



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BIRMINGHAM

**An archaeological excavation  
south of Old Parks House,  
Ashby de la Zouch,  
Leicestershire**

**Post-excavation assessment and  
updated research design**

*Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit*



THE QUEEN'S  
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES  
FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION

1996

Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit  
**Project No. 753**  
February 2001

**An archaeological excavation south of  
Old Parks House, Ashby de la Zouch,  
Leicestershire**

**Post-excavation assessment  
and updated research design**

NGR SK 360 186

Accession Code: X. A67 2000

By

Laurence Jones

With contributions by

Lynne Bevan, Marina Ciaraldi, Annette Hancocks and Roger White

*For further information please contact:*  
Simon Buteux or Iain Ferris (Directors)  
Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit  
The University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham B15 2TT  
Tel: 0121 414 5513  
Fax: 0121 414 5516  
E-Mail: [BUFAU@bham.ac.uk](mailto:BUFAU@bham.ac.uk)  
Web Address: <http://www.bufau.bham.ac.uk>

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**Contents**

1.0	Summary.....	1
2.0	Introduction.....	1
3.0	Site location and description.....	1
4.0	Planning background.....	2
5.0	Archaeological background.....	2
6.0	Aims.....	3
7.0	Method.....	3
8.0	Excavation results.....	4
9.0	Assessments.....	9
9.1	Quantifications.....	9
9.2	Factual Data and Statement of Potential.....	10
	9.2.1 Flint by Lynne Bevan	
	9.2.2 Pottery by Annette Hancocks	
	9.2.3 Worked stone by Lynne Bevan	
	9.2.4 Silver coin by Roger White	
	9.2.5 Other metal finds by Lynne Bevan	
	9.2.6 Other finds by Annette Hancocks	
	9.2.7 Charred plant remains by Marina Ciaraldi	
10.0	Archive Statement.....	17
11.0	Achievement of project aims.....	17
12.0	Updated research design.....	17
13.0	Proposed publication synopsis.....	18
14.0	Proposed post-excavation task list.....	19
15.0	Acknowledgements.....	20
16.0	References.....	20

## **Tables**

Table 1:	Site Records Archive .....	9
Table 2:	Quantification of Material by Finds Type.....	10
Table 3:	Assessed Charred Plant Remains Samples with pH values .....	16

<b>Appendices</b>	.....	<b>23</b>
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Appendix 1 List of Stratigraphic Units and Finds Quantifications

Appendix 2 List of Feature Dimensions (in metres)

## **List of Figures (at end of report)**

Fig. 1: Location plan

Fig. 2: Location of excavation and evaluation trenches

Fig. 3: Area 1, site plan

Fig. 4: Area 2, site plan

Fig. 5: Areas 3 and 4, site plan

## **Plates**

Plate 1: Area 1, showing CD 7 before excavation, looking west

Plate 2: Area 1, ditch D 1 cutting CD 1, east-facing section, looking west

Plate 3: Area 2, ditch LD 2 under excavation, showing pit F242 half sectioned in background, looking southwest

Plate 4: Area 2, pit F242 northwest facing section, looking southeast

Plate 5: Area 2, pits F250 and F242 with ditch LD 2 in background, looking northeast

Plate 6: Area 2, excavation of stone surface F201, looking southwest

## **An archaeological excavation south of Old Parks House, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire**

### **Post-excavation assessment and updated research design**

#### **1.0 Summary**

*An archaeological excavation was carried out by Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit south of Old Parks House, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire (NGR SK 360 186), in advance of the construction of the A511 Ashby Bypass, during October and November 2000 and February 2001. The work was commissioned by Leicestershire County Council, Department of Planning and Transportation, Highways Section and followed an archaeological assessment by Leicestershire Museums and Arts Records Service, geophysical survey by Oxford Archaeotechnics and trial trenching by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services, which indicated an area of Iron Age and Romano-British activity.*

*A curvi-linear ditch of late Iron Age date, extending beyond the edge of excavations, with a possible entrance to the southwest, was located during the excavation and may have formed part of an enclosure. Two curvi-linear ditches of similar date showed evidence of later recutting and may be part of a more extensive enclosure complex. Traces of linear, curvi-linear and semi-circular ditches and gullies, and shallow pits may relate to settlement activity and subdivision within these late Iron Age enclosures. To the east of the Iron Age settlement was a later phase of activity comprising several linear gullies, pits and a stone surface, all dating to the late Romano-British period. Dividing the areas of Romano-British activity and Iron Age settlement was a wide linear ditch which was dated to the late Romano-British period and extended beyond the edge of excavations. The fill of this ditch sealed three undated pits.*

#### **2.0 Introduction**

The following report provides a preliminary statement on the results of an archaeological excavation undertaken prior to the construction of the A511 Ashby Bypass South of Old Parks House, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire. The work was undertaken by Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit (BUFAU) in October and November 2000 and February 2001. The work was commissioned by Leicestershire County Council, Department of Planning and Transportation, Highways Section. The project conforms to a Written Scheme of Investigation (BUFAU 2000) based on a Brief for Archaeological Investigation prepared by Leicestershire County Council, Museums Arts and Records Service (LMARS 2000).

#### **3.0 Site location and description**

The site is centred on NGR SK 360 186 (Fig. 1) on arable fields south of Old Parks House, in the parish of Ashby de la Zouch, 2km northeast of Ashby town centre. It is

situated on a hill 160m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying geology is Keuper Sandstone with bands of marl (OS Geological Series, Sheet 141).

#### **4.0 Planning background**

The excavation and preceding archaeological evaluations were carried out in advance of the construction of the A511 Ashby bypass on behalf of Leicestershire County Council, Department of Planning and Transportation, Highways Section (Planning Application 95/1019/7). The excavation was undertaken to fulfil a condition of planning permission required in the context of Planning Policy Guideline Note 16 (DoE 1990). The bypass is to be constructed between the A511, close to Heath Lane and Tithe Farm, and the Flagstaff 44 Industrial Estate traffic island.

#### **5.0 Archaeological Background**

Prior to the excavation, which is the subject of this report, an archaeological assessment of the archaeological potential of the bypass route was undertaken by Leicestershire Museums and Arts Records Service (Liddle 1995). Fieldwalking carried out as part of the assessment located a scatter of Romano-British and Medieval pottery in three fields south of Old Parks House. A background scatter of worked flint and a concentration of iron slag was also recorded here. These three fields were identified as being of archaeological potential. Other fields to the west, on the line of the bypass, were thought to have archaeological potential due to documentary and cartographic evidence of a Medieval settlement.

The assessment was followed by geophysical survey carried out by Oxford Archaeotechnics (Johnson 1995). This consisted of a topsoil magnetic susceptibility survey and gradiometer scanning and survey. In one of the three fields south of Old Parks House considered to be of archaeological potential, the gradiometer survey recorded two linear anomalies and two circular pit-like anomalies. Other weaker anomalies were interpreted as inconclusively archaeological.

The geophysical survey was followed by two stages of trial trenching carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (Meek 1998 and 2000). The first stage of trial trenching consisted of the excavation of eight trenches. Six of these trenches were located in two fields south of Old Parks House and these all contained features thought to be of Romano-British date. One trench also contained features of possible prehistoric date. There was also a suggestion of some Medieval activity. The other two trenches excavated close to the site of the possible Medieval settlement were archaeologically blank.

The second stage of trial trenching was carried out in the field to the west of the previous trenches, following a chance find of sherds of Iron Age pottery. Three trenches were excavated and archaeological features of possible Iron Age date were recorded in two of the trenches.

## 6.0 Aims

The aim of the excavation, as stated in the specification (BUFAU 2000), was to provide a detailed record of the archaeological remains investigated. In particular the chronology, layout and economy of the Iron Age and Romano-British settlements were to be investigated, and set within the appropriate regional and national context. Other aspects to be investigated included evidence for changes in settlement layout, the evidence for buildings, and evidence for associated surrounding features, such as field systems, where located within the excavated area, which could provide a broader context for the settlement remains. Investigation of the site economy, principally by analysis of the pottery, other finds and charred plant remains was also a priority.

## 7.0 Method

The location of the area for excavation (Fig.2) was selected by LMARS based on the results of the assessment and evaluation. Excavation was limited to the extent of the road corridor and comprised a narrow strip across four fields (numbered Areas 1-4 from west to east). A total of 1.44 ha was stripped of topsoil and subsoil for excavation. A further 0.30 ha was stripped of topsoil only, at two locations designated as spoil storage areas.

Topsoil and subsoil stripping commenced in Area 2 using a 360-degree mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Spoil was removed by two articulated dump trucks and stored in designated storage areas. Due to poor weather conditions the method of stripping was modified with the agreement of LMARS and Leicestershire County Council, Department of Planning and Transportation, Highways Section. Two mechanical excavators were used to remove overburden in alternate strips with spoil being dumped on unexcavated strips. Archaeological features were then hand-excavated and recorded, and overburden and spoil removed from the unexcavated strips was dumped on the strips already recorded. The road corridor in Areas 3 and 4 was narrower and topsoil could be removed in one strip with spoil being dumped on either side of the road corridor.

Further work, which consisted of the stripping of overburden and recording and sampling of features under the track between Areas 2 and 3, and additional machine excavation in the northwest part of Area 2, was carried out in February 2001.

Following machining, the exposed surface was cleaned, where necessary, by hand. A base-plan of features was then prepared using a computer-based Penmap system, linked to a Total Station EDM, producing a plan at an appropriate scale. The use of the Penmap system allowed the constant updating of plans during cleaning and subsequent hand-excavation. Following completion of the Penmap base-plan, a review meeting was held between representatives from BUFAU and LMARS to refine the aims and methodology of the hand-excavation. The agreed sampling strategy implemented was as follows:

- settlement features, such as hut circles - up to 50%. Hand excavation targeted at entrances/terminals, segments opposite the entrance causeway, and evenly-spaced segments along their length.

- enclosure ditches - a sample of approximately 20% by length. Excavation targeted at entrances/ terminals, sections along the mid-point of each side, and also opposite to entrance causeway(s).
- discrete features, pits and post-holes - a minimum 50%.
- linear non-settlement features - a sample of up to 10% of this feature group was the objective, sufficient to recover artefactual and ecofactual assemblages, sampling by means of evenly-spaced segments along their length and, as appropriate, to define relationships with intersecting features.

The strategy for excavation was reviewed by means of regular monitoring meetings during the excavation.

In addition to the base-planning of all features using the Penmap system, all settlement features were planned at 1:50 or 1:20, as appropriate, and drawn in section at 1:10 or 1:20. All section heights were related to OS datum level. The penmap mapping system records X, Y, and Z (height) co-ordinates automatically, and these values were recorded for all the digital plans and related to the OS National Grid. Recording was by means of BUFAU pre-printed *pro-formas* for contexts and features. Area 1 contexts were numbered from 1000 onwards, Area 2 from 2000, Area 3 from 3000 and Area 4 from 4000. The photographic record comprised of monochrome prints and colour slides. Area 1 features were numbered from F96-F199, Area 2 from F200-F252 and Area 3 from F300-F328.

During the excavation, soil samples were regularly taken and processed for the recovery of charred plant remains. A group of volunteer metal detector users was employed to scan the areas to be excavated for finds before machine stripping of topsoil.

The IFA 'Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations' and the 'Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland' (LMARS 1997) were followed during the excavation.

## 8.0 Excavation results

Where more than one section was dug through a feature mentioned in the text, it has been assigned the following prefixes: D (ditch, greater than 0.50m wide), LD (linear ditch, greater than 0.50m wide), LG (linear gully, less than 0.50m wide), CD (curvi-linear ditch, greater than 0.50m wide) or CG (curvi-linear gully, less than 0.50m wide). Where feature numbers are mentioned in the text they appear in bold font on Figs. 3, 4 and 5.

The geology underlying the subsoil consisted of bands of red-brown clay and greenish-yellow sand with greenish-yellow sandstone. Natural hollows in the clay and fissures in the sandstone were filled with the overlying subsoil, which contained Iron Age, Romano-British, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery.



