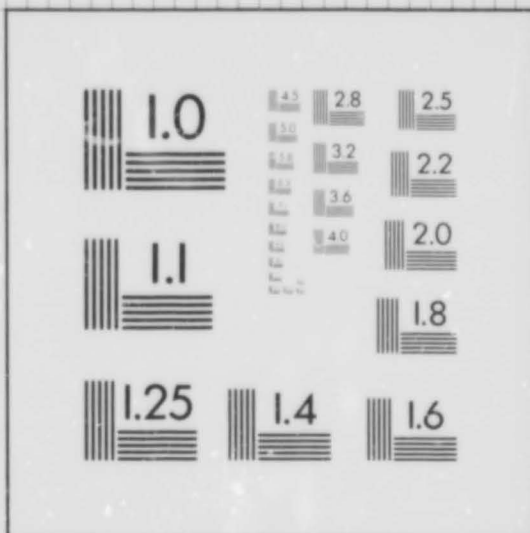


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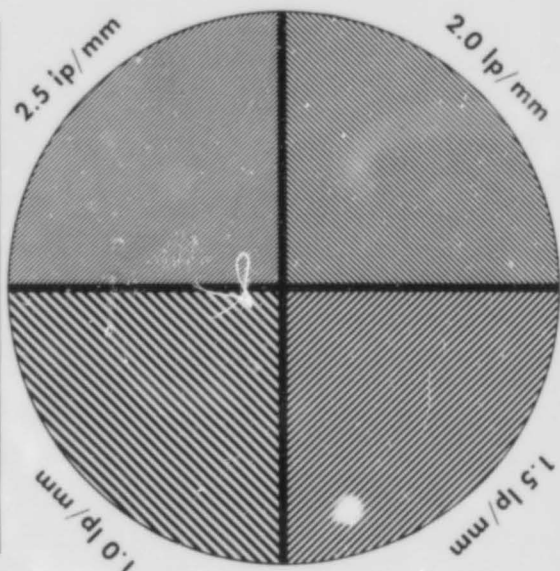
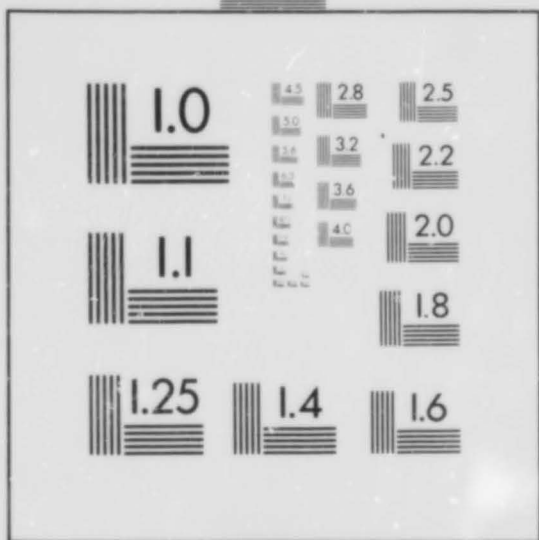
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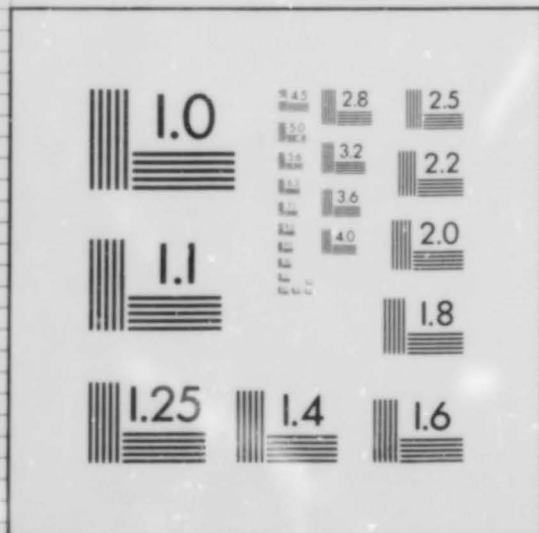
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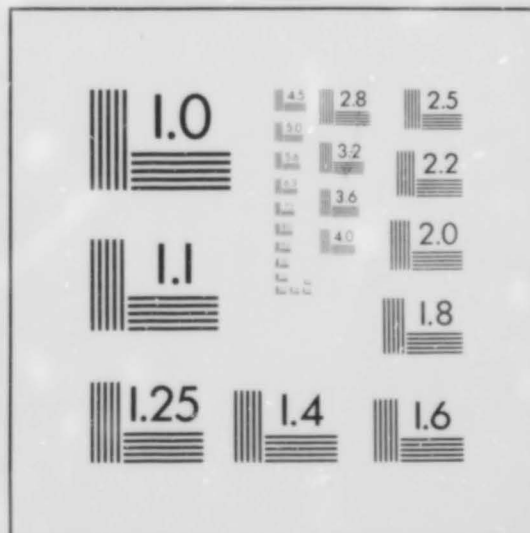


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ARCHAEOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT IN SOUTH ESSEX:
RESCUE ARCHAEOLOGY ALONG THE GRAY'S BY-PASS, 1970/80

By T.J.Wilkinson

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RECTORY ROAD FEATURE LIST

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Description
277	278,279 361,364 365	7,8	<p>Roughly circular pit: 1.50 m diameter 80 cm deep below ground surface. Steep sides, undercut to east; west side confused by collapse and/or backfill.</p> <p>Fills:</p> <p>278: 4 cm thick layer of carbonised grain. Estimated volume of layer: 53093 cc. Bulk density of charred deposit (moist) 0.91 gm/cc. Bulk density of dried grain and seed: 0.69 gm/cc. Total weight of deposit (moist) 48.32 kg. Weight of dry grain as proportion of original deposit: 13.5%. Total dry weight of grain and seed: 6.522 kg. Deposit rested on pit floor. Including reddish clay and charred matting like material which may have formed pit lining. In SW segment, a complete carinated jar (RR5, Fig. 68) rested on pit base and was surrounded by charred grain, but also projected up into overlying sandy layer 365.</p> <p>364: above 278. Dark grey brown (10YR 4/2) fine sandy loam, occasional stones. Merges down into 278 below and thins to W where its relationship with 365 was uncertain.</p> <p>365: Above 278 in W of pit. Pale brown to red/yellow clean or dirty sand. Mainly soft and loose but hard when dry. Includes clay lens which appears to be collapse from pit walls. Thickens to west. Surrounded carinated jar (see 278). Became loamier to E with moderately distinct upper and lower boundaries. Back fill or collapse of W pit wall.</p>

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Description
277	continued		<p>279: Above 364/365. Dark brown, moderately firm fine sandy loam. Occasional stones, many of which appear to be burnt sandstone nodules. Calcined flints, small and rare. Occasional-common charred grain. Layer covers entire pit area. Includes numerous sherds including finger-impressed jars. At top of layer, large jar fragments were horizontal suggesting that, at this level the deposit was stable. Although physically above the carinated jar, RR5, the pottery of 279 were only separated by backfill layer 365, therefore the ceramics are effectively contemporaneous. Fairly rapid sedimentation terminated by stable phase of 361.</p> <p>361: top fill, dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty fine sandy loam, occasional-common pebbles, rare flecks of charred grain. Even homogenous fill, merges down into 279. This is omnipresent intermediate layer, below topsoil, which blankets most of the site. 361 was slow final fill which merged with similar fill 363 or pit 362 to east.</p>
362	363	7,8	<p>Oval pit: 1.4 x 1.1 m, <u>c.</u> 25 cm deep, i.e. 55 cm deep below ground surface.</p> <p>363: fill of dark yellowish brown, fine sandy loam with occasional stones. Even fill, slightly darker below. Rare fragments of charred grain and large fragments of thumb-impressed pottery in primary context. Similar to 361 & 279 in pit 277 and appears to have filled in quite slowly, at same time as later stages of pit 277 to west.</p>

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Description
400	401	7,8	Small pit <u>c.</u> 78 cm diameter, 20 cm deep. 401: Sandy loam fill.
402		7	Post-hole: <u>c.</u> 28 cm diameter.
421	422	7,8	Pit: 42 cm diameter, 12 cm deep. 422: grey brown loamy sand, occasional stones.
423	424	7	Post-hole 50 x 25 cm. 424: fill.
430/2/4	431/3/5	7	Pit group: 5 m x 1.6 m. Depth <u>c.</u> 20-40 cm merges at S end into gully 441. Fills: 431 in segment 430 433 in segment 432 435 in segment 434
441	442	7	Gully, exposed length 2.2 m of which 1.1 m excavated. Width 85 cm, depth <u>c.</u> 25 cm. Fill 442: grey brown sandy loam, rare charcoal and fired clay.
443	444	7,8	Post-hole: 28 cm diameter, 26 cm deep 444: fill of stony, loamy sand.
445	446	7	Pit 90 x 100 cm. Fill 446.
450	451	7	Post-hole. 30 cm diameter. Fill 451.
452	453	7	Post-hole. 25 cm diameter. Fill 453.
454	455	7	Long thin soil mark, 8.5 m long, 10-25 cm wide. Consisted of connected or isolated post/stake-holes 10-25 cm diameter, 10-12 cm deep. Appeared to cut pit complex 434, but relationship not clear.

Context
No.

Contained
contexts

Figure
No.

Description

455: dark brown loam fill, occasional
stones and common charcoal in patches.
Contained flint gritted pottery.
Interpreted as feince line.

BAKER STREET FEATURE LIST

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase*	Description
1	-	-	-	Scatter of mainly flint gritted sherds in top of subsoil and topsoil.
2	-	10	-	Post-hole containing charcoal and burnt clay.
6	-	10	-	Single post-hole.
7	-	-	-	Patterned subsoil (natural).
8	-	9,12	-	Isolated post-hole with off-centre post pipe within charcoal-rich fill.
9	-	10	-	Isolated post-hole with charcoal-rich loam fill.
10	-	10	I	30 cm diameter pit/post-hole with inverted flint gritted pot in silt loam fill. Pot base truncated by plough.
16	3,4,5, & 11-15	10,12	I	Group of post-holes 30-40 cms dia. in random scatter. Fills: loam with charcoal, fired clay and 2 cylindrical loom weights (con. 5).
17	18	10-12	I	Pit: 3.4 m long, 2.2 m wide, 24 cm deep. Fill, uniform silt loam. Pit possibly dug for clay.
19	20	9	II	Shallow ditch, 90 cm wide, 45 cm deep. Close to former footpath and along course of old field boundary.
21	22	10	I	Gully 10 m long, 80 cm wide, 20 cm. Slightly sinuous in plan. Fill: charcoal-rich loam over pale brown silt loam.

* N.B. all phases or periods are according to the site sequence, see text Part 2.

B.S. feature list (continued)

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
21	continued			Flint gritted sherds, flint flakes and in top fill.
23	24,27	9,12	II	Pit with rounded corners. 1.05 m long, 90 cm wide, 55 cm deep. Upper fill (24) brown loam with brick frags, probably medieval. Lower fill (27) soft sandy loam with charcoal flecks. Contained $\frac{1}{2}$ a L. Saxon loomweight.
25	26	9,12	II	Disturbed area, 2 m long. 1 m wide, excavated to 40 cm. Fill: soft loam with charcoal merging down to pale brown sandy silt loam. Possibly natural silt patch trodden by cattle.
28	29	-	-	Possible hearth, 73 cm x 68 cm, 7 cm deep. Base reddened by burning. Single large stone in N half. Fill dark brown loam with charcoal. Possibly mixed.
30	31	10	-	Ditch or natural channel, 1.1 m wide. Fill, pale brown silt loam becoming firm beneath. Finds only on top 10 cm.
32	33	9,11,12	II	Gully, 40 cm wide, 30 cm deep. Possibly recut by 40. Upper loam fill, lower charcoal rich fill.
34	35,38	9,11,12	II	Ditch 1.0 m wide, 25 cm deep roughly parallel with 32. Fills : brown sandy loam (35) over charcoal and ashy fill (38).
36	37,39	9,11,12	II	Part of 32/40 originally dug separately, later combined.

B.S. feature list (continued)

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
40	41	9,11,12	II	Possibly recut of 32. 50-80 cm wide, 20 cm deep. Fills similar to 32.
42	-	9	I	Find location : Single large flint gritted rim sherd.
43	-	9	II	Ditch continues crop mark alignment. 80 cm wide, 20 cm deep. Fill contained abundant chalk lumps. Probably late.
44	-	9,12	I	Pit 25 cm dia, 25 cm deep. Contained abundant sherds of more than 1 vessel. One appeared to be inverted. Abundant charcoal, burnt bone very rare, probably not a cremation.
45/46/47	-	-	-	Patterned subsoil.
48	-	M.2	-	Soil section in culvert to E. of Baker Street. Profile L fig. M.2.
49	-	9	II	Old field boundary ditch. 1 m wide. Fill dark grey brown humic silt loam. Aligned with modern field boundary no earlier phase.
51	-	9,M.2	-	Soil profile described at Gammon Staples
52	-	-	-	Possibly oven, almost destroyed by plough. One wall 8 cm deep of red & grey clay, remainder destroyed. Small area of ash & burnt flints to south.

B.S. feature list (continued)

Context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
57	58,62	10,12	II	Straight ditch, east ditch of crop mark trackway. 1.3 m wide, 30 cm deep. Uniform brown loam fill, rare finds.
59	60,61	10,12	I	Small pit. 50 cm dia., 17 cm deep. Upper fill (60) of loam over lower charcoal rich brown loam (61). 60 contained cylindrical loomweight, 61,7 indeterminate cereal grains & 1 of barley (see appendix).
66	67	9,12	II	Straight ditch, 1.7 m wide, 40 cm deep with gently sloping sides. Brown sandy loam fill merging to clay loam below. No occupation deposits although occasional burnt flints and residual sherds. Oblique alignment on air photographs.

STIFFORD CLAYS FEATURE LIST

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15	Phase	Description
105	Seg. a) 130,150, 152, 211-217 Seg. b) 178,179 231-238	95N	VI	Ditch NW-SE. 2.5 m W ¹ , 1.0 m D ² . Symmetrical fills - no sign of bank position. Lower fills sandy clay loam, final slow fill (130) dark grey brown loam with some charcoal and fired clay. Cut 220.
131	Seg. a) 132,149 197,198	65N	VII	Ditch, E-W. 1.5 m W. 60 cm D. Lower fills (197/8) olive brown slightly clayey sandy loam derived from Tertiary sediments. Merged up into olive grey sandy clay loam final fill. Bank probably to N. (upslope).
	Seg. a) 138, 244-250, 322, 323 Seg. b) 199-210, 283,285, 286			Ditch, NE-SW. 3.0 m W. 1.1 m. D. Sandy clay lower fills; sandy clay loam upper fills. Pebble bands on N. side of fill may result from collapse of bank to N. Cut 181, cut by 139 (189) & 241.
139	140	130N	VIII	Curving gully with post hole (180) at N. end. 30 cm W. 10 cm D. Uniform grey brown loam fill. Some cultural debris but this includes residual material. Probably drainage gully of structure 189. Cut 137.

Footnote 1: W = wide, D = Deep. All phases are according to the site sequence, see text Part 2.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15	Phase	Description
144	145	55N	VII	Gully, NE-SW. 30-50 cm W, 5-10 cm D. Brown sandy loam fill, some fired clay. Slightly oblique to contour. Clay loam accumulated upslope to form positive lynchet, then following removal of hedge negative lynchet covered by dark brown loam. Relation to 184 uncertain.
146	186-188	52N	?	Hearth/oven 1.1 m L, 50 cm W, 13 cm D. Fired clay (186), sandy clay loam (187), charcoal (188) fills. Concentration of fired clay W. of centre line. No structural features; feature almost entirely eroded away.
147	148	50N	pre VI	Pit 1.25 m L, 95 cm W, 15 cm D. Stake-holes and central post-hole in base. Brown loam fill.
153	154, (133,134)	90N	VII	N-S feature exposed along E baulk. Ditch or linear feature intersecting ditch 105. Incompletely dug.
155	156	90N	VI?	Post-hole 46 x 30 cm; 8 cm D.*
157	158	90N	VI?	Post-hole 55 x 33 cm; 10 cm D.* Possibly recut.
159	160	90N	VI?	Post-hole 40 cm dia. 5 cm D.*
161	162	90N	VI?	Post-hole 43 cm dia. 5 cm D.* 155-161 have brown clay loam fills
163	164	90N	?	Gully, NE-SW 42 cm W 12 cm D. Terminated in W. Cut by pit 165 at E. Brown clay loam fill, little cultural debris
165	166	90N	VI	Pit; 1.20 m E-W, 80 cm N-S, 33 cm D. flat bottom. Homogenous dark grey brown sandy clay loam fill. Common cultural debris. Cut 163, possibly also 167, 105.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15	Phase	Description
167	168	90N	VII	Pit; 80 cm N-S, 75 cm E-W. 25 cm D. Oblique sides. Dark grey brown sandy clay loam fill with small clay lumps - rapid or backfill. Possibly cut by 16.
169	170	90N	VI?	Post-hole, 50 x 40 cm, 10 cm D. Common charcoal, occasional flecks of fired clay.
171	172	90N	VI?	Double post-hole, 75 x 50 cm, 5-10 cm D.
173	174	90N	VI?	Post-hole, 43 x 35 cm, 6 cm D. Occasional fired clay & charcoal fragments.
176	177	98N	?	Post-hole cut in 105 seg. b). 40 cm dia., 13 cm D. Sandy clay loam fill with abundant charcoal.
180	251,276	132N	VIII	Post-hole at N. end of gully 139. 50 cm dia., 30 cm D. Fill; grey brown loam with abundant charcoal over brown sandy loam. Both contained abundant large packing stones which surrounded void just S. of centre.
181	Seg. a) 182,183, 190-195, 296 Seg. b) 252-258, 345-351 Seg. c) 280-282 284, 288-295	105N	IV(297) V(181)	Curving ditch. Total W 2.2 m, single phase W 1.6 m, 70 cm D. First cut, 297: Fills 192, 196, homogenous brown sandy clay loam. Recut: 181, fills variable sandy loam/sandy clay loam. Lumps of latter especially in 183 resembled natural. Probably backfill, sparse cultural debris. Cut by 137.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15	Phase	Description
184	185	56N	VI?	Gully, NW-SE, 27 cm W, 4 cm D. Fill: olive green sandy clay. Occasional burnt clay fragments and charcoal. Very eroded feature of uncertain function.
189	139-333 listed below	130N	VIII	Post-built building. c. 6 x 4 m formed of 10 post holes, those central and ranged along E-W axis(269, 329 & 315) being the deepest. Gully 139 to E. probably a drainage gully. Cut in top fill of ditch 137.
139	140	130N	VIII	see above 139.
180	251,276	130N	VIII	see above 180.
239	240	130N	VIII	S. terminal of gully 139.
241	242	130N	VIII	Post-hole, 54 x 39 cm, 17 cm D. (section on section 137a). Fill dark grey brown sandy clay loam, some burnt flints.
267	268	130N	VIII	Post-hole 30 cm dia. 10 cm D.
269	270, 326/7	130N	VIII	Post-hole, 32 cm dia., 10 cm D. Upper fill, dark grey brown clay loam surrounded by collar of brown sandy clay with common charcoal flecks.
271	272	130N	VIII	Post-hole 24 cm dia. 18 cm deep.
315	-	130N	VIII	Post-hole 54 x 44 cm, 62 cm D. Fill: dark grey brown sandy clay loam.
316	-	130N	VIII	Post-hole 47 x 19 cm. 16 cm D. Fill: brown sandy clay loam.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15	Phase	Description
319	320	130N	VIII	Post-hole, 23 cm dia., 24 cm D.
329	330	130N	VIII	Post-hole 38 cm dia., 45 cm D. Fill: grey sandy loam, some fired clay & charcoal fragments.
333	334	130N	VIII	Post-hole 30 cm dia., 20 cm D. Fill: dark grey brown sandy clay loam.
220	Seg. a) 221,222 228,229 303	96N	V	Gully, NE-SW, 80 cm W. 30 cm D. Fills: dark grey brown sandy clay loam upper fill merging to reddish brown sandy clay loam at base. Some charcoal & fired clay. Cut by 105.
223	224-227, 230,301, 303, 307-309, 314	116N	V	Rectangular pit, 5 m L, 2 m W, 40 cm D. Steep sides, flat floor. Main fill (24): brown sandy loam with many briquetage fragments & some charcoal. 225 beneath: bark brown sandy clay loam also much briquetage & charcoal. Base & side fills had little cultural debris. Pit probably filled rapidly, possibly back-filled. Briquetage always contained in loamy matrix, never a pure deposit. Parallel & possibly contemporary with ditch 137.
239	240		VIII	see 189
241	242		VIII	see 189.
261	262	35N	VII-IX?	Gully, E-W. 55 cm W, 12 cm D. Fill: brown, stone-free sandy loam.
263	264	25N	V?	Gully, N-S. 70 cm W, 15 cm D. Fill: dark brown sandy loam. Possibly cut by 261.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15	Phase	Description
265	266	20N	VIII/IX?	Gully, N-S. 50 cm D. Steep sides. Fill: dark yellowish brown sandy loam.
267)			VIII	
269)	see 189			
271)				
274	275	85N	?	Sub-rectangular pit, 1.55 m L, 50 cm W, 20 cm D. Flat bottom with steep sides, 4 large stones at S end. Dark grey brown sandy loam fill, no cultural debris. Probably not a grave.
298	299,300 341,344		IX	Ditch E-W. 2.00 m W, 70 cm D. Upper fill, 299/300 dark brown sandy loam with charcoal band & numerous flecks of charcoal. Possibly pit, filled with charcoal (342) cut into fills. Charcoal from pit merged with 300. Slight evidence of bank to S.
304	305,306	127N	?	Gully NE-SW 50 cm W. 5 cm D Parallel to 137. Very slight feature.
310	311	122N	IV	Gully continuing line of 317/318.
315)	see 189		VIII	
316)				
317	332	130N	IV?	Gully, NE-SW. 30 cm W, 5 cm D. On line with 318 and 310 apparently same feature. Fill: yellowish brown sandy clay loam. Abundant Iron Age pottery in 310 suggests that the entire feature predates 189.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Location on Fig. 15.	Phase	Description
318	328	130N	IV?	see 317.
319	see 189		VIII	
321		130N	?	Possibly post hole in ditch 137.
324	325	130N	?	Possibly gully on edge of ditch 137. Possibly cut by 137.
329) 333)	see 189		VIII	
342	343	145N	IX	Possible pit cut in fill of 298. 80 cm dia. 20 cm D. Fill dark grey brown silt loam with abundant charcoal.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA A, FEATURE LIST

(all fills were yellowish brown - dark brown loamy sands or sandy loams unless described otherwise)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period*	Description
500	Seg. a) 509,515 542,543 Seg. b) 672,673, 676 Seg. c) 550 Seg. d) 614,725, 948,1060, 1083,1084, 1091, 1092 1105-1112 Seg. e) 944 Seg. f) 947	23	III	E. ditch of enclosure 1, N-S. Multiple re-cuts produced broad shallow feature which narrowed to N. where overscraped. 80 cm-2.6 m W depending on depth of topsoil removed & no. of re-cuts. 55-70 cm D. (75-110 cm below ground surface). Fills sandier to N. (Seg. b)) and gravelly to S. (Seg d)). In Seg. d), ditch cut in top of 2 pits - 1098 & 1103. Cut 510, 1093, 1103, possibly 685. Cut by 945 (G.4).
501	Seg. a) 676.679 Seg. b) 603,605, 606 Seg. c) 700-702 Seg. d) 646-648 Seg. e) 609-610	23	III	N. ditch of enclosure 1; E-W. Merged with 503 to W. to form shallow, re-cut ditch. W & D variable, max. 1.0 m W., 46 cm D. Subsoil overscraped. Fills pebbly, sandy in places. To E. near junction with 500, very sandy. Relation with 503 uncertain but roughly contemporary.

