

EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED HAMPTON LOVETT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

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(Illustrations by C Hunt and S Rigby)

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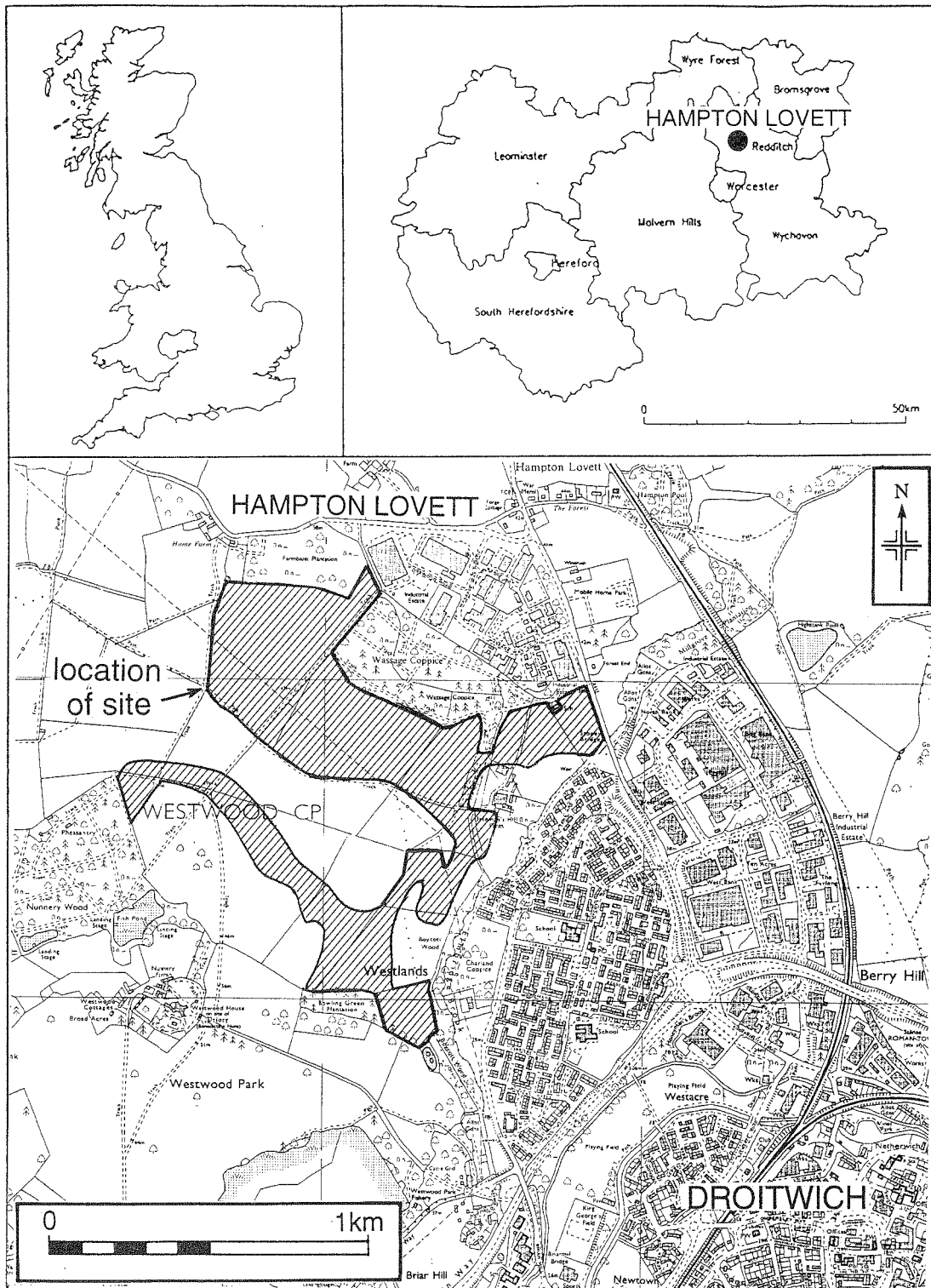


Figure 1: Location of the site

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Evaluation of the proposed Hampton Lovett industrial estate

M Napthan, E Pearson and S Ratkai
with a contribution from S Smith

Part 1 Project summary

1 Reasons for the project

A staged programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken on the proposed site of a new industrial estate on agricultural land and part of Westwood Park to the south of the present Hampton Lovett Industrial Estate. The project was undertaken on behalf of AXA Equity and Law to support a planning application (Wychavon District Council reference 643/96). This report covers the third stage of evaluation which consisted of excavated trenches in the three areas identified by the first two stages (desk-based assessment and fieldwalking).

2 Outline of results and significance

A single trench (52m²) was excavated in an area close to Jakeman's Hill farm (HWCM 23853). This area was identified by geophysical survey as having potential archaeological features. The area investigated produced sufficiently high density of worked flints, including a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age fabricator tool, to indicate prehistoric occupation in the immediate vicinity. No features of this period were identified, however such sites frequently take the form of artefactual scatters with only small numbers of very shallow features prone to destruction by plough damage. Some of the geophysical anomalies may be explained by the presence of ridge and furrow.

Four trenches totalling 370m² (HWCM 24138), located to test an artefactual scatter identified by fieldwalking to the west of Wassage Coppice, contained no identifiable archaeological features other than traces of ridge and furrow. No artefacts were recovered from the trenches but a noticeable concentration of artefacts was visible on the ground surface. It is possible that these derived from imported material used to backfill former marl pits which are still visible in this area of the field. The hill-top/hill-slope location of these trenches may have contributed to plough destruction of any previously extant features.

Three trenches (totalling 200m²) were excavated along the ridge (HWCM 23317) overlooking Westwood House. The deposits in these trenches represent extensive Iron Age and Roman activity and four additional trenches (totalling 370m²) were excavated in order to more closely define the extent of a substantial ditched enclosure which appears to have originated during the Iron Age. The trenches did not include any substantial part of the enclosed area as the immediate areas within the ditch may be assumed to have been covered by an internal earthen bank. Some Iron Age activity was identified within the enclosure but the original function cannot be determined with reasonable certainty without extensive excavation. A defended settlement of late Iron Age date appears to be the likely interpretation. The deposits so far

identified indicate that features are likely to be well preserved within the enclosure. The ditch was apparently kept clear during the period of its original function and the majority of the artefacts were only deposited after part of the bank had been levelled and used to partially backfill the ditch. Of note was the presence of a rotary quern fragment immediately above the levelled bank material. Burnt limestone fragments, which are typical indicators of prehistoric technology, were found beneath and within the dumped bank material, however charcoal was notably sparse. This is unusual as substantial quantities of fuel would have been needed to heat the stones.

The Roman features examined lay outside the enclosure, the substantial earthworks of which had been almost completely levelled during the Iron Age. The Roman upper fills of the enclosure ditch seem to purely represent final levelling over the subsiding Iron Age fills. The presence of early Roman features on similar alignments to the enclosure ditch does however indicate that it remained a significant factor in determining later boundaries. The Roman material is, where datable, all of 1st to early 2nd century date and this would support the structural evidence that there was a continuity of occupation during the Iron Age/Roman transition.

The principal area of Roman activity examined appears to represent parts of one or more structures of timber construction, a cobbled yard surface and several parallel gullies. The presence of significant quantities of roof-tile indicates the presence of at least one building in the Roman tradition, probably not that represented by the irregular postholes seen within the trench. The presence of considerable quantities of early Roman pottery, fragments of vessel glass and a possibly silver brooch, point to a standard of domestic comfort beyond that which is typical of small farmsteads in the County. The presence of briquetage in the vicinity of the salt industry of Droitwich is not unexpected. Though the secondary use of such material is unclear, it is possible that the broken vessels were used as salt licks for stock. A considerable quantity of vesicular slag (possibly metal-working waste), was recovered from the Iron-Age and Roman contexts suggesting that the site was partly industrial in nature.

3

Conclusions

Two of the three areas examined have been demonstrated to include significant archaeological deposits which are likely to be affected by the proposed development.

The prehistoric flint scatter close to Jakeman's Hill Farm buildings is of considerable interest as the early utilisation of natural salt springs acted as a focus for prehistoric activity in the Droitwich area. There is a demonstrated survival of diagnostic flint artefacts within the ploughsoil and the geophysical survey has indicated that some *in situ* deposits may be anticipated. Such sites are extremely difficult to closely define without extensive excavation, particularly where, as in this case the site lies under pasture. Much of the evidence is likely to be contained within the topsoil and therefore particularly vulnerable to earthmoving operations. Densities of flint as low as one flint artefact per 277m² of scanned area (recovered by field walking) have been demonstrated to represent a major Bronze Age settlement site at Kemerton (based on figures from Cook and Hurst 1994; Napthan *et al* 1997).

Evaluation of the ridge-top (HWCN 23317) which was identified by fieldwalking as a possible Roman site has indicated that the deposits are in fact complex, and seem to have originated as a very substantial enclosure with a defensive ditch and bank, this feature being levelled during the Iron Age. The Roman activity on the site is also of considerable interest as it appears to include buildings of a Romanised (rectangular in plan with tiled roof) type and a quality of domestic artefacts a little better than that typical of rural sites in the County. Tile roofed buildings are very rare in the County at the early date suggested by the ceramics. The earliest evidence of tiled roofs nationally is often associated with military contexts, however there is no supporting evidence for a military link here, and the tile is more likely to reflect a higher status site dependent on the adjacent salt industry for its wealth.

The deposits here are well preserved and include areas of contemporary ground surface. These would be vulnerable to the proposed tree planting and bund construction. The areas of significant archaeological deposits are indicated in Figure 12.

Part 2 Detailed report

4 **Aims**

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment which may then be integrated with any proposed development programme.

5 **Archaeological background**

The current report forms the third stage of an evaluation, a very brief summary of the archaeological background was included in the first stage report (desk-based assessment) which was undertaken by Ernest Green Environmental. The second stage of evaluation (fieldwalking and geophysical) is described in Edwards 1996.

6 **Methods**

6.1 **Fieldwork**

Twelve trenches (Fig 2) were stripped of topsoil by a 360° excavator. Selected deposits were then excavated by hand. Recording followed standard practice (County Archaeological Service 1995)

6.2 **Artefacts**

6.2.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

All artefacts were recovered by hand.

6.2.2 **Method of analysis**

All artefacts were quantified by count and/or weight, as appropriate. The pottery was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form. This information was then entered onto a database.

A fragment of rotary quernstone from HWCM 23317 was thin-sectioned by the Department of Geology and Geography, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education.

6.3 **Environment**

6.3.1 **Sampling policy**

The environmental sampling policy was as defined in the County Archaeological Service Recording System (County Archaeological Service 1995, as amended). Large animal bone was hand-collected during excavation and samples of 10 litres taken from five contexts, one (1203) of Iron Age date, and four (701, 707, 709 and 801) of Roman date (See Tables 5 and 6).

6.3.2 Processing and analysis

Hand-collected animal bone was identified where possible by comparison with modern reference specimens housed at the County Archaeological Service and using identification manuals (Schmid 1972; Hillson 1992).

A small sample from context 1203, (the contents of a pot) was processed by the wash-over technique as follows. The sample was broken-up and agitated in a bowl of water. The resulting flot was decanted onto a 500µm sieve, and the residue washed through a 1mm sieve.

The remaining samples were processed by flotation followed by wet-sieving using a Siraf tank. The flot was collected on a 500µm sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were fully sorted by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were fully sorted using a low-power EMT light microscope and remains identified using modern reference specimens housed at the County Archaeological Service. Results of the analysis are summarised in Tables 5, 6 and 7.

