Wessex Archaeology

Further Excavations of an Iron Age and Romano-British Enclosed Settlement at Figheldean, Nr. Netheravon

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Wessex Water to conduct an archaeological excavation along the proposed route of a mains water pipeline. The trench was to cross the east side of a known Iron Age and Romano-British enclosed settlement, parallel to the site of a similar excavation conducted in 1991. A previously unrecorded ring ditch was excavated, forming the most south-easterly of a group of Bronze Age ring ditches concentrated in the south-eastern area of the later settlement. One other excavated ring ditch is likely to represent the most easterly of the known group. The line and extent of the east side of the Iron Age enclosure has been more clearly defined and evidence shows it had ceased to function by the early 2nd century AD. The trench appears to have passed through a marginal area of the Romano-British settlement, parts of which may have been set aside for agricultural processing and burial.

INTRODUCTION

In August and September 1995, Wessex Archaeology conducted an archaeological excavation along a *c.* 500m stretch of land on the west side of the A345 between the villages of Figheldean and Netheravon, Wiltshire (SU 1507 4691 to SU 1482 4734, Figure 1). The excavation was required in advance of a programme of works by Wessex Water to replace the water mains supplying the village of Netheravon. The proposed pipeline route (Figure 2) was to cross though the eastern area of a known Iron Age and Romano-British enclosed settlement, running parallel with, and 15-24m to the east, of the site of a similar trench excavated in 1991 during construction of a gas pipeline (Graham and Newman 1993). The area of excavation lay between the 95 and 100m contours on the eastern edge of Netheravon Down overlooking the Avon valley, which drops down steeply to the east. At its southern end the trench extended up the gentle slope of a south-east spur of land, continuing across the ridge parallel with the road, to drop at its north end into one of the many small dry valleys which dissect the edge of the downs along the Avon valley. The underlying bedrock is Upper Chalk, the land being under arable crop at the time of excavation.

The archaeological background to the excavation is presented in detail in the publication of the 1991 investigations (Graham and Newman 1993), the following represents a summary of that information. A number of extant round barrows have been recorded on the higher ground; aerial photographs show the presence of at least one (SMR No. SU14NW 612) and a cluster of four other ploughed-out barrows (SMR Nos. SU14NW 613-6). One of the latter was investigated during the 1991

excavations (*ibid.*, fig. 4). An extensive group of cropmarks (SMR No. SU14NW 655) noted in the aerial photographs and a scatter of finds had previously suggested the presence of a Romano-British settlement (SMR No. SU14NW 302). The 1991 excavations provided substantial evidence for a 1st–4th century AD rural Romano-British settlement contained within an Iron Age enclosure, corroborating the evidence from the aerial photographs (Graham and Newman 1993).

A Romano-British building (SMR No. SU14NW301) beneath the army camp at Netheravon, to the north of the site, was partly excavated in 1907. Believed to have been a villa, this site was subject to further investigations by Wessex Archaeology in 1996 (Wessex Archaeology 1997) which appeared to confirm the presence of a building or buildings of relatively high status. Recent survey work undertaken by the Royal Commission for Historical Monuments (RCHME), including extensive geophysical survey within the northern area of the known settlement, has illustrated further details of the settlement and surrounding area (Figure 2, RCHME 1995; forthcoming). The course and form of the main enclosure ditch has been further defined and the presence of a complex of internal linear features demonstrated, including one other smaller enclosure, together with a dense distribution of 'pit-like' features. More extensive external field systems have also been observed on the adjacent downs (RCHME forthcoming).

This latest phase of archaeological investigations, commissioned by Wessex Water, followed a specification provided by the Archaeological Section of Wiltshire County Council.

EXCAVATION METHODS

The 6m wide easement for the pipeline route, located between SU151 468 and SU148 479 along the eastern edge of the field adjacent to the A345, was subject to initial machine stripping of topsoil to a depth of *c.* 0.30m. The spoil was deposited along the remaining 4m working width of the pipeline route on the west side of the easement.

Excavation was limited to the area within the known enclosure (Graham and Newman 1993, fig. 4) along a 498.5m stretch from SU 1507 4691 to SU 1482 4734. The 2m wide trench was positioned along the east side of the stripped easement, the subsoil being removed by machine to the surface of the chalk natural or to a maximum depth of 1.20m. The depth of subsoil removed varied from a few millimetres in the southern portion of the trench to the maximum of 1.20m along much of the northern half.

All archaeological features and deposits within the 2m stripped area were recorded (Figures 3 and 4). Features within or across the central part of the 2m strip were excavated, this being the precise route to be followed and, therefore, cut by the insertion of the pipeline. All terminals and intersections between linear features were excavated. Linear features crossing the trench were subject to excavation of a minimum 0.60m central slot and a minimum 10% sample of each linear feature running along the trench was excavated. Where intercutting non-linear features were encountered a sufficient proportion was excavated to ascertain their inter-relationship, which occasionally meant extending beyond the central part of the 2m strip. Burials were subject to 100% excavation even where this necessitated extending beyond the 2m strip. All features were excavated to a maximum depth of

1.20m below the level of the topsoil stripping, the full depth of deeper features being ascertained by auguring. Bulk samples of all excavated deposits containing carbonised remains were collected to enable recovery of environmental data. Lower grave fills were subject to whole-earth recovery as a series of specifically located samples to ensure full recovery of osseous material.

The full archive is presently held at Wessex Archaeology's offices at Old Sarum under the archive code W9644, to be deposited in the Ministry of Defence (landowners) Museum stores in due course.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

The depth of excavated features varied greatly, a primary influencing factor being the shallow depth of topsoil and subsoil in the southern half of the trench. Here, the maximum of 0.30m topsoil and negligible subsoil, particularly in the southernmost 100m length of the trench extending down the slope of the spur, had provided little protection for the underlying features which had consequently been severely truncated by ploughing. The very shallow depth of features in this area rendered phasing difficult or impossible and interpretation of the nature of some was inconclusive. It is not improbable that features further downslope, between grid points A and B, have been totally eradicated.

Features were recorded along a 420m length of the trench. Although they tended to occur in clusters there were few areas devoid of any, a 28m length between grid points D-E comprising the most extensive. A substantial north–south ditch, comprising the east side of the main enclosure, crossed the central area of the trench at a very oblique angle along a 160m length between grid points E and H. Features were found both within the confines of the enclosure ditch and outside it to the south and east, others were cut into the upper fills of the ditch. The northern 80m of the trench crossed an area of colluvium (250) which overlay the natural gentle gradient of the land into the dry valley to the north and the Avon valley to the east. The colluvium was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.95m below the topsoil and augured a further 0.35m at the very north end of the trench before the natural chalk was reached. That the accumulation of colluvium was less extensive in the Romano-British period is demonstrated by the fact that the deposit had partly sealed the north side of the enclosure ditch (272). An investigation of the colluvial deposit was made in the 1991 excavations and a full discussion on its nature is included in the 1993 report (Allen and Wyles 1993).

Most phased features were of early Romano-British date, with a few later Romano-British examples dispersed along the length of the trench. Probable prehistoric features were primarily outside the enclosure ditch at the south end of the trench, with two other possible examples inside the ditch at the northern end. No artefacts of Iron Age date were recovered. All finds from the enclosure ditch came from the upper *c.* 1.20m of the fill (maximum depth excavated/augured) and were of early Romano-British date.

Prehistoric Features

Ring Ditches SU14NW613

Two substantially truncated ditch segments, forming part of the eastern arc of a projected 24m diameter ring ditch (280) were excavated adjacent to grid point B at

the south end of the trench (Figures 2 and 3). The flat-based, 'U'-shaped cuts, *c.* 0.90m wide and 0.50m deep, had two fills comprised of small–medium chalk rubble with flint, the primary and major fills being angled from the inner side of the ditch. Finds were sparse but some worked flint of Late Neolithic–Bronze Age type was recovered (Table 1). The form and location of the feature suggest that it represents the most south-easterly of a number of Bronze Age ring ditches concentrated in the south-eastern area of the later settlement (Graham and Newman 1993, fig. 4). The presence of this particular ring ditch was previously unrecorded either in excavation or by the RCHME surveys.

Two other east–west ditch segments of prehistoric date were excavated in the southern half of the trench. Located *c.* 35m apart, features 100 and 137 were of similar size and shape with steep, almost vertical sides and flat bases, 1.50m wide. Ditch segment 137 survived to only 0.58m depth compared with the 1.35m of ditch 100. The fills comprised a series of 3–8 tip layers of chalk rubble of varying grades, primarily angled from the north side of ditch 100 and the south side of 137. No finds were recovered from 100, worked flint of Late Neolithic–Bronze Age type being found in all levels of ditch 137. The location of these two ditch segments corresponds with that of the one Bronze Age ring ditch shown in the concentrated group on the aerial photographs to fall outside the enclosure ditch (*ibid.*, fig. 4) and is *c.* 12m north of ring ditch 280. The angle of the tip lines within both segments of the ditch suggests there was an internal bank.

SU14NW 614

Linear Features

Two east–west linears at the north end of the site may be tentatively dated as prehistoric by their form and the recovery of worked flint of Late Neolithic–Bronze Age type from the fills. No other datable finds were recovered. Feature 172 appears to represent the terminal for a 1.40m wide east–west linear feature with acute, almost vertical sides and a broad, flat base. The fills comprised two layers of graded chalk rubble over a thin layer of weathered chalk. Ditch 262, 15m north of 172, survived to a depth of 1.06m. It was 1.9m in width and showed the same steep sides and broad flat base seen in the ring ditches at the south end. No obvious link can be made between either of these features and any of those from the 1991 excavations or the RCHME survey. However, one prehistoric feature, pit 319, was excavated just to the north of the main enclosure ditch in 1991.

Pits

SU14NW 703 SU 14964 708

Seven truncated, sub-rounded and sub-angular pits occurred in a concentration at the south end of the site. Two produced worked flint of Late Neolithic–Bronze Age date. No other datable finds were recovered. All had similarly steep or vertically sided cuts, 019 survived to 0.47m and 038 to 0.35m. In general, only a single coarse chalk rubble fill was evident. Several pits encroached slightly on one another. The purpose of these features is unknown and dating tentative.

Only one (066), in a group of six sub-circular pits adjacent to grid point E in the central-southern area of the site, produced any datable finds, consisting of five worked flints of Late Neolithic–Bronze Age type. The full depth of these pits is unknown since they all extended under the section. As excavated, all were relatively shallow with a maximum depth of 0.50m; 066 being 0.27m deep. All had steeply concave or vertical sides. Pit 066 had only a single coarse chalk rubble fill in common with most other pits in the group. As with the pits at the south end of the

trench the purpose of these features is unclear. The dating of 066 is tentative and that of the other pits in the group unknown.

Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British

SU14NW 200, 302

The Enclosure Ditch

Segments through the north and south sides of the enclosure ditch were excavated in 1991 (Graham and Newman 1993). In the 1995 excavations the north–south ditch (277) forming the east side of the main enclosure crossed the central area of the trench at a very oblique angle from just north of grid point E to the north of grid point G. Extending along a 160m length of the trench, the projected *c.* 8m wide ditch was only ever excavated to a maximum width of 2m and was at no point bottomed. Five segments were excavated; cut 071, 7m from the southernmost appearance of the ditch and cut 109, 14m further north, showed the steeply angled, almost vertical east side of the ditch; two segments in the central area (214, 234) crossed the fill towards the west side but did not encounter the edge of the ditch; and one (144), at the north end, showed the western slope though, again, not the actual side of the ditch. The shape of the west side of the ditch is, therefore, unknown but likely to be steep-sided and similar to the east side.

