

HISTORIC SCOTLAND PROPERTIES IN CARE  
MINOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS 2011

**Brown Caterthun Hillfort: Excavations, March/April 2011.**

**HS PIC Index Number: 90069**

**SITE:** Brown Caterthun Hillfort, Angus.

**N.G.R.:** NO 5550 6673; NO 5556 6672

**DESCRIPTION:** Excavations to determine the extent of damage to the monument incurred as a result of fence maintenance work, and also investigate the nature of the monument in these locales with the intention of recovering dateable samples along with other archaeological and environmental evidence

**PROJECT CODE:** HSCO-90069-2011-01

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Kirkdale Archaeology was contracted by Historic Scotland to carry out some excavation work at the Brown Cathertun hill fort in Angus (Fig.1). The site is located some 7Km NW of Brechin and is one of two forts, along with the White Cathertun, on the same ridge. The two earthworks are less than 1 km apart, separated by a drop in height of some 50m, with the Brown Cathertun to the NE and the White Caterthun to the SW.

The ridge the sites lie on is an outlier of the Grampian massif, and although these mountains limit views to the W and NW, elsewhere extensive vistas of Angus and North Fife are possible from the forts. The summit of the Brown Cathertun is situated at 286m OD, with the White Cathertun slightly higher at 300m OD.

Both Cathertuns are large complex monuments, featuring multiple ramparts with numerous entrances; in the case of the brown Cathertun up to nine original 'gaps' are recorded. Differences would include the fact that the White Cathertun has less ramparts than the Brown, but is surmounted by a massive drystone wall displaying evidence for vitrification.

Excavations were carried out at both sites during the 1990's (Dunwell and Strachan 2007), with particularly extensive work undertaken at the Brown Cathertun. These revealed a complex history of construction, with significantly different techniques used to create the various enclosures. Evidence for details not visible in the earthworks, such as trenches for palisades, was revealed.

The Brown Cathertun has a system of three major ramparts running around the hill, designated 'E' and 'F'. Two slighter earthworks, appearing as terraces rather than formal ramparts ('C' and 'D') separate rampart B from rampart E, while a smaller oval enclosure on the summit is called 'A'. A further outermost, apparently unfinished earthwork, 'G', can be traced discontinuously around the SE and S sides of the site.

Both site are Properties in care maintained by Historic Scotland, but are also used as grazing land and grouse moors. A fence line runs roughly N/S across the Brown Cathertun, with a further fence feeding off this to the SE near the S side of the site (Fig.1). During the maintenance of these fences damage was inflicted to the ramparts

system, and this prompted Historic Scotland to ask for excavation across the affected areas.

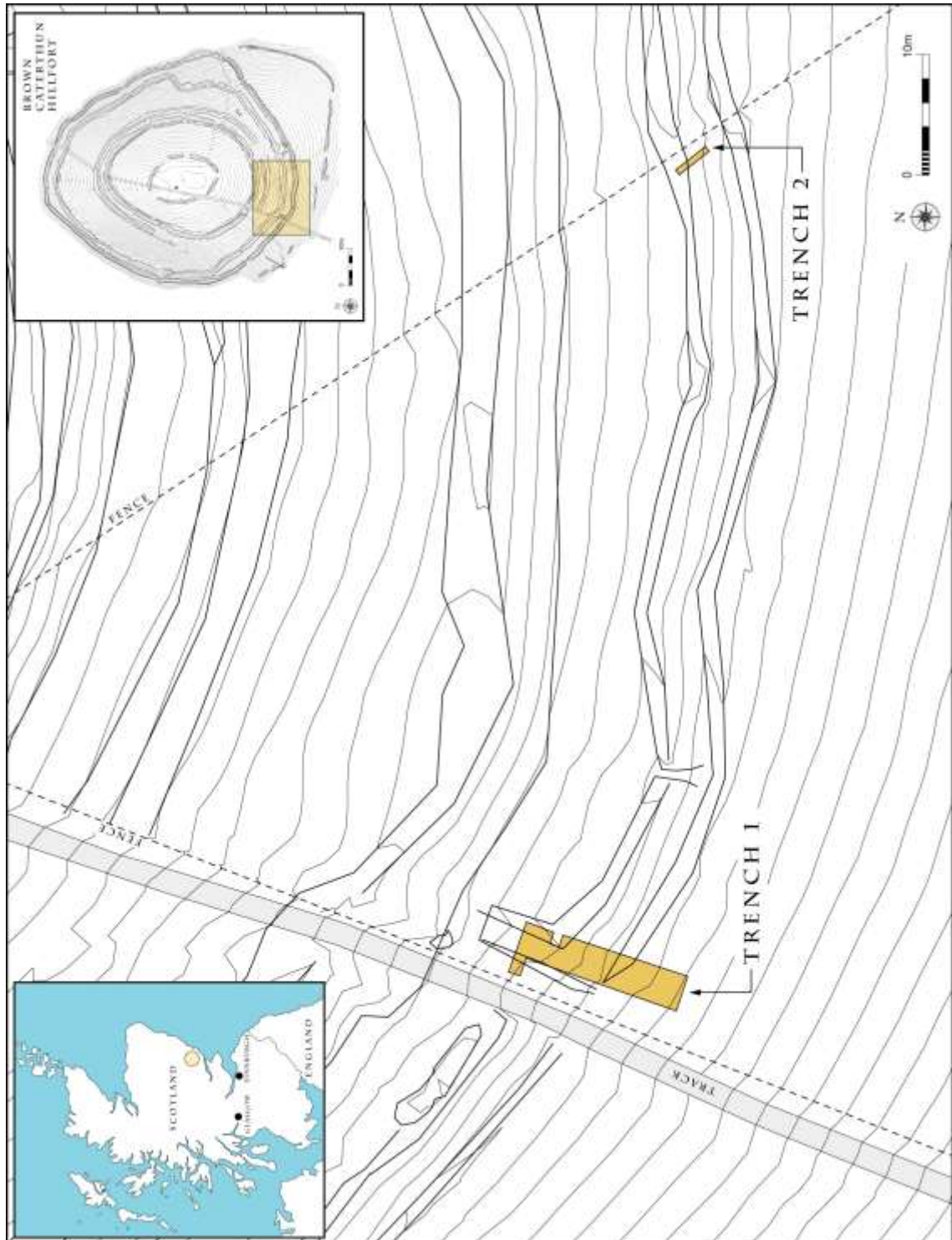


Figure 1: Location map of The Brown Caterthun, and Trenches 1 and 2.

The damage was inflicted on two discrete parts of the monument, although in both cases to rampart F. This rampart is pierced by multiple entrances, and these are often marked by the unusual feature of low banks running at right angles to the line of the

rampart. These seem to serve to direct movement further into the monument, and are a particularly obvious feature. Rampart F is the outermost complete earthwork, and consists of the rampart itself with a ditch immediately external to this. Just beyond the ditch is a further low bank, called the counter scarp bank, and traces of apparent quarry scoops are visible internally to the rampart. The line of rampart F follows a somewhat sinuous course, in a roughly oval shape some 340m N/S by 300m E/W.

The earthworks had been damaged along the E side of the entrance to rampart F, at the S end of the N/S stretch of fence and also at the SE end of the NW/SE fence, where this crossed the line of the rampart. At the entrance (the area of Trench 1), the W end of the rampart and counter scarp bank, and the S end of the N/S bank had been damaged, with some of the material from these pushed into the ditch terminal, obscuring this.

In the area of the NW/SE fence line the damage was less severe, with two discrete areas affected. To the NW damage had been done to the rampart (Trench 2), while to the SE the counter scarp bank had been affected (Trench 3, not excavated - see Page 12). In both cases this was on the SW side of the fence, and it could be seen that both these earthworks were lower where the fence crossed them than in the adjacent areas, suggesting earlier damage when the fence was originally erected.

The damage had evidently been inflicted by machine, presumably in an attempt to improve access along the fence lines. This had happened in late 2009, and as the fieldwork was not undertaken until late March 2011 the area has had a considerable time for new vegetation to establish itself.

The aim of the excavation was to try to unravel the sequence of construction, by excavating within the damaged areas, and taking the opportunity to collect dateable samples along with any other archaeological and environmental evidence.

The work was carried out between 24<sup>th</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

## **DESCRIPTION**

On first arrival the area of Trench 1 could be seen to comprise two roughly rectangular N/S scrapes into the earthworks. To the N context **101** was approximately 7.5m long, with its S 5m approximately 2.1 m wide, narrowing to roughly 1 m at its N end. The wider S end was dug against the rampart, while the low axial bank lining the entrance continued to the N beyond the N end of **101**. Context **103** to the S was smaller than **101**, 2.6m N/S by 1.5 m E/W, with its E edge against the counter scarp bank.

The rampart outside the affected area was a low wide heather and gorse covered mound some 2.5m wide and 0.4m high. The counter scarp bank was of similar width, but only some 0.2m high. Neither continued to the W of the affected areas, indicating a termination to form the E side of the entrance somewhere within the areas of damage.

Rampart and counter scarp bank were separated by a gap of 2.5m, where a drop of 0.4m indicated the presence of the partly in-filled ditch. On first arriving this seemed to stop at the E edge of the line of **101** and **103**, indicating a wide entrance gap.

The low bank lining the entrance ran at a right angle to the other earthworks, on a N/S orientation. It was 0.25m high and again 2.5m wide. Just to the W of the damaged areas the ground level drops some 0.3m parallel to the fence line, possibly indicating earlier damage to the site.

Both contexts **101** and **103** were found to be filled with a mix of stone, sandy silt and peat, the removal of which showed both to be typically 0.1m deep, increasing to the E, where they were dug through the upstanding earthworks, to reach a maximum depth of 0.3m.

A trench laid out over the area of both cuts, 14m long by 2.9m wide with an arm 1m wide extending 1.5m W from the N end of the W side of the trench.

The topsoil **104** proved to be a root infested silty peat 0.1m to 0.2m thick, and excavation proved this to have started to form over some material redeposited during activity that caused the damage in 2009.

The in-filled area between the two modern cuts proved to conceal the continuation of the ditch line, now visible running E/W across the trench. This ditch line stratigraphically separated deposits either side of it.

At the S end of the trench, after the initial removal of **104**, much of the intact counter scarp bank was left unexcavated, with work concentrated in the damaged area. The E edge of **103** was straightened up to give an accurate profile of the bank. A strip of the counter scarp bank 0.9m wide was left unexcavated along the E side of the trench. In this section it could be seen that **107**, a layer of mid brown silty clay mixed with numerous pebbles, had been entirely removed in the area of **103**. This was 0.1m to 0.15m thick and could be traced for 2m in the section directly under the topsoil **104**.

At the base of **103** along the W of the trench, context **113** could be seen. This was an area of very fine reddish sand with discrete brownish, siltier, areas and frequent small sub angular sandstone fragments throughout. This crossed the trench E/W, with a straight and abrupt N edge along the S side of the ditch, but a curving and diffuse S edge, such that it appeared some 3.5m wide at its E end, reduced to 2m to the W. Context **113** was typically 0.1m thick in section (thinning out to the S), although significantly less in the area damaged by **104**; in places only surviving as patches over the underlying layer **114**.

To the S of **113** a thin spread of compacted pale grey sandy silt, with occasional charcoal flecks noted in it, **162**, crossed the trench E/W in a band some 1.2m wide. Context **162** was sealed by **107**, but as both layers were so thin at their junction its relationship with **113** is unclear.

A series of cut features were recorded in this S end of the trench. The security of their stratigraphic relationships are generally defined by the preservation of the counter scarp bank in the area they were noted. At the W side of the trench a roughly oval cut **123**, 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep was recorded. Its fill, **122**, consisted of mid brown silty clay with patches of peatier material. It included a number of stones, the larger two of which were edge set, sloping in to the feature. In the area where this was seen, context **113** was so patchy that it is not certain if **123** was dug through this; all that can be said is it was later than the underlying context **114**.

