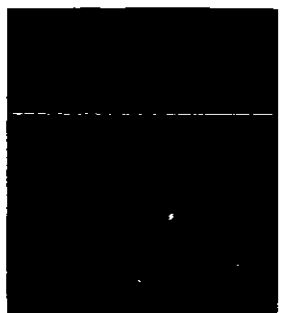


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Archaeology



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**NETHERAVON MAINS REPLACEMENT,
FIGHELDEAN, WILTSHIRE**

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**Assessment report on the results of the archaeological excavation and watching
brief including proposals for post-excavation analysis and publication**

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**NETHERAVON MAINS REPLACEMENT,
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SUMMARY

In August and September 1995, Wessex Archaeology undertook the archaeological excavation of a c. 500m length of 2m wide trench adjacent to the western side of the A345, between the villages of Figcheldean and Netheravon, Wiltshire (SU 1507 4691 to SU 1482 4734). This excavation work, and an associated archaeological watching brief, was required due to water mains replacement works being undertaken by Wessex Water. The proposed pipeline route ran through the eastern edge of a known Iron Age and Romano-British enclosed settlement. The archaeological work was commissioned and financed by Wessex Water and undertaken according to a brief supplied by the Archaeology Service of Wiltshire County Council.

The excavation and watching brief produced evidence of activity dating from the later Neolithic (3000-2400 BC) period to the later Romano-British period (3rd-4th century AD), although the principal phase of activity appears to have been during the early part of the Romano-British period (1st-early 2nd century AD). The excavated features were similar in nature to those found in previous archaeological investigations within the enclosure, comprising mostly linear features including the eastern and northern sides of the main enclosure ditch, a number of north/south and east/west aligned ditches of various sizes and profiles, and at least one prehistoric ring-ditch.

A number of pits, both sub-rectangular and rounded in plan, were revealed, and several of those in the northern half of the trench were shown to be cut into the upper fill of the enclosure ditch. A Romano-British inhumation grave was excavated, and a probable second adjacent grave was recorded. Several groups of stake-holes were noted in the southern half of the trench, whilst wheel-ruts of uncertain date were noted at intervals along the northern half.

Artefactual evidence of later Neolithic/Bronze Age activity is provided by a small but important assemblage of worked flint, the majority of which was recovered from ditch fills, although a few pieces came from pits. Material of definite Iron Age date is limited to a single fragment of pottery. ⁷⁰⁰

The Romano-British artefact assemblage predominantly comprises pottery of a similar typology to that noted in the earlier excavations. Fragments of ceramic building material and fired clay used for structural purposes were found in several of the pits, two adjacent ones of which each contained an early Romano-British bow-brooch. These are two of the few pieces of metalwork recovered. A group of four of the early Romano-British pits contained rich, carbonised, organic remains, the analysis of which may provide information pertaining to agriculture processes.

This assessment report sets out the preliminary results of the excavation and presents proposals for post-excavation work leading to the production of a publication report. It is intended that the report be submitted as an article for acceptance in the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, and that the excavation archive be deposited with the Wiltshire County Museum Service at the Museum of Salisbury and South Wiltshire, in Salisbury.

SU 1482 NW 155

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The archaeological investigations were managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Mick Rawlings and directed by Jacqueline I. McKinley, with assistance from Julie Lovell. This assessment report has been compiled by Jacqueline I. McKinley with contributions from Lorraine Mepham (artefacts), Michael Allen (animal bone, shell, plant remains) and Sarah F. Wyles (plant remains). The figures were prepared by Erica Hemming.

NETHERAVON MAINS REPLACEMENT, FIGHELDEAN, WILTSHIRE.

Assessment report on the results of the archaeological excavation and watching brief including proposals for post-excavation analysis and publication

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 In August and September 1995, Wessex Archaeology carried out an archaeological excavation and watching brief along a stretch of land adjacent to the western side of the A345, close to the villages of Figcheldean and Netheravon, Wiltshire (SU 1507 4691 to SU 1482 4734, Figure 1). The programme of archaeological investigation and recording was commissioned by Wessex Water in connection with works to replace the water mains supplying the village of Netheravon.

1.1.2 The proposed pipeline route (Figure 2) was aligned through the eastern edge of a known Iron Age and Romano-British enclosed settlement, parallel to, and 15-24m to the east of, a similar trench excavated in 1991 during construction of a gas pipeline (Graham and Newman 1993).

1.1.3 A written brief for the required archaeological input into the water main pipeline programme was provided by the Archaeology Section of Wiltshire County Council. This brief included provision for excavation work and for a watching brief, along with assessment and post-excavation analyses, and publication of the results. In response to this brief a written detailed project specification was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (Wessex Archaeology 1995).

1.2 Archaeological background

1.2.1 The archaeological background to the excavation is presented in detail in the publication of the previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity (Graham and Newman 1993) and can be summarised as follows:

1.2.2 There are a number of extant round barrows on the higher ground, and aerial photographs show the existence of at least one tumulus (SMR No. SU14NW 612) and four other ploughed-out barrows (SMR Nos. SU14NW 613-6), one of which was investigated during the 1991 excavations (*op cit.*, fig. 4). An extensive group of cropmarks (SMR No. SU14NW 655) noted in 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 to 4th century AD rural Romano-British settlement contained within an Iron Age enclosure, corroborating the evidence from the aerial photographs.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

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

2.1.2 Following on-site discussions between representatives of Wessex Water, Wessex Archaeology and the Wiltshire County Council Archaeological Service, the following methodology was agreed:

2.2 Excavation

2.2.1 The excavation was to encompass the area within the known enclosure as shown in the 1991 excavations (*op cit.*, fig. 4) and was to be situated along the eastern side of the previously stripped easement. A 2m wide trench along a 498.5m stretch of land from SU 1507 4691 to SU 1482 4734 was stripped of subsoil to the surface of the chalk natural, using a machine with a toothless bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

2.2.2 Stripping was to a maximum depth of 1.20m and the removed subsoil was stored on the adjacent section of easement from which the topsoil had already been stripped. The depth of the subsoil removed varied from almost nil at the southern part of the trench to the maximum of 1.20m in much of the northern half of the trench.