7 Analysis

7.1 Structural analysis (Detailed context descriptions are given in Table 2)

Jakeman's Hill Farm Trench 1 (Fig 2)

No features were excavated in this trench, the only features identified consisted of the bases of furrows aligned north-west to south-east. Context 100 represents surface finds from this trench.

Field to west of Wassage Coppice Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5 (Fig 2)

These trenches contained no significant deposits, however extremely truncated ridge and furrow was noted.

Ridge to north of Westwood House Trench 6 (Figs 2 and 3)

The principal feature exposed in this trench was a very substantial ditch (context 603; Fig 4) aligned north-west to south-east, the sides of the ditch were very irregular and this made precise definition of the alignment impossible in the narrow trench. The similarity of the fills and their sequence does however indicate that this may be the same feature as 716.

A small east to west ditch (605) was also observed to the south of the large ditch (context 603), this feature was devoid of finds and probably of prehistoric origin.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 3 and 5)

This was the most intensely investigated of the trenches and the deposits represent a substantial ditch (contexts 715/716; Fig 4) which had been backfilled firstly with redeposited natural, possibly the original upcast bank, then with a dump of more charcoal material of Iron Age date. This material appears to have derived from fairly low intensity domestic waste and included a fragment of rotary quernstone (Fig 11) and briquetage.

A trampled surface (context 729) contained a number of large and unabraded sherds of possibly Iron Age date and was sealed by a later cobbled surface 709 which had been used into the Roman period. This surface was possibly contemporary with some of the postholes in the immediate vicinity, though these may have been cut through it. The other features in the expanded area seem to represent a period of fairly intense activity, the postholes appear to represent parts of more than one structure and the number of parallel gullies and shallow ditches suggest that the site saw progressive change over its life rather than deliberate replanning.

Trench 8

This was the easternmost trench of HWCN 23317, and the Roman occupation was demonstrated to continue across this area. A ditch aligned north-west to south-east (contexts 803/804) contained Roman pottery and vessel glass. A posthole and substantial shallow linear feature (contexts 801/802) were also examined, the latter appeared to run approximately east to west and could possibly represent an unmetalled droveway or similar hollow-way.

Trench 9

This trench was located to determine the direction of ditch cut 716. The principal feature in this trench was again a substantial ditch (cut 902) apparently of Iron Age origin, this feature lies on the same alignment as 716, and had a similar depositional sequence; they both appear to be the same feature.

A cut (context 904) on the southern edge of the ditch appears to be a ditch terminal or pit of Roman date. The main fill of cut 902 was 901 which contained only Iron Age material. The lower fill (905) was almost devoid of finds, apart from a small quantity of Iron Age pottery the only manuports being burnt stone and small quantities of decayed bone. This assemblage appears to date the slighting of the bank to the Iron Age.

Trench 10

This trench was also located to determine the position of the substantial ditch encountered in previous trenches, in this case a slight break in the natural hillside indicated that a large ditch might be present. A major ditch (upper fill 1004) aligned north-west to south-east was identified but not fully sectioned. The depositional sequence did however closely resemble those in 602, 716 and 902. The levelling layer (1003) was again of Roman date, sealing Iron Age material in context 1004

Trench 11

A large ditch (visible as a levelling layer; context 1105) was located at the east end of the trench, it was not excavated but resembled the major ditch seen in the adjacent Trench 6, albeit on a distinctly different alignment. Three postholes (contexts 1101/1102) and a small pit (context 1103/1104) packed with sandstone fragments were also investigated in this trench, the postholes appeared to continue an alignment with two similar features in Trench 12 (contexts 1203/1204). The investigated deposits were all of Roman date.

Trench 12

This trench was intended to determine the position of ditch cut 602 in a westwards direction, however none of the features in Trench 12 continued the alignment of the large ditch. A smaller ditch, (contexts 1201, 1202) had a

similar fill sequence to the main enclosure ditch (redeposited natural containing Iron Age material followed by a greyish brown sandy clay levelling layer of Roman date), but was on a south-west to north-easterly alignment.

The complete lower third of a coarse, handmade, Malvernian ?storage jar (context 1203/1204; Fig 7.9) was found near the northern end of the trench set into the ground in a cut evidently made for the purpose (1205). No evidence of a rim was found and it is possible, but very unlikely, that the vessel was incomplete at the time of deposition. Plough damage had shattered the upper walls of the vessel, and several fragments were found within it. The original contents, if any, were not apparent when a sample of the fill was wet-sieved. This pot is therefore unlikely to represent the container for an inhumed cremation.

7.2 The artefacts

A summary of the artefacts from each trench can be found in Table 4. Pottery information is summarised in Table 2 and Table 3. Artefacts from close to Jakeman's Hill Farm (HWCM 23853) have not been studied in detail, although the flints are discussed more fully below. Apart from the flints, there was a small group of finds from this area consisting of five (116g) brick/tile fragments, four medieval sherds (30g) and two (4g) post-medieval sherds.

No artefacts were recovered from the trenches to the west of Wassage Coppice.

The total quantity of pottery recovered from the site (HWCM 23317) was 651 sherds, weighing 13262g. The pottery was of Iron Age and Roman date and contained a substantial amount of sandy and organic tempered briquetage (fabrics 1 and 2). The greatest quantity of pottery came from Trench 7, the remaining trenches producing under 75 sherds each.

A number of Iron Age fabrics were present. These were hand-made Malvernian ware (fabric 3; Peacock 1968 group A), Palaeozoic Limestone tempered ware (fabric 4.1; Peacock 1968 group B1), sandy ware (fabric 5.1), angular quartz tempered ware (fabric 5.4) and "Belgic type" (fabric 201) ware. The latter fabric is tempered with moderate clay pellets and organic material. It is the equivalent of a class E fabric in the Warwickshire Roman pottery type series (pers comm Dr J Evans). The two examples of "Belgic type" fabrics in the Hereford and Worcester pottery type series are not like this single sherd. The suggested date range for fabric E is 20-65 AD. The most common fabric was Malvernian ware. There is some difficulty in the precise dating of fabrics 4.1, 5.1 and 5.4. It is possible that they continue in use into the Roman period. A similar problem is encountered with the briquetage. It is known to be Iron Age but when it is found in Roman levels, it is always associated with other Iron Age pottery, so the possibility of residuality is strong. As yet there is no evidence to show the contemporary use of briquetage and Roman pottery, where there is no question of residuality. Unfortunately this site does nothing to elucidate the matter. A large proportion of the Iron Age pottery came from ditch fills (168 sherds) whereas comparatively little Roman material was present (34 sherds). The Roman sherds were found in six ditch fills (602, 722, 723, 803, 901 and 903). Iron Age sherds and briquetage were found in these fills but also occurred in ditch fills 603, 715, 905, 1004 and 1201). The ratio of Iron Age to Roman pottery in these fills and the position of the fill material in

the upper levels of the fill suggests that most of the ditches are of Iron Age date. Other concentrations of Iron Age material were noted in levelling layers 601, 714, 1003, 1105, and in the cobbled yard surface 709, although there was more Roman pottery than Iron Age in the latter. The Iron Age pottery in the levelling layers and yard surface suggests fairly intense Iron Age occupation which produced a spread of debris which became disturbed and incorporated into the yard and features during the earliest Roman occupation.

Posthole fills contained mainly Roman material. The exception to this was posthole fill 705 which had 27 pieces of briquetage weighing 902g.

There were few form sherds. Those that there were, were in the hand made Malvernian ware (fabric 3). There was a mixture of fairly small well finished cooking pot/jars with wiped or burnished surfaces (Fig 6, 1-5; Fig 7, 7-8) and larger coarse vessels (Fig 7, 8-9). The large coarse vessels were usually heavily abraded/degraded, possibly by soil conditions and frequently were seen to be covered by a thick hard sandy concretion (eg Fig 7, 7), which did not react with dilute hydrochloric acid, which extended over surfaces and breaks. This was not found on any of the Roman pottery, although it was found on the iron artefacts recovered from the site.

The Roman pottery consisted mainly of Severn Valley ware (Fig 8, 10; Fig 9, 12-14, 16). Three variants of this fabric were present (12.1-12.3, reduced, organic tempered and reduced, organic tempered respectively). Fabric 12 was the most abundant (181 sherds, 1906g) with fabric 12.2 the second most common (26 sherds 342g). The remaining two fabrics were represented by only six sherds, weighing 46g. There was, however, some additional and unusual variations in fabric 12 (Fig 8.10 and Fig 9.13), although the forms are typical. This is not uncommon for early Severn Valley ware production and similar variations have been noted at the Worcestershire production site of Madresfield (*pers comm* J Evans and K Nichol). A few other fabrics were present ie 3 sherds of Samian (9g), 21 sherds of mortaria (578g), a Dressel 20 amphora (*pers comm* A Hancocks) sherd (3g) and two greyware sherds (fabric 14) weighing 12g. Two mortarium fabrics were found, both recorded under a general mortarium fabric number, fabric 200. A substantial number of sherds from one mortarium was found in 600 and 601 (Fig 7, 11). The fabric was not present in the County type series. Unfortunately the surfaces of the sherds were degraded and out of the twenty sherds in this fabric only one trituration grit was visible. The grit appeared to be a small piece of grey flint. It is suggested that this mortarium from 601 is a continental import from Noyon, north-eastern France (*pers comm* Dr J Evans). There was another small sherd in this fabric from context 709, possibly from the same vessel. The second mortarium fabric was represented by a single sherd which also lacked trituration grits but seemed to be a West Midlands type, possibly Mancetter Hartshill.

There were only a few Roman form sherds. Straight sided tankards were present, together with narrow necked and wide-mouthed jars, all in Severn Valley ware. A small grey ware jar (fabric 14) was also present (Fig 9.15). There is nothing in the Roman pottery assemblage which need be later than the first century. The absence of any black burnished ware tends to support this.

Illustrated pottery

Fig 6, 1; 602, fabric 3, burnished/wiped external surface.
Fig 6, 2; 709, fabric 3, soot on rim and internally.
Fig 6, 3; 709, fabric 3.
Fig 6, 4; 729, fabric 3, heavy external soot.
Fig 6, 5; 901, fabric 3, badly abraded internally, small patches of concretions on external surface and breaks.
Fig 7, 6; 901, fabric 3, external ?burnishing, external soot.
Fig 7, 7; 1201, fabric 3, burnished ext surface, heavy internal and external concretions and over breaks.
Fig 7, 8; 709, fabric 3, abraded surfaces, heavy concretions over surfaces and breaks.
Fig 7, 9; 1203, abraded surfaces, traces of ?sooting on the upper part of the internal wall of the vessel.
Fig 8, 10; 100, fabric 12, soft, buff fabric.
Fig 8, 11; 600/601, fabric 200, badly abraded.
Fig 9, 12; 707, fabric 12.
Fig 9, 13; 709, fabric 12, pink fabric, cream core.
Fig 9, 14; 901, fabric 12.
Fig 9, 15; 723, fabric 14.
Fig 9, 16; 601, fabric 12.

Other artefacts

There were two categories of clay objects, roof tile and indeterminate fired clay/daub. The roof tile was concentrated in two areas, ditch 723 and ditch 902 and cut 904. Ditch 723 is unconnected with the enclosure but 902 seems to be part of the main enclosure ditch. However both Trench 7 and Trench 9 are located to the south-west and the source of the tile could be the same and given the lack of tile from the other trenches with the exception of 20g of tile from Trench 11, the building with which it was associated, (assuming the tile was used for roofing rather than another purpose), probably lay outside the enclosure.

The daub/fired clay was found in most trenches. It was not always easy to distinguish between fired clay, daub and briquetage, particularly since the fragments were often small. Burnt stone (pebble pot boilers) was always associated with burnt clay. In context 801 burnt stone and clay was found with a flint flake. This may be an earlier prehistoric feature.

