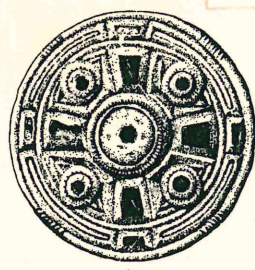


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Archaeological Field Unit

Cambridge Southern Relief Road Archaeological Field Evaluation

Steve Kemp

1993

Cambridgeshire Archaeology

Report No.85

*Commissioned By
Transportation Department, Cambridgeshire County Council*

Cambridge Southern Relief Road Archaeological Field Evaluation

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ABSTRACT

Four areas were evaluated as part of the field assessment for the proposed Cambridge Southern Relief Road on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council Transportation Department. These are located to the east of Shelford Road and south of New Addenbrooke's Hospital within the Wards of Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, Cambridge (TL451/543, TL458/547, TL467/546 and TL474/546).

Site evaluation occurred during February and March 1993. The trenching strategy was based on crop mark plots prepared by Air Photo Services (Cox & Palmer 1991). Limited surface collection of finds occurred in the immediate vicinity of the sites.

No occupation areas were recognised. Though very little prehistoric material was found in the region the site of New Addenbrooke Hospital and the prominence of the Iron Age hillforts of Wandlebury and War Ditches suggests that such communities were active in the region. These lands are likely to have formed part of their agricultural system. A concentration of Roman pottery was evident at Site 3, the abraded nature of these finds and their occurrence in Roman and Medieval drainage and boundary ditches indicates a residual element to the assemblage. The activity centre producing these finds was not recognised during the course of this field evaluation, but may be the cropmarks complex shown on the lower slopes of White Hill. Ditching appears to have been the main archaeologically (directly) recognisable activity throughout the area. The majority of features appear to be associated with maintenance or development of the agricultural system, particularly drainage during the Roman and medieval periods. Environmental evidence indicates the success of these operations which resulted in alterations to the hydrological system and the reclamation of 'moor'lands indicated by medieval field names.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Archaeological evaluations along the proposed course of the Cambridge Southern Relief Road were undertaken by the Archaeological Field Unit, Cambridgeshire Archaeology for the Transportation Department, Cambridgeshire County Council. Work followed recommendations and guidelines supplied by the County Archaeological Office (CAO), Shire Hall. Five areas were highlighted by the CAO as sites likely to suffer major disturbance from road construction. The object of the field evaluation was to assess the need for preservation of the *monument* or recording prior to destruction; trenching was required in order to indicate period, nature and state of the archaeological resource in the region. This work followed the recommendations of the desk-based study (Kemp 1991).

2.0 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

It has been recognised by Cambridgeshire County Council and national authorities that major development can have a substantial impact on the environmental and archaeological resources. Road schemes and ancillary workings such as borrow pits and construction camps can destroy important archaeological sites, there is a need to recognise the nature of the resource and guide development away from sensitive areas.

2.1 National and County Planning Guidelines

Planning Policy Guidance 16 (PPG 16)

Para 6 Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction.

Para 8 Where nationally important remains whether scheduled or not and their settings are affected by proposed development there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation.

Para 13 If physical preservation *in situ* is not feasible, an archaeological excavation for the purposes of 'preservation by record', may be an acceptable alternative. From the archaeological point of view this should be regarded as a second best option.

2.2 Cambridgeshire County Council Guidelines

Structure Plan

Policy P14/2 The local planning authorities will exercise their powers of development control to preserve scheduled monuments and other important archaeological sites in the County.

Policy P14/13 Where there is no overriding case for the preservation of an archaeological site, opportunities will be sought prior to the granting of planning permission, for excavation and recording of the site.

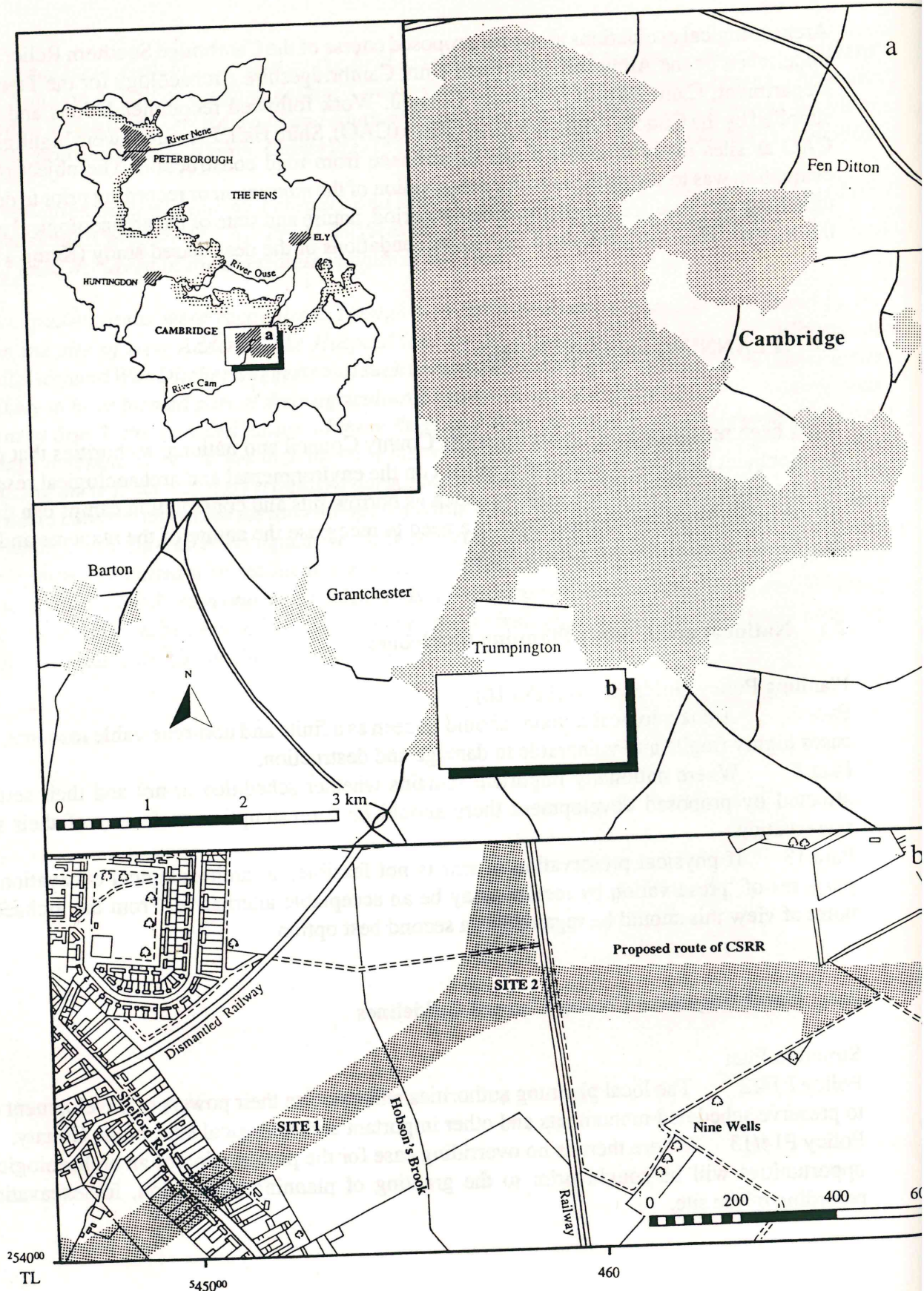


Figure 1 Trumpington Sites (1 & 2). Site Location Plan

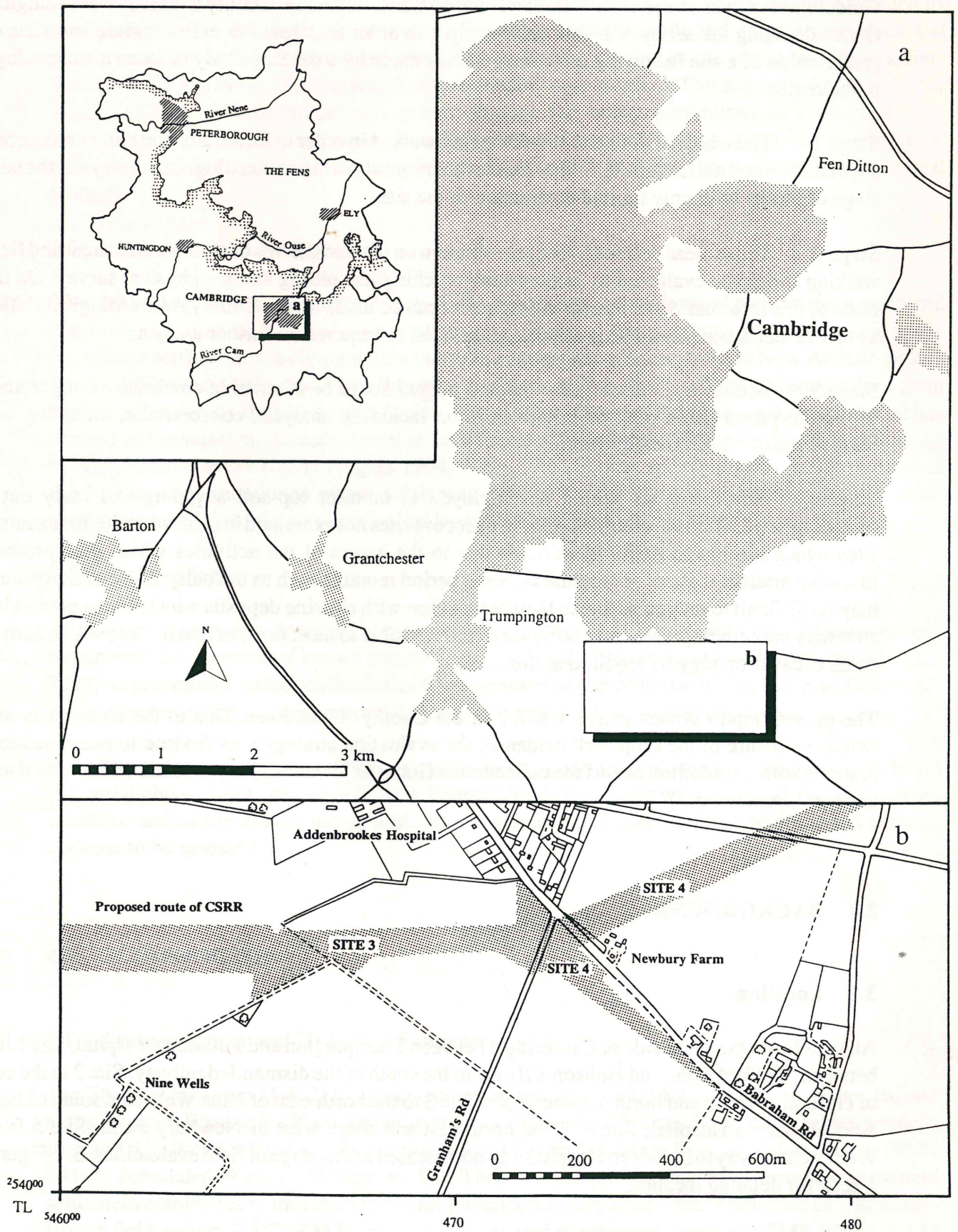


Figure 2 Cherry Hinton Sites (3 & 4). Site Location Plan

2.3 County Archaeological guidelines for road schemes

Guidelines for road schemes have been written by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Office detailing the series of investigatory stages in order to define the extent, nature and state of preservation of a site following recommendations made by a desktop study of known archaeology in the region.

Stage 1 The whole of the route should be fieldwalked in order to locate any presently unrecorded sites and define areas requiring further field evaluation, allowing archaeologists to carry out the next stage of works with only limited destruction to the site.

Stage 2 Those areas defined for field evaluation on the basis of this desk-top assessment and field walking should be evaluated by limited trial trenching/test pitting and geophysical survey. On the basis of this information an informed judgement can be made by the County Archaeological Office as to whether a site should be preserved, excavated or requires no further analysis.

Stage 3 Archaeologically significant sites judged not to be of suitable condition or importance to require preservation may require excavation including analysis, conservation, archiving and publication of all excavated materials.

Stage 4 Archaeologists should be employed to monitor top-soil stripping and carry out a recording brief. This is in order to preserve by record sites not examined in stages 2 and 3, for example sites which are not as easily identifiable due to the nature of the activities which may produce intensive artefact scatters or cropmarks, some period remains such as the palaeolithic activity areas may be difficult to recognise due to their association with riverine deposits which whilst preserving sites may mask their presence, making such sites invisible to most prospection techniques. In certain cases excavation may be required at this level.

The present report covers stages 1 and 2 in the County Guidelines. Due to the complexity and extensive nature of the cropmark evidence, the evaluation strategy was devised to examine these features with the addition of surface collection of finds (fieldwalking) to provide a wider spatial and temporal framework.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 Location

All sites lie on the south side of Cambridge, between Trumpington and Fulbourn Hospital. Site 1 lie between Shelford Road and Hobson's Brook to the south of the dismantled railway, Site 2 to the east of Hobson's Brook and north of Nine Wells, Site 3 to the north-east of Nine Wells and south of Nev Addenbrooke's Hospital, Site 4 to the north-east and south-west of Newbury Farm. Site 5 from Wort's Causeway to Fulbourn Hospital was not assessed at this stage of field evaluations. See Figure 1 & 2 for detailed location.

3.2 Geological and Topographical Background

All sites lie on low land (15m OD.) within the pleistocene Cam and tributary valleys, bounded by chalk 'uplands' to the south and northeast. Trenching exposed sands and gravels with chalk and chalky-marl geologies. British Geological Survey list the gravels as the lower and intermediate terraces (valley gravels) deposits which are presumably post-Anglian. This suggests the potential for middle and late palaeolithic activity centres through the valley, particularly in association with terrace deposits. The Cam appears to have been diverted from this course prior to the present *post-glacial* period. Trenching showed no evidence for alluvium or colluvium masking archaeological features.

3.3 Archaeological Background

The archaeological desk-top study (Kemp 1991) defines the known limits of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon sites within the development area. There is the potential for Roman and early prehistoric settlement sites lying within the valley as shown by excavations at New Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cra'ster 1969), the Plant Breeding Institute (Miller 1977) and the occasional find from surface collection by the Cambridge Archaeological Field Group (CAFG unpub.). Past interest has centred on the *major* monument classes ie the hillforts of Wandlebury (Stapleford) and War Ditches (Cherry Hinton) ie. McKenny Hughes 1904, White 1963. Rescue excavations have also occurred at the Roman sites mentioned above work was defined by the area of destruction, therefore no systematic analysis of the *archaeological* landscape has occurred.

