIGHFIELD DRIVE/BATLEY ROAD, ALVERTHORPE

SCALE 1:1250

Appendix II

Primary Archive inventory

Description	No of sheets
Archaeological design	1 document
Context register	3
Context cards Trench 1	100-123
Group sheet	1
Context cards Trench 2	200-204
Group sheet	1
Trench 3 group sheet	1
Sample register	1
Sample sheets	4
Finds/sample register	1
Drawing register	1
Drawings	12
Total station plots	3
Colour transparencies	4
Monochrome	4

Appendix III

Context Summary

Trench 1

Context	Type	Description
100	Deposit	Topsoil
101	Cut	Butt-end of gully
102	Fill	Fill of 101
103	Cut	Gully (contemporary with 101)
104	Cut	Quarry pit
105	Fill	Fill of 103
106	Cut	Pit (cuts butt-end of 103)
107	Fill	Fill of 106
108	Fill	Fill of 106
109	Fill	Fill of 104
110	Fill	Fill of 104
111	Fill	Fill of 104
112	Fill	Fill of 104
113-117		not used
118	Fill	Fill of 104
119	Fill	Fill of 104
120	Fill	Fill of 104
121	Fill	Fill of 104
122	Fill	Fill of 104
123	Fill	Fill of 104

Trench 2

Context	Type	Description
200	Cut	Pit
201	Fill	Fill of 200
202	Cut	Pit
203	Fill	Fill of 200
204	Fill	Fill of 200

Appendix IV

Inventory of finds

Context	Description	Quantity
107	animal bone	8
109	Romano-British pottery	46
109	Tile	18
110	Tile	13
110	medieval pottery	3
111	Romano-British pottery	4
111	Iron nail	1
112	Romano-British pottery	1
119	Romano-British pottery	3
u/s	late medieval pottery	2

Appendix V

Inventory of Environmental Samples

Sample No	Context	Description/comment
1	102	Fill of butt-ended gully
2	109	Fill of pit 104
3	107	Fill of pit 106
4	119	Primary fill of pit 104

Appendix VI

HDA 98: Highfield Drive, Alverthorpe, West Yorkshire Romano-British Pottery, Assessment Report,

By Jerry Evans

Some 56 sherds of Roman pottery were submitted for assessment from four contexts, the vast majority coming from fill 109. The date of the collection is reasonably tight, late 2nd to early 3rd century, it forming a coherent group with the exception of the apparent South Gaulish Dr 18 (if correctly identified) which suggests some Flavian material was available in the vicinity.

Comparatively large parts of two vessels, a wide mouthed greyware jar and a BB copy greyware jar, come from context 109, and although there is not enough material to be at all confident from the excavated sample, it is possible that one or two fairly complete vessels were deposited.

The material from the site is worth publication in relation to the A1/M1 sites and the rural sites volume, particularly for the examination of regional trends in the chronology of pottery use on rural sites, as well as for providing dating evidence for the sequence.

Catalogue

Context 109

A Dr 18/31R or 31 R base, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic or Antonine.

A fired clay spindle whorl, presumably locally made. It is unusual for these to be purpose made like this rather than to be cut from old potsherds.

A deeply grooved rim dish rimsherd in coarsely sandy greyware, probably South Yorkshire. Perhaps 2nd century.

A sandy greyware bead/flange rimmed dish. Probably Hadrianic-Antonine.

Two BB1 dish/bowl base sherds. Hadrianic or later.

A BB1 jar rim, probably late 2nd century.

9 BB1 jar bodysherds.

3 BB1 jar bodysherds with an acute burnished lattice. Hadrianic-Antonine.

Two BB1 jar bodysherds with obtuse lattice. 3rd-mid 4th century.

Four bodysherds, a simple base sherd and two rimsherds from a sandy greyware, South Yorkshire wide mouthed jar with an unusual square sectioned rim.

A sandy greyware bodysherd, possibly South Yorkshire.

seventeen smooth greyware bodysherds with common ironstone inclusions, two base sherds, a bodysherd from this vessel possibly cut as a counter, and two rimsherds

from a Bb copy jar with acute lattice decoration and Hadrianic-Antonine form. Ten of the bodysherds exhibit acute lattice decoration. Hadrianic-Antonine.

Context 111

A Nene Valley cornice rimmed bag beaker. Late Antonine to mid 3rd century.

A tile fragment.

A leached shell tempered bodysherd from a jar shoulder, probably Dalesware. 3rd-4th century?

A smooth greyware bodysherd probably from the same Antonine jar as in context 109.

Context 112

A grey sandy bodysherd, possibly South Yorkshire greyware. Roman.

Context 119

A brown colour-coated sub-cornice rimmed beaker in an oxidised fabric. Probably 2nd century.

A samian dish base form Dr 18, probably South Gaulish. Flavian?

Appendix VII

HDA 98: Highfield Drive, Alverthorpe, West Yorkshire

Ceramic Building Materials Assessment Report

By S Garside-Neville

Introduction

This is a small, fragmentary sample weighing 1.840 kg. All of the material is Roman in date.

Roman Material

Forms present include tegula (roof tile) and Combed box flue (used in hypocaust systems). The Tegula is 27mm thick and shows signs of exposure to the elements during manufacture as there appear to be raindrop impressions on its upper surface. It is well made, and neatly trimmed. Combed box flue probably date from the late 1st century onwards. there are also some possible fragments of circular pilae (used in hypocaust floors). and armchair voussoir (used in vaults of bath house roofs). The armchair voussoir is quite rare, being found on only a few Roman sites in the country.

The fabric of the fragments is generally red, fine and hard. there are some examples of an orange, softer fabric, though these may be due to differences in firing and deposition conditions. Also, at least one example shows a sandier fabric.

Discussion

Only two tile kiln sites are known in Yorkshire - Grimescar and York. The Grimescar box flue have scored keying, and the fabric tends to fire to a pale to mid orange, which does not fit well with the Alverthorpe sample. It could be that the material comes from York (it certainly falls within the fabric appearance and manufacturing traits), or perhaps another, as yet undiscovered kiln in the area.

The range of forms point to a substantial building, probably a bath house (particularly if the identification of the armchair voussoir is correct).

Recommendations

The sample should be retained for further study in the future. Its presence and the range of forms could be significant.

The sample should be washed, as its current unwashed state hinders the identification of the surface marks, sanding, and manufacturing traits in general. Most of the larger significant fragments are stable enough to be washed.

Context Listing

Context	Form/s	Spot date
109	Tegula (T27mm, raindrops on surface, trimmed, hard red fabric with silty bands); Brick fragments; ?Pila (trimmed edges, ?circular); ?Armchair voussoir	Roman
110	Box flue (combed); Brick fragments	Late c 1st +