Other evidence for earlier prehistoric activity is furnished by a small flint scatter from the topsoil from site HWCM 23853. There was a fabricator (Trench 1; Fig 10. 1) which can probably be dated to the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age (Robin Jackson pers comm). The flint did not appear to be gravel derived and has therefore probably been imported. Flint tools have generally been rarely recorded in this part of the County and this find, though feasibly a casual loss, raises the possibility that it represents occupation. This possibility is emphasised by the presence of two waste flakes and a piece of miscellaneous debitage. Even such low concentrations of flint within the County have previously been proven to represent extensive early prehistoric occupation. A density of one flint artefact per 277m² of scanned surface at Kemerton proved, on excavation, to represent a major Bronze Age settlement (based on figures from Cook and Hurst 1994; Napthan *et al* 1997).

Metal finds were sparse. A large iron object, weighing 534g was recovered from ditch fill 602. However the object was completely covered in a thick concretion, identical to the one found on many of the Malvernian sherds (see above). A nail and an indeterminate object again covered in concretions were found in the cobbled yard surface 709.

A fibula (Fig 10. 2), possibly of silver, was recovered from the surface cleaning of Trench 7. It shares some of the characteristics of a trumpet brooch ie a widened head, sharp curvature of the upper bow and deep catch plate. However there is no mid-bow moulding and the decorative scheme of three vertical rows of cloisons in the upper half of the bow, seems unusual. Traces of the inlay remain in two cells. The inlay in the central row could be glass, the other is too decayed for accurate identification without scientific testing. The spring and pin are completely absent as is the very tip of the brooch where there may have been a foot-knob.

Evidence of metal-working was present in the form of slag. It was found in Trenches 8, 9 and 11 but the largest concentration occurring in the cobbled yard surface 709. Thus the metal working seems to be associated predominantly with areas outside the enclosure. There was no tap slag and much of the slag was pale with a slight greenish tinge and very light and vesicular. In general the slag did not resemble that normally found on Roman rural sites in the county and there is therefore a strong possibility that it is connected with the Iron Age occupation of the site.

There were three pieces of glass from one vessel found in the fill of ditch 804. The sherds were of a pale yellow green metal but the form was indeterminate.

Context 716 (a ditch fill) produced a rotary quernstone fragment of a particularly hard conglomerate stone, identified as typical of a Devonian Upper Old Red Sandstone quartz conglomerate. This stone may be provenanced to within the Welsh border, Wye Valley and Forest of Dean area where it forms high upland tracts and craggy outcrops (petrological analysis by S Smith; Appendix 1). The quern is illustrated (Fig 11), together with a reconstruction drawing.

7.3

Environmental remains

Hand-collected animal bone

A total of 142g (74 fragments) of animal bone was hand-collected from nine contexts of Iron Age and Romano-British date. This represents a small assemblage of animal bone which is generally poorly preserved. However, casts of perished animal bone were also moderately frequent on the site, suggesting a higher incidence of animal bone than is represented by the assemblage studied. The poor preservation may be a result of acidic soil conditions.

Contexts 602, 716, 905, and 1004: Iron Age

The remains from these contexts are dominated by fragments of large ungulate (horse, cow or red deer) size and cattle teeth. However, a fragment of a dog jaw present in context 602, is a rare find for this period in the County. Dogs are likely to have been used for livestock herding or hunting. Although by the Roman period dogs were already as highly domesticated as they are today

(Clutton-Brock 1987), little is known about domesticated dogs during the Iron Age period.

Contexts 601, 709, 803, 901, and 1103: Romano-British

The only identifiable remains from these contexts were cattle teeth, the remaining fragments being unidentifiable small fragments, some of which are burnt. The burnt animal bone may be debris which was spread on fields as a fertiliser, particularly as the local soil appears to be relatively acidic.

The predominance of teeth remains is likely to be a reflection of the poor conditions for bone survival as they are generally more resistant to decay. A similar composition of bone remains was noted on a Romano-British farmstead settlement at Linacres Farm, north of Worcester (Dalwood *et al* 1996).

Wet-sieved samples

Few environmental remains were recovered from these samples. Only occasional burnt fragments of animal bone (context 707), and both charred and uncharred plant remains were recovered. Charcoal fragments were also noticeably sparse. The latter may be intrusive, particularly goosefoot (*Galium aparine*) and fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) seeds which had a fresh modern appearance.

The charred plant remains consisted of wheat grains (*Triticum* sp) and seeds presumably burnt with crop waste, such as goosefoot, spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp), dock/sorrel (*Rumex* sp), small legumes (*Leguminosae* sp indet) and *Brassica* species. It was not possible to determine whether the latter were from a weed or cultivated species. Since the both this species and goosefoot were also found uncharred, it is possible that the charred seeds of these species may result from modern stubble burning.

The assemblages are too small to make any interpretation of the stage of crop processing represented by these remains. However, the weed seeds appear to indicate certain conditions under which crops were grown. Goosefoot (if contemporary) is likely to have grown in a winter-sown crop (Hillman 1981), and spike-rush may have been growing at the wetter edges of fields.

Discussion

The scatter of flint artefacts close to Jakeman's Hill Farm (HWCM 23853) is of considerable interest as prehistoric domestic sites are poorly understood, and under represented in the archaeological record. The geophysical survey has indicated the probable presence of cut features in the immediate vicinity of the trench and this may indicate *in situ* prehistoric deposits. No prehistoric features were identified within the trench, this may reflect either a low density of features or complete truncation of early features in this area. Low feature densities are not uncommon for prehistoric sites - the overall density for the Bronze Age settlement at Kemerton was one feature per 28m², with low density occupation and plough damaged areas producing approximately one feature per 100m² (Napthan *et al* 1997). The material within the ploughzone often constitutes the major part of the evidence of mans activities on such sites and recovery of ploughzone artefacts can be considered as an essential element

in determining the nature of such ephemeral sites.

The trenches to the west of Wassage Coppice did not provide any further information to explain the prehistoric artefacts identified during field walking. It would appear therefore that those finds may have derived from a general spread of artefacts around the ridge-top site in the adjoining field.

The deposits on the ridge to the north of Westwood House (HWCM 23317) represent a large ditched enclosure (or enclosures), probably of Iron Age date, the ditches appear to have been accompanied by an internal bank which would make them sufficient of a barrier to be defensive. Dating of such enclosures is difficult under evaluation conditions where only small sections of the ditch fill could be examined. However the paucity of flint artefacts recovered in this area of the site indicate that the enclosure is unlikely to pre-date the Iron Age. The nature of the finds within the upper ditch fills indicate that the enclosure protected a domestic settlement. This conclusion may be drawn from the presence of comparatively large quantities of burnt stone, low densities of pottery, animal bone and the presence of a fragment of quernstone. The paucity of charcoal in the majority of contexts is a little surprising, (given the relative abundance of burnt stone and slag), but may simply reflect a practice of spreading woodash on the surrounding fields rather than dumping it on site.

The presence of substantial quantities of briquetage on a site not apparently directly involved in salt production is not easy to explain. This site lies close enough to the salt production area in Droitwich to have housed workers in the industry, but the secondary use of briquetage vessels remains unclear; as a container for salt transport they would seem both to be inconveniently heavy and fragile. They might, if unused in salt production, be used as crude containers, or once used and broken to extract the salt, perhaps serve as salt licks for cattle or other stock.

The shape of the enclosure, based on the limited observations of the evaluation, appears to be irregular. It does however broadly correspond with the highest point of the ridgeline and this would suggest a contour based defensive circuit. Such irregular enclosures are typical of Iron Age settlements, which often have long and complex histories (Megaw and Simpson 1979)

Evidence of occupation appears to be present both inside and outside the main enclosure, the levelling of the defences may therefore reflect a period of expansion of the settlement, which continued into the Roman period.

The Iron Age is well represented in the archaeological record of the County, however this reflects the number of surviving hillforts rather than the smaller defended enclosures, which are almost all known only from aerial photography. Only one archaeologically excavated example exists in the County at Brant Farm, Blackstone (HWCM 236), however that site remains unpublished. The only other defended Iron Age enclosure site identified by evaluation lies on the route of the proposed Wyre Piddle Bypass; a combination of trenching and geophysical survey has there demonstrated the presence of a complex and extensive series of enclosures (Napthan *et al* 1997). Non-defended enclosures of this period in the County are comparatively well known from cropmark evidence, but very few have been excavated.

The nature of the Roman settlement is unclear; the structural evidence for this period is slight, consisting of several small ditches, postholes and a cobbled surface. The artefactual evidence however indicates that buildings of the Romanised (tiled and therefore rectangular) were present and the glass and ceramics indicate a moderate level of domestic comforts. The Roman features appear to reflect the surviving Iron Age alignments, and the presence of a Roman levelling layer over the tops of the ditches indicates that they were still visible as slight depressions at this time. The poor preservation conditions for bone may have significantly reduced the apparent evidence of domestic activity, although many of the unretrievable bones were visible as soil traces.

The vesicular slag, which was present in many of the contexts, indicates that some form of industrial activity, probably metal working, was undertaken on the site. The form of slag is unusual and might be indicative of Iron Age, rather than Roman metal working, the latter being comparatively common in the County.

The presence of *tegulae* is of considerable interest for a site which is of early Roman date, whilst tile kilns are known from as early as 50-60 AD at Colchester (McWhirr and Viner 1978) they are rare in the 1st century and usually associated with military or official buildings in the early years of Roman occupation. The earliest stamped products of a municipal tileworks in Gloucester appear in contexts dated to c 110-125AD (McWhirr and Viner 1978). A 1st-2nd century date is unusually early, but feasible, for a rural site in this County. The presence of tiles may be considered indicative of a rectilinear building, as there is no practical way to roof a circular or ovoid structure with *tegulae*. Regionally, rectilinear buildings on rural sites are rare before the late Roman period, however, at Salford Priors rectilinear post-built structures are dated as early as the 1st century (Booth 1996).

The sparsity of environmental remains makes any contribution towards the interpretation of human activities (such as crop processing or disposal of food waste) difficult. However, this sparsity of remains is noteworthy. In particular, very little charcoal was present despite the abundance of burnt stone and metal slag. The small quantity of poorly preserved animal bone may be a result of acidic soil conditions as soft deteriorated animal bone (which could not be recovered), was also encountered on site. Likewise charred cereal crop remains were also sparsely distributed.

It is possible that little charred cereal crop remains would have been recovered if the site were predominantly a pastoralist settlement. Certainly, more animal bone was originally present on the site than could be hand-collected for analysis as it showed as soil casts in several contexts.

The pottery recovered from the site indicates settlement from the late Iron Age through into the early Roman period. Despite the presence of *tegulae*, the pottery strongly suggests a comparatively short lived Roman occupation. The straight sided Severn Valley tankards are likely to be 1st century. The absence of black burnished ware suggests a *terminus ante quem* of 120 AD when there was a major expansion of the industry (Webster 1993, 228). The presence of a continental mortarium is consistent with an early date.

The variety of "native" wares parallels the pottery from Droitwich (Hurst 1992) and it is suggested that the salt trade was a major influence in this. This

would seem to hold true for this site also. Unlike Droitwich, however, the predominant type of briquetage is sandy rather than organic tempered. Briquetage also makes up a much smaller proportion of the assemblage than it does in Droitwich.

There is reasonable evidence for metal-working on the site which may well be Iron Age. Further work on the slags by an appropriate specialist would be worthwhile. Whether it was metal-working or some other industrial process (connected with the salt industry) which was the cause of the concretions adhering to the ironwork and Malvernian pottery is difficult to say. However, the relatively discrete occurrence of the slag, but the ubiquitous nature of the concretions on the pottery, tend to suggest that there is no connection.

