Wessex Archaeology

South Cliff Farm, South Carlton Lincolnshire

An Archaeological Evaluation
and an Assessment of the Results

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SOUTH CLIFF FARM, SOUTH CARLTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND AN ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS

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Summary

Videotext Communications was commissioned by Channel 4 to carry out an archaeological evaluation as part of the Time Team television series on land belonging to South Cliff Farm, South Carlton, Lincolnshire (centred on National Grid Reference SK 956 771).

The archaeological evaluation was designed to investigate the extent and date of an Early-Mid Saxon cemetery, found by a metal detector, and the site of a deserted medieval village at Middle Carlton. The project was undertaken using surface collection at Middle Carlton and the cemetery field with geophysical survey and twelve machine-dug trial trenches. The work was undertaken over three days in September 2003.

The surface collection produced pottery that reflected the land use of the area since the prehistoric period. Late Saxon and Early medieval pottery related to the village of Middle Carlton predominated in the area between the two modern villages of North and South Carlton. Roman and post-medieval sherds from arable agriculture were prevalent in the cemetery field.

The geophysical survey produced evidence of both prehistoric and Romano-British activity. It detected a previously unrecorded ring ditch, probably an Early Bronze Age barrow, which was sectioned and dated by a sherd of Collared Urn pottery. A severely truncated cremation burial was located in the interior of the monument. A Roman enclosure system, probably related to a field system was also traced and sampled in the north-west of the cemetery field.

Excavation of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery produced an urned cremation burial and three inhumation burials. The inhumation burials lay in shallow graves and were aligned east to west. They included a female, a possible male and a male and contained a range of grave goods including personal jewellery and a shield boss. One of the inhumations truncated a shallow pit containing cremated animal bone, while another inhumation lay close to the line of a post-medieval road, which may have followed the line of a much earlier boundary and defined the limit of the cemetery. A number of machine-excavated trenches, dug to define the limits of the cemetery, failed to locate additional graves.

The evaluation has added significantly to the development of occupation along the Lincoln Edge and to the study of Anglo-Saxon settlement immediately outside the City of Lincoln.

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Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications. The collaborative role, practical assistance and enthusiastic support of J W Marris of South Cliff Farm is particularly acknowledged.

John Gater undertook the geophysical survey assisted by staff from GSB Prospection with topographical survey by Henry Chapman, University of Hull. Excavation strategy was conducted by Prof. Mick Aston (University of Bristol) and Helen Geake (University of Cambridge), site recording was co-ordinated by Phil Harding, assisted by Steve Thompson of Wessex Archaeology. Time Team's retained excavators undertook the excavations with help from members of the Washingborough Archaeology Group. The archive was collated and all post-excavation analysis and assessment undertaken by Wessex Archaeology including management (Roland J C Smith), report (Phil Harding), finds (Lorraine Mepham), animal bone (Stephanie Knight), environmental samples (Michael J Allen, Chris Stevens and Sarah F Wyles) and illustrations (Mark Roughley). Jacqueline I McKinley provided specialist comment on the human bone.

The progress and successful completion of the work also benefited from discussion on site with specialists of Anglo-Saxon archaeology Helen Geake (Anglo Saxon cemeteries and finds), Prof. Margaret Cox (Bournemouth University – human pathology), Paul Blinkhorn (pottery) and Dana Goodburn-Brown (on-site conservation).

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1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Description of the site

1.1.1 The project was undertaken within a transect of land that extended for approximately 1.25 km west from South Cliff Farm, South Carlton, Lincolnshire, across the Lincoln Edge to the villages of North and South Carlton. All excavation took place in a stubble field, at a point centred on NGR of SK 956 771 (**Figures 1** and **3**). The field lay immediately west of the farm, which is owned by J W Marris & Sons and is located approximately 4 km north of Lincoln.

1.1.2 South Cliff Farm lies at approximately 65m above OD on the dip slope, immediately east of the crest of the 'Lincoln Edge'. This ridge of the Lincolnshire Limestone Formation extends both north and south of Lincoln and forms a dipping fertile plateau that is likely to have been farmed since prehistoric times and is still largely arable.

1.1.3 Immediately to the west of South Cliff Farm the scarp of the limestone ridge overlooks the Lias of the Lincoln Clay Vale. A number of springs issue from the junction of the Lias and Lincolnshire Limestone that have given rise to a series of spring line villages, including North and South Carlton. The spring line drains into the valley of the River Till, which flows south to join the River Witham at Lincoln and flow east through the Lincoln Gap to the North Sea. (OS Explorer Sheet 272; British Geological Survey, England and Wales Sheet 102, Solid and Drift Geology).