The projected *c.* 8m width of the ditch corresponds closely with that of *c.* 7m for the south side of the ditch excavated in 1991 (*ibid.*). In cut 109 the fill was excavated to a depth of 0.80m, then augured a further 0.60m before encountering the natural chalk. Therefore, at 1.0m in from its eastern edge the ditch was 1.60m deep; deeper than the equivalent position in the south side of the ditch as shown in the 1993 report (fig. 5). This suggests that the sides of the east ditch of the enclosure were cut more steeply than the south ditch. The ditch was augured to a maximum depth of 1.20m in segment 214 but was not bottomed. It is likely to have extended to a similar depth as that recorded in the 1991 investigations of *c.* 3m.

The upper ditch fills (to *c.* 1.0m) in each excavated segment were very similar to those of the south and north ditch of the enclosure (Graham and Newman 1993), comprising fairly thick (0.20m plus) layers of occasionally graded, coarse chalk rubble with slight chalky silty loam infill. Tip lines in segments 214 and 234, a maximum of nine in 214, were angled in from the west side (i.e. the enclosure interior). In segment 109 horizontal layers butted the eastern chalk face, the only evident tip lines being from the south. The form and nature of the fills correspond with those observed in the south and north ditches of the enclosure (*ibid.*) where it was concluded there was deliberate backfilling, probably in the early Romano-British period, the angle of the tip lines suggesting the presence of an internal bank.

In contrast to the previous investigations, no finds of Late Iron Age date were recovered from the ditch fill or any other features. However, there is no reason to suppose any other construction date for the enclosure than that suggested by the earlier excavations. Datable finds were recovered from the upper 1m of the ditch fills in most segments and consisted of pottery of mid 1st–early 2nd century AD date. Animal bone, burnt flint and fragments of metal were also recovered (Table 1). It appears, therefore, that by the early Romano-British period the enclosure had ceased to function as such and was backfilled over a relatively short length of time until the ditch was level with the surrounding area.

The line of the east side of the enclosure corresponds with that shown in the RCHME transcript of the aerial photographs (Graham and Newman 1993, fig. 4) and

in the more recent transcription (RCHME forthcoming) where it is shown to extend as far as the first field boundary level with grid point F (Figures 2 and 3). The 1995 excavations have increased the known northerly extent of the east side of the enclosure by *c.* 40–45m and defined its location.

The north ditch of the enclosure (272) formed the most northerly of the recorded features and was partly covered by the colluvial deposit. Due to the depth of the trench at this point the feature was not fully excavated. A narrow slot was inserted to define the edges of the ditch, which was 5.25m wide, corresponding closely with the 5.40m for the segment excavated in 1991 *c.* 20m to the north-west (Figure 2). The ditch was augured in the centre to a depth of 1.20m, but was not bottomed, the composition of the fills being similar to those in the east ditch of the enclosure (277). The line of the ditch at this point suggests that the projected line shown in fig. 4 of the 1991 excavations presents too acute an angle. The change in direction from east–west to north–south appears to follow a much gentler line with, perhaps, a slightly sharper directional change once the ditch was in line with the contours of the hill slope.

East–West Linear Features

Pottery of mid 1st–early 2nd century AD date was recovered amongst other finds from two east–west ditch terminals, one (133) cut into the upper fill of the east ditch of the enclosure, the other (257) 2.75m south of the north ditch of the enclosure (272). Situated just north of grid point F, 133 appears to form the western terminal to an east–west linear which extended at least half-way across the enclosure ditch. The ditch, 0.10m wide and 0.25m deep, with gently sloping sides had a single fill of small chalk-rubble with some charcoal flecking and animal bone. Feature 257 also appeared to form the western terminal to an east–west ditch. Partly sealed by the colluvial deposit this broad (1.80m), shallow (0.22m) feature comprised three chalk rubble fills of differing grades and density originating from different sides of the ditch.

At the north end of the trench, a shallow (0.20m) but steep-sided feature (279) followed the same alignment as two earlier linears (262 and 263) cutting through both. Both of the two fills of the 1.40m wide linear extended across the full width of the feature. The thin (0.04m) primary fill comprised a compact layer of small chalk rubble with no finds. Animal bone and a fragment of early Romano-British pottery was recovered from the secondary fill which had few coarse inclusions.

North–South Linear Features

Two north–south linear features contained early Romano-British pottery. Ditch 276 was recorded over a *c.* 14m length and had a rounded terminal to the north of grid point D. Two fills extended across the width of the 0.25m deep ditch, which had a gentle sloping east side and a flat base. The west side of the ditch was under the trench edge so the full width is unknown. The excavated width was 1.0m. A late Romano-British linear (040) ran exactly parallel with 276 a few centimetres to the west. Slightly narrower than 276 it terminated 7m to the north. The location of this later ditch suggests that it may have formed a replacement to 276. Both ditches were located outside the main enclosure ditch 277 and, although tenuous, there is a possibility they may have been related to a small rectilinear enclosure shown on the aerial photograph transcription (Graham and Newman 1993, fig. 4; Figure 2). Three sides of this small enclosure fall inside the main enclosure, but the south side clearly

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crosses it and no east side is evident. The location of ditches 276 and 040 falls within the confines of the area defined by the north and south sides of the small enclosure, for which no entrance is presently apparent, and one or both ditches could possibly represent the missing east side.

The full extent of ditch 154, located between grid points G and H, was confused by a series of later ditches, and wheel and plough ruts crossing the trench in this area. The steep-sided, 'U'-shaped ditch was evident along a *c.* 17.5m length of the trench. Two fills of coarse grade chalk pieces extended across the 0.48m width of the 0.41m deep ditch. It was located just inside the main enclosure ditch but had obviously cut into its upper fills to the south. This indicates that the enclosure ditch was fully backfilled within the early Romano-British period.

Pits and Spreads

An extensive 10m spread of material rich in charred plant remains and charcoal was deposited in the upper levels of the main enclosure ditch, 277, between grid points F and G. The feature was excavated in two broad segments (214/234) located at either end of the spread. Layers 186/180 formed the central (0.05m deep) of nine tip layers, all angled from the inside of the enclosure, and comprised the lowest of four layers of silty loam with small chalk inclusions, all containing fairly large quantities of early Romano-British pottery, animal bone and burnt flint (Table 1). The layers sealing 186/180, 185/116, also contained a copper-alloy brooch and ring. Excavated to a combined depth of 0.50m within the segments, the full extent of the tip layer could not be ascertaining due to the narrow width of the trench. The four layers below 186/180, comprising varying grades and densities of coarse chalk rubble, were devoid of any finds other than one fragment of early Romano-British pottery. At least six of the tip layers appear to be of early Romano-British date, but 186/180 and those layers above it seem to represent an intense episode of dumping of occupation debris, contexts 186/180 possibly relating to a single relatively large scale event.

Approximately 13m to the north of 214/234, a second spread of similar size and composition (144) was noted and found to comprise dumps of material rich in charred plant remains made into the partially filled-in enclosure ditch. As with 214/234, fairly large quantities of early Romano-British pottery were recovered from the silty loam fills together with much animal bone and burnt flint. In this area only two fills were represented, minimum depth 0.40m, with shallower tip lines but still angled from the inside of the ditch and overlaying coarse chalk rubble. The formation of this spread is likely to have been roughly contemporary with that of 214/234 to the south.

A large, 2.15 x 1.36m, rectangular pit (204) with concave, undercut sides and a flat base, was excavated *c.* 35m south of the north ditch (272) of the main enclosure. The 0.45m deep pit contained a single fill of silty clay with frequent fragments of early Romano-British pottery spread through the fill together with large quantities of animal bone and burnt flint. A thick, central lens of material contained deposits of charred grain, chaff and weed seeds. One early Romano-British pit (353) from the 1991 excavations (Graham and Newman 1993), also located in the north-east corner of the enclosure 40m from the north side, showed a similar combination and wealth of inclusions to those noted in pit 204. The coincidence in location and fills may suggest that this area of the settlement was set aside for specific types of activity in this period.

Pit 115, cut 0.46m deep into the upper fill of enclosure ditch 277, had gently sloping sides and a dished base with minimum dimensions of 2.10 x 1.40m. The primary and most substantial fill (0.22m deep) of coarse chalk pieces with occasional flint nodules, which covered the whole width of the pit, included relatively substantial deposits of early Romano-British pottery and animal bone (Table 1). This was sealed by a 0.10m deep deposit containing very high quantities of burnt grain (Table 5), large amounts of burnt flint and some pottery. The final layer was also rich in archaeological inclusions, among them fired clay.

One other pit contained pottery of early Romano-British date. 105 was a 0.80m diameter circular pit, with a single chalky clay loam fill 0.30m deep. It was located just outside the main enclosure to the north of grid point E. The archaeological inclusions appear to represent occupation debris.

Late Romano-British Features

Linear Features

The north–south ditch, 040, has been discussed above in association with the early Romano-British ditch 276, to which it appeared to form the successor or an accompaniment, their location being too similar for them not to be associated. This 1.0m wide ditch was evident along a 30.5m length of the trench, being excavated in four equally spaced segments. A maximum of 0.40m deep with two fills extending the width of the ditch, it was narrower with a more acute U-shaped profile than its predecessor, 276. Both fills of 040 contained animal bone, worked flint and pottery of both early and late Romano-British date.

A shallow, probably truncated, east-west ditch at the south end of the trench outside the east side of the main enclosure (cut 95) was 2.36m wide and 0.45m deep with gently sloping concave sides and a shallow dished base. The two horizontal layers of chalk rubble fill, of almost equal depth, suggest deliberate backfilling. No corresponding features were noted in the earlier excavations or RCHME survey, although, curiously, the position of ditch 95 does follow the projected line of the south ditch of the enclosure. Other finds included large quantities of animal bone, burnt and worked flint.

At the north end of the trench, a 2.1m wide east-west ditch (207) had a shallow gradient to a flat base 0.40m wide at a depth of 0.55m. A fragment of human bone and a piece of worked flint were recovered from the 0.13m deep primary fill of silty loam with common chalk inclusions which covered the base. The layer above was angled steeply from the south to cover about two-thirds of the primary fill and also contained worked flint. This was sealed by a thick deposit (0.35m) of similar composition with a shallow tip line from the north, which contained five fragments of early and later Roman-British pottery. The upper layer extended across most of the ditch. Although the finds suggest a late Romano-British date for the ditch fill, the cut may relate to an earlier phase. There are no features from the 1991 excavations which correlate with this ditch.

Pit 030

A sub-circular pit *c.* 1.68m diameter, 0.78m deep, 030 was located outside the main enclosure, immediately adjacent to the south side of the northern segment of the large ring-ditch 137. Steep sided with a slightly irregular flat base, the primary fill (0.14m)

of small chalk and flint pieces was angled against the south side of the pit and had some animal bone and pottery inclusions. The main fill, 0.50m deep, of silty clay loam with large chalk and flint inclusions contained frequent animal bone and pottery of early and later Romano-British date, together with fragments of fired clay, worked and burnt flint, quern and utilised chalk (Table 1). This layer was 'sealed' by a deposit of large flint nodules and small chalk pieces across the width of the pit prior to the deposition of the final layer of similar composition to the main fill. No pits of this form, with a fill of occupational debris, were noted in the southern area of the earlier investigations.

Graves

A shallow grave 2.10 x 0.73m, 0.20m deep, oriented south-west to north-east, was cut into the upper fill of the main enclosure ditch 277. A slot was cut into the western baulk of the trench to enable full recovery of the skeletal remains (002). The burial had been made supine and extended with the head to the north-east, though the body had slightly slumped over onto the left side. Four iron hobnails were recovered from along the planter surface (sole) of the right foot, a further 23 being found in the grave fill. Numerous fragments of animal bone and early Romano-British pottery were recovered from the grave fill, together with some burnt and worked flint, all redeposited from the ditch fill.