3.4 Methodology

Evaluation strategy was designed in consultation with the CAO. Structured fieldwalking was only required for areas devoid of known archaeology as defined within the CAO's desk-top study (Kemp 1991). Unstructured surface collection of finds occurred as part of the trenching exercise. Geophysical survey was considered inappropriate due to the extensive area under analysis.

For sites requiring evaluation trenching strategy was based on the desk-top assessment (Kemp 1991) and aerial photographic evidence (Cox & Palmer 1991). Trenching was used to identify the extent, condition and nature of sites recognised, allowing their significance to local, regional and national *contexts* to be assessed.

4.0 TRUMPINGTON

4.1 Archaeological and Historical Framework

The Trumpington sites (1 & 2) lie in the vicinity of a number of Iron Age and Roman sites located along Hauxton Road at the Plant Breeding Institute (Miller 1977), Long Road, New Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cra'ster 1969). East of Cambridge Road lies an *important* Roman settlement site (SMR 04461; Scheduled Ancient Monument 57). These would presumably have formed interrelated settlement complexes within their temporal frameworks; Site 1 has been interpreted as a Romano-British field system (SMR08357) which may be related to settlement evidence SMR 04461 (SAM 57), cropmark evidence for road systems at Long Road and possibly at Site 2 indicate the establishment of a local communication network in the area, during (or prior to) the Roman period. Such systems are likely to remain in existence beyond the defined period and usually incorporate elements of earlier systems; earlier prehistoric activity is not recorded on the SMR for this area.

The earliest Trumpington settlement lay close to the ford over the River Cam and was probably established during the early Iron Age, surviving into the Roman period (VCH 1982). Population growth during the 20th century resulted in the expansion of the village towards Cambridge. Sites 1 & 2 have been external to the main settlement areas for at least the historic period though in proximity to settlement and the *main* communication network.

Trumpington village lies at the intersection of several locally important routeways including the Cambridge/Harston to Royston Road and the Shelford Road known as the Moorway in the 17th century (VCH 1982) which presumably indicates boggy land as also evidenced in local field names (Appendix C). A third possibly Roman road known as the Ridgeway in 1580 lay to the west of Cambridge Road. Cambridge Road was turnpiked between 1793 to 1872. The Great Eastern Railway from London to Cambridge was opened in 1845, runs across the east side of the parish parallel to Hobson's Brook. The Bedford to Cambridge line was opened in 1862 and closed in 1965 when the tracks were removed (VCH 1982), substantial earthworks (cuttings) still remain. As Trumpington lies on the River Cam it is presumed that this routeway would have provided a major communication route to Cambridge and beyond during prehistoric and historic times.

Victoria County History (VCH 1982) indicates that the assessment area remained uncultivated 'moor' land until the 19th century. Way (Appendix C) suggests that field systems and boundaries mark the distinction between 'common moor' and the medieval field systems; these boundaries are likely to have transgressed or regressed depending on fluctuating local hydrology conditions resulting from human and environmental impact on the catchment.

4.2 Trenching

Trenching strategy was defined by the presence of known archaeology within the zone of road construction disturbance as defined by the Transportation Department, Cambridgeshire County Council. Trenches are of varying length according to the types of site and features being sampled, all trenches being approximately 2m wide. A *random* surface collection of finds was made during this period, no specific concentrations were recognised.

4.3 Site 1 (TRU CSRR S1 93) TL451/543

Site 1 lies to the east of Shelford Road, to the south of the disused railway and west of Hobson's Brook. Evaluation area lies to the south of site SMR 08357. These cropmarks are interpreted by the SMR as a ditched system, probably of Romano-British date. The cropmark system appears to be of two main phases consisting of a sub-rectangular enclosure with *projected* south-western side not in evidence on the cropmarks, and NE-SW and NW-SE linear boundaries.

Site 1 lies below the 15m OD contour with land rising to the east and west. Six trenches were opened to reveal archaeological features. Soil profiles of the area record topsoil depths of between 0.20-0.30m overlying natural sandy clays and sands and gravel.

Trench L (length 74m) Located to assess ditches shown on the aerial photographic plot (Fig 3). North-south and NW-SE aligned ditches were revealed during trenching. Feature [77] consisted of gleyed deposits containing a single sherd of early prehistoric pottery, the position and condition of this suggesting that this pottery is residual. Features are therefore undated. No other Neolithic or Bronze Age material is known from the area.

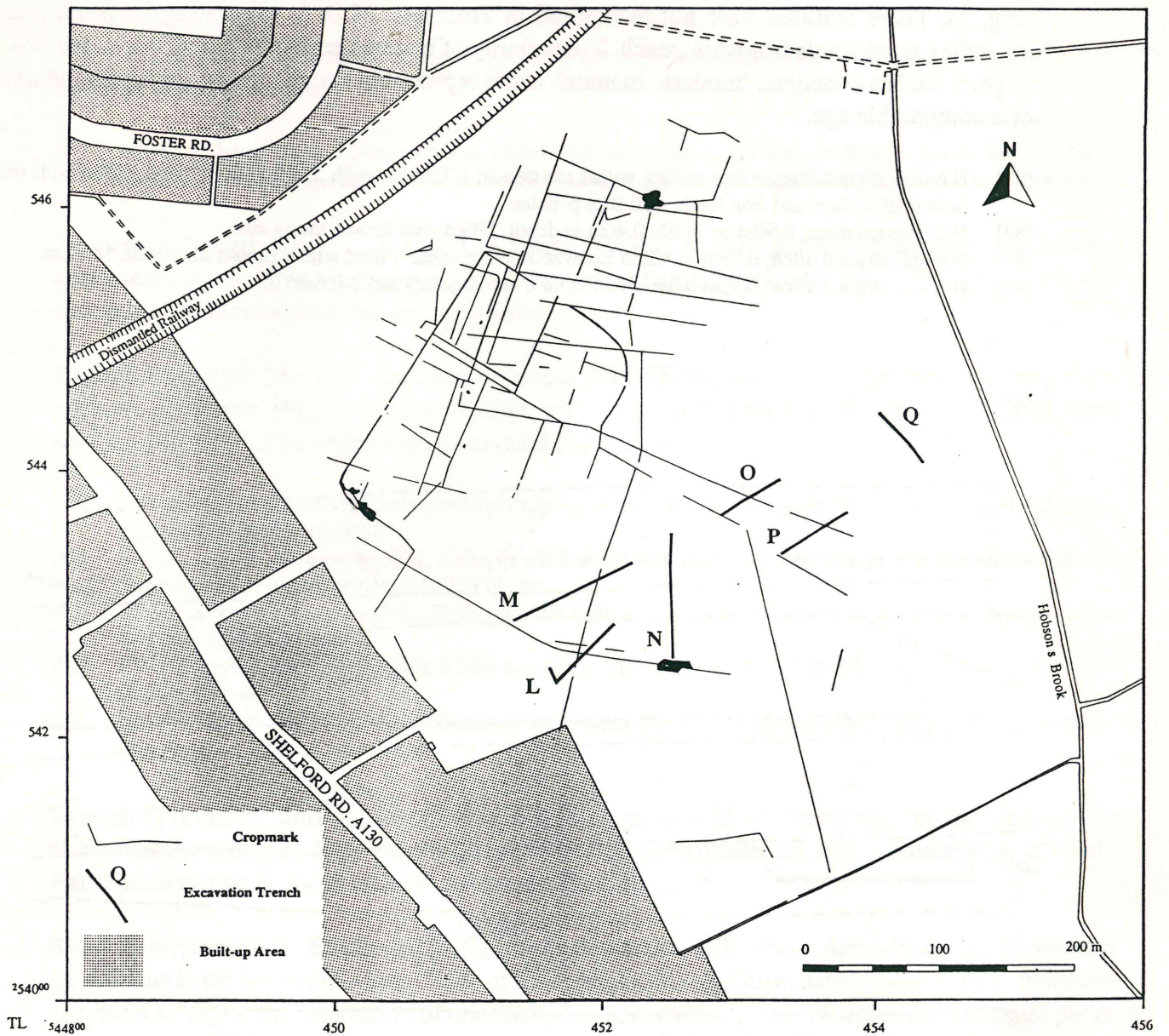


Figure 3 Site 1 Trench location plan

- [67] NW-SE aligned *ditch*, steep sided with 'narrow' concave base, cutting feature [75]; 2.0m in width and 0.50m in depth. Filled by a deposit of brown silty clays with occasional pebbles.
- [75] NW-SE aligned shallow cut feature cut by [67]; 1.70m in width and 0.30m in depth. Filled with brown clayey silts.
- [77] North-south aligned *ditch*; 1.70m wide and 0.50m in depth. Filled by blue grey clays with a small gravel component. The deposit is gleyed suggesting gradual accumulation in slow moving system, banding of gravels may suggest intermittent pulses of faster running water. A small piece of abraded early prehistoric pottery was discovered in the lower most fill of this feature.

Trench M (length 100m) Placed along the northern side of the road corridor assessing NNE-SSW aligned ditches (Fig 3). Features largely occurred in the eastern half of the trench, consisting of north-south and NE-SW aligned ditches of about 0.50m in width and the butt ends of ditches/pits (Fig. 5). These features were not recognised in Trenches M or L suggesting localised activity extending northwards from this trench. The majority of features remain undated; one of the NW-SE aligned ditches contained 'modern' material, and it is probable that ditches of similar alignment are of a comparable age.

- [82] NW-SE aligned feature butt ending within the trench; 1.75m in width and 0.55m in depth. Filled with yellow brown silty clays and fine sands with flint pebbles.
- [84] N-S aligned *ditch*; 0.90m in width, 0.40m in depth. Filled with brown sandy silts.
- [87] NW-SE aligned *ditch*; 0.75m in width excavation incomplete. Filled with a brown sandy silt. Modern.
- [97] NW-SE aligned *ditch*; 0.75m wide. Filled with a brown sandy silt. Modern ?.

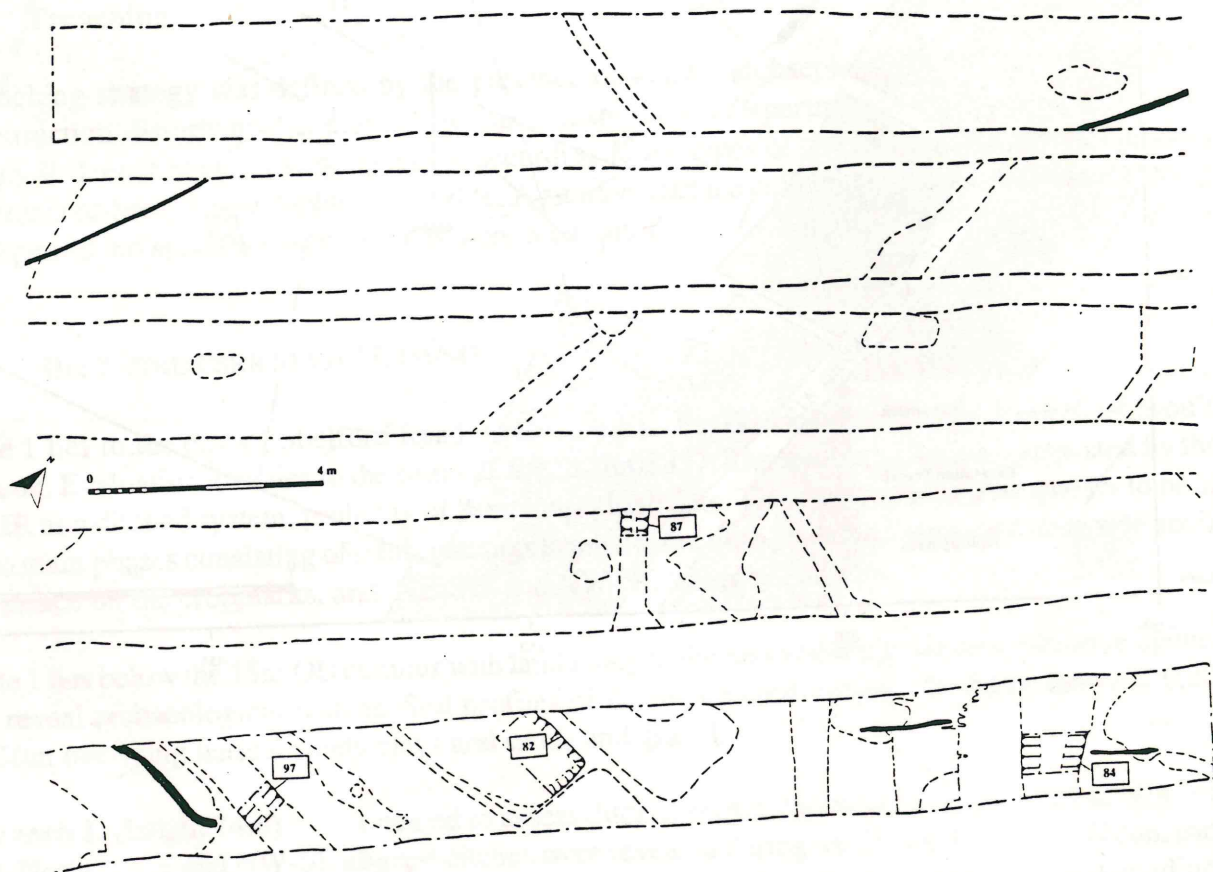


Figure 4 Trench M plan of excavated features

Trench N (length 95m) Trenches located to assess a large pit like feature on the south-western limits of the corridor and an area further to the north devoid of cropmarks (Fig 3). The trench location plan (Fig 3) suggests that this feature was missed by about 2m. However a feature was recognised within the southern limits of the trench. This may be one of the ditches seen to run through *pit* shown on the aerial photographic plot.

Further analysis of the aerial photographs indicated that the area is much affected by fluvial activity with formation of an alluvial fan presumably associated with the earlier river course. It is possible that this and similar features are of natural origin as they are difficult to distinguish from the *obviously* naturally occurring deposits.

NW-SE and east-west ditches were recognised; the east-west ditch was shallow cut and flat based, no finds were recovered.

[85] NE-SW aligned *ditch*; 1.50m in width. Filled with brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. No finds were recovered. This feature was cut by a north-south aligned ditch approximately 0.75m in width (unexcavated).

Trench O (Length 50m) Located to assess NW-SE aligned ditches converging towards the northwest (Fig 3). These features were not recognised in the trench. One NE-SW aligned ditch was recognised (0.60m width), but not excavated.

