

SALVAGE RECORDING AT
TREBOR, MAIN STREET,
SEDGEBERROW

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9th May 1999

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Project 1573
Report 730
WSM 23272

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Salvage Recording at Trebor, Main Street, Sedgeberrow

Victoria Buteux

Part 1 Project summary

1. **Reasons for the project**

The Field Section of the County Archaeological Service was requested to undertake salvage recording at Trebor, Main Street, Sedgeberrow during the construction of eight dwellings with associated garages, gas tanks, services and access road. The development site covers an area of 1.45 acres and is located at NGR SP 0222 3827. The work was commissioned by Beechgrove Ltd in response to a brief prepared by the Planning Advisory Section of the County Archaeological Service and dated 23rd November 1995.

2. **Outline of results and significance**

The programme of work commissioned by Beechgrove Ltd has provided important new insights into past human activity in Sedgeberrow. In particular the excavation of a small trench proved invaluable in providing stratigraphic and dating evidence which could be used to interpret adjacent cropmarks and sections of features exposed during the excavation of foundations. Ditches of probable prehistoric date were revealed. These were field boundaries relating to an agricultural community. The description of what may be a ritual site discovered by the Isbourne in 1827 suggests that the area of the present village may have had a special significance. Evidence of Romano-British occupation was also found. In this period the Sedgeberrow area contained a number of farms, some with Romanised buildings, and associated fields. In the Anglo-Saxon period the estate of Sedgeberrow contained a church and a settlement. At some point in the medieval period the forerunner of the present village was laid out on either side of Main Street.

The results of the salvage recording and evaluation work at Trebor, Main Street in conjunction with the plotting of the aerial photographic evidence and the synthesising of previous archaeological and historical work has indicated that the site of the development and its surroundings are an area of great archaeological significance and that the potential for the survival of important archaeological deposits in the area is high. Given the potential of the parish of Sedgeberrow it is recommended that evaluations are carried out prior to the determination of any future planning applications

Part 2 Detailed report

3. **Aims**

The aims of the project were firstly to observe and record archaeological deposits revealed during groundworks and to recover artefactual and environmental data where present and secondly to establish the significance of any archaeological deposits so as to inform future policies in the area

4. **Topographical and archaeological background**

The development site lies in the centre of the present village of Sedgeberrow to the south-east of Main Street (Fig 1). The village lies on low ground on the west bank of the River Isbourne and on the road from Winchcombe to Evesham. The soils are slightly stoney calcareous clays of the Lodgegrove Association (Beard *et al* 1986) over Lower Lias (Geological Survey 1975). There has been no co-ordinated programme of archaeological field work around Sedgeberrow but despite this the area contains many identified sites of archaeological importance (see Fig 2).

In 1827 during the deepening of the River Isbourne at Sedgeberrow two fragments of Neolithic stone axes, several very large antlers and “two oval-shaped spearheads of bronze of most perfect workmanship with portions of their staves attached were found stuck into the bank at a depth of several feet; pieces of defensive armour...and part of a steel band apparently for the shoulder retaining bronze rivets that attached it to the cuirass” were found. (WSM 28760; VCH 1913, I, 193-4). Unfortunately the location of these spectacular finds is not known, but if the report is true, it would suggest that Sedgeberrow was a site of votive offerings, and therefore a significant place, in the prehistoric period.

Cropmarks recorded by aerial photography show that the present village of Sedgeberrow is surrounded by the remains of earlier field ditches, routeways and enclosures (WSM 5504, 5506, 5510, 15997, 22927). None of these have been excavated but morphologically the majority are likely to date from the late Iron Age and/or Roman periods (Dark and Dark 1997). In the 1930s a brooch; coins dating from the mid 2nd to late 4th century AD; and a small group of pottery dating from the 1st to the 4th century AD were found at the School Site just to the east of the present development (WSM 5507, 7517; Price and Watson 1984). The exact area of the find spot is not known but it was on or very close to a cropmark site (WSM 22927). A Roman road is believed to run along the higher ground just to the west of the village (WSM 28761; Price and Watson 1984, fig 27) and Roman pottery has been found during fieldwalking in two other areas around the present village (WSM 5502, 5655). In addition a bronze spearhead and a fragment of Roman armour were found in a field just to the south (WSM 5508) and an early 2nd century brooch and late 2nd century coin were recovered from a field to the north (WSM 9927).

In AD 777 King Offa of Mercia granted the manor of *Segcesbearuue* (meaning *Secg's grove* (Ekwall 1960)) to the Church of Worcester (VCH 1913, III, 519). The description of the estate bounds in this charter seem to be identical to the present parish boundary (Price and Watson 1984, 92; Hooke 1981, fig 4.4). At this period the area is crossed by two roads (Hooke 1981, fig 4.4) the present Cheltenham Road and Sandfields Road (see Fig 2). A Saxon *sceatta* dating to early 7th century and a small group of possibly Anglo-Saxon sherds were found on the School Site in 1930's (WSM 7518; Price and Watson 1984). The church of St Mary contains what may be the remnants of an Anglo-Saxon church (Watson 1986) and the present building certainly contains masonry dating to before its recorded dedication in 1331 (Bond 1988).

The manor of Sedgeberrow was held by the Church of Worcester at Domesday and contained a village, two mills and a church (Thorn and Thorn 1982). Some traces of the medieval landscape survive in the present village. The plots on either side of Main Street were probably laid out in the medieval period but at what date is not known. The back of the plots to the north of Main Street was defined by a stream and those to the south by a rear access road now only seen as a cropmark (Fig 6) but shown on the 1813 map of the village (WCRO BA 345 r 264.9). It is possible that the post-medieval mill on the Isbourne (WSM 6694) is on the site of one of the medieval mills and two medieval buildings survive in the village, the 13th century Church House (WSM 9329) and St Mary's church (WSM 6991). The site of the manor house of the Priors of Worcester was situated

just to the south-west of the church and now contains a 16th century building (WSM 6993). The remains of medieval ridge and furrow were recorded by aerial photography just to the south-west of the village (WSM 6034). In two fields just to the north of the village quantities of coins dating from the 12th to the 18th century have been found (WSM 9926, 9927). This suggests the presence of a fair although this is not documented. Medieval coins and two gaming counters were found at the School Site (WSM 7519) and a lone piece of medieval pottery found in a field to the north (WSM 5655) is probably the result of manuring with domestic waste. The ponds on the edge of the parish boundary (WSM 6690) are undated but may be medieval in origin. Twenty one householders are listed in the late 13th century Lay Subsidy Roll (Willis Bund and Amphlett 1893, 72).