A second cut feature, **117**, was a narrow (c. 0.25m wide), deep (0.45m) linear feature running from the E section to the W for 1.15m, coming to a rounded W end. This steep sided flat bottomed cut could be clearly seen to be dug through **107** in the side of the trench. Context **117** was filled by **116** (from which **SF001** was recovered),

principally stones - cobbles of all sizes, many of which seemed to have chipped, faceted edges, and one (which was retained) which had a smoothed edge, suggesting use. At the E end of the feature a void 0.16m N/S by at least 0.1m E/W surrounded by stones suggested a post socket. At a distance of 0.4m W of this (and 0.5m E of the W end of **117**) was context **115**, an area of very loose black peaty silt measuring 0.18m NW/SE by 0.12m NE/SW. This suggested the cast of a decayed post, and a section through this showed it to be apparently squared and 0.24m deep, coming to a tapered point. Its base rested on particularly large stones of context **116**, with smaller ones packed against its N edge (where their weight seemed to have deformed the overall shape). To the S it ran vertically against the edge of **117**.

Three further possible cut features were recorded at the S end of the trench, all to the S of the limit of **113**. All three were dug through contexts **162**. Contexts **125** and **127** were two small shallow scoops, quite possibly representing stone holes, although they did seem to run parallel to the curving S limit of **113**. More probably a real feature, context **119** was a cut partly exposed against the E side of the trench. This was fairly steep sided and came to an even, sloping base, measuring 0.6m N/S by at least 0.2m E/W and 0.12m deep.

The excavation of **113** and partial removal of **162** exposed context **114** below, a band of compact dark grey sandy silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks throughout. Like **113** above, it had an abrupt straight N edge and a curving diffuse S edge. This was only excavated in a narrow strip along the E side of the trench, where it proved to be a maximum of 0.05m thick.

Below context **114** a layer of very pale grey sandy silt rich in small stones **161** was encountered. This was only excavated in the same narrow sondage, where it was a maximum of 0.08m thick. This directly overlay subsoil **132**, whose upper surface was a compact reddish orange sandy silt with frequent small rounded and sub-angular stones throughout.

To the N of the ditch line the removal of topsoil **104** exposed a complex mosaic of different deposits, partially truncated by **101**. A strip of pale reddish clayey silt, rich in small stones and with some larger throughout, numbered **106**, ran N/S up the centre of the trench. This was some 0.9m wide, although evidently with deposits built up



against its E and W sides, and ran from the N edge of the ditch for 6m, again continuing under later deposits to the N. The line of **106** coincided with that of the N/S low bank lining the entrance, and the ground level dropped away from it to the E and W.

Excavation at this N end was restricted to four discrete areas: the partial removal of deposits at the N end of the trench, a sondage across the centre of the trench (Slot 1), a further sondage across the E side of the trench (Slot 2), and the excavation of **106** and its overlying deposits in a narrow strip along the N side of the ditch.

At the extreme N end of the trench excavation involved the removal of **112**, a compact layer of pale grey silty peat built up against the W side of **106**, up to 0.1m thick, petering out as it came up the slope. This sealed context **143**, pale brown fine silt up to 0.2m thick, which again thinned out as it rose to the E.

On the E side of **106** this sequence was matched by a pale grey silty peat, **111**, overlying dark grey peaty silt **135** (from which **SF002** and **SF003** were recovered). Both deposits thinned rapidly as the ground rose to the W.

In the strip excavated against the N side of the ditch, context **101** had removed all deposits over **106**. Here it proved to be only 0.08m thick, and ran across the trench E/W. Context **106** sealed **120**, a compacted pale grey silty clay with occasional stones throughout. This was only excavated in a small strip where it proved to be 0.1m thick and directly overlay the natural subsoil **132**.

Within Slot 2, which was 0.45m wide and 1.35m long, dug into the E side of **106**, contexts **111** and **135** were again encountered. Context **135** sealed **136**, a dark reddish brown silty clay, the upper surface of which was level, while its base sloped down to the E. it reached a maximum thickness of 0.35m, petering out up slope to the E.

Context **136** proved to be banked up against a sequence of thin layers, the top of which was context **106**. only the E limit of these deposits was found, and this sloped down gently to the E. Here context **106** was a maximum of 0.1m thick, and it sealed a pale grey silty clay **137**, of similar thickness. This in turn overlay context **138**, similar to **106** and 0.15m thick, which was over 0.15m of a pale grey silty clay deposit **139**. Context **139** directly overlay the subsoil **132**.

Slot 1, excavated across the trench and 0.4m wide revealed a complex sequence, with significant differences at its E and W ends. At the E end of the slot, a mixed brown and reddish silt **151** lay directly under the topsoil **104**. This was up to 0.15m thick and dropped gently to the W, sealing three discrete contexts that had no other observable relationship to one another. Towards the central part of **151**, it overlay context **148** the fill of the cut **164** - which is described later, but which effectively separated deposits to its E and W.

The E end of **151** had been truncated by **101**, but could just be seen to overlie **106**. Context **106** here sealed **134**, a thin discontinuous band of compact pale grey silty clay. This ran for some 0.9m E/W, although its W end merged into **140**, which it seemed to overlie. Context **140** was a somewhat amorphous area of pale grey silty clay with one large rounded stone within it. It measured 0.35m E/W, crossed Slot 1 in an N/S direction and was 0.2m thick. To the W of **140** was a mix of reddish, brown and grey silts in discrete patches, **144**. Its relationship with **140** is ambiguous, but it was sealed by **143**, already encountered at the N end of the trench.

Context **140** seemed to overlie **141**, a deposit of reddish orange fine silt 0.1m thick, the E end of which was truncated by **164**, the cut mentioned above. Both contexts **141** and **144** were above **142**, a 0.1m thick layer of pale grey sandy silt. Context **142** was directly over the natural **132**.

Returning to the E end of Slot 1, context **151** sealed a deposit of dark grey slightly silty peat, **128**. This was only seen in a limited area at the E end of the trench and was up to 0.12m thick, with a level E end, dropping in height and thinning rapidly at its W end. Context **128** sealed **133**, a dark brown clayey silt up to 0.15m thick. This also had a level E end, dropping and thinning at its W end, but could be seen to extend out to the S of Slot 1, running along the E side of the trench as it rose up to form the rampart.

Context **145**, below **133**, was a mix of stone and reddish sandy silt, which appeared as a level deposit 0.1m thick. This could also be seen to the S of the excavated area, running N/S for some 2.4m, again seeming to form part of the upstanding rampart. The E end of **145** was cut by **163**.

Below **143**, a thin strip of pale grey silty clay **146**, which overlay subsoil **132**, was recorded at the E end of the N side of Slot 1. The S and W ends of **146** had been

truncated by a cut **150**, partly exposed within Slot 1. Only part of the N (where it cut **146**) and W (where it cut **142**) sides were seen, where it proved to be steep sided and at least 0.15m deep (not bottomed). Although only partly seen, **150** seemed to run E/W for c. 0.8m, before turning to run out of the slot in a NW/SE direction. Context **150** was filled by **147**, principally composed of rounded cobbles, but with some reddish brown silt mixed in.

The N end of **147** (where it runs into the N section of Slot 1) had been disturbed by a further cut, **163**. It was this which separated deposits across Slot 1, being dug down through **141** and **145**, one of which at least (**145**) sealed context **147**. Context **163** was only partly exposed, but was probably originally oval, measuring at least 0.25m N/S and was at least 0.3m deep, being 0.3m wide at the top and 0.2m wide at the base. Its loose fill **148** consisted of a mix of silt and stones.

Context **163** was matched at the E end of **150** by context **164**, circular in plan and 0.3m in diameter. It was 0.48m deep, narrowing as it deepened, and its fill **149** was a loose mix of silt and stones. Context **164** was dug down into the top of the fill **147**, but also through the two layers overlying this, **145** and **133**.

Running E/W across the trench was the line of the ditch cut, numbered **131**. Excavation of the upper fills was undertaken across the trench, but for reasons of safety as well as practicality only a narrower (0.8m wide) slot was taken to the base of the ditch.

The uppermost fill, **166**, was found in a strip along the up slope (N) edge of the ditch. It comprised a brown sandy silt rich in stone chips, and was up to 1.5m N/S and 0.13m thick, thinning as it rose to the N. This overlay **165**, a grey peaty silt full of small stones. This ran in a strip 0.8m wide along the lowest central part of the ditch, with a max thickness of 0.2m. Rising up the S side of the ditch, under **165**, was context **152**, a dark grey peaty silt with occasional small stones throughout. This was 1.05m wide and reached a maximum thickness of 0.12m, thinning as it rose up the ditch edge to the S.

Below **152** was **153**, an area of peaty silt very rich in small fragments of degraded sandstone. This was 3m wide N/S and 0.1m thick in the centre, thinning again as it rose in both directions away from this. This sealed a substantial homogeneous fill, **154**. This principally consisted of small to medium sized stones, mixed in with a reddish

brown to pale brown sandy silt. This was the first deposit to only be excavated in the narrow slot through the ditch (0.7m wide), but it could be seen in plan continuing to the W for a further 1.2m. Context **154** proved to be 1.2m N/S and 1.1m thick, and it was thought to be the basal fill of a cut, **155**, representing a re-cut of the ditch. The clearest evidence for this being a re-cut was the layers it was dug through (such as **159** described below), but it seemed to be a steep sided (slightly steeper to the N) feature coming to a rounded base, 0.4m wide at its bottom. Total excavation of the ditch showed **155** to be within the original, larger ditch cut **131**, but off centre to it, running along its S side.



**Figure 2:** W-facing section in Trench 1, showing the ditch cut, context 131.

The latest fill that context **155** was cut through was **156**, a deposit of dark, slightly reddish brown sandy silt, with occasional small sandstone fragments throughout. This was only found along the N side of the ditch, where it appeared as a steeply sloping, near vertical band 0.8m high and 0.25m N/S. It crossed the sondage, but again could be traced to the W of this. Below **156**, running in a strip to its N, was context **157**, again appearing as a near vertically laid deposit. Context **157** consisted of a bright orange

fine sandy silt, possibly burnt. This again stood 0.8m high and was 0.2m N/S, crossing the sondage, but also visible in plan to its W.

Context **157** sealed two unconnected layers, **158** and **159**. Context **158** was to the N of **157**, pressed against the steep upper edge of ditch cut **131**. It comprised a very pale grey sandy silt with occasional small stones throughout. It was 0.6m deep and 0.15m N/S, crossing the sondage E/W. Below **157**, and continuing S to run under **156** was a near horizontal layer, **159**, lying at right angles to those above, and with its S end truncated by context **155**. This truncation provided some of the best evidence for the reality of **155** as a re-cut of the ditch. Context **159** consisted of a pale grey sandy silt, with occasional small stones throughout, surviving for 0.4m N/S and some 0.08m thick.

Below context **159**, a single homogeneous fill **160** filled the base of the original ditch cut **131**. This was a very compact reddish brown sandy silt with some small sub-angular stones throughout. Although badly truncated by the re-cut **155**, this originally was perhaps 1m thick and 1.4m wide at its top, narrowing to fill the slot at the base of **131**, c. 0.3m wide. In the section drawing (Fig. 9) context **160** is shown rising right up the S side of the ditch, higher than on the N side, but as re-cut **155** was so close to the S side of the original ditch cut **131** there may be different, unrecognised deposits higher up this side.