2.2.3 The preliminary assessment of the site following the subsoil stripping indicated:-

- the presence of a large number of linear features, some crossing the trench approximately east/west and others running along the length of the trench approximately north/south
- a number of pits, both sub-rounded and sub-rectangular, occurring both individually and in groups
- at least one inhumation grave, extending west beyond the 2m strip
- narrow wheel and/or plough ruts running along the length of the trench
- an apparent lack of the natural chalk in the central area of the trench
- an increasing depth of colluvium at the north end of the trench

2.2.4 A site grid was established in a continuous line along the length of the trench, tied into known points at 50m intervals. This was later set to the National Grid. A pre-excavation plan of the site was made at 1:50 scale following hand-cleaning of the site, and a full photographic record of the overall trench was taken.

- 2.2.5 All features located within or across the central part of the 2m strip were excavated. Those linear features crossing the trench were subject to excavation of a minimum 0.6m central slot, and a minimum 10% sample of linear features running along the trench was also excavated. All linear feature intersections and terminals were excavated. Where non-linear features were intercutting, sufficient of the features were excavated to ascertain their inter-relationship even where this extended beyond the central part of the 2m strip. 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.
- 2.2.6 Burials were subject to 100% excavation even where this necessitated extending beyond the 2m strip. A Home Office Licence (Ref. BCR/95/5/6/2) was obtained to cover removal of human remains.
- 2.2.7 All excavated deposits containing carbonised remains were bulk sampled for environmental data.
- 2.2.8 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology *pro forma* recording system. Sections of all excavated features were drawn at 1:10, with post-excavation plans at 1:20. A site datum in metres OD was established by traverse to the bench mark on the parish church in the village of Figheldean, and levels were taken on all features. A full photographic record was maintained using black and white negatives and colour transparencies.

2.3 Watching Brief

- 2.3.1 In those sections of the pipeline route defined within section 2.1.1 and lying to the north and south of the excavation area, the pipe-laying operations were to be subject to a watching brief.
- 2.3.2 The cutting of the pipetrench by machine was observed by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Any archaeological features or deposits were recorded in plan and section in line with the methods outlined above (section 2.2), but not further excavated.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The location of features is presented in Figure 3. Table 1 summarises the type of features and deposits, and the number in each category by period and in total.
- 3.1.2 The maximum width to which any feature was excavated was 2m. Only a 0.6-0.7m wide slot was removed from most of the east/west linear features. The depth of excavated features varied greatly, and the shallow depth of topsoil

and subsoil in the southern half of the trench was of primary consideration. Here, the minimum of 0.3m topsoil and negligible subsoil, particularly in the southern-most 100m length of the trench, had provided little protection for the underlying features which had consequently been severely truncated.

Table 1: Summary of features and deposits.

Feature Type	Neo/ BA	LIA	E.R-B	L.R-B	unspec. R-B	u/d	Total
Approx. east/west linear features	4	1	5		2	7	19
Approx. north/south linear features	1		1		5	3	10
Ring-ditch	1				?1		2
Sub-rounded pits	?3		1	1	1	10	16
Sub-rectangular pits	?2		3				5
Graves					2		2
Spreads			2				
Stakehole groups						9	9
Wheel and plough ruts			?2			2	4
Natural features					1	2	3
Total	11	1	14	1	12	34	70

Abbreviations: Neo=Neolithic; BA=Bronze Age; LIA=Late Iron Age; E.R-B=Earlier Romano-British; L.R-B=Later Romano-British; unspec.R-B=unspecified Romano-British; u/d=undated

3.2 Linear Features

3.2.1 Forty-six segments of thirty-one linear features were excavated. Dating evidence was recovered from twenty-one of the features; including six of probable Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date, one Late Iron Age, six Early Romano-British and eight of unspecified Romano-British date.

3.2.2 *East/west linear features*

The majority of the linears (nineteen) were aligned approximately east/west across the trench and included five with terminals. Those of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date, including one terminal, were of similar size and shape; all having steep sides and broad, flat bases. The fills varied between one and seven layers depending on the level of truncation, and comprised tip-lines of varying thicknesses from both sides of the ditch, each composed of dense chalk rubble of varying grades. One other ditch could be dated to this period by its size, shape and similarity of fills with the other ditches, though no dating evidence was recovered from it.

3.2.3 The east/west ditches dated to the earlier Romano-British phase include the south side of the enclosure ditch, the size and shape of which appears to correspond with the segment excavated in 1991 (Graham and Newman 1993). Three of the remaining four earlier Romano-British ditches comprised terminals. These and the other Romano-British and undated linears, including one further terminal, were of varying depths (maximum 0.7m), with 'U' or 'V'-shaped profiles. Most had one or two level fills, although a few showed tip-lines from either side. Graded chalk rubble of varying density comprised the fills in most cases.

3.2.4 *North/south linear features*

Ten north/south aligned linears were excavated. The single Bronze Age example was too close against the eastern trench edge to ascertain its full depth and profile, but the excavated segment was steep-sided and apparently flat-bottomed, and was filled with lenses of varying depth from the western side. Artefacts of earlier Romano-British date were recovered from the east side of the enclosure ditch. This crossed the central area of the trench in a obtuse diagonal, the upper fills being cut by numerous pits, ditches and graves and incorporating several dumps of rich, burnt, organic material. Other Romano-British north/south linears were relatively narrow and shallow, mostly 'U'-shaped in profile, with one or two fills, mostly level.

