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OTTERBURN TRAINING AREA
NORTHUMBERLAND

Report on
second archaeological evaluation

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Otterburn Ranges
Northumberland

Second Archaeological Evaluation

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

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Prior to excavation all evaluation trenches were checked for unexploded ordnance by an EOD team led by Corporal Finney, and after excavation the trenches were located using a Global Positioning System (GPS) under the direction of Sergeant Major Longcake. Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) and The Archaeological Practice (NUAP) wish to express their gratitude to both these teams.

The project was managed by David Cranstone for LUAU and John Dore and Alan Williams for NUAP. Trenching fieldwork for LUAU was undertaken by Chris Strutt and Anwen Cooper, Iain Hedley supervised, and James Wright was the site director. Survey fieldwork was undertaken by Jo Bell, Jonathan Godfrey, Shaun Richardson, and Chris Wild. Trenching fieldwork for NUAP was supervised by Philip Wood and ably carried out by Louise Barker, Rhodri Jones, Anthony Liddell and Christopher Lucas. Illustrations in this report were prepared by Anthony Liddell for NUAP and by Dick Danks and Jonathan Godfrey for LUAU.

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This report was written by David Cranstone, Jonathan Godfrey (survey), Christine Howard-Davies (finds), and James Wright (trenching) (LUAU), and Alan Williams and Philip Wood (NUAP). It was edited by John Dore (NUAP) and Richard Newman (LUAU).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A second phase of archaeological survey and evaluation was undertaken at Otterburn Training Area, Northumberland (NT 80 07 - NY 92 95) over the Winter of 1996-7 as part of the MoD Options for Change Programme. Lancaster University Archaeological Unit and The Archaeological Practice, University of Newcastle, undertook the work *in consortium*, dividing tasks between the two organisations. The project was managed by LUAU under the guidance of David Freke of RPS Clouston.

Evaluation trenching continued in a corridor of evaluation along the line of Dere Street to answer remaining questions as to its exact course and status thrown up by the first phase of evaluation. Elsewhere, trenching was targeted at either sites not specifically assessed in the first phase of evaluation or at apparent blank areas in the known distribution of archaeological sites, which would be affected by the planning proposals. A detailed survey, of an area of *c* 1 x 0.5km, was also undertaken at Davyshiel (NY 888 959), extending the Phase 1 survey area to the limit of the area currently proposed for development.

The Dere Street trenches confirmed the identification of two lengths of upstanding agger, both with surviving metalling. Elsewhere, no remains of the Roman road could be identified in the Outer Golden Pot area (severely disturbed by later drove roads), and three trenches through a modern road showed that its construction had destroyed all trace of its Roman predecessor. Positive results from other trenches, and from associated research, included the suggestion that a large round cairn (Hare Cairn) may be of Neolithic date; the identification of an area of 'cord rigg' agriculture at Barracker Rigg; the identification of a range of Medieval features at Bellshiel; the identification of a Medieval rectangular building at Potts Durtrees (both these Medieval dates being confirmed by pottery finds); and several trenches through ridge-and-furrow and associated boundary banks. The survey at Davyshiel recorded a large area of ridge-and-furrow, bounded to the west by a head-dyke against unenclosed moorland, and containing three settlement nuclei against the head-dyke. This system is believed to be largely Medieval in its extant form, though with some evidence that it may incorporate earlier features. Boundary banks, dividing the system into enclosed fields, were largely of secondary origin, and may relate to Post-Medieval pastoral use.

Recommendations are made for further archaeological work, in mitigation of the proposed development should it proceed.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to project

1.1.1 The project forms part of the archaeological response to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) Options for Change plans for upgrading of the Otterburn Training Area, Northumberland (centred on NGR NT 85 04). An initial desk-based assessment of the archaeological implications was prepared for MoD by RPS Clouston, and was developed into the *Cultural Heritage Evaluation Brief* (CHEB 1995), also prepared by RPS Clouston, for archaeological evaluation within the Training Area. This evaluation brief was approved by Northumberland National Park, Northumberland County Council and English Heritage.

1.1.2 Evaluation of the ten sites specified in CHEB 1995 was undertaken in Autumn 1995, by a consortium of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU) and the Archaeological Practice, University of Newcastle (NUAP), and reported in the *Otterburn Training Area Archaeological Evaluation Final Report* (LUAU/NUAP 1996) prepared by LUAU and NUAP. This evaluation consisted of a series of geophysical surveys, palaeoecological test-pitting, archaeological landscape surveys, and trial trenching.

1.2 Requirement for Supplementary Evaluation

1.2.1 Assimilation of results from the above evaluations, in tandem with modifications to the Options for Change Initiative, led to an agreement with English Heritage, Northumberland County Council and Northumberland National Park for an additional programme of archaeological survey and trenching as set out in a Supplementary Brief (RPS Clouston 1996) with a requirement for trenching and topographic survey, to be carried out by the consortium of LUAU and NUAP.

1.3 The Project

1.3.1 Work was divided into two major elements, trial trenching and topographic survey:

1.3.2 **Trenching.** The programme consisted of 32 evaluation trenches:

- Targeted Trenches:1A to 1F and 2A to 2I. Trenches 1A to 1F formed a further evaluation of the Dere Street Roman road, to answer questions posed by the 1995 evaluation. Trenches 2A to 2F evaluated a number of sites not assessed in the 1995 evaluation but potentially affected by the modified Options for Change Initiative
- Untargeted trenches: 3I to 3XV. These trenches evaluated archaeologically 'blank' areas affected by the Options for Change Initiative

1.3.2 **Topographic Survey.** This involved the enhancement of a LUAU Level 1 survey of an extensive Medieval/post-Medieval field system with scattered settlements at Davyshiel (threatened by construction of a Central Maintenance Facility and associated tree planting), to LUAU Level 2 standard.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 A general description of the topographic, geological and archaeological background of the evaluation area is provided in the evaluation report (LUAU/NUAP 1996a, 6-10), and is therefore not repeated. However, increased familiarity with the Training Area has allowed some further general observations to be added to this background. The formal publication of the Day and Charlton 1970s survey of the Training Area (as Charlton 1996) has also rendered the main pre-existing overview much more easily accessible.

2.2 **Geology**. The south-western part of the Training Area, centred on Otterburn village, is occupied by beds of the Lower and Middle Limestone Series. As previously noted, these beds consist largely of sandstones and shales, with only limited amounts of limestone, and much of their outcrop is drift-covered. However, it is now apparent that appreciable areas of limestone outcrop do occur: since these are well-drained and base-rich, they are now occupied by 'sweet' grassland, and are likely to have been a major factor in past human settlement. Their calcareous nature also implies improved preservation of animal and human bone, and potentially of snail shells, within any archaeological or palaeoecological deposits, giving a potential for survival of categories of information rarely retrievable in the predominantly-acidic Northumberland uplands.

2.3 **Prehistory**. Recent work on the Neolithic of the Peak District (Barnatt 1996) and East Yorkshire (Harding 1996) has established that the funerary tradition in both areas included the use of large round barrows ('great barrows') and cairns, as well as the better-known long barrows and cairns. It is therefore possible that the large round cairns noted by Charlton (1996, 25) at Ridlees, Thirl Moor, Windy Gyle, and Shillhope, and also the similarly-sized but robbed Hare Cairn (see below) are of Neolithic date, greatly increasing the evidence for human activity at this period.

2.4 **Medieval and Post-Medieval**. The extent of surviving Medieval to earlier Post-Medieval landscape within the Training Area is considerable: these landscapes include settlement nuclei as well as ridge-and-furrow and enclosure banks, and are both extensive and important. It was previously assumed that, while the systems were Medieval in origin, the majority of visible earthwork features would relate to the later, Post-Medieval, phases of these systems. However, increasing familiarity (including the work at Potts Durtrees and Davyshiel reported below) suggests that the Medieval component in the visible earthwork archaeology may be greater, with perhaps only limited later modification.

3. METHODOLOGY

3. 1 Field evaluation and trial excavation

3.1.1 Trial excavation was undertaken as specified in the brief (RPS Clouston 1996), with any modifications as suggested in the project design (LUAU/NUAP 1996b), in order to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits within the specified study areas under threat from the proposed development, and to examine the character, date, extent, integrity, state of preservation, and relative quality of any such deposits.

3.1.2 Thirty two trenches were excavated in total: 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D (i and ii), 1E, 1F, 2E, 2F, 2H, 2I, 3IV, 3V, 3XI, 3XII, 3XIV and 3XV by NUAP and 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2G, 3.I, 3.II, 3.III, 3.VI, 3.VII, 3.VIII, 3.IX, 3.X, and 3.XIII (A and B) by LUAU. Trenches 1A to 1F formed a coherent group, targeted to continue the investigations of Dere Street: trenches prefixed with '2' were initially designed to test known archaeological features or their environs, whereas trenches prefixed with '3' were primarily designed as 'untargeted' tests for possible features with no surface expression. In practice, a number of trenches were relocated during the design of the project, and some trenches designed primarily as untargeted tests also cut surface features of Medieval/Post-Medieval date. Trench groups '2' and '3' therefore form a single suite, whose numbering does not closely relate to their geographical distribution (figs 7-9). Most trenches were located adjacent to modern MoD roads, because of the threat arising from the potential widening of these.

3.1.3 Where possible, in order to maximise the speed and efficiency of the work, topsoil and overburden were stripped using a wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.6m toothless ditching bucket. All machine excavation was under archaeological supervision and, when encountered, significant archaeological deposits were manually cleaned. In Trenches 1E and 2D mechanical removal of overburden was not feasible, and these trenches were wholly hand excavated, while in Trenches 3.I and 3.VI the presence of many stones meant that the trenches could not be totally excavated by machine. Some geological deposits were excavated by hand to prove their natural origin, and all potential archaeological deposits were manually excavated in stratigraphic order.

3.1.4 The recording methods used by the Consortium accord with those recommended by the Central Archaeological Service (CAS) of English Heritage. A written record was maintained on *pro forma* context sheets, and a *pro forma* trench sheet was completed for every trench. Where possible, descriptions of soil texture, boundaries between deposits, and the size and lithography of stones follow those used by the Soil Survey of England and Wales (Hodgson 1974). Plans and sections were drawn onto drafting film at appropriate scales, and photographs for colour transparency and black and white prints were taken as necessary. Registers of context sheets, photographs, drawings, and samples were kept.

3.1.5 Finds were recorded, handled, and stored according to standard practices (following the current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration. One soil sample of 30 litres (from 'cord-rigg' in trench 2G) was retained

for possible future assessment of its potential for revealing evidence of the palaeoenvironment.

3.1.6 The locations of the trenches were recorded using a Global Positioning by Satellite (GPS) system, which is accurate to within +/-1m.

3.1.7 Fieldwork was undertaken in very wet and at times snowy late-autumn weather. Consequently ground conditions in many trenches were very unfavourable, and the quality of archaeological detail that could be recovered may in some instances have been affected.

3.2 Topographic survey

3.2.1 A landscape survey to LUAU Level 2 was undertaken over an extended area centred on the Davyshiel settlement. This area had previously been surveyed to LUAU Level 1 ('walkover'), and adjoined the area surveyed to Level 2, both as part of the Phase 1 evaluation (LUAU/NUAP 1996a, 36-38).

3.2.2 The survey was based upon control points established in Phase 1. The remainder of the survey control points on the site were established by closed traverse, using EDM tachometry. The resultant survey control was internally accurate to +/-5mm-10mm, and to +/-1m with respect to the OS National Grid (OSGB36).

3.2.3 All archaeological and topographic detail was surveyed by EDM tachometry using a total station linked to a data logger. Digital data was subsequently transferred, in the field, to a portable computer in order to allow manipulation of the data, and to facilitate transfer to other digital or hard media. Hard copy of all survey information was plotted and archaeological detail checked, enhanced and amended as necessary in the field. All survey maps were generated using FastCAD, a Computer Aided Design package, and were output at scales of 1:500 and 1:1000 as appropriate.

3.2.4 Significant archaeological features and monuments were recorded in the field by written description. *Proforma* sheets prompted for details of location, extent, period, character, and condition. These data were added to the Phase 1 computerised database, from which the Site Gazetteer (Appendix 1) was generated. A photographic archive was also compiled during the survey, though this was limited by winter weather conditions.

4 RESULTS: TRENCHING

Results from the trenching programme are reported in order of trench number. Overall trench locations are shown on fig 1, and the locations of the suite of trenches (1A-1F) on Dere Street are shown in more detail on fig 2. The locations of trenches in Groups '2' and '3' are shown on figs 7-9. Plans and sections of the trenches are included where they illustrate significant information, the remaining site drawings being incorporated in the archive. Context numbers in [square brackets] are referred to for the more complex trenches only.

4.1 Dere Street (Trenches 1A to 1F)

4.1.1 The historical background and the physical nature of Dere Street within the evaluation area has been outlined in the 1996 evaluation report (LUAU/NUAP, 26-7). Conclusions drawn from the archaeological works carried out along the corridor in 1995 as part of the first phase of archaeological evaluation are outlined below.

4.1.2 Geophysical prospection and subsequent trenching successfully confirmed the line of Dere Street at two points within the evaluation corridor not previously demonstrated: to the north of Redesdale Camp at NY 82503 99412 and to the north of Middle Golden Pot between NT 810 066 and NT 808 069. Elsewhere along the corridor evaluation results were less conclusive in elucidating the line of the Roman road where this had been uncertain, especially north of Featherwood Farm, at Featherwood West, and in the vicinity of the Outer Golden Pot where it was considered that medieval cattle droving or modern military activity may have destroyed or transformed the Roman feature. Additionally, no evaluation work had been carried out to assess the survival or character of Dere Street where it was considered to underlie the modern road.

4.1.3 In line with these conclusions and recommendations made within the evaluation report, the specification for further evaluation on the Military Ranges (RPS Clouston 1996) called for another phase of evaluation on Dere Street (fig. 2) involving the excavation of a further six trenches (1A to 1F) to elucidate the problems noted above.

- **Trenches 1A to 1C** cut through the modern road in the areas where it was assumed to overlie Dere Street in order to assess the survival and preservation of the Roman road.

- **Trench 1D** to locate the course of Dere Street to the south of the Outer Golden Pot in very disturbed ground (in fact, two trenches were excavated, one to either side of the modern road).

- **Trench 1E** placed across the prominent north-south running bank to the south of Middle Golden Pot presumed to represent the *agger* of Dere Street.

- **Trench 1F** immediately to the south of the presumed convergence of Dere Street with the modern military road to the north of Featherwood Farm across a north-south running bank presumed to be the course of Dere Street.

4.2 Trench 1A (NT8043 0726; 496 mOD) (figures 2 and 3)

4.2.1 The trench was placed to investigate the survival of Dere Street under the modern road and was cut adjacent to the Outer Golden Pot, a scheduled Medieval cross-base (Scheduled Monument number 25024). The trench was aligned east-west and measured 7.6m by 2m. There was no evidence for Dere Street within this trench. The only feature which certainly pre-dated the modern road was a ditch [1] to the east of the trench which had been truncated by the eastern edge of the modern road cut. Whether it had been associated with any earlier road is uncertain.

4.2.2 The sequence of modern road construction seen in the trench was as follows: A cut [6] nearly 5m wide which incorporated a 1.8m wide and 0.6m deep ditch to the eastern edge was made into the sandy clay subsoil. A layer of split yellow sandstone in a matrix of crushed sandstone formed the base of the road and the broad ditch to the east was filled with sandstone blocks in a loose matrix of sand [8] to act as a soakaway. A compacted spread of crushed ballast [10] overlay both ditch fill [8] and sandstone layer [7]. This in turn was overlaid by the modern rolled tarmac surface.

4.3 Trench 1B (NT 8153 0365; 320 mOD) (figures 2 and 3)

4.3.1 The trench was placed to investigate the survival of Dere Street under the modern road and was cut to the south of Featherwood Farm before the long straight section of the road from High Rochester twists to negotiate the awkward crossing of the Sills Burn. The trench was aligned east-west and measured 6m by 2m. There was no evidence for the survival of Dere street within this trench..

4.3.2 The sequence of modern road construction seen in the trench was as follows: A road trench [1] 5.8m wide was cut into the tenacious clay subsoil and included the excavation of a discrete ditch on the upslope western edge of the trench but with no corresponding ditch to the downslope, eastern edge. A layer of large split yellow sandstone blocks within a crushed sandstone matrix [2] was laid centrally within the cut. A very stony loam was then dumped to either side of [2] forming an embankment to the east [4] and filling the ditch to the west [3]. A layer of crushed stone and shale [5] was laid over the central area which was in turn overlaid by a layer of crushed ballast [6] and then the rolled tarmac road surface [8].

4.4 Trench 1C (NT 8179 0537; 410 mOD) (figures 2 and 3)

4.4.1 The trench was placed to investigate the survival of Dere Street under the modern road and was cut to the north of Featherwood Farm where the modern road was presumed to overlie the course of the Roman road. The trench was aligned east-west and measured 6m by 2m. There was no evidence for the survival of Dere Street within this trench. At the area of excavation the modern road lies to the west of a broad, deep ditch running parallel to the road. The context of this feature is uncertain.

4.4.2 The sequence of modern road construction seen in the trench was as follows: The road cut [1], made into a sandy clay subsoil, included a shallow rectangular slot to the western edge. To the east the cut rose through a deep topsoil [2]. The centre of the cut was filled with a layer of split yellow sandstone within a matrix of crushed sandstone [3]. Loose stony loams [4] and [5] were then dumped to east and west and shale and crushed ballast [7] laid over the central stone layer. Tarmac [8] was then rolled over to form the road surface.

4.5 Trenches 1Di (NT 8055 0708; 478m OD) and 1Dii (NT 8062 0706; 478 mOD)

4.5.1 **Trench 1Di** (figures 2 and 4) was designed to investigate the location and preservation of Dere Street beside the modern road in a disturbed area of very rough and very wet grassland to the south of the Outer Golden Pot. It was placed to the west of the modern road, *c* 30m south of the point at which it was thought to run across the line of Dere Street. The trench was aligned north-east to south-west, measured 24m by 1.5m and was mechanically excavated to a depth of 0.4m. The entire trench was then cleaned manually.

4.5.2 Below the dark brown topsoil [01], a grey-brown silty loam was uncovered [02], into which were cut two small, linear channels running north-east to south-west ([05] and [07]). [02] overlay a probable relict topsoil [13]/[08], separated by a dark compressed turf line [12] in the western part of the trench. In the eastern third of the trench, soil [02] was seen to be replaced by a brown silty clay [03], lying directly over subsoil [14]. However no definite associated cut was seen.

4.5.3 Subsoil, a grey sandy clay [14], was cut by a wide, shallow north-east to south-west aligned ditch [11], filled with silts [09] and gravels [10]. No artefacts were recovered from this feature and no evidence for the Roman road was found.

4.5.4 **Trench 1Dii** (figures 2 and 4) was designed to investigate the location and preservation of Dere Street if it should swing to the east of the modern road. It was located *c*. 70m south east of trench 1Di and was aligned north-east to south-west. The trench measured 10m by 1.5m and was mechanically excavated to a depth of 0.45m. All subsequent excavation was manual.

4.5.5 Variegated subsoil, consisting of a series of soft grey clays and an exposure of sandstone bedrock [11] lay in rough bands within the trench. Two superimposed

palaeosoils overlay subsoil, with an intervening dark band [03] forming a compressed turf line. All underlay modern topsoil [01]. No evidence for the Roman road was found.

4.6 Trench 1E (NT 8122 0630) (figures 2 and 5)

4.6.1 The trench was designed to investigate the location and preservation of Dere street to the south of a T junction in the modern road adjacent to the scheduled Middle Golden Pot, a medieval cross base (Scheduled Monument number 25032), in an area of very rough grassland. It was positioned east-west across the western half of a prominent north-south running bank and flanking depressions thought to represent collectively the man-made *agger* and attendant side ditches of the Roman road. The trench measured 13.4m by 2.6m, with an extension to 4.6m in width over the road surface. The trench was excavated manually throughout.

4.6.2 A thick peaty topsoil [01] was removed to reveal road surface [03] on the flat top of the *agger*. The metalling consisted of a single layer of brown sandstone and ironstone chippings/pebbles, mostly between 0.05-0.10m in diameter which produced a road thickness of at maximum 0.10m. This surface was not cambered and in fact dipped slightly from the western edge of the road for *c* 3m; the sandy clay which formed the bank must have been considered sufficient to prevent any drainage problems. Considerable areas of the metalled surface within the trench had been either worn away when the road was in use or removed subsequently, exposing a yellow sandy clay redeposited subsoil [04] beneath. The construction of the agger was not investigated. The full width of the flat surface of the *agger* at this point, and potentially of the road surface, was 8m. There was no evidence of rutting in the surface.

4.6.3 Stripping of the depression flanking the western side of the *agger* revealed a very shallow (0.2m from subsoil) but broad (2.80m) ditch [08] filled with banded silty loams [06] and [07].

4.6.4 A narrow slot [12] ran parallel to and on the western side of ditch [08]. It was 0.18m wide by 0.1m deep with a rounded profile and filled with a brown sandy loam [11]. The slot had been cut through a shallow palaeosoil [10] and was overlaid by the upper fill of ditch [08]. No stake impressions or other evidence for insertions into the slot were noted within the area investigated.

4.6.5 A depth of slightly banded yellow brown sandy clay [05] on the western slope of the *agger* (considerably disturbed by rabbits which had burrowed into the sunny, west-facing slope) represented either erosion or levelling of the upcast which formed the *agger*. Road surface [03] directly overlay [05] at the edge of the bank which suggests either a gap in the sequence of construction of the road between the formation of the agger and the laying of the metalling (erosion) or that the top of the agger was flattened only as the metalling was put down (levelling). Given the profile of the *agger*, the latter would seem the most likely suggestion. No artefacts were recovered from this trench.

4.7 Trench 1F (NT 8180 0505; 387 mOD) (figures 2 and 6)

4.7.1 The trench was designed to ascertain the location and preservation of Dere Street at its convergence with the course of the modern road to the north of Featherwood Farm. It was placed across what was assumed to be the man-made *agger* of the Roman road which dropped down to the west into a contemporary roadside ditch but was truncated to the east by the modern road ditch. The trench was aligned approximately east-west and measured 8.4m by 1.8m. Modern topsoil was removed from the trench by machine excavator and the remainder of the excavation carried out manually.

4.7.2 Modern topsoil removed from the *agger* consisted of a sequence of banded dark brown loams [02], [05] and [07] interleaved with compressed turf lines [04], [06] and [08]. To the eastern side of the *agger* redeposited yellow sandy clay subsoil [03] represented upcast from the modern road ditch [01] which had intervened in the above sequence and lay beneath [02]. Ditch [01] truncated the eastern side of the Roman road.

4.7.3 Road surface [09] lay directly beneath [07] over the top of the *agger*. Metalling consisted of a single layer of sub-rounded to sub-angular brown sandstone and ironstone fragments ranging between 0.1m to 0.35m across producing a road thickness of *c*.0.15m. It was noticeable that larger stones were restricted to the eastern half of the surface. As seen in trench 1E the road was not centrally cambered and in this trench dipped slightly but constantly to the east. A 4.2m width of the road was exposed. Due to the truncation by the modern road and ditch its full width at this point could not be established. Twenty metres to the south a complete section of the *agger* is *c*.5m across. There was no evidence of rutting in the surface.

4.7.4 A discrete 0.10m thick band of mid brown grey gritty loam [10] was exposed on the western face of the *agger* beneath [09] although it did not appear to the east where the road surface and material beneath was cut away by [01]. This layer had the appearance of a palaeosoil onto which metalling [09] had been directly laid. The road surface was not stripped to reveal the extent of this layer. Yellow sandy clay subsoil [11] beneath [10] which formed the *agger* did not have the character of redeposited material.

4.7.5 The western side of the *agger* was fully exposed down to a modern fence line paralleling the modern road. There was no indication within this area of an attendant ditch.

4.7.6 The presence of what appears to be a palaeosoil [10] beneath the road surface and the nature of the *agger* itself, almost certainly undisturbed sandy clay subsoil, shows that as seen in this trench the Roman road did not sit on a bank of redeposited subsoil thrown up from deep side ditches but represented an isolated linear block of subsoil and topsoil cut away to the west and presumably, prior to the insertion of the modern road, to the east.

4.8 Trench 2A (NY 9053 9568; 244 mOD) (figures 9 and 10)

4.8.1 The trench was designed to test the environs of Bruce's Knowe cairn, and was located *c* 50m north-east of this, in damp unenclosed moorland immediately north of the ditch of a modern road.

4.8.2 The topsoil was mechanically removed over an area of 5.0m by 10.0m, close to a drainage ditch on the north side of the road. Below this level many stones were apparent, and mechanical excavation was stopped, to be replaced by manual cleaning. A probable clearance cairn [8] was exposed on the southern edge of the trench (Fig 10). It consisted of medium and large rounded stones which extended over an area of 4.30m by 1.40m, with a height of 0.13m - few of the stones were on top of others. A segment was excavated through the eastern end of the stones, and the section was drawn. The cairn immediately overlay natural, consisting of very pale grey fine sand which covered most of the area exposed. Overlying the cairn, with a thickness of 0.15m, was subsoil [39], a brown peat and fine sandy clay loam mixture. The subsoil occurred mainly over the cairn, but it could be seen towards the western edge of the trench, where a 0.90m wide segment revealed it to have a depth of 0.11m. Above [39] was topsoil [38], a dark brown peat with a maximum depth of 0.24m. No finds were recovered from this trench.

4.9 Trench 2B (NY 8807 9851; 298 mOD) (figure 8)

4.9.1 The trench was designed to test the environs of Hare Cairn (Scheduled Monument number 25062), a very large circular cairn of *c* 20m diameter, now badly robbed and showing exposed large cists. The trench was located *c* 30m south of the cairn, on flat limestone grassland with occasional exposures of bedrock, where a gunspur is proposed. The trench was aligned north-east to south-west, adjacent and parallel to the existing road. A communication cable ran down the middle of the trench, and in places was immediately below topsoil, but was carefully left *in situ*.

4.9.2 The shallow topsoil was removed by machine revealing the grey Carboniferous limestone bedrock. This had a stepped appearance, probably the result of weathering, and had been eroded in places to a subangular or subrounded platy shape. The only potential features were three parallel bands of yellowish brown clay, crossing the width of the trench. These were sectioned to ensure that they were not of human origin. At a depth of 0.30m the clay had become more stiff, whilst the edges of the features were not converging, so it was decided that these features were frost cracks, and excavation ceased. There were no archaeological features in the trench.

4.10 Trench 2C (NY 8740 9694; 252 MOD) (figures 8 and 11)

4.10.1 The trench was designed to test a double-ditched boundary, forming part of the head-dyke of the Medieval and later field system centred on Potts Durtrees (but currently unenclosed). It was located on a west-facing slope, immediately east of the drainage ditch of a modern road, and crossed the outer ditch of the boundary system (here running east to west), and part of the berm between this and the inner ditch (which was not investigated). The trench was 10.0m long but the presence of two modern drainage ditches meant that it could be excavated to only 4.0m wide.

4.10.2 The dark greyish brown clay loam topsoil [48], which had a maximum depth of 0.23m, was mechanically removed to expose glacial deposits of yellowish brown and grey clay.

4.10.3 Shallow ditch [44] diverged to the north-east from the line of ditch [46] at an angle of *c* 20°, and a 0.9m wide section was excavated adjacent to the eastern edge of the trench. The ditch was exposed for a length of 5.73m, survived to a width of 0.73-1.12m, and was 0.5m deep. The break of slope at the top was sharp and the sides sloped gently with an imperceptible break of slope to the rounded base. The only fill [45] was a brown fine sandy loam, which became slightly greyer in colour with depth. A slight rise in the ground surface over this fill suggested the remnant of a bank associated with ditch [46] (see below) but it was not possible to identify any separate deposit forming this bank.