The full profile of cut **131** could now be seen, running E/W across the trench. The N side seemed to run fairly straight, while the S side curved in to the N at its W end, reducing in width from 2.5m to 2.3m wide as it did so. Both sides were steep, with the N near vertical for the top 0.8m, then becoming slightly less steep for 0.8m before returning to near vertical for the basal 0.4m. To the S, the angle is gentler than the N side, but still steep for the upper 1.3m, turning near vertical for the bottom 0.5m. The depth is slightly greater (2m) to the N than the S (1.8m), reflecting the rise in ground level. A narrow basal slot, 0.4 - 0.5m deep, ran along the bottom of the ditch, 0.65m wide at its top and 0.25m at its flat base.

The underlying subsoil **132** could be seen in the side of cut **131**. The upper 0.3m comprised compact reddish orange sandy silt with frequent rounded and sub-angular stones throughout, consistent with that seen elsewhere in the trench. Below this it was

principally composed of sandstone chunks, although mixed in with some very compacted red silt.

In the area of the SE/NW fence line the damage was less severe than that around Trench 1, and as noted in the introduction the earthworks here seem to have been reduced previously. The counter scarp bank in particular was almost nonexistent here, and plants had started to recolonise the affected area, so it was decided not to excavate Trench 3. Some topsoil from Trench 1 was laid over this area to at least partly reinstate the profile and encourage vegetation growth.

In the area of Trench 2 a roughly rectangular shaped scrape some 3.4m long and 2.6m wide, **201**, was evident running across the rampart. A slot 3.1m long by 0.4m wide was opened up along the NE side of **201**, to provide a section through the reduced rampart. The fill of **201**, a mix of stone, fine sandy silt and peat **200**, was removed from this area. This proved to be 0.15m thick, and the features at the base of this were cleaned up but not excavated.

Topsoil **202** was a peaty silt deposit 0.1m - 0.15m thick, darker and peatier at the NW end. Below this an area of pale grey silty peat **203** was recorded at the NW end of the trench, while at the SE end **204**, a dark brown sandy silt rich in small red sandstone fragments, ran into the trench for 0.55m. A small semi-circular setting of stones **205**, apparently overlying **204**, ran into the NE side of the trench, with some of the stones tipping in to the NE.

Occupying the bulk of the trench, and apparently continuing below both **203** and **204** was context **206**. This was a compact spread of red sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular stones throughout. Context **206** could be traced for 2.3m NW/SE, and proved to be only surviving to a depth of 0.05m, and in places the underlying deposit **207** could be glimpsed. Although little seen, context **207** seemed to be a very compact pale grey slightly sandy silt.

## CONCLUSIONS

The relatively limited work undertaken at the Brown Cathertun has produced some important results, while still leaving some unanswered questions. This account will start with a detailed consideration of the individual elements of the monument investigated, before moving to some general comments on the site.

The ditch as originally dug was a wide (2.3 to 2.5m) and deep (1.8 to 2m) feature, excavated through the underlying subsoil. The cut **131** was steep sided, with a distinctive narrow slot running along its base. Although it ran E/W across the trench, the slight curve of the S edge might suggest either that the ditch is coming to an end, or possibly that it is turning to run N, lining the entrance passage.

The primary fill **160** was a substantial, homogeneous deposit 1m thick, with no sign of earlier silting at the base. This suggests that either **160** entered the ditch soon after it was excavated, or that it was maintained and cleaned out. The steep sides and proximity of rampart and counter scarp bank (assuming that these are contemporary) would suggest that erosion products would soon have started to form at the base of **131**. Context **160** presumably entered the ditch rapidly, either as a deliberate infill, or as a result of catastrophic collapse.

The potential re-cut **155** has damaged the earlier fills, but it might be suggested that the truncated remains of the relatively level layer **159** represent the formation of a turf line. This would indicate a period of stability, with the ditch present as a reduced (0.8m deep) feature, although with no reduction in its width.

Above context **159** were three deposits that seemed to be near vertical, pressed against the N edge of **131**. These suggest a further episode of rapid infill, whether deliberate or accidental. Their good separation into three bands suggests either relatively careful deposition, or the collapse of some adjacent earthwork which maintained its original layers even after its failure. The (at least partial) collapse of the rampart would be the obvious source of any accidentally slumped material on this side of the ditch. The composition of these three layers is interesting, with the pale grey sandy silt of **158** reminiscent of what are thought to be buried turf lines elsewhere on the site, and the vivid orange colour of **157** suggesting that it could be burnt turf.

Cut **155** was dug down through these earlier fills as a steep sided, round based feature 1.2m wide and 1.1m deep. The truncation of **159** in particular confirmed the identification of this as a re-cut. Context **155** was noticeably offset to the line of **131**, running along its S edge. There was no evidence for any fills within **155** except for **154**, surely a deliberately introduced stone rich deposit. This did not resemble material found elsewhere in the trench, and may have been an attempt to improve the drainage function of the feature.

Deposits over **154** may represent erosion from the sides of a now shallow feature, while the peaty deposit **152** seems likely to represent a period of stabilisation at an unknown date. The ditch would have been some 0.3m deeper than the surface traces today at this stage.

To the S of the ditch the counter scarp bank seemed to seal an old ground surface **114** (with **161** as a possible 'B' horizon below this). While the N edge of **114** was fairly straight, as with the ditch, the S edge seemed to curve up to the N. This suggests that while the bank did run right across the trench, it was narrowing, presumably indicating that it ended just to the W of the present excavation.

The bank itself comprised two contexts, likely to represent re-deposited subsoil, with the upper deposit (**107**) entirely removed from the area of the trench. Although they had to some extent eroded down slope to the S, forming a tail to the counter scarp bank here, it was originally some 2.5m wide by 0.25m high. It should be noted that this seems unlikely to be connected to the ditch re-cut **155**, as its composition does not resemble the ditch fills removed by this. It must either be an original feature, created when the ditch was first dug, or if later have a source elsewhere on the site.

A number of cut features were found to the S of the ditch, although all were damaged by context **103** to a greater or lesser extent. The linear cut **117** appears to be a palisade trench dug down through the counter scarp bank. Evidence for the original presence of two posts was recorded, with a void at its E end suggesting a removed timber, while context **115** seems to be the cast of a post rotted *in situ*. This took the form of a squared timber, 0.18 by 0.12m with a pointed base. Although **115** was 0.5m E of the W end of **117**, no evidence for a post at the terminal was noted.



A further shallow pit **123** was recorded cut through the turf line **114** below the bank; it is unclear if it was dug through the counter scarp proper, or was sealed by it. Contexts **125** and **127** were small, shallow unconvincing features, although their line seemed to mirror the S edge of the counter scarp bank. A further probable shallow pit **119** was observed against the E side of the trench, S of the counter scarp bank.

To the N of the ditch the situation was more complex, and some issues remain unresolved. The 0.9m wide N/S strip of context **106** running up the centre of the trench, to align with the S end of the surviving part of the axial bank, seems likely to be a continuation of this bank. Excavation of an E/W strip of **106** along the N side of the ditch showed it to be a thin deposit sealing a possible turf line **120**. This ran right across the trench, and no distinction could be made at the E end between rampart material and axial bank. It is possible that at this S end, context **106** represented erosion of bank or rampart, rather than *in situ* material.

At the N end of the trench excavation was confined to the removal of deposits likely to be erosion from the bank, as it was not intended to excavate undamaged areas. To the S of this, Slot 2 was excavated across the E side of context **106**. Contexts **111**, **135** and **136** seemed to all represent erosion from the axial bank, with some material probably also derived from the rampart to the S.

The E side of the bank was located within Slot 2, sloping gently down to the E. It was formed by four discrete thin layers: contexts **106**, **137**, **138** and **139**. Of these, **106** and **138** were principally reddish silty clay, while **137** and **139** were pale grey silty clays. It is suggested that the basal deposit **139** represents a buried turf line, sealed by the bank. The three layers above formed the bank proper, and suggest that, at least at its base, it was built of stacked turves. The upper deposit **106** had of course been truncated by **101** in this area, so the bank could only be proved to stand some 0.2m high here.

Slot 1 was dug E/W across the trench to the S of Slot 2. It was designed to run across the N side of the rampart as well as across the axial bank, hopefully providing a relationship between them. At the extreme W end, contexts **143** and **144** are likely to be erosion off the bank. Context **140** was a distinctive block of pale grey silt at the W edge of **106**, just possibly indicating a turf revetment on this side. Below **106** the bank

proper consisted of a further two layers, with **134** as a thin pale grey silt above **141**, a deposit of reddish silty clay. These might again suggest stacked turf, over a probable buried turf line **142**.

At the E end, context **151** probably represents erosion off the rampart, while the peaty deposit **128** below this may be material that has naturally formed against the back of the rampart. The distinctive form of these, with a level E end, dropping to the W, suggests that this does mark the end of the rampart, and not just the point where it was destroyed in 2009. This indicates that the linear band of **106** running up the N end of the trench represents the bank running down against the W end of the rampart, rather than being built against its N face.

Contexts **133** and **145**, below **128**, are likely to represent rampart material. Indeed, both could be traced to the S of Slot 1, forming the area where the ground rose to make the upstanding rampart. A probable old ground surface, **146**, was sealed below **145**.

The understanding of stratigraphic relationships across Slot 1 was severely inhibited by cut **150**. This was dug down through **142** to the W and **146** to the E, both probable turf lines, sealed under axial bank and rampart respectively, although they were so similar in composition and height that they may well be the same, perhaps indicating contemporaneity between their overlying earthworks. Context **150** was a linear slot running into the E end of Slot 1, on an E/W alignment, before turning to run out of the excavated area to the N.

The fill of **150**, context **147**, was principally composed of stone cobbles, and it is suggested that it was a palisade trench, dug through the old land surface under the rampart and bank, which then both sealed it. Further stratigraphic breaks occurred, as two later cuts, **163** and **164** were dug down into the top of **147**. Context **163**, to the NW, was dug through the bank material **141** and rampart material **145**, and it is this that removed all relationships between the two earthworks. To the E, context **164** had no relationship with the bank, but post-dated both **145** and **133**, the rampart material above this.

The complex sequence described around cut **150** is best explained as a palisade trench dug before the construction of either rampart or axial bank. These two earthworks were then built while the posts of the palisade were still standing. The two

cuts 163 and 164 represent the removal of these timbers from the earthworks. If this scenario is correct, then it suggests that bank and rampart are at least roughly contemporary features.

During the earlier phase of excavation a series of four trenches were dug through rampart 'F' (Trenches 1, 12, 14 and 27: Dunwell and Strachan, 2007, pp.42 - 50). Trenches 1 and 14 were dug across the rampart, with Trench 14 the least affected by rabbit damage. Trench 12 was dug across an entrance gap, and examined an axial bank as well as ditch and rampart.

The overall size, depth and shape of the ditch seems fairly consistent, including the narrow slot along its base. In Trench 14 a possible re-cut of the ditch (*ibid* p.43) was identified. Its position against the S side of the original ditch, shape, size and stone rich fill closely resemble that identified in the current work. The earlier fills are generally described as sterile, so the evidence for an episode of stabilisation prior to this re-cut is not matched in the earlier work. This could of course be a highly localised episode.

The counter scarp bank seems to be of similar size and composition in both phases of work. The older work found evidence for a palisade trench sealed under this bank in Trench 14. This might seem to be a similar size and shape to that found in the 2011 work, but its course diverged from that of the counter scarp, and it is under it. The palisade slot found in this phase of work could clearly be seen in section to run through the bank. It must be admitted that the damage to the counter scarp was so severe here that it is possible that, like the slot to the N of the ditch, the trench predates the bank, but that its timbers protruded up through it. The section line ran across one of these probable extracted timbers, making this uncertain.