Su 16 NW
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Grave 54 had cut though an earlier grave (107) within which only the left forearm remained *in situ* on the north-west side. Redeposited bone from grave 107 was recovered from the backfill of 54, more was probably lost as a result of plough damage -- one clear plough rut cut through the east end of the grave -- and during machine clearance due to the shallowness of the feature.

Seven graves of this date were excavated in 1991, four spread over a 105m area in the northern part of the enclosure with three clustered in the southern part (Graham and Newman 1993). All the 1991 graves were substantially deeper than graves 54 and 107 and generally wider, those in the northern area apparently having been coffined. Hobnails were recovered with all the 1991 burials. The spread of graves both down the length of the 1991 trench and across a minimum 25m east–west area in the north implies many more graves are likely to remain presently undiscovered within this area of the enclosure.

Spread 78

Immediately north of grave 54 was a shallow (0.15m) spread of material over a 5.20m length of the upper fill of the enclosure ditch. The silty clay fill with occasional small flint and chalk inclusions contained a large quantity of animal bone, burnt flint and pottery of both early and late Romano-British date, together with some burnt and worked flint and an iron brooch (Table 1). This deposit has many similarities with the two early Romano-British spreads of material (214/234, 144) to the north, with the exception that it did not contain the rich deposits of carbonised plant remains found in the earlier features.

Other Romano-British Features

North–South Linears

It is possible that linear feature 171 (excavated in six segments) represents the northwards continuation of the extreme western edge of the east ditch of the main enclosure (277). It appeared to commence where enclosure ditch 277 passed under the eastern side of the trench to the north of grid point G and continued northwards on this alignment for a further 70m. Unfortunately, the feature was generally only evident as a narrow strip along the east side of the trench and this possibility is far from conclusive. Alternatively, 171 may simply have been fortuitously aligned parallel to the line of the enclosure ditch, situated on its inner edge. Finds of Romano-British date were recovered from 171.

The area around ditch 187, between grid points G and H, was much confused by later wheel and plough ruts, and a series of intercutting north–south ditches (154, 171, 188 and 277). The extent and full course of these features was not, in all cases, clearly defined or possible to follow. Ditch 187 appeared to be broad (*c.* 97m) and relatively shallow (0.38m) and to curve into the west side of the trench. Animal bone, burnt flint and Romano-British pottery were recovered from both fills of coarse chalk rubble.

East–West Ditches

Ditch 99 was one of four apparently parallel ditches located over a *c.* 17m length of the trench at the south end. Set immediately adjacent to the southern arc of the large ring ditch 100, 99 cut through the north side of the undated ditch 96 to the south. The feature was 1.90m wide with steep, almost vertical sides and a flat base cut 0.35m into the chalk natural. The primary fill of fine grade chalk fragments and pea-grits was angled in steeply from the north side and confined to that quarter of the ditch. The angle of the tip lines suggests there was a bank on the north side. The rest of the fill comprised a single layer of small chalk rubble with large angular flints from which fragments of Romano-British pottery were recovered.

Ditch 96, 3.90m wide and 0.60m deep, had almost vertical sides and a flat base, with four fills of graded coarse chalk rubble. The two primary fills showed shallow tip lines from the north and south sides respectively, both being sealed by the same two layers of equal thickness (0.30m) extending the width of the ditch with shallow tip lines at either side. The primary and secondary layers of ditch 96 were cut by the parallel ditch 99 to the north, which indicate a Romano-British or earlier date for this latter feature. The form of ditch 96, vertical sides and flat base, may suggest a Bronze Age rather than a Romano-British date. No features from the early excavations or the RCHME survey correspond with the line of either ditch 96 or 99, though a number of parallel ditches were recorded to the south of the enclosure ditch in the 1991 excavations.

The western terminal (244) to a small (0.55m wide), shallow (0.15m) east-west linear was excavated *c.* 8m south of the north ditch (272) of the main enclosure. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the single fill.

Undated Features

In addition to the groups of largely undated pits discussed above, four east–west linears were excavated from which no dating evidence was recovered. Linear 009, at

the south end of the trench, was substantially truncated leaving a maximum depth of 0.12m. It appears to form the base of a broad, 2.55m wide, flat bottomed ditch cut by two later, but also undated, pits. Feature 023, located within the southern confines of the large ring ditch 100/137, survived to a depth of 0.36m. 2.0m wide with acute-angled sides and a flat base, the ditch had two horizontal fills of coarse chalk rubble, the lower loose and vacuous, from which a single struck flint was recovered. The form of this latter ditch particularly, suggests a prehistoric date. 239 and 263 were inside the enclosure at the north end of the site. Linear 239 was 0.96m wide and 0.22m deep, with one (south) steep and one gentle gradient and a slightly rounded base. Ditch 263 appears to have been 'V' shaped, 1.0m wide, with a flat base 0.40m wide. Both the primary and secondary fill of this ditch were cut on the south side by ditch 262, tentatively dated as prehistoric, which would suggest that ditch 263 was also of an early date. Both 262 and 263 were cut by ditch 279, from which Romano-British artefacts were recovered. No features from the earlier excavations or RCHME survey showed any direct correspondence with these features.

Two north–south linears 188 and 189, the latter cutting the former, were noted in the area between grid points G and H where a concentration of intercutting linear features had confused relationships. Feature 188, 0.74m wide with concave sides and a flat base, had a single small chalk rubble fill 0.25m deep. That 188 cut the Romano-British ditch 187 would imply a similar or later date for this feature. The projected course 188 follows closely that for 171 just to the north, but the form of the two linears did not correspond. Only a 0.20m width of linear 189 was evident against the east side of the trench, rendering interpretation very difficult. However, the 0.52m deep feature did cut linear 188.

Nine groups of undated stake holes were observed along the southern half of the trench. All of these features were of similar size and fill. Although some of the groups were linear in arrangement it was not possible to discern any distinct patterns of distribution. Most of the stake holes were cut into the natural chalk but two of the northerly groups were cut into the upper fills of the enclosure ditch 277, which would indicate a late Romano-British or later date.

An inconsistent set of undated parallel wheel ruts, which in places showed evidence of 'cobbling', were noted running north-south from just south of grid point F to between grid points H and G. In the latter location they cut across and confused a series of Romano-British features. This is the point at which the trench runs closest to the adjacent road and where there is the steepest gradient down to the river. A single plough rut extended along much of the trench between grid points D and I, demonstrating the shallow depth of ploughsoil and potential for damage or loss of underlying archaeological features as a result of ploughing.

ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE
(Table 1)

Coin
by NICHOLAS A. WELLS

One unstratified copper-alloy Roman coin was found (Obj. No. 5008), a radiate copy of late 3rd century date, probably a PAX AVG type of Tetricus I. Copying is

generally thought to have occurred between AD 275 and *c.* AD 294. This copy is a particularly poor and irregular example.

Metalwork

by ANDREW HUTCHESON

Iron

A strip brooch (Obj No. 5002) was recovered from Spread 78. It is in very good condition, comprising a simple hinge consisting of an axis bar contained in the rolled-under head of the bow (Figure 5a). The lower part of the pin and part of the catch plate are missing. It is likely to date from the first half of the 1st century AD (Mackreth 1982, 245).

Other iron artefacts included 29 hobnails, four nails, one ?dog and fragments of two horseshoes. Four of the hobnails were found along the planter surface (sole) of the right foot of skeleton 002, with 23 others from the disturbed backfill of the late Romano-British grave (54) with two more from pit 30. An 'L-shaped' fragment of iron from the upper fill of the main enclosure ditch may represent part of a joiner's dog, probably of Romano-British date. The four nails were all recovered from Romano-British contexts; two may represent coffin nails.

Copper Alloy

A bow brooch (Obj. No. 5003) from a spread within the upper fill of the enclosure ditch (214/234)is a Nauheim derivative type with a four-coiled spring, internal chord, flat bow and solid catch plate (Figure 5b). The pin and fourth coil are missing. The brooch is a Camulodunum Type VII, dating from the second half of the 1st century AD (Hawkes and Hull 1947, 312, pl. XCII, 56).

A ring (Obj. No. 5004) made from a thick piece of wire, with rounded terminals meeting neatly at the points, was also recovered from the upper fill of the enclosure ditch (214/234). Possibly a finger or toe ring, it could also be a simple penannular brooch with the pin missing.

Worked Flint

by W.A. BOISMIER

A total of 161 pieces of worked flint was recovered from various contexts (Table 2). Forty-two (26.09%) of the artefacts were recovered from prehistoric contexts, 107 from Romano-British contexts (66.46%) and 12 from undated contexts (7.45%). All artefacts recovered were made from flint obtained from local chalk sources. The condition is good with only one exhibiting minor post-depositional edge damage. Some 96.27% of the assemblage (n=155) exhibits a patina ranging from bluish-grey to white. No spatial patterning in the distribution of patinated artefacts was apparent in the material recovered from the various features.

Technologically, most of the artefacts conform to the general characteristics of the Late Neolithic–Early Bronze Age industries from southern England. The three cores are all prepared joint platform flake cores worked with both soft and hard hammers. Flake shapes are variable and include a small number of narrow bladelike flakes with thin platforms, and squat flakes with thick platforms and hinge

terminations. The single retouched tool is a flake end scraper. This artefact is not datable and the lack of any technologically diagnostic pieces precludes any more refined dating of the assemblage.

The high proportion of the assemblage that was recovered from Romano-British contexts indicates that most of the assemblage is residual in character. The small number of artefacts recovered from prehistoric features are limited to debitage classes associated with core reduction activities and does not allow for any inferences concerning the range of prehistoric activities occurring at the site. However, the number of primary flakes (n=13) and the occurrence of a small number of cores indicates that core preparation and reduction associated with the production of stone tools was one of the activities which occurred at the site.

Pottery

by LORRAINE MEPHAM

The pottery assemblage comprises 486 sherds (9182 g) of Romano-British date.

Fabrics and Forms

The whole assemblage was subjected to full fabric and form analysis. Since the pottery derived from features which lay broadly within the area of the Romano-British settlement partially excavated in 1991, the analysis used the type series defined for the earlier excavation (Mepham 1993a). Twenty-seven fabric types were identified, all but two of which could be matched within the existing type series. These 27 fabric types fall into four broad fabric groups: flint-tempered (Group F); grog-tempered (Group G); sandy (Group Q); and 'established' wares of known type or source (Group E). Fabric descriptions for those fabrics matched within the existing type series are not repeated in full here, but may be summarised as follows:

E100 Black Burnished ware (BB1): for fabric description see Williams (1977) and Seager Smith and Davies (1993).
E155 Savernake ware: for fabric description see Swan (1975; fabric 1)
E170 Oxfordshire colour-coated fineware
E174 Oxfordshire coarse oxidised sandy ware
E300 Samian; source unspecified.

F100 Hard fabric with moderate flint <1mm; moderate quartz <0.5mm.
F101 Hard fabric with moderate flint <3mm; rare grog/clay pellet <2mm.

