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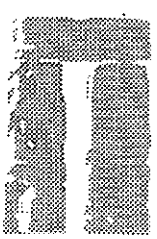

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A RING-DITCH AND RELATED FEATURES, AND A ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT AT BUTTERFIELD DOWN, AMESBURY, WILTSHIRE

by M.N. RAWLINGS and A.P. FITZPATRICK

with contributions by:

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Abstract

Work in advance of house building allowed the planning and limited excavation of prehistoric and Romano-British sites. A possible late Neolithic pit-ring henge was identified as were separate finds of a ring-ditch, a crouched inhumation, and a decorated chalk plaque all probably of Early Bronze Age date. Early Roman occupation lay largely outside the areas examined and most evidence was for a large village-like later Roman settlement. A wide range range of environmental and artefactual evidence indicate a mixed farming economy. An early 5th century gold coin hoard was also found.

INTRODUCTION

In 1989 an application was made for planning permission to construct a housing estate to be called Butterfield Down on 23.5ha of agricultural land on the eastern outskirts of Amesbury, Wiltshire centred on SU 166414 (Figure 1, a-b). Although Wiltshire County Council advised Salisbury District Council of the high archaeological potential of this area, outline planning permission was granted without any archaeological conditions. Due to the interest and generosity of the planning applicant and subsequent developer, Gleeson Group plc, Wessex Archaeology was able to undertake several stages of work at the site in 1990/1. It is hoped that investigations will continue as the development progresses. This report contains the results of three phases of work that were carried out in 1990, further work will be considered in subsequent reports.

The first part of the archaeological investigations (Phase 1) at Butterfield Down was a systematic surface artefact collection over the whole site (Figure 2). This was followed (Phase 2) by the excavation of a series of 21 small 'keyhole trenches' (Figure 1, c) and a subsequent watching brief (Trench 22). The next stage of archaeological work was the examination in October 1990 of the findspot of a hoard of eight gold coins north of Trench 22.

A geophysical survey covering 3.5ha designed to locate concentrations of features in the area to the north of Trench 22 was also carried out that month. A smaller area to the west of Trench 22 was included in the survey as a means of testing the feasibility of geophysical survey techniques on this site, as this area was to be stripped and investigated as Trench 23 (Phase 3). The methodology and results of each stage of work are discussed below.

Geology and topography

Butterfield Down is the name given to the site by the developer in honour of the Victorian architect who carried out extensive alterations at the parish church of St Mary and St Melor in Amesbury. The site is situated on the western part of the predominantly flat-topped ridge of Cretaceous Upper Chalk known as Boscombe Down (Figure 1, b). No deposits of clay-with-flint have yet been recorded and the soils are typical thin rendzinas, becoming slightly thicker on the slopes. The land slopes down gently to the north and west, all development so far has taken place on the more level ground at the southern edge of the field, between 110m and 115m OD.

Archaeological background

Butterfield Down is situated within a rich archaeological landscape (Figure 1,b-c). Stonehenge is less than 5km to the west, there is a group of well-preserved Bronze Age barrows 1.3km to the north-east on Earls Farm Down, and a bowl barrow immediately to the south of the site (Sites and Monuments Record 688 (SMR)) was destroyed in 1951. The existence of further barrows is suggested by ring-ditches recorded as cropmarks to the south-west of here (SMR 720, 773). The SMR records a possible round barrow within the development area (SMR 689), recorded by O.G.S. Crawford on his private 6" map but this monument cannot now be located either on the ground or on aerial photographs.

A large linear ditch (SMR 745) runs up to the eastern edge of Butterfield Down and it seems likely that this continues across the development area. Another ditch (SMR 749) which had a low bank on each side lay to the south-east of the site but is now largely built over. It is possible that these two ditches were related, forming the enclosing element of a system of Bronze Age linear ditches, as outlined in recent work by Reading University (Entwhistle 1990, figure 3).

To the east of the present site, archaeological work during building at Boscombe Down airfield revealed widespread occupation during the late Iron Age and Romano-British periods (Richardson 1951). Cropmarks recorded on recent aerial photographs at Southmill Hill less than 1km to the south-west of Butterfield Down have been interpreted as further evidence of activity in the later prehistoric period (McOmish 1989, figure 5).

Further aerial photographs taken in 1990 by the RCHM(E) show several large and diffuse linear features, possibly trackways, running into the central area of Butterfield Down. Also visible are a group of ditched enclosures at the eastern side of the development area and several shorter lengths of linear cropmarks (Figure 1, c). The enclosures seem to be close to the line of the large linear ditch (SMR 745).

The numerous known features and findspots of the Romano-British period provide evidence of intensive activity in the area. Immediately south of the site, construction work in 1951 revealed two middens containing Romano-British pottery and also a ditch, pits and a roadway (SMR 303). Further to the south a pot was found in *c.* 1842 within which were bronze and silver coins of the 3rd and 4th centuries AD and some silver finger rings (SMR 305, and Corney below).

North of the site, part of a Romano-British inhumation cemetery (SMR 306) was located during railway construction in 1900 and further sherds of Roman pottery have also been found close to here (SMR 307). To the north-west of Butterfield Down a bronze coin of the late 3rd century AD was found in a garden (SMR 318) and to the south-west a series of coins ranging from late 2nd to 4th century AD were recovered in 1922 and 1972 (SMR 304).

In addition to this, a Neolithic stone axe (Figure 9,1) and several items of metalwork have been found within recent years at Butterfield Down by local metal-detector users and identified by Salisbury and South Wilts Museum. The metalwork includes a possible late Iron Age sword hilt pommel, a Roman disc brooch, a medieval harness pendant and a post-medieval copper alloy strap end.

Throughout this report the terms early and late Roman refer to the 1st-2nd and 3rd-5th centuries AD respectively.

FIELDWORK

by M N RAWLINGS

METHODOLOGY

Phase 1 - Fieldwalking

An extensive fieldwalking survey was carried out across the whole of the development site in February 1990. Although a low crop was present, ground conditions were reasonable and artefact visibility was good. Artefacts were collected along a series of 25m transects at 25m spacing on a grid based on the National Grid. All artefact types were collected and a full report was prepared (Wessex Archaeology 1990).

Phase 2 - Excavation stage 1

In July 1990 a series of small trenches was opened at the southern end of the development area (Figure 3, Trenches 1-21). These trenches were machine-stripped, all features hand-cleaned and planned and a sample of feature types excavated to assess the date and nature of the activities. Most of the trenches were placed within a concentration of Romano-British pottery identified during fieldwalking. Trenches 1-13 were located on the sites of proposed houses, Trenches 14-19 along the routes of proposed roads, and Trenches 20 and 21 were positioned to examine a linear feature recorded on aerial photographs (Figure 1, c).

Phase 3 - Excavation stage 2

In November 1990 a second stage of excavation (Trench 23) was carried out ahead of development to the west of the previous excavations. The principal objective of this work was to recover an accurate plan of a substantial area of the site. The whole area (*c.* 0.54ha) was stripped using a mechanical excavator and the exposed chalk was then hand-cleaned. All features were cleaned and planned (Figure 6) and some were sampled by excavation. In general the density and distribution of the features in the trench confirmed the results of the geophysical survey within this area, which had indicated a large number of discrete features but no substantial linear ones. A similar pattern was recorded by the geophysical survey in the area to the north of Trench 22.

FIELDWALKING RESULTS

Almost all of the pottery found was Romano-British and spanned the whole of that period. There was a clear concentration in the southern part of the development area (Figure 2, I), within which was an area of larger sherds.

Three distinct concentrations of brick and tile were identified (Figure 2, II, A-C). Of these, only B could be positively dated as Romano-British, C was mainly composed of modern building debris but A contained few datable pieces.

The main concentration of worked flint was along the eastern edge of the development area (Figure 2, III, B), with a small discrete cluster indicated at A. Most of the flint was heavily plough-damaged making precise identification difficult, however the majority of tools were scrapers.

Apart from the scrapers only one tool, a fabricator, was found. Overall the technology of the assemblage shows little evidence of deliberate blade production and this, together with the restricted range of tool forms suggests that the majority of the worked flint can be dated to the later Bronze Age.

The distribution of burnt flint (Figure 2, IV) is similar to that of worked flint, with a small cluster in the centre of the field (A) and a broader concentration (B) along the eastern edge. In the course of other surface collection surveys in the vicinity of Amesbury, there has been a consistent association between higher levels of surface burnt flint and areas of later Bronze Age activity (Richards 1990).

A few fragments of quernstone were also recovered during the surface collection, and also a Roman coin, (object number 5263) from within the main scatter of Romano-British pottery.

The fieldwalking highlighted areas of greater archaeological potential within the development area. A definite concentration of worked flint associated with a scatter of burnt flint, suggested activity during the later Bronze Age along the eastern edge of the field, which may be associated with an linear ditch and enclosures adjacent to this area. The other cropmarks seen on aerial photographs appear to be associated with an extensive area of Romano-British settlement, within which a discrete concentration of ceramic building material may derive from one or more substantial buildings.

SU 1650 4110

350
upper Chalk

THE EXCAVATIONS

Prehistoric

A ring-ditch in the south-west corner of Trench 23 was probably 20m in diameter although not all of it lay within the excavations (Figure 6, 3005). Two sections across the ditch were excavated revealing that it was 1.5m wide at the top, 0.8m wide at the bottom and 0.6m deep with a flat base. A substantial quantity of worked lint was found within the ditch fill sequence. Much of this was primary knapping debris, and elements of blade production on the cores indicated a late Neolithic - early Bronze Age date. Two small sherds of undiagnostic Roman coarseware were found in the upper fill of the ditch; no pottery was found in the primary fill.

Four pits lay adjacent to the ring-ditch. To the south-east a small oval pit (2948) had been cut through the outer edge of the ditch. It was about 1m long and 0.35m deep with steep, straight sides and contained a large assemblage of worked flint characteristic of the later Bronze Age associated, possibly, with three sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery. Three sherds of Romano-British pottery are considered to be intrusive.

A circular pit (2943) just to the north of the ring-ditch was 2m in diameter and 0.6m deep. The upper fill contained a few pieces of undiagnostic worked flint and a small quantity of pottery, including one sherd of late Neolithic Peterborough ware and two sherds of middle-late Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury type. Although one of the remaining sherds was Romano-British, the others were certainly prehistoric and in a fabric similar to the Peterborough ware sherd. No finds were recovered from the basal fill.

To the east of this pit was a slightly smaller circular pit (3004) 1.2m in diameter and 0.6m deep, containing only a few undiagnostic worked flints in the upper fills. On the flat base of the pit was a crouched inhumation of a child aged approximately twelve years (Plate 1) who had suffered badly from a severe abnormality of the lumbar vertebrae which might have caused permanent paralysis. There were no accompanying grave goods, but in the compacted shallow fill below the skeleton was a tiny sherd from an accessory vessel, possibly an early Bronze Age 'incense cup' (Figure 10, 1). 166

Pit 2964 was 1.5m in diameter and 0.45m deep. A few small fragments of human bone were recovered from the upper fill but there were no finds in the lower fills. To the south-east of this pit was a subrectangular feature (2998) 2.2m long 0.7m wide and 0.35m deep with steep sides and a flat

base. No artefacts were found but the colour and texture of the fills were similar to those found in the prehistoric features. Three similar subrectangular features lay close by and could be part of a small, segmented ditch enclosure adjacent to the ring-ditch.

Romano-British

Trenches 1-22: Features of Roman date were recorded in every trench but Trench 19 (Figure 3). The highest density of features was in the central and western parts of the area (Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7), with markedly lower densities in the east (Trenches 10-11) and south-west. A wide range of feature types was recognised and sixteen individual features or groups of features were excavated.

The wide linear feature 1302 (Trench 13) was shown to be only 0.25m deep and to contain a substantial quantity of late Roman pottery. It appeared to continue into Trench 12. The feature correlates with one recognised on air photographs (Figure 1, c) and its interpretation as a trackway was confirmed by the excavation. A shallow feature (1202) excavated in Trench 12 which had a basal layer of packed burnt flint may be the remains of an associated trackway.

A feature recognised on air photographs and identified in Trenches 20 (feature 2001) and 21 was shown to be 0.7m deep with a flat base. Although the only dating evidence was four undiagnostic Roman sherds the feature may be either a ditch enclosing the eastern part of the site or a part of a contemporary field system next to the settlement. Other linear features included a short and very shallow curving gully (Trench 8, 808) and the terminal of a ditch (Trench 2, 202) of similar size to 2001, and which had been recut at least once. The earlier ditch contained only Roman coarsewares, the recut included diagnostic late Roman types.

Two pits, 312 (Trench 3) and 404 (Trench 4) were excavated to a depth of 1.9m and 2m respectively before being backfilled. Large quantities of sheep bones were recovered from pit 404, in particular mandibles and feet elements. Substantial quantities of late Roman pottery were recovered from both pits but pit 404 also contained a single sherd of early Bronze Age date as well as a fragment of a clay spindle whorl and two bone objects.

Two further pits, 304 and 306 (Trench 3), were *c.* 0.35m deep and contained undiagnostic Roman coarsewares, although two sherds of the later Bronze Age were found in 306. Three groups of features were excavated in Trenches 1, 6 and 15. In each case the irregular plan of the group was

shown to be the result of a series of shallow intercutting scoops. The pottery from the groups in Trenches 1 and 6 was late Roman but that from the group in Trench 15 was early Roman.

Feature 310 (Trench 3) was similar in profile (Figure 4) to pits 312 and 404, although this one was excavated to the base, a depth of 2.7m. It was not clear on excavation if this was a ditch terminal or an elongated pit. The complete skeleton of a crow (either carrion or hooded) had been placed on the chalk bedrock and covered with a layer of dark soil (370). No other finds were recovered from this layer but the two overlying fills (369, 367) contained large quantities of late Roman pottery and other finds such as animal bones and oyster shells. The upper part of the pit contained a deposit of chalk rubble (358) and a final fill of brown silty clay loam (357). Finds from 357 included late Roman pottery and a small chalk plaque with incised decoration (Figure 10, 2).

A dumbbell-shaped feature (802) in Trench 8 was demonstrated to be a small, oval dryer or oven, with an ovoid hearth at the south linked by a short flue to the stokehole at the north. The hearth contained blocks of burnt chalk and 2nd century or later coarsewares.

At the north-west corner of Trench 4 a subrectangular feature (442) was 3.7m long, 2.7m wide and with an average depth of *c.* 0.4m (Figure 5). The undulating base rose slightly in the north-east corner and along the eastern side of the feature there was a small ledge. Towards the southern end of the ledge was an oval feature 0.2m deep (444) which, if contemporary, may have supported a post or been a step. There were two stakeholes at the north-east corner of the feature. Large quantities of 3rd and 4th century pottery were recovered from the feature which may have been a cellar or a sunken floored building.

A number of postholes were found, including an alignment which represented a fence which ran across Trenches 2, 7 and 9. Other fence-lines may exist and it is possible that the site was divided internally.

After the excavation of Trenches 1-21, topsoil was stripped from the whole area by the developer. This involved the use of a tracked bulldozer which made the recognition of archaeological features difficult. Even so, some larger features were recorded and planned as Trench 22 (Figure 3). Four features (2215, 2235, 2265, 2275) which were similar in size, shape and alignment to the sunken-floored feature were augured and the depths at their centres ranged from 0.35m to 0.43m. These features may also have been cellars or sunken-floored buildings.

The sole feature (2267) cleaned and accurately planned within Trench 22 was a very well-defined rectangular pit 2.7m long and 2.5m wide (Plate 2) with a smaller circular element attached to one side. The pit had mortared flint walls which were capped by flat limestone slabs in places. The evidence from the corndrier or malting kiln excavated subsequently in Trench 23 suggests that pit 2267 may also have been part of a similar structure.

Trench 23: Three sections were excavated across a group of intersecting ditches in the north-east corner of this trench (Figure 6). Although some of the ditches contained late Roman pottery, the great majority of diagnostic pottery from these features was early Roman. An isolated shallow ditch (2801) to the west of this group contained a quantity of pottery with only one diagnostic sherd of the late Roman period. However, in the absence of features exclusively of 1st - 2nd century date, the activities which took place in this area are not clear.

A large rounded feature (2816) 5m in diameter was sampled and found to be an irregular hollow 0.4m deep with two fills containing much pottery along with animal bone, shell, ceramic tiles and nails. The pottery included a quantity of early Roman date but the presence of diagnostic fine wares of the late Roman period suggests that the earlier material is residual. Similar features at sites of Romano-British and earlier date have been considered to be 'working hollows'.

To the west of this feature, two sections were excavated in and across a ditch (2346) adjacent to the western edge of the trench. The ditch was 0.5m deep and the lower fill contained late Roman pottery. It cut a shallow steep-sided pit (2806) of late Roman date, and also a smaller, undated, ditch only 0.05m deep (2345). A deeper pit to the east (2813) and which was excavated to a depth of 1.25m had vertical sides and was 1.75m in diameter. As with several features considered above, although early Roman pottery was recovered, the presence of a substantial amount of late Roman material suggests a 3rd or 4th century date for the infilling of the pit. A dump deposit in the fills contained many fragments of cob walling. At the lowest excavated level, a complete horse skull was found directly on top of a substantial part of a sheep skeleton. Although described here as a pit, this feature could also be interpreted as a shaft or a well.

A rectangular feature (2810) to the east of the pit was totally excavated and was very regular in form, some 0.55m deep, with vertical sides and a gently sloping base. Few finds were recovered from this feature but it appears to be of late Roman date.