4.10.4 Ditch [46] survived as a partly-infilled earthwork, forming the visible enclosure boundary. It was exposed for a length of 5.0m, and was *c* 5.0m wide and 0.89m deep. A 0.9m section was excavated, on the east side of the trench. The break of slope at the top was gradual, the sides sloped fairly steeply with an imperceptible break of slope to a rounded base. The lower fill [49] which comprised sand and small stones bonded together by concreted iron salts, was 0.08m deep. Above it was a clay loam [50] with a mottled grey and reddish brown colour. This was 0.3m deep, and was mostly removed by the machine with the topsoil, grass, and rushes which were in the bottom of the surface earthwork. Neither fill of the ditch produced any finds.

4.10.5 A third feature [42] to the north of the previously described ditches and approximately parallel to them was investigated by sectioning but was shown to be only 0.08m deep. Its fill [43] was a dark brown clay loam.

4.11 Trench 2D (NY 876 9796; 271 mOD) (figures 8 and 12)

4.11.1 The trench was designed to test an enclosure or building (showing as a clear earthwork) attached to the head-dyke of an enclosure system centred on Potts Durtrees, and was located on the west side of a modern road. The trench was 10.3m long and 3.0m wide, and a 1.0m wide strip was excavated against the south-eastern edge of the trench through the two earthworks and the shallower internal features. To avoid damaging the earthworks turves were manually removed.

4.11.2 To the north-eastern end of the trench was bank [30], which was *c* 0.70m high and 2.10m wide, and was built on top of the limestone bedrock. Embedded in a sandy loam matrix of the bank were many medium and large sandstone stones. There was a suggestion in the excavated section that in the south-western side of this bank, stones had been placed to form a crude facing, but otherwise the stones were randomly positioned. At a distance of 6m to the south-west of the bank, and approximately parallel to it, was wall [29]. This was 0.38m high (two courses of stone) and 0.73m wide, and appeared to be built over a buried topsoil. There were two faced sides to the wall, with a rubble infill. The average size of the crudely dressed stones was approximately 0.34m by 0.20m by 0.13m, and there was no sign of mortar.

4.11.3 Dipping to the north of wall [29] was layer [37], a relatively stoneless brown sandy loam, which was 1.15m wide and 0.15m deep. Above this and also to the north of the wall was layer [35], which was 2.20m wide by 0.22m deep, and which contained small to very large stones. Layer [36] was to the south of the wall, contained many small to large, roughly rectangular stones, and was 0.7m wide by up to 0.4m deep. Layer [34] was to the north of the bank, and was *c* 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep, whilst layer [31], which was to the south of the bank, was 1.70m wide and 0.12m deep. These four layers [31], [34], [35], and [36], the results of slumping, were all sandy loams containing many stones, and sealing them all was a stone-free brown sandy loam [27], above which was [33], the manually removed turf. During the post-excavation process it was decided that the difference between [27] and [33] was an arbitrary one which had resulted from the different thickness of the removed turves, and on section (fig 12) they are shown as one layer, [27]/[33].

4.11.4 Before the trench was de-turfed by LUAU a hole measuring 0.40m by 0.38m, and 0.25m deep had been excavated by the EOD team. While cleaning around this hole much green glazed pottery was recovered, and to record the possibility that the pottery had been deliberately placed into this hole, the sherds were bagged as [32]. Subsequent careful examination revealed that much of this material was *in situ*, and securely bonded to the surrounding soil. Further sherds of green glazed pottery were retrieved from bank [30] and slumping [31].

4.12 Trench 2E (NT 8104 0102; 285 mOD) (figures 7 and 12)

4.12.1 The trench was located to test the environs of Bellshiel Law Long Cairn (Scheduled Monument number 20919) at the nearest point of the tarmac road to the monument, within very rough and wet grassland. The trench measured 11.2m by 5.5m, and was machined to a depth of 0.5m. It was then cleaned manually.

4.12.2 Underlying the thin acidic topsoil [01] was a discrete dump of clay and loam [02] representing upcast from the excavation of the roadside drainage ditch. Beneath this and throughout the trench was a compressed turf [04] overlying maroon brown palaeosoil [05].

4.12.3 Four features of very recent date [03], [06], [08] and [10] had been cut through layers [04] and [05]. Cut [08] covered approximately half of the area of the trench and contained pieces of plastic, brick and timber. The origin of these features has not been established although there is much evidence for military activity in the close vicinity of the trench.

4.12.4 No archaeological features or artefactual material was recovered from the undisturbed area of the trench

4.13 Trench 2F (NT 8139 0021; 242 mOD) (figures 7 and 14)

4.13.1 The trench was designed to test an area of the Bellshiel Medieval/Post-Medieval field system, *c* 1.25km north west of Redesdale Camp and to the east of Bellshiel Road, in an area of extremely wet rough pasture which incorporated what appeared to be a

stream course and an upstanding roadside bank. In order to sample all the topographical features visible the trench was arranged in an 'n'-shape (divided into arms 1, 2 and 3, see fig. 14). Topsoil was removed by machine and the trench cleaned manually. Further investigation was conducted using a mixture of manual and machine excavation.

4.13.2 An irregular bank [02], formed by a series of upcasts from the modern road ditch, ran across arms 1 and 3 of the trench and overlay dark peaty topsoil [01]. Beneath [01] were four discrete features. The two earliest features were a shallow scrape [31] and gully [28]. A palaeosoil [32] was seen in arms 1 and 3 but was not seen in arm 2.

4.13.3 Feature [31] was a shallow scrape cut into the greyish-yellow clay subsoil at the intersection of arms 1 and 2. This was only partially exposed and its full extent is uncertain although it was probably an oval shape. It was filled with a mixture of charcoal and red fired clay [30] and [29]. No burning would seem to have occurred within the pit itself. A proportion of the rim (17 sherds) of a quartz gritted, splash-glazed jug, probably of thirteenth to fourteenth century date lay within the fill of the scrape.

4.13.4 To the south of scrape [31] was a narrow gully [28]. This was filled with a primary deposit [27] of sand and gritty gravel overlaid by a mid grey silty sand with numerous small stones [26], and had an associated bank of upcast to the south [21 -23].

4.13.5 A dark brown clay loam [07]/[24] overlay scrape [31] and extended as far as gully [28] to the south. Within this layer was a discrete scatter of sandstone blocks and fragments which ran down arm 1. The function of this feature remains unclear.

4.13.6 To the south of gully [28], a far more substantial cut [17] had been made. This was a recut ditch 3m wide and 1.4m deep, which underlay what had been assumed to be the course of a (relatively) dry stream. The upcast from the ditch was thrown to the north [18], [19] and [20] and overlay the bank of gully [28]. The ditch was filled with primary deposits [15] and [16] of silty clays and gravels which were overlaid with sands and silts [13] and [11]. A deposit of mid brown silty loam overlay both bank and ditch.

4.13.7 In summary, the trench was filled with a series of features, three of which [07], [28] and [17] seemed to follow a linear, parallel course on an approximately north-east to south-west alignment with pit/scrape [31] underlying stone scatter [07]. Pottery within this pit was of thirteenth/fourteenth century date, but the remaining features produced no dating evidence.

4.14 Trench 2G (NY 8855 9773; 281 mOD) (figures 8 and 15)

4.14.1 The trench was designed to test an area of possible 'cord rigg' agriculture, observed on air photographs and lying *c* 120m north of the (assumed Romano-British) scooped settlement of Barracker Rigg (Charlton 1996, 16-17, 21-22). It was located immediately north of the ditch of a modern road (probably re-using the line of an earlier drove road). The trench was aligned north-west to south-east, measured 10.0m by 5.0m, and was mechanically excavated to 0.2m. In the eastern corner of the trench was a cut for a modern cable, which could be followed as a slight depression in the ground surface

to a concrete marker, and this was not excavated. A second parallel disturbance was assumed to be of a similarly modern date, and was not excavated to avoid damaging a potential cable.

4.14.2 Running from north-east to south-west, and at a right-angle to the long axis of the trench, were seven furrows of cord rig, numbered [11], [13], [15], [17], [19], [21], and [23], and shown on figure 15. All the furrows were clearly visible across the 5.0m width of the trench, although [23] was intermittent and could only be seen near the trench edges, and furrow [17] became indistinct where it was cut by a later intrusion. The furrows varied in width between 1.03m and 0.06m, and were 1.2-1.4m apart. Sections of 1.0m width were excavated through all of the furrows against the north-eastern edge of the trench, to reveal that they had gradual breaks of slope at the top, gently sloping sides, and rounded bases. Their depths ranged from 0.12m to 0.05m whilst the edges were clear but wavy. Furrow [11] was filled by [12], furrow [13] by [14], etc. All the fills were greyish brown silty clay loams, and fills [14] and [16] contained occasional medium stones. A 30 litre soil sample for possible future environmental processing was retained from fill [16].

4.15 Trench 2H (NT 8710 0050; 266m OD) (figures 7 and 13)

4.15.1 The trench was designed to investigate the environs of Dudlees field system, to the south of the area of surviving earthworks. It was located *c* 300m north of Dudlees Farm, to the west of the modern road and drainage ditch within very poor unimproved pasture. It measured 10.1m by 5.3m and was initially machined to a depth of 0.3m and cleaned manually. A 1.5m wide strip along the west side of the trench was subsequently machine excavated further to a depth of 0.5m to confirm the nature of subsoil.

4.15.2 Removal of topsoil [01] revealed a greyish brown sandy silt [02] 0.25m in depth, possibly a relict topsoil associated with the field remains to the north. This overlay a yellow gritty clay subsoil.

4.15.3 No archaeological features were observed and no finds recovered from the trench.

4.16 Trench 2I (NT 8781 0192; 324 mOD) (figures 7 and 16)

4.16.1 This trench was designed to investigate the environs of the newly discovered Crow Stone Cairn. It was located *c* 20m to the south west of the Crow Stone, on the western edge of the road. The trench measured 9.7m by 5.5m and was machined to a depth of 0.3m, the trench was then cleaned manually.

4.16.2 A dark brown loam topsoil [01] lay over a variegated light to dark brownish grey *mor* palaeosoil [04] which in turn lay over an eroded sandstone bedrock.

4.16.3 The above stratigraphy was broken by two military telephone cables [02] and [03] which ran diagonally across the trench towards a tapping-in point to the north.

4.16.4 No archaeological features were observed and no finds recovered.

4.17 Trench 3.I (NY 9345 9763; 214 mOD) (figures 9 and 17)

4.17.1 The trench was intended as an untargeted test but its precise location was designed to section a Medieval/Post-Medieval field boundary, and test the enclosures on either side of this. The boundary formed part of the historic lands of Loaning Burn (I Hedley pers. comm.): the field to its south contains clear ridge-and-furrow, and the land to the north contains slighter ridge-and-furrow. The area is now occupied by rough grass and bracken. The many stones in the bank prevented its mechanical excavation, and this was cleaned by hand. After manually cleaning the trench a 1.20m wide segment was excavated through the bank and its adjacent ditch.

4.17.2 The bank [1] was *c* 2.50m wide and 0.75m high. It was asymmetric in profile, the north side being consistently steeper than the south, and was composed of three layers [2], [3], and [4]. The lowest layer [3] was a sandy silt loam, which was grey in colour with many reddish brown mottles. It contained infrequent stones, but occasional coal and charcoal, and was 0.28m thick. To the north of the bank, this layer became thinner and merged into the base of modern topsoil. It may have been in part a fossil soil beneath the bank, but its increased thickness under the bank suggests that it included some upcast. Above [3] was a 0.41m thick layer [2]. This was a brown sandy loam containing small stones and flecks of decayed sandstone, and flecks of a black material which were too small to identify, although coal, charcoal, or manganese would all be possibilities. Above or cut into layer [2] was [4], a layer of large stones along the northern edge and the top of the bank. This appeared to be a secondary feature, adding a rough stone revetment to the pre-existing earth bank.

4.17.3 Ditch [6], which was 1.0m wide and 0.24m deep, had sides that sloped at *c* 40° to the horizontal, with gradual breaks of slope at the top and the base. The base was flat but not wide. Its edges against natural were sharply defined, but its stratigraphic relationship to the base of the bank was unclear; it was too small to be the prime source of material for the bank.. However, at the edge of the trench, where the section was drawn (fig. 17), ditch [6] was both wider and deeper than in the remainder of the area. Fill [7] was a pale grey sandy silt loam containing small fragments of charcoal and coal.

4.17.4 Apart from the ditch, there were no features cut into the subsoil.

4.18 Trench 3.II (NY 9290 9564; 232 mOD) (figure 9)

4.18.1 This trench was within enclosed pasture on ridge-and-furrow. It was located to test an area of ploughsoil accumulation at the base of a gentle slope, forming a slight positive lynchet and giving the potential for enhanced preservation of any features pre-dating the ridge-and-furrow. The trench measured 10.0m by 5.0m with a 2.5m by 2.5m extension to the west (across the slope of the lynchet). A yellowish brown clay was overlain by a grey, brown, and yellowish brown clay. The multicoloured clay contained many stones, especially near its boundary with the uniformly coloured clay, and both clays are assumed to be of a geological origin. Subsoil [41] was also a yellowish brown clay, with grey and brown patches of gleying, and it was 0.25m deep. Above was

topsoil [40], a 0.18m deep dark greyish brown clay loam, which had many fine roots and a well developed structure.

4.18.2 The south-east facing section, which intersected the slight lynchet at the edge of the field, was examined but no information could be gained, and more sophisticated techniques such as micromorphological analysis or sedimentology may be necessary to resolve the formation processes of these features. The section was drawn but is not reproduced in this report; it will be available in the archive.

4.18.3 There were no subsoil-cut features, or any other indications of human activity earlier than the ploughing which had produced the ridge-and-furrow.

4.19 Trench 3.III (NY 9205 9522; 226 mOD) (figure 9)

4.19.1 Trench 3.III was located to the north of a drainage ditch and its bank, in an area of coarse pasture, and on the line of a proposed track to gun spur 16. It was mechanically excavated to a maximum depth of 0.25m over an area of 10.0m by 5.0m. The geological deposits were of a yellowish brown clay overlain by a grey sandy clay containing large stones and boulders. A 1.0m wide sondage excavated through the grey sandy clay revealed that it had a depth of 0.25m, and that there was a concentration of stones near its boundary with the yellowish brown clay; this suggests interpretation as a palaeosoil, but with no evidence of human disturbance. The topsoil was a 0.15m deep dark brown peat.

4.19.2 No archaeological features were observed, and no finds were recovered.

4.20 Trench 3.IV (NT 8842 0184; 315 mOD) (figure 7)

4.20.1 The trench was designed as an untargeted test, 450m east of the Crow Stone, on a proposed track to the south of the Tactical OP Ridge, within very damp and unimproved grassland. The trench measured 10.6m by 5.3m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.35m.

4.20.2 Stratigraphy was consistent and unbroken throughout the trench. Below modern turf [01], a thin layer (0.05m) of black peaty soil [02] was seen. This overlay two brownish sandy soils [03] and [04], which overlay yellow gritty clay subsoil. No archaeological features were observed and no finds recovered.

4.21 Trench 3.V (NT 888 018) (figure 7)

4.21.1 The trench was designed as an untargeted test, 500m west of Watty Bell's Cairn, on a proposed track to the south of the Tactical OP Ridge, within very damp and unimproved grassland. The trench measured 10.3m by 5.2m and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.4m.

4.21.2 Stratigraphy was consistent and unbroken throughout the trench. Below modern turf [01] a layer of black peaty soil was seen [02]. This overlay a brownish grey

palaeosoil [03], which in turn overlay yellow sandy clay subsoil. No archaeological features were observed and no finds recovered.

4.22 Trench 3.VI (NY 9393 9928; 206 mOD) (figure 9)

4.22.1 Originally designed to intersect a ditch which proved to be a modern field drain, this trench was re-located to test the environs of a ruined building, marked as a sheepfold on the current OS map; it was located immediately south of this building on the east side of a modern road. The turf covering the tumble from the building was manually removed, and the remainder of the trench was mechanically excavated for a length of 10.5m and a width of 4.9m.

4.22.2 The drift deposits were of grey and yellowish brown sandy clay containing boulders and sandy patches of decayed stone. Slumping away from the wall of the building was layer [51] which was *c* 3.2m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.55m. A 1.0m wide sondage was excavated in the north-eastern corner of the trench through this layer, revealing that it consisted of a grey silty clay loam, similar to topsoil [52], containing dressed stones of approximately 0.45m by 0.20m by 0.08m, and many smaller stone fragments. A section of this sondage was drawn, and will be available in the archive.

4.22.3 An irregular feature, measuring 3.23m by 2.46m in plan and filled with a mixture of topsoil and clay with scattered large stones, was investigated by sectioning but was shown to be only 0.29m deep. Although no finds were recovered, the lack of bioturbation and the straightness of the southern edge suggested a modern origin for this shallow feature, which may have been produced during laying or re-surfacing of the existing road.

4.22.4 Topsoil [52] was a brown clay loam of 0.17m depth. During the manual removal of [52] over layer [51] a clay pipe stem and some cartridge shells were retrieved.

4.23 Trench 3.VII (NY 9112 9568; 249 mOD) (figure 9)

4.23.1 Trench 3.VII was designed as an untargeted test, on the proposed site of gunspur 19. The area is currently occupied by unenclosed grass moorland, developed on slight ridge-and-furrow. The trench was mechanically excavated for a length of 10.0m, a width of 5.0m, and a maximum depth of 0.26m.

4.23.2 Geological deposits of yellowish brown silty clay were overlain by a 0.23m deep greyish brown, silty loam or clay loam, topsoil. The ridge and furrow visible beyond the trench did not show clearly in the edge of the trench section, and there were no other archaeological features. No finds were retrieved.

4.24 Trench 3.VIII (NY 8752 9766; 251 mOD) (figure 8)

4.24.1 This trench was designed as an untargeted test, of an area of limestone grassland (currently unenclosed, but within the relict field system centred on Potts Durtrees). It was located to the east of the road leading north from Potts Durtrees, on flat ground at

the mouth of a small dry valley running from the north-east. Two cables could be seen running parallel to the road, and the trench was shortened to 8.97m to avoid one, and was excavated less deeply within *c* 0.20m of the second.

4.24.2 The solid geology exposed was a bedrock of limestone containing areas of yellow clay, and a patch of limestone gravel; the surface of these deposits sloped down to the east. This yellow clay was excavated in a 0.50m wide section, which suggested a natural origin. To the eastern end of the trench was a brown clay loam, which was mechanically removed to a depth of 0.82m. This was further investigated in section and by a 0.50m wide segment, and appears to be naturally deposited, probably washed down the nearby dry valley and infilling a shallower continuation. The topsoil was a brown silty clay loam, with grey clay lining the ped faces, of *c* 0.10m depth.

4.24.3 No archaeological features were observed, and no finds were recovered. However the buried valley and its infills are potentially of palaeoenvironmental interest.

4.25 Trench 3.IX (NY 8603 9658; 201 mOD) (figure 8)

4.25.1 This trench was designed as an untargeted test at the proposed position of gunspur 33, to the north of the existing road on unenclosed moorland. It was aligned north to south and was mechanically excavated for a length of 10.0m, a width of 5.0m and a maximum depth of 0.40m. The ground sloped to the east, and water continually drained from the surrounding peat into the trench. Despite excavating sumps it was impossible to clean the whole trench, and an area of *c* 4m by 1m in the south-eastern corner could not be cleaned.

4.25.2 The geological deposits were of sandy clay, which were covered by a dark brown peat topsoil.

4.25.3 No archaeological features were observed, and no finds were retrieved.

4.26 Trench 3.X (NY 8298 9929; 211 mOD) (figure 8)

4.26.1 The trench was designed primarily as an untargeted test of the enclosed south-facing pasture land north of the Roman fort of *Bremenium* and Medieval and later hamlet of High Rochester. Its detailed location was designed to test survival under and on both sides of a faint north-west to south-east bank within the Medieval/Post-Medieval field system, separating clear ridge-and-furrow at right angles to the bank (to the south-west) from faint ridge-and-furrow parallel to it (to the north-east).

4.26.2 The trench was orientated roughly east-west, parallel to and immediately north of a modern track. It measured 10.0m long, 5.05m wide, and was a maximum of 0.49m deep. A pale grey and yellowish brown mottled sandy clay represented the geological deposit, which was covered by a brown clay loam topsoil. The topsoil was 0.35m deep in the eastern, upslope edge of trench and 0.30m deep in the western, downslope edge of the trench. The bank crossed the trench very obliquely, and consisted solely of an ill-defined thickening of the topsoil.

4.26.3 A stump of a tree or shrub was seen in the trench but there were no archaeological features, and no finds were recovered.

4.27 Trench 3.XI (NT 8123 0057; 257 mOD) (figures 7 and 18)

4.27.1 Designed as an untargeted test of an apparently 'blank' area within very poor and very damp unimproved grassland to the east of Bellshiel Road and west of a disused quarry, this trench in fact ran across an undated boundary/field bank and ditch, the former surviving as a slight earthwork. The trench was orientated roughly north-south and measured 10.2m by 5.7m. Excavation was carried out by machine excavator to a depth of 0.3m and all subsequent excavation was carried out manually.

4.27.2 Below modern topsoil [01], a thin black humic layer [03] over a mid grey clay-silt [06] lay throughout the trench, representing a compressed turf and associated palaeosoil. A discrete dump of yellow to orange silty clay [02] between modern topsoil and layer [03] in a band parallel to the road at the west end of the trench, represented upcast from the modern road drainage ditch. All features described below were sealed by soil [06].

4.27.3 An oval shaped cut [11] 2.50m long by +0.80m wide and 0.40m deep from subsoil ran into the section at the south west corner of the trench. The primary fill of the feature [14] consisted of a layer of charcoal, below which the yellow clay subsoil into which the feature had been cut was considerably reddened by burning. It may have served as a simple kiln, for a purpose yet to be determined. A single post-hole [19] lay to the east of feature [11]. It was 0.26m in diameter and 0.12m deep. The fill [18] contained flecks of charcoal.

4.27.4 A curving ditch [08] and associated bank [16] ran across the centre of the trench. The ditch was a maximum of 1.2m wide and 0.28m deep. The northern edge of the ditch was steep at *c* 45° and was slightly concave. The southern edge was less sharp but also slightly concave. The fill of the ditch consisted of grey silts [07, 15].

4.27.5 Bank [16] lay to the north of the ditch, following its curving line. It was formed of upcast from the ditch, a mixture of yellow silt-clay and mid brown-grey silt-clay, and survived to a maximum height of 0.4m.

4.28 Trench 3.XII (NT 8146 0308; 337mOD) (figure 7)

4.28.1 The trench was designed as an untargeted test of an archaeologically blank area, *c* 1km south of Featherwood Farm, immediately to the east of Bellshiel Road on land sloping markedly to the east within very rough heathery pasture. The trench measured 10.4m by 6.3m, and was machined to a maximum depth of 0.3m and then cleaned manually.

4.28.2 A black peaty topsoil [01] overlay a mid grey sandy silt [02] which in turn overlay a mottled cream and yellow sandy clay subsoil [03] through which outcropped sandstone bedrock. The stratigraphy noted was unbroken throughout the trench. No artefactual material was recovered.

4.29 Trenches 3.XIIIA (NY 9330 9950) and 3.XIIIB (NY 9335 9950) (figure 9)

4.29.1 Trench 3.XIII was designed as an untargeted test of the enclosed pasture around the farm and possible bastle of Headshope, within the proposed footprint of Gunspur 1b. Due to misunderstandings over the precise location of the gunspur, two separate trenches were dug, within a single field of enclosed south-facing pasture to the north-east of the Headshope buildings.

4.29.2 **Trench 3.XIIIA** was located on the eastern edge of an area of ridge-and-furrow; this corresponds to a group of strips within the infield, documented and mapped in 1787 (Charlton 1996, 55, 56, 132). The trench measured 10.06m long and 4.85m wide, and a peaty topsoil and silty clay subsoil with a combined depth of 0.2m were mechanically removed. A 0.8m wide section was then manually excavated to natural deposits against the north-western edge of the trench to provide a profile of the ridge and furrow, and to attempt to recover stratified dating material. The edge of the trench was drawn and photographed, and these records will be available with the archive, but no further action was taken.

4.29.3 The glacial drift comprised a yellowish brown sandy clay which contained accumulations of iron and manganese salts indicative of gleying. The ridge was a 0.4m high accumulation of grey sandy clay loam which, without an intervening palaeosoil, overlay natural. The furrow had cut slightly into the natural deposits.

4.29.4 No stratified finds were retrieved, and without the use of micromorphological sections or micro-excavation for palynological samples or chemical analysis it was decided that no further information could be gained.

4.29.5 **Trench 3.XIIIB** was located outside the area of ridge-and-furrow. The trench was close to a line of mature birch trees which ran from north-west to south-east, and which was parallel to and *c* 40m from a well-constructed earthen bank faced with dressed stones.

4.29.6 The trench was mechanically excavated for a length of 9.7m and a width of 4.5m. The geological deposits were of grey and yellowish brown gleyed clay, containing some large stones and areas of decayed stones. The topsoil was a brown sandy clay loam of 0.25m depth.

4.29.7 No finds nor archaeological features were observed.

4.30 Trench 3.XIV (NT 8552 0125; 303 mOD) (figures 7 and 19)

4.30.1 The trench was designed as an untargeted test, within Stewartshiels Plantation North, *c* 350m to the west of Wanless Sike and located on the northern edge of a passing place on a forest track adjacent to a felled area within very wet plantation woodland. Two trenches were cut at this point due to the fact that the first trench excavated (i) almost immediately filled with water. This was 'L'-shaped and orientated roughly east-west and partially through the passing place. The second trench (ii) was

cut further to the north in a clearing within the plantation and was orientated roughly north-south. A roadside drainage ditch ran along trench (i), the upcast of which [02] occurred as a band in the south of trench (ii). Below soil [02], a black compressed turf line [03] overlay a brownish grey loam [04], which lay over the yellow-grey subsoil [05]. No archaeological features were observed and no finds recovered, in either trench.

4.31 Trench 3.XV (NT 8768 0119; 284 mOD) (figures 7 and 19)

4.31.1 The trench was designed as an untargeted test within an area of very wet grassland located *c* 1.2km to the north east of Dudlees Farm and west of and parallel to Dudlees Road. Dark brown peaty topsoil [01] directly overlay a light yellowish grey gritty clay subsoil [04]. A modern field drainage ditch [03] with an associated bank of upcast were the only features within the trench. No other features were observed and no finds were recovered from the trench.

5 RESULTS: SURVEY

5.1 The central area of the Davyshiel Settlement was surveyed to LUAU survey Level 2 in 1995, with a wider area receiving a Level 1 'walkover' survey. Results are reported in the Phase 1 Report (LUAU/NUAP 1996a, 36-38, 66-90). The Phase 2 Brief asked for the Level 1 area to be resurveyed to LUAU Level 2.

5.2 The survey covered an area of approximately 1km by 0.5km lying between the modern Hopefoot Road to the west and Otterburn Camp to the east, and was crossed by a road leading west from Otterburn Camp (the 'Camp Road'), and by an unnamed burn flowing from the northwest, and crossing the Camp Road (fig 20). The area north of this road contained a small area of ridge and furrow, seven probable pits or shafts and a very substantial stone faced bank. The area south of the Camp Road contained substantial areas of well preserved ridge and furrow separated into fields and furlongs by earth or earth and stone banks, often with ditches, some pits, a corn stack and some flattened areas (platforms?) and possible trackways. A substantial vertically faced stone bank (facing north into the survey area) with ditch lies at the southern end of the survey area. Both roads are of modern origin: they are not shown on the 2nd edition OS map of 1899.