1.1.4 The discovery of a number of metal artefacts recovered by metal-detecting and an associated human burial, suggested that South Cliff Farm was the site of a previously unknown Anglo-Saxon cemetery dating approximately from the 6th century AD (Geake, pers. comm.).

1.2 Previous archaeological work

1.2.1 The Lincolnshire Limestone and its spring line have provided a favourable location for occupation since prehistoric times, although very little archaeological excavation has taken place. Records of early antiquarian excavations in the area indicate that most of these investigations were directed towards Roman sites.

1.2.2 Records describe the excavation, in 1795, of the nearby Roman villa site of Scampton, approximately 1.5km to the north (SK 955 785) at which a number of burials were also discovered. The villa also lies on the crest of the Lincoln Edge along a Roman road, which heads west, approximately 2 km from its junction with Ermine Street (the present A15), the main artery leading due north from Lincoln (**Figure 1**). The villa had at least 40 rooms and a number of tessellated pavements. Pottery, fibulae and coins (including some of Constantine) were also discovered (Lincs. SMR 54197). The burials are described as "…upwards of 20 human skeletons, nearly perfect…lying in the same direction [east-west].…Several were enclosed in rude stones set on edge, and covered with similar ones, but without any cement." (Illingworth 1808). These burials have been interpreted as Saxon or later Christian burials (Lincs. SMR 54197).

1.2.3 A second probable villa was located approximately 2.5km south of South Cliff Farm, at Burton. A 1m x 1m piece of tessellated pavement was discovered here in 1911. Subsequently, tesserae, wall plaster and concrete, and more remains of a tessellated floor were found (Lincs. SMR 50556).

1.2.4 No formal archaeological work had been conducted at South Cliff Farm. The known archaeology resulted from a number of metal-detected finds collected by Andrew Riddle. The collection consisted of a range of artefacts dating from the prehistoric, Roman and later medieval periods, but predominantly from the late 5th to early 7th centuries AD. The majority of these finds were discovered within an area of approximately 3 acres.

1.2.5 The artefacts included (Geake, pers. comm.) a 1st century AD late Iron Age/ Roman 'one-piece Colchester' brooch, a lozenge-shaped Roman brooch, probably dating to the 2nd or 3rd century and a Roman enamelled disc brooch. There were also two 5th-6th century disc brooches, two large cruciform brooches, two additional pieces of cruciform brooches, dating to the second half of the 6th century, two 'wrist-clasp' halves of the 6th century, a 'girdle-hanger' terminal of the 6th century, a ring and strap-loop of probable 7th century date and a pin head from the 8th or 9th century. There was also a round, lead alloy token from the 15th or 16th century.

1.2.6 This assemblage of metal objects suggested that the artefacts were derived from a number of graves of late 5th / early 7th century date and included both male and female burials (Geake, pers. comm.).

1.2.7 Human remains had also been discovered, which were associated with a strong ferrous signal on the metal-detector that proved to be an iron Anglo-Saxon shield boss. The bones were assumed to be of a man and were left *in situ* with the shield boss. An iron shield boss was discovered subsequently on the surface of the field, although it was uncertain whether this represented a second shield boss, or the earlier discovery that had been disturbed by later ploughing (Riddle, pers. comm.).

1.2.8 The area in which the discoveries had been made was also associated with a linear earthwork on a north-south alignment. The earthwork was visible as a

low bank, up to 0.60 m high. Cartographic evidence suggested that this was previously a field boundary and, prior to that, a road running parallel to the modern B1398 (South Carlton Parish Tithe Map, 1845). The date at which the road line had been established and its possible influence on the location of the putative cemetery were unknown.

2 METHODS

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled and provided by Videotext Communications (Videotext Communications 2003). Full details of the circumstances and methods are contained in this document and are summarised here.

2.2 Aims and objectives

2.2.1 The project at South Cliff Farm provided an ideal opportunity to examine the development of occupation in this previously unexamined part of Lincolnshire. A strategy was developed to achieve this using a combination of surface collection, geophysics and evaluation trenching.