Trench P (Length 56m) Located to assess NW-SE aligned ditches extending away from northern enclosure (Fig 3). One such ditch was recognised in the centre of the trench [68], other smaller ditches (0.30m wide) were excavated [92,94,96].

[68] NW-SE aligned *ditch* shown on the aerial photograph plots; 1.40m in width and 0.30m in depth. Filled with brown silty sands. Cuts feature [69].

[69] NW-SE aligned *ditch* cut by [68]; 1.20m in width and 0.40m in depth Filled with grey brown silty sands with common coarse component upto 0.10m in size.

[92] NW-SE aligned *ditch* cut by [94]; >0.50m in width and 0.40m in depth. Filled with yellow brown clayey silts with flint and chalk fragments.

[94] NW-SE aligned *ditch* cutting [92]; 0.50m in width and 0.30m in depth. Filled with yellow brown mottled silty clays and sands.

[96] NE-SW aligned *ditch*; 0.30m in width and 0.30m in depth. Filled with a gleyed deposit of light grey brown sandy silty clays.

Trench Q (Length 52m) Located to assess areas devoid of cropmarks to the east of the assessment area (Fig 3). East-west aligned ditches were recognised, all approximately 1m in width. Excavation of one of these features revealed a field drain.

Site 1 Interpretation Excavated features suggest a series of field boundaries/drainage ditches and field drains in the assessment area. None of these produced significant dating information. Northern cropmarks suggest the imposition of one ditched system over another. Whether the enclosure pre or post-dates the field system was not assessed due to the strictly defined limits of assessment corridor. SMR suggests that the boundary layout is of a Roman date. These could be related to settlement evidence lying to the south of the assessment area. However, there are very few similarities in boundary alignments, and those that do may relate to later additions to the complex.

Trenching revealed a more complex system of boundaries than indicated on the aerial photographs. The evidence probably indicates a long history of land maintenance associated with water management and drainage in the area. The area was common *moorland* prior to enclosure, and is likely to have been wet at varying times during the Iron Age and Roman periods as shown by environmental evidence from higher lands to the east (Site 3).

4.4 Site 2 (TRU CSRR S2 93) TL458/547

Site 2 is centred around the present railway track to the south of Long Road and east of Hobson's Brook. Archaeology of the area is described as an extensive cropmark complex with multi-ditched rectilinear enclosures and linear features (SMR 08339). Palmer & Cox (1991) suggest that at least two phases of activity exist. Eleven trenches were opened to assess the area of proposed destruction.

Site 2 lies around the 15m contour with land rising gently to the east and southeast. Natural deposits of the area were a mixture of sands and gravels lying within pockets of the chalk. The 15m contour runs along the western side of the railway track and east of the palaeochannel recorded in trenches A, D and F. Subsoil conditions varied between trenches where topsoil directly overlay the natural substrate or where a mid brown sandy clayey silt separated the two strata. This intermediate strata existed in the area of the main enclosure complex (Trenches B, C, D & E), this deposit has been interpreted by Dr. CAI French (Appendix A) as a buried soil. Soil depth was 0.80m on top of the river terrace, elsewhere up to 0.20m of the present plough soil overlay natural deposits of chalky marls and river terrace sands and gravels.

Aerial Photographs (Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography; ADE 72-74 1961) show the extent of the Royal Show in 1961. Archaeological evidence for this activity was located to the west of the railway line on Site 2. Features consisted of stake/post holes, square in plan, filled with loose sands, the archaeology was not extensively disturbed by this activity. Lack of evidence for disturbance or associated finds scatters is surprising considering the scale of activities and the observed *short term impact of festivals* on the immediate landscape. Activities must have been of a nature leaving few or no archaeological traces, limited ground disturbance, biodegradable waste and or intensive litter clearance following the event. Such evidence obviously has major implications for the recognition of past activities through the historic and prehistoric periods.

Trench A (Length 50m) Located to assess NW-SE aligned ditches to the northwest of the main enclosure system (Fig 5). A single NW-SE ditch was recognised approximately 0.50m in width. A drainage ditch shown on the modern OS maps and recently backfilled was also exposed. The east end of the trench shows evidence for an early river channel aligned north-south. This shows as a marked linear depression in the field. No features were excavated.

Trench B (Length 60m) Located to assess features expected to be natural occurring to the north of the enclosure system (Fig 5). Two NE-SW intercutting ditches were recognised and excavated. No finds were recovered. Other features included a NW-SE aligned ditch.

[08] NNE-SSW running ditch cuts [10]; 0.30m in depth and 1.15m in width Filled with brown silty clays with fine 'pebbles' and also magnesium flecks.

[10] NE-SW aligned ditch cut by [08]; 0.25m in depth and 0.50m in width. Filled with dark greyish brown silty clays with occasional chalk fragments.

Trench C (Length 50m) Located to assess a trackway lying on the south site of the main enclosure complex (Fig 5). Three ditches were recognised (Fig 6 & 7), two northern ditches indicated recutting along similar alignments, infilling of the earlier drainage ditch occurred with the new excavated material. A pit was recognised on the south side of these two ditches. Aerial photograph data suggested a trackway passed through at this point; no compacted surfaces or metalling were recognised within the section. The ditches are separated by a distance of 4.0m at excavation level (Fig 6). None of the features were observed cutting the buried soil. The alignment though probably a 'fortuitous' could be associated with drainage activities leading water off higher areas, as the features are aligned between *high* and *low* ground. No other features were recognised within the western enclosure.

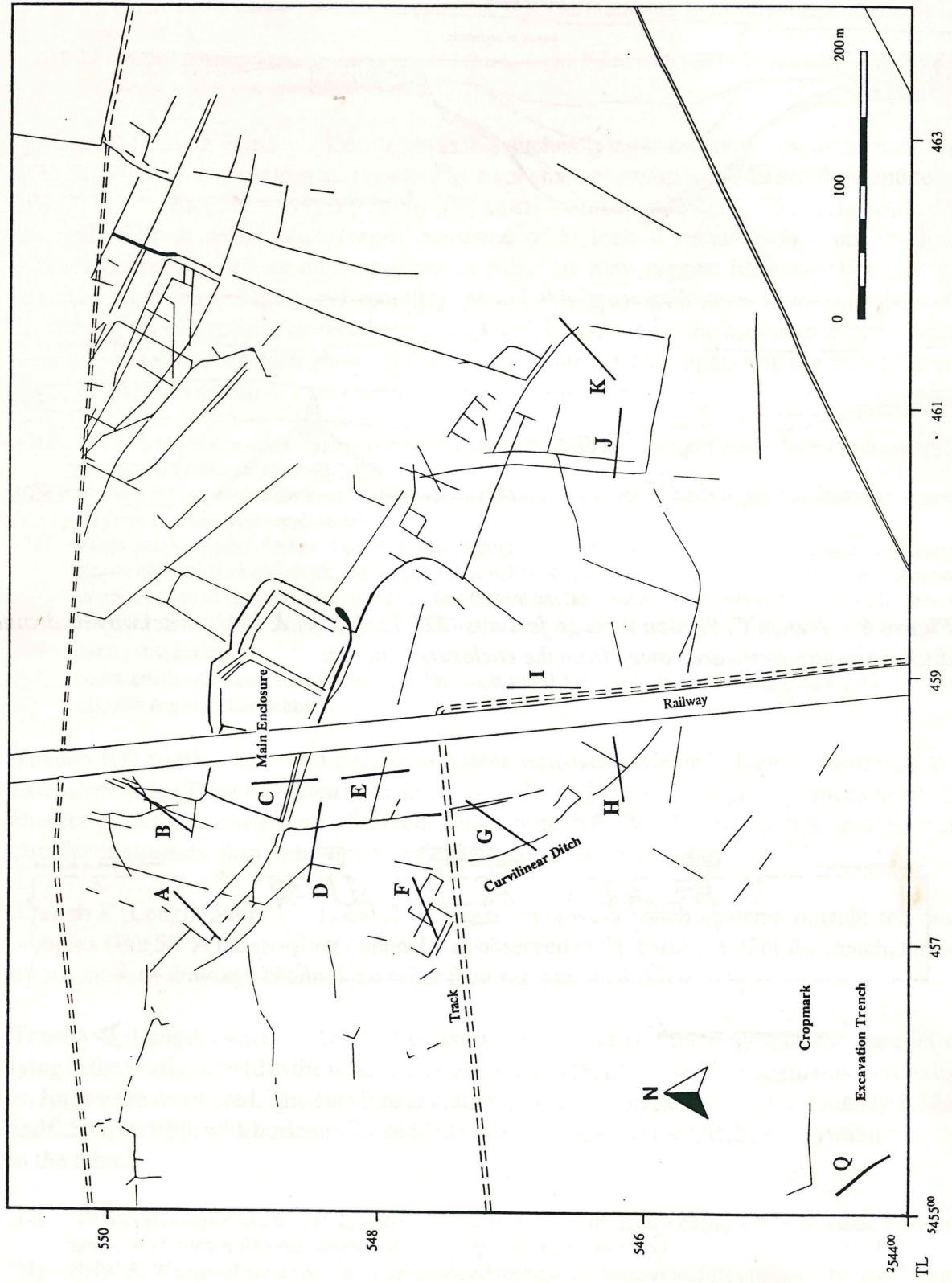


Figure 5 Site 2 Trench location plan

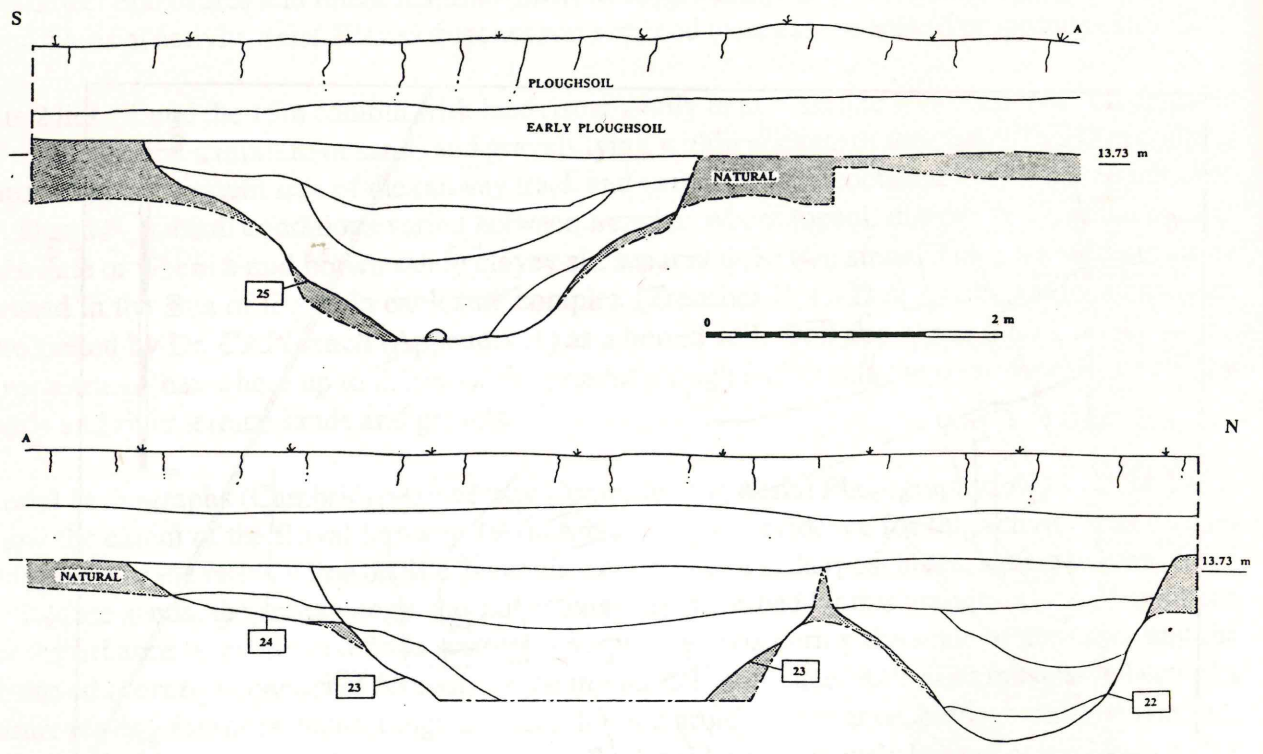


Figure 6 Trench C. Section through features [22], [23], [24] & [25]; trackway or drainage ditches leading westwards away from the enclosure complex.

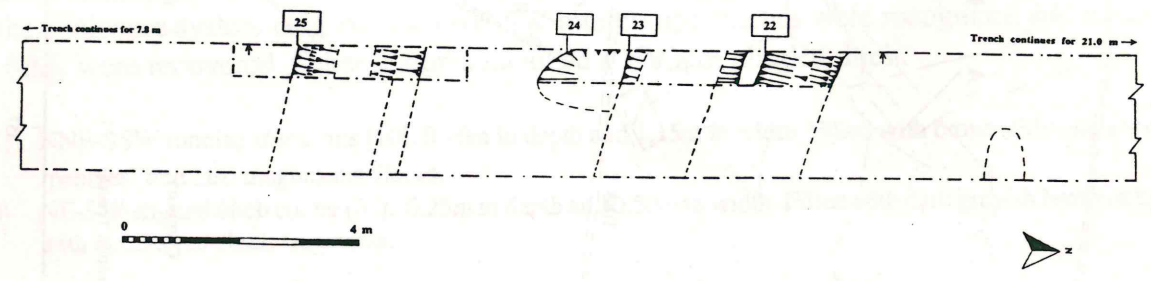


Figure 7 Trench C Plan of excavated features (See section above)

- [22] East-west aligned *ditch* 1.40m in width and 1.0m in depth filled with yellow brown silty sandy clays, grey brown clayey silty sands, blue grey clays were found as the basal deposit. These may suggest a slow moving/standing water with a slightly anaerobic environment. Relationship with [23] could not be defined from the section however the occurrence of 'clean' sands and gravels within [22] may indicate the removal of material from ditch [22] which was immediately dumped into [23]. This may indicate the replacement of the [23] system by backfilling and levelling rather than the re-excavation of [23] or simultaneous operation of the two ditches
- [23] East-west aligned *ditch* shown on the aerial photographic plot; 2.20m in width, excavation incomplete. Filled with yellow brown and brown silty clayey sands and sandy clays with the occasional charcoal fleck and 'clean' sands. The only finds from these deposits were of animal bones, unidentified.
- [24] *Pit* located on the southern side and cut by ditch [23]; 0.75m in diameter and 0.40m in depth. Filled with dark grey brown silty sands.
- [25] NNW-SSE aligned ditch; 2m in width and 1.2m in depth. Filled with yellow brown silty sands grading to silts and sands with a fine gravel component.