To the N of the ditch the relationship between rampart and axial bank could not be proved, except through the complex evidence of the palisade trench predating at least the rampart, with its timbers protruding through both. No feature matching this was found in the earlier work. A possible palisade in the top of the rampart in Trench 14 may be the result of burrowing, and in the section drawing (*ibid* p.43, illustration 3.25) it does not appear to be dug through the turf below the rampart. A single post hole is recorded as being dug through the axial bank in the old Trench 12. The bank itself is

described as being of simple dump construction, with no trace of the stacked turves suggested here.

Little work was done on the actual rampart, but the dump construction described during the earlier excavations seems a good description of what was noted in the E end of Slot 1. The exact nature of the relationship between ditch, rampart and counter scarp bank is likely to prove elusive. The lack of a significant gap between the earthworks and the ditch mean that they are likely to have slumped in, and the ditch edge to have widened through erosion.

The Brown Cathertun can be seen to be a complex monument, with much evidence not visible on the surface. Excavation, even of a damaged area such as this can provide a great deal of new information. It should be noted that unlike the trenches dug in the 1990s, which were generally on the SE side of the site, rabbit damage was not observed, making the general level of preservation in this area somewhat greater.

## **REFERENCES**

*Dunwell and Strachan, A and R (2007)* 'Excavations at Brown Caterthun and White Caterthun Hillforts, Angus, 1995-1997', TAFAC Monograph 5 Glenrothes.

## LIST OF CONTEXTS

No.	Description
100	Fill of 101.
101	Long cut at N end of trench.
102	Fill of 103.
103	Short cut at S end of trench.
104	Topsoil.
105	Thin layer of stone rich very pale grey silt below 120.
106	Reddish clayey silt running N/S up the trench to the N of the ditch.
107	Reddish brown silty sand, upper counter scarp bank material.
108	Infill of ditch - November 2009 deposit.
109	Reddish silty clay in NE corner of trench.
110	Peaty deposit in NE corner of trench under 109.
111	Pale grey peaty silt in NE corner under 110.
112	Pale grey peaty silt in NW corner.
113	Lower (below 107) counter scarp bank material - red sand and gravel.
114	Dark grey silty sand below 113.
115	Black loamy fill of 117.
116	Main fill of 117.
117	Linear E/W cut filled by 115 and 116.
118	Pale grey sandy silt fill of 119.
119	Possible shallow cut in SE corner of trench.
120	Pale grey silty sand below 106.
121	Dark brown peaty silt over 106, same as 153.
122	Pale brown silty clay fill of 123.
123	Cut to the S of the W side of the ditch.
124	Black peaty fill of 125.
125	Possible stake hole near W side of trench.
126	Black peaty fill of 127.
127	Possible stake hole to E of 125.
128	Black peaty deposit on N side of rampart.
129	Dark grey silty peat fill of 130.
130	Triangular shaped cut in NE corner of site.
131	Cut for ditch.
132	Subsoil.
133	Dark brown silty clay below 128 (Slot 1).
134	Pale grey silty clay below 106 (Slot 1).
135	Dark grey silty peat and stones under 110 (Slot 2).
136	Dark brown clayey silt and stones under 135 (Slot 2).
137	Thin lens of pale grey silty clay below 106 (Slot 2).
138	Thin lens of reddish silty clay below 137 (Slot 2).
139	Thin lens of very pale grey silty clay below 138 (Slot 2).
140	Wedge of dark grey silty clay near W end of Slot 1.
141	Reddish silt below 140 (Slot 1).
142	Very pale grey silty clay below 141 (Slot 1).

No.	Description
143	Stone rich brown silt at W end of Slot 1.
144	Mixed red and brown silt below 143 (Slot 1).
145	Reddish silty clay below 133 (Slot 1).
146	Pale grey silty clay below 145 (Slot 1).
147	Fill of cut 150 (Slot 1).
148	Possible post-pipe at W end of 150 (in cut 163).
149	Possible post-pipe at E end of 150 (in cut 164).
150	Linear cut through 146.
151	Mixed brown and reddish silt above 128 (Slot 1).
152	Peat deposit in cut 155.
153	Dark grey silt and crushed sandstone below 152.
154	Stone and silt fill below 153.
155	Re-cut of ditch.
156	Reddish brown sandy silt fill of 131.
157	Orange sandy silt fill of 131.
158	Very pale grey sandy silt fill of 131.
159	Pale grey sandy silt fill of 131.
160	Reddish brown sandy silt basal fill of 131.
161	Pale grey silty sand below 114.
162	Yellowish brown sandy silt at S end of trench.
163	Possible cut for post-pipe 148.
164	Possible cut for post-pipe 149.
165	Stone and grey silt fill of ditch above 152.
166	Mid-brown sandy silt above 165.
200	Fill of 201.
201	NW/SE scrape across rampart.
202	Topsoil.
203	Peaty deposit at NW end of trench.
204	Dark brown silty deposit at SE end of trench.
205	Stone setting, possible fill to NW of 204.
206	Reddish silty sand and gravel over most of trench.
207	Pale grey silty sand below 206.

**LIST OF SAMPLES**

No.	Context	Description	No. of bags
1	107	Reddish brown silty sand, upper deposit of counter scarp bank.	1
2	113	Red sand and gravel, lower deposit of counter scarp bank.	2
3	115	Possible post-pipe from cut 117.	1
4	116	Main fill of cut 117.	2
5	106	Reddish clayey silt from N end of trench - bank/ rampart material.	2
6	118	Pale grey sandy silt fill of cut 119.	1
7	120	Possible buried turf line below 106.	2
8	121	Upper fill of ditch.	1
9	114	Possible buried turf line below counter scarp bank.	2
10	122	Fill of cut 123.	1
11	124	Fill of possible stake hole 125.	1
12	126	Fill of possible stake hole 127.	1
13	128	Peaty deposit on N side of rampart.	1
14	129	Fill of possible cut 130.	1
15	133	Probable rampart material.	2
16	114	Kubiena tin through possible buried turf under counter scarp bank.	Kubiena (small)
17	106/136/137	Kubiena tin through probable bank material in Slot 2.	Kubiena (small)
18	156/157/158	Horizontal Kubiena tin through early ditch fills.	Kubiena (large)
19	156/ 157/159/160	Vertical Kubiena tin through early ditch fills.	Kubiena (large)
20	152/ 153	Kubiena tin through upper late ditch fills.	Kubiena (small)
21	154	Main fill of ditch re-cut.	1

LIST OF DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

No.	Description	From	Date
1	Trench 1, pre-excavation.	N	24/03/2011
2	Trench 1, pre-excavation.	N	24/03/2011
3	Trench 1, pre-excavation, looking along Rampart 'F'.	E	24/03/2011
4	Trench 1, pre-excavation.	S	24/03/2011
5	Trench 1, pre-excavation.	W	24/03/2011
6	Brown Cathertun from White Cathertun.	S	24/03/2011
7	Brown Cathertun from White Cathertun.	S	24/03/2011
8	Brown Cathertun from White Cathertun.	S	24/03/2011
9	Cuts 101 and 103 emptied.	S	25/03/2011
10	Cuts 101 and 103 emptied.	S	25/03/2011
11	Cut 103 emptied.	S	25/03/2011
12	Cut 101 emptied.	S	25/03/2011
13	E side of cut 103 (through counter scarp bank).	W	25/03/2011
14	E side of cut 101 (through rampart).	W	25/03/2011
15	General view of trench.	NW	25/03/2011
16	General view of trench.	NW	25/03/2011
17	General view of trench.	NE	25/03/2011
18	General view of trench.	NE	25/03/2011
19	View along Rampart 'F' to trench .	W	25/03/2011
20	General view of trench.	NW	25/03/2011
21	General view of trench.	NW	25/03/2011
22	General view of trench.	NW	25/03/2011
23	Trench 1, after removal of 104.	S	29/03/2011
24	Trench 1, after removal of 104.	S	29/03/2011
25	Trench 1, after removal of 104.	N	29/03/2011
26	Trench 1, after removal of 104, detail of S end.	W	29/03/2011
27	Trench 1, after removal of 104, detail to N of last shot.	W	29/03/2011
28	Trench 1, after removal of 104, detail to N of last shot.	W	29/03/2011
29	Trench 1, after removal of 104, detail to N of last shot.	W	29/03/2011
30	Trench 1, after removal of 104, detail to N of last shot.	W	29/03/2011
31	Detail of NW arm of trench after removal of 104.	S	29/03/2011
32	Detail of N end of trench after removal of 104.	S	29/03/2011
33	Detail of NE corner of trench after removal of 104.	W	29/03/2011
34	Detail of rampart after removal of 104.	W	29/03/2011
35	Detail of counter scarp bank after removal of 104.	W	29/03/2011
36	Trenches 2 and 3, pre-excavation.	S	29/03/2011
37	Trenches 2 and 3, pre-excavation.	W	29/03/2011
38	Trenches 2 and 3, pre-excavation.	NW	29/03/2011
39	Entrance through rampart 'F' to E of Trenches 2 and 3.	SW	29/03/2011
40	Entrance through rampart 'F' to E of Trenches 2 and 3.	NE	29/03/2011
41	Entrance through rampart 'F' to E of Trenches 2 and 3, showing Bank on NE side.	W	29/03/2011



No.	Description	From	Date
42	Entrance through rampart 'F' to E of Trenches 2 and 3, showing Bank on NE side.	SW	29/03/2011
43	Trench 2, after removal of 202.	SE	29/03/2011
44	Trench 2, after removal of 202.	SW	29/03/2011
45	Trench 2, after removal of 202, detail of NW end.	SW	29/03/2011
46	Trench 2, after removal of 202, detail of SE end.	SW	29/03/2011
47	Trench 2, detail of 204 and 205.	SW	29/03/2011
48	Trench 1, from entrance through rampart 'B'.	NW	29/03/2011
49	Trench 1, from entrance through rampart 'B'.	NW	29/03/2011
50	Trench 1, from rampart 'B'.	NE	29/03/2011
51	Trench 1, from rampart 'B'.	NE	29/03/2011
52	White Cathertun from summit of Brown Cathertun.	NE	29/03/2011
53	Context 109, pre-excavation.	E	30/03/2011
54	Context 111, pre-excavation.	E	30/03/2011
55	Context 111, pre-excavation.	S	30/03/2011
56	NW arm of trench after removal of 112.	S	30/03/2011
57	NW arm of trench after removal of 112.	W	30/03/2011
58	General shot of Trench 1 in the mist.	NW	30/03/2011
59	Sondage through 111.	E	30/03/2011
60	Sondage through 111.	S	30/03/2011
61	Fills 115 and 116, pre-excavation.	S	01/04/2011
62	General shot of Trench 1.	NE	01/04/2011
63	General shot of Trench 1.	NE	01/04/2011
64	Trench 1 to S of ditch showing 114 and 162.	S	01/04/2011
65	Trench 1 to S of ditch showing 114 and 162.	S	01/04/2011
66	Detail of 114 (with a block of 113 left in around 117).	W	01/04/2011
67	Detail of 114 and 162.	W	01/04/2011
68	Context 162 cleaned up.	W	01/04/2011
69	Contexts 124 and 126, pre-excavation.	S	01/04/2011
70	Context 126, pre-excavation.	S	01/04/2011
71	Context 124, pre-excavation.	S	01/04/2011
72	Contexts 114 and 162.	N	01/04/2011
73	Contexts 114 and 162.	N	01/04/2011
74	General view of Brown Cathertun.	S	01/04/2011
75	General view of Brown Cathertun.	S	01/04/2011
76	General view of Brown Cathertun.	S	01/04/2011
77	General view of Brown Cathertun.	S	01/04/2011
78	Detail of fill 115 in cut 117.	S	04/04/2011
79	Half-section of cut 117.	S	04/04/2011
80	Section (E-facing) through 117.	E	04/04/2011
81	Section (E-facing) through 117.	E	04/04/2011
82	Section (E-facing) through 117.	E	04/04/2011
83	Cut 117 emptied.	W	04/04/2011
84	Cut 117 emptied.	S	04/04/2011