G100 Hard, soapy fabric with moderate grog <5mm; generally oxidised
G101 Hard, soapy fabric with common grog <2mm; rare quartz <0.5mm
G102 Soft fabric with sparse grog < 1mm; sparse quartz <0.5mm
G103 Soft fabric with moderate grog <1mm moderate quartz <1mm
G104 Hard fabric with sparse grog <2mm; sparse flint <2mm; sparse quartz <0.5mm
G105 Soft soapy fabric with sparse grog <3 mm; rare quartz <0.25 mm

Q100 Sandy greyware with visible ?glauconite; quartz <1mm
Q101 Sandy greyware with visible ?glauconite; quartz <0.5mm
Q103 Hard micaceous oxidised fabric; sparse quartz <0.25 mm
Q104 Sandy fabric with moderate quartz <0.5mm; sparse grog <0.5mm; generally oxidised
Q105 Sandy greyware without visible ?glauconite; quartz <0.5mm
Q106 Sandy greyware without visible glauconite; quartz <0.25mm

Q108 Hard unoxidised sandy fabric; common quartz <0.5mm
Q109 Hard unoxidised sandy fabric; moderate quartz <1.5mm; rare grog/clay pellet.
Q111 Hard black sandy fabric; common quartz <0.5mm
Q113 As Q106 but with obtrusive iron oxides
Q115 Oxidised sandy fabric with rare ?glauconite; quartz <0.25mm
Q117 Sandy oxidised fabric; moderate quartz <0.5mm

Finewares are restricted to a very few sherds. Identifiable wares comprise samian and Oxfordshire colour-coated ware. The samian is all of South Gaulish type, with a date range of *c.* AD 70-110; identifiable vessel forms comprise two Drag 18 or 18/31 platters and one Drag 27 cup. The Oxfordshire finewares, on the other hand, are likely to be of late Romano-British date (3rd or 4th century AD).

Two other colour-coated wares were noted, which are not matched within the existing type series. Both are of unknown source, and may be described as follows:

Q120 Hard, fine-grained fabric; rare quartz <0.25mm; rare iron oxides. Oxidised brick-red with external creamy-white slip. Wheelthrown.
Q121 Hard, dense, moderately coarse-grained fabric; moderate, well-sorted quartz <0.5mm. Oxidised pinky-red with external red slip. Wheelthrown.

Fabric Q120 is represented by a single sherd, the rim and neck of a ring-necked flagon. Such white-slipped red wares are generally dated from the mid 1st–late 2nd century AD. The use of white slip to disguise red-firing fabrics is a widespread phenomenon observed across southern England, although the sources of such vessels are as yet unknown. A flagon of uncertain form in a similar white-slipped fabric was found at Maddington Farm, Shrewton, 10 km to the west (Seager Smith 1996, fabric Q109), and a white-slipped face jug at Butterfield Down, Amesbury, 6 km to the south (Millard 1996, fabric Q110).

The origin of fabric Q121 is even more uncertain. Both sherds present come from a single vessel of closed form, associated with Savernake ware and other wares of late 1st or very early 2nd century date (pit 204). The date range of this pit group appears to preclude the possibility that this is a British colour-coated ware; on the other hand, it does not seem to resemble any of the better-known continental finewares of this period. They may be of Gaulish origin (V. Rigby pers. comm.).

The coarsewares are dominated by grog-tempered fabrics, particularly Savernake ware. The other grog-tempered fabrics are likely to be part of the same tradition of native Iron Age wares which continued in manufacture into the early Romano-British period. Vessel forms are mainly bead-rimmed jars in a range of sizes from very small to large, thick-walled storage jars, although some necked, everted rim jars, some with neck cordons, are present, and two lids were also identified. All these vessel types are of characteristic early Romano-British type, and a date range of mid to late 1st century AD, possibly extending into the early 2nd century, can be suggested.

Coarse sandy wares are relatively uncommon. The 'catch-all' fabrics Q100 and Q101 (greywares with glauconite) and Q105 and Q106 (greywares without glauconite) are each likely to include wares from more than one source. Glauconitic wares could derive from areas of greensand in the north or west of the county; one possible greyware kiln has been identified at Westbury, on Upper Greensand (Rogers and Roddham 1991). Another centre of greyware manufacture, operating from the early 2nd to the 4th century AD, has been identified to the west of Swindon

(Anderson 1979). Other possible sources include the Oxfordshire and New Forest production centres, although the bulk of the assemblage seems to pre-date the period of widespread distribution of the products of these centres. Greyware vessel forms echo those of the grog-tempered wares: bead-rimmed and everted rim jars. The small number of sherds of Black Burnished ware, however, all seem to be of late Romano-British date, with recognisable vessel forms including everted rim jars and dropped-flange bowls (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, types 3 and 25).

Flint-tempered wares are very scarce, represented by only three sherds, with no diagnostic forms present.

Distribution on Site

The pottery assemblage is derived from a number of features along the length of the pipeline, including the main enclosure ditch (upper fills only), other linear features, pits and the backfill of one grave (Table 1). Table 3 presents a breakdown of the fabric groups and known wares from each feature. From this it can be seen that the grog-tempered fabrics, including Savernake ware, are concentrated in the upper fills of the east side of the main enclosure ditch and the pits, while the proportion of these fabrics from the other linear features is much lower. The linear features might thus be taken largely to post-date the backfilling of the enclosure ditch, and certainly one of these features (40) contained Black Burnished ware in 3rd–4th century vessel forms. The sandy wares from other linears, however, contain insufficient diagnostic material to confirm this dating. One of the pits (30) and one linear (95) also produced Black Burnished ware in 3rd–4th century forms; otherwise, the preponderance of grog-tempered wares in bead-rimmed jar forms, together with the presence of South Gaulish samian, confirms a date for these features in the later 1st or very early 2nd century AD.

Discussion

The pottery assemblage complements that from the earlier excavations, confirming the general date range of the enclosure and associated features. A very similar range of fabrics and forms was observed. It may be noted, however, that this assemblage has a stronger emphasis on the early Romano-British period, with a far lower proportion of wares which could be definitely dated later than the 2nd century AD. The complete absence of Iron Age or earlier pottery is also interesting. Vessel forms, together with the dominance of Savernake ware and other grog-tempered fabrics, and the presence of South Gaulish samian, help to tie down the dating of the early Romano-British features to a period of *c.* AD 70–110.

Other Artefacts

by LORRAINE MEPHAM

Burnt Flint and Stone

A total of 376 fragments of burnt flint was recovered from 35 contexts (19 features). Over 62% by weight came from pit fills where it occurred together with a variety of other artefact types. A substantial quantity was found in pit 115 which was rich in carbonised plant remains. A further 22% was recovered from the spreads of material rich in charred plant remains within the upper fill of the enclosure ditch. The abundant natural occurrence of flint in the vicinity, together with the distribution and

associated finds suggests that most of the burnt flint was incidental to some form of domestic or agricultural burning process.

Seven pieces of burnt stone were recovered from three contexts/features, all in association with other types of artefacts including burnt flint.

Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

Nine fragments of ceramic building material were recovered from six contexts including one unstratified and one natural feature. Most was of Romano-British date with the exception of some unstratified post-medieval fragments. All of the fragments are small and abraded making definition of form impossible. The features from which fragments were recovered were spread along the length of the excavated area with no significant clustering. Fragments were generally recovered together with a variety of other artefact types.

A small quantity of structural daub/cob, mostly of chalk composition, was recovered from two contexts, most being from pit 30. Part of a clay disc of unknown function, similar to examples found during the previous excavation (Mepham 1993b, fig. 13), was also found.

Worked/utilised Stone

A fragment of quern was recovered from the east–west linear 95 at the south end of the site. The fragment comprised the flat face only of a probable rotary quern made from a quartz conglomerate. Two other ?chalk 'blocks' were found in pit 30, which were probably utilised though not apparently worked.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Human Bone

by JACQUELINE I. McKINLEY

Human remains from two intercutting Romano-British inhumation burials were analysed, together with redeposited bone fragments from an early Romano-British context.

Methods

Age was assessed from the stage of tooth development and eruption (van Beek 1983); the stage of ossification and epiphyseal bone fusion (Grey 1977; McMinn and Hutchings 1985; Webb and Suchey 1985); tooth wear patterns (Brothwell 1972); and the general degree of cranial suture fusion. Sex was assessed from the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Bass 1987). Platymeric and platycnemic indices were calculated (Bass 1987), and stature was estimated using Trotter and Gleser's regression equations (1952; 1958). Pathological lesions and morphological variations/non-metric traits were recorded and diagnoses suggested where appropriate.

Results

Articulated bone was recovered from two shallow, intercutting graves cut into the upper fill of the east side of the main enclosure ditch. Only part of the left forearm and hand bones of 106 remained *in situ*, a few other fragments of the left upper limb

bones being recovered from the backfill (062) of the later grave cut for 002 (*c.* 5% skeletal recovery). The *in situ* skeleton (002) was disturbed during machine stripping of the site (maximum depth of grave 0.20m) and had probably been subject to plough damage. Some bones were also recovered from the grave fill 062 (*c.* 62% skeletal recovery). A fragment of the left ulna was recovered from the base of ditch 207.

Most of the bone was badly fragmented, some from 002 was slightly root marked, as was all the bone from 106. The bone from context 208 was not at all weathered which suggests rapid reburial after disturbance from its original resting place. A series of seven Romano-British and two prehistoric burials were excavated along the length of the trench in the previous investigations (Newman and Graham 1993), the north–south locations of which corresponded with grid points D–I on Figure 2. It is likely, therefore, that the bone from 208 originated from a disturbed burial in the *c.* 20m intervening area between the two trenches, presumably cut by the insertion of ditch 207. In view of the early Romano-British date for ditch 207 it is probable that the bone was from a pre-Romano-British burial.

Parts of three individuals were identified; 002, a mature adult (25–45 yr) male, a subadult (*c.* 14–16 yr) of unknown sex (106) and an adult (208). Several minor pathological changes were noted in 002 including: caries (1); mild calculus and periodontal disease; osteoarthritis in the left sacro-iliac joint, costo-vertebral (2 left), thoracic and lumbar articular processes; osteophytes (marginal new bone) in the auricular surfaces, both hip joints, right sacro-iliac, left talus, left patella and a minimum of four lumbar articular processes; *spina bifida occulta* (minor version of deformity, no significant symptoms); calcified thyroid cartilage; destructive lesions periarticular to the right acetabulum; exostoses (new bone at tendon/ligament insertions) on the iliac crest, calcanea, patella, right proximal femur, right lesser trochanter and right cuboid; pitting in the right lateral cuneiform; vastus notch (morphological variation).

The stature of 002 was estimated at 1.68m (5ft 6 in), the platymeric index (degree of anterior–posterior flattening of the proximal femur) was in the platymeric range and the platycnemic (meso-lateral flattening of the tibia) in the eurycnemic range. The small size of the group, even when added to those excavated in 1991, precludes much meaningful demographic comment.

Animal Bone

by SHEILA HAMILTON-DYER

The condition of the bones varies from good, with fine surface details preserved, to poor, eroded and fragile. Several bones were excavated in pieces and have been counted as single fragments where reconstruction is possible (see Table 1 for actual fragment numbers) but some were not recovered complete owing to the nature of the excavation.

Methods

Species identifications were made using the writer's modern comparative collections. Some fragments could be identified only to the level of cattle/horse-sized (LAR) and sheep/pig-sized (SAR), other small, indeterminate fragments were recorded as mammalian only. The few measurements available follow von den Driesch (1976) and are in millimetres unless otherwise stated. Withers height estimations of the

domestic ungulates are based on factors recommended by von den Driesch and Boessneck (1974). The taxa identified and their abbreviations are listed in archive. Details not in the text, including anatomy and butchery may be found in the archive.

Results

A total of 632 bones was recovered by hand, with a further 194 from 10 litre soil samples. The latter were from a small number of contexts only and are marked * in Table 3. Animal bone was found in 56 contexts (34 features) and, as a result, many groups total less than 10 fragments. Very few of the bones are sufficiently complete for measurement.

Of the overall total of 825 bones, half were identified to species. The assemblage is dominated by sheep/goat (probably all sheep), followed by cattle. Horse and pig are minor constituents and other taxa are rare; there were occasional fragments of red deer, dog, shrew, voles, fowl, raven, amphibians, and eel. A summary of the taxa recovered from each feature is given in Table 4.