2.2.2 More specifically it aimed to define and date the establishment and duration of the cemetery and to place it more accurately in the context of the Anglo-Saxon landscape of Lincolnshire. The discovery of this previously unrecorded cemetery formed an important addition to the distribution of Anglo-Saxon cemeteries and settlement, which are well known in Lincolnshire, particularly, along the Lincoln Edge (Leahy, in Vince 1993).

2.2.3 A systematic surface collection was proposed to recover material from the area of the cemetery. An additional programme of surface collection was undertaken on land along the spring line, in the area of the known deserted medieval village (DMV) of Middle Carlton, which lay between the present villages of North and South Carlton (**Figure 2**). The results would provide independent evidence for the development and spread of settlement from the prehistoric to the Roman and medieval periods, including any that might be contemporary with the cemetery. The proximity of the site both to Roman Ermine Street and to the natural routeway of the Lincoln Edge suggested that its interpretation in relation to Roman communication and settlement including Lincoln, and any prehistoric land usage, would be significant.

2.2.4 The work would also evaluate the condition of any inhumations and indicate the extent of any plough damage. The work would provide important evidence towards the formulation of any plans for the future management of the site.

2.3 Fieldwork methods

2.3.1 The fieldwork strategy was undertaken using an extensive surface collection programme, a magnetometer and resistivity geophysical survey and a series of machine-excavated trenches.

2.3.2 Twelve machine-excavated trenches of varying sizes were dug (**Figure 3**) after consultation with the on-site directors Mick Aston and Helen Geake. The precise location of individual trenches was made across topographic features, geophysical anomalies and at random to answer specific aims and objectives of the project design.

2.3.3 The trenches were excavated using a wheeled JCB mechanical digger and back hoe fitted with a toothless ditching bucket 1.60 m wide. All machine work was undertaken with constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological deposits, or where natural deposits were encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits were excavated.

2.3.4 A sufficient sample of all deposits was examined to allow the resolution of the principal questions outlined in the aims and objectives above.

2.3.5 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All inhumations and sections were recorded at a scale of 1:10 with all general site plans made at 1:20. All principal strata and features were related to Ordnance Survey datum and a photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained.

2.3.6 The work was carried out over 9th-11th September 2003. All spoil was scanned by metal detectorists as approved by Adam Daubney of the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

2.3.7 At the completion of the work all trenches were reinstated using the excavated spoil from the trenches. All artefacts from the surface collection and evaluation trenches were transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology where they were processed and assessed for this report. Artefacts recovered by metal detectors during the Time Team investigations and other metal objects recovered from graves in the Saxon cemetery prior to the investigations (already recorded under the Portable Antiquities Scheme), were also catalogued.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, a full geophysical report (GSB 2003) and results of artefact and environmental sample analysis are retained in archive.

3.2 Geophysical survey

3.2.1 A total of 5.6ha of detailed gradiometer survey was undertaken in the field at South Cliff Farm. The summary interpretation of results is shown in **Figure 3**.

3.2.2 The clearest response was an oval ring ditch, 28 m by 32 m, with no apparent internal features. The ditch was sampled by excavation in Trenches 3 and 4 and the interior in Trench 7.

3.2.3 A series of clear rectilinear enclosures was recorded in the west of the survey area. The results of excavation in Trench 5 showed that they were of Romano-British date. Several well-defined linear anomalies were also apparent in the centre of the survey area. Examples incorporated into trenches 2, 6 and 8 failed to identify any archaeological features, although whether they are all of geological origin is not certain.

3.2.4 No definite responses were identified to indicate the extent of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. A number of small individual anomalies was identified in the general area that coincided with the concentration of material recovered by metal detectors and which might represent additional metal objects. However there was a general lack of ferrous responses in the field, which reflected the prolonged use of metal detectors on the site.

3.2.5 The west of the survey area was dominated by a series of geological frost wedges. The results of the excavations indicated that periglacial features were prevalent across the entire site. It was therefore not possible to show conclusively whether linear responses that were present across the survey area were of archaeological or geological origin.

3.2.6 Strongly marked ferrous signals were also detected from a service trench in the north-west of the survey area, two electricity posts in the field boundary and two former pylon bases.

3.3 Surface Collection

3.3.1 Two areas of gridded surface collection (**Figure 2**, Fieldwalking Areas 1 and 4 (FW1 and FW4)) were undertaken in the cemetery field using the grid installed for the geophysical survey. FW 1 measured 160 m north to south and 220 m east to west while FW4 occupied an area 40 m north to south and 50 m east to west to examine the south edge of the ring ditch. The field had not been

ploughed following the most recent harvest and conditions for artefact recovery were very poor.

