

**Fields *for* Discourse. Landscape
and Materialities of Being in
South and West Yorkshire and
Nottinghamshire during the Iron
Age and Romano-British Periods.**

A Study of People and Place.

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Thesis submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Volume III – Gazetteer

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North Yorkshire

Earthwork sites

Castle Hill, Wentbridge

SE 4995 1725

Here, earthworks of possible later prehistoric date were recorded on the 1st edition 6 inch Ordnance Survey map of the area, but subsequently seem to have been destroyed by quarrying activity. Aerial photographs have revealed smaller cropmark enclosures in the general area.

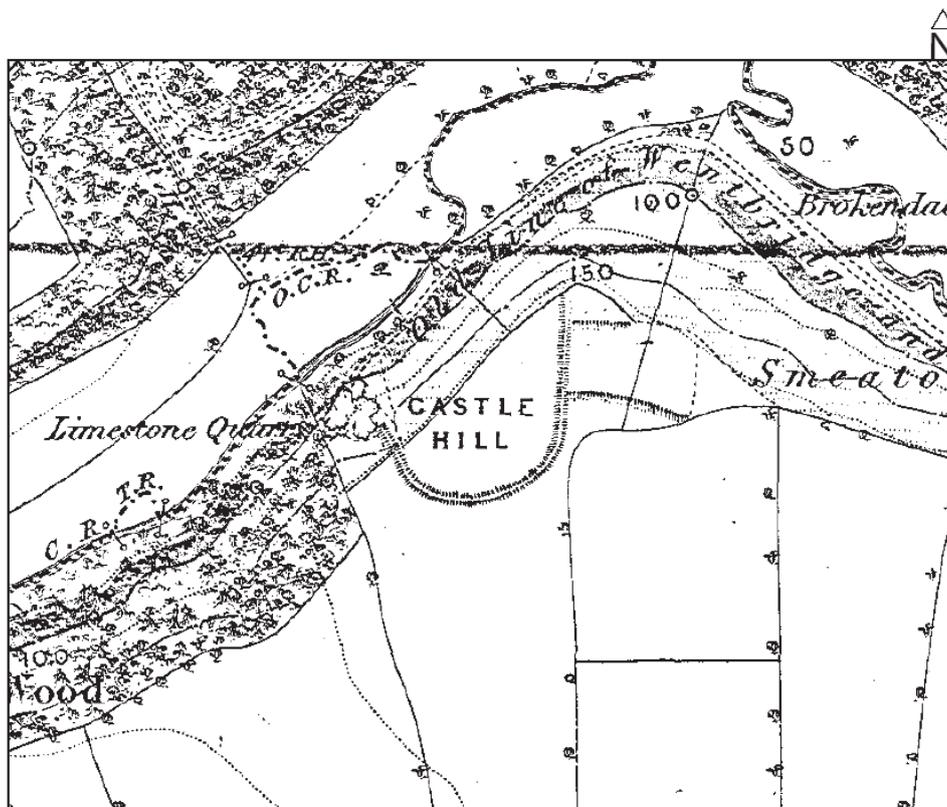


Figure G.01. Castle Hill, Wentbridge, as shown on the 1st Edition O.S. Survey map. (Source: © Ordnance Survey.)

References: Keighley 1981: 117.

*Cropmark/geophysical survey sites***Barnsdale Bar, Norton/Kirk Smeaton****SE 5150 1450**

Part of this area of investigation lies within North Yorkshire, but other areas just over the modern county boundaries in South and West Yorkshire, and it has been grouped together with the rest of the sites within South Yorkshire for convenience. Please see the South Yorkshire section of this Gazetteer, therefore, for further details of the archaeology.

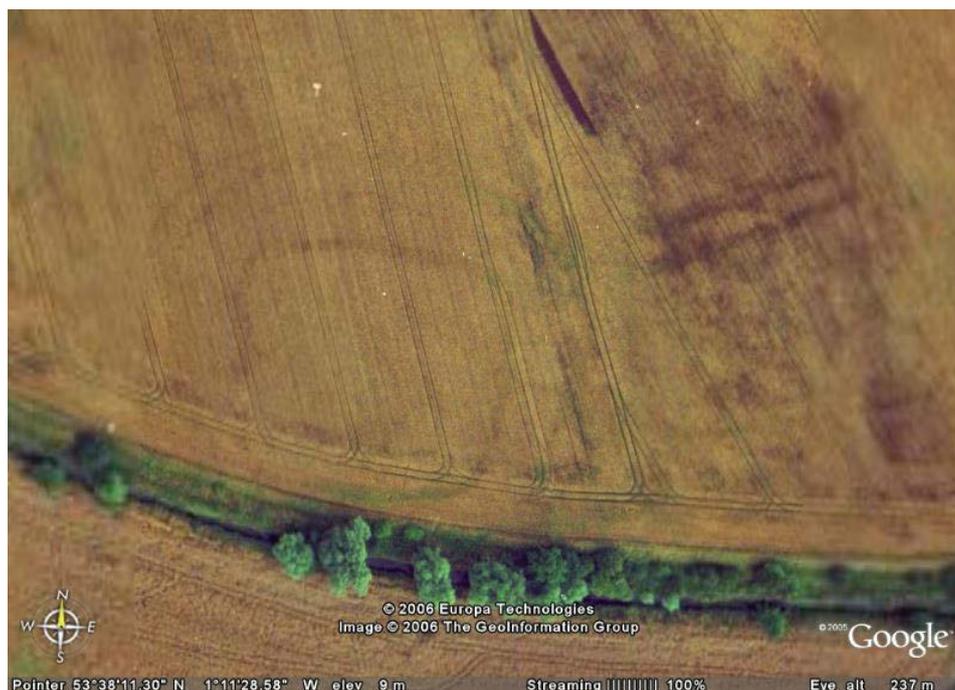
Little Smeaton**SE 5360 1585**

Figure G.02. *Cropmarks of the multi-vallate enclosure at Little Smeaton, N. Yorks. The ditches show up as darker lines on the left side of the image, and the possible east-facing entrance is just visible. (Source: © Google Earth).*

The multi-vallate enclosure site at Little Smeaton is situated on low-lying ground around 10m AOD on the floodplain of the River Went, just over the county boundary from South Yorkshire in North Yorkshire, but only some 4.6km to the north-west of Sutton Common, and 3km from the cropmark complex at Barnsdale Bar. It had an east-facing entrance, and was defined by at least four circuits of ditches, although it is not known if these were all contemporary with one another. Nevertheless, the shape of the entranceway does tend to suggest that at least the third and fourth outermost ditch circuits were added at some point after the initial construction, changing the entrance to face south-east. This entranceway appears quite complex in construction, and anyone seeking to enter the enclosure would have had to take an indirect route through a series of entrances and thresholds.

Other cropmarks around the enclosure including external boundary ditches and a possible pit alignment or segmented ditch are also visible in some aerial photographs (see below). A line of parallel ditches leading towards the enclosure may be a trackway, or a much later feature. Between four to six possible ring gullies have also been identified through more recent aerial photograph rectification (Deegan 2007, fig. 6.15) (Fig. G.05), along with a possible smaller, northern entrance. Intriguingly, only one of these ring gullies seems to have been situated within the innermost ditch circuit of the enclosure, which does not have much evidence for many other internal features, although some darker patches are visible on some aerial photographs (see G.03 below). Two larger examples of ring gullies, including one built within the entranceway, do seem to have been roundhouses, as they have apparent entranceways, and

two or three are completely external to the enclosure. Two square structures seem to have formed part of the ditch circuits, one by the possible northern entrance, and another to the east.



Figure G.03. *The Little Smeaton enclosure photographed in 1979 by Derrick Riley. Only hints of possible internal features can be seen. (Source: Manby 1988b: 26).*

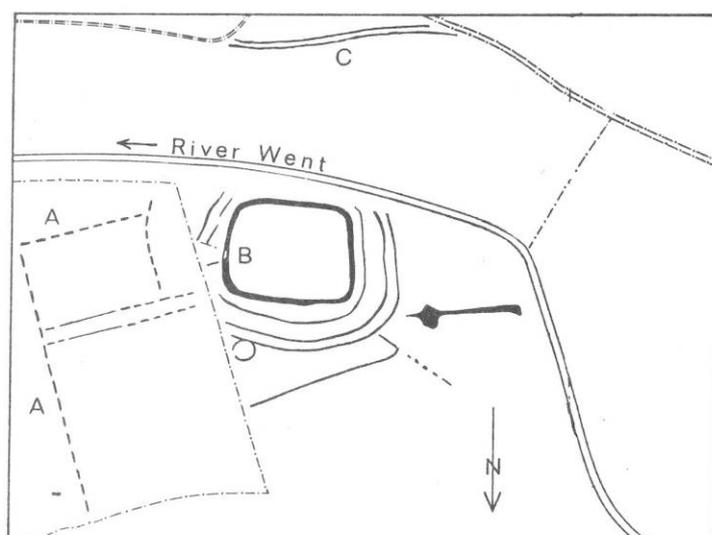


Figure G.04. (left). *A rather basic interpretative drawing (not a scaled plot) of the aerial photograph above. The possible entrance is at B, a former road at C, and other cropmarks of unknown date at A. (Source: Manby 1988b: 26).*

Worked flints of Mesolithic date have been found in the interior, probably reflecting much earlier occupation of a wetland 'island' in a similar manner to such early evidence at Sutton Common. A first century AD bronze brooch was found during dredging of the River Went nearby. It is possible that, like Sutton Common and perhaps Potteric Carr, Moorhouse Farm and Croft Road, Finningley; this might have represented a communal focus for people during the earlier Iron Age. Like them, it should also

probably not be considered a so-called ‘marsh fort’. One of the roundhouses seems to have been in a ‘guarding’ position by the gate, and the square structures could be interpreted as additional protection for gateways, or even as towers or bastions of some form. Such restrictions and controls on movement might equally apply to a ‘ritual’ site, however. The external roundhouses, if contemporary, would also render a purely defensive interpretation of the site rather untenable. In any case, the site was overlooked from the low ridge on the opposite side of the River Went (albeit some 200m away).

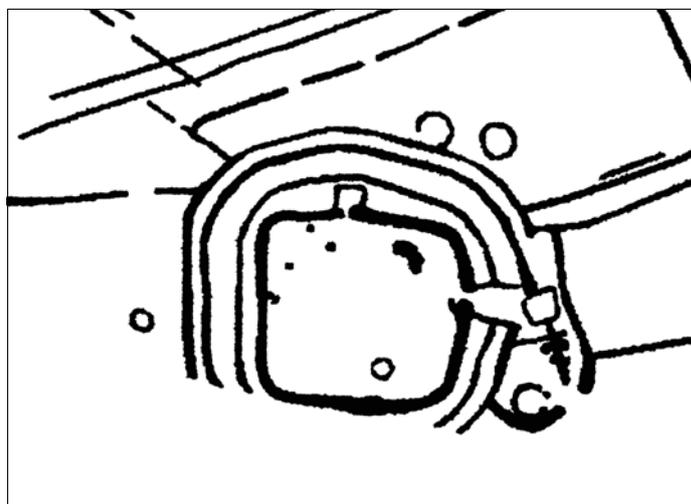


Fig. G.05. (left). *More recent and more detailed transcription of the AP evidence by Alison Deegan, showing ring gullies/roundhouses, the elaborate entranceway, and the possible northern entrance too. (Source: Deegan 2007, fig. 6.15).*

The landscape location of this enclosure between the undulating limestone uplands to the west and the low-lying floodplain extending eastwards may have been significant. The enclosure may also have been near the headwaters of the main channel that was navigable in small boats, and/or close to a ford across the river. It may have served as a focus for specialised seasonal social activities including communal gatherings and celebrations, in a roughly analogous manner to at least some of the practices seen at Sutton Common. Perhaps people gathered here in spring after successful births amongst livestock prior to taking the animals down onto the floodplain for summer grazing, and/or this might have happened at the end of the autumn.

Clearly, this site urgently requires further research, and this should include detailed geophysical survey, magnetic susceptibility testing and targeted excavation. Due to the possibility of waterlogged deposits surviving in parts of the site, perhaps in the bases of the larger ditches, some considerable thought should be given to assessing and monitoring desiccation in the area in the future, and to putting in place rewetting or other mediation schemes if necessary, following on from an evaluation of the site. Any further ploughing of it should be prevented.

References: Deegan 2007; Manby 1988b.

Newton Kyme

SE 4560 4540



Figure G.06. *The distinctive playing card shape of the Roman fort and associated vicus at Newton Kyme, N. Yorks., close to the River Wharfe which can be seen running behind it to the north on the photograph. In the lower right of the image are the ditches of the Neolithic henge monument. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 258, SE 458 453).*

The fort at Newton Kyme was located on the south side of the River Wharfe floodplain, perhaps to allow re-supply by river but also to control a river crossing at St Mary's Ford. The fort was sited on a very slight rise in ground at around 16m AOD, but in addition to military considerations, its location close to what would have already been an ancient monument complex may also have been crucial – the late Neolithic henge, Bronze Age ring ditches or round barrows and a pit alignment. These features may have held considerable social and mythological importance to the native people of the area, and this might have been a symbolic appropriation by Rome of a significant locale. A prehistoric pit circle was actually encompassed by the main phase of fort (Ramm 1988: 53).

Excavations in 1956 and 1957 by Herbert Ramm established that there had been a third and fourth century fort defended by three circuits of ditches in addition to a 3m wide inner stone wall (Ramm 1957: 209, 1988: 53). At a later date, two of these ditches had been converted into a single broad *fossa*, whilst at a much later date the stone wall was substantially robbed. There may have been a smaller, earlier first century double-ditched fort on the same location, which is visible on aerial photographs, whilst a third single or double-ditched fort or marching camp has been identified some 150m to the

west (Frere and St Joseph 1983; Ottaway 2003: 131). The wide double-ditched road of Rudgate ran north to the fort from Tadcaster, and on either side of this a civil settlement or *vicus* developed. A subsquare, double-ditched enclosure is also visible at the south-west corner of the fort, either cut by the ditches, or perhaps appended to them. Most of the complex had not been ploughed since medieval times, but from 1968 the area has been subject to intensive cereal cultivation.



Figure G.07. Another view of the fort and vicus looking south-east. (Source: Ramm 1988: 52).

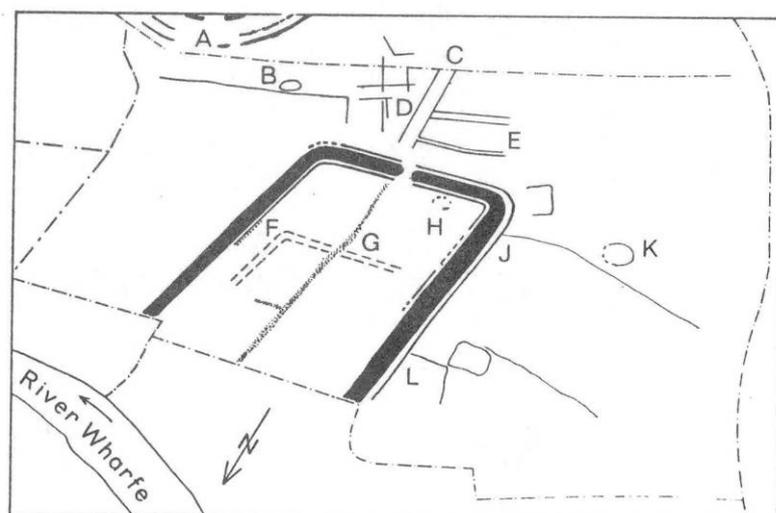


Figure G.08. (left). An interpretative drawing (not a scale plan) of the photo above, showing the early fort at F-G, and roads of the vicus at C and E. H and K are prehistoric monuments. (Source: Ramm 1988: 52).

The *vicus* may have served as an important local market for a while, and the ladder settlement at Wattle Syke and the nucleated enclosure complex and later Roman villa at Dalton Parlours were only *c.* 5km to the west. More recent detailed rectification of aerial photographs reveals a complex series of features, some clearly on different alignments to the main north-south road. In addition, the ditch of a fourth phase of fort or marching camp has also been identified.

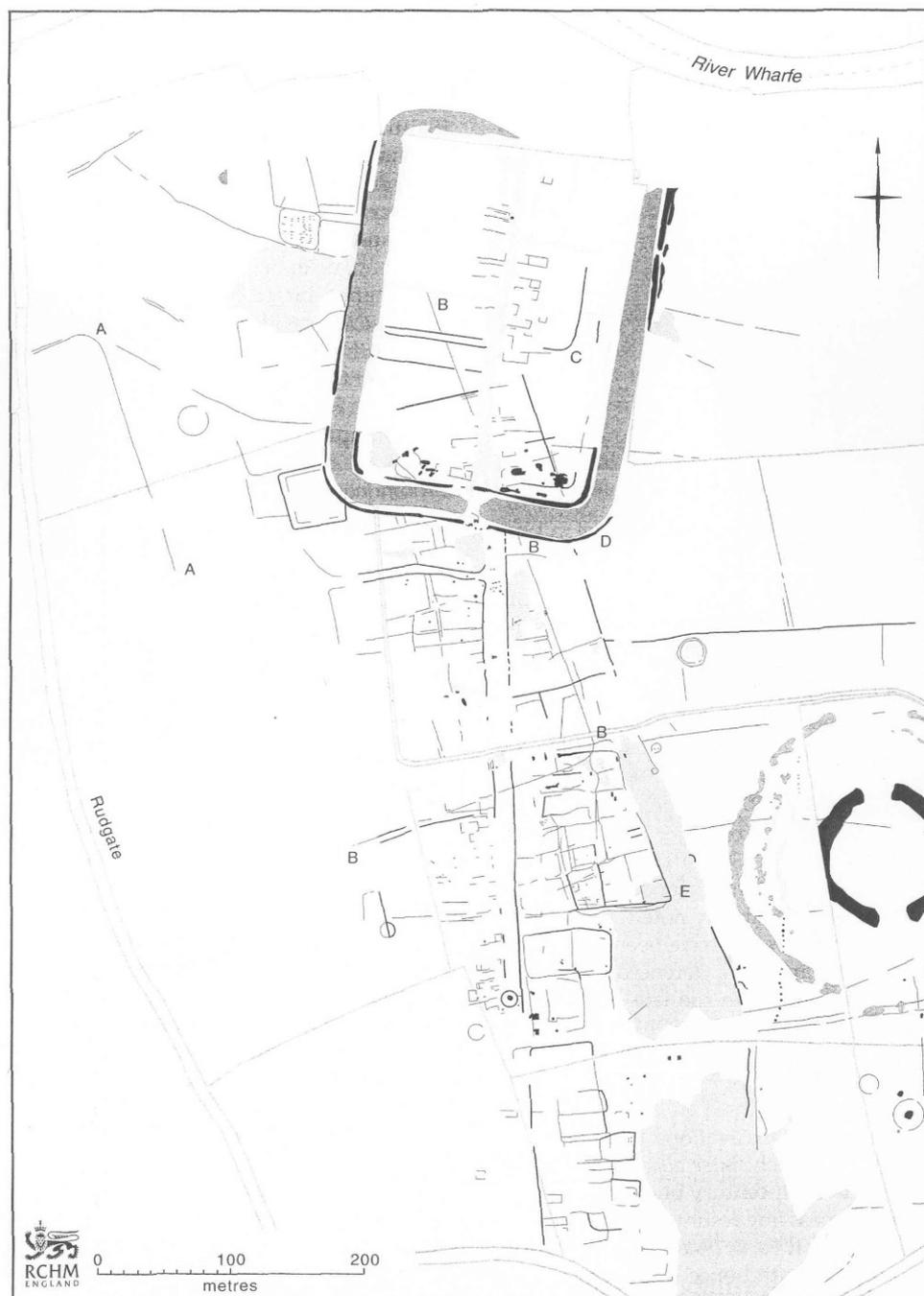


Figure G.09. Detailed aerial photograph transcription with the earlier fort ditches labelled A, B and C. Some boundary ditches and earlier prehistoric monuments appear to have been sliighted by Roman features, whilst a possible north-south pit alignment cutting across the henge is also visible. The broad band at E may represent another phase of road or droveway. (Source: Ottawa 2003: 131, fig. 36).

In 1979, construction of a gas pipeline involved excavation of an area close to the north-east corner of the easternmost fort. A curvilinear palisade slot and postholes for upright timbers was found close to one of the ditches of this fort, and this feature contained a human skeleton face down with its arms behind its back, associated with a pig metatarsal. The awful publication drawings (Monaghan 1991: 52, 54, figs. 1-2) cannot indicate whether this palisade structure was associated with the fort, or was an earlier native structure sliighted by it, but the possible male individual may have been executed. Splintered pig bone and a jet bead nearby may indicate a ritual deposit.

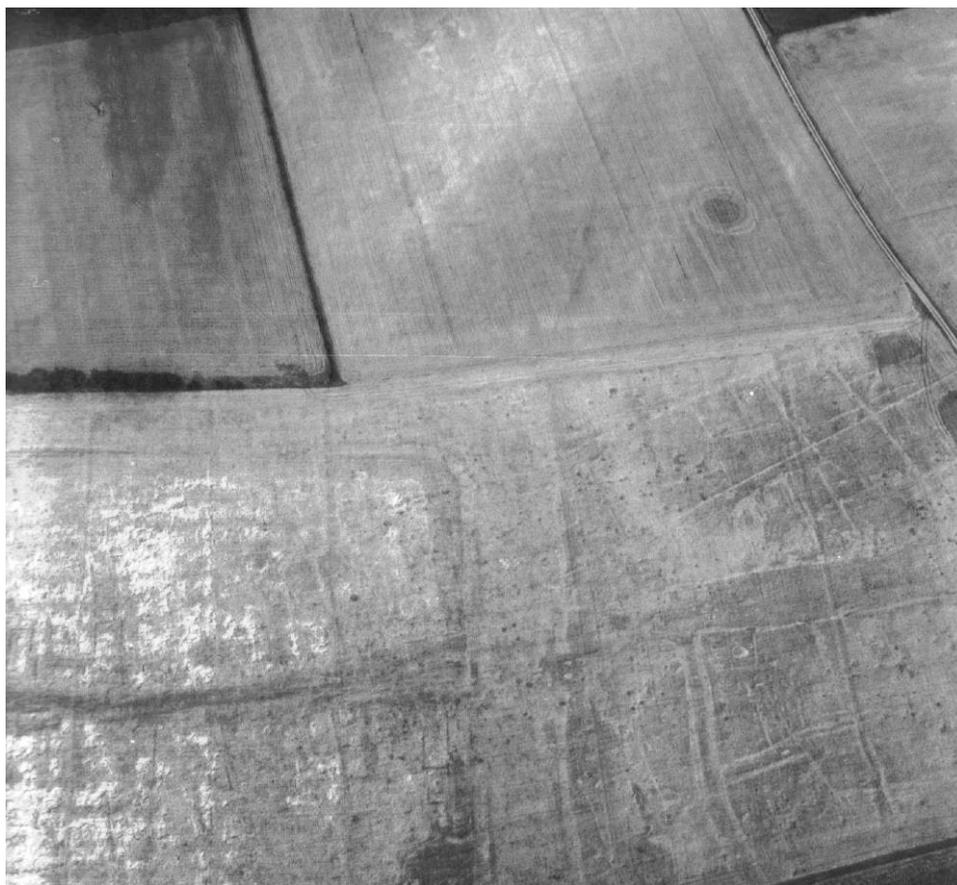


Figure G.10. Detailed aerial photograph of Newton Kyme looking east, showing the defences of the large fort at the lower left quarter of the image, with Rudgate running southwards to the lower right. More irregular minor roads and boundaries can be seen to the right, and the circular mounds to the upper right are prehistoric round barrows. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 249, SE 455 450).

References: Frere and St Joseph 1983; Monaghan 1991; Ottaway 2003; Ramm 1957, 1988.

West Yorkshire

Earthwork sites

Barwick-in-Elmet

SE 3985 3760

The medieval motte and bailey castle and manorial centre at Barwick-in-Elmet to the north-east of Leeds included two enclosures around 6.1 hectares in area, one or both of which might have been part of an earlier Iron Age hillfort, situated on an elevated spur of ground with steep sides to the north, and close to a series of springs and becks. Substantial prehistoric earthworks survive, especially on the northern and western sides of the site. There might have been entrances to the north-west and south-east of the larger enclosure on Wendel Hill. It has not been excavated, and so lacks any dates. It is possible that some banks and ditches reflect post-Roman and medieval occupation.

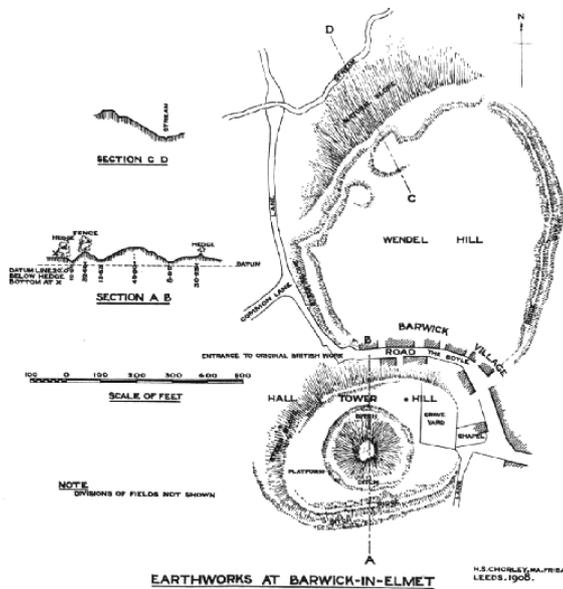


Figure G.11. (left). *Early survey of the earthworks at Barwick-in-Elmet, W. Yorks. (Source: Colman 1908).*



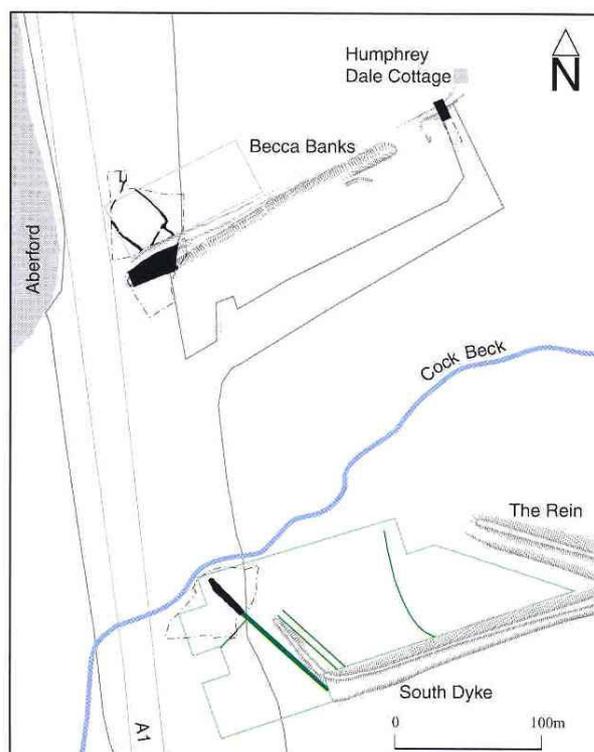
Figure G.12. (left). *Aerial photograph of the earthworks at Barwick-in-Elmet. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 40).*

References: Colman 1908; Keighley 1981: 116; Ramm 1966.

Becca Banks**SE 4370 3780**

Figure G.13. Part of the Becca Banks east of Aberford, showing both as an earthwork and as a soilmark in the ploughed fields. (Yarwood and Mariott 1988a: 38, plate 28).

This large earthwork has been traced for at least 5.5km from Potterton Bridge near Barwick-in-Elmet to the west to Hayton Wood in the east. It seems to have not attracted much antiquarian interest, and was first described by O.G.S. Crawford (1953: 247), although his claim of a stone revetment seems doubtful. Small sections were excavated in 1962 and 1967 (Brooks 1967; Wilson and Hurst 1963), but in the absence of artefactual evidence the earthwork was regarded as early medieval in origin.



More recently, construction of the M1-A1 Link Road has allowed the earthwork to be investigated in two locations. Interestingly, aerial photographic evidence suggested that to the north-east of Aberford, the earthworks cut across the line of a double-ditched trackway (Deegan 2001b: 25), and geophysical survey and excavation revealed that the section just to the north of Cock Beck had been constructed across a subrectangular enclosure and associated ditches (Burgess and Wheelhouse 2001: 138-140).

Figure G.14. (left). The line of Becca Banks east of Aberford, broadly parallel to Cock Beck. (Source: Deegan 2001b: 34).

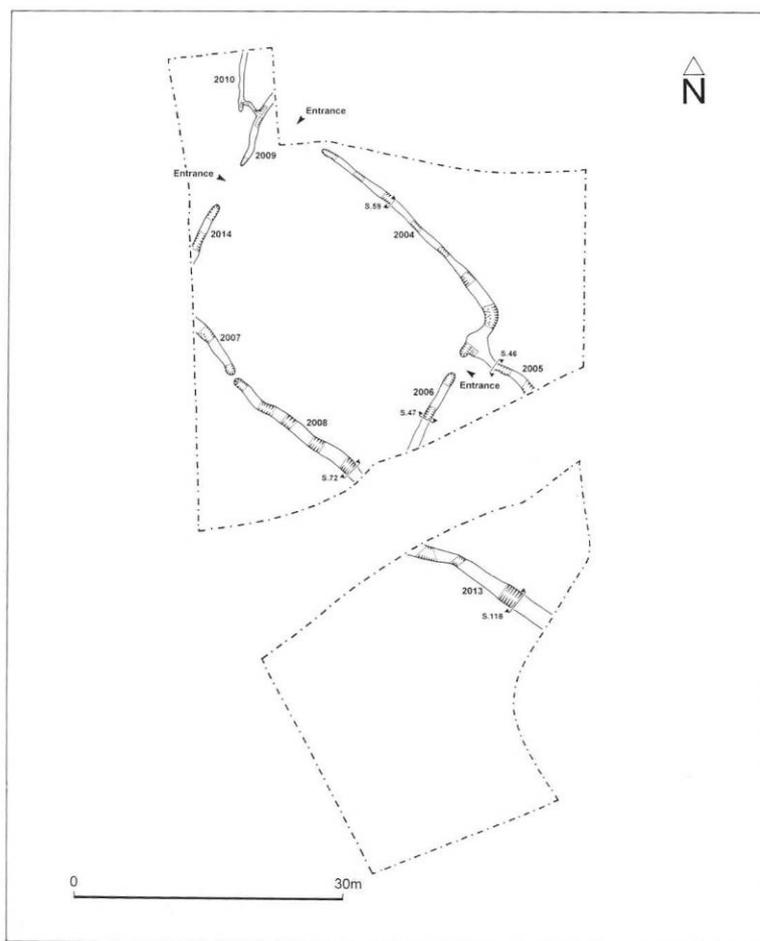


Figure G.15. *The enclosure and associated ditches pre-dating the construction of the Becca Banks earthwork. (Source: Burgess and Wheelhouse 2001: 138, fig. 106).*

The enclosure was 30m long and 25m wide, with three possible entrances to the north-east, north-west and south-east, and ditches up to 1.2m wide and 0.95m deep. No internal features were identified, and no finds were recovered, but soil micromorphology indicated that only a short amount of time had elapsed between the construction of the enclosure and the building of the earthwork (Carter, Long and Tipping 2001). Pollen analyses suggested a largely open landscape of grassland and uncultivated heathland, this information coming from the buried soil underneath the bank which also contained three sherds of hand-made, possibly late Iron Age pottery. The bank proved to be at least 13m wide and was still upstanding to a height of 2.8m, with a ditch approximately 3m deep. The ditch fills contained some Roman pottery and animal bone, and a ^{14}C date of AD 559-674 was obtained from some of this bone (Burgess and Wheelhouse 2001: 144). Upper ditch fills contained Saxon and medieval pottery. A construction date between the late Iron Age and seventh century AD is thus possible, although given the Iron Age dates obtained from excavations of the South Dyke earthwork (see below), a very late prehistoric origin is perhaps more likely.

References: Brooks 1967; Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001; Wilson and Hurst 1963; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a.

Camp House, Bramhope**SE 2480 4220**

This is a small rectangular earthwork with a single bank and ditch, surviving as very faint earthworks on a very gentle south-east facing slope near Camp House Farm.

References: Keighley 1981.

Castle Hill hillfort, Almondbury

SE 1525 1410

Castle Hill, south-east of Huddersfield, was excavated by Varley during 1936-1939 but has only been published in interim form. Castle Hill was located on a prominent, steep-sided hill overlooking the River Holme to the east and south, the River Colne to the north, and the Fenay Beck to the north-east. Around 3.2ha in area, it was once proposed as the ‘headquarters’ of the Brigantian leader Cartimandua.

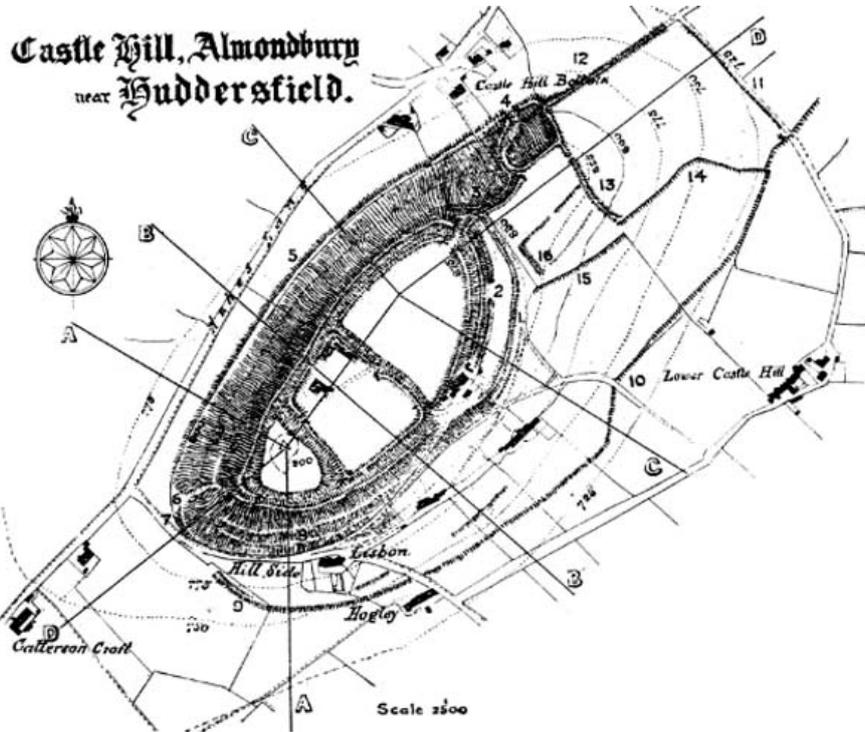
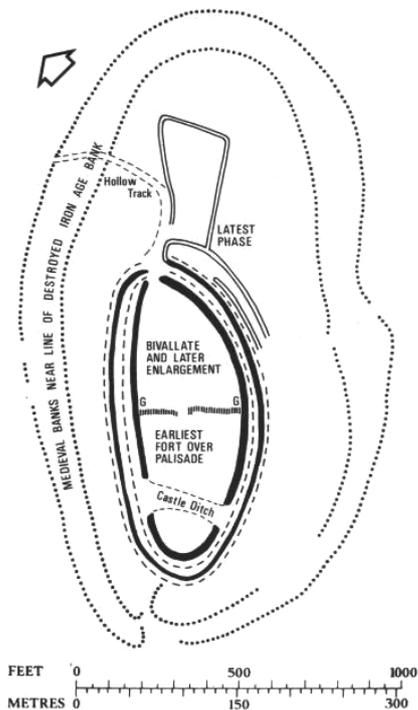


Figure G.16. Plan of the earthworks at Castle Hill, Almondbury. (Source: Armitage 1900).

Figure G.17. (left). Interpretative plan of Castle Hill, showing the several possible phases of development and elaboration. (Source: World Wide Web <http://www.brigantesnation.com>).



Further excavation in 1969-1972, and radiocarbon dating demonstrated that much of the occupation took place during the earlier first millennium BC, beginning in the later Bronze Age, perhaps with a univallate, then a bivallate structure. Further work on the ceramic assemblage recovered by Varley identified some sherds as early Iron Age pottery (Gilks 1992).

Interestingly, three sherds of later Iron Age pottery have been identified from excavations at Pontefract Castle (Cumberpatch and Robbins n.d.), which suggests that at that location too there may have been later prehistoric occupation underneath the medieval archaeological remains. Castle Hill was probably destroyed or abandoned by 500 BC, and although Roman pottery was found during excavations the site seems to have been largely disused until the medieval re-fortification. The landscape setting of this site is interesting. It is situated on a very pronounced local hilltop (below) in quite an undulating landscape, but overlooks the junction of the Rivers Holme and Colne, a locale that was undoubtedly of great strategic, social and symbolic importance.

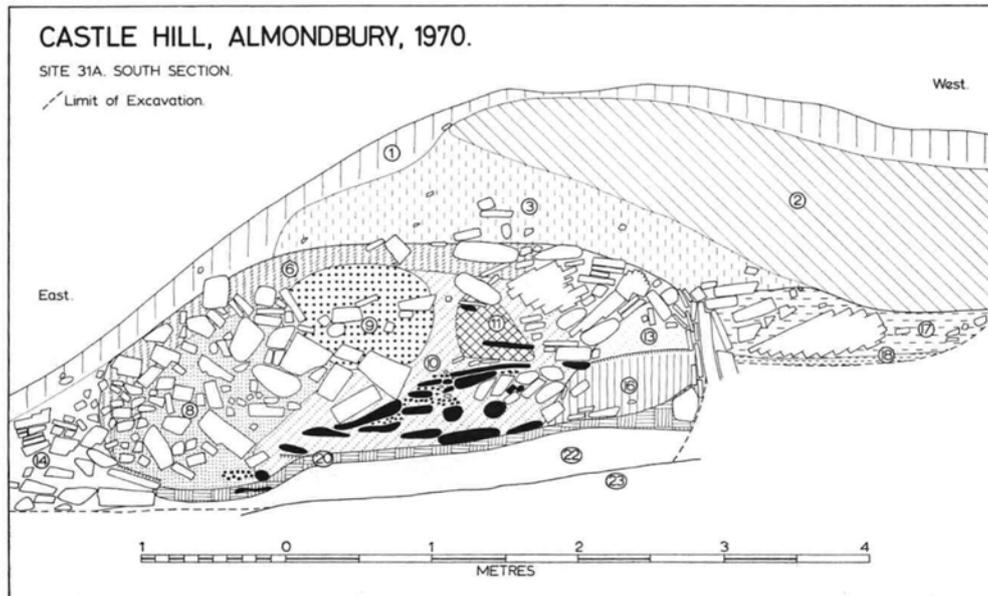


Figure G.18. Section through part of the ramparts. (Source: Challis and Harding 1975).



Figure G.19. Vertical image of Castle Hill, Almondbury, with later medieval features on the hilltop showing as dark lines. (Source: © Google Earth).



Figure G.20. (left). *Ground view of Castle Hill, emphasising its dramatic topography. (Source: World Wide Web <http://www.themodernantiquarian.com>).*



Fig. G.21. *Castle Hill in profile against the skyline. (Source: World Wide Web <http://www.themodernantiquarian.com>).*

References: Armitage 1900; Chadwick 1900; Challis and Harding 1975; Gilks 1992; Haselgrove 1984; Keighley 1981: 116; Preston 1950a; Richmond 1954: 44; Varley 1948, 1969.

Castlestead Ring, Cullingworth**SE 514 3625**

This site is approximately 90m in diameter, but has suffered greatly from early modern ploughing, especially the southern half. The earthwork had a bank with an outer ditch, but also a probable counterscarp bank too (Keighley 1981; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a). Two slight linear depressions joining its southern edge are probably later holloways. Excavations in 1911 recovered lead, coal and iron fragments, but the site remains undated.



Figure G.22. *Castlestead Ring. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 14).*

References: Keighley 1981: 127; Villy 1911; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 14-15.

Catstones Ring, Bingley**SE 0680 3808**

This subrectangular enclosure is on the south-western edge of Harden Moor in a commanding position at 270m OD, and is approximately 6.5 hectares in area. The bank and ditch were noted in the early twentieth century (Villy 1921), together with a possible outwork, but the enclosure was badly damaged by ploughing on its western side, and almost completely destroyed by quarrying on its southern side, although aerial photographs taken in 1977 showed some earthworks surviving. A small section dug through the ditch by an amateur fieldworker did not recover any finds (Keighley 1981: 123).

References: Keighley 1981: 123; Villy 1921.

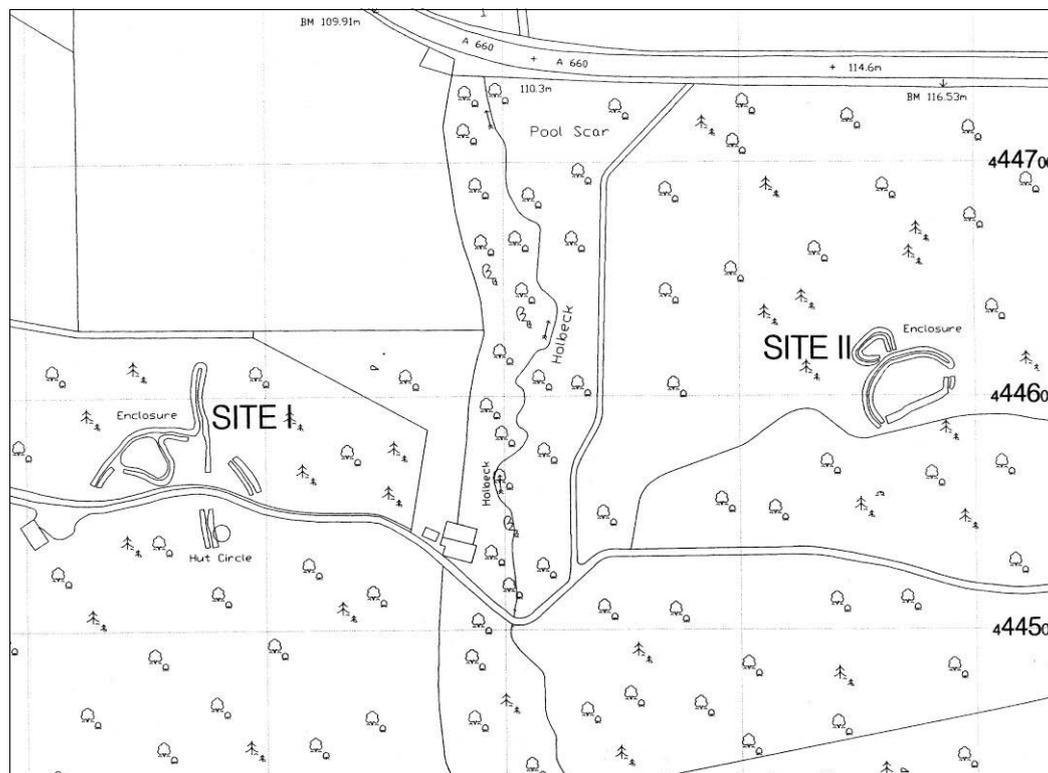
Danefield Wood, Otley**SE 2186 4457**
SE 2217 4460

Figure G.23. Location map of the two enclosures and associated earthworks in Danefield Wood, near Otley, showing the spatial relationship between the two earthwork complexes (Source: Holbrey 2000).

The earthworks preserved in Danefield Wood, Otley, are situated at approximately 145m OD on a slight ‘shelf’ on an otherwise north-facing slope on the south side of the Wharfedale Valley, in a locale that may in the past have commanded extensive views out across the valley and the modern position of Otley. They were originally recorded and investigated by Cowling in the 1940s (Cowling 1946), but since then they unfortunately became gradually degraded through tree root action and bioturbation, erosion and a series of tracks that were cut or formed across the sites. The area has only been re-wooded since 1946 (Holbrey 2000). As part of a woodland and land management programme, the site was subjected to detailed earthwork survey and geophysical survey in 1997, and subsequently to limited hand dug test pit and trial trench excavation.

Site I consists of one trapezoidal enclosure subdivided into two areas, or two abutting enclosures, the complex being up to 40m long and 22m wide, abutting a north-south sinuous bank. The walls of the enclosure and the north-south bank are formed by large orthostatic blocks of Millstone Grit, incorporating some natural large earthfast boulders. A possible structure is located within the enclosure (c in Fig. G.24 below), and there may have been narrow entrances to the north, east and south-east. Outlying features consist of a series of banks, terraces or platforms, and to the south-west of the north-south bank, two further possible roundhouses or building platforms (marked as o and p).



Figure G.24. More detailed survey plan of Site I, Danefield Wood. A possible structure within the enclosure is located at *c*, and externally at *o* and *p*. (Source: Holbrey 2000).

Cowling recorded finding the remains of hut circles and hearths at Site I, and prehistoric flints nearby. The geophysical survey results from Site I were not that informative, and merely served to confirm the position of orthostat banks. The test pit and trial trench investigations confirmed that features *c* and *p* were probably stone-built buildings (Trenches 3 and 2), the former a subrectangular building up to 6m long and 4m wide, and the latter a roundhouse possibly originally *c.* 7.5m in diameter; and both had traces of compacted cobbled flooring surviving (Holbrey 2000). Some burning was recorded, but no

hearths. Trench 4 recorded a possible stone surface within the north-east corner of the enclosure too. No finds were recovered from any of the Site I trenches.

Site II is approximately 320m east of Site I, and consists of a subrectangular enclosure up to *c.* 40m long and 25m wide, with an east-facing entrance. Few internal features were noted on the topographic survey, and Cowling only recorded finding some fire-cracked boulders (Cowling 1946: 136). During the more recent excavations, Trench 6 was dug near the eastern entrance, and suggested that there might have been two phases of orthostat bank construction, with a later rubble core faced with boulders on top of an earthen bank (Holbrey 2000). A deposit within the bank produced a single sherd of possible second century AD greyware, whilst a shallow pit or gully just inside the entrance contained a single small flint flake and carbonised spelt, emmer and rye grains. This cut feature truncated a deposit that produced another sherd of Romano-British greyware.

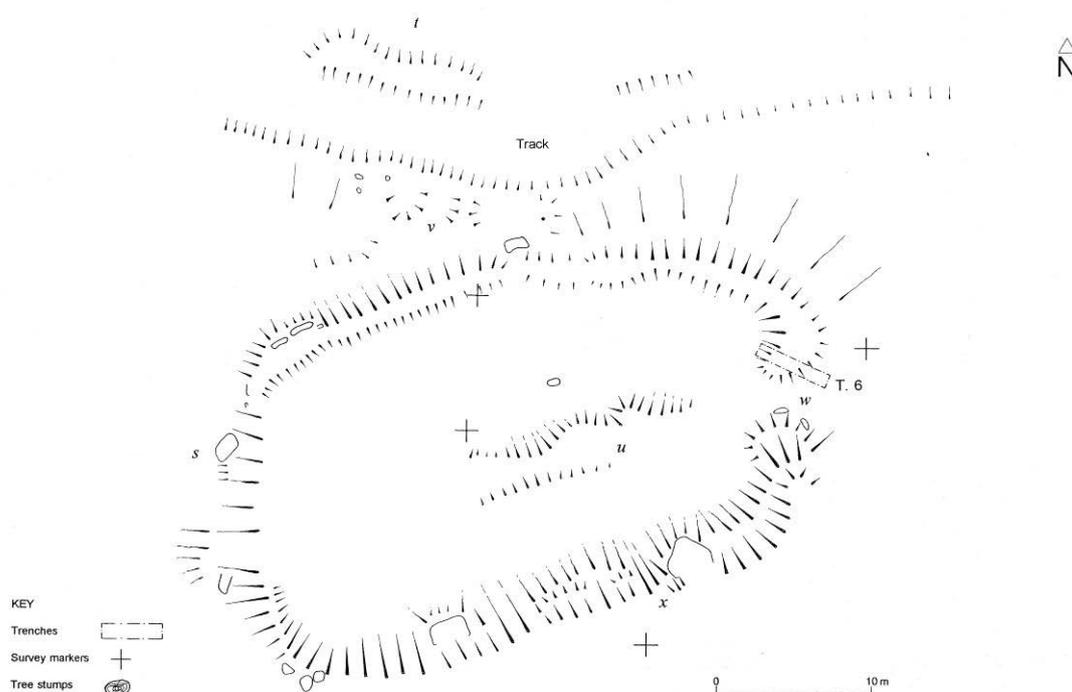


Figure G.25. *More detailed survey plan of Site II, Danefield Wood. (Source: Holbrey 2000).*

The enclosures at Danefield Wood are thus likely to be late prehistoric and Romano-British date, although their chronological history would be difficult to ascertain even with full excavation. Several other similar earthwork enclosures occur at Green Crag Slack near Ilkley, at Brackenhall Green near Shipley and at Crosley Wood, Bingley (Mayes 1967). Given the lack of evidence for sustained domestic occupation, and the relatively exposed nature of the Danefield Wood enclosures, it is likely that they were used as part of upland grazing practices, perhaps on a seasonal basis. Interestingly, a cup and ring marked boulder of is located just to the north of Site I (marked as j on Fig. G.24), and this may have influenced the siting of the enclosure.

References: Cowling 1946; Holbrey 2000.

Gipton, Potter Newton**SE 3270 36 50**

These earthworks, possibly of one or more enclosures, are located in Gipton Wood, and are approximately 65m long and 45m wide, but they have not been surveyed in detail or investigated further.

References: Keighley 1981: 123.

Grim's Ditch, Colton**SE 3752 3222**

The length of Grim's Ditch can be traced for approximately 6.7 kilometres, running northwards from a palaeo-channel of the River Aire, and also to the north of Cock Beck, where its course then becomes unclear, although it may be preserved in the line of some modern boundaries. In places it made use of a natural scarp, and it still survives as an earthwork with a bank up to 2.4m high, and on the eastern side of the bank a silted-up ditch still up to 2m deep and 9-12m wide. It was once thought to be the *agger* of a Roman road (Codrington 1918; Margary 1973; Pope 1958), and some of its earlier names included Riknild Street, Roman Rig and *Via Vincalis* (Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001: 125). Small-scale excavations and geophysical surveys in the 1990s established it was a linear earthwork of unknown date (Brown 1995; Morris 1998, Webb 1997; Wilmott 1993). Faull (1981: 174) suggested that it formed part of defensive works associated with the fifth to sixth century kingdom of Elmet.

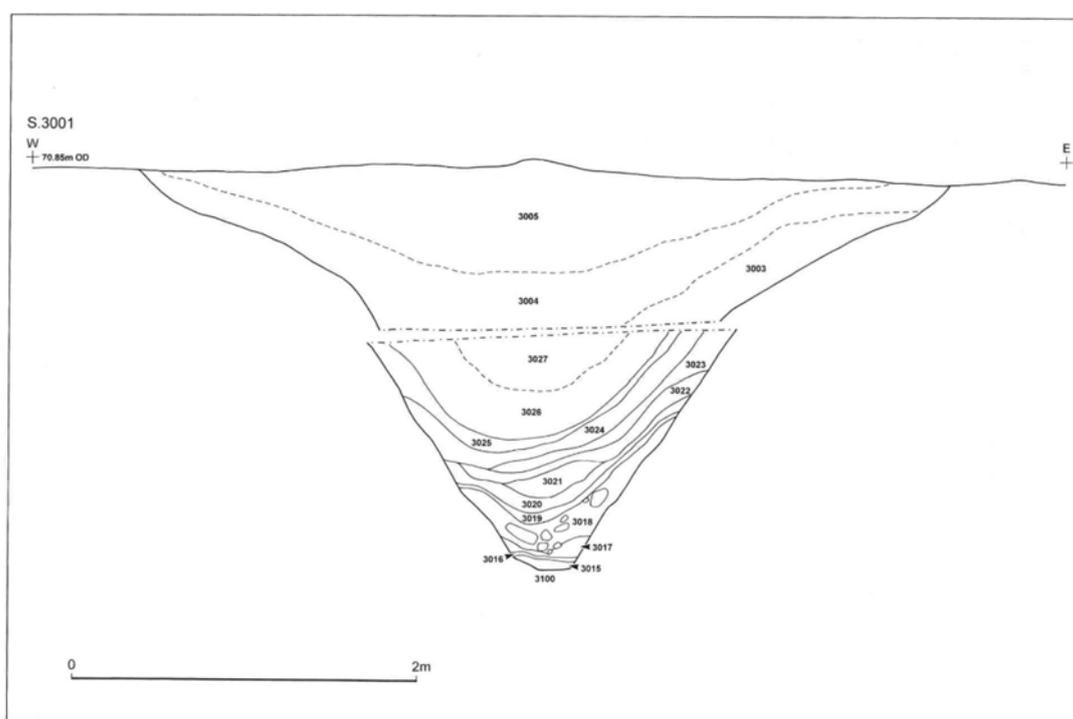


Figure G.26. Section across Grim's Ditch. (Source: Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001: 130).

Two excavations through the Grim's Ditch earthworks (Grim's Ditch North and South) were recently undertaken as part of the M1-A1 road improvement project. Only post-medieval and early modern objects were recovered from upper fills, but a ^{14}C date of AD 86-335 was obtained from charcoal in primary silts of Grim's Ditch North, whilst ^{14}C dates of 777-396 BC and 790-400 BC came from Grim's Ditch South (Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001: 129). A date of AD 33-321 came from a sample slightly higher in the Grim's Ditch South sequence. There was possible evidence for ditch re-cutting found in some sections, so the initial phase of construction was probably during the early or middle Iron Age, with possible redefinition either in the first century AD prior to the Roman invasion of the north, or in the later Roman period. Palaeoenvironmental evidence suggested that the earthwork was

created in a fairly open landscape with some grassland present, but also with evidence for the cultivation of wheat and barley nearby (Carter, Bunting and Tipping 2001).

References: Brown 1995; Codrington 1918; Faull 1981; Margary 1973; Morris 1998; Pope 1958; Webb 1997; Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001; Wilmott 1993.

Meg Dyke, Barkisland**SE 0498 1745**

This is a subrectangular enclosure with double banks and ditches, approximately 0.5ha in extent, and still surviving as a well-defined earthwork with ditches up to 3m deep. A section dug across the ditch and part of the rampart in 1976 found only an undiagnostic iron fragment.

References: Keighley 1981: 124.

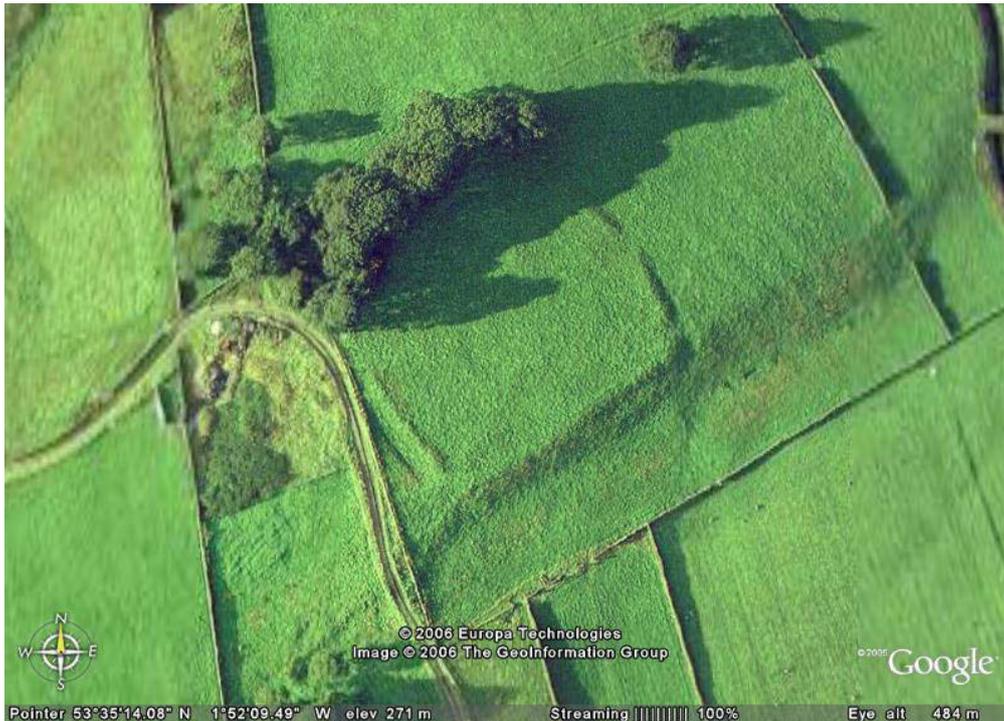
Oldfield Hill, Meltham**SE 0874 1008**

Figure G.27. *Oldfield Hill, Meltham. The slight scarp to the south is clear, as is the possible linear earthwork along it. The north-east facing entrance, possible internal platform and later medieval ridge and furrow are also visible, as is a holloway of unknown date to the south. (Source: © Google Earth).*



Figure G.28. *The earthworks at Oldfield Hill viewed from the south, showing the linear bank and ditch and the enclosure beyond. Two holloways are also visible in the foreground. (Source: www.themodernantiquarian.com).*

Oldfield Hill was situated in a locally prominent hilltop position, making use of a possible slight natural ridge situated on a north-east sloping valley side south-west of Meltham, within the Peak District area of West Yorkshire. This consisted of a subrectangular enclosure with a north-east facing entrance. On aerial photographs, medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow has clearly reduced the earthworks somewhat, although slight platforms are still visible within it.

There were small-scale excavations in 1909 and 1923, which both proposed that the earthwork was a Roman camp, despite any finds or features to support this hypothesis (Richmond 1924; Wrigley 1909). It was further excavated by Toomey in the 1960s and 1970s, who suggested that an earlier palisaded enclosure 0.2ha in area was replaced by a later 0.4ha enclosure delineated by a stone rampart and ditch. Furnace linings, ironstone and the upper part of a rotary quern were recovered, in addition to stone pot lids; but no pottery was found, although some ‘much softened red burnt clay’ (Toomey 1976: 11) may have been poorly fired ceramics not recognised by the excavators. An Iron Age date is likely though. A linear bank and a ditch might have led off to the east and west along the scarp edge from the enclosure, emphasising a natural feature, but it is not know if this was contemporary with the occupation. Clearly, as Fig. G.29 below demonstrates, much more of the interior needed to be excavated.

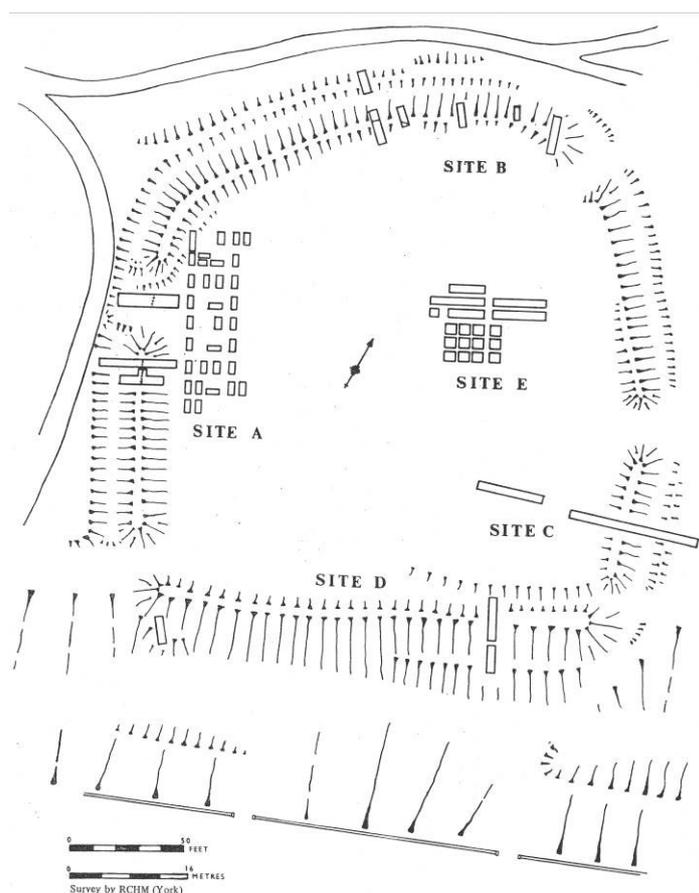


Figure G.29. (left). Plan of the earthworks and excavations at Oldfield Hill undertaken between 1960-1967. The limited investigations of the interior hampered interpretation, along with the over reliance on box-grid and narrow trenching techniques rather than open-area excavation. (Source: Toomey 1976: 4).

References: Challis and Harding 1975: 134; Richmond 1924; Toomey 1960-1964, 1976; Wrigley 1909; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 12-13.

Round Dikes, Addingham**SE 0552 5011**

Along with Woofa Bank, this was part of another interesting possible ‘pair’ of enclosures near Addingham. Round Dikes was subcircular, with a possible eastern entrance (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.13). A limited geophysical survey of part of this enclosure identified at least nine possible roundhouses. It was defined by a single bank and ditch, but like Woofa Bank appears to have been associated with a large, linear bank and ditch earthwork, and which might have restricted access to this hilltop from the west and east, or demarcated this area from the surrounding landscape. The dates of this enclosure and the linear earthworks are not known though.

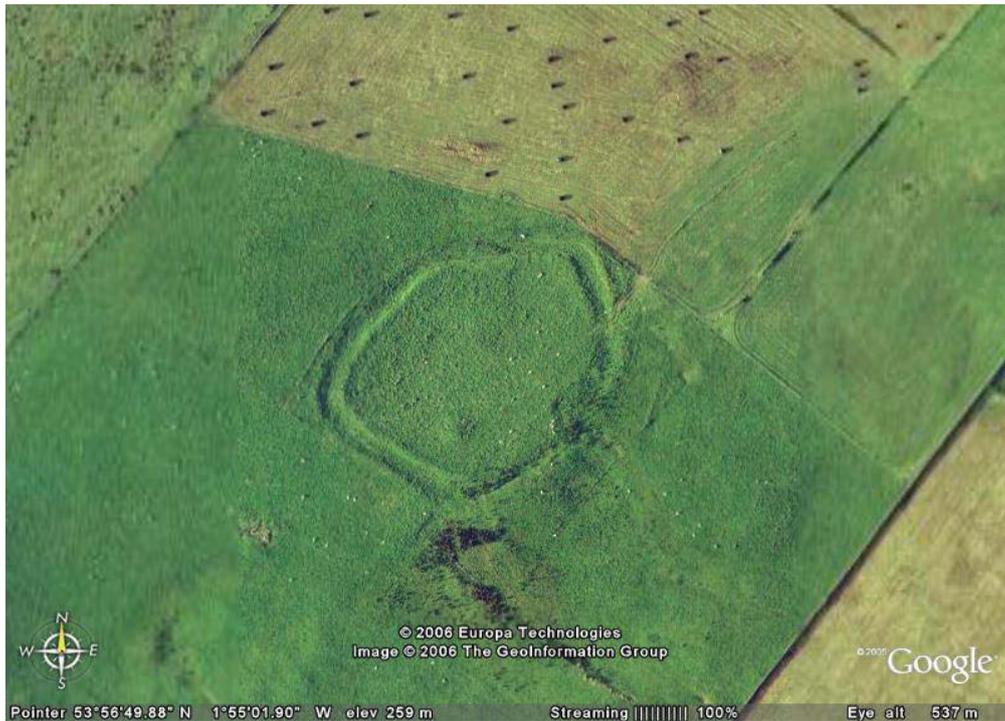


Figure G.30. *Round Dikes, near Addingham, W. Yorks., SE 0550 5015.* (Source: © Google Earth).

References: Keighley 1981: 127; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 14-15.

Royd Edge, Meltham**SE 0910 0964**

This scarp-edge enclosure, also south-west of Meltham, and only around 400m south-east of Oldfield Hill, had one entrance facing east and another possible entrance facing west. There are also traces of a circular building visible within the enclosure. It was situated in an exposed position at the end of a ridge. Like Oldfield Hill, it seems to have been subject to ploughing in the historical period. Unlike most other enclosures within the study region, at Royd Edge the ditch is meant to have been internal to the bank rather than external to it. This is a most unusual arrangement, only paralleled by the enclosure in Scabba Wood in South Yorkshire. Closer examination of the aerial photographs suggests that there probably was originally an internal bank, but also an external counterscarp bank.



Figure G.31. *Royd Edge earthwork enclosure, under a light snowfall. In addition to the two entrances, a possible roundhouse is visible in the lower right (north-west) corner of the enclosure, and linear banks of unknown date leading off to the west. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 12).*

Royd Edge was also excavated by Toomey, and had evidence of an early phase with a palisaded enclosure on top of an earlier roundhouse, with a later box rampart and inner ditch. Finds included clinker, baked clay and a lead spindle whorl, suggesting a later Iron Age date. If it was occupied at the same date as Oldfield Hill (and there is no real evidence for this), then Oldfield Hill might have been the main settlement, with the more exposed Royd Edge as an ancillary enclosure, the inner ditch perhaps helping to contain livestock (Keighley 1981: 125; Toomey 1982; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 13). However, whilst this unusual feature may reflect local innovations in construction, it might also reflect a different function altogether.

References: Challis and Harding 1975: 134; Toomey 1982; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 12-13.

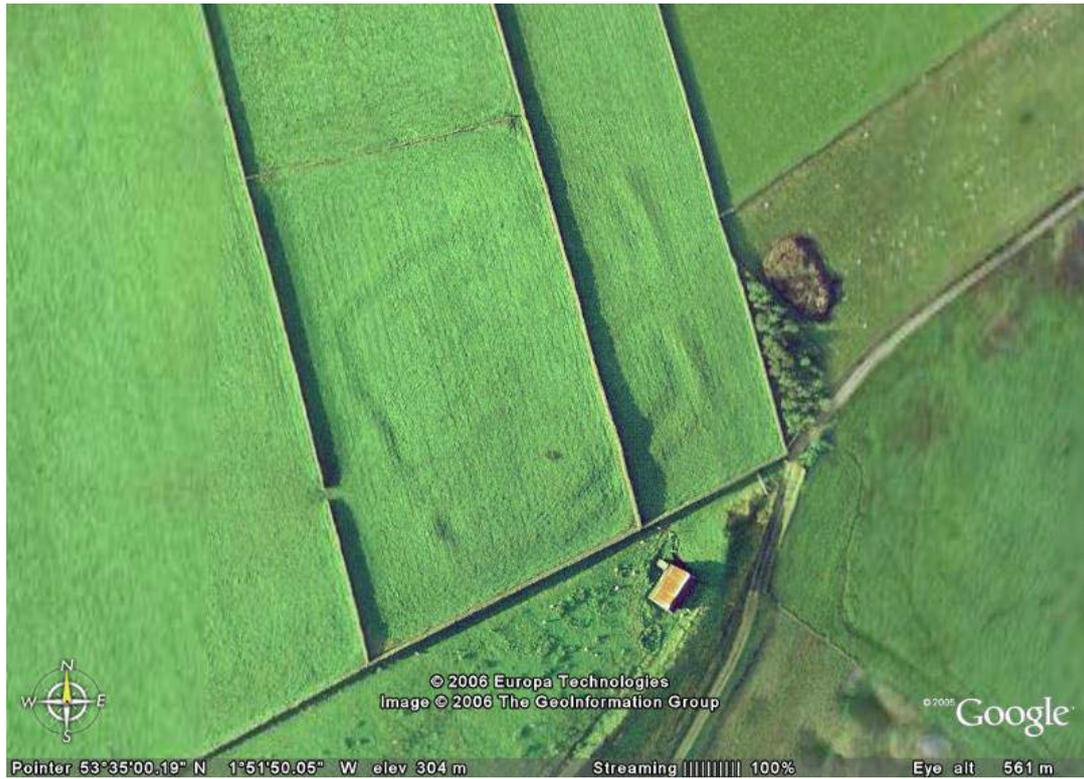


Figure G.32. The Royd Edge enclosure on a vertical image. The internal ditch is evident, but also possible traces of an outer ditch and an inner bank too. (Source: © Google Earth).

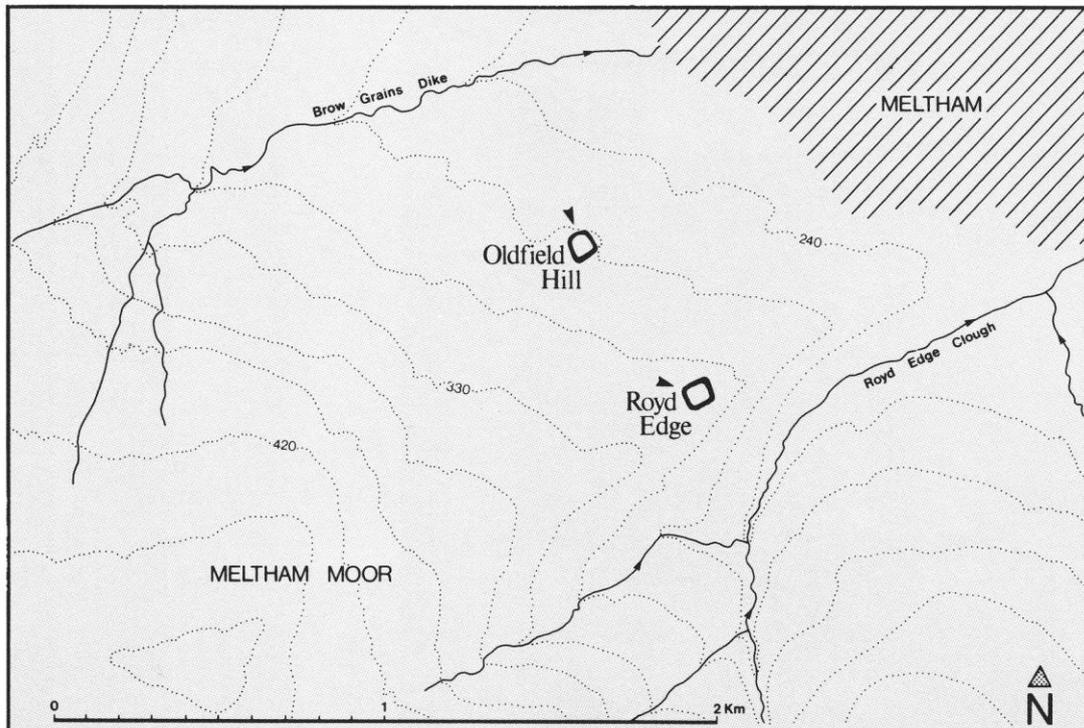


Fig. G.33. Royd Edge earthwork enclosure, only 450m from Oldfield Hill. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 12-13).

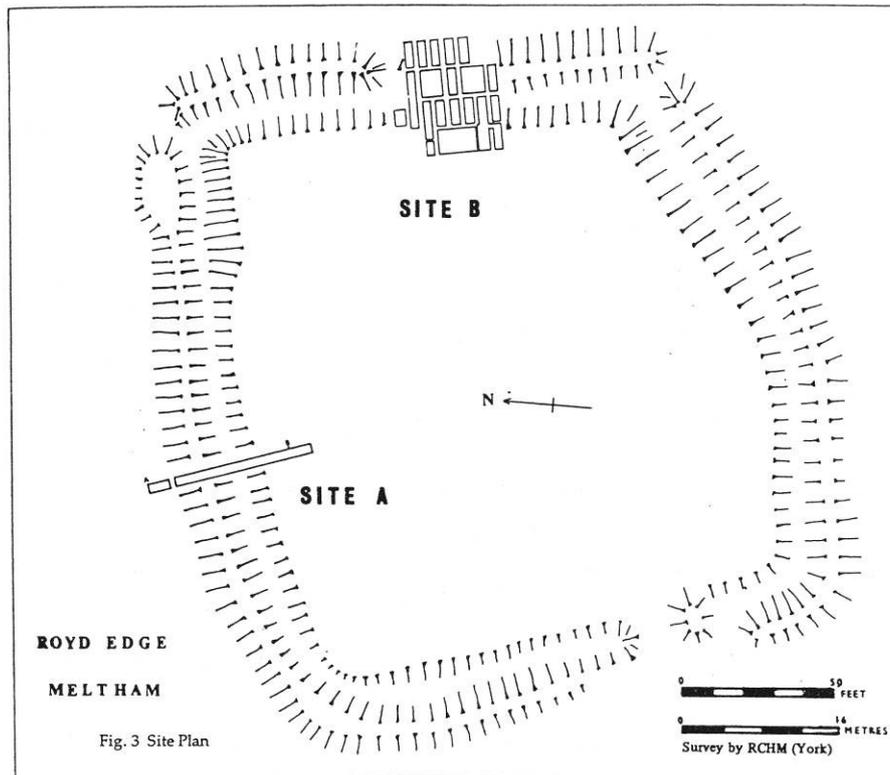


Figure G.34. Detail of the Royd Edge enclosure, showing its unusual inner ditch, in addition to the location of some of the excavation trenches of Toomey. (Source: Toomey 1982: 9).

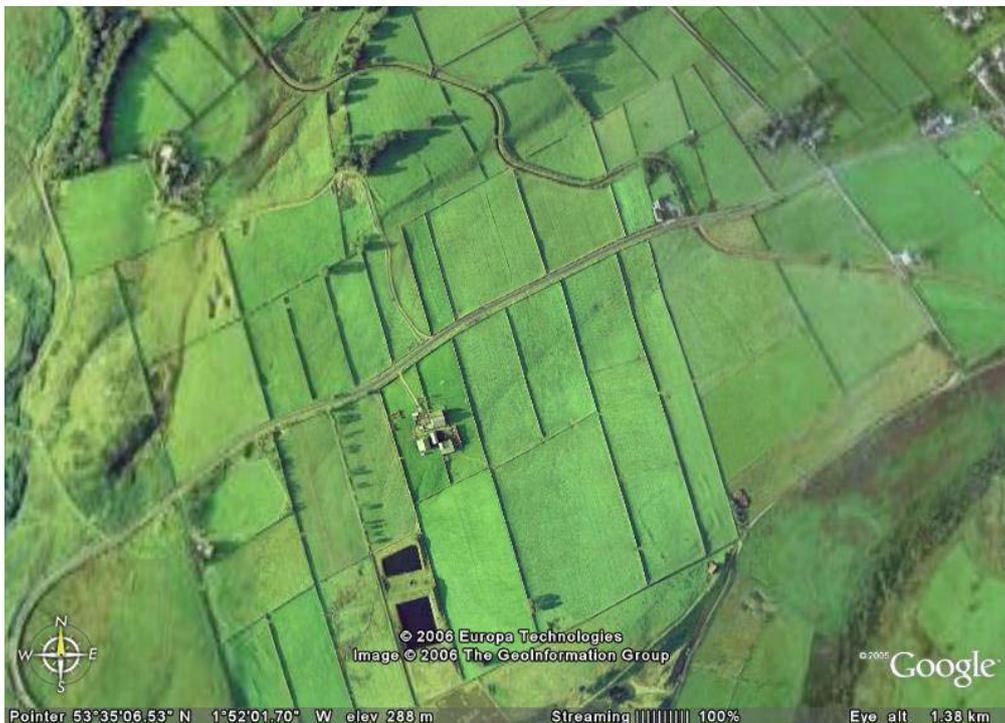
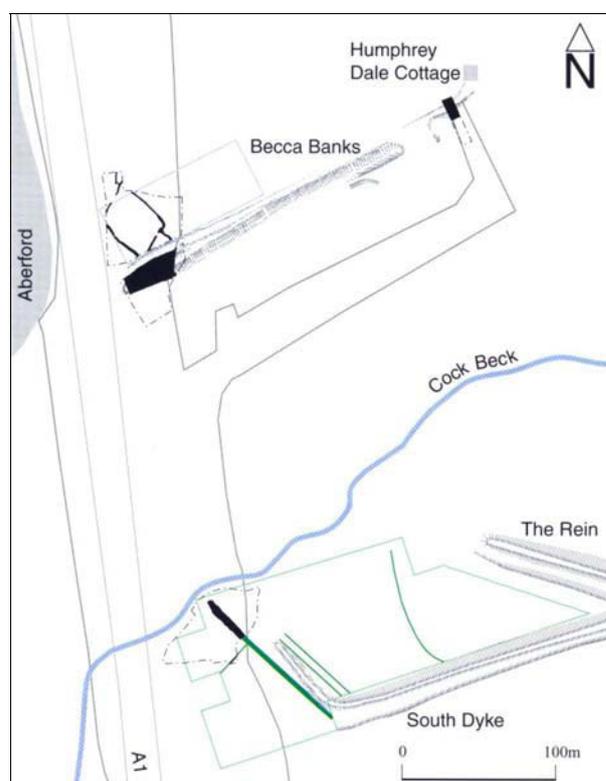


Figure G.35. The close spatial relationship between the Oldfield Hill (upper left) and the Royd Edge (lower right) earthwork enclosures, Meltham, W. Yorks. (Source: © Google Earth).

South Dyke, Aberford

SE 4360 3760

South Dyke runs partly along a natural scarp edge formed by limestone bedrock known as Woodhouse Moor, east of modern Aberford on the southern bank of Cock Beck, and was clearly sited to make use of these two natural features, perhaps to channel movement through the area (Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001: 148). It has a short gap in its length where it may once have intersected with The Rein, another linear bank and ditch earthwork forming part of the Aberford Dykes complex, but this is by no means certain. The Rein may have post-dated South Dyke, but again this is unclear (Alcock 1954; Boucher and Webb 1994). South Dyke was aligned broadly east-west, except where it turned to run north-west to south-east as it drops down into the Cock Beck clough.



Several topographic and geophysical surveys indicated that South Dyke may have consisted of several different phases of bank and ditch (Boucher and Webb 1994). During the M1-A1 project, the north-west terminal of this feature was excavated, along with a section of Becca Banks to the north.

Figure G.36. (left). *Plan showing the relationship between the excavated section (black), cropmarks (green) and earthworks (hachured) of South Dyke (lower left of image) in relation to Becca Banks and Cock Beck. (Source: Deegan 2001b: 34, fig. 19).*

At this point only *c.* 10m from Cock Beck, no earthwork bank was visible, but a large ditch feature was recorded, intersecting with an earlier, sinuous shallow and water-rutted channel that was probably a natural watercourse (Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001: 132). The north-west to south-east orientated ditch was up to 4.5m wide and 1.40m deep, and would have been situated along the southern edge of any associated bank, as is apparent further to the south-east and east. It too contained evidence for pronounced water rutting. A charred cereal seed from a secondary fill within this ditch yielded a ¹⁴C date of 104 BC – AD 112, suggesting a later prehistoric date for construction, and palaeo-environmental evidence indicated a largely open contemporary landscape. The ditch was recut at least once, and secondary fills of this later recut produced a sherd of amphora and ¹⁴C dates of AD 212-413 and AD 141-404 (*ibid.*: 135). The uppermost fills of the recut contained eleventh to thirteenth century pottery, indicating that this feature had survived in the landscape for a protracted period indeed.

More recently, another section of South Dyke was investigated by Network Archaeology in advance of the construction of the Aselby to Pannal gas pipeline construction project (Daniel 2007; Daniel and Noon 2007). In an area that had probably once been sealed by the South Dyke bank, and thus pre-dating it, five rock-cut pits were recorded, some containing burnt and heat shattered cobbles, animal bone and worked flint (Daniels and Noon 2007: 4-5). Some samples of charcoal and bone were retrieved for radiocarbon analyses, but these had not been analysed at time of writing. It is possible, however, that these pits may have formed part of a prehistoric pit alignment boundary pre-dating the construction of the major linear earthwork. A 15m long section of the South Ditch was excavated, and this was up to 3.50m wide and 1.13m deep. Although the excavation report states that no recutting of this ditch was evident, at least one possible recut is actually visible in the section illustrated in the report (cf. Daniels and Noon 2007: fig. 5a). Some of the ditch contained a very large quantity of burnt stone, in places forming a deposit up to 0.30m thick. In total, 1.3 tonnes of this material was recovered from the ditch, along with numerous animal bone fragments, but no artefacts. The nearest ‘domestic’ appearing enclosure recorded on cropmarks is some 300m to the south (Daniels 2007: fig. 17), so perhaps this material represents feasting debris rather than domestic refuse. Such feasts might have had great social and political importance if conducted near to such a large boundary.



Figure G.37. *Photograph of the recently excavated section through the South Dyke ditch (at the right of the image), also showing the earlier pit complex (centre) and the later Romano-British curvilinear ditch (to the left). The natural break of slope followed by the South Dyke is also apparent in the background. (Source: Daniel 2007: plate 1).*

The ditch and the pits were sealed by a layer of colluvium up to 0.40m thick, possibly formed as a result of upslope disturbance such as tree loss or cultivation. It contained numerous sherds of Romano-British pottery (Daniels and Noon 2007: 6), and was cut by a curvilinear ditch on the northern side of South Dyke. This feature was up to 3m wide and 1.25m deep, but its relationship to the South Dyke ditch could not be established within the excavation area. Romano-British pottery, a Roman coin and a

copper alloy ring were recovered from the middle and upper fills of this feature, and although not yet analysed in detail and closely dated, this suggests that the ditch was some form of Roman period reinscription of South Dyke, though whether it was another linear boundary or a small D-shaped enclosure appended to South Dyke is not clear. Further detailed geophysical survey and/or excavation might be able to elucidate this.

References: Alcock 1954; Boucher and Webb; Daniel 2007; Daniel and Noon 2007; Wheelhouse and Burgess 2001.

South Kirkby**SE 4350 1045**

At South Kirkby, a single ditch and bank enclosed 1.8ha (Keighley 1981: 116). The ground slopes away to the north-east and east, but the western part of the site lies on a flat plateau overlooked by a hill to the north-west. A sizeable stream gully now runs past the site, and although it is not clear if this was originally the case, the defensibility of the locale is questionable. Unpublished small-scale excavations only found medieval pottery (Atkinson 1949), and the interior of the fort seems to have been largely destroyed by ridge and furrow (Whittingham 1998). A claimed annex (Atkinson 1949; Thorp 1975) has not been positively identified. Cropmarks have revealed at least ten smaller enclosures around it, which may have been used as livestock corrals (see Chapter 6, Fig. 6.09), together with trackways and boundaries that appear to respect and thus post-date the earthwork.

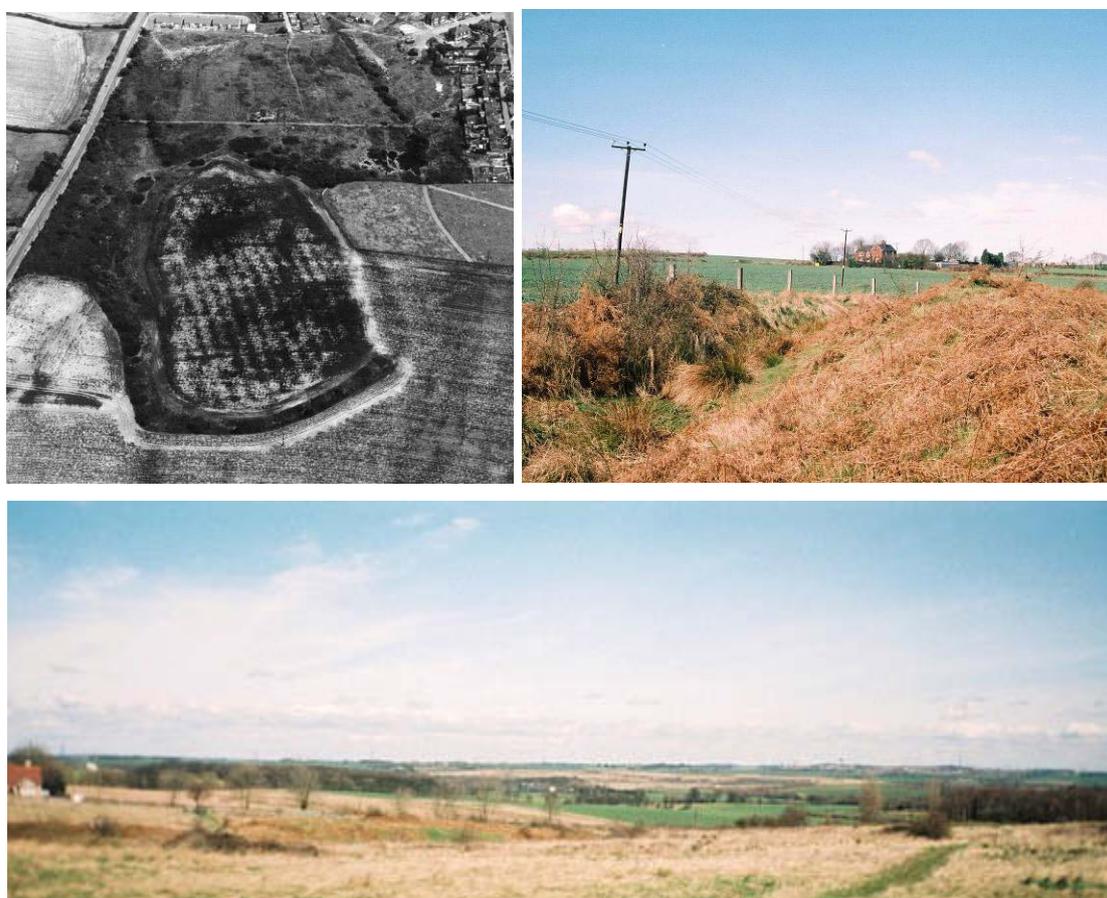


Figure G.38. (top left). *The earthwork enclosure at South Kirkby from the air. Only much later ridge and furrow is evident in the centre. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 187, SE 435 104).* **Fig. G.39. (top right).** *The earthworks at South Kirkby in April 2006, looking north-west. A gentle hill overlooks the site. (Source: author).* **Fig. G.40. (bottom).** *The earthworks at South Kirkby, looking east. The clough running past the middle of the earthworks is visible. (Source: author).*

Unpublished small-scale excavations in 1949 only found medieval pottery, but the interior of the fort seems to have been largely destroyed by ridge and furrow. Infra-red aerial photographs identified a possible annex to the north-west and a possible entrance to the south, but this has been questioned, and geophysical survey has found no trace of this. It has, however, shown the extent of the medieval

disturbance, confirmed the existence of the bank and ditch where it has been ploughed out; but has also identified a possible enclosure or inhabitation area within the hillfort. The relationship between the cropmark enclosures and the main earthworks is unknown, but the field boundaries respect the NEE-SWW long axis of South Kirkby, and the other enclosures appear to cluster around it, which implies they respect and thus post-date the earthwork.

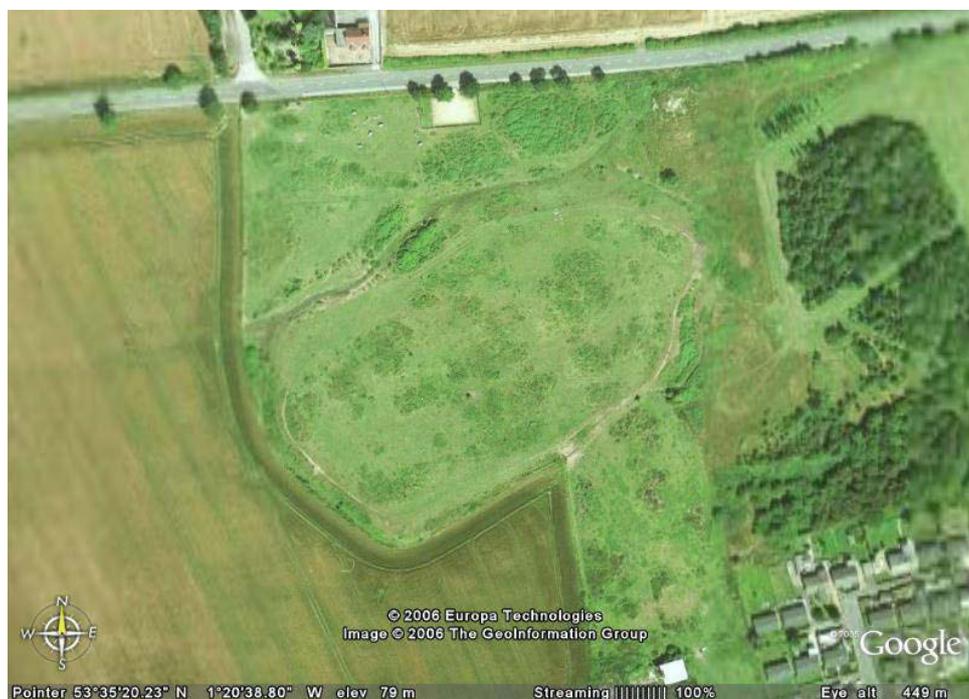


Figure G.41. *South Kirkby from the air. The stream gully along the northern part of the site is particularly noticeable. (Source: © Google Earth).*

References: Keighley 1981: 116; Thorp 1975; Whittingham 1998.

Woofa Bank, Addingham**SE 0478 4987**

Woofa Bank was a subrectangular hilltop enclosure, and may have had entrances to the west and east, although it too has suffered from more recent ploughing. At least two possible circular structures or building platforms within it are faintly visible on aerial photographs. It is around 800m south-west of Round Dikes, and the large linear earthwork passed close to this enclosure though no clear relationship between them is visible. A possible holloway leads off to the east, but this may be a later feature.

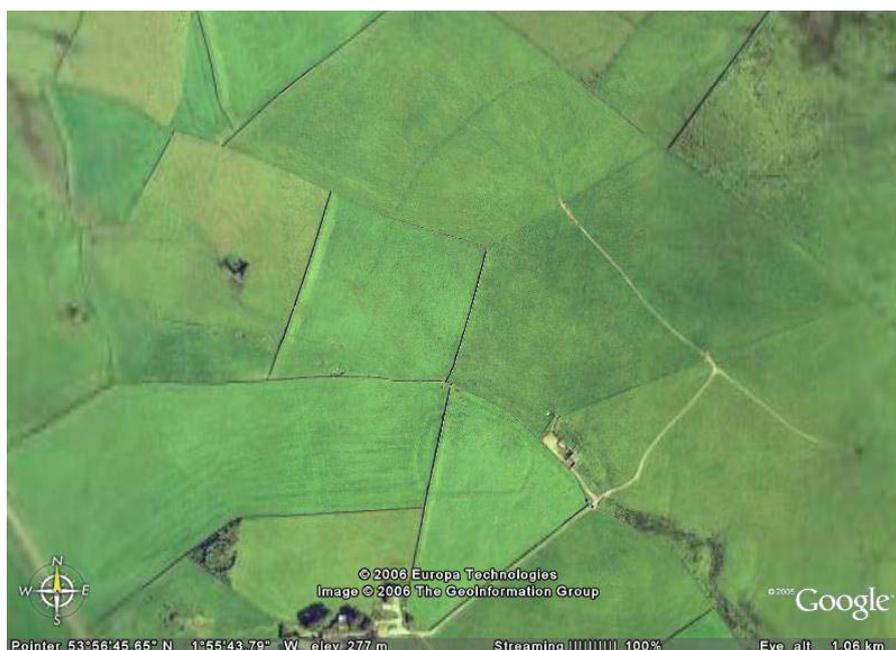


Figure G.42. *Woofa Bank, Addingham. In addition to the subrectangular enclosure (lower centre of the image), the linear boundary is also visible as an earthwork to the north and west of the enclosure. (Source: © Google Earth).*



Figure G.43. *Woofa Bank, Addingham. The linear bank and ditch feature is also visible, between the enclosure and the modern farm. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 14).*

References: Keighley 1981: 127; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 14-15.

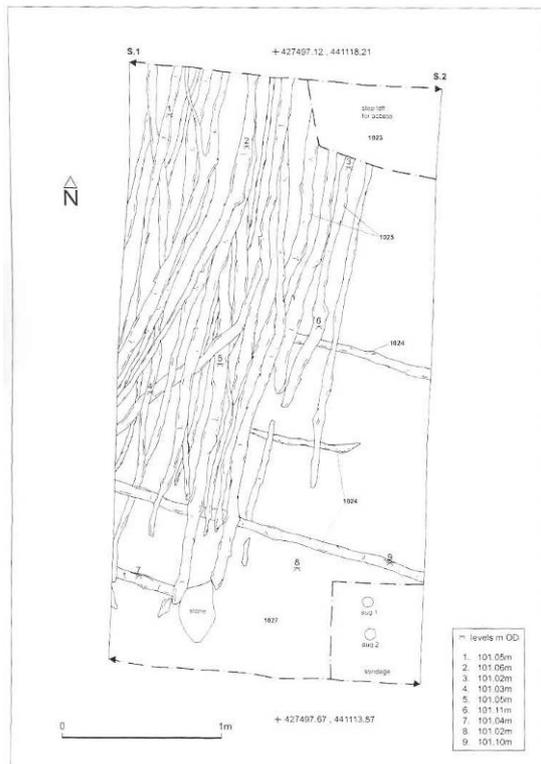
Excavated cropmark/geophysical survey sites

Adel

SE 2770 4120



Figure G.44. Geophysical survey at Adel, apparently showing a possible ‘fort’ near the centre of the image, and an associated vicus on the eastern side arranged on either side of the road to the fort. However, it may all represent one larger settlement. (Source: Jefferson and Roberts 2006).



Recent geophysical survey by AS WYAS has shown details of a possible Roman fort and associated vicus at Adel. In 2002 AS WYAS staff and members of a local archaeology group investigated a section of the Ilkley-Tadcaster road west of the fort. In this low-lying marshy area the metallised *agger* surface was found to be supported on a corduroy raft of horizontal timbers and brushwood, similar to that at Scaftworth in Nottinghamshire. A ¹⁴C date of 180 BC–AD 30 (Jefferson and Roberts 2006) suggests either an earlier, pre-conquest trackway was re-used, or timbers derived from another structure.

Figure G.45. (left). Part of the timber trackway excavated at Adel. (Source: Jefferson and Roberts 2006).

It is perhaps more likely, however, that rather than being a separate fort and *vicus*, the geophysical survey results indicate one large civil settlement stretching along either side of the road, with a band of different geology merely rendering some features less visible (S. Harrison pers. comm.). There are no distinctive ‘playing card’ corners such as those visible at forts such as Burghwallis and Rossington Bridge. This interpretation would need to be tested through more detailed geophysical survey and trial excavation, but may indicate that any fort at Adel is situated elsewhere and remains to be discovered. A subrectangular earthwork located approximately 100m to the south was investigated in 1913, but the results proved largely negative (Atkinson 1913), although this would be worth investigating again in case any more insubstantial remains of timber structures were not recognised.

More recently, excavations from 1986 onwards by a local amateur group near Adel Mill Farm have uncovered the remains of substantial stone-footed buildings with walls over 1m thick and internal stone paving (Sykes, Hulme and Teal 2006). Unfortunately, no written or drawn records for the investigations carried out during 1986-1996 have been located following the death of the principal excavator, but subsequent work has found Roman pottery, evidence for iron working and even a coin hoard of third century radiates. These structures may represent a continuation of the ribbon roadside settlement, or conceivably even internal buildings within a fort. Clearly, however, there is great potential for further research at Adel, which should include open-area excavation and further geophysical survey.

References: Atkinson 1913; Jefferson and Roberts 2006; Sykes, Hulme and Teal 2006.

Apple Tree Close, Pontefract

SE 4490 2060



Figure G.46. *The cropmark enclosure complex at Apple Tree Close, Pontefract, looking north. From the west (upper left of the image), a trackway links two enclosures, and its eastern L-shaped end may have been a race or a similar feature for handling livestock. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: rear cover).*

This enclosure complex was situated on the north-eastern end of a hilltop to the south-east of modern Pontefract, only *c.* 200m from the course of a known Roman road, and adjacent to a spring where a beck runs off down a clough. A double-ditched trackway 10-15m wide and aligned north-west to south-east (broadly parallel to the Roman road) led to two conjoined enclosures. The trackway abutted a large subrectangular enclosure (Enclosure A), but led to a D-shaped enclosure (Enclosure B), although the cropmarks suggested several phases of development. Proposals for a housing development led to the excavation of the D-shaped enclosure during 1987. Excavation showed that it was later than and added to the earlier subrectangular Enclosure A (Wrathmell 2001: 5). The 2m wide and 1m deep ditch of Enclosure A contained a few second century AD Romano-British sherds in lower fills.

The second major phase of activity at the site saw the construction of Enclosure B, originally 30m long and 24m wide and defined by relatively narrow palisade trenches, with a north-east facing entrance up to 4m wide. This construction may have occurred during the late second and third centuries AD. Some internal features associated with this phase included an oven and flue containing pottery, charcoal, coal and slag in its backfill, an associated post-built structure, and a series of depressions or possible ‘working hollows’ that contained quern fragments, pottery and hobnails from a boot that had decayed *in situ* (Wrathmell 2001: 8). In the third major phase Enclosure B was expanded in size to 52m in length and 37m in width, and the eastern ditch was extended across the line of the earlier trackway. The enclosure entrance was re-modelled with the palisade slot replaced by a ditch, and near the entrance the fill of a subdividing east-west palisade slot contained late second and third century pottery and two quern fragments. A subrectangular post-built structure (M151) was located near the entrance, although this does not seem to have been a ‘domestic’ structure. There was a complex of keyhole-shaped flues and circular ovens towards the centre of the enclosure, and these contained lumps of slag, charcoal and calcined bone; but also produced spelt wheat residues. This suggests that although there was little evidence for sustained ‘domestic’ inhabitation, the enclosure was used for a variety of crop-processing and industrial purposes. The hilltop location may have been utilised for its up draughts to aid the heating processes.

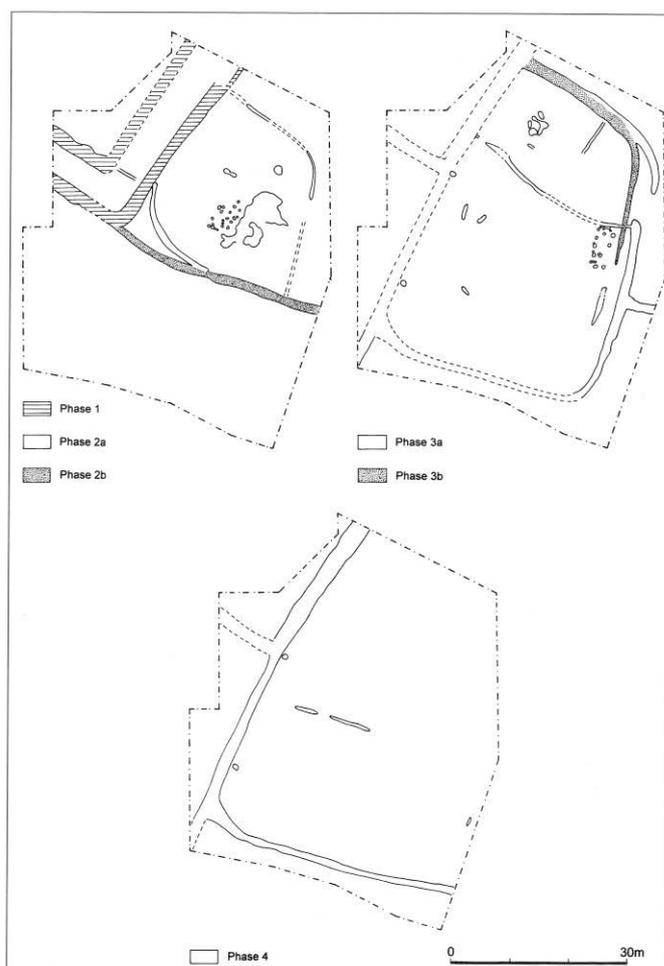


Figure G.47. (left). *Proposed phasing of the site at Apple Tree Close. (Source: Wrathmell 2001: 24, fig. 19).* **Fig. G.48. (above).** *Excavation of one of the keyhole-shaped flues. (Source: Wrathmell 2001: cover).*

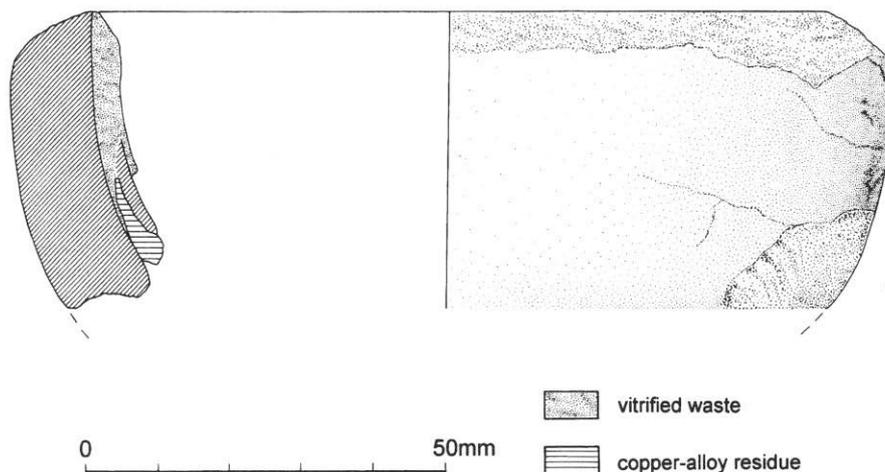


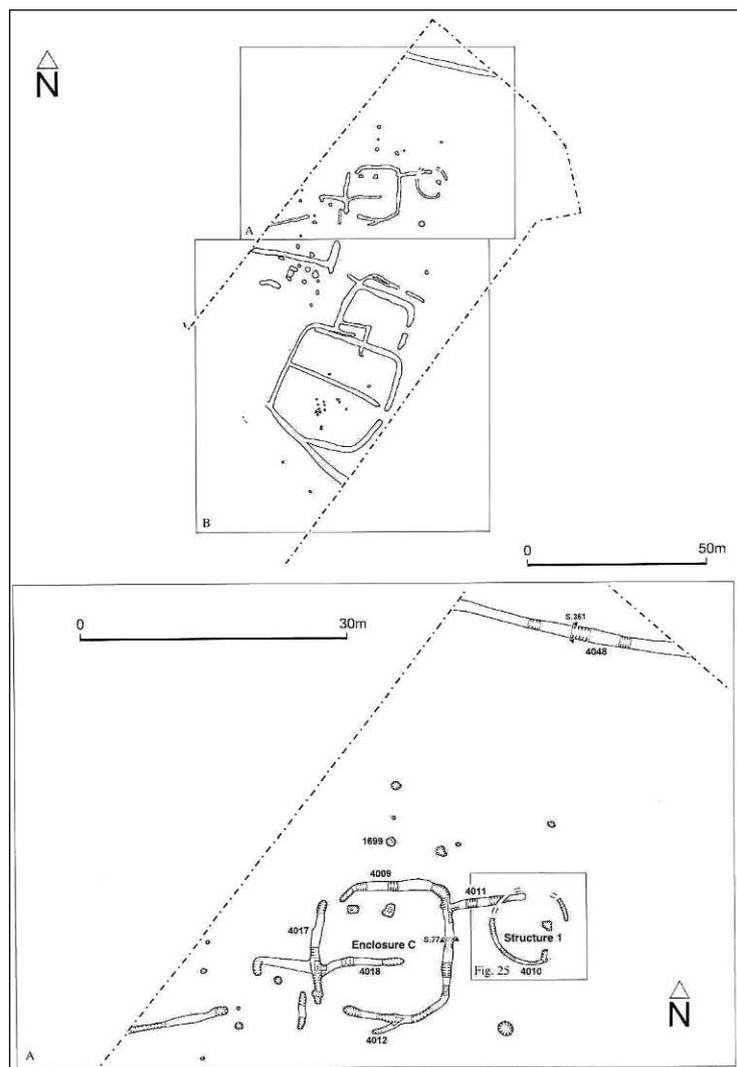
Figure G.49. *The crucible fragment excavated at Apple Tree Close. (Source: Wrathmell 2001: 23, fig. 18).*

In the final phase of occupation, the northern and eastern enclosure boundaries were either extended beyond the area of excavation, or more likely abandoned altogether, although the southern and western boundaries were re-cut and produced quite large quantities of mid to late third century and early fourth century pottery and hobnails, in addition to part of a crucible containing copper-alloy residue. (Wrathmell 2001: 15). Several ovens and flues might have belonged to this phase. The results from Apple Tree Close show that Enclosure B was utilised only for crop processing and metalworking activities. Enclosure A might have been the ‘domestic’ focus, or it may be that both these enclosures in their relatively exposed location had particular practical uses within the landscape.

References: Wrathmell 2001.

Barnsdale Bar, Norton/Kirk Smeaton**SE 5150 1450**

Part of this area of investigation lies within West Yorkshire, but other areas just over the modern county boundaries in South and North Yorkshire, and it has been grouped together with the rest of the sites within South Yorkshire for convenience. Please see the South Yorkshire section of this Gazetteer, therefore, for further details of the archaeology.

Bullerthorpe Lane**SE 3750 3130**

This was one of the sites excavated as part of the AS WYAS M1-A1 Link Road investigations, and was situated on a flattish hilltop with the ground sloping down into cloughs containing becks 200m to the south-east and 600m to the north-west, in an undulating landscape. Four main phases of activity were identified, phase 1 consisting of two late Iron Age pits. In addition, two beehive quern fragments representing upper and lower stones from different pairs were recovered from subsoil near one pit.

Figure G.50. (left). *Plan of the features excavated at Bullerthorpe Lane (above), with detail of Enclosure C and Structure 1 below. (Source: Wheelhouse 2001: 39, fig. 22).*

In phase 2, subsquare Enclosure A was constructed, 27m long and wide with a south-east facing entrance 2.8m wide. The enclosure ditches were up to 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep, and were probably re-cut at least once (Wheelhouse 2001: 40). They may have been deliberately backfilled. The pottery recovered from the ditches was concentrated around the entranceway, and was of early second century AD date. An internal gully divided the enclosure into two, and a series of postholes in the southern half suggest some form of structure here, though whether this was a further fenced division or an insubstantial building is unclear as the features do not form any coherent pattern. In phase 3, the subrectangular annex Enclosure B was added to the northern side of Enclosure A. This was 17m long and 14m wide, again with a south-east facing entrance, and was itself been partially re-cut in a later fourth phase to form a smaller but more well-defined annex. Only one sherd of second to early third century Romano-British pottery was recovered from the third phase ditches of Enclosure B, and no clear internal features were identified. Pottery of second to fourth century date was found in the smaller phase 4 annex, and two right-angled gullies may have formed an internal subcompound for this phase (ibid.: 41), but might conceivably have reflected earlier or later activities.



Figure G.51. More detailed plan of Enclosures A and B, and possibly associated features. (Source: Wheelhouse 2001: 40, fig. 23).

To the north-west of Enclosures A and B were a series of pits and linear ditches, some of the latter producing second to fourth century AD Romano-British pottery, and forming an L-shaped boundary with a gap or entrance on the western side of an extension of the Enclosure B ditch. This L-shaped ditch was itself re-cut at least once.



Figure G.52. (left). The re-cut, L-shaped boundary ditches. Although only a primary ditch and one re-cut were noted in the drawn section, this photograph suggests that the terminals at least were re-cut on an additional two occasions. (Source: Wheelhouse 2001: 41, plate 3).

In phase 5 probably dating to the later Romano-British period, Enclosures A and B seem to have gone out of use and were backfilled, and a north-west to south-east field or boundary ditch subsequently truncated the southern former ditch of Enclosure A (Wheelhouse 2001: 45). A small enclosure 14m square in plan was constructed approximately 40m to the north (Enclosure C). This had shallow ditches 1.3m wide and 0.45m deep, with possible entrances to the south-west and north-west, and itself cut through two shallow east-west gullies. Just to the east of Enclosure C was the ring gully of a roundhouse 8.5m in diameter, with an offset hearth pit within it. No other internal features or dateable artefacts were recorded, but a ^{14}C date of AD 261-537 was obtained from charcoal within the ring gully.

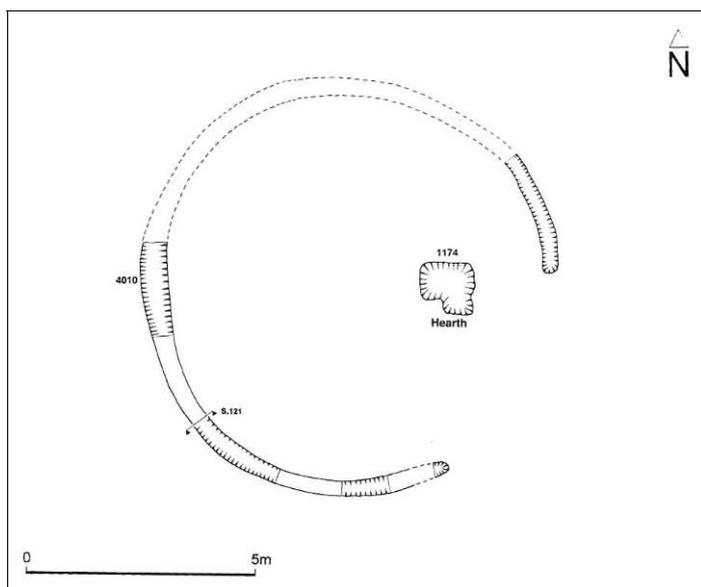
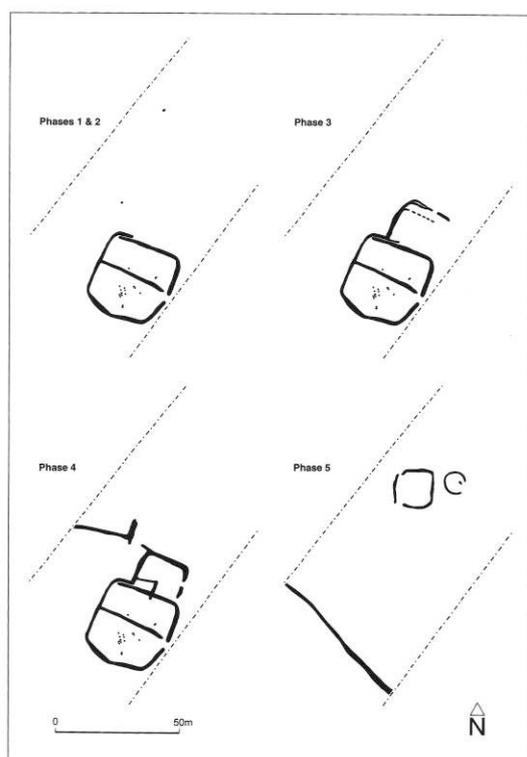


Figure G.53. (left). *The Romano-British roundhouse (Structure 1) excavated at Bullerthorpe Lane. (Source: Wheelhouse 2001: 44, fig. 26).*



Around 130m north-west of Enclosures A-C, further boundaries and part of a subrectangular enclosure with a south-east facing entrance were recorded, the latter producing third century AD pottery (Wheelhouse 2001: 46). The enclosures excavated at Bullerthorpe Lane had no evidence for sustained domestic habitation, and only one insubstantial roundhouse was identified. Added to its relatively exposed location on what was probably an 'open' hilltop, this suggests that they were used for ancillary or agricultural purposes, probably as livestock pens or corrals.

Figure G.54. (left). *Proposed phasing for the features at Bullerthorpe Lane. (Source: Wheelhouse 2001: 42).*

References: Wheelhouse 2001.

Dalton Parlours**SE 4025 4454**

This enclosure complex and villa site lies on relatively flat ground south-east of Collingham and south-east of Wetherby, in an undulating landscape with the land rising to the north and several springs less than 1km to the west. The site was thus only some 1.3km to the south of the large ‘ladder’ settlement at Wattle Syke (see below). During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the area had yielded Roman coins and supposedly a silver ring with a blue onyx intaglio, and in 1854 a workman found numerous stone and brick pillars that were the *pilae* of a hypocaust system (Procter 1855). In 1854 this find prompted several local gentlemen to direct excavations at the site, and they found the remains of three stone buildings, one of which contained a mosaic floor portraying Medusa (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.83).

The site was deeply ploughed from the 1960s and 1960s, and when heavy masonry began to be disturbed in 1976, a rescue excavation was mounted between October 1976-June 1979 by WYAS, funded by West Yorkshire County Council. This project represents one of the most complete excavations of a Roman villa in northern England. However, the excavated area of 1.43ha was only part of a much larger cropmark complex of enclosures, trackways, paddocks and fields (Yarwood 1990: 273). Two sinuous trackways may have formed the earliest main structuring features in this landscape, as at Swillington Common (see below). The enclosure complex seems to have developed where at least three trackways converged, and consists of a roughly rectangular block of abutting and/or overlapping enclosures.

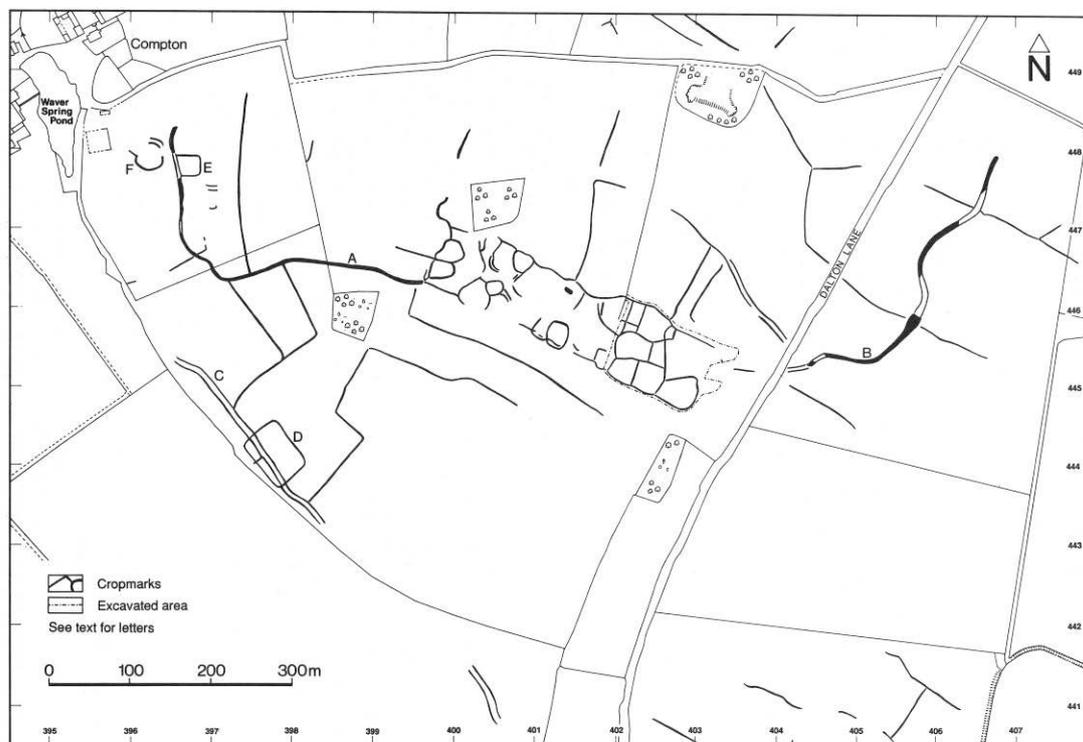


Figure G.55. The cropmark complex at Dalton Parlours. The excavation took place over the eastern part of the complex, just to the west of Dalton Lane. Note the sinuous trackways with evidence for rutting or holloways at A and B, and additional enclosures or paddocks at D, E and F. (Source: Yarwood 1990: 274, fig. 155).

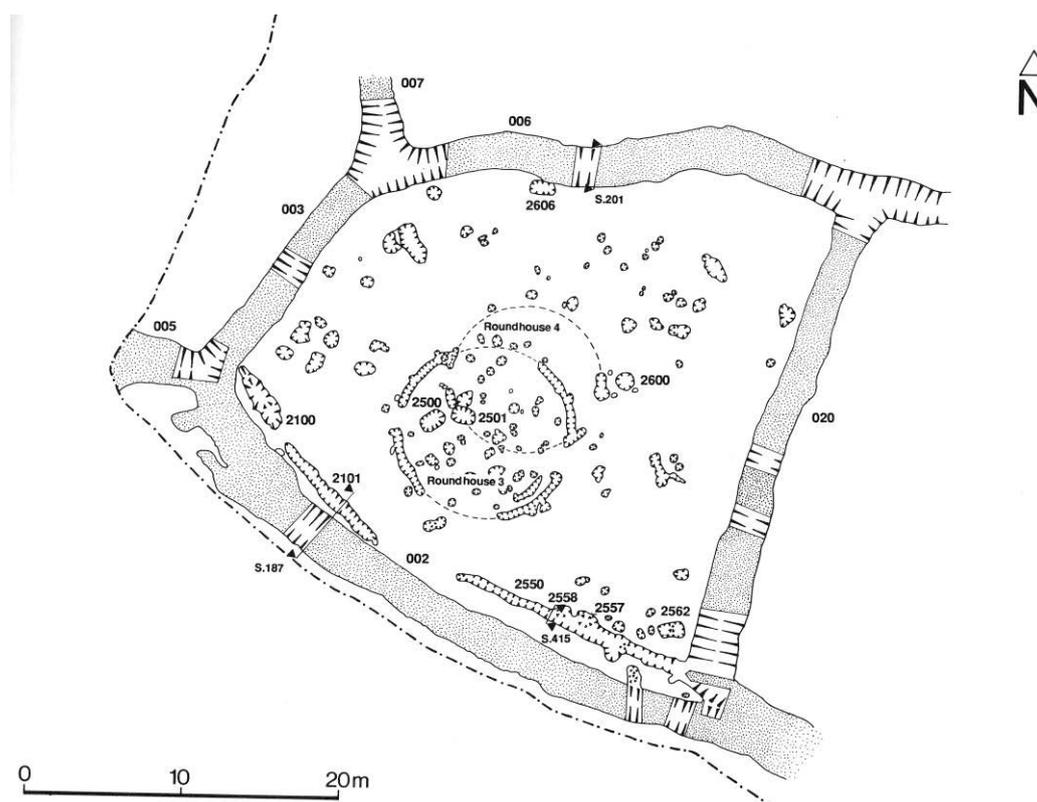


Figure G.56. More detailed plan of Enclosure I, showing the position of two of the roundhouses excavated. Note too the palisade on the south-west side of the enclosure, probably representing an earlier phase, with a possible earlier entrance indicated at 002. (Source: Sumpter 1990: 13, fig. 10).

The excavations revealed a series of at least nine different enclosures, with large rock-cut ditches, some with evidence for re-cutting, although this was not always noted in the publication report. In some instances, these enclosures seem to have been preceded by palisaded phases. Enclosure II may have been the primary phase, with additional enclosures progressively added to this (Wrathmell 1990: 277, fig. 156). The remains of eight least roundhouses were recorded defined by both ring gullies and postholes, most between 9-11m in diameter, and some having two possible entrances (see Chapter 9, Figs. 9.46-9.47). One especially large roundhouse was 17m in diameter, and many of the ring gullies seem to have been wall slots rather than eavesdrip gullies. Four to five four-post structures were also identified, in addition to large numbers of pits and postholes. Large quantities of animal bone, beehive quern fragments and nearly three hundred sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered, mostly jar and bowl forms. Some of the pits contained placed deposits of animal remains, and some of the more substantial groups of pot sherds and beehive quern fragments might have been placed deposits in ditches and ring gullies too. Several external hearths were also excavated. This occupation may have taken place between the mid-fourth century BC until the later first century AD.

The area excavated then seems to have been largely abandoned until the early third century AD, although it was clear from the position of the buildings that the earlier lines of ditches had affected their orientation. Full excavation of the building associated with the Medusa mosaic took place, demonstrating that the mosaic had been laid within an apsidal western end of a winged-corridor style

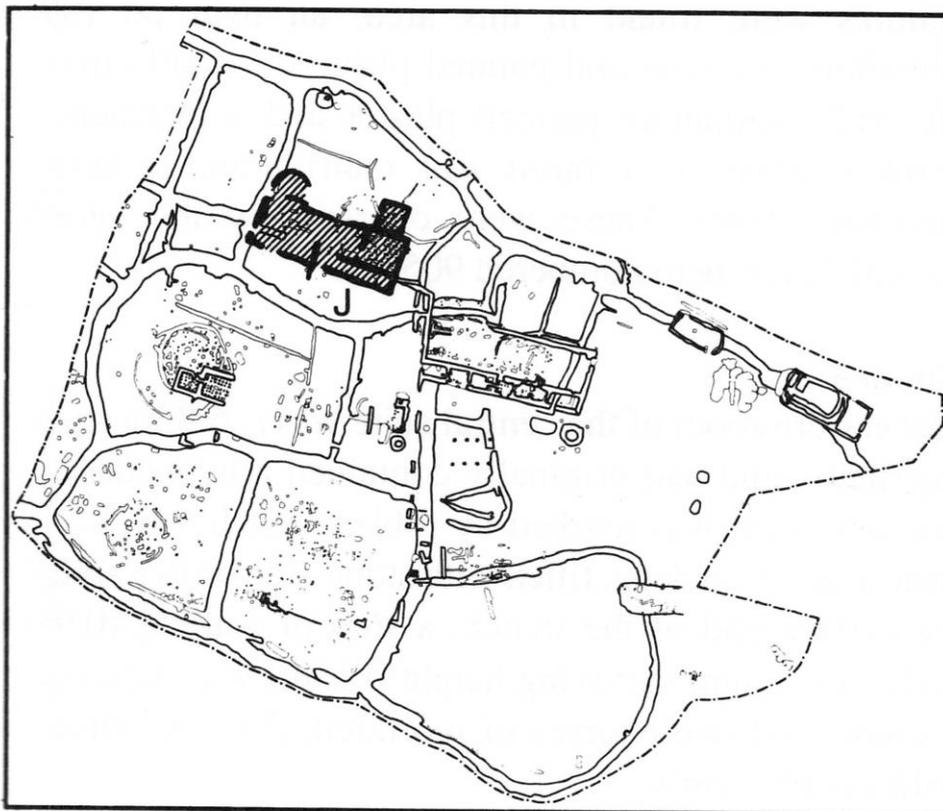


Figure G.57. More detailed plan of the Dalton Parlours excavation, showing the mainly Iron Age enclosures, and the main villa building (J). (Source: Tindall 1990: 33, fig. 36).

building (Structure J) (Tindall 1990; Wrathmell 1990). A large aisled building (Structure M) was also probably occupied concurrently with the main villa building (see Chapter 9, Figs. 9.79, 9.82), and this also had a hypocaust system underneath it. Another stone-walled, hypocausted building was Structure B, which also had painted plaster walls, and was probably a bath-house (see Appendix E, Figs. E.31-32). A series of stone-walled, sunken floored buildings were also recorded (e.g. Structures P and R, Figs. E.26-E.28). Some of these were very similar to structures being excavated at Wattle Syke. A variety of internal and external ovens and flues were also found (e.g. Appendix E, Figs. E.12-13), and two wells were investigated, one being completely dug out. This contained large quantities of pottery, including many complete or near complete vessels, some used for drawing water from the well, others probably placed deposits, along with waterlogged wooden buckets, numerous quern fragments, iron objects, waterlogged leather shoes and animal and human bone. These indicated a complex sequence of silting, accidental loss and deliberate backfill, including probable placed deposits.

Large quantities of Romano-British pottery, coins, glass bracelets, vessels and beads, several brooches and other fine metalwork items including an openwork mount and a candlestick were also found during the excavations (Appendix F, Figs. F.23-F.24), in addition to many flat quernstones and items of dressed stone. A relatively large assemblage of animal bone was also recovered (see Appendix C), and many human inhumation burials, most probably dating to the later Roman period. Many infant and neonate remains were also found, mainly within upper fills of ditches. The burial of babies and infants

at boundaries, perhaps as a means of reinforcing family or community identity, is a phenomenon that is also seen at the ongoing investigations at Wattle Syke, where larger numbers of neonates and infants have been recorded.

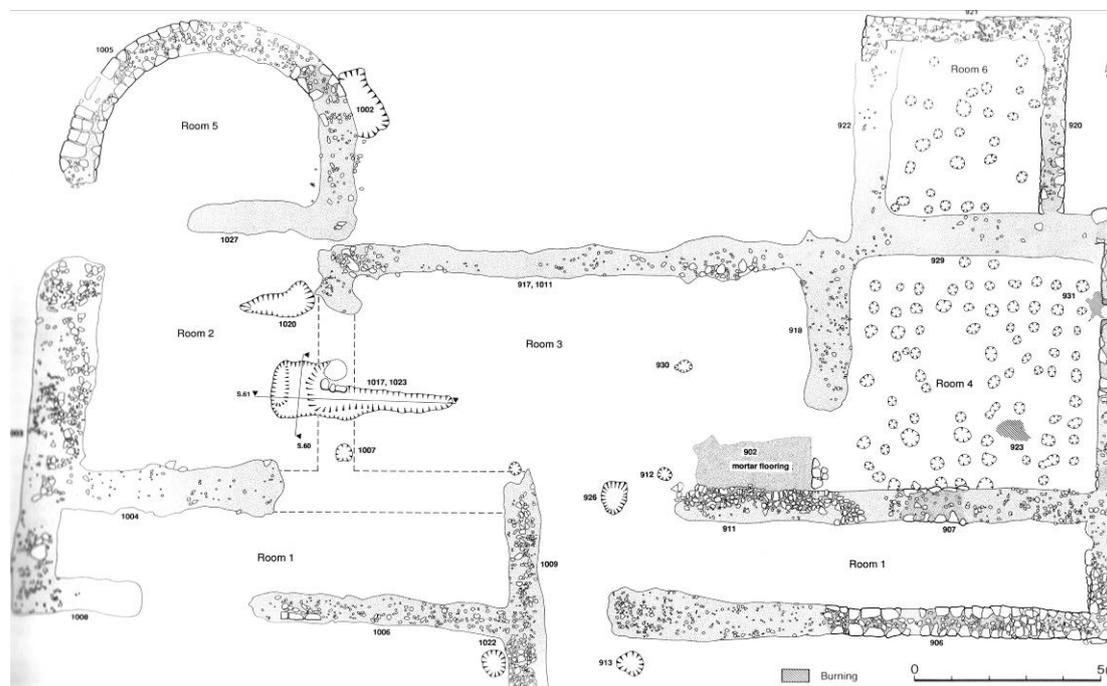


Figure G.58. (above). Plan of Building J, the main villa structure at Dalton Parlours. The Medusa mosaic was laid in the apsidal-ended Room 5, probably a fourth century addition to the earlier main villa structure. Note the largely robbed remains of hypocausted rooms (4 and 6) at the eastern end of the building. (Source: Tindall 1990: fig. 37). **Fig. G.59.** Box flue ceramic 'springer' tile from Dalton Parlours. This would originally have been incorporated within a wall. (Source: © WYAAS).

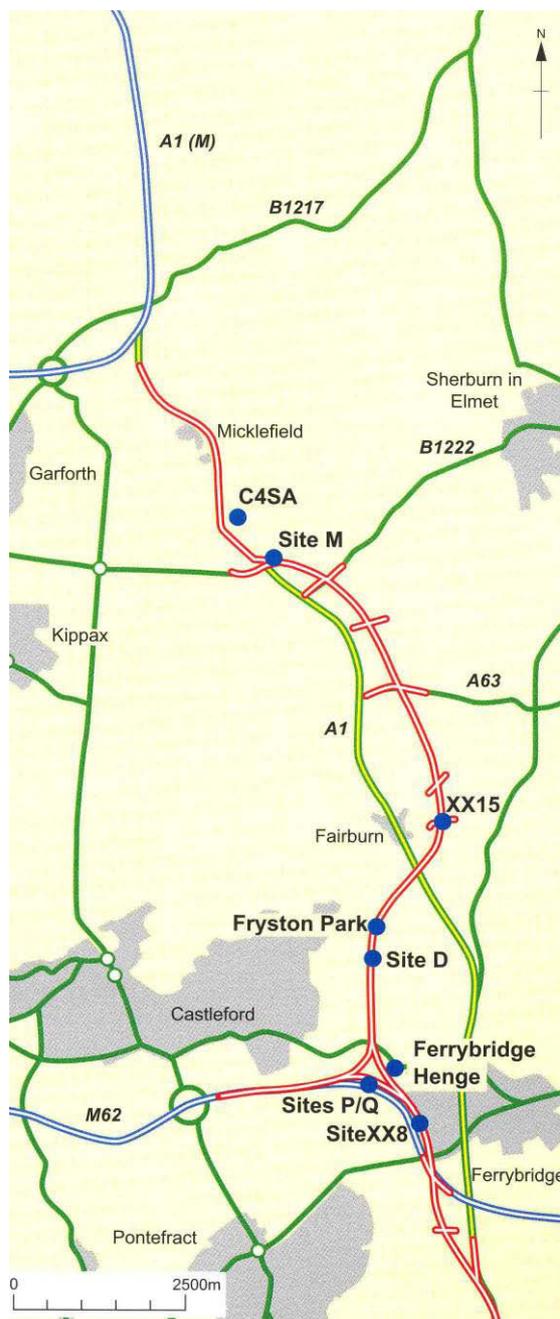
Although it was originally felt that there was no direct continuity between the late Iron Age phases and the villa buildings (Sumpter 1988), only about a third of the enclosure complex was excavated, and the focus of first and second century AD occupation might have been close by (Wrathmell 1990: 279, fig. 155). The villa has been interpreted as the 'plantation' of a high-status Romano-British household with military associations in the early third century AD, but it is also possible that Dalton Parlours represented the ultimate success of one particular leading local lineage. Interestingly though, there does not seem to have been a major reorganisation of the landscape in this later period, and the villa was not set within a rectangular ditched enclosure as was the case in other such estates around Britain, including examples within the study region such as Cromwell in the Trent Valley of Nottinghamshire.

Nevertheless, at the same time it also seems that there was a series of principal alignments employed during the layout of the villa structures at Dalton Parlours (Wrathmell 1990: 280, fig. 158), making use of symmetry, proportion and lines of site. Discourses of surveillance and display were clearly implicitly or even explicitly part of this construction process.

Detailed geophysical survey and further targeted excavation at Dalton Parlours might help resolve this question. A methodical metal detecting survey undertaken by archaeologists or carried out with archaeological supervision is also necessary, as illicit metal detectorists have been finding many artefacts on or in the vicinity of the site, and such a project would ‘rescue’ such artefacts from such unscrupulous individuals and ‘night hawkers’. Individuals of clearly dubious background who approached this author and other AS WYAS staff members during the initial soil stripping phase at Wattle Syke produced coins, brooches and a fine enamelled seal box lid which they claimed had been recently found by them at the Dalton Parlours site. They laughed when we reminded them that Dalton Parlours was a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

References: Wrathmell and Nicolson 1990.

Darrington to Dishforth DBFO Road Scheme – A1 (M)



This section covers a variety of sites excavated as part of the A1 (M) Darrington to Dishforth DBFO Road Scheme by Oxford Archaeology North. Unlike the AS WYAS A1-M1 Link Road projects, the alpha-numeric names of each individual site do not exactly lend themselves to separate consideration, so they have been grouped together.

Although AS WYAS had undertaken the excavations of the main Holmfild Interchange construction area (Roberts 2005c, see the various individual sites below), the second main phase of evaluation and excavation work was put out to tender again, and Oxford Archaeology North won the contract, carrying out their investigations between February-December 2003 (Howard-Davis, Lupton and Boyle 2005: 1).

Figure G.60. (left). Map showing the location of the various Oxford North sites mentioned below in relation to the Ferrybridge to Hook Moor section of the A1(M). (Source: Howard-Davis, Lupton and Boyle 2005: inner cover).

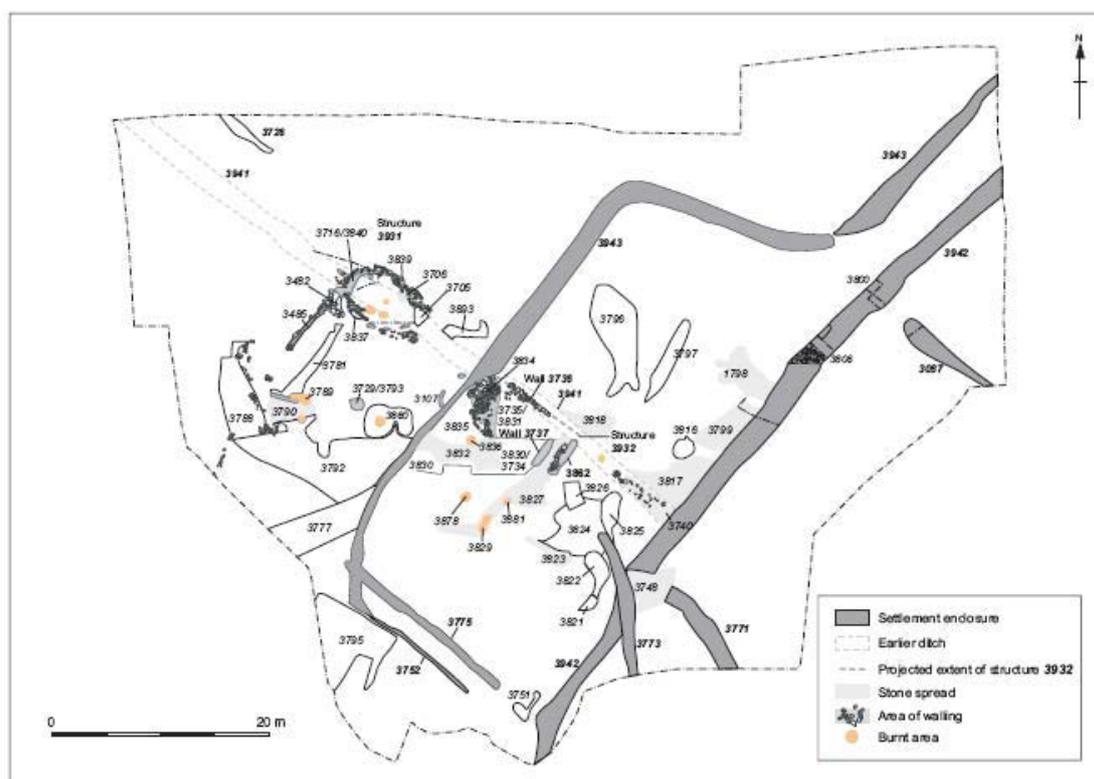
Site C4SA

SE 4480 3255

The area of Site C4SA was located to the east of Micklefield and north-west of the agglomerated or ladder enclosure complex at Castle Hills (see below), on the relatively flat end of the Castle Hills ridgeline with the ground falling off steeply to the north-east down into a clough with Sheep Dike/Newthorpe Beck running through it. To the south and west of its location is undulating land rising to further hilltops, with the summit Castle Hills itself to the south-east. This area had originally been earmarked for spoil stockpiling, but evaluation trenches showed that it contained extensive and well-preserved settlement remains. The entire area was stripped of topsoil and cleaned and recorded, but

once the extent of the archaeology became clear the short-sighted preservation *in situ* approach was once again adopted and the site was backfilled (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 109). The information on the site thus reflects only partial stratigraphic and artefactual evidence that will be inevitably biased towards the final phases of activity.

A large north-west to south-east aligned ditch was recorded for 75m across the centre of the site, continuing to the north-west as a cropmark for another 60 m. Three evenly spaced and roughly parallel ditches were perpendicular to this, and these ditches probably formed part of a broadly co-axial field system. Romano-British pottery recovered from some of the upper ditch fills included East Gaulish samian of late second or early third century date, and third to fourth century Cranbeck ware (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 111). Several short lengths of further ditches were recorded in evaluation trenches, and seemed to be part of the same co-axial field system, which might have had a late Iron Age or early Romano-British origin. Close to one of the ditch junctions was a rounded grave pit dug into the top of a silted up tree throw hollow, and this contained a flexed inhumation of a young adult man buried face down, ¹⁴C dated to AD 20-130.



third to early fifth century pottery including Huntcliff ware was recovered from fills within the enclosure ditches (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 112). Within the enclosure, a stone-built rectangular building was identified (Structure 3932), built over the top of the disused field ditch but orientated along its length. This building was *c.* 9m long and 5m wide, with low stone footings probably supporting a timber frame – large quantities of nails were recovered, in addition to late third to fourth century pottery found within the upper demolition or collapse layers within it. Outside the north-west side of the enclosure was another stone-footed building Structure 3931, 7 m long and 5.5 m wide, and also built along the same north-west to south-east earlier ditch. A wall of unbounded stone extended towards the south-west from this building. This may have been an ancillary structure outside the enclosure, or perhaps a slightly later building that post-dated occupation within the enclosure itself, forming part of an ‘open’ settlement instead. Again, this has similarities to some of the smaller structures excavated at Wattle Syke.

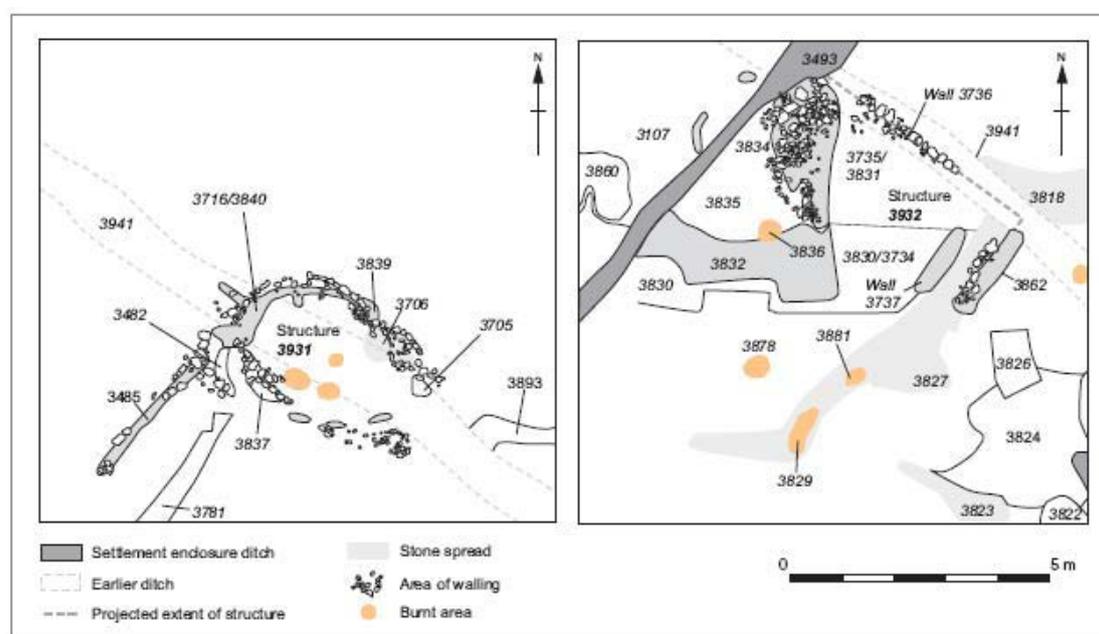


Figure G.62. More detailed plan of the two rectangular structures found at Site C4SA. Note that the horizontal scale bar is incorrect, and should read 10m rather than 5m. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 113, fig. 77).

Several spreads or layers identified within the enclosure might have represented the mixed upper fills from many different underlying features, but although these layers were sampled they were not fully excavated, nor were underlying features investigated. Pottery recovered from these layers included one large Iron Age sherd, and a range of second to late fourth or early fifth century Romano-British forms (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 112). Further excavation might thus have demonstrated a long sequence of activity in the locale beginning in the late Iron Age and extending through into the late Roman or even post-Roman period, but once again the risibly thin excuse of preservation *in situ* was used by consultants and developers to justify a lack of appropriate investigation and research. The chance to recover a valuable stratified sequence of pottery extending across this period of time should have been regarded as a clear research priority.

Site CFAT

SE 4825 2052

In the area north of Darrington, aerial photographs suggested the presence of a subrectangular enclosure, a series of tracks or droveways, and rectilinear enclosures or fields. The field system here was largely co-axial in form, with boundaries aligned on a predominantly north to south axis. A double-ditched trackway over 1km in length seems to have formed one axial ‘spine’ of this field system, and this may have been one of the earliest components of the Iron Age and Romano-British landscape, perhaps similar to Swillington Common (see below). The fields appeared to have been smaller in size adjacent to the enclosures, and were perhaps livestock pens and ‘infields’, but were larger alongside the major boundaries and trackways.

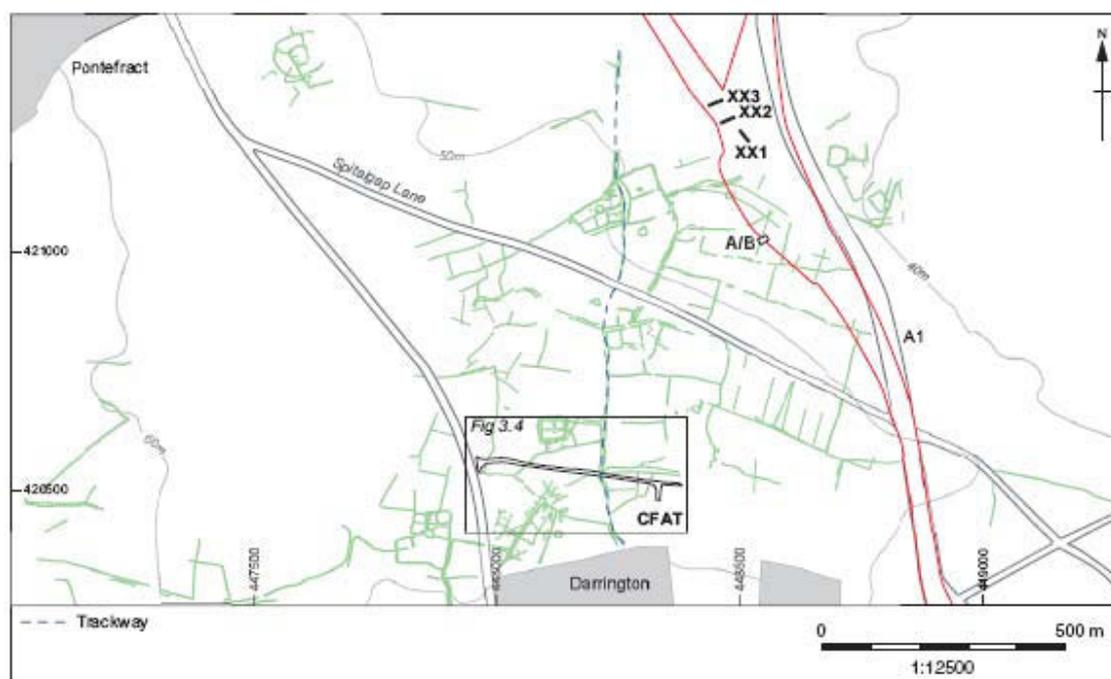


Figure G.63. Location of the CFAT site, in relation to the cropmark field systems in the area. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 47, fig. 18).

The Church Farm Access Track site consisted of a watching brief maintained along the line of an access road constructed between two probable enclosure sites, and led to part of the trackway, a series of field ditches and other features being excavated. The unexcavated enclosure to the north was subrectangular in plan with double ditches and a possible south and/or east facing entrance, and had evidence for an internal partition (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 48). This enclosure has many similarities with another unexcavated double-ditched enclosure identified during the evaluation phase of the ongoing Wattle Syke project, near Wetherby (see below). The cropmark complex to the south of the CFAT area is more enigmatic, but seems to have consisted of a large enclosed subrectangular area with a possible north-east to south-west aligned trackway on its western side. A series of further boundaries and pens or paddocks may have been associated with this, but some chronological and stratigraphic complexity is apparent. These features were also on a slightly different alignment to the rest of the trackways and field boundaries.