Prehistoric Features

Only three fragments were recovered from the ring ditch (280), none could be positively identified to species although one is of cattle size. A few fragments (18) were recovered from seven contexts in six features. Seven of these were identified to species; three sheep/goat teeth, a pig tooth, and fragments of a cattle pelvis, femur and ulna. Material from linears 137 and 262 is very poorly preserved.

Early Romano-British

A total of 432 bones is attributed to this period, of which 255 fragments were recovered by hand. Much of the bone is from the spreads of material within the upper fills of the main enclosure ditch. The main domestic ungulates, cattle, sheep, pig and horse are present together with unidentified fragments of this size. The only other large species represented is red deer in spread 214. This is a proximal fragment of radius, cut across the shaft front. Bone recovered by sieving adds raven, eel, voles and amphibians, mostly from pits 115 and 204.

Nine sheep and sheep/goat jaws were among the fragments from the spreads. Of these three had full adult dentition and would have been over two years old, the remaining six were at wear stage 3 or 4, equivalent to an age of 12–24 months (Maltby 1979). Pit 204 contained a further nine, three under two years and six over. These include two pairs from sheep over four years old. Oral pathology was noted in six jaws and includes displaced teeth, malocclusion, caries and periodontal erosion.

Few measurements were available but a sheep radius in spread 144 gives an estimated withers height of 0.55m, and measurement of a broken but complete cattle metatarsus from pit 204 provided an estimate of withers height of 1.24 m.

Late Romano-British

The 316 bones were recovered from four features, including two linears (40 and 95) and two pits (30 and 78). No material was recovered by sieving but amphibian bones were, nevertheless, found in pit 30. A coprolite containing bone was also recovered from this pit as well as two bones of dog, and several bones had been gnawed. Dog bones were also recovered from ditch 95, comprising seven bones from the forelegs and neck of a good sized but not unusually large individual. The bulk of the bone from this phase was, again, of cattle and sheep and fragments of this size. There is,

however a higher percentage of unidentified material and less sheep than in the earlier phase. Excepting pit 30, the bones are a little less well preserved and this may help to explain the higher percentage of unidentified material (57% in comparison with 44% from the early Romano-British contexts). The lower amount of sheep may also be partly attributable to the poor condition (Maltby 1985a) but the percentage of loose teeth from both periods is similar at just over 25% of the sheep total from ditches and a little less for the pits. This is comparable with the findings at Winnall Down, Hampshire where deposit type and differential preservation affected the proportions of species and elements making it very difficult to discern temporal differences (Maltby 1985b).

Other Contexts

Small numbers of bones were recovered from unphased Romano-British and undated contexts. Cattle, sheep, dog and red deer were identified. The red deer bone is a partial skull from linear 188, it is of a large male and knife marks across the frontal indicate that it had been skinned. The femur of a very large red deer was recovered from the previous excavations, in ditch 459 (Graham and Newman 1993).

Discussion

This assemblage is typical of those recovered from pipeline excavations with relatively small amounts of bone from a large number of disjointed features. It does, however, offer further samples for comparison with those recovered from the settlement during the 1991 investigation (Egerton *et al.* 1993).

The assemblage is broadly similar to that from the previous excavations; cattle and sheep are the main species together with small amounts of pig, horse, dog, deer and birds. Preservation of the material varied between contexts from moderately eroded to excellent, and the fragmentation and differential preservation restricts the information available and the subsequent interpretation.

There are differences between these two assemblages and the current material offers additional information. Metrical data is very limited, only 22 bones were measured from the entire assemblage. This is, however, an improvement on the single bone measurement from the 1991 assemblage. The two withers heights fall within the range reported for material in southern England and the three measurements of sheep distal tibia fall very close to the Romano-British mean (Maltby 1981).

The relative proportions of the species in each context is generally similar but there is a significant discrepancy in the representation of sheep from the late Romano-British groups. Although there is a slight drop in the representation of sheep compared with cattle in the current assemblage (ERB 13.1% cattle:28.3% sheep, LRB 13.3% cattle:18.7% sheep) it is not as dramatic as in the previous material (ERB 14.1% cattle:21% sheep, LRB 12.6% cattle:2.7% sheep). These results may be unduly influenced by the small number of fragments.

Additional species were recovered from the sieved samples from the current investigations, these are raven, domestic fowl, shrew, vole and eel.

The sample of sheep jaws is larger than from the previous assemblage but, with the problems of small sample size and differential preservation, is still insufficient for more than a tentative suggestion that they were culled at prime meat age or when old.

These differences, from sites only a few metres apart, illustrate the difficulties of interpretation of small assemblages from rural sites. Their value lies in the accumulation of data which can give an overview of the activity within the rural landscape.

Charred Plant Remains

by PAT HINTON

Three samples from Late Iron Age/early Romano-British contexts were processed at Wessex Archaeology by standard flotation, with flots retained on a 0.5mm sieve and residues on a 1mm sieve. The flots were presented to the writer, together with all charred material extracted from the residues by Sarah F. Wyles. The flots were then searched with binocular microscope (7-40 x magnification).

Results

Nomenclature and order (except for the cereals) in Table 5 conform to Stace (1991). There were many fragmented grains in the sample from pit 115 and the totals have been estimated. Glume bases of *Triticum* spp. are recorded but fragments of the upper parts of glumes are not included in the totals.

Cultivated plants

Cereals form the main constituent of all three samples. *Triticum spelta* (spelt) was identified by a few characteristically shaped grains and its presence confirmed by more diagnostic glume bases. Many of the wheat glume bases are damaged and incomplete, and possibly include some of *Triticum dicoccum* (emmer) but only one grain, from spread 186, at all resembles emmer. Many other grains, especially in the richest sample from pit 115, are obviously wheats but because of their degradation the species cannot be identified closer. There are no grains to suggest a free-threshing bread wheat and it is very likely that most, if not all, represent spelt.

Hordeum vulgare (hulled barley) occurs in all three samples and is the major cereal from pit 115. A few asymmetric grains and one rachis node fragment indicate 6-rowed barley.

There is evidence of *Avena* species (oats) in the form of very small fragments (1–3mm) of the twisted basal parts of the awns from all three contexts, with a few grains from two. It is not possible to identify these more closely but in the sample from pit 115 there are also some fragments of oat chaff, including two floret bases with the characteristic abscission scar of *Avena fatua* (wild oats). In Table 5 the oats have been listed with the other cereals since some might well have been cultivated, but the two floret fragments undoubtedly indicate the presence of wild, and therefore presumably weed, oats.

Wild plants

The ten *Brassica* seeds from pit 115 may possibly be misplaced when listed with the wild plants. It is difficult to distinguish the various species which include cabbage, turnip, black mustard etc and therefore difficult to tell whether they may have been cultivated.

Of the legumes, only the seeds of *Vicia tetrasperma* (smooth tare), also from pit 115, could be confidently identified by their size and very small hilum; other

small (*c.* 2mm diameter) *Vicia* seeds on which no hilum could be discerned may be the same, or possibly *Vicia hirsuta* (hairy tare). Larger *Vicia* or *Lathyrus* (*c.* 2.8mm diameter) seeds have not been identified, but there is nothing to suggest that they are other than wild plants.

Lithospermum arvense (corn gromwell) seeds are present in greater numbers than the other seeds but they are very hard and more resistant to burning, their yellow-white testas becoming dull and grey rather than typically charred.

The range of wild plants is similar in all the samples and although a few may today be more commonly found in waste places all are likely to have grown with the cereals. Some, e.g. corn gromwell and *Valerianella dentata* (narrow-fruited corn-salad) are particularly associated with fields on the chalk. There are no seeds of plants which are more likely to occur on heavier poorly drained soils.

Discussion

The provenance of the charred remains in the samples is difficult to interpret. They may represent single depositions but not necessarily the results of single burning episodes. Since all contain cereal grains, chaff and seeds of plants which are common cereal crop accompaniments it is likely that they result from crop processing routines.

Because many grains are too poorly preserved for accurate identification and counting it is impossible to calculate exactly the ratios of cereal grains to chaff. Also the damaged condition of the grains makes it probable that some of the more fragile chaff must have been destroyed. However, a rough comparison of the numbers of the identifiable surviving wheat grains and glume bases suggests that complete spikelets are involved, the result of breaking up of the ears by threshing. A mixture of threshed spikelets and weed seeds would occur during the sieving stages of the crop cleaning procedures. The barley is accompanied by only one rachis fragment in one sample and this again suggests that the grain had been threshed.

The smaller amounts of cereal and weed remains in spread 186 and pit 204 may have been derived from the disposal of burned processing or other domestic refuse and some perhaps by chance from a general background scatter. The greater density of remains in the pit 115, with threshed wheat spikelets and a larger amount of threshed barley, has the appearance of a single deposition and was possibly the result of one burning, but its origin was likely to have been more than one cereal crop.

In summary the results suggest the cultivation of spelt wheat and six-rowed hulled barley on the chalk soils available nearby. Barley is an appropriate, possibly spring-sown, crop for such light well-drained soils. The spelt wheat, with the evidence of *Galium aparine* (cleavers), may well have been autumn-sown. Comparing these results with those from the previous investigations of this site (Ede 1993) shows spelt and hulled barley as the main cereals in both cases. The weed assemblages also are basically similar, but for two important exceptions: the presence in one of these current samples of at least two species of vetches and tares, and *Brassica* seeds which could possibly represent cultivated plants, while the previous report recorded sedges, suggesting damper conditions.

Other Environmental Material
by MICHAEL J. ALLEN

One calcium-phosphate replaced coprolite was recovered from a pit of later Romano-British date. It is typical of the coprolite preservation on rural chalkland sites. It is broken but survives to 37mm, and is 24mm in diameter with concentric composition. It contains small fragments of splintered bone.

Fragments of oyster were recovered from two contexts and represent three individuals. Two right valves and one left valve were present.

CONCLUSION

The problems inherent with excavations of this type have yet again been highlighted. In excess of 50 features were investigated over a 420m length of trench to a maximum excavated width of 2m, with most being excavated to *c.* 0.60m. Such 'keyhole' archaeology places understandable constraints on the depth of excavation, level of artefact recovery and interpretation of features. Inevitably, a proportion of the features were undatable, and the nature and even the full form of others remain inconclusive.

In this instance, however, interpretation has been assisted by the information available from the earlier archaeological analyses of this well-known settlement site in the form of aerial, geophysical and land survey, as well as previous, if similarly constrained, excavation. Considered in combination the results from the 1995 excavations not only confirm and corroborate previous evidence, but have also advanced and added to our understanding in several key areas.

The site discussion included in the 1991 excavation report (Graham and Newman 1993, 50–52) placed the settlement in its context within the known Romano-British landscape of Salisbury Plain and there is little to be gained from repeating that information here. Much of the discussion pertaining directly to the settlement itself is also of immediate relevance to the results presented in this report, the two excavations running parallel through the same part of the site, separated from each other by only 15–24m. This discussion will, therefore, largely be limited to new information gleaned from the various investigations undertaken since 1991.

Prehistoric

Artefactual evidence for prehistoric activity was limited to a small assemblage of struck flint of Late Neolithic–Early Bronze Age date. Unfortunately, over half of the assemblage was redeposited within later features. With the exception of the ring ditches at the south end of the site, none of the features classified as prehistoric could be attributed to any particular phase, although the form of some of the linears suggests they are most likely to be Bronze Age. One of the known cluster of ring ditches at the south end of the site fell within the line of the excavation, extending the recorded circumference of the feature. A previously unrecorded ring ditch, similar in size to others, was found situated on the south-eastern edge of the group. The fills of both these ditches suggested the original presence of an internal bank.

