South Yorkshire

Earthwork sites

Caesar's Camp, Scholes Coppice, Rotherham SE 3960 9520

Caesar's Camp now lies within woodland in Scholes Coppice, on a slight rise on the edge of Rotherham. It was an ovoid earthwork consisting of a single bank and ditch approximately 110m long and 95m wide, with a ditch up to 2.4m deep outside a bank originally around 3.5m high. The earthworks were surveyed in detail in 1992.

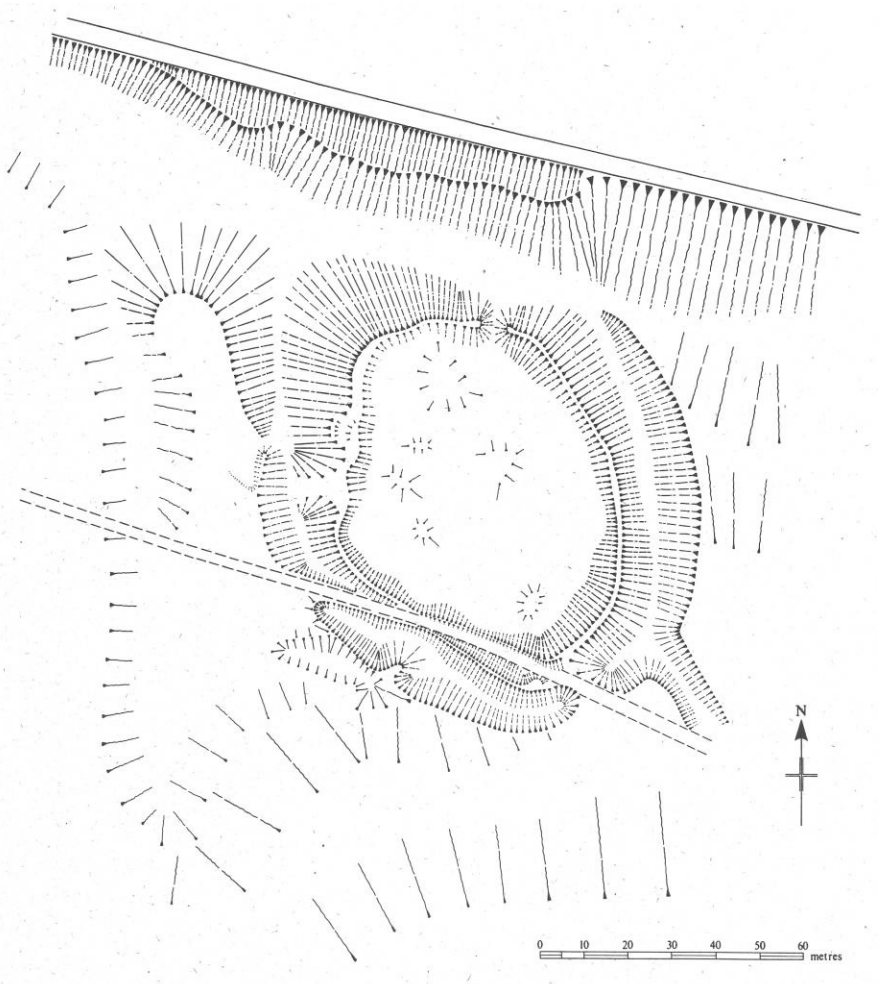


Figure. G.227. *Topographic earthwork survey of Caesar's Camp, Schole's Coppice, Rotherham, S. Yorks. (Source: Atkinson, Latham and Sydes 1992: 35).*

Excavation of a narrow trench through part of it in 1992 did not produce any evidence for internal features, and dating evidence was confined to a few sherds of abraded third to fourth century Romano-British pottery from the upper ditch fills (Atkinson, Latham and Sydes 1992: 40). The bank consisted of layers of stone on a compacted clay base, perhaps with large timber posts inside the bank supporting

a timber palisade and/or raised walkway. Due to later disturbance it was not clear if there had ever been an embanked entrance through the ditch and bank, although a dip in the south-east side of the earthwork may reflect the position of a slumped entranceway. Access might instead have been via some form of timber bridge. The survey of the earthwork suggested a possible outwork was attached to it, and the site has sometimes been interpreted as part of a defensive network that included the Roman Ridge. However, it was overlooked by an adjacent knoll, and was thus unlikely to have been defensive.

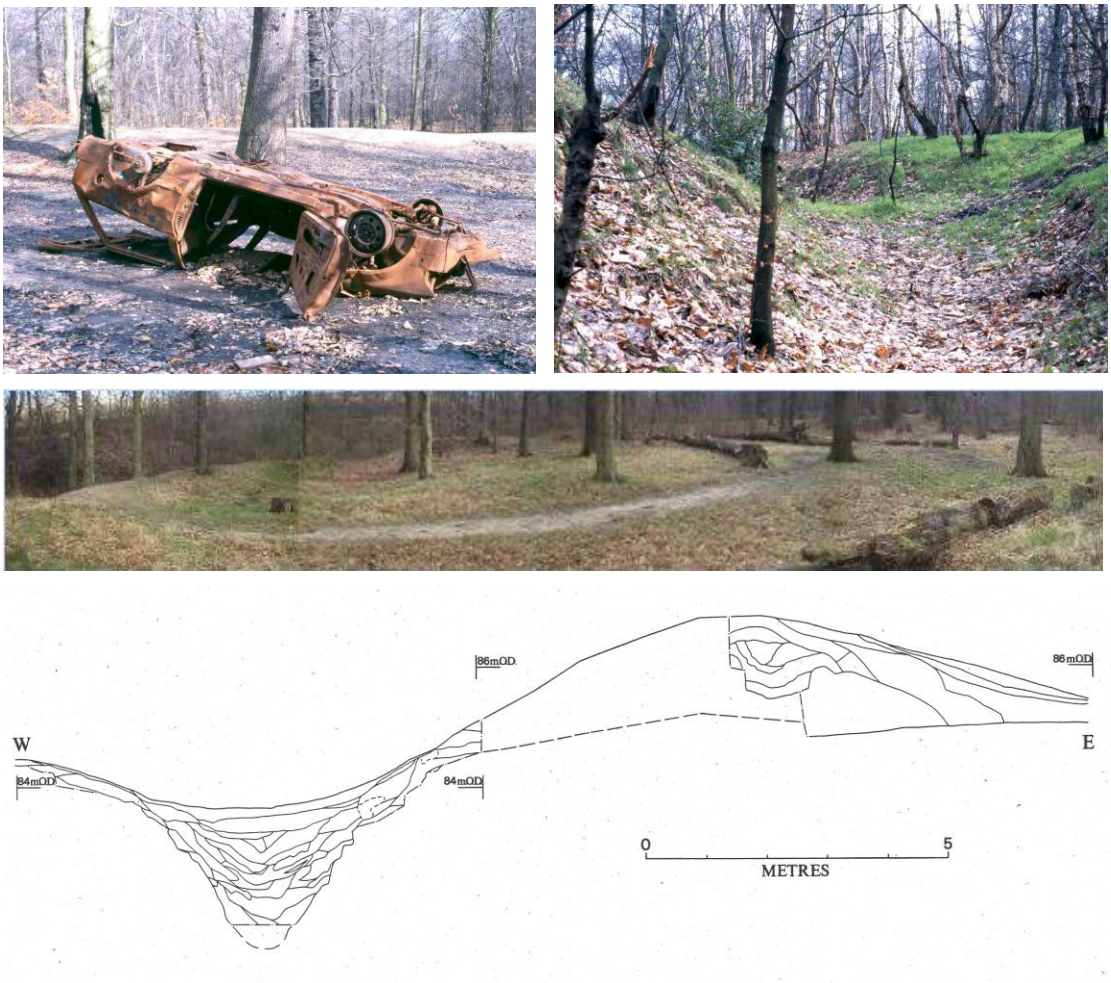


Figure G.228. (top left). *A stolen car burnt out and abandoned in the middle of Caesar's Camp Scheduled Ancient Monument, 1992. (Source: author).* **Fig. G.229. (top right).** *Part of the bank and ditch at Caesar's Camp. (Source: author*). **Fig. G.230. (middle).** *Panoramic photograph of the interior of the earthwork.* (*Source: www.brigantesnation.com).* **Fig. G.231. (bottom).** *Diagrammatic section of the trench excavated through the ditch and part of the bank.* (*Source: Atkinson, Latham and Sydes 1992: 38).*

The earthworks continue to suffer damage from tree roots and burrowing animals, but trail motorcycles and mountain bikes have caused more serious depredations, and local youths were using the bank as a motorcycle ramp to launch themselves over the heads of archaeologists whilst the latter were excavating there! It is also a popular area for drinking strong white cider and burning stolen cars.

References: Atkinson, Latham and Sydes 1992.

Canklow Woods SK 4340 9070

An extensive complex of earthworks survives at Canklow Woods, Rotherham (Figs. G.232.-G.233), surveyed between 1948-1949 (Copley 1950a, 1950b), and more recently in more detail in 1992, 2002 and 2005 (Latham 1992; Lee 2005; McNaught 2002; Richardson 2002). At least three stone-walled enclosures were linked to a series of pens and linear boundaries, and there were also clearance cairns, lynchets or cultivation terraces, and even possible roundhouses. There is also a particularly large linear bank aligned west-east with a ditch on each side, though the relationship of this feature to the other earthworks is not clear, and it may well be post-medieval in date.

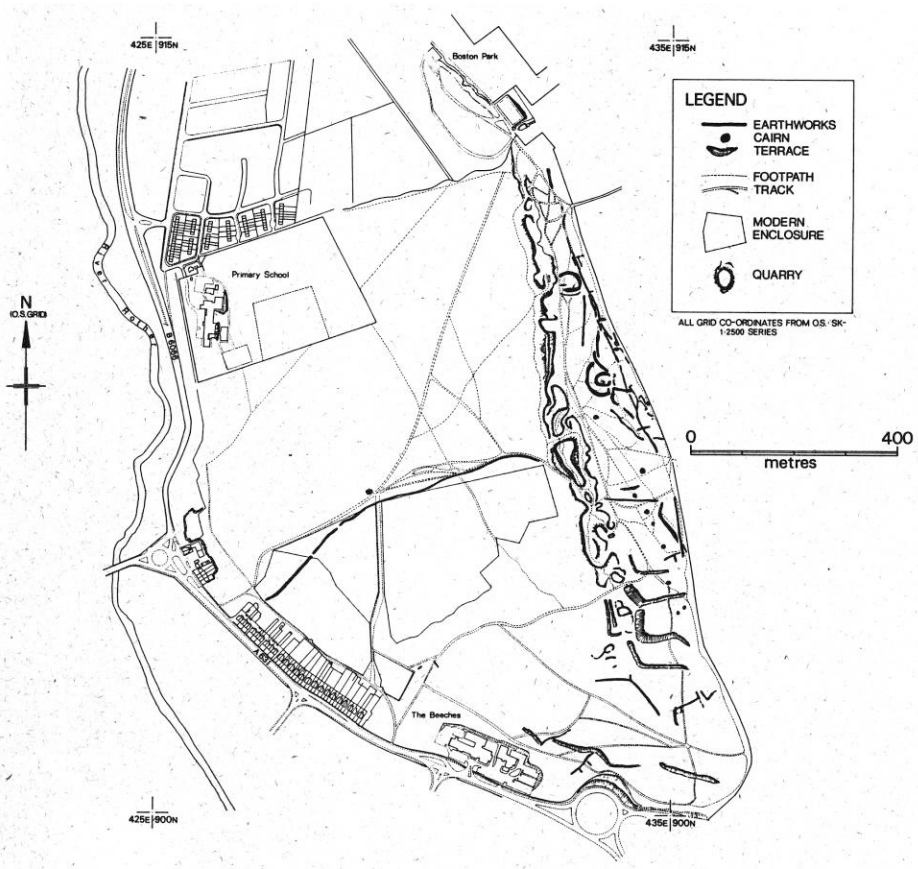


Figure G.232. *The 1992 SYAU survey of Canklow Woods, Rotherham, S. Yorks., showing enclosures, banks, cairns, lynchets and terraces; in addition to quarry and boundary features of post-medieval or early modern date. (Source: Latham 1992: 71).*

One especially substantial enclosure may have had a double bank to the south, a ditch to the south and north, and a south-east facing entrance. Originally described as a 'fort', one narrow trench was excavated across this structure in 1949. Only flint was recovered, although the internal area was not sampled (Tyson 1950: 272-273). Undated coarseware of a heavily gritted fabric and Romano-British pottery of later first and second century date were retrieved as surface finds from this enclosure, and other locales within Canklow Wood (Copley 1950: 260, 263), and a Bronze Age origin has thus also been suggested for some features (Dolby 1981). In addition to some details added to the original 1992 investigations, the recent surveys identified elements of possible co-axial field banks on gentle north-

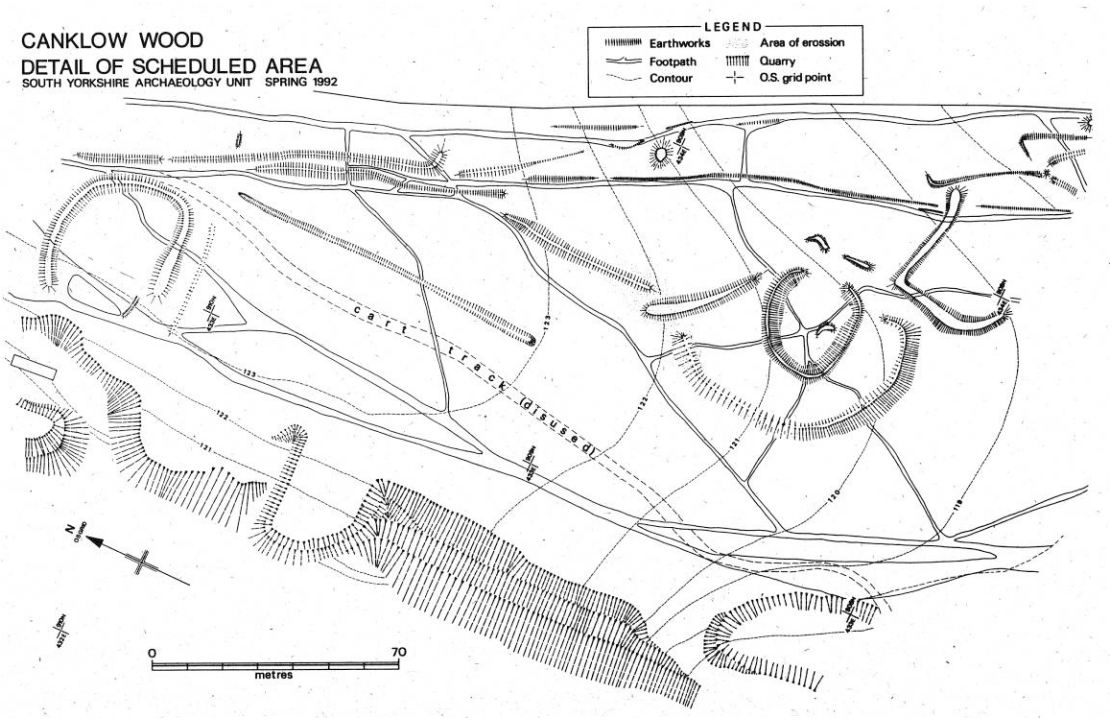


Figure G.233. *Detail of the Scheduled area. (Source: Latham 1992: 72).*

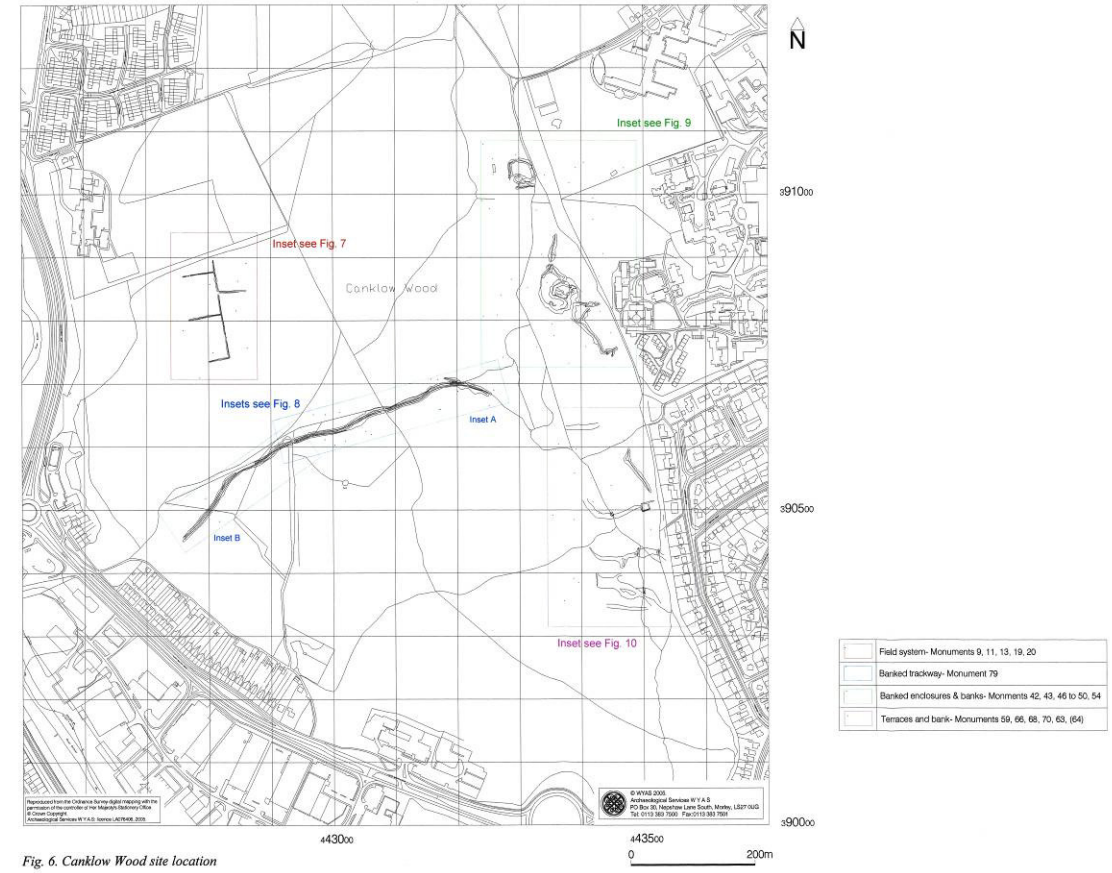
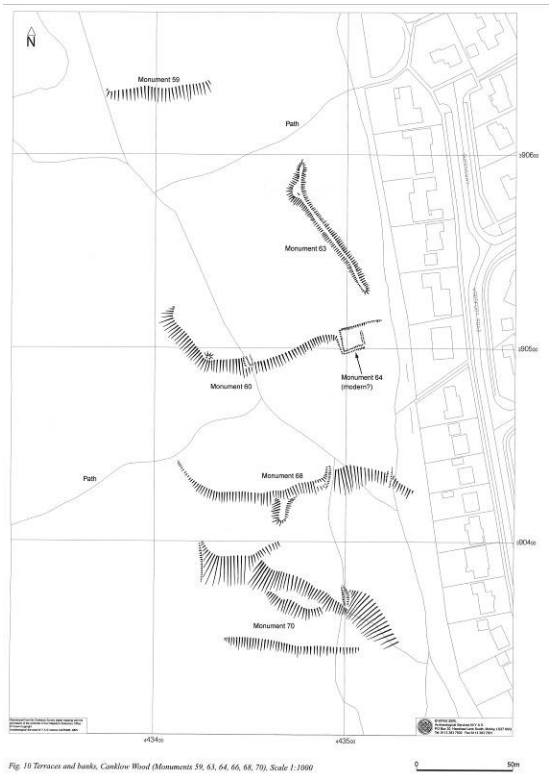


Figure G.234. *Overall plan of the 2002 and 2005 surveys. Note the cultivation terraces on the southern slope of the ridge (lower right of image), and the co-axial field banks identified on the more gentle north-west slope behind the primary school (upper left). (Source: Lee 2005).*

west slopes below the Canklow Woods ridgeline (Fig. G.235). Thick vegetation precluded more extensive investigation and these features are undated, but it is possible that the banks represent elements of late prehistoric or Romano-British fields that have survived subsequent ploughing. Canklow Woods still requires future survey and excavation work (Cumberpatch 2001b).



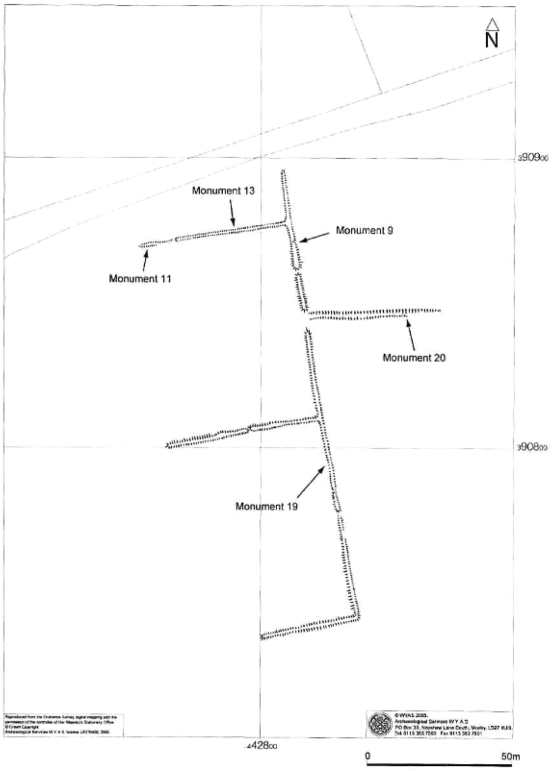


Figure G.235. (left). *Detail of some of the cultivation terraces or platforms and lynchets identified at Canklow Woods. (Source: Lee 2005).* **Figure G.236. (right).** *Possible co-axial field bank boundaries identified near the primary school. The full extent and likely date of these features has not been ascertained. (Source: Lee 2005).*

References: Copley 1950; Cumberpatch2001b; Dolby 1981; Latham 1992; Lee 2005; McNaught 2002; Richardson 2002; Tyson 1950.

Castle Dike, Langsett SE 2062 0080

Figure G.237. (left). *Castle Dike, Langsett. At the centre of the image, a faint ring of darker vegetation is visible showing a slight earthwork still extant in the unimproved, southern field, but in the improved field to the north, it is barely visible even as a mark in the turf. (Source: © Google Earth).*

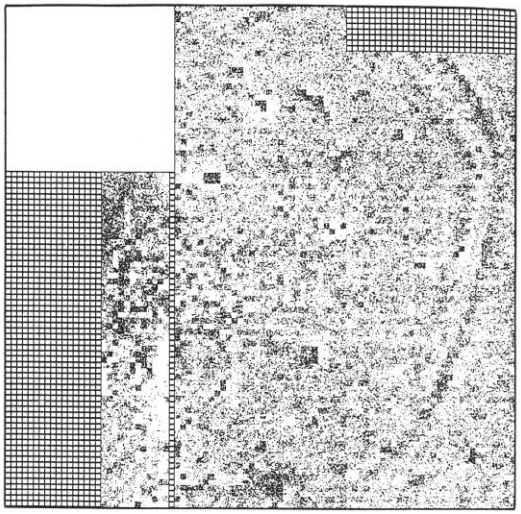


Figure G.238. (above right). *Geophysical survey of Castle Dike, with north to the right. In addition to the possible outer ditch and bank at the upper left, several possible circular features are visible, one truncated by the modern field wall, but the other corresponding to one of the circular features visible on the aerial photograph above. (Source: Merrony et al. 1995: 90).*

Figure G.239. (above left). *An earlier aerial view of Castle Dike, with oblique light highlighting the subtle earthworks on the northern as well as the southern side of the enclosure. Two faint circular depressions within the enclosure may be building platforms and/or roundhouses. (Source: Merrony et al. 1995: 90).*

Castle Dike, Langsett barely survives as an earthwork, as it lies partially within a field that is regularly ploughed. Ovoid in shape (Bramwell 1973), geophysical survey demonstrated that it may have had two circuits of banks and ditches (Merrony, Scherewode, Stone and Berry 1995: 90), or consisted of two main phases. The position of an entrance is not known. Faint features visible on aerial photographs and

also on the geophysical survey plot suggest that there were at least one or two circular structures within that probably reflect the position of roundhouses or building platforms.

References: Bramwell 1973; Merrony, Scherewode, Stone and Berry 1995.

Ecclesall Woods, Sheffield SK 3170 8215

Following an initial survey of Sheffield's woodlands (Pouncett 2001, 2006), more detailed survey of a series of multi-period features undertaken by the Friends of Ecclesall Woods included a hilltop enclosure on the western side of the wood. This is located at 170-175m OD, with the ground falling away steeply to the west and south-west down to Limb Brook only *c*. 100m away, and more gently to the east towards the River Sheaf 800m away. The western side of the earthwork complex was defined by a large bank, with other banks or lynchets leading off from this, including an east-west example. The enclosure was D-shaped and roughly 100m long and 90m wide with a possible south-west facing entrance, and was probably inserted into the corner between these two banks. Two possible subcircular building platforms were also identified (Pouncett 2007: 31). At a slightly later, a smaller subrectangular subenclosure or perhaps a rectangular building 25m long and 20m wide was constructed within the north-west corner of the larger D-shaped enclosure – this feature also seems to have had a south-west facing entrance. Although suggested as being late Bronze Age or early Iron Age in date, it is more likely that these features were constructed during the late Iron Age or Romano-British periods (*contra* Pouncett 2007: 31). Further archaeological investigation of these features would be useful.

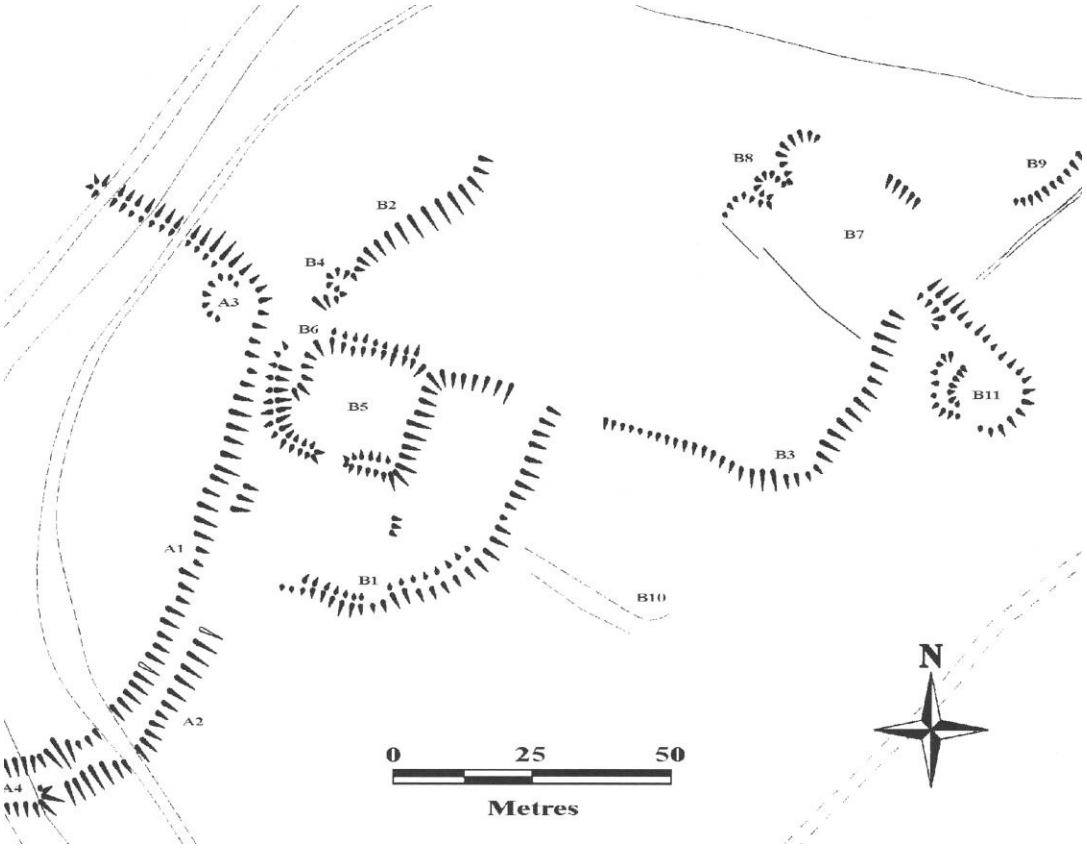


Figure G.240. *The earthwork enclosure and boundaries in Ecclesall Woods. The western boundary is A1-A2, the east-west bank B3, and the D-shaped enclosure B1. Possible platforms are located at B6 and B11, and the later subrectangular building or enclosure at B5. Features A3-A4 and B4, B8 are likely to be more recent in date. (Source: Pouncett 2007: 32).*

References: Pouncett 2001, 2006, 2007.

Edlington Wood SE 5490 9780

At Edlington Wood south-west of Doncaster, a series of stone and earthen banks had first been noted by nineteenth century antiquaries (Armitage 1897: 36, 39; Hunter 1828: 90), but metalwork finds of Roman brooches and coin hoards during the 1930s led to the re-identification and survey of a series of D-shaped and subrectangular enclosures built of orthostatic limestone blocks facing stone and earth banks, in addition to a series of rectangular stone buildings, and a linear earthwork – the Double Dike (Corder 1951: 66-69; Dolby 1973: 5-6).

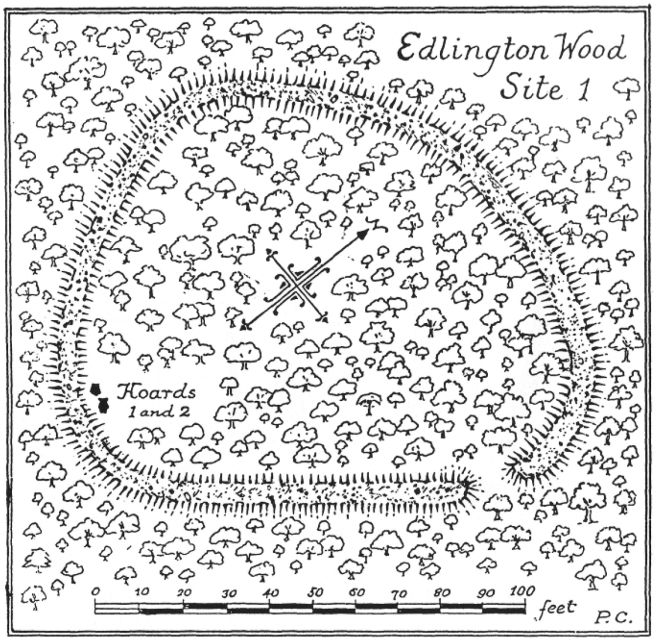


Figure G.241. *Somewhat simplistic plan of one of the earthwork enclosures (Site 1) identified within Edlington Wood during the 1930s. (Source: Corder 1951: 68).*

More detailed survey by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in 1972 identified further enclosures, boundaries, cairns and building platforms (Ramm 1973: 28-31). Although the Double Dike is probably of post-Roman date, and some buildings medieval and post-medieval, many enclosures may be late prehistoric or Romano-British in date. Pottery recovered from enclosures and other locations within the wood suggests some were in use during the late second and third centuries AD.

Excavation of two superimposed enclosures during 1971-1973 found evidence for several phases of occupation, and pottery dating from the late first century AD (Sumpter 1973: 37-38). An earlier enclosure with a stone bank and ditch then had the ditch partially backfilled, and then a rectangular building was built on top. A gritstone quern and decayed animal bone suggest the first phase at least had consisted of 'domestic' occupation. This earlier enclosure B and the rectangular building were then demolished and the smaller enclosure A constructed, which was then used from the mid-second to early third centuries AD. This might have been abandoned for a while, before it too was levelled and enclosure B rebuilt as a stock pen or corral, and used as such until the early fourth century, after which it seems to have been finally abandoned.

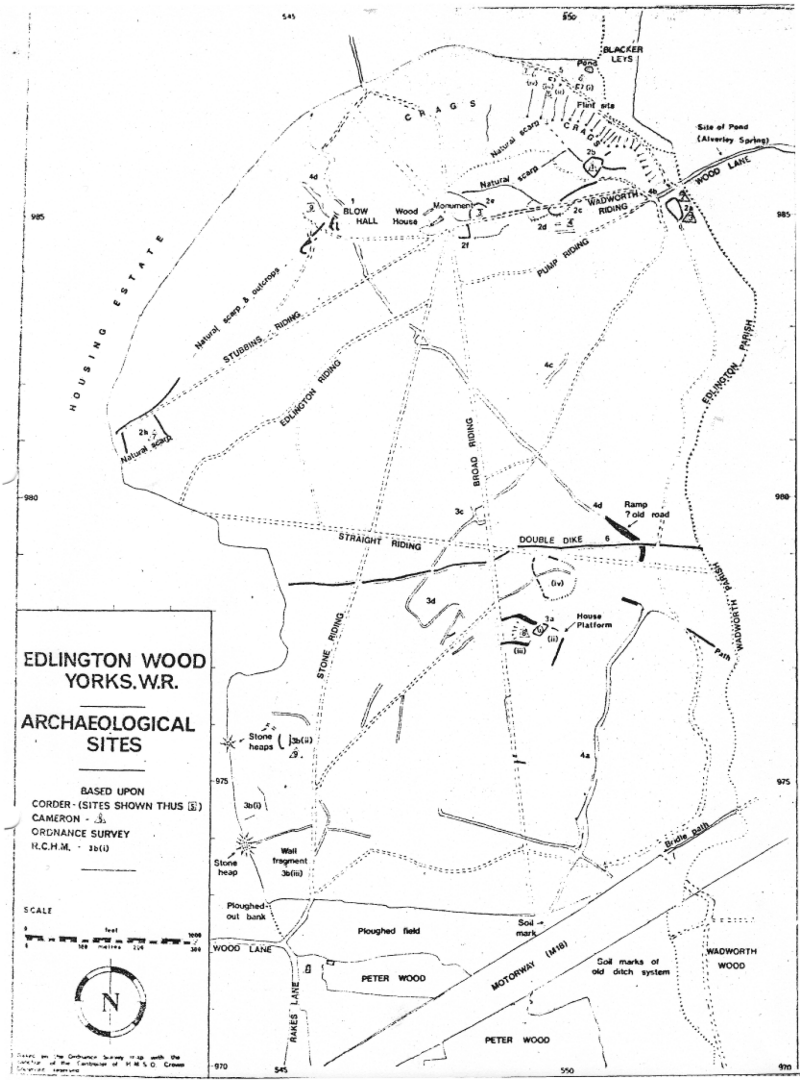
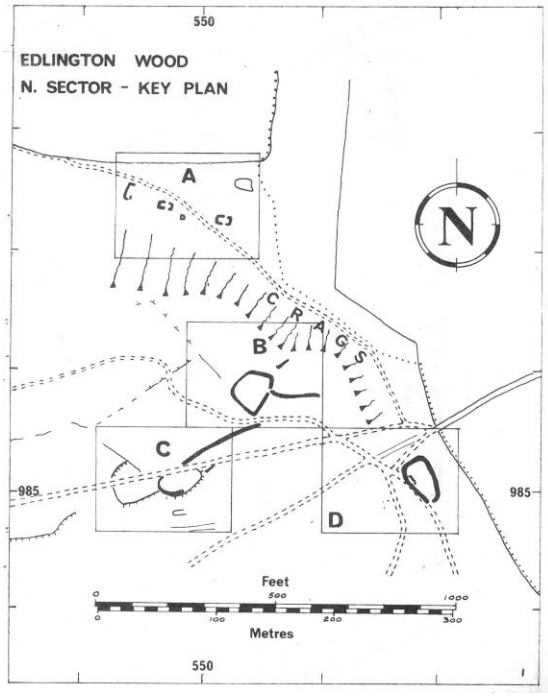


Figure G.242. *Overall plan of features identified in Edlington Wood, S. Yorks. (Source: Ramm 1973).*



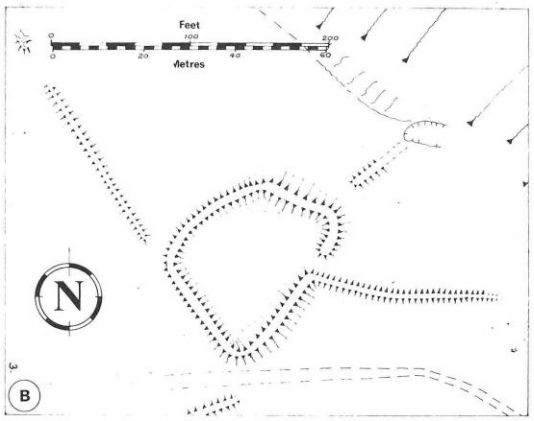


Figure G.243. (left) *and* **Fig. G.244. (above).** *Further details of enclosure groups and individual enclosures (B in Fig. G.122) within Edlington Wood. (Source: Ramm 1973).*

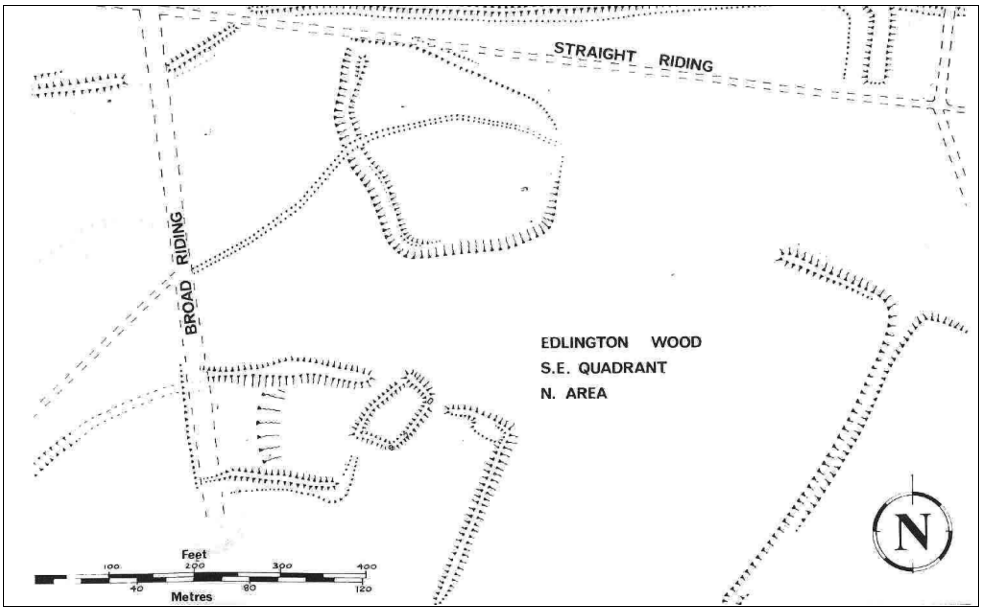


Figure G.245. *Detail of two further enclosures identified within the southern part of Edlington Wood. (Source: Ramm 1973).*

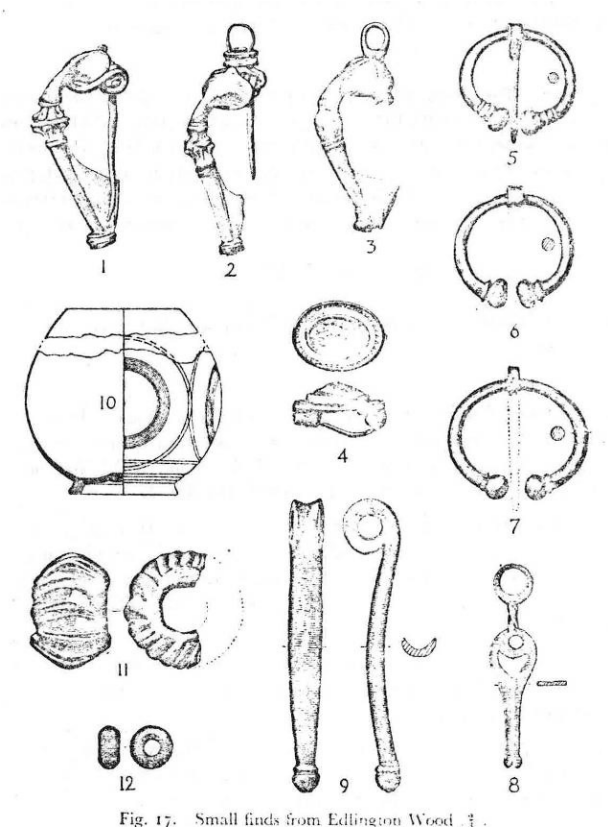


Fig. 17. Small finds from Edlington Wood ½.

Figure G.246. (left). *Artefacts recovered from Edlington Wood, including a bronze vessel decorated with incised circles (no. 10), and a Roman-style cosmetic mortar (no. 9). (Source: Corder 1951: 91).*

The remains in Edlington Wood are not only at continuous risk from tree roots, but more seriously the depredations of trail bikes and the activities of metal detectorists. Although several metal detecting finds from the area have been recorded by the Portable Antiquities scheme (see below), it is likely that several further coins hoards and other metal objects have been illegally dug up within the wood without any recording (P. Robinson pers. comm.). The pottery, coin and metalwork finds suggest that there was

at least one relatively high-status settlement in the immediate vicinity, either a successful 'native' farmstead that thrived during the Roman occupation, or perhaps a Roman settler or someone who had retired from military service.

Recent metal detecting finds from the Edlington area. **Figure G.247. (far left).** *An Iron Age or Romano-British penannular brooch.* **Fig. G.248. (top right).** *A Roman mount or fitting in the form of a head.* **Fig. G.249. (bottom centre).** *A Romano-British Thealby Minebar-type brooch.* **Fig. G.250. (bottom right).** *A Romano-British umbonate brooch. (All images source: © Portable Antiquities Scheme).*

References: Armitage 1897: 36, 39; Corder 1951: 66-69; Dolby 1973: 5-6; Hunter 1828: 90; Ramm 1973: 28-31; Sumpter 1973: 37-38.

Roman Ridge SK 4090 9680

The Roman Ridge or Roman Rig has long exercised the imaginations of local historians and archaeologists. It consists of two lines of earthworks aligned approximately south-west to north-east, from just to the south-west of Wincobank in Sheffield to Swinton Common and Mexborough, a combined total of approximately 27km. These have been surveyed in some detail (Preston 1950b), but are still undated despite several small-scale excavations (e.g. Atkinson 1994b; Greene 1950; Greene and Preston 1950; Preston 1950b; Riley 1957). Roman sherds have been recovered in some places from some secondary or tertiary ditch fills, and it is possible that nineteen Roman coins and an accompanying brooch were found in it during the late nineteenth century (Preston 1950b: 302). A possible causeway or break in the earthworks was probably quite recent in origin (Riley 1957).

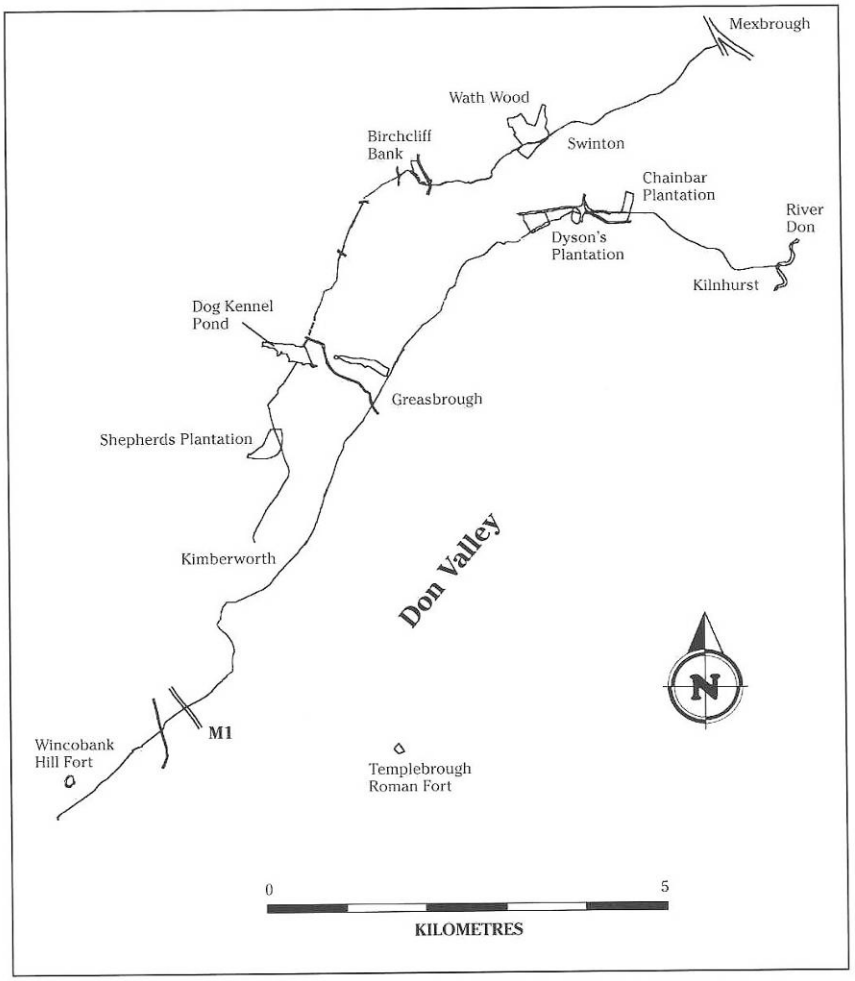


Figure G.251. *The Roman Ridge earthworks in South Yorkshire. (Source: Boldrini 1999: 102).*

It is not even known if the two lines of earthworks were contemporary or not. More recent excavations of a section through the ditch in advance of the construction of a pipeline suggest that two earlier phases of ditch may have pre-dated at least one stretch (Atkinson 1994b: 47). The earthworks generally seem to have consisted of a rock-cut ditch, with a bank of stone and earth. There are suggestions from some of Ashbee's sections and those recorded in 1994 of a slight berm between the bank and the ditch.

Figure G.252. *The Roman Ridge near Rockingham Wood, Rotherham, looking west, just south of Dog Kennel Pound. The ploughed-out earthworks are visible as the dark and light bank running obliquely across the photograph. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8370, SK 405 960).*

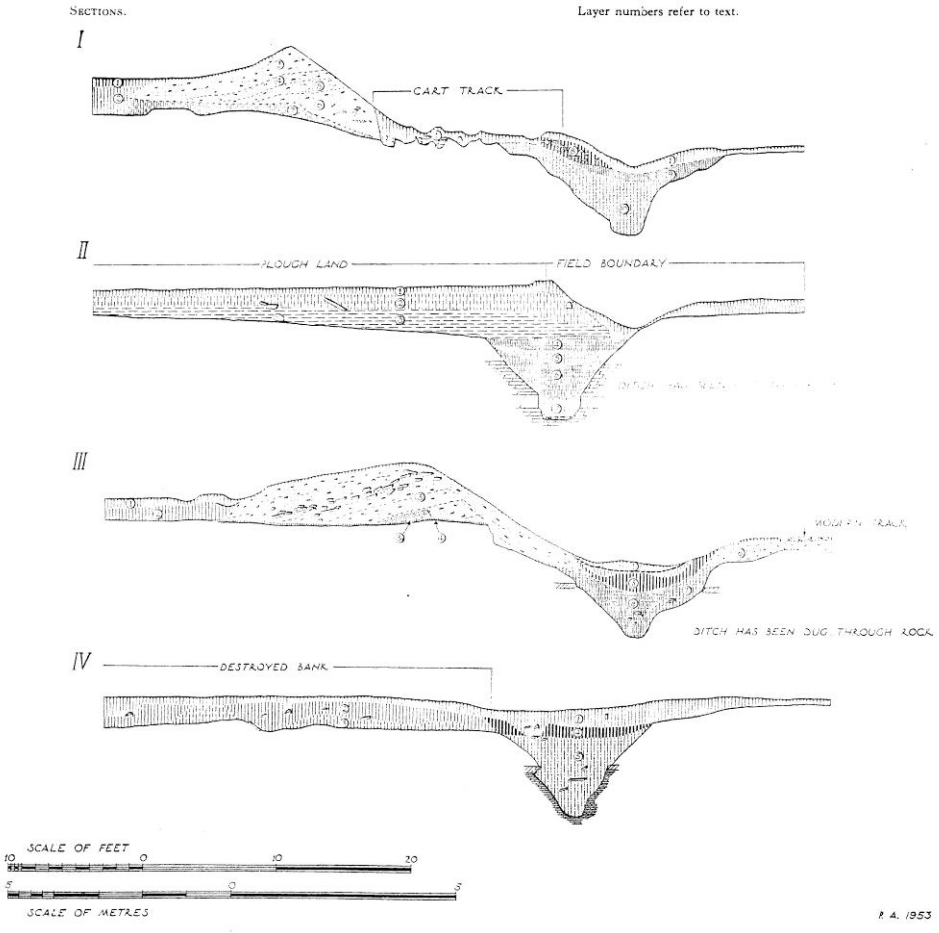


Figure G.253. *Sections through the Roman Ridge excavated in 1953. (Source: Ashbee 1957: 261).*

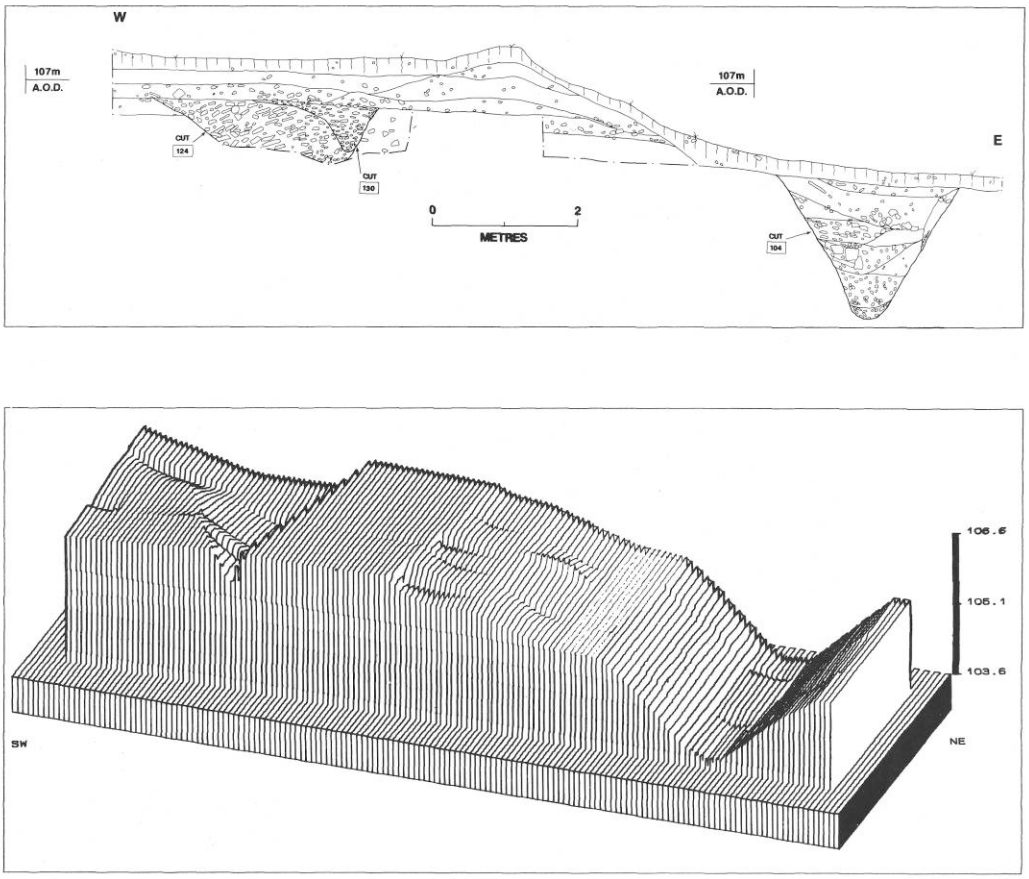


Figure G.254. *Section through the Roman Ridge excavated in 1994. The possible berm between the bank and ditch can be seen, although this might have been a later trackway as recorded by Ashbee. The earlier ditches are also visible. A three-dimensional AUTOCAD plot of the section is shown below. (Source: Atkinson 1994b: 48).*

A post-Roman date for the earthworks is also possible (Cronk 2004), perhaps linked to the kingdoms of Elmet in the fifth to sixth century, or that of Northumbria in the seventh to ninth century AD. Ashbee (1957: 256-265) suggested the Roman Rig was built hurriedly in the first century AD by supporters of the Brigantian leader Venutius, as Alcock (1954) had proposed for the Aberford Dykes. This seems unlikely. They have also been linked to Wincobank hillfort and the Caesar's Camp enclosure at Scholes Coppice as part of a defensive network, although this seems unlikely. Boldrini (1999: 103) favoured an Iron Age date, but suggested that rather than being a defensive barrier, the banks and ditches were social and territorial markers, and the two 'branches' of the Roman Ridge may even have defined a liminal or neutral zone. Given the Iron Age dates recently recorded for Grim's Ditch and the Aberford Dykes in West Yorkshire, this seems to be the most likely origin for the Roman Ridge earthworks too, although they may well have been renewed and re-utilised in later periods. A programme of targeted excavation and scientific dating using ^{14}C and OSL analyses would be potentially fruitful, as would the taking of pollen and soil micromorphology samples from sections in order to obtain palaeo-environmental information.

References: Ashbee 1957; Atkinson 1994b; Boldrini 1999; Cronk 2004; Greene 1950; Greene and Preston 1950b; Preston 1950b; Preston and Butcher 1957; Riley 1957.

Scabba Wood, Sprotbrough SE 5250 0150

Figure G255. *Scabba Wood from the air, with Sprotbrough to the upper right or east of the image, and Pot Ridings Wood to the south. The irregular outline of the wood results from piecemeal intakes over the centuries – part of it originally ran up to Melton Road, running from left to right across the upper part of the image. (Source: © Google Earth).*

Figure G.256. *Cropmarks north of Melton Road and Scabba Wood, Sprotbrough. A sinuous field boundary runs to the NNW, and meets other field boundaries at roughly right angles to this, aligned NEE-SSW. Underlying them, however, are fainter narrow 'blocks' that are the result of geological fissures and periglacial cracking in the underlying Magnesian Limestone. (Source: © Google Earth).*

Scabba Wood near Sprotbrough contains the earthworks of two enclosures and linear boundaries, with the lines of some ditches surviving as extremely faint depressions within the wood (Chadwick and Robbins 1998). The Doncaster Group of the Yorkshire Archaeology Society and staff and students from Sheffield University carried out limited survey and excavation of these features between 1994-1999 (Buckland et al. 1998, 2002; Chadwick and Robbins 1998; Steers 1999).

On an east-facing slope there were some indications of terracing that may indicate prehistoric and Romano-British agriculture, and just upslope and to the west of these was a subrectangular enclosure 27m long and 26m wide. Limited excavation focused on this enclosure, formed of upright stone slabs with an earth and stone core. Earthen banks were added to this at an unknown date. This had internal and external ditches, the former producing third to fourth century Romano-British pottery and an Aucissa-type brooch of *c.* AD 40-60 (Buckland et al. 2002: 19). The interior of the enclosure mound was scooped and it may have been constructed on an earlier terrace. An earthen mound extending southwards from the south-west corner of the enclosure contained probable Iron Age pottery. No clear entrance into the enclosure was revealed, although a depression in the bank at the north-west corner led into a slight holloway that ran approximately east-west past the site (Chadwick and Robbins 1998). This enclosure could have been a small livestock pen, but the internal ditch is only paralleled by that at Royd Edge in West Yorkshire. Prehistoric and Romano-British depositional activity at the nearby Scabba Wood rock shelter may be significant – in addition to late Neolithic and Bronze Age deposition, Roman coins may indicate veneration of a site perceived to be of great antiquity. Other important cropmark features lie outside Scabba Wood (Chadwick 1998) (Fig. G.256).

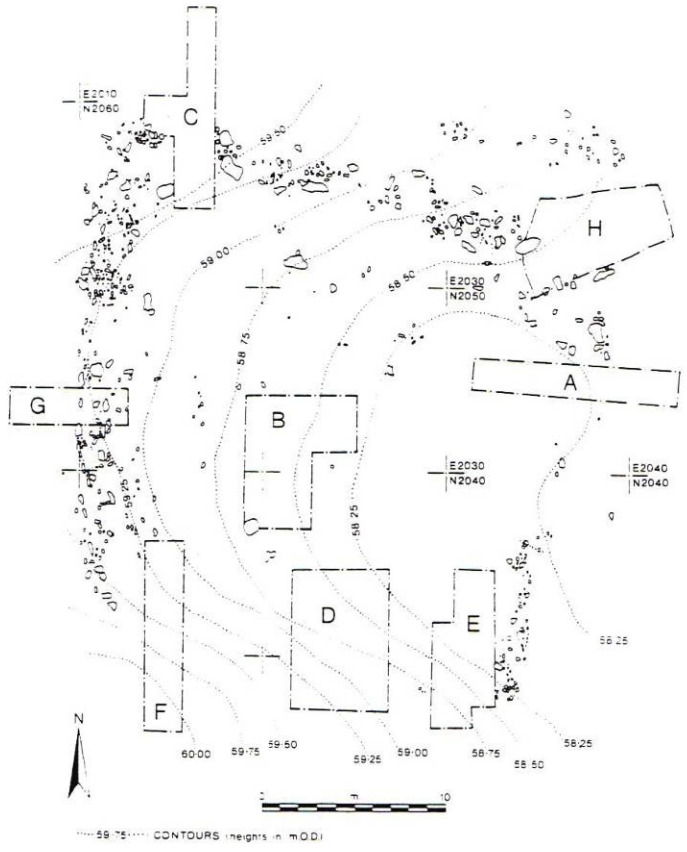


Figure G.257. (left). *Plan of the excavated enclosure within Scabba Wood, Sprotbrough, South Yorks. (Source: Buckland et al. 2002: 2).*

Figure G.258. *Cropmarks north-east of Scabba Wood, Sprotbrough, S. Yorks. The excavated enclosure lies within the wood, just to the right of the image. In addition to field boundaries, a large enclosure is visible just below the centre of the image, with an east-facing entrance 'corridor' defined by unusual rectangular ditched 'outworks'. Shallow linear depressions recorded within the wood appeared to match up with some of the cropmark boundaries beyond. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 359, SE 532 019).*

References: Buckland et al. 1998, 2002; Chadwick 1998; Chadwick and Robbins 1998; Steers 1999.

Smarson Hill Plantation, South Anston SK 5200 8240

Woodland on this quite steep south-facing slope above the Kiveton Gorge and the cut of the early modern Chesterfield Canal preserved a series of earthworks and lynchets that were identified and surveyed in 1966-1967.

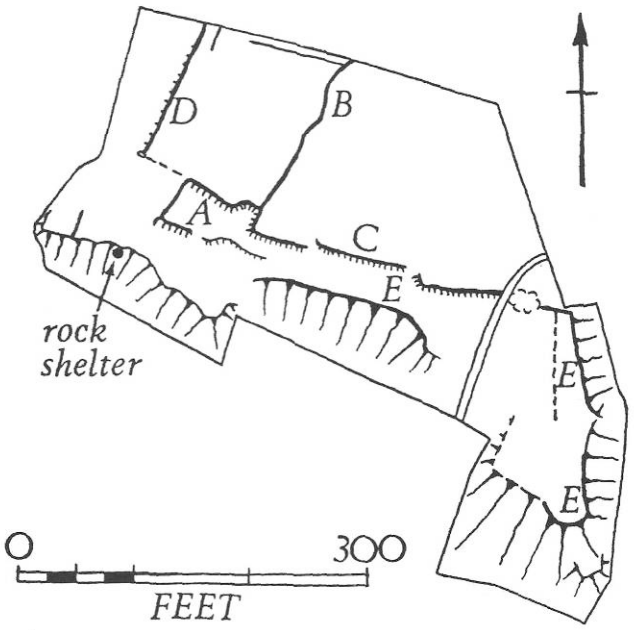
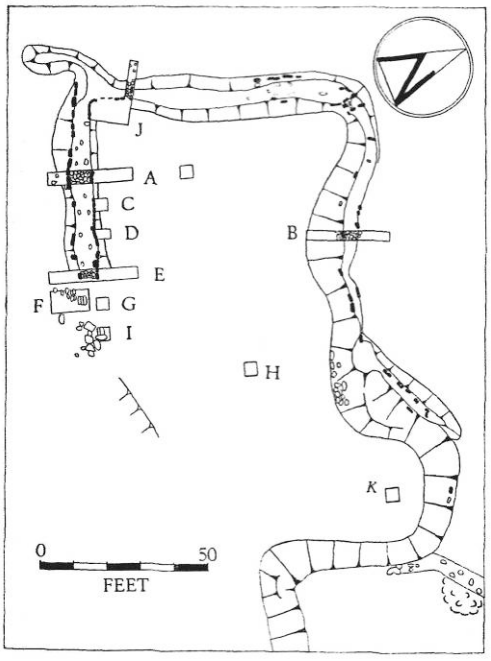


Figure G.259. *The banks and lynchets within Smarson Hill Plantation, South Anston, S. Yorks. The area selected for excavation is shown at A. (Source: Radley and Plant 1969b: 253).*



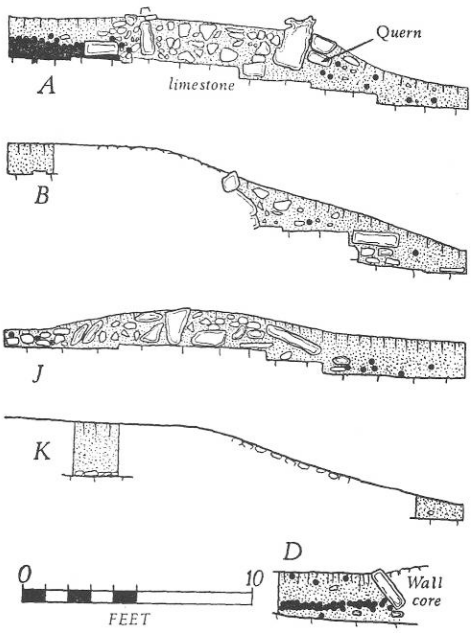


Figure G.260. (left). *The stone-walled enclosure excavated at Smarson Hill.* **Fig. G.261. (right).** *Details of some of the sections across the enclosure walls. Note the quern fragment re-used in Trench A. (Source: Radley and Plant 1969b: 254-255).*

A series of trenches were excavated in 1967 across a subrectangular, double orthostat stone-walled enclosure (Fig. G.260-G.261), with facing stones of upright limestone slabs. No internal structures were found within the limited trial trenches, but there was a relatively large quantity of Romano-British pottery including South Yorkshire greywares, Dales ware and Derbyshire wares, including jars, bowls, platters and dishes of second and third century AD date (Radley and Plant 1969b: 258-259). Some samian and colour-coated ware sherds were also recovered. Slag, ironstone, nails and numerous heat-shattered stones were found, in addition to bone from cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse and deer. A fragment of saddle quern and two fragments of rotary quern were identified, one of the latter incorporated into part of the stone wall of the enclosure.

Approximately 500 metres along the slope to the west, another concentration of Romano-British pottery was found on a possible platform within a ploughed field at Snape Close (SK 5160 826) (Radley and Plant 1969b: 256), along with rotary quern fragments and animal bone. This may represent the location of further settlement.

References: Radley and Plant 1969b.

Sutton Common, Askern SE 5635 1215

Located just to the south of Askern in low-lying, once marshy land, this is one of the most important prehistoric sites in northern England. Although the area was subject to widespread drainage activity in the area during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the two enclosures survived as earthworks until 1980, when the tenant farmer bulldozed the larger enclosure. Despite causing severe damage to an important Scheduled Ancient Monument, this farmer was never prosecuted, and indeed, in order to stop him cultivating the land, English Heritage had to eventually pay him substantial compensation for his supposed loss of earnings! The Carstairs Trust now administers the site and a re-wetting scheme has begun, but this is probably too late for any waterlogged remains left in the smaller enclosure.

Fig. G.262. *Sutton Common, S. Yorks., looking south and photographed from the air in 1976 when both enclosures still survived as upstanding earthworks. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 374, SE 564 121).*

This site was first investigated by the Rev. Scott F. Surtees in 1868 who thought that the enclosures were Roman military camps, and in 1908 Allcroft suggested that they were the last refuges of prehistoric fugitives (Allcroft 1908: 246-247). There followed a series of badly recorded excavations by a Dr. Corbett of Doncaster in 1909 or 1910, whose finds and records were lost; and three trenches in 1910-1914 on the western side of Enclosure A by Major Crawthorne Anne and G.B. Charlton, who examined possible 'hut circles' on the bank and found decayed wood and thatch, flint arrowheads and human bones (Chapman 2007: 4). In 1926 a Mr. Day from Doncaster Grammar School excavated trenches through the ramparts on the northern side of Enclosure A, and examined a possible north gateway finding human bones and a cattle skull. Once again though, no records seem to have been kept, and the finds were subsequently misplaced (Whiting 1936).

The first (relatively) systematic excavations were by Whiting between 1933-1935, who dug trenches within both enclosures. He noted the low-lying and waterlogged conditions and found a plank-lined pit, a possible wheel, and a human skull fragment next to a post alignment linking both enclosures (Whiting 1936: 57). Other constructional evidence included a drystone revetment wall on the western side of the larger eastern Enclosure A, and a possible earlier timber palisade underneath this enclosure's rampart (ibid.: 79). Whiting also identified at least thirty-four of the so-called 'huts' on the ramparts and in some places within the enclosure interiors. Some of these possible structures had stone-flagged floors and internal post settings, but Whiting found no clear dating evidence associated with them. The two enclosures were Scheduled in 1937 as a result of his work.

Although drainage in the area had begun in the post-medieval period, the site itself remained wetland pasture until the bulldozing and ploughing up of the main enclosure in 1980, and in 1982 a major drainage scheme was initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture which lowered water tables by several metres (Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 223). The large enclosure and surrounds had been cultivated since 1980, and the ploughing was gradually encroaching upon the remaining Scheduled area of Enclosure B, cutting into the edge of the upstanding earthworks. In order to assess the impact of this continued ploughing and desiccation, trial trenches were excavated by SYAU in 1987 and 1988.

Trenches A/C and B were excavated in the small Enclosure B in 1987, and Trenches D and E in the larger Enclosure A in 1988 (Adams, Merrony and Sydes 1988; Sydes and Symonds 1987). In Trench A/C, a mass of waterlogged wood was found in the base of the ditch well-preserved below peat layers, including coppiced and worked timbers, one with a peg joint. Some of these timbers may have formed part of a collapsed framework or platform. ^{14}C dates indicated occupation between *c.* 550-200 BC (Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 229). In Trench B, the ditch deposits contained more well-preserved worked wood that included a socketed timber and a notched wooden ladder made of poplar or willow, at the time of its finding the only complete prehistoric ladder known from Britain.

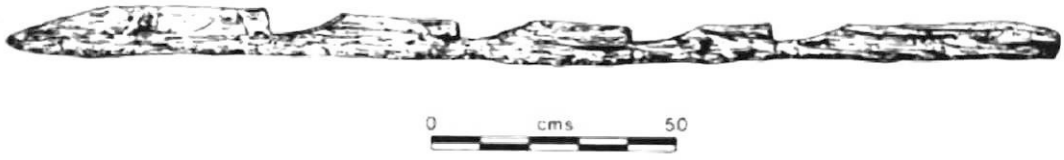


Figure G.263. (top left). *The waterlogged wood found in 1987 in Trench A/C.* **Fig. G.264. (above).** *The notched wooden ladder found in Trench B in 1987. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 225, 233, figs. 4, 14).*

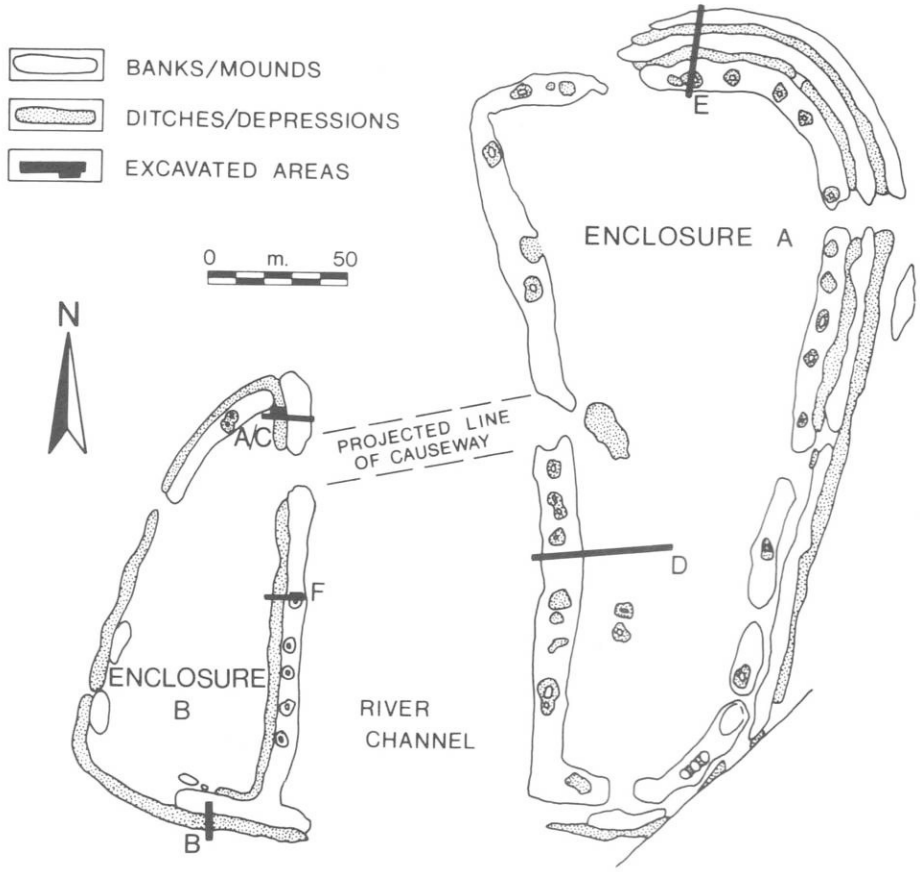


Figure G.265. *Plan of the two Sutton Common enclosures, also showing the line of the possible causeway between the two 'islands', the position of the 1987-88 and 1992-93 investigations, and the locations of the possible 'huts' described by Whiting and others. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 224, fig. 3).*

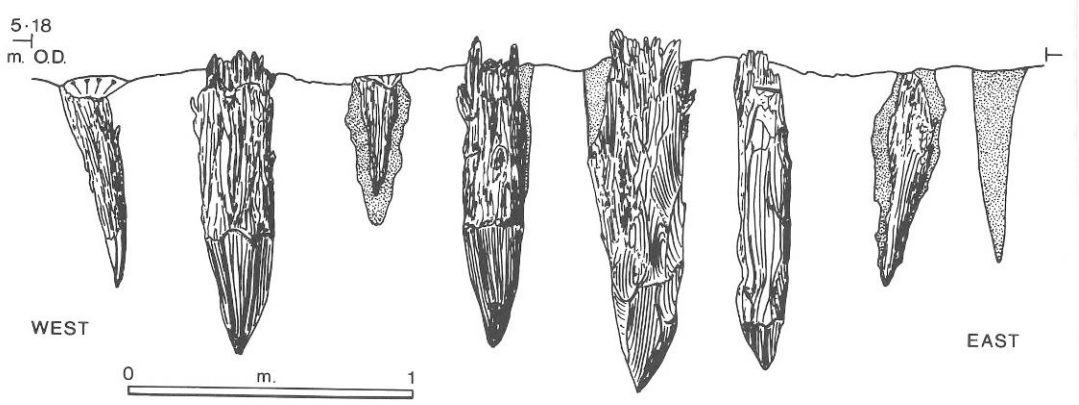


Figure G.266. *The preserved oak stakes of the possible palisade, revealed in Trench E in 1988. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 228: fig. 8).*

In the larger Enclosure A, Trenches D and E were excavated in 1988 and found evidence for extensive plough damage, with the bank truncated. In Trench E, a line of waterlogged oak stakes were recorded running east-west and forming part of a curving palisade along the north side of the large enclosure, a feature also noted by Whiting (1936: 65-66). These seemed to underlie the earthen rampart in places, and were interpreted as an earlier palisaded enclosure pre-dating the box ramparts.