The terminal of a shallow ditch (2940) to the east was also excavated, but only one, undiagnostic, sherd was recovered. Another ditch terminal (2847) to the south-west comprised part of a group of ephemeral curving ditches enclosing a subcircular area within which ditch 2346 terminated. Ditch 2847 was 0.2m deep with steep sides and a flat base. A few sherds of late Roman pottery were found in the single fill of the ditch, whilst a small metal bird thought to be a sceptre-head (Figure 10) was found on its surface. At the eastern terminal of the southern segment was a small rectangular grave (2845) which contained the remains of an infant aged approximately six-months. Only the cranium and long bones were present but it is probable that the body was complete when buried and that soil conditions have destroyed all but the most resilient elements. The stratigraphic relationship between the ditch and the grave was not clear and no diagnostic pottery was recovered from the grave. A second infant burial lay in a shallow subrectangular grave (2952) to the south-east. This burial was even less well-preserved, with only a few teeth and bone fragments remaining. No diagnostic pottery was recovered from the grave, however, it is likely that both burials are of Roman date. A shallow scoop (2942) close to the western edge of the trench was also undated and its purpose is unknown.

Further to the south-east was a circular pit (2989) 1.5m in diameter which was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. The pit was filled with a series of dump deposits of chalk rubble and flint nodules, and occasionally a mixture of both. Only two sherds of pottery were recovered, one of which was early Roman.

This pit was adjacent to the intersection of two straight, shallow, but incomplete gullies which may represent the corner of a building. To the north-west, and on a similar alignment to one of the gullies, was a wall-footing of crushed chalk faced on either side by a single layer of flint nodules (3007). The foundation was cut into the fills of a large hollow (2987) made up of several intercutting scoops and shallow pits. The wall-footings were only 0.1m high and survived in two short sections forming a right-angle, the flint nodules on the outside surviving as only a single course. This probably represents the corner of a building of which no other definite trace was recovered and probably survived due to the unconsolidated fills in the hollow (2987) causing subsidence which made foundations necessary. No datable pottery was recovered from the foundation trench but late Roman sherds were found in the fills of the hollow along with some early Roman material.

In the south-east corner of the trench a subrectangular feature (3020) 4.85m long and 3.2m wide was aligned north-west/south-east. Its eastern side had been cut by a modern service trench.

Upon excavation the feature was found to be a well-constructed 'T'-shaped subterranean structure (Figure 7, Plate 3), a typical example of a corndrier or malting kiln, possibly sited within a rectangular building.

Access to the stokehole area, approximately one metre below present ground level, was by a series of steps cut into the chalk at the western side of this area. The stem element of the 'T'-shaped flue was 3.0m long and 0.4m wide, the axial element was 2.3m long and 0.35m wide. The fire-pit was indicated by a more heavily burnt patch of chalk bedrock adjacent to the stokehole, although lesser amounts of burning were recorded throughout the flue.

The hot air passed along the flue to heat a rectangular pit 3.2m long, 3m wide and 1m deep. Walls of flint nodules set in a compact mortar (3018) lined the pit and the eastern wall continued beyond the pit to line the edge of the stokehole, these walls were internally faced with a single layer of flint nodules. Several small stakeholes were cut into the top of the east and west walls.

On each side of the fire-pit a short section of wall (3016) had been added perpendicular to the sidewalls. These later walls were slightly wider and faced with courses of flint nodules and chalk blocks. Only two courses were recorded, placed on a ledge of chalk bedrock and clearly distinct from the walls lining the rectangular pit.

These low walls extended towards the fire-pit for approximately 0.55m but a pink sandy mortar with a few flint nodules (3015), concentrated mainly at the base, was bonded onto the end of them. These walls overhung the fire-pit slightly and as flat slabs of limestone were recorded in the upper part (Figure 7) it is likely that these were part of an arch over the fire-pit at the mouth of the flue.

Beyond the flue arch walls and either side of the flue, the interior of the structure was excavated to a depth of 0.30m below the present ground level. At this depth there was a compact surface of light grey-brown mortar (3017) within which were occasional flint nodules. This surface is likely to have been the base for a raised drying floor of some sort but no evidence was recovered to indicate the nature or position of such a floor.

The base of the flue was filled with a dark-grey deposit of ashy material which lay directly on the chalk bedrock. Along the stem of the 'T' this deposit was 0.15m deep but in the axial element it was slightly thicker, rising sharply to a depth of 0.3m at each end. Six samples of this ash were

collected at regular intervals along the flue and all contained carbonised barley and wheat which had not germinated. Weed seeds were also present in two samples.

Considerable quantities of mortar and building materials were recovered from the filling of the flue, along with large amounts of pottery, mostly of late Roman date, and animal bone, indicating the demolition or collapse of the superstructure and deliberate refuse disposal.

Adjacent to the western edge of the corndrier was a small dumbbell-shaped oven (2322). The western element of this was a shallow subcircular pit with a flat base which was cut directly into the chalk bedrock. As this showed evidence of burning it may be the stokehole. It was linked directly to the eastern element, a more regular circular pit 1.0m in diameter and 0.25m deep. This was lined with a 0.15m thick layer of orange-brown clay within which some small flint nodules were visible. The internal surface of the lining had been fired to a yellow colour with a much harder texture. An ashy deposit was found in the northern part of the base of the chamber but it was not examined and no diagnostic pottery was found.

Several other similar, though less well-preserved, dumbbell-shaped features were recorded (Figure 6, 2469, 2470, 2617, 2620, 2841, 2748, 2809). At the eastern end of 2809 a single plain *lydion* brick had been used as the base of the oven or hearth.

As in the stage 1 excavations, alignments of postholes partitioning the site were recorded. Clear examples can be seen in the south-east part of the trench, where one alignment runs parallel to, and south of, trackway 2492, while two other alignments form a right-angle to the north-east of corndrier 3020.

THE FINDS

The following reports are summaries of the full reports which are retained in the site archive. Artefacts recovered by fieldwalking are only mentioned where they are considered to be of intrinsic interest.

THE ROMAN GOLD COIN HOARD

by A BURNETT

In October 1990 a small hoard of eight gold (and possibly one silver) coins was discovered by a local metal-detector user approximately 90m to the north of Trench 22 (Figure 1, c; Plate 4). (A full description of the coins is published in Burnett 1992).

Two joining sherds of pottery, probably from the vessel within which the coins were deposited, were also found (Figure 10, 8) and showed signs of recent breaks. The pot is a small New Forest colour-coated, plain, globular beaker (Fulford 1975a, Type 30.12). The form appeared from *c.* AD 300 onwards but evidence from Lankhills, Hampshire (Fulford 1979) and Portchester, Hampshire (Fulford 1975b) suggests that it became more common after *c.* AD 340-50. A similar beaker containing a coin hoard of *c.* AD 410 was found at Shapwick Heath, Somerset (Gray 1937).

The Butterfield Down hoard comprises eight gold solidii and possibly one silver siliqua. There are solidii of four emperors, one of Gratian (AD 367-83), two of Valentian II (AD 375-92), two of Arcadius (AD 383-408) and four of Honorius (AD 393-423). Analyses of similar coins indicate that the gold content is high (*c.* 98%).

Contents of the hoard

GRATIAN (1)

Obverse: DN GRATIA NVS P F AVG

No.	*Mint*	*Reverse*	*Mint-mark*	*RIC*	*Weight*
1	Trier	VICTOR IA AVGG two emperors and Victory	--//TROBS	39c2	4.47

VALENTINIAN II (2)

Obverse: DN VALENTINI ANVS P F AVG

2	Trier	VICTOR IA A VGG Two emperors and Victory	T R//COM	90a	4.35
3	Trier	VICTOR IA A VGG Two emperors and Victory	T R//COM	90a	4.50

HONORIUS (4)

Obverse: DN HONORI VS P F AVG

4	'Sirmium'	VICTORI A AVGGGB Emperor and captive	S M//COM	15d2	4.44
5	'Sirmium'	VICTORI A AVGGH Emperor and captive	S M//COM	cf. 15 *Cohen*	4.45
6	Milan	VICTORI A AVGGG Emperor and captive	M D//COM	44	4.41
7	Milan	VICTORI A AVGGG Emperor and captive	M D/COM	44	4.45

ARCADIUS (1)

Obverse: D N ARCADI V S P F AVG *Tolstoi*

8	Ravenna	VICTORI A AVGGG Emperor and captive	R V//COM	30	4.46

Analysis of the silver siliqua of Arcadius (AD 383-408) indicates that it is of fine silver, (90%). It is rare to find single silver coins in hoards of gold issues of this period, and it is the only silver coin known to have been found at Butterfield Down. It was found at the same time as the gold coins and is of the same date, although it is more worn. A date of about AD 405 is suggested by the presence of the latest coin in the group, making this one of the latest coin hoards known from Roman Britain.

Following the discovery of the hoard, a 2.5m^2 trench (Trench 24) was hand-excavated in the area of the find spot in order to recover any further finds or subsoil features within which the pot might have been placed, however, since the finder was unable to re-identify accurately the exact find-spot other than by retracing his footprints through the ploughed surface of the field it may be that the trench was outside the area of the hoard. No gold coins or parts of the pot were found.

The edge of a group of small features was revealed, along with three stakeholes. None of the features seemed to have been disturbed so if the hoard vessel was found within the area excavated it is likely that it came from the base of the present ploughsoil. Although two copper alloy coins were found within Trench 24, they were not made available for study.

OTHER ROMAN COINS

by M. CORNEY

In addition to the eight or nine coins from the hoard and the bronze issues found at the same time, a further 925 coins were recovered from the general area of the Down by metal-detector users. All have been examined and, where possible, full identification made. Two hundred and thirty-three (25%) were illegible, the high percentage reflecting the crude cleaning methods employed.

The numbers of coins by issue period (Reece 1972) are presented on Figure 8 which includes those recovered from controlled excavation. The pattern of loss shows little evidence for coin use from the 1st-3rd centuries AD. A dramatic increase occurs from the middle of the 3rd century AD with a high rate of coin use and loss continuing into the early 5th century AD. In period X (AD 259-275) 59 coins (52% of the period total) are barbarous issues. The peak occurs in the period AD 364-378 with a total of 288 coins representing 40% of the identifiable assemblage. Continued coin use into the early 5th century AD is well represented with issues of period XVI (AD 388-402) representing 9% of the total - a high figure which conforms to the general pattern of late Roman activity in the central Wiltshire region (Corney, in preparation). Other numismatic evidence, perhaps related, for late Roman activity in the area east of Amesbury comes from the discovery, in 1842 or 1843, of a mixed hoard of silver rings and bronze and silver coins ranging from Postumus (AD 259-268) to Theodosius II (AD 375-392) from New Covert, 500m south west of Butterfield Down, (SMR 305 above; VCH 1963, 30).

The edge of a group of small features was revealed, along with three stakeholes. None of the features seemed to have been disturbed so if the hoard vessel was found within the area excavated it is likely that it came from the base of the present ploughsoil. Although two copper alloy coins were found within Trench 24, they were not made available for study.

OTHER ROMAN COINS

by M. CORNEY

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OBJECTS OF SILVER AND COPPER ALLOY

by S. M. DUGGAN

A badly damaged undecorated silver finger ring with an average diameter of *c.* 19mm was found by a metal-detector user. Although likely to be Roman, a closer date cannot be assigned. Some 53 copper alloy objects were found, only eight of which during excavation, five in fieldwalking and the remainder by metal-detector users. They are considered by type below and unless the context is given, the piece was found by metal-detector users.

Four of the six brooches are early Roman and include Dolphin, bow, and Lamberton Moor types. A large trumpet brooch with a lionesque knop is likely to be of late 2nd or early 3rd century date, a similar example was found at Exeter, Devon (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, figure 102, 27). The final brooch is T-shaped with a head-loop and a lozenge-shaped plate inlaid with rhomboidal and clover-leaf and dot shaped mouldings which may have been enamelled. This brooch shares several characteristics with the Flavian Caerleon type which is found in south-west Britain (Collingwood and Richmond 1969, figure 103, 28-9; Wedlake 1982, figure 53, 55) but the lozenge-shaped plate is unusual and is comparable with flat rhomboidal brooches of 2nd century AD date (Crummy 1983, figure 14, 78).

Three finger rings and one key ring were found; one in the upper fill of the 'working hollow' 2816 in Trench 23 has a well-preserved bezel containing an amber-coloured glass or enamel setting and the hoops on either side which include a winged moulding. Similar examples of 3rd or 4th century AD date have been found at Colchester, Essex (Crummy 1983, figure 50, 1777-85) and Cirencester, Gloucestershire (Viner 1982, M2: figure 54, 37).

Pieces of four separate armlets were found, all 3rd or 4th century types. A fragment of plain armlet was found within one of the fills of the corndrier 3020, while a section of a two-strand plaited wire armlet was found on the surface of the fill of ditch 2333.

A single broken probe, or possibly a pin, was found in working hollow 2987 in Trench 23, comparable examples from Colchester and are thought to be of early 2nd century date (Crummy 1983, figure 65, 1929-32) . Fragments of four belt plates or buckles have been found, one of which is possibly 1st century AD (*ibid*, figure 151, 4211), but the others are likely to be post-Roman. A spoon with a pear-shaped bowl and three linear incisions at the base of the handle is paralleled (albeit without incisions) by a find from Colchester (*ibid*, figure 73, 2014) which dates to the early 2nd

century. Part of a spoon with a round bowl of a type usually dated to the late 1st and 2nd centuries AD was found in corndrier 3020 .

In addition to the figurine identified as a sceptre-head discussed below, there are fragments from four copper alloy figurines. Three of these are single feet; one a claw with four nails, one an animal foot with five 'toes', and the third badly worn and indistinct. The fourth piece is a finely modelled bust of a woman with her hair gathered into a knot at the nape of her neck. As the base is sharply angled it is clear that it was attached to another piece, possibly a stand of some form.

Finally, a pendant mount from a rare type of post-medieval sword-belt fitting was also discovered (Gaimster 1988).

SCEPTRE HEAD

by M. HENIG

A small alloy figure of a bird perched atop an iron rod (Figure 10) was found in the upper part of ring-ditch 2847 in Trench 23. The bird is 43mm long from beak to tail and weighs 24g. It has a long curved beak and a rather small head, flattened at the top with a suggestion of brows above the eyes. The wings are folded upon its back, the pinions being indicated by means of long grooves, and it has a squared-off tail. The bird is probably intended to be an eagle, although the bill is more like that of a chough.

Comparison may be made with figurines of birds from the temple site at Woodeaton (Kirk 1949, 31, nos 4-5) and from Ramsden, near Finstock (Henig and Chambers 1984, figure 1, 1), both in Oxfordshire. An eagle in a cache of religious paraphernalia found at Willingham Fen, Cambridgeshire, may also be noted (Rostovtseff 1923, 94, plate iv, 5). The feet are missing in all these cases so it is uncertain whether they were votives given to deities (referring to the widespread belief in augury whereby birds as denizens of the air could reveal the will of the gods in their flight patterns) or were elements in regalia. The uppermost element in a priestly headdress in the hoard from Felmingham, Norfolk (Gilbert 1978, figure 5A) supported a bird whose foot alone remains. However, much more pertinent to the Butterfield Down eagle is a bird from the same cache, probably a corvid, standing upon a globe which was evidently fixed on an iron staff (*ibid*, figure 4D). This was surely a sceptre head or tipstaff of the same type as the eagle, designed to be carried in religious processions.

The shafts of the Butterfield Down and Felmingham Hall sceptres may have been of bare iron, but it is perhaps more likely that copper alloy sheeting with an iron armature gave strength and solidity to the object.

The only other bird sceptre known from Roman Britain is an owl from Willingham Fen, Cambridgeshire (Rostovtseff 1923, 94, plate iv, 4). Sceptres topped by birds are best known in the form of the eagle-sceptres of the Roman emperors (Strong 1976, plate 127; Kent 1978, plate 549). A number of sceptre heads have been recognised in Roman Britain, mainly representations of deities though some may portray emperors (Henig and Leahy 1984). It is probable that they would have been used away from shrines in processions designed to bless the fields and propitiate the gods who looked after the community. Consequently, the Butterfield Down sceptre is not out of place in an otherwise secular context, and it emphasises the important part religious ceremonies played in daily life.

IRON OBJECTS

by M. FAIRBROTHER

Some 43 iron objects and 143 iron nails were excavated but none have been radiographed or conserved. Nine small cleats were found, six small oval examples (Maning 1985, plate 61, R60-4) and three longer, narrower, oval ones (*ibid*, plate 61, R54-9), all probably from the soles or heels of boots. Other items for personal use include a pin with a domed head, and a stylus found in corndrier 3020 of a type thought to be early Roman in date (*ibid*, figure 21, Type 1). The five knives were of different types (*ibid*, figure 28, Types 10, 11a, 13, 16 and 21) and although those which could be dated appear in the mid 1st century AD, the types are long-lived.

A shackle, perhaps for animals, consisting of a bar forming two-thirds of a circle, with eyes at the ends, one holding a round loop and the other a long narrow loop bent into a shallow V-shape was also found (*ibid*, figure 23, 7). The shackle would have been closed by passing the narrow loop through the round loop and securing it with a chain or padlock. The heel portion (including the hook) of a hipposandal was also found.

There are few tools, only three wedges, one of which was associated with a fragment of a heavy iron bar but does not seem to have been attached to it. Pieces of structural ironwork comprise a joiner's dog (*ibid*, plate 61, R52), a heavy metal bolt, a possible loop fitting and a double spiked loop

(*ibid*, plate 61, R34-50). The remaining ironwork comprises six pieces of strip binding, a single horseshoe and an assortment of pieces of wire, rods or bars.

METALWORKING SLAG

by A. CROCKETT

A total of 28 pieces weighing 1581g was recovered from the site. The most common type is ferrous and quite dense, deriving from smithing rather than smelting. Not enough material was found to identify firmly any areas used for metalworking but it is worth noting that slag was found in two 'working hollows' 2973 and 2987 in Trench 23.

