

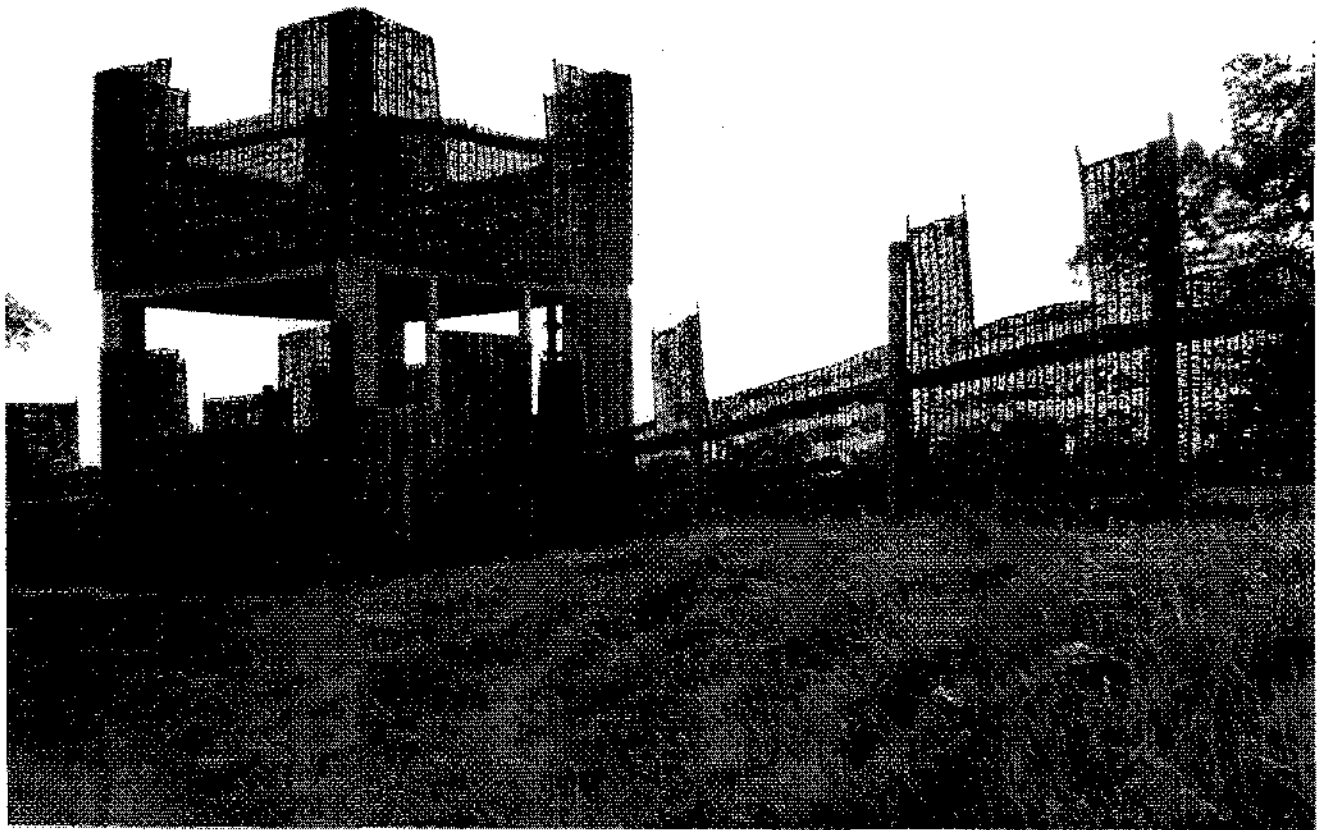


THE UNIVERSITY
OF BIRMINGHAM

**UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
METCHLEY ROMAN FORTS**

Further Archaeological Evaluations

1999



Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit

Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit
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**UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM,
METCHLEY ROMAN FORTS**

Further Archaeological Evaluations 1999

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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

METCHLEY ROMAN FORTS

Further Archaeological Evaluations 1999
(Vincent Drive and Medical School Grounds)

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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM, METCHLEY ROMAN FORTS

Further Archaeological Evaluations 1999 (Vincent Drive and Medical School Grounds)

1.0: INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of archaeological trial-trenching and test-pitting on two sites located within Metchley Roman forts (centred on NGR SP 044838, Fig. 1, Jones forthcoming), located within the bounds of the campus of the University of Birmingham. Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit was commissioned to undertake the evaluation by the Estate Management Office of the University in advance of two proposed car park developments. Part of the northwestern corner of the forts and associated annexes is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (West Midlands SAM No. 1).

The evaluations were undertaken in accordance with the guidelines contained in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (Department of the Environment, November 1990), and Policy 8.36 of the Birmingham Unitary Development Plan. The methodology of the evaluations conforms to a Written Scheme of Investigation (BUFAU 1999) approved by the Planning Archaeologist, Birmingham City Council.

Two areas were investigated (A and B). Area A (Figs. 1-2) comprised two adjoining, terraced, former tennis courts, located to the south of Vincent Drive and to the north of the railway line. Area B (Figs. 1 and 3) comprised a lawn, located within the grounds of the Medical School, to the south of the Medical School extension.

The Roman fort complex at Metchley (Birmingham Sites and Monuments Record No. 2005) was identified from cartographic sources, antiquarian descriptions and, more recently, by excavation. Limited slit-trenching of the fort defences, comprising ditches and earthenwork banks, was undertaken in the 1930s (St. Joseph and Shotton 1937). Later investigations, by Rowley (Jones forthcoming) were concentrated within the interior of the forts. Most recently, the Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit has been investigating the southeastern corner of the fort complex, including the newly-identified southern and eastern annexes (Jones in preparation).