The status of the site is difficult to gauge. The presence of a possibly silver fibula and fragments of a glass vessel tend to suggest relatively well off occupants but is in no way exceptional. The Dressel 20 amphora sherd indicates an occupant with Roman culinary tastes but there is too little artefactual evidence from which to gauge the status of the site's occupants with any certainty. This sherd, the tile and the continental mortarium might suggest a higher status site of Flavian date.

The Roman preference for building on south facing slopes has been well established and it is probable that the tiled building lies on the southern slope of the ridge, outside the proposed development area as currently planned. The established areas of archaeologically significant deposits are indicated in Fig 12.

Significance

In considering significance, the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments (DoE 1990, annex 4), have been used as a guide.

These nationally accepted criteria are used for assessing the importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. Though scheduling is not being considered in this case they form an appropriate framework for the assessment of any archaeological site. The criteria should not, however, be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgment based on the individual circumstances of a case.

Jakeman's Hill Farm (HWCN 23853)

The artefacts recovered from HWCN 23853 include a flint tool of Neolithic-Early Bronze Age type and a comparatively high density of flint working debris. Early prehistoric sites have rarely been excavated in the County, and such material has generally been found in later contexts on sites where it is residual. The particular tool is of interest as the first fabricator to be found in the County, and this may point towards a particular, uncommon, function for the site.

The flint scatter would be vulnerable to disturbance by any earthmoving operations, the distribution of artefact types is of considerable importance in determining the presence of areas of different activity on prehistoric sites.

Field to the west of Wassage Coppice (HWCM 24138)

This site produced no evidence of significant archaeological deposits

Ridge to the north of Westwood House (HWCM 23317)

Period/Rarity

The Iron Age is well represented in the archaeological record of the County, however this reflects the number of surviving hillforts rather than the smaller defended enclosures, which are almost all known only from aerial photography. Only one archaeologically excavated example exists in the County at Brant Farm, Blackstone (HWCM 236), however, that site remains unpublished. The only other defended Iron Age enclosure site identified by evaluation lies on the route of the proposed Wyre Piddle Bypass; a combination of trenching and geophysical survey has demonstrated the presence of a complex and extensive series of enclosures. Non-defended enclosures of this period in the County are comparatively well known from cropmark evidence, but very few have been excavated.

Preservation

The deposits in HWCM 23317 appear to be very well preserved, with minimal vertical truncation, which has areas of surviving ground surface of Roman date. The soil conditions appear to favour the preservation of ceramics, metal and glass but the bone found was all in a poor condition and often unrecoverable.

Potential

The evaluation has established the existence of a well preserved site of Iron Age and Roman date in the immediate vicinity of the regionally important inland salt production centre at Droitwich. Whilst sites in the area of the production centre have been excavated in some detail little is known of the domestic settlements which must have existed in the hinterland. These settlements undoubtedly had economic links with the salt industry and may have provided both services and labour. Excavation of this site would potentially clarify the trading links within and beyond the Droitwich area during the transitional Iron Age - early Roman period. The nature of the apparent defensive circuit may also be determined by excavation; the form of the enclosure and its entrance may reveal if it served as a functional defence or purely as a status symbol.

Vulnerability

The deposits are currently suffering gradual attrition as a result of ploughing, this is demonstrated by the presence of comparatively unabraded ceramics in the ploughsoil. These may have been ploughed up from underlying features in the last few years. Such attrition is generally worse on the sloping part of the site where the topsoil is naturally more shallow.

The current proposals for tree-planting and an earthen bund may have serious impact on underlying archaeological deposits unless they are undertaken in a sympathetic manner. Mechanical excavation of planting holes, topsoil stripping in the bund area, soil compaction and associated drainage works are all likely to be highly detrimental to the underlying deposits. In the longer term damage may be anticipated by the root systems of trees.

Academic summary

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intend to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The Client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

A staged programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the proposed site of a new industrial estate on agricultural land and part of Westwood Park to the south of the present Hampton Lovett Industrial Estate.

A single trench (52m²) was excavated in an area close to Jakeman's Hill Farm (HWCM 23853). This area was identified by geophysical survey as having potential archaeological features. The area investigated produced sufficiently high density of worked flints, including a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age fabricator tool, to indicate prehistoric occupation in the immediate vicinity. Four further trenches totalling 370m² (HWCM 24138), contained no identifiable archaeological features other than traces of ridge and furrow.

Three trenches (totalling 200m²) were excavated along the ridge (HWCM 23317) overlooking Westwood House. The deposits in these trenches represent extensive Iron Age and Roman activity and four additional trenches (totalling 370m²) were excavated in order to more closely define the extent of a substantial ditched enclosure which appears to have originated during the Iron Age. The trenches did not include any substantial part of the enclosed area as the immediate areas within the ditch may be assumed to have been covered by an internal earthen bank. Some Iron Age activity was identified within the enclosure but the original function cannot be determined with reasonable certainty without extensive excavation. A defended settlement of late Iron Age date appears to be the likely interpretation. The deposits so far identified indicate that features are likely to be well preserved within the enclosure. The ditch was apparently kept clear during the period of its original function and the majority of the artefacts were only deposited after part of the bank had been levelled and used to partially backfill the ditch. Of note was the presence of a rotary quern fragment immediately above the levelled bank material. Burnt limestone fragments, which are typical indicators of prehistoric technology, were found beneath and within the dumped bank material, however charcoal was notably sparse. This is unusual as substantial quantities of fuel would have been needed to heat the stones.

The Roman features examined lay outside the enclosure, the substantial earthworks of which had been almost completely levelled during the Iron Age. The Roman upper fills of the enclosure ditch seem to purely represent final levelling over the subsiding Iron Age fills. The presence of early Roman features on similar alignments to the enclosure ditch does however indicate that it remained a significant factor in determining later boundaries. The Roman material is, where datable, all of 1st to early 2nd century date and this would support the structural evidence that there was a continuity of occupation during the Iron Age/Roman transition.

The principal area of Roman activity examined appears to represent parts of one or more structures of timber construction, a cobbled yard surface and several parallel gullies. The presence of significant quantities of roof-tile

indicates the presence of at least one building in the Roman tradition, probably not that represented by the irregular postholes seen within the trench. The presence of considerable quantities of early Roman pottery, fragments of vessel glass and a possibly silver brooch, point to a standard of domestic comfort beyond that which is typical of small farmsteads in the County. The presence of briquetage in the vicinity of the salt industry of Droitwich is not unexpected. A considerable quantity of vesicular slag (possibly metal-working waste), was recovered from the Iron-Age and Roman contexts suggesting that the site was partly industrial in nature.

11 **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 33 Context records AS1
- 3 Colour transparency films
- 1 Black and white photographic films
- 42 Context finds sheets AS8
- 15 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds

The project archive will be placed at:

Hereford and Worcester County Museum
Hartlebury Castle
Hartlebury
Near Kidderminster
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 270413

12 **Acknowledgements**

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13 **Personnel**

The fieldwork was undertaken with the assistance of Liz Pearson, Nigel Topping and David Wichbold. The environmental analysis was undertaken by Liz Pearson, the finds report was prepared by Stephanie Ratkai. Illustrations were prepared for the report by Carolyn Hunt and Steve Rigby. The report was edited by S Woodiwiss.

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Abbreviations and glossary

HWCM - Numbers prefixed with "HWCM" are the primary reference numbers used by the Hereford and Worcester County Sites and Monuments Record.

Table 1

Context descriptions

100	Unstratified and topsoil finds from Trench 1
600	Unstratified and topsoil finds from Trench 6
601	Levelling layer over 602, Pale grey brown silty clay, occ charcoal and pebbles, rare pot
602	Upper fill of 603, reddish brown compact sandy silty clay, rare charcoal and bone, occ pebbles and v rare pot. Lower fill (unnumbered) consists of very compact reddish silty clay, v rare charcoal and bone
603	Ditch cut, irregular profile 4.5m wide approx, 1.85m deep
604	Fill of 605, Very compact grey mottled pale red sandy clay, abundant pebbles, rare charcoal
605	East to west ditch, shallow V profile 1m wide, 0.35m deep
700	Unstratified and topsoil finds from Trench 7
701	Fill of 702, Greyish brown sandy clay upper fill, mid tan reddish clay lower fill with rare charcoal flecks
702	Post hole, cutting 707, 1m wide 1.2m long and 0.55m deep, ovoid and very steep sided
703	Fill of 704
704	Posthole, 0.3m diameter, 0.25m deep, cuts or contemporary with 709
705	Fill of 706, grey brown charcoaly clay with frequent lumps of burnt clay and or briquetage, occ burnt stone
706	Posthole, 0.90m diameter, 0.48m deep
707	Fill of 708, Very charcoaly dark grey silty clay fill, moderate burnt stone pot and burnt clay, cuts and probably contemporary with 709
708	Gully, straight and aligned north west to south east, 0.35m wide and average 0.15m deep. Becomes shallower to SE, and stops at the point where it is cut by a similar gully (710/711)
709	Cobbled yard surface and associated trample, seals 729, cut by 708. An irregular surface appearing to be aligned north east to south west but not well defined at edges. Frequent pot, charcoal, burnt clay
710	Fill of 711, light greyish brown sandy clay
711	Gully aligned south west to north east, cuts or contemporary with 708
712	Possible palisade slot with mottled grey sandy fill, 0.05m deep
713	Gully, aligned south-west to north-east, clean greyish brown sandy clay fill, 0.28m deep
714	Levelling layer, pale greyish brown silty sandy clay, occ pot, seals 715
715	Ditch fill, upper fill contained finds was brownish sandy clay with very rare charcoal and occ burnt stone. Lower fill devoid of finds other than traces of decayed bone consisted of reddish sandy clay, more or less natural but with v rare charcoal and rare burnt stone)
716	Ditch cut, equals 603, approx 4.5m wide 1.65m deep, irregular profile
717	Post hole fill of 718, mid grey brown clay charcoal flecks and frequent limestone lumps which appeared to represent packing
718	Posthole, 0.4m diameter and 0.5m deep
719	Posthole fill of 720, greyish brown clayey fill with limestone packing
720	Posthole, 0.4m diameter and 0.5m deep
721	Cobbled surface to the east of 723 and dipping towards it
722	Fill of 723, mid greyish brown sandy clay, moderate tegulae, pot and charcoal flecks
723	Shallow ditch with uncertain but near contemporary relationship with 724, 1.3m wide, 0.28m deep
724	Gully parallel with 723, 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep
725	Posthole fill of 726,
726	Posthole cut, 0.45m dia, 0.3m deep
727	Posthole fill of 728
728	Posthole cut, 0.3m dia, 0.56m deep