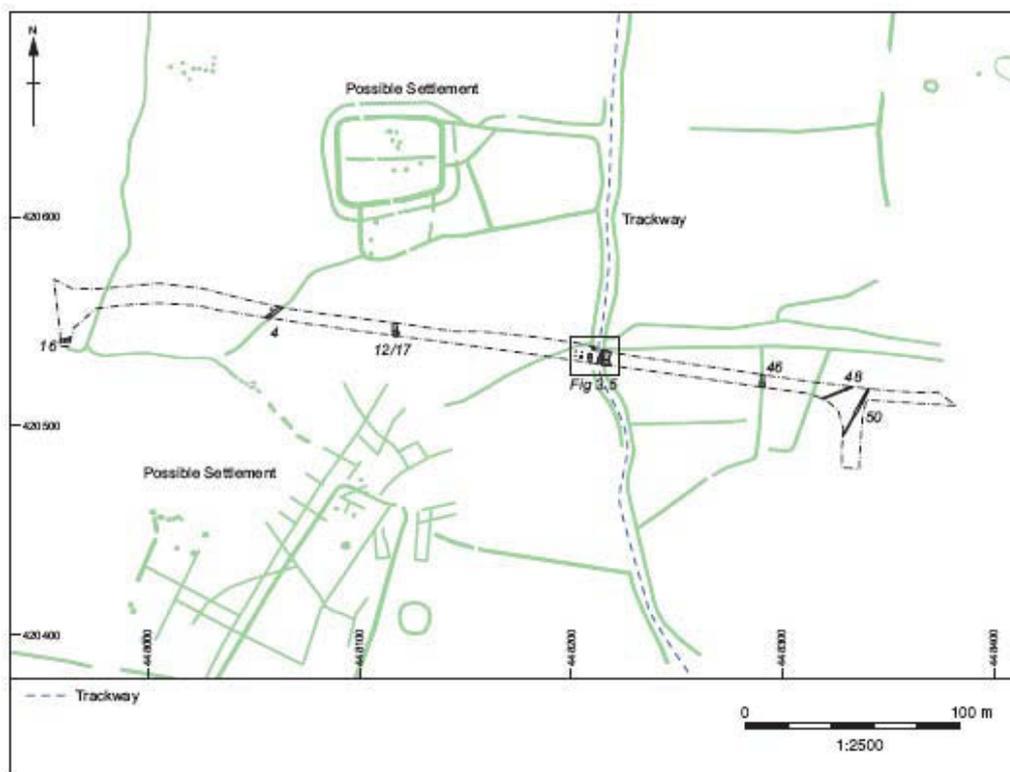


Figure G.64. Location plan of the CFAT watching brief site, in relation to plotted cropmarks in the vicinity. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 48, fig. 19).

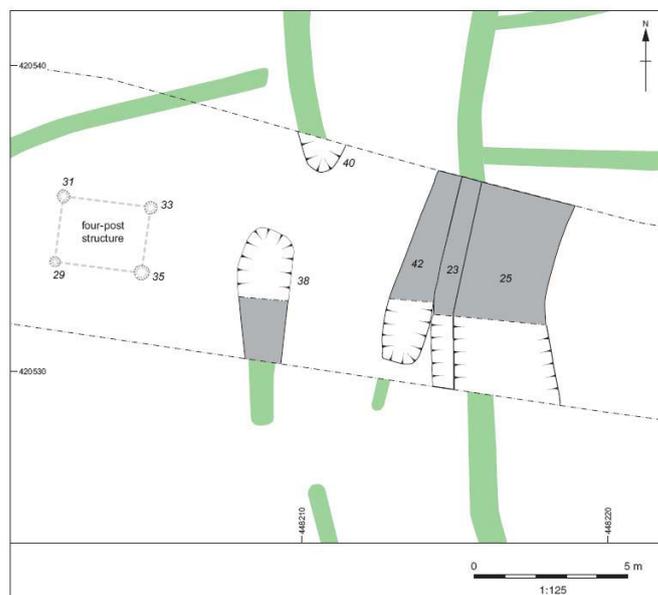


Figure G.65. Detail of the double-ditched trackway, entranceway and four-post structure excavated at Site CPAT. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 49, fig. 20).

A series of largely north-south aligned ditches were identified in several locations along the CFAT watching brief area, one of which (ditch 12) contained a small quantity of quartz-tempered Iron Age pottery, and another (ditch 46) contained sherds of Central Gaulish samian dating to around AD 120-160. The trackway itself was approximately 4m wide, and its north-south ditches were up to 2m wide and 1m deep.

A gap in the western side of the trackway *c.* 2.3m wide gave access into the fields to the west. The southern terminus of ditch 38 contained sherds of a third or fourth century Dales ware jar (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 48). The eastern trackway ditch may also have originally had an entrance at this point, as ditch 42 had a terminal here, but in later phases it was repeatedly re-cut. To the west of the trackway and just inside the probable field entrance, a four-post structure was identified.

Site D (Ferry Fryston)**SE 4690 2590**

This area was located approximately 1km to the north-west of Ferrybridge henge, where cropmarks and geophysical survey indicated another cluster of ring gullies. Excavation work discovered a well-preserved flat Beaker inhumation grave, probable remains of a second Beaker burial and several middle Bronze Age cremation burials, the latter within three ring ditches that were within this area, at least two of which were probably upstanding round barrows. The largest ring gully had been truncated by a post-medieval ha-ha ditch, but in such a way that indicated it had still been an upstanding landscape feature used as a marker to lay out this estate boundary. A small timber post circle probably also dated to the late Neolithic or Bronze Age. The location of Iron Age mortuary features close to these earlier monuments cannot have been a coincidence. In addition to the square barrow carriage burial described in Chapter 11 and Appendix F (Figs. 11.62-11., F.60-F.67), a square enclosure was identified measuring 17.6m long on each side, and featuring a shallow ditch and 25 internal postholes, reflecting an unroofed structure with plank or palisade walling. All the features had been heavily truncated by later ploughing, and no artefacts or other such dating evidence were found. However, charred cereal grain from the ditch fill produced a ^{14}C date of AD 1020-1210, whilst charcoal from one of the postholes gave a date of AD 890-1160 (Boyle et al. 2007: 152). These may be intrusive materials, although it is possible that this might indicate a hitherto unrecognised early medieval phase of activity, which given the location and the unusual nature of the feature must still have been of some symbolic significance. However, the enclosure is very similar in size and plan to a probable Iron Age feature excavated at Kirkburn in East Yorkshire (Stead 1991: 25-28, fig. 24). As suggested in Appendix F, it is possible that the Ferry Fryston square feature was a shrine or mortuary enclosure.



Figure G.66. *Oblique view of the square palisade enclosure excavated at Ferry Fryston. (Source: Howard-Davis, Lupton and Boyle 2005: 12).*

If the adult man buried in the carriage inhumation was indeed from another region, as isotope evidence seems to indicate, then the location of this burial (and possibly the square enclosure) near earlier features in the landscape may have been a desire to reference a legendary past, or even an exercise in

legitimation through the creation of a fictive genealogy. The inclusion of sherds of Beaker pottery, two worked flints and a saddle quern within the barrow ditch (Boyle et al. 2007: 124) might have been a deliberate part of these processes. The landscape situation of the burial was also close to the River Aire and a potential east to west route through to the Humber and the North Sea, and a north to south route along the Magnesian Limestone ridge. This was probably also a factor influencing the location of the Ferrybridge henge itself earlier in prehistory (Roberts 2005a: 196).

Site M

SE 4542 3180

This site was located on the south-eastern end of the same elevated Castle Hills ridgeline as Site C4SA, and only 400m south of the Castle Hills ladder enclosure complex at Highfield. A trackway led south from the Castle Hill complex, leading obliquely upslope to the Site M features. The evidence suggested that the main phase of settlement dated to the middle Iron Age, but many of the features did not intercut and so ¹⁴C determinations suggest a broad date range of 400-200 BC (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 83). Although some of the features continued in use into the early Romano-British period, the locale was probably largely abandoned by the second century AD.

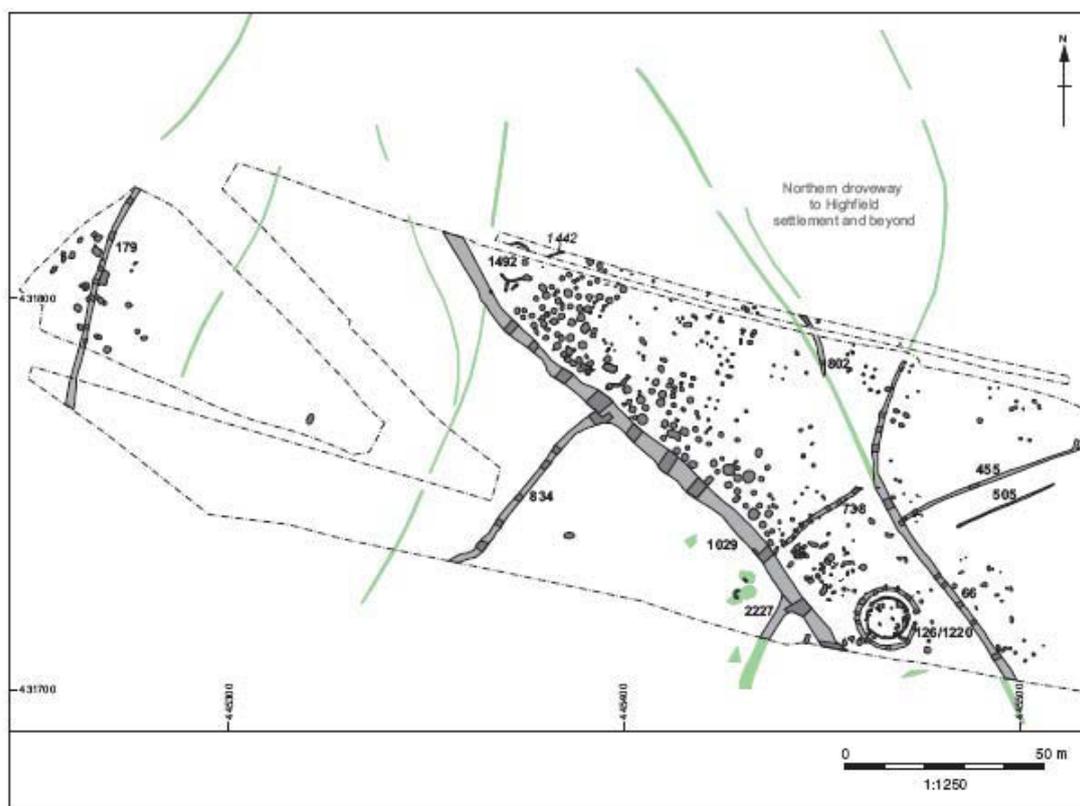


Figure G.67. Overall plan of Site M, showing the dense concentration of features. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 85, fig. 54).

The north-south trackway leading into the settlement was defined by ditches (66 and 802), which cropmarks suggested opened out into a ‘funnel’ immediately north of the excavated area. The northern part of the western trackway ditch and the eastern trackway ditch continued in use for some time, and additional field boundaries seem to have abutted these features. The southern part of the settlement was

defined by another major ditch aligned north-west to south-east (ditch 1029), and a ditch or gully dug at right angles to this (738) seems to have formed an internal subdivision, with entrances through it at each end. Within the area defined by these ditches was a marked concentration of pits, four-post structures, burials and roundhouses, apparently with some form of spatial zoning. The relationship of these features to the ditches suggests that the latter were in existence before most of the smaller features were dug or constructed, and there might not have been banks along the ‘inner’ internal edges of the ditches. To the north-east of 1029 was a dense concentration of pits, eight burials, two roundhouses, and a number of four-post structures. To the north of ditch 66 there were far fewer features, with a few shallow pits, postholes and four-post structures beyond, probably post-dating the infill of this ditch. At the north-west end of the settlement, the densest concentration of pits appeared to turn to the north-east, perhaps implying the presence of a less tangible barrier between this zone and the roundhouse located there (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 87). The numerous four-post structures seemed to concentrate to the east within the ‘arms’ of the L-shape, again suggesting different spatial zones of social practices. Two roundhouses were built at the north-west and south-east ends of the excavation area. The south-west structure (roundhouse 126/1220) was separated from the pits and four-post structures by ditch 738, while the north-western structure (1492) was located beyond the dense band of pits, dividing it from the four-post structures.

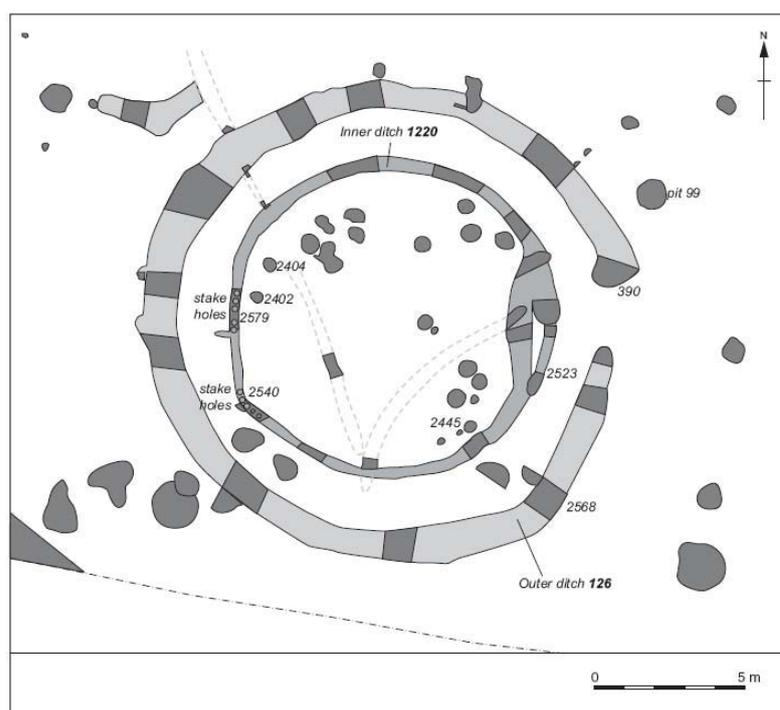


Figure G.68. (left). Detailed plan of roundhouse 126/1220 at Site M. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 88, fig. 57).

Roundhouse 126/1220 was defined by an outer ditch 16m in diameter, 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep, that may have been an eavesdrip gully, or a surrounding ring ditch similar to examples such as those at Balby Carr in South Yorkshire and one at the Methley MAP site. Within this was a smaller, narrower and shallower ring gully 11m in diameter, which may have been a wall slot (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 89). This seemed to have been re-cut on several occasions, and traces of stakeholes within it may suggest that it was a foundation wall slot. A series of postholes and stakeholes were

excavated within this area, forming roof supports and internal divisions although none contained dateable artefacts. Several pits between the two circular features incorporated sherds of Iron Age pottery and animal bone, with concentrations of pottery and bones also being found on the north and south-east sides of the outer ring gully. Roundhouse 1492 only survived as two shallow, subcircular arcs of gullies approximately 9.7 m long and 5.5 m wide, but no artefacts were recovered from these or from internal and external pits nearby.

Within the central and northern part of the excavated area, at least fifteen four-post structures were identified (see Appendix E, Figs. E.19-E.20, E.22). The central group was possibly divided by a south-east to north-west corridor or track with little evidence for other activity, which may have acted as an access route or pathway, linking the two main foci of settlement. Iron Age pottery, a small quantity of cattle and horse bone and carbonised barley and wheat deposits were recovered from some of the postholes of these four-post structures – one of the grain concentrations was probably a placed deposit (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 92-93). A ^{14}C date of 390-180 BC was obtained from some of this grain. Immediately north of ditch 738 was a rectangular, seven-post structure (10151), either a larger version of the four-post structures or a possible shrine (see Appendix E, Fig. E.22). The total number of pits investigated at Site M was 336, and as with the Ferrybridge and Ledston pit complexes (see below) it was not clear what the original function of these pits may have been. Eight contained human burials, described in Appendix F (see Figs. 11.66, F.53-F.55), and probably dating to between 400-200 BC. Strontium isotope analyses suggested that all but one of the people buried in these graves had been born outside of the region (*ibid.*).

The remaining pits (see Appendix E, Fig. F.34) were between 0.2-3.44m in diameter and 0.5m-2m deep, the distribution of these again indicative of spatial and perhaps cognitive or cosmological zoning practices (see Appendix F, Fig. F.15). As at Ledston and Ferrybridge, most did not inter-cut, suggesting the visibility or knowledge of previously dug pits, and some contained interesting groups of pottery, animal bone and disarticulated human bone suggestive of placed deposits (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 94). Some animal burials were identified, including a cow and calf burial (see Chapter 11, Fig. 11.24), and in addition to cattle and sheep/goat bone, red deer and dog remains were also identified. Some of the pits may have been used as charnel features, where some human bodies were exposed and left to partially decay. A fragment of stone bracelet, part of a beehive quernstone and a possible stone weight were also recovered from some of these pits. The deposition of pottery appears to have been highly selective, both in the pits chosen and the sherds deposited. It was notable that no ceramic sherds occurred in the pits that contained or might in future possibly contain human burials. Other organic materials such as foodstuffs, leather, wood, and textiles may also have been included, but did not survive. In contrast, very little pottery was found in association with the roundhouses, where ‘domestic’ occupation practices would have been expected to have been concentrated.

Most occupation at Site M seems to have ceased during the late Iron Age, although many of the enclosure ditches continued to be utilised as boundaries into the earlier Romano-British period. Some

ditches were re-cut and their alignments modified. The construction of ditch 737 removed access to the northern trackway, but may have formed part of a further track or driveway leading north-west. A series of shallow, inter-cutting gullies were dug between ditches 1029 and 737, and sherds of Huntcliff Ware recovered from the last in the sequence suggest that as late as the fourth to early fifth century at least some of these boundaries formed part of an extant system of fields and paddocks, although the symbolic significance of the site seems to have been lost. Only a few sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from a single pit alongside one of the later boundaries.

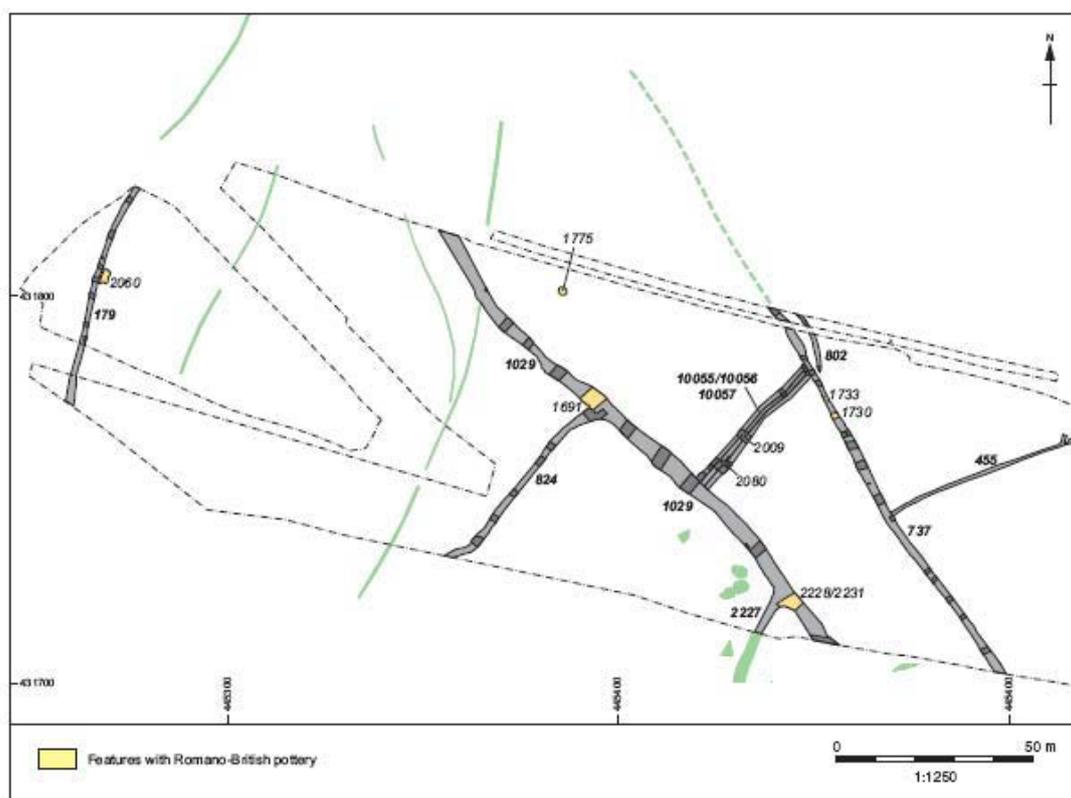


Figure G.69. *The Romano-British phase features at Site M. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 105, fig. 68).*

Site P

SE 4720 2390

Site P consisted of a narrow linear excavation approximately 1.2 km long in total, on either side of Site Q (see below), south of the M62. Many of the features had been excavated by AS WYAS as part of the Holmfield Interchange investigations (Roberts 2005c), and others had been recorded as cropmarks or through geophysical survey. Although the majority of the features excavated at Site P were medieval or post-medieval in date, some were undoubtedly later Iron Age or Romano-British in origin. A series of ditches were excavated that produced Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, and many of these features had evidence for repeated re-cutting (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 71). At the eastern part of Site P this included part of a trackway ditch previously examined by AS WYAS, in addition to a series of field boundary ditches. The gully of a small enclosure or livestock pen was also recorded, but this did not produce any dating evidence.

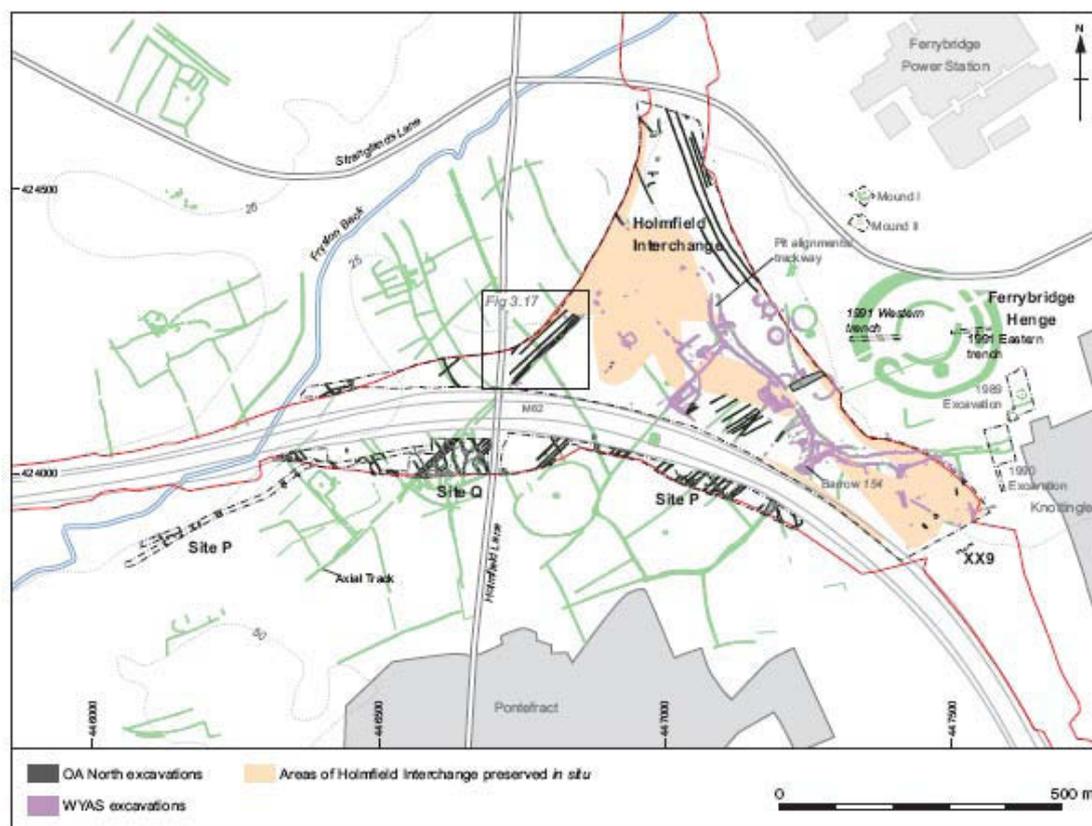


Figure G.70. Plan of Ferrybridge and the Holmfied Interchange area showing Oxford Archaeology North Sites P and Q, in relation to the features excavated by AS WYAS, and those recorded as cropmarks. Note the unexcavated rectangular enclosure between Sites P and Q (lower left), the large subcircular enclosure (lower centre) and the small square cropmark now under the M62 (right of centre). (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 58, fig. 27).

At the western demarcation between Site P and Site Q, a dry valley in the limestone was identified, at least 160m long, 26m wide and filled by around 3m of natural silts. Unfortunately, the approximate period in which these sediments had begun to accumulate was not established, but they were truncated by a re-cut boundary ditch that formed part of the same system of north-east to south-west orientated field boundaries as those investigated at Site Q (see below). The western part of Site P also contained a series of north-west to south-east orientated ditches forming part of the axis of a subrectangular enclosure to the south of Site P, but this was only identified from cropmarks alone and was not excavated as part of the A1 (M) road scheme (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 71, 73, fig. 39). This unexcavated enclosure had some morphological similarities with Enclosure D investigated to the north-east at Ferrybridge (Martin 2005), and it too might have contained a corn drying kiln within it. In addition, some further field boundary ditches were excavated, but these only produced a few sherds of second to third century greyware. Another notable cropmark in the area takes the form of a large subcircular enclosure approximately 150m across, potentially earlier than and partly recut by some field system trackway ditches, and containing an unusual ovoid or circular ring ditch cropmark near its centre. This may have been a large livestock corral. Another significant cropmark recorded on old aerial photographs but now buried underneath the M62 is a small square ditched feature, possibly another square barrow or some form of ritual enclosure.

Site Q**SE 4640 2400**

To the immediate south of this site, cropmarks suggest the existence of a series of broadly co-axial, sub-rectangular field boundaries that appear to respect a possibly pre-existing subrounded enclosure approximately 150m wide, with a ring ditch or roundhouse near its centre. This feature is similar to some of the subrounded features recorded by Derrick Riley as at Broom Hill and Thoresby Park in Nottinghamshire (Riley 1980: 28, 102-103, fig. 4, map 12), and is perhaps also a larger variant of some of the enclosures or corrals identified at South Kirkby and South Hiendley (see below). This feature may have originated in the earlier or middle Iron Age, and might have been a large livestock corral. This then appears to have become incorporated into at least two broad phases of field system. The enclosure complex that was investigated at Site Q was situated just 130m to the north-west of this large subcircular enclosure (see Fig. G.70 above).

One of the earliest structuring features of the landscape at Site Q seems to have been a prominent north-east to south-east orientated trackway, which was part of the same feature excavated as ditches 102 and 103 by AS WYAS at the main Holmfield Interchange Ferrybridge site (e.g. Richardson 2005b: 73, fig. 62). As ditches recorded on excavations or as cropmarks, this particular trackway can be plotted for at least 800m. Many field boundaries are arranged perpendicular to it, and it thus seems to have acted as an axial spine, which together with the repeated re-cutting of its ditches suggests a long chronology for its use. The westernmost ditch (634) was the smallest at 1.3m wide and 0.5m in depth, and may have been a land or field boundary before the double-ditched trackway was constructed. In places it only existed as a series of segmented gullies and pits, and might have begun in the middle Iron Age, although no artefacts were recovered from it (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 63). Several field system ditches were arranged at right angles to and on the north-western side of this boundary, but these likewise contained no finds. The south-eastern trackway ditch (378/631/687) was re-cut on several occasions, and might have been broadly contemporary with or post-dated the D-shaped enclosure described below. It was up to 4.4m wide and 1.4m deep, and no dating evidence was found from its earliest phases, although a coin of Carausius (AD 286–296) indicates that a re-cut was still open and silting up during the later third century AD, as was found at Ferrybridge (Richardson 2005b: 73). There however, first century AD pottery was also recovered from a second re-cut fill. Further to the north-east, the two trackway ditches seem to have actually crossed over, again suggesting that in at least one phase one or both of its ditches were important boundaries.

In between trackway ditches 631 and 634 was a third central feature (632/642), the first phase of which was 1m wide and up to 0.80m deep, but which was then re-cut as a ditch up to 5.7m wide and 0.92m deep (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 63). It is possible that the early phase feature began as a holloway within the trackway, but was then later re-cut as a ditch, and perhaps may even have formed one phase of the north-west boundary of the trapezoidal enclosure (see below). Late second to early third century pottery was found in the upper fills of the second phase ditch.

Towards the south-west of Site Q, part of a D-shaped enclosure was excavated, cropmarks suggesting this was 37m long and 27m wide, with a south-west facing entrance approached via a small sub-rectangular annex with a restricted south-east facing entrance. This annex may have been a later addition, and originally the D-shaped enclosure might have had a northern entrance, as the western side of its enclosure ditch terminated within the trackway. This might in turn imply that only the northern trackway ditch (634) was in existence when the enclosure was constructed, or that the southern trackway ditch (631/687) was dug at the same time as the enclosure but not before (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 59). The enclosure ditch was up to 1.20m wide and 0.65m deep, and was subsequently partly incorporated into the re-cut southern trackway ditch. A ^{14}C date of 360-50 BC was obtained from carbonised grain in the primary fill of the D-shaped enclosure ditch. A fragmentary human ulna was recovered from the fill of the north-eastern part of the original enclosure ditch.

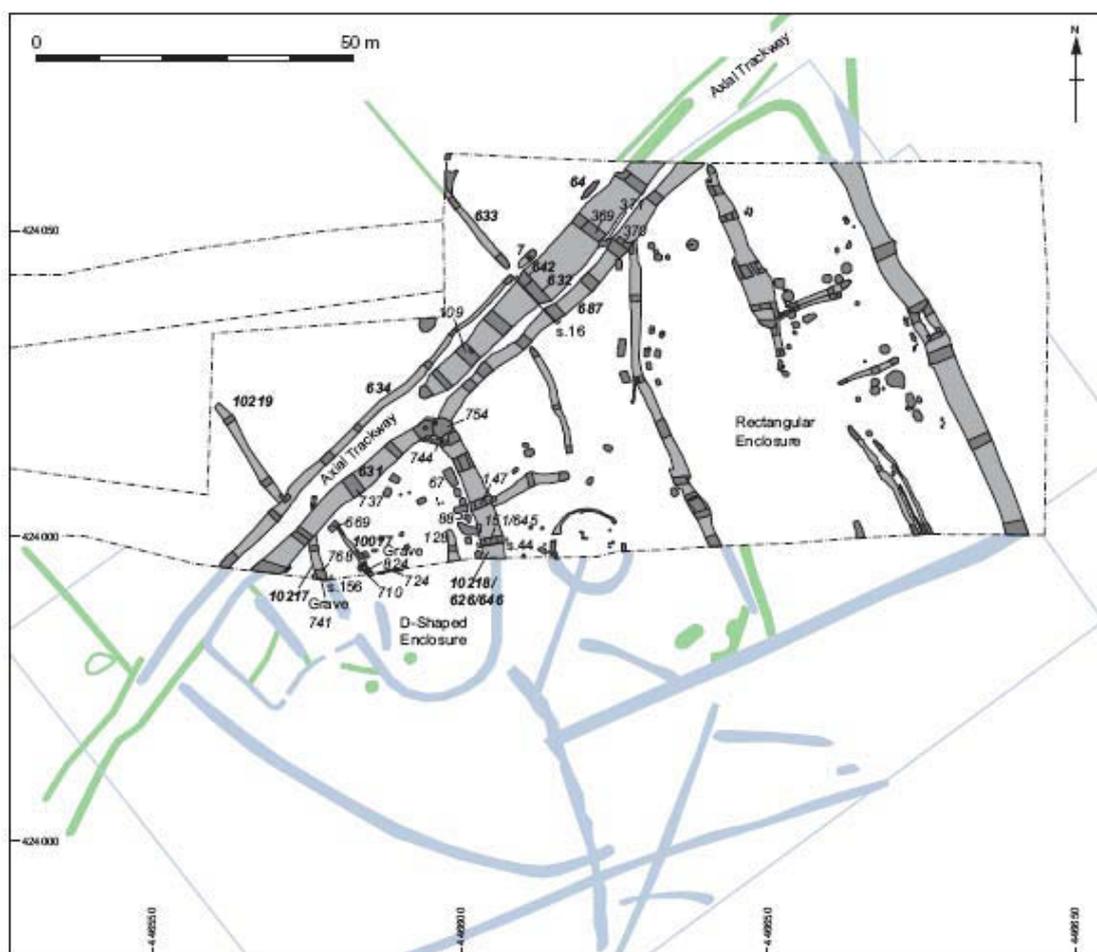


Figure G.71. More detailed plan of the enclosure complex excavated at Site Q. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 60, fig. 28).

Within the D-shaped enclosure were some internal partition ditches and gullies, sixteen large pits and a few postholes, but there were few stratigraphic relationships and little dating evidence was recovered, although from any of these features, except for intrusive post-medieval pottery, and there were few stratigraphic relationships. The alignment of many of the pits was very close to the enclosure ditch, and this may indicate that either there was no internal bank, or that they had been dug during an earlier,

palisaded phase of the enclosure prior to its re-modelling with a ditch. Part of a Roman stone column base and a building block were found in pit 669, suggesting activity at this later date. In an elongated pit (824) cutting into internal ditch 10077 was the extended inhumation of an adult male aged 35-45, and a ¹⁴C date of 90 BC-AD 60 was obtained from his remains (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 61). This ditch may have formed part of an earlier internal 'screen' behind the west-facing entrance. A second inhumation burial was found in a pit (741) dug into the western side of the enclosure ditch, and this was a crouched burial of a male aged 25-35 with a grave lining of rough limestone blocks, dating to AD 0-130. The evidence suggests that the D-shaped enclosure was never a focus for domestic habitation, but was used for other purposes. The two sub-rectangular annexes on its western side may have served as livestock pens. In the very late Iron Age and earlier Roman period though, the largely disused enclosure might nevertheless have been used as a burial place. The architectural fragments also hint at a large, Roman-style building located somewhere close nearby.

A large trapezoidal enclosure was constructed on the eastern side of the D-shaped enclosure, and although it was not completely excavated cropmarks indicate that it was approximately 80m long and 80m wide at its widest part. Through re-cutting the trapezoidal enclosure used the existing D-shaped enclosure ditch as its western edge and the southernmost trackway ditch as its northern edge, and the southern trackway ditch had the upper edge of its re-cut lined with a revetment of limestone blocks, similar to those encountered at Barnsdale Bar, Ferrybridge and at Wattle Syke (see below). Two re-cuts of the trapezoidal enclosure's ditches were identified, the first probably dating to the late second to early third century (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 66). These re-cuts were larger than the original ditches, being up to 4m wide and 1.80m deep. The latest ditch in the sequence contained late fourth to early fifth century pottery and a copper-alloy pendant in upper fills, the latter being of Roman military origin. The eastern side of the enclosure might originally have been formed by two parallel ditches or gullies, although these were not necessarily contemporary, and it is unclear if these could have been associated with an earlier palisaded phase. These were later re-cut by a large enclosure ditch containing late second to third century pottery, with a 4.30m wide east-facing entrance. Several postholes in this area probably formed a timber gateway.



Figure G.72. (left). Site Q seen under excavation, showing the large trapezoidal enclosure and the roundhouse visible at the upper left. The D-shaped enclosure has not yet been exposed. (Source: Howard-Davis, Lupton and Boyle 2005: 16).

Within the trapezoidal enclosure, a series of north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west orientated gullies seem to have formed a series of fencelines or screens controlling and channelling movement from the east. Some of these were re-cut at least once, and the two north-east to south-west examples contained both late Iron Age and third to fourth century Romano-British pottery (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 66-68). A group of mostly sub-rounded pits also seem to have respected this line of movement – none of these produced any dateable artefacts, but one was truncated by the re-cut enclosure ditch. A larger north-west to south-east orientated ditch divided the trapezoidal enclosure in half, and this too had been re-cut on several occasions. There may originally have been one or more gaps through it, and several regular sub-rectangular pits were dug on either side of the northern line of this subdivision. Small fragments of pig or cattle bone were recovered from two, and charcoal produced a ^{14}C date of 400–200 BC, which if not residual suggests that some may have been contemporary with the D-shaped enclosure, but pre-dated the ditched phase of the trapezoidal enclosure. In the north-western corner was a square sub-enclosure 16m long and 15m with a south-east facing entrance, and the ditches of this had been truncated by the later re-cuts of the enclosure.

Towards the south-western part of the trapezoidal enclosure was a roundhouse ring gully 10.60m in diameter, although only the northern half of this feature was excavated. It had a north-east facing entrance, and the southern entrance terminal contained calcite-tempered pottery, probably fourth century AD Huntcliff ware (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2008: 69). Several internal postholes were identified, but it is not known how the two segments of the gully related to the structure. These may have been linked to a cropmark ditch or gully pre- or post-dating the building. The close juxtaposition of these features is notable though, suggesting deliberate architectural referencing and some form of social memory.

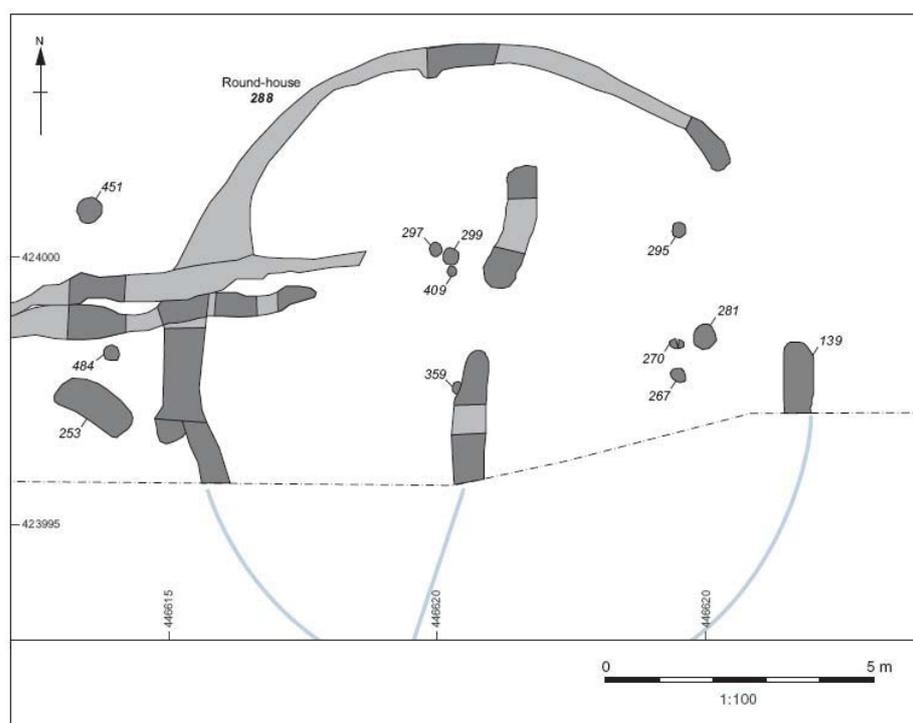


Figure G.73. (left). Detail of the roundhouse at Site Q. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 68, fig. 36).

Site R**SE 4490 3225**

Site R was located to the west of Castle Hills on the crest of a north-facing slope, within the area of the designated Scheduled Monument (SM 31531). Until recently it was covered by woodland, and a topographic survey by AS WYAS in 2001 recorded earthworks in this locale. With removal of the trees and the topsoil stripped, a large south-west to north-east aligned ditch at least 55m long was revealed, up to 4m wide and 2m deep, probably with a bank originally on the northern side (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 105). A single worn sherd of Iron Age pottery was found in a lower fill, but the ditch may have remained open well into the Romano-British period. The ditch survived as an earthwork to the north-east of Site R.

Approximately 3m south-east of this ditch were a series of segmented ditches or elongated pits parallel to it, and some had been deliberately backfilled. Although no pottery was recovered from these features, in comparison with other similar features excavated in West Yorkshire they are likely to have been an earlier boundary, perhaps early to mid-Iron Age in date. At the southern end of Site R were two ditches both initially aligned east-west but then turning south to form a double-ditched trackway up to 5m wide (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 106). The ditches had been re-cut several times, and late second to fourth century pottery was recovered from the later re-cut fills. This feature survived as a holloway until recently (AS WYAS 2001), and formed the Norman and medieval boundary between the townships of Ledston and Micklefield (Faull and Moorhouse 1981: map 15). As with the trackway at Adwick-le-Street in South Yorkshire therefore, a late Iron Age or Romano-British routeway survived as a significant routeway through the landscape, demonstrating a measure of post-Roman continuity. Its significance as a later medieval social and political boundary might even reflect something of its status during the Romano-British period.

Site XX8**SE 4780 2340**

Site XX8 was located immediately east of the M62 and just 600m south-east of Ferrybridge henge. The site investigated in more detail a subrectangular double-ditched enclosure that previous work by AS WYAS had suggested was an Iron Age or Romano-British settlement. However, only the western edge of this settlement was examined, and the main focus of the enclosure lay outside the excavation area to the east. The two parallel ditches were aligned north-west to south-east, turning at right-angles onto a north-east to south-west orientation. These probably formed the western side of the enclosure, with the northern side visible on cropmarks beyond the limit of excavation. The inner ditch 163 was a sizeable feature up to 5.20m wide and 1.60m deep, and a lower fill produced abraded sherds of East Gaulish samian dated to AD 160-190, and a single sherd of second or third century Romano-British pottery (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 54). There was a later, less substantial re-cut that contained further second century samian sherds, but also third to fourth century coarsewares.

This inner ditch seemed to have been respected by two external boundary ditches to the east and south-east (ditches 166 and 160/161), which also contained some Romano-British pottery. The outer

enclosure ditch (162) was broadly parallel to the inner ditch, and was up to 2.5m and 1.13m deep. This outer ditch cut through ditches 160/161 and perhaps 166 too, and this might indicate that it was later than the inner ditch, although possibly contemporary with the re-cut of the latter. Pottery from upper fills of the outer enclosure ditch included Central Gaulish samian of AD 120-200, rare finds (for the region) of Dressel 20 amphora, fourth century shell-gritted ware and late fourth to fifth century Huntcliff ware (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 54). This might suggest that the samian was residual or had been curated prior to deposition. The skeleton of a late-stage human foetus or neonate child was recovered from a fill of this ditch, similar to examples of such burials at Dalton Parlours and Wattle Syke. At the point where ditch 162 seemed to cut ditch 166, a large pit had been dug containing fourth century pottery.

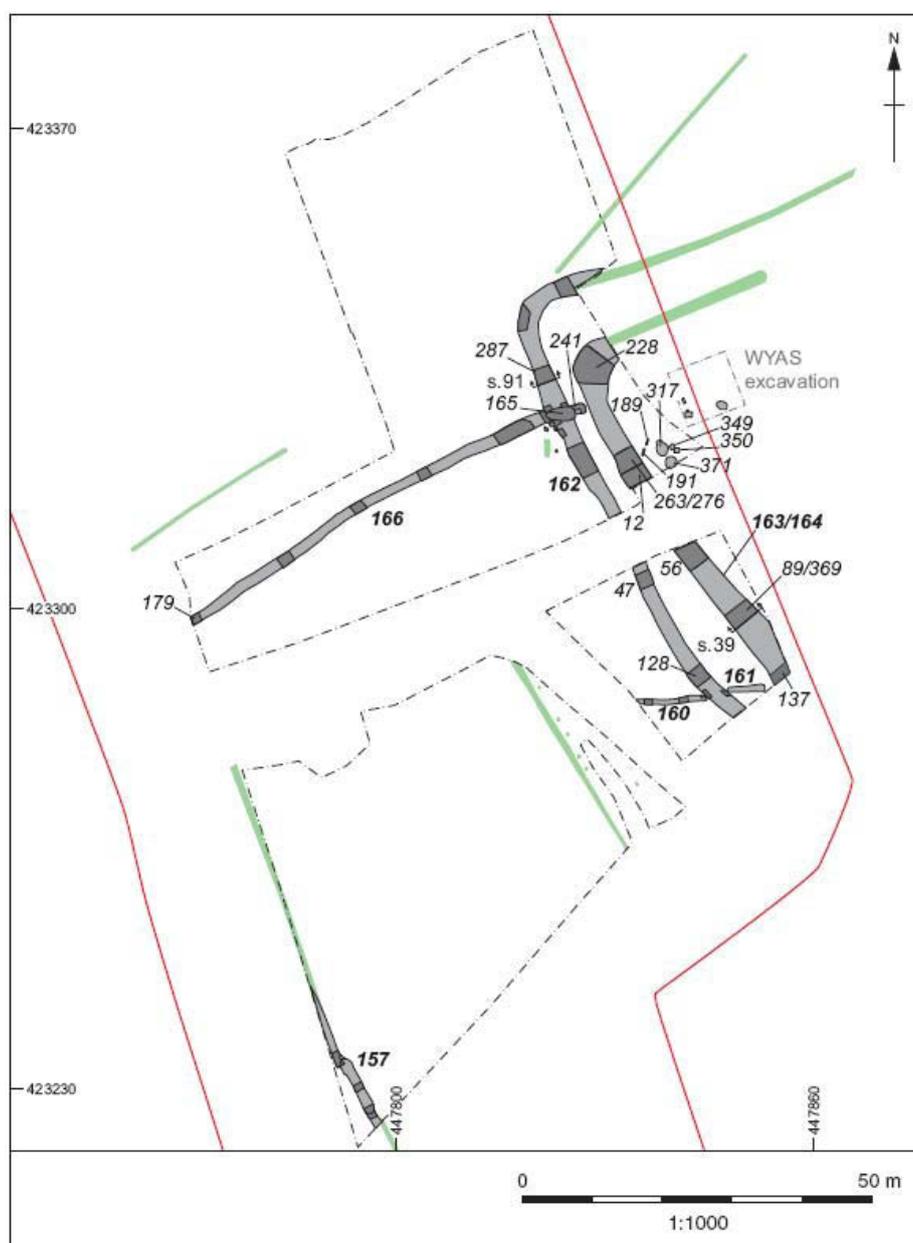


Figure G.74. Plan of the features excavated at Site XX8. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 55, fig. 25).

Within the north-west corner of the enclosure were several sub-circular pits, one of which (317) contained several small Iron Age pot sherds of Iron Age pottery, and this might suggest an earlier phase of occupation. The AS WYAS investigations had earlier found second to fourth century pottery in two small pits or postholes within the interior (AS WYAS 2002). Unfortunately, no more of this enclosure was excavated.

Site XX15

SE 4785 2830

This site was located just east of Fairburn, on a relatively gentle south-east facing slope just *c.* 500m north-east of the River Aire floodplain. A large boundary ditch (402) orientated north-east to south-west was excavated, up to 2m wide and 0.60m deep, and with a segmented boundary on its western side arranged at right-angles to it. An inhumation burial was located nearby, perhaps truncated by a re-cut of the boundary ditch, and this grave contained the disarticulated long bones and lower jawbone of an adult human, the bone producing a ¹⁴C date of 340-50 BC (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 75). It was not clear whether these bones were disarticulated when placed in the grave, or whether this resulted from later disturbance. The lack of any other bones would indicate the former.

The northern re-cut of the boundary ditch formed part of the south-western corner of an enclosure or field, and this was a more sizeable feature 2.80m wide and up to 1.20m deep. Lower ditch fills contained second century pottery and third or fourth century Dales ware, and a copper-alloy object, some iron chain links, a bone ‘toggle’ or horse harness cheek-piece and animal bone were also recovered from the ditch. One pit was identified on the ‘inside’ of the possible enclosure, with evidence for *in situ* burning and with carbonised grains of barley, wheat and possibly oats (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 75).

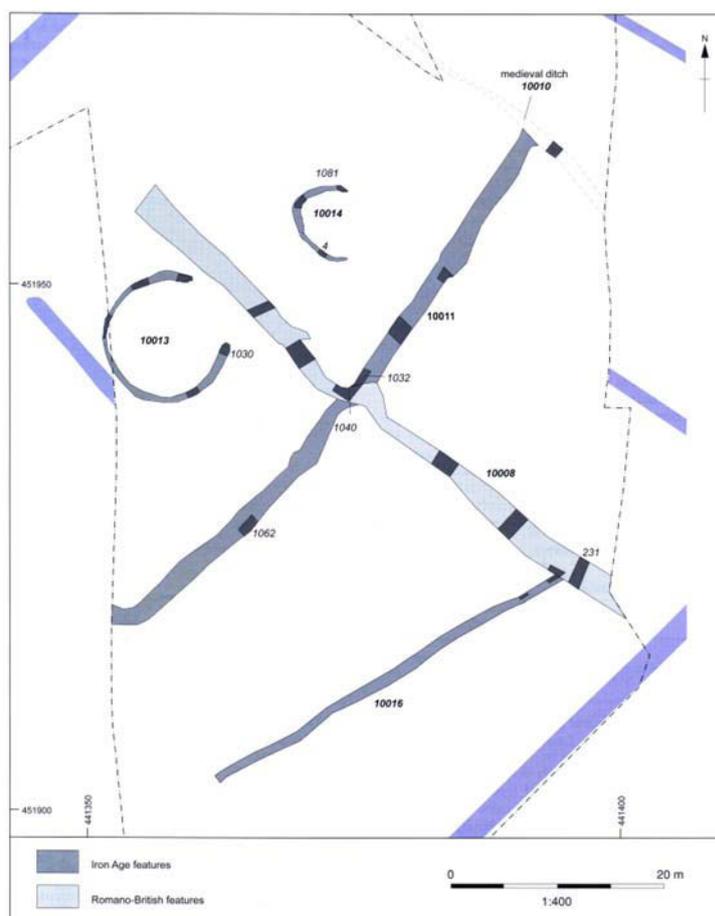
The southern extent of ditch 402 was also re-cut as an L-shaped ditch (404), which turned at a right-angle towards the north-west along the line of the earlier segmented boundary. This ditch may have defined a second enclosure or field, and Central Gaulish samian and greyware of second century AD date was recovered from it. Another inhumation burial had been inserted into this ditch too, and this grave pit contained the crouched or flexed remains of an adult woman with a copper-alloy necklet and a near-complete South Yorkshire Black Burnished ware of the late second or third century AD (see Appendix F, Fig. F.68). A ¹⁴C date on her bones provided a range of AD 70-230 (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007: 76-77). Immediately north of the ditch was a small sub-circular pit containing a cremation burial within a greyware jar, the bone producing a ¹⁴C date of AD 80-320 whilst the pottery was thought to be second or early third century. These boundaries that may have been created in the later Iron Age thus continued in use into the Romano-British period, and might have retained some social significance even after they had silted up.

Site 16**SE 4105 5205**

North of Wetherby at Wetherby Lane, and approximately 350m north of where geophysical survey had detected a subrectangular enclosure, a large ditch (10011) up to 1.75m wide and 0.70m was recorded for at least 63m on a broadly north-east to south-west axis, and this produced a small amount of Iron Age pottery and a beehive quern. A smaller ditch on approximately the same alignment (10016) lay some 20m to the south-east. These may have been associated with the shallow ring gully of a possible roundhouse *c.* 11m in diameter (10013), with a probable north-east facing entrance (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 117). This contained no evidence for postholes or other internal features, probably due to plough truncation, and a single sherd of Iron Age pottery was found near the southernmost entrance terminal of the ring gully. To the north-east was a more irregular penannular gully feature forming a semi-circle approximately 6m across, and a relatively large amount of Iron Age sherds was recovered from the two gully terminals of this structure. Once again, no internal features were recognised, and the gully is similar to one excavated at the MAP site at Methley (see below). Carbonised plant material from this irregular gully produced a ¹⁴C date of 100 BC-AD 90. Some Iron Age sherds were also found in what was probably a natural hollow some 130m south of these two structures, indicating more general landscape-based activity of this date.

Both linear ditches were cut by north-west to south-east ditch 10008, up to 2.5m wide but only 0.25m deep, with a slightly irregular course. Second or early third century AD pottery was found in its primary and secondary fills (Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 117). It articulated with ditch 10016 and passed close to structure 10013 and may have used a standing building or traces of it as a landscape marker. Some spatial connections were thus made over several centuries.

Figure G.75. (right). *Plan of features at Site 16. (Source: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007: 116, fig. 81).*



References: Boyle et al. 2007; Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007.

Dawson's Wood

SE 4380 3580

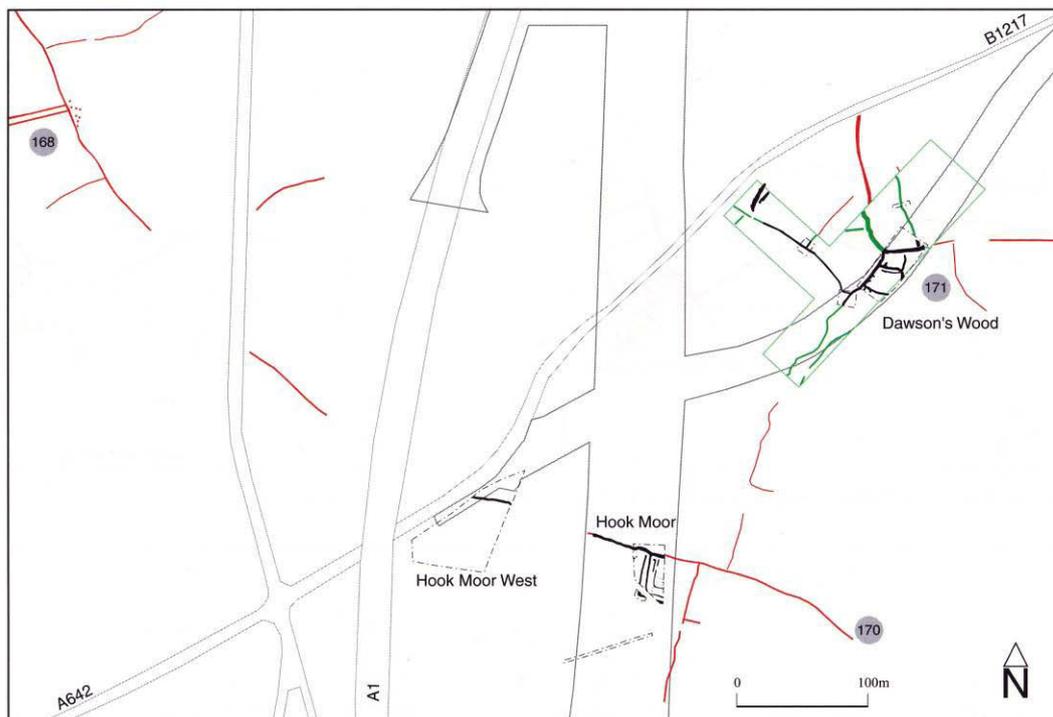


Figure G.76. *The excavated features (black), cropmarks (red) and results from geophysical survey (green) at Dawson's Wood (upper right), also showing the relationship of these features to the triple-ditched enclosure at Hook Moor (see below). (Source: Deegan 2001b: 34, fig. 18).*

This cropmark complex was investigated by AS WYAS as part of the M1-A1 Link Road works, and was situated just 250m north-east of the Hook Moor triple-ditched enclosure and boundaries (see below), on a slight terrace or plateau on an otherwise very gentle south-east facing slope with a slight rise to the south-east, in an undulating landscape. On the other side of this low rise some 800m to the south-east are a series of cloughs and becks. The enclosures at Dawson's Wood seem to have been associated with the same system of major sinuous boundaries also identified at Hook Moor. Two of these features probably represented the first phase of activity recorded during the excavation, where a right-angled boundary that appeared as an east-west ditch within the excavation area (1001/1008), up to 2.4m wide and 1.60m deep (O'Neill 2001b: 121). Only one sherd of late Iron Age or early Romano-British pottery was recovered from its primary fill, and the pattern of infilling suggested that a bank might have existed along its northern side. At a later date, a north-east to south-west ditch was appended to the right-angled 'corner' of the earlier main boundary, cutting through the primary fills of the former ditch, but once dug probably contemporaneously open and infilling with secondary deposits at the same time. This later, smaller ditch (1000) might have extended as far south as Hook Moor. Part of it at least might have formed the western side of a trackway or funnel, narrowing to a notable constriction visible on aerial photographs. Confusingly, the site publication report later suggests that there may originally have been a gap 3m wide between the east-west and the north-east to south-west ditch (*ibid.*: 123), but there were indications from the profile of the latter that it had been re-cut.

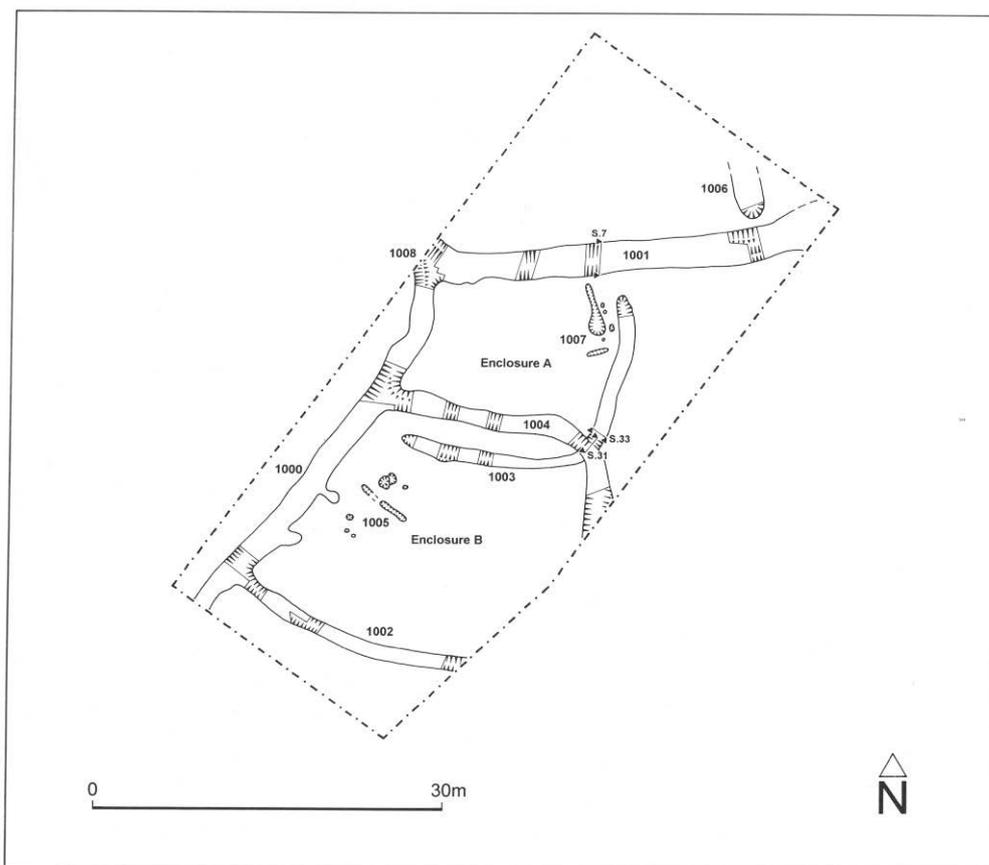


Figure G.77. More detailed plan of the enclosures excavated at Dawson's Wood. (Source: O'Neill 2001b: 120, fig. 93).

As part of this second phase, or possibly slightly later in date, a right-angled ditch (1003) was dug in the corner formed by these two boundary ditches, creating a subsquare enclosure (Enclosure A) that was 15m long and 15m wide. This enclosure ditch was up to 1.1m wide and 0.45m deep, and two c. 3m wide gaps between it and the two earlier ditches might have reflected entrances or indicate the presence of a bank, although as noted above it was thought that the bank of the major east-west ditch on the northern side. Similarly, there might have been an entrance on the north-western side, if the north-east to south-west ditch had originally stopped short of the east-west ditch – the publication report says a constriction in ditch 1000 may be further evidence for a north-eastern entrance (O'Neill 2001b: 121), but this was on the *western* side of the enclosure. There is thus some confusion in the published account. Few internal features were identified, but two segmented linear gullies and a series of postholes in the north-east corner may, however, have reflected some form of timber entrance structure, although it is possible that some of these features may have been a later phase of subenclosure. One sherd of early Romano-British pottery was found in the enclosure ditch, along with an undiagnostic greyware sherd and a lump of flint.

A third phase of activity was identified at Dawson's Wood, when Enclosure B was constructed. This 'clothes line' enclosure was approximately 25m long and 20m wide, and cut across the infilled ditch of earlier Enclosure A. The enclosure ditches were up to 1.7m wide and 0.8m deep, and it is not clear if

they formed a continuous circuit, if there was an entranceway in the south-eastern corner of the enclosure, or if two unexcavated gully projections on the inner edge of ditch 1000 on the western side of Enclosure B might represent a timber entrance structure bridging the ditch at this point. A few gullies and postholes towards the western side of Enclosure B might have been some form of insubstantial fenceline or other structure, and the only finds recovered were from the enclosure ditch and included a few animal bone fragments, a lump of worked flint, a fragment of daub and one sherd of greyware (O'Neill 2001b: 122). Some or all of the undated gullies and postholes in the north-eastern corner of Enclosure A might have actually belonged to this later phase, representing a northern subenclosure within the corner of the two main boundary ditches. The lack of artefacts and internal features suggests that these enclosures had an agricultural function, perhaps as animal pens.

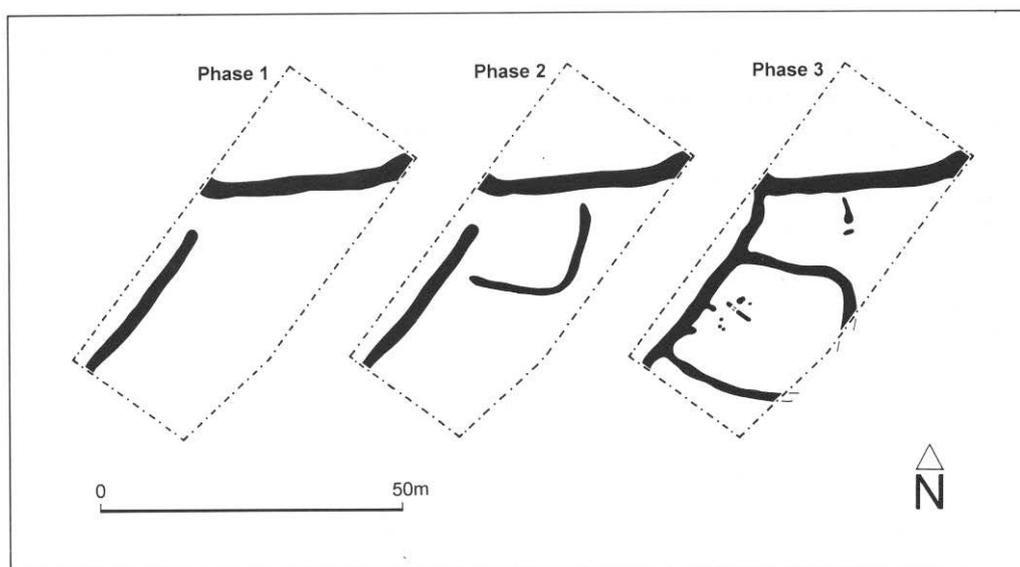
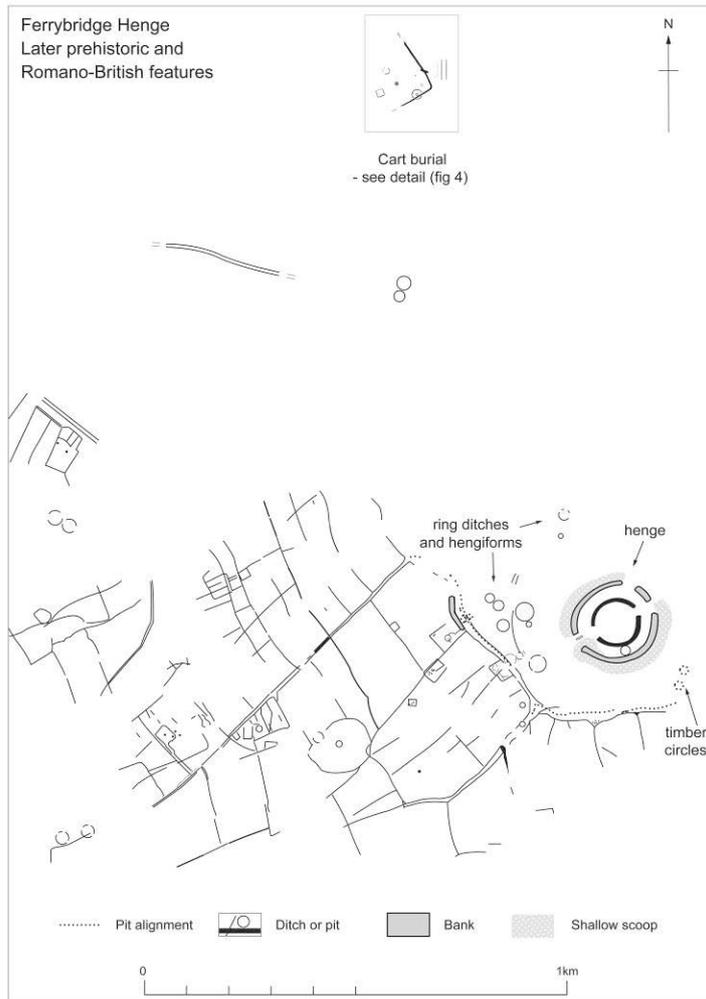


Figure G.78. *Proposed phasing of the Dawson's Wood boundaries and enclosures, although there are some problems with this. (Source: O'Neill 2001b: 121, fig. 94).*

References: O'Neill 2001b.

Ferrybridge

SE 4700 4400



Although there had been earlier archaeological work in the vicinity of Ferrybridge henge, investigation of the later prehistoric and Romano-British landscape was conducted during 2001-2202 in advance of construction of the Holmfield Interchange as part of the A1 upgrade work. In total, over 7ha were eventually excavated (Roberts et al. 2005: 18).

Figure G.79. (left). Simplified map of the Ferrybridge complex, showing the late Neolithic henge and timber circles, Bronze Age ring ditches/round barrows, the pit alignment skirting the western side of the ritual monument complex, and the later Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures and field systems. Note too the location of the Ferry Fryston cart or carriage burial c. 1km to the north. (Source: A. Leaver, from Chadwick 2007).

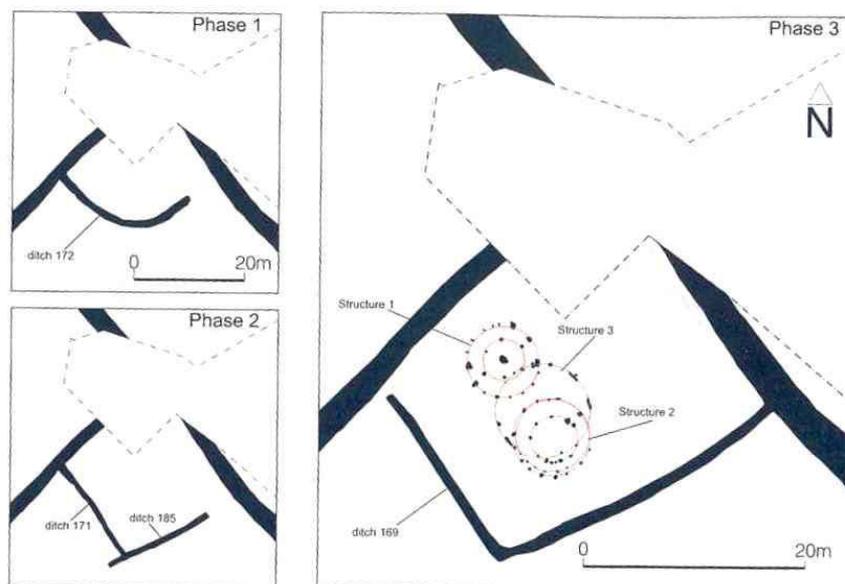
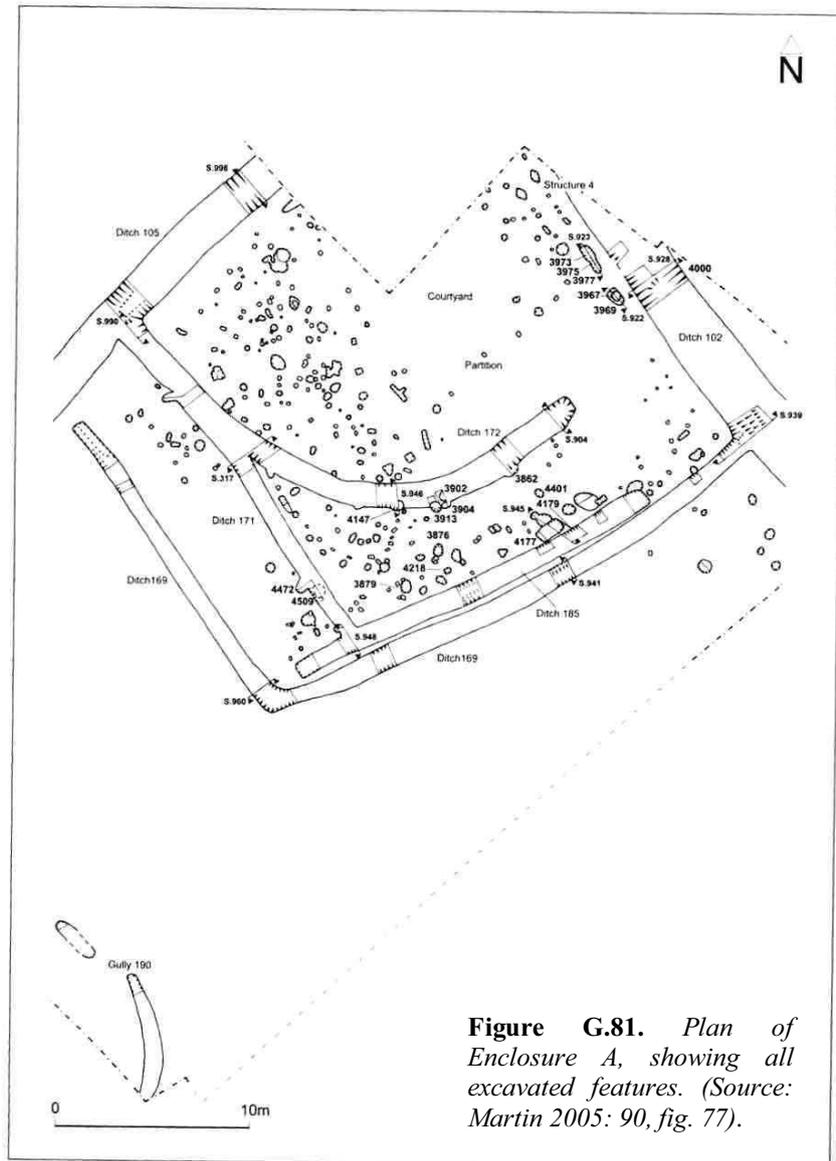


Figure G.80. Part of the later Iron Age and Romano-British pit alignment at Ferrybridge under excavation. (Source: Richardson 2005a: 64, plate 13).

The earlier ritual monuments at Ferrybridge were respected by a sinuous pit alignment that contained at least 164 pits and was just over 800m in length. Although these eventually formed a near continuous north-west to south-east boundary, it was clearly constructed in many different segments and pit clusters, and each of these in turn was probably the result of accretive digging and depositional practices over time. Some of the pits were later re-cut as linear boundaries. Many pits contained little or no artefacts and bone, but others contained metalwork, glass, pottery, animal and human bone ranging in date from the late Iron Age through to the early medieval period (Richardson 2005a: 54-56). Some of these pit groups and the artefacts and human burials contained within them have been described in more detail in Chapter 11 (Fig. 11.55) and Appendix F (Figs. F.18-F.19, F.33). Many of these objects were placed deposits, and the wide chronological range of the artefacts and the human burials suggests that the pits were an important social and symbolic boundary, whose significance, although potentially re-worked and re-interpreted, persisted for many centuries. The deposit of a decorated but deliberately bent and damaged La Tène sword scabbard in the ditch of the henge itself (see Appendix F, Figs. F.16-17) also reiterates the importance of the area beyond the pits, which was otherwise left relatively undisturbed during the late Iron Age and Romano-British period. The location of the Ferry Fryston carriage burial near further Bronze Age ring ditches approximately 1km north of the henge indicates the strong cosmological associations of the locale.

In the later Iron Age, a segmented boundary and then a series of linear ditches were used to mark out at least four main fields or blocks of land (Richardson 2005b). Many of these ditches were re-cut, and at least two, possibly three double-ditched trackways were laid out within this landscape, both ending in funnel-shaped entrances that opened out towards the ritual complex, which still formed a focal point. A third trackway was constructed using a single ditch that was parallel to part of the pit alignment, showing how this would have affected the everyday movements of people and animals around this landscape. Parts of these trackways were hollowed indicating extensive and protracted use, and some parts of them were metalled. Three late inhumation burials of Iron Age and Romano-British date were recorded in pits dug at ditch intersections or parallel to field ditches (*ibid.*: 87). Some of these ditches continued in use well into the Romano-British period, but many were abandoned, and there might have been a period of land re-organisation or consolidation (Roberts 2005a: 216-217).

Associated with these blocks of fields were several enclosures. Enclosure A was initially defined by a curvilinear ditch with a south-east facing entrance 5.8m wide, placed in the corner of two intersecting field ditches. This may have been later Iron Age in origin, although no dateable artefacts were recovered from it. The enclosure was then expanded slightly in area with two right-angled ditches, creating a subrectangular enclosure 22m long and 20m wide, also with a south-east facing entrance and with postholes suggesting some form of timber gateway structure. These ditches may have been infilling between AD 1-240 (Martin 2005: 91). In a third phase of development, a continuous L-shaped ditch defined an enclosure 27m long and 19.5m wide, and this contained first and second century AD pottery. No entrance was discovered, although this may have lain outside the area of excavation to the north-east. A mass of postholes near the western side of the enclosure represent the remains of at least



three phases of post-built roundhouse with diameters of 6.7-8.4m, at least one of which had an internal hearth, and two may have had double entrances. Structure 2 possibly contained an internal pit with a probable placed deposit of a rare carinated cup of 1-70 AD, and this building might itself have consisted of two phases of construction. Internal pits and postholes within the enclosure contained late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, and one pit contained sherds from crucibles used for heating brass. Some postholes appeared to form a line dividing the area of the roundhouses from the north-eastern side of the enclosure, and in that area Structure 4 may have been an elevated granary or storage structure, or perhaps a bridging structure over the enclosure ditch.

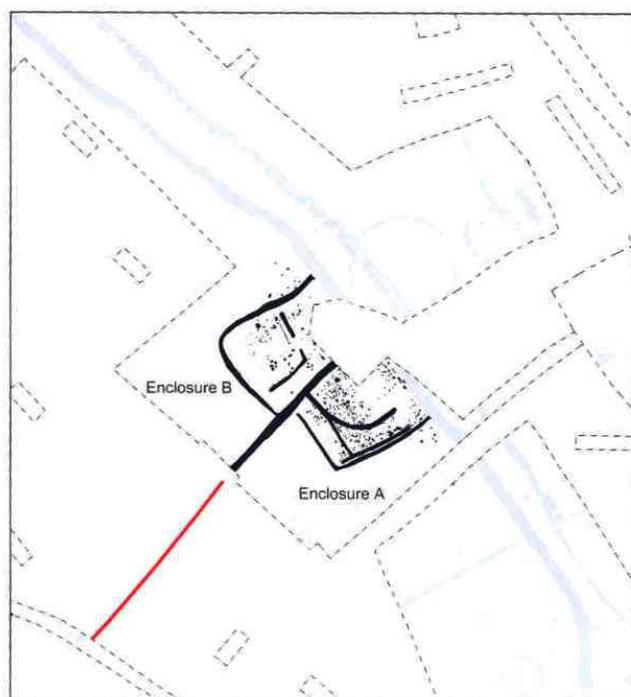


Figure G.83. Enclosures A and B. (Source: Martin 2005: 89, fig. 76).

Enclosure B was situated immediately to the north-east of Enclosure A, and made use of the same ditch as a common back boundary. In an early phase, there was possibly a curvilinear gully, which although undated might have been a Bronze Age ring ditch. In the second phase, a continuous L-shaped ditch was dug in a field corner where two ditches intersected, on the opposite side of the ditch junction to Enclosure A. This enclosure, 29m long and 23.5m wide, had no obvious entrance, and once again this might either have been outside of the limit of excavation, or may have involved a timber bridging structure.

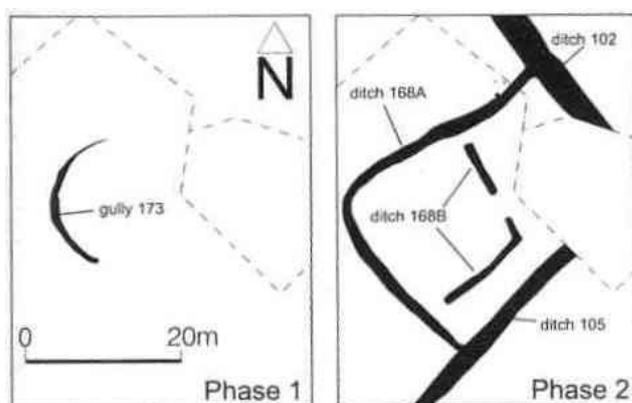
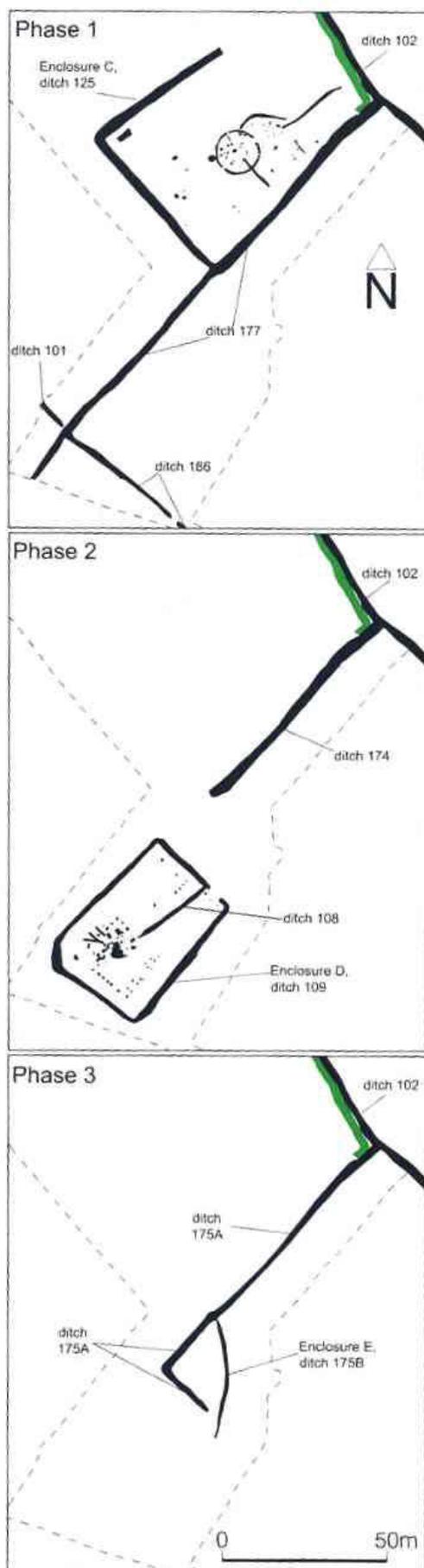


Figure G.84. Enclosure B phases. (Source: Martin 2005: 99, fig. 876).

Another right-angled ditch formed an internal subenclosure with a 3.4m wide entrance facing north-east – this may imply an entrance into the main enclosure in this direction as well (Martin 2005: 99). This subenclosure ditch produced first century to early second century pottery, including samian.

A series of postholes outside of the subenclosure may have defined another division, or an earlier or later phase of fence, whilst a series of postholes and slots within the subenclosure might have been additional different phases of partitioning, or perhaps even represented a subrectangular building with a



Appendix F, Fig. F.20). To the south of this was a large kiln or corn-drier, partly lined with stone and with horizontal timber joist positions still surviving in the side of the cut (see Appendix A, Figs. A.02-A.03). Large quantities of charred cereal grains were obtained from within this feature. Other postholes in this area might have been part of a windbreak or light structure associated with this corn drier. Two further linear groups of postholes along the south-west and south-eastern sides of the enclosure might have been further windbreaks (Martin 2005: 117). The northern part of the enclosure contained few features, but a crouched inhumation (in grave 1526) of an adult male was excavated here, and this was ^{14}C dated to AD 80-330. This individual had severe (and probably fatal) blunt force trauma to the skull, but also healed injuries to his vertebrae. Enclosure D might have gone out of use during the third century AD.

After Enclosure D had been abandoned, Enclosure E was constructed, a small subrectangular enclosure constructed in the corner between the field boundary ditch and the old north-eastern boundary ditch of Enclosure D, although the latter's entrance may still have been in use (Martin 2005: 122). The Enclosure E ditch contained a section of stone revetment at the point where it cut earlier ditches. Its function and date are unclear. A final phase of activity within Enclosure D consisted of another inhumation burial inserted into a ditch junction just to the west of the corn drier, that of a crouched adult woman with the remains of a small dog found next to her head – the dog had possibly served as a pillow. Six large stones had been placed on her chest.

Figure G.87. (left). How enclosures C, D and E were stratigraphically related. The two main phases of occupation in Enclosure D are not shown. (Source: Martin 2005: 102, fig. 89).

Unexpectedly, ¹⁴C dating suggested a date range of AD 540-720 for this individual, who may have been buried within the enclosure centuries after its abandonment. Although the position of the grave at a ditch intersection was seen as ‘merely coincidental’ (Martin 2005: 122), this may belong to a wider post-Roman and Anglo-Saxon tradition of the insertion of burials into Roman buildings and enclosures. This might have been a deliberate homage to the past, or a claim of legitimacy.

It has been argued that the shifting patterns of land division and enclosure construction at Ferrybridge represented a response to changes in the local Roman economy, and that the ‘expansion’ and ‘rationalisation’ of land holdings seen during the earlier second century with the construction of Enclosure D and the abandonment of most of the field boundaries was affected by developments at Castleford (Roberts 2005a: 216-217). But we must not simply equate changes in land division with changes in production. Enclosure C may not have been a usual ‘domestic’ farmstead, replaced by Enclosure D as some kind of production centre within a rationalised Roman-style estate. And the abandonment of Enclosure D was probably not driven by the emergence of larger estates elsewhere. There may have been changes in tenure, access and ownership, but these did not necessarily lead to increased agricultural production, and it is unlikely that these were simply geared to serving one specific urban market. Economic factors were undoubtedly important, but they were just part of a much more complex weave of social, political and environmental changes taking place in the third and fourth centuries AD. If agricultural expansion was required, why were no fields constructed across and within the area of the henges and round barrows? For me, it is the landscape and symbolic continuities at Ferrybridge that are most important – this area seems to have remained a ‘significant locale’ from the late Neolithic through into the medieval period. The wide-scale excavations at Ferrybridge nevertheless permit such issues to be investigated in more detail.

References: Roberts 2005c.

Garforth

SE 4200 3400

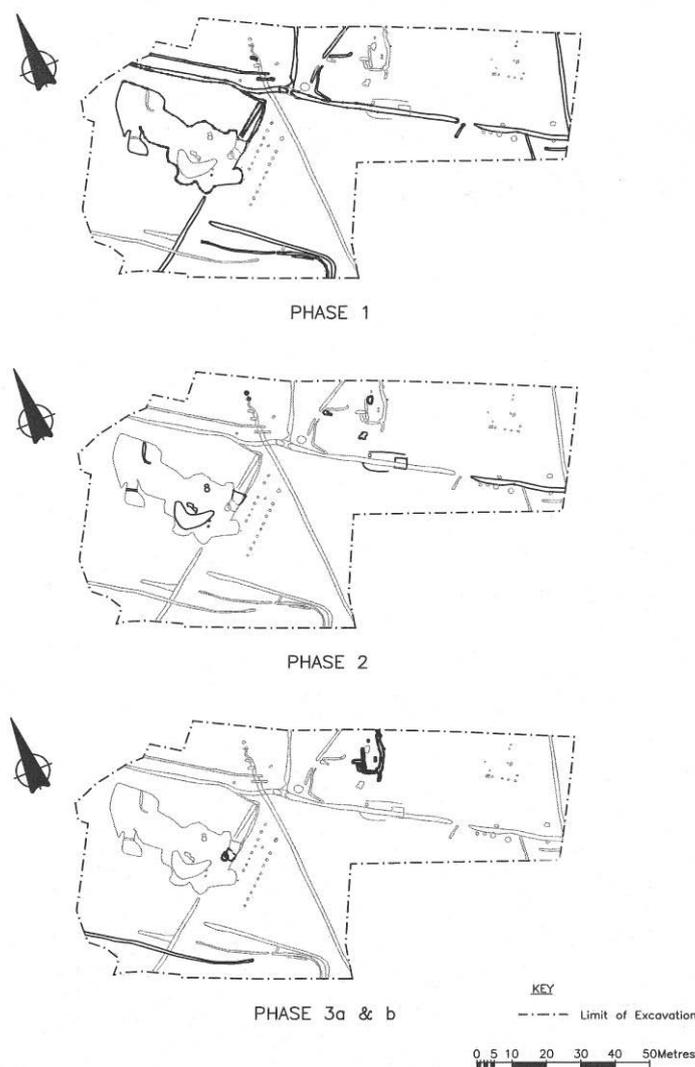


Figure G.88. Basic phase plan of the Garforth site. (Source: Owen 2000: fig. 3).

This site was situated on the north-east side of Garforth, on the west-facing slope of a gentle north-south running ridge in an undulating landscape, just 1km to the west of the Doncaster to Tadcaster road. The fields immediately to the east of the site had produced cropmarks, and an evaluation by AS WYAS found a series of rock-cut ditches and limestone wall footings (AS WYAS 1998). Excavations were undertaken by Gifford and Partners Ltd in 1998.

The earliest main phase identified at the site seems to have been a large stone quarry, and pottery recovered from the backfill of this feature, including samian and mortaria sherds, proved to be of mid second century AD date (Owen 2000: 2).

Large quantities of brick and tile fragments from the quarry suggest that there were substantial Roman-style buildings nearby. A series of ditches then seem to have been dug forming a series of trapezoidal and subrectangular field blocks, some with entrances visible. Two of these ditches respected the quarry, indicating that it was used or at least still partially open when the ditches were dug (Owen 2000: 3). These ditches contained animal bone fragments and several sherds of Romano-British pottery, mostly of undiagnostic form. There were clearly several different phases of ditch construction, however, with some changes in alignment evident in plan. A north-west to south-east aligned trackway may have been formed by ditches 75 and 139, and this may have originally had a funnel-shaped entrance opening up into a series of field junctions. There may have been another phase of funnel opening up towards the north. Frustratingly, in the only available archive report it is almost impossible to establish the full sequence of boundary development, as the locations of key ditch intersections are not illustrated as

sections. A small ‘keyhole-shaped’ oven was also assigned to this phase, and its backfill contained mid to late second century pottery and fired clay fragments.

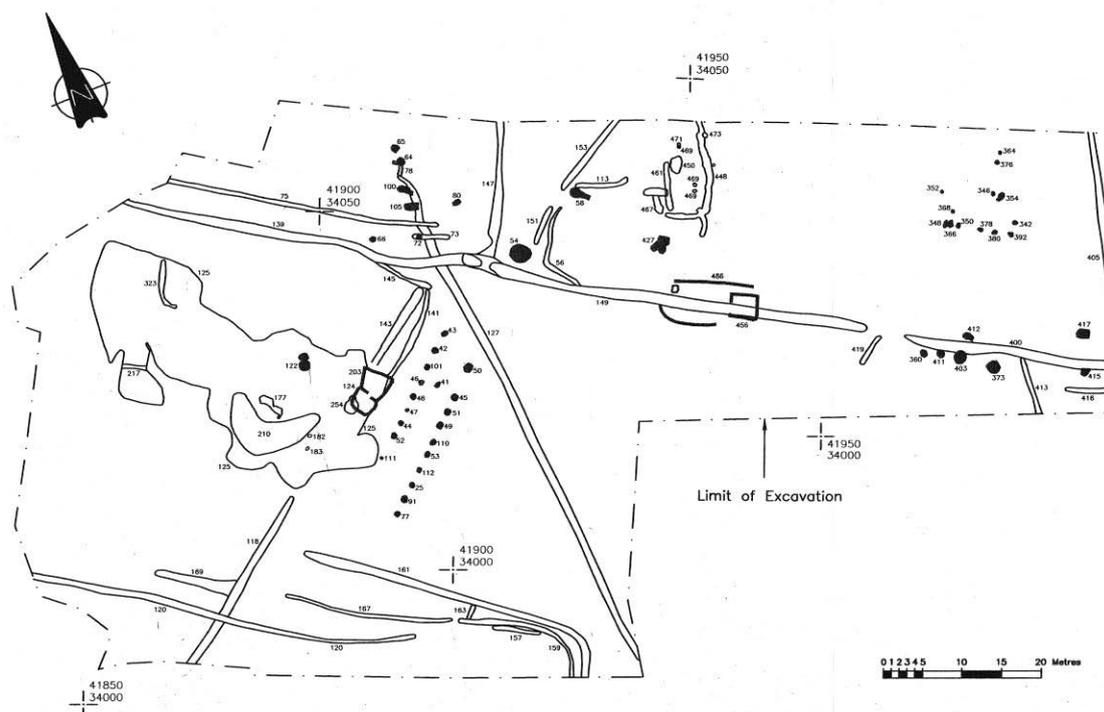


Figure G.89. *More detailed plan of the Garforth site. (Source: Owen 200: fig. 2).*

A second major phase of activity was identified, dated to the fourth century AD. This included a series of furnaces and possible corn driers, some of the latter containing charred grain, and several irregular features cut into quarry backfill (Owen 2000: 4-5). A crescent-shaped feature (210) contained fourth century pot and the skeleton of an immature pig, pit 203 contained pottery and a substantial amount of animal bone including an almost complete but headless (decapitated?) skeleton of a small ‘lap-dog’, and posthole 182 contained the partial skeleton of a raven (Jacques 2000). Two pits near the northern edge of the site also contained interesting deposits – pit 64 contained fourth-century pottery and a large quern fragment, whilst pit 80 had pottery and the articulated front leg of a goat. Some or all of these might have been placed deposits (*ibid.*: 23).

Structure 486 may have dated to this period, and this was a rectangular stone-footed building 12m long and 5.6m wide, with an apsidal western end. It had been built directly on top of an earlier ditch, a phenomenon also seen at Wattle Syke (see below). The walls were formed out of rough, unmortared limestone blocks and were probably just the bases of a timber and wattle and daub structure (Owen 2000: 5). At the eastern end of the building was a large, stone-lined oven or corn-drier with an L-shaped flue, and a charred quantity of charred grain were recovered from this, mostly wheat grains. Within the north-western corner of the building was a subrectangular pit into which had been set part of a rectangular stone trough. Fourth-century pottery was recovered from collapse or demolition layers within the building.

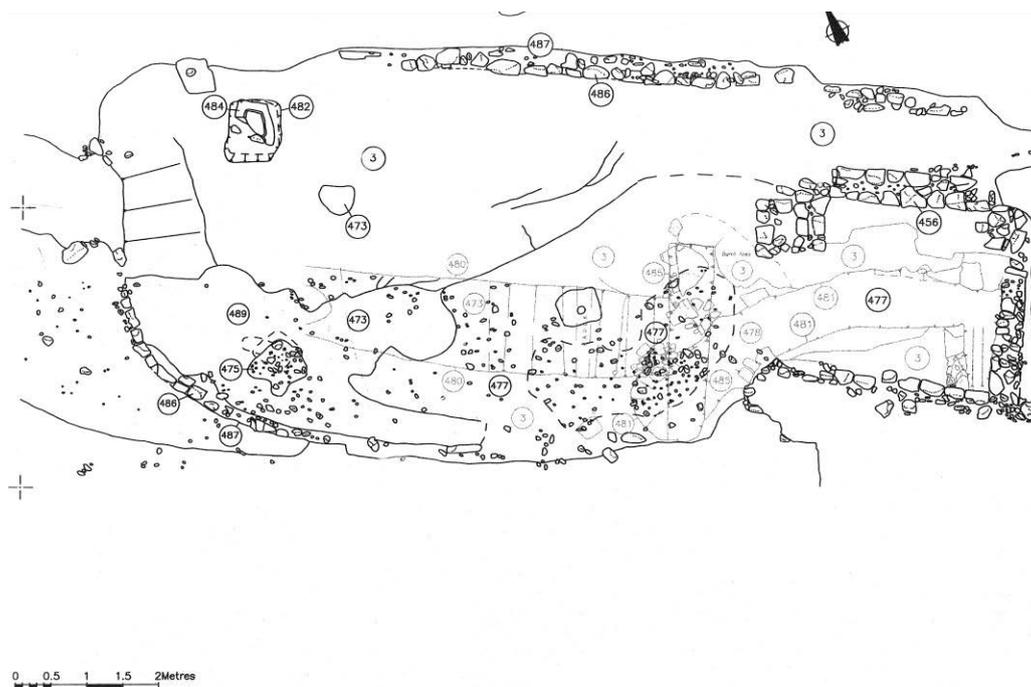


Figure G.90. The rectangular Romano-British building excavated at Garforth. Note the possible oven or corn-drier structure at the eastern (right) end of the building. (Source: Owen 2000: fig. 8).

A third phase identified at Garforth included features containing fifth to sixth century pottery. One of these was a subrectangular, sunken-featured building that may have been a *grübenhäuser* (Owen 2000: 7). This may indicate some post-Roman continuity of settlement in the area, and is supported by some of the discoveries at Ferrybridge and Wattle Syke. In addition, a series of undated features excavated at Garforth included a large structure 15m long and 6m wide, formed by two parallel rows of postholes 0.70m wide and 0.30m deep, although they were probably originally much deeper, and the full extent of this structure may not have been identified. Although it could perhaps be a post-Roman hall, it appears to run parallel to ditches 118, 141 and 143, which might be part of the phase 1 occupation of the site. If it is a Romano-British building, than it may represent a barn or byre.



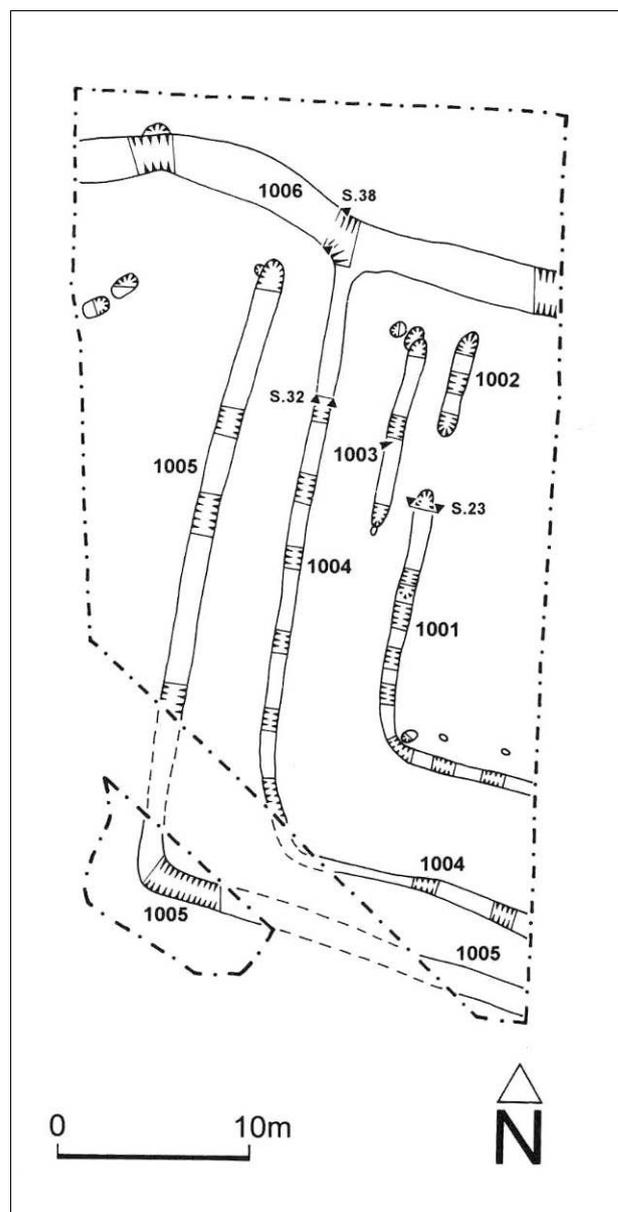
Metal detecting finds from Garforth. **Figure G.91. (left).** A fine enamelled Romano-British headstud brooch. **Fig. G.92. (right).** An enamelled Roman seal-box lid. These finds indicate rather high status, 'Romanised' settlement. (Source: © PAS).

The excavation at Garforth seems to have been carried out in short space of time (just two months), and the final archive client report is not very detailed. At the present time, it is not clear if the site is being written up in more detail for publication. Fieldwalking by AS WYAS immediately to the north of the site, and just south of the excavated enclosure complex at Parlington Hollins; found small scatters of Roman pottery, brick, roof and flue tile and a few Saxon sherds across a wide area including over a D-shaped enclosure visible on cropmarks.

References: Owen 2000; Webb 1999.

Hook Moor

SE 4360 3550



This was another site excavated by AS WYAS as part of the M1-A1 Link Road project, and was situated on a gentle north-east facing slope in a gently undulating landscape with several springs emerging within 1.5km to the west and east. Until recent years it had been under woodland before being grubbed up and ploughed (O'Neill 2001b: 118). The first phase of activity identified was a sinuous, broadly east-west boundary ditch (1006). This can be seen on aerial photographs continuing to the north-west and south-east (Deegan 2001b: 34, fig. 18), and was clearly a major structuring feature within the landscape. At a later date, probably in the Romano-British period, a series of concentric ditches forming a square enclosure were appended to the line of the earlier ditch, although only one of the ditches investigated intersected with the boundary feature.

Figure G.93. (left). *Plan of the Hook Moor enclosure. (Source: O'Neill 2001b: 118).*

Only the western part of the enclosure was excavated, but aerial photographs suggest that an existing north-south boundary formed the eastern edge of the enclosure, making it a possible unusual form of field corner enclosure. The excavated ditches were up to 1.5m wide and 0.8m deep (see also Chapter 9, Fig. 9.04), and these became narrower and shallower towards the centre of the enclosure. Only the middle and outer ditches may have had banks associated with them, and the inner ditch may have been a palisade slot (O'Neill 2001b: 119). It contained numerous stones suggestive of packing. The gap between the outer and inner ditches was consistently 10m wide, suggesting that these at least may have been contemporary at some point, whereas the distance varied between the inner and middle ditch and the middle and outer ditch. The inner ditch or slot had a 3m wide gap on its western side, apparently partially blocked or screened by another short section of ditch or gully, and it is also not clear if the gap

between the inner and outer ditches and the east-west ditch reflected the existence of an upstanding bank on the southern side of the earlier feature.

Only a few internal features were identified within the excavation area, and none produced any artefacts, whilst only one sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from an upper ditch fill between 1004 and 1006, and a secondary fill of 1006 contained a fragment of Roman brick. The triple-ditched form is very unusual, and together with the 'hidden' entrance has some resonances with Roman military camps (O'Neill 2001b: 119), but the field corner location might suggest that this is an unlikely origin for the enclosure. It is also possible, though again unlikely, that at least one of the ditch circuits may form part of a race around the side of the enclosure, used for handling livestock, and the restricted entrance could also have been associated with such practices. The lack of artefacts may indicate that there was little sustained 'domestic' occupation. Clearly, despite partial excavation this site remains highly enigmatic, and it would be worth returning to it to undertake detailed geophysical survey and further excavation in order to try and understand its chronology and function.

References: O'Neill 2001b.

Ledston**SE 4340 2960**

North of Back Newton Lane, Ledston and west of Garforth is part of the high and undulating ridge forming the northern edge of the Aire valley, overlooking the River Aire floodplain and Castleford to the south. On the elevated ground centred at SE 4350 4315 a series of ditched boundaries have been identified from cropmarks, forming a broadly north-south orientated system of co-axial fields, trackways and small enclosures (Fig. G.348). Some of the D-shaped and subrectangular enclosures have clearly been appended to earlier sinuous boundaries. Immediately south of Sheepcote Wood (an interesting place-name) was an apparent focus of some of these boundaries and trackways, a series of irregular and subrectangular enclosures that might have been upland corrals and pens. From this ridgeline, further linear boundaries, trackways and possible holloways led off southwards downslope.



At least two double-ditched trackways with wear hollows visible within them lead down a slight clogh or depression in the hillside, a natural routeway through the landscape. On this south-facing slope, four circular features 10-15m in diameter probably represent Bronze Age round barrows, which were incorporated into the field systems landscape. One field ditch bisected a ring ditch, one ring ditch formed the corner intersection of two field ditches, another was respected by a later field ditch as a landscape marker, and a fourth ring ditch was incorporated into the edge of an enclosure boundary ditch.

Figure G.94. *The broadly co-axial field boundaries and small enclosures between the A63(T) and Sheepcote Wood, Ledston. (Source: © WYAS).*



Figure G.95. *The north-south aligned trackways and field boundaries south of Sheepcote Wood. Note the sinuous trackways, the eastern example added to some fields but pre-dating others, and the two or three subrectangular enclosures. (Source: © WYAAS).*

These ring ditches or round barrows seem to have been more than just useful landscape markers, and as in places on the Yorkshire Wolds (Fenton-Thomas 2003, 2005, forthcoming; Giles 2000, 2007a), it may be that this represented a deliberate respect for and harking back to the past, perhaps even an attempt to legitimise the enclosure of previously open land. The holloways within the two main trackways suggest that these may already have been old routes by the time that they were ‘formalised’ by double ditches. The trackways and long boundaries led past two or three subrectangular enclosures one with an east-facing entrance and evidence for internal subdivision, and another with a north-west facing entrance, possible internal subdivisions and also pit groups. These boundaries perhaps divided the fields into three major north-south blocks, associated with two or three settlement enclosures. The two major trackways, and another possible east-west example, converged close to an unusual, partially double-ditched, subtriangular or D-shaped enclosure, located on lower-lying ground near the head of a beck on a slight natural platform on the hillside. Another D-shaped enclosure was sited just to the north-east.

Outside of this enclosure where the two, possibly three trackways converged was a dense agglomeration of up to 280 rock-cut pits, perhaps forming the focus for the trackways (see Chapter 11, Fig. 11.49). These pits may have themselves been defined by further ditches and perhaps a polygonal enclosure or series of ditches and fences. The landscape context of the enclosure and pits is interesting, as this made use of the natural platform in the hillside from which there would have been extensive views out across the valley of the River Aire. South of this complex of pits and enclosures, several natural cloughs leading southwards downslope may well have become emphasised and worn deeper over time with the passage of hooves and human feet.

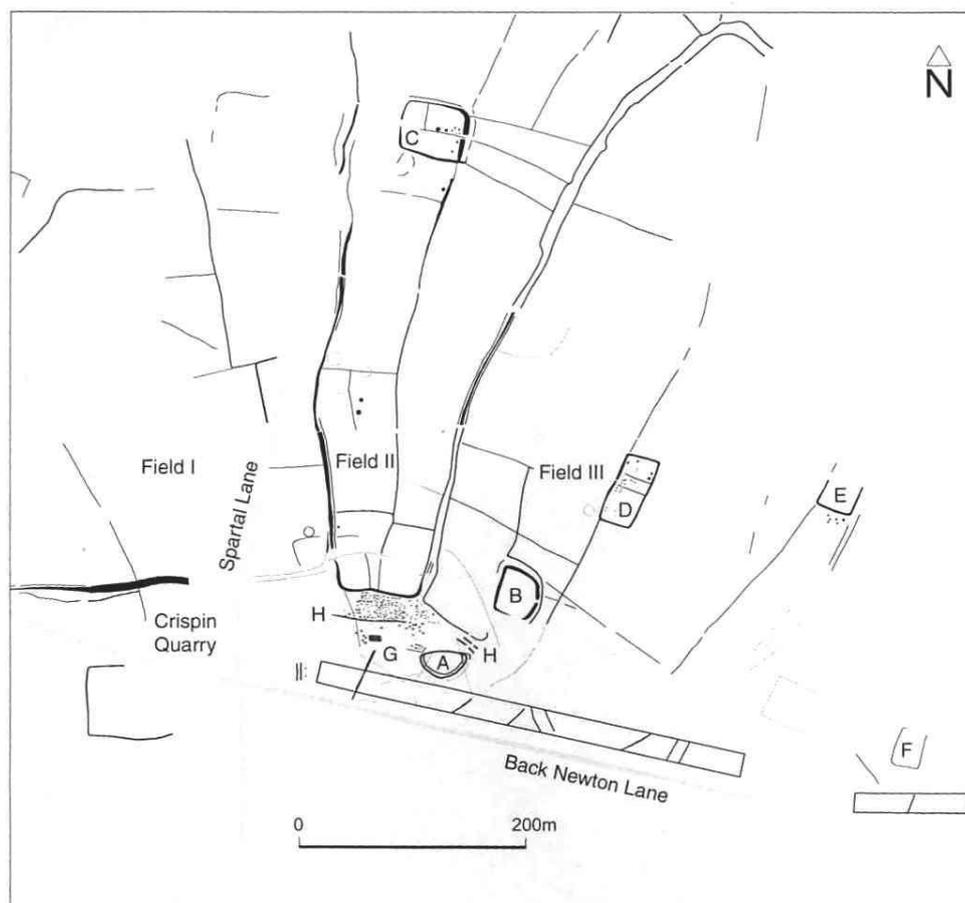


Fig. 2. Rectified plan of the Ledston crop mark complex with two areas of geophysical survey parallel to Back Newton Lane.

Figure G.96. Plan of the pit and enclosure complex of cropmarks and excavated features at Ledston, highlighting the dense concentration of rock-cut pits partly excavated in 1976, and the 1996 investigations. Note the position of the ring ditches. (Source: Roberts 2005: 4, fig. 2).

In 1976 some of these ditches, part of the subtriangular enclosure and around 60 pits were excavated by WYAS and students from the University of Leeds, directed by a young Ian Hodder (see Appendix F, Figs. F.10-F.12). A possible roundhouse defined by postholes and a partial ring gully was identified, approximately 11m in diameter, but with no clear entrance visible (Roberts 2005). Just to the north-west of this structure there was a flexed inhumation burial of an adult human male 25-30 years old, buried with cattle bones (haunches of meat?) and covered in large limestone blocks. On either side of the grave pit were two flanking gullies with corner postholes that probably represented a four-sided timber mortuary structure, and flint flakes, a flint scraper and animal bone fragments were recovered from the fills of the slots and the postholes (see Appendix F, Figs. F.51-F.52). At a later date, a four-post timber structure was built just to the north of the mortuary structure, and re-used two of its postholes. One of the postholes of the four-post structure contained Iron Age pottery sherds from two different vessels. In the south-west portion of the roundhouse was another possible four-post granary structure which pre- or post-dated the building. The stratigraphic relationship between the roundhouse, the grave pit and mortuary structure and the four-post structures could not be established, and all cannot have been upstanding at the same time. It could not be demonstrated whether the four-post structure pre- or post-dated the ‘mortuary’ plank and post construction, but one of the postholes of the

four-post structure was a re-cut, representing a fifth post associated with the burial (perhaps a grave marker or a signifier of identity), so it is more likely that the four-post structure was built after the burial and its associated timber monument. It might have been simply the pragmatic reuse of an existing upright post, but the association seems too fortuitous. It seems probable that they were referencing each other, even if chronologically separated. The close physical link between the human burial, mortuary structure and northern four-post structure is especially interesting, and there do seem to have been spatial, temporal and perhaps symbolic associations being drawn between the roundhouse, a burial, and possible granaries. This in turn suggests cosmological connections being drawn between life, death and fertility. It is interesting that the four-post structure was not built directly above the burial, which may imply that the mortuary structure was still partly upstanding, and/or that building on top of this particular burial was proscribed.



Figure G.97. *Pits and an enclosure ditch exposed at Ledston, 1976. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

To the north, in an area of pits defined to the north and south by large ditches, pit 704 contained a flexed inhumation burial of another adult male aged 25-30 years, who had also been covered in limestone rubble, and was dated to 390 BC-120 AD (Roberts 2005: 12). The enclosure ditch produced the disarticulated and fragmentary remains of an adult human and two human infants, whilst just to the west pit 107 contained the near complete remains of a cow. Very few of the pits identified through aerial photography and excavation appeared to intercut one another, which may indicate knowledge of previous pit cutting episodes and a deliberate desire not to dig into earlier features. Their function is unclear, although contrary to earlier interpretations it now seems unlikely that they were storage pits. They may be related to unusual late Iron Age and Romano-British pit complexes at Micklefield and Ferrybridge. Around two thirds of the pits produced fragments of animal bone, but there were indications of more deliberate placed deposits from features in close spatial association with the possible roundhouse (ibid.: 11). Pit 332 contained the matching stones of a complete beehive quern,

whilst pit 357 contained a beehive top stone fragment and a fragmented horse skull. A bone weaving comb and coarse handmade pottery sherds were found in pit 351, and 75 sherds of a large later Iron Age jar were recovered from pit 202. Fifteen sherds from three different pottery vessels were found in pit 350, though it is not clear from the published report how structured this deposit was, if at all. Given the proposed diameter of the putative roundhouse, it is possible that pits 350 and 351 were within its ‘footprint’ and might represent foundation or closure/abandonment deposits for this structure.

When Ledston was first excavated, it was seen as the first possible example within the region of groups of storage pits similar to those encountered in southern England at sites such as Danebury (Keighley 1981: 121-122). Subsequent palaeoenvironmental analyses of pit samples, however, found no traces of grain, and the editor of the published report concluded that there was little evidence that they had served as storage features (Roberts 2005: 32). Nevertheless, they had clearly been carefully dug, and the lack of intercutting suggests that they were marked in some way, or at least partly visible from above ground, perhaps as shallow depressions. These seem to have been more than simple quarry pits for lime or daub, and may have associations with other pit complexes excavated in West Yorkshire such as those at Site M near Micklefield and at Ferrybridge.

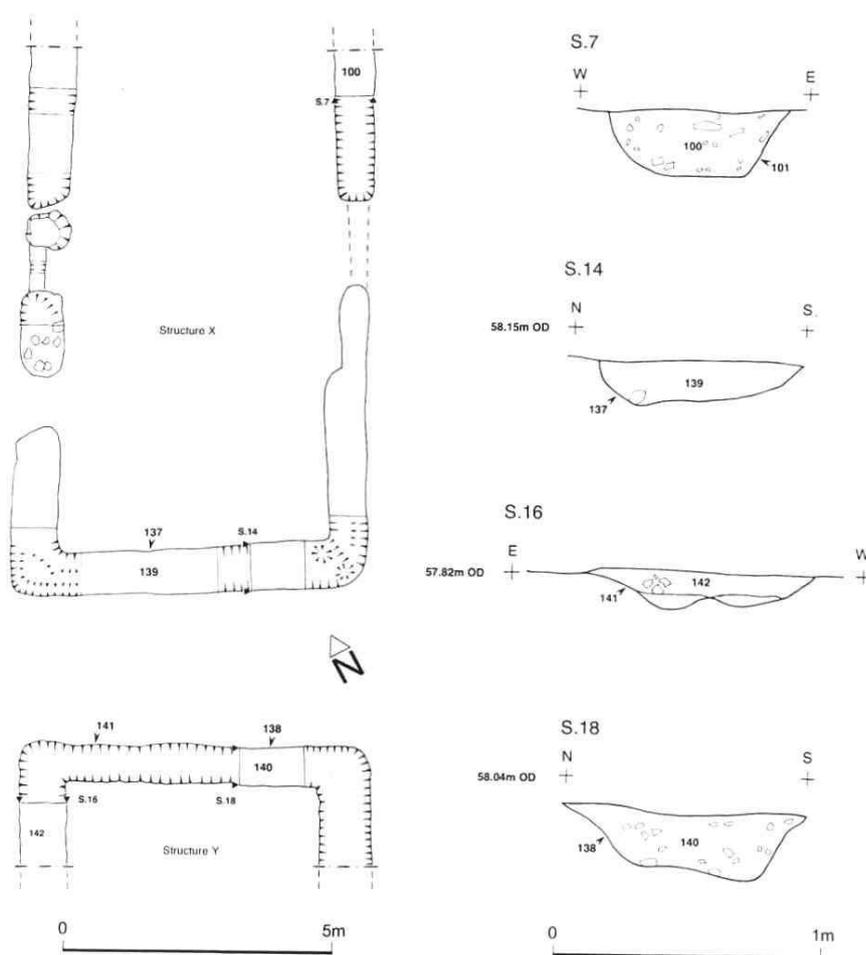


Fig. 11. Site 2, 1996: detailed plan of Structures X and Y.

Figure G.98. Two adjacent rectangular structures excavated along Back Newton Lane, Ledston in 1996. (Source: Roberts 2005: 17, fig. 11).

In 1996, AS WYAS undertook further excavations at Ledston in advance of the construction of a water pipeline. Further field and trackway ditches were excavated, and one enclosure ditch at Site 1 contained iron slag, animal bone and two sherds of possible Iron Age pottery (Roberts 2005: 15). At Site 2 along Back Newton Lane, two unusual rectangular structures were identified, defined by shallow beam slots or wall trenches. These were undated, but may have been Romano-British or medieval buildings.



Figure G.99. *Immediately south of Back Newton Lane and the Ledston pit and enclosure complex, this natural clough may have formed a routeway southwards down onto the River Aire floodplain, and may have become exaggerated over time through the passage of people and animals. (Source: author).*

References: Roberts 2005.

Ledston, Back Newton Lane

SE 4450 2870

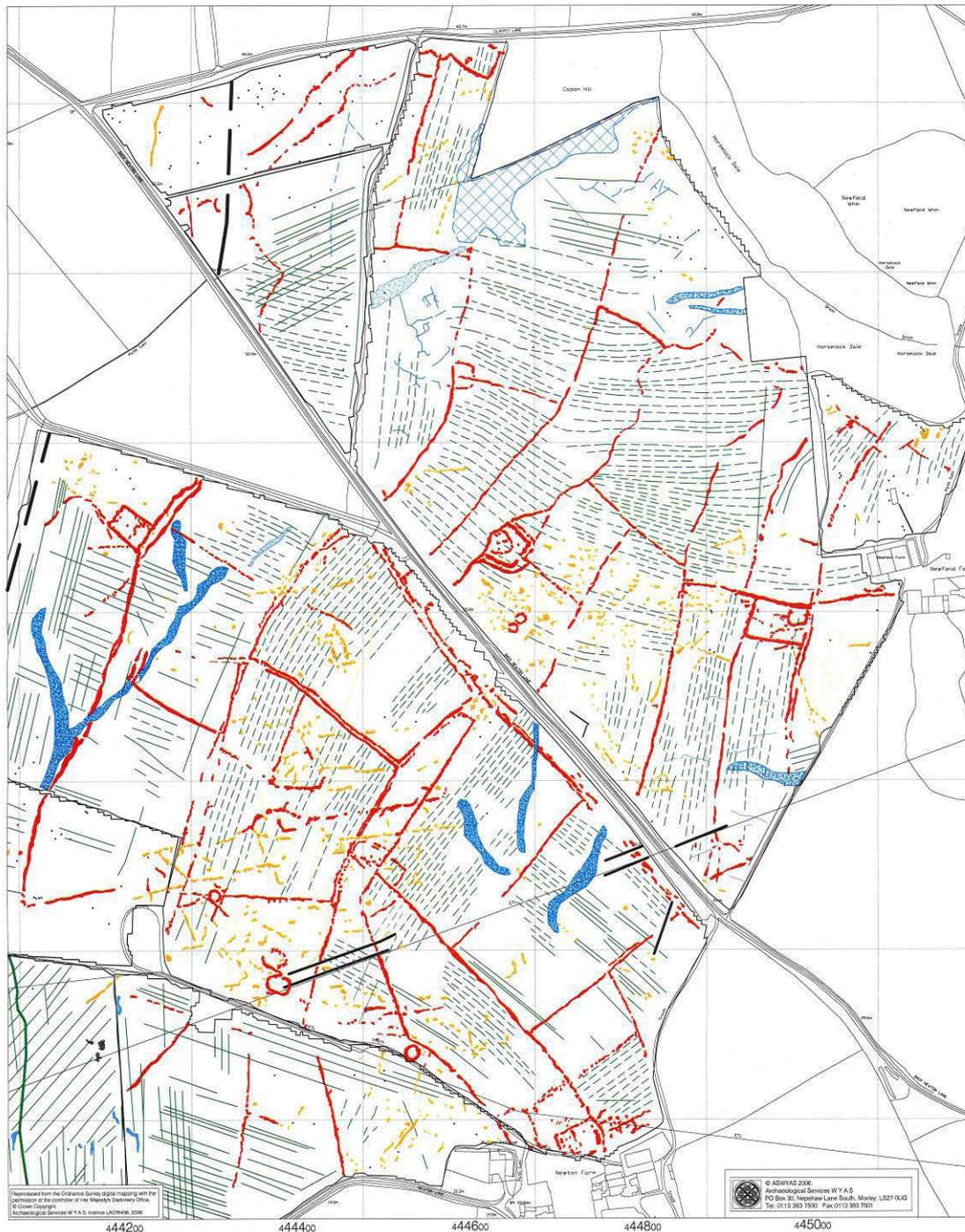


Fig. 7. Interpretation of magnetometer data: north-east of Back Newton Lane (1:4000 @ A3)

Figure G.100. Back Newton Lane, Ledston, with north to the top of the image. Negative features detected by the geophysical survey are in red, with probable ridge and furrow marked in green. (Source: Webb 2006).

This is not strictly a cropmark site, although cropmarks are present, but much of the archaeology here has been identified through an extensive programme of geophysical survey. The archaeological features lie to the north and south of Back Newton Lane, approximately 120m to the south-east of the

cropmark complex previously investigated at Ledston (Roberts 2005), and on the hillside opposite Castleford on the other side of the River Aire valley. Several ring ditches that may represent Bronze Age round barrows are apparent, two located near the edge of the ridgeline. In addition, there are at least four enclosure complexes, with subsidiary enclosures, trackways and field boundaries. The long boundaries reflect the same sinuous, attenuated layout recorded from the Ledston cropmarks (Deegan 2001b). They follow a broadly north-east to south-west orientation, following the main lie of the land sloping to the south-west. Most but not all of the enclosures, trackways and boundaries may be Iron Age or Romano-British in date, and it is interesting to note that although in some places ridge and furrow runs across enclosures and boundaries, in other places it respects them, suggesting the potential longevity of some features within the landscape.

A proposed opencast quarry scheme currently seeking planning approval is enabling further evaluative archaeological work to be undertaken on this very important and interesting complex of features. Evaluation trenches have been targeting some of the ring ditches, and the enclosure and field boundaries.

References: Webb 2006.

Lingwell Gate Lane

SK 3190 2620

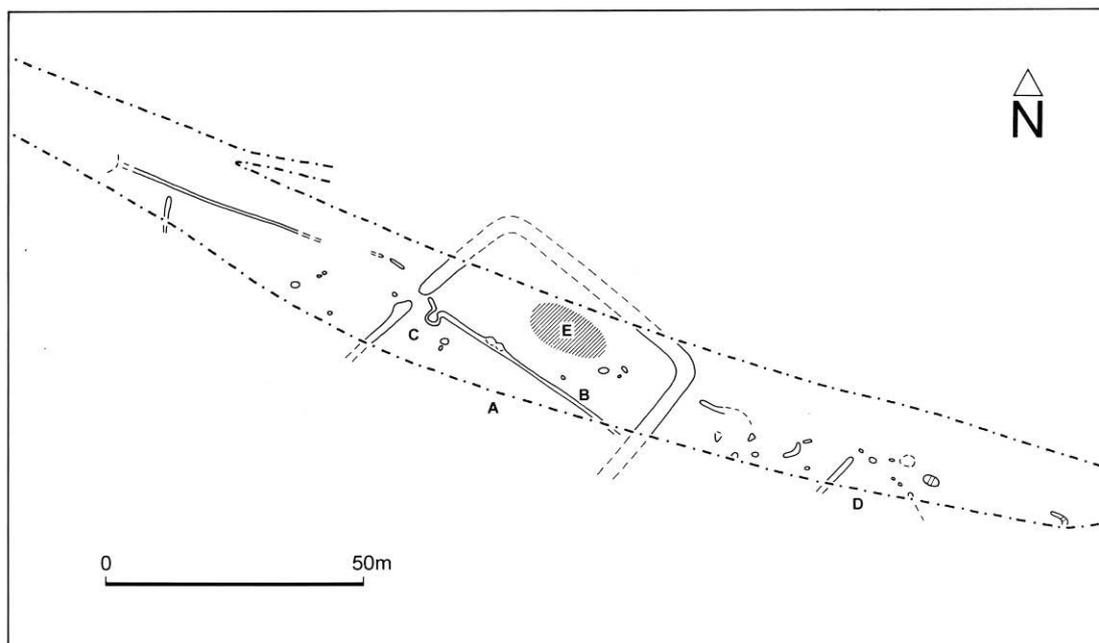


Figure G.101. Plan of the partially-excavated Lingwell Gate enclosure, W. Yorks, showing the extent of a probable midden area (E) identified within it. (Source: Roberts and Johnston 2001: 293).

This site along the M1-A1 road corridor was located just to the south-east of a known location of coin and coin mould finds, and 300m north-west of a large subsquare enclosure 70m long and 60m wide identified from cropmarks. The area was subject to a strip and record investigation undertaken by Babbie. This recorded a subrectangular enclosure approximately 50m long with a north-west facing entrance, and a possible internal ditch, gully or palisade slot dividing the internal area in two (Roberts 2001b: 291). This appeared to have an unusual semi-circular deviation near its north-western extent (C above). In addition, an area of 'discoloured subsoil' roughly 20m long and 10m wide (E) may have marked the location of a former midden or a dense area of occupation. To the east of the enclosure, a series of possible postholes, pits and gullies might have represented external structures such as livestock pens. No dating evidence was recovered, and no further excavation took place.

References: Roberts 2001b.

Low Common

SE 3880 2500

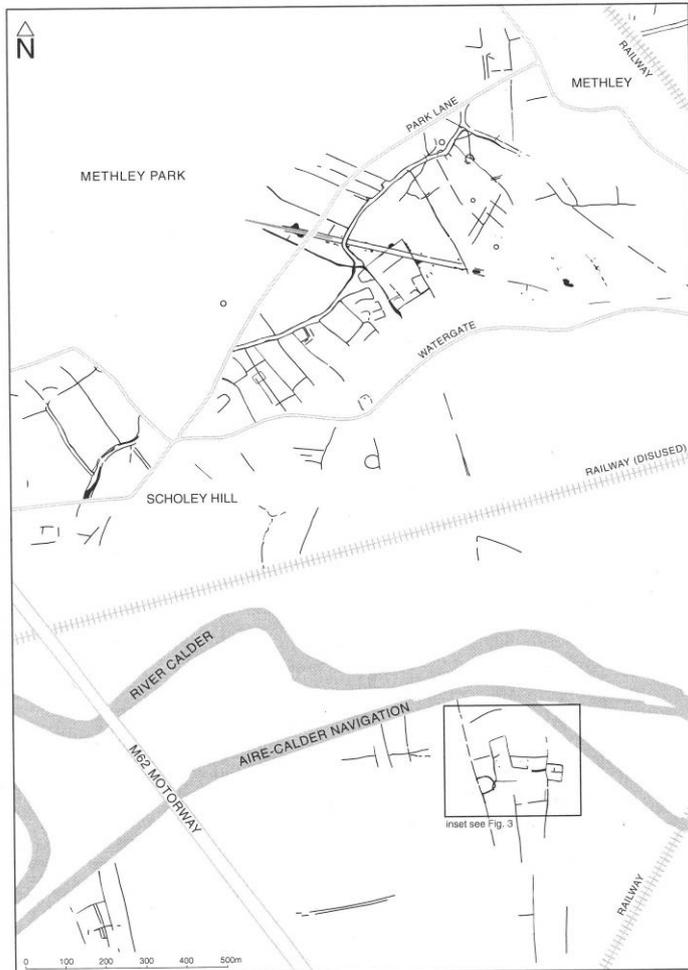


Fig. 2. Crop mark evidence in the vicinity of Low Common.

Cropmarks of these enclosure and field complexes have been identified west of Castleford on relatively flat, low-lying ground at 15-20m OD on the edge of the floodplain of the River Calder on a gravel terrace (Deegan 1999b), although they were first detected through geophysical survey. In advance of commercial and industrial development, AS WYAS undertook geophysical survey, trial trenching and open-area excavations, the latter during August-December 1995. East of subenclosure A, a series of ditched fields, paddocks or pens were investigated, but these did not produce any dateable artefacts (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 5-7).

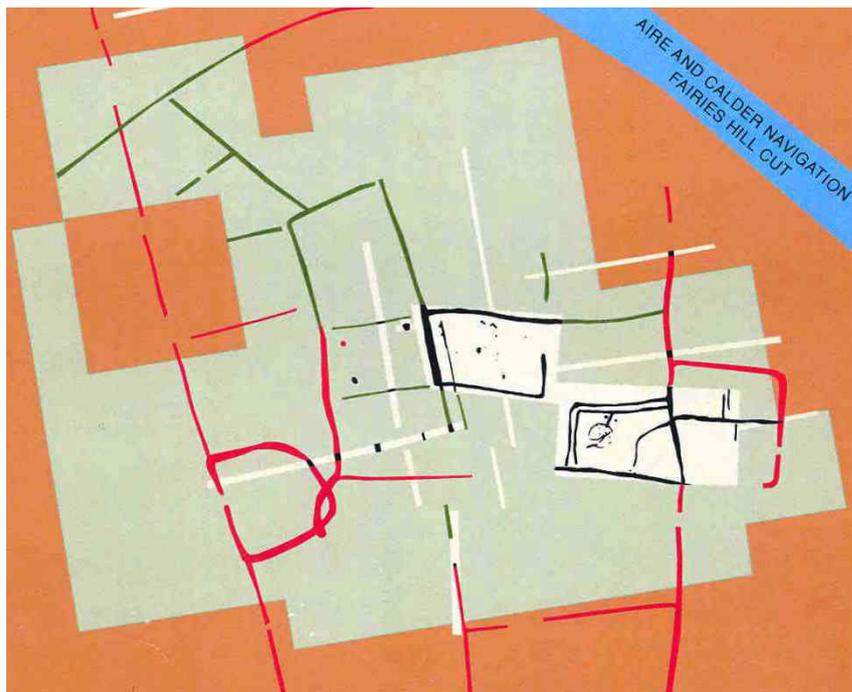


Figure G.102. (top left). The cropmarks at Low Common, in relation to the River Calder and the cropmarks at Methley. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 3).

Fig. G.103. (bottom left). Low Common evidence from cropmarks (red), geophysics (green) and excavation (black). (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: back cover).

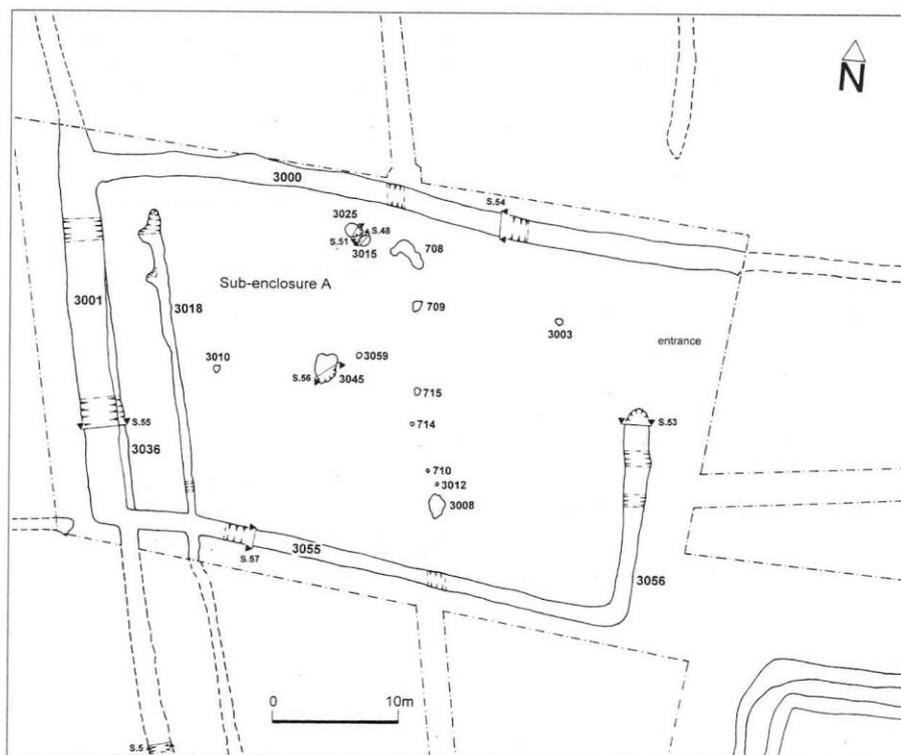


Fig. 7. Low Common: plan of Sub-enclosure A.

Figure G.104. Plan of Subenclosure A at Low Common. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 8, fig. 7).

Subenclosure A post-dated an earlier double-ditched trackway 4m wide, and the eastern ditch of the trapezoidal enclosure had partly re-cut the westernmost trackway ditch. Subenclosure A was 42m long and 29m wide, with a north-east facing entrance 11m wide. Its ditches were up to 2.2m wide and 1.5m deep, and contained a few sherds of second century AD pottery. A few pits, postholes and postpads were identified within the enclosure, and these produced sherds of second century pottery, quern and stone fragments and a few iron objects (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 10). No clear structure could be discerned though.

Subenclosure B was located just to the south-east, and was another trapezoidal enclosure 37m long and 30m wide, and probably set into the angle formed by two pre-existing field ditches. The eastern ditch was 2.5m wide and 1.6m deep, with evidence for at least two re-cuts, although other ditches were smaller. No clear entrance into the enclosure was identified, and the north and west sides of the enclosure seem to have been formed by two parallel ditches 2m apart (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 11). These may have been dug on either side of an upcast bank, but alternatively might have formed part of a narrow 'race' for livestock. A few sherds of second to fourth century pottery were recovered from ditch fills. The likely eavesdrop gully of a 9.2m wide roundhouse was located in the north-western part of Subenclosure B, and this building might have had east and south-west facing entrances. The eastern terminal end of this gully contained charcoal, burnt clay, stone and a sherd of hand-made late Iron Age or early Romano-British pottery. Some internal pits and postholes were excavated, whilst at least one of the gullies within the 'footprint' of the building might have been an internal partition. The roundhouse was probably built across an earlier gully, and itself cut by a later gully.

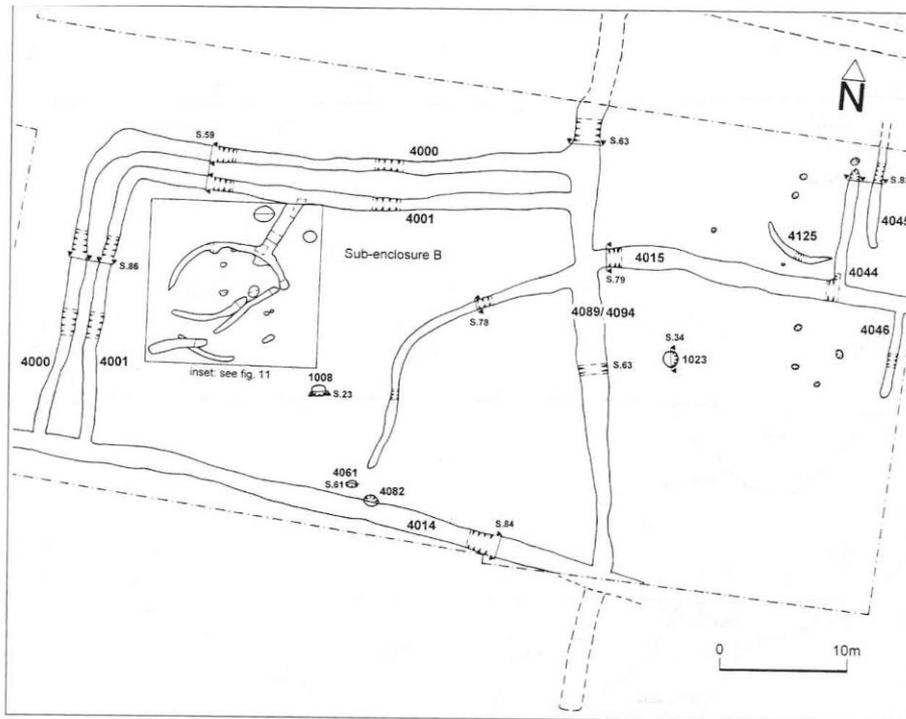


Fig. 10. Low Common: plan of Sub-enclosure B.

Figure G.105. Plan of Subenclosure B at Low Common. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 11).

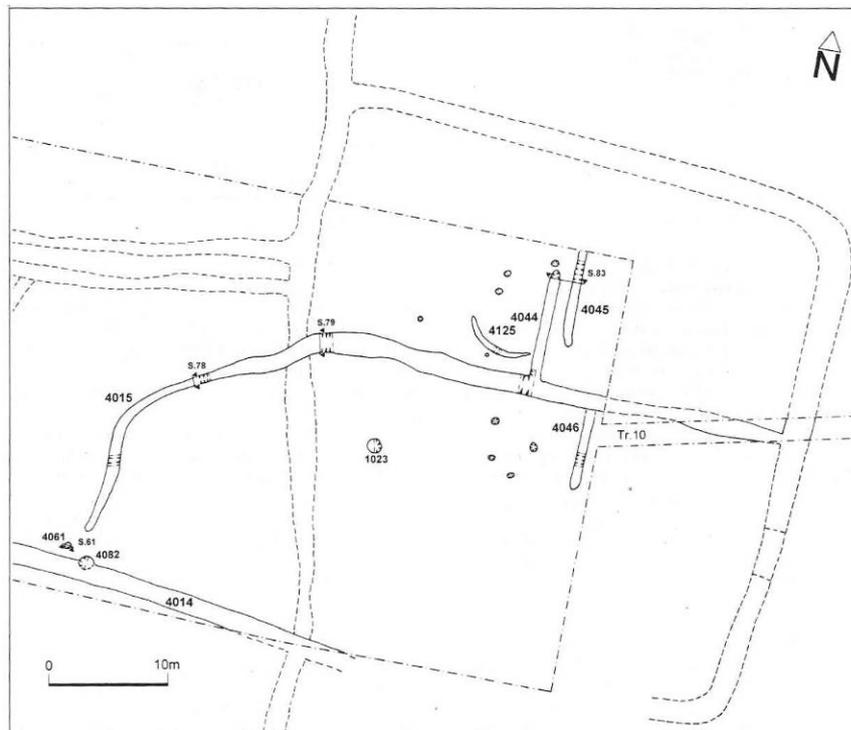


Fig. 14. Low Common: plan of Ditch 4015 and associated features.

Figure G.106. The later phase at Low Common. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 14, fig. 14).

On the other side of the north-south boundary ditch that Subenclosure B was built against was a square enclosure 40m across with a possible southern entrance. This was probably broadly the same date as Subenclosure B, although only a small part of it was exposed within the area of excavation.

In this same area, a second phase of activity was identified, consisting of a D-shaped subenclosure ditch (Ditch 4015) built across the major north-south boundary but probably re-using part of the square enclosure to the east. This appeared to have a narrow west-facing entrance only 2.5m wide, with two postholes forming part of a timber gateway structure, one containing a beehive quern fragment

(Burgess and Roberts 2004: 14). The eastern terminal of the ditch at this point contained second to fourth century pottery. Two ditches projected north and south of this later subenclosure ditch, and part of a curvilinear gully of a possible roundhouse up to 10m in diameter was also recorded, in addition to a series of postholes and pits.

The features excavated at Low Common were situated within a series of fields formed by long, narrow linear boundaries. Only 60m to the south-west was a D-shaped enclosure with a probable west-facing entrance, itself possibly appended to or cut by a linear boundary. Although a roundhouse was present in Subenclosure B and perhaps in a later phase to the east, this might not have been the focus of sustained 'domestic' occupation. Although plough truncation may have removed some internal features, it is more likely that these enclosures and fields were associated with the seasonal movements of livestock to and from the River Calder floodplain. If so, then the roundhouse(s) might have only been inhabited during the summer and autumn.

References: Burgess and Roberts 2004.

Manor Farm

SE 4050 3360

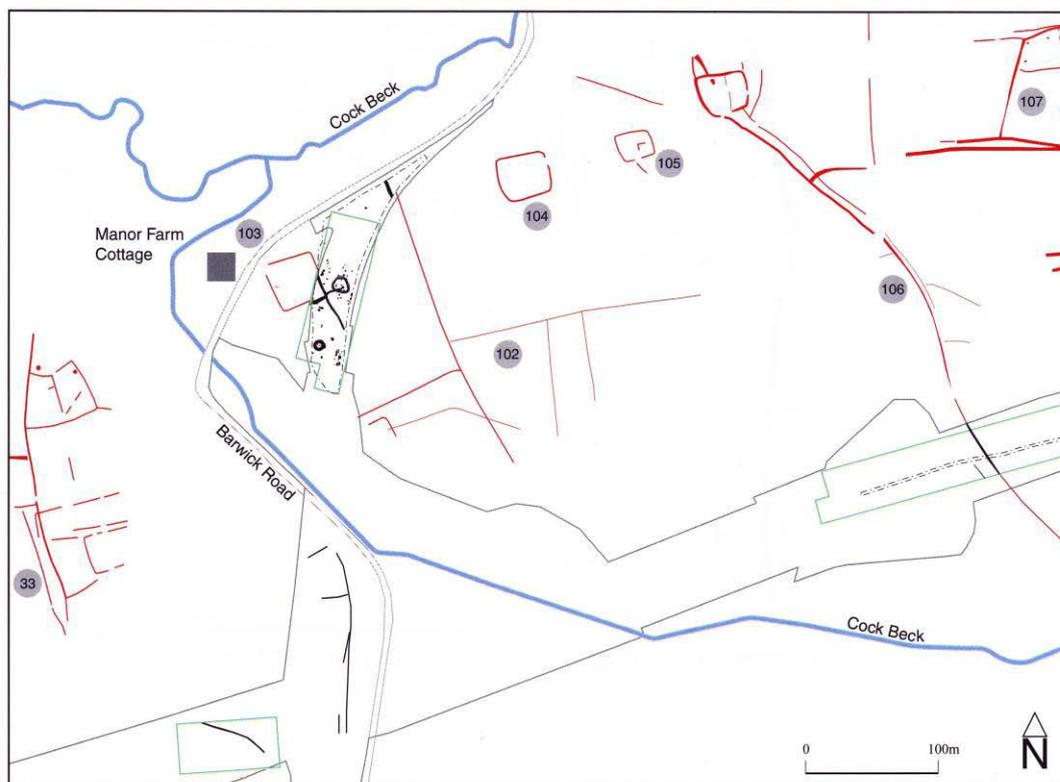


Figure G.107. The location of the Manor Farm site (upper left), in relation to other enclosures and ditches identified through cropmarks (red) and geophysical survey (green). (Source: Deegan 2001b: 32, fig. 15).

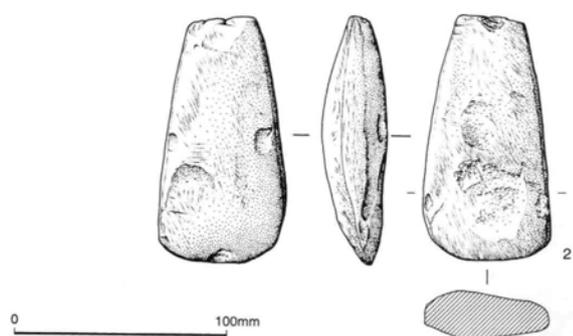
This was another site excavated by AS WYAS as part of the M1-A1 Link Road scheme. It was located on the flattish end of the western end of a gentle east-west ridge, with the ground falling off to the north, west and south-west down to Cock Beck, in an undulating landscape. To the north-east, the ground rises gently to Parlinton Hollins. In addition to a Neolithic pit, a small Bronze Age barrow was excavated containing an urned cremation burial, and in the early Iron Age, the barrow seems to have formed the focus of a right-angled, partly segmented ditch (2501) from a field boundary or enclosure that produced a ^{14}C date of 763-263 BC from its primary fill (Burgess 2001a: 74-80). Within the angle or enclosure formed by this ditch were six pits and postholes that contained cremated human and possibly animal bone ^{14}C dated to 800-410 BC, 390-30 BC and 370 BC – AD 20.

The next phase identified at Manor Farm consisted of an unusual subtriangular feature located 40m north-east of the Bronze Age barrow, and cutting at least two of the group of pits and postholes. The subtriangular structure consisted of two phases, the first of which (Structure 1) defined by a shallow gully with a possible north-facing entranceway 4.5m wide, forming a structure or area 11m across (Burgess 2001a: 78-79, fig. 59, plate 7) (see Chapter 11 Fig. 11.64, Appendix F Figs. F.45-F.46). A ^{14}C date of 380-10 BC was obtained from this gully. The entrance may have been associated with two lines of pits and postholes orientated north-east to south-west, apparently forming a 2m wide 'avenue', but these features could not be dated. A Group VI Neolithic stone axe or adze was recovered from the

surface of one pits (2095), and although this could mean that this feature was of a similar date, the stone adze could have been a curated artefact (see Appendix F). The subtriangular gully was then re-cut (Structure 2) and made slightly wider and deeper, forming a feature 14m across with no apparent entranceway. A ^{14}C date of 380 BC – AD 20 was obtained from this (Burgess 2001a: 79). A group of fifteen postholes may have formed a later east-west line across the northern side of the subtriangular feature, and one of these postholes produced a ^{14}C date of AD 80-390. These postholes might have been a deliberate, formal blocking or closure of the earlier entrance. Further pits and postholes to the north-west and south-east produced a variety of artefacts including Bronze Age pottery and flints, an Iron Age pot sherd, and the stone mortar used for producing powdered iron ore mentioned in Chapter 11 and Appendix F.



Figure G.108 (above). *Excavating Iron Age Structures 1 and 2 at Manor Farm, W. Yorks. The northern line of postholes is also visible, although these were left off the detailed plan. (Source: Burgess 2001a: 79, pl. 7).* **Fig. G.109 (right).** *The Neolithic polished stone adze from Langdale, Cumbria, possibly curated item re-deposited in an Iron Age pit. (Source: Burgess 2001a: 73, 79; Edmonds and Davis 2001: 198, fig. 127).*



Another right-angled ditch (2500) dug to the west of the subtriangular feature formed the south-east corner of a square enclosure (Enclosure B) identified on aerial photographs (see Fig. G.107 above). This ditch was up to 2.5m wide and 0.75m deep, and it was positioned to cut the corner of the earlier Enclosure A ditch. Only a small piece of slag was recovered from its upper fill, but it is likely to be late Iron Age or Romano-British in date.