A total of five main military phases has been identified at Metchley (Fig. 1). The earliest, Phase 1 fort measured 200m square. It contained timber-framed barrack-blocks, granaries, a workshop and store-building. Later, annexes were added to the northern, eastern and southern sides of the fort (Phase 2A). Subsequently, the fort interior was cleared, and ranges of temporary structures were built, associated with the use of the site as a military store depot (Phase 2B). The site was later abandoned. A smaller fort, enclosing 2.6 ha, was later built in the interior of the Phase 1-2 fort during a re-occupation of the site. Later activity, represented by recently-identified ditched defences following different alignments to the Phase 1-3 forts (Jones 1999a) have been attributed to Phase 4 and possibly date to within the range AD 75-120. A civilian settlement associated with the Phase 1-2 forts has also recently been located outside the western fort defences (Jones 1999b).

An assessment of the site (Jones 1999c) contains full details of the archaeological background, which will not be repeated here. Most recently, an updated assessment has been prepared (Jones 1999d), and areas surrounding Area 2 have also been trial-trenched (Jones 1999e) in connection with another proposed development. A watching brief has also been undertaken recently in connection with a car park development immediately to the east of Area A (Jones 1999f).

Briefly, Area A (Figs. 1-2) investigated part of the eastern defences was investigated, and a length of the eastern *intervallum* space of the larger, Phase 1-2 forts. This area also included part of the right side of the *retentura*, and part of the right side of the central range, where timber-framed buildings would be anticipated (see the assessment, Jones 1999c for full details). Area A also included part of the interior of the eastern annexe. The former tennis court area is considered to be a zone of exceptionally high potential for archaeological survival because it has not previously been built-upon, and because the playing surfaces are formed by terraces, some raised in excess of 1m above the surrounding ground-level.

The Area B (Figs. 1 and 3) evaluation comprised a single trial-trench (Trench 2), located to examine the northeastern corner of the Phase 1-3 fort defences, which have not been archaeologically investigated since 1969. Their exact location also remained to be established. Trial-trenches dug to the south and east of Trench 2 (Jones 1999c) earlier in 1999, examined part of the western defences and the interior of the Phase 1-3 and Phase 4 forts. This trial-trenching also examined areas which had been previously excavated in the 1960s, although, significantly, the trial-trenching confirmed that a number of archaeological features had not been fully excavated at that time, and had also survived later disturbances.

For simplicity, in the following account it is assumed that the forts' main axis is north-south, although the illustrations remain labelled with compass north.

Subject to the approval of the University as landowner, it is proposed to deposit the evaluation archive (paper records and finds) with Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery.

2.0: AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1: Aims

The purpose of the archaeological evaluations was to define the survival and significance of the archaeology, to enable an informed strategy to be defined for its preservation *in situ*. This strategy would involve careful design of the car parks, and rigorous controls over ground disturbance during their construction, to ensure the archaeological remains were not affected by the construction or use of the proposed car parks.

The test-pits in Area A were intended to locate the uppermost horizon of archaeological deposits within each of the two terraces proposed for car parking. Trench 1 in that area, positioned across the grass bank which divides the two terraces, was also extended into the eastern and western edges of the lower (eastern) and higher

(western) terraces respectively. The trench was sited to intercept the eastern Phase 1-2 fort defences, and in particular to locate the uppermost horizons of the fort ditches and rampart, and any associated features, and to assess their survival.

The single trial-trench (Trench 2) in Area B aimed to sample an area of the northern fort defences and the adjoining *intervallum* space not previously investigated, to provide, in tandem with the trial-trenches previously excavated during 1999 in this sector of the forts, a representative sample of the fort defences and interior.

2.2: Methodology

A total of two test-pits, measuring approximately 1.6m square, and two trenches, measuring 1.6m and 3.2m in width, was excavated by machine under archaeological supervision. In Area A Test-Pit 1 located the natural subsoil, but excavation of Test-Pit 2 ceased when the water-table was recorded. Trench 1 (Area A) was dug to expose the subsoil the uppermost horizons of the rampart, and the post-medieval infills of the eastern fort ditches. Because of the depth of modern infill deposits recorded in Trench 1, the trench was widened and the sides were battered at an angle of 45 degrees by the mechanical excavator, to enable the archaeological cleaning and recording to be undertaken safely. This batter necessarily limited the scope for the recording of the uppermost deposits in this trench, which were of inter-war date. Trench 2 (Area B) was dug to expose the uppermost horizon of the surviving archaeology, and the subsoil was not reached.

Following machining, each trench and test-pit was hand-cleaned, and the stratigraphy was recorded by means of pre-printed pro-formas for contexts and features, and by drawing and photography, even where no archaeological, or possible archaeological, deposits were encountered. In all interventions, hand-excavation of archaeological features and deposits was outside the agreed scope of the fieldwork.

3.0: RESULTS (Fig. 4)

For clarity and objectivity in the following account description and interpretation have been separated.

3.1: Site A, Vincent Drive (Figs. 2 and 4)

Description

Test-Pit 1

This test-pit measured 1.6m square, and was located on the lower, eastern terrace of the former tennis courts.

The orange-yellow sand-gravel subsoil (1003) was recorded at a depth of 1.15m below the modern surface. It was sealed by a deposit of charcoal-flecked, dark grey-brown silt-sand (1002), which measured 0.4m in depth. This deposit was overlain by a layer of stiff orange sand-clay-gravel (1001), recorded immediately below the gravel make-up (1000) of the tarmac surface of the former tennis court.