The manor remained in the hands of the Dean and Chapter of Worcester after the dissolution (VCH 1913, III, 520). In the reign of Elizabeth I it contained 17 families and in *c* 1795 it constituted 20 houses and a population of about 100 (Nash 1795). Buildings dating from the 17th 18th and 19th centuries still survive.

5. **Methods**

5.1 **Fieldwork**

5.1.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

Salvage recording was undertaken during the excavation of test pits by mechanical excavator on the 29th January 1998. A second phase of salvage recording was undertaken during the mechanical excavation of foundation trenches and other ground works between the 7th June 1998 and the 8th January 1999. A small trench was excavated between the 23rd and the 25th September 1998. The trench was positioned close to a large hole dug to accommodate the gas tanks for the houses where a number of significant features had been observed (Fig 3, sections 13 and 14) The trench was mechanically excavated to a depth of approximately 0.25m below the top of the subsoil. Deposits were then excavated by hand. Recording followed standard practice (CAS 1995). A phased stratigraphic matrix was produced for the trench.

5.2 **Artefacts**

5.2.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

All artefacts from the evaluation trench were retained in accordance with the Service manual (CAS 1995 as amended). All pre-modern artefacts observed during salvage recording were retained.

5.2.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand retrieved artefacts were examined. A primary record was made of all finds using the Context Finds record (AS8). Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated. Where possible a terminus post quem was produced for each context. Pottery fabrics are referenced to the fabric reference series maintained by the County Archaeological Service (Hurst 1994). A summary of the finds assemblage is presented in Appendix A.

5.3 **Environment**

5.3.1 **Sampling policy**

A number of samples were taken during salvage recording and one 10 litre sample was taken during the excavation of a phase 3 ditch (context 411). These samples were assessed and considered to be of low potential and no further environmental work was undertaken.

6. Analysis

6.1 Salvage recording

Figure 3 shows the location of all the observed sections. The data from these is presented in the following table. Figure 4 presents an interpretation of the results of the salvage recording including the reference numbers of the ditches. The interpretation of the results is based on recorded finds, stratigraphic relationships, comparisons with the results of the trench and with the surrounding cropmarks.

Table 1 Description of features observed in sections

| Sect Nos | Feature description | Dating evidence | Interpretation |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Ditch 1, >1.0m wide, >1.0m deep. Fill - dark brown sandy loam with occasional charcoal | | Probably a post-medieval ditch |
| 2 | No features | | |
| 3 | No features | | |
| 4 | No features | | |
| 5 | Large pit 1.5m deep. Fill not recorded | Post-medieval pottery (not kept) | 19 th /20 th century gravel quarry pit |
| 6 | Ditch 2, 1.5m wide, 0.60m deep. Fill - dark greyish brown sandy loam with charcoal fragments | Brick | Post-medieval ditch |
| 6 | Ditch 3, 1.6m wide, 0.4m deep. Fill - pale yellow silty gravel | | Probably a medieval or post-medieval ditch |
| 6 | Ditch 4, >1.60m wide, >0.4m deep. Fill pale yellow grey/brown sandy silty clay | | Probably a medieval or post-medieval ditch |
| 7 | Ditch 5, 1.6m wide, 0.6m deep. Fill - light greyish brown sandy clay, some charcoal flecks | | Probably a medieval or post-medieval ditch |
| 7 | Ditch 6 >1.0m wide, 0.4m deep. Fill dark greyish brown sandy clay, charcoal fragments | 19 th /20 th century pottery | Post-medieval ditch |
| 7 | Ditch 7 >1.2m wide >0.50m deep. Fill - olive brown clay and greyish brown sandy clay | Cuts Ditches 6 and 8 | Post-medieval ditch |

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 7 | Ditch 8 >1.20m wide, >0.4m deep. Fill - dark brown/black charcoal rich clay | 19 th /20 th century pottery | Post-medieval ditch |
| 7 | Ditch 9 >1.0m wide, >0.5m deep. Fill - pale grey/olive sandy clay | Cuts Ditch 8 | Post-medieval ditch |
| 8 | Large pit, dimensions not known. Fill- mixed soil and gravel | None | Post-medieval gravel quarry |
| 9 | Ditch 10 running NW to SE 1.20m wide, >0.2m deep. Fill - mid grey brown silty loam with charcoal flecks and bone | | Probably an Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 10 | Ditch 11 running NW to SE , 1.40m wide, >0.23m deep. Fill - mid grey brown silty loam with charcoal flecks | Romano-British pottery | Romano-British or later ditch |
| 10 | Ditch 12 running NW to SE 1.60m wide, >0.20m deep. Fill - orange brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks | Cut by ditch 11 | Probably a prehistoric ditch |
| 11 | No features | | |
| 12 | Small hole, 0.20m diameter, 0.30m deep. Fill dark grey brown dirty gravel | | Undated posthole |
| 13 | Ditch 13, running E to W 1.0m wide, 0.50m deep. Fill - greyish brown sand with occasional charcoal and bone | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 13 | Ditch 14, running E to W 0.80m wide, 0.30m deep. Fill - greyish brown sand with occasional charcoal and bone | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 13 | Ditch 15, running E to W >0.7m wide 0.15m deep. Fill - greyish brown sand with occasional charcoal and bone | Cuts ditch 16 | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 13 | Ditch 16, running SW to NE >1.10m wide 0.50m deep. Fill - orange sand and gravel with grey patches | Cut by ditch 15 | Prehistoric ditch |
| 14 | Ditch 17, running E to W >0.5m wide c0.20m deep. Fill - greyish brown sand with occasional charcoal and bone | | Iron Age or Roman ditch. Continuation of ditch 15 |
| 14 | Ditch 18, running E to W c1.0m wide, c 0.5m deep. Fill - greyish brown sand with occasional charcoal and bone | | Iron Age or Roman ditch. Continuation of ditch 14 |
| 14 | Ditch 19, running E to W c1.0m wide, c 0.5m deep. Fill - greyish brown sand with occasional charcoal and bone | | Iron Age or Roman ditch. Continuation of ditch 13 |
| 15 | Ditch 20, running SW to NE > 2.0m wide, >0.9m deep. Fill - orangey brown sandy clay loam with rare charcoal flecks | Flint flake | Prehistoric ditch |

