

92.36 RACK STREET 1974-75  
(Roman Military)

**EXCAVATIONS AT RACK STREET  
EXETER, 1974-75  
PART 1: ROMAN MILITARY**

**by  
J.B. Bedford and J.P. Salvatore**

**Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit**

**Report No. 92.36**

## CONTENTS

### Section 1

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Organisation of this report	1
1.2	The site	1
1.3	Method of excavation	1
1.4	Excavation summary	1
1.5	Post-excavation applications	1
1.6	Site narrative: Roman military	1
1.7	Conclusions	3

	Acknowledgements	3
	Bibliography	3

### Section 2

2.1	Context matrix identification	3
2.2	Group and sub-group identification	3
2.3	Context information	3
2.4	The matrix diagrams, group discussions, and sub-group descriptions	
	Matrices	4
	Group discussions and sub-group descriptions	6
	Group/matrix index	6
	Group matrix	7
2.5	The context descriptions and main indices	
	Context descriptions	9
	General context index	10
	Archive section index	10
2.6	The finds listings and other indices	
	Finds inventory	15
	Photographic index (B/W, Slide)	15

### List of illustrations

Fig. 1	The location of the Rack Street 1974-75 excavations	overleaf
Fig. 2	A composite plan of the Roman military features in Area 2 and the observation trench. Scale 1:250	2
Fig. 3	Groups 1 and 2: simplified sections. Scale 1:100	7
Fig. 4	Groups 1 and 2: simplified plan. Scale 1:200	8
Fig. 5	Groups 1-3: simplified plan. Scale 1:200	8a
Fig. 6	Plan of the remains of the Roman military and early civil periods, Area 1 (801). Scale 1:100	11
Fig. 7	Sections and profiles through the features of the Roman military and civil periods, Area 1 (803). Scale 1:100	12
Fig. 8	Plan of the remains of the Roman military and early civil periods, Area 2 (804). Scale 1:100	13
Fig. 9	Sections through the Roman military fortress ditches, Area 2 (805). Scale 1:50	14
	A list of plates found at the back of the report	15

### Appendix 1

	Metallurgical reports	19
--	-----------------------	----



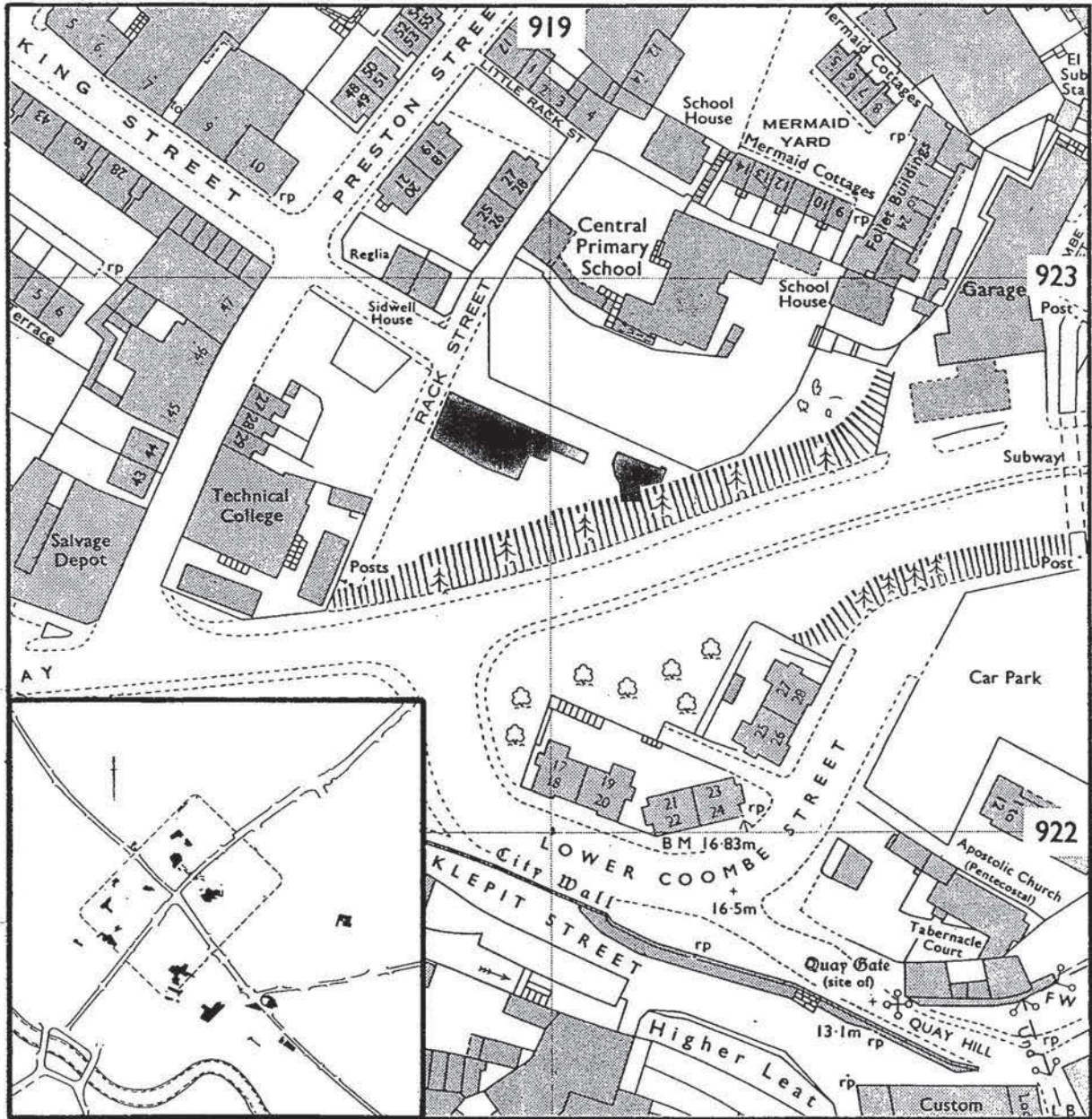


Fig. 1 The location of the Rack Street excavations Exeter 1974-75. The inset shows the approximate position of the site on the fortress defences.



## SECTION 1

### Introduction

From late 1974 to early 1975 the Exeter Museums Archaeological Field Unit (EMAFU) undertook an excavation on a site fronting onto Rack Street. The site was later acquired for housing. The excavation was funded by Exeter City Council and was directed by M. Griffith and C.G. Henderson. The site supervisors were J.Pamment (now J.Pamment Salvatore) and B. Follansbee.

Post-excavation work was carried out in 1975 by J. Pamment, and was continued in 1987 by C. Earwood, and in 1989 by E. Davis. Post-excavation work for this research archive report was undertaken in 1992 by J.B. Bedford and J.P. Salvatore.

### 1.1 The organisation of this report

This report comprises two sections. Section 1 includes a site narrative which summarises the results of the excavations at Rack Street 1974-75 for the Roman military period. This narrative is an interpretive and stratigraphic account based upon the discussion of the archaeological records contained in Section 2.

Section 2 contains the detailed archaeological evidence for the stratigraphic development of the site during the Roman military period. The excavation records are presented in a processed form using matrices with the contexts divided into groups and sub-groups with standardised descriptions of individual contexts. Section 2 also contains basic information on the finds and a summary photographic record.

### 1.2 The site (Fig.1)

The site fronted onto Rack Street adjacent to the present-day Inner Bypass (Western Way) and was to the south-west of Coombe Street at SX 918922.

### 1.3 Method of excavation

Excavation was by the open-area method with accompanying sections to recover details of the stratigraphy. The presence of an existing and working service trench dictated that the site be divided into two separate areas. Area 1 to the east had dimensions of approx. 12m east/west by 8m north/south at its maximum extent. Area 2 to the west had dimensions of approx. 28m east/west by 12m north/south, maximum extent. A number of deep sewer trenches of comparatively modern date cut through all levels into the natural subsoil with resulting damage to the stratigraphy.

A cellar in Area 2 removed all stratigraphy over an area of approx. 7x5m.

### 1.4 Excavation summary

Remains of the Post-medieval, the Medieval and the Roman civil periods, including late Roman houses and a street, were recorded overlying the Roman military deposits.

Three ditches of the Roman military period at Exeter (c. AD 55/60 - c.75/80) were identified, two of the ditches were clearly defensive in nature and were associated with the Roman legionary fortress. Traces of the innermost of the two ditches were encountered at about 23.7m OD.

### 1.5 Post-excavation applications

A preliminary site report for the Roman period was compiled

by E. Davis. Some material from that report has been extracted and revised for the purposes of this research archive report. The site records, comprising context sheets, field plans, plans on drawing film, and photographic material, are stored at the EMAFU offices, Gandy Street, Exeter under project number 52.