### Spoil storage areas (Fig.2)

In the areas designated for spoil storage topsoil had to be stripped to prevent mixing of the topsoil with spoil. In the spoil storage area south of Area 1, no archaeological features were visible due to subsoil overlying the natural geology, apart from a Post-medieval ditch mentioned below. No subsoil was present in the spoil storage area east of Area 4, and it was stripped down to the natural clay horizon where no archaeological features were visible.

### Area 1 (Fig. 3, Plate 1)

Both the ploughsoil (1000) and the underlying subsoil (1001) contained worked flint and sherds of Iron Age, Romano-British, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery.

#### *Phase 1: Iron Age*

At the west end of Area 1 was a curvi-linear ditch (CD 1, Fig. 6; S.6) with a 'V'-shaped profile, extending beyond the northern edge of excavation. The ditch was aligned northeast-southwest. CD 1 was cut by a later ditch (D 1, Fig. 6; S.7 & S.5, Plate 2) with a 'U'-shaped profile which appeared to form three sides of a polygonal enclosure

To the southwest was a curvi-linear ditch (CD 2, Fig. 6; S.1, S.2 & S.3) with a 'U'-shaped profile, orientated northeast-southwest. CD 2 may have been recut up to four times in some places. A short linear gully (F174) near the north terminal of CD 2 was contemporary.

Running parallel with CD 2, to the east, was another curvi-linear ditch (CD 3) with steep sides and a flat base. Both ditches extended beyond the south edge of excavations. Ditch CD 3 cut an earlier short curvi-linear ditch (CD 10) and was also cut by a later curvi-linear gully (CG 1). A curvi-linear ditch (CD 8) cut both CD 2 and CD 3, and a short curvi-linear gully (CD 9) cut CD 3.

70m to the east of Ditch D1 were two curvi-linear ditches (CD 5 and CD 6). Ditch CD 6 cut an earlier shallow pit (F197). These ditches were cut by a wide curvi-linear ditch (CD 4, Fig. 6; S8) extending beyond the north and south edges of excavation. CD 4 appeared to have been recut on a least two occasions in one section (Fig.6; S.9). The latest recut of ditch CD 4 (F166) contained a fragment of quernstone.

Between ditches CD 1/CD 2 and CD 4 were several linear, curvi-linear and pit-type features. These consisted of the truncated remains of three shallow linear ditches (LD 1, 8 and 9), one shallow linear gully (F169), two curvi-linear ditches (F144 and F170), one curvi-linear gully (CG 2) and one semi-circular gully (F164). One of the linear ditches (LD 9) cut another (LD 8), which contained a beehive quernstone. Linear gully F169 was cut by curvi-linear ditch F170. The semi-circular gully F164 may have formed part of ring gully which could have contained a roundhouse. There were ten pits between CD 2 and CD 4 (F113, F133, F134, F137, F145, F148, F149, F151, F153 and F159), mainly circular or sub-oval in shape. One of the pits (F153) cut ditch D 1 (Fig.6; S4) and another

pit (F137, Fig. 6, S.2) cut curvi-linear ditch CD 2. Some of these features contained no pottery or other dateable material but have been assigned to the Iron Age phase on a preliminary basis due to their morphology and/or their proximity to Iron Age features. Two of the shallow ditches (LD 1 and F144) contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery each. The pottery is thought to be intrusive due to disturbance by later furrows.

East of curvi-linear ditch CD 4 was a short curvi-linear ditch (F146) which was cut by a curvi-linear ditch (CD 7, Fig. 6; S.10) with a possible entrance to the southwest, which may have formed part of an enclosure. Ditch CD 7 had steep sides and a flat or slightly rounded base. A later recut of curvi-linear ditch CD 4 cut ditch CD 7 (Fig. 6, S9) removing any potential evidence for the stratigraphic relationship between the primary cuts of the two ditches. Three shallow features were enclosed by CD 7: a small pit (F191) and two short irregular ditches (F162 and CD 11). A shallow pit (F184) was situated near to the south side of CD 7.

South of CD 7 was a group of narrow, shallow, curvi-linear ditches (CD 12, CD 13 and F106) aligned approximately northwest-southeast, one of which (CD 13) was cut by curvi-linear ditch CD 6. These ditches appeared to have been truncated in places by a later furrow. One of these linear ditches (F106) contained one flint flake and one sherd of Romano-British pottery. These finds are thought to be residual or intrusive; this feature was on similar alignment to CD 6, and as with LD 1 and F144 (see above) may have been disturbed by a later furrow.

East of F106 were two shallow, short, narrow gullies (F109 and F111) and two shallow oval pits (F117 and F119). One of these features (F117) contained sherds of Iron Age pottery and the others were thought to be of similar date due to their proximity and similar nature of their fills.

#### *Phase 2: Romano-British*

A wide linear feature (LD 2) in the northeast corner of Area 1, aligned northwest-southeast, extended southeast into Area 2 and to the northeast beyond the edge of excavation. This feature was not excavated in Area 1 and is described more fully below (Area 2). The only other feature of probable Romano-British date was a shallow pit (F183), containing five sherds of Romano-British pottery, close to CD 7.

#### *Phase 3: Medieval/early Post-medieval*

Later Medieval or early Post-medieval features were present in the form of linear furrows, aligned east-west, relating to Medieval and early Post-medieval ridge-and-furrow open field cultivation. These furrow features truncated earlier features and may have contaminated them with later artefacts.

#### *Phase 4: Post-medieval*

A probable former field boundary ditch (F100), orientated north-south, cut the subsoil (1001) and extended beyond the edge of excavation to the north and to the south beyond the spoil storage area. A shallow pit (F167) and two shallow linear ditches (F163 and F165) were also identified to the east of F100.

## Area 2 (Fig. 4)

The ploughsoil (2000) contained worked flint and sherds of Iron Age, Romano-British, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery. The underlying subsoil (2001) contained sherds of Romano-British and Medieval pottery.

### *Phase 2: Romano-British*

A wide linear ditch (LD 2) was situated at the west end of Area 2, aligned northwest-southeast, extending northwest into Area 1 and to the southeast beyond the edge of excavation. Two sections (one 2m wide and one 1m wide) were excavated across LD 2 during the excavation (one of these was partly machine dug) and one partial section was excavated during the evaluation. Ditch LD 2 was 8.29-8.90m wide and 1.37-1.40m deep with a steeply sloping northeast side and a gently sloping, slightly stepped, southwest side.

In the 2m-wide section (Fig. 7, S.11, Plate 3) there was a narrow linear gully running parallel with the main ditch, cut into its base. Two pits (F241 and F242) were cut into the natural on the gently sloping southwest side of the ditch. Pit F241 was circular with a possible stake hole at its northwest side and pit F242 (Plate 4) was oval. Both pits had steep sides and flat bases. A machine was used to strip the fill of ditch LD 2 from a 10m x 5m area to the southeast of pit F242. One further oval pit (F250) on the southwest side of the ditch was revealed. Pit F250 (Plate 5) was oval with steep sides and a flat base. The three pits were filled with grey silty sand and pit F242 contained a large amount of cobbles.

The only finds recovered from the pits were two flint flakes from F242. The fill of the ditch LD 2 sealed this group of three pits. It was not clear if the pits were contemporary with the ditch or earlier features truncated by it. The probability is that they are of similar date to the ditch as the primary fill of the ditch, a light greyish brown silty sand (2055), appeared to slump into the tops of the pits. The secondary fill was a greyish brown silty sand (2054).

West of LD 2, on the same alignment, was a shallow linear furrow (F232) which extended beyond the edge of excavations to the south and terminated to the northwest. East of LD 2 was a narrow irregular gully (F213) and a shallow amorphous scoop (F207).

In the middle of Area 2 were two parallel linear ditches (LD 3 and LD 4, Fig. 7, S12 and S.13), aligned northeast-southwest. Both ditches had steep sides and flat bases and extended beyond the southwest edge of excavation and terminated to the northeast.

Further to the southeast was a pair of pits (F237 and F238, Fig. 7, S15). F237 was a shallow oval pit and was cut by sub-circular pit F238. At the southeast end of Area 2 was a similar pair of pits (F227 and F235). F227 was a shallow oval pit and was cut by sub-circular pit F235, which extended beyond the edge of excavation.

Northwest of F235 was a roughly circular scatter of pottery (F200), approximately 2.5m in diameter. Northwest of the pottery scatter was a stone surface (F201, Plate 6), approximately 6m x 11m and 0.14m deep, composed of irregular fragments of sandstone. A natural outcrop of sandstone here was also used to form the surface. Relatively large quantities of Romano-British pot sherds were recovered from the top of F201.

A linear ditch (LD 5, Fig. 7; S14) aligned northwest-southeast, terminated at either side of F201. Ditch LD 5 extended beyond the edge of excavation to the northwest and terminated to the southeast.

#### *Phase 3 Medieval/Post-medieval*

Two shallow linear furrows (F233 and F252), aligned northwest-southeast and 10m apart, cut Phase 2 pit F235, LD 5 and stone surface F201. These furrows may have been part of Medieval and early Post-medieval ridge-and-furrow open field cultivation. Several land drains were also located in this area.

#### *Unphased features*

A group of five shallow sub-rectangular pits (F204-6, F210 and F215) were situated in the middle of Area 2. They had steep sides and flat or slightly rounded bases. One of the pits (F210) had a shallow possible posthole cut into its base. The only find recovered from these pits was a flint flake from F206, which may have been intrusive.

Six undated oval or circular shallow pits (F208, F217, F222, F226, F229 and F230) were located in Area 2, all but one (F208) clustered to the northwest of stone surface (F201). The pits were 0.52-0.90 x 0.60-1.16m and 0.08-0.40m deep. Finds were recovered from two of the pits: F226 (half sectioned during the evaluation) contained two sherds each of Romano-British and Medieval pottery, and one Medieval sherd was recovered from the surface of F217. These pits could be Romano-British or Medieval; alternatively the finds may be intrusive given the sherds of Romano-British and Medieval pottery found in the topsoil and subsoil.

Two features, containing no finds, that may have been elongated pits (F219 and F225) or the terminals of ditches were also located in Area 2, extending beyond the edge of excavation.

#### Area 3 (Fig. 5)

The ploughsoil (3000) contained sherds of Romano-British and Medieval pottery. The underlying subsoil (3001) contained worked flint and sherds of Romano-British, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery.

#### *Phase 2: Romano-British*

A shallow ditch (LD 7), aligned northwest-southeast, was located at the northwest end of Area 3, terminating to the southeast. Ditch LD 7 was cut by another shallow ditch (LD 6) on a similar alignment. Ditch LD 6 extended southeast beyond the edge of excavation. Both ditches contained sherds of Romano-British pottery and were truncated by later

ploughing and land drains to the northwest, and were on a similar alignment to ditch LD 5, Area 2.

*Phase 3: Medieval/early Post-medieval*

Later Medieval or early Post-medieval features were present in the form of linear furrows, aligned northeast-southwest, relating to Medieval and early Post-medieval ridge-and-furrow open field cultivation. These furrow features truncated earlier features and may have contaminated them with later artefacts, and artefacts from other features.

*Phase 4 Post-medieval*

Several land drains were also located in this area, some of which were on a similar alignment to the furrows mentioned above.

*Unphased features*

These features contained no finds or dateable material. A group of five small shallow depressions or pits (F318-F322) were situated in the middle of Area 3, close to the northeast edge of excavation. Southeast of these was a shallow linear ditch (F323). East of LD 7 was a shallow oval pit (F326). West of LD 7 was a shallow linear gully (F306), aligned northwest-southeast. Several short narrow furrows located east of F306 may have been caused by deep ploughing.

Area 4 (Fig. 5)

No archaeological features were visible and no finds were recovered.

**9.0: Assessments**

**9.1: Quantifications**

The archive from the assessment (Liddle 1995) was not available at the time of preparation of this report. The flint, prehistoric and Romano-British pottery collected from the fieldwalking carried out in Areas 1-3 as part of the assessment will be studied and incorporated in the post-excavation analysis.