PORTABLE STONE OBJECTS

by A.P. FITZPATRICK and J. I. LEHMANN

Prehistoric

A rough-out for a Neolithic stone-axe (Figure 9,1) was found by a metal-detector user. It was thin-sectioned by R V Davis on behalf of the Council for British Archaeology Implement Petrology Committee (ref. 1858/WI428), revealing a highly altered medium grained gabbro. The rock is probably Cornish, and possibly from the Falmouth area. This may suggest that the piece is of earlier rather than later Neolithic date.

A rectangular, decorated chalk object (Figure 9, 2; Plate 5) was recovered from the upper fill of pit 310 in Trench 3. There is incised decoration on the two faces and on three of the edges, the fourth being too worn to establish if the decoration extended all over the object. No parallels of Roman date are known to the writers but the piece may be closely similar to the two late Neolithic plaques from Chalk Plaque Pit, Amesbury (Harding 1988; Varndell 1991) and a date in the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age seems likely, particularly as the decoration on the plaque aappears to echo that on Beakers.

Forty-four quernstone fragments from 17 separate querns were recovered. Of these, 16 are small hand querns, with a diameter of less than 0.5m, in conglomerate, coarse and fine Sandstone, and

coarse Limestone. The other stone is a Greensand millstone with a diameter of 0.62m, and is a type which is usually associated with mechanically worked mills (Cunliffe 1971, 153, figure 71). This was found on the surface of an unexcavated feature in the north-eastern part of Trench 23, close to a group of ditches which may be early Roman. The other quern fragments were recovered from a range of contexts, including the fills of the corndrier 3020. Five Limestone mortar fragments were found, two of which may be of Purbeck marble. They are the same size and type as an example from Colchester (Buckley and Major 1983, figure 79, 2804) with dished profiles and smoothed interior surfaces evident on four of the five fragments, one of which had an extant lug. Seven whetstone fragments were found in a variety of features, all had two surviving surfaces at least one of which was polished.

SHALE OBJECT

by A. CROCKETT

Two thirds of a solid circular shale object 27mm in diameter, and apparently lathe worked, was found in a rubble fill within the corndrier 3020. One surface is flat, the other slightly domed, giving a thickness of 6mm at the centre and the piece would have weighed *c.* 6.4g. Although the piece is broken, it appears to be a gaming counter. Bone, glass, stone and ceramic gaming pieces or counters are well known (Crummy 1983, 91-6; Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 229, 267, 275, 279) but the use of shale for such pieces is not paralleled at these sites or in the large assemblage of shale objects from Silchester (Lawson 1976).

THE GLASS

by D. A. ALLEN

A total of 22 glass vessel fragments and one glass bead was found. Almost all are of colourless or greenish colourless glass, with only two small blue-green chips and one dark blue fragment which together with the absence of blue-green bottle fragments, is typical of a later Roman collection.

The dark blue fragment was the only piece of typically 1st century AD tableware present. It was found in one of the upper fills of corndrier 3020 and although the precise form cannot be

determined, the strong colour and optic-blown ribbed decoration were commonly used for jugs, jars and bowls during the second half of the 1st century AD.

From the Flavian period onwards, colourless glass replaced bright colours for tablewares and several fragments of this type were found. One of these, from the lower fill of pit 404 in Trench 4, is the rim of a very common later 2nd and 3rd century cup (Isings 1957, 85b; Allen 1988, 293, no. 44).

Fragments from later Roman containers were also found. One piece, from the surface of an unexcavated feature 2756 in Trench 23, was probably from a mould-blown barrel-shaped bottle of a type often made and signed by Frontinus or Felix (e.g. Harden *et al.* 1968, 44, no. 79, from Faversham, Kent) and which were quite common during the later 3rd and 4th centuries.

A small green square-sectioned bead was found on the surface of an unexcavated feature 2699 in Trench 23 and is a common Roman type of 3rd-4th century date (Guido 1978, figure 37, 6-7).

THE POTTERY

by J.I. LEHMANN

Introduction

The pottery assemblage comprises 6394 sherds (124,567g), the majority of which is of Romano-British date, with prehistoric and post-medieval material also present (Table 1). Analysis followed the standard Wessex Archaeology analytical recording systems (Morris 1992a, 1992b), and for this purpose was divided into two parts. First a brief scan of the pottery from Trenches 1 to 22, and also the pottery from surface collection of the unexcavated features in Trench 23 was undertaken. Pottery from excavated features in Trench 23, which has the greatest stratigraphic integrity, and from Trench 24 (the hand-excavated trench around the gold coin hoard) was then recorded in detail.

Pottery recorded by scanning: The presence of Roman wares of known type or source, for example Black Burnished ware, and all pottery not of Roman date (prehistoric, medieval/post-medieval) was recorded, but detailed analysis was not conducted. The remaining Roman pottery was divided into broad fabric groups on the basis of the dominant inclusion type: grey and oxidised sandy fabrics, grog-tempered fabrics, flint-gritted fabrics, and fine wares of unknown type. The number and weight of sherds by fabric group for this part of the analysis are shown in Table 1. In addition, 18 rim types were identified and recorded on a presence/absence basis (Table 2).

Methodology

The prehistoric and Roman pottery from features in Trench 23 and from Trench 24 was divided into five broad fabric groups on the basis of the dominant inclusion or known source: flint-gritted fabrics (group F), shell-tempered fabrics (group S), grog-tempered fabrics (group G), sandy fabrics (group Q), and fabrics of known type or source (group E). The first four groups were then subdivided into separate fabric types, according to the range and coarseness of inclusions present (Table 3). Details of vessel form, surface treatment, and decoration for the Roman pottery were also recorded.

Prehistoric pottery

A small quantity of prehistoric pottery was recovered from Trenches 3, 4, 13, 17 and the surface collection of Trench 23 and dates from the late Neolithic and late Bronze Age.

Twenty-nine prehistoric sherds were recovered from excavated features in Trench 23. Six fabric types were identified, four flint-gritted (F1-F4), one grog-tempered (G1), and one shell-tempered (S1). All of these fabrics are represented by very small numbers of sherds. In most cases the lack of diagnostic material precludes close dating and the majority of it was found redeposited in later contexts.

Two sherds (fabric F2) bear impressed decoration and have been identified as late Neolithic Peterborough ware in a fabric similar to that already recovered in the Stonehenge area (Cleal with Raymond 1990, 235). One sherd (G1) may derive from an accessory vessel (Figure 10, 1), probably an incense cup of early Bronze Age date (cf Annable and Simpson 1964, no. 445; R.M.J. Cleal pers. comm.). A second sherd in the same fabric is also likely to be of early Bronze Age date. The single sherd of fabric F1 derives from a thick-walled vessel, most probably an urn of middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury type and is similar to the early/middle Bronze Age fabric types recovered in the Stonehenge area (Cleal with Raymond 1990, 241). All other handmade sherds are prehistoric but not datable more closely.

All sherds except the fragment of potential incense cup were found with later material and must therefore be considered as residual. The fragment of the incense cup was found beneath the body in burial (3004). As it is a tiny fragment it may simply have been incorporated in the fill of the grave but it is considered as a grave good here.

Roman pottery

Thirty-seven fabrics were identified and quantified (Table 1) and the coarse and fine ware fabrics are listed in Table 4. Eighteen coarse (Table 2), and one fine ware, rim types were identified and quantified and the six most common rim types are illustrated (Figure 10, 2-7). Imported fine wares are represented by Rhenish ware and samian. The Rhenish ware sherds are all from Trier type beakers, produced between AD 150-250 (Greene 1978, 18). No attempt was made to attribute the samian to production centres but it is likely that the great majority are Central Gaulish. Four sherds had been repaired. Form 18/31 bowls were the most common form, with one sherd from a form 18 platter, five from a form 79 platter, and two possibly from a form 43 mortaria. Apart from form 18, which can be dated to the mid-late 1st century AD, all the forms are 2nd century.

Nearly equal amounts of Oxfordshire and New Forest products were recovered (Table 1); however, the New Forest material is represented mainly by stoneware-type colour-coated wares and the Oxfordshire vessels by red-slipped wares. Oxford wares include oxidised colour-coated wares, white ware and parchment ware and the forms include the carinated bowl type C81, 'dog bowl' type C94, and mortaria types C97 and C100 (Young 1977). One sherd may be from a type C88 bowl. The New Forest products include colour-coated, parchment, red-slipped (Fulford 1975a, fabrics 1a, 1c, 2a), and grey wares. Forms include single examples of jug types 18 and 22, two examples of the indented beaker type 27, one each of beaker types 30 and 33, two type 63 bowls, an example of a type 106 mortarium and six unidentifiable rims (*ibid.*). Four fine sandy wares of unknown or uncertain origin were defined (fabrics Q110, Q112-14; Table 4; detailed descriptions in archive) but these fabrics are represented by very few sherds (Table 1).

The rim of a narrow-mouthed, flagon-like vessel with an applied and incised face mask (Figure 10, 9) occurred in fabric Q110 (rim type R108). The origin is unknown, but it may be a fairly local product as undecorated sherds in the fabric were recorded throughout the site. The decoration does not fall into the face mask traditions identified by Braithwaite (1984) and Butterfield Down lies outside the previously known distribution area of face mask pots, which was restricted to the north and east of Britain. The form of the vessel is unusual for this type of decoration, since it has previously been recorded in only one instance, near Carlisle, Cumbria (*ibid.*).

The single sherd of fabric Q112 derives from a 2nd century poppyhead beaker with barbotine decoration of a type produced at the Highgate Wood,Kent, Upchurch and Oxfordshire centres amongst others (Tyers 1978). Fabric Q113 may be a product of the colour-coated ware industry of north Wiltshire which was in operation *c.* AD 125 - 40 (Anderson 1979, 11). This fabric has also been recognised at an enclosed settlement at Figheldean in the Avon Valley (Mepham 1993, fabric type Q114).

Thirty-five sherds of Dr. 20 amphorae from southern Spain, mostly from a single vessel, were recovered. This is the most common type found on Romano-British sites and would have contained olive-oil. It was produced from the mid 1st to the end of the 3rd century AD (Peacock and Williams 1986, 136). The rim has been removed and the handles had apparently been sawn off. However, the base also seems to have been sawn in half, suggesting that the neck and handles were not removed to reuse the vessel.

Thirteen coarse ware fabrics were recognised; nine are broadly defined and may include products from more than one source. None of the fabrics identified are restricted to early forms, with the exception of Q103, which is represented by five identifiable rim sherds, four everted rim jars of early form (R102), and one wide-mouthed jar (R110). This may be the result of insufficient data rather than any genuine trend. Other early vessel forms in coarse ware fabrics include an everted rim jar (R102) in BB1, while from the scanned collection there are butt beakers (R112), shouldered bowls (R116) and bead rimmed jars (R117), which show Iron Age influences. Savernake ware, an early Roman fabric, was amongst the material scanned from Trench 4.

The most commonly represented fabric types with regard to rim sherds (Q100, Q101 and Q102) all include examples of vessels dating from the 1st to the 4th centuries, such as everted rim jars (R101, R102), flanged (R104) and dropped-flange (R105) bowls and 'dog dishes' (R106). The two grog-tempered fabrics were frequently found in thick-walled storage jar forms, although only one datable rim sherd was present, an early form everted rim jar (R102). Black Burnished ware (BB1) in its early and late forms does show continuity of availability from one production centre. It is found in everted rim jars of early (Figure 10, 2) and late (Figure 10, 3) forms, flanged (Figure 10, 6) and dropped-flange (Figure 10, 7) bowls, 'dog dishes', and one example of a 'fish dish' (late 3rd - late 4th century AD) (Gillam 1976; Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 252).

Illustrated sherds

1. Possible incense cup, Early Bronze Age, fabric G1, pit 3004.
2. Everted rim jar, 1st-2nd century AD, fabric E101, rim R102, ditch 2337.
3. Everted rim jar/bowl, 3rd-4th century AD, fabric Q102, rim R128, pit 2816.
4. Everted rim jar, 3rd century AD, fabric Q100, rim R102, kiln/oven 2841.
5. Dog dish, 2nd century AD onwards, fabric E101, rim R106, pit 2816.
6. Flanged bowl, late 2nd-3rd century AD, fabric E101, rim R104, pit 2816.
7. Drop-flanged bowl, 3rd-4th century AD, fabric E101, rim R105, pit 2816.
8. Hoard vessel, New Forest colour-coated globular beaker.
9. Face pot, fabric Q110, pit 2813.

Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) (Orton 1980) were calculated for each form as a means of assessing statistically their relative numbers in the assemblage (Table 5). This showed that the two most common forms were the early and late forms of everted rim jars (R101, R102) and that there were roughly equal numbers of early and late vessel forms (nine and six forms respectively; Table 2) for which a definite date range could be given. There were, however, twice as many later than earlier vessels, suggesting that the main period of site activity was in the 3rd to 4th centuries .

The only coarseware fabric type which can be attributed to a known source is Black Burnished ware (BB1) from the Wareham/Poole Harbour area of Dorset (e.g. Williams 1977). Sources for the other fabrics are uncertain, since grey wares in particular are difficult to characterise and the assemblage probably represents the products of several different production centres. Anderson (1979) has defined one centre of grey ware manufacture in north Wiltshire *c.* 42km to the north of Butterfield Down where kilns are known at Purton, Whitehill Farm and Toothill Farm. The presence of what is probably glauconite in fabrics Q101, Q103, Q105, and Q108 might indicate a source close to outcrops of Upper Greensand which occur in west and north Wiltshire. A production centre at Westbury is suggested by kiln furniture and wasters found there (Rogers and Roddham 1991). Other possible sources are the New Forest kilns, which produced grey wares alongside the fine wares in the late Roman period, but these wares have not yet been sufficiently well characterised for identification to be possible.

Distribution: Trenches 1 - 22, Trench 23 Surface Collection: certain fabrics were commonly found; grey wares, oxidised wares, BB1, grog-tempered fabrics, Oxfordshire and New Forest products were present in all of the trenches, with the exception of Trenches 5 and 9. Only three flint-gritted sherds were recovered, all from the surface collection in Trench 23. There were also isolated examples of other fine wares which occurred in greater quantities in the excavated features of Trenches 23 and 24.

White-slipped ware was recovered from Trenches 1, 3-4, and 7, samian from Trenches 1, 3-4, 7, 12, and 17, and amphora from Trench 3. All these wares were recovered from the surface collection in Trench 23, together with one sherd of Rhenish ware and two of probable north Wiltshire colour-coat. Four sherds of Savernake ware were found in Trench 4 which was the only occurrence of this ware on the site.

No distinct early features were identified in the analysis and although a number of early rim forms were identified they occurred with later material. Early everted rim jar forms were recovered from 11 trenches and the surface of Trench 23; examples of a carinated bowl/dish rim, a wide-mouthed jar, a shouldered bowl of 1st/2nd century date, and a 1st century butt beaker were recovered from Trench 4. The shouldered bowl form was also recovered from Trench 22. A bead-rimmed jar form was identified in Trench 15 and a 1st/2nd century reeded rim bowl form in the assemblage from the surface collection in Trench 23. With the exception of the concentration in Trench 4, the early forms were distributed randomly across the site.

Trenches 23 and 24: Roman pottery was recovered from most of the excavated features and no significant clustering was observed. Feature 3020, a corndrier, showed a concentration of fabric types Q100, Q101 and Q104, but it is likely that the pottery was deposited over a period of time after the structure went out of use.

The variety of early and late Roman types recovered, together with certain fabric types which have a limited date range, show that the site was occupied throughout the Roman period. None of the locally-made wares seem to have been restricted to any chronological period, and non-local wares are present throughout the occupation of the site. The relatively small amount of early Roman wares, such as Savernake ware, or easily definable early forms of BB1, indicates activity at Butterfield Down was at its peak in the late Roman period when the large proportion of New Forest and Oxfordshire wares may reflect the site's status. Occupation at Butterfield Down seems to begin at the time that occupation at nearby Boscombe Down West declined (Richardson 1951). The latest forms at Boscombe Down are very similar to the early rim forms at Butterfield Down and Trench 4 in particular has a concentration of these, including shouldered and carinated bowls. The range of fabrics and forms in the late Roman assemblage is paralleled nearby at the substantial settlement west of Durrington Walls where little early Roman material was found (Swan 1971). Although there is a

greater emphasis on the late Roman period at Butterfield Down, the range of fabrics and forms is similar to that found at Figheldean, Wiltshire (Mepham 1993). If the difference is not due to the different dates of the sites, the proportion of fine wares at Butterfield Down, 6.7% by weight, which is comparable to the 7% at the site west of Durrington Walls (Swan 1971) may suggest that these sites were of higher status than that at Figheldean.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

by J. I. LEHMANN

Some 256 pieces of ceramic building material (14,340g) were recovered. Of these, 120 pieces (11,934g) are Roman, 134 pieces (2,395g) medieval or post-medieval and two pieces (11g) are undated. The post-Roman material consists mainly of small fragments of brick or roof-tile and is almost entirely from unstratified contexts. The even distribution of this material is likely to be the result of agricultural practices, probably manuring.

The Roman material includes 86 fragments of brick, six of tile of uncertain form, seven of *tegulae*, one *imbrex* and two of comb-patterned flue tile. Eighteen other fragments may be dated to this period on the basis of fabric and form but are of uncertain type. The material was evenly distributed across the excavation, the only concentration being a group of 64 fragments from a single plain *lydion* brick measuring 430mm x 290mm x 35mm which had been used as the base of a hearth or oven in Trench 23 (Figure 6, 2809). There was no obvious use or reuse of ceramic building material in the mortared structures such as the corndriers.

THE FIRED CLAY

by A. CROCKETT

A total of 107 pieces (2,155g) of both single-faced and double-faced cob walling was found. This material is oxidised throughout and some pieces have suffered from burning after use. Most of the cob walling formed part of a dump in pit 2813 (Figure 6), while a further large group was found in the fill of the excavated corndrier 3020.