5.3 Modern drainage cuts much of the ridge and furrow, especially in the central area, making it difficult to see and interpret on the ground. Aerial photographs from Newcastle University collection and Northumberland National Park have been consulted, and proved very helpful. Some of the air photos were taken when the vegetation was shorter and trampling by stock less severe, and show features not longer easily visible on the ground.

5.4 Of the pits in the northern area (fig 21), all have associated banks, usually in a horseshoe shape with the opening at the south; this supports interpretation as small shafts or extraction pits. Four of the pits lie in a line suggesting the following of a seam. The geological map however indicates no mineral seam here; the solid geology is mapped as Middle Limestone Series, with the Oxford Limestone outcropping just north of the survey area. The pits may therefore have originated from an unsuccessful prospecting venture.

5.5 The bank DS72 forms an extension of the head dyke (DS29, DS87 and DS44) recorded on the 1995 survey, and is a major land division, with no ridge and furrow visible to the west of it either on the ground or on the APs. Immediately south-east of the point where it crosses the burn there is a paved stone area in the burn, interpreted as a ford. The burn is narrow and the land is low at this point. It may be significant that the ford lies immediately within the obviously cultivated area.

5.6 All the ridge and furrow to the east of bank DS72 (DS139, DS100 and DS101) is curved (DS100 extends beyond the survey area and is sinusoidal) suggesting an early, perhaps thirteenth century, date.

5.7 In the area immediately south of the Camp Road (fig 22), the ground is very boggy and disturbed. The burn runs through it in a wide, deep channel (up to 2m deep). Many drainage ditches, predominantly modern, run into the burn in this low-lying area. One of these forms a curving ditch apparently draining an area of flat land DS103. Others are drains running from topographic feature/reservoir DS80. Little visible ridge and furrow survives here, except DS132 which at 8m broad is significantly wider than any other ridge and furrow inside or near the survey area. On the aerial photographs (in particular TMG 16537/26) ridge and furrow DS132 can be seen to extend north to the burn (and perhaps even across it to become part of DS101), west to the edge of settlement features around DS15 (on the 1995 survey area), and south to a limit near feature DS80. This extent is no longer clearly visible on the ground. It would be possible to interpret this 'ridge and furrow' as a water-management system analogous to lowland water-meadows, and fed from the main burn by a channel along the line of DS72 and DS 29, but the field evidence is not strong.

5.8 In the final phase of the enclosure system, the next area to the south formed a large field bounded by the head-dyke (DS37 in this area) to the west, by bank DS40 to the south, and by bank DS81 to the southeast. Bank DS81 follows the base of a slight side-valley. This line is also followed by a large ditch or small burn (the 'southern burn'); in its existing form this is a modern cut feature, but it presumably approximates to the line of a natural streamlet.

5.9 In the north of this area, features were few and hard to interpret, due either to lack of activity or to later disturbance or alluviation. Ridge-and-furrow cultivation appeared to have been bounded by two banks: DS82, 105, and 104, and DS106 and 136. DS82 and its fainter continuations extends at right angles from bank DS81, and appears to have formed the northeast boundary of cultivation. DS106 and 136 form an L-shaped bank and ditch, with a sub-rectangular enclosure in the angle; they overlie apparent faint continuations of the ridge-and-furrow to the south-west, and are therefore likely to be secondary to the field system. It is possible that the area between DS106/136 and DS104 was taken out of the ridge-and-furrow system as a separate enclosure, but if so its remaining boundaries are not visible.

5.10 The remainder of the area is almost entirely occupied by sinusoidal ridge-and-furrow, in two separate furlongs at right angles to each other. The ridge-and-furrow is cut by a probable small shaft (DS107), a rectangular platform, possibly for a contemporaneous building (DS137), and a circular feature (DS109) beside the southeast boundary, possibly a watering hole or sheepwash.

5.11 To the south-west, the ridge-and-furrow continues beyond DS40 with no change of alignment, occupying the whole of the smaller field south of probable bastle DS48 (on the 1995 survey area). However its line deviates to respect a length of bank (DS112), which should therefore pre-date the laying-out of the ridge-and-furrow. Boundary DS40 follows a similar line to the ridge-and-furrow; while is possible that the latter respects the bank, the field evidence suggests that the bank is laid out along the pre-existing ridge-and-furrow.

5.12 The western boundary of this field (DS91) is however respected by the ridge-and-furrow on each side: that to the west (DS54) continues beyond the modern road to a continuation of the head-dyke (outside the survey area).

5.13 The southern boundary of all three fields just described follows the natural valley occupied by the 'southern burn', being formed by a series of boundary banks (DS91, 133, 99, 116, and 81). However this bank line is staggered where it crosses bank DS40. The ridge-and-furrow also respects this line, though the relationships of each to DS40 suggest that is the topographic line rather than the banks that is respected.

5.14 To the south of the 'southern burn' (fig 23), the western part of the survey area is formed by a single field, bounded to the east by banks DS91, 97, and 138, and occupied by sinusoidal ridge-and-furrow DS121: this is very variable in width, with narrow ridges in the centre and to the north, but splaying out to the south. The system is cut by several pits or shafts (DS92, 94, 122, and 126), a length of bank (DS93), and a small mound and bank (DS123) which may have been some form of kiln. To the south of this, the ridge-and-furrow becomes indistinct, and its relationships to features DS95, 124, and 125 are indistinct. These features consist of a circular scooped platform, 14m in diameter, with a second smaller terrace and an area of stony humps and bumps to the south. They could be interpreted either as part of the scattered extractive activity post-dating the ridge-and-furrow, or as the remains of an earlier site partially ploughed-out by the ridge-and-furrow: in this latter case, interpretation as a prehistoric settlement is possible.

5.15 To the north-east of this large field lies a group of much smaller fields, all containing broad ridge-and-furrow respecting the field boundaries. The westernmost of these is triangular, bounded by banks DS97 and DS99; to the north it was originally bounded by bank DS133 along the 'southern burn', but this was later replaced by bank DS96 further to the south. The next field to the east is sub-rectangular: it contains a possible banked enclosure or pound at its entrance from the first field, and a probable embanked pond (DS88) against its southern bank. The third field, to the south-east, contains a pair of sub-rectangular stoney earthworks and platforms in its north corner; these look like the remains of buildings (perhaps agricultural rather than domestic), though one could possibly be the site of a shaft.

5.16 The area to the north-east of these small fields is occupied by one large field, bounded by banks DS40, DS81 (along the line of the 'southern burn'), DS85 and DS140. The ridge-and-furrow is broad and low, and fades out to the north as it drops into the valley of the main burn. To the west, it aligns well with DS117, and it is possible that bank DS40 has cut across what was once a single furlong. Two pairs of rectangular platforms (DS113 in the west corner, and DS111 against the northern boundary) may be the remains of agricultural buildings: a further platform further north (DS108) may be of similar origin, or more recent.

5.17 The remainder of the survey area is occupied, in its final phase, by a very large field, bounded to the north and west by banks DS85, DS90, and DS138: DS85 may overlie the ridge-and-furrow, whose curve it follows. The survey area is bounded to the east by a modern fence, and to the south-east by a drystone wall (DS134), overlying the

ridge-and-furrow. To the northeast, however, the ridge-and-furrow could be seen to continue to a further earth bank (DS84); more ridge-and-furrow survives beyond this. The ridge-and-furrow, all of which is broad and sinusoidal, forms two distinct furlongs, separated by a zigzag headland and/or track (DS 131, 141).

5.18 In the north-west of the field, a track (DS129) overlying the ridge-and-furrow gives access to a very clear circular bank-and-ditch earthwork (DS89), almost certainly a stack-stand.

5.19 The southern boundary of the survey area follows a stone-and-earth boundary bank, on a curving line concave to the south. Two phases are present; the earlier, to the west (DS 83) is clearly stone-faced to the north, and is similar in character to the head-dyke that forms the western boundary of the system. This returns south at its east end, its line being continued by DS127, which is also of stone-and-earth construction but is less clearly faced. On the 2nd edition OS map, this boundary line forms the northern limit of the improved land of Hopefoot, although ridge-and-furrow can be seen to survive to its south.

5.20 Field observation, and study of air photographs, shows that the head-dyke of the Davyshiel field system, which leaves the survey area at the south-west corner of the 1995 survey area, continues south only a short distance west of the Hopefoot Road, with a further earthwork settlement nucleus attached to it.

5.21 Examination of newly-available air photographs has enabled two additions to the interpretation of the 1995 survey area. Firstly, they confirm that the northern settlement nucleus includes an oval enclosure, seemingly overlain by some of the settlement features. While this feature may merely form part of the Medieval farmyard layout, it is possible that it is the surviving evidence of a prehistoric settlement, whose site has been re-used and partly overlain by the later settlement. Secondly, the photographs show that the line of feature DS32 (previously interpreted as a natural stream channel) is continued to the south by a faint cropmark, which in turn aligns with bank DS91. This raises the possibility that at least one of the boundaries within the field system overlies an earlier, undated, boundary.

5.22 Examination of the 2nd edition 6" OS map (Northumberland Sheet LI NE, 1899) indicates that at this date the whole of the survey area was classed as rough grazing, although the head-dyke (but none of the internal boundaries to its east) is mapped. The southern boundary of the survey area forms the northern limit of the enclosed and improved lands of Hopefoot. The Hopefoot and Camp Roads did not exist, the only routes within the survey area being a bridle way from Davyshiel south-west to sheepfold DS68, then south to the west of the survey area, and a footpath from Davyshiel to a well on a side-stream of the burn, just south of the line of Camp Road. Neither of these routes show as visible earthworks in the modern landscape.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 The finds assemblage was extremely limited in quantity, and the majority consisted of unstratified material of little interpretative value. Finds (whether stratified or otherwise) have been noted in the trench descriptions above; the only assemblage requiring further comment is that from Trench 2D. For completeness, the catalogue of all finds from the LUAU trenching is also presented.

6.2 Trench 2D

6.2.1 A total of 91 artefact fragments were recovered from this trench, all but three derived from pottery vessels of medieval date. The remaining material comprised two very small struck flint fragments, possibly spalls from the production of flint tools, and a spatulate object of unknown function, and possibly of natural origin.

6.2.2 The bulk of the pottery (79 fragments) was recovered from two contexts, 31 and 32, and is likely to represent a single vessel. Although probably wheel-made, neither rim nor base was present and the curvature on surviving fragments is only very slight, raising the possibility that it was either a very large or very shallow vessel. Although many of the fragments were large, the state of preservation varied considerably; some fragments were heavily spalled, and had on occasion laminated, losing both the inner and outer surfaces. At least one fragment was rolled as if water-worn whilst others retained sharp breaks. On many of the fragments the glaze was badly worn. Many of the fragments had been penetrated by rootlets, suggesting that they had lain close to the surface and had been badly affected by temperature change. The fabric (1) resembles that of reduced wares from other north-eastern sites such as Edlingham Castle (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 225, 389) and can be placed within a broad date range from the late thirteenth/early fourteenth to the sixteenth centuries; such an assemblage from urban Newcastle would be of fourteenth century date (J Vaughan pers. comm.), but this dating should not be uncritically extended to rural Otterburn.

6.2.3 The remaining few fragments of ceramic vessels (from contexts 30, 34, 37 and unstratified) represented a number of fabrics. All were, however, small and badly abraded, and therefore cannot be identified with confidence. Most were oxidised, but were otherwise quite similar to fabric 1. They are likely to have the same date range, perhaps starting from earlier in the thirteenth century.

6.2.4 Fabric series (Trench 2D only)

Fabric 1	Dark grey fully reduced fabric. Thin green glaze over exterior surfaces. Occasionally interior surfaces oxidised to creamy-white. Tempered with much ill-sorted grit, includes angular quartz (to 1mm) and occasional sandstone fragments to c5mm. Many tiny plate-like fragments, possibly mica. Grits are ill-sorted and unevenly distributed. Some organic temper (grass impressions) seen in laminated surfaces only.	Late thirteenth early fourteenth to sixteenth century

Fabric 2	Pale grey fully reduced fabric, hard fired. Gritty fabric, inclusions are well sorted and mainly quartz. Fired to a sufficiently high temperature to have melted some of the inclusions at the surface. Rod handle from ext 37, part oxidised to a dark, dirty orange.
Fabric 3	Oxidised light orange fabric, soft-fired. Fine, well-sorted inclusions, sand (<0.25mm) and tiny plate-like fragments, possibly mica
Fabric 4	Part-reduced fabric, surfaces orange. Uneven pale green glaze on external surface, splashes within. Small angular grit temper (<0.5mm to 1mm), mainly ?quartz.
Fabric 5	Grey fully reduced fabric, surfaces slightly oxidised. Angular sandy quartz temper, giving uneven surface.

6.3 Finds catalogue

Context	OR	Quantity	Description
Trench 2D			
30		3	part reduced gritty, hard-fired fabric, exterior surface dark grey and sooted, interior surface yellow/orange. Fabric 3
31		6	dark grey, fully reduced, occasional white crystalline inclusions (quartz?) exterior green glaze, probably as 32. Fabric 1
31		1	small spatulate object, not metal, apparently crystalline. Natural?
32		73	single vessel, featureless, dark grey fully reduced, sandy fabric. Fabric 1
34		1	small, as 30. Fabric 3
37		2	part reduced sandy fabric, green glazed externally, jug? Fabric 5
37		1	fully reduced, dark grey fabric, sandy, patchy exterior glaze, cream interior surface. Fabric 5
37		2	small ?struck flint spall
37		1	rod handle, gritty fabric, black glassy blobs on surface. Fabric 2
us		1	hard fired fully reduced fabric, external green glaze, sandy. Fabric 2
Trench 3.VI			
52		1	pale natural blue vessel glass, machine moulded. Late nineteenth century or later
Trench 3.XIIIA			
10		1	Thick soft-fired laminated oxidised fabric with large red inclusions, ?roof tile
10		1	Glazed white earthenware ?straight sided bowl. Late nineteenth century or later
us		1	as 10, joins
us		1	late grey stoneware ?bottle

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Dere Street (Trenches 1A-1F)

7.1.1 The Phase 2 evaluation was designed to form a further investigation of problem areas along Dere Street, and also of the potential survival of the Roman road directly beneath the modern road, in areas where this was thought to precisely follow the Roman alignment.

7.1.2 Trenches cut through the modern road where it was assumed to overlie Dere Street (1A to 1C) were unambiguous in showing that the Roman road had been removed prior to or during the construction of the modern military road. The sequence of events and materials used in the construction of the road were very similar over the three trenches; a corridor had been stripped to subsoil with attendant drainage ditches where necessary. A base of sandstone blocks was then dumped centrally along the corridor and ditches filled with a stony loam. Bands of make-up were run over the central sandstone and were topped with a modern rolled tarmac surface.

7.1.3 Only in Trench 1A was there any evidence for human activity earlier than the modern road. This was in the form of a truncated ditch lying to the east of the road. Its function and chronological context remain uncertain. It is conceivable (but obviously difficult to prove) that the stony loams which had been used to fill the side ditches of the modern road derived from the metalling of Dere Street: the insubstantial and at times ephemeral nature of the Roman road where it was exposed in the evaluation trenches (see below) would have precluded it from being seen by the modern road builders as a useful foundation for their work but perhaps as a useful source of stone.

7.1.4 Trenches cut to locate Dere Street where it ran free of the modern road proved only partially successful in this aim.

7.1.5 Trenches 1Di and 1Dii failed to locate any evidence for metalling indicating the presence of the Roman road in the very disturbed area around the Outer Golden Pot. Although two ditches, one narrow and one broad, were seen in trench 1Di, their chronological and functional context (or contexts) remains uncertain.

7.1.6 Trenches 1E and 1F were both cut across prominent earthworks presumed to represent the *agger* and side ditches of Dere Street. Both trenches provided evidence of metalling, albeit very insubstantial in trench 1E. There was no evidence for rutting in the road surfaces of either trench.

7.1.7 Although the interpretation of the *agger* where investigated by trench 1E as a dump of upcast material would seem secure, the presence of what appeared to be a palaeosoil beneath the metalling of Dere Street in trench 1F would suggest that in this area the *agger* is in fact a 'positive' linear subsoil and topsoil feature isolated by quarrying along flanking corridors to east and west.

7.1.8 The narrow gully [12] on the western edge of the road ditch in trench 1E remains functionally enigmatic, perhaps representing a marker for the extent of the road corridor.

7.1.9 In summary, the 1995 and 1996 archaeological evaluations, combined with documentary evidence and access to the recent series of high quality aerial photographs commissioned by Northumberland National Park, allow a coherent picture of the Roman road and later developments to be provided along a significant portion of the corridor of evaluation as defined in CHEB 1995 (NY 825 995 to NT 805 075).

7.1.10 Where the corridor of the Roman road runs free of both the medieval drove road and the modern tarmac road (perhaps best seen to the north of the newly felled Featherwood Plantation at NT 817 045 in air photograph TMG 16536 31) it can be seen to consist of a broad, possibly stripped, corridor with low flanking banks and a central *agger*. Where later droving is contiguous with the road, most perceptibly around the Outer Golden Pot where the ridge route is constricted between Pepper Side and Thirl Moor, a landscape of flowing, sinuous ridges has resulted (NT 850 073; air photograph TMG 16536 52). Where the modern road follows the line of Dere Street it would seem to have removed all evidence of the metalling of the Roman road where it has been cut back to natural but has left much of the broad corridor untouched. Clearly, the construction of the new road should be planned in sympathy with the surviving portions of this Roman road corridor and the later areas of medieval droving.

7.2 Other Targeted Trenching

7.2.1 Some targeted trenches were aimed at specific earthwork features under threat from the proposed development, whereas others were aimed to test the environs of specific features not themselves under threat, in order to determine whether sub-surface features or deposits extended into the development areas.

7.2.2 **Trench 2A** was designed to test the environs of a visible cairn on Bruce's Knowe; the extensive cairnfield and settlement site of Todlaw Pike (investigated in the Phase 1 evaluation) also extends to within *c* 200m. The trench, which was located in a slight topographic hollow, showed the existence of a stone feature not visible on the surface, perhaps a clearance cairn. This indicates that the archaeologically-sensitive area around Todlaw Pike is likely to extend south-east at least to Bruce's Knowe.

7.2.3 **Trench 2B** was designed to test the environs of Hare Cairn, a Scheduled Ancient Monument on an island of limestone grassland. The immediate results were negative, in that there were no archaeological features within the trench. However, observation of Hare Cairn during the fieldwork indicates that this monument may be of greater significance than previously realised, since it is very large (*c* 20m diameter), and the exposed 'cists' are also very large (at least 0.6m, large enough to hold a tightly-crouched inhumation). The cairn, therefore, has similarities to the Neolithic 'great barrows' of the Peak District and east Yorkshire (Barnatt 1996, Harding 1996), and a Neolithic date for Hare Cairn should be seriously considered. The limestone environment also gives the potential for survival of animal and human bone, and potentially of snail-shells (an important palaeo-environmental indicator). The

possibility of important archaeological deposits in the environs of the cairn, therefore, remains very much open, and the whole of this area should be considered sensitive in the event of any disturbance.

7.2.4 **Trench 2C** was designed to test the outer ditch and berm of a double-ditched boundary, forming part of the head-dyke of the Potts Durtrees field system (assumed to be of broadly Medieval and later date). It showed that the boundary was more complex than appeared on the surface, the visible ditch cutting through an earlier phase on a slightly different line. Both phases were wide and 'slack' in profile, suggesting prolonged maintenance interrupted by at least one period of non-maintenance (allowing the earlier ditch to silt up). The date range of this activity remains, however, uncertain.

7.2.5 **Trench 2D** confirmed that a feature attached to the head-dyke of the Potts Durtrees field system was a rectangular building, and produced clear evidence for a Medieval (or at latest sixteenth century) date. Investigation of this building was restricted, in order to minimise damage to a clearly-important site under evaluation conditions. The eastern end of the building may well survive, in damaged form, beneath the modern road (which does not appear to have the heavily-engineered construction of the modern road along Dere Street). The site lies on the same limestone outcrop as Hare Cairn, giving a potential for good faunal preservation.

7.2.6 **Trench 2E** was designed to test the environs of the Bellshiel Law long cairn, a presumed Neolithic monument. It was located *c* 250m south-west of the cairn, at a seemingly-undisturbed point in the development corridor (much of which in this vicinity shows clear visible evidence of severe disturbance from former military activities). However, the trench area also proved to have been extensively disturbed. There is no evidence that Neolithic activity associated with the cairn extended into the development area, and the prospects for survival of any Neolithic features that may have existed are poor.

7.2.7 **Trench 2F** was targeted to test the environs of the Medieval/Post-Medieval Bellshiel field system. It revealed a sequence of parallel linear features not expressed by discrete surface earthworks, including a broad recut ditch with a gully to its northern edge and a possibly-aligned linear sandstone scatter to the north of the gully. The scatter of sandstone overlay a shallow cut feature into which had been dumped much burnt material including a proportion of the rim of a quartz gritted splash glazed jug, probably of thirteenth to fourteenth century date. The pottery would seem to indicate earlier Medieval activity in the area, possibly prior to the commencement of the Anglo-Scottish Wars in 1296.

7.2.8. **Trench 2G** was designed to test an area of possible 'cord rigg' agriculture identified from air photos, *c* 120m north of the Barracker Rigg scooped settlement. Although this rigg was not clearly visible at ground level, its existence was fully confirmed by the excavation. In the absence of dating evidence, its association with the Barracker Rigg settlement remains unproven.

7.2.9 Examination of recent air photographs (Charlton 1996, 23; PF 1996, 23) suggests the existence of a linear bank and ditch running from south-west to north-east,

and apparently overlain by the Barracker Rigg settlement (raising the possibility of a prehistoric date). This feature approaches the modern road to the south-east of Trench 2G, and should be investigated in advance of any development across its line.

7.2.10 **Trenches 2H** and **2I** were designed to test the environs of (respectively) the Dudlees Medieval/Post-Medieval field system, and the Crow Stone cairn. Neither trench produced any positive results.

7.3 Untargeted Trenching

7.3.1 The 'untargeted' trenches were intended to form a random test for archaeological features and sites which did not show on the surface. Some were located in totally 'blank' areas, while others were located within the Medieval/Post-Medieval field and ridge-and-furrow systems: these latter trenches were intended primarily to test for earlier features concealed by the ridge-and-furrow, but were also designed to retrieve information on the later features through which they were cut.

7.3.2 **Trench 3.I** cut through a bank in the Medieval/Post-Medieval field system of Loaning Burn (mapped in outline in Charlton and Day 1982, 161). Ridge-and-furrow was visible on both sides of the bank, but was more strongly developed to the south: this plus the presence of a rough secondary stone facing on the north face of the bank suggests that a former internal boundary to the field system may have become a head-dyke, the area to its north being excluded from the enclosed land.

7.3.3 **Trench 3.VIII** contained no archaeological features, but revealed a considerable depth of clay-loam infilling the continuation of a small dry valley on the limestone outcrop running south from Hare Cairn to Potts Durtrees. This deposit, in a calcareous environment, forms a palaeo-environmental potential not considered in the Phase 1 palaeo-environmental evaluation. The precise mode of formation is unclear: while the deposit may be alluvium or colluvium of wholly natural origin, it may also consist at least in part of ploughwash and thus contain information on the agricultural history of the surrounding slopes.

7.3.4 **Trench 3.XI**, although targeted at a 'blank' area, revealed slight remains of an earth bank, in rough, featureless grassland to the east of Bellshiel Road. Excavation revealed an associated ditch to the west of the bank and, perhaps more significantly (suggesting relatively intense human activity in the area), an oval-shaped cut to the west of this boundary with a burnt base and edges overlain with charcoal, possibly representing a primitive kiln. No artefactual material was recovered from the trench to suggest a chronological context for the features but the retrieval of a quantity of charcoal from the base of the pit/kiln would allow a radio-carbon determination for the feature. It is possible that the features in this trench could again reflect early Medieval activity in the Bellshiel area. In support of this idea is the reference in Charlton and Day (1982, 168) to a fourteenth century *Inquest Post Mortem* relating to a farm at Bellshiel.

7.3.5 The remaining untargeted trenches revealed no positive information of significance. In practice, therefore, the only trenches on 'blank' areas (whether designed as untargeted trenches, or targeted at the environs of known features) to have yielded

positive results are those in the vicinity of visible surface monuments of prehistoric or Medieval/Post-Medieval date. In particular, the further evaluation of the Crow Stone/Tactical OP Ridge area (already thoroughly tested in the Phase 1 palaeoecological programme) has yielded consistently negative results, and may with hindsight have been a poor use of resources.

7.4 The topographic survey

7.4.1 The extended survey at Davyshiel, coupled with examination of air photographs, has recorded the previously-surveyed earthworks in their wider context. The two settlement nuclei, with a third to the west of the Phase 2 survey area, can now be seen as forming a pattern of small settlements along a head-dyke (or 'moor wall') which separates extensive ridge-and-furrow (to the east) from unenclosed moorland (to the west).

7.4.2 There are hints from the visible evidence that this system may overlie, and in places fossilise elements of, earlier settlement and enclosures. While no detailed interpretation can be made on the surface evidence alone, the degree and nature of any continuity or re-use within this landscape for important aspects for test in the event of any future below-ground intervention.

7.4.3 The majority of the settlement evidence within the system consists of sub-rectangular building sites, surviving as earthworks. These features are notoriously difficult to date in an upland context, but the similar building site at Potts Durtrees has yielded Medieval pottery. It is suspected that the majority of the settlement features are of Medieval rather than Post-Medieval date. However, the probable bastle on the 1995 survey area would normally be dated to the sixteenth or seventeenth century.

7.4.4 At first sight, the field banks and ridge-and-furrow appear to form a single system, each respecting the other. However, detailed examination has indicated that many of the field banks (with the clear exception of the head-dyke) are likely to post-date the ridge-and-furrow, following headlands and furlong boundaries and on occasion dividing furlongs. It is, therefore, suggested that this landscape contains two phases: in the earlier phase, the head-dyke bounded a large area of open ridge-and-furrow arable, divided only by furlongs and headlands (as can still be seen within the southeast field of the system); in the later phase, the area was divided into separate banked fields, and was devoted to pasture (since the ridge-and-furrow shows no evidence of continued ploughing).

7.4.5 Putting these lines of evidence together, it is suggested that the majority of settlement features, and the ridge-and-furrow, are of Medieval date, whereas the bastle and the enclosed fields represent a Post-Medieval alteration to the system. Whether these phases were sharply distinct, being separated by an abrupt replanning and or a period of abandonment, or whether the two 'phases' represent the beginning and end of a period of organic development, cannot be established on the present evidence.

7.5 General Interpretation

7.5.1 The Phase 2 evaluation has yielded no evidence for prehistoric features outside the general areas where these are visible on the surface (or from the air). The quantity of flint recovered (all from unstratified contexts) is very low; it is sufficiently consistent to confirm a degree of 'background' use of the uplands, but no conclusions on the closer dating, or on any favoured areas, can be drawn. The possible Neolithic dating of Hare Cairn, coupled with the already-known long cairn at Bellshiel and chambered cairn at Dour Hill (Anon 1996), does hint, however, at a focus of Neolithic settlement in upper Redesdale. The domestic and agricultural nuclei associated with these funerary monuments have not yet been located; they may be close to the cairns, or on the more sheltered south-facing slopes below them (in which case they may well underlie and be obscured by later agricultural or domestic features).