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15 | Ditch 21, running SW to NE 0.50m wide, 0.30m deep. Fill - orangey brown sandy clay loam | Cut by ditch 22 | Prehistoric ditch |
| 15 | Ditch 22, running E to W 0.80m wide, 0.30m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | Late Iron Age pottery | Late Iron Age to Roman ditch. Continuation of ditches 13 and 19 |
| 15 | Ditch 23, running E to W 0.40m wide, 0.15m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Late Iron Age to Roman ditch. Continuation of ditches 14 and 18 |
| 15 | Ditch 24, running E to W 0.30m wide, 0.12m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Late Iron Age to Roman ditch. Continuation of ditches 15 and 17 |
| 16 | Ditch 25, 2.0m wide, 1.0m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch? |
| 17 | Ditch 26, running W to E, width not known, 0.30m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch? |
| 18 | Ditch 26, as above | | |
| 19 | No features | | |
| 20 | Ditch 27, running NW to SE 0.75m wide, 0.50m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 20 | Ditch 28, 3.5m wide, 1.0m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 20 | Ditch 29 3.5m wide, 1.0m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 21 | Ditch 30, width not visible, 0.5m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch. Continuation of ditch 27 |
| 22 | Ditch 30, > 0.65m wide, 0.5m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | as above |
| 23 | Ditch 31, 1.0m wide, 0.30m deep. Fill orange sandy loam | | Prehistoric ditch |
| 24 | Ditch 32, > 0.5m wide, 0.5m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | Cut by ditch 33 | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 24 | Ditch 33, > 1.0m wide, 0.75m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | Cuts ditch 32 | Iron Age or Roman ditch |

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 25 | Ditch 33, >1.25m wide, 0.75m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | as above | as above |
| 26 | Ditch 34, >1.75m, 0.75m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 27 | Ditch 34, as above | | as above |
| 27 | Ditch 35, 2.0m wide, 0.8m deep. Fill - grey brown coarse sandy loam with occasional charcoal flecks | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 28 | Ditch 36, >2.25m wide, 0.5m deep. Fill - mixed orange sand and gravel | | Prehistoric ditch |
| 28 | Ditch 37, 2.5m wide, >0.5m deep. Fill mixed gravel and grey brown slightly clay sand | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 28 | Ditch 38, running W to E, c 2.0m wide, 0.5m deep. Fill - grey brown slightly clay soil with dense charcoal patches | | Iron Age or Roman ditch |
| 29 | Ditch 38, as above | | as above |
| 30 | Ditch 39, running SW to NE, >2.5m wide 1.0m deep. Fill - grey brown slightly clay sand with moderate gravel and occasional charcoal | Romano-British pottery Late Iron Age loom weight | Ditch at edge of driveway? Roman or later |
| 31 | Ditch 39, as above | | as above |
| 32 | Ditch 39, as above | | as above |
| 32 | Ditch 40, 2.0m wide, > 0.5m deep. Fill - orange sand mottling in a grey brown clay sand. | | Prehistoric ditch |
| 32 | Ditch 41, > 2.25m wide, >0.5m deep. Fill - very mixed orange sand and patches of gravel and grey brown clayey sand | | Continuation of ditch 36 |
| 33 | Ditch 42, 1.5m wide, 0.5m deep. Fill - greyish brown clayey sand with limestone gravel | may cut or be cut by ditches 43 and 44 | Iron Age or Roman ditch? |
| 33 | Ditch 43 and 44 running SW to NE 1.75m wide 0.5m wide. Fill not recorded | | Undated ditches |
| 34 | Ditches 43 and 44 as above | | As above |
| 35 | Ditch 45 >1.0m wide, 0.4m deep. Fill not recorded | | Iron Age or Roman ditch? |
| 36 | Ditch 46, 1.25m wide, 0.75m deep. Fill - dark brown sandy clay with limestone gravel | Roman pottery | 19 th century field boundary |

| | | | |
|----|-------------|--|--|
| 37 | No features | | |
|----|-------------|--|--|

6.2 Excavation trench

Figure 3 shows the location of the excavation trench. Figure 4 presents an interpretation of the results of the evaluation and salvage recording including the reference numbers of the ditches. Figure 5 is a post-excavation plan of the excavation trench with selected sections.

6.2.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits were recorded at the bottom of the trench. These were patches of orange brown sand within bands of gravel.

6.2.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric ditches

Two parallel ditches running south-west to north-east across the evaluation trench were the earliest features on the site. The largest of these (context 410, ditch 20 see Fig 4 and 5) was over 1.20m wide and over 0.60m deep with a steep V shaped profile. The fill (context 409) was orangey brown sandy loam moderately compact with occasional pebbles and rare flecks of charcoal. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature.

The second of the two ditches (context 413, ditch 21 see Fig 4 and 5) was much less substantial being only 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep with a V shaped profile. The fill (context 405) was almost identical to the fill of ditch 20 but did not contain any charcoal. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature but as they are cut by the phase 3 ditches they are likely to be prehistoric.

Neither of these ditches were observed in sections 13 and 14 just to the east. Ditch 20 would have run parallel to section 14 and would have been quite shallow at this point. The traces of both ditch 20 and 21, therefore, were almost certainly removed by the construction of Phase 3 ditches 22, 23 and 24.

6.2.3 Phase 3 Late Iron Age to Roman Ditches

Three parallel ditches ran west to east across the evaluation trench. Ditch 22 (context 404) was 0.8m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a flat base; ditch 23 (context 407) was 0.40m wide and 0.30m deep with a flat base, and ditch 24 (context 408) was 0.3m wide and 0.4m deep with a rounded base. All three ditches had identical fills (contexts 411, 412 and 406). These fills were grey brown coarse sandy loam, moderately compact with moderate small pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. Because of the similarity of the fills they were originally thought to be one large ditch backfilled with context 403 (see Fig 5). The upper parts of the cuts of each ditch could not be differentiated even in section. Because of this it is not clear if they are contemporary or, as is more likely, there is a sequence. The evidence from section 13 suggests that ditch 23 may cut ditch 24.