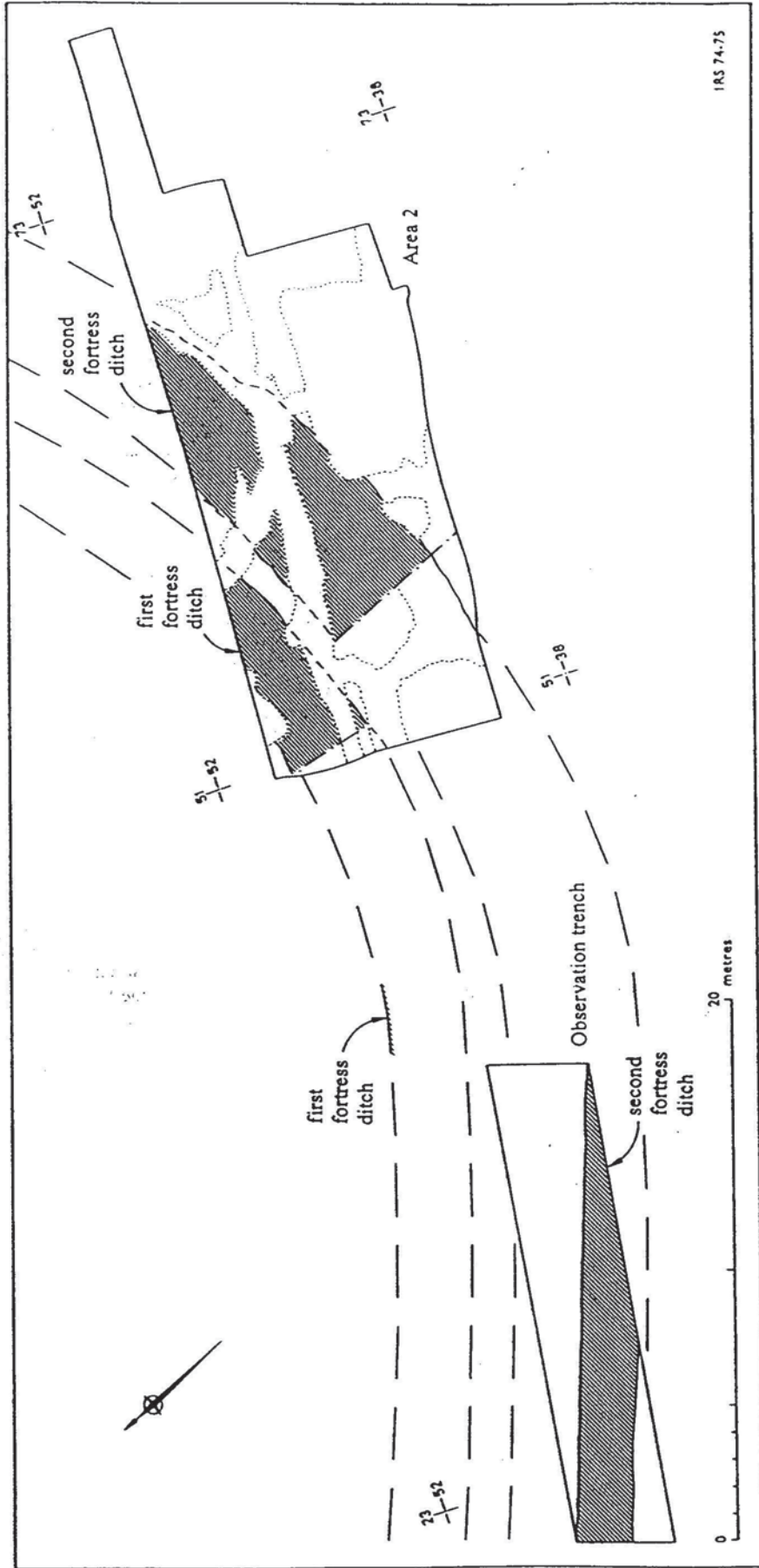
### 1.6 Site narrative: Roman military

Two parallel, but not contemporary, defensive ditches of the Roman fortress were located. The curve of both ditches which can be seen on plan in Area 2 suggests that the defences at this point were negotiating a corner of the fortress (Fig 2). Later excavations revealed more of the plan of the fortress and it can be stated with some confidence that the ditches seen at Rack Street in 1974-5 were located on the south-western defensive circuit in a position that can now be identified as the left-hand or sinistral corner of the *praetentura* of the legionary fortress. Both ditches would have fronted a rampart the evidence for which did not fall within the area available for excavation.

The innermost ditch, identified as the first fortress ditch on Fig.2, was seen over a length of approximately 8m. It had a recovered maximum width of about 3.5m and a maximum depth in excavation of 1.66m. This ditch had a distinct V-shaped profile. It was infilled during the Roman military period at Exeter and pottery evidence from the infill demonstrates that this operation is likely to have taken place in the pre-Flavian period (Bidwell, 1979, 6). The fortress is unlikely to have been left without a defensive ditch and it is reasonable to assume that the second fortress ditch replaced the first as part of a refurbishment of the defences. The reason for this major reorganisation of the defences has been examined by Henderson (1988, 107-108).

The replacement ditch, known as the second fortress ditch, was observed over a length of about 17m in Area 2 (see Fig.2) and was cut just forward of the first ditch with about 1m separating the two at the level at which they were recovered in excavation. The later ditch had a distinct Punic profile, with a near vertical outer face and a gentle sloping inner face in contrast to the V-shaped profile of the earlier ditch. It had a maximum recovered width of just over 5m and a maximum depth in excavation of 2.52m. A recent revision of the pottery evidence recovered from the infills of the second fortress ditch, both from Rack Street and from elsewhere along its length, has shown that it remained open in places into the early years of the second century and beyond, thus well beyond the date of full Roman military occupation at Exeter (Holbrook and Bidwell forthcoming). The continual process of erosion over a number of years, particularly of the vulnerable outer face, would account for the quite considerable width of the ditch. This ditch was also observed by John Allan in a builders' trench to the west of the excavations in Area 2. The top edge of the ditch was not seen but the rill at the base of the ditch was observed and planned.

A third much smaller ditch was observed in a position some 16m beyond the outer lip of the second fortress ditch. A length of about 5m of this ditch was excavated. It had a recovered width of about 1.5m and an excavated depth of almost 1m. The ditch was V-shaped in profile. The interpretation of this ditch presents some problems. It may have been a drainage ditch; levels taken along the bottom of the ditch show that it would have drained to the south-west. However, later excavation of the same ditch further to the north (Bedford and Salvatore 1992) showed that it turned away from the fortress. This opens up the possibility that the



IRS 74-75

Fig.2. A composite plan of the Roman military features in Area 2 and the observation trench. Scale 1:250



ditch may have formed part of an extra-mural enclosure. The ditch went out of use in the Flavian period when it was infilled perhaps at the same time as the demolition of the fortress (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 7).

### 1.7 Conclusions

The excavations at Rack Street in 1974-75 produced the first clear evidence for the defensive circuit of the Roman legionary fortress. More importantly, the fortunate positioning of the excavation on a corner of the defences allowed the alignment of two sides of the fortress to be established with a reasonable degree of certainty. Later excavations on other sections of the circuit have added to this picture. The relationship of the site to the fortress as a whole and other aspects of the defensive circuit in general will be discussed in a future Exeter Archaeological Report (Salvatore and Henderson forthcoming).

### Acknowledgements

The plans in this report with the exception of the 800 series illustrations were drawn by T. Ives and were photographed for reduction by G. Young. The 800 series plans were drawn by various members of the EMAFU. On-site plans were drawn by K. Whidden. The matrices were produced by A.G. Collings who also typed Section 2 of the text. Pottery listings were provided by G. Langman.

### Bibliography

- Bidwell P.T. 1979 *The Legionary Bath-house and Basilica and Forum at Exeter*, Exeter Archaeological Reports: 1.  
 Bedford J.B. and Salvatore J.P. 1992 *Excavations at Rack Street, Exeter, 1977-78 Part 1: Roman Military*, Report of the EMAFU 92.37.  
 Goodburn R. 1976 'Roman Britain in 1975: Sites explored', *Britannia* 7, 358.  
 Henderson C.G. 1988 'Exeter (*Isca Dumnoniorum*)' in Webster G. (ed.) *Fortress into City: The consolidation of Roman Britain, first century AD*, 91-119.  
 Holbrook N. and Bidwell P.T. 1991 *Roman Finds From Exeter*, Exeter Archaeological Reports: 4.  
 Maltby M. 1979 *The animal bones from Exeter 1971-1975*, Exeter Archaeological Reports: 2.  
 Salvatore J.P. and Henderson C.G. forthcoming *The Roman Legionary Fortress at Exeter*, Exeter Archaeological Reports.

## SECTION 2

### Introduction

This section of the report contains a record of the detailed archaeological evidence upon which the narrative produced in Section 1 is based. The stratigraphic sequences are presented in the form of context matrices. The matrices have been produced according to a series of stratigraphic groups and sub-groups which illustrate events and stages in the archaeological record.

### 2.1 Context matrix identification

Matrices have been produced for the contexts of the Roman military period. These are numbered Matrix 1; 1.1; 2.