Trench 1

This trench measured 2m in width and 14.5m in length, and was aligned approximately east-west.

The natural subsoil, here an orange-yellow clay-silt-gravel (1018), was recorded at the western end of the trench at a depth of 1.6m below the modern surface. In the centre of the trench the earliest deposit recorded by machining was an orange-brown sand-gravel (1017), flecked with charcoal and containing patches of white silt-sand. Although establishing the relationship between layers 1017 and 1018 was outside the scope of this fieldwork, it is suspected that the former is the later of the two deposits. In the east of the trench, the machining exposed a deposit of red-brown clay-silt (1016), flecked with charcoal. It was recorded at a depth of 0.8m below the existing surface of the eastern, lower, former tennis court. It is suspected that this deposit overlay layer 1017, although the relationship between the two deposits was not tested.

Layer 1016 in the east of the trench was overlain by a deposit of charcoal-flecked dark grey-brown silt-sand (1014), measuring a maximum of 0.3m in depth. This was overlain by a layer of stiff orange sand-clay-gravel (1013), of similar maximum depth. Over the remainder of the trench layers 1016-1018 were sealed by a banded deposit (1015) containing tips of brown clay-soil, broken brick and other building rubble. This deposit was recorded in the west and centre of the trench. This deposit was sealed by the stone make-up deposit and tarmac surface (1011) in the west tennis court. Within the earth bank separating the two former tennis courts layer 1015 was overlain by turf and topsoil (1012). Layer 1013 in the east of the trench was sealed by a gravel foundation for the tarmac surface (1010) and by turf and topsoil (1012).

Test-Pit 2

This test-pit measured 1.6m square, and was located on the upper, western terrace of the former tennis courts.

The earliest deposit encountered in this test-pit was a sticky yellow-orange clay (1022), recorded at a depth of 0.6m below the modern surface. A number of broken brick fragments was pressed into the top of this deposit, which could not be further investigated because of flooding. The clay (1022) was overlain by a layer of brown clay-silt (1021), containing building rubble. This layer was sealed by the tennis court surface (1020), composed of tarmac.

No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in Test-Pits 1-2.

Interpretation

Layer 1017 exposed in the centre of Trench 1 may be interpreted as forming the uppermost level of the eastern Phase 1-2 fort rampart *in situ*, and adjoining areas of rampart collapse. The patches of white silt-sand within this deposit may be interpreted as decayed turf. Layer 1016 and the overlying deposit (1014) correspond with the position of the eastern ditches of the Phase 1-2 forts. These layers probably formed the uppermost fills of the fort ditches, deposited in the inter-war years. Layer 1022

(Test-Pit 2) may possibly be interpreted as a subsoil horizon, although this identification is necessarily tentative, since this test-pit could not be further investigated because of the high water-table.

Layers 1002 (Test-Pit 1) and 1014 (Trench 1) are the same silt-sand deposit. Similarly, the overlying deposits (1001 and 1013 respectively), interpreted as redeposited subsoil forming a make-up deposit for the tennis court, are the same.

3.2: Site B, Medical School Grounds (Figs. 3-4)

Trench 2

Description

The most extensive deposit exposed by machining and hand-cleaning in the base of the trench was an irregularly-shaped band of dark grey-brown clay-silt (1033), which measured a maximum of 3m in width. This deposit was flecked with charcoal and contained burnt clay fragments. In the east of the trench was recorded the uppermost level of a deposit of buff-orange clay-silt (1035), which contained a concentration of sub-rounded pebbles towards the southeastern corner of the trench.

Further deposits (1030-1032, 1034) were recorded at the western end of the trench. A deposit of light brown sand-silt (1030) was recorded in the northwestern angle of the trench. To the south was a deposit of dark grey-brown clay-silt (1031), oval-shaped in plan. In the southwestern corner of the trench was a layer of light orange-brown clay-silt (1032), flecked with charcoal. A narrow band of light grey mottled clay-silt (1034) was recorded between layers 1030 and 1033.

Layers 1030 and 1034 were sealed by a deposit of light brown clay-silt (1036, not illustrated), which measured a maximum of 0.2m in depth. This was overlain by the turf and topsoil (1037, not illustrated), measuring a maximum of 0.47m in depth, which sealed deposits 1031-1035.

Interpretation

Interpretation of the Trench 2 results is particularly difficult, given that none of the archaeological deposits was hand-excavated, even in part. Therefore, the interpretations presented in this section of the report should be regarded as tentative on the basis of the present, very limited evidence. Layer 1033 may represent the backfill of a roughly north-south-aligned archaeological trench, cut in 1969 (Fig. 1) across the northwestern corner of the Phase 3 fort defences. Too little of layer 1034 was recorded to allow a secure interpretation to be suggested, although this material was sealed by the trench backfill (1033).

Layer 1030 may represent an *in situ* deposit forming part of the tail of the Phase 3 rampart at the northwestern corner of the fort. The overlying deposit (1036), which contained post-medieval pottery, may be interpreted as disturbed rampart material. Layer 1032 may be the backfill of a ?circular post-pit, probably associated with the rampart. If this interpretation is correct, layer 1031 may have formed a post-pipe, positioned off-centre to post-pit 1032, possibly as a result of the timber upright having

been dug-out at an angle, during dismantling of the fort defences. The northwestern corner tower of the Phase 2A northern annex (Webster 1954) and the southeastern corner tower of the Phase 1-2 corner tower (Jones 1999a) also provided evidence for the recovery of timber uprights during such dismantling.