The fill of ditch 24 (context 412) contained a fragment of animal bone. A sherd of late Iron Age pottery was found in context 403 within the area of ditch 22 and a Neolithic or Bronze Age flint flake, 1 small bone fragment and an iron strip were also recovered from context 403. These finds are likely to be residual. The orientation of the phase 3 ditches is quite different from the medieval village and field boundaries and closer to the cropmarks observed in adjacent fields. It is probable, therefore, that the ditches are of late Iron Age or Roman date.

6.2.4 Phase 4 Topsoil

All the features were sealed by c 0.20m of topsoil (Context 401).

7. Discussion

The programme of limited fieldwork and desk-based assessment commissioned by Beechgrove Ltd has provided important new insights into past human activity in Sedgeberrow. In particular the excavation of a small trench proved invaluable in providing stratigraphic and dating evidence which could be used to interpret the adjacent cropmarks.

Pre-Iron Age settlement

At present there is little excavated evidence for pre-late Iron Age activity around the village, however, the unstratified find of a Neolithic or Bronze Age flint at House plot 3 and the presence of a possible ring ditch to the east of the development site (Fig 6) indicate that there is occupation at Sedgeberrow in this period. Ditches 16, 20, 21, 31 and 40 (Fig 4) running south-west to north-east appear to be the earliest on the site and have distinctive fills (see Table 1). They produced no dating evidence but they may belong to this period. Ditches 12, 36 and 41 have identical fills and may be part of the same complex. The 19th century report of what sounds like a Bronze Age ritual deposit in the River Isbourne may indicate that important pre-Iron Age deposits survive in this area.

Late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement

The complex of cropmarks which have been recorded in the vicinity of the site (Fig 6) probably date from the late Iron Age to the Romano-British period. Romano-British pottery and other small finds have been found in various locations around the village and the Phase 3 ditches within the evaluation trench are of this date. A late Iron Age loom weight and a sherd of Romano-British pottery were recovered from ditch 39 (Fig 4) and the majority of the ditches observed during machining probably date to this period. Between the 1st and 4th centuries AD cropmark evidence suggests that the settlement pattern was one of dispersed farmsteads. The discovery of Roman roof tile in the area of plot 5 indicates that a building of Roman type existed in the vicinity, and it is possible that the rectangular cropmark to the north-east of the development site (Fig 6) marks the position of this. The location of the main farm buildings at some distance from the ditches observed in the development area is suggested by the lack of finds. The ditches within the development area are probably field boundaries. Ditch 39 may be a continuation of the parallel ditches recorded as cropmarks running past the rectangular feature to the north-east of the development site. This may be a road linking the farm with the Roman road to the west (fig 2).

Anglo-Saxon occupation

The documentary evidence and finds of a 7th century coin and 6th to 7th century pottery from the School Site to the east of the current development indicate that there was occupation around Sedgeberrow at least from the Middle Saxon period and probably before. No evidence of Anglo-Saxon occupation was recovered from the development site but deposits of this date are very slight with few finds and are unlikely to be identified during salvage recording.

Medieval occupation

During the medieval period a village was laid out around the already existing church and manorial enclosure. The section of the development area fronting Main Street lies within the medieval village but unfortunately no evidence of medieval occupation was recovered from this area although one sherd of late medieval pottery was found during the excavation of foundations in plot 5. The large linear cropmark along the south east boundary of the site marks the position of a medieval holloway.

Post-medieval occupation

During the post-medieval period there was continued use of the medieval plots. The 1813 and 1883 maps of Sedgeberrow indicate that in the 19th century the section of the present development fronting Main Street contained no buildings. Trenching in this area (house plots 1 and 8) revealed pre-19th century ditches suggesting the presence of earlier buildings. This may indicate that the population had declined by the 19th century. Behind the street frontage trenching located small

gravel quarries backfilled in the 19th century. Other small gravel quarries in the area could be identified by cropmarks (Fig 6). The medieval lane providing access to the back of plots and the market gardens was mapped in 1813 but was no longer in existence by 1883.

8. **Significance**

The results of the salvage recording and evaluation work at Trebor, Main Street, in conjunction with the plotting of the aerial photographic evidence and the synthesising of previous archaeological and historical work, has indicated that the site of the development and its surroundings are an area of great archaeological significance, and that the potential for the survival of important archaeological deposits in the area is high. From the present evidence it is possible to determine that there has been farming in the area from prehistory. At this period the farmsteads are dispersed with no obvious centre but the description of what may be a ritual site discovered by the River Isbourne in 1827 suggests that the area of the present village may have had a special significance. By the Roman period the area was quite intensively occupied and some of the farmsteads may have contained Romanised buildings. In the Anglo-Saxon period the estate of Sedgeberrow contained a church and some form of settlement in the area of the present village. At some point in the medieval period the present village was laid out. Occupation continued throughout the post-medieval period.

Given the potential of the parish of Sedgeberrow it is recommended that evaluations are carried out prior to the determination of any future planning applications

9. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 9 Context records AS1
- 17 Fieldwork progress records AS2
- 2 Photographic records AS3
- 2 Colour transparency film
- 1 Black and white photographic films
- 10 Context finds sheets AS8
- 8 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum
Hartlebury Castle
Hartlebury
Near Kidderminster
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ
Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

10. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their help with this project: Ray Speirs and Alan Jones of Beechgrove Limited, David Guyatt for providing a copy of the 1813 inclosure map and Tony Whiting of the Almonry Museum, Evesham for helping to locate the pottery from the 1930's excavation at the School Site.

11. Personnel

The project was managed by Derek Hurst MA(Cantab). The field work was undertaken by Victoria Buteux MA MIFA, Rachel Edwards MA AIFA, Mike Glyde BSc PIFA, Derek Hurst, Mike Napthan, Elizabeth Pearson MSc,. The air photographs were plotted by Michael Glyde. The illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt BA PIFA. The finds were analysed by Victoria Buteux, Robin Jackson BA AIFA and Hal Dalwood BA MIFA. The report was edited by Derek Hurst

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13. **Abbreviations**

WSM Numbers prefixed with 'WSM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Sites and Monuments Record.

WCRO Worcestershire County Records Office.