3.3.2 Two additional areas (**Figure 2** Fieldwalking Areas 2 and 3 (FW2 and FW3)) were undertaken over moderately well weathered arable land across the deserted medieval village (DMV) of Middle Carlton. This village was situated between the present villages of North and South Carlton on the spring line at the base of the limestone ridge approximately 1 km west of the cemetery site. FW2 measured 90 m north to south and 130 m east to west and FW3 30 m north to south and 100 m east to west.

3.3.3 All areas covered by surface collection were walked on a 10 m square grid allowing 10 minutes per square.

3.3.4 The results showed that the largest quantities of material comprised pottery and ceramic building material (CBM). Pottery was especially common across the DMV of Middle Carlton in FW2 and FW3, where Late Saxon and medieval fabrics, of 9th – 15th centuries AD, predominated. This material, particularly Late Saxon and early medieval wares of 9th-13th centuries AD, was distributed across both collection areas. Slightly increased quantities of Roman and medieval pottery were present in the north part of FW 2 and in the west of FW 3.

3.3.5 Reduced quantities of pottery and enhanced values for CBM were notable from the stubble of FW1 and FW4. The pottery was principally of Roman or post-medieval date, reflecting the use of the limestone as an area of preferred arable use in these periods. The presence of significant quantities of Roman material can be directly related to the linear field boundaries detected by geophysics in the west of the survey area.

3.4 Archaeological evaluation

3.4.1 Archaeological features were overlain by mid grey-brown poorly-sorted sandy silt plough soil, that averaged 0.30 m thick with fragments of limestone that had been incorporated by ploughing. This horizon overlay dark yellow-brown sandy silt subsoil, which varied in thickness across the site. Towards the east, where the excavated areas bounded a bank formation the subsoil measured 0.26-0.28 m thick. However to the west it thinned to 0.05 m but thickened again to 0.15 m towards the edge of the field. Ditch fills generally comprised mid brown or orange-brown silts derived from the parent Lincolnshire Limestone, while the graves were back filled with clean limestone.

3.4.2 The surface of the limestone was heavily modified by periglacial activity, with poorly developed polygonal patterned ground features and frost wedges characterised by orange silt centres and vertical alignment of the limestone. The heavily disturbed nature of the surface geology resulted in poor definition of archaeological features, especially the Anglo-Saxon graves.

3.4.3 Three phases of archaeological activity were defined.

3.5 Phase 1 - Prehistoric

3.5.1 An oval ring ditch (**Figures 3** and **4**), defined by geophysics, was identified towards the south part of the survey area. It measured 32 m long and 28 m across and showed no signs of an entrance. Trenches 3 and 4 were excavated across the north and south arcs of the ring. Trench 3 measured 7.4 m long and 3.20 m wide at the south end but only 1.60 m at the north. Trench 4 was 9 m long and 1.60 m wide. Two narrow hand-excavated slots (304 and 306) were excavated across the ring ditch in Trench 3 and a single section (404) in Trench 4 to establish its profile and stratigraphic sequence.

3.5.2 The ditch measured 1.50 m across and between 0.50 – 0.65 m deep with moderately sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It had filled naturally with orange-brown sandy silt and showed no hint of any intervening stabilisation horizons. A fragment of Collared Urn pottery with occasional flecks of charcoal was recovered from the primary fill (403) of the ditch in Trench 4 and fragments of bone from the fill in Trench 3 (305).

3.5.3 A feature (406) examined immediately north of ditch segment (404) was considered to be of periglacial origin.

3.5.4 An area of the interior (Trench 7), 10m long and 6.5m wide, was stripped by machine to evaluate the survival of internal features and provide evidence for the use of the monument. The stripped area, of which approximately half was cleaned by hand, provided the largest area of the limestone surface exposed during the evaluation. It showed that the complete soil profile has been disturbed by ploughing. A small concentration of cremated human bone, heavily truncated by ploughing, was recovered from the subsoil (702). This probably represents a disturbed secondary, unurned burial that originally lay in a shallow pit that was cut in the side of the mound or berm. No archaeological features were recorded.

3.5.5 Trench 8, measuring 10 m long and 3.3 m wide, was dug immediately outside the ring ditch to assess the possibility that satellite Bronze Age burials or Anglo-Saxon burials might be present adjacent to the ring ditch. No archaeological deposits or features were observed, even though the trench was positioned across a geophysical anomaly.