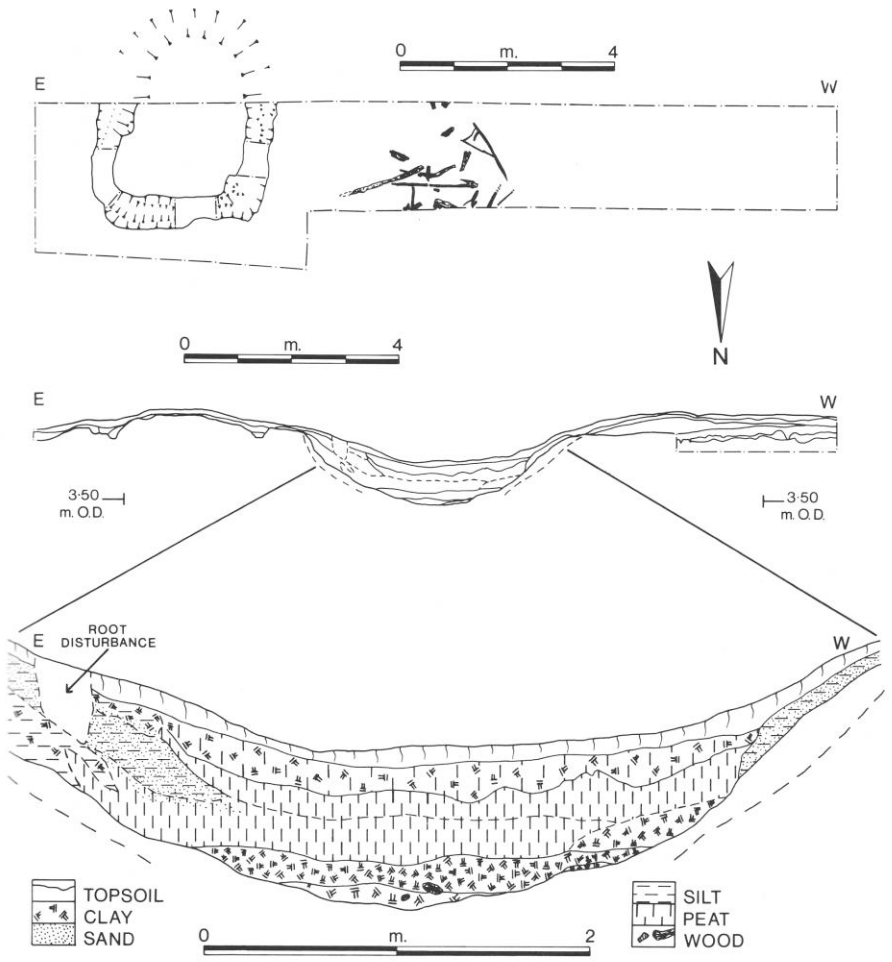


Figure G.267. *Plan and section of Trench F. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 231).*

Figure G.268. *Sutton Common from the air in 1997, showing the ploughed out larger Enclosure A in the upper left, and Enclosure B isolated in a sea of arable. The encroachment by ploughing on the latter is marked. (Source: http://www.projects.ex.ac.uk/suttoncommon/excavation).*

A possible four-post structure was also found in Trench E in 1988. Other work in the immediate vicinity has established the presence of Mesolithic and Neolithic flint scatters (Head et al. 1997: 233-236; Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 230-233; Van de Noort and Davies 1993). In 1992 and 1993 staff and students from SYAFRU and the Department of Archaeology and Prehistory at the University of Sheffield extended these investigations. Trench A/C was re-opened, and it was shown that the previous anaerobic conditions recorded in 1987 had gone and that the condition of the wood had deteriorated markedly as water levels in the area had dropped (Parker Pearson and Sydes 1993: 225-226). The excavation of a new trench, Trench F (Fig. G.267) also demonstrated considerable physical deterioration in the wood. In Trench F, excavated across the boundary of the small enclosure, the rampart was found to consist of a clay base with turves above. One of the small 'huts' noted by Whiting was excavated, and proved to be a subrectangular feature 3.4-4.1m long, defined by a shallow ditch containing a single sherd of fragile later prehistoric pottery (ibid.: 230). The 1980s and 1990s work at Sutton Common also recovered fragments of saddle querns.

The continued desiccation of deposits and degradation of Enclosure A by ploughing led to English Heritage sponsoring the transfer of ownership of the site to the Carstairs Trust, and re-engineering of the drainage scheme in the area. Detailed topographic and hydrological surveying established that Sutton Common had a 'perched' water table higher than the surrounding landscape, but one which was also subject to seasonal fluctuations (Van de Noort, Chapman and Cheetham 2001). Following on from this work, the Universities of Hull and Exeter undertook further trial excavation in 1998 and 1999, which established that only the bottom 0.20m of the ditches in Enclosure B still preserved waterlogged deposits. In addition to re-wetting of the site, more widescale strip and record and open-area excavation of Enclosure A followed in 2002-2003, it having been recognised that the rapid desiccation of deposits meant that all potential information from any surviving wood would be lost within a few years.

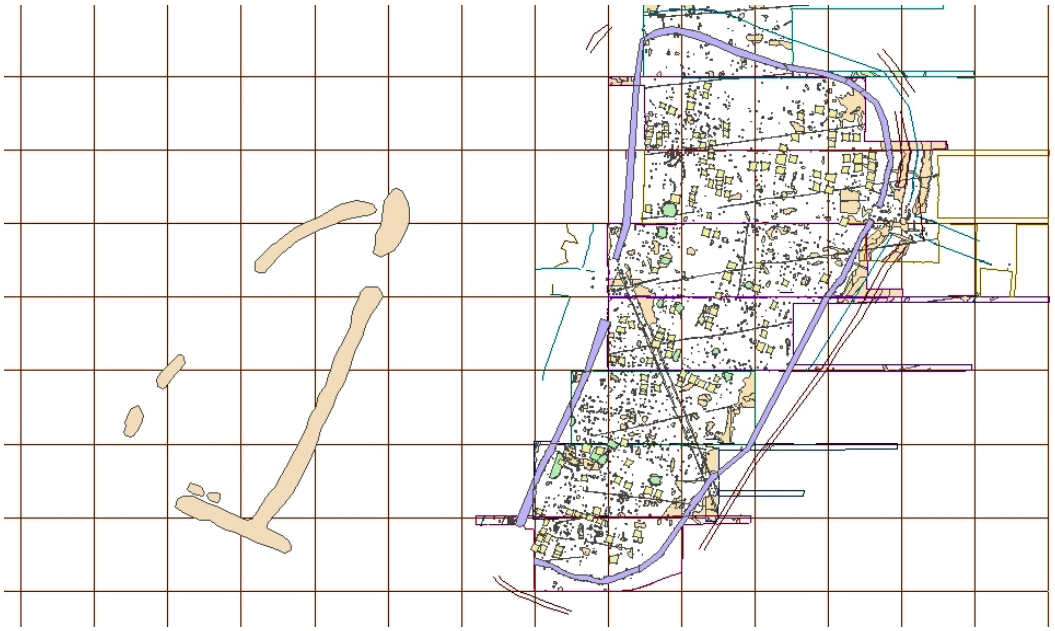


Figure G.269. *The 1998-1999 and 2002-2003 investigations at Sutton Common, showing the internal features recorded within Enclosure A. (Source: © Chapman and Van de Noort).*

In addition to the Iron Age features, an early Bronze Age mortuary structure was found, with pyre debris ^{14}C dated to 1885-1690 BC placed in a small pit (Van de Noort and Chapman 2007: 37). This again suggests that these 'islands' in the marsh were intermittently significant places for thousands of years before the construction of the enclosures. Hundreds of postholes were found within Enclosure A, representing at least 150 four-posters, fences and other structural features, but no roundhouses were identified. The previously postulated causeway linking enclosures A and B was confirmed, and was up to 9m wide. Enclosure B has been reinterpreted as a largely empty enclosure with a cross-wall, banks and ditches, but perhaps largely devoid of internal features (ibid.: 37), although the detailed evidence for this supposition has not been fully published as yet.

Enclosure A was surrounded by substantial box timber ramparts, which on its western side were built on top of limestone foundations, perhaps to protect the timbers from standing water in the Hampole Beck, and/or to make this side of the enclosure appear more impressive. The timbers used to form the framework of the ramparts were set in parallel pairs approximately 2.5m apart, and dendrochronological analysis established that these were felled between 372-362 BC (Van de Noort and Chapman 2007: 37). On the inside of the ramparts was a linear zone approximately 10m wide with few features. Outside of the box rampart was a ditch along the north-eastern, eastern and southern sides of the enclosure, but which was absent on the western and north-western sides. Outside the terrace on the western side of the large enclosure, and outside the ditch on the other sides, there was a line of stakes set within a low earthen bank (Chapman, Van de Noort and Fletcher 2007: 78-79). These might have been sharpened, or formed a low fence. In turn, outside this on the eastern side of the enclosure was a second ditch, with additional alignments has been found on the eastern side of the enclosure. Additional alignments of smaller stakes were found to the east of the second ditch.

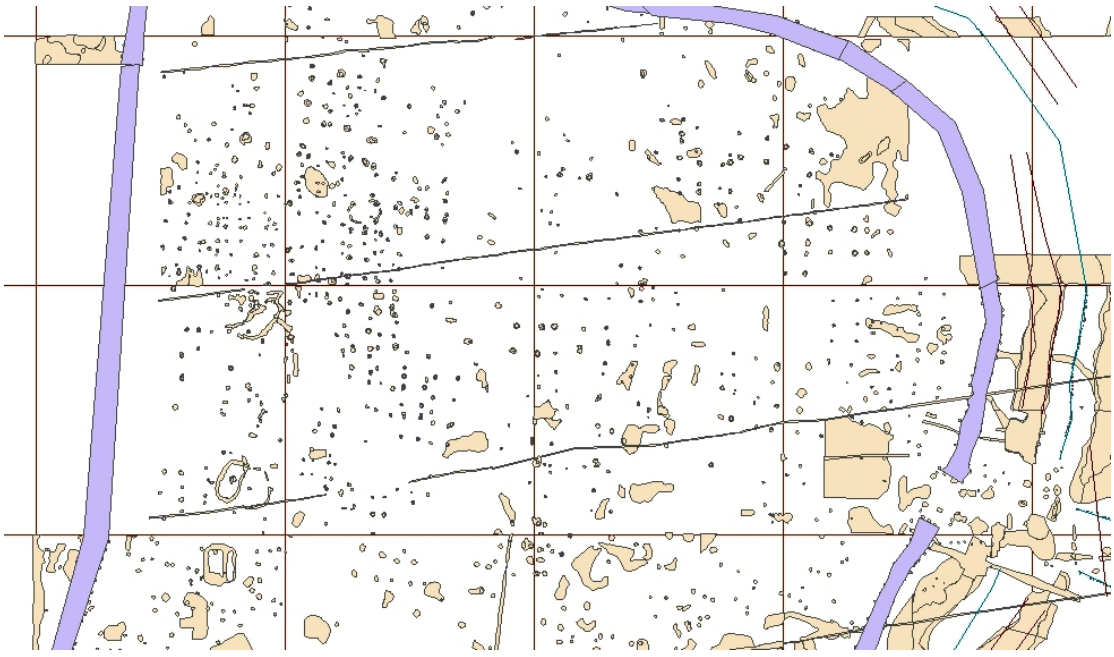


Figure G.270. *Detail of part of the 'strip and record' at Enclosure A, showing the hundreds of postholes, pits and other features identified, and the complex nature of the eastern gateway structure. (Source: © Chapman and Van de Noort).*

Figure G.271. *Recording one of the sinuous stake-built palisades. The line of gravel is a recent field drain. (Source: Van de Noort and Chapman 2007: 37).*

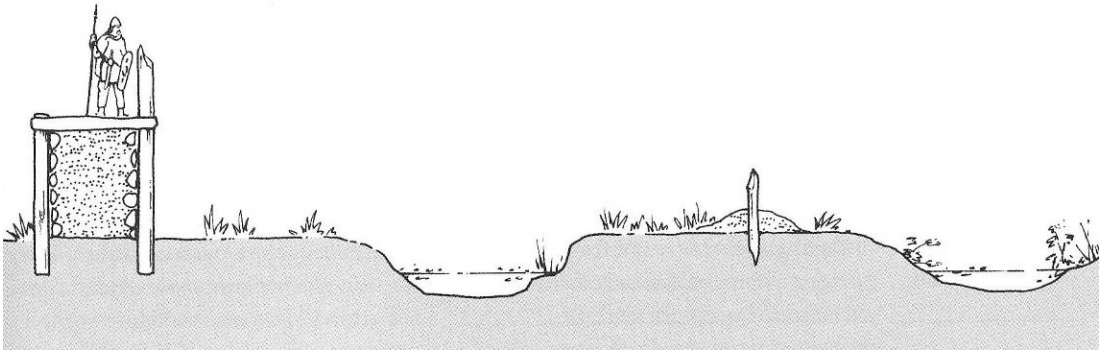


Figure G.272. *Reconstruction of the box timber ramparts, inner and outer ditch and the palisaded bank. This picture portrays these features as explicitly defensive fortifications – note the figure of the watchful Iron Age 'warrior' on the ramparts, even though there is little firm evidence that the ramparts had a timber walkway of this sort. (Source: Van de Noort and Chapman 2007: 37).*

The recent excavations have shown that Enclosure A probably only had two entranceways, one facing west and linked to the causeway and Enclosure B, and one facing to the east and Shirley Pool. The western gateway was around 18m long and 4m wide, formed by six large oak timbers (Chapman, Van de Noort and Fletcher 2007: 76-77). The eastern entrance was 22m long and 4m wide, formed by 10 massive timbers and narrowing markedly to create a funnel-shaped entrance. This was approached via an 'avenue' of closely spaced wooden stakes (ibid.: 86), further emphasising the importance and restricted nature of the entrance. Additional timber structures found near the large ditch terminals may

have been similar in form to the stone 'guard chambers' found at many British hillforts, although the function of the latter continues to be debated.

Figure G.273. *Detail of the wooden structures excavated at the eastern entrance into the large enclosure at Sutton Common. The double ditches, box timber structures and stake-built 'avaenue' are all apparent.(Source: Chapman, Van de Noort and Fletcher 2007: 86, fig. 5.18).*

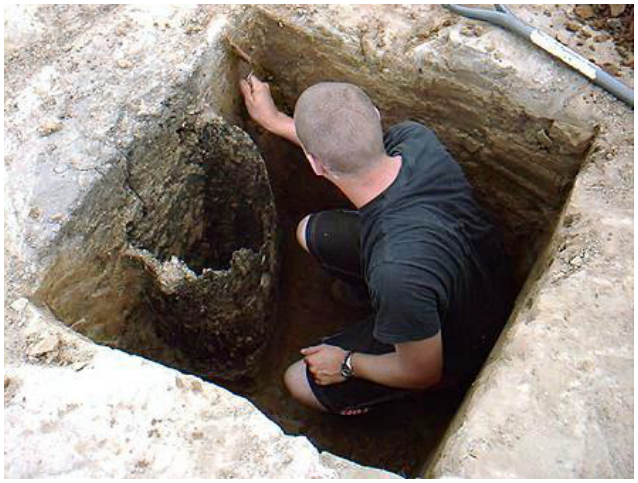


Figure G.274. (left). *The eastern entrance being excavated in 2003. The massive scale of the structure is apparent, but also the inadequate sample of the enclosure ditches at this key point (despite more sections being dug later on).* **Fig. G.275. (right).** *Excavating one of the massive timbers of the gateway. Although probably waterlogged until recently, now only the harder outer 'skin' of the timber is left intact following decades of desiccation and destruction by aerobic bacteria. (Source: http://www.projects.ex.ac.uk/suttoncommon/excavation).*

Following a probable period of disuse when the ramparts rotted and partially collapsed, between *c.* 400-200 BC Enclosure A at least was the location of a cemetery with at least twelve small subrectangular and penannular enclosures apparently used for the secondary deposition of cremated human and animal remains (Chapman 2007: 153-155), and although a few concentrations of bone were found, in other instances just occasional fragments and flecks of cremated bone were noted 9McKinley 2007; Outram 2007). These enclosures were defined by narrow gullies, some possibly reinforced with stakes or timber suttering (Van de Noort 2007b: 163). Late Iron Age glass beads were recovered from one of these mortuary rings (Dungworth 2007), and the gold bracelet or ingot fragment recovered on the last day of the excavation (Hill 2007) may also have been associated with these small mortuary enclosures. For some odd reason, only some of these enclosures were partially sampled, and many were not excavated at all. Interestingly though, at least one concentration of cremated remains was found within the posthole of a former four-post structure, suggesting that even several centuries after the occupation, a direct symbolic link may have been drawn between the dead, grain, agricultural fertility and regeneration. Some small stake-built structures close to some of the mortuary enclosures might have been shrines, or were used for preparing the bodies. No evidence of pyres was noted, so where the bodies were actually cremated is not clear.

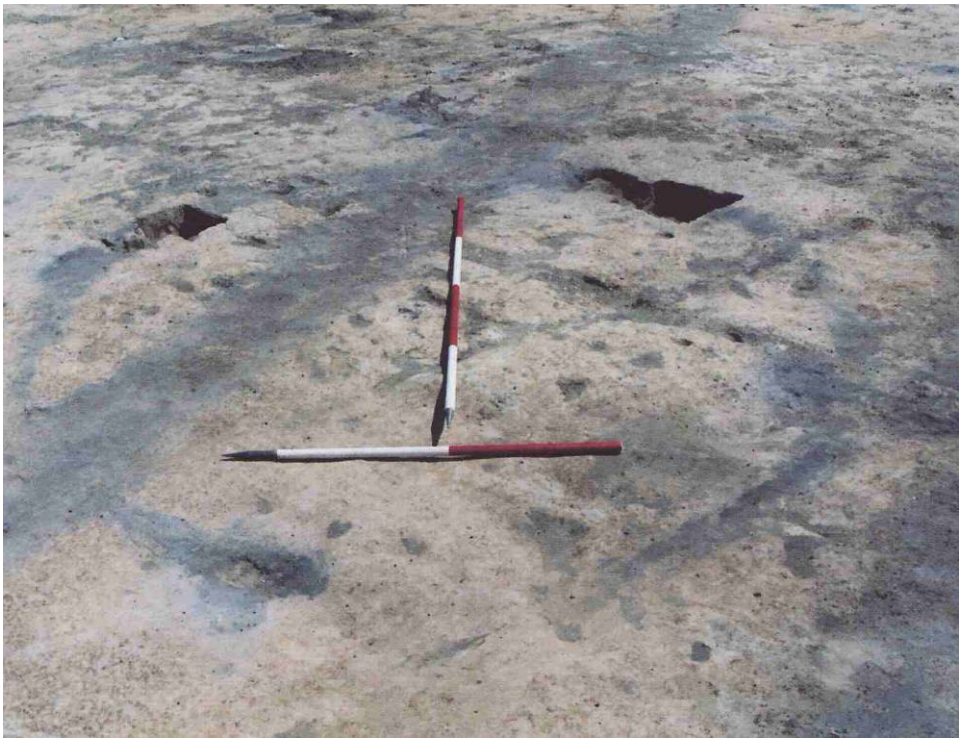


Figure G.276. *One of the small later Iron Age mortuary enclosures recorded at Sutton Common. The limited nature of the sampling is indicated by the small sections actually excavated through the gully. (Source: Van de Noort and Chapman 2007: 39).*

It is not clear from any of the 1992-93 or 2002-2003 excavations what the small 'huts' on the banks were or how they fit into the sequence, but presumably they were part of a later phase of occupation, after the ramparts had ceased to be functioning structures.

The director of the University of Exeter and University of Hull excavation project was puzzled that there were no signs of domestic occupation within the larger enclosure (English Heritage 2002; Van de Noort 2004: 67-68), but there are many reasons to think that the site enjoyed high status and considerable ceremonial significance. An extremely small excavation sample of the ditch terminals by the eastern entrance into the larger enclosure nonetheless recovered evidence for placed deposits including fragments of two human skulls, a quern fragment and an antler weaving comb (see Appendix F). The eastern entrance was associated with a causeway leading out into standing water and marsh, but bizarrely and unaccountably, this was not excavated. Initial interpretations of this timber causeway suggested that it was a jetty for boats, but it is much more likely that this feature was similar to the causeways at Flag Fen and Fiskerton. Interestingly, Sutton Common lies within a significant local cluster of Bronze Age metalwork finds, and in a wider regional context, similar 'watery practices' also involved the deposition of the Roos Carr early or middle Iron Age wooden figurines in the Humber wetlands. Had this causeway and the deposits around it been investigated, placed deposits of metalwork, pottery, wooden artefacts and human and animal bone might well have been found. Admittedly, part of this area lies close to the Shirley Pool Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), so full excavation might always have been unlikely, but it should have been investigated further.

Similarly, only around 10% of the internal features were actually excavated, and most of these in many cases were only half-sectioned. This directly contravenes the assertion that this one of the 'most extensive iron age research excavations in Britain' (Van de Noort and Chapman 2007: 36). Key features such as the small funerary enclosures and the lengths of ditches by the enclosure entrances only had very limited segments excavated, and most features were box-sectioned rather than being excavated stratigraphically, even those without surviving timbers within them. Such techniques have been largely discarded in British field archaeology for the past fifty years or more, except as a last resort when no clear interfaces can be discerned. Sadly, much archaeological information (and potentially artefacts) was undoubtedly lost through this ill-conceived and inadequate sampling strategy. Why English Heritage and the relevant local authority curatorial archaeologists permitted such a poor excavation and recording methodology is a mystery.

References: Adams, Merrony and Sydes 1988; Allcroft 1908; Chapman 2003; Chapman and Van de Noort 2001; Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997; Sydes and Symonds 1987; Van de Noort and Chapman 2007; Van de Noort, Chapman and Cheetham 2001; Van de Noort, Chapman and Collis 2007; Whiting 1936.

Wharncliffe Wood, Sheffield SK 2970 9780

Along with the nearby Romano-British settlement at Whitley, the site was surveyed and excavated by Leslie Butcher and the Hunter Archaeological Society between 1950-1975. These investigations have never been properly published, however, except in the briefest of formats (Butcher 1970). Sheffield Museum curates an unpublished archive of drawings and field notes (Butcher 1976), but this was unavailable to me due to the extensive renovation work being undertaken at Sheffield Museum, which entailed many of its collections being placed in secure storage. M.E. Wright has also undertaken work on the quernstone quarries, but only a brief summary of this work has been published (Wright 1988), and I was not able to gain access to unpublished notes and plans.

Figure G.277. *Wharncliffe Wood from the air. (Source: © Sheffield Wildlife Action Partnership. World Wide Web http://www.sbsg.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/wharncliffe_heath).*

A desk-based assessment of Wharncliffe Wood was undertaken by the SYAFRU in 1993 (Cumberpatch and Latham 1994), in order to identify known archaeological sites and enhance interpretation of them as part of the creation of the South Yorkshire Forest. Following on from this preliminary work, part of the quern manufacturing site was surveyed in more detail by English Heritage in 1999 (Fig. 4.17). The quern working areas were mostly located up against the west-facing edge of the crags, but also on top of them at the northern part of the area. Over 2300 quern roughouts were identified, of which 1960 or 81% were flat disc type querns, and 272 or 11% beehive roughouts (Pearson and Oswald 2005). These different types of roughouts also had varying distributions. Flat disc 'blanks' occurred across the site, but the beehive roughouts were located mostly along the eastern margins. This distribution may thus reflect chronological trends in quern working, and perhaps also changes in the social practice and organisation of quern working itself. It is likely, however, that most querns left the site as roughouts to be finished elsewhere (Wright 1988: 74-75). It is not known if the querns were made by local communities on a 'part-time' basis, perhaps during lulls in the agricultural

cycle, or if 'full-time' specialist individuals were involved with production. It is also not clear if it was these local communities that controlled production, or if many different communities would have had access to these areas, perhaps with certain members of many groups visiting the quarries at certain times of the year. The nature of quern exchange is also poorly understood.

Figure G.278. *The top of Wharncliffe Crags after a fire. (Source: www.topforge.co.uk).*

Figure G.279. *Unfinished quern roughouts at Wharncliffe Crags. (Source: Cumberpatch and Latham 1994: 55).*

References: Butcher 1970, 1976; Cumberpatch and Latham 1994; Wright 1988.

Whitley, Wharncliffe, Sheffield SK 3050 9660

There are a series of earthwork remains located on and above the Wharncliffe crags representing late prehistoric and Romano-British enclosures, possible stone roundhouses, lynchets and linear boundaries (Fig. G.280). These include an extensive group of enclosures at Gosling Moor, and smaller clusters at Long Heath, Warren, Stanfield and Whitley. These were surveyed by the late Leslie Butcher and the Hunter Archaeological Society, but once again have never been fully published (Butcher 1970).

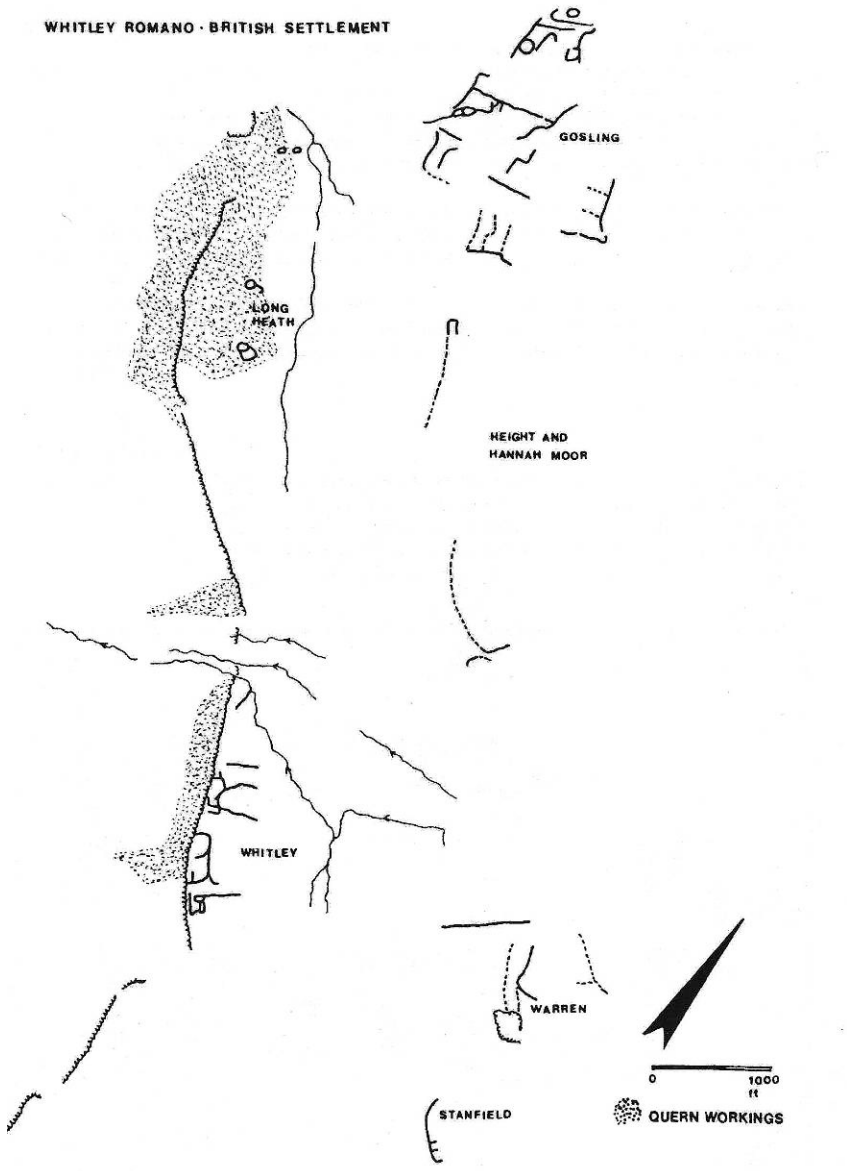
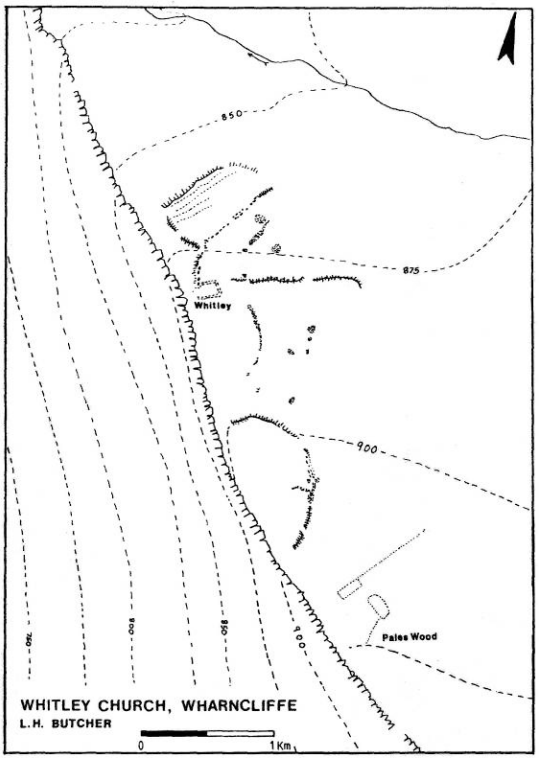


Figure G.280. *The late prehistoric or Romano-British earthworks near Wharncliffe Crags, S. Yorks. The site at Whitley lies to the south-west (lower left). (Source: Makepeace 1985: 35).*

The site at Whitley was surveyed and excavated between 1958-1960, and has been belatedly published (Makepeace 1985). Several enclosures are located at this locale, including a subrectangular enclosure and a D-shaped example (Fig. G.281), both orientated to Wharncliffe Crags. A subrectangular building

was excavated, with double-orthostat walls with rubble cores. A beehive quern roughout had been incorporated into this walling on the southern side of the building. There was an east-facing entrance, with remnants of cobbled surfaces both outside this entrance, and in patches within the building. Several postholes were excavated, and the pottery recovered included greyware, Derbyshire ware, mortaria and samian of mid-second to third century AD date (Makepeace 1985: 38-39).



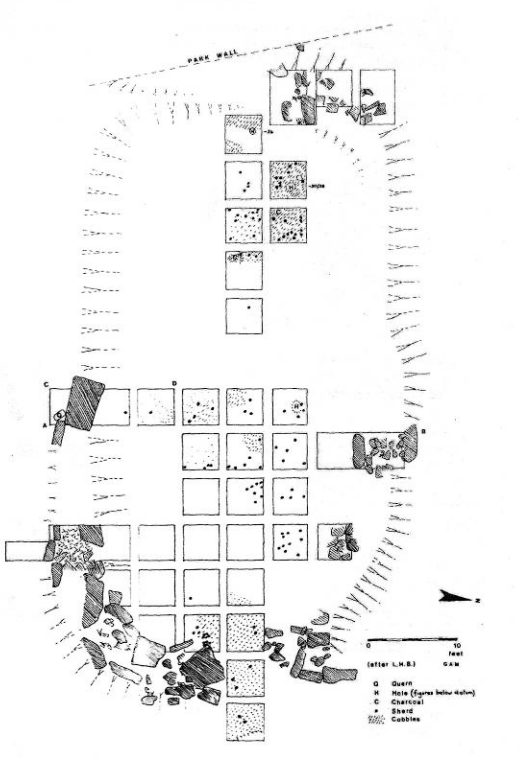


Figure G.281. (left). *Detail of the enclosures at Whitley, Wharncliffe, with the excavated building shown immediately above the word 'Whitley'.* **Fig. G.282. (right).** *Detail of the building, investigated using the box grid technique of excavation. Note that this plan is orientated at right-angles to Fig. G.153. (Source: Makepeace 1985: 36-37).*

References: Butcher 1970; Makepeace 1985.

Wincobank, Sheffield SK 3775 9100

The 1 hectare bivallate hillfort at Wincobank in Sheffield has a commanding position on a ridge that is parallel to the River Don. Britain's only hillfort within a built-up urban area, the site is in danger of being invaded by scrub woodland, and has suffered considerable depredations from mountain bikes, trail motorcycles and illegal fly tipping. It is also another favourite spot for teenagers to drink strong white cider and burn stolen cars, perhaps an atavistic return to prehistoric feasting practices.

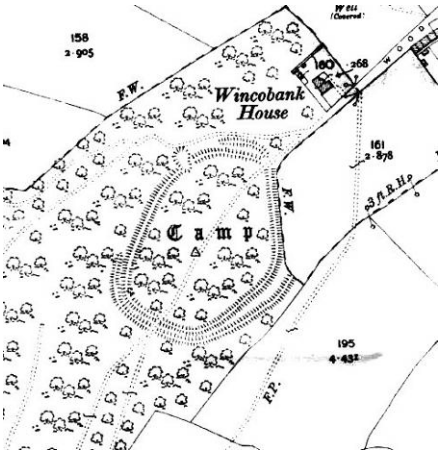


Figure G.283. (top left). *Wincobank hillfort, Sheffield, S. Yorks., under light scrub cover in the centre of the image. It is England's most urbanised hillfort, and is under constant threat. (Source: © Google Earth).* **Fig. G.284. (top right).** *Wincobank on the 1st Edition O.S. map. (Source: © Ordnance Survey.* **Fig. G.285. (left).** *More oblique aerial view of the earthworks, taken before recent development and scrub growth. (Source: Whiteley 1993: 9).*

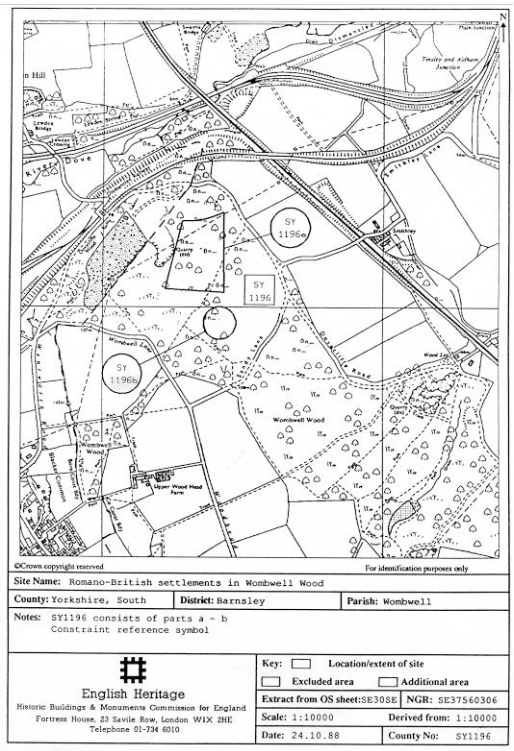
Howarth undertook small-scale excavations in 1899, but most of the interior was not investigated, and these results have never been published, although the rather slim archive is now held in Sheffield Museum. A 1950 summary of these unpublished results describes burnt masonry ramparts with the remains of timber lacing, leading to the suggestion that this was a so-called 'vitrified fort'. There were possible entrances in the inner ramparts to the west, north, east and south. The only dating evidence was some Roman greyware recovered from upper ditch fills. It was once believed to have been occupied until the Roman conquest (ibid.: 92), but ^{14}C dates of *c.* 500 BC from an unpublished evaluation by Pauline Beswick in 1979 (Coutts 1999: 78) suggest that it was probably disused by the late Iron Age (Buckland 1986: 6). A recent survey identified four gaps in the earthworks, with the north-east and south-west as possible original entrances (Pouncett 2001).

In the early modern period there were mineral extraction pits dug nearby, and in the Second World War there was a searchlight and anti-aircraft gun sited on the ramparts (Whiteley 1993).

Figure G.286. *Recent detailed earthwork survey of Wincobank. The north-east and south-west 'gaps' are the most likely original entrances. The three north-east to south-west lines of hollows are post-medieval or early modern mineral extraction pits. (Source: Pouncett 2001).*

References: Buckland 1986: 6; Coutts 1999: 78; Pouncett 2001; Preston 1950a.

Wombwell Wood, Barnsley SE 3730 0300



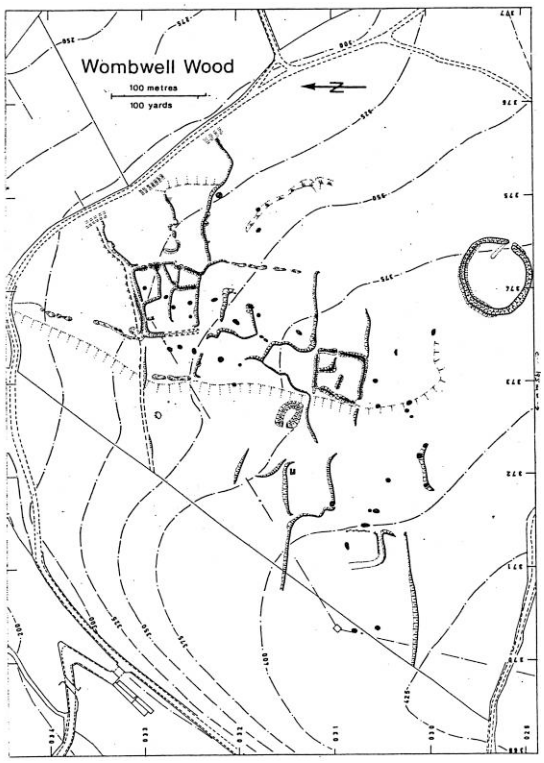


Figure G.287. (left). *The location of the two Scheduled areas within Wombwell Wood, S. Yorks. (Source: © English Heritage/SYAS). SAM 1196a is within the trapezoidal area to the north, SAM 1196b within the circular area to the south.* **Fig. G.288. (right).** *Plan of the circular enclosure, and the subrectangular banks and ditches to the north. Note that north faces to the left on this second image. (Source: © English Heritage/SYAS).*

Wombwell Wood near Barnsley is another area of Ancient Woodland that has helped preserve several possible prehistoric or Romano-British earthworks. These have yet to be surveyed in great detail, and the only available plans are slightly confusing. There are two Scheduled areas on a flattish area on a general north-east facing slope within the wood – one is an undated earthwork subcircular enclosure linked to an apparent banked trackway (SAM 1196b). Interestingly, a subcircular enclosure was investigated just to the east at the Wood Head Opencast site (see below). North of SAM 1196b is an area of complex earthworks including banks, ditches and terraces, with at least two apparent subrectangular enclosures (SAM 1196a) (Fig. G.288).

In 1986 another earthwork complex was surveyed by SYAS (Fig. G.289). These features were located 1.30km away in the south-east part of Wombwell Wood, immediately behind the gardens of the houses fronting onto the B6096 road. Another group of banks and ditches was recorded, with one or two enclosures, but to the north-west the earthworks had been largely ploughed out. Limited trial excavation of some of these earthwork features failed to recover any dating evidence (Morris and Webb 1998).

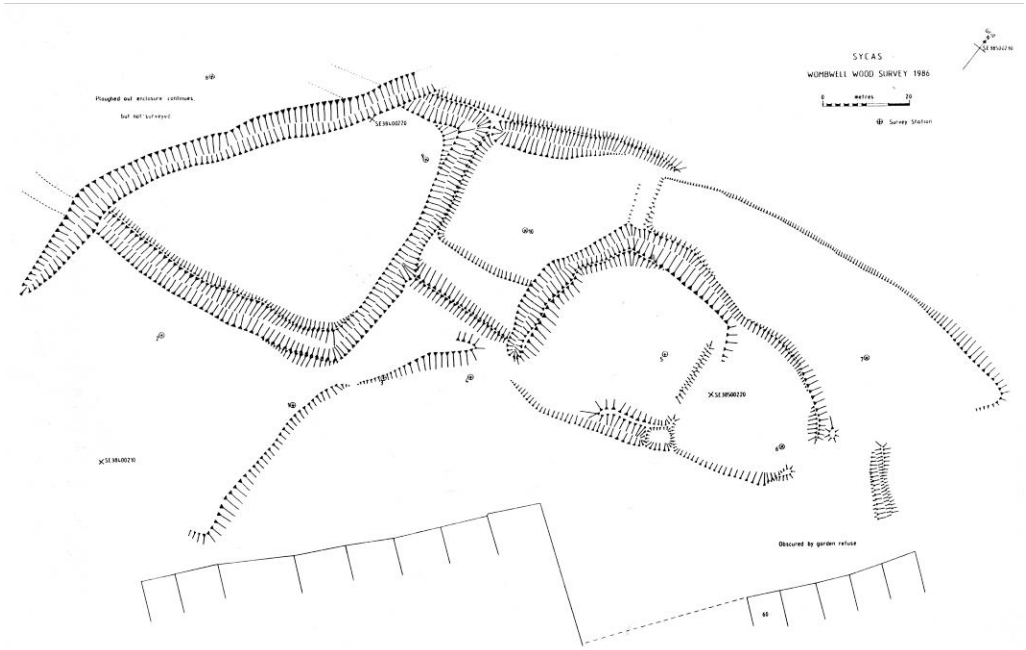


Figure G.289. *The third earthwork complex in Wombwell Wood, sketchily surveyed in 1986. There are two possible enclosures – the eastern example may have a partial subdivision, and there may be an embanked passage or droveway c. 30m long linking it to the western enclosure. However, a more detailed survey of this earthwork complex and the others in Wombwell Wood is urgently required. (Source: © SYAS).*

Fig. G.290. (left). *Photograph of a silted-up ditch forming part of SAM 1196a, with the trees growing on the adjacent banks.* **Fig. G.291. (right).** *Excavated section across one of the earthwork banks, showing the stone core. (Images source: © SYAS).*

References: Morris and Webb 1998; Whiteley 1992: 26.

Excavated cropmark/geophysical survey sites

Armthorpe SE 6420 0510

Cropmarks of archaeological features in the Armthorpe area were first recognised by Riley (1980). His work revealed extensive complexes of fields, trackways and enclosures around Edenthorpe and Gunhills to the north-west, including 'brickwork' pattern fields. Further air photo mapping by Deegan (2001a) identified similar systems to the south-east at Tranmoor, and further cropmarks to the west and at the junction of the M18 and A630 to the east (Fig. G.292).

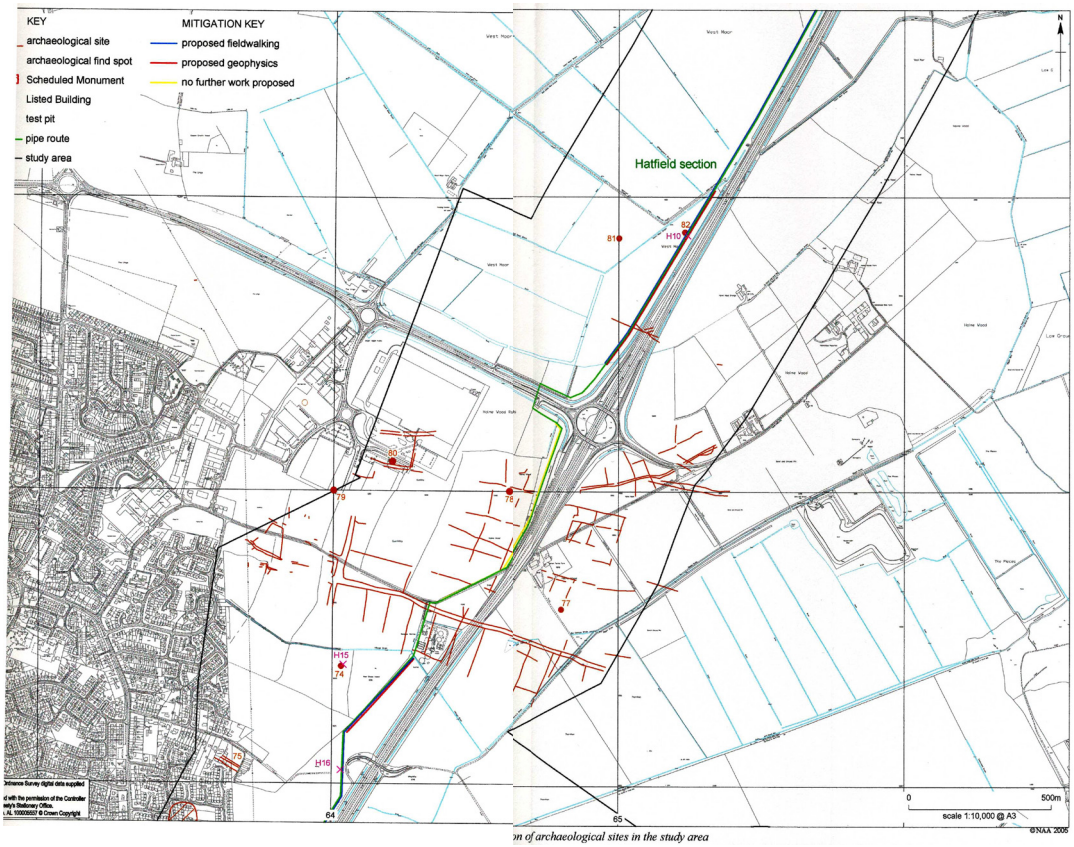
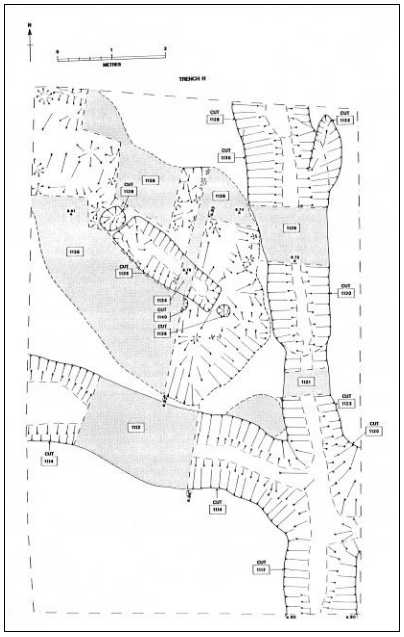


Figure G.292. *Composite image of cropmarks identified to the east of Armthorpe, S. Yorks. (Source: Deegan 2001a).*

On the southern edge of Armthorpe, geophysical survey, fieldwalking and excavation by SYAFRU took place at Nutwell Lane in 1995, and revealed a trackway, field boundaries, fencelines and possible structural features, including the setting for a trough of some kind, perhaps for watering livestock (Fig. G.293). Sherds of probable late Iron Age pottery were recovered, with a fabric similar to that one of the Iron Age vessels found at Pickburn Leys, in addition to Romano-British pottery (Cumberpatch and Webster 1998: 21). Since the late 1990s, however, the area on the north-east side of Armthorpe between Holme Wood Lane, the A630 and the M18 has seen a series of archaeological evaluation and extensive excavation projects in advance of light industrial and retail developments. This area is flat, low-lying land between 5-10m OD, with extremely gentle undulations.



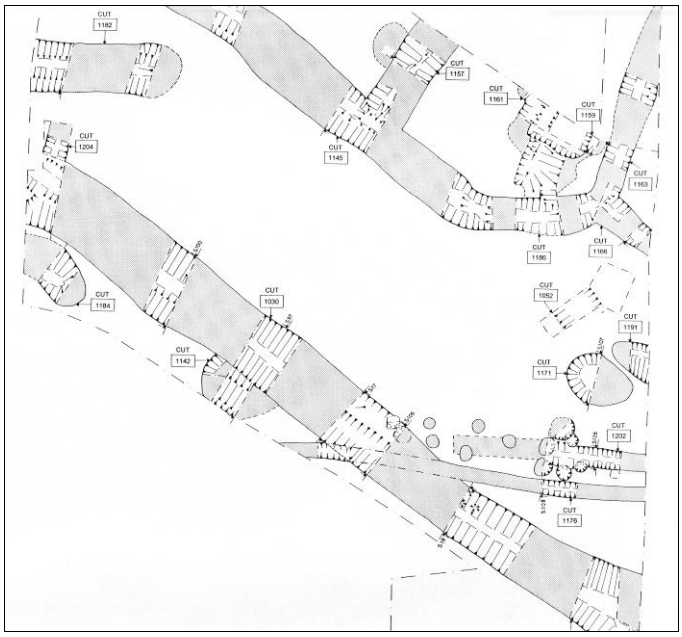


Figure G.293. (left). *Ditch intersection at Nutwell Lane, Armthorpe, showing a hollow in the corner of the junction with a rectangular cut for a possible tank or trough of some kind, and two associated postholes.* **Fig. G.294. (right).** *Part of a double-ditched trackway at Nutwell Lane, with other features including a later phase of activity evidenced by a fenceline defined by a palisade slot and postholes. (Source: © SYAFRU).*

In 1996 there was geophysical survey by GeoQuest Associates (Hale 1996), followed by trial trenching by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (Rosenberg and Williams 1996). This area is known as Junction 4. The geophysical survey identified field systems, double-ditched trackways and small enclosures (Hale 1996), and these features were later confirmed by phases of excavation outlined below. The rather poor evaluation report by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants noted enclosure and field ditches, four probable oven bases and other sparse remains from rural Romano-British occupation spanning the second to fourth centuries AD (Rosenberg and Williams 1996).

Additional archaeological evaluation occurred north of the site at Rands Lane, where trial trenching by AS WYAS found second to third century AD boundaries and possible post-hole structures (Burgess 1999). Domestic, industrial and funerary activities were also identified, the latter consisting of cremated human remains placed in a shallow pit with alder and birch charcoal. Further archaeological trial trenching and open-area excavation was carried out to the east in an area known as West Moor Park. This work revealed three main phases of activity dating to the late Iron Age and early Roman period, the second century AD, and the third to fourth centuries AD. Further fields, trackways and a trapezoidal enclosure were identified, in addition to industrial activity in the form of oven bases or hearths, furnaces, and large quantities of slag and smithing debris (Cowgill 2001; Richardson 2001). It was suggested that the trapezoidal enclosure was one of the earliest features in a landscape which was then progressively enclosed over time.

Archaeological investigations were also carried out by AS WYAS further to the east of West Moor Park on areas known as Lincolnshire Way and West Moor Park East. Geophysical survey, evaluation

and excavation revealed a continuation of the late Iron Age and Romano-British enclosure, fields and trackway, in addition to isolated pit features containing later Neolithic pottery from a much earlier phase of unenclosed prehistoric occupation (Gidman and Rose 2004; Richardson 2002; Rose and Richardson 2004).

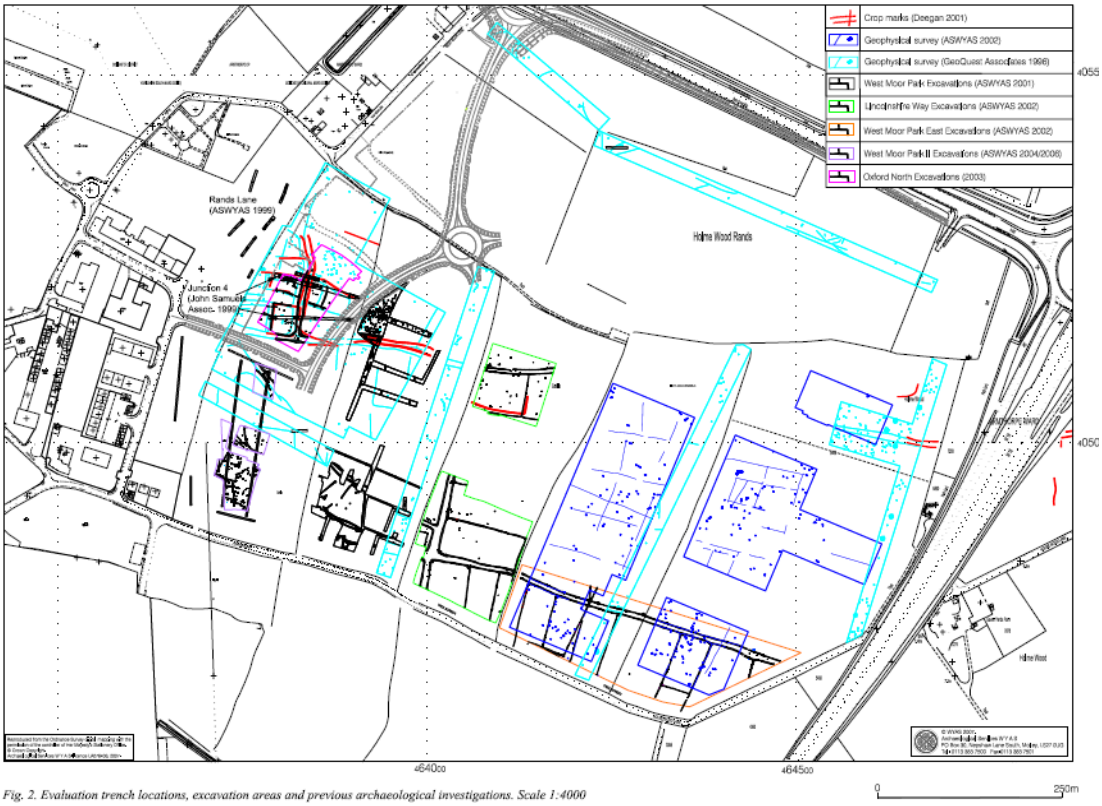


Figure G.295. *The different phases of archaeological investigation on the north-east side of Armthorpe, S. Yorks. This is the largest excavated sample of 'brickwork' fields, and has conclusively demonstrated that this was not a pre-planned landscape laid out all in one phase, but that it developed incrementally over time. In addition more irregular, late Iron Age enclosures and fields have been found that pre-dated the 'brickwork' boundaries. To the centre left of the image is the trapezoidal enclosure at West Moor Park, at the right of the image a large section of double-ditched trackway and associated co-axial fields investigated at Lincolnshire Way and West Moor Park East. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

Radiocarbon dates from charcoal found in the fills of four pits from Lincolnshire Way and West Moor Park East also indicated some medieval activity. The field system at Lincolnshire Way and West Moor Park East was more co-axial and regular in form than the irregular, 'organic' enclosure and field boundaries at West Moor Park, and was possibly later in date with mainly mid-second to third century AD pottery recovered. Geophysical survey on the site of West Moor Park East indicated that the co-axial fields extended northwards in this area, although poor monitoring conditions during a watching brief precluded their further investigation (Gidman and Rose 2004).

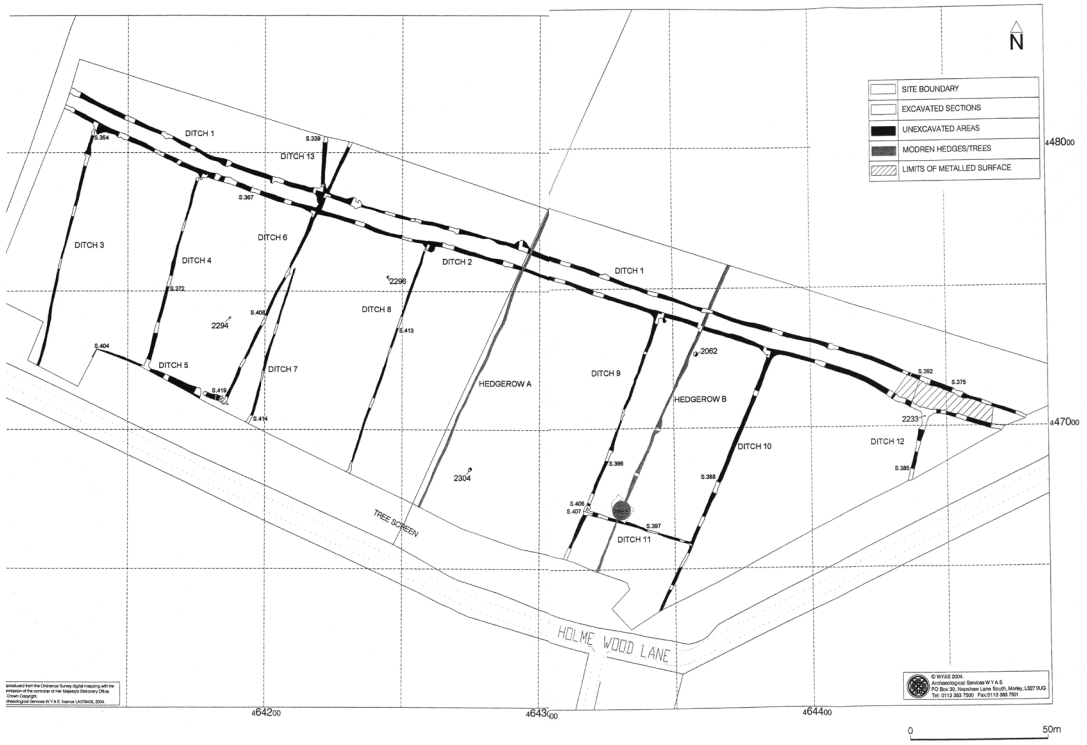


Figure G.296. *Composite plan of the West Moor Park East site, showing the co-axial 'brickwork' fields and the extensive length of trackway excavated. Note that ditches 3, 4, 7 and 8 were on very similar alignments. Ditch 6 was an exception to this, cutting across the line of ditch 7, although it was perhaps more closely matched by the orientations of ditches 9 and 10. Note the many sections of ditch excavated, part of a more robust sampling strategy, and also how the modern hedgerow boundaries follow the alignments of some of the Romano-British features. (Source: Gidman and Rose 2004: fig. 8).*

Excavations to the north of the West Moor Park II Site by Oxford North in 2003 excavated the enclosure previously identified from aerial photographs and then evaluated in 1996 (Deegan 2001a; Rosenberg and Williams 1996) (Fig. G.297). Further ditched boundaries, trackways and three cremation burials were found, the latter not in urns. In addition, pits and two additional oven/hearth bases were excavated, and a well that was partly excavated to a depth of 3.05m (Hughes 2006), but which was unfortunately not bottomed. A further stage of evaluation work also took place off Rands Lane at the Doncaster Motor Training Centre. Owing to modern truncation and other soil disturbance, however, only a few, undated features could be identified (Rose 2005).

Two phases of excavation at West Moor Park II revealed a series of enclosure ditches and gullies, pits, post-holes, hearths and possible ovens, all probably Romano-British in date, but with little structural evidence of contemporary settlement. Instead, there were a series of small enclosures formed by irregular gullies, and possible windbreak or lean-to structures associated with 'keyhole' and 'figure of eight' ovens or hearths. These enigmatic features were not associated with significant amounts of charred grain, or pottery wasters or metallurgical waste. Their exact purpose is thus unknown, although it is possible that they were bread ovens. The short-lived nature of many of the features excavated may indicate that the area was in use for relatively brief periods of time, perhaps during lulls in the

agricultural cycle. This illustrates that archaeologists must exercise great caution in attributing 'domestic' or 'industrial' activities to enclosure sites alone, and that many practices may have been dispersed across relatively wide areas. These activities may have been relatively fleeting and transient, yet no less important to everyday life. It makes identifying such areas of activity very challenging.

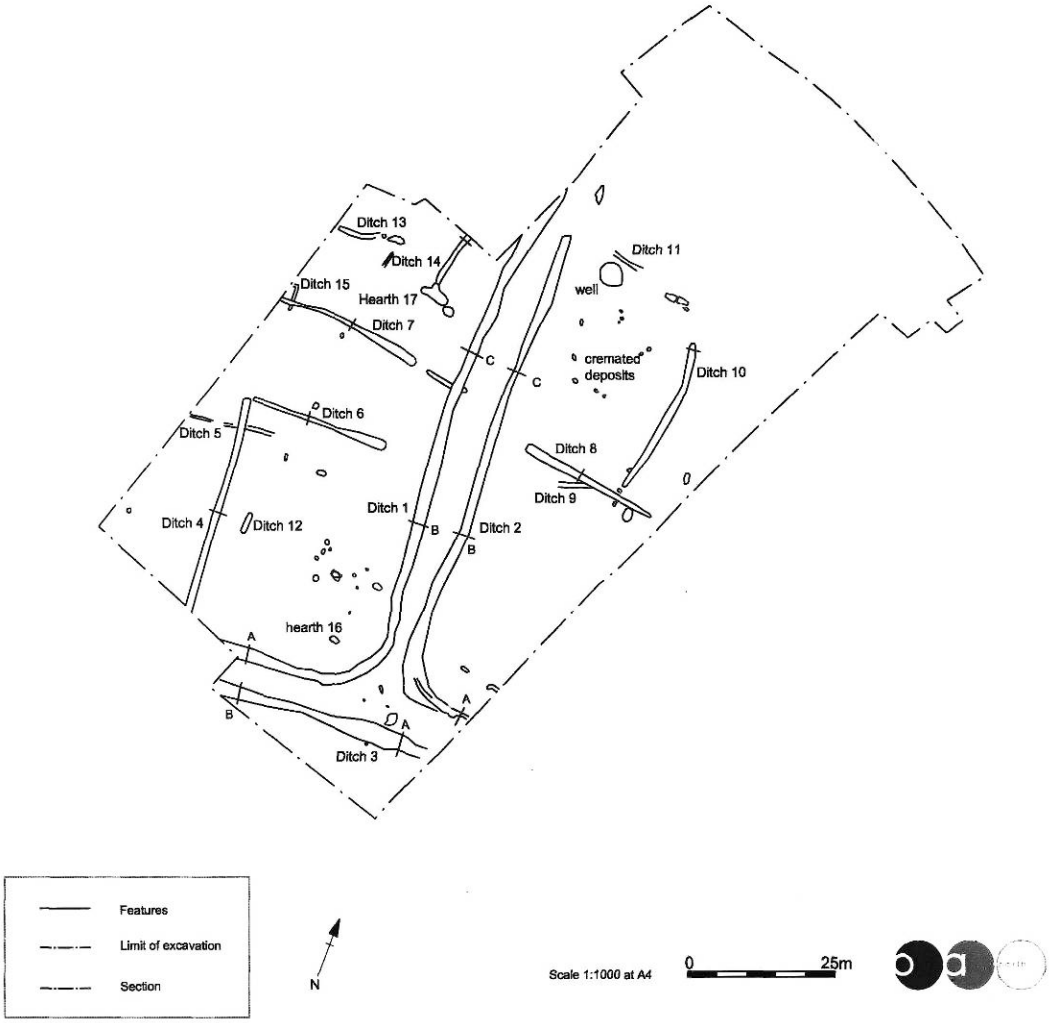


Figure G.297. *The full excavation at the Junction 4 site at Armthorpe, S. Yorks. Note the location of the well, and the cremation deposits. The north-south trackway opens out into a major east-west trackway. (Source: Hughes 2006).*

The two broadly north-west to south-east orientated trackways recorded at West Moor Park II, and the similar trackway excavated just to the north on the Junction 4 site (Hughes 2006), all had funnels opening out to the west, where few boundaries were shown by aerial photographs or geophysical survey. This may have formed an area of open grass or heathland grazing, with more enclosed fields for pasture and/or arable cultivation to the east and north. This functional distinction may in turn indicate tenurial differences, with some open areas held or accessed by the wider community, whereas enclosed fields reflected the tenure of particular individuals or kin groups such as families or clans.

Fig. 4. Excavation Areas A, B and C. Scale 1:1000

Figure G.298. *The three main excavation areas at the West Moor Park II site, along with the evidence from earlier evaluation trenches. Area A to the north consists of part of a funnel-shaped trackway entrance opening out to the north-west. Area B also revealed another funnel, perhaps consisting of two phases, and with a possible internal 'race'. Area C consisted of a mixture of enclosure ditches, shallow gullies, and many oven or hearth structures. (Source: Chadwick and Richardson 2007).*

The various phases of archaeological work at Armthorpe represent some of the most extensive archaeological investigations of rural landscapes and field systems of the period in northern England, and are comparable to similar large-scale projects in eastern and south-eastern England. The fact that so many different field units have been involved with this work, and that most of the developers have discharged their planning conditions without any publication of the results, means that it is now doubtful whether these incredibly important investigations will ever be collated, written up and published. This is also true of the work undertaken at Balby Carr (see below). Somehow, organisational

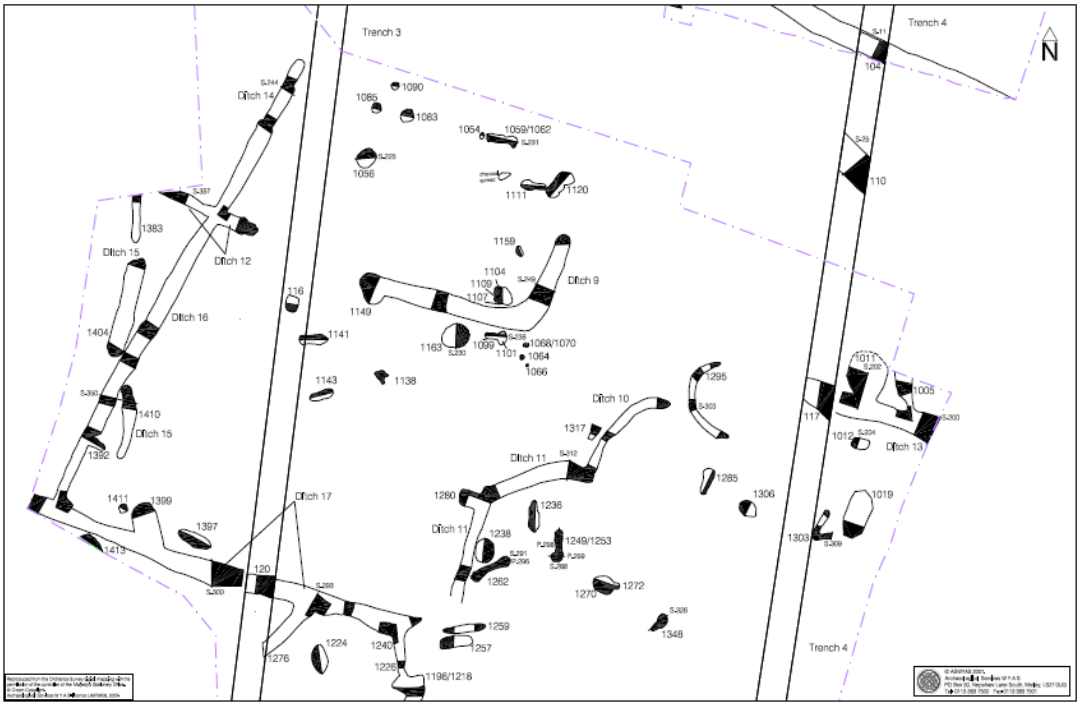


Fig. 9. Area C: excavated features in the north. Scale 1:200

Figure G.299. *Detail of part of Area C at West Moor Park II. The shallow, curvilinear gullies may represent relatively slight windbreak or lean-to structures near 'keyhole' and 'figure of eight' ovens or hearths. (Source: Chadwick and Richardson 2007).*

and financial safeguards have to be put in place to ensure that such work is drawn together and published in the future, and developers must not be allowed to evade their responsibilities for paying for the eventual publication of such results. Perhaps a condition of their planning consent must be a legally-binding agreement to contribute a certain amount to future publication work, so that curatorial development-control archaeologists can commission one particular organisation to collate all the results of previous investigations by different units.

References: Burgess 1999; Chadwick and Richardson 2007; Cumberpatch and Webster 1998; Deegan 2001a; Gidman and Rose 2004; Hale 1996; Hughes 2006; Richardson 2002; Rose 2005; Rose and Richardson 2004; Rosenberg and Williams 1996.

Balby Carr, Doncaster SE 5800 0050

This is another area like Armthorpe where there has been extensive archaeological investigation in advance of development involving many different field units. Balby Carr lies on the southern side of Doncaster, east of Potteric Carr, and is flat, very low-lying land, much of it below 5m OD. Used as rough pasture in modern times, in the medieval period it formed part of the royal hunting park of Hatfield Chase, but the area seems to have been little-utilised, being described by Leland as an impenetrable morass of bog and fen (Watt 2002). A map of 1616 showed Potteric Carr and The Old Eaa, the latter probably referring to a a large seasonal body of standing water or mire (Bunting et al. 1971). In the seventeenth century large dykes began to be dug to drain the area, and this work continued during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries when the area was finally enclosed.

Following a desk-based assessment of the area (Watt 2002), and a geophysical survey by GSB Prospection (GSB Prospection 2002), in April 2002 eighteen trial trenches were excavated by BUFAU in advance of the construction of the proposed Catesby Business Park. This revealed several possible field or enclosure ditches that had not been visible as earthworks, cropmarks or on geophysical survey plots, and although these ditches did not contain any dateable artefacts, a fragment of waterlogged wood recovered from one feature produced a ^{14}C date of 400 BC – AD 350 (Jones 2002a). Based on these results, an open area excavation was undertaken by BUFAU during July-August 2002. This revealed a series of rectangular fields or paddocks, part of a double-ditched trackway, and a curvilinear ditch at the extreme west of the site that was a potential enclosure boundary (Jones 2002b, 2005).