No.	Description	From	Date
85	Cut 117 emptied.	W	04/04/2011
86	W-facing section of cut 115.	W	04/04/2011
87	W-facing section of cut 115.	W	04/04/2011
88	N end of 114.	W	05/04/2011
89	S end of 114.	W	05/04/2011
90	General shot of 114.	N	05/04/2011
91	General shot of 114.	S	05/04/2011
92	Fill 118, pre-excavation.	W	06/04/2011
93	Fill 118, pre-excavation.	S	06/04/2011
94	Cut 119, emptied.	W	06/04/2011
95	Cut 119, emptied.	S	06/04/2011
96	Context 120 exposed against the N side of ditch cut 131.	S	06/04/2011
97	Context 120 exposed against the N side of ditch cut 131.	W	06/04/2011
98	Area to S of ditch after removal of 114.	W	06/04/2011
99	Context 122, pre-excavation.	S	06/04/2011
100	Half-section of 123.	S	07/04/2011
101	Half-section of 123.	S	07/04/2011
102	Context 123, emptied.	S	07/04/2011
103	Context 124, pre-excavation.	S	07/04/2011
104	Half-section of 125.	S	07/04/2011
105	Half-section of 125.	S	07/04/2011
106	Half-section of 127.	S	07/04/2011
107	Half-section of 127.	S	07/04/2011
108	Section through ditch cut 131, as finished.	W	07/04/2011
109	Section through ditch cut 131, as finished.	W	07/04/2011
110	Section through ditch cut 131, as finished.	S	07/04/2011
111	General shot of trench.	N	07/04/2011
112	Section through ditch cut 131, as finished.	N	07/04/2011
113	Section through ditch cut 131, as finished.	N	07/04/2011
114	W-facing lower section of 131, top of S end.	W	07/04/2011
115	W-facing lower section of 131, base.	W	07/04/2011
116	W-facing lower section of 131, centre top.	W	07/04/2011
117	W-facing lower section of 131.	W	07/04/2011
118	W-facing lower section of 131.	E	07/04/2011
119	W-facing lower section of 131, S end.	E	07/04/2011
120	W-facing lower section of 131, N end.	E	07/04/2011
121	Ditch cut 131, as finished.	S	07/04/2011
122	Ditch cut 131, as finished.	N	07/04/2011
123	Ditch cut 131, as finished.	W	07/04/2011
124	General shot of Trench 1.	S	07/04/2011
125	Cuts 125 and 127, emptied.	S	07/04/2011
126	Cuts 125 and 127, emptied.	W	07/04/2011
127	General shot of ditch cut 131.	E	07/04/2011
128	General shot of ditch cut 131.	E	07/04/2011

No.	Description	From	Date
129	General shot of ditch cut 131.	SE	07/04/2011
130	General shot of ditch cut 131.	NE	07/04/2011
131	General shot of ditch cut 131.	S	07/04/2011
132	General shot of ditch cut 131.	N	07/04/2011
133	Detail of rampart.	W	07/04/2011
134	Detail of rampart, N end.	W	07/04/2011
135	Detail of rampart, S end.	W	07/04/2011
136	Slot through 114 and 161, to S of cut 117.	W	07/04/2011
137	General shot of bank material, N end of trench.	W	07/04/2011
138	General shot of bank material, N end of trench.	W	07/04/2011
139	General shot of bank material, N end of trench.	S	07/04/2011
140	General shot of bank material, N end of trench.	E	07/04/2011
141	General shot of bank material, N end of trench.	E	07/04/2011
142	Brown Cathertun from White Cathertun.	SW	07/04/2011
143	Brown Cathertun from White Cathertun.	SW	07/04/2011
144	Cut 130 emptied.	S	08/04/2011
145	Slot 2 after removal of 136.	E	08/04/2011
146	Ditch cut 131.	E	11/04/2011
147	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
148	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
149	Ditch cut 131.	E	11/04/2011
150	Ditch cut 131.	E	11/04/2011
151	Upper E-facing section of ditch cut 131.	E	11/04/2011
152	Upper E-facing section of ditch cut 131, detail of S end.	E	11/04/2011
153	Upper E-facing section of ditch cut 131, detail of N end.	E	11/04/2011
154	Unexcavated fills in W side of ditch 131.	S	11/04/2011
155	Ditch cut 131.	S	11/04/2011
156	Ditch cut 131, detail of S side.	N	11/04/2011
157	Ditch cut 131.	W	11/04/2011
158	Ditch cut 131.	W	11/04/2011
159	Ditch cut 131, detail of W end of S side.	N	11/04/2011
160	Ditch cut 131, detail of E end of S side.	N	11/04/2011
161	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
162	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
163	Ditch cut 131.	W	11/04/2011
164	Ditch cut 131.	W	11/04/2011
165	Ditch cut 131.	W	11/04/2011
166	Ditch cut 131, detail of unexcavated fills on E side.	S	11/04/2011
167	Ditch cut 131, detail of SE corner.	S	11/04/2011
168	Ditch cut 131, detail of NE corner.	S	11/04/2011
169	Ditch cut 131, detail of N side and 120.	S	11/04/2011
170	Ditch cut 131, detail of unexcavated fills on W side.	E	11/04/2011
171	Ditch cut 131, detail of E end of S side.	N	11/04/2011
172	Ditch cut 131, detail of N end of upper W-facing section.	W	11/04/2011

No.	Description	From	Date
173	Ditch cut 131, detail of N end of upper W-facing section.	W	11/04/2011
174	Ditch cut 131, detail of S end of upper W-facing section.	W	11/04/2011
175	Ditch cut 131, detail of S end of upper W-facing section.	W	11/04/2011
176	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
177	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
178	Ditch cut 131.	NE	11/04/2011
179	Ditch cut 131.	NE	11/04/2011
180	Ditch cut 131.	SE	11/04/2011
181	Ditch cut 131.	SE	11/04/2011
182	Ditch cut 131.	S	11/04/2011
183	Ditch cut 131.	S	11/04/2011
184	Ditch cut 131.	S	11/04/2011
185	Ditch cut 131.	SW	11/04/2011
186	Ditch cut 131, detail of S side.	W	11/04/2011
187	Ditch cut 131, detail of N side.	W	11/04/2011
188	Ditch cut 131.	NW	11/04/2011
189	Ditch cut 131.	NW	11/04/2011
190	Trench 1, general shot.	N	11/04/2011
191	Ditch cut 131.	N	11/04/2011
192	Ditch cut 131.	E	11/04/2011
193	Ditch cut 131.	E	11/04/2011
194	Slot 2, showing bank.	E	11/04/2011
195	Slot 2, showing bank.	E	11/04/2011
196	Slot 2, showing bank.	S	11/04/2011
197	Slot 2, showing bank.	S	11/04/2011
198	Slot 2, showing bank.	W	11/04/2011
199	Ditch cut 131, detail of S end of upper E-facing section.	E	11/04/2011
200	Ditch cut 131, detail of S end of upper E-facing section.	E	11/04/2011
201	Slot 1, detail of turf layer 134.	S	11/04/2011
202	Slot 1, detail of turf layer 134.	S	11/04/2011
203	Slot 1, detail of turf layer 134 and bank in background.	S	11/04/2011
204	Trench 2, as finished.	S	11/04/2011
205	Trench 2, as finished.	S	11/04/2011
206	N-facing section of Slot 2.	N	11/04/2011
207	N-facing section of Slot 2.	N	11/04/2011
208	N-facing section of Slot 2, detail of E end.	N	11/04/2011
209	N-facing section of Slot 2, detail of W end.	N	11/04/2011
210	N-facing section of Slot 2, detail of bank.	N	11/04/2011
211	N-facing section of Slot 2, detail of bank.	N	11/04/2011
212	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section .	W	12/04/2011
213	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section.	W	12/04/2011
214	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section, upper S side.	W	12/04/2011
215	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section, upper N side.	W	12/04/2011
216	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section, base.	W	12/04/2011

No.	Description	From	Date
217	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section , lower N side.	W	12/04/2011
218	Ditch cut 131, W-facing section, upper N side.	W	12/04/2011
219	Ditch cut 131 W-facing section, possible re-cut.	W	12/04/2011
220	Ditch cut 131 W-facing section, possible re-cut.	W	12/04/2011
221	Ditch cut 131 W-facing section, base.	W	12/04/2011
222	Ditch cut 131 W-facing section, base.	W	12/04/2011
223	W-facing section to S of ditch, N end.	W	12/04/2011
224	W-facing section to S of ditch, to S of last shot.	W	12/04/2011
225	W-facing section to S of ditch.	W	12/04/2011
226	W-facing section to S of ditch.	W	12/04/2011
227	W-facing section to S of ditch.	W	12/04/2011
228	W-facing section to S of ditch.	W	12/04/2011
229	E end of Slot 2, turf 146 and cut 150.	W	12/04/2011
230	E end of Slot 2, turf 146 and cut 150.	W	12/04/2011
231	General shot of Trench 1.	NW	12/04/2011
232	General shot of Trench 1.	NW	12/04/2011
233	S-facing section of Slot 1, W end.	S	12/04/2011
234	S-facing section of Slot 1, W end.	S	12/04/2011
235	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 89.	S	12/04/2011
236	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 89.	S	12/04/2011
237	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 90.	S	12/04/2011
238	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 90.	S	12/04/2011
239	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 92.	S	12/04/2011
240	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 92.	S	12/04/2011
241	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 94.	S	12/04/2011
242	S-facing section of Slot 1, to E of shot 94.	S	12/04/2011
243	W-facing section of Slot 1.	W	12/04/2011
244	E end of Slot 2, turf 146 and slot 150.	W	12/04/2011
245	General shot of Trench 1.	N	12/04/2011
246	General shot of Trench 1, looking along rampart 'F'.	NE	12/04/2011
247	General shot of Trench 1, looking along rampart 'F'.	NE	12/04/2011
248	General shot of Trench 1.	NW	12/04/2011
249	General shot of Trench 1, looking along rampart 'F'.	W	12/04/2011
250	General shot of Trench 1, looking along rampart 'F'.	W	12/04/2011
251	General shot of Trench 1, looking along rampart 'F'.	W	12/04/2011
252	Sample 16 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
253	Sample 16 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
254	Detail of ditch fills 156, 157 and 158.	W	13/04/2011
255	Detail of ditch fills 156, 159 and 160.	W	13/04/2011
256	Trench 2 showing rampart in background.	W	13/04/2011
257	Trench 2 showing rampart in background.	W	13/04/2011
258	Sample 17 <i>in situ</i> .	N	13/04/2011
259	Sample 17 <i>in situ</i> .	N	13/04/2011
260	Sample 18 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011

No.	Description	From	Date
261	Sample 18 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
262	Sample 19 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
263	Sample 19 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
264	Sample 20 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
265	Sample 20 <i>in situ</i> .	W	13/04/2011
266	Detail of fill 148 in S-facing section of Slot 1.	S	13/04/2011
267	Detail of junction of 114 and ditch cut 131.	W	13/04/2011
268	Trenches 2 and 3, as backfilled.	NW	14/04/2011
269	Trench 2 backfilled.	SW	14/04/2011
270	Trench 3 re-turfed.	W	14/04/2011
271	Trench 1, backfilled.	N	14/04/2011
272	Trench 1, backfilled.	S	14/04/2011
273	Trench 1, backfilled.	NW	14/04/2011
274	Trench 1, backfilled.	S	14/04/2011
275	Trench 1, backfilled.	S	14/04/2011
276	Trench 1, pre-excavation.	W	24/03/2011
277	Context 113, cleaned up.	S	31/03/2011
278	Context 113, cleaned up.	S	31/03/2011
279	Context 113, cleaned up.	N	31/03/2011
280	Detail of 113 and 114 in S side of ditch.	N	31/03/2011