3.6 Phase 2 - Roman

3.6.1 The geophysical survey revealed a series of rectilinear enclosures in the west of the survey area (**Figure 5**). Trench 5 (**Figure 5**), which measured 5 m long and 1.5 m wide, was excavated across a linear feature that was aligned north-south and defined one of the rectilinear enclosures.

3.6.2 It revealed a ditch (504) 1.90 m wide and 0.65 m deep with steep irregular sides and a flat base, approximately 0.50 m across. The coarse primary fill (505) comprised subangular blocks of limestone in a yellow brown matrix. This material, which contained fragments of Roman pottery, may have derived from weathering of the natural limestone. However the deposit was mainly

concentrated on the east suggesting that it may represent an internal bank, possibly backfilled deliberately.

3.6.3 The upper fill (506), a fine-grained sandy silt, suggested that the ditch had subsequently silted naturally. There was no hint of any stabilisation horizon or turf-line.

3.7 Phase 3 – Anglo-Saxon

3.7.1 A quantity of Early-Mid Saxon metalwork, discovered by metal detector, was known to have come from a restricted area of the field, bounded on the east side by the low bank and approximately 100 m north-east of the ring ditch.

3.7.2 Trench 1 (**Figure 6**) was dug to relocate an inhumation burial that had been accompanied by a shield boss and which had been left *in situ* by the finder at the time of discovery. No systematic record of the location of the grave had been made and the trench, which measured 6.3 m north to south and 9.3 m east to west, was dug with reference to overhead power cables.

3.7.3 Trench 2 (**Figure 7**) was dug approximately 30 m north of Trench 1 to investigate a strong magnetic anomaly detected by geophysics, to section the low bank running across the field and to expose a sufficiently large area to establish whether the cemetery extended to that part of the field. The trench was an L-shaped area up to 5.5 m north to south and 12 m east to west with an extension 3 m long and a machine-bucket width across to the south.

3.7.4 A cremation burial and three inhumation burials were found in the two trenches. Cremation burial (104) lay in a pocket of natural silt in the limestone bedrock and had been heavily truncated by ploughing. It was defined by a scatter of cremated human bone contained within a circle, approximately 0.5 m in diameter, of broken urn fragments. There was no clearly defined grave cut.

3.7.5 Two inhumation burials were found in Trench 1. Grave 105 was cut into the limestone bedrock and measured 1.4 m long, 0.65 m wide and 0.20 m deep (**Figure 6**). It cut through an oval feature (114), 0.54 m north to south and 0.37 m across with a rounded base 0.20 m deep, that contained cremated animal bone. Inhumation burial (105) contained a single supine individual (107) aligned approximately north-west to south-east, which almost filled the grave. The skull was curled over the left shoulder and the arms crossed over the chest. The legs, which had been damaged by ploughing, were flexed. The burial was accompanied by an iron ring, an iron buckle, sleeve clasps and a necklace of ten beads. There was also what appeared to be a fragment of bark rope.

3.7.6 Grave 108 was located approximately 2.2 m east of grave 105. It was also cut into the natural limestone and measured 2 m east to west, 0.80 m north to south and 0.15 m deep. This individual (110) was aligned west to east and supine with the right arm flexed across the body. It contained a shield, which survived as a boss and two rivets, two copper alloy fragments and a knife. A

small fragment of iron, possibly part of a second knife, and two nails were also found within the grave fill and are not shown on **Figure 6**.

3.7.7 A single crouched individual was found in Trench 2 (**Figure 7**). The skeleton (211) was aligned west to east and was buried in an irregular, oval grave (210), 1.40 m long, 0.75 m across and 0.07 m deep, cut into the natural limestone. The bones were in good condition, with the skeleton lying on its left side. The torso had slumped forward over the left arm, which was raised, holding a large fragment of pottery. The knees were flexed and the feet together. Apart from the large fragment of pottery the inhumation also contained an iron nail below the pelvis. An unidentified iron object, which is currently unlocated, was also recorded in the fill of the grave.

3.7.8 Machine dug trenches 6, 9 and 10 (**Figure 3**) were excavated to the west of Trenches 1 and 2 in an attempt to define the extent of the Saxon cemetery on that side. Trenches 11 and 12 were dug into the bank feature to the south with the same objective. No further burials were identified in any of these trenches.