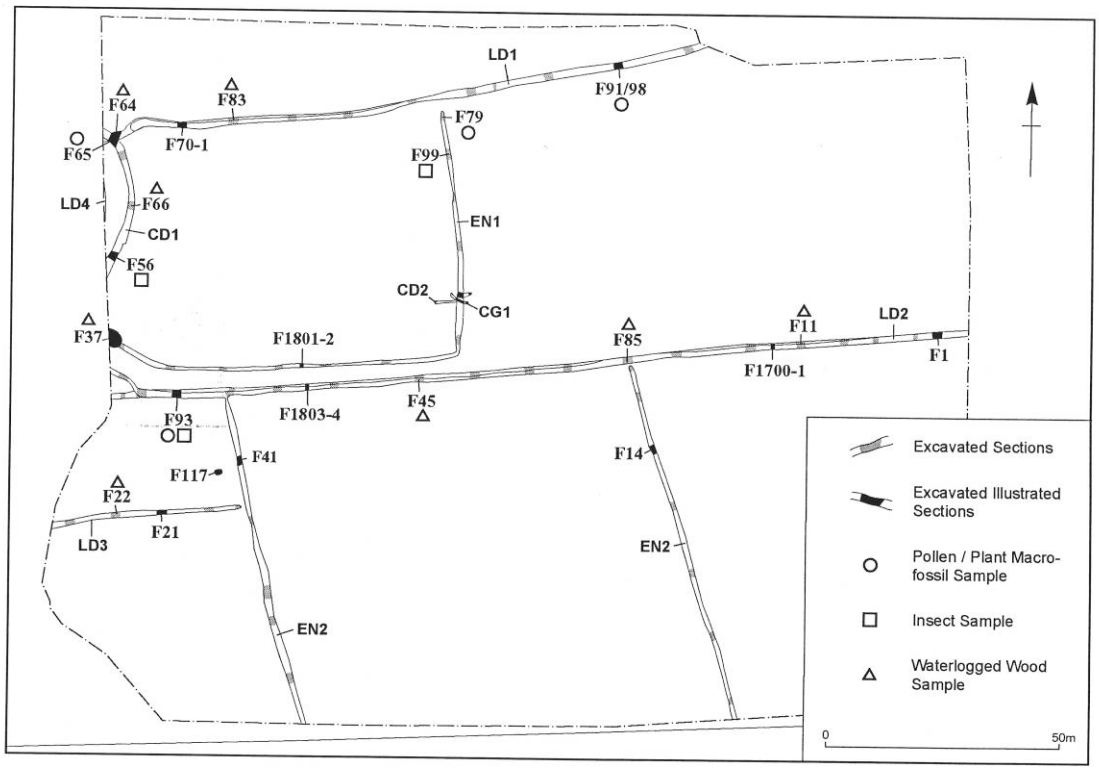


Figure G.300. *Features excavated at Catesby Business Park by BUFAU. (Source: Jones 2005 fig. 2).*

Once again, no dateable artefacts were recovered from any of these features, or any animal bone. The relatively rich pollen remains, however, indicated carr woodland dominated by alder and willow, wet grassland or meadow, and standing water in ditches (Greig 2002). Further post-excavation work on waterlogged wood remains found evidence of tool marks and wood working chips, and possible evidence for coppicing of alder (Gale 2005). Possible hedge species such as hawthorn were also recorded. Another fragment of wood produced a ^{14}C date of 50 BC – AD 130. Further palaeo-environmental analyses of pollen and insect remains also indicated carr woodland present, but also damp and dry grassland probably grazed by cattle (as indicated by dung beetle remains), with some evidence for hedgerows and cereal cultivation near the area (Greig 2005; Smith and Tarlow 2005). A very broad phasing for the site based on stratigraphic relationships suggests a low-lying landscape first divided up during the middle or later Iron Age, and then increasingly enclosed and subdivided on into the Romano-British period.

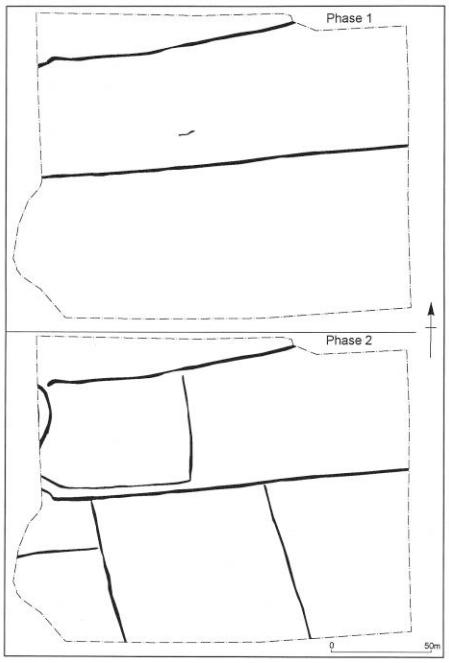


Figure G.301. (left). *Possible broad phasing for the site, showing a landscape increasingly divided over time. (Source: Jones 2005: fig. 3).* **Fig. G.302. (right).** *The curvilinear ditch excavated at the western edge of the BUFAU site. (Source: Jones 2006: 60).*

Further development on the Catesby Business Park led to an evaluation by AS WYAS in May 2003 of a plot of land adjacent to the BUFAU site. Three trenches were excavated – Trench 1 established that the curvilinear ditch at the west of the BUFAU was actually part of a double-ditched trackway curving round to the west, whilst Trench 3 found evidence of a circular ring ditch that contained animal bone fragments, a sherd of probable Iron Age pottery, and a fragment of La Tène-style glass bangle probably dating to the first century BC (Cool 2003; Rose 2003). Further cattle and sheep bone, and daub fragments, were found in an adjacent pit. Based on these results, open area excavation took place during May-July 2004. On the north-eastern part of the site, further lengths of the two ditches of the curvilinear trackway were investigated. This may have originally extended to the south-east to link up with the straight length of trackway excavated by BUFAU, and/or might have linked up with two

double-ditches approaching the structural features at the south-west of the AS WYAS site. These two ditches narrowed considerably towards the north-west, and it is not clear if this became a narrow race and associated crush, or if the trackway was ultimately blocked at this point (Richardson and Rose 2005). One ditch may have been recut or redefined as a separate section, and the terminal of a third ditch was also recorded at this point, though it was not clear how this related to the trackway. One of the excavated trackway ditch segments produced a partial cattle skeleton, and this may have been a placed deposit. In the south-west part of the AS WYAS site, the curvilinear feature recorded during the evaluation proved to be a subcircular enclosure roughly 15m across, itself containing the ring gully of a roundhouse approximately 9m in diameter (Fig. G.303). This enclosure seemed to be continuous, and may have been crossed by planks or a similar structure. These encircling ditches around roundhouses are similar to features excavated on low-lying Iron Age sites in East Anglia (e.g. Evans 1997). They may well have fulfilled an additional drainage function, but might also have had connotations of status.

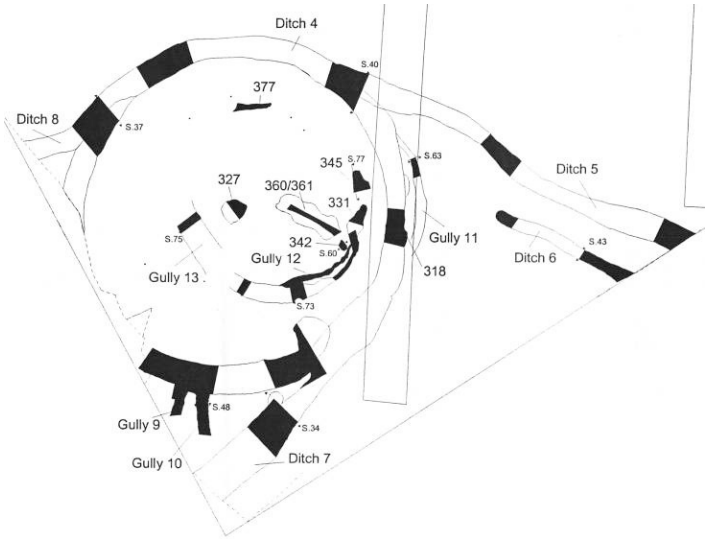


Figure G.303. (left). *Detail of the structural features at the AS WYAS Catesby Park site. (Source: Richardson and Rose 2005: fig. 3).* **Fig. G.304. (upper right).** *Excavated ditch terminal at Balby Carr. (Source: © AS WYAS).* **Fig. G.305. (lower right).** *The daub recovered from the subcircular enclosure ditch. (Source: Roberts forthcoming).*

The subcircular enclosure ditch contained three beehive quernstone bases (Heslop 2005), perhaps placed deposits; in addition to a relatively large quantity of animal bone, Iron Age pottery and a dump of daub fragments that preserved wattle and daub impressions. The pottery had a leached shell-temper and had a soft, soapy texture that was extremely friable and fragile (Cumberpatch 2005), representing at least two vessels, including one very similar in form and fabric to one of those from Pickburn Leys (Fig. G.180). The fragments daub may have been derived either from the wattle and daub walls of a roundhouse, or from the wattle superstructure of an oven or furnace. There was some possible evidence for scorching on the clay. The bone included cattle, sheep and pig, but also deer remains (Richardson 2005d). The palaeo-environmental analyses of waterlogged wood, pollen and insect remains again indicated a mixture of standing water, alder carr and pasture (Hall et al. 2005), but a few charred cereal grains were also recovered.

Figure G.306. (left). *Late Iron Age pottery vessel recovered from ASWYAS excavations at Balby Carr in 2004. Most of the rim of a single vessel has been reconstructed, shown here in two halves, although the sherds are extremely fragile and friable. (Source: author, courtesy Dr Chris Cumberpatch).*

In July 2005, ARCUS undertook an evaluation of land to the north of the AS WYAS site. Three trial trenches were excavated. Two found evidence of linear ditches or gullies, which did not produce any dateable artefacts, although one sherd of possible Romano-British pottery was recovered unstratified from the topsoil in Trench 1 (O'Neill 2005). In Trench 3, two conjoining Romano-British sherds were recovered from a subsoil layer overlying the natural clay. In the base of this trench, a north-east to south-west line of waterlogged wooden stakes was found, driven into the underlying clay. Most of these proved to be of oak, with at least one of alder (Tyers 2005), and these may have been a fence or even a subdivision of a larger field. To my knowledge, however, this wood still remains undated.

Further work by AS WYAS at Catesby Business Park involved a strip and record excavation west of the previous BUFAU and AS WYAS areas of investigation, and immediately south of the ARCUS investigation. This revealed a prominent north-west to south-east boundary ditch (Ditch 1), with another ditch on a north-east to south-west axis connected to it (Ditch 2), and probably predating to it. Ditch 1 appeared to have been recut at least once, and a ^{14}C date of 800-520 BC was obtained from material within it. To the west of these features were the shallow curvilinear ring gullies of at least five different roundhouses, some more complete than others. Roundhouse A was truncated by Ditch 2. Roundhouse B was probably originally 4.5-5m in diameter with a south-west facing entrance, but although quite small was located within a larger subcircular gully up to 1.16m wide and 0.58m deep (Ditch 3). One of the entrance terminals of this gully contained the partly articulated remains of a sheep/goat, possibly a placed deposit (Richardson 2006). Again, this gully may have been for additional drainage and/or status purposes, and a radiocarbon date of 390-200 BC was obtained from this feature. South of this, Roundhouse C was probably 8m in diameter, and Roundhouses D and E

slightly smaller. Roundhouse D was the only one with evidence for a hearth, a centrally-placed small, shallow subsquare pit with *in situ* burning. Only a single sherd of probable Iron Age pottery was recovered from the primary fill of ditch 2 (Cumberpatch 2006), but once again, palaeo-environmental evidence suggested a mix of carr woodland and standing water in ditches or water channels (Alldritt 2006; Carrott 2006). The ^{14}C date from Ditch 1 may have been residual (Richardson and Rose 2006), and this feature may have been one of the later features on site. The evidence nevertheless suggests that there was an 'open' middle Iron Age settlement, possibly used on a short-term or seasonal basis, within a mixed landscape of seasonally-inundated alder carr woodland, ditched boundaries, wet meadow or pasture, and drier grassland. Over time, during the late Iron Age and Romano-British periods, this landscape probably became increasingly subdivided with field, paddock and trackway boundaries.

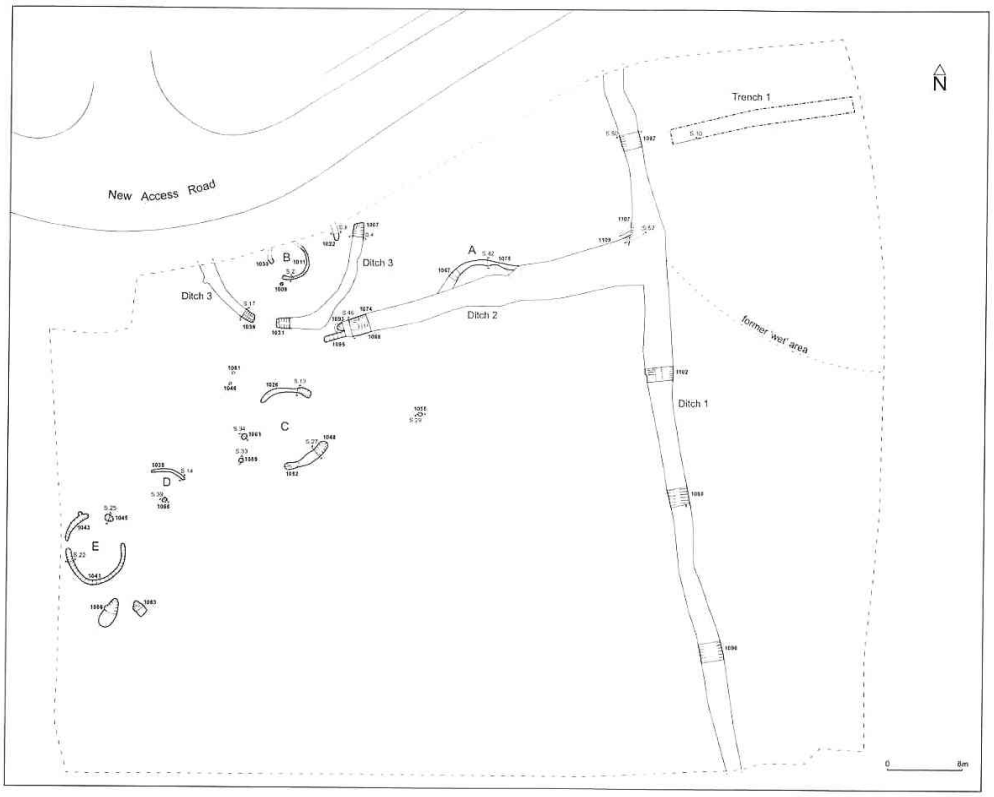


Figure G.307. *The second large area of investigation at Balby Carr revealed Iron Age and Romano-British boundaries, and the remains of at least five roundhouses. (Source: Rose and Roberts 2006).*

Other evaluations around the Catesby Business Park area have found little evidence for any pre-medieval activity, suggesting that Iron Age and Romano-British occupation was restricted to specific areas within the carr, perhaps on slightly higher, drier ground. However, recent investigations by AOC Archaeology on the First Point site further to the west of these previous excavations found a D-shaped enclosure 45m long and 28m wide, with a single south-east facing entrance. This was possibly appended to a boundary ditch like a 'clothes line' enclosure. Within it was a circular ring ditch 9m in diameter, with a north-east entrance break 3m wide (Wilson 2006: 3-4), likely to have been a roundhouse eavesdrip gully. Just one internal posthole was recorded. Only fire-cracked stones were recovered from the ring gully, and the only finds from the larger D-shaped enclosure were some intrusive nineteenth century sherds. Two shallow but undated ditches led off from the enclosure ditch.

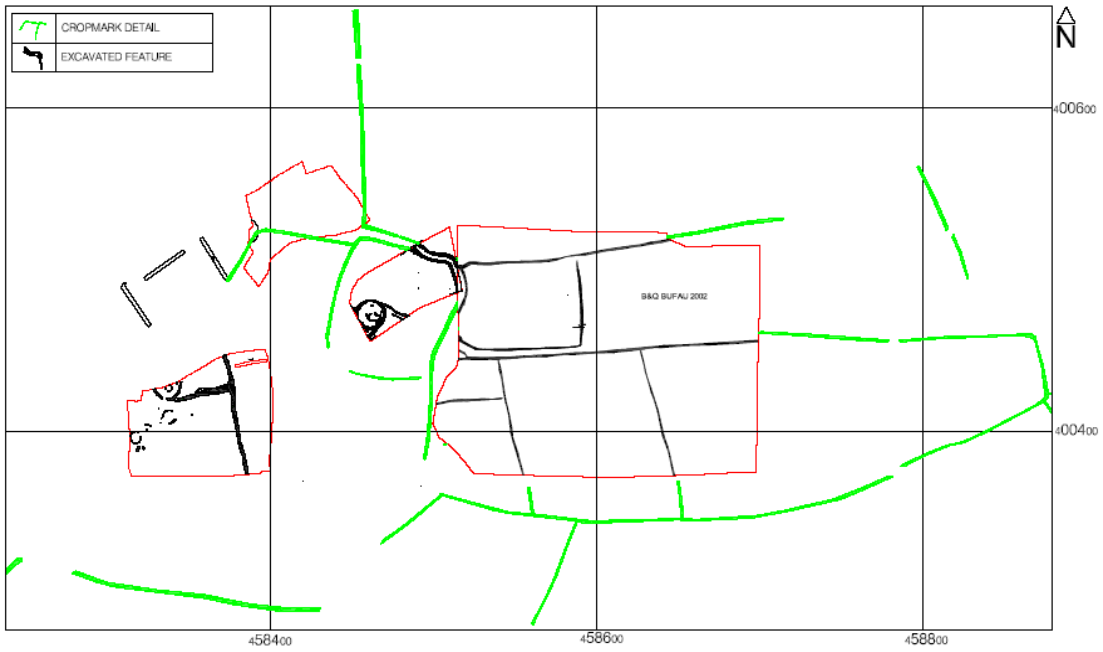


Figure G.308. *Archaeological features at the BUFAU and AS WYAS sites at Balby Carr (in black), together with air photo evidence (in green), suggesting that there was an open settlement and relatively undivided landscape that became progressively enclosed over time. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

Just to the east of the D-shaped enclosure, an oval gully was identified in Trench 15. This was around 9m long, with a probable entrance in the south (AOC 2006) (Fig. G.309). Again, no dateable artefacts were recovered. This feature has similarities to the oval gully excavated at the Methley MAP site in West Yorkshire (MAP 1996), and some of the smaller enclosures at sites such as Moor Pool Close, Rampton (Knight 2000a, 2000b). These may have surrounded hay or fodder ricks.

Figure G.309. *The oval gully, with the southern entrance break visible in the lower right. (Source: Wilson 2006; plate 5).*

Further work by AOC Archaeology 450m to the south-west in April 2007 found a rectangular enclosure 12m long and 10m wide, with a north-east facing entrance. The ditch was up to 1m wide and 0.24m deep, and contained a few sherds of Romano-British pottery and occasional fragments of burnt bone (Clements 2007: 3-4). No internal features were evident. Two further ditches were identified, one of which (Ditch 4) produced a few further sherds of Romano-British pottery.

Figure G.310. *The features excavated by AOC Archaeology at Balby Carr. (Source: Clements 2007).*

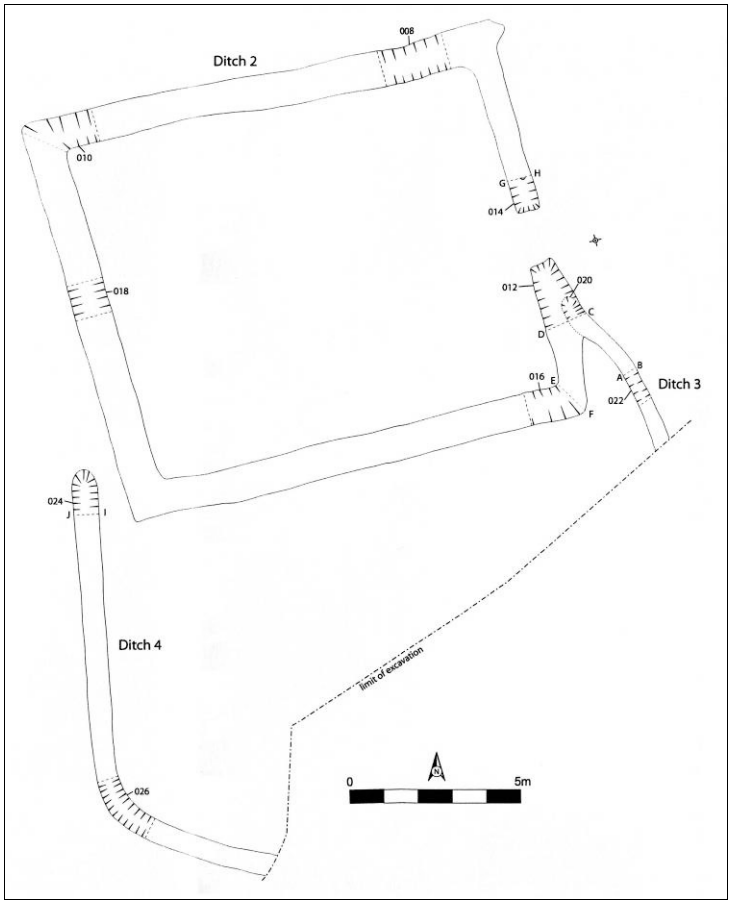


Figure G.311. *The rectangular enclosure dug by AOC Archaeology. (Source: Clements 2007: fig. 3).*

The function of the rectangular enclosure is not clear, but there is no evidence of domestic dwelling. It therefore seems likely that this enclosure too was associated with seasonal inhabitation of this low-lying area. Further evidence of such practices was revealed between November 2007-January 2008, when AS WYAS excavated an additional area in advance of more business park building construction, in what was termed Zone D2. This area lay between the areas excavated by BUFAU and AS WYAS in 2002-2004, which produced the fields or paddocks, the trackway and the one roundhouse within a curvilinear ditch, which lay to the north-east; and the field ditches and multiple roundhouses recorded by AS WYAS in 2006, which were immediately to the west (see below).

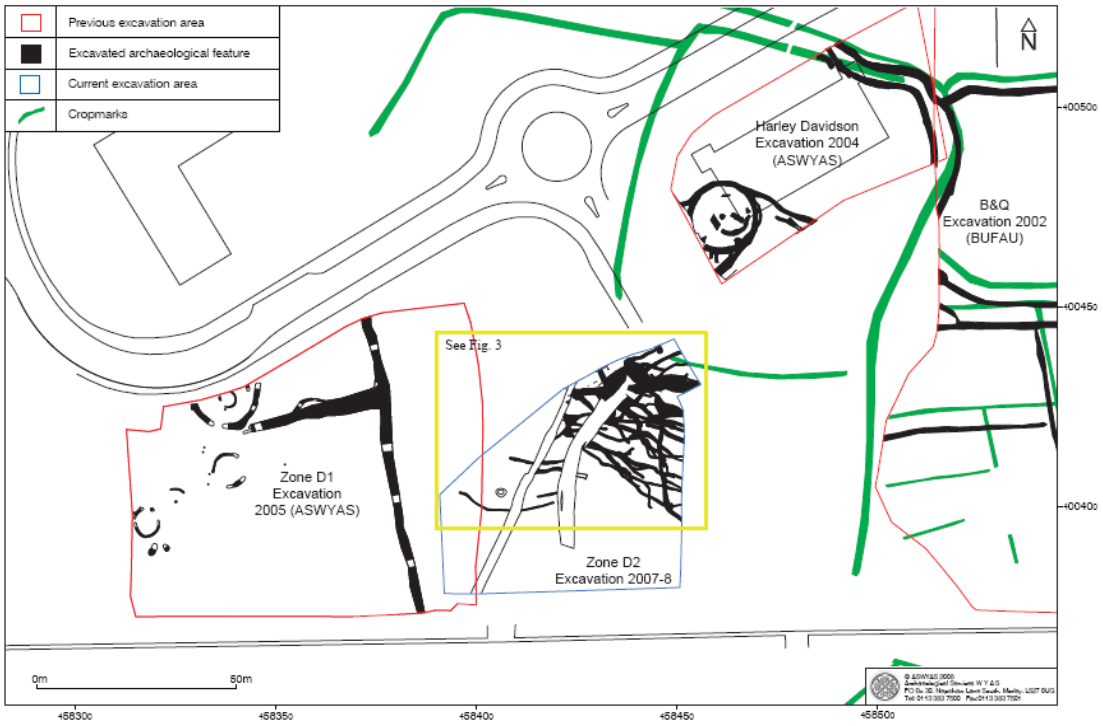


Figure G.312. *The location of the most recent area excavated by AS WYAS at Balby Carr. (Source: Muldowney 2008: fig. 2).*

This more recent excavation work identified the possible south and west edge of a large enclosure, which is probably the southern extent of a subrectangular enclosure visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs, and within which the single roundhouse inside a circular ditch was situated (Richardson and Rose 2005). The double-ditched probable trackway excavated in 2002 and 2004 would have formed the north-eastern extent of this enclosure. The enclosure ditch 1738 formed a large, almost right-angled featureup to 1.70m wide and 0.90m deep, with a series of clayey fills, and it was probably recut at least once (Muldowney 2008: 4). Waterlogged wood fragments and animal bone, including a near complete cow skull, was recovered from the primary fill, and hopefully some of this bone will provide ^{14}C dating. Two other ditches investigated on site probably formed part of the wider field system, or at least different phases of it, but these did not produce any finds.

More unexpectedly, at least seventeen narrow, sinuous gullies were also recorded, generally concentrated towards the north-east part of the site, and generally between 0.42-1.20m wide and 0.12-

0.45m deep, with flat or U-shaped bases (Muldowney 2008: 5-6), and some were apparently cut by the enclosure ditch. The broadly north-south ditch 1505 was up to 0.55m wide and 0.41m deep, and may have formed another major phase of activity on the site. Ditch or channel 1777 was a broad, flat-based feature up to 5m wide and 0.50m deep, with a single clay fill that contained only animal bone. It is not certain if this was an anthropogenic feature or a palaeochannel. Ditch 1505 was cut by another twenty-one sinuous gullies similar to the earlier examples, but only one of these produced finds consisting of small quantities of animal bone and eleven sherds of probable later prehistoric pottery (Cumberpatch 2008: 13-14), including a single shell-tempered sherd similar to examples from Pickburn Leys and Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street, but also quartz-tempered sherds comparable to some from Topham Farm, Sykehouse and from previous investigations at Balby Carr itself. A small number of pits and postholes were also excavated.

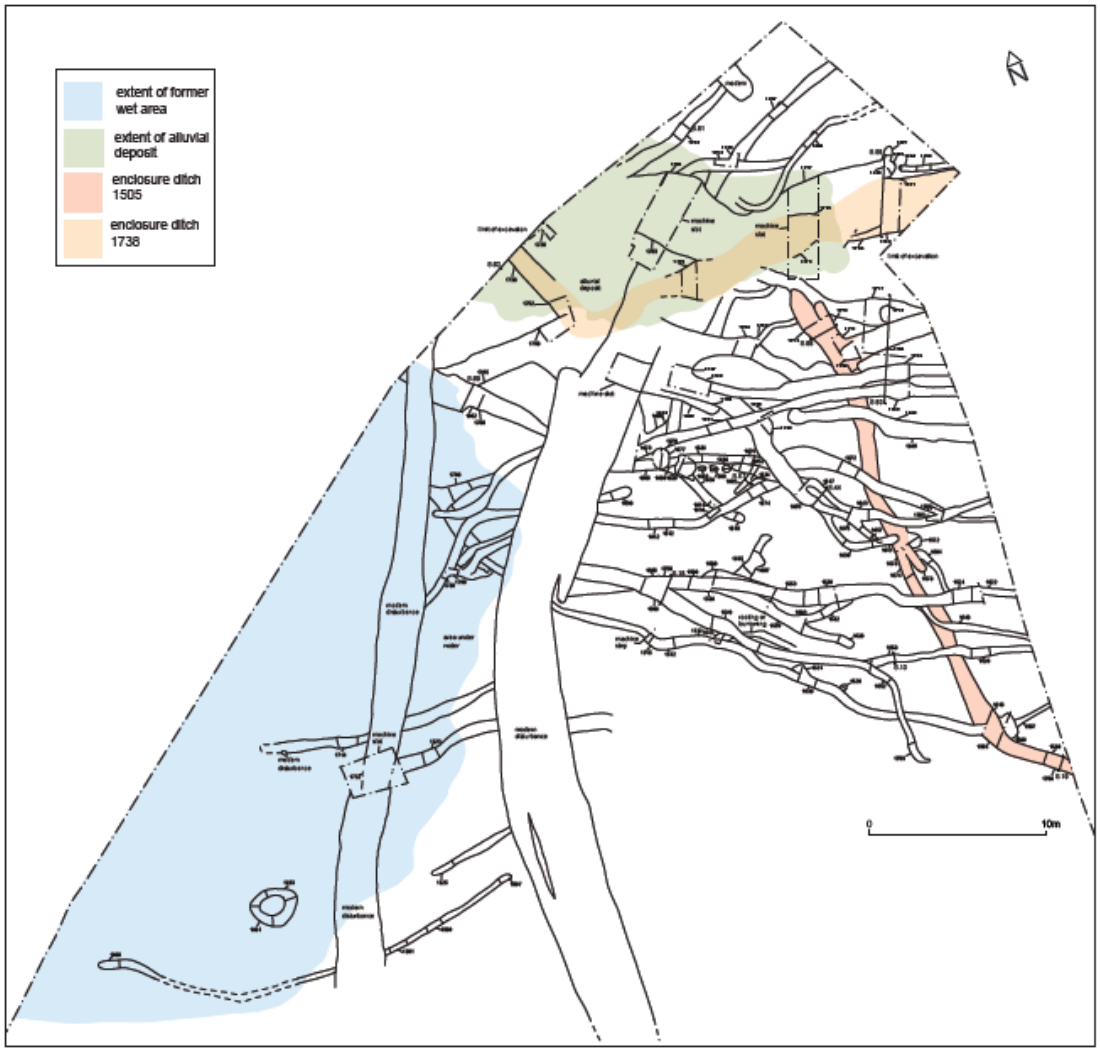


Figure G.313. *Detailed plan of the Zone D2 site at Balby Carr, showing the major ditch features but also the numerous sinuous gullies that were also recorded. (Source: Muldowney 2008: fig. 3).*

The distribution of features on the site was interesting, as in general they avoided an area to the north-west which was even lower lying, and which flooded readily after rain. Indeed, some of the sinuous gullies seemed to be draining into this very area. The gullies therefore seem to have been narrow, spade

dug slots, and their fairly homogenous clayey fills and the number that closely paralleled or even intercut one another suggests that they were dug rapidly and on a regular basis, perhaps annually or every few years. This was likely to have been to drain the area, presumably to allow agricultural use. Given the low-lying nature of the locale and the likelihood of regular winter flooding, this was probably to provide paddocks or meadows for grazing rather than arable land. It is also interesting that the features containing finds were located in the northern part of the site, nearer the focus of settlement represented by the roundhouse within the circular gully (Muldowney 2008: 16). The possible placed deposit of a cattle skull may also reflect the partial cattle skeleton found in one of the trackway ditch segments, and the sheep/goat remains in the terminal of a circular gully around a roundhouse (Richardson 2006; Richardson and Rose 2005). Detailed palaeo-environmental analyses and radiocarbon dating may provide additional information concerning the dating, timing and seasonality of activities on the site.

Further post-excavation work of the AOC Archaeology, AS WYAS, ARCUS and BUFAU sites including more detailed palaeo-environmental analyses and additional radiocarbon dating of material from samples will hopefully add greater temporal resolution and better knowledge of the changing local landscape over time. It is not clear, however, if these results from the different organisations can be co-ordinated during any post-excavation and publication work. And as with Armthorpe, as the planning permission for many of these development projects has already been discharged, there is no incentive for developers to fund further archaeological work.

References: AOC 2006; Bunting et al. 1971; Clements 2007; Jones 2002a, 2002b, 2005, Jones 2006; Muldowney 2008; O'Neill 2005; Richardson and Rose 2005; Rose 2003; Rose and Roberts 2006; Watt 2002; Wilson 2006.

Barnburgh Hall SE 4860 0340

Within the former Barnburgh Hall complex, trial trenching by SYAU in 1991found mostly medieval features, but did recover over 100 sherds of Romano-British pottery (Sydes and Holbrey 1991). Additional archaeological work then included geophysical survey by Geo Quest and AS WYAS (Noel and Lambert 1994; Whittingham 1999) and trial trenching by AS WYAS (McNaught 2000), the latter finding some further evidence for Romano-British occupation. In addition, an aerial photographic assessment of the Barnburgh area identified cropmarks of field boundaries and enclosures of probable later prehistoric and Romano-British date around the modern village (Deegan 2001c). The focus of these was to the north-east at Barnburgh Cliffs (see unexcavated cropmarks section below), and to the south of Barnburgh Hall at Barnburgh Common. As a result of these previous investigations, in advance of redevelopment work at Barnburgh Hall AS WYAS undertook open-area excavations during June-August 2001.

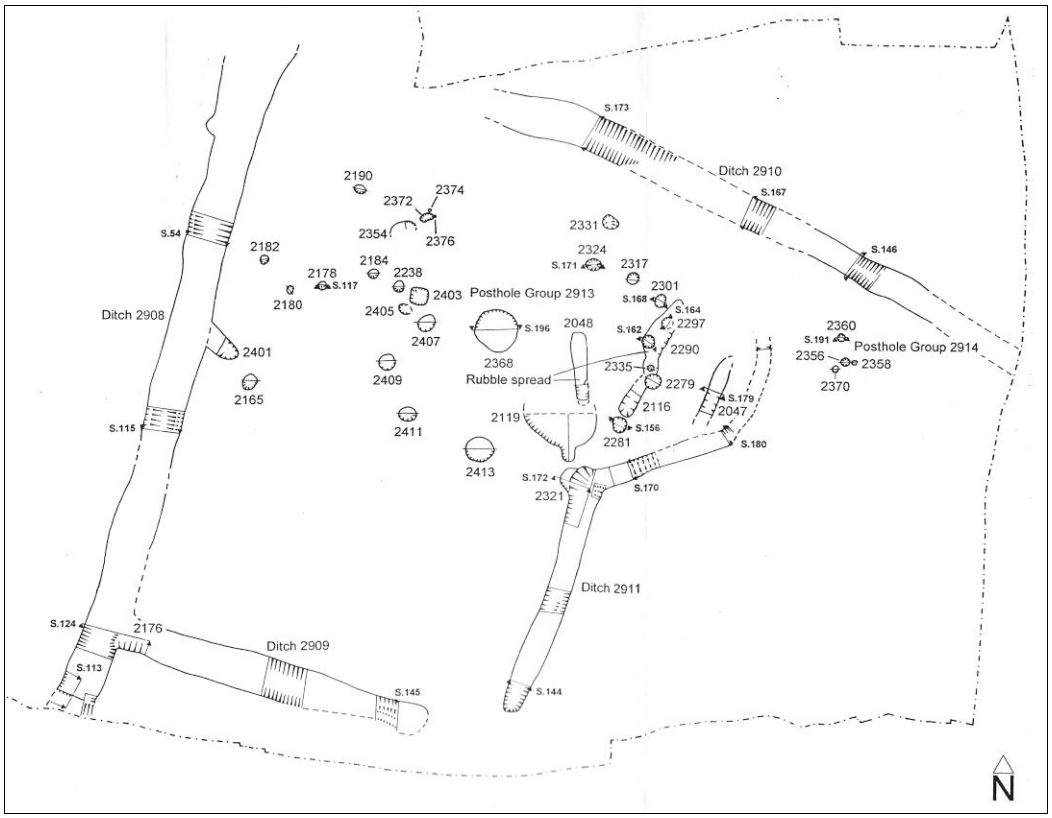


Figure G.314. *The Romano-British features excavated in the former garden area at Barnburgh Hall. (Source: Richardson 2005e).*

Evidence of Romano-British activity was only found in the former garden area. Here, three sides of a subrectangular or trapezoidal enclosure were excavated, the ditches of this being up to 1.86m wide and 1.07m deep (Richardson 2005e). Ditches 2908 and 2909 contained animal bone fragments and sherds of second century AD pottery, but ditch 2910 that formed the northern boundary of the enclosure contained seven sherds of coarser ceramics that may be of late first century BC or first century AD date (Evans and Ward 2005). The north-east to south-west 'dogleg' ditch 2911 may have represented an

internal subdivision within the enclosure, perhaps for a palisade or wattle fenceline, with a possible entrance 4m wide through it at its northern end. This too contained sherds of second century pottery, and several other linear features nearby may have been other phases of the internal division. At the 'kink' in the 'dogleg' of ditch 2911 and cut by it was an earlier pit containing burnt stone and a cleaned and processed deposit of over 500 charred wheat grains. These may have been a stored crop, but more likely were domestic refuse or a placed deposit.

Immediately to the east of the 'dogleg' ditch were a series of pits and postholes, some of which appeared to form part of a circular building, although these did not produce any dating evidence (Richardson 2005e). If there was a roundhouse here, then the 'dogleg' ditch may have separated and even screened this structure from the eastern part of the enclosure and its presumed entrance. One irregular pit cut (2372) contained an articulated but partial pig skeleton, likely to be a placed deposit. Another pit (2208) immediately north of enclosure ditch 2909 contained a calk skeleton. This was undated, but may belong to the same broad phase of occupation – its position certainly suggests this.

A settlement at Barnburgh was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, and it is in part of South Yorkshire where there is place-name and artefactual evidence for Anglo-Saxon inhabitation, along with places such as Scabba Wood and Pot Ridings Wood a few kilometres to the east. Given the presence of cropmark enclosures and field boundaries in the area (Deegan 2001c), it is thus possible that there were some continuities of occupation in the post-Roman period.

References: Deegan 2001c; McNaught 2000; Noel and Lambert 1994; Richardson 2005e; Sydes and Holbrey 1991; Whittingham 1999.

Barnsdale Bar, Norton/Kirk Smeaton SE 5150 1450

Part of this area of investigation actually lies within North Yorkshire and West Yorkshire, just over the modern county boundary, but it has been grouped together with the rest of the sites within South Yorkshire for convenience. The archaeological work has centred on the Barnsdale Bar limestone quarry, and progressive extensions of it. Numerous reports have been produced from many different stages of investigation over fifteen years, only some of which are summarised here.

Figure G.315. *The massive scale of limestone quarrying at Barnsdale Bar. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

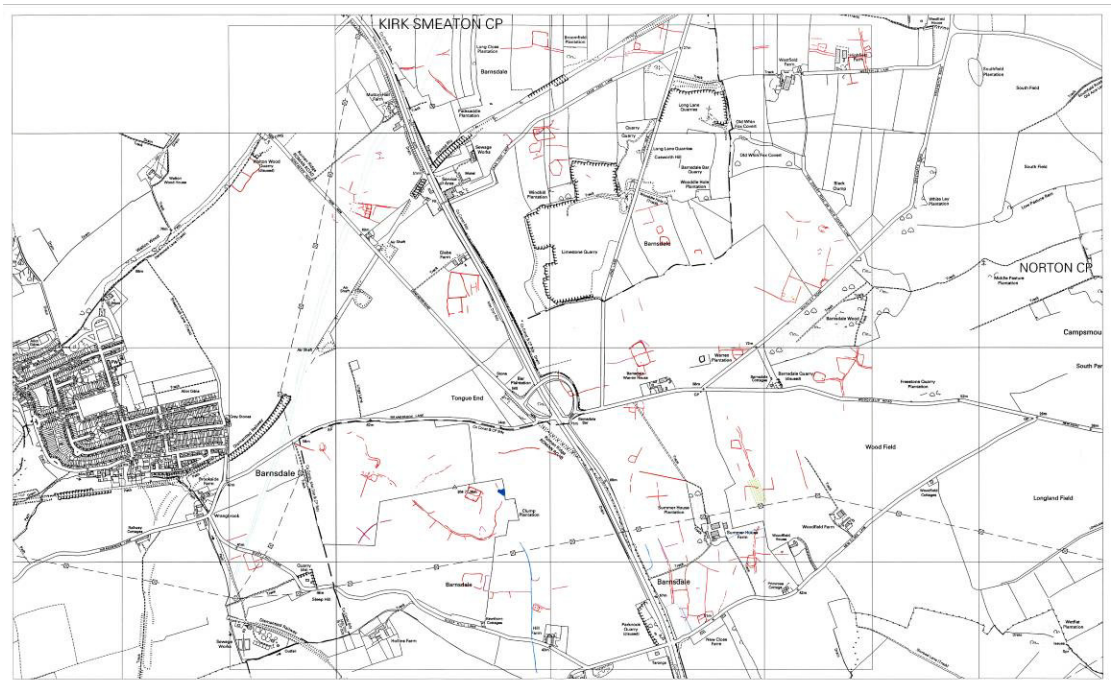


Figure G.316. *Possible Iron Age and Romano-British features (in red) plotted from cropmarks in South and North Yorkshire around Barnsdale Bar. (Source: Deegan 2000).*

Many of the early investigations at Barnsdale Bar have been summarised elsewhere (Burgess 2001f), and I will only refer to some of the key areas. The earliest investigations focused on an area east of Windhill Plantation at SE 5120 1480, and comprised geophysical survey followed by trial trenching and a watching brief (Abramson 1989a, 1989b). A series of ditches forming subrectangular fields were found and a crouched inhumation, but no dating evidence. Further geophysics and watching brief work identified a possible kiln or oven, gateways between fields, and recovered a small amount of Romano-British pottery of second to third century AD date (Abramson 1990a, 1990b).

South-west of Windhill Plantation (centred on SE 5100 1440), another series of ditches were investigated, including a series of four roughly parallel ditches (Simpson 1990, 1991). These may have reflected different phases of trackway funnels, or even races, but two produced post-medieval ^{14}C dates (Burgess 2001f). This may reflect more recent boundaries following the lines of older features in the landscape. However, one excavated pit produced Iron Age or Iron Age tradition pottery, and some ditches produced Romano-British material. Desk-based assessment work, including analysis of available aerial photographs, and further geophysical survey and trial trenching work established the existence of further ditches, some of which were probably also post-medieval in date however, along with a small enclosure (Boucher 1993, 1996; Stratoscan 1994; Webb 1993, 1995). Geophysical survey and trial trenching by AS WYAS at Long Lane Quarry, immediately west of Old Whin Fox Covert (SE 5180 1490) recorded at least three enclosures and associated field ditches of probable late prehistoric and Roman date (Brown and Morris 1997; O' Neill 1997; Webb 1996, 1997). Two sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered in addition to Roman material, and the partially articulated remains of a horse.

Figure G.317. *Gradiometer survey at Barnsdale Bar East, showing the ditches, enclosures and trackway revealed in the geophysical data, but also the location of subsequent trial trenches (labelled as A-G). (Source: O'Neill 1999: fig. 3).*

In 1999 AS WYAS undertook an evaluation of the Barnsdale Bar East site (centred at SE 5150 1450). Seven machine-dug trial trenches were used. Trench A was positioned over a T-shaped ditch intersection at the north of the development area (Fig. G.318). A north-south aligned ditch (100) turned eastwards at this point, and had later been recut by ditch 105 and had had ditch 102 appended to it, possibly open at the same time as 105 as they were very similar. The recut was up to 1.2m wide and 0.80m deep, contained slag, and at some point a section of drystone wall using rough courses of limestone blocks was built, forming a revetment and/or a blocking (O'Neill 1999). This has possible parallels with a short section of walling found between enclosures D and E at Ferrybridge in West Yorkshire (Martin 2005: 123). Trench D was sited to investigate the junction of the possible trackway with another boundary ditch. The two ditches of the trackway were orientated north-east to south-west and were up to 6.5m apart, and one contained some slag. They may have been contemporary with a north-south ditch cut 413. Other gullies and pits excavated in this area probably formed part of a gateway or entrance structure.

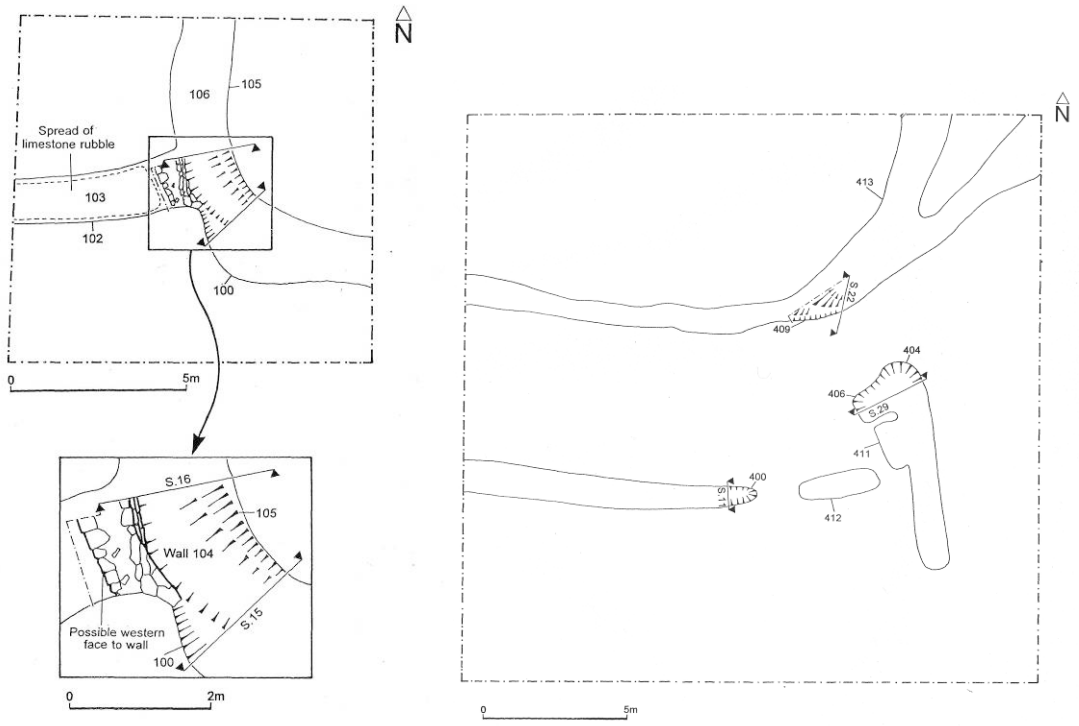


Figure G.318. (left). *Trench A, Barnsdale Bar East, showing the stone revetment.* **Fig. G.319. (right).** *Trench D, showing the double-ditched trackway and the possible gateway structure. (Source: O'Neill 1999: figs. 4, 6).*

Other trenches investigated areas of the enclosures. Trench E recorded the south-west corner of an enclosure ditch up to 2.13m wide and 1.1m deep, with a later shallower recut. Three pits were also recorded in this corner, although only one was excavated, and it did not produce any finds. Trench F also investigated the south-west corner of another enclosure, whose main ditch was of similar dimensions, but which also had an internal ditch (617), and an external north-south ditch on its southern side that was broadly contemporary (O'Neill 1999). Again, some internal pits were also noted, but no further areas of these enclosures were excavated.

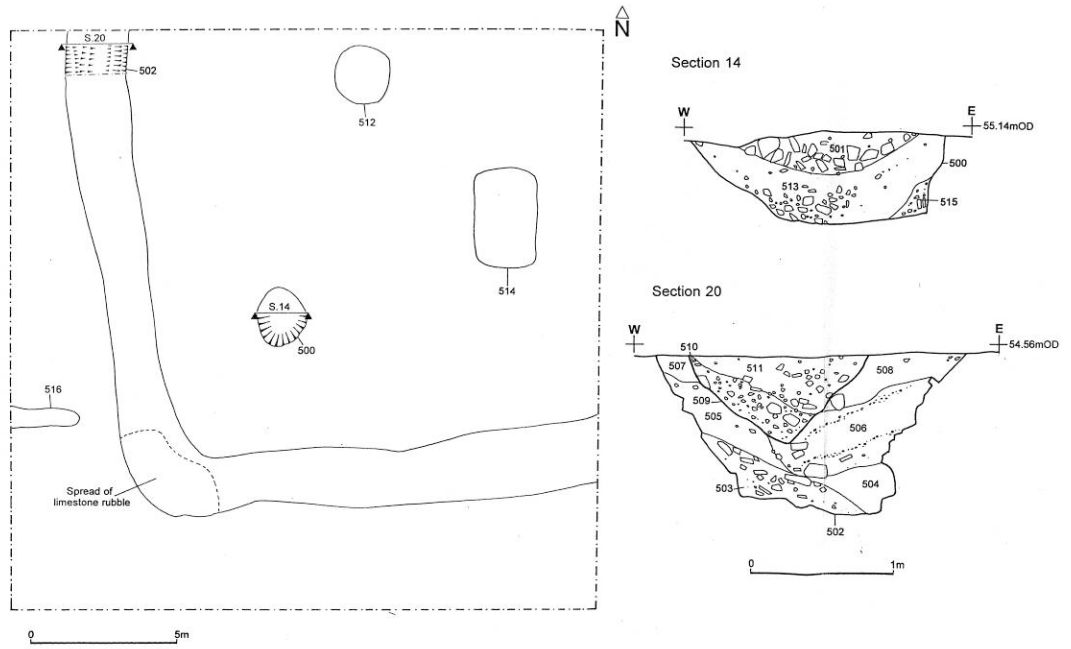


Figure G.320. *Trench E, Barnsdale Bar East, showing the south-west corner of the enclosure, and sections through the enclosure ditch and an internal pit. (Source: O'Neill 1999: fig. 7).*

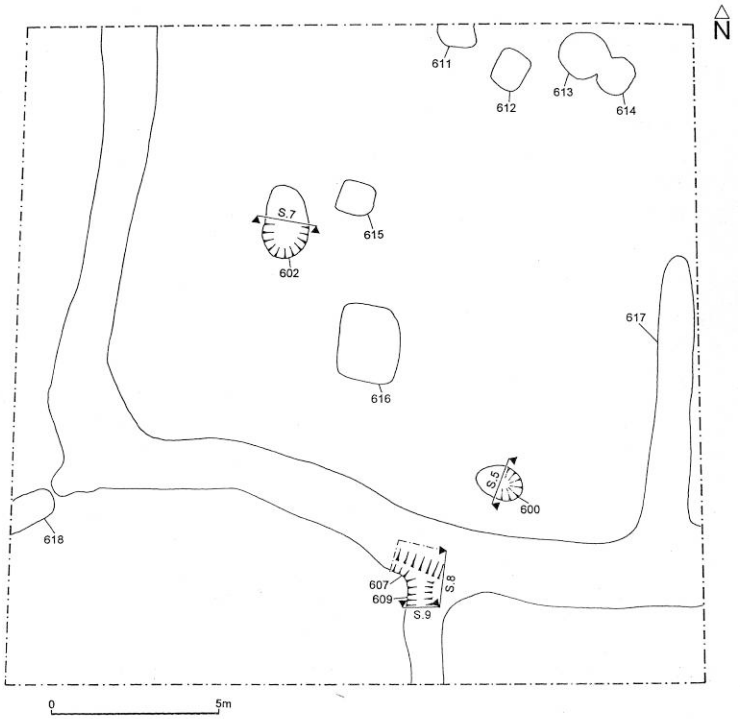


Figure G.321. (left). *Trench F at Barnsdale Bar East, showing part of another south-west corner of an enclosure, along with some internal features. (Source: O'Neill 1999: fig. 8).*

At Barnsdale Bar East, Romano-British pottery was only recovered as unstratified sherds, and it may be that these enclosures were mainly animal pens or corrals. They were situated east and south of the main apparent foci of enclosures and fields, on the north-facing slope of a ridge with ground falling away to the north, east and south, almost on the edge of the Magnesian Limestone hills, with a flat, low-lying area to the north-east by the River Went. The multiple-ditched enclosure at Little Smeaton was only 2.3km in this direction, although this may be earlier in date.

The area was subsequently stripped and recorded through open-area excavation. This suggested that the two enclosures were the earliest features in the landscape, possibly of late Iron Age date, and were then incorporated into a landscape of broadly rectangular fields and associated trackways, some of which contained Romano-British pottery (Grassam and Ford 2008).

Enclosure B was rectangular in plan, and *c.* 30m and 26m wide. It had a narrow north-west facing entrance that may have had a timber structure associated with it, and/or it was modified in a later phase.

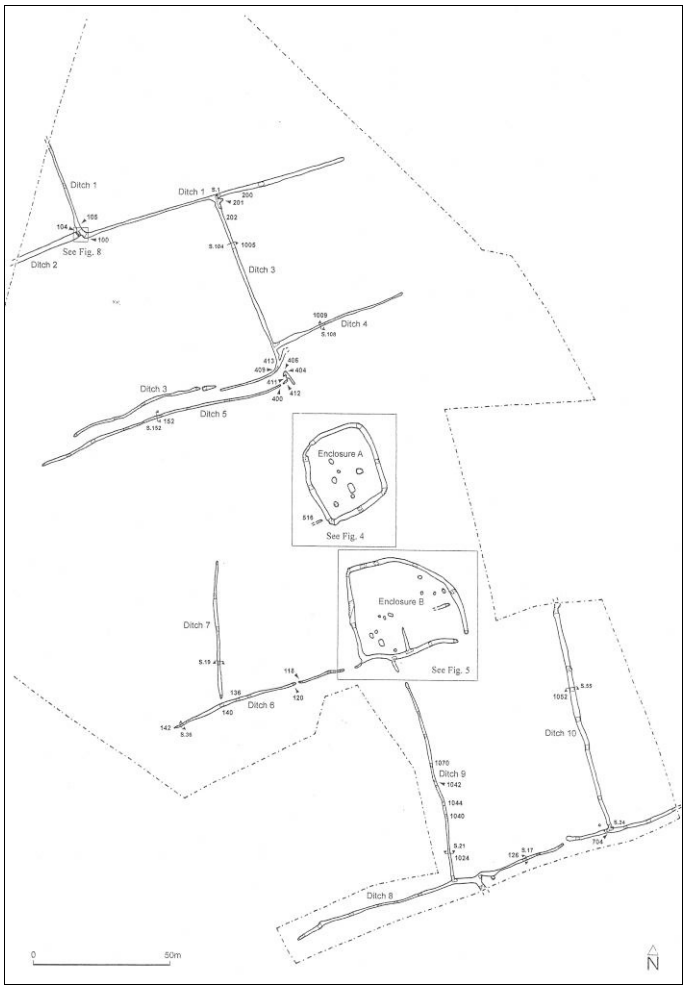
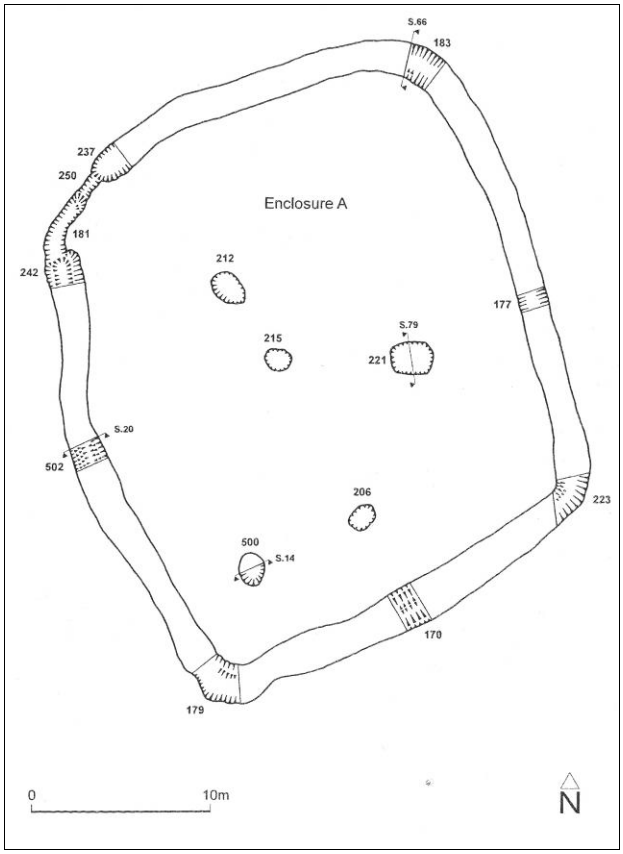


Figure G.323. (right). *Plan of the full area excavated at Barnsdale Bar East. (Source: Grassam and Ford 2008).*



There was a marked lack of internal features within Enclosure A, although some large but shallow postholes or pits seemed to divide the enclosure up into a series of zones. These might even have represented structures of some form, perhaps fenced pens. This enclosure was most likely to have been a corral for livestock, although it might have served another specialised functional and/or ancillary role.

Figure G.324. (left). *Enclosure A, Barnsdale Bar East. (Source: Grassam and Ford 2008).*

Enclosure B was more irregular in plan, though broadly D-shaped, and up to *c*. 40m long and 35m wide. It had a narrow south-east orientated entrance. Though badly truncated by ploughing, shallow gullies may indicate internal subdivisions, and there may even have been a structure in the south-west corner, partly screened from the entrance.

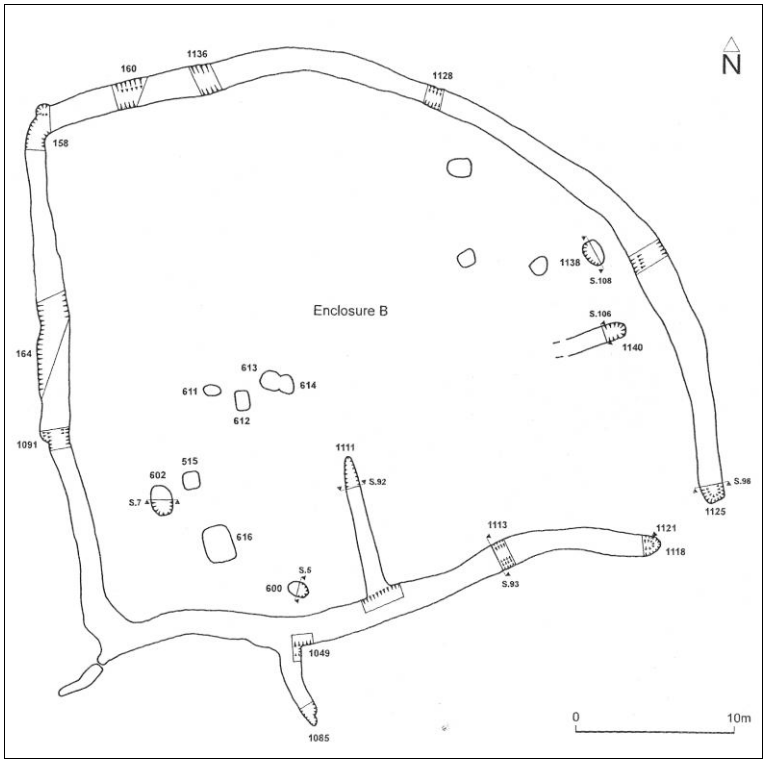
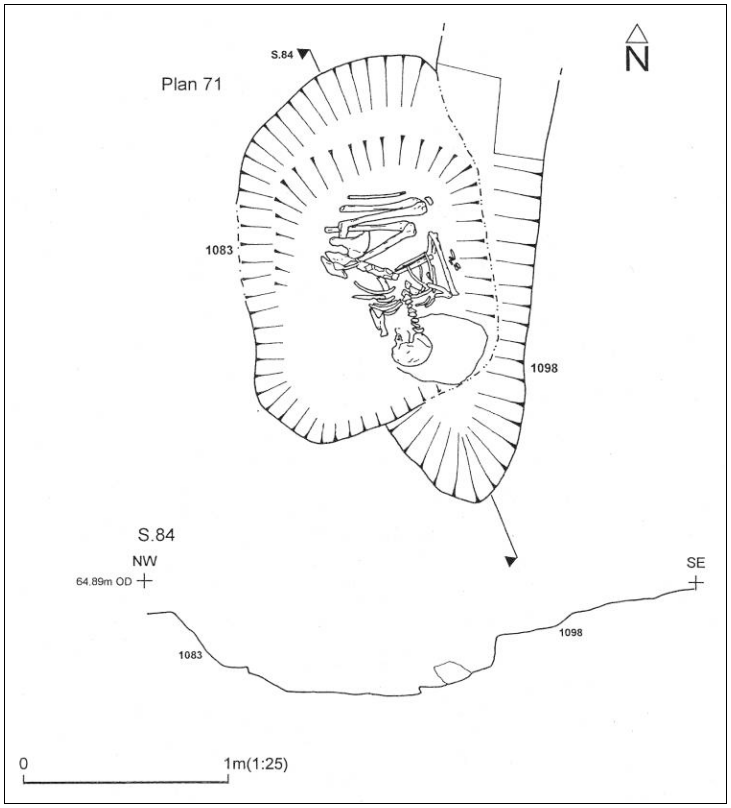


Figure G.325. (left). *Enclosure B, Barnsdale Bar East. (Source: Grassam and Ford 2008).*



The sequence at Enclosure B suggested that an earlier enclosure ditch terminal had cut through or across the position of a crouched inhumation burial. This strongly suggests either knowledge of the orginal burial, or recognition of it as a visible surface feature. This may have marked respect for an earlier ancestor or kin member. The entire ditch was then later recut, and incorporated within the field system.

Figure G.326. (left). *The crouched inhumation burial but by the enclosure ditch. (Source: Grassam and Ford 2008).*

Another area known as Barnsdale Bar South, centred at SE 5115 1410, was subject to further geophysical survey, trial trenching and then open-area excavation by AS WYAS (Burgess 2001f; Webb 2000), the latter taking place during July-October 2000. A comprehensive aerial photographic rectification and plotting programme was also undertaken as part of this phase of work (Deegan 2000) (Fig. G.327).

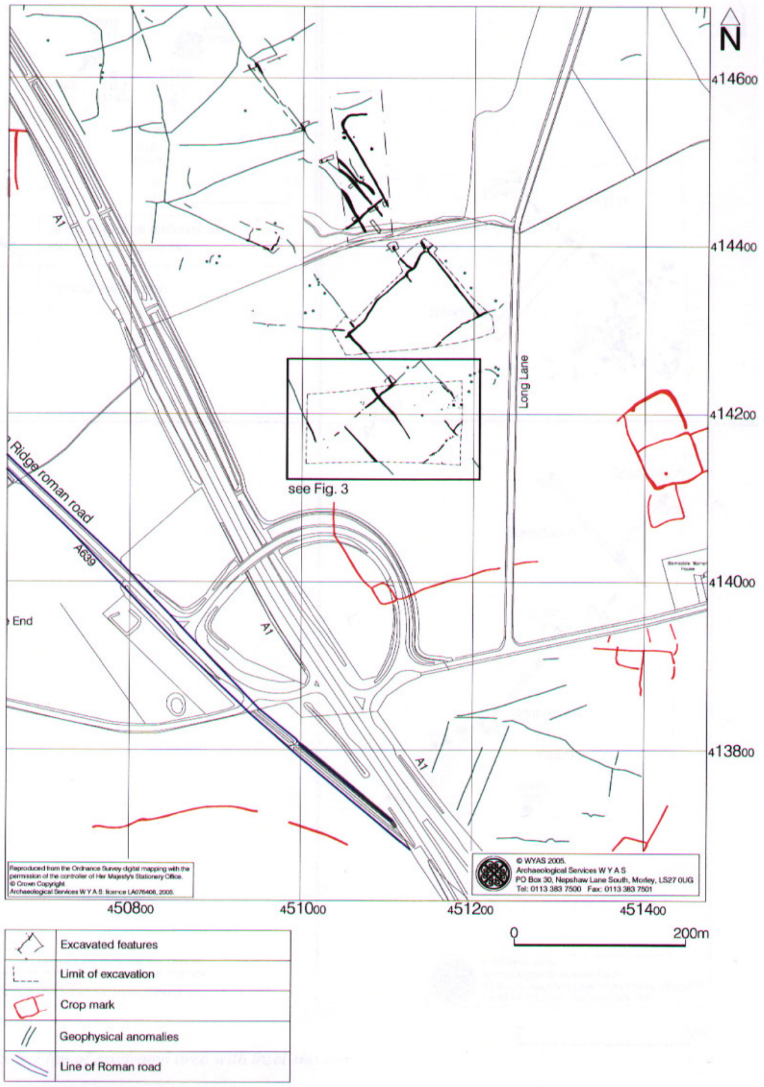


Fig. 2. Present area of investigation in the context of known archaeological sites

The excavation area was located north of the Barnsdale Bar road junction. The first phase identified was a small ring gully 4m in diameter that produced an undiagnostic copper artefact, and which formed the site of later ditch junctions. This may have been a small round barrow (Burgess 2001f), used later as a landscape marker. A series of enclosure or field ditches were then constructed, including a trapezoidal enclosure 130m long and 85m wide (Enclosure B), defined by ditches up to 2.4m wide and 0.80m deep, with a possible south-east facing entrance blocked in a later phase.

Figure G.327. *Detail of cropmarks (red) and excavated features (black) in the Barnsdale Bar South area. (Source: Deegan 2000).*

To the north-west of Enclosure B, a smaller subrectangular enclosure (C) seems to have been added, and both it and enclosure B contained some small groups of postholes and pits, most of which did not produce any dateable artefacts or indeed any finds, and they did not appear to form parts of structures. Little animal bone was recovered, and only eight sherds of probably second century AD Romano-British pottery, including one worn samian sherd. Later still, additional field or enclosure ditches were added to enclosure B, and the area seems to have been progressively enclosed over time (Burgess 2001f). The lack of artefacts, palaeo-environmental evidence of arable agriculture or crop processing suggest that there was no focus of 'domestic' inhabitation nearby, and also that these fields and enclosures might have been used mostly for pastoral practices. Perhaps open upland heath and grassland was enclosed over time and claimed by specific individuals or families for grazing.

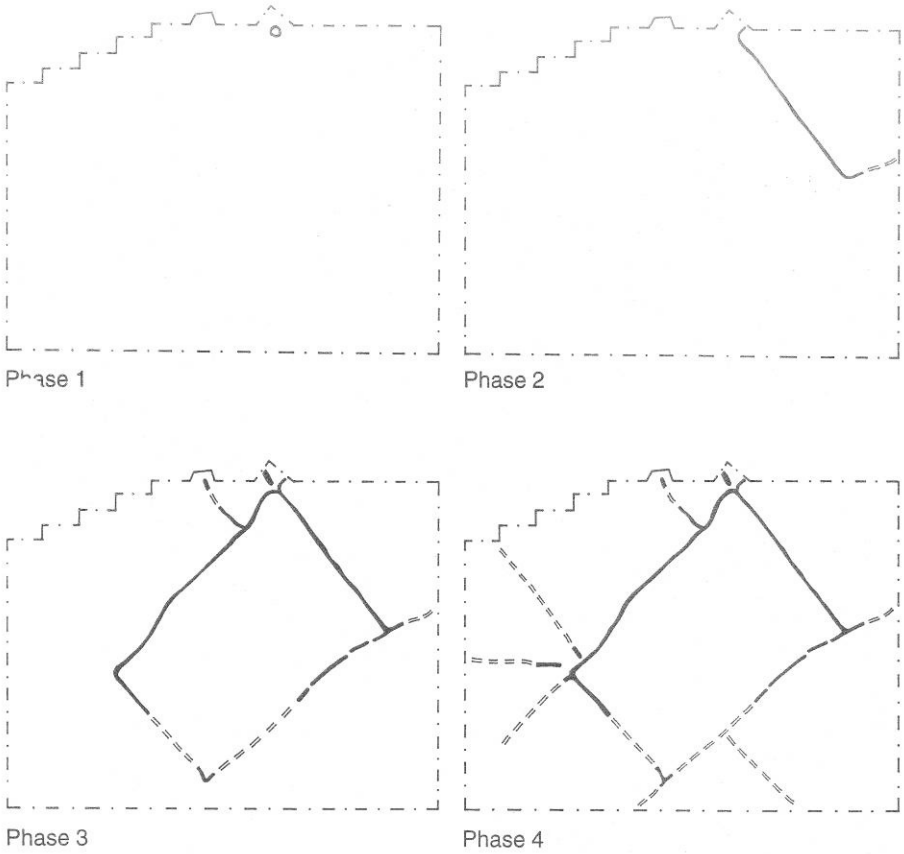


Figure G.328. *Broad phases of inhabitation proposed for the Barnsdale Bar South area, showing progressive but piecemeal enclosure over time. (Source: Burgess 2001f).*

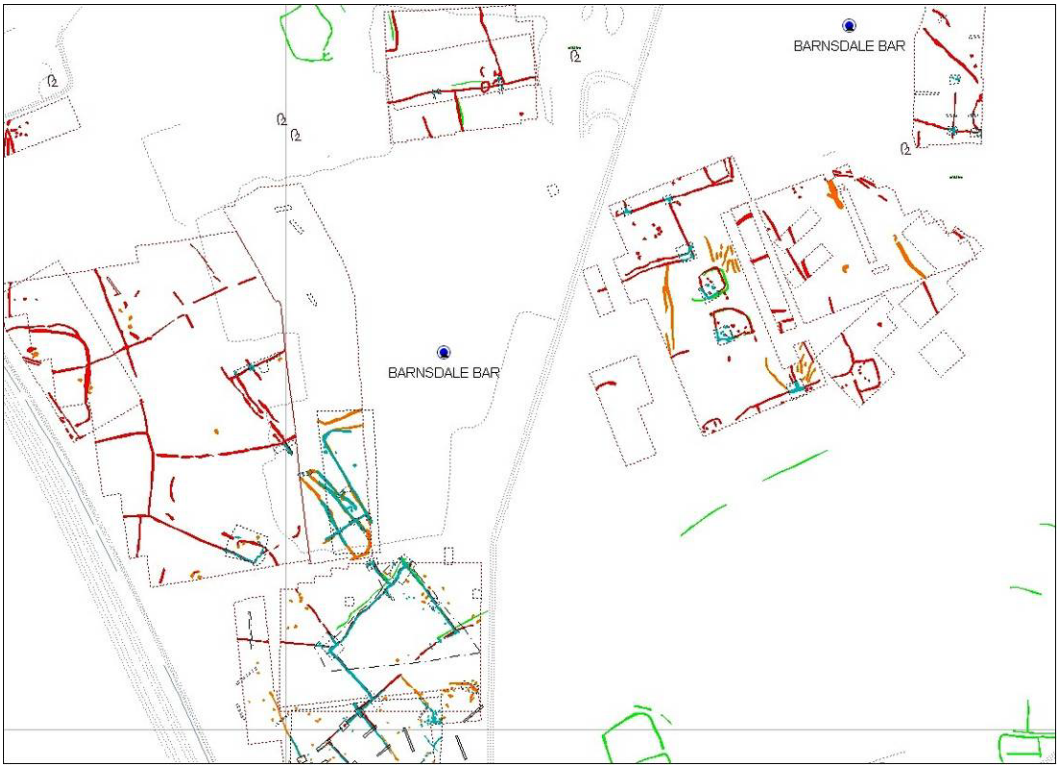


Figure G.329. *Further detail of the Barnsdale Bar East and South areas, showing cropmarks or geophysical survey features (red), and excavated features (blue). Some of the boundaries to the west (left) of the image were probably post-medieval in origin. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

Subsequent geophysical survey and trial trenching in the southern quarry area found further evidence of ditch boundaries and ditch intersections, but failed to recover any dateable artefacts (Gidman 2004; Webb 2003a). Clearly, the Barnsdale Bar area was the setting for a series of enclosures and field boundaries. This undulating upland landscape on the edge of the limestone country may have been quite open by the later Iron Age, and relatively unenclosed, used primarily for the grazing of livestock, perhaps by several different families and/or communities. Small-scale craft or production activities may also have taken place. Over time, pens and corrals were added, and these were eventually incorporated into a system of trackways, paddocks and fields, probably during the Romano-British period. The artefactual record from these investigations has been extremely sparse, and at one level the archaeological results have been disappointing. Even if not as large-scale and intensive as the field systems of the period elsewhere in the region, some not inconsiderable physical and social effort went into the construction of these ditched boundaries. But these much more diffuse patterns do appear quite different in character to 'neighbouring' blocks of fields and enclosures at Scorcher Hills, Burghwallis, or Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street. Perhaps the fields and corrals at Barnsdale Bar saw more short-term occupation, and these now represent the only tangible evidence of more fleeting seasonal or otherwise intermittent visits by people and animals.