Record type	Evaluation	Excavation
Context records	65	222
Feature records	-	177
Sample records	-	28
Level sheets	8	-
Assem. Summaries	-	105
Database printouts		26
Site drawings		
A1		1
A2	10	-
A3	2	1
A4		112
A4Penmap printouts		12
Colour slides	62	229
B & W prints	76	227
Floppy disc (site		1

Table 1: *Site records archive*

Material Type	Quantity
Ceramic: tile	12
Ceramic: brick	4
Fired clay/daub	88
Prehistoric pottery	609
Romano-British pottery	538
Medieval pottery	152
Post-medieval pottery	24
Clay pipe	5
Coins (metal detector)	2
Copper alloy (metal detector)	26
Lead (metal detector)	27
Industrial waste	72g
Bottle glass	2
Quernstone	2
Flint	125
Other stone	2
Animal bone	23g
Shell	1
Miscellaneous	8

Table 2: *Quantification of material by find type from evaluation and excavation*

## 9.2: Factual data and statement of potential

### 9.2.1: Flint by Lynne Bevan

#### *Factual summary*

A total of 125 pieces of humanly-worked flint was recovered, comprising eight scrapers, eight retouched flakes, five blades, 13 cores and core fragments, 85 flakes and six struck chunks. The raw material consisted of small flint pebbles of unpredictable quality.

There appear to be at least two chronological periods represented in this small and generally undiagnostic assemblage: a Neolithic component consisting of a small blade element and two very small blade cores, which had been worked beyond their apparent usefulness, and a large flake and flake core component of probable Bronze Age date. The only dateable tools were some scrapers of a discoidal form indicative of an Early Bronze Age date. These might be contemporary with the flake assemblage and crudely-flaked cores. However, further subdivision is possible within the later assemblage, some of which might be contemporary with the Iron Age settlement of the site.

#### *Recommendations*

Further study of the assemblage is recommended, with a view to isolating and describing flint of various periods and investigating a possible correlation between some of the flintwork and Iron Age pottery. The selective illustration of approximately eight cores and retouched items is also recommended, in order to provide a representative sample of this small but interesting pebble flint assemblage, which is worthy of study in both local and regional terms.

## 9.2.2: Pottery by Annette Hancocks

### *Introduction*

The pottery was quantified by count only. A total of 1323 sherds of pottery was recovered from the evaluation, excavation and subsequent watching brief. The pottery was rapidly scanned, assigned to a ceramic period and spot-dated to provide a *terminus post quem*. The percentage of pottery recovered for each ceramic phase is as follows: Late Iron Age (46%), Roman (41%), Medieval (11%) and Post-medieval (2%).

### *Iron Age pottery*

#### Factual summary

Some 609 sherds of mid to late Iron Age pottery were recovered from thirty-six contexts. This comprised 46% of the total ceramic assemblage. 1% of this was residual Iron Age pottery and was recovered from the ploughsoil and through surface cleaning of features prior to excavation.

At least 17 diagnostic and dateable rim and base angles were recognised. The material comprised typically ovoid and globular jar forms of Mid to Late Iron Age date with flat base angles, pinched out at the circumference. Some 25% of the rim forms were decorated with fingertip or fingernail impressions. Some of the thicker wall sherds showed signs of scoring. All of these decorative motifs are characteristic of Mid to Late Iron Age date ceramics. Initially, the range and variety of fabrics present appears to be limited. The material is comparable with other regional sites of similar date, such as Enderby (Clay 1992), Wanlip (Beamish 1998) and Normanton (Marsden pers. comm.).

No sherd abrasion was noticed during the initial scan of the material, with large sherds surviving. The material was in very good condition. However, rather more Iron Age pottery was recovered from features such as gullies and ditches, as opposed to pits. The material does not pose any long term storage problems.

#### Statement of potential

Further work will aim to examine the chronological development and economy of the site. The pottery is the principal source of dating evidence for the site, which will enable relative chronology to be applied to the stratigraphic sequence. Ceramic supply to the site, along with the social networks and identity of the site inhabitants, will also be addressed through the detailed analysis of fabric, form and function. This may in turn provide evidence for the status of the settlement and its economic, social and cultural position at local, regional and national level.

#### Recommendations

The pottery will be quantified by sherd count, weight, minimum numbers of rims and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs). The material will be fully catalogued by fabric, decoration and form using Knight (1998) and identified by phase or sub-phase, where necessary, for publication. The material will be cross-referenced to the LMARS/ULAS

type fabric series, where relevant, and thin-section analysis undertaken to determine the nature and character of the pottery.

#### *Romano-British pottery*

##### Factual summary

538 sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from 31 contexts. This comprised 41% of the total ceramic assemblage. Some 5% residual Roman material was recovered from the ploughsoil and cleaning layers, prior to excavation.

At least 35 diagnostic and dateable rim and base angles were recognised. This material principally dated to the late 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century AD. The range and variety of this material comprised typically greywares of local and regionally traded origin such as mortaria from Mancetter-Hartshill, Derbyshire coarseware and locally produced greywares in forms such as beaded and lid-seated rim jars, bead and flange rimmed bowls and dog dishes from the Ravenstone/Little Chester area (Cooper and Pollard pers. comm.) It is chronologically significant that no black-burnished ware, very little samian, amphorae or other imported wares were recognised during the initial scan of the material.

Only 6% of the diagnostic forms were decorated. Overall the Roman assemblage demonstrated little abrasion, although weathering was evident. This material does not pose any long term storage problems.

##### Statement of potential

Further work will aim to examine the chronological development and economy of the site. The pottery is the principle source of dating evidence for the site. The national research framework for the study of Romano-British pottery identifies pottery from rural sites as being 'highly significant for our understanding of the Romano-British economy and 'Romanization'' (Willis 1997, 15). The East Midlands and East Anglia framework (Martin and Wallace 1997, 42 and 44, 3.4.3) emphasises some areas that could potentially be addressed with this assemblage.

##### Recommendations

The pottery assemblage will be fully quantified by sherd count and weight, minimum number of rims and EVEs. The pottery will be fully recorded by fabric and form and cross-referenced to the LMARS Roman pottery type fabric series.

#### *Medieval and Post-medieval pottery*

##### Factual summary

152 sherds of later Medieval pottery of 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>-century date were recovered (Rátkai pers. comm.). This represents 11% of the overall pottery recovered from the site. This is in contrast to the 24 sherds of Post-medieval pottery of 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>-century date, which represent just 2% of the overall ceramic assemblage.

The later Medieval and Post-medieval material derived from the Medieval plough furrows which ran across the site, and from cleaning layers. This latter material was surprisingly unabraded, with large diagnostic pieces surviving. This may be a reflection



Weight: 0.35g

The coin may be identified as a hammered farthing of Edward I or II, Class X (North 1960, 24 cat no.1058) dating 1302-10. (Edward I died in 1307 but his coin series continued into that of his son, Edward II.)

Hammered fractions of pennies as opposed to cut pennies (literal halfpennies and farthings – ‘forthings’) were first struck in 1280 as part of the wider coinage reforms of Edward I. These had begun a year earlier, in 1279, with the introduction of the new style penny. Following these reforms, the design of the English penny and smaller denominations remained stable for a further two hundred years (North 1960, 8).

#### Statement of potential

Given the unstratified nature of the coin and its ease of identification, it is unnecessary to carry out further work.

#### 9.2.5: Other metal finds by Lynne Bevan

##### Factual summary

The majority of the 22 finds recovered by metal detector were of Post-medieval date, including a buckle frame, a picture hook, a spoon handle, four buttons and two coins, one of which was an 1866 penny. Earlier material comprised part of a Roman brooch (ploughsoil, Area 3), and some other potentially Roman small finds, including part of a possible vessel. Part of a Medieval coin and some other potentially Medieval finds, including two decorative plates or fittings and a perforated strap end, were also present in the collection. Lead finds comprised a dumb-bell shaped weight, a washer and approximately 20 fragments of sheet and scrap with a molten appearance.

##### Recommendations

Further research, selective illustration and the compilation of a short report is recommended for the Roman and Medieval finds and other potentially dateable material, and a summary listing by context only for the Post-medieval finds.

#### 9.2.6: Other finds by Annette Hancocks

##### Factual summary

Fired clay/daub – 88 fragments of fired clay/daub were recovered during the excavation. Of this material, a single context (1025) produced 31 fragments of fired clay lining with wattle impressions. This material derived from pit F117 and was associated with pottery of Iron Age date.

Finds of Post-medieval date – 4 fragments of probable modern tile were recovered from the ploughsoil, along with 72g of undiagnostic industrial waste (slag) and two fragments of Post-medieval bottle glass.

#### Statement of potential

With the exception of the diagnostic fired clay/daub, the remainder of the finds described have very little potential in further defining the character and nature of the settlement. In conjunction with the associated prehistoric pottery, this material may help further refine the nature, character and understanding of domestic activities occurring on site. The function of the feature from which the material derives may be further clarified upon analysis of any environmental evidence

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that only the diagnostic fired clay/daub material should be fully quantified by count and weight, catalogued, and a short report prepared for publication.

#### 9.2.7: Charred plant remains by Marina Ciaraldi

##### Introduction

During the excavation, 28 soil samples were collected from various archaeological features including pits, ditches and gullies (see Table 3). All but three were processed to establish the preservation of biological remains. Three samples were discarded because they contained modern contaminant material.

The samples were assessed on the basis of their potential for providing information concerning the understanding of human activities on the site, and for their potential for palaeoenvironmental reconstruction of the area.

##### Methods

The samples were processed at the University of Birmingham by using a York flotation machine. Most of the soil samples had a reddish sandy-silt matrix. One sample (no.19 - F159/1074), had a more clayey matrix and required the use of sodium hydrogen carbonate during the flotation. A 0.5 mm sieve was used to recover the flot and a 1mm mesh for the residue. The residue was sorted by eye, while the flot was quickly scanned with a low-power stereomicroscope.

Some of the samples were tested for their pH, with a Kent EIL 7020 pH meter. A small sub-sample of the sediment was dispersed in distilled water in a proportion of 1:1 in volume. This was shaken and left for 10 minutes before measuring its pH. The meter was re-calibrated twice with buffer solutions, during the measurements. The results are listed in Table 3. The pH values ranged between 5.4 and 6.7, with average value of 6.1. This suggests that the poor preservation of animal bones is unlikely to be due only to the slight acidity of the soil. The sandy matrix of the soil is probably also responsible for the poor preservation of organic material, as it would allow oxygen to be present in abundance in the soil and therefore accelerate the decomposition of the organic matter by the soil microfauna and bacteria.

##### Statement of potential

The organic remains were generally poorly preserved in the samples examined, as attested by the absence of bones from the excavation. The charred remains were scarce and poorly preserved and no waterlogged remains were observed.

Only two of the samples assessed (no.5 - F227/2035 and no.19 - F159/1074) contained some charred seeds. Sample no.5 dates to the Roman period and it contained cereal grains, weed seeds and some chaff, suggesting that crop processing might have taken place on site during that period. Sample no.19, on the other hand, contained only cereal grains, suggesting a possible use of the pit as storage for cereal grains.

### Recommendations

Although the information provided by the analysis of the charred macroremains from the two samples is limited, it is recommended that they should be fully analysed, especially considering the fact that only a few sites from Leicestershire have, so far, produced plant macroremain assemblages (de Moulins forthcoming).