The context matrix diagrams have been divided by horizontal lines at significant points; these indicate the divisions between stratigraphic groups. The group number is located on the left hand side of the matrix diagram immediately below the horizontal line that defines its limit.

The sub-group number is found immediately to the left-hand side of the contexts that form the sub-grouping.

In the case of Matrix 1.1 the sub-group number is replaced by the generic context number.

### 2.2 Group and sub-group identification

The Roman military contexts for the Rack St. 1974-75 site have been divided into three separate groups. Each group represents an archaeological event. The nature of each group is given in the section on group discussions, this section includes the interpretational conclusions that can be drawn from a consideration of the stratigraphic evidence. Stratigraphic relationships between the groups are illustrated by the group matrix.

Where appropriate, the group may be divided further into sub-groups. These sub-groups represent distinct stages in an archaeological event and they usually consist of a number of contexts that have a clear association. The nature of each sub-group is given in the section on sub-group descriptions.

The stratigraphic relationships between the sub-groups are themselves illustrated by the group matrix.

### 2.3 Context information

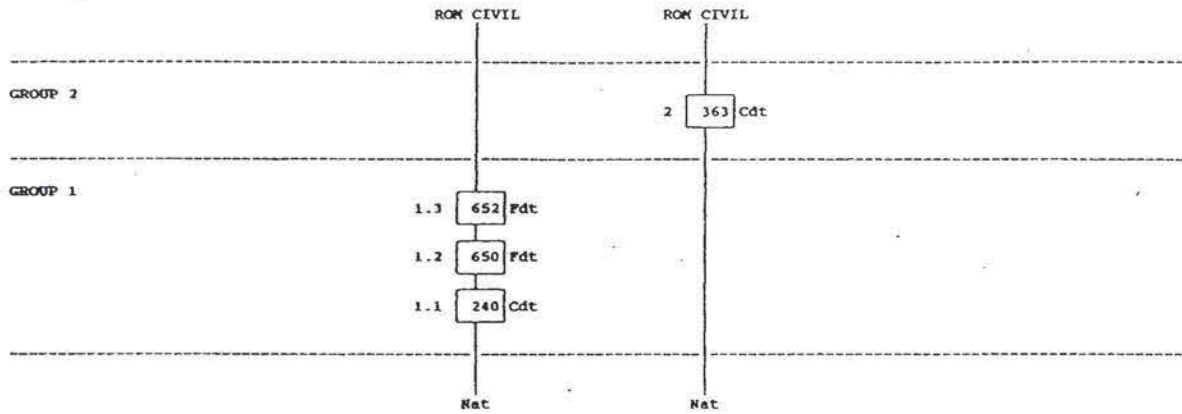
Information about individual contexts is provided in two forms. Firstly, the context number as it appears in the context matrix is annotated with an abbreviated 'type' description (e.g. Cdt = Cut, ditch). A list of abbreviations is given at the beginning of the series of matrix diagrams. Secondly, a standardised summary description of each context in numerical order is included in the report.

### 2.4 The matrix diagrams, group discussions, and sub-group descriptions

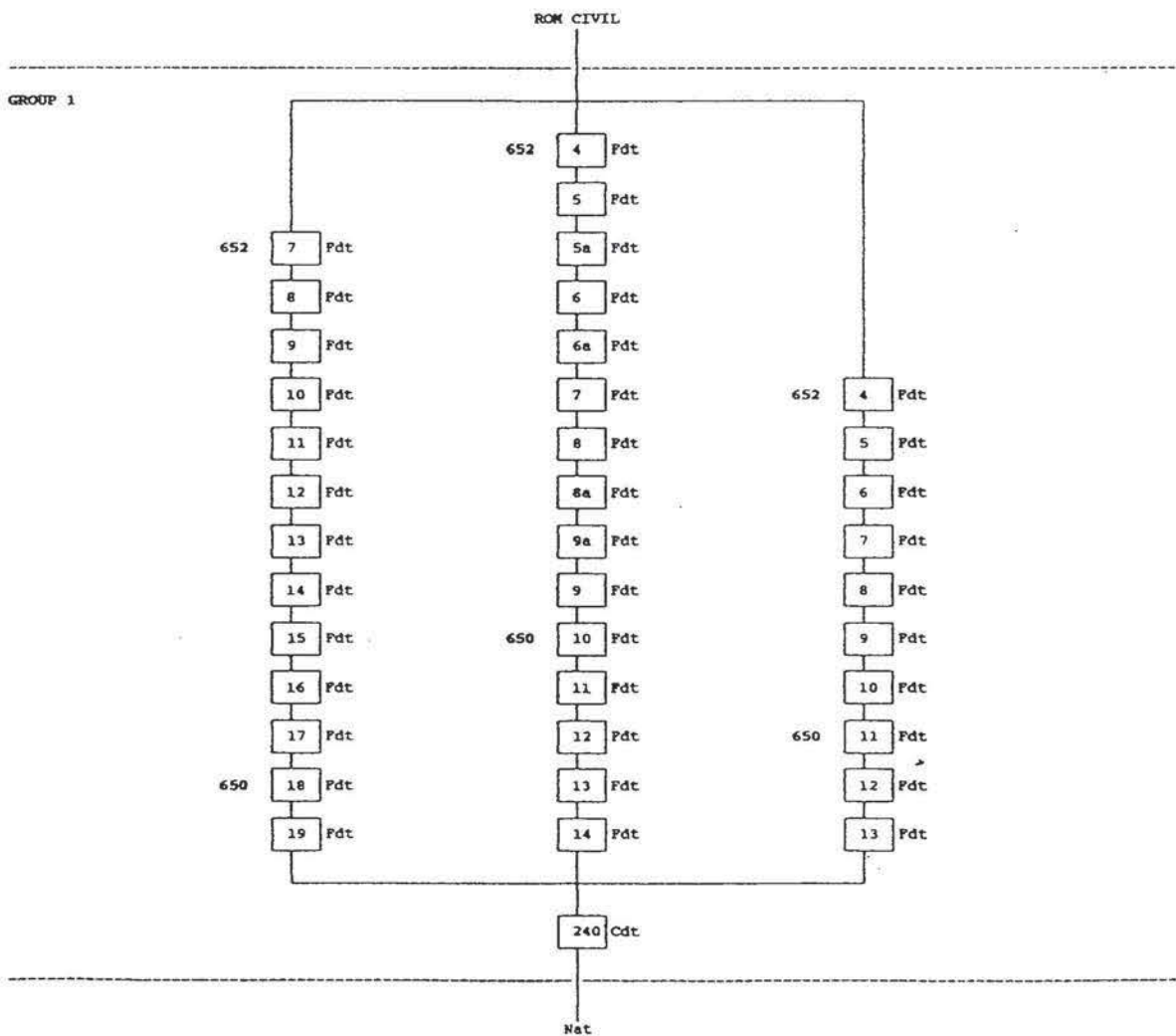
List of abbreviations (for matrices).

Fill	F
Cut	C
Layer	L
Ditch	dt
Natural	nat

MATRIX 1

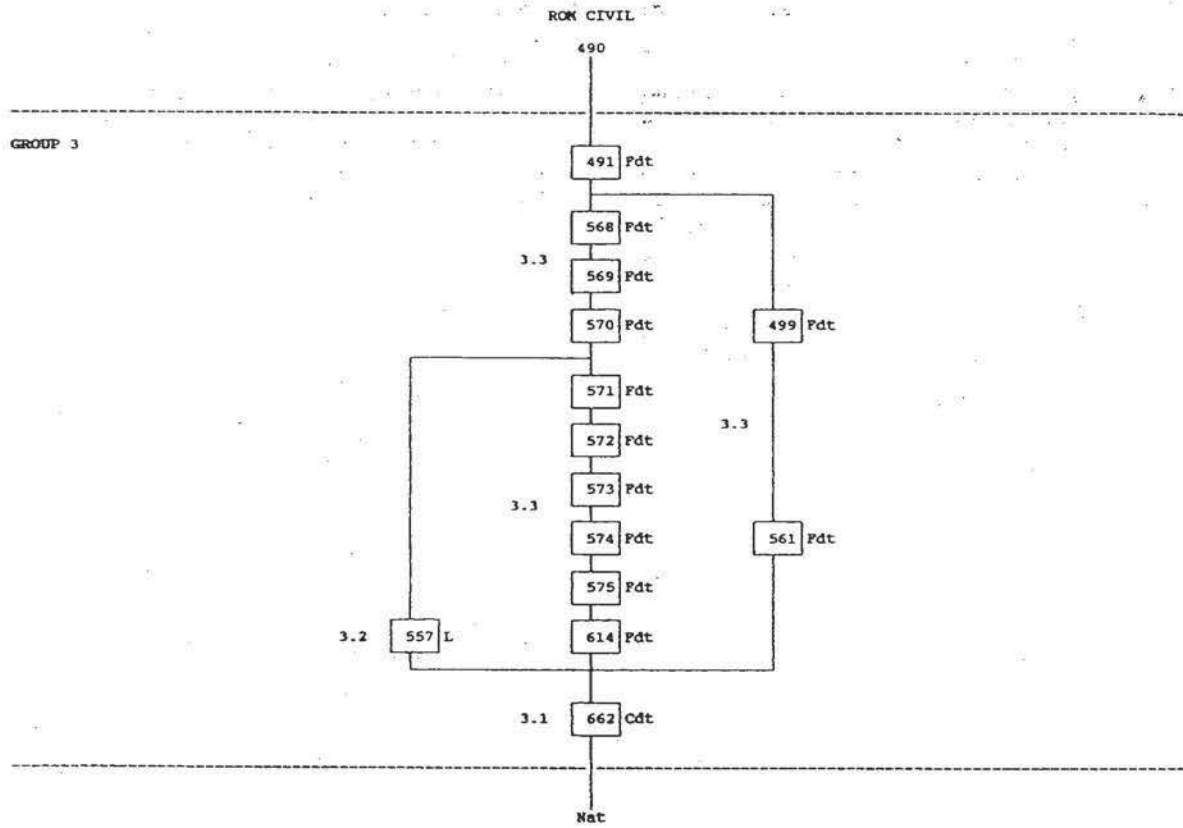


MATRIX 1.1 (Ditch 240 only)