Trench D (Length 60m) Located to assess ditches lying to the southwest of the main enclosure (Fig 5). West-end of the trench is marked by river channel deposits. North-south orientated ditches [04, 32] were recognised as being cut by [06] an east-west aligned ditch. The north-south ditch [32] recognised from aerial photographs consisted of at least 4 recuts along similar alignments. Excavators recognised no differentiation in fills, this may suggest little variation in the source material over the infilling and recutting period this may indicate a *short* time period as the incorporation of organics or weathering of material would alter the appearance and nature of the deposit. Aerial photographs show no divergence of the ditches suggesting the maintenance of the same boundary system.

- [04] NNE-SSW aligned *ditch*, cutting feature [06]; 2.0m in width and 0.20m in depth. Filled with sandy clays with occasional gravel sized stones.
- [06] WNW-ESE orientated *ditch* cut by feature [04]; 0.65m in width and 0.24m in depth. Filled with grey brown sandy clays with occasional small stones.
- [32] North-south aligned *ditches*. Two fills were recognised by the excavator, an upper fill of a mid yellow brown clayey silt with flint and chalk and a basal fill of yellow brown clayey silts with a higher gravel component. The stepped nature of the feature suggests that this feature has been recut on a number of occasions (at least 4 times). From the site record it would appear that little change in source or activities affecting the source zone occurred during this period.
- [34] North-south orientated linear feature; 1.70m wide and 0.30m in depth. Filled with a dark yellow brown clayey silt with angular flint pebbles.

Trench E (Length 50m) Located to assess east-west oriented ditches presumed to be an extension of the Trench D ditch complex (Fig 5). Ditch [32] was recognised, not excavated. Other smaller ditched features were observed. These form NE-SW aligned ditches, and possible sub-circular enclosures, they were not examined as part of the evaluation.

Trench F (Length 50m) Located to assess rectangular ditch systems outside the enclosure complex (Fig 5). A palaeo-river channel was observed in the eastern half of the trench, this was cut by the modern drainage channel, no other features were identified.

Trench G (Length 64m) Located to assess the curvilinear ditch system and parallel ditches lying in the southern field to the west of the railway track (Fig 5). Two ditch segments were excavated, no finds were recovered. The curvilinear feature [14] was a single ditch approximately 1.80m wide and 0.50m in depth with horizontally bedded sediments. The parallel ditch system was not recognised in the trench.

- [14] NNW-SSE aligned *ditch*; 1.80 in width and 0.50m. Filled with brown clayey silts with sands, brown silts and sands, dark brown silts and sands and dark grey brown silts and sands.
- [37] NNW-SSW aligned *ditch* containing deposits of dark brown silty clays and grey brown silty clays. The recorded information suggests two cuts, one butt ending in the trench approximately 0.60m in width. This is cut by a feature lying on its eastern side, 0.40m in width and extending beyond the trench, north and south.

Trench H (Length 48m) Located to assess the curvilinear feature recognised in Trench G [14] (Fig 5). Segments were excavated from both ditches which occurred as shown on the aerial photographs. No finds were recovered. Curvilinear ditch [39] was steep sided with a narrow flat base, being narrower and shallower than the feature exposed in Trench G. This may still be a continuation of the same system in a different form, or at least performing a similar function marking the approximate position of the 15m OD contour. A semi-circular ditched feature was recognised, this is unlikely to be the result of modern agricultural practices; it has been suggested that this represents the remains of a small enclosure or pen, post or stake holes were found to cut the fill of the slot.

- [19] NE-SW aligned *ditch*, 1m in width and 0.25m in depth, lies below topsoil. Filled with brown to grey brown sandy silty clays. The relationship between [39] and [19] was not observed.
- [39] North-south aligned *ditch*; 0.80m in width, 0.40m in depth. Filled with a dark brown silty clay, the upper parts of the fill were mixed with topsoil indicating disturbance by ploughing.

Trench I (Length 66m) Located to assess a cropmark sterile area within the enclosure system (Fig 5). Four drainage ditches were recognised in the southern half of the trench, these are presumably draining higher areas to the west. No finds were recovered.

- [42] East-west aligned *ditch* cutting feature [43]; 0.50m in width and 0.60 in depth. Filled with a light grey clay with the occasional pebbles.
- [43] East-west aligned *ditch* cut by [42]; depth of 0.50m. The feature is filled with grey clays.
- [44] East-west aligned *ditch*; 1.20m in width and 0.40m in depth. Filled with grey brown clayey silts and silty clays. Relationship with [43] is unknown.
- [45] East-west aligned *ditch*, the basal profile suggests that this feature has been recut. The total dimensions are of 2.60m in width and 0.50m in depth, the recut feature is approximately 1.30m in width and 0.50m in depth. Deposits within these features consist of dark grey clayey silts and light grey clays, iron stained.

Trench J (Length 52m) Located to assess north-south aligned ditch system to the east of the railway track (Fig 5). Three ditch segments were excavated, only one of which showed on the aerial photograph plot [46]. There is evidence to suggest the re-alignment of the ditch system which was slightly offset during a later period of reconstruction or maintenance [56,58]. A number of other north-south aligned ditches were recognised, these were between 0.30m and 0.90m wide. Only animal bones were recovered during the excavation of these features.

- [46] North-south aligned *ditch*; 1.60m in width and 0.60m in depth. Filled with brown silty clays, dark grey brown silty clays and clayey silts.
- [56] North-south aligned *ditch* cutting [58]; 0.80m in width and 0.40m in depth. Contains brownish grey sandy silty clays.
- [58] North-south aligned *ditch* cut by [56]; 1.20m in width and 0.60m in depth. Filled with grey silty sandy clays.

Trench K (Length 62m) Located on the eastern side of the assessment area to evaluate a series of NW-SE aligned ditches which may form the northern boundary to an enclosure/field system (Fig 5). No features were excavated in this trench due to the time constraints. A large ditched feature approximately 2m across, this is believed to be a gas pipeline known to run through the area. Other ditches of north-south and east-west alignments were concentrated at the southern end of the trench.

Site 2 Interpretation No dating evidence was collected from the excavated features; field collection produced lithics, Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery in very small quantities. On the basis of the recorded archaeology the activities associated with this area are not intensive artefact producing, or artefact concentrating; it is therefore unlikely that settlement or rubbish (preservable) disposal was involved. It has been suggested that these enclosures may be animal enclosures possibly associated with pasture (Appendix A), certainly boundaries other than those used for drainage are in evidence; bone material is sparse, but this may be a result of poor preservation in an acidic soil environment. However, bone material is not preserved in the more alkaline chalk areas of the site.

this may indicate clearance of mortalities (likely in most economic systems) or there were special areas for bone refuse not sampled within this evaluation. The main enclosures were not assessed as they lay outside the areas affected by the road scheme. It is believed that these areas may hold the key to understanding activities in the area and should be assessed by limited trenching when further excavation is necessary.

Preservation of a buried soil within the main enclosure area (Trench C) is of particular interest as this is an area on a slight rise where one might expect greater erosion of the monument by ploughing. It is suggested that a combination of activity type, grazing of pasture providing a greater length of time for soil development, with the possibility of importation of soil aiding preservation of earlier soil horizons. Shallower soils may be expected on sand and gravel areas.

The outer curvilinear boundary (Fig 5) ties in with the 15m contour as recorded on the OS Pathfinder series, it is possible that this ditched system encloses the area of higher land, Way (Appendix 2) suggests that this curvilinear feature may be of medieval or post-medieval date. The field evidence suggests the maintenance of a land strategy based on the drainage of higher lands. Many of the ditches show recutting and slight course alterations showing the maintenance of the system over time; a policy of land management would appear to have been in operation.

There is no evidence, at present, to indicate whether any parts of the system are coeval with the Iron Age enclosure at New Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cra'ster 1969) or the Roman sites in the region (SMR 04461, 09640)(Kemp 1991). The site remains largely undated and little understood.

5.0 CHERRY HINTON WARD

5.1 Archaeological and Historical Framework

The Cambridge sites (3 & 4) lie to the south and southeast of New Addenbrooke's Hospital Iron Age site. The area is overlooked by two Iron Age hillforts; Wandlebury (Stapleford) and War Ditches (Cherry Hinton) on the chalk uplands to the north and south. The SMR describes the cropmarks shown on the aerial photographic plots (Figs 8 & 11) as field systems, the ring ditches interpreted as evidence for prehistoric settlement. Cambridge Archaeological Field Group have collected prehistoric, Roman and medieval artefacts from the area (CAFG unpub).

Earliest settlement in Great Shelford parish was probably on the northern bank of the river, about 2 km west of the present village where Neolithic to Roman occupation has been recorded; it is likely that occupation also occurred near the ford since prehistoric times (VCH 1982). Expansion of Cambridge to its present southern limits is part of the 20th century development; this suggests that Site 3 and 4 have been marginal to settlement activities for at least the historic period. However the sites are crossed by a series of locally important communications routes. These include Worts Causeway and the Cambridge to Haverhill Road; this was recorded as Babraham Way in the mid 15th century and was turnpiked between 1765 and 1876 (VCH 1982). Granham's Road was known in the 19th century as Hollow Willow balk, and was perhaps Hornings way between the 14th and 18th centuries. The Great Eastern Railway's London to Cambridge line was opened in 1845.