Sample No.	Area	Feature/ context	Feature type	Volume of sample (L.)	pH	Notes
1	2	F203/ 2008	ditch	20	6.7	
2	2	F207/ 2013	scoop	"	6.3	
3	2	F213/ 2018	gully	"	6.1	
4	2	F224/ 2031	ditch	"	6.3	
5	2	F227/ 2035	pit	"	6.6	Roman period. Rich sample. Includes: Barley, bread wheat, spelt, oats, <i>Rapumus</i> sp., <i>Anthriscus</i> sp. and some chaff. Large frags of charcoal
6	2	F238/ 2050	pit	"	6.1	
7	2	F239/ 2051	ditch	"	-	Duplicate sample. Discarded
8	1	F105/ 1009	ditch	"	5.7	
9	2	F239/ 2051	ditch	"	5.4	
10	1	F115/ 1024	ditch	"	6	<i>Triticum</i> . Some large pieces of charcoal
11	1	F124/ 1034	gully	"	6.2	
12	1	F122/ 1038	ditch	"	6.5	Large pieces of charcoal
13	1	F128/ 1040	ditch	"	6.3	
14	1	F142/ 1054	ditch	"	6.0	
15	1	F150/ 1062	ditch	"	6.1	
16	1	F152/ 1064	pit	"	6.1	
17	1	F153/ 1066	pit	"	5.8	
18	1	F158/ 1072	ditch	"	-	
19	1	F159/ 1074	pit	"	-	LIA. Rich deposit. It contains abundant barley and wheat grains and seeds of <i>Polygonum</i> sp. and <i>Bromus</i> sp. Sample consists exclusively of charred seeds and had no charcoal
20	1	F160/ 1075	ditch	"	-	
21	1	F165/ 1080	ditch	"	-	
22	1	F166/ 1081	ditch	"	-	
23	1	F168/ 1084	ditch	"	-	
24	1	F183/ 1102	pit	"	-	
25	3	F312/ 3016	ditch	"	-	Contaminated sample. Discarded
26	1	F185/ 1104	gully	"	-	
27	1	F116/ 1028	tree-hole	"	-	
28	3	F316/ 3021	furrow	"	-	Contaminated sample. Discarded

Table 3: Charred plant remains samples with pH values

## **10.0 Archive statement**

The excavation archive comprises of one box of ceramic finds, one box of other finds and two boxes of paper archive. The evaluation archive consists of one box of finds and one A2 wallet of paper archive. This does not pose any long term storage problems. The material will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums and Records Service (accession no. X.A67 2000) upon confirmation of the transfer of legal title and after publication of the final report.

## **11.0 Achievement of project aims**

The opportunity will be taken here to briefly assess the outcome of the project's original aims, as laid out above in section 6.0. On the broad front the excavation was able to provide a detailed record of the archaeological remains present and was able to clarify the spatial layout of the site during the Iron Age and Romano-British periods, by sample excavation and detailed site plans. The detailed record of later Medieval/ early Post-medieval ridge-and-furrow was able to provide evidence of later field systems.

The detailed analysis of the pottery will be able to investigate the chronological development of the site and its economy and its social and cultural setting at local, regional and national levels. The lack of bone and the paucity of charred plant remains mean investigation of the site economy by this means is severely limited.

## **12.0 Updated research design**

The earliest evidence for occupation of the site comes from the flint assemblage found in the ploughsoil/subsoil and in Iron Age and later contexts. The assemblage contains artefacts representing the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods. Further study of this assemblage will contribute towards the further understanding of these periods in the region.

Almost all the features dated to the late Iron Age are in Area 1. These features comprise successive phases of curvi-linear ditches, recut in places, which may be part of larger enclosures extending beyond the limits of the current excavations and may form part of a more extensive Late Iron Age enclosure complex. Shallow features including curvi-linear and semi-circular ditches and gullies and shallow pits within these enclosure ditches appear to relate to settlement activity and possible sub-division within enclosures. The site appears to have functioned as a farming settlement and finds of quernstones attest to crop processing being carried out on site.

The site at Ashby will be studied in its local, regional and national context and will be compared with other Mid to Late Iron Age sites in Leicestershire and the East Midlands, such as Elms Farm, Leicestershire (Charles *et al* 2000), Gamston, Nottinghamshire (Knight 1992), Enderby, Leicestershire (Clay 1992), Wanlip, Leicestershire (Beamish 1998) and Normanton le Heath, Leicestershire (Thorpe and Sharman 1994).

The later Romano-British phase of activity was found almost entirely in Area 2 and the western part of Area 3. It consisted of several linear gullies, pits and a stone surface. As in Area 1, the activity here seems to be part of a more extensive site extending to the south.

The wide linear ditch separating the areas of Late Romano-British activity and Late Iron Age settlement was of particular interest. This 9m-wide ditch is a substantial feature and showed no evidence of later recutting, unlike the 4.4m wide Romano-British enclosure ditch at Desford, Leicestershire (Thomas 2000). It is possible that this feature functioned as a boundary ditch

The research priorities of the project are:

- 1- the characterisation of the site dating and function.
- 2- to define the morphology of the settlement remains, and to determine their development, layout and chronology.
- 3- to examine the pottery chronology in relation to other published Iron Age and Romano-British sites in Leicestershire and the East Midlands.
- 4- to investigate the settlement economy and status at a local regional and national level

### **13.0 Proposed publication synopsis**

A short summary of this report will be prepared for inclusion in the Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society. It is proposed that the final report is published as part of a monograph on recent excavations of rural Iron Age and Romano-British settlement sites in Leicestershire. The volume would also include reports on excavations carried out by BUFAU at Glenfield, Oakham and Melton Mowbray, and would form part of the BUFAU monograph series published by British Archaeological Reports (BAR).

Structure of final report:

**The excavation of an Iron Age and Romano-British Site south of Old Parks House, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.**

By Laurence Jones and Lucie Dingwall

With contributions by

Lynne Bevan, Marina Ciaraldi and Annette Hancocks

Text

Summary

Acknowledgements

Introduction- the site and its landscape setting, background to the excavation.

Aims and Methodology

Structural Results: period review- an illustrated account outlining main features and site characteristics.

Specialist Reports: Prehistoric and Romano-British ceramics by Annette Hancocks.

Flint and worked stone by Lynne Bevan.  
Small finds by Lynne Bevan.  
Charred Plant Remains by Marina Ciaraldi.

Discussion and Conclusions

Figures

1. Location plan
2. Plan of all excavated features
3. Phase 1 plan- Areas 1-3
4. Phase 2 plan- Areas 1-3
5. Sections of excavated features
- 6-9. Pottery
10. Flint
11. Small finds

Plates

2-3 plates

Tabulated finds data

**14.0 Proposed post-excavation task list**

If the finds are not donated to Leicestershire Museums and Records Service fuller recording and revision of task list are suggested in consultation with LMARS.

Overall Project management 3 days (LD)

Preparation of Harris matrices (Task 1) 2 days (LJ)

Preparation of first draft report (Task 2) 20 days (LJ)

Co-ordination of specialists (Task 3) 3 days (AH)

Preparation of flint report (Task 4) 7 days (LB)

Preparation of IA and RB pottery and fired clay reports (Task 5) 35 days (AH)  
(including liaison with AW (1 day) and RW (1 day))

Preparation of worked stone report (Task 6) 3 days (LB)  
(including geological identification and report (RI))

Preparation of metalwork report (Task 7) 4 days (LB)

Preparation of petrological report (Task 8) 2 days (DW)

Preparation of charred plant remains report (Task 9) (MC) 5 days  
(including sorting, identifications and recording)

Library research and text integration (Task 10) 7 days (LJ)

Preparation of site drawings (Task 11) 15 days (ND)

Preparation of finds drawings (Task 12) 15 days (ND and MB)

Editing of first draft report (Task 13) 3 days (LD)

Amendments to first draft (Task 14) 2 days (LJ)

Proof reading and publication (Task 15) 3 days (LD)

Arrangements for final deposition of archive and finds (Task 16) 3 days (KM)

LD- Lucie Dingwall, LJ- Laurence Jones, LB- Lynne Bevan, AH- Annette Hancocks,  
AW- Ann Woodward, RW- Roger White RI- Rob Ixer, DW- David Williams, MC-  
Marina Ciaraldi, ND- Nigel Dodds, MB- Mark Breedon, KM- Karen Muldoon.

### 15.0 Acknowledgements

The excavation was directed by Laurence Jones and carried out with the assistance of, Ioannis Altsitzoglou, Bob Burrows, Melissa Conway, Mary Duncan, Emma Hancox, Roy Krakowicz, Charlotte Neilson, Andrew Newton, Ellie Ramsay, Sarah Watt and Josh Williams. Thanks are due to Leicestershire County Council for sponsoring the excavations and to Peter Riley *et al* who carried out the metal detecting.

The illustrations were prepared by Nigel Dodds and the project was managed by Lucie Dingwall and Gary Coates. The report was written by Laurence Jones and edited by Lucie Dingwall. The project was monitored by Anne Graf, Senior Archaeologist, and Lesley-Ann Mather for Leicestershire County Council.

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## Appendix 1

### List of stratigraphic units and finds quantifications



Struct.	Feature num.	Feature	Struct. num.	Description of structural unit	Comment	Flint	Prehistoric pot.	Roman pot.	Med. pot.	Post-med. pot.	Fired clay	Brick	Tile	Quern	Stone	Slag
1045	F133	PIT		FILL OF PIT		2	7									
1046	F134	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1047	F135	GULLY	CG2	FILL OF GULLY												
1048	F136	GULLY		FILL OF GULLY			6									
1049	F137	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1050	F138	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
1051	F139	DITCH	LD9	FILL OF DITCH												
1052	F140	DITCH	LD1	FILL OF DITCH				1								
1053	F141	DITCH	D1	FILL OF DITCH	=E245											
1054	F142	DITCH	D1	FILL OF DITCH		2	11									
1055	F143	DITCH	CD1	FILL OF DITCH		4	4									
1056	F144	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH		1		1								
1057	F145	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1058	F146	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
1059	F147	DITCH	CD7	FILL OF DITCH												
1060	F148	DITCH		FILL OF HOLLOW												
1061	F149	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1062	F150	DITCH	CD7	FILL OF DITCH			14									
1063	F151	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1064	F152	DITCH	CD11	FILL OF DITCH		1	2									
1065	F153	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1066	F153	PIT		FILL OF PIT		3	11				4			1		
1067	F154	DITCH	D1	FILL OF DITCH			1									
1068	F155	DITCH	CD1	FILL OF DITCH												
1069		CLEANING LA		CLEANING OVER F153		2	5									
1070	F156	DITCH	CD7	FILL OF DITCH												
1071	F157	DITCH	D1	FILL OF DITCH												
1072	F158	DITCH	CD7	FILL OF DITCH		1	4									
1073	F159	PIT		FILL OF PIT							2					
1074	F159	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
1075	F160	DITCH	CD3	FILL OF DITCH			41									
1076	F161	DITCH	CD11	FILL OF DITCH		1										
1077	F162	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
1078	F163	FURROW		FILL OF FURROW						1						
1079	F164	GULLY		FILL OF GULLY												
1080	F165	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH	=E247					1						
1081	F166	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH			6								1	
1082	F166	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
1083	F167	PIT		FILL OF PIT	=E241											
1084	F168	DITCH	LD8	FILL OF DITCH											1	
1085	F169	GULLY		FILL OF GULLY												
1086	F170	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
1087	F171	DITCH	CD4	FILL OF DITCH												
1088	F171	DITCH	CD4	FILL OF DITCH		1										
1089	F172	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH			16				4					

Strat	Feature num	Feature	Struct. num	Description of strat/struct	Content	Flint	Prehistoric pot	Roman pot	Med pot	Post-med pot	Fired clay	Brick	Tile	Quern	Stone	Slag
2010	F205	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2011	F206	PIT		FILL OF PIT		1										
2012	F207	SCOOP		FILL OF SCOOP[			4									
2013	F208	SCOOP		FILL OF SCOOP[												
2014	F209	HOLLOW		FILL OF HOLLOW												
2015	F210	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2016	F211	STAKEHOLE		FILL OF STAKEHOLE												
2017	F212	HOLLOW		FILL OF HOLLOW	= E045											
2018	F213	GULLY		FILL OF GULLY				1								
2019	F214	HOLLOW		FILL OF GULLY	= E053											
2020		FIND		FIND OVER F239												
2021	F215	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2022	F216	DRAIN		FILL OF DRAIN	=E015											
2023	F216	DRAIN		FILL OF DRAIN												
2024	F217	PIT		FILL OF PIT					1							
2025	F218	HOLLOW		FILL OF HOLLOW												
2026	F219	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
2027	F220	HOLLOW		FILL OF HOLLOW												
2028	F221	HOLLOW		FILL OF HOLLOW												
2029	F222	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2030	F223	DITCH	LD5	FILL OF DITCH												
2031	F224	DITCH	LD5	FILL OF DITCH				1								
2032	F225	GULLY		FILL OF GULLY												
2033	F225	GULLY		FILL OF GULLY												
2034	F226	PIT		FILL OF PIT	=E021											
2035	F227	PIT		FILL OF PIT				2			1					
2036	F228	DITCH	LD4	FILL OF DITCH												
2037	F229	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2038	F230	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2039	F231	DITCH	LD5	FILL OF DITCH				1								
2040	F232	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH					2							
2041	F201	SURFACE		MAKE UP OF SURFACE		1		74								
2042	F233	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH				27			3					1
2043	F234	DITCH	LD5	FILL OF DITCH	=E005			1								
2044		UNASSIGNED														
2045	F235	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2046	F236	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH												
2047	F236	DITCH	LD3	FILL OF DITCH												
2048	F237	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2049	F238	PIT		FILL OF PIT												
2050	F238	PIT		FILL OF PIT			7									
2051	F239	DITCH	LD2	FILL OF DITCH				10							1	3
2052	F239	DITCH	LD2	FILL OF DITCH		3	3	1								
2053	F239	DITCH	LD2	FILL OF DITCH												
2054	F240	DITCH	LD2	FILL OF DITCH		10		29	8		1	1				23