Appendix A

Catalogue of Finds

Salvage recording

House Plot 3, US

1 (3g) flint flake, Neolithic or Bronze Age

House Plot 3, Section 36, Ditch 46, context 302

1 (4g) sherd of Romano-British pottery, Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), unidentified body sherd
3 (38g) fragments of animal bone

House Plot 5, US

1 (18g) sherd of 15th to 16th century red earthen ware, abraded
1 (338g) tegula fragment, Romano-British
1 (14g) tile fragment, Romano-British

House Plot 7, Section 32, Ditch39

1 (1g) sherd of Romano-British pottery, Severn valley ware (fabric 12), unidentified body sherd
1 (12g) fragment of a ceramic loom weight, Iron Age with limestone and shell tempering

Soil Stripping Section 10, Ditch 11, context 103

2 (22g) sherds of Roman pottery, Severn Valley ware body sherd of a jar (fabric 12.2)
and the rim of a small bowl (fabric 12)

Soil Stripping Section 10, Ditch 12, context 106

1 (148g) burnt pebble

Excavation Trench

Context 403

1 (12g) iron strip (blade?)
1 (2g) bone fragment
1 (6g) flint flake, Neolithic or Bronze Age

Context 403 within area of ditch 22

1 (12g) sherd of late Iron Age pottery (fabric 5.2)