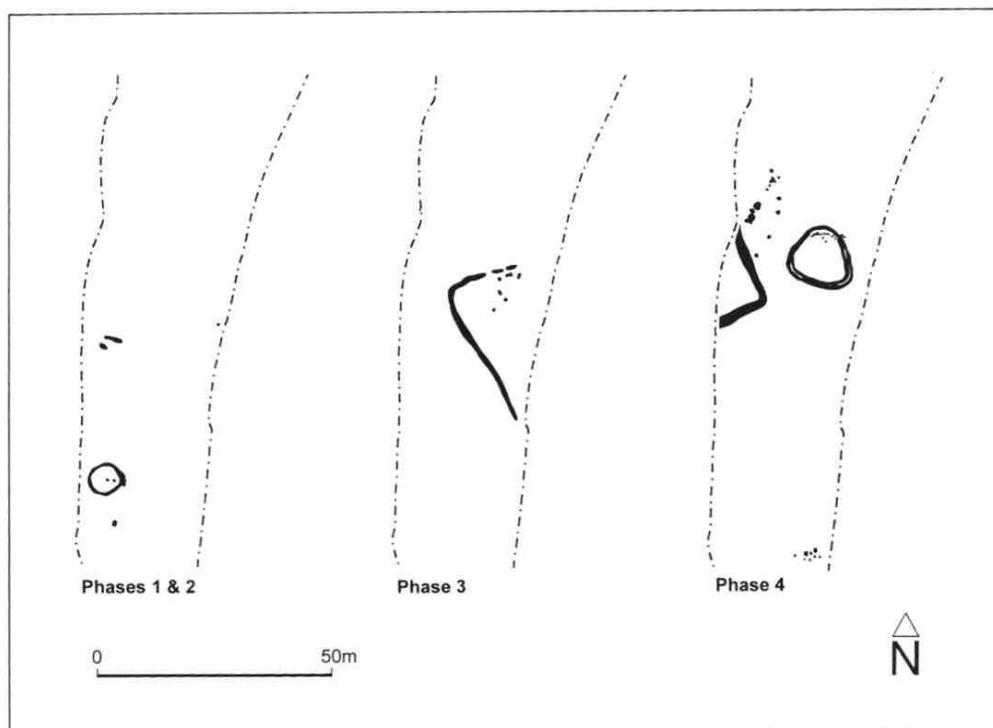


Figure G.110. *Proposed phasing of the features excavated at the Manor Farm site. (Source: Burgess 2001a: 74, fig. 54).*

Although interpretation of this site was not conclusive, it was proposed that the subtriangular features could have been a building (Burgess 2001b: 265-266), although it was noted that it was in a very exposed position on the ridge. I feel that the many unusual features of this site suggest that it was a small shrine, located in a relatively liminal place within the landscape, but also making reference to earlier features such as the Bronze Age barrow and the possible early to middle Iron Age structure or marker posts containing cremated human bone, and materialities such as the earlier pottery and flints. Perhaps this was perceived as an ancestral location, or was strategically appropriated as such. The unusual shape makes it unlikely to have been a roofed structure, whilst the possible fencelines running to it suggest the deliberate structuring of human movements around it and approaching it. Some features of Manor Farm such as the apparently long chronology of use, the presence of small amounts of early Iron Age cremated bone, the insubstantial structures and the landscape location on a raised area near a junction between watercourses, all have similarities with the enclosure excavated at Normanton Golf Course (see below). The feature may have been some form of shrine, or at least a setting for occasional ritualised practices.

The later rectangular enclosure was one of a series of four or five arranged roughly north-east to south-west along the ridge, apparently not closely integrated into field system boundaries. Approximately 300m to the north-east was a subrectangular enclosure linked to a pronounced trackway that may have originated as a sinuous linear ditch boundary. The enclosure has evidence for internal subdivisions and other features, whilst the north-west to south-east alignment of this trackway was different from other boundaries forming part of possible field boundaries to the south-east of the Manor Farm site. Whether

this line of enclosures were corrals or livestock pens on an exposed ridge used for grazing, or whether they had a more specialised function, is not known. Detailed geophysical survey and targeted excavation would potentially be able to address some of these questions.

References: Burgess 2001a; Deegan 2001b.

Methley

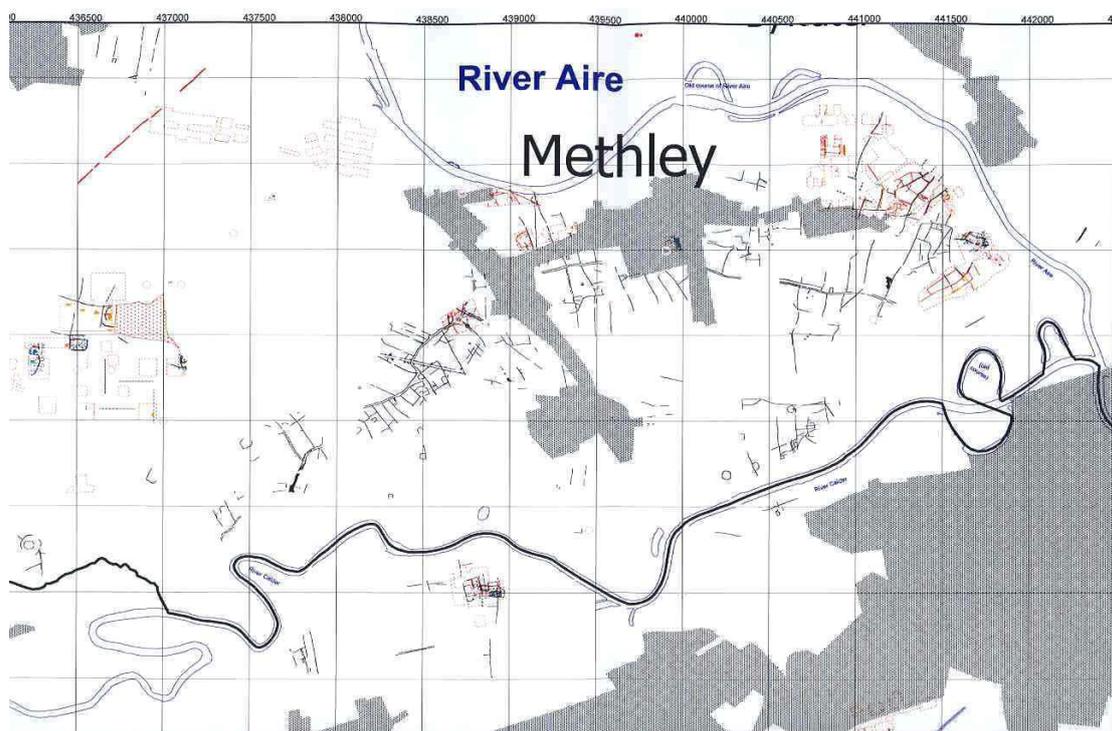


Figure G.111. *Cropmarks on the interfluves between the Rivers Aire and Calder at Methley. Areas of excavation are shown in red. The sites at Moss Carr, Methley can be seen at the far left of the image, and those at Low Common just to the lower left of centre. The MAP site lies east of Methley near the River Aire, and St. Aidan's Remainder north of Methley. The Park Lane site is situated immediately to the west of Methley. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

The following section summarises the results from a series of Iron Age and Romano-British sites that have been evaluated and excavated since the late 1980s on the interfluvial area between the Rivers Aire and Calder around Methley and Mickletown, west of Castleford, mostly by WYAS/AS WYAS. This area was relatively flat and low-lying, and many parts of it would have flooded in winter and spring. Many of the Methley sites described below thus probably reflect seasonal inhabitation of the floodplain during the summer or autumn months. A major double-ditched trackway was orientated approximately east-west along the north and central areas of the interfluvial area (see Methley, Park Lane below), and this may have been associated with the movements of hundreds or even thousands of livestock.

Few of these projects have been published, and most remain as unpublished archive reports. The detail in some of the older archive reports is also extremely minimal, however, sometimes consisting of just a multi-phase plan of the site in question, and there is little detailed information available concerning the features and artefacts that were excavated. A concerted programme of post-excavation work is urgently needed to collate and publish the results of the many disparate investigations, particularly as for some projects the bulk of the information concerning them remains on context sheets and field drawings in site archives, inaccessible to most researchers and members of the public. Aggregates Levy funding is currently being sought by AS WYAS in order to undertake such compilation, interpretation and publication (I. Roberts pers. comm.).

Methley, MAP

SE 4170 2700



Figure G.112. The location of the 1996 MAP site, shown at far right of centre, in relation to other cropmarks of fields and enclosures at Methley. The Willow Grove site (Site 1) excavated by WYAS is located at the bottom left. Sites 2-3 were also investigated by WYAS – Site 2 was Methley Quarry Phase 1 Part 1. (Source: MAP 1996).

Excavations by MAP in 1996 examined a series of conjoined enclosures on the floodplain of the Aire-Calder confluence east of Methley and north of two distinctive oxbow lakes formed by old river channels of the River Calder. The site was excavated in advance of sand and gravel extraction, and lay on the edge of the flat gravel terrace between 11-15m OD approximately 200m from the modern course of the river, just before the land falls away onto the alluvial floodplain itself. A series of conjoined and overlapping enclosures were investigated, along with associated internal features and boundaries. The only available report on the site from MAP is very poorly laid out and difficult to use, and so corroborating the basic proposed stratigraphic sequence is difficult. Many key sections were either not excavated to begin with, or have not been illustrated in the available report.

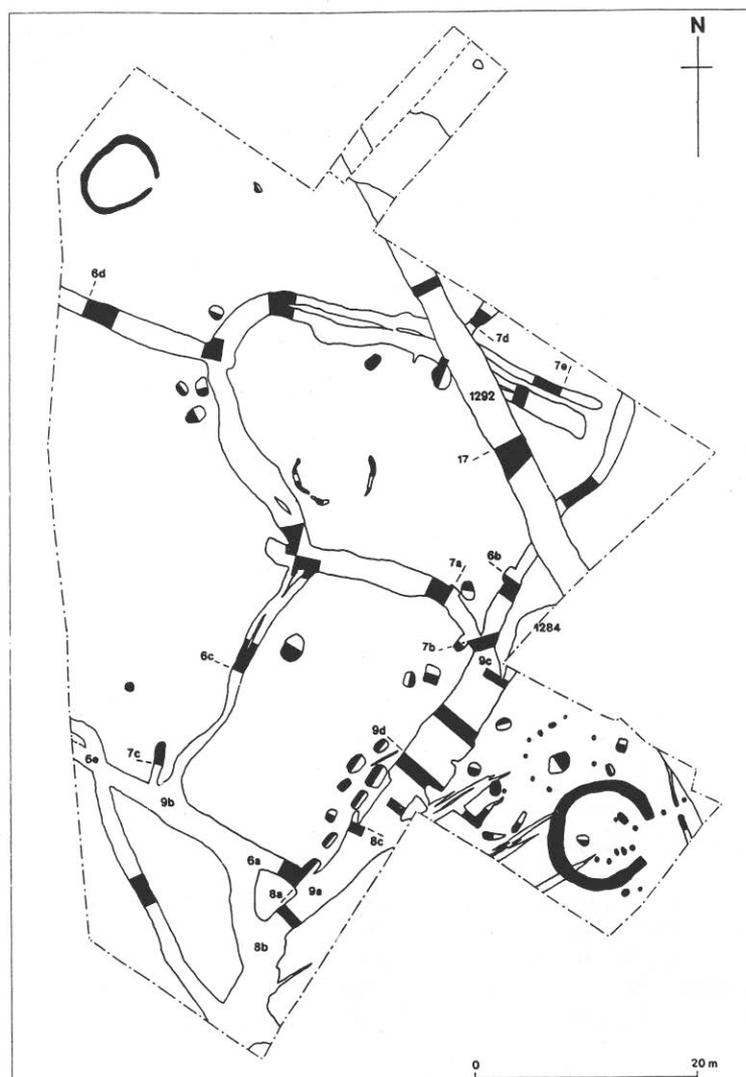
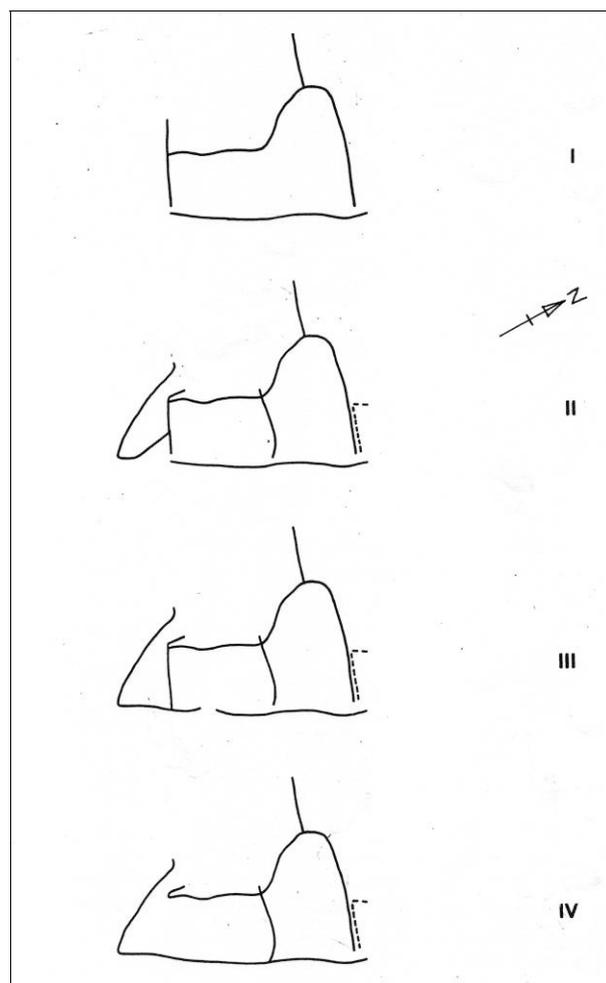


Figure G.113. *The excavated enclosures and internal features at the MAP site, Methley. (Source: MAP 1996: 6, fig. 4).*

The first phase identified (Phase I) consisted of an unusual enclosure – rectangular at one end, and trapezoidal or even almost apsidal ended at the other, forming an enclosure approximately 45m long and 30m across at its widest extent. This had possible entrances to the north-east and south-east. Further field or enclosure boundaries led off to the north-west (MAP 1996).

I believe that there are several problems with this interpretation, however. The report admits that the sub-rectangular southern part of the enclosure consisted of two phases, with an inner ditch or gully in some cases cutting an outer gully slightly greater in extent. This feature was only *c.* 0.40m wide and 0.18m deep, and seems likely to have been a palisade slot. From the plan, it seems more likely that the sub-rectangular part of the enclosure itself pre-dated the trapezoidal part, which may have been added afterwards to the north. The ‘internal’ division between these two parts of the enclosure identified in Phase II is more likely to be the original northern edge of a sub-rectangular enclosure, although this might have been re-cut in a later phase. The report actually admitted that it was contemporary with the inner ditch of the sub-rectangular area, and also noted that it had been re-cut (MAP 1996: 8). At some



point at least, there might have been an entrance from the sub-rectangular enclosure through into the trapezoidal area to the north. In addition to the putative internal partition, Phase II was supposedly marked by a very odd sub-triangular extension to the south, but once again it is possible that the excavators have misinterpreted the relationships. The south-east entrance may have continued in use during this phase. In Phase III, this triangular pen or sub-enclosure was remodelled and appended to the main south-east enclosure ditch, whilst a south-east facing entrance just over 4m wide was created in the sub-rectangular enclosure.

Figure G.114. (left). *Proposed phasing for the MAP site. I have added the north arrow. (Source: MAP 1996: 9, fig. 5).*

In Phase IV, the southern ditch of the subrectangular enclosure forming the boundary with the sub-triangular enclosure may have been removed to create a much larger contiguous trapezoidal space (MAP 1996: 15-16). Only two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the enclosure ditches, so added to the many problems presented by the excavation methodology and report presentation, attempting to phase what was obviously a very complex sequence of cuts and re-cuts is extremely problematic.

One possible post-built roundhouse was excavated, approximately 7m in diameter and perhaps with an east facing entrance. It might have been associated with a large internal pit (1186) that contained burnt sand and carbonised wood, perhaps a foundation or closure deposit. Alternatively, as suggested by the excavators (MAP 1996: 22), these postholes might have formed a screen or unroofed windbreak around the pit (Structure 3). A roundhouse 8.5m in diameter (Structure 1) was recorded immediately south of and possibly post-dating the post-built structure. It had a broad ring gully up to 1.47m wide and 0.43m deep surrounding it, and whilst it might have been an eavesdrip gully a slot in the base and a series of postholes suggested that this was a wall trench, although it is possible that these were later supports. A series of internal postholes were also identified, and the roundhouse entrance probably faced east. No dating evidence was recovered, only flint and calcined bone in the ring gully.

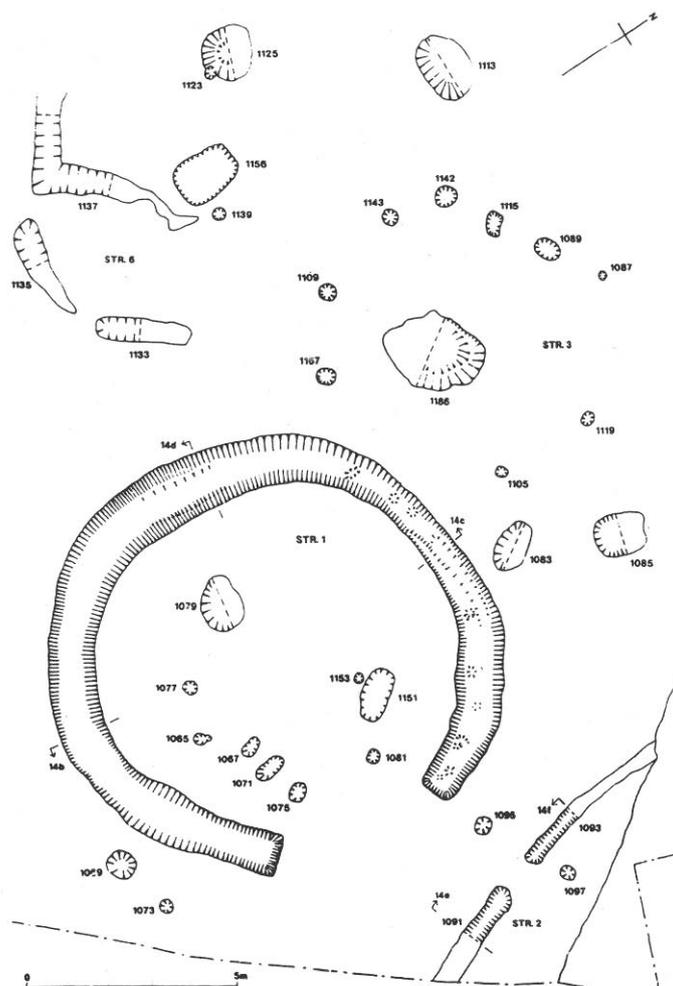


Figure G.115. Detail of the post-built structure around/containing pit 1186, the roundhouse with the broad wall gully (Structure 10), and the possible wall or fence slot of another structure (Structure 2). (Source: MAP 1996: 26, fig. 14).



Figure G.116. (left). Photograph of the broad roundhouse ring gully (Structure 1) during the excavation. (Source: MAP 1996: plate 3).

To the south-east of Structure 1 was a linear or curvilinear gully up to 0.50m wide and 0.22m deep, with a narrow 0.85m wide south-west facing entrance gap. It is possible that this feature was the ring gully or wall slot for a very large diameter roundhouse (Structure 2), but it is more likely that it formed

part of a fence or a screen. The narrow entrance is notable. Towards the centre and north-west of the site were two irregular penannular gullies that may represent further roundhouse eavesdrip gullies, or drainage around hay or fodder ricks. Structure 4 was a ‘flattened’ penannular form or sub-ovoid in plan, 7.30m long, 5.50m wide and with a south-east facing entrance gap. Only burnt stone, daub, a broken flint blade and a lump of slag was recovered from the gully (MAP 1996: 29), and no internal features were found. Structure 5 comprised three unequal and irregular lengths of gully defining a sub-circular area approximately 7.50m across, but no other features were closely associated with it, and no finds were recovered.

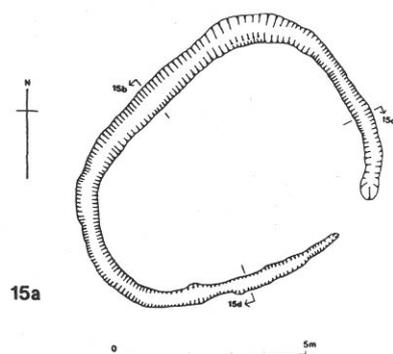
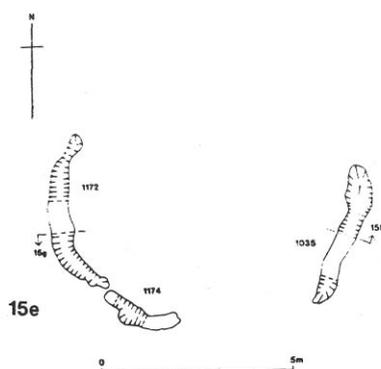


Figure G.117. (left). Two irregular sets of gullies at the MAP site, perhaps marking rather more ephemeral structures (Structures 4 and 5). (Source: MAP 1996).

Fig. G.118. (above). Photograph of the penannular gully Structure 4, shown at left as 15a. (Source: MAP 1996: plate 4).



Thirty-two pits were excavated, including a series of ‘empty’ but very regular subrectangular pits recorded in several distinctive groups, and these have parallels with some of the pits excavated at Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe in South Yorkshire. Although some might have been storage pits, there is absolutely no evidence for this, and they would have needed clay or wicker linings for which no evidence survives. Some might even have been ‘empty’ graves where bone had decayed away completely, as suggested for Thurnscoe. Those pits along the south-east boundary of the subrectangular enclosure only contained three sherds of Iron Age pottery, daub, flint and a few lumps of slag. Two pits further east displayed *in situ* scorching of their sides and bases (MAP 1996: 20), and had single postholes immediately adjacent to them, though their function is unknown. A burial of an adult cow in a pit in the northern part of the trapezoidal enclosure, adjacent to the ditch and perhaps an internal bank, was probably a deliberate placed deposit. Its mandible displayed a congenital condition which, coupled with its small size, suggest it was a Roman period beast (Jacques and Dobney 1996).

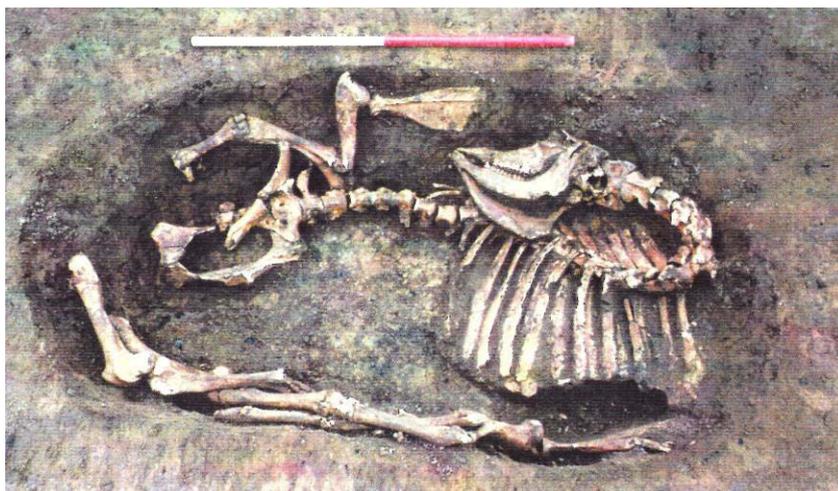


Figure G.119. (left). *The complete adult cow burial found at the MAP Methley site. (Source: MAP 1996: plate 2).*

Most of the features at the MAP Methley site were probably late Iron Age in date, although only a few sherds of this period and a handful of Romano-British sherds were recovered. A single upper beehive quernstone was found, but only as a subsoil find (Heslop 1996). It is interesting that the most convincing example of a roundhouse and two of the other structures were all apparently located outside of the enclosure complex to the south-east, although it is not clear if these lay within further enclosures. This might reflect one or more ‘open’ phases of settlement, however. As with Willow Grove, St Aidan’s Remainder and Methley Quarry, it is probable that this site on the Methley interfluvies only saw intermittent seasonal occupation.

Unfortunately, the quality of excavation and recording at this site, and especially the post-excavation archive report, left a lot to be desired.

References: MAP 1996.

Methley, Moss Carr**SE 3670 2630**

Excavations were undertaken during 2001 by AS WYAS at three locations at Moss Carr, Methley in advance of opencast mining, and following cropmark study, geophysical survey and trial trenching. The areas were situated on a largely flat ridgetop in an undulating landscape, with the ground sloping north-east towards the River Aire, and to the south towards the River Calder. Several springs emerge from the slope just to the south of the excavated areas too. This would have given the enclosures excavated at Moss Carr access to two river floodplains, both within 1.2km of the settlements.

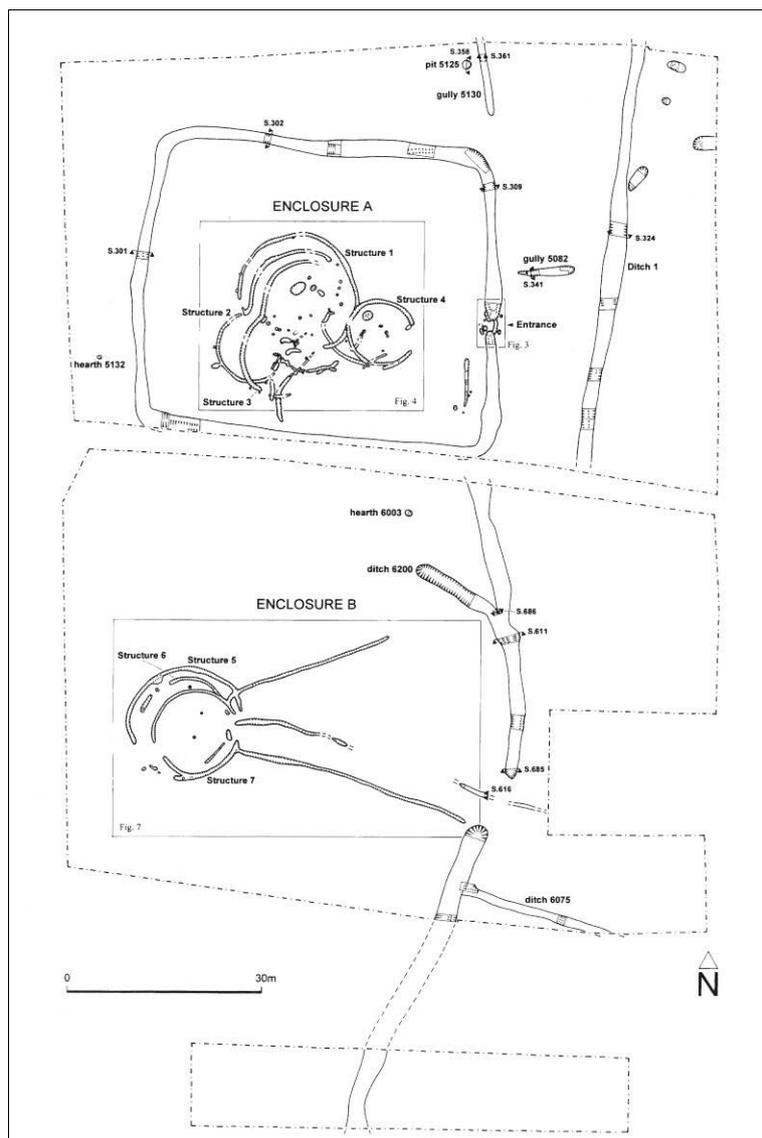


Figure G.120. Moss Carr Site 1 Enclosures A and B, Moss Carr, Methley. (Source: Roberts and Richardson 2002: 3).

Site 1 consisted of two probably subrectangular and adjoining enclosures, approached in a later phase from the north by a double-ditched trackway up to 25m wide. Enclosure A was a subrectangular or subsquare enclosure with an east-facing entrance. The entrance was very constricted – only 2m wide, and this suggests that it may have been intended for people and dogs only, not livestock. Excavated

postholes suggest that there was some kind of timber entrance structure or gateway (Roberts and Richardson 2002: 4, fig. 3), which although at a relatively small-scale may nonetheless have been intended to impress anyone entering the enclosure. It would also have meant that strangers or anyone from outside the immediate kin-group could be stopped and interrogated. It is likely that there was an informal north-south axis of movement through the landscape, as in a later phase this was manifested as a ditched trackway. However, a short length of east-west gully just north of the enclosure was probably a screen or fence, which would have further restricted free movement and controlled access.

The enclosure ditch was a substantial construction up to 1.7m wide and 1m deep even after truncation. In the centre of the enclosure, the remains of ring gullies demonstrate that there were successive phases of roundhouse construction, including two possible phases of conjoined structures (Roberts and Richardson 2002: 5-6). At least one of these roundhouses (Structure 4, probably late Iron Age) had an east-facing entrance, towards the enclosure gateway. The other roundhouses may have had south-east or south facing entrances. Structure 4's ring gully cut precisely through part of the ring gullies of earlier Structures 1 and 2 (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.73). The repeated reconstruction of roundhouses on almost exactly the same spot demonstrates a deep attachment to place, and clearly it was important to people that these different buildings should be so closely linked through space and time. This is unlike the situation on some excavated Iron Age and Romano-British rural settlements in the Thames Valley, where different phases of roundhouse have been shown to 'migrate' around within an enclosure.

An iron knife blade was recovered from the ring gully of Structure 2, at the point where it was bisected by the later ring gully of Structure 4. Iron is an extremely rare find on these rural settlement sites, as it was normally recycled into other objects. Because of this, and its spatial location, the excavators suggested that it was extremely unlikely to have resulted from chance loss (Roberts and Richardson 2002: 5), and it may thus represent a placed deposit. Within the area of the structures, pit 5401 contained a beehive quern fragment, whilst two adjacent postholes that were very close together (5380 and 5389) contained body sherds of handmade middle or late Iron Age pottery. Although the exact stratigraphic and chronological relationship between the pit and the structures could not be established, it is likely that the quern fragment represented either a foundation or closure deposit for one phase of roundhouse. The introduction of the pottery to the fill of the postholes may also not have been through refuse disposal or chance loss. Elsewhere in the enclosure, two beehive querns were recovered from postholes on either side of the entrance structure (Heslop and Gaunt 2002: 32), and a saddle quern from the ring gully of Structure 3. Two saddle querns were also found in the enclosure ditch (though the report does not specify exactly where), along with a worn copper alloy bow brooch.

The northern boundary of Enclosure B was shared with Enclosure A, but the western extent could not be determined. Geophysical survey suggested that the southern, east-west boundary of the enclosure was approximately 100m to the south of the northern boundary. This enclosure was also probably accessed off the same north-south corridor of movement as Enclosure A. The eastern boundary ditch was very substantial, up to 3.5m wide and 1.25m deep despite truncation, and it had been re-cut. There

was an east-facing entrance through it roughly 8m wide, which would have permitted the movement of both people and livestock. This access was further defined and restricted by an east-west gully, which might have been part of two phases of ‘avenues’ leading up to the two phases of buildings within the enclosure (Roberts and Richardson 2002: 10). To the south, a roughly east-west boundary ditch effectively blocked any further movement to the south. This might also suggest a role in regulating the movements of people and/or animals.

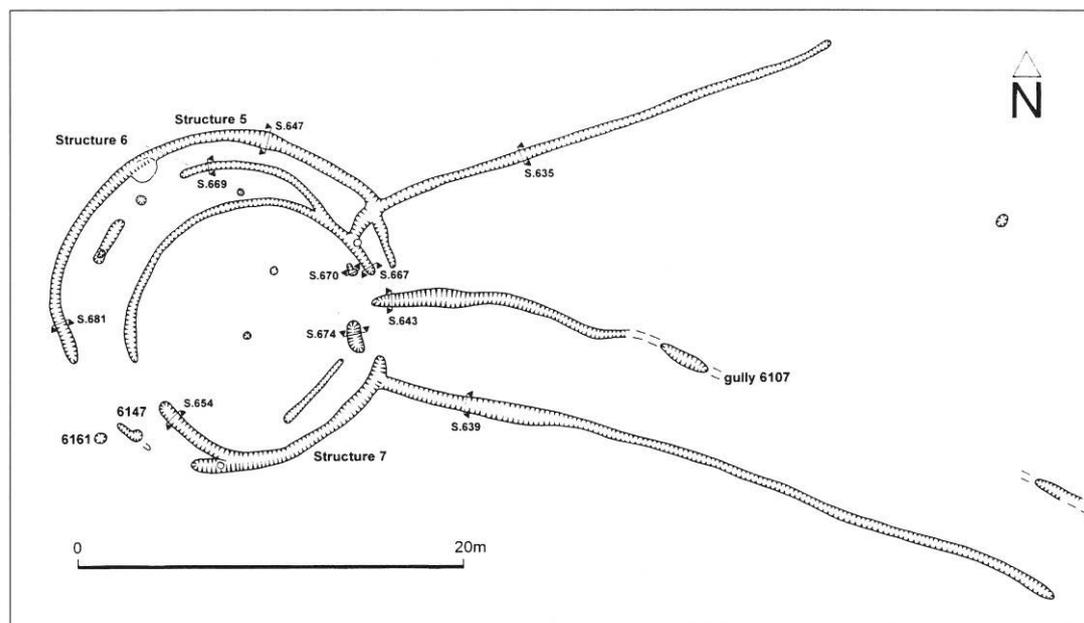


Figure G.121. *The two phases of gullies leading to the two or three phases of roundhouses in Enclosure B at Moss Carr, Methley. (Source: Roberts and Richardson 2002: 9).*

Within the enclosure were up to three phases of a circular building, which, like Enclosure A, also demonstrates that replacement buildings were constructed in approximately the same place. These roundhouses faced east, although both may also have had subsidiary south-west facing entrances. There were two phases of gullies or ‘avenues’ leading to the roundhouses from the eastern enclosure entrance (Roberts and Richardson 2002). In the earlier Iron Age phase the gully was straight and appended to the north-east edge of the roundhouse. The later Iron Age structure was funnel-shaped, narrowing from *c.* 28m to the west, to about 6m to the east. These gullies might have been associated with hedged banks, or more likely with timber palisades or wattling fences, but they formed an impressive, possibly even ceremonial means of approaching the roundhouses. To the north of the roundhouse, a curving ditch could also have directed people and animals around the northern side of the building, whilst in the earlier Iron Age, people and animals seem to have more option in moving both north and south (Roberts and Richardson 2002: 37). Structure 5 was a roundhouse *c.* 18m in diameter, and its curvilinear wall trench contained two base stones from beehive querns, and a broken iron bar. Structure 7 was *c.* 13m in diameter, and at the southern terminal of the wall trench by the south-western entrance was a deposit of charcoal, fire-cracked stones and cremated animal bone (*ibid.*: 12). The wall trench also contained two quern fragments and a complete top stone from a beehive quern, the latter from the intersection with the southern arm of the avenue gully.

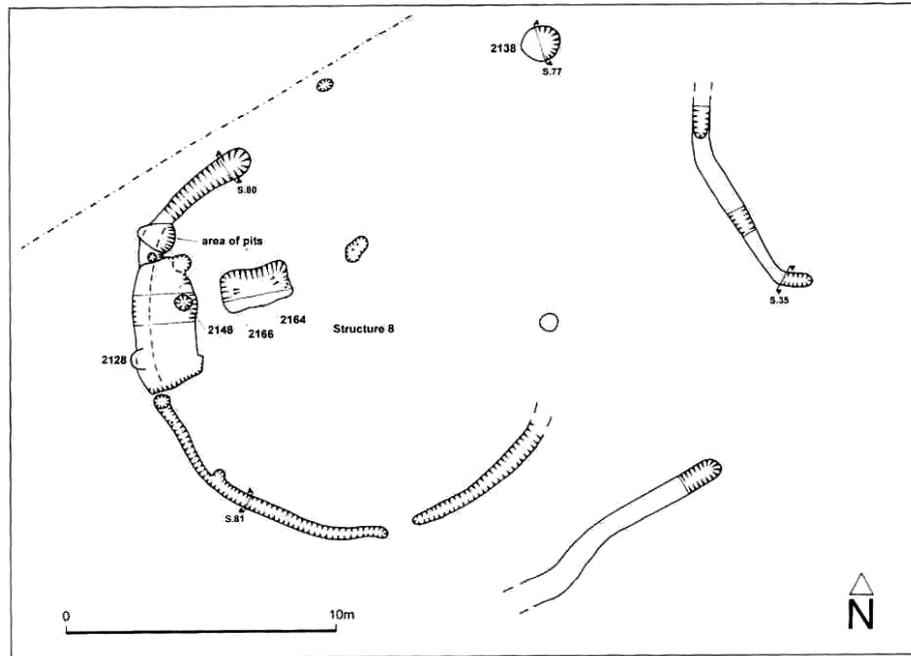


Figure G.123. Detail of structure 8 and the two curvilinear channelling movement towards it gullies. (Source: Roberts and Richardson 2002: 15).

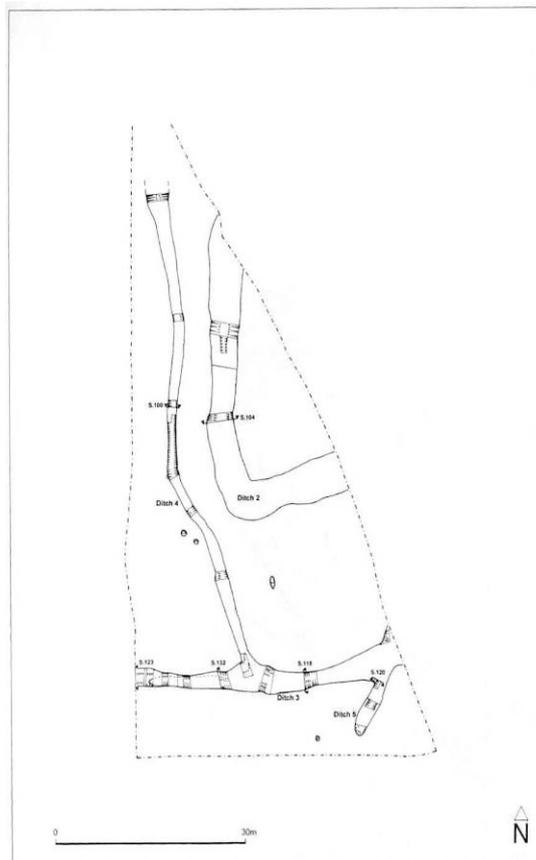


Fig. 18. Plan of Site 3.

In the south-west corner of Enclosure C was a rectangular subenclosure defined by shallow gullies. This might have been a livestock pen, and possibly belonged to a later phase of occupation. It is not clear where the entrance into this compound was, and due to later disturbance only a few internal postholes were recorded. Some 550m further east of Site 2 was Site 3, where a small open-area recorded the south-west corner of a field or enclosure ditch, with another ditch 3-6m parallel to it (Roberts and Richardson 2002: 22-24). If this was contemporary, it was either an outer boundary or a narrow trackway or race for livestock. This outer ditch joined a field boundary ditch, and these features were probably late Iron Age or early Romano-British in date.

Figure G.124. (left). Plan of Site 3, Moss Carr, Methley. (Source: Roberts and Richardson 2002: 23).

References: Roberts and Richardson 2002.

Methley, Park Lane

SE 3870 2660



Figure G.125. (top). Cropmarks of the 'kinked' trackway, field boundaries and possible pits at Park Lane, Methley. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 46). **Fig. G.126. (left).** Geophysical survey of the same area. (Source: Marriott and Yarwood 1991, fig. 2). **Fig. G.127. (right).** Interpretation of the geophysical survey results. (Source: Marriott and Yarwood 1991: fig. 3).

This area adjacent to Park Lane on gently undulating ground west of Methley was investigated with a resistivity survey in 1985 and gradiometer survey and fieldwalking in 1991, as a private research project (Marriott and Yarwood 1991). Although part of the area lay on a gentle rise at c. 12-15m OD,

formed by the gravel terrace of the River Aire, the ground slopes away to the north to as little as 2-5m OD. A double-ditched trackway with a north-east to south-west alignment and several ring ditches were identified from aerial photographs (e.g. Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 46), and the trackway had an unusual ‘kink’ or ‘dogleg’, turning to a NNE-SSW orientation. The reason for this change in direction is not clear. Only some earlier prehistoric flints were recovered through fieldwalking over this area, but the geophysical survey revealed evidence for several phases of activity, including a probable Bronze Age ring ditch or round barrow with a central inhumation, apparently slighted but used as a landscape maker by a later field boundary abutting the trackway. At some point in time another east-west trackway had either pre- or post-dated the kinked trackway (Marriott and Yarwood 1991: figs. 2-3, E). Further field boundaries and a possible concentration of pits were also identified, and some of the pits might have formed part of a north-east to south-west orientated pit alignment.

Where a boundary had been constructed perpendicular to the trackway, a possible D-shaped field corner enclosure had been constructed (Q-R), although this might have been related to further curvilinear gullies or ditches apparently underlying the main trackway. It is even possible that this was another Bronze Age ring ditch, and the kink in the trackway might have been a deliberate means of incorporating it, as at Swillington Common (see below). This was similar to the feature at Parlington Hollins West (see below). A trapezoidal enclosure was also apparent (between J to H), with a complex entrance structure and internal features. Targeted excavation would be productive at this site, in order to try and obtain dating and stratigraphic evidence, and assess the nature of the enclosures and the possible groups of pit features. The trackway seems to have been part of a major route on and off the low-lying interfluvial area, and might have been associated with the seasonal movement of large numbers of livestock.

References: Marriott and Yarwood 1991; Yarwood and Marriott 1988a, 1988b.

Methley, St Aidan’s Remainder

SE 3890 2730

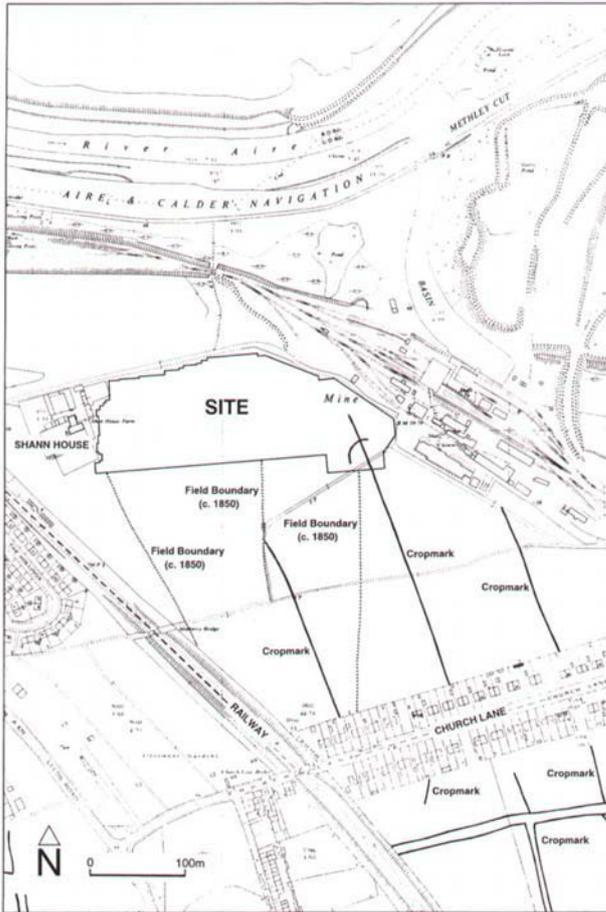


Fig. 1. Site location map showing cropmarks and 1850 field boundaries.

This site was located on the northern edge of Methley, on flat, low-lying land immediately adjacent to the modern course of the Aire and Calder Canal, with the ground sloping to the north and the watercourse. The area was investigated because it was threatened by the diversion of the canal prior to opencast quarrying. Although cropmarks suggested a series of co-axial field boundaries and trackways were in the immediate area, and a possible enclosure, geophysical survey indicated that many more boundaries and features were present within the development area.

Figure G.128. (left). Location of the St Aidan’s Remainder site. (Source: © AS WYAS).



0 100m

Fig. 2. Grey density plot of the magnetic data (-1.5nT to 3nT).



Figure G.129. Geophysical survey of the St Aidan’s Remainder development area. The electricity cable runs obliquely across the site from upper left to lower right. Only the eastern half of this area was excavated in detail. (Source: © AS WYAS).

An area of 1.7ha was stripped of topsoil, and the eastern part of the development area formed the focus for the subsequent investigation, so a possible ‘ladder’ arrangement of enclosures was not excavated. Dating and phasing of the archaeological features was difficult due to a lack of stratigraphic relationships and a paucity of artefactual evidence, but one of the earliest phases may have consisted of a roughly north-west to south-east alignment of pits, some of which produced heat-shattered stones, earlier Iron Age pottery, and worked flint, some of the latter clearly residual (AS WYAS 1995; Haughton 1995). Part of a possible enclosure was identified (M1387, M1581-M1582), consisting of a series of irregular gully segments with a possible south-east facing entrance, although the northern and north-western parts of this area seem to have been unenclosed. To the south of the site, M1605 represented part of a possible ring ditch 22m in diameter, but only the north-eastern part of this feature was investigated in detail, so its full extent and purpose are unclear. It may have been Iron Age and might have cut an earlier north-south gully, and although too large for a roundhouse might have been part of a subcircular enclosure. It could also have been a Bronze Age ring ditch or barrow, however.

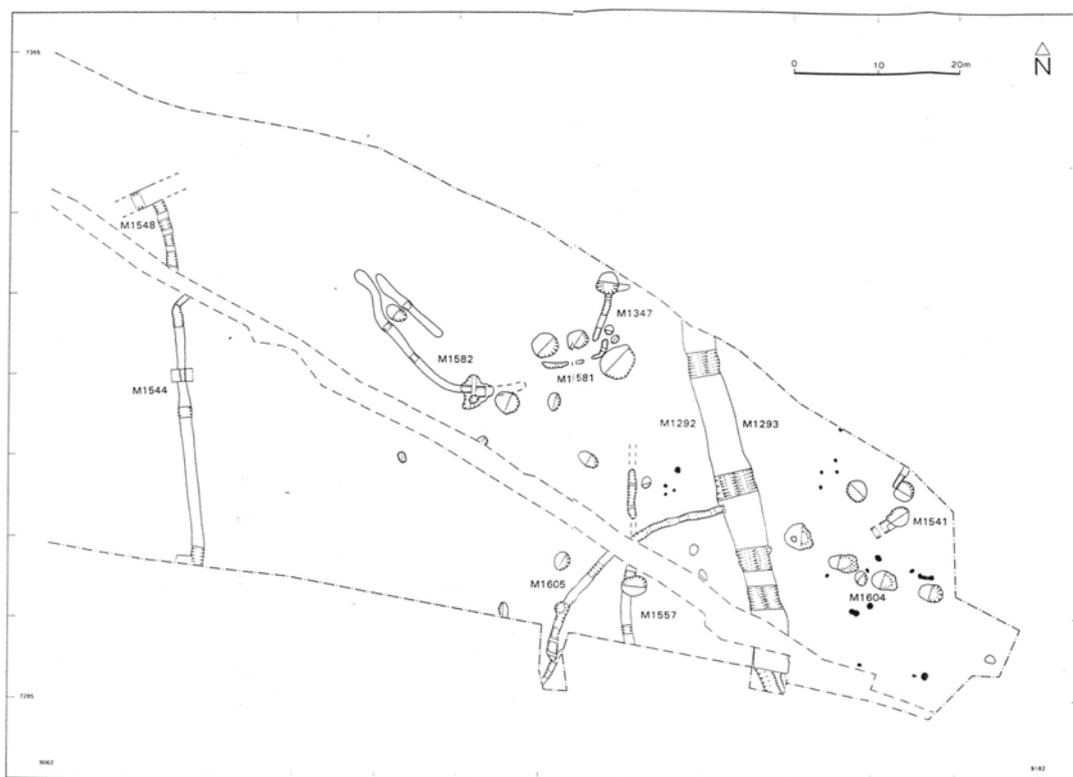


Figure G.140. *Composite plan of the main excavation area at St Aidan's Remainder, Methley. (Source: AS WYAS 1995).*

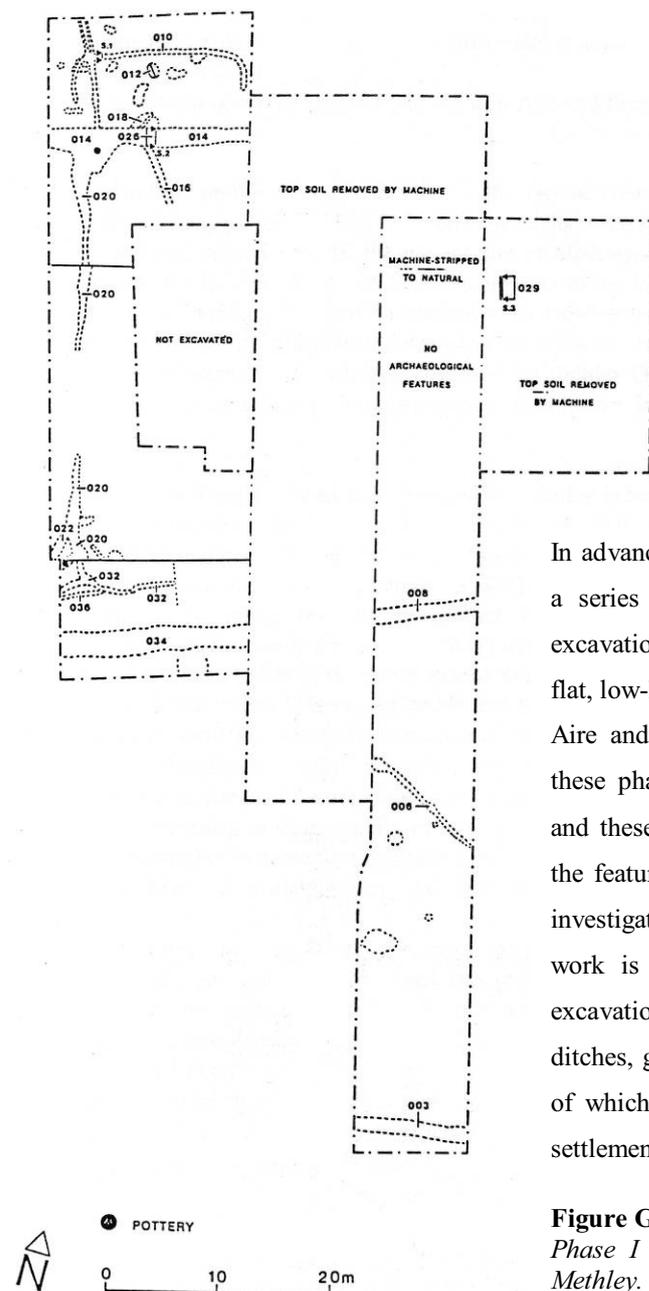
At a later date, two NNW-SSE orientated ditches were dug across the area, the eastern one of which had been re-cut at least once, and truncated the earlier ring ditch M1605 (AS WYAS 1995). The western ditch was smaller and had an entranceway 4.5m wide through it, just before a junction with a north-east to south-west orientated ditch whose full extent was not determined. These ditches may have been late Iron Age or Romano-British in date, but no dateable artefacts were recovered from them. The lack of Romano-British ceramics suggests that there was not an immediate adjacent focus of more

intensive occupation during this period, but the evidence for possible early Iron Age pit boundaries on the floodplain is intriguing, and reminiscent of some developments in the Trent Valley during this period. Very little animal bone was recovered due to the acidic soils, but this included cattle and pig remains. It is a pity that the western part of the development area could not also have been excavated, as some of the possible enclosures and boundaries present on the geophysical survey might have proved to be of later Iron Age or Romano-British date, and this may reflect a shift in activity westwards over time. The features found at St Aidan's Remainder might reflect largely seasonal occupation of the Aire-Wharfe interfluvial floodplain, perhaps mostly during the summer and autumn months.

References: AS WYAS 1995.

Methley Quarry

SE 4150 2670



In advance of gravel extraction at Redlands Quarry, a series of geophysical surveys, evaluations and excavations took place on an area east of Methley on flat, low-lying ground in the interfluvies of the Rivers Aire and Calder. Only interim reports of some of these phases of archaeological work are available, and these do not have detailed plans or sections of the features investigated. Hopefully, these series of investigations will be collated and published, as this work is urgently required. In the first phase of excavation (Yarwood and Marriott 1990), a series of ditches, gullies, slots and pits were excavated, some of which seem to have formed part of a focus of settlement.

Figure G.141. (left). *The only available plan for the Phase I Part 1 excavations at Redlands Quarry, Methley. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1990).*

Samian ware of first to second century date was recovered (Yarwood and Marriott 1990), and a complete Romano-British pot with external sooting was found in one slot – this was probably a placed deposit. Two third century Roman coins were also found. Geophysical survey in the Phase I Part 2 area detected a series of field boundaries, enclosures and possible ring gullies (Yarwood and Marriott 1991). I have not been able to locate any available plans or archive reports of the results of the excavations over targeted areas of these features. A small enclosure excavated more recently at Methley Quarry contained evidence for industrial activities and a relatively large assemblage of later Romano-British pottery (Burgess 2003b), but only a draft interim report with no site plan was produced.

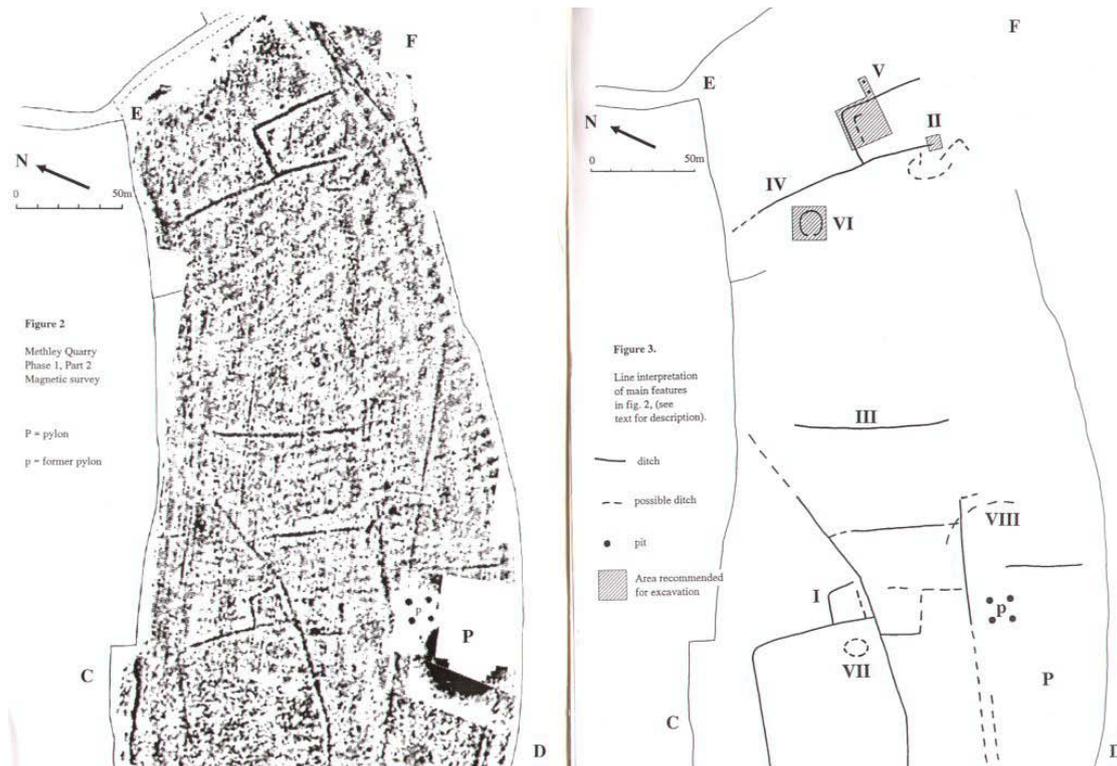


Figure G.142. (left). Geophysical survey results from Methley Quarry. **Fig. G.143. (right).** Interpretation of these results, also showing some of the areas targeted for detailed excavation. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1991: figs. 2-3).

Other finds in the nearby area include a hoard of 300 Roman coins dating to 50 BC – AD 180 found in a churchyard in 1923, and a small Roman glass vessel found in Mickletown in 1957 (Keith 2001).

References: Burgess 2003b; Keith 2001; Yarwood and Marriott 1990, 1991.

Methley, Willow Grove

SE 4110 2660

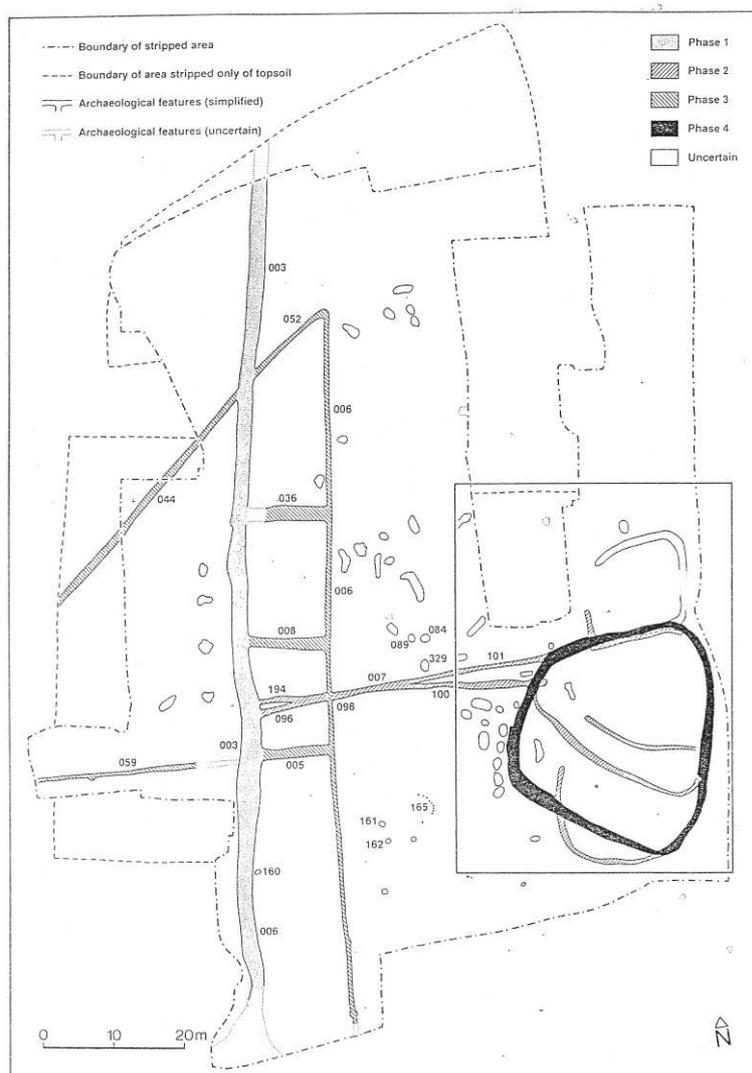
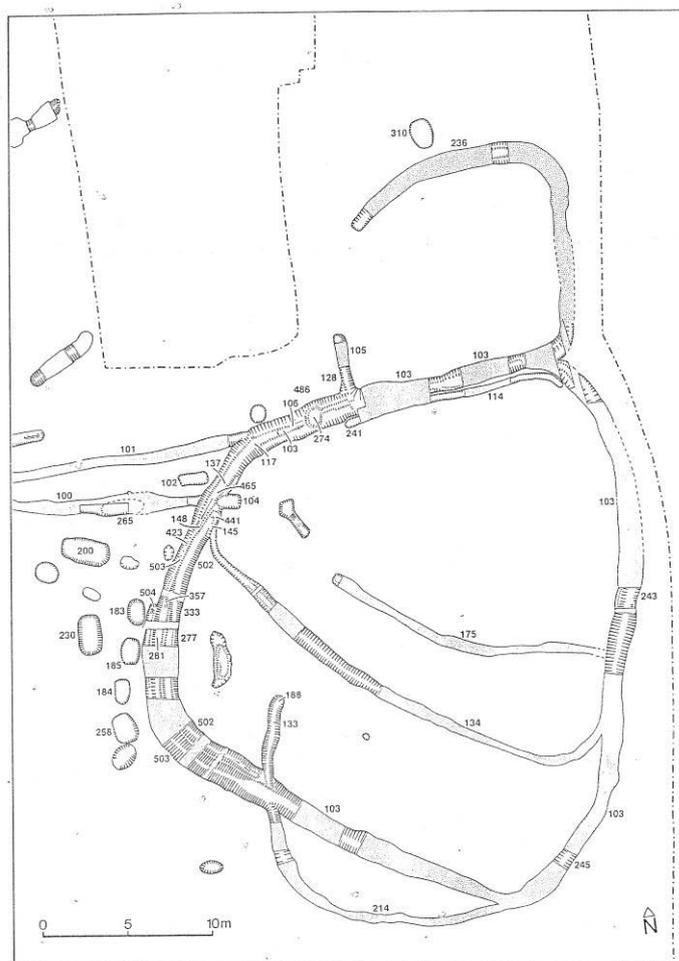


Figure G.144. Plan of Willow Grove, Methley. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988c).

This site was located to the south-east of Mickletown and Green Lane, on flat, low-lying ground between 15-17m OD, with quite steep slopes to the south and east dropping down to the River Calder floodplain which before canalisation had pronounced bends and loops near this locale. As the name Methley Mires suggests, this lower zone would have been subject to seasonal flooding in the past. Prior to gravel extraction, a rescue and salvage excavation was undertaken, initially by WYAS during August-September 1988 (Yarwood and Marriott 1988b), but then continued part-time until November by Bob Yarwood and Jenny Marriott (Yarwood and Marriott 1988c). The earliest phase of activity identified consisted of one or two curvilinear or D-shaped enclosures, with possible north-west or west-facing entrances. Several small gullies may have been part of entrance structures. These enclosures were later re-cut and re-modelled by two roughly east-west ditches, that seem to have been connected to an unusual series of small rectangular enclosures or pens towards the western side of the site, linked at different phases to a major north-south ditched boundary, but also a very unusual triangular-shaped



feature formed by two gullies. A later feature seems to have been a single larger D-shaped enclosure, whose ditch was itself re-cut at least once. No clear entrance into this enclosure was identified, although a narrow stretch of ditch to the south-east may have been bridged by a timber structure. A series of regular pits were aligned along the western outer edge of the later enclosure. Although they did not contain any dateable artefacts, these have some parallels with the groups of pits found at the MAP site further to the north-east (MAP 1996, see above).

Figure G.145. (left). *More detailed plan of the main enclosures identified at Willow Grove, Methley. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988c).*

Many other groups of pits and gullies were also recorded, including one shallow pit with a clay-lined channel leading into it, perhaps a truncated tuyère, which contained metalworking slag (Yarwood and Marriott 1988c: 5). The vast majority of features found on the site did not contain any dateable artefacts, but a few sherds of probable later Iron Age pottery were found, in pits 102 and 199, and ditch 502 of the later, larger D-shaped enclosure. In addition, a fragment of a lower beehive quern was found, and two badly corroded copper alloy studs. Only two small fragments of animal bone were found in pits, and the lack of Romano-British ceramics suggests that activity was not intensive in this area during this period. As with St. Aidan's Remainder, it is possible that many of these features were a result of episodic, perhaps seasonal inhabitation of the interfluvial floodplain. Such practices were clearly important, but would have left less artefactual remains than more permanent foci of sustained 'domestic' occupation.

Sadly, the detailed archive for this site is still not available in a report, but this is another Methley site that could form part of a collated, interpretative volume.

References: Yarwood and Marriott 1988b, 1988c.

Normanton Golf Course

SE 3950 2215



Figure G.146. Cropmarks south-east of Normanton, centred at SE 3925 2220. (Source: Timms 2005).



Cropmarks of field systems and enclosures had previously been identified on the south-east side of Normanton, and in advance of the development of a former golf course in this area, AS WYAS undertook a geophysical survey that identified some field system ditches and a possible enclosure, although it was evident that the area had been heavily disturbed by later ridge and furrow, themselves preserved as earthworks across many parts of the golf course. An archaeological evaluation and excavation was then undertaken by Mike Griffiths Archaeological Associates in 1998.

Figure G.147. (left). Results of the geophysical survey by AS WYAS, showing the location of the possible enclosure. (Source: Timms 2005: 5, fig. 2).

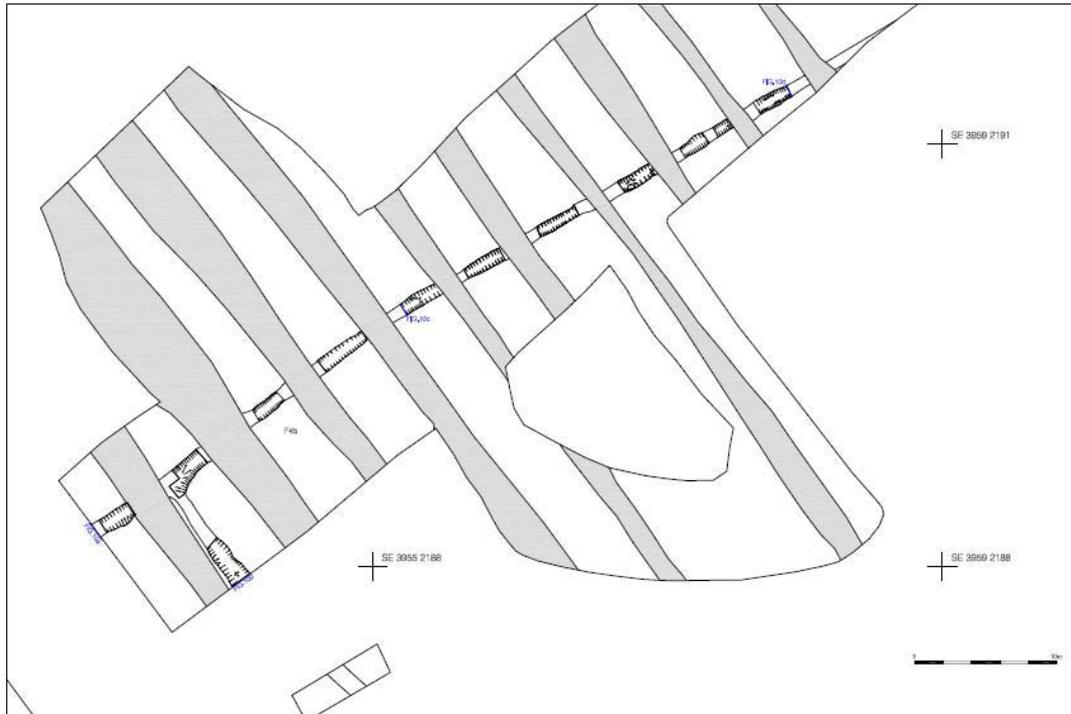


Figure G.148. Late Iron Age or Romano-British field system ditches recorded, partly masked and disturbed by the broad 'stripes' of later ridge and furrow. (Source: Timms 2005: 23, fig. 9).

At several locations across the development area, field system ditches were identified and excavated, and these did not produce any dateable artefacts, although it is likely that some of these ditches had a late Iron Age or Romano-British origin. Their slighting by medieval ridge and furrow also suggest this.

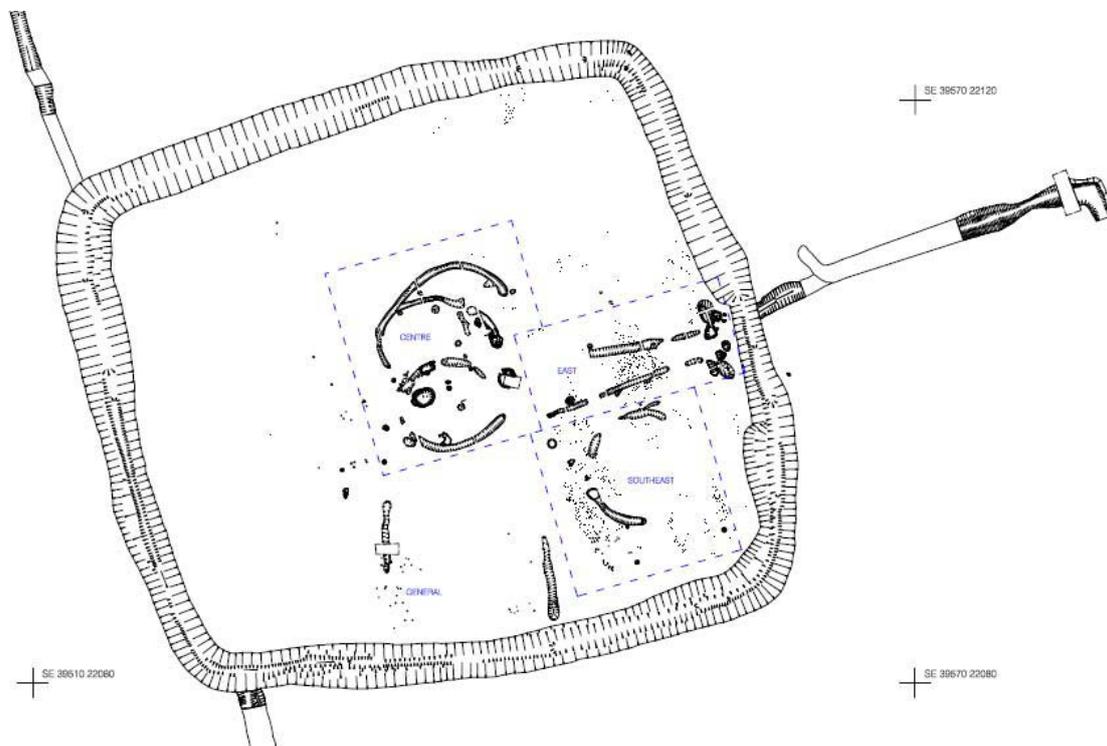


Figure G.149. The subrectangular enclosure with internal roundhouses, gullies and posthole and stakehole features. (Source: Timms 2005: 48, fig. 24).

The enclosure proved to be a subrectangular feature with a pronounced ditch that had been re-cut on many different occasions, and which in a primary phase might have been 46m long (east-west) and 42m wide, and up to 3.5m wide and 1.4m deep. There was probably originally an east-facing entrance causeway 11m wide, and this first phase ditch had a pronounced narrow, steep-sided slot in its base, interpreted by the excavators as a channel to facilitate drainage away from the entrance terminals (Timms 2005: 33), though why drainage would be required in the bottom of a ditch is not clear. It is possible that this feature was actually a palisade slot. When this ditch had almost completely silted up, it was re-cut along its length, leaving a narrower 2.6m wide entrance to the east. This re-cut too had a narrow slot in its base. The disuse of this second phase was ¹⁴C dated to 398-261BC. A third re-cutting phase seems to have removed the narrow enclosure gap, but the postholes for a timber bridging structure were found in the same area. Sherds of hand-made, late Iron Age pottery were recovered from deposits within this third re-cutting phase (Vyner 2005).

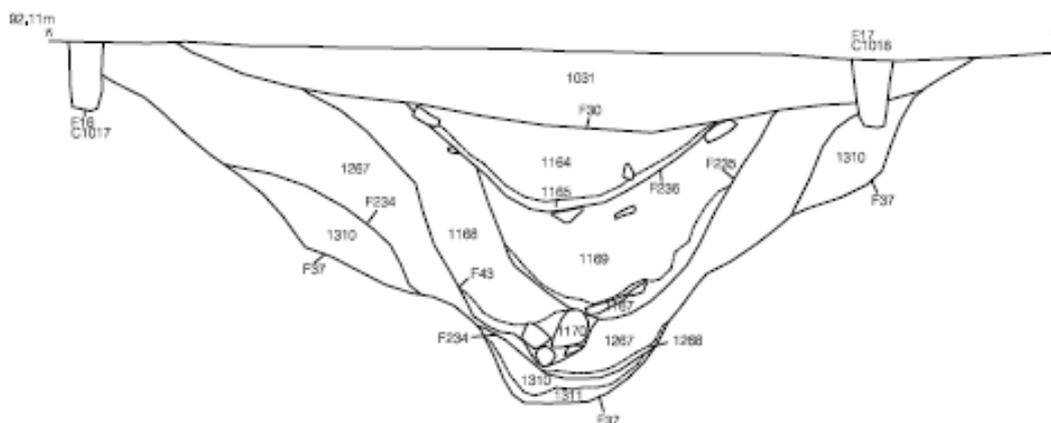


Figure G.150. (above). Section across one of the enclosure ditches by the entrance, showing the multiple re-cuts. (Source: Timms 2005: 34, fig. 17b). **Fig. G.151. (left).** Metal surface within the enclosure by the entrance. (Source: Timms 2005: 56, plate 11).

In a fourth phase, the entire enclosure circuit was re-cut once more, and this ditch was linked to another ditch leading off 25m to the east, which turned at a right-angle to run south for 12m before terminating in a shallow scoop. This feature was interpreted as additional drainage for the main ditch (Timms 2005: 42), and the levels on the base of this external ditch did seem to indicate that this was a possibility. However, it also seems likely that this ditch served to direct movement towards the enclosure entrance. Only one sherd of hand-made pottery was recovered from the fill of this re-cut, and it is not clear where the entrance was during this phase, although it might have been moved to the south. The disuse of internal gully divisions possibly associated with this phase was dated by radiocarbon analysis to 39 BC

– AD 77). The fifth and final identified phase of the enclosure ditch consisted of another complete re-cut, this ditch being more shallow (0.4-0.7m) than previous remodelling episodes, and this is also when the enclosure seems to have been incorporated into a wider field system with the addition of two north-south aligned ditches leading off from the south-west and north-west corners of the enclosure, whilst the western end of the east-west ditch on the eastern side of the enclosure was backfilled whilst the other section was re-cut, leaving a gap 4.2m wide between it and the eastern side of the enclosure ditch. A fragment of late Iron Age or early Romano-British jar and the base of a greyware Romano-British jar were found in the fills of this final re-cut, along with a corroded bronze finger ring.



Figure G.152. (far left). *Copper-alloy finger ring excavated from the ditch fill at Normanton Golf Course. Fig. G.153. (left).* *Some of the sherds of later Iron Age pottery. (Source: Timms 2005).*

Within the enclosure, a series of large posts by the eastern ditch marked a timber entrance structure, and two gullies or palisade slots and lines of postholes formed a narrow funnel leading into and then opening out into the enclosure, in a manner reminiscent of the Moss Carr Methley Enclosure B palisade slots (see above), albeit in reverse. This suggests a desire to structure movement and create a highly formalised approach to the centre of the enclosure. Some of the apparent breaks in the gullies were caused by later truncation by ridge and furrow and land drains. Interestingly, a shallow scoop cut by one of the gullies (F35) contained cremated sheep/goat bone and charcoal ^{14}C dated to 1206-917 BC (Timms 2005: 49). A section of the southernmost gully produced six sherds of probable late Iron Age pottery, and one of the entrance postholes (F209) contained charcoal that produced a ^{14}C date of 402-265 BC. Many of the posts of the possible entrance structure(s) were sealed by a cobbled surface that formed part of another entrance into the enclosure, probably in the later phases when there was a continuous circuit.

In the central area of the enclosure were four crescent-shaped gullies that appeared to be associated with a number of postholes and a large pit, but few had direct stratigraphic relationships with one another. Significantly, none of the gullies appeared to form a true semi-circle or part of a circle, and the excavators felt that that differences in the colour and makeup of the fills suggested that these were all separate features, not fragmented and truncated sections of overlapping ring gullies, or truncated surviving halves of ring gullies (Timms 2005: 60). It is possible that these gullies and associated

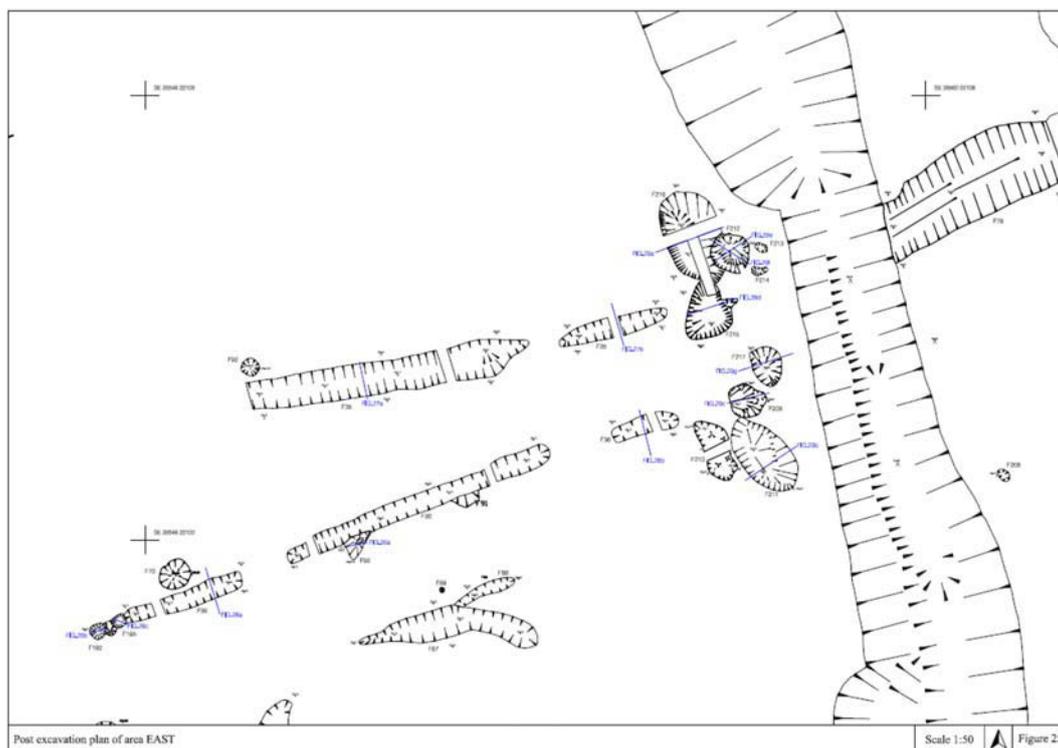


Figure G.154. *Detail of the postholes and gullies forming several phases of a timber entrance or gateway structure, and the diverging gullies comprising a fenced approach to the centre of the enclosure. (Source: Timms 2005: 50, fig. 25).*

postholes formed arcing fenced screens largely open on one side, or similar insubstantial buildings with one curved wall and one open side, though it is probable that these were non-roofed structures. A subrectangular pit or posthole truncated by one of these gullies and another posthole contained many sandstone fragments and burnt and heat-shattered cobbles. Charcoal recovered from this feature produced a ^{14}C date range of 1767-1642 BC, which if not residual might suggest an extraordinarily long sequence to the activities at this enclosure. A large pit (F40) near the southern two arcing gullies contained a deposit of burnt grain and other plant remains, calcined or cremated bone and charcoal, sealed by an additional layer of charcoal or ash, burnt hazelnut shells and burnt and heat-shattered cobbles and sandstone fragments. The pit was sealed by additional deposits of burnt stone and charcoal, and may originally have had a clay or organic lining. The cereals included hulled barley, spelt wheat and some oats, and in addition to hazelnut shells there were also some remains of weeds of cultivated or waste ground (Hastie and Holden 2005). Three ^{14}C dates of 167 BC – AD 16, 347-94 BC and 350-119 BC were obtained from charcoal in different layers within the pit, indicating that it had been backfilled during the late Iron Age.

A roundhouse ring gully approximately 9m in diameter was excavated in the south-east corner of the enclosure. This roundhouse was badly truncated by the later ridge and furrow, but it is possible that it originally had two opposed entrances. Many lumps of fired clay were recovered from the stretches of ring gully, and these were possibly fragments of moulds or furnace structures (Timms 2005: 70). A ^{14}C determination of 381-202 BC was obtained from charcoal within it. A possible break in the southern palisade slot at this point suggests that there may have been an entrance here to what was otherwise a

largely screened structure. Another north-south gully excavated within the main enclosure suggests that this south-east roundhouse was situated within its own subrectangular subcompound, with another west-facing entrance. Lines of stakeholes to the west and south-east of the roundhouse suggest additional or different phases of fenced screens. Another interesting group of stakeholes suggested a circular feature that perhaps pre-dated the construction of the double entrance gullies.

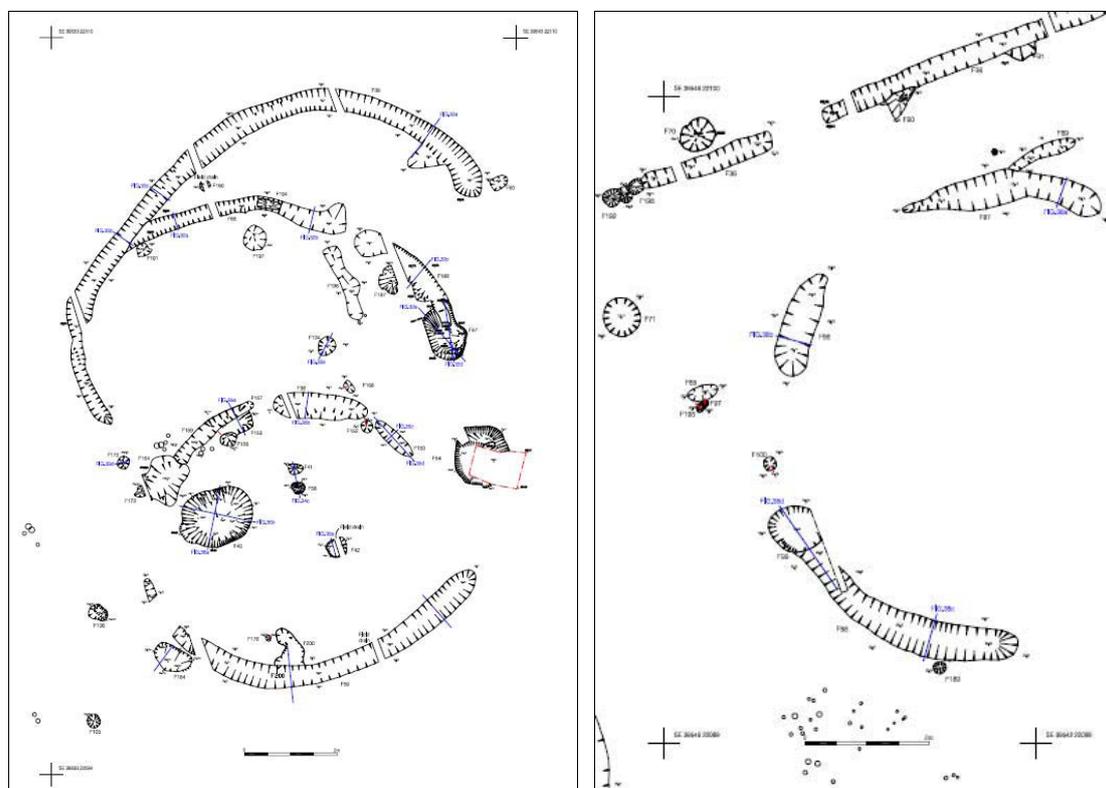


Figure G.155. Details of the gullies, postholes and pits near the centre of the enclosure at Normanton Golf Course, and **Fig. G.156.** (right) detail of the roundhouse in the south-eastern corner of the enclosure. (Source: Timms 2005: 39, 59, figs. 31, 37).

Outside of the enclosure were a series of linear boundaries to the north, west and south. Only two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from these, one of them dating the silting up of one of these ditches to at least the third century AD (Timms 2005: 96). Approximately 200m to the north of the enclosure, a major NE-SW boundary was created, the eastern end of which was aligned along the edge of the marsh or lake to north-east. To the south, this ditch appeared to link with the northern end of Whin Beck, before turning to the west to form a large bounded area around 130m wide. Located towards the south of the development area, Whin Beck itself appears to have been partly canalised and managed during this period, and probably formed a significant social boundary. A crossing formed by a gravel surface and several timber settings seems to have bridged the stream to the south during the late Iron Age. After a possible hiatus in occupation in the area, Whin Beck may have been re-used as an important social boundary during the early medieval and medieval periods – a ¹⁴C date of AD 645-687 was provided by a waterlogged tree trunk or log recovered from a later channel cutting, and Whin Beck may have formed part of the later Saxon Normanton township boundary (ibid.: 115).

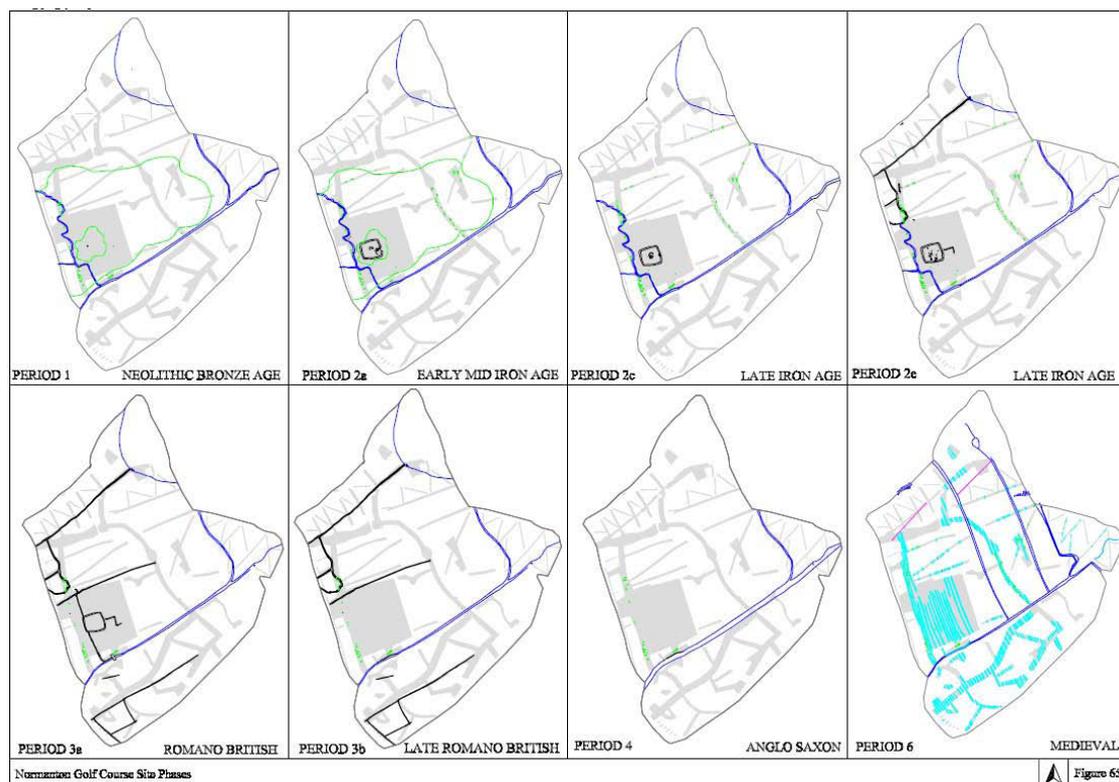


Figure G.157. Proposed landscape phasing for the Normanton Gold Course development area. (Source: Timms 2005: 112, fig. 65).

The enclosure was situated on a slightly raised area of drier ground within a shallow valley bottom, this being bounded by Whin Beck to the south, a more sinuous north-south stream to the west and a precursor to the modern Sewerbridge Beck to the east, with much of the north-east forming a marshy depression or even a shallow lake – this may have been a seasonal mere. Even if the earliest Bronze Age date recorded for the enclosure area is discounted, activity seems to have begun in this locale during the early Iron Age, with the backfill of a shallow pit. The construction of the enclosure at this same site might have been influenced by these previous events, and perhaps also by the landscape location near to the confluence of two streams and on top of the more elevated area. The significance of this enclosure seems to have continued into the Romano-British period, and it was incorporated into a later system of land boundaries. Even taking later truncation into account though, there was a marked lack of evidence for any sustained ‘domestic’ occupation within the enclosure. As with Enclosure B at Moss Carr, Methley, it is therefore possible that this enclosure and its structures had a more specialised social function, and it has even been proposed as a possible shrine or site of symbolic and/or ritual significance (Timms 2005: 124-125). The evidence indicates that the site of the enclosure was visited and modified repeatedly, but perhaps fleetingly, over centuries. Its long history, unusual depositional practices and insubstantial structural features are reminiscent of some aspects of the Manor Farm subtriangular feature (see above), and it was unlikely to have been a domestic farmstead.

References: Timms 2005.

Normanton Industrial Estate

SE 4409 4230



Figure G.158. Location plan of the trenches and areas of archaeological features at Normanton Industrial Estate. (Source: Wylie 2007).

A proposal to extend an industrial and retail estate at Normanton led to a programme of fieldwalking, geophysical survey, evaluation and excavation by AS WYAS during 2006. A late Iron Age or Romano-British settlement enclosure site or possible shrine had been excavated at Normanton Golf Course (Griffiths 1998; Timms 2005, see above), and the enclosures excavated at Low Common and Whitwood Common were less than 2km to the north-east and north-west. Cropmarks had revealed the presence of other features of this possible date nearby. The development area was approximately 53ha in extent, on a flat hilltop in a gently undulating landscape. Fifty-eight machine-dug evaluation trenches were employed, and five areas were then selected for open-area excavation (Wylie 2007).

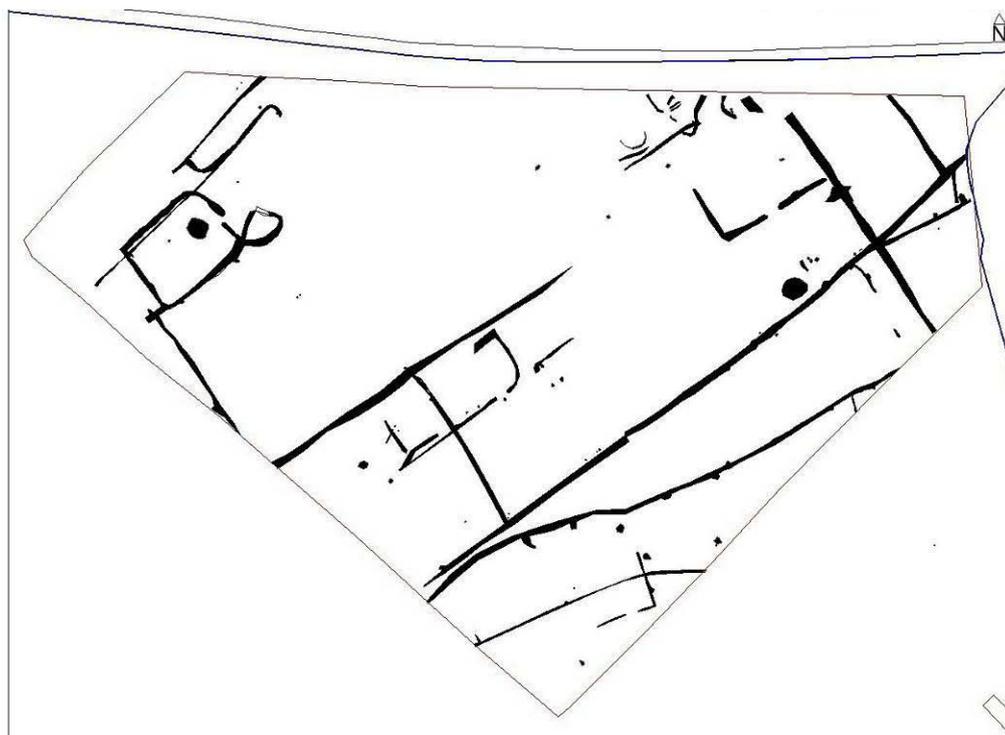


Figure G.159. Area 2, Normanton Industrial Estate. The main north-east to south-west boundary runs from the upper left to the lower centre of the image. (Source: Wylie 2007).

In the northernmost Area 2, adjacent to the modern M62 and Ackton Pasture Wood, a series of rectilinear fields and three enclosures were investigated, the latter including one with a north-east facing entrance, one with a north-east and a south-facing entrance, and another with a south-east facing entrance. The north-western enclosure had a small sub-oval enclosure of unknown function appended to it, with no visible entranceway (Wylie 2007: 12). None of the enclosures had discernible internal features. These enclosures and field ditches were all broadly on the same alignment, and the main north-east to south-west linear boundary one of the several of the main linear boundaries had evidence for repeated re-cutting. A few sherds of Romano-British pottery were found in these features. The more sinuous south-east of the main north-east to south-west boundary marked the edge of later ridge and furrow, and may indicate that the basic layout of the landscape persisted for many centuries.

In Area 1 towards the north-east side of the development area, a subsquare enclosure with an east-facing entrance was recorded. This may have had double ditches with intervening bank or banks around its southern and western sides, or this may have been a 'race' for livestock handling. There were few internal features. Two trackways approached this enclosure, one from the north-east (Fig. 6.37) and a wider one from the south-east, and a series of gullies, ditches and gateways outside the enclosure entrance probably represented livestock handling features such as races and drafting gates. The north-east to south-west orientated double-ditched trackway had some postholes dug into the inner sides of its ditches, possibly part of palisade structures within the trackway (Wylie 2007: 11). Once again, only a few sherds of Romano-British pottery and some later post-medieval pottery were recovered from these features, although more Romano-British sherds were found as topsoil finds. An as yet undated cremation burial was also recorded in this area.

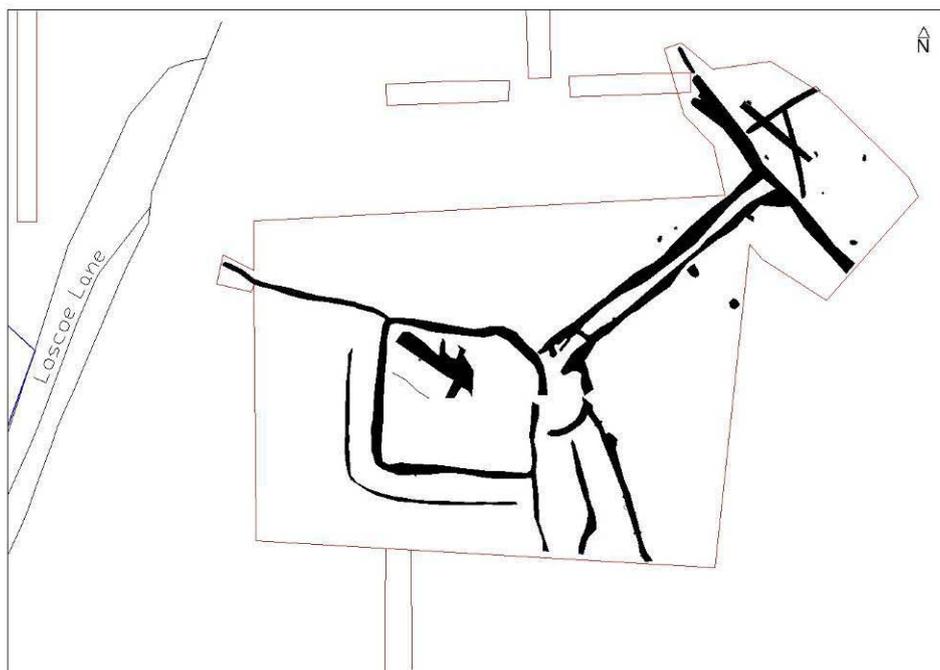


Figure G.160. Area 1 at Normanton Industrial Estate. (Source: Wylie 2007).

Area 3 was located at the eastern side of the development area, and contained three large curvilinear ditches that did not contain any dating evidence. The interim report suggests that they were medieval or post-medieval osier beds to encourage willow growth for coppicing (Wylie 2007: 12), but this is rather speculative, and further interpretation must await additional post-exavation work. South of Havertop Lane was Area 4a, with a series of apparently regular, co-axial boundaries aligned north-west to south-east, including a likely double-ditched trackway.

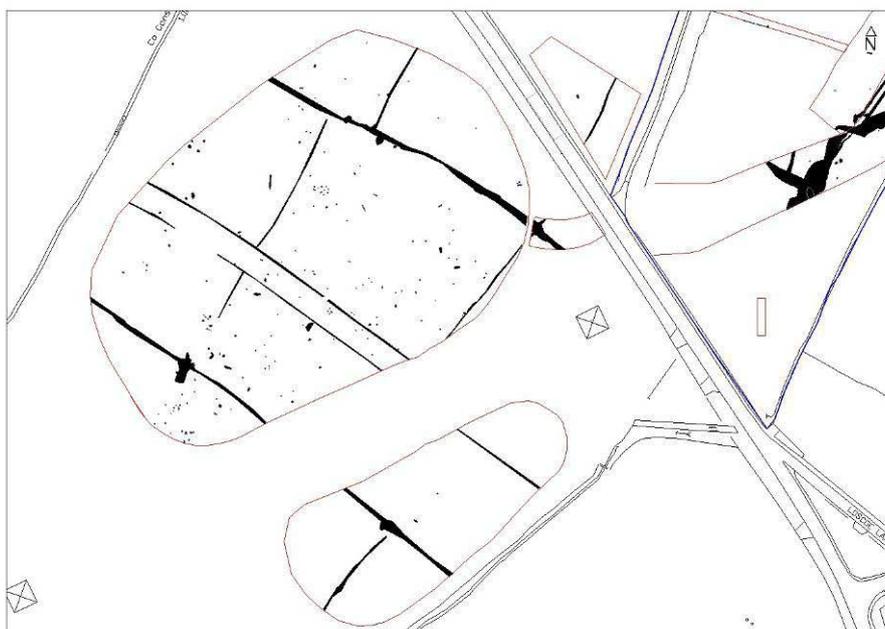


Figure G.161. Area 4a at Normanton (bottom), with Area 3 to the upper right. (Source: Wylie 2007).

It was noted that one ditch in Area 4a was aligned with a nearby modern boundary, and thus elements or indeed all of these field boundaries may not have been Iron Age or Romano-British in date but much later in origin (Wylie 2007: 13). Certainly, few finds of any date were recovered from this area (although none were recovered from the field ditches at Normanton Golf Course, see above), and these boundaries appeared slightly different in plan to those further north. It may be that some post-medieval or early modern boundaries actually re-cut earlier ditches, or as at Armthorpe in South Yorkshire, followed the line of earlier boundaries. Further post-excavation work will have to explore this, and compare the features in Area 4a with those on early maps. Havertop Lane appears to cut across the predominant axes of the boundaries in Area 4a, however, so that road at least may post-date the construction of the fields.



Figure G.162. (left). *Aerial view of the Normanton Industrial Estate during the evaluation, showing the extensive scale of trial trenching. (Source: © AS WYAS).* **Fig. G.163. (right).** *View of excavations in progress. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

The landscape and archaeological features at Normanton Industrial Estate were intensively sampled, and the clayey subsoil, lack of finds and large number of sections required across the features proved rather dispiriting to many of the excavators. It was important that this area should have been sampled so intensively, however. Although these enclosures were subsequently found to have been probably associated with stock herding rather than ‘domestic’ occupation, this could not have been predicted from the cropmark and geophysical survey data, and such ‘negative’ evidence is nevertheless crucial in understanding these Iron Age and Romano-British rural landscapes. As at Armthorpe in South Yorkshire, intensive sampling can provide much archaeological information, but given the depositional practices of the period (see Chapter 11, Appendix F) this often cannot easily be predicted from cropmarks, geophysical survey, fieldwalking and even trial trenching. Why are artefacts concentrated in some areas, but not in others? Why were some enclosures inhabited year-round, others seasonally, and others visited perhaps even more episodically? Future post-excavation at Normanton and other sites will have to address such questions.

References: Wylie 2007.

Parlington Hollins**SE 4230 3450**

This was another group of enclosures investigated by AS WYAS as part of the A1-M1 Upgrade works, after an earlier walkover survey had identified scatters of Romano-British pottery and tile, and geophysical survey had detected a series of conjoined enclosures. The cropmark evidence from the locale, however, was rather sparse. The area is situated just north of Garforth, on a relatively flat hilltop in a gently undulating landscape. The site was divided into two areas, Parlington Hollins West and Parlington Hollins East, separated by the line of the A642 (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.23).

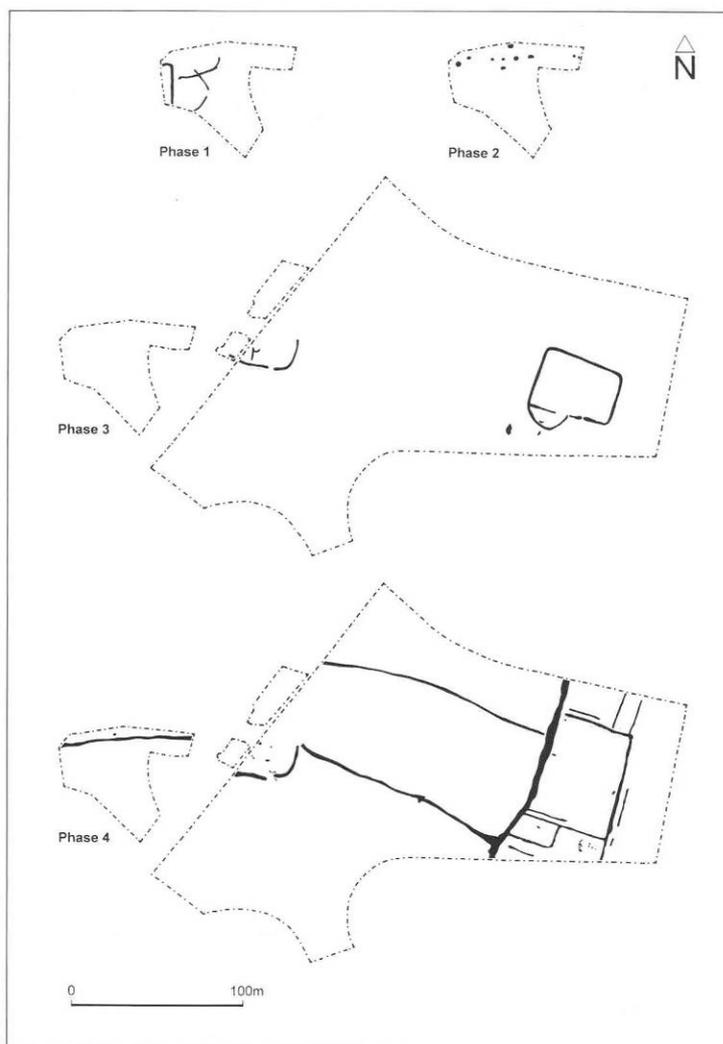


Figure G.164. *Proposed main sequences of development at Parlington Hollins East and West. (Source: Holbrey and Burgess 2001: 87, fig. 64).*

The first main phase of activity identified was at Parlington Hollins West, where the eastern edge of a subrectangular or trapezoidal enclosure was identified, with a small D-shaped ditched annex created in the corner between this enclosure and a field ditch, with a south-facing entrance. This small field corner enclosure was then re-organised into another larger D-shaped enclosure with an east-facing entrance 4m wide. Some internal postholes might have formed a fenceline within it, but no dateable artefacts were recovered. A ^{14}C date of 362 BC – AD 52 was obtained from the primary fill of the ditch.

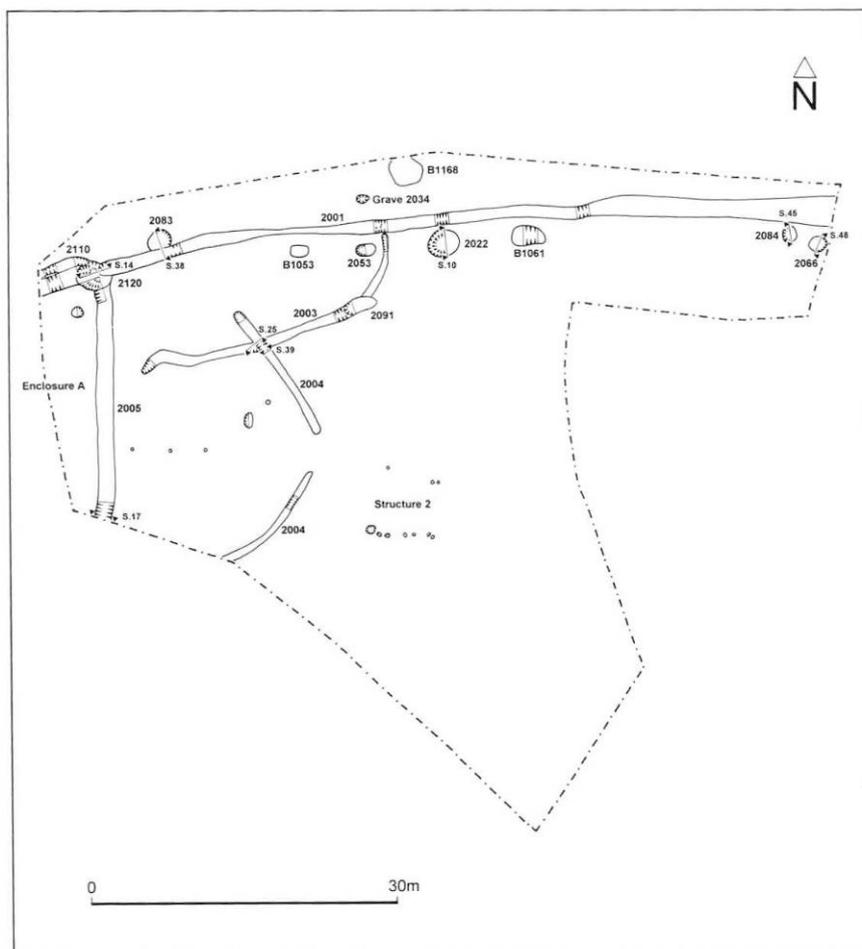


Figure G.165. *The two phases of field corner enclosures identified at Parlinton Hollins West. (Source: Holbrey and Burgess 2001: 86, fig. 63).*

In a second phase of activity, a series of pits were dug forming an east-west alignment or boundary, and although no dateable artefacts were found in these, one pit (2066) contained placed deposits of cattle bone, ^{14}C dated to 400 BC – AD 52 (Holbrey and Burgess 2001: 90, see Chapter 11, Fig. 11.23). At Parlinton Hollins East, a small subrectangular enclosure (Enc. B) was then created in phase 3 with a south-facing entrance. Additional postholes there suggest some form of timber gateway. Only a few sherds of greyware and mortaria were recovered from the enclosure ditch, which was slightly enlarged in a later phase. There were a series of gullies and postholes within the enclosure, but these did not form a coherent structure. Further to the east was the subrectangular Enclosure C, 50m long and 35m wide with a south-facing entrance in an early phase, this later partially blocked by a semi-circular annex. Second to third or fourth century greywares, Black Burnished ware, samian and amphorae sherds were found in the enclosure ditch, but few internal features were detected.

In the middle Roman period there seems to have been a major expansion of the field systems and enclosures, with a series of subrectangular fields created across the area, probably incorporating the later phase of Enclosure B. Romano-British pottery of second to fourth century date was recovered from these ditches. At the far eastern edge of the area, a series of subrectangular enclosures (D and E) developed. A small subrectangular subcompound was created in the north-west corner of Enclosure D,

but although several postholes and gullies were identified within this area, no discernible structure was identified. In the north-east corner of the enclosure, a possible subrectangular building was identified, represented by a few truncated postholes (see Appendix E, Fig. E.25). Several crouched and extended inhumation burials and a cremation burial were recorded, in graves generally located near entrances or along the lines of the enclosure D and E ditches (see Appendix F, Fig. F.72) (Holbrey and Burgess 2001: 96-97). Few other internal features were identified. Enclosure E represented a late Romano-British phase enclosure, with two phases of north-east facing entrances. Relatively large quantities of Romano-British pottery and Mayen lava querns were recovered from Parlington Hollins East, suggesting that this settlement might have had higher levels of consumption and perhaps slightly different social status to other farmsteads. Animals do not seem to have been bred on site but were brought in as meat, and the settlement might have specialised in training horses – a relatively high proportion of horse bones were recovered, all from adult animals. There were also placed deposits of sheep, pig, horse and deer remains (Richardson 2001a: 219). Parlington Hollins was only a few hundred metres north of the occupation at Garforth (see above), which also appeared to be more ‘Romanised’ than surrounding settlements (see Chapter 10).

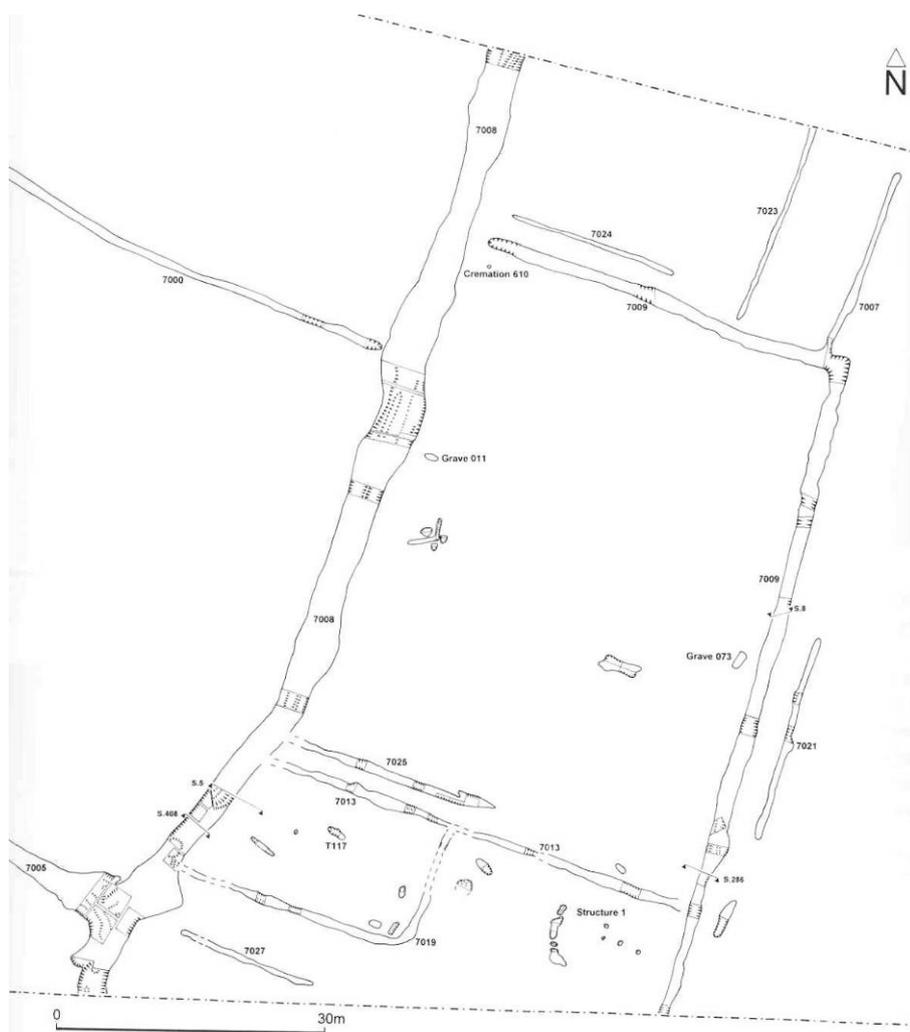


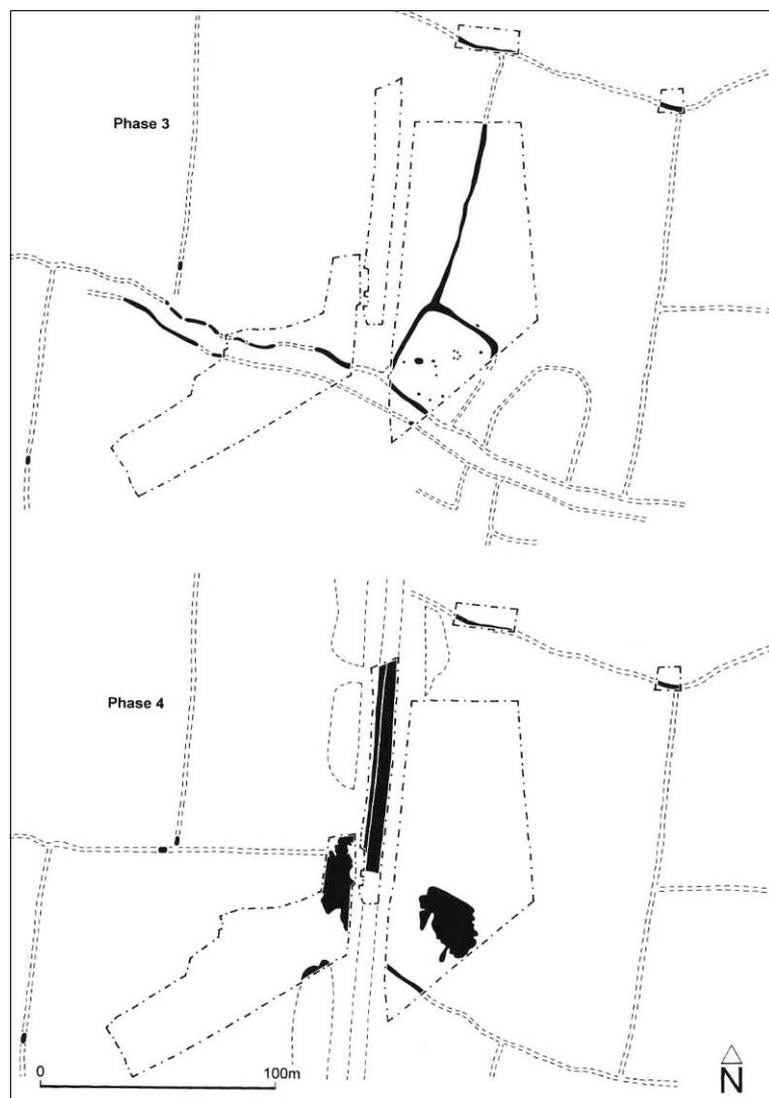
Figure G.166. Enclosure D, showing the subcompound and possible rectangular building (lower left and right), and the locations of some of the burials. (Source: Holbrey and Burgess 2001: fig. 70).

Also significant was the evidence for post-Roman occupation at Parlington Hollins. Three late Roman and post-Roman inhumations were identified, including a decapitated adult female in a stone-lined grave (Holbrey and Burgess 2001: 101-103). Two widely spaced and apparently isolated sunken-featured buildings or *grübenhäuser* were recorded, and a post-built structure near the enclosure at Parlington Hollins West also produced a late Roman or post-Roman date. Along with the evidence from Garforth, this perhaps suggests a measure of settlement continuity in the area, although the ditched field systems went out of use and the intensity of occupation seems to have been much lower.

References: Holbrey and Burgess 2001.

Roman Ridge

SE 4323 3464



This site was another investigated by AS WYAS as part of the M1-A1 Link Road project, and was focused on the Roman Ridge, the Roman road between Castleford and York (Margary 1973). An interesting sequence of features was identified, however, and some of these features pre-dated the construction of the road itself.

Figure G.167. (left). *The two major later phases of activity identified at Roman Ridge. (Source: O'Neill 2001b: 110, fig. 86).*

In addition to some later Neolithic or early Bronze Age pits and postholes, some perhaps part of a structure, on the western side of the road a series of segmented ditches formed two boundaries (O'Neill 2001b: 108). One was aligned north-east to south-west, and another north-west to south-east. A sinuous enclosure ditch identified by geophysical survey (Deegan 2001b: 33, fig. 17) was also partly excavated, and may have been part of this phase, likely to date to the later Iron Age. In a third phase of activity, the remnants of the earlier field system were incorporated into a broadly co-axial field system featuring a prominent NWW-SEE aligned double-ditched trackway up to 10m wide. A series of north-south ditch boundaries were arranged on either side of this trackway. Cropmark and geophysical survey evidence indicates that several subrectangular enclosures or annexes were appended to this trackway (see Chapter 2, Fig. 2.11), although only one of these was excavated. This was approximately 39m long and 36m wide, and despite truncation the ditch was up to 2.9m wide and 0.9m deep, and although no clear entrance was identified this may have lain on the south-eastern side. This ditch contained some animal bone fragments, flint, industrial debris, metal objects including a flesh hook and second century AD Romano-British pottery. A ^{14}C date of AD 34-242 was obtained from material in a ditch fill.

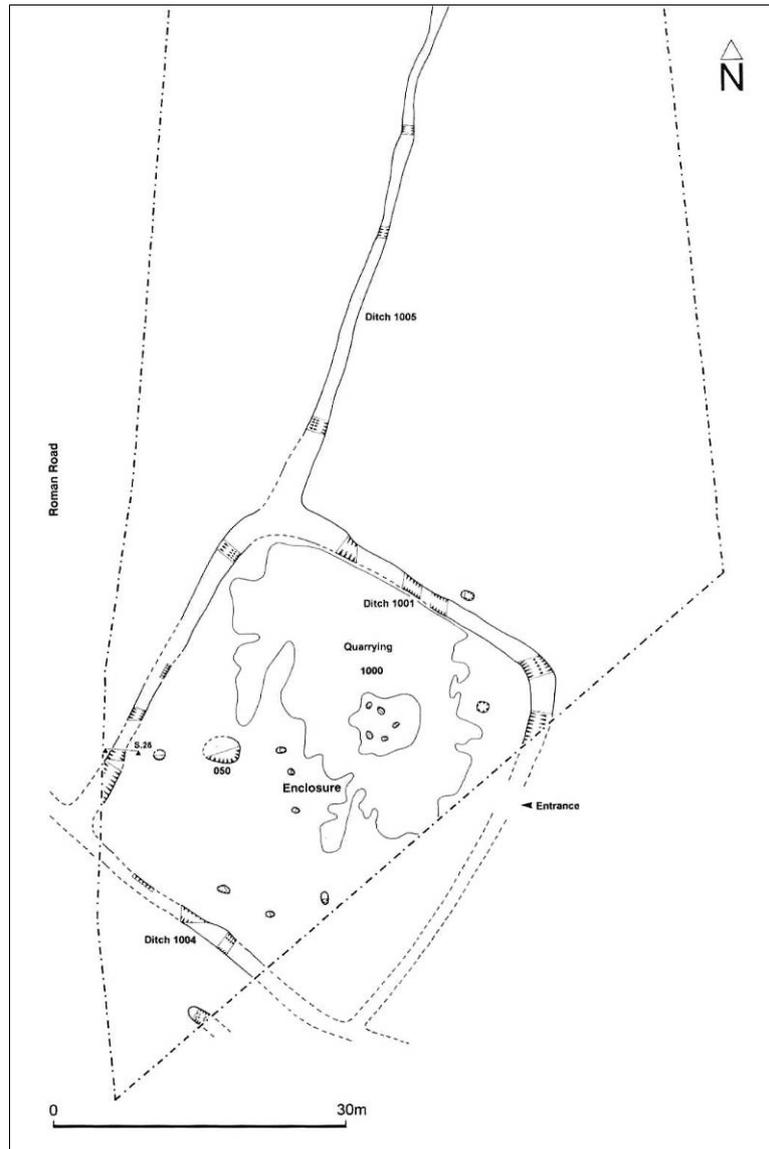


Figure G.168. *More detailed plan of the Roman Ridge enclosure. (Source: O'Neill 2001b: 109, fig. 85).*



Figure G.169. **(left).** *The two linear banks found underneath the agger of the Roman road. (Source: O'Neill 2001b: 116, plate 15).*

Due to truncation by later quarrying pits only a few internal features were identified within the enclosure, largely, but animal bone, slag, cinder fragments, hearth lining daub and uncharred grains of barley were recovered from some of these (O'Neill 2001b: 114). This enclosure would have been situated on the southern end of a flattish hilltop in an undulating landscape, and the exposed location may have assisted with the metalworking activities. The quarrying pits were associated with a fourth major phase of activity that saw the construction of the Roman road, and the fact that some of them respected the enclosure ditch suggests that this was still very much a feature of the landscape when the Roman engineers arrived. Prior to the laying of the *agger* surfaces, formed of crushed limestone obtained from the quarry pits, two linear stone banks were constructed from weathered surface stones, and these may have formed markers for the road's route. Later still, ditches were dug on either side of the road, and sandy layers that built up on either side too might have been from windblown deposits, or were possibly deliberately dumped to help the passage of unshod animals (see Chapter 2).

References: O'Neill 2001b.

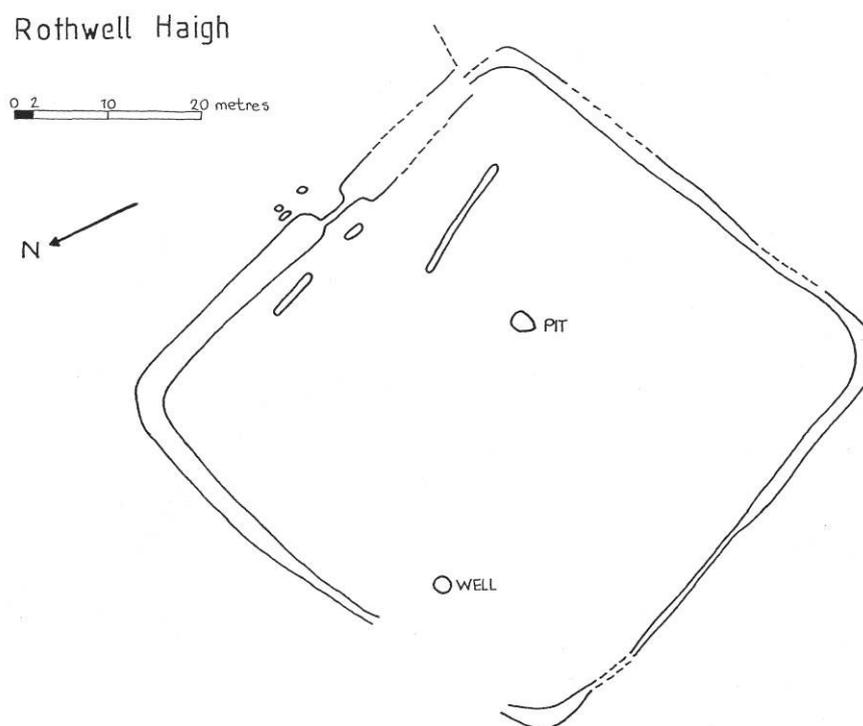
Rothwell Haigh**SE 3520 2970**

Figure G.170. *The only existing plan of the enclosure at Rothwell Haigh. (Source: Richardson 2004b).*

This enclosure was identified as a cropmark in 1977, on a ridge on the edge of a north-facing slope leading down onto the River Aire floodplain. It was excavated by WYAS in the same year in advance of colliery tipping, but the site had been severely truncated in places, and the ditch varied in depth from 1.5m by the entrance to only a few centimetres in other areas (Keighley 1981: 125). The square enclosure had a north-west facing entrance *c.* 4m wide, and a gully and several pits or postholes outside the entrance may have been part of a timber gateway. A pit and two linear gullies were identified within the enclosure, the latter forming ‘screens’ inside the entrance, and these features produced two beehive quern halves, tile fragments and three sherds of hand-made, possibly Iron Age pottery.

In the north-west part of the enclosure was a 12m deep well containing waterlogged wooden artefacts and leather objects including shoes, further quern fragments, and fourth century AD pottery (Faull 1981: 152), in addition to animal bone and a human skull minus the mandible towards the base (Richardson 2004b). Unfortunately, much of the archive including most leather and wooden objects, the human skull and a ‘cattle skeleton’ from an unknown context has been lost over the years, some by Doncaster Museum and Bradford University. A recent assessment report (Richardson 2004) highlighted the lack of scale plans, sections and photographs from the site and listed the known missing artefacts and other material, but identified some potential in the surviving palaeoenvironmental remains from the well.

References: Faull 1981; Keighley 1981; Richardson 2004b.

Sharp Lane, Middleton, Leeds**SE 3116 2775**

Evaluation and excavation by ARCUS at Sharp Lane, Middleton, Leeds revealed a four-post structure, with ¹⁴C dates of 770-410 BC and 790-420 BC obtained from two of its postholes (Davies 2006: 17). In addition, a series of north-west to south-east orientated ditches containing second to fourth century Romano-British pottery were also investigated, many of them running parallel to one another and probably representing repeated re-inscriptions of a boundary. Some of these multiple ditches had themselves been recut. Two saddle quern fragments were also recovered from the fills of this ditch complex. It was suggested that this evidence for repeated recutting indicated a much more significant boundary than that just between two fields (*ibid.*: 22), but what the nature of this boundary was remained unclear. A single north-south ditch probably represented some form of subdivision. A group of six pits may have been Romano-British in date too, along with a series of shallow (0.05m deep) north-south linear features that apparently respected the line of the main ditch complex. These may have been Romano-British plough furrows, or later medieval ridge and furrow.

Unfortunately, the copy of the client report supplied to the Historic Environment Record of the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service did not include illustrations or photographs from the site, so it has been impossible to include any of these here. The site is important evidence, however, that parts of Leeds might have significant Iron Age and Romano-British archaeology surviving underneath more recent developments.

References: Davies 2006.

South Elmsall**SE 4865 4895**

The area to the north and north-east of South Elmsall has seen a long-running programme of archaeological investigation in advance of development, which can only be briefly summarised here as they included aerial photographic studies, geophysical surveys and evaluations, in addition to open-area excavation.

On land at the junction of Doncaster Road and Field Lane, a series of ditches was identified, arranged broadly north-south and east-west. Variations in profile and depth along these ditches suggested that they had originally been constructed as much shorter, interrupted segments (McNaught 2001). West of these were the remains of three post-built roundhouses with east or south-east facing entrances and possible ‘porch’ structures, and ¹⁴C dates obtained from two of these structures provided dates of 1294-1006 BC and 1740-1518 BC, or the late Bronze Age and middle Bronze Age respectively. One of these roundhouses was partially screened to the west by a curving palisade with a west-facing entrance, but this did not completely surround the roundhouse. It was therefore similar to examples of such fences or palisades excavated elsewhere in Britain, as at Westhampnett in West Sussex (Chadwick 2006).

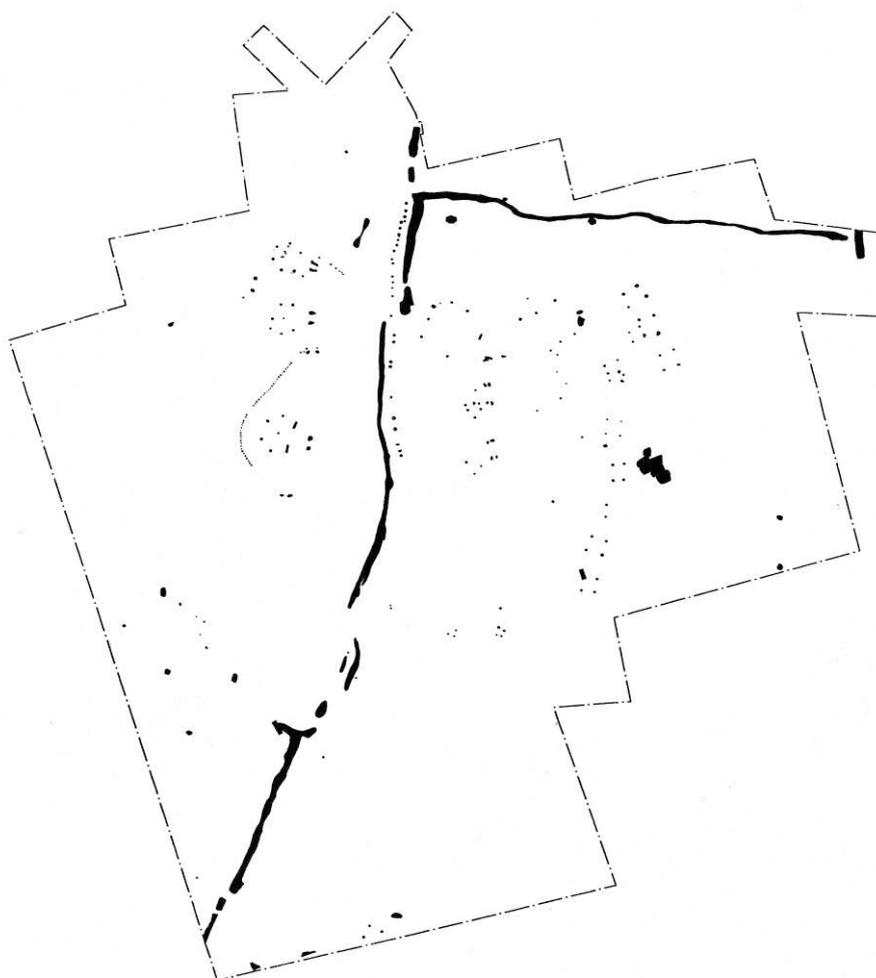


Figure G.171. *The area of excavation between Doncaster Road and Field Lane, South Elmsall. (Source: McNaught 2001).*

A fourth, larger roundhouse was located to the east of the main north-south ditched boundary, but this was more truncated than the other examples. Also east of this boundary were the postholes of at least ten four-post structures. These were arranged in two main curving north-south rows, and were perhaps originally constructed on either side of a trackway (McNaught 2001), perhaps designed to be displayed. A ¹⁴C date of 918-799 BC was obtained from the posthole of one of these, indicating a very late Bronze Age/earliest Iron Age date for this structure. The major north-south ditched boundary was followed at some point by a fence or palisade of timber posts, and an Iron Age date of 757-214 BC was obtained from one of these features (Burgess 2001c: 264). Little animal bone was recovered, and although later prehistoric pottery sherds were found, Romano-British pottery was notable by its absence.

Clearly, the features seen at the site developed over time, and only one roundhouse and two or three four-post structures might have been in existence at any one time, although the two lines of the four-post structures implies that they were added to one another. However, the broad alignment of the ditches matches those of other later Iron Age and Romano-British examples excavated elsewhere at South Elmsall, and this suggests a very early beginning to land division in this part of the study region. Along with Swillington Common and Site D some 600m to the west (see below), this is one of the few places in the study region where there appears to have been identifiable Bronze Age settlement, and a measure of continuity and landscape development into later periods.

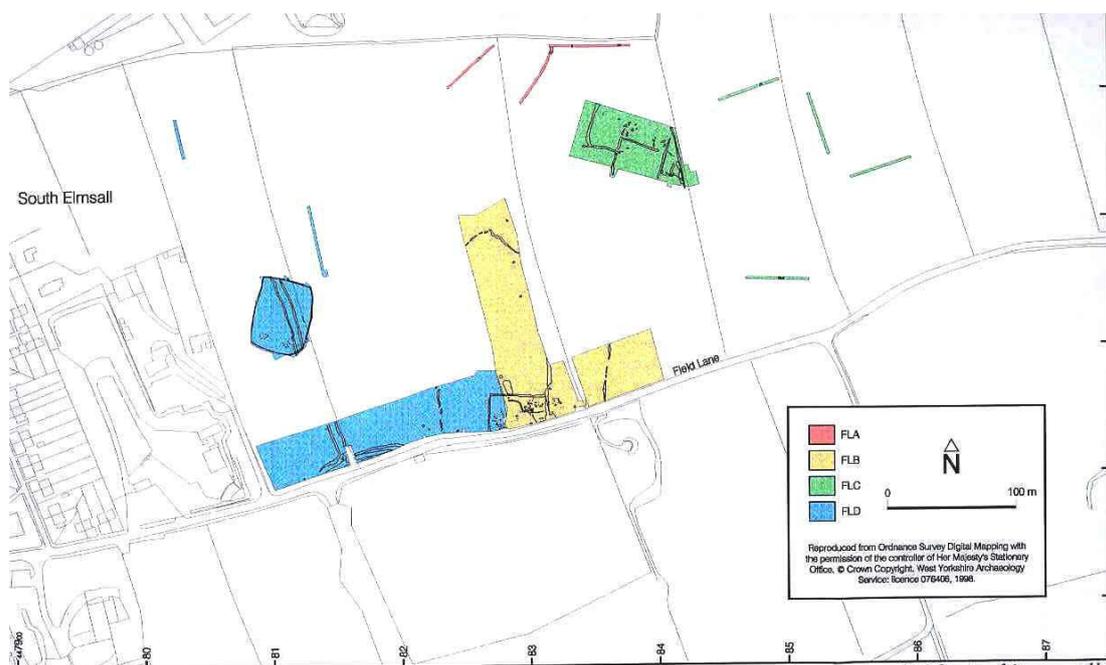


Fig. 2. Location of sites excavated by W F A S north of Field Lane.

Figure G.172. The various phases of investigation north of Field Lane, South Elmsall. The Bronze Age enclosure forms part of Area D, highlighted in blue. (Source: © AS WYAS).

More interesting evidence for late Bronze Age or early Iron Age inhabitation was discovered further to the west, as part of a series of phased investigations there. Although geophysical survey had detected a north-west to south-east aligned double-ditched trackway and a series of fields and enclosures on a north-east to south-west alignment (McNaught 1997), this had not detected a subrectangular enclosure defined by a palisade slot. A trench positioned to sample the double-ditched trackway (Area III),

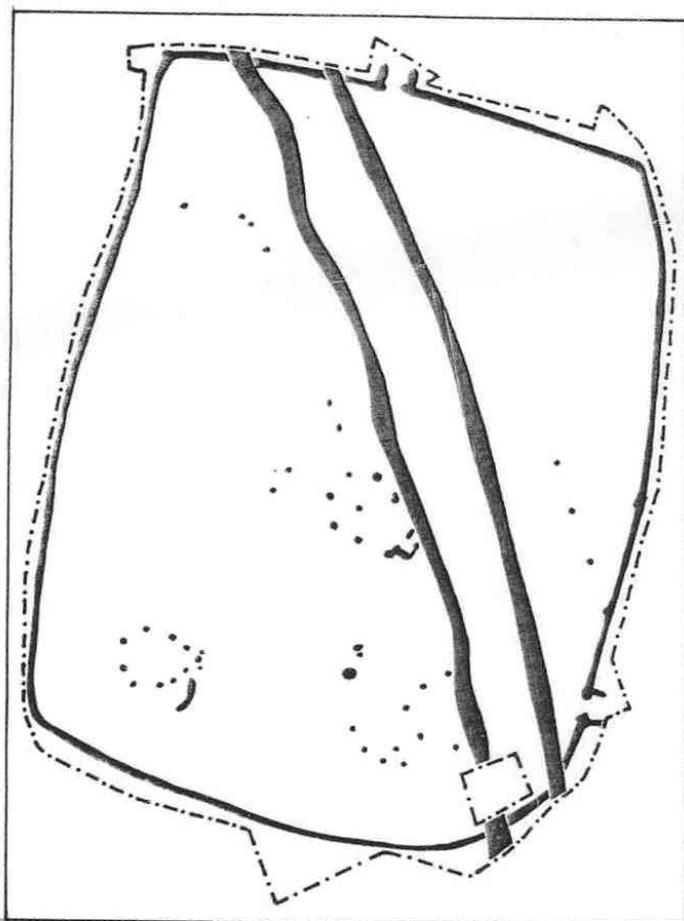


Fig.5 Area III

Figure G.173. *The subrectangular, palisaded enclosure identified in Trench III, Area D, South Elmsall, truncated by a later double-ditched trackway. Note the post-built roundhouses, and the 'porch' entrance structures. (Source: Howell 1998).*

however, located the enclosure which was 60m long and 45m across, defined by a narrow slot up to 0.45m wide and 0.36m deep, a relatively slight feature that can only just be identified (with the benefit of hindsight) on the geophysical survey plot. The enclosure had two entrances to the north-east and south-east defined by timber 'porch' structures, and contained postholes including two or three post-built roundhouses (Howell 1998). These had south-east facing entrances, and one at least was partly defined further by a curvilinear eavesdrip gully.

The postholes of these structures contained some coarse, hand-made pottery including a large comb-decorated sherd likely to be later Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age in date. The palisade slot was dated to 1524-1319 BC, but some of the internal features produced dates in the range of 813-542 BC (Burgess 2001c: 265), so the chronology here is also problematic. The ditched trackway cutting across this enclosure did so obliquely and almost precisely from corner to corner – this suggests a deliberate reference to the earlier feature, which must have still been visible in some form when the trackway was constructed. This trackway may be of late Iron Age or Romano-British date. Further to the south, the western ditch of the trackway turned abruptly westwards, whilst the eastern ditch turned eastwards, thus forming a T-shaped junction at this point with a probable east-west aligned trackway (Howell 1998). Close to this point, three graves were excavated, containing the remains of at least four different individuals. One crouched inhumation of an adult male was found within a deeper grave cut, and this individual might have had a different diet and lifestyle to the others (Start 1998). The other burials included a crouched adult female, and an extended supine adult female, the latter also containing some remains from an individual of indeterminate age and biological sex. Although ¹⁴C dates from the skeletons were unavailable at time of writing, these burials are probably of Iron Age or Romano-British date. If so, their location close to the trackway junction is undoubtedly significant (Howell 1998).

Further to the east at Field Lane was a subrectangular ditched enclosure, the easternmost part of which was excavated as part of Area B, and the western extent as part of Area D (Howell 1998; O'Neill 1998). The ditch of this enclosure was up to 2.5m wide and 1m deep, and the enclosure may have been built in two phases, with the northern and western ditches earlier than the eastern section. It did not have a discernible entrance, but this may have lain to the south-east or south, where it was cut by the line of Field Lane (O'Neill 1998). Within the north-east part of the enclosure was an apparent subcompound formed by a curvilinear and a straight gully, a gap at the eastern end reflecting the original position of an internal bank, but the western gap was also probably also an entrance into this area. Possible late Iron Age sherds, Romano-British pottery, animal bone and slag were found in these gullies. Within this area were a series of postholes possibly representing the remains of a structure, although no clear plan of this could be identified. Several pits were noted here too, including one with a placed deposit of a partial cattle skeleton. Another cluster of postholes in the south-west part of the enclosure had substantial post-packing and clear post-pipes, and an unstratified saddle quern was recovered from near this area. Towards the south-eastern corner of the enclosure, two phases of four-post structure were identified, some posts with stone packing, in an area bounded to the north and west by gullies.

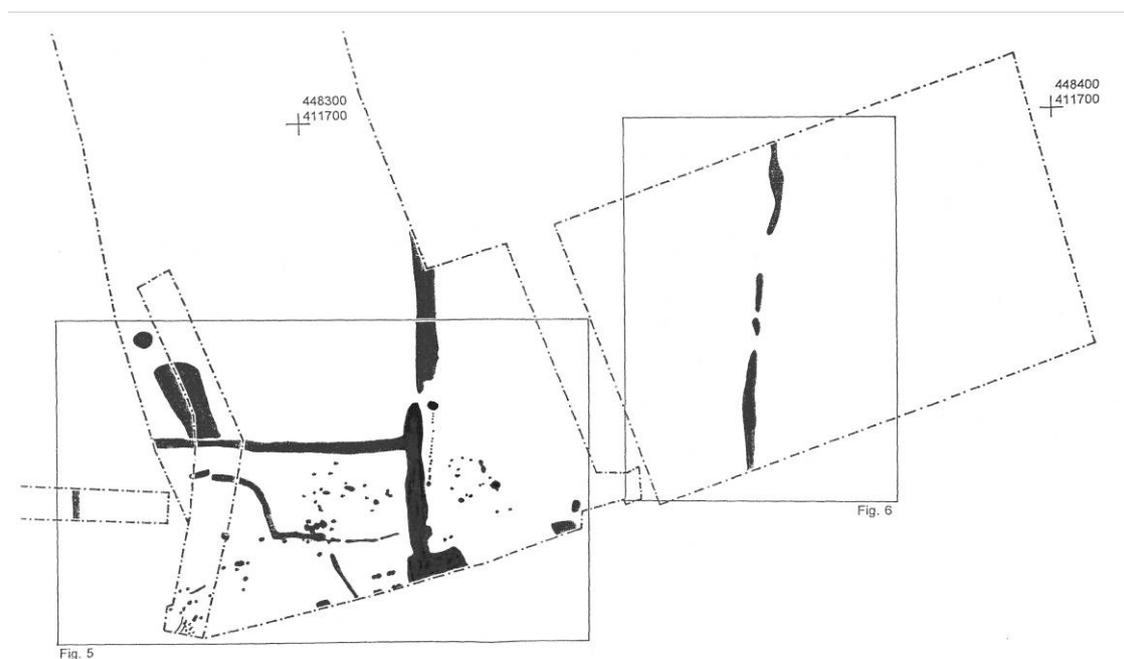


Figure G.174. *The subrectangular enclosure excavated as part of Areas B and D at South Elmsall, shown here before full excavation of the western part of the enclosure. Note the internal subcompound, and the possible roundhouse to the east of the enclosure. (Source: O'Neill 1998).*

In the western part of the enclosure was a group of pits, one of which (4122) contained hammerscale. The most notable was cut 4062, however, a large pit that contained many sherds of late Iron Age or Romano-British pottery, animal bone, a copper alloy rod, a circular iron clasp or brooch, small fragments of slag, charcoal and charred grain, and sixty-six beehive quern fragments representing at least twelve different querns (Howell 1998). Some of these materials were deposited in distinctive bands within the pit, and this must surely indicate highly structured deposition. The fragmentation of the querns is especially noteworthy, and may reflect attempts to 'kill' or decommission these objects.

North of the enclosure was an entrance through a north-south field boundary, and this layout might have post-dated the construction of the enclosure. Near to this entrance was a north-south posthole alignment, that may have formed a fence between a first phase ditch gap (O'Neill 1998). Just to the east of both this and the enclosure was another group of postholes and pits. Only animal bone and flint was recovered from these, and their roughly circular plan suggests that they may have formed a possible roundhouse, although this was not mentioned in the archive report. Elsewhere in Area B, a series of ditched boundaries were excavated, and those in the northern part of this area produced slag and an unidentified copper-alloy object. In addition, two further pits containing partial articulated cattle skeletons were located to the south-eastern part of the site near Field Lane. These were likely to have been placed deposits.

In Area C, a series of ditched boundaries were excavated that probably represented at least two main phases of boundary alignment and a complex sequence of re-cutting (McNaught 1998). The north-east to south-west aligned boundaries probably curved round to the south to link up with the north-south orientated boundaries excavated in Area B. One of the earlier phase north-east to south-west ditches (3007) was, at the southern limit of excavation, cut by a later pit containing a sheep skeleton. This was interpreted as being relatively modern in date, but the reasons given for this are not made clear in the archive report. It has to be noted that the pit largely matched the alignment and sides of the ditch, suggesting that the latter was still a partly visible feature when the pit was dug. This might hint that the pit burial is older than previously thought, although it is feasible that the ditch was still just visible in the medieval period, for example.

Several different phases of areas of cobbling were identified in the eastern part of Area C, preceded by trampled earth layers containing a small quantity of metalworking slag. Relatively large quantities of animal bone fragments were recovered from the cobbled layers, whilst silts that formed over the cobbled surfaces contained further iron slag and hammerscale (McNaught 1998). Three fired clay fragments with slag adhering to them were possibly part of a furnace superstructure. A number of pits and postholes were then dug across this area, some truncating the cobbles. Only seven sherds of late Iron Age and/or Romano-British pottery were found across the whole of Area C, and a fragment of quern was discovered in a ditch terminal. A single crouched inhumation was also recorded, probably of an adult male individual. This grave was located close to the entrance through one of the field ditches.

Area A consisted of three trial trenches excavated some 300m to the north of Field Lane. No stratified finds were recovered, and only one ditch of uncertain date was identified (O'Neill 1997b). Many of the linear field boundaries excavated in Areas B-D at South Elmsall consisted of short segments. In other parts of West Yorkshire it has been observed that these may be slightly earlier than more continuous ditches, and this might mean that at least of the fields and trackways laid out at South Elmsall were of Iron Age rather than Romano-British date. On the northern edge of South Elmsall, a proposed extension of the Dale Lane Industrial Estate led to a programme of geophysical survey by GeoQuest Associates and archaeological evaluation by AS WYAS. An open-area excavation was then undertaken

by AS WYAS in 1997 of a possible enclosure, centred at SE 3832 1225 just south of the A638 Doncaster Road. This identified an irregularly-shaped enclosure 50m long and a maximum of 43m wide, with two pronounced ‘kinks’ in its western ditch broadly similar to the early phase enclosure excavated at Whitwood Common (Burgess and Roberts 2004, see below). The narrower, northernmost end of the enclosure lay under the boundary with the A638. The enclosure ditch was up to 2.7m wide and 1m deep, variations in width and depth probably caused by variations in later plough truncation across the site (Burgess 1998). Although no clear entrance into the enclosure was identified, in the southeast corner the ditch narrowed considerably, and might have been spanned by a timber structure at this point. The ditch fills contained worked flint, animal bone fragments, smithing slag and a few sherds of probable Iron Age pottery from upper fills (Elsdon 1998). A possible fragment of human humerus was also found in a ditch fill, and a ^{14}C date of 370-50 BC was obtained from charcoal in this ditch (Burgess 1998).