Approximately half of a spindle whorl (fabric G101, 35mm diam., <12mm thick, *c.* 25g, central perforation 10mm diam.) was found in pit 404, Trench 4. Roman spindle whorls are usually made from worked stone, shale, or broken pottery (Leach 1982, 217), and it is rare to find examples made from clay.

THE BUILDING STONE

by J I LEHMANN

Some 137 flat stone slabs, all probably tiles, were found. Most are of Limestone, although there are fourteen of Sandstone. The tiles can be divided into two broad groups; thin slabs likely to be roofing material, and slightly thicker pieces more suitable for flooring. Two of the roof tile fragments have surviving nail holes and on one of these ferrous corrosion products are visible adjacent to the hole. Nine of the fragments are much thicker than the floor tiles, and their function is unknown. Other building material consists of two dressed blocks, one of Limestone and the other of Greensand, both probably architectural fragments. Unworked pieces of oolitic Limestone and Sandstone may also have been building materials.

WORKED BONE AND IVORY

by J. I. LEHMANN

One ivory and one bone pin were found in the fills of corndrier 3020; a second bone pin and a carved sheep metatarsal were recovered from the fills of pit 404 in Trench 4. The ivory pin is 78mm long, has a spherical head and the shaft tapers at both ends, a form paralleled in bone pins thought to date from after AD 200 (MacGregor 1985, figure 64, nos 8-10). Unless it is actually highly polished bone, the pin was probably imported. The importation of elephant and fossil (mammoth) ivory to the Mediterranean world is known in the 4th century (Krzyszkowska 1990) but it is unknown whether raw materials or only finished objects reached mainland Britain. The bone pin from the corndrier is similar but only 26mm long. Only 56mm shaft of the third bone pin survives and this tapers at both ends. The natural grooves on both the anterior and posterior surfaces of the sheep metatarsal have been enlarged using a knife.

THE CARBONISED PLANT REMAINS

by MICHAEL J. ALLEN

Six samples of ash were recovered from regular intervals along the flue of corndrier 3020. They were processed using standard flotation methods; and the 500µm flots were assessed. All samples contained carbonised grain (barley, *Hordeum* sp., and wheat, *Triticum* sp.), none of which showed signs of 'sprouting' or germination. Two of the samples contained chaff elements (e.g. rachis fragments etc.), and weed seeds (*Polygonum* sp. and cf. *Bilderdykia convolvulus*) were present in four of the samples, and common in two of them indicating the burning of crop waste as well as cleaned grain. This could indicate only the disposal and burning of farm waste in the structure after it had gone out of use but it is more likely to reflect the likelihood that 'corndriers' actually had a variety of uses (van der Veen 1989)

ANIMAL BONES

by J EGERTON

Nearly 4,000 well preserved, but severely fragmented, animal bones were recorded from Trench 23, principally from late Roman contexts. Only securely dated finds are considered here.

The early Roman assemblage was dominated by sheep (over 50%) but cattle were also found in significant numbers with other domestic animals present (Table 6). Although the majority of bone was recovered from pits and ditches, the relatively high proportion of teeth indicates the poor preservation overall of the assemblage. Over 15% of the assemblage was weathered but only three gnawed and two butchered bones were recorded.

Late Roman contexts contained 3771 fragments of which 1746 (47.7%) of the bone from features was identifiable (Table 7). The assemblage was heavily fragmented due to physical breakage and butchery prior to deposition and also in part because of post-depositional breakage, including some modern breakage. The sample produced only seventeen complete and mature long bones (sheep eight, horse five and cattle four). The percentage of identified bone demonstrates a common variation between feature types and identifiable fragments, with pits offering better preservation, and proportions of species were constant across the site.

The relative proportions of species is unsurprising, with the proportion of sheep (55%) slightly larger than cattle (36%) on this chalkland site. Apart from two special contexts, most of this site reflects small-scale primary and secondary butchery waste.

Some cattle on this site were used as draught animals (see below), but the limited ageing data also suggests some were killed on maturity for meat as 57% of the cattle fragments (MNI 25) came from high meat-bearing bones. Generally cattle produce thirteen times more meat per animal than sheep so, setting aside secondary products, they were the most important animal in the food economy (Grant 1984; Done 1986; Millett 1990). Most of the butchery marks (cuts and chops) were associated with primary butchery; but some (28%) were associated with the disarticulation of the foot elements. One animal had spavin which is associated particularly with draught animals resulting in it being able to manage only light loads; two bones displayed septic arthritis and one had an exotosis on the foot.

The remains of at least 46 sheep comprising 55% of the assemblage were found. Most bones were fragmented but only 22 butchery marks were noted and 40 bones had been gnawed by canines.

A few neonatal deaths probably associated with lambing were recorded, but the majority indicate a mature age at death (i.e. 3 years+) and this is supported by the dental data. As three good fleeces would have been produced by the time the animal was 3½ years old this indicates sheep rearing primarily for wool and other products rather than meat. Pit 404 in Trench 4 contained a large collection of foot elements and tooth elements (Table 8) These elements are very well preserved, mostly from mature animals and lack cut marks so it is likely that they are either waste products of industrial processing such as skinning or tanning, or comprise a special animal deposit. The group is paralleled, for example, by a group from a Roman well at Oakridge II, Basingstoke, Hampshire (Maltby unpublished) where a collection of head and foot elements was in an excellent state. However, at Butterfield Down the metapodial bones were not found with the tooth elements so it seems likely that metapodia were used for bone tools. It may not be a coincidence that a sheep metatarsal had been worked into a tool (see report on worked bone and ivory).

Only four horses were indentified but a large proportion of the fragments were teeth (33%) and together with the rareness of butchery (just two cuts associated with disarticulation) suggests that horses were seldom, if ever, eaten at this time. A complete skull of a nineteen year old horse was found in pit 2813 in Trench 23. It is not clear if this was a special deposit for as well as containing seven complete and associated sheep long bones, it was accompanied by a seemingly ordinary mix of waste bones.

Only four pigs were recorded, suggesting that they were not an important part of the food economy but the limited ageing data does suggest that they were bred on the site and were killed whilst young.

There are, perhaps, rather few dog bones considering the canid gnawing of seventeen elements (1.1% of the assemblage). One very young puppy was found in a ditch in Trench 3. Two bones of red deer were found, one an antler from a mature animal which had been sawn off below the burr. Other animals represented included hare, chicken and amphibian.

Of special interest is the burial of a crow, whether carrion or hooded is uncertain, in a pit or ditch (310) in Trench 3. The preservation of the bones, which was very good, endorses the suggestion that it was a special deposit.

Discussion

The animal bones give keen indicators of the activities on this small late Roman settlement in an area which lacks well-investigated sites. Animal husbandry was clearly of a similar mode to the other small rural settlements of the period. The cattle bones are intensely butchered and there is evidence for the use of all parts of both the sheep and the cattle.

LAND MOLLUSCA

by S. F. WYLES and MICHAEL J. ALLEN

Samples were taken from a sub-soil hollow in the centre of the ring-ditch and from the ring-ditch itself (2500). The sub-soil hollow is undated but if, as seems likely, it is earlier than the ring-ditch, the presence of species such as *Vitrea contracta* and *Carychium tidentatum* which are found in leaf litter and tall grass would suggest tall grassland. The presence of open country species (Vallonis and *Pupilla muscorum*) indicates long, ungrazed grassland, possibly with some localised scrub habitats in the area.

The primary fills of the ring-ditch were barren and there were few finds from the secondary fills. However, the presence of *Vallonia excentrica* in the lower secondary fill and *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum* and *Vallonia excentrica* in the upper secondary fill suggest that after the monument was built it was surrounded by well-established, short-turved, grazed grassland, which fits well with what is known of the contemporary landscape in the area.

MARINE MOLLUSCA

by S. F. WYLES

Fragments from at least 158 oysters which may have been dredged from natural beds rather than being farmed were recovered from Roman contexts all across the site. The numbers are too small to have been other than an occasional supplement to the diet of the inhabitants.

DISCUSSION
by M.N. RAWLINGS *and* A.P. FITZPATRICK

Prehistoric

One certain and one possible prehistoric monuments were found. Although only one pit could be partially excavated (2998), it is probable that the four subrectangular pits in the south west of Trench 23 were related, forming a small 'pit ring henge' type structure *c.* 10m in diameter. Similar monuments are increasingly well known in southern England. At Conygar Hill on the Dorchester, Dorset, Bypass, two structures were found, one of which contained late Neolithic Grooved ware (Smith forthcoming) and there are two further examples from Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, although the ditch segments there were up to 2m deep (Atkinson *et al.* 1951, Site II, phase I and Site IV). Late Neolithic Peterborough ware was found in Site II there and site IV is likely to be contemporary, and was used in funerary practises. A comparable monument at Barrows Hill, Radley, Oxfordshire is probably also of late Neolithic date and may have been funerary (Chambers and Halpin 1984, 6-7). Other small, circular, late Neolithic monuments are known in the immediate vicinity of Butterfield Down, the first phase of barrow Amesbury G71 on Earls Farm Down, *c.* 1.3km away, was a small ring ditch, probably of late Neolithic date (Christie 1967). At Butterfield Down Peterborough Ware was found in pit 2943 *c.* 20m to the north-west of the pit ring henge. The unfinished stone axe (Figure 9,1) provides further evidence for Neolithic activity on the site, but perhaps at an earlier date in the period.

Other evidence of Neolithic or early Bronze Age date is provided by the chalk plaque (Figure 9, 2). Although it was found in a late Roman pit *c.* 200m to the east, the object finds its best parallels with the late Neolithic chalk plaques from the nearby chalk plaque pit which were associated with Grooved Ware (Harding 1988). The decoration on the Butterfield Down piece is closer to that on Beaker pottery, which may suggest that it is slightly later in date.

The second prehistoric monument, the ring ditch does not appear to have contained a central grave cut into the natural chalk. Although graves may have been dug in the southern part of the ring, it is quite possible that the ring ditch did not contain any burials, or that they may have been made in the now destroyed mound. The lithic assemblage from the ditch suggests a late Neolithic - early Bronze Age date. Although there are local parallels such as the pennanular ditch of Winterbourne Stoke Barrow 44 which is of a similar size which are thought to be late Neolithic (Green and Rollo-

Smith 1984), an early Bronze Age for the Butterfield Down example is considered more likely. The crouched inhumation burial 3004 is probably broadly contemporary with the ring ditch and may have been a satellite burial. In view of the predominantly funerary contexts of incense cups it is likely that that the small fragment of one of these vessels found in the grave is a formal grave good rather than having been introduced accidentally during the digging of the grave.

While strictly undated, the snails from a hollow in the centre of the ring ditch are likely to be earlier than the monument and they suggest an open, long-grassed environment which may have contained some scrub. However, by the time that the fill of the ditches began to stabilise, the monument lay in well established, short-turved, grazed grassland; an environment which is well documented in other analyses in the area. It is also noteworthy that the fills of features of prehistoric date have a different colour to Roman ones which is probably due to an increase in the quanities of chalk resulting from the reduction of soil depth by ploughing, probably during the middle-later Bronze Age, a trend which is again well documented in the later prehistory of the chalklands.

Although restricted by the limited amount of excavation possible, the evidence from Butterfield Down is a useful addition to the our knowledge of later Neolithic and early Bronze Age in the Stonehenge area and the variety of later Neolithic/early Bronze Age funerary and ritual monuments in Wessex generally (Barrett, Bradley and Green 1991, 58-139).

Roman

Glass and pottery from the 1st and 2nd centuries AD was recovered from a variety of contexts, but structural evidence for early Roman activity on the site is restricted to a few features, in particular a group of right angled ditches in the north-east of Trench 23 (Figure 6). It is possible that the early Roman activity at Butterfield Down was mostly outside the areas so far examined as the brooches discovered as surface finds would seem to suggest occupation at this time. The lack of Iron Age activity offers a contrast with the continuity through the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods at local sites such as Chisenbury Warren (Bowen and Fowler 1966, 50-2) and Figheldean (Graham and Newman 1993).

The late Roman settlement at Butterfield Down covered at least six hectares and appears to have been unenclosed. The bulk of the pottery is later Roman and there was a dramatic increase in coin loss at the settlement at this time.

Our understanding of the layout of the settlement is limited since excavation was restricted to the sites of houses and the roads as Trenches 1-21. However, the evidence is consistent with the clearer picture given by the larger area of Trench 23. Here a single, shallow, right-angled wall-footing and a ring gully were the only certain traces of the foundations of buildings and no clearly defined buildings or residential compounds were identified. Although there are hints that there may have been a temple on the site (see below), the character and quantity of finds strongly suggest a settlement in which buildings left little, if any, archaeologically obvious traces. Timber framed buildings may have rested on sill beams as at, for example, the early phase of Skeleton Green, Hertfordshire (Partridge 1981) or on stone joist supports as at the late Roman settlement at Wanborough, Wiltshire (Anderson and Wacher 1980). The cob walling from Butterfield Down could have come from such timber-framed buildings. One sunken-floored feature was excavated in Trench 4 while several similar examples were observed during the watching brief (Trench 22). These may be sunken floored buildings, or cellars and the only surviving evidence of buildings, a situation known for example at the extra-mural settlement at King Harry Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire where large, late Roman 'cellars' dated to the 3rd century are the only structural evidence for buildings (Stead and Rigby 1989, 7-11, figure 4, 7-8). Some of the buildings at Butterfield Down may have been roofed with clay and stone tiles instead of thatch, and some may have had stone tiled floors. The two possible architectural fragments suggest that more imposing buildings may have stood in the settlement, perhaps in the area of the clay tile scatter located during fieldwalking (Figure 2, II, B). The posthole alignments show that the settlement was divided by fences, some of which presumably enclosed buildings. The holloways in Trenches 12-13, and possibly 17, and 23 represent substantial tracks or roads, confirming the evidence of aerial photographs for a series of trackways passing through the settlement.

A range of evidence informs us of the activities of the inhabitants of Butterfield Down. The plant macrofossils from corndrier 3020 indicate that barley and wheat were 'dried' and the chaff from the same samples suggests that the crops were also being winnowed and threshed on site. The number and variety of the corndriers or kilns identified might suggest either that cereal processing was undertaken

on a small, perhaps household, basis, or that it was a more important activity. The presence of a millstone probably from a mill driven by animals as well the numerous querns points to the latter possibility.

Cattle and sheep were the most common farm animals. The combined evidence of age and butchery marks point to the killing of cattle on maturity and the primary butchering of high meat bearing joints could have provided the principal source of meat. The evidence of pathology also suggests that some cattle were used as draught animals and it may have been animals such as these on which the iron shackle was used.

In contrast the sheep appear to have been kept to maturity presumably for their fleeces and other products. The discovery of a large assemblage of feet and teeth suggests that some animals at least were butchered in such a way as to allow their hides to be kept. Some of their bones were worked into tools. Pigs, perhaps mainly piglets, were also eaten, as were hares and chickens but horses were rarely butchered and they are likely to have been kept primarily for riding, as beasts of burden, and for traction. The horseshoe, and perhaps the hipposandal also, will have been worn by these animals.

Very few tools which might indicate the other tasks undertaken by the inhabitants were found. The single spindle whorl indicates the spinning of wool and the slag shows that some smithing was undertaken, but the knives could have served a variety of uses. The discovery of one stylus indicates conditional literacy amongst some of the inhabitants, a knowledge which is likely to have been quite rare on settlements of this sort (Evans 1987). The glass and pottery indicate the range of storage and table vessels used and as would be expected on a predominantly later Roman site foodstuffs imported in amphorae are rare.

Evidence of the religious beliefs of the inhabitants is provided by the burial of infants within the settlement (2845 and 2952, Trench 23), a practise which is particulsrly common on late Roman rural settlements (Struck 1993). The sceptre-head is a notable discovery and it may not be accidental that it was discovered on the surface of the shallow ring gully 2847. Such dating evidence as there is from the gully suggests a late Roman date, a period in which domestic buildings were usually rectangular, which raises the possibility that it is a shrine. However, as the infant burial found in one of the gully

terminals would be appropriate in a domestic setting the question must remain open. In any case, the distinction between sacred and profane should not be drawn too rigidly and certain deposits may derive from religious acts. The skeleton of the crow in the base of feature 310 (Trench 3) had clearly been placed there and covered over deliberately. This is paralleled in 4th century deposit at Foxholes Farm, Hertfordshire where a cockerel was placed at the bottom of a pit and flanked by two coins. The upper part of the pit was packed with flints (Partridge 1989, 49, 208-9). In pit/shaft 2813 at Butterfield Down (Trench 23) a horse's head had been placed on top of part of a sheep, and a sherd from a face mask pot was found within the overlying fill. These pots are often associated with religious activities on settlements (Braithwaite 1984, 124). The deposit of sheep heads and feet in Pit 404 may represent waste from the processing of hides, but they could also be a votive deposit (Scott 1991, 117).

It is possible that specialised religious buildings stood on Butterfield Down. The large number of late Roman coins and other late Roman metalwork such as the figurines, spoons and bracelets could derive from a temple. The evidence for one or more buildings with tiled roofs crowning the summit of the down, and the fragments of architectural masonry found in the excavations may also be relevant.

Excavations at local sites allow Butterfield Down to be placed in its immediate context. The later prehistoric and early Roman site of Boscombe Down West (Richardson 1951) is located *c.* 3km to the south-east and occupation appears to have declined as Butterfield Down developed and the latest pottery forms at Boscombe Down are very similar to the earliest at Butterfield Down. Butterfield Down shares many similarities with the site at Durrington Walls (Wainwright 1971) 3km to the north-west. This was an extensive, unenclosed late Roman settlement with a ceramic assemblage also indicating some early Roman activity. There is a lack of clearly identifiable buildings and a number of small ovens or kilns, together with a well-constructed corn-drier which is almost identical to the one excavated at Butterfield Down (Figure 7, Pl III). The ceramic assemblages are analogous, with similar ratios of fine to coarsewares.