Context 409

1 (6g) flint flake, natural

Context 412

1 (10g) animal bone

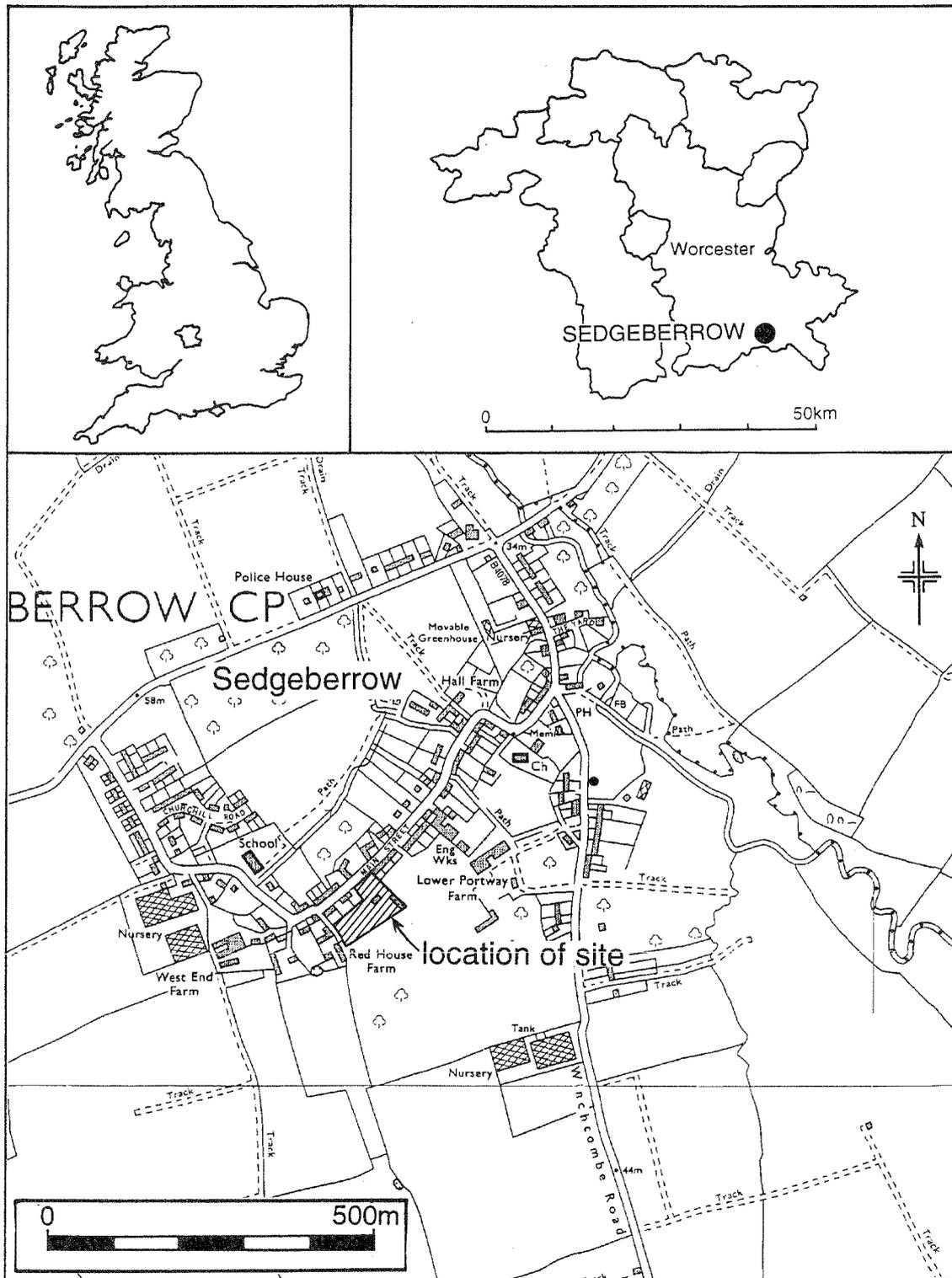


Figure 1: Location of the site

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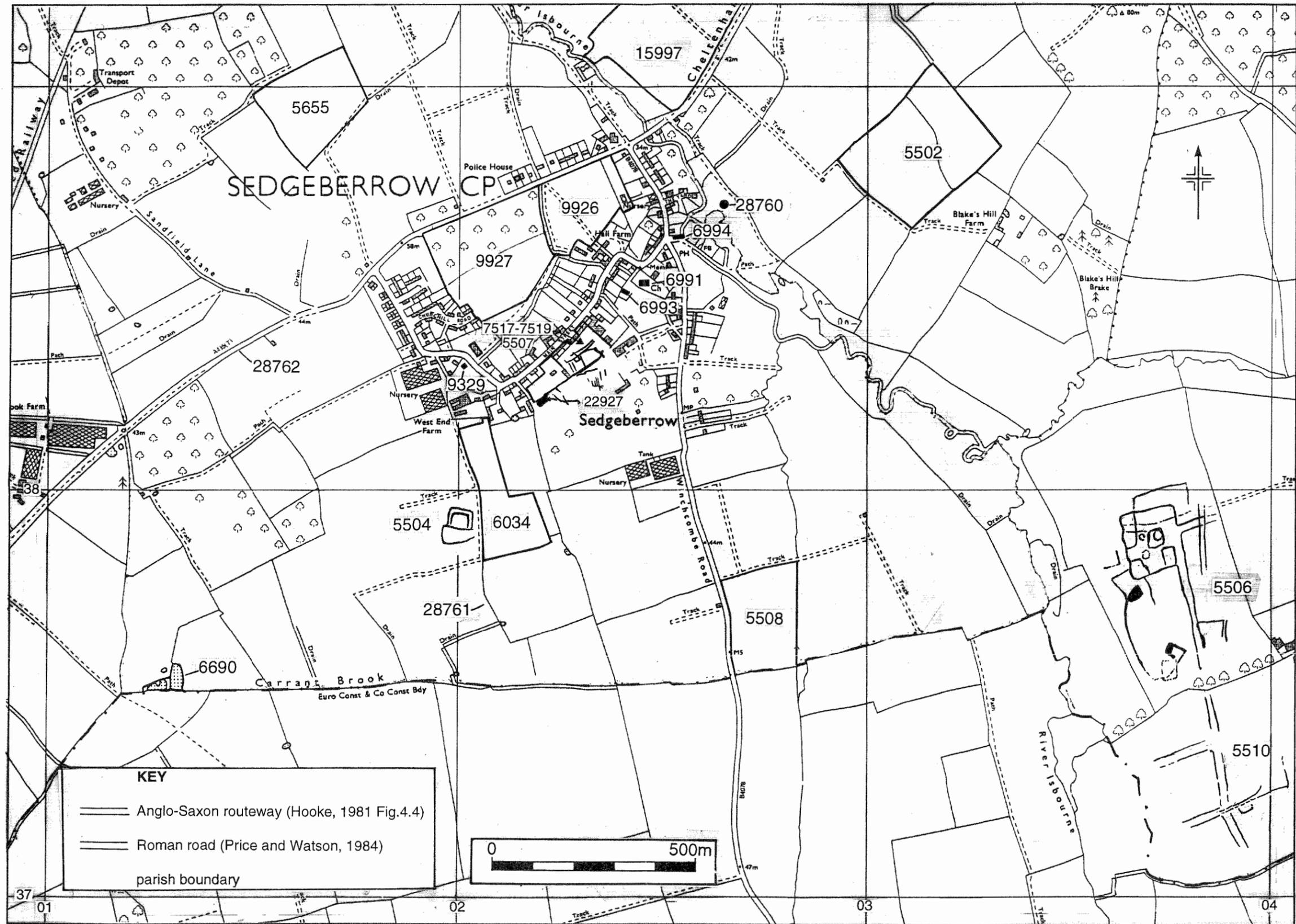


Figure 2: Location of known archaeological sites

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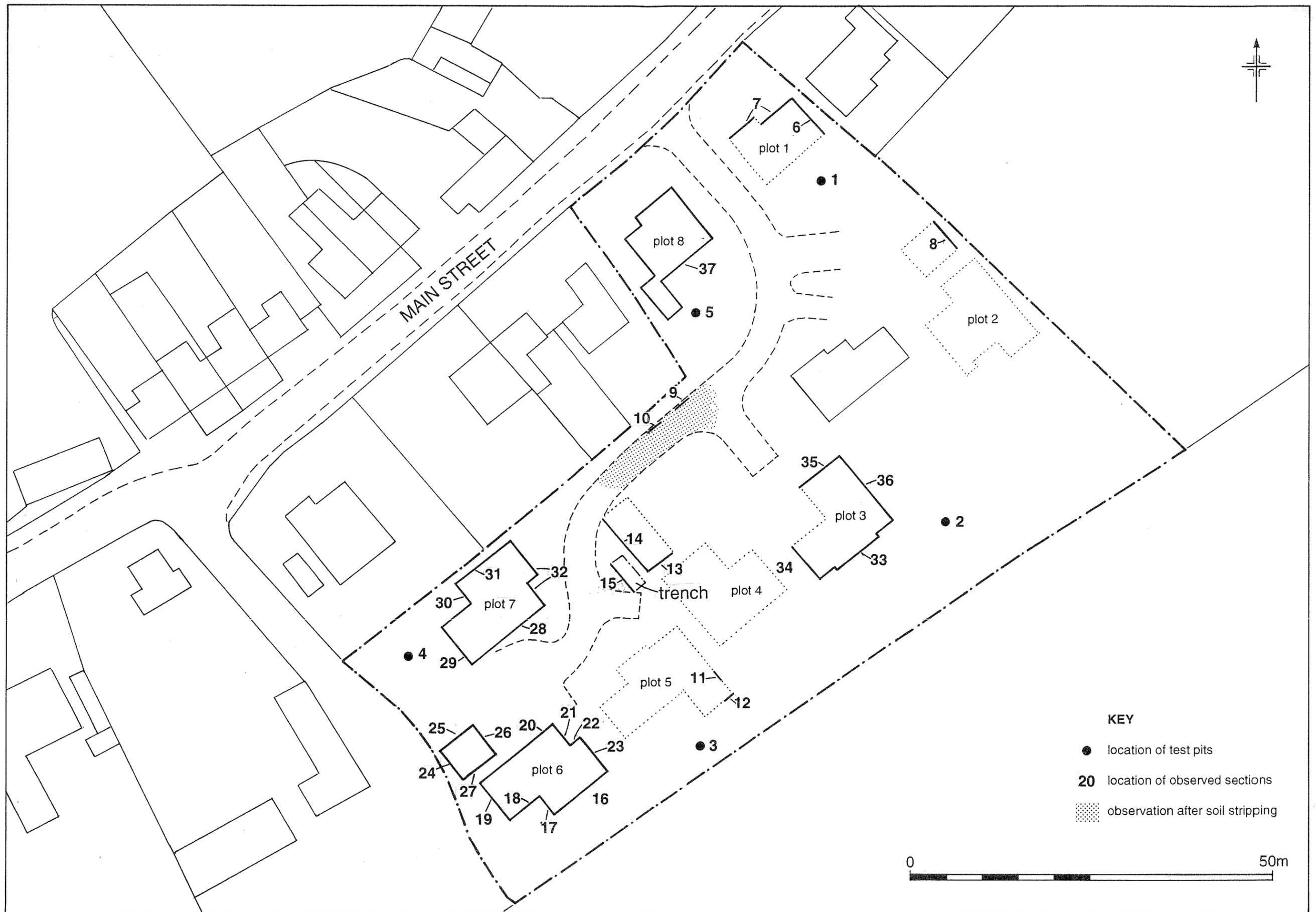