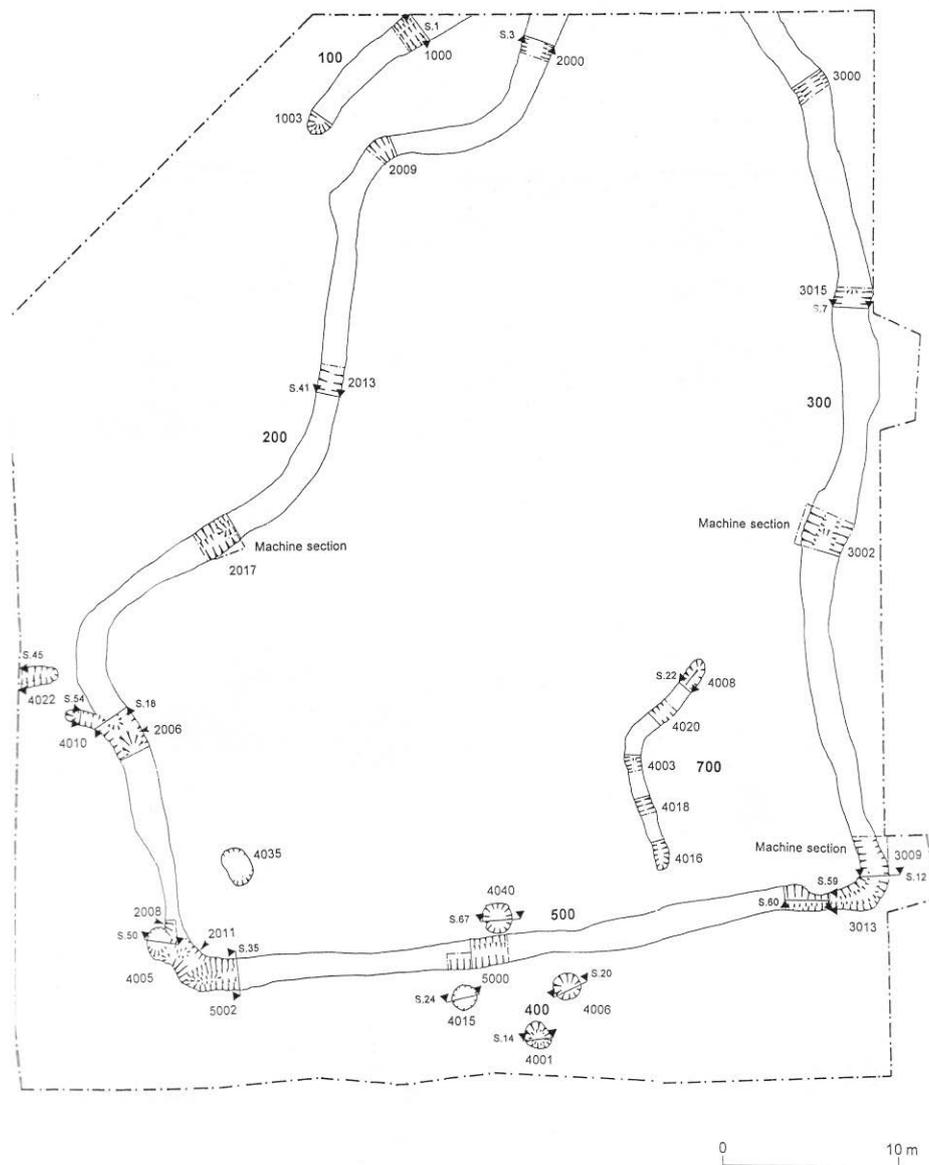


Figure G.175. *The enclosure excavated at Dale Lane, South Elmsall. (Source: Burgess 1998).*

Few internal features were identified within the enclosure. A short length of curvilinear gully extended across the south-eastern corner of the enclosure. This produced some animal bone and a single sherd of Iron Age pottery, and may have acted as a ‘screen’, preventing those entering the enclosure from the possible south-east entrance from seeing immediately what was taking place inside the enclosure. The gap between this feature and the southern ditch probably marks the line of an internal bank. In the south-west corner, pit 4035 contained some slag and a sherd of Iron Age pottery. A ^{14}C date of 99 BC – AD 25 (at one sigma) or 165 BC – AD 80 (at two sigma) was obtained from charcoal in this pit.

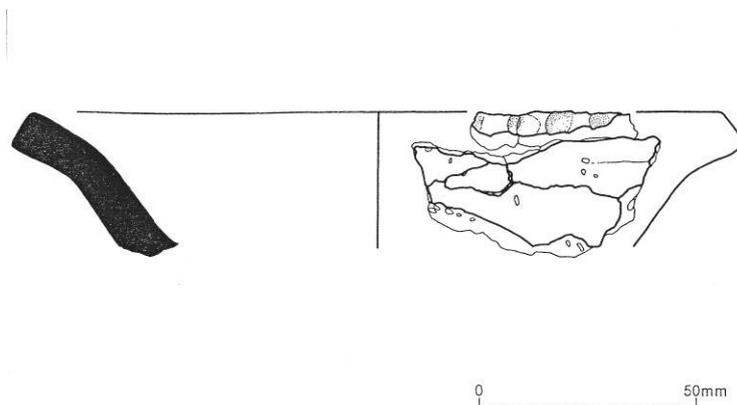


Figure G.176. (left). *Iron Age shell-tempered ware from Dale Lane, South Elmsall. (Source: Burgess 1998.*

Four circular pits were located near the southern margin of the site. Two (pits 4001 and 4006) contained only a single sherd of Iron Age pottery and a flint flake respectively, but pit 4015 contained the partially articulated remains of an adult, possible female individual (Burgess 1998). It was mainly only the right arm and cranium fragments that were represented. The body may have been buried when incomplete and partially articulated, perhaps after exposure elsewhere, or were simply disturbed remains from a burial elsewhere. The position of these pits suggests that they formed part of one structure, even though their palaeoenvironmental remains suggested differences in their depositional histories, and their profiles were very different. It is just possible that these might originally have formed a four-post structure pre- or post-dating the construction of the enclosure ditch, with the posts then being withdrawn, but there is no clear evidence for this. If so, however, the burial of disarticulated human remains in one of these features could have assumed even greater symbolic significance.



Figure G.177. (left). *A recent metal detectorist find from South Elmsall – a Romano-British trumpet brooch. (Source: © PAS).*

The various projects at South Elmsall have demonstrated that Iron Age or earlier, Bronze Age activity can often only be identified through open-area excavation and radiocarbon dating. Although fragmentary, these remains indicate that as at Swillington Common, in some parts of the study region the development of field system and enclosure landscapes might have begun in the early Iron Age or late Bronze Age, and were not just aspects of later Iron Age and Romano-British activities. The different phases of fieldwork at South Elmsall need to be drawn together and published as a coherent study, but it is not yet clear whether there is funding available to do this.

References: Burgess 1998; Howell 1998; McNaught 1997, 1998, 2001; O'Neill 1997b, 1998.

Stile Hill, Colton

SE 3740 3320

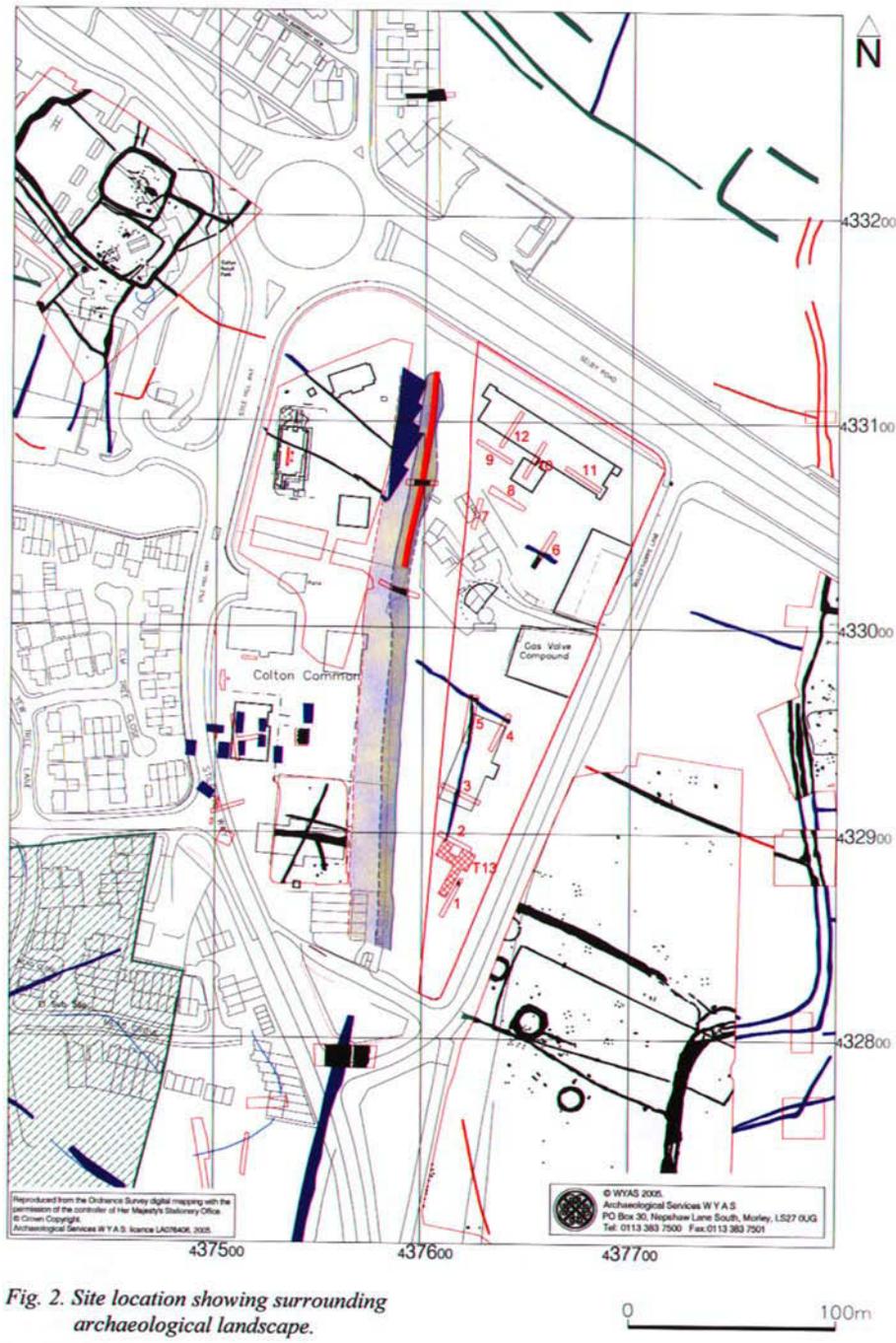


Fig. 2. Site location showing surrounding archaeological landscape.

Figure G.178. The location of Stile Hill, Colton (upper left), in relation to the features identified at Swillington Common (lower right), and Grim's Ditch (centre). (Source: © AS WYAS).

The enclosures investigated at this site lay only c. 300m from the main north-south trackway at Swillington Common, and also close to those at Swillington Brickworks. Excavation was undertaken by WYAS in advance of light industrial and retail development. Aerial photographs had indicated cropmark enclosures on the site, and excavation revealed a series of conjoined enclosures (Barkle 1995a). These were added to one another and elaborated in a series of phases.

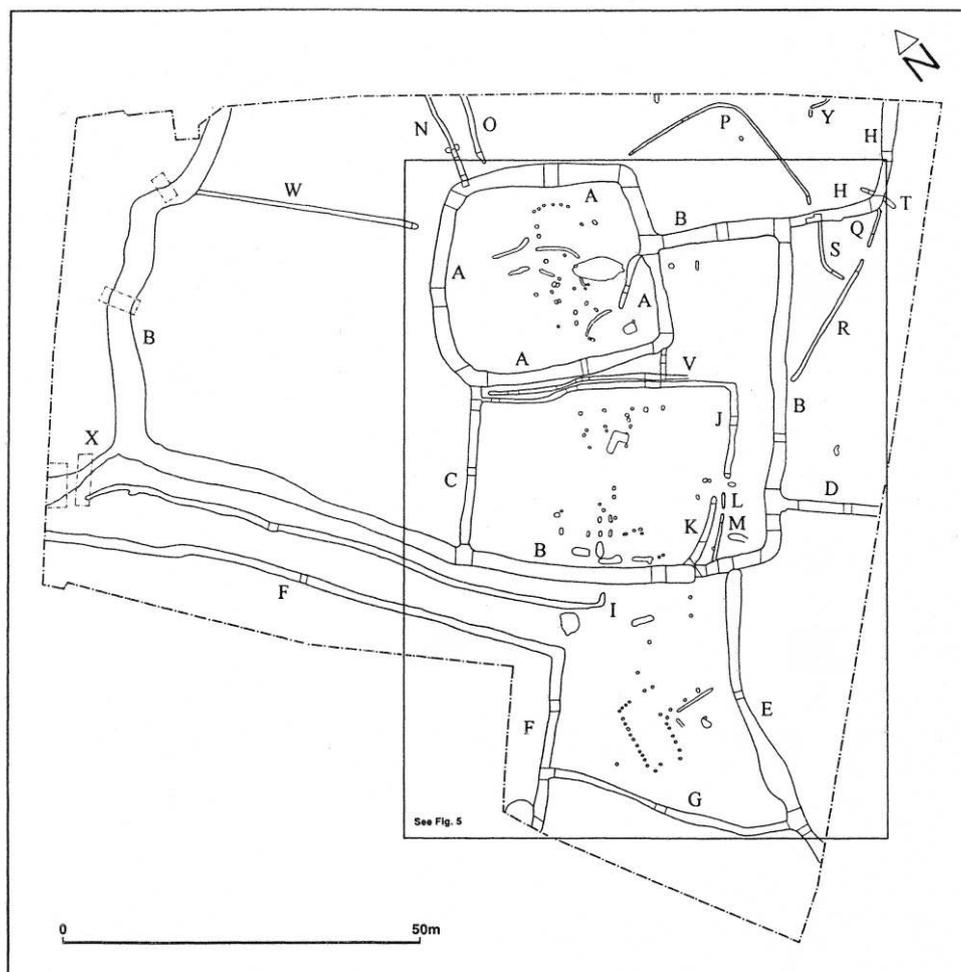


Figure G.179. Overall plan of the Stile Hill, Colton enclosures. (Source: Barkle 1995, fig. 4).

The first phase identified consisted of Enclosure III, 36m long and 25m wide and marked by ditches J-M and V (see Fig. G.480 above), which had a narrow 2.5m wide entrance probably defined by a timber gateway. It may have had an earlier, palisaded phase, and contained a series of postholes representing the remains of at least one subrectangular post-built structure (Structure II). Mid to late second century AD pottery was recovered from the ditch fills. Phase 2 saw an expansion of the enclosures with the subsquare Enclosure I added to the north (defined by ditch A) and a series of subrectangular fields or paddocks (marked by ditches B, H and D above). Enclosure I was 25m long and 24m wide, with a large ditch up to 2.11m wide and 1.05m (Barkle 1995a). A terminal excavated at the bottom of this ditch on its eastern side suggest that there might have been an east-facing entrance here prior to a recut, although a later entrance into the enclosure was not identified, and might have consisted of planks or another form of timber structure. An internal gully aligned south-west from this point also hints at an entrance here. A series of gullies or beam slots and postholes within Enclosure I might have formed at least one north-south aligned rectangular structure (I), approximately 18m long and 5m wide, but it is likely that several different structures were represented by these features. Some of the more curvilinear gullies might even have been roundhouse gullies. A large wear or working hollow was also identified.

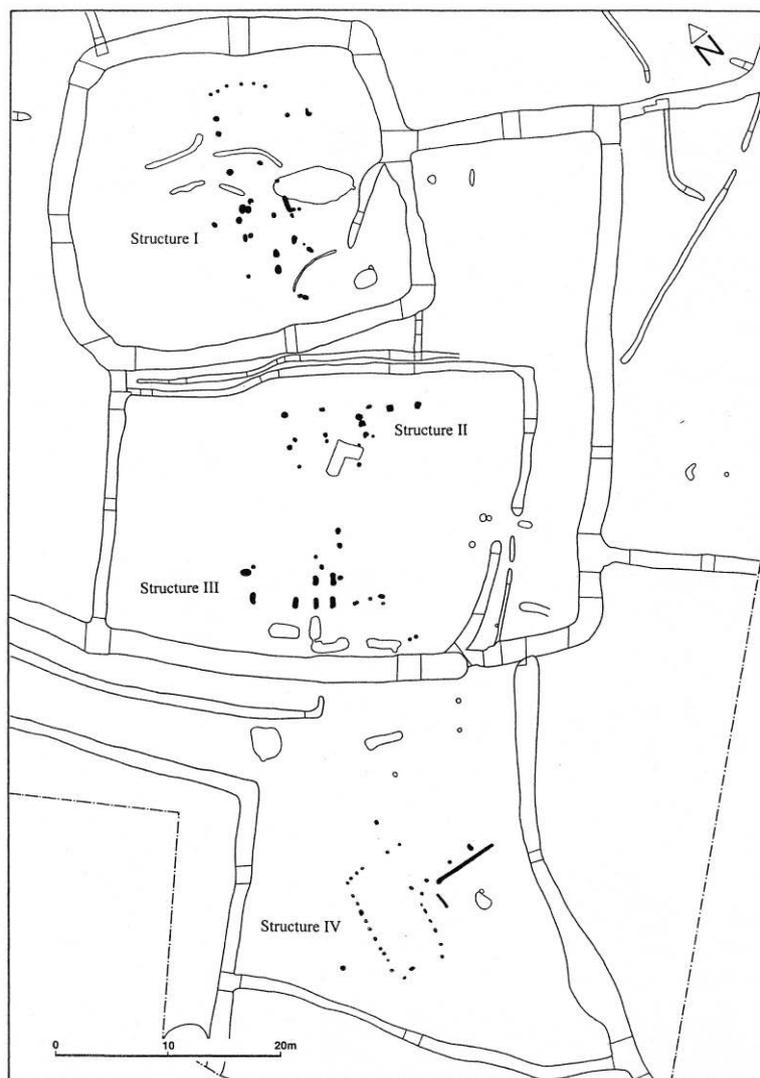


Figure G.180. *More detailed plan of the Stile Hill enclosure complex, showing Enclosure I (top), Enclosure III (middle) and Enclosure IV (bottom), and Structures I-IV. (Source: Barkle 1995).*

A third major phase of activity consisted of the re-cutting of Enclosure I, the enlargement of ditch B to delineate Enclosure II, and the re-cutting of ditches H and D. Small quantities of pottery suggested that this may have taken place during the mid-second century AD. Structure III was probably built during this period within Enclosure III, and this had especially deep postholes. It is possible that it was a four or five-post structure, associated with several possible corn driers or ovens and a fenceline (Barkle 1995a). The fourth main phase of activity was provisionally dated to the later second century AD, when ditches E-G, I and X were dug creating a trackway leading into the trapezoidal Enclosure II. This trackway may have contained a race within it (ditch I), used for separating and sorting livestock. Ditch G may have been a later addition when Structure IV was built. This was a post-built, L-shaped building 12m long and 12m wide, and was also defined by a beam slot (see Appendix E, Fig. E.24). It was aligned roughly north to south, on a slightly different orientation to the other buildings.

Although a complex sequence of ditch re-cutting and enclosure construction and re-inscription was identified at Stile Hill, Colton, it proved difficult to attribute reliable dates to these activities due to a lack of artefacts. Some evidence for cereal processing and storage were identified, and many of the features identified at Stile Hill seem to have been associated with livestock herding, but there was a lack of evidence for sustained ‘domestic’ inhabitation within the enclosures. Only 66 sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered.

References: Barkle 1995.

Swillington Brickworks**SE 3850 3100**

This enclosure complex lies just to the west of Swillington Common, on a gentle north-facing slope within an undulating landscape. Cropmarks had indicated two possibly conjoining enclosures with additional external field and enclosure boundaries (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.21), and geophysical survey undertaken by WYAS had added further detail to these basic observations, such as the south-east facing entrance on the main subrectangular enclosure. In advance of a proposed extension to the brickworks, WYAS undertook an open-area excavation of the site in late 1991 and early 1992.



Figure G.181. *The enclosures at Swillington Brickworks. Cropmark data in red, geophysical survey data in green, and excavated features in black. (Source: Roberts et al. 2007, fig. 2.16).*

These excavations demonstrated the existence of several overlapping roundhouse eavesdrop gullies, including one roundhouse possibly set within a much larger circular gully, although this may be a palimpsest of two different superimposed features. Few internal features were evident within the possible roundhouses, probably due to later ridge and furrow plough truncation. The earliest phase of occupation might have been unenclosed settlement in the later Iron Age, with the enclosure constructed in the first century AD (Eyre-Morgan 1992). This ditch was sizeable indeed, being up to 8m wide and 3.25m deep, and although medieval pottery recovered from its upper fills may have been intrusive, it is likely that this feature survived as a visible hollow for many centuries after it had fallen into disuse, and might then have been deliberately backfilled and slighted in the medieval period. One or more of these

roundhouses may have been set behind a screen or palisade that partially divided the enclosure from south-west to north-east. Another fenceline may have directed people towards the entrance to this subenclosure, but also separated the northern half of the enclosure from the southern half. Again, there seems to have been an architectural grammar of restriction of movement and enclosure. The south-east corner of the enclosure might have been used as a livestock pen, and trackway seems to have been appended to the eastern side of the two enclosures. In addition to some possible late Iron Age or conquest period sherds, Romano-British pottery and a quersntone fragment were also recovered (Eyre-Morgan 1992). Occupation seems to have continued until the third century AD, and other excavated features included a possible T-shaped corn drier or oven. Another possible corn-drier or oven to the east was apparently built within an encircling ring ditch 9m in diameter, although this might well have been an earlier roundhouse.

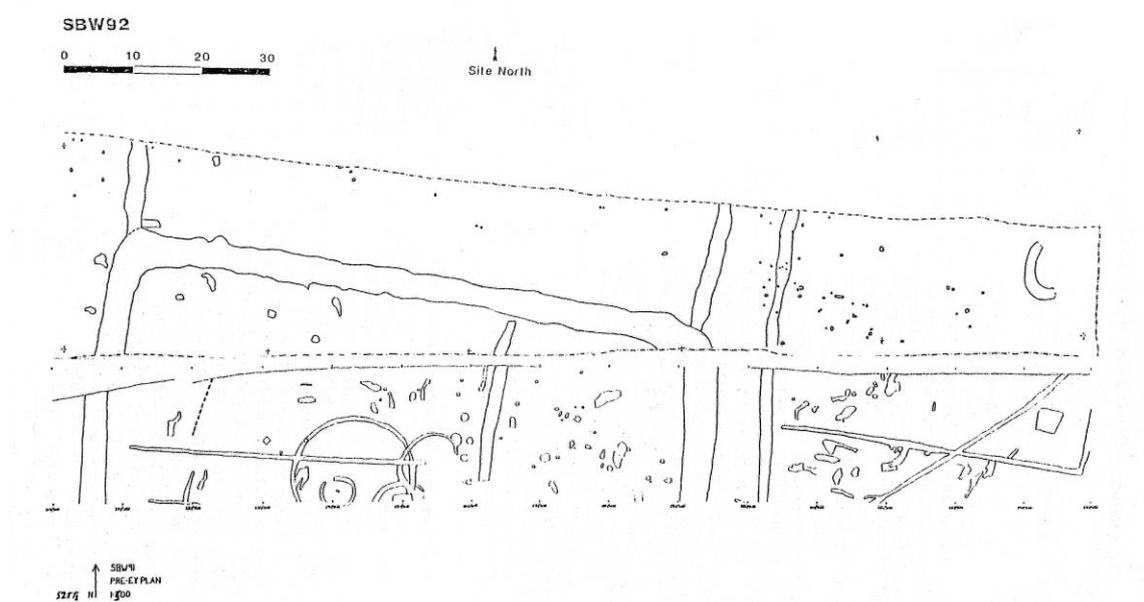


Figure G.182. *Detail of the two open-area excavation phases at Swillington Brickworks, showing features excavated by WYAS in the bottom half of the plan, and those excavated by the York Environs Project in the northern half. (Source: Vyner 1992: fig. 3).*

The area to the north of that excavated by WYAS was also investigated in 1992 under the auspices of the York Environs Project. This did not record many features in the northernmost part of the main enclosure, although one pit contained sandstone flags which suggested a collapsed stone structure of uncertain function (Vyner 1992). Clearly, it is a shame that more of this enclosure could not be excavated, particularly the southern part of the main enclosure.

References: Eyre-Morgan 1992; Vyner 1992.

Swillington Common**SE 3790 3280**

Archaeological features at Swillington Common, just south-east of Leeds, were investigated by AS WYAS as part of the A1-M1 Upgrade scheme, and as this area was located underneath a major road junction it was extensively excavated. This revealed one of the most significant and intriguing sequences of landscape inhabitation in the region, including Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British features, and demonstrating considerable continuity.



Figure G.183. Composite image of the multi-period archaeology at Swillington Common, including cropmarks (red), geophysical survey data (green) and excavated features (black). Note too the close proximity of the enclosures at Stile Hill, Colton. (Source: Deegan 2001b: 31).

The area investigated consists of gently undulating ground on a broad ridgeline, with the ground sloping away to the south, with a beck to the north and then a rising slope to a hilltop. A further beck runs off down a clough to the south-west. Although a series of four to five ring ditches recorded on aerial photographs and confirmed by geophysical survey were thought to be probably Bronze Age in date, open-area excavation to the east of these revealed an ‘open’ settlement of at least two post-built Bronze Age roundhouses (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.40), and two post-built subrectangular buildings. These relatively slight features had proved impossible to detect on aerial photographs or geophysical surveys. Two four-post structures may have been associated with this phase, although they were undated.



Figure G.184. (left). *One of the Bronze Age post-built roundhouses excavated at Swillington Common (foreground), with the middle Iron Age palisaded enclosure in the background, looking south. The possible four-post structure is at the extreme right of the image. (Source: Roberts et al. 2001, rear cover).*

A major structuring feature within the landscape seems to have been the north-south earthworks of Grim’s Ditch (see above), a linear bank and ditch feature now believed to be of later Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age date (Burgess and Wheelhouse 2001). During the earlier Iron Age, a major double-ditched trackway was laid out that matched the general north-south alignment of Grim’s Ditch, although it had an interesting pronounced almost right-angled westwards kink in its length (see Temple Point, Colton synopsis below). A ^{14}C date of 800-190 BC was obtained from charcoal in a lower fill of one of its ditches (Howell 2001: 54), and although it is possible this could be residual material, on landscape stratigraphic grounds the trackway also appears to be relatively early. As with trackways in East Yorkshire, the double-ditched feature may only have been formalising a track for people and animals through the landscape that had already been used for centuries (Fenton-Thomas 2003, 2005, forthcoming; Giles 2000, 2007a). This double-ditched trackway itself continued in use for a protracted period – a pronounced holloway developed within it, and second century Romano-British pottery was recovered from the upper ditch fills.

The next feature in the landscape seems to have been a D-shaped palisaded enclosure with a south-east facing entrance, and some form of timber structure on its north-eastern side, possibly an integral four or five-post structure, or another entrance, or even a small tower (Howell 2001: 60-61; see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.19, and Fig. G.184 above). This unusual feature was thought to be middle Iron Age in date, and the closest similar example known to the author was a teardrop-shaped palisaded enclosure excavated near

Fairford, Gloucestershire in 2002-2003 (Lamdin-Whymark, Brady and Smith 2009: 66, fig. 14). This also had one ‘flattened’ side, restricted entrances and was similarly associated with four-post structures and perhaps several post-built roundhouses of an ‘open’ settlement. The Gloucestershire enclosure was ascribed a late Bronze Age or early Iron Age date, largely on landscape stratigraphic grounds. Another possible, closer parallel is the equally unusual subrectangular palisaded enclosure excavated at South Elmsall (see above). The enclosure closely matches and respects the eastern ditch of the double-ditched trackway, but the two features were probably quite similar in date. The few internal features identified within this unusual enclosure did not elucidate its function – one contained some tap slag.

In the very late Iron Age or early Romano-British period, the north-south double-ditched trackway became incorporated into a system of field boundaries that were appended to and oriented towards its ditches, eventually forming an axial ‘spine’ in a co-axial field system that may have been used until the late Roman period (Howell 2001: 63). These were associated with several subrectangular enclosures. Enclosure C was defined by segmented ditches forming a corner enclosure approximately 16m square, with possible entrances to the east and south-west (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.20). Several concentrations of charred grain were found within these. It is not clear if there was a continuous bank around the enclosure, or if this was segmented as well. Elongated and circular pits within it had evidence for *in situ* burning and contained burnt stone and charcoal, but one pit in the north-west corner contained a fragmented but complete middle Iron Age vessel and two rim sherds from other pots (*ibid.*), but the enclosure might have continued in use into the second or third centuries AD.

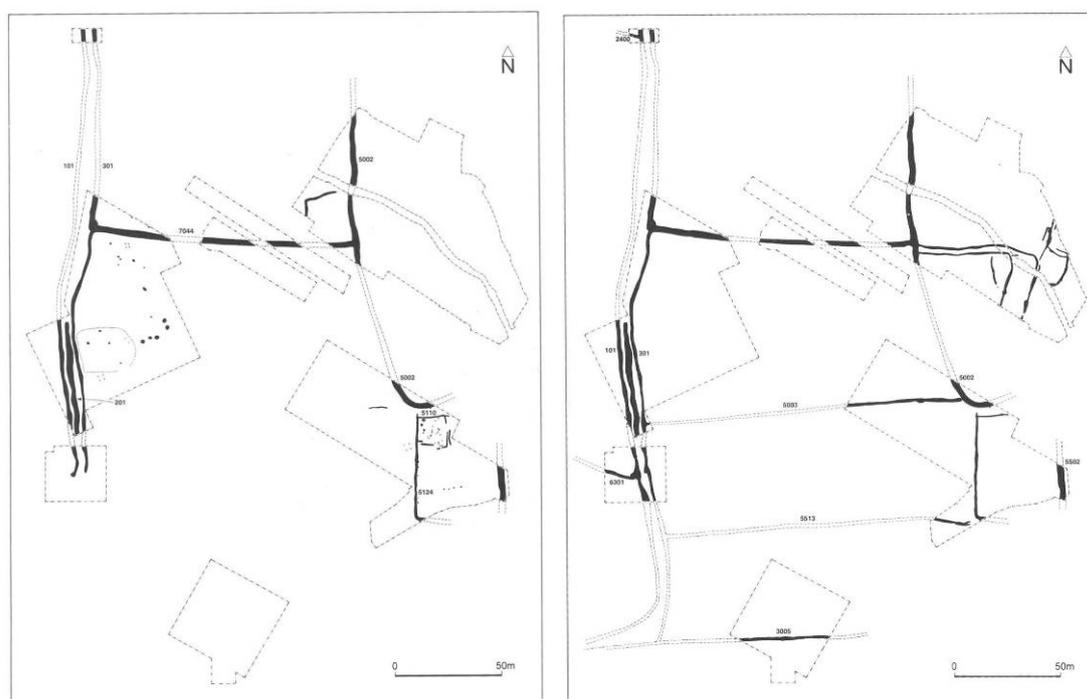


Figure G.185. (left). The developing field system and enclosures at Swillington Common during the later Iron Age and early Romano-British periods, and **Fig. G.186. (right)** during the later Romano-British period. (Source: Howell 1998: 60, 66, figs. 44, 49).

During the Romano-British period additional boundaries and enclosures were added and some existing ditches were re-cut, forming a broadly co-axial field system. Another double-ditched trackway, one with a pronounced southwards bend in it, was also incorporated into this system, and its east-west extent was very narrow, forming a race more than a trackway. Animals may have been funnelled into this feature from the south.

The results from Swillington Common demonstrate the importance of intensive sampling and large-scale open-area excavations, particularly for detecting more subtle traces of earlier activity such as the Bronze Age settlement. As at South Elmsall, this hints that in some places within the study region land allotment might have been earlier in date than across most areas, even if this was not formalised through ditched boundaries.

References: Howell 2001.

Temple Point, Colton**SE 3770 3280**

This site was located between the excavation at Stile Hill, Colton to the west, and that at Swillington Common to the east (see Fig. G.183 above). It was excavated in 2002 by the York Archaeological Trust, who recorded three round barrows previously revealed on aerial photographs (e.g. Deegan 2001b: 31, fig. 13). Only a few sherds of late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the upper fills of the ring ditch of one of the three barrows during the YAT excavations (Johnson 2002: 14-17), but only small sections across the circular ditches were excavated. Three cremation burials were found in small pits away from the barrows, two associated with late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery. The West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS) later commissioned AS WYAS to re-excavate the inadequate YAT investigations, and this later more methodical work in 2003 recorded a sherd of Beaker pottery in a pit within Barrow 2, and worked flint from the ring ditch of Barrow 1 and a central pit or tree bole feature within this feature (Brown and Signorelli 2005).

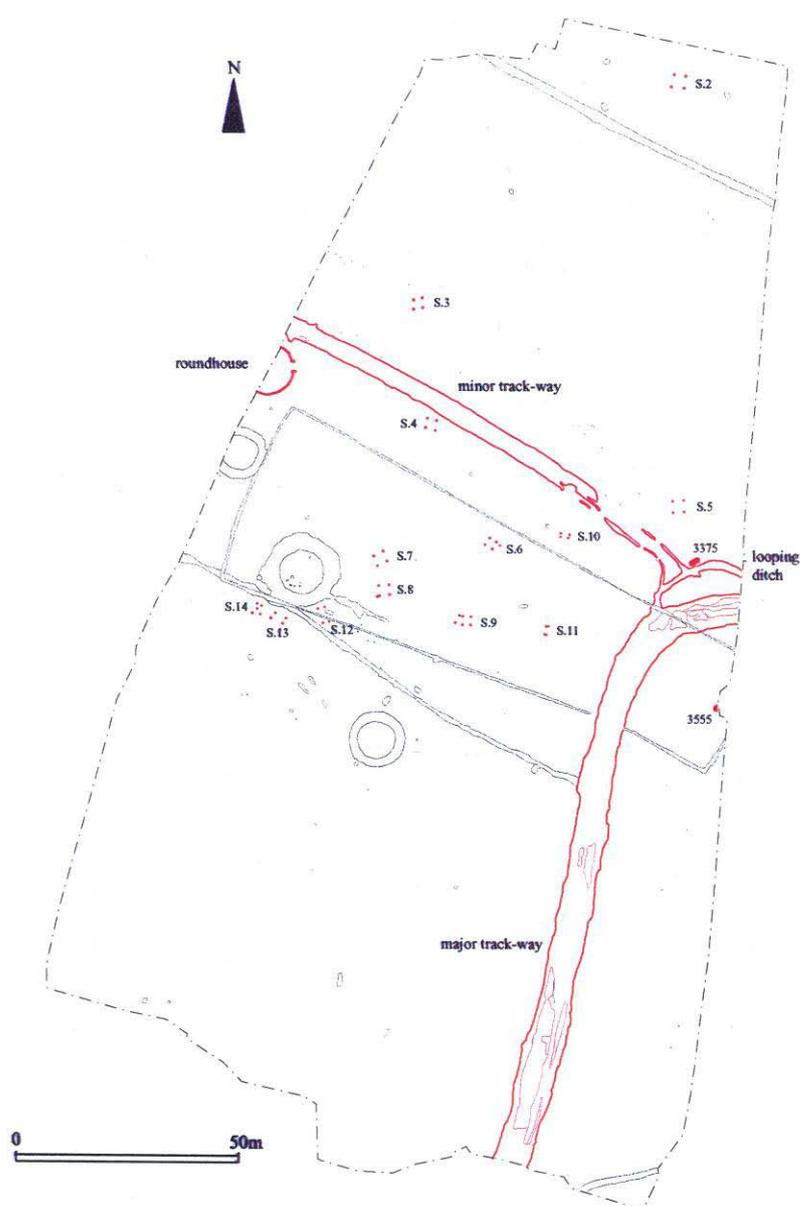


Figure G.187. (left).
Iron Age features
excavated by YAT at
Temple Point, Colton.
(Source: Johnson
2002: fig. 8).

Interestingly, ¹⁴C dates obtained during AS WYAS excavation of carbonised material in the primary fills of the ring ditches of Barrows 1 and 2 produced dates of 750-390 BC and 760-400 BC, suggesting that the barrow ditches may have been recut and the barrows re-emphasised during the early to mid Iron Age (Brown and Signorelli 2005). This is highly significant, as at least five of the fourteen of the four-post structures also found during the YAT investigations clustered around the central Barrow 3 (Johnson 2002: 36-41, 2003: 8). This may suggest a focus upon earlier monuments during the early to middle Iron Age. No radiocarbon dates were available in the YAT reports submitted to WYAAS, but samples were taken for analysis, and at least some of these will probably prove to be similar in date to some of the four-post structures found at Swillington Common during the AS WYAS M1-A1 investigations (Howell 2001, see above).

Part of a roundhouse approximately 11.80m in diameter was also excavated by YAT, and this was located close to Barrow 3. It had an east facing entrance defined by four postholes, and the location of the shallow U-shaped ring gully in relation to these suggests that it was probably the setting for a wattle and daub or plank wall, rather than an eavesdrop gully. The roundhouse contained no evidence for internal postholes or a hearth, although there had been modern plough truncation on the site. The form of the roundhouse is slightly unusual, with no direct parallels nearby, and dating evidence for it would prove useful as no artefacts were associated with it.

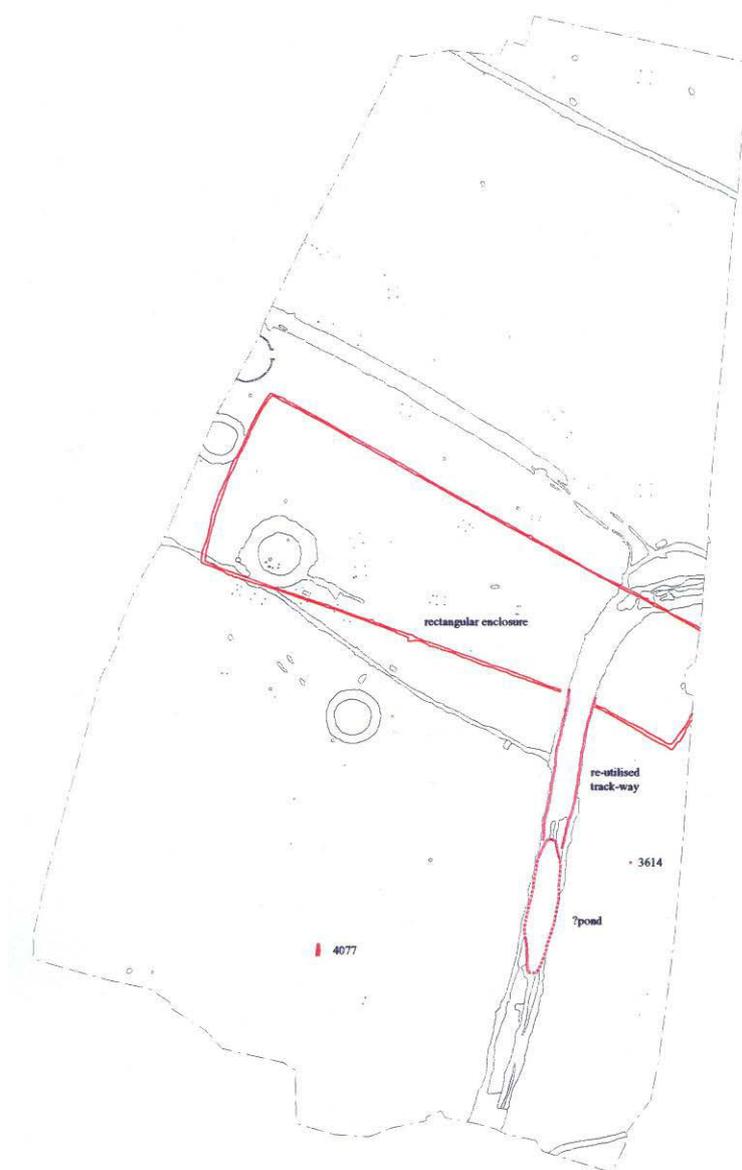


Figure G.188. (right). *Photograph of the roundhouse excavated by YAT at Temple Point. No detailed plans of the feature were included in the client report. (Source: Johnson 2002: 36, plate 7).*

YAT also recorded further lengths of the broadly north-south double ditched trackway investigated during the M1-A1 Swillington Common excavations (Howell 2001, see above). In some of the sections of trackway deepened by wear into a holloway, wheel ruts approximately 1.50m apart were revealed, from wheeled vehicles such as carts or carriages (Johnson 2002: 26, plate 4). Late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery and late Iron Age or early Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fills of the holloway, whilst late Roman pottery was found in the upper fill of one of the trackway ditches. This again suggests an extremely lengthy sequence of use for this feature, as suggested by the AS WYAS excavations (Howell 2001: 54-56). At the point where the major trackway ‘kinked’ round, a short curvilinear ditch of a ‘trackway loop’ was excavated, apparently post-dating the construction of the major trackway, but perhaps contemporary with some of the use of it, maybe when the major trackway was largely defined by a holloway and traces of flanking banks (Johnson 2002: 31). It is not clear what

purpose the ‘trackway loop’ served – it might have been a passing place, or simply a later reinscription of the major trackway corner. No finds are noted as having been found within it, but the 2002 YAT report suggests that it was also Iron Age in date.

A north-west to south-east aligned minor trackway was also recorded by YAT, defined by shallow ditches and a holloway. This too had evidence for wheel ruts 1.45-1.50m wide within it (Johnson 2002: 32, plate 6). This minor trackway post-dated the ‘trackway loop’, but at some point was presumably contemporary with one phase of use of the major north-south trackway. Two north-west to south-east orientated ditches were judged to be part of a phase of Romano-British land division, but the northern example produced no artefacts, and the southern one contained later prehistoric and greyware sherds, so they could just as equally have late Iron Age origins. It is also notable that they were both parallel to the minor trackway, and that the southern example used Barrow 2 as a landscape mark.



In the post-Roman period, a large subrectangular ditched enclosure partly cut across the line of the major trackway, although it used the holloway of the earlier feature as its southern entrance (Johnson 2002: 53). It also seems to have deliberately intersected the point where the late Iron Age or Romano-British field ditch met the Bronze Age ditches of Barrows 2 and 3. Only four sherds of tenth to twelfth century pottery and a small undateable copper alloy fitting were recovered from the ditch sections of this large enclosure.

Figure G.189. (left). *Post-Roman features at Temple Point, Colton. Note how the post-Roman enclosure seems to have used the major hollowed trackway as its entrance, and how it also referenced Barrow 2. (Source: Johnson 2002: fig. 15).*

A livestock-related function was proposed for the large rectangular enclosure (Johnson 2002: 58), but a possible ‘pond’ feature within the holloway of the major trackway containing clayey primary fills may have served as a watering hole. Interestingly, however, the inadequate YAT sampling of the round barrow ring gullies completely missed an extended inhumation that had had been placed into a grave dug into the silted up north-west part of the ring ditch of Barrow 1, and these remains returned a ¹⁴C date of AD 810-1000 (Brown and Signorelli 2005), indicating an Anglo-Scandinavian re-use of the barrow as a later burial monument. In this light, the subrectangular enclosure could be considered to be a deliberate re-appropriation of earlier monuments in the landscape, a significant practice in post-Roman and Anglo-Saxon England (Semple 1998; Williams 1998b). It may thus not have had such a simple utilitarian purpose, and hopefully full publication of the YAT excavations will provide further evidence for this extremely important site.

Unfortunately, when this author e-mailed to Mark Johnson at YAT early in 2009 in order to enquire how far post-excavation analysis and report writing had progressed, he replied that YAT management had not yet allotted him any time or resources for this, and it was not part of his budgeted future work programme. The site seems to have a low overall priority in YAT’s post-excavation programme. It is absolutely imperative that YAT provide the necessary resources to allow this important site to be written up and fully published, with a full suite of radiocarbon dating. If necessary, the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service should compel YAT and their client to undertake post-excavation and publication work, as this was presumably a condition of the original planning condition and consent. It is utterly unethical for YAT to continue to ignore this significant site.

References: Brown and Signorelli 2005; Johnson 2002, 2003a, 2003b.

Thorntree Hill, Walton

SE 3700 1680

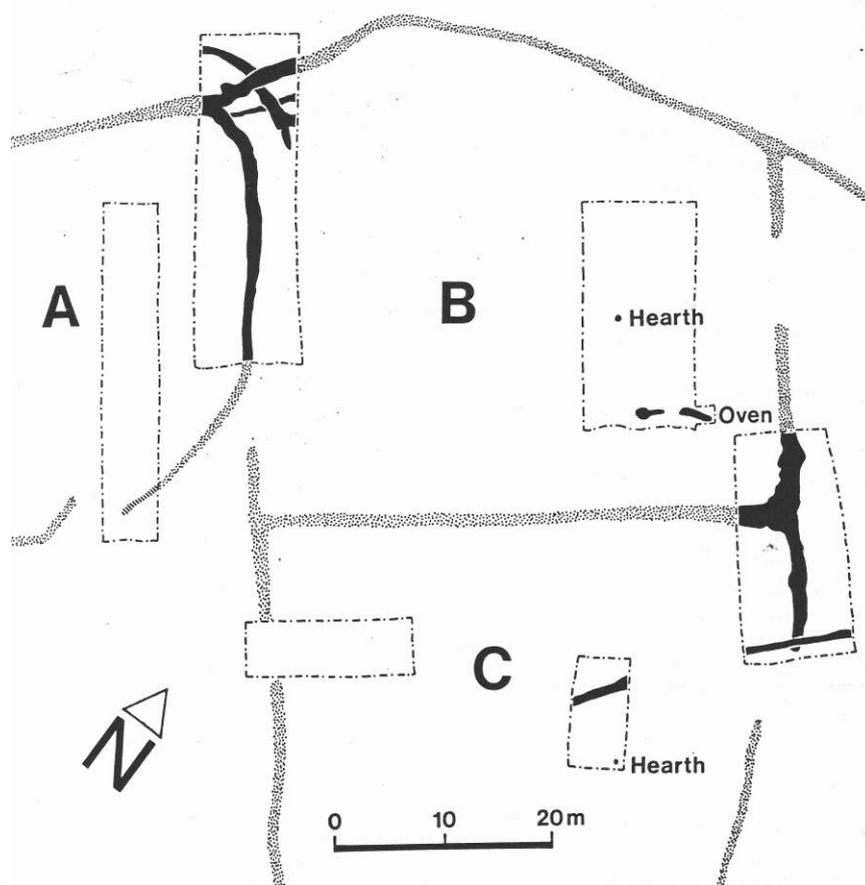


Figure G.190. Plan of the excavation at Thorntree Hill, Walton. (Source: Eyre-Morgan 1991).

This site was located to the south-east of Wakefield and Crofton, and was identified from cropmarks in 1974. It was situated on a hilltop in an undulating landscape. In advance of opencast mining, WYAS carried out a gradiometer survey, followed by open-area excavation in 1991. This confirmed the existence of a subrectangular or trapezoidal Enclosure B (Eyre-Morgan 1991), approximately 50m long and 40m wide with ditches up to 2m wide and 0.80m deep and a north-east facing entrance *c.* 8m wide. Apparently appended to the south of this was another slightly more irregular enclosure (Enclosure C) at least 50m long and 0.35m wide, again with a north-east facing entrance. To the south-east was the D-shaped Enclosure A, which possibly pre-dated Enclosure A and had a ditch 1m wide and 0.50m deep. Enclosure A may originally have had a narrow trackway or race associated with its north-east side, prior to the construction of the main Enclosure B ditch, but possibly with an earlier palisaded phase of Enclosure B post-dating it. Unfortunately, only very small excavation trenches were opened within the enclosures – these identified a hearth, a keyhole-shaped oven or flue and another oven within Enclosure B, and a hearth within Enclosure C, which appeared to have been truncated by a later boundary ditch, though interestingly this cut right across the enclosure entrance. A large dump of second to third century Romano-British pottery was found at the junction of enclosures A and B, including samian and Black Burnished ware (*ibid.*). A whetstone and some slag was also recovered.

References: Eyre-Morgan 1991.

Upton

SE 4755 1353

A small D-shaped enclosure was investigated here in 1990. This was 30m long (north-south) and 25m wide (east-west), with an east-facing entrance (Roberts 1995). Aside from the single ditch, with depositional evidence for an internal bank, posthole and slot features were excavated that probably represented gate structures and internal divisions such as pens, stalls or ricks, whilst an unusual curvilinear structure in the south-east corner may have represented a ‘storage bin’ structure of some sort, or perhaps even a small herder’s shelter. However, it seemed to have been cut by the enclosure ditch, so it is possible it pre-dated the enclosure, and may even have represented a small pennanular ditch around a small burial mound (Roberts 1995: 20), though no additional evidence supports this. A rectangular pit feature with a lower fill of ash may also have represented a prehistoric burial, as this would have lain beneath the presumed line of the bank.

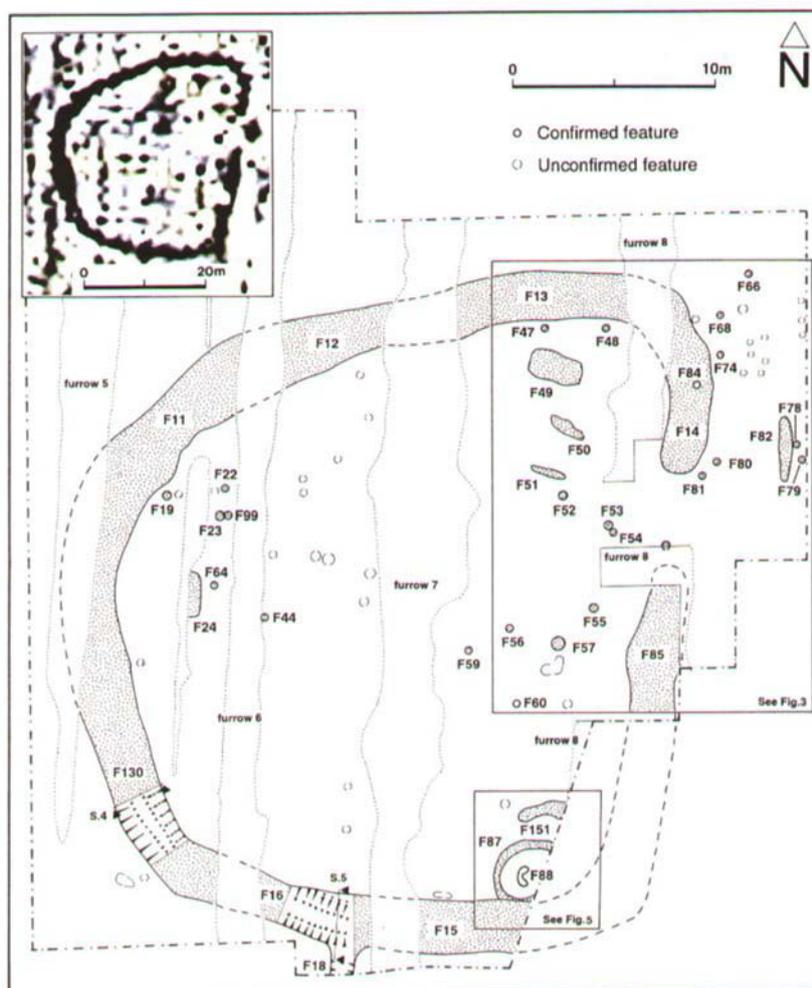


Figure G.191. *The excavated enclosure at Upton, W. Yorks. (Source: Roberts 1995: 11, fig. 2).*

Animal bone fragments recovered from the ditch and other features included two cattle mandibles and a scapula, but sheep and a few pig bone fragments were also recovered. After the ditch had silted up, a possible late Roman cremation burial in a partial ceramic jar was inserted into the ditch fills (see Chapter 11 and Appendix I), and a few flint flakes and worn sherds of third or fourth century Romano-

British pottery were also recovered during the excavation. The enclosure existed in apparent isolation, and its D-shape in plan was similar to other isolated enclosures identified by cropmarks at Bottom Boat near Methley, and at Sandal Magna near Wakefield (Roberts 1995: 21; WYAAS). The lack of many internal features and any evidence for ‘domestic’ occupation, and the location of the site on the south-eastern side of Upton Beacon hill at around 75m OD, also suggests that it was primarily a stock enclosure.

References: Roberts 1995.

Wattle Syke, Collingham**SE 4070 4590**

Figure G.192. *Cropmarks at Wattle Syke, Collingham. (Source: © AS WYAS).*

At Wattle Syke near Collingham and Wetherby, a complex 'ladder' settlement has been revealed by cropmarks adjacent to the A1. Unusually, the settlement seems to consist of three different 'lobes', each consisting of a series of enclosures apparently incrementally appended to one another. Many of the enclosures contain evidence for internal features, and appear to 'hang off' sinuous linear ditches linked to field system ditches. It is not clear why there was such a large triangular space between the three lobes of the settlement. There may have been an unmarked trackway running north-west to south-east with the enclosures on either side, or the central area might have been used for corralling livestock, with trackways allowing access to fields and open grazing areas beyond the enclosures.

In 1988, excavation of part of the eastern side of the cropmark complex took place in advance of road improvements associated with the A1. Most of the area of one subrectangular enclosure was recorded, along with its ditched boundaries, internal subdivisions, a roundhouse ring gully, a T-shaped corn drier, and three possible four-post structures. Limited quantities of Iron Age and Romano-British pottery were found. In addition, three inhumation burials were discovered. One was a crouched inhumation in a pit, and this was presumed to be Iron Age in date, although no dating evidence was recovered. Another inhumation had the head of the body resting on a stone 'pillow', underneath which were the disarticulated and butchered remains of a dog (Turner 1991). A third inhumation was in a central pit within an oval ring ditch thought to represent the remains of a barrow. Although these two other inhumations were also thought to be Iron Age, no ¹⁴C dating was carried out on the skeletons, and therefore this assumed dating is contentious (Burgess 2001c: 268). For example, at Enclosure D at Ferrybridge, one inhumation dated to AD 540-720 contained dog remains near the head of the body. This dog was possibly used as a pillow (Martin 2005: 121). This similar burial rite might thus suggest a post-Roman date for the Wattle Syke example. Most of the burials excavated as part of the recent 2007 Wattle Syke excavations were probably late Roman or post-Roman in date.

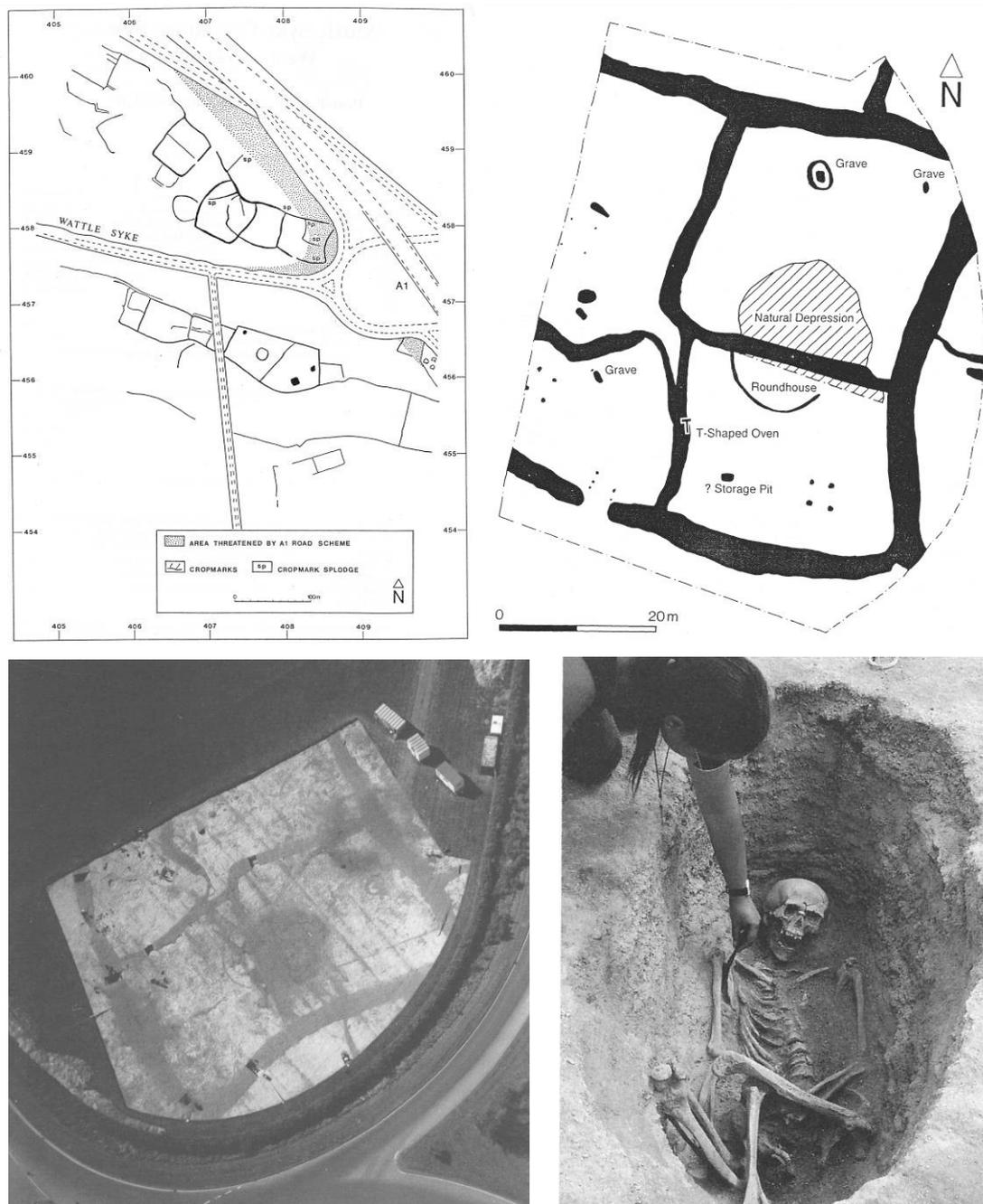


Figure G.193. (top left). The eastern part of the site, showing the area affected by the road improvement works. (Source: Turner 1991: 2). **Fig. G.194.** (top right). Plan of the excavated enclosure, showing the roundhouse ring gully cutting through the natural depression in the underlying limestone, and the locations of the four-post structures and the corn drier. (Source: Turner 1991: 5). **Fig. G.195.** (bottom left). Aerial photograph of the enclosure under excavation. (Source: WYAS 1992: 56). **Fig. G.196.** (bottom right). The crouched inhumation burial in a pit. (Source: WYAS 1992: 57).

Following a decision to upgrade the section of the A1 between Bramham and Wetherby, extensive geophysical survey and fieldwalking was undertaken by AS WYAS, along the line of a proposed link road between Bramham to Wetherby (Webb 2003, 2004). This then led to an evaluation, during which over a hundred 20m long trial trenches were excavated over selected cropmark and geophysical features. This work confirmed the presence of an extensive settlement and associated field boundaries, including large enclosure ditches with revetments of stone on their inner faces, a hitherto unrecognised

feature in West Yorkshire (Signorelli 2005). Romano-British pottery of second to late fourth or early fifth century date was recovered, including significant quantities of material from the very end of the period, and also possible post-Roman and Anglo-Saxon sherds from some upper ditch fills. Disarticulated and partially articulated human infant and dog bones were also retrieved from some ditch fills, in addition to other animal bone. The results clearly demonstrated that there had been a major settlement of some social significance at the site, and the presence of post-Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery hinted at possible direct continuity of settlement, a very rare feature of the region and previously only found at Garforth and Parlington Hollins (see above), although post-Roman burials were found at Parlington Hollins, Ferrybridge and one example at Dalton Parlours.



Figure G.197. *Aerial photograph from 2005 showing the A1 to the right and the A659 running left to right, with exceptional cropmarks revealing large enclosure ditches. Some dark 'blobs' may reflect fluvio-glacial solution hollows in the underlying limestone, but at least two match the positions of stone-walled buildings revealed during the full excavation (see below). (Source: Signorelli 2005).*

These results did not lead to a re-design of the proposed route of the road corridor, and despite the evaluation clearly indicating the likely scale and importance of the site further archaeological work was inexplicably delayed for two years until June 2007 when topsoil stripping of the road corridor commenced under AS WYAS supervision. Predictably for such a major enclosure complex, this work revealed the presence of many hitherto unidentified smaller features such as pits and gullies, and during machining large quantities of Romano-British material including pottery, quern stones and metal artefacts including a fine enamelled fan-tailed brooch were exposed and retrieved. Features previously interpreted as shallow, stone-filled pits during the evaluation (Signorelli 2005) proved to be the remains of at least eight subrectangular Roman or post-Roman buildings, some with sunken floors.



Figure G.198. Photograph taken in 2007 just before the commencement of the roadworks and the excavation phase of the archaeological investigations. (Source: © English Heritage).

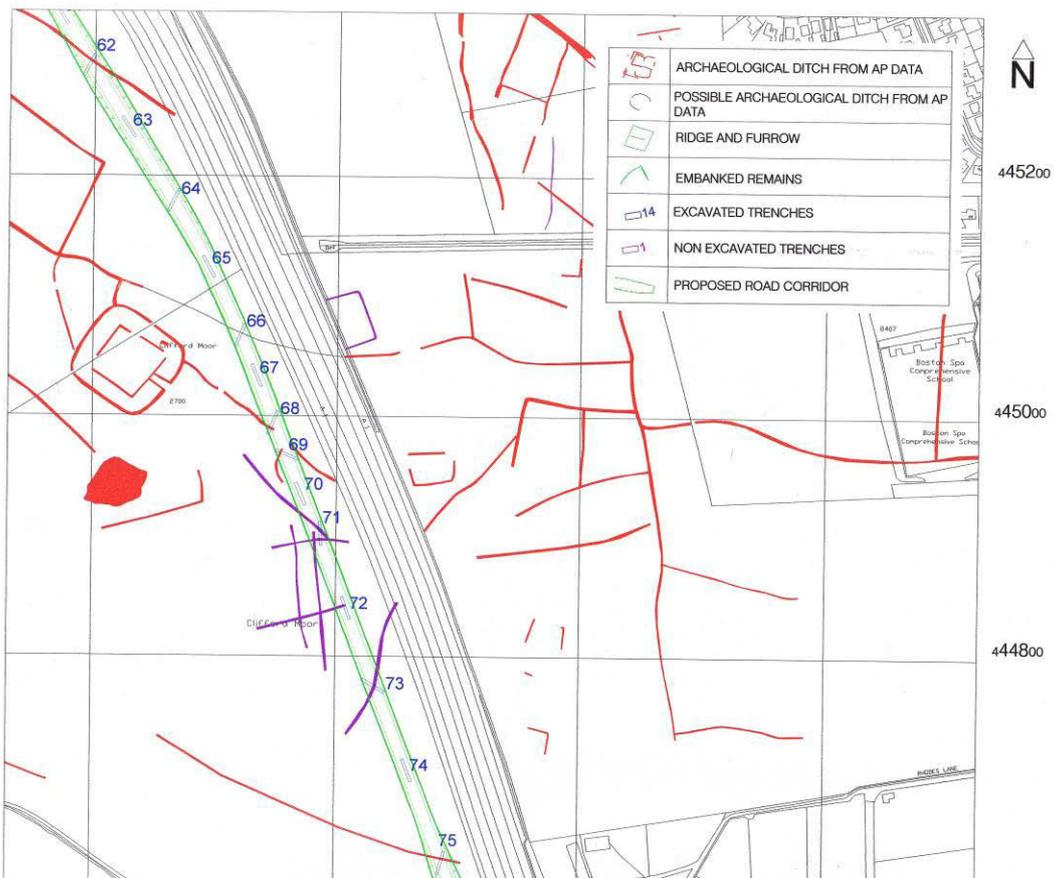
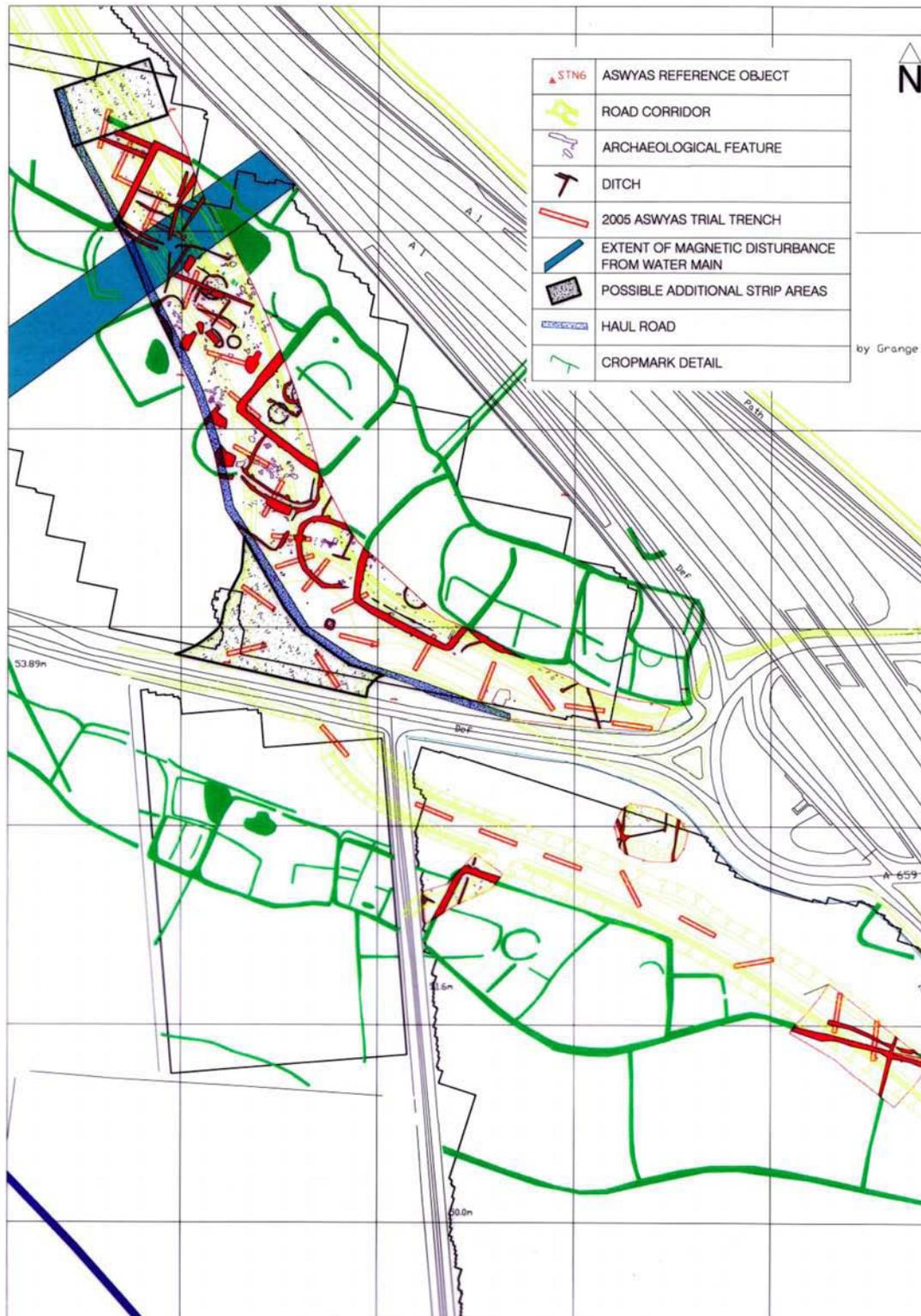


Figure G.199. Approximately 1km to the south-east of the main Wattle Syke complex above, aerial photographs and geophysical survey identified an unusual double-ditched enclosure (to the middle left of the image), and a series of irregular field boundaries associated with it. (Source: Signorelli 2005).



Figure G.200. (top left). A large ditch revealed during topsoil stripping at Wattle Syke, and behind it in the arable field, the positive cropmark showing in the wheat crop. (Source: author). **Fig. G.201. (top right).** Higher oblique image of part of the stripped area, showing positive cropmarks of enclosure ditches in the field behind. Compare with the cropmarks in Figs. G.410-G.411. (Source: author). **Fig. G.202. (bottom left).** Dave Williams metal detecting a stripped enclosure ditch. (Source: © AS WYAS). **Fig. G.203. (bottom right).** Part of the area stripped of topsoil, showing the outline of the ring gully of a roundhouse, cut by later features. (Source: © AS WYAS).

Due to the presence of numerous metal detectorists in the area, many of whom repeatedly came onto the site during the day and had to be asked to leave, or were observed on the site illegally in the evenings and weekends, AS WYAS staff themselves metal-detected the features within the road corridor. This work recovered further metal artefacts including copper-alloy coins and the unusual double-looped iron fitting noted in Appendix F (Fig. F.22). The archaeological consultants on the road scheme were clearly caught unawares by the scale and complexity of the features recorded, despite the caveats within the geophysical and evaluation reports that there would probably be many features not detected during these initial phases. The initial timescale proposed for excavation in advance of the roadworks was thus far too short, and in the end the excavations took six months. These excavations produced extremely large quantities of artefacts including Romano-British pottery and coins, but also some potential late Iron Age and post-Roman ceramics. The large quantities of animal bone included many placed deposits and complete animal burials (see below, and Chapter 11 Figs. 11.27-11.32). Many human burials were also been recorded, including crouched inhumations and extended inhumations, some of the latter within stone-lined grave cuts (see Chapter 11, Figs. 11.70-11.76); and numerous infant burials (Chapter 11 Figs. 11.77-11.78).



BTW 3112 PROPOSED ADDITIONAL AREAS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRE-EXCAVATION PLAN AND CROPMARK DETAIL (1:2500 scale)

Figure G.204. Composite plan of features recently investigated at Wattle Syke, including cropmark data (green), and features revealed during topsoil stripping (red), which have been or are currently being excavated. In the main area of the site to the north of the A659, note the 5-6 roundhouses to the north and east parts of the area, a small circular or 8-sided structure and at least 6-8 rectangular buildings. South of the main complex and towards the A659, an isolated square barrow feature is also visible. The impressive width of some of the enclosure ditches is also apparent. (Source: © AS WYAS).



Figure G.205. (left). Complete articulated cow skeleton from a pit at Wattle Syke, placed on its back. The neck of the cow was apparently broken in at least one place in order to get the beast into the small rectangular pit. (Source: author). **Fig. G.206. (right).** Complete articulated horse skeleton from a pit at Wattle Syke, minus the skull. The skull was later found underneath the rest of the skeleton, suggesting that the horse had been decapitated before burial. (Source: author).



Figure G.207. (left). Building 2 during excavation and recording, showing a flagged floor surface being recorded. **Fig. G.208. (top right).** Building 3 during excavation, demonstrating the build-up of colluvium silt deposits within the sunken floor of this structure after its abandonment. **Fig. G.209. (bottom right).** One excavated quadrant of Building 3, showing that it had a partially stone-flagged surface within it. See also Appendix, E Figs. E.29-E.30. (All images source: © AS WYAS).

Despite the shallow ploughsoil, in some cases only 0.15m thick, preservation across the site was generally excellent. In addition to several roundhouses (at least five), many relatively well-preserved subrectangular buildings survived, most sunken-floored structures similar to examples excavated at Dalton Parlours (e.g. Structures P and R). It is possible that some of these structures at least will prove to be very late Roman or even post-Roman upon post-excavation analysis. Finds of Roman brick and tile also suggest that much more substantial Roman-style buildings existed in the immediate vicinity. A small annular or perhaps even eight-sided ring ditch approximately 5m in diameter with two shallow internal postholes appears superficially similar to the possible ‘shrine’ Structure 6 excavated at Topham Farm, Sykehouse in South Yorkshire (Roberts 2003), and detailed excavation and post-excavation analyses will have to establish if such a use is a possibility.

Wattle Syke is thus of considerable national and regional significance, and is probably the most important settlement in West Yorkshire to have been excavated since Dalton Parlours. It offers the unparalleled research opportunity to study one settlement from the late Iron Age through the Romano-British period and on into the post-Roman centuries. The excavation and post-excavation work will hopefully also allow the other extensive parts of the complex still under arable cultivation to be protected in some way from further destructive ploughing.

References: Burgess 2001b; Signorelli 2005; Turner 1988, 1991; Webb 2003, 2004.

Whitwood Common

SE 4076 2387

At Whitwood Common, excavated by AS WYAS in advance of commercial and industrial development, medieval ridge and furrow and modern ploughing had heavily truncated the site. The irregular enclosure was defined by ditch up to 2.7m in width and 1.10m deep with a pronounced kink on its western side, possibly to avoid a pre-existing feature in the landscape, perhaps a tree. If that was the case, it is interesting that this was left in place within the landscape, rather than being removed.

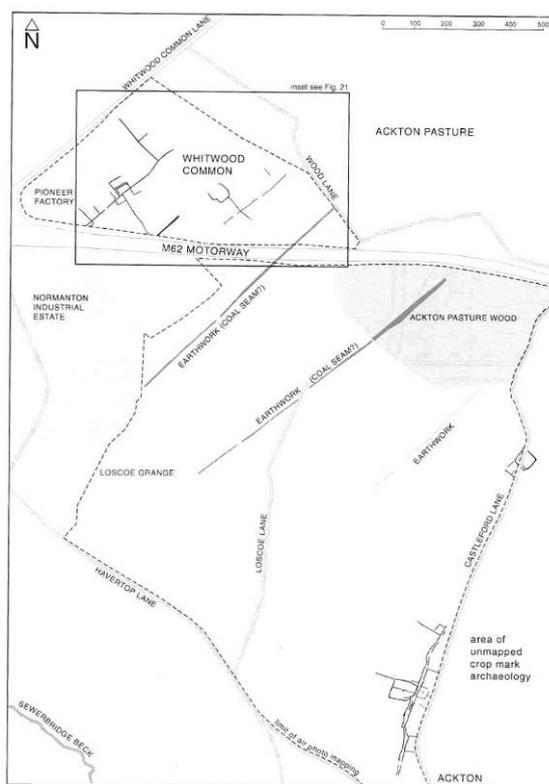


Fig. 20. Crop mark evidence in the vicinity of Whitwood Common.



Fig. 21. Whitwood Common composite plan showing crop mark evidence, geophysical evidence and excavated enclosure.

Fig. G.210. (left) and Fig. G.211. (above). Plans showing the excavated enclosure at Whitwood Common in relation to other features identified from cropmarks and geophysical survey. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 23-24).

The east and south-east side of the main ditch of the Phase 1 enclosure was re-cut and emphasised more than the lengths of ditch elsewhere, as on sections S5, S19 and S22 (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 25, 27-28). No entrance through this enclosure ditch was found, but it may have lain to the north or north-west, unless there was a wooden 'bridge' over the ditch at some point. People and/or animals would therefore have entered the enclosure from this north-westerly direction, and this NW-SE movement also appears to have been the predominant axis within the local landscape.

In the southern half of the enclosure was a roundhouse consisting of at least one, possibly two phases of ring gully. This was approximately 10m in diameter, and had a south-east facing entrance. This was directly south of a series of 'screens' comprised of a NW-SE gully, a curvilinear gully, and two additional two short lengths of gully, with a c. 5m wide entrance through it, postholes also suggesting that this gap was further emphasised by some form of post structure (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 25-26). The roundhouse thus lay behind a series of demarcated spaces. Some people and animals may have been able to proceed southwards directly into the southern part of the enclosure, but others might

have had to approach the roundhouse through the entrance in the screen. Only the wall and roof of the roundhouse would have been apparent, not its east facing entrance, the orientation of which does not appear to conform to ‘common-sense’ logic of allowing the inhabitants to view people or animals entering the enclosure. The subrectangular space in the north-east corner of the enclosure might have been for stock, with the southern area defined as an area of more ‘domestic’, human inhabitation.

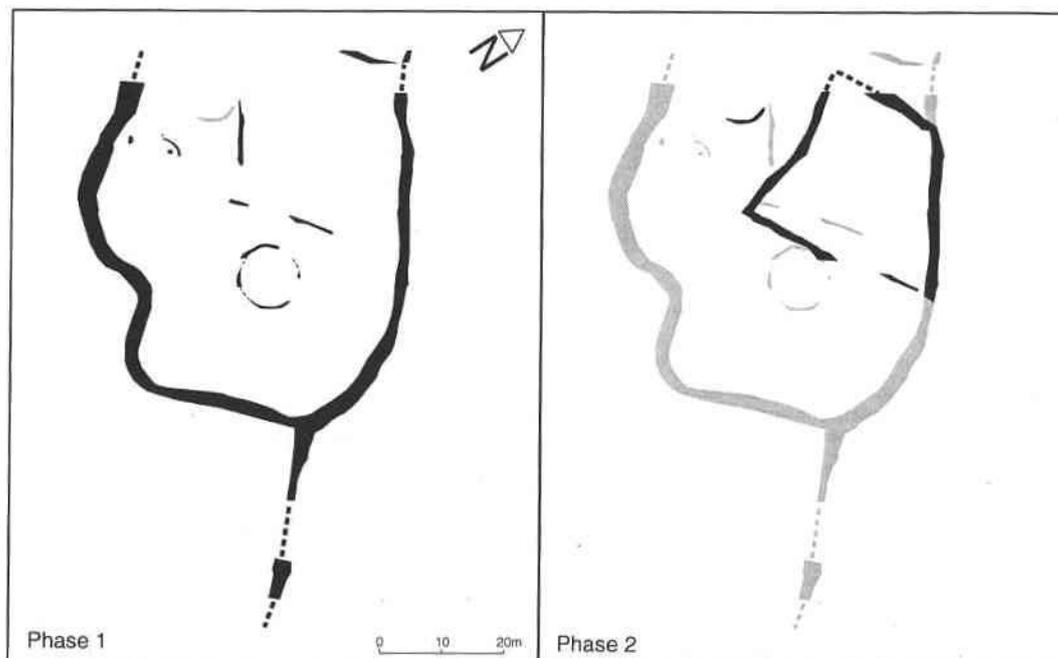


Fig. 33. Whitwood Common phase development plans.

Figure G.212. *The two major phases of inhabitation identified at Whitwood Common. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 34, fig. 33).*

As usual with many of these small rural enclosure sites, finds were meagre, and only fifty-six sherds of Iron Age and Romano-British pottery were recovered. The Phase 1 roundhouse gully contained five sherds of Iron Age pottery. To the south-west of the roundhouse, within the more intimate and perhaps ‘domestic’ space, pit/posthole 2146 contained a quern fragment, burnt sheep bone fragments, and early second century AD pottery (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 32; Evans 2004: 32-33). There was little pottery elsewhere, but the base of a South Yorkshire greyware bowl was recovered from a field boundary ditch close to where it appended the main enclosure ditch to the north.

There may then have been a period of abandonment on the site, followed by the Phase 2 occupation, suggested as taking place in the third and fourth centuries AD. In phase 2, the north-east part of the enclosure was demarcated by a series of right-angled gullies forming a trapezoidal sub-enclosure with a south-east facing entrance *c.* 6m wide (Burgess and Roberts 2004: 26, 30, fig. 29). Interestingly, the gully of this sub-enclosure cut precisely through the northern part of the ring gully of the Phase 1 roundhouse. This would seem to be a deliberate reference to the earlier structure. A possible Phase 2 roundhouse was suggested by part of a curvilinear gully that was identified. Most of the third and fourth century pottery recovered was from this feature. Movement into the enclosure now had to proceed right past this possible roundhouse structure, which might have placed it in a controlling

position. The spatial grammar of the settlement had clearly changed. The deposits in pit 2156 and the disposal of the bowl base may also have been structured or ‘placed’.

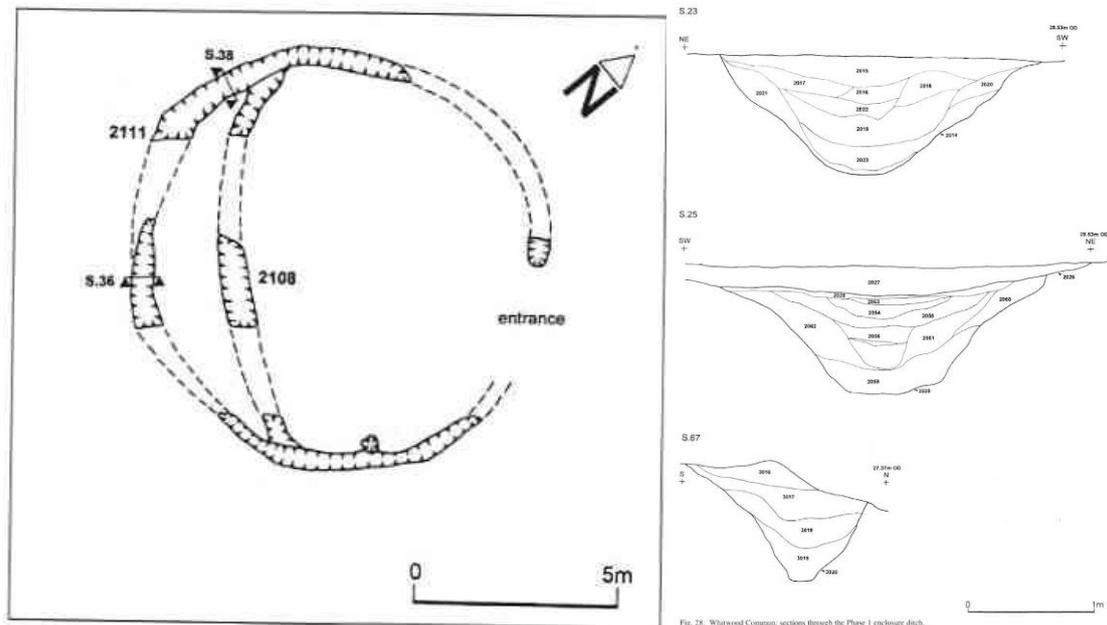


Figure G.213. (left). The Phase 1 roundhouse. Gully 2108 may either be the remains of an earlier roundhouse, or an internal structure. **Fig. G.214. (right).** Sections across the Phase 1 enclosure ditch, showing re-cuts evident in the two upper sections. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004: 26, 29).

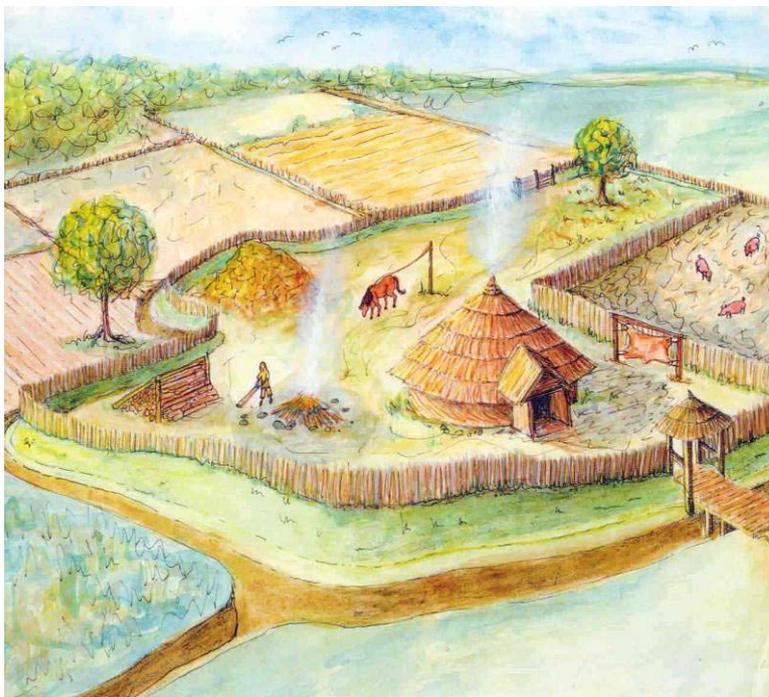
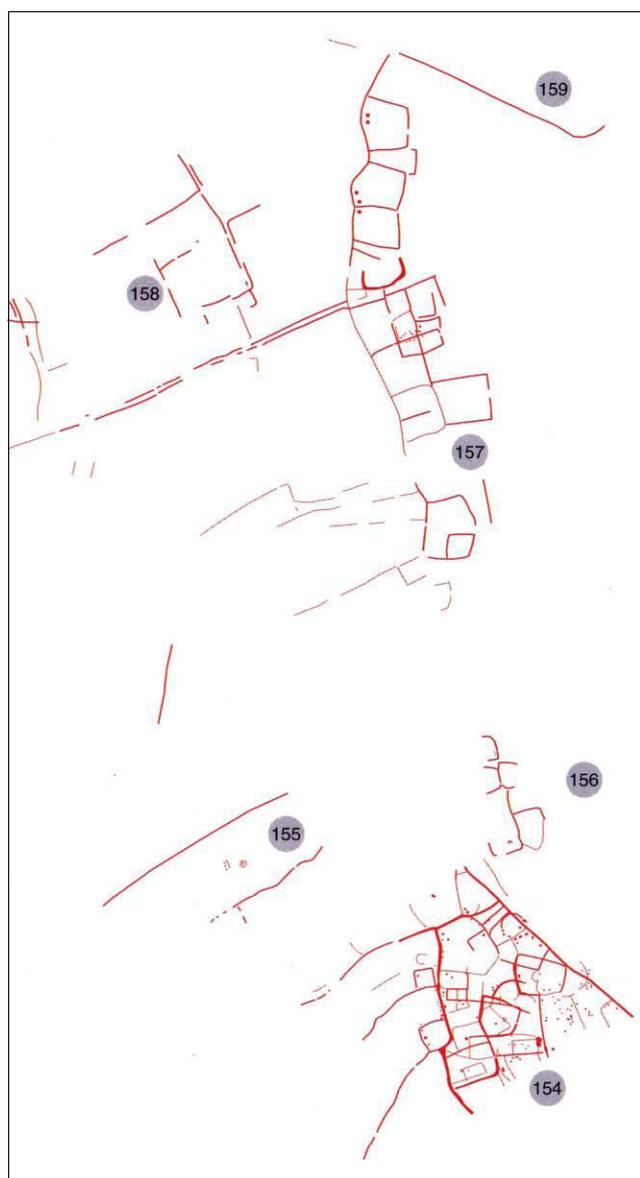


Figure G.215. (left). Reconstruction illustration of the Phase 1 enclosure excavated at Whitwood Common. (Source: Burgess and Roberts 2004, cover illustration, © R. Causer).

References: Burgess and Roberts 2004.

*Unexcavated cropmark/geophysical survey sites***Aberford****SE 4250 3700**

Approximately 600m west of Aberford, and 2km east of Barwick-in-Elmet, is a very interesting complex of field systems, linear boundaries, trackways and enclosure complexes. These have been plotted and described by Alison Deegan on behalf of AS WYAS as part of the M1-A1 Link Road project (Deegan 2001b). There are two main enclosure groups, one a ‘ladder’ settlement orientated roughly north-south, with 600m to the south a very unusual agglomerated enclosure complex.



The landscape context of both enclosure complexes is notable, as they are situated on gentle north-east facing slopes, with a marked north-east to south-west scarp edge and clough forming a natural boundary to the south, below which is the modern line of Parlinton Lane. A less prominent clough on the same alignment also separates the two enclosure groups, whilst the northern limit of the area is formed by another pronounced north-east to south-west scarp edge, at the foot of which flows a beck. The earthworks of Becca Banks and The Ridge occur on the opposite side of the valley to the north, but another earthwork south-west of the ladder settlement may also be part of this dike system.

Figure G.216. (left). Plot of the cropmarks west of Aberford, showing the ‘ladder’ settlement (no. 157) and the agglomerated enclosure complex (no. 154). (Source: Deegan 2001b: 26, fig. 9a).

The northern ‘ladder’ settlement complex extends for approximately 600m north-south, and may originally have consisted of a sinuous boundary ditch with a series of at least eighteen subrectangular enclosures appended to it (Deegan 2001b: 19), many of these clearly added progressively to one another over time. Some were probably paddocks and livestock pens, but others have evidence for

internal features including pits. The eastern boundary of the complex was probably formed by the north-west to south-east scarp edge at the foot of which modern Aberford is located, whilst to the west many linear boundaries and a double-ditched trackway are orientated along the line of the other scarp edge to the north. The possibility that some earlier Iron Age linear earthworks were also constructed along the edge of the same northern north-east to south-west aligned scarp edge suggests a long history for boundary alignments in this locale, similar to late prehistoric boundaries on the East Yorkshire Wolds (e.g. Fenton-Thomas 2003, 2005; Giles 2000, 2007a, 2007b). The elevated area west of the ladder settlement forms a relatively flat plateau, and some apparently regular rectangular fields were also laid out in this locale.

To the south of the ladder complex was another clough broadening out to the east, and there seem to have been few boundaries within this narrow valley. To the south on the other side, however, was the second major enclosure complex. This was apparently sited within two converging major sinuous ditch boundaries, with a series of enclosures and boundaries constructed within this broadly subtriangular area (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.25). Some are perpendicular to the two major ditches, others at different alignments, and some of the enclosures within this area may pre- or post-date the use of the main boundaries. It is also possible that at least one of the major boundaries developed into a holloway over time (Deegan 2001b: 19). Although some of the smaller enclosures were probably infields and livestock pens, the cropmarks suggest others had many internal features such as internal subdivisions, possible roundhouses and pits. In fact, there seem to be large numbers of pits associated with these enclosures, and it is possible that some were a pit complex similar to those at Ledston, Ferrybridge, and Site M along the M1-A1 road corridor (see above). Several larger, darker features might be solution hollows in the limestone, or perhaps sunken-floored buildings of later Roman or post-Roman date.

Clearly, many different phases of occupation are represented by the southern enclosure complex, but at least some of these features were probably contemporary with the ladder enclosure complex just 600m to the north. It may be that the southern complex formed the main settlement focus, but the numerous pits suggest the possibility of placed deposits and more ritualised practices too. There are some interesting questions posed by these cropmarks – for example, they appear to form two discrete but linked foci of activity on this raised plateau area, but were also situated very close to earlier important boundaries within the landscape, perhaps hinting at added social significance too. Detailed geophysical survey, fieldwalking, metal detecting survey and targeted excavation would be extremely useful in establishing the nature and date of occupation of many of these features, and this area west of Aberford would be an ideal location for a long-term landscape research project. Thought should also be given to minimising the impact of ploughing upon these remains.

References: Deegan 2001b.

Ackton, Pontefract**SE 4080 2150**

Approximately 80m long, this enclosure was connected via a short 20-25m wide ‘avenue’ to a sinuous trackway 8-10m wide (Yarwood and Marriott 1988: 22-23). Where the east-facing avenue joined the settlement there was a much narrower, constricted entrance. The enclosure was located on a spur or ridge at 30-35m OD, with the ground falling away to the north and west, and more steeply to the south into a pronounced clough with a beck running through it. Although this may have been a farmstead and the entrance might have reflected a desire to impress others or display status differences, it would also have been suitable for corralling stock. It is similar to enclosures at Flockton in West Yorkshire and Pastures Road, Mexborough, in South Yorkshire.



Figure G.217. *Ackton, W. Yorks. The enclosure was located on the end of a prominent ridge, with the ground falling away on three sides, on two to cloughs with becks running through them. The ‘avenue’ was approximately 80m long and 20-25m wide, connected to a much longer trackway with darker marks within it evidence of wear hollows and/or rutting from intensive use. Note also the restricted entrance into the enclosure. (Source: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 22).*

References: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a.

Castle Hills, Micklefield**SE 4550 3225**

At Castle Hills near Micklefield, cropmarks have revealed a T-shaped trackway junction with subrectangular and D-shaped enclosures arranged alongside (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.25). This complex was located along the side of a north-facing slope in an undulating landscape, with the ground sloping down to Newthorpe Beck some 300m to the north. Part of it actually lies within modern North Yorkshire. Around 300m to the south, a series of enclosures, roundhouses and pits were situated along the northern side of a north-west to south-east trackway, which may have led to the enclosures further north. Some of these features survive as earthworks within Micklefield Plantation and Highroyds Wood (McNaught 1998b). Oxford Archaeology North recently excavated part of the southern complex, called Site M (see above; Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennan 2007). Although some enclosures were associated with human occupation, others seem to have been used as animal pens and corrals.

In the light of the results of the ongoing excavations at Wattle Syke and previous investigations at Dalton Parlours, the ‘ladder’ settlement at Castle Hills may well represent another enclosure complex with potentially rich and complex archaeological remains dating from the late Iron Age through to the Roman or post-Roman periods. Some geophysical and topographical survey has been undertaken and has revealed pits and possible roundhouses (McNaught 1998b), but detailed geophysical survey of this complex by both gradiometer and resistivity techniques would be useful (S. Harrison pers. comm.). Caesium vapour magnetometry may even prove rewarding at this site.

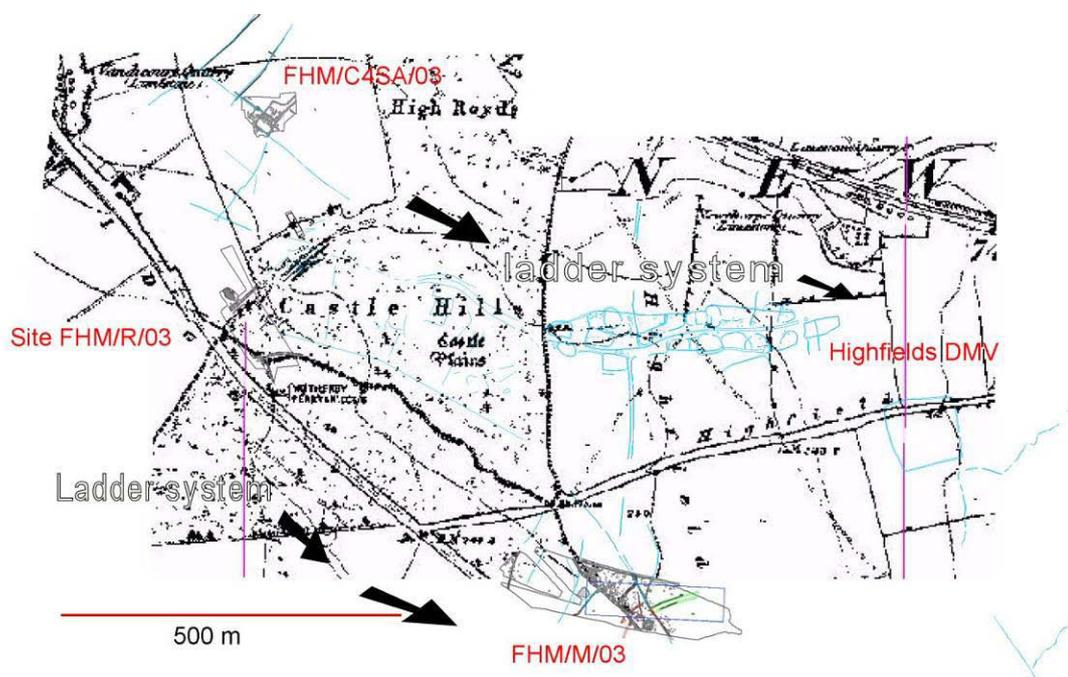


Figure G.218. Plan of the Castle Hills, Micklefield area showing the ‘ladder’ settlement (in blue to the right of the image), in relation to other cropmarks of trackways, boundaries and enclosures in the area. The locations of Sites M, R and C4SA investigated by Oxford Archaeology North are also indicated. (Source: © Oxford Archaeology North).



*Metal detecting finds from Micklefield. **Figure G.219. (left).** Roman lock bolt. **Fig. G.220 (centre).** Trumpet-derivative brooch. **Fig. G.221. (right).** Miniature chisel, possibly a votive item. (Source: © PAS).*

Large numbers of objects have been recovered from the Micklefield area by metal detectorists, some of these obtained illegally by ‘night hawkers’. These items again suggest Roman period settlement of some status, and with a high degree of ‘Romanisation’ – Roman-style lock bolts and locks, for example. An archaeological metal detecting survey should therefore be implemented to recover ploughsoil finds and save them from night hawkers, and in lieu of any future investigation this complex should be protected from any further ploughing

References: Brown, Howard-Davis and Brennand 2007; McNaught 1998b.

Darrington, Wenthill Plantation

SE 4810 1825



Plot showing processed magnetometer data (1:4000 @ A3)

200m

Figure G.222. *The results of the geophysical survey at Darrington. The main foci of enclosures are just to the upper left and lower right of the centre of the image. Note too the possible trackway funnel in the northern survey area. (Source: Webb 1999).*

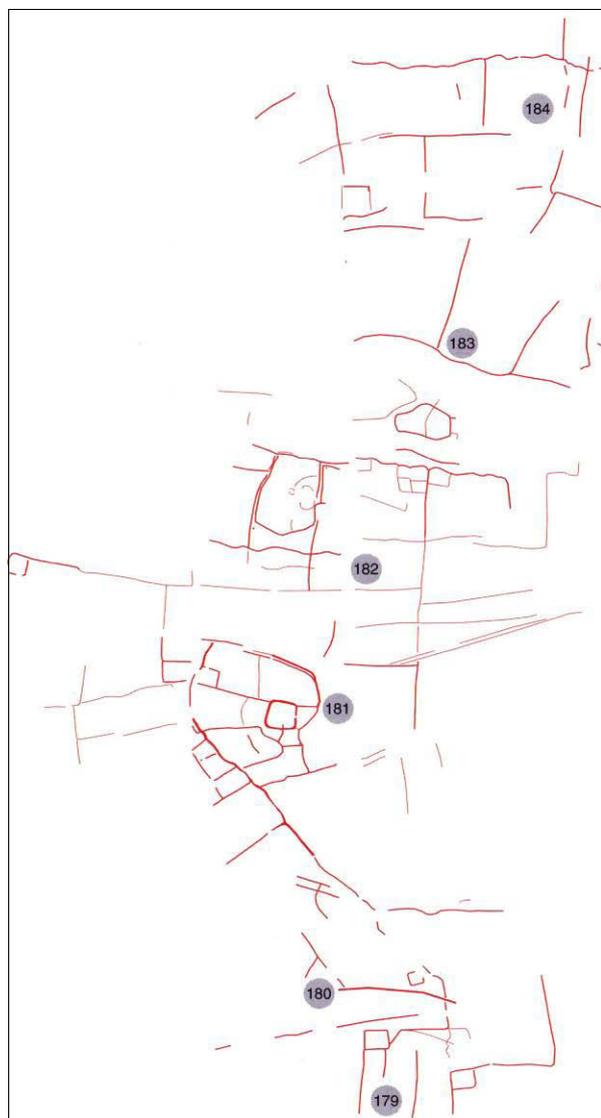
A geophysical survey undertaken by AS WYAS was commissioned by WYAAS in order to investigate an area of land north of Wenthill Plantation at Darrington. The site is situated on gently north-east sloping ground just to the north of a steep north-west to south-east running ridge, with several springs situated at the foot of this escarpment. The River Went is only *c.* 600m to the south. Aerial photographs held by WYAAS showed a possible concentration of cropmarks in this area, and finds of Roman pottery including an amphora sherd were made during fieldwalking by the Pontefract Young Archaeology Club in 1996, although these finds have subsequently been lost (Webb 1999).

The survey demonstrated the existence of a very interesting group of features, consisting of a series of major ditches laid out at right angles to the line of the ridge. Associated with these are a series of curvilinear and subrectangular enclosures, some possibly overlapping one another, several trackways and smaller boundaries representing fields and pens. Many of these features are also laid out at right angles to or parallel with the line of the scarp edge, in a manner highly reminiscent of the cropmark enclosures and boundaries at Barnburgh Cliffs in South Yorkshire (Deegan 2001c). Two converging ditches in an area to the north of the main cropmark complex may mark a major ‘funnel’ for concentrating livestock. Several of the enclosures also have evidence for pits and concentrated activity within their areas. Clearly, this complex seems to have been significant, and would benefit from further investigation, including more detailed fieldwalking and targeted excavation.

References: Webb 1999.

Micklefield/Hook Moor**SE 4450 3450**

Within Micklefield parish, north of Micklefield itself, is a series of interesting field systems, linear boundaries, trackways and enclosure complexes plotted and described by Alison Deegan on behalf of AS WYAS as part of the M1-A1 Link Road project (Deegan 2001b). These were only c. 2.5km north-west of the ladder settlement at Castle Hills (see above), on a relatively gentle east-facing slope in an undulating landscape. The general ridge that Castle Hills is itself part of forms a western side to the cropmark complex, with several east-west boundaries orientated perpendicular to this. An east-west clough now called Bragdale forms a northern edge to the main focus of enclosures, although a series of irregular and subrectangular fields continue northwards beyond this natural topographic feature. A beck rises in this clough and at the bottom of the ridge. The line of the slope is north-west to south-east, and many of the linear boundaries are aligned along this.



There are two main apparent foci of enclosures and settlement. The northernmost example, catalogued by Deegan as no. 182, is a large irregular enclosure with possible internal subdivisions, at least one possible roundhouse, and a right-angled trackway or race on its eastern side. Its northern edge forms part of an east-west corridor of movement partly defined by the Bragdale clough, with only a small irregular enclosure and a few boundaries within this depression. East is a series of small enclosures or pens. North of this on the next slope are a series of irregular and more subrectangular boundaries and fields, and several enclosures including the Hook Moor and Dawson's Wood enclosures excavated by AS WYAS (see above).

Figure G.223. (left). *Plot of the cropmarks identified north of Micklefield, including two main enclosure foci (nos. 181-182). (Source: Deegan 2001b: 26, fig. 9b).*

The southern enclosure group (no. 181) is even more complex. A sinuous, wide north-west to south-east aligned boundary ditch follows the line of the natural slope, just below its crest, and flanked by

irregular ditches broadly perpendicular to this. The irregular nature of both the major ditch and the fields next to it suggest that they were progressively added to one another over time. Downslope from the major boundary on a slight natural platform or plateau was a subrectangular enclosure with an east-facing entrance (Deegan 2001b: 19-20), set within a series of further enclosures, pens and irregular infields that seem to have developed organically around the enclosure. A short length of east-west trackway or race is situated just to the north, with a possible funnel on the north-east corner of the enclosure opening out to the north. Some of the boundaries to the east of the enclosure funnel outwards onto the higher ground. To the south are further small enclosures, corrals or livestock pens. The higher ground to the west is relatively free of boundaries, and may have originally been unenclosed grazing land. There were clearly many different phases of activity represented by the boundaries and enclosures, and the two more irregular enclosure groups and boundaries might have been incorporated within a more regular, co-axial series of fields and boundaries over time, such as those immediately to the east of 182.

Detailed geophysical survey, fieldwalking, metal detecting survey and targeted excavation would be extremely useful in establishing the nature and date of occupation of many of these features, but the time depth represented by the cropmarks may extend from the earlier Iron Age through to the late Roman period or beyond.

References: Deegan 2001b.

South Hiendley

SE 4080 1330

At this locale there were at least five subrectangular or subrounded enclosures, some apparently with annexes added to them, associated with some boundaries and trackways (Yarwood and Marriott 1988a: 16-17). This was an elevated but undulating locale between 80-90m OD, and it is likely that by the late Iron Age this would have been an open area of grassland or heathland, used for upland grazing. Fieldwalking, detailed geophysical survey and targeted excavation would be beneficial here.



Figure G.224. Plot of cropmarks at South Hiendley, showing trackways linked to five or six enclosures, many of which were probably corrals for livestock. (Source: © WYAAS).



Figure G.225. *Some of the enclosures recorded at South Hiendley, including one irregular example associated with a trackway near the centre of the image, and a D-shaped enclosure to the lower right. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 109, SE 409 131).*



Figure G.226. *The gently undulating landscape at South Hiendley, looking north-east across the area of the enclosures shown above. (Source: author).*

References: Yarwood and Marriott 1988a.

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.

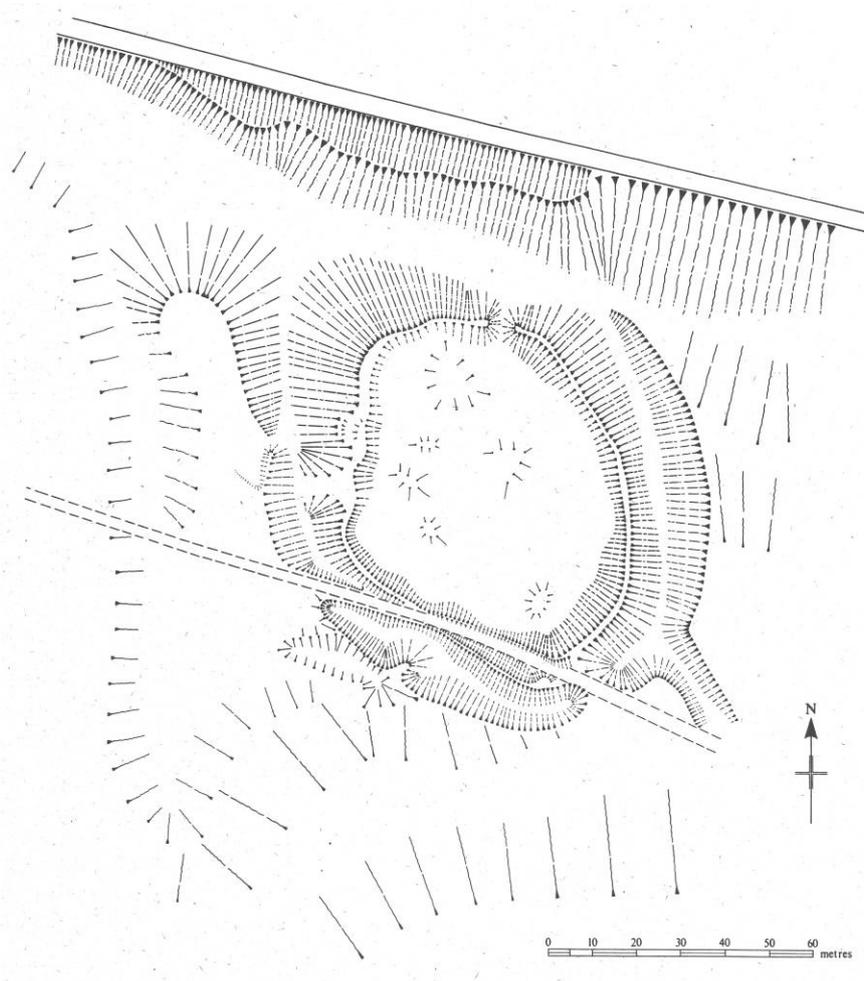


Figure. G.227. *Topographic earthwork survey of Caesar's Camp, Schole's Coppice, Rotherham, S. Yorks. (Source: Atkinson, Latham and Sydes 1992: 35).*

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.

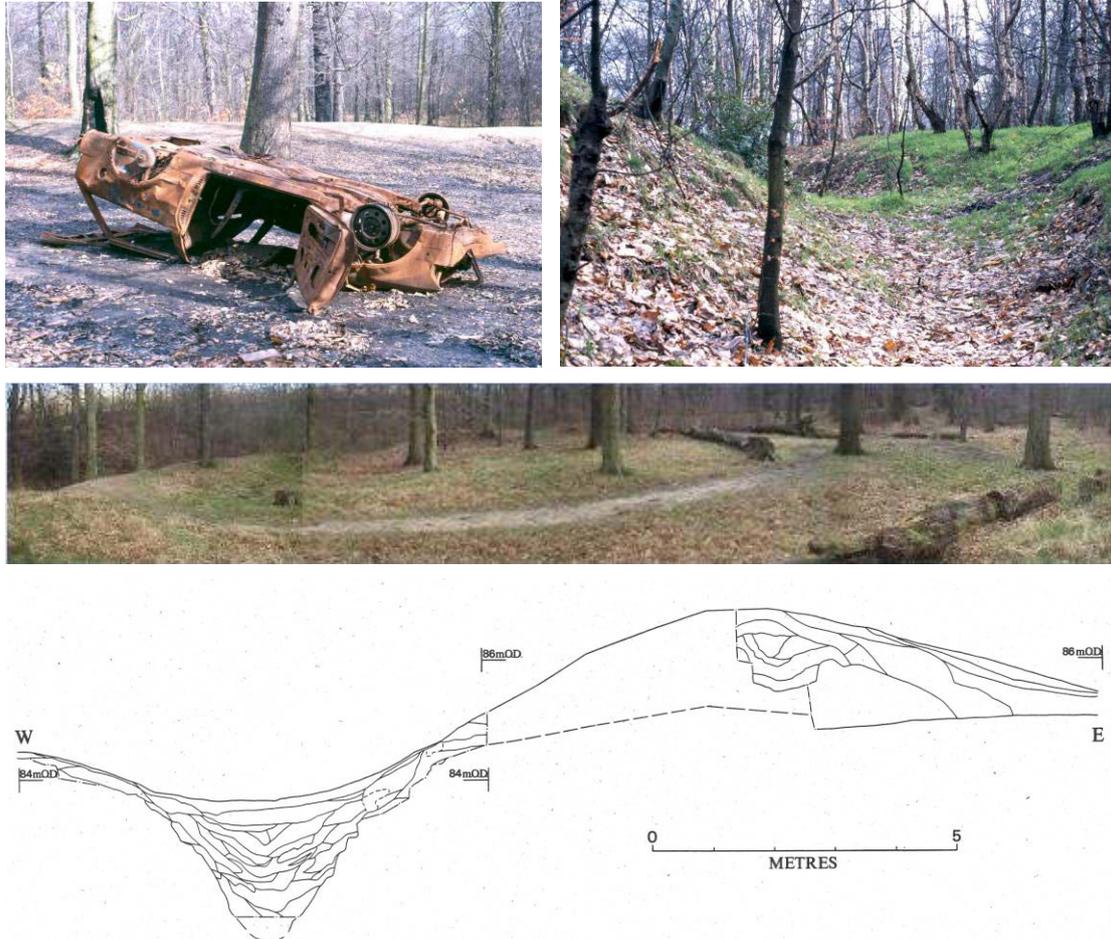


Figure G.228. (top left). A stolen car burnt out and abandoned in the middle of Caesar's Camp Scheduled Ancient Monument, 1992. (Source: author). **Fig. G.229. (top right).** Part of the bank and ditch at Caesar's Camp. (Source: author). **Fig. G.230. (middle).** Panoramic photograph of the interior 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.

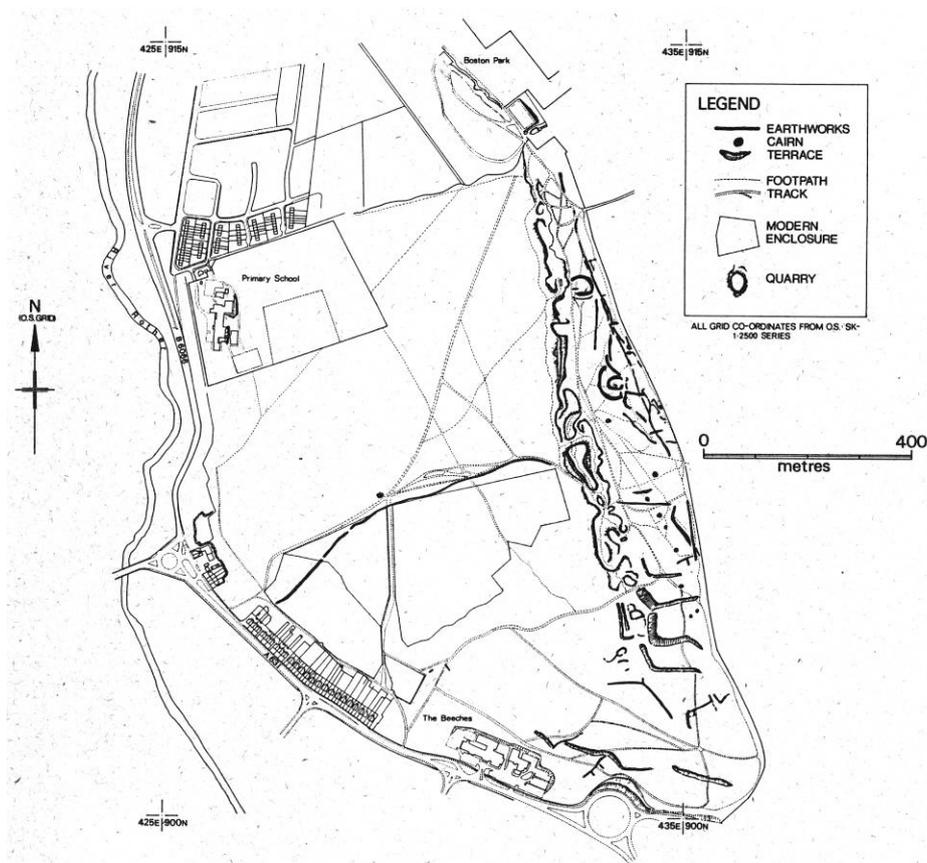


Figure G.232. The 1992 SYAU survey of Canklow Woods, Rotherham, S. Yorks., showing enclosures, banks, cairns, lynchets and terraces; in addition to quarry and boundary features of post-medieval or early modern date. (Source: Latham 1992: 71).

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-

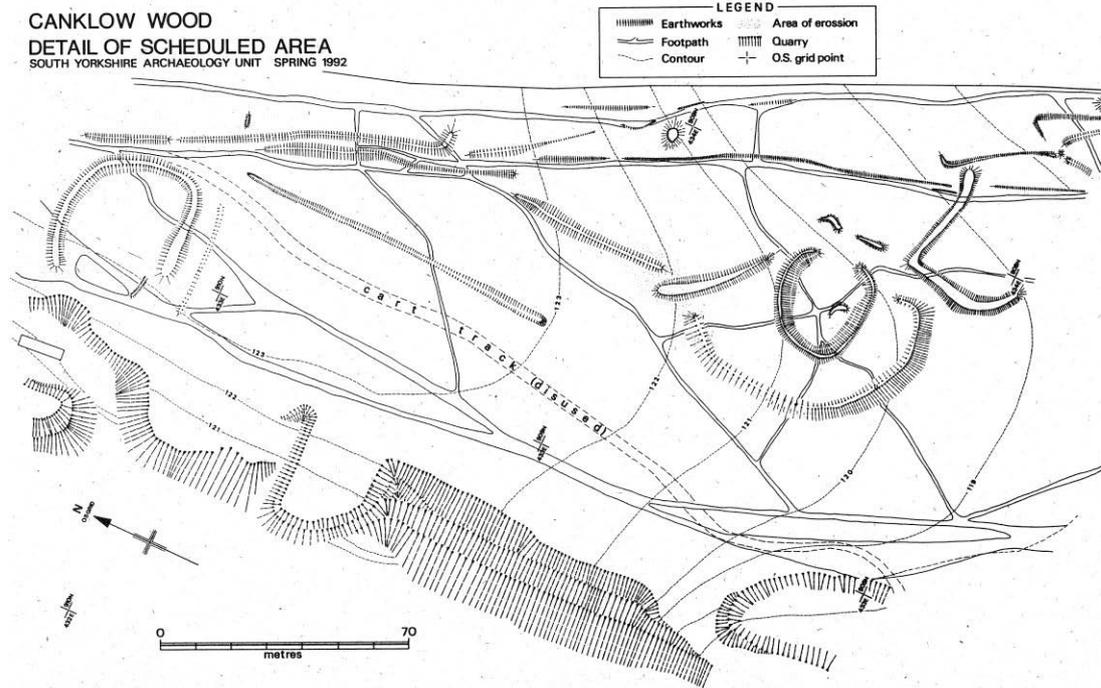


Figure G.233. Detail of the Scheduled area. (Source: Latham 1992: 72).

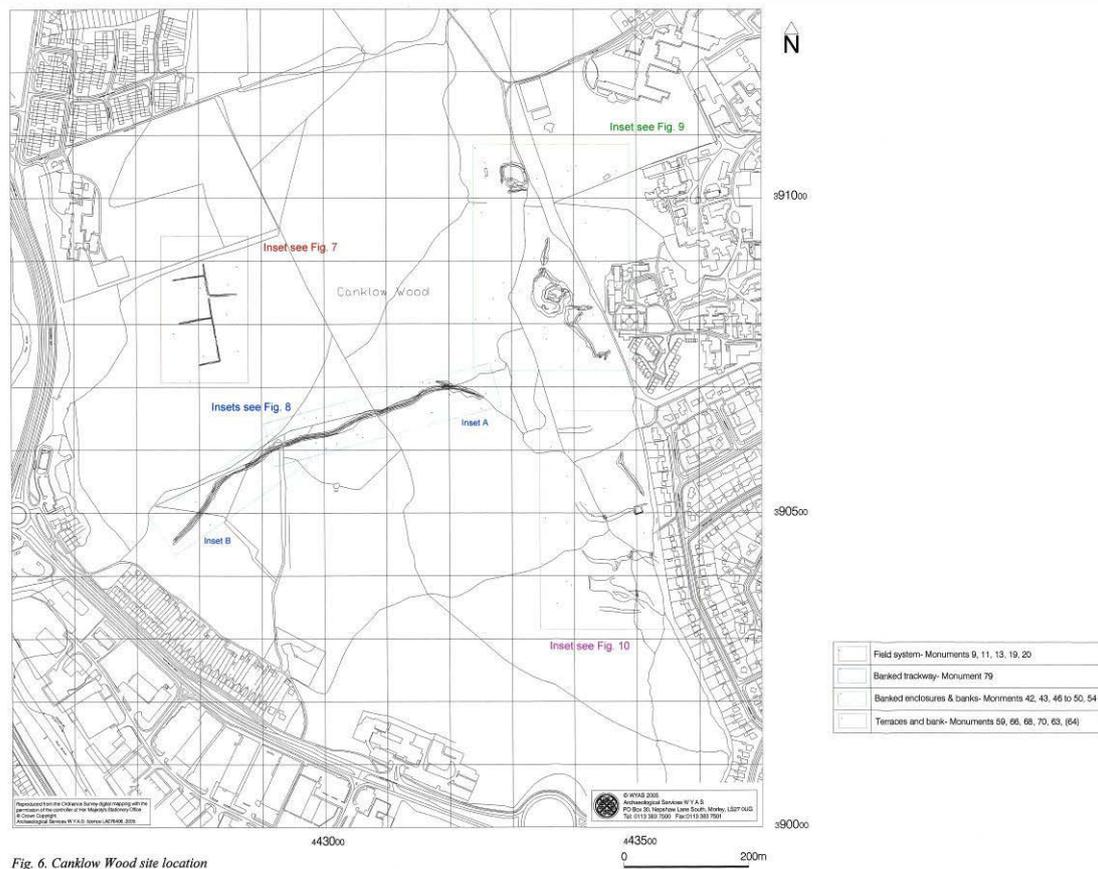


Fig. 6. Canklow Wood site location

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).

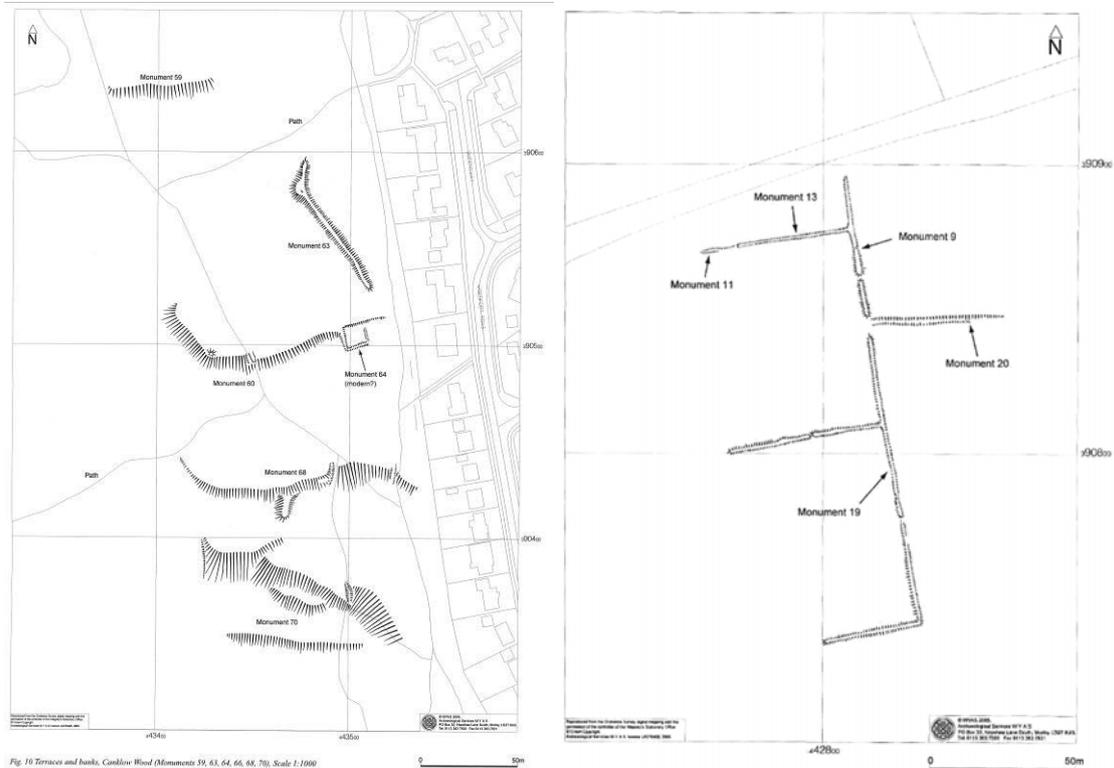


Figure G.235. (left). Detail of some of the cultivation terraces or platforms and lynchets identified at Canklow Woods. (Source: Lee 2005). **Figure G.236. (right).** Possible co-axial field bank boundaries identified near the primary school. The full extent and likely date of these features has not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

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

Castle Dike, Langseth

SE 2062 0080

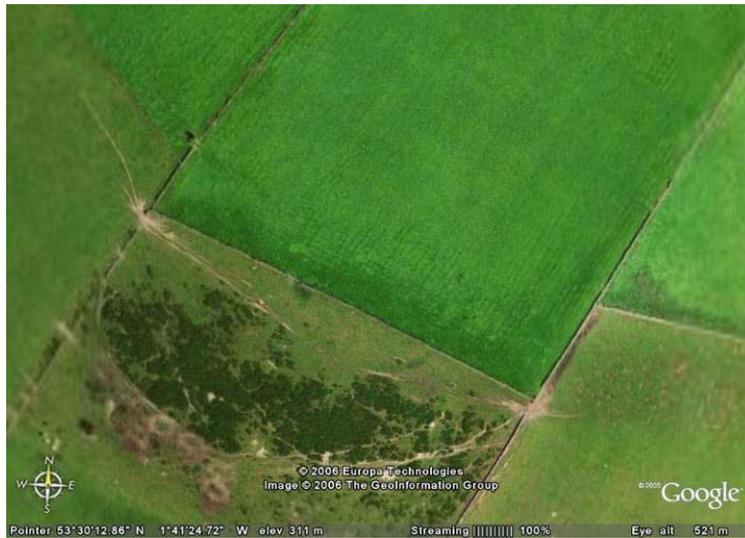


Figure G.237. (left). *Castle Dike, Langseth. At the centre of the image, a faint ring of darker vegetation is visible showing a slight earthwork still extant in the unimproved, southern field, but in the improved field to the north, it is barely visible even as a mark in the turf. (Source: © Google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



Figure G.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).*

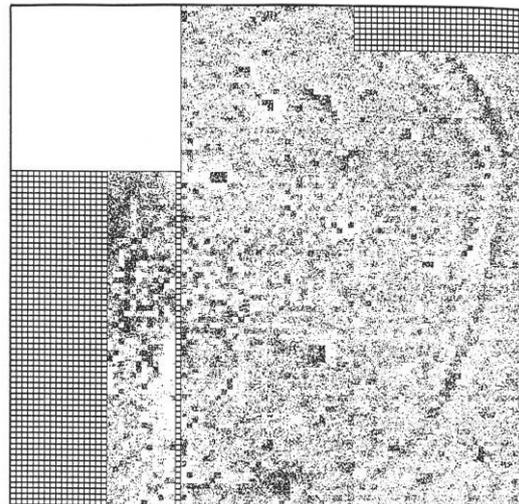


Figure G.238. (above right). *Geophysical survey of Castle Dike, with north to the right. In addition to the possible outer ditch and bank at the upper left, several possible circular features are visible, one truncated by the modern field wall, but the other corresponding to one of the circular features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

Castle Dike, Langseth 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.

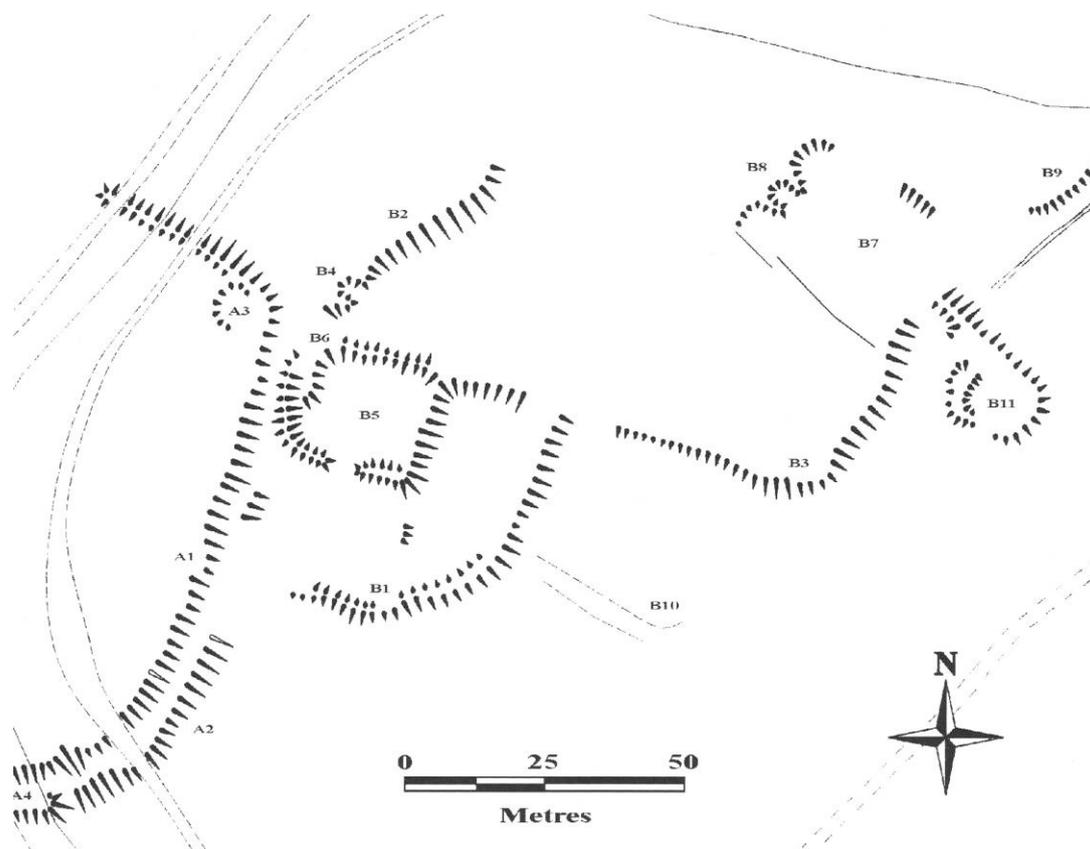


Figure G.240. The earthwork enclosure and boundaries in Ecclesall Woods. The western boundary is A1-A2, the east-west bank B3, and the D-shaped enclosure B1. Possible platforms are located at B6 and B11, and the later subrectangular building or enclosure at B5. Features A3-A4 and B4, B8 are likely to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

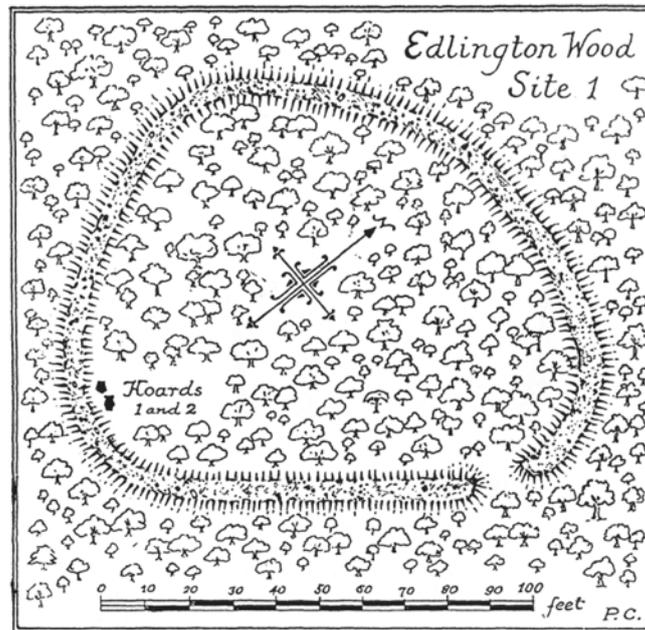


Figure G.241. Somewhat simplistic plan of one of the earthwork enclosures (Site 1) identified within Edlington Wood during the 1930s. (Source: Corder 1951: 68).

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.

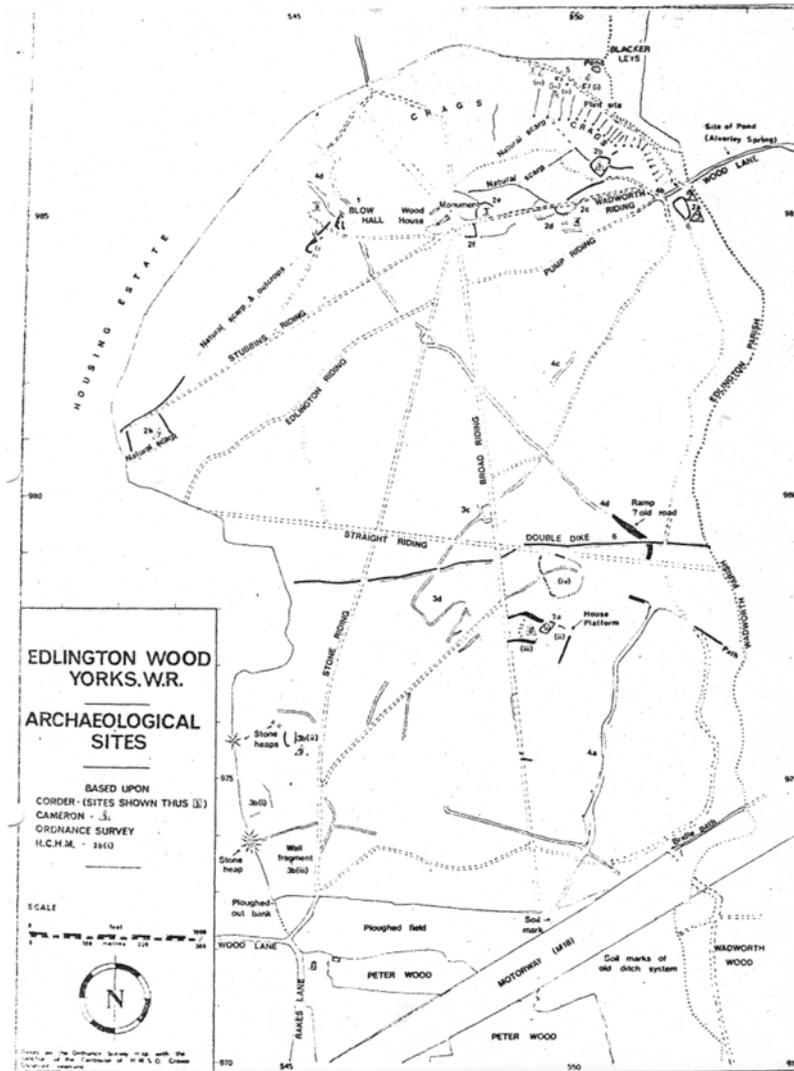


Figure G.242. Overall plan of features identified in Edlington Wood, S. Yorks. (Source: Ramm 1973).

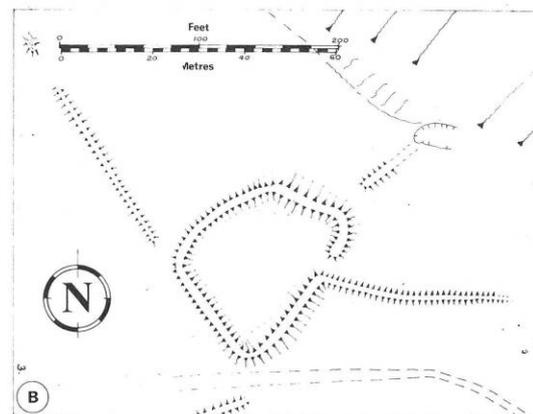
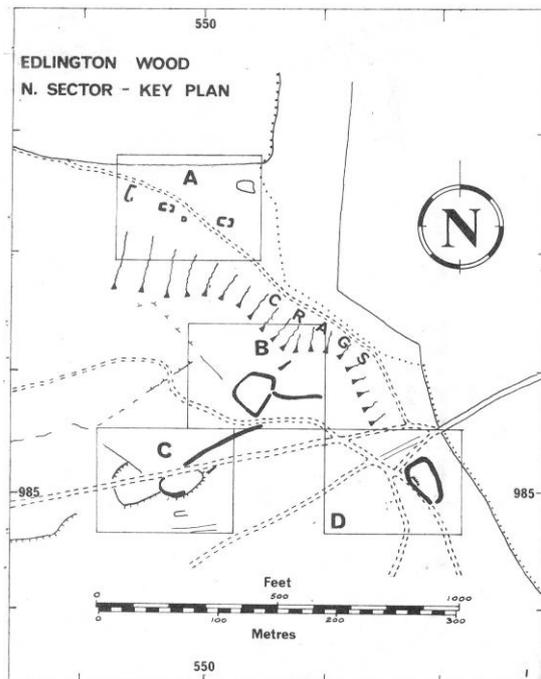


Figure G.243. (left) and Fig. G.244. (above). Further details of enclosure groups and individual enclosures (B in Fig. G.122) within Edlington Wood. (Source: Ramm 1973).

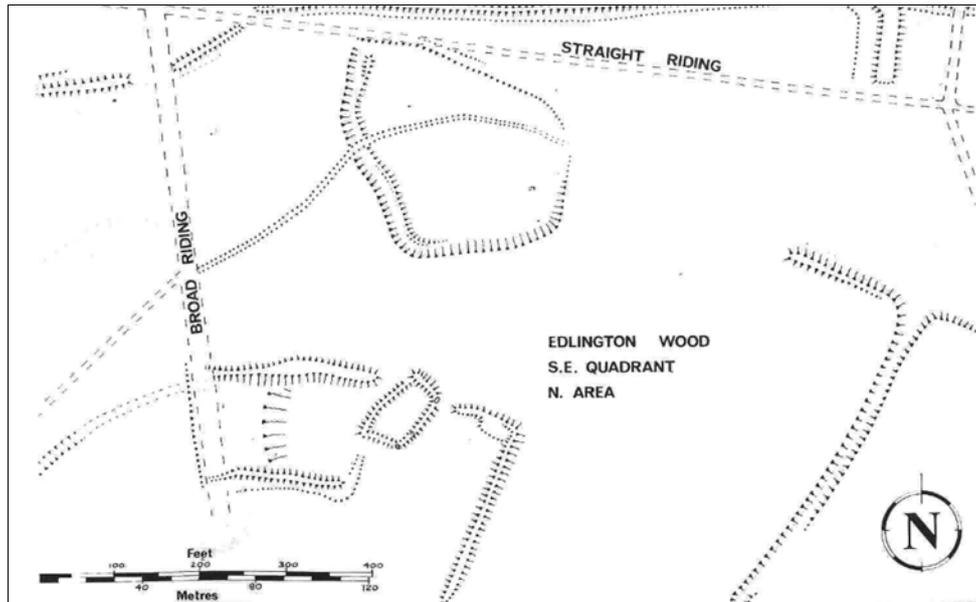


Figure G.245. Detail of two further enclosures identified within the southern part of Edlington Wood. (Source: Ramm 1973).

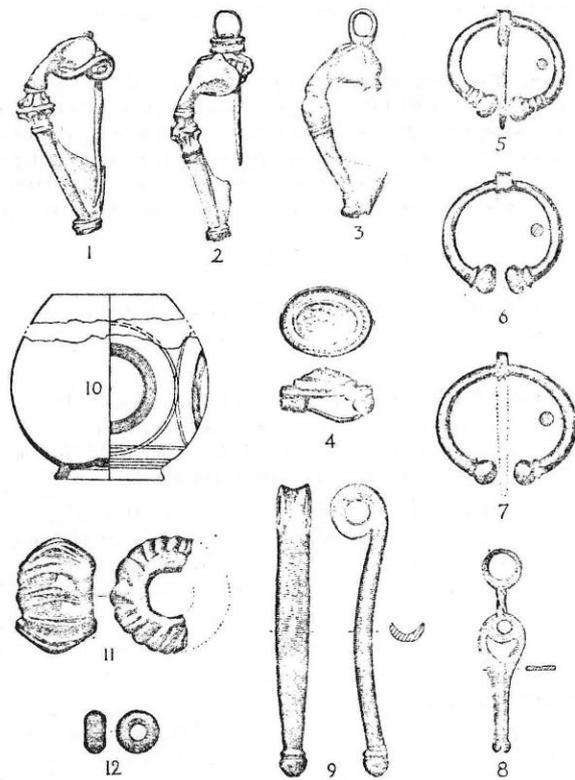


Fig. 17. Small finds from Edlington Wood ? .

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).

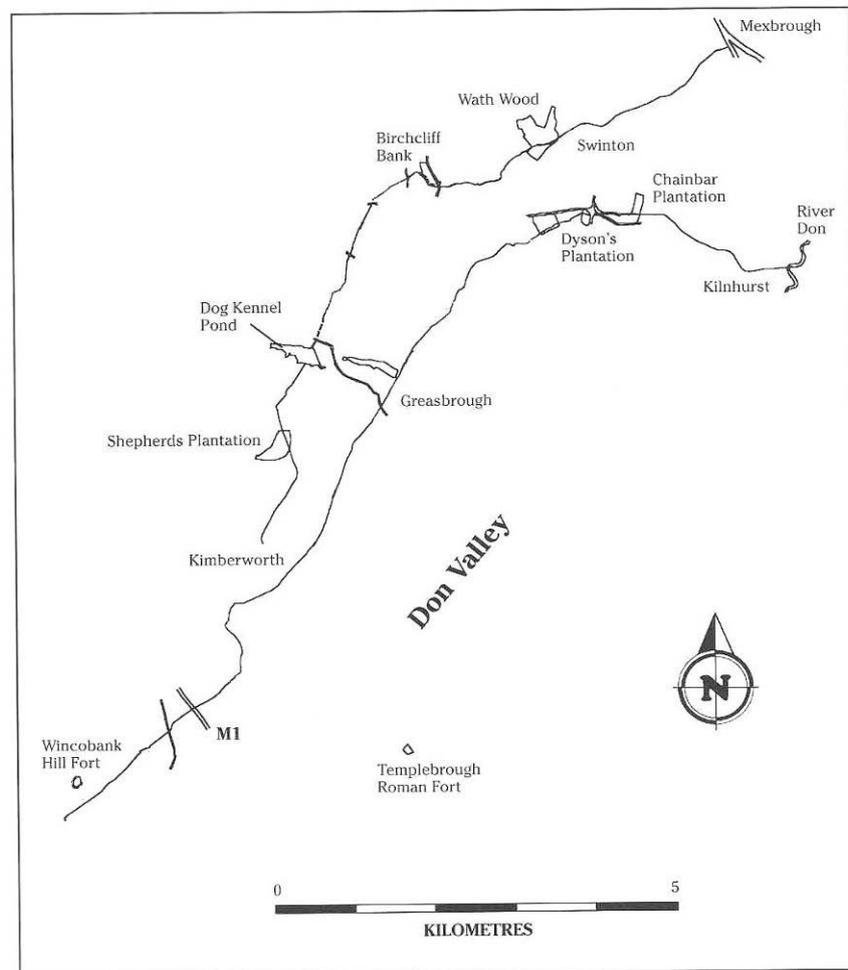


Figure G.251. *The Roman Ridge earthworks in South Yorkshire. (Source: Boldrini 1999: 102).*

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).

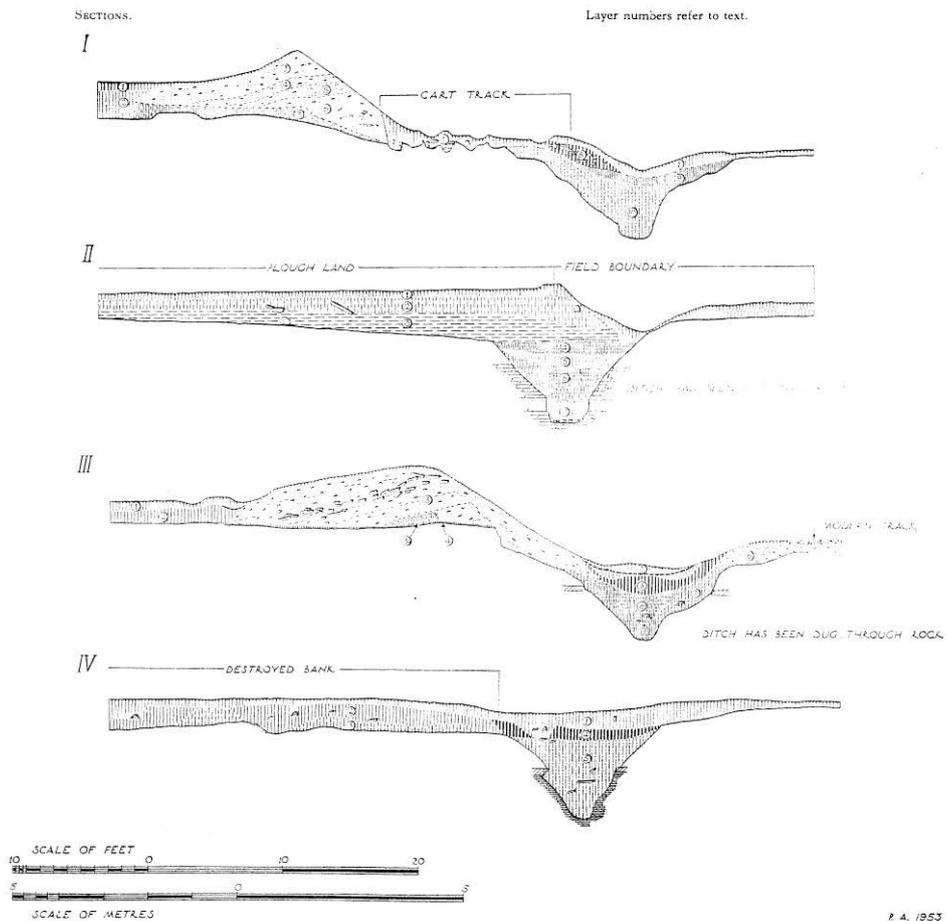


Figure G.253. Sections through the Roman Ridge excavated in 1953. (Source: Ashbee 1957: 261).