MATRIX 2



## GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND SUB-GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

### Group 1

This group encompasses the entire life of the innermost ditch of the fortress defences. This ditch is referred to as the first fortress ditch as it is likely to have been the primary ditch associated with the fortress rampart. The ditch, which was cut with a V-shaped profile, was dug just forward of the rampart which at this excavation was not visible. It had a recovered maximum width of 3.5m and a maximum depth in excavation of 1.66m. At some stage silt deposits were allowed to accumulate within the bottom of the ditch (sub-group 1.2). Following this the ditch was infilled probably as part of a single operation associated with the decision to provide the fortress with a new and larger defensive ditch. A turf layer may have formed above the infilled ditch although this is not certain (sub-group 1.3). Subsidence appears to have taken place in the area immediately above the ditch during the years following its infilling and this led to localised survival of Roman civil deposits at the top of the sequence of infills.

Contains sub-groups 1.1, 1.2, 1.3.

For detailed sections see illustration 805 (Fig. 9).

#### Sub-group 1.1

This sub-group is for the cut only of the ditch 240.

Contains context: 240 (see Figs. 3-5)

#### Sub-group 1.2

Sub-group for the silt-deposited layers within ditch 240.

Contains context: 650 (Generic context number).

#### Sub-group 1.3

This sub-group covers the infills within ditch 240 that were deposited subsequent to the silt infills. Inclusive of deliberate infilling and possible turf formation.

Contains context: 652 (Generic context number).

### Group 2

This group covers only the cut for the outer ditch of the fortress defences. This ditch is known as the second fortress ditch; it almost certainly replaced the innermost ditch as part of the same process that saw the inner ditch infilled. It had a maximum recovered width of just over 5m and a maximum depth in excavation of 2.52m. A length of about 17m was observed. The ditch had a Punic profile i.e. a near vertical outer face with a gradual slope on the inner face. Silts and other infills within this ditch are likely to have originated in the Roman civil period and are not therefore considered for inclusion in this report.

Contains context: 363. (see Figs. 3-5)

For detailed sections see illustration 805 (Fig. 9).

### Group 3

A group that covers the life of ditch 662. This ditch was found about 16m east of the second fortress ditch. It had a V-shaped profile similar to the first fortress ditch but was much smaller in its dimensions with a recovered width of about 1.5m and an excavated depth of almost 1m. The ditch presumably remained open for a period after it was cut, this

would have allowed the slippage to have taken place which was observed on the south-eastern face (sub-group 3.2). The ditch was infilled mostly with sandy clays and clay silts with charcoal flecks throughout and oyster shell high up in the sequence (sub-group 3.3). This infilling may have taken place as part of one operation although the number of distinct layers within the fill may militate against that interpretation.

Contains sub-groups 3.1, 3.2, 3.3.

For detailed section see Sect. 27, illustration 803 (Fig. 7)

#### Sub-group 3.1

Sub-group for the cut only of ditch 662.

Contains context: 662 (see Fig. 5).

#### Sub-group 3.2

Sub-group for trampled natural soil which was found to have been slipped into the side of ditch 662.

Contains context: 557.

#### Sub-group 3.3

A sub-group for the series of layers that infilled ditch 662.

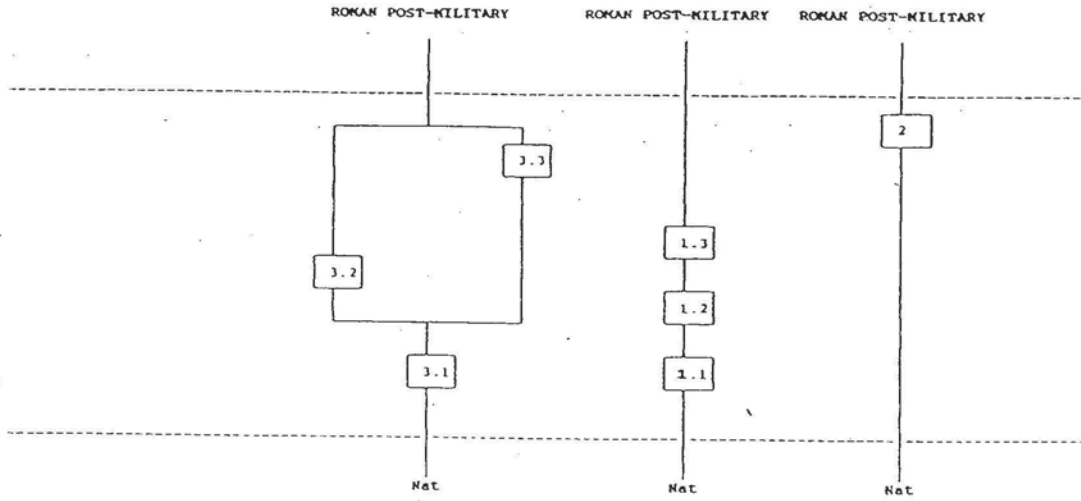
Contains contexts: 491, 499, 561, 568-575, 614.

---

## GROUP / MATRIX INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Matrix</i>
240	1.1	1/1.1
363	2	1
491	3.3	2
499	3.3	2
557	3.2	2
561	3.3	2
568	3.3	2
569	3.3	2
570	3.3	2
571	3.3	2
572	3.3	2
573	3.3	2
574	3.3	2
575	3.3	2
614	3.3	2
650	1.2	1/1.1
652	1.3	1/1.1
662	3.1	2

GROUP MATRIX



Groups 1 and 2 (Simplified Sections)

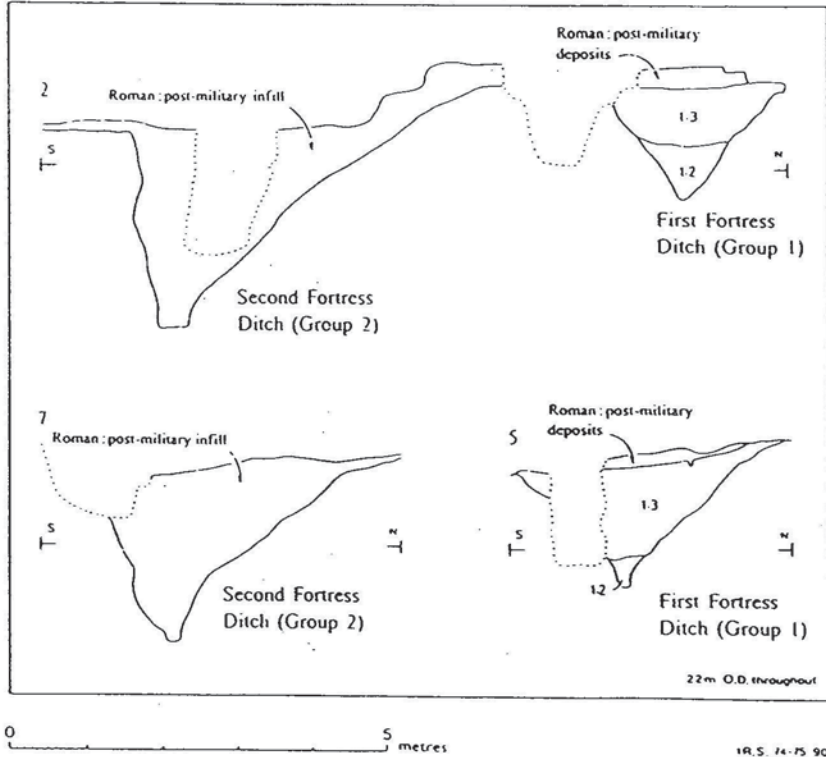


Fig. 3. Sections through the fortress ditches. Scale 1:100.