* All periods are according to the site sequence, see text Part 2.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period*	Description
502	Seg. a) 531 Seg. b) 669	23	III	Gully NW-SE. Formed E edge of small enclosure abutted to enclosure 1. 68 cm W., 20 cm D. Fills very sandy. Joined 685 to S; approximately contemporary.
503	Seg. a) 521 Seg. b) 523 Seg. c) 522 Seg. d) 523 Seg. e) 600,602 Seg. f) 649, 703-705 Seg. g) 640-645 Seg. h) 544-546 Seg. j) 507,516,517 Seg. k) 733,736 Seg. l) 731,738,745 746 Seg. m) 607,608 Seg. n) 611	23	III	Ditch, E-W. Continued 501 to E and W of enclosure 1. Also N. boundary of E. abutting enclosure. 1.3 m W. 50 cm D. Surface overscraped. Upper fills darkened to W. in Segs g), h) & j)); these fills contained abundant fine charcoal, burnt flints. Cultural debris common throughout length. Fills gravelly beneath. To E of enclosure 1 fills V sandy and feature became subtle, possibly merely a hedge line. To W of junction with 554, merged with loam spread (751/2). Cut by 554.
504	524	-	?	Shallow pit adjacent to 503d. 50 cm dia.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
505	663,664 760,766	23	III	Pit 1.8 m dia. 30 cm D. Upper fills contained abundant pottery. Lower fills merged down into subsoil - finds absent. Probably cut 510.
506	665,666	23	III	Pit, 1.7 m L. 1.1m W, 16 cm D. 4 large flint nodules, c. 8-16 cm long, arranged around central fill of dark grey brown charcoal-rich sandy loam which contained several lumps of grey clay. Although 505 & 506 resembled post pits, they were too wide & shallow; function uncertain.
510	Seg. a) 513, 514 Seg. b) 660-662 Seg. c) 674-676 Seg. d) 612-614, 1094 Seg. e) 942 Seg. f) 943	23	II	Shallow, discontinuous gully along W edge & parallel to 500. 80 cm W, 30 cm D (max). Fills very sandy & gravelly, cultural debris rare. Possibly contemporary with 552 to NW & part of 1st enclosure phase. Cut by 500.
511	553		III?	Post-hole, 15 cm dia cut in fill 515 of ditch 500a.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
520	Seg. a) 508,512 Seg. b) 650 (651, 652), 653 654 Seg. c) 655-657 Seg. d) 761-763	23	III	Gully, NE-SW continued 501 as NW side of enclosure 1. 80 cm - 1.6 m W. 30 - 40 cm D (subsoils overcraped). Fills: V dark grey brown upper fill to N. Contained abundant fine charcoal, fired clay & cultural debris; Most clear in 520a and merged with black upper fill of 503. Became paler with less cultural debris to S. 520b disturbed by post-medieval post hole (651/2). Line of possible post-holes in 520d may be contemporary with enclosure.
525	526	23	?	Post-hole 50 cm dia))
527	528	23	?	Post-hole 50 x 30 cm))
529	530	23	?	Post-hole 50 x 40 cm) 525-529, although clear in plan, became less regular with depth. All contained artifacts and 529 a large cobble - possibly a packing stone. Possibly these were post-holes of a fence or gate which continued line of 502.
532	Seg a) 533,534 581,583	27.1	III?	Ditch NE-SW. 1.6 m W, 80 cm D. U-shaped. Fill: brown loamy sand (533) over dirty sand & gravel (534). Gravel lens in baulk implied bank to W.
535	536	26.2	II?	Pit (N.I.) 1.00 L, uncertain W. 20 cm D. Very dark grey brown loam fill, some charcoal.

N.I. = Not illustrated

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
537	538,540 541	26.2	II?	Pit 2.6 m L, 1.65 W. 72 cm D. Vertical sides. Fills: thick dark grey brown loam (538) over yellow brown sand (540). Basal fill black sandy loam with charcoal fragments. Oval storage pit with back-fill (540) followed by slow accumulation (538).
539	518	-	II?	Gully. N-S. 90 cm W. 40 cm D. Fill, dark grey brown loam.
547	548,549	23	III	Pit. 80 cm L. 75 cm W. 14 cm D. Originally deeper but truncated by machine. Basal fill black charcoal layer.
551) 552)	671,681, 682, (676-678)	23	III?	Gully. 20-40 cm W. 5-10 cm D. Parallel to 501/520 but in places machined away. Either fence line (there were no post-holes however) or base of shallow ditch. 551/2 might have formed continuous enclosure with 510 and 1415 (area B).
554	Seg. a) 680 Seg. b) 555 Seg. c) 708,709, 732 Seg. d) 723,724	23	III	Ditch. NE-SW. 1.00 m W. 30 cm D. Continued to N of 503 which it possibly cut. At S cut pit 722. Possibly later westward extension of enclosure 1.
556	557-562	45	IV	Grave 2. See grave report.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
563	564	-	IV?	Posthole 30 cm dia. Uncertain feature originally thought to be marker of grave 2
565		-	-	Cleaning pass over 807,726
566	567	-	-	Disturbed area.
568		45	IV	Grave 3
569		45	IV	Grave 1
571	572	-	?	Pit or disturbed area. 1.13 m L, 98 cm W, 70 cm D. At junction of 500 & 685. Fill very mixed.
579	580	-	?	Feature exposed in deep machine trench. 1.8 m W, 80 cm D. Very dark grey brown central fill artifacts common.
581) 583)	582 584	27.2	III?	Features exposed in deep cutting. Probably a continuation of ditch 532 to SW. 1.7 m W, 60 - 70 cm D. Stony central fill.
604	601	32	III	Gully, 50 cm W, 15 cm D. Cut along line of 503, most obvious in 503 e. Possible recut of 503.
620	621	23	?	Possible post-hole 70 x 28 cm, 10 cm D.
622	623	23	?	Possible post-hole 54 x 17 cm, 6 cm D.
624	625	23	?	Possible post-hole 25 x 32 cm, 12 cm D.
626	627	23	?	Possible post-hole 28 cm dia. 13 cm D.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
628	698	-	?	Possible post-hole 53 cm dia. 10 cm D.
629	699	-	?	Possible post-hole 40 x 50 cm. 14 cm D.
651	652	23		Post medieval square post-hole cut in 520 Seg. b).
667	669	23	III?	Feature at junction of 502 and 685 of uncertain origin.
685	Seg. a) 687-689 Seg. b) 668 Seg. c) - Seg. d) 550,570	23	III	Gully, E-W with dog-leg. 80 cm W. 20 cm D. Formed S boundary of small enclosure with 502. Possibly cut by last phase of ditch 500.
686	658,659, 711,712	23	III	Pit, c. 1.5 m dia, 34 cm D. Steep sides. Basal fill (712) dark with charcoal overlain by possible backfill (711). Abundant cultural debris. Possible storage pit.
706		23		Post-medieval ditch. Continued line of 2 square post holes (651) broad ditch (1414) of similar date.
707		23	III	Shallow pit adjacent to 554c. 50 cm dia, 10 cm D.
722	720,721	23	II	Pit, 1.0 m dia. 50 cm+ D, circular pit apparently cut by 554. Fill of 554 difficult to differentiate from 720, 2 clear fills: 720, dark grey brown sandy loam with abundant charcoal, 721, light grey brown sandy loam.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
726	Seg. a) 690 a/b 748, 749 Seg. b) 691 b/c 730 Seg. c) 692 c/d 750 Seg. d) 693 d/e 734 Seg. e) 694 e/f 735 Seg. f) 695 f/g 990-992 Seg. g) 804-806 g/h 993 996 1041 Seg. h) 800-802 h/j 1046- 1048 Seg. j) 810,842- 844,905, (906) j/k 1071, 1074 1079-1081 Seg. k) 812-815	23,30	II	Penannular gully. 13 m external dia. Gully 50-70 cm W, 20-40 cm D. SE entrance. For entire W circuit gully fill of pale brown loamy sand. From Seg g) to terminal lower fill became darker & loamy. This contained small briquetage fragments in Segs h), j), k) & l) with a max. in j). Pottery also increased in this deposit, reached peak in Seg. h). Flints were common but peaked in Seg. b/c where possibly derived from pre-existing scatter not Iron Age rubbish. Post-holes 787, 791, 923 & 926 may have been porch supports or to support a horizontal beam which carried rafters over door gap. 850, which had a post pipe could have been for a central post. An L-shaped line of shallow post-holes protected the E terminal but were of unknown function. Pit 913 & the depression 1078 contained briquetage & were probably contemporary with 726. 726 cut by 890 in Seg. n) and grave 6 (811 in k). Also by 920 in j). The position of 807 concentrically within 726 was shown by stratigraphy to be coincidental.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
726 (cont)				
	Seg. l)			
	857-861			
	Seg. m)			
	1052-1058			
	Seg. n)			
	961			
	Seg. o)			
	962			
	Seg. p)			
	956,960			
	Seg. q)			
	-			
	Seg. r)			
	968			
727		-		Area cleaned to N of 726; yielded a sparse flint scatter
728	729	-	?	Pit. 70 cm dia 15 cm D within penannular gully 726.
737/8	739-744, 747	23	III?	Feature complex exposed adjacent to 503 Seg. l), 3.0 m N-S, 70 cm D. Mainly loamy sand and sandy fills. Apparently cut 503. Formed part of loam spread 751.
751/2		23	?	Spread of brown sandy loam, 10 - 30 cm+ D to N of 503 k) and l). Possibly disturbed area of valley head (fig. 21).
POST-HOLES				
770	771	30	?	26 cm dia. 10 cm D.
772	773	30	?	25 x 20 cm, 15 cm D.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
774	775	30	?	50 cm dia, 13 cm D.
776	777	30	?	40 cm dia, 55 cm D. Doubtful origin
778	779	30	?	26 cm dia, 15 cm D, below 1078.
780	781	-	?	24 x 30 cm, 22 cm D, adjacent to 726 j).
782		-	?	Of doubtful origin
783	784	30	?	15 cm dia, 25 cm D. Possible disturbed area.
785	786	-	?	15 cm dia, 7 cm D. Possible feature cut by gully terminal 807 h).
787	788	30	?	25 x 30 cm, 18 cm D.
789	790	30	?	40 cm dia, 13 cm D.
791	792	30	?	40 x 45 cm 32 cm D. Some charcoal & a little burnt bone but insufficient to distinguish whether animal or human.
793	794,795	30	?	50 cm dia, 22 cm D. Dark brown sandy loam fill, rare burnt flints; common charcoal flecks. Although 5 gm of burnt bone recovered (including long bone shafts) there were no diagnostic fragments to distinguish whether animal or human (F Powell cremation report microfiche pp. 87-89).
796	797	30	?	40 cm dia, 25 cm D. Fills very mixed.
798	799	-	?	20 cm dia, 8 cm D. Part of disturbed area 922.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
807	Seg a) 816,817 822-825, 1072/3 Seg. b) 818,839- 841,1067 Seg. c) 819,832- 834,882, 949 Seg. d) 821,902 Seg. e) 870,871, 879-881, 1068-1070 Seg. f) 898-900, 1061-1064 Seg. g) 869,875** 876-878, 1042-1045 Seg. h) 845-847, 851,1044 **duplicate context	45	IV	Circular gully situated concentrically within 726. External dia 4.0 - 4.25 m. Internal dia 2.7 m. Gully, 60 cm W, 30 cm D. Opposed entrances to N (20 cm) & S (15 cm). Although there were several internal features, none were shown to be contemporary. Fills: lower dark brown stone free loam, stable conditions, presumably accumulated under grass. Upper, brown gravelly loamy sand. Rapid fill possibly from ploughing in or destruction of central barrow mound. Finds scarce, mainly residual Iron Age, Romano-British sherds. 1 or 2 tiny fragments of burnt bone in Segments e) & f). Cut pit 826.
808	803	-	?	33 x 16 cm, 20 cm dia. Post-hole.
809		-	-	See 1078
811	815,852 872,875** (duplicate)	45	IV	Grave 6. Cut 726

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
826/31	820,827- 830,883, 884,903, 908	30,53	III	Pit roughly square. 1.4 x 1.5 m, 40 cm D, dark grey brown upper fill contained charcoal, burnt bone, burnt flint. Lower fills: loamy or dirty sands. Occupation debris moderately common. Cut by 807. Possible storage pit.
POST-HOLES:				
836	835	-	?	11 cm dia, 14 cm D.
837		-	?	Spread of loam between 1078 & 807.
850	848,849	30	?	50 cm dia, 230 cm D, possible post pipe (848) dark grey brown sandy loam slightly humic. Possible packing: yellow brown gravelly loamy sand. Pipe implied post c. 25 cm dia.
854	853	30	?	21 cm dia, 8 cm D.
856	855	-	?	24 cm dia, 5 cm D.
863	862	30	?	16 cm dia, 5 cm D.
865	864	-	?	14 cm dia, 2 cm D. Of doubtful origin.
867	866	30	?	22 cm dia, 8 cm D. Rare burnt flints, very rare charcoal flecks & burnt bone.
868		-	?	Loam spread between entrance terminals of 726.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure no.	Period	Description
873	874,893- 896	37	?	Pit 70 cm dia, 30 cm D (60 cm below ground surface). 1.5 m S of S entrance of 807. Fill of clay surrounded area of burnt clay & flints. Flints up to 7 x 5 x 2 cm. No burnt bone or charcoal. Of uncertain date or origin.
885	886	45	IV	Cremation. (see grave report)
887	888,889	-	?	Shallow pit, (N.I.)
890	891,892 1055	30	III	Pit. 1.3 x 1.0 m. 32 cm D. Shallow yellowish brown sandy loam (891) over very dark grey brown loam of fine charcoal fragments (892). Pit cut 726. Rapidly filled with occupation debris.
897	907	-	?	Disturbed area to NE of 885.
911	912	30	?	Oval pit 48 x 30 cm 9 cm D.
913	914,950, 953	30	II	Pit. 1.6 x 1.2 m, 50 cm D. Oval with steep sides. Fills: Thin upper fill (953) of gravelly sandy loam over main fill (914) of reddish brown briquetage-rich loam; much pottery. Similar to briquetage - rich fill of 726. Base fill 950, gravelly sand with abundant pottery. 950 rapid primary fill followed by steady accumulation of 914; 953 probably accumulated after settlement of 1st two fills. Storage pit contemporary with round house occupation.
920	(906) 915- 919, 921	-	III?	Pit. 1.15 m x 75 cm, 45 cm D. Irregular in form. Fills: loamy sands, apparently cut 726.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
922	901,941	-	?	Disturbed area NW of 807, c. 1.0 m x x 1.0 m. Irregular base, sandy fill.
923	924,925	30	?	Post-hole, 32 x 36 cm, 27 cm D, some charcoal flecks.
926	927-929	30	?	Post-hole. 33 x 30 cm, 30 cm D. Charcoal flecks common in 927.
930	931	30	?	62 x 51 cm, 12 cm D. Fill contained a few small burnt stones.
932	933	-	?	32 cm dia, 4 cm D.
934	935,936	30	?	44 cm dia, 17 cm D.
937	938	30	?	34 cm dia, 8 cm D.
939	940,969	-	?	33 x 24 cm, 5 cm D, 940 sandy loam with charcoal flecks.
970	971	30	?	28 x 25 cm, 6 cm D. Some burnt pebbles and burnt flints.
972	973	30	?	23 x 27 cm, 16 cm D.
974	975,976	30	?	26 x 36 cm, 19 cm D. Common charcoal flecks in 975.
977	978	30	?	28 cm dia, 11 cm D. Of doubtful origin.
979	980,977	-	?	44 x 40 cm, 10 cm D, sub-rectangular. Upperfill: dark brown - black loamy sand with abundant charcoal & some burnt pebbles.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
945	946,1087	45	IV	Grave 4. Cut 500.
951	952	-	?	Shallow depression to E of 913. 90 x 70 cm, 10 cm D. Fill of gravelly sandy loam. Relationship with 913 uncertain.
954	955	-	?	Disturbed area on 726p. 40 cm W. Loamy sand fill, disturbed by burrows.
957	958	30	?	Disturbed area S of 954. N.B entire area between 807 and grave 5 was disturbed by burrows. All but the largest features may result from this.
959	963-965	30	?	Disturbed area on 726o. Brown upper fill, otherwise V sandy fills.
966	967	-	?	Disturbed area or possibly a narrow gully W of 913. 2.0 m L, 40 cm W.
982	981	-	?	Disturbed area. 95 x 65 cm, 15 cm D.
985	983,984	-	?	Possible disturbed area. 58 x 30 cm, 14 cm D. Some charcoal in the fill.
986	988	45	IV	Grave 5.
987	989	-	?	Disturbed area or natural hollow N of grave 5.
998	999	30	II?	26 x 22 cm, 8 cm D.
1000	1001	30	II?	33 x 29 cm, 12 cm D. Common burnt pebbles & flint, some charcoal flecks.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1002	1003	30	II?	23 x 20 cm. 10 cm D. Fill contained little burnt clay, some burnt flints and charcoal flecks.
1004	1005	30	II?	18 cm dia. 6 cm D.
1006	1007	30	II?	20 cm dia. 7 cm D.
1008	1009	30	II?	17 cm dia. 6 cm D. 1 or 2 burnt flints.
1010	1011	30	II?	23 x 19 cm. 10 cm D. 1 or 2 burnt flints and some charcoal flecks. N.B. 1008-1014 appeared joined on surface by loam spread.
1012	1013	30	II?	23 cm dia. 8 cm D. Burnt flint and some charcoal flecks contained in fill.
1014	1015	30	II?	21 cm dia., 7 cm D.
1016	1017	30	II?	18 cm dia. 5 cm D.
1018	1019	30	II?	19 cm dia. 3 cm D. Uncertain feature.
1020	1021	30	II?	17 x 19 cm, 6 cm D. Contained 1 or 2 burnt pebbles.
1022	1023	30	?	21 x 16 cm, 11 cm D. Contained 2 large stones, (up to 8 x 5 x 3 cm), possibly packing stones. Below 1078.
1024	1025	30	?	16 cm dia. 4 cm D. Uncertain feature. Below 1078.
1026	1027	30	?	18 cm dia., 9 cm D. 1 or 2 burnt flints and stones, flecks of clay and pot fragments.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1028		30	?	10 cm dia. 6 cm D. Fill: dark loamy sand contained 2 burnt flints.
1029	1030	30	?	23 x 19 cm, 3 cm D. 1 or 2 burnt flints but otherwise of uncertain origin.
1049	1050,1051	-	?	Disturbed area or natural hollow on 726 m.
1065	1066	-	?	Pit. 1.6 x 1.0 m+. 75 cm D. Fill: uniform brown sandy loam with grey-brown patches. Uncertain origin and function.
1075	1076,1077	-	?	Shallow pit. 60 x 30 cm, 16 cm D. Contained large lump of burnt clay and some burnt stones.
1078	809,837, 838	30	II?	Shallow hollow, 2 m. N-S, 1.5 m E-W. 10 cm D. Inside and to right of penannular gully entrance. Fill: dark grey-brown loamy sand, abundant stones including many burnt stones and flints. Charcoal rare. Much briquetage similar to that in 913 and 726. Appeared to cover postholes 778, 1002 and 1024. Possibly hollow worn in hut floor which became filled with salt drying debris. Probably contemporary with hut's occupation.
1098	1059,1097 1099-1102	23	II/III	Pit in 500 seg d. 1.1 m dia. 90 cm D. Complex of sandy and gravelly fills; charcoal rich lens 1059. During excavation there was much confusion between pit and ditch fills. Apparently cut by one phase of ditch 500.