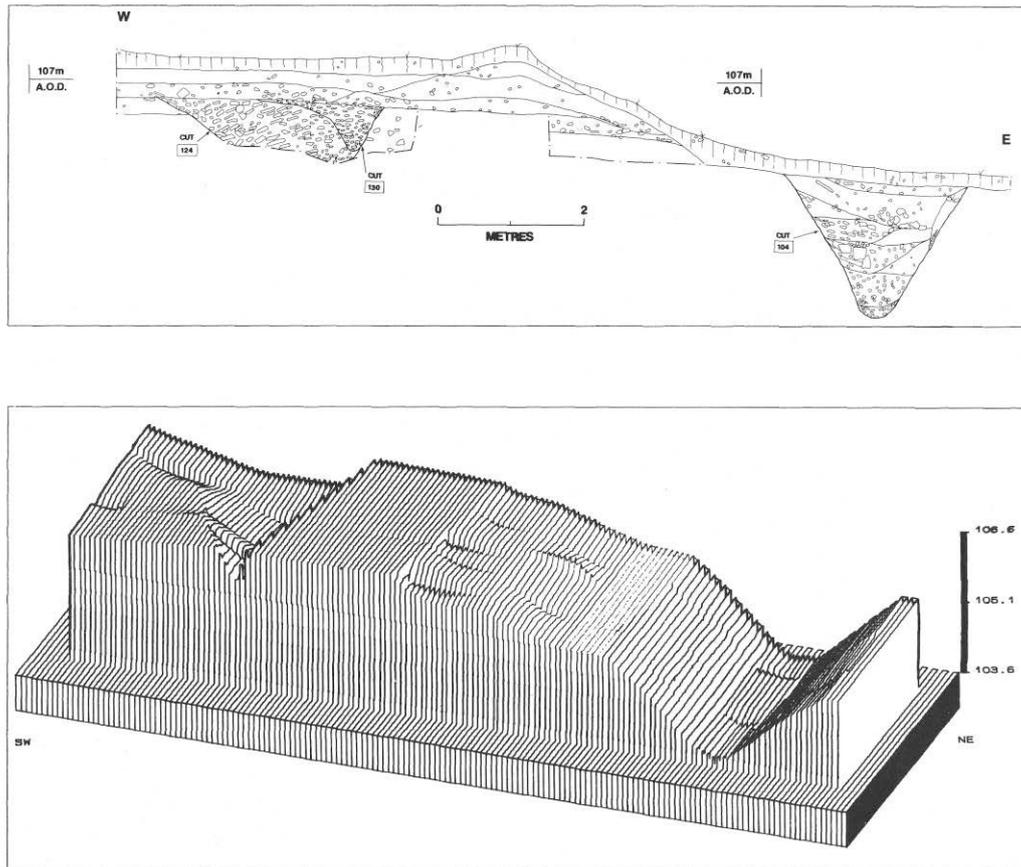


Figure G.254. Section through the Roman Ridge excavated in 1994. The possible berm between the bank and ditch can be seen, although this might have been a later trackway as recorded by Ashbee. The earlier ditches are also visible. A three-dimensional AUTOCAD plot of the section is shown below. (Source: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

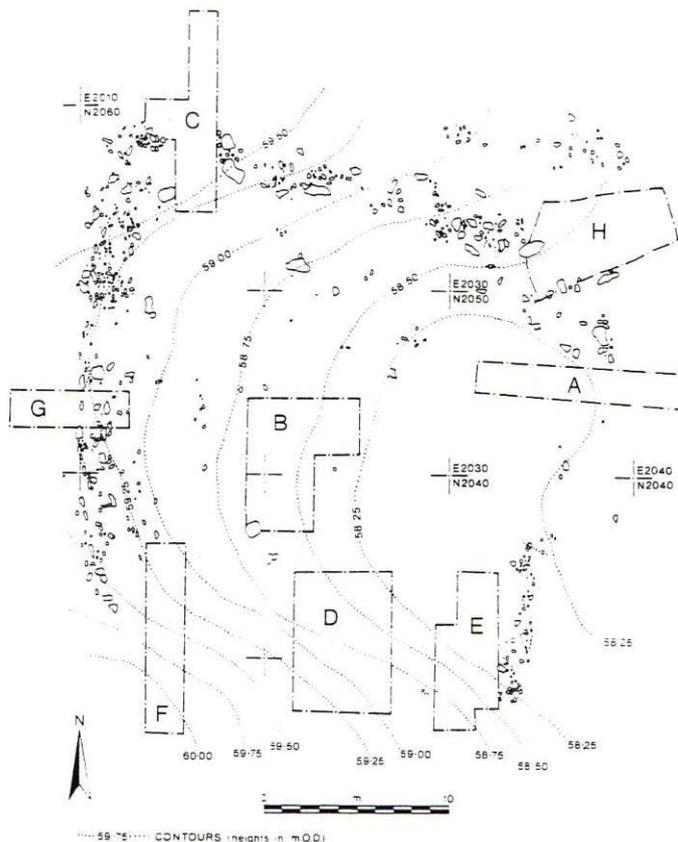


Figure G.257. (left). Plan of the excavated enclosure within Scabba Wood, Sprotbrough, South Yorks. (Source: Buckland et al. 2002: 2).



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.

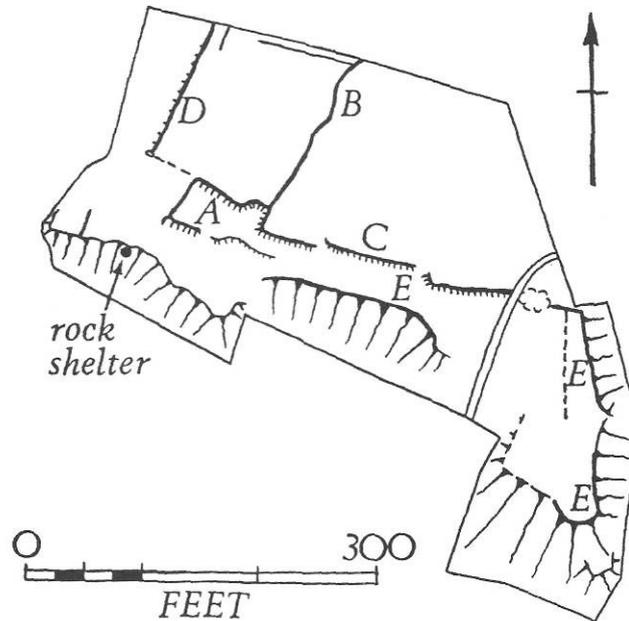


Figure G.259. The banks and lynchets within Smarson Hill Plantation, South Anston, S. Yorks. The area selected for excavation is shown at A. (Source: Radley and Plant 1969b: 253).

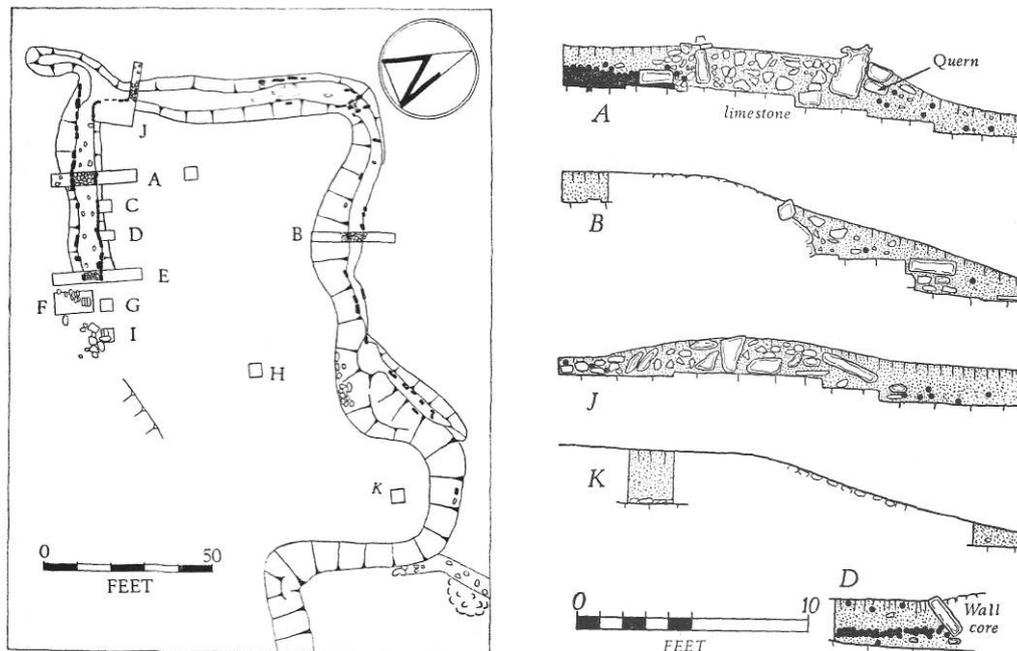


Figure G.260. (left). The stone-walled enclosure excavated at Smarson Hill. **Fig. G.261. (right).** Details of some of the sections across the enclosure walls. Note the quern fragment re-used in Trench A. (Source: Radley and Plant 1969b: 254-255).

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. ¹⁴C 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).*

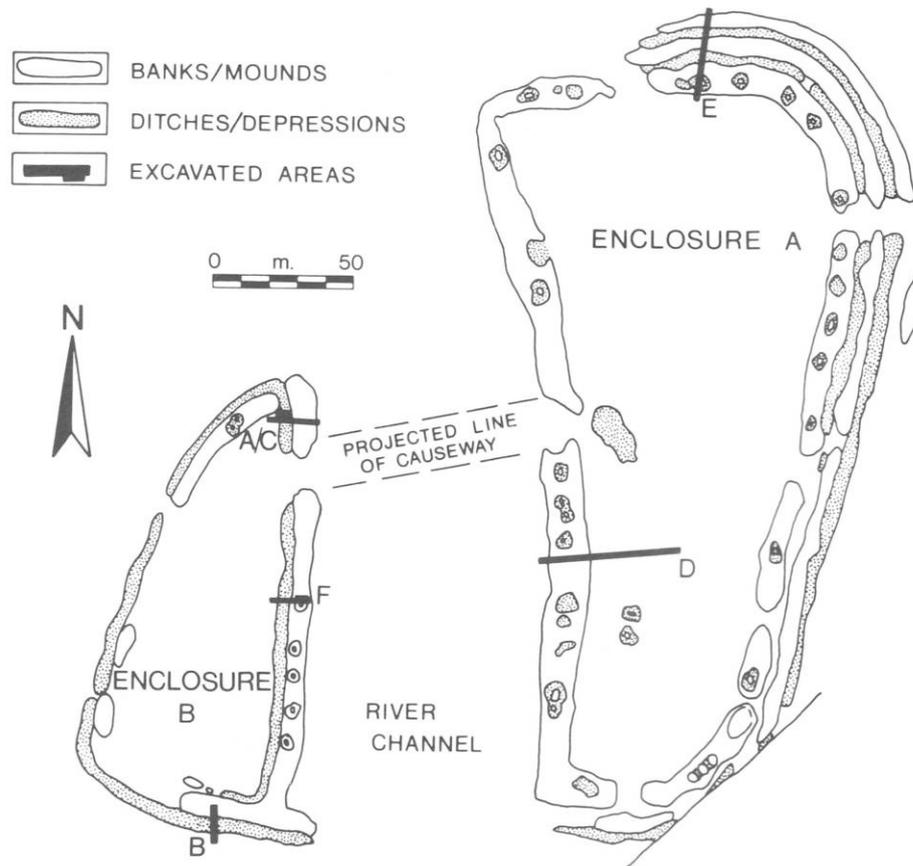


Figure G.265. Plan of the two Sutton Common enclosures, also showing the line of the possible causeway between the two 'islands', the position of the 1987-88 and 1992-93 investigations, and the locations of the possible 'huts' described by Whiting and others. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 224,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

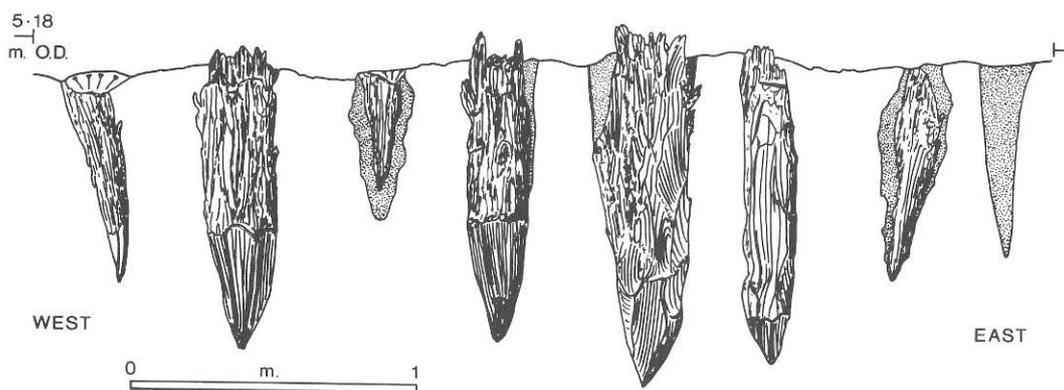


Figure G.266. The preserved oak stakes of the possible palisade, revealed in Trench E in 1988. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 228: fig. 8).

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.

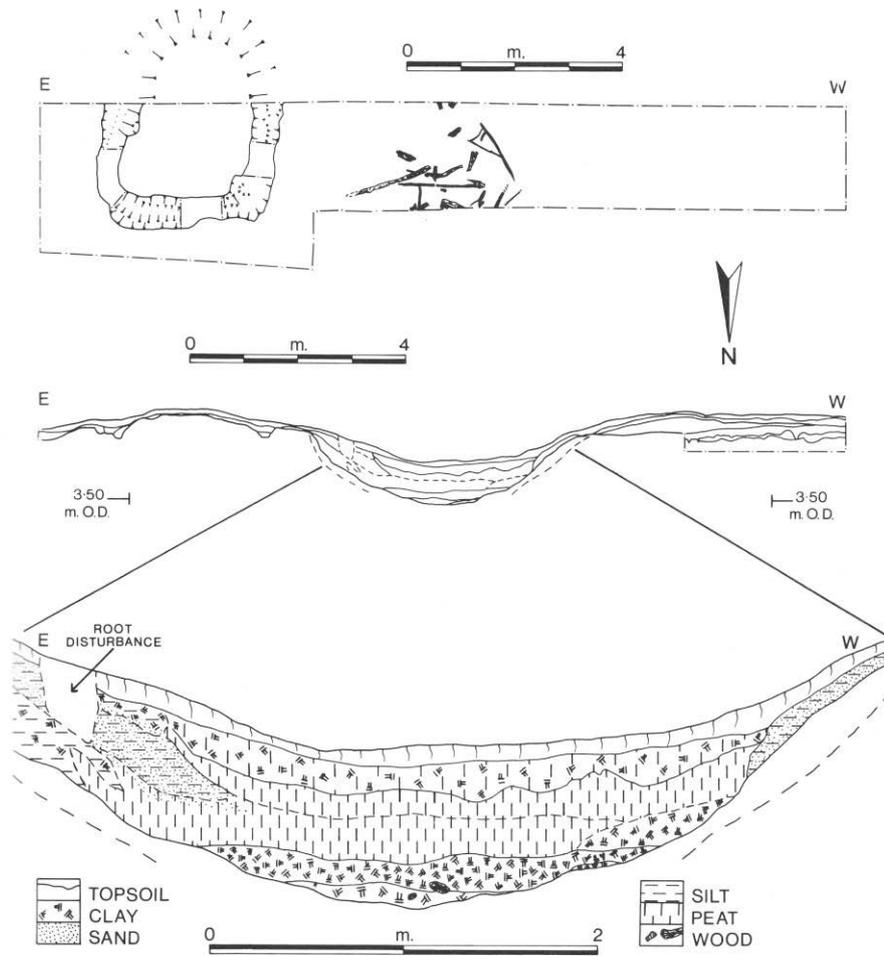


Figure G.267. Plan and section of Trench F. (Source: Parker Pearson and Sydes 1997: 231).



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 ¹⁴C 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.

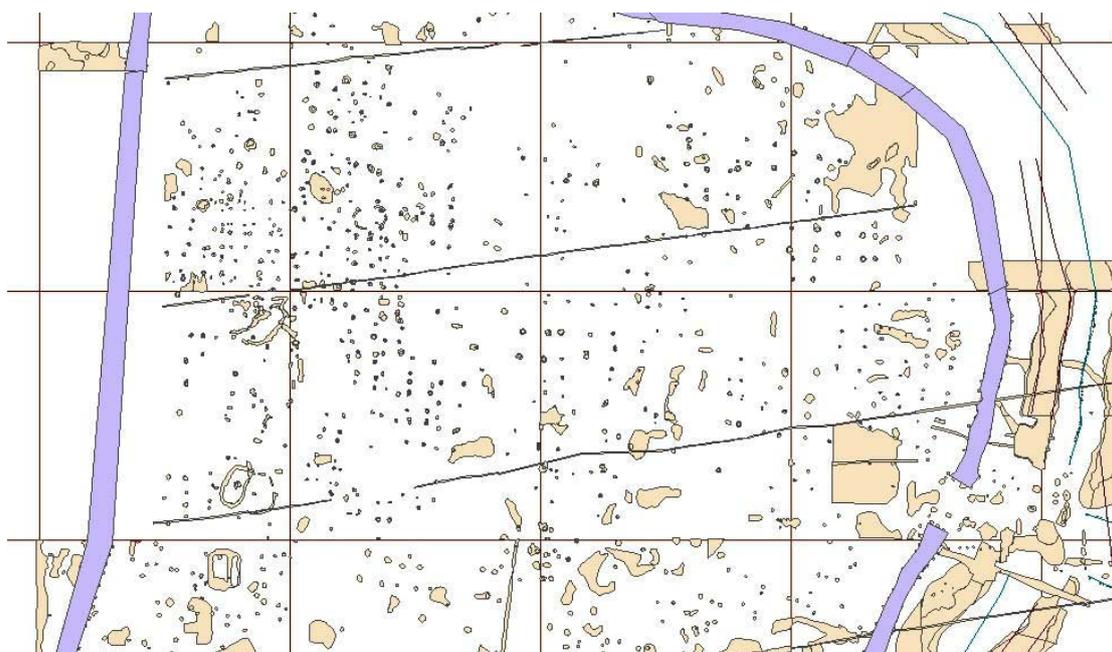


Figure G.270. Detail of part of the ‘strip and record’ at Enclosure A, showing the hundreds of postholes, pits and other features identified, and the complex nature of the eastern gateway structure. (Source: © Chapman and Van de Noort).



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).

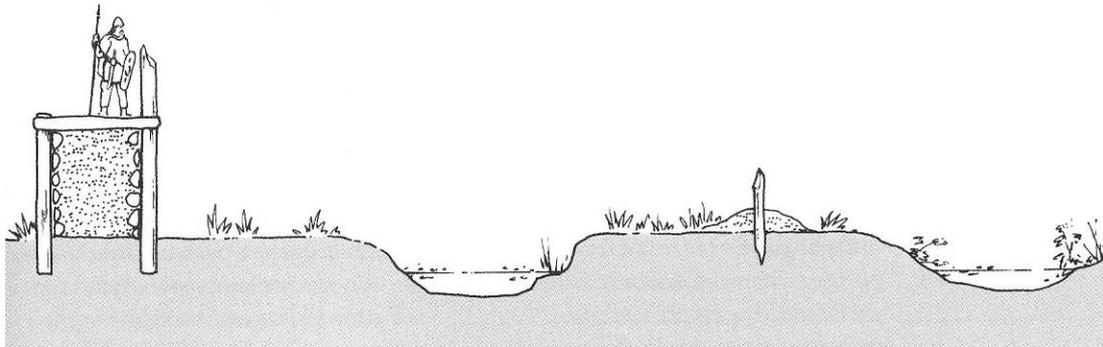


Figure G.272. Reconstruction of the box timber ramparts, inner and outer ditch and the palisaded bank. This picture portrays these features as explicitly defensive fortifications – note the figure of the watchful Iron Age ‘warrior’ on the ramparts, even though there is little firm evidence that the ramparts 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 ‘avenue’ 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 (McKinley 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).

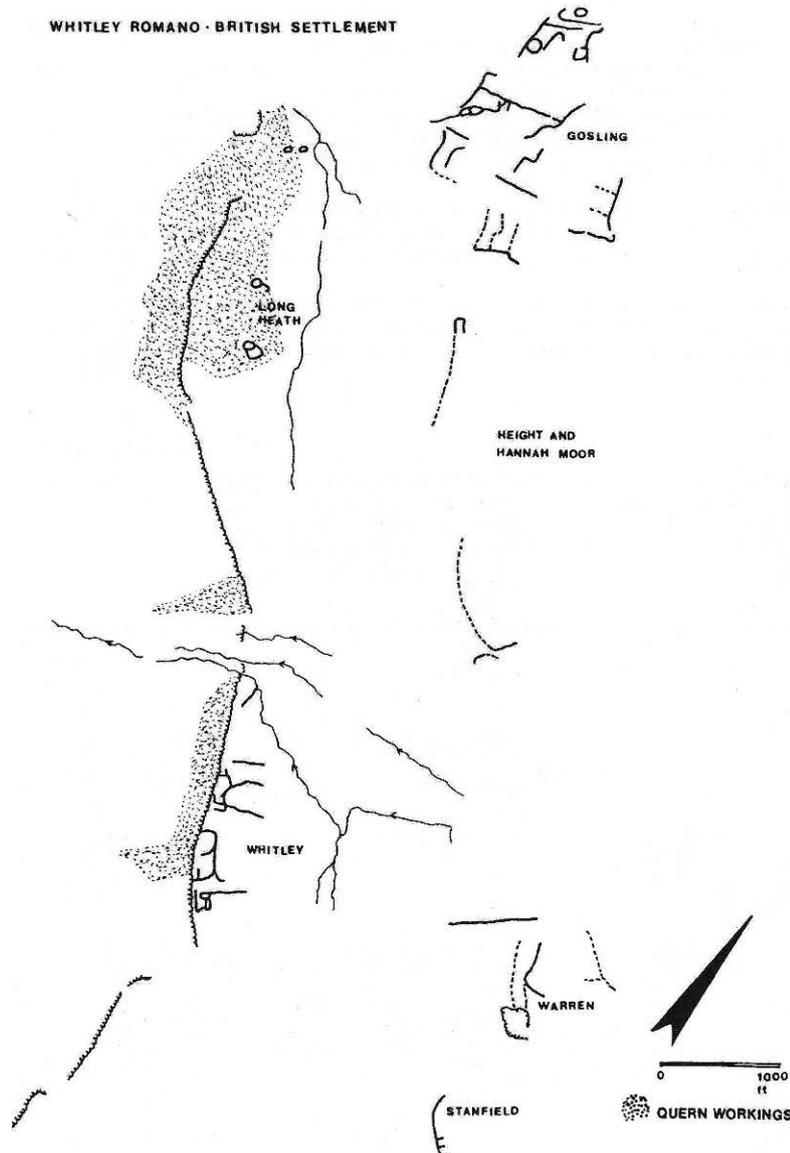


Figure G.280. *The late prehistoric or Romano-British earthworks near Wharncliffe Crags, S. Yorks. The site at Whitley lies to the south-west (lower left). (Source: Makepeace 1985: 35).*

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).

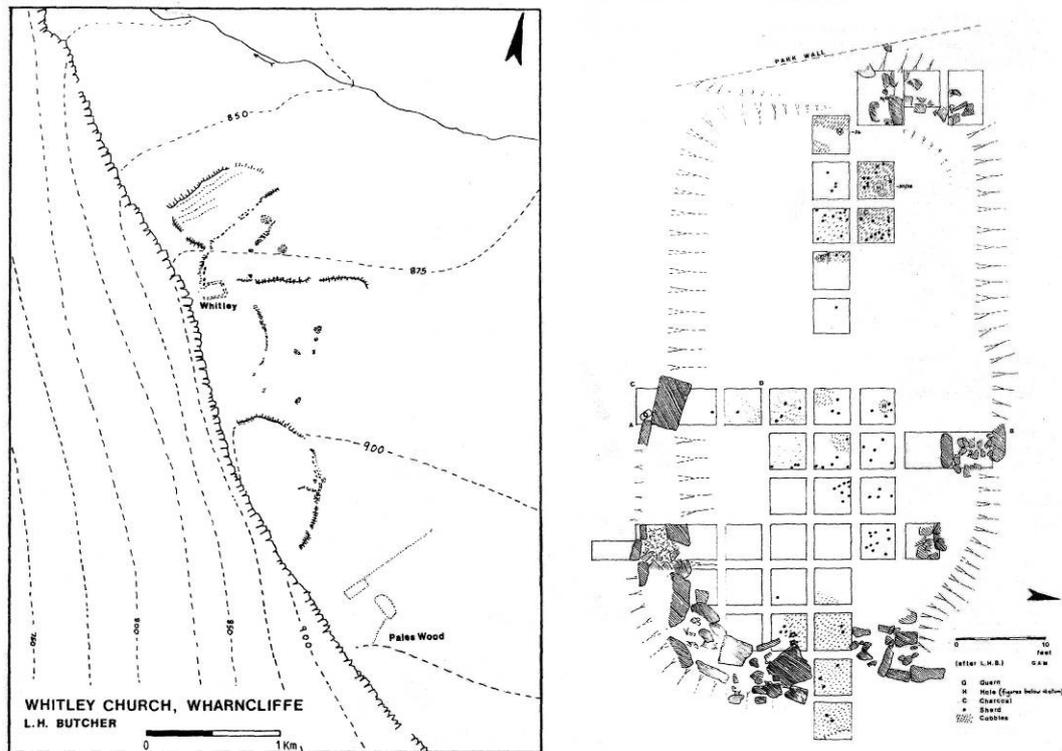


Figure G.281. (left). Detail of the enclosures at Whitley, Wharncliffe, with the excavated building shown immediately above the word 'Whitley'. **Fig. G.282. (right).** Detail of the building, investigated using the box grid technique of excavation. Note that this plan is orientated at right-angles to 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 ¹⁴C 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

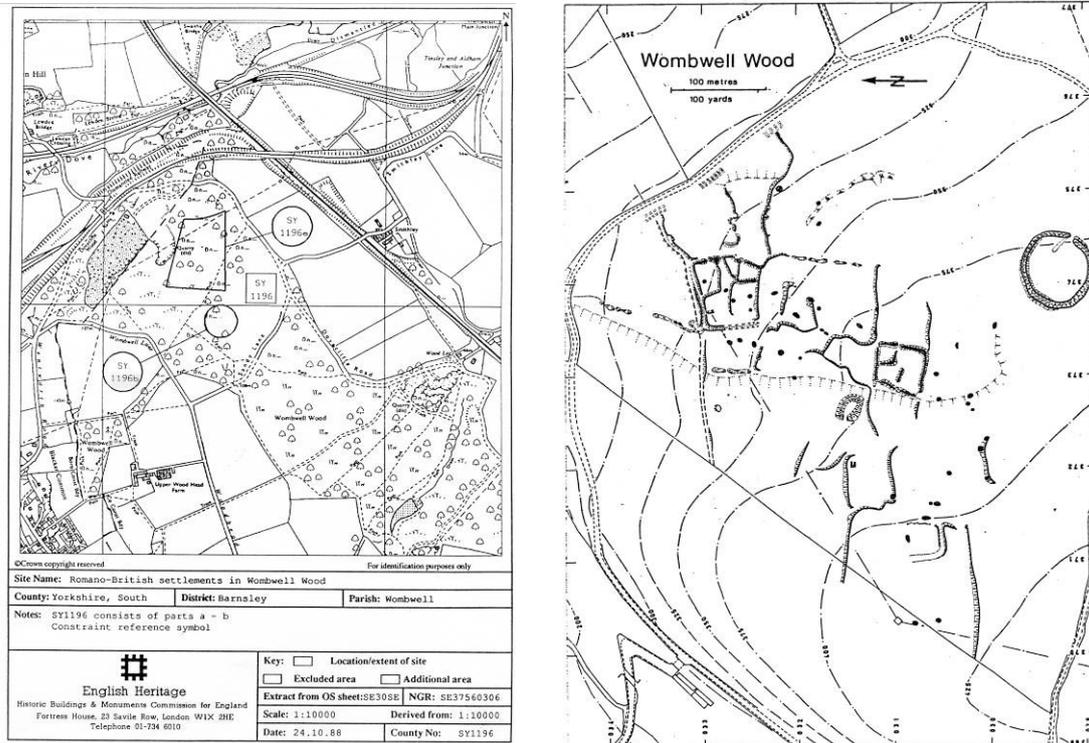


Figure G.287. (left). The location of the two Scheduled areas within Wombwell Wood, S. Yorks. (Source: © English Heritage/SYAS). SAM 1196a is within the trapezoidal area to the north, SAM 1196b within the circular area to the south. **Fig. G.288. (right).** Plan of the circular enclosure, and the subrectangular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

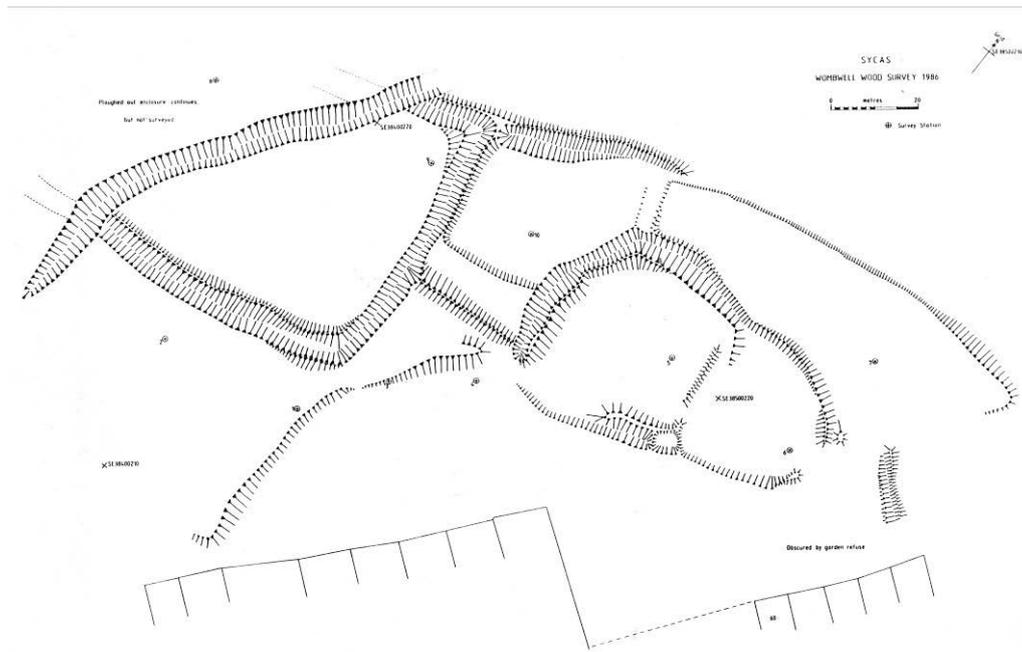


Figure G.289. *The third earthwork complex in Wombwell Wood, sketchily surveyed in 1986. There are two possible enclosures – the eastern example may have a partial subdivision, and there may be an embanked passage or droveway c. 30m long linking it to the western enclosure. However, a more detailed survey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

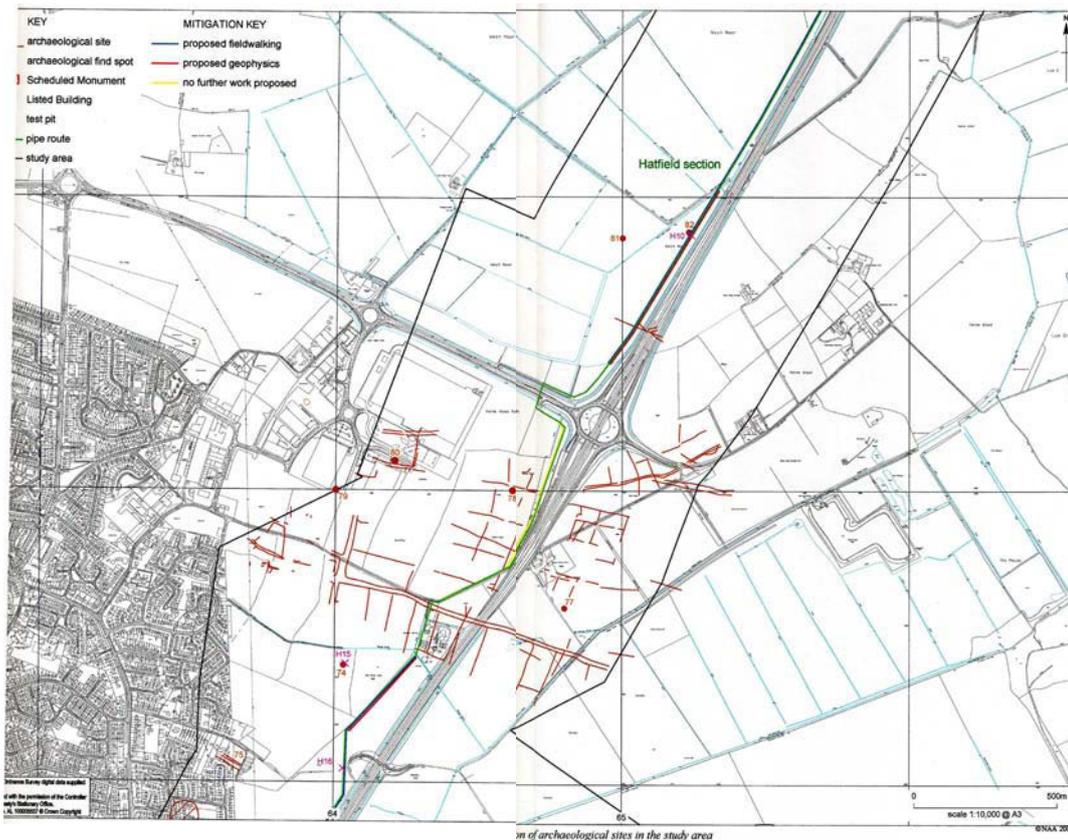


Figure G.292. *Composite image of cropmarks identified to the east of Armthorpe, S. Yorks. (Source: Deegan 2001a).*

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.

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).



Fig. 2. Evaluation trench locations, excavation areas and previous archaeological investigations. Scale 1:4000

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).

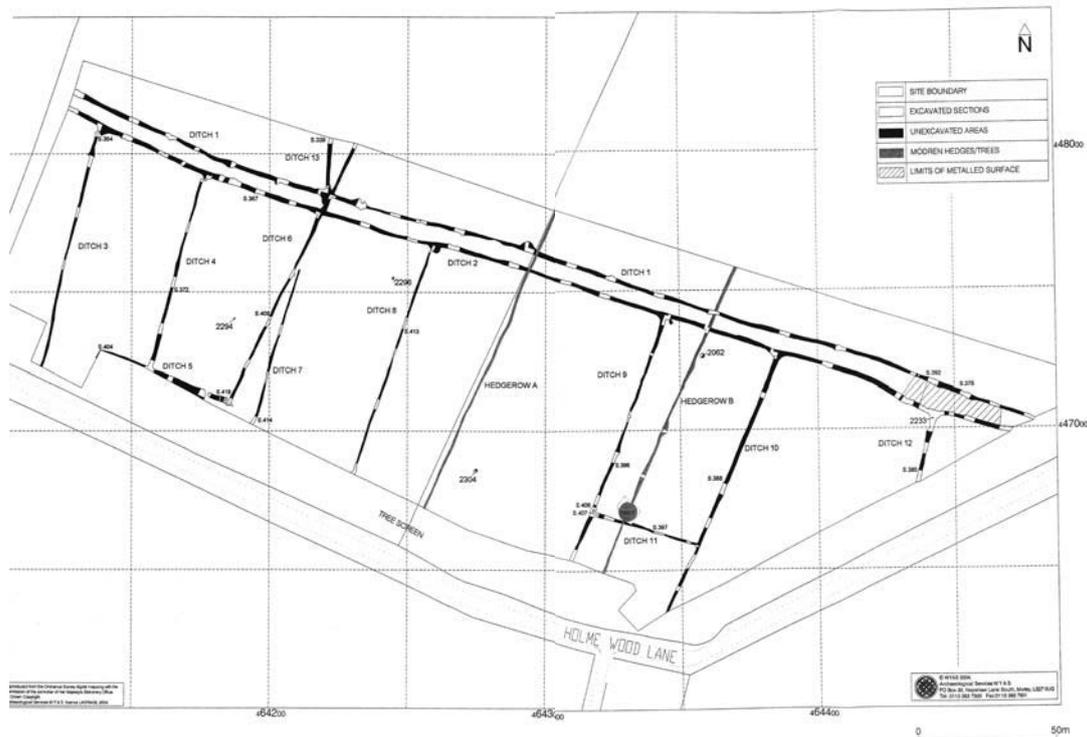


Figure G.296. Composite plan of the West Moor Park East site, showing the co-axial 'brickwork' fields and the extensive length of trackway excavated. Note that ditches 3, 4, 7 and 8 were on very similar alignments. Ditch 6 was an exception to this, cutting across the line of ditch 7, although it was 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.

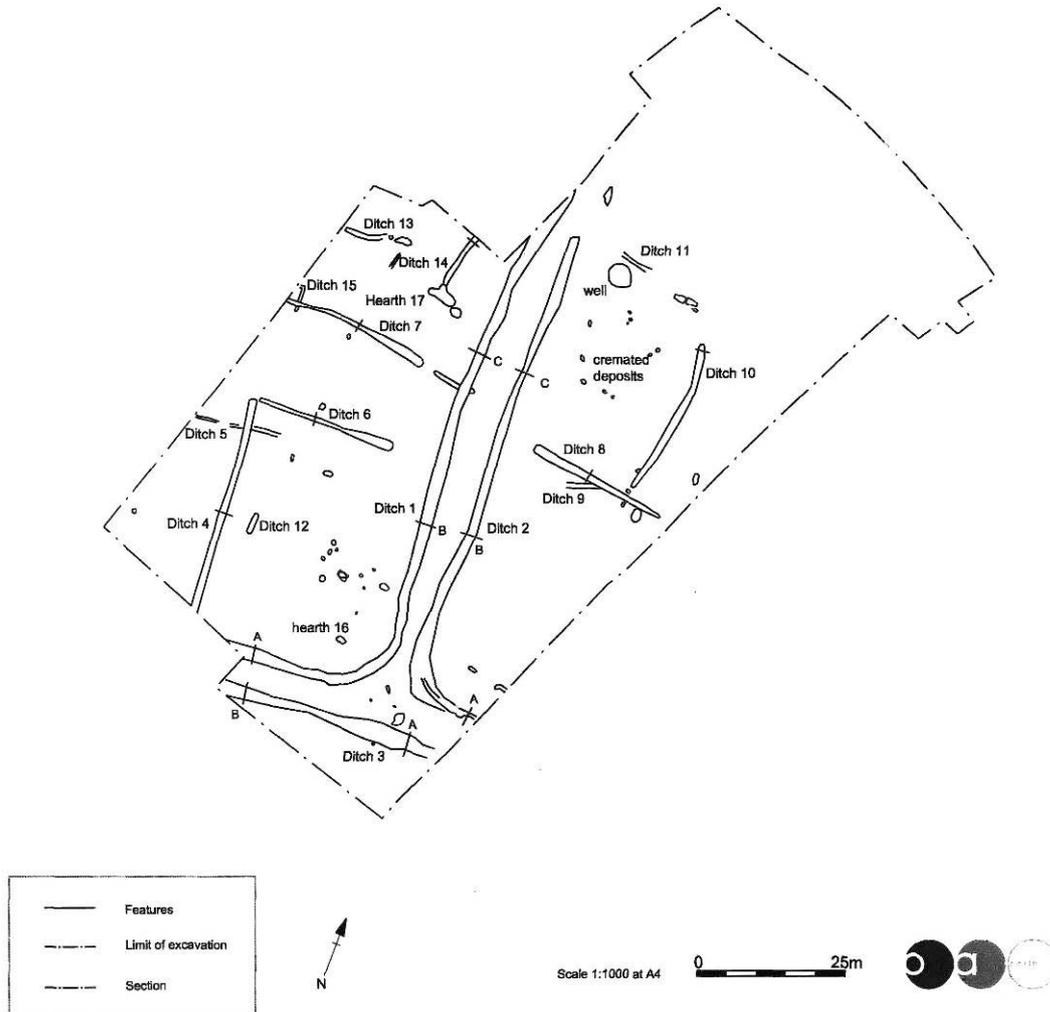


Figure G.297. *The full excavation at the Junction 4 site at Armthorpe, S. Yorks. Note the location of the well, and the cremation deposits. The north-south trackway opens out into a major east-west trackway. (Source: Hughes 2006).*

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.

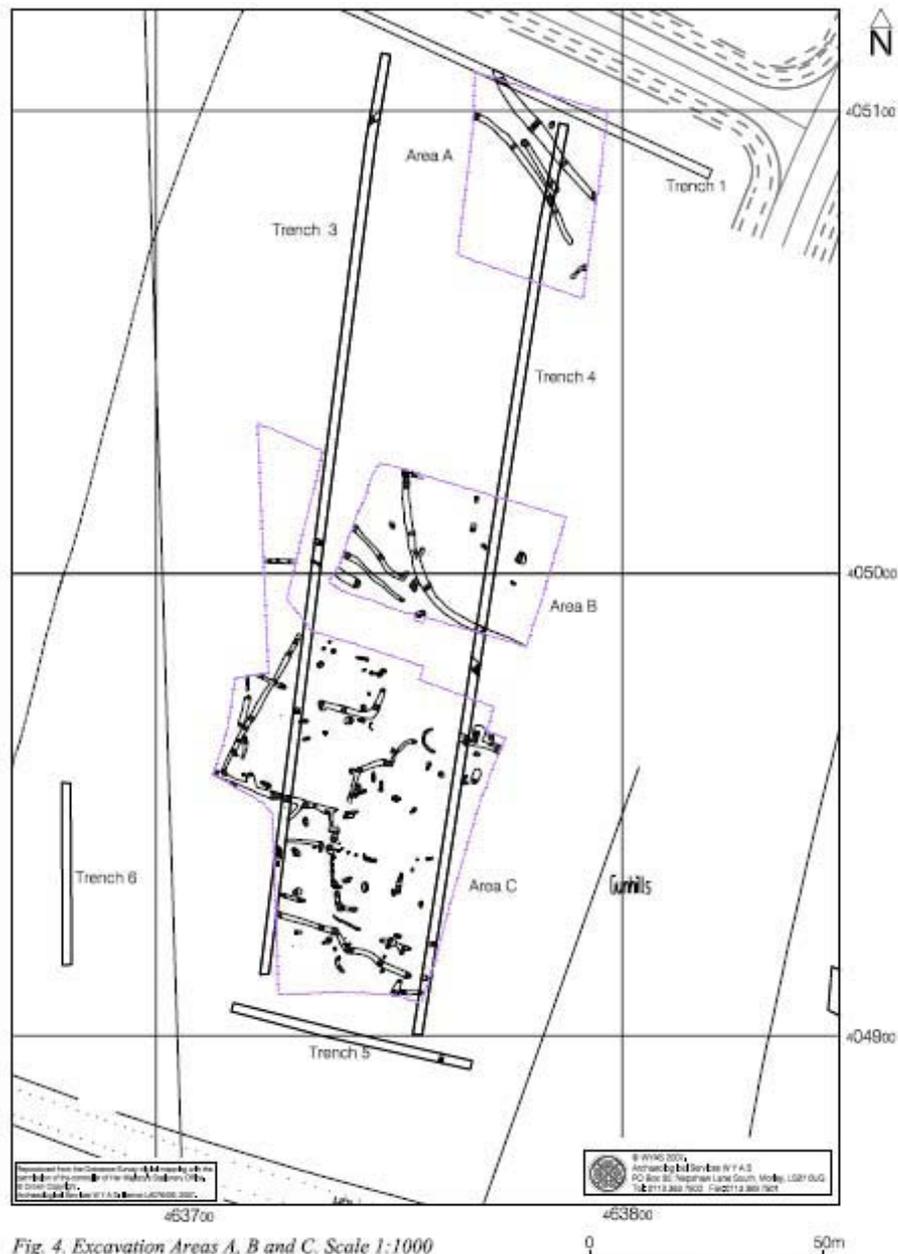


Fig. 4. Excavation Areas A, B and C. Scale 1:1000

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

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 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 Propection (GSB Propection 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 ¹⁴C 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).

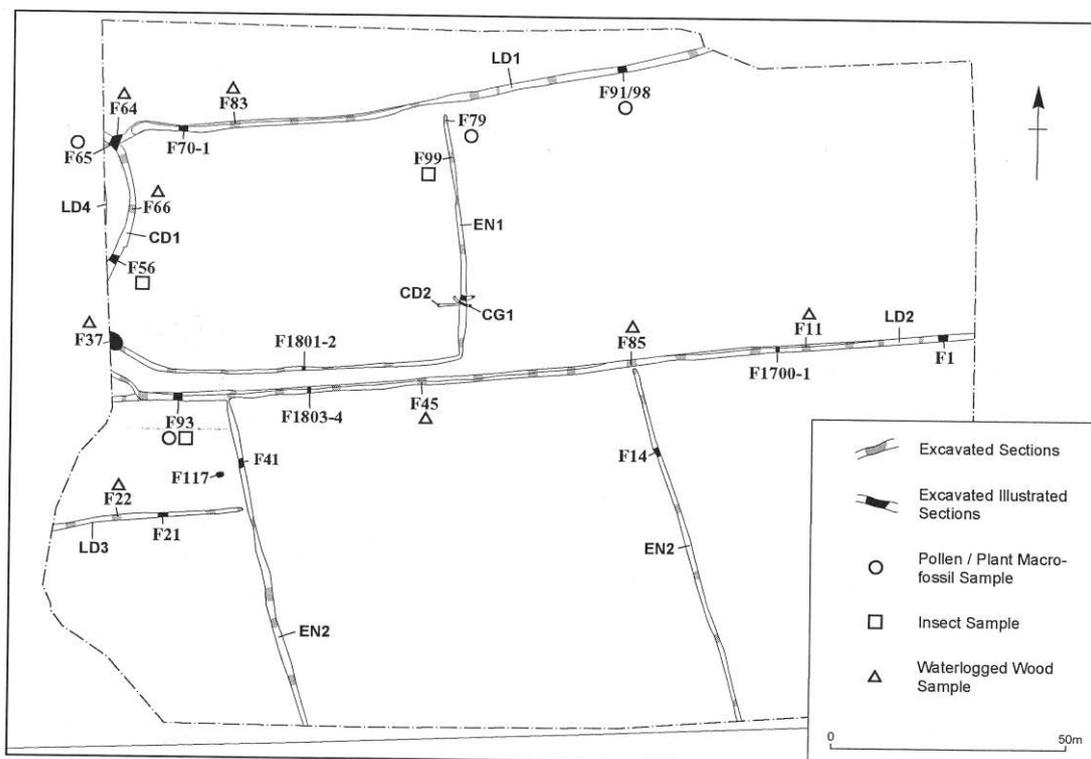


Figure G.300. Features excavated at Catesby Business Park by BUFAU. (Source: Jones 2005 fig. 2).

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.

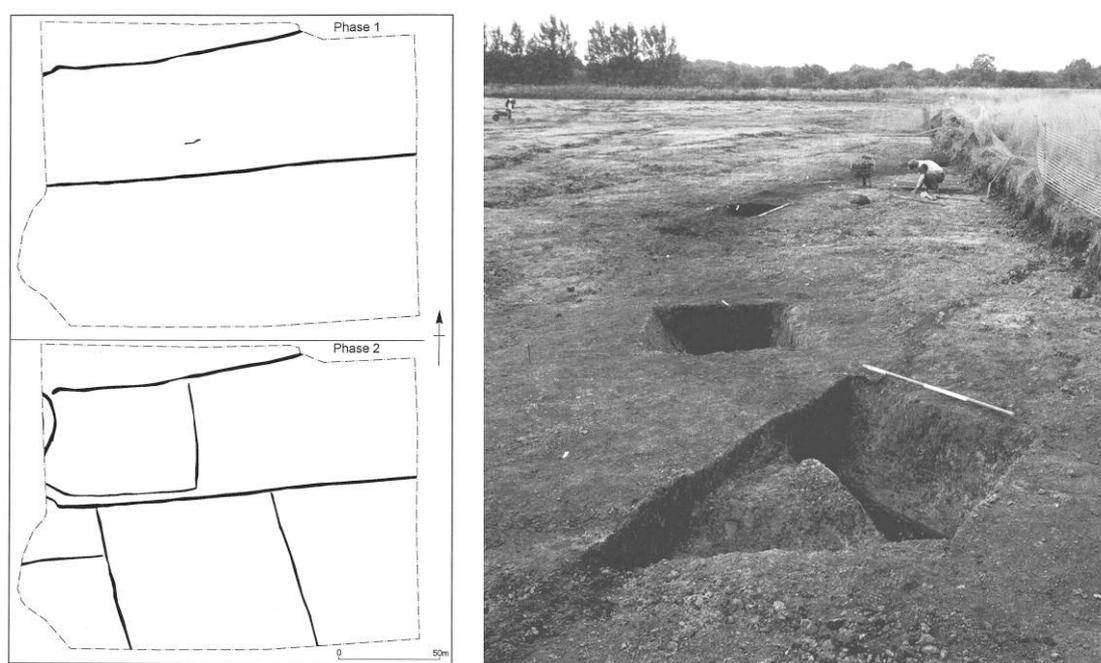


Figure G.301. (left). Possible broad phasing for the site, showing a landscape increasingly divided over time. (Source: Jones 2005: fig. 3). **Fig. G.302. (right).** The curvilinear ditch excavated at the western edge of the BUFAU site. (Source: Jones 2006: 60).

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.

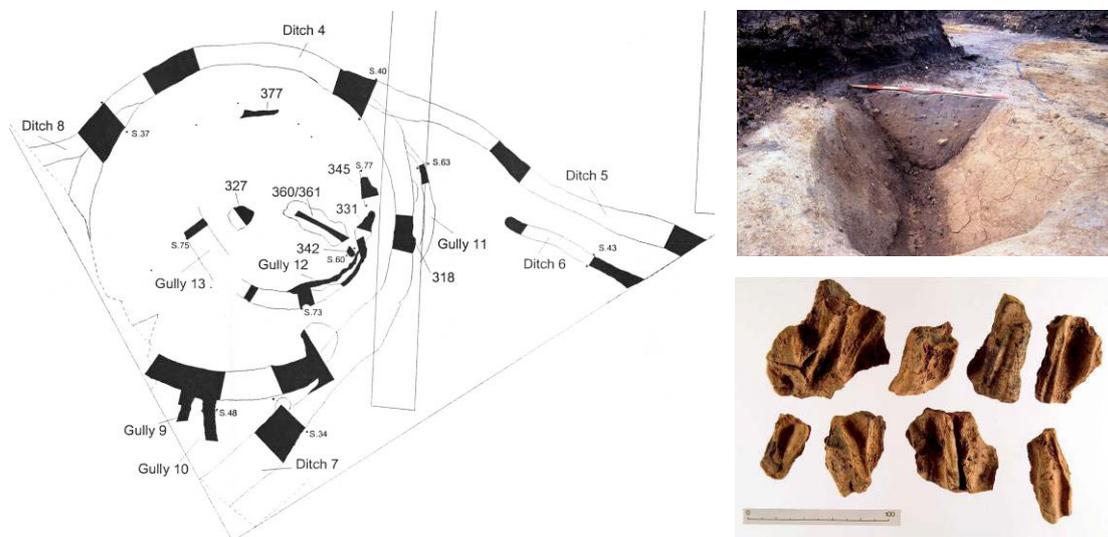


Figure G.303. (left). Detail of the structural features at the AS WYAS Catesby Park site. (Source: Richardson and Rose 2005: fig. 3). **Fig. G.304. (upper right).** Excavated ditch terminal at Balby Carr. (Source: © AS WYAS). **Fig. G.305. (lower right).** The daub recovered from the subcircular enclosure 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 ¹⁴C 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 ¹⁴C 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.

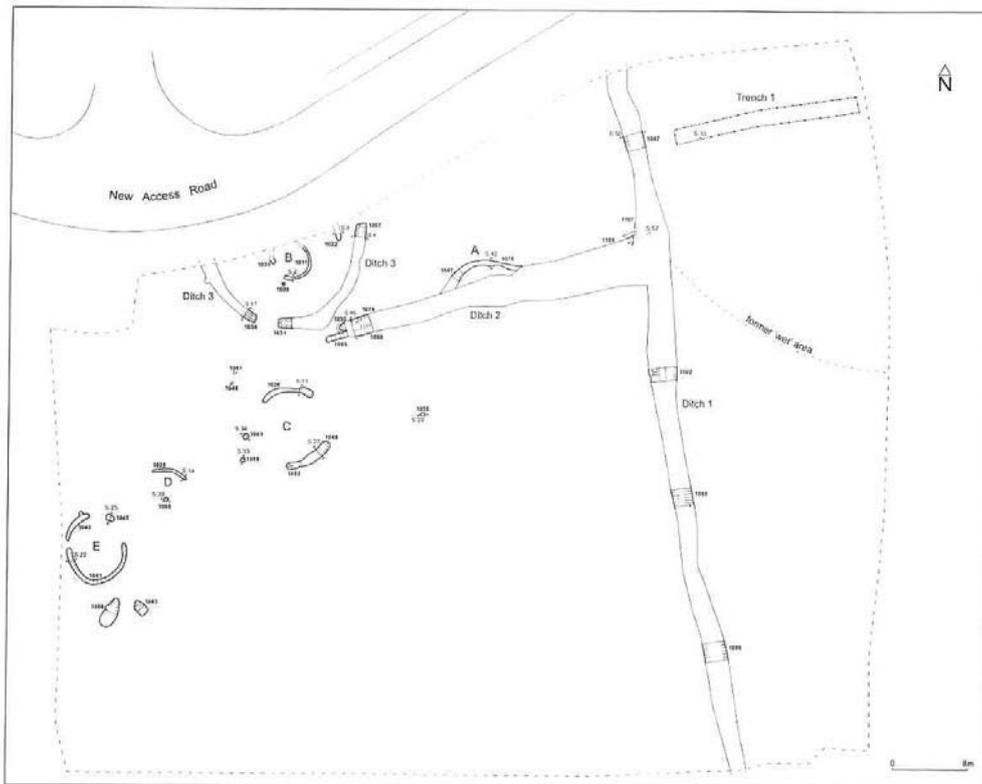


Figure G.307. The second large area of investigation at Balby Carr revealed Iron Age and Romano-British boundaries, and the remains of at least five roundhouses. (Source: Rose and Roberts 2006).

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.

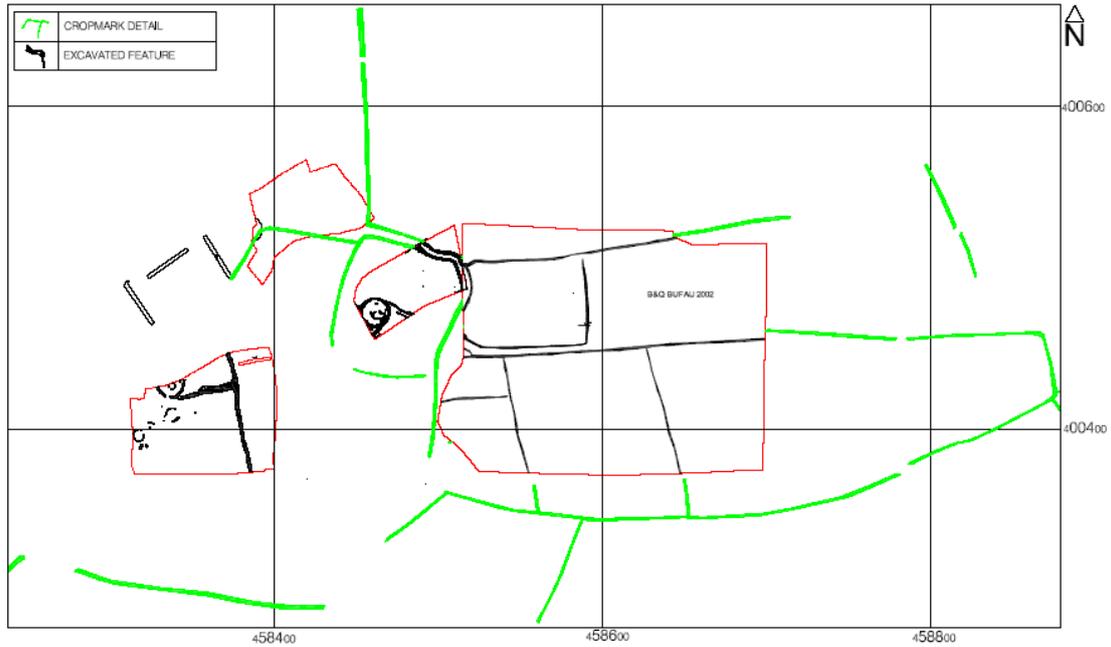


Figure G.308. Archaeological features at the BUFAU and AS WYAS sites at Balby Carr (in black), together with air photo evidence (in green), suggesting that there was an open settlement and relatively undivided landscape that became progressively enclosed over time. (Source: © AS WYAS).

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.

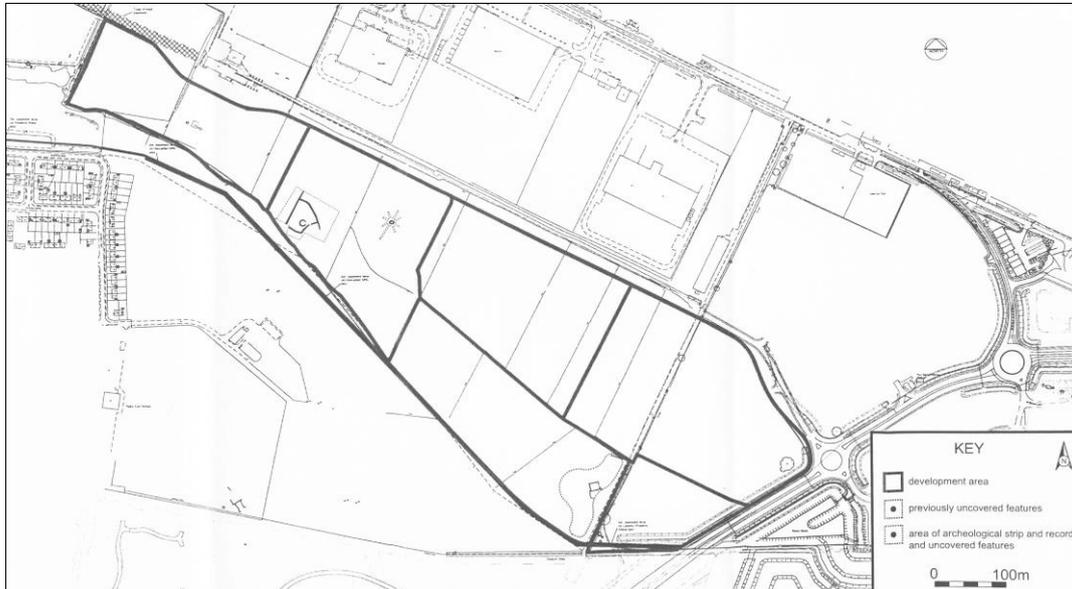


Figure G.310. The features excavated by AOC Archaeology at Balby Carr. (Source: Clements 2007).

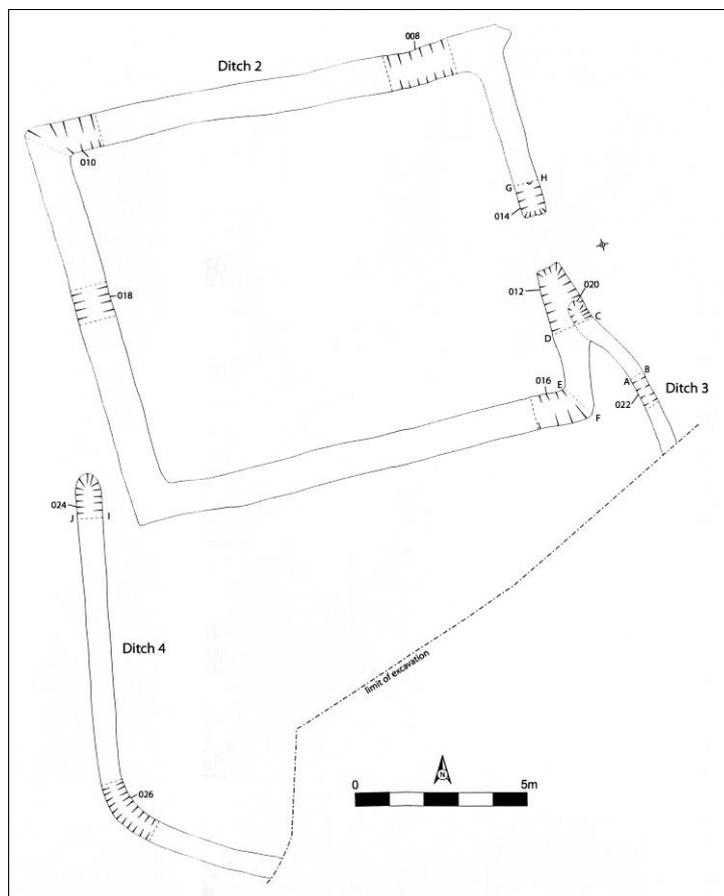


Figure G.311. The rectangular enclosure dug by AOC Archaeology. (Source: Clements 2007: fig. 3).

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).

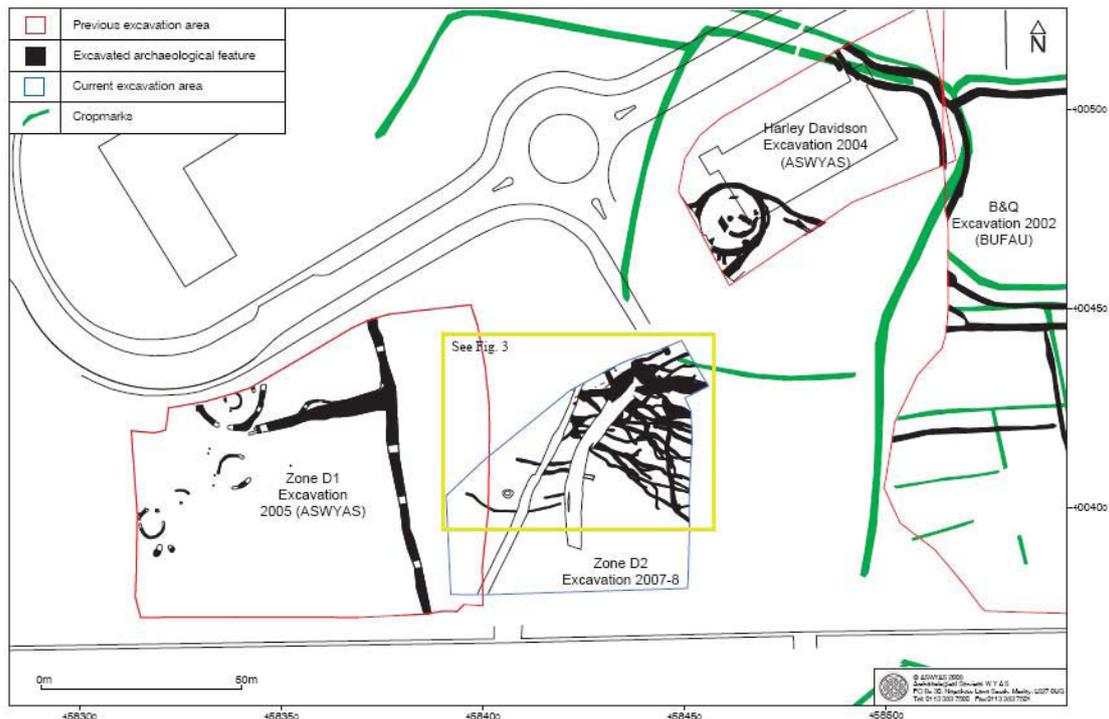


Figure G.312. The location of the most recent area excavated by AS WYAS at Balby Carr. (Source: Muldowney 2008: fig. 2).

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 feature up 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.

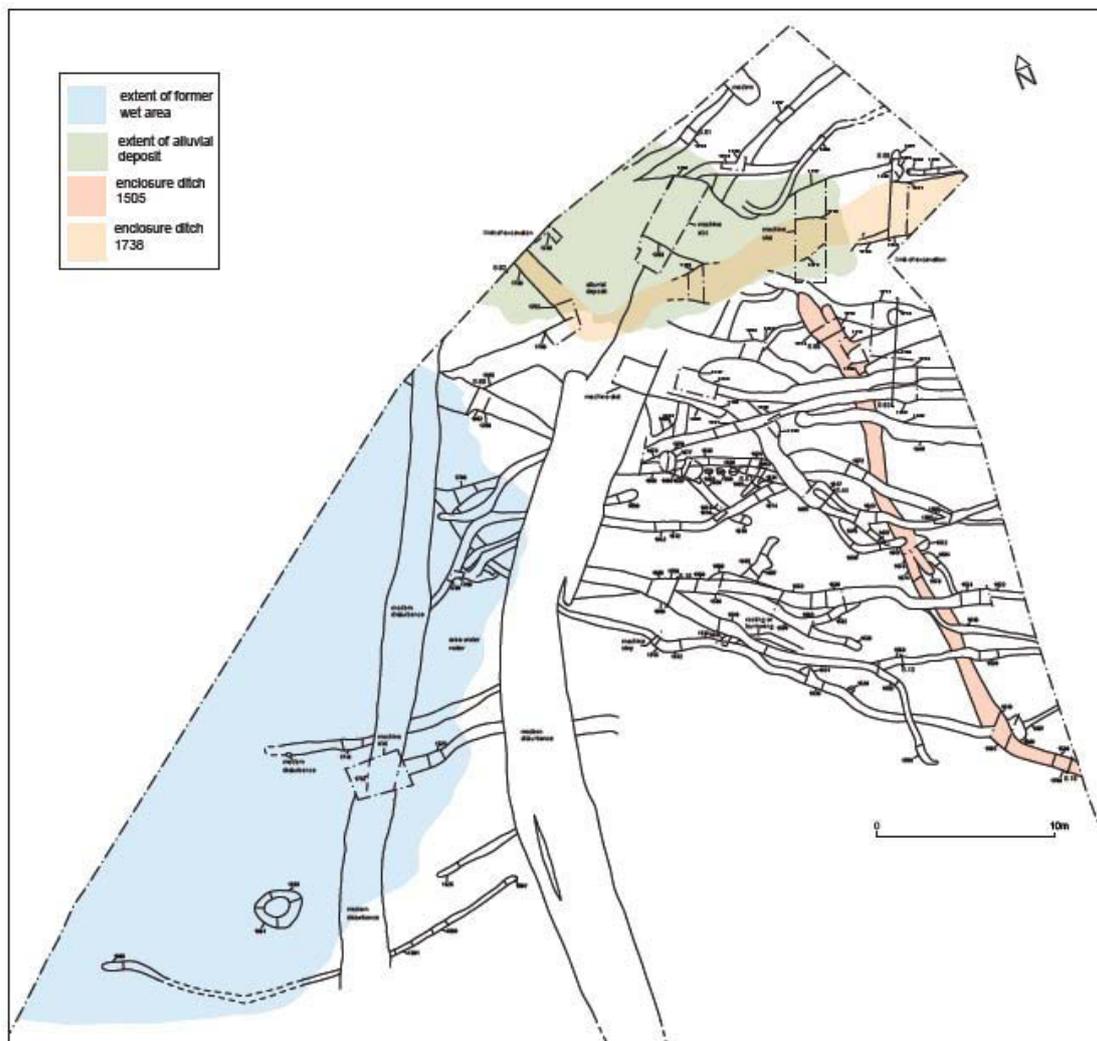


Figure G.313. Detailed plan of the Zone D2 site at Balby Carr, showing the major ditch features but also the numerous sinuous gullies that were also recorded. (Source: Muldowney 2008: fig. 3).

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.

internal subdivision within the enclosure, perhaps for a palisade or wattle fence line, 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 calf 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).*

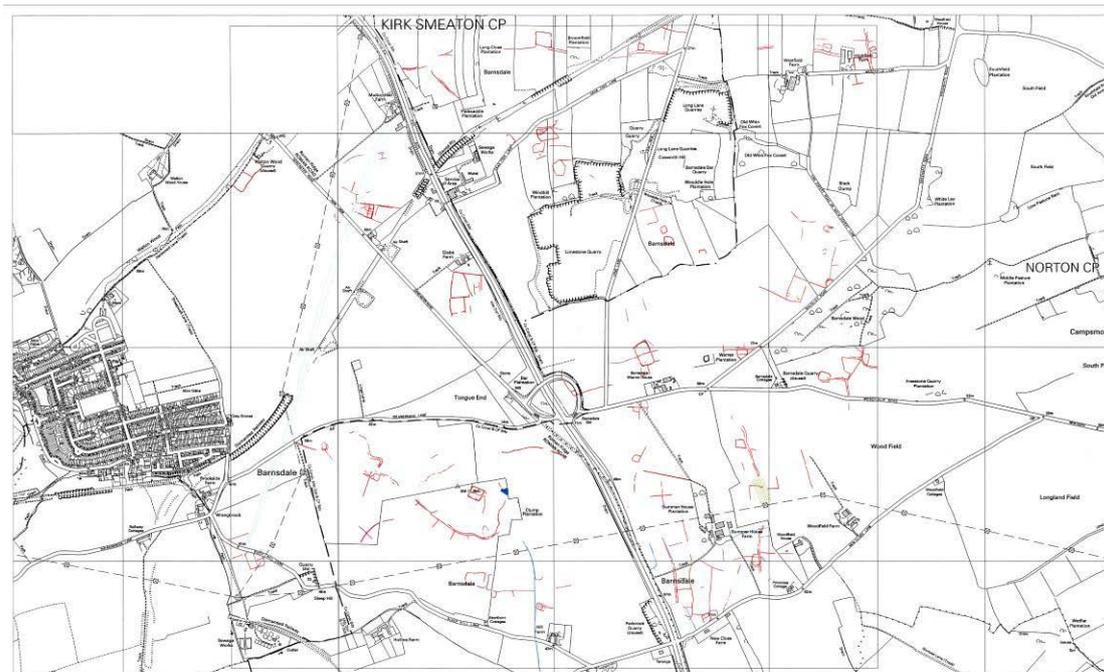


Figure G.316. *Possible Iron Age and Romano-British features (in red) plotted from cropmarks in South and North Yorkshire around Barnsdale Bar. (Source: Deegan 2000).*

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 ¹⁴C 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.

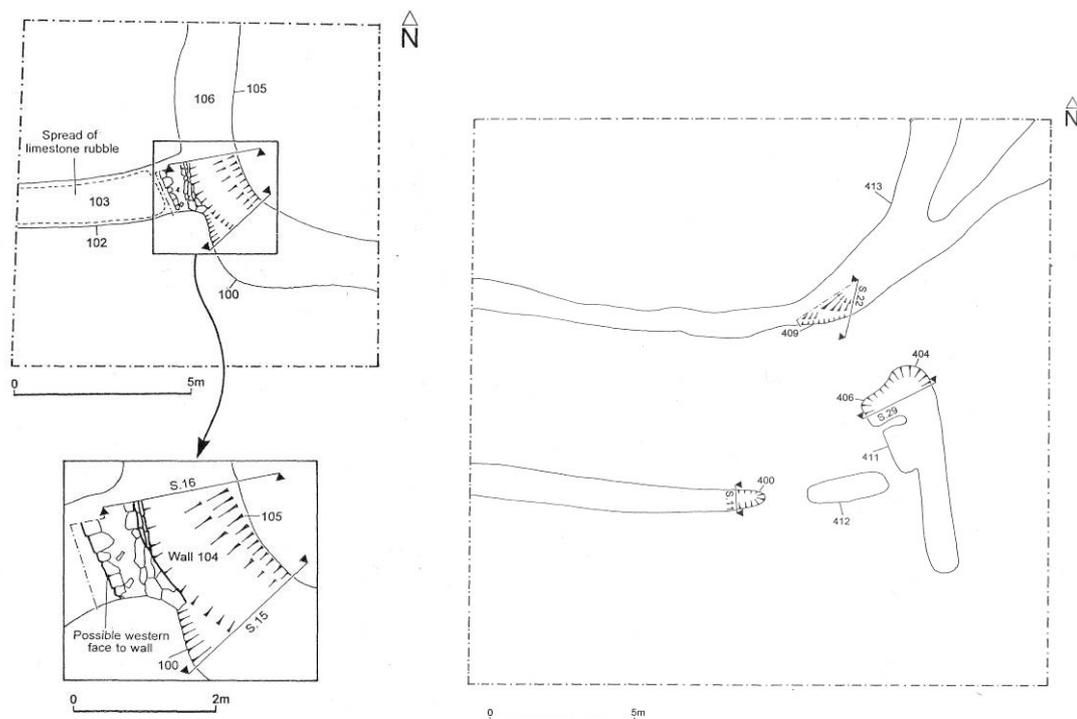


Figure G.318. (left). Trench A, Barnsdale Bar East, showing the stone revetment. **Fig. G.319. (right).** Trench D, showing the double-ditched trackway and the possible gateway structure. (Source: O'Neill 1999: figs. 4, 6).

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.

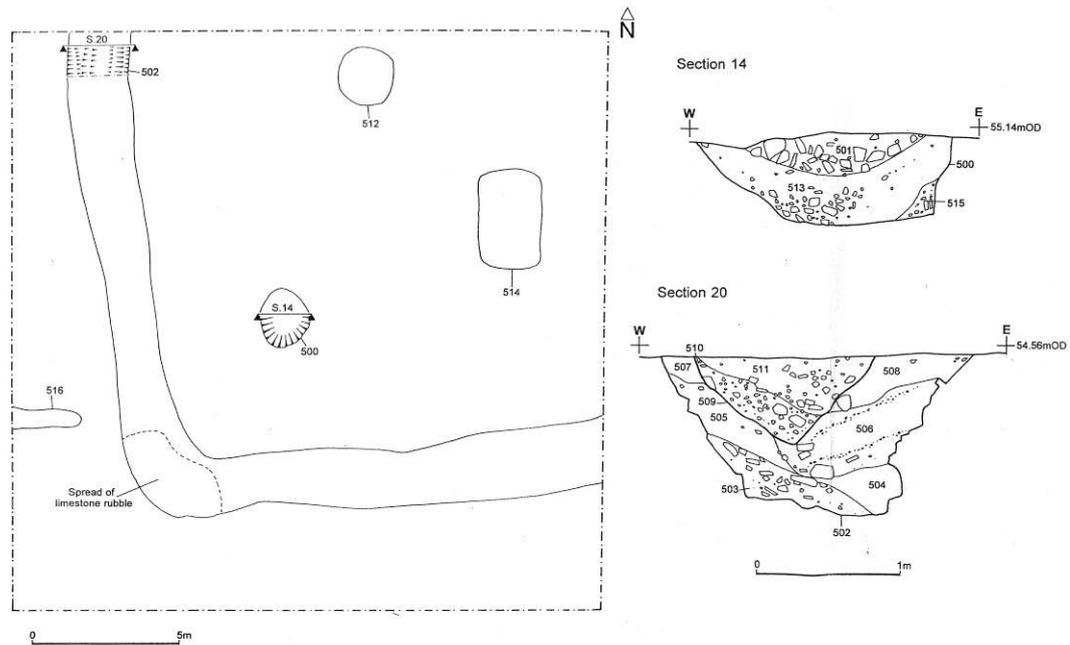


Figure G.320. Trench E, Barnsdale Bar East, showing the south-west corner of the enclosure, and sections through the enclosure ditch and an internal pit. (Source: O'Neill 1999: fig. 7).

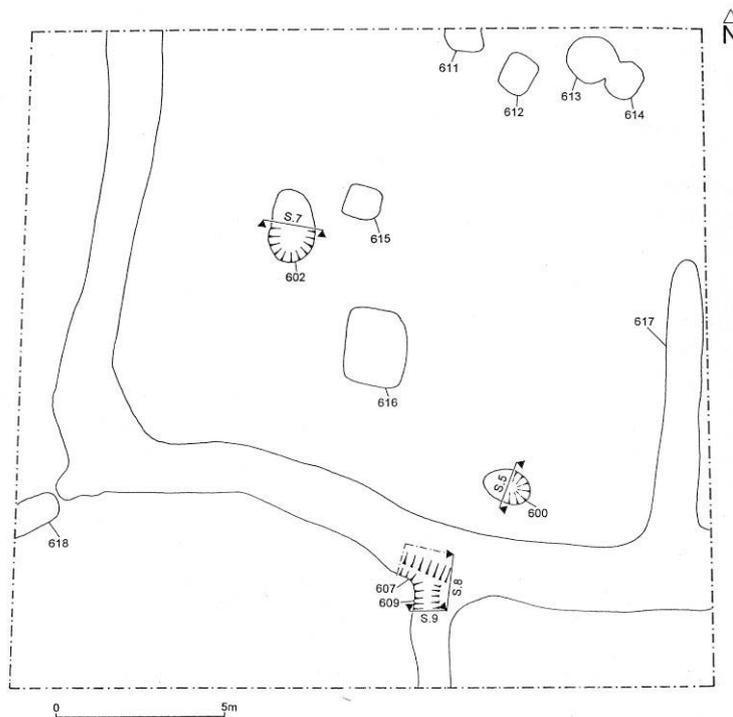


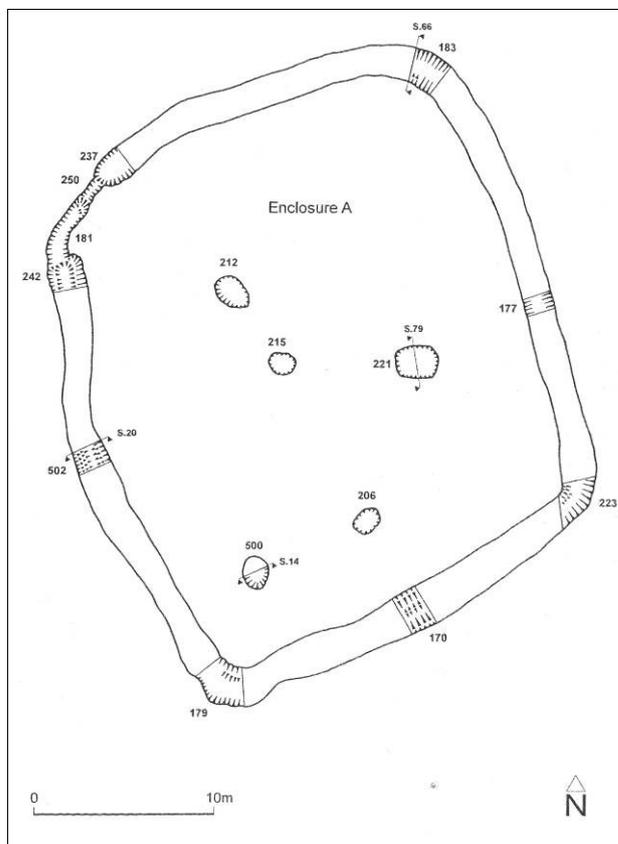
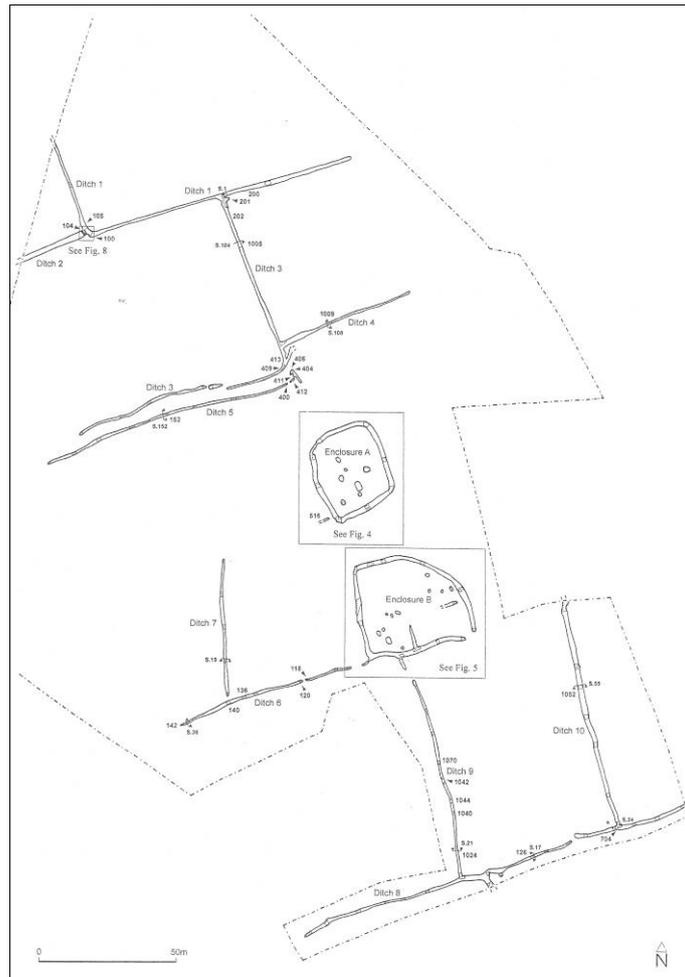
Figure G.321. (left). Trench F at Barnsdale Bar East, showing part of another south-west corner of an enclosure, along with some internal features. (Source: O'Neill 1999: fig. 8).

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.

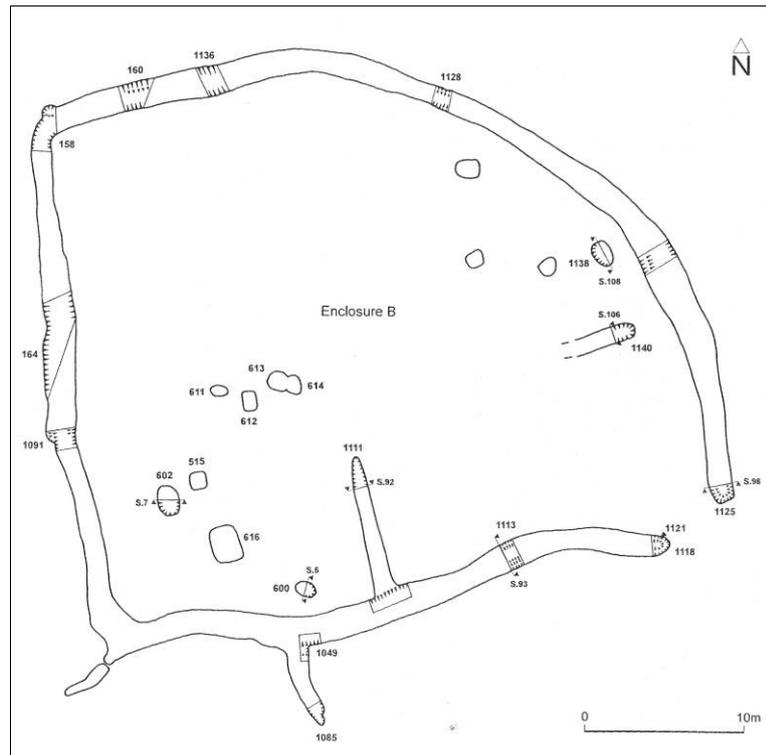
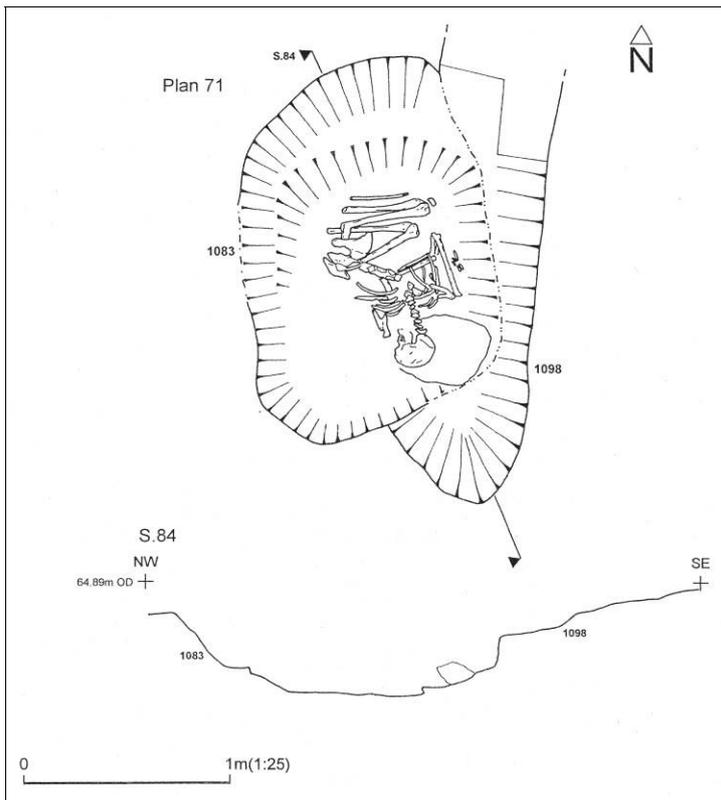


Figure G.325. (left). Enclosure B, Barnsdale Bar East. (Source: Grassam and Ford 2008).



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 original 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).

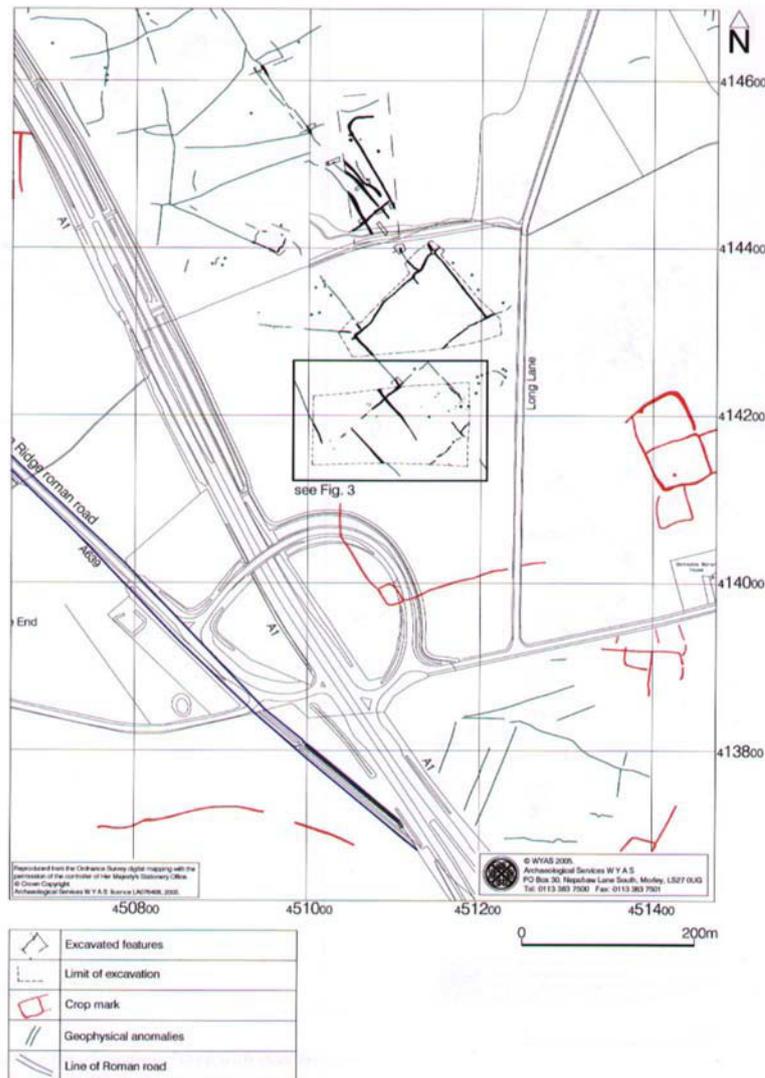


Fig. 2. Present area of investigation in the context of known archaeological sites

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.

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.

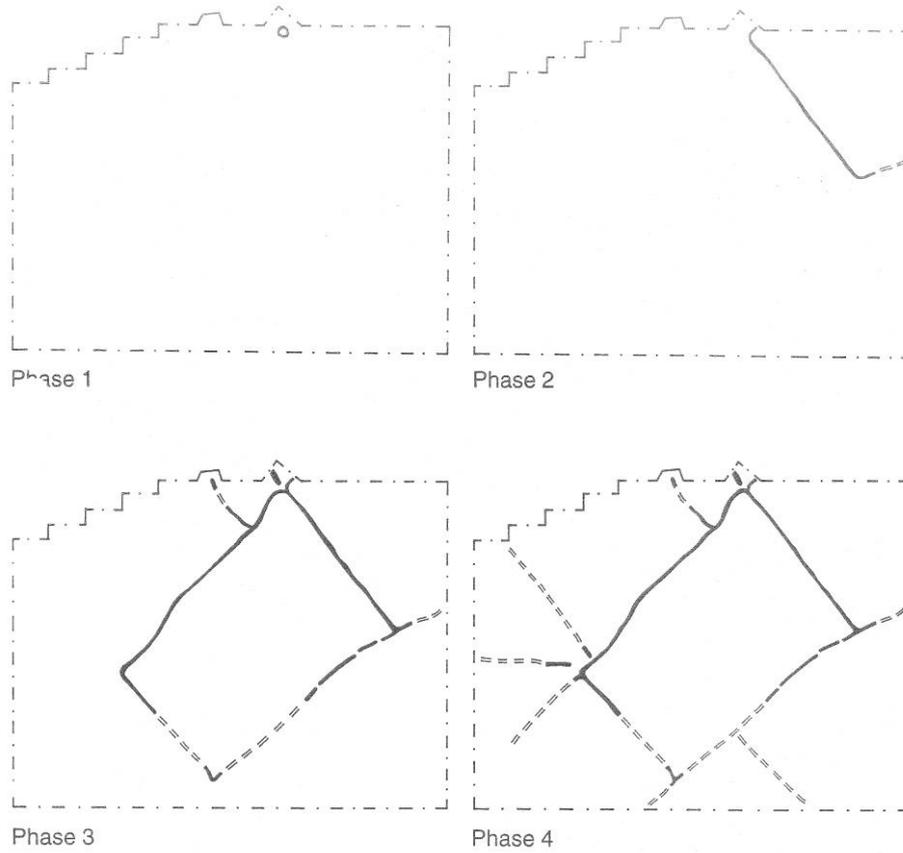


Figure G.328. Broad phases of inhabitation proposed for the Barnsdale Bar South area, showing progressive but piecemeal enclosure over time. (Source: Burgess 2001f).

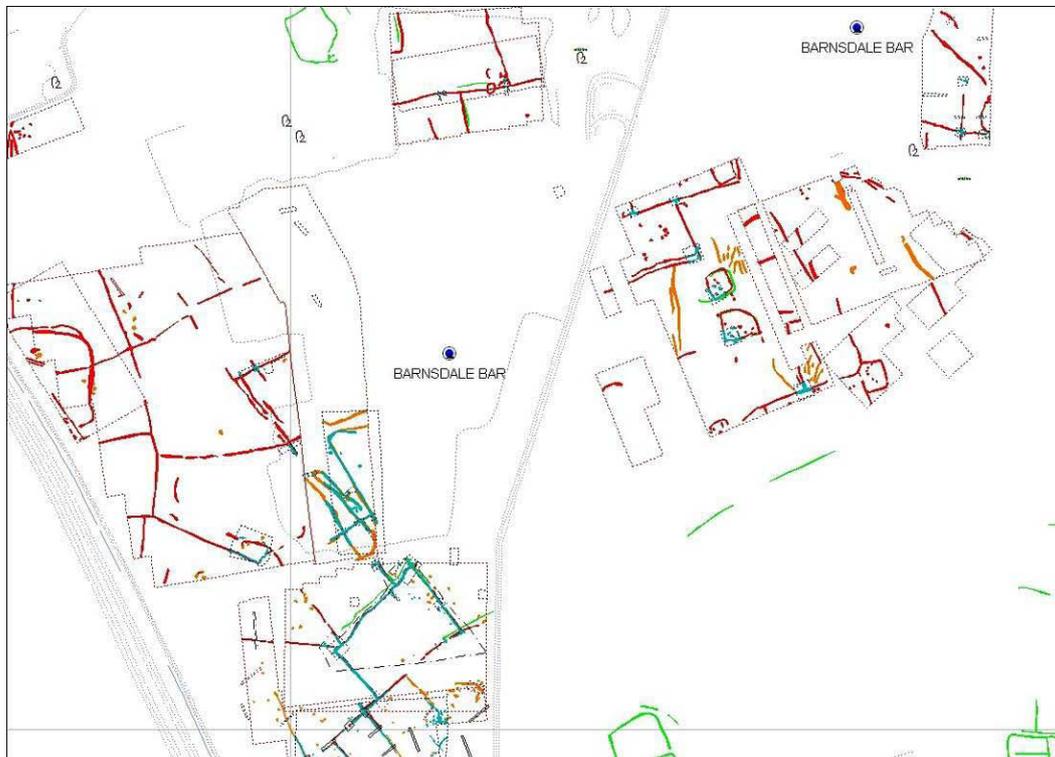


Figure G.329. Further detail of the Barnsdale Bar East and South areas, showing cropmarks or geophysical survey features (red), and excavated features (blue). Some of the boundaries to the west (left) of the image were probably post-medieval in origin. (Source: © AS WYAS).

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.

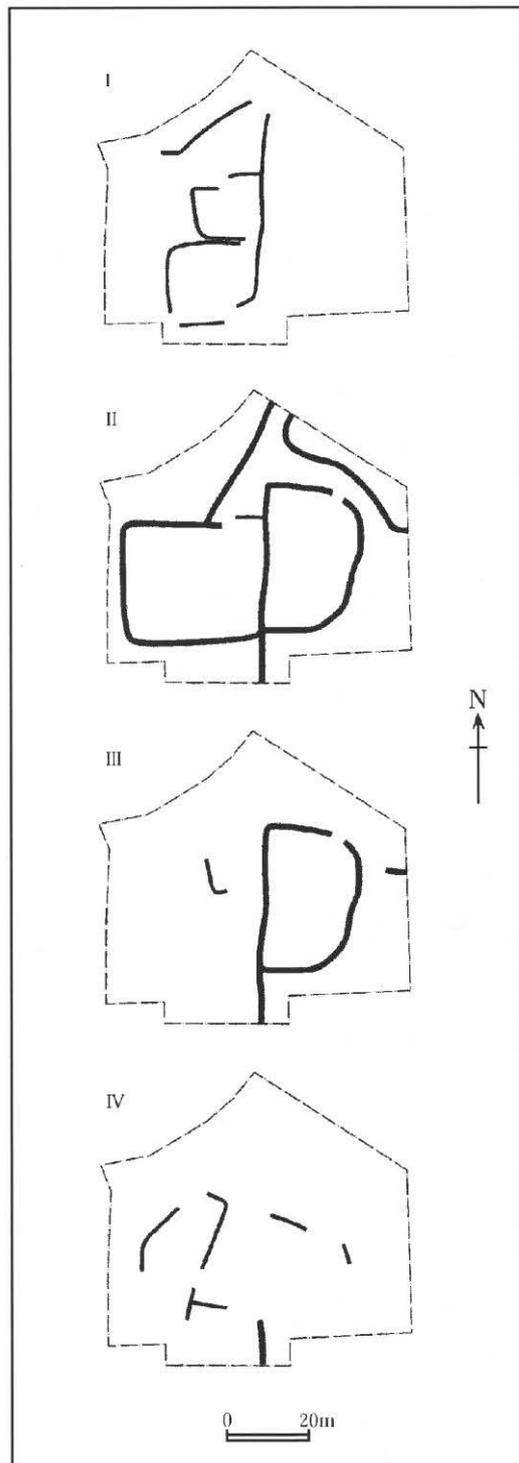
Following these results and the subsequent backfilling of the site, a geophysical survey was undertaken across this area of Bawtry Carr. Several likely ditches were identified, probably of recent date, but much of the area did not appear to have significant buried remains (Harrison and Webb 2006). However, 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).

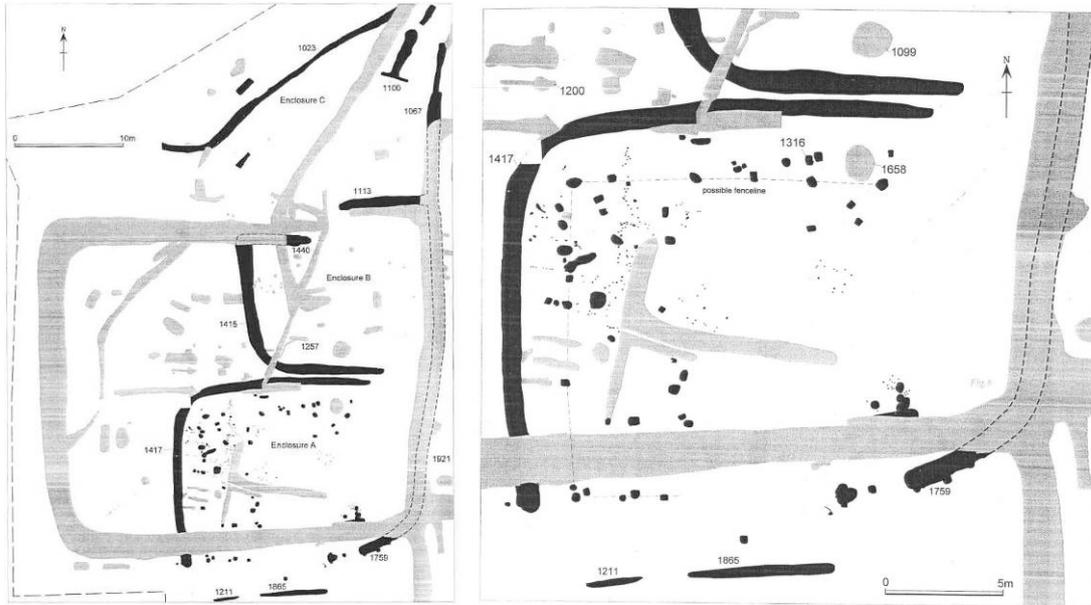
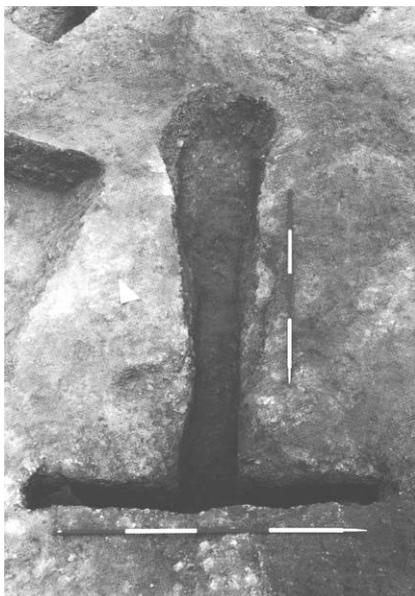


Figure G.331. (left). Phase I features from Billingley Drive, with **Fig. G.332. (right)** showing details of internal features within enclosure A. (Source: Neal and Fraser 2004: 15-16, figs. 6-7).

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 wide and 1m deep. There was evidence that the ditches of both enclosures 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).

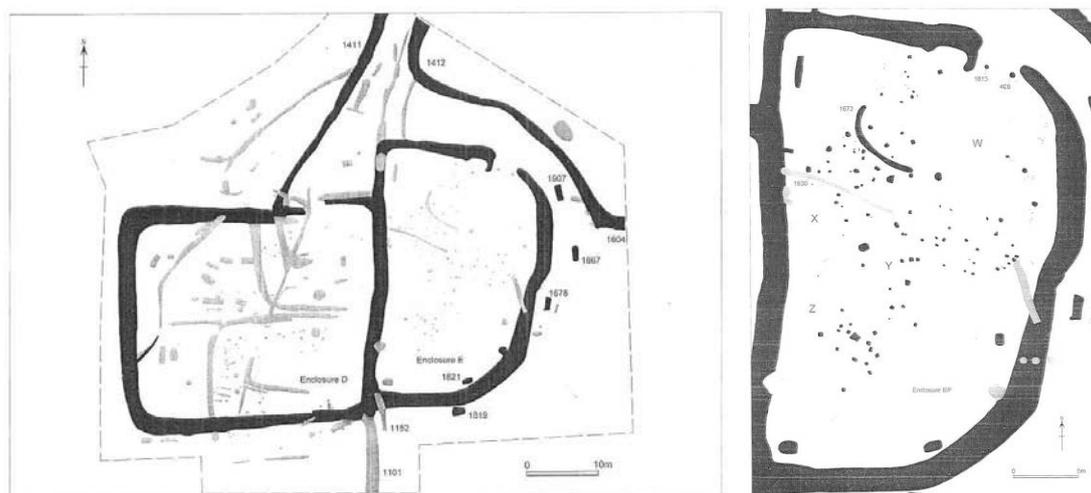
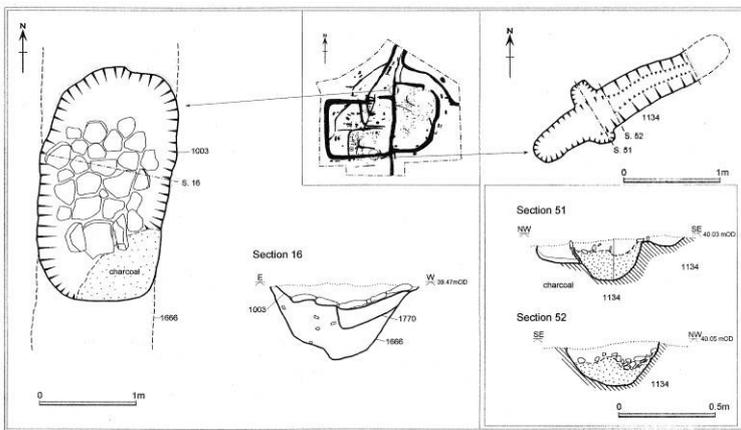
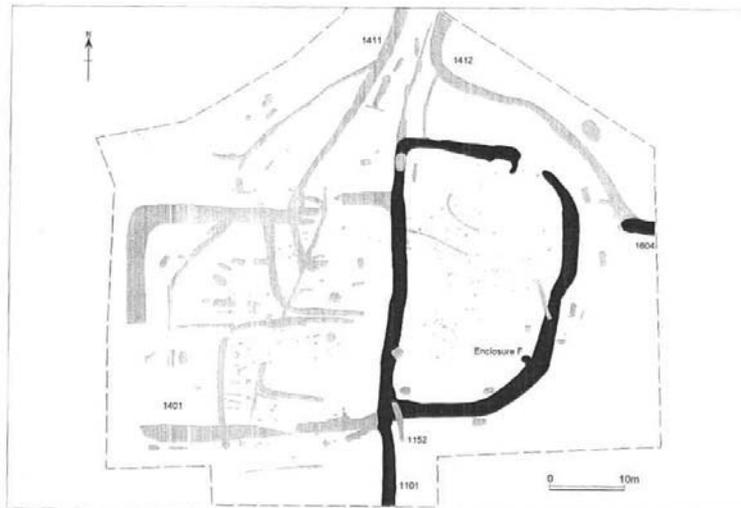


Figure G.334. (left). Phase II features from Billingley Drive, with **Fig. G.335. (right)** showing details of internal features within enclosure E. (Source: Neal and Fraser 2004: 22, 25, figs. 12, 14).

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 fissure 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, Asclepius, 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).

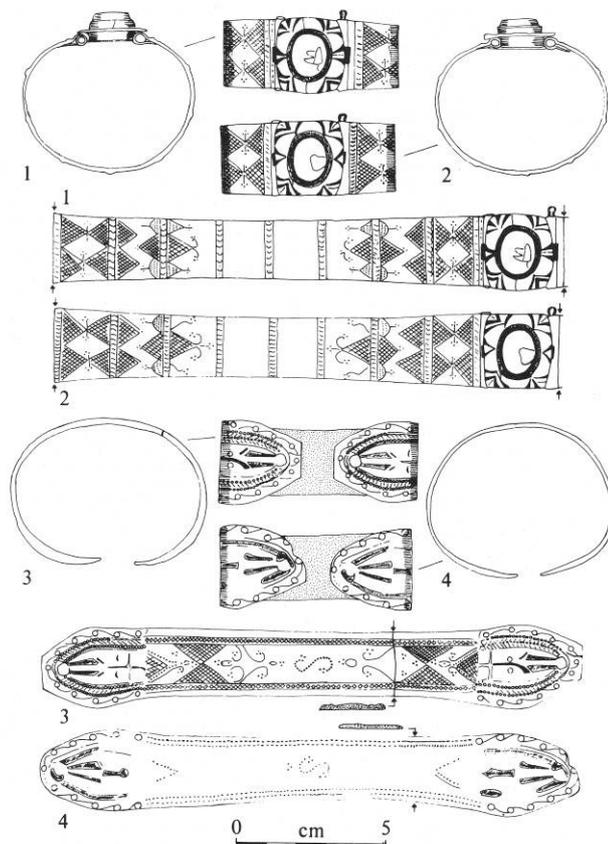


Figure G.345. (right). Detailed illustrations of the silver bracelets forming part of the Cadeby hoard. (Source: Buckland 1986: 41, fig. 24).

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.

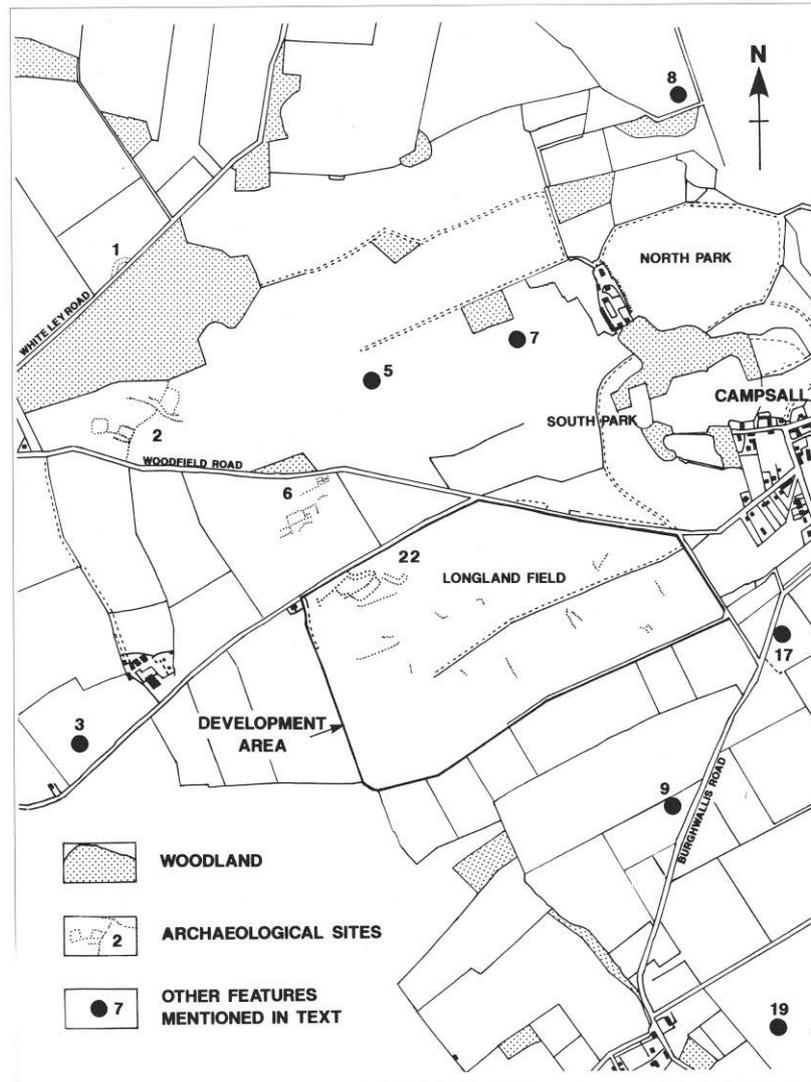


Figure G.346. Cropmarks west of Campsall, S. Yorks. (Source: Adams 1993: 54, fig. 49).

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.

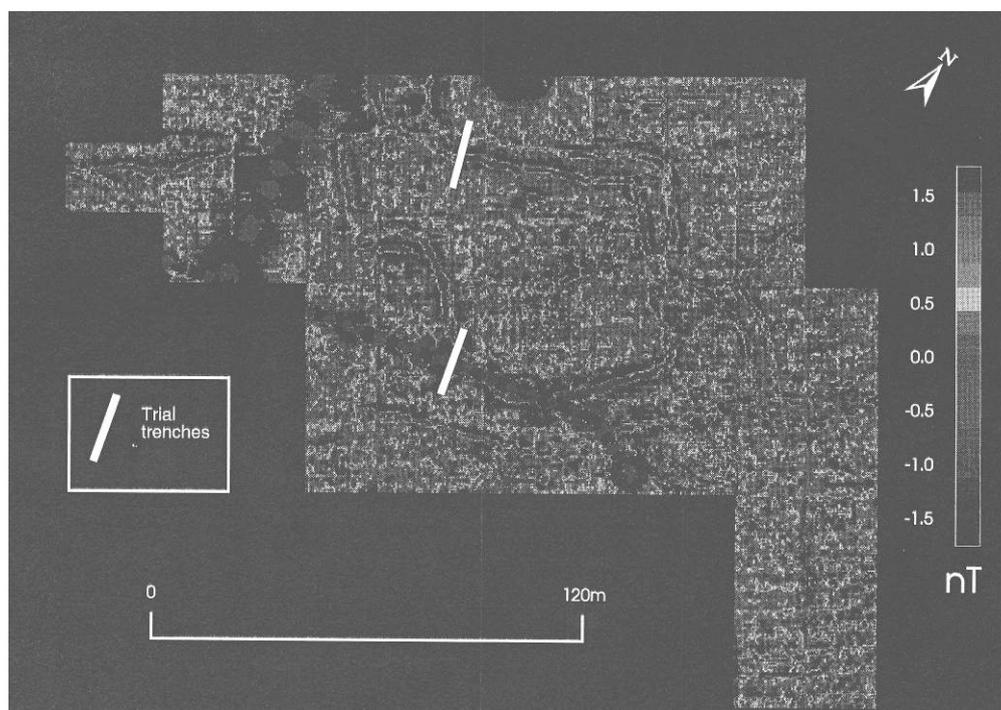


Fig. G.347. Detail of part of the geophysical survey at Campsall Quarry, also showing the location of the two trial trenches. An irregular or trapezoidal enclosure is just visible, mostly defined by a single ditch but with two ditches visible to the north or upper right of the image. The inadequacy of 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 fluvio-glacial 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).

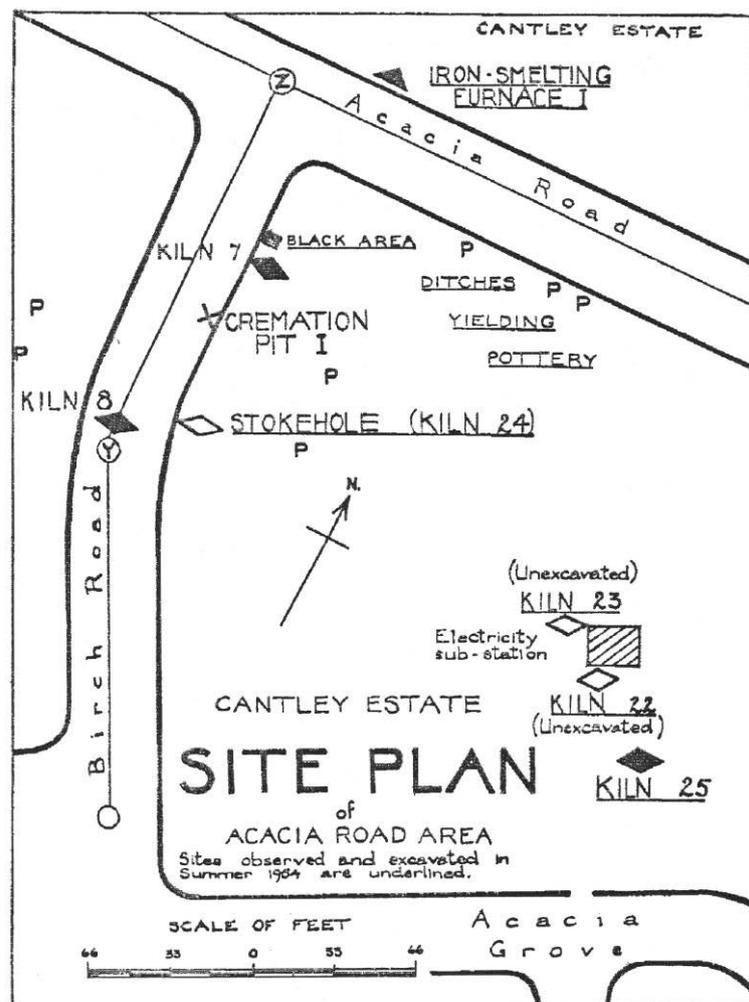


Figure G.348. Plan of some of the Cantley kilns and other features. (Source: Cregeen 1956: 34, fig. 2).

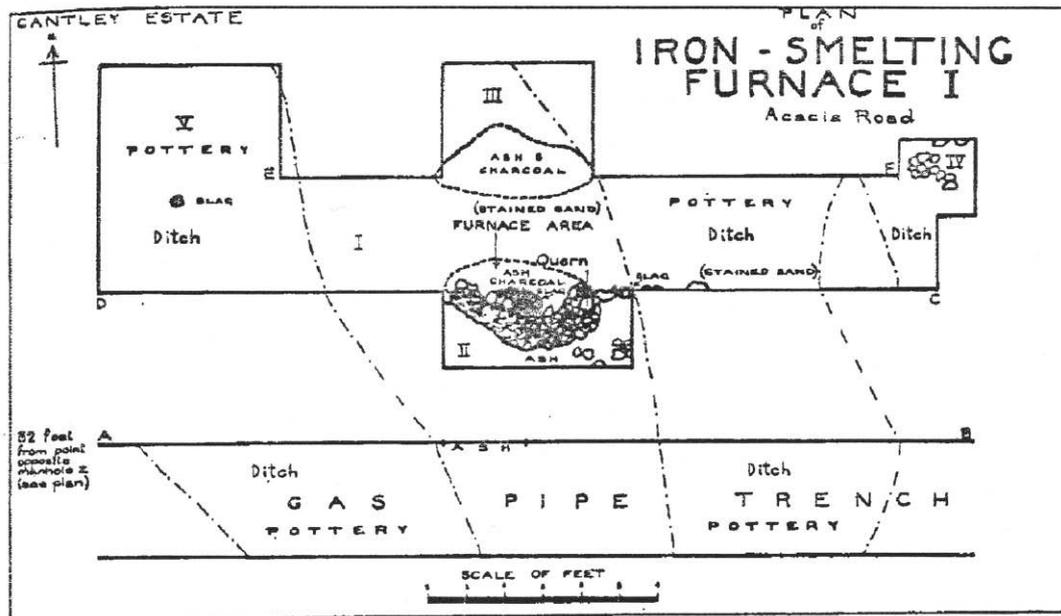


Figure G.349. Plan of an iron-working furnace (possibly for smithing rather than smelting) excavated at Cantley in 1954. The lower stone of a beehive quern was re-used in the furnace structure. (Source: Cregeen 1956: 35, fig. 3).

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.

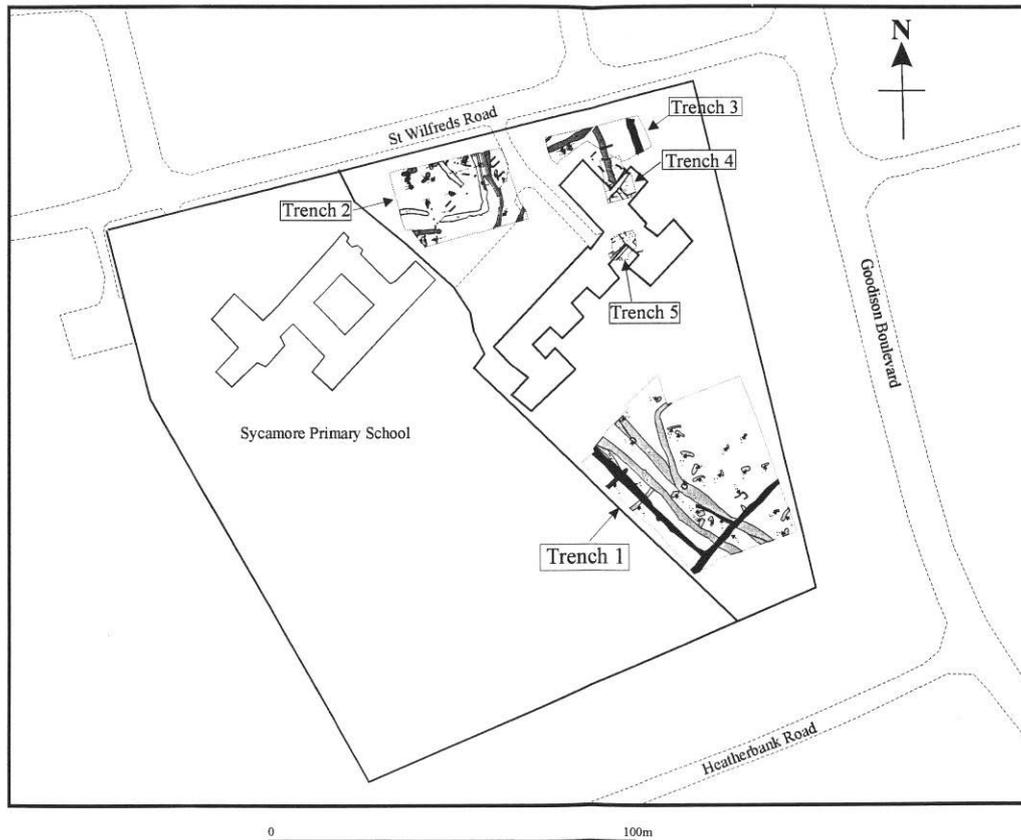


Figure G.350. *The location of the recent investigations at St Wilfred's Road, Cantley, also showing the Sycamore Primary School and the footprint of the former Priory School buildings. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 2).*

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.

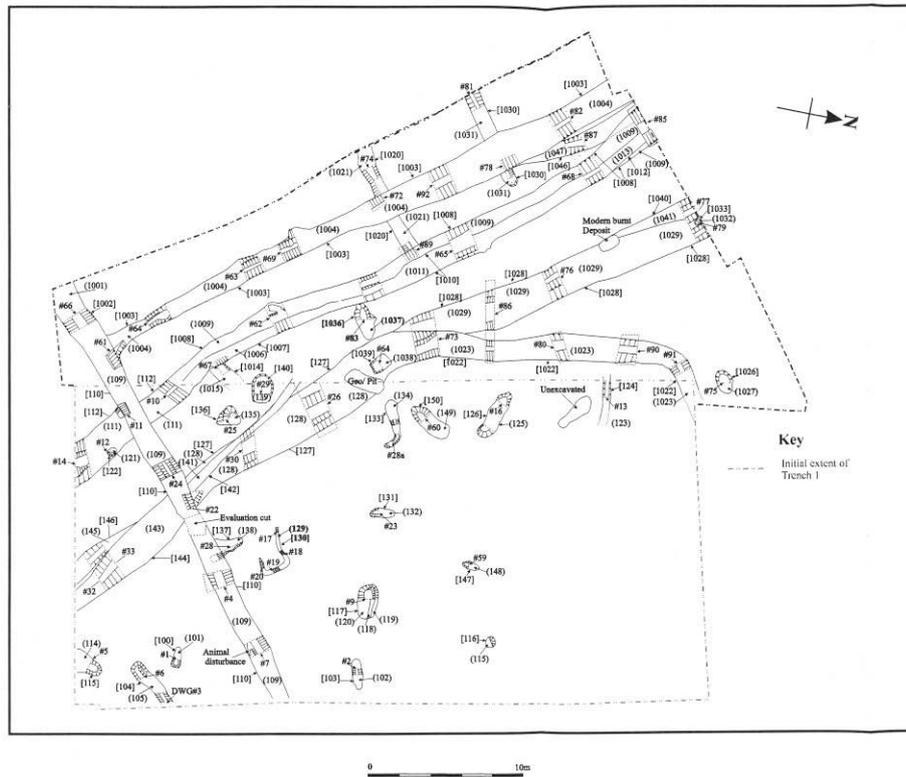


Figure G.351. Trench 1 showing excavated sections through features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 3).

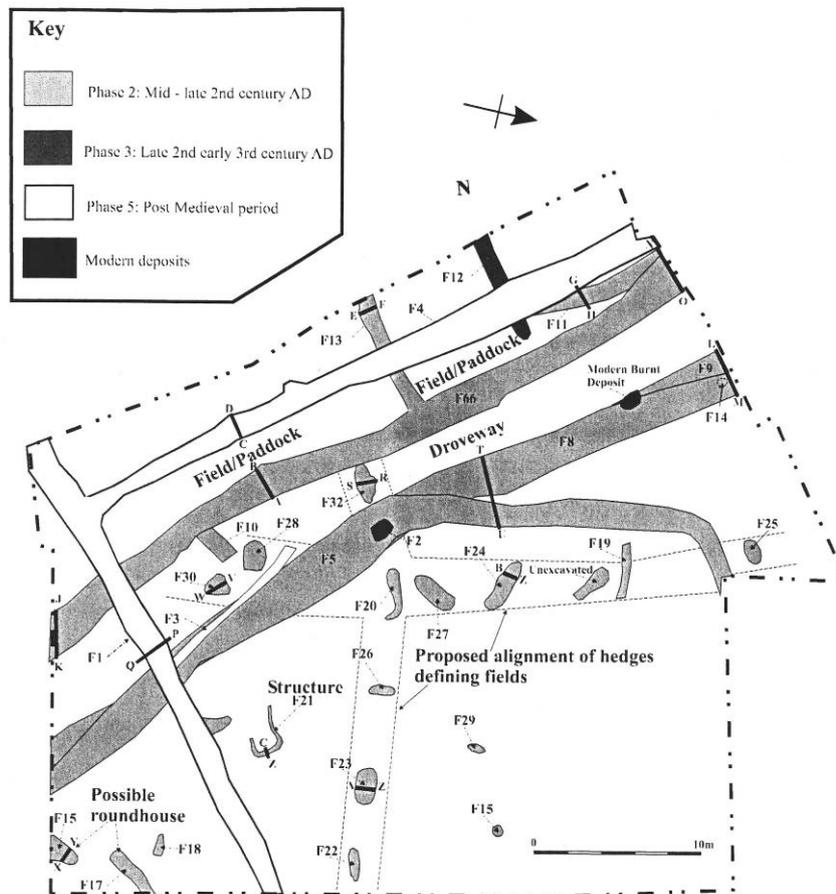


Figure G.352. Proposed phasing for Trench 1. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 8).

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.

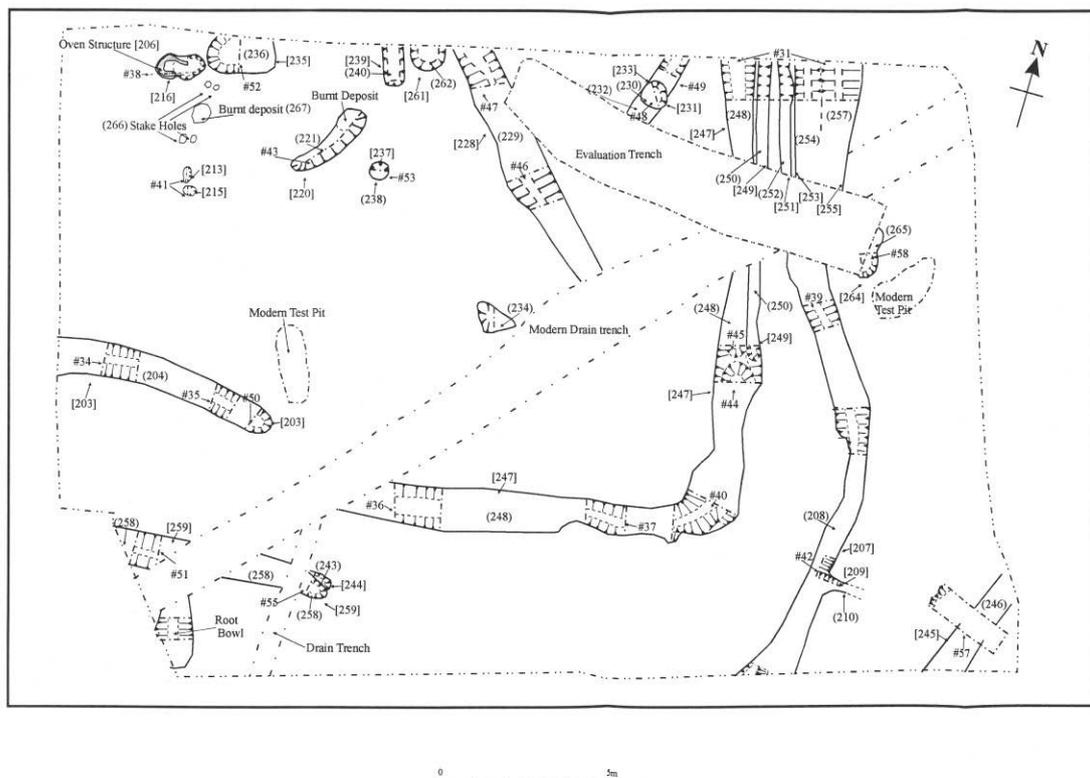


Figure G.353. Trench 2 showing excavated sections through features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 4).

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.

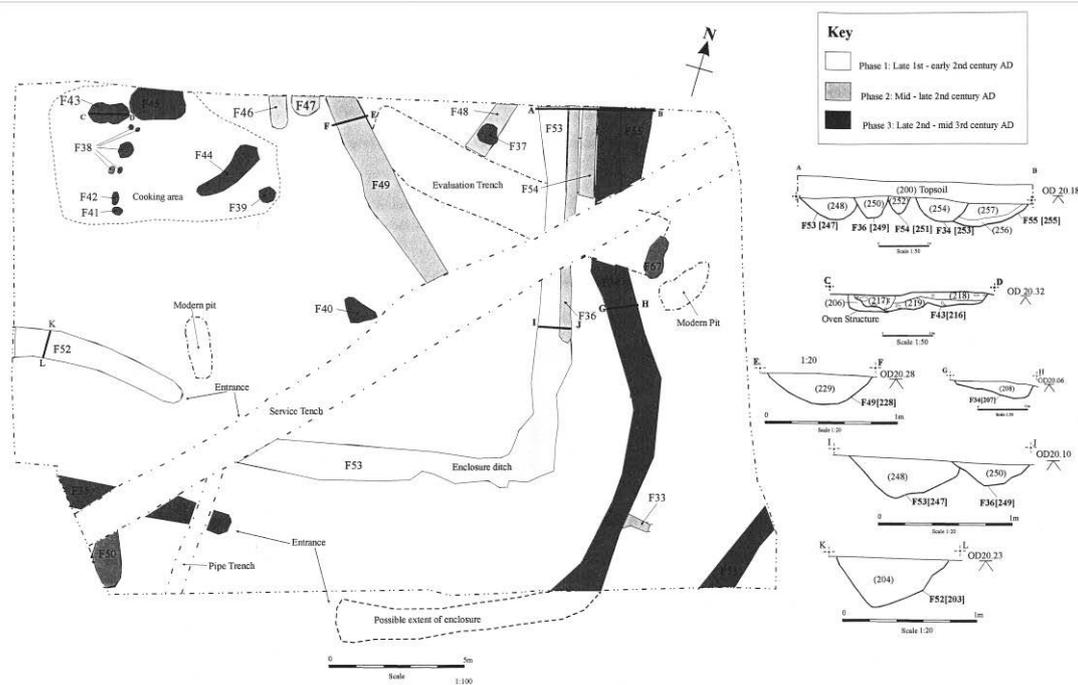


Figure G.354. Proposed phasing for Trench 2, along with selected sections through some of the excavated features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 9).

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).

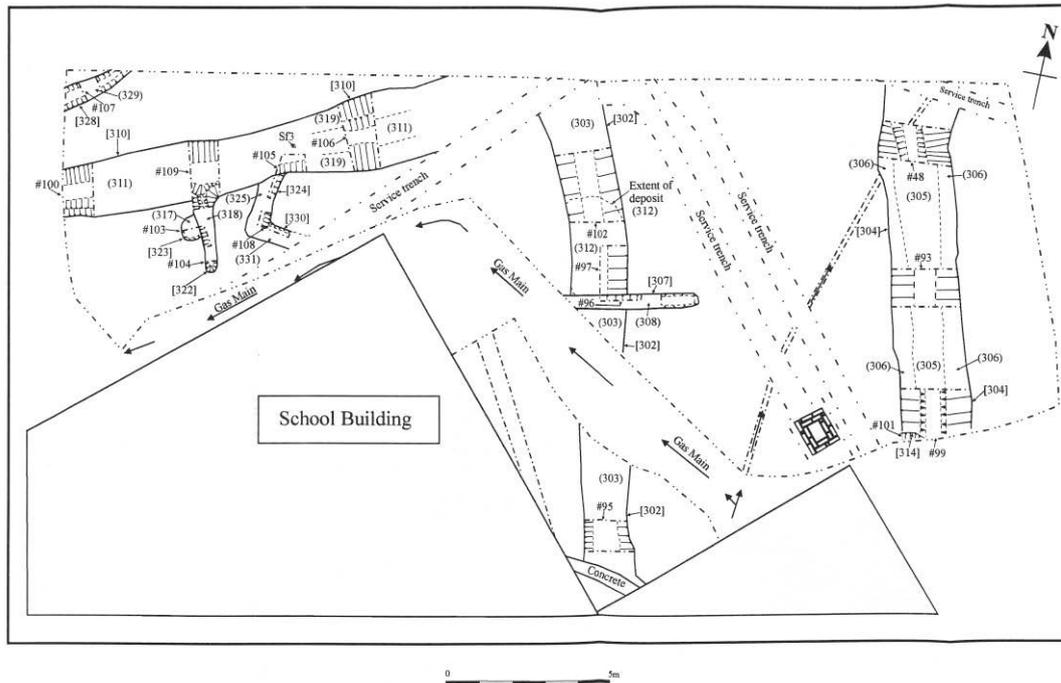


Figure G.355. Trench 3 showing excavated sections through features. (Source: Daley 2007: fig. 5).

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.

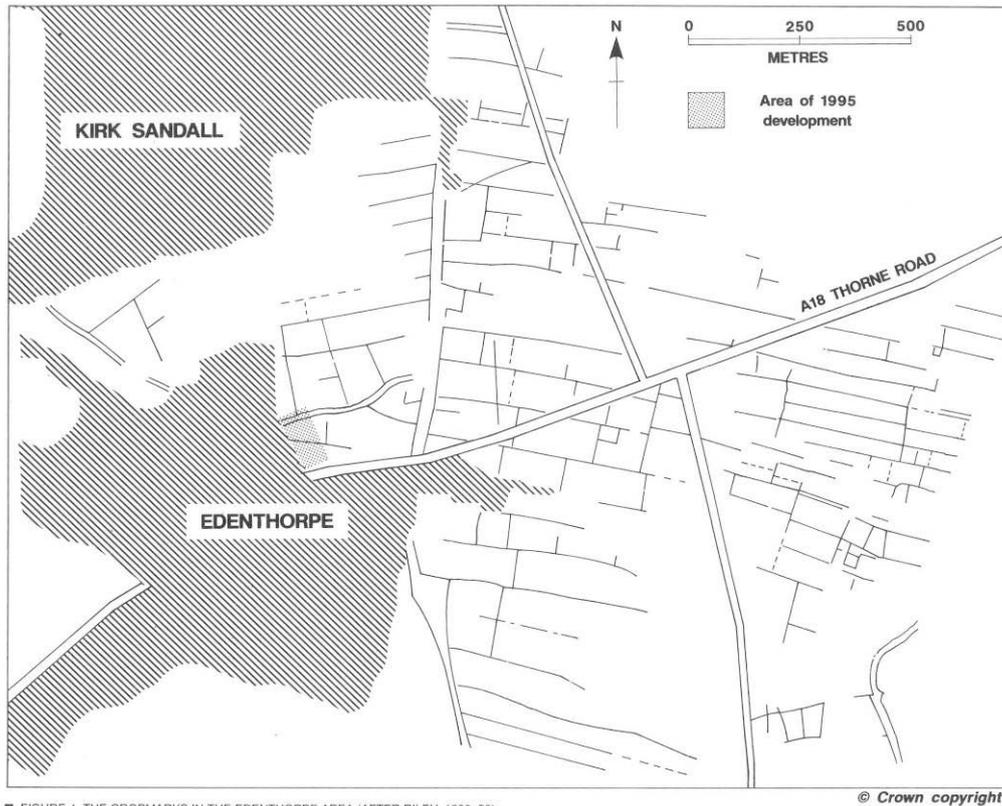
References: Annable 1960; Buckland and Magilton 2005; Buckland, Magilton and Dolby 1980; Cregeen 1956, 1957; Daley 2007; Gilmour 1954, 1955, 1956; Johnson 2006.

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 4. THE CROPMARKS IN THE EDENTHORPE AREA (AFTER RILEY, 1980, 90)

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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.

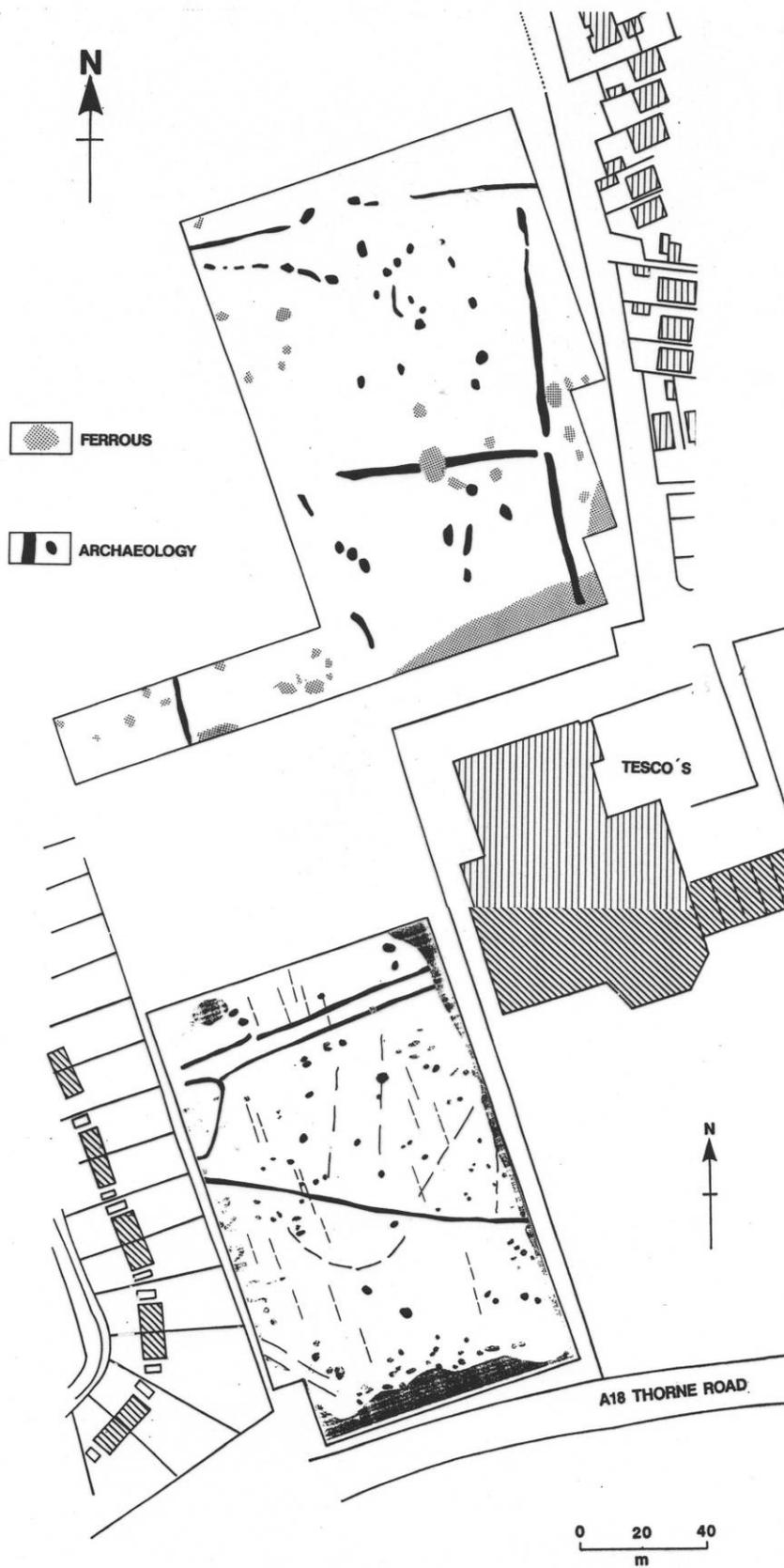


Figure G.358. Geophysical survey results from the development areas at Far Field Road, Edenthorpe. The northern area was evaluated in 1993, the southern area in 1995. (Source: © SYAFRU).

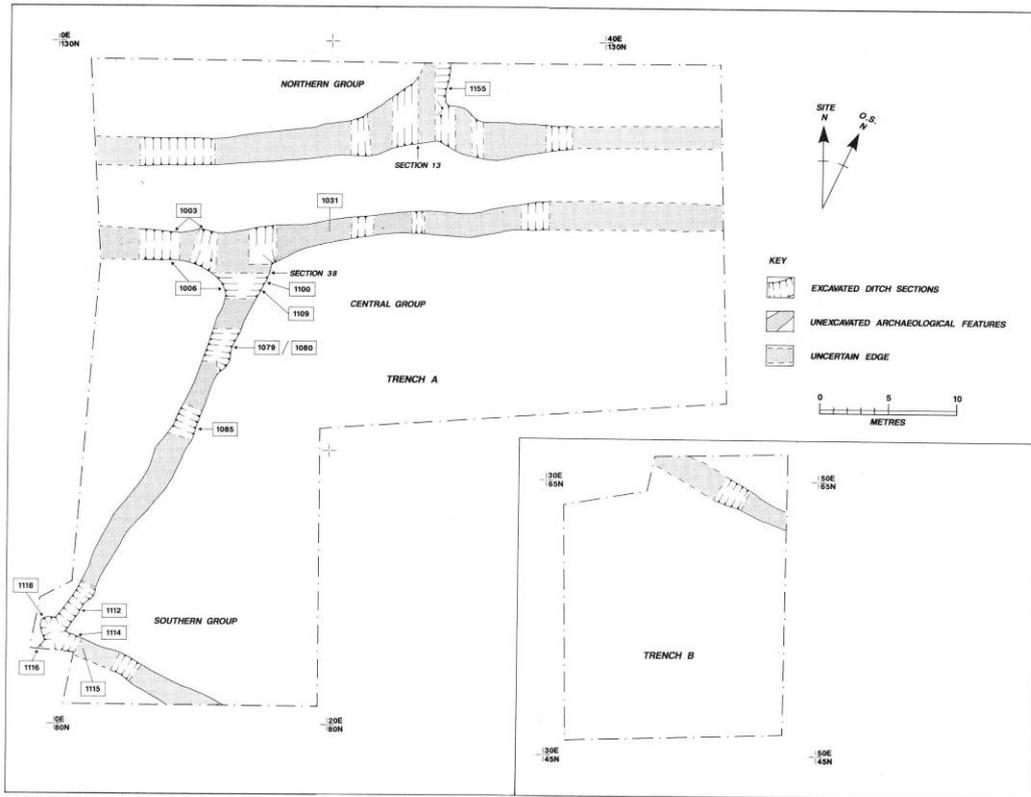


FIGURE 2. FEATURES REVEALED BY EXCAVATION, EDENTHORPE

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).

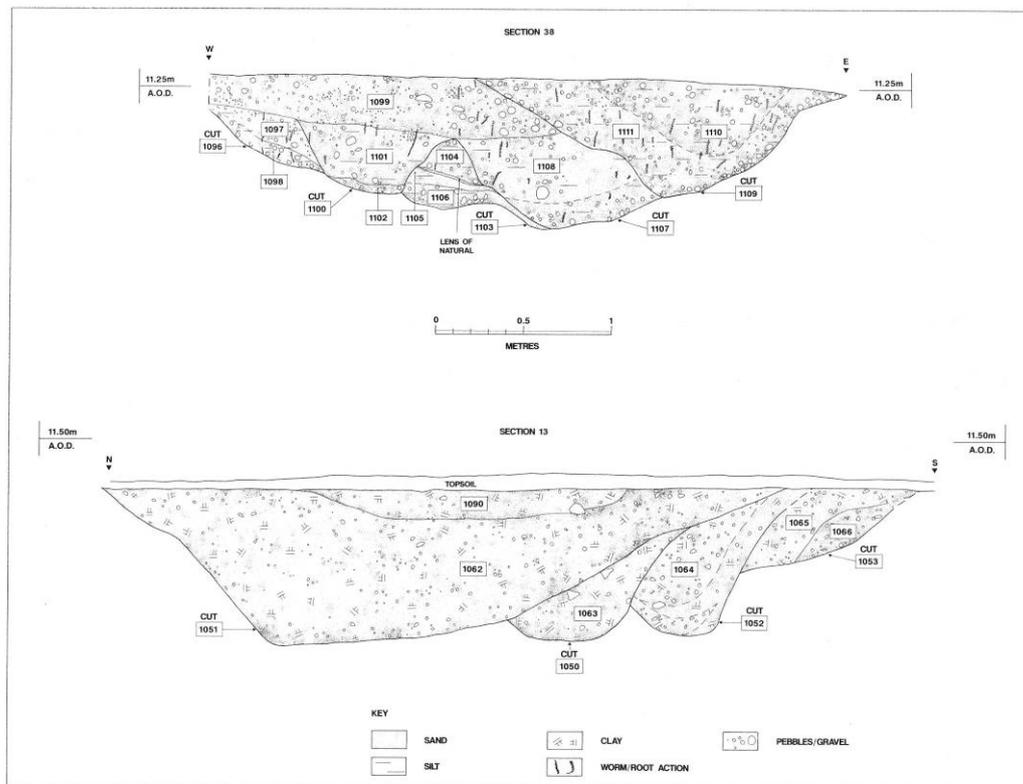


Figure G.360. Just some of the complex sequences of recutting identified in the northern Trench A at Far Field Road, Edenthorpe, including the southern trackway and ditch junction (top) and the northern trackway ditch and field boundary junction (bottom). (Source: Chadwick 1995b: 44).

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 tenorial changes whereby only certain fields and trackways were in use at any one time. Access and tenorial 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 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.

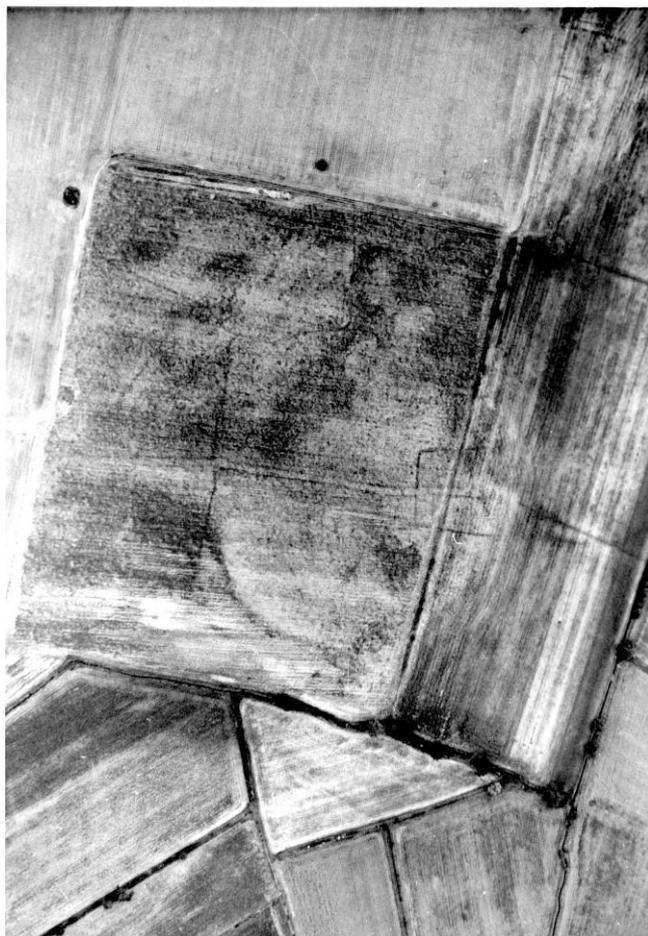


Figure G.362. (left). *More detailed view of the cropmarks south-east of Finningley. The proposed quarry extension is within the two rectangular fields at the right and top right of the image. The lighter gravel 'island' can be seen at the centre of the image, surrounded by darker areas of alluvium and 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 extension 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.