There will no doubt be further work at Barnsdale Bar quarry, but there is a clear need for the results so far to be collated and published, although with the different counties and organisations involved and the numerous reports that have been produced, it is not clear how this post-excavation work will proceed or who will be responsible for it.

References: Abramson 1989a, 1989b, 1990a, 1990b, Boucher 1993, 1996; Burgess 2001f; Deegan 2000; Gidman 2004; Grassam and Ford 2008; O'Neill 1999; Simpson 1990, 1991; Stratascan 1994; Webb 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997a, 2000, 2003a.

Bawtry Carr SK 6568 9380

Bawtry was an important inland port and market town during the medieval period, as the River Idle was navigable to at least this point (Cumberpatch et al. 1996). This might have been an important factor during the study period too, and the possible fortlet site at Scaftworth just across the floodplain may have been constructed to guard such an inland port against raiders coming upstream during the late Roman period (Bartlett and Riley 1958). The two phases of Roman road excavated at Scaftworth would have needed to have crossed the River Idle at Bawtry too, probably near the modern railway viaduct, although no traces of such a structure have been discovered to date. A small collection of eight coins of Gallienus to Diocletian (AD 253-304) was found below the stone bridge around 1840 (Magilton 1977: 13), and an unlocated amphora mouth now in Doncaster Museum. Approximately 500m to the north-east of Balby Carr, a coin hoard found in 1963 contained thirty-four coins of Caracalla to Postumus (AD 211-269), associated with a pottery vessel. Apart from these isolated finds, however, very little Romano-British material has ever been found in or around the town.

In 2005, AS WYAS was requested by the Environment Agency to undertake a watching brief east of Bawtry on the floodplain at Bawtry Carr, monitoring topsoil removal. Rather unexpectedly, underneath the topsoil a slightly raised sandy clay deposit was found to contain a very large concentration of Romano-British pottery, seventy-one Roman coins, lead and iron objects and part of a copper-alloy fibula (Berg and Major 2006: 5). Even more significantly, the tops of several dressed stone columns were revealed (see Appendix F, Fig. F.39). The pottery was mostly South Yorkshire greywares but with significant proportions of Dales ware, colour-coated Nene Valley ware, Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria and samian, most probably of mid-third to mid-fourth century date (Leary 2006: 18). Bowls, dishes and beakers formed a high proportion of the assemblage, and large numbers of vessels were sooted and burnt. The assemblage appeared to have been civilian rather than military in makeup, but its vessel forms were more characteristic of villa or small town assemblages, and included small flanged vessels with internal scorching suggesting their use as *tazze* or incense burners. This in turn may indicate specialised consumption and ritual practices taking place at the site. The coins were mostly mid-third to mid-fourth century in date (Barclay 2006), but there were indications of episodic deposition within their chronological range.

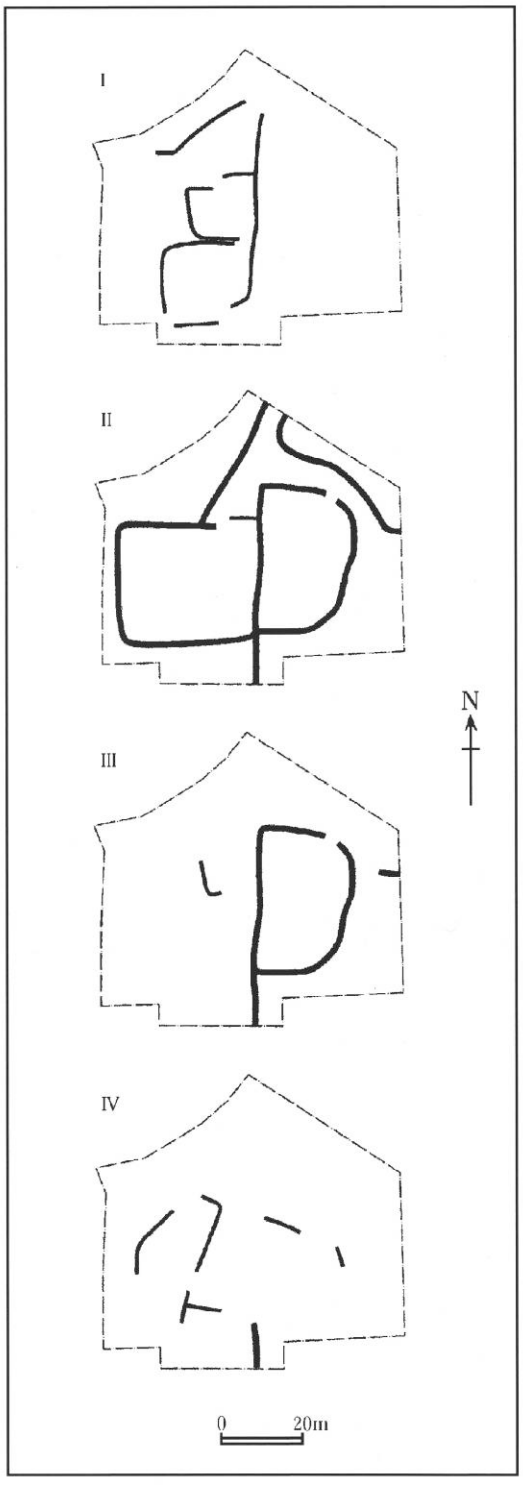
Following these results and the subsequent backfilling of the site, a geophysical survey was undertaken across this area of Bawtry Carr. Several likely ditches were identified, probably of recent date, but much of the area did not appear to have significant buried remains (Harrison and Webb 2006). However, some anomalies were detected in the immediate vicinity of the artefact concentration, although these did not form readily identifiable structures. Nevertheless, because of the apparently *in situ* stone columns and the marked concentration of highly unusual finds, this must rate as one of the most significant Romano-British finds in the region within the past few decades. Clearly, further archaeological work is urgently required at this location, which in the long-term may be threatened by flooding and river erosion, and in the short-term by the activities of illegal metal-detectorists and

criminal 'night-hawkers'. Now that the reports are in the public record, word will eventually get out about the finds, despite attempts to keep this location secret (including this author's deliberately inaccurate grid co-ordinates). Given that long-term preservation *in situ* is not an option, particularly with climate change liable to cause increased fluvial erosion and flooding in the region within the next few decades, further investigation and preservation by record is probably the only sound option. Well-funded research-led excavation would be the best solution for this potentially very exciting site, and this would be an ideal candidate for a project jointly undertaken by a commercial field unit and one of the archaeology departments in one of the region's universities. However, such investigations would have to have a much better research design and employ more rigorous sampling, excavation and recording methodologies than those used recently at Sutton Common for example.

References: Berg and Major 2006; Harrison and Webb 2006.

Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe SE 4520 0520

The settlement at Billingley Drive was located on a gentle north-facing slope at the western end of a low ridge. Several enclosures and field boundaries on the site and in the vicinity had been identified as cropmarks (Riley 1977: 24), and geophysical survey in advance of a proposed housing development identified a series of enclosure, trackway and field boundary ditches (GSB Prospection 2002: 81; Shiel 1999). The open-area excavation during September-November 1999 was undertaken by NAA.



The results of the excavation indicated occupation from at least the mid-second to the mid-fourth centuries AD. The earliest Phase I probably consisted of two adjacent subrectangular enclosures (Neal and Fraser 2004), possibly 'clothes line' enclosures, along with a triangular area defined by ditches that may have been a funnel leading to a trackway.

The southern enclosure A was roughly 22m long and 16m wide, with an enclosure ditch up to 0.70m wide and 0.40m deep. There were two probable *c.* 3-4m wide entrances to the north-east and south-east, the former linking the southern enclosure to the central enclosure B. Enclosure A contained many posthole and stakehole features, some of these probably representing fencelines and pens, including those from a possible earlier phase of fenced enclosure (ibid.: 14). The flue of a small oven was located near the south-east entrance, and hammerscale and a few sherds of second century pottery were recovered from these ditches and internal features. One slot-like feature inside enclosure A and one outside both contained quantities of charcoal from heather stems, and they might have had a similar but unknown function.

Figure G.330. (left). *Proposed basic phasing for Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe. (Source: Neal 2005: 95).*

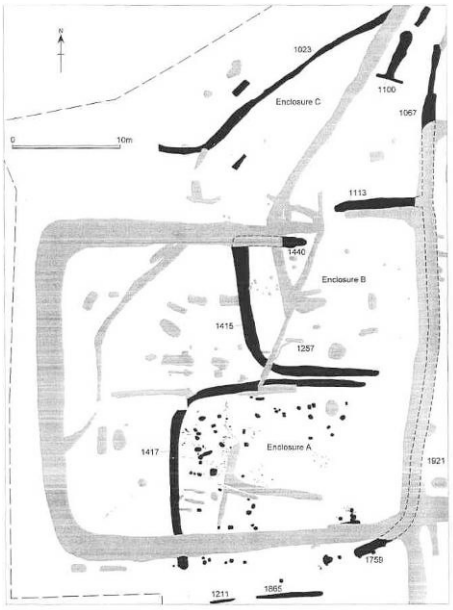
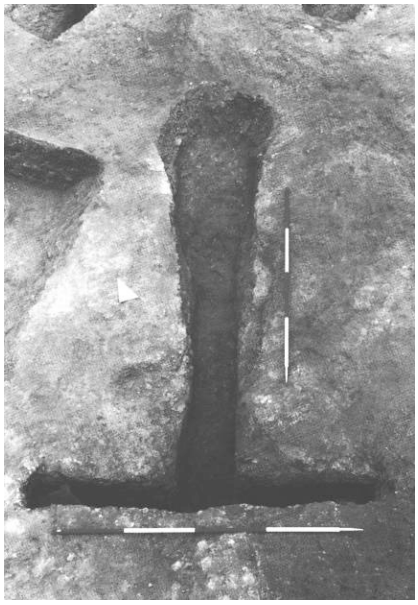


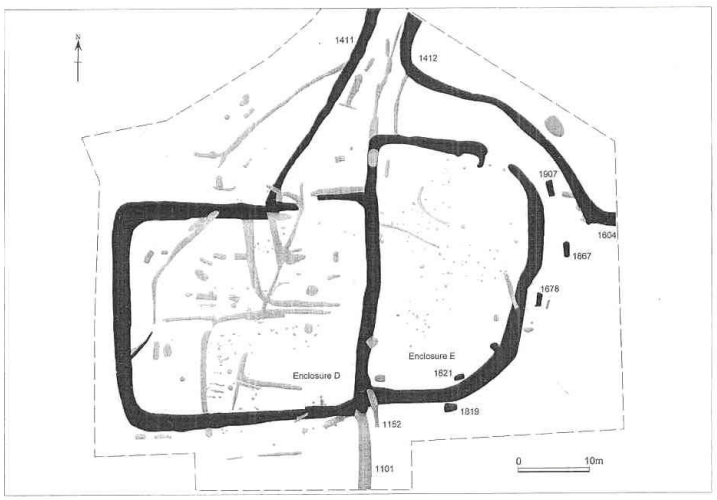
Figure G.331. (left). *Phase I features from Billingley Drive, with* **Fig. G.332. (right)** *showing details of internal features within enclosure A. (Source: Neal and Fraser 2004: 15-16, figs. 6-7).*

The central enclosure B was 13m long and 12m wide, with ditches up to 0.90m wide and up to 0.45m deep. It had a south-east entrance connecting it to enclosure A, in addition to a north-west facing entrance 5.5m wide. There were few internal features, and little pottery was associated with this enclosure. The northern triangular area was defined by two ditches up to 1.27m wide and 0.51m deep (Neal and Fraser 2004: 19). Within this area, possibly a funnel for the trackway leading north-east, was a large T-shaped corn drier 5m long and 2.6m wide, lined with heat-affected sandstone slabs (Fig. A.06). Clay fragments within it may have been from a collapsed wattle and daub superstructure, whilst carbonised plant remains of wheat, barley, oat and rye from within the feature may have reflected both parching of grain and malting at different times (Giorgin 2004: 68-69). The corn drier contained second century AD mortaria sherds, so may have been constructed during Phase I, but had a late third or fourth century sherd amongst its collapsed stonework, indicating that it might have been in use for some time.



During phase II, much larger enclosures were constructed, and the trackway seems to have been remodelled and expanded with double-ditches *c.* 3.6m apart. The western subrectangular enclosure D was 34m long and 29m wide, with ditches up to 2m wideand 1m deep. There was evidence that the ditches of both enclosures and had been recut many times (Neal and Fraser 2004: 19, fig. 13). Enclosure D contained only a few internal features suggestive of fencelines, and had a north-east facing entrance leading from/into the trackway funnel. It may have functioned mainly as a stock corral.

Fig. G.333. (left). *The excavated T-shaped corn drier or oven. (Source: Neal 2005: 94.*



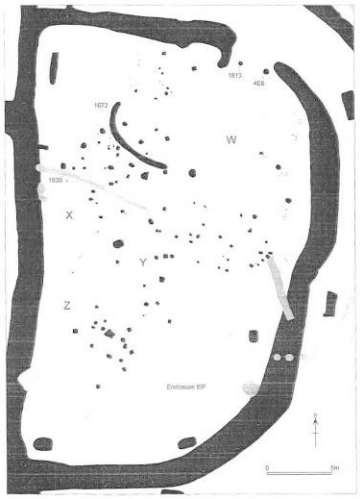
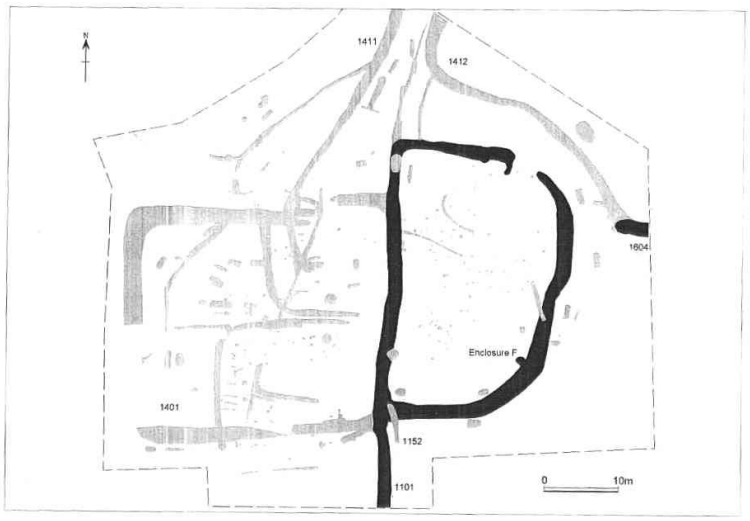
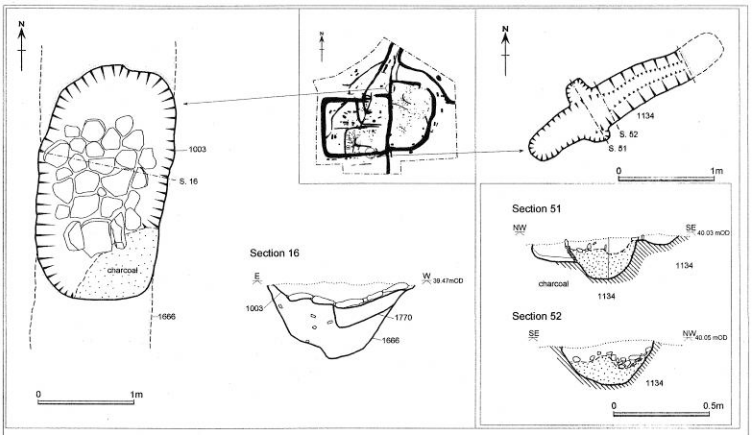


Figure G.334. (left). *Phase II features from Billingley Drive, with* **Fig. G.335. (right)** *showing details of internal features within enclosure E. (Source: Neal and Fraser 2004: 22, 25, figs. 12, 14).*

Enclosure E/F was D-shaped and 35m long and 23m wide, with a north-east facing entrance 3.4m wide defined by a holloway and also by a pair of postholes, probably for some sort of gate structure. Within the enclosure were a curved slot and a large number of pits and postholes, several arcs of which probably represent the remains of at least three circular buildings (W- Z) (Neal and Fraser 2004: 24), and even one or two possible four-post structures (cf. four larger postholes within structure Z). Five large, flat-bottomed rectangular pits alongside the southern and eastern ditches may have been graves, where human bone did not survive acidic soil conditions. Similar features though of possibly later date were found in one corner of enclosure D (see below), and elsewhere within the region, as at the MAP site in Methley, West Yorkshire (MAP 1996). Second and third century AD pottery sherds were recovered from enclosure E ditch fills. A large depression in the northern part of the enclosure was filled by colluvium up to 0.30m thick that sealed the fills of underlying features, and this contained late third and early fourth century pottery.

Phase III activity may be evidenced by recutting of the enclosure E ditch to form enclosure F, and this recut contained quite large quantities of mid-third to mid-fourth century greywares, redware and mortaria sherds, in addition to four later third century coins (Neal and Fraser 2004: 26). An iron snaffle bit found in a ditch terminal by the entrance might have been a placed deposit during this phase (see Chapter 11 and Appendix F, Fig. F.21), but as it may have dated to the late Iron Age or early Roman period this could have been an antique or ancestral curated item. These enclosure ditches were probably deliberately backfilled, and then a series of more fragmentary or segmented ditches and gullies were dug, some truncating earlier features. Occupation still seemed to be focused within the eastern enclosure, but a clay and stone lined oven was built into the upper fill of the enclosure F ditch, and a rectangular flue structure was similarly dug into the fills of enclosure D. Irregular gullies dug across enclosure D seemed to define a group of eight rectangular pits, one containing a complete though broken red-slipped imitation samian ware vessel of later third or fourth century date (ibid.: 29). Further rectangular, flat-bottomed pits were located in other the north-west and western parts of former enclosure D, and just to the north of it. Again, at least some of these features may have been graves





where the human remains did not survive. Some of these putative graves, and the later gullies, seem to have been on the same orientation as the double-ditched trackway extending to the north-east, suggesting perhaps that this feature was still in use within the landscape. It might even have formed an uphill approach to a small burial area.

Figure G.336. (top left). *Phase III, with the probable redefinition of enclosure E/F.*
Fig. G.337. (bottom left). *The small oven (left) and the flue (upper right) belonging to the late phase IV, which were both cut into the fills of earlier enclosure ditches. (Source: Neal and Fraser 2004: 27, 30, figs. 15, 17).*

Figure G.338. *The north-west corner of Phase II enclosure D, showing possible later grave cuts. (Source: Neal 2005: 96).*

References: GSB Prospection 2002; Neal 2005; Neal and Fraser 2004; Shiel 1999.

Cadeby hoard SE 6120 0135

Cadeby Gorge is a steep-sided limestone valley south-west of Doncaster, with the modern village of Cadeby located within it. In addition to rock shelters and caves that have produced earlier prehistoric finds of Palaeolithic to Bronze Age date, several springs emerge in the area, which may have been significant in the past. During the later Iron Age and Romano-British period it is likely that at least some of the steep slopes would also have been wooded as many are today, and the place may have had a slightly isolated, mysterious or even other-worldly atmosphere. The gorge is close to enclosures at Scabba Wood and Barnburgh Cliffs, and cropmarks show others on the edge of the valley itself.

The hoard was actually found within the modern extent of Pot Ridings Wood by a metal detectorist in 1981, within a natural fissue in the limestone rock that had been capped with a limestone slab to form a small cist-like space. Within this was a small 'poppy' ceramic jar containing 112 *denarii* and *antoniniani* dating to AD 194-251, and four silver bracelets. One pair of the bracelets was set with cornelians, whilst the other pair consisted of so-called 'snake' bracelets (Buckland 1986: 41; Cool 2000: 30). Fortunately, the metal detectorist reported his find which was declared Treasure Trove, and his finds were able to be acquired by Doncaster Museum which now has them on display. To date, however, the hoard has never been fully described and only one set of drawings has been published (Buckland 1986: 41), and the objects have not even been analysed in detail (P. Robinson pers. comm.). I am very grateful to Peter Robinson of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery for allowing me access to the hoard, and I hope that he will be able to publish a comprehensive study of the hoard in the near future. I will only provide a brief description here.

Figure G.339. *The Cadeby hoard. The Romano-British ceramic beaker is flanked by the two bracelets inlaid with cornelians (right), and the two 'snake' bracelets (left). Only a few of the 112 coins recovered are shown. (Source: author, courtesy of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery).*

There are several intriguing aspects to the hoard. Firstly, the pottery vessel containing them was rather worn in appearance, and had also spalled in several places. This might have been from the action of freeze-thaw within the limestone fissure, but may also indicate that the pottery vessel was already quite old and a curated item by the time the metalwork was deposited within it.

Figure G.340. (left). *A more oblique view of the Cadeby hoard artefacts, and also including a scale. (Source: author, courtesy of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery).*

Despite minor differences in the settings, the silver bracelets with cornelians appear to be part of a pair, and the etched designs suggest that they could have been made by the same craftsman. The degree of wear on both is similar. It is notable that both cornelians have white flaws within them. Rather than detracting from them, this attribute might conversely have been seen as highly attractive, and may even have had some kind of metaphorical or spiritual significance. No attempt seems to have been made to carve them as intaglios. The cornelians may have come from modern Cornwall, or further afield in India or Afghanistan. It seems curious that they project so far above the surface of the bracelet. Although this makes them more dramatic and visible, one might have expected everyday items of jewellery to have stones that protruded less from the surface of the bracelets.

Figure G.341. (right). *One of the pair of silver bracelets set with cornelians. Note the finely etched decoration. (Source: author, courtesy of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery).*

In contrast, the silver snake bracelets have many interesting differences from one another. One is in comparatively good condition, with fine etching and lines of beaded decoration still present on the exterior surface. The inside of this bracelet, however, has been subjected to a lot of wear and scratching. There is even a possible graffito or symbol scratched on the inner surface (P. Robinson pers. comm.), but further detailed microscopic study may be able to confirm this. It appears to have been snapped or broken in antiquity. The second snake bracelet has differences in decoration to the first, despite being superficially similar, but slightly 'cruder' or simpler in execution. The one may be a copy of the other, and possibly made by a different individual. Alternatively, the differences may have been deliberate. Although less worn and scratched on the inner surface than the first bracelet, it is notable how worn it is on its external surface – some of the decoration has been removed altogether, almost as if it has been regularly rubbed or polished. The two bracelets seem to have had very different biographies, despite being deposited together.

Figure G.342. (left). *The first snake bracelet with finely etched and beaded decoration, and relatively unworn on its external surface. Note, however, some of the numerous scratches on its inner surface, and the apparently antique break. (Source: author, courtesy of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery).*

Figure G.343. (right). *The second snake bracelet, with slightly cruder or simpler decoration, and the very obvious heavy wear that has removed much of the detail on the external surface. (Source: author, courtesy of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery).*

Cool (2000b) has discussed the contexts of the known Romano-British hoards containing snake jewellery that have been found in Britain, including the mid to later third century Cadeby find but also other mid-second century AD examples at Snettisham in Norfolk, Backworth in Northumberland and Castlethorpe in Buckinghamshire. The Lightwood hoard from Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, probably has a similar mid to late third century provenance to the Cadeby artefacts. The two later hoards were deposited at a time when bracelets were uncommon, and Cool suggests that it is unlikely that they were deposited for safekeeping as personal wealth, or as silver bullion or 'scrap metal' for metalworkers (Cool 2008b: 38). Instead, she explores the religious symbolism of snakes and snake bracelets,

including a possible association with Mercury, Asclepios, a god of healing, Glycon the hunter god, and/or with mother goddesses (ibid.: 34-35). It is even possible that the snake-headed bracelets were cult paraphernalia, used or worn by religious specialists in ceremonies, and they might have had apotropaic properties. This might account for the wear or rubbing on the one snake bracelet, if this was perceived as having talismanic powers, equivalent to kissing or rubbing relics and rosaries. If this was the context for the Cadeby hoard, then its deposition near a narrow, possibly still wooded gorge close to springs might well have had votive significance, although precisely why such objects were finally buried is unclear. Along with other significant metalwork deposits in the study region such as the Silsden hoard (see Chapter 10, Figs. 10.02), the Cadeby hoard clearly requires further study. This should include not only detailed microscopic analysis of the artefacts included within them, but also the landscape and possible social context of their deposition.

Figure G.344 (left). *A more detailed view of some of the silver coins from the Cadeby hoard. Rather than bullion, these may have been intended as part of an offering to deities or ancestors. (Source: author, courtesy of Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery).*

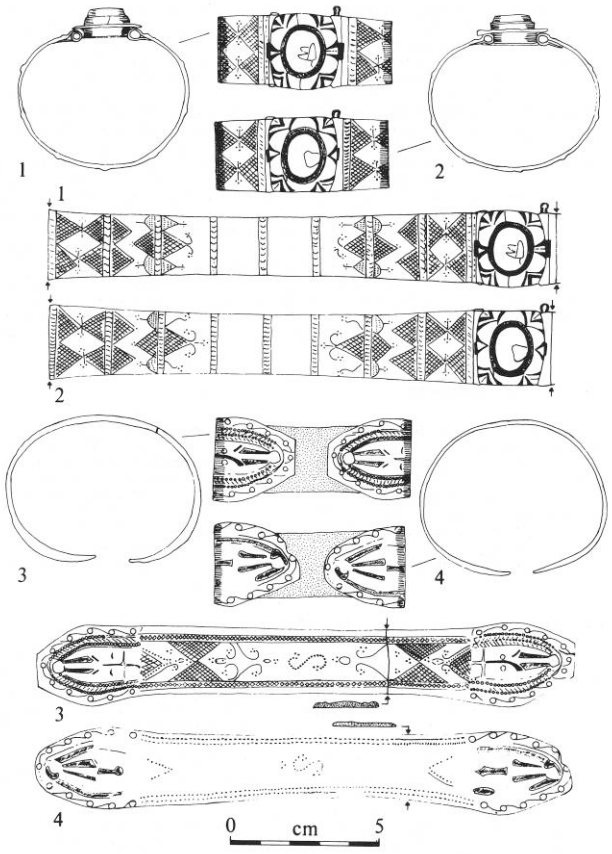


Figure G.345. (right). *Detailed illustrations of the silver bracelets forming part of the Cadeby hoard. (Source: Buckland 1986: 41, fig. 24).*

References: Webb and Whittingham 2001.

Campsall Quarry SE 5340 1340

In advance of a proposed limestone quarry on the south-west side of Campsall, WYAS undertook a preliminary desk-based archaeological assessment of the area, including an examination of available aerial photographs, and also carried out geophysical survey (Adams 1993). The cropmark evidence revealed a variety of enclosures and boundaries in the immediate area, including a complex shown as number 22 in Fig. G.346 below, in Longland Field within the proposed quarry site.

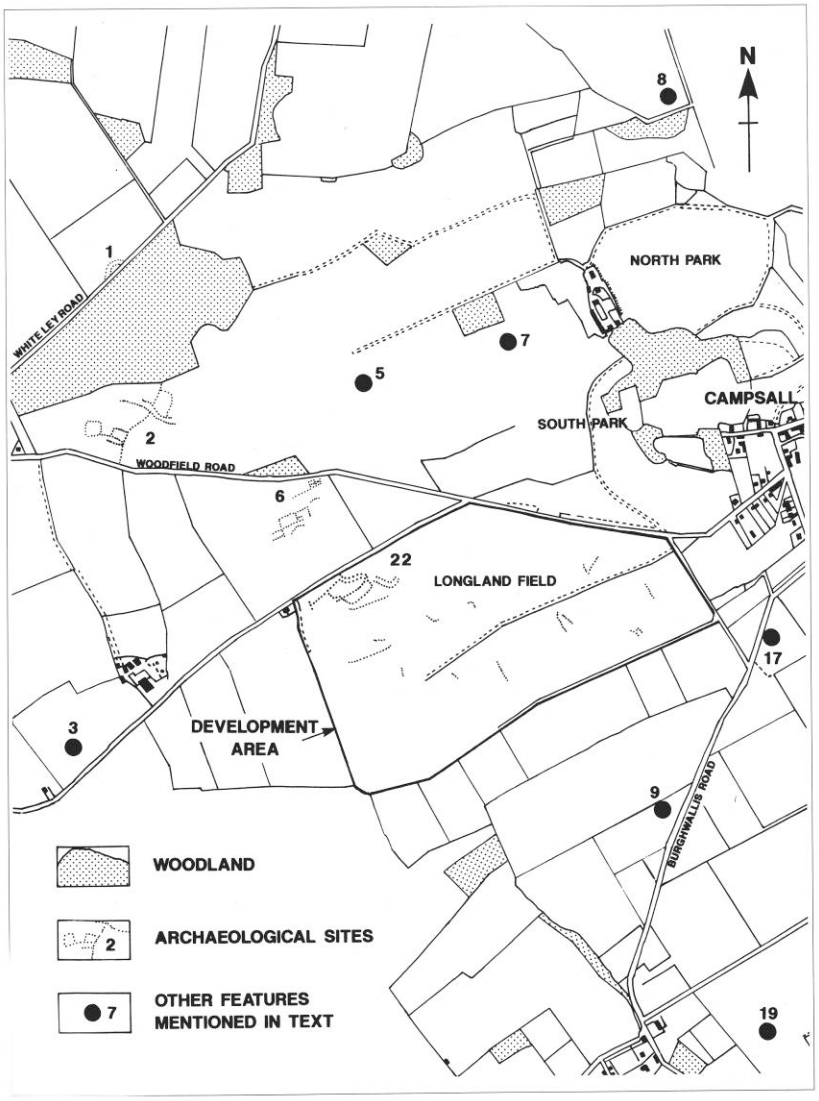


Figure G.346. *Cropmarks west of Campsall, S. Yorks. (Source: Adams 1993: 54, fig. 49).*

The geophysical survey revealed details of the enclosure complex at 22 above. These indicated an irregular or trapezoidal enclosure, where the south-west corner of the enclosure ditch either 'swerved' to avoid a pre-existing obstacle, or more likely, where there was a subenclosure ditch forming the corner. There was a probable north-east facing entrance in both the subenclosure and main enclosure ditch, with a double-ditched trackway approaching the latter at a right angle, and hints of a complex

entrance (Adams 1992). On the northern side of the enclosure, two ditches were visible in the geophysical survey results.

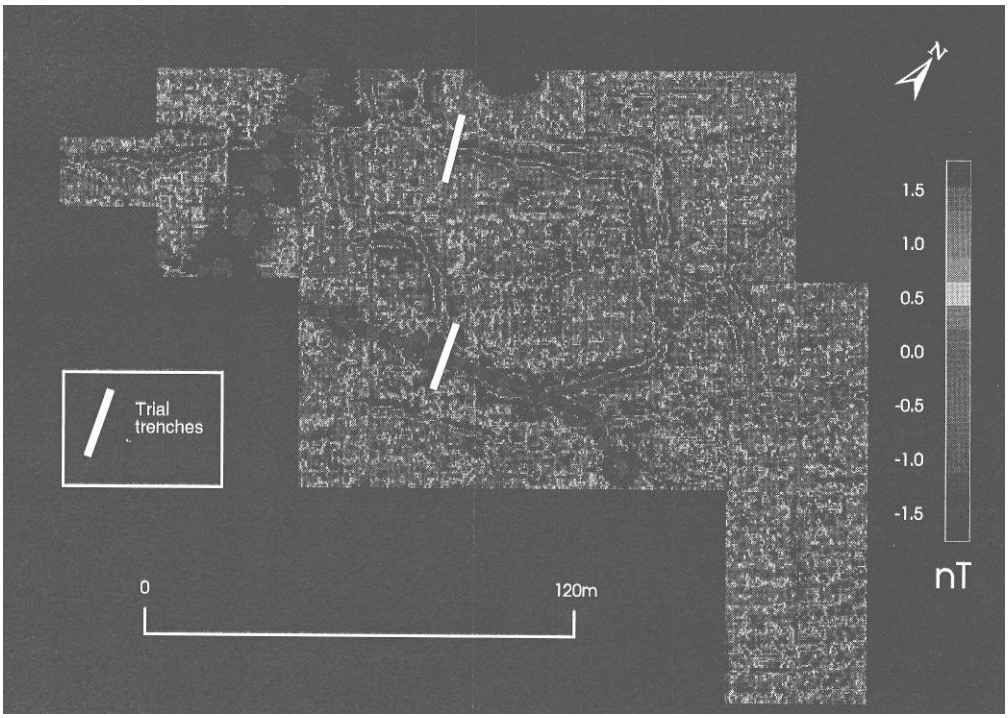


Fig. G.347. *Detail of part of the geophysical survey at Campsall Quarry, also showing the location of the two trial trenches. An irregular or trapezoidal enclosure is just visible, mostly defined by a single ditch but with two ditches visible to the north or upper right of the image. The inadequacy of the evaluation strategy is apparent. (Source: Adams 1992: fig. 1).*

Two machine-dug trial trenches were used to evaluate the site in autumn 1992. Confusingly, these have been numbered differently in the archive client report (Adams 1992), and in the published account (Adams 1993). The northern trench revealed the lines of two north-east to south-west aligned ditches, one appearing to have some form of stone revetment along its inner edge, perhaps to support or emphasise a bank. It is not clear if these ditches were contemporary, or represented different phases of occupation. Two possible gullies were also identified. The inner ditch (F6) had significant quantities of animal bone dumped within it. The second, southern trench identified the southern enclosure ditch boundary, but also a series of shallow features initially thought to be postholes, but reinterpreted as natural fluvioglacial features (Adams 1992). No dateable artefacts were recovered.

Unfortunately, although ditch recuts are apparent in the section drawings, these were not identified by the excavators, and the use of only two narrow trenches to investigate this enclosure represents a highly inadequate sampling strategy (Cumberpatch 1993: 56). Although the lack of ceramics may suggest a later Iron Age date, the fact that much of the enclosure interior was not investigated means that this could not be established, and sadly, no further excavation work took place on this complex before the features were quarried away. This was another missed opportunity.

References: Adams 1992, 1993; Cumberpatch 1993.

Cantley SE 6120 0135

During the 1950s and early 1960s, the construction of houses and associated services such as pipe trenches and an electricity substation in Cantley, Doncaster, led to rescue excavations of a series of Romano-British pottery kilns (centred at SE 6180 0170), part of the wider South Yorkshire pottery 'industry' in the Doncaster and Rossington area. Thirty-nine kilns were eventually recorded by Annable, Cregeen, Gilmour and Lidster, many very well-preserved with kiln furniture, floors of firebars, last firings and/or wasters *in situ* within some kilns (Annable 1960; Buckland and Magilton 2005; Cregeen 1956, 1957; Gilmour 1954, 1955, 1956). Some kilns were massively built in clay, with composite firing floors and large stokeholes, and their above-ground superstructures were either wattle and clay domes, or more likely, built of turves (Buckland, Magilton and Dolby 1980: 147-148). Five further kilns were excavated in 1974, and several kilns were detected through geophysical survey or probing but not excavated. The standards of the excavations and recording were extremely variable, and only kilns 1-8 and 22-25 can be accurately located. Some of Lidster's investigations have only recently been published (Buckland and Magilton 2005).

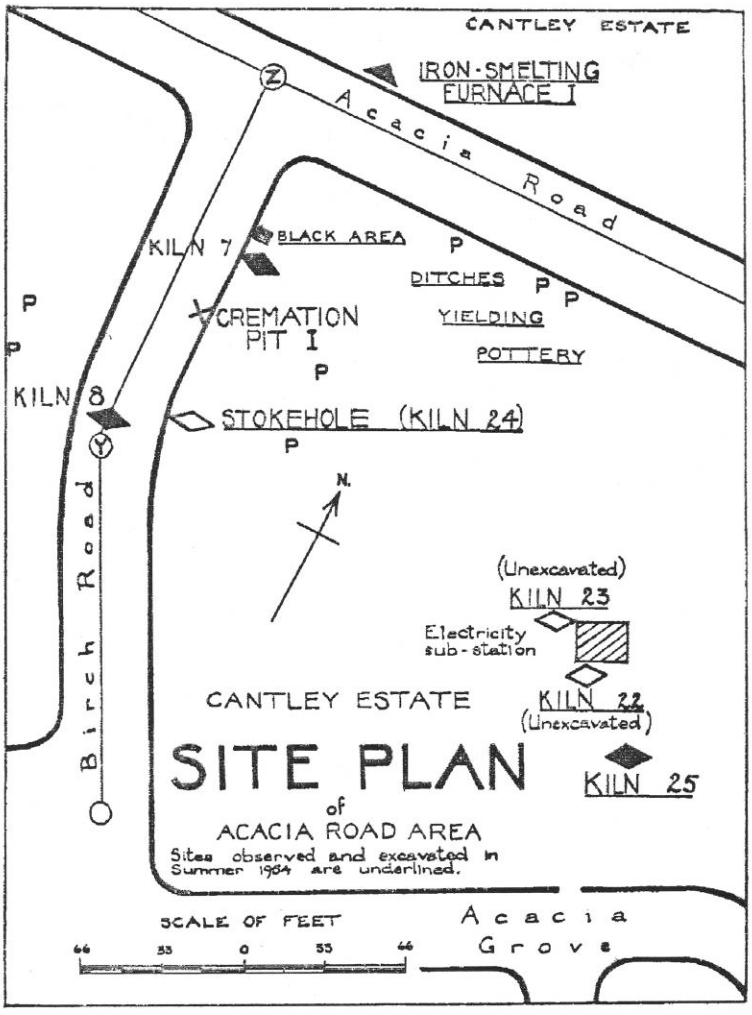


Figure G.348. *Plan of some of the Cantley kilns and other features. (Source: Cregeen 1956: 34, fig. 2).*

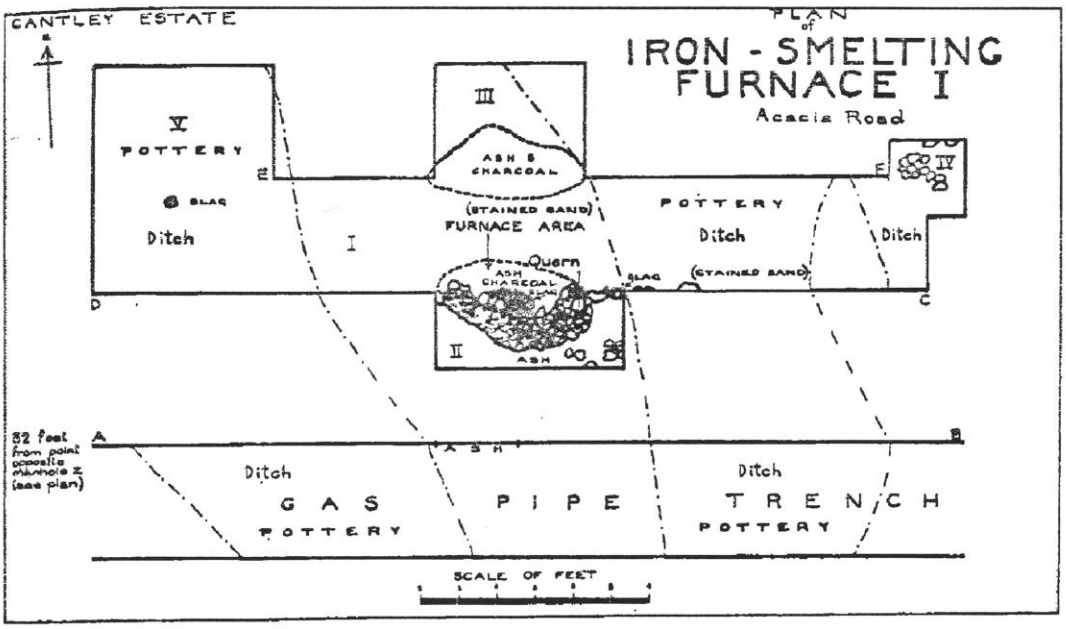


Figure G.349. *Plan of an iron-working furnace (possibly for smithing rather than smelting) excavated at Cantley in 1954. The lower stone of a beehive quern was re-used in the furnace structure. (Source: Cregeen 1956: 35, fig. 3).*

Many kilns were excavated as free-standing structures rather than stratified features, and although iron-working furnaces and cremation burial pits were also recorded, features such as ditches were generally only noted in passing, and many more subtle features might have been missed altogether. The settlement or landscape context of the kilns is thus unclear. One additional interesting find was made by Gilmour (1955), who recorded a stone-lined well that was excavated to a depth of 8.30m without locating the bottom. This not only produced dumps of pottery wasters from kilns, but also animal and human bone, some of the latter at least probably placed deposits. Some second century AD Parisian ware and Black Burnished ware was produced in the Cantley kilns, but most of their products were predominantly later. The kilns produced a variety of forms and fabrics including greyware lid-seated and two-handled jars, bowls, dishes and colanders or strainers; in addition to pipeclay mortaria, slip-coated flanged bowls and late third and fourth century imitation samian vessels in a red oxidised fabric with red slipped surfaces (Annable 1960; Buckland 1986; Buckland, Magilton and Dolby 1980).

Plans to redevelop the disused Priory School site at St Wilfrid's Road, Cantley for housing led to archaeological investigation by AS WYAS, who undertook geophysical survey and trial trenching of part of the site in 1992 and 1993 (Richardson and Signorelli 2003). This site (centred at SE 6132 0138) was only *c*. 50m west from the probable location of kilns 1-8, 14 and the stone well, on flattish land sloping very gently to the south. The AS WYAS evaluation recorded several ditches, Romano-British pottery including kiln wasters, and also recovered a copper alloy pennanular brooch. In 2005, PCA (Lincoln) excavated five open area trenches within the site, of which trenches 1-3 revealed Romano-British features and trench 4 one badly truncated feature. The modern ground disturbance in the area of trench 5 was too severe for archaeological deposits to survive.

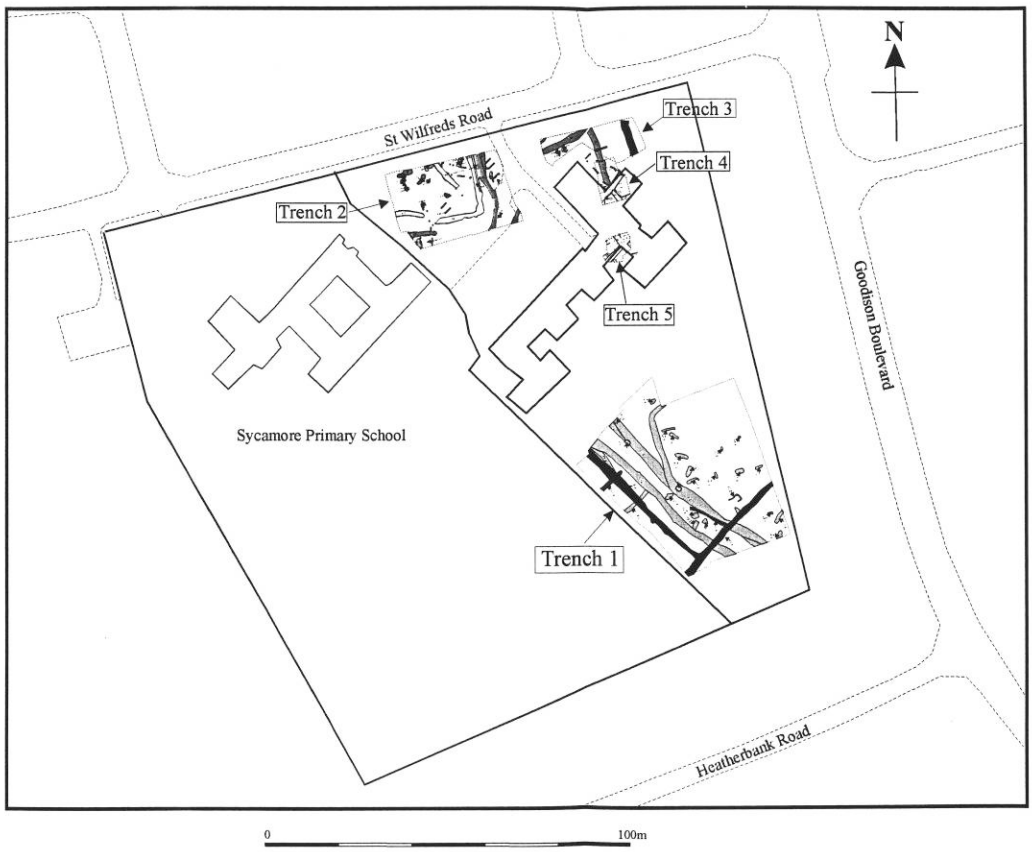


Figure G.350. *The location of the recent investigations at St Wilfred's Road, Cantley, also showing the Sycamore Primary School and the footprint of the former Priory School buildings. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 2).*

The earliest features in Trench 1 may have been a series of shallow, sub-oval pits, part of pit alignments or perhaps the remains of grubbed-out hedgerow boundaries forming a four-way junction. They contained carbonised or organic material, and at least one was cut by a ditch containing mid to late second century AD pottery. There followed a series of ditched boundaries predominantly arranged north-west to south-east, including in at least one phase a double-ditched trackway approximately 3-5m wide. Several different phases of boundary and recutting episodes were identified (Daley 2007: 9). A more substantial enclosure ditch F5 was then constructed, up to 2.80m wide and 0.70m deep, recutting part of the eastern trackway ditch. Within the area defined by this ditch were a variety of features including a possible roundhouse or smaller subenclosure, defined by curvilinear gullies (F15 to F17) and with a north-west facing entrance roughly 2m wide. Structure F21 was defined by possible beam slots and stakeholes and was at least 3m long and 1.5m wide, although its full extent was not established. A later ditch (F12) may have been dug in the late second or early third century AD.

Two post-medieval ditches were also recorded in Trench 1, one arranged at right-angles to the other. Interestingly, this latter ditch followed the same course as the much earlier western trackway ditches, suggesting that a bank, hedgerow or holloway associated with the trackway may have persisted in the landscape for a long period of time. Similarly, the other post-medieval ditch was perpendicular to the earlier trackway, but parallel to the lines of some second to third century ditches.

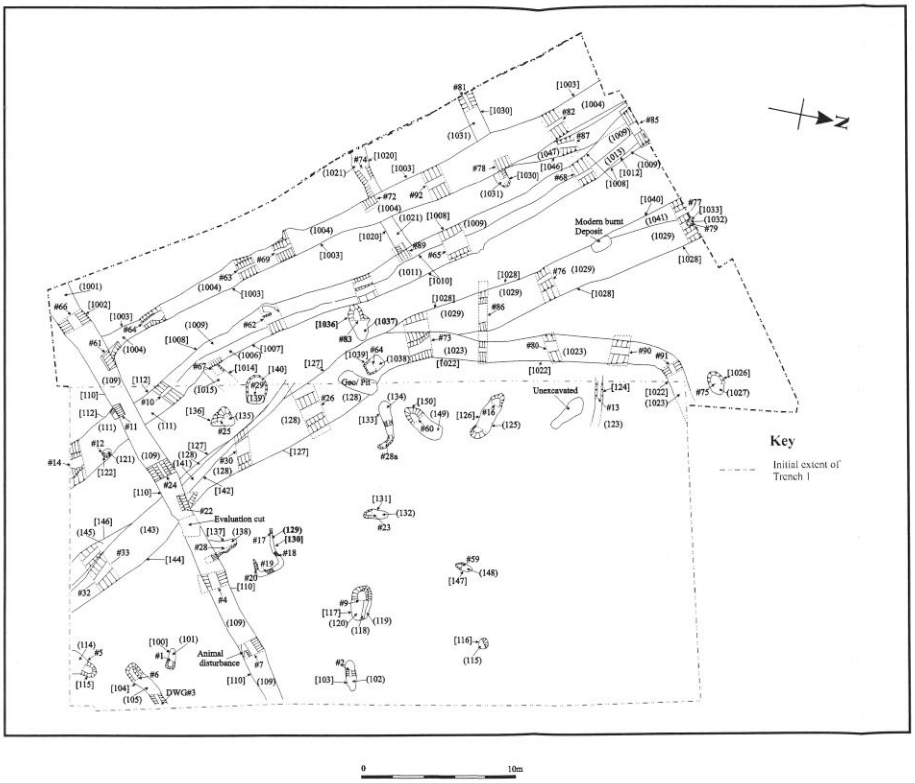


Figure G.351. *Trench 1 showing excavated sections through features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 3).*

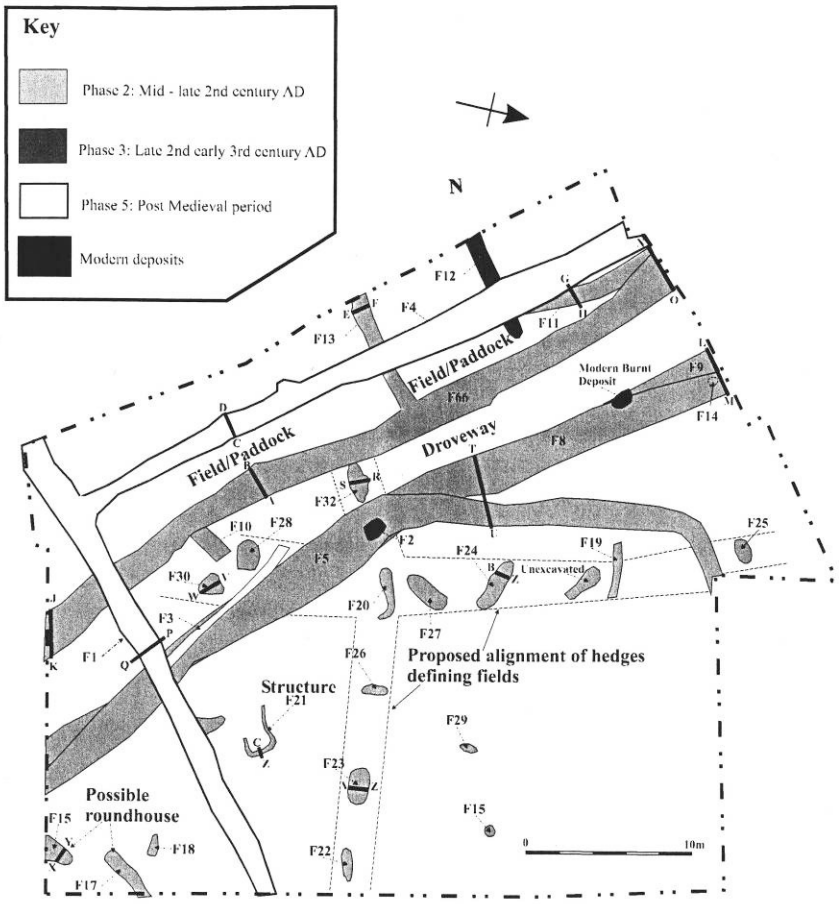


Figure G.352. *Proposed phasing for Trench 1. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 8).*

In Trench 2, the earliest feature may have been a subrectangular enclosure defined by ditches F52 and F53 that were up to 1.5m wide and 0.40m deep, with a possible south-west facing entrance 2.5m wide. These ditches contained burnt stone and late first or early second century AD pottery (Daley 2007: 8). During the mid to late second century AD, this enclosure ditch was partly recut by narrow palisade trenches, but other linear features such as F48 and F49 were set out obliquely to the line of the enclosure, within its original area. These themselves probably represent different phases of activity. In the late second or early third century, another larger enclosure was created with ditches F34/55 and F35, but this may have been respecting the basic outline of the smaller, earlier enclosure. This later enclosure too probably had a south-west facing entrance, approximately 5m wide although this lay just outside of the area of excavation, but how this was identified is not made clear in the report. Its original ditch F55 had been recut at least once as ditch F34. Its fills contained significant quantities of dumped pottery including many wasters from kilns, with later third century sherds in upper fills.

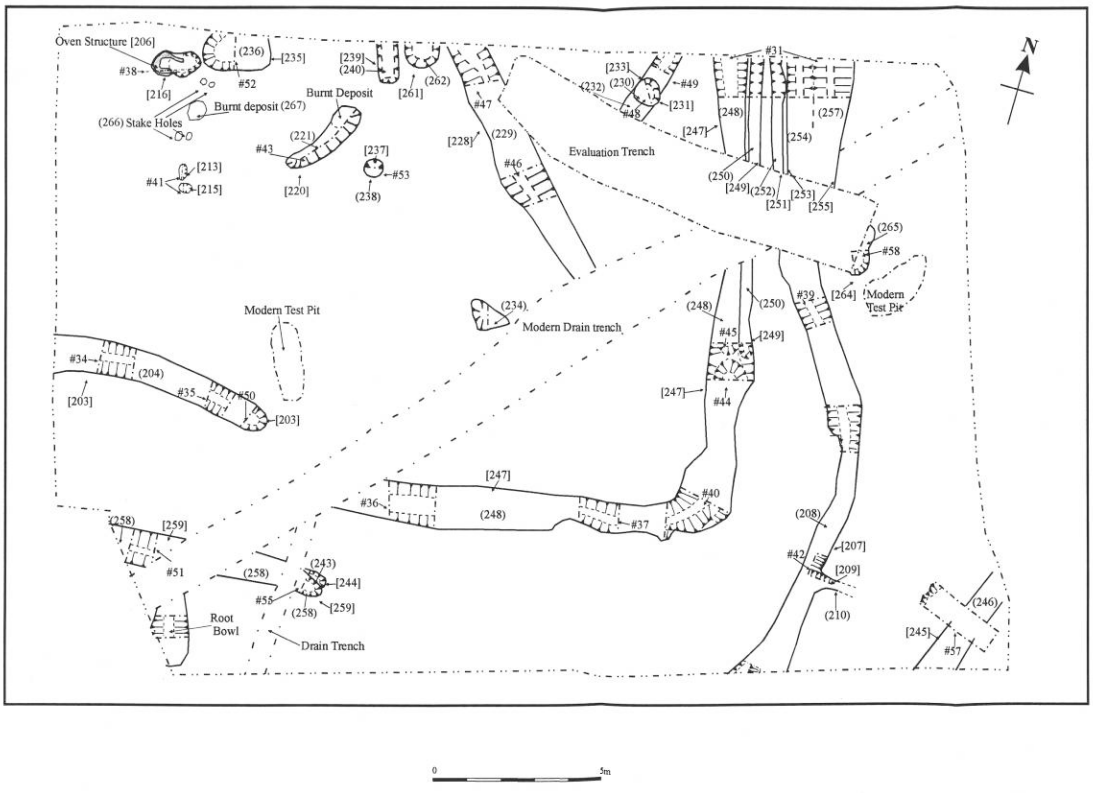


Figure G.353. *Trench 2 showing excavated sections through features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 4).*

Two possible ovens were identified within the later enclosure in Trench 2 – features F43 and F44, which both retained fragments of fired clay linings and/or superstructures. A possible hearth pit and associated stakeholes were also identified in this northern part of Trench 2, probably indicating a focus for domestic activity in this part of the enclosure, perhaps external bread ovens and hearths. Next to this area, feature F45 was a large pit 2m long containing two near complete pots of early to middle third century date. These were probably placed deposits (ibid.: 13), and their position near the likely centre of the enclosure and next to a site of food production was undoubtedly significant.

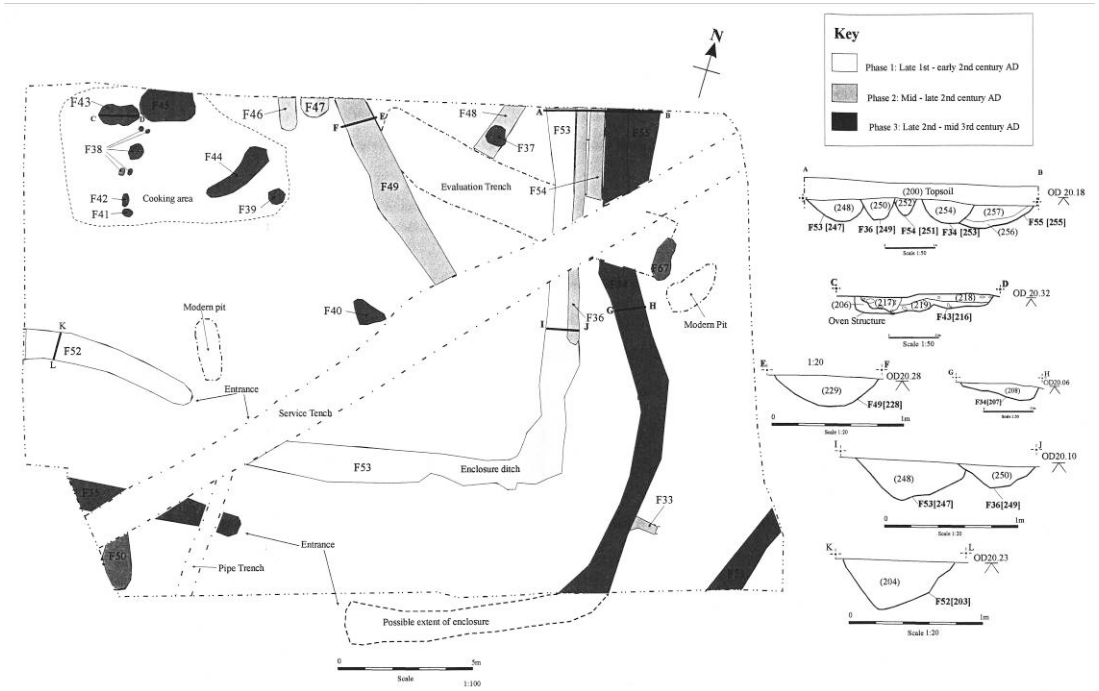


Figure G.354. *Proposed phasing for Trench 2, along with selected sections through some of the excavated features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 9).*

Trench 3 was located at the northern part of the development, and contained most of the later features excavated (Fig. G.355). A pit containing later second or early third century pottery was cut by a roughly north-south orientated ditch containing localised dumps of sooty material, pottery sherds including many wasters, and fragments of kiln furniture and kiln structure. A series of shallow gullies may have been associated with this phase, one of them an L-shaped feature at least 14m long on its east-west axis and cutting across the north-south ditch. The fill (318) of a short north-south gully contained a fragment of Mayen lava quern (Daley 2007: 14). These gullies may either represent the beam slots of timber buildings, or drainage features associated with structures, and are similar to features excavated at Warning Tongue Lane, Bessacarr, and at Dunston's Clump in Nottinghamshire.

An east-west ditch was linked to the north-south example, but a modern service trench cutting through the junction of these two features prevented the relationship between them from being established, although on ceramic grounds the east-west ditch was perhaps slightly later. It contained relatively large quantities of pottery too, but as single sherds or small clusters, probably derived from domestic occupation and including a comparatively high proportion of bowls and dishes (Leary 2007). Another large north-south ditch then seems to have been dug at the eastern side of Trench 3, between 8-8.50m away from but parallel to the earlier north-south ditch. This may either reflect the re-establishment of the previous boundary, or perhaps the creation of a trackway. Some deposits within this ditch seem to have reflected silting, but also perhaps the slumping or slighting of a bank (Daley 2007: 15). A complete, sooted Dales ware jar of late third or early fourth century date was recovered from this ditch, in the same context as a near complete long-necked beaker (both of these vessels wasters) and several sherds from three bowls. The complete and near-complete vessels at least were probably placed deposits, perhaps part of rites of termination or pleas for better firing success (Leary 2007).

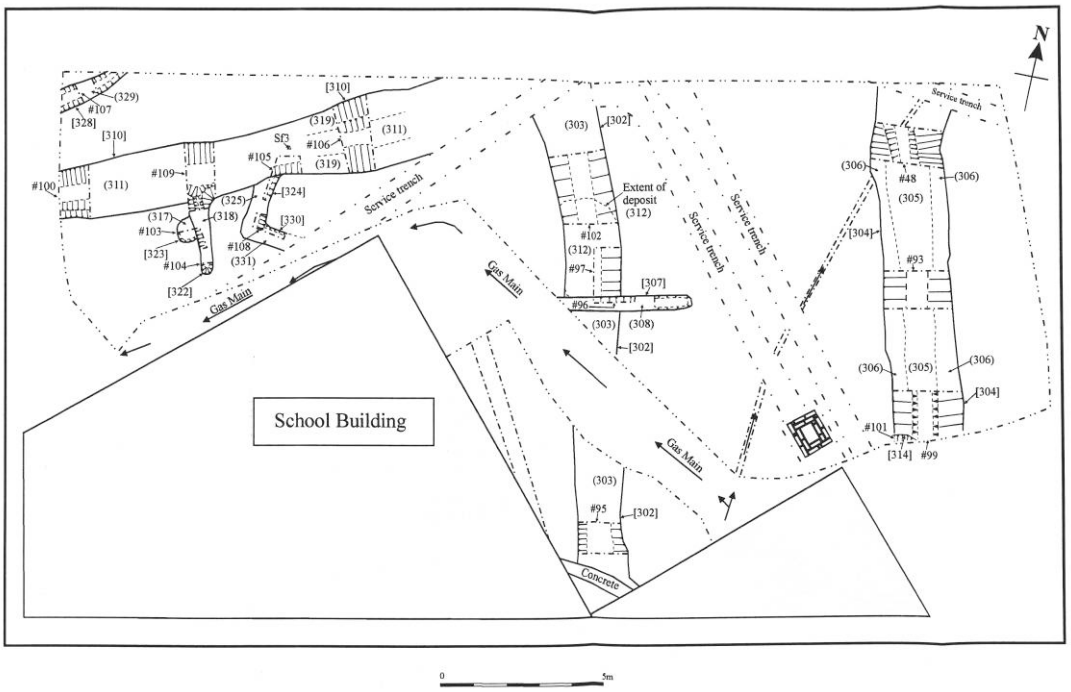


Figure G.355. *Trench 3 showing excavated sections through features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 5).*

The late second or early third century north-south ditch at the western side of Trench 3 ditch was also traced for about 6m in Trench 4, but beyond this had been truncated by modern features. The silting up or slumping of the easternmost north-south ditch seems to have marked the abandonment of the occupation on the St. Wilfrid's Road site, although this may have continued further to the east. The significance of the features excavated is that they probably represent 'domestic' occupation in the immediate vicinity of some of the pottery production at the Cantley kilns. Kiln waste was dumped into the northern enclosure ditches during the late second and/or early third centuries AD, but there was also evidence for household ceramic use and discard, including quite 'Roman' forms associated more with food presentation and consumption rather than production and storage, unlike many other small-scale enclosure sites (Leary 2007). This could suggest either greater social aspiration on the part of potting communities, or simply more ready access to such ceramics through their trade. The results also suggest that, rather than highly centralised potting organised on a large-scale basis, ceramic production took place at the household level, probably by families and workers who still carried out farming on a part-time basis. Production was dispersed across a largely agricultural landscape, albeit concentrated in particular locales with suitable clay sources as at Cantley and Rossington Bridge. Because of this, it is unlikely that large workshop buildings and production facilities will ever be found.

Neither the curators nor the contractors originally thought that any pottery kilns lay within the development area (Johnson 2006), until this possibility was proposed by Pete Robinson of Doncaster Museum and Professor Paul Buckland. Kilns 31 and 33 may have been located on the site (Daley 2007: fig 10), but no trace of them was found, and it may be that modern construction had completely destroyed them. These kilns might have been inaccurately located when they were excavated, however, and may not have been present on the site in the first place. Worryingly though, PCA (Lincoln) also did

not seem initially to be aware that on Sherwood Sandstone sand and gravel subsoils, features often have to be left to weather out before they become visible (Johnson 2006). The excavation trenches thus had to be substantially extended, once it became clear that there was much more archaeology present than originally thought immediately after topsoil and overburden removal. This illustrates one of the current major dangers of unrestricted competitive tendering whereby archaeologists unfamiliar with local conditions may nevertheless still be able to win tenders from local units, yet may make simple but understandable mistakes based on their unfamiliarity with the region's archaeology. Whilst the current unregulated system of developer-funded (and developer-chosen) archaeology exists, curatorial archaeologists must be much more proactive in monitoring excavation methodologies to try and ensure that good standards are maintained, particularly by field units from other regions that may undercut all locally-based units in order to win the tenders.

References: Annable 1960; Buckland and Magilton 2005; Buckland, Magilton and Dolby 1980; Cregeen 1956, 1957; Daley 2007; Gilmour 1954, 1955, 1956; Johnson 2006.

Edenthorpe SE 6250 0750

Figure G.356. *Cropmarks of co-axial 'brickwork' fields and trackways on the eastern side of Kirk Sandall and north-east side of Edenthorpe, looking north-west across Brecks Field. The major north-south trackway can be seen running left to right across the centre of the image. A possible enclosure with a central roundhouse not identified by Riley can be seen left of centre in the corner of the field. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 381, SE 625 075).*

The flat, low-lying area to the east of Kirk Sandall and Edenthorpe has been the subject of several archaeological investigations in advance of development. Riley had noted a major north-south trackway up to 25m wide, with a series of 'brickwork' co-axial fields and enclosures on either side (Riley 1980: 89-90, map 4). Immediately east of Edenthorpe was a large funnel up to 80m wide, but also a smaller, more sinuous trackway aligned roughly east-west, and associated with fields on a slightly different alignment.

In advance of a road improvement scheme, an area at the junction of the A18 Thorne Road and Hatfield Lane was investigated using trial trenches, where cropmarks several 'brickwork' field boundaries and junctions were present. Only three shallow ditches appeared to correlate to the cropmarks, and these did not produce any datebale artefacts (Atkinson 1993a). Further to the west, in advance of a housing development north of Far Field Road, geophysical survey and evaluation work was undertaken in 1993 by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford and SYAFRU respectively (Atkinson

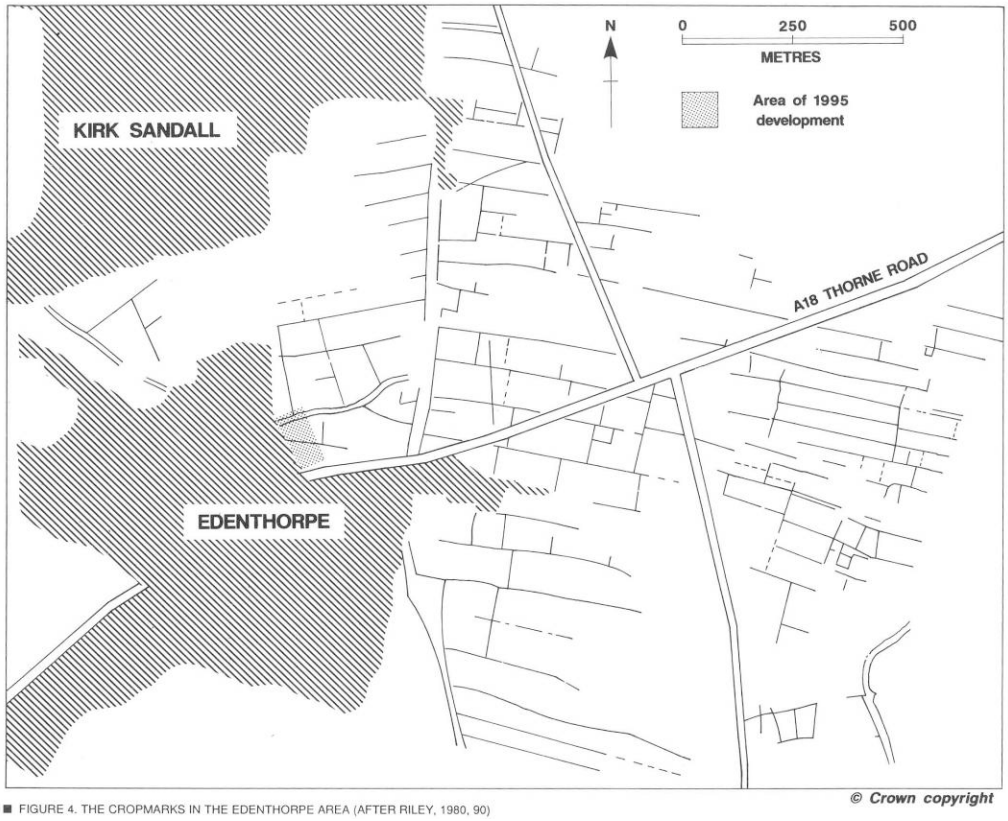


Figure G.357. *The co-axial fields east of Edenthorpe and Kirk Sandall, showing the large north-south trackway and the smaller, more sinuous east-west example, and the development area south of Far Field Road. Based on Riley 1980: map 4. (Source: Chadwick 1995b: 48).*

1993b). Seven machine-dug trial trenches confirmed the presence of linear field ditches, but only one sherd of Romano-British greyware of second or third century AD date was recovered (Atkinson 1994a: 21). Variations were noted in the profiles of ditches, perhaps the result of different 'work gangs', and whilst some ditches preserved evidence for recutting others appeared to have simpler sequences. The evaluation supervisor thought that the latter represented a lack of maintenance (Atkinson 1994a: 21; cf. Chadwick 1999; Magilton 1978).