Strat	Feature num	Feature	Struct num	Description of strat unit	Comment	Flint	Prehistoric pot	Roman pot	Med pot	Post-med pot	Fired clay	Brick	Tile	Quern	Stone	Slag
E001	E002	UNDEFINED		FILL OF PIT?	TRENCH 3	1										
E002	E002	UNDEFINED		CUT OF PIT?	TRENCH 3											
E003	E004	UNDEFINED		FILL OF PIT?	TRENCH 3	1										
E004	E004	UNDEFINED		CUT OF PIT?	TRENCH 3											
E005	E006	DITCH	LD5	FILL OF DITCH	TRENCH 4 =2043			2	2							
E006	E006	DITCH	LD5	CUT OF DITCH	TRENCH 4 =F234											
E007	E008	SCOOP		FILL OF SCOOP	TRENCH 4			1								
E008	E008	SCOOP		CUT OF SCOOP	TRENCH 4											
E009	E010	UNDEFINED		FILL OF SCOOP?	TRENCH 4											
E010	E010	UNDEFINED		CUT OF SCOOP?	TRENCH 4											
E014	E014	PIT		CUT OF PIT	TRENCH 4 =F230											
E015	E016	DRAIN		FILL OF DRAIN	TRENCH 4 =2022			1								
E016	E016	DRAIN		CUT OF DRAIN	TRENCH 4 =F216											
E017		UNDEFINED		LAYER	TRENCH 4											
E018		UNDEFINED		LAYER	TRENCH 4											
E020	E020	UNDEFINED		CUT OF PIT?	TRENCH 4											
E021	E022	PIT		FILL OF PIT	TRENCH 4 =2034			2	2							
E022	E022	PIT		CUT OF PIT	TRENCH 4 =F226											
E023	E024	UNDEFINED		FILL OF PIT?	TRENCH 3											
E024	E024	UNDEFINED		CUT OF PIT?	TRENCH 3											
E025	E028	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH	TRENCH 1	1		1	2							3
E026	E028	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH	TRENCH 1				4							
E027	E028	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH	TRENCH 1											
E028	E028	DITCH		CUT OF DITCH	TRENCH 1											
E029	E030	DITCH		FILL OF DITCH	TRENCH 1											
E030	E030	DITCH		CUT OF DITCH	TRENCH 1											
E031		UNASSIGNED		TOPSOIL?	TRENCH 1				3					2		
E032		UNASSIGNED		SUBSOIL?	TRENCH 1											
E033		UNASSIGNED		NATURAL?	TRENCH 1											
E034	E035	UNDEFINED		FILL OF PIT?	TRENCH 1	1										
E035	E035	UNDEFINED		CUT OF PIT?	TRENCH 1											
E036	E037	UNDEFINED		FILL OF CURVI-LINEAR?	TRENCH 3											
E037	E037	UNDEFINED		CUT OF CURVI-LINEAR?	TRENCH 3											
E038		UNDEFINED		FILL OF LINEAR?	TRENCH 3			1								
E039	E040	UNDEFINED		FILL OF DITCH?	TRENCH 6		4									
E040	E040	UNDEFINED		CUT OF DITCH?	TRENCH 6											
E041	E042	UNDEFINED		FILL OF DITCH?	TRENCH 6		5		1							
E042	E042	UNDEFINED		CUT OF DITCH?	TRENCH 6											
E043	E044	UNDEFINED		FILL OF LINEAR?	TRENCH 2		7									
E044	E044	UNDEFINED		CUT OF LINEAR?	TRENCH 2											
E045	E045	HOLLOW		NATURAL HOLLOW	TRENCH 2 =F212			8								
E046	E045	HOLLOW		FILL OF HOLLOW	TRENCH 2 =2017											
E047	E048	UNDEFINED		FILL OF POSTHOLE?	TRENCH 2											
E048	E048	UNDEFINED		CUT OF POSTHOLE?	TRENCH 2											
E049	E050	UNDEFINED		FILL OF LINEAR?	TRENCH 2				1							















## Appendix 2

### List of Feature Dimensions (in metres)

Strat unit	Feature keyword	Structure num	X coordinate	Y coordinate	Max length	Max width	Max depth
F096	GULLY	CG1	5897	8635	8.4	0.42	0.16
F097	DITCH	CD3	5897	8635		0.97	0.36
F098	DITCH	CD3	5898	8638		0.3	0.21
F099	GULLY	CD10	5898	8638	4.2	0.4	0.1
F100	DITCH		5898	8624		0.68	0.26
F101	DITCH	CD8	5895	8630		0.74	0.41
F102	HOLLOW		5972	8628	1.2	0.9	0.8
F103	DITCH	CD3	5896	8629		0.46	0.24
F104	DITCH	CD9	5895	8629	7	0.3	0.4
F105	DITCH	CD4	5979	8627		2	0.68
F106	DITCH		6000	8621		0.73	0.1
F107	DITCH	CD9	5893	8630	7	0.4	0.05
F108	DITCH		5901	8627		0.68	0.16
F109	SLOT		6005	8620	3	0.38	0.08
F110	GULLY		5898	8632		0.6	0.06
F111	GULLY		6009	8614	3	0.28	0.11
F112	DITCH	CD3	5896	8625		0.64	0.32
F113	PIT		5897	8626	2.18	2	0.4
F114	DITCH		5898	8625		0.7	0.24
F115	DITCH	CD8	5889	8632		1	0.42
F116	TREEHOLE		5894	8640	3	1.6	0.36
F117	PIT		6015	8621	0.43	0.43	0.15
F118	HOLLOW		6015	8623	9	1.3	0.24
F119	PIT		6017	8625	0.85	0.8	0.17
F120	HOLLOW		6022	8624	0.64	0.9	0.24
F121	HOLLOW		6021	8626	0.84	0.48	0.12
F122	DITCH		5887	8631		1.52	0.84
F123	DITCH	CD2	5888	8633		0.82	0.3
F124	GULLY		5898	8639		0.46	0.18
F125	GULLY		5898	8639		0.26	0.06
F126	DITCH	CD3	5899	8640		0.84	0.22
F127	DITCH	LD8	5951	8640	17.4	0.5	0.2
F128	DITCH	LD9	5952	8641	16	0.6	0.24
F129	DITCH	CD12	5992	8626		0.58	0.08
F130	DITCH	CD13	5994	8626		0.73	0.1
F131	GULLY		5961	8642	5.5	0.36	0.11
F132	DITCH	LD1	5962	8643	9.3	0.6	0.12
F133	PIT		5910	8656	1.73	1.22	0.28
F134	PIT		5962	8651	2.1	1	0.2
F135	GULLY		5957	8642	5.5	0.4	0.09
F136	GULLY		5886	8631		0.44	0.24
F137	PIT		5887	8632		2.34	0.38
F138	DITCH		5887	8632		0.78	0.25
F139	DITCH	LD9	5957	8650	16	0.5	0.19
F140	DITCH	LD1	5968	8641	9.3	0.62	0.11
F141	DITCH	D1	5919	8642		0.65	0.3
F142	DITCH	D1	5915	8655		1	0.43
F143	DITCH	CD1	5915	8655		0.85	0.5
F144	DITCH		5972	8642	5	0.72	0.04
F145	PIT		5976	8652	1	1	0.14
F146	DITCH		5997	8640	5.8	0.91	0.2
F147	DITCH	CD7	5997	8640		0.91	0.22
F148	HOLLOW		5975	8653	4.1	0.94	0.05
F149	PIT		5980	8651	0.9	0.79	0.15
F150	DITCH	CD7	6020	8645		1.12	0.23

Strat unit	Feature keyword	Structure num	X coordinate	Y coordinate	Max length	Max width	Max depth
F151	PIT		5983	8653	1.25	0.98	0.18
F152	DITCH	CD11	6014	8645	8.4	0.83	0.2
F153	PIT		5898	8651	3.3	1.6	0.5
F154	DITCH	D1	5900	8650		0.6	0.3
F155	DITCH	CD1	5899	8650		0.3	0.05
F156	DITCH	CD7	6033	8652		0.64	0.14
F157	DITCH	D1	5916	8635		0.53	0.19
F158	DITCH	CD7	5994	8643		0.96	0.26
F159	PIT		5895	8646	1.7	0.8	0.27
F160	DITCH	CD3	5905	8651		0.56	0.19
F161	DITCH	CD11	6008	8643	8.4	0.74	0.23
F162	DITCH		6008	8641	5	0.9	0.12
F163	FURROW		5920	8641	17.1	0.75	0.13
F164	GULLY		5966	8636	7	0.39	0.16
F165	DITCH		5913	8645	6.2	0.76	0.14
F166	DITCH		5991	8644		1.52	0.47
F167	PIT		5910	8645	2.2	1.4	0.2
F168	DITCH	LD8	5959	8634	17.4	0.95	0.26
F169	GULLY		5974	8634	6.2	0.36	0.1
F170	DITCH		5975	8633	8	1	0.29
F171	DITCH	CD4	5990	8644		1.56	0.62
F172	DITCH		5992	8644		0.76	0.38
F173	SCOOP		5891	8641	0.68	0.5	0.05
F174	GULLY		5891	8643	3.8	0.5	0.15
F175	DITCH	CD2	5890	8643		0.9	0.3
F176	DITCH	LD8	5946	8643	17.4	0.29	0.09
F177	DITCH	LD9	5950	8638	16	0.42	0.13
F178	DITCH	CD5	5986	8636	17	0.38	0.08
F179	DITCH	CD4	5987	8636		0.85	0.68
F180	DITCH	CD7	5997	8656		1.35	0.23
F181	DITCH	CD4	5991	8656		2.72	0.89
F182	DITCH	CD5	5987	8653	17	0.91	0.12
F183	PIT		6001	8656	1.1	1.1	0.2
F184	PIT		6021	8644	1.35	1	0.12
F185	DITCH	CD10	5895	8637	4.2	1.2	0.2
F186	GULLY	CG1	5895	8638	8.4	0.49	0.14
F187	HOLLOW		5907	8636	5	1.6	0.12
F188	DITCH	CD4	5990	8639		0.8	0.54
F189	DITCH	CD6	5991	8638	12	0.6	0.12
F190	DITCH	CD13	5992	8638		0.45	0.2
F191	PIT		6011	8652	0.5	0.25	0.04
F192	DITCH	CD12	5991	8638		0.38	0.12
F193	GULLY		5999	8637		0.49	0.12
F194	GULLY		6000	8637		0.5	0.1
F195	DITCH	CD6	5995	8635	12	0.62	0.1
F196	DITCH	CD7	6000	8638		1	0.3
F197	PIT		5994	8635	1.5	1.06	0.34
F198	DITCH	CD6	5997	8630	12	0.3	0.08
F199	DITCH	LD2	6040	8650			
F200	HOLLOW		6201	8547	2.5	2.5	0.05
F201	SURFACE		6197	8554	11	6	0.14
F202	DITCH	LD4	6119	8604		0.8	0.18
F203	DITCH	LD3	6102	8596		0.75	0.17
F204	PIT		6123	8604	1.9	0.66	0.11
F205	PIT		6127	8602	1.9	0.63	0.18