Layer 1035 recorded in the east of the trench, incorporating a number of rounded pebbles, may possibly have formed a surface. The location of this deposit relative to the suggested northern rampart of the Phase 3 fort (1030) could imply that this surface lay within the northern *intervallum* space of the fort.

3.3: Finds

No finds of Roman date were collected from either area.

4.0: DISCUSSION (Figs. 1-4)

4.1: Area A

Trench I identified the eastern defences of the Phase 1-2 forts, which comprised two ditches and a rampart, based on other observations along this side of the defences (St. Joseph and Shotton 1937). Since the scope of the evaluation was limited to defining Roman features at their uppermost horizons, neither the ditch or rampart was hand-excavated. The rampart and its spread (1017) measured approximately 7.5m in width. The rampart may have been wholly of turf-stack construction. No trace of timber supports for the rampart was found in this trench, and the other limited investigation of the Phase 1-2 fort rampart (Jones forthcoming) suggests that it may have been wholly constructed in turf. Layers 1016 and 1014 (and equivalent deposit 1002 in Test-Pit 1) may represent the uppermost modern infills of the fort ditches.

Trench VI cut by St. Joseph and Shotton (1937, plate XXVI) in 1934-6 immediately to the south of Trench I (Figs. 1-2) confirmed that the defences were especially well preserved at this point of the defensive perimeter. At that time the ditches were V-shaped in profile, measuring a maximum of 4.5m in width and 1.9m in depth.

The eastern fort defences remained visible as earthworks until the 1930s. The building rubble (1015) probably derived from the construction of the Medical School in the 1930s, and was probably dumped to build the raised terraced tennis courts, thus obliterating the fort defences.

No other archaeological, or possible archaeological, features were identified in Area A.

4.2: Area B

The 1999 trial-trench was fortuitously positioned at an approximate right-angle to the line of an earlier trial-trench, dug in 1968. Trench 2 identified part of the rampart of the Phase 3 fort, at its northwestern corner. The innermost edge of the rampart (1030) was identified, together with one of the timber rampart supports. Extensive excavation of the northern and western Phase 3 defences by Rowley indicated that these timber

supports were positioned at a uniform separation of 2.1m. Such a post-pit was recorded along the centre line of the 1969 trench, which lay approximately 2m to the west of layer 1032. Alternatively, given the proximity of the trench to the northwestern angle of the defences, it is possible to speculate that unexcavated feature fill 1032 could have formed one side of the outermost of a pair of timber uprights of a corner tower, although this interpretation is highly speculative on the present evidence, not least because no possible Phase 3 corner tower locations have been investigated in detail up to the present. As suggested by the eccentric placement of the post-pipe (1031) relative to the suggested post-pit (1032), the post was probably dug-out for re-use just before the fort was abandoned. If this was not the case, the post-pipe would be anticipated towards the centre of the post-pit. The contemporary fort ditch lay to the north of the area investigated.

If these interpretations are correct, the Trench 2 results suggest that the northern defences lie some 4m to the north of their currently mapped alignment. This information is particularly significant given the evidence for the mapping inaccuracies identified by recent fieldwork on the other three sides of the military complex, and the absence of recent archaeological interventions along the northern defences of the Phase 3 and Phase 1-2 forts, which were last investigated in 1969. The original mapped position and alignment of the 1969 trial-trench, cut at the northwestern corner of the Phase 3 fort, may also be inaccurate, as are the locations of many of the trenches and area excavations undertaken in the 1960s.

5.0: IMPLICATIONS

Both Areas A and B were identified in the assessments (Jones 1999c and d) as being of national importance.

5.1: The planning background

Paragraph 8 of Planning Policy Guidance Note: Archaeology and Planning (PPG16) 8 states:

“Where nationally important remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are affected by proposed development there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation”.

Policy 8.36 of Birmingham (Unitary Development Plan) 1993 states

“Development proposals which will have an adverse effect on scheduled ancient monuments and other nationally important archaeological sites and their settings will not normally be allowed”

Both national policy guidance and Birmingham City Council planning policy require archaeological remains of national importance to be preserved *in situ*.

Exceptionally, development proposals within areas of national importance (whether scheduled or not) may possibly be permitted if the applicant is able to

demonstrate that the proposed development will cause no sub-surface intrusion or other physical effects to the monument, either directly or indirectly.

This can be demonstrated by design details that provide that:

- 1) there will be no disturbance of the topsoil/subsoil horizon by the development, including associated disturbances caused by services, accesses and landscaping.**
- 2) there will be no direct/indirect disturbance caused to the buried archaeology by the movement of heavy plant/ by contractors' construction compounds etc. during construction.**
- 3) the proposed development will not increase load-bearing upon the buried archaeology, leading to compression and sinkage (this is especially relevant for waterlogged deposits within broad features such as fort ditches).**
- 4) the proposed development will not have the effect of lowering the groundwater table, thus dessicating waterlogged deposits.**

Design details must specify that a sufficient depth of overburden be left on the site to act as a 'buffer' between the buried archaeological deposits and the movement of plant and heavy machinery during development.

When considering the potential for disturbance of the archaeology by sinkage and compression during construction, particular attention should be paid to the danger of additional, deep disturbance by heavy plant during wet weather.

5.2: Area A (Fig. 2)

5.2.1: Archaeology

Evaluation (Trench 1) has demonstrated that the rampart survives as a positive feature in this sector of the defences. The fort ditches and both the fort and annexe interiors will have been protected from modern intrusion by the deep, dumped deposits identified by this evaluation (Trench 1 and Test-Pits 1-2).

The assessment (Jones 1999d and c, Zone 5, 82-4) highlighted the academic importance of this area, which was identified as being an area of high potential for archaeological survival.