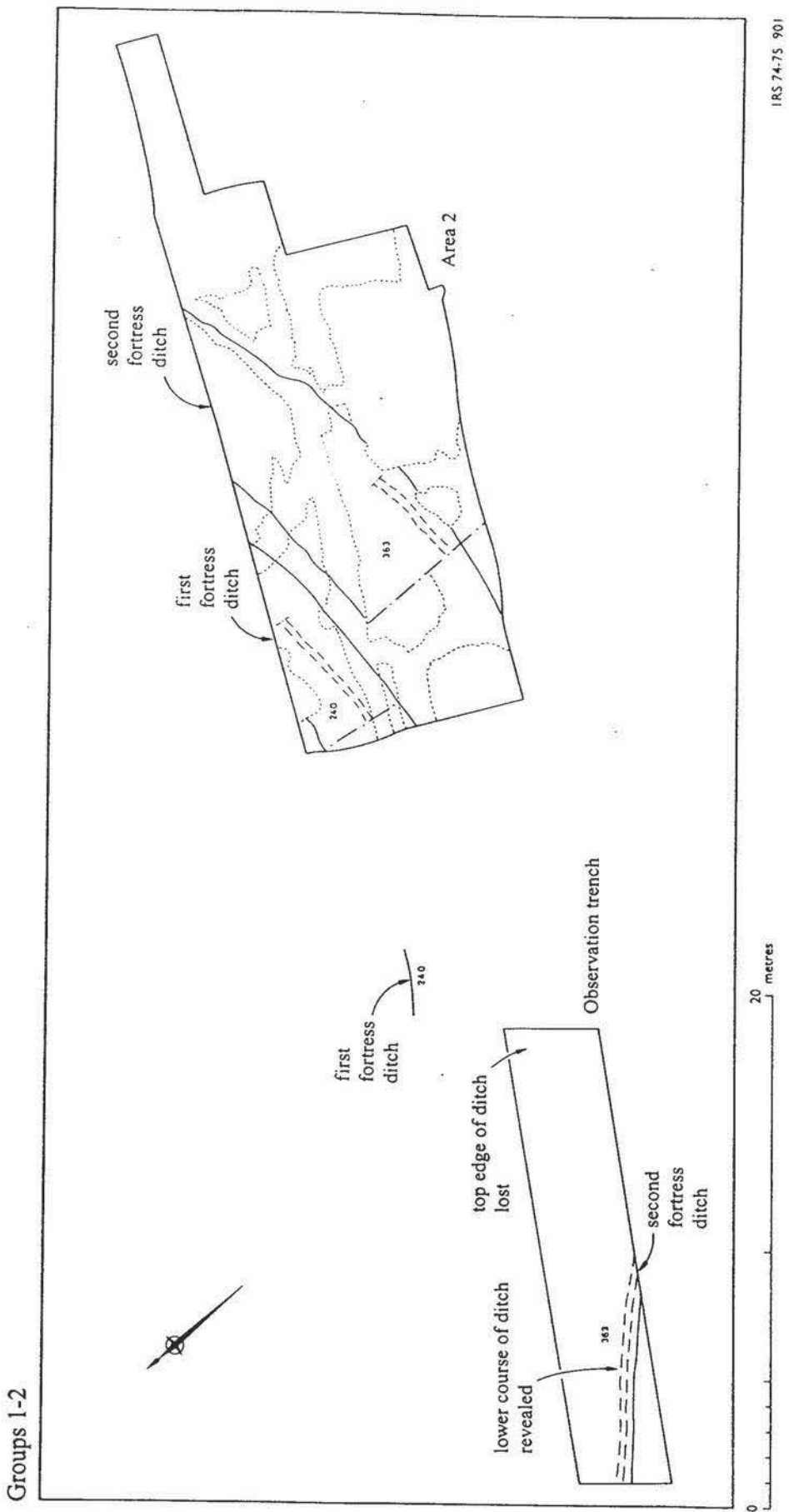


Fig. 4. Groups 1 and 2: simplified plan shown by reference to context. Scale 1:200

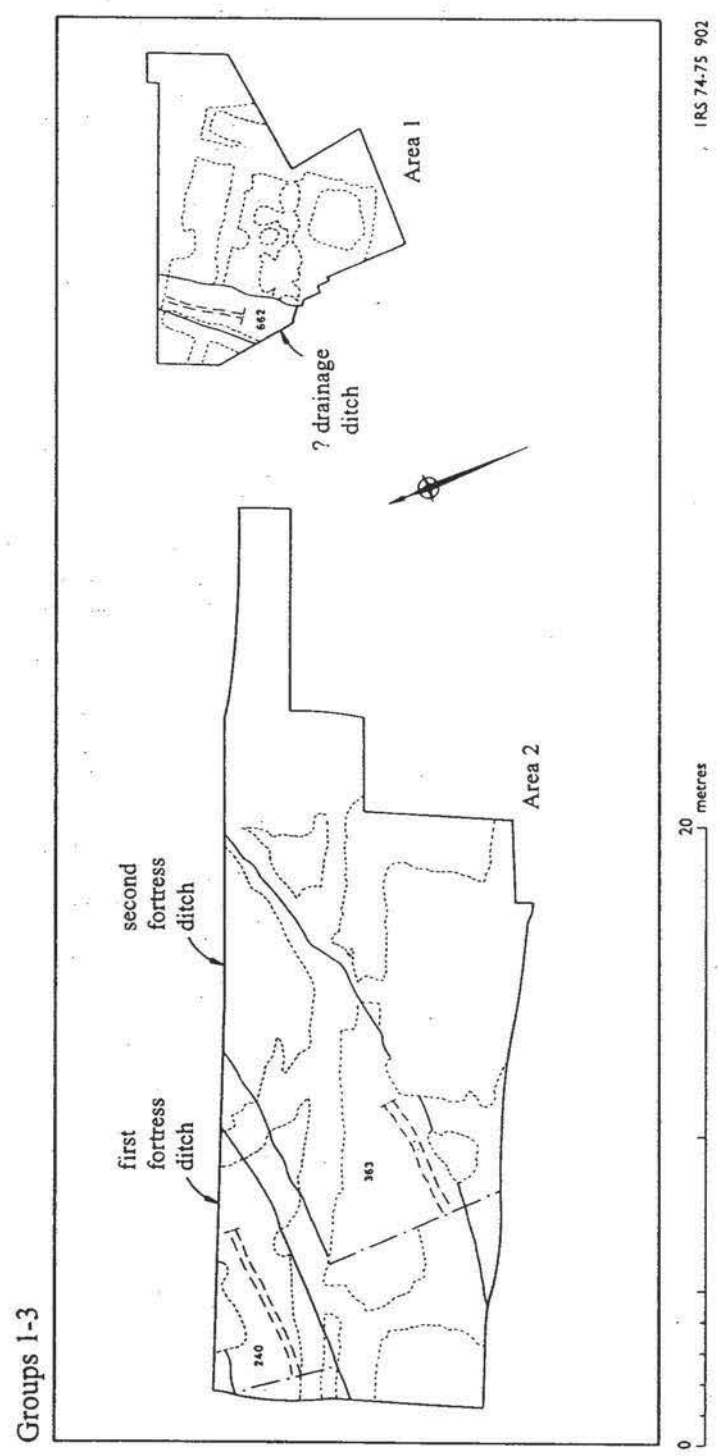


Fig. 5. Groups 1-3: simplified plan shown by reference to context. Scale 1:200

## 2.5 The context descriptions and main indices

## Glossary of abbreviations (for contexts).

Length	Le
Depth	D
Height	H
Width	Wth
Diameter	Diam
North	N
South	S
East	E
West	W
Frequent	Freq
Occasional	Occ
Fragment(s)	Frag(s).
Waterworn	ww
Volcanic	Volc
Roman military	Rom Mil

## CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

- 240 Ditch, aligned E-W, V-shaped profile. Fills: silting - 650; dumping - 652 (both generic numbers). Le = 8.0m approx, Wth = 3.5m, D = 1.66m.
- 363 Ditch, aligned E-W, Punic profile, N side sloping, S side near vertical. Fills - silting 649. Le = 17m approx, Wth = 5.0m, D = 2.52m.
- 491 Fill of 662, dark brown loam, charcoal flecks, oyster shell frags. D = 0.20m.
- 499 Fill of 662, yellow sand charcoal flecks. D = 0.10m.
- 557 Trampled natural layer, sandy with yellow flecks. D = 0.09m.
- 561 Fill of 662, mid brown, sandy, charcoal flecks. D = 0.40m.
- 568 Fill of 662, yellow clay with charcoal flecks. D = 0.05m.
- 569 Fill of 662, mid brown clay silt, pea grit and charcoal flecks. D = 0.07m.
- 570 Fill of 662, light yellow brown clay silt, mid brown loam patches, yellow and red clay lumps, charcoal flecks, ww pebbles, volc chips. D = 0.15m.
- 571 Fill of 662, light brown sandy, frequent ww pebbles, yellow patches. D = 0.20m.
- 572 Fill of 662, dark brown silt; grit, charcoal flecks, ww pebbles. D = 0.15m.
- 573 Fill of 662, light brown/yellow sand; grit, charcoal flecks. D = 0.12m.
- 574 Fill of 662, dark brown sand; grit, charcoal flecks. D = 0.08m.
- 575 Fill of 662, yellow/red silt, pebbles. D = 0.20m.
- 614 Fill of 662, light yellow/brown sand; gravelly, occ charcoal flecks. D = 0.18m.
- 650 Generic number, represents silting in ditch 240. On section 2 (Fig. 7) divided into five layers: 10) dirty dark orange clays / silts, small mixed clay lumps, ww pebbles; 11) bright orange clay / silt, slight gravel traces; 12) dirty orange clay silt, gravel traces, ww pebbles; 13) dirty pink and brown clay silt, slumping; 14) Soft bright orange clay silt with some natural slumping from sides. On Section 5 (Fig. 7) divided into two layers: 18) light orange clay silt, gravel, ww pebbles; 19) pure soft orange clay silt. On Section 6 (Fig. 7) divided into three layers: 11) red clay, silt; 12) light brown / red clay silt, pebbles; 13) as above, with green and grey clay lumps.
- 652 Generic number - represents dumping in ditch 240. On section 2 (Fig. 7) divided into eleven layers: 4) yellow clay, few mixed clay lumps, sparse charcoal flecks; 5) orange clay, gravel traces, small charcoal flecks, small mixed clay lumps, small clay loam traces; 5a) yellow clay, very small mixed clay patches; 6) mixed light brown and orange clay, small mixed clay lumps, ww pebbles, purer red clay wedge to south; 6a) not described; 7) pink clay, green and grey clay lumps, ash traces; 8) orange/red clay, slight iron panning traces, very occasional ww pebbles; 8a) dirty mixed clay, mixed clay lumps; 8b) red clay wedge; 9a) grey clay, small mixed clay lumps; possible turf line. 9) yellow-/green clay, grey and red clay lumps, ww pebbles; On section 5 (Fig. 7) divided into eleven layers: 7) green/grey clay, mixed clay patches and large tile frag; 8) beige, sandy clay, very small mixed clay lumps, occasional ww pebbles; 9) mixed orange and light brown clay, small clay lumps and occasional ww pebbles; 10) light pink clay, few charcoal flecks; 11) dirty mixed clays; 12) light yellow/green clean clay, grey clay lumps; 13) dark orange clay, clay lumps; 14) bright orange clay; 15) light orange clay, clay slumping from sides; 16) light orange clay, occasional small clay lumps; 17) soft pinkish-red clay, sparse charcoal flecks. On section 6 (Fig. 7) divided into seven layers: 4) green, sandy clay, brown clay lumps, charcoal flecks; 5) mixed clay/sand, clay lumps, charcoal flecks; 6) light brown clay loam, red and blue/grey clay lumps, charcoal flecks, ww pebbles; 7) red, gritty clay/sand, charcoal flecks; 8) greyish brown clay, large grey clay lumps, charcoal flecks; 9) dirty compact green clay, ww pebbles; 10) light greyish-brown clay, charcoal flecks.
- 662 Ditch, aligned NE-SW, Le = 4.32m, Wth = 1.5m, D = 0.99m.



## GENERAL CONTEXT INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Plan</i>
240	Rom Mil	2	C	804
363	Rom Mil	2	C	804
491	Rom Mil	1	F	.
499	Rom Mil	1	F	.
557	Rom Mil	2	L	.
561	Rom Mil	1	F	.
568	Rom Mil	1	F	.
569	Rom Mil	1	F	.
570	Rom Mil	1	F	.
571	Rom Mil	1	F	.
572	Rom Mil	1	F	.
573	Rom Mil	1	F	.
574	Rom Mil	1	F	.
575	Rom Mil	1	F	.
614	Rom Mil	1	F	.
650	Rom Mil	2	F	.
652	Rom Mil	2	F	.
662	Rom Mil	1	C	801

---

 ARCHIVE SECTION INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Sheet</i>	<i>Location</i>
240	2, 5, 6, 20	805	804
363	2	805	804
491	28	803	801
499	28	803	801
557	23, 24, 25	803	801
561	28	803	801
568	27	803	801
569	27	803	801
570	27	803	801
571	27	803	801
572	27	803	801
573	27	803	801
574	27	803	801
575	27	803	801
614	27	803	801
650	2, 5, 6	805	804
652	2, 5, 6	805	804
662	26, 27, 28	803	801



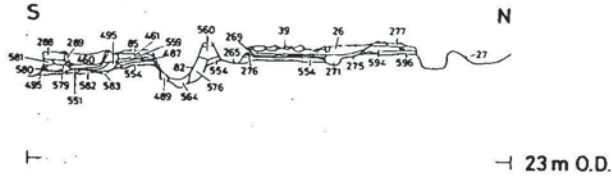
EXETER : RACK STREET 1974/75

803

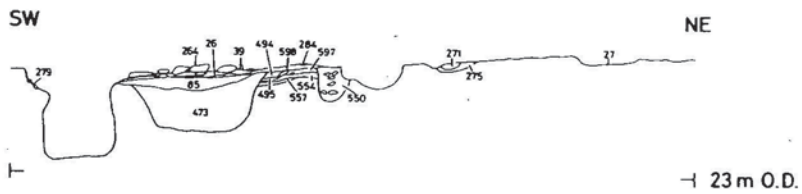
Area 1

Roman

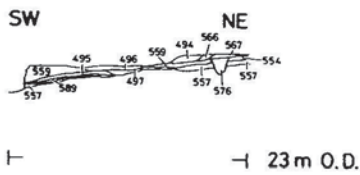
Section 23



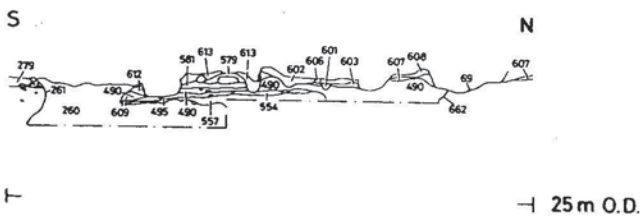
Section 24



Section 25

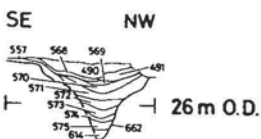


Section 26

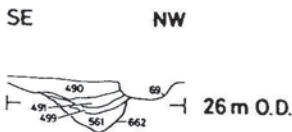


Sections:

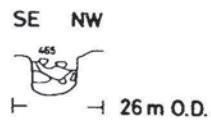
27



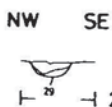
28



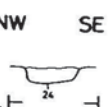
29



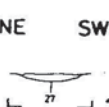
30



31



32



33



34

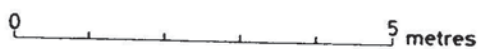
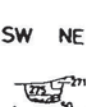


Fig. 7 Sections and profiles through the features of the Roman military and civil periods, Area 1 (803). Scale 1:100