In 1995, another housing development on the southern side of Far Field Road allowed SYAFRU to examine part of the sinuous trackway and further field boundaries. At ditch junctions, complex sequences of intercutting were identified, although these were often not visible further along the straight stretches of ditch (Chadwick 1995a). Some subtle breaks of slope along ditch edges may have indicated recutting episodes that were largely invisible from an archaeological point of view. Interestingly, it was apparent that many of the ditches had been recut only once they had largely silted up, which did not seem to make functional sense from the perspective of routine maintenance for drainage or to restrict and control the movements of livestock. Instead, the recutting activity seemed to have been more episodic or irregular (Chadwick 1995b: 45). The excavators also established that the trackway ditches were in fact composed of at least four different phases of activity (Fig. 7.18), and that some boundaries may have consisted of a series of short, punctuated ditch sections and 'dogleg' turns. Indeed, the trackway may have existed as a double-ditched feature only in earlier phases.

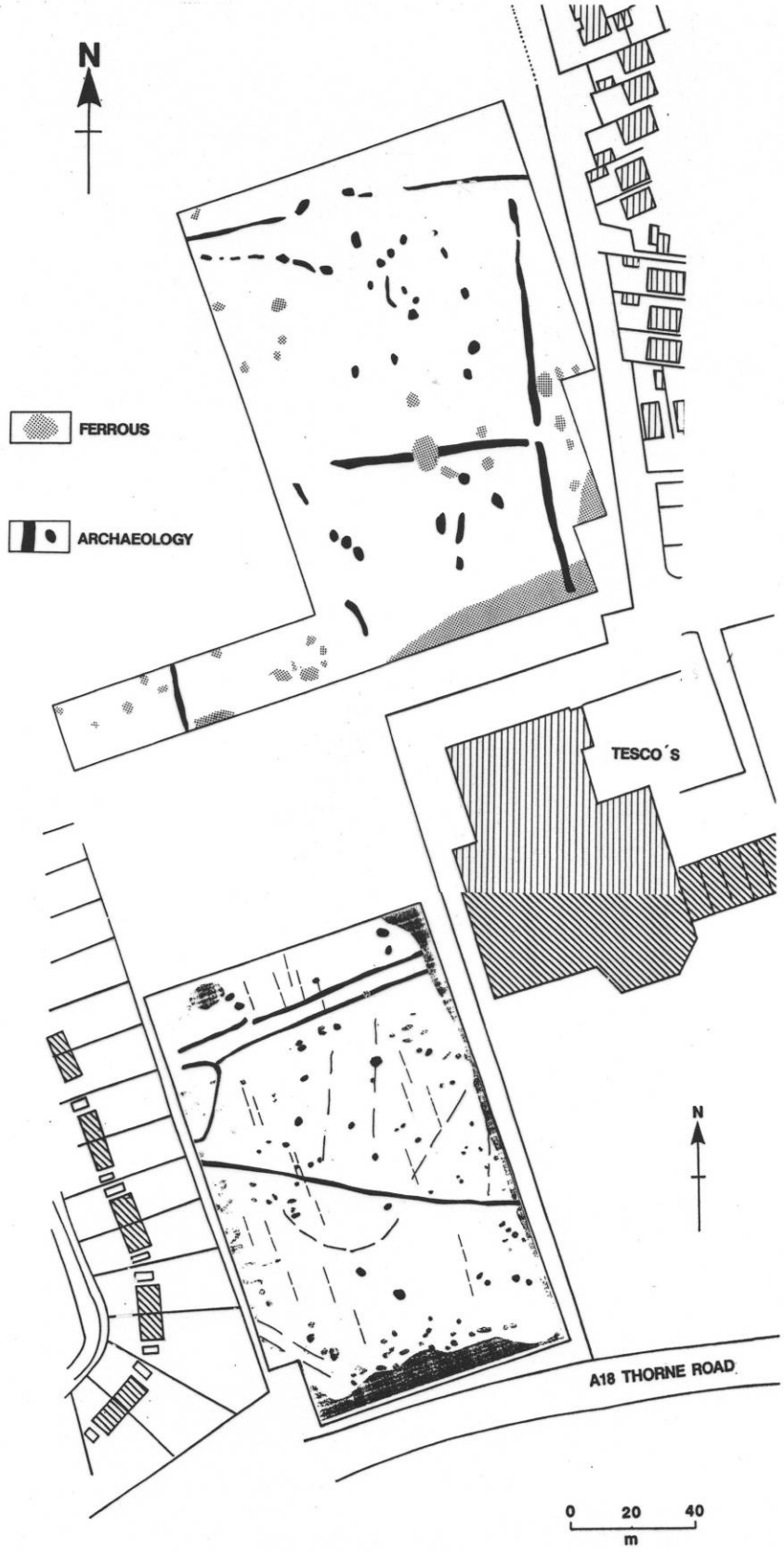


Figure G.358. *Geophysical survey results from the development areas at Far Field Road, Edenthorpe. The northern area was evaluated in 1993, the southern area in 1995. (Source: © SYAFRU).*

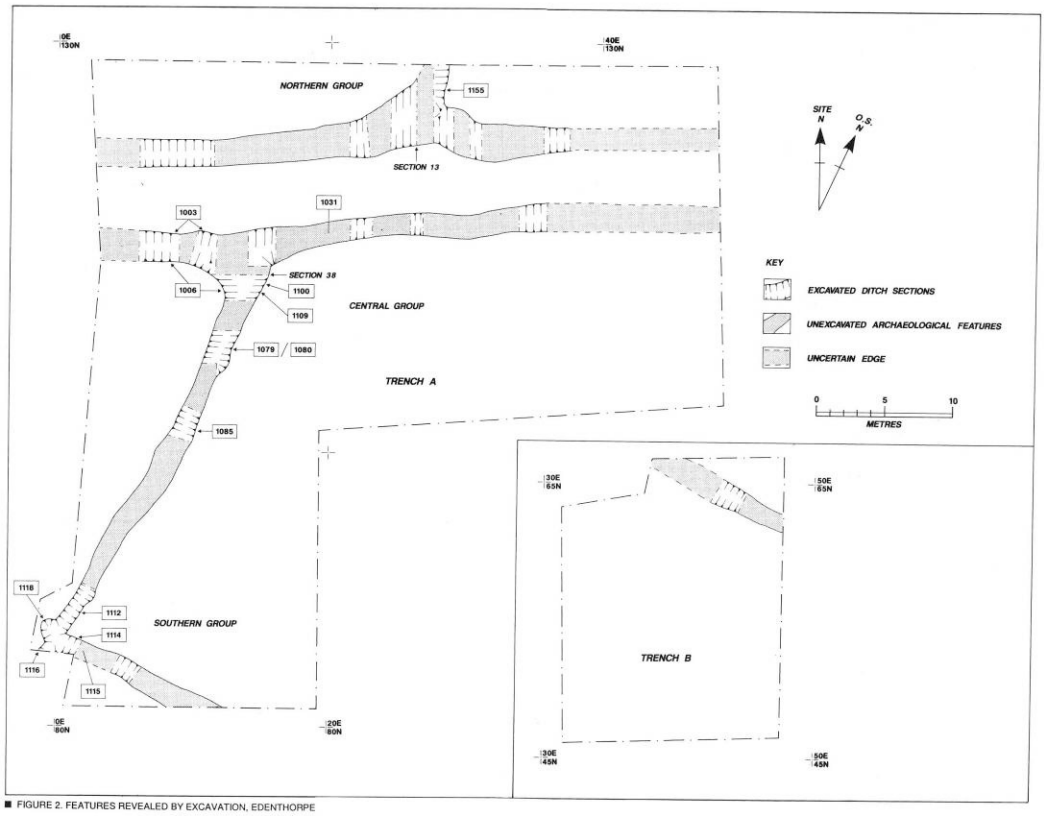


Figure G.359. *The main features investigated at Far Field Road, Edenthorpe in 1995. The apparently simple plan belies much more complex sequences of activity. (Source: Chadwick 1995b: 48).*

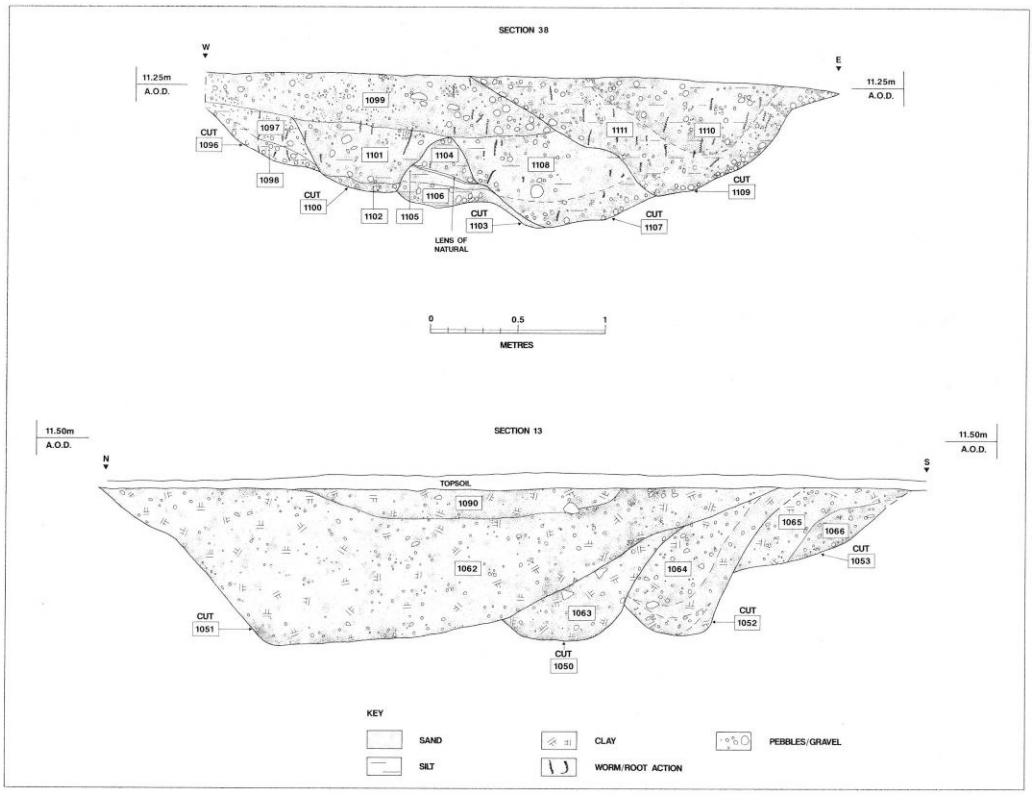


Figure G.360. *Just some of the complex sequences of recutting identified in the northern Trench A at Far Field Road, Edenthorpe, including the southern trackway and ditch junction (top) and the northern trackway ditch and field boundary junction (bottom). (Source: Chadwick 1995b: 44).*

Clearly, routine regular maintenance may have taken place, but most of the recutting seems to have been the result of changes in emphasis, use or occupation of different blocks of land, or major re-organisations of the landscape. This might have been an 'affirmation of ownership' (Chadwick 1995b: 47) by individuals, families or larger social groups, similar perhaps to the medieval 'beating of the bounds', or it may have reflected wider tenurial changes whereby only certain fields and trackways were in use at any one time. Access and tenurial control over these may have fluctuated as a result of land being left fallow for periods, and/or according to patterns of tenure and inheritance based upon people's lineage or clan affiliations, or generational cycles of use and disuse.

Concentrations of Romano-British pottery were noted at one of the central group of ditch junctions forming part of the southernmost trackway ditch, and these were mostly late second or early third century AD flanged bowls (Darling 1995). A large portion of a carinated bowl found at the southernmost junction between some field ditches proved to be in a form and fabric similar to late Iron Age vessels, but probably dating to the later first or early second century AD. Again, these depositional patterns are interesting, particularly because these ditches did not appear to be close to a focus of 'domestic' occupation. Rather than entering ditches as a series of scattered, worn sherds, pottery was actually being dumped or placed in more specific areas, as work in other areas of co-axial fields such as Armthorpe has confirmed.

The work at Edenthorpe demonstrated that there was much more complexity to the supposedly planned 'brickwork' fields, and also suggested that there was more to depositional practices than manuring scatters (or lack of them) that had been proposed by Branigan (1989). It also showed the advantage of open area excavation of these field system features, and the need for multiple sections across ditches in order to identify possible recuts but also the very specific depositional episodes that seem to have taken place during the study period.

References: Atkinson 1993a, 1993b, 1994a; Chadwick 1995a, 1995b.

Finningley, Croft Road SK 6845 9900

Figure G.361. *Cropmarks south-east of Finningley, S. Yorks. The current aggregate extraction quarries between the A614 and Croft Road can be seen in the upper left of the image. Cropmarks of a trapezoidal enclosure and a double ditched trackway can be seen in the lower centre. Note too the lighter appearance of the gravel 'island' in this part of the landscape, and the narrow curvilinear ditches or gullies just visible around the edge of it marking an earlier enclosure. (Source: D. Riley, SYAS, 1294/12, 06/07/79, SK 684 990).*

Approximately 1 kilometre to the south-east of Finningley is a series of old and working aggregates quarries, dug to extract different grades of gravel from this generally very low-lying (between 2-6m OD) part of the landscape, and currently located between the A614 and Croft Road. Some cropmarks of enclosures and trackways had been recorded by Derrick Riley in 1979, in the area on the north-west side of Croft Road. A proposed extension to these quarries within a rectangular block of land in this locale led to to an initial geophysical investigation by AS WYAS (Webb and Whittingham 2001), but this gradiometer survey produced largely negative results. A strip-and-record condition was placed on the area, however, and MAP undertook the archaeological monitoring of the site.

When the topsoil was removed, it became apparent that the proposed development area comprised a slight gravel prominence or 'island' at approximately 5m OD, in an otherwise extremely low-lying landscape of alluvial clay at between 2-4m OD. Cut into this alluvial clay and underneath peaty deposits were many more ditches and gullies than had been expected, filled with clayey silts and often sealed by the peat deposits. Pits and postholes were also recorded, and a partial curvilinear gully that may have been associated with an insubstantial roundhouse. Notably, a plank-lined feature was also excavated that was either a well, or a cistern that collected rainwater or drew up water within it when

the watertable was high. The planks had survived in good condition due to the waterlogged and partially anaerobic nature of the alluvium and peat deposits sealing much of the site. The ditches and gullies appeared to form part of a series of subrectangular fields and enclosures, and these produced large quantities of Romano-British finds, including substantial portions of greyware and Black Burnished Ware vessels. It is possible that, like East Carr, Mattersey, this low-lying floodplain land in between the Rivers Torne and Idle was only enclosed and drained in the Romano-British period. The peat and waterlogged deposits in particular may provide invaluable palaeo-environmental evidence and material for radiocarbon dates.

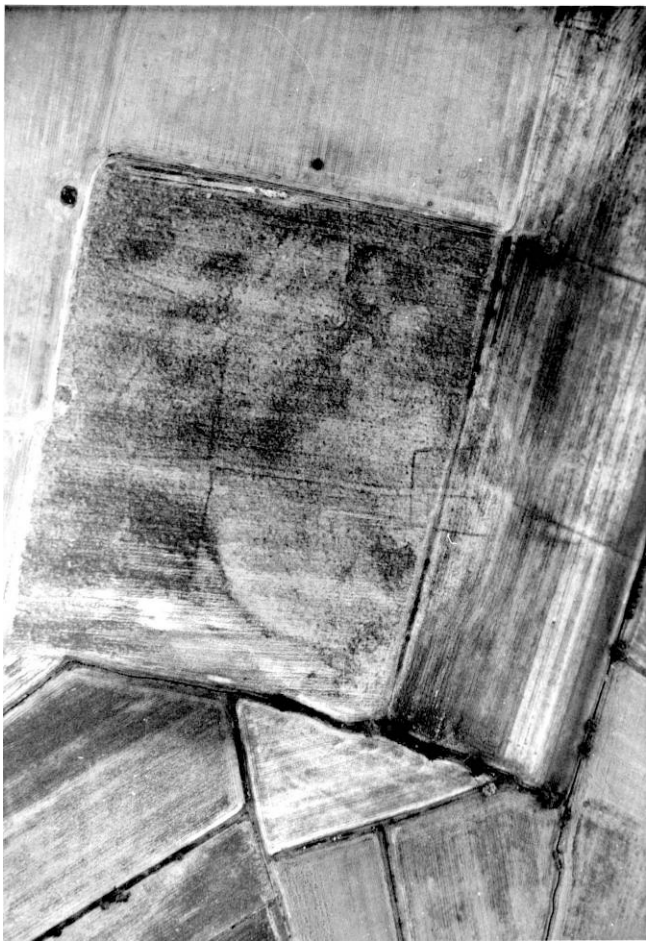


Figure G.362. (left). *More detailed view of the cropmarks south-east of Finningley. The proposed quarry extension is within the two rectangular fields at the right and top right of the image. The lighter gravel 'island' can be seen at the centre of the image, surrounded by darker areas of alluvium and peat, some probably within palaeochannels. Some of the narrow dark ditches and even possible ploughed out lighter banks of the subcircular enclosure are visible, along with a later trapezoidal enclosure, a double ditched trackway and additional field system ditches. As can be seen, only c. 20% of the circuit of the enclosure lies within the quarry esxtension area. (Source: D. Riley, SYAS, 1294/11, 06/07/79, SK 684 990).*

The north-western part of the proposed quarry extension contained the slight gravel rise, and in addition to several larger rectangular field system, enclosure and trackway ditches, a series of shallow, curvilinear gullies or palisade slots were also excavated on this prominence. These appeared to form two or three circuits defining a large, subcircular enclosure, much of which lies outside the development area. At the time of this author's visit to the site (May 2008) no finds had been recovered from these gullies, but only a few sections had been dug through them. Hopefully more intensive sampling will have recovered dateable artefacts, and/or material suitable for ^{14}C dating. It is possible that these features represented an earlier multi-vallate enclosure, perhaps late Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age in date, pre-dating the field system features, with regional analogies to Moorhouse Farm, Potteric Carr, Sutton Common and Little Smeaton. With the benefit of hindsight, the large enclosure is

just visible on aerial photographs (see above), and the bulk of it lies outside the proposed quarry extension area. Further research-led archaeological investigation of this area should therefore be an urgent priority, particularly as quarrying is having dramatic effects on the local watertable. The enclosure could be of tremendous local and regional significance.

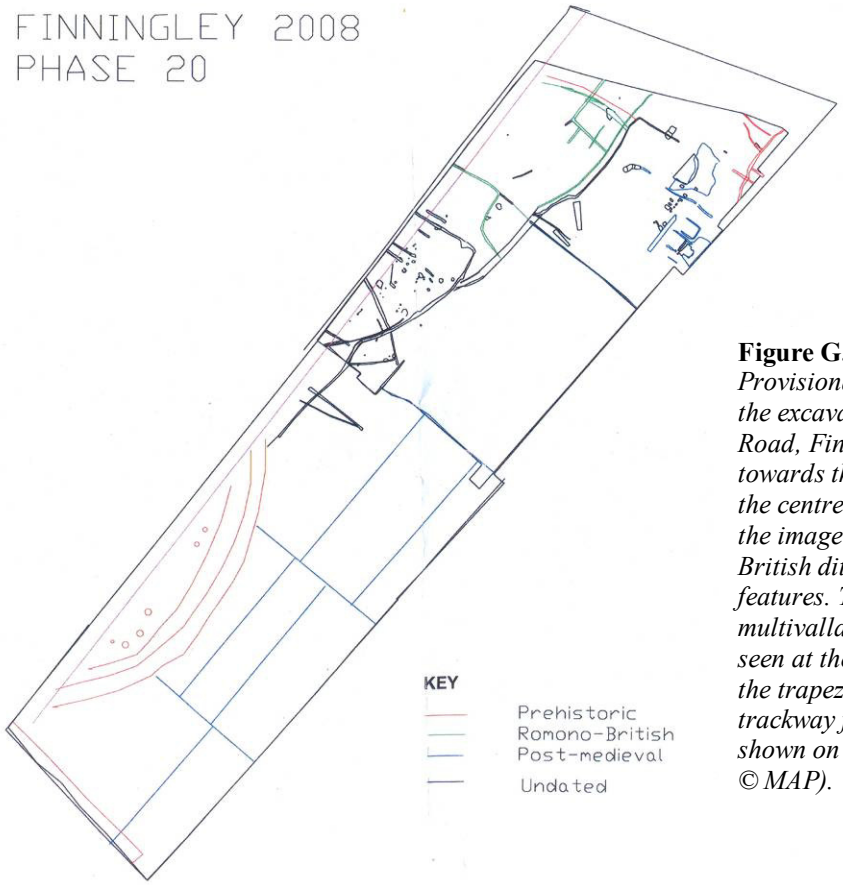


Figure G.363. (left). *Provisional AUTOCAD plan of the excavated site off Croft Road, Finningley, with north towards the top of the image. At the centre and upper right of the image are the Romano-British ditches, pits and other features. The possible multivallate enclosure can be seen at the lower left, although the trapezoidal enclosure and trackway features are not shown on this image. (Source: © MAP).*

The director of the MAP team, perhaps unfamiliar with the nature of the local archaeology in the area, seemed surprised that the geophysical survey had not detected most of the recorded features, but as many were clay-filled ditches, gullies or pits dug into clay and sealed with peat, it is not surprising that gradiometry did not pick them up. In this respect, the site at Finningley has proved similar to Topham Farm, Sykehouse, where again tradition prospection failed to find much evidence of the extensive Iron Age and Romano-British settlement underneath alluvium. The gullies or palisade slots on the slight gravel rise were also too insubstantial to have been easily detected, and if they did not contain a lot of material from inhabitation (including charcoal, then their magnetic signature would be minimal. Along with the results of the Topham Farm, Sykehouse investigations therefore (see below), the site at Finningley highlights the need for curatorial archaeologists and contractual field units to be aware of the largely hidden archaeological potential of these low-lying areas within the study region.

References: Webb and Whittingham 2001.

Goldthorpe SE 4480 0470

Figure G.364. *Cropmarks west of Holly Grove Farm, Goldthorpe, S. Yorks., taken in 1979. A large double-ditched trackway can be seen running from the north-west (lower left) to the south-east (upper right) of the image, towards Goldthorpe in the distance and the old course of the A635. Note the pronounced holloway within the trackway, and the enclosures and fields on either side of it. Compare with Fig. D.02. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 208, SE 448 044).*

Prior to the construction of the Dearne Towns Link Road, an upgrade of the existing A635 Barnsley to Doncaster Road, archaeological work took place in 1992. The scheme was thought to impact significantly on two areas of archaeological interest – cropmarks of a large trackway and additional trackways, enclosures and fields west of Goldthorpe and Holly Grove Farm (centred on SE 4480 0430), and cropmarks of another possible trackway and field boundaries north of the existing A635 and Harry Ottley Plantation, centred at SE 4700 0470 (Fig. G.365). This area is a gently undulating landscape (Fig. 1.21) on Coal Measures geology.

Having been commissioned to undertake the work, in February 1992 the SYAFRU undertook fieldwalking over the two main areas likely to be affected by the development, although as is typical of these Iron Age and Romano-British cropmark sites, the pottery recovered was mainly medieval or early modern in date. In March 1992 a magnetometer survey was carried out by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford, which broadly confirmed the plots of the aerial photographs, but added some new details. SYAFRU then undertook an evaluation of the two main areas using trial trenches.

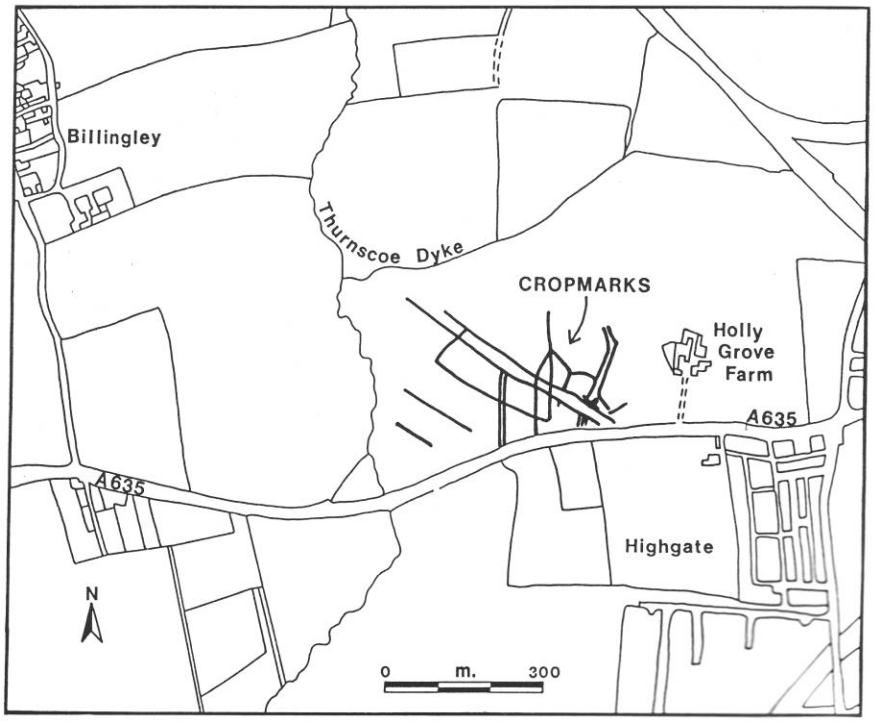


Figure G.365. *Basic plot of the cropmarks shown on the aerial photograph above, showing the main NW-SE trackway, subsidiary trackways or trackways of different date, and enclosures and fields. (Source: Merrony 1993: 44).*

Figure G.366. *Another view of the cropmarks shown above and in Fig. G.299. The major trackway with the holloway runs from the centre left (south-east) to the lower right (north-west) of the image. Note the pronounced linear ditch running southwards on the other side of the A635, and possible circular features (barrows?) just right of centre. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 203, SE 447 043).*

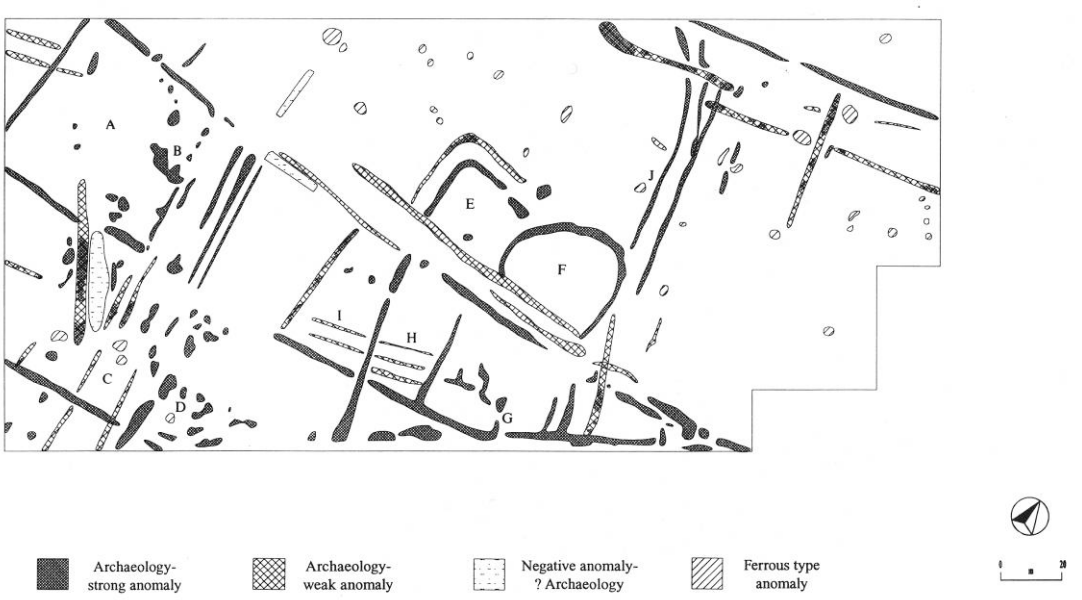


Figure G.367. *Interpretation of the gradiometer survey west of Goldthorpe. The large trackway is visible running north-west to south-east across the image, with a D-shaped enclosure and subrectangular enclosures of different periods arranged on either side of it. A possible enclosure complex and an additional trackway can be seen to the upper left. (Source: Merrony 1993: 48).*

In the western area nine machine-dug evaluation trenches were excavated, and the main trackway ditches were identified cut into the natural Coal Measures sandstone and shale subsoils. These were up to 1.2m wide and 0.8m deep. Evidence of the central holloway was also found. Trench 7 found the D-shaped enclosure ditch (feature F on the interpreted geophysics plot above), and this was thought to be broadly contemporary with the main trackway, whilst Trench 8 examined the right-angled enclosure (shown at E). The latter discovered that the two broad, shallow ditches of the subrectangular enclosure had been deliberately backfilled with dumps of sandstone blocks, and this enclosure may have pre- or post-dated the major trackway. No dateable artefacts were recovered from any of these trenches, however, and this may suggest that the enclosures were primarily used as stock corrals (Merrony 1993: 51). The evaluation trenches in the eastern area showed that the main linear feature was probably an early modern boundary, and only faint traces of the two possible trackway ditches survived.

Unfortunately, no funds were made available by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to finance the open-area excavation that the western cropmark complex clearly required, so yet again a valuable opportunity was lost. The large north-west to south-east trackway is probably the same feature that runs south-east from Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne to the floodplain of the River Dearne some 3km away, centred on SE 468 030 (see Appendix D Fig. D.15; Chadwick 1998 appendix A4). South of the A635 and just west of Bolton upon Dearne, and appended to the major linear boundary visible in Fig. G.225 are three subrectangular 'clothes line' enclosures (see Chapter 9 Fig. 9.15). Like the other trackways and enclosures in this area, these may also have been linked to livestock movements. More recently, geophysical survey by AS WYAS adjacent to the Goldthorpe Industrial Estate on the western edge of Bolton upon Dearne located a small subrectangular enclosure, possibly set into a field corner, in addition to other linear boundaries probably associated with blocks of fields (AS WYAS 2001a).

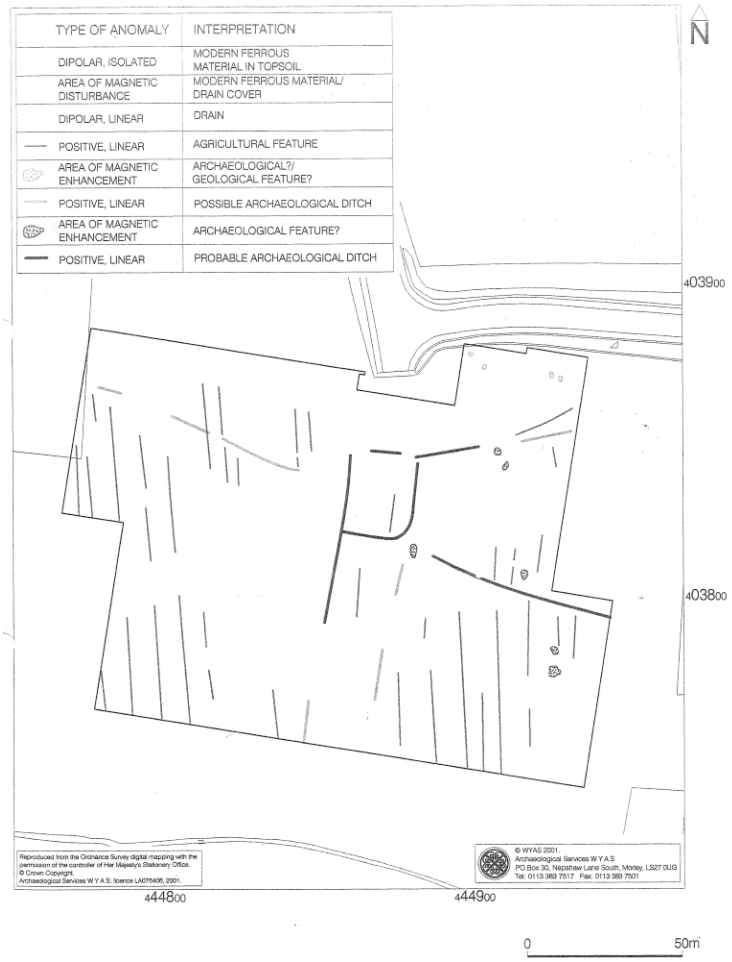


Figure G.368. *Interpretation of the geophysical survey data on land adjacent to Goldthorpe Industrial Estate, showing the probable enclosure and additional field boundaries. (Source: AS WYAS 2001).*

References: AS WYAS 2001; Merrony 1993.

Hazel Lane Quarry, Hampole SE 4995 1145

A desk-based assessment of a proposed extension to the Hazel Lane Quarry near Hampole (Cumberpatch 1994) noted a small cropmark enclosure on photographs originally taken by Derrick Riley over the Magnesian Limestone areas of South Yorkshire (Riley 1975). This led to a programme of geophysical survey and trial trenching by Geo Quest, which identified the enclosure ditch, but failed to find any further boundaries associated with field systems (Cumberpatch 1995: 52). AS WYAS were then commissioned to undertake further work, including excavation in 1997.

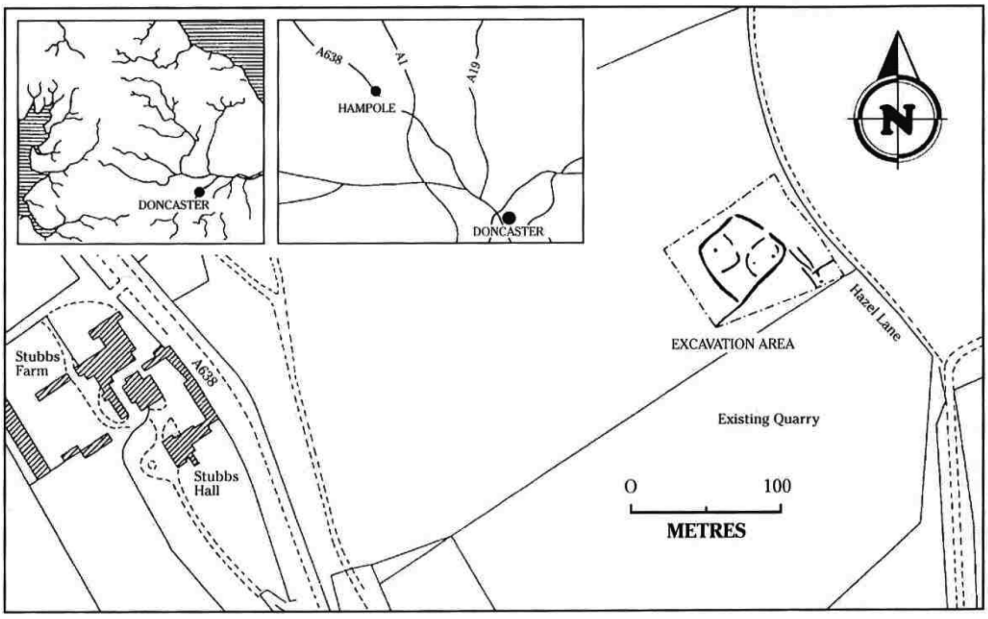


Figure G.369. *Site location plan, showing the enclosure in relation to modern features. The area is an elevated flat plateau on an otherwise gentle north-east facing slope, with several springs south of Stubbs Farm. (Source: O'Neill and Brown 1999: 106).*

The excavated enclosure was subrectangular or trapezoidal in plan, and a maximum of 50m long and 45m wide, with an entrance just over 4m wide facing north-east (O'Neill and Brown 1999). Rather than one ditch, the enclosure was defined by three separate ditch elements, one leading off to the south-west (Fig. G.235). The enclosure was thus similar to a 'clothes line' enclosure, albeit one at the end of a linear ditch. There was evidence from tip lines in the ditch fills for an internal bank, and there were two internal sub-enclosures defined by discontinuous ditches. Their terminals maintained a similar distance from the enclosure ditch segments, again suggesting a bank. These subenclosures had entrances facing north-east and north-west. There were few other internal features, other than three isolated pits, and only a small quantity of later first or second century AD Romano-British pottery was recovered. The animal bone found was highly fragmented and weathered.

On the south-east side of the enclosure were a series of discontinuous ditches, forming the right-angled corner of an enclosure or field (O'Neill and Brown 1999). Two further ditches aligned north-east to south-west, initially parallel to one another but then narrowing to a gap less than 1.5m wide, may have been dug on either side of an upcast bank. Alternatively, they may have formed a short 'race' *c*. 20m

long. Given the lack of evidence for 'domestic' occupation, it is likely that this enclosure was a stock corral. In addition to nearby springs and streams, it is also worth noting its close location to enclosures at Barnsdale Bar some 2km to the north, and the Roman road and different phases of Roman forts at Robin Hood's Well, Burghwallis, 1.5km to the north-east. If the area had been largely cleared of tree cover, than the latter should have been visible from the enclosure site.

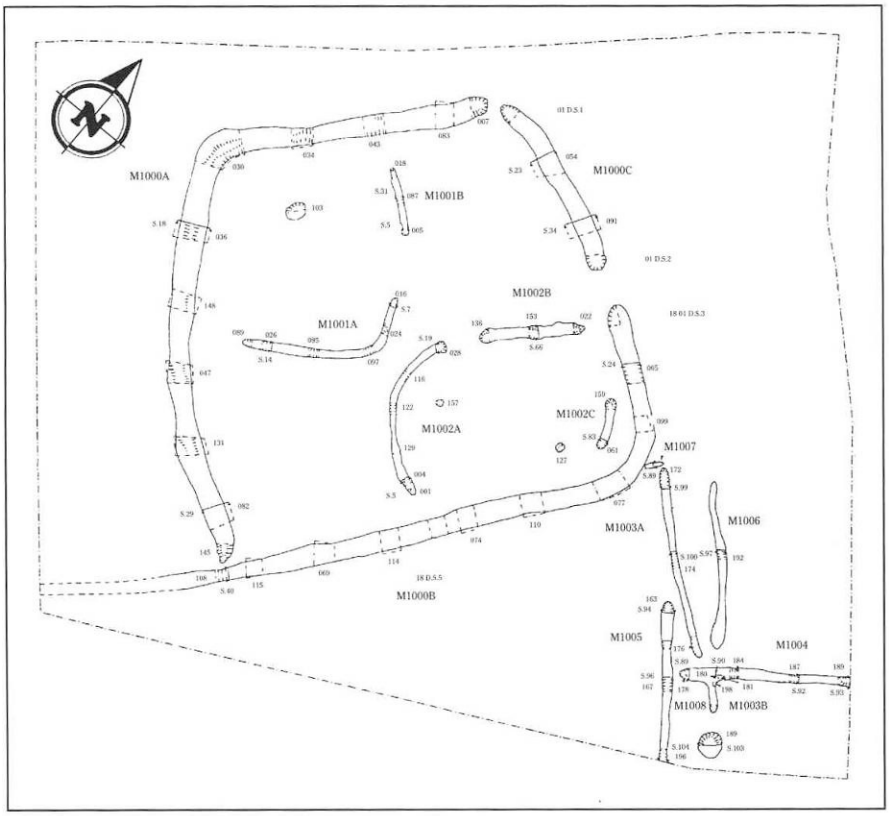


Figure G.370. *The excavated enclosure at Hazel Lane Quarry, showing the sub-enclosures and the possible 'race' feature to the south-east. (Source: O'Neill and Brown 1999: 106).*

Prior to a proposed extension to Hazel Lane Quarry, an evaluation was undertaken by ARCUS. Six trial trenches were excavated, and these found evidence of a rock-cut ditch, another possible ditch terminal, and a pit (Aitchison 2005: 61). No finds were recovered from these features, and it was suggested that the greatest archaeological potential lay on the eastern side of the proposed Areas A and B. However, further quarrying then took place without archaeological recording, and so when archaeologists were allowed to investigate Areas A and B further much of the area had already been removed. Only two pits were found, without dateable artefacts. The lack of pottery from many of these features may suggest that they were of late prehistoric rather than Romano-British date. Investigation of the adjoining Area C took place during July-August 2003 found evidence of a hearth and an associated dump of burnt stone, with a few sherds of mid-second century Romano-British pottery.

In advance of a further extension to the quarry (Area D), some 300m to the north of the trapezoidal enclosure noted above, fieldwalking took place in November 2001. As usual across many of these sites, little other than post-medieval pottery was recovered. Subsequent magnetometry survey by AS WYAS,

however, found evidence for a complex of enclosures with associated field ditches. In January-February 2002, evaluation by ARCUS revealed ditches, gullies, pits and a possible hearth, and recovered Romano-British pottery of third to fourth century date, burnt clay and daub, sandstone roof tile fragments and an *imbrex* ceramic roof tile, suggesting the presence of substantial buildings.

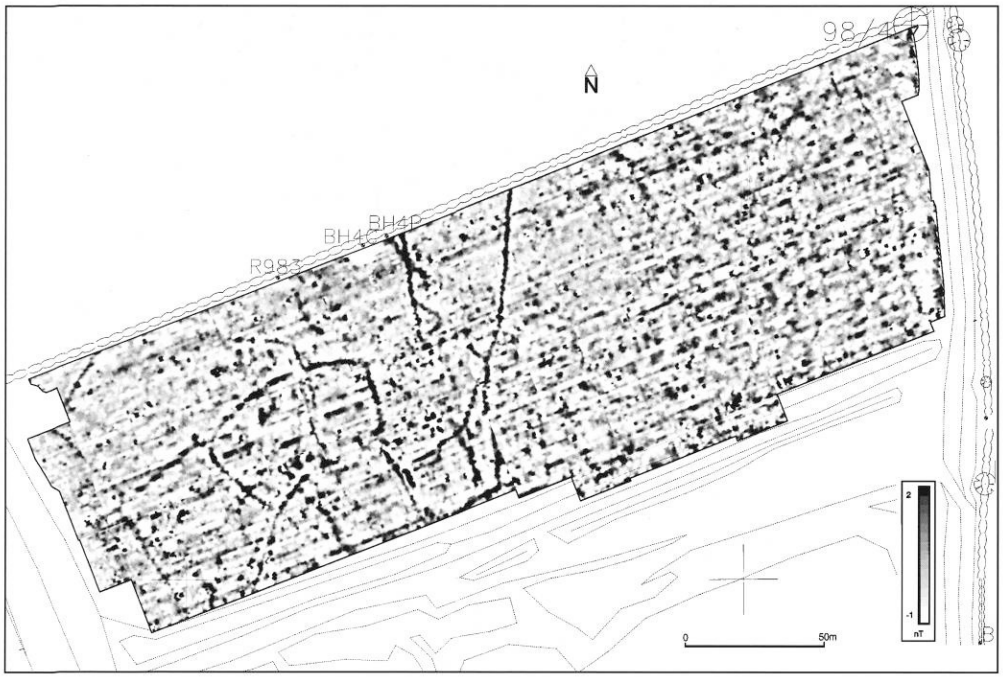


Figure G.371. *Magnetometry survey of part of Area D at Hazel Lane Quarry. Enclosures, field boundaries and double-ditched trackways are all visible, but no stone buildings, which resistivity survey might have been able to identify. (Source: Webb and Whittingham 2006).*

Figure G.372. (left). *The foundations of the L-shaped bathhouse found at Hazel Lane Quarry in 2002. (Source: Bevan 2006: 23, © SYAS).* **Fig. G.373. (right).** *Brick hypocaust pilae identified as part of this structure. (Source: Bevan 2006: 26).*

In May-June 2002 soil stripping of Area D was undertaken by TVAS, and surprisingly this exposed the limestone footings of an L-shaped building with at least four internal rooms, one with an apsidal end, a hypocaust with brick or tile *pilae*, and painted plaster (Bevan 2006: 23-26; Pine and Taylor 2006: 72). This was probably the bathhouse of a high-status Roman-style settlement complex, most of which had already been quarried away in the past. The wide range of pottery recovered suggested a largely third century AD date, and included many vessels used for the preparation and consumption of food and drink. Sadly, the remains were then reburied without any further investigation. Yet again, the

fundamentally flawed notion of preservation *in situ* allowed the developers to evade their responsibilities. In the remainder of the area, several ditches, hearths and pits were excavated, one of the latter containing an articulated cow burial. At time of writing, however, TVAS have still not provided a full report on their investigations to SYAS.

Further fieldwalking and geophysical survey of additional proposed quarrying areas has taken place, to the north of these previous investigations and south-east of Cherry Tree Farm. A recent geophysical survey has identified another interesting complex of features (Archaeo Physica 2003), including a trackway opening out to the west with enclosures arranged on each side, and elements of a broadly co-axial field system.

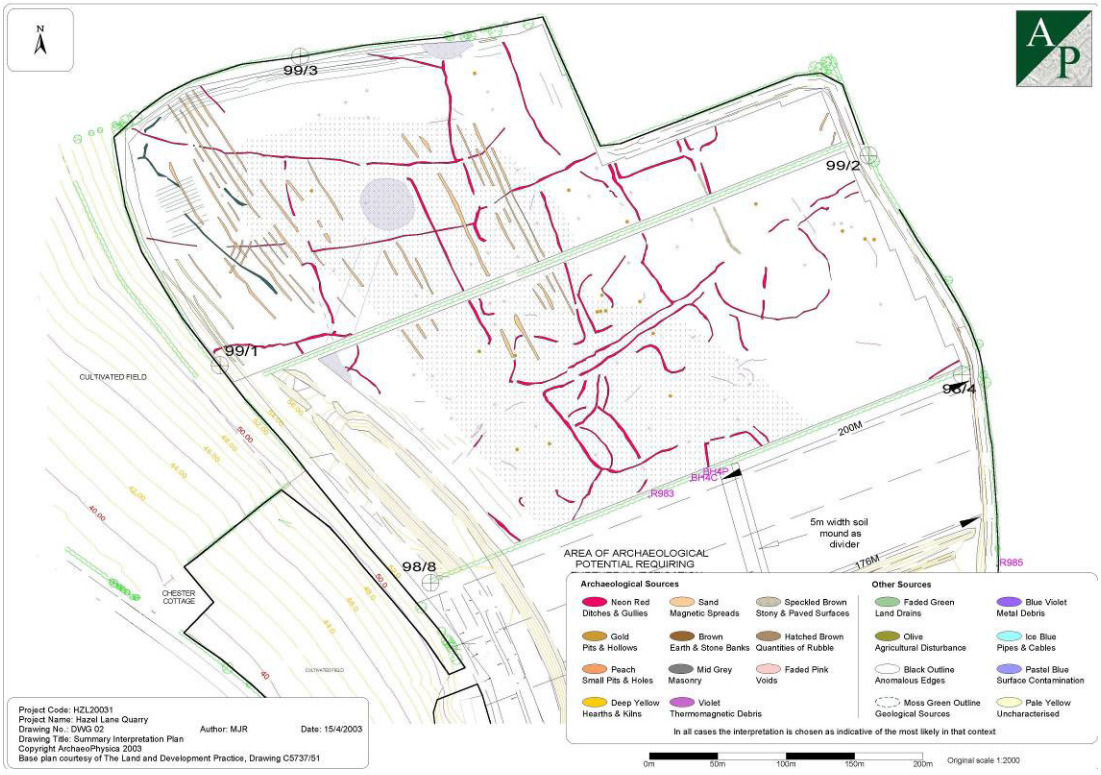


Figure G.374. *Recent geophysical survey of an area forming part of a proposed northern extension to Hazel Lane Quarry, Hampole. (Source: © Archaeo Physica).*

References: Aitchison 2005; Archaeo Physica 2003; Bevan 2006; Cumberpatch 1994, 1995; O'Neill and Brown 1999; Pine and Taylor 2006; Webb and Whittingham 2006.

Holme Hall Quarry, Stainton SK 5480 9590

The Holme Hall Quarry site is situated approximately 7 kilometres south-west of Doncaster between the villages of New Edlington, Wadworth and Braithwell, south of Long Gate Lane and west of Woodlands Farm. It is on a relatively gentle north-east facing limestone scarp slope between 70-95m OD, with several springs emerging less than 1km to the east. Iron Age and Romano-British earthwork enclosures and metalwork finds have been recorded in Edlington Wood, less than 1km to the north of the site. In advance of the proposed quarrying proposal, fieldwalking in 1994 recorded scatters of prehistoric flint and Romano-British pottery, the latter consisting almost entirely of greywares with just one sherd of samian. A subsequent geophysical survey by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford established the presence of some linear ditches and a possible enclosure (O'Neill and Raybould 2007: 3), and this was followed by open-area excavation in 2004 undertaken by ARCUS.

Despite a great deal of truncation caused by modern ploughing and medieval ridge and furrow, a subcircular enclosure was recorded, approximately 34m across east to west, and 28m north to south. It was defined by a ditch up to 2.56m wide and 0.53m deep, with a likely south-facing entrance 7.50m wide. The apparently discontinuous or segmented appearance of the enclosure ditch to the north and west of the enclosure was probably a result of plough truncation (O'Neill and Raybould 2007: 6). Handmade vesicular pottery of possible late Iron Age date and Romano-British pottery of late first to mid-second century date was recovered from the enclosure (Leary, Ward and Vince 2007: 25), with later pottery in upper ditch fills. In addition, with a beehive quernstone fragment and animal bone fragments, including many dog remains. The quern and the dog may have been placed deposits.

No obvious buildings were identified within the enclosure, but several shallow pits and postholes were excavated, and three hearths were also identified. It is possible that ploughing might have removed most evidence of a building. A large spread of burnt and heat-affected cobbles may have been derived from heating or cooking activities on the hearths, and the Romano-British pottery recovered from features within the enclosure was mostly of second and third century date. It included samian, Dales ware and greywares, and brick or tile fragments were also found (O'Neill and Raybould 2007: 7-9). A natural crack in thelimestone bedrock within the enclosure contained further pottery, animal bone, and a fine enamelled late first to early second century AD dragonesque brooch (Fig. 11.42). As well as the postholes and pits, a series of natural solution hollows also contained animal bone, pottery of second to fourth century date, fuel ash slag, and some iron fittings. A coin of Vespasian (AD 70) was also found. One especially large pit (292) within the enclosure was up to 5m in diameter and 1.29m deep with a flat base, and it may have been used for storage, although only its upper fill contained finds. A natural hollow within the enclosure also contained articulated juvenile cattle remains, in addition to further cattle, deer, horse, sheep and goat bones, nails, a hobnail and an iron ox goad, and it is possible that some of these remains and materials were placed deposits.

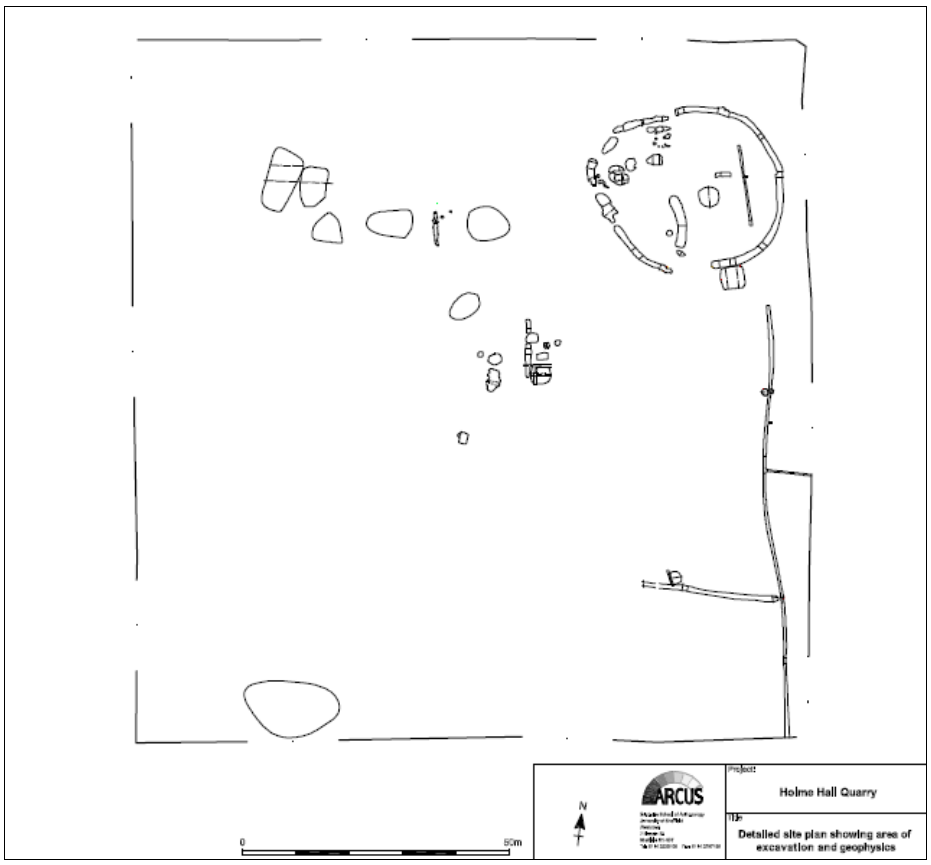


Figure G.375. *Plan of the area excavated at Holme Hall Quarry, Stainton, showing the subcircular enclosure and other external features. (Source: O'Neill and Raybould 2007: fig. 4).*

Immediately outside of and to the east of the enclosure was a further spread of burnt and heat-shattered cobbles, possibly a surface, associated with animal bone, early second to late third century pottery, slag, metal objects and an enamelled copper alloy stud of late first to early second century date (Fig. F.30). Approximately 25m south-east of the enclosure was a keyhole-shaped oven or hearth (171), its base lined with flat limestone slabs. South-west of the enclosure was another cluster of features including a rubble bank or base of a boundary, two further ovens or hearths, and a shallow irregular quarry pit (294) backfilled with numerous fragments of animal bone and pottery, the latter nearly 2900 sherds covering a likely 50-75 year date range (O'Neill and Raybould 2007: 12). Metal working waste including smithing slag, offcuts and nails was also found, and an iron punch, in addition to charcoal, heat-shattered pebbles and a copper alloy coin of Gallienus (AD 253-260). The deposition of this possible midden material and other refuse, mixed with coins and evidence for metalworking, parallels the finds from 'working hollows' at Wattle Syke near Wetherby in West Yorkshire. Several external pits contained further burnt stone, animal bone, Romano-British pottery, Roman glass fragments, slag and metal were also excavated. The pottery from the site included samian, mortaria and Black Burnished Ware, and the relatively high proportion of table wares in comparison with other Romano-British rural settlements in the region may suggest a more 'Romanised' household by the third century AD (Leary, Ward and Vince 2007: 41). Two further querns were topsoil finds, and one of these, and the example from the enclosure ditch, had been exposed to heat, or had been used for smithing. They had been deliberately fragmented.

Figure G.376. (left). *Oven or hearth 171, showing its keyhole-shape and the lining of limestone slabs. (Source: O'Neill and Raybould 2007: front cover).*

Figure G.377. (right). *In situ midden material within feature 294, showing the numerous, large sherds of pottery forming part of this deposit. (Source: O'Neill and Raybould 2007: plate 7).*

Animal bone was generally highly fragmented and poorly preserved, but cattle dominated the identifiable species, followed by sheep/goat, pig, horse, dog and deer (Bell 2007). Only a few cereal remains were identified. Despite the unusual form of the enclosure, and the lack of firm evidence for buildings, the site produced one of the largest assemblages of pottery for a rural site of the period in South Yorkshire, and there were indications from the artefacts that the inhabitants had enjoyed a degree of wealth and status uncommon at other sites (O'Neill and Raybould 2007: 104). The only field ditches excavated on the site proved to be of post-medieval date, so it is not clear how the enclosure articulated with the wider landscape, although cropmarks suggest that it was located close to other enclosures, fields and trackways.

References: O'Neill and Raybould 2007.

Lings Farm, Dunsville SE 6520 0780

This area is located to the north-west of Doncaster, on flat and low-lying ground between 5-10m OD, in an area now dissected by many large dykes and land drains. Place-names such as 'lings' and 'carr' and the presence of windmills are also key indicators of post-medieval and early modern drainage in what was previously a seasonally-inundated landscape (Hey and Rodwell 2006). Aerial photographs of Lings Farm revealed a double-ditched trackway with associated field boundaries orientated to it, and also a large subrectangular field or enclosure.

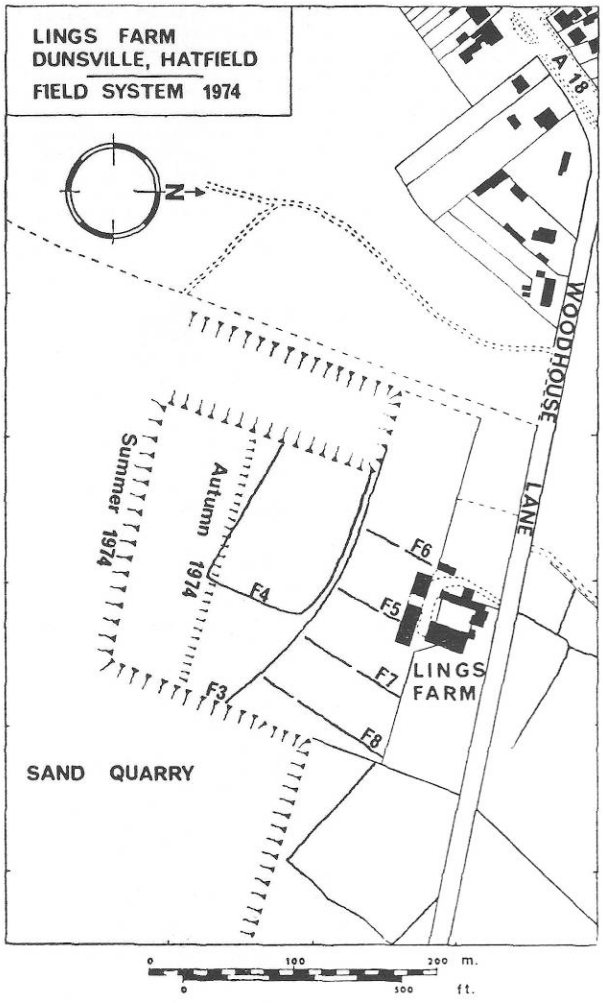


Figure G.378. *Plot of the cropmarks identified at Lings Farm in 1974. (Source: Magilton 1978: 59).*

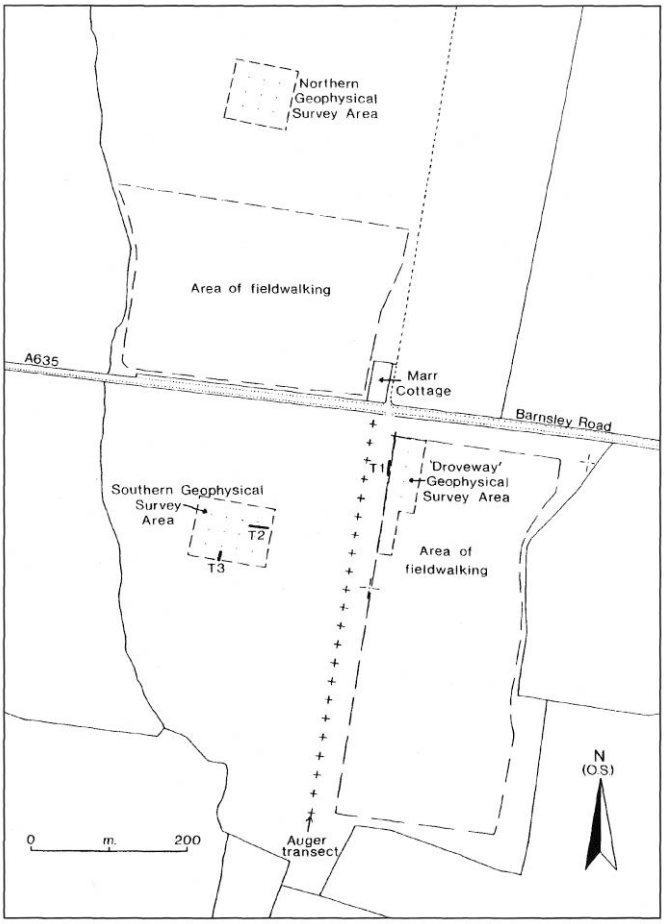
This site was threatened by sand and gravel quarrying, and so limited areas were stripped and excavated in 1974. Only a small part of the large enclosure was excavated and this failed to find any internal features, perhaps suggesting that this was a large stock corral (Fig. D.01). An area of the double-ditched trackway was excavated, revealing a later, deliberately backfilled gap in the north-west to south-east ditch F3 parallel to the enclosure, presumably to create access into the trackway. The ditch sections also revealed a series of successive recuts 'migrating' inwards to the trackway (Magilton 1978: 58), and evidence of a bank along the northern edge of F3, which also explained the slight gaps between the field system ditches and this feature. The only finds recovered were two basal late Roman bowl sherds, possibly from a coarseware imitation of samian, that were found in the upper fill of ditch F4.

Magilton made several important observations from this investigation, noting that there was evidence for several different 'agglutinative' phases of ditch construction, and that the lack of Iron Age pottery need not indicate an absence of Iron Age activity. He also realised that even simple sequences of ditch infilling probably reflected the thoroughness of frequent cleanings rather than a short period of use (Magilton 1978: 62). It is a shame that later researchers such as Branigan ignored such suggestions.

References: Magilton 1978.

Marr, Brodsworth SE 5000 0560

As part of the Sheffield University led multi-period landscape investigations called the Brodsworth Community Archaeology Project, investigations have taken place of an enclosure complex on Marr Moor, a flat or gently undulating area of limestone upland to the south of Brodsworth Hall. Here, a series of aerial photographs have revealed an interesting group of enclosures and boundaries (Figs. G.380-G.382). There is a large, irregular enclosure that has been somewhat unfortunately nicknamed the 'potato-shaped enclosure' by the project (Klemperer and Merrony 2004), although it is more subcircular or even sub-hexagonal in plan. This has a possible west-facing entrance, and also a potential rectangular building that has been identified in the south-western quadrant at a different orientation to the main enclosure (Chadwick 1998). A possible circular structure is also visible in the south-eastern quadrant. Apparently appended to the eastern side of the large irregular enclosure are a series of linear ditch boundaries orientated roughly east-west. Immediately south-east of the large irregular enclosure are two apparently conjoined enclosures, one with a southern entrance defined by distinctively large ditch terminals or post-pits. Further to the east is a trapezoidal enclosure with a south-east facing entrance, and a possible roundhouse and internal subdivisions within it. This complex lies just to the north of the enclosure at Marr Thick (see below), on the southern side of the A635.



Geophysical survey of part of the irregular Marr Moor enclosure identified the enclosure ditch, but revealed little evidence for internal features, although the results were unclear as there was a lot of geological 'noise', perhaps from periglacial features evident on aerial photographs. Fieldwalking north of the A635 Barnsley Road near this complex recovered fire-cracked stones and some possible prehistoric pottery, in addition to Romano-British sherds. In 2006 excavation of part of the south-east quadrant of the irregular enclosure found few internal features. A complete, 'fresh' penannular brooch was recovered from the enclosure ditch (C. Merrony pers. comm.), but little pottery or animal bone.

Figure G.379. *The fieldwalking and geophysical survey areas at Marr Moor and Marr Thick, Brodsworth. Source: Merrony, Hamilton and Kitchen 2006: 23).*

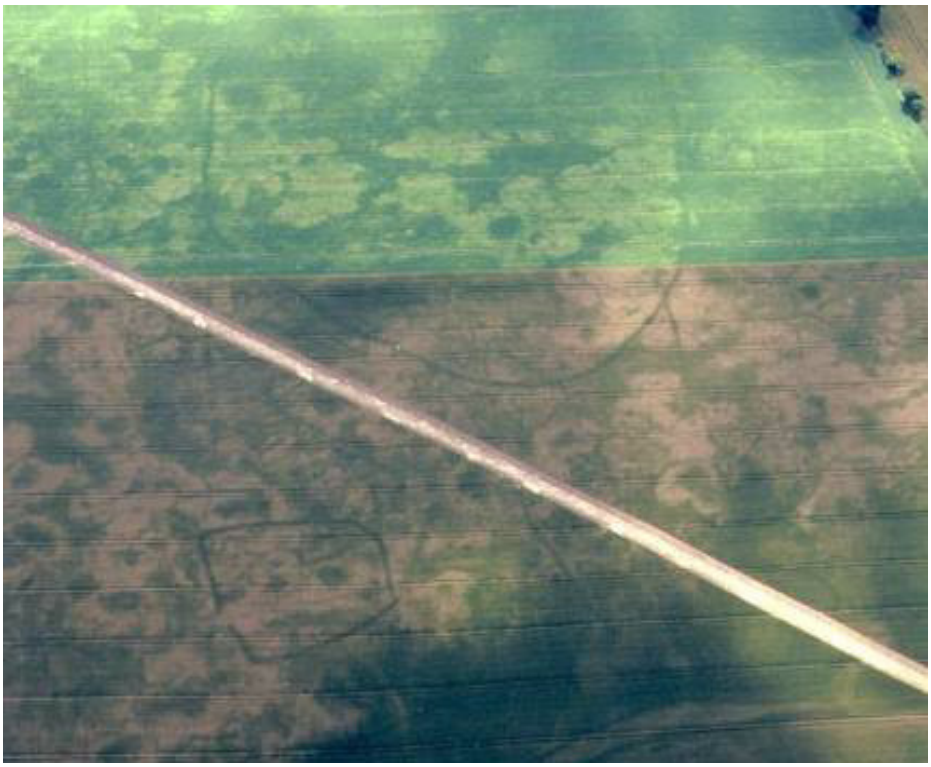


Figure G.380. *Colour aerial photograph of enclosures on Marr Moor, S. Yorks. Of note is the large, subcircular or subhexagonal enclosure to the west or top of the image, with some liner ditch boundaries apparently appended to it. To the south-east of the large enclosure, cut by the track, is a small double enclosure with a south-facing entrance with prominent terminals. East of the track towards the lower left of the image is a trapezoidal enclosure with a roughly south-east facing entrance. The circular gully of a roundhouse with a possible north-east facing entrance is visible within this second enclosure, along with possible internal subdivisions. (Source: © AS WYAS/NMR).*

Figure G.381. *The irregular enclosure looking north – the smaller trapezoidal enclosure is just visible to the east or centre right of the image. Within the irregular enclosure there is a possible rectangular structure to the west, and a possible entrance. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 313, SE 498 057).*

Figure G.382. (left). *Soil mark of the large irregular enclosure at Marr Moor, showing the outline of a single ditch as a darker band, and a possible internal bank as a light band of limestone. Additional dark ditch boundaries can be seen to the centre right of the image, and another curving ditch and bank boundary can be identified just to the north of the enclosure. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 2768, SE 498 055).*

Given the apparent lack of many internal features, it is likely that the large irregular enclosure was a paddock or corral, linked to domestic enclosures on Marr Moor and at Marr Thick. It is also possible that it represents a late Iron Age feature within the landscape, around which a complex of enclosures and fields developed during the very late Iron Age and Romano-British periods. The enclosures at Pickburn Leys were approximately 3km to the north-east, those at Melton Wood 2.5km to the south-east, and the Barnburgh Cliffs enclosure complex only 1km to the south-west. It is hoped that future work will examine the area of the possible rectangular structure identified by some workers within the enclosure (Chadwick 1998 Appendix A), and also the smaller enclosures to the south-east and east that seem to have been the focus for more sustained occupation.

Fig. G.383. (left). *Dragonesque brooch found near Marr, S. Yorks., and recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. (Source: © PAS).*

Several interesting finds have been made by metal detectorists in the vicinityand have been recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme, although it is likely that other finds have gone unrecorded. One of these was the bronze handle of a Roman wine strainer (Fig. 10.57) of the mid-second to third century AD (DCMS 1998-1999). This may have been associated with high-status alcohol consumption, and/or with funeral rites. A dragonesque brooch has also been found.

References: Chadwick 1998; Klemperer and Merrony 2004; Merrony, Hamilton and Kitchen 2006.

Marr Thick SE 4970 0500

Located just to the south of the Mar Moor enclosure, on the south side of the A635 Barnsley road, this enclosure was situated on a flat area with the ground rising gently to the south. It survived as an earthwork within Marr Thick Wood until the early 1960s, with depressions corresponding to the lines of ditches, and upstanding banks formed by limestone-faced walls. The trees were then grubbed up and the area deep ploughed, destroying the upstanding earthworks although the site subsequently produced some spectacular cropmarks (Buckland 1986: 56-57).