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1103	1096,1088- 1090,1093 1095-1097	23	II/III	Large pit <u>c.</u> 2.00 m dia. on 500 seg. d. Complex of fills included dark brown clay loam (1088) and very gravelly loamy sands (1095/6). Level layer of silty gravel (1090) defined pit base. Both 1098 and 1103 caused immense confusion. The excavators concluded that they were 2 separate pits cut by 500. An alternative interpretation that this was an under-excavated ditch of much larger dimensions was not supported by field evidence.
1104	-	-	?	Find location. 113E 093.7 N.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B FEATURE LIST

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1300		23	II	Pit exposed during topsoil removal in position of 1409. = 1409.
1301		-	-	Surface pottery collected during topsoil removal. Interior of:
1302	1306-9,1315 1316,1349	23,26	II	See: Late Iron Age cemetery.
1303	1310,1345	" "	II	" " " " "
1304	1311-13, 1347,1348	" "	II	" " " " "
1305	1314	" "	II	" " " " "
1317	Seg a) 1318, 1342,1343 b) 1319,1346, 1399 c) 1320	23	II	Ditch, E-W, S boundary of enclosure 1317: 2.4 m W., 1.0 m D. Recut of earlier ditch 1413; Total W and D of combined features (seg. b) 2.9 m and 1.2 m respectively. Ditch was exactly aligned on ditch 1397 of enclosure 1. Fills: 1399, reddish yellow sandy gravel, roughly symmetrically within later cut. Very rapid sedimentation with only 2 sub-phases of slight stabilisation represented by slightly loamy layers. No hint of bank position. Finds very rare. Above: 1346, pale brown loamy sand, contained a few burnt flints. Final fill, 1319. Dark grey-brown loamy sand with common small charcoal flecks, burnt flints and pottery. Formed dark soil mark traceable into entrance terminal and into 1360. Before 1317 was full a sandy gravel, probably backfill, was thrown into

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1317 (continued)				the terminal. When almost full its alignment was continued by a double line of posts cut into the top fill, approximately 1.5 m apart (1323,5 and 1335-41). All fills described from seg. b.
POST-HOLES				
1321	1322	-	II/III	16 cm dia. 23 cm D. cut 1346 of 1317b.
1323	1324			32 x 28 cm. 34 cm D. Cut 1346 of 1317b.
1325	1326	-	II/III	26 cm dia. 40 cm D. 1-2 burnt pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks in top 15 cm. Cut 1346 in 1317 b.
1327	1328	-	?	30 cm dia. circular, apparently cut by 1379.
1329	1330	23	?	70 cm dia, 33 cm D. Within 1379.
1331	1332	23	?	40 x 60 cm 20 cm D. Within 1379.
1333	1334	23	?	60 cm dia. 30 cm D. Within 1379.
1335		23	II/III	40 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1336		23	" "	25 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1337		23	" "	25 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1338		23	" "	20 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1339		23	" "	25 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1340		23	" "	30 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1341		23	" "	31 cm dia. Cut top of ditch 1317.
1344		23,26	II	See Late Iron Age cemetery.
1350	1351	" "	II	" " " " "
1352	1353	" "	II	" " " " "
1354	1355-59	" "	II	" " " " "

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
POST-HOLES (CONTINUED)				
1360	1361-65	23	II	Ditch, N-S, E. boundary of enclosure. Parallel to W ditch of enclosure in Area A. 2.4 m W, 1.2 m D. Fills: Primary fill very rapid accumulation of slightly dirty sandy gravel which contained a few burnt flints and a little charcoal. Artifacts virtually absent. Slight stabilisation represented by 1363. Top fill 1361 accumulated slowly in a shallow depression; similar to top fill of 1317. In plan, its very slight displacement to E of ditch axis may indicate internal bank (i.e. to W but evidence not conclusive.
1366	Seg a) 1367 b) 1369,1370 c) 1371,1372 d) 1373,1374 e) 1375,1376 f) 1377,1378	45	IV	Ring gully. Opposed entrances to N (90 cm) and S (70 cm). Gully width: 50-100 cm, 14-30 cm D. Lower fills: dark brown loamy sands and sandy loam, occasional pebbles. Deposited under stable conditions, probably grassed. Upper fill: pale brown dirty or loamy sand with abundant pebbles; formed axial fill. Arrived rapidly, possibly as a result of ploughing in or destruction of central barrow mound. Finds uncommon, mainly residual. No internal features. Cut in top fill of ditch 1397.
1379	Seg a) 1382 b) 1383,1384 c) 1385,1386 d) 1387 e) 1388	45	IV	Ring gully. S entrance <u>c.</u> 1 m wide. Gully 50-100 cm W. 20-38 cm D. Fills less clear than in 1366 and mainly brown loamy sand. Seg b had upper gravelly loamy sand (1383) over black fine charcoal or humic loam (1384). This merged down into gravelly primary fill. In seg. c to

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1379 (continued)				N, a loam fill in long section resembled terminals of a N entrance. Seg c might have been overdug. SW terminal cut by post-medieval pit, 1380. Internal features although present were pits or post-holes with little cultural debris or dating evidence.
1389	1390	45	IV	Grave 9 see Anglo-Saxon cemetery.
1391	seg a) 1392-4	23	II	Ditch, N-S formed E boundary of enclosure 2A. Parallel to 1360. Continued line of 1413 to N beyond 2.6 m wide entrance. Ditch 2.0 m W, 80 cm D. Main mass of fill gravelly dirty sand, slightly loamier along ditch axis. V. rapid fill. Upper gravel between 1393 and 1394 may have resulted from collapse of internal bank, (to W). Upper fill: clean yellowish red sandy gravel, a distinct layer in top of 1391 and 1413 to S, backfill. Assymmetric position in 1391 again suggested a bank to W. Artifacts, except for calcined flints, absent.
1395	1396	45	II	Grave 7 see Anglo-Saxon cemetery.
1397	1398	23	III	Ditch, E-W. S ditch of Area A enclosure. Aligned with ditch 1317. 1.5 m W, 60 cm D. Fill: uniform brown sandy loam included moderate amounts of cultural debris. Cut pit 1400, cut by 1366.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Feature No.	Period	Description
1400	1401	23	III	Pit on ditch 1397 seg a. 95 cm dia. 15 cm D. below base of ditch (i.e. total D 75 cm). Abundant pottery.
1402	1403	23	III	Pit, 2.2 m N-S, 1.5 m E-W. Depth <u>c.</u> 40 cm Cut early fills of 1360 and positioned where bank was eventually built.
1404	1405	23	III	Pit, within enclosure 1, 1.8 m dia. Top fill black, finely divided charcoal and loamy sand yielded abundant pottery. Only excavated to 25 cm.
1406		23	III	Ditch, N-S salvaged to N of Area A enclosure, lined up with late ditch 1414 but contained Roman pottery. Soil mark <u>c.</u> 1 m wide.
1407	1408	45	IV	Grave 8 see Anglo-Saxon cemetery.
1409	1410	23	II	Pit, 3.5 m E-W, 2.2 m N-S, 40 cm D. = 1300. Fill: Dark grey-brown sandy loam, charcoal rich. Several large chunks of chalky 'cob' (cf area D) aided bone preservation and a single cattle skull - much disintegrated - recorded on pit base. Pit located where bank of 1391 should have been.
1412		-	II?	Feature exposed in section during excavation of cutting in area A. Feature <u>c.</u> 1.0 m W. Fill: dark brown loam, abundant pottery. Either pit or ditch. If latter, it lined up with 1360 or 1391 of enclosure 2 and may represent extension of this to N.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1413	1411	23	II	First cut of S ditch of Area B enclosure. Parallel to 1317. Fill, 1411, a dirty, sandy gravel formed N part of soil mark. A distinct sand lens dipped to S may represent bank collapse from N but evidence inconclusive.

NOTE ON ENCLOSURE 2

Ditch 1391 and 1413 only appeared after careful cleaning of the subsoil. Together with the early fills of enclosure 2 they formed V faint soil marks barely discoloured 'natural'. The final fills were plotted to show slowly deposited charcoal-rich fill (hatched) and sand and gravel back fill (stipple). This showed that 1391 and 1413 were backfilled before the enclosure was extended 7 m to E. The new enclosure ditch 1360 and 1317 infilled slowly except for part of the terminal which was possibly backfilled to make a wider entrance.

1414		23		Soil mark, N-S, 3.0 m W with post medieval rubbish and cinders etc. in fill. Aligned with 706 and 651 to N. Probably a post-Medieval field ditch.
1415		23	III?	E-W alignment of stake-holes 10-15 cm dia. <u>c.</u> 40 cm N of ditch 1397. In places these merged to form elongate features. To E of 1414 these appeared to turn N to become a shallow gully. No evidence of date. May have corresponded to 510, 551 and 552 to form an early fenced enclosure. Alternatively it might indicate the line of a revetment employed to retain the bank.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA B (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1416	-		III	Finds salvaged from feature situated to N of area A.

THE LATE IRON AGE CEMETERY TABLE M.I.

Feature context No.	Length	Width	Depth	Description
1302	2.0 m	1.0 m	50 cm	<p>1306: <u>c.</u> 0.05m³ of gravelley clean sand. Probably backfill.</p> <p>1307: Beneath 1306, mainly in E half of pit. Sandy loam, reddened along N edge. Dark brown along S edge.</p> <p>1308: Beneath 1307. Brown, slightly dirty sand.</p> <p>1309: Beneath 1308. Brown loamy sand formed distinct thin band around pit perimeter. Blanketed side and base of pit. Became very dark brown in base of pit. Contained common flecks of charcoal and fired clay - all very small.</p> <p>1315: Beneath 1309. Grey silt loam; but gravelly sand in places. Thin layer separating 1309 from 1316. Although thin, layer appeared to contain complete pot and bronze brooch.</p> <p>1316: Beneath 1315. Thin layer of brown humic loam, almost vertical at west end. Roughly parallel to 1309. Contained small fragments of charcoal.</p> <p>1349: Below 1316. Brown dirty sandy gravel, restricted to SE of pit.</p>
1303	2.30 m	1.10 m	20 cm	<p>1310: Soft, pale brown gravelly dirty sand. Contained broken pottery vessel, possibly a grave offering, in centre. Became grey-brown gravelly loamy sand below and to the W.</p> <p>1345: Beneath 1310. Black loamy layer with fine charcoal flecks and fired clay. Situated along N edge. Dipped into pit centre.</p>

THE LATE IRON AGE CEMETERY TABLE M.I.

Feature context No.	Length	Width	Depth	Description
1304	1.90 m	1.00 m	20 cm	<p>1312: Top fill. V. dark grey brown loamy sand with charcoal fragments, burnt bone¹ and an area c. 60 cm square of thin lath-shaped fragments of charred wood.</p> <p>1311: Beneath 1312 and in one place separated from it by a thin layer of gravelly sand. Mainly a black humic stain similar to 1316 in 1302.</p> <p>1313: Beneath 1311/1312, grey brown gravelly loamy sand; foirmed main pit fill.</p> <p>1347: Beneath 1311, excavated from within 1313. 40 cm dia circular mass of stone-free pale brown silt loam, pierced by 10 cm dia central hole.</p> <p>Approximately 5 cm thick with sloping sides. Appears to be a discrete feature, not a fill; possibly a disintegrated unfired weight.</p> <p>1348: 1 cm thick layer of dark brown sand over pit floor.</p> <p>1) wt. 3 gms. V. small frags of small long bone shafts and 2 fragments of articular surfaces (possibly of phalanges or carpals/tarsals) (F. Powell Microfiche 87-89).</p>
1305	1.30 m	0.80 m	8 cm	<p>1314: Pale brown loamy sand and dirty sand, numerous pebbles. A thin, dark band fringed part of perimeter and 2 triangular shaped lenses of brown loam penetrated from pit edge towards pit centre. These overlay the bulk of 1314.</p>

Feature context No.	Length	Width	Depth	Description
1344	1.20 m+	95 cm	15 cm	Reddish brown silt loam, (1345).
1350	60 cm+	90 cm	45 cm	Uniform, pale brown loamy sand, (1351).
1352	1.60 m	1.00 m	50 cm	1353: Dark grey brown loamy sand with lenses of clean sand and charcoal-rich patches. Stony, with occasional calcined flints and 2 20 cm flint lumps SE of centre. Abundant sherds throughout, but larger fragments from base of fill and SE of pit.
1354	2.4 m N-S*	1.8 m E-W		2356: Black loam with fine charcoal flecks and small fragments of fired clay. Aligned E to W. Resembled occupation deposit. central hole. 1357: Beneath 1356. Pale brown, gravelly dirth sand formed main mass of fill. 1359: Brown loamy sand, some small charcoal flecks. Moisture retentative, possibly decayed turf. 1358: not completed.

*includes Post medieval pit at N end.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA C FEATURE LIST

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1500	seg a) 1501 1511 b) 1504,1513	24	III?	Ditch, N-S. 1.2-1.5 m W, 30 cm D. Open 'V' profile; terminated to S to form 4 m wide 'gateway' with 1502. Fills: brown loamy sands became sandier beneath. Slow infill, little cultural debris.
1502	seg a) 1503 b) 1505	24	III?	Ditch, E-W 1.0 m W, 24 cm D. Like 1500, shallow open 'V' profile. Fills similar to 1501/4.
1506				See 1614
1514	seg a) 1515 1524,1525, 1563 b) 1519,1564- 1566 c) 1532,1537, 1538, 1552 d) 1578-80, (1558)	24	II	N half of 'C' shaped enclosure ditch. 1.6-1.8 m W, 70-80 cm D. Terminated to NE 1.5 m after it cut penannular gully 1506. Sequence in segs. a and b: Gravelly, dirty sand (1563,66) rapid primary fill, overlaid by brown slightly loamy sand (1525,65) which represented greater ditch stability. Followed by rapid influx of reddish yellow clean sandy gravel (1524,64) which resulted from collapse of internal bank (to E). Final slow fill of dark brown loamy sand (1515,19) accumulated to W of ditch axis. Finds relatively sparse throughout. Sequence in seg. c modified by presence of 2 layers of dark grey-brown loamy sand rich in pottery (1537 and 1552). Top gravel fill (1531) appeared to be backfill. Cut penannular gully 1614.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA C (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1516	1517,18, 1594-98, 1601,1605- 1608	24	II	Pit, 2.8 m+ N-S, 2.3 m E-W, 1.1 m D. Steep sides, flat base. Fills: 1517, dark brown sandy loam. 1594, beneath 1517, extremely stony in centre as a result of 'fall sorting' of stones rolling down fill slopes. 1595, less stony sandy loam; beneath, a complex of sandy layers (1597,1607) and charcoal-rich layers (1598,1606) which resulted from weathering of pit sides and arrival of some occupation debris. Pit filled gradually.
1526				See 1614.
1529	1530,1612	24	II	Pit, NW-SE. 1.4 m L, 80 cm W, 40 cm D. Sub-rectangular with steep sides. 2 main fills: Lower primary fill (1612) of dirty gravelly sand overlaid by 1530, dark grey brown loamy sand, extremely rich in pottery. Pottery divided into W, central and E group in field but these were later shown not to be discrete groups. A thin, sandy top layer may represent contamination or later backfill and may account for the presence of a few sherds of Romano-British pottery in the fill.
1532	1533,1536 1569,1592,93	24	IV	Anglo-Saxon sunken hut, see text.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA C FEATURE LIST

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1534	1535, 1539a) 1540 b) 1545 1543a) 1544 b) 1604 1609,1610	24	IV?	Post-built building, for general discussion see text. 1535: trowelling pass over building. 1539, N-S gully, 40 cm W 4-5 cm C. 2 possible stake-holes at N end may have secured an internal sub-division. Fill: dark brown loamy sand with common fragments of fired clay. 2 large flints in the fill could not be shown to be structural. 1453: 15-30 cm W, 8 cm D. Probable and possible stake-holes shown on Fig. 44 . Again, those at end may have secured an internal sub-division. Fill, as for 1539. 1609, 1610 Post-holes from outer circuit which contained finds.
1541	1542,1586, 1587 (1581)	24	III	Oval pit, 3.0 m E-W, 2, 25 m N-S, 1.05 m+ D. Conical in profile but exact pit base difficult to establish. 2 rapid fills of dirty sand and gravel (1581 and 1587) separated by 2 more stable phases in which dark grey-brown loamy sand accumulated (1542,1586). Occupation debris and charcoal flecks common in 1542, 1581 and 1586. Pit of uncertain function, not a storage pit.
1550	1551	-	?	Post-hole 20 x 25 cm, 20 cm D. Cut in 1506 c. Not demonstrably related to house construction (approximately vertical).

ARDALE C (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1553	1554,1555	24	II	Pit in NW corner of 1534, 85 cm N-S, 80 cm E-W, 30 cm D. Lower fill (1555) black with abundant charcoal, common pottery and a triangular loomweight. Upper fill (1554) slower accumulation of brown loamy sand with occasional burnt flints. Function uncertain. Relation to 1534 uncertain but probably earlier.
1556/1569				See 1614.
1562	1568	-	?	Post-hole, 20 cm dia. cut in 1559a. c. 40 cm D. Grey-brown sandy loam fill resembled gully fill. Post-hole had ambiguous relation to gully fills.
1570	1571	24	II?	Post-hole immediately SE of roundhouse entrance. 50 cm dia, 20 cm D. Distinctive feature with brown sandy loam fill. If this was a porch post-hole the structure must have extended 2 m beyond the gully terminal.
1572	1573-1575 1582,1583	24	II	Circular, steep-sided pit. 1.0 m dia. 70 cm D. Basal fills: loamy sand (1583) and dirty sand (1582). These were overlaid by a sandy loam wedge (1575) to E. In centre, a black loam (1574) with small ochreous lumps, pale yellow chalky daub, charcoal flecks and burnt flint resulted from rubbish accumulation. Shape and deposits resembled storage pits of area D. Cut 1559 seg. b (1614).

ARDALE C (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1576	1577	44	IV?	N-S gully continued line of W end of building 1534. 20-30 cm W, 5 cm D. Fill (1577) brown homogenous loam.
1589	1590,1591	24	?	Area of over-deepened soil. 5.0 m E-W, 3.0 m N-S, 20 cm D. Merged into similar area (1611) to N. Edge of feature not clear during excavation. Rectangular shape suggested a sunken hut but this was not proved by excavation. Deposits: 1590, dark grey-brown loamy sand, some burnt flints, rare charcoal flecks, a few flint flakes. 1591, dirty sand and gravel, no artifacts. Feature cut in 'pinkish' sand and gravel and may be disturbance in the top of a periglacial feature.
1599	1600	24	?	Gully, 25 cm W, 10-15 cm D. Straight with small kink in centre; terminated at S by 20 cm dia posthole. Fill: pale brown loam sand. Cut 1526 (1614).
1602	1603	24	II?	Post-hole. 40 x 30 cm, 15 cm D. Dark brown loamy sand fill. Possibly held post which supported roof.
1609)				See 1534
1610)				

ARDALE C (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1611		24	?	Feature or disturbed area, 4.5 m E-W, 3.2 m N-S. Not excavated. Fill resembled that of 1589. Together with 1589 this had erased the NE entrance, terminal of penannular gully 1614.
1613		24	?	Post-hole. 42 cm dia, depth unknown.
<u>1614</u>				
1506	seg a) 1508-10, 1512 b) 1521, c) 1546, d)	24	II	Penannular gully. 1st cut 1526, recut as 1506. Correlation of remainder of gully complicated by whether the re-cut increased house diameter or represented a move of the house to S. If the latter, the diameter of each phase 12.5 m. In NE, outer gully 1559, inner 1556. Individual gully W. 70 cm and 20-40 cm D. Together, the 2 cuts were 50-100 cm W. Terminal fills were darkest and richest in cultural debris. e.g. 1506a, a rapid primary fill (1510,1512) of loamy or dirty sand overlaid by sandy gravel (1508) which possibly resulted from eavesdrip. Final fill (1509) dark grey brown loamy sand. Fills of 1526a similar to 1509; charcoal flecks and cultural debris common. Some bone preservation in terminal. Away from terminal, fills rapidly lightened and contained less cultural debris. e.g. Pale brown loamy sands (seg. b) and dirty sands in seg. d. Subsoil in gully interior slightly darker than elsewhere.
1526	a) 1520,27 b) 1522,23 c) 1547-49 d)			
1556	a) 1557,58.			
1559	a) 1560,61, 1567 b) 1584,85			

ARDALE C (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
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1614 (continued)

possibly as a result of habitation. Of the scatter of internal features, only 1602 was really clear and it may have held a roof support post. 1614 was cut by 1514, 1599, 1572 and 1611/1589.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D FEATURE LIST 25* inset on Fig. 25

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1800	1801	25*	?	Pit, N-S. 80 cm L, 45 cm W, 10 cm D. Fill: black silt loam with charcoal flecks.
1802	1803-5	25*	?	Pit. Post-hole, W-E. 70 x 55 cm, 25 cm D. Fills 1803, dark brown silt loam with raw clay, fired clay and cob. 1804, brown silt loam with cob flecks. 1805, sandy gravel.
1806	1807	25*	?	Post-hole. 20 cm dia, 12 cm D.
1808	1810,11	25*	II?	Pit. 65 x 55 cm, 20 cm D. Fills: 1810, brown silt loam, lumps of raw and fired clay common.
1809	1812-15	25*	?	Post-hole. 50 x 45 cm, 24 cm D. Fills: 1812 crushed chalk, 1814 possible post pipe of dark brown silt loam. Fired clay common and several fragments formed arc around top of fill.
1816	1817-21, 1871	25	II	Storage pit, N-S. 2.0 m x 1.2 m, 90 cm D. Sides almost vertical, flat floor. Fills: 1821, black silt loam, disintegrated charcoal, abundant occupation debris - primary fill. 1820, brown loam contained raw clay, chalk cob, chalky-loam cob and sandy fired clay. 1818 very dark brown silt loam and fine charcoal dust. 1817 pebbly loam. 1871 may be in-fill of gap left by the decay of the pit lining. Some bone preservation in lower fills. Rapid rubbish accumulation throughout, pottery joins between 1817 and 19 also 1820 and 21.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1822	1823	25*	?	Post-hole, 28 cm dia. 13 cm D.
1824	1825	25*	?	Pit/post-hole. 55 x 45 cm, 8 cm D.
1826	1827,8	25*	?	Pit/post-hole. 50 x 45 cm, 20 cm D. Fills: 1827, brown pebbly loam with occasional fired clay fragments. 1828 dirty sand.
1829	1830	25*	?	Pit/post-hole. 50 cm dia., 25 cm D. Fill: brown loam with raw clay patches and fired clay lumps.
1831	1832,33	25*	II?	Pit 90 cm dia, 38 cm D. Vertical sides flat base. Fills 1833, pale brown sandy loam merged up into V dark brown pebbly loam, some cultural debris.
1834	1835-7 1846-8	25	II	Pit E-W. Oval, steep but slightly rounded sides. 3.3 m L, 2.05 W, 75 cm D. Fills: initial stone-free loam, a little charcoal. 1848, charcoal-rich loam with common potsherds. 1846, clean, sandy gravel, possibly rapid or backfill. 1836, pale brown sandy loam, stabilisation of pit fill. 1837 (not illus.) black silt loam. 1835, dirty gravel. Pit function uncertain but the pit filled up rapidly.
1838	1851-3	25	II	Pit, 1.65 m dia, 75 cm D, V steep sides. Fills: 1853, brown loam in centre rather stony because of fall-sorting. Sandier gravel on either side may result from side wall weathering. 1852, very dark grey brown silt loam, rare finds. 1851:

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
				Brown silt loam, some fired clay, a little bone. Initially steady weathering of pit sides, then pit was filled with steady accumulation of silt loam.
1839	1863,4	25	?	Pit/post-hole. 70 x 50 cm, 20 cm D. Steep sides. Fills: 1864 variable, gravel in centre, silt loam around sides. 1863, brown silt loam.
1840	1841	25*	?	Post-hole 15 cm dia, 5 cm D.
1842	1843	25*	II	Pit. NE-SW. 1.1 m x 75 cm, 20 cm D. Dark brown silt loam fill. Moderate amount of pottery.
1844	1845	25*	?	Pit 60 x 50 cm, 14 cm D. Finds absent.
1849	2046,7			Ditch ENE-WSW. Aligned on 2053. 1.0 m W, 54 cm D. Primary fill (2047), dirty sand, pebbles along axis as a result of fall-sorting of incoming material. 2046, above silt loam with pebbles concentrated on S side, possibly as a result of bank collapse. Cut by 1899 in plan, Cut 1850.
1850	segs a & b 1868	25	II?	Penannular gully, 12.0-12.5 m dia. Probable entrance to SE (between ditch 1849 and 2006). Gully 30-50 cm W 10 cm D. Fill: pale brown loamy sand throughout, in plan suggestion of stony axial fill. Artifacts absent and no concentration of cultural debris near terminal. Too few interior post-holes to make structural interpretation. Cut by 1849, 2006.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
				Possibly cut by 1869, 1872. Possibly cut 1978.
1854	1855-7, 1865	25	II?	Pit, N-S. 2.15 x 80 cm. 74 cm D. Steep sides, flat floor. Fills: 1865, loose sandy gravel, rapid fill rested on slightly loamy basal fill. 1865 accumulated until side walls just covered and stability achieved. 1857, almost continuous layer of chalk cob merged up into brown loam with burnt clay and burnt flints. Upper fill (1856), slower accumulation of clay loam with some occupation debris.
1858	1859-62	25	II	Pit, N-S 3.9 m L, 3.2 m W. 1.0 m D. Steep almost vertical sides, flat floor. Fills: 1862, large mass of primary fill included basal loam which accumulated before rapid arrival of sandy gravel. Mass of chalk cob and burnt clay arrived from N. 1860, very dark brown loam, abundant cultural debris. Rapid fill (1862, 1861) protected pit walls, then slower steady accumulation (1859, 60). Cut 1899.
1866	1867, 1907	25	?	Pit, 80 x 60 cm, 50 cm D. Fills: 1907, rapid primary fill of gravel (no finds). 1867, very dark brown loam, rich in charcoal dust.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1869	1870	25*	?	Pit, 60 cm dia. 10 cm D. Fill: pale brown loamy sand, a little darker than 1868. Possibly cut 1850.
1872	1873	25*	?	Pit 60 cm dia, 20 cm D. Fill: brown loam, some raw clay and fired clay lumps. Cut gully 1850.
1874	1875, 1945,6 1950	25	II	Pit, NE-SW. 5.2 m L, 2.2 m W, c. 1.0 m D. Rounded sides and floor. Fills: 1950, dirty gravel, rapid fill. 1946, brown sandy loam, slight stabilisation or turf line. 1945, Clean loose gravel, either rapid accumulation or backfill. 1875, Slow final fill of dark brown loam, little cultural debris.
1876	1877-9, 1902,08 2050	25	IV	Anglo-Saxon sunken hut see text.
1880	seg a) 1881,2, b)1883,84	25	II	Ditch, NNW-SSE, W boundary of main enclosure. 1.5 m W, 60 cm D. Primary fill, (1884,1882) sandy merged up into loamy sand with pebbles concentrated along long axis as a result of fall sorting. Stabilisation represented by sandy loam at top of 1882, 4 followed by more rapid gravelly fill 1881,83 developed continuously along ditch axis. Bank position uncertain, little cultural debris. In plan fills of 1880 cut those of 1885.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1885	seg a) 1886,7 1925 b)1941-44	25	II	Ditch, WSW-ENE. 1.7 m W, 70 cm D. Terminated to W at 1880 & E at 1896. Fills: primary, 1925, 44 sandy gravel, locally loamy with stone concentrations along ditch axis. Became more stable above where loam layers 1887, 1943 accumulated. 1947, dark brown loam with fired clay fragments and chalk cob, arrived from N. 1886,1941, pebbly sandy loams probably resulted from collapse or leveling of bank. Although ditch apparently cut by 1880 to W and cut 1896 to E, it did not continue beyond them. Abundant occupation in 1942 implied that ditch was open during some of the occupation in the vicinity. Cut by 2028.
1888	seg a)1934 1935	25	II	Ditch ENE-WSW, along with 1889 and 1890 formed N boundary of ain enclosure. 1.3 m W, 74 cm D. Recut along line of 1933 to give total feature width of 1.7 m, 74 cm D. Fills, 1935, dark brown sandy loam. 1934, very pebbly dark grey brown loamy sand concentrated to N possibly external bank (to N). Fill of 1st cut, 1933, silt loam, merged down into pebbly, dirty sand.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1889	seg a) 1912,13	25	II	Ditch ENE-WSW. Continuation of 1888. 1.6 m W, 55 cm D. Recut of 1933. Lowest fill, 1914, sand and sandy loam with pebbles, probably fill of 1933. Little cultural debris in fills. 1889 recut and continued to SE by 1936 (1st cut) and 1937 (recut).
1890	seg a) 1915,16, 1931,32. 1891,2(not dug)	25	II	Ditch, ENE-WSW continuation of 1889 beyond 3m wide N enclosure entrance. 1.15m W, 50cm D. Fills: loamy sand primary fill merged up into pebbly brown loam (1916) and dark brown sandy loam. Little cultural debris. Cut by 2060.
1893	seg a) 1894,1895 b) 1927-30	25	II	Ditch, NNW-SSE. Bent through oblique angle to S to join 1896. 1.2 m W, 50 cm D. Fills variable and although gravelly sand axial top fill noted in seg b (1927) and in plan to S this was not evident in seg a. Little cultural debris. Cut 2001.
1896	seg a) 1897,8	25	II	Ditch N-S, cut across apex of 2001 and 2002 to join 1893 at N. 1.8m W, 60 cm D. Fills symmetrical within ditch, gravelly sand primary fill merged up into stable loamy sand fill and finally gravel fill in centre of ditch top. This gravelly, upper axial fill was evident in plan along most of ditch length and represented the collapse or destruction of the bank. Cut 2001, 2002, 1947. Cut by

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA C (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1896 (continued)				2070, 72. At S end although cut by 1885, 1885 respected the line of 1896.
1899	seg a) 1900, 1901, 1926	25	II	Ditch ENE-WSW, turned to N at W end to join 1896. Terminated to E to form a 3m wide entrance with 1951. 1.5m W, 70cm D. Fills: primary (1926) dirty sand merged into loamy sand above. At interface with 1901 fall-sorted pebbles along ditch axis. Fills less stony along ditch sides. Top fill, 1900, brown sandy loam with abundant pebbles, formed axial upper fill of ditch in plan. 1899 cut 1984, cut by 1858.
1903	1904-6	25	IV	Anglo-Saxon sunken hut, see text.
1917	seg a) 1918, 19	25	II	Ditch, NW-SE. 90cm W, 50cm D. 11m L. Flanked E side of N entrance. Fills: 1919, dirty sandy gravel below, merged up into light brown sandy loam. 1918, brown pebbly loam. In plan, pebbly loam formed indistinct axial fill. Cut by 2058.
1920	1961-63	25	II?	Pit, 1.6m dia, 72cm D. Steep sides, flat floor. Fills: 1963, gently dipping layers of dirty gravel. Rapid fill contained abundant bone which included 2 cattle skulls (R. Luff, bone report Text Part 4). Preservation effected by thick layer of chalk cob (1962) which almost sealed top of pit.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1920 (continued)				1961, slow, final sandy loam. Rapid influx of 1963 and rubbish accumulation, 1962, preserved the pit walls at close to their original angle.
1921	1922-24	25	II?	Pit, 1.0m dia, 30cm D.
1931	see 1890	-	-	
1933	1914(in 1889a) 3002(in 1888a)	25	II	Ditch, ENE-WSW. 1.1m W, c.50m D. Fill: sandy loam and sand, some pebbles. 1st cut of N ditch of main enclosure, cut by 1888, 1889.
1936	1939	25	II	Gully, NW-SE. Flanked W side of N entrance way. At N end turned W to form early phase of 1889. 40-50cm W, 15-25cm D. Fill, 1939, pale brown, pebbly, sandy loam. Cut by 1937. Early alignment of W boundary of entrance way.
1937	1938	25	II	Gully, NW-SE. Short recut of 1936. 60cm W, 15cm D. Fill: brown, pebbly loamy sand. At N end, turned E to join 1889. Cut 1936.
1947	1948,49	25	II	Gully ENE-WSW. 60cm W, 30cm D. Steep sides. Fills: 1949, sand and sandy loam with pebbles along ditch axis. A little charcoal at top of 1949, 1948, silt loam with, especially obvious in plan, a final pebbly axial fill. Cut by 1896 at W. Probably originally turned right angle at W end to join 2002 which had similar dimensions and fill.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1951	seg a) 1952, 1953, 1970, 2035, 2036 b) 1953, 1970	25	II?	Ditch ENE-WSW continued line of 1849. 1.1m W, 50cm D. Fills: seg a had slight axial stone concentration as a result of fall-sorting and a pebbly top fill. The pebbly fill was missing in seg. b) but could be intermittently traced in plan. Fills had little cultural debris. Cut 2034, also cut but respected 1954 to E. Tangential to 1947.
1954	seg a) 1955, 1956 b) 1955, 56 c) 1967	25	II	Ditch, NNW-SSE. E boundary of main enclosure, turned through semicircle to S to abut 1951. 1.0m W, 45cm D. 1956, loamy sand and graded to sandy loam (1955) above. Upper fills relatively stony. Little cultural debris.
1957	1958	25	IV?	Pit. 80 x 70cm, 20cm D. Rounded, sloping sides. Fill, dark brown loam rare pebbles.
1959		25	-	Modern borehole.
1960		25	III	Cremation. Burnt bone, probably of one adult, 4 iron nails as well as fragments of a Roman colour coated vessel. All contained in a grey ware vessel. No evidence of pit. Body probably burnt in coffin then interred in pot.
1964		25	?	Pit/post-hole. 40cm dia, 15cm D. Fill: loam, abundant charcoal and fired clay.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1965		25	?	Patch of burnt red gravel, no finds.
1966		25	?	Base of charcoal filled pit, no finds.
1968	1969	25	?	Post-hole, 30cm dia, 25cm D. Fill: pale reddish brown silt loam, occasional pebbles.
1973	2064,2065	?	-	Ditch, position unknown. Fills: 2064 upper loam, 2065 lower gravel.
1974	1975-77	25	II?	Pit. 2.0m E-W, 1.6m N-S. 43cm D. Side slopes gentle. Tripartite fill, the 2nd, 1976, possibly back fill. Little cultural debris.
1978	1986	25	?	Post-hole on perimeter of gully 1850. Cut by 1850.
1979	1991,92	25	?	Pit near centre of penannular gully, 1850. Flat floor, vertical sides. Fills: charcoal rich silt loam (1992) with burnt flints covered floor. 1991, light brown, very pebbly silt loam.
1981	1994	25	?	Post-hole, 34cm dia, 16cm D.
1982		25	?	Posthole, 17cm dia, 20 cm D.
1983		25*	?	Area of yellowish brown clay, possibly base of clay-lined feature within penannular gully 1850.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
1984	2029,30	25	?	Ditch NE-SW, apparently recut of 2006, terminated to NE at bend in 1899. 1.3m W, 40cm D. Both fills very stony; in plan a central axial fill of loose, dirty gravel flanked by brown sandy loam or silt loam. In plan cut 1849, 2006. Cut by 1899 at which point it stopped.
1985	1995	25*	?	Post-hole 40cm dia, inside penannular gully, 1850.
1987	1988,89 1990,93	25	II	Pit, 2.4 x 2.0m. 75cm D. Sides moderately steep; flat floor. Fills: 1993, thin brown silt loam on pit floor. 1990, dirty almost loamy gravel with weakly developed dips. 1989, dark brown silt loam with many lumps of chalk cob. Some bone preservation. Final fill 1988 dark brown silt loam. After a thin deposit (1993) accumulated immediately after use the pit accreted quite rapidly with gravel. After the cultural deposit 1981 was dumped, the remaining depression filled in slowly.
1996	2003	25*	?	Post-hole, 40cm dia, 20cm D. Fill: brown silt loam with slightly darker central post pipe just discernable.
1997	2004	25*	?	Post-hole, 30cm dia, 12cm D.
1998	2005	25*	?	Post-hole, 25cm dia, 15cm D.
1999		25*	?	Post-hole, 20cm dia.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2000		25*	?	Post-hole, 40cm dia.
2001/2002		25	II?	Gully, NE-SW, (2001) & NW-SE (2002). 65cm W, 40cm D. Fill of 2001: pale brown sandy, pebbly loam, homogenous. 2002 exhibited weakly developed pebbly axial fill. Cut by sunken hut 1903, ditch 1896; probably contemporary with 1947.
2006	2048,49	25	II	Gully, ENE-WSW. 80cm W, 24cm D. Both fills very pebbly but upper (2048) a loose, sandy loam contained abundant cultural debris. 2048 included pottery from ditch surface. Recut at E end by 1984.
2008	2009-14	25	II	Pit, 2.0m dia, 85cm D. Steep sides. Fills: alternation of gravel & cultural deposits notably: 2013, dark brown loam with fired clay, charcoal, (possibly from single timber of oak) 2011, charcoal layer, some animal bone, 2010, light brown loam with some cultural debris. Relatively rapid fill throughout but probably not filled by single event. Cut 1899. Storage pit.
2016		25	?	Post-hole, 60cm dia, 45cm D on inside of gully 2023. Fill of pebbly brown loam became stonier towards base. Contained cultural debris which included fragments of chalk cob.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2017				Post-hole, 40cm dia, 20cm D. Together with 2018 this flanked a gap in gully 2023 and the 2 may have held door or porch posts.
2018	2019,20	25	II?	Post-hole, 50 x 40cm, 20cm D. Some scraps of pottery in upper stone-free sandy loam (2019).
2021	2024	25	?	Post-hole, c. 60cm dia, 30cm D. Fill gravelly with no finds. Cut 2022 and gully 2023.
2022	2026	25	?	Post-hole, 30-40cm dia, 24cm D. Dark brown clay loam fill contained chalk cob and burnt flints. Cut 2023.
2023	2027	25	II?	Curved gully. 20-50cm W, 10cm D. If extrapolated for full circle the gully diameter would be 15.0m. Gully broken by 1.0m gap to E. This was flanked by 2 post-holes 2017 and 2018 which might have held door posts or porch uprights but alternatively the entrance might have been adjacent to the SE terminal. Fill: gravelly, sandy loam, rather uniform, little cultural debris. Eaves drip gully or slot for timbers of house wall. Cut by 2021 and 2022.
2025		-	II?	Pit, 80 x 70cm+, 25cm D. Flat base, vertical sides. Layer of charcoal on base, some calcined flints. Cut 1899.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2028		25	II?	Curved length of gully, 4.5m L, 25cm W, 15cm D. Dirty gravelly fill, no cultural debris. Cut in top fill of ditch 1885.
2031	2032,33	25	II?	Pit, NE-SW. 2.7 x 1.9m, 82cm D. Moderately steep pit walls, moderately flat floor. Fills: basal fill of silt loam overlaid by sequence of gravelly fills. Most occupation debris in 2033.
2034	2037	25	II	Pit, NW-SE. 2.2 x 0.9-1.2m, 43cm D. Sub-rectangular, grave like but no stain or grave goods. Homogenous gravelly fill. No stratification. Cut by ditch 1951.
2038	2039	25	?	Pit, 1.1m dia, 55cm D. Rather indistinct sides because cut in natural 'festoon'. Fill contained some fired clay.
2040	2041	25	?	Post-hole. 50cm dia, 36cm D.
2042	2043	25	?	Post-hole, 45cm dia, 15cm D. Contained a single iron object & some calcined flints.
2044	2045	25	?	Post-hole. 55cm dia, 20cm D. Fill contained some calcined flints.
2051	2052	25	?	Elongate feature, 1.8m L, 30cm W. Pottery limited to top fill.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2053	2054-57	25	II	Ditch, ENE-WSW. Recut, total width with recut 2.1m. Width of individual cut: 1.0m (1st cut), 1.4m (2nd cut). Depth: 60cm (1st cut) 70cm (2nd cut). Fills: 1st cut, 2057, pale brown pebbly sandy loam, fewer pebbles above in 2056. 2nd cut, 2055, similar with fall-sorted pebbles along axis. 2054, a burnt layer overlaid by clean sand tipped from N, in turn followed by slow accumulation of stone-free silt loam. This contained a moderate amount of pottery. Continued line of ditch 1849 but during excavation some duplication of contexts with the pit later renumbered 3005.
2058	2059	25	II	Pit, 95cm dia, 45cm D. Fill dark brown sandy loam with abundant pottery. Cut 1917.
2060	seg a) 2061 2062. b) 2063 c)	25	II	Penannular gully. 14-15cm dia. SE facing entrance. The recut on outside shifted entrance alignment 50cm to NE. Combined gullies, 60-130cm W single cut width c.60cm, 40-50cm D. Fills: seg a) Lower fill very sandy merged up into a pebbly fill with some charcoal (2062) overlaid by charcoal-rich loam with abundant burnt stones. Seg b) upper loamy fill graded down to lower sandy, loamy gravel. Seg c) silt loam overlaid by very pebbly fills. Internal features few and too unclear for interpretation. Cut top fill of 1890.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2066	2078	25	IV	Anglo-Saxon sunken hut E-W. 4.6 x 3.8m, 50cm D. A single 24cm dia posthole was positioned centrally within the E side. Fills: pebbly, sandy loam lower fill overlaid by loose gravel intermediate fill. Final slow fill, sandy loam with few pebbles. 3 loomweights on floor.
2067	2068,69, 2079	25	IV	Anglo-Saxon sunken hut see text. Fills: Basal silt loam (2079) overlaid by gravelly loam fill (2069) with some lumps of raw clay in SW quadrant and a little bone at top of layer. Final dark brown loam fill 2068 restricted to pit centre. 2068 & 2069 contained c. 20 sherds of grass-tempered pottery, 2079 c. 3 sherds.
2070	2071	25	II?	Post-hole, 60 x 40cm, cut 1896.
2072	2073,74	25	II?	Post-hole 80 x 60cm cut 1896. 2070 and 2072 (depths unrecorded) possibly formed a paired post structure.
2076	2076	25	?	Pit, 1.5m dia, 10cm D.
2077	2083,84	25	II?	Pit, NE-SW. 3.0 x 1.8m. Fills: lower, 2084, dark brown loam. Upper, 2083 central, thin and gravelly.
2080	2081,82	25	II?	Pit, 1.8 x 1.4m. Some pottery was present on pit surface.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2085	2086-89 2092	25	III	Roman grave. Probably inhumation, but also contained 2 cremations. Grave pit: 1.7+m L, 77cm W, 1.0m D below cleaned surface. Coffin revealed by black, humic stain c. 1cm thick. Coffin: 1.62+m L, 54cm W, c. 15cm deep. Grave floor covered by brown silt stain, thicker to N (possibly head to N), no body stain. Grave fill: clean sandy gravel, (2086). Coffin nails: 14 intact from 46-103mm L, 4X4 -7X7mm square section; mean length 62mm, mean cross section 5X5. Plank thickness estimated from nail at NE end: c. 1.5cm; from nail at NW end: c. 3 cm (see Fig 40) 2 cremations c. 15cm apart contained in pottery vessels 2088, 89. Each contained one adult (F. Powell microfiche 87-89). No indication that these were secondary. No grave goods.
2090	2091,95	25	IV	Pit, N-S. 3.4 x 2.7m. Excavated to 85cm. Oval in plan, oriented parallel to enclosure ditch 1954. Fill: bottom to top, f) clean sand, e) sandy gravel, d) grey brown charcoal-rich loam, c) gravelly loam, b) sandy loam a) (top) fine gravel. Fill c) contained a mass of cremated bone in NE quadrant, plus part of an iron ring and another iron object with the bone. The bone represented probably one adult individual (F. Powell, microfiche 85-88). Saxon pottery obtained from top fill (2090). Date of

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
2090 continued				cremation uncertain. Pit did not possess normal characteristics of sunken hut although rapid fills were similar to some recorded from sunken huts. Depth of floor uncertain. Cut ditch 1954.
2093/2094		25	III	2 Roman pottery vessels, probably grave goods, retrieved by machine driver during excavation of borrow pit. Location approximate.
2096		25	III	Possible cremation.
2097		25	III	Possible cremation, not recorded.
2098		25	?	Pit 2.1m dia. Salvaged.
The following contexts were re-numbered following duplication in field.				
3000	3001,02	25	?	Pit, 1.1m dia 50cm D within curved gully 2023. Steep sides, rounded floor. Fills: loamy gravel lower fill (3010) and brown sandy loam upper fill (3001). NB. originally 300=2006, 3001=2007, 3010=2058). Cut or disturbed by 3008.
3003	3004	25	?	Pit (originally 2051). 60cm dia, 25cm D. Steep sides, flat floor. Fill (3004, originally 2052) contained abundant charcoal on pit floor & common burnt stones. Cut ditch 1894.
3005	3006,07	25	II	Pit (originally 2053). 1.4m dia, 55cm deep. Fills: 3006, originally 2054, 3007. originally 2055.

ARDALE SCHOOL, AREA D (continued)

Feature context No.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Period	Description
3008	3009	25	?	Post-hole or disturbance which cut 3001 (originally 2056,2057).
3011	3012	-	?	Post-hole (originally 2059,60), location unknown.
3019		-	II	Pit at 91E,24N i.e. to SE of enclosure.
3020/3021		25	II?	2 curved gullies, immediately S of 2060. Unexcavated but cut by 2060.
3022		-	?	Area of disturbed or overdeepened soil outside & to W of S entrance of enclosure. 12-14m dia. Formed cropmark.
3023		25	?	Ditto but to NW of enclosure.
3013		27.1	III?	(Originally AE1). N-S ditch, turned to E at N end, 2.5m W. Brown-light brown silt loam fill, became sandy on corner. Central pebbly fill.
3014		26.2	II?	(AE2) circular pit.
3015		26.2	II	(AE3) pit, 1.0m dia. Depth uncertain but shallow. Brown, moderately pebbly silt loam fill. Blacker in SW corner, some bone fragments, a belgic brick & burnt flints.
3016		26.2	II	(AE5) pit. 1 x 2m. Loose fill.
3017		26.2	II	(AE6) pit circular, dia & depth uncertain
3018		26.2	II?	(AE7) pit c.35cm dia, 5 cm D.
3024		-	?	(AE4). Pit, dia uncertain, 30cm+ D. Clay loam fill contained fired clay, raw clay & chalky cob. Clean gravel fill continued beneath top fill. Feature resembled pits of area D.