# EXETER: RACK STREET 1975

Area 2

Roman Military & Early Civil

804

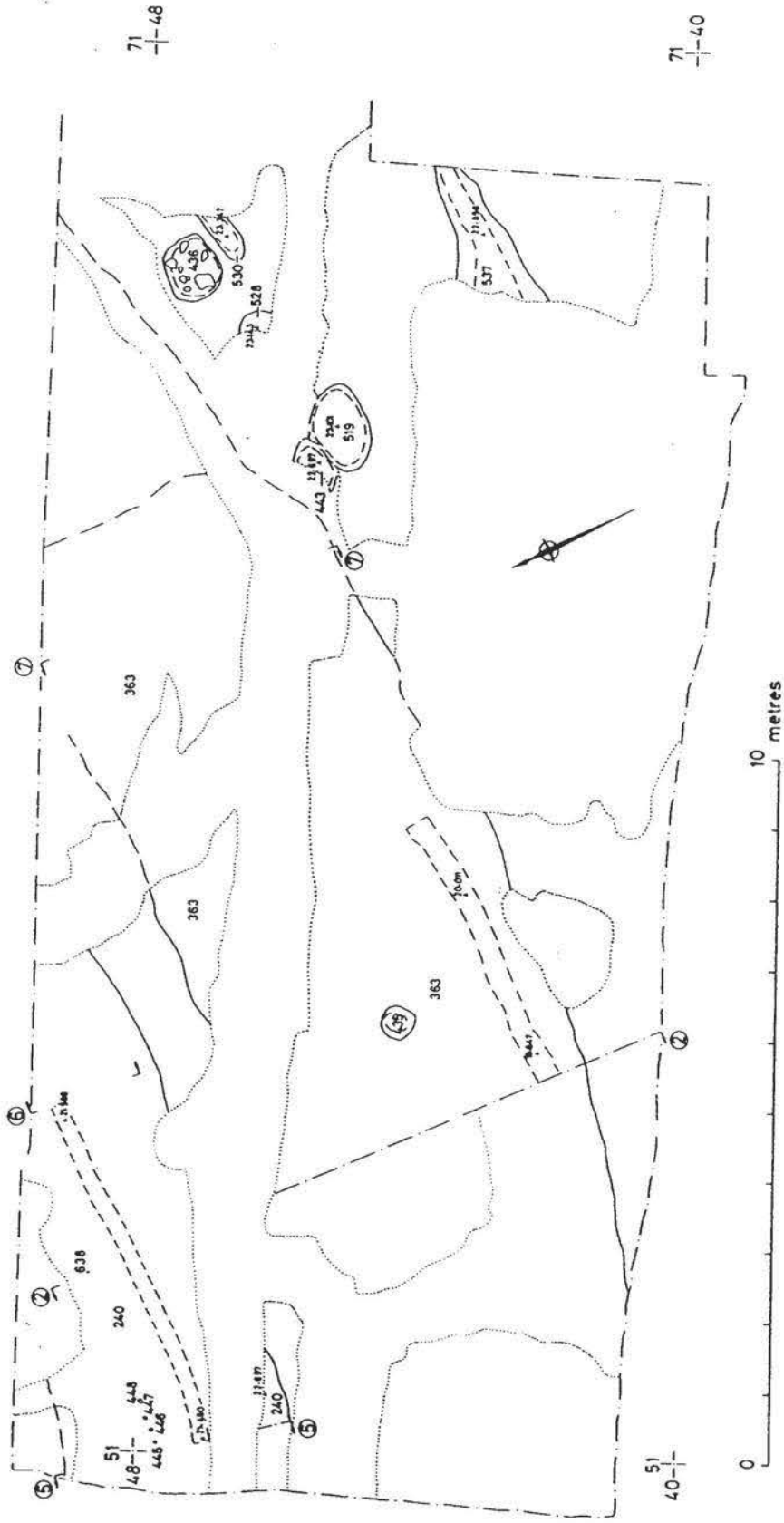


Fig. 8 Plan of the remains of the Roman military and early civil periods. Scale 1:100.

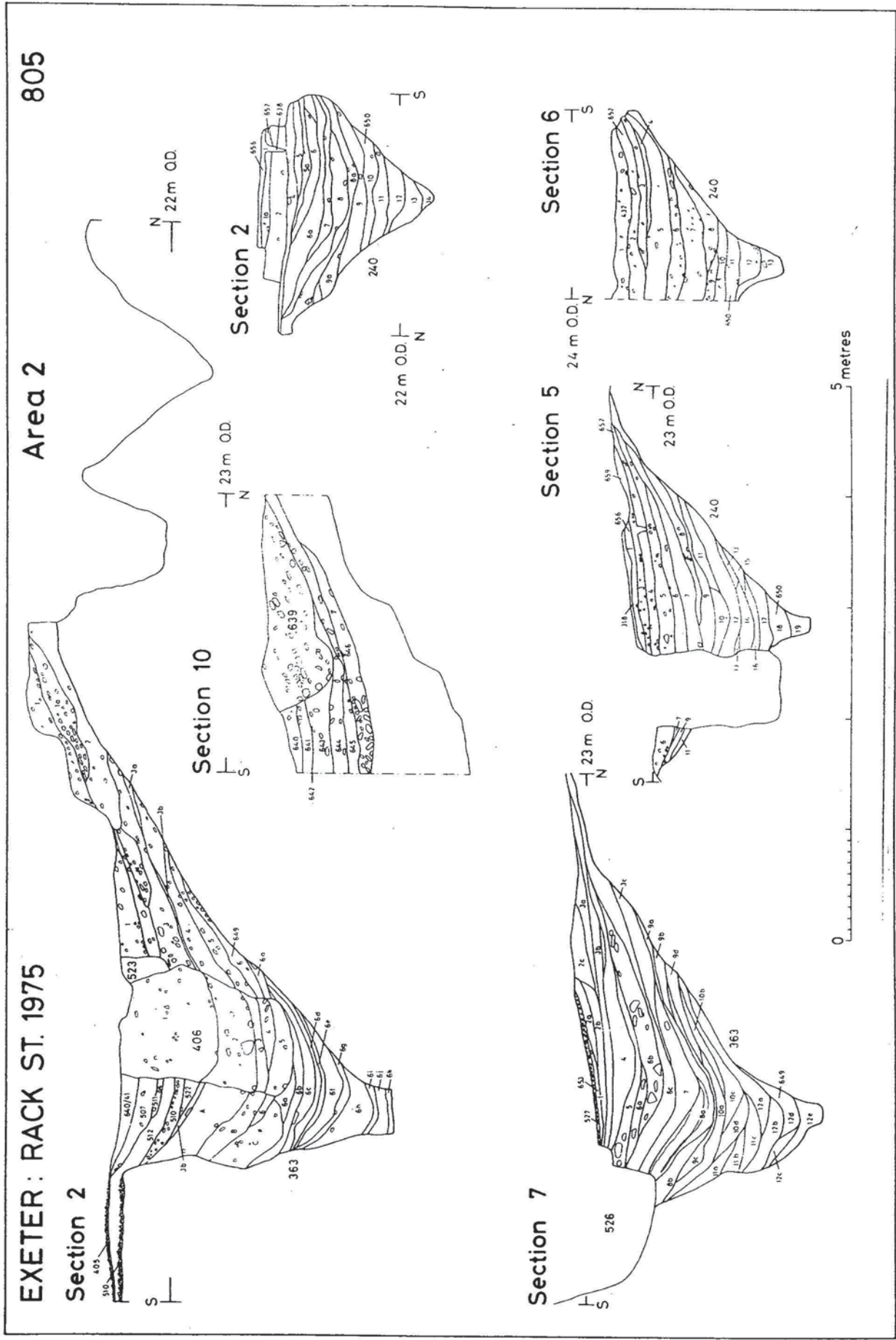


Fig. 9 Sections through the Roman fortress ditches, Area 2 (805). Scale 1:50.

## 2.6 The finds listings and other indices

## Glossary of abbreviations for finds inventory

*Fabric No. Type*

31*	South-East Dorset Black-Burnished Ware
40*	South-Western Black-Burnished Ware
191*	Fortress Ware C
373*	Imitation <i>Terra Nigra</i> Type
406*	Flagon Fabric
500	Samian-South Gaulish Type
600	Dressel 20 (Peacock & Williams 1986, Class 25), amphorae
603	<i>Camulodunum</i> 186 (Peacock & Williams 1986, Class 17/18), amphorae
612	Unspecified/Unassigned, amphorae

(\* = Fabric Number Used In EAR 4)

For descriptions and discussions of fabric and types mentioned see Holbrook and Bidwell (1991).

*Type Abbreviations*

AL	Acute Lattice
Dr.	Dragendorff

*Miscellaneous*

MNV	Minimum number of vessels
Qty	Quantity
Wt	Weight in grams

## FINDS INVENTORY

*Pottery*

## 240.4

Fabric	500	MNV	1	Wt	10	Qty	1
Type	Dr.37 (c. 75-90 AD)						

## 240.12

Fabric	500	MNV	1	Wt	10	Qty	1
Type	Dr.29 (c. 50-65 AD, P.56, 8)						

## 240.13

Fabric	500	MNV	1	Wt	10	Qty	1
Type	Dr.29 (pre-Flavian)						

## 491

Fabric	500	MNV	3	Wt	35	Qty	1
Type	Dr.27 (c. 60-75 AD)						
Type	Dr.29 (Flavian)					Qty	1
Type	Dr.33 (Flavian)					Qty	1
Fabric	603	MNV	1	Wt	615		

## 499

Fabric	191	MNV	1	Wt	275	Qty	1
Type	11.1						
Fabric	373	MNV	1	Wt	5		
Fabric	500	MNV	1	Wt	85	Qty	1
Type	Dr.15/17 (Neronian-Vespasian)						

## 571

Fabric	31	MNV	1	Wt	15	Qty	1
Type	AL						
Fabric	40	MNV	1	Wt	25		
Fabric	600	MNV	1	Wt	90		

Fabric	612	MNV	1	Wt	75
	572				
Fabric	31	MNV	1	Wt	55
Fabric	191	MNV	1	Wt	10
Fabric	406	MNV	1	Wt	20
Fabric	600	MNV	1	Wt	55
Fabric	612	MNV	1	Wt	135

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>B/W</i>	<i>Slide</i>
240	460/1-4 463/8 491/5,6	52/1-3,5,6
363	193/1-3 441/1-4	52/7,8
662	441/5,6	-