## LIST OF SMALL FINDS

Context	SF. No.	Description
116	001	Cobble with smoothed area
135	002	Possible struck quartz flake
135	003	Possible struck quartz flake

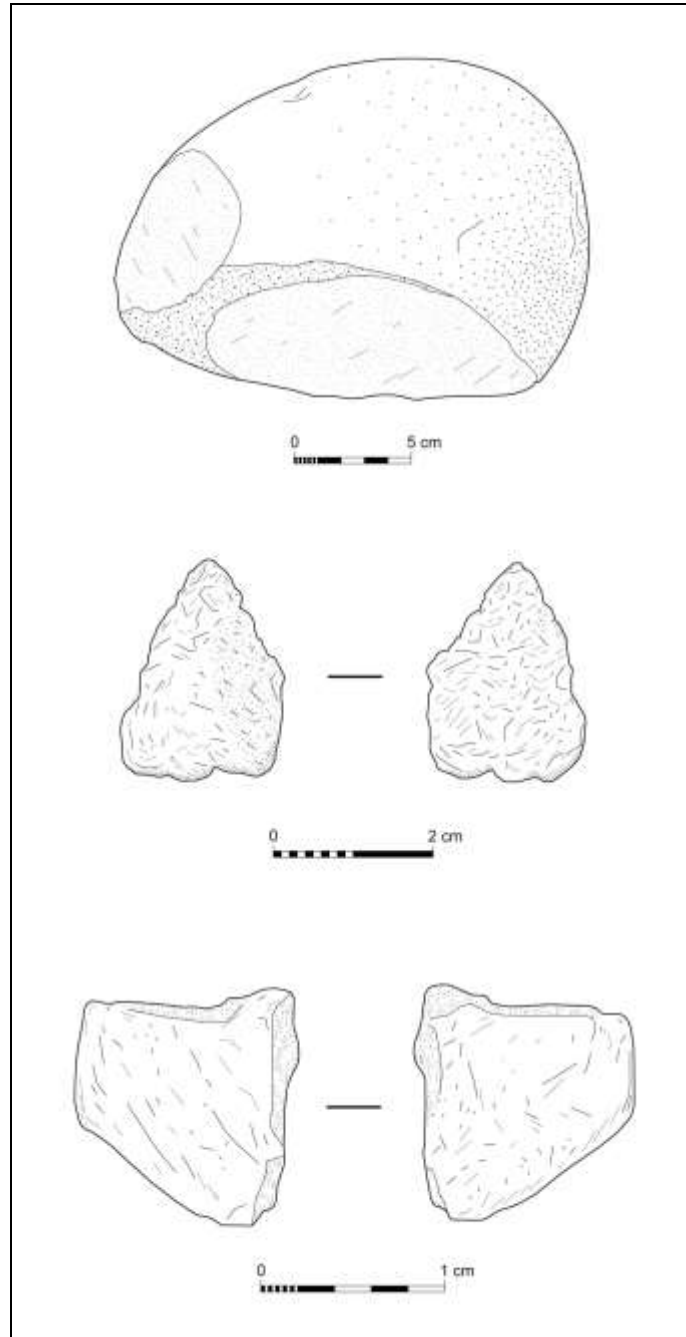


Figure 3: Small finds. SF001 (top), SF002 (middle) and SF003.

## LIST OF DRAWINGS

No.	Type	Description	Scale
1	Plan	Trench 1 after fills of cuts 101 and 103 were excavated.	1: 20
2	Plan	Trench 1 after removal of 104.	1: 20
3	Plan	Trench 2 after removal of 202.	1: 20
4	Section	E-facing section across cut 117.	1: 10
5	Plan	Buried turf 114 at S end of Trench 1.	1: 20
6	Section	S-facing section of cut 123.	1: 10
7	Section	S-facing section of cut 125.	1: 10
8	Section	SW-facing section of cut 127.	1: 10
9	Section	S-facing section of cut 130.	1: 10
10	Section	N-facing section of Slot 2.	1: 10
11	Plan	Post-excavation plan of Trench 1.	1: 20
12	Section	W-facing section of ditch cut 131.	1: 10
13	Section	W-facing section through counter scarp bank.	1: 10
14	Section	S-facing section across bank.	1: 10
15	Section	S-facing section of Slot 1.	1: 10



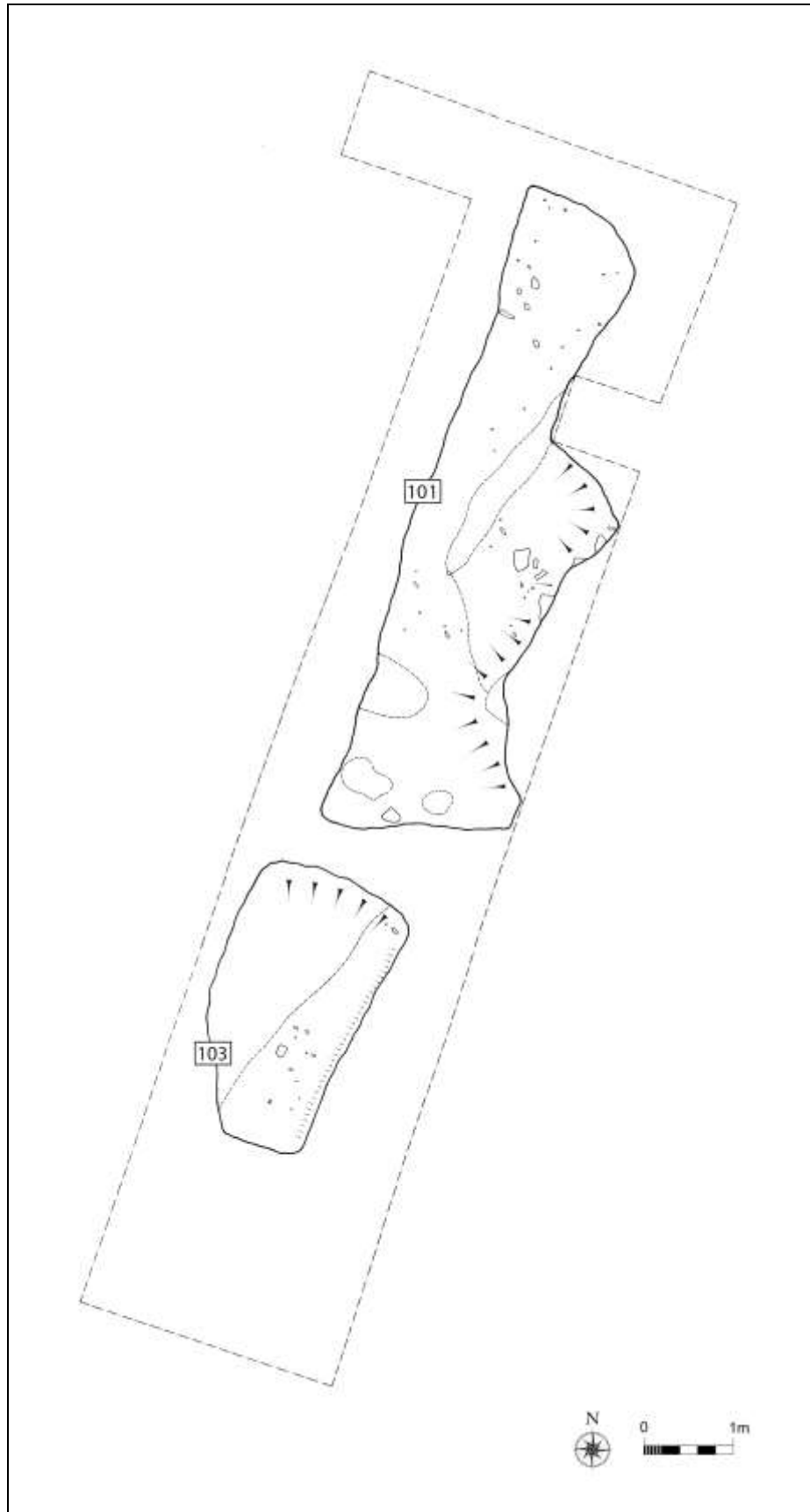


Figure 4: Trench 1 following excavation of the fills of cuts 101 and 103.

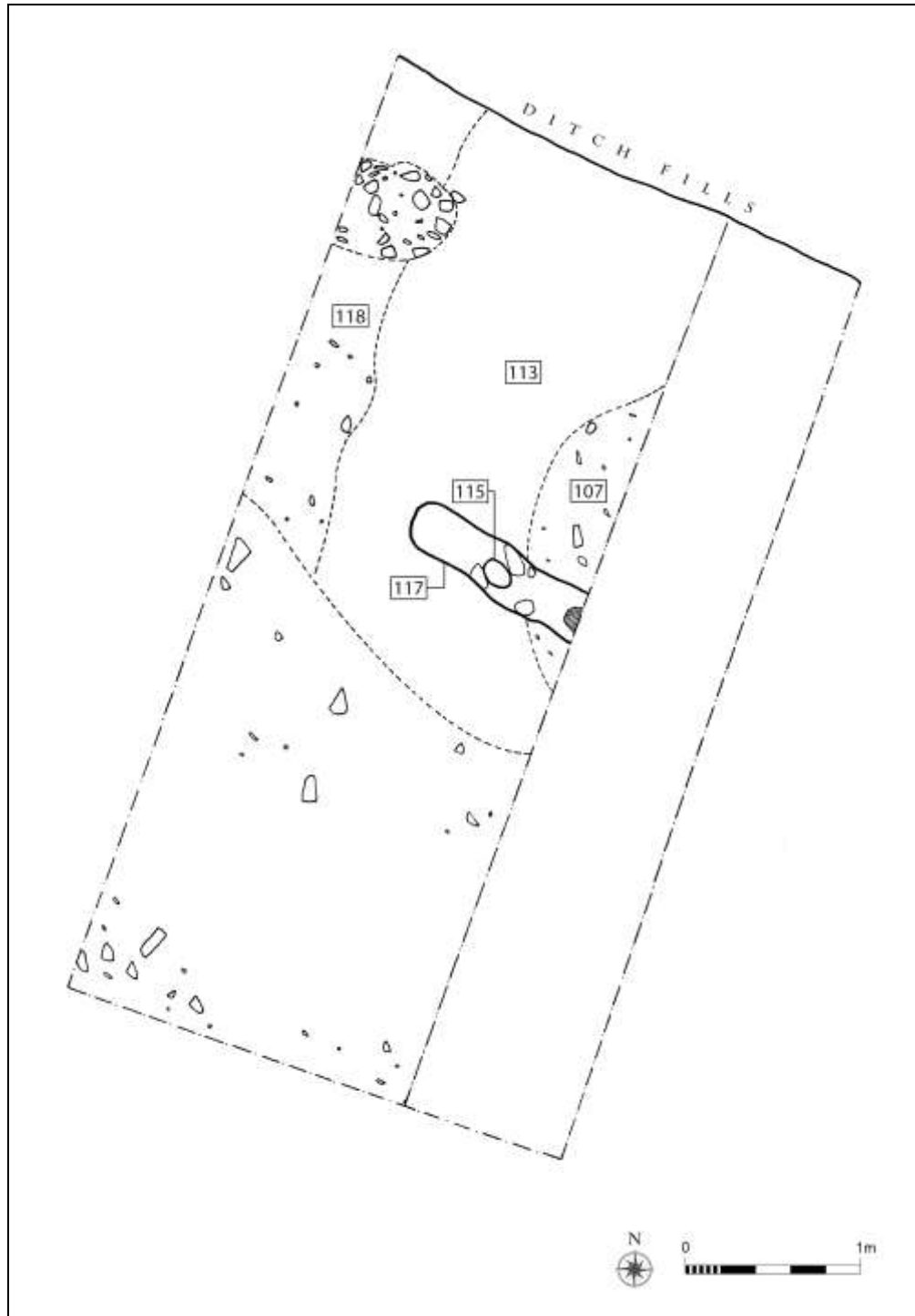


Figure 5: Trench 1 following removal of context 104.