Main Enclosure

As in the 1991 excavation, no artefacts of Iron Age date were recovered from the fill of the enclosure ditches, though this is not to suggest any other than a later Iron Age date for the feature itself. There is clear evidence to show that the ditch on the east side was fully backfilled by the early Romano-British period, which corroborates evidence for the south and north sides from the 1991 excavations. As noted previously, there is evidence to suggest deliberate backfilling of the ditch, the angle of the tip lines and nature of the fills suggesting the presence of an internal bank. Several extensive spreads of early Romano-British material, comprising deposits of domestic and agricultural debris, were found in the upper fills of the ditch. These deposits were angled from the inside, showing that the process of infilling was on-going and implying that the ditch still provided some boundary to activity. However, two features of early Romano-British date also cut the upper ditch fill, as did several late Romano-British features. This suggests that the late 1st–early 2nd centuries AD form the period over which the enclosure ditch fully ceased to function and activity related to the settlement spread eastwards across it.

Survey work carried out by RCHME since 1991 has added to the known extent of the main enclosure (Figure 2) including increasing the northwards extension of the east side of the ditch by *c.* 80m to the level of the field boundary at grid point F. The line of the enclosure as shown in the survey transcript was picked up in excavation and extended a further 40–45m towards the north. Together with the location of the north side of the enclosure ditch at the north end of the trench, this allowed the north-eastern line of the enclosure to be more clearly defined. The north-east corner has a gentler angle previously suggested (Graham and Newman 1993, fig. 4) and extends further across to the east. The line of the east side of the ditch cannot have followed a truly straight line and has probably been cut slightly by the present road or its bank along a possible 100m length.

A possible early Romano-British date may be suggested for the small, rectilinear enclosure shown in the south-east area of the site on the survey transcript. If linears 276 and 040 represent the east side of this enclosure, this would imply a continuum of use throughout the Romano-British period.

The location of the two Romano-British burials, taken in consideration with that of contemporaneous burials from the previous excavation, suggests the possibility of a fairly extensive cemetery in the north-eastern area of the enclosure. The transcript of the geophysical survey in this area (RCHME 1995) shows the presence of a small rectilinear enclosure with a fairly dense distribution of 'pit'-like features, some of which may represent burials.

The excavation revealed parts of at least 12 linear features of Romano-British date, the courses of which do not appear to correspond with any previously identified features. Their nature remains unknown. The great density of features both within the enclosure settlement and on the north and western outskirts of it have been demonstrated in the recent RCHME surveys (1995). There was clearly intensive activity in the settlement, to which the present results add only a small part, but on the significant eastern margin.

Unlike the 1991 excavations, there was no structural evidence other than a few fragments of very abraded ceramic building material and cob/daub which may have been redeposited from anywhere in the general vicinity. There is limited evidence for Romano-British occupational and agricultural debris being deposited in two or three pits along the length of the trench and in the upper fill of the enclosure ditch. In general, however, the trench appears to pass through a marginal area of the

settlement, parts of which may have been set aside for agricultural processing and burial.

The environmental evidence from the site tallies closely with that recovered from the earlier excavations, indicating the cultivation of spelt wheat and six-rowed barley and the predominance of sheep/goat in the economy, followed by cattle. Minor discrepancies in the representation of particular domestic animal species and different weed assemblages may be linked to different areas of the site being used for the carrying out of different processes, but little more can be said.

The recent survey transcripts show an intensity of activity within and immediately around the settlement (RCHME 1995). Extensive field systems have also been plotted in the general vicinity, especially to the north around Netheravon where two additional villas have been identified at Compton and Fyfield Folly, but also on the edge of the Plain to the west and along the adjacent Avon river valley (M. Corney *pers. comm.*; RCHME forthcoming). The results from the present investigations have added tangible evidence, however slight, to our understanding of this clearly important settlement, forming one of the increasing number (*WAM* 1994; McKinley and Heaton 1996) within the extensive Romano-British landscape emerging across the Plain (M. Corney, pers. comm.).

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Figures

Figure 1: Site location.

Figure 2: Trench location in relation to the 1991 excavation and the results of the RCHME surveys (RCHME 1995). The recorded position of main enclosure ditches and the two ring ditches is shown, together with the projected course of the enclosure ditch.

Figure 3: Phase diagram of features recorded in the south half of the trench from grid points B–F.

Figure 4: Phase diagram of features recorded in the south half of the trench from grid points G and I.

Figure 5: a) Iron strip brooch SF 5002; b) Copper-alloy bow brooch SF 5003.

Table 1: Finds Total by Feature

Key: number of fragments/weight (g); Fe = iron; Cu = copper alloy; nat. = natural; enc. = enclosure

Feature	Animal Bone	Human Bone	Burnt Flint	Burnt Stone	CBM	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Pottery	Stone	Metal
003 nat. feature					1/8					
Gp. 280 ring ditch	3/4						2/102			
009 E-W linear	1/2						3/84			
016 pit							8/66			
019 pit	1/2						2/26			
023 E-W linear							8/318			
026 pit							5/28			
030 pit	130/726		2/10			6/390	6/62	15/200	2/3028	2 Fe
038 pit							1/6			
Gp. 40 N-S linear	62/224		1/50	4/18	1/2		4/52	22/260		1 Fe
054 grave	32/188	389/2700	6/202				5/34	24/233		27 Fe
066 pit	3/10						5/10			
078 pit	133/870		22/1676		1/36		3/25	46/690		2 Fe
095 E-W linear	161/1212		2/42				4/70	20/342	1/588	
096 E-W linear	8/72						2/24*			
099 E-W linear	3/18							2/28		
105 pit	1/2							9/64		
107 grave		18/76								
115 pit	44/410		20/2108			2/56	2/32	49/1548		
118 wheel rut	2/2							2/10		
133 E-W linear	9/26							19/152		
137 E-W linear	11/234						10/116			
144 spread in top E.side enc. ditch	61/824		37/1702				5/64	17/340		
145 wheel rut	6/12						1/2	2/14		
154/158 N-S linear	9/64		9/490				2/52	8/132		
166 wheel ruts	1/4						4/152			
Gp. 171 N-S linear	1/2		13/302		2/18		1/20	3/30		2 Fe
172 E-W linear			1/4				3/6			
187 curvilinear	1/26		6/256					4/28		
188 N-S linear	1/530									
190 N-S linear								1/12		
204 pit	177/1912		154/11038	1/66				75/2146		
207 E-W linear		4/22	1/22				14/202	5/122		
214 spread in top E.side enc. ditch	100/1362		21/1384		1/6			44/1148		1 Cu
234 spread in top E.side enc. ditch	64/266		36/2963					35/542		1 Cu
236 wheel rut								1/196		
237 wheel rut	1/4						9/64			
244 E-W linear							1/14	1/4		
249 wheel rut								1/16		
Gp. 250 nat. feature	1/2		7/606	2/100			2/16	9/84		
257 E-W linear	14/58							1/10		
262 E-W linear	15/138						3/26			
272 N side enc. ditch	50/210		8/658				2/48	31/330		
Gp. 276 N-S linear	4/18							3/22		
Gp. 277 E side enc. ditch	11/92		26/1783					6/218		1 Fe
279 E-W linear	16/137						30/218	1/4		
Unstratified	11/86		4/270		3/84	1/29	33/644	33/440		2 Cu
Total	**1148/9749**	**407/2776**	**376/25566**	**7/184**	**9/154**	**9/475**	**178/2559**	**489/9365**	**3/3616**	**35 Fe; 4 Cu**

Table 2: Pottery Fabric Groups and Wares by Feature

Number of fragments/weight (g)

Feature	Grog	E155	Sandy	BB1	Flint	Ox	Samian	Fine	TOTAL
ENCLOSURE DITCH (upper fills)									
E side - seg.214	13/284	29/826	2/9						44/1119
E side - seg.:234	13/260	13/172	8/97		1/4				35/533
E side - seg. 144	3/70	12/244	3/10						18/324
N side: 272	7/84	7/158	17/100						31/342
E side: 277	3/166	2/16	1/36						6/218
LINEARS									
Linear 40	3/28	6/158	11/58	2/12					22/256
Linear 95	3/70	5/96	4/72	5/80			2/6		19/324
Linear 99			2/28						2/28
Linear 133	12/104	3/16	4/28						19/148
Linear 154/158	5/82	1/8	1/18		1/16				8/124
Linear 171		1/8	2/22						3/30
Curvilinear 187			4/28						4/28
Linear 190			1/12						1/12
Linear 207	1/52		2/8	2/62					5/122
Linear 244			1/4						1/4
Linear 257		1/10							1/10
Linear 276	1/10		2/8						3/18
Linear 279	1/4								1/4
PITS									
Pit 30		2/30	10/84	3/74					15/188
Pit 78	3/48	29/486	12/104			1/2		1/14fl	46/654
Pit 105		8/162	1/2						9/164
Pit 115	12/264	30/1132	1/46				6/58		49/1500
Pit 145	1/6		1/8						2/14
Pit 204	15/238	39/1490	19/318					2/10	75/2056
OTHER FEATURES/CONTEXTS									
Grave 54	6/46	7/120	10/58				1/4		24/228
Wheel rut 118			2/10						2/10
Wheel rut 236		1/196							1/196
Wheel rut 249			1/16						1/16
Nat. feature 250	3/29		5/45			1/8			9/82
Unstratified	20/320	1/10	5/76	5/28					31/434
Total	**125/2197**	**197/5338**	**131/1269**	**17/256**	**2/20**	**2/10**	**9/68**	**3/24**	**486/9182**

Table 3: Worked flint

phase	**cut**	**fill**	*flake*	*flake frag.*	*burnt flake*	*blade*	*core trimmimg debris*	*core*	*tool*	**Total**
Neo./B.A.	137	139/143	4			1				5
	172	173	3							3
	262	266/267	26			4				30
	66	67	3			1				4
R.B.	-	-	96	1	2	1	4	3		107
Undated	-	-	11						1	12
Total			143	1	2	7	4	3	1	161

Table 4: Summary of Animal Species Distribution by Feature

(number of fragments)

Phase	Feature	horse	cattle	sheep/ goat	pig	deer	cattle size	sheep size	mammal	dog	bird	small mammal	eel	amph	Total
PREHIST	009 E-W linear	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
	019 pit	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	066 pit	-	-	1		-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	137 E-W linear	-	2	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
	262 E-W linear	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	Gp. 280 ring ditch	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Total	**0**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**7**	**2**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**21**
	percentage		14.3	4.8	4.8		33.3	9.5	14.3						
ERB	105 pit	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	115 pit	-	7	7	-	-	1	2	10	-	-	12*	2*	2*	27+16*
	133 E-W linear	-	1	3	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
	144 spread in top E.side enc. ditch	-	4+2*	13+11*	1	-	2+3*	4+5*	27*	-	-	-	-	-	24+48*
	154/158 N-S linear	1	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
	204 pit	2*	14*	2+26*	2*	-	1+7*	7*	16*	-	1*	11*	1*	5*	3+92*
	214 spread in top E.side enc. ditch	2	9	30+2*	6+1*	1	8	19+1*	8*	-	-	8*	1*	-	75+21*
	234 spread in top E.side enc. ditch	-	1	8	2	-	14	8	9	-	-	-	-	-	50
	257 E-W linear	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	272 N.side enc. ditch	1	4	13	-	-	7	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	31
	Gp. 276 N-S linear	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Gp. 277 E. side enc. ditch	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	8
	279 E-W linear	-	2	3	-	-	6	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	16
	Total	**6**	**56**	**122**	**12**	**1**	**55**	**60**	**77**	**0**	**1**	**31**	**4**	**7**	**432**
	percentage	1.4	13.1	28.3	2.8	0.2	11.9	14.1	18	0	0.2	7.3	0.9	1.6	
LRB	30 pit	-	6	13	-	-	10	7	1	2	1	-	-	17	57
	Gp. 40 N-S linear	1	3	10	-	-	6	21	2	-	-	-	-	-	43
	78 pit	1	13	11	5	-	43	3	18	-	-	-	-	-	94
	95 E-W linear	-	20	26	1	-	14	34	20	7	-	-	-	-	122
	Total	**2**	**42**	**60**	**6**	**0**	**73**	**65**	**41**	**9**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**17**	**316**
	percentage	0.6	13.3	18.7	1.9	0	23.2	20.6	13	2.9	0.3	0	0	5.4	