-
- 729 Irregular depression over natural clay patch containing ?trampled finds, 1.8mx1.12mx0.2m deep
- 800 Unstratified and topsoil finds from Trench 8
- 801 Fill of 802, upper fill is olive grey sandy clay with occ charcoal flecks, lower fill mottled olive grey sandy clay and reddish orange sandy clay, moderate charcoal
- 802 Irregular large shallow feature approx 5m wide and 0.6m deep
- 803 Fill of 804, pale grey brown sandy silty clay, occ charcoal flecks, rare pot, rare glass and burnt bone
- 804 Ditch cut aligned north west to south east, 1m wide, 0.3m deep
- 900 Levelling layer, light brown mottled sandy clay, v rare charcoal flecks, overlies 903 and 901
- 901 Ditch fill, upper fill of cut 902, brown clay loam with pot and charcoal flecks, occ burnt stone and decayed bone
- 902 Ditch cut,(probably equals 603 and 716), 4m wide, 1.5m deep, irregular profile
- 903 Fill of 904, mid brown clay, charcoal flecks occ pebbles with lower fill of grey brown charcoaly clay with pot/daub flecks
- 904 Cut, uncertain if this is the terminus of a small ditch or a pit, 1.6 wide and 0.6m deep
- 905 Ditch fill, lower fill of 902, reddish brown clay with v rare charcoal flecks, occ burnt stone in upper part of fill
- 1001 Fill of 1002, light greyish brown sandy clay, very mottled and compact with distinctive charcoal patches and very rare burnt stone, rare pot/burnt clay
- 1002 Shallow irregular cut, 1.8mx1.2m x 0.2m deep
- 1003 Levelling layer, mottled light grey brown sandy clay, v rare Roman pot, v rare charcoal, cut by a small gully with charcoaly fill on similar alignment to 1005
- 1004 Ditch fill, brown red clay, occ burnt stone, rare charcoal and pot. Not fully excavated
- 1005 Ditch cut, approximately 5m wide, not fully sectioned but very similar to 603, 716, 904
- 1101 Fill of 1102, mid grey sandy clay with sandstone packing
- 1102 Posthole, 0.65m diameter, 0.5m deep
- 1103 Pit or large posthole fill of 1104, greyish red brown sandy clay, frequent sandstone blocks up to 0.3x0.25x0.2, v rare charcoal flecks
- 1104 Pit cut, ovoid and steep-sided 1.5x1.2m
- 1105 Levelling layer, light greyish brown sandy clay, v rare charcoal flecks. This layer seals a very substantial ditch circa 7m wide, not excavated
- 1200 Ditch cut aligned east to west, v profile, 2.1m wide, 1m deep
- 1201 Ditch fill of 1202, grey brown sandy silty clay, occ charcoal flecks, rare pottery, burnt clay and pebbles, lower fill is clean reddish brown marly clay (redeposited natural)
- 1203 Fill of 1204, the feature was entirely filled by the base of a large vessel in a coarse local fabric which appears to have been deliberately set upright in the ground, the upper part of the vessel had suffered extensive plough damage, and it was not possible to determine if it was complete at the time of deposition. The pot contained a brown sandy clay fill with very rare charcoal flecks
- 1204 Cut for the deposition of 1203, 0.3m diameter, 0.25m deep
-

Context	Data	1	2	3	4.1	5.1	5.4	12	12.1	12.2	12.3	14	43	98	200	201	Grand Total
100	Sherd weight (g)	50	0	182	46	0	6	256	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	556
	Sherd count	4	0	35	7	0	1	21	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69
600	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	2	0	0	0	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	90	0	186
	Sherd count	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	13
601	Sherd weight (g)	16	0	542	10	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	473	0	1044
	Sherd count	2	0	20	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	36
602	Sherd weight (g)	18	0	0	0	0	66	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150
	Sherd count	2	0	0	0	0	9	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
603	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
	Sherd count	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
701	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
703	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
705	Sherd weight (g)	902	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	902
	Sherd count	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
707	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	20	0	0	0	48	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
	Sherd count	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
708	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	120
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
709	Sherd weight (g)	40	30	826	0	0	0	682	10	278	0	10	8	38	1	0	1923
	Sherd count	8	3	51	0	0	0	57	1	16	0	1	2	2	1	0	142
710	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
714	Sherd weight (g)	18	42	22	0	0	0	36	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	132
	Sherd count	3	4	4	0	0	0	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25
715	Sherd weight (g)	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
	Sherd count	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
717	Sherd weight (g)	1	0	52	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
	Sherd count	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
719	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
721	Sherd weight (g)	4	0	58	0	0	0	24	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90
	Sherd count	1	0	9	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
722	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
723	Sherd weight (g)	38	0	0	0	0	0	532	0	0	6	0	0	0	4	0	580
	Sherd count	2	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	27
725	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
729	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	562	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	562
	Sherd count	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
801	Sherd weight (g)	38	0	0	0	6	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88
	Sherd count	2	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
803	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	8	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
	Sherd count	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
901	Sherd weight (g)	332	0	188	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	530
	Sherd count	26	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	51
903	Sherd weight (g)	26	0	4	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58
	Sherd count	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
905	Sherd weight (g)	0	88	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96
	Sherd count	0	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
1003	Sherd weight (g)	6	0	5	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
	Sherd count	3	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
1004	Sherd weight (g)	24	0	5	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41
	Sherd count	8	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
1103	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
	Sherd count	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
1105	Sherd weight (g)	104	0	34	0	0	0	20	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	166
	Sherd count	2	0	4	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	12
1201	Sherd weight (g)	110	248	74	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	472
	Sherd count	12	15	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
1203	Sherd weight (g)	0	0	5250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5250
	Sherd count	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Total Sherd weight (g)		1759	408	7860	56	18	116	2010	40	342	6	12	9	38	578	10	13262
Total Sherd count		109	32	234	9	3	15	188	5	26	1	2	3	2	21	1	651

Table 2: Quantification of pottery fabrics by context

Context	Data	1	2	3	4.1	5.1	5.4	12	12.1	12.2	12.3	14	43	98	200	201
100	Sherd weight	9%	0%	33%	8%	0%	1%	46%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	6%	0%	51%	10%	0%	1%	30%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
600	Sherd weight	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	51%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	48%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	23%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	69%	0%
601	Sherd weight	2%	0%	52%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	45%	0%
	Sherd count	6%	0%	56%	6%	0%	6%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	25%	0%
602	Sherd weight	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	44%	44%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	39%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
603	Sherd weight	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
701	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
703	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
705	Sherd weight	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
707	Sherd weight	0%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	60%	0%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	9%	0%	0%	0%	55%	0%	36%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
708	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	95%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	92%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
709	Sherd weight	2%	2%	43%	0%	0%	0%	35%	1%	14%	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	6%	2%	36%	0%	0%	0%	40%	1%	11%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
710	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
714	Sherd weight	14%	32%	17%	0%	0%	0%	27%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%
	Sherd count	12%	16%	16%	0%	0%	0%	48%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%
715	Sherd weight	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
717	Sherd weight	2%	0%	96%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	20%	0%	60%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
719	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
721	Sherd weight	4%	0%	64%	0%	0%	0%	27%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	6%	0%	56%	0%	0%	0%	31%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
722	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
723	Sherd weight	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	92%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
	Sherd count	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	85%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%
725	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	0%	92%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	80%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
729	Sherd weight	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
801	Sherd weight	43%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	29%	0%	0%	0%	14%	0%	57%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
803	Sherd weight	0%	0%	57%	0%	0%	0%	43%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
901	Sherd weight	63%	0%	35%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%
	Sherd count	51%	0%	47%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%
903	Sherd weight	45%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	48%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	50%	0%	17%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
905	Sherd weight	0%	92%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	71%	29%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1003	Sherd weight	35%	0%	29%	0%	0%	12%	24%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	38%	0%	13%	0%	0%	13%	38%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1004	Sherd weight	59%	0%	12%	0%	29%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	67%	0%	17%	0%	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1103	Sherd weight	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%
1105	Sherd weight	63%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%	12%	4%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	17%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	33%	8%	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1201	Sherd weight	23%	53%	16%	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	39%	48%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1203	Sherd weight	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sherd count	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total Sherd weight		13%	3%	59%	0%	0%	1%	15%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%
Total Sherd count		17%	5%	36%	1%	0%	2%	29%	1%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%

Table 3: Relative percentages of fabrics by context

	Pottery (g)	Roof tile (g)	Daub/Fired clay (g)	Flint (no)	Burnt stone (g)	Charcoal (g)	Iron (no)	Slag (g)	Vessel glass (g)	Silver (no)
Context										
100	556									
600	186									
601	1024		70							
602	150						1			
603	18		164							
700										1
701	23									
705	902									
708	120		176							
709	1923		137		30		2	156		
710	2									
714	132	66								
716			86							
717	54									
721	90	6						4		
722	4	1132	232							
723	580	2146								
725	50		16							
727		6					1			
729	562									
801	88		4	1	34					
803	14		2					2	8	
901	530	232						18		
903	58	1084	26							
905	66		6							
1001			28							
1003			36		114					
1004	36		36							
1101								6		
1103	2	20						5		
1105	166		118					2		
1201	472									
1203	5234									
Total	13262	4692	5829	1	178g	1g	3	193	8	1

Table 4: Occurrence of artefacts by context (by weight in grams or by count)

HWCM	Context	Type	Sample	Volume	Residue	Flot
			size	sieved	sorted	sorted
			(l)	(l)	(ml)	(ml)
23317	701	posthole	10	10	800	10
23317	707	gully	15	15	3500	40
23317	709	surface	10	10	3000	20
23317	801	irreg feature	10	0	1000	20
23317	1203	fill of pot	2	2	0	20

Table 5: HWCM 23317, list of wet-sieved samples

sitecode	context	period	weight(g)	preservation	fragmentation
23317	601	Roman	1	poor	4
23317	602	Iron Age	40	poor	4
23317	709	Roman	14	good	1
23317	716	Iron Age	2	poor	5
23317	801	Roman	1	poor	5
23317	901	Roman	1	poor	4
23317	905	Iron Age	82	mod	3
23317	1004	Iron Age	2	poor	5
23317	1103	Roman	2	poor	5

Table 6: HWCM 23317, list of contexts containing hand-collected bone

context	species	part	state	data	frags
601	indet	indet	bn		1
602	cow	head		age	9
602	dog	head			1
602	l ungul	indet			20
602	indet	head			1
709	cow	head		age	1
716	indet	indet			17
803	indet	indet	bn		3
901	cow	head			9
905	cow	head		age	1
905	cow	foot		meas	1
1004	indet	indet		bn	8
1103	indet	indet			2
Key:					
l ungul = large ungulate (horse, cow or red deer sized)					
indet = unidentified					
bn = burnt					
age = ageable, meas = measurable					