3.2.5 *Curvilinear features*

Two ditch segments were excavated which formed part of the eastern arc of a projected 24m diameter ring-ditch. The flat-based, 'U'-shaped cuts had two fills, the primary and major fill being angled from the inner-side of the ditch. No finds were recovered but the form and location of the feature suggest it is one of a number of Bronze Age ring ditches along this part of the ridge. A segment of Romano-British ditch also had a curvilinear plan, but the presence of several intercutting ditches in this area masked its extent on the surface.

3.3 Pits

3.3.1 Twenty of twenty-one recorded pits were subject to partial excavation. Dating evidence was recovered from eleven pits, indicating that five were probably Late Neolithic/Bronze Age, four earlier Romano-British, one later Romano-British and one other of unspecified Romano-British date. The majority of pits (sixteen) were sub-rounded, with five rectangular or sub-rectangular, of various depths and dimensions.

3.3.2 The pits from which artefacts indicated a Late Neolithic/Bronze Age date were all fairly shallow with single chalk rubble fills. These pits fall within two clusters in the southern half of the trench, together with a number of undated pits of similar form.

3.3.3 A variety of earlier Romano-British artefacts was recovered from four pits, including three large, relatively shallow features clustered in the central area of the trench and cut into the upper fill of the enclosure ditch. The pits had between one and three level fills, and in three of the pits a single fill comprised a rich deposit of charred organic material. A deep later Romano-British pit had three level fills and a large number of artefacts including animal bone, cob daub and pottery.

3.3.4 The remaining undated pits were generally shallow with single chalk rubble fills. The nature of these pits suggests a possible prehistoric date.

3.4 Graves

3.4.1 The extended, supine skeleton of an adult, with the head to the east, was excavated from a grave cut into the upper fill of the enclosure ditch. Iron hobnails were recovered from the planter surface of the right foot and a variety of redeposited earlier Romano-British artefacts were found in the backfill of the grave. Fragments of disarticulated bone were also found in the backfill, and the articulated left upper limb bones of an earlier burial were found in the remains of a second grave cut on the north-west side of the undisturbed grave.

3.5 Other archaeological deposits

3.5.1 Two adjacent spreads of organic-rich material were excavated from the upper part of the north/south enclosure ditch in the central area of the trench. The contexts were shallow and there were no apparent cuts, the material appears to have been dumped in the top of the ditch fill sequence. Artefacts recovered from the fills suggest an earlier Romano-British date, and in general the archaeological components were very similar to those noted from the three large, shallow pits cut into the fill of the enclosure ditch, located to the south of the spreads (see section 3.3.3).

3.6 Stake holes

3.6.1 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 Romano-British features.

3.7 Wheel and plough ruts

3.7.1 A set of undated parallel wheel ruts, which in places showed evidence of 'cobbling', were noted in the central area of the trench. A single plough rut extended along much of the trench.

3.8 Natural features

3.8.1 The northern 80m of the trench cut across an area of colluvium which overlay the natural gentle east-sloping gradient of the land down to the river Avon. The colluvium had partly masked the northern side of the enclosure ditch. Four other features were investigated in this area are believed to be tree bowls.

4 THE ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All finds collected during excavation have been cleaned and quantified by material type, both by number and (where appropriate) by weight within each context. The finds were then briefly scanned to ascertain the range, nature and date of the artefacts. This information is discussed by material type below. Overall finds totals are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Overall finds totals

Material type	No.	Wt (g)
Animal Bone	1132	9612
Human Bone	407	2776
Burnt Flint	376	25566
Burnt Stone	7	184
CBM	9	154
Fired Clay	9	475
Worked Flint	175	2534
Pottery	489	9365
<i>Late Iron Age</i>	1	-
<i>Romano-British</i>	487	-
<i>Post-medieval</i>	1	-
Shell	3	10
Stone	3	3616
Iron	16	-
Copper alloy	4	-

4.2 Burnt flint and stone

4.2.1 A relatively large quantity of burnt flint was recovered (c. 25.5kg), although most of it is probably redeposited. There is some correlation with the occurrence of the worked flint. There is also a small amount of burnt stone.

4.3 Ceramic building material

4.3.1 Very little ceramic building material was recovered, most of which is probably Romano-British with the exception of context 1 (subsoil) where some is post-medieval. All of the fragments are small and abraded, and are almost certainly redeposited, possibly from a nearby site.

4.4 Fired clay

4.4.1 A small quantity of structural daub/cob was recovered from two contexts, plus one object (part of a disc, similar to examples found during the previous excavation).

4.5 Worked flint

4.5.1 This comprises a small Late Neolithic/Bronze Age assemblage which is moderately interesting, as much of the material is quite fresh. It seems to consist mainly of primary trimming debris and there is some potential for refitting.

4.6 Pottery

4.6.1 This is almost all Romano-British, with only one sherd which could be earlier and one post-medieval sherd from the subsoil. The Romano-British material is mainly earlier (1st to early 2nd century AD), some could even be pre-conquest. There is also a smaller component of later Romano-British material (3rd to 4th century AD). The fabrics should correlate with those already defined in the previous excavation (Graham and Newman 1993), but it is interesting to note that most of the current material appears to be earlier Romano-British whereas the previous assemblage was equally divided between the earlier and later parts of this period.

4.7 Worked/utilised stone

4.7.1 One fragment of quern and two other ?chalk 'blocks' were found, these latter ones were probably utilised though not apparently worked.