7.5.2 The Davyshiel survey area contains a number of potentially-prehistoric features, surviving within the predominantly-Medieval agricultural landscape (see below). In particular, the newly-available air photographic cover of the Phase 1 survey area has strengthened the suggestion that the northern nucleus of (presumed) Medieval settlement may overlie, and its layout be influenced by, a later prehistoric settlement. This site may therefore contain evidence for the degree of re-use or continuity between the prehistoric and Medieval landscapes below the head-dykes of the latter, enhancing its importance.

7.5.3 The Phase 2 evaluation has added little to our overall understanding of the Roman military activity in the area, beyond the specific work on Dere Street discussed above.

7.5.4 The Phase 2 Davyshiel survey has confirmed and extended the Phase 1 survey evidence, for a complex and very interesting Medieval and Post-Medieval landscape (with possible prehistoric roots - see 7.5.2 above). A notable feature of this landscape is the existence of a string of settlement nuclei, presumably farms or hamlets, along the head-dyke between the open moorland and the enclosed fields and ridge-and-furrow agriculture; two nuclei are present within the Phase 1 survey area, and a third is clearly visible on air photographs, just west of the Phase 2 survey area. The building evaluated in Trench 2D lies in a similar position, against the head-dyke of the Potts Durtree field system.

7.5.5 The upland field systems of the Training Area as a whole, with their extensive ridge-and-furrow, form a dramatic, important, and under-studied aspect of the archaeological landscape. Documentary evidence indicates that, in general terms, these settlements and field systems were in use from at least the thirteenth century (Charlton 1996, 39) to the late eighteenth century (Charlton 1996, 55). The closer dating of individual features, ranging in scale from structures to ridge-and-furrow systems, is however very difficult. The recovery of earlier Medieval pottery from both Trench 2D and Trench 3.XI suggests that, at least within Redesdale, the surviving earthwork landscape may be largely of Medieval date. The timing of this apparent Medieval peak in settlement and arable, and in particular its relationship to the development of Scottish Border warfare after 1296, is matter of great interest.

7.5.6 The documented Post-Medieval increase in occupation, including the bastles, may on this interpretation be seen as a partial re-occupation of an earlier landscape, and to be predominantly pastoral rather than arable in its agriculture: the bastle at Davyshiel, and the field boundaries which overlie the surviving ridge-and-furrow, would form part of this Post-Medieval phase. The documentary evidence from Headshope, and the field evidence from the Phase 1 evaluation at Penchford, do however suggest a greater Post-Medieval element in the visible landscape in the Elsdon area.

7.5.7 A further general point, relating to sites and landscapes of all periods, concerns the use of air photographs. It has become apparent during the preparation of this report that the quantity and quality of air photographic coverage now available greatly exceeds that used in the *Cultural Heritage Evaluation Brief* (CHEB 1995); this increase largely reflects the ongoing programme of photography and mapping by Gates on behalf of Northumberland National Park (PF 1996). It is important that this work be fully assimilated into the developing Options for Change initiative.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 In principle, preservation *in situ* should always be the preferred option when archaeological features or deposits are threatened by development, particularly with respect to nationally important remains. However, if this is not practical the following recommendations for preservation are made. The recommendations are limited to the impact of the development proposals as currently known, and should be revised should the location and/or extent of proposed disturbance be modified. The recommendations are organised geographically, form north-west to south-east.

8.2 Dere Street

8.2.1 It is recommended that there should be no further evaluation trenching on Dere Street. Although the course of the Roman road has not been established in the area around the Outer Golden Pot it is felt, due to the great disturbance in the area, that further trenching would not necessarily prove any more successful than previous work in achieving this goal.

8.2.2 In order to fully assimilate the considerable amount of information gained on the character and course of Dere Street during the evaluations it is considered that a variant of recommendations previously made (LUAU/NUAP 1996, 58) should be effected so that a final stage of work would involve:

- Transcription of available aerial photographs of the corridor of evaluation (notably the series recently commissioned by Northumberland National Park) to produce a rectified map of the route in order to demarcate the surviving Roman, medieval and modern constituents of this corridor. This will draw on all aspects of the evaluations and would, along with an associated gazetteer, be the definitive product of the archaeological work on Dere Street and allow sympathetic management of the road development.

- A rapid walkover survey of the corridor to confirm the current status of its constituent earthworks.

8.2.3 Trenches cut through the modern road where it was thought to overlie Dere Street provided no evidence for a preserved Roman road beneath. Because of the limited area of evaluation, however, these results cannot necessarily be extrapolated to say that all the Roman road in the evaluation corridor where its course is overlaid by the modern route has been removed. Additionally, the discovery of a ditch in trench 1A shows that early features, possibly associated with the Roman road, may have survived beyond the extent of the modern road cut (the broad linear depression to the east of Trench 1C, for instance)

- Therefore, a limited archaeological watching brief should be maintained during the widening of the road to check for the survival of Dere Street within the 1940s road

corridor and for associated features beyond this corridor within the proposed development scheme.

- Subject to the finalised road development scheme, any earthworks agreed to be archaeologically significant, and which cannot be avoided during construction works, should be archaeologically excavated and recorded.

8.3 Bellshiel Road

8.3.1 The recovery of thirteenth/fourteenth century pottery from a securely stratified context in Trench 2F and for relatively intense activity both in this trench and in Trench 3.XI immediately to the north (albeit in the latter case undated) was unexpected and suggests a focus of earlier Medieval activity in the locale. To securely establish the chronological and functional context of the remains is of considerable significance in developing a wider picture of the early Medieval occupation of Redesdale.

- The medieval/post-medieval field system over and to the north of Bellshiel Marching Camp is of uncertain extent. In order to place the archaeological deposits revealed during the recent evaluation trenching along Bellshiel Road in archaeological context these earthworks should be transcribed from aerial photographs (the series recently commissioned by Northumberland National Park) and this record integrated with the existing survey of Bellshiel Camp and associated field systems produced by RCHME.

- A rapid walkover of the area dealt with above should be carried out to assess the status of its constituent earthworks.

- The archaeological remains discovered and evaluated along Bellshiel Road, and any further features within the road corridor revealed by the transcription of aerial photographs, should be fully excavated

- An archaeological watching brief should be kept along the remainder of the widening along Bellshiel Road and a sufficient time provided for the excavation of discrete archaeological features not expressed by surface earthworks which would be threatened by the development.

8.4 Tactical OP Ridge and Stewartshiels Forest

8.4.1 No further work is recommended.

8.5 Watty Bell's Scar

8.5.1 Although the evaluation trench revealed no features of importance, this area forms a well-drained south-facing slope, in the environs of the Roman fort and *vicus* at High Rochester, and of the Medieval/Post-Medieval hamlet. There are also Post-Medieval coal-mining features in the immediate vicinity of the proposed road widening.

8.5.2 A watching brief is therefore recommended on all road widening outside the margins of the modern forestry plantations.

8.6 Dudlees Farm

8.6.1 The dykes and other earthworks of the Medieval and later field system should be excavated where they will be destroyed by road widening. A watching brief should be kept on the remainder of the road widening within the area enclosed by this system.

8.7 Potts Durtrees

8.7.1 The earthworks in the area sampled by Trench 2C should be fully excavated where they will be destroyed by road widening.

8.7.2 The building evaluated by Trench 2D should be preserved if at all possible. if destruction cannot be avoided, it should be preceded by full excavation, to a high standard. The excavation should include the immediate environs of the building, on both sides of the modern road. If development includes relaying the modern road, the possible survival of part of the building beneath the road should be investigated, and this area included in the excavation if the results are positive.

8.7.3 The road from Potts Durtrees follows a limestone outcrop, and crosses the environs of both the Medieval building and of Hare Cairn, as well as the apparent infilled dry valley sampled by Trench 3.VIII. A watching brief should be kept on the full length of this road widening, and a palaeo-ecological investigation should be made of the infill deposits in the dry valley.

8.8 Hare Cairn

8.8.1 In view of the potential importance of this monument, all ground works to the north-east of the Barracker Rigg-Countess Well road should be preceded by excavation, and disturbance in this area should be minimised.

8.8.2 A detailed (Level 3) survey of Hare Cairn is considered highly desirable for management and interpretation.

8.9 Barracker Rigg

8.9.1 Road widening through the full length of the cord rigg should be preceded by excavation: this excavation should be conducted to a high standard, to recover the maximum information on the mode of formation of the cord rigg.

8.9.2 The corridor of excavation should be extended south-east at least as far as the linear ditch (see 7.2.9 above), to confirm the nature of this feature and investigate its dating and relationship (if any) to the cord rigg.

8.10 Davyshiel

8.10.1 The Medieval/Post-Medieval landscape is now seen to be of high quality, and disturbance should if at all possible be avoided.

8.10.2 If, however, the need to construct the Central Maintenance Facility within this area is over-riding, then the Facility should be sited to cause the minimum achievable damage to features identified in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 survey areas, and a programme of excavation should be devised to record those features whose destruction or damage is inevitable.

8.10.3 The formation of a shelter belt anywhere within the area of the Medieval/Post-Medieval system should be avoided, since both the disturbance involved in ground preparation and planting, and the subsequent growth of tree-roots, will cause damage to the archaeological resource. Should a shelter belt be considered necessary, it should be sited to the west of the head-dyke of the field system.

8.10.4 The western limit of the field-system has been defined in and to the north of the Phase 1 survey area. However, the system continues to the west of the Hopefoot Road where this limits the southern part of the Phase 2 survey area. Field observation and air photographs indicate that the limit of the system lies quite close to the Hopefoot Road, and includes a further settlement nucleus abutted to the head-dyke. For the understanding of this system as a whole, and for future management (including the design of any necessary shelter belt), an extension of the survey to the western limit of the system (an area of *c* 450 x 75m) is considered highly desirable. Similarly, limited areas of ridge-and-furrow survive between the survey and the modern Camp at the north end (the eastward continuations of DS100 and DS139), and near the south end (to the best of bank DS84). These areas should certainly be surveyed if they are under threat from the proposed works, and a survey would be beneficial to the understanding of the system as a whole.

8.10.5 We understand that a detailed contour survey of the area, prepared for planning purposes, exists. Combination of this with the archaeological survey would enhance the understanding of the site, since it would allow the relationship of the archaeological features to the natural landforms to be clearly portrayed.

8.11 Todlaws/Bruce's Knowe

8.11.1 Trench 2A has demonstrated that sub-surface archaeological features extend at least as far south-east as Bruce's Knowe. The zone of excavation previously identified where road widening passes through and adjacent to the Todlaw Pike cairnfield should therefore be extended south-east to the site of Trench 2A.

8.12 Bravo/Charlie

8.12.1 Trenches 3.II and 3.III, on the line of the proposed new road through this area, did not reveal any archaeological features of importance. However, the stretch of new road from Elsdon Burn eastwards to the existing road (at NY 931 967) crosses an area

of relatively low-lying, sheltered, and south-facing land. This area is potentially suitable for earlier settlement or cultivation, the surface evidence for which would be masked by Post-Medieval and modern cultivation. An archaeological watching brief on this length of road is therefore desirable.

8.13 Loaning Burn

8.13.1 The threatened length of field boundary should be excavated in advance of destruction, to recover evidence for its construction and dating, and to examine the palaeo-environmental potential of the buried soil beneath it.

8.14 Headshope

8.14.1 No further action recommended.

8.15 Headshope/Deer Laws

8.15.1 Although the results of Trench 3.VI were negative, it remains probable that the environs of the ruined building will contain some archaeological potential. Widening should be confined to the west side of the road in this area, to avoid damage to the building and minimise disturbance to any associated deposits.

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APPENDIX 1: SURVEY GAZETTEER

Site number	DS 01
NGR	NY 88725 96100
Site type	Building
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	8m long, 5m wide, 1.3m high
Description	Rectangular drystone walled structure open on the east side with matching stopped ends to north and south walls. Two faced wall 0.9m thick, roughly coursed with occasional through-stones, the upper 0.3m appears to have been roughly rebuilt. Stones typically 0.5 x 0.25m , larger towards the base. South wall may not have a south face , being built into a bank. No other openings or breaks in construction noted. West wall forms part of boundary DS35, DS02 forms an eastward extension.

Site number	DS 02
NGR	NY 88732 96099
Site type	Building?
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	6m long, 7m wide, 0.2m high
Description	Eastward extension of DS01 surviving to one course only. South wall is 1.1m thick, east is 0.65m, and north wall (which is not parallel, but curves northeast to a stopped end) is 0.8m thick. North wall may be a different phase as the above ground connection with the east wall has been lost. Interior of DS02 is slightly lower than that of DS01.

Site number	DS 03
NGR	NY 88738 96096
Site type	Building?
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	6m long, 5m wide, 0.1m high
Description	Hint of a further eastward extension to DS01-02 showing as parched, slightly raised grass, presumably marking wall footings. Very slight evidence of a north wall marked by a break of slope.

Site number	DS 04
NGR	NY 88729 96114
Site type	Building?
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	8m long, 7m wide, 0.7m high
Description	Roughly square structure showing as a 2 faced, roughly coursed drystone wall (part of DS35) with at least one through stone surviving to 0.7m, with north, south and east walls as grassed earthworks up to 0.4m high with isolated stones showing. Enclosed area contains some tumbled stone, but is roughly level and covered with rushes. Possible 2m wide break in east wall extending from the north wall, possible 1-1.5m break in north wall at west end.

Site number	DS 05
NGR	NY 88728 96108
Site type	Building?
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	3m long, 7m wide, 0.5m high
Description	Southward extension to DS04 with south and west walls similar in construction to DS01 and 04 surviving to 0.5m with earthwork forming east wall. West wall butts that of DS04. Enclosed area appears to be infilled with earth and rubble dipping from the south to the 1-1.5m wide entrance through the east wall.

Site number	DS 06
NGR	NY 88730 96120
Site type	Building?
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	4-7m long, 7m wide, 0.2m high
Description	Possible room or enclosure north of DS4 based on a very slight earthwork in line with the east walls of DS04-05 and the northward continuation of the west wall. There are two possible eastward returns off the west wall, (2.5m and 4m north of DS04) but these may just be tumble.

Site number	DS 07
NGR	NY 88727 96103
Site type	Access
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	1.8-1.6m long, 8m wide,
Description	Neat passageway between DS01 and 05 forming a break in the boundary bank DS35.

Site number	DS 08
NGR	NY 88732 96104
Site type	Access
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	1-2m long, 15m wide,
Description	Roughly level area along the east side of DS04-06 marked by a break of slope to the east. Probable access route.

Site number	DS 09
NGR	NY 88728 96082
Site type	Enclosure
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	33m long, 22m wide

Description	Roughly levelled area outlined by a break of slope to the east and the bank of DS35 to the west. Access to this enclosure/forecourt is probably in the northeast corner.

Site number	DS 10
NGR	NY 88739 96127
Site type	Earthwork
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	12m long, 2m wide, 0.1m high
Description	Slight T shaped rounded bank with some earth-fast stones. May form north end of a small enclosure DS06, may form continuation of banks DS29, 34-35.

Site number	DS 11
NGR	NY 88747 96123
Site type	Prehistoric hut circle?
Period	Prehistoric
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	9m long, 7m wide, 0.3m high
Description	Uneven reed covered sub-rectangular area bounded by earthwork remains of a wall to west, sharp breaks of slope to the north and south, and an earthwork spur off DS12 to the east. Possible prehistoric structure or later small sheep pen.

Site number	DS 12
NGR	NY 88755 96124
Site type	Prehistoric hut circle?
Period	Prehistoric
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	8m long, 9m wide, 0.5m high
Description	Sub-circular/pentagonal area bounded by rounded grassed earthworks c. 0.2-0.3m high with some in situ stones implying wall footings. 1m wide break on the north side with a spur forming a 1.5m long passageway. Southwest corner rises 0.6m implying stratified build up/presence of an internal structure. Possible prehistoric structure or later sheep pen.

Site number	DS 13
NGR	NY 88749 96130
Site type	Prehistoric hut circle?
Period	Prehistoric
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	7m long, 7m + wide, 0.2m high
Description	Two sections of low rounded earth bank with some stone showing (but probably not in situ). May form two sides of a possible prehistoric structure or later small sheep pen. Western section lies alongside modern drain so maybe up cast.

Site number	DS 14
NGR	NY 88768 96131
Site type	Earthwork
Period	Prehistoric
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	7m + long, 2.5m wide, 0.6m high

Description	Section of rounded bank, possibly continued further east by a lower (0.2m) section which may be natural. Bank does not appear to be up cast, probably associated with DS11-13.

Site number	DS 15
NGR	NY 88793 96150
Site type	Corn drying kiln?
Period	Medieval or Post-medieval?
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	6m dia., 0.2m high
Description	Circular dished depression 0.1-0.3m deep surrounded by grassed bank with some in situ stone 0.2m high max. Cut into rising ground to the west, possible 0.3m wide break in the bank's east side. DS16 appears to be part of the structure.

Site number	DS 16
NGR	NY 88790 96145
Site type	Hut?
Period	Medieval or Post-medieval?
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	4m long, 2m wide, 0.1m high
Description	Rectangular area cut into rising ground to the west and bounded to the south and east by low earthworks with some stone showing (suspected wall footings). Appears to butt DS15 to the north. Possible fuel store for corn drying kiln.

Site number	DS 17
NGR	NY 88763 96110
Site type	Vegetation mark
Period	Modern?
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	9m long, 6m wide
Description	Rectangular bare patch in an area of rushes with slightly desiccated edges. Possible buried feature.

Site number	DS 18
NGR	NY 88797 96200
Site type	Shake hole
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	7m dia., 0.5m + high
Description	Circular water filled depression with a very slight hint of a possible spoil lip on the downhill (east) side. Possible collapsed mine shaft, but more likely to be a natural shake hole. One of a group of similar depressions DS18-23.

Site number	DS 19
NGR	NY 88721 96200
Site type	Shake hole/shaft?
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	8m dia., 0.4m high
Description	Slight circular rubble-filled depression with a possible but slight spoil lip on the downhill (northeast) side. Possible natural shake hole, but out of the group DS18-23, the depression is the most convincing as a collapsed mine shaft. One of a group of similar depressions DS18-23.

Site number	DS 20
NGR	NY 88698 96193
Site type	Shake hole
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	5m dia., 0.5m high
Description	Circular depression with no evidence of spoil. Possible collapsed mine shaft, but more likely to be a natural shake hole. One of a group of similar depressions DS18-23.

Site number	DS 21
NGR	NY 88686 96195
Site type	Shake hole
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	9m dia., 1.75m high
Description	Circular water filled depression cutting bank DS33 with no evidence of spoil. Possible collapsed mine shaft, but more likely to be a natural shake hole. One of a group of similar depressions DS18-23.

Site number	DS 22
NGR	NY 88671 96175
Site type	Shake hole
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	5m dia., 0.3m high
Description	Very shallow circular depression with no evidence of spoil. Possible collapsed mine shaft, but more likely to be a natural shake hole. One of a group of similar depressions DS18-23.

Site number	DS 23
NGR	NY 88644 96192
Site type	Shake hole/shaft?
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	8m dia., 1.5m high
Description	Circular water filled depression with no evidence of spoil, but with two associated cut features (DS24-25). Possible collapsed mine shaft, but more likely to be a natural shake hole. One of a group of similar depressions DS18-23.

Site number	DS 24
NGR	NY 88639 96183
Site type	Horse gin run?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	12m long, 2-4m wide, 0.5m high
Description	Well graded short track cut into the surrounding ground surface leading down to

depression DS23 in line with similar feature DS25 across the stream. If DS23
is a collapsed mine shaft, then DS24 is likely to be a horse gin run probably used for winding the shaft.

Site number	DS 25
NGR	NY 88652 96208
Site type	Horse gin run?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	15m long, 3m wide, 1.0m high
Description	Similar feature to DS24 but less well defined or graded. Possible horse gin run for mine shaft DS23, but may be a natural feature produced by stream promoted slumping around a shake hole.

Site number	DS 26
NGR	NY 88651 96158
Site type	Water course
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	28m + long, 1-4m wide, 0.3m high
Description	Shallow depression associated with a recent drainage channel. Probable former watercourse.

Site number	DS 27
NGR	NY 88710 96212
Site type	Culvert?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	2.2m long, 2.0m wide,
Description	Line of five flagstones typically 0.2 x 0.5m lying in situ in a stream bed in an area of modern disturbance. Immediately to the east and west of this line are smaller stones (0.2 x 0.2 x 0.3m typically) some appearing to be in situ forming the top of arches. Probable silted up culvert.

Site number	DS 28
NGR	NY 88743 96211
Site type	Drystone wall
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	4.5m long, 0.85m wide, 1.0m high
Description	Short stretch of drystone walling running between bank DS29 and the stream bank.

Site number	DS 29
NGR	NY 88738 96247, NY 88737 96152
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	120m + long, 2-6m wide, 1.5m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Rounded earth bank with steeper west side (which appears to have a stone facing in places). Much eroded

and disturbed, cut through by the stream and by modern drainage. Alignment of bank remnants continues north beyond the road and southwards by DS35 (although impossible to confirm that the bank was continuous). Butted by or overlying wall DS28.

Site number	DS 30
NGR	NY 88760 96169
Site type	Bank
Period	Modern
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	12m long, 3m wide, 0.3m high
Description	Rounded earth bank next to modern drainage. Probably up cast.

Site number	DS 31
NGR	NY 88721 96152
Site type	Bank
Period	Modern
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	19m long, 2m wide, 0.15m high
Description	Slight rounded earth bank flanked by very shallow 0.4m wide ditches. Probable drainage feature.

Site number	DS 32
NGR	NY 88665 96088
Site type	Water course
Period	N/A
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	100m+ long, <1m wide, 0.1m high
Description	Slight linear depression running down slope. Probable former watercourse.

Site number	DS 33
NGR	NY 88693 96163
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	70m long, 5m wide, 1.5m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Rounded earth bank sited on top of a west facing scarp (which is probably not natural). The west face is steeper than the east, and is stone faced in places. North end terminates at the stream where it is merely a sharp break of slope with no bank at its top, and where it is cut by depression DS21. South end merges into DS34.

Site number	DS 34
NGR	NY 88721 96132
Site type	Boundary bank/wall
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	17m+ long, 3m wide, 1.2m high

Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Substantial drystone wall, possibly originally earth covered to form a bank similar to DS33 into which it merges. Forms a right angle with DS35 with which it may be continuous, but probably butts. Possibly continues by earthwork DS10.

Site number	DS 35
NGR	NY 88726 96112
Site type	Wall
Period	Prehistoric/Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	29m + long, 0.9m wide, 1.3m high
Description	Well built wall forming the west walls of DS01, and 04-06 forming a continuation of the well defined land boundary. Junction with DS10, 34 and 36 ill defined. Cut through by narrow passageway DS07.

Site number	DS 36
NGR	NY 88718 96081
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	37m long, 4m wide, 0.5m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Earth and stone bank forming the west side of forecourt DS09 with steep west side, stone faced in places. South end disturbed by modern track way, but may have been an original break in construction with a short eastward spur.

Site number	DS 37
NGR	NY 88716 96034
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	48m long, 3m wide, 0.75m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Rounded earth bank, steeper on the west side which is stone faced along most of its length. Cut by modern track way to the north and by drainage to the south, butted by drystone wall footings DS38. May continue as DS39.

Site number	DS 38
NGR	NY 88712 96010
Site type	Drystone wall
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	15m long, 2.5m wide, 0.1m high
Description	Footings for drystone wall bridging the gap produced by drainage works between banks DS38 and 41.

Site number	DS 39
NGR	NY 88716 95998
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?

Condition	Good
Dimensions	24m long, 2m wide, 0.45m high
Description	Rounded earth bank with little stone showing, lying alongside a drainage channel. May form a southward continuation of DS38 or may be more recent up cast. Form of bank is similar to some sections of DS29.

Site number	DS 40
NGR	NY 8882395995, NY 88898 95831
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	270 long, 3m wide, 0.45m high
Description	Stone capped earth bank with little stone showing and drainage ditch on its north side. May form the eastward continuation of DS41. Boundary bank for ridge and furrow DS55, DS115, DS117, DS118 and DS119.

Site number	DS 41
NGR	NY 88697 96000
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	23m long, 3m wide, 0.75m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Earth and stone bank with steep north side, stone faced for most of its length. Cut through by area of drainage at east end (where there is evidence that the boundary turns to line up with DS40). Wall contains a through-stone 9m from east end which implies a stopped end. Stone content increases west of this through-stone

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Site number	DS42
NGR	NY 88680 95998
Site type	Wall
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	12m long, 1.3m wide, 0.7m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Substantial double faced wall, roughly coursed with blocks up to 0.5 x 0.7 x 0.3m, but with no evidence of mortar, stopped ends, deliberate openings or definite returns. Forms north wall of structure DS48. Boundary with DS41 unclear, but DS43 appears to be later. Possible bastle wall, retained for later land boundary.

Site number	DS 43
NGR	NY 88666 96007
Site type	Boundary bank/wall
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	24m + long, 0.75m high
Description	Forms part of a major land boundary. Vertical drystone facing to a sharp break of slope retaining a reed covered area of made up ground to the south. Facing roughly coursed with small stones (0.2 x 0.2m typical). Butts DS42, boundary with DS44 uncertain.

Site number	DS 44
NGR	NY 88635 96018
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	40m + long, 4m wide, 0.75m high
Description	Rounded earth and stone bank with stone content mainly on north face increasing eastwards where merges with DS43. Revets trackway DS45 to the south. Very similar to banks DS23, DS72 and DS83. Forms part of a major land boundary which continues west beyond road and edge of survey area before turning south to meet DS83 just outside the south west corner of the survey area.

Site number	DS 45
NGR	NY 88623 96014
Site type	Trackway
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	25m + long, 2m wide,
Description	Short section of track way formed between bank topping DS44 and a low (0.15m high) bank to the south which may be a header bank to ridge and furrow DS54. Appears to lead to the top of bank DS46.

Site number	DS 46
NGR	NY 88652 95987
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	40m + long, 3m wide, 0.75m high
Description	Broad, flat topped bank with slight ditch (0.5m by 1.5m wide) running along west side. May be flattened boundary ditch, forming continuation of track way DS45. Continues south beyond survey area.

Site number	DS 47
NGR	NY 88660 95987
Site type	Enclosure
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	40m long, 12-20m wide,
Description	Reed covered area rising to the north, bounded by banks DS43 and 46 to the north and by a very slight (0.1m high) bank to the south and east. Vegetation may conceal further features. Probable small enclosure.

Site number	DS 48
NGR	NY 88679 95995
Site type	Building
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	12m long, 10m wide, 0.4m high
Description	Relatively level rectangular area of grass, thistles and tumbled stone. Bounded to north by substantial wall DS42 and to south by rounded earthwork up to 0.4m high with numerous stones showing. East and west

ends are poorly defined. Possible bastle or other substantial stone built structure.

Site number	DS 49
NGR	NY 88681 95992
Site type	Building?
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	3m long, 2m wide, 0.4m high
Description	Small rectangular level area ringed by low earthworks with no obvious breaks for an entrance. Shared side with DS48. Possible small outbuilding or internal division in a larger structure?

Site number	DS 50
NGR	NY 88685 95996
Site type	Building?
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	4m long, 2m wide, 0.4m high
Description	Poorly defined area between two possible southward returns off DS42 marked by low earthworks. May be continuation of area DS48 or may be a small porch or outbuilding.

Site number	DS 51
NGR	NY 88669 95991
Site type	Enclosure
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	15m long, 10-15m wide
Description	Poorly defined area bounded by a break of slope to the east, by low earthworks to south and west and by structure DS48 to the north. Area contains a low mound of grassed over rubble. Probable small enclosure.