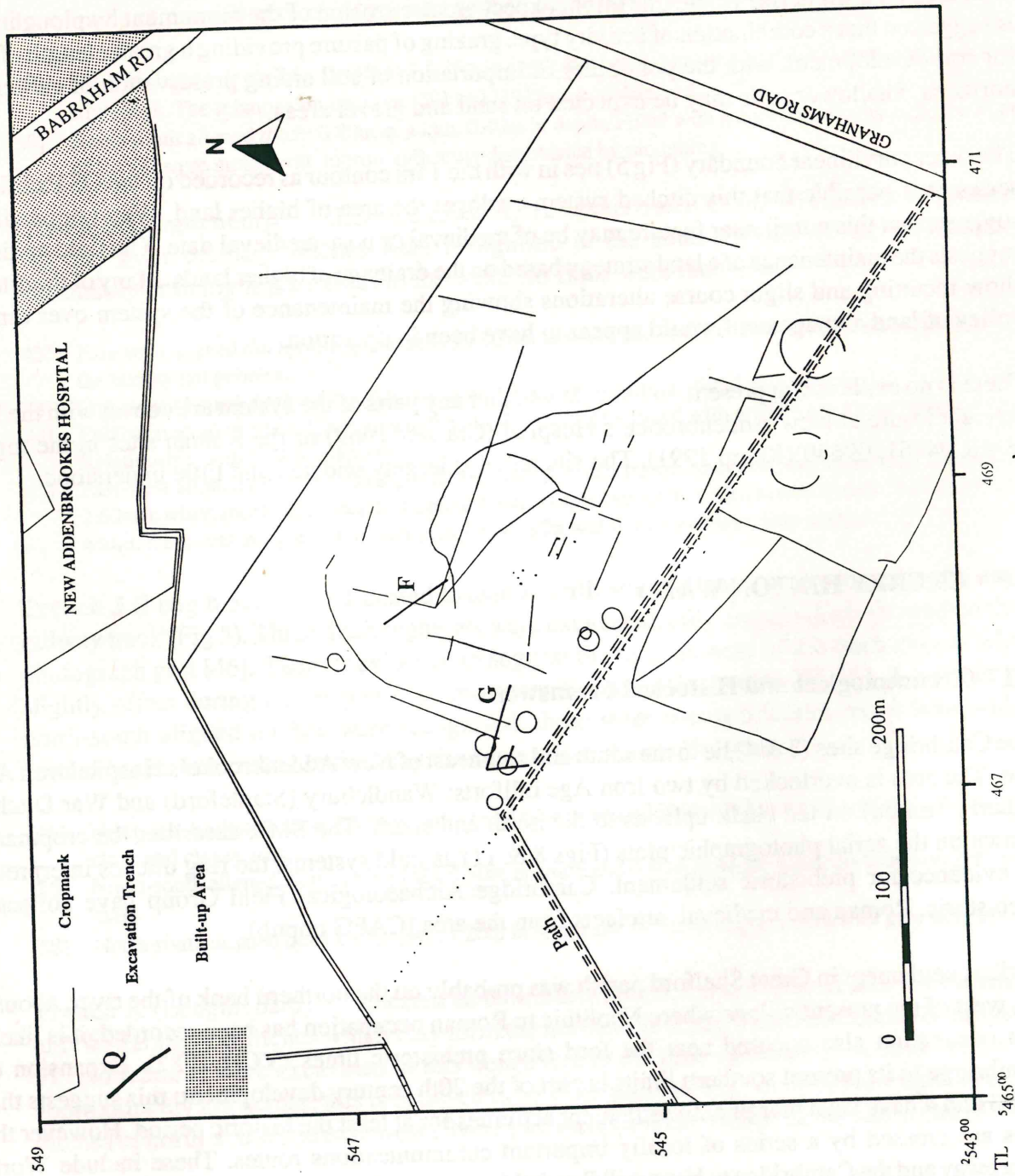


Fig. 2 Trench location plan

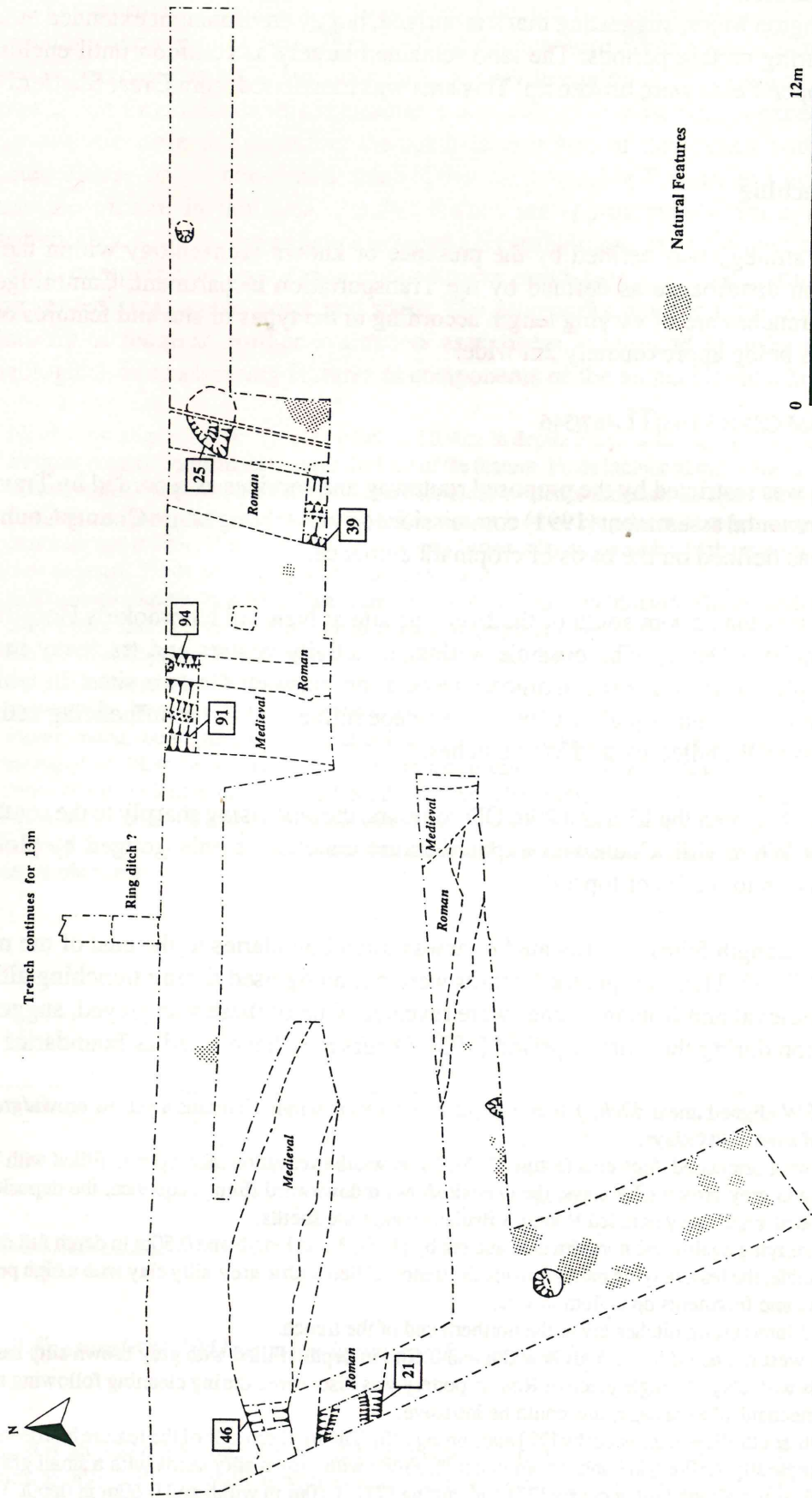


Figure 9 Trench G plan of excavated features

The Victoria County History (VCH 1988) indicates that the land north of Nine Wells has been known as Trumpington Moor, suggesting that a moorland, boggy environment extended at least this far to the east during certain periods. The land remained largely as common until enclosure when the medieval open fields were broken up. This area was transferred from Great Shelford to Cambridge in 1934.

5.2 Trenching

Trenching strategy was defined by the presence of known archaeology within the zone of road construction disturbance as defined by the Transportation Department, Cambridgeshire County Council. Trenches are of varying length according to the types of site and features being sampled, all trenches being approximately 2m wide.

Site 3 (CAM CSRR S3 93) TL467/546

Trenching was restricted by the proposed routeway and services as recorded by Travis Morgan for the environmental assessment (1991) commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council. Trenching strategy was defined on the basis of cropmark evidence.

Site 3 lies less than 500m south of the Iron Age site at New Addenbrooke's Hospital recorded by Cra'ster in 1967 (1969). The possible settlement/activity centres and trackway indicated on the cropmark plots may suggest a temporal association between the two sites. In which case these features could be seen as part of a wider landscape influenced by or influencing activities based at the hillforts of Wandlebury and War Ditches.

The site lies between the 15m and 20m OD contours, the land rising sharply to the south and the chalk uplands of White Hill. Chalk was exposed in the trenches heavily gouged by ploughing, this is overlain by up to 0.20m of topsoil.

Trench F (Length 50m) Located to assess ditch boundaries to the east of the main cropmark complex (Fig 8). These cropmark features were not recognised during trenching although a series of post-medieval and Roman ditches were revealed. One of these was gleyed, suggesting drainage of the region during the Roman period [103]. Others may have acted as boundaries or barriers.

- [96] NE-SW aligned linear *ditch*; 0.30m in depth and 0.40m in width. Contains a yellow brown/grey brown mottled fill of sandy silty clays.
 - [103] East-west orientated *ditch* cuts feature [105]; 3m in width excavation incomplete. Filled with brown fine sandy silts and grey brown silty clays, the deposit shows a downward fining sequence, the deposit is gleyed. Finds included small, very abraded Romano-British coarseware sherds.
 - [105] Feature lying against the northern side and cut by [103]; 3m in length and 0.50m in depth full dimensions are not available, the feature lying partly outside the trench. Filled with a grey silty clay with a high percentage of chalk flecks and fragments up to 1cm in size.
- A group of 3 intercutting ditches lay at the northern end of the trench.
- [70] East-west aligned *ditch*; 1.50m in width and 0.60m in depth. Filled with grey brown silty sands and grey silty sands with clay. A single piece of Roman pottery was discovered during cleaning following trench opening by the mechanical excavator, this could be intrusive.
 - [71] North-south aligned *ditch* cut by [72] and cutting [70]. The southern side of the feature has been removed by ditch 71; presently 1.50m wide and 0.50m in depth. Filled with brown silty sands with a small gravel component.
 - [72] North-south aligned *ditch* cut by [73] and cutting [71], 1.10m in width and 0.60m in depth. Filled with yellow brown silts and sands.
 - [73] North-south aligned *ditch* cutting feature [72]; 2m in width excavation incomplete. Filled with brown silty sands and yellowish brown sandy silts with post-medieval salt-glazed stoneware pottery.
- None of the features recognised on the aerial photographic plot appear within the trench.

Trench G (approximately 100m of trenching) Located to assess the nature of the ring ditches shown on the aerial photographs (Fig 7). Ring ditches were not in evidence in the form shown on the aerial photographs (10-15m diameter). A curvilinear ditch [46] occurs in the approximate location of the ring ditch, if this is circular, a diameter of at least 50m is expected. Post-medieval pottery and tile were discovered in the south-eastern arm of this trench within a feature on the projected course of the curvilinear ditch. Other cross cutting Roman and post-medieval ditches confuse the picture in this area. Parallel ditches set approximately 5m apart run through the assessment area. They define a slight cambered area with Roman and post-medieval ditches on either side. This complex may represent a minor Roman road, part of a local communications network linking settled areas to the north and south. The cropmarks provide little evidence for the inter-relationship of features, further evaluation/ assessment is required in order to understand these archaeological units assessing features as components of the archaeological landscape.

- [21] North-west aligned *ditch*; 3.10m in width and 0.90m in depth. Filled with clayey silts grading to silty clays with a higher organic component towards the base of the feature. Finds include abraded sherds of Nene Valley, colour coated wares and possible Hadham wares. Molluscan evidence indicates an open 'floodplain' environment.
- [25] Sub-circular *pit* lying to the east of [39]. The feature is very irregular with much root disturbance; 1.80m in diameter and 0.70m (?) in depth. Filled with grey brown silty sands with a high proportion of chalk particularly near the base. Finds are largely of Roman grey wares.
- [39] North-south aligned ditch lying 10m to the east of [94]; 1.50m in width and 0.60m in depth. Filled with grey brown clayey silts and silty clays. Finds include abraded grey and Nene Valley wares.
- [46] East-west orientated curvilinear ditch; 1.75m in width and 0.30m in depth. Filled with brown sandy clayey silts and chalk fragments. The feature was initially believed to be one of the ring ditches observed from the aerial photographs, however its locations and predicted circumference suggest otherwise. On the final day the trench was extended, the alignment of the ditch appears to relate to a concentration of post-medieval material lying within the top of a ditch to the south east. Furthermore, molluscan species which are commonly associated with medieval deposits are evident in the samples from this feature. They indicate a ditch environment of still water which is likely to dry-up at various times of the year. They represent a classic open chalkland/grassland environment. It is likely that this feature is of a post-medieval date and is not related to the ring-ditch features recognised on the aerial photographs.

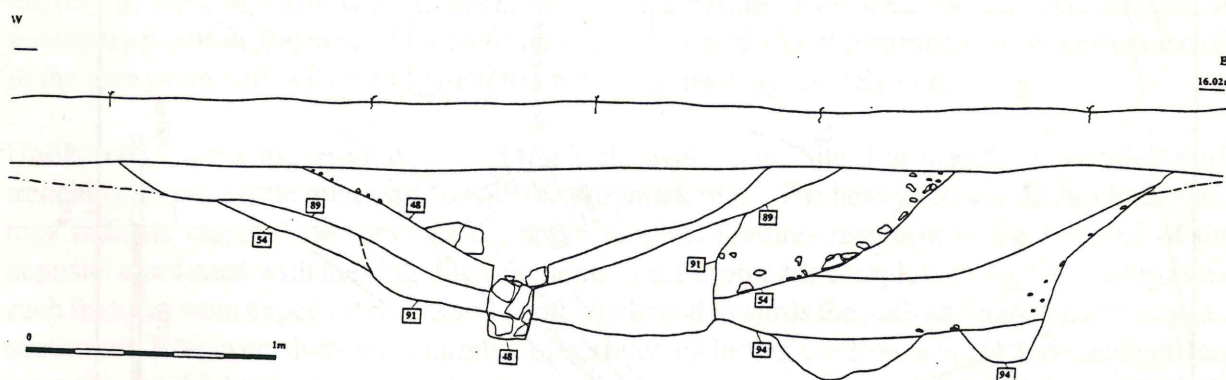


Figure 9. Feature [48]-[94] post-medieval and Roman ditches

- [48] NE-SW aligned *ditch* with a narrow 'slot' at its base. This feature cuts into an existing Roman ditch [91] and recuts to [89]; 1.30m in width with a slot of 0.25m in width, depth of 0.70m. Filled with brown silty clays, the slot is filled with loose chalk rubble interpreted as a 'soakaway'. Finds included tile, brick, post-medieval and willow pattern pottery.
- [54] North-south aligned ditch cut by [91] and [89]; 2.6m in width and 0.56m in depth. Filled with grey clays with a high chalk component. Finds include small very abraded Roman grey wares.
- [89] NE-SW aligned *ditch*, recut by [48] on similar alignment to the Roman ditch [91]; 2.20m wide and 0.50m in depth.

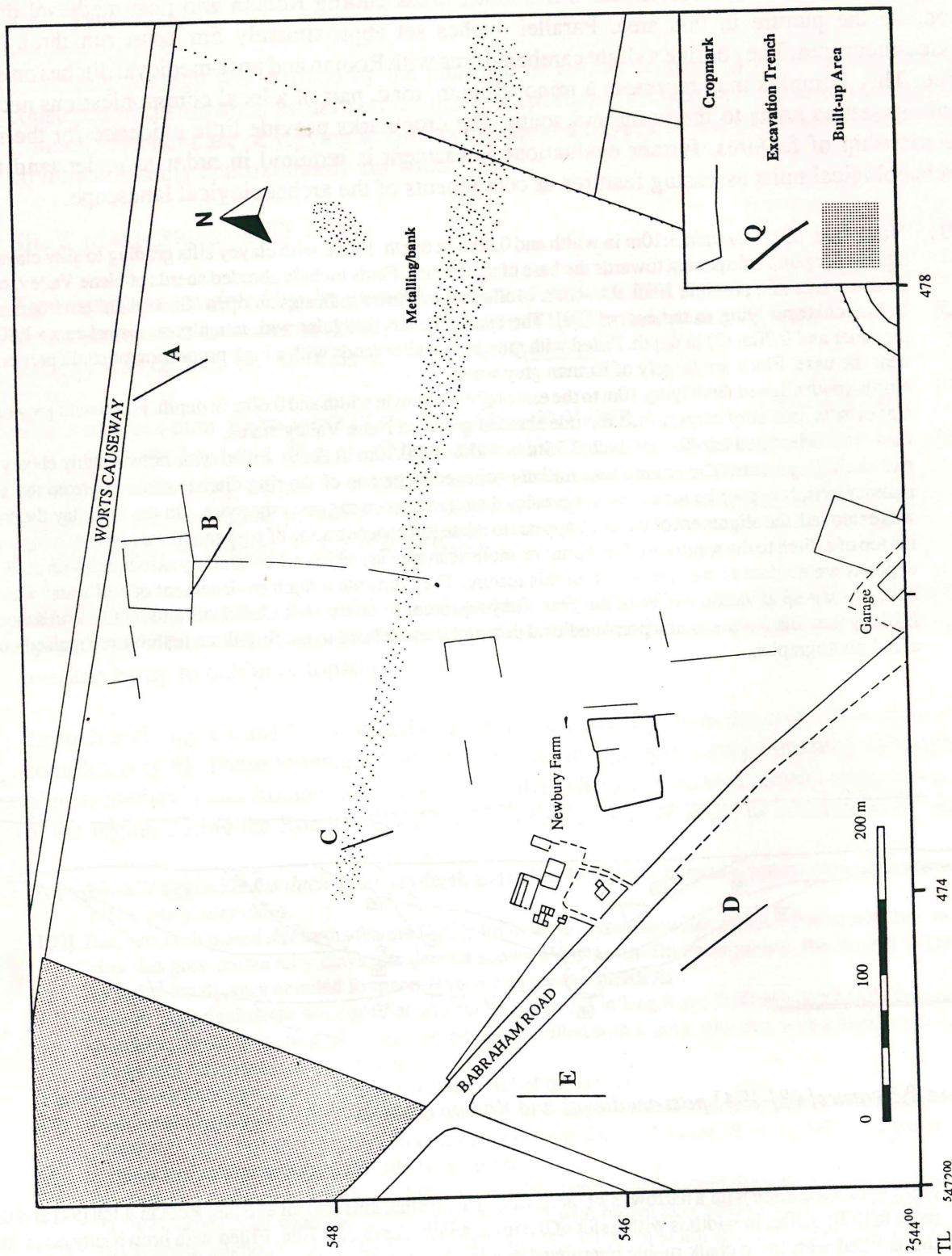


Fig 10. Site 4 Trench Location plan

Filled with brown silty clays, no finds were recovered though the similarity in profile and alignment may indicate a close temporal and functional relationship with [48].

- [91] NE-SW aligned *ditch* cut by [48]; 2.10m wide and 0.65m in depth. Similarity in alignment of the ditches suggests that this feature was still visible at the surface during the post-medieval times. The feature is filled with grey brown silty clays.
- [92] & [93] two marked depressions at the base of feature [94], they predate the infilling sequence of the ditch, and are likely to be related to its use or initial function. Excavation of both features was incomplete, full extent of these features is unknown. Filled with grey silty clays with occasional chalk fragments.
- [94] North-south aligned *ditch* with two *post-holes* (?) at the base [92 & 93]; 11.80m in width and 0.70m in depth. Filled with grey brown clayey silts and silty clays with frequent chalk fragments. Finds include abraded grey ware sherds.