Figure 3: Location of archaeological observations and excavated trench

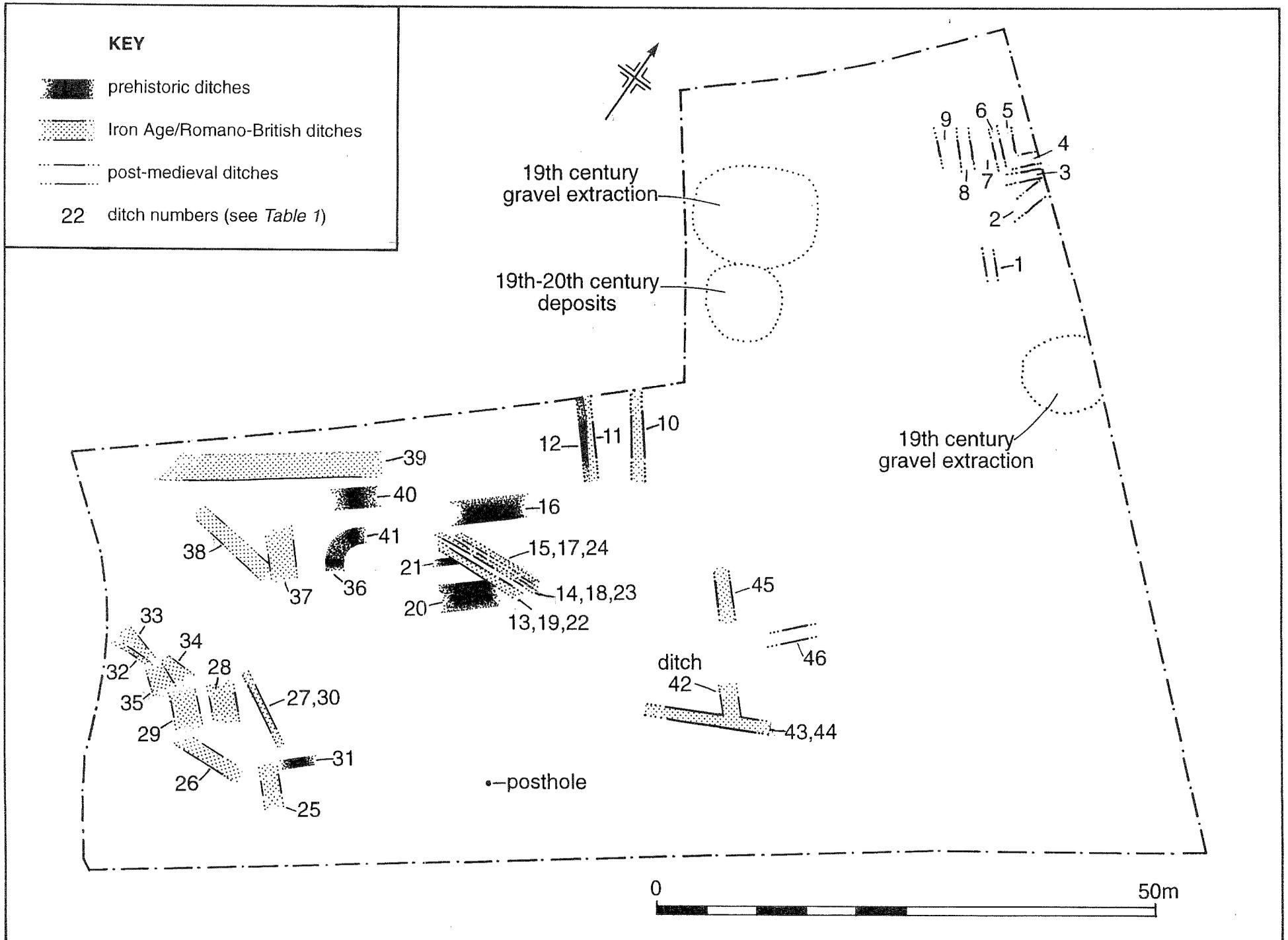


Figure 4: Interpretation of the results of the archaeological fieldwork