Table 7: HWCN 23317, hand-collected animal bone

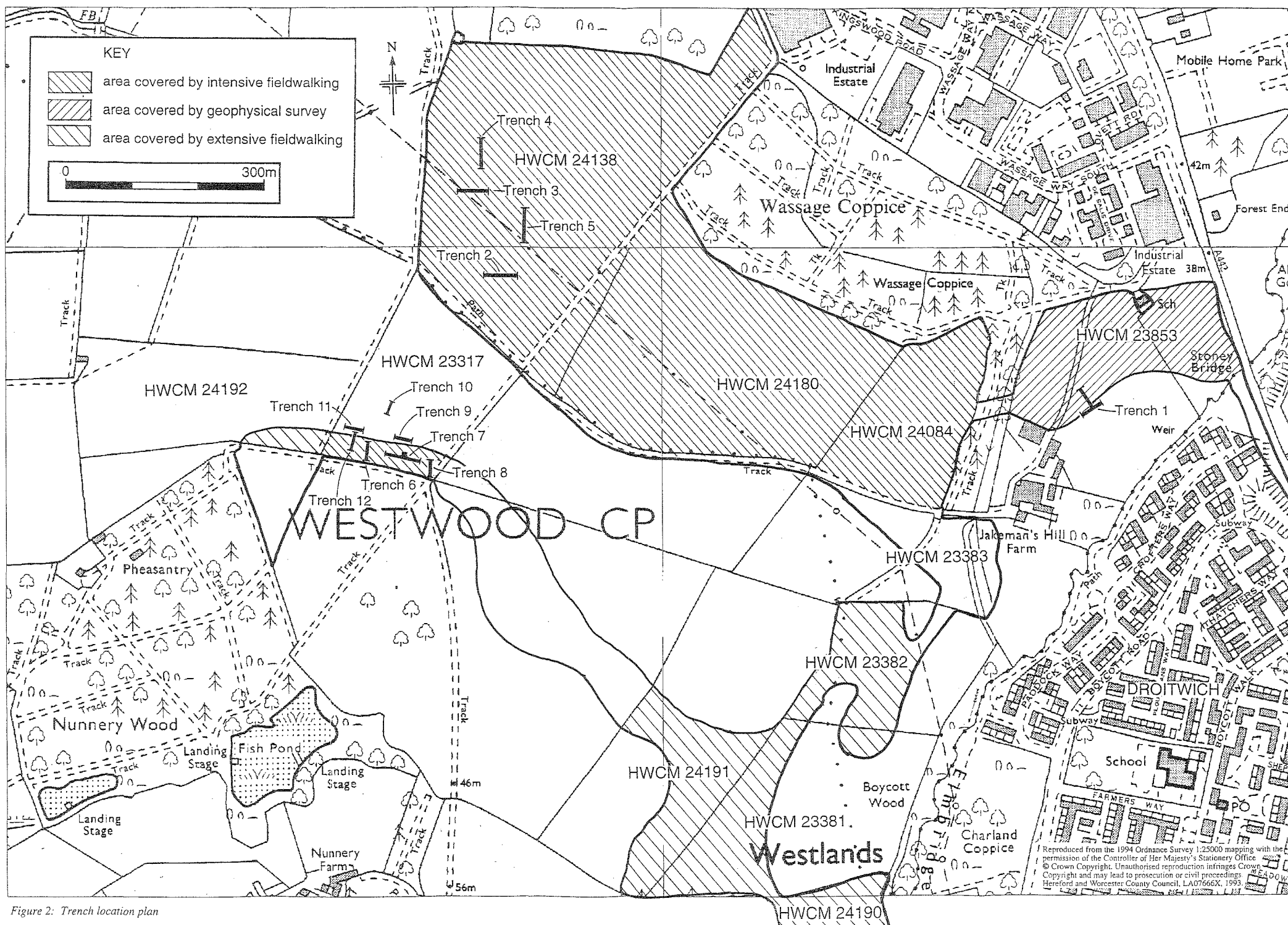


Figure 2: Trench location plan

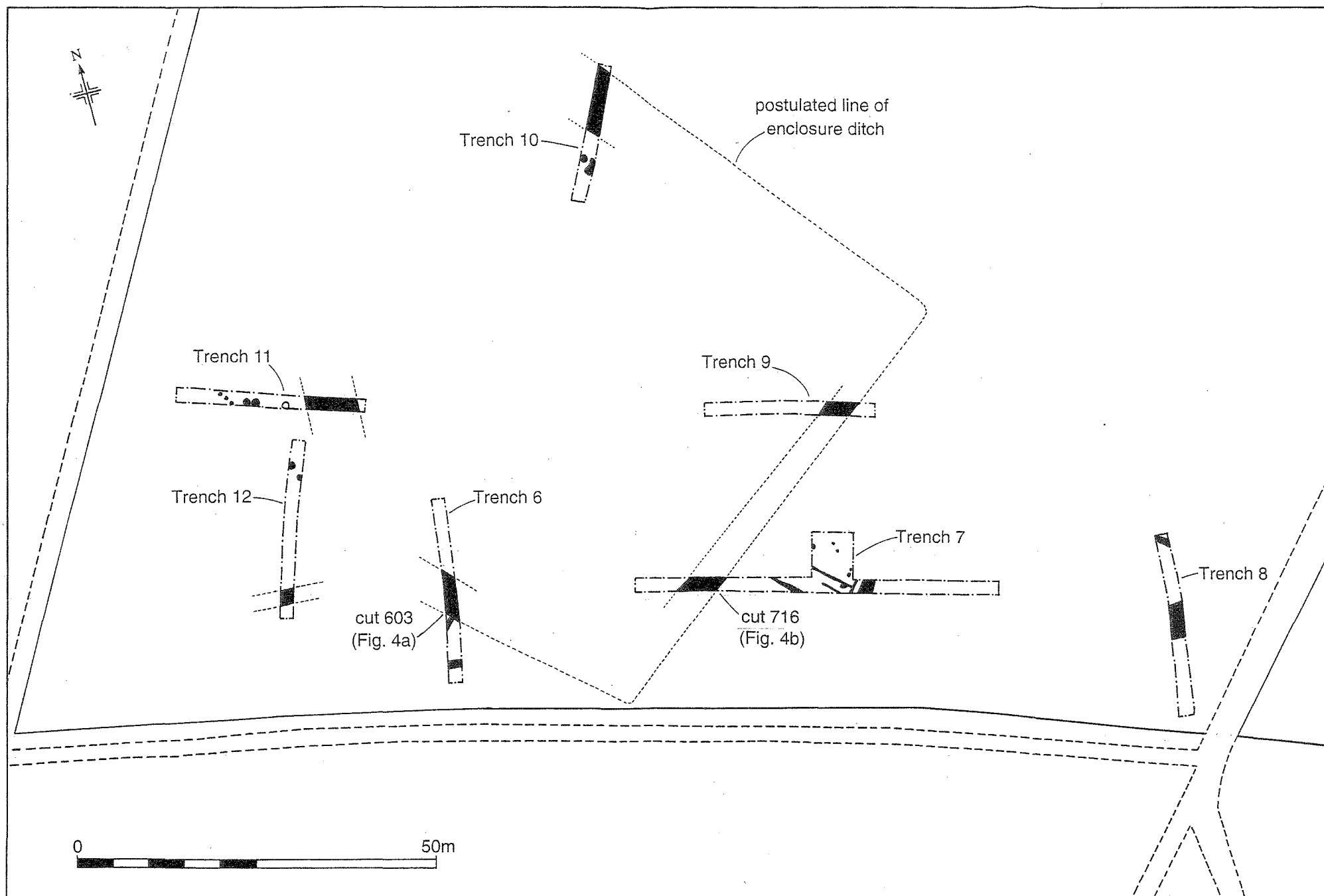


Figure 3: HWCM 23317: overall plan showing selected features

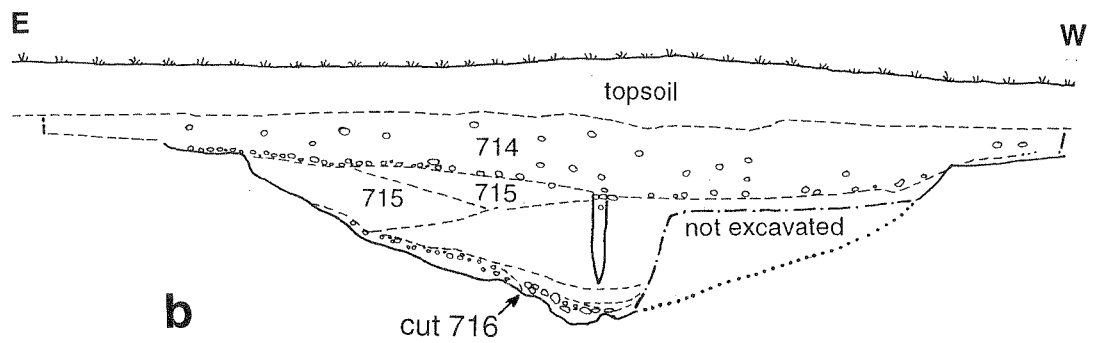
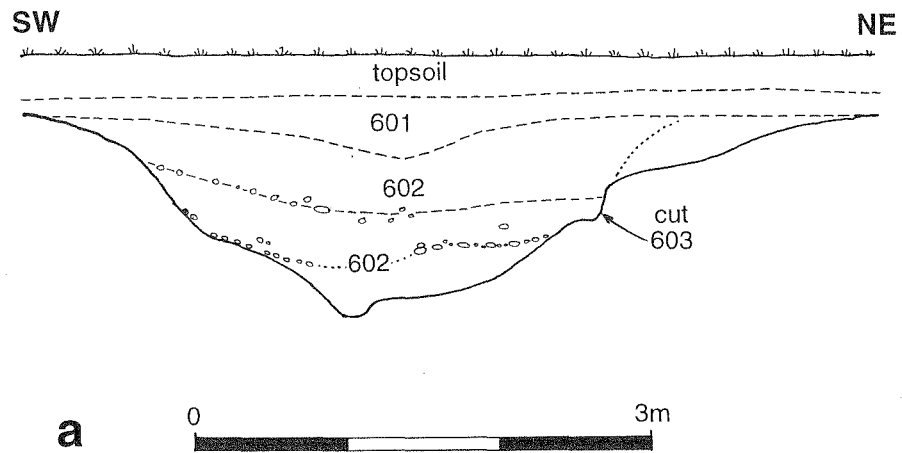