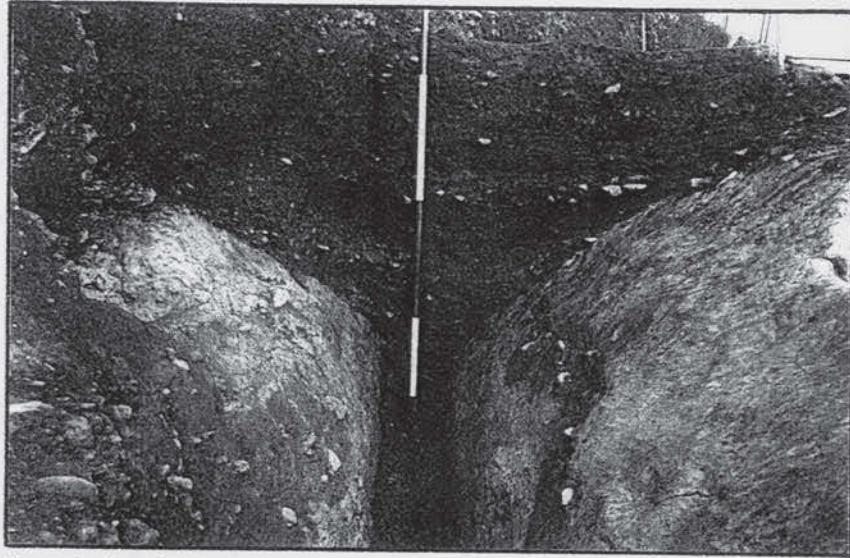


Plate 1 Section through the first fortress ditch, looking east



Plate 2 The first fortress ditch, looking west. 2m scale.



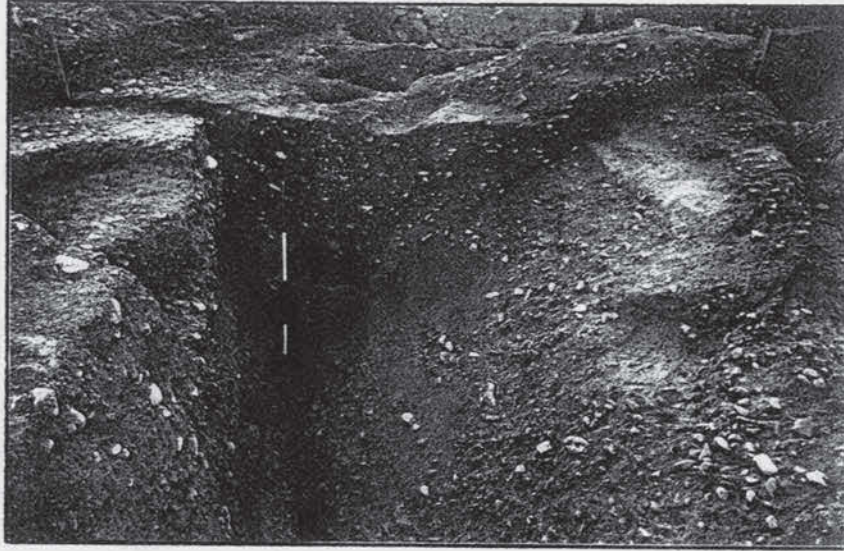


Plate 3 Section through the second fortress ditch, looking west. 2m scale.

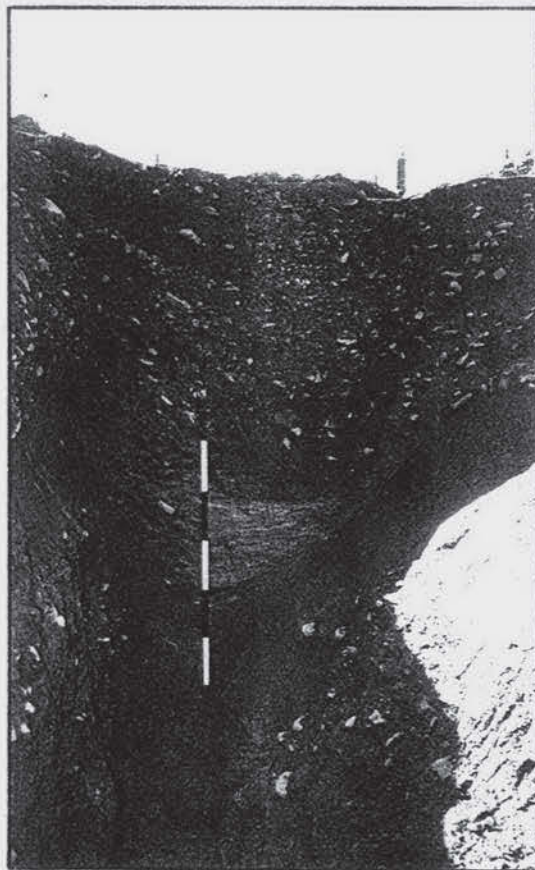


Plate 4 Detailed section through the second fortress ditch, looking west. 1m scale.



Plate 5 Ditch 662, looking north-east.

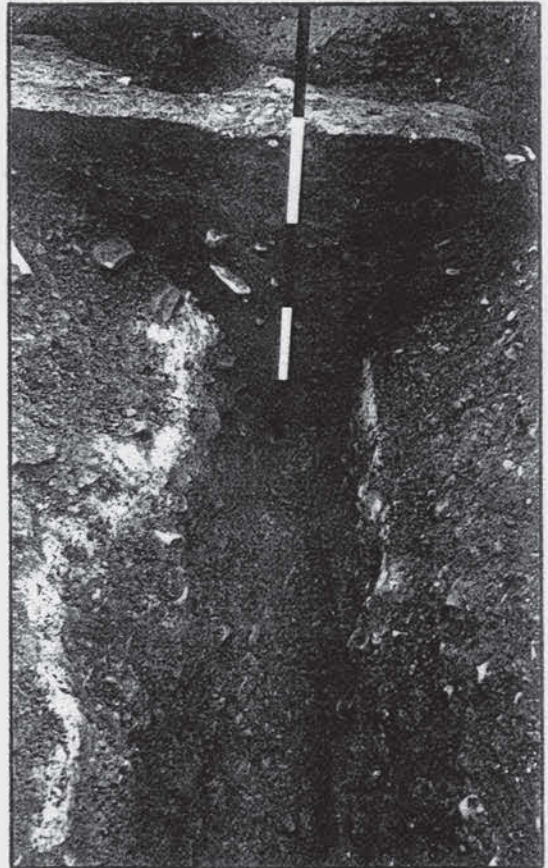


Plate 6 Section through ditch 662, looking south-west. 1m scale.

## APPENDIX 1: METALLURGICAL REPORTS

EVIDENCE FOR NON-FERROUS METALWORKING  
FROM RACK STREET 1974-75, EXETER, DEVON  
(EXTRACTED FROM BAYLEY 1989)

A crucible shard was recovered from a layer dating to the last quarter of the 2nd century from the infilling of the second fortress ditch (363-14). It is not from a normal crucible but may possibly be from a melting hearth or furnace. The rim has been relined and there is extensive vitrification on the present surface with many trapped metal droplets which XRF analysis suggests were gunmetal. There is a distinct 'tide-mark' below which the crucible fabric is little altered, having been protected by the molten metal it contained. The diameter of the structure or vessel of which this shard was part is difficult to estimate with any accuracy but was probably within the range 15-25cm. Wilthew (1986) noted much hearth lining from this feature, some of which may relate to the use of this fragment.

EXAMINATION OF SLAG FROM RACK STREET 1974-  
75 EXETER, DEVON (EXTRACTED FROM WILTHERW  
1986)

Slag and other material thought to be associated with iron working from various Roman sites in Exeter was examined.

The samples from Rack Street included similar material to that found at Trichay Street (see Henderson, Salvatore and Earwood 1993) but a larger, though still small, quantity of iron-smithing slag and hearth bottoms was present. One piece of hearth lining included part of a tuyère with a diameter of about 1.5-2cm. Blacksmithing activity probably took place near the site on a small scale at least, but probably not within the area excavated. Much of the material although probably military in origin was found in later contexts.

## Catalogue of Rack Street finds (ferrous metalworking)

\* denotes Roman civil or Post-Roman context

- 261\* Fuel ash slag  
363  
general fill\* Iron-smithing slag, hearth bottoms, fuel ash slag  
upper fill\* Hearth lining with part of tuyere (about 1.5-2cm  
in diameter), hearth bottoms, iron-smithing slag,  
fuel ash slag, iron.  
lower fill\* Iron-smithing slag, ?heart bottom.  
428\* Fuel ash slag, iron-smithing slag, ?brick.  
491 Hearth bottom  
506\* ?Burnt stone  
511\* Iron-smithing slag  
533\* Fuel ash slag  
535\* Fuel ash slag

## BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR APPENDIX 1

- Bayley J. 1989 *Some evidence for non-ferrous metalworking from Roman Exeter*, AML report 54/89.  
Henderson C.G., Salvatore J.P. and Earwood C. 1993 *Excavations at Trichay Street, Exeter, 1972-73 Part 1: Roman military*, report of the EMAFU: 93.35.  
Wilthew P. 1986 *Examination of slag from various Roman sites in Exeter*, AML report 44/86