BELHUS PARK FEATURE LIST

Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase*	Description
65	68,71, 72,73, 81	57	II-III	North enclosure ditch: 1.8m wide, 70cm deep; open V profile. Fills: 73: primary fill; strong brown, dirty sand; soft and loose with common pebbles. 72: dark brown loamy sand; soft, occasional pebbles. Similar to 68, occasional stone-free. Forms thin layer along N. side of ditch axis. Yielded Middle Iron Age rim. Either: period of stabilisation before bank collapse or collapsed turfs. 71: yellowish brown, soft loose, gravelly dirty sand with steep dips, extended to ditch centre. Rapid fill from N, probably bank collapse. 83: brown loamy sand; lateral equivalent of 71 flanking S side of ditch. 68: dark brown loamy sand; soft with common pebbles especially along ditch axis. Slow final fill of ditch.
69	70	57	II?	Gully: 50-60cm wide, 8cm deep very slight evidence of post-holes along base of gully. Possibly a revetment or palisade slot but the evidence is not clear. 70: brown loamy sand fill with 1-2 sherds of flint-gritted ware.
74	Seg.a 101 b. 102,115 116. c. 75,96 (=76),97	57	IV	Pit complex, apparently cut by ditch 90. 4 x 2m, c 115cm deep but only 20cm deep in seg. a to S. Segment b. 116: primary fill, mottled sandy clay loam merged up into: 115: light grey loamy sand, including Roman grey ware.

*Phases are according to the site sequence, see text Part 2.

BELHUS PARK (continued)

Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
74 (continued)				<p>102: final fill of grey brown mottled loamy sand.</p> <p>Seg. c. 97: lowest fill of pale grey sand merged up into:</p> <p>96: uniform grey brown loamy sand, no finds.</p> <p>75: final fill of dark brown loam which contained apparently residual sherds.</p> <p>An enigmatic feature which contained some Romano-British pottery in primary context.</p>
78	79,80	-	?	<p>Ditch: 1m wide, 40cm deep. Orientation N-S; length unknown. Roughly parallel to and 20m W of road trace.</p> <p>80: primary fill of yellowish brown loamy sand.</p> <p>79: Brown loam sand final fill. No finds. Possibly a field ditch perpendicular to ditch 98.</p>
88	81,82,84, 85,86,87, 89,92,93, 94,95	57	III	<p>Large ditch or pit, 2.8m wide, 1.6m deep, cut by ditch 90 to N. Fills (from base):</p> <p>94: grey waterlogged silty clay forming primary fill.</p> <p>93: clay above 94.</p> <p>87: grey sandy clay, waterlogged.</p> <p>86: light grey brown, mottled loamy sand. In feature long axis. Contained almost complete Middle Iron Age jar (BP7, Fig. 78).</p>

BELHUS PARK (continued)

Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
88 (continued)				<p>95: red-yellow sandy clay loam interleaved with 86, 87 and 94.</p> <p>84: dark grey-brown sandy clay along feature long axis. Slightly organic and stained by fine charcoal dust.</p> <p>82: light olive brown mottled clayey sand. Calcined flints common and much pottery including very large fragments of shell tempered ware.</p> <p>85: pale olive brown loamy sand merging into 82.</p> <p>89: pale brown sandy clay loam, merging into 85.</p> <p>81: dark grey-brown sandy loam, common calcined flints, some charcoal fragments. Final fill of feature 88 might be a large pit complex or a recut from the enclosure to the east along line of enclosure ditch 110.</p>
90	91,100	57	IV	<p>E-W ditch which cut 88 and probably also pit complex 74. Width c. 1.8m; total depth below ground surface: 1.3m.</p> <p>91: light grey-brown loamy sand with abundant dark brown mottles.</p> <p>100: adjacent to 74; not recorded due to flooding.</p>
98	99	57	IV	<p>E-W ditch: 1.25m wide, 62cm deep. Open 'V' profile.</p> <p>99: dark brown sandy loam becoming sandier below. A few Romano-British sherds in top 30cm.</p>

BELHUS PARK (continued)

Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
110	111,112, 113	57	II-III	<p>South ditch of enclosure. 1.2m wide, 60cm deep. Fills imply bank located to S. Waterlogged for part of year.</p> <p>113: primary fill, grey-brown sandy clay loam.</p> <p>112: yellow-brown sandy loam, possibly equivalent of 72 in ditch 65. Rapid fill result of erosion of ditch sides and possibly bank.</p> <p>111: Slow final fill of brown sandy loam. Fills contain occasional flint-gritted sherds and calcined flints.</p>
117	118	57	IV?	<p>East-west ditch: 1.1m wide, 30cm deep which cut enclosure ditch 122. Broad shallow profile.</p> <p>118: brown, soft loamy sand. Cut by cremation 123 near ditch junction with 122.</p>
119	120	57	II?	<p>East-west gully: 60cm wide, 20-30cm deep, cut by enclosure ditch 122.</p> <p>120: brown loamy sand, abundant pebbles and occasional calcined flints. Includes many lenses of clean sand. A deep, narrow gully cut in soft sand, possibly with sand packing. Possibly a beam trench or palisade slot, but evidence not strong.</p>

BELHUS PARK (continued)

Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Phase	Description
122	124,125, 126	57	II-III	North-south enclosure ditch: 1.1m wide. 126: primary mottled pale grey sandy clay loam fill. Periodically waterlogged. 125: Above 126; pale grey loamy sand, 10-15cm thick layer containing fine charcoal fragments. 124: grey-brown loamy sand containing fired clay flecks and other cultural debris. Final slow fill.
123	-	57	IV	Cremation cut into fill of ditch 117 at point where it cut 122. 261 gms dry weight of bone representing one adult. Contained in sand-tempered red and grey ware Romano-British vessel. Rim and shoulder truncated during road stripping.
127	65,110, 122	57	II/III	Sub-rectangular enclosure ditch.

NORTH OCKENDON FEATURE LIST

Feature Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Description
573	573	60	<u>Site 7.</u> Situated on extension of New Dennises Lane/Dennises Road immediately E of overpass. Features cut in grey-brown clay. 1 or 2 gullies. Gully 573 yielded numerous sherds. Orientated NE-SW, c. 50cm wide, 30-40cm deep.
<u>SITE 6</u>			
1201	574, 1200, 1202	62	Group of shallow pits/scoops. Fills: 1200, clay, much charcoal and fired clay, some burnt bone; probably occupation debris. 1202, clay ditto 1200 although less occupation debris than 1200. 1202 at E end of complex above or cut through 1200.
1203	1203	62	Shallow N-S scoop, part of complex 1201; similar to 1200; probably cut by 1201.
1204	1204	62	Very similar to 1203, same relationship with 1201.
1205	1206	62	Shallow E-W ditch. Terminates to E and W. That at W leaves 1.9m gap (gate?) between it and 1207. 1.1m wide, 40 cm deep. Fill 1206: dark grey-brown mottled clay, patches and clods of yellow-brown clay at sides and top. Few pebbles, charcoal rare.

NORTH OCKENDON (continued)

Feature Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Description
1207	1208,1209, 1210,1211, 1212,1215.	62	N-S ditch. 1.0-2.2m wide. Soil mark wider than ditch which is closer to 1.0m wide; 68cm deep. Single cut, eventually replaced by ditch 1217. Fills: 1208 (top), dark grey clay, common charcoal, occasional fired clay. 1209 (below 1208), medium grey clay/sandy silty clay, many large cobbles. Charcoal common, fired clay rare. 1210, below 1209; grey clay, orange mottles (common), include iron precipitates, charcoal, fired clay rare. 1211, green-grey clay, dark brown mottles, common pebbles. No fired clay or charcoal. 1212, below 1210, light grey-brown silty clay, very pebbly, iron precipitates. Charcoal rare. 1215, wedge along E side of ditch. Some evidence of periglacial contortions in subsoil.
1213	1214	62	Shallow gully or spread, 60cm wide, 10cm deep. E-W variable. Fill 1214 dark grey brown clay, rare pebbles, common charcoal frags, some brick or burnt clay.
1216	1216	-	Spread or shallow irregular feature. Situated to SE of cleaned area, 2-4m SE of 1201. Soil mark only but yielded numerous sherds.

NORTH OCKENDON (continued)

Feature Context no.	Contained contexts	Figure No.	Description
1217	1217	W of 62	N-S ditch. 1.5m wide, dark grey-brown fill contains roots. 5.5-6.0m W of 1207 and roughly parallel to it. Appears on 6" map as field boundary, grubbed out in recent years.
<u>SITE 8</u>			
1818	1218	60	(Originally area C). From Dennises Road stretches 80m to N. Subsoil yellowish-brown silty clay more gleyed than at site 6. Complex of features cut in subsoil. Common charcoal flecks; 1 or 2 frags of Rhenish-type lava. Cooking pot with applied, thumbbed strips inverted in top of feature.

Stifford Clays

Romano-British Pottery Phase VII (unillustrated)

This occurred in relatively small quantities and was restricted to a few small features, the very top fill of ditches 105 and 137 and an east/west ditch 131. None were worthy of illustration.

Ditch 105 Context 130: 2 small sherds including 1 of samian.
Ditch 131 132 (final: 1 R-B everted rim jar type J*
fill) 3 fragments of plain rim dish type A 3rd/4th century
A.D.
2 fragments of wide mouth jars, type K, 3rd/4th
century.
149 (sec- 2 fragments of flanged dish, type D, mid 3rd century
ondary fill) or later. 1 wide mouth jar, type K 3rd/4th century.
1 small fragment of Nene valley colour coated
rouletted beaker. 1 small samian fragment.
*Mucking kiln types after Jones and Rodwell, 1973.

Ditch 137 Seg. B. Context 199 (top fill): 1 R-B base.

Gully 144 and features 153 and 167 yielded sherds of Romano-British pottery, too few and small for a secure date. Gully 184 yielded fragments of B1-1 and C1-2 vessels of 1st century A.D. date but this feature could be a little later.

Roman pottery from Ardale areas C and D

This small selection, from a variety of contexts is not illustrated but drawings are available in the Essex County Council Archive. Much is clearly residual but some serve as a terminus post quem for the features in which they occur.

Ditch 1502. One hard pale red sand-tempered body fragment with oblique finger nail impression below incised perimeter groove. Resembles Mucking kiln type S storage jars, notably 110 and 112 (Jones and Rodwell, 1973). Also an undercut rim jar of similar form to Mucking type J but not clearly datable. Neither is necessarily in a primary context and it is only realistic to offer a Romano-British or later date for these field ditches.

Pit 1529. From small disturbed patch in top of Middle Iron Age pit. contained two rims, a grey ware undercut rim, similar to Camulodunum form 266 (1st century A.D.) and an everted rim in a dark grey ware with pink core. Possibly of Mucking type K (2nd century A.D.).

Sunken hut 1532, context 1533. A cupped rim, pale brown with grey core, sand tempered. Mucking type G, 200 A.D. or later.

Post-built building, 1534. From N-S wall slot, 1539, context 1545. An undercut rim of Camulodunum form 266A in hard, sand-tempered grey ware, probably 1st century. Also a worn Romano-British plain rim in a smooth, pale grey fabric with grey matt slip. These only act as a terminus post quem for the construction of the building because a wall slot would not necessarily be expected to contain the debris of the occupation.

Pit 1541. A large fragment of pie dish rim in grey ware with a red-brown core. Similar to those of Mucking kiln type B but quite deep, almost a bowl.

Sunken hut C, 1903. The fills contained a flagon rim in a soft red-orange ware with a grey core (context 1904), a burnt samian bowl, form 18/31, 1st half of 2nd century, and a flat-topped rim with a pale orange or red slip. Pit 2090, another Saxon feature, contained a second samian bowl of form 18/31.

None of the above group fall outside the chronological range of the area A occupation therefore either the settlement and its dumps spread across areas C and D or the sherds were scattered as a result of manuring with settlement-derived organic waste.

The Fabric of Selected Saxon Sherds from Stifford Clays and Ardale.

J.A. Lee

The 9 body sherds submitted for analysis were examined with the aid of a binocular microscope with magnification X 10 and X 30. All were from Ardale except for SC 240 which was from Stifford Clays feature 239.

Three groups can be discerned:

Group a: 885	Illustrated, no. 2.	Fig. 79.
1236C	Illustrated, no. 6.	
1920C	Not illustrated.	
Group b: 1536A	Illustrated, no. 5.	
1536B	Illustrated, no. 4.	
1877	Not illustrated.	
1902B	Not illustrated.	
SC 240	Illustrated, no. 1.	
Group c: 1902A	Not illustrated.	

Group a

The surfaces feel quite smooth, there are traces of burnishing inside and outside on 885 and 1902C. Nothing else appears to have been added to the clay apart from the abundant organic tempering showing on both surfaces and in the break. The burnishing has not eliminated the impressions on the surfaces. This fabric is confined to the thinner walled sherds - 4-6 mm thick as opposed to 7-17mm thickness of groups b and c.

Group b

These contain abundant grass tempering as with group a, but also contain a small amount of ill-sorted quartz sand ranging from fine (0.15mm) to medium (0.25-0.5mm).

Group c

This sherd is also heavily grass tempered and contains angular and sub-angular quartz sand, size range 0.25-1.00mm.

The main distinguishing feature is a moderate number of coarse (0.5mm) and very coarse (1-2mm) rounded iron oxide grains. Grey grains within the paste could be the same iron compound.

All groups possess a medium hardness, that is, the surfaces are not scratched by a finger nail but are scratched by a penknife.

Not too much attention has been paid to the degree of oxidation or reduction. When dealing with vessels that were probably fired by a simple method e.g. in a bonfire, it is highly likely that both effects would occur in varying degrees on the same pot, and thus are not a reliable measure of fabric.

Comparison with Mucking fabrics

Group a

A close comparison is with group lb, a common fabric, grass tempered with a grey black or rust coloured matrix which has a fine powdery appearance possibly resulting from quartz as fine silt occurring naturally within the clay.

Group b

This also compares closely with that of group lb. The slight amount of quartz sand justifies a subdivision for Ardale and possibly points the way to a future subdivision for Mucking.

The fabric of these two groups would not be out of place in the Mucking pottery assemblage, but whether we can state that these were the work of Mucking potters is another matter. The simplest explanation at the moment is that the clay used could have had a wide distribution in the area.

There is, so far, nothing like sherd 1902A at Mucking, not even in the as yet unclassified fabrics.

TABLE M.II Pottery fabric types

Hamilton Classes	Wilkinson Primary Classific- ation	Wilkinson secondary Classific- ation	Context	Form/Catalogue Number
6a	1	F	1947	Everted rim bowl
5a	3	G	1818	Everted rim storage jar
5a	3a	G	1861	Large jar
3b	6	E	1847	-
3b	7	E	1853	Everted rim jar
5b	8	E or G	1859	Jar. No. 40
1d	9	D	1861	Everted rim. No. 41
7a	10	(See Saxon	1876	-
7a	11	(Pottery	1877	See Saxon pottery
4a	13	E/H	1901	Upright jar. No. 45
2a	14	B	1901	-
6a	16	F	1947	Everted rim jar
4a	17	C (B)	1947	Low ring base
1d	18	D	1948	Sherd with impressed decoration No. 49
1c	19	A	1963	-
4a	20	C (E)	1988	-
4a	21	C (E)	1994	-
3a	24	E	2077	-
4a	27	C (E)	1515	Flat base
3b	28	E	1515	-
4a	29	C (E)	1521	-
3a	30	C or E	1521	-
3a	31	E	1525	Everted rim bowl
7a	33	C	1555	-
4a	36	C	1601	-
7a	37	C	950	Shouldered jar. No. 12
2a	14	B	SC 232	-
5a	2	G	SC 231	-

Where a letter is given in brackets this represents a subordinate temper:

B = flint; E = sand. - signifies no form: body sherd only

TABLE 1.111 Proportion of flint and shell tempered body sherds from the enclosure ditches, Stifford Clays

Ditch	Total no. of body sherds	Flint gritted		Shell tempered		F.G.:S.T.
		No.	%	No.	%	
105	433	209	48	48	11	4.4:1
137	138	83	60	9	6.5	9.2:1
181	207	135	65	13	6.2	10.4:1

THE CREMATIONS

by F.V.H. POWELL

Four Romano-British and two Anglo-Saxon cremations were submitted for analysis. In addition, three smaller samples, 793, 869 and 1312 were examined to determine whether or not human bone was present. After excavation, soil samples of the cremations were dry sieved using a 2mm mesh and all cremated bone was submitted for examination.

Of the nine contexts presented for analysis, most consisted of very small fragments of bone of a beige/white colour. Occasionally, blue/black interiors of the larger fragments were observed but these were relatively rare. The degree of distortion and fissuring in all the cremated bone was relatively slight to moderate. From fragment size, colour and degree of fissuring it can be concluded that although the fire temperatures involved during the cremations may not have been extreme, the duration of the cremation was long enough for complete burning of the corpse. No unburnt bone was found.

Contexts 793 and 869 were incomplete collections and consisted of very small fragments, which were impossible to identify as human or animal. 1312, also incomplete, was probably human. The other cremations, however, were probably complete or consisted of the majority of the remains of only one individual in each. All were of adults though the exact age and sex were impossible to determine due to the lack of diagnostic fragments.

The following is a brief description of each sample. Definite cremations are asterisked.

123* Weight 261 grams. Consisted of small fragments of long bone shafts the largest of which was 17mm. Apart from the shaft fragments, only cranial fragments could be identified. The bone was white with slight fissuring. Probably one adult individual.

793 The fragmentary remains weighed 5 grams. The fragments were of small long bone shafts. The bone was white with slight fissuring. There was no diagnostic fragment to identify the bone as human or animal.

869 The burnt bone weighed 3 grams and consisted of tiny fragments which were too small to identify as human or animal. The bone was grey/white with no fissuring.

1312 Weight: 3 grams, consisting of very small fragments of small long bone shafts and two fragments of articular surfaces (possibly of phalanges or carpals/tarsals). The bone was white with no fissuring. Probably human; phalanges, carpals/tarsals are diagnostic.

1960* Included in the cremation were three iron nails, possibly coffin nails. The bone fragments were very small with no identifiable pieces except for a few cranial fragments. Probably one individual. The bone was beige/white with slight to moderate fissuring.

2088* The cremation during excavation was divided into 'top half' and 'bottom half'. The total weight of the cremation was 1390 grams with the top half weighing 243 grams and the bottom half weighing 1147 grams.

The top half contained relatively large fragments with the largest piece, of a femur shaft, measuring 54mm. The identifiable fragments consisted of: vertebrae (centra and facets); the proximal end of a right ulna including the articular surface; a distal shaft fragment of a radius; the articular surface fragments of a femur (distal end) and humerus (head); and cranial fragments (parietal and occipital with deep sharp sutures). The bone was beige/white with some fragments blue/grey. There was moderate fissuring and moderate twisting of the cranial fragments.

The bottom half consisted of much larger fragments of long bones than the top half. The identifiable fragments were: articular surfaces of femur and tibia (proximal and distal); tibia shaft; fibula shaft; right patella; iliac crest; metatarsal and metacarpal; radius collar; proximal humerus; scapulae; rib shaft; and cranial fragments with sharp sutures. The bone was white with some of the cancellous bone a shiny black. There was moderate to marked fissuring.

These probably represent one adult individual and appear to have been cremated at a much higher temperature and perhaps for a shorter period than the other cremations studied from Ardale.

2089* The weight was 677 grams. The majority of the fragments were of long bone shafts and the articular surfaces of the long bones. Other identifiable fragments were: cranium; tibia shaft; humerus head; vertebrae; rib shaft; and iliac crest. The bone was beige/white with some grey/black interiors. The fissuring was moderate. Probably one adult individual.

2091* Weight 800 grams. The long bone fragments weighed 235 grams, the cranial fragments 65 grams, and miscellaneous fragments 500 grams.

Probably one adult individual of indeterminate sex. Identifiable fragments consisted of cranial fragments, long bone shaft fragments, articular surface fragments (including the head of humerus and the olecranon of an ulna); rib fragments; vertebral fragments; a first metacarpal fragment; hand phalange fragments; a cuboid tarsal fragment; and a root fragment of a single-rooted tooth (probably incisor).

The bone was beige/white with only slight fissuring. The average fragment size was 10-20mm. These details would suggest relatively low cremation temperatures but continuous to complete cremation.

Comparing this cremation with the eight others from this site, the bone would appear to have been burnt at a slightly lower temperature but to the same degree of cremation, the fragment size being comparable. The total weights, degree of fissuring, and the contents of the cremations are also comparable and it would be difficult to differentiate them on reasons other than context.

TABLE M.IV ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS OF SUBMITTED CREMATION SAMPLES

Those marked * were definite cremations.

SITE	CONTEXT NUMBER	DATE	CONTEXT DESCRIPTION	CROSS REFERENCE
Belhus Park	123*	Roman	Contained in Romano-British pottery vessel cut in top of ditch 117. Top machined off prior to discovery.	Belhus Pottery Report.
Ardale A	793	?	Fill of small pit or posthole immediately S of 807.	-
Ardale A	869	Saxon	Top axial fill of gully 807g. Fill might be remains of ploughed out barrow.	-
Ardale A	885*	Saxon	Cremation contained in Early Saxon pot. Within Saxon cemetery.	Saxon cemetery rep.
Ardale B	1312	Late Iron	Within fill of possible grave pit. Context was either cremation within grave or cultural deposit slumped into pre-existing grave.	Late Iron Age crematory rep.
Ardale D	1960*	Roman	Contained within grey ware jar located in S of Area D. Body probably burnt within coffin and remains interred in pot.	Roman pot from areas C & D
Ardale D	2088*	Roman	Cremation contained within 3rd/4th century vessel within coffin, 2085.	ditto
Ardale D	2089*	Roman	As for 2088	ditto
Ardale D	2091*	Saxon?	Within pit, upper fill of which contained Early Saxon pottery. Associated with fragments of iron ring.	-

The River Terraces and their Periglacial Alteration.

The use of river terrace morphology alone can lead to geomorphological miscorrelations because a given terrace surface will frequently mask a sedimentary complex of varied age. Here, the terrace morphology is described first followed by a summary of representative stratigraphic sections. No detailed interpretation is attempted because this would be beyond the archaeological requirements and the available data.

Terrace surfaces:

- a) The highest fluvial terrace occurs at 34m (110ft) in the vicinity of the Orsett Cock roundabout and at a slightly lower elevation near Grays Palmers School on the eastern by-pass. This is conventionally taken to be the Boyn Hill terrace first named by Whitaker (1889).
- b) An intermediate terrace forms an extensive flat area at approximately 26m OD (84½ ft) roughly between Stifford Clays and Baker Street, Orsett.
- c) A still lower surface extends from Cuckoo Lane, North Stifford in the east to Ardale School in the west at an altitude of 17.5-22m (55-70ft). North of the Mar Dyke, this surface continues as an extensive terrace undulating between 17 and 20m OD (55-65ft). This has been mapped as the Taplow terrace (Fig. 3).

Other terraces exist at lower elevations but are beyond the area of motorway and are not discussed here.

Deposits:

- a) Orsett causewayed enclosure. This sequence was exposed during the 1975 excavations of the enclosure and is described in more detail in that publication (Wilkinson: in Hedges and Buckley, 1978).
 - I) An upper gravel, periglacially disturbed and approximately 2m thick. Elevation: c. 29.7-31.7m OD.
 - II) A lower sand and gravel, approximately 3m thick exhibiting fluvial bedding. Elevation: 26.7-29.7m OD.