The significance of the archaeology within Area A is as follows:

- The ditches belonging to the Phase 1-3 forts are likely to be especially well preserved, possibly including waterlogged deposits containing insects, pollen and waterlogged plant remains. St. Joseph and Shotton (1937) noted that the ditch profiles revealed in Trench VI were exceptionally well preserved, in comparison with the other ditch profiles recorded at that time. The relatively better survival of the eastern defences is also borne out by the representations of the fort defences as earthworks on Ordnance Survey mapping in the late-19th- and early-20th-century.
- The area contains large, undisturbed areas of the Phase 1-2 fort interior, including part of the right side of the central range which is of particular importance, since little of this part of the forts' interior has hitherto been investigated at Metchley. The building layouts in the right *retentura* may be considered of particular importance because of their potential to elucidate the nature of the fort garrison and to provide an understanding of early Claudian military layouts. Excavation

elsewhere in the *retentura* (Areas 3-4, Jones forthcoming) has identified widespread evidence for the adaptation of the original Phase 1 buildings, associated with a change in garrison or in overall function of the fort, and similar, important evidence of such structural alterations may be found in Area A.

- The area also includes a length of the eastern *intervallum* of the Phase 1-3 forts, which could provide useful information concerning the forts' industrial functions.
- The area includes a significantly large part of the interior of the Phase 2B stores depot, where traces of temporary buildings of a type relatively unusual in a military context are likely to be found. A particularly high level of preservation is likely under the Phase 3 rampart, which will have provided protection from later disturbance.
- Recent fieldwork on the western fort defences has identified a new defensive circuit (Phase 4, Jones 1999a), and the possibility of further, hitherto unidentified defences being discovered should be considered.
- The area also includes part of the eastern annexe interior, which may contain hearths and ovens, by analogy with the evidence from the excavated part of this annexe interior (Jones 1999a).

5.2.2: Proposals

- **The new car parks should be constructed within the footprints of the two, disused, tennis courts. No service trenches or other below-ground disturbances should be dug outside the footprint of the two disused tennis courts.**
- **The proposed ramp between the two tennis courts should be located partly across Trench 1, to ensure that the archaeological implications of its construction in this sensitive area have been evaluated in detail.**
- **The formation level of the ramp should not penetrate more than 0.4m below the modern turf level in the bank between the tennis courts. This would ensure that the layer of redeposited subsoil (1014) will act as a buffer between the disturbance caused by the movement of heavy machinery and the archaeology (1016-1018).**
- **The formation level of the lower, eastern car park should be no lower than 0.45m below the level of the eastern tennis court (above layers 1014 and its equivalent 1002, Test-Pit 1).**
- **The formation level of the upper, western car park should be no lower than 0.3m below the existing surface.**
- **Any below-ground drainage should be confined within these levels.**
- **A detailed design solution and a methods statement for construction must be submitted for approval by Birmingham City Council before commencement.**
- **An intermittent archaeological watching brief (observation and recording) must be maintained during on-site groundworks, to ensure that the below-ground archaeology is not exposed or disturbed during the groundworks.**

Note:

- 1) In wet weather a greater depth of 'buffer' should be specified (e.g. 0.6m).
- 2) Archaeology may be encountered at a higher level between Test-Pit 2 and the western edge of the western tennis court. In this area machine excavation must

be limited to the removal of the modern surface and its immediately underlying make-up deposit only.

5.3: Area B (Fig. 3)

Based on the evidence from Trench 2 (Fig. 4) and adjoining trial-trenches A3, A4A-B cut earlier in 1999 (Jones 1999), together with the results of the excavations directed by Rowley in 1968-9 (Jones forthcoming), the significance of the archaeology within the area proposed for additional car parking can be summarised as follows (Jones 1999d):

- The ditches belonging to the Phase 1-3 forts are likely to be especially well preserved, possibly including waterlogged deposits containing insects, pollen and waterlogged plant remains.
- In addition, further trial-trenching (Trenches A3 and A5, Jones 1999e) has identified the defences of a hitherto unidentified fort (Phase 4, Jones 1999), which adds a further element of complexity to the defensive sequence. Further, it may be presumed that Phase 4 was associated with internal features, such as timber-framed buildings, latrine-pits and hearths/ovens, although no such features can presently be attributed to this latest phase of Roman military activity.
- The area contains large, undisturbed areas of the Phase 1-2 fort interior, including part of the right side of the *retentura*. Here excavation has identified parts of a double-barrack block, a building with no clear excavated parallels within Britain. This is one of the best-preserved sectors of the fort interior, which has the potential to contribute on a national basis to the understanding of early Roman military deployment. The evidence for the extensive remodelling of the buildings here could also shed light upon changes in the composition of the fort garrison or of the overall military function of the site.
- The association between the Phase 1-2 fort and the civilian settlement or *vicus* provides exciting opportunities for site and inter-site comparison of the evidence, particularly the pottery.
- The area also includes length of the western and northern *intervallum* spaces of the Phase 1-3 forts, which could provide important information concerning the forts' industrial functions.
- The area includes a significantly large part of the interior of the Phase 2B stores depot, where traces of temporary buildings of a type relatively unusual in a military context are likely to be found. A particularly good level of preservation is likely under the Phase 3 rampart, which will have provided protection from later disturbance.
- The analysis of pottery and other finds from the stratified deposits within the fort interior provides an important resource for the study of the early patterns of military supply.
- Recent fieldwork on the western fort defences has identified a new defensive circuit (Phase 4, Jones 1999a), and the possibility of further, hitherto unidentified defences and associated internal features being discovered should be considered.
- This area of the forts also has an amenity value for the public presentation of the archaeology because of its proximity to the partly-reconstructed section of northern annexe defences which forms part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

5.3.2: Proposals

- The new car parks should be constructed within the grassed lawn area to the west of the existing car park.
- No service-trenches or other below-ground disturbances should be cut outside the agreed limit of the car park.
- The formation level of the car park should be at least 0.3m above the uppermost level of the identified archaeological deposits, as described in Table 1 below. This will require the surface to be raised in some areas, prior to construction.