Turning to the broader range of settlement types within the region, discussion of Romano-British rural settlement has been historically linked to the early observation of the lack of villas in the region of Salisbury Plain. This absence, along with other factors led Collingwood and Myers (1937,

224) to suggest that the Plain formed part of an imperial estate, an idea which has enjoyed enduring popularity although more recently it has been suggested that poor soil conditions were responsible for this lack of villas (Esmonde Cleary 1989, 106). However, while some villas are known, the number of nucleated settlements (Graham and Newman 1993, 51), and the evidence of recent air photographs and surveys of extensive Romano-British field systems and sites such as Church Pits, Knook Down East and Knook Down West (*Britannia* 23, 1992, 297-9, fig 20-2) suggest that soil conditions on the Plain were not a constraint.

Instead social factors may be one reason for the absence of villas. While accepting that in the early Roman period Salisbury Plain (amongst other regions) might have been part of an imperial estate, Hingley has suggested that in the late Roman period the estate might have been partitioned and sold to private landowners. In this situation it should not be assumed too readily that villas should be expected, as the wealth expended elsewhere in building villas may have been used in different ways (Hingley 1989, 156-61). Hingley's suggestion that wealth was invested in goods rather than in buildings is unconvincing as these objects are also found at villas, however, his distinction between individual and community is valuable, and the size of the settlement at Butterfield Down is large enough to represent a 'village.' The current absence of lavish buildings at Butterfield Down may represent the collective ownership of wealth. However some settlements were occupied from the Iron Age and through the Roman period (Graham and Newman 1993, 52) and the absence of villas from the Downs of the Plain could reflect its distance, both physical and social, from major towns, and the ideas of *romanitas* which they endorsed (Scott 1991, 116). Clearly, further more detailed work on sites within Salisbury Plain, and their integration within wider landscape analyses, is necessary before our understanding of certain aspects of Romano-British settlement in this area can be possible.

Acknowledgements. The Butterfield Down project was commissioned by Gleeson Homes and the help and support of the company's employees, in particular Nigel Hogg, Mark Davies and Clive Wilding is gratefully acknowledged. All of the fieldwork and much of the post-excavation work was paid for by Gleeson Homes Ltd. Additional financial assistance towards the post-excavation was provided by The Guinness Trust and Lord Moyne.

Much help has been provided at all stages by Mark Corney and other officers of the RCHM(E), Salisbury. Wiltshire County Council and in particular Helena Cave-Penney assisted at all times in formulating the response to development. Clare Conybeare, then of Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, helped in liaising with local metal-detector users, while Nick Griffiths identified some items of metalwork.

The project has been managed successively by Julian Richards, Peter Woodward, Richard Newman and A. P. Fitzpatrick. The fieldwalking was carried out under the control of Martin Trott. Supervision of the excavations was by Mick Rawlings, Hugh Beamish, Neil Adam, Lawrence Pontin and Phil Harding. Trench 24 was excavated by Vince Jenkins. Aerial photographs were organised by Graham Brown, who also assisted with the excavations. The photographs are by Elaine Wakefield and Mick Rawlings, and the drawings by Julian Cross and Liz James.

Assistance and advice during post-excavation was given by Andrew Burnett, Frances Healy, Lorraine Mepham, Elaine Morris, and Jessie Williams.

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Captions

Figure 1
a) location of Amesbury, b) Butterfield Down in relation to Amesbury and previously known sites and monuments, c) distribution of cropmarks, excavated trenches, and location of gold coin hoard.

Figure 2
Distribution of selected materials recovered in fieldwalking survey.

Figure 3
Location of trenches 1-22 and archaeological features within them (all phases).

Figure 4
Plan and section of ditch or pit 310 in Trench 3.

Figure 5.
Plan and section of sunken-floored building 442 in Trench 4.

Figure 6.
Plan of Trench 23 (all phases).

Figure 7
Plan and section of corndrier 3020 in Trench 23.

Figure 8
Roman coins by coin period

Figure 9
1.Stone Axe roughout

2 Incised chalk plaque.

Figure 10: Pottery
1. Possible incense cup, Early Brzone Age, fabric G1, pit 3004
2. Everted rim jar, 1st-2nd century AD, fabric E101, rim R102, ditch 2337
3. Everted rim jar/bowl, 3rd-4th century AD, fabric Q102, rim R122, pit 2816
4. Everted rim jar, 3rd century AD, fabric Q100, rim R102, kiln/oven 2841
5. Dog dish, 2nd century AD onwards, fabric E101, rim R106, pit 2816
6. Flanged bowl, late 2nd-3rd century AD, fabric E101, rim R104, pit 2816
7. Drop-flanged bowl, 3rd-4th century AD, fabric E101, rim R105, pit 2816
8. Hoard vessel, New Forest colour-coated globular beaker
9. Face pot, fabric Q110, pit 2813

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Table 1: Quantification of all pottery by fabric

Fabric	*scanned*		*detailed*		
	no	*weight*	*fabric*	*no.*	*weight*
Prehistoric	10	69g	F1	1	22g
			F2	2	11g
			F3	7	38g
			F4	14	28g
			G1	2	7g
			S1	3	14g
Grey wares	1820	20639g	Q100	1161	18136g
			Q101	344	5179g
			Q102	123	1354g
			Q103	46	533g
Oxidised wares	297	3801g	Q104	160	2290g
			Q105	29	440g
			Q106	14	114g
			Q107	3	63g
			Q108	5	45g
Grog-tempered	574	20094g	G100	321	12819g
			G101	4	80g
Flint-gritted	3	150g			
Savernake ware	4	44g			
Black Burnished ware	438	5732g	BB1	331	4152g
			BB1(var)	4	214g
Oxfordshire	132	1345g	CC	51	387g
			White ware	5	81g
			Parchment	3	6g
			Mortaria	21	1023g
			Oxidised	4	11g
New Forest	172	1815g	Parchment	3	77g
			Red-slipped	15	129g
			Stoneware	82	785g
			Greywares	1	23g
Rhenish	1	2g		9	57g
Samian	20	191g		29	384g
Amphorae	11	1669g		35	17500g
Fine wares unknown source	17	207g	Q110	8	190g
			Q112	1	2g
	2	2g	Q113	8	47g
			Q114	5	25g
Medieval/Post-medieval	9	107g		4	12g
Total	**3510**	**55867g**		**2884**	**68700g**

Table 2 Romano-British Coarse and Fine Ware Rim Forms, excluding New Forest and Oxfordshire products

(* = forms identified from amongst scanned material; + = forms identified from amongst pottery recorded in detail)

R100 Rim form undiagnostic
+*R101 Everted rim jar (3rd-4th century)
+*R102 Everted rim jar (1st-2nd century)
*R103 Straight-sided bowl with grooved rim
+*R104 Flanged bowl (late 2nd-3rd century)
+*R105 Dropped flange bowl (3rd-4th century)
+*R106 Dog dish, shallow bowl (2nd-4th century)
+*R107 Storage jar
+*R108 Flagon
+*R109 Carinated bowl/dish (1st-2nd century)
+*R110 Wide-mouthed jar (1st-2nd century)
+*R111 Narrow-mouthed jar
*R112 Butt beaker (1st-2nd century)
*R113 Shallow bowl with bead rim (2nd-4th century)
+*R114 Flat-rimmed bowl (2nd century)
*R115 Shallow dish/lid (1st-4th century)
*R116 Shouldered bowl (1st-2nd century)
*R117 Bead rim jar (1st century)
*R118 Reeded rim bowl (1st-2nd century)
R122 Everted, flattened rim jar with double or single grooved on upper rim surface (1st-2nd century)
+R123 Wide-mouthed, necked jar/bowl with out-turned bead rim
+R124 Shallow bowl with internal bevel
+R125 Lid-seated rim vessel
+R126 Deep bowl with clubbed rim
+R127 Fish dish; shallow oval dish
+R128 Bowl with clubbed rim (2nd-4th century)

Table 3: Romano-British fabric group totals by feature: detailed recording

Feature	Context	Grog		BB1 (all)		Quartz-coarse		Quartz-fine		Samian		New Forest		Oxford-shire		Amphorae		Rhenish	
		no	wt	no	wt	no	wt	no	wt	no	wt	no	wt	no	wt	no	wt	no	wt
2306	2306	3	15	11	82	41	252					1	12	3	10	5	45		
2322	2312	1	122																
2330	2329	3	33																
	2336					1	13												
	2338					6	37												
	2347	2	67	2	15														
	2348					1	6												
2332	2326			2	4	2	13							1	1				
2333	2327		12	186	7	77	32	273		1	11	2	29	4	38				
2335	2334	1	56	6	119	70	1231	1	8	1	13	1	8			1	133		
2337	2328			4	71	18	171					1	5						
2346	2342	6	121	8	115	26	434					4	18	2	29				
	2343			4	20	8	64					1	1						
2801	2800	1	36	7	58	32	737					2	28	2	13				
2806	2807													1	2				
2809	2805						2	45											
	2809	2	20																
2810	2803	2	120	4	27	13	89												
2811	2811	4	136	2	30	2	56												
2813	2812	5	120	11	77	76	1165	1	3	2	14	1	16	3	5				
	2814	8	539	8	132	55	1113	3	164	1	31	3	31	1	228	2	996		
	2824	19	1397	27	634	199	4139	9	50	2	62	2	31	8	335	8	2304	1	3
2816	2331	17	249	44	514	146	2479	1	5			22	289	16	136				
	2341	2	26	25	753	73	1295			1	2	14	144	4	58				
2821	2324	2	22	8	53	9	44			1	1			2	8				
	2349			3	13														
	2820			2	18	9	99							3	8				
2822	2323	1	10	2	10	14	68			1	1								
2823	2325	3	45	5	18	15	95												
2829	2825					7	45												
2841	2828					22	170					1	23	1	4				
2845	2835	1	2	3	7	4	25												
2847	2846	1	28			5	23					2	5						
2938	2937					5	43												
2943	2827					1	9												
2948	2947					2	6	1	3										
2955	2844	4	115	10	133	97	1366	1	2			2	18	7	46	24	14067		
	2953					2	29												
	2954					3	33												
2972	2960	1	50	4	29	14	131												
2973	2838	1	28	2	25	26	267			1	4			1	2				
	2974					15	129			1	2	1	7	1	2				
	2975			1	18	1	8												
2983	2979					1	5												
2987	2826			2	20	19	114			1	3	1	9						
	2830			2	2	29	343					2	6						
2989	2950	1	115																
	2962					1	2												
3010	2971					1	5												
3020	2300	23	668	36	411	255	3867	3	25	5	89	10	66	11	281			4	35

Feature	*Context*	*Grog*		*BB1/2*		*Q coarse*		*Q fine*		*Samian*		*NF*		*Oxford*		*Amph*		*Rhenish*	
		no	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*	*no*	*wt*
3020	2301					3	19												
	2305	8	33	5	70	111	1328			1	37	9	87	1	6				
	2307	1	91	1	4	23	227					1	2	1	14				
	2309			3	13	15	186			1	3			1	16				
	2315			2	13	13	126			1	18			1	33				
*1	2316	57	1101	54	548	235	3476	1	2	5	73	5	43	4	138			3	10
*2	2317					8	98	1	2	1	2			1	66			1	9
-	2319	1	6	1	22	11	272												
-	2802			2	88	18	405							1	12				
-	2843	1	126	12	105	20	285												
-	2956					2	40												
-	2976					11	241												
-	2316	103	5802	1	3	10	282												
-	2815					59	2554												
-	3024	10	274	1	3	31	423					6	45						
-	3025	20	1237			7	121					3	64						
-	3026	1	26			3	39												
-	3027			1	12	1	16												
-	3028											2	29						

*1 Special Find 5031
*2 Special Find 5054

Table 5: Estimated Vessel Equivalents, detailed recording (EVE's were not available for rim forms 124,127 and 128 as the sherds were too small to allow calculation).

Rim form	EVE
R101	7.45
R102	7.52
R104	1.02
R105	2.48
R106	3.40
R107	1.16
R108	0.40
R109	0.13
R110	0.15
R111	0.16
R113	0.08
R114	0.05
R123	0.12
R124	-
R125	0.07
R126	0.30
R127	-
R128	-

Table 6: Animal bones from early Roman contexts

	Teeth	Other elements	Total
Cattle	2	9	11
Sheep	7	12	19
Horse	-	3	3
Dog	-	1	1
Chicken	-	1	1
		Total fragments	78
		Total identified	35
		% identified	44.9

Table 7: Percentages of species from late Roman features excluding contexts with special deposits/large quantities of bones, e.g. Pit 404)

Cow	35.9	Dog	1.1
Sheep	54.8	Chicken	0.6
Pig	4.1	Red	0.13
Horse	3.1	Hare	0.06
		Bird	0.06
		Amphibian	0.13

Table 8: Animal bones from Pit 404

Context	Phalange 1	Phalange 2	Phalange3	Astragalus	Calcaneus	Teeth
441	50	62	44	11	11	-
445	5	11	4	-	-	45