Figure 4: Ditch sections: cuts 603 and 716

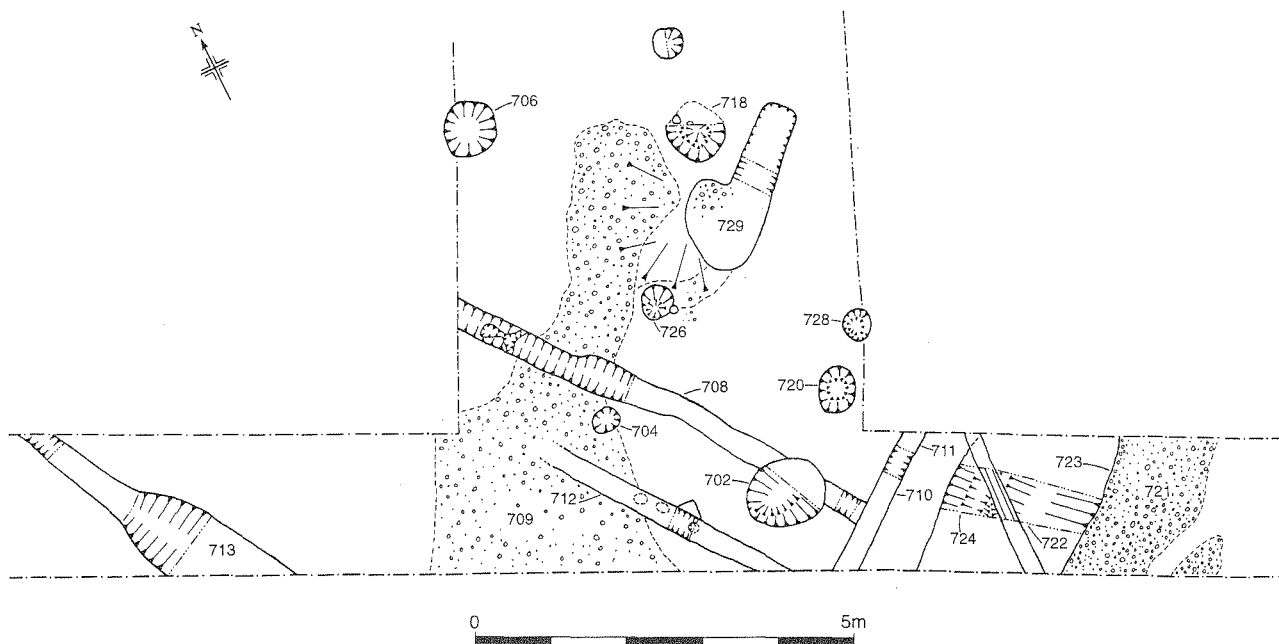


Figure 5: Trench 7: detail plan

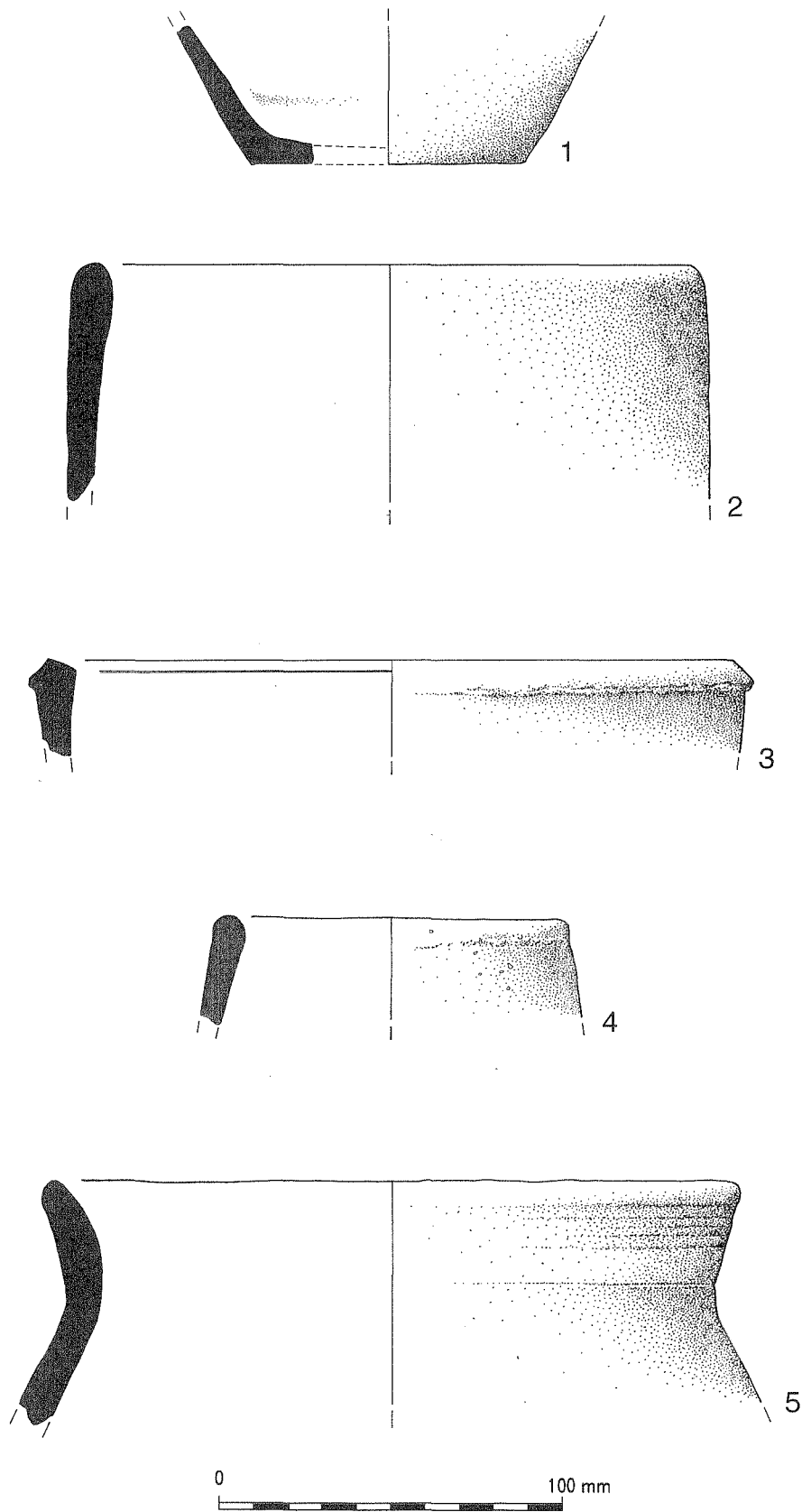


Figure 6: 1-5 Malvernian pottery (fabric 3)

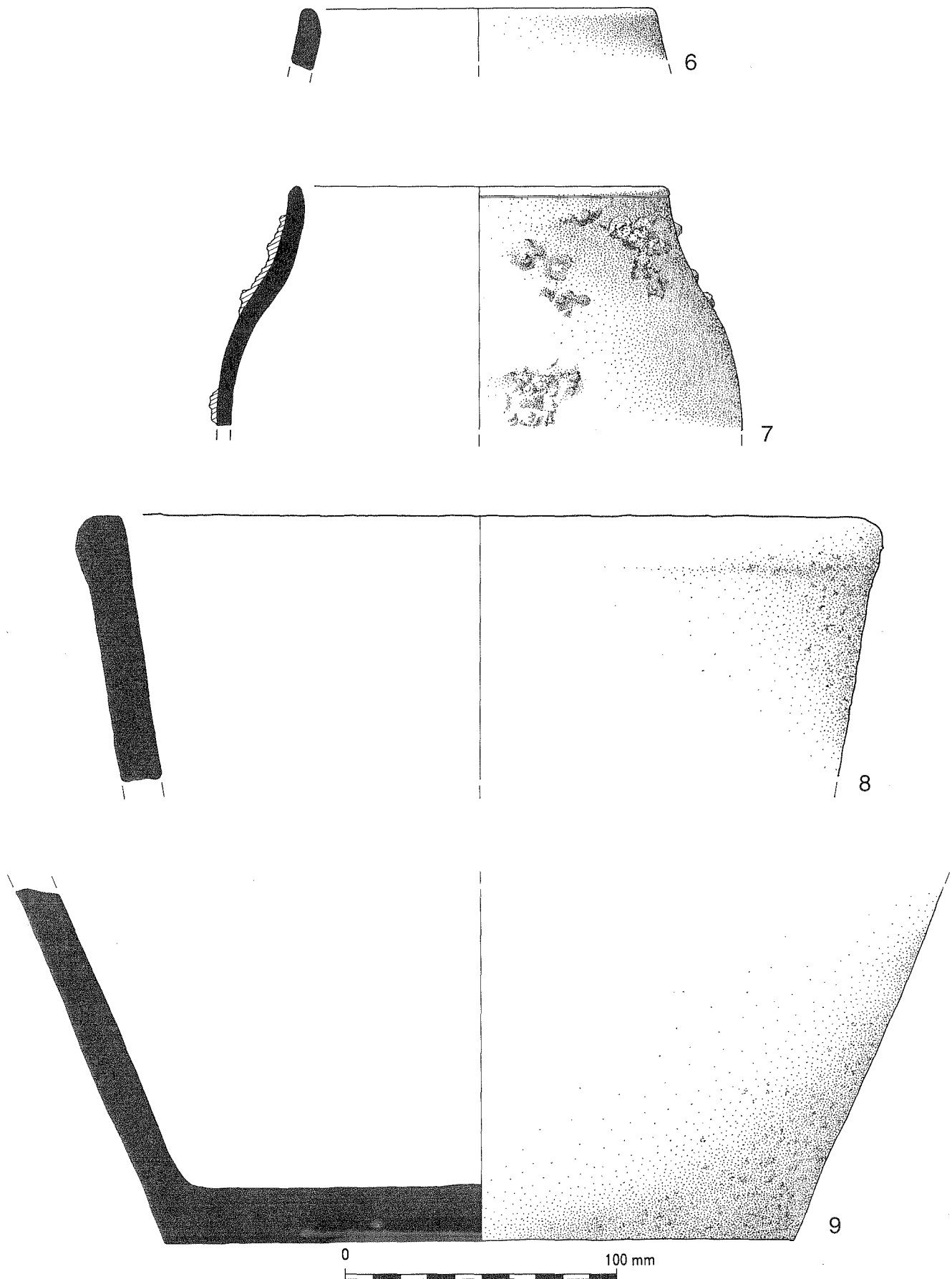


Figure 7: 6-9 Malvernian pottery (fabric 3)

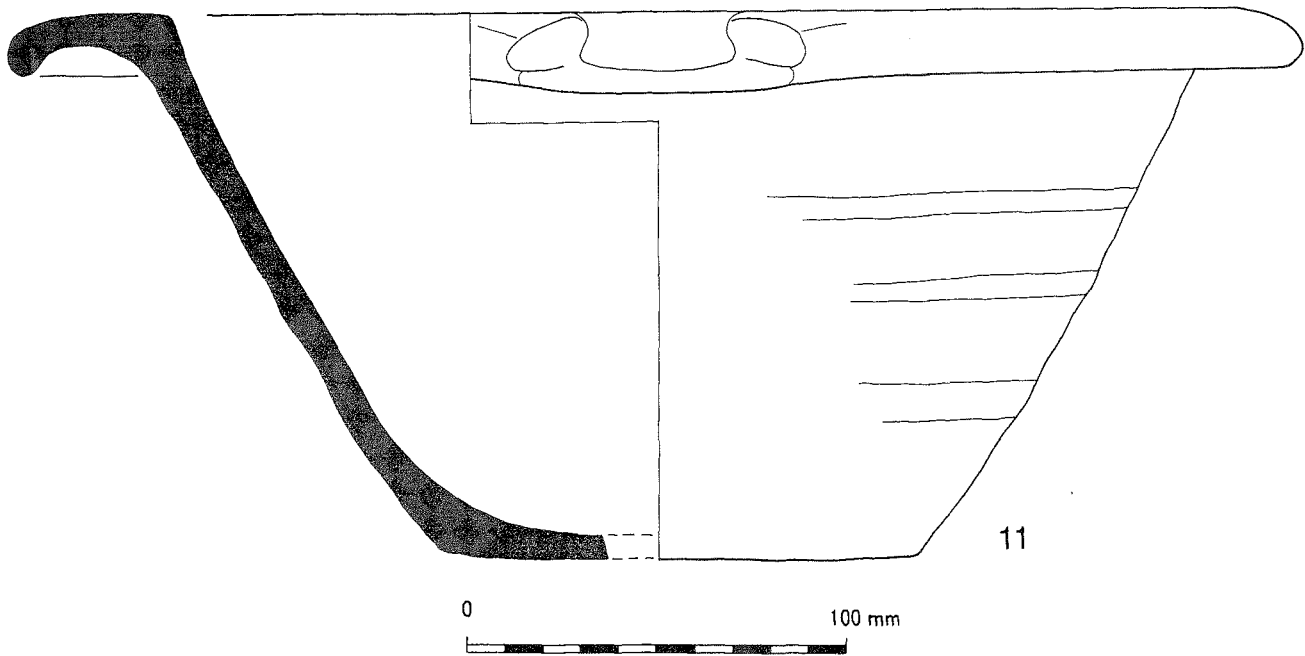
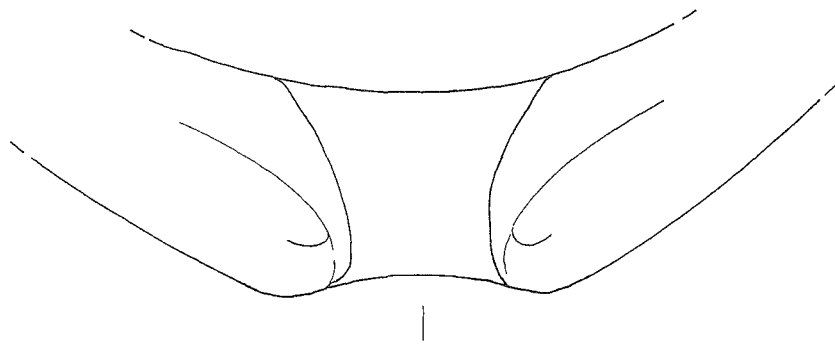
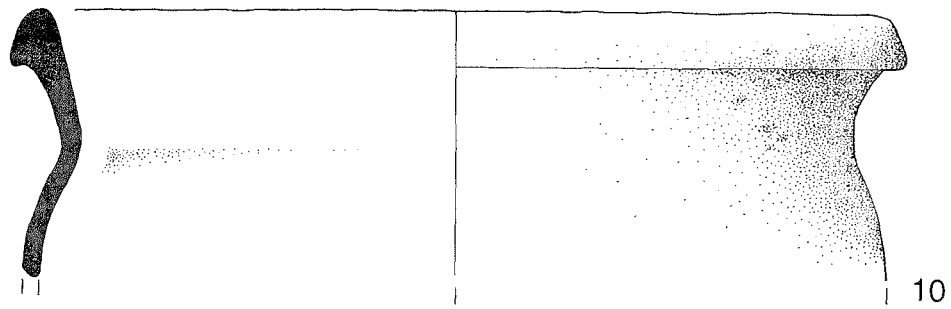