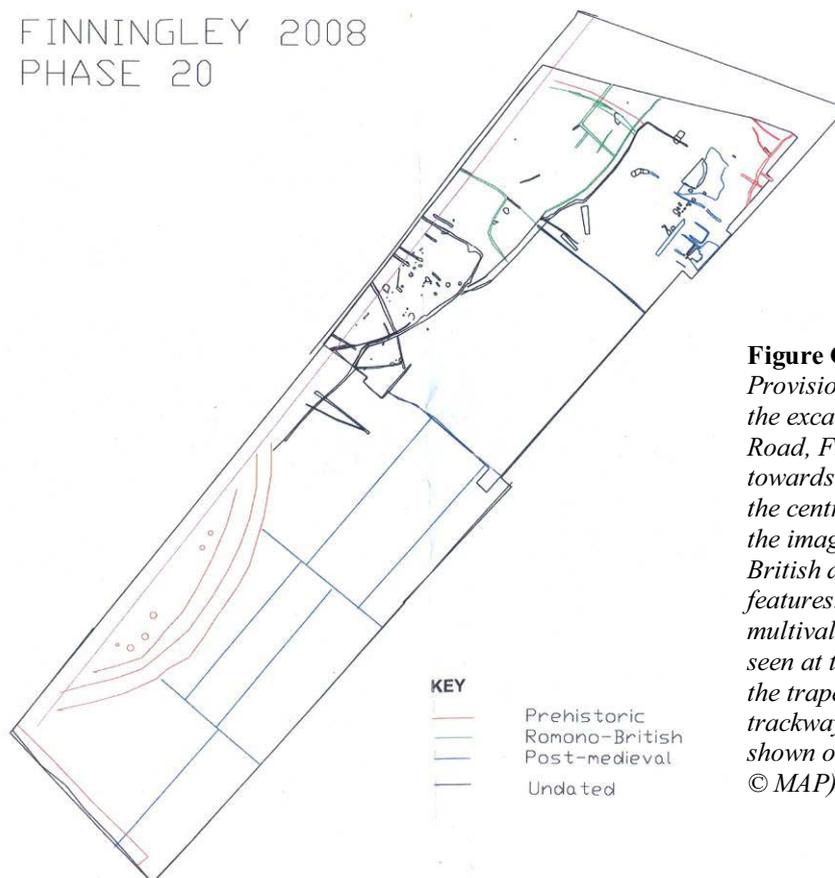


Figure G.363. (left). Provisional AUTOCAD plan of the excavated site off Croft Road, Finningley, with north towards the top of the image. At the centre and upper right of the image are the Romano-British ditches, pits and other features. The possible multivallate enclosure can be seen at the lower left, 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 Otley 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.

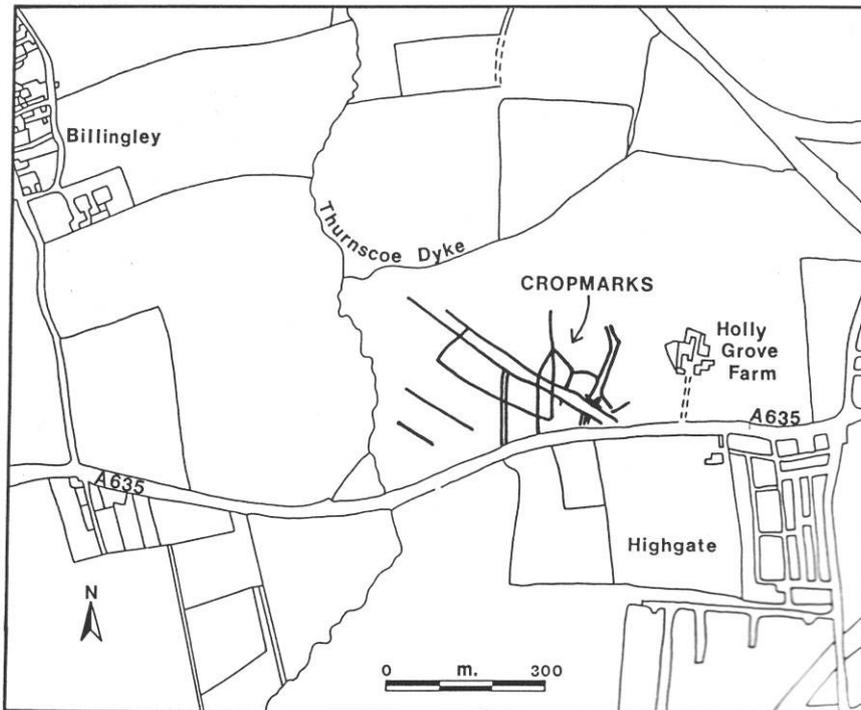


Figure G.365. Basic plot of the cropmarks shown on the aerial photograph above, showing the main NW-SE trackway, subsidiary trackways or trackways of different date, and enclosures and fields. (Source: Merrony 1993: 44).



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).

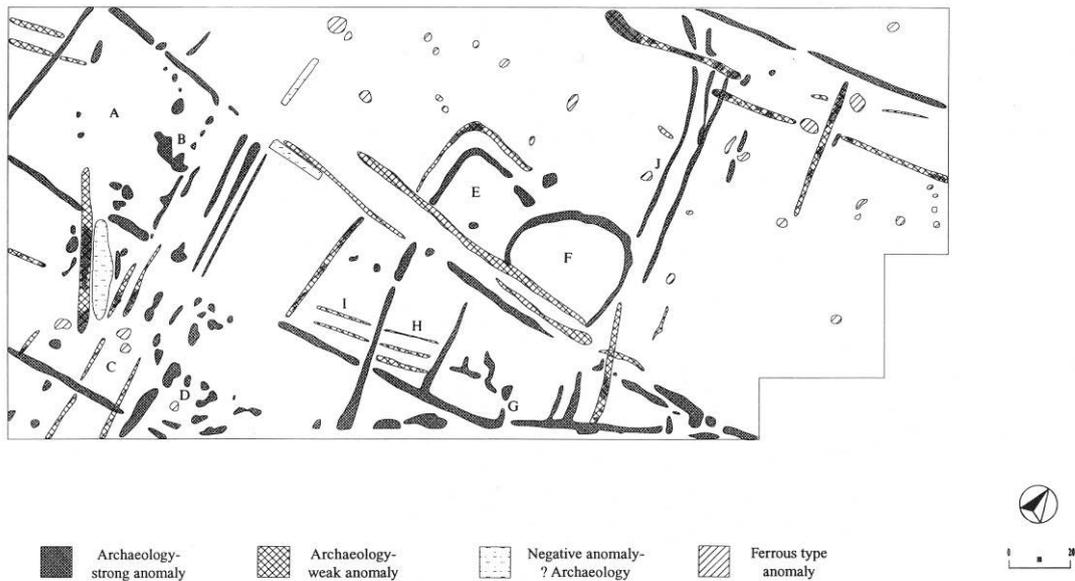


Figure G.367. *Interpretation of the gradiometer survey west of Goldthorpe. The large trackway is visible running north-west to south-east across the image, with a D-shaped enclosure and subrectangular enclosures of different periods arranged on either side of it. A possible enclosure complex and an 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.

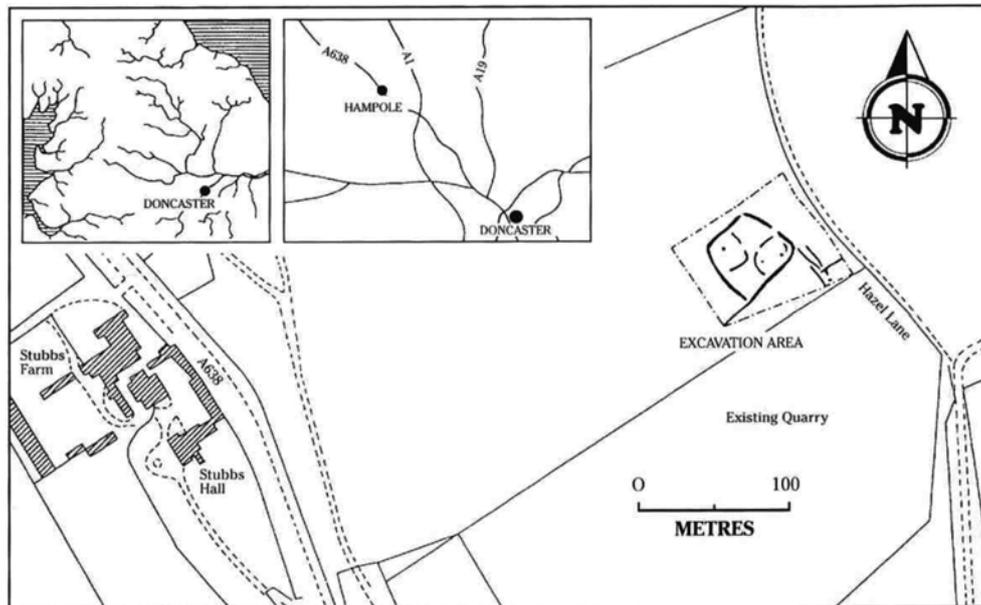


Figure G.369. Site location plan, showing the enclosure in relation to modern features. The area is an elevated flat plateau on an otherwise gentle north-east facing slope, with several springs south of Stubbs Farm. (Source: O'Neill and Brown 1999: 106).

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.

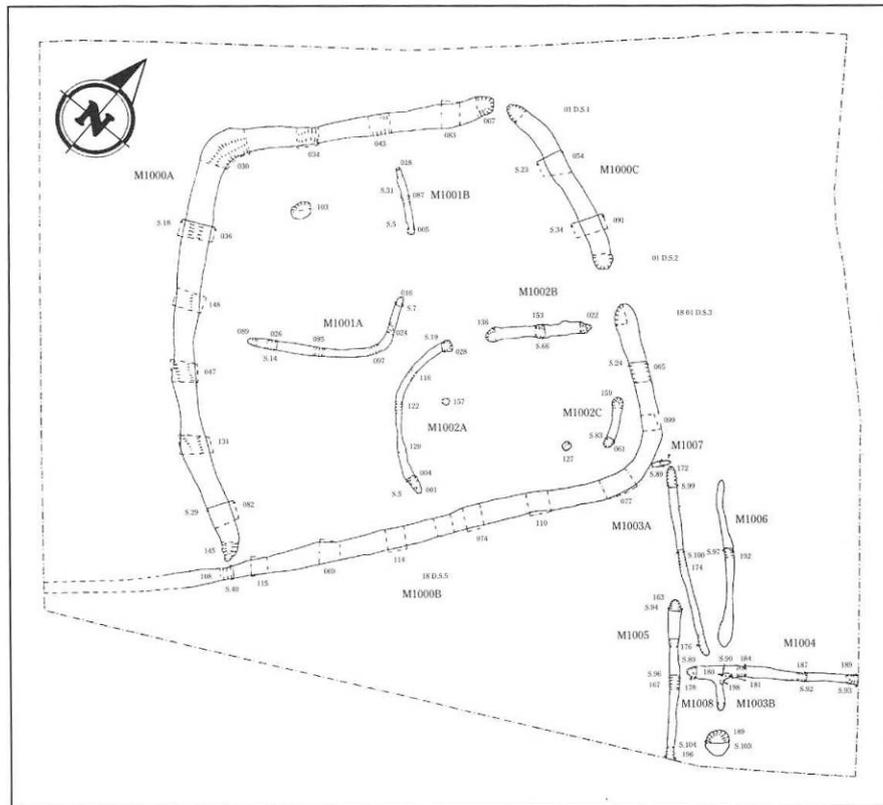


Figure G.370. *The excavated enclosure at Hazel Lane Quarry, showing the sub-enclosures and the possible ‘race’ feature to the south-east. (Source: O’Neill and Brown 1999: 106).*

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.

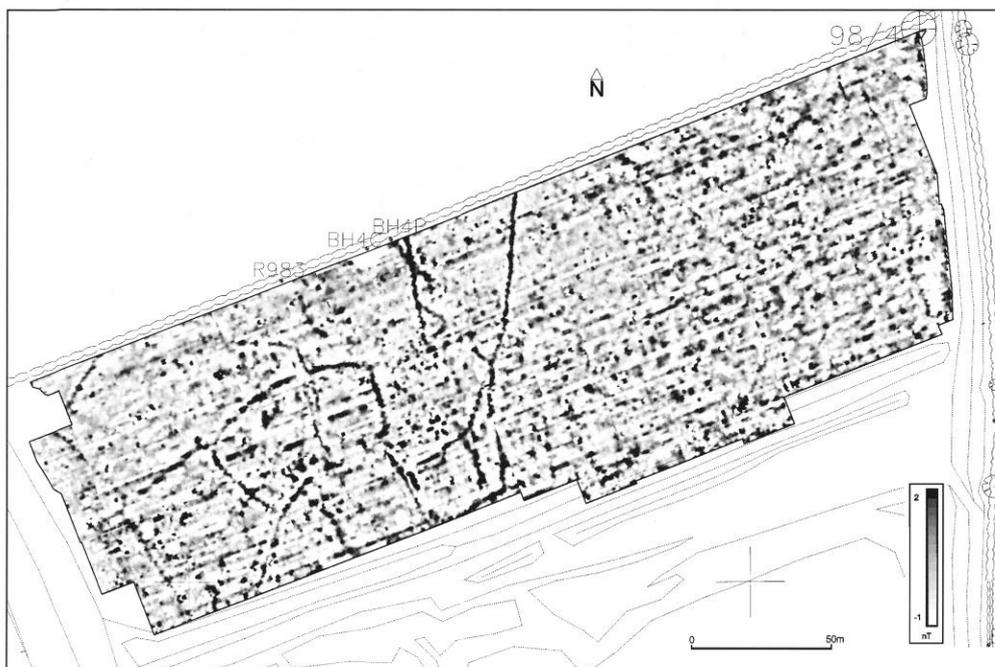


Figure G.371. Magnetometry survey of part of Area D at Hazel Lane Quarry. Enclosures, field boundaries and double-ditched trackways are all visible, but no stone buildings, which resistivity survey might have been able to identify. (Source: Webb and Whittingham 2006).



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 the limestone 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.

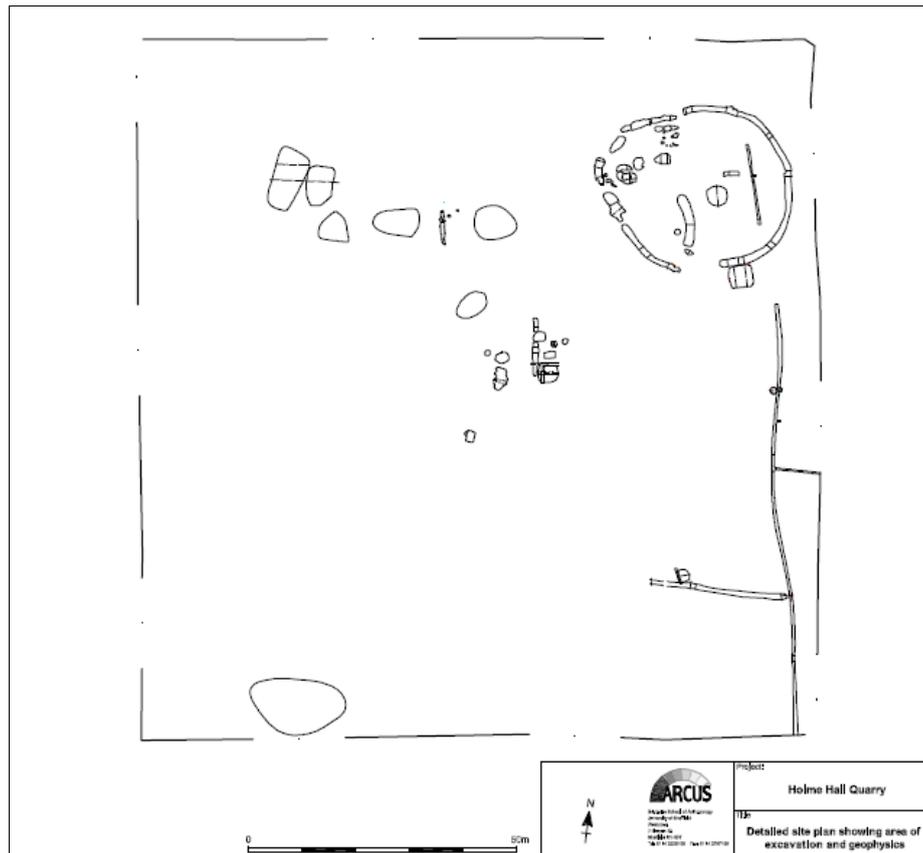


Figure G.375. Plan of the area excavated at Holme Hall Quarry, Stainton, showing the subcircular enclosure and other external features. (Source: O'Neill and Raybould 2007: fig. 4).

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.

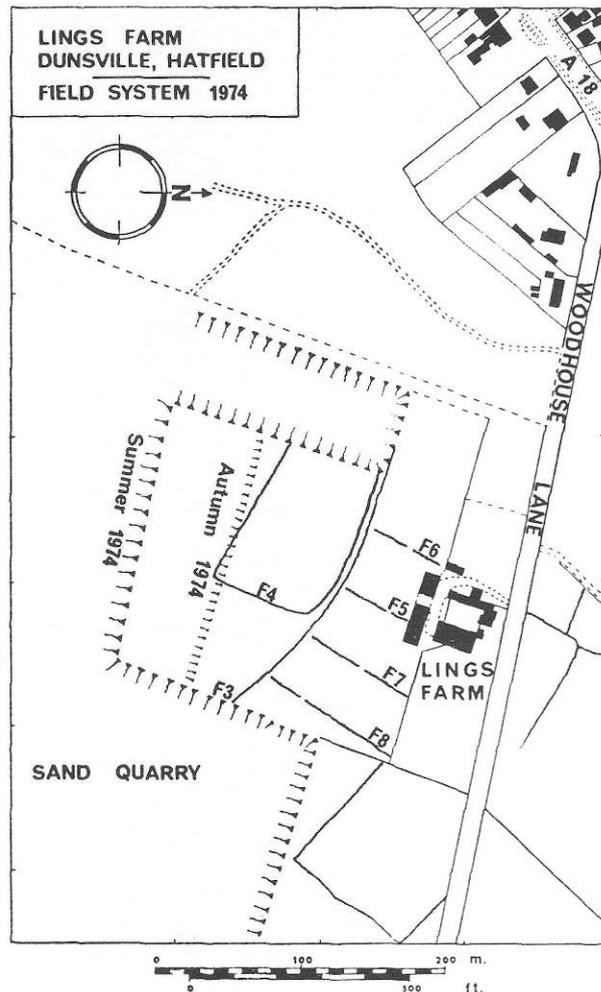


Figure G.378. Plot of the cropmarks identified at Lings Farm in 1974. (Source: Magilton 1978: 59).

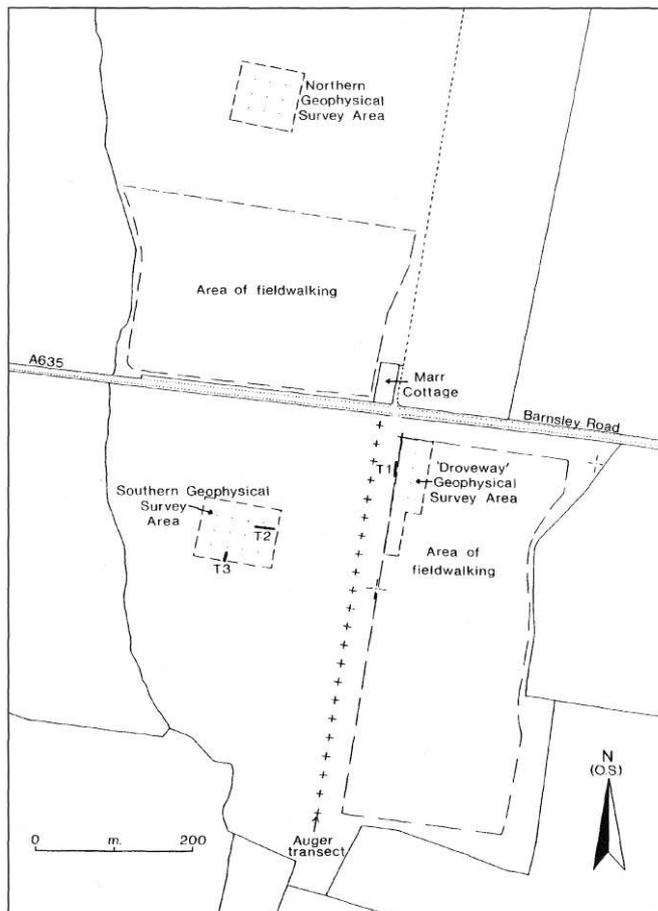
This site was threatened by sand and gravel quarrying, and so limited areas were stripped and excavated in 1974. Only a small part of the large enclosure was excavated and this failed to find any internal features, perhaps suggesting that this was a large stock corral (Fig. D.01). An area of the double-ditched 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 vicinity and 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).

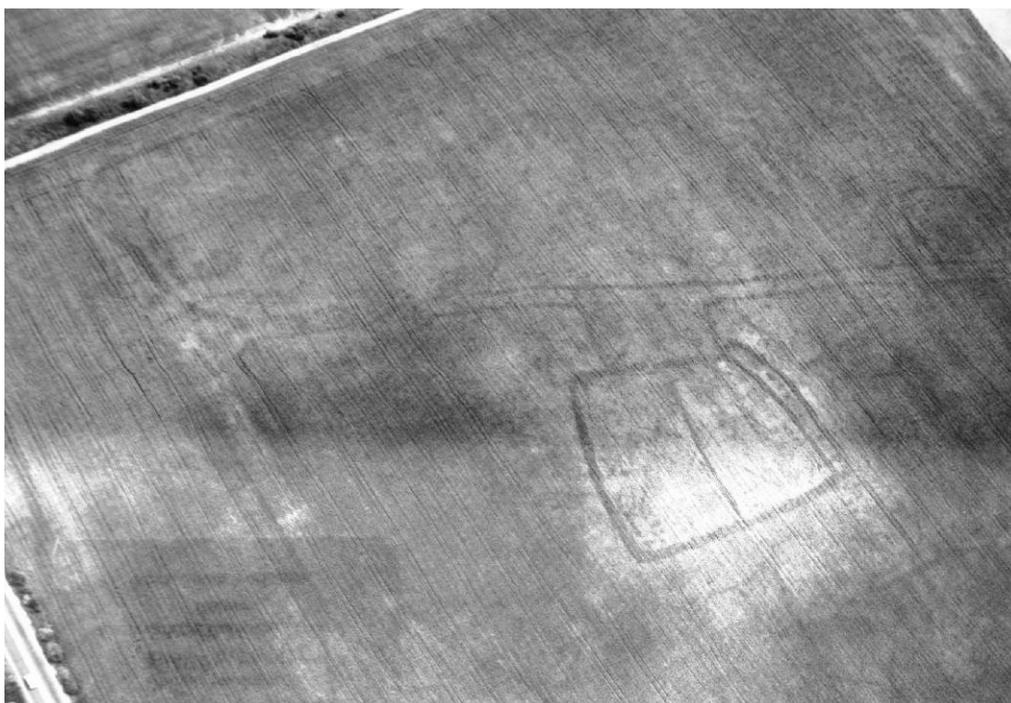


Figure G.384. *The enclosure at Marr Thick, photographed in 1974 after grubbing out of the trees that used to overlie when it consisted of earthworks within woodland. The A635 can be seen in the north or lower left of the image, whilst the east-facing entrance and north-south trackway are also clearly 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.

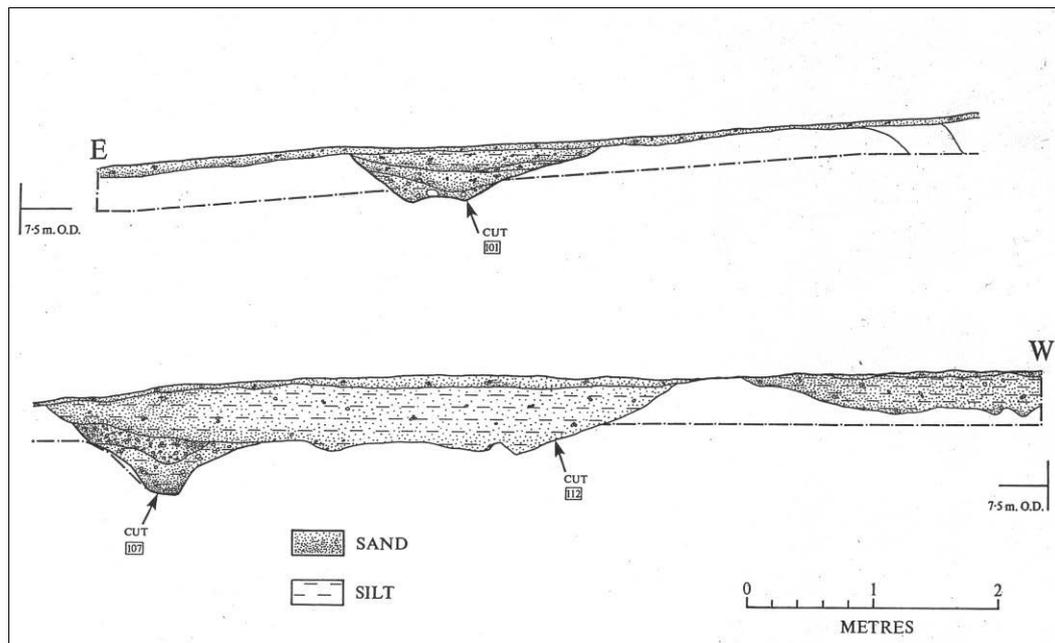


Figure G.386. Section of the trench excavated off Stripe Road, New Rossington, showing the ditch features (107 and 101), together with the possible holloway at the western end of the trench. (Source: Chadwick 1992: 6, fig. 4).

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.

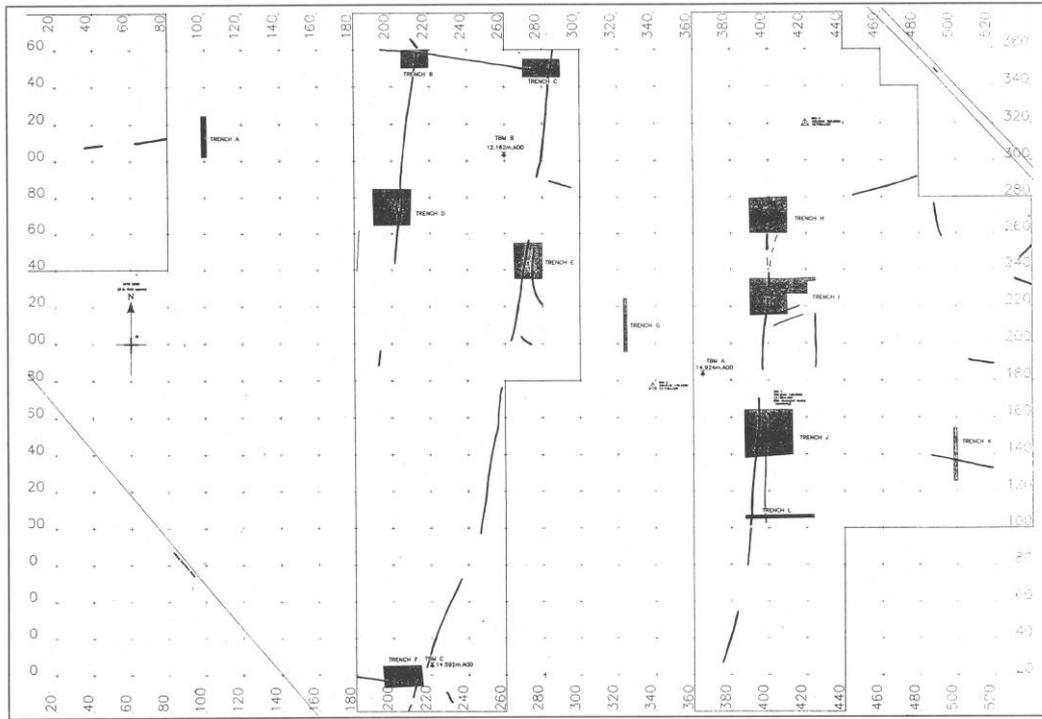


Figure G.387. Plan of the features investigated at Church Field, New Rossington in 1995, with the locations of the trial trenches also shown (Source: Atkinson 1998: 16, fig. 3).

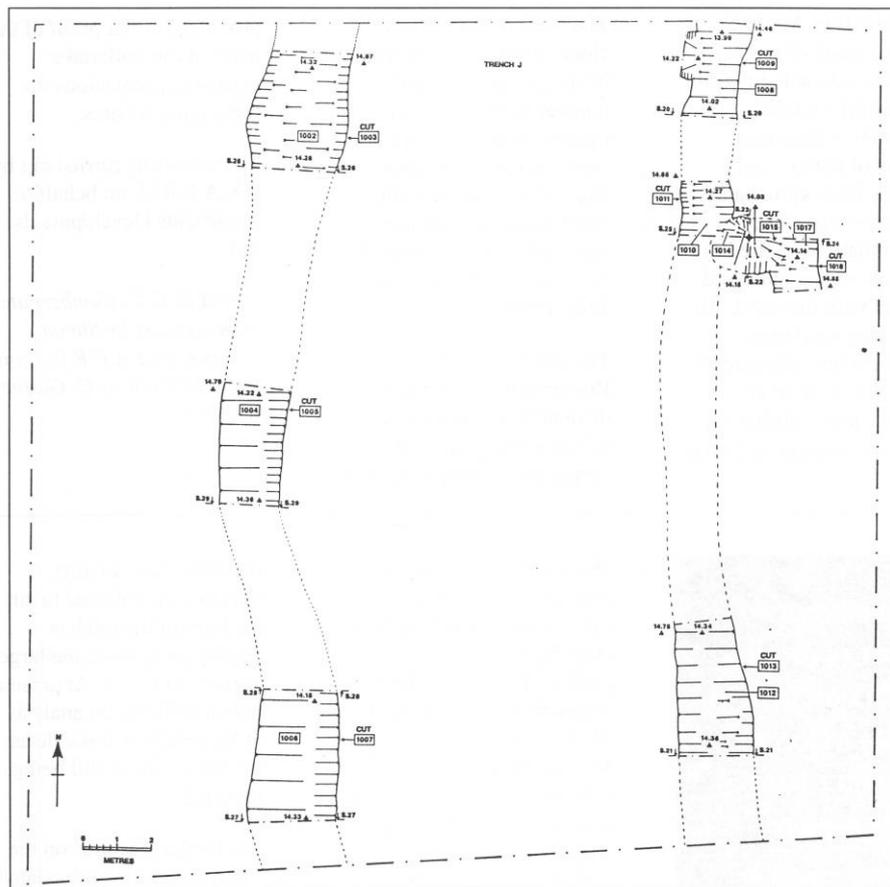


Figure G.388. Trench J, showing the double-ditched trackway. The eastern ditch may have been dug at a different time to the western, more irregular example. (Source: Atkinson 1998: 18, fig. 4).

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.

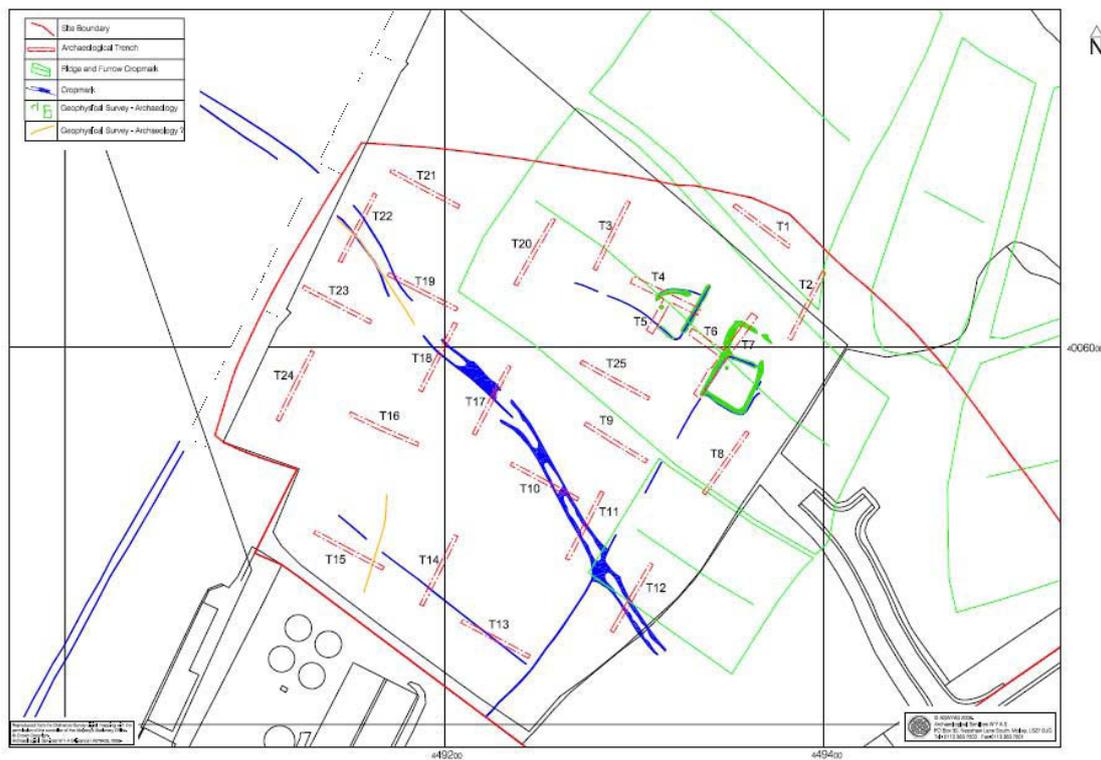


Fig. 2. Site plan showing trench location with previous geophysical and aerial photographic interpretation (1:1500 @ A3)

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.

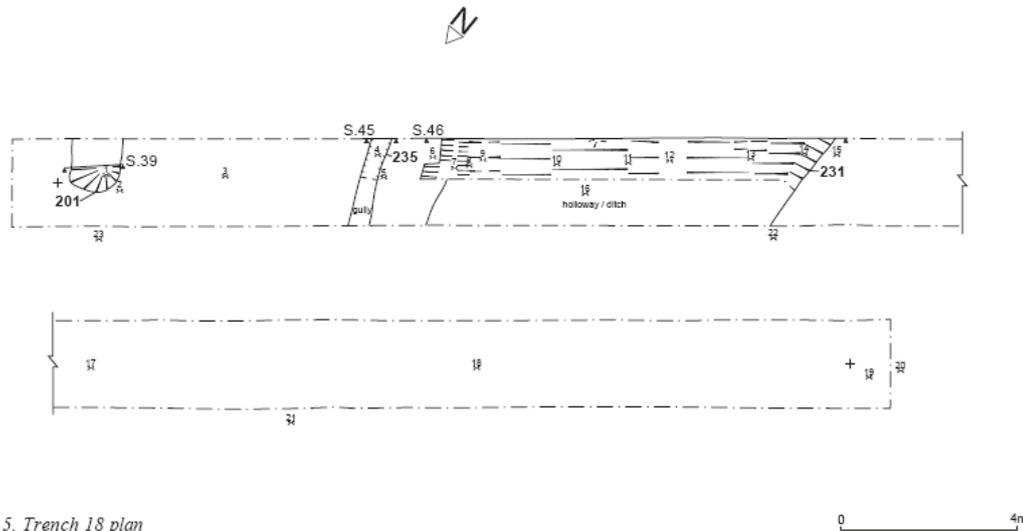


Fig. 5. Trench 18 plan

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

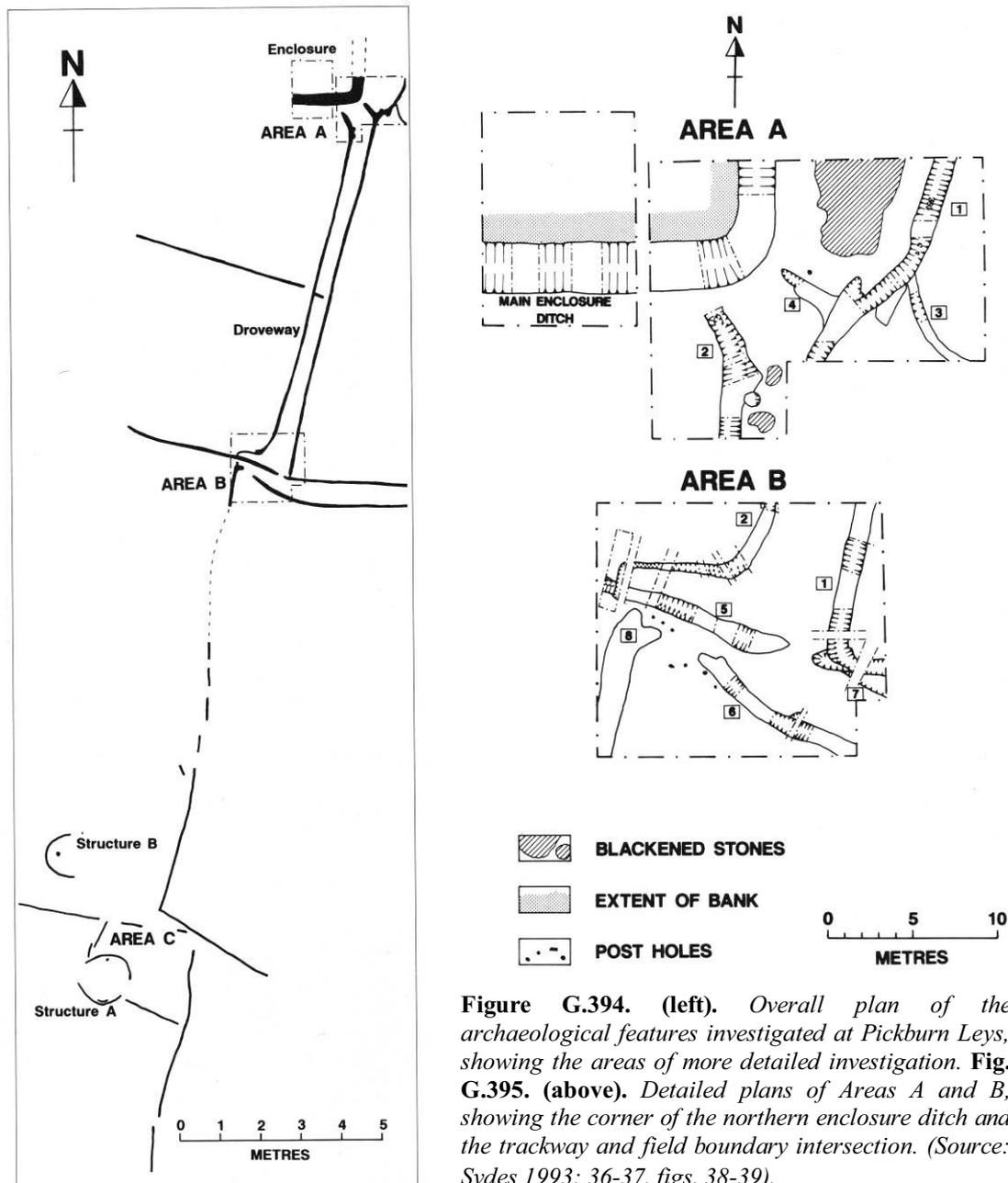


Figure G.394. (left). Overall plan of the archaeological features investigated at Pickburn Leys, showing the areas of more detailed investigation. **Fig. G.395.** (above). Detailed plans of Areas A and B, showing the corner of the northern enclosure ditch and the trackway and field boundary intersection.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

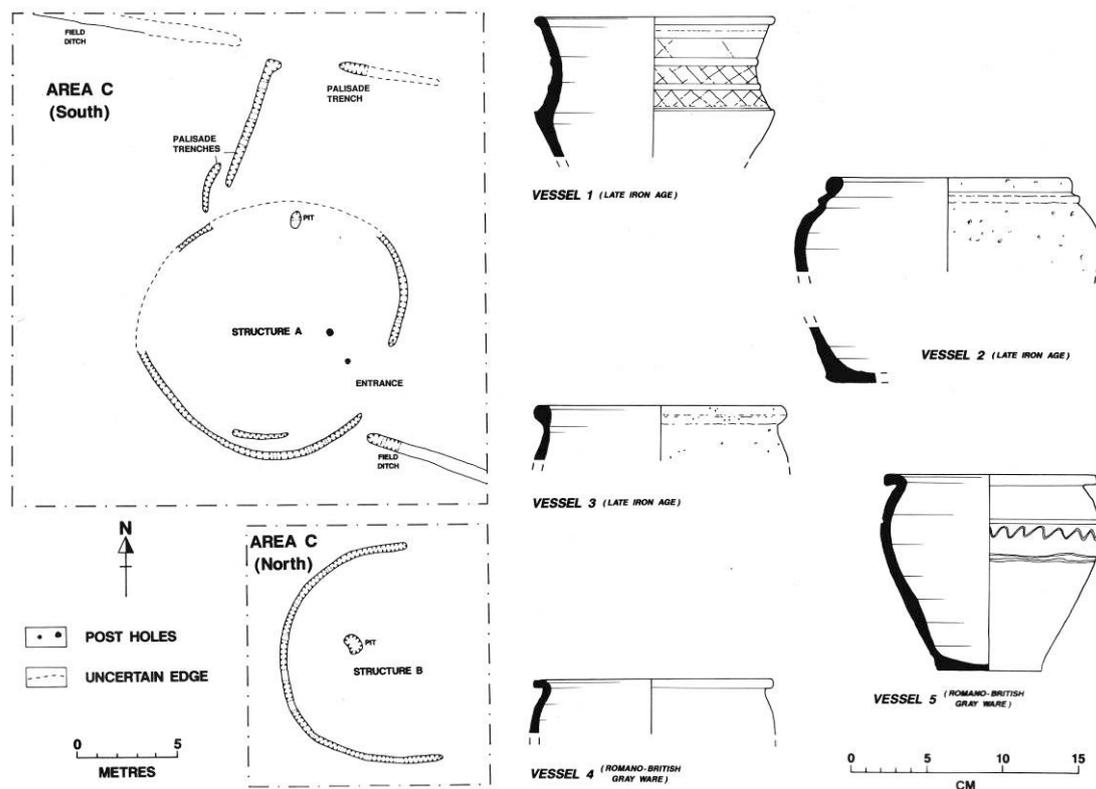


Figure G.396. (left). The two roundhouses identified in Area C at Pickburn Leys (see Fig. G.255 for the relative locations of these structures to one another). **Fig. G.397. (right).** Some of the pottery recovered at Pickburn Leys. Nos. 1-3 represent late Iron Age vessels – 1 and 2 were near complete, 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).

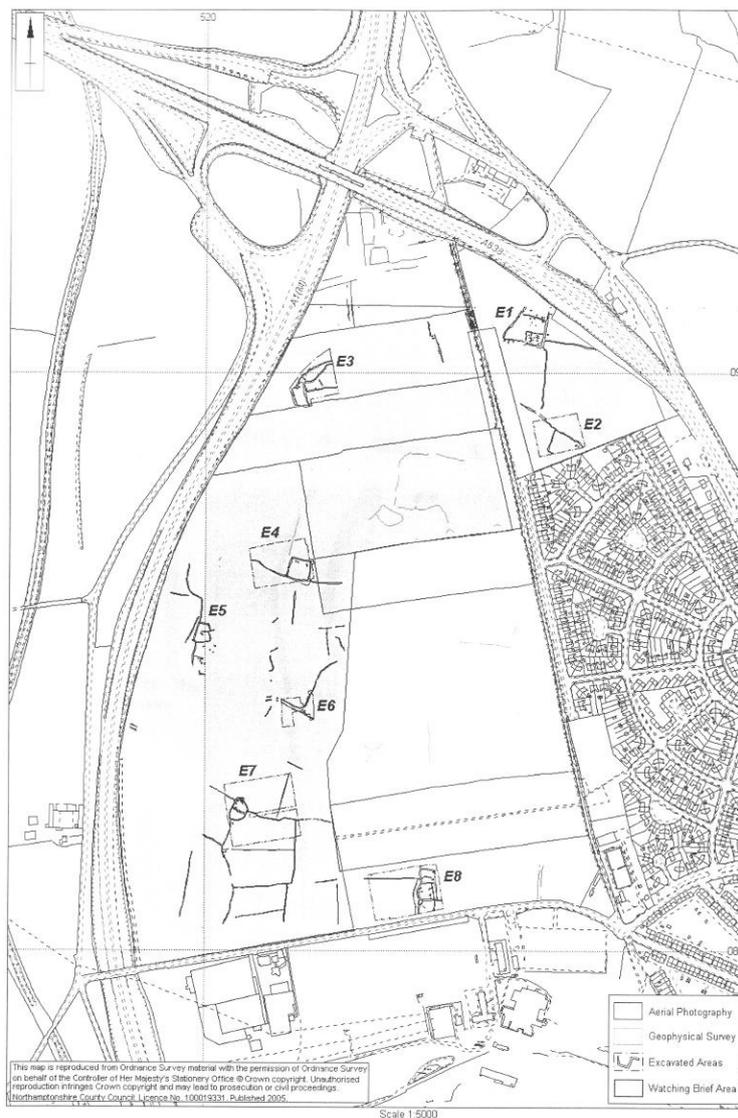


Figure G.398. The development area at Redhouse Farm, and the principal enclosures, trackways and boundaries identified within it. (Source: Upson-Smith 2002).

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).

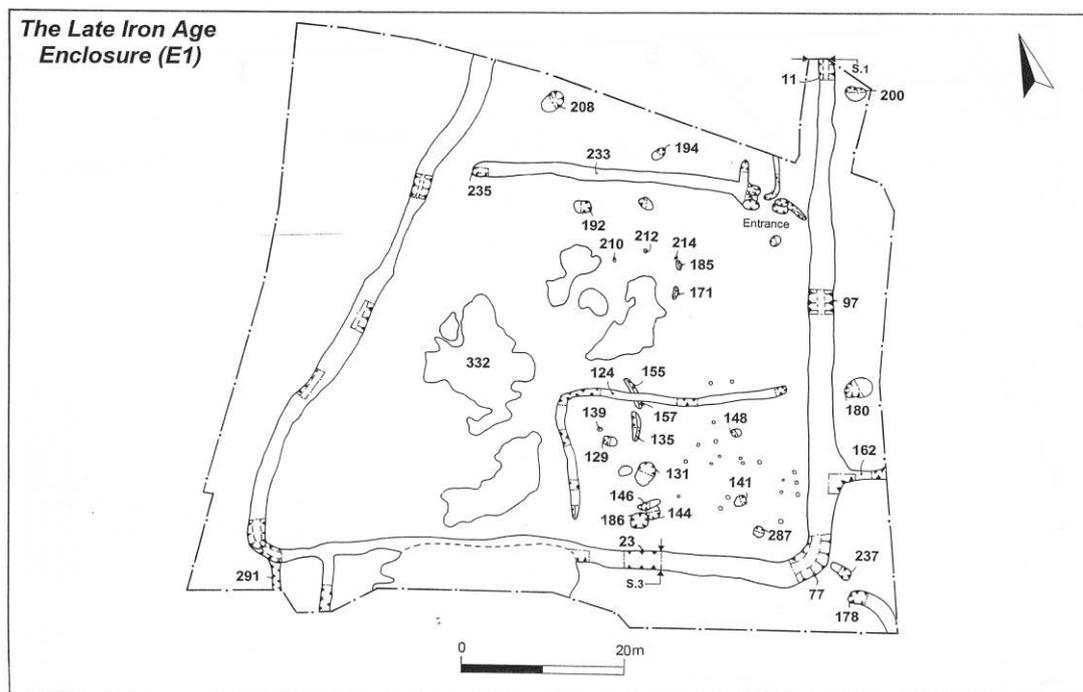


Figure G.399. Enclosure E1 at Redhouse Farm. (Source: Meadows and Chapman 2004: fig. 4).

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 1 was 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.

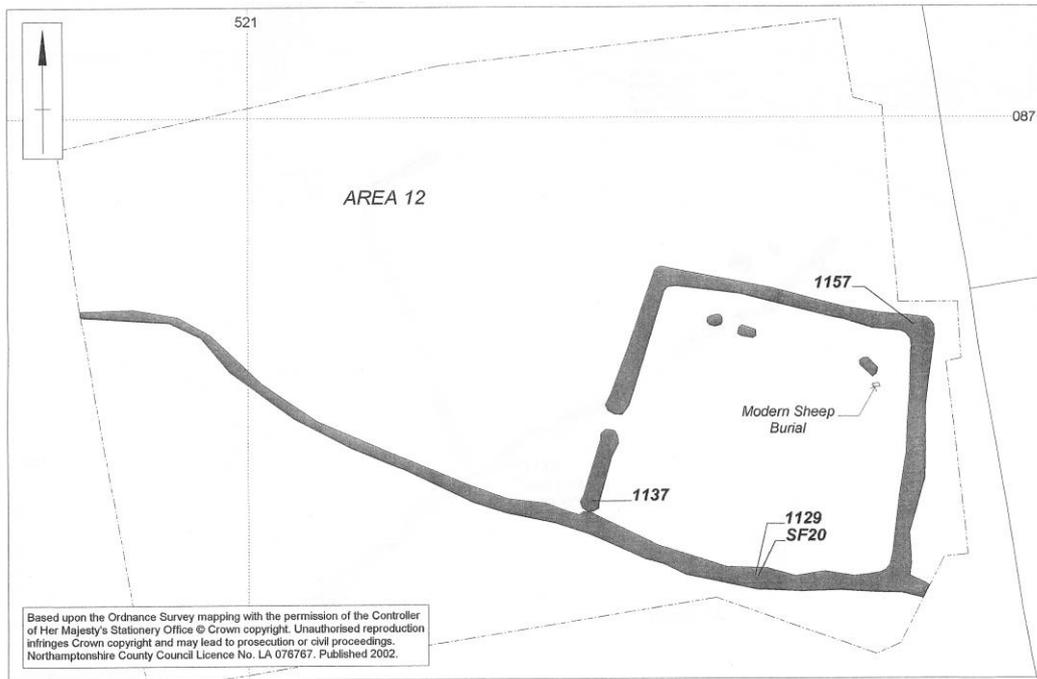


Figure G.400. Enclosure E4 Area 12, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2002: fig. 10).

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.

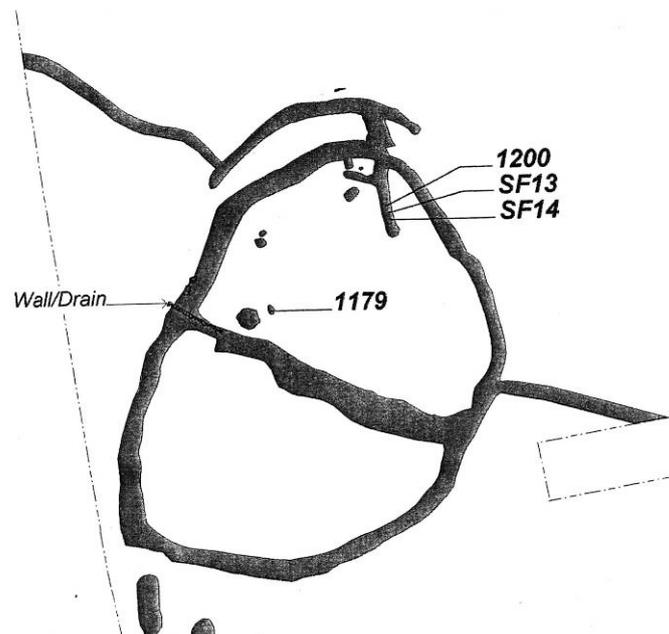
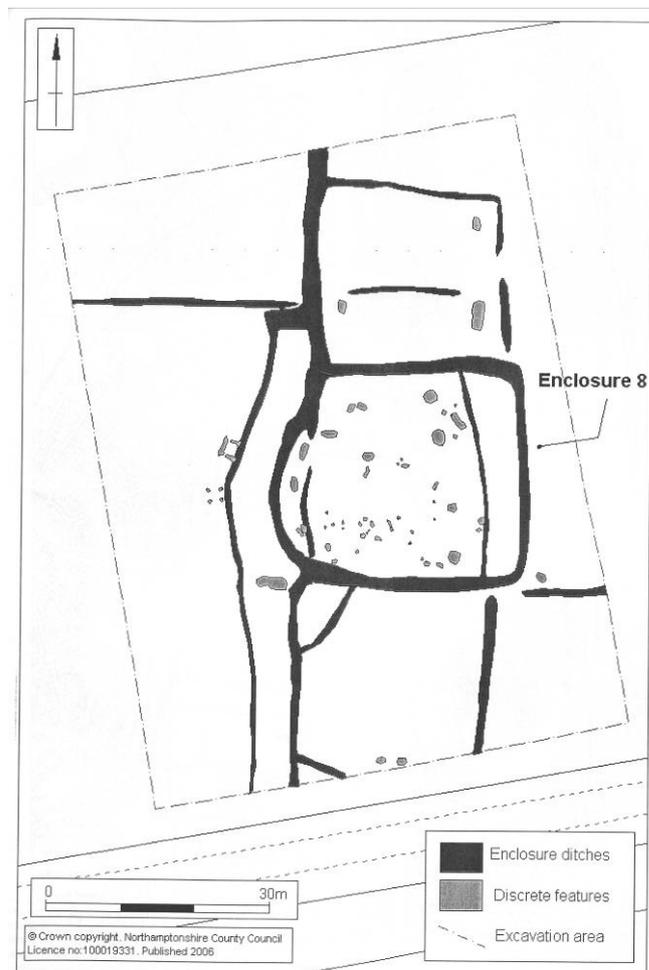


Figure G.401. Enclosure E7 Area 2, Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2002).

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.

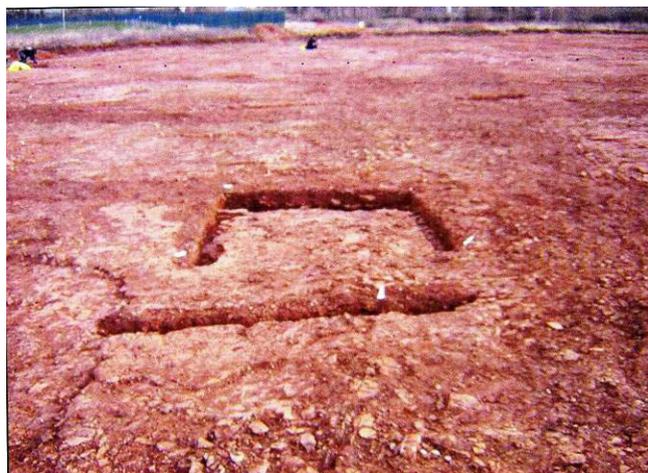


Figure G.405. (left). *The square beam slot structure adjacent to enclosure E8, Redhouse Farm, Adwick-le-Street. (Source: Upson-Smith 2006: 6).*

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.

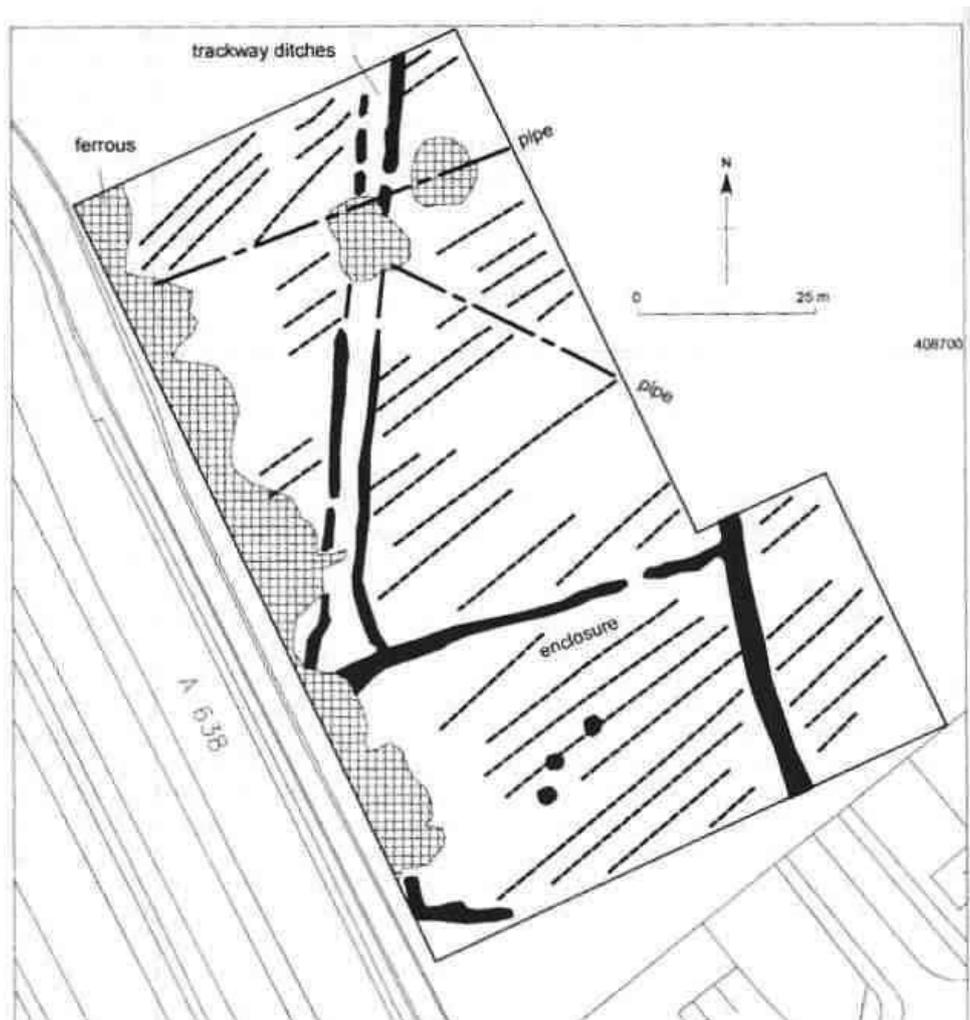


Figure G.406. Interpretation of the gradiometer survey results at the foul water sewer and compound area, Red House Farm Park, Adwick-le-Street, showing the trackway and possible enclosure. (Source: NAA 2001a).

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).

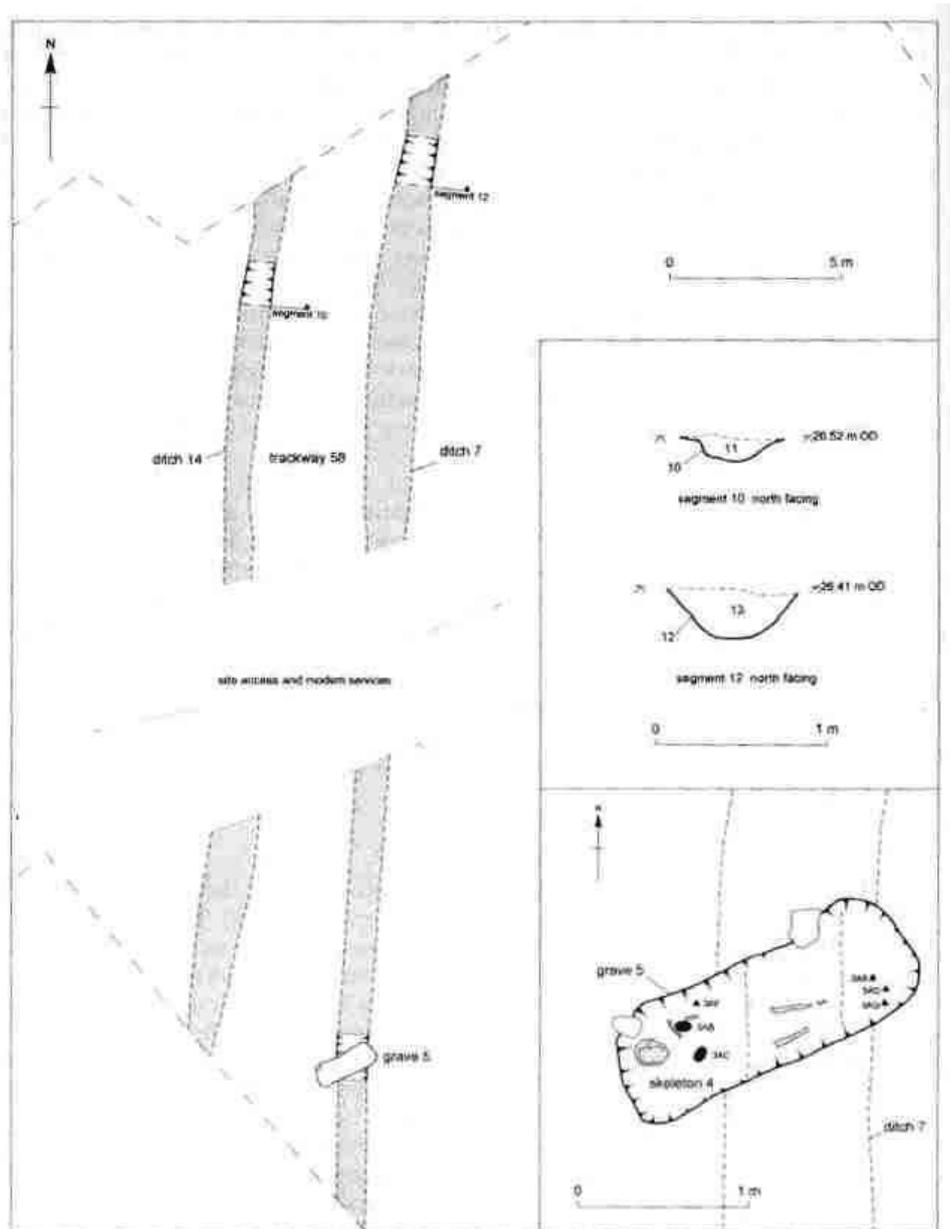


Figure G.407. Detail of the trackway in the foul water sewer area, showing the position of the grave cut and the position of the skeleton and objects within it. (Source: NAA 2001a: fig. 4).

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.

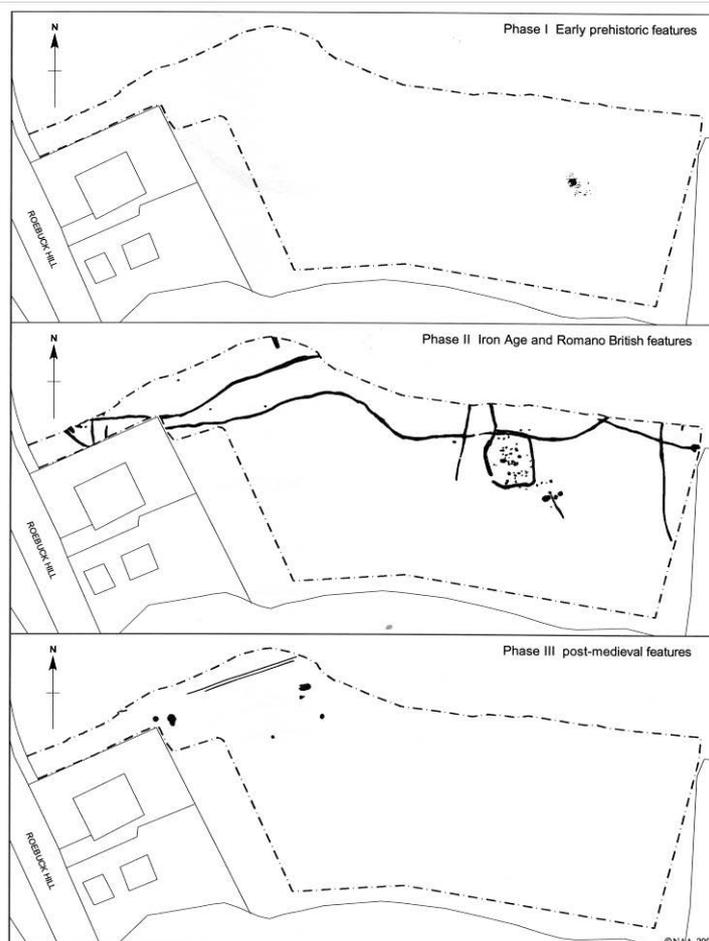


Figure G.409. (left). Broad phasing of the archaeological features excavated at Roebuck Hill, Jump, S. Yorks. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).

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.

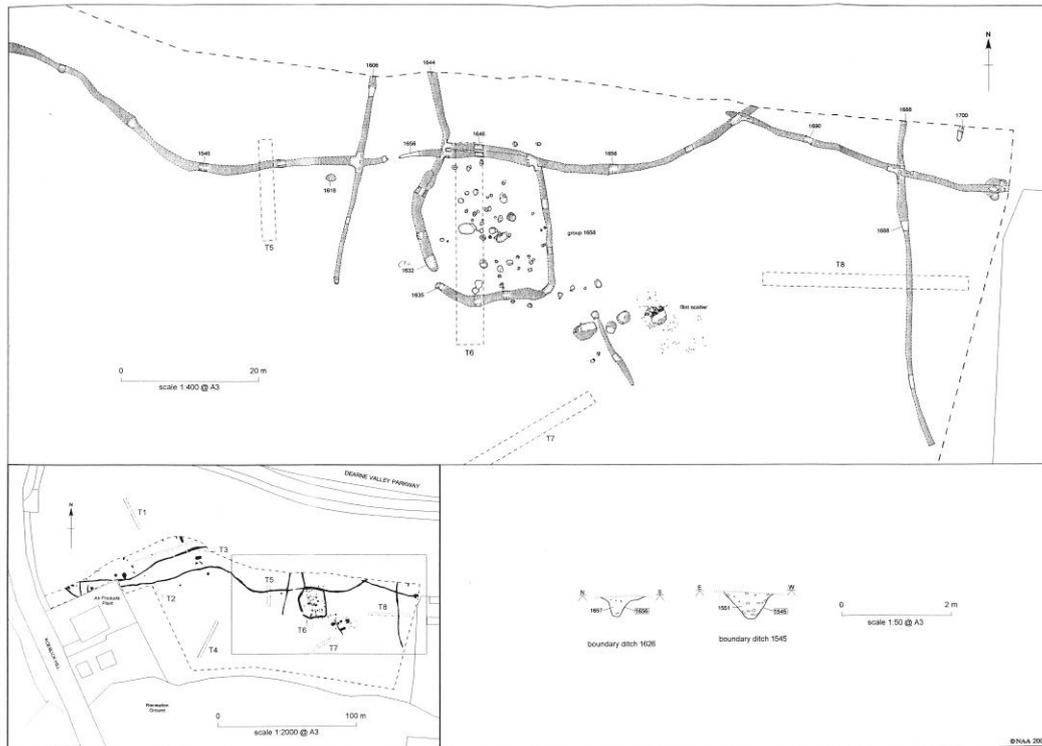


Figure G.410. The location of the subrectangular enclosure in relation to the later boundary ditch features. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).

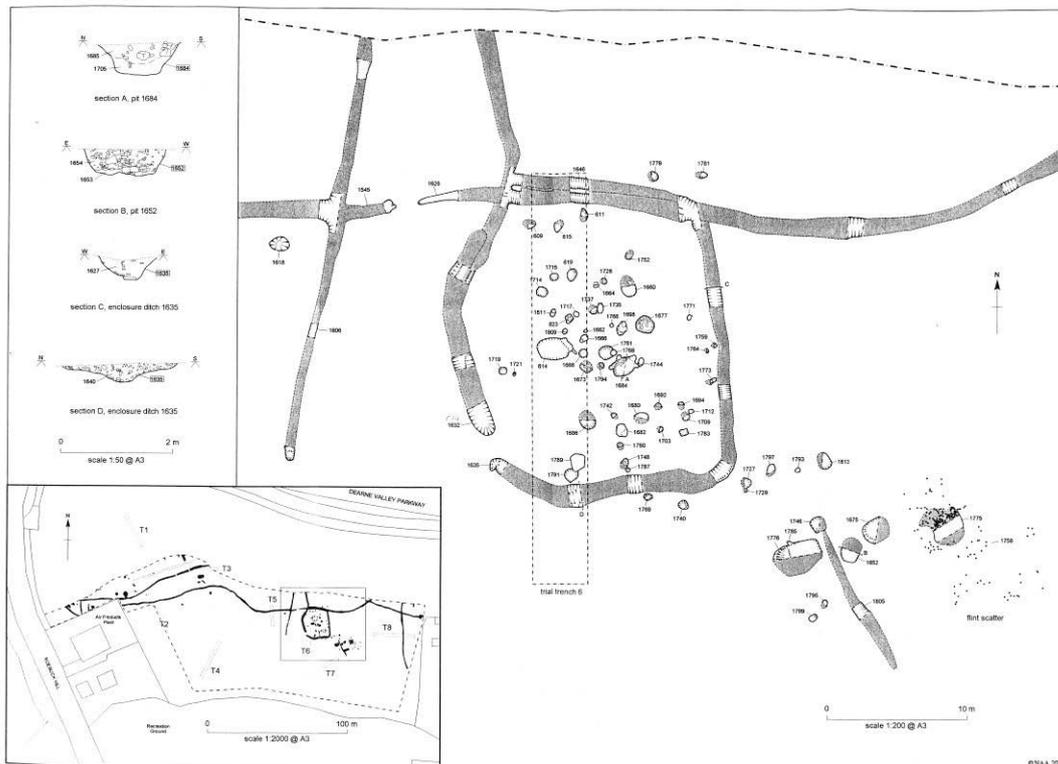


Figure G.411. More detailed plan of the excavated enclosure, illustrating the density of internal pit and posthole features, and also the locations of those immediately outside of the enclosure. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).

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.

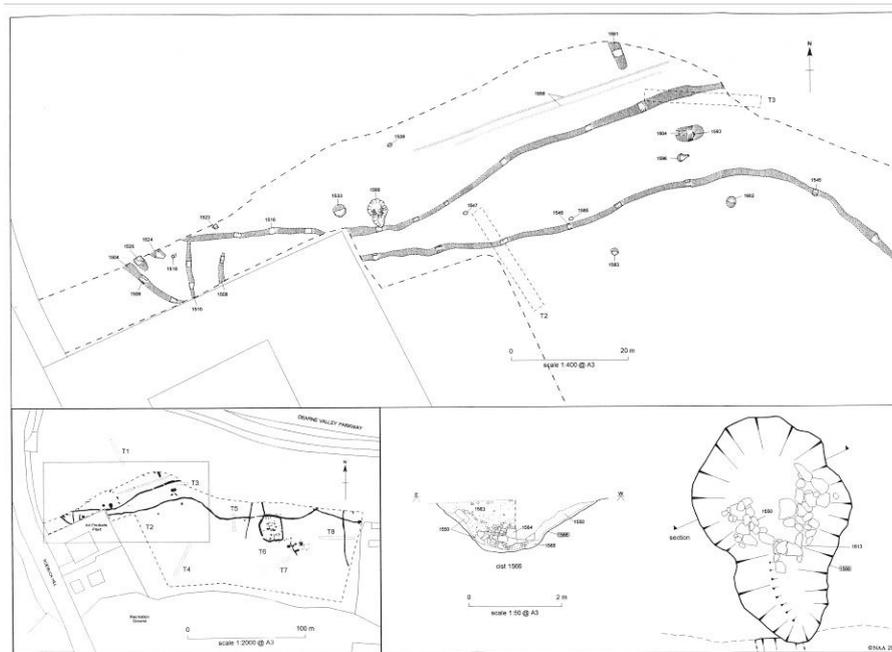


Figure G.412. Detail of the western part of the site. (Source: Robinson and Johnson 2007).

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.

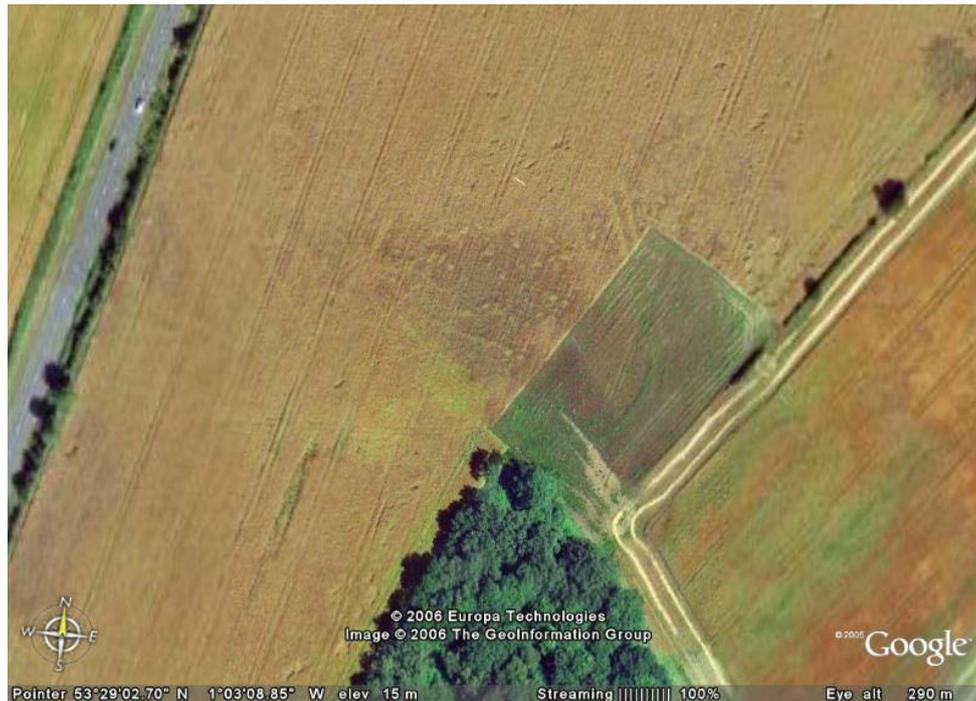
Rossington Bridge fortress and surrounds**SK 6280 9900**

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).

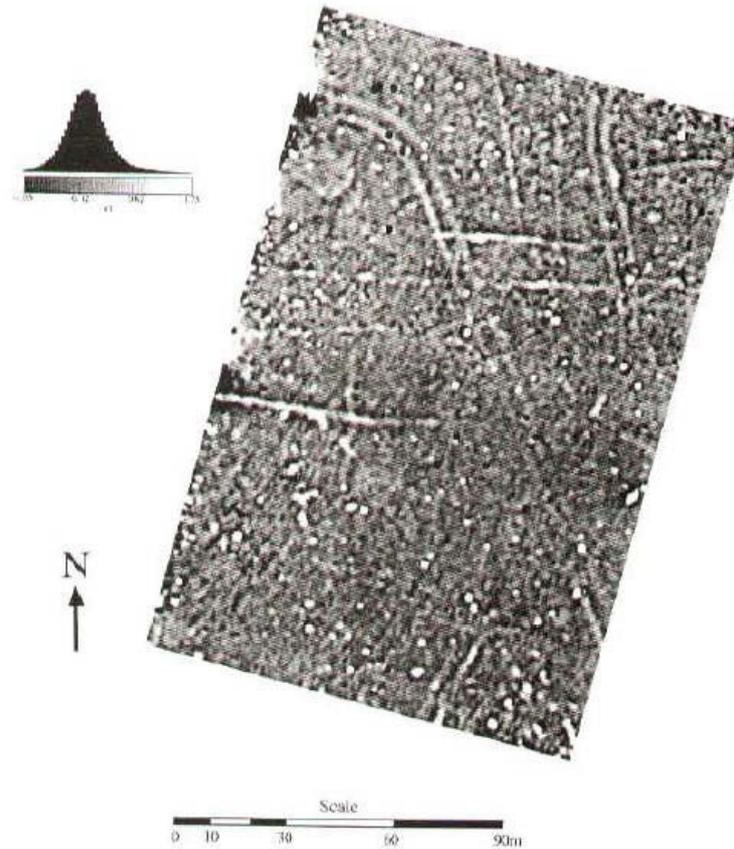


Figure G.415. *Geophysical survey of part of the Rossington Bridge fortress site, showing the double ditches of the main camp identified from cropmarks to the west, but with the corner of another camp to the east, and a third possible fort located to the south, all on different alignments. (Source: Head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

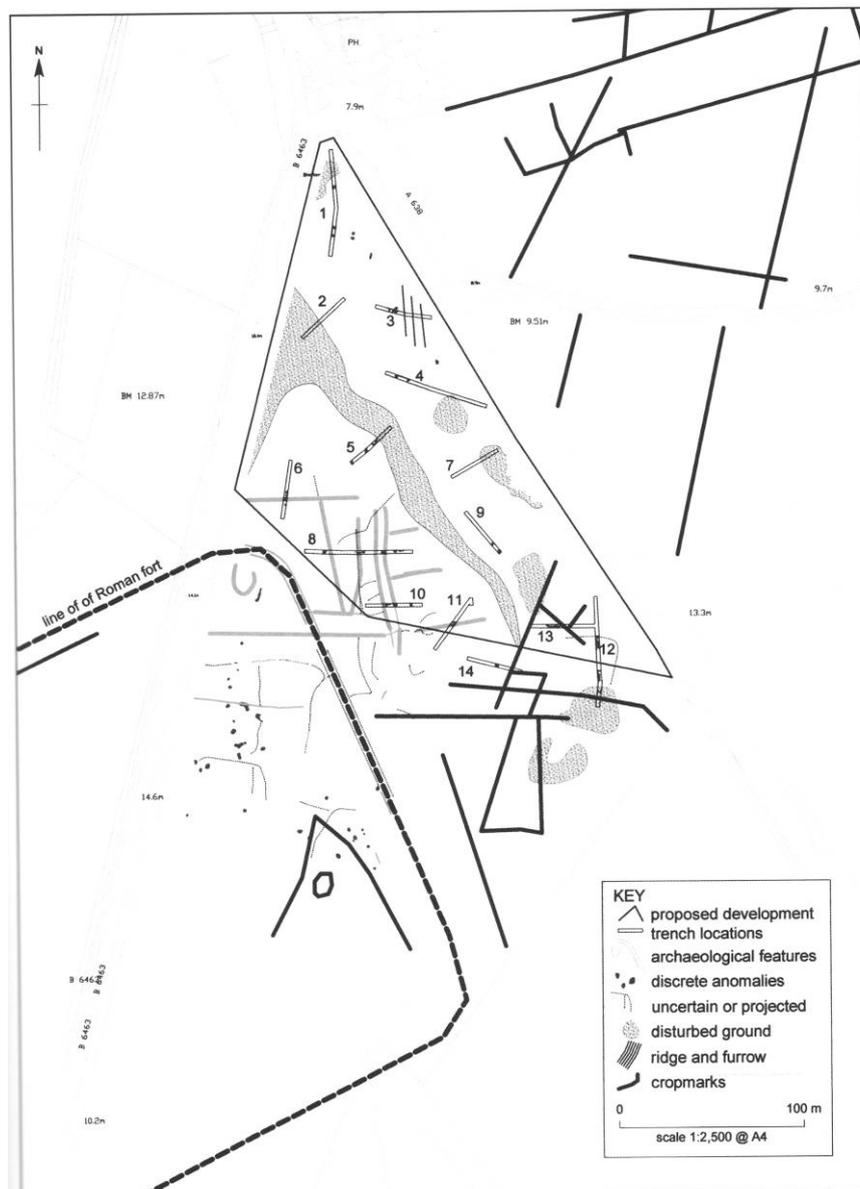


Figure G.416. Plan showing the development area NAA evaluation trenches at Parrot's Corner, Rossington. Although some of the plotted cropmarks match the results of the geophysical survey shown above, the location of the second fort and its 'playing-card' corner of double ditches to the east of the main 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.

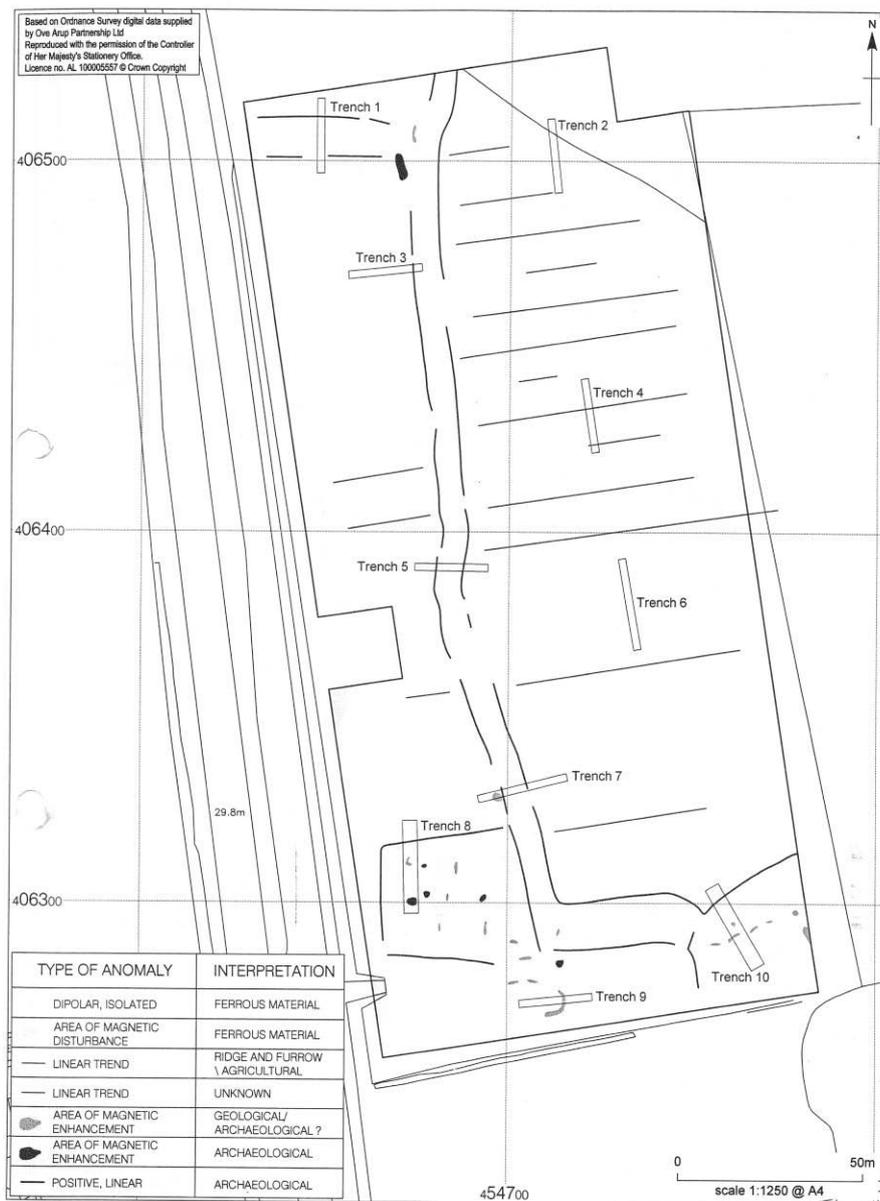


Figure G.417. The position of the evaluation trenches at Scawthorpe, in relation to features detected by geophysical survey. (Source: Bishop 2005: fig. 2).

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 metallised 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).

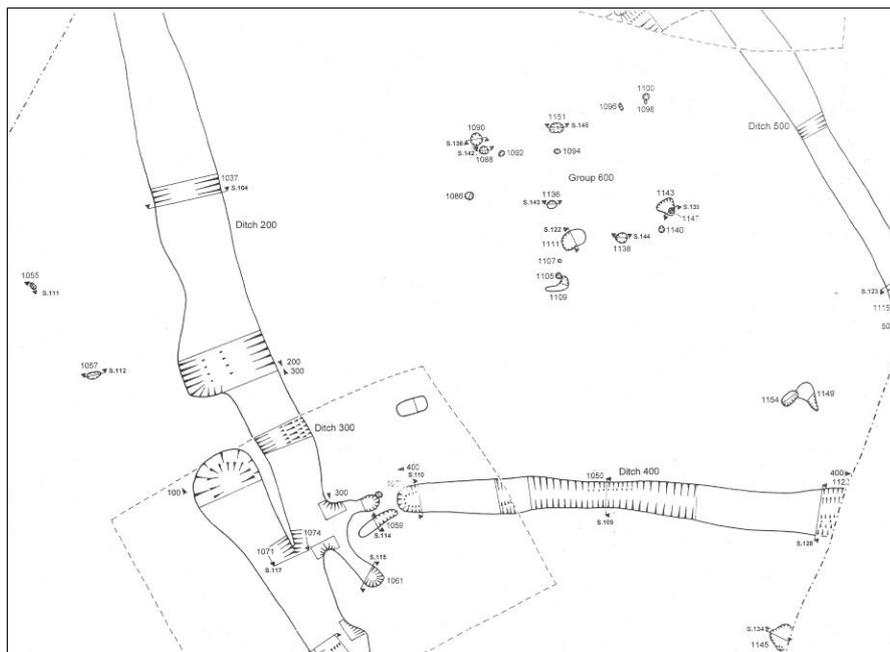


Figure G.420. Part of the excavated area at Engine Lane, Shafton. An original west-facing entrance (lower left) was later blocked by a ditch recut. (Source: Martin 2001).

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 ¹⁴C 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 was revealed 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

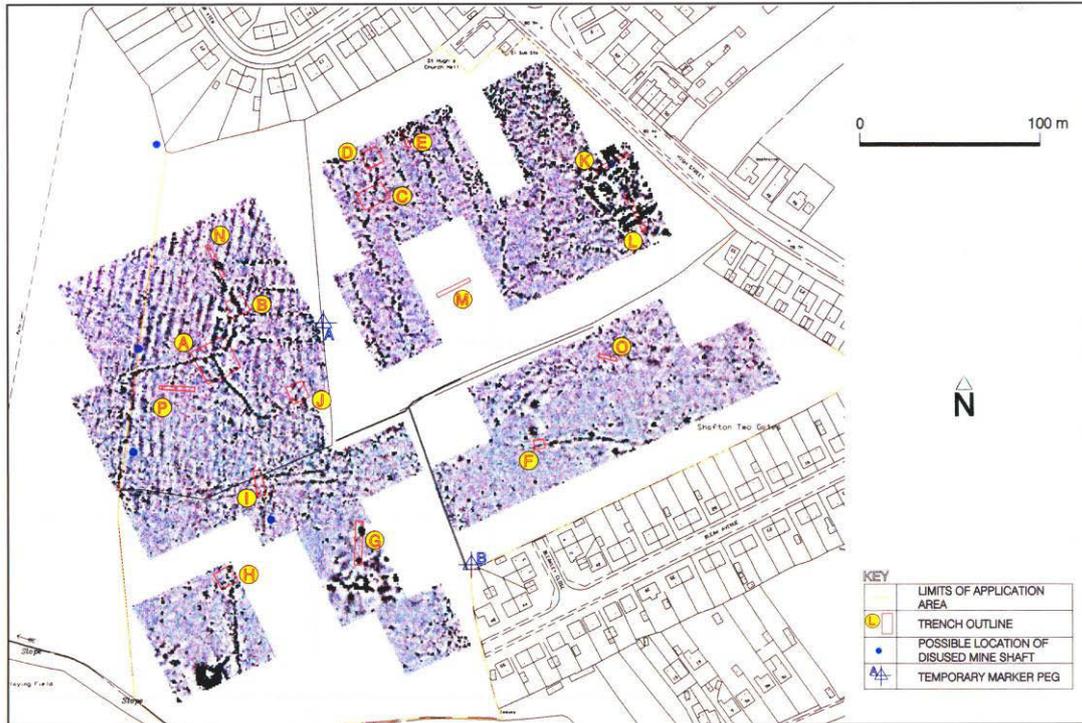


Figure G.421. The results of the geophysical survey of land off High Street, Shafton, with the locations of the trial trenches superimposed on top of it. (Source: Howell 2005: 113).

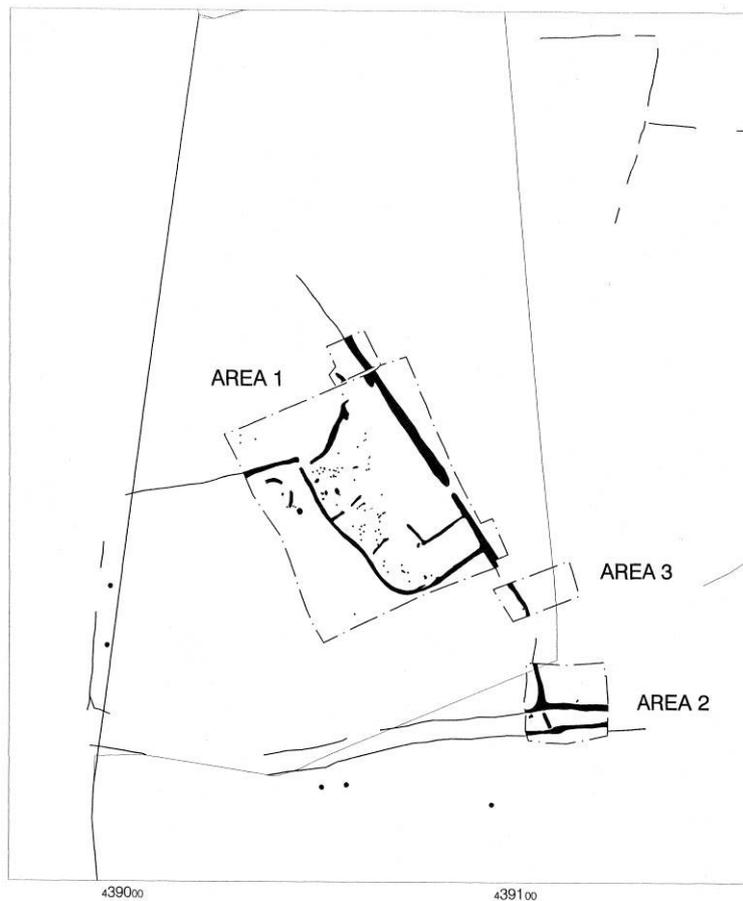


Figure G.422. Outline of the open-area excavation at High Street, Shafton, showing the three main excavation areas and the 'clothes line' enclosure. (Source: Burgess 2001d).

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. Fragmentary 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.

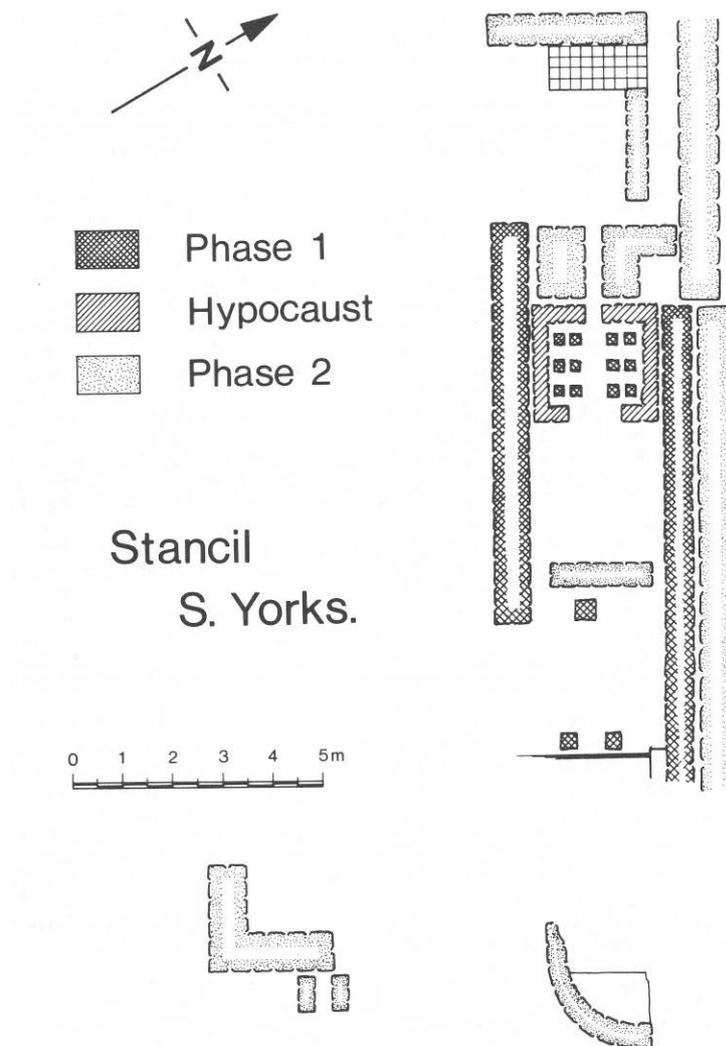


Figure G.424. Redrawn plan of the 1938-39 excavations at Stancil, based on Whiting's 1943 original. (Source: Buckland 1986: 37, fig. 22).

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 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.

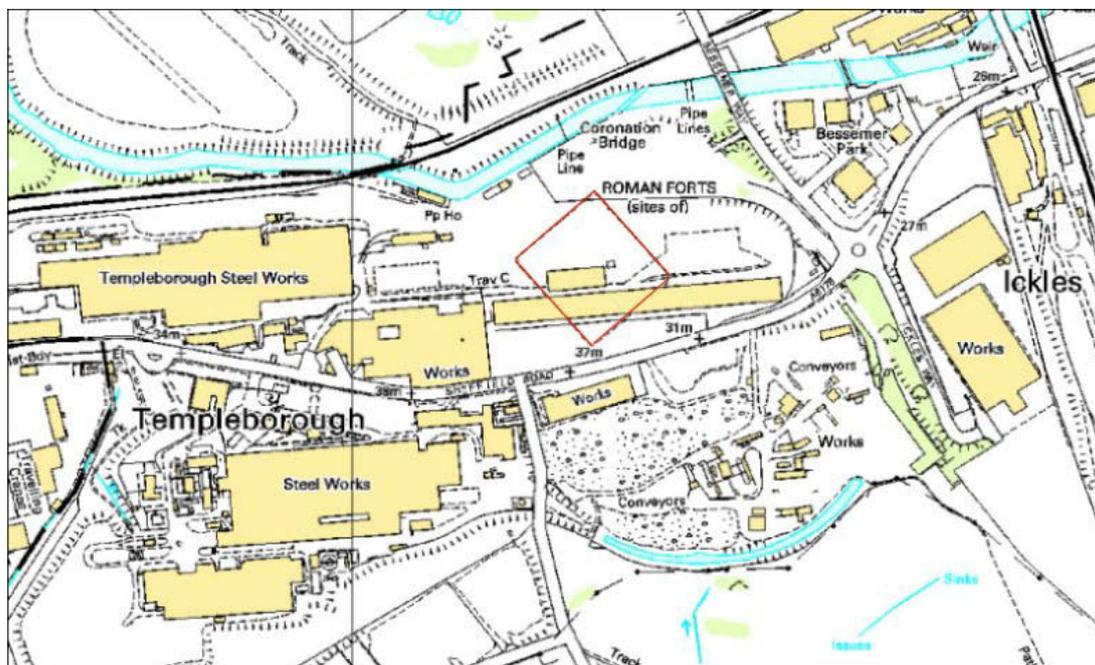


Figure G.425. The location of the Templebrough forts on the south bank of the River Don. (Source: World Wide Web <http://www2.rotherham.gov.uk/lendlearn/museumimage/fort/Templeborough.jpg>.)

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.

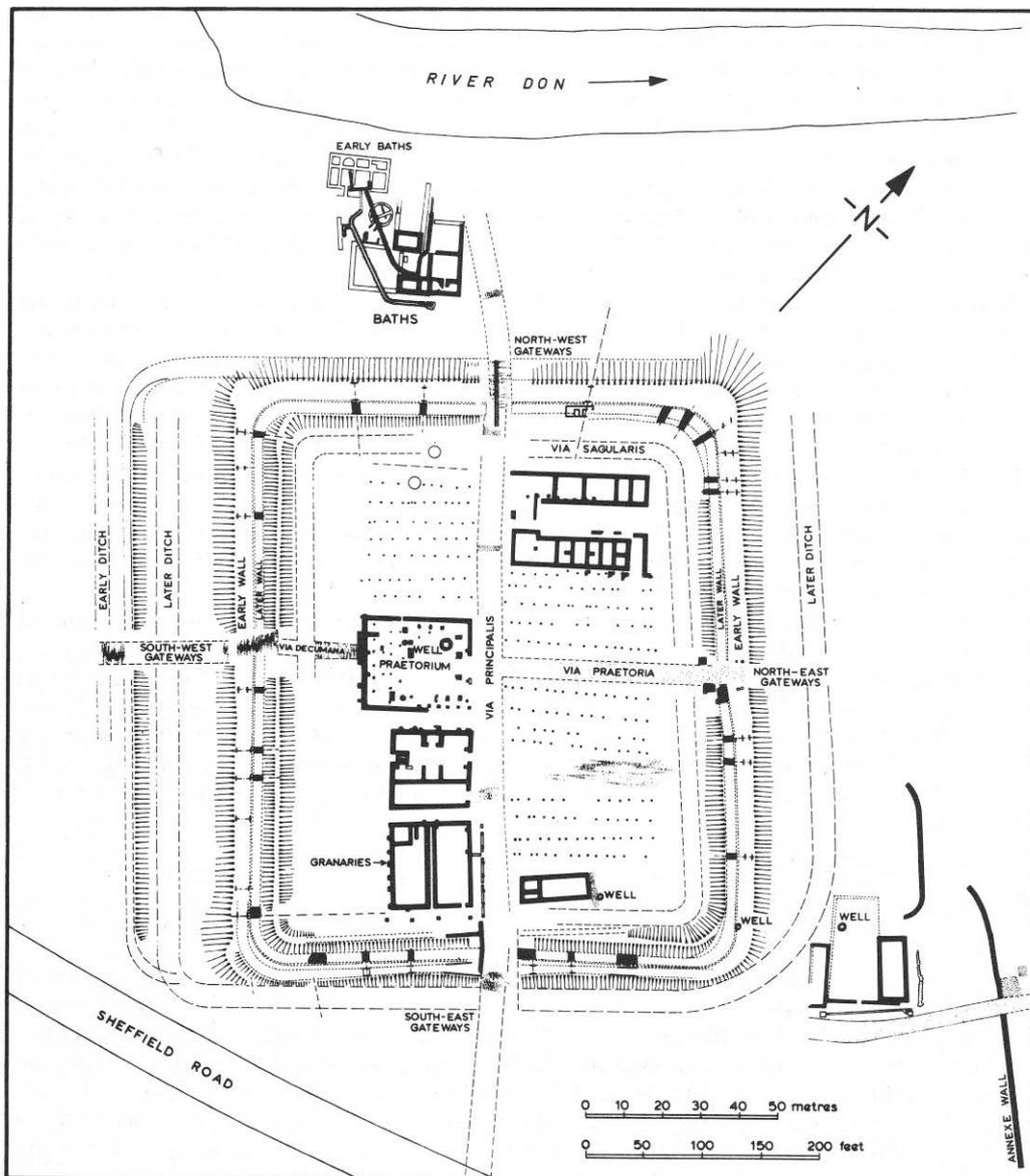


Figure G.426. Redrawing of May's original 1922 plan of Templebrough, showing three forts superimposed on one another, and two phases of bathhouse down by the River Don. The lines of postholes possibly relate to wooden barrack and/or granary blocks within the first phase fort. (Source: Buckland 1986: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

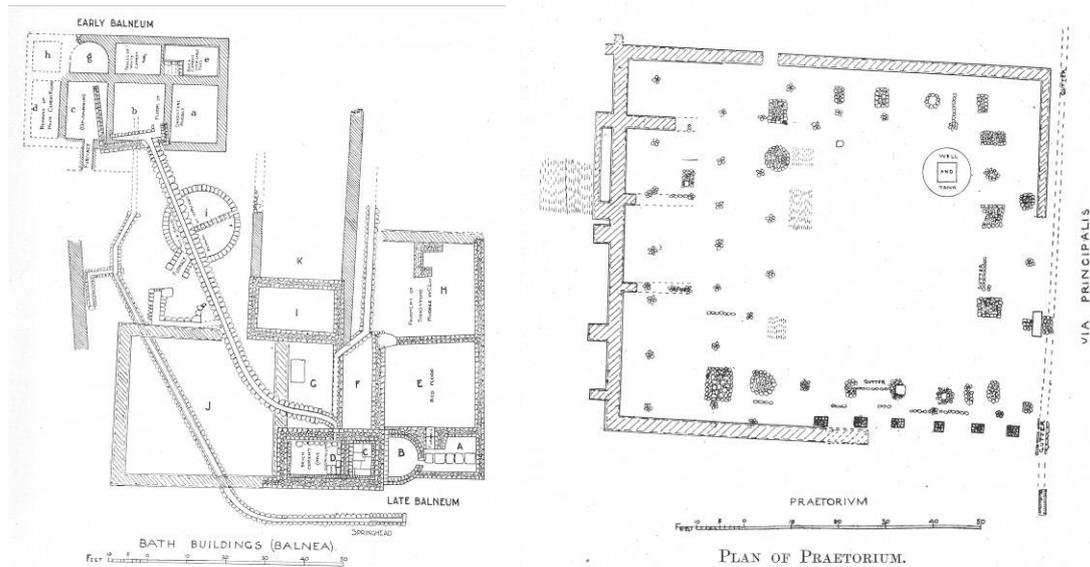


Figure G.427. (left). *The two main phases of balnea or bathhouses.* (Source: May 1922: plate XLIX).
Fig. G.428. (right). *Plan of the praetorium.* (Source: May 1922: plate XLVI).

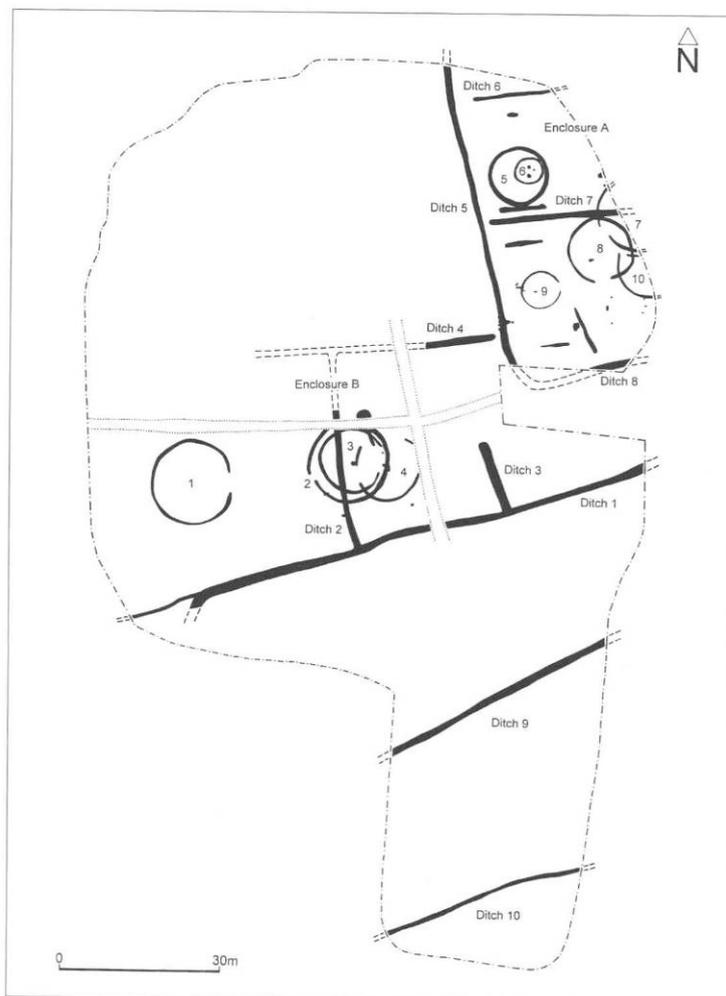
Large quantities of mortaria, Black Burnished ware, samian and amphorae sherds were recovered, in addition to weights, rings, quernstones and many worked stone fragments. In April 1918, after the excavations had ceased, workmen uncovered a well with a shaft lined with oak planks, and which also contained 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 Templeborough 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 1.5m 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.

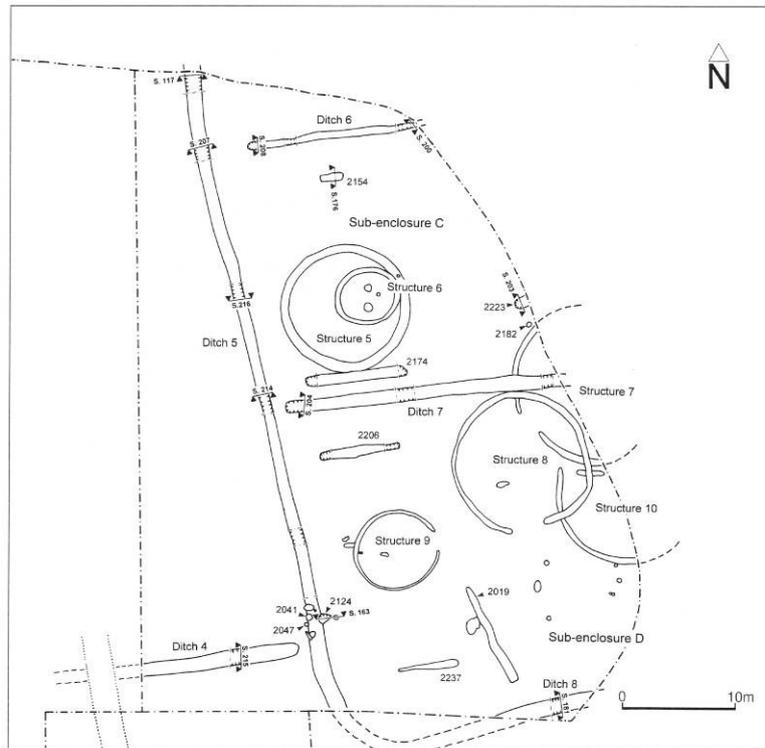


Figure G.430. Earlier and later phase features associated with Enclosure A, Topham Farm, Sykehouse. (Source: Roberts 2003: 5, fig. 4)

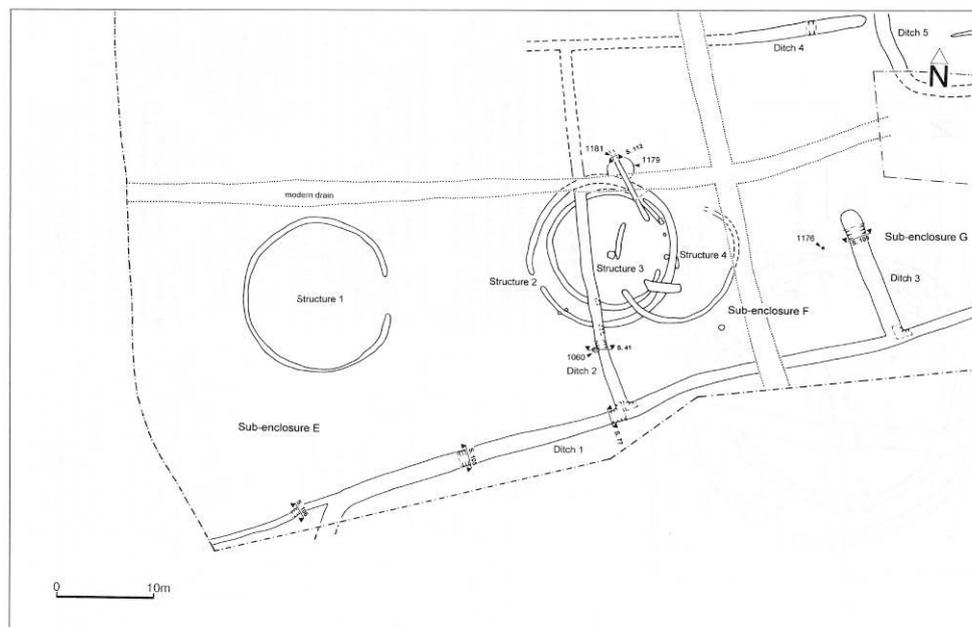


Figure G.431. Earlier and later phase features associated with Enclosure B, Topham Farm, Sykehouse. (Source: Roberts 2003:95, fig. 8)

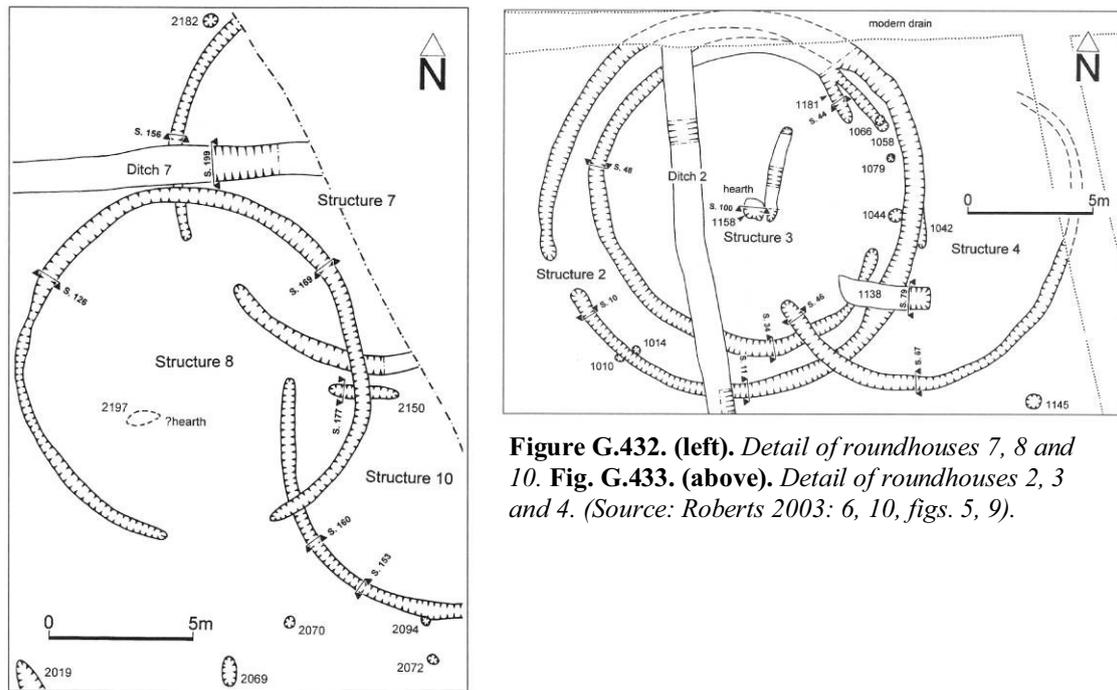


Figure G.432. (left). Detail of roundhouses 7, 8 and 10. **Fig. G.433. (above).** Detail of roundhouses 2, 3 and 4. (Source: Roberts 2003: 6, 10, figs. 5, 9).

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).

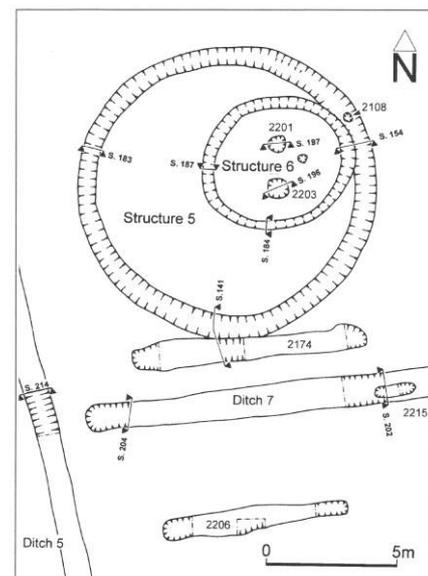
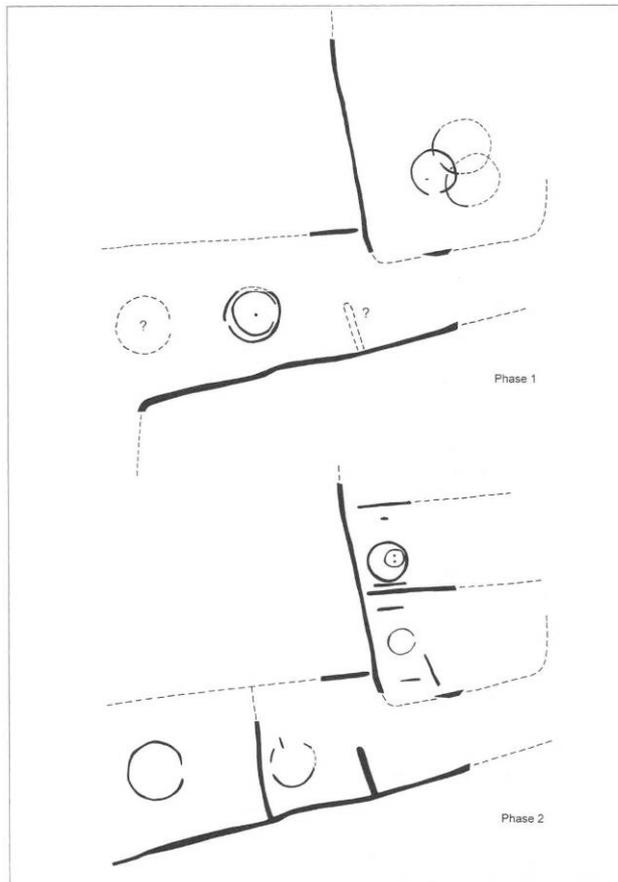


Figure G.434. (right). Plan of Structures 5 and 6 at Sykehouse, and nearby features. The ring gully of Structure 5 contained relatively large quantities of pottery and briquetage, but that of Str. 6 in contrast was almost sterile of finds. They were certainly not roundhouses, and although they could 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.

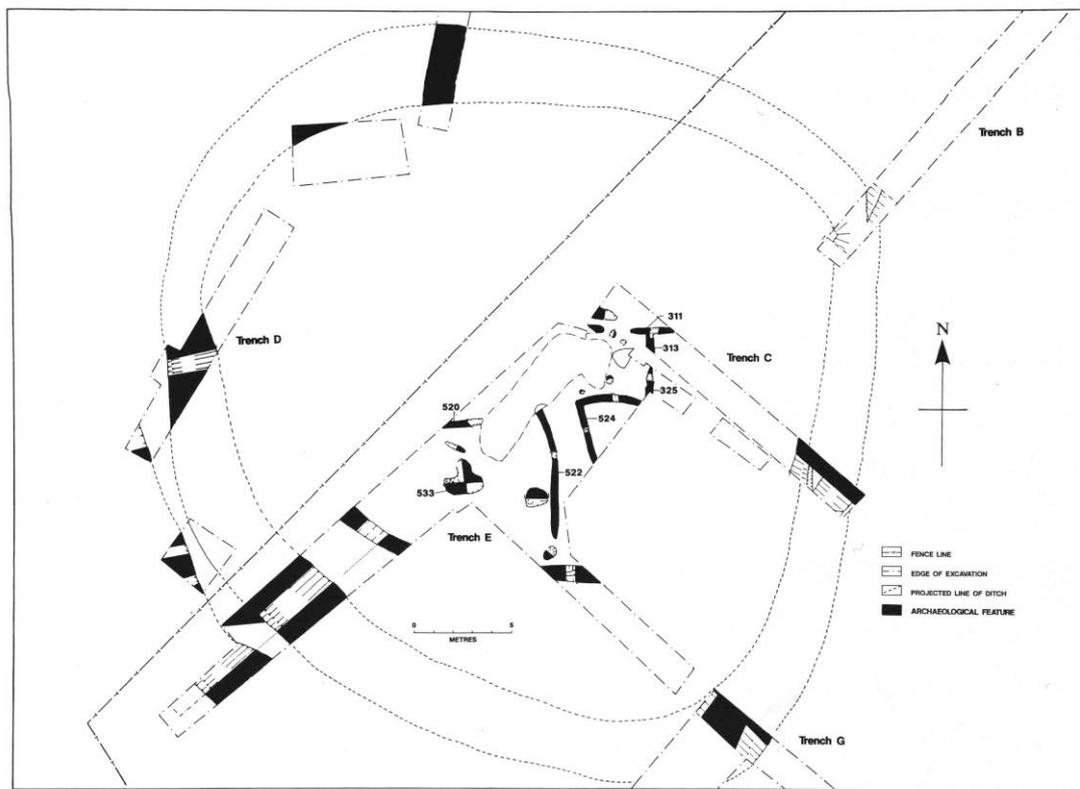


Figure G.437. *Plan of the enclosure excavated at Warning Tongue Lane. (Source: Atkinson and Merrony 1994: 26, fig. 8)*

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).

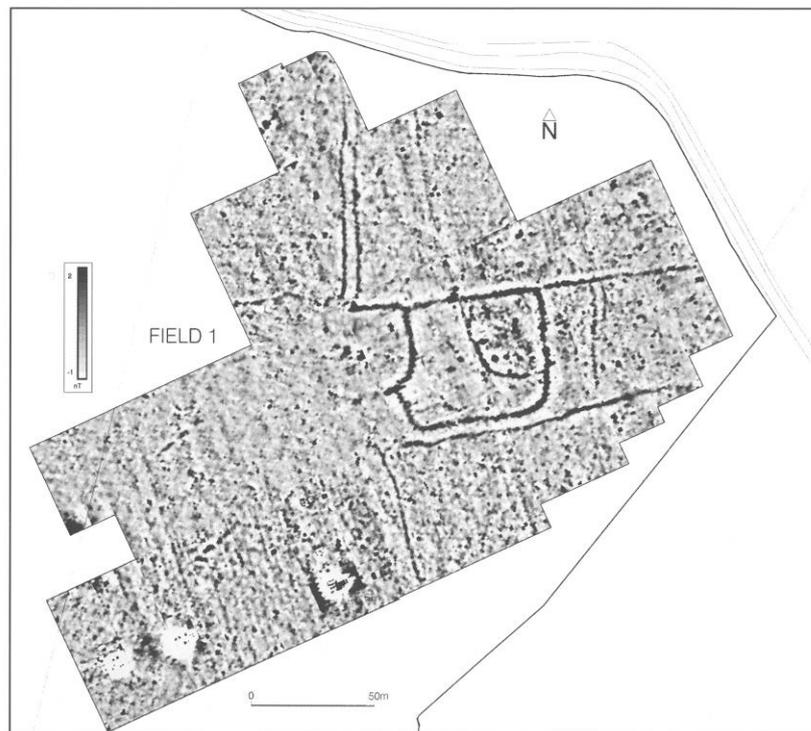


Figure G.438. Geophysical survey east of Wombwell Wood, centred at SE 3714 0375. The large, subcircular enclosure is just visible to the lower centre of the image, the subrectangular enclosure just to the right of centre. Trackways run off to the north and east. (Source: AS WYAS 2005: 105).

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.

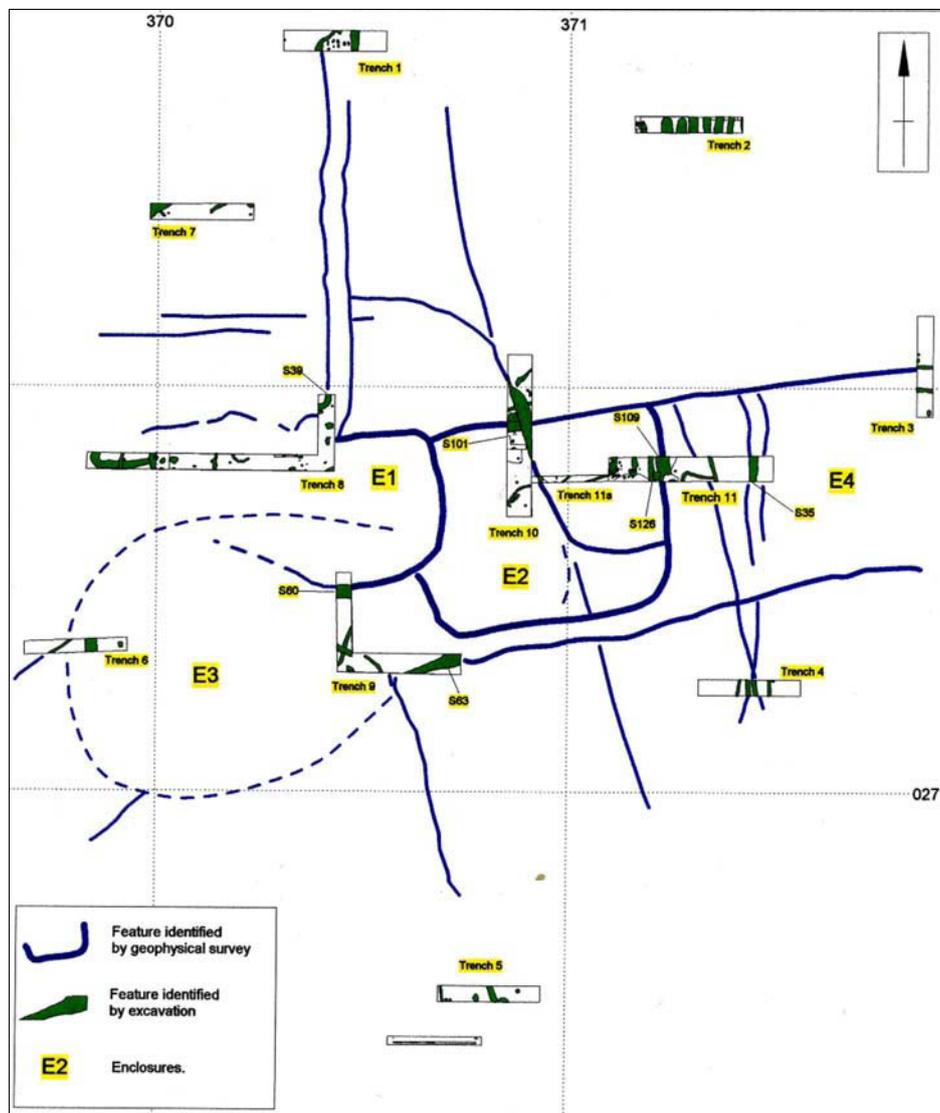


Figure G.439. Evaluation trenches excavated across the enclosure complex east of Wombwell Wood. (Source: Mudd and Webster 2001: fig. 2).

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.

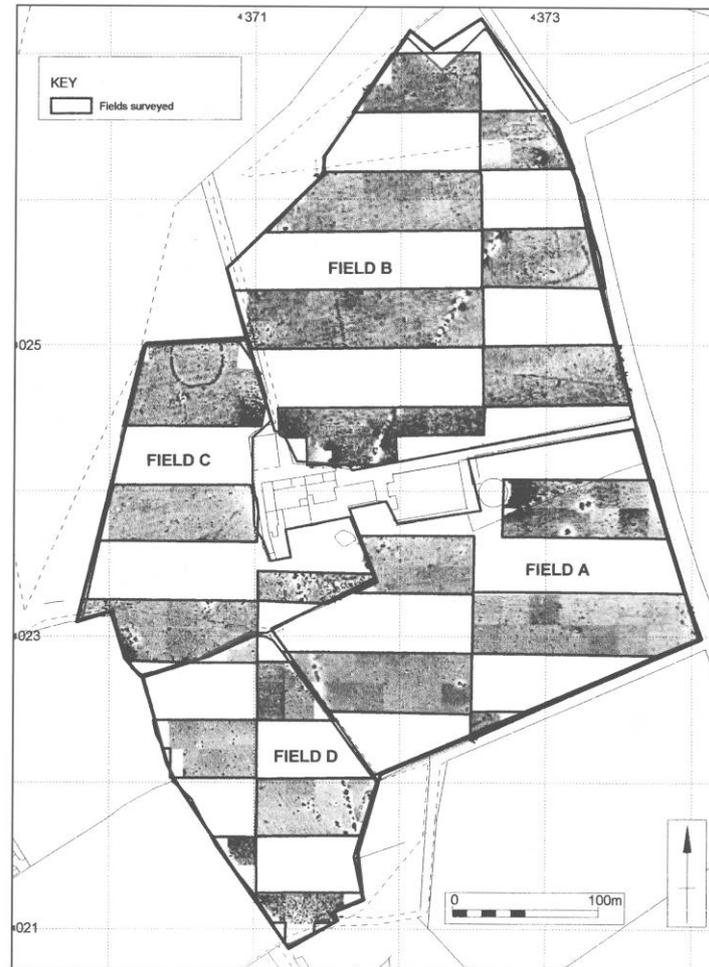


Figure G.440. *Geophysical survey of land south-east of Wombwell Wood, centred at SE 3725 0240, with Upper Woodhead Farm in the centre of the image. The two Iron Age or Romano-British enclosures are in the north-east or upper right; and the north-west or upper left. (Source: Mudd et al. 2006: 124).*

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.

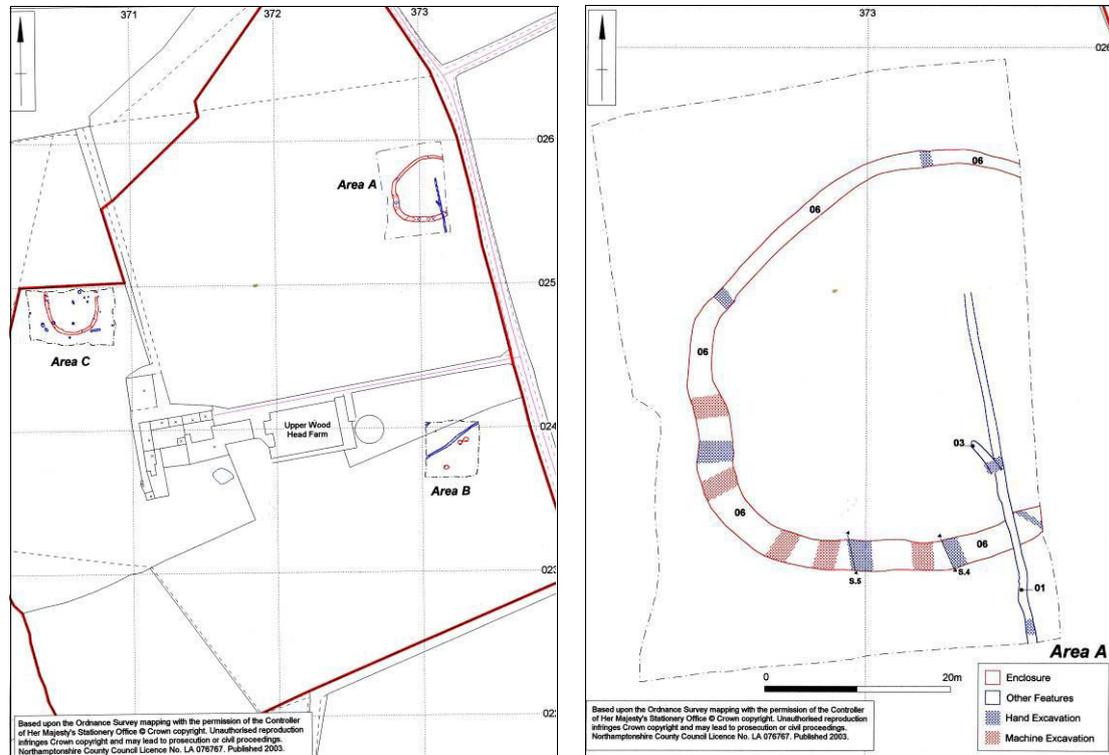


Figure G.441. (left). The two subcircular enclosures (Areas A and C) at Woodhead Opencast Site. **Fig. G.442. (right).** More detailed plan of the enclosure in Area C. (Source: Jones 2003: figs. 2-3).

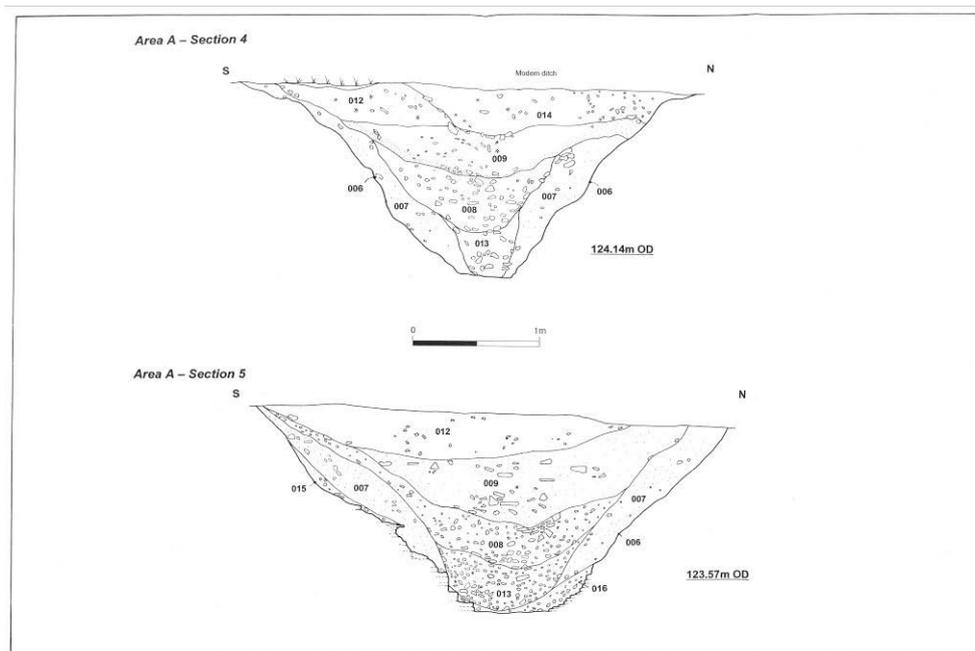


Figure G.443. Sections through the enclosure ditch in Area A. Major recuts are clearly visible in both, yet have been interpreted simply as deposit interfaces. (Source: Jones 2003: fig. 4).

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.

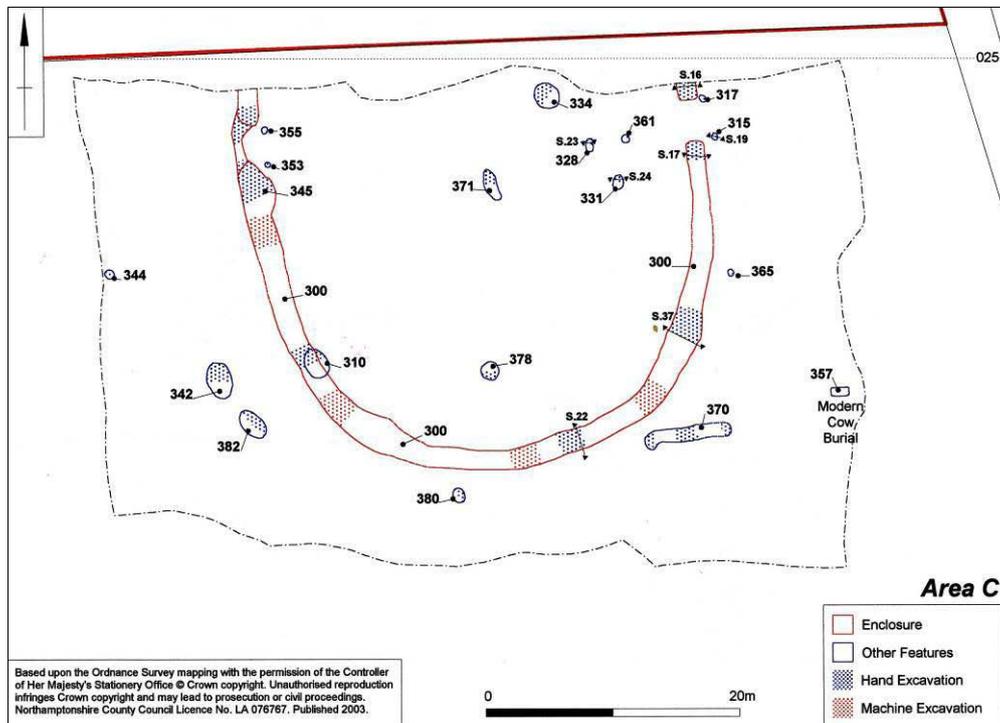


Figure G.444. *The Area C enclosure. Note the internal features and the opposed entrances. (Source: Jones 2003: fig. 7).*

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.).

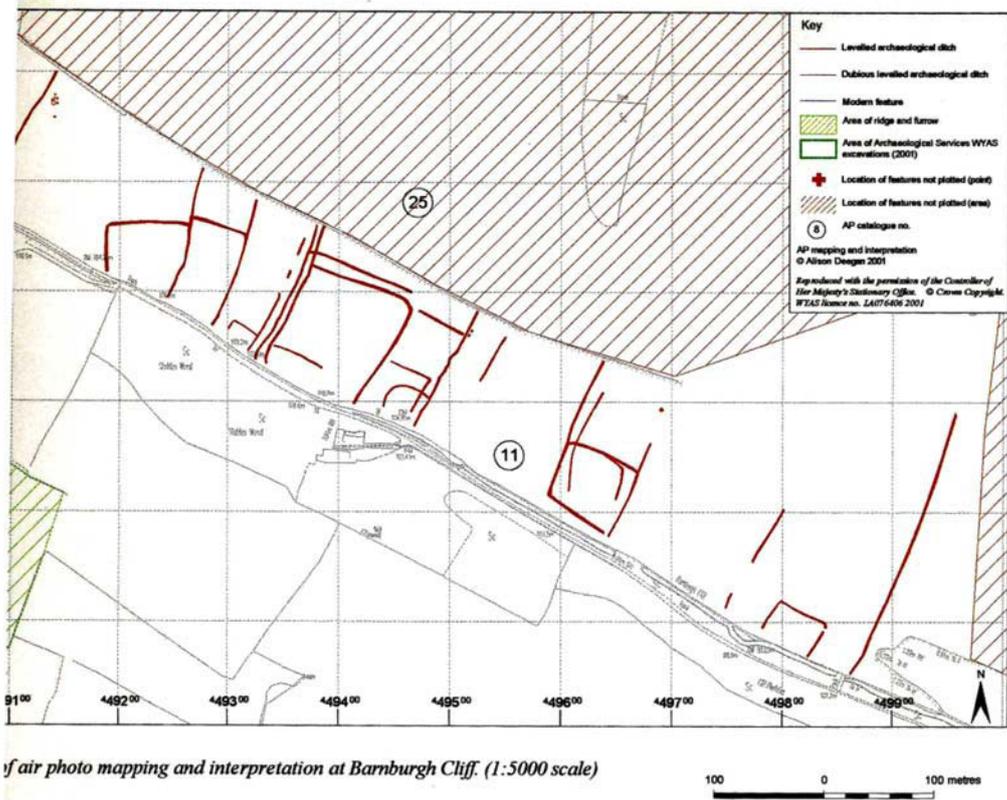


Figure G.446. Plot of the Barnburgh Cliffs cropmarks. (Source: Deegan 2001c).



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 escarpment, with Barnburgh Cliffs beyond the right of the image, and Melton Wood behind. (Source: author).

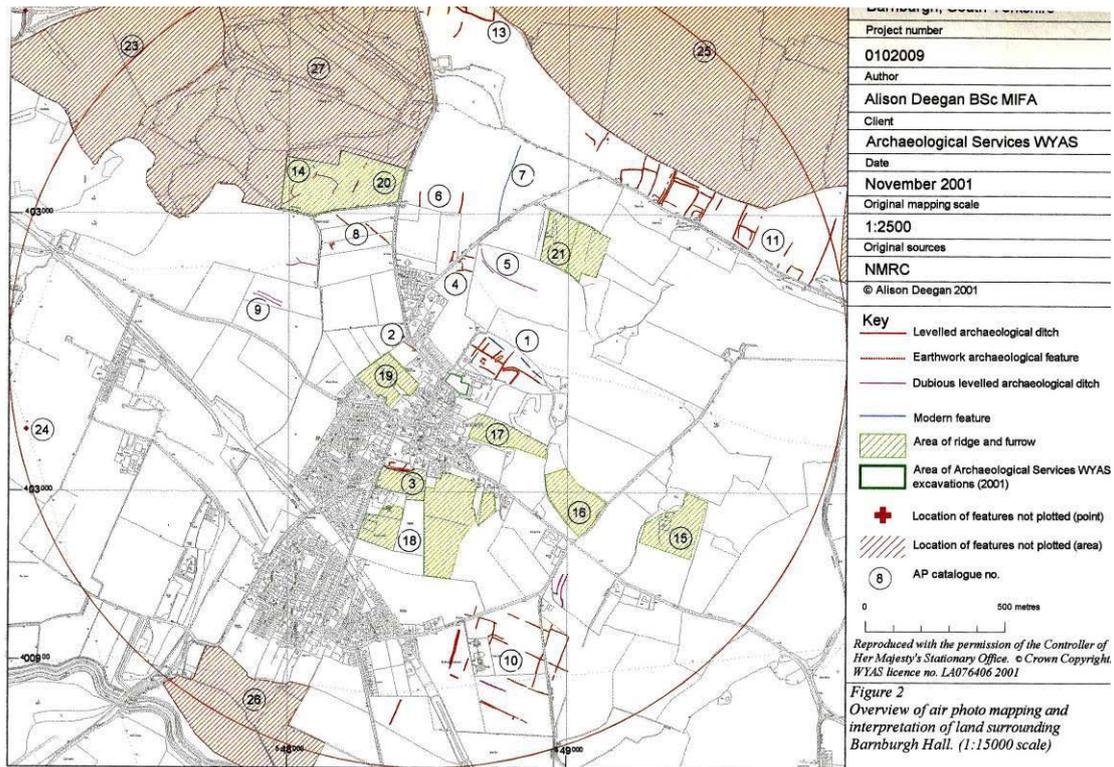


Figure G.449. *The wider context of the Barnburgh Cliff cropmarks, showing other possible enclosures and boundaries to the south-east near the modern village of Barnburgh. Barnburgh itself may have Anglo-Saxon origins, though Romano-British occupation has also been identified (see above). (Source: Deegan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

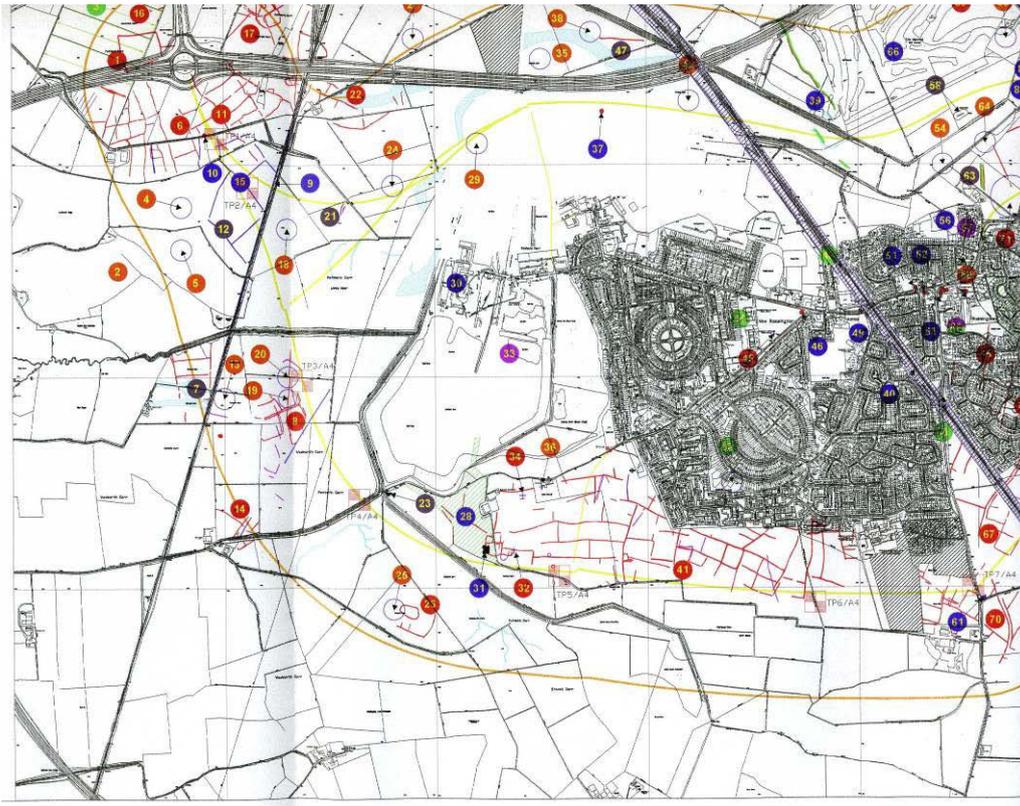


Figure G.464. Cropmarks plotted in the area around and south of Junction 3 of the M18, to the east of New Rossington and south of Bessacarr and Doncaster. South-west of New Rossington is a group of co-axial fields. (Source: Deegan 2004).

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.

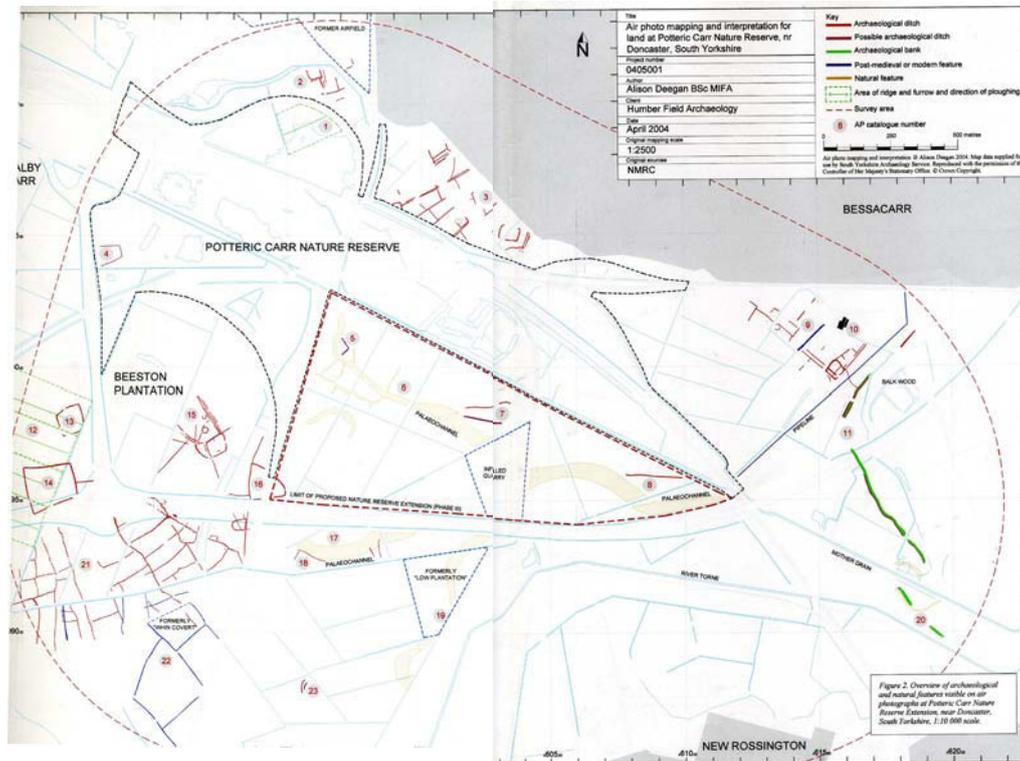


Figure G.467. Composite plan of the cropmarks around Beeston Plantation, and north and east of the Potteric Carr Nature Reserve. (Source: Deegan 2004).

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, ¹⁴C 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).