A number of smaller sub-circular features existed. These were selectively sampled and many proved to be areas of root disturbance as expected from their highly organic fills. Other shallow features <0.15m in depth such as [78] containing grey brown silty clays are also likely to be natural in origin.

Site 3 Interpretation Site 3 showed no evidence of prehistoric activity. However, the area produced evidence for Roman activities in the area as well as molluscan data which gives us a better understanding human/environment interaction in the region.

Molluscan evidence indicates floodplain and flowing water environments in the region in contrast to the medieval evidence for the drying out of the area, at least at this level OD. This may indicate the effectiveness of drainage practices at this later date. The data has implications for land availability during the archaeological temporal framework. Environmental evidence suggests that this area may have been too wet to sustain occupation or many forms of agriculture during the Roman period. Evidence for settlement sites on lower land to the west suggests periodic hydrological problems.

Ditches of medieval and Roman dates are likely to represent field boundaries as well as functioning as drainage ditches. Drainage may have been a secondary function during the medieval period and certainly during the post-medieval and enclosure periods where boundaries are used to display social *restrictions*.

Roman artefact concentrating activities of the later 2nd and early 3rd centuries occurred within the vicinity of the *collection* site, However the abraded nature of the material suggests they are in a secondary position, but may add some support to the idea of a local communication network existing in the area or an activity centre which has not as yet been adequately defined.

Unlike other areas assessed as part of this field evaluation, Site 3 archaeology revealed during trenching showed little relationship with the cropmark plots. The heavy scoring of the chalk natural may indicate major disturbance of the archaeological features resulting in the removal of ditch deposits associated with the ring ditch elements of the cropmark complex, though some vestiges of such features were expected where soil depth thickened towards the path and parish boundary to the southwest. However, there are a number of features including the Roman [21] and medieval east-west aligned ditch which are not shown on any of the aerial photographs. Local factors including differential soil buildup and hydrological conditions on chalklands appear to be influencing the recognition of features by aerial photographic means.

Site 4 (CAM CSRR S4 93) TL474/546

Located to the south and northeast of Newbury Farm, Babraham Rd. Site 4 lies to the east of New Addenbrooke's Hospital near the Roman and possibly prehistoric track of Wort's Causeway (VCH 1982). The area has recently been encroached on by housing following the expansion of Cambridge during the last century.

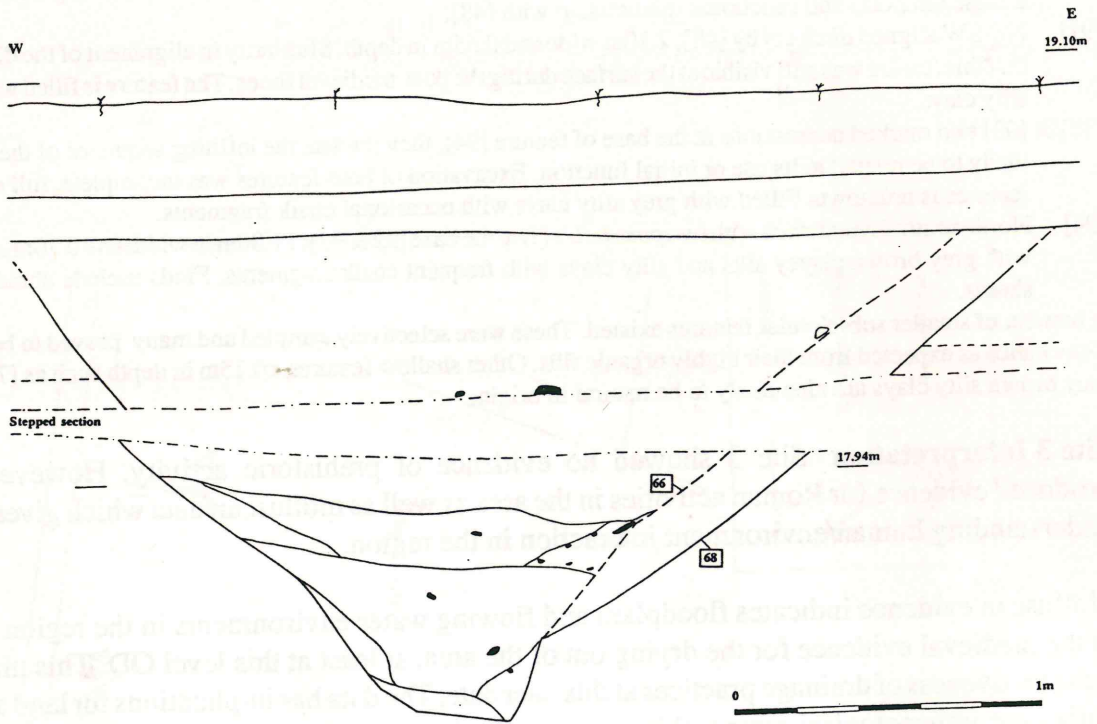


Figure 11 South facing section through feature [68] Trench B

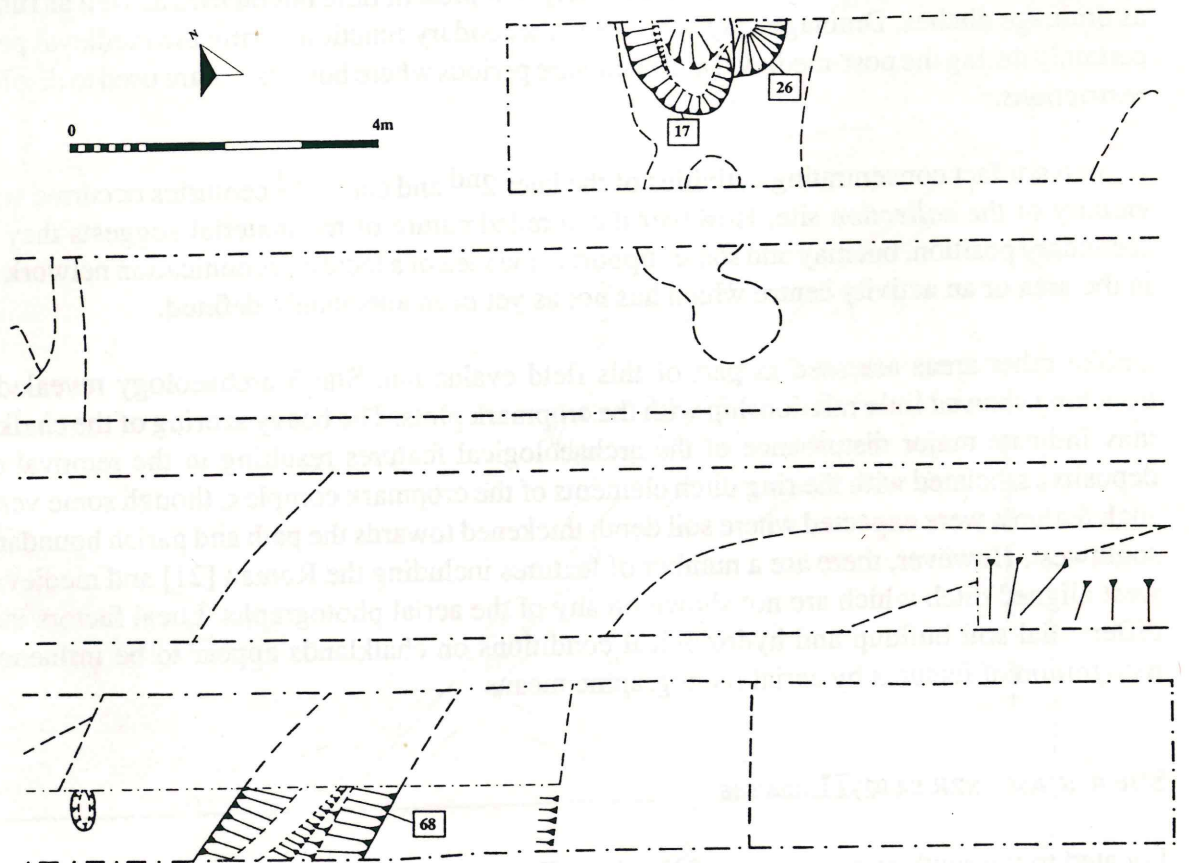


Figure 12 Trench B Plan

Natural deposits are of chalks with overlying sands and gravels, chalk uplands rise to the northeast and south where the Iron Age hillforts of War Ditches and Wandlebury are located. Greater soil development is recorded to the east where soil depths of 0.50m (Fig 11), are known compared to 0.20m west of the Babraham Road (Fig 12).

Trench A (Length 54m) Located to test for the presence of the Roman road (Wort's causeway) south of the presumed alignment (Fig 10). No features were recognised.

Trench B (Length 50m) Located to assess the nature of a ditch system defining a rectangular enclosure within the road corridor (Fig 10). A single ditch was recognised, cutting through a silt and sand filled natural chalk hollow. Ditch [68] is 3.2m wide and 1.7m in depth, alignment does not correspond with the aerial photograph plot. A few sherds of Iron Age pottery and animal bones were retrieved.

Two ditch butt-ends recognised at the northern end of the trench, the most recent of which contained post-medieval material.

- [17] Butt-end to a north-south aligned *ditch*; 1.50m wide and 0.60m in depth. Filled with brown silty sands containing bone fragments and post-medieval finds.
- [26] Butt-end to a feature terminating within the trench, cut by [17]; 0.80m in width and 0.90m in depth. No finds were recovered. Filled with brown silty sands and silts..
- [68] northeast-southwest aligned *ditch* 3.20m wide and 1.70m in depth. The deposits grade from brown silty sands to sandy silts and clayey silts at the base. Finds from the feature include Iron Age sherds within the upper fills.

Trench C (Length 45m) Located to assess the metalled deposit marked on the aerial photograph plot (Cox & Palmer 1991) and shown as an earthworks within the field (Fig 10). The ridge is clearly marked in the section, it is presumed that this is the remnants of a field boundary probably of medieval/post-medieval date, no earlier antecedents were recognised. Other features included a north-south aligned ditch. No dating evidence recovered.

- [14] North-south aligned *ditch*; 0.19m in width and 0.50m in depth. Filled with yellow brown and brown clayey silts. Finds included animal bones.

Trench D (Length 56m) Located to assess areas devoid of cropmarks lying to the south of Newbury Farm (Fig 10). NW-SE and NE-SW aligned ditched systems were excavated, both showed evidence of recutting; it is possible that these form part of the same system though no dating material was recovered; the ditch system was not evident on the aerial photograph plot. This system is probably associated with enclosures to the south (SMR 08338), the enclosure area appears to be spatially defined and does not extend into trench E.

- [03] NE-SW aligned *ditch*. Truncated by [31]; 1.10m in width and 0.60m in depth. Filled with brown sandy silty clays and redeposited chalk at the base.
- [05] NE-SW aligned *ditch*; 1.4m in width and 0.50m in depth. Filled with brown sandy clayey silts, with bands of weathered chalk along the sides of the feature.
- [07] East-west aligned *ditch* cut by [09]; 0.20m in width and 1.10m in depth. Filled with sandy clayey silts with layers of weathered chalk material towards the base. no finds were recovered.
- [09] NW-SE orientated *ditch* with squared but end, cuts [07]; width 1.0m with a depth of 0.50m. Filled with brown sandy clayey silts.
- [31] NE-SW aligned *ditch*; cuts [03]; 2.45m in width and 0.25m in depth. Filled with brown sandy silty clays with occasional chalk fragments.

Trench E (Length 55m) Located to assess areas to the west of Newbury Farm (Fig 10). One feature defined was modern, this is likely to be a modern gas pipeline known to run through the area.

Surface Collection Field collection of surface finds in the areas of Sites 3 and 4 indicates a concentration of pottery in the vicinity of Trench G and westwards. This may be material associated with cropmarks to the south or moving down slope; cropmarks or soilmarks should show well on the higher chalk lands, their absence suggest that the immediate slopes are devoid of archaeology.