4.8 Metalwork

4.8.1 The total metalwork assemblage comprises two brooches, one copper alloy ring, nine hobnails, three nails; one ?dog, two fragments of horseshoe and two coins. All of these items are certain or likely to be Romano-British in date, with the exception of one modern coin.

5 THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Human bone

5.1.1 A Home Office Licence was acquired to cover the excavation of human remains comprising; an almost complete skeleton from a grave, elements of the left upper limb from an articulated skeleton from an earlier adjacent grave which had been partially disturbed by the grave containing the almost complete skeleton, and fragments of disarticulated upper limb bone from the fill of a ditch. All the contexts appear to be of Romano-British date and all of the bone relates to adult individuals.

5.2 Animal bone

5.2.2 Animal bone preservation was good but fragmentation was relatively high, as indicated by the fairly high proportion of unidentified fragments. The relatively small animal bone assemblage of about 1000 fragments from 68

individual contexts was rapidly scanned to indicate the basic species representation by phase and faunal element.

5.2.2 The majority of the assemblage was recovered from features of Romano-British date and was typically dominated by sheep/goat and cattle with some pig. No horse or deer was positively identified in assessment, but may be present in the large and small mammal categories. Overall the assemblage is similar to that recovered during the previous excavation.

5.2.3 There was a relatively large number of sheep/goat mandibles from a few selected contexts, and teeth and long bones were common, but ribs were rare.

5.3 Charred plant remains

5.3.1 *Processing of samples*

Four bulk samples of 10 litres each, taken from three pits and a shallow deposit in the top of the north/south aligned enclosure ditch, were processed to ascertain the preservation and potential for the analysis of plant remains. All of the sampled contexts were of earlier Romano-British date.

5.3.2 The samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 4mm, 2mm and 1mm and then dried. The coarse fractions (<4mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned under a x10-x30 stereo-binocular microscope and presence of charred remains quantified in order to determine the potential of the site to produce further information from such remains.

5.3.3 *Results*

The size of flots produced by the four samples varied; one was considerably larger than average and two were smaller. There was generally c. 25% rooty material within the flots but only sparse quantities of unburnt weed seeds which can be indicators of contamination. All four samples contained small mammal bones and molluscs.

5.3.4 *The pits*

All three pits contained very high quantities of burnt grain and good numbers of burnt weed seeds. Two of the pits also contained some chaff and charcoal fragments. The third pit, however, produced large numbers of chaff and charcoal fragments as well as a small quantity of pea/bean fragments. The chaff fragments are particularly noteworthy as they are often under-represented in the flot element of a sample.

5.3.5 *The shallow deposit*

The sample produced a very high quantity of burnt grain fragments and a large number of burnt weed seeds. A small amount of chaff and charcoal fragments were also observed.

5.4 Coprolite

- 5.4.1** 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 is probably a sheep dropping, and thus compliments the animal bone records.

5.5 Marine shells

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

6 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

6.1 Specific potential of the artefactual evidence

- 6.1.1** The artefactual assemblage complements and enhances material evidence recovered from the excavation in 1991, with finds ranging in date from Late Neolithic/Bronze Age to post-medieval.

- 6.1.2** The potential of the artefactual evidence is largely chronological, particularly the pottery assemblage, which is the primary means of dating many of the excavated features. Other chronological indicators include the worked flint, the unabraded nature of which would suggest the presence of undisturbed deposits. Despite the lack of contemporaneous pottery, the worked flint provides sufficient evidence for activity in the area during the Late Neolithic/Bronze Age.

6.2 Specific potential of the environmental evidence

- 6.2.1** The animal bone assemblage is fairly small and in a good state of preservation, if somewhat fragmented. Overall the assemblage will enlarge and enhance the information recovered from the previous excavations.

- 6.2.2** The preservation of charred plant remains (particularly from the pits) is good, and the samples themselves have the potential to provide information about the local Romano-British farming economy. The small area of excavation does not enable us to relate these to a known settlement, and analysis of charred remains from pits following the previous excavation seem to indicate a similar suite of information. However, the samples recently assessed contain a more diverse charred assemblage with peas/beans which were not previously recorded. The analysis of these remains will therefore complement and expand upon the previous findings, but will probably not significantly enhance our understanding of the overall farming economy of the settlement.

6.3 Overall potential and importance of the archaeological evidence

6.3.1 The excavated material adds to our understanding of earlier human activity in this area as demonstrated by the results of the 1991 excavations and by the aerial photographs. The significant position of the trench, on the eastern margins of the known site, enhances our understanding of the extent of activity in this direction. *Particularly important is the addition of a previously unsuspected Bronze Age ring-ditch to the group presently known of, and the evidence for expansion of Romano-British activity over and beyond the boundary ditch which previously appeared to encompass the settlement.*

7 OBJECTIVES

7.1 The objectives of the post-excavation programme are as follows:

- to produce an integrated and synthesised report on the results of the excavation for dissemination via an academic article in *The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*. This will be achieved through the analysis of the primary data to the appropriate level of detail necessary to reflect the potential of the archaeological evidence as outlined in Section 6, and to meet the objectives outlined in para. 7.2 below, and
- to create an ordered and indexed research archive of sufficient standard for deposition with the Wiltshire County Museum Service.

7.2 Within the report, description and discussion will aim to provide:

- a succinct and objective account of the archaeological deposits, and the artefactual and palaeoenvironmental materials
- a summary of the collaboration and diversion of evidence with that from the 1991 excavations and features observed in more recent aerial photographs
- a synthesis of the excavated evidence characterising the activity within this area
- a general setting of the evidence, within its present limits, into the context of the later prehistoric and Romano-British use of the wider area.