Bed II overlay Blackheath beds.

b) Baker Street, Orsett. This sequence is more fully described below and is illustrated in cross section in Toller and Wilkinson (1980). Beneath the topsoil at approximately 26m OD thin patches of 'cover loam; occur sporadically and beneath, a more continuous deposit of reddish yellow heavy clay loam measures up to 0.50m deep. This in turn overlies approximately 4.0m of sand and gravel the base of which is around 20-21m OD.

c) Belhus Park, Aveley. This sequence provided a group of Palaeolithic artifacts as well as the most explicit palaeoenvironmental information to be found within the terrace deposits.

Section i: Below footbridge over the M25, Belhus Park, east entrance. NGR TQ 5747 8106. P.L. Gibbard.

The sequence comprised 3.7m of stratified gravel and sand (elev. c. 10.6-14.3m) overlain by 1.2m of dark grey organic sediment (14.3-15.5m) above which a second bed of stratified gravel and sand, 2m thick occurred (15.5-17.5m). Samples for palaeobotanical and faunal analyses were taken at two localities. The most productive sequence was found to be on the eastern side of the cutting immediately south of the bridge.

The organic sediments comprise a sequence of brown grey silty clay at the base, overlain by dark grey silty clay rich in plant fragments, wood and mollusc shells.

Pollen analyses show that the silty clay contains a pollen assemblage including Pinus, Quercus, Ulmus, Tilia, Fraxinus and Acer, indicating temperate mixed oak forest vegetation. The proportions of these types indicates that the deposits were laid down in a shallow stream channel in a forested environment. The assemblage indicates that the silty clay dates from pollen assemblage biozone IpIIa of the Ipswichian interglacial stage. This date shows that the underlying gravels must be of pre-Ipswichian, probably Wolstonian age whilst the overlying gravel must post-date the Ipswichian and is therefore of Devensian age.

Section ii: A group of Achenlian flint tools was found by Graham Ward (Passmore Edwards Museum) approximately 200m north of the above sequence but in the west cutting at TQ 5743 8127.

Only 3.0-3.5m of sand and gravel over the unknown depth of silty clay and fine silt could be observed. The silty clay graded laterally into the organic rich silty clay exposed in section i). The silty clay contained occasional thin beds of coarse sand and fine gravel, again suggesting suggesting deposition in a small stream. They were mottled grey and reddish yellow and appeared to be

slightly more oxidised and less humic than those in section i). The tools were found in the silty clay near the interface with the overlying sand and gravel.

Immediately south of the Mar Dyke, borehole information indicates that the Stifford terrace comprises a sand and gravel sheet of variable thickness with a base no lower than c. 10.0m OD and a ground surface up to 22m OD. These deposits were traces in the field as far as Cuckoo Lane, North Stifford.

The above data demonstrates the existence of three distinct terrace benches each covered in a distinctive group of sediments. The elevations of their upper and lower surfaces do not overlap but the upper surface of any given deposit occurs close to the elevation of the unit above. Also, to judge by the elevation of the deposits, the Stifford terrace is part of the Aveley/Ockendon terrace but lacks the silty, organic sequence.

Without additional chronological information it is not possible to produce a complete succession of fluvial phases. The Belhus Park sequence, for example, appears to encompass two glaciations and an interglacial therefore the single terrace bench does not correspond to a single span of time. The problem is similar in the Swanscombe sequence, 5.6 km to the South of North Stifford where Boyn Hill sediments, which themselves represent a long and complex fluvial sequence, range from approximately 22m OD for the base of the lower gravels up to c. 34m OD at the top of the upper gravel. Sequence a) from Orsett corresponds in elevation to the top of the upper middle gravel at Swanscombe - also a cryoturbated gravel - which is of early Wolstonian date. The entire vertical range at Swanscombe could therefore encompass both the Baker Street and the Orsett sequence. It is not at present possible to relate the north bank sequence to that at Swanscombe in any detail but it is hoped that the data presented here will eventually contribute to a more complete synthesis of the terrace record.

Periglacial Structures

Unequivocal evidence of periglacially disturbed sediments was relatively scarce in the sections examined, in contrast to the wealth of evidence available from the higher Boyn Hill terrace at Orsett causewayed enclosure and Mucking.

Non-sorted polygons

Rectory Road, Orsett. A small group occur to the south of site 1 on relatively flat ground and a somewhat larger group are found on gently dipping NE facing slopes to the east of Rectory Road (see Fig. 3). Both groups are on Blackheath

beds. These have previously been noted by Evans (1972) and they can be described as an incomplete net of non-sorted polygons. Estimates from oblique air photographs suggest net diameters in the region of 7.0-9.0m for the smaller features and 18-20m for the larger. None were obvious during road construction and no information on the cast fills is available.

Stifford Clays. This group occurred in the field to the west of Stifford Clays cottages but now only remain in the small tract of land between the new A13 and Stifford Clays road (Fig. 3, just north of site 3). Two groups exist and are separated by a shallow valley infilled with postglacial colluvium or slopewash deposits. They occur on gently dipping north facing slopes developed on Woolwich beds.

Again, the cropmarks appear to represent an incomplete net of non-sorted polygons. Net diameters of approximately 4-5m and 7-10m were common and larger features up to 30m diameter could also be distinguished.

In general, the polygon diameters estimated here are less than would be expected for ice-wedge polygons from present day Arctic environments but are similar to the small features recorded by Shotton in the valley of the Worcestershire Avon (Shotton, 1960). Similar features were exposed during archaeological excavations at Mucking (unpublished report by T.J. Wilkinson) and their mean diameters of 10-12m is closer to the intermediate net diameter of 10-12m is closer to the intermediate net diameter noted above. Owing to the rather small size of the A13 examples it would be unwise to describe them as nets of ice wedge polygon casts without further evidence. Instead, like the Mucking examples, these might be interpreted as nets of relict non-sorted polygons produced in seasonally frozen ground rather than permafrost.

Other features

In the vicinity of Grey Goose Farm, Baker Street, an extensive scatter of circular, pit-like features has been recorded as cropmarks and by trial excavations. Their possible periglacial formation is discussed below.

Linear features, at Baker Street
(Fig. 9)

In plan, the cropmarks resemble casts of ice wedge polygons except that they do not form a regular net across the ground but are discontinuous and some exhibit a series of bulges (q, figure) or pits (r) along their length. Well formed patterns of ice wedge casts or soil wedge polygons have been recorded along the A13 (this volume, above and R. Evans, 1972) and elsewhere along the lower Thames terraces (Gruhn 1969). This demonstrates that climatic and ground conditions were suitable for polygon formation during the Pleistocene. Ice wedge casts are produced by thermal contraction cracking of the ground during periods of intense cold but similar patterns can be produced by seasonal freezing after which the cracks will become filled by sediment washed in during the thaw season.

Sections exposed in a 1m deep pipe trench at f, g and h2 (Figs 9 and 11) showed that the features were of an open 'U' shaped cross section filled with heavy clay loam and silt loam. Although the base of g only could be distinguished f and h2 also appeared to be shallow. None of the sections resembled those of 'normal' ice wedge casts. Instead they resemble sections of soil wedge polygons excavated by D. Bond at Mucking North Ring in 1978 (Unpublished report by T.J. Wilkinson). These, it was concluded, may only have required contraction cracking of the seasonally frozen ground for their formation.

The features illustrated appear to resemble an incomplete random orthogonal net (orthogonal because component limbs join approximately at right angles) with between 80 and 120m between the limbs. It is possible that during a long phase of post formational alterations, some of the intervening limbs have disappeared while others developed as channels for snow melt water. Such patterns frequently develop during the degradation of polygon systems in the Arctic as has recently been noted by French in the Canadian High Arctic (1976, p. 117) and Tedrow at Umiat in Alaska (1977, p. 113). It is hardly surprising that such features should form because all relict patterned ground will have been affected by climatic amelioration during which intense surface runoff would have prevailed.

The pit-like beads along the casts might result from secondary periglacial deformation of sediments along polygon limbs to produce features similar to those described below. Pits forming polygonal arrangements have recently been recorded by Paul Everson from the terraces of the river Bain in Lincolnshire (pers comm) and these may result from a similar process. Such beading, produced

by the occurrence of non-sorted mud circles along ice wedge casts cutting raised beach gravels have been observed by the writer in the Canadian High Arctic but have not been reported in the literature.

An alternative suggestion that the beads are tree hollows arranged along ditches cannot be accepted because the feature fills are mainly firm undisturbed clay loams not soft, disturbed sandy loam or topsoil.

Subcircular Cropmarks, probably of Periglacial Origin

The following text is intended to supplement that originally published in 1980.

Two areas were examined, the first was within the area of almost continuous clay loam capping (periglacial features figure 10) and the second to the west near the trench originally excavated by Hugh Toller, (A, figure 9).

Sketch plans on Fig. M.1 (b and c) illustrate the pattern in two adjacent lanes cleared by the box scraper. The western lane b was some 10cm deeper and exhibited a pattern of occasional small residuals of clay loam surrounded by loamy gravel. In contrast, in the eastern lane c the subsoil was mainly clay loam penetrated by occasional islands of gravel. Similar patterns can frequently be observed in England between soil horizons of contrasting texture and although they might have a periglacial origin they might equally result from a variety of other mechanisms.

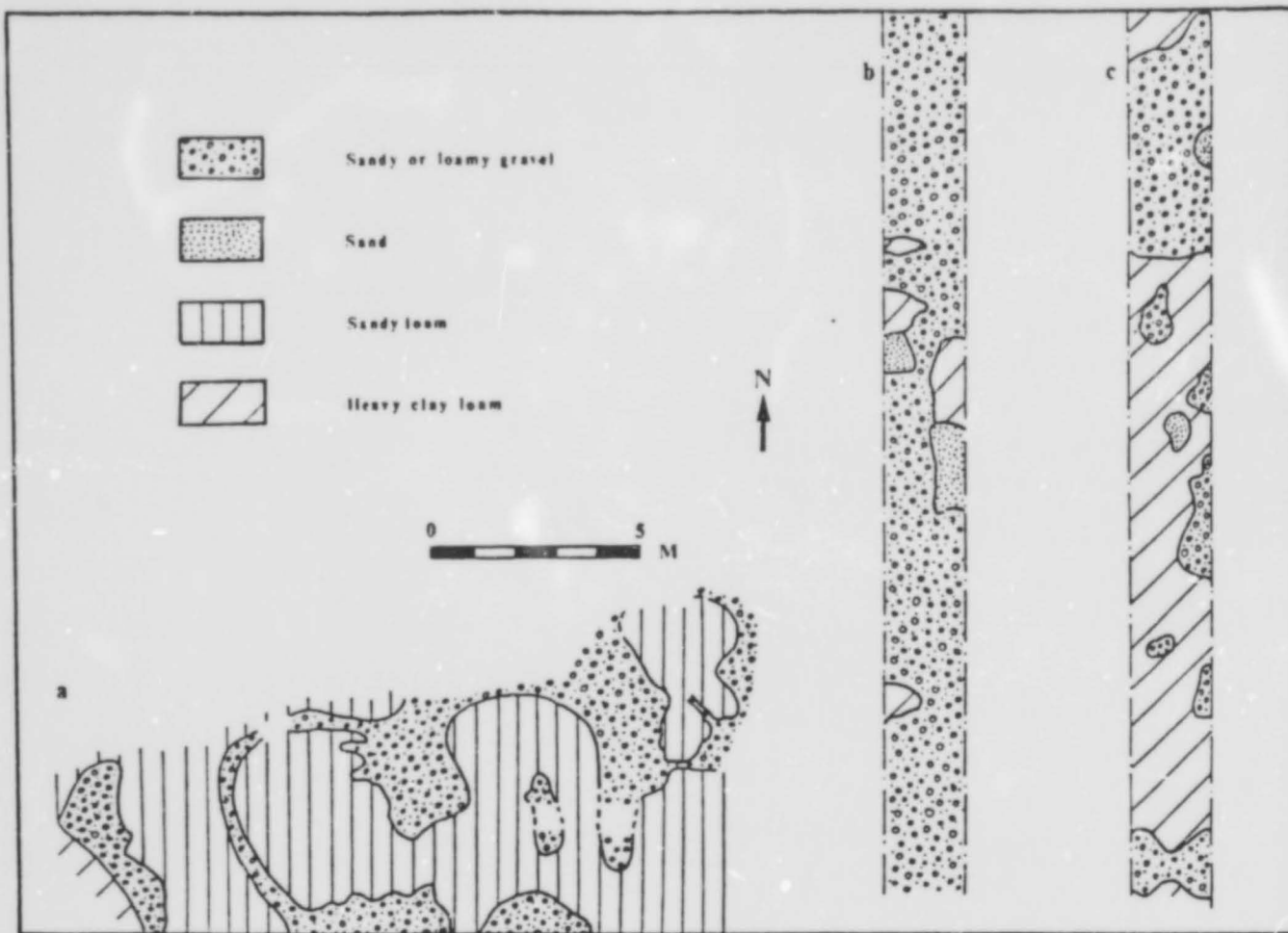
On sketch plan M sandy loams obscure clay loams beneath but the feature closely resemble those previously excavated by Hugh Toller (Toller and Wilkinson, 1980). Again, they would produce pit like cropmarks of 3-5m long axis. The complexity of the underlying strata is suggested by thin bands of gravel that separate the central finer bodies and it is likely that the gravel at least locally underlies the clay loam or sandy areas.

Sections exposed in a 1m deep pipe trench at d, e, j, h1 and h3 are illustrated on figure M.2. The features appear similar in section to the linear features cut at f, g and h2 with a clay loam or fine sandy loam plug apparently penetrating the sand and gravel from above. This differs from observations made in the original report partly because the 1976 sections were cut to more than 2.5m below ground level.

Combining the two sets of observations it appears that the clay loam probably originally overlay the gravel as is the case to the east, but locally it underlies the sand and gravel where plugs have formed.

If exact parallels are to be suggested, that of periglacial non-sorted mud circles as described in the original report still remains a good possibility. Alternatively, more general processes such as frost stirring of a frost susceptible soil (Tedrow, 1977, p. 90) or the deformation of sediments resulting from the differences in bearing capacity of two contrasting sediments (Tedrow, 1977, p. 90) may have produced the patterning. The widespread occurrence in the area of other indicators of former periglacial activity again suggests that a periglacial origin is likely.

M1



M2

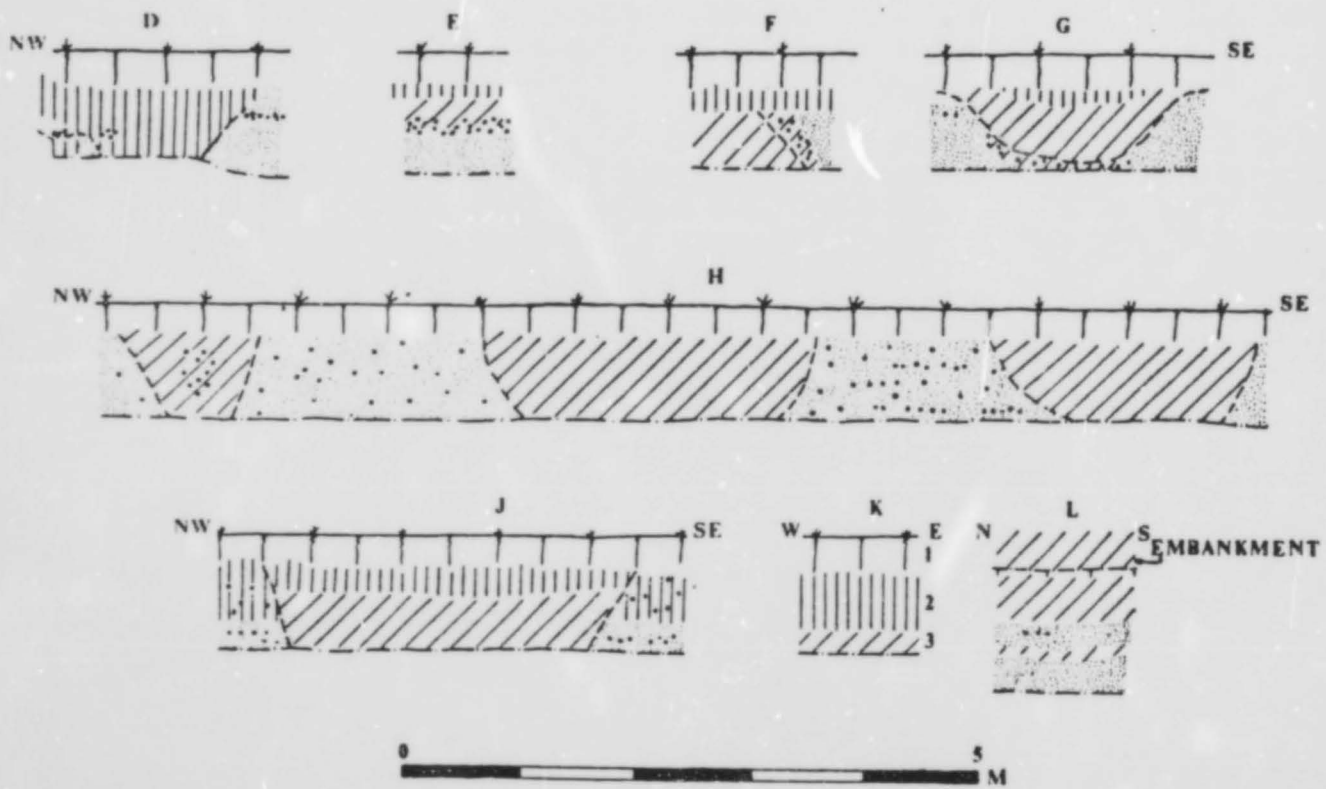


TABLE I: Ardale: Area D pits: Basic data

CONTEXT NO.	L	W	L/W	$\frac{L+W}{2}$ (dia.)	D	dia/D	Pit wall slope	Approx. volume m ³ Final	Original
1816	2.00	1.20	1.70	1.60	0.90	1.8	79°	1.70	1.50
1831	0.90	dia.	1.00	0.90	0.38	2.4	77°	0.20	0.28
1834	3.30	2.05	1.60	2.70	0.75	3.6	73°	3.58	4.06
1838	1.65	dia.	1.00	1.65	0.75	2.2	67°	1.06	0.82
1854	2.15	0.80	2.70	1.48	0.75	2.0	64°	0.75	0.45
1858	3.40	dia.	1.00	3.40	1.00	3.4	68°	7.10	5.30
1874	5.20	2.2	2.40	3.70	1.00	3.7	-	5.30	5.30
1920	1.60	dia.	1.00	1.60	0.72	2.2	76°	1.14	1.23
1974	2.00	1.6	1.25	1.80	0.43	4.2	53°	0.75	0.45
1987	2.40	2.0	1.20	2.20	0.75	2.9	53°	1.61	0.89
2008	2.00	dia.	1.00	2.00	0.85	2.4	63°	1.66	0.83
2031	2.70	1.9	1.40	2.30	0.82	2.8	64°	2.35	1.98
2058	0.95	dia.	1.00	0.95	0.45	2.1	64°	0.20	0.16
3000	1.10	dia.	1.00	1.10	0.50	2.2	73°	0.33	0.33
3005	1.40	dia.	1.00	1.40	0.55	2.5	52°	0.43	0.19

L = Pit length; W = Pit width; D = Pit depth. All linear dimensions in m.

Mean pit diameter = 1.92 m

Mean pit depth = 0.71 m

Mean ratio diameter/depth = 2.7

Mean slope of pit walls = 66°

Mean final pit volume (i.e. after erosion) = 1.87 m³

Mean original pit volume = 1.58 m³

B. Stifford Clays

Discussion

Neolithic:

Unequivocally diagnostic Neolithic wares were absent. A single jar or bowl with external grooves (SC1 from Late Iron Age ditch 105) might be of the Clacton sub-style of Grooved Ware (Longworth, Wainwright and Wilson 1971), but this attribution is uncertain.

Early Iron Age:

The abundance of residual flint-gritted pottery (Fabric A) bedevilled the interpretation of the ceramic sequence. At least 50% of the pottery from the main ditches (105, 137 and 181) was of Fabric A, whereas, even taken together, Fabrics E, F and G (sand, glauconite and shell-tempered) formed less than 40% of the total. Ditch 105, the latest of the three ditches, produced equal proportions of Fabrics E/F and G. The ratio of E+F to G was greater than one in 137 and greater than two in 181 where it still occurred in more than 20% of contexts.

The high proportion of residual pottery in ditch 105 produced a confusing array of ceramic types. This feature contained Neolithic Grooved Ware, an Early Iron Age finger-impressed rim, an everted rim jar fragment of the Middle Iron Age, and a 'Belgic' pedestal base. The single sherd of Grooved Ware suggests that some of the residual flint-gritted body sherds may be artefacts of Neolithic or even Bronze Age occupations, but no exclusively flint-gritted assemblages were found to support this.

The Fabric A pottery comprises 9 of the 27 illustrated sherds, which testifies to the significance of Early Iron Age or even pre-Iron Age occupation. Finger-impressed rims of Early Iron Age type are present on a tripartite jar (No. SC6, ditch 105) and on two jar rims from ditch 181 (Nos SC17 and SC19). The dearth of large or joining Fabric A sherds also implies that the Early Iron Age sherds were residual.

Middle Iron Age:

The Middle Iron Age is represented by everted jar rims in ditch 105 (Nos SC3 and SC6, both Fabric E), and a low ring-base (No. SC18, Fabric F) from the first cut (297) of ditch 181. The small rim, No. SC4 (Fabric E) resembles the 'slack-S' shaped jars of Ardale Area A (No. AS11, pit 913). The storage jar rim (No. SC8), although of Fabric A, may also be Middle rather than Early Iron Age, as it compares closely with No. AS23 from Area C at Ardale.

The barrel-shaped jar (No. SC15) was unique amongst the pottery excavated along the A13. It resembles both form 15A at Little Waltham and the Middle Iron Age 'barrel jars' of the upper Thames basin (cf. Harding 1974, fig. 67). A similar form but in flint-gritted ware was recorded at Orsett causewayed enclosure (Barrett 1978, fig. 39, no. 4) and was assigned to the Early Iron Age. The Stifford example is of local shell temper and more likely belongs to the Middle or Late Iron Age.

Late Iron Age:

Shell-tempered pottery, Fabric G, was present in significant quantities in all three ditches 105, 137 and 181. As at Ardale, some of this pottery may be Middle Iron Age, but the majority is probably Late Iron Age.