Site number	DS 52
NGR	NY 88700 95995
Site type	Enclosure
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	13m long, 13m+ wide
Description	Area with poorly defined south side, but bounded by earthworks on other sides. Boundary with DS53 may be illusionary. Small enclosed area.

Site number	DS 53
NGR	NY 88709 96000
Site type	Enclosure
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	20m long, 6m wide

Description	Area enclosed by boundary banks DS39 and DS41. Boundary with DS52 marked by two low (0.1m high) earthworks and by a possible stopped end in DS41.

Site number	DS 54
NGR	NY 88648 95949
Site type	Ridge & furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	0.15m high
Description	Narrow (5.5m wide) well defined ridge and furrow running north/south with amplitude 0.15m, curved at southern end. Bounded to east by bank DS46, to south by burn/ditch. Possible header bank by track DS45. Cut by drainage DS57 and road. Extends beyond detailed survey area to west.

Site number	DS 55
NGR	NY 88788 96009
Site type	Ridge & furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	0.15m high
Description	Broad (5-7m wide) sinusoidal ridge and furrow with amplitude 0.15m, cut by numerous modern drainage ditches. Headlands are low banks (typically 0.2-0.3m high) at north west end. Bounded by banks DS87 and DS40 and burn/ditch at southeast end.

Site number	DS 56
NGR	NY 88830 96058
Site type	Ridge & furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	0.07m high
Description	Faint, moderately broad (4.8-7.8m wide), slightly curving ridge and furrow cut by numerous modern drainage ditches. Headlands at south west end. Poorly defined especially at north east end.

Site number	DS 57
NGR	NY 88625 95997
Site type	Modern drainage
Period	Modern
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	40m + long, 5m wide, 0.5m high
Description	Road side modern drainage ditch typically 1.8m wide, 0.5m deep with up cast either side.

Site number	DS 58
NGR	NY 88546 96307
Site type	Sheepfold
Period	Modern
Condition	Very good
Dimensions	13.5m diameter, 1.4m high

Description	Circular dry stone walled sheep enclosure, pierced at intervals of c1.5m with small square holes. Wall topped with transverse stones. The unusual holes and substantial nature of this enclosure are explained by its use in army exercises. Appears on second edition OS map, 1899.

Site number	DS 59
NGR	NY 88457 96612, NY 88851 96611
Site type	Trackway
Period	Modern
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	4m wide
Description	Modern track way, unmetalled. Forms the northern boundary of the survey area.

Site number	DS 60
NGR	NY 88504 96592
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	7m total diameter, 0.5m deep
Description	Probable shaft, with intermittent 2m wide spoil ring. Water filled depression at centre and 3.8m diameter spoil mound to west.

Site number	DS 61
NGR	NY 88563 96585
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	7.5m diameter, 0.7m deep
Description	Probable shaft, with wet, boggy central depression. 2m-wide accumulation of spoil on north, east and west sides.

Site number	DS 62
NGR	NY 88608 96537
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	10m total diameter, 4m internal diameter
Description	Shaft with 2m-wide accumulation of spoil on east and west side. Open at south, presumably to allow drainage. Identified as a stack stand in Northumberland SMR (SMR 53)

Site number	DS 63
NGR	NY 88716 96583
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	10m total diameter, 3.5m internal diameter
Description	Shaft visible as a depression, with 2-3m wide accumulation of spoil to north-east and south-west.

Site number	DS 64
NGR	NY 88801 96570
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	5.4m diameter
Description	Round ditch with mound at centre, probably a rubble-filled shaft. Rock pile at centre rises 0.20m.

Site number	DS 65
NGR	NY 88808 96569, NY 88811 96537
Site type	Ditch
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	33m long, 2m wide, 0.2m deep
Description	U profile ditch fading at either end, cut by modern drain.

Site number	DS 66
NGR	NY 88758 96547
Site type	Shaft?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	5m total diameter, internal diameter, 0.3m deep
Description	Shaft with 2-3m-wide spoil on western side only.

Site number	DS 67
NGR	NY 88728 96445
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	3.5m diameter
Description	Shaft visible as a depression, with 2m-wide spoil ring. Could not be re-located during survey in January 1997.

Site number	DS 68
NGR	NY 88727 96441
Site type	Ditch and ?Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	20m long, 0.5-3m wide, < 1m deep
Description	U profile, L-shaped ditch or drain, possibly cutting a shaft on sodden ground at a point where it changes direction. Very shallow at south eastern area.

Site number	DS 69
NGR	NY 88733 96380
Site type	Shaft?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	4m internal diameter, 0.2m deep

Description	Probable shaft, very shallow but with slight banks to the north. Possibly linked with ditch DS70, 3m to the south.

Site number	DS.70
NGR	NY 88727 96367
Site type	Ditch
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	20m long, 1m wide, <0.3m deep
Description	Shallow U profile ditch ending at a modern drain: possibly used to drain shaft DS69.

Site number	DS 71
NGR	NY 88570 96444
Site type	Shaft?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	3m diameter
Description	Possible shaft with little spoil, cut by modern drain. Could not be re-located during 1996/7 survey.

Site number	DS 72
NGR	NY 88730 96262, NY 88774 96394
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Good
Dimensions	150m + long, 2-3m wide, 1m high
Description	Stone and earth boundary bank with some areas of near vertical stone facing on west side. Cut by stream, track DS73, road and modern ditches. Continuation of DS29, continues beyond survey area to north east and south west. Seen on 1st edition OS map, 1863. Head dyke.

Site number	DS 73
NGR	NY 88758 96375, NY 88768 96388
Site type	Modern trackway
Period	Modern
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	2.5m and 6.5mwide
Description	Two modern vehicle tracks cutting bank DS72 at north end.

Site number	DS 74
NGR	NY 88747 96364
Site type	Path
Period	Modern
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	1m wide
Description	Pathway cutting bank DS72 near northern end.

Site number	DS 75
NGR	NY 88728 96314
Site type	Ford?
Period	Medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	2.7m long, 2m wide
Description	Stone blocks, typically 0.2 x 0.3m, lying flat in the stream bed to form a 'paved' surface. Possible ford.

Site number	DS 76
NGR	NY 88827 96226
Site type	Ditch / subsidence?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	7.4m long, 1m wide, 0.2m deep
Description	Linear depression, possibly produced by mining or natural subsidence. Possible remains of a ditch.

Site number	DS 77
NGR	NY 88835 96221
Site type	Shaft / shake hole?
Period	Post-medieval

Condition	Poor
Dimensions	3m internal diameter
Description	Shallow depression with little evidence of spoil. Possible collapsed shaft or natural shake hole.

Site number	DS 78
NGR	NY 88878 96208, NY 88943, 96232
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	70m long, 2-3m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank, with slight ditch up to 2m wide on northern side. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow, DS100. West end is at a burn, east end fades out near the modern road and Otterburn camp entrance.

Site number	DS 79
NGR	NY 88857 96200
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	N/A
Dimensions	7m diameter
Description	Water filled depression with little evidence of spoil. Possibly a natural shake hole or a shaft. Lies on the same alignment as possible shafts/shake holes DS18, 19, 20, 21 and 23.

Site number	DS 80
NGR	NY 88842 96140
Site type	Earthwork
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	7m long, 7m wide, 1.5m high
Description	Very boggy area of ground formed as a platform extending out from the fall of the hillside. Now served by three modern drains, though topographically the area should be well drained. Surrounding area much disturbed by modern drainage. Possibly the silted remains of a small reservoir, or an infilled shaft.

Site number	DS 81
NGR	NY 88831 95953, NY 88960 96116
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	2.5-3m wide, 0.4 high
Description	Substantial rounded earth bank, with ditch at north end on the western side, curving west at south end to almost meet bank DS40. Respected by ridge & furrow e.g. DS56, 55, 118. Boundary bank.

Site number	DS 82
NGR	NY 88895 96094, NY 88925 96078
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval?

Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	34m long, 2-3m wide, 0.8m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Possible boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS56: possibly a post-medieval subdivision of the medieval field system, like bank DS96.

Site number	DS 83
NGR	NY 88611 95601, NY 88804 95670
Site type	Boundary bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	220m + long, 3-3.5m wide, 0.8-1.2m high
Description	Earth and stone bank forming southern edge of survey area. Northern side vertical and stone faced for whole length. At the east end, it turns south and continues out of survey area after Bank DS127 meets it. At its western end, it runs north to meet an extension of DS 44/23/72. Very similar to DS29, 44 and 72 etc. Ridge and furrow visible in fields to south

Site number	DS 84
NGR	NY 89014 95929, NY 89083 95886
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	82m + long, 2.2-2.8m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Runs along bottom of small, shallow valley with a ditch (modern recut) on its southern edge. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS130. Continues east-south-east beyond the survey area. More ridge and furrow lies to the north.

Site number	DS 85
NGR	NY 88899 95833, NY 89011 95929
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	148m long, 2-2.5m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Meets bank DS40 at a T-junction and bank DS 84 at a corner. Probable boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS 130 and DS 118, but possibly a later subdivision of a larger field.

Site number	DS 86
NGR	NY 88858 95884
Site type	Structural earthworks?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	9m long, 7m diameter, <0.6m high
Description	Sub-rectangular earthworks with some stone showing. Possible building remains or shaft. Associated with DS87.

Site number	DS 87
NGR	NY 88852 95882
Site type	Structural earthworks?

Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	5m long, 2.7m wide, <0.3m high
Description	Sub-rectangular earthwork remains associated with DS86. Possible building remains.

Site number	DS 88
NGR	NY 88815 95869
Site type	Reservoir?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	15m long, 2m wide, 0.25m high
Description	Low bank forming small enclosure against Bank DS98. Possibly a small reservoir or other water management feature. Very similar to DS135.

Site number	DS 89
NGR	NY 88914 95813
Site type	Stack stand
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	5m diameter, 0.40m high
Description	Circular earthwork platform c1m in diameter, with surrounding ditch and bank to depth/height of c0.5m. A 4m-wide break to the west meets trackway DS129. Probably a stack stand. Identified in Northumberland SMR as a circular stack stand and/or a cairn (SMR 32). A small, low L-shaped stone bank lies c. 7m to SE.

Site number	DS 90
NGR	NY 88800 95803, NY 88900 95814
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	110m long, 2-2.4m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank with deliberate gaps left in it, presumably for drainage. The easternmost section is noticeably lower than the west. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS119 and DS128. Trackway DS129 runs parallel to it on the south.

Site number	DS 91
NGR	NY 88659 95967, NY 88716 95891
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	120m long, 2-3m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS54 and 115. Possibly continued eastwards to join bank DS133.

Site number	DS 92
NGR	NY 88754 95680
Site type	Shaft?

Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	5.5m total diameter, 1.7m internal diameter
Description	Shallow, very boggy depression with square shaped spoil surrounding it. Possible collapsed shaft.

Site number	DS 93
NGR	NY 88719 95680, NY 88720 95714
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	35m long, 2.8-5m wide, <0.5m high
Description	Rounded earth bank with mound at north end. Apparently overlies rig and furrow DS121.

Site number	DS 94
NGR	NY 88707 95700
Site type	Shaft?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	10m total diameter, 4m internal diameter
Description	Depression with evidence of spoil, mostly to the north. Possible collapsed shaft.

Site number	DS 95
NGR	NY 88687 95694
Site type	Platform
Period	Prehistoric/Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	14m diameter
Description	Scoop into the rising ground to the north west. Possible building platform/threshing floor.

Site number	DS 96
NGR	NY 88738 95878, NY 88777 95912
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	52m long, 2-2.75m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Overlies rig and furrow DS120, creating a smaller field. Possibly constructed to avoid flooding from burn/ditch immediately to the north.

Site number	DS 97
NGR	NY 88735 95875, NY 88802 95862
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	112m long, 2-3.5m wide, 0.3-0.4m high

Description	Rounded earth bank, which curves sharply. Joins bank DS98 and DS99 and abuts bank DS91 by burn/ditch. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS117, 119, 120 and 121.

Site number	DS 98
NGR	NY 88804 95863, NY 88858, 95892
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	60m long, 2.5-3.3m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Probable boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS117 and 119. Reservoir DS88 at south western end.

Site number	DS 99
NGR	NY 88776 95917, NY 88802 95863
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	60m long, 2.3-3.3m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth/stone bank cut by burn/ditch. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS117 and 120. Near the northern end there is a 3.30m-wide gap, probably leading to platform DS114, after which the bank turns 90 to the west on the same alignment as DS116 and 133.

Site number	DS100
NGR	NY 88858 96262
Site type	Ridge & furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	3-5m wide
Description	Curving, possibly sinusoidal ridge and furrow bounded by burn on west, and by bank DS78 to south. Continues beyond the survey area to the north. Cut by modern drains and by the modern road to Otterburn camp. Aligned north-west to south-east

Site number	DS101
NGR	NY 88752 96272
Site type	Ridge & furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	5m wide
Description	Curving ridge & furrow. Bounded to the north and east by a burn, and on west by head dyke DS72. Truncated on the south by a modern road, but originally probably continued south of modern road to a minor burn. Cut by modern drainage.

Site number	DS 102
NGR	Various
Site type	Platform?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate

Dimensions	40m long, 2.5m wide, .5m high
Description	Irregular platform immediately east of road, of earth with occasional undressed stone. Possible spoil from road construction. Also an irregular U profile feature extending c10m south east of a burn to a narrow modern cut. Probable dry stream bed.

Site number	DS 103
NGR	NY 88951 96165
Site type	Platform?
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	30m diameter, < 1m high
Description	Possible sub-circular flat platform, defined on southern edge by a shallow ditch, 0.3m deep and 0.5m wide, from which it rises to 1m high. On all other sides it is ill-defined. No evidence of masonry or structural features.

Site number	DS 104
NGR	NY 88866 96116, NY 88882 96099
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	23m long, 1.3m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank extending slightly north west from larger banks DS82 and 105.

Site number	DS 105
NGR	NY 88886 96098
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	10m long, 2.5m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earthen bank forming a dog-leg to the north-west of bank DS82. Possibly continues to the north but badly disturbed by modern drainage.

Site number	DS 106
NGR	NY 88830 96103, NY 88864 96063
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	10m wide
Description	Hummocky bank on boggy ground with ditches on north, west and east sides. The banks are hard to distinguish, but undulating ground indicates low banks on the lines of neighbouring boundaries, possibly forming a small rectilinear enclosure. Probably overlies rig and furrow DS56.

Site number	DS 107

NGR	NY 88838 96045
Site type	Shaft
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	9m total diameter, 3m internal diameter, 0.5m deep
Description	Sub-rectangular depression with straight banks on three sides. A probable shaft.

Site number	DS 108
NGR	NY 88934 96043
Site type	Platform
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	20m long, 10m wide, 0.2m high
Description	Rectangular platform, bounded to north-east by a ?modern drainage cut.

Site number	DS 109
NGR	NY 88886 96016
Site type	Pit
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	8.5m total diameter, 3.8m internal diameter, 0.2m high
Description	A boggy depression defined by shallow stony banks. A ditch/burn runs into this depression. Possible pit, or byre and trough, or sheep-wash.

Site number	DS 110
NGR	NY 88913 96007
Site type	Pit?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	4m long, 3.5m wide, 0.3m deep
Description	Sub rectangular stone bank containing small depression (1.4m diameter). Probably too small to be a pit. Sits on the edge of a small shoulder of land, overlooking lower ground to the north east. Cuts into indistinct ridge and furrow DS118. Cut by modern drainage. Possibly a crater or scoop left by army exercises.

Site number	DS 111
NGR	NY 88886 95994
Site type	Structural earthworks?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	8.5m long, 5m wide, 0.25m high
Description	Stone banks forming rectangular enclosure. One arm extends to enclose area of subsidence, 3 x 1.3m. Built against bank DS81, to the north.

Site number	DS 112
NGR	NY 88796 95955
Site type	Bank and ?cairns
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	16m long, 2-3.5m wide, 0.3m high
Description	Bank, extending north-west of bank DS116, slightly off the line of ridge and furrow DS115. Apparently respected by ridge and furrow DS115. Two small stony mounds of 0.4m height, 2m and 2.7m diameter, at north west end of this bank.

Site number	DS 113
NGR	NY 88836 95945
Site type	Platform
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	22m long, 6m wide, 0.2m high
Description	Two sub-rectangular platforms, 6 and 10m long, in the western corner of the field against banks DS40 and DS81. Possibly overlies ridge and furrow DS118, or may be headland associated with it.

Site number	DS 114
NGR	NY 88792 95895
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	15m long, 1-3.5m wide, 0.2m high
Description	L-shaped bank, which possibly forms the edge of a small enclosure against bank DS99: a wide gap in bank DS99 apparently leads to this enclosure.

Site number	DS 115
NGR	NY 88731 95946
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	4-7m wide
Description	Sinusoidal ridge and furrow which respects banks DS40, 91, 99, 116 and 133.

Site number	DS 116
NGR	NY 88775 95924, NY 88822 95957
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	57m long, 2.3m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Rounded earth bank. Boundary bank for ridge & furrow DS115. Burn/ditch immediately to the south.

Site number	DS 117
NGR	NY 88817 95906
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	4.5-6m wide, 0.3-0.4m high
Description	Slightly sinusoidal ridge and furrow bounded by banks DS40, 98 and 99, and by a burn/ditch to the north.

Site number	DS 118
NGR	NY 88924 95936
Site type	Ridge & furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	5-8m wide
Description	Broad ridge and furrow, very degraded, especially in the north of the enclosure, curving to the north west in an inverted S shape. Bounded by DS40, 81, 85 and 140. Continues beyond the survey area.

Site number	DS 119
NGR	NY 88843 95841

Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	4.5-6.5m wide
Description	Sinusoidal ridge and furrow, bounded by banks DS40, 90, 96 and 97.

Site number	DS 120
NGR	NY 88773 95874
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	4-6.8m wide
Description	Curving ridge and furrow, bounded by banks DS97, 99 and 133, and by the burn/ditch to the north. Overlain by bank DS96.

Site number	DS 121
NGR	NY 88717 95781
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Very good
Dimensions	4.5-6m wide
Description	Ridge and furrow with some double ridges in the centre of the field, bounded by banks DS83, 91, 97 and 138. Continues beyond survey area and road to the west.

Site number	DS 122
NGR	NY 88750 95746
Site type	Pit
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	10.5m total diameter, 5.5m internal diameter
Description	Pit, overlying rig and furrow DS121. Gap in bank at south.

Site number	DS123
NGR	NY 88702 95718
Site type	Kiln?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	3.5m long, 2.5m diameter
Description	Circular mound and bank. Possible small corn drying or lime kiln with flue. Overlies rig and furrow DS121.

Site number	DS 124
NGR	NY 88682 95684
Site type	Platform?
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	8m diameter
Description	Sub-rectangular flat area immediately to south of circular scoop and platform DS95.

Site number	DS 125
NGR	NY 88697 95683
Site type	Structures?
Period	Post-medieval?
Condition	Poor
Dimensions	13m long, 7.5m wide
Description	Area of indistinct humps and bumps, all containing stone. Surrounding areas are disturbed ground.

Site number	DS 126
NGR	NY 88802 95719
Site type	Pit
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	10m total diameter, 4.6m internal diameter
Description	Squarish depression with bank; boggy centre with vertical internal sides. Probable shaft or crop pit.

Site number	DS 127
NGR	NY 88806 95671, NY 89005 95621
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good

Dimensions	204m + long, 2.5m wide, 0.5m high
Description	Stone and earth bank abutting corner of bank DS83. Ditch running along northern edge visible at eastern end only, recently recut for rest of length. Forms southern boundary of survey area and continues beyond it to the east.

Site number	DS 128
NGR	NY 88953 95717
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	
Description	Large area of sinusoidal ridge and furrow bounded by banks DS90, 127 and 138 Continues south east outside of survey area below drystone wall DS134.

Site number	DS 129
NGR	NY 88804 95802, NY 88909 95811
Site type	Trackway?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	104m long, 2.3m wide
Description	Probable track overlying ridge and furrow. Constructed from earth, no apparent made up surface. Runs parallel to Bank DS90 and up to entrance to corn stack DS89 at east end. West end of Bank DS90 has 2.5m wide flattened patch, possibly serving as an outlet for the track

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Site number	DS 130
NGR	NY 89015 95855
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	4-5m wide
Description	L-shaped area of sinusoidal ridge and furrow, 4-5 and 11m wide. Headlands at south-west end. Cut by much modern drainage. Bounded by banks DS85 and DS84, open to south. Continues east outside survey area to bank and ditch DS84. Possibly same as rig and furrow DS118, with bank DS85 being a later insertion.

Site number	DS 131
NGR	NY 89028 95818, NY 89090 95729
Site type	Trackway?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	106m long, 5m wide, 0.2m wide
Description	Possible trackway, no made up surface. Probably edge of ridge and furrow DS128 in later re-use or headlands of rig and furrow DS130.

Site number DS 132

NGR	NY 88849 96176
Site type	Ridge and furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	8m wide
Description	Very broad ridge and furrow, starting 1m north of burn. Possible upland equivalent of water meadow?

Site number	DS 133
NGR	NY 88737 95900
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	23m long, 2-2.25m wide
Description	L-shaped bank cut by burn/drain on the same alignment as part of bank DS91.

Site number	DS 134
NGR	NY 89006 95622, NY 89113 95729
Site type	Wall
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	155m+ long, 0.5m wide, 1.2m high
Description	Dry stone wall. Runs from its southern end (as shown on plan) out of the survey area to the north east. Overlies ridge and furrow DS128. Forms north-western boundary of forested, steep-sided valley of the Otter Burn.

Site number	DS 135
NGR	NY 88865 95983
Site type	Reservoir?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	20m long, 4m wide, 0.4m high
Description	Bank forming small enclosure against bank DS81. Possible reservoir or other water management feature. Possible sluice at north-east end, consisting of a small bank and two small stone humps. Very similar to DS88, but larger.

Site number	DS 136
NGR	NY 88833 96118
Site type	Bank
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	24m long, 3m wide, 0.3m high
Description	Low bank with ditch (1.5m wide) on west side. Probable extension of bank DS106. May be connected with possible reservoir DS80.

Site number	DS 137
NGR	NY 88861 95999
Site type	Platform
Period	Post-medieval

Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	12.5m long, .25m wide, 0.25m high
Description	Raised rectangular platform by burn / ditch. Also on join of areas of opposing ridge and furrow DS55 and DS56.

Site number	DS 138
NGR	NY 88788 95826, NY 88835 95666
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Good
Dimensions	
Description	Earth bank running south from corner in bank DS97 to bank DS127, which bulges out to meet it. Northern half is relatively, high and thin southern half low and broad. Boundary between ridge and furrow DS121 and DS128.

Site number	DS 139
NGR	NY 88753 96350
Site type	Ridge and Furrow
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	5.5m wide
Description	Curving ridge and furrow. Lies to east of and parallel to head dyke DS72 and abuts ridge and furrow DS100 to south. Continues north-east outside survey area and around plantation.

Site number	DS 140
NGR	NY 89015 95932, NY 89026 95970
Site type	Bank
Period	Medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	40m+ long, 3m wide, 0.25m high
Description	Stone bank with ditch (1.5m wide) on west. Continuation from banks DS85 and DS84. Continues NE out of survey area.

Site number	DS 141
NGR	NY 88953 95772, NY 89023 95821
Site type	Trackway?
Period	Post-medieval
Condition	Moderate
Dimensions	85m long, 4.5m wide, 0.2m high
Description	Possible trackway running from near corn stack DS89 and possible trackway DS129 to possible trackway DS131. Lies on a ridge of ridge and furrow. No made up stone surface.