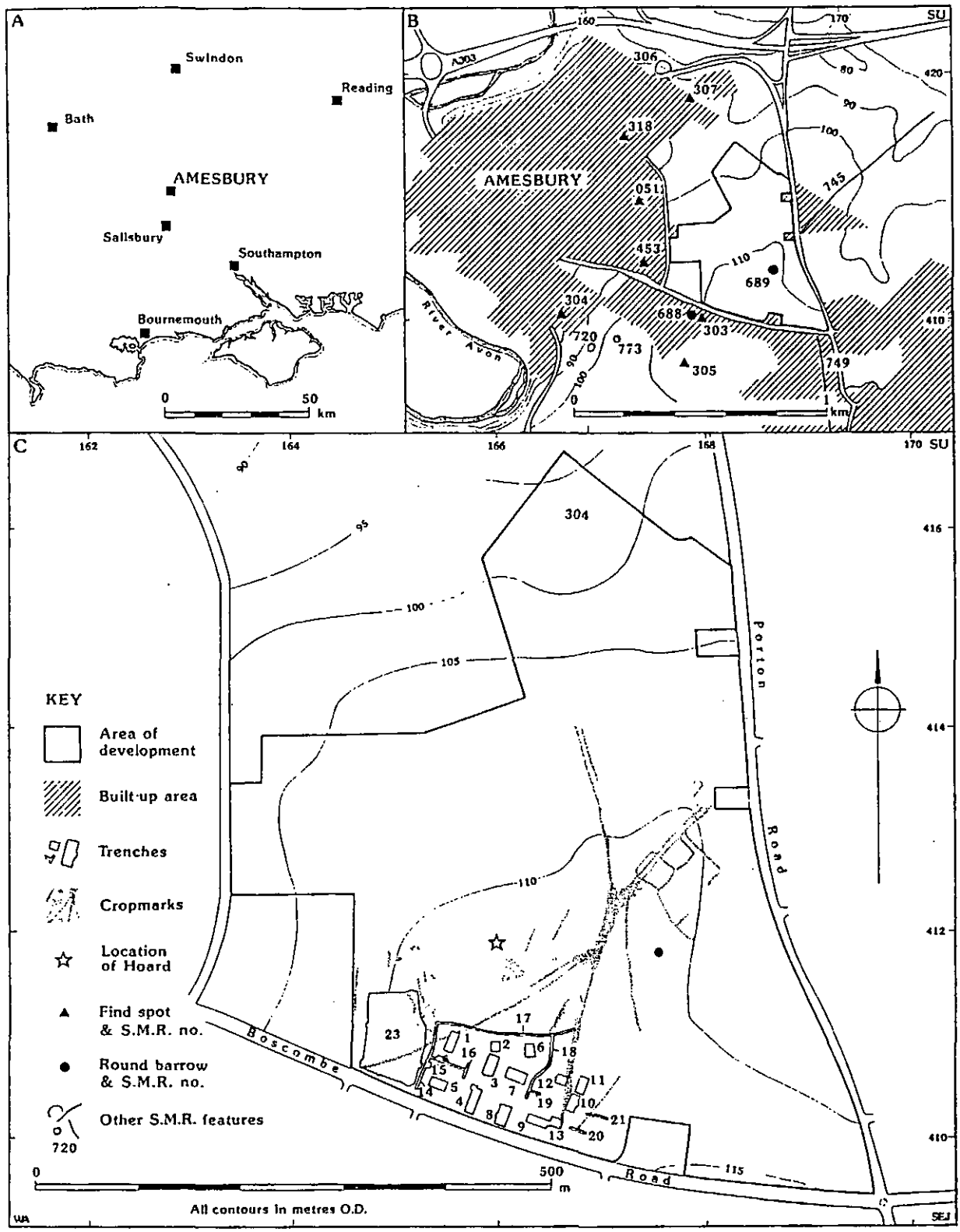


Figure 1: Location plan

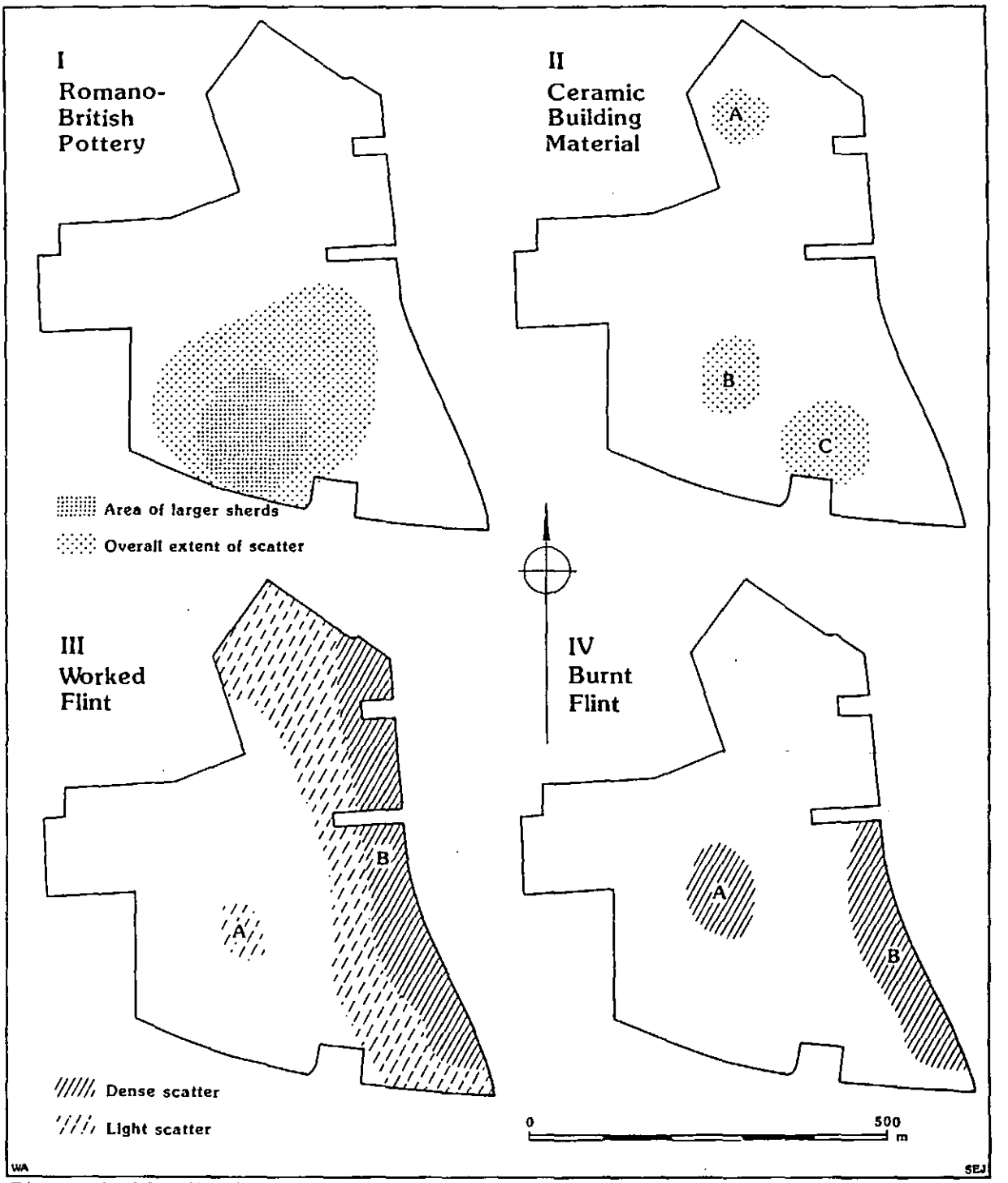


Figure 2: Distribution of selected materials recovered in fieldwalking survey

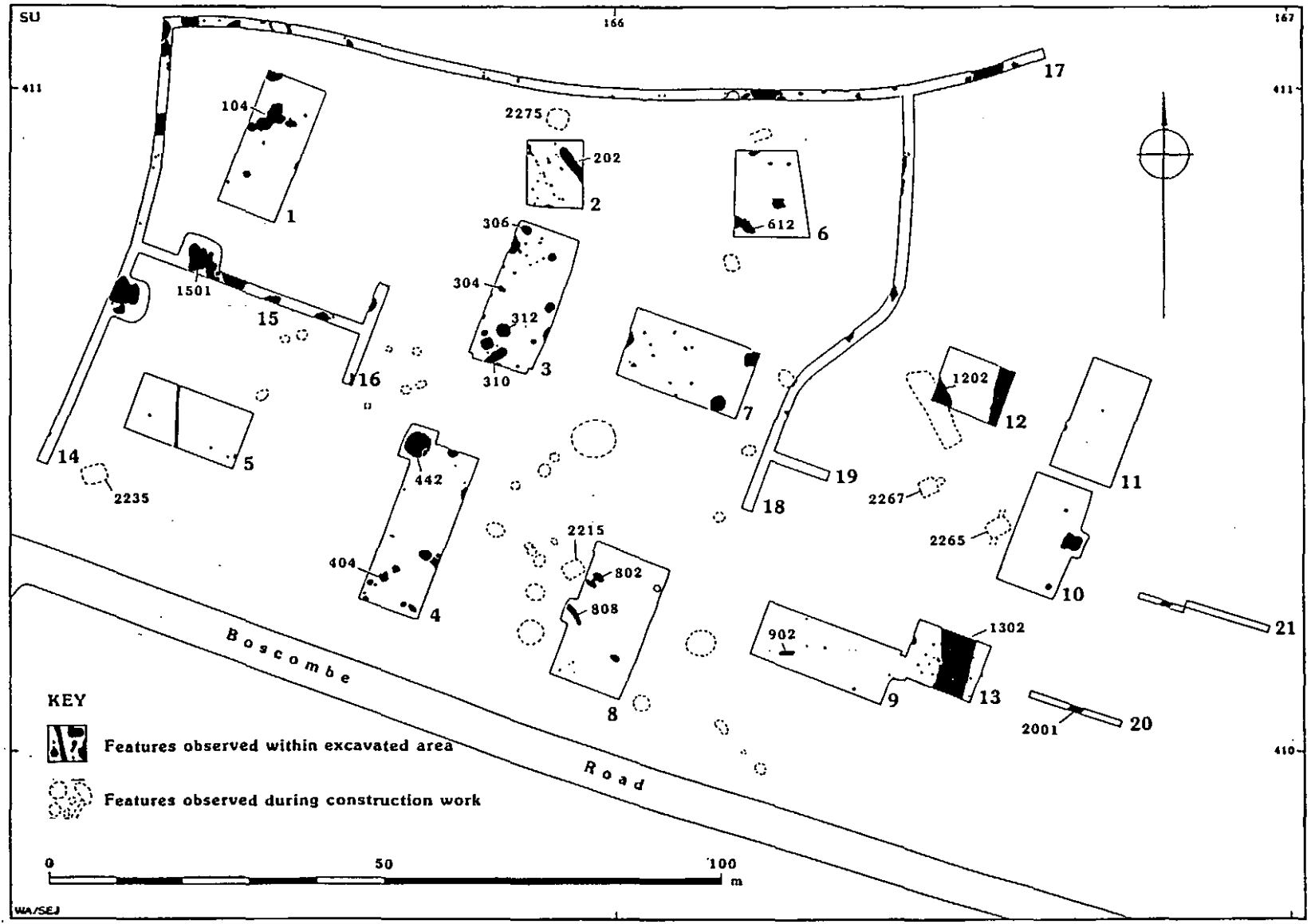


Figure 3: Location of trenches 1-22 and archaeological features (all phases)

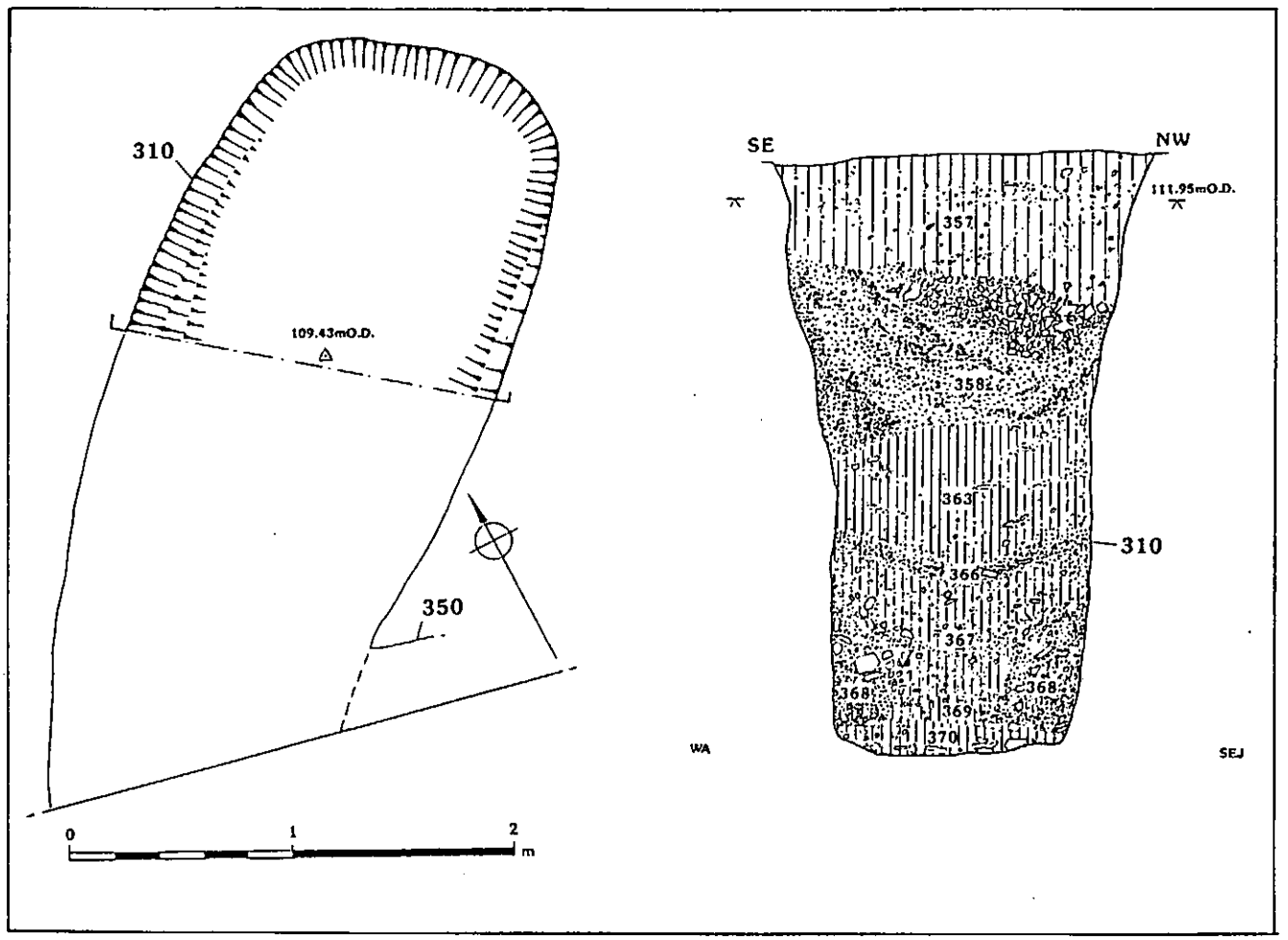


Figure 4: Ditch or pit 310 in Trench 3

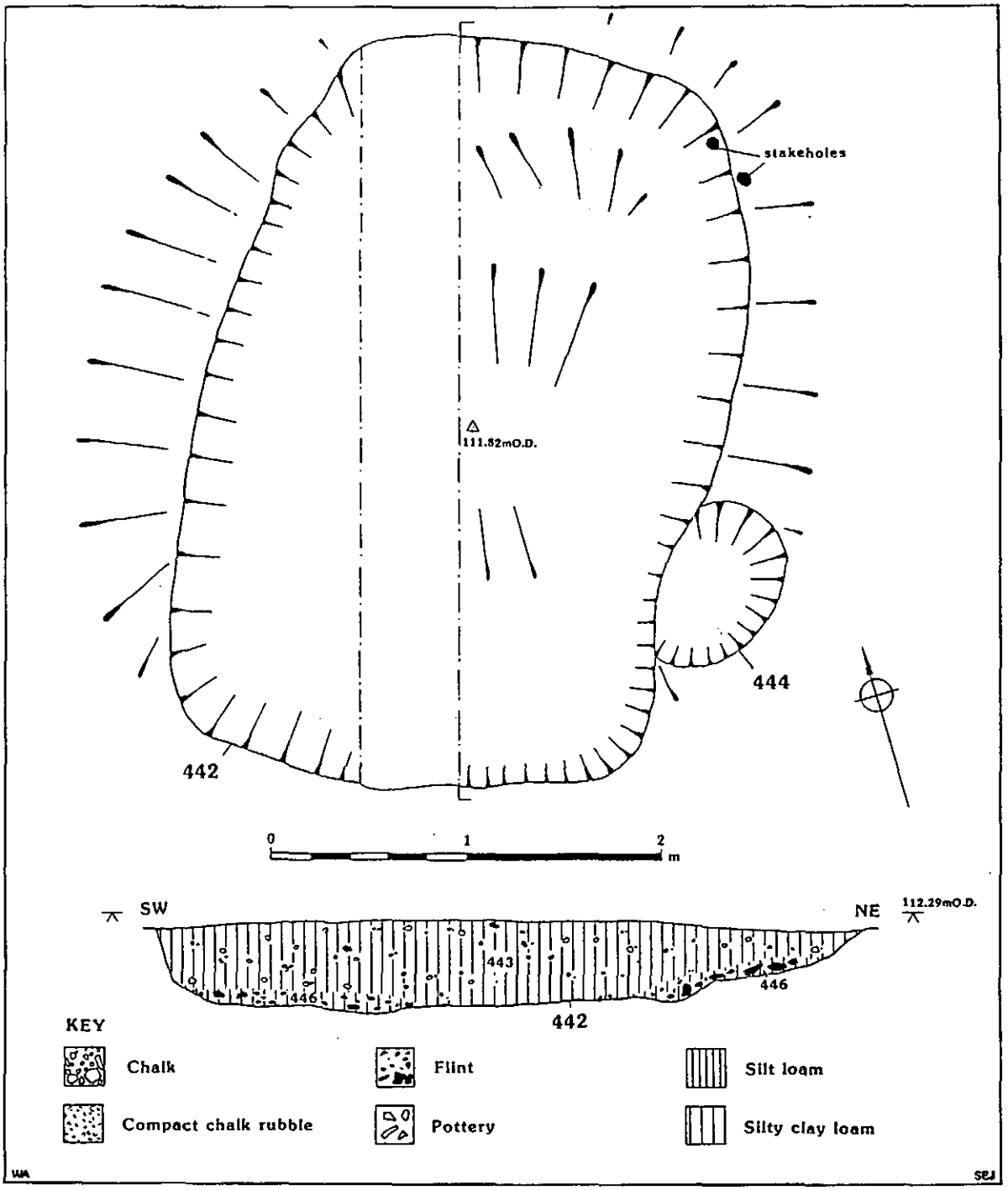


Figure 5: Sunken floored building 442 in Trench 4

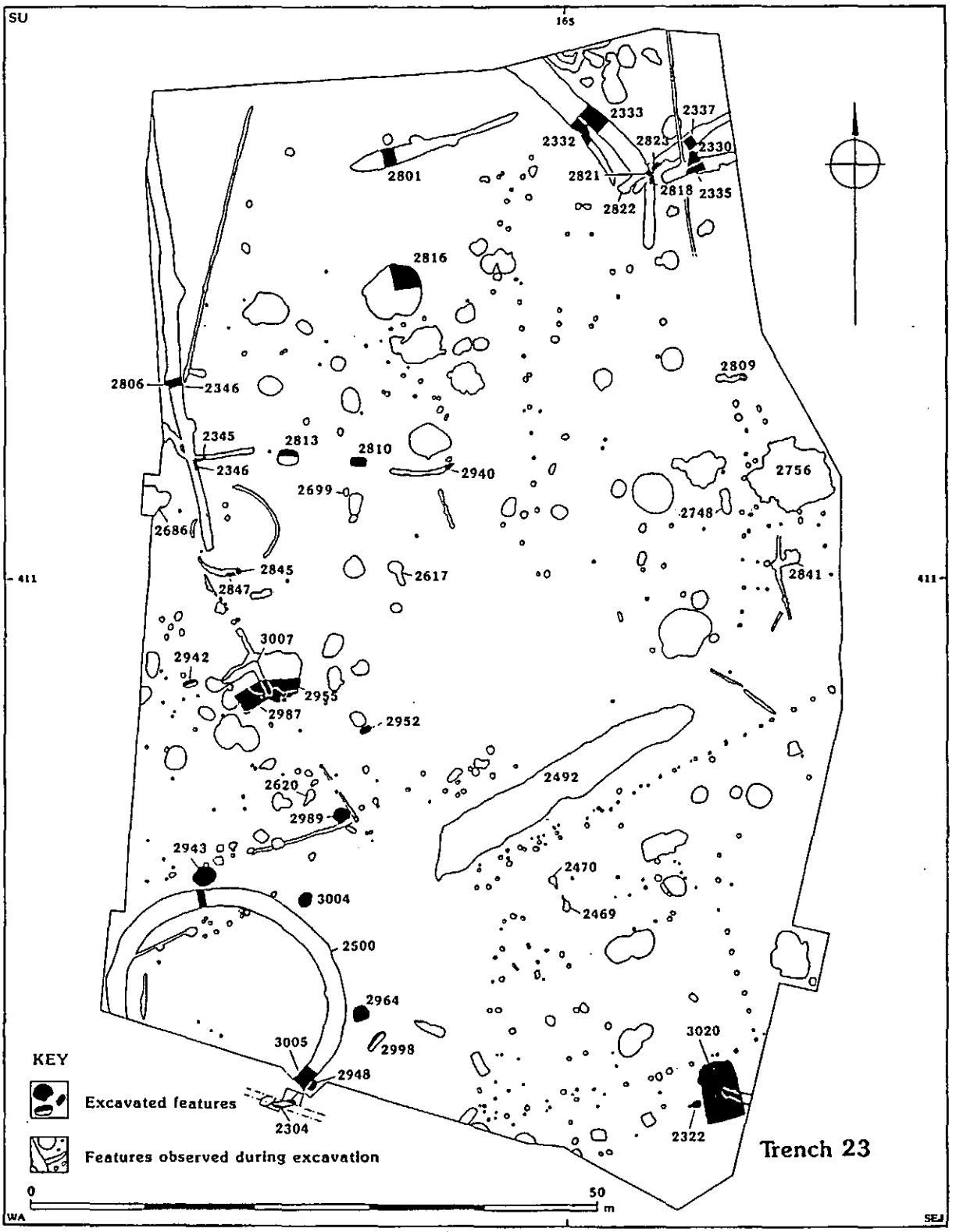


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 23 (all phases)