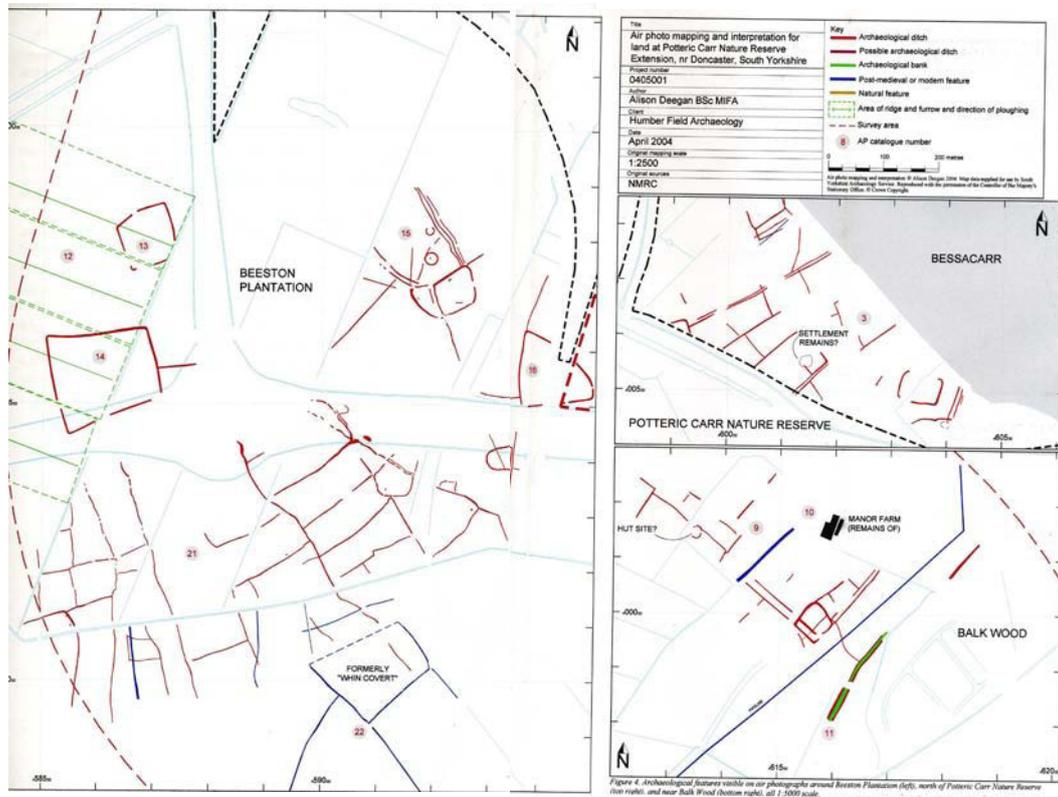


Figure G.468. Detail of the cropmarks visible at Beeston Plantation, west of Potteric Carr, and those located just to the north-east and east of Potteric Carr. (Source: Deegan 2004).

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.

Nottinghamshire

Earthwork sites

Scratta Wood

SK 5480 8010



Figure G.472. *The two enclosures that were once situated within Scratta Wood, now showing as subcircular dark green patches within arable fields (Site One to the left). Note too the line of a possible former east-west sinuous boundary. (Source: © Google Earth).*

At Scratta Wood near Shireoaks, large areas of old woodland initially cleared during World War One had reverted to scrub, and when this was being grubbed up in 1959, a bulldozer driver noticed the remains of stone walling, and local amateur archaeologists were alerted. Two enclosures were identified, and work was eventually halted on one. Members of the Worksop Archaeological Society then commenced somewhat haphazard excavations on it between 1959-1964, aided at times by the Extra-Mural Department of Sheffield University. Sir Mortimer Wheeler also visited the site and made comments on it, although he was presumably less than impressed by the excavation methodologies employed, and advised them to open up a larger area. This enclosure, Site One, has never been fully published except as a somewhat sketchy popular account (White 1966), whilst the arcane and irregular methods of trench layout, the narrow trenches employed and the odd recording system make even the site archive and interim report extremely difficult to interpret (White n.d.). I am extremely grateful to Graham Robbins for having ‘translated’ much of this archive for me! In addition, the bulldozers did tremendous damage to the site before work could be halted, resulting in much loss of internal features, and when landownership changed in 1965, Site One and other possible archaeological features were finally and completely bulldozed. It is interesting that on recent satellite photography available through Google Earth; however, the position of the two enclosures within the area originally encompassed by

the wood can clearly be seen, showing up as darker marks against the pasture where water has collected within the subsurface remains of the structures.

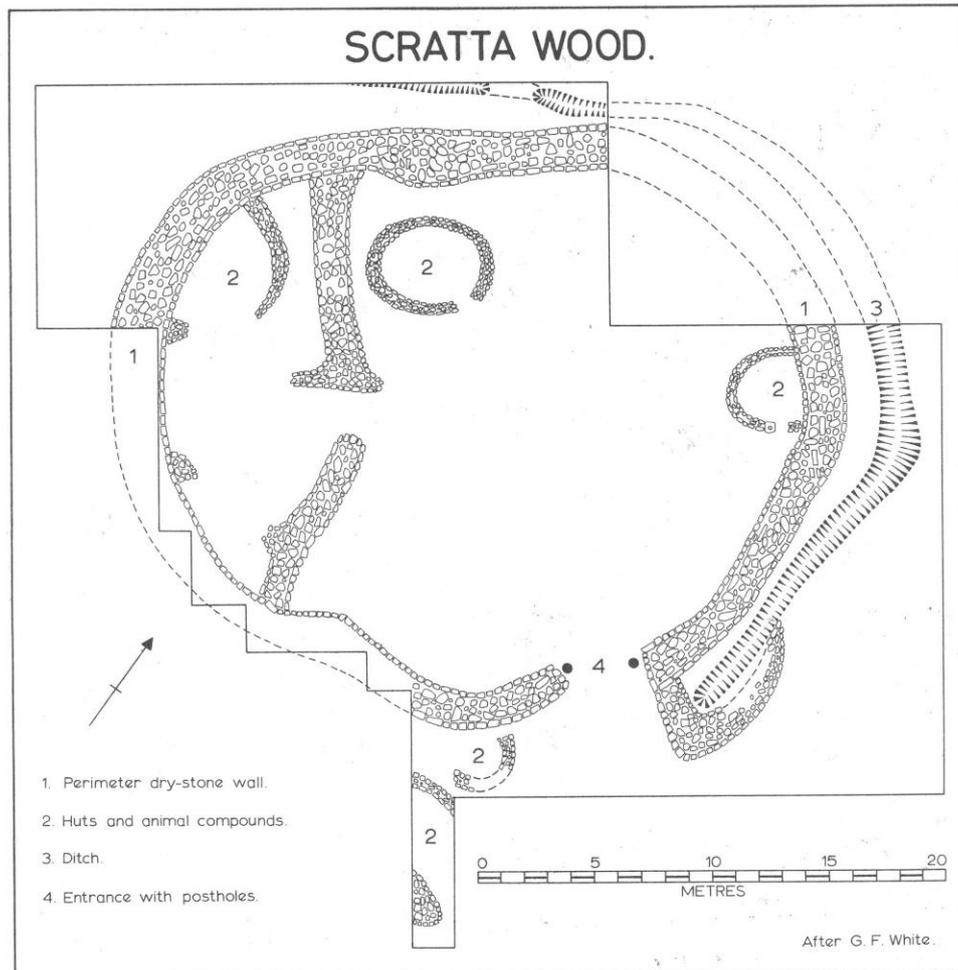


Figure G.473. Simplified plan of the Scratta Wood enclosure Site One. (Source: Challis and Harding 1975).

Site One was a subrounded, stone-walled enclosure approximately 35m long and 26m wide, subdivided into two ‘compounds’ – a larger eastern area, and a smaller, western area that was itself then subdivided in two. There was a stone-built, ovoid structure in the northern sub-compartment of this western compound, built into the main enclosure wall, plus at least two more stone roundhouses within the eastern compound – the smaller one of these was built into the inner face of the enclosure wall. The wall had a rubble core revetted by large limestone slabs, and silt-filled voids within this were evidence of upright posts for a timber palisade. The spacing of the posts was quite wide (between 3-6m apart), indicating perhaps that there might have been hurdling in between them, or even that these posts were for display purposes. The entrance faced SSE and was everted on its eastern side, whilst on the western side there was another rounded stone structure. The entrance was further defined and restricted by a narrow gully that was perhaps a fencing slot, and also a series of postholes indicating a timber gateway. Two large postholes and large limestone slabs on the inside faces of the bank emphasised the inner part of this entrance, whilst an external ditch was excavated on the eastern and northern sides of the

enclosure. There were several large rock-cut pits within the enclosure, mostly within the eastern compound, which were taken to be grain storage pits. Some appeared to have been lined with clay. The circular and sub-oval structures had rock-cut levelled floors and even pivot holes for doors (Challis and Harding 1975: 149).

The finds from Scratta Wood Site One included slag, possible fuel ash, querns, clay spindle whorls, relatively large amounts of late Iron Age and conquest period pottery, plus a gold-plated bronze copy of a Gallo-Belgic coin found on the surface nearby, and copper alloy objects including a La Tène III style brooch (Challis and Harding 1975: 94; Leary 1986; White 1966, n.d.), the latter found within a building in the south-east part of the enclosure. It is thus possible that the inhabitants had a slightly higher status and/or different identity to people in other settlements. Small amounts of Romano-British pottery showed occupation in some form continued until the fourth century AD, although by this stage it may have been used as a corral rather than a ‘domestic’ enclosure. Scratta Wood is similar to an oval enclosure with six internal roundhouses recorded nearby at Whitwell in Derbyshire, to an enclosure excavated at Horse Close Farm near Skipton in North Yorkshire, and to other sites in the Pennines and northern England, including ‘courtyard’ enclosures in Northumberland and Cumbria. This may be further evidence that some of the settlements on the Magnesian Limestone areas of the study region were different in character to those located on Cola Measures and Sherwood Sandstone areas.

References: Challis and Harding 1975; Leary 1986; White 1966, n.d.

*Excavated cropmark/geophysical survey sites***Aslockton****SK 7400 4090**

The enclosure complex at Aslockton consisted of a massive sub-oval enclosure nearly 20ha in size, divided into two roughly equal halves, each of these with smaller enclosures around their edges. The outer enclosures and the large, open interior spaces might have been used for the assembly and management of large numbers of livestock. Only a small fraction of the site has been investigated by a limited number of evaluation trenches, but the faunal evidence suggested an emphasis on the husbandry of sheep and goats for meat and wool, and the consumption of cattle meat (Hamshaw-Thomas 1992), and this settlement may have had a more specialised role and perhaps higher status. Relatively high quantities of grain were also discovered. Larger levels or episodes of consumption seem to have taken place, and the site might have acted as a locale for the redistribution of livestock, perhaps analogous to some southern hillfort settlements.

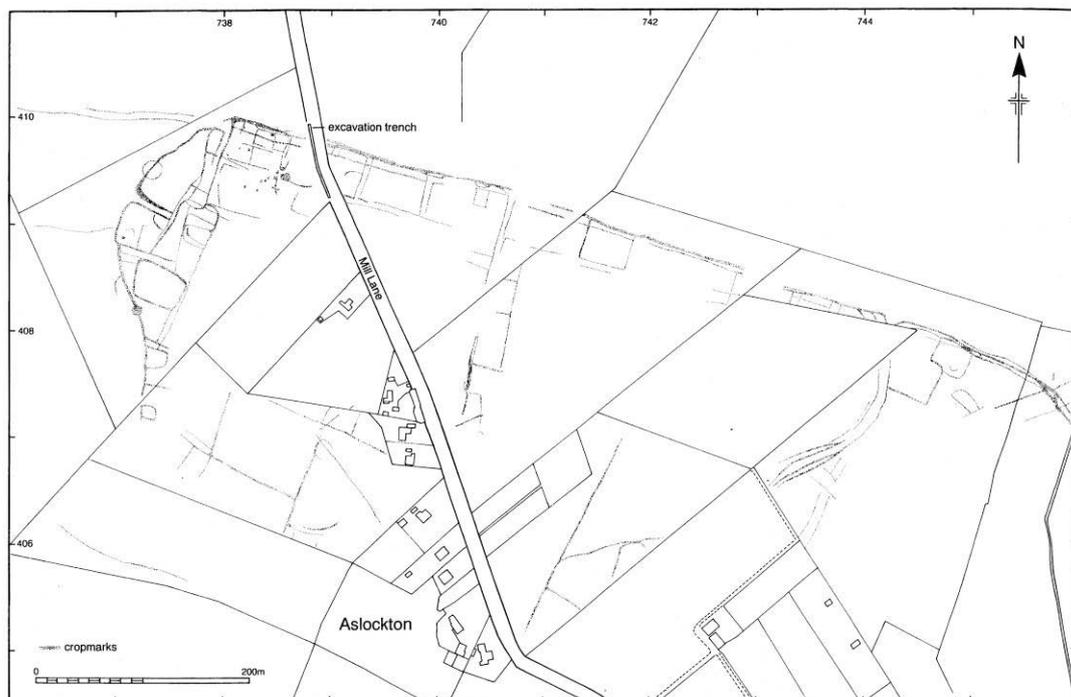


Figure G.474. *Plan of the cropmark enclosure complex at Aslockton, Notts. A series of rectangular and subrectangular enclosures appear to have surrounded at least two much larger inner spaces or paddocks. Several entrances led into the interior, that on the western side being especially prominent. (Source: Knight and Howard 2004b: 94).*

References: Hamshaw-Thomas 1992; Knight and Howard 2004b; Palmer-Brown and Knight 1993.

Belmoor Quarry, Retford**SK 6925 8305**

Figure 13.2 Belmoor Quarry, Glebe Farm, Retford, Notts (SK693831): air photograph looking south-southwest over the crop mark prior to quarrying. Photograph: D.N. Riley (12 July 1979). Copyright: RCHME. No.1536/8.

Figure G.475. *The cropmarks at Belmoor Quarry. (Source: Cox and Hurcombe 1989: 168, fig. 13.2).*

This complex of subrectangular and D-shaped enclosures and a funnel-ended trackway was situated on flat, low-lying land on the floodplain of the meandering River Idle north of Retford, just off the western end of a slight ridge and next to a peaty area (Riley 1980: 124-125, map 24). In 1987, Jen Eccles noticed that sand and gravel quarrying had commenced at the location, and that large quantities of Romano-British pottery and ditch sections were being exposed as the site was quarried away.

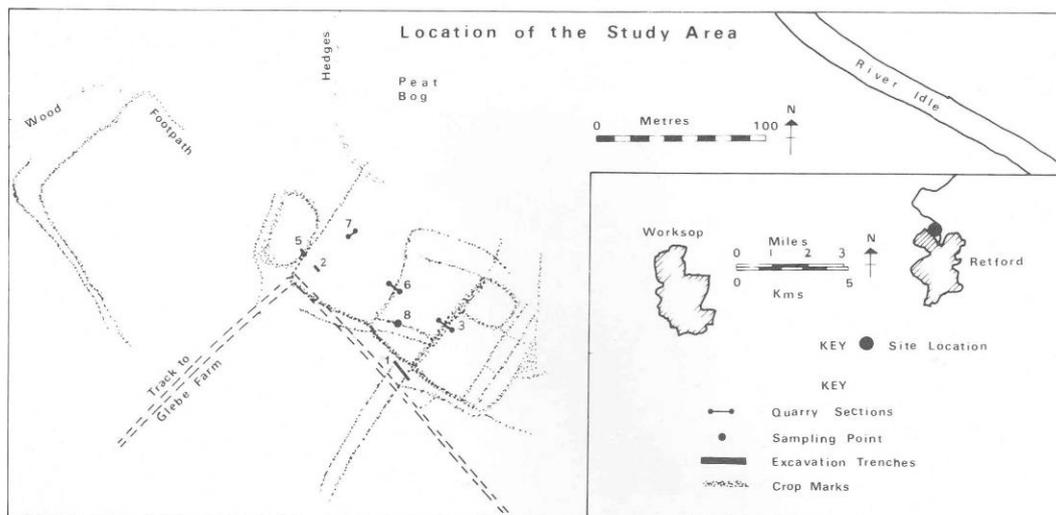


Figure 13.1 Belmoor Quarry, Glebe Farm, Retford, Notts (SK693831): location of study area and plan of site showing areas of investigation. Drawn by R. Dixon.

Figure G.476. *Location and plan of the cropmark complex. (Source: Cox and Hurcombe 1989: 167).*

A limited salvage investigation of the site by the Bassetlaw Heritage Project group therefore took place – some of the quarry sections were cleaned up and recorded, and several trenches were excavated. Area 1 was a trench dug across the double-ditched trackway, and confirmed that it was 15m wide with ditches 4.2-4.9m wide flanking it (Cox and Hurcombe 1989: 169). Much of the Romano-British pottery recovered came from the southern trackway ditch, including a nearly complete greyware dish that may have been a placed deposit. Interestingly, possible rutting was recorded in the section in between these two ditches (see Fig. G.06 below). Trench 3 also contained archaeological features, in this instance two broadly parallel but intercutting ditches. Several other ditches were noted across the area of the quarry workings. The pottery found was second to fourth century in date, but some possible late Iron Age or conquest period sherds were also recovered as unstratified finds, along with a beehive quernstone (*ibid.*: 170). Sadly, the rest of this complex was quarried away without any archaeological excavation and recording taking place.

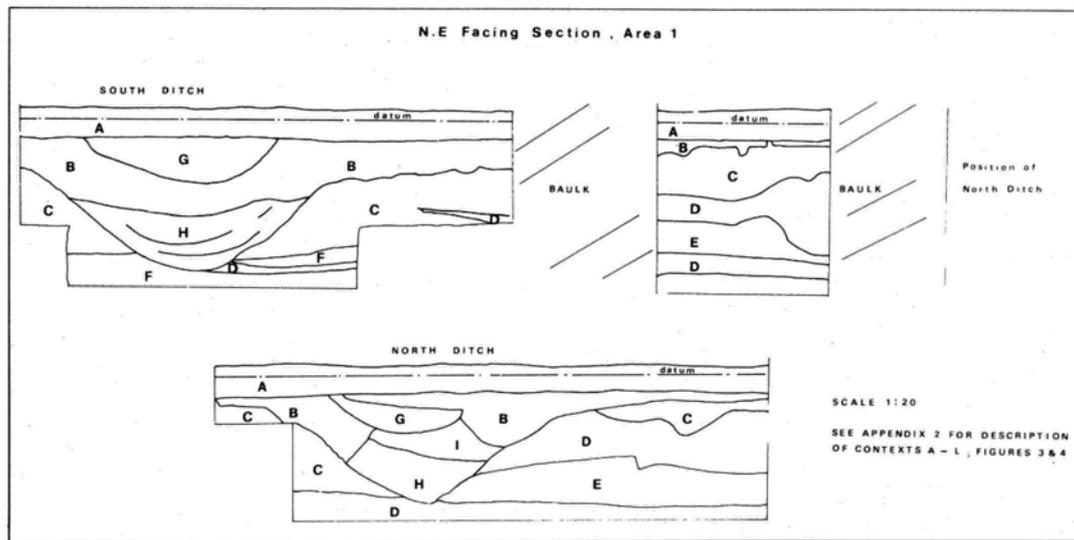


Figure G.477. Section across the north and south ditches of the excavated trackway from Area 1 at Belmoor Quarry, Retford, Notts. Note the irregular, rutted interface immediately to the north of the south ditch, between letters B-D. (Source: Cox and Hurcombe 1989: 170).

References: Cox and Hurcombe 1989; Riley 1980.

Bunny**SK 5795 2850**

Work in a brickyard at Bunny south of Nottingham in 1967 revealed a stone and clay-lined well 12.20m deep in the brick-clay quarry section, and archaeologists then visited the site. In addition to well-preserved plant remains, including moss and plants indicating pasture, meadow, heath and hedgerow habitats (Wilson 1968), insect remains included dung beetles. Several near-complete pottery vessels and many other sherds were found, ranging in date from the late first to early fourth centuries AD (Alvey 1968: 6-7). Intriguingly, part of a studded leather shoe was also recovered, in addition to two quern fragments. The animal bone included horse, pig, dog, cat and hare remains, in addition to sixty-six sheep or goat lower jaws and some skulls. Although many bones of older animals were butchered and split, there were many bones from young animals. Some of this deposition at least thus suggests placed deposits.

Examination of the area around the well revealed the remains of a possible rectilinear corn drier, oven or kiln, and further pottery and a quern fragment were retrieved in this area (Alvey 1967: 9). No further archaeological deposits were found, and it is thus likely that any settlement there was already quarried away.

References: Alvey 1967; Wilson 1968.

Carlton Ferry Lane/Ferry Lane Farm, Collingham**SK 8200 6240**

Figure G.478. *The agglomerated enclosure complex at Carlton Ferry Lane/Ferry Lane Farm, Collingham, looking north. Some buildings associated with Ferry Lane Farm are just visible to the lower right. (Source: Whimster 1989: 77, fig. 57).*

This very complex agglomerated settlement is situated on a low-lying gravel ‘island’, approximately 6.5-9m AOD above surrounding alluvial deposits just to the west of Collingham. These consist of a series of subrectangular and oval or subcircular enclosures, many clearly overlapping, and associated trackways and field boundaries. Of particular note are the triangular complex of enclosures at the eastern margin of the settlement, and a prominent group of three conjoined D-shaped enclosures (Whimster 1989: 77). In advance of a proposed extension to Besthorpe Quarry in fields opposite Ferry Lane Farm, Tempus Reparatum undertook a programme of fieldwalking, geophysical survey and evaluation in 1992. The fieldwalking identified earlier prehistoric flintwork from the western margins of the ‘island’, but also dense scatters of second to fourth century Romano-British pottery that correlated more closely with the cropmark enclosures (Bourn, Hunn and Symonds 2000: 80, 86).

A series of narrow linear or small square machine-dug trial trenches were excavated over key cropmark and geophysical features west of Ferry Lane Farm. Despite this most unsuitable methodology whose small sample size ‘prevented meaningful interpretation of the function of the site’ (Bourn, Hunn and Symonds 2000: 95), all the trenches revealed a complex series of intercutting ditches, pits and postholes from dense, multi-period occupation. Late pre-Roman Iron Age sherds were recovered, in addition to Romano-British pottery including Dales ware, Black Burnished Ware, Nene Valley Ware, samian and amphora. In addition, a hitherto unknown site was found approximately 4km to the north, just south of Mons Pool in an area of sand dunes. Geophysical survey and trial trenching revealed a series of enclosure ditches and gullies, which in addition to late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery also contained quern fragments, tile, human skull fragments, coins and metal objects including a brooch, cosmetic tweezers, a wedge or chisel and a pruning knife or hook (ibid.: 110). A suspected

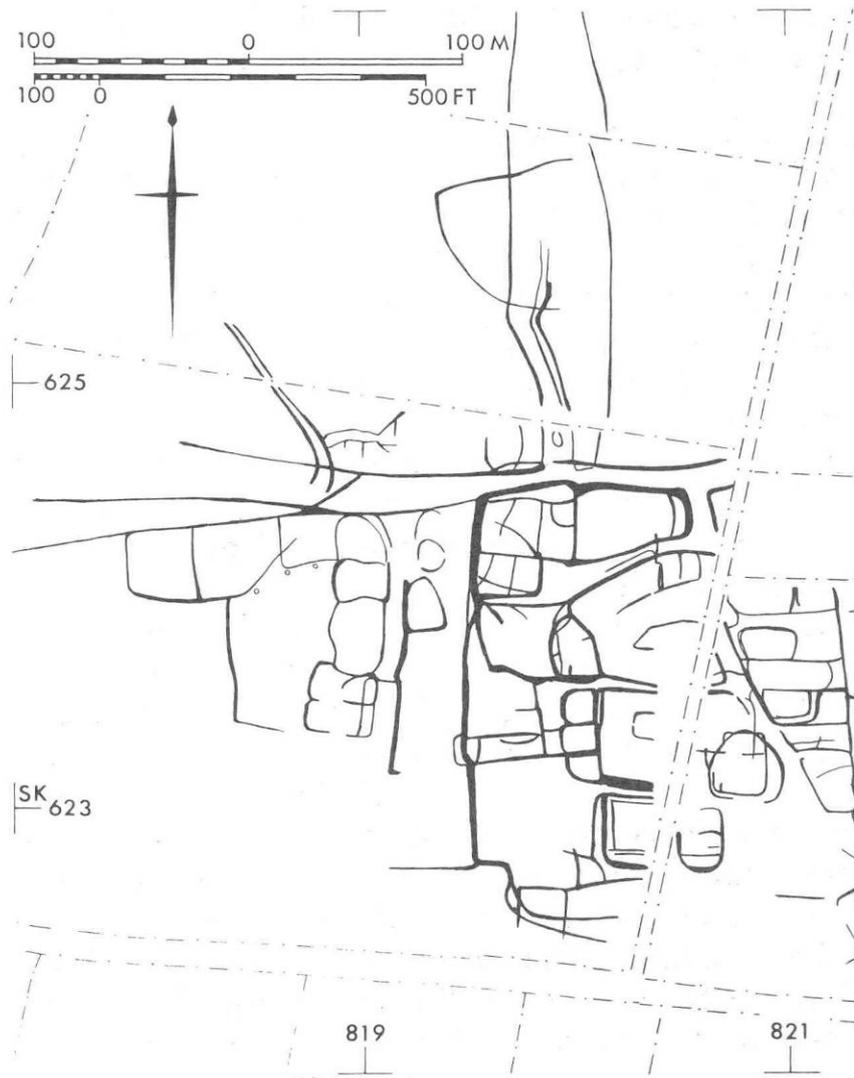


Figure G.479. *Transcription of the cropmarks at Carlton Ferry Lane/Ferry Lane Far, Collingham. (Source: Whimster 1989: 77, fig. 56).*

Roman site at Mons Pool was probably destroyed by earlier quarrying, and it may be that these remains were part of the same complex. Interestingly, there was evidence for the increased deposition of alluvial silts and then aeolian sand deposits in the late Roman period (Rackham 2000: 115), sequences found elsewhere along the Trent Valley at sites such as Gonalston and Rampton. The settlements at Ferry Lane Farm and Mons Pool were occupied from the late Iron Age through to the fourth century AD. The agglomerated enclosure and villa complex at Cromwell was only 1.6km to the east, on the opposite side of the River Trent, and this latter site would thus have been contemporary with the two former settlements. In 1999, further work at Besthorpe Quarry was undertaken by TPAU, and they recorded further floodplain deposits but also an 85m length of pit alignment, although only fire-cracked stones were recovered from them. However, along with previously recorded sections this pit alignment has been plotted for nearly 250m, running across one palaeochannel and along the northern bank of another (Garton, Priest and Ward 2000: 151).

There has been a more recent extensive excavation by the University of Manchester Archaeology Unit. Only a very brief interim report has been published (Walker 2001) noting enclosures and small annular ring ditches, and the last time I consulted the Nottinghamshire SMR no unpublished archive reports on this work were available. Hopefully, unlike many previous aggregate quarrying developments that have taken place in Nottinghamshire and the Trent Valley, these investigations will have been given adequate time and resources to examine the archaeology properly and to fully excavate all structural features, pits and postholes, and 20-25% of linear features. I hope that this excavation will provide crucial information about the chronology and nature of occupation at the site, but will also address issues of social complexity, the social and seasonal use of space, and acculturation.



Figure G.480. (top left). *The development area at Ferry Lane Farm, showing quarrying already underway on the southern and western parts of the site, but archaeological excavations visible near Ferry Lane Farm itself. (Source: © Google Earth).*

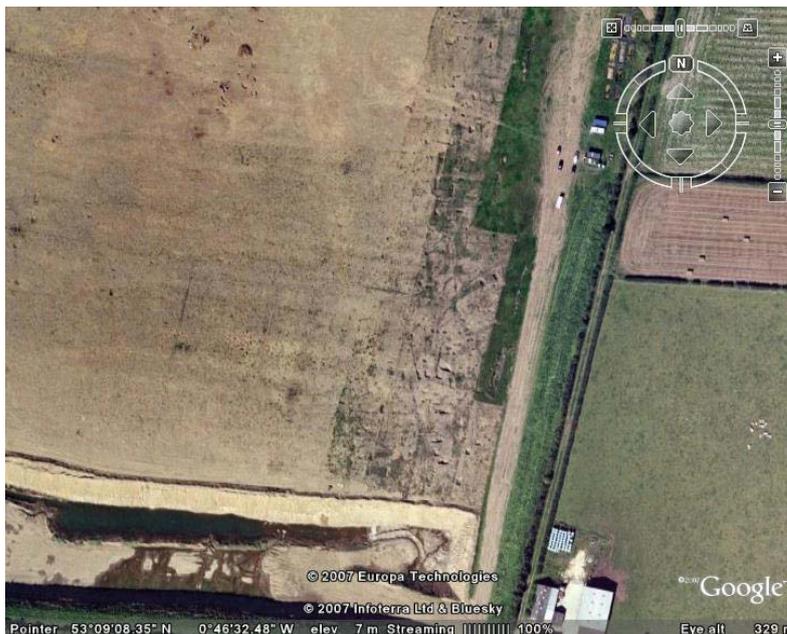


Fig. G.481. (bottom left). *Detail of the UMAU excavations underway near Ferry Lane Farm, showing section across the boundary ditches of some of the subrectangular enclosures. (Source: © Google Earth).*



*Recent metal detecting finds from the Collingham area. **Figure G.482.** (top left). Possible Iron Age bucket or vessel mount in the form of a bird. **Fig. G.483.** (top centre). Iron Age or Romano-British bracelet. **Fig. G.484.** (top right). Romano-British knife handle in the form of a crouching lion. **Fig. G.485.** (left). Romano-British decorated copper alloy toilet instrument. All these finds are indicative of higher status settlement. (Source: © PAS.*

Recent metal detecting finds recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme clearly indicate high status late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement in the area, and hopefully past and future developer-funded fieldwork could be combined with research-led geophysical survey and targeted excavation to investigate this complex landscape in more detail.

References: Bourn, Hunn and Symonds 2000; Garton, Priest and Ward 2000; Walker 2001; Whimster 1989.

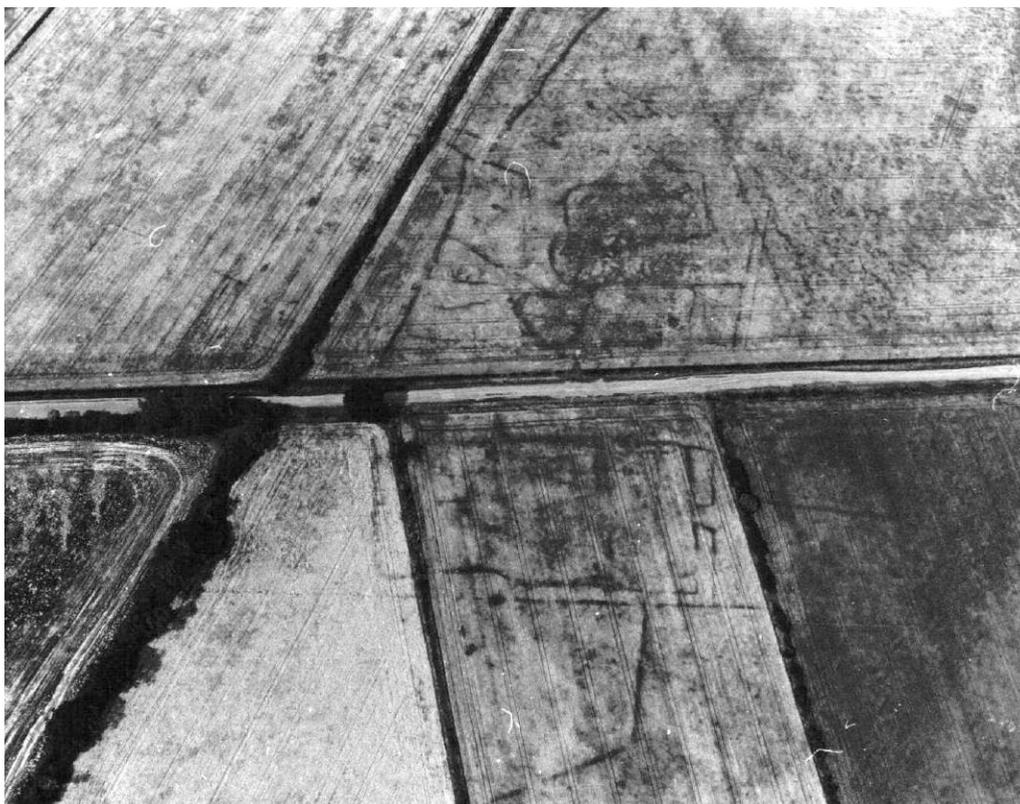
Chainbridge Lane, Lound**SK 7080 8580**

Figure G.486. *The enclosure complex at Chainbridge Lane, near Lound, Notts., looking north. South of Chainbridge Lane itself, the subrectangular enclosure has a prominent but restricted entrance, defined by double-ditched 'outworks' similar to those of the enclosure immediately north of Scabba Wood. Salvage excavation took place on the prominent D-shaped enclosure immediately north of the lane. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 1258, SK 708 858).*

This cropmark complex was located on very flat, low-lying ground at 5-10m AOD approximately 1km west of the River Idle. Quarrying destroyed the features south of Chainbridge Lane without any archaeological investigation (Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988: 17), and these lost features included a large subrectangular enclosure with a pronounced east-facing entrance defined by double ditches or 'outworks'. Internal features included possible roundhouses, and another possible roundhouse was visible just to the east of the main entrance. North of Chainbridge Lane was a series of overlapping enclosures and boundaries, including a prominent D-shaped enclosure. In 1985 when these features were about to be quarried away, and in the absence of any excavation funding, a last-ditch salvage excavation was undertaken by some staff of TPAT, SYAU and local volunteers. The D-shaped enclosure contained large quantities of Romano-British pottery, and on its western side the ditch produced the waterlogged remains of a complete pig, whilst on the eastern side another complete pig skeleton was noted (Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988: 17) (see Appendix F and Figs. F.07-F.08). Internal features including pits and gullies were cleaned up and hurriedly excavated, but the detailed plans of these features have never been published (although they are present in the archive held in the Bassetlaw Museum in Retford, and have been examined by the author). Some postholes may have formed structural features, although there was no time to explore these fully.

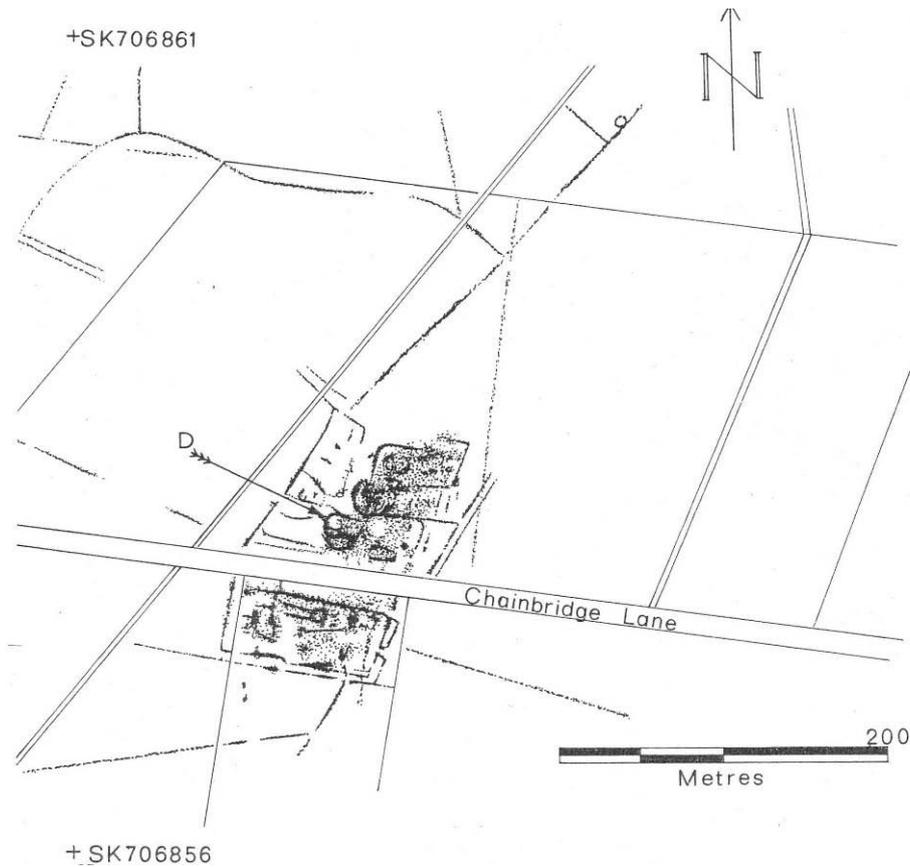


Figure G.487. The partially-excavated enclosure at Chainbridge Lane. (Source: Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988: 16, fig. 1).



Figure G.488. (left). The scale of the destructive aggregate quarrying at Chainbridge Lane. (Source: © J. Eccles). **Figure G.489. (right).** The salvage nature of the excavations, with volunteers frantically recording features ahead of their removal by large earth-moving plant. (Source: © J. Eccles).

The pottery included vessels of late first to mid-third century date, including mortaria and amphora sherds. This implies a more ‘Romanised’ pattern of consumption. Metalwork finds included a silver Iron Age Corieltavian coin with a horse and a boar on its obverse and reverse sides respectively (Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988: 19), a harness ring, a lead loomweight and three bronze brooches, including one of ‘sitting hen’ design (Fig. 11.40). These finds suggest that a settlement of higher social status existed at this location from the late Iron Age through into the third century AD. The pronounced eastern entrance with its ‘outworks’ may also reflect discourses of display and status, and is similar to the enclosure north of Scabba Wood in South Yorkshire.

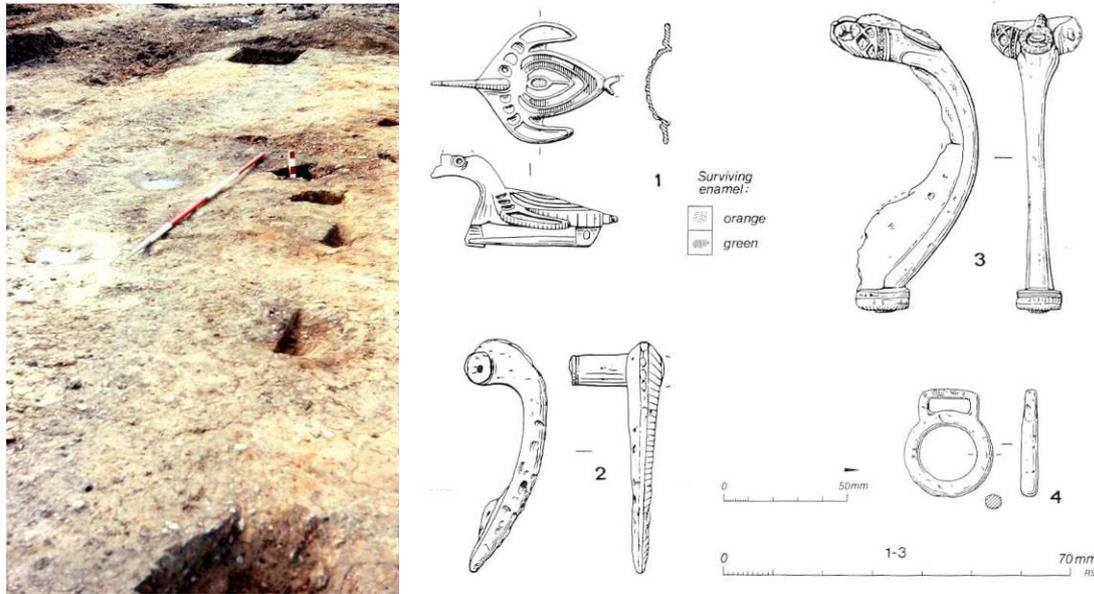


Figure G.490. (left). Some of the internal features within the D-shaped enclosure under excavation. (Source: © J. Eccles). **Fig. G.491. (right).** The three brooches recovered from Chainbridge Lane, including the 'sitting hen' type of second century AD date; in addition to a late iron Age or Romano-British bronze harness ring. (Source: Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988: 20, fig. 2).

There was a more recent phase of work at Chainbridge Lane in 1999 centred at SK7050 8600, approximately 200m to the north-west of the complex partially investigated in 1985. In particular, a double-ditched trackway approaching the enclosure complex and some additional field boundaries were known in this area. Many more features were recorded than visible on cropmarks, and the trackway ditches had been recut and extended as by shallow gullies flanked by narrow gullies possibly representing fencelines (Garton et al. 2000: 154). Some Romano-British pottery was recovered, including samian and first century AD shell-tempered ware. The work also demonstrated that the waterlogged deposits in the Idle Valley recorded in the 1980s had desiccated thoroughly. Unfortunately, yet again the archaeological work was conducted as a watching brief and a salvage excavation, rather than more detailed and better resourced investigations.

References: Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988; Garton et al. 2000.

Dunston's Clump**SK 6625 8020**

This enclosure complex was identified by Riley (1980: 127, 129, map 26, plate 9, fig. 6), who noted that there were two main subrectangular enclosures, both with additional subenclosures apparently appended to them, and both approached from the east by funnel-ended trackways (see Chapter 6, Fig. 6.08). Another trackway led off to the west, and there was a smaller subrectangular enclosure to the south-west, and a very small enclosure to the north. The whole enclosure complex was situated within a block of rectangular, co-axial 'brickwork' fields. These enclosures were situated on a very gentle east-facing slope on a ridge in an area of gently undulating landscape 1.5km east of the River Ryton. In order to better understand the date and purpose of the 'brickwork' field systems and associated settlement, the Trent Valley Archaeological Research Committee (who became TPAT) obtained funds from the Department of the Environment (later RCHME, now English Heritage) to conduct research-led excavations at this cropmark complex in 1981.

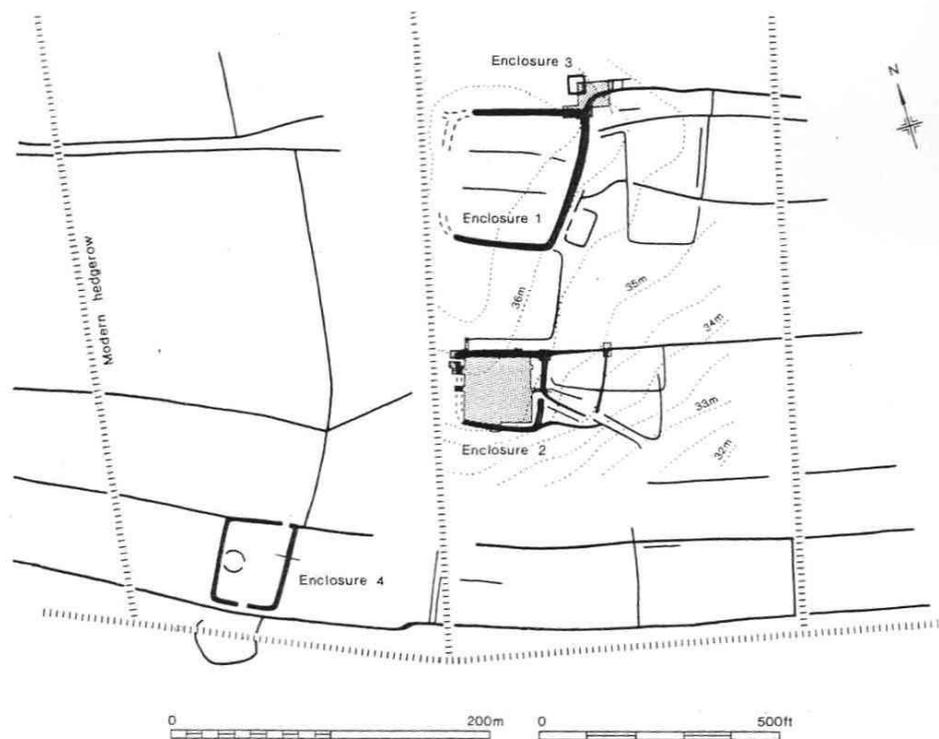


Figure G.492. Plot of the cropmarks and soil marks at Dunston's Clump, showing Enclosure 1 (not excavated), Enclosure 2 (the main focus of the excavations), Enclosure 3 (partly investigated), and Enclosure 4 (not excavated). Note the elaborate entrance into Enclosure 2 and the external pens. (Source: Garton 1987: 20, fig. 2).

The excavation work focused on the interior of Enclosure 2, although the corner of Enclosure 1 and part of the small Enclosure 3 were investigated. The first phase of occupation identified at Enclosure 2 consisted of the enclosure ditch itself, and a series of subrectangular pits, most of these concentrated at the northern side of the enclosure interior. However, the position of the pits suggests that either there was no internal bank in this phase, or (and less likely) that it had already been denuded by the time the pits were dug (Garton 1987: 23). Another possibility is that the pits pre-dated the main ditched phase of

the enclosure, but given their spatial configuration, there may have been an earlier palisaded phase of enclosure that was subsequently recut as a ditch. The enclosure ditch was up to 4m wide and 1.4m deep, with an east-facing entrance *c.* 4m wide. A lack of occupation debris suggests that there was no domestic inhabitation, and most of the pits did not contain finds. A few sherds of coarse, hand-made ceramics of late Iron Age or early first century AD date were recovered from this phase (Leary 1987: 43-44). The next major development seems to have been the construction of a subrectangular subenclosure defined by a fence or palisade with a narrow, east-facing entrance with a timber gate structure. Some of the postholes associated with this palisade gateway contained possible placed deposits of quern fragments and pottery, the latter including La Tène butt-beaker sherds. Within the subenclosure were the remains of at least two phases of rectangular timber building defined by postholes, beamslots and partly cobbled floor surfaces (see Appendix E Fig. E.23); one 20m long and 7m wide. Pits and other features associated with this phase contained burnt stone, charcoal, some animal bone and pottery of late Iron Age, conquest period and late first century to early second century AD date, including greywares, Black Burnished ware (*ibid.*: 48). Interesting, possibly placed deposits include a copper alloy first century AD brooch and baked clay fragments in pit 240 in the south-east corner of the main enclosure, and a collection of charred wood, barley seeds and horse, cattle and sheep bones in pit 401 outside the south-eastern corner of the subenclosure, opposite the entrance (Garton 1987: 30). These features and artefacts clearly reflected sustained domestic inhabitation of Enclosure 2.

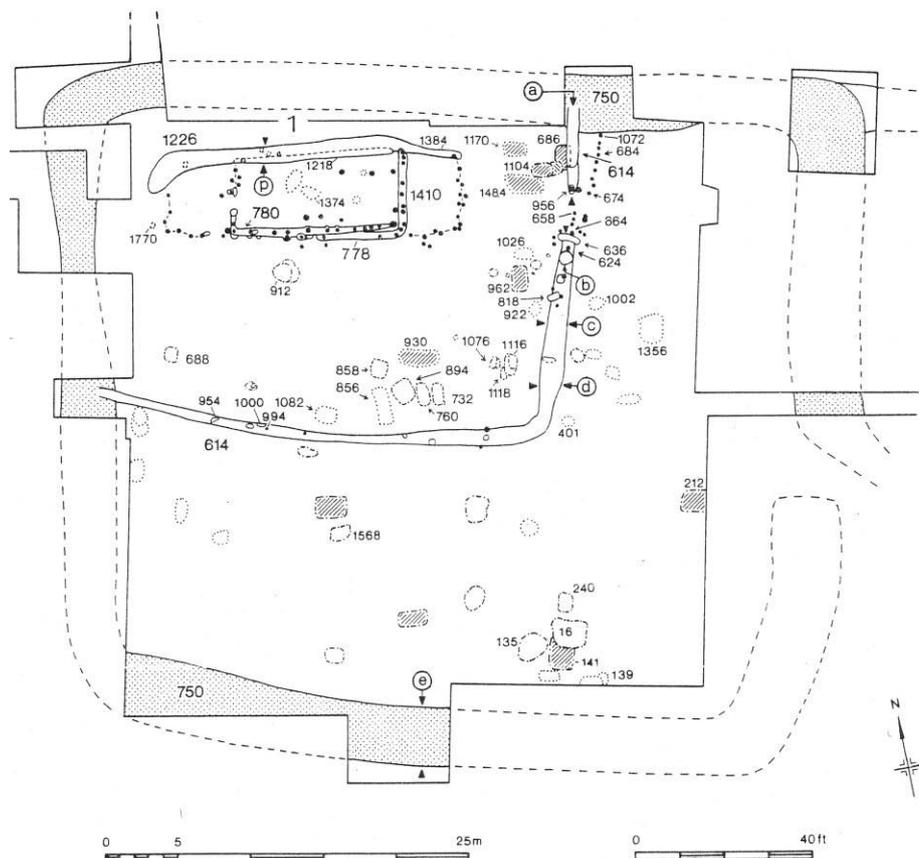


Figure G.493. Plan of Phase II, Enclosure 2 at Dunston's Clump, showing the subenclosure and rectangular timber building within it. (Source: Garton 1987: 25, fig. 6).

In Phase IIIa occupation at Dunston's Clump, there may have been a palisade slot running along the inside of Enclosure 2. Garton thought this was a free-standing structure and did not think the slot ran behind or revetted a bank because of the perceived narrowness of the gap between it and the enclosure ditch (Garton 1987: 32), but as this gap was actually 4-6m wide, this would seem adequate for an upstanding earthwork. The enclosure seems to have been divided up by slots and postholes into a series of subenclosures and pens (Structures 7-9), whilst a midden accumulated in the corner of the remains of the previous subrectangular timber building. In Phase IIIb, a series of four parallel east-west gullies or fence slots were constructed, along with a series of post-built structures in the south of the enclosure. At least one of these, Structure 5, was a subrectangular building 10m long and 4m wide, with opposed doorways, cobbled floors and wattle and daub walls. Smaller structures (4 and 6) were either ancillary structures or pens, and one or two four-post structures were also identified. Clay-lined pits might have been for storage. Pit 1066 near the centre of the enclosure may belong to this phase, and this contained the burnt remains of a wooden box with iron fittings, burnt grain, a basket and an unidentified iron object that may have been some form of ritual object (see Chapter 10, Appendix F). Another pit that might belong to this phase contained an inverted quern. The palisade slot contained interesting dumps of pottery and quern fragments, whilst the midden deposit contained large quantities of pottery and an iron punch. The pottery was of later second to fourth century date, and contained burnt samian, mortaria, Dales ware and greywares.

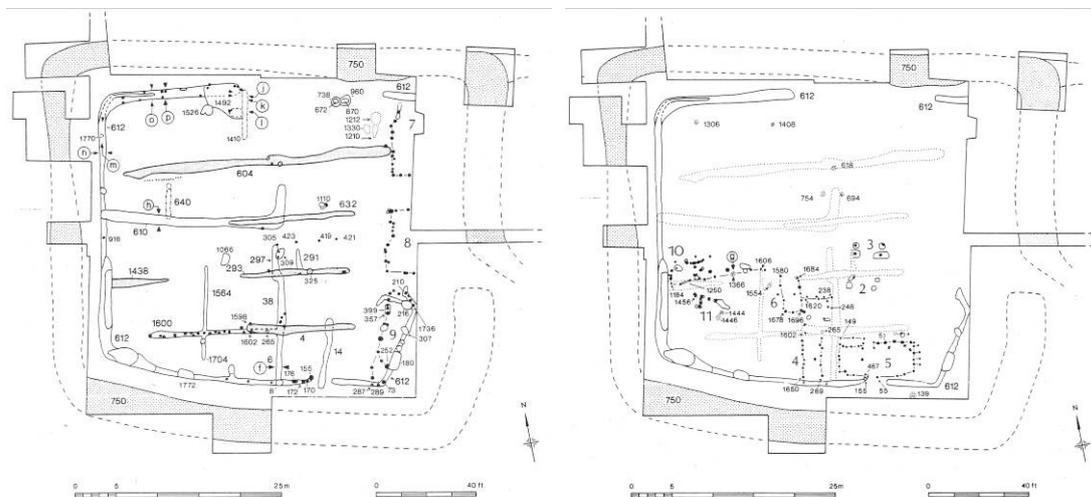
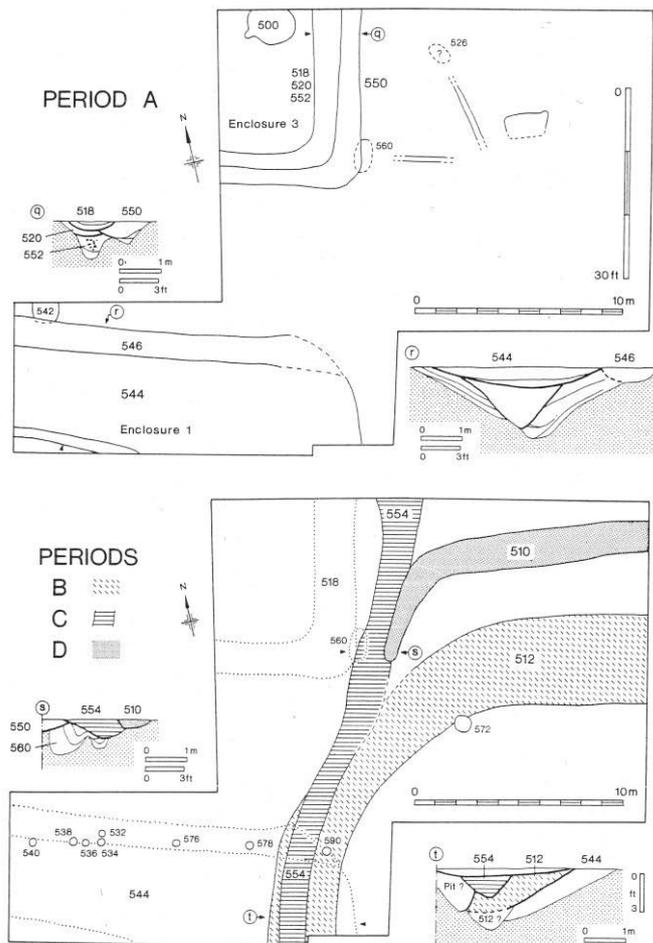


Figure G.494. Phase IIIa (left) and Phase IIIb (right) features excavated at Dunston's Clump. (Source: Garton 1987: 31, 35, figs. 10-11).

Excavation of part of Enclosure 1 confirmed that it was earlier than the field system ditches, but also that there were multiple phases of re-cutting. The enclosure ditch was 6m wide and 1.8m deep, and contained pottery of second to fourth century AD date (Garton 1987: 41). The smaller subsquare Enclosure 3, and may have originally been a palisaded enclosure that was re-cut several times with a ditch, and sherds of hand-made pottery from its ditch, pit 500 within it and a decorated Iron Age sherd recovered from topsoil above it all suggest a later Iron Age origin. However, the function of this unusual small enclosure is not clear, and in a later phase it was linked to Enclosure 1.



This evidence all suggests that the enclosures and fields at Dunston's Clump developed over quite a protracted period of time at least several centuries in length, from the late Iron Age through into the third or even fourth century AD. The complex stratigraphic sequences within the enclosure and the evidence for ditch re-cutting indicate that the functions of the enclosures may have also altered over time, and that access and tenure could have changed too.

Figure G.495. (left). *Phases of Enclosures 1 and 3.* (Source: Garton 1987: 42, fig. 15).

With hindsight, it is a pity that only one of the enclosures could be targeted for open-area excavation. It would have been extremely valuable to get insights into the dates, development and possible purpose of Enclosure 1, 4 and the various external subenclosures or pens. There are hints from the cropmarks that these developed over time rather than being laid out in one phase. Nevertheless, this excavation was a landmark project for its time, and was well-recorded, allowing subsequent re-examination of the results. It is nevertheless a pity that to date it remains one of the few well-conducted investigations of cropmark enclosures from the study period in Nottinghamshire, and that too many other sites could only be recorded through watching briefs and salvage excavations. It would be productive to return to Dunston's Clump and carry out detailed geophysical survey and further excavation over Enclosures 1, 3 and 4.

References: Garton 1987; Riley 1980.

East Carr, Mattersey

SK 7030 8835

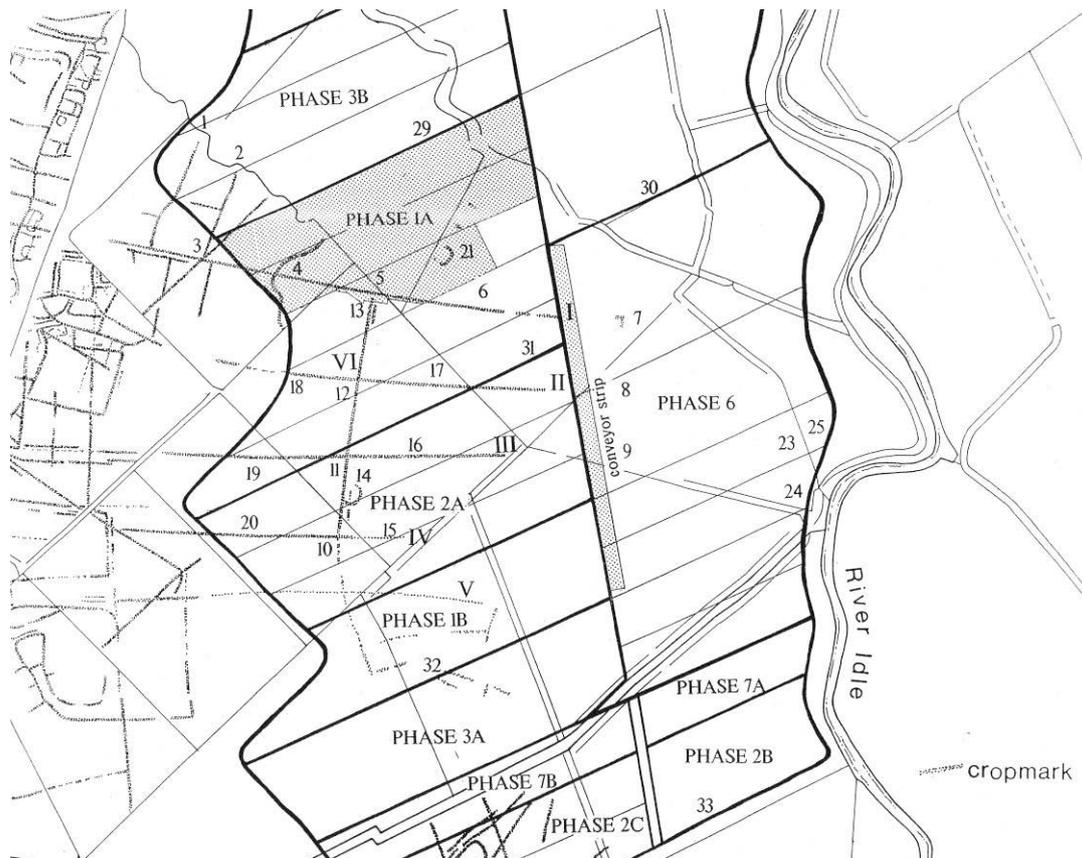


Figure G.496. Location plan of East Carr, Mattersey, showing some of the different phases of work in relation to plotted cropmarks. (Source: Morris and Garton 1997).

The proposed Blaco Quarry Extension to the Lound aggregates quarry near Mattersey resulted in a programme of archaeological work undertaken by TPAT. Cropmarks were first recognised in the locale by Riley (1980: 116-117, map 20), consisting of a series of subrectangular and irregular enclosure complexes with a markedly regular co-axial field system, on extremely flat, low-lying ground on the floodplain of the River Idle, east of Blaco Hill. This consisted of a series of evaluations, small-scale excavations and watching briefs that took place in a series of phases (e.g. Morris and Garton 1997). This work revealed a series of co-axial field ditches that seemed to indicate the enclosure of the Idle floodplain during the Romano-British period (Morris and Garton 1998b), which may either represent an expansion of agriculture into a once marginal area, or more likely, a major shift in tenure and rights of access. This area would have been seasonally-flooded wet grassland, meadow and alder carr, and might have seen the summer and autumn grazing of livestock on undivided land accessed by many different families and/or communities. During the Romano-British period, however, access might have become more restricted, and certain individuals or communities may have claimed exclusive rights over it or ownership of it. Most unusually, at one ditch junction (shown at VI/12 in Fig. G.496. above), a series of spade slots were identified cut into the bottom of the ditches, preserved in the alluvial clay. These not only revealed traces of the tool marks themselves, but also showed the direction in which the ditches had probably been dug or re-cut (Morris and Garton 1998a) (Fig. 4.09, G.497).

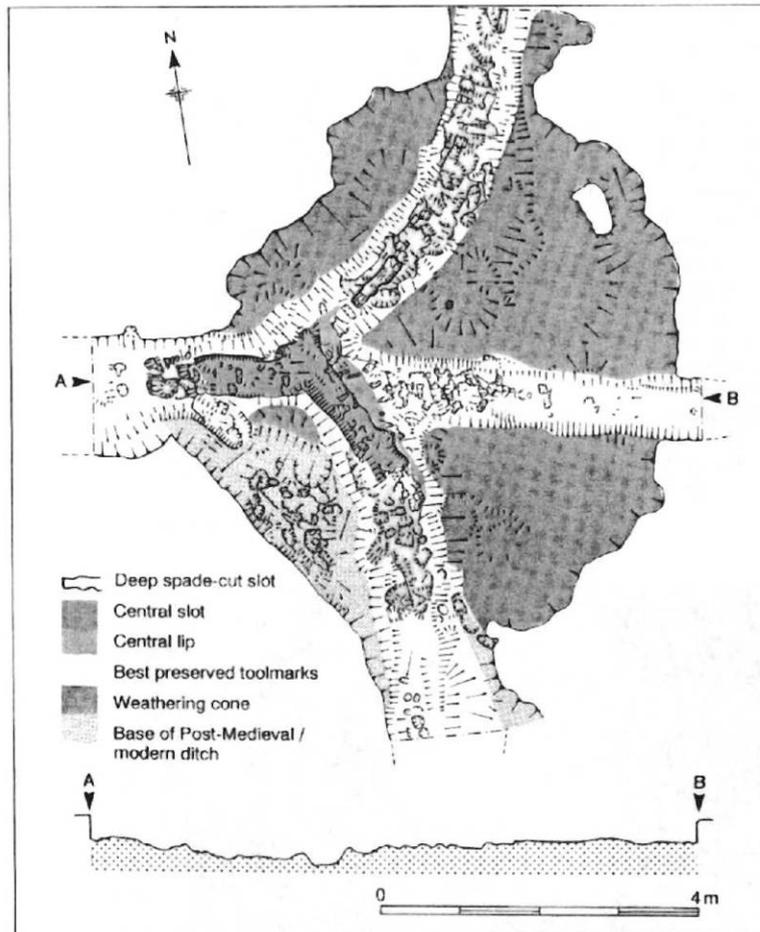


Figure G.497. Plan and profile of the tool marks within the base of the ditch intersection at East Carr, Mattersey. (Source: Morris and Garton 1998a: 57, fig. 6a).



Fig. G.498. East Carr, Mattersey, looking east across enclosures, a double-ditched trackway and boundary ditches. (Source: D. Riley, SK 7088-9, 02/11/1985, from Garton and Leary 2008, fig. 5.6).

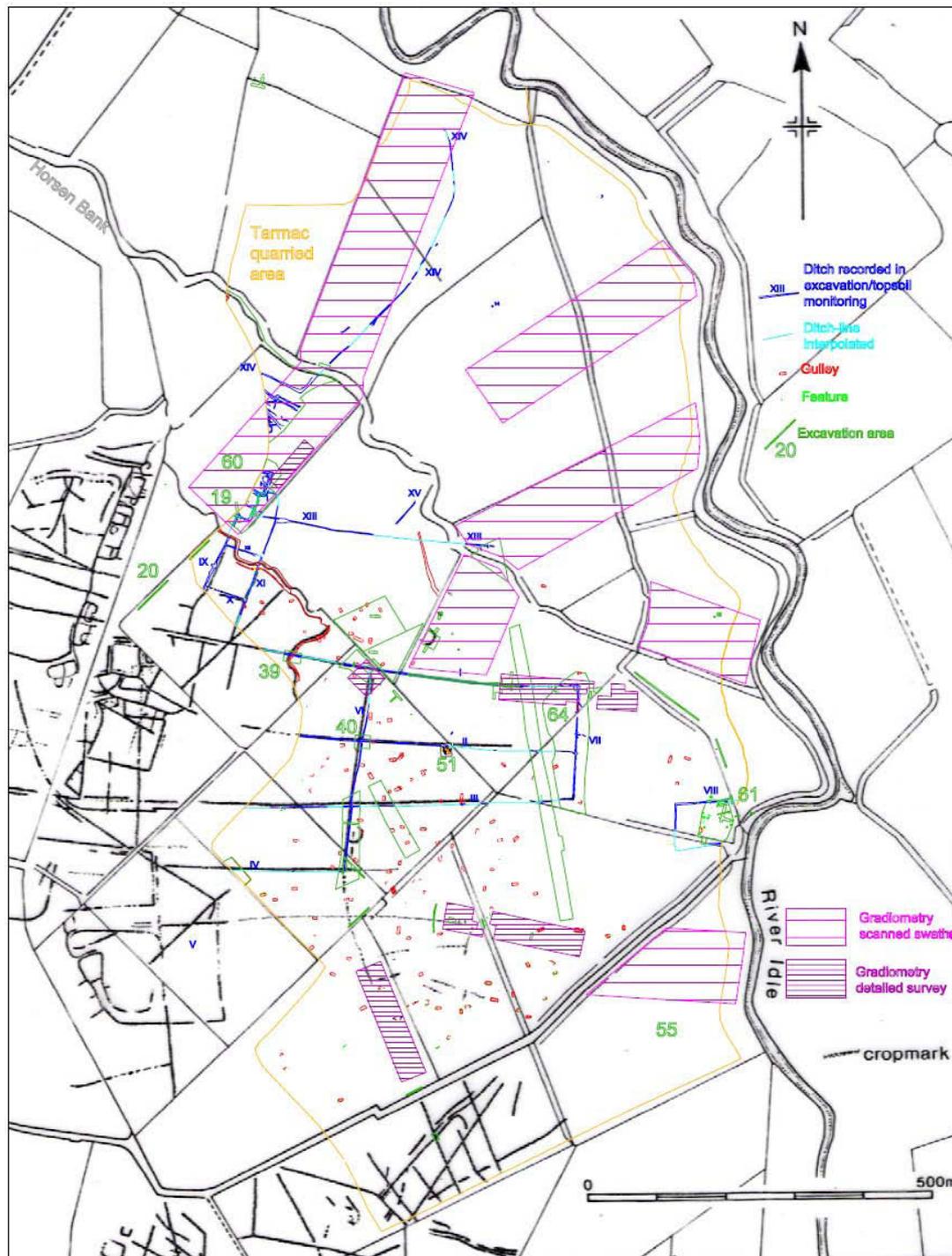


Fig. G.499. East Carr, showing cropmarks (in black), and excavation or strip and record areas (blue and green). Also note the large number of subrectangular gullies distributed across the floodplain. (Source: Garton and Leary 2008, fig. 5.5).

Over seventy subrectangular structures defined by gullies and in some cases postholes too were also identified (see Chapter 6, Figs. 6.18-6.19; and Fig. G.499 above), dispersed across the floodplain in no clear pattern, though some form small groups (Garton and Leary 2008; Morris and Garton 1998b). These may have been drainage gullies around hay ricks or stands for fodder or withies, but some larger examples could have been gullies around relatively insubstantial temporary, turf-built shieling-like structures (Morris and Garton 1997).

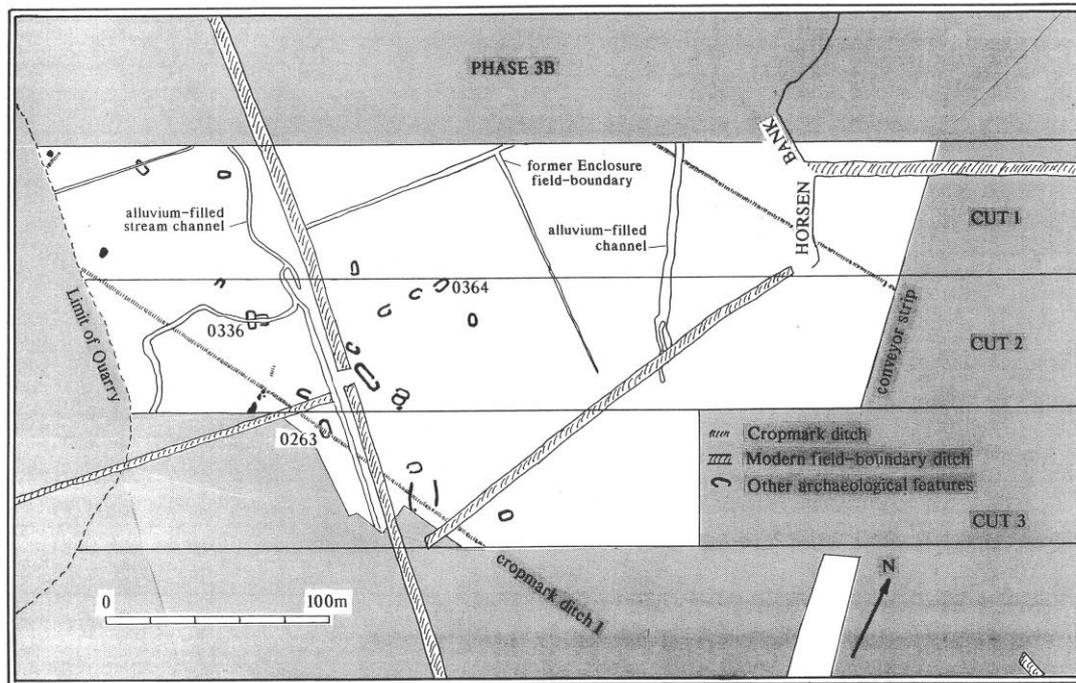


Figure G.500. More detailed plan of some of the subrectangular structures recorded at East Carr, Mattersey, including one example (0263) truncated by a Romano-British ditch. (Source: Morris and Garton 1997, fig. 3).

Some of the subrectangular gullies contained Romano-British pottery sherds, and at least three had been cut by later co-axial field ditches. Perhaps late Iron Age temporary or seasonal, communal use of the floodplain was gradually replaced by enclosed areas claimed by particular clans, families or individuals. Some of the major Romano-British ditches are regular in form and do suggest planned land drainage and reclamation.



Figure G.501. Looking north-east out across the flat, low-lying landscape of East Carr, Mattersey, from Blaco Hill (Source: author).

Only interim reports on these investigations have been published, and the only full distribution plan of these structures currently available is in an unpublished report, but hopefully full publication in the future will bring greater attention to this interesting site.

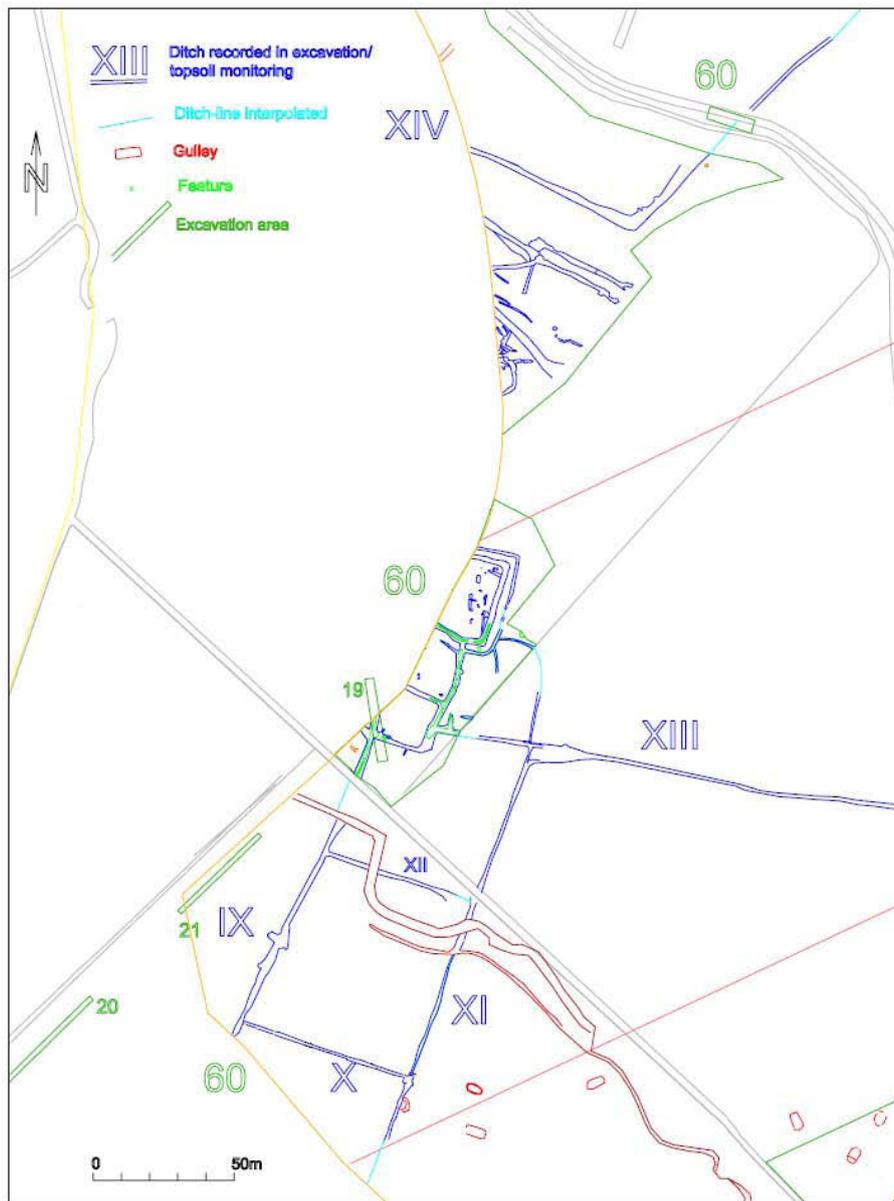


Fig. G.502. Details of one of the enclosure complexes (Area 60, B28A) investigated in more detail. (Source: Garton and Leary 2007).

References: Morris and Garton 1997, 1998a, 1998b; Riley 1980.

Flawborough**SK 7800 4300**

Flawborough lies in the Vale of Belvoir, along a gentle north-east to south-west aligned ridge falling away onto the floodplain of the River Smite 300m to the west. A metal detectorist discovered a large lead object in a field north-west of Flawborough in 1998, and fortunately, contacted archaeologists. TPAU then conducted a limited archaeological excavation to establish the context of the find. The object proved to be a fourth century AD Christian lead tank or font, with *chi-ro* symbols and inscriptions preserved (see Appendix F, Fig. F.25). This tank had been pierced several times with a spear or arrowhead, then crumpled up and placed into a pit cut into the corner of a recut enclosure ditch (Fig. F.26). This enclosure ditch contained Iron Age pottery in its earlier phases, but Romano-British sherds in other ditch recuts (Elliott and Malone 2005: 28). Although only a small corner of the enclosure was excavated, the lead tank find and the quantity of pottery suggest that it was an important settlement of some status. Stone, pottery and metalwork scatters in the vicinity reinforce this possibility, and the settlement at Staunton (Todd 1975, see below) was just 1.8km to the north-east. Clearly, extensive fieldwalking, geophysical survey and excavation are required at this locale to continue research.



Figure G.503. Flawborough, showing the cropmarks and grass marks of earlier fields and enclosures in the area surrounding the find of the lead tank, near the centre of the image. (Source: © Google Earth).

References: Elliott and Malone 2005.

Flint Hill, Elkesley**SK 6750 7610**

Figure G.504. *Enclosures, fields and trackways at Flint Hill, Elkesley, looking east. The double-ditched enclosure with its pronounced inner ditch and east-facing entrance can be seen to the right of centre of the image. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP1152 , SK 675761).*

In 1976, a trench was excavated across the western double ditches of a pronounced enclosure at Flint Hill, Elkesley, part of a complex of enclosures, pens and ‘brickwork’ field boundaries (Riley 1980: 132-133, map 27, plate 11). The outer ditch had evidence for a recut, but only one worn Romano-British pottery sherd was recovered from an upper fill. The inner ditch contained fire-cracked pebbles, significant deposits of third century AD Romano-British pottery and part of a flat rotary quern (Samuels and May 1980: 74). This suggested that the enclosure was the focus for ‘domestic’ settlement. None of the interior of the enclosure was sampled. The cropmarks indicate pronounced terminals by the enclosure entrance, and traces of a possible roundhouse and/or a rectangular building within the enclosure. This enclosure, and other enclosures and boundaries within the complex, would benefit from detailed geophysical survey and further research-led open-area excavation.

References: Samuels and May 1980.

Gamston

SK 6020 3690

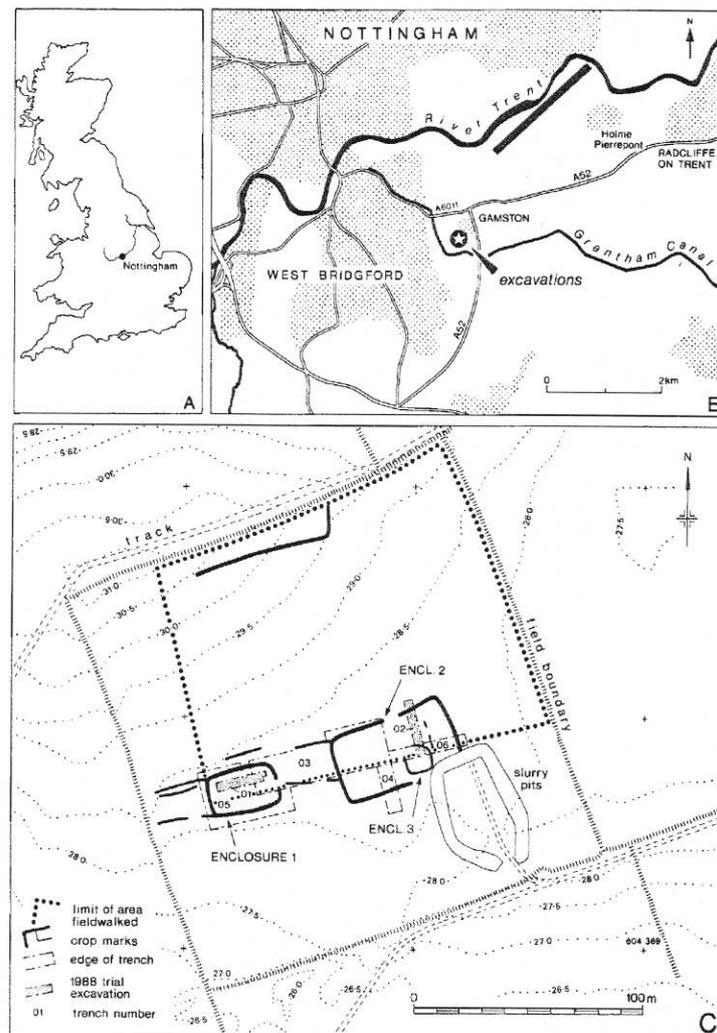


Figure G.505. Location plan of the cropmarks at Gamston, also showing transcription of the two enclosures and other boundaries. (Source: Knight 1992: 17, fig. 1).

The cropmarks at Gamston lie immediately west of Gamston village, on the southern edge of another ‘island’ of gravel forming a low ridge at approximately 28–28.5m AOD above the low-lying peaty alluvium of River Trent palaeochannels. Although the crest of the ridge lies just to the north-west of the site, overall the land falls away to the east, north and west onto the Trent floodplain. The site was first identified from aerial photographs in 1977, when two subrectangular enclosures and associated boundary ditches were identified. In advance of the construction of a housing estate, TPAT conducted an evaluation, fieldwalking and then an excavation of the site during 1988–1989 (Knight 1992: 17–18). It was initially hoped to fully excavate both of the enclosures, in the event adequate resources were yet again not made available for excavation, so although one part of the site was fully exposed and investigated in plan (Enclosure 1), only approximately 25% of Enclosure 2 and a very small part of Enclosure 3 could be examined. This clearly severely limited understanding of the development and nature of occupation at the site, and one only hopes that these areas were at the very least preserved somehow within the development area.

There were traces of earlier prehistoric activity on the site, including a colluviums layer cut by Iron Age features that may represent early cultivation. The first main phase of occupation though seemed to consist of a possible structure defined by a partial arc of pits, postholes and curvilinear gullies containing late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery (Knight 1992: 25), partially truncated by later ditches. This does not seem to have been a roundhouse, however, and indeed might not even have been a roofed structure. Other scattered features possibly belonging to this phase include several pits and gullies, which may reflect ‘open’ settlement similar to evidence found at Gonalston and Rampton. One of the gullies contained possible placed deposits of pottery.

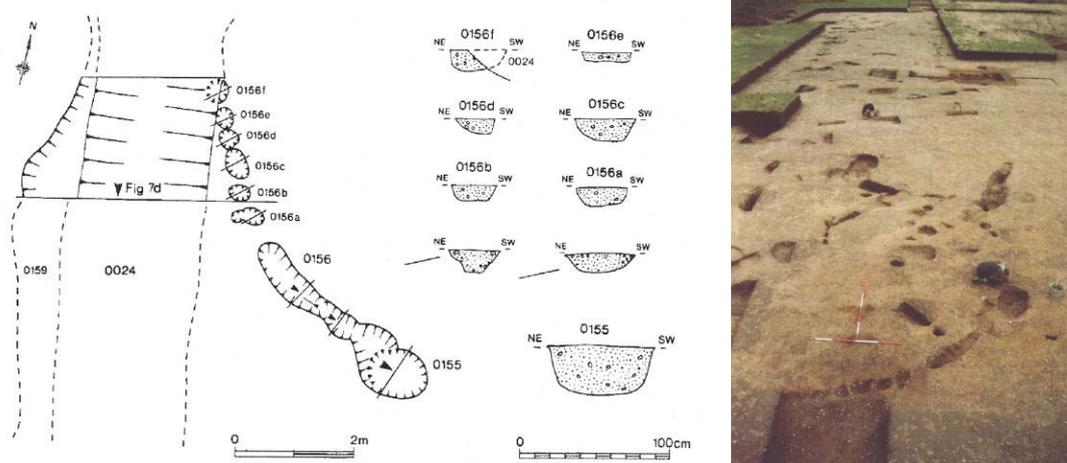


Figure G.506. (left). *The late Bronze Age or early Iron Age structure. (Source: Knight 1992: 25).* **Fig. G.507. (right).** *Photograph of this structure under excavation. (Source: Knight and Howard 2004b: 87, fig. 5.4).*

The second major phase of occupation may date to the later Iron Age, when Enclosure 1 was constructed. This was subrectangular in plan and 27m long and 16m wide, with a ditch up to 2.5m wide and 1m deep with evidence for periodic recutting (Knight 1992: 28). It had an east-facing entrance roughly 5m wide with slightly inverted entrance terminals, and evidence for several phases of timber gateway structure(s) defined by slots. In addition to substantial quantities of burnt and heat-shattered stones, Iron Age pottery, including Scored Ware, roulette ware and wheel-turned sherds, the latter from upper fills; the ditch also contained animal bone, several saddle querns, rubbing stones and whetstones, a triangular clay loomweight and a La Tène glass bead of second to first century BC date. Many of these finds may have been placed deposits or at least deliberately dumped. The pottery suggested that the enclosure was laid out during the later Iron Age, and was silting up during the late first century BC or early first century AD.

Many of the gullies, pits and postholes within the area of Enclosure 1 probably belonged to this phase, including a concentration of features in the north-west part of the enclosure. However, some of these either cut or were themselves cut by the enclosure ditch, or were too close to the ditch to have been open if there was an internal bank. This suggests a more complex situation, and there is little evidence for internal structures or sustained ‘domestic’ occupation (Knight 1992: 31). Occupation may thus have been concentrated outside the enclosure, or in an adjacent enclosure. In the third major phase identified

on site, several stages of land allotment and land division seem to have taken place with the laying out of a series of narrow gullies, cutting Enclosure 2's ditch fills and dividing up the area into areas approximately 30m long and 10m wide, with openings for gateways and part of at least one double-ditched trackway 3m wide. These gullies contained small quantities of abraded Iron Age pottery including wheel made vessels, indicating these features were laid out during the early first century AD and may have continued in use until the conquest period.

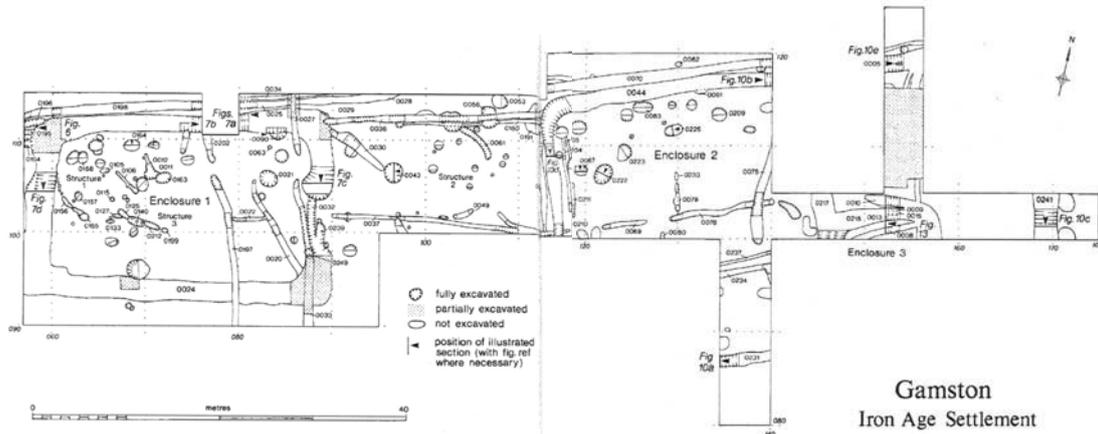
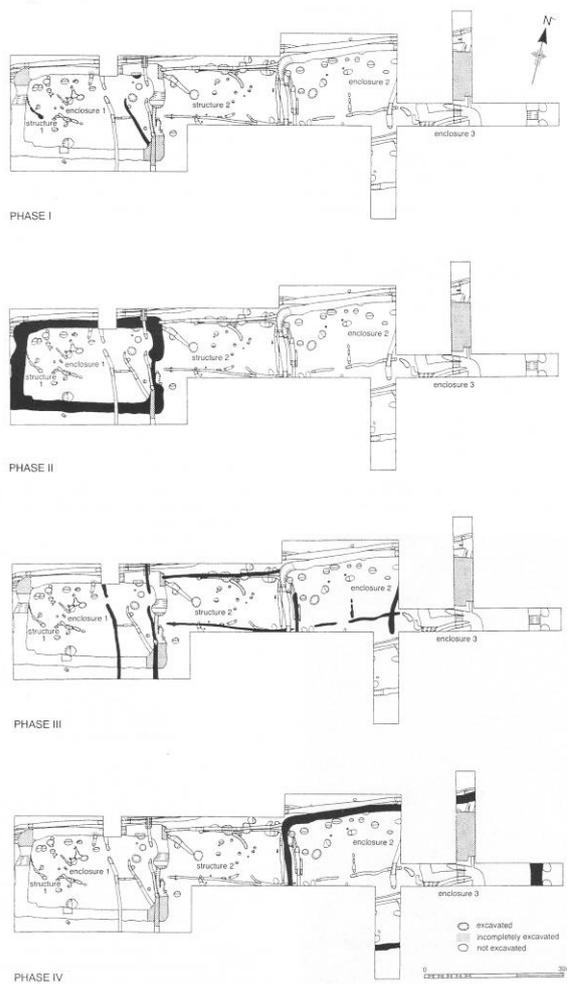


Figure G.508. Overall plan of the excavations at Gamston, showing all features investigated. (Source: Knight 1992: fig. 3).



The final major stratigraphic phase identified on the site was represented by the construction of Enclosure 2. This was probably approximately 51m long and 28m wide, subrectangular in plan, with ditches up to 1.5m wide and 0.5m deep. The eastern side followed the line of the third phase ditches, but no entrance was identified. Few pottery sherds and other artefacts were found in the ditch fills, but these suggested a mid-first century AD origin (Knight 1992: 33). A copper alloy ring was found in the north-west corner. A few internal pits and gullies were identified, some containing Iron Age pottery including Scored Ware, but one was cut by the enclosure ditch and others would have been underneath any internal bank, so may not have been contemporary.

Figure G.509. (left). Phase plan of the site at Gamston. (Source: Knight 2007: 194).

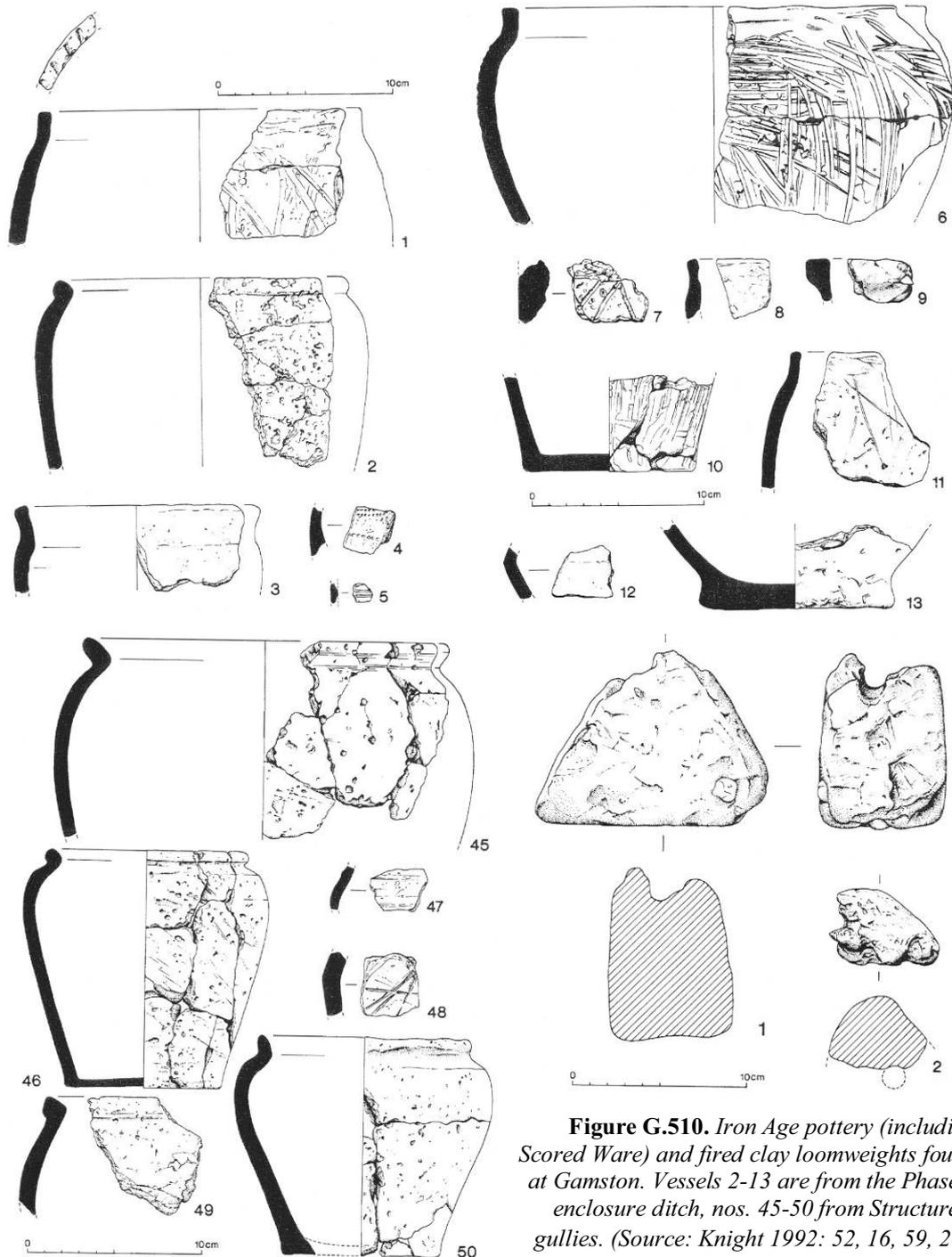


Figure G.510. Iron Age pottery (including Scored Ware) and fired clay loomweights found at Gamston. Vessels 2-13 are from the Phase 2 enclosure ditch, nos. 45-50 from Structure 3 gullies. (Source: Knight 1992: 52, 16, 59, 26).

Between enclosures 1 and 2, the remains of a possible roundhouse (Structure 2) roughly 9m in diameter were identified, represented by short lengths of curvilinear gullies. Substantial quantities of burnt stone, animal bone, charcoal and charred plant remains, skerry slabs and pottery were dumped in these features, particularly the terminals (Knight 1992: 35). The pottery included large, unabraded sherds of later Iron Age pottery including Scored Ware, representing substantial portions of vessels, and some of these were probably placed deposits. Within Enclosure 1, another series of short gullies containing mid to late first century AD wheel-thrown pottery sherds, burnt stone and animal bone was recorded, and these may represent part of another structure (Structure 3), perhaps rectangular in plan. Again, although

some of this material may have been dumped ‘rubbish’, the substantial portions of several vessels might have been placed deposits. In addition, part of Enclosure 3 was exposed. Aerial photographs suggested that this was approximately square in plan and 10m across, with a possible north-west entrance, but only a small part was exposed, and its relationship to Enclosure 2 could not be ascertained. It may have been a small compound or pen within this enclosure, or belonged to a different phase (ibid.: 38). A later Iron Age or conquest period date for this enclosure seemed likely, but it is a shame that fuller excavation of this cropmark complex was not possible.

Other notable artefact finds from Gamston included four rotary querns, some probably placed deposits and one of which bearing traces of iron indicating its possible re-use as an anvil (Wright and Firman 1992: 72). Metal objects included a set of iron tweezers, which along with a series of later Iron Age pottery sherds may have been a deliberate deposit within a phase 4 pit, and part of an iron punch found in a Structure 3 gully, another likely placed deposit.

References: Knight 1992.

Girton Quarry**SK 8260 6660**

A proposed extension to the Girton aggregates quarry near Girton led to a series of investigations by TPAT. The area is immediately east of the River Trent, on flat, extremely low-lying ground less than 10m AOD within the river floodplain. Fieldwalking, trial trenches and a watching brief all recorded scatters of Anglo-Saxon and later pottery, and the positions of three Anglo-Saxon buildings (Ensor et al. 1996). It also established the presence of aeolian ‘blown sand’ deposits, fluvial sands, silts and clays, and a palaeochannel of the River Trent. Topsoil stripping of large areas has identified significant late prehistoric features too.

On the eastern edge of a river palaeochannel that had probably degraded into a series of shallow and peaty bogs or ponds, a roughly north-south pit alignment boundary was recorded, consisting of at least two main lines of features, but with evidence for extensive recutting and redefinition (Kinsley 1998: 43). These features contained waterlogged wood and bone, and although not described in the brief published report, it is probable that they were later Bronze Age in date. On the western side of the boggy area a Bronze Age midden or burnt mound was found, with a series of ard marks or cultivation furrows to the south, at least one of which cut the burnt mound. The pit alignment, the pond deposits, the furrows and the burnt mound were sealed by deposits of reworked sand.

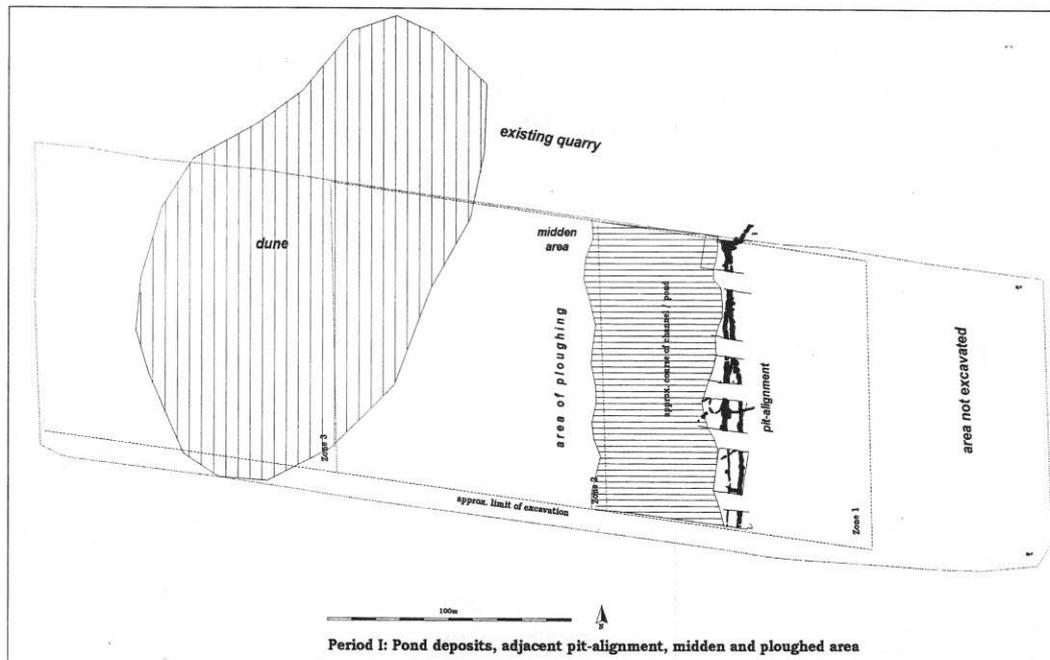


Figure G.511. *The early phase features identified at Girton Quarry Extension, including a Bronze Age burnt mound, cultivation furrows and pit alignments. (Source: Kinsley 1998: 44).*

Stratified within the reworked sands, but cut mainly from the top of these deposits, were a series of north-east to south-west aligned ditches, largely undated, and cutting across the palaeochannel and pond deposits. The spacing of these ditches suggests several boundaries that were repeatedly re-inscribed over time, and these were associated with a wicker-lined well, several pits and a four-post

structure (Kinsley 1998: 48). Again, the full analyses of these features had not been undertaken at the time of writing of the brief interim report, including dating of organic and artefactual material from them, but it seems likely that these were Iron Age and/or Romano-British. Middle Saxon settlement remains consisting of sunken-featured buildings were cut into the top of the reworked sand deposits, suggesting a slightly earlier date. Hopefully, further details of this site will be published in the near future. As with the site at Spalford Meadows (see below), this excavation has the potential to greatly improve understanding of the palaeo-environmental sequence along the Trent Valley, and the relationship between human inhabitation and landscape changes.

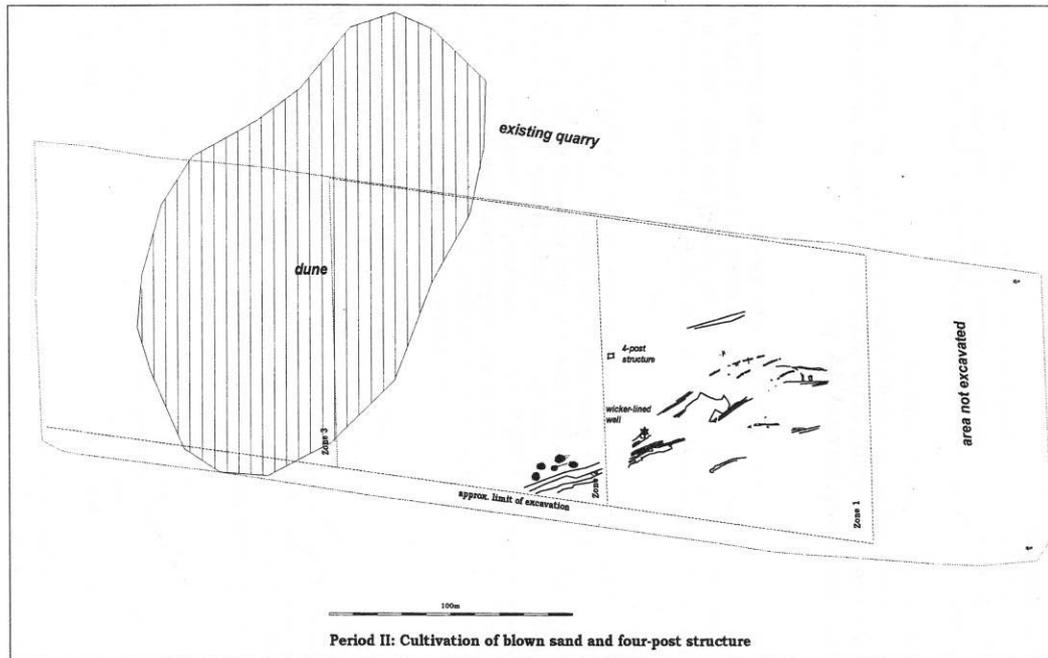


Figure G.512. *The second major phase of activity identified at Girton Quarry Extension, including ditch boundaries, pits, a well and a four-post structure. (Source: Kinsley 1998: 45).*

References: Ensor et al. 1996; Kinsley 1998.

Gonalston – Bottom Osiers

SK 6920 4735



Figure G.513. *Cropmarks of the Iron Age and Romano-British features at Gonalston, in this case showing part of the Bottom Osiers enclosure, looking west. (Source: Knight 2007).*



Figure G.514. (above). *One of the pit alignments at Bottom Osiers, Gonalston, recut by a series of linear ditches. (Source: Knight and Elliott forthcoming).*

In advance of a proposed extension to Hoveringham Quarry, near the village of Gonalston, TPAT undertook a series of phased investigations of another complex sequence of archaeological features. The site is located on a flat, low-lying island of sand and gravel on the River Trent floodplain, between the villages of Hoveringham and Gonalston. The modern course of the Trent is just 1km to the south-east, whilst to the north is a ridgeline with a pronounced scarp-edge. The Gonalston settlement complex consisted of at least eight subrectangular enclosures, and a series of associated linear boundaries. Several burnt mounds and other features attest to Bronze Age activity (Elliott and Knight 1998), whilst several pit alignments that have been excavated at Bottom Osiers might reflect the earliest phases of land division in the area (Elliott and Knight 2003: 201).

Although undated, these pits were cut by a linear ditch from which was recovered Scored Ware and other middle to late Iron Age pottery, and this ditch was itself recut on several different occasions. This implies that this pit alignment may have originated in the very late Bronze Age or early Iron Age, and that it may have been an important boundary feature for potentially many centuries. In the early to middle Iron Age a series of roughly straight and parallel ditches aligned roughly north-west to south-east divided the gravel 'island' into a series of several large, roughly rectangular blocks of unequal size (Knight and Elliot forthcoming). Three of these major linear features seemed to have continued to the north-west underneath later deposits of alluvium, and may have created a series of linear land plots each with access to the gravel terrace and the alluvial zone. The ditches had evidence for repeated recutting (Elliott and Knight 2003: 201). Several of these features preserved traces of flanking banks buried beneath alluvium, and the presence of a tree bole in one section across a bank might suggest that there were also hedgerows associated with the ditches, and/or that they existed as boundaries for some time.

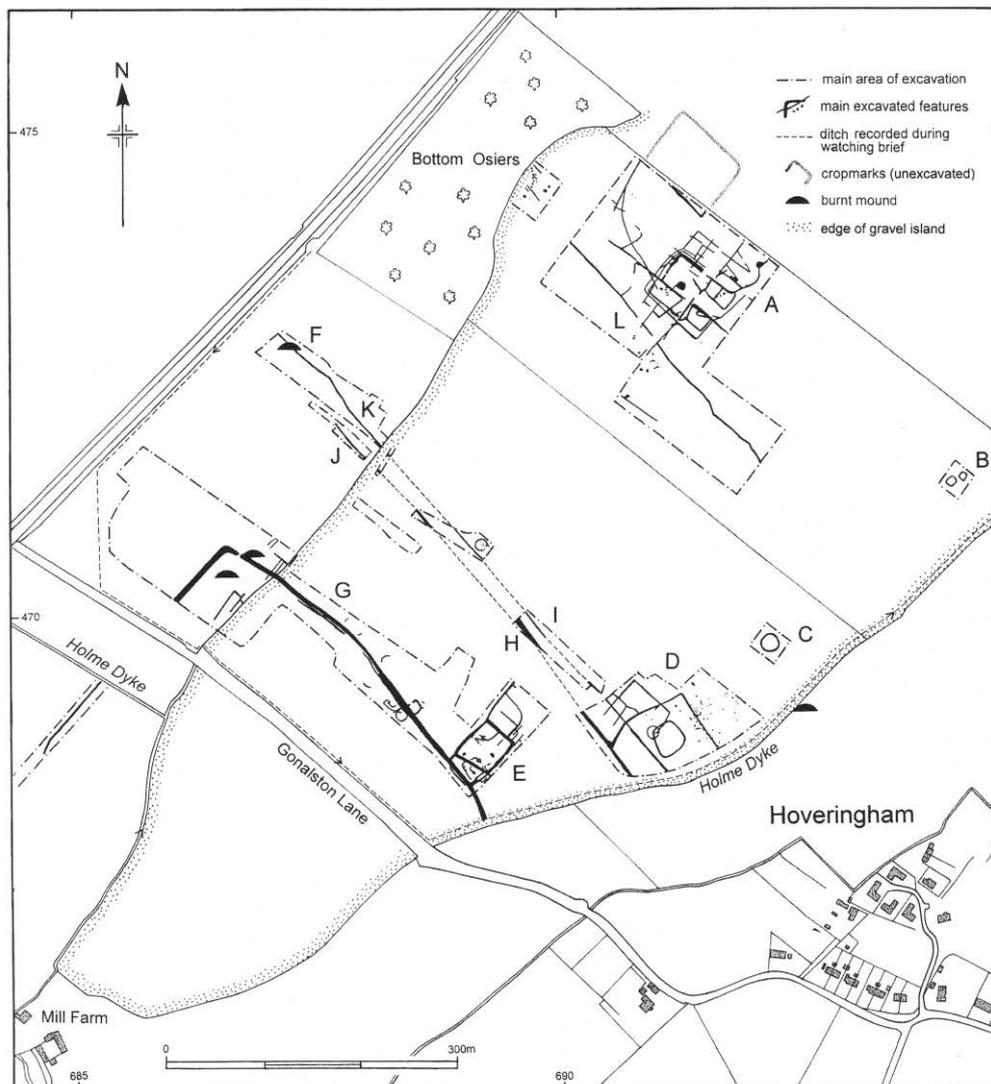
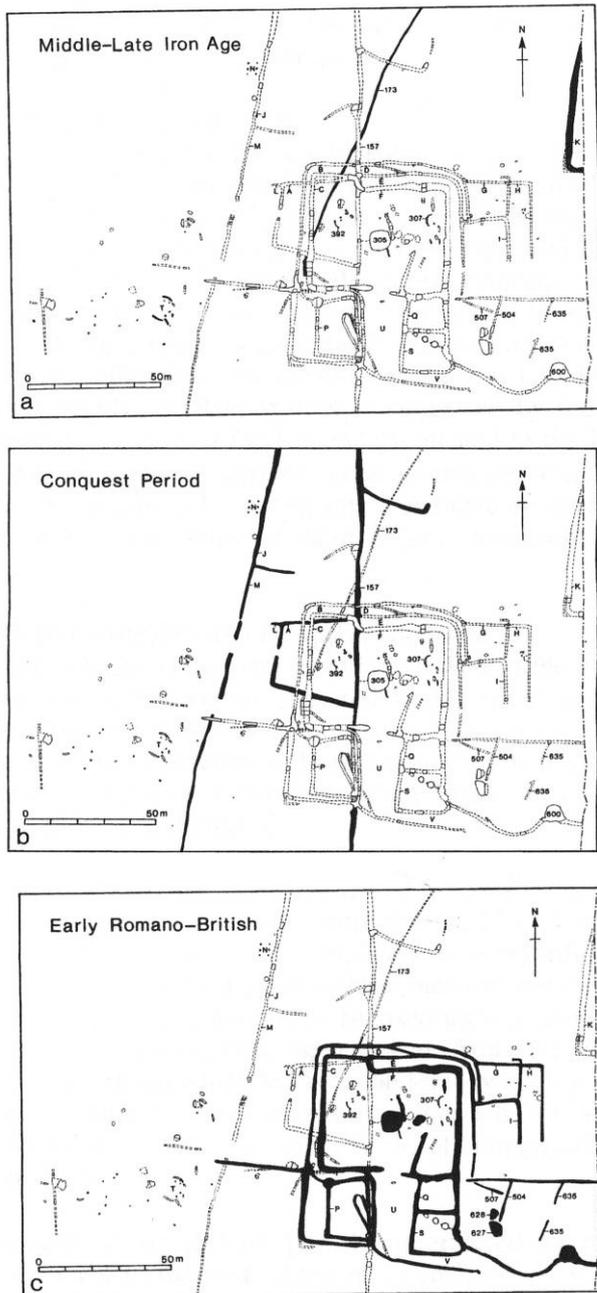


Figure G.515. Part of the cropmark complex investigated at Gonalston, showing the pit alignments, linear boundaries and enclosure complex at Bottom Osiers (A), and the enclosures at Holme Dyke (D) and Gonalston Lane (E). Note too the linear boundaries at G, H, I, K and L, and the potential square barrows at B. (Source: Knight and Howard 2004b: 101, fig. 5.17).



One of these linear ditches contained a nearly complete waterlogged wooden object that may have been some form of paddle or more likely a spade (see Chapter 4, Fig. 4.11). Some of these ditches produced significant quantities of Scored Ware and other middle to late Iron Age pottery including wheel-thrown late La Tène wares. The easternmost ditch excavated (feature L on Fig. G.515) produced many pottery sherds from the terminal of an entrance through the feature, including large, unabraded sherds that may have been a placed deposit (Knight and Elliot forthcoming). The latter might have been late Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age ceramics, emphasising that these features may have been in use and re-cut over considerable periods of time.

Figure G.516. (left). *The provisional, simplified sequence of activity identified at Bottom Osiers, Gonalston. The conquest period phase may now have to be reinterpreted. (Source: Elliott and Knight 1998: 33).*

In earlier interim reports, one of these boundaries and a trapezoidal enclosure appended to it were interpreted as late first century BC or earlier first century AD in date (Elliott and Knight 1996, 1998). However, more recent post-excavation analyses have instead indicated an earlier origin, perhaps even in the early Iron Age, although I still feel that the ‘clothes-line’ enclosure may be of middle to late Iron Age in date (Knight and Elliott forthcoming). To the south-east of the enclosure complex at Bottom Osiers, two small square enclosures were excavated that are very similar to the square barrow complex next to the River Trent at North Muskham and The Ness (Fig. F.58) (Knight and Howard 2004b: 98-99, fig. 5.15; Woodhouse 1993: 12-13; Whimster 1989: 25, plate 17). Other examples also occur at Aston-upon-Trent and Barrow-upon-Trent in Derbyshire (see Appendix F). As with an example excavated at Aston-upon-Trent (May 1970), only small numbers of Iron Age sherds were recovered, and no inhumations were identified.



Figure G.517. Section across the large central pond in the main enclosure at Bottom Osiers, Gonalston, showing artifact-rich organic deposits sealed by alluvial clays. (Source: Knight and Elliott forthcoming).

At Bottom Osiers, a very distinctive multiple-ditched enclosure complex developed, linked to a multiphase system of outlying fields and smaller enclosures by a sinuous ditched trackway leading off to the south-east (Elliott and Knight 1997: 67-69). These smaller enclosures may have been garden plots, or more likely, animal pens and paddocks, and there was a possible race along the northern edge of the main enclosure (cf. Elliott and Knight 1996: 162, fig. 1). This trackway created a restricted and relatively convoluted approach into the enclosure complex, and anyone entering it would have had to pass through several different points where their access could have been challenged and/or blocked. This would also have brought them past the possible pens containing livestock, and this may have been a deliberate emphasis on display. The main enclosure contained traces of the ring gullies of at least two possible Iron Age roundhouses, and a large central feature that may have been a pond or waterhole for animals. A large pit in one of the smaller enclosures might also have functioned as a waterhole.

The central waterhole contained a notably large assemblage of Romano-British pottery including near complete decorated and plain samian vessels, mortaria, quernstones, textile fragments, two leather shoes and a perforated wooden disc (Elliott and Knight 1996: 163-164, 1998: 30, 36-37). Many of these may have been placed deposits, and as little third or fourth century AD pottery was recovered, it has been suggested that the enclosure was abandoned by this period, perhaps due to increased flooding and soil waterlogging in the later Roman period. Some of the deposits may have been placatory offerings designed to try and stop this, and/or formal closure deposits prior to the abandonment of the settlement.

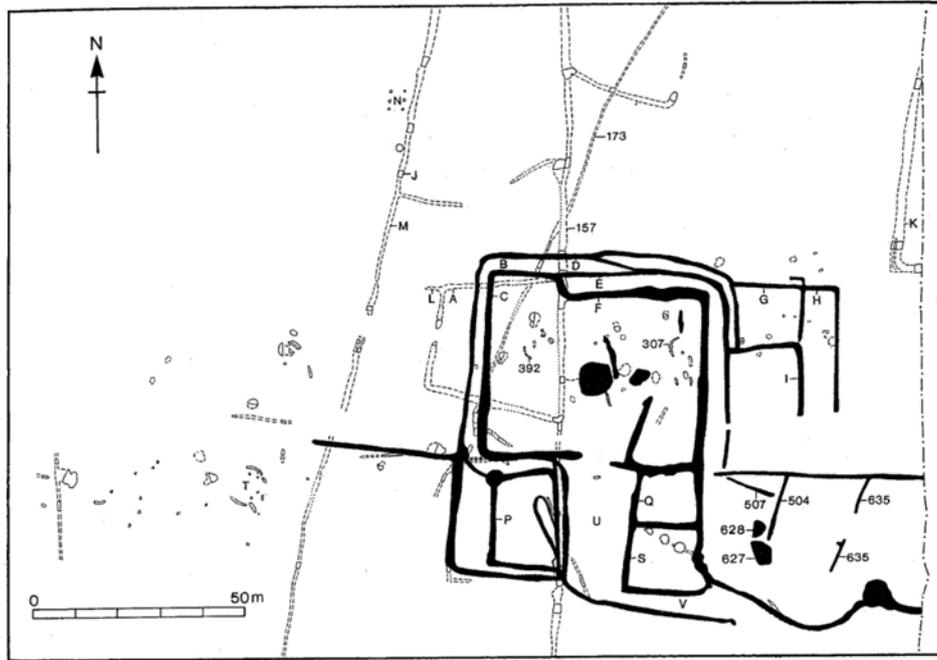


Figure G.518. The excavated enclosure complex at Bottom Osiers, Hoveringham Quarry, Gonalston, Notts. The large central waterhole within the enclosure can be identified, along with the possible pens on the eastern side of the enclosure. The possible race(s) around the western and northern sides of the enclosure are also visible. (Source: Knight, Howard and Leary 2004b: 138).

References: Elliott and Knight 1996, 1997, 1998; Knight and Elliott forthcoming; Knight and Howard 2004b.

Gonalston – Gonalston Lane

SK 6899 4680

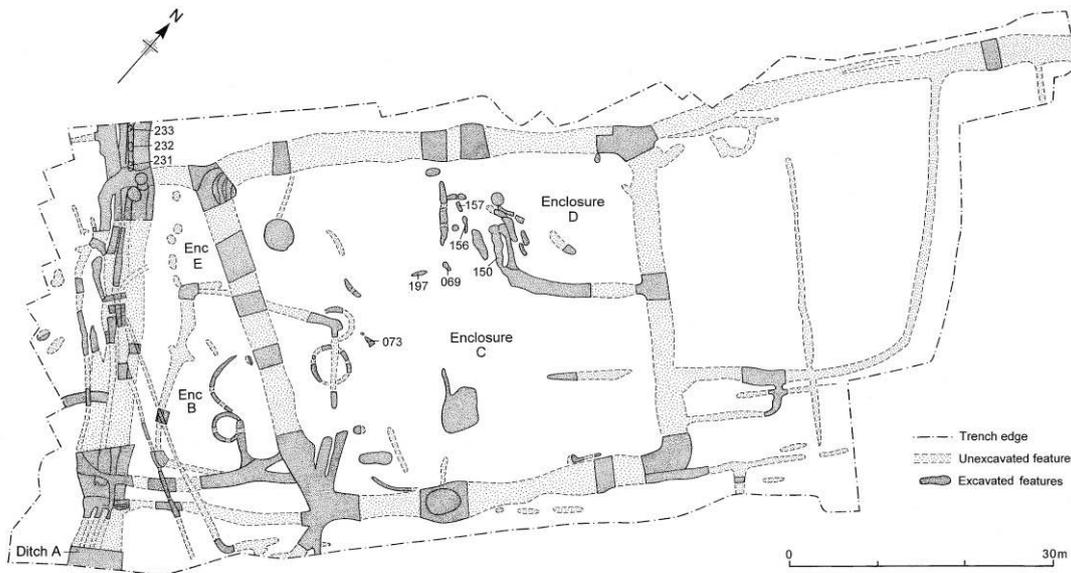


Figure G.519. The enclosure complex next to Gonalston Lane. (Source: Knight and Elliott forthcoming).

The Romano-British enclosure adjacent to Gonalston Lane seems to have consisted of several phases, and had an internal ditched sub-enclosure in one corner, together with an interesting group of specialised structures. These included a group of subrectangular pits that were lined with vertical stone slabs, that each opened into narrow gullies (Fig. A.09.). One pit had fragments of fired clay around its rim, indicating the possible clay superstructure of an oven. These could have had industrial uses, but there was no evidence of very high temperatures or diagnostic waste (Elliott and Knight 2003). Another pit with a floor of laid cobbles and a shallow gully with charcoal and other burnt material may have been the base of a bread oven or related structure (Fig. E.14). Significant quantities of Romano-British domestic debris were recovered including pottery, tiles, clay loomweights, querns and smithing slag, but no structural remains were found. A 5m long, linear arrangement of stone slabs near some of the pits might have been the base a stone-lined drain flowing into Enclosure D, and was perhaps all that was left of a building that left no other archaeological trace (Knight and Elliott forthcoming). This may indicate buildings constructed on horizontal sleeper beams. The right-angled sub-enclosure ditch within Enclosure B was dug across two earlier round structures, the angle of the ditch being located precisely within the centre of one, and cutting across almost the dead centre of the other. This seems to have been deliberate architectural referencing of earlier roundhouses.

References: Elliott and Knight 2003; Knight and Elliott forthcoming.

Gonalston – Holme Dyke

SK 6920 4695



Figure G.520. The enclosure complex near Holme Dyke, Gonalston. (Source: Knight and Elliott forthcoming).

Near Holme Dyke at Gonalston was a series of overlapping (or deliberately superimposed) enclosures. A small, trapezoidal enclosure of unknown date and function (as it did not produce any dateable artefacts) lay underneath three consecutive phases of roundhouses 11-12m in diameter (Elliott and Knight 2002), which seem to have been constructed in relation to the ditches of the middle to late Iron Age Enclosure A, although the retrieval of diagnostic late Bronze Age-early Iron Age pottery sherds from recut entrance postholes on the south-eastern side of the roundhouses might suggest that its earlier phases at least pre-dated the enclosure (Knight and Elliot forthcoming). However, it is also possible that these were curated artefacts, deposited in a later context – this may be something that needs to be more closely explored in the final full publication. A small subrectangular Romano-British enclosure (Enclosure D) then truncated the roundhouses, but perhaps in a manner that indicated the deliberate referencing (or at least explicit acknowledgement of) of the earlier dwellings. Again, this might suggest a narrower chronology between the roundhouses and Enclosure D than the LBA-EIA pottery may suggest. Interestingly, one round structure recently excavated at Wattle Syke seemed to consist of a circular wall gully, in addition to a circle of large postholes that may even have belonged to a separate, possibly earlier phase.

There were also scattered pits, postholes and gullies of uncertain function recorded inside the Iron Age enclosure A. It is possible that one group of these, on the eastern side of the enclosure and apparently truncated by the enclosure ditch, may have formed part of an earlier post-built roundhouse.



Figure G.521. *Excavating the three superimposed roundhouses at Holme Dyke, Gonalston. (Source: Knight and Elliott forthcoming).*

References: Elliott and Knight 2002; Knight and Elliott forthcoming.

Holme Pierrepont**SK 6150 3850**

This area to the south-east of Nottingham has seen a series of extremely significant finds over the years. The general area consists of low-lying ground between 30-20m AOD on the eastern floodplain and river terraces of the River Trent. Two late Hallstatt bronze swords were recovered from the Trent near Holme Pierrepont in 1966 (Cowen 1967; Scurfield 1997), and gravel quarrying in 1967 exposed the remains of three waterlogged wooden dugout canoes, associated with wooden timbers and a finely-made wooden wheel (MacCormick et al. 1968; Stead 1996, see Chapter 8). One of these boats was ¹⁴C dated to 410 BC-AD 60 (Musty and MacCormick 1973: 276), although this may overestimate the age (Knight and Howard 2004: 82). Some aspects of the context of the finds suggest a flood-created log jam, but other aspects may indicate a ritual component too. Timber piling has been recorded at Holme Pierrepont, and it may be that like the Trent-Soar confluence, the river at this point formed a focus for votive deposition, particularly of metalwork, from the later Bronze Age through into the Iron Age and Romano-British periods.

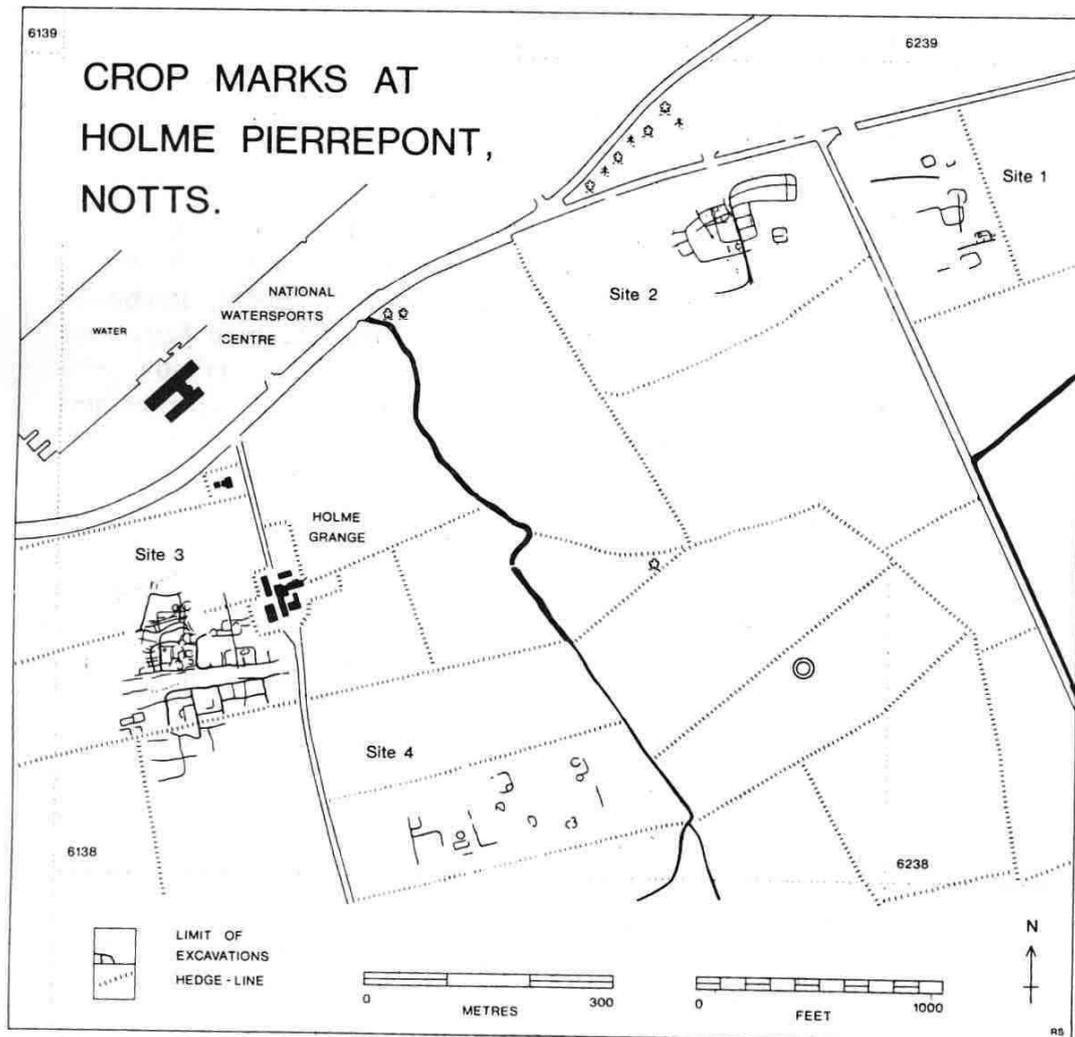


Figure G.522. The enclosure complexes investigated at Holme Pierrepont during the 1970s. (Source: O'Brien 1979a: 302, fig. 2).

Further gravel quarrying during the 1970s prompted excavations of a series of enclosure complexes (O'Brien 1978, 1979a, 1979b). Sadly, to date these have never been published other than in the briefest interim form, and even full archive reports are not readily available. These enclosure groups had slightly different biographies and historical trajectories. The earliest settlement may have consisted of unenclosed early Iron Age occupation. At Site 3, a series of later Iron Age enclosures went through several phases of development, beginning with an 'open' phase of scattered roundhouses, and gradually becoming enclosed over time, becoming an agglomerated Romano-British settlement. Site 1 had a rectangular ditched enclosure 20m long and 15m wide with pits and posthole structures containing Ancaster-Breedon Scored Ware of earlier to middle Iron Age date (O'Brien 1979a: 301). Some of the ditched enclosures may have been preceded by palisaded phases, as at Site 4 (O'Brien 1979b: 1). Many of these settlements may initially at least have seen seasonal occupation of the Trent floodplain, probably associated with livestock grazing. Two of the enclosure groups at Holme Pierrepont (Sites 1 and 4) seem to have largely gone out of use during the earlier Romano-British period, but Sites 2 and 3 continued in use, with the latter appearing to flourish like the similar settlements at Rampton, Ferry Lane Farm Collingham, and perhaps the pre-villa complex at Cromwell.

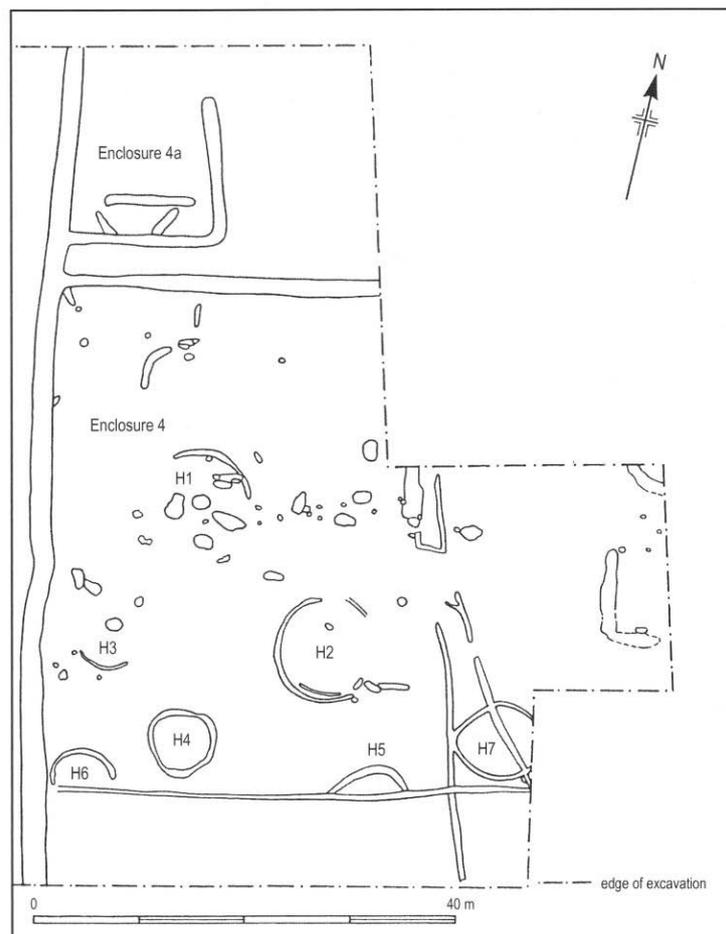


Figure G.523. Iron Age enclosures and roundhouses at Site 4, Holme Pierrepont. (Source: Knight 2007: 206, fig. 9).

The open settlements, palisaded enclosures and later agglomerated ditched enclosure groups at Holme Pierrepont were themselves only part of extensive multi-period landscapes that have been investigated over many years by a series of watching briefs, evaluations and small-scale excavations. These features have included Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments, but also Iron Age and Romano-British field systems, Anglo-Saxon settlement and post-medieval enclosures and boundaries (Guilbert 2006; Guilbert, Fearn and Woodhouse 1994).

References: Cowen 1967; Guilbert 2001, 2002, 2006; Guilbert, Fearn and Woodhouse 1994; MacCormick 1968; Musty and MacCormick 1973; O'Brien 1978, 1979a, 1979b.

Lambs Close, Kelham

SK 7825 5485

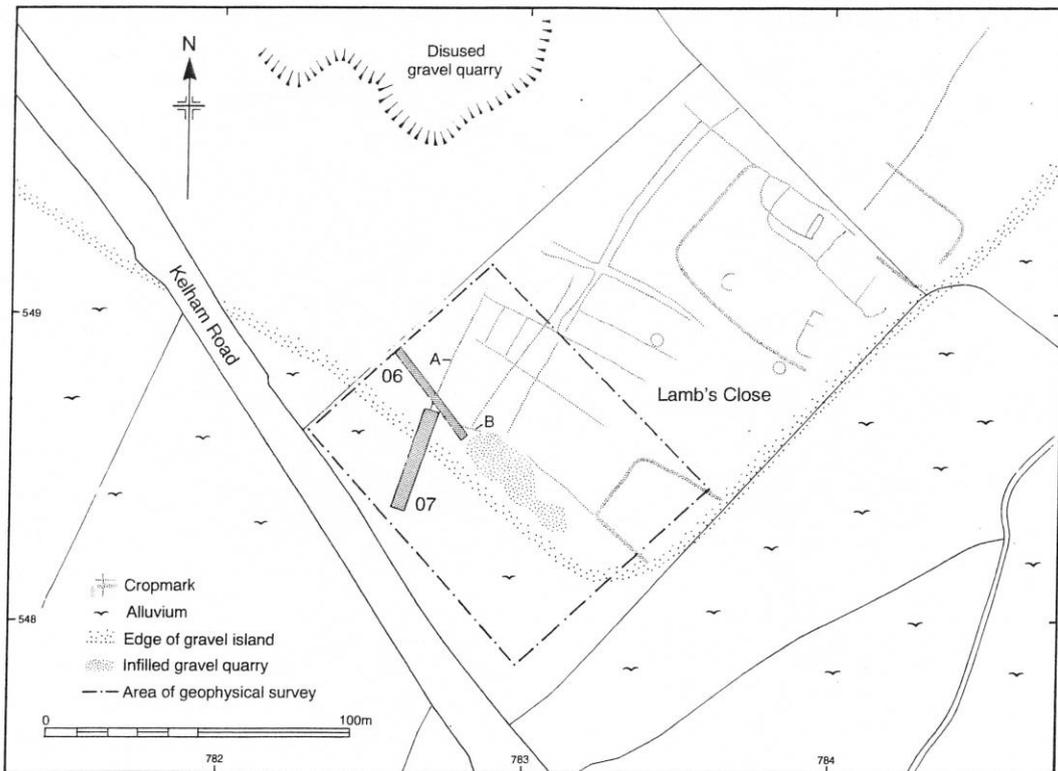


Figure G.524. The cropmarks at Lamb's Close, Kelham, in relation to the trial trenches that were excavated. (Source: Knight and Priest 1998: 29, fig. 2).

During the construction of a water main between Newark and Kelham, the edge of a cropmark complex at Lamb's Close, Kelham was investigated by TPAT in 1994. The site is on flat, low-lying ground between 10-11m AOD on the edge of the floodplain of the River Trent. In a 100m wide zone along the 3km long pipeline corridor, fieldwalking took place and in addition to earlier prehistoric lithics and medieval and post-medieval pottery, some handmade quartz-tempered Iron Age sherds and Romano-British sherds were found at a field called Priest Ings on the northern outskirts of Kelham village (centred at SK 7740 5595) (Knight and Priest 1994). This may indicate a focus of settlement there.

Geophysical survey also took place over the southern part of a known cropmark site at Lamb's Close, adjacent to the A617 Kelham Road. The cropmarks indicated a multi-phase complex of round houses or ring ditches/round barrows, fields, enclosures and trackways, the latter including a possible funnel-shaped approach. Although the resistivity survey did not confirm the existence of any of the cropmark features, two trial trenches were excavated, and these recorded a series of ditches, some of them forming an intersection. In addition to second and third century Romano-British pottery, including samian, NeneValley colour-coated ware and a sherd of a fine flagon, two grog-tempered sherds and two shell-tempered sherds may represent late first century BC or first century AD conquest period pottery (Leary 1998). One of the latter was a wheel-made vessel with a channelled rim (Fig. G.525, e).

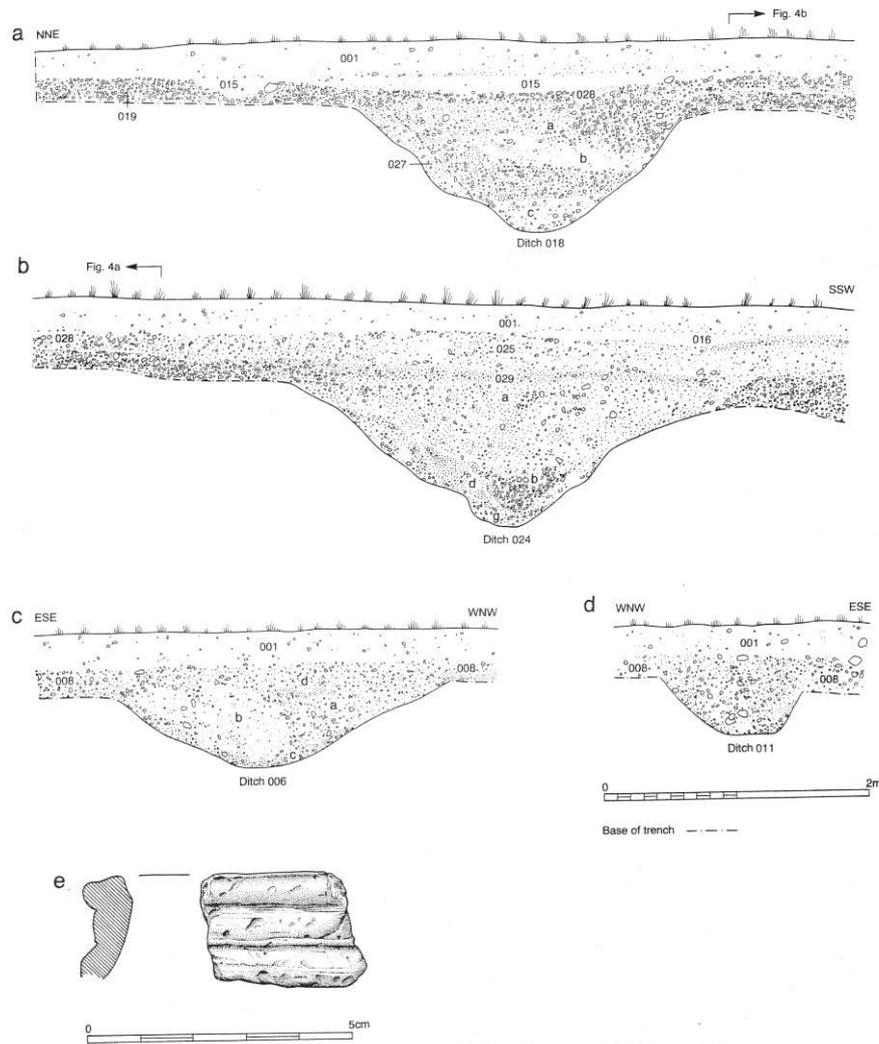


FIGURE 4: Sections across ditches 018 (a), 024 (b), 006 (c) and 011 (d) - scale 1:40; (e) Conquest period sherd from top of layer a, ditch 006 - scale 1:2.

Figure G.525. Sections recorded across some of the ditches at Lamb's Close, Kelham, and one of the very late Iron Age or conquest period sherds recovered. (Source: Knight and Priest 1998: 33).

The excavations at Lamb's Close seem to have identified features on the margins of a wider cropmark complex that was situated on a gravel 'island' on the very edge of the floodplain terrace, just off the alluvium deposits on the floodplain itself. This change in subsoil and topography may have been more dramatic in the past than it is today, as this edge is probably masked by centuries of colluvium and alluvium (Knight and Priest 1998: 35). The linear boundaries seem to have respected this change, and this also suggests that floodplain remained as unenclosed, open grazing and meadows.

References: Knight and Priest 1994, 1998.

Menagerie Wood, Worksop

SK 5765 7850

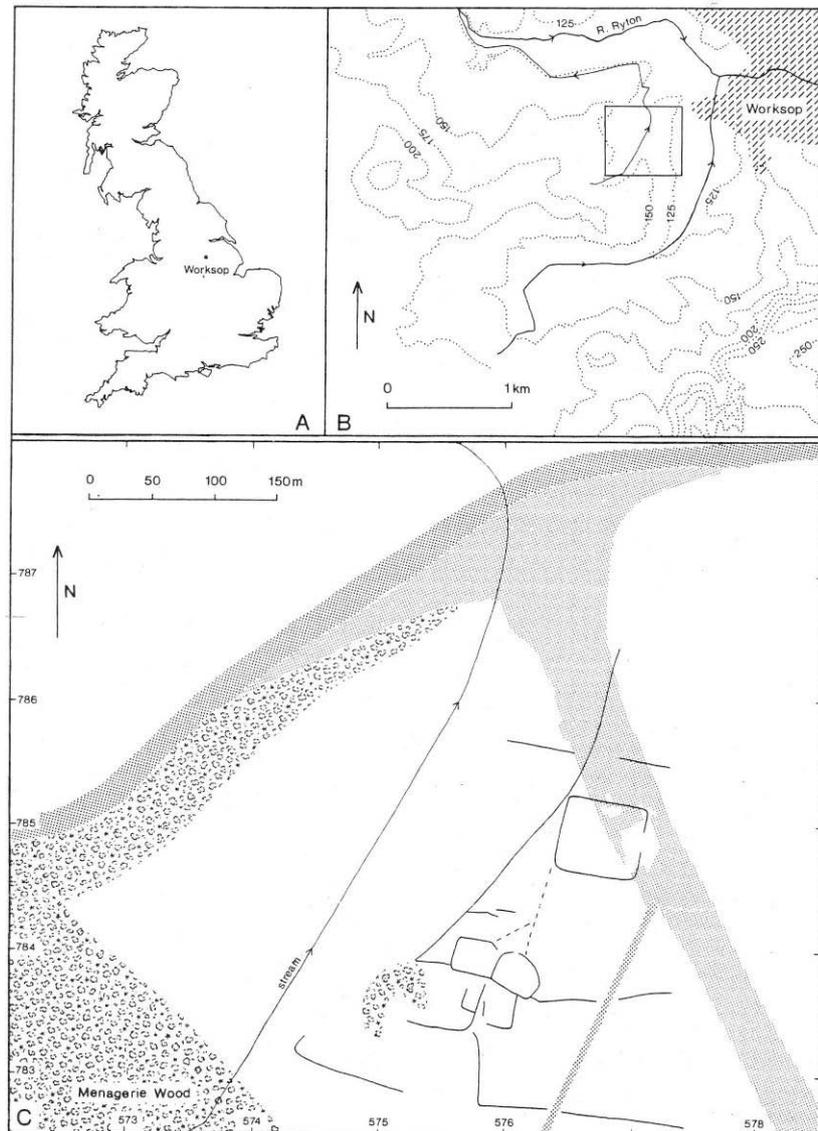


FIGURE 1
Topographical position of cropmarks and cropmarks redrawn from computer-assisted plot.

Figure G.526. Location map of the Menagerie Wood enclosure south-west of Worksop, also showing a transcription of the aerial photographs of the locale. (Source: Garton et al. 1988: fig. 1).

This cropmark complex at Menagerie Wood, south-west of Worksop, consists of a large subrectangular enclosure, together with a group of three or four conjoined enclosures nearby, and a series of field boundaries (Riley 1980: 134-135, map 28). They are situated on a gentle ridgeline with the ground falling off gradually to the west and south-west, with a small stream approximately 100m to the west as well, although this watercourse now forms part of polite landscape features associated with Worksop Manor. In 1985 a bypass road around the western side of Worksop was constructed, and the line of this road cut across part of the largest enclosure in the complex, allowing excavation by TPAT and staff from the Creswell Crags Visitors Centre (Garton et al. 1988: 22). Only part of the internal area of the enclosure was cleaned up and recorded, however.

The ditches of the subrectangular enclosure were 4-6m wide, with a south-east facing entrance approximately 5m wide. A possible quern fragment was recovered from one ditch terminal, whilst a pit cut into the side of the southern terminal contained large sherds of a greyware bowl. Several pits and postholes recorded by this entrance probably related to some form of timber gateway structure, one of which contained a quern fragment. At least one recut of the enclosure ditch was noted (Garton et al. 1988: 23, 25), though further probable recuts are visible in the published sections. Possible palisade slots were also recorded parallel to and in places cut by the enclosure ditch. These were interpreted as a fence or revetment for an internal bank, but given that they were so close to the enclosure ditch, they might represent an earlier palisaded phase of enclosure. Greyware, Dales ware and mortaria sherds of second to fourth century AD date were recovered from the ditch, mostly from the upper fills.

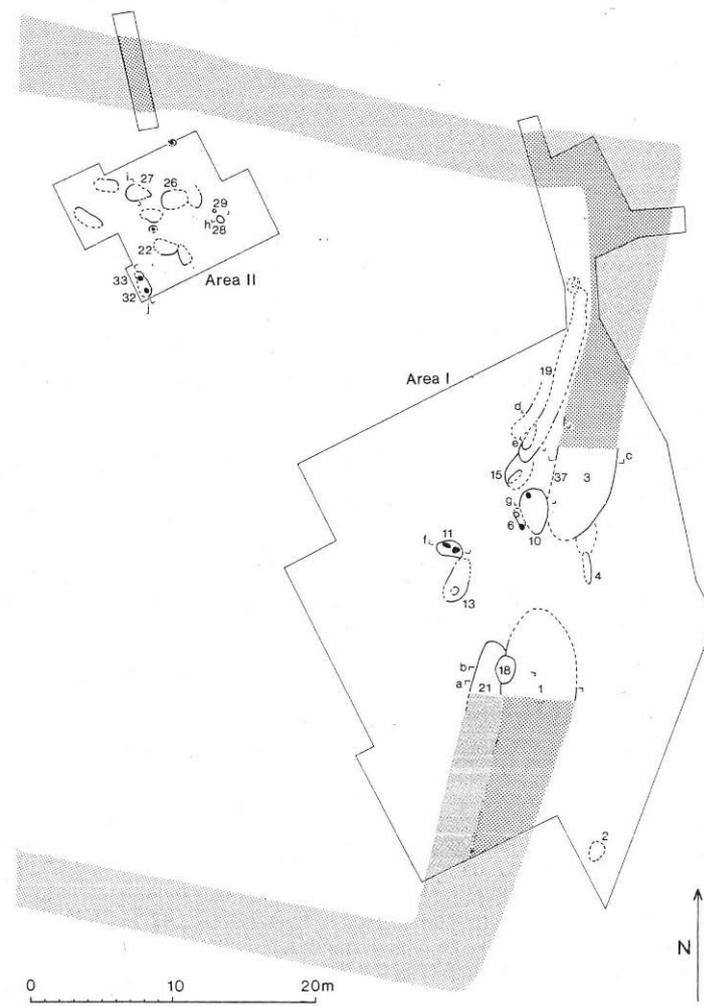


FIGURE 3
Plan of features

Figure G.527. Detailed plan of the excavated features of the Menagerie Wood enclosure. (Source: Garton et al. 1988: fig. 1).