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Depth</i>
2	0.27m
A4A	0.1m-0.3m
A4B	0.4m
A3 (east)	1.1m
A3 (centre)	0.4m
A3 (west)	0.8m (westernmost 8m of trench only)

NOTE: these measurements are for guidance only. As the table indicates, considerable local variation exists in the depth of overburden.

- No below-ground drainage or other service ducts, trenches or other disturbances (e.g. foundation pits for lighting columns) should be cut in the area designated for new car parking within 0.3m of the uppermost level of the archaeology.
- A detailed design solution and a methods statement for construction must be submitted for approval by Birmingham City Council before commencement.
- An intermittent archaeological watching brief (observation and recording) must be maintained during on-site groundworks, to ensure that the below-ground archaeology is not exposed or disturbed during the groundworks.
- It is recommended that the opportunity is taken to provide public interpretation material adjoining the proposed car park.

Note:

- 1) In wet weather a greater depth of 'buffer' should be specified (e.g. 0.6m).
- 2) The area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument and its immediate surroundings must, of course, be excluded from the scope of the development. The Scheduled Area must be fenced-off in a manner to be agreed with Birmingham City Council prior to the commencement of groundworks in a manner to be agreed with Birmingham City Council. The Scheduled Area must not be disturbed or entered by vehicles. Any such disturbance is a criminal offence.