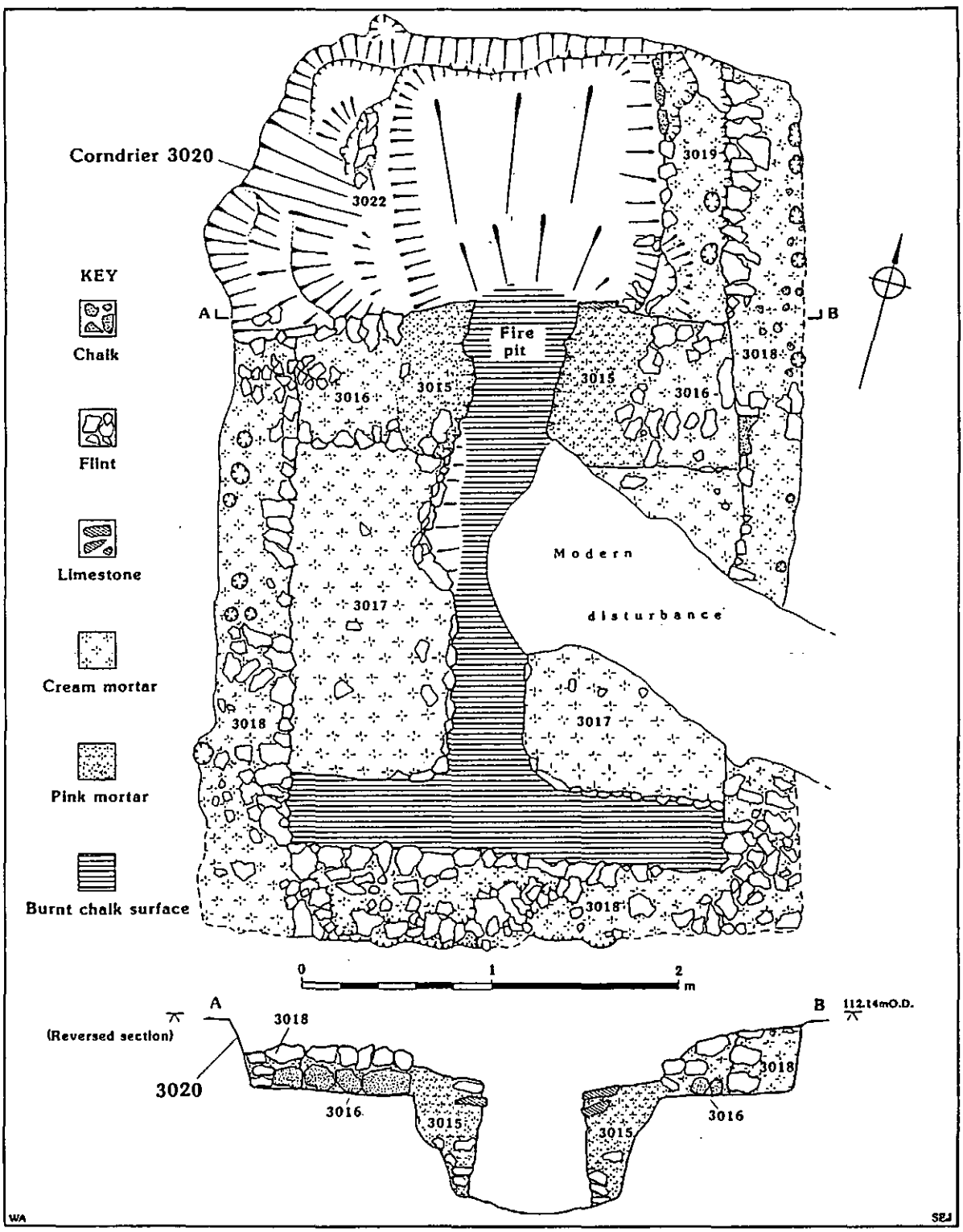


Figure 7: Corndrier 3020 in Trench 23

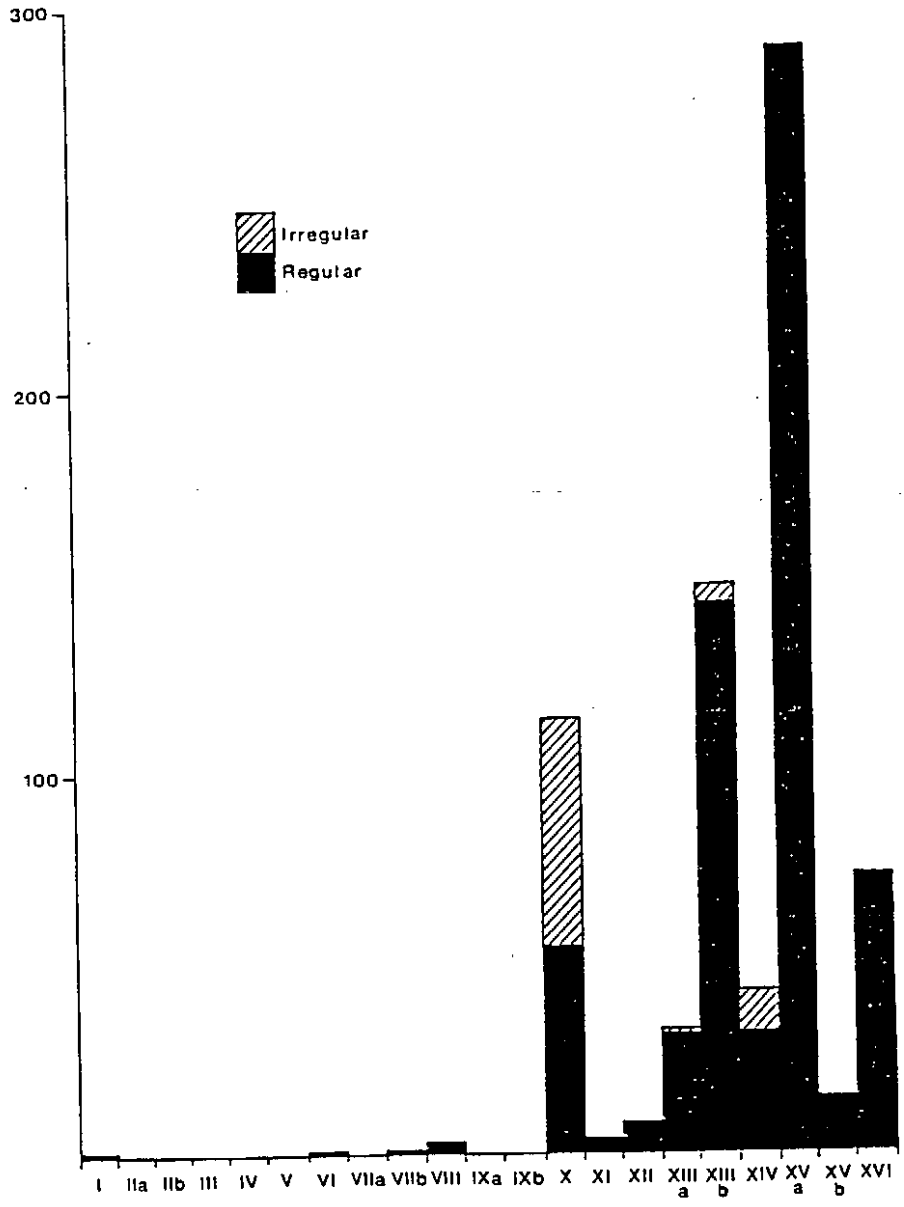


Figure 8: Histogram of the Roman Coins

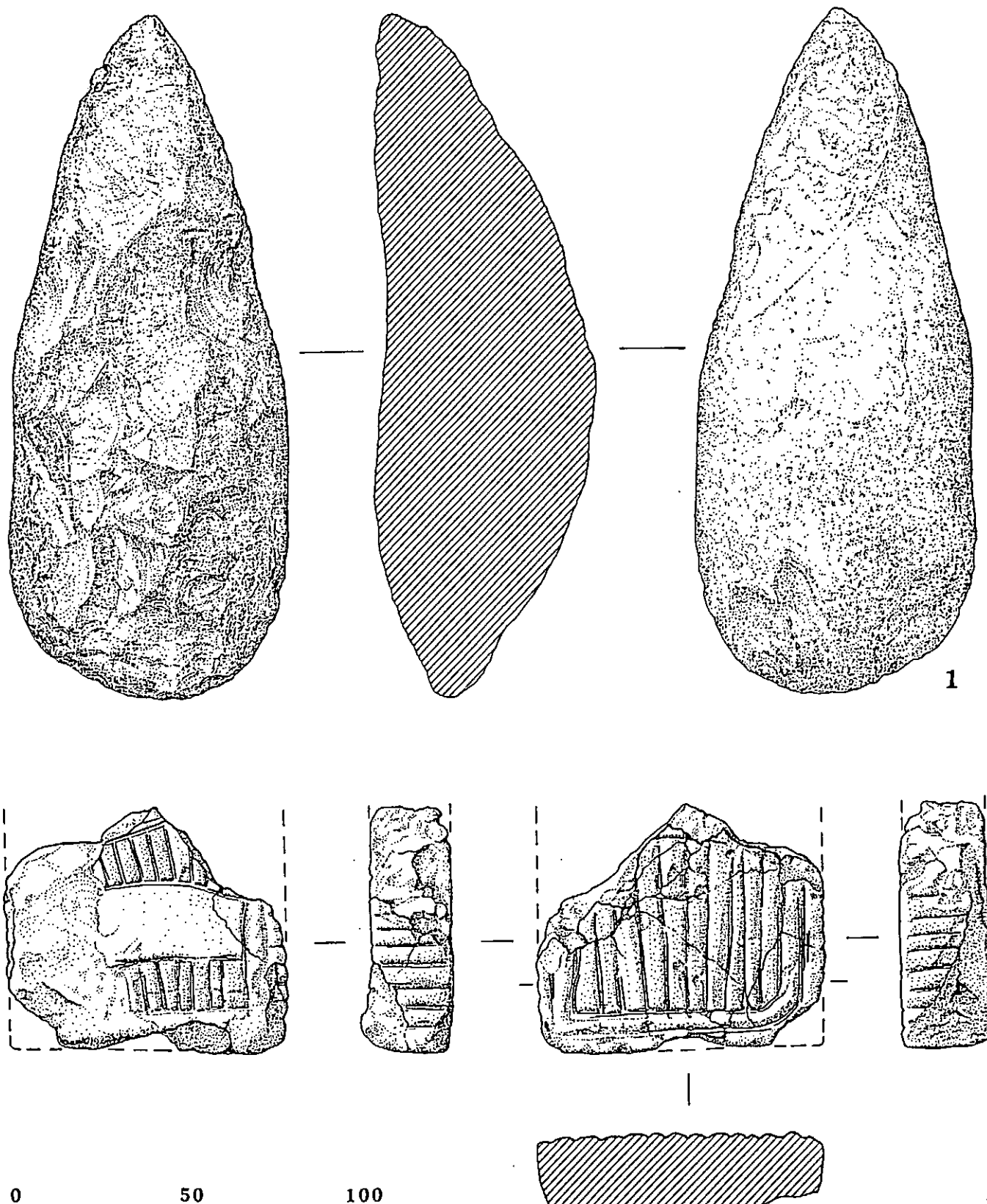
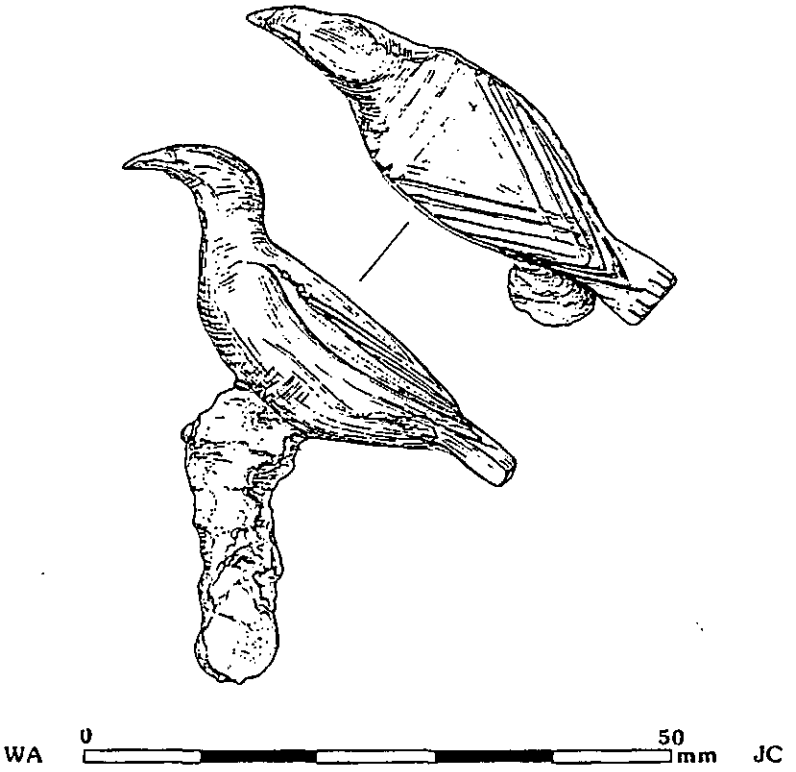