Phase	Feature	horse	cattle	sheep/ goat	pig	deer	cattle size	sheep size	mammal	dog	bird	small mammal	eel	amph	Total
RB u/s	54 grave	-	4	10+6*	-	-	3*	2+1*	4+6*	1+1*	-	-	-	-	21+17*
	96 E-W linear	-	1	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
	099 E-W linear	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	187 curvilinear	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Gp. 171 N-S linear	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Total	**0**	**7**	**17**	**0**	**0**	**8**	**6**	**10**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**50**
	percentage	0	14	34	0	0	16	12	20	4	0	0	0	0	
unphased	045 wheel rut			1											1
	118 wheel rut	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	166 wheel ruts	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	188 N-S linear	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	237 wheel rut	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Gp. 250 coluvium	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Total	**0**	**1**	**3**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7**
	percentage	0	14.3	42.9	0	14.3	0	28.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Overall total	**8**	**109**	**203**	**19**	**2**	**143**	**135**	**131**	**11**	**3**	**31**	**4**	**24**	**826**
	pecentage	**1**	**13.2**	**24.5**	**2.3**	**0.2**	**17.3**	**16.4**	**15.8**	**1.3**	**0.4**	**3.7**	**0.5**	**2.9**	

KEY:
*- material from floatation/sieving material; Prehist - prehistoric; ERB early Romano-British; LRB late Romano-British; RB u/s Romano-British non-specific phasing
amph - amphibian

Table 5: Charred Plant Remains

Feature		Spread 186	Pit 204	Pit 115
Context		214	206	135
Sample (all 10 litres)		1010	1011	1008
Cultivated	**Common name**			
Triticum cf *spelta* - grains	spelt	5	3	35
T. spelta L. - glume bases		6	6	66
T. cf *dicoccum* - grain	emmer	1		
T. dicoccum/spelta - glume bases	emmer/spelt	15	18	75
Triticum sp(p). - grains	indeterminate wheat	8	1	145*
Hordeum vulgare L. - grains	hulled barley	11 (1)	4	340*
H. vulgare - rachis internode fr.		1		
Avena sp(p). - grains	indeterminate oats	3 (3)		14 (3)
Avena sp(p) - awn frags.		70	25	40
Avena fatua L. - floret bases	wild oats			2
Cerealia - grains + frags (in ml.)	unidentified cereals	12 + 1.5ml	4 + 1ml	6 + 25ml.
Arable &/or Waste				
Fumaria sp.	fumitory	1	1	
Chenopodium album L.	fat hen	2		5
Atriplex prostrata/patula	spear-leaved/common orache	2	1	1
Stellaria media/neglecta	common/greater chickweed	2		3
Silene sp.	campion			1
Polygonum aviculare L.	knotgrass		1	
Fallopia convolvulus (L.) Á.Löve	black bindweed	(1)	1	2
Rumex sp.	dock		1	4
Brassica sp.	cabbage/mustard etc.			10
Vicia tetrasperma (L.) Schreber	smooth tare			11
V. tetrasperma/hirsuta	smooth/hairy tare	2		9
Vicia/Lathyrus sp.	vetch/vetchling	2		10
Trifolium cf *pratense*	red clover	2	2	4
Trifolium/Medicago sp.	clover/medick			2
Lithospermum arvense L.	corn gromwell	24 (1)	8	39
Plantago lanceolata L.	ribwort plantain	1		2
Veronica cf *serpylifolia*	thyme-leaved speedwell			1
Galium aparine L.	cleavers	6	4	6
Valerianella dentata (L.) Pollich	narrow-fruited corn-salad	2		
cf *Artemisia vulgaris*	mugwort			8
Tripleurospermum inodorum (L.) Schultz-Bip	scentless mayweed		1	
Festuca/Lolium sp.	fescue/rye grass	2	8	11
cf *Alopecurus/Phleum*	foxtail/cat's tail	1		
Bromus cf *secalinus*	brome grass, chess		1 (1)	6
Poaceae indet.	unidentified grasses -			
	small	3		2
	medium	2		3
Unidentified seeds		4	1	5

Key: ( ) = identification uncertain
* = estimated

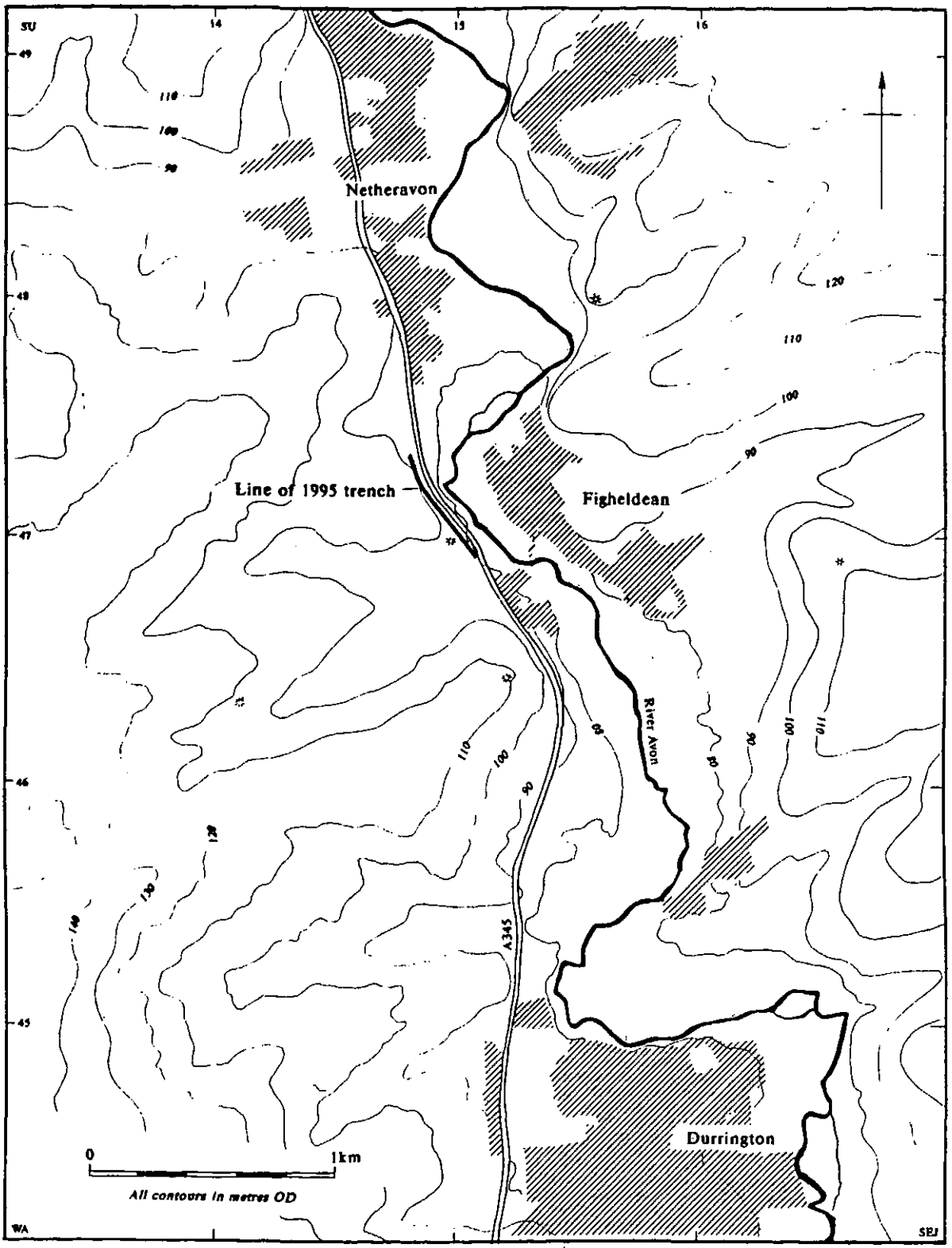

SU
14
15
16
49
48
47
46
45
Netheravon
Line of 1995 trench
Figheldean
River Avon
A345
Durrington
0
1km
All contours in metres OD
WA
SEJ

Fig. 1

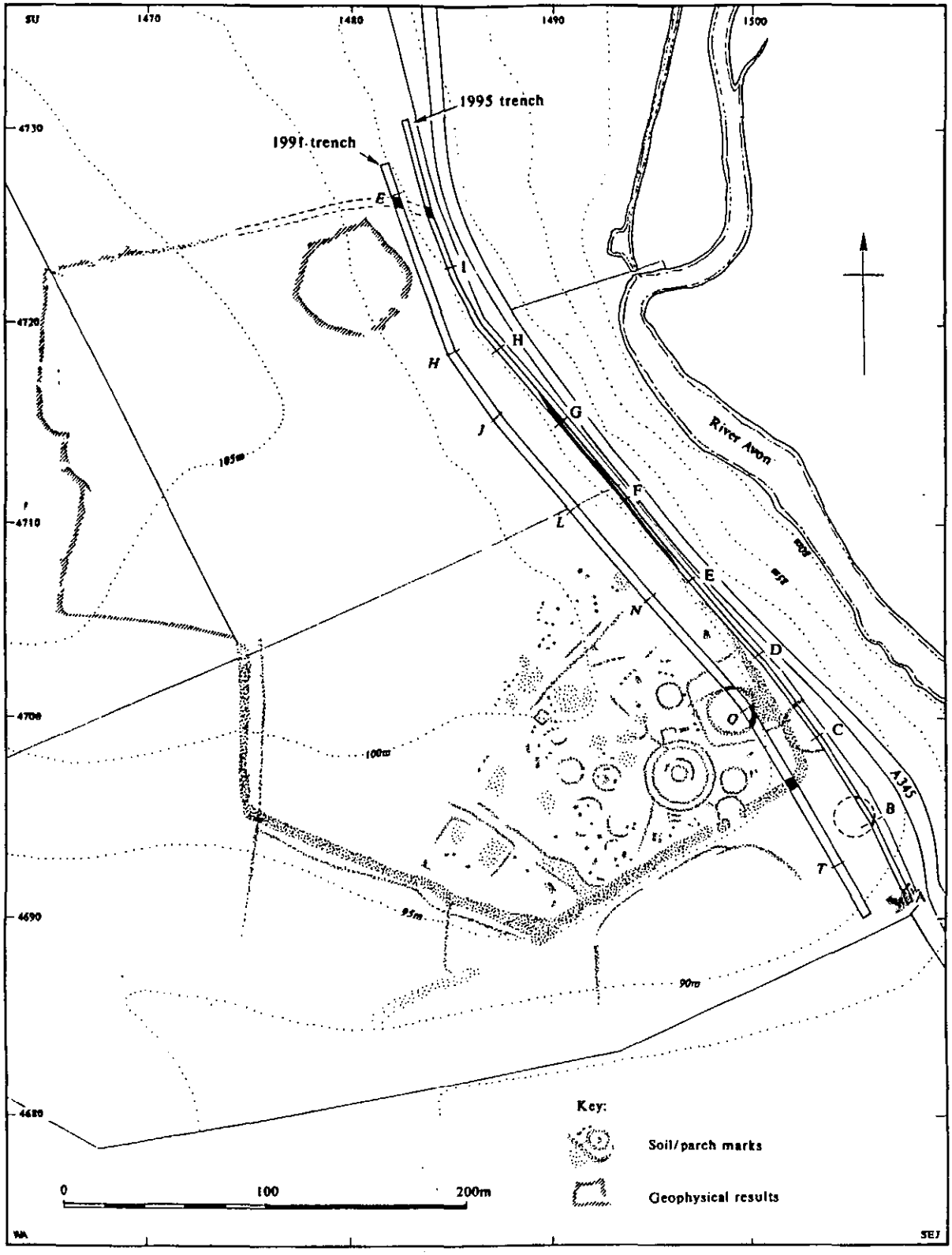

SU
1470
1480
1490
1500
4730
4720
4710
4700
4690
4680
1995 trench
1991 trench
E
I
H
H
J
G
F
L
E
N
D
O
C
B
T
A
A345
River Avon
105m
100m
95m
90m
Key:
Soil/parch marks
Geophysical results
0
100
200m
SE7