6.0: ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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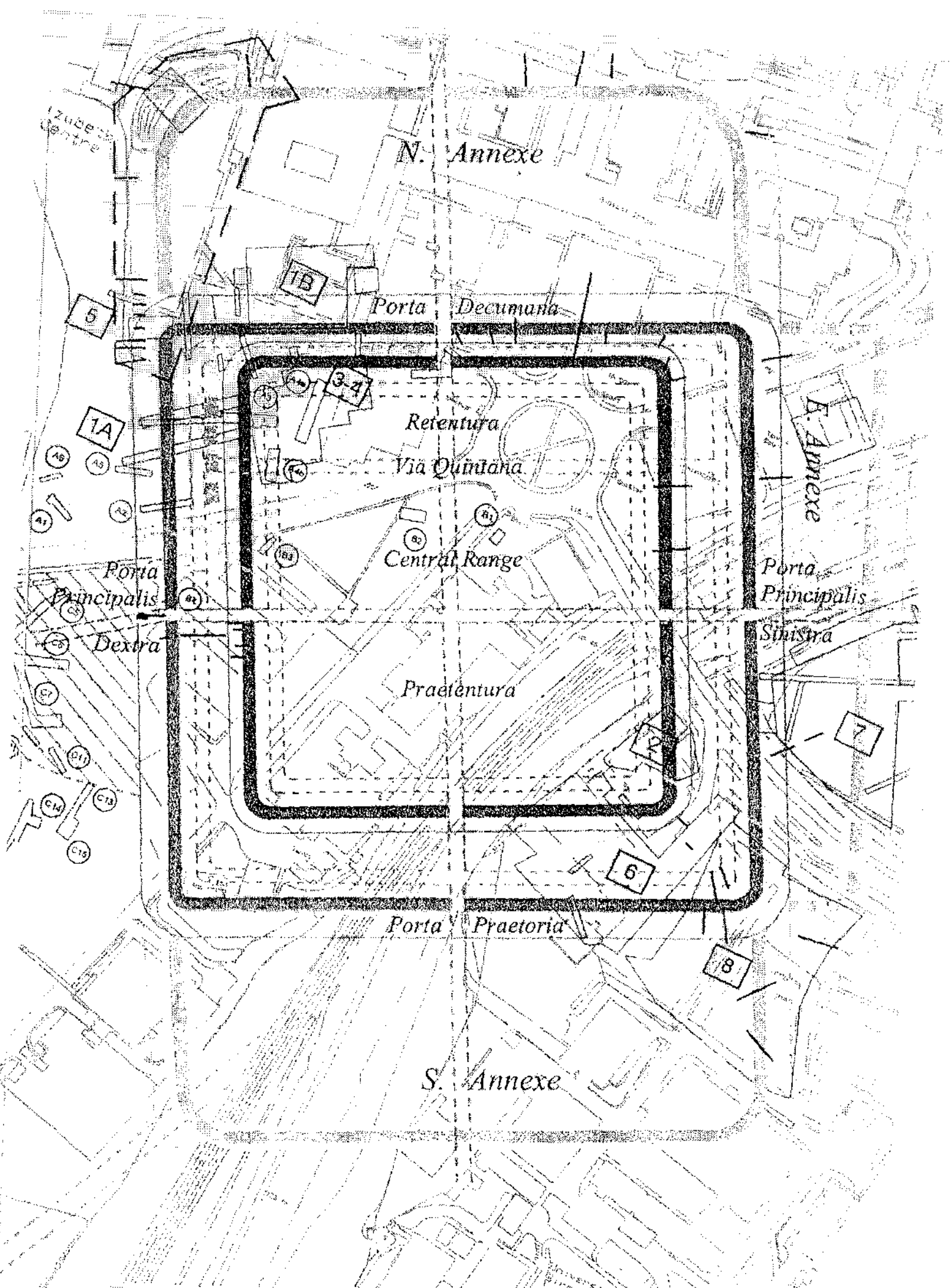
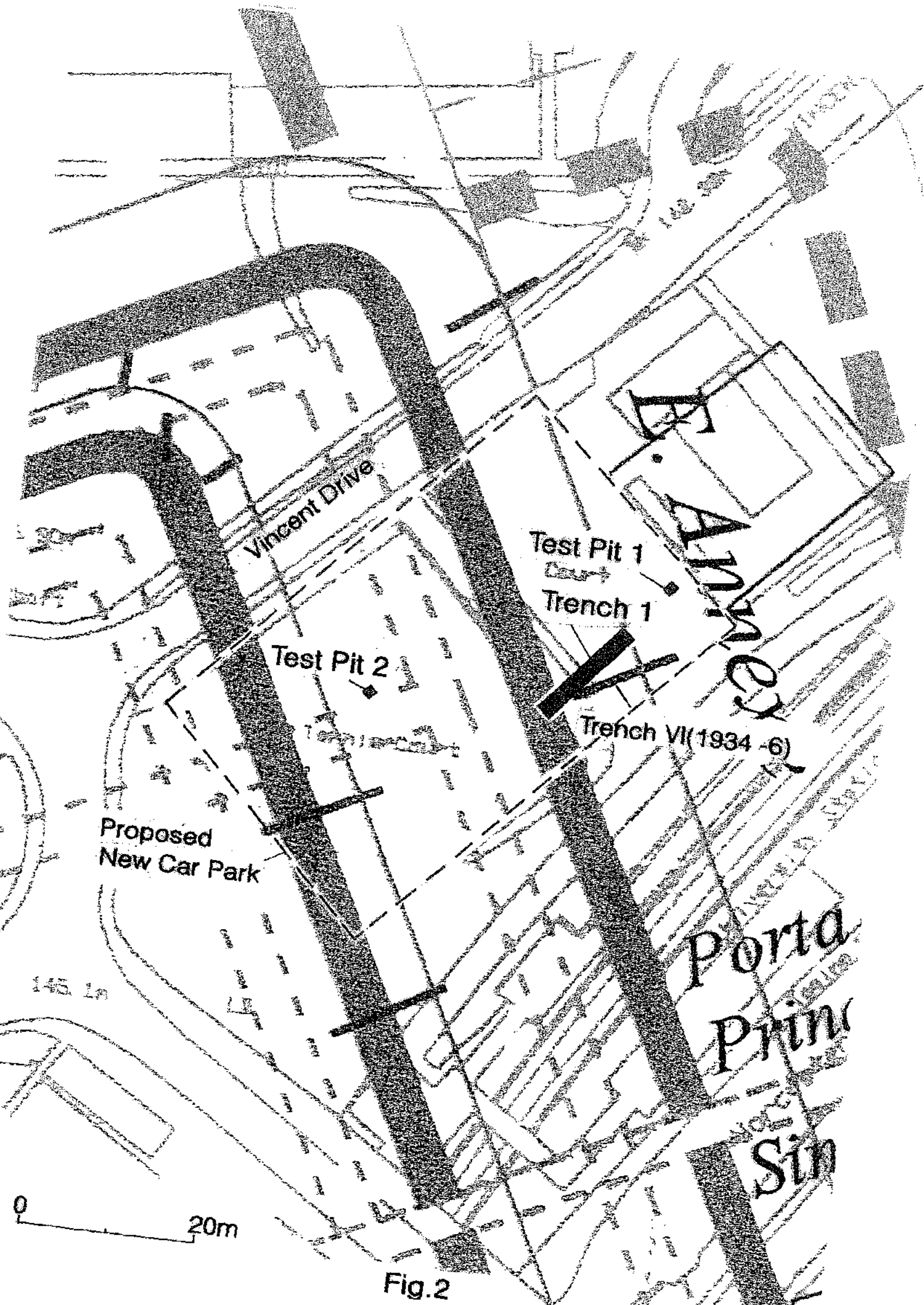