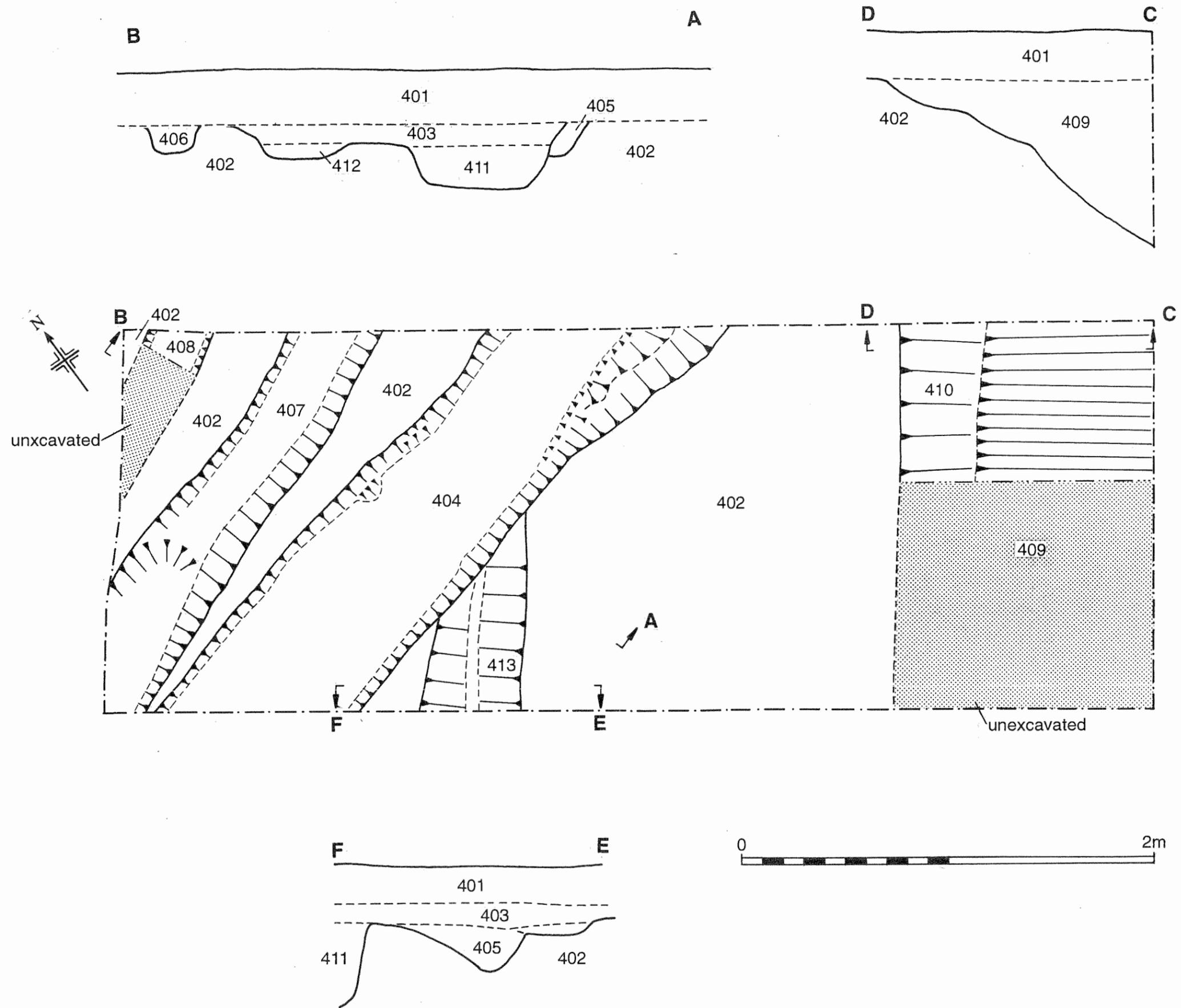


Figure 5: Plan and sections of excavated trench

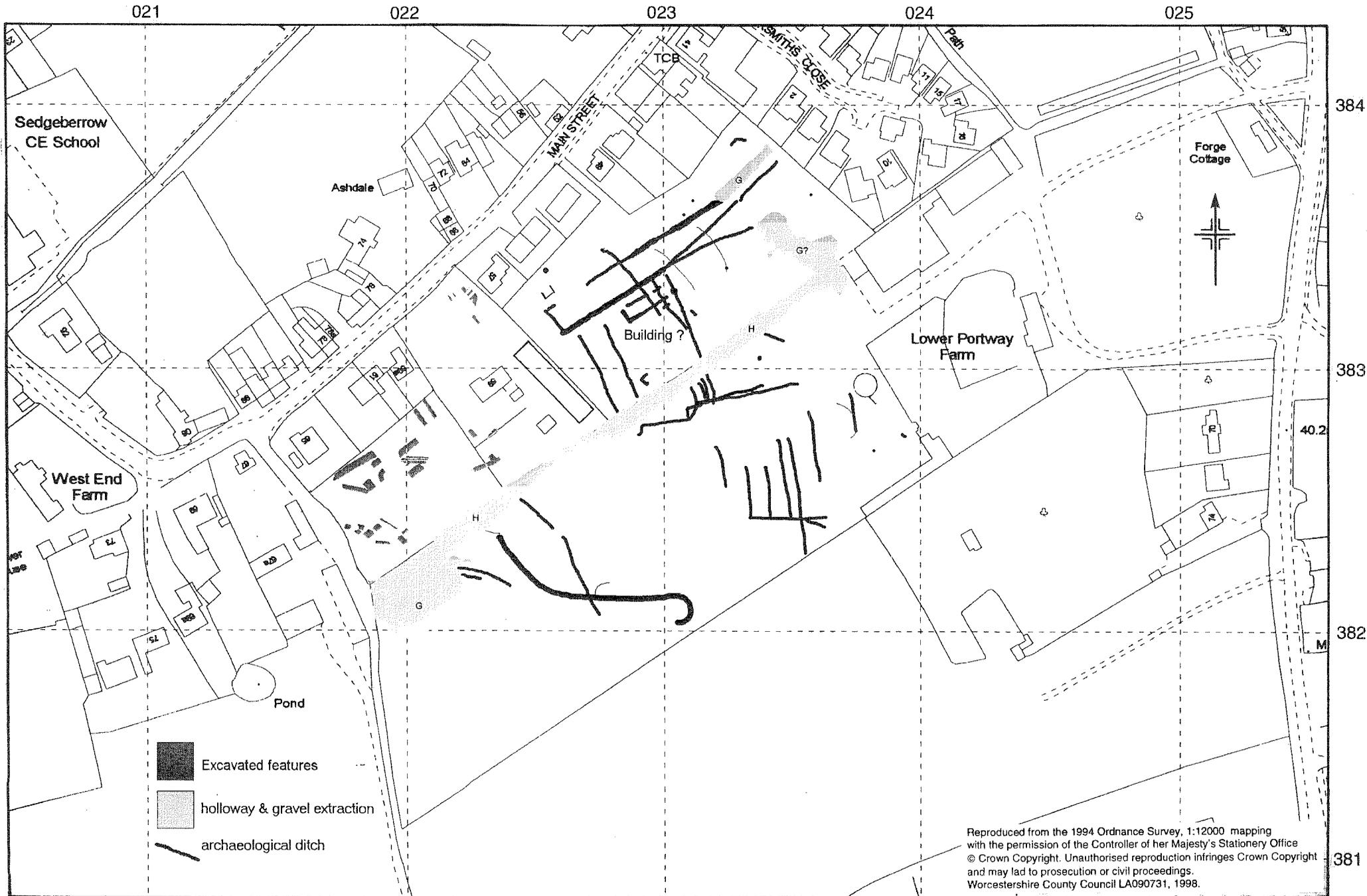


Figure 6: Plot of features observed during fieldwork and adjacent cropmarks (M.Glyde)