8 PROPOSED SCHEDULE

8.1 The structural evidence

Task 1 *Stratigraphic analysis*

The preparation of preliminary phasing and contextual data for the site will be critical for all subsequent site, artefact and ecofact analyses. This will involve the preparation of a short text description and a matrix, where appropriate, for each feature and this data will be combined with spot-dating of the pottery from each context to establish a preliminary site phasing supported by a preliminary phase plan. This stage of work will provide the basic framework around which the finds and environmental analyses will be undertaken.

This task is substantially completed in order to compile this assessment report. The preliminary site phasing will ultimately be reviewed and, if necessary, revised in the light of the finds and environmental analyses. This will enable an interpretative report text and illustrations to be prepared outlining the principal site developments by chronological period.

8.2 The artefactual evidence

Task 2 *The burnt flint and stone*

This material type does not merit detailed analysis. Overall quantities, artefactual associations and general distribution will be briefly discussed.

Task 3 *Ceramic building material and fired clay*

A brief description of the forms recovered and possible significance of their distribution will be undertaken.

Task 4 *Worked flint*

A discussion will summarise the main characteristics of the assemblage, thus giving an indication of the chronological range.

Task 5 *Pottery*

Analysis of the pottery will involve further detailed recording of fabrics, forms, surface treatment and decoration. The results will be comprehensive cross-referenced with the pottery report from the 1991 excavations.

Task 6 *Worked/utilised stone*

The worked stone will be briefly described.

Task 7 *Metalwork*

Selective cleaning and stabilisation will be undertaken by a conservator in order to aid identification. Objects will be briefly described and discussed in terms of date range, typology and significance to the site. The copper-alloy and iron brooches will be illustrated.

8.3 The environmental evidence

Task 8 *Human bone*

The age and sex of the individuals will be ascertained. Comparison will be made between the results from the present analysis and the human remains recovered in the previous excavation.

Task 9 *Animal Bone*

The assemblage will be scanned and a list produced by period by the nominated bone specialist and summarily compared with the previous work.

Task 10 *Charred Plant Remains*

The samples will be archived and the residues extracted before discard. The whole assemblage (flot and residue) will be assessed and that information presented in a form suitable for publication

Task 11 *Coprolite*

Microscope description will be undertaken and a short report written.

8.4 Report preparation

The above tasks contribute towards the completion of a publication report on the results of the archaeological project. The principal elements involved in the completion of a publication report that are not included in the detailed proposals set out above are as follows:

Task 12 the preparation of an introduction to the project, the background to the site and its archaeology, and accompanying figures

Task 13 the preparation of a site description and illustrations outlining the principal site developments by chronological period

Task 14 the preparation of a discussion and synthesis, with accompanying figures, drawing on the results and conclusions of the individual structural, artefactual and environmental reports and any additional background research

Task 15 Wessex Archaeology's Reports Manager will oversee the final production stages required to publication. This will include internal editing of the draft report, the co-ordination of comments and the implementation of final revisions, the submission of the report for publication and proof reading prior to publication

Task 16 the post-excavation analyses will generate additional archive material which will be added to the archive in due course. On completion of the full project programme, the archive will be ordered and indexed for ultimate deposition with the Wiltshire County Museum Service

Task 17 the project archive will be security copied on to microfiche and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (Swindon) prior to the commencement of the post-excavation analyses. Some ordering, cleaning and indexing of the archive may be required prior to microfiching

Task 18 during the course of the post-excavation programme, overall project supervision and monitoring will be undertaken by the Project Manager. The Project Manager assumes overall responsibility for the organisation, implementation and execution of the project specification. Other key staff are also delegated supervisory roles within the project as well as having a direct input into the analyses and report. These staff include the Finds and Archives Manager, Environmental Manager and Reports Manager. In order to maintain overall quality standards the progress of the project will be monitored by the Assistant Director.

9 PROPOSED REPORT SYNOPSIS

9.1 It is currently proposed to submit the final report for publication in *The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*. A full synopsis, including precise details of word numbers and illustration titles has not been attempted, as it is recognised that the processes of analysis outlined in this document may produce additional and unforeseen information that will necessitate some revision to the content and layout of the final report.

10 TASK LIST, PERSONNEL AND PROGRAMME

10.1 Task list

10.1.1 Table 3 (below) lists the main tasks involved in achieving the project objectives, the personnel and time in days required. Proposed personnel and their qualifications are listed in section **10.2** and a programme indicating the proposed sequence of tasks required to complete the project is presented in section **10.3**.

10.2 Personnel

10.2.1 The following Wessex Archaeology staff and nominated specialists are currently proposed to undertake the programme of post-excavation analysis, report production and archive deposition.

Nominated Wessex Archaeology Personnel

Assistant Director	- Susan M Davies BA, FSA, MIFA
Project Manager	- Mick Rawlings BA, AIFA
Finds and Archives Manager	- Lorraine Mephram BA

Environmental Manager	- Michael J Allen BSc, PhD, MAEA, MIFA
Reports Manager	- Julie Gardiner BA, PhD, FSA, MIFA
Project Officer 1	- Jacqueline I. McKinley BTech, MIFA
Project Officer 2	- William Boismier BA, MA, MPhil, MIFA
Environmental technician	- Sarah F. Wyles BA, MAEA, PIFA

Nominated External Specialist Personnel

Conservator	- Conservation Consortium, Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum Service
Specialist plant remains	- Pat Hinton
Specialist animal bone	- Sheila Hamilton-Dyer