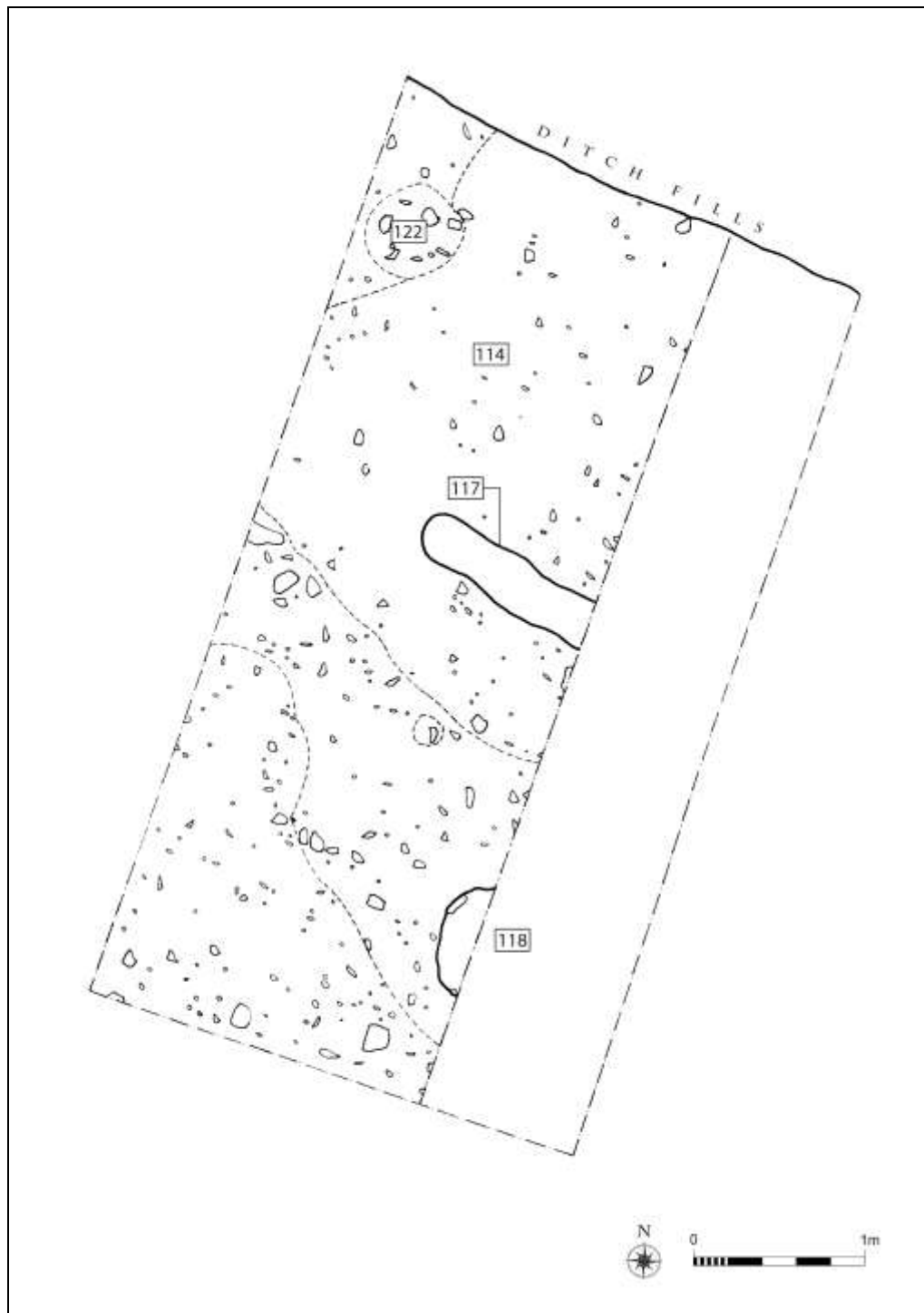


Figure 6: Buried turf 114 at S end of Trench 1.

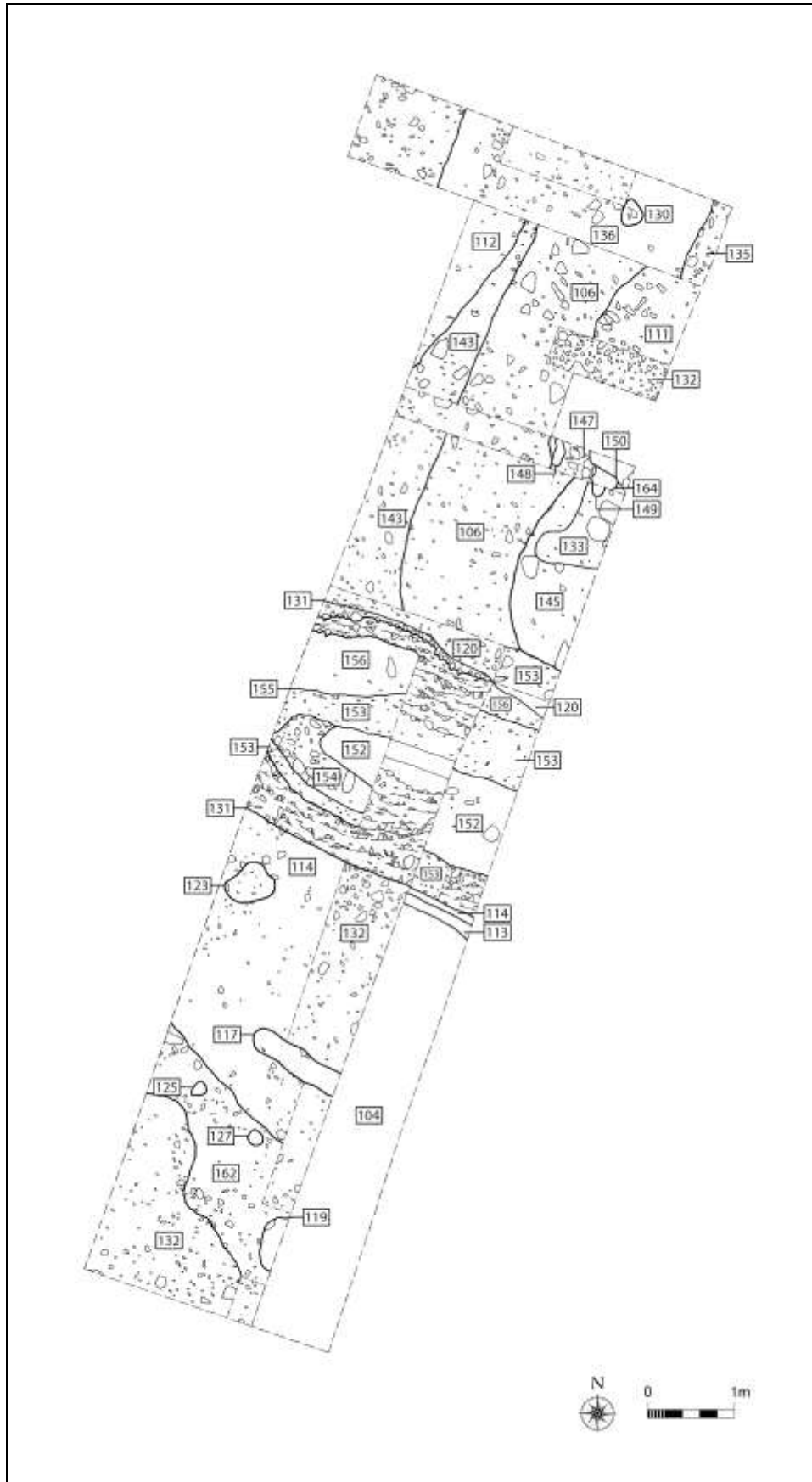
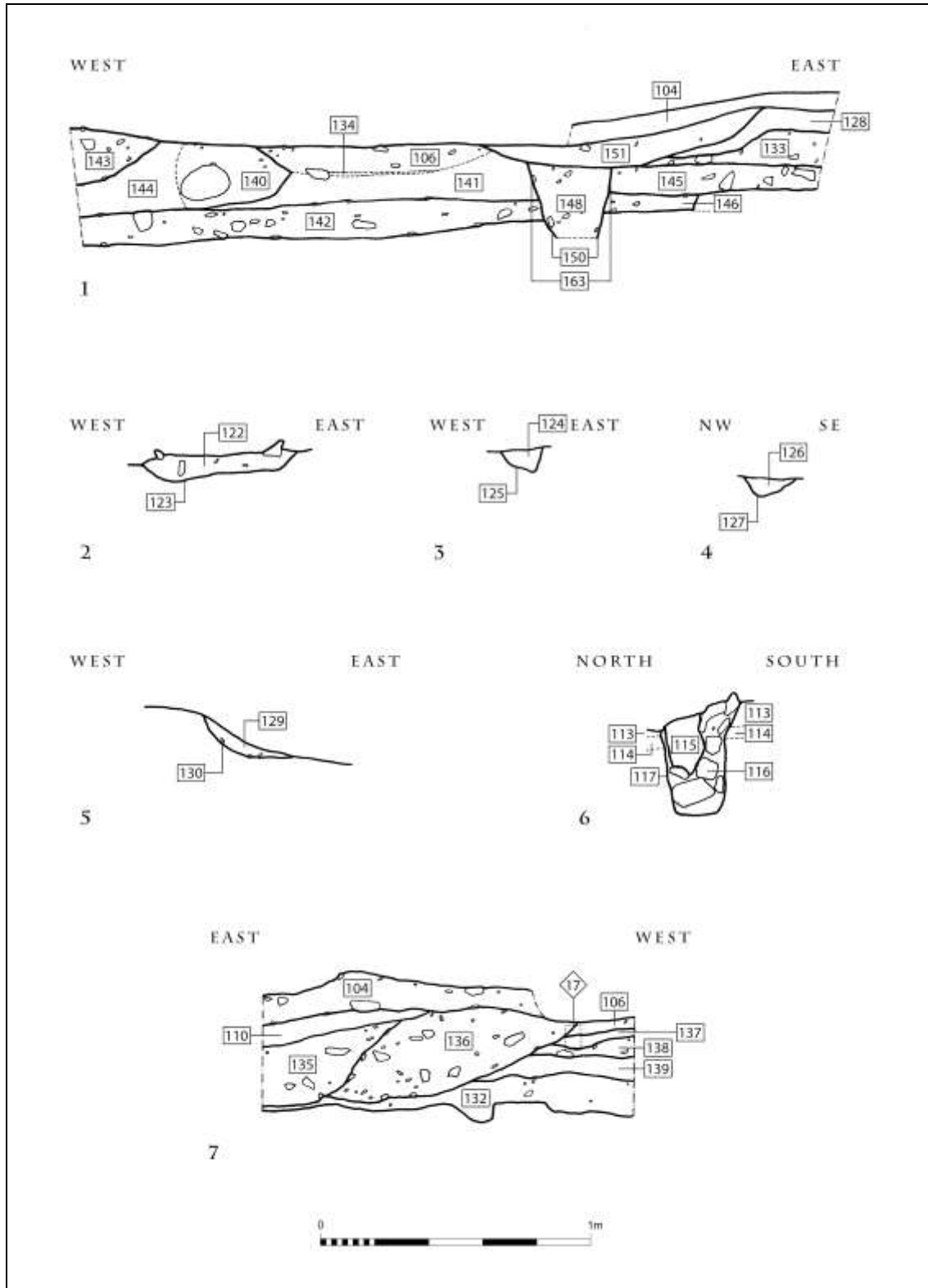


Figure 7: Post-excavation plan of Trench 1.