10 ILLUSTRATIONS

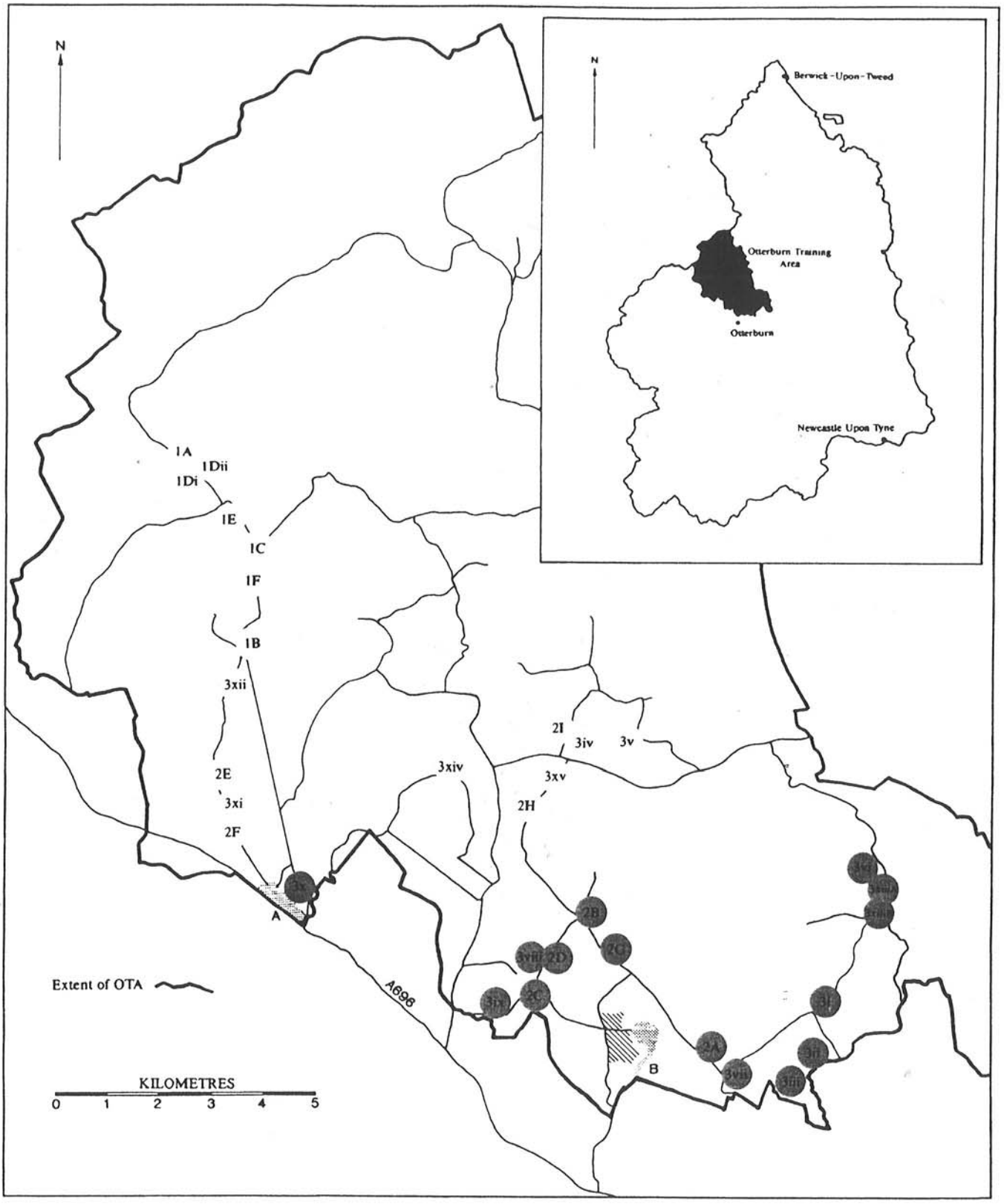


Figure 1 *Archaeological evaluations carried out at the Otterburn Training Area, Northumberland in 1996 by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (red circles) and The Archaeological Practice (yellow circles). Trenches 1A to 1F, evaluation of Dere Street. Trenches 2A to 2I, targeted evaluations and trenches 3I to 3XV, untargeted trenches. Hatched area represents topographic survey to north-west of Otterburn Camp. A: Redesdale Camp B: Otterburn Camp.*

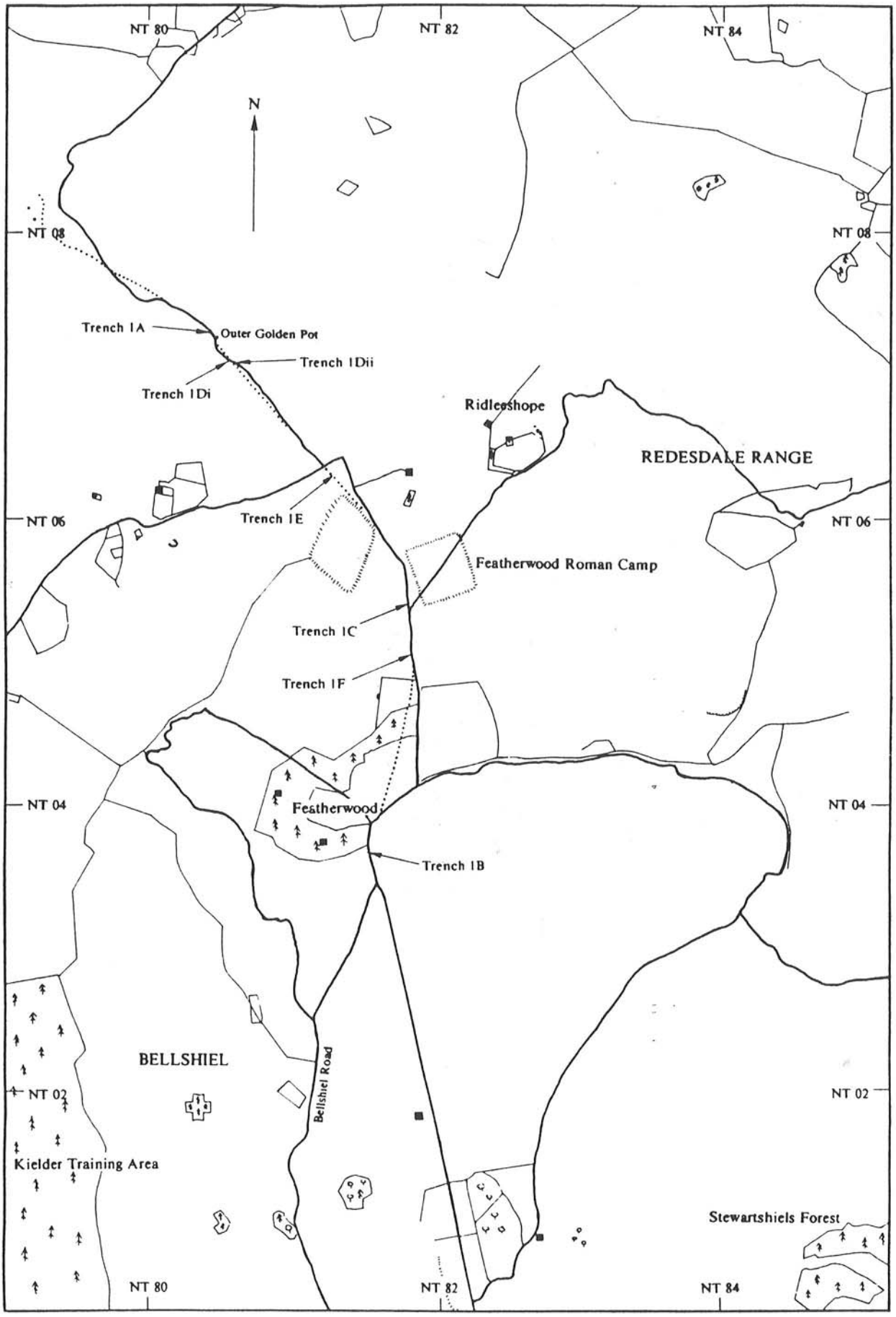


Figure 2 *Dere Street showing locations of trenches 1A to 1F. Trenches 1A to 1C were cut through the modern road.*

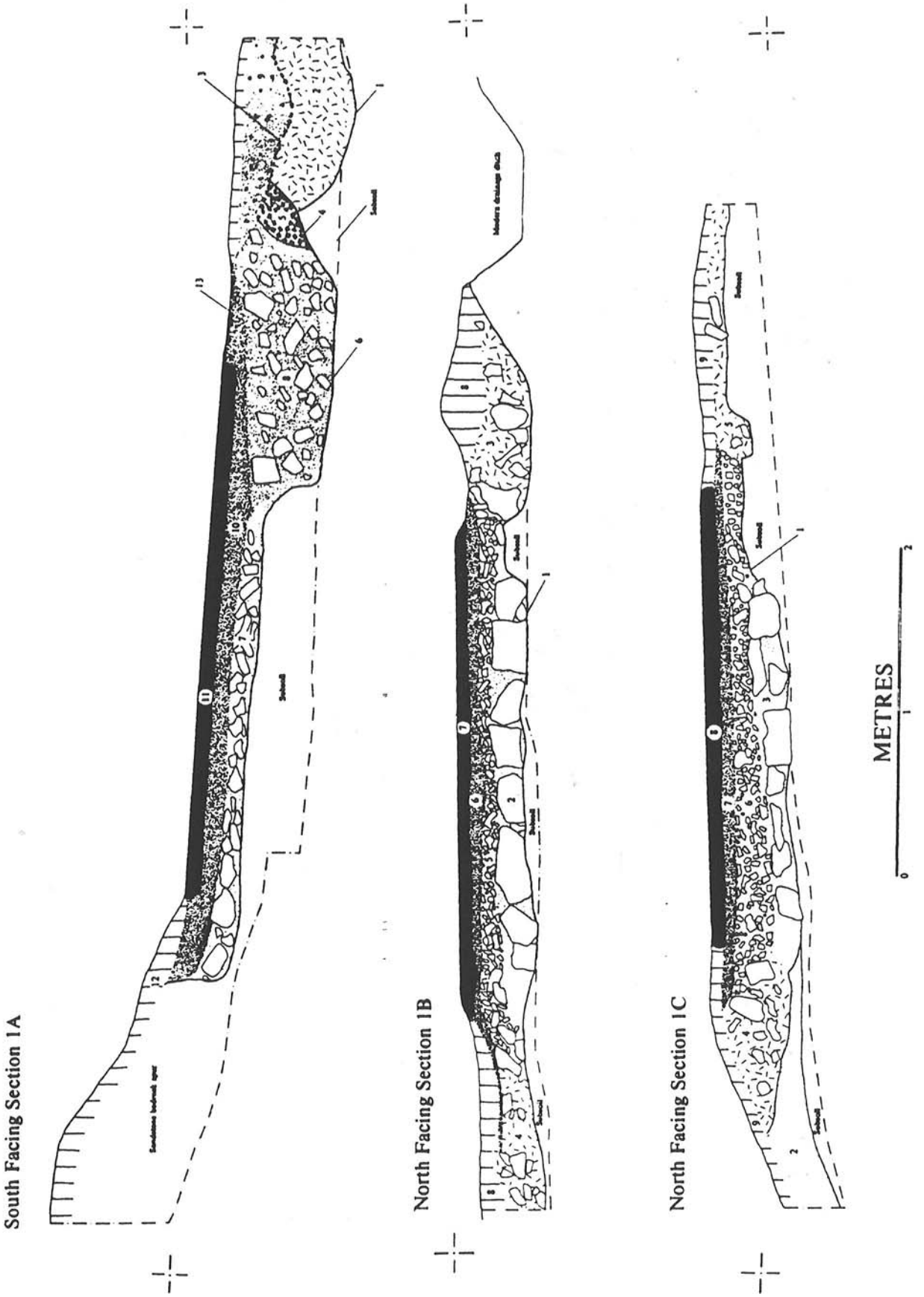


Figure 3 *Dere Street - Trenches 1A, 1B and 1C. Sections, showing construction of modern road and earlier ditch [1] in trench 1A.*

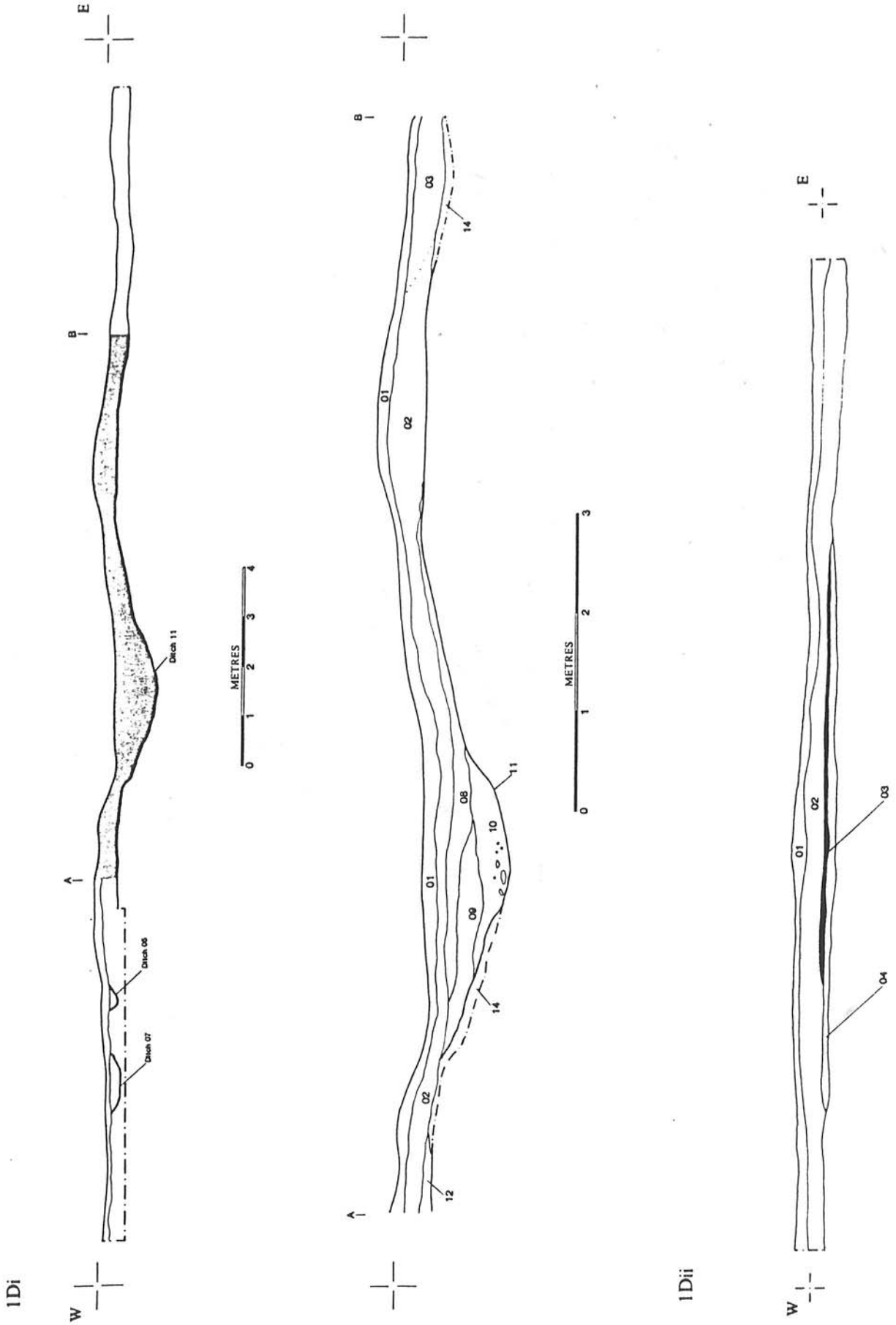
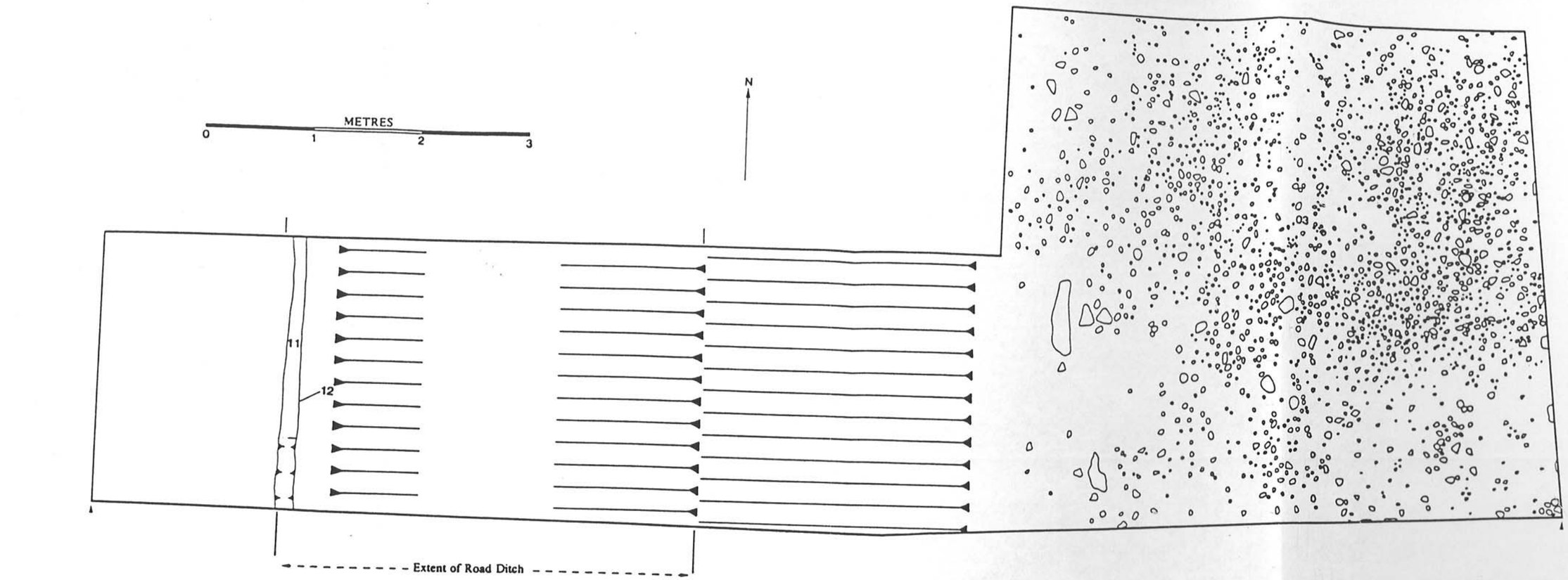


Figure 4 *Dere Street - Trenches 1Di & 1Dii. Sections. Three cuts can be seen in section 1Di.*



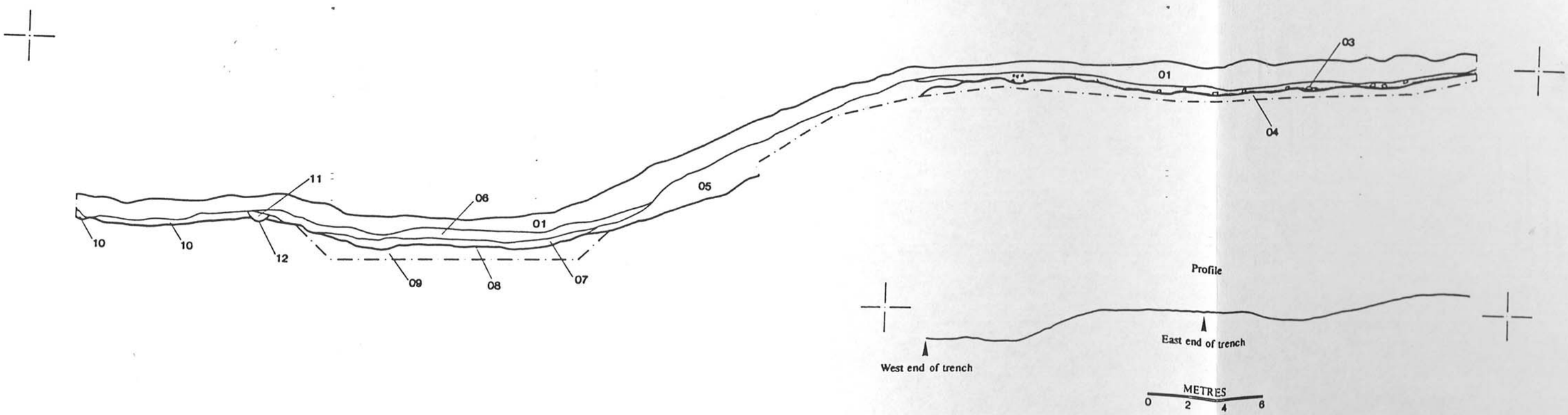
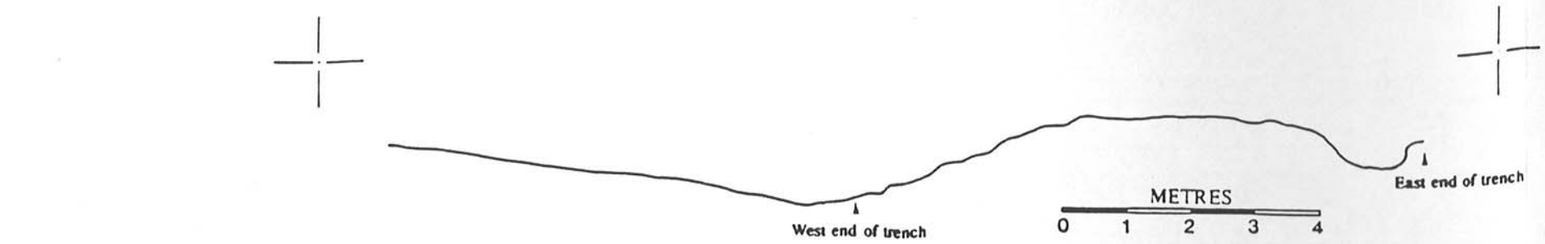
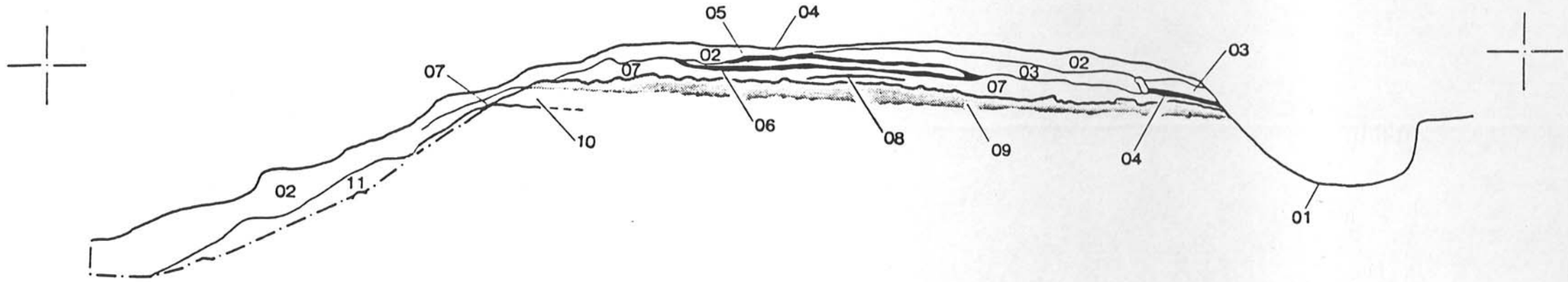


Figure 5 *Dere Street - Trench 1E. Plan, section and profile.*

Profile





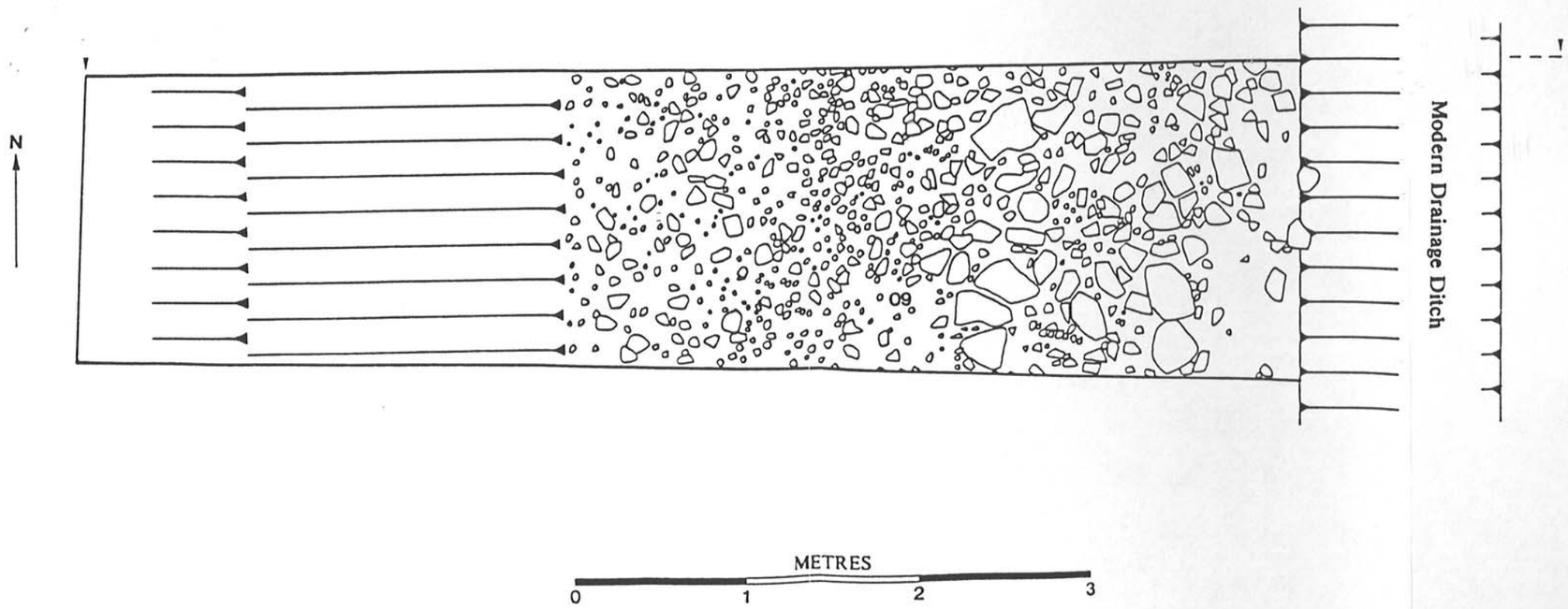


Figure 6 *Dere Street - Trench 1F. Plan, section and profile.*

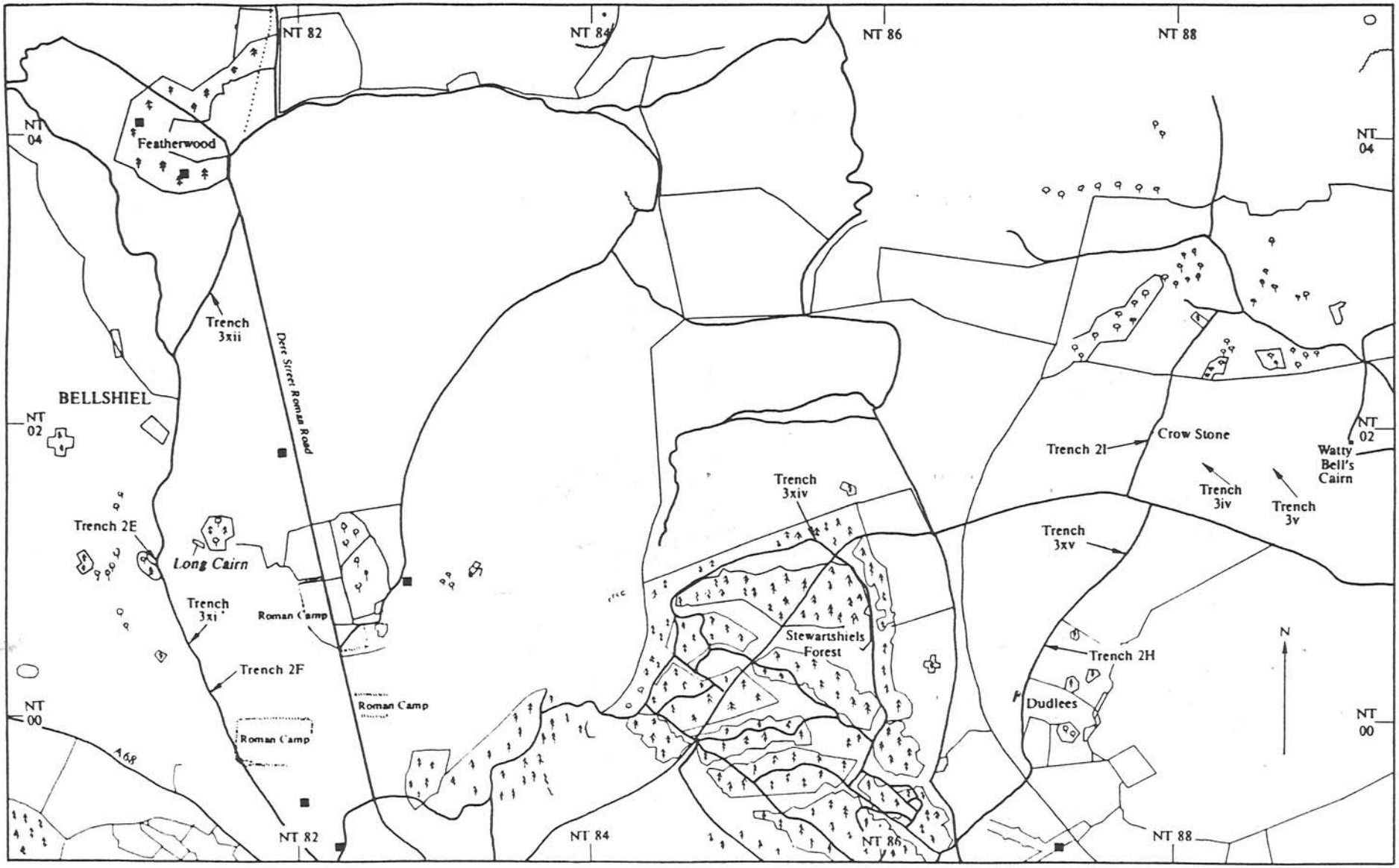
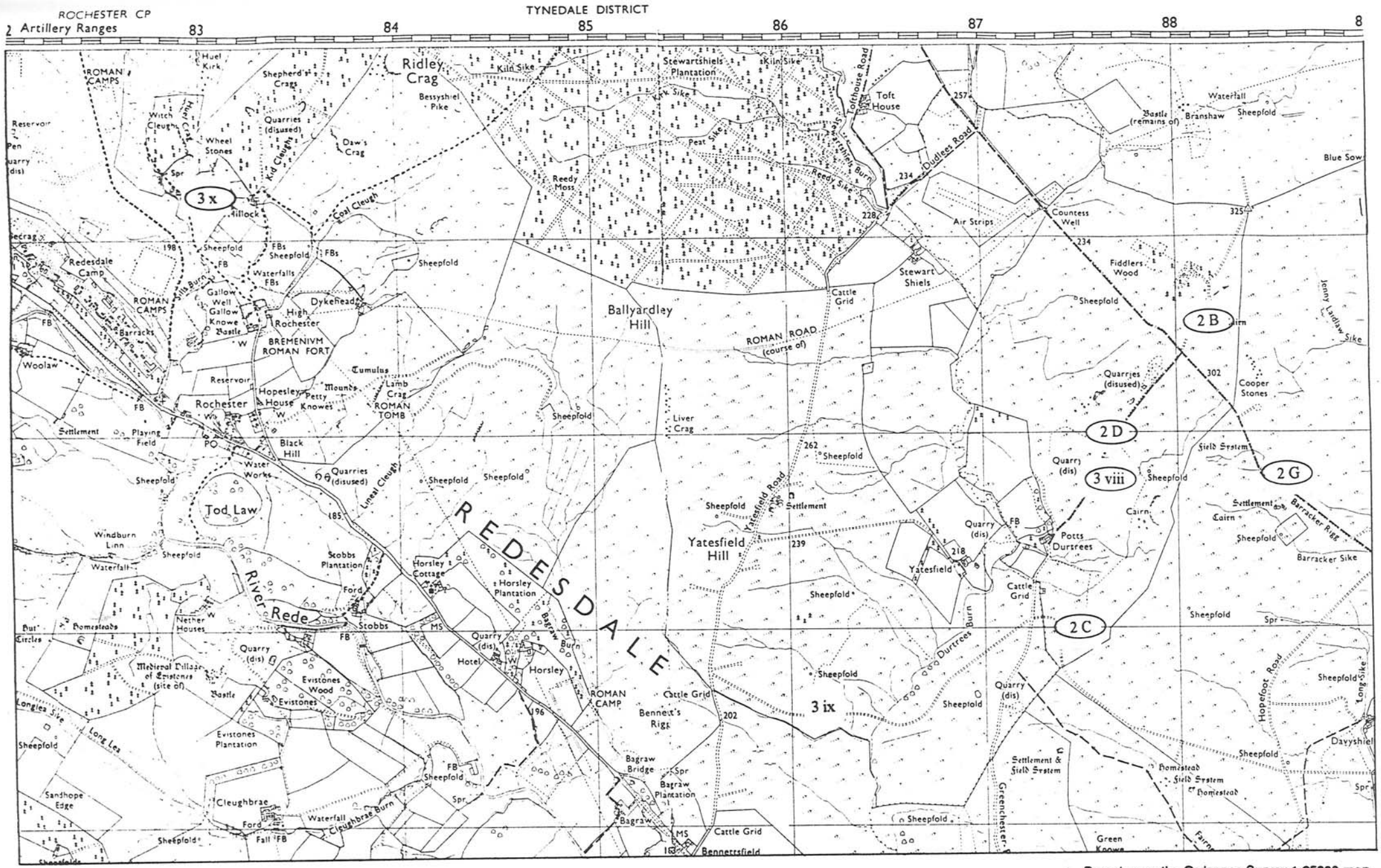