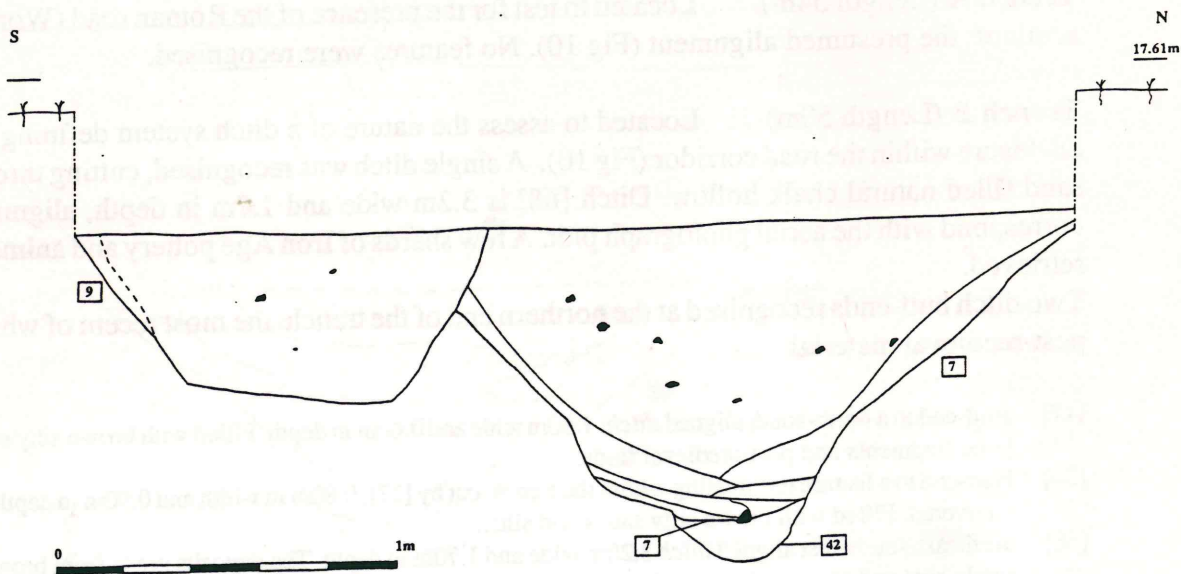


Figure 12 ditches [9], [7] and [42], Trench D

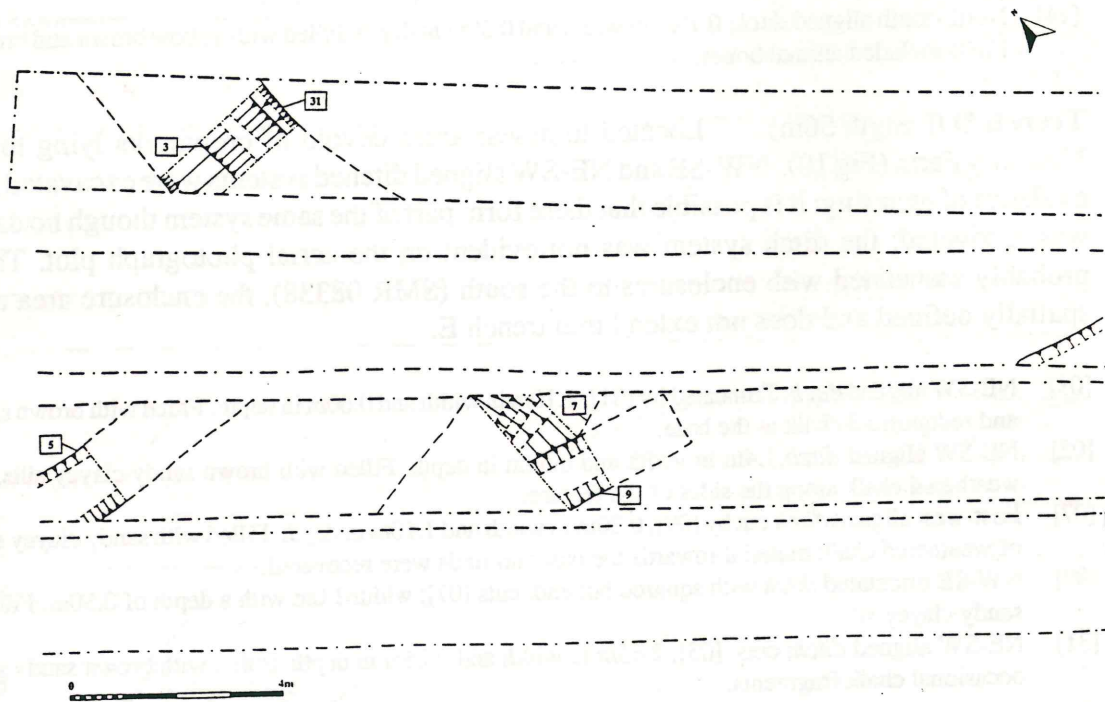


Figure 13 Trench D plan

Site 4 Interpretation Ditch systems not in evidence on the aerial photographs were revealed during excavation. These remain in the main undated. Iron Age pottery was found in the upper fills of ditch [68] this is unlikely to represent immediate activity areas of this period.

There is little evidence to suggest that these features were drainage ditches. Different land-use problems may be associated with Roman and medieval activity patterns. The evidence may suggest the maintenance of boundaries rather than being influenced by the hydrological system and the need for land drainage during the medieval period.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

There is little evidence for prehistoric activity in the area. Iron Age and Roman activities would probably have been defined by the hydrological system, particularly the intermittent flooding indicated by the molluscs from Site 3. This may have had its greatest implications for land-use to the west where areas were lower and the majority of the drainage ditches appear to be directed.

Construction of *centres* such as Wandlebury and War Ditches indicate that Iron Age populations were active in the landscape. These sites would appear to *command* the landscape and may have provided *economic, social and security* functions for the local population.

These areas formed parts of medieval field systems until enclosed in the early 1800's (Appendix C). Though there is evidence for the 'drying' out of the land since the Roman period, sites 1 & 2 appear to have been subjected to further drainage activities suggesting that the *economic viability* of these areas must have fluctuated or been adaptable in the past.

Buried soils preserved within the main enclosure areas of Site 2 may give some indication of the types of activities occurring through the area prior to enclosure. Dr. French suggests that this area may have been subjected to activities promoting soil development either by the addition of soil and/or allowing a longer period for soil formation (Appendix A), the enclosure for pasture has been indicated. Historical records indicate common pasture since at least the 13th century which would suggest a similar soil build up within the immediate locality. It is possible that differential ploughing since this period resulted in the anomaly of soil preservation; if the features were extant as earthworks but not recorded historically or recognisable at the level of historical research defined in Appendix C the medieval boundaries recognised by Way may enclose an area which was uncultivable; though presumably available for pasture in a similar way to which we use many of our *important* archaeological monuments today. Historical and environmental evidence indicate periodic flooding of low lying lands which may indicate the importance of any higher drier areas in the landscape to prehistoric activity until an effective drainage scheme was devised allowing the present landuse pattern to become established.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The field evaluation has proved the presence of archaeological remains in areas showing cropmarks. Social, temporal and spatial landscapes of these sites still remain to be explored, but have been demonstrated to relate mainly to land management strategies rather than settlement or other intrusive land-uses.

It is recommended that further work is required at Sites 2 and 3 where archaeological deposits are seen to survive in good condition and reasonably high density, especially as much of the archaeology revealed at Site 3 was not in evidence on the cropmark plots. No systematic study of the Cambridge landscape has yet occurred as trenching in this case was based on known archaeological material (cropmarks) within the zone of destruction. Limited open area excavation is justified at Site 2 and 3, in areas affected by road construction, to fully understand the nature of these activity areas. Geophysical survey and trenching in the immediate environment will place these areas into a wider context. Further work will allow archaeologists to better understand the archaeological landscape south of Cambridge particularly archaeological monuments in the region such as Wandlebury and War Ditches and settlements such as New Addenbrooke's Hospital which can then be adequately presented to the local community.

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APPENDIX A.

Soils Assessment: Cambridge Southern Relief Road

CAI French PhD MIFA

Inspection of the open trial trenches was undertaken by the writer on February 3rd 1993.

Observations

Two distinct geologies were observed: late glacial chalky marls and river terrace sandy gravels.

The boundary and natural contour on the western side of the assessment area between these two geological substrates was defined by a relict late glacial river channel. This channel was infilled with light grey, shell-rich, chalky marl silt to silty clays. It was observed in the northeastern end of trench A, the west end of trench D and the eastern end of trench F.

The marl formed a natural 'hill' or 'ridge' area which is now bisected by the railway line. A relatively thick (c.15-25 cm) buried soil survives beneath the present day ploughsoil in trenches C and E. It is an homogeneous, light brown silt loam with much evidence of earthworm activity. It exhibits no evidence of horizonisation, and archaeological features only define at its base/junction with the underlying marl substrate.

There is little or no buried soil preserved in the other trenches which essentially correspond with the areas of sandy gravel substrate within the assessment area.

The three rectilinear enclosures noted as cropmarks are situated more or less astride the 'hill/ridge' of marl. They are also coincident with the areas of relatively well preserved depths of buried soil. Perhaps the better preservation on the 'hill', in itself unusual, owes itself to a combination of a greater length of time for soil formation to occur and the use'/function of the enclosures themselves (ie the deliberate addition of imported soil, and/or enclosed pasture or horticultural gardens).

Potential

The buried soil could repay future micromorphological analysis if the questions of the antiquity and nature of the enclosures are answered. Nonetheless, the severely biologically worked/mixed nature of the soil suggests that even this investigation would provide little concrete information about past land-use activities.

Little or no sign of recent waterlogging was observed, except in recently infilled ditches (ie in trench D)

Recommendations

No further action is required until the archaeological scenario is investigated more fully.

APPENDIX B.

Pottery Assessment: Cambridge Southern Relief Road

G.Lucas

Site 3, Trench G

Cut [21]

(40) medium-large abraded sherds; tall folded beaker with horizontal groove and rouletting in a dark brown colour-coat - probably Nene Valley. Carinated jar in a dark sandy ware. Greyware triangular and D-rimmed bowls, pedestal base off imitation Samian (Dr.32 ?) - Hadham?

(20) small, fairly abraded sherds, including greyware early flanged bowl, and Nene Valley red-brown colour-coated sherd.

(51) greyware D-rimmed and flanged bowl, large tegula fragment.

(19) Nene valley bases (dark and pale brown colour-coat), greywares, shell-tempered sherds, fine orange ware rim - Hadham?

Cut [39]

(24) medium, very abraded sherds; greyware flared jar, dark sandy ware, shell-tempered ware, and a grey grog-tempered fabric.

(23) Nene Valley self-coloured jar, combed storage jars, shell-tempered jar with internally ledged rim, cordoned jar, rilled jar, and jar or bowl in a fine buff-green sandy fabric with barbotine dots under grey slip - possibly from Cherry Hinton kilns.

Cut [25]

(43) medium-sized, abraded greyware sherds.

(44) medium-sized, abraded greyware sherds, including cordoned jar

(22) large-small, abraded sherds; rolled-rim bowl with internal groove, cordoned jar.

Cut [48]

(47) brick fragments, daub?, willow-pattern sherd

Cut [54]

(50) small, very abraded sherds; greywares, shell-tempered and fine pink fabric with red colour-coat - very similar to Harston finewares.

[80]

(79) small, very abraded sandy sherds

[78]

(77) small, very abraded black sandy ware

[94]

(75) small, very abraded sherds; greywares, shell-tempered jar with internally-ledged rim, fine orange ware - Hadham?

Section 22

- (88) medium-sized, very abraded sherds; greyware jar
 (87) small, very abraded sherds; greyware plain-rimmed dish/bowl
 (87) tile fragments.
 [100]
 (99) abraded sandy Romano-British coarsewares, daub.

(unstrat.) flanged bowl, Samian Dr.31.

(unstrat) post-medieval glazed and unglazed red earthenwares.

Trench F

[73/74]

(84) salt-glazed stoneware.

[103]

(102) small, very abraded Romano-British coarseware sherds

Site 4

[68]

(58) 3 sherds of crushed white flint tempered ware, including plain bevelled rim, Iron Age ?

(machining) white flint-tempered sherd - small, abraded

Discussion

Most of the pottery comes from Trench G on Site 3, and is almost all fairly abraded and small-medium sized sherds. The date range represented is chiefly later 2nd and early third century AD, (c.190-240 AD), but there are probably some residuals from the earlier 2nd or even 1st century AD. The greatly abraded state of most of the pottery would support a high degree of residuality in the assemblage. Most are locally made coarsewares, of Roman type jars and bowls in a pale sandy, grey-slipped fabric or belgic-type open jars in a dark gritty fabric. A shell-tempered fabric occurs also, in early bead-rimmed jars with an internal ledge. Finewares are not too frequent, some Nene Valley and possibly Hadham wares, though the presence of a possible vessel from Cherry Hinton is interesting given its Flavian date, supporting the notion of residuality.

Apart from some post-medieval sherds, the only other non-Roman ceramics come from site 4, which are possibly of Late Iron Age date.

APPENDIX B

A Documentary History of the Trumpington Site 2 (TL5459/2547): Cambridge Southern Relief Road

Twigs Way BSc, MA, AIFA

Introduction

This report has been produced at the request of the Cambridgeshire Archaeological Field Unit to assist with the evaluation and interpretation of the Trumpington, Site 2. The work was commissioned subsequent to evaluation excavations being carried out but prior to analysis of the results of those excavations. The report concentrates on the landscape in the immediate vicinity of the excavations and does not include manorial or parish background except where this may be of direct relevance.

Sources

Documentary sources used for the compilation of this report were both primary and secondary and included limited cartographic material. No research was carried out on the archaeological Sites and Monuments Records although an aerial photographic interpretation of the area (with the imposed layout of the archaeological excavation trenches) was supplied by the Archaeology Field Section and this is produced as Figure 2. Material consulted was held at the Cambridgeshire Record Office (CRO), the Cambridge University Library (CUL) and the Cambridgeshire Collection (CC). Further material is held in both national repositories and various college archives and it is possible that further detail on earlier field boundaries may be available within these.

For the purposes of the present study the most informative materials consulted were pre and post enclosure maps of 1801/4 (CRO R 60/24/2/70a and b) and a late sixteenth century terrier containing detailed information on field layout (CRO 347/T4). Comparison of the information gained from these sources with the aerial photographic interpretation enabled suggestion as to which features might relate to medieval/post medieval period and which may pre-date these periods.

Results

i. Background

Background information has been largely taken from the VCH Cambridgeshire (Vol viii p248 onward) and supplemented by results of this current research. In common with many Cambridgeshire parishes, Trumpington was a multi-manorial parish and contained at least four manors for much of the medieval period. This situation can make reconstruction of the landscape difficult but in this case there are fortunately several terriers and field books - such as the c1580 terrier of the De la Poles manor - enabling this reconstruction at least for the post medieval period. Continuity in field name and other references suggest that much of the field layout was in place by at least the mid thirteenth century.