A smaller area was cleaned up within the enclosure, and a series of shallow pits and postholes were recorded. Two pits contained calcined sheep and cattle bones, some of foetal animals, whilst one of the postholes contained a quern fragment, pottery sherds and fragments of a cattle jaw (Garton et al. 1988). Further second to fourth century pottery and charcoal was found in other pits and postholes, indicating

a focus of activity in this area. Cereal grains, chaff fragments and a grape pip were found in soil samples, along with palaeo-environmental evidence for open, grassland habitats, arable cultivation and coppiced woodland. As large areas of the subrectangular enclosure were not excavated, it is not clear whether this was the focus for sustained 'domestic' occupation or not, but it may be that this was more associated with livestock, as part of a series of corrals in an area used mainly for pastoral grazing.

References: Garton, Hunt, Jenkinson and Leary 1988.

Rampton**SK 8200 7860**

This extremely important site has seen a series of research and rescue investigations, beginning as ‘amateur’ fieldwork and continuing as large-scale developer-funded excavations, and the results of the latter are still being analysed prior to full publication. The site lies approximately 1.8km east of the village of Rampton south of the Torksey Ferry Road, 150-200m west of the current course of the River Trent, on flat, low-lying land around 4.5m AOD. It first attracted interest during the early 1960s as a result of fieldwalking by the Retford Archaeological Group, who identified a scatter of Romano-British material in a field. In 1965, the Group excavated fourteen small hand-dug trenches in this field, and identified several ditches and stratified deposits, and recovered finds including first to fourth century Romano-British pottery, coins, *tegulae*, an *intaglio* from a ring, and a fan-tailed brooch of AD 50-70 (Ponsford 1992: 91), although the latter was subsequently ‘lost’.

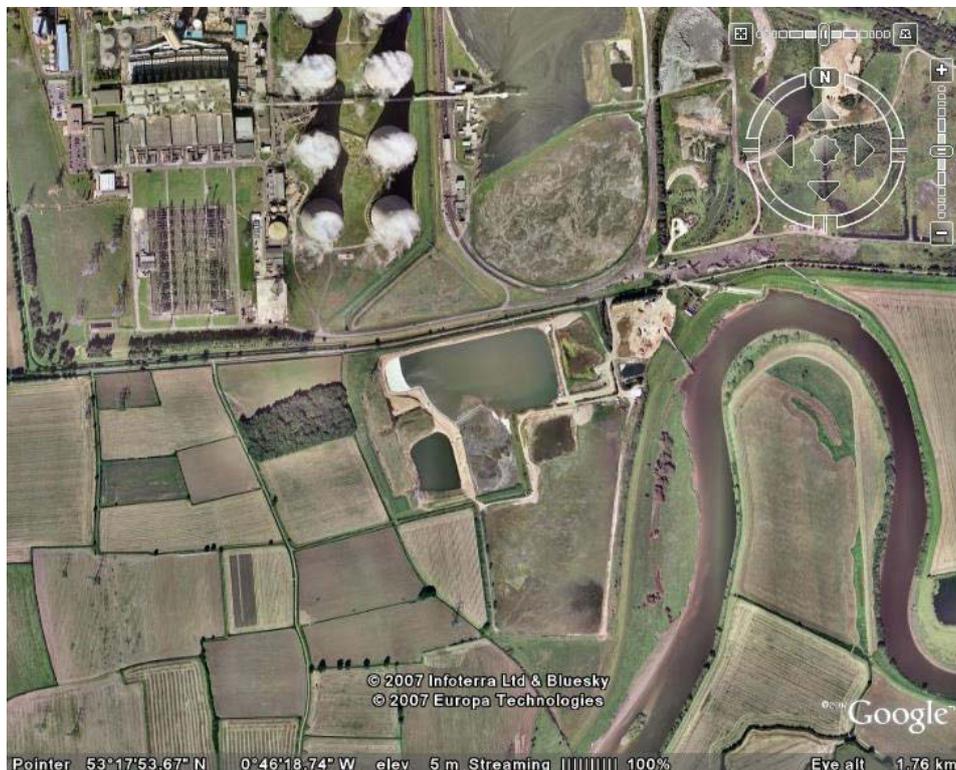
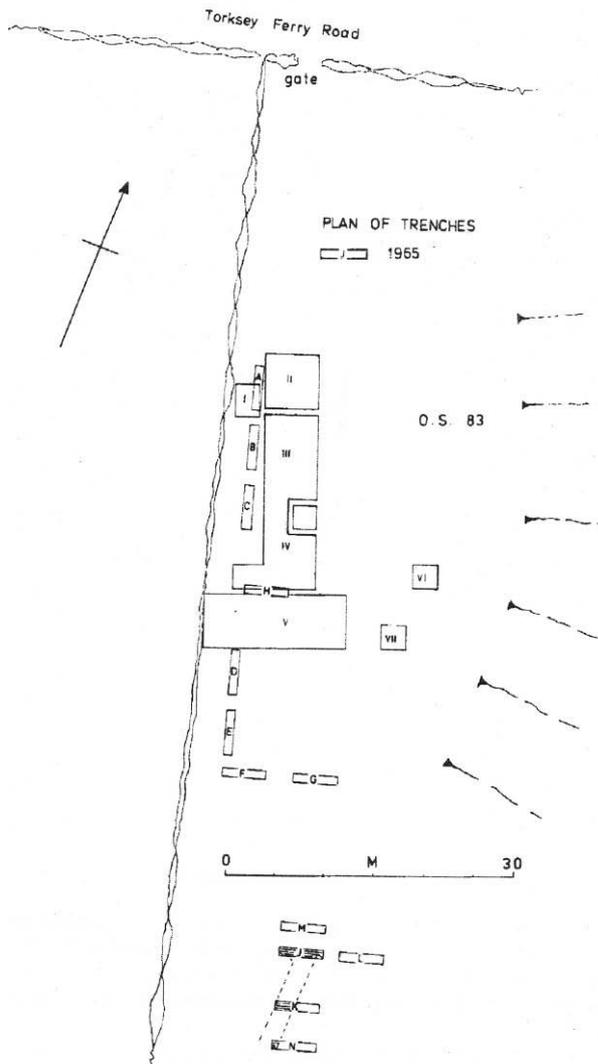


Figure G.528. The location of the Iron Age and Romano-British site at Rampton, opposite Cottam Power Station and only 150-200m from the modern course of the Trent. (Source: © Google Earth).

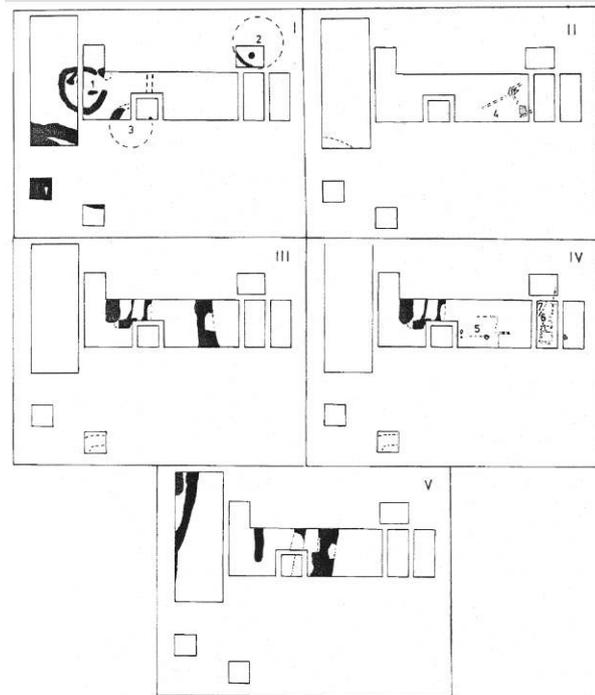
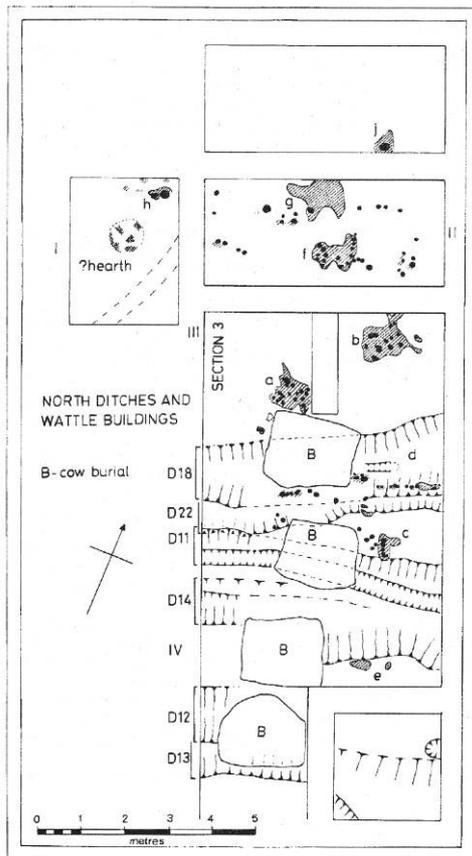
In 1966, seven additional trenches were excavated by M.W. Ponsford in the same field in response to a threat of quarrying or the extension of Cottam Power Station, on the other (northern) side of Torksey Road. These covered a significantly larger overall area than the earlier trenches, but were still small and were separated by narrow baulks, almost in a bizarre return to the box-grid excavation techniques of the 1930s-1950s. This made it very hard to expose and record features in plan and to link deposits in adjacent trenches (Ponsford 1992: 104). Given that in Ponsford’s sections it is clear that stratigraphic layers survived underneath the ploughsoil, and that there were clearly several different phases of cut features such as ditches and pits interdigitated with these layers, this makes later reinterpretation of his results difficult.



Just to the west of a slight terrace or break in slope, underneath the ploughsoil and subsoil were a series of layers of ‘dark brown soil’ or ‘brown soil’ that contained numerous late Iron Age and Romano-British finds (Ponsford 1992: 95, 103, fig.10). These layers were cut by several ditches and other features containing Romano-British pottery, but sealed the fills of earlier cuts, and also other features such as possible clay hearths. These probably represented a mix of ‘occupation deposits’ such as middens, and post-occupation deposits, and their survival below the ploughsoil is especially remarkable when so many other sites in the study region have been heavily truncated by plough activity.

Figure G.529. (left). Location plan of the 1965 and 1966 trenches south of Torksey Ferry Road, Rampton. (Source: Ponsford 1992: 94, fig. 3).

In the northern part of the site, Trenches I-III revealed a series of hearths, possible remnants of clay floors and associated stakeholes and postholes from rectangular timber buildings (Ponsford 1992: 95) (Fig. G.530). The northern building might have been up to 5m long and 1.5m wide, with hints of an internal partition or another phase of construction, but this would have been a very small and narrow structure, whose function is unclear. Interestingly, Ponsford suggested that they might have been only occupied during the summer months by people herding livestock (*ibid.*: 108). It is likely that other structures were also located in the vicinity, but were not fully identified during the excavations – several additional clusters of postholes in area III may be these. Several curvilinear gullies were also identified, probably representing circular buildings. Only one of these was fully exposed in plan, in the southern part of the site. Approximately 6m in diameter, it had postholes within what appeared to be a circular wall trench, and was adjacent to a hearth with a clay tuyère and fragments of bronze and slag, interpreted by Ponsford as a smithing forge (Ponsford 1992: 97) (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.28). A channel may have run under the standing wall of the building, but this is not clear, so the relationship of this hearth to the building is unclear. Complex sequences of intercutting linear ditches were also recorded.



FIGURES 14-18 Rampton: plan phases I, II, III, IV and V.

Figure G.530. (top left). Plan of the northern part of the 1966 excavations, showing ditches, hearths and rectangular buildings. (Source: Ponsford 1992: 96, fig. 4). **Fig. G.531. (above).** Overall phase plan of the site. The problems of using small trenches with intervening baulks are all too apparent. (Source: Ponsford 1992: 105, figs. 14-18). **Fig. G.532. (left).** The roundhouse with its circular wall bedding trench and associated postholes. (Source: Ponsford 1992: 98, plate 1).



Large numbers of finds were recovered, including probable late Iron Age and conquest period pottery, in quartz-tempered and vesicular hand-made forms, and Romano-British pottery of predominantly first to third century date; including lots of beaker, bowl and dish forms, and mortaria. Several additional brooches were also found, and quern fragments.

Aerial photographs taken during the dry summer of 1976 identified at least three enclosures and other linear features in the fields, and suggested the potential scale of the settlement, but as with many of the Trent Valley sites the excavations identified far more features, illustrating how later occupation deposits and alluvium masked buried features. In advance of proposed gravel quarrying of an area of c. 4.5ha south of Torksey Ferry Road, TPAT undertook desk-based assessment and evaluation work in 1990 (Challis 1990), including air photographic rectification, geophysical survey and four machine-dug trial trenches. Trench 01 was located at the interface between the edge of the gravel floodplain terrace and the alluvial deposits to the east. Sandy loams rich in Romano-British finds and overlying several intercutting Romano-British ditches and gullies were found to extend underneath later alluvial deposits, suggesting an extended

period of occupation. These finds-rich layers may correspond to Ponsford's 'occupation layers'. Trench 02 tried to define the western extent of the site, where another gravel terrace with Romano-British ditches and gullies cut into it dipped below yet another series of alluvial silts and clays. Trenches 03 and 04 were positioned over cropmark features, and these trenches revealed a series of ditches, pits and postholes, and produced late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, slag and burnt clay or daub. The evaluation suggested that archaeological features and occupation extended for about 3ha but were concentrated on two low gravel 'islands', bounded by alluvial deposits associated with palaeochannels of the River Trent (Knight 2000b). Further boundary or field system ditches extended to the south and west. The results also indicated the possible extent of post-Roman flooding and alluviation.

Fig 2. Plan of Phase 3, showing cropmarks and archaeological trenches predating the excavations of 1999. (A-N: Retford Archaeological Group; I-VII: Ponsford; 01-04: Challis; A1-A8 and B7-B5: Gilbert). Scale 1:1000

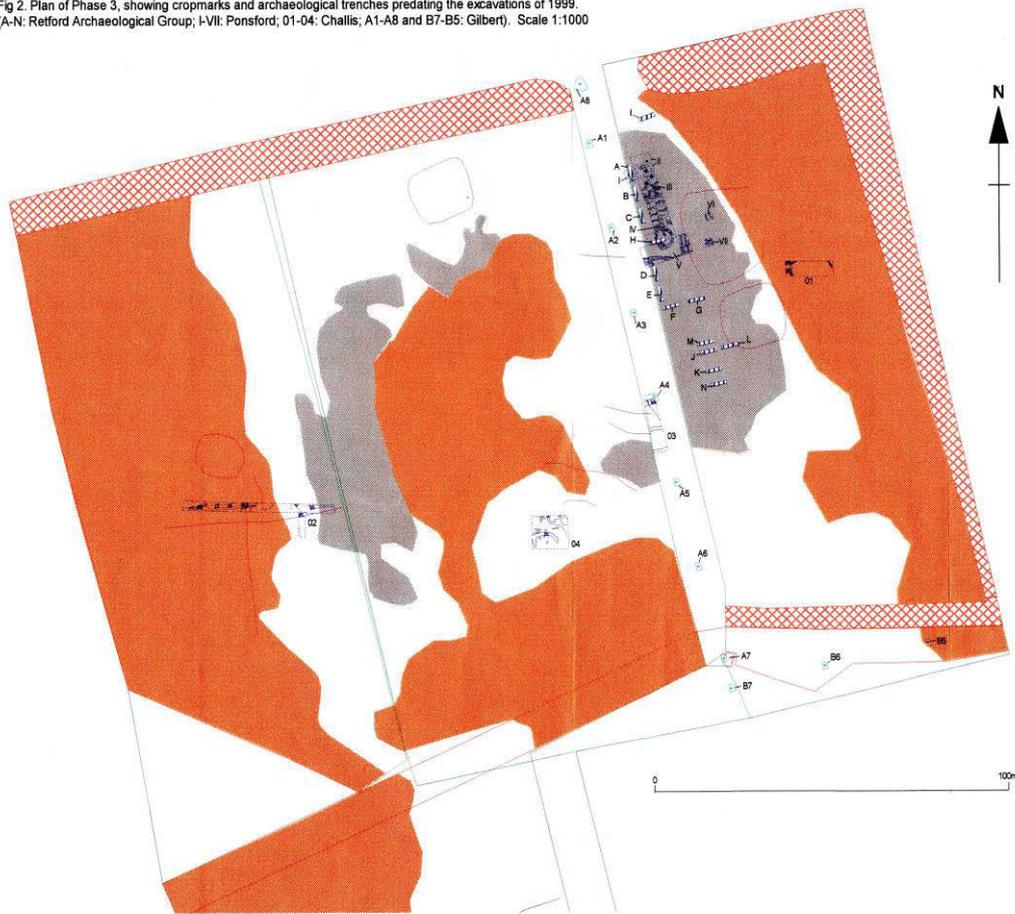


Figure G.533. Schematic plan of the early phase investigations at Rampton, showing the 1965 and 1966 trenches, the 1990 evaluation trenches, and the 1996 watching brief areas. (Source: Knight 2000a).

TPAT carried out several watching briefs on the site in 1996-1998, associated with groundwork for slurry pipelines, haul roads and topsoil stripping. These small-scale interventions found layers containing Romano-British pottery, including the compressed remains of a near complete Dales-ware jar, but no cut features. In the north-eastern part of the site, a sequence of palaeochannel deposits were identified and recorded, and an undated ditch or pit, cutting and sealed by alluvium, and truncated on one side by another channel, was found towards the centre of this area (Gilbert 1996a, 1996b). An extensive system of field ditches containing Romano-British pottery was also recorded, with evidence of recutting and changes in

boundary alignments (Priest 1997). In addition, a wickerwork-lined Romano-British well was also found, and even more significantly, a post-built roundhouse with a porch structure approximately 6-7m in diameter with an internal hearth pit containing burnt stones and charcoal. This was likely to have been early to middle Iron Age in date (Priest 1998). This was located on slightly higher ground to the south-west of the main concentration of late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement, and may have been part of more dispersed, unenclosed earlier inhabitation (Knight 2000a, 2000b).

The final more extensive phase of topsoil stripping and open-area excavation (known as Moor Pool Close) was undertaken by TPAT from June 1999 to January 2000. This recorded additional evidence of early to middle Iron Age settlement, shown in orange in Fig. G.535, including two curvilinear gullies probably representing further roundhouses. These had small amounts of handmade Iron Age pottery. Occupation seems to have expanded and intensified during the later Iron Age (Knight 2000a), when a large settlement with associated fields developed. The eastern margin of the settlement was formed by one palaeochannel, the western margin by another. These were probably just marshy depressions by the Romano-British period, and were cut by numerous pits, ditches and gullies of this date. In the later Iron Age or early Romano-British period, a system of rectangular ditched fields developed on the western part of the site. These features are shown in dark blue on Fig. G.535. Some had evidence for recutting, and Romano-British pottery present in upper fills suggest they were maintained and used for some time. Discrete features and several possible roundhouse gullies may also belong to this phase.



Figure G.534. *Topsoil stripping at Rampton, 1999. (Source: Knight and Howard 2004a; cover image).*

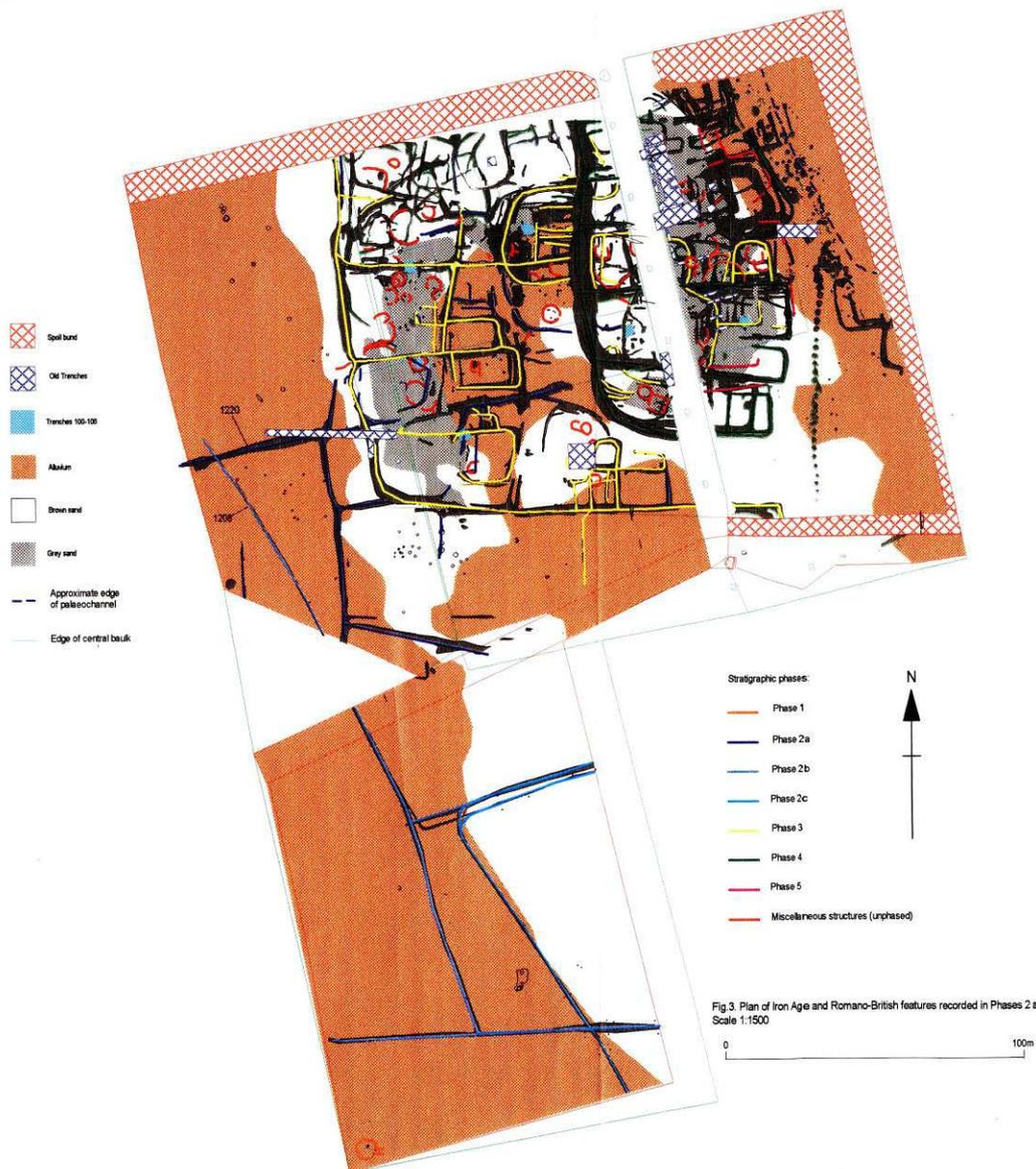


Figure G.535. Phase plan of the 1999–2000 Rampton excavations, not including the results from the trial 1965–66 investigations or trial trenches. (Source: Knight 2000a).

These boundaries were modified later in the Romano-British period with changes in alignment, and these changes are shown in light and mid-blue in Fig. G.535. Some of these changes may have taken place due to increased flooding, and a shift in activity to the slightly higher and better drained gravel terrace (Knight 2000a). The next major phase of activity (shown in yellow on Fig. G.535) seems to have consisted of the construction of a large subrectangular ditched enclosure, approximately 1.2ha in area. This seems to have been divided into a series of broadly contemporary internal subrectangular and square compounds, with others external to it. A north-south aligned pit alignment may have marked the eastern edge of the settlement. Some of the internal compounds contained penannular or annular ditches or gullies, some of which were probably eavesdrop gullies of roundhouses, others gullies around hay ricks, fodder stands and other slight structures. One subrectangular enclosure with an entrance in the south-west corner contained a possible rectangular structure defined by beam slots and roughly 3m long and 2m wide.



Figure G.536. (left). *One of the small penannular gullies being recorded at Rampton, probably of late Iron Age date, and either for a small roundhouse or a hay or fodder rick. (Source: Knight and Vyner 2006: rear cover).*

In the later Romano-British period, further large ditched enclosures were constructed on the eastern part of the site, with east-facing, inverted entrances overlooking the low marshland which in the Roman period may have occupied the former palaeochannel (Knight 2000a). These are shown in dark green on Fig. G.535, and may have functioned as corrals or livestock pens, whereby animals could be driven out onto the marshy floodplain for grazing. The pit alignment may have continued in use as a boundary, perhaps forming the eastern side of a droveway 8-10m wide. Several large pits in this area might have functioned as waterholes. The interior of the enclosure contained a marked concentration of intercutting gullies, pits and postholes, including at least one possible four-post structure (see Appendix E, Fig. E.21). A final stratigraphic phase (outlined in pink in Fig. G.535), has been proposed on the eastern margins of the settlement, with a series of later narrow, steep-sided but shallow gullies cutting the previous enclosure ditches, and which may have represented the fencelines of small enclosures (ibid.). Two parallel linear features to the south of the site may also have marked a later trackway.

The stratified deposits and the fills of the cut features contained an unexpected and unprecedented amount of late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery (around 15 000 sherds), *tegula* fragments, fired and unfired clay, daub, smithing slag and rotary querns. The metal finds included nails, occasional coins, several fine copper alloy brooches including enamelled and silvered examples, and a gilded jadeite pin. The pottery assemblage contained significant quantities of imported finewares such as samian, Nene Valley colour-coated wares, white wares, amphora fragments and mortaria from the Mancetter-Hartshill and *Verulamium* kilns. Preliminary analysis of these indicates some early to middle Iron Age occupation, perhaps on a seasonal basis, but then more intensive inhabitation from the late first century BC through to the fourth century AD, although occupation need not have been continuous over this period. Foci of settlement clearly shifted during the site's history. The deposits of alluvium blanketing many of the layers and features may indicate that increased flooding in the late Roman period might have been one reason why the locale was abandoned.



Figure G.537. More detailed plan of the northern part of the Moor Pool Close site, also showing the features excavated in previous phases of work, including those from 1965-66. (Source: Knight 2000a).

Worryingly though, only a small proportion of the features revealed during topsoil stripping were actually excavated, and the main excavation took place over only three months, despite the fact that as Google Earth images demonstrate quarrying was going to destroy all of the archaeology on the site. Despite the clues from the 1966 excavations and some of the evaluation trenches that substantial stratified deposits survived on site, the excavation strategy was based on the assumption that only a relatively few features cut into natural sand and gravel would survive (Walker and Challis 2004: 14). In the event, the stratigraphy was up to 0.5m thick, and on the eastern edge of the site a further substantial palaeochannel was identified, whose alluvial deposits sealed further Iron Age and Romano-British features. Worse still, the fixed price approach adopted by TPAT did not allow for full excavation within the time and budget agreed (*ibid.*). Most of the stratified layers had to be machined off in spits, leaving only a few baulks for more detailed excavation and recording, and the intersections of features and sections across linear features were mostly machine-dug and box-sectioned rather than hand-excavated. This was a very unsatisfactory methodology.

Staff must undoubtedly have worked hard to rectify or work round these oversights on site, but Nottinghamshire SMR and English Heritage should also have exerted some pressure to allow more rigorous excavation, and English Heritage could have been approached for additional funding. Assuming a team of 20-30 professional excavators, such a complex site should have required between six to eight months excavation at least, with the complete excavation of structural features and a *minimum* of 20-25% sampling of linear features such as field and enclosure ditches, in addition to

much more rigorous investigation of the stratified deposits. The similar agglomerated site at Crick in Northamptonshire was the focus of much longer and more intensive excavations (e.g. Woodward and Hughes 2007). Furthermore, post-excavation funding for Rampton will have been similarly inadequate given the extremely large quantities of artefacts recovered, although it is likely that the University of Nottingham may be able to provide some additional funding for this (D. Knight pers. comm.).

This site was of considerable regional and national importance, yet was still allowed to be destroyed with an inadequate amount of investigation. This is unacceptable, and hopefully in the future such large and complex sites will be better served by archaeological curators and contractors. Nevertheless, full publication of the results will still be of tremendous importance in understanding Trent Valley palaeoenvironmental sequences, the social and seasonal use of space and cultural processes of acculturation during the conquest and earlier Romano-British periods.

References: Challis 1990; Gilbert 1996a, 1996b; Knight 2000a, 2000b; Ponsford 1992; Priest 1997, 1998; Walker and Challis 2004.

Ramsdale

SK 5865 4945

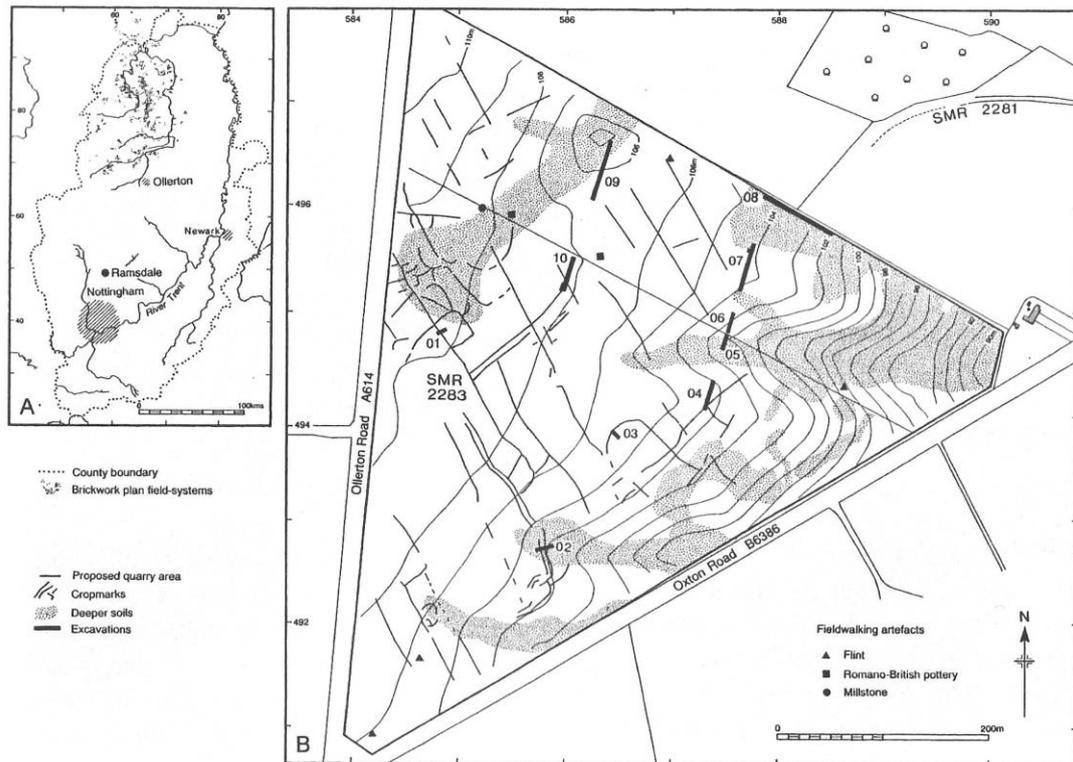


Figure G.538. Location of the site at Ramsdale, and the position of the trial trenches in relation to the cropmarks of the field system. (Source: Garton, Southgate and Leary 2000: 32, fig. 1A).

In advance of a proposed aggregates quarry and landfill site at Ramsdale Park near Arnold, north of Nottingham, TPAU undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation in 1998. The site lies on the flattish summit of a north-east to south-west aligned ridge, with the ground falling off to the south-east and north-west. Desk-based assessment of available aerial photographs identified a series of cropmarks within the development area, including north-west to south-east aligned field boundaries, double-ditched trackways and possible enclosures (Garton, Southgate and Leary 2000: 32). Geophysical survey was then undertaken, but the ground conditions were not conducive to either gradiometry or resistivity. Ten machine-dug trial trenches were then excavated, and the area was also fieldwalked following ploughing.

Trenches 1-2, 5 and 9-10 confirmed the existence of ditches associated with the field system, and these produced pottery ranging from a late prehistoric quartz tempered sherd through to mid to late first century period vessels, with grog or argillaceous inclusions; and second to early third century Derbyshire and greywares (Garton, Southgate and Leary 2000: 32). A bow fibula was found in topsoil in Trench 6. These trenches and others found several pits and postholes, but also some linear features on a different alignment to the overall field system. As is often the case with cropmark sites of the period, the fieldwalking results were rather disappointing, but a complete rotary quernstone was found where it had been moved aside to a modern field boundary (see Appendix F, Fig. F.32). This quern had evidence for re-use, possibly as an anvil during smithing (Wright and Brown 2000: 39-42).

Interestingly, the field system and other features at Ramsdale Park are close to possible Iron Age and Romano-British activity on Ramsdale Hill nearby, where an earthwork enclosure documented in the eighteenth century (Rooke 1792) but then lost may have been located by trial excavations that found late Iron Age and early Romano-British pottery and metalwork (Turner and Turner 1997: 12-13). A possible Iron Age hoard may have been found during construction of the golf course near Patchings Farm, although no trace of this now exists. The results from Ramsdale Park are clearly important, but the brief published interim report does not indicate whether or not there were any further phases of work undertaken. Clearly, the next stage of work in advance of quarrying should consist of open-area excavation of selected areas and features within the site, with at least 20-25% sampling of the linear features and further investigation of the pits and postholes.

References: Garton, Southgate and Leary 2000; Turner and Turner 1997.

Raymoth Lane, Worksop**SK 5800 8150**

At Raymoth Lane on the north-western outskirts of Worksop, a large irregular enclosure had been identified from aerial photographs in 1986 by Christine Cox, situated on a gentle south-east facing slope approximately 2km north of the River Ryton. A stream lay *c.* 1km to the north. A possible trackway was visible leading off to the south-east, but otherwise the nearest cropmarks of irregular and ‘brickwork’ fields, enclosures and trackways were some 4km to the north (Riley 1980: 118, map 21). Prior to the development of a housing estate, evaluation work was undertaken by PCA (Lincoln) in 2003 (Munford and Palmer-Brown 2003), followed by open-area excavation in 2004.

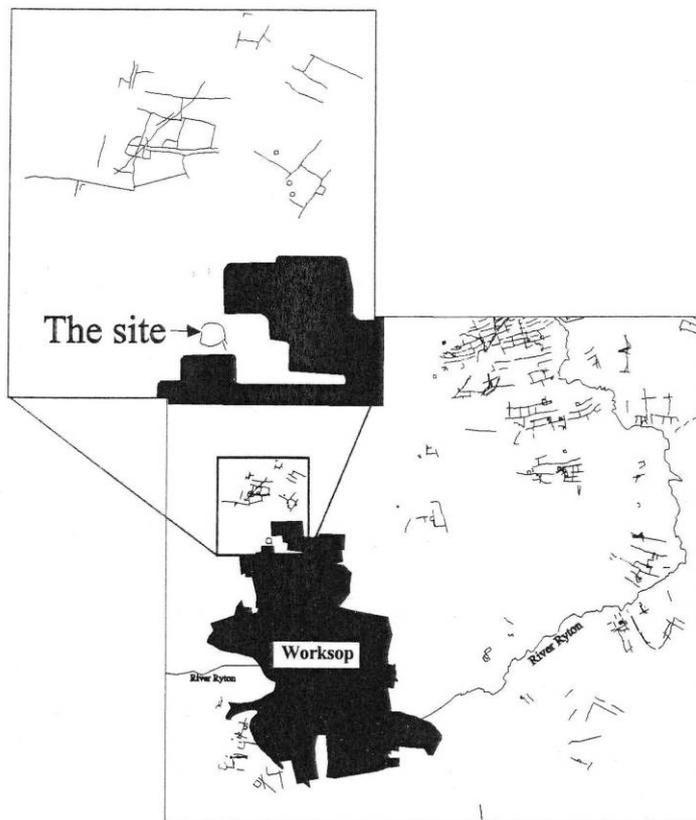


FIGURE 2: Site location and landscape setting (Scales 1:100,000 and 1:25,000)

Figure G.539. (left). *Location of the Raymoth Lane site in relation to other cropmarks in the area. (Source: Palmer-Brown and Munford 2004: 21, fig. 2.*

The enclosure ditch was up to 4.6m wide and 1.6m deep, and there was evidence for both re-cutting and realignment of this ditch. There was a south-east facing entrance 4.1m wide, and the ditch terminals seemed to have been repeatedly re-cut, and also contained numerous large boulders and stones that may have formed a later phase of revetment or embellishment (Palmer-Brown and Munford 2004: 24). From this entrance, a narrow double-ditched trackway 2m wide led off to the south-east, and inside the enclosure was part of a metallised cobble surface at this point. There was also a north-west facing entrance approximately 2m wide, although only the southern terminal of this was excavated. Two inhumation burials were discovered there of a young adult male and an older woman, their graves probably dug into the ditch at this point when it had largely silted up (*ibid.*: 30). Another grave was dug into the ditch south of this area, and this contained a crouched child buried with four copper-alloy bracelets and a jet bead, probably buried during the fourth to early fifth century AD.

that also included a complete puppy skeleton. Burnt human remains were found in a backfilled Romano-British kiln at Sedgford (Anon. 2006: 6-7; D. Bonner pers. comm.). An almost complete bone-handled knife was found in an upper ditch fill in the north-east part of the enclosure at Raymoth Lane, and four brooches, part of a terret ring and sixteen Romano-British coins were also recovered, mostly from unstratified contexts. Nevertheless, this suggests a focus of domestic inhabitation at the site beyond simple stock control, although the enclosure's use may well have changed over time.

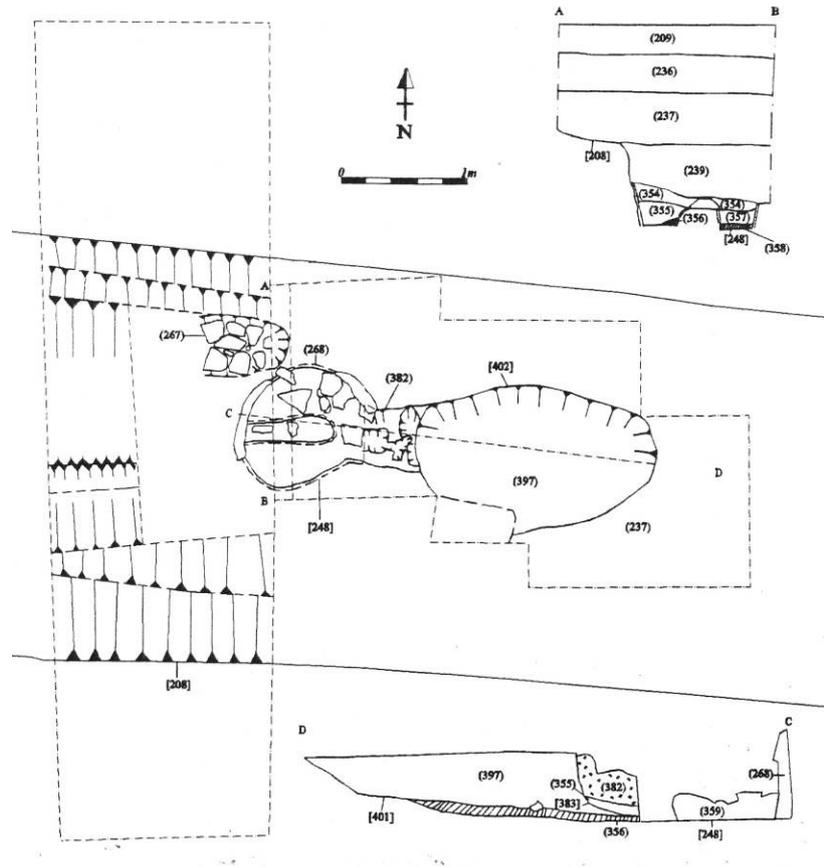


Figure G.541. *The kiln excavated at Raymoth Lane. (Source: Palmer Brown and Knight 2004: 31).*

It is a shame that the excavation was only four weeks in duration, and despite the use of additional students and volunteers as part of the work force, it was not possible to expose and record the full extent of the enclosure interior and all of the features within it (Palmer-Brown and Munford 2004: 22), partly due to a layer of colluviums across the site. Why more time and resources were not allocated to the investigations is not clear, nor why this was permitted by the Nottinghamshire SMR. Not only should the full extent of the interior have been exposed, but there should have been many more sections excavated across the enclosure ditch, and it is odd that the northernmost ditch terminal of the north-west entrance was not excavated, despite the discovery of human burials in the southern terminal. Hopefully, in the future such enclosure sites will be better served by curatorial project designs and the work of contract archaeology units.

References: Munford and Palmer-Brown 2003; Palmer-Brown and Munford 2004.

Redhill, Ratcliffe-on-Soar**SK 4940 3050**

Figure G.542. Aerial view of Redhill, showing the River Soar (and associated palaeochannels) running north-south from top to bottom of the image, and its confluence with the River Trent just visible in the top centre. The railway line and the Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station complex to the right side of the image mark the eastern boundary of the area of interest. (Source: © Google Earth).

Redhill consists of a prominent ridge overlooking the confluence of the Rivers Soar and Trent just 200m to the north, and is partly formed by striking outcropping bluffs of banded red Keuper marl and white gypsum. The ground falls steeply away to the north and west onto the river floodplains. There are antiquarian references to coffins and skeletons associated with Roman artefacts being found during gypsum mining at the western end of the ridge during the eighteenth century, and with construction of the railway tunnel under the ridge in 1838 (Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003). A bronze Iron Age shield boss was recovered during the building of the second railway bridge in 1895 (Watkin et al. 1976). In the 1920s and 1930s a local historian named Armitage carried out some excavations on the northern part of the site and he recovered pottery, glassware and coins and other artefacts, including a strigil and an involuted bird brooch (Hawkes and Jacobsthal 1945), but he died in 1956 and most of this collection was sold, dispersed or lost.

In the late 1950s fieldwalking and trial excavation was carried out by Herbert Houldsworth, and he identified a possible temple and a potential villa on the western and northern parts of the site respectively (Houldsworth 1963). One of these buildings had paved floors, fluted sandstone columns and one contained a burial. Part of the area was then Scheduled as a result of this work. Fieldwalking

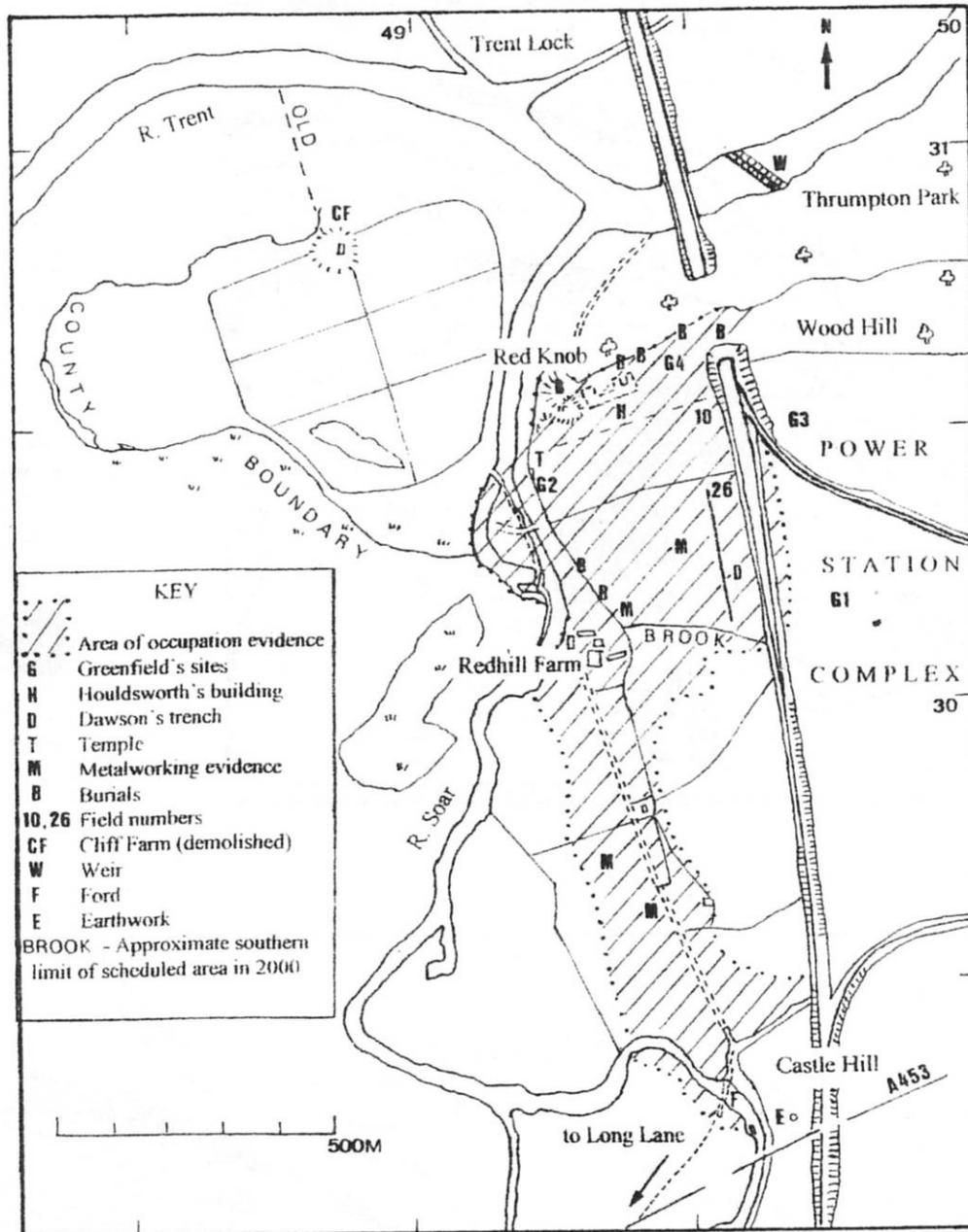


Figure G.543. Plan of the Redhill site complex, showing details of the previous investigations. (Source: Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003: 20, fig. 2).

by Roger Wilson recovered much more pottery, a bronze bracelet and a lead curse tablet (Turner 1963). A local archaeology society conducted some investigations of disturbance in 1963, and they recovered coins and a second lead tablet (Elsdon 1992: 30; Williams 1964). Also in 1963, rescue excavations were conducted by Ernest Greenfield on behalf of the Ministry of Works, in advance of the construction of the power station. Of his four excavation areas (themselves divided into small box sections, Elsdon 1992: figs. 2-3), Site 2 contained stone walling and metallised surfaces, and his finds included a third lead tablet and Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, including Scored Ware. Shallow gullies containing earlier Iron Age pottery were found in Site 3.

In 1966 a large part of the northern ridge was quarried away without archaeological recording, although Romano-British pottery, building material and bone was recovered (Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003: 21). Evaluation by English Heritage prior to groundwork on the cliff edge located further Romano-British features and an undated grave (Reeves 1992), whilst a watching brief to the west of the area identified two phases of field system ditches dating to the late first to early second and third to fourth centuries AD (Dawson 2001). The latter work also found palaeoenvironmental evidence for cereal cultivation and threshing (Leighton 2001). More recently, fieldwalking by the Redhill Research Group has found a series of interesting metal artefacts including coins, a small decorative bronze eagle, a miniature copper alloy axe head and two lead phalli, in addition to a finger ring inscribed with ‘TOT’, perhaps standing for the god Toutates or Teutates (Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003: 22). There has thus been a highly significant concentration of metalwork finds in the immediate area over the years.

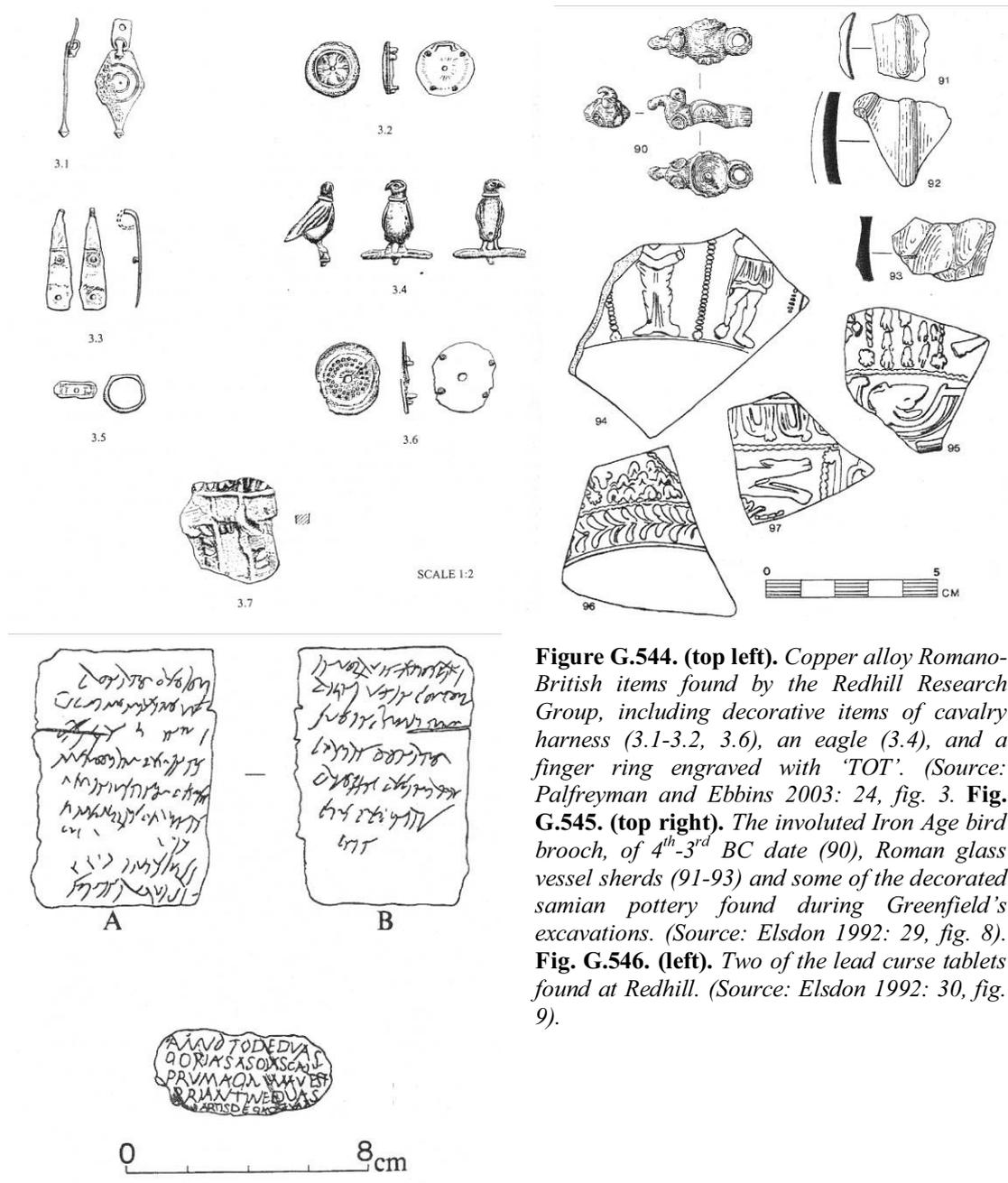


Figure G.544. (top left). Copper alloy Romano-British items found by the Redhill Research Group, including decorative items of cavalry harness (3.1-3.2, 3.6), an eagle (3.4), and a finger ring engraved with ‘TOT’. (Source: Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003: 24, fig. 3. **Fig. G.545. (top right).** The involuted Iron Age bird brooch, of 4th-3rd BC date (90), Roman glass vessel sherds (91-93) and some of the decorated samian pottery found during Greenfield’s excavations. (Source: Elsdon 1992: 29, fig. 8). **Fig. G.546. (left).** Two of the lead curse tablets found at Redhill. (Source: Elsdon 1992: 30, fig. 9).

A recent evaluation by BUFAU also recorded remains of buildings and recovered significant quantities of Romano-British pottery, building material and coins (Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003: 22), whilst in 1995 a cremation burial of a child was found in a rare Nene Valley ‘duck beaker’ (Leary 1996). There was clearly a focus of significant activity at Redhill, which seems to have been an important locale since late prehistory. There was probably a ford and/or a bridge located down on the floodplain, where the Roman road from *Derventio* or Little Chester, Derby may have crossed the Trent. An undated rectangular earthwork at Sawley nearby may have been a small fort guarding river traffic and/or a crossing (Todd 1967). It is possible that there was a focus of Iron Age ritual deposition and perhaps a shrine here, sited near the confluence of the rivers Trent and Soar, and that this was replaced by a later Romano-British temple complex (Elsdon 1992). There was clearly also a cemetery of some sort, and there may have been a villa complex too, although I feel it unlikely that the ritual centre was associated with this (cf. Dawson 2001: 34). A convincing case has recently been made that rather than a villa, there was a *mansio* located in the vicinity (Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003: 32), and this may help explain the concentration of military finds. As the Redhill Research Group stress, the area would clearly benefit from further investigation, including detailed geophysical survey and perhaps a controlled metal-detecting survey.

References: Dawson 2001; Elsdon 1982; Hawkes and Jacobsthal 1945; Houldsworth 1963; Palfreyman and Ebbins 2003.

Scaftworth**SK 6590 9276**

Figure G.547. *The site at Scaftworth in the lower left foreground, located on the floodplain of the River Idle, looking north-west towards Bawtry. (Source: Van de Noort et al. 1997: 410).*

The site at Scaftworth lies on low-lying ground on the eastern floodplain of the River Idle, opposite Bawtry. Although apparently recorded in 1774 as a ‘Roman camp’, it was lost but then re-identified from the air during 1945-1953 by Keith St. Joseph and Derrick Riley (e.g. St Joseph 1953), and Bartlett and Riley excavated several sections across the ditches, suggesting that it was a fourth century fortlet protecting a then unknown river crossing of the Roman road from Lincoln to Doncaster (Bartlett and Riley 1958: 35). They also noted the presence of organic waterlogged deposits in the ditches, and the remnants of a possible rampart within the inner ditch. In 1980, three trenches were excavated by David Kennedy and David Gilbertson of Sheffield University, partly as a response to perceived plough damage but also to retrieve palaeoenvironmental samples. They recorded heavy plough truncation within the fort interior, and broad but shallow ditches. To the north of the site they also noted ‘ground armouring deposits’ formed from cobbles and at least 23m wide and up to 0.30m thick (Gilbertson and Blackham 1985). Although some of the small quantity of pottery recovered is missing, the remainder is mostly of third to fourth century date (Dearne 1997: 14). It is not clear if the outermost ditch was present on the western side. Buckland (1986: 32) suggested that the innermost ditch represents the line of a robber trench for a previously upstanding stone wall, but there is little evidence for this.

The ‘ground armouring’ deposits were seen to be part of the line of the Roman road, suggesting a route from Barrow Hills towards Bawtry and passing just to the north of the site (Gilbertson and Blackham 1985: 121-122). Ploughing of reclaimed fields in 1982 uncovered preserved timbers, one of which was ^{14}C dated to AD 260-400 (Kennedy 1984: 38), and a drainage channel section revealed the metallated surface of the road supported on a timber ‘corduroy’ raft. In 1983, excavations directed by Kennedy took place of part of the trackway or road to the north-west of the fortlet at SK 6578 9296, and further excavations took place in 1991, directed by Martin Dearne (1997). There was yet further excavation in 1994-1996 as part of the Humberhead Levels Project (Head et al. 1997; Van de Noort et al. 1997). These investigations all revealed peat deposits on top of the road surface, and that the metallated road had been supported by a corduroy raft of horizontal birch and alder logs up to 0.23m in diameter, with an axial ‘spine’ and held in place by oak, birch and alder stakes driven into the alluvium. These horizontal timbers were covered with sand to form a level surface, and the stakes had stones and gravel packed around them (Dearne 1997: 20-21). Two parallel lines of stakes may have preceded construction and set out the course to be followed. The later 1995-96 investigations also recorded the use of brushwood and turves in road construction.

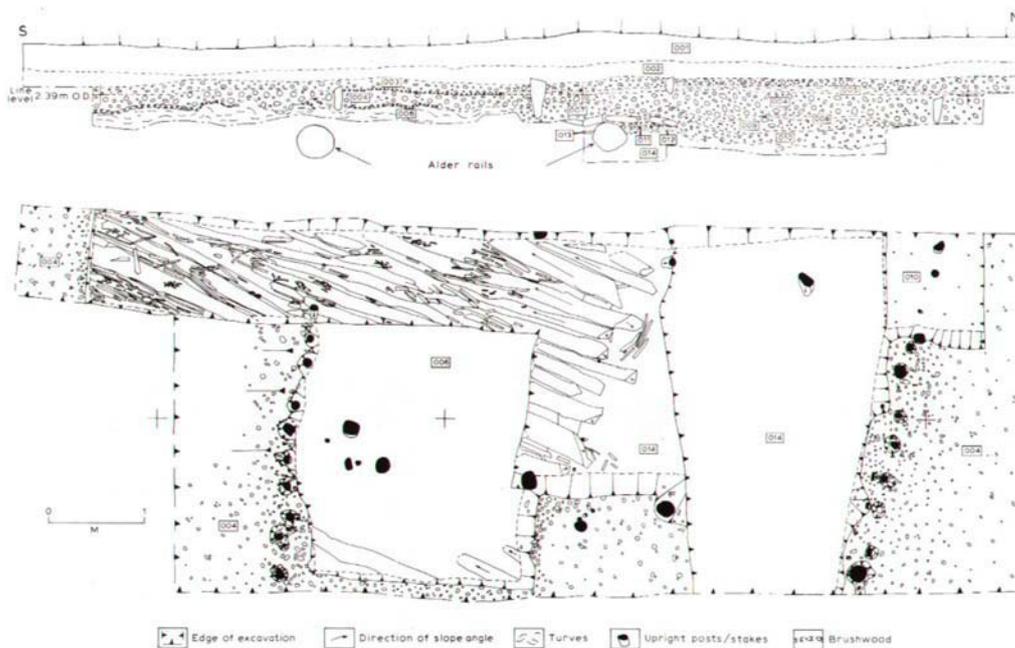


Figure 16.2 Scaftworth-5: section and plan of assessment trench.

Figure G.548. Plan of the 1995 assessment trench, showing the horizontal timbers and lines of driven stakes. (Source: Van de Noort et al. 1997: 413).

Although the initial ^{14}C date was recalibrated to AD 330-410 (77% reliability) or AD 260-290 (23%), the dating of this trackway is problematic as this seems late for a route that should have been established early during the conquest of the north in the later first century AD (Dearne 1997: 28). The road was probably laid out in what was a largely open landscape of wet grassland and alder carr (McElearney 1991, 1997), but the timber causeway would have had to have been at least 400m long and would have required thousands of timbers, a considerable logistical undertaking.

Variations in the alignment of the metalled road and the corduroy road were recorded in 1995-1996, and there were other suggestions that there had been several phases of construction (Van de Noort et al. 1997: 415). There thus had probably been at least two roads across the floodplain at Scaftworth, and it may be that the early one built on the timber raft was the earlier phase, with a later metalled road following in the third to fourth century AD. The earlier structure might have been associated with the military advance into the north during the later first century AD.

The more recent archaeological work undertaken as part of the Humberhead Levels project surveyed and fieldwalked a series of sites in the Scaftworth area, including flint scatters but also concentrations of Romano-British pottery indicating other possible settlements (Head et al. 1997: 279-294). In addition, magnetometer and resistivity surveys were carried out over the possible fortlet, and revealed a possible entrance to the north-west in the outer ditch and possible discontinuities in the inner two ditches at this point. These may suggest some form of timber entrance structure, although this has been disputed (cf. *ibid.*: 288). In addition, two interesting internal features are evident on the geophysical plot. In the south-east corner of the enclosure is a broadly circular dark anomaly that may represent a hollow or the location of a circular structure, perhaps even a roundhouse, approximately 20m across. A structure *c.* 30m long and 12m wide was also detected, possibly representing the wall trenches of a rectangular timber building, though at a different orientation to the enclosing ditches.

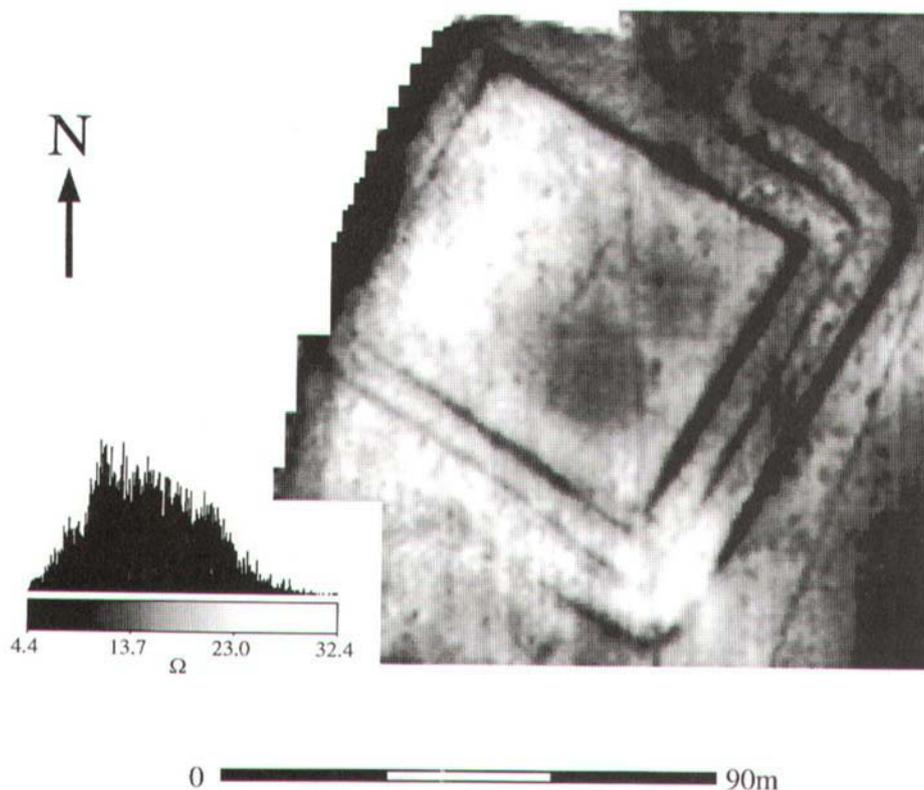


Figure G.549. Geophysical survey of the Scaftworth site, undertaken as part of the Humberhead Levels Project. A possible entrance is visible towards the upper right of the image. Note the circular feature, and also the possible rectangular structure. Other possible gullies and pits are also visible. (Source: Head et al. 1997: 288).

Further Romano-British pottery was recovered from fieldwalking over the triple-ditched enclosure, and this too was basically of fourth century date, but there were no artefacts with obvious military associations (Head et al. 1997: 289-291). Because of this, and the apparent lack of features and artefacts with military connotations, its status as a fortlet has been questioned (Van de Noort et al. 1997: 427). Other multivallate farmstead sites are known from the region, but it has to be said that the very regular, square plan of the Scaftworth enclosure and its triple-ditches are highly unusual, although the ditches may not have been dug at the same time. The Hook Moor enclosure in West Yorkshire may be an analogous settlement (O'Neill 2001b, see below), but the landscape setting of Scaftworth on the low-lying floodplain so close to two phases of Roman road and the crossing over the River Idle would seem to be more than coincidence. This site would also have been only 700 metres away and across the River Idle from the high-status, possible temple or shrine site on the Bawtry floodplain (Berg and Major 2006). Given the continued desiccation of waterlogged deposits in the area and continued degradation caused by ploughing and the cutting of drainage channels, the Scaftworth site would perhaps now best be served by full open-area excavation. This would enable more complete understanding of the nature and date of the occupation in this locale.

References: Bartlett and Riley 1958; Dearne 1997; Gilbertson and Blackham 1985; Head et al. 1997; Kennedy 1984; St Joseph 1953; Van de Noort et al. 1997.

Scrooby Top**SK 6510 8900**

Figure G.550. *Cropmarks near Scrooby Top, east of Bishopfield House and immediately west of Black Cat Plantation, looking north-west. Rectangular co-axial fields and a possible rectangular enclosure or corral are visible. Note too the possible circular feature just to the north of the small square copse of trees, towards the upper right of the image, which is apparently abutted by a linear boundary. The earthwork known as the Roman Bank forms the western boundary of Black Cat Plantation, along the left side of the image. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8349, SK 643 888).*

The area around Scrooby and Scrooby Top contains another interesting series of cropmarks, including co-axial ‘brickwork’ fields, trackways and enclosures, the latter occurring both as groups and as isolated examples in field corners or appended to field boundaries (Riley 1980: 112-113, map 18). There is also an intriguing earthwork called the Roman Bank, whose sinuous but approximately north-south course can be traced for at least 3.2km from a point near the A634 and B6045 junction (SK 6368 8710) up to Neale’s Covert (SK 6452 9010); east of but broadly parallel to the looping course of the River Ryton. This forms part of the post-medieval and modern Blyth/Ranskill parish boundary, and seems to predate it (Oswald 1939: 12). The cropmark co-axial field boundaries are not aligned at right angles to it, suggesting that it either pre- or post-dates these field systems (Riley 1980: 106). It is most likely to be an early medieval Anglo-Scandinavian boundary. Immediately north of Scrooby Top House are several cropmark enclosures on two sides of a modern gravel quarry and an adjacent copse of trees. These are at one end of a gentle north-south aligned ridge, with the ground falling off to the east down the flat and low-lying land to the east around Mattersey. One unexcavated subrectangular enclosure on the top of the ridge appears to have internal partitions and contains at least two visible roundhouses, and a possible rectangular structure. East of the copse and on a slight terrace on the eastern edge of the ridge, there was a subrectangular enclosure located within a proposed quarry extension, and this was investigated by ARCUS and the University of Sheffield during 1996-1997.

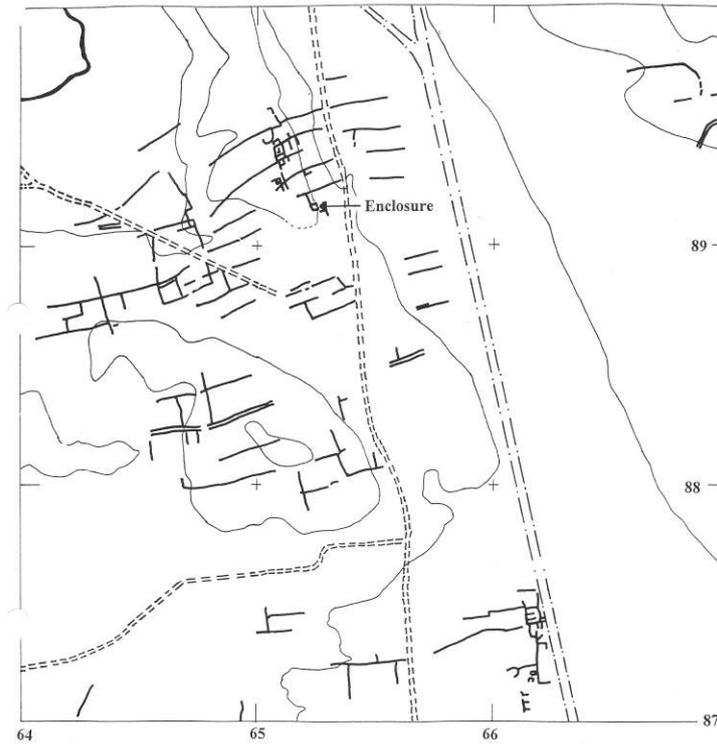


Figure G.551. Cropmarks south of Scrooby, originally plotted by Riley (1980: map 18), showing the enclosure excavated by ARCUS and the University of Sheffield. (Source: Davies et al. 2000, fig. 3).



Figure G.552. Enclosures north of Scrooby Top House, looking south-east. The enclosure in the foreground (lower centre) is unexcavated, and contains a possible roundhouse. It is to the east of the enclosure with the two roundhouses shown below in Fig. G. 78. The second enclosure immediately east (left) of the quarry was excavated in 1997. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 956, SK 652 893).

A desk-based assessment including examination of aerial photographs established that the enclosure and associated field boundaries lay within the proposed quarry extension (Davies 1996a), and a second-stage evaluation using two trial trenches confirmed that features such as ditches survived, which produced first to third century AD Romano-British pottery, in addition to one possible late Iron Age or conquest period sherd (Davies 1996b). Full-scale excavation of the enclosure was therefore desirable, but as the quarry extension had been granted planning permission prior to the introduction of PPG16 in 1990, the quarry company were under no obligation to fully fund such work. In the event, it was possible to run an excavation as a student training excavation, using professional staff from ARCUS and staff and students from the University of Sheffield, in a joint project directed by Mike Parker Pearson, Glyn Davies and Graham Robbins, the latter as part of his PhD research (see Preface and Preamble). The Scrooby Top project design explicitly incorporated proposals to test ideas regarding Iron Age enclosure layout (Davies et al. 2000: 8-9; q.v. Giles and Parker Pearson 1999).

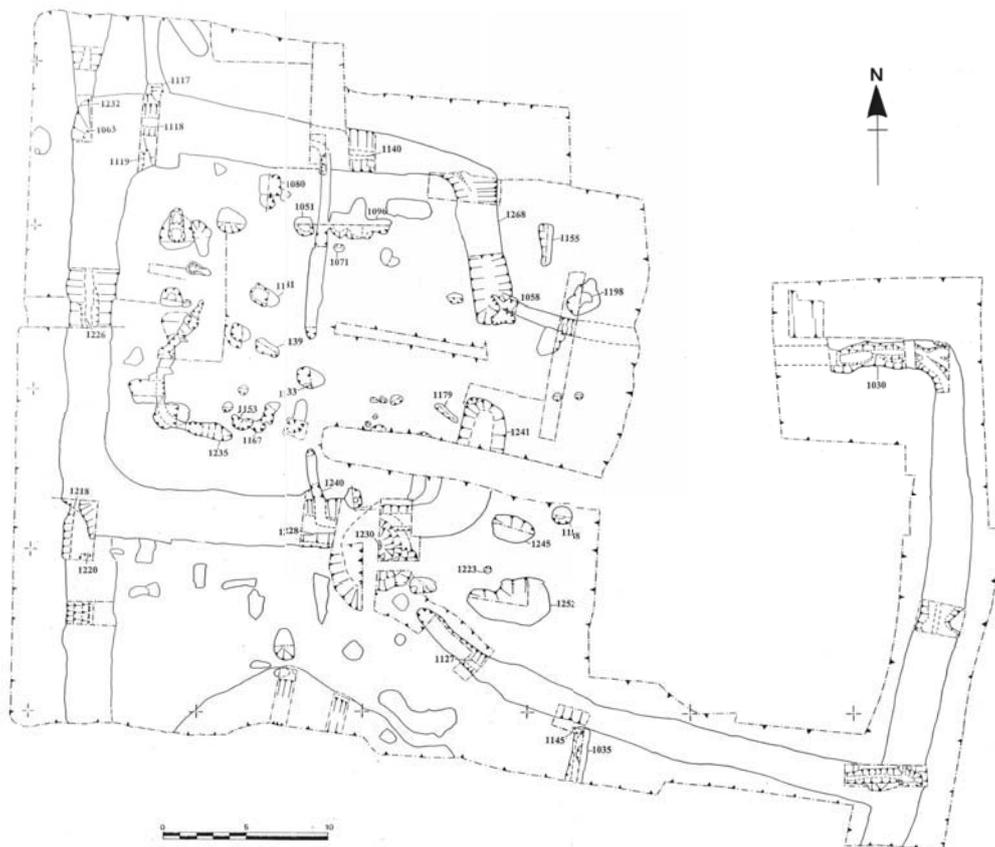


Figure G.554. *Composite plan of the enclosure at Scrooby Top, showing all excavated features. (Source: Davies et al. 2000; fig. 7).*

The excavation revealed a subrectangular or subsquare enclosure 28m long on its north-south axis, and 27m wide, with an east-facing entrance approximately 4.6m wide (Davies et al. 2000: 20). The enclosure ditch was between 1.64m-3.45m wide and up to 1.62m deep, and during machining a spread of charcoal, fire-cracked stones and pottery sherds was noted, across the eastern half of the enclosure by the entrance. This deposit was up to 0.23m thick, 9.25m wide and 9.75m long, and seems to have represented a midden that had accumulated by the southern entrance terminal, but which had been

allowed to spread across the entrance and eastern part of the enclosure. The pottery was of later second and early third century date. The enclosure was appended to a pre-existing north-south field boundary, and had an uncertain relationship with another east-west ditch on its eastern side, appended to or cut by the northern entrance terminal. This articulated with another north-south field boundary, and together with another east-west ditch to the south of the enclosure formed an outer enclosure or corral approximately 29m long and 25.5m wide (Davies et al. 2000: 16-17). Late first century AD pottery was recovered from these ditch fills. The only apparent entrance into this outer enclosure was a narrow 2.5m wide gap to the south-west. However, on the northern side of the east-west outer enclosure ditch 1031, a shallow east-west linear depression was observed in the field, and the deposits within this probable holloway overlay the ditch fills, and contained mid-second to mid-third century pottery sherds, suggesting that by this date the outer enclosure had gone out of use. That the holloway was still visible in the modern field despite plough truncation suggests that it was once a substantial feature.

A subsoil deposit had built up across the eastern part of the site, above gravel natural subsoil, and this had sealed and masked a series of internal features, probably preventing them from being visible on the aerial photographs. A north-south ditch or gully 0.80m wide and up to 0.40m deep divided the main enclosure into a western and an eastern half, with a gap through it 6.80m wide (Davies et al. 2000: 25). This cut through some of the fills of the main enclosure ditch, indicating that this had partially filled in before the division was constructed, and may have formed a later recut of the western half of the enclosure. In the south-west corner of the enclosure, an irregular semi-circular gully and two postholes probably represented the truncated remains of a roundhouse roughly 7.5m wide. This possible eavesdrip gully or base of a raised roundhouse platform (q.v. Pryor 1983) contained fire-cracked stone and mid-second to mid-third century AD pottery, concentrated in the southern part of the feature. The two postholes might have marked an east-facing entrance.

The natural subsoil on the western part of the enclosure was sandy, and cut features were very difficult to identify and define on this part of the site. Many pits were found within the enclosure, mostly in the northern and western areas. Many of these contained fire-cracked stones and pottery sherds. In the north-west corner of the main enclosure was a small keyhole-shaped, clay-lined oven, and some of the pits near this feature also contained fired clay fragments. Three later phase hearths were identified in the southern part of the enclosure, within the upper fills of the enclosure ditch and constructed of rounded stones and clay. A large proportion of the pottery sherds from the southern enclosure ditch had sooted deposits on their outer surfaces (Robbins 1997, 2000), again suggesting heating and cooking activities in this part of the enclosure. By the south-west gap through into the outer enclosure, a probable well 7.1m in diameter and at least 1.8m deep was present, cut through the fills of the main enclosure ditch. This contained mid-second to mid-third century ceramics. Other pits were located outside of the enclosure, mostly on the eastern and southern sides. At the very edge of the excavation area to the south was a large feature at least 17m long and 3.5m wide, and contained mid-second to mid-third century pottery, and a quern fragment. This may have been a waterhole or pond.

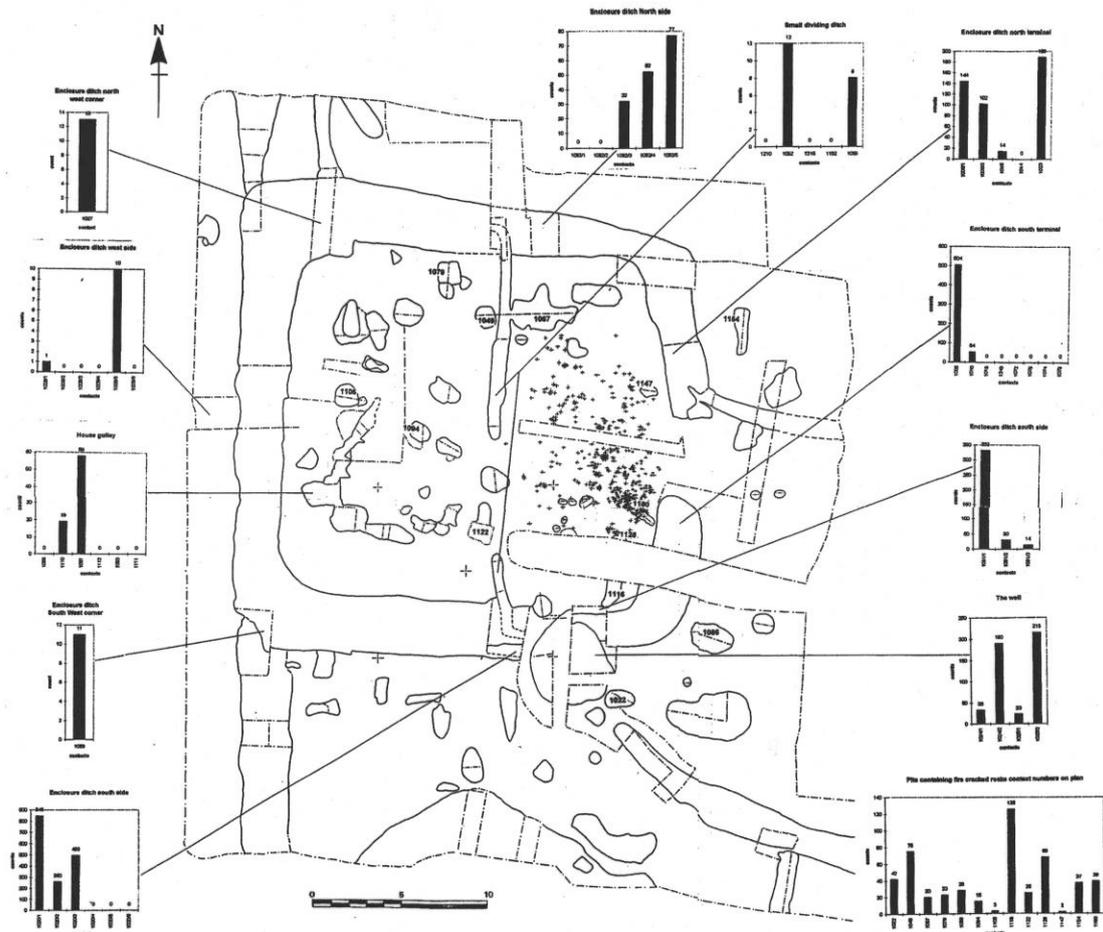


Figure G.555. The distribution of burnt stone by count according to the different excavated sections of ditches and pits in and around the enclosure. Also shown is the midden spread across the enclosure entrance. (Source: Robbins 1997).

Only a few animal bone fragments survived in the acidic soils, and the palaeo-environmental evidence indicated the presence of spelt and barley, but also very small quantities of emmer, bread wheat and rye. Flax, heather and elder were also present. The heather may have been used for the stalling and bedding of animals (Bogaard 2000: 183-184). Greyware, Parisian ware, Black Burnished Ware, Torksey and Mancetter-Hartshill wares, York (Eburacum) wares, mortaria, samian and amphora sherds were all recovered, in addition to a smaller number of sherds in coarser, vesicular hand-made fabrics and forms that may be of late Iron Age or first century AD date (Robbins 2000: 84), most of the latter retrieved from primary fills of the enclosure ditch and field system ditches. Although a small rural settlement, this community therefore had access to a wide range of Romano-British pottery, with the main phase of occupation perhaps taking place from the mid-second through to the mid-third century AD. Ceramic consumption and deposition seem to have ceased during the mid to late third century AD.

Within the enclosure ditch, most sherds were present in upper fills, sometimes in discrete dumps, and several fragmented but near-complete vessels were noted within the western ditch. The bulk of the sherds were recovered from the southern, south-western and western parts of the enclosure ditch (see Appendix F, Fig. F.01), and this is matched by the distribution of burnt and heat-shattered stone. This

indicates the southern side of the enclosure was the focus of cooking and heating, and most sooted sherds were from the southern enclosure ditch. Smithing slag was concentrated just outside and south of the entrance. In contrast, the majority of sherds of one fine ware (Eburacum ware) were found in the northern part of the enclosure ditch. Eight of the fifteen samian sherds recovered were from the possible roundhouse eavesdrip gully. Two copper alloy brooches and a coin were found in the southern east-west field ditch, whilst two further coins were recovered from a pit east of the house gully, and during the machining of the eastern part of the enclosure.

The excavation demonstrated that the enclosure either post-dated or was broadly contemporary with elements of the field system, with movement to and from the enclosure generally from the east. The enclosure's internal partition, and the convoluted approach to it via the subenclosure in its earlier phases, suggests a concern with controlling the movements of people and animals. The field system ditches ran down to the edge of the River Idle floodplain but no further, probably indicating that this area was relatively open meadow and alder and willow carr, used for seasonal grazing (Davies et al. 2000: 49). There may have been blocks of land taking in areas of this floodplain, the cultivated southern slopes of the ridge, and sandy heath and heather on the ridgeline. The Scrooby Top enclosures may not all have been occupied simultaneously, and there might have been chronological shifts in inhabitation foci around the landscape.



Figure G.556. *Composite panoramic image of fields looking north-east, north and north-west from the road from Scrooby Top to Harworth Lodge. The active gravel quarry can be seen at the right of the image. The excavated enclosure was located to the south-east of the copse of trees, at the far right of the image. The unexcavated enclosures (including the example with two visible roundhouses in Fig. G. 78 below) are on the other side of the copse, on top of the ridgeline. (Source: author).*

This was an important excavation in many ways, not least because of the explicitly research focus of the excavations. In particular, the detailed spatial analysis of different pottery form and fabric types across the site, along with similar quantification of the distribution of burnt stone, provided much useful information about depositional practices, and how these might have reflected both the practical functional patterns of occupation in and around the settlement, but also something of the underlying implicit cultural or cosmological beliefs of the people who dwelt there. It would be highly productive for such detailed analyses and the plotting of these distributions to be routinely incorporated within all developer-funded excavations and post-excavation work of enclosure sites across the region, and presented in both client and archive reports, and publications.



Figure G.557. *The enclosure complex north of Scrooby Top House, looking north-east. At least two roundhouses are visible in the enclosure immediately to the north (left) of the trees in the lower centre, as well as a possible rectangular structure. The excavated enclosure was located to the east or upper right of the trees, and is just visible to the left of the prominent T-shaped ditch junction there. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 1033, SK 652 893).*

References: Davies 1996a, 1996b; Davies et al. 2000; Davies, Parker Pearson and Robbins 1997; Riley 1980.

Spalford Meadows

SK 8200 6850



Figure G.558. *Magnetic susceptibility and magnetometry survey at Spalford Meadows, showing positive anomalies interpreted as buried ditches. (Source: Garton 1999: 104, fig. 3).*

A proposed extension to Girton Quarry, near Spalford, involved a programme of fieldwalking, magnetic susceptibility and gradiometry survey and auger transects, undertaken by TPAT. The area comprised flat, low-lying land on the floodplain of the River Trent only 500m to the west, with palaeochannels of old courses of the river crossing the development area, and with adjacent sand dunes in a belt on the edge of the river terrace (Garton 1999: 101). This area was only c. 1.8km north of a previous Girton Quarry extension (see above). Significant scatters of earlier prehistoric flint and Romano-British pottery were recovered from the sand dune area at Spalford Meadows, suggesting that this had formed the focus of inhabitation over millennia. Magnetic susceptibility survey of the sand dunes established concentrations of past human activity, and further investigation of these areas using geophysical magnetometry identified buried linear features likely to be field system ditches, and potentially trackways and enclosures too.

The palaeochannel deposits were sampled for palaeoenvironmental analysis and ^{14}C dating. This found evidence for arable cultivation from the early second millennium BC through to the Romano-British period, whilst beetle remains included species associated with herbivore dung and grassland, indicating a largely cleared and open landscape over this time span (Garton 1999: 104-105). That these field systems ended up blanketed by alluvium and/or sand deposits may reflect the kind of large-scale

flooding, deposition of silts and sand ‘blow-outs’ recorded elsewhere along the Trent Valley in the later Roman period (e.g. Eccles, Caldwell and Mincher 1988; Elliott and Knight 1997, 1998, forthcoming; Knight and Howard 2004b; Knight and Priest 1998; Macklin 1999; Rackham 2000). These may have resulted from a combination of climatic downturn and more intensive land use (see Chapter 1), and the deposits at Spalford Meadows may shed more light on this. It is not clear from the brief published report if there will be further phases of work at Spalford Meadows – the next stage would seem to be targeted trial trenching, followed by the open-area excavation of selected groups of features.

References: Garton 1999.

Staunton**SK 8030 4470**

This settlement was situated in the Vale of Belvoir, on flat low-lying land at the foot of a low ridge. The Winter Beck flows along the base of this ridge. Ploughing during the 1960s had revealed an extensive scatter of Romano-British pottery, and when in 1970 this area was threatened by gypsum mining, Malcolm Dean, Malcolm Todd and students from Newark Technical College carried out limited excavations. The published plans are unclear, and it does not appear that any enclosure ditches were identified and recorded. However, other linear features do not seem to have their full extent defined either. The remains of several roundhouses were identified, in addition to ditches and gullies forming no coherent plan, pits and three inhumation burials (Todd 1975: 30-34). The large quantity of pottery recovered was predominantly later third to fourth century in date and mostly greyware vessels, perhaps of local manufacture. Some animal bone, one coin and a marble palette were also recovered.

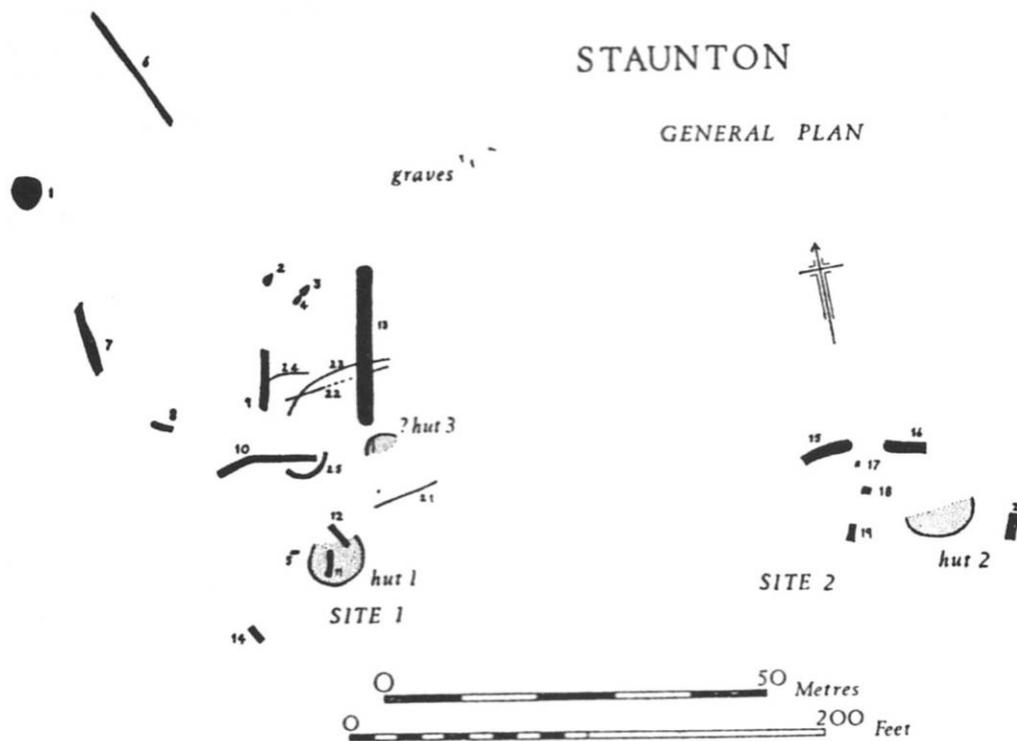


Figure G.559. Plan of the excavated features at Staunton. Either this was an 'open' settlement, or more likely, enclosure ditches were not recognised. (Source: Todd 1975: 30, fig. 1).

References: Todd 1975.

Whatton

SK 7300 3930

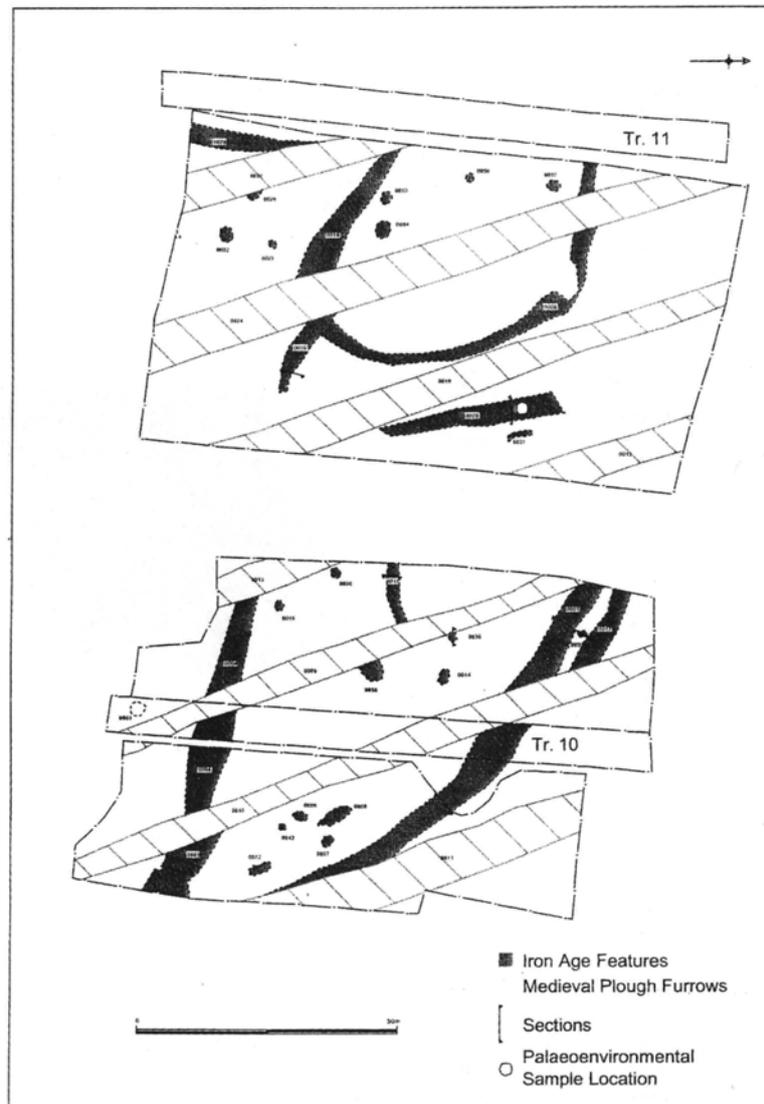


Figure G.560. Plan of the excavated areas at Whatton, showing the outlines of the archaeological features in addition to the line of medieval ridge and furrow. (Source: Platt 2005: 19, fig. 2).

Excavated recently by TPAU in 2004 in advance of a prison extension, this site was located at around 23m AOD on a relatively flat shelf of boulder clay sloping gently to the north-west from a low ridge. The large enclosure complex at Aslockton lies some 2km to the north. An initial watching brief phase utilising sixteen machine-dug trial trenches found archaeological deposits in only one – Trench 10. This was then extended into a small open-area excavation. Underneath the ‘stripes’ of medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, a series of ditches, pits and postholes were identified (Platt 2005: 17). The ditches were up to 2.20m wide and 1m deep, and seemed to form two conjoined sub-oval or D-shaped enclosures, one up to 98m long and 60m wide. The eastern enclosure had a possible north-east facing entrance, blocked off in a later phase. Structural features may have been represented by the pits/postholes, though this is far from clear in the published report.

Over four hundred sherds of hand-made pottery were recovered, the majority of these in a coarse quartz-gritted fabric, with others in a vesicular fabric or with fuel ash temper. Some of the vessels had finger-tip impressions on the rims, and/or scoring and brushing on the exterior surfaces, typical of early to middle Iron Age Scored Ware and similar ceramics. Fuel ash slag, fired clay and daub were also recovered, some of the latter with wattle impressions (Platt 2005: 21). Some horse and cattle bone fragments were also found.

Only a limited number of sections (just seven 1m wide interventions) were dug through the ditches, and only three of the pits were half-sectioned, due to a lack of ‘time and resources’ (Platt 2005: 18). Why such a potentially important site was only partially investigated in this way is not clear, for even if the project had started as a watching brief, the curatorial archaeologists should then have insisted upon full open-area excavation with a *minimum* of 20-25% sampling of the ditch fills, and perhaps an expansion of the area under investigation, depending on the construction scheme. Given the earlier Iron Age date of the relatively abundant ceramic assemblage, this site should have assumed even greater significance. This was a serious missed opportunity.

References: Platt 2005.

Wild Goose Cottage, Lound

SK 7015 8725

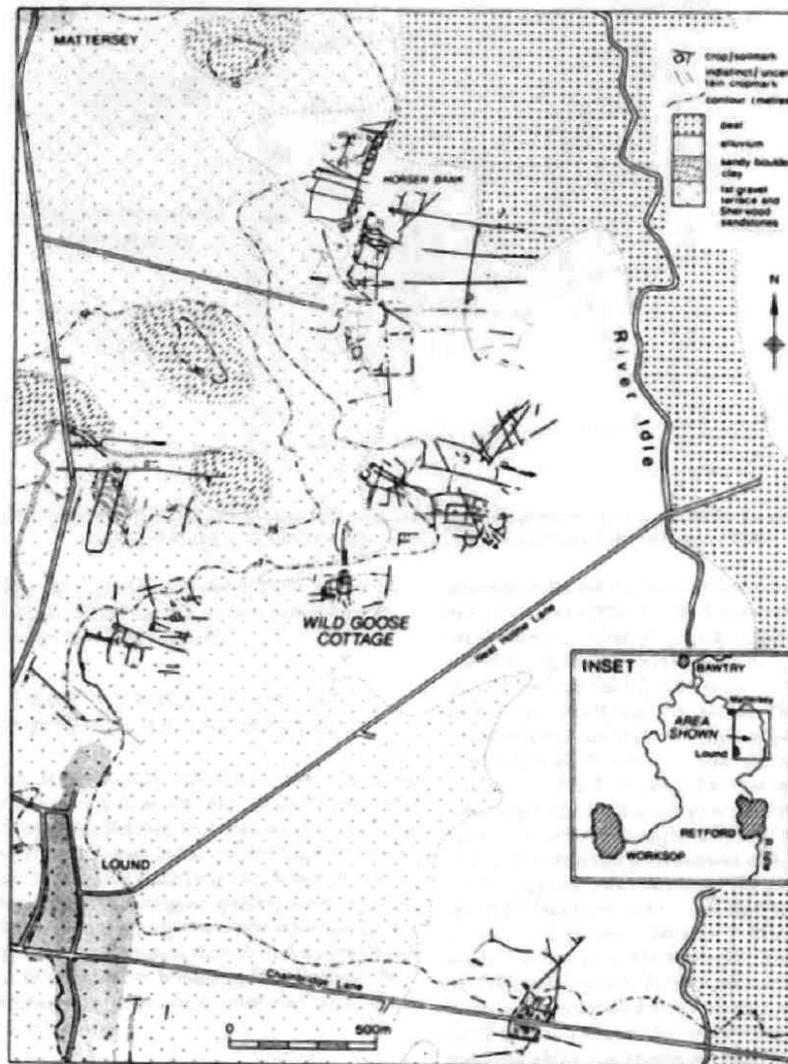


Figure G.561. Location map of the Wild Goose Cottage cropmark complex. (Source: Garton and Salisbury 1995: 16, fig. 1).

This enclosure complex was situated on flat, low-lying ground between 7-8m AOD in height, on the floodplain of the River Idle some 1km to the east and adjacent to a stream, south-east of Blaco Hill. The Chainbridge Lane complex was 1.6km to the south-east. Quarrying was proposed in 1990, and a programme of fieldwalking, resistivity survey and trial trenching was undertaken (Garton 1990; Grattan 1990), funded by Nottinghamshire County Council. This work confirmed the presence of cropmarks (Riley 1980: 116-117, map 20), and also indicated that the ditches had once held organic material, though the wood and peat identified was severely degraded by the time of the investigation, probably due to an overall lowering of the water table in the area due to pumping associated with quarry workings (Garton 1990). As planning permission for mineral extraction had already been given some years previously, there was unfortunately no funding available for any open-area excavation. However, a watching brief on the topsoil stripping and quarrying work allowed some features to be planned, and some artefacts recovered by an ‘amateur’ team (Garton and Salisbury 1995: 17).



Figure G.562. The cropmark complex at Wild Goose Cottage, looking south in 1977. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 1261, SK 701 872).

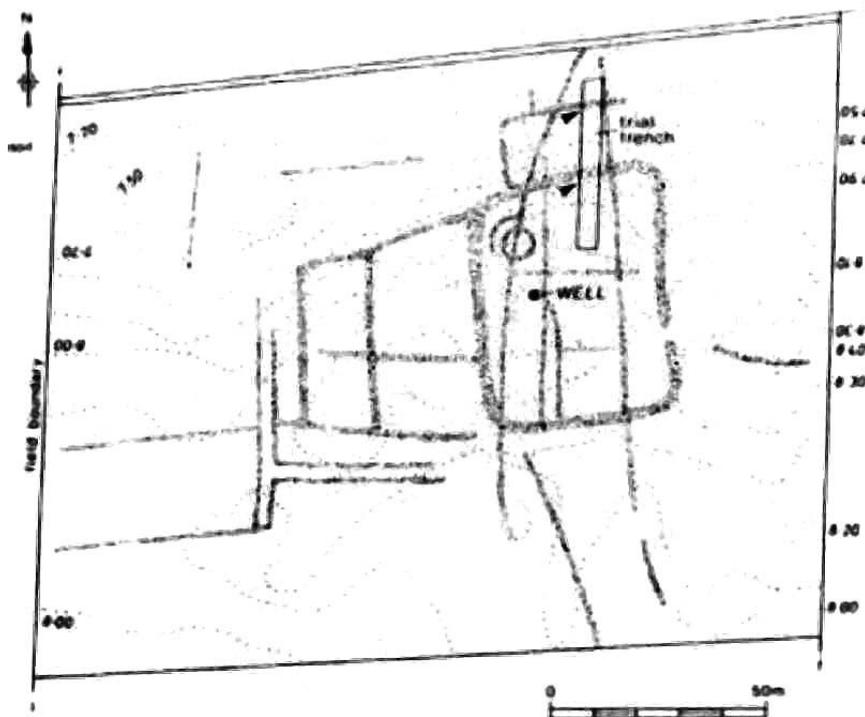


Figure G.563. Plan of the enclosures at Wild Goose Cottage, also showing the location of the excavated well. (Source: Garton and Salisbury 1995: 18, fig. 2).

In plan, one major subrectangular enclosure was noted approximately 65m long and 43m wide, with a probable east-facing entrance. On its western side was a group of subenclosures or pens, and another subenclosure was appended to its northern edge. To the west was a T-shaped trackway junction, but the funnel-shaped end of a wider north-south trackway appeared to approach and open up towards the complex from the south. However, the eastern ditch of this trackway seemed to run over or under the subrectangular enclosure, suggesting greater stratigraphic depth. Another phase of trackway may have narrowed towards the main enclosure. In the north-west corner of the main enclosure, a probable roundhouse was also identified (Garton and Salisbury 1995: 18).

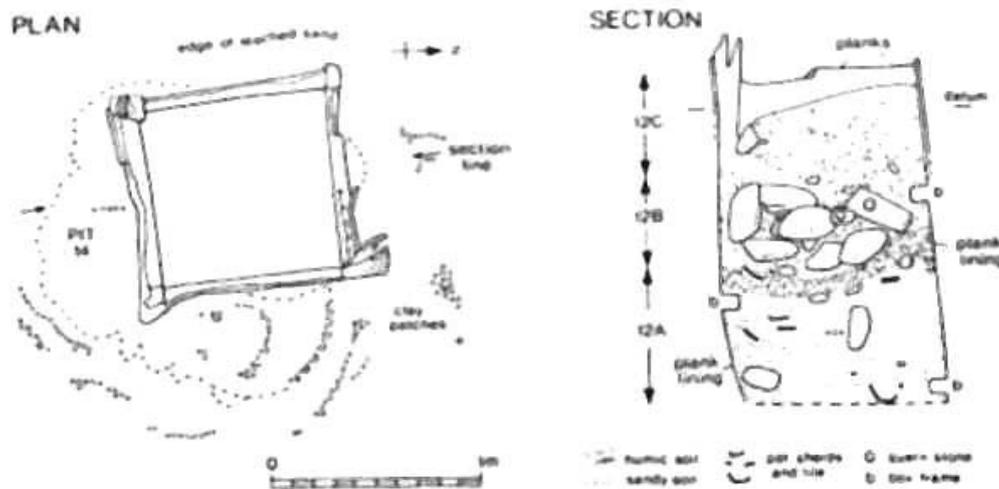


Figure G.564. Plan and section of the well at Wild Goose Cottage. (Source: Garton and Salisbury 1995: 19, fig. 3).

In the event, salvage excavations took place on a well identified within the main enclosure. This was a square cut lined with rectangular timber planks at least 1.5m deep, although it was not fully excavated. A horse skull was found behind the timber lining, which although interpreted as wedge to hold timbers in place during construction (Garton and Salisbury 1995: 22), was possibly a placed deposit. Two quern fragments and one complete quernstone were part of deliberate backfill deposits, and palaeo-environmental analyses indicated a largely open landscape dominated by grassland. The pottery was primarily of mid to late third century AD date (Leary 1995: 36), and included a narrow-necked jar in a primary fill with wear around its sides suggesting that it had been lowered into the well in some form of rope cradle in order to draw water. Other vessels, however, would seem to have been most unsuitable for drawing water, and some sherds within the backfill were also more fragmented and abraded, suggesting that they had lain on the surface for some time before being incorporated within the well fill. It is therefore possible that some of this deposition represented rites of termination, making use of both worn and fresh pottery and quernstones.

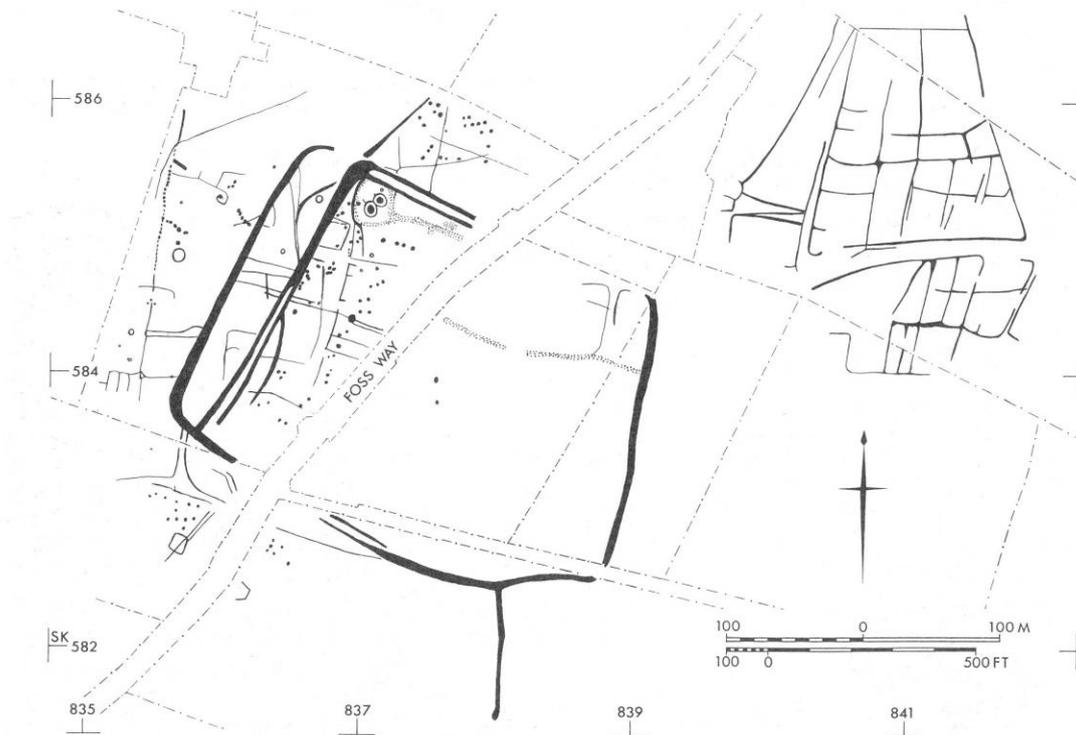
References: Garton and Salisbury 1995; Riley 1980.

*Unexcavated cropmark/geophysical survey sites***Babworth****SK 6570 7795**

Figure G.565. *Co-axial fields and enclosures west of Upper Morton Grange, Babworth, looking west. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 987, SK 658 779).*

Approximately 2.30km south-west of the enclosure complex at Dunston's Clump is another interesting group of fields and enclosures, just west of Upper Morton Grange on a relatively flat area of ground along a slight ridge in a gently undulating landscape. There are a series of subrectangular enclosures (Riley 1980: 129, map 26), including some double-ditched examples that may represent domestic foci. There are also field corner, 'clothes line' and larger rectangular enclosures that probably represent livestock pens and corrals, and short lengths of trackway are also apparent. As with Dunston's Clump and the intervening enclosure groups east of Morton Hill Farm and north-east of Forest Farm, this probably represents one of a series of relatively regularly spaced farmstead complexes set within an open landscape of fields and trackways. Detailed geophysical survey, fieldwalking and targeted excavation would prove useful at this locale.

References: Riley 1980.

Brough-on-Fosse**SK 8380 5840**

55 Roman town and field system, South Collingham [Brough–Crococolana], Notts, SK 838584. 1:5000

Figure G.566. The small Roman town of *Crococolana* at Brough-on-Fosse, astride the Fosse Way. (Source: Whimster 1989: 76, fig. 55).

The Roman settlement of *Crococolana* at Brough-on-Fosse was situated across the Fosse Way, on flat, low-lying ground approximately 3km to the east of the River Trent, on the edge of its floodplain. Roughly 6.5-7.2ha in area (Whimster 1989: 76), the boundary ditches and some internal features seem to be superimposed on some cropmarks of fields and enclosures arranged on either side of a trackway, whilst others respect the town boundaries and the line of the Fosse Way. Internal features include the lines of probable metalled streets, whilst two parallel lines of ditches at the north-west side of the settlement suggest a period of contraction or expansion. Pits and possible structures are also visible, especially in the north-west part of the settlement. Several authors have proposed that *Crococolana* had military origins as a fort (Todd 1973: 27; Whitwell 1982: 35), but there is no evidence for this.

There were some small-scale excavations in the early twentieth century (TPAT 1991), confirming that the settlement was probably established during the later first century AD. There have been no direct investigations since, but the site would clearly benefit from detailed geophysical survey. Just north of the town was a nucleated settlement complex of Iron Age and Romano-British date (H. Jones 2002; Vyner forthcoming), part of which has been excavated in 2001-2002 by TPAU as part of the A46 upgrade road work (Fig. 2.10). In addition to roundhouses and small enclosures, Anglo-Saxon features were also excavated, suggesting some local settlement continuity in the post-Roman period.

References: H. Jones 2002; Todd 1973; TPAT 1991; Whimster 1989; Vyner forthcoming.

Carlton Mill, Carlton-on-Trent**SK 8040 6450**

Figure G.567. *The cropmark complex at Carlton Mill looking north, with the River Trent visible in the bottom right of the photograph. (Source: Whimster 1989: 72, fig. 49).*

This cropmark complex is situated immediately adjacent to the north bank on a loop of the River Trent, on flat, low-lying land at approximately 5m AOD. A series of enclosures are arranged in a 'ladder' formation on either side of a north-south trackway, although some seem to be superimposed on one another, and deposits of alluvium to the east may mask other features (Whimster 1989: 72). The site is still ploughed, and would benefit from some form of stewardship initiative to prevent further degradation of archaeological deposits.

It has been suggested by Whimster that this locale may have been a river crossing point or even an inland river port. There was certainly a post-medieval or early modern wharf near Mill Farm, and there used to be a ferry across the river here. If that is the case, then an apparently regular, square or rectangular double-ditched feature on the eastern side of the cropmark complex could even mark the position of a small Roman fortlet or supply depot. The complex should be investigated further through fieldwalking, detailed geophysical survey, and targeted excavation to try and determine the nature and duration of occupation.

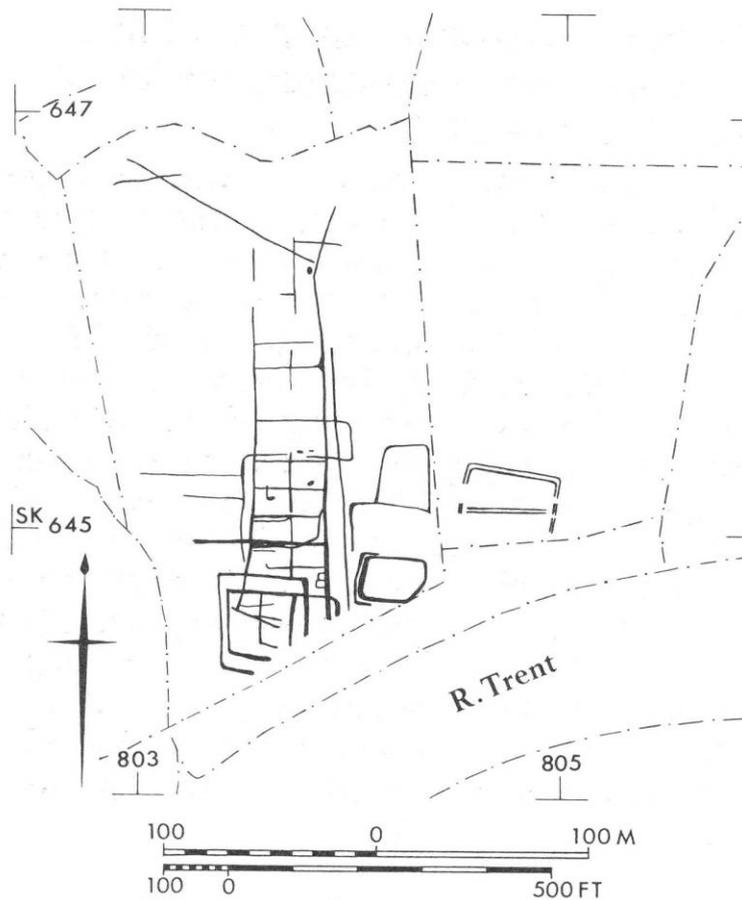


Figure G.568. Plot of the cropmarks at Carlton Mill. Note the double-ditched feature on the eastern side of the complex, which could be a Roman military station. (Source: Whimster 1989: 72, fig. 48).



Figure G.569. The River Trent at Carlton Mill, looking north-east towards the site of the late Iron Age or Romano-British cropmark complex which lies just beyond the post-medieval windmill. The post-medieval/early modern wharf is also visible in the foreground. (Source: author).

References: Whimster 1989.

Carlton-on-Trent

SK 7935 6350



Figure G.570. The enclosure complex at Carlton-on-Trent, looking west. Note the especially prominent enclosure and subenclosure ditches. (Source: Whimster 1989: 71, fig. 47).

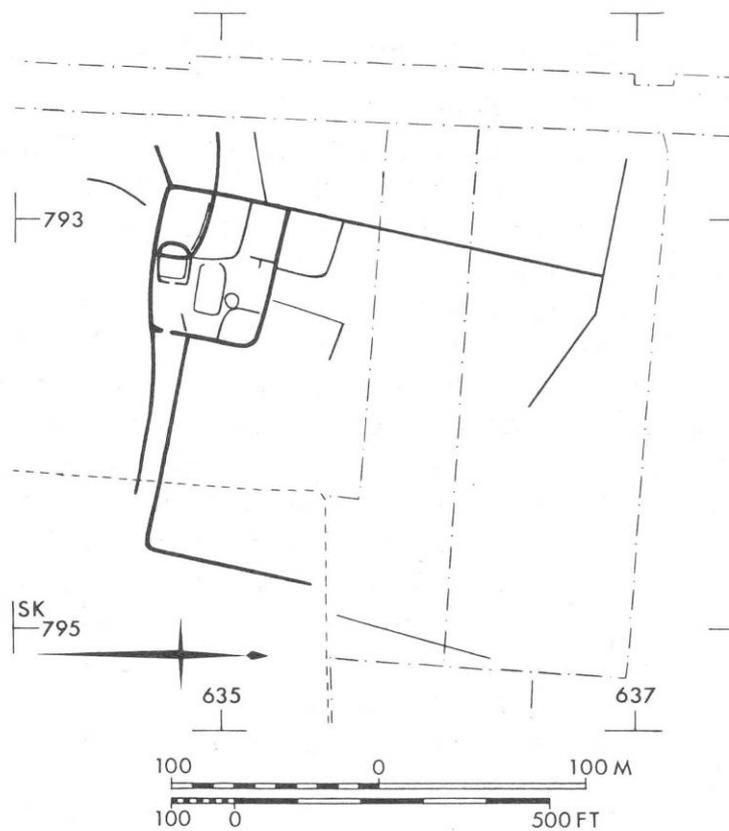


Figure G.571. Simplified transcription of the cropmarks above. (Source: Whimster 1989: 70, fig. 44).

Approximately 200m west of Carlton-on-Trent on largely flat ground on the edge of the River Trent floodplain, and only some *c.* 1.4km from the Carlton Mill cropmark complex, is a smaller settlement consisting of a subrectangular enclosure with a restricted east-facing entrance (Whimster 1989: 71). This entrance is connected to an east-west aligned trackway up to 15m wide leading towards the river, and there may also be a north-south trackway joining this feature. Outside the enclosure are possible pens and paddocks, one on its northern side also having an east-facing entrance, whilst within the enclosure at least two or three subenclosures are visible, two apparently overlapping. The main enclosure ditch and one of the subenclosure ditches are particularly pronounced as cropmarks, and may have been repeatedly recut. At least one probable internal roundhouse is visible, and a rectangular feature *c.* 25m long and 15m wide may be a Roman or post-Roman rectangular building. Around 150m to the south-east of this complex is another series of enclosures (see Fig. G.572 below), at least two of which overlap. One has an irregular southern boundary, and a possible east-facing entrance with a roundhouse or round barrow stratigraphically underneath or above it. South of this is a large rectangular enclosure or corral with another east-facing entrance, and a possible narrow trackway leading off eastwards to the Trent floodplain. These enclosures and trackways would clearly benefit from detailed geophysical survey, fieldwalking and targeted excavation.



Figure G.572. Another view of the enclosure complex looking north-east, also showing the additional enclosures to the south-west. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 1320, SK 794 635).

References: Whimster 1989.

Cromwell**SK 8020 6250**

On the western floodplain of the River Trent at Cromwell is an extremely interesting complex of superimposed archaeological features. Cropmark formation over these features has sometimes been exceptional (e.g. Chapters Fig. 6.17, Chapter 9 Fig. 9.84).

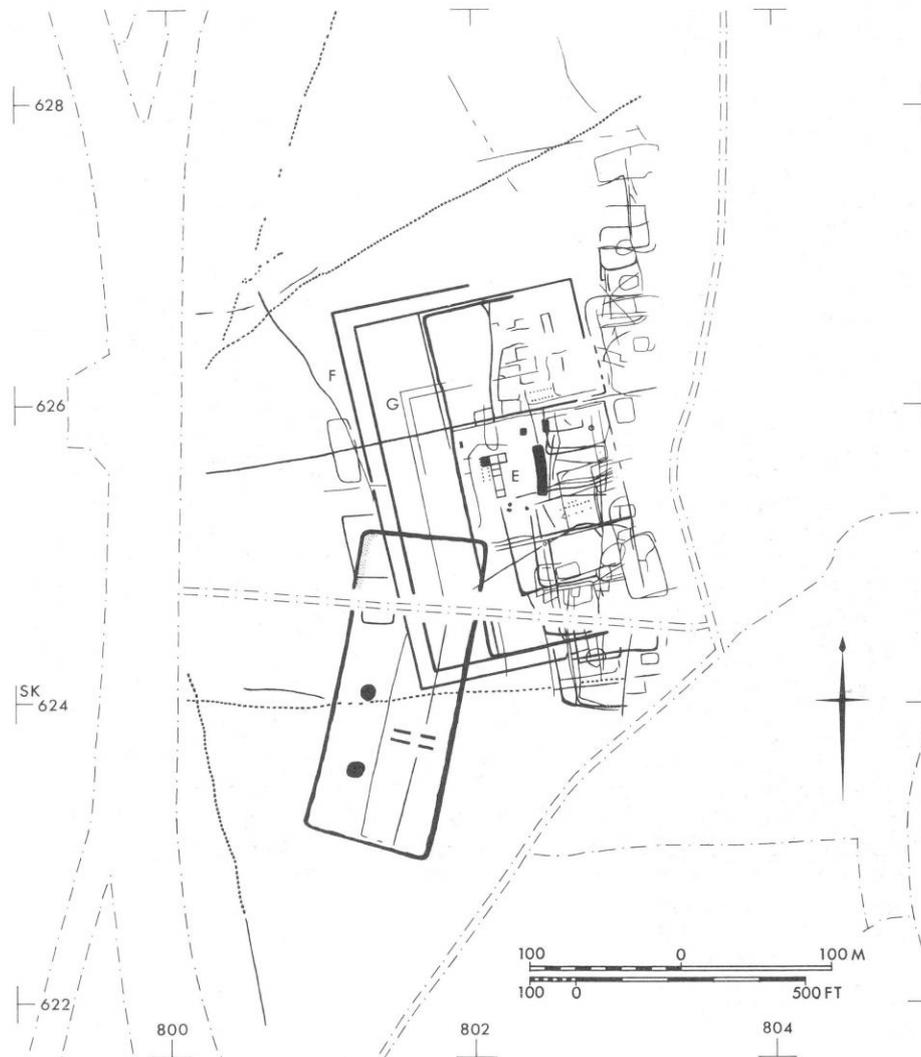


Figure G.573. Plot of the cropmark features visible at Cromwell, including the villa buildings (E) with an ornamental pool just to the west, and at least two phases of double-ditched villa enclosure (F and G). (Source: Whimster 1989: 79, fig. 59).

These features included two pairs of converging pit alignments arranged in two triangles that formed a 'corridor' 150-180m wide opening up towards the Trent, and perhaps defining access to the floodplain and river edge. This seems to have been overlain by a series of ditched boundaries and enclosures that developed into an agglomerated settlement, likely to be of later Iron Age and Romano-British date, close to a minor stream draining into the Trent nearby. A villa complex later developed, with traces of robbed stone buildings and even hints of hypocaust floors. Post-built rectangular buildings are also visible. There may have been one or more ornamental pools associated with this fine building, perhaps a symbolic taming or appropriation of the river, and the villa was set within a double-ditched enclosure

of at least two phases, one much larger than the other. Although there are a few possible gaps in the circuits of these double ditches, no clear entrance has been identified on the western side. This boundary would have very demonstrably demarcated social space around the villa and structured movement towards or away from it. At some point the villa complex seems to have been overlain by a large subrectangular enclosure of unknown date, although possibly of early medieval or post-medieval date (q.v. Guilbert 2006), although this apparent relationship has not been tested archaeologically. Given the unusual location of the villa so close to the Trent, it is possible that the wealth of the villa owners was predicated upon either livestock grazing, and/or river trade (Whimster 1989: 79).



Figure G.574. More unusual cropmarks, looking south-west. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8452, SK 802 625).



Figure G.575. (far left). Romano-British glass melon bead found near Cromwell.
Fig. G.576. (left). Romano-British copper alloy toilet set instrument found near Cromwell. These objects indicate higher-status settlement in the area. (Source: © PAS).

The cropmark complex at Cromwell would clearly benefit from detailed geophysical survey in order to elucidate further details of its development, and although Scheduled parts of the complex deserve targeted excavation in order to understand the chronological development of the locale. In particular, the pit alignments and the large subrectangular enclosure would benefit from attempts to date them more closely.

References: Whimster 1989.

Fiskerton-cum-Morton**SK 7350 5170**

Figure G.577. *The unusual cropmark at Fiskerton-cum-Morton, looking south-east. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8418, SK 735 517).*

Just to the north of Fiskerton, on flat, low-lying ground approximately 600m north-west of the River Trent, is an extremely unusual cropmark. One clear circular feature lies within a subrectangular enclosure with rounded corners. The circular feature may be a roundhouse, and it has a possible break or entrance visible, facing south-west. There is no clear break or entrance in the surrounding enclosure, however. It could be that this is a Bronze Age round barrow or ring ditch with an encircling enclosure ditch, although this would still be a highly atypical feature; or it may be that this is a much more recent feature such as a windmill base. Another possible circular ditch or gully is also visible within the south-western side of the enclosure, with possible post-pits perhaps indicating an entrance into it. The partial arc of yet another possible circular ditch or gully is just apparent in between the two other circular features. If these are roundhouses surrounded by a very small enclosure, then they would be unique within the study region. Their location in an area cross-cut by modern drainage dykes and flood banks suggests that these were constructed on a seasonally-inundated floodplain. Detailed geophysical survey and excavation may elucidate the likely date and purpose of these features.

References: Sheffield Library of Aerial Photographs.

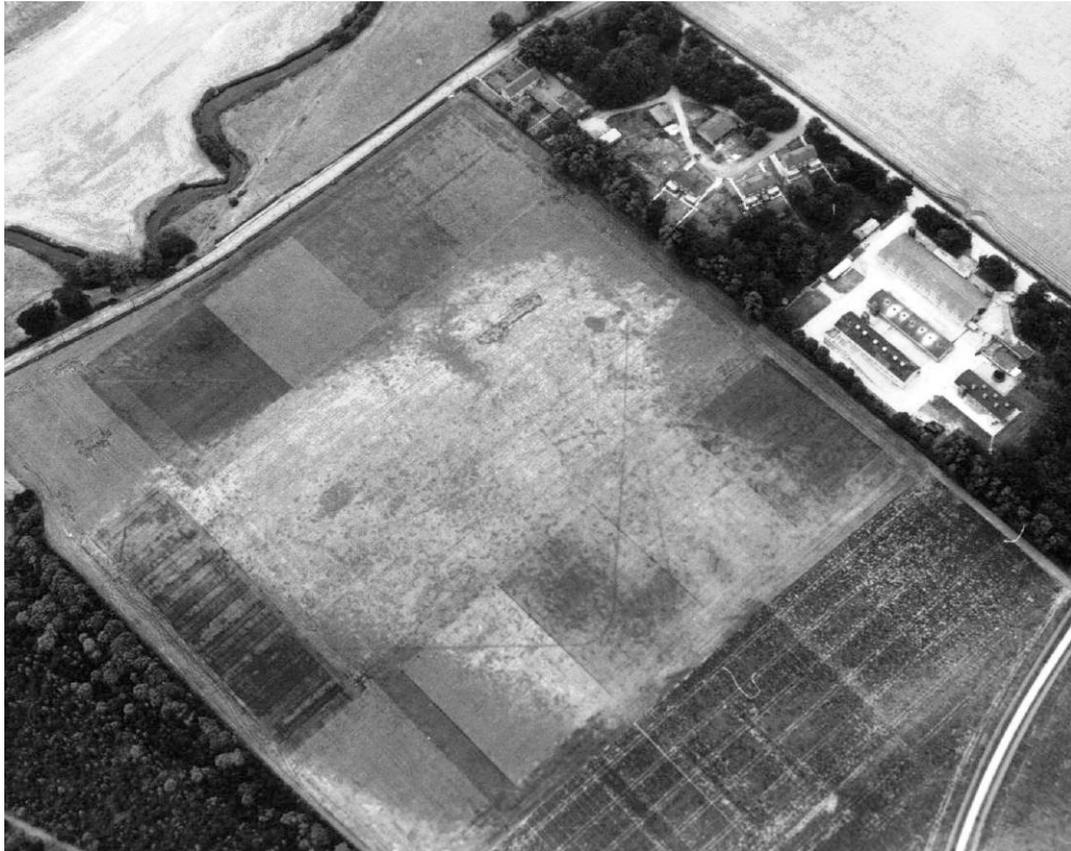
Gleadthorpe Grange**SK 5940 7050**

Figure G.578. *This photograph, looking south-west, shows the distinctive 'playing card' shape of a probable Roman fort or marching camp. One corner can be seen in the lower centre, and other fainter examples to the upper centre and upper left. The River Meden can be seen in the upper left. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 8468, SK 594 705).*

Approximately 300m to the north-east of Gleadthorpe Grange, on a slightly flat shelf on an otherwise gentle south-east facing slope adjacent to the River Meden, Riley identified the 'playing card' shape of a probable Roman fort or marching camp 3.1ha in area (Riley 1980: 138-139, map 30). A sinuous field boundary runs underneath or above the camp. This area would benefit from detailed geophysical survey, to identify any possible internal features.

References: Riley 1980.

Knives Hill, Barnby Moor**SK 6710 8350**

This unusual group of enclosures was identified by Riley (1980: 32-33, plate 8, fig. 5, map 23). In between two north-west to south-east orientated double-ditched trackways were arranged a series of brickwork fields, with one long boundary running in between and parallel to the trackways. Just to the north-east of Barnby Fox Covert are two clusters of square or subrectangular enclosures, one arranged in a nucleated cluster, the other in a 'ladder' of three large and two small enclosures. No clear internal features are visible within the enclosures, and they are situated on the north-east facing slope of a low ridge in a gently undulating landscape. The ground falls away northwards and eastwards onto the flat floodplain around Sutton Cum Lound, and this would have been boggy, seasonally-inundated damp pasture in the past. These enclosures may have served as livestock pens and corrals on the edge of open grazing land. On the western side of the ridge 2km to the west is the River Ryton. Intriguingly, the trackways and enclosures are not arranged along or at right-angles to the ridge but lie obliquely across it in a rather 'terrain oblivious' manner, at a slight tangent to the Great North Road as well. Some of the modern boundaries follow this same alignment, perhaps suggesting earlier origins for a few of them at least. This site would benefit from fieldwalking, geophysical survey and targeted excavation.



Figure G.579. Enclosures, trackways and 'brickwork' fields at Knives Hill, Barnby Moor, looking south-east. The 'ladder' enclosure group can be seen at the upper right of the image. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 1189, SK 670 834).

References: Riley 1980.

Low Marnham**SK 8070 6870**

Figure G.580. *The enclosures and trackways at Low Marnham. (Source: Whimster 1989: 74, fig. 53).*

Near Normanton-on-Trent, on a slight gravel 'island' only 2-5m above the floodplain of the River Trent some 800m to the east, is a group of trackways and conjoining or overlapping enclosures that clearly developed over time. The double-ditched trackways include two east-west aligned examples whose ditches were recut on many occasions, but not on quite the same alignment as the earliest ditches (Whimster 1989: 73-74). At least two probably Bronze Age ring ditches and groups of possible Anglo-Saxon *grübenhäuser* are also visible (shown at G below). In addition to large paddocks, many small pens also reflect the movement of livestock. The site would clearly benefit from further archaeological work including fieldwalking, geophysical survey and targeted excavation.

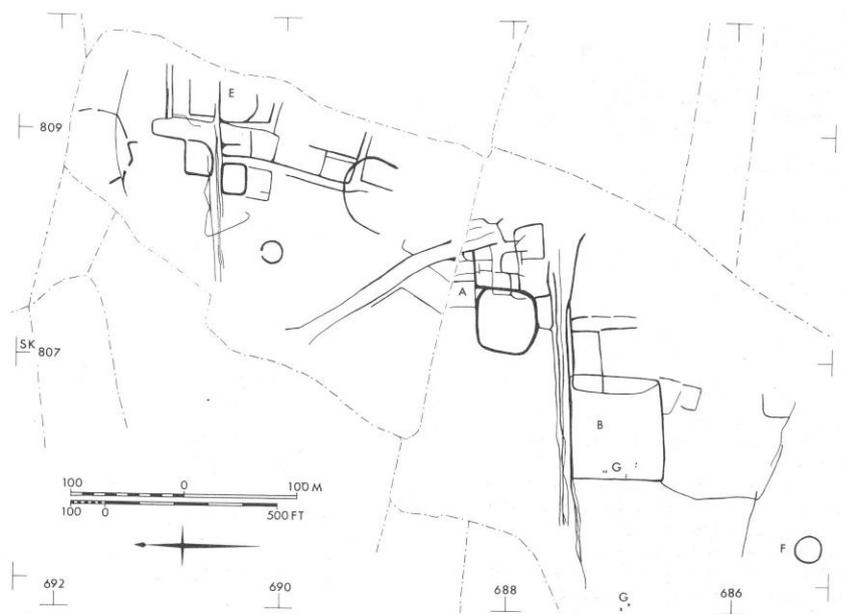


Figure G.581. *Transcription of the cropmarks. (Source: Whimster 1989: 73, fig. 51).*

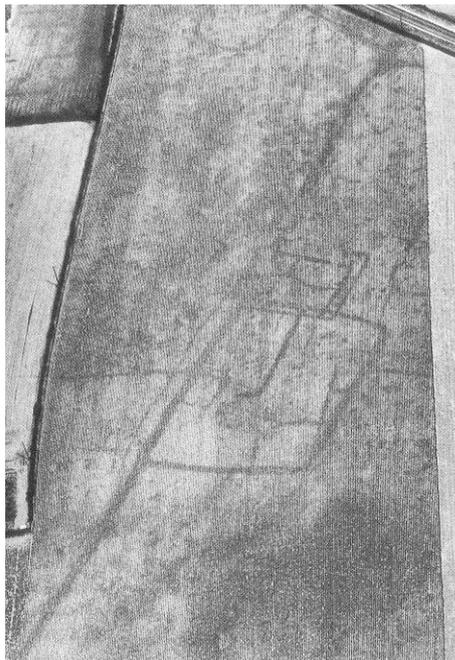
References: Whimster 1989.

Normanton-on-Trent

SK 7990 6850



Figure G.582. Part of the cropmark complex at Normanton-on-Trent, looking north. Many of these features lie just to the north of those shown below. (Source: D. Riley, *SLAP 1329*, SK 799 689).



Another gravel 'island' near Normanton-on-Trent has evidence for a more linear complex of enclosures and trackways, the latter possibly post-dating the construction of one especially large subrectangular enclosure or paddock that seems to have been built as a 'clothes line' enclosure onto an existing large linear boundary ditch (Whimster 1989: 70). Several of the enclosures contain evidence for internal subdivisions and possibly even circular and rectangular buildings. Once again, this complex would benefit from fieldwalking, detailed geophysical survey and targeted excavation.

Figure G.583. (left). A view of the southern part of the same cropmark complex. (Source: Whimster 1989: 71, fig. 46).

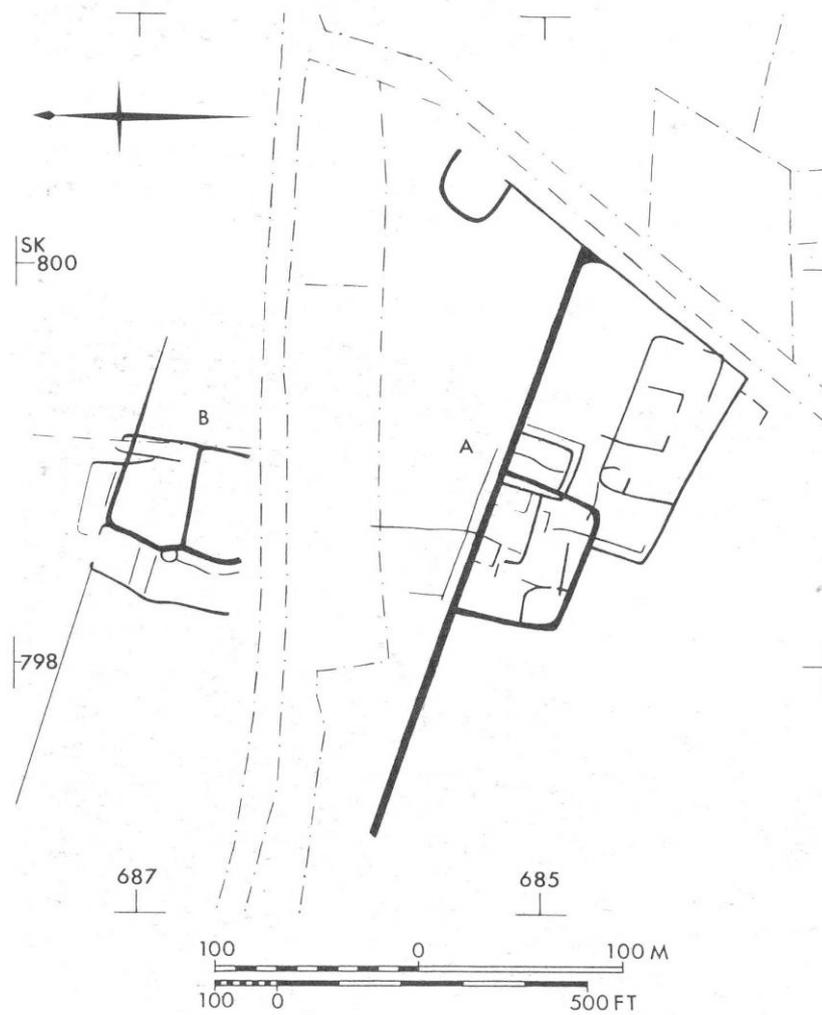


Figure G.584. Transcription of some of the cropmarks. Note that the conjoined enclosures shown at B lie in the lower left corner of Fig. G.101. above, along with other enclosures, trackways and boundaries not shown on this plot. (Source: Whimster 1989: 70, fig. 43).

References: Whimster 1989.

South Muskham

SK 7990 5660

Part of the many excellent cropmark features visible at South Muskham, located on the low-lying land of the western River Trent floodplain, is a series of trapezoidal and subrectangular enclosures, some with clear evidence of roundhouses within them (see Chapter 9, Fig. 9.76), and linked by boundary ditches. Pit alignments, some probably recut as linear ditches, are also visible, and several smaller subcircular enclosures too. One enclosure contains a possible rectangular structure (a timber hall?) set obliquely within the enclosed space, and perhaps of a different (post-Roman?) phase. This feature is reminiscent of a similar oblique feature within the triple-ditched enclosure at Scaftworth (see above). The three main settlement foci may indicate separate but related households or age or gender groups, but that there was still a desire to link them with ditches.

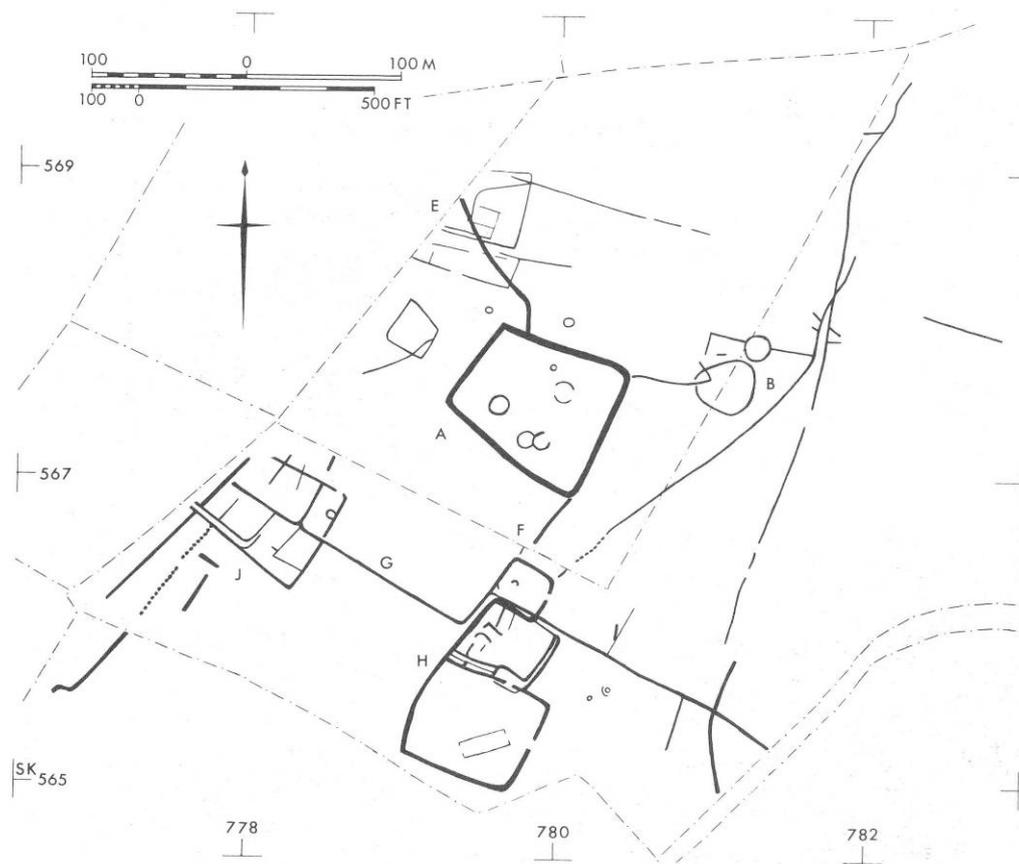


Figure G.585. Plot of enclosures at South Muskham. Note the rectangular structure at lower centre. (Source: Whimster 1989: 75, fig. 54).

Some fieldwalking of this complex has already taken place (Garton 2002), but geophysical survey and excavation would be highly productive. The rectangular structure in particular should be investigated before ploughing degrades it further.

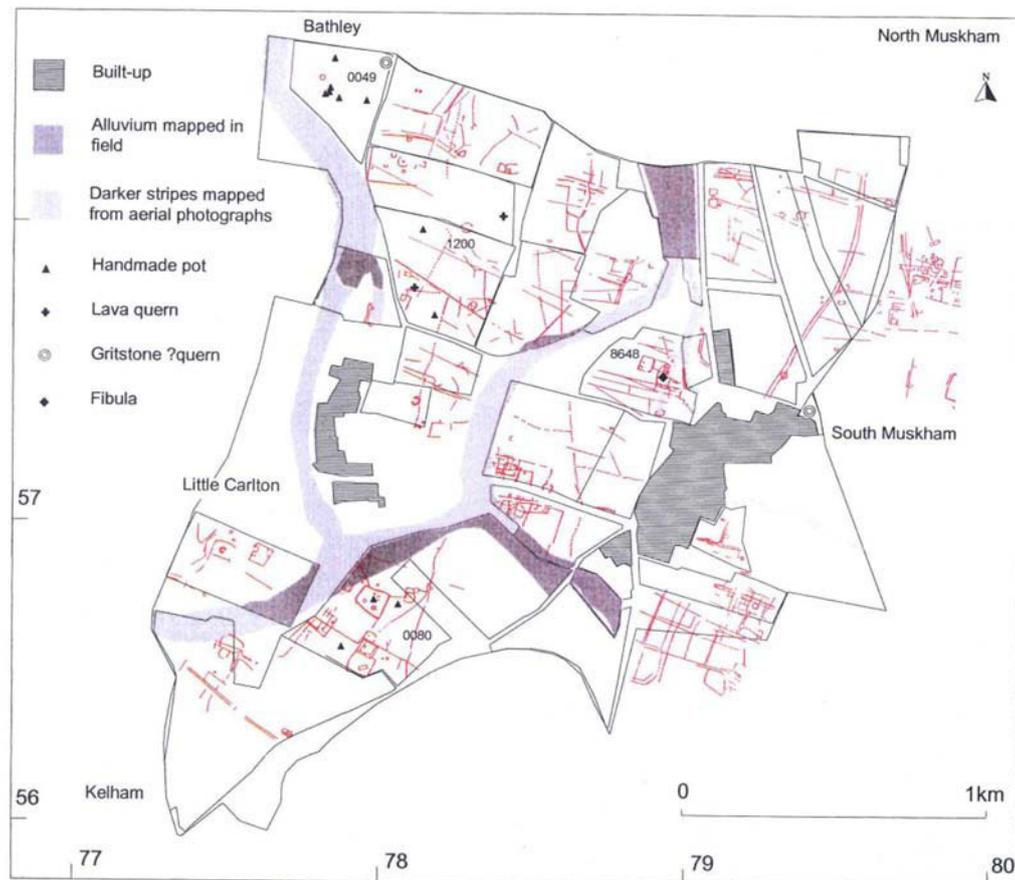


FIGURE 7: South Muskham AAI: distribution of handmade pottery, quernstones and a fibula plotted against cropmarks (red). Scale 1:20,000. Cropmark plot by RCHME, © Crown copyright, NMR.

Figure G.586. Plot of artefacts recovered from fieldwalking at South Muskham in Nottinghamshire. (Source: Garton, Leary and Naylor 2002, fig. 7).

References: Garton, Leary and Naylor 2002; Whimster 1989.

Sutton-on-Trent

SK 7980 6510



Figure G.587. *Cropmarks at Sutton-on-Trent, looking north-west. The roundhouse(s) enclosure is located to the lower centre of the image. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 1320, SK 794 635).*

Part of the wider cropmark complex at Sutton-on-Trent includes a large subrectangular enclosure or field, with a subenclosure and/or series of superimposed roundhouses at its centre, situated on flat land on the River Trent floodplain at approximately 5m AOD. The cropmark shows the circular wall slot or eavesdrip ring gully of a roundhouse with a clear west-facing entrance, marked by especially large post pits. Surrounding this appears to be another circular gully, but with a less clear, possible gap in the south-east, and this in turn is surrounded by an almost hexagonal ditch or gully with an apparent break in the south-east corner. Although the ring gully with post pipes suggest a wall trench rather than an eavesdrop gully, hints of another circular gully within may disprove this, although it is also possible that there may be several roundhouses here, superimposed upon one another. This unusual feature has some parallels with the roundhouse set within a circular ditch at South Muskham some 8km to the south (Fig. 9.41), and perhaps too with the circular ditches surrounding roundhouse eavesdrop gullies at Balby Carr near Doncaster. Given the landscape setting, it is possible that the subenclosure(s) reflect a concern with drainage on an area that would have been subject to seasonal inundation, but it may also be that status considerations were important too (see Chapter 9). These features should be fully excavated as soon as possible, to prevent further plough degradation.

References: Sheffield Library of Aerial Photographs.

Worksop**SK 5680 7630**

Figure G.588. *Cropmarks north-west of Manor Hills, Worksop, looking east. Two round barrows are visible at the centre and just above the centre of the image, along with linear field boundaries. (Source: D. Riley, SLAP 740, SK 568 763).*

South-west of Worksop, adjacent to woodland at Manor Hills, is a series of co-axial fields arranged on roughly north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west axes (Riley 1980: 134-135, map 28). In this same location, at least five circular cropmarks have been identified, arranged along the summit of a gentle ridge. One of these round features seems to have been left in a central position within one field, another located in a field corner near the junction of two ditches. These circular features were round plantations in the landscape gardens of Worksop Manor (*ibid.*: 55), but it is possible that they utilised the positions of earlier Bronze Age round barrows. Another photograph appears to show an irregular field boundary abutting and respecting a pre-existing circular feature (Riley 1980: 55, plate 14). If so, then this is one of the few locales in the study region where round barrows and field systems had close spatial relationships. It is possible that the barrows might have acted as landscape markers for the laying out of the boundaries, and might even have formed notional boundaries for local communities before these were ‘formalised’ with ditches. Even if the circular features are solely post-medieval or early modern plantations, than their location also deserves scrutiny, as this would suggest that some earlier field boundaries still survived in the landscape. Excavation should be undertaken to test this.

References: Riley 1980.