Fig. 1



Vincent Drive

Test Pit 1

Trench 1

Test Pit 2

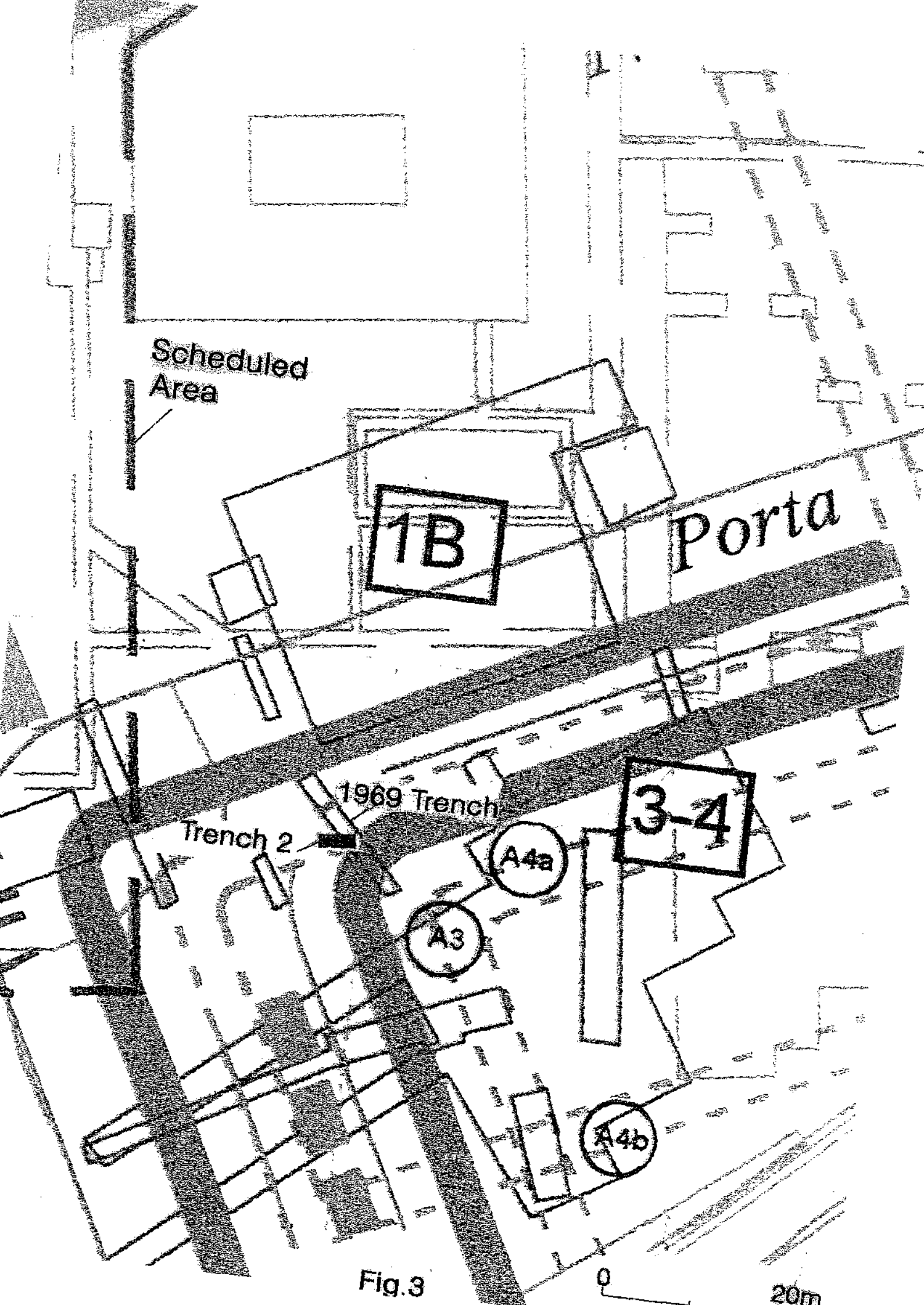
Trench VI (1934-6)

Proposed
New Car Park

Porta
Principis

0 20m

Fig. 2



Scheduled Area

1B

Porta

1969 Trench

Trench 2

3-4

A4a

A3

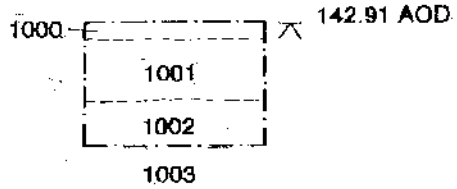
A4b

Fig.3

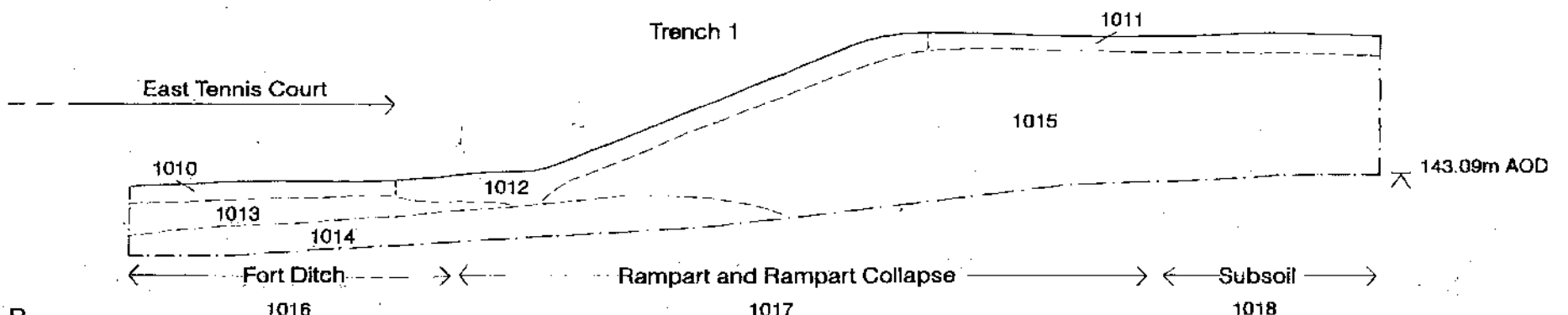
0 20m

AREA A

Test Pit 1

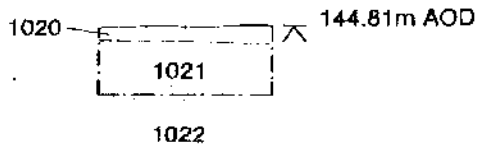


West Tennis Court



AREA B

Test Pit 2



Trench 2

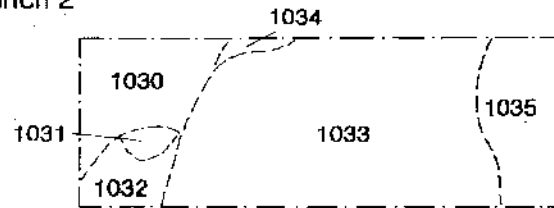


Fig. 4