Figure 8: 10 Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), 11 continental mortarium (fabric 200)

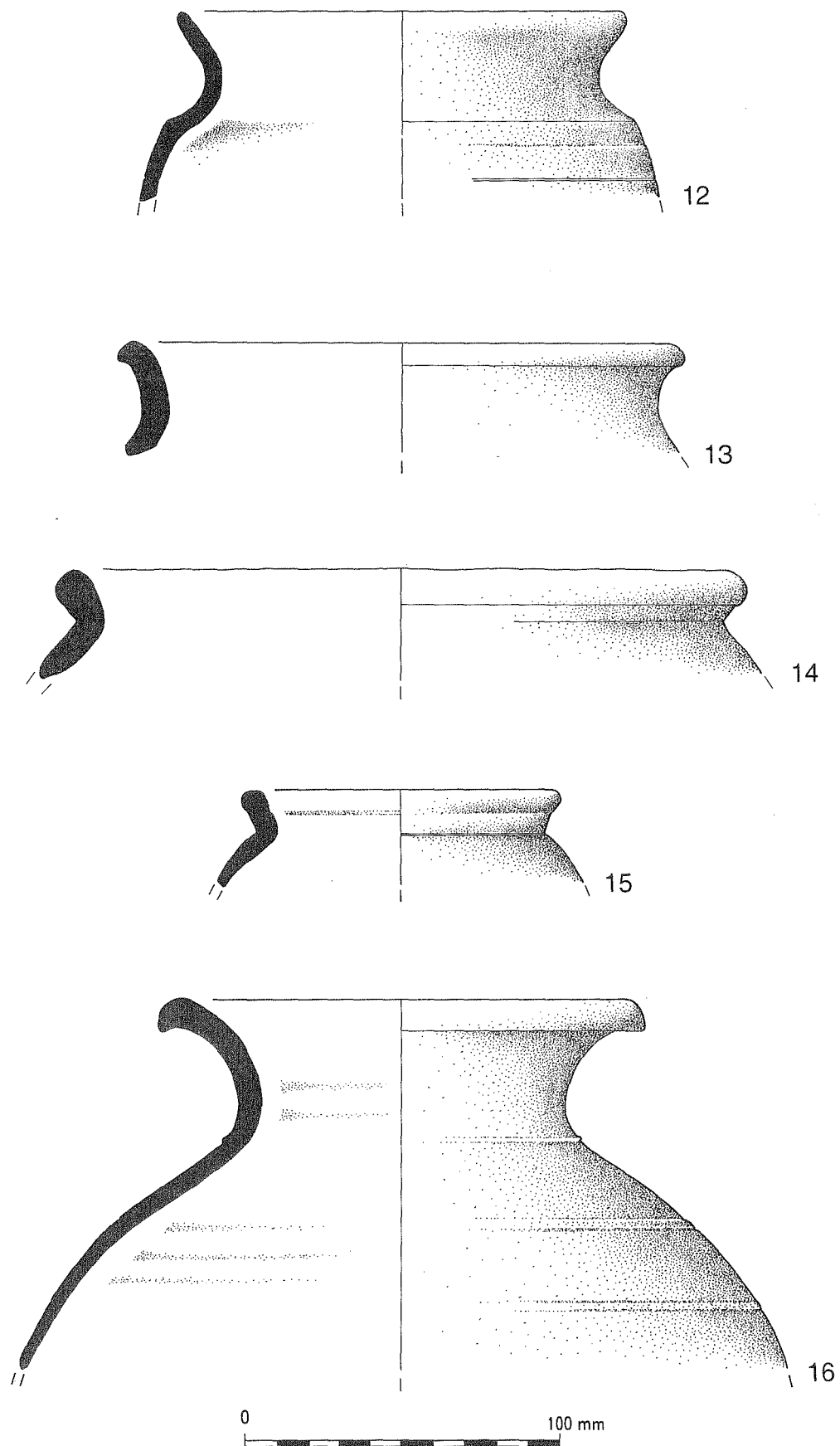


Figure 9: 12-14,16, Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12) 15, Greyware (fabric 14)

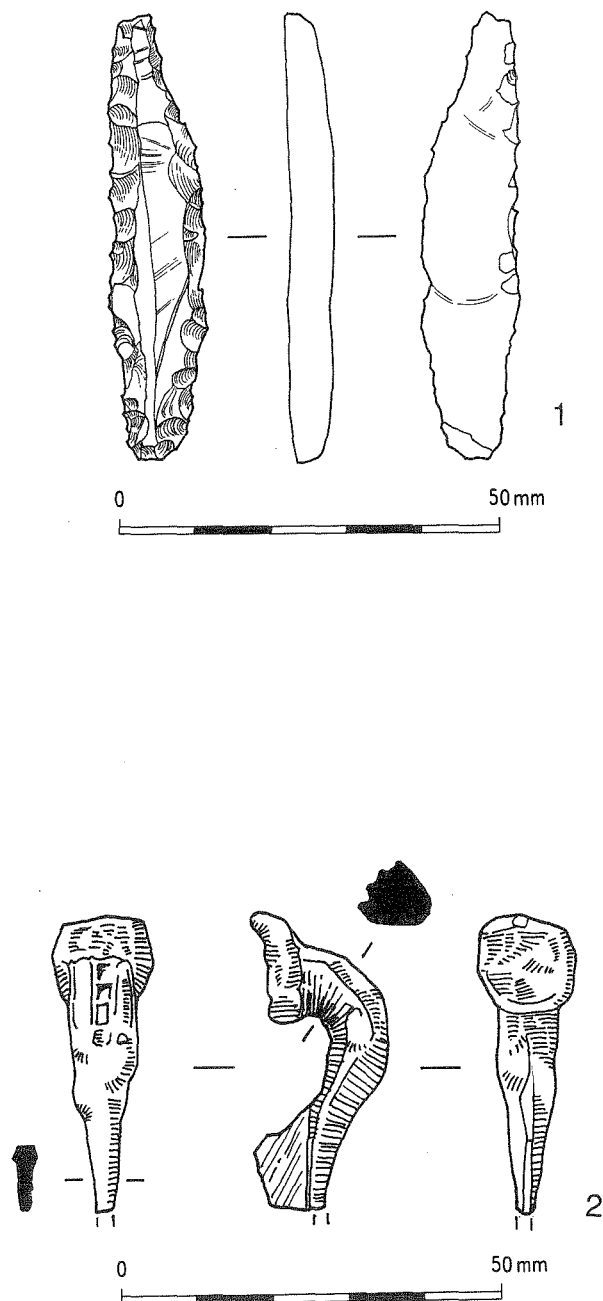


Figure 10: 1 Flint fabricator (HWCM 23853), 2, Silver fibula (HWCM 23317)

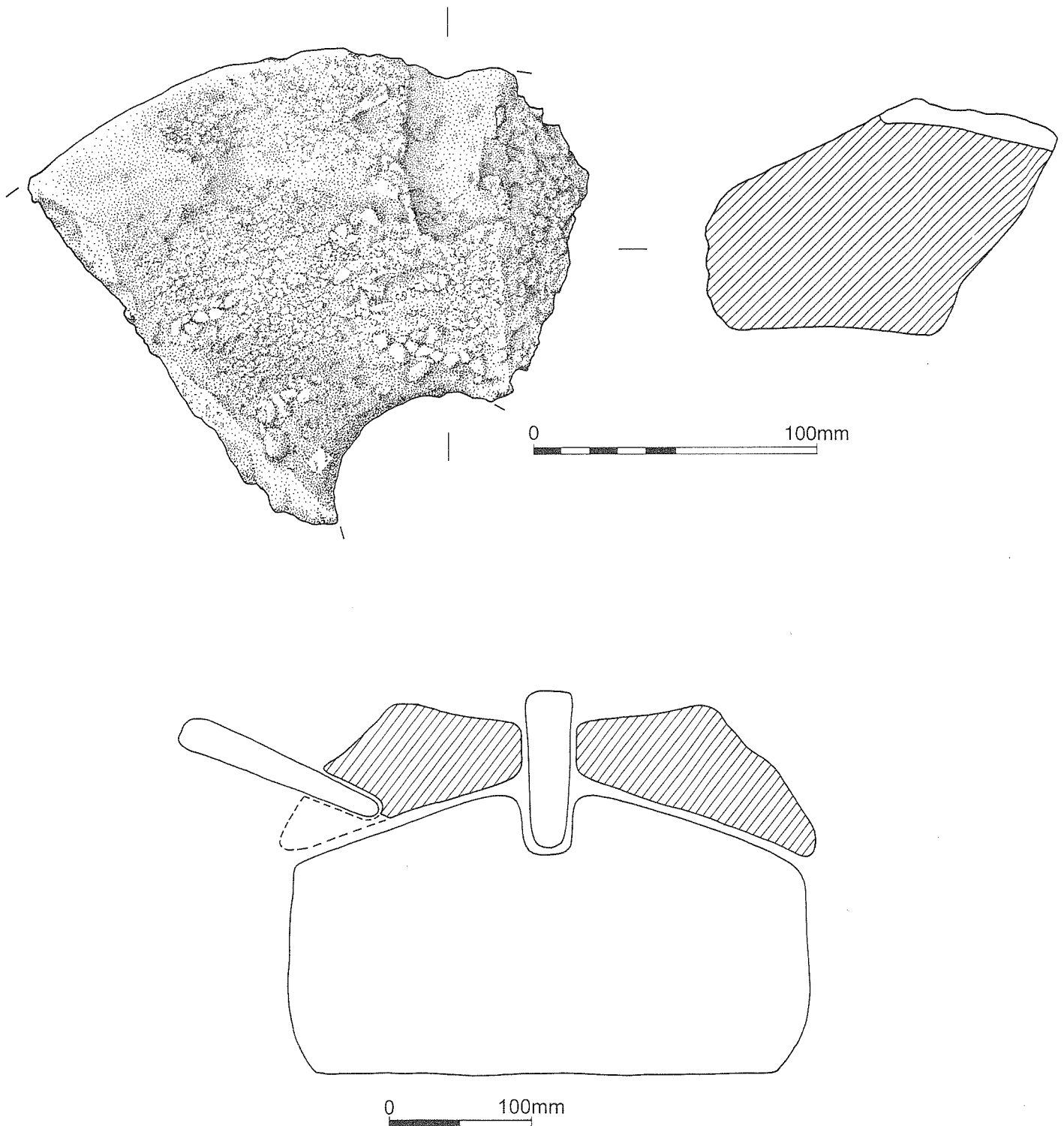


Figure 11: Rotary quern fragment and reconstruction drawing (HWCM 23317, context 716)

Appendix 1

Petrological analysis of quernstone fragment from Hampton Lovett By Stephanie Smith Bsc (Hons)

In hand specimen, this rock is a pale orange-pink, fine grained, immature Quartz Conglomerate. It is composed of 80% rounded and subangular quartzite grains; 5% decomposed felspar crystals and 5% lithic clasts, in a 10% quartz cement matrix. Chalcedony occurs as green, yellow and purple pebbles up to 25 mm long, with minor jasper and possibly detrital garnet.

In thin section sand grains display iron staining. Some quartz grains show unusually high relief, but are distinguished from corundum by a positive optical axis figure and no twinning. The fabric is polymodal, clast supported, well-sorted and displays fining upwards.

This rock is typical of a Devonian Upper Old Red Sandstone Quartz Conglomerate and may be provenanced to within the Welsh Border, Wye Valley and Forest of Dean area where it forms high upland tracts and craggy outcrops.

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