Stratum	Feature keyword	Structure num	X coordinate	Y coordinate	Max length	Max width	Max depth
F206	PIT		6124	8590	2.15	0.94	0.36
F207	SCOOP		6094	8613	3.1	1.1	0.2
F208	SCOOP		6112	8592	1	0.9	0.12
F209	HOLLOW		6183	8575	2.7	0.74	0.4
F210	PIT		6106	8597	2.15	0.78	0.08
F211	STAKEHOLE		6107	8597		0.2	0.15
F212	HOLLOW		6124	8590		0.71	0.06
F213	GULLY		6083	8616	13	0.73	0.1
F214	HOLLOW		6130	8600	0.6	0.5	0.06
F215	PIT		6138	8585	1.7	0.75	0.24
F216	DRAIN		6192	8562		0.6	1.2
F217	PIT		6187	8568	1.1	0.66	0.15
F218	HOLLOW		6140	8590	2.18	1.4	0.15
F219	DITCH		6174	8581		0.9	0.17
F220	HOLLOW		6180	8572		0.5	0.15
F221	HOLLOW		6179	8569		0.5	0.05
F222	PIT		6183	8568	1.1	0.82	0.4
F223	DITCH	LD5	6177	8562		0.3	0.04
F224	DITCH	LD5	6191	8558		0.7	0.12
F225	GULLY		6140	8580		0.5	0.26
F226	PIT		6188	8563	1.16	0.87	0.4
F227	PIT		6203	8545	1.86	1.1	0.12
F228	DITCH	LD4	6109	8594		0.52	0.13
F229	PIT		6183	8566	0.81	0.6	0.13
F230	PIT		6194	8556	0.6	0.52	0.08
F231	DITCH	LD5	6200	8552		0.64	0.18
F232	DITCH		6043	8611		1.72	0.12
F233	DITCH		6201	8544		1	0.18
F234	DITCH	LD5	6195	8555		0.46	0.11
F235	PIT		6202	8544	2	2	0.4
F236	DITCH	LD3	6106	8600		0.5	0.1
F237	PIT		6160	8577	1.7	1.1	0.12
F238	PIT		6159	8575	1.92	1.92	0.5
F239	DITCH	LD2	6065	8615		8.29	1.37
F240	DITCH	LD2	6050	8630		8.9	1.4
F241	PIT		6050	8631	1.38	1.38	0.4
F242	PIT		6050	8628	2.02	1.3	0.5
F243	STAKEHOLE		6049	8632	0.25	0.2	0.12
F250	PIT		6052	8625	2.2	1.22	0.15
F251	DITCH	LD5	6204	8549		0.64	0.12
F252	DITCH		6201	8561		0.6	0.26
F300	DRAIN		6230	8531		0.25	0.38
F301	DRAIN		6229	8531		0.2	0.3
F302	DRAIN		6229	8531		0.24	0.2
F303	DITCH	LD7	6229	8531		0.53	0.2
F304	GULLY		6229	8530		0.2	0.12
F305	GULLY		6229	8530		0.2	0.16
F306	GULLY		6227	8532	6	0.38	0.16
F307	FURROW		6227	8531		0.1	0.05
F308	GULLY		6227	8532		0.2	0.07
F309	DITCH	LD6	6228	8531		0.22	0.16
F310	DITCH	LD7	6230	8529		0.3	0.12
F311	DITCH	LD6	6229	8529		0.4	0.18
F312	DITCH		6249	8539		1.15	0.15
F313	DITCH	LD7	6233	8527		0.38	0.18

Strat unit	Feature keyword	Structure num	X coordinate	Y coordinate	Max length	Max width	Max depth
F314	DITCH	LD6	6232	8526		0.72	0.38
F315	FURROW		6245	8533		1.9	0.5
F316	FURROW		6269	8512		2.4	0.2
F317	DRAIN		6221	8548		0.2	0.2
F318	SCOOP		6280	8512	0.38	0.15	0.03
F319	SCOOP		6276	8515	0.2	0.2	0.03
F320	SCOOP		6275	8516	0.36	0.3	0.04
F321	SCOOP		6273	8514	0.34	0.34	0.05
F322	SCOOP		6273	8518	0.3	0.18	0.04
F323	DITCH		6284	8507	16	0.9	0.15
F324	FURROW		6240	8543		1.25	0.25
F325	SCOOP		6233	8524	0.8	0.8	0.05
F326	PIT		6236	8525	2.2	0.75	0.25
F327	DITCH	LD7	6235	8525		0.64	0.15
F328	DITCH	LD6	6235	8522		0.6	0.16