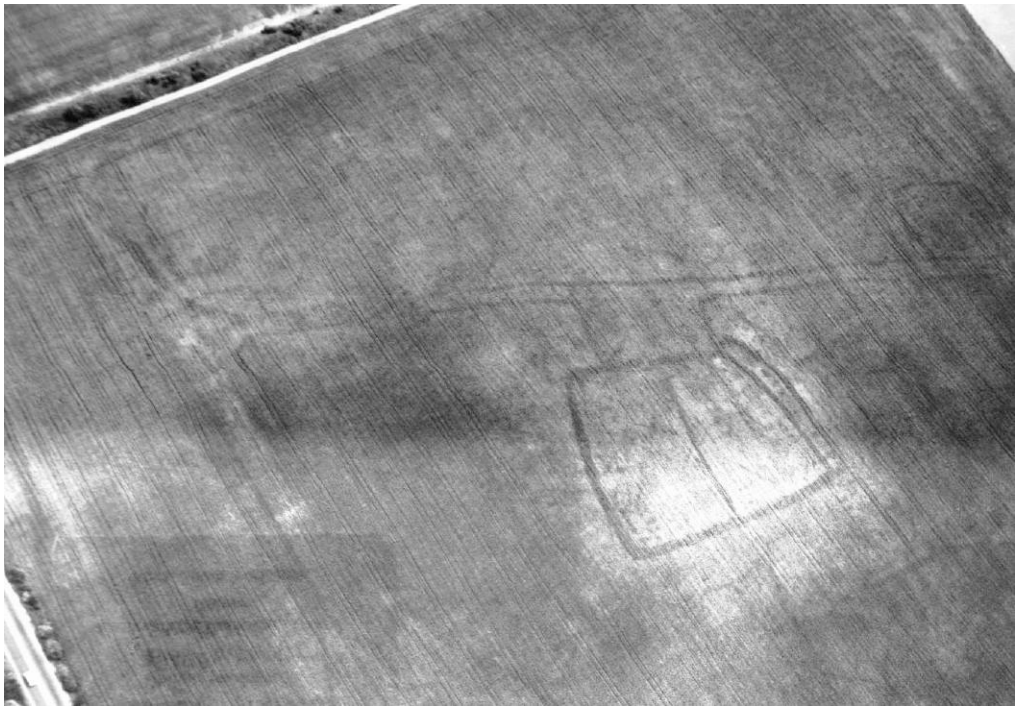


Figure G.384. *The enclosure at Marr Thick, photographed in 1974 after grubbing out of the trees that used to overlie when it consisted of earthworks within woodland. The A635 can be seen in the north or lower left of the image, whilst the east-facing entrance and north-south trackway are also clearly visible. In the upper right of the image, a smaller subrectangular enclosure is also visible. See also Fig. 1.26 in Chapter 1. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8421, SE 497 050).*

The cropmarks consist of a subrectangular enclosure divided into two near-equal halves with a clear internal partition ditch, and possible internal structures. The two halves may have been used by humans and animals, by men and women, or two different but related households. On the southern side of the enclosure is an unusually narrow feature that may either represent one phase of trackway, or more

likely, a race connected with the movement and handling of livestock. A roughly north-south trackway led past the enclosure and was connected to it by a wide approach to an east-facing enclosure entrance. This area could have been used as a corral or assembling yard for livestock, which could then be driven into the narrow race via a narrow gateway for further sorting, or taken along the trackway. A line running across the north-south trackway near this possible yard may represent a blocking of the trackway, or more likely, a gateway through it. To the south, the north-south trackway ran past a smaller subrectangular enclosure (Figs. 1.26, G.384). To the north, the north-south trackway met an east-west aligned trackway, with a possible funnel-shaped entrance to the west. These features all seem to indicate a strong emphasis on livestock movement and control.

In 2001 the Brodsworth Project identified the Marr Thick enclosure and the north-south trackway through geophysical survey, and trial trenches found some of the enclosure ditches, but also a posthole suggesting some internal features might survive. A large quantity of animal bone and Romano-British second to fourth century AD pottery was found in ditch fills, and an early Roman bronze brooch fragment (Merrony, Hamilton and Kitchen 2006: 21). The trenches and auger cores also established the presence of deeper soils that probably mask other features. Fieldwalking of the area also recovered Romano-British pottery, but a few sherds of possible Iron Age or Iron Age-tradition ceramics too.

References: Buckland 1986; Merrony, Hamilton and Kitchen 2006.

New Rossington SK 6200 9700

There have been several small-scale archaeological projects to the east and south of New Rossington, on areas of co-axial 'brickwork fields'. In advance of proposed sand and gravel extraction on land just to the south-east of New Rossington opposite Hunster Grange Farm, to the east of the B6463 Stripe Road (centred on SK 6280 9680), SYAU undertook an evaluation in October-November 1990. The area of investigation lay within a group of north-east to south-west orientated 'brick' fields, and in addition had cropmarks of a sinuous double-ditched trackway (Riley 1980: 94, map 8). Six machine-dug trial trenches were excavated across the gently undulating area, but only one ditch was found crossing a trench, and another two ditch terminals and a shallow gully were also recorded. The strong cropmarks did not seem to have left many visible archaeological traces, and this may have been because of recent plough truncation and aeolian weathering (Sydes 1991: 24). Cropmarks were still visible in the development area during the summer of 1990, confirmed by Derrick Riley, but it is possible that only the bases of features were left in places, and in others the archaeological features had been removed altogether. However, chemical weathering may have led to cropmark responses still being generated by the natural subsoil underneath previous ditch features (C. Merrony pers. comm.).

Figure G.385. *Cropmarks south-east of New Rossington, looking north. The double-ditched trackway investigated near Stripe Road in 1992 can be seen in the bottom left corner. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8346, SK 632 981).*

In 1992 the construction of a 0.8ha housing development on the south-east side of New Rossington at Church Field led to small-scale excavation by SYAU in May 1992, centred at SK 6290 9817. The development area encompassed the cropmarks of a double-ditched trackway (see Fig. G.385 above) (Riley 1980: 94, map 8, but the developers had already started construction work when the

archaeologists arrived on site, and in consequence only one trial trench was excavated. The eastern ditch of the trackway (107) was recorded (Chadwick 1992), together with the probable terminal of another field boundary ditch (101). The former had been truncated by a broad, shallow feature (112), visible on the aerial photograph as a dark elliptical mark, perhaps a later sand quarry. The western trackway ditch could not be investigated as it had been heavily disturbed by the developers, but towards the western end of the trench was another shallow feature (113) with an irregular base of dips and depressions. It is possible that this was a wear hollow or holloway, corresponding to a darker band in between the trackway ditches also visible on the aerial photograph (ibid.: 8). No finds were recovered from any of these features, and consequently no palaeo-environmental samples were taken.

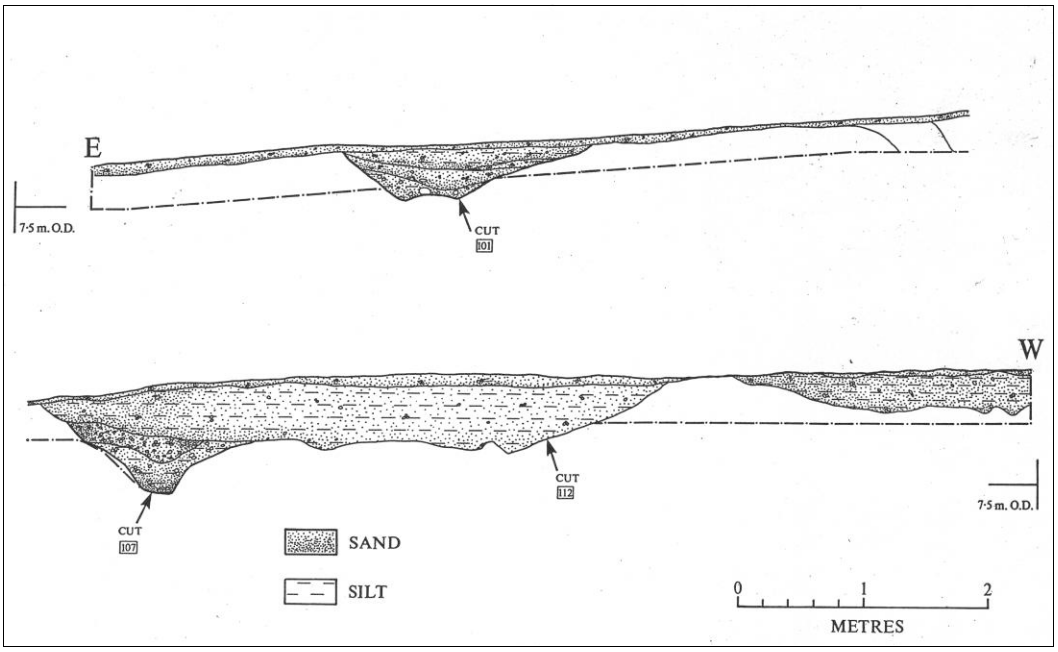


Figure G.386. *Section of the trench excavated off Stripe Road, New Rossington, showing the ditch features (107 and 101), together with the possible holloway at the western end of the trench. (Source: Chadwick 1992: 6, fig. 4).*

Further housing construction at Church Field, New Rossington, this time of a much larger 21ha development some 200m west and south-west of the previous investigation, necessitated further archaeological work in 1995. GSB Prospection undertook a geophysical survey of 50% of the site in order to target trenches more effectively, and SYAFRU carried out the field evaluation. Twelve machine-dug trenches were excavated, and these located the ditches identified on the cropmarks (Atkinson 1995, 1998). Although the ditches appeared to have had relatively simple one-phase silting sequences (Atkinson 1998: 18), this does not necessarily mean that they were in use for a short period of time (cf. Chadwick 1999; Magilton 1978). Greater complexity was nevertheless revealed than that evident on aerial photographs (Riley 1980: 94, map 8). For example, Trench E showed that a double-ditched trackway had a funnel-shaped entrance leading to the south, whereas Riley recorded this only as a single field boundary. Trench J was positioned to excavate the known trackway previously investigated to the north in 1992, and this recorded ditches approximately 5m apart. However, the western ditch was more sinuous and irregular in plan and profile than the eastern example, perhaps even implying that they originated in different phases.

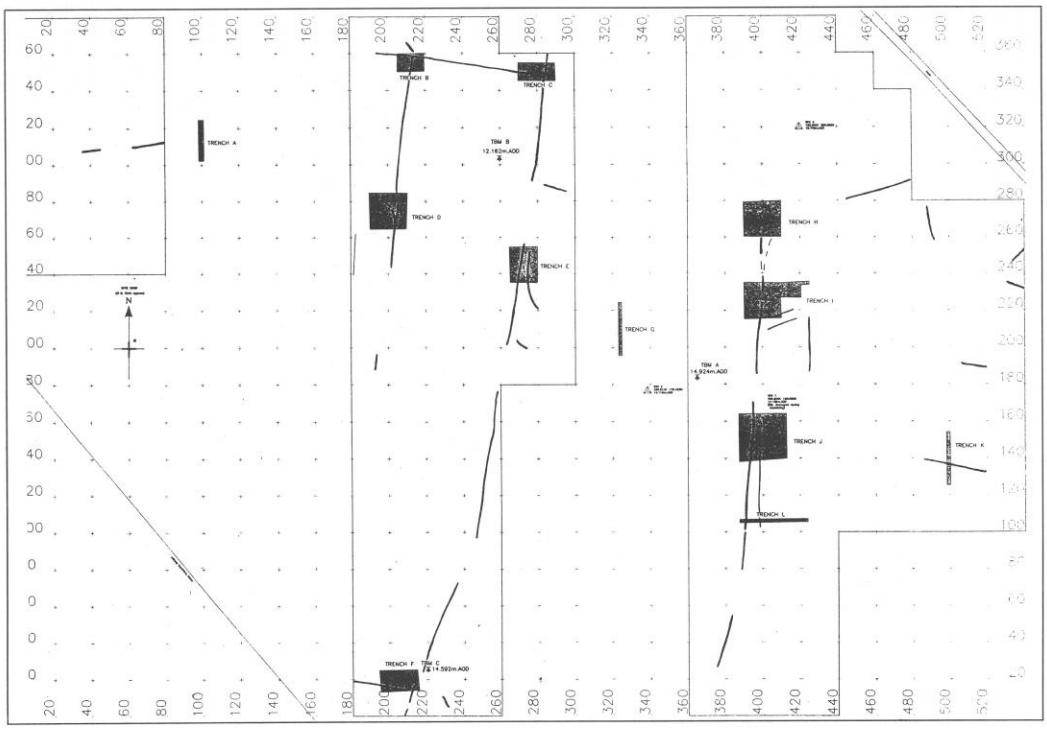


Figure G.387. *Plan of the features investigated at Church Field, New Rossington in 1995, with the locations of the trial trenches also shown (Source: Atkinson 1998: 16, fig. 3).*

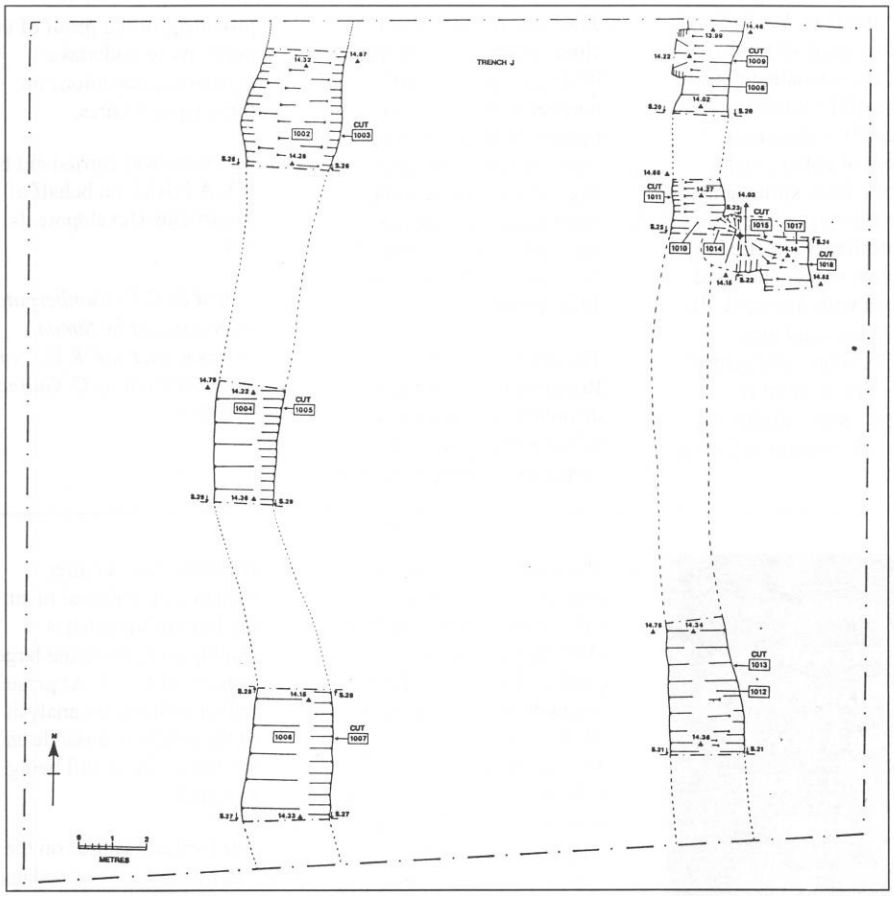


Figure G.388. *Trench J, showing the double-ditched trackway. The eastern ditch may have been dug at a different time to the western, more irregular example. (Source: Atkinson 1998: 18, fig. 4).*

Only one sherd of sand-tempered late Iron Age or early Romano-British pottery was recovered (Atkinson 1998: 19), along with a fragment of bone knife handle that had only survived the acidic soil conditions through being partly mineralised. However, this may equally have been a later intrusive medieval or post-medieval artefact.

All these different investigations highlight both the problems of investigating areas of the 'brickwork' fields in particular, but also show how even apparently regular ditches with simple silting sequences may hint at more complex landscape statigraphy than even the original excavators supposed.

References: Atkinson 1995, 1998; Chadwick 1992; Sydes 1991.

Pastures Road, Mexborough SE 4890 0045

On the south-eastern edge of Mexborough and encroached upon by a sewage works built in an old quarry, and by housing estates, there is a complex of enclosures, trackways and field boundaries. On a hilltop at approximately 35m OD there was a group of two or three conjoined enclosures, linked to outer enclosures and/or field boundaries. Possible structures including a potential roundhouse are visible within one of the enclosures. A pronounced 'avenue' at least 100m long and 20-25m wide was attached to the enclosures, and one of its ditches was dug around them. Orientated north-west to south-east along the edge of the hill was a sinuous double-ditched trackway, which the avenue may have originally been linked to. The trackway descended eastwards to lower ground at 15m OD on the edge of the River Dearne floodplain, and darker shadows within the cropmark suggest holloways or rutting within it. Field boundaries were linked to this trackway, and from the variations in width at points along it, it is likely that the trackway was probably extended eastwards in one or perhaps two separate phases of development (Fig. G.391). To the north of this trackway and also on the relatively flat, low-lying ground were two smaller subrectangular or trapezoidal enclosures. Another trackway followed the eastern edge of the hilltop, and again may have originally joined with the more sinuous example.

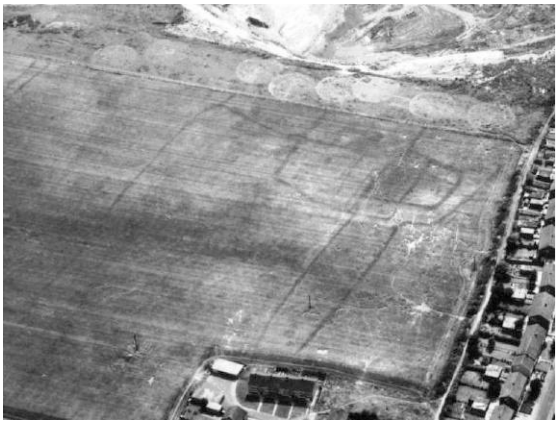


Figure G.389. (above). *Cropmarks near Pastures Road, Mexborough. Areas of medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow are marked in purple; and possible Iron Age or Romano-British features in green. The main enclosure complex is visible at the centre left of the image on a hilltop, with the ground falling away to the north and east (top and left). (Source: © AS WYAS).* **Fig. G.390. (left).** *Detail of Fig. 1.12, looking south across the main enclosure complex with the wide 'avenue' facing northwards. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 843, SE 4880 0040).*

The eastern side of the Pastures Road complex was evaluated in 1996 in advance of a proposed housing scheme, through geophysical survey and trial trenching. Investigation of part of the sinuous trackway established that there were indeed a series of ruts and hollows in between the trackway ditches, suggesting that there had been considerable movement along it by people, animals and potentially even wheeled vehicles. Ditches over the enclosures suggested several phases of development. Early in 2007 part of the evaluated area was selected for open area excavation. A possible roundhouse ring gully was recorded in the larger of the two subrectangular enclosures, and although artefacts were once again scarce, a possible placed deposit of a quernstone in a pit was found (Fig. G.393). A second phase of open area excavation is currently planned for another part of the Pastures Road cropmark complex.

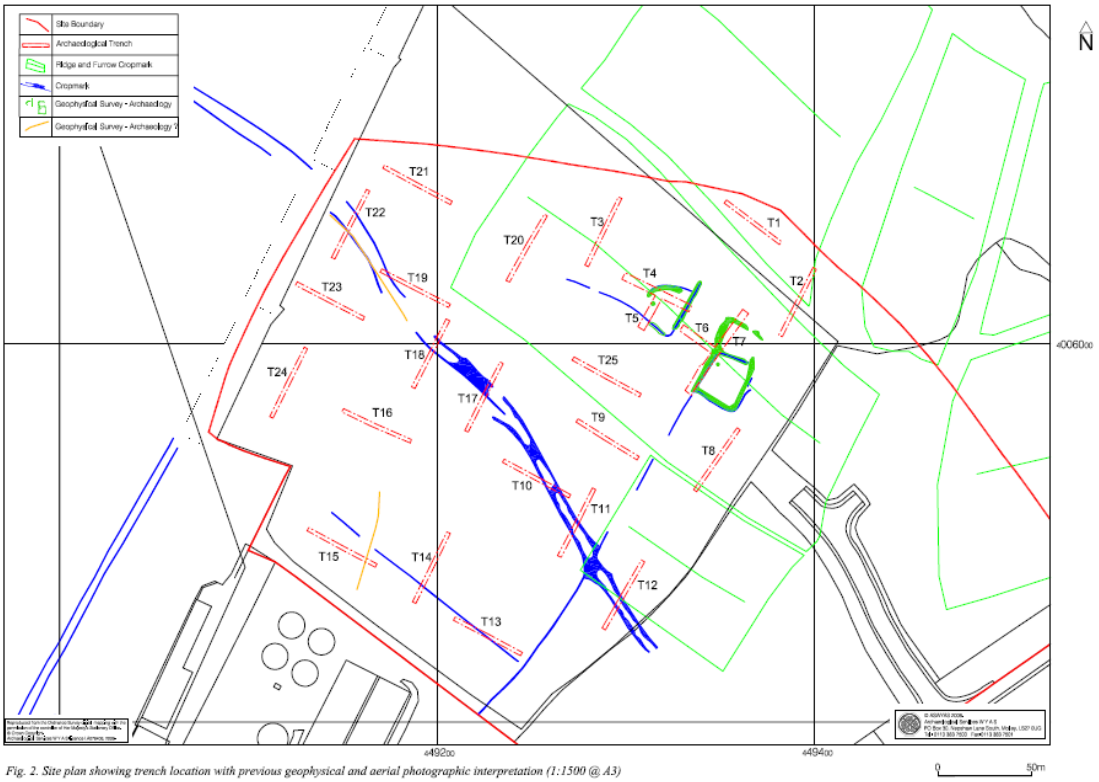


Figure G.391. *Detail of the cropmark and geophysical plots for the eastern part of the Pastures Road complex, showing the double-ditched trackway, subrectangular enclosures and field boundaries; in addition to the location of the trial trenches. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

This entire complex of features strongly suggests a concern with livestock movements. The sinuous trackway may have been used to take livestock from higher ground down to low-lying pasture and to water at the river itself, whilst the two smaller enclosures were located on the edge of the floodplain. Assuming that they were contemporary, these may have been subsidiary to the main enclosure complex on the hilltop, which probably formed the focus of household dwelling. Like Ackton and Flockton, the avenue leading to these hilltop enclosures may have reflected ideas concerning status and aggrandisement, but would have also been eminently suitable for livestock movements. The apparent 'circuit' by the enclosure may have been where animals were driven to but then around the enclosures, and on to pens, paddocks or infields beyond.

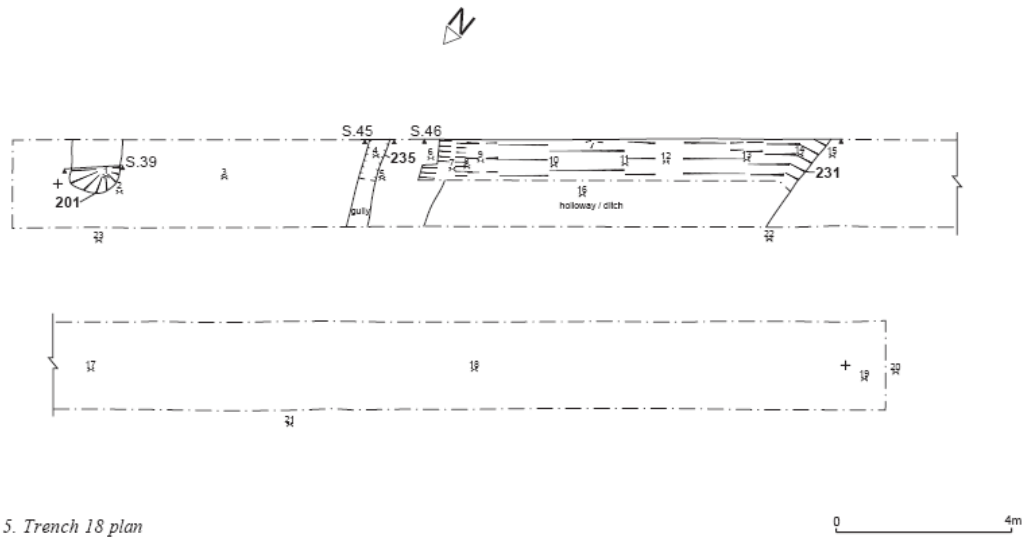
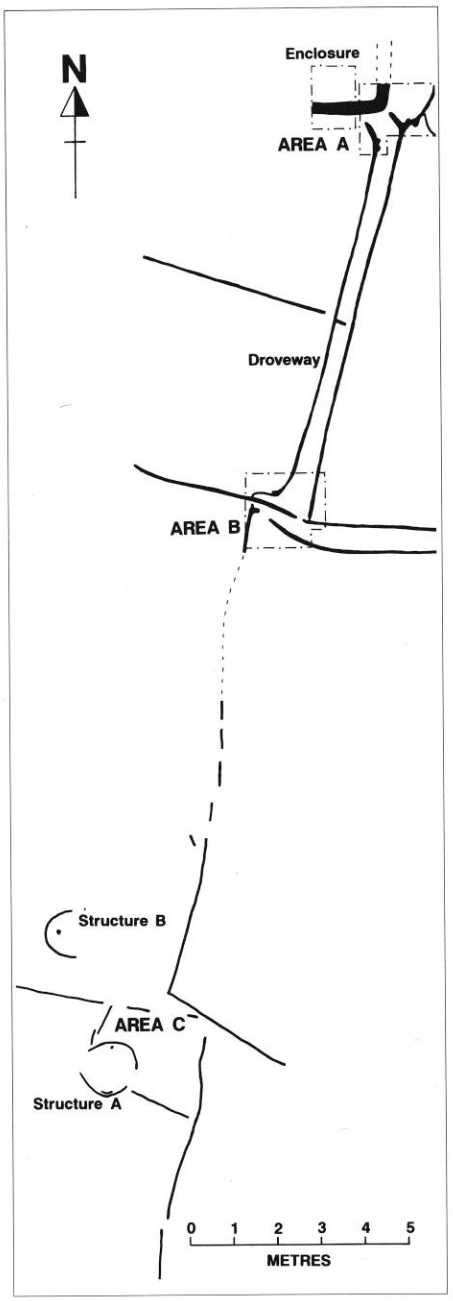


Figure G.392. *Trench 18, showing a holloway and ruts within the double ditched trackway, but also a possible entranceway too. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

Figure G.393. *Photograph of the second phase of the investigation of the Pastures Road site, during topsoil stripping of an open area. A large Iron Age or Romano-British quernstone is visible in a marked-up pit feature in the foreground, in addition to enclosure and field ditches in the background. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

References: Williams 1996.

Pickburn Leys SE 5340 0670



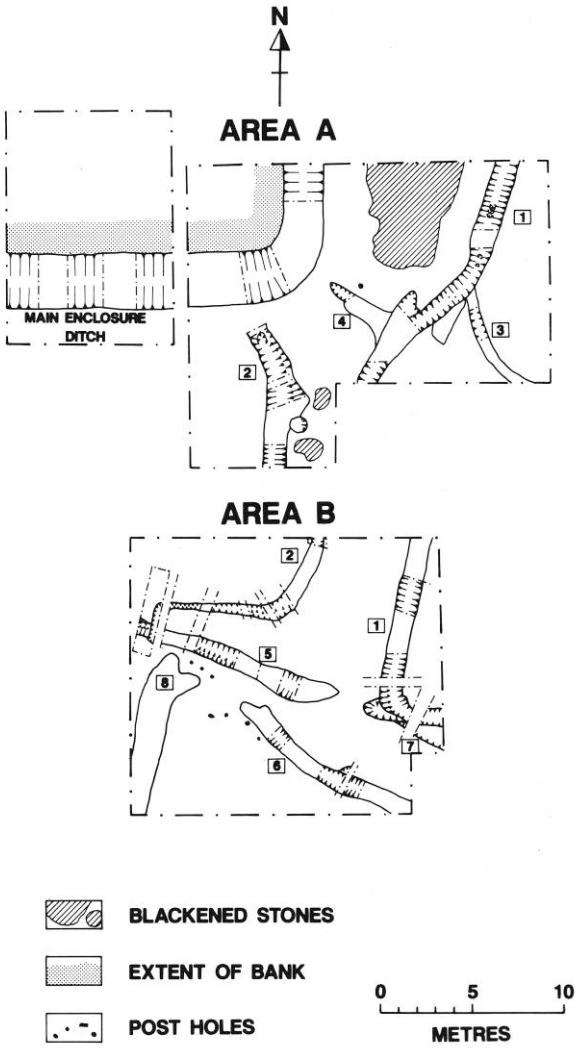


Figure G.394. (left). *Overall plan of the archaeological features investigated at Pickburn Leys, showing the areas of more detailed investigation.* **Fig. G.395. (above).** *Detailed plans of Areas A and B, showing the corner of the northern enclosure ditch and the trackway and field boundary intersection. (Source: Sydes 1993: 36-37, figs. 38-39).*

Proposed limestone quarrying at Pickburn Leys near Adwick-le-Street led to rescue excavations of a series of enclosures, trackways and field boundaries in 1984 by the SYAU. Three areas were investigated in more detail, located on a gentle north-east facing slope. Area A examined the south-eastern corner of a probable subrectangular enclosure, much of which had unfortunately been quarried away in previous years. The rock-cut ditch was over 3m wide and up to 1.5m deep, and had been recut on at least three occasions, and contained two substantially complete late Iron Age pottery vessels, a quern fragment and animal bone (Sydes and Symonds 1984: 4). Two trackway ditches were close to the enclosure ditch – there may have been a timber structure bridging the enclosure ditch at this point.

One trackway ditch at least may have pre-dated the enclosure ditch, although the trackway itself may have been a later addition to the landscape.

Area B was positioned over the southern intersection between the trackway and field boundaries. A series of recutting and remodelling episodes were identified, and this place may have been used as a drafting gate to channel livestock into different fields. A silt-filled hollow above the corner of ditch 2 contained an almost complete third century AD jar and a coin of Valerian I (AD 257) (Sydes 1993: 38-39). Gravel spreads across the upper fills of the ditches may also signify that in a late phase the ditches were no longer in use, although some of the banks and/or hedges might still have been extant.

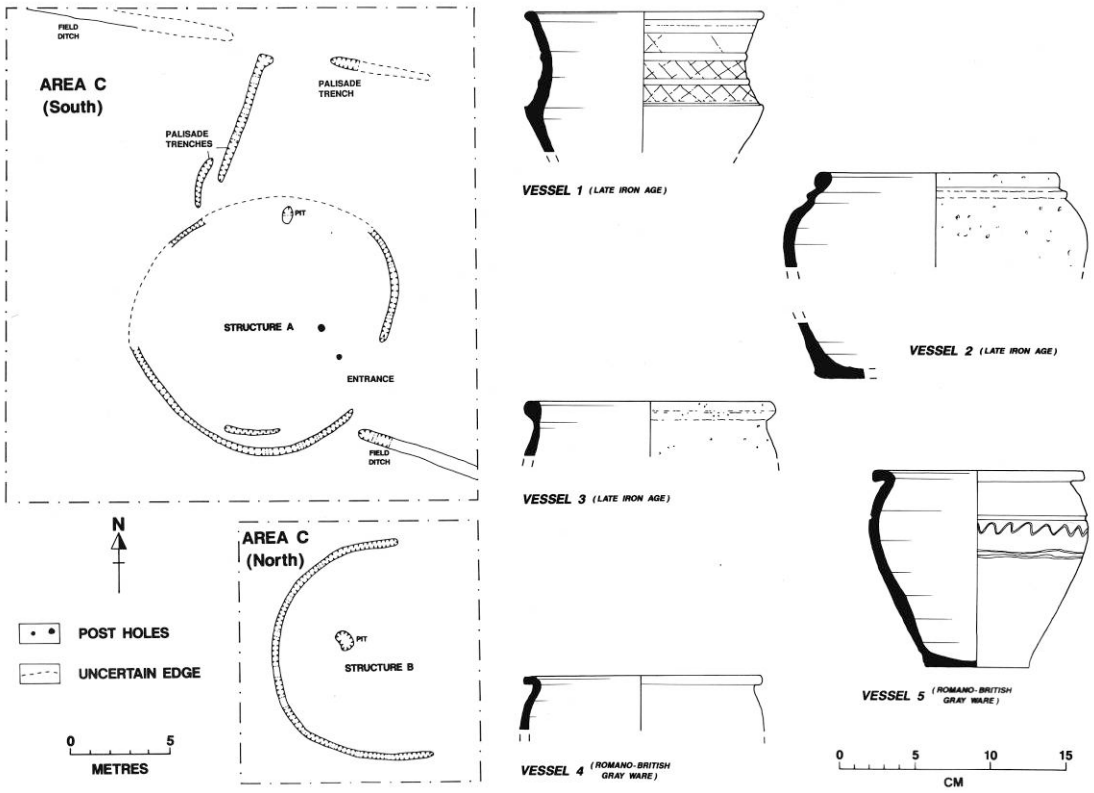


Figure G.396. (left). *The two roundhouses identified in Area C at Pickburn Leys (see Fig. G.255 for the relative locations of these structures to one another).* **Fig. G.397. (right).** *Some of the pottery recovered at Pickburn Leys. Nos. 1-3 represent late Iron Age vessels – 1 and 2 were near complete, as was Romano-British vessel 5, and these were probably placed deposits. (Source: Sydes 1993: 40-41).*

In Area C, two roundhouses were identified. Structure A had a rock-cut subcircular ring gully 12.5m across and up to 0.5m deep, and two postholes and a pit were also identified. Short lengths of gully or ditch may indicate palisades or 'screens', with possible northern and north-eastern entrances between the roundhouse and fields. Structure B was smaller, up to 9m in diameter, and only a partial ring ditch was identified, along with a shallow, possibly internal pit.

References: Sydes 1993; Sydes and Symonds 1985.

Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street SE 5240 0850

The triangle of land at Red House Farm lies between the A1(M) to the west, Longlands Lane to the south and Adwick-le-Street to the east (Fig. G.398). Cropmarks indicated the presence of fields and enclosures of later prehistoric and Romano-British date, whilst the Roman Great North Road from Rossington Bridge and Doncaster to Burghwallis, Castleford and York is a Scheduled Ancient Monument within the area (Upson-Smith 2002). It is also known as the Roman Ridge (not be confused with the Roman Ridge or Roman Rigg earthworks between Sheffield and Rotherham to the west). The construction of a retail park necessitated several phases of archaeological work including trial trenching by AS WYAS in November 1995 and by NAA in September-October 1996, and geophysical survey by ARCUS in December 1995 and NAA in September 2000 (Francis 1995; Badcock and Merrony 1995; NAA 2001b; Young 1996). Excavation and watching briefs were subsequently undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Meadows and Chapman 2004; Upson-Smith 2002, 2006).

Figure G.398. *The development area at Redhouse Farm, and the principal enclosures, trackways and boundaries identified within it. (Source: Upson-Smith 2002).*

Enclosure E1 in Area 7 was excavated during May-September 2000. This consisted of a trapezoidal enclosure approximately 62m long and between 65m-39m wide, located on a gentle north-facing slope at between 37-40m OD. Lower and more water retaining ground lay to the west (Meadows and Chapman 2004: 3), but approximately 200m to the north-west the slope became steeper, dropping down towards the Old Ea Beck. The large enclosure ditches were up to 3m wide and 1.4m deep, with some recuts identified in section, although other possible recuts visible in the section drawings were not commented on in the text. Only the southern part of the enclosure was fully excavated. The primary fill of the western ditch contained late Iron Age pottery sherds, with Romano-British sherds in upper fills. A dog burial and a copper alloy brooch were also recovered from ditch fills along this side of the enclosure. The south-west corner of the enclosure ditch produced a lead spindle whorl and possible copper alloy pin head (Upson-Smith 2002: 24).

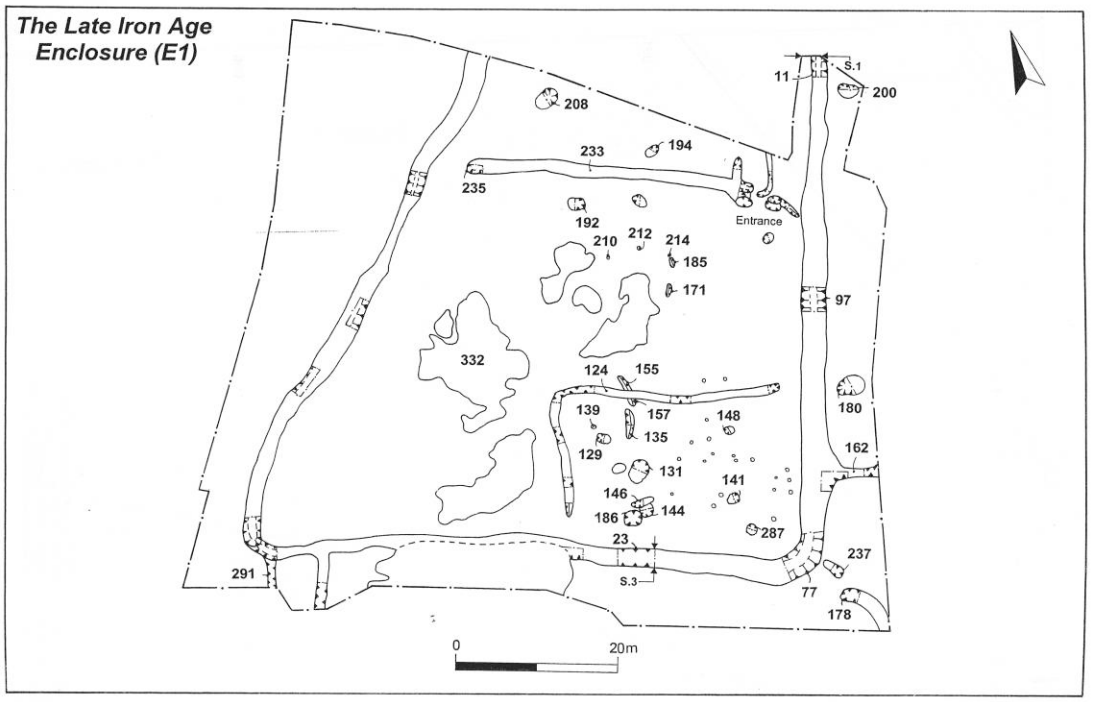


Figure G.399. *Enclosure E1 at Redhouse Farm. (Source: Meadows and Chapman 2004: fig. 4).*

Ditch 233 was probably an internal subdivision within the larger trapezoidal enclosure, and this may have had two entrances through it. Its eastern terminal may have had placed deposits of animal remains. To the north-east was a 3m wide entrance that seems to have been defined or emphasised by postholes and gullies, and two of the flanking pits or postholes contained quernstone fragments, re-used as packing but perhaps also of symbolic importance (Meadows and Chapman 2004). The gap in the north-west may have been another entrance, or more likely reflected the line of an internal bank.

The southern subenclosure had a further subdivision created by an L-shaped ditch or gully that was 23m long and 15m wide, on the highest part of the site. The location of a possible entrance through or across this ditch is not known, as the two gaps to the north-east and south-west may have been respecting the line of an internal enclosure bank. There is a clear sense of ditches and gullies being

used to create hierarchies of social space. Postholes, slots and gullies in this area probably represent one or more structures, including a possible roundhouse pre-dating the L-shaped subenclosure (Meadows and Chapman 2004: 6). A possible four-post structure lay to the east of this area, and other potential buildings were marked by postholes north of the L-shaped ditch. Pit 186 contained possible placed deposit of stone, quern fragments, animal bone and late Iron Age or early Romano-British pottery. Additional ditches linked to the enclosure formed part of a field system. A first or second century AD coin and an unstratified fourth century issue were recovered from this area (Upson-Smith 2002: 23). The Iron Age pottery included sand and shell-tempered wares, the latter including Scored Ware sherds (Cumberpatch 2004b: 16-18). Romano-British pottery included greywares and Black Burnished ware of late first or second century to fourth century AD date. An as yet undated cremation burial was found in a ditch terminal approximately 30m to the west of the enclosure, whilst the Great North Road was constructed only 40m-60m to the west. Possible plough or ard marks were preserved under the *agger* of this road (see Chapter 4, Fig. 4.16), suggesting local cultivation.

Roughly 100m to the south of E1 and Area 7 was Area 17, where enclosure E2 was partially excavated. This was subrectangular in plan with a possible narrow north-west facing entrance, and was at least 55m long and 35m wide (Upson-Smith 2002: 16). It is possible that it was a 'clothes line' enclosure appended to a major north-west to south-east aligned linear boundary ditch. No pottery was recovered from any of the primary ditch fills, but Black Burnished ware sherds were found in a tertiary deposit by the entrance, indicating that the ditches had silted up during the second to fourth centuries AD. There were few internal features, and this enclosure may have been used as a livestock pen, as part of a wider block of fields.

Approximately 300m to the south-west-west of Enclosure 1was a watching brief area, where part of a possible irregular or trapezoidal enclosure was recorded (WB area E3), with an adjacent right-angled trackway or race that varied between 4m-18m in width. Narrow constrictions in the trackway and a series of pits and postholes suggest possible gateways at this point, and a concern with controlling the movements of livestock. Within the trackway, a clay and stone-lined pit included a quern fragment in its lining, whilst the south-west corner of the possible enclosure had a pit with a dog burial, and another pit containing beehive topstone quern fragment (Upson-Smith 2002: 14).

Some 250m to the south of the watching brief area was Area 12, where a rectangular enclosure with a west-facing, 2-3m wide entrance was identified (E4). This was probably another 'clothes line' enclosure appended to a pre-existing linear boundary. Some possible late Iron Age sherds were recovered from upper and lower ditch fills (Upson-Smith 2002: 16), but the three internal pits did not contain any dateable artefacts, and a sheep burial in a shallow pit was considered to have been post-medieval or early modern in date, although the criteria for this conclusion are not outlined in the unpublished report. This enclosure was probably a stock pen rather than a 'domestic' enclosure. It was situated on a generally flat area on a gentle hilltop, with the ground gradually sloping off on all sides.

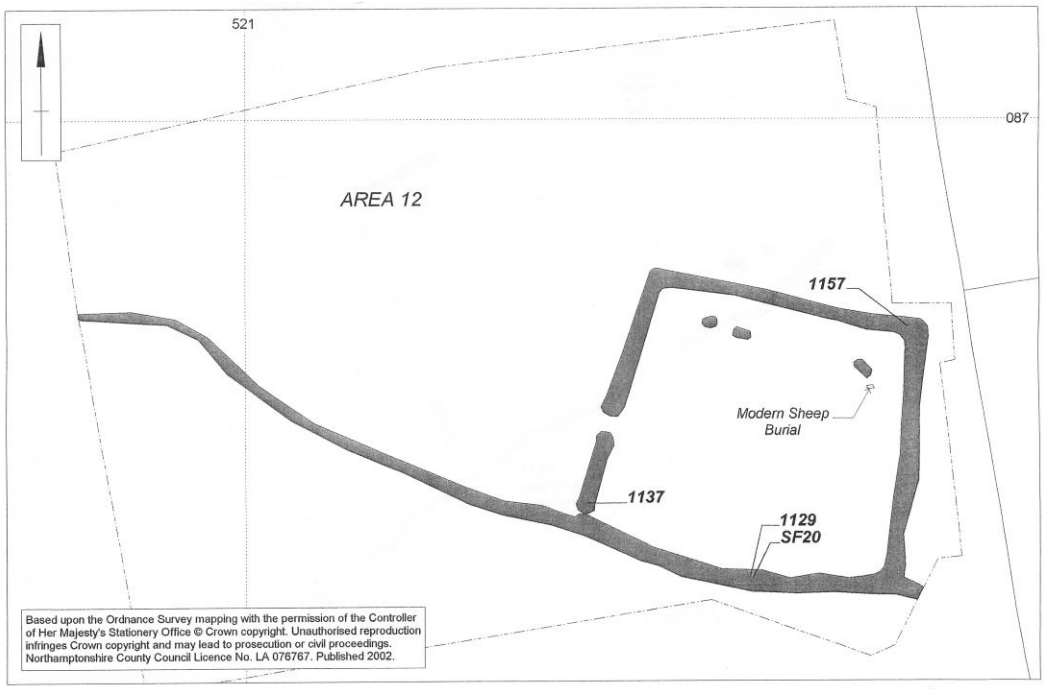


Figure G.400. *Enclosure E4 Area 12, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2002: fig. 10).*

The funnel-shaped trackway entrance excavated in Area 8 approximately 200m to the south is illustrated in Chapter 6 (Fig. 6.06). Late Iron Age or early Romano-British pottery was recovered. This was linked to a north-east to south-west trackway and perhaps to enclosure E5 150m to the north-west, although most of the trackway was not traced. E5 was not excavated, the geophysical survey suggests it was D-shaped or trapezoidal in plan and roughly 40m long and 30m wide, subdivided into two halves and with an east-facing entrance further defined by linear gullies or slots. This was yet another 'clothes line' enclosure, although in this instance it may have pre-dated linear boundaries that were appended to it. On the western side of the enclosure a further ditch may have defined a trackway or race.

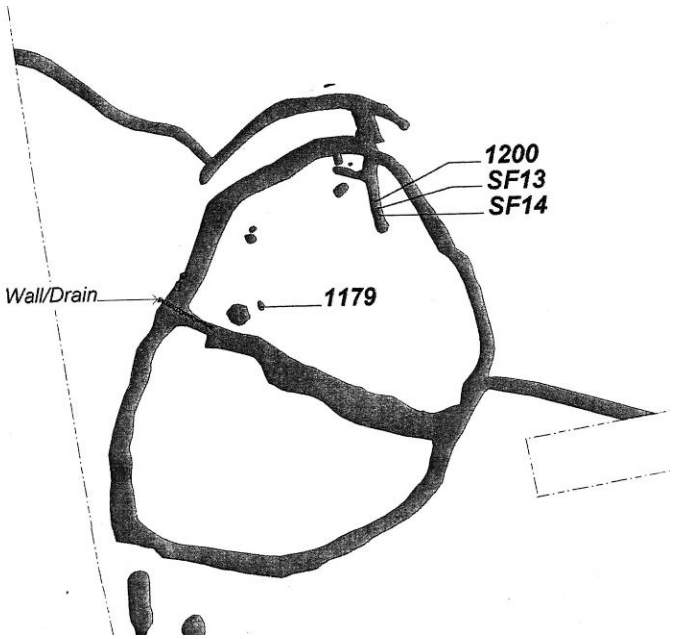
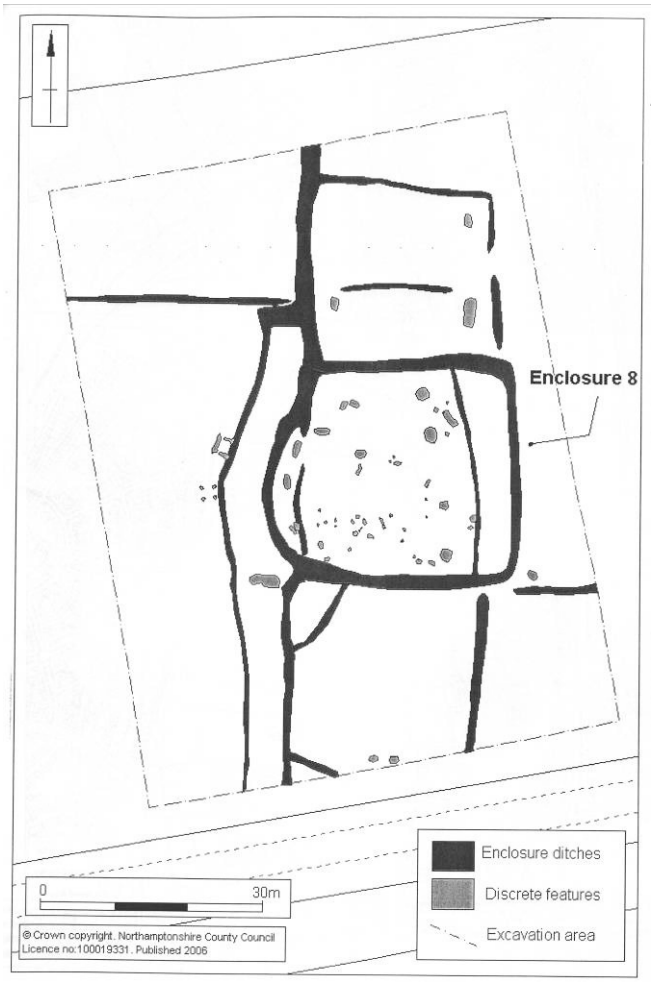


Figure G.401. *Enclosure E7 Area 2, Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2002).*

Some 400m to the south-west was Area 2, where the D-shaped enclosure E7 was excavated. This was 36m long and 24m wide, and subdivided by an internal ditch. The southern half of the enclosure had no internal features and the enclosure ditch produced there did not produce any finds, whereas pits and gullies were identified in the northern half of the enclosure, some of which produced late Iron Age pottery and second to fourth century Romano-British sherds (Upson-Smith 2002: 15). Gully 1200 produced a fragment of a blue glass bracelet, ornamented with an applied blue and white glass strip and possibly of late first century AD date, in addition to a shale bracelet fragment. Pit 1179 contained two stone discs that were possible pot lids. The curving ditch to the north may not have been constructed to 'enhance the northern side of the enclosure (contra Upson-Smith 2002: 15), but was more likely to have been a race for livestock. The wall or drain constructed within the upper fill of the subdividing and western enclosure ditches is undated, but potentially similar features have been found elsewhere at Barnsdale Bar in South Yorkshire (see above), and at Ferrybridge and Wattle Syke in West Yorkshire. E7 was located on another flattish area of hilltop, and seems to have been incorporated into the north-west corner of a larger block of irregular but generally subrectangular fields.



At the far south of the development, again on flattish ground, was Area 1 where enclosure E8 was excavated by Northamptonshire Archaeology during October-November 2004. This actually consisted of at least three enclosures forming part of a possible 'ladder' settlement arrangement. Only a brief interim report has been produced. The main enclosure was subrectangular and 35m long and 31m wide (Upson-Smith 2006: 4), with ditches up to 0.85m deep and a curved western edge where there was a possible earlier west-facing entrance, possibly blocked off at a later date. The possible eastern north-south subdivision might also reflect a different phase of eastern boundary.

Figure G.402. (left). *Area 1, Enclosure 8 at Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2006).*

Within the southern part of this central enclosure were some truncated pits and postholes that may have represented the remains of at least two roundhouses. Romano-British greywares, Black Burnished ware and a stamped mortaria sherd of first second to second century date were recovered, and a pit in the

western side of this enclosure produced an inverted beehive topstone. A copper alloy brooch was found in the south-west enclosure ditch corner.

Fig. G.403. (left). *The copper alloy brooch and pin recovered from the south-west corner of the main E8 enclosure ditch at Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2006: 9).*

Figure G.404. *Photograph of enclosure E8, Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street, looking south-east. (Source: Upson-Smith 2006: cover image).*

The northern subsidiary subrectangular enclosure was 27m long and 25m wide, with a 3m wide east-facing entrance. This was itself subdivided into two by an east-west aligned gully. Apart from three pits this enclosure was devoid of internal features, but an articulated complete cow burial was found in the north-west corner of this northern enclosure ditch (see Chapter 11 Fig. 11.25).

The southern subsidiary enclosure was also subrectangular in plan and 27m long and 27m wide, with a possible narrow north-east facing entrance, although this may simply have been a gap respecting a bank, and any entrance may have lain to the south-east in the unexcavated section. Apart from a gully aligned diagonally across the north-west corner, only two possible post-pits were recorded from within this southern subsidiary enclosure, and it is possible that both it and the northernmost example were principally used as livestock pens.

A 5m wide trackway was constructed along the western side of the central and southern enclosures, respecting their ditches, and appeared to end just by the south-west corner of the northern subsidiary enclosure. Another feature within it may have marked a gate structure or even a later blocking of this route. Again, all this evidence suggests a concern with restricting the movements of people and livestock. To the west of the western trackway ditch was a four-post structure 2.10m square, whilst four metres north of this was a similar-sized structure defined by beam slots. This latter structure is unique within the region. It may be another storage structure, but it might also have been a small rural shrine of some sort (see Chapter 11), a hypothesis based on its similarities in plan to other possible Iron Age 'shrines' excavated elsewhere in Britain. However, there is no artefactual or contextual evidence to

support this, unless more detailed post-excavation work and publication can draw out any such associations. Full publication of these different phases of investigation at Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street may reveal further details of artefact deposition and the chronologies and biographies of the different enclosures. Moreover, they cannot be seen in isolation, for the features excavated at Pickburn Leys were only 1.2km to the south-west, those at Marr Thick and Marr Moor only some 2.5km to the west, and the enclosures, trackways and field boundaries investigated at Barnsdale Bar were 4.5km to the north-west.

Figure G.405. (left). *The square beam slot structure adjacent to enclosure E8, Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2006: 6).*

References: Badcock and Merrony 1995; Francis 1995; NAA 2001; Meadows and Chapman 2004; Upson-Smith 2002, 2006; Young 1996.

Redhouse Park Sewer, Adwick-le-Street SE 5300 0860

On the eastern side of the A638 at Adwick-le-Street, across from the Redhouse Farm developments, the construction of a foul water sewer, a surface water sewer and access roads and a works compound all linked to the Redhouse Farm construction work necessitated further archaeological work. The four Romano-British inhumation burials, probable cremation burial and other features discovered during house construction in 1968 (Buckland and Magilton 1986) were located only *c*. 75m to the south-east of this development area, and so further archaeological investigation was clearly required. Geophysical survey was undertaken by AS WYAS (1999, 2001b), and this identified a series of buried ditches crossing the site, including a possible double-ditched trackway, and a subrectangular enclosure with a possible north-west facing entrance. Soil stripping monitoring and excavation was undertaken by NAA during January-February 2001. In the surface water sewer area north of Red House Lane, part of a north-west to south-east orientated trackway (119) was revealed, and this was between 6.5m-8m wide (NAA 2001a: fig. 9). Only one possible Romano-British sherd was recovered from one of these trackway ditches.

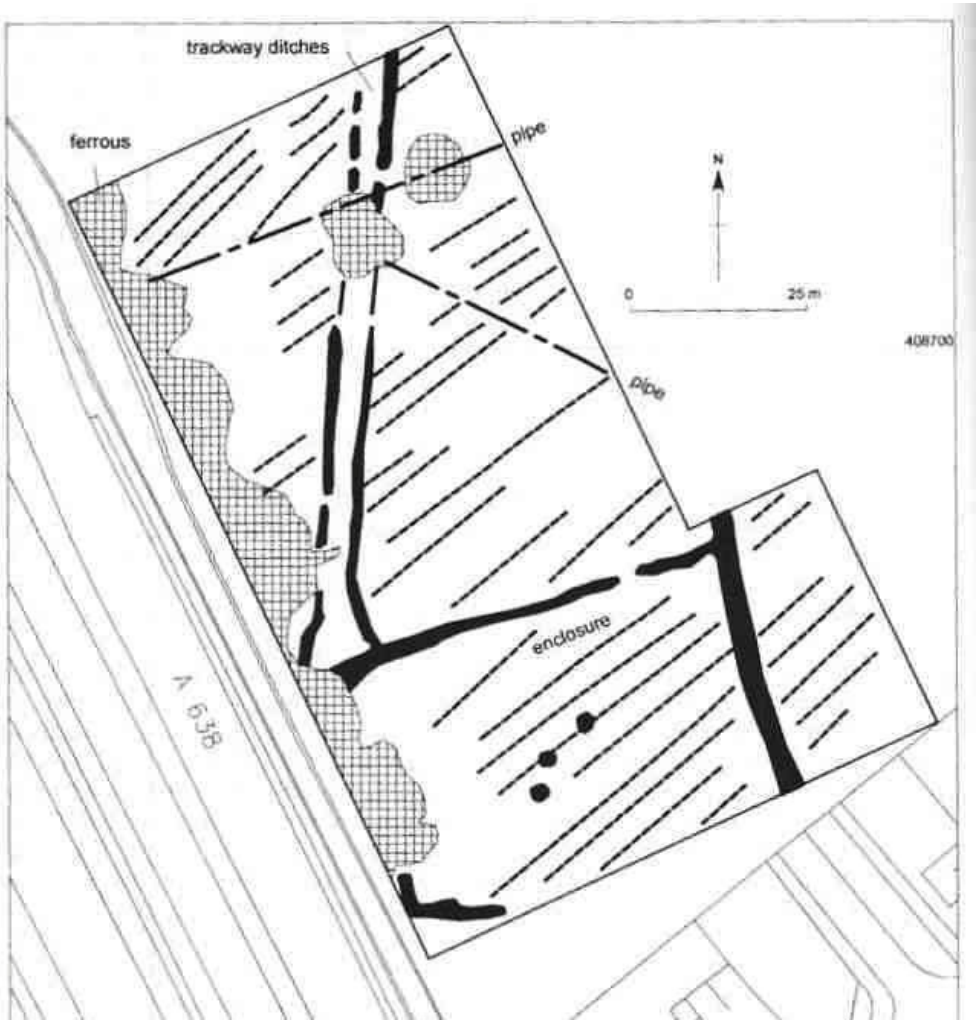


Figure G.406. *Interpretation of the gradiometer survey results at the foul water sewer and compound area, Red House Farm Park, Adwick-le-Street, showing the trackway and possible enclosure. (Source: NAA 2001a).*

Several further field boundary ditches were identified in the foul water sewer area south of Red House Lane, but these did not produce any finds. The trackway itself was orientated north-south, and varied between 3m-5m wide (NAA 2001a). Sherds of a third or fourth century AD greyware bowl were recovered from one section across this trackway ditch (Disbury 2001).Unexpectedly, a rectangular pit cut into the silted-up easternmost trackway ditch proved to be a grave containing the skeleton of an adult woman at least 33-45 years old. She had been buried with a pair of copper alloy 'tortoise' brooches on her chest with Scandinavian-style decoration likely to date to between *c*. AD 860-950, in addition to a bronze bowl, and an iron knife and 'latchlifter' (NAA 2001a; Speed and Rogers 2004).

The skeleton and the bronze bowl had been badly damaged by later ploughing, but conservation on the two brooches revealed their fine decoration (Fig. G.408), although it also indicated that they were probably not originally made as a pair. Only three pairs of these objects have ever been previously recorded in England, although some further examples are known from Scotland, the Western Isles and the Orkney Islands (Speed and Rogers 2004).

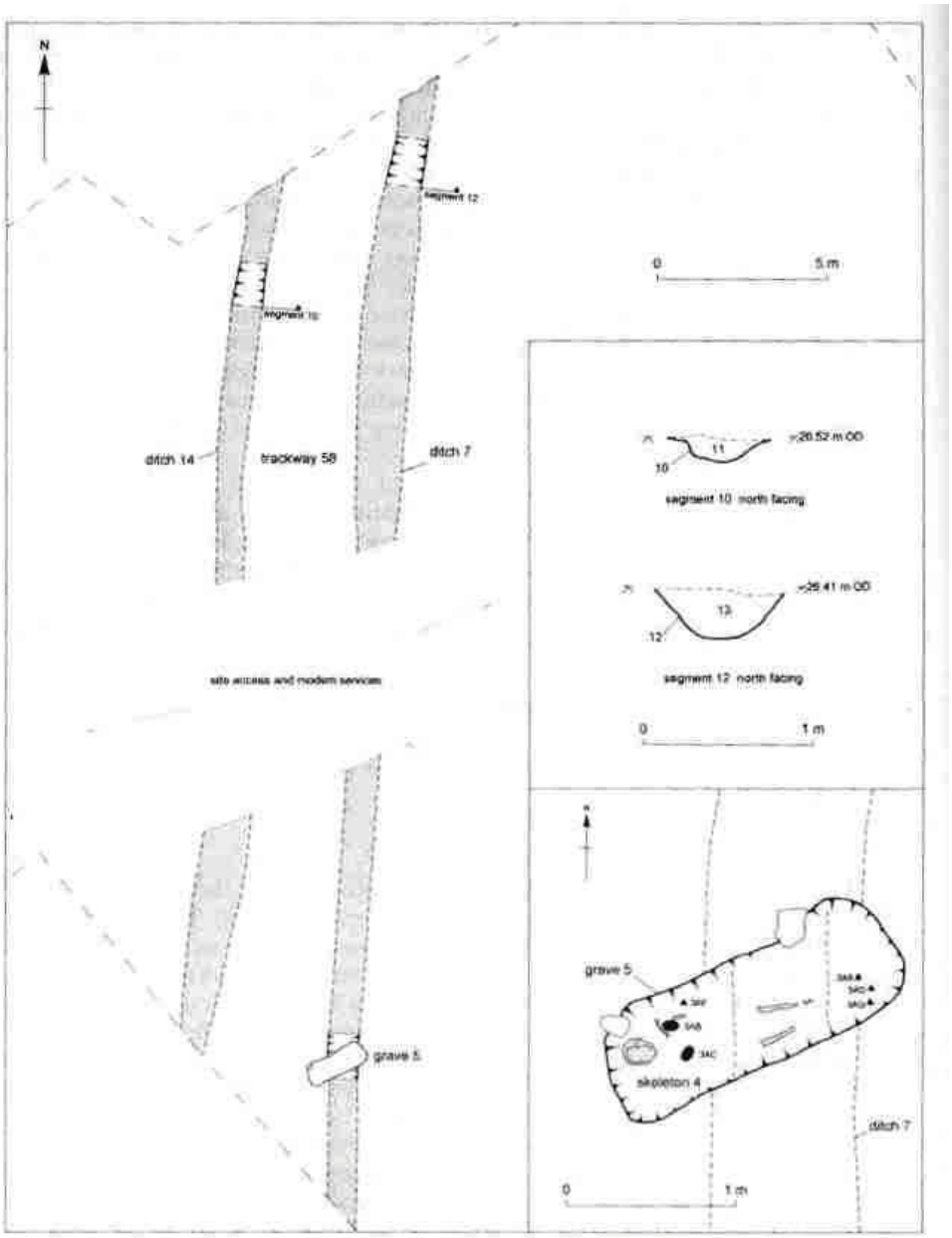


Figure G.407. *Detail of the trackway in the foul water sewer area, showing the position of the grave cut and the position of the skeleton and objects within it. (Source: NAA 2001a: fig. 4).*

Strontium and oxygen isotope analyses on the woman's teeth indicated that she had spent much of her childhood either in north-east Scotland, or in the Trondheim region of Norway (Speed 2005: 38). That a ninth century Viking woman was buried in a grave cut into the silted-up ditch of the trackway indicates that a bank and/or hedge must still have survived marking this routeway through the landscape, but also that this trackway and the boundary probably had some social significance too.

A mitigation strategy to minimise further impact upon the archaeology meant that the works compound and one of the access roads was moved to avoid the area of the enclosure, so no further work was undertaken at this locale.

Figure G.408. *The two 'tortoise' brooches after conservation, revealing their fine decoration but also the fact that they were not originally manufactured as a pair. (Source: Saich and Matthews 2005: 110, © Bill Marsden).*

References: NAA 2001a; Speed 2005; Speed and Rogers 2004.

Roebuck Hill, Jump, Barnsley SE 3790 0165

This site was located on the gentle east-facing slope of Roebuck Hill on the north side of Jump near Barnsley. In advance of the construction of a housing estate, a geophysical survey of the area was undertaken in 2003 (GeoQuest Associates 2004), followed by an evaluation by trial trenching by NAA. In addition to the late Iron Age and Romano-British features described below, there was an earlier prehistoric flint scatter, and post-medieval pottery kilns and other industrial activity.

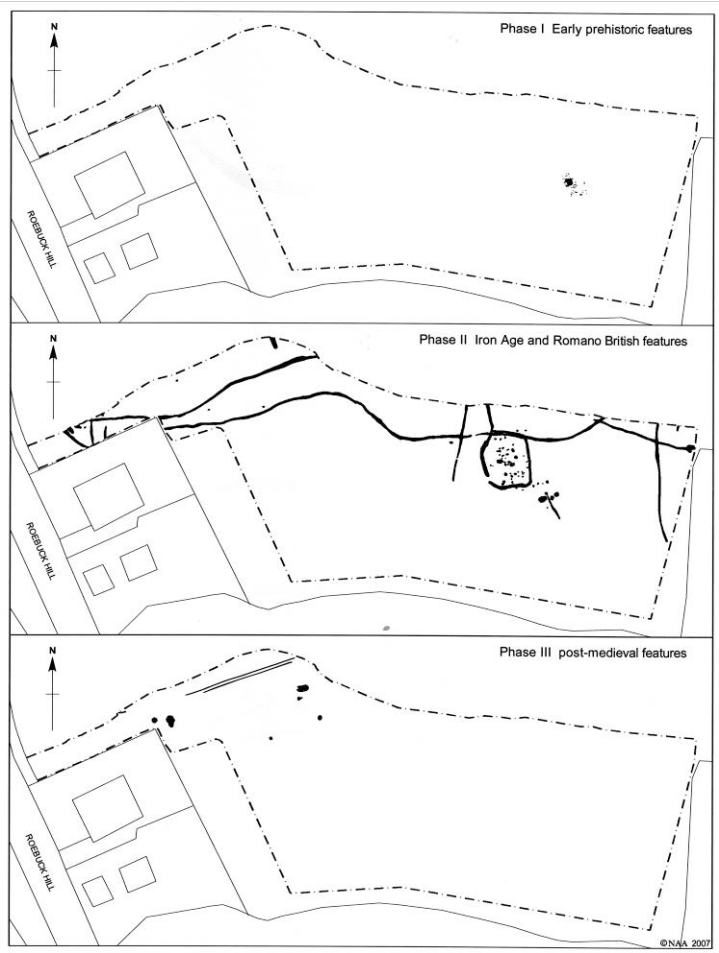


Figure G.409. (left). *Broad phasing of the archaeological features excavated at Roebuck Hill, Jump, S. Yorks. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).*

A subrectangular enclosure defined by ditches enclosing an area approximately 23m long and 20m wide was investigated. These ditches were up to 1.8m wide and 0.55m deep, with at least one possible recut recorded.

The enclosure had a narrow entrance *c.* 1.80m wide in the south-west corner, and the terminal 1632 contained a fragment of beehive quern.

A group of 17 sherds of coarse vesicular pottery was found in the north-east segment of ditch excavated, possibly another placed deposit, in addition to large numbers of burnt and heat-shattered stones. The enclosure contained a large number of postholes and pits, some of which contained further coarse pottery and burnt stone. A group of postholes in the middle of the enclosure may have represented a building of uncertain plan, but possibly rectangular in form. Close to this possible structure, pit 1684 may have been a hearth, and contained evidence of *in situ* burning, burnt wood and stone and a burnt quern. Pit 1677 was partly lined with stones and may have been a cist – it contained cremated animal bone, possibly of a dog or a dog-sized animal. Also of note was cut 1673, a pit containing burnt bone, pottery and fragments of clay loomweights and other fired and unfired clay. This may well have been a placed deposit, or series of them.

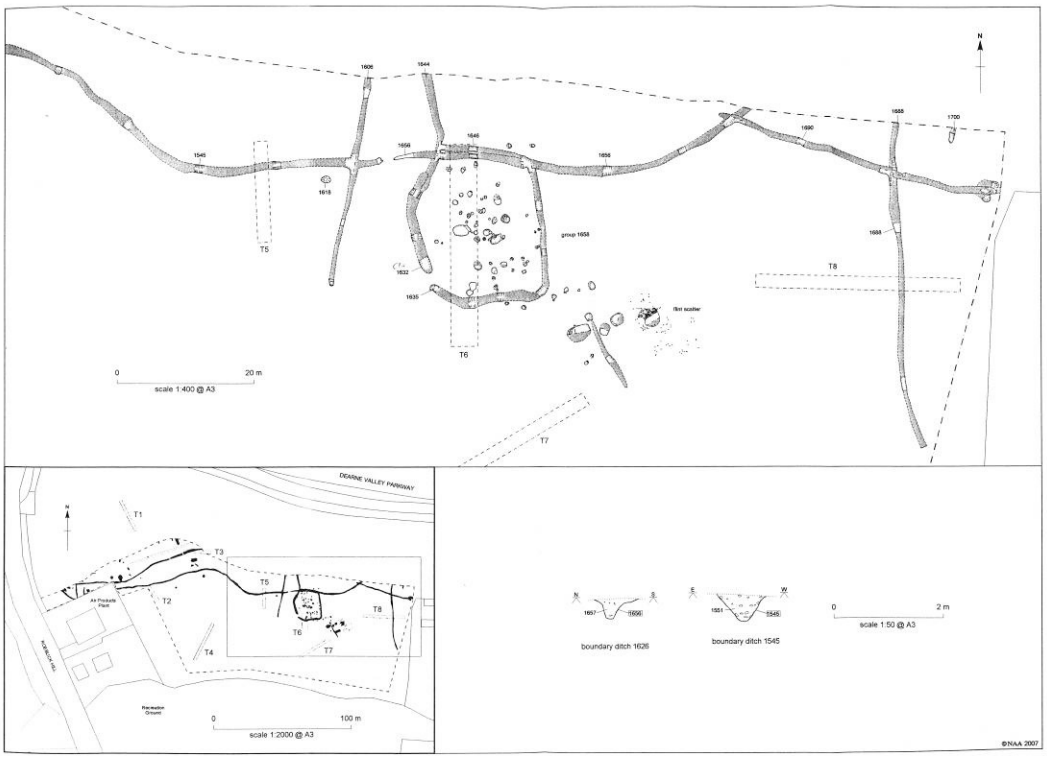


Figure G.410. *The location of the subrectangular enclosure in relation to the later boundary ditch features. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).*

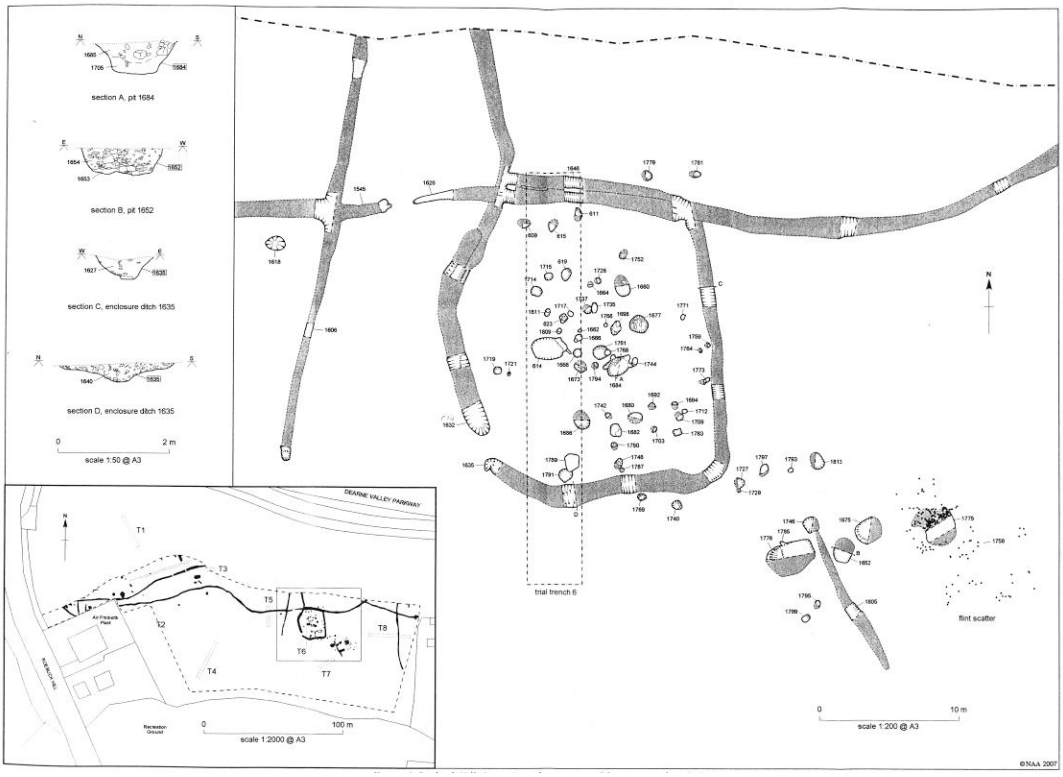


Figure G.411. *More detailed plan of the excavated enclosure, illustrating the density of internal pit and posthole features, and also the locations of those immediately outside of the enclosure. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).*

In the south-east part of the enclosure were a series of postholes that were similar in shape and form to others outside of the enclosure ditch, perhaps the remains of a roundhouse pre-dating the construction of the enclosure ditch (Robinson and Johnson 2007: 19). There could also have been a four-post structure in the south-east corner, perhaps screened by a timber partition. South-east of the enclosure were pits and gullies containing further coarse pottery and burnt stone and bone, but also flint spalls and reworked flint pieces. These may well have been derived from an earlier prehistoric flint scatter located just to the east, but it might also be possible that some of the flint was later prehistoric in date.