Fig. 2

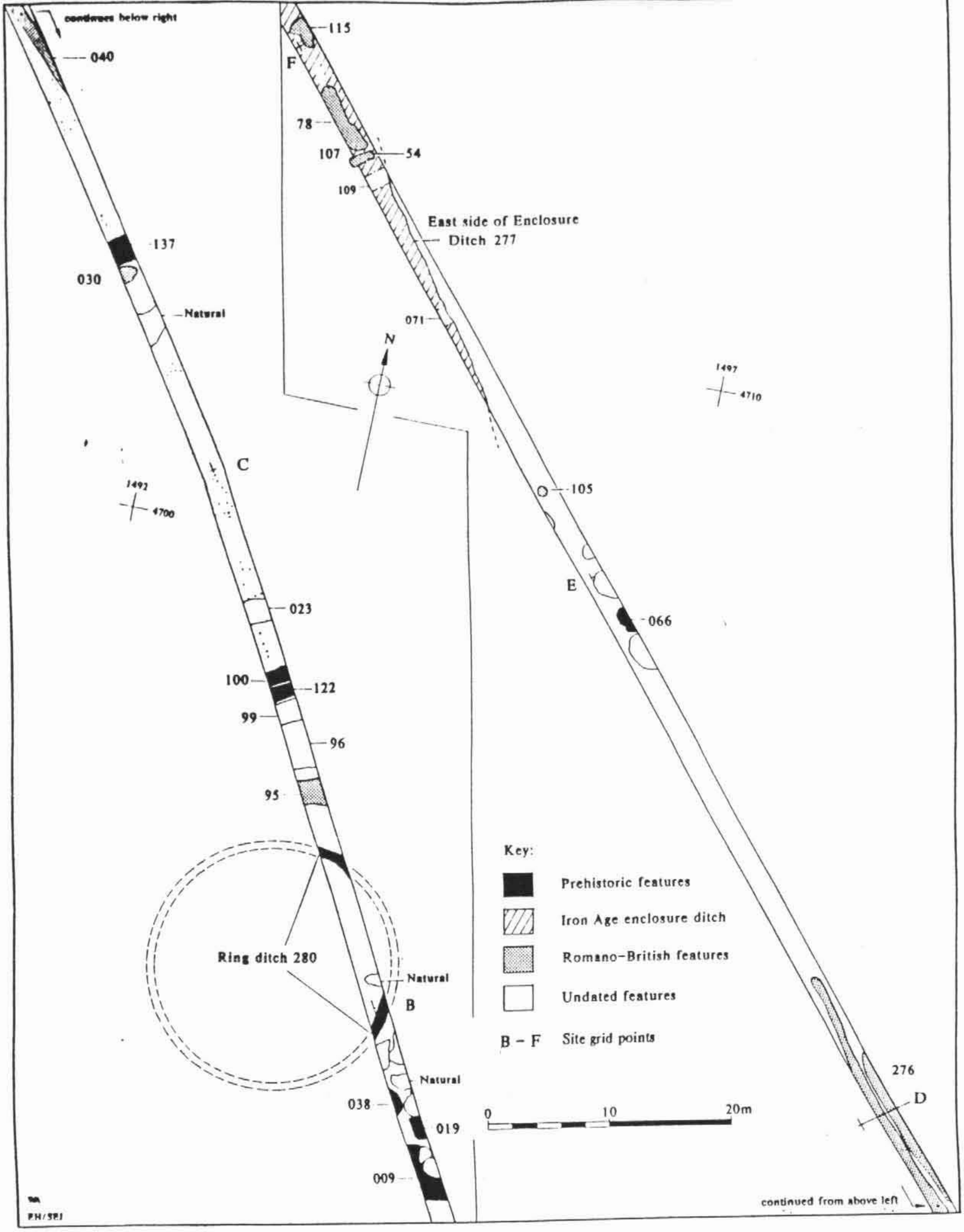

continues below right
040
115
F
78
107
54
109
East side of Enclosure
Ditch 277
137
030
Natural
071
N
1497
4710
C
1492
4700
105
O
E
023
066
100
122
99
96
95
Key:
Prehistoric features
Iron Age enclosure ditch
Romano-British features
Undated features
B – F Site grid points
Ring ditch 280
Natural
B
Natural
038
019
009
0
10
20m
276
D
PH/SBJ
continued from above left

Fig. 3

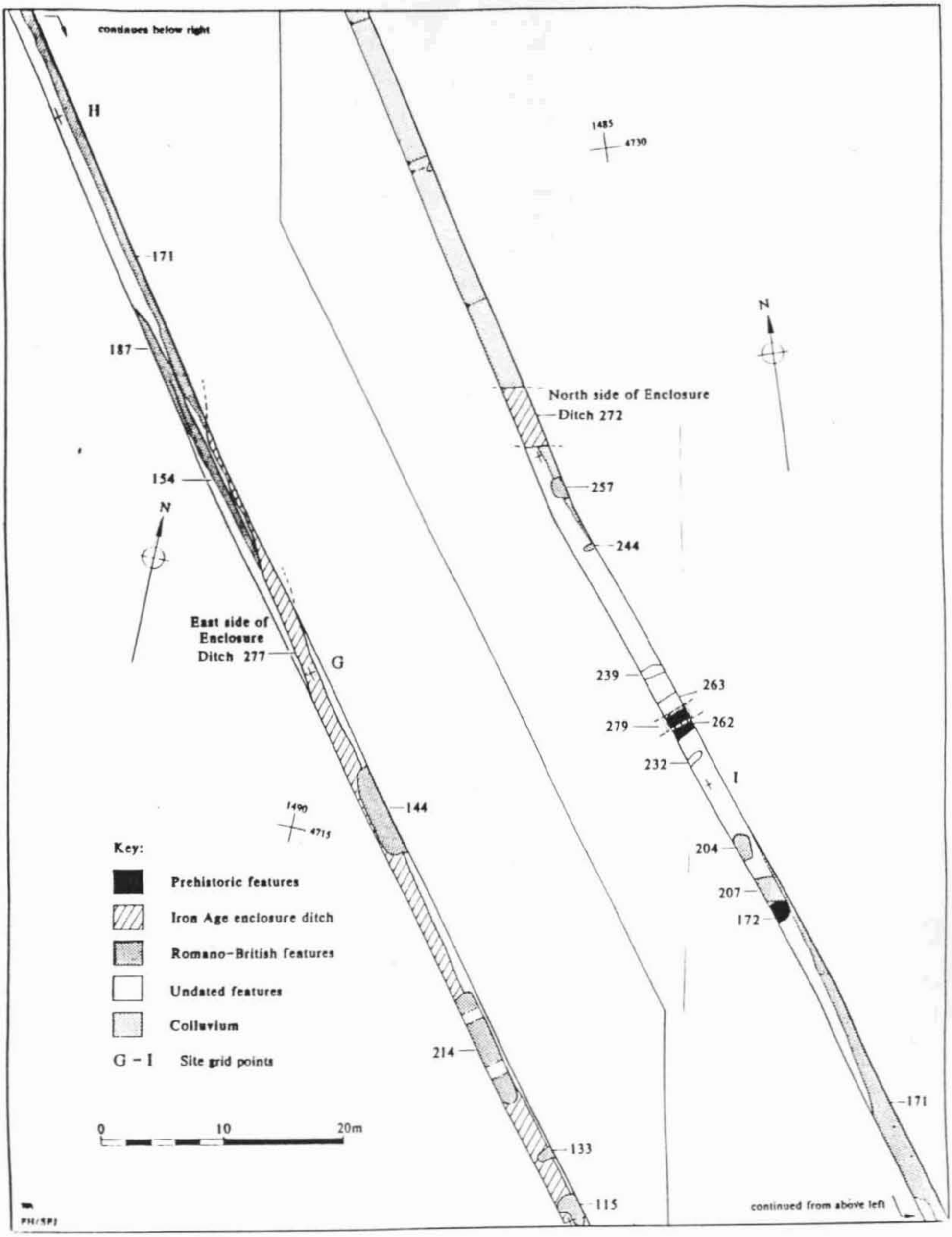

continues below right
H
171
187
154
N
East side of Enclosure Ditch 277
G
144
1490
4715
Key:
Prehistoric features
Iron Age enclosure ditch
Romano-British features
Undated features
Colluvium
G - I Site grid points
0
10
20m
214
133
115
1485
4730
North side of Enclosure Ditch 272
257
244
239
263
279
262
232
I
204
207
172
171
continued from above left

Fig. 4

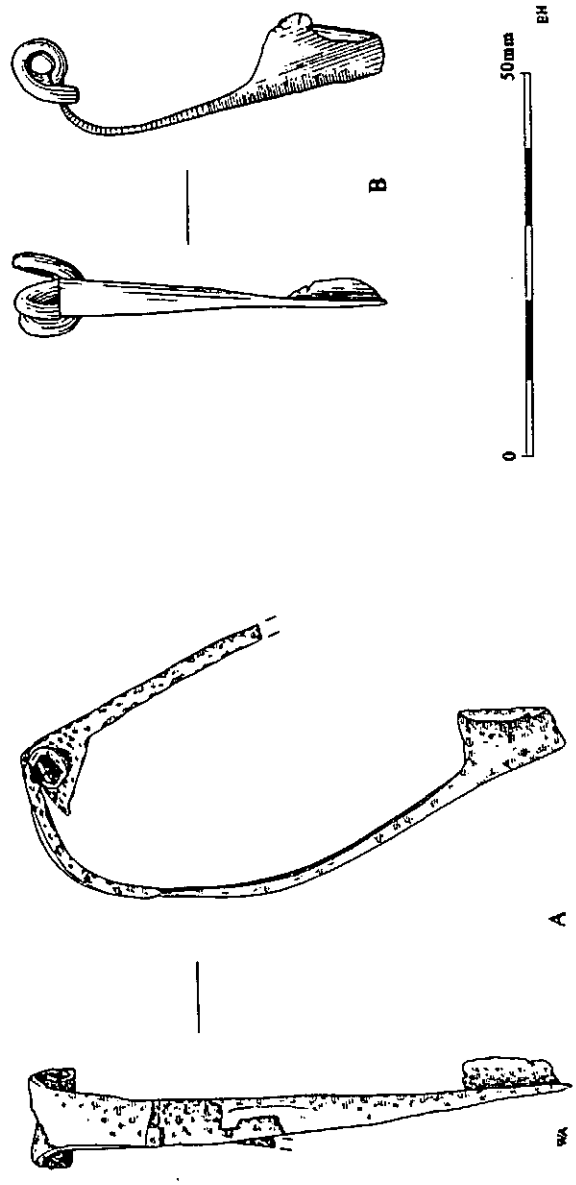
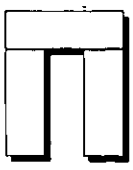


Fig. 5



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