Table 3: Task list

TASK	PERSONNEL
The Structural evidence	
1. Stratigraphic analysis	Project Officer 1
Artefact analysis	
2. Burnt flint and stone	Project Supervisor
3. Ceramic building material and fired clay	Project Supervisor
4. Worked flint	Project Officer 2
5. Pottery	Finds Manager
6. Worked/Utilised stone	Project Supervisor
7. Metalwork	Project Supervisor, Conservator
Environmental analysis	
8. Human bone	Project Officer 1
9. Animal bone	Specialist
10. Charred plant remains (inc. charcoal)	Environmental technician Environmental Manager Specialist
11. Coprolite	Environmental Manager
Report Preparation and Archiving	
12. Introduction and background	Project Officer 1
13. Site description	Project Officer 1
14. Discussion and synthesis	Project Officer 1
15. Illustrations	Drawing Office
16. Internal editing, final revisions, proof reading and publication	Reports Manager Project Officer 1 Finds Manager Environmental Manager Project Manager
17. Final archive preparation and deposition	Project Supervisor Microfilming Storage grant
18. Project management, liaison and project meetings	Assistant Director Project Manager

10.3 Programme

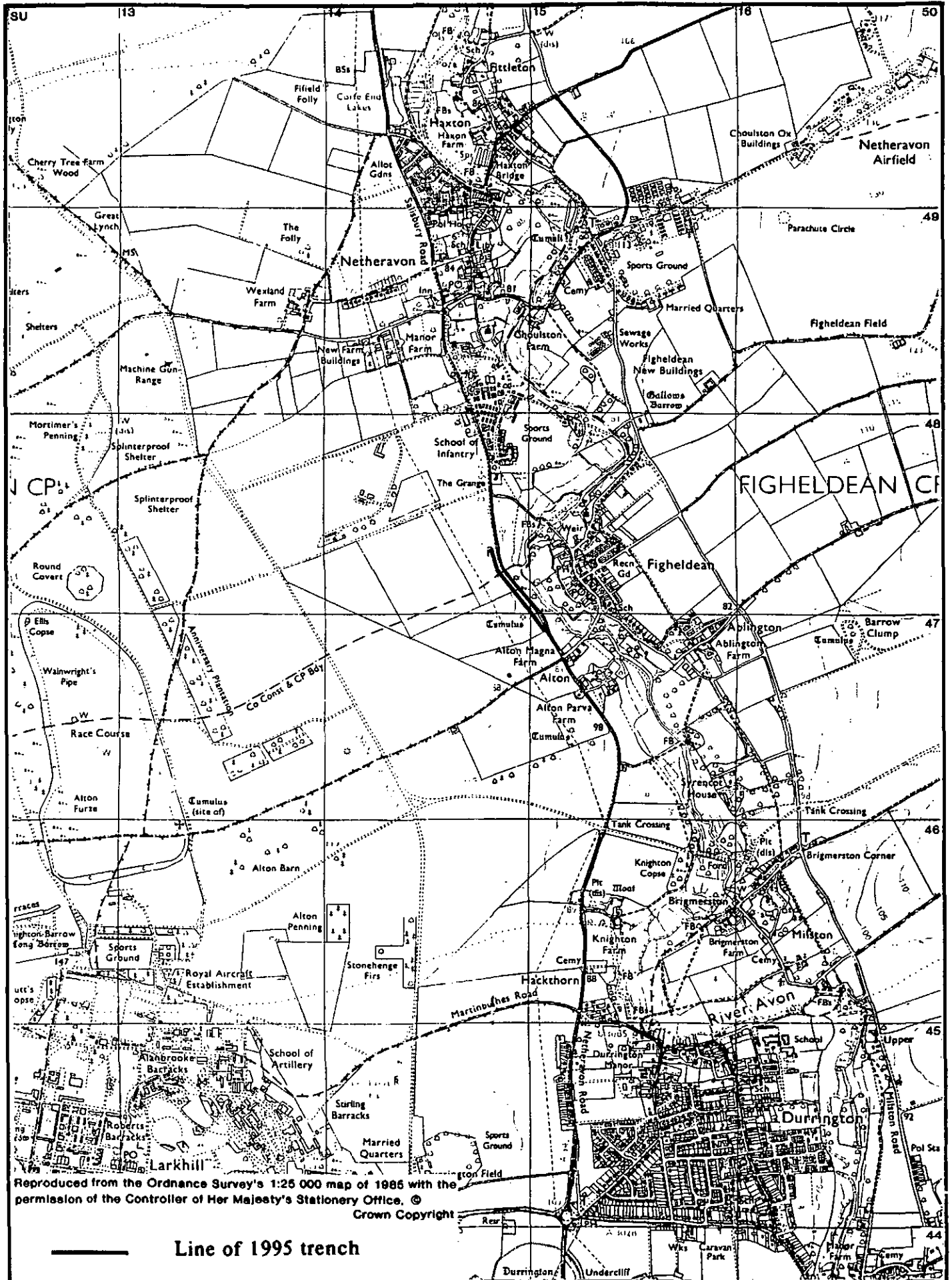
The chart below summarises the overall timetable proposed to complete the excavation report as outlined above. The tasks do not necessarily extend across a full month.