The village lies at the intersection of the main road from Royston to Cambridge with a road running north west from Great Shelford to Grantchester, called by c1600 the 'Moorway'. A further road (possibly Roman in origin) called the 'Ridgeway' crossed the fields on a line slightly west of the Cambridge road. Substantial new building has taken place both near the original village centre and along the Cambridge road to north and south, whilst infilling and re-organisation within the village

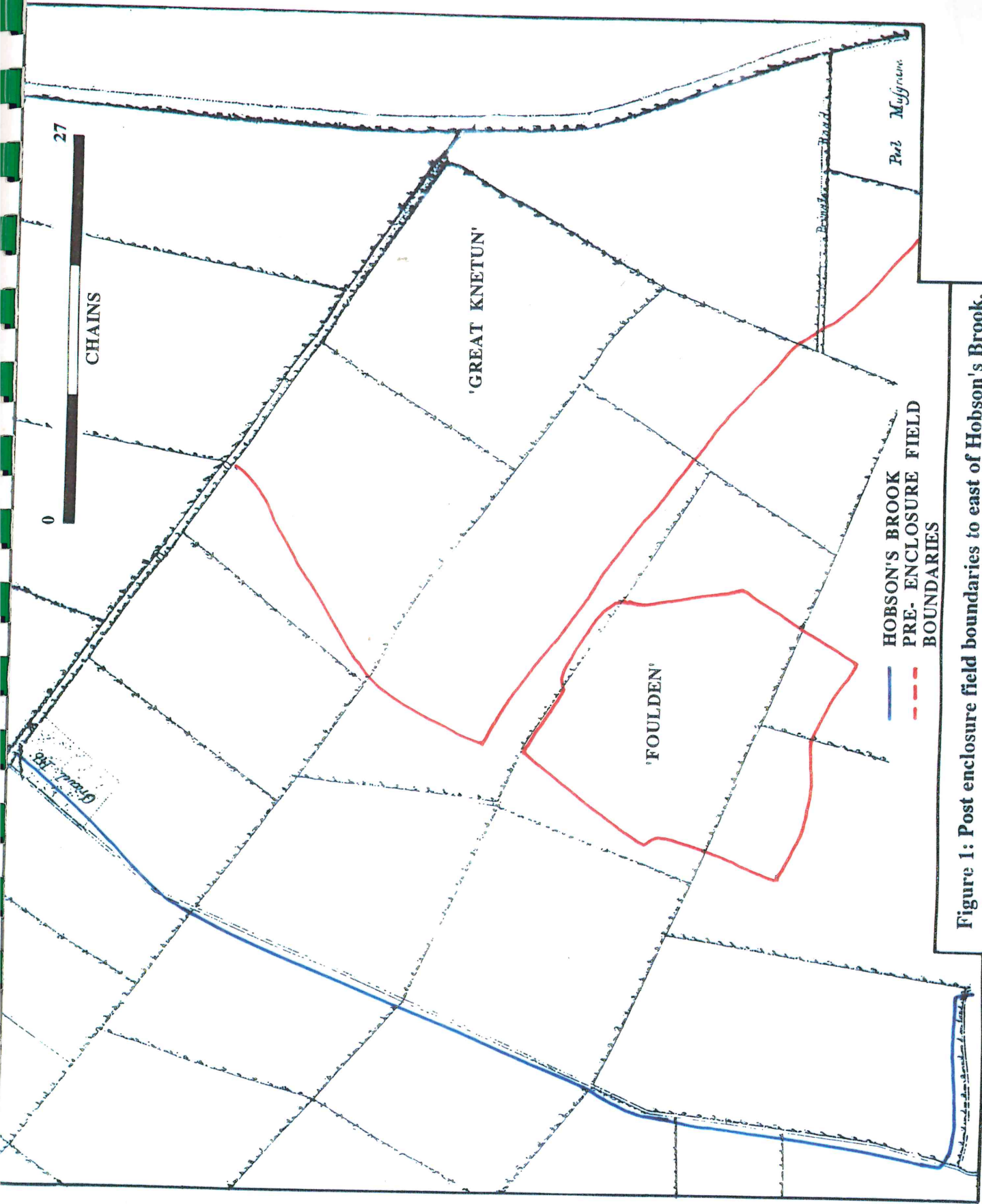


Figure 1: Post enclosure field boundaries to east of Hobson's Brook, Trumpington. CRO R60/24/2/70a

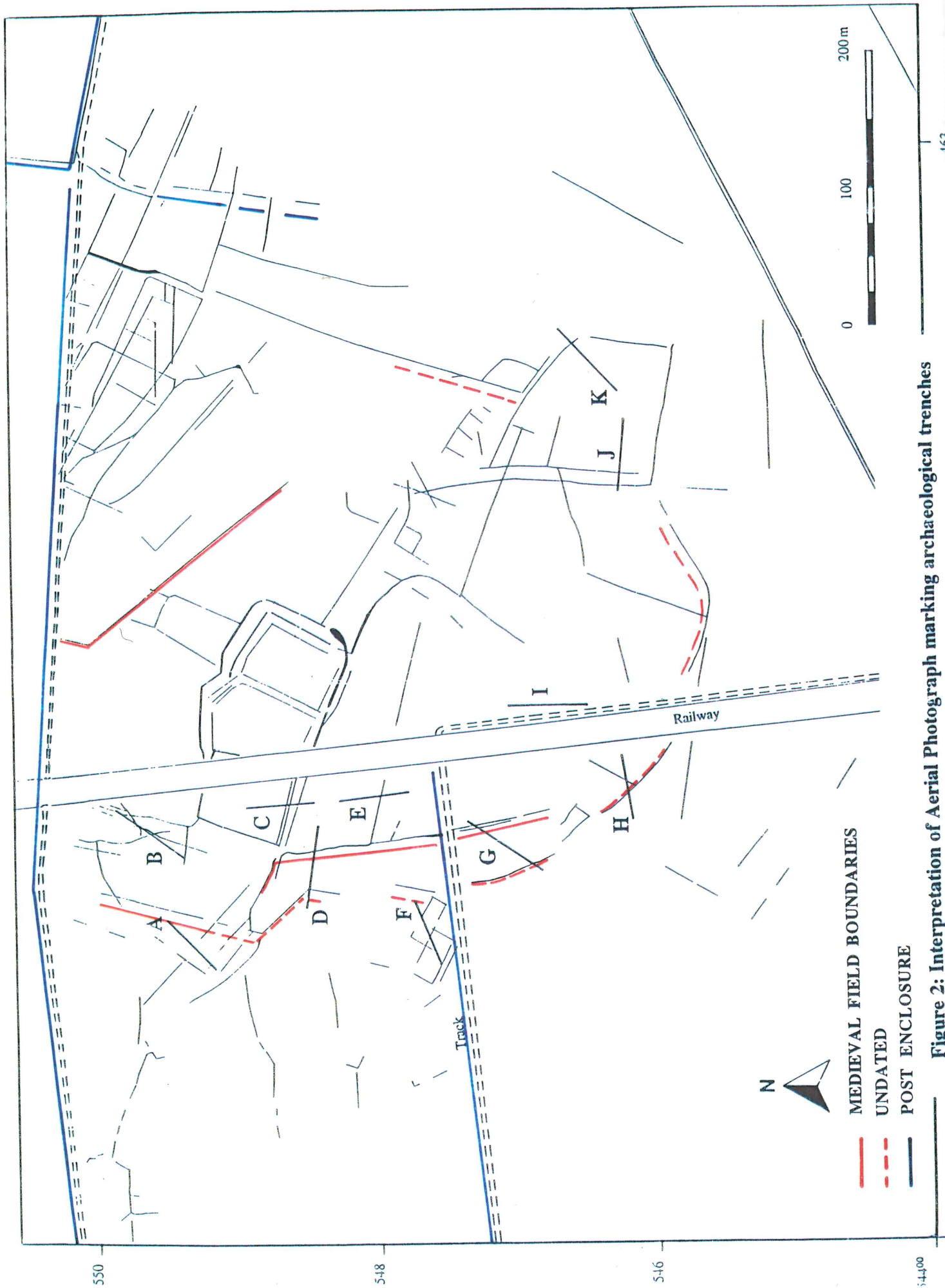


Figure 2: Interpretation of Aerial Photograph marking archaeological trenches

can be partly explained as a result of the expansion of parkland attached to the Trumpington Hall in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Watercourses have proved important both in the initial development of settlement and in the organisation of the agricultural landscape. The parish was bounded on the west by the River Cam and on the north and northeast by a tributary of that river, whilst a brook called the Vicar's Brook until the early seventeenth century, and subsequently Hobsons Brook, ran north south across the eastern part of the parish. A spring is also recorded as lying near the village from the thirteenth century.

By the mid thirteenth century the arable was divided into three main areas; north of the village (High fen/Cambridge Field), southwest of the village (Hauxton/Church field) and to the east of the village where the arable was divided into four fields- Moor Field, Great Kneighton (Kinetun/Kenton) Field, Little Kneighton Field and Forden (Foulden) field. In addition to this, areas of meadow lay to the east of the village and an area of commons to the south of the parish. A common moor, partially intercommonable with Great Shelford occupied the low lying land along both sides of the Vicar's Brook and was retained even subsequent to partial straightening of this brook in 1610. The area in which the current archaeological evaluation area was in the late sixteenth century at the junctions of 'Foulden' field, Great Kneton field and the common moor. It is however to be expected that the area occupied by the common moor may have varied according to both environmental and economic factors.

Enclosure took place in 1802/4 when much of the parish was divided between the Pemberton estate and smaller land holders. Sub-divisions of the large 'medieval' fields occurred immediately as recorded in a map of 1804 (CRO R60/24/2/70b) although subsequently some boundaries of the enclosure period have been destroyed as fields have been enlarged again in response to modern farming techniques (OS 1885 edition, Sheet XLVII. 10 and OS Pathfinder 1004 1987 revision).

ii. Area around TL 5459/2547

Figure 1 shows the relationship between the earlier fields of Great Kneton and Foulden and the common moor with the later post enclosure boundaries. The archaeological trenches lie predominantly within the post enclosure field nos. 135, 140 and 142. These fields retained their main boundaries until at least the later nineteenth century, although in the mid nineteenth century they were subdivided by the construction of the Great Eastern Railway. This has enabled a far more accurate location of the earlier field boundaries than might otherwise have been possible, however the overlay of earlier boundaries cannot be considered to be more than an approximation.

Earlier field boundaries are shown on the pre-enclosure map of 1801 (CRO R60/24/2/70a). This is the only cartographic source found for this information, however, it is unfortunately in poor condition and field boundaries are very faint. The boundaries are marked in dashed lines which may indicate a degree of approximation on part of the map maker - or even a later addition to the original map, although this latter is less likely. A tracing was made of these boundaries and then photocopied reproductions made at a different scale to allow comparisons with the post enclosure map. The only reference points available for this were the route of Hobson's Brook and the lane to the far north. As can be seen there was some discrepancy even for the route of the Brook and it cannot be expected that the field boundaries are any more accurate. Discrepancy may be judged to be of the order of up to 20 metres - produced no doubt in part by the methods of transference used.

Referring to Figure 2 it can be seen that the archaeological evaluation was concentrated in an area of intense archaeological activity as defined by aerial photographic interpretation. The archaeological material was composed of a variety of boundaries both linear and curvilinear as well as what appears to be a block of three rectangular enclosures. Onto this I have overlaid (by further copying

and enlargement) the known pre and post enclosure field boundaries and (using colour coding) suggested which of the boundaries recovered by aerial photography might date to these periods. Post enclosure field boundaries are indicated in blue. There are surprisingly few of these but it is possible that these had already been excluded at the interpretation stage, as is commonly the case. Those boundaries which coincide with the pre-enclosure fields relate entirely to those of the Foulden Field and are marked in solid green. In addition a curvilinear boundary to the south and west also appears to relate very approximately to the area of this field - and this has been marked in dashed green. It is probable that this marks an earlier extent of the field which, as discussed above, is likely to have fluctuated according to the exact boundary between the arable and the common moor, although its curved nature would be very unusual for a medieval field boundary. No date can be proposed for this curvilinear boundary.

An examination of the present contours of the area as shown on OS Pathfinder 104 indicates that the Foulden Field occupied an area of high ground whose extent is marked by the 15 metre contour. The line followed by that contour is in fact strikingly similar to the curvilinear boundary indicated by the dashed line and it may be that this boundary has served both demarcation and drainage purposes from an early period. These boundaries should have been recovered in Trenches D, G, and H and possibly J and relative chronology may have been available in Trenches D and G which appear to cut both.

In order to ascertain whether any of the other features shown on the aerial photographic interpretation could be a late/post medieval date a transcription was made of the c1580 terrier of the fields which might be expected to give indications of other landscape features in the area. This terrier clearly locates the common moor to the west access to which was gained by a series of gates on the western and southern boundaries of the fields. An entry which appears to relate to a parcel of land lying at the southernmost of the Great Kneton Field refers to a 'common gate leading from the common moor towards the red cross on the south part' (modern spelling), references are also made to a 'keyye way' - the location of which is uncertain but may have lain between the two fields - heading east west and the kings highway. Two bridges are also referred to at opposite ends of the field to the 'keyye way'. There are no references to any internal enclosures or indicative furlong names within the fields (no furlong names are given at all).

iii. Field Names

The two field names with which we are concerned are (Great) Kneighton, which is recorded as Kneton in 1225; Kinetunesweisende 1228; Netton (Pitte) 1480; and Kneighton 1841. Reaney (1943) translates this as 'royal manor', although a similar entry in the Nottinghamshire volume is given the interpretation of 'farm' for the 'ton/tun' element. Kinetuneweisende refers to a way leading to/from the Kneton area.

Reaney does not refer to Foulden/Fordenn Field but Field (1989) suggests that the 'Foul' element in a field name would indicate boggy land and this does not seem inappropriate in this context.

Conclusion

Several of the features identified by aerial photograph and subsequently explored archaeologically have been suggested as having medieval or post medieval dates. In particular a stretch of the field boundary dividing the common moor from Foulden field. It has been suggested that a curvilinear boundary which defines approximately the same area pre dates the later more linear boundary but a date cannot be given for this earlier boundary. It has been noted that the placement of this earlier boundary is closely linked to the 15 metre contour and it appears to delineate an area of higher ground within a poorly drained low lying area. It is probable that, prior to the straightening of the adjacent brook in 1610 the conditions in the area would have fluctuated. No evidence has been recovered regarding the smaller enclosures and ditch systems lying within the field boundary and curvilinear boundary.

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Pre Enclosure Map c1801 CRO R60/24/2/70b
Terrier of demesne lands c1580 CRO 347/ T4

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APPENDIX D

Molluscan Assessment: Cambridge Southern Relief Road

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CAM CSRR S3 93

Trench G

[46]

(45) mostly contains

Pupilla Muscorum, *Vallonic Excentrics*, *Heticella Itela*, *Tricilia Hispids*, *Sinutrel Cochlicups*
Lubrica (with R.Preece to go into zoology museum collection).

medieval context. Still water, liable to dry up at various times of the year. The above molluscs
 represent a classic open, chalkland/grassland environment.

[39]

(24) most notably contains

Anisus Leucostrom (in profusion)

Indicates a ditch environment with flowing water and unlikely to dry up.

[21]

(40) most notably contains

Trichia Hispids, *Arisus Leucostoms*.

Indicates open floodplains.

Appendix E.

Faunal Analysis: Cambridge Southern Relief Road

Twigs Way BSc MA AIFA

Sample Size

The total number of bone fragments recovered (and passed on for analysis) was just over 650, of which just under 10% were identified both to skeletal element and species. Many of the remainder could be roughly identified to skeletal element - long bone and rib fragments predominating amongst these. [The relatively low percentage of 'identifiable material' is partly a result of the limited amount of time available in which to carry out the work.]

Results

The overwhelming number of bones identified were from the main domesticated species - cow, pig and sheep with some horse and dog also present. Of these cow was the predominant species in almost all contexts. Both the cow and horse identified were small, the cow particularly and consistently so. In addition to small adult specimens some juvenile material was also present. Skeletal elements identified concentrated on the humerus, metapodials, phalanges and teeth. This may be partially a result of post depositional and identification factors - but brief reference to the total sample indicates that this is also largely composed of long bone fragments - probably also of cow/horse.

Preservation

Material was well preserved and should it be considered desirable there would be scope both for further detailed analysis on the material already excavated, and on any additional material recovered by further excavation if the preservation was similar.