Figure 7 *Trench groups '2' and '3': northern trench locations (NUAP).*



Based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map with the permission of the Controller of HMSO

Figure 8 *Targeted and untargeted trench locations - south-western area (all LUAU)*

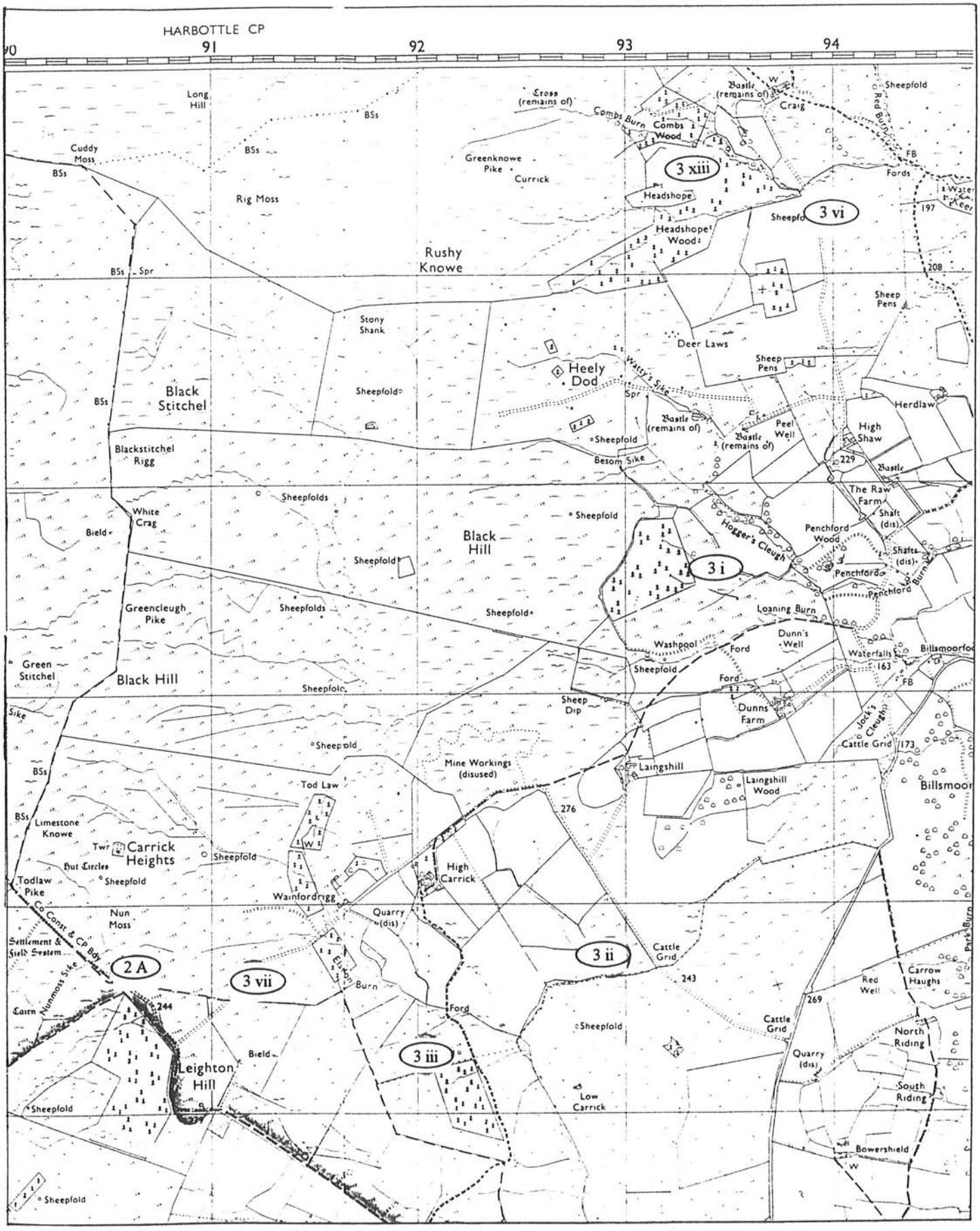


Figure 9 *Targeted and untargeted trench locations - - south-eastern area (all LUAU)*

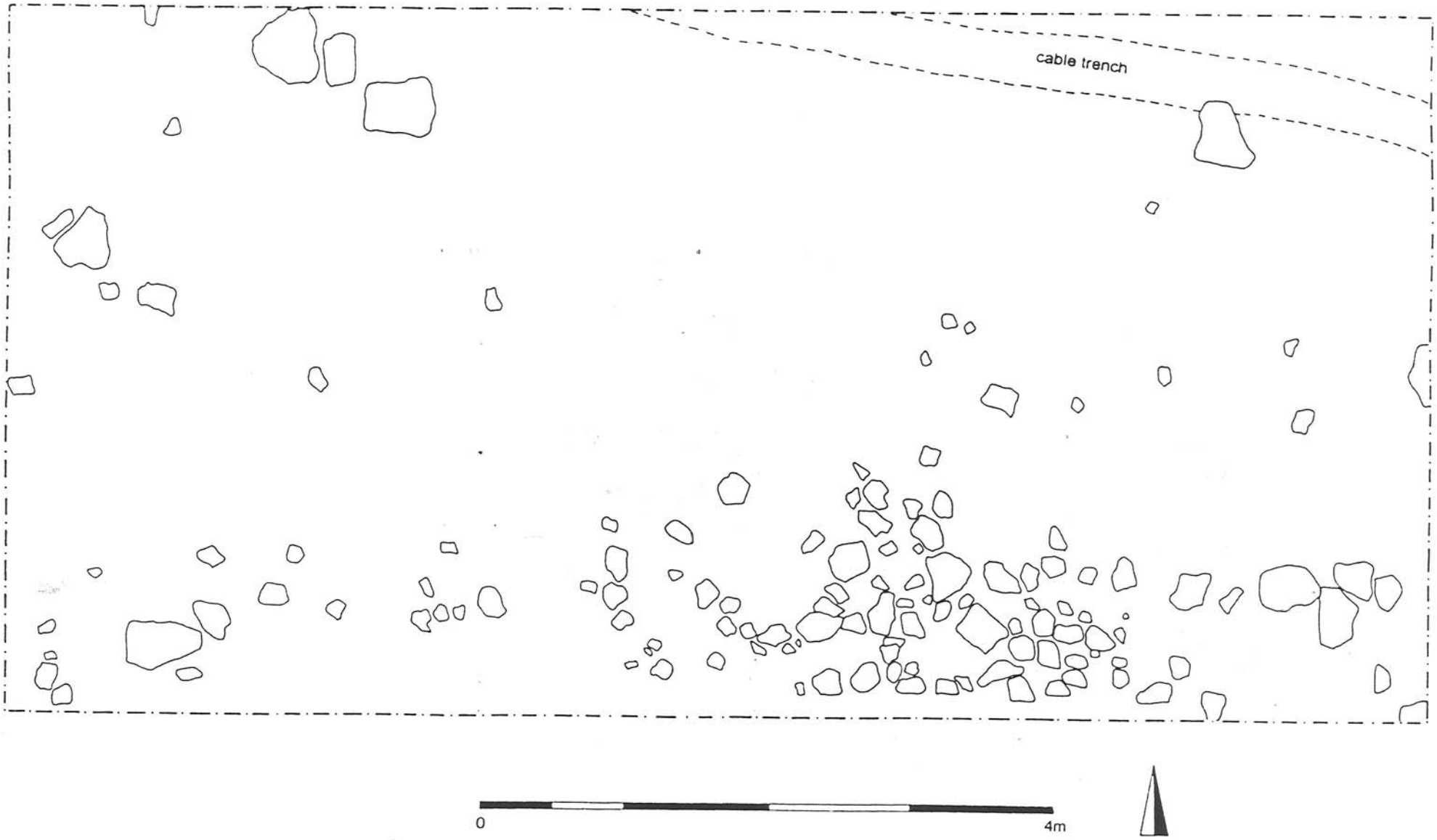
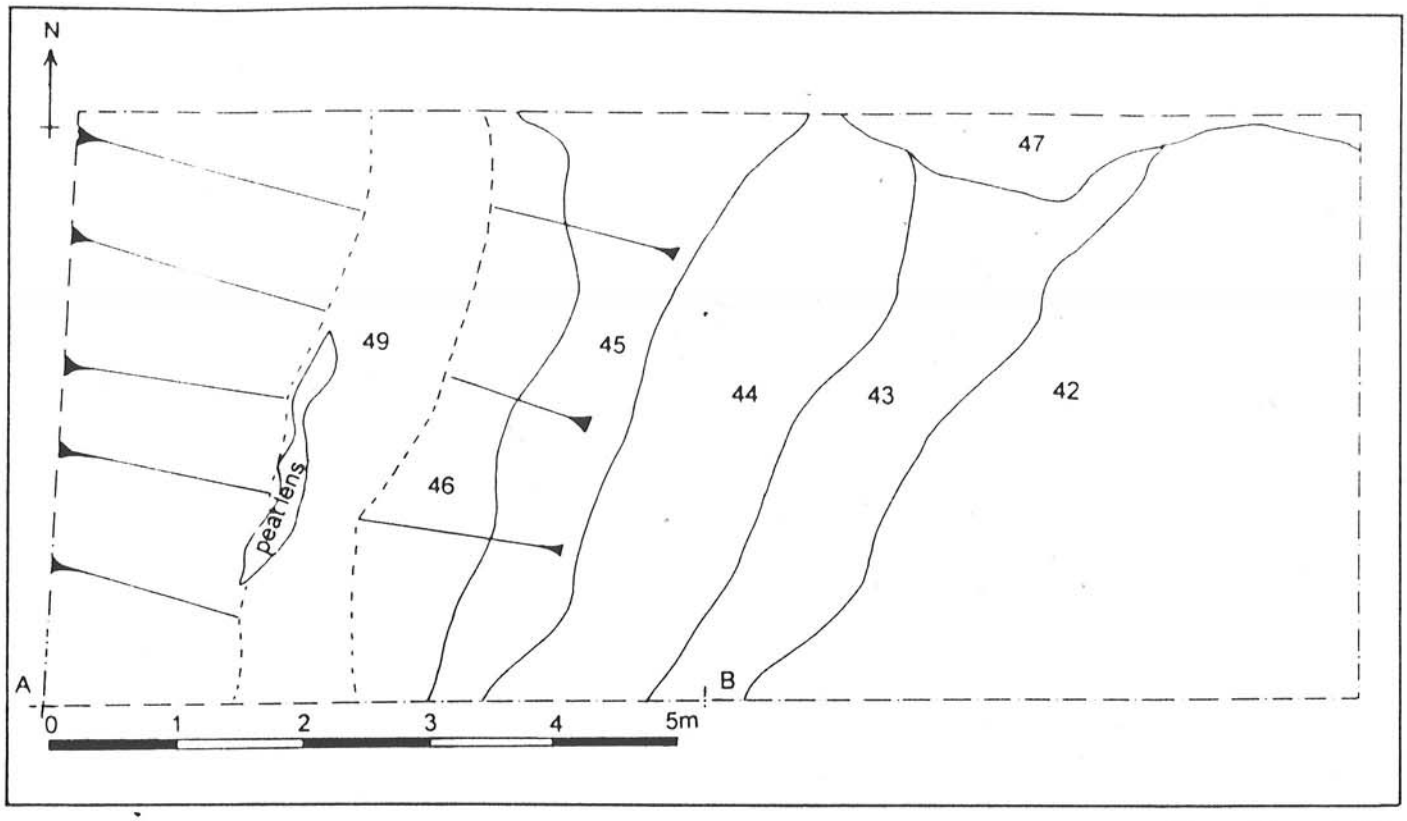
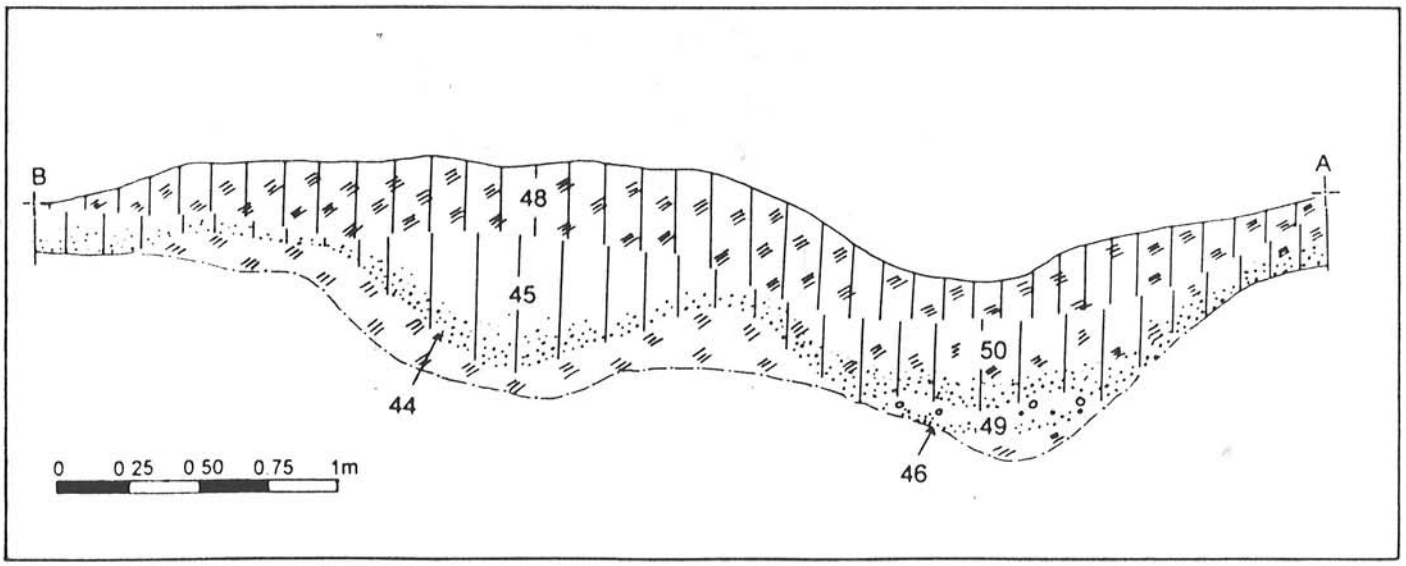


Figure 10 *Trench 2A - plan*



Plan of trench 2C



North facing section of trench 2C

Figure 11 *Trench 2C - plan and section*

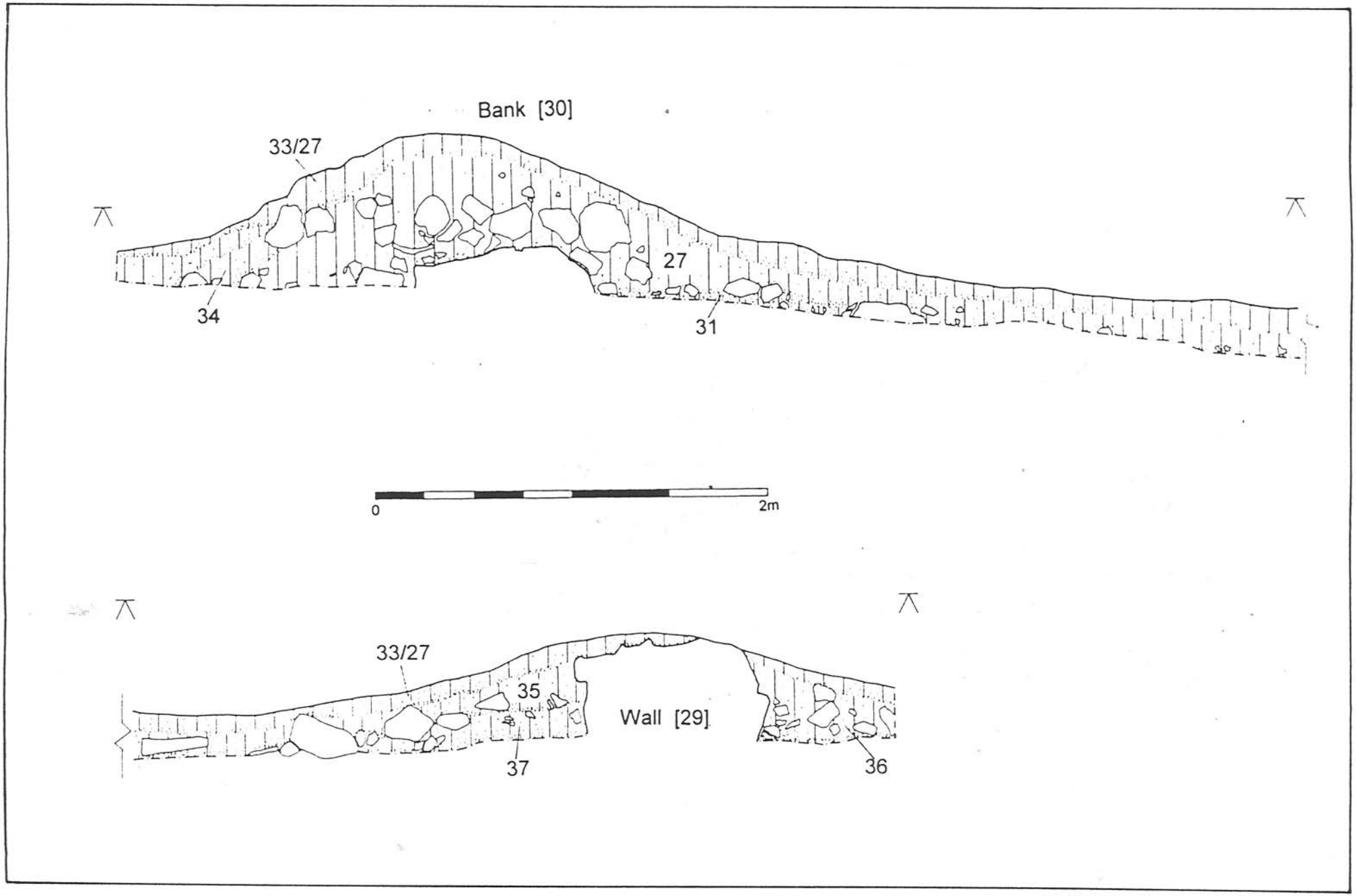


Figure 12 *Trench 2D - west facing section*

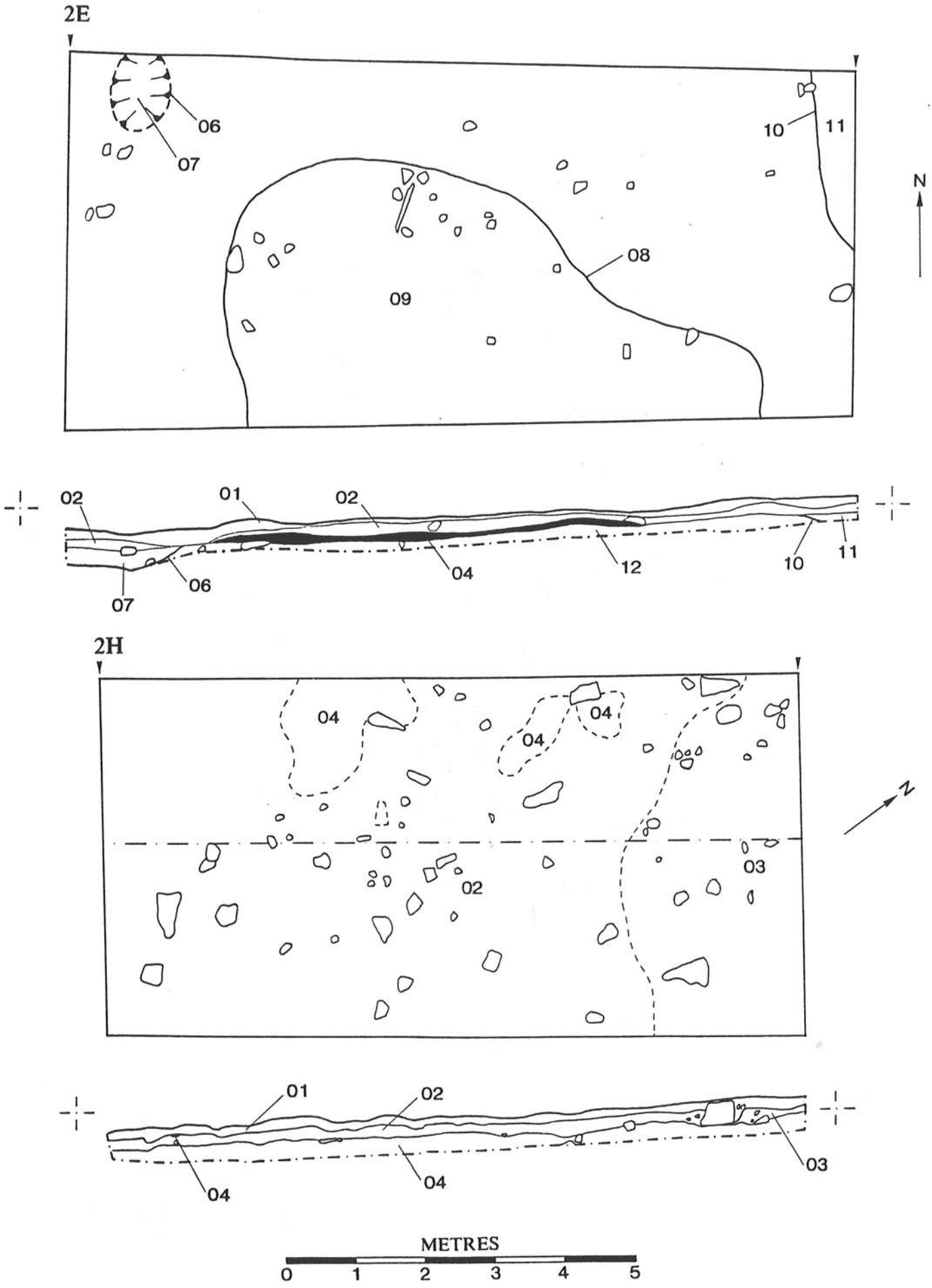


Figure 13 *Trenches 2E - environs of Bellshiel Law Long Cairn, and 2H - Dudlees Field System. Plans and sections.*

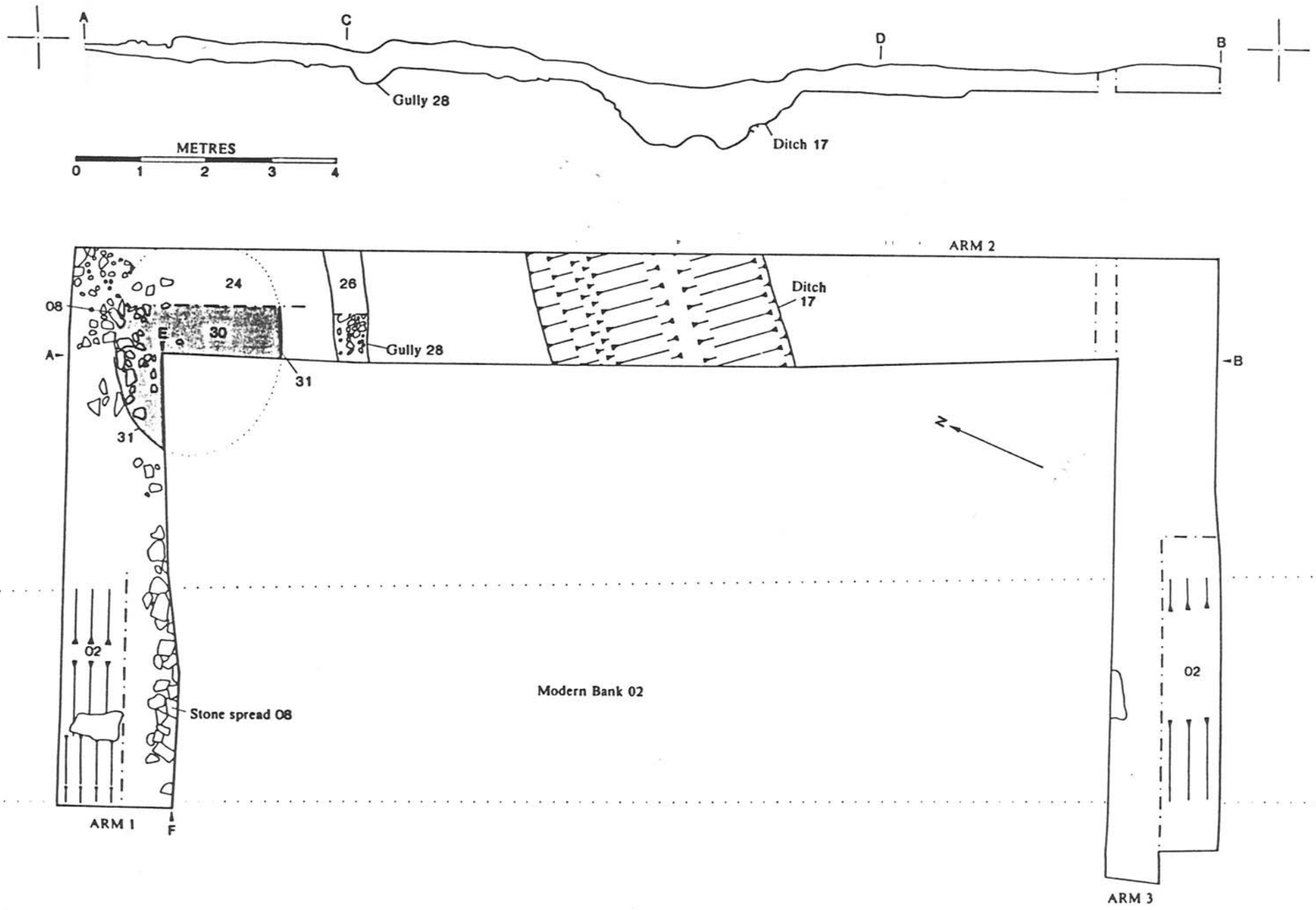


Figure 14 Trench 2F. Plan and sections.