Task No.	Task	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	>Month 3
1	Stratigraphic analysis	■			
2-7	Artefactual analysis		■		
8-13	Environmental analysis		■		
14-15	Report preparation			■	
16	Internal report editing/revisions			■	
17	Archive preparation and deposition				■
18	Overall management and liaison				■
	Publication of report				■

11 REFERENCES

Graham, A. and Newman, C. 1993 'Recent excavations of Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures in the Avon valley, Wiltshire'. *WAM* 86, 8-57

Wessex Archaeology 1995 *Netheravon Mains Replacement, Wiltshire: Project Specification*. Salisbury



Site location

Fig.1

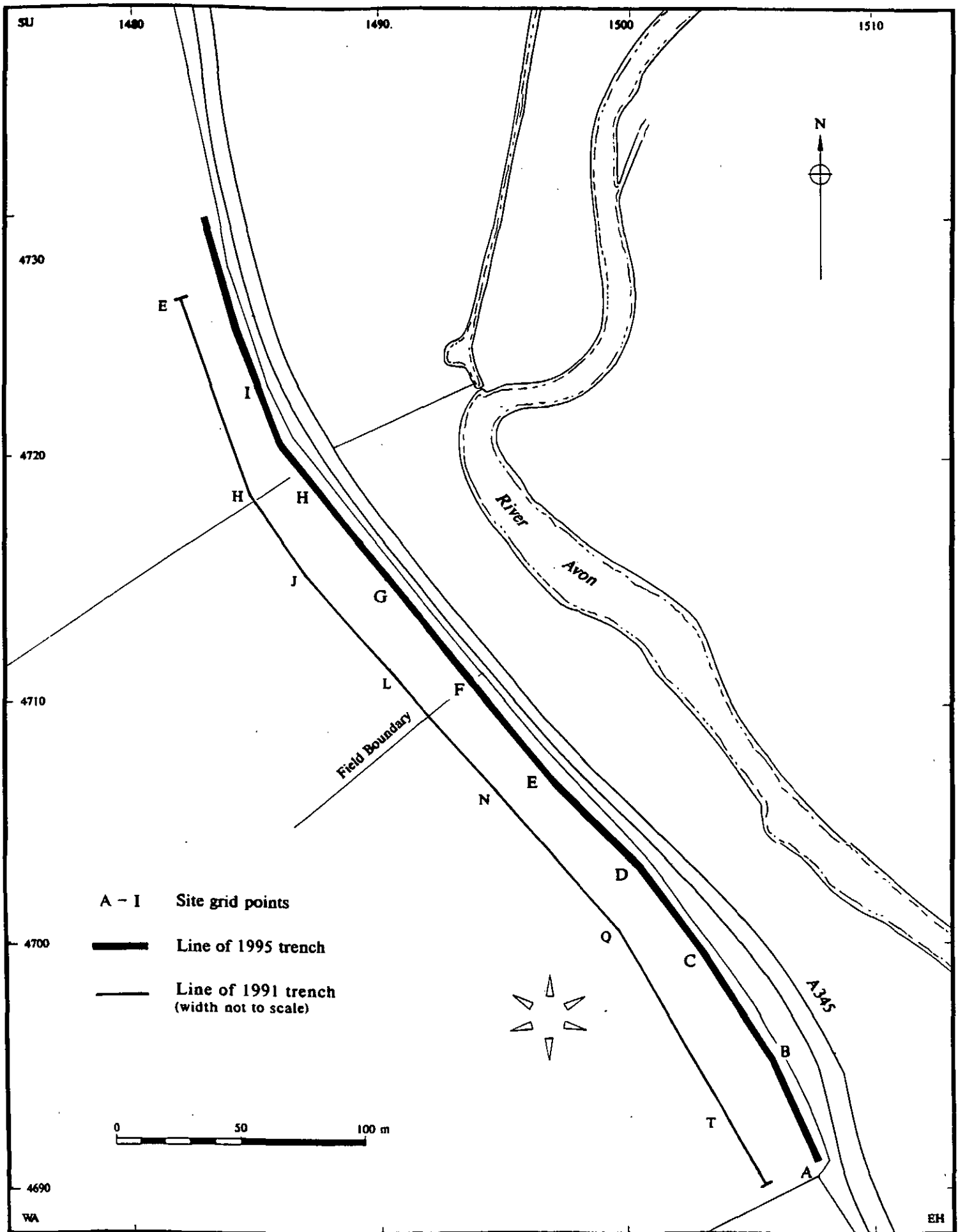


Fig.2

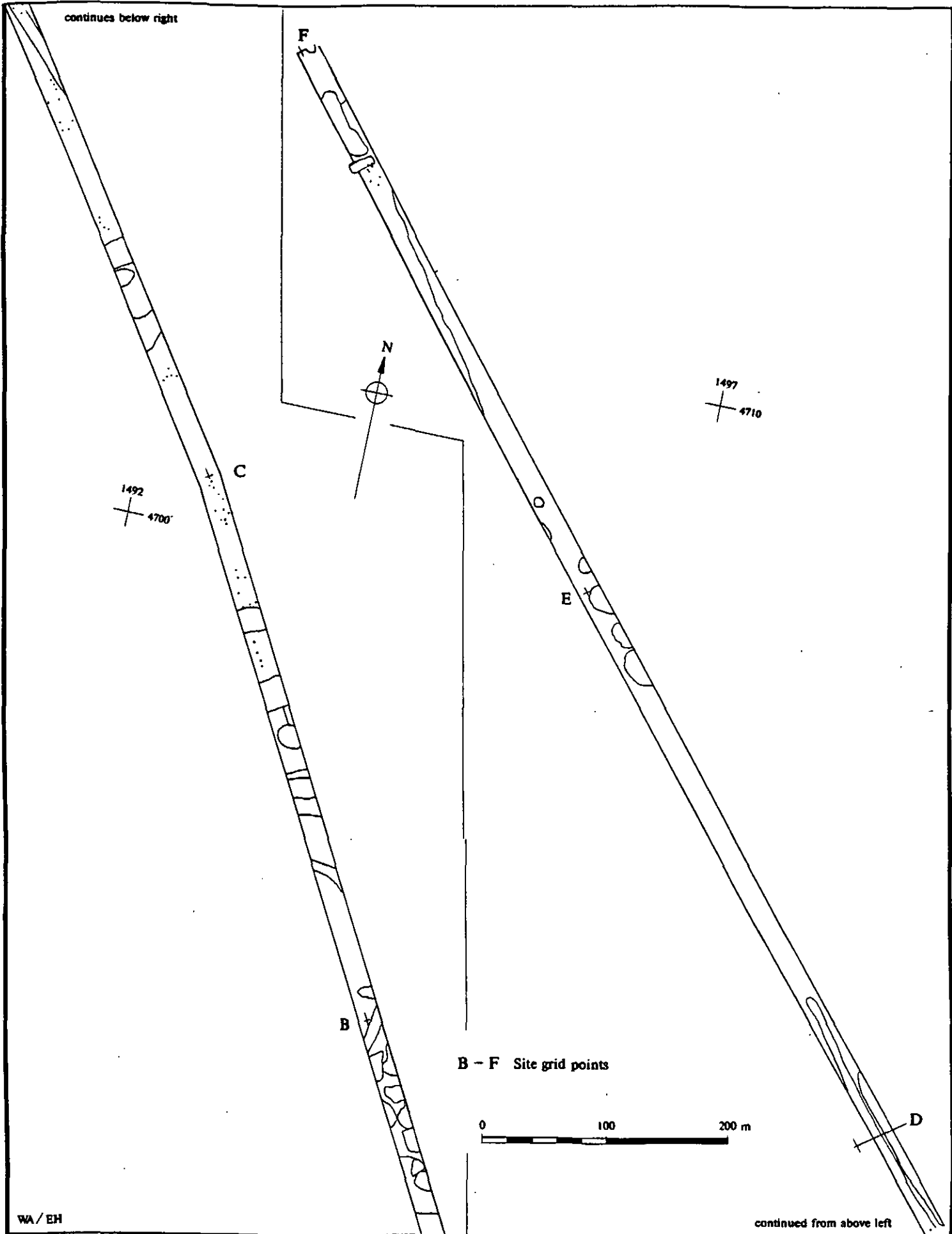


Fig.3

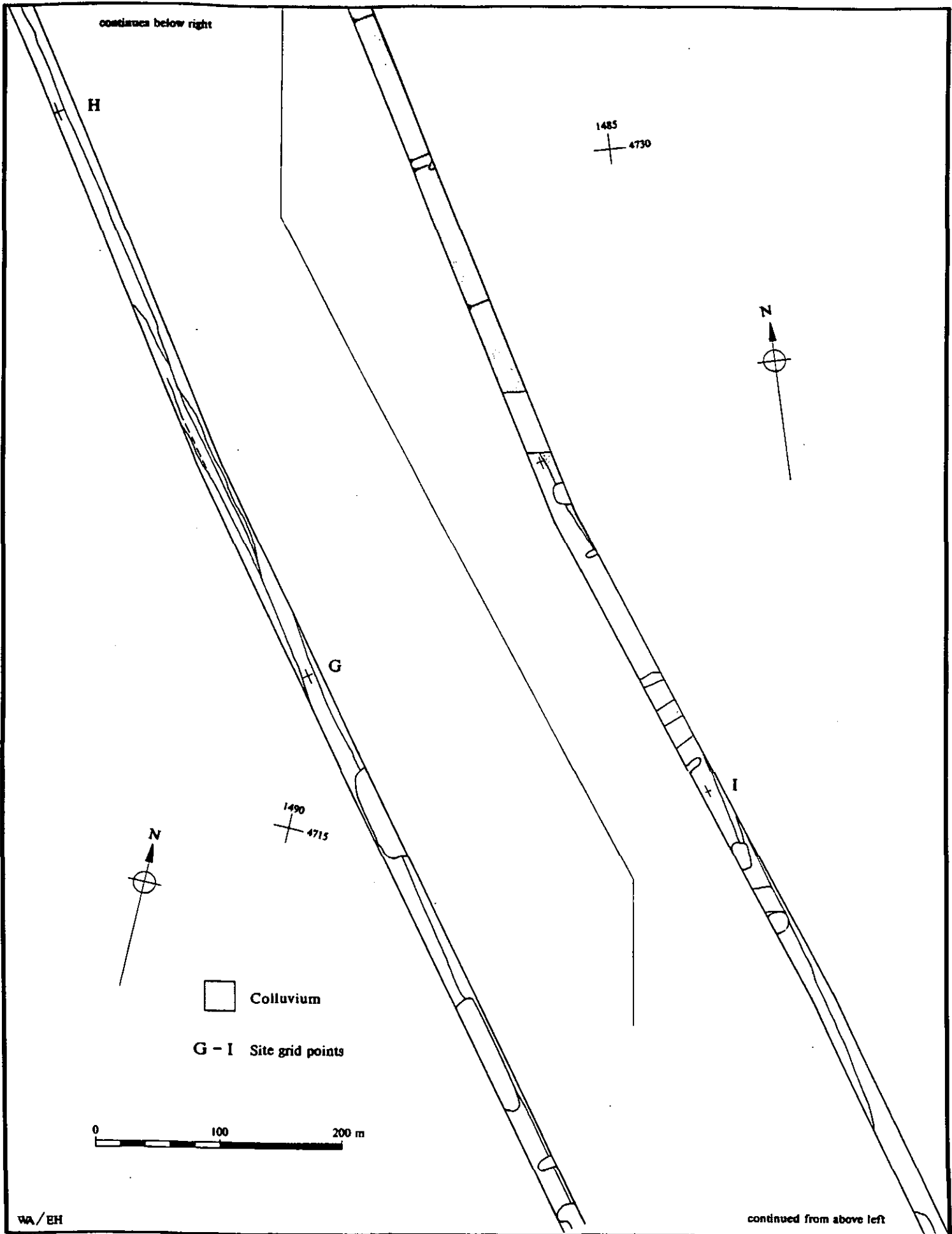


Fig.4

Wessex
Archæology

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