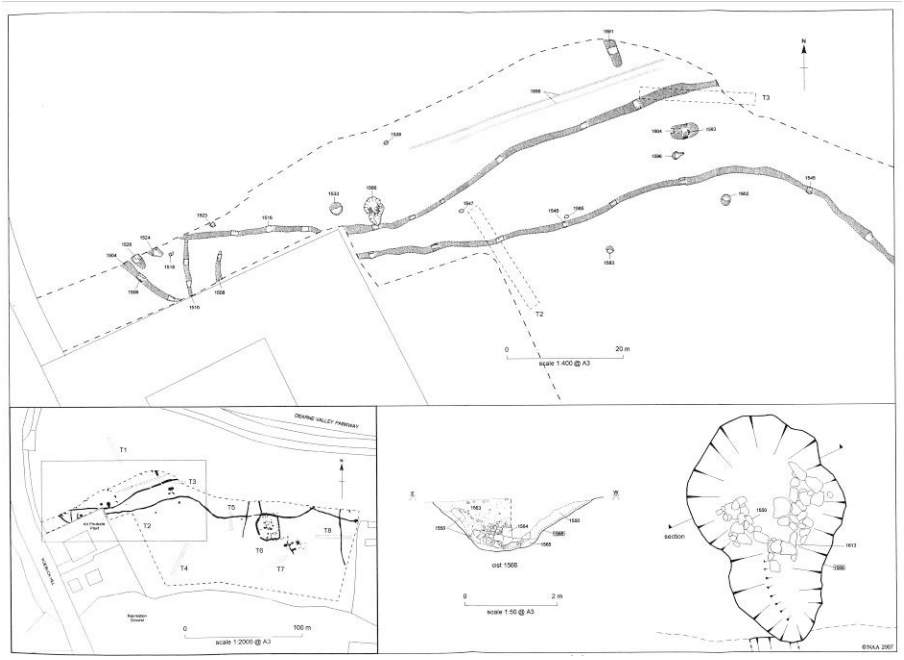


Figure G.412. *Detail of the western part of the site.(Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).*

The enclosure ditch was cut by a later east-west boundary ditch forming a major linear boundary along Roebuck Hill, with an entrance through it on the north-west side of the enclosure into a possible trackway leading off to the north. However, there may have been an east-west trackway too, with a possible funnel opening out towards the east. To the west of the site, one major linear boundary post-dated one of a series of smaller ditches and gullies, suggesting several phases of activity here.

The features excavated at Roebuck Hill are only a few hundred metres to the south of the enclosures and boundaries in and adjacent to Wombwell Wood, and also those investigated at Upper Wood Head Farm. They may well have all formed part of the same upland complex.

Figure G.413. (left). *Coarse late Iron Age or Romano-British pottery excavated at Roebuck Hill, Jump. (Source: © L. Matthews, SYAS).*

References: GeoQuest Associates 2004; Robinson and Johnson 2007.

Rossington Bridge fortress and surrounds SK 6280 9900

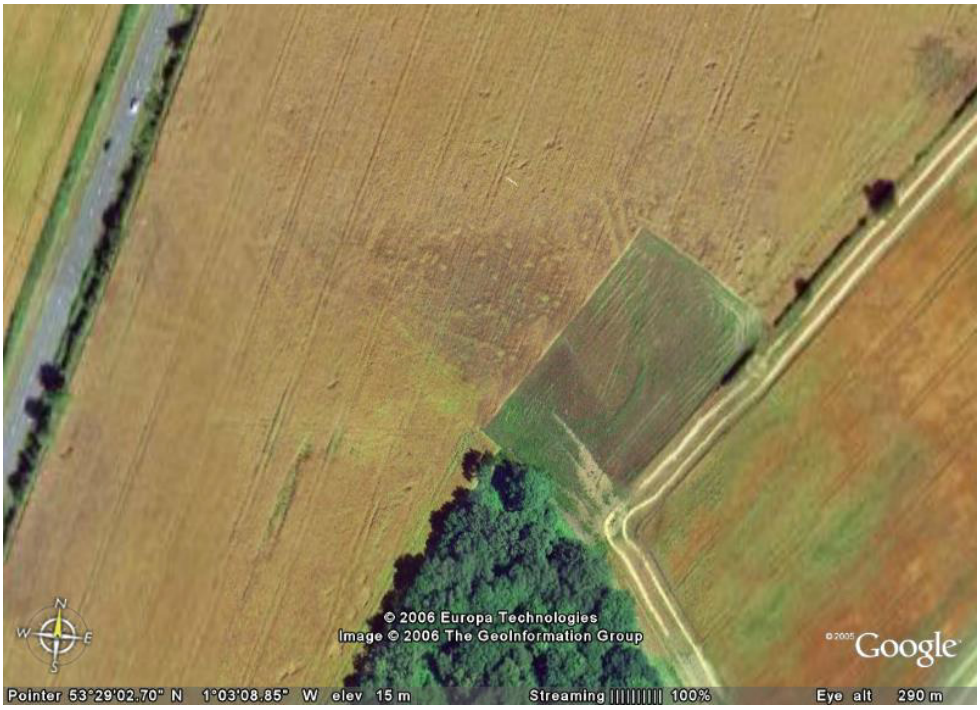


Figure G.414. *Aerial view of the fortress site at Rossington Bridge. In the centre of the image, north of the triangular copse of trees forming Gelster Wood, the lines of two ditches can be identified, including the distinctive 'playing card' south-east corner of the defences. This lies to the south-east of the corner of the main fortress identified on the geophysical survey below. (Source: © Google Earth).*

The cropmarks of a Roman camp at Rossington Bridge were first published by Keith St Joseph in 1969, with further detail added in later years (St Joseph 1969, 1977). It is now thought to have been a vexillation fortress 9.2ha in area, orientated north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east, with the characteristic 'playing card' shape of Roman forts and marching camps, and a possible north-east facing main entrance. It was situated on flat ground on the edge of a slight river terrace at around 10m OD, with the ground to the north sloping down to around 5m OD and the now canalised course of the River Torne. The defences were probably constructed of earth, turf and timber, with a circuit of two ditches surrounding it, and it is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Many authors have speculated that this was built prior to the invasion of the north in AD 70-71, protecting what was then the northern frontier but also perhaps serving as a base for limited incursions northwards such as that proposed in support of Cartimandua (Breeze and Dobson 1985; Buckland 1986; Hartley 1980, Hartley and Fitts 1988). It may then have been abandoned after the invasion of the north. Magilton (1977: 63) records wooden piles set into the bed of the River Torne near the fort where the Roman road crossed.

Riley (1980: 94, map 8) showed that a sinuous double-ditched trackway approached the fort from the south (Fig. D.08), and recent aerial photographic analyses by Alison Deegan as part of the Magnesian Limestone Project have identified a straight double-ditched feature that might be a Roman road also approaching the fortress (A. Deegan pers. comm.; Roberts et al. 2007). Fieldwalking undertaken as part of the Humber Wetlands Project noted a large concentration of prehistoric and Roman-period finds

from the general area (Head et al. 1997: 27, 290), whilst metalwork finds from between the SAM and the River Torne contained an interesting mix of late Iron Age and early Roman period objects, and generally support the notion that the fortress was probably built and occupied in the mid-first century AD, between AD 50-60 (Head et al. 1997: 275-278; O'Connor 2001: 91; Van de Noort 2004: 116).

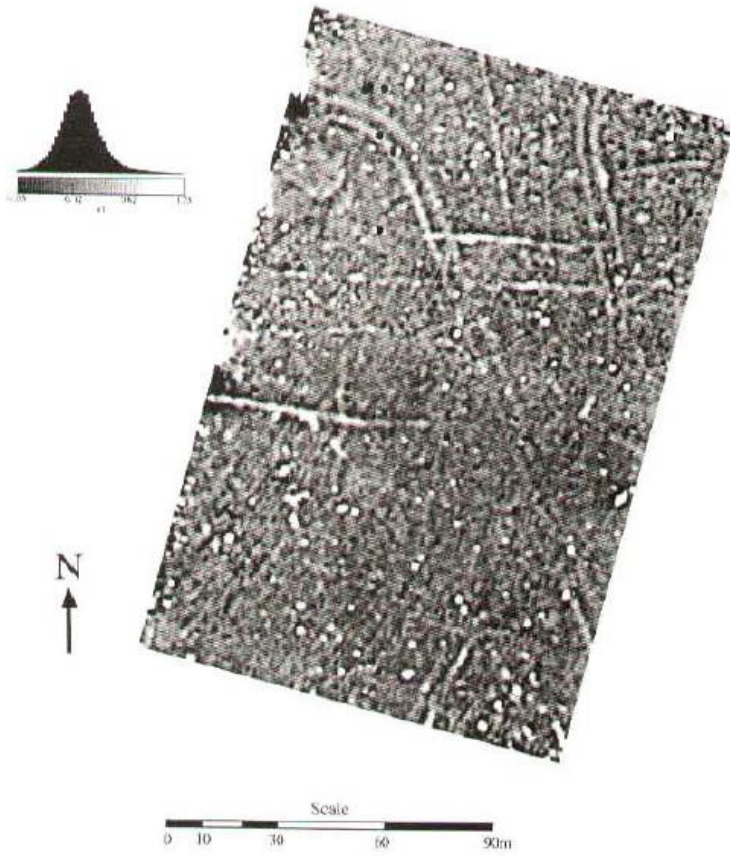


Figure G.415. *Geophysical survey of part of the Rossington Bridge fortress site, showing the double ditches of the main camp identified from cropmarks to the west, but with the corner of another camp to the east, and a third possible fort located to the south, all on different alignments. (Source: Head et al. 1997: fig. 12.7).*

There have been two recent geophysical surveys undertaken over part of the SAM area, by English Heritage on behalf of the Humber Wetlands Project (Head et al. 1997; Payne 1995), and by AS WYAS as a result of a proposed park and ride scheme (Schofield 2003). The latter incorporates the triangular area to the north known as Parrot's Corner. Additional linear boundaries and pits were identified, including a possible trackway leading towards the north-eastern side of the fortress, adding to the stratigraphic complexity already suggested by cropmarks (Buckland 1986: 8-9). More significantly, it is now apparent that there were at least two other forts constructed in the same general locale, all three of the forts on different alignments. This suggests a longer sequence of occupation, and perhaps that the military presence at Rossington Bridge did not end immediately following the invasion of the north. Clearly, further geophysical survey and perhaps targeted excavation over the fortress site itself would be desirable, despite its Scheduled status.

In advance of the proposed park and ride scheme, the triangle of land known as Parrot's Corner was evaluated by NAA in 2003 using fourteen machine-dug trial trenches. Although the area of the main fortress itself will not be affected by the development due to a partial redesign of the scheme, the trenches confirmed the presence of the double-ditched trackway, and a series of ditched boundaries orientated at right-angles to this, forming part of a co-axial field system. Unfortunately, it is not possible to determine if these features lay underneath or were superimposed upon the plan of the main fortress, and thus pre- or post-dated it. Another ditch that occured in several trenches has been interpreted as a *fossa fastigata* or outwork ditch, perhaps protecting the north-eastern side of the fortress (Buglass, Jacobson and Bishop 2007: 88).

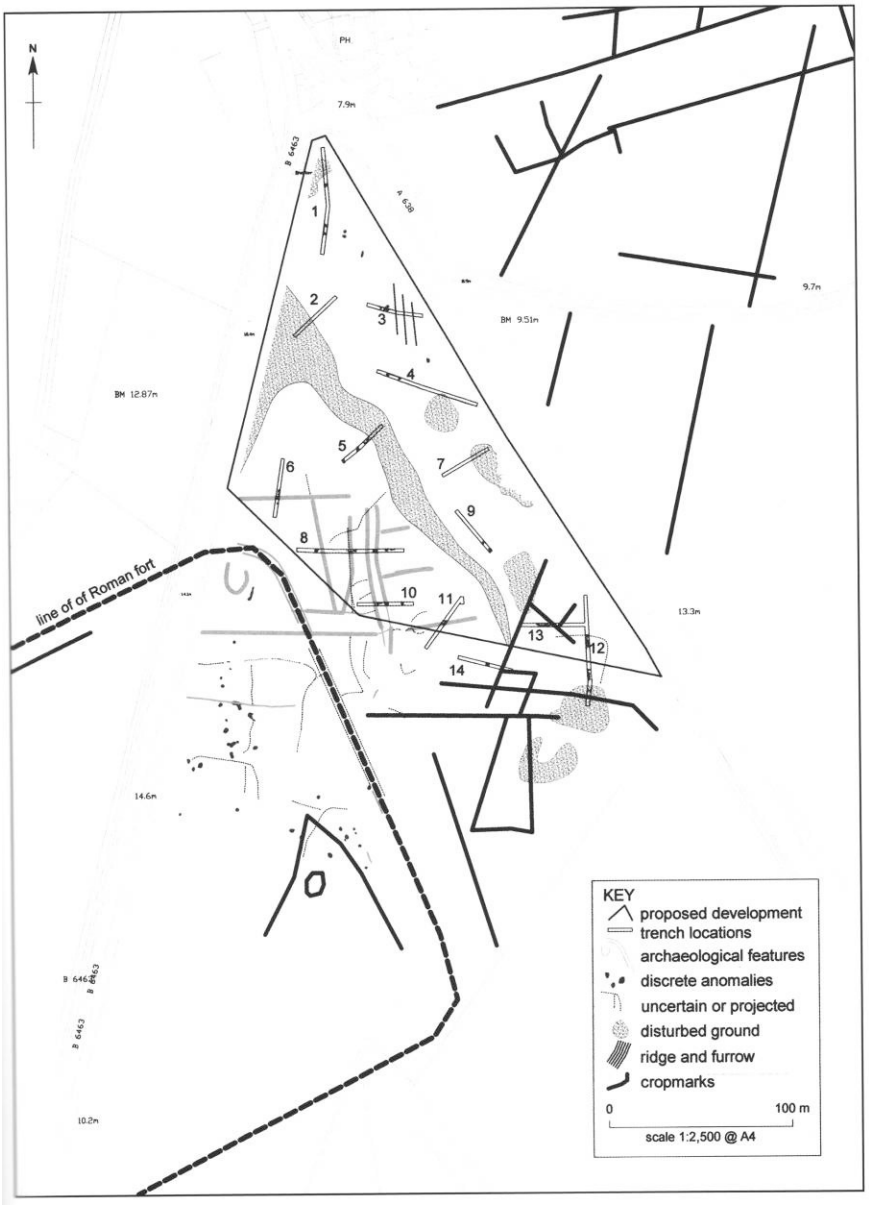


Figure G.416. *Plan showing the development area NAA evaluation trenches at Parrot's Corner, Rossington. Although some of the plotted cropmarks match the results of the geophysical survey shown above, the location of the second fort and its 'playing-card' corner of double ditches to the east of the main fortress is not shown, and it is not clear if these features have been located by the evaluation, although the two ditches at the south-east end of Trench 9 may be these. (Source: Buglass, Jacobson and Bishop 2007: 87).*

The development area is now the subject of an open-area excavation by NAA, although no report on this work is of course yet available. In addition to ditches containing Romano-British pottery, this work has also revealed a small annular gully only 4-5m across with one posthole inside it, and dumps of charcoal and hand-made, late Iron Age or conquest period pottery sherds within one section of the ring gully (A. Lines pers. comm.). This may be another unusual feature comparable to Structure 6 at Topham Farm Sykehouse (see below), and a small annular gully recently excavated at Wattle Syke, near Wetherby in West Yorkshire. Although such features may have a functional purpose as hay or fodder ricks, it is also possible that they represent small rural shrines.

References: Breeze and Dobson 1985; Buckland 1986; Buglass, Jacobson and Bishop 2007; Head et al. 1997; Payne 1995; Riley 1980: 57; Schofield 2003; St Joseph 1969, 1977.

Scawthorpe (Doncaster Park and Ride) SE 5470 0640

In advance of a proposed Park and Ride Scheme at York Road, Scawthorpe, Doncaster, geophysical survey work undertaken by AS WYAS in 2003 confirmed the existence of buried ditches identified on aerial photographs of the area (AS WYAS 2003). An evaluation was then undertaken by NAA during September-October 2004, when ten machine-dug trial trenches were excavated (Fig. G.417). These identified an undated 10m wide east-west double-ditched trackway (Trench 1), and a longer north-south trackway up to 8.5m wide (Trenches 5 and 7) (Bishop 2005). The western ditch of this feature was larger than the eastern ditch, being up to 1.7m wide and 0.75m deep, which may suggest that it also formed part of a significant boundary in the landscape, and/or that the trackway itself was not laid out in one phase.

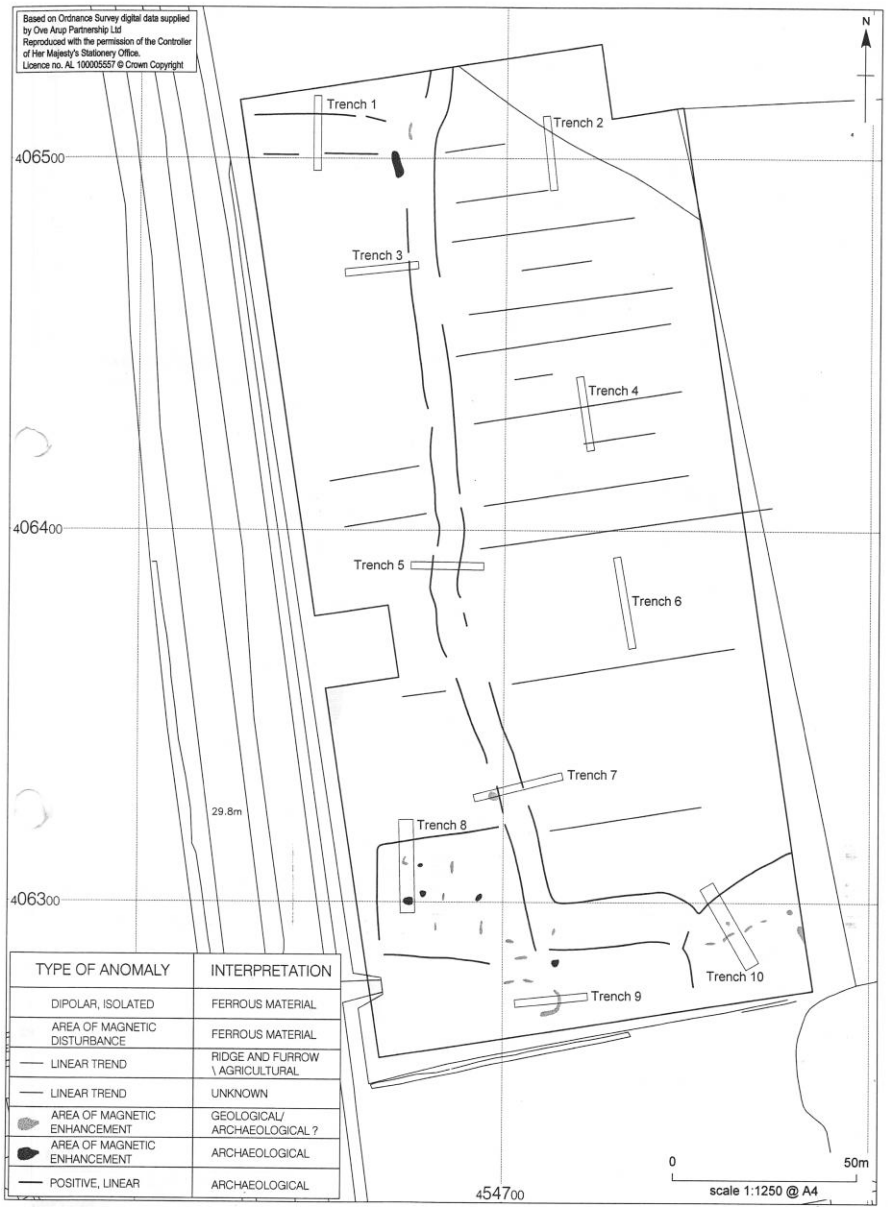


Figure G.417. *The position of the evaluation trenches at Scawthorpe, in relation to features detected by geophysical survey. (Source: Bishop 2005: fig. 2).*

Interestingly, within Trench 7 it was found that the western ditch had been cut by two later kilns or ovens with corbelled stone sides, and filled with ash and carbonised barley grains and emmer wheat chaff (Akeret et al. 2005). The ditch contained charcoal-rich rakeout deposits at this point, and one of these structures had been backfilled with animal bone (Bishop 2005: 7). Part of a possible third kiln was also identified in Trench 7, in addition to copper alloy fragments and possible loomweight fragments (Cowgill 2005). Trench 8 was positioned over a possible trapezoidal enclosure, and the enclosure ditch produced later second and third century AD pottery, whilst linear gullies containing burnt stone and charcoal, areas of burning and a posthole suggested occupation nearby. Unstratified iron nails and a joiner's dog indicated possible timber buildings in the vicinity. Trench 10 was located over another possible enclosure, whose ditch was up to 1.68m wide and 1.03m deep, and contained a possible loomweight. A metalled surface, gullies and pits were also identified, and these produced second and third century pottery, smithing slag, animal bone and two fourth century Roman coins (Brickstock 2005: 25). This indicates domestic occupation and small-scale 'industrial' activities.

Trench 2 produced evidence of four pairs of stakeholes or postholes of a north-west to south-east aligned timber fenceline. It was suggested that these features were late Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date (Bishop 2005: 9), but they could equally have been later prehistoric or Romano-British in date, although they may represent a boundary on a slightly different alignment to the ditched features, and thus possibly a different phase of activity. A revised design for the construction project contained mitigation measures to avoid the two enclosures, so no further archaeological work was possible at these locales.

References: Bishop 2005.

Shafton Bypass (Engine Lane) SE 3960 1050

In advance of work on the Coalfields Link Road, Barnsley MBC commissioned AS WYAS to carry out a desk-based assessment and geophysical survey in January and November 2000 respectively of land on either side of Engine Lane, Shafton. This work highlighted the potential for Iron Age and Romano-British archaeology to be present, and cropmarks and features visible on the geophysical survey demonstrated the existence of linear boundaries, and a D-shaped enclosure with internal subdivisions. Linear anomalies thought to be linked to small-scale coal extraction were also detected.

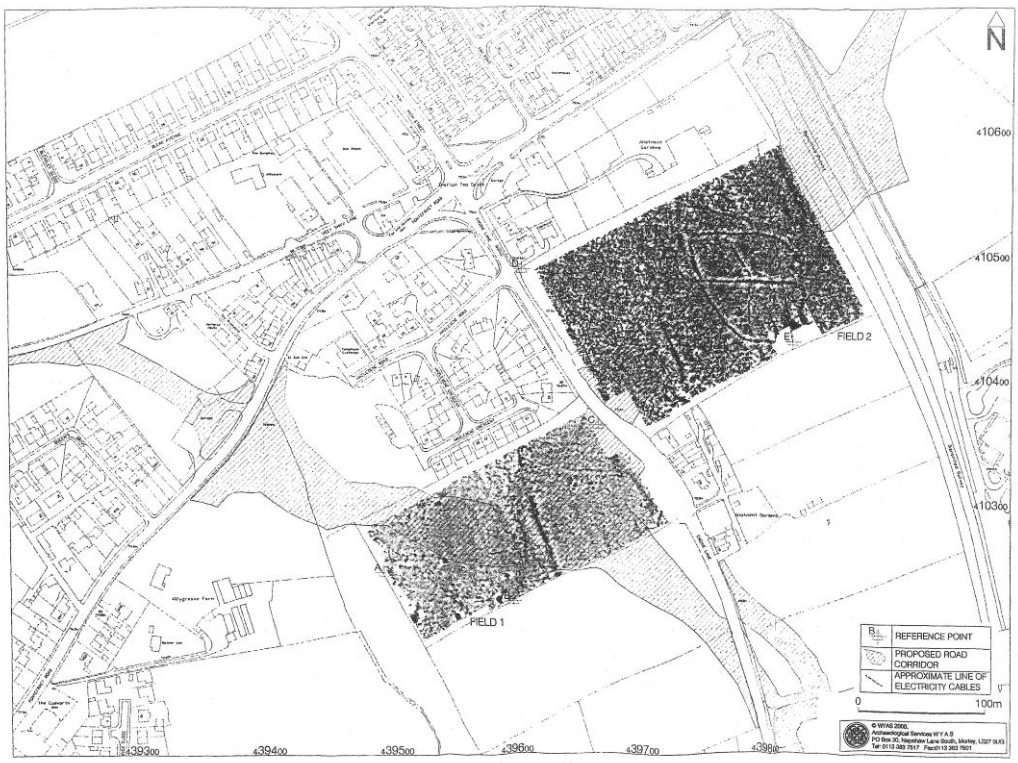


Figure G.418. *Geophysical survey of land on either side of Engine Lane, Shafton, S. Yorks. West of Engine Lane, possible linear boundaries are visible, and on the eastern side of the road a series of boundaries and a D-shaped enclosure can be seen. (Source: Martin 2001).*

During March-April 2001 AS WYAS undertook a programme of trial trenching in the two areas west and east of Engine Lane (Martin 2001). Trenches 1-5 were machine-excavated in the western area. In addition to post-medieval bell pits, tree throws and possible natural periglacial features, a series of pits, gullies and ditches were found, although none produced any dateable artefacts. The trenches to the east of Engine Lane confirmed the presence of the enclosure ditch, and internal features such as pits, postholes and gullies. Two possible entrances were identified – one on the western and one on the eastern side of the enclosure. A small quantity of tap slag and Romano-British pottery likely to be of first to second century AD date was recovered.

Between June-August 2002 the north-western quadrant of the enclosure was excavated. This was located on a flattish area on a south-east facing slope, leading down into a clough with a spring.

Another clough with a spring runs just to the west. The enclosure ditch was up to 3m wide and 1.2m deep, and it was shown that there had originally been a 3m wide west-facing entrance that had been blocked by a substantial later ditch recutting phase. Carbonised wood samples from the primary fill of this recut produced ^{14}C dates of 60 BC–AD 140, and the primary fill of the earlier phase of enclosure ditch a date of 400-200 BC (Burgess 2003).

Figure G.419. *Detail of the geophysical survey of the enclosure at Engine Lane, Shafton. The area selected for further excavation consisted mostly of the upper left (north-west) quadrant of the D-shaped enclosure, along with part of the lower left area of the enclosure. (Source: Keith, Webb and Whittingham 2005).*

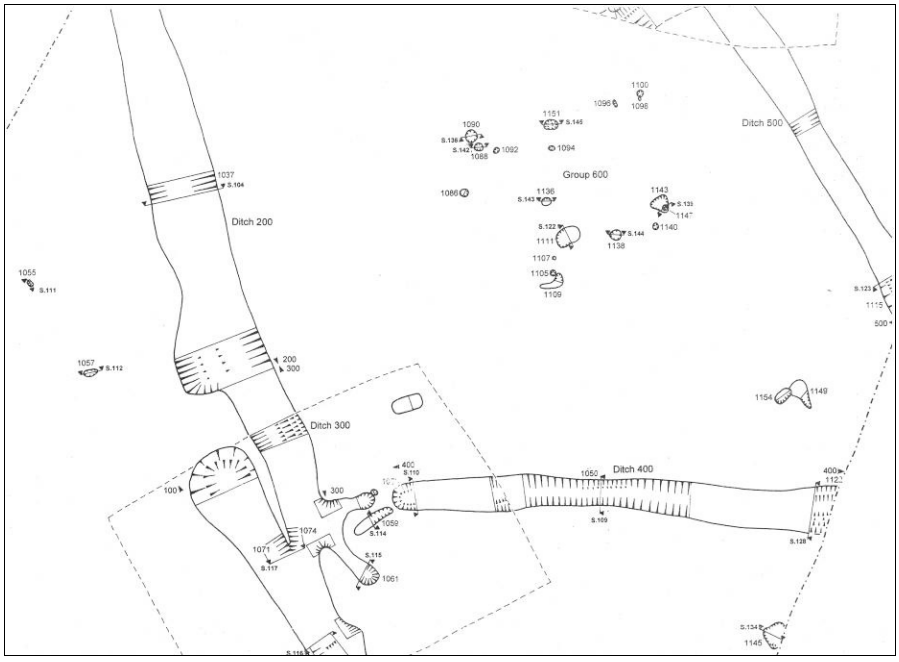


Figure G.420. *Part of the excavated area at Engine Lane, Shafton. An original west-facing entrance (lower left) was later blocked by a ditch recut. (Source: Martin 2001).*

The terminal of the east-west partition ditch 400 contained fragments of a Roman glass bangle, and this may have been a placed deposit. The primary fill of this ditch was ^{14}C dated to 380-50 BC. There was probably an internal entrance into the south-eastern quadrant of the enclosure at this point. East of the possible original entrance was a group of postholes that may have formed a rectangular structure, though late truncation made it difficult to ascertain the plan and function of this. The pottery recovered from some of these features and the ditches was mostly late first to early third century AD in date, although the sherds from the possible rectangular building were late third or fourth century (Evans 2001e). Only a few heavily burnt, fragmentary pieces of animal bone were recovered, and a small number of charred cereal grains.

The internal subdivisions within the enclosure are of interest, and suggest a clear desire to divide it up into distinct functional and/or social spatial zones. Sadly, as only approximately 30% of the interior was excavated, this cannot be proven. The reason for the marked D-shape is also not clear, although the geophysical survey and Trench 7 in the evaluation recorded a ditch aligned east-west, roughly parallel to the northern circuit of the enclosure ditch, and possibly forming part of a 7-10m wide trackway with it. It is also significant that due to the radiocarbon dating of charred material from primary ditch fills, an earlier Iron Age phase and much longer occupational history for the enclosure seems likely, despite the lack of artefactual evidence for this (see Chapter 10). Such dating should clearly take place more regularly on these sites.

References: Burgess 2001e, 2003; Keith, Webb and Whittingham 2005.

Shafton High Street SE 3910 1070

In advance of the construction of a housing development on land off High Street, Shafton, geophysical survey undertaken by AS WYAS in March 1999 identified a double-ditched trackway, field boundaries and a possible subrectangular or D-shaped enclosure (Webb and Whittingham 1999). This was followed by an evaluation programme of trial trenching in September-October 1999. Sixteen machine-dug trenches confirmed the presence of the trackway and the enclosure ditches, but also recorded internal features within the enclosure, including a possible rectangular structure, a four-post structure, and a metalled surface. A possible roundhouse wasrevealed just outside of the enclosure's western ditch, and later post-medieval bell pits and other features associated with coal extraction were also found (Howell 1999, 2005). The pottery recovered indicated earlier Romano-British occupation.

Open-area excavation took place during June-August 2000, and this focused on three main areas. Area 1 examined the enclosure and its surrounds, and demonstrated that this was a 'clothes line' enclosure that had been appended to a major north-west to south-east aligned boundary ditch (Ditch 1) up to 3m wide and 1.1m deep (Burgess 2001d). It appeared in plan that the ditches forming the subrectangular enclosure and an internal subdivision (Ditches 2 and 5) post-dated this main feature, with the lack of a gap between them and the major boundary suggesting the presence of a bank on the eastern side

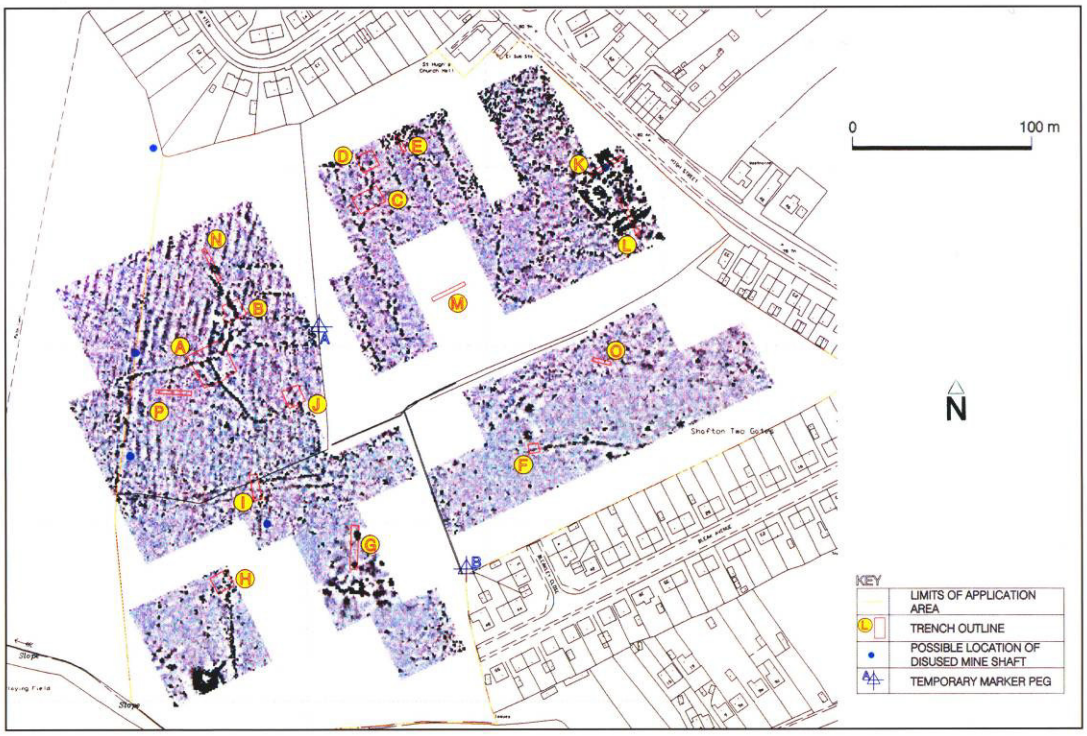


Figure G.421. *The results of the geophysical survey of land off High Street, Shafton, with the locations of the trial trenches superimposed on top of it. (Source: Howell 2005: 113).*

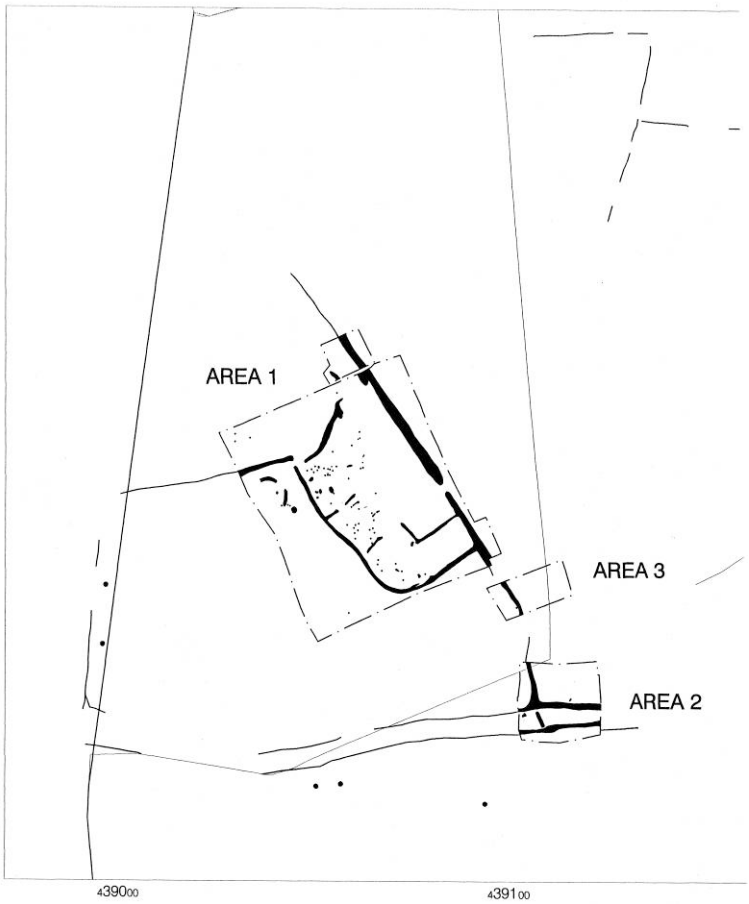


Figure G.422. *Outline of the open-area excavation at High Street, Shafton, showing the three main excavation areas and the 'clothes line' enclosure. (Source: Burgess 2001d).*

of the latter. Slumping was also greater from the eastern side of the main boundary ditch. However, stratigraphically Ditch 1 appeared to cut Ditches 2 and 5, suggesting that the former had been recut along its length, but this recut had made the boundary ditch deeper and wider and so was not visible in section. The fills of Ditch 1 yielded 63% of the entire ceramic assemblage from the site, the majority of these from three near complete vessels found in three different hand-excavated sections. These indicated that this ditch began to be infilled during the second century AD (Evans 2001d). Heat-shattered stones and a copper-alloy bead were also found in Ditch 1. A likely north-east facing entrance 2m wide had been closedown by a narrower section of ditch in a later phase, and thisareawas later consolidated with a spread of sandstone blocks and clay, some of the former possibly acting as a drain.

The rest of the enclosure ditches were generally smaller, being up to 1.3m wide and 0.46m deep. Ditch 5 formed an L-shaped subdivision in the south-east of the enclosure, whilst a gap approximately 5m wide between Ditches 1 and 4 may have formed a north-west facing entrance. Another narrower gap 1.5m wide in the north-western corner of the enclosure may also have been an entrance. A metalled surface had been created at this point in a wear hollow between the ditches.

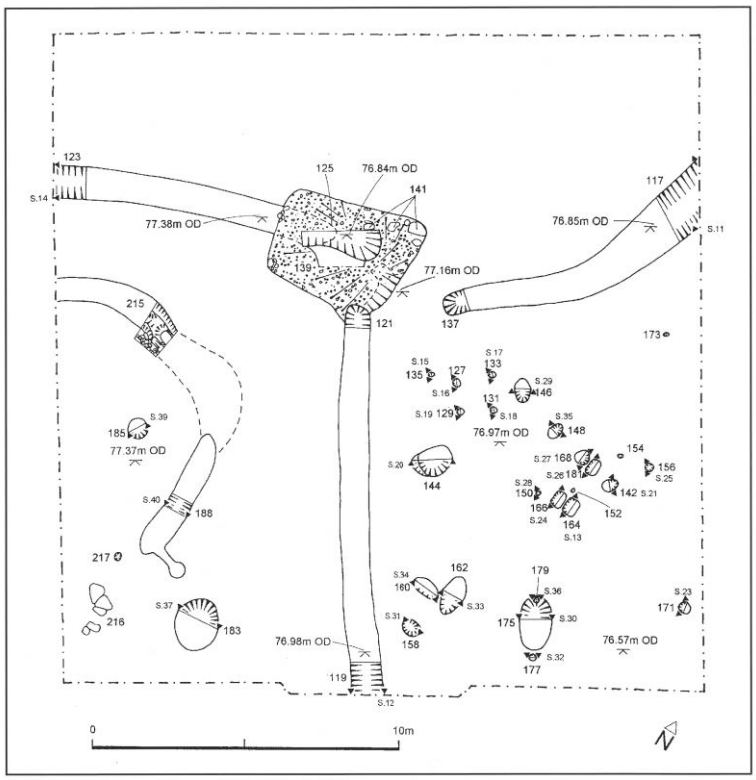


Figure G.423. *The north-west corner of the enclosure at High Street, Shafton, showing the possible north-west entrance with its metalled surface, the external roundhouse ring gully and stone wall footings, and a possible four-post structure, along with other postholes. (Source: Howell 2005: 69).*

The roundhouse was located outside of the north-west corner and possible entrance of the enclosure, and consisted of a curvilinear ring gully approximately 8m in diameter with stone wall footings, a south-east facing entrance defined by postholes and remains of a possible flagged surface (Burgess 2001d; Howell 1999). Much of this structure had probably been robbed and/or truncated by ploughing,

and only a single sherd of first or second century AD pottery was recovered from it. Within the north-west corner of the enclosure were possible four-post and six-post structures, along with further postholes and a slot from one or more further ill-defined structure(s). At the western, central part of the enclosure, another group of postholes may have represented another poorly defined subrectangular structure, whilst in the south-eastern quadrant of the enclosure further postholes and a short section of curvilinear gully may be remnants of another roundhouse. Two external hearth pits with *in situ* burning were also found there. Although a small quantity of hammerscale was recovered, the magnetic response from the fills of the enclosure Ditch 2 was much higher than that from Ditch 1, suggesting a greater intensity of burning and/or cooking activity in this area as opposed to Ditch 1 (A. Burgess pers. comm.). Ditch 2 also contained a greater quantity of burnt and heat-shattered stones. Most of the possible structural features were concentrated in the western half of the enclosure, which with the internal dividing ditches indicates clear spatial distinctions in activities.

Area 2 examined the junction between boundary Ditch 1 and the trackway, and confirmed the presence of a double-ditched trackway between 3-5m wide. It was considered likely that the major boundary and the northernmost trackway ditch had co-existed in an early phase, but that the trackway ditch had been recut after Ditch 1 went out of use (Burgess 2001d). At some point a short gully had been inserted across the width of the trackway – this either represented a blocking episode, or more likely marked the position of a gate structure. It is noteworthy that it continues the same line as Ditch 1. No animal bone was recovered at all from High Street, Shafton, although some carbonised emmer and spelt grains and chaff and weed remains were found, the majority from the external hearth contexts. These remains perhaps even indicate a producer site although the lack of excavated querns may suggest otherwise, and the crop might have been imported onto the site from elsewhere (Young 2001).

References: Burgess 2001d; Howell 1999; Webb and Whittingham 1999.

Stancil SK 6098 9605

Workmen digging a pipe trench in 1938 on Stancil Farm found a human skeleton, and the police and workers may have eventually dug out over forty skeletons, some of these remains being taken to Doncaster Museum. These finds, and the description of walling found near the skeletons, eventually prompted excavations in 1938-39 by R. Smedley, curator of Doncaster Museum, and C.E. Whiting. They found further skeletons, unstratified medieval and Roman pottery, and a series of walls. One wall was curved and associated with what was probably a reddish *opus signinum* floor, with a possible drain associated with this (Whiting 1943: 261). Further investigations revealed the mortared stone footings of rectangular buildings from at least two phases of construction. Building 1 had a hypocaust floor with vertical stacks of surviving brick or tile *pilae*, an *opus signinum* floor, and walls decorated with painted plaster. Frgmentary remains of at least two other substantial stone buildings were found, in addition to over thirty more human skeletons. Mortaria, platters and cooking and storage vessel sherds were found.

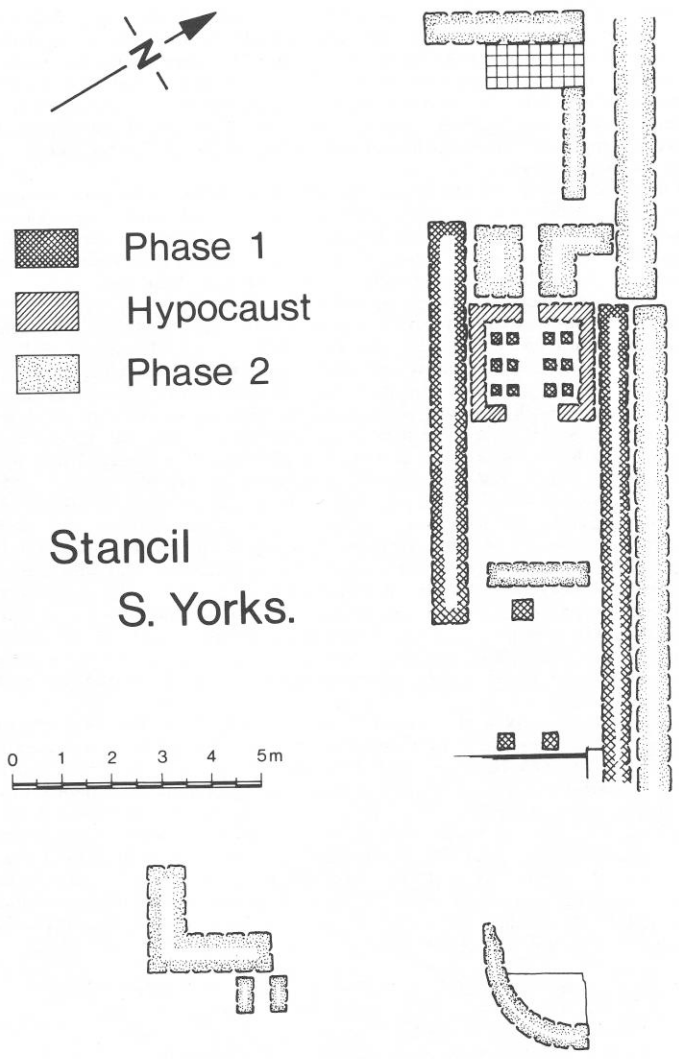


Figure G.424. *Redrawn plan of the 1938-39 excavations at Stancil, based on Whiting's 1943 original. (Source: Buckland 1986: 37, fig. 22).*

The outbreak of the Second World War interrupted further work, but this was probably a blessing in disguise as the quality of the excavation and recording seems to have been rather poor, judging from the few published photographs and drawings. All of the finds and human remains have subsequently been lost, and so it is not clear what was actually uncovered. There seems to have been a bathhouse with a plunge pool and heated rooms decorated with plaster, and although interpreted by Whiting as part of a villa complex (Whiting 1943: 268) this was not necessarily the case. The bathhouse may have been associated with a 'Romanised' settlement certainly, but this may have been a large aisled house or another form of substantial building. The nature of the burial evidence is also extremely intriguing, and suggests the later use of the site as a cemetery, though whether this was in the immediate post-Roman period or in later medieval times is not clear. One skeleton is recorded as partly *underlying* one wall (ibid.: 267), and they are described as lying in many different directions, unlike the normal Christian practice. Local folklore did seem to refer to the site as an old cemetery. Whiting also describes finding remains of a wattle and daub structure (ibid.: 268), which he interpreted as part of a medieval cottage, although this could also be of prehistoric or Romano-British date. Clearly though, the medieval pottery suggests some form of occupation during this period.

The complex was located on the north-eastern end of a very subtle ridge approximately 10m OD extending out into the otherwise extremely flat and low-lying ground at 5m OD or less, forming part of the floodplain of the River Torne. Place names such as carr and the presence of many drainage dikes and ditches show that this area would have been seasonally flooded until post-medieval and early modern drainage. This 'isthmus' in the floodplain may have attracted later occupation because of this. Apart from the gravel ridge, much of the subsoils in the area consist of alluvial silts and clays, but Riley (1980: 92, map 7) noted cropmarks of a trackway c. 9-10m wide with a funnel-shaped opening extending out onto the carr. This is a an unusual location for a villa or even a high-status Romano-British complex (although similar to the setting of the villa complex at Cromwell in the Trent Valley), and the nature of the landscape and the lack of cropmarks in the immediate vicinity suggest a concern with grazing livestock rather than arable production on a large, centralised estate. Due to the fact that so little is known about the site, and despite the likely considerable disturbance caused by the pipe laying work and the subsequent excavations, this locale would benefit from further research-led fieldwork, including detailed geophysical survey and targeted excavation.

References: Buckland 1986; Riley 1980; Whiting 1943.

Templeborough (Templebrough), Rotherham SK 4080 9160

When the steelworks of Steel, Peech and Tozer was extended in 1916 due to the demands of the First World War, the mayor of Rotherham persuaded Rotherham Borough Council and members of the public to fund the excavation of the known Roman fort site by Thomas May between November 1916-July 1917. The subsequent publication too was partly underwritten by the council and the steel firm. The quality of the subsequent investigations was good for the day, and certainly much better than Whiting's excavations at Stancil several decades later. There were actually several phases of fort at Templebrough (spelt differently to the modern place-name, following May 1922). These were situated approximately 1km west of the confluence of the Rivers Don and Rother, on a slight plateau around 30-40m OD, above the marshy floodplain of the River Don. This area was known as Castle Garth, and still visible earthworks of banks and ditches had attracted previous antiquarian interest (May 1922: 2), including limited excavations by Freemantle and the Rotherham Literary Society in 1877-78.

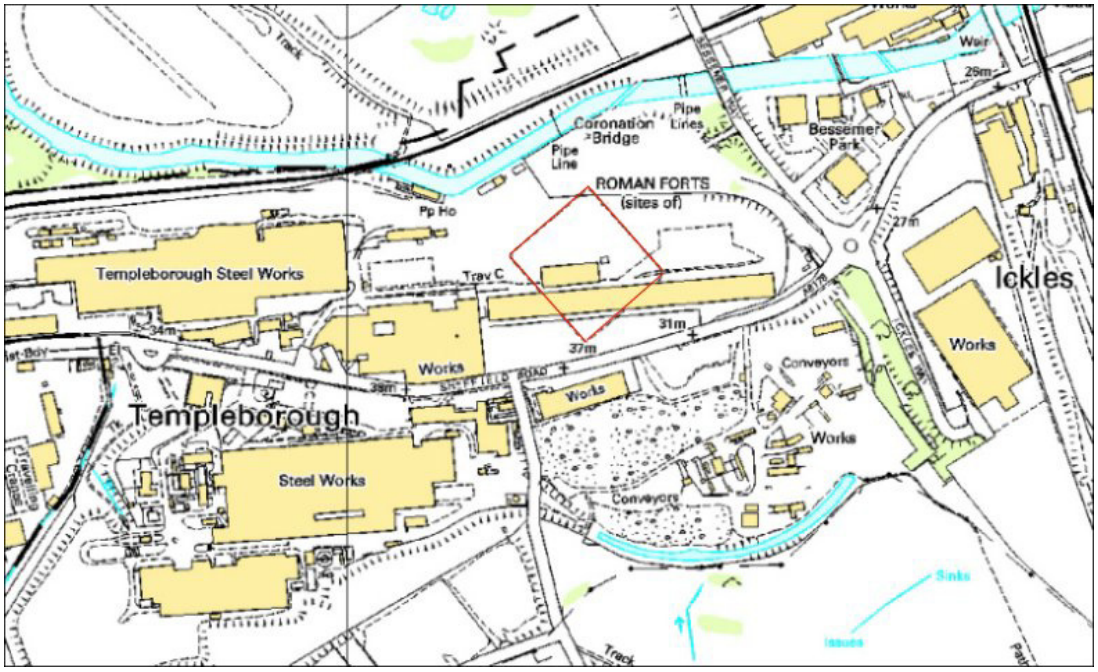


Figure G.425. *The location of the Templebrough forts on the south bank of the River Don. (Source: World Wide Web http://www2.rotherham.gov.uk/lendlearn/museumimage/fort/Templeborough.jpg.*

The first phase fort was approximately 2.4-2.6ha in extent, with a broad ditch and a turf and earth bank set on gravel foundations, with timber palisades (May 1922: 16-17). It may have been constructed in AD 54-55 as part of the then northern frontier defences, and would have accommodated up to 800 troops, probably an auxiliary unit (the *IV cohors Gallorum*) including cavalry. Tombstones of men serving with this unit were re-used as building materials in later phases. Some coins of Augustus (30 BC – AD 14) and Nero (AD 54-68) support this early occupation date. Most of the early phase buildings were probably built of wood, except for the bathhouse down by the river, and perhaps the headquarters block or *praetorium* (Buckland 1986: 30). After serving as one forward base during the invasion of the north, by the mid-second century AD this fort was probably abandoned, but later in the

second century it was rebuilt with a sandstone-faced clay rampart enclosing 2.1ha, with stone granaries and a commander's house with a colonnaded veranda (May 1922: 38-39, plate VIa). In the latter, a hoard of 19 silver *denarii* dated to around AD 161-175 was found. This fort could have held around 500 men.

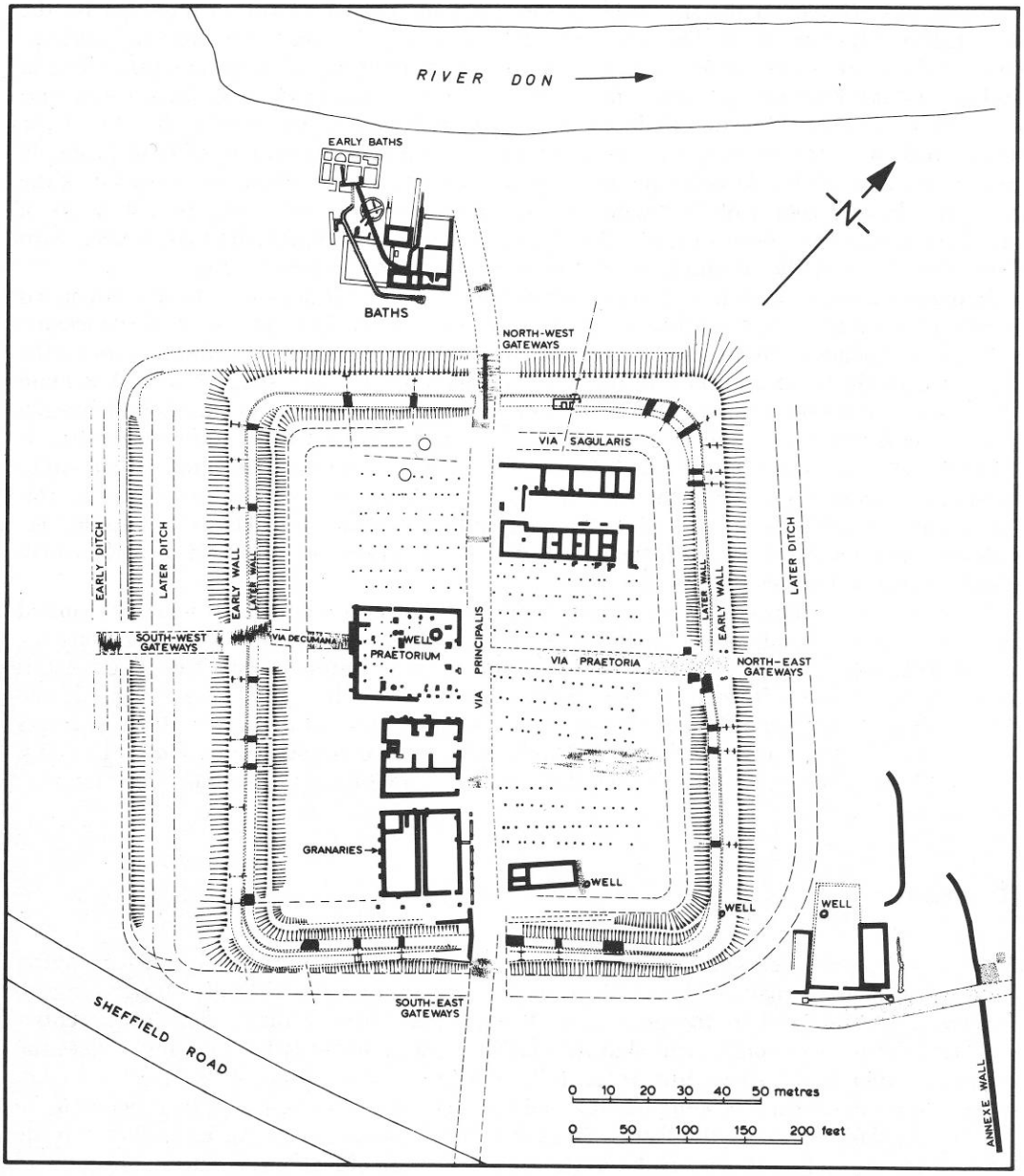
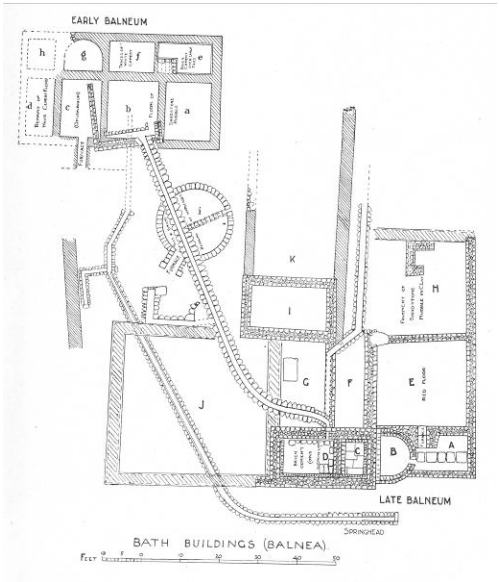


Figure G.426. *Redrawing of May's original 1922 plan of Templebrough, showing three forts superimposed on one another, and two phases of bathhouse down by the River Don. The lines of postholes possibly relate to wooden barrack and/or granary blocks within the first phase fort. (Source: Buckland 1986: 31, fig. 17).*

The third phase of fort identified by May at Templebrough is much more uncertain, but this might have been about 1.8ha in extent, re-using much masonry from earlier buildings and defences, and was probably in use until the mid-fourth century AD. Coins found during the excavations included some later third century issues of Carausius (AD 286-293) (May 1922: 67).



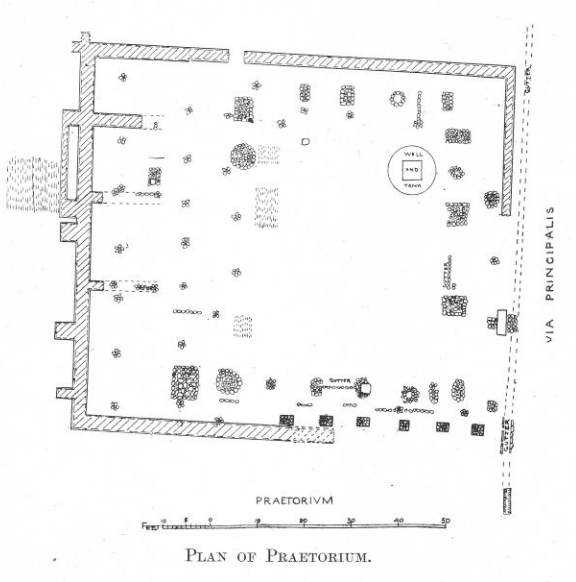


Figure G.427. (left). *The two main phases of balnea or bathhouses. (Source: May 1922: plate XLIX).*
Fig. G.428. (right). *Plan of the praetorium. (Source: May 1922: plate XLVI).*

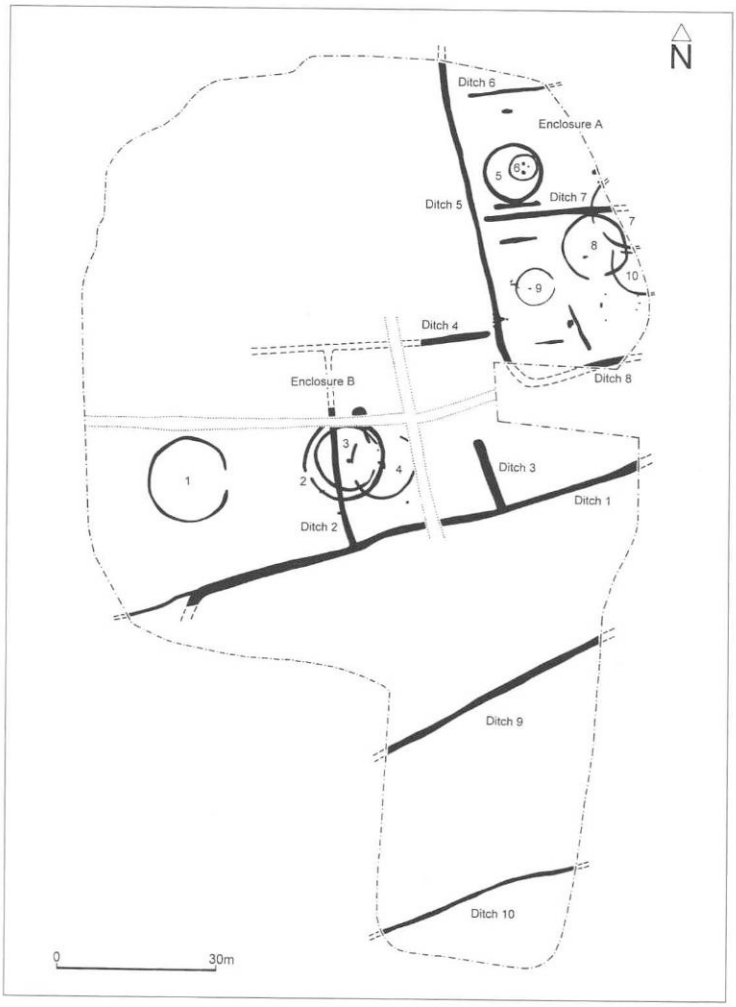
Large quantities of mortaria, Black Burnished ware, samian and amphorae sherds were recovered, in addition to weights, rings, quernstones and many worked stone fragments. In April 1918, after the excavations had ceased, workmen uncovered a well with a shaft lined with oak planks, and which also contained a gold ring, glass beads, a near complete but fragmented black burnished Belgic ware vessel, an ivory roundel and quern fragments (ibid.: 36). A well excavated in 1877-78 had contained many quernstones and leather sandal soles (ibid.: 59). The *vicus* of the fort was probably on the south side of the fort, along the line of Rycknield Street (Buckland 1986: 32; Greene 1957b: 281). W.V. Wade from the University of Leeds excavated the southern road to the fort and two 'houses and shops' in this area, although his premature death prevented publication of the results. One interesting tombstone found during the excavations was that of 'Verecunda Rufilia of the civitas of the Dobunni' (May 1922: 130, plate XLVc), a stone erected by her husband Excingus, which is a Gaulish name. Two cremation burials in pottery vessels were also found on the edge of the probable *vicus* (Greene 1957b: 288-290).

Recent demolition work of former steelwork buildings at Templeborough has seen small-scale excavation undertaken by ARCUS early in 2007. No report on this work has yet been submitted to the SYAS, but the bases of some of the fort ditches and *vicus* features survived the later truncation, and some of the latter in particular produced quite large quantities of artefacts, including samian, Spanish and Gaulish amphora, and brick and tile (Mike McCoy pers. comm.). This work suggests that May's phasing is incorrect, especially his 'Fort III'. Rather than a sequence of three successive forts that gradually got smaller, at Templebrough there was probably one large fort with three defensive ditches that were recut once in a later phase. Much of the *vicus* has been preserved *in situ* under a car park.

References: Buckland 1986; Greene 1957b; May 1922; McCoy in prep.

Topham Farm, Sykehouse SE 6230 1720

Again, like Balby Carr, strictly speaking this was not a cropmark site, as no cropmarks were visible on aerial photographs, and geophysical survey did not detect any features either (Bonsall and Whittingham 2002). Archaeological features were only discovered when the alluvium was machined off, in advance of clay extraction for the repair of flood defences (Roberts 2003: 6). This hunch on the part of the excavators has revealed evidence of one of the most important rural settlement sites excavated in South Yorkshire. Even then, the clay-filled features were often very difficult to spot against the natural undisturbed alluvial clay subsoil. The area lies just to the south-west of Topham Farm, on extremely low-lying ground (less than 5m OD) on the floodplain of the River Went. It is within the area of the once much more extensive Humberhead Levels, and the many modern drainage dikes, ditches and field drains in the vicinity indicate that this landscape was probably seasonally flooded until post-medieval and early modern land improvements.



The settlement at Topham Farm probably originated during the later Iron Age but was occupied until at least the early third century AD. In its earliest phase(s), there was probably a subrectangular enclosure (enclosure A) at least 65m long and 50m wide, defined by ditches 5 and 8 that were up to up to 1.5.m wide and 0.5m deep, with the eavesdrop ring gullies of three roundhouses (structures 7, 8 and 10) within, but all overlapping one another. Animal bone was recovered from 7, but 8 contained a possible hearth pit, and its gully produced some Iron Age sherds and a ^{14}C date of 60 BC – AD 140 (Roberts 2003: 8).

Figure G.429. *Plan of the Topham Farm, Sykehouse site showing all excavated features. (Source: Roberts 2003: 4, fig. 3).*

There may also have been an additional enclosure B occupied during this early phase, although it is not clear if ditch 4 extended much further to the west, and it is possible that the roundhouses on this part of

the site were unenclosed. Apart from roundhouse 1, which may or may not have existed in this phase, roundhouses 2-4 all overlapped one another, which again suggests a concern to rebuild structures in approximately the same positions. Structure 2's ring gully produced Iron Age pottery and burnt animal bone, and provided a ^{14}C date of 120 BC – AD 90 (Roberts 2003: 10). The ring gully of structure 3 produced more Iron Age pottery, charred cereal grains, and a date of 179 BC – AD 80.

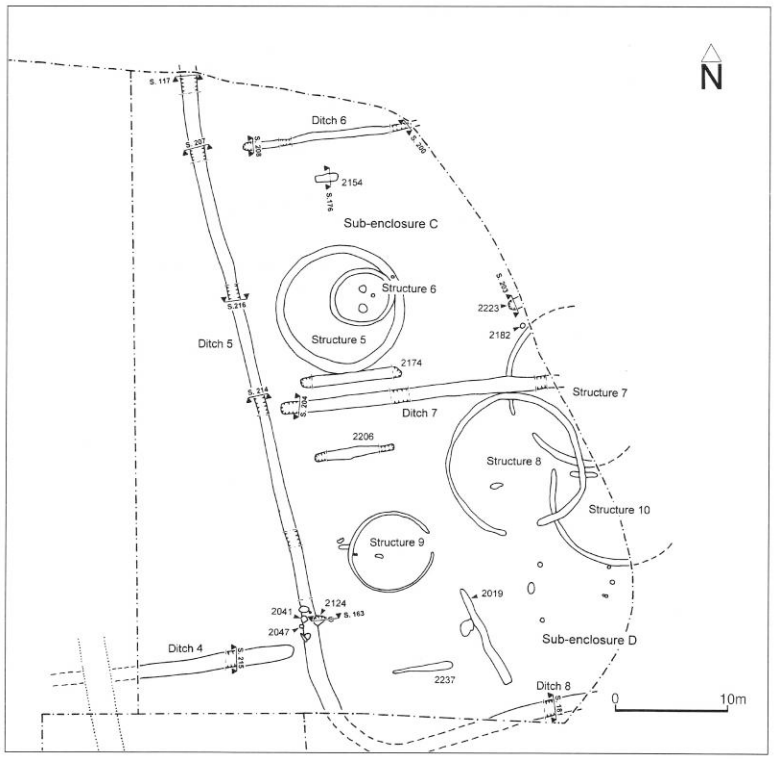


Figure G.430. *Earlier and later phase features associated with Enclosure A, Topham Farm, Sykehouse. (Source: Roberts 2003: 5, fig. 4)*

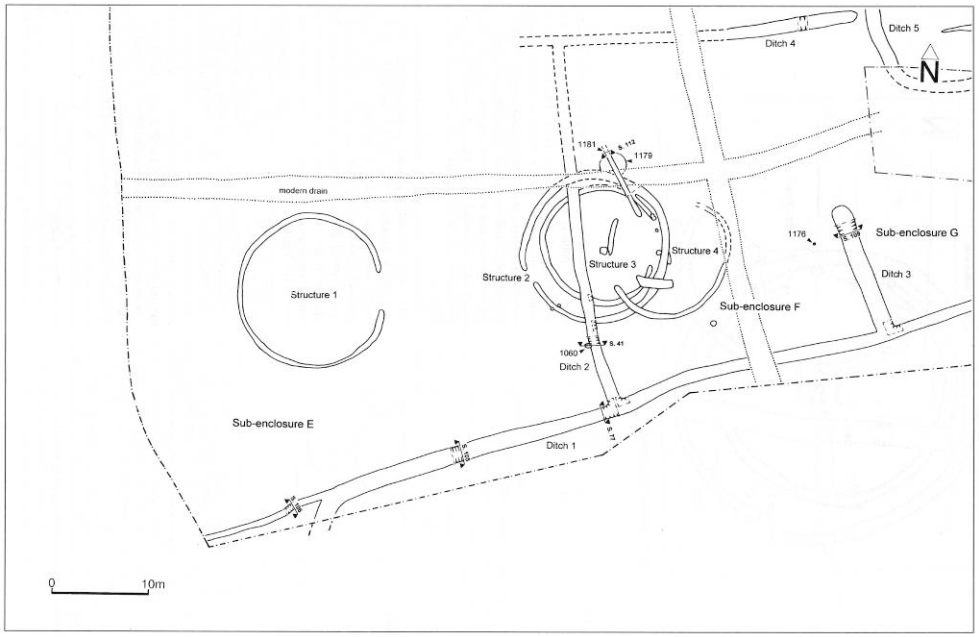
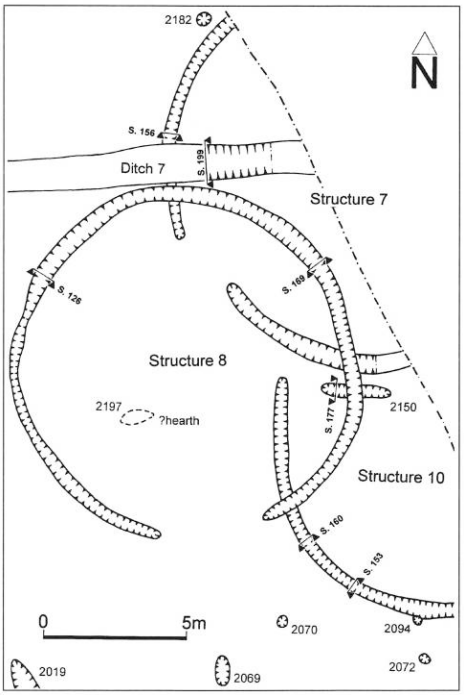


Figure G.431. *Earlier and later phase features associated with Enclosure B, Topham Farm, Sykehouse. (Source: Roberts 2003:95, fig. 8)*



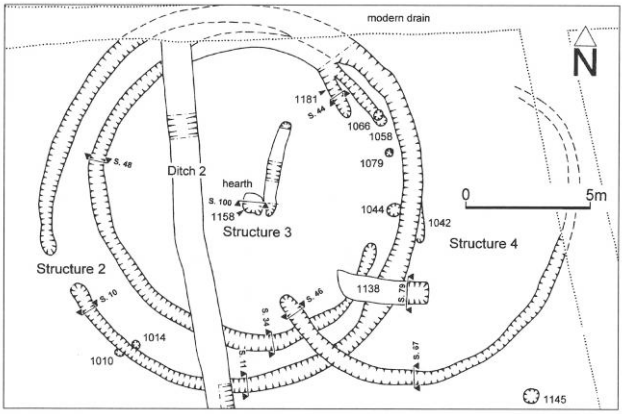


Figure G.432. (left). *Detail of roundhouses 7, 8 and 10.* **Fig. G.433. (above).** *Detail of roundhouses 2, 3 and 4. (Source: Roberts 2003: 6, 10, figs. 5, 9).*

In the second broad phase of occupation, the enclosure ditches were recut, and internal ditched divisions seem to have been constructed, these recuts and additions containing animal bone and Romano-British pottery in addition to Iron Age sherds. Structure 9 produced a ^{14}C date of 110 BC – AD 130, and structure 4 a date of AD 20-250. The majority of the Romano-British finds were concentrated in the recut enclosure ditch by subenclosure D, and in the continuous circular 12m diameter gully of structure 5, the latter of which also produced burnt animal bone and fired clay or briquetage, and a ^{14}C date of 60 BC – AD 180. This seems to have been replaced by structure 6, another unbroken ring gully only 5.5m across which produced a similar date, but contained two shallow rounded features within it; both 0.80m in diameter but only 0.15m deep. These two ring gullies do not seem to have been roundhouses, and it has been suggested that they could have been small shrines (Roberts 2003: 29-30) (see Appendix F, figs. F.48-F.49).