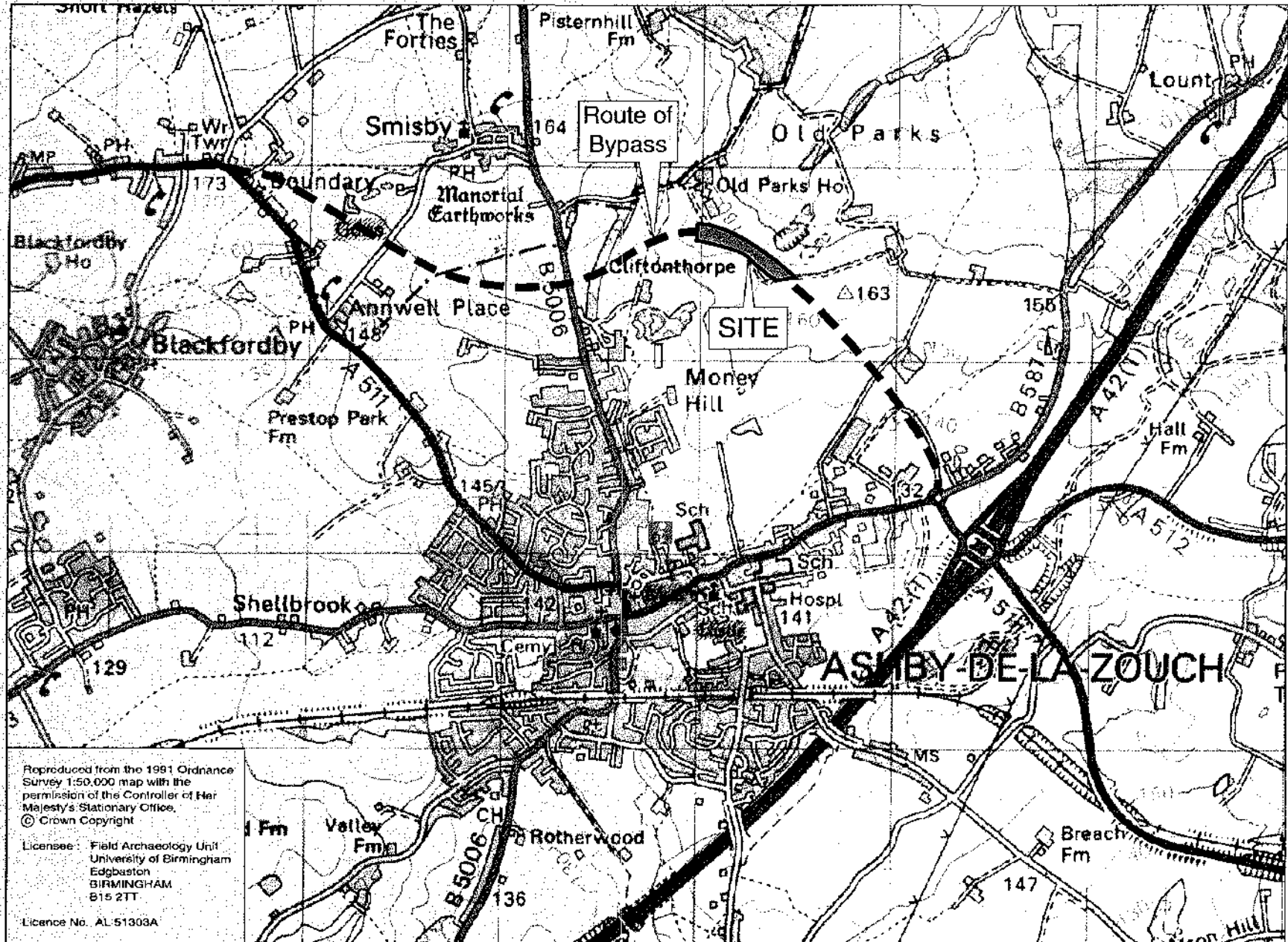


Fig.1

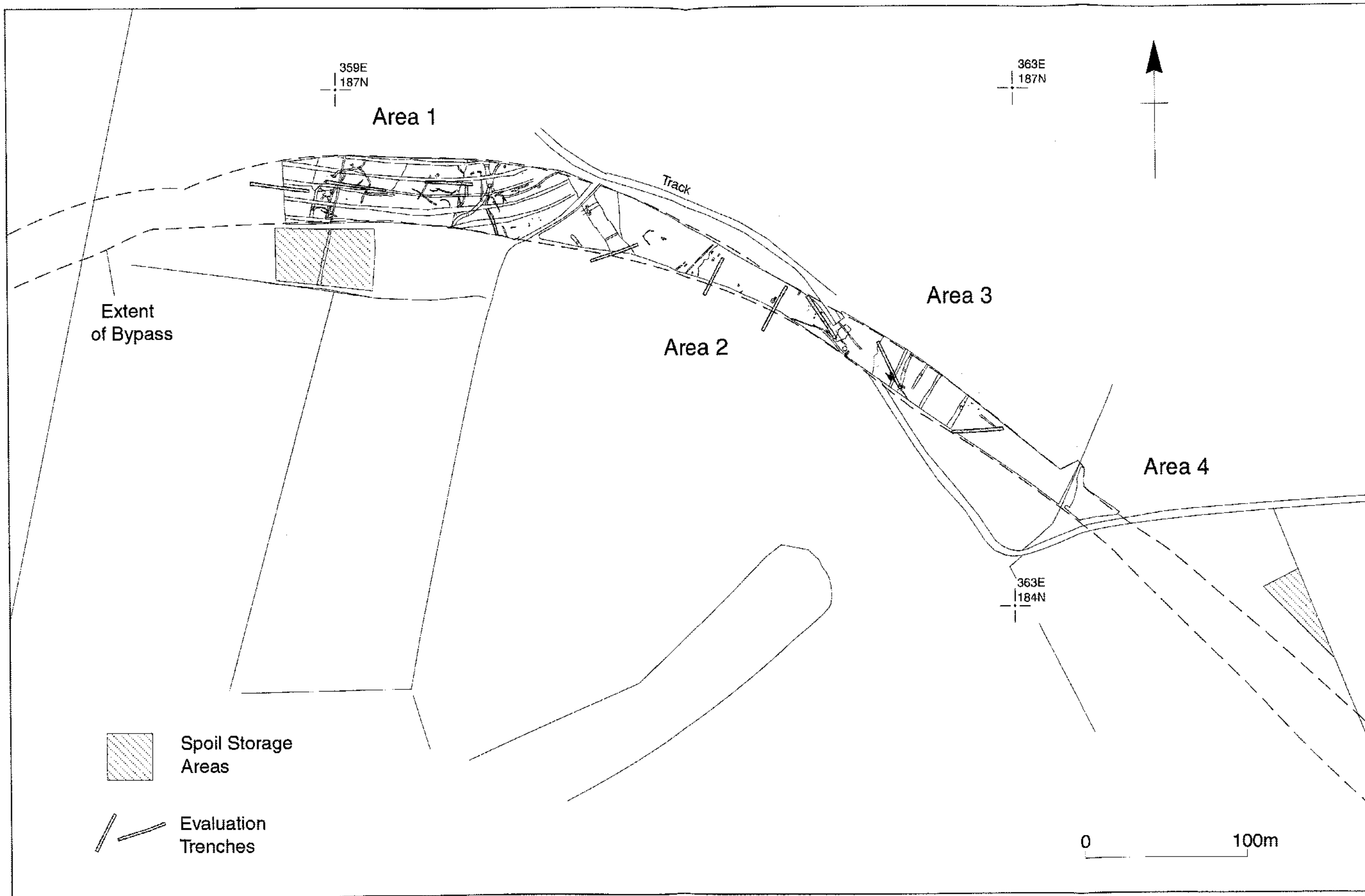


Fig.2

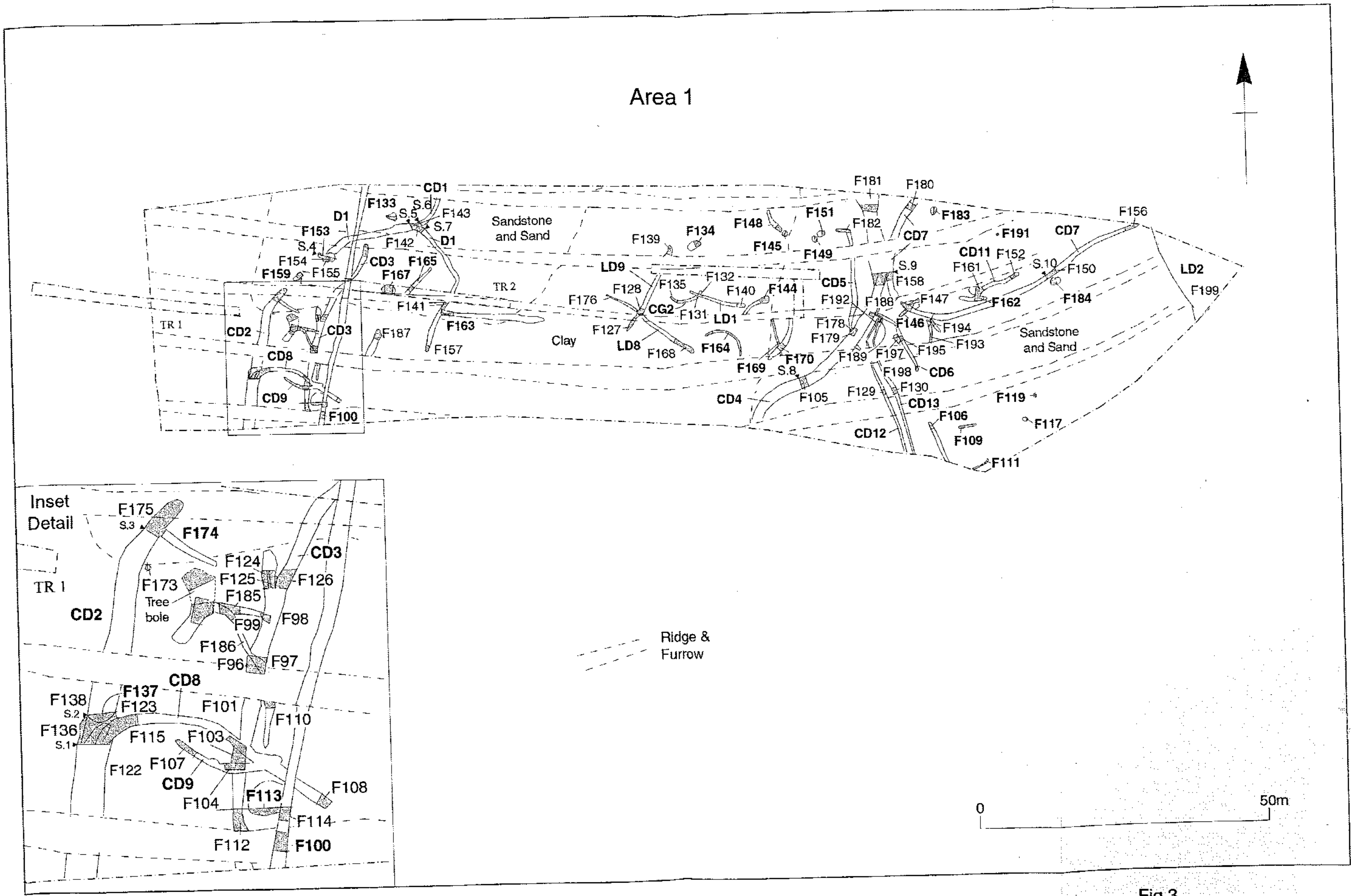


Fig.3

Area 2

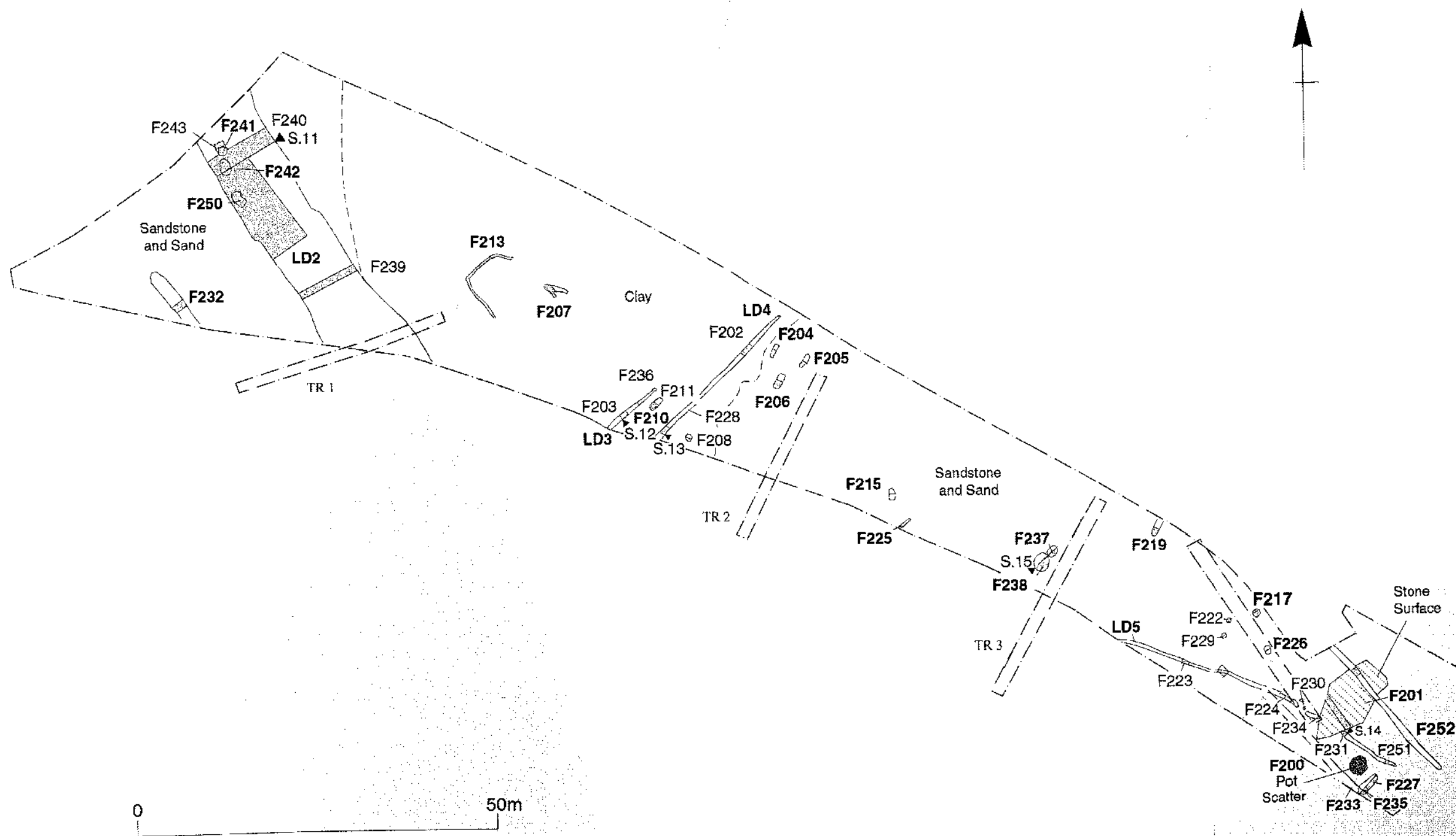


Fig. 4

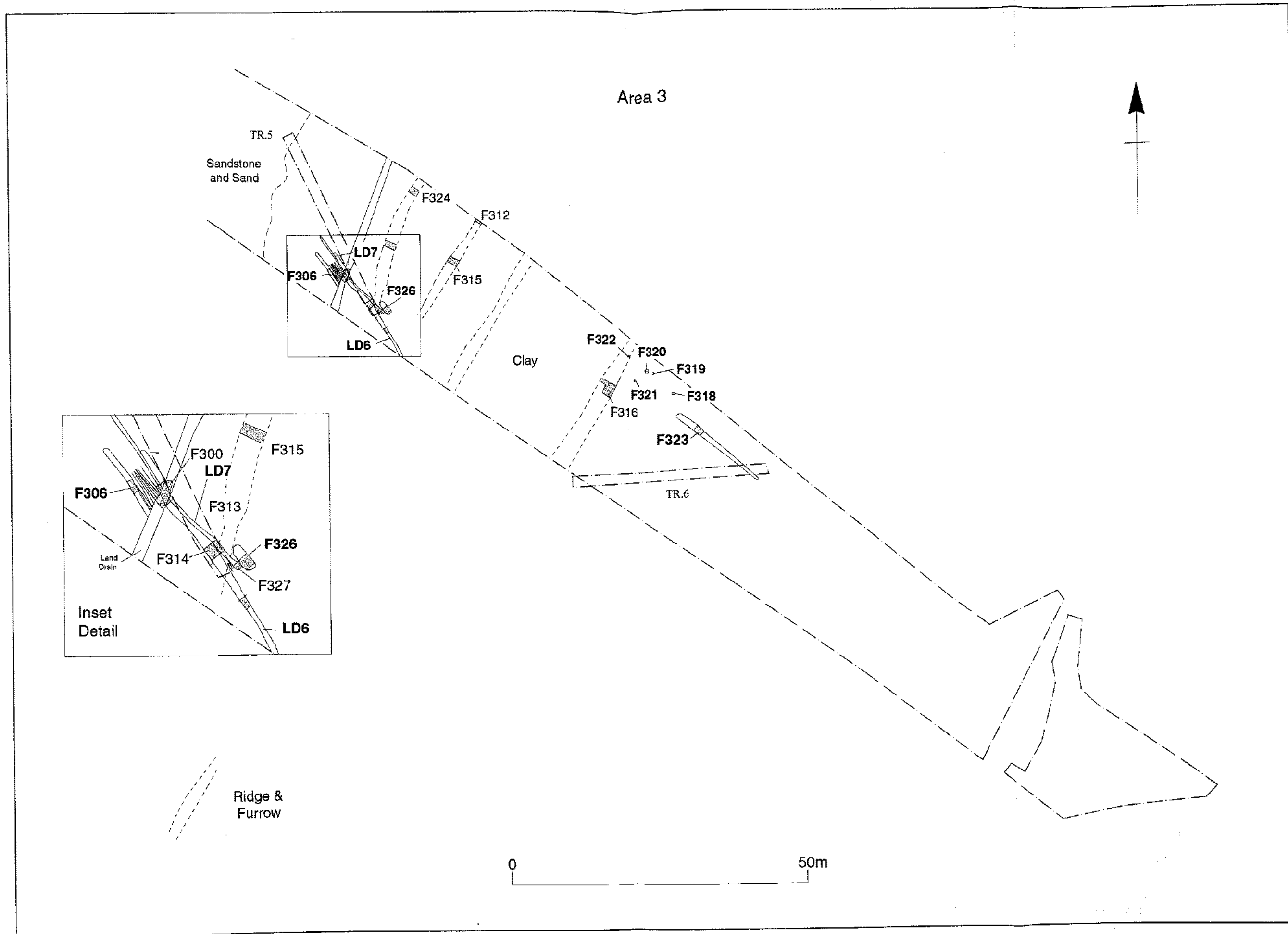


Fig.5

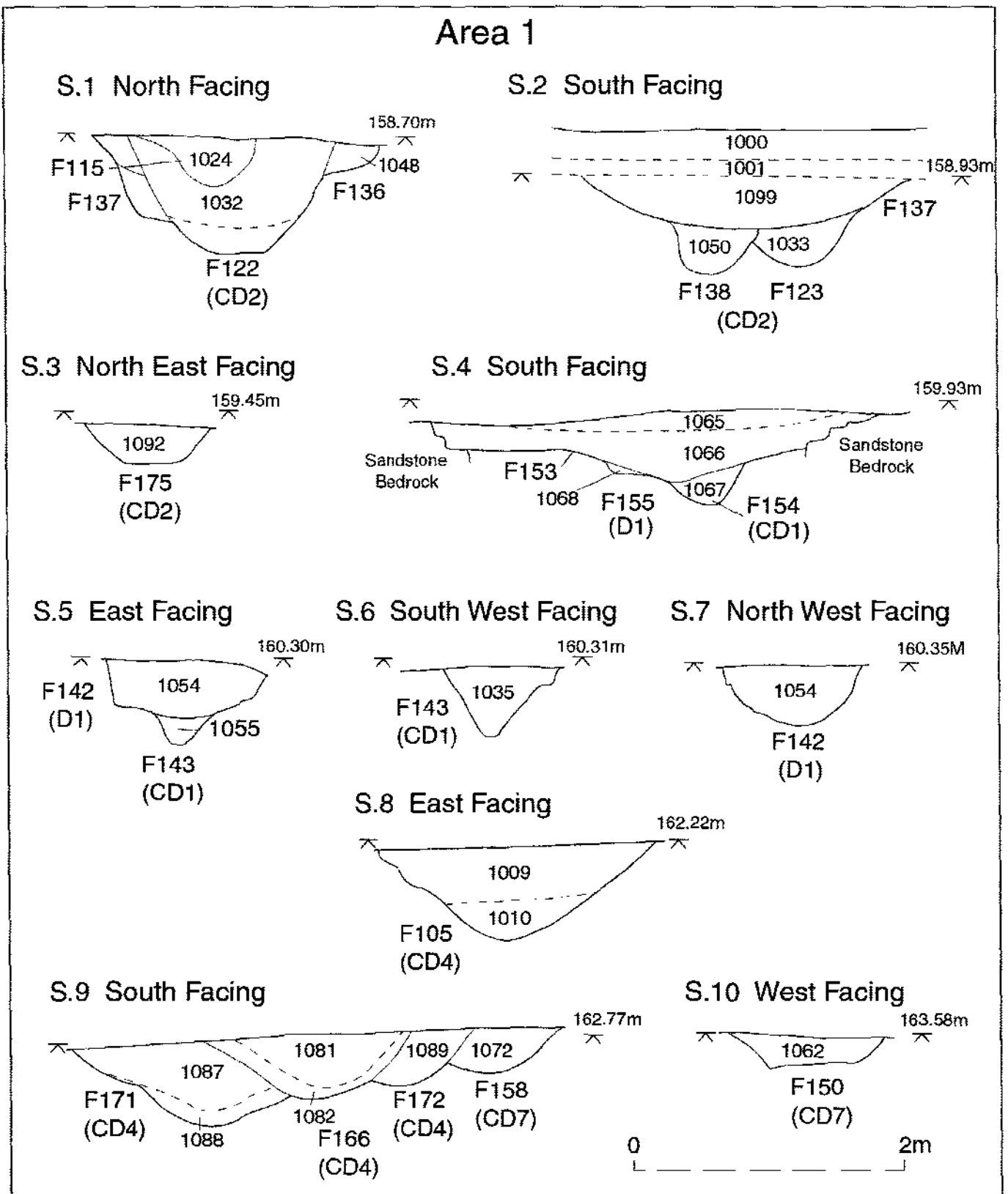
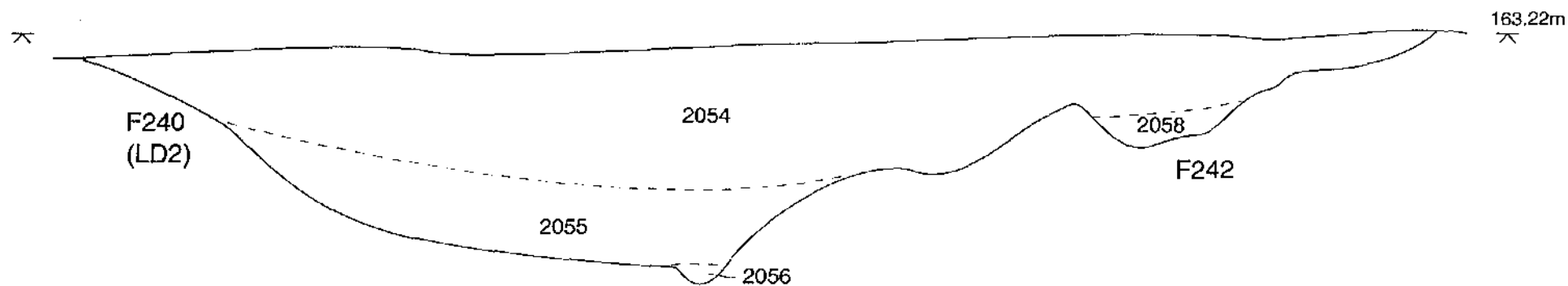


Fig.6

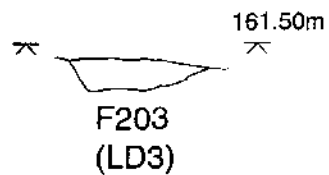