Late Iron Age forms include: two straight-sided 'bead rim' jars (Nos SC9 and SC14, from ditch 105 and 137 respectively), both are Thompson form C1-2, which were made between the late first centuries BC and AD (Thompson 1982); a hollow-rimmed bowl (No. SC11, Fabric G), Cam f. 250 from ditch 137; an internally thickened rim jar (No. SC16), Cam f. 254 (also Thompson (1982) C1-2), from pit 165; and a rilled jar (No. SC12) which usually ranges from AD 5 to AD 90, which represents one of the few possible post-conquest pieces (Thompson 1982, form C17-1).

The ledge rim sherd (No. SC22) resembles Nos. AS37 and AS38 from Ardale, and again hints at a local antecedent to the later wheel-made form.

Amongst the small amount of grog-tempered pottery (Fabric H) from ditch 105 was the class A4 pedestal base (No. SC7: Thompson 1982). This resembles no. 286 at Little Waltham which was thought by the excavator to be an early 'Belgic' form and occurred in phase III of the site (50-10 BC, the earlier part of that range; Drury 1978b, 81). The presence at Stifford of a potin coin of Apollo motif in context 130, some 20-30 cm above, does not conflict with this assessment. In addition, body sherds from a grey grog-tempered 'Belgic' B-2 jar (Thompson 1982) with rippled shoulder (not illustrated) came from 130, the top fill of ditch 105.

Combining quantitative evidence from fabrics with the presence/absence of diagnostic forms, it would appear that the first cut of ditch 181 was probably made in the Middle Iron Age. The second cut, together with the succeeding phase (the enclosure formed by ditches 105 and 137), then started filling in the Late Iron Age. Nearly all the diagnostic wares from ditches 105 and 137 fall between the second half of the first century BC and the Claudian invasion. There is virtually nothing to suggest a post-conquest date for any fills of ditches 105, 137 and 181, and clearly diagnostic forms of the second half of the first

century AD in the native tradition are absent. The presence, however, of three undatable scraps of Roman pottery from the surface of ditches 105 and 137 (see below), implies that a minor depression may have remained into the Roman period.

Illustrated pottery (Fig. 69)

All pottery is hand-made unless stated otherwise; forms are in Thompson's classification (Thompson 1982), and fabrics according to the scheme outlined on p. 000.

Phase I: Neolithic

Ditch 105

SC1 Jar or bowl: grog temper with occasional flint grits. Grey core, red-brown interior, light brown to grey patchy exterior. Fill 105

Phases II, III and IV: Iron Age

Ditch 105 Phase IV

SC2 Lid: Fabric A (common). Pale red exterior, grading to pale brown interior. Segment b, fill 179

SC3 Everted rim jar: Fabric E; hard. Black burnished exterior; dark grey interior and core. Segment b, fill 179

SC4 Fabric E; pale brown exterior; brown interior; very dark grey core. Segment a, fill 211

SC5 Everted rim: Fabric A. Black surfaces; core half red, half grey-brown. Segment a, fill 211

SC6 Tripartite jar: Fabric A (common). Black throughout. Rough finger-impressions on rim. Segment a, fill 211

SC7 Pedestal base, form A-4: Fabric H. Black burnished exterior; black interior; dark grey core. Zig-zag burnished design on exterior. Segment a, fill 213

SC8 Jar: Fabric A (abundant). Black surface; dark grey core. Segment a, fill 215

SC9 Straight-sided bead-rim jar, form C1-2: Fabric G. Black exterior; brown interior; grey-brown core. Segment b, fill 231

SC10 Fabric A (abundant). Pale red-brown surfaces; dark grey core. Segment b, fill 234

Ditch 137 Phases III and IV

- SC11 Hollow rim bowl: Fabric G. Brown surfaces; dark grey core. Segment b, fill 203
- SC12 Body sherd of rilled jar: Fabric E; hard. Grey surfaces; dark grey core. Wheel-made. Segment a, fill 246
- SC13 Fabric A (abundant). Pale brown surfaces; grey core. Segment a, fill 248
- SC14 Jar, form Cl-2: Fabric G. Dark grey-brown throughout. Fill 250

Pit 147 Phase IV

- SC15 Barrel jar: Fabric G. Red and dark grey exterior and core; pale red interior. Fill 148

Pit 165

- SC16 Jar, Thompson Cl-2: Grog and a little sand temper. Red surfaces; grey brown core. Fill 166

Ditch 181 Phases II and III

- SC17 Cabled jar rim: Fabric A. Dark grey with some pale red mottles throughout. Surface find
- SC18 Low ring-base: Fabric F. Black throughout. Burnished exterior. Segment a, fill 192
- SC19 Finger-impressed jar rim: Fabric A (sparse). Black throughout. Segment b, fill 254
- SC20 Fabric A. Dark grey throughout. Segment b, fill 255
- SC21 Fabric A. Pale red-brown and grey throughout. Segment b, fill 255
- SC22 Jar with slight internal ledge: Fabric G. Pale red surfaces; dark grey core. Segment b, fill 255

Ditch 261

- SC23 Fabric E. Pale red surfaces; dark grey core. Fill 262

Ditch 263

- SC24 Fabric E with some grog. Dark grey-brown throughout. Fill 263

Ditch 298

- SC25 Base: hard; sand temper; a little black grog. Pale grey-brown exterior and interior; grey core. Possibly 'Belgic'. Fill 341
- SC26 Sagging base: common small shell fragments. Pink to dull orange throughout. Wheel-thrown. Medieval, eleventh to thirteenth century. Fill 344

Primrose Island (Stifford Clays Site 9)

- SC27 Roman face pot: hard; fine textures; sandy. Orange. Wheel-thrown. (Thurrock Museum cat. no. 567 a and c) 103

D. Belhus Park

Iron Age

The assemblage is dominated by flint-gritted wares (Fabric A), which form 45-50% of pottery from all contexts. Ditch 65, with approximately 86% Fabric A sherds by number, yielded mostly Early Iron Age material, whereas feature 88, with only 10% of its pottery of Fabric A, produced the best group of Middle Iron Age wares.

Although Fabric A dominates the ditch 65 assemblage, the 10% of sherds of Fabrics E and F include a single rim sherd of 'slack-S' profile (No. BP5). This is Middle Iron Age in both form and fabric (cf. Little Waltham form 11), and its presence in fill 72, well down in the ditch, suggests a Middle Iron Age date for the early phase of ditch fill. The small flint-gritted rim fragments (Nos BP1-4), which include two with finger-impressed decoration, are probably residual from an Early Iron Age occupation.

In feature 88, the flint-gritted pottery was clearly residual. Among the Middle Iron Age forms are the everted rim bowl, No. BP6 (Little Waltham form 13); the complete small jar No. BP7 (a good example of Little Waltham form 4 complete with a small internal bead inside the rim); 'slack-S' jar No. BP8; and the jar No. BP9. All are in sand temper (Fabric E), but glauconite-tempered body sherds (Fabric F) are present in the top (context 68) of ditch 65, and in fills 82 and 87 of feature 88. Very slight finger impressions are discernable on the rim of No. BP9, and the vertically striated exterior was produced by grass impressions, and not vertical scoring as at Little Waltham (Drury 1978b, 58).

A number of large body sherds of a shell-tempered (Fabric G) storage jar were present in an upper fill (82) of feature 88. Neither this nor Nos BP6-9 were residual, and therefore feature 88 provides some evidence favouring a trend towards shell-tempering fabrics during the Middle Iron Age or slightly later.

By reference to the Little Waltham assemblage, a date range of mid-third to mid-first centuries BC seems most likely for the main phases of ditch 65 and feature 88, with the latter continuing to infill a little later but before wheel-turned, grog-tempered 'Belgic' pottery came into common use.

Roman

Number BP14 is a fairly complete example of a plain dish, Cam f. 40, Mucking type A. Such forms were made over a broad time range from the mid-second century, but this example is more likely to be of third or fourth-century date.

Number BP15 (context 123) contained cremated remains, and was cut in the top fill of ditch 117, of unknown date. Unfortunately, this vessel was not sufficiently distinctive to be confidently dated.

Although enough of No. BP14 was found for it to be regarded as suitable for dating purposes, it was from an enigmatic feature of no clear function. The south end of complex 74 was, however, cut by ditch 90 in plan, which would place the assemblage from contexts 91 and 100 in at least the late third or fourth century. Although abraded, the sherds from ditch 90 were sufficiently common to suggest that they were contemporary with the ditch and not residual in a later feature. This was not the case with the base from ditch 98, which might be residual. This rather weak dating evidence suggests a late Roman date for the east-west aligned field ditches, although they could be later.

Illustrated pottery (Fig. 78)

Phases I to III: Enclosure ditch and associated contexts.

Ditch 65

- BP1 Fabric A (abundant). Brown to grey-brown surfaces; dark grey core. Finger impressions on rim exterior. Fill 68
- BP2 Straight-sided jar: Fabric A (abundant). Pale red exterior; pale brown interior; grey core. Rim exterior decorated with finger-nail impressions. Fill 71
- BP3 Straight-sided jar: Fabric A. Dark grey throughout. Fill 71
- BP4 Straight-sided jar: Fabric A. Pale red-brown exterior; black interior and core. Fill 71
- BP5 Jar of 'slack-S' profile: Fabric E. Black, burnished exterior; grey-brown interior; dark grey core. Fill 72

Ditch 88

- BP6 Everted rim bowl (2 rim fragments): Fabric E; hard. Black throughout. Fill 86
- BP7 Small jar, complete: Fabric E; poorly sorted. Grey, grey-brown and brown patchy surfaces; dark grey brown core. Very slight finger impressions around rim and on shoulder result from hand-forming, not decoration. Fill 86

- BP8 Jar of 'slack-S' profile: Fabric E; fine with sparse grits. Brown and grey exterior; dark grey interior and core. Fill 87
- BP9 Jar: Fabric E. Dark grey throughout. Oblique finger impressions on rim; grass impressions on exterior form striated external decoration. Fill 87
- BP10 Fabric A. Orange and grey exterior; dark grey interior; black core. Fill 89

Ditch 122

- BP11 Footring base: Fabric A. Black exterior; orange and dark grey interior; dark grey core. Fill 124

Mar Dyke: Single sherd from deep section; -1.3 m OD (see Fig. 86)

- BP12 Low ring base: slightly friable; medium sand temper. Very dark grey throughout. Fabric resembles No. BP7. Probably Middle Iron Age. Context 575e

Phase IV: Roman features

Pit Complex 74

- BP13 Fabric E: hard. Dark grey throughout. Fill 74
- BP14 Plain rim dish (26 fragments): fine sand temper. Pale grey throughout except orange immediately below surfaces. Fill 115

Cremation 123

- BP15 Base, very slightly domed: fine sand temper. Red-brown exterior; red interior; grey core. N.B. the upper parts of this vessel had been machined-off prior to excavation. Context 123

Not Illustrated

Ditch 90 yielded a variety of body and base sherds, none of which are illustrated:

Fill 91: One small, worn grey ware sherd, probably from a pedestal base; also several small miscellaneous Roman body sherds.

Fill 101: Finds from this fill included two fragments of sandy grey ware, exterior oxidised red-brown, with one large and one small cordon. Possibly from just above shoulder of Mucking type N jar (third to fourth century). Also found were two small, worn fragments of an everted rim beaker or jar, in a pale red fabric with grey slip.

Ditch 98, Context 99, yielded a small worn fragment of a pedestal base in fine grey ware with matt grey coat (not illustrated).

F. Medieval pottery

Context

Except for a base sherd from Stifford Clays ditch 298, medieval pottery was almost absent along the A13. In contrast, on the M25 a significant increase was observed to the north of the Long Pond in Belhus Park (TQ 576819).

The illustrated pottery came from North Ockendon Sites 6, 7 and 8. Only sherds from pit complex 1201, gully 1205, and the un-illustrated sherds from ditch 1207, were from securely stratified contexts, the remainder having been excavated under salvage conditions from the top fills of features. All were from features however, and none had been disturbed by machines. No. 80.17 was inverted in the top of a large feature complex at Site 8, and only its rim and shoulder remained.

Discussion

The vessels fall into two chronological groups. The first group were those made during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries: Site 6, contexts 1201, 1205 and the lowest fill of 1207, and Sites 7 and 8. These comprise about 50% shell-tempered or fine shell-tempered wares, usually in a vesicular state. The characteristic form is the sagging based cooking pot. Secondly, pottery spanning the period from the fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries, and centred about the fifteenth century: this pottery was limited to Site 6, feature 1216 and the top of fill of ditch 1207. It is mainly hard, tempered with fine sand and oxidised red. At Waltham Abbey (Huggins 1976) similar sherds formed class H and J2 (Essex wares), and at that site the transition to well-fired sandy red pottery occurred around 1250-1300. The jug base, No. N09 is an example of this 'Essex ware' and a parallel from Waltham Abbey has been dated to the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries (Huggins 1976, fig. 39 no. 10). Glazes also appear to be more common in this group, although a single example (not illustrated) occurred at Site 8.

The two pottery groups were manufactured on either side of the Black Death (1348), and at Site 6 occupation continued to within a century or two of the first documentation of the site in the eighteenth century. It is not clear whether the apparent gap between the two phases represents the abandonment of the site, or is merely a result of the slump in the British pottery industry during the fourteenth century (Haslam 1978, 17).

Illustrated pottery (Fig. 80)

All from North Ockendon

Site 6

Pit complex 1201

- 80.1 Hard; fine sand temper. Grey-brown exterior; grey interior and core.
Fill 574
- 80.2 Fine vesicular (shell) temper; some sand. Red exterior and interior;
grey-brown core. Fill 574
- 80.3 Storage jar rim: soft, slightly porous, corky fabric. Red exterior and
interior; grey core. Diameter c. 30 cm. Base No. NO4 probably belongs.
Fill 1200
- 80.4 Sagging base. As No. NO3. Fill 1200

Gully 1205

- 80.5 Sagging base: fine vesicular (shell) fabric. Red to red-brown surfaces;
grey core. Fill 1205

Feature 1216

- 80.6 Hard sandy fabric. Red exterior and interior; grey core. Fill 1216
- 80.7 Hard sandy fabric. Orange exterior and interior; grey core. Fill 1216
- 80.8 Hard sandy fabric. Red throughout. Fill 1216
- 80.9 Pinched base of jug: hard, fine, sand temper. Red; evenly fired. Fill
1216
- 80.10 Top of strap handle: hard; fine, sand temper. Pale green glaze with dark
green mottles; grey core oxidised to red towards exterior. Fill 1216

Not illustrated:

- 2 small body sherds: fine sand temper. Red throughout; olive green glaze,
exterior only.
- 2 small body sherds: fine sand temper. Dark brown; some olive green glaze,
exterior.
- Abraded body sherd: fine sand temper. Grey throughout. External green glaze
with dark green patches. Small appliqué blobs of same clay body, also
glazed.

Ditch 1207

Not illustrated:

- 2 small fragments of evenly fired red ware; some grog temper. Yellowish-green
lead glaze exterior and interior. Fill 1208

Small body sherd: hard, fine, sand temper. Grey throughout except olive brown core. Fill 1212

Fragment of sagging base: fine vesicular (shell). Red-brown surfaces; grey core. Fill 1212

Site 7

Feature 573

80.11 Hard; abundant sand temper. Dark grey-brown exterior and core; red-brown interior. Fill 573

80.12 Sagging base: as No. N011, probably of same vessel.

80.13 Fine fabric, but with some vesicles and large grits. Red-brown surfaces; grey core. Fill 573

Not illustrated:

Rim: Sand temper; slightly vesicular. Dark red-brown exterior and interior; red-brown core. Fill 573

Small fragment of possible spout: vesicular. Very dark grey-brown throughout. Fill 573

Site 8

Feature 1218

80.14 Medium sand temper. Red exterior and interior; dark grey core. Fill 1218

80.15 Sparse medium sand temper. Dark red-brown exterior; red-brown interior; pale brown core. Fill 1218

80.16 Fine shell temper. Black exterior and interior; dark grey core. Fill 1218

80.17 Rim and shoulder of cooking pot: slightly vesicular, probably shell. Red exterior and interior; grey core. Finger-impressed strips applied vertically to exterior. Fill 1218

Not illustrated:

3 fragments: Very hard, medium sand temper. Core half grey, half pale red; pale olive-brown glaze. Fill 1218.