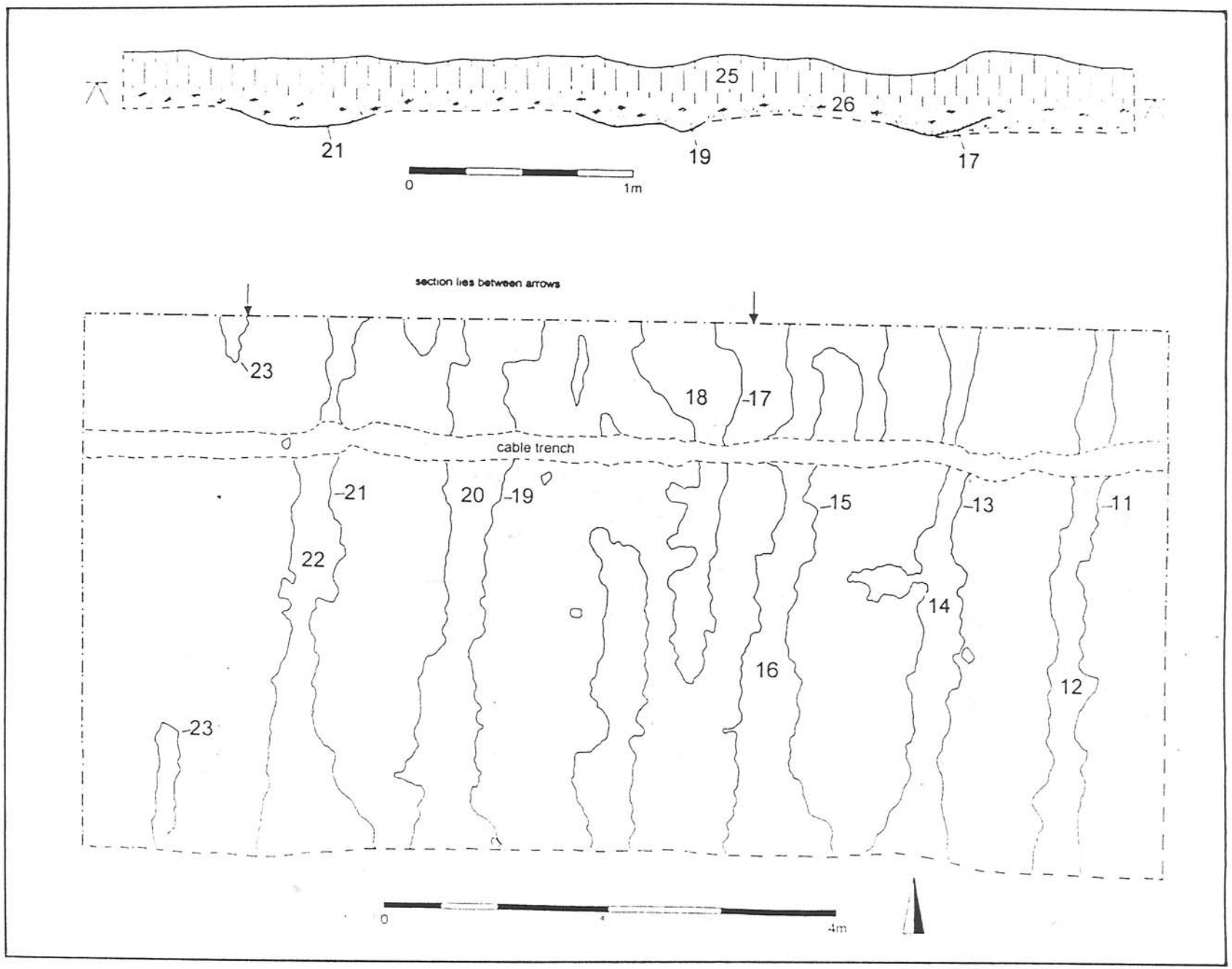


Figure 15 *Trench 2G - plan and section*

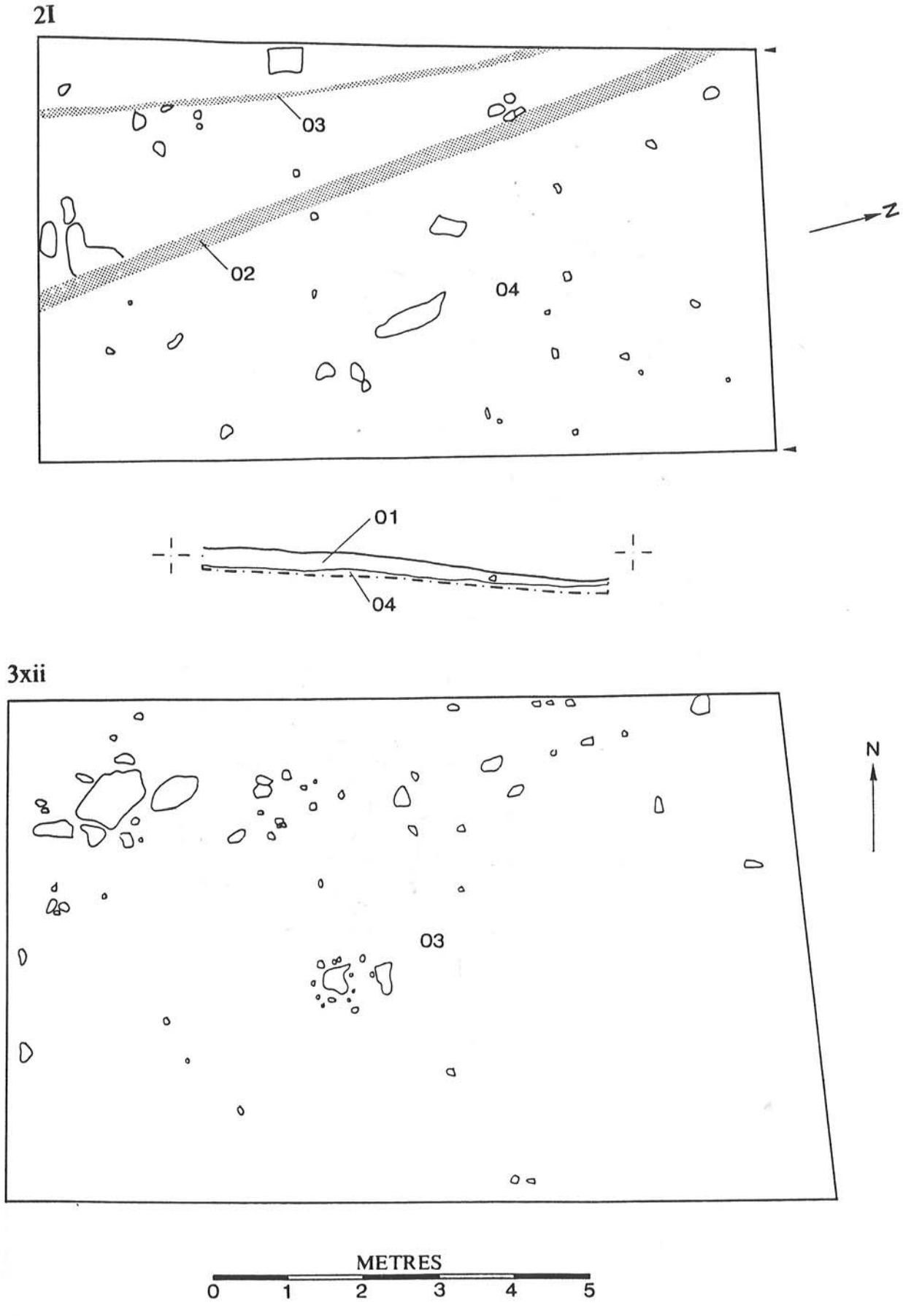


Figure 16 *Trenches 2I - environs of Crow Stone Cairn, and 3XII - Bellshiel Road, south of Featherwood Farm. Plans and sections.*

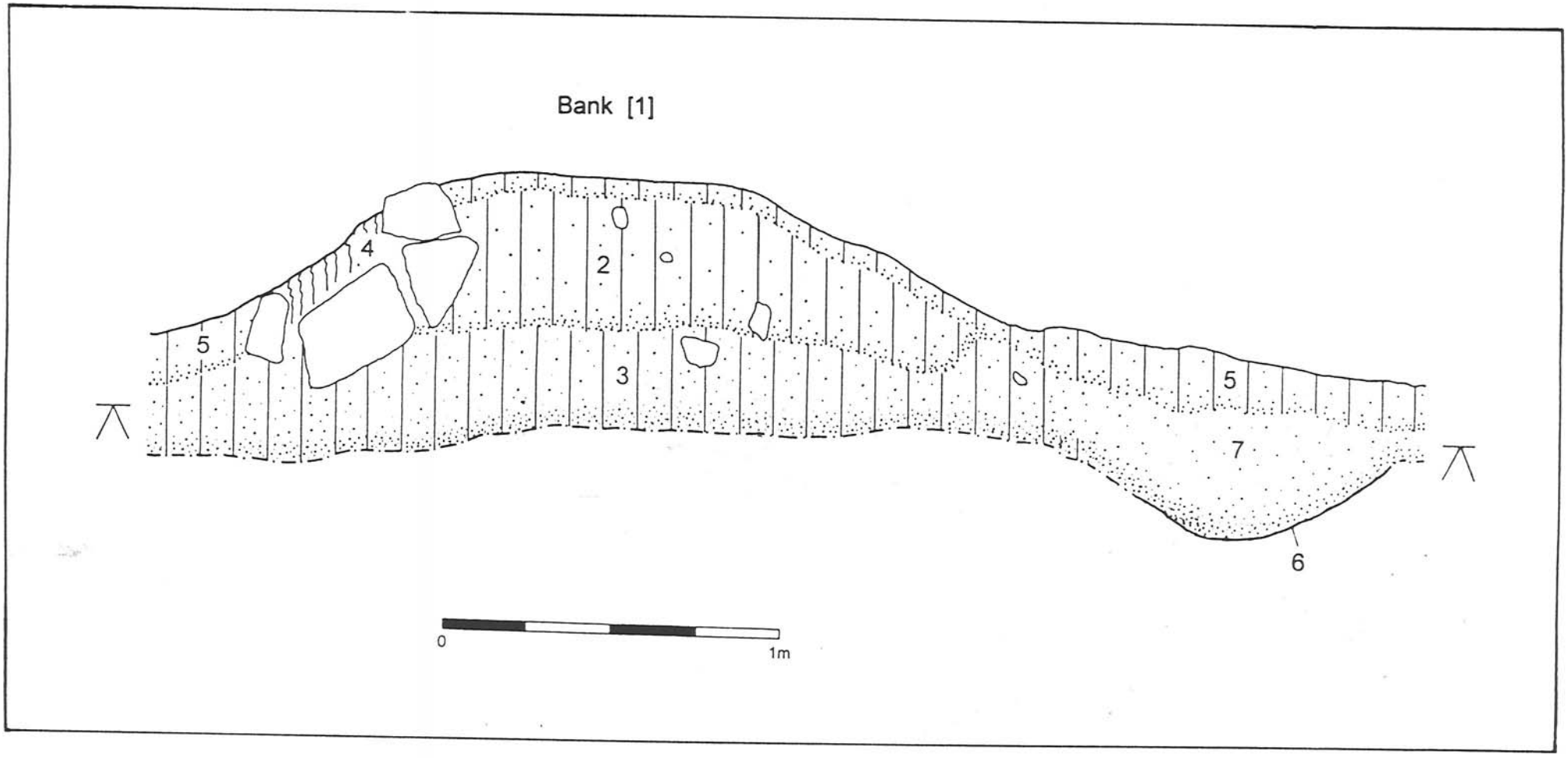


Figure 17 *Trench 31 - south-west facing section*

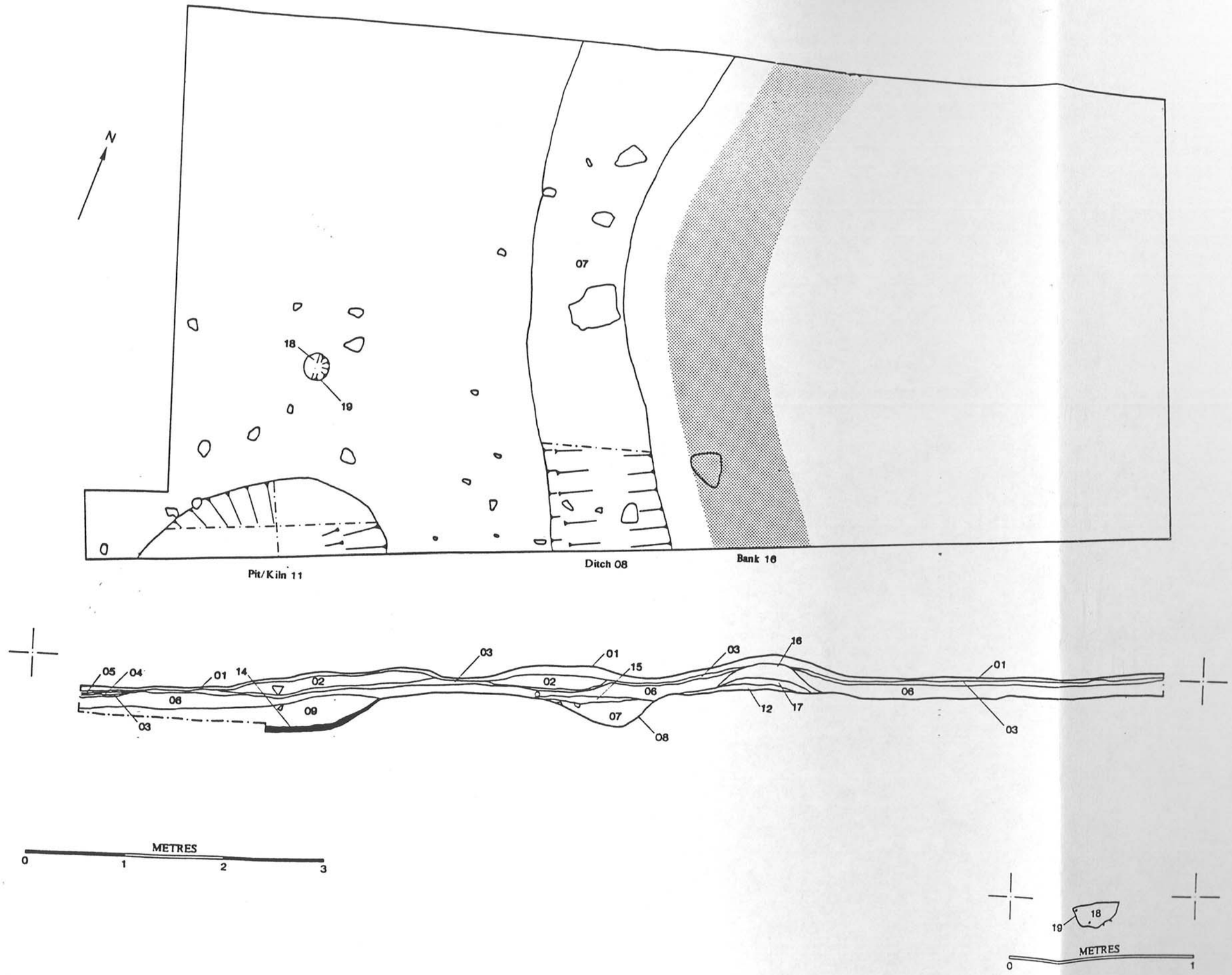
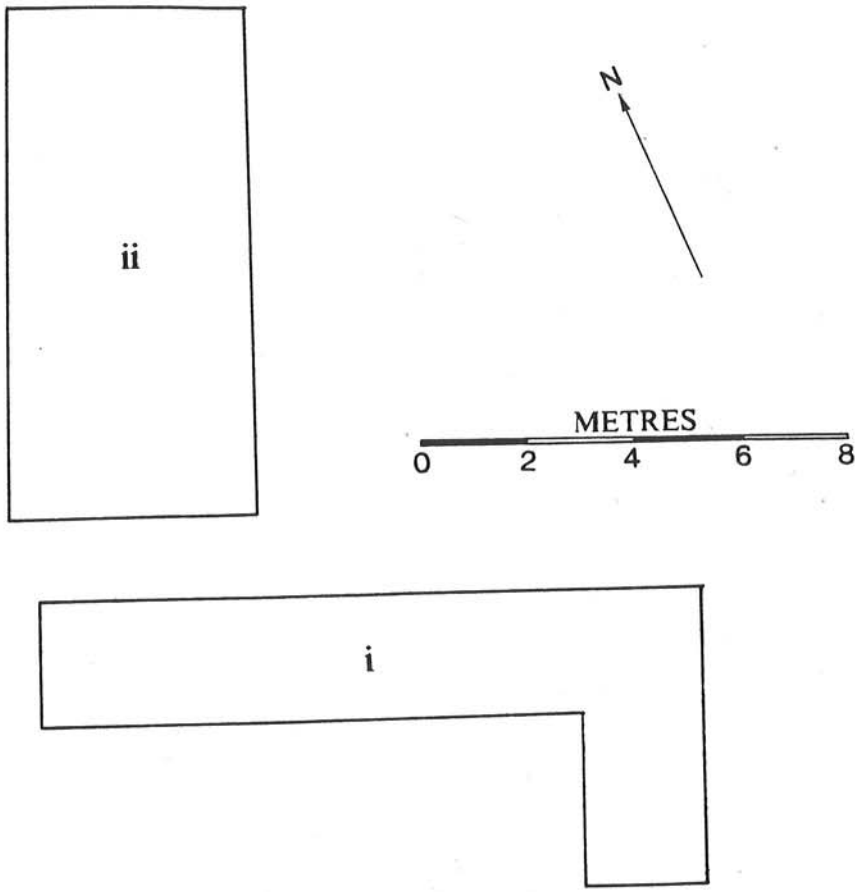


Figure 18 *Trench 3XI - Bellshiel Road. Plan and sections.*

3xiv



3xv

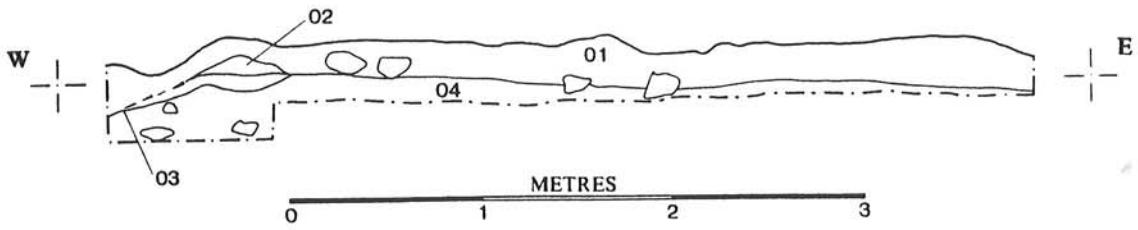


Figure 19 *Trenches 3XIV - Stewartshiels Plantation North (plan), and 3XV - Dudlees Farm (section).*

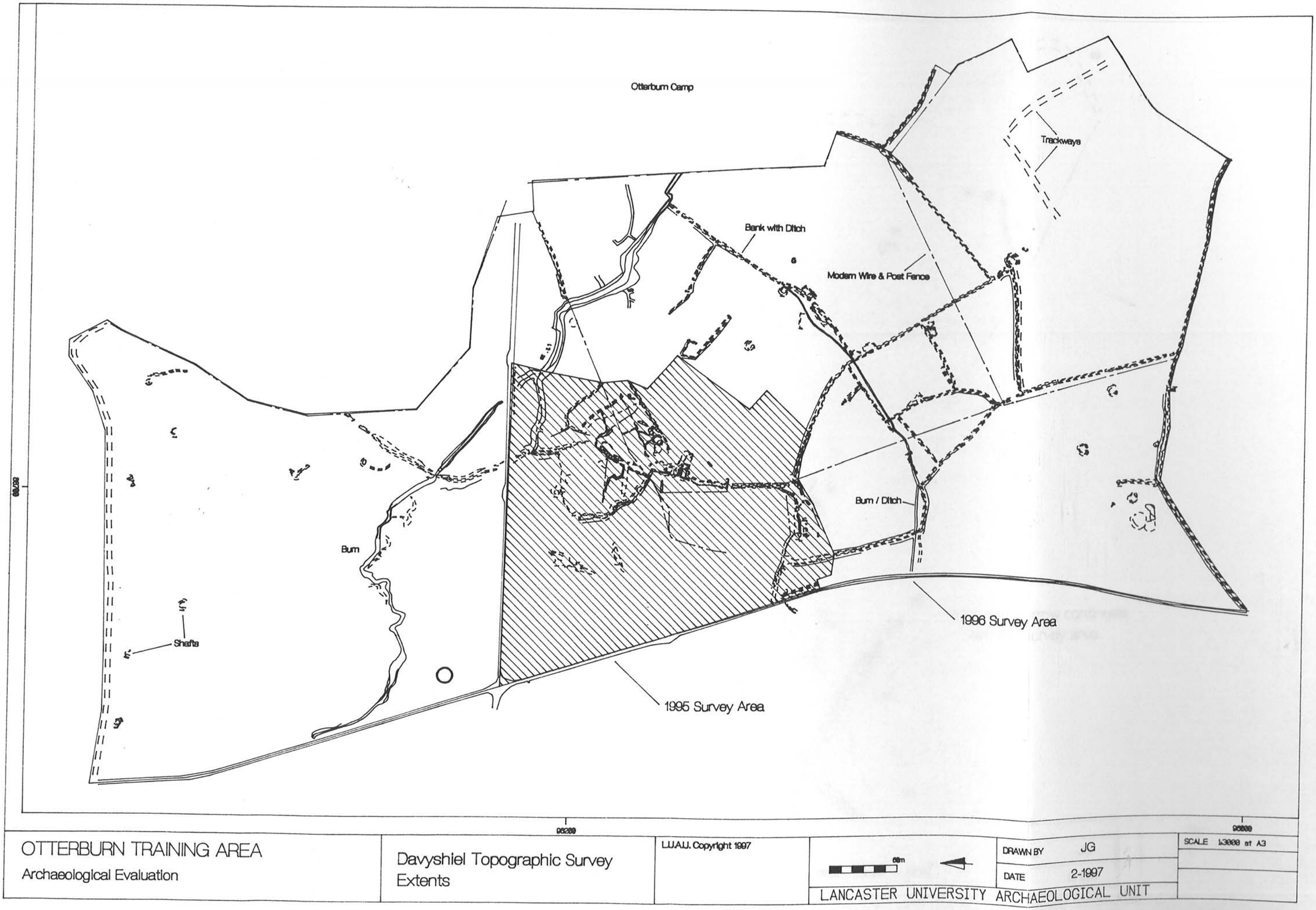


Figure 20 *Davyshiel survey - overall plan*

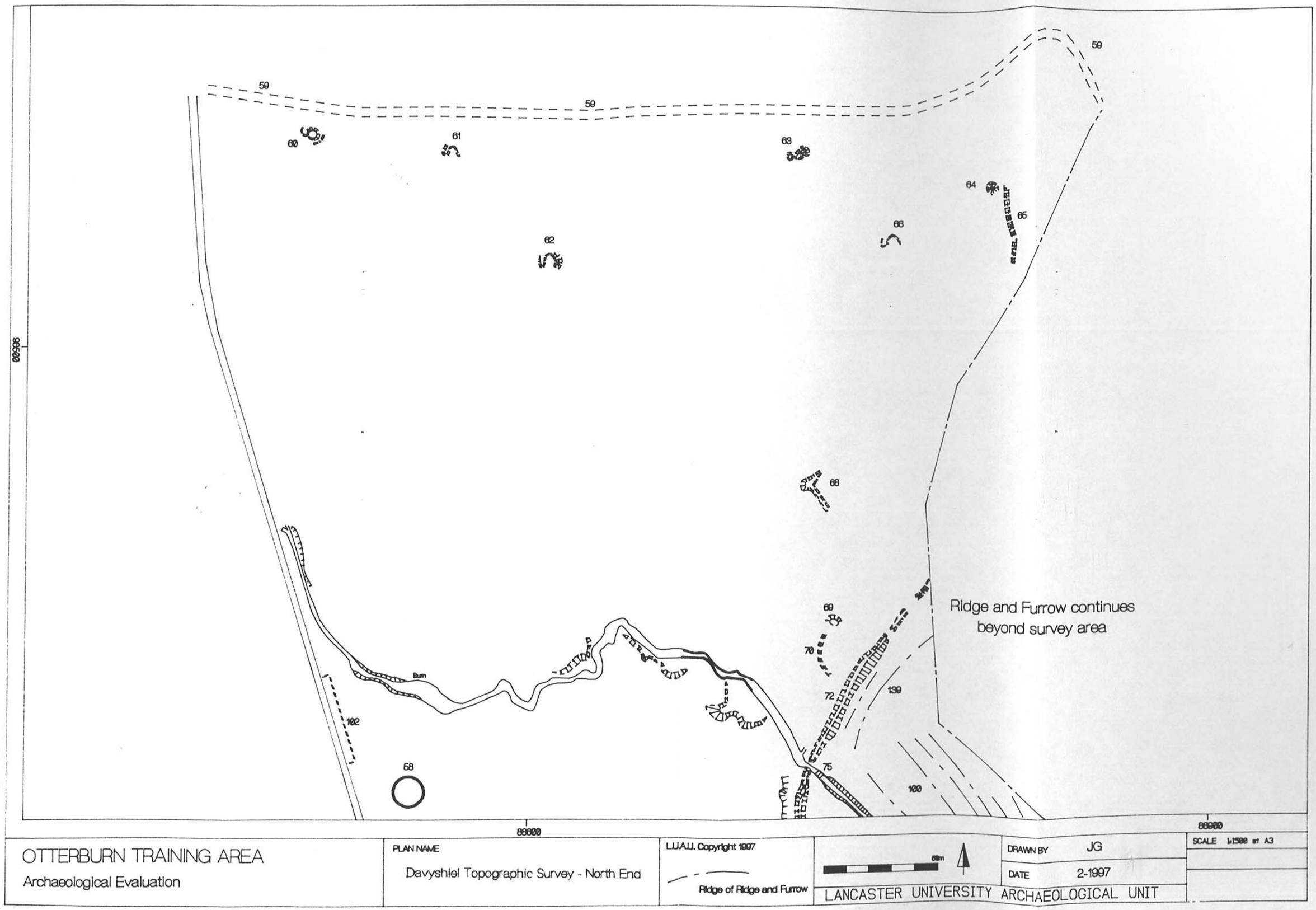


Figure 21 *Davyshiel survey - north end*

Figure 22 *Davyshiel survey - centre*

Figure 23 *Davyshiel survey - south end*