**Figure 8:** 1: S-facing section of Slot 1. 2: S-facing section of contexts 122/123 3: S-facing section of contexts 124/125  
 4: SW-facing section of contexts 126/127 5: S-facing section of contexts 129/130  
 6: W-facing section through cut 017 7: N-facing section of Slot 2.

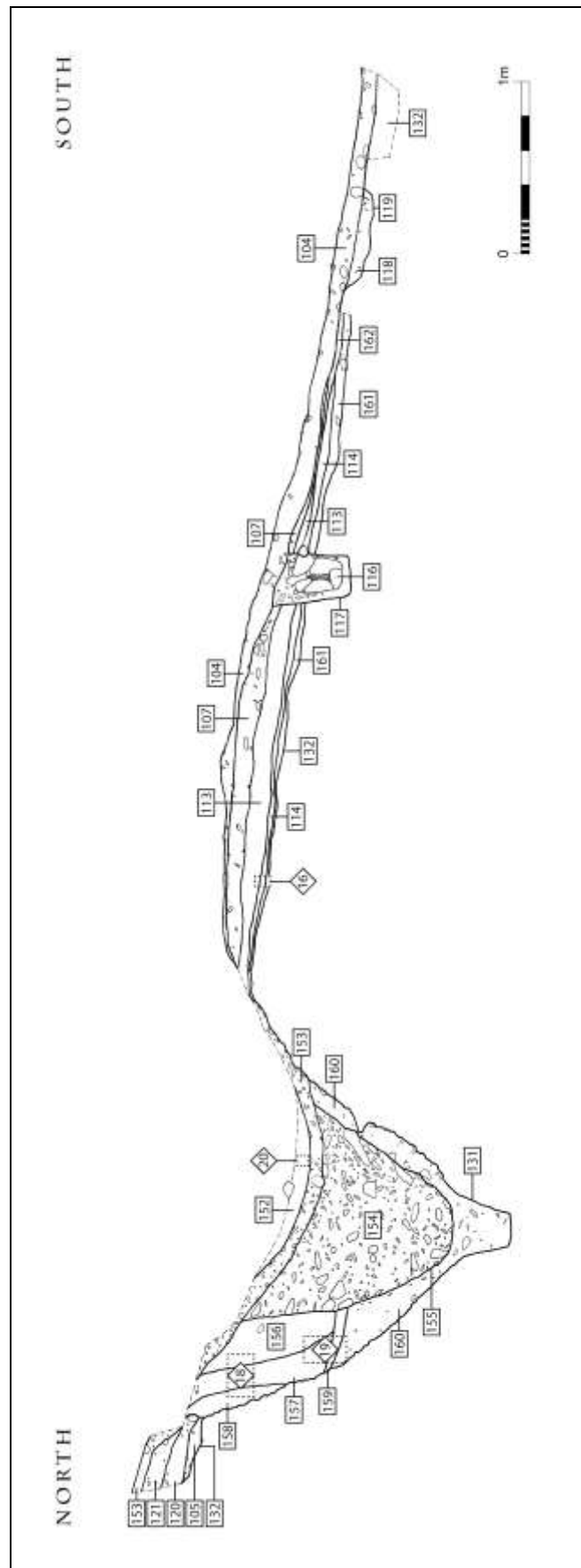


Figure 9: W-facing section through ditch and counterscarp.

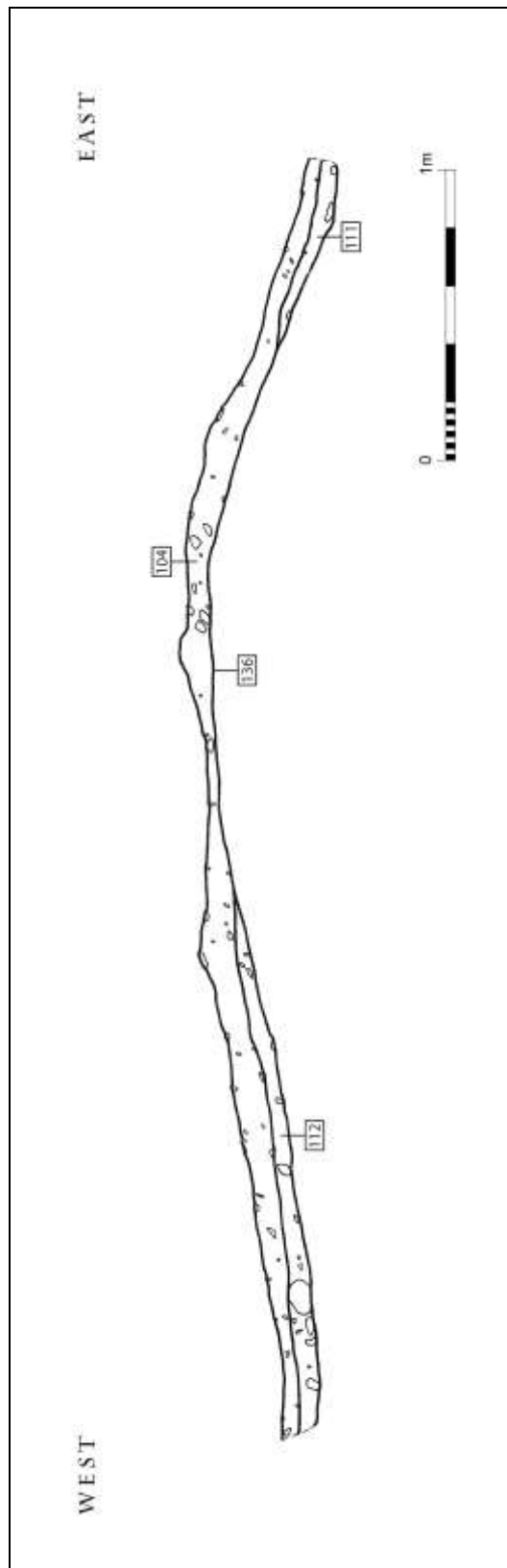


Figure 10: S-facing section over bank.

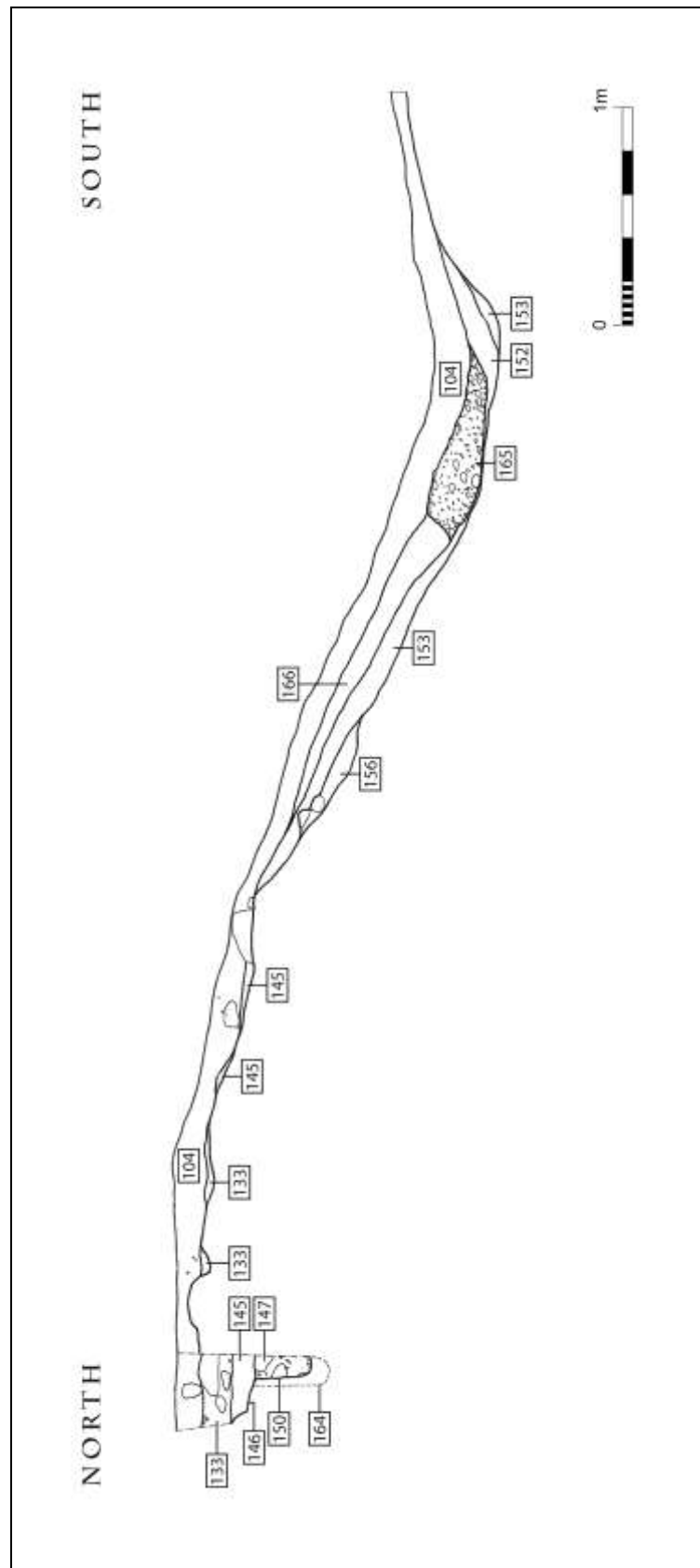


Figure 11: W-facing section of upper ditch and rampart.



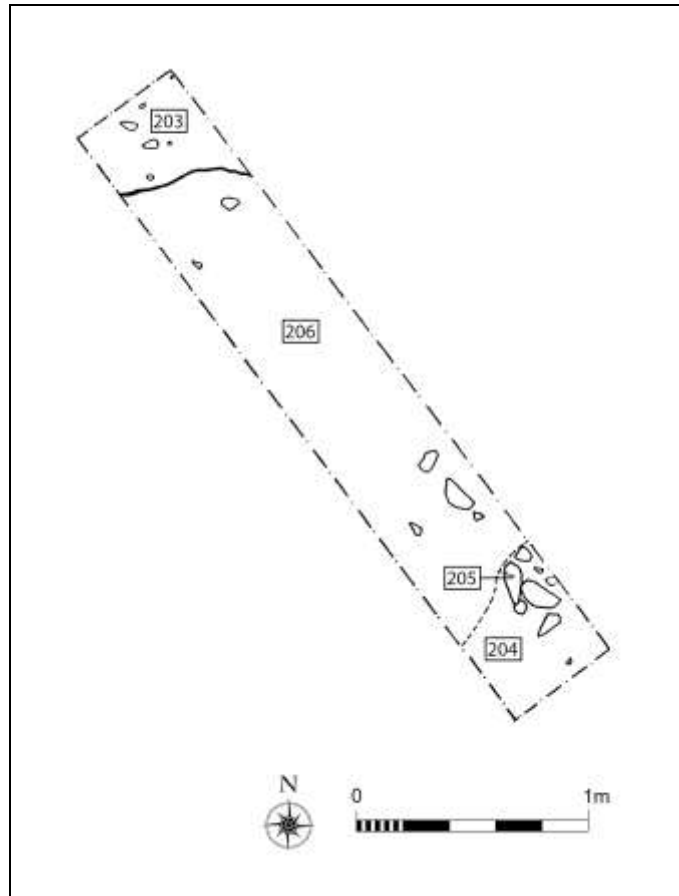


Figure 12: Trench 2 following removal of context 202.