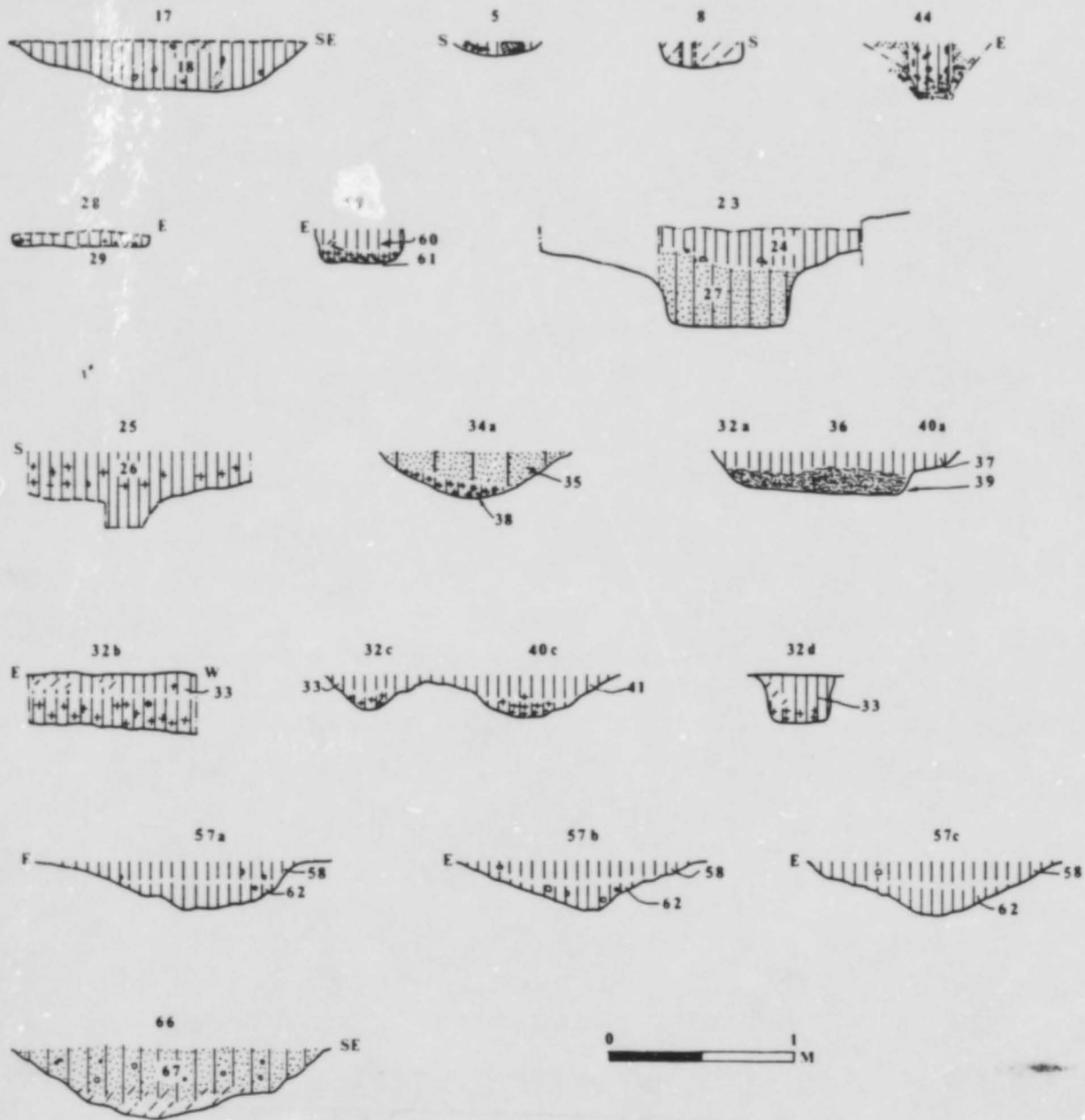


Figure 12 Baker Street: Sections. Scale 1:40

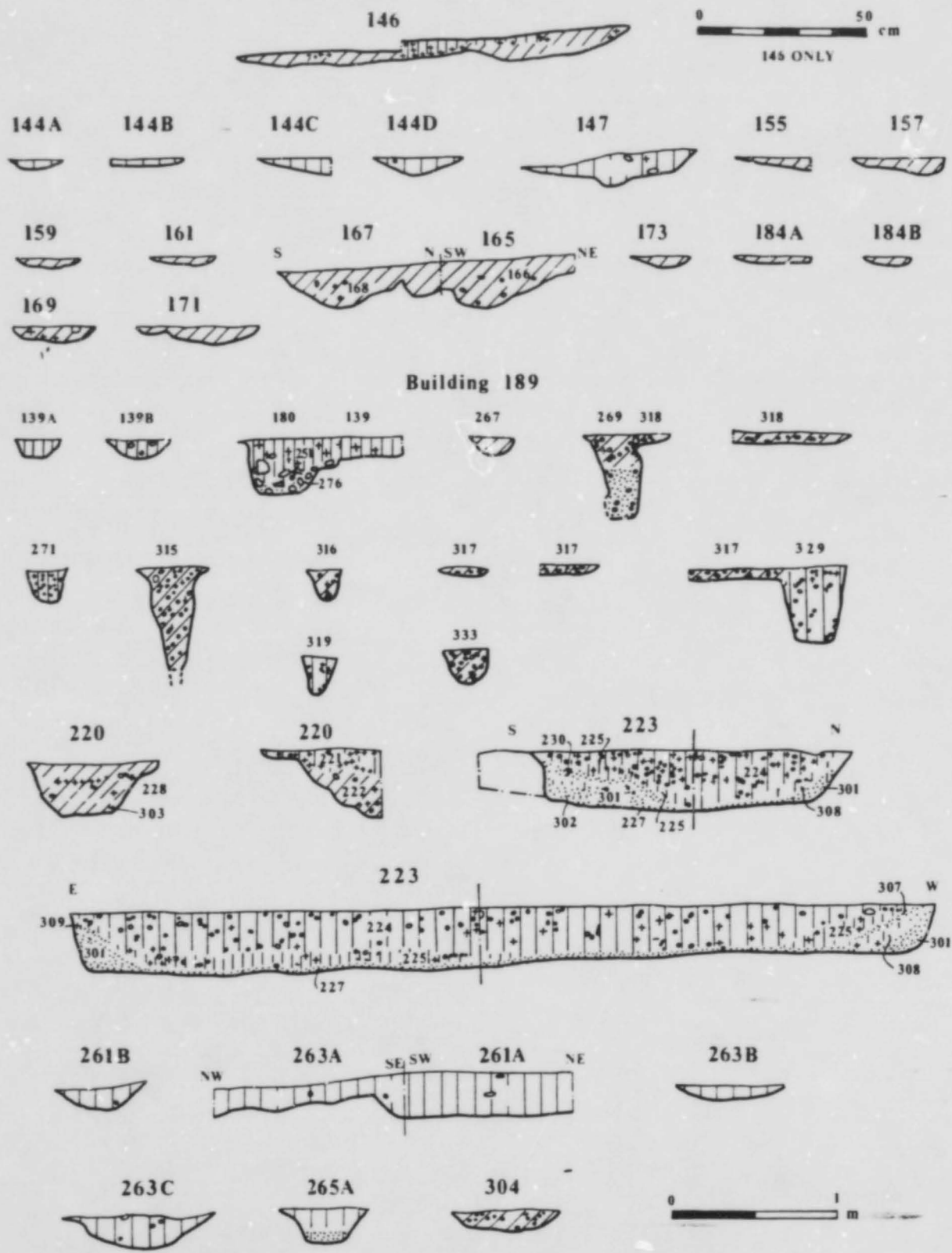


Figure 17 Stifford Clays: Feature sections. Scale 1:40

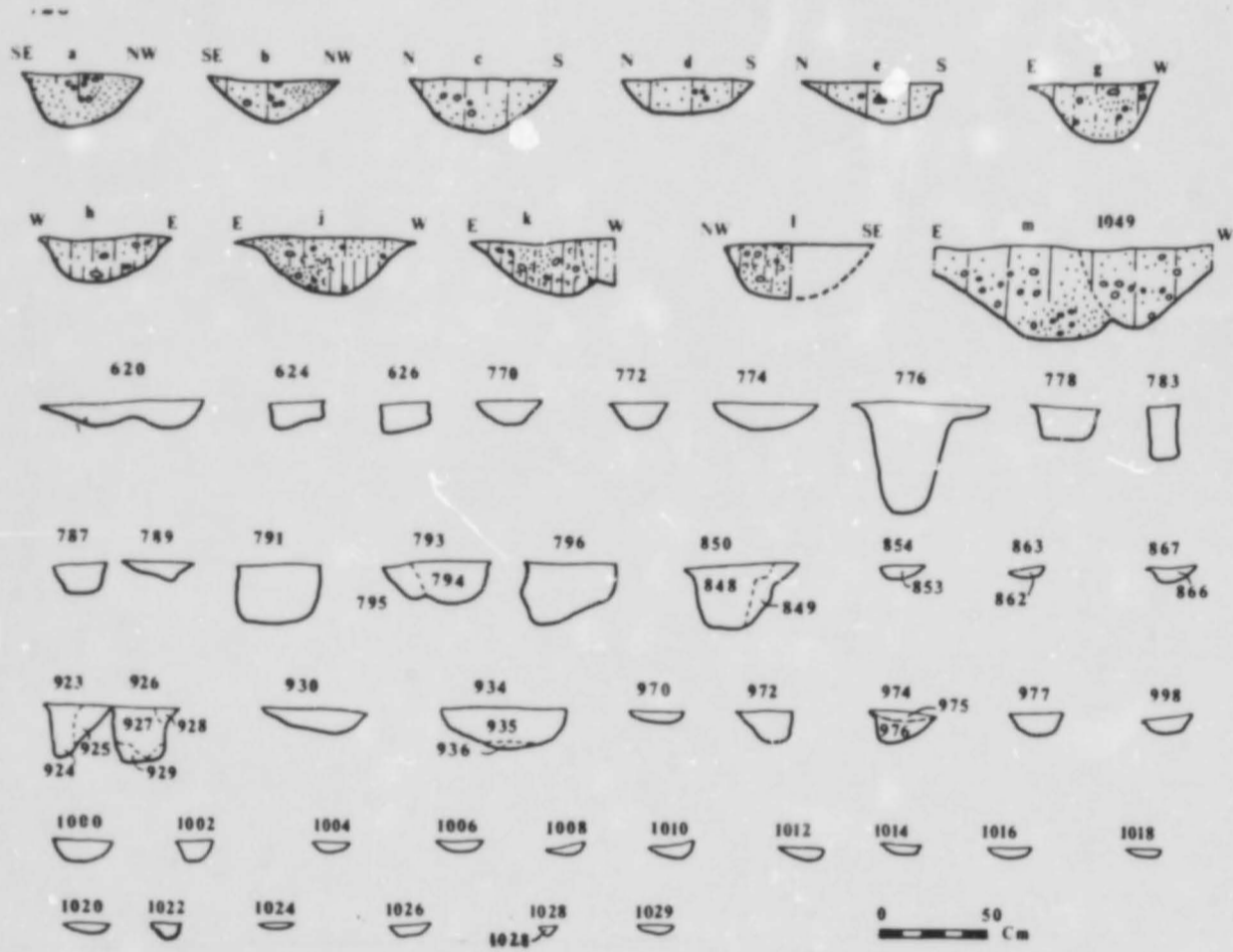


Figure 31 Ardale Area A: Round-house 726—penannular gully sections (top) and post-hole sections (bottom).

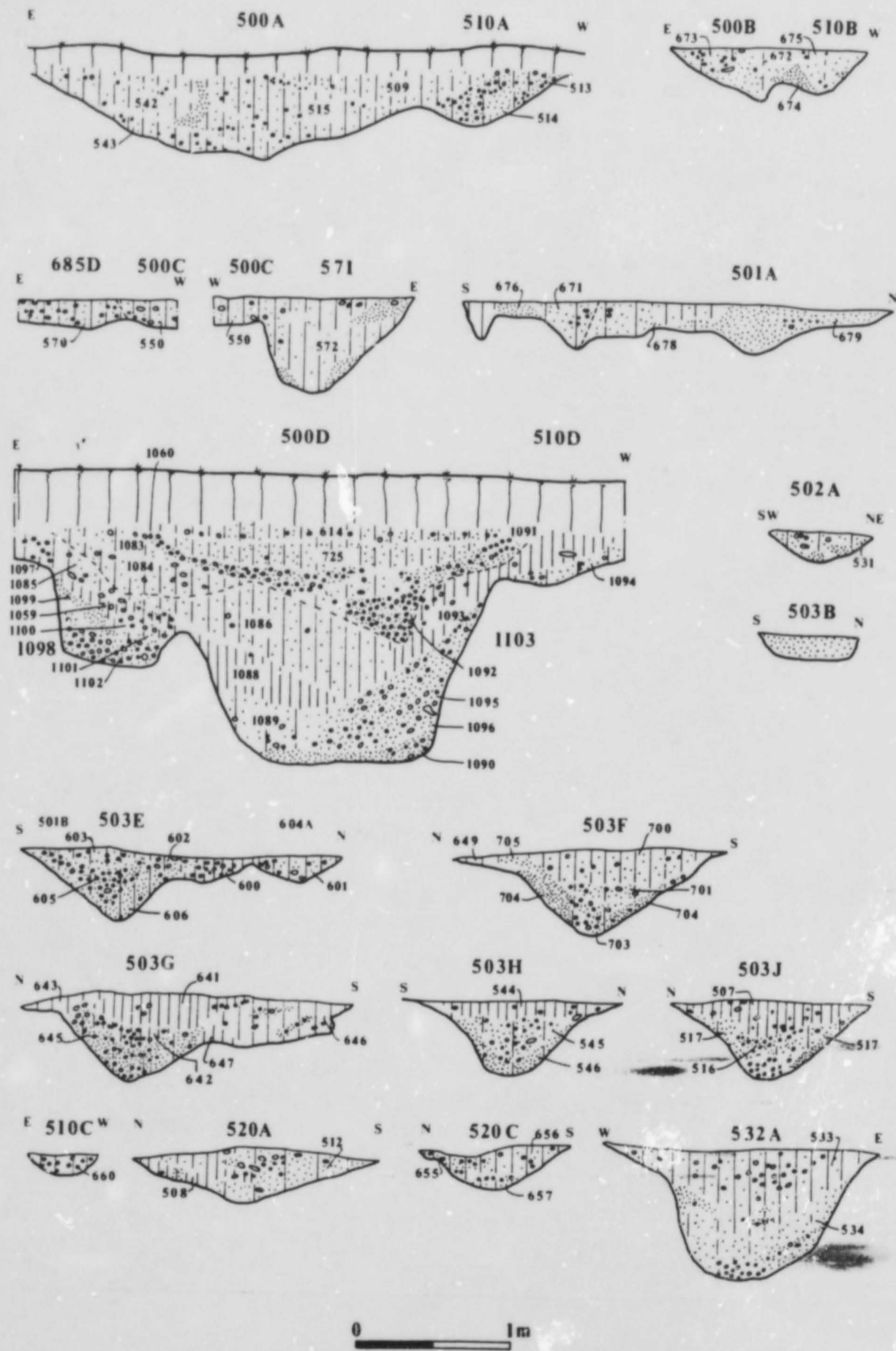


Figure 32 Ardale Area A: Ditch and enclosure sections. Scale 1:40

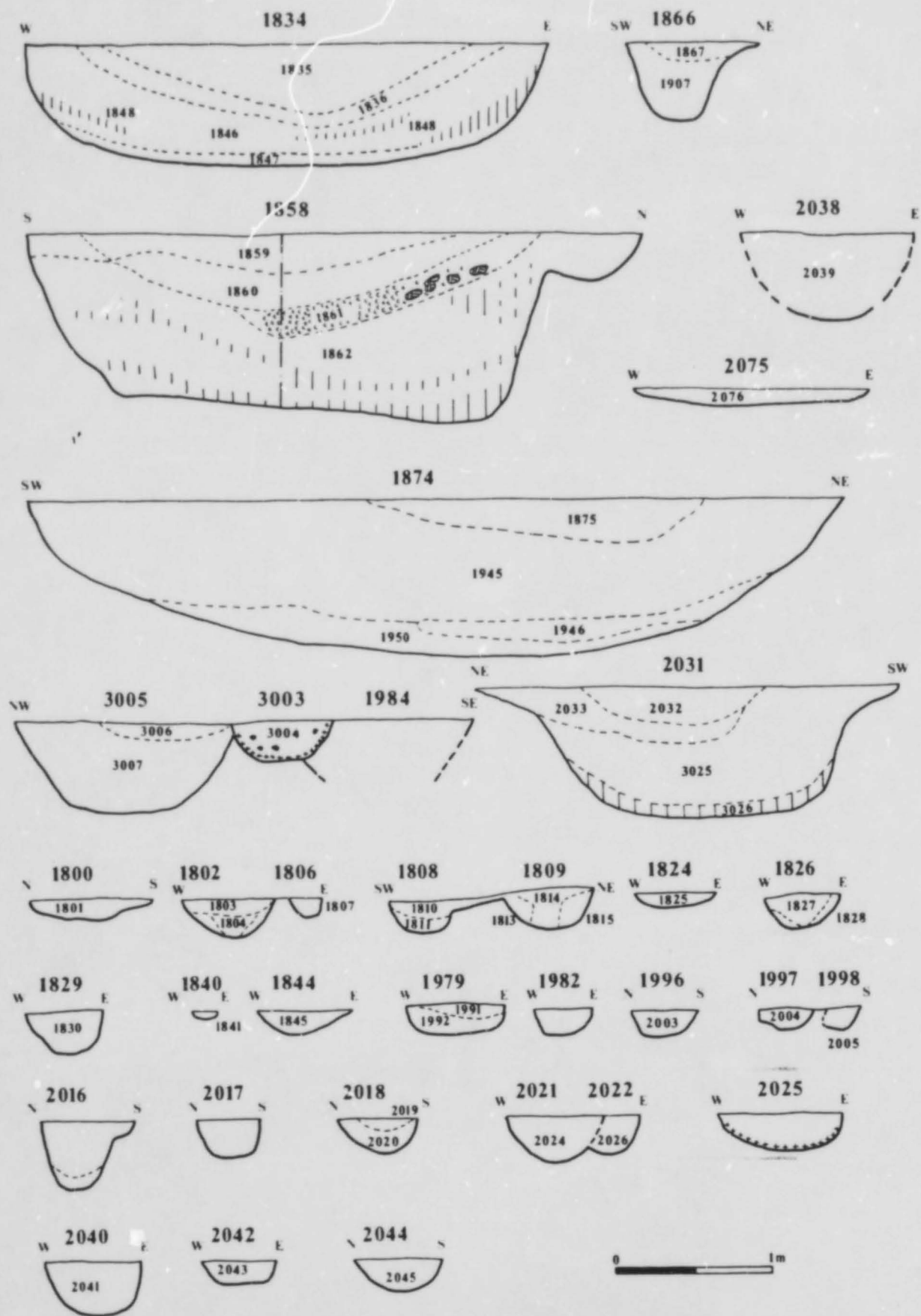


Figure 38 Ardale Area D: Incompletely recorded pits and post-holes.

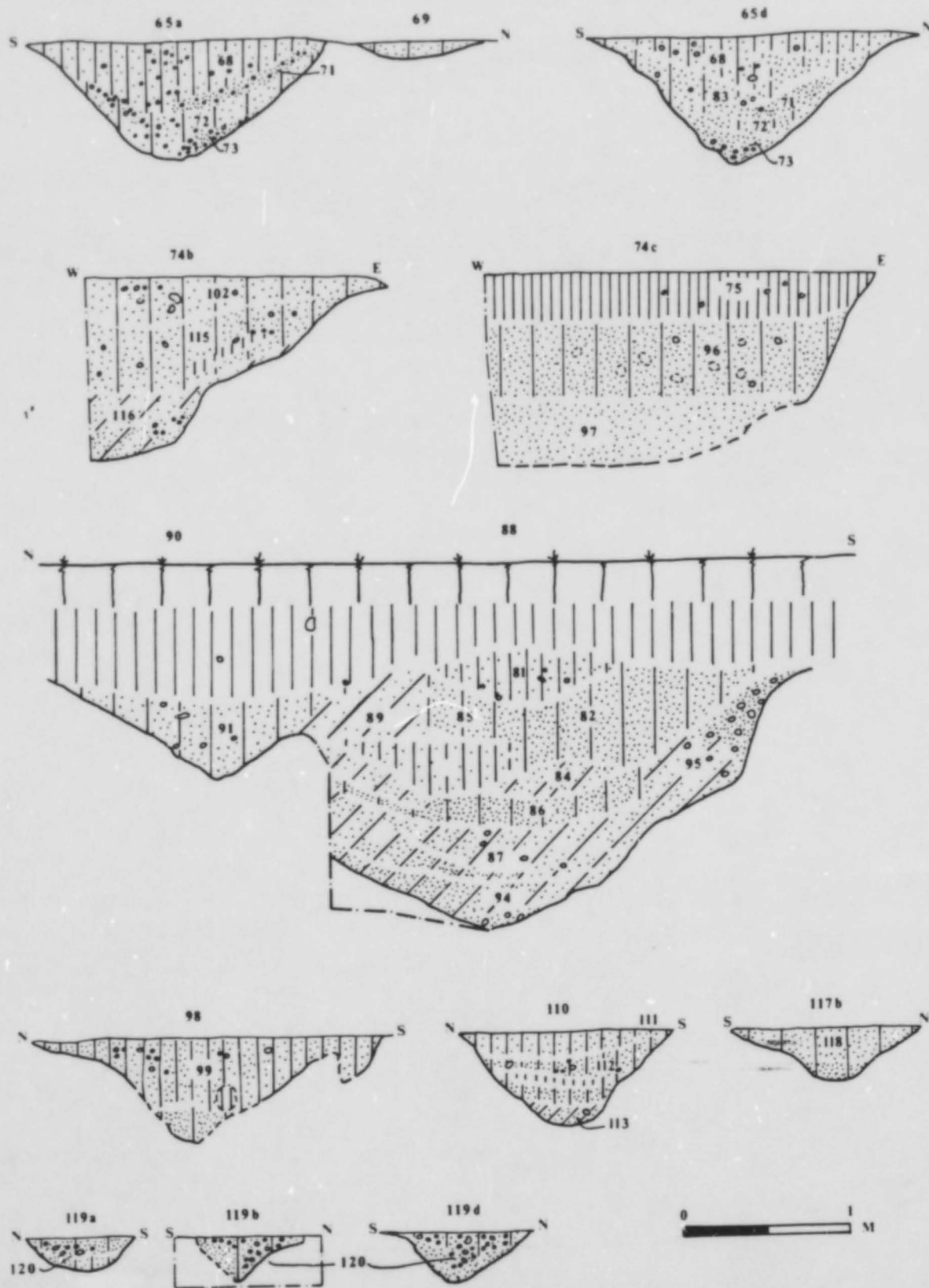


Figure 58 Belhus Park: Sections. Scale 1:40

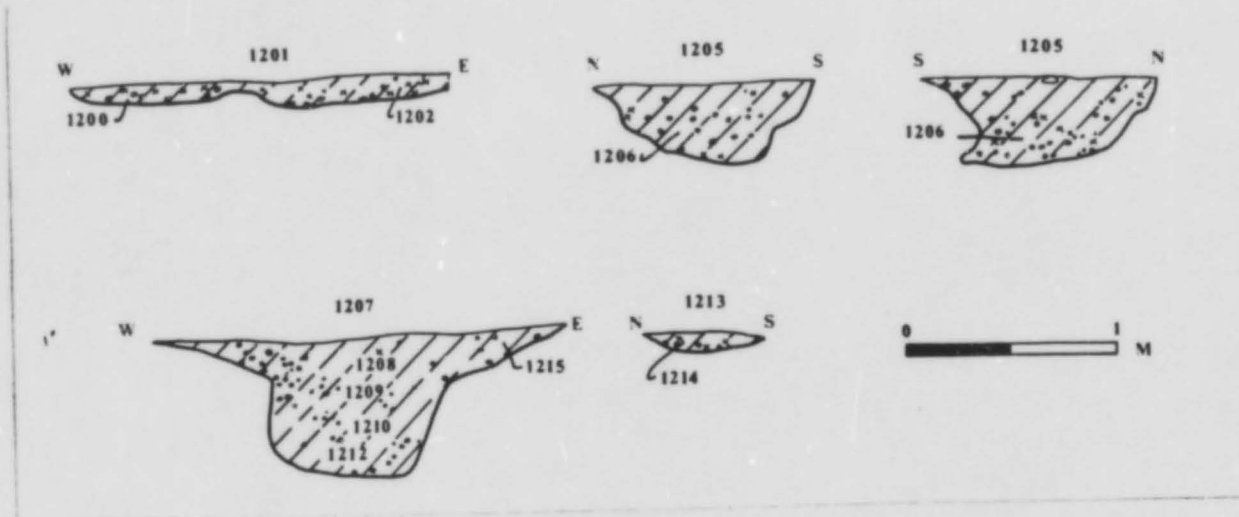


Figure 63 North Ockendon Site 6: Sections. Scale 1:40

STIFFORD CLAYS

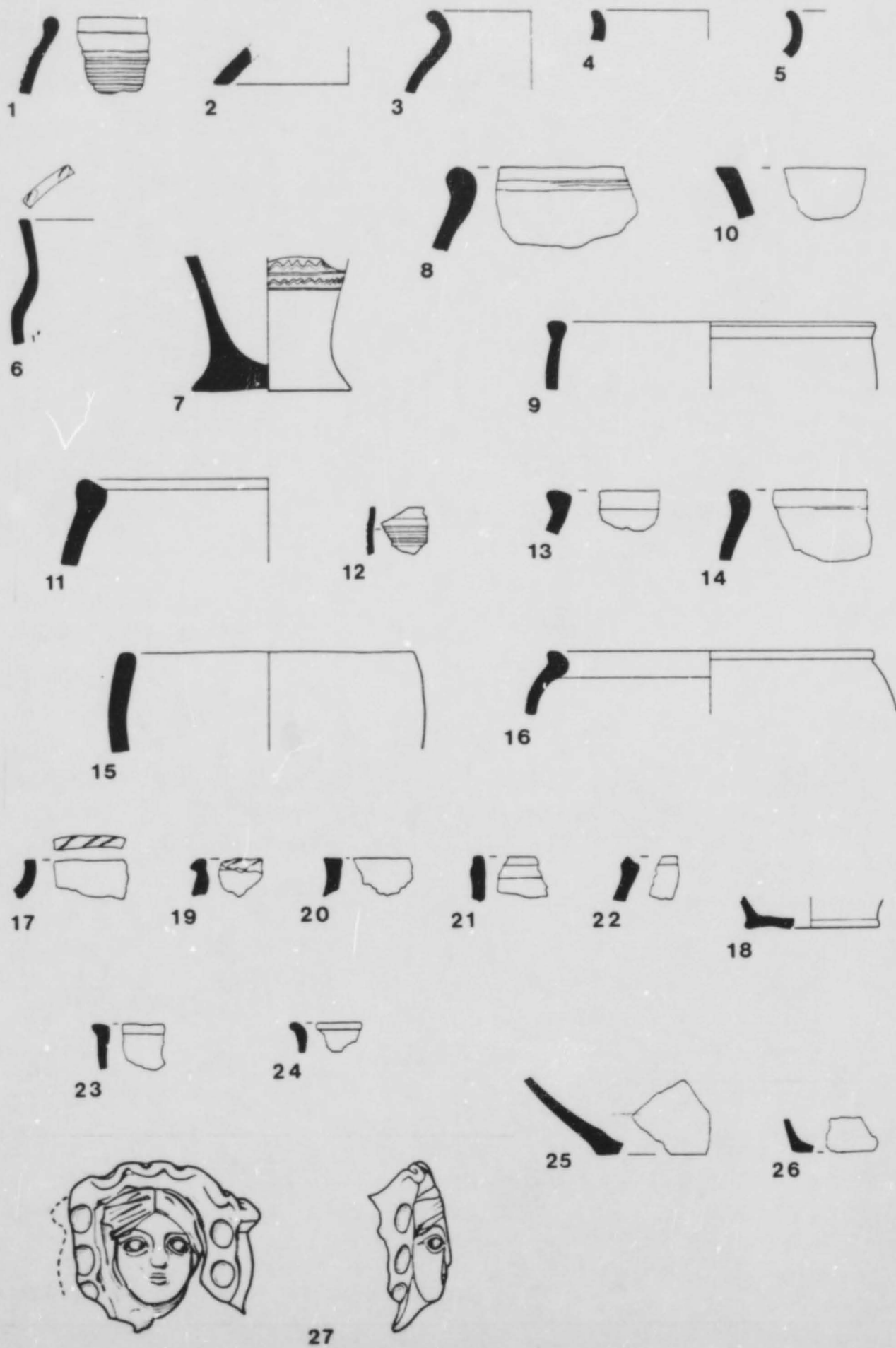


Figure 69 Pottery: Stifford Clays (SC1-27). All Iron Age except SC1 (?Grooved Ware), SC26 (medieval) and SC27 (Roman face pot from Primrose Island). Scale 1:4 except SC27 which is 1:2