# Area 2

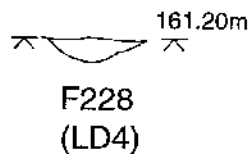
## S.11 North West Facing



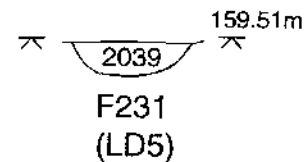
## S.12 North East Facing



## S.13 North East Facing



## S.14 North West Facing



## S.15 South East Facing



Fig.7

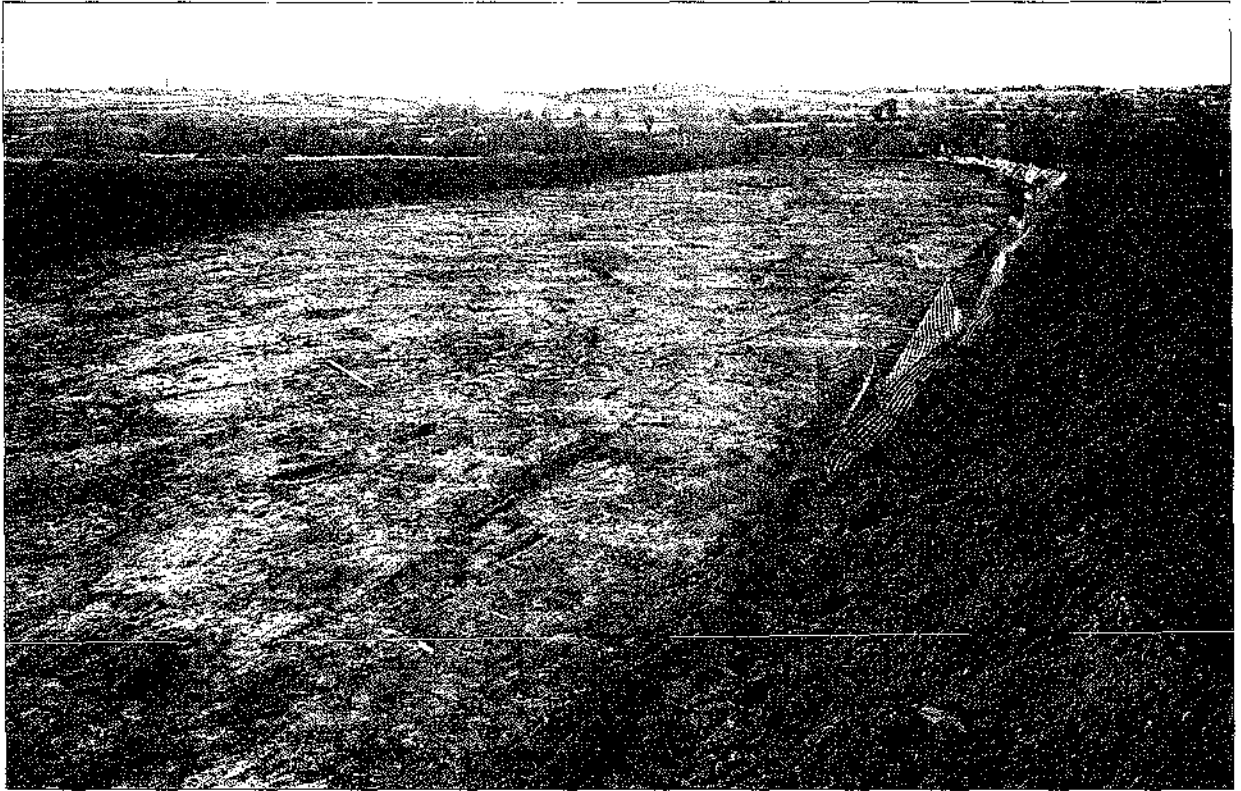


Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5

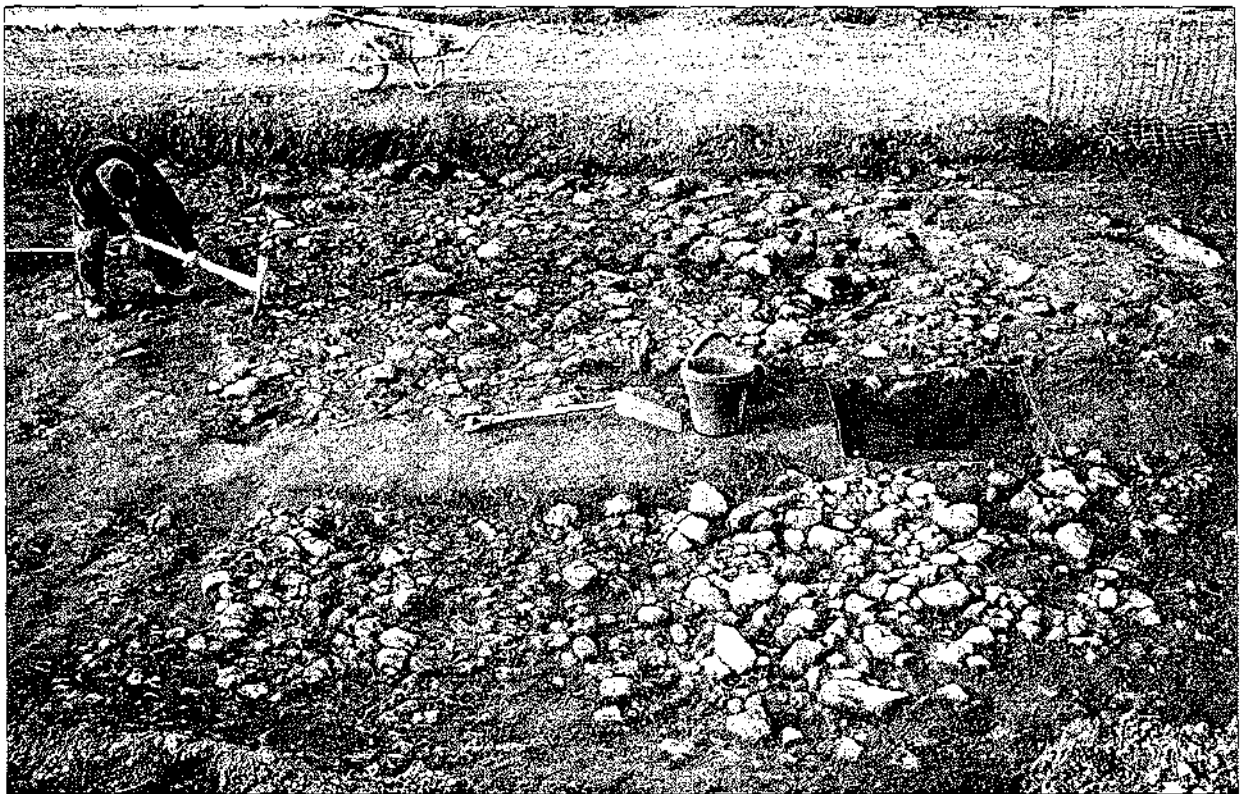


Plate 6