Figure 9: Objects of stone



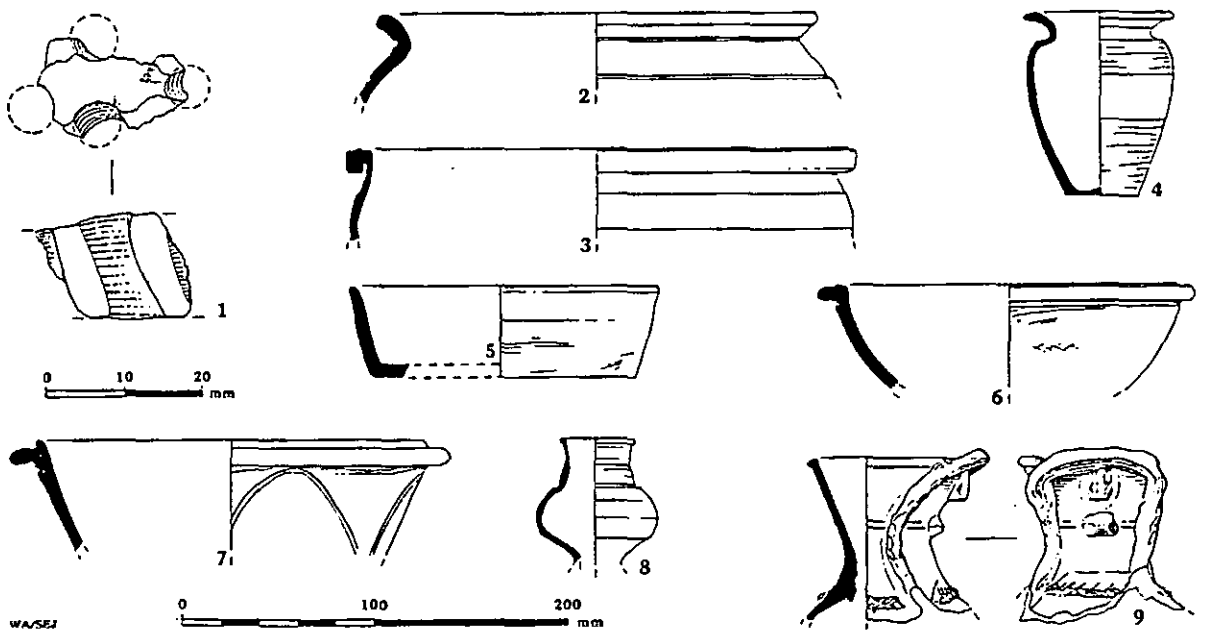


Figure 10: Copper alloy bird on iron mount and pottery

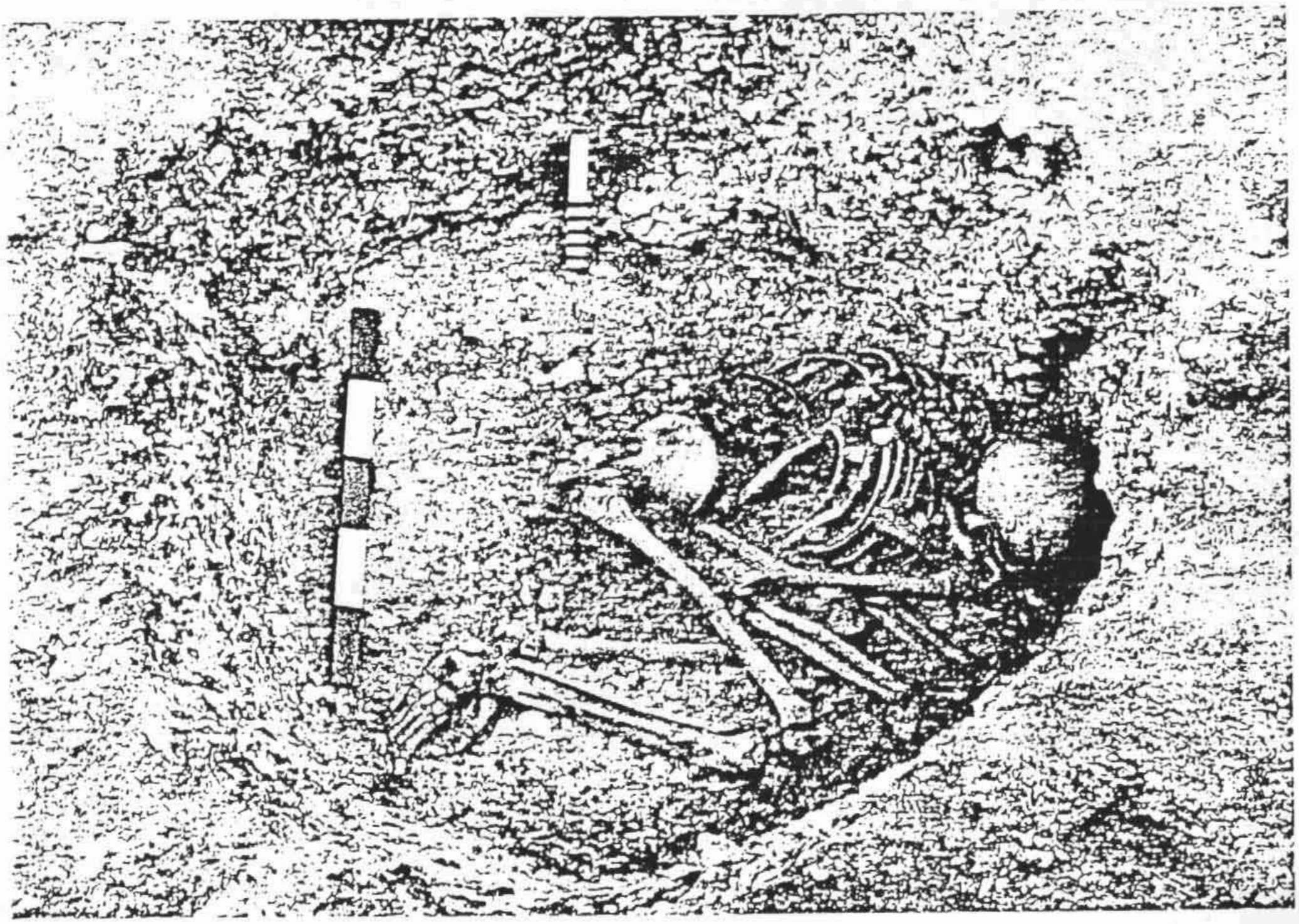


Plate I: Burial 3004

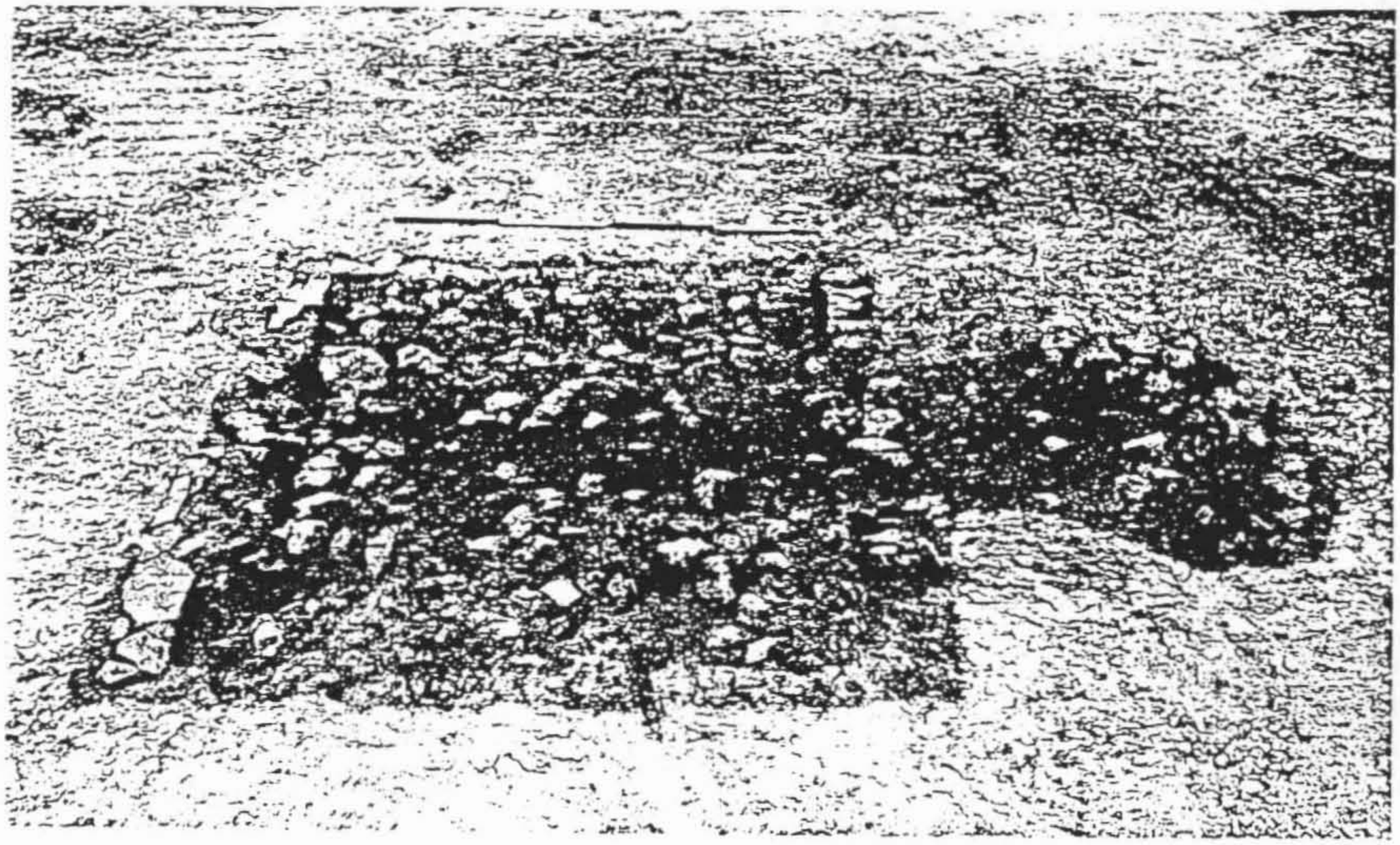


Plate II: Corndrier 2267

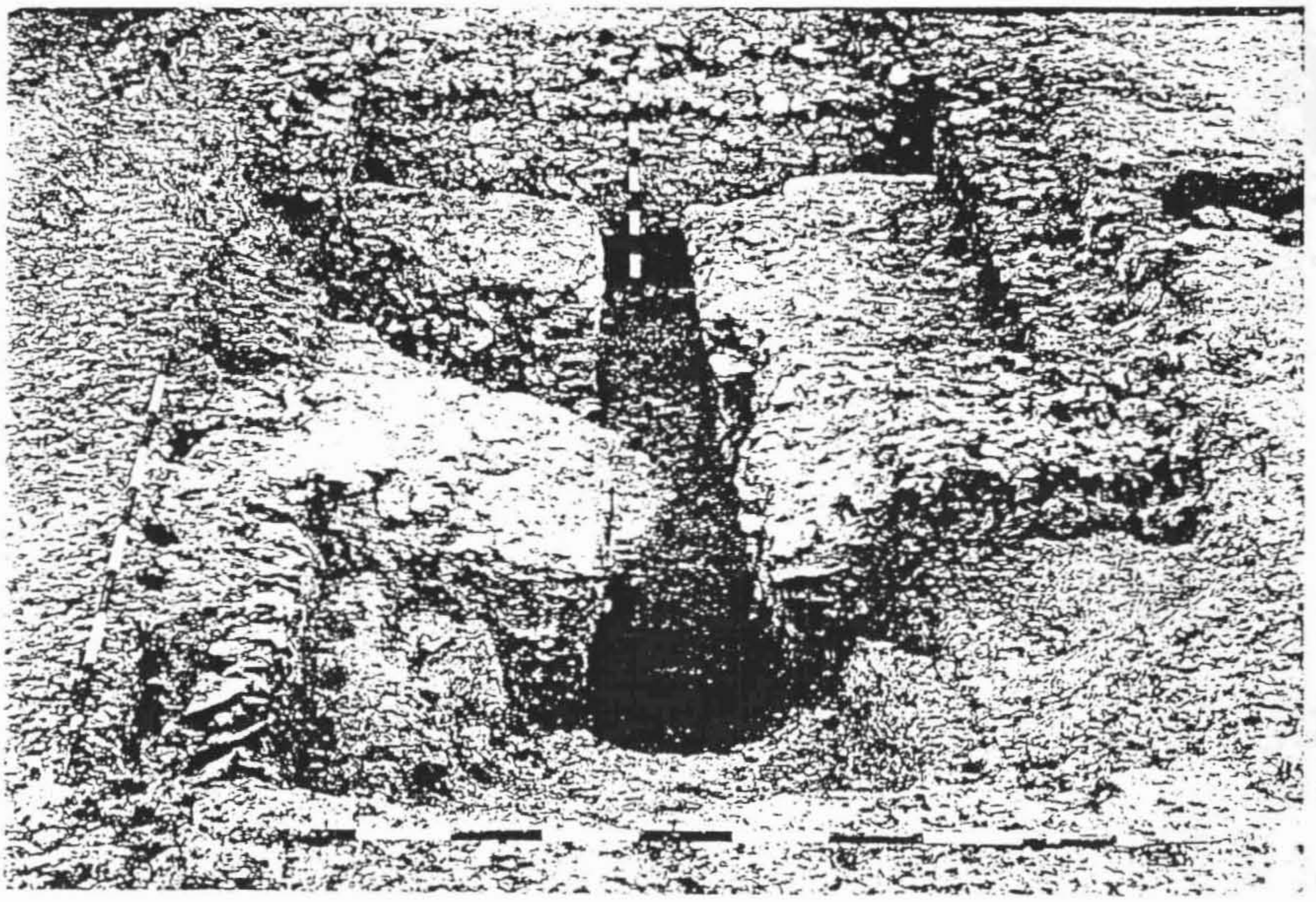
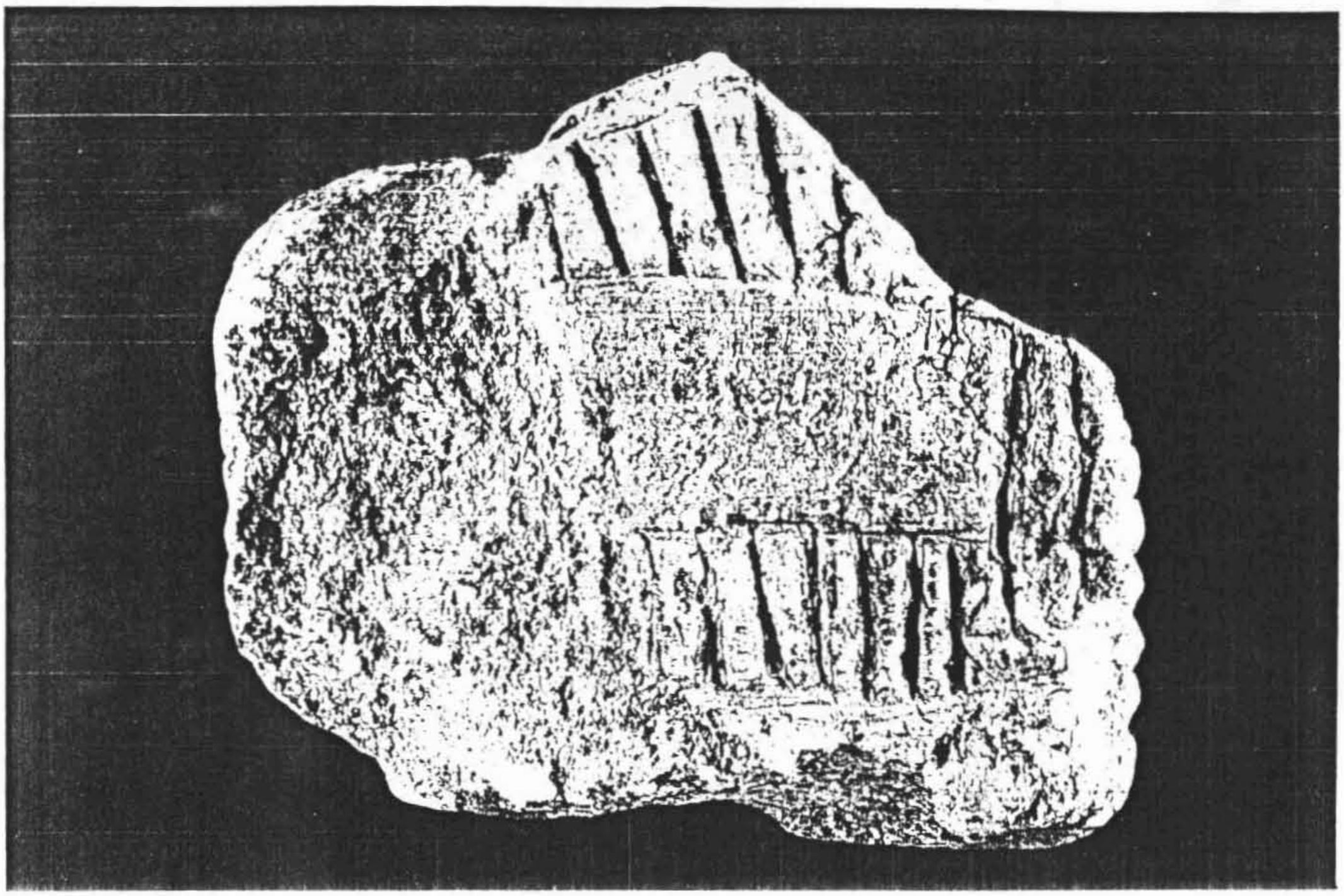
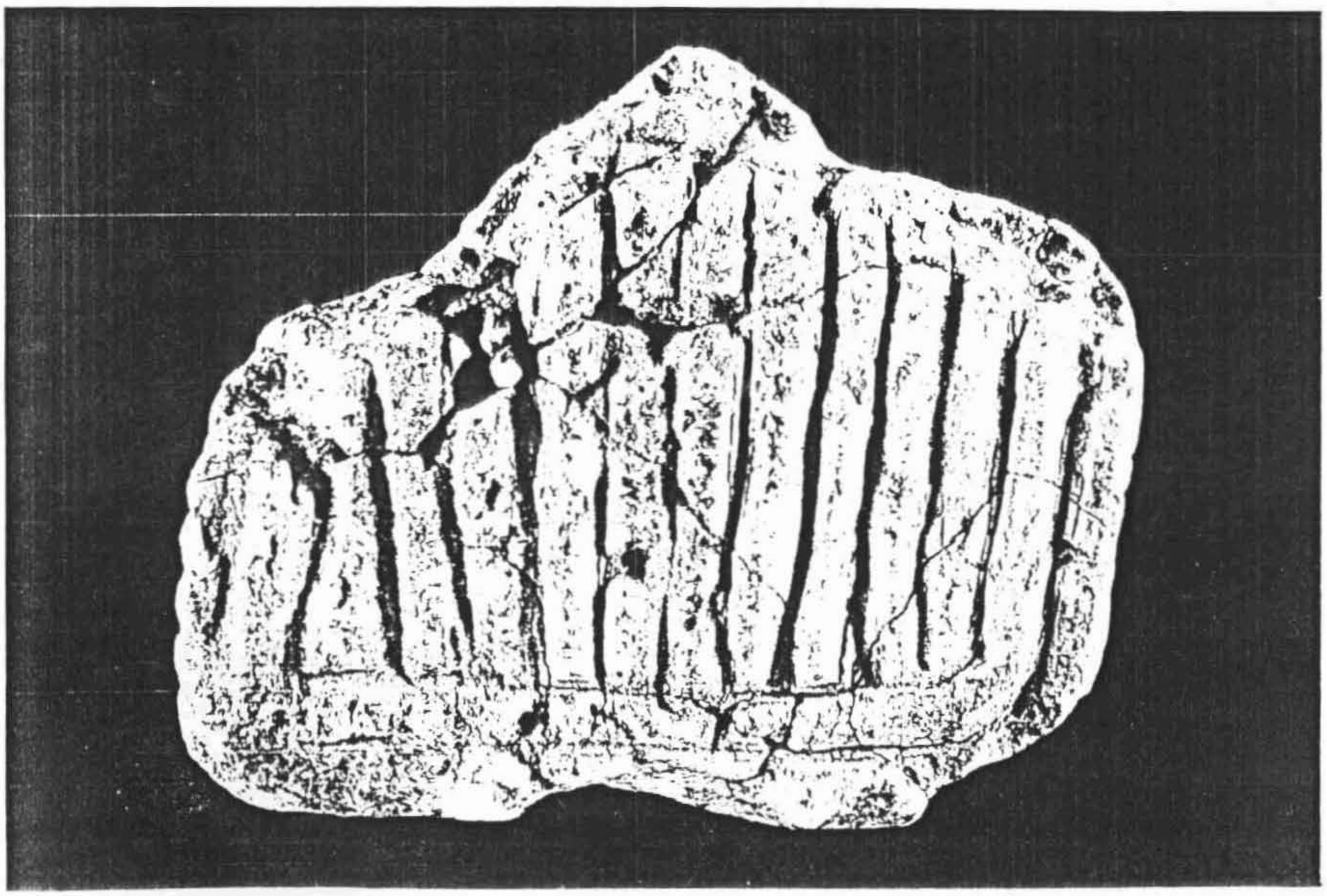


Plate III: Corndrier 3020





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