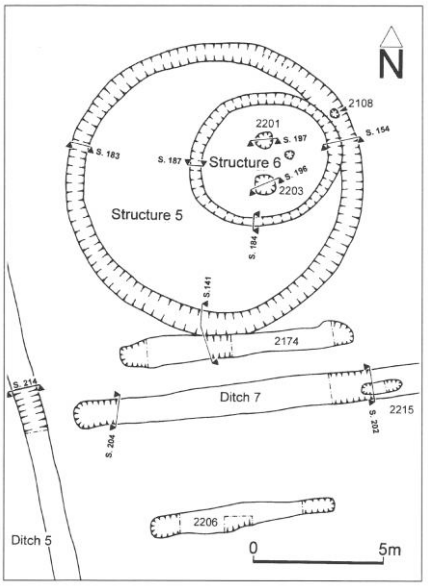
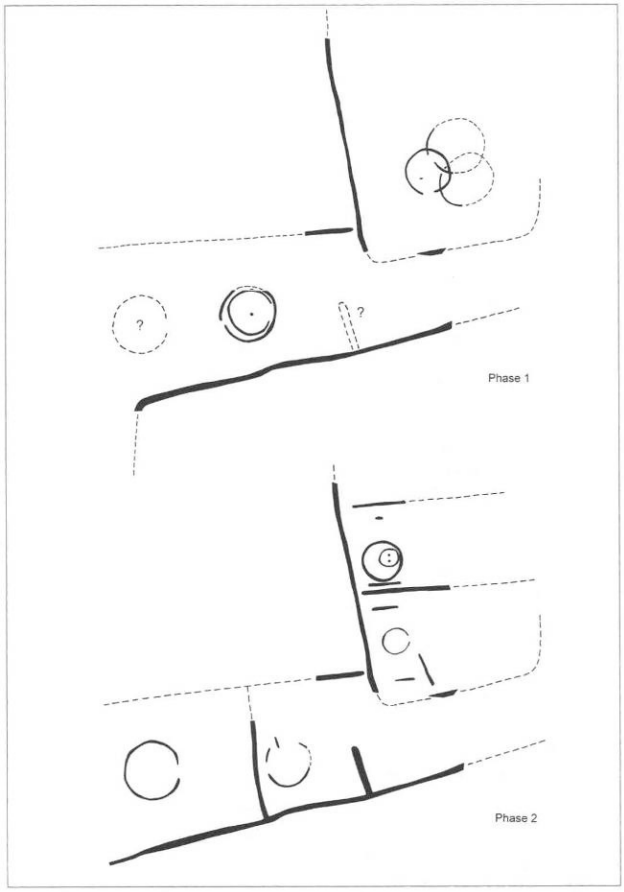


Figure G.434. (right). *Plan of Structures 5 and 6 at Sykehouse, and nearby features. The ring gully of Structure 5 contained relatively large quantities of pottery and briquetage, but that of Str. 6 in contrast was almost sterile of finds. They were certainly not roundhouses, and although they could have been hay ricks or turf stacks of some sort, a non-functional explanation is more likely. (Source: Roberts 2003: 12).*

The recovery of late Iron Age pottery that has been given some independent dating through ^{14}C analyses is especially significant. Shell tempered wares similar to fabrics found at Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street were found, including one especially large vessel. Some of these vessels also have parallels with examples in Nottinghamshire (Cumberpatch, Leary and Willis 2003: 18-19).

Figure G.435. (left). *Reconstruction of the south-west corner of enclosure A. (Source: Roberts 2003: back cover).*



It is likely that settlement at Sykehouse extended further to the east, west and north too. This might have represented occupation dispersed along the floodplain, and coupled with the lack of hearths in most roundhouses and their relatively insubstantial nature, this may suggest seasonal settlement, perhaps during the summer or autumn months. This might have been linked to livestock movements, but also the exploitation of wetland areas. The Iron Age and Roman pottery and briquetage also suggest wider social links and movements.

Figure G.436. (left). *Proposed basic phasing of the settlement at Topham Farm, Sykehouse. (Source: Roberts 2003: 28, fig. 23).*

References: Bonsall and Whittingham 2002; Roberts 2003.

Warning Tongue Lane, Bessacarr SE 0010 6320

A proposal to build houses on land adjacent to Warning Tongue Lane, Bessacarr, Doncaster required archaeological investigation due to the known close proximity of some of the excavated Rossington Bridge pottery kilns, now a Scheduled Ancient Monument around 150m to the south, and also the Roman road, that forms part of the northern line of Warning Tongue Lane itself. Geophysical resistance survey of the area was undertaken by ARCUS on behalf of SYAFRU, and this indicated several possible buried features including a semi-circular area that may have been an enclosure or ring ditch (Atkinson and Merrony 1994: 24). The second stage evaluation used four machine-dug trial trenches to investigate geophysical anomalies. Trench A found evidence of a ditch close to and parallel with the line of the Roman road, and although no dating evidence was recovered from it this may even have been a ditch flanking the *agger* of the road itself. A small curvilinear feature surrounded by five postholes was also noted in Trench A, but no dateable artefacts were recovered from this either. Trench C found evidence of ditches and slots containing Romano-British pottery, clay and ash, whilst Trench D found another ditch aligned north-east to south-west.

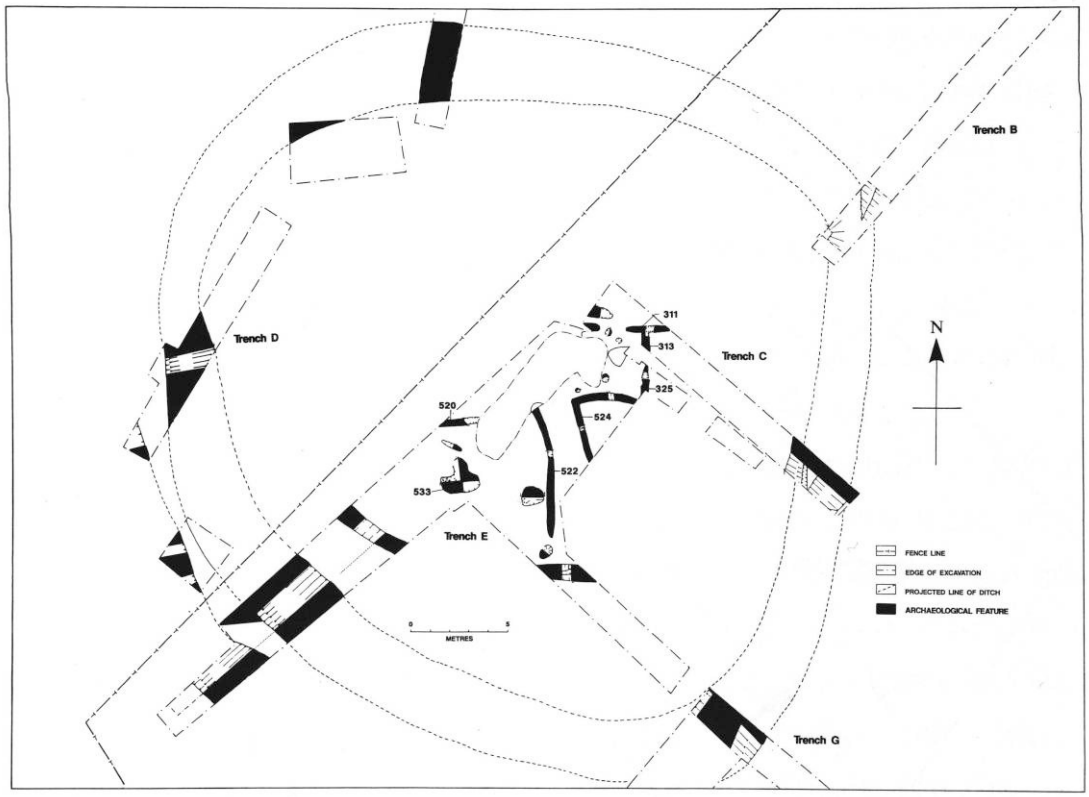


Figure G.437. *Plan of the enclosure excavated at Warning Tongue Lane. (Source: Atkinson and Merrony 1994: 26, fig. 8)*

The area around Trenches C and D was then investigated further through further evaluation trenches. The outline of a D-shaped enclosure approximately 38m long and 37m wide was recorded, within which were a series of rectilinear slots that may have been the beam slots of rectangular timber buildings (Atkinson and Merrony 1994: 26). In addition to some pits and postholes, a broadly T-shaped feature 2m long and 1m wide was found within the enclosure, surrounded by further postholes and

stakeholes. No *in situ* burning or lining was noted, but this may have been a corn drier, oven or even a kiln of some kind. Thirty-one sherds of second to third century AD pottery were recovered from these excavated features.

Unfortunately, there was no further investigation of the site, and the decision to use narrow trial trenches for the second stage of evaluation must be questioned, as less than half of the internal area of the enclosure was sampled. Open-area excavation would have provided a better understanding of the plan of the possible timber buildings and other internal features.

References: Atkinson and Merrony 1994.

Woodhead Opencast Site, Wombwell Wood, Barnsley SE 3714 0375

In advance of work on the Woodhead opencast coal mining site, a complex of enclosures or fields was revealed by a geophysical survey undertaken by GSB Prospection in 1999 just to the east of Wombwell Wood nearby, on the north-east facing slope of a hill. Several springs and streams emerge on the hilltop nearby. Although several phases of features were probably identified, at least some of the boundaries aligned with surviving Scheduled earthworks in Wombwell Wood, suggesting they all formed part of a much larger complex. In another geophysical survey undertaken by AS WYAS in 2001, a complex of enclosures and trackways was revealed (Fig. G.438).

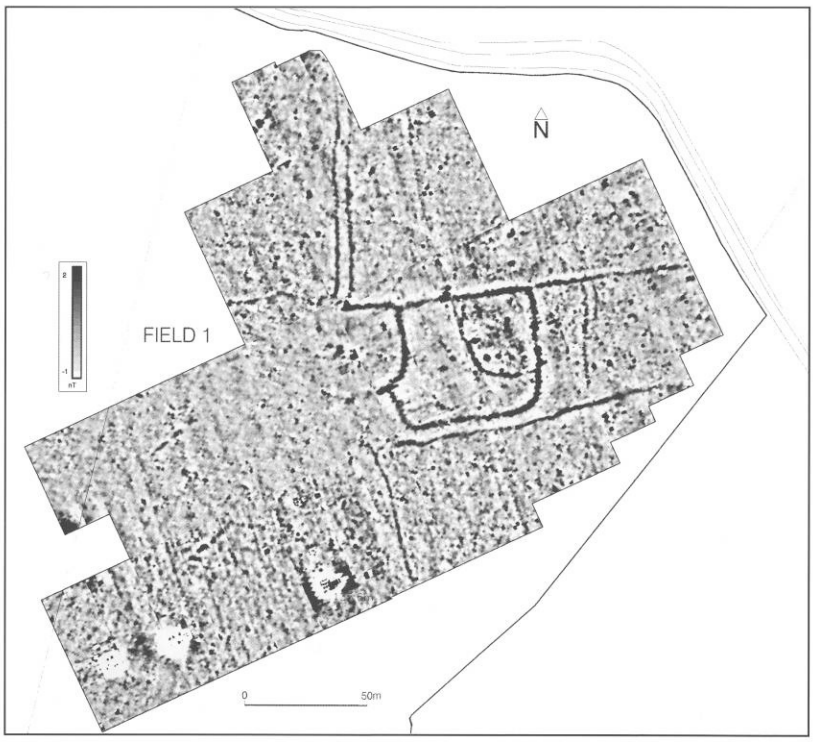


Figure G.438. *Geophysical survey east of Wombwell Wood, centred at SE 3714 0375. The large, subcircular enclosure is just visible to the lower centre of the image, the subrectangular enclosure just to the right of centre. Trackways run off to the north and east. (Source: AS WYAS 2005: 105).*

There is a faint trace of a large, subcircular enclosure that appears to have been linked to a north-south and an east-west trackway, the latter running past an adjacent subrectangular enclosure with an internal subdivision. Both enclosures may have had east-facing entrances, and both have possible circular structures visible within them, the one in the subcircular enclosure in a central position. The subcircular enclosure is almost like a 'banjo' enclosure, and similar to two examples at South Kirkby. Along with the close association with the trackways, this suggests that one or more of these enclosures may have been linked to livestock herding and control. Alternatively however, the large subcircular enclosure with its apparently central roundhouse might reflect social discourses of status and display. A programme of test-pitting in 2001 found only two flints and a medieval pot sherd (Wheelhouse 2006). More extensive trial trenching later in 2001 by Northamptonshire Archaeology confirmed the presence of features on the geophysical survey, and also found numerous additional ones from several different

phases of occupation. Trench 11 over the subrectangular enclosure E2 found two eastern ditches, both of which may have been contemporary with one another, although the innermost was smaller and could conceivably have been an earlier feature. A series of gullies external to these enclosure ditches probably represented internal subdivisions of another subrectangular enclosure further east (Mudd and Webster 2001: 10). Within the subrectangular enclosure was a subrectangular subdivision marked by gullies, and a concentration of pits and postholes forming part of one or more structures and associated features. Although the extent and plan of these could not be elucidated from the trial trenches alone, at least roundhouses may have been present within enclosure E2 and its internal subrectangular subdivision. A series of gullies were also found within the eastern part of the subcircular enclosure E3, though for some reason much of the interior was not investigated. One possible Iron Age sherd and Romano-British pottery of first to fourth century AD date was recovered, in addition to charred cereal grains (Mudd and Webster 2001). Charcoal from the middle fill of the enclosure E2 ditch produced a ^{14}C date of 60 BC – AD 90.

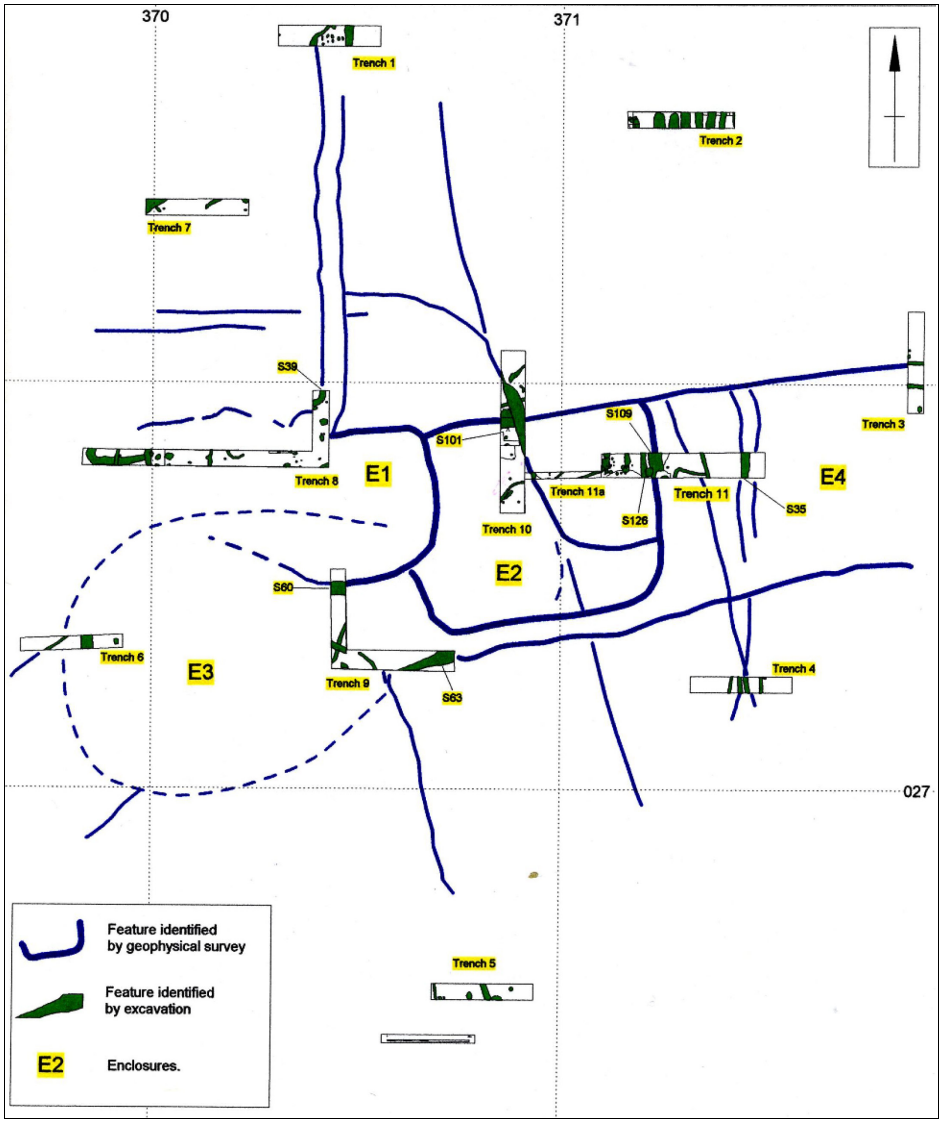


Figure G.439. *Evaluation trenches excavated across the enclosure complex east of Wombwell Wood. (Source: Mudd and Webster 2001: fig. 2).*

This part of the opencast site was proposed as an area of spoil storage, so this enclosure complex was not investigated further, and left *in situ* beneath. Unfortunately, as often with short-sighted approaches to preservation *in situ* usually based on what developers are prepared to pay rather than any sound archaeological reason, the long term physical and geochemical effects of compaction by materials above the features are not known. This has once again prevented further archaeological research, in this case with the potential to provide valuable information on past livestock husbandry regimes.

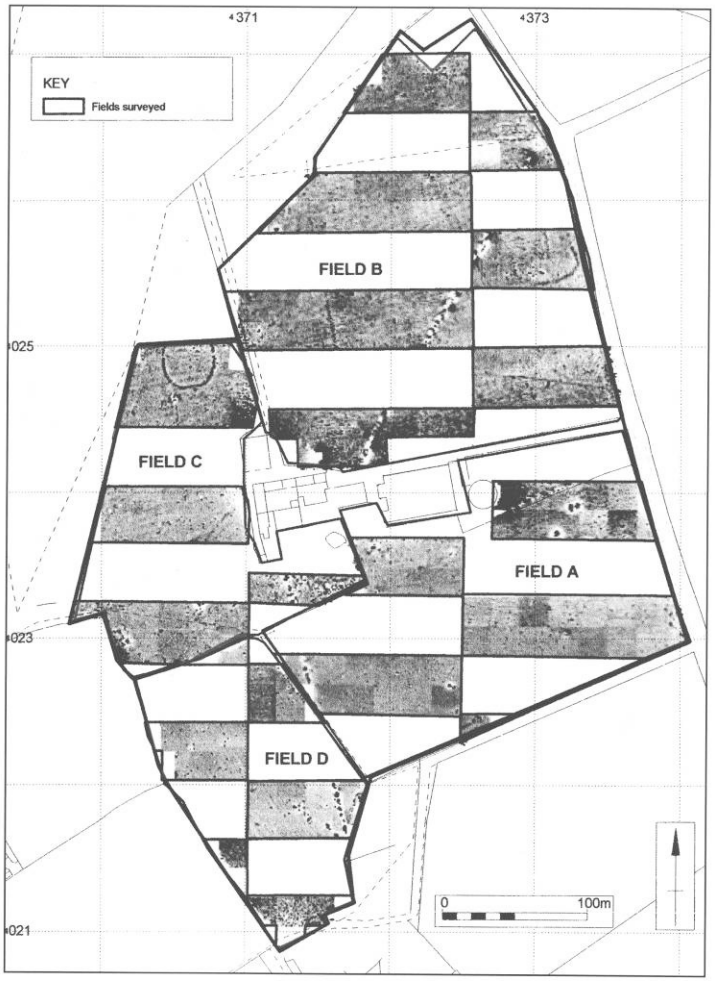
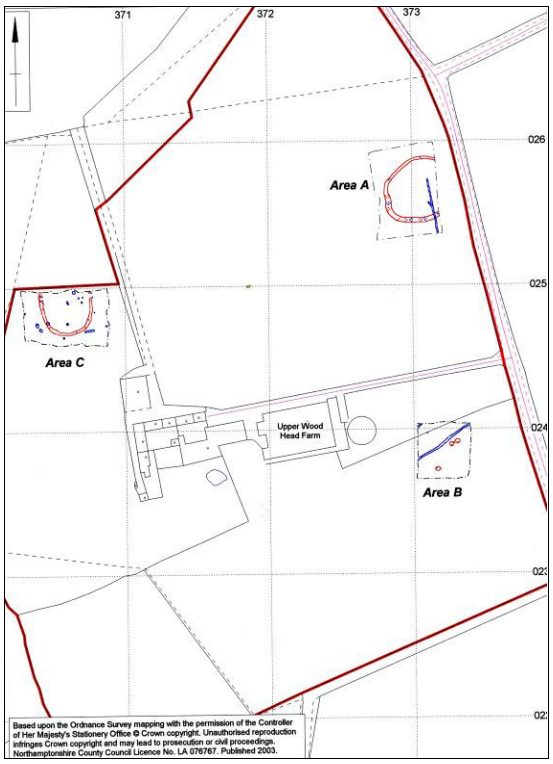


Figure G.440. *Geophysical survey of land south-east of Wombwell Wood, centred at SE 3725 0240, with Upper Woodhead Farm in the centre of the image. The two Iron Age or Romano-British enclosures are in the north-east or upper right; and the north-west or upper left. (Source: Mudd et al. 2006: 124).*

A proposed extension to the opencast mining area required further geophysical survey undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2001, which investigated the areas immediately to the north and south of Upper Woodhead Farm, on the gentle eastern slope of the same hilltop as the enclosure complex described above. Again, several springs and streams emerge nearby. Enclosures were revealed to the north-east and north-west of the farm, which were investigated with trial trenches in 2002. The enclosure in Area A to the north-east of Upper Woodhead Farm had a substantial ditch up to 3.5m wide and 1.5m deep (Jones 2003: 4), but any possible entrance must have been in the unexcavated eastern half. It is clear from the section drawings included in the site report that this ditch had been subject to a major recutting episode, but rather unaccountably this does not seem to have been identified and

recorded by the excavators, who also hand-excavated only a few inadequate sections across this ditch. Nevertheless, sherds of Romano-British greyware pottery were recovered, although these were somewhat mysteriously lost or stolen whilst 'in transit' to the finds specialist (ibid.: 7, 11). No internal features other than modern intrusions were identified within the enclosure.



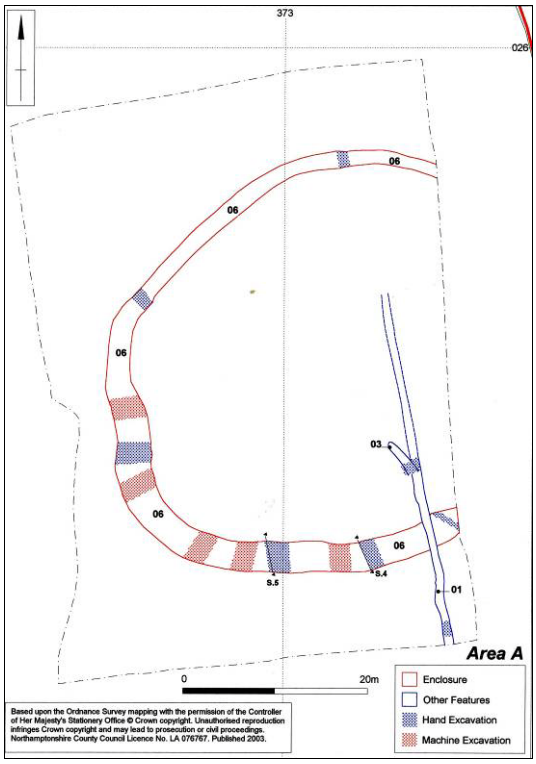


Figure G.441. (left). *The two subcircular enclosures (Areas A and C) at Woodhead Opencast Site.* **Fig. G.442. (right).** *More detailed plan of the enclosure in Area C. (Source: Jones 2003: figs. 2-3).*

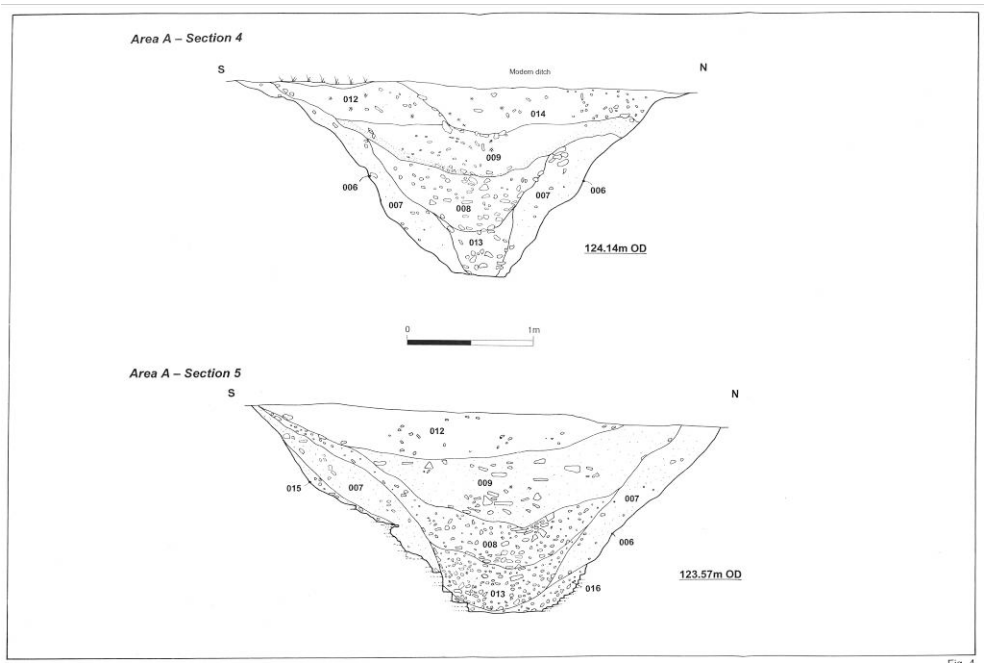


Figure G.443. *Sections through the enclosure ditch in Area A. Major recuts are clearly visible in both, yet have been interpreted simply as deposit interfaces. (Source: Jones 2003: fig. 4).*

The north-western subcircular enclosure (Area C) in a prominent hilltop position had a ditch up to 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep and two opposed entrances 5m wide, one with a pair of postholes outside, the other with such a pair inside it. This latter entrance had been blocked in a later phase (Jones 2003: 6). One pit (378) towards the south-central part of this enclosure produced half a beehive quern, and a pit south-east of the eastern entrance contained a cow burial described as modern in the report, although the reasons for this ascription were not outlined.

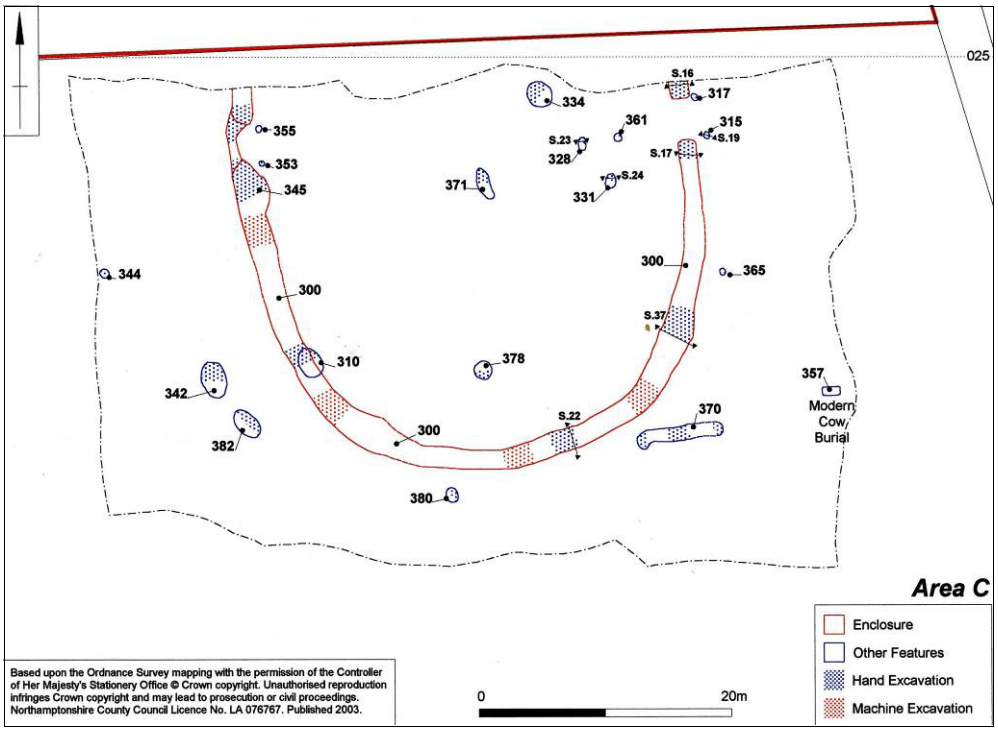


Figure G.444. *The Area C enclosure. Note the internal features and the opposed entrances. (Source: Jones 2003: fig. 7).*

Due to the lack of dating evidence recovered from the enclosure ditch, it has been proposed that its 'morphology suggested a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date' (Mudd et al. 2006: 124). This seems very unlikely, however. Given the very low, clearly inadequate number of hand-excavated sections across the enclosure's ditch, and the beehive quern found in a pit within it, it is much more likely to be late Iron Age or Romano-British origin, as it is similar to examples of enclosures at Marr, South Kirkby and South Hiendley. Like these, it is probable that this hilltop was the location for another complex of enclosures associated with seasonal upland animal husbandry, and if the Area C enclosure was a corral this would explain the apparent lack of dateable artefacts (inadequate sampling aside). Again, more experienced fieldworkers with greater familiarity with the local archaeology of the study region would have been aware of this. The close proximity of these enclosures to the excavated enclosure at Jump is also noteworthy.

References: GSB Prospection and AS WYAS 2005; Jones 2003; Mudd and Webster 2001; Mudd, Webster, Masters and Jones 2006; Structural Perspectives, Wheelhouse 2006.

Unexcavated cropmark/geophysical survey sites

Barnburgh Cliffs, Barnburgh SE 5035 0220

Figure G.445. *Cropmarks at Barnburgh Cliffs, S. Yorks., aligned along a steep-edged Magnesian Limestone ridge or scarp-edge. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 2780, SE 503 022).*

Barnburgh Cliffs is a steep, south-west facing limestone escarpment between the modern villages of Barnburgh and High Melton. Along the line of the scarp edge, and orientated to it or perpendicular to it, are a series of cropmark enclosures, trackways and boundaries. These have been plotted as part of smaller-scale research investigations (Chadwick 1998; Cox 1984), but have now been transcribed more rigorously as part of a wider assessment of cropmarks in the Barnburgh area (Deegan 2004c). Several enclosures were located on the edge of the scarp, at least one of them articulating with a north-east to south-west orientated trackway, and perhaps in another phase, a north-west to south-east aligned trackway (Fig. G.446). Assuming light woodland survived only on the steepest slopes, these enclosures would have had extensive views to the west, south and east (Fig. G.448). They were only *c.* 800m from the 'ladder' enclosures at Melton Wood to the north, and 2km from the Scabba Wood cropmark and earthwork enclosures.

Fieldwalking of the area behind the scarp-edge by the Arteamus historical society and the Dearne Valley College has only produced a few finds of Romano-British pottery (W. Kitchen pers. comm.).

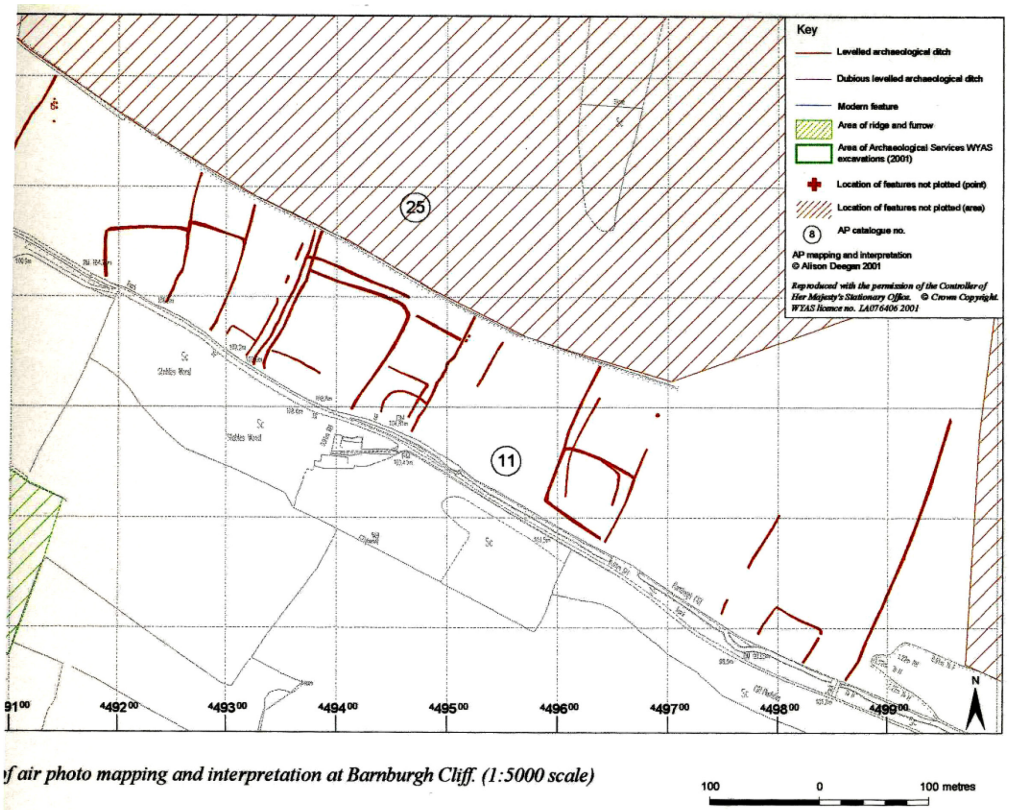


Figure G.446. *Plot of the Barnburgh Cliffs cropmarks. (Source: Deegan 2001c).*

Figure G.447. *The limestone escarpment from Barnburgh Lane, looking north-east towards Melton Wood and Barnburgh Cliffs (at the extreme right of the image). (Source: author).*

Figure G.448. *View south from Hangman Stone Road and the limestone escaprment, with Barnburgh Cliffs beyond the right of the image, and Melton Wood behind. (Source: author).*

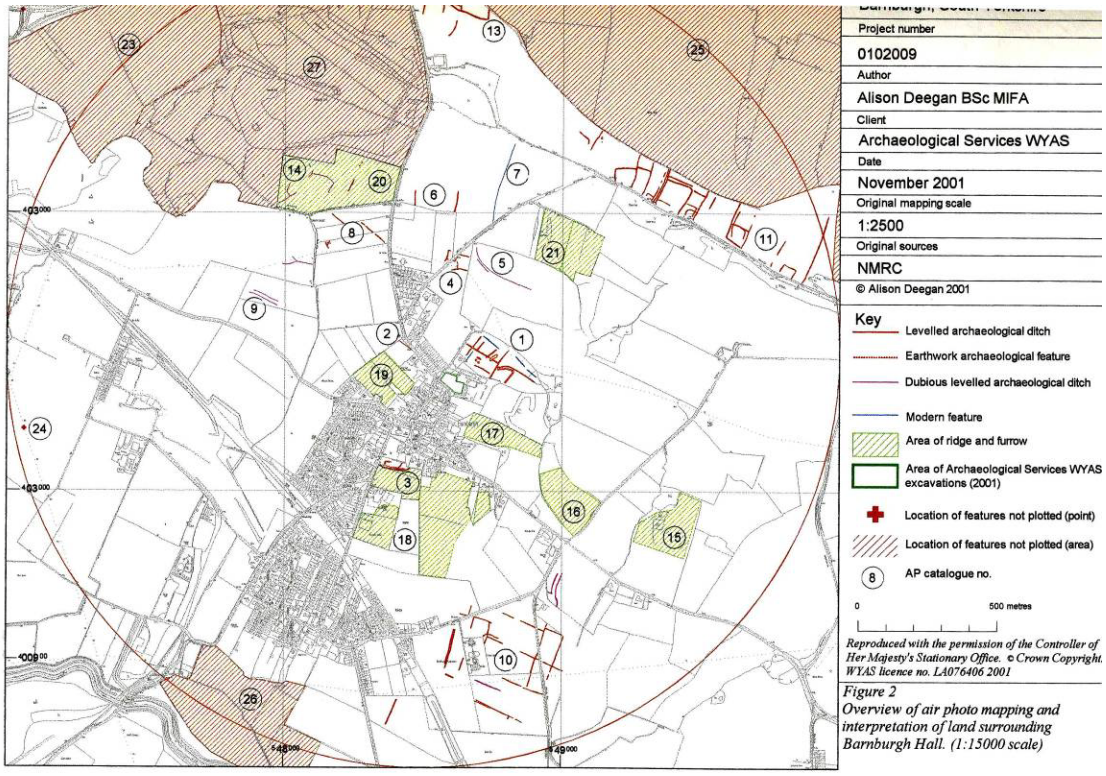


Figure G.449. *The wider context of the Barnburgh Cliff cropmarks, showing other possible enclosures and boundaries to the south-east near the modern village of Barnburgh. Barnburgh itself may have Anglo-Saxon origins, though Romano-British occupation has also been identified (see above). (Source: Deegan 2004c).*

Despite the lack of finds from fieldwalking, these enclosures would benefit from detailed geophysical survey and perhaps targeted excavation, in order to try and establish the character and duration of inhabitation at the locale.

References: Deegan 2001c.

Barnby Dun SE 6270 0950

Approximately 1.5km east of the River Don, and on low-lying ground just north of Edenthorpe, is an interesting group of cropmarks on the north-east side of Barnby Dun. These have been plotted by Riley (Riley 1980: 87, map 2), and consist of a subtriangular field or enclosure with double-ditched trackways on its south-east and north-east sides. This field or enclosure may have been inserted a broadly right-angled trackway junction, or the latter may post-date it. Roughly rectangular fields are visible to the east and south-east, including an interestingly 'kinked' ditch junction.

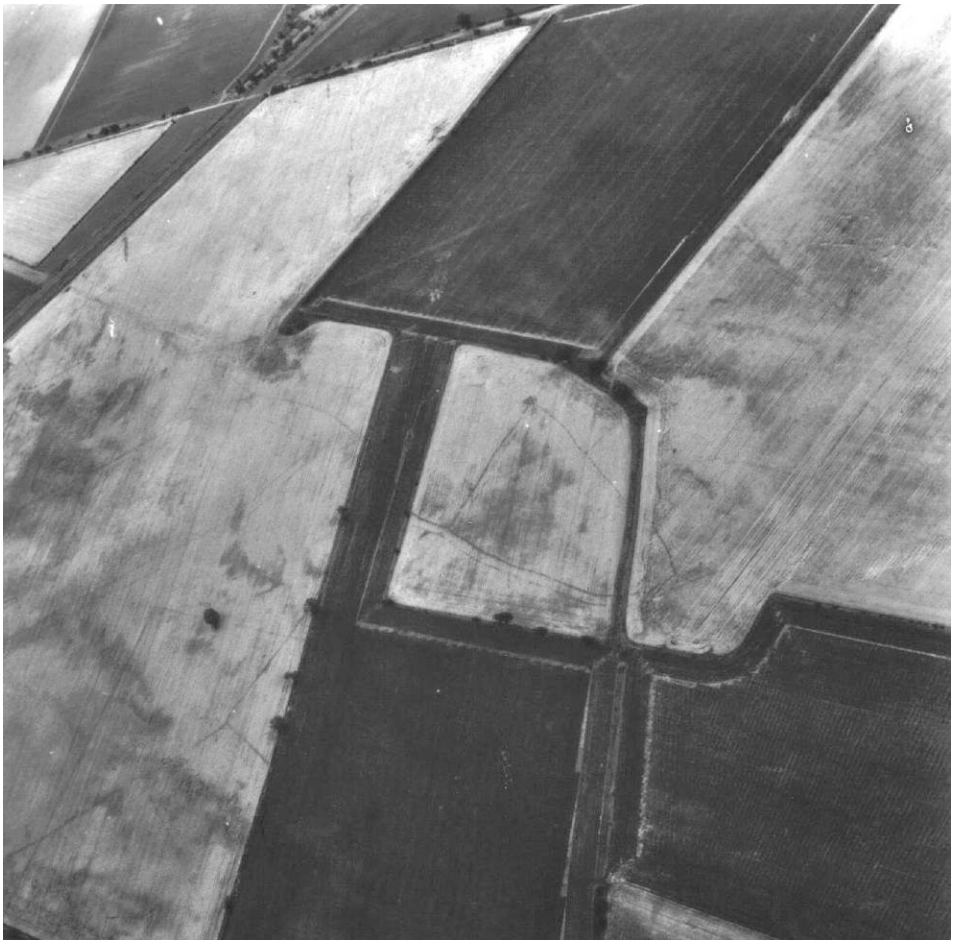


Figure G.450. *Features north-east of Barnby Dun, looking south-west. The subtriangular field or enclosure is visible in the centre of the image, with additional field boundaries and trackways to the middle and lower left, where the 'kink' in the field junction is apparent. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 386, SE 627 095).*

References: Riley 1980.

Bolton House Farm, Goldthorpe SE 4505 0410

West of Bolton House Farm in Goldthorpe, a geophysical survey was undertaken in 1997 by AS WYAS in advance of a proposed opencast coal and fireclay quarry. The survey revealed a subrectangular enclosure with an internal subdivision and other possible internal features such as pits, and this enclosure seemed to have a west-facing entrance linked to north-south aligned trackways. Several phases of construction are visible, as one of the trackway boundaries appears to overlie or underlie the enclosure. Linked to the eastern side of the enclosure was a major east-west aligned linear boundary, which appeared to respect a pre-existing ring ditch or round barrow likely to be Bronze Age in date. Other possible field and trackway boundaries lay to the south and east, though there was also heavy disturbance caused by probable early modern surface coal workings.

Figure G.451. *Geophysical survey west of Bolton House Farm, Goldthorpe, S. Yorks. The subrectangular enclosure and trackways are visible to the right of the image, the circular ring ditch at the centre. Note that north is reversed in this illustration. (Source: Webb 1999: 113).*

References: Webb 1999.

Brierley **SE 4210 0930**

Figure G.452. *The D-shaped enclosure at Brierley, visible to the left centre of the image. Other ditched boundaries are visible. The site of a medieval hall can be seen at the left of the image, defined by large ditches, and the sinuous course of the stream is marked by trees running across the bottom of the photograph from left to right. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 130, SE 421 093).*

At Brierley near Grimethorpe, a probable D-shaped enclosure is visible on aerial photographs, apparently largely isolated on a gentle north-west facing slope in an undulating landscape, with a stream just *c*. 200m below. Although some other boundaries are visible, its isolated position recalls enclosures such as Upton in West Yorkshire, but this enclosure is only 1.5km from some of the enclosures in the South Kirkby complex, and might represent similar use of elevated areas for livestock herding. Detailed geophysical survey, fieldwalking and targeted excavation would all be informative.

References: Sheffield Library of Aerial Photographs.

Burghwallis (Robin Hood's Well) SE 5195 1199

The fort at Robin Hood's Well at Burghwallis, immediately to the east of the line of the Roman Great Northern Road, was first discovered through aerial photographs in 1971 (Buckland 1986: 11; Frere 1971: 311; Magilton 1977 : plate 6). In fact, at least three different forts seem to be superimposed over one another here, on flat but slightly raised ground immediately south of the River Skell, a tributary of the River Don. They may have been safeguarding a crossing over this watercourse.

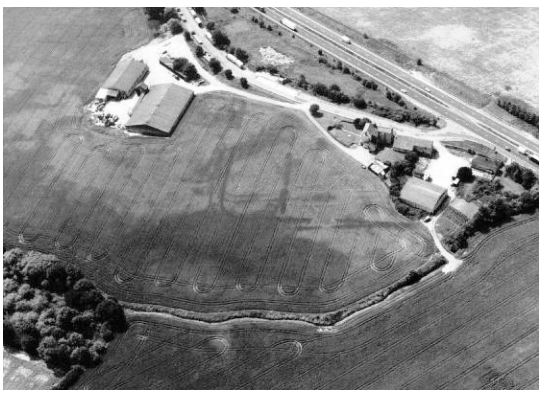


Figure G.453. (top). *Cropmarks of several different phases of fort visible at Robin Hood's Well, Burghwallis, looking north. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8439, SE 519 120).* **Fig. G.454. (bottom left).** *Another view of the cropmarks, looking south-west. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8438, SE 519 120).* **Fig. G.455. (bottom right).** *Colour image of the superimposed cropmarks. (Source: © Google Earth).*

The ditch of the third fort has supposedly produced second century pottery from a ditch revealed in an old quarry face (Buckland 1986: 8; Magilton 1977: 64), and a coin of Domitian (*c*. AD 85) and two third century coins of Carausius and Tetricus were also recovered from the area of the forts. Third

century occupation has thus also been postulated (Breeze and Dobson 1985). In addition, it appears from aerial photographs that the forts overly field system ditches in the locale, possibly indicating a late Iron Age date for the latter. The area would benefit from detailed geophysical survey, and perhaps targeted excavation to better understand the nature and sequence of the military occupation, and the overall landscape stratigraphy.

References: Buckland 1986; Magilton 1977.

Burghwallis, Scorcher Hills SE 5265 1240

In advance of a proposed quarry and landfill site at Scorcher Hills, Burghwallis, AS WYAS carried out a programme of geophysical survey and fieldwalking. This area lies 800m to the north-east of the forts at Robin Hood's Well, and is bounded by Scorcher Hills Wood to the west, Sixrood Lane to the north and Scorcher Hills Lane to the south. The site is on a slight hilltop with the ground sloping gently away on all sides. Several springs and a beck called The Skell are just 450m to the south-west.

Figure G.456. *Overall plan of the geophysical survey at Scorcher Hills, Burghwallis. (Source: Webb and Rose 2004).*

Although some possible field boundaries were identified by examination of aerial photographs, it was the geophysical survey that revealed most detail about the buried archaeology within the proposed development area. The features included two major connected trackways (or one trackway turning at a right angle), aligned north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west. Two small subrectangular enclosures were associated with another trackway joining the mahor north-east to south-west example, labelled as N and M on Fig. G.457 below. Another enclosure at U may have pre-dated the north-west to south-east aligned trackway. Possible subrounded features may be the remains of prehistoric ring ditches or barrows, and possible entrances into fields can also be identified. Blocks of rectangular fields were set out on the same general alignment, but most of these boundaries do not seem to have been respected by the line of later ridge and furrow, suggesting that these boundaries are late Iron Age and Romano-British in date.

Fig. 4. Interpretation of gradiometer data

Figure G.457. *Interpretative plan of the geophysical survey data. (Source: Webb and Rose 2004).*

As common with many of these sites, fieldwalking produced mostly medieval and post-medieval pottery. However, there was clearly a great longevity of occupation in this area, and hints of more complex landscape stratigraphy can be seen in the geophysical survey results. Nevertheless, the apparent regularity of the fields here is unusual for the Magnesian Limestone when compared to the more irregular fields and enclosures at Barnsdale Bar and Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street.

References: Webb and Rose 2004.

Doncaster Racecourse SE 6055 0270

An interesting group of cropmarks has been identified on land immediately south-east of Doncaster Racecourse. There is at least one, possibly two double-ditched trackways and a series of co-axial ditched field boundaries. Near the south-east corner of the field (in the upper centre of the image below), a subrectangular ditched enclosure has been identified. It is quite regular, and may even be a small Roman fortlet, yet is either superimposed on or cut by the later broadly co-axial features (Buckland 1986: 34). A dark, rectangular area is visible within the south-east corner of the enclosure. Fieldwalking produced scatters of third or fourth century AD pottery from over this dark area, and immediately outside it. Some of this material may relate to pottery kilns. This complex, particularly the enclosure, would clearly benefit from geophysical survey and targeted excavation.

Figure G.458. *Cropmarks south-east of Doncaster Racecourse, looking south-east. (Source: Buckland 1986: 34, fig. 19).*

References: Buckland 1986.

Great Haughton SE 4340 0900

Figure G.459. *Double-ditched trackway visible immediately west of Howell Wood, with Burntwood Hall visible to the west in the background of the image. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 160, SE 434 090).*

In Great Haughton parish there are several interesting cropmarks that would benefit from further investigation through geophysical survey and excavation. Firstly, in The Park between Burntwood Hall and Howell Wood, a broadly north-west to south-east aligned trackway curves sinuously through the landscape (Fig. G.459). This would have followed the line of a ridge, and may be of Iron Age or Romano-British date. However, it may be that Howell Wood was once more extensive than today, and this was a post-medieval or early modern trackway around the original edge of the wood. Map regression and documentary research would be needed to address this question, but if potentially early than geophysical survey and trial excavation would be a next step.

The second site of interest is located just west of Thurnscoe, north of Holmes and east of Billingley Lane at SE 4400 0560, and thus only *c*. 1.2km from the enclosure complex excavated at Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe. This site consists of a subrectangular enclosure with a north-facing entrance, and hints of an internal subdivision and a possible roundhouse. This was situated on a flat area above a gentle west-facing slope, but with the low summit of a hill to the east. A short trackway approaches the enclosure from the west, before curving round towards the enclosure entrance. Another entrance from

the trackway opens up to the south. The short east-west trackway connects with a north-south trackway, but one may have cut across the other at some point. East of the trackway are very faint cropmarks that may indicate another possible enclosure or field. Other field boundaries are also visible. Detailed geophysical survey and targeted excavation would be highly productive at this locale.

Figure G.460. *Subrectangular enclosure east of Billingley Lane looking west, also showing the short east-west trackway leading to the enclosure (left of centre in the image), and the main north-south trackway this connects with. Another possible enclosure complex can be seen in the lower right of the image. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 209, SE 440 057).*

References: Sheffield Library of Aerial Photographs.

Long Sandall, Doncaster SE 6042 0669

Just to the south-west of Clay Lane West at Long Sandall, and adjacent to the canalised Wheatley Cut of the River Don, a possible Roman fort has been identified on aerial photographs (SYAS SMR 04726-MSY12270). This would have been at least 100m long on its south-western side, and may have been a later Roman fort built to protect the upper navigable reaches of the River Don. Although parts of the site have been built upon, much of it remains undisturbed, and any future development work would have to include detailed investigation of this area as a high priority.

Figure G.461. *A distinctive 'playing card' cropmark indicates the broad ditch of a possible Roman fort at Long Sandall just on the northern edge of Doncaster. The proximity to the canalised course of the River Don is clear. A possible gap in the south-western side may have been one entrance. (Source: © SYAS).*

References: South Yorkshire Archaeology Service SMR.

Lundwood, Barnsley SE 3840 0760

In advance of a proposed housing development at Pontefract Road, Lundwood, Barnsley, Alison Deegan undertook an aerial photographic assessment of the area. To the south-west of the actual development area, east of the A628 and north of the River Dearne, was an interesting cropmark complex situated on an east-facing slope. A major double-ditched trackway was identified (Deegan 2001d), whose sinuous course was orientated roughly north-south, running along the edge of the slope at the flattish hilltop towards Sunny Bank and the River Dearne itself. Darker marks within it probably reflect wear hollows or rutting. Broadly rectangular and more irregular fields are visible on the eastern slope, and to the north the trackway appears to open up into a funnel, but the area to the west had little evidence for ditched boundaries, and the hilltop may have formed open grazing.

Figure G.462. *Cropmarks east of Lundwood, Barnsley. (Source: Deegan 2001d).*

References: Deegan 2001d.

Melton Wood SE 5050 0320

At Melton Wood in South Yorkshire, a line of four to six enclosures was aligned roughly NNE-SSW (Chadwick 1998 appendix A11, B11) (Fig. G.463). They follow the lie of the natural limestone slope, and may have been connected to the enclosures and trackways at Scabba Wood to the east, or just 200m to the south-west, further enclosures that may have been settlements just to the north-east of High Melton (Chadwick 1998: appendix A9, B9). A possible trackway ran off to the west (once again, not following the principal axis of the enclosures), and other possible enclosures are also visible as cropmarks lie to the west.

The enclosure complex at Melton Wood would benefit from detailed geophysical survey and trial trenching to try and establish the character and chronology of occupation.

Figure G.463. *Cropmarks south of Melton Wood, S. Yorks., looking towards High Melton. From the lower left of the image, a line of between four to six enclosures extends out towards the centre of the photograph. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 2782, SE 505 030).*

References: Sheffield Library of Aerial Photographs.

Potteric Carr SK 5900 9950

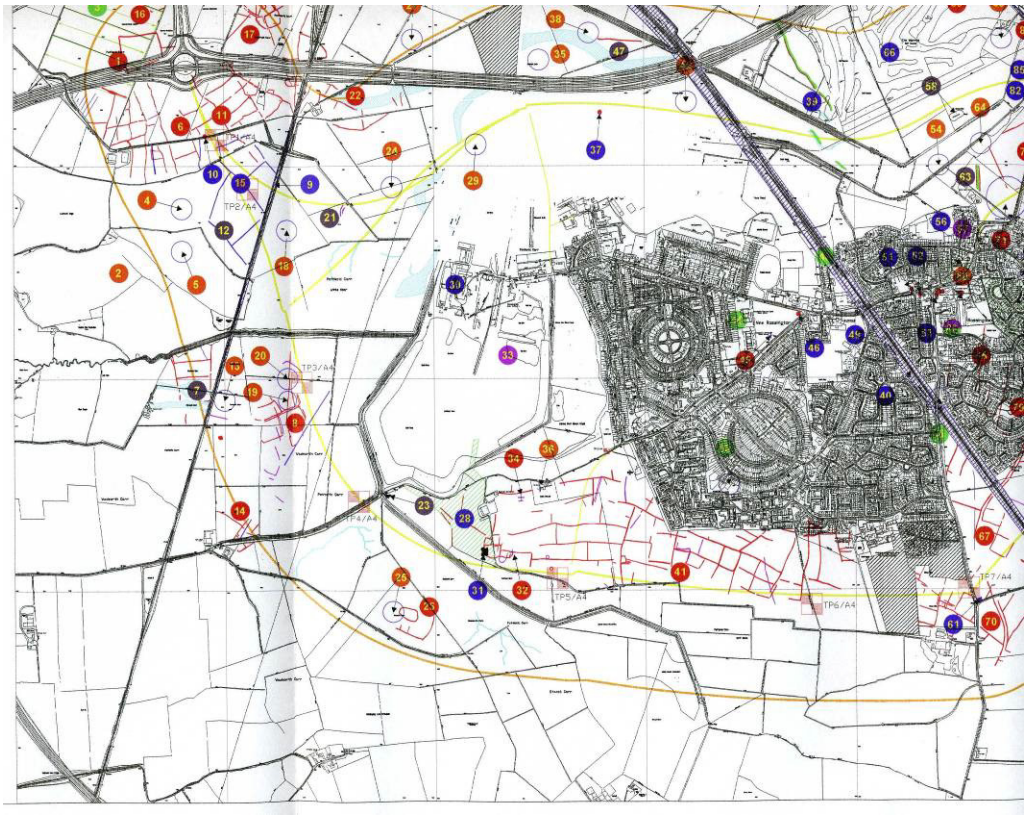


Figure G.464. *Cropmarks plotted in the area around and south of Junction 3 of the M18, to the east of New Rossington and south of Bessacarr and Doncaster. South-west of New Rossington is a group of co-axial fields. (Source: Deegan 2004).*

To the north-west around Beeston Plantation and Junction 3 of the M18 is an area of irregular and trapezoidal enclosures, initially identified by Magilton and Riley. Some of these features were truncated during the construction of the motorway, but with no archaeological work undertaken. One of the enclosures is the unusual 1.7 ha irregular example highlighted below (Magilton 1977: plate 4; Riley 1980: 1980: 91), with a circular feature *c.* 25m in diameter within it. Some rectangular and trapezoidal fields have also been identified, some apparently added to one another in an incremental or piecemeal manner. To the south-west of New Rossington is an area of co-axial rectangular fields and enclosures, probably forming part of a 'brickwork' complex illustrated by Riley (Riley 1980: 92, map 7).

As part of an air photographic assessment linked to the development of the Potteric Carr Nature Reserve, Deegan (2004) re-plotted the available aerial photographs to produce the plots illustrated here. Riley had traced the large irregular enclosure as a double-ditched feature, but Deegan noted that there were traces of a third ditch visible. She also identified part of a second, slightly smaller circular feature within it. This enclosure may have been quite early in date (late Bronze Age to early or middle Iron Age), and might have been broadly analogous to Sutton Common. The circular features within it could be large barrows or roundhouses – the latter is probably more likely given the location. The large enclosure probably has wide, deep ditches, as it is also visible on Google Earth images of the area. Although some of it lies below arable land, some is below Beeston Plantation.

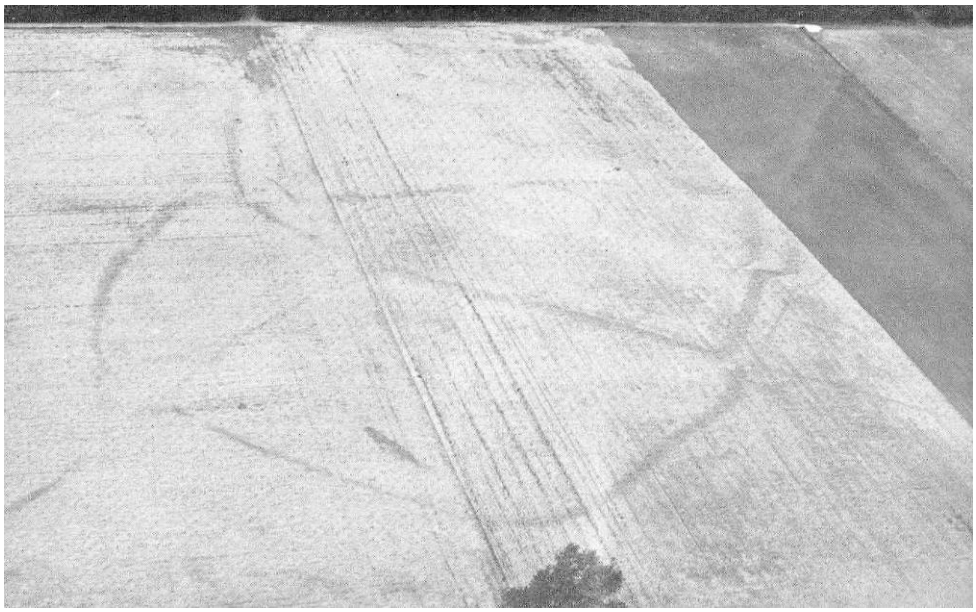


Figure G.465. *Aerial photograph of the large, irregular enclosure at Beeston Plantation, Potteric Carr. The circular feature within the main enclosure is just visible to the upper right of centre, whilst the two additional enclosures abutting the larger enclosure are also clear. (Source: Magilton 1977: plate 4).*

Figure G.466. *Google Earth image of the large, triple-ditched enclosure cropmark. Part of the third ditch is just visible, and the ditches have also affected tree growth in the wood. (Source: © Google Earth).*

Two enclosures immediately to the south of the triple-ditched example appear to have been abutted to it, and the trapezoidal, triangular and D-shaped enclosures (the latter largely destroyed by the M18) are also all unusual forms. Numbers 13 and 14 (Fig. G.467 below) still survive as low earthworks (Deegan 2004: 7), and the triple-ditched enclosure may have extant earthworks in Beeston Plantation. Given the

low-lying (5m OD or less) and once marshy nature of the land in this locale, it is likely that at least some of these enclosures were associated with livestock movements onto the floodplain of the River Torne. Subsequently however, it is possible that they were then incorporated into a field system of broadly rectangular fields, albeit laid out on a series of diverging axes. The trapezoidal enclosure might even have formed a focus for the fields.

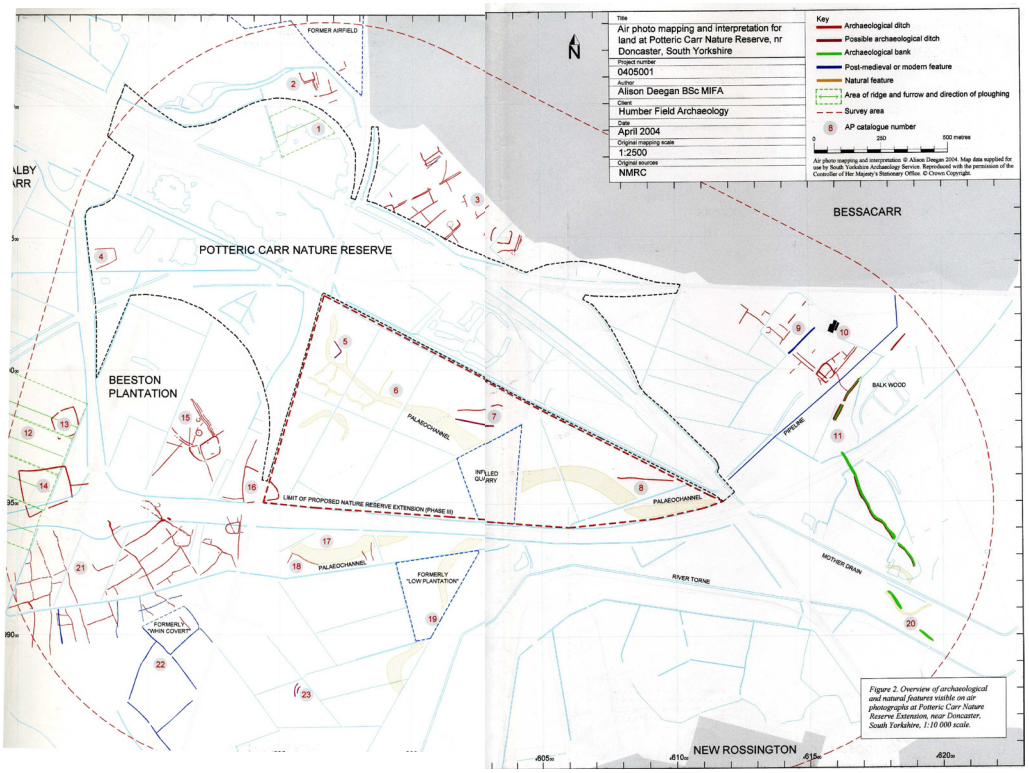


Figure G.467. *Composite plan of the cropmarks around Beeston Plantation, and north and east of the Potteric Carr Nature Reserve. (Source: Deegan 2004).*

To the north and north-east of the Potteric Carr reserve, two possible enclosure complexes can be seen just to the south-west and south of Bessacarr (Fig. G.468), associated with blocks of small fields. To the south of the Beeston Plantation complex, a peat-filled palaeochannel of the River Torne had probably silted up by the late Iron Age and Roman periods (Dinnen and Weir 1997: 120-123), and some of the cropmark ditches appear to have been constructed across it. There is another enclosure complex to the south-east of New Rossington, and approximately 100m south of Rossington Grange. Although Riley (1980: 92, map 7) plots it as two relatively simple abutting subrectangular enclosures 0.10 and 0.40 ha in extent, Deegan (2004) transcribes it as three conjoined enclosures.

In 2000, eighteen trial trenches were excavated at Carr Lodge Farm (SK 5799 9995). These investigated some cropmark features, including one of the larger trapezoidal enclosures (John Samuels Archaeological Consultancy 2004). No artefacts were recovered, but waterlogged roundwood was discovered in the secondary fill of one of the enclosure ditches, ^{14}C dating of which provided a date of

390-100 BC. Palaeo-environmental data provided evidence of wet floodplain conditions with alder carr woodland, but also some evidence for cereal cultivation near the site (Rackham and Scaife 2000).

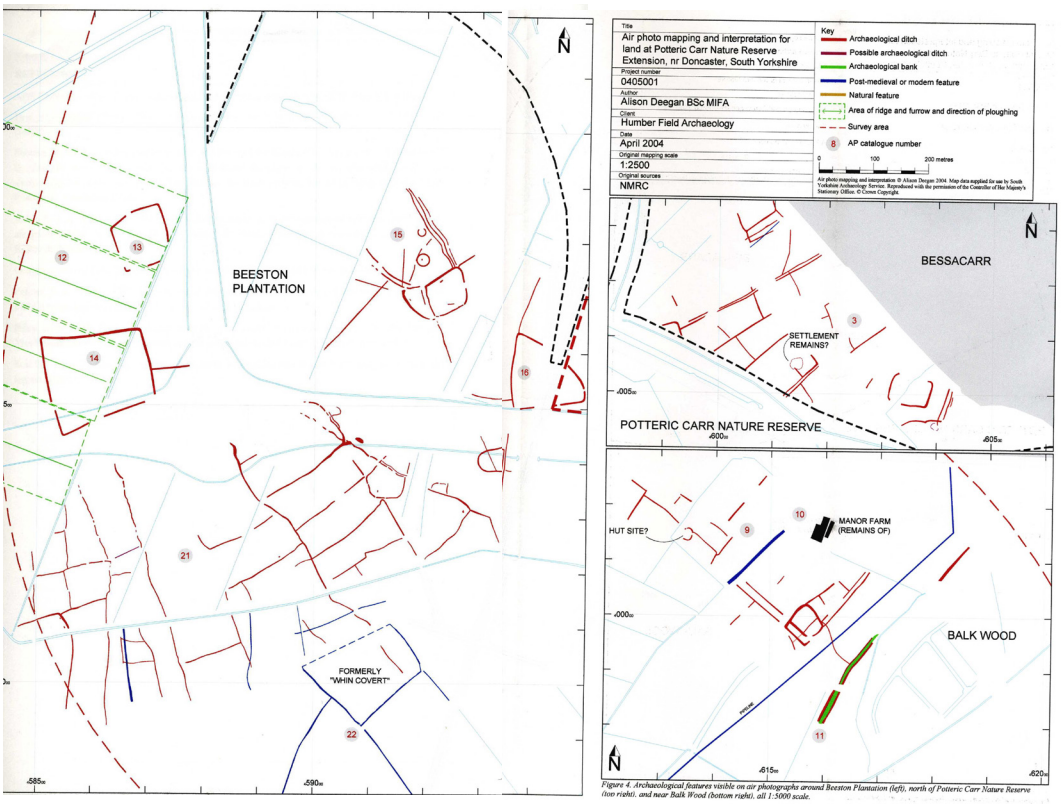


Figure G.468. *Detail of the cropmarks visible at Beeston Plantation, west of Potteric Carr, and those located just to the north-east and east of Potteric Carr. (Source: Deegan 2004).*

The Potteric Carr area would be worthy of much more detailed research through geophysical survey and excavation. Particularly given the poor manner in which Sutton Common was excavated in recent years (e.g. Van de Noort, Chapman and Collis forthcoming), the palaeo-environmental and archaeological potential of the Potteric Carr area is therefore great. This area would be worthy of much more detailed research through geophysical survey, palaeo-environmental investigation and excavation.

References: Deegan 2004; Dinnen and Weir 1997; John Samuels Archaeological Consultancy 2004.

Scawthorpe SE 5585 0564

Figure G.469. *The Scawthorpe cropmark complex looking south-west. (Source: SYAS/NMR).*

This wonderful cropmark complex is located on playing fields surrounded by suburban housing developments in Scawthorpe, although earlier photographs record an even more extensive series of cropmarks. A square double-ditched enclosure with rounded corners seems to have been redefined by (or itself redefines) a slightly larger single-ditched rectangular enclosure, but also pre- or post-dates a trapezoidal single-ditched enclosure. A further large subrectangular enclosure used to be located to the west of the double-ditched enclosure, with a possible south-east facing entrance (see below), but this now lies underneath some of the housing developments. To the south or top of the image, there is another large but more irregular single-ditched enclosure. Two possible ring ditches are also evident – one within the area of the trapezoidal enclosure at the centre of the image, the other in the upper part of the grassed area. These seem to be too big to be roundhouses, and are probably more likely to be either circular enclosures with buildings within them, or more likely, Bronze Age round barrows. If the latter interpretation is correct, than these features may have been deliberately incorporated within later enclosures. More recent marks from the lines of a football field are also evident towards the bottom of the playing field.

Figure G.470 is a transcription of the available aerial photographs, although the ring ditches are probably more regular and circular than shown in this plot. This complex would clearly benefit from detailed geophysical survey, and targeted excavation. Such a project could involve invaluable contributions and collaborations with the local community, especially given that some features now extend underneath the back gardens and yards of houses.

Figure G.471. *Transcription of the cropmarks, showing the original extent of the features now underneath suburban housing developments. (Source: © SYAS/NMR).*

References: SYAS SMR 55804, 1434764.