3.8 Phase 4 - Miscellaneous and modern

3.8.1 Feature 111 in Trench 1 (**Figure 6**) was an oval feature, 1.20 m long, 0.79 m across and 0.18 m deep. It was filled with poorly compacted silt that was not leached, suggesting that it was of relatively recent date.

3.8.2 A small extension was made in the west of Trench 2 (**Figure 7**) to expose a series of sub-parallel slots preserved in the subsoil below the bank. These features were aligned north-west to south-east, cut through the inhumation burial (210) and were identified as cart ruts related to the road alignment noted on the 1845 South Carlton Tithe Map. The strong magnetic anomaly detected by geophysics in Trench 2 was identified (204) as a fragment of electricity cable. Other features (**Figure 7;** 206 and 208) sampled in Trench 2 were considered to be periglacial features in the natural limestone, as was a linear silt-filled feature that coincided with an anomaly detected by geophysics.

4 FINDS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 During the investigations at South Cliff Farm, finds were recovered from extensive surface collection over four areas, and from excavated evaluation trenches. The assemblage includes human remains and grave goods from a small number of Early-Mid Saxon cremation and inhumation burials, and other finds (mainly pottery and ceramic building material), ranging in date from early prehistoric to post-medieval, recovered from extensive surface collection over adjacent fields. Also included here are metal detector finds from systematic scanning during the Time Team investigations, and a group of metal detector finds recovered prior to the investigations (already recorded under the Portable Antiquities Scheme), and which are considered largely to derive from further graves within the Saxon cemetery.

4.1.2 All finds have been cleaned (with the exception of the metalwork) and have been quantified by material type within each context. Quantified data form the primary finds archive for the site and these data are summarised in **Tables 1** and **2**.

4.1.3 Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Pottery has been subjected to more formal scanning, including quantification by ware type (details below). Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate. All finds data are currently held on an Excel spreadsheet.

4.1.4 This section presents an overview of the finds assemblage, on which is based an assessment of the potential of this assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the site in its local and regional context. The finds are discussed here within two groups – those recovered from the surface collection, and those from the evaluation trenches.

4.2 Finds from surface collection

4.2.1 Extensive surface collection of artefacts was conducted over four areas, across the cemetery and extending to the west between the villages of North and South Carlton. FW1-3 produced most material, with very little recovered from FW4. Although all potential artefacts were collected, only selected material types have been recorded. Animal bone, slag, unworked stone and metalwork (apart from specific diagnostic and datable objects), none of which are chronologically distinctive, were not recorded and have been discarded. Finds totals by material type and by field are given in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Fieldwalking finds totals (number / weight in grammes)

Material	FW 1	FW 2	FW 3	FW 4	TOTAL
Pottery	256/2355	1203/10,411	277/2061	22/184	1758/15011
Prehistoric	*3*	*1*	*3*	*-*	*7*
Romano-British	*108*	*16*	*16*	*6*	*146*
Early/Middle Saxon	*4*	*4*	*19*	*-*	*27*
Late Saxon/Medieval	*38*	*1146*	*237*	*3*	*1424*
Post-Medieval	*103*	*36*	*2*	*13*	*154*
Ceramic Building Material	641/12,830	89/2187	20/309	25/314	775/15,640
Clay Pipe	2/3	1/4	-	-	3/7
Worked Flint	8/35	41/248	6/14	-	55/297
Burnt Flint	2/197	1/2	-	-	3/199
Glass	13/83	9/92	3/3	2/2	27/180
Stone	3/418	9/650	2/30	-	14/1098
Iron	-	1/40	-	-	1/40

4.2.2 The fieldwalking assemblage ranges in date from prehistoric to post-medieval, with an emphasis on the Late Saxon and medieval periods. Prehistoric material comprises a low level scatter, mainly comprising worked flint, but with a few sherds of pottery, across FW1-3. Romano-British pottery occurred in all four

areas but was concentrated in FW1, along with pieces of ceramic building material. A few sherds of pottery tentatively identified as Early/Mid Saxon were found in FW1, 2 and 3. Late Saxon and medieval pottery and building material was concentrated in FW2, and post-medieval in FW1.

4.3 Pottery

4.3.1 The pottery assemblage has been spot-dated, and broad details of fabric type recorded, as well as the presence of rims, decorated and glazed sherds. No attempt has been made at this stage to relate the pottery to known local or regional wares, although a few well known types have been recognised. The quantifications in **Table 1** give the numbers of sherds within broad chronological groups.

4.3.2 The pottery from the surface is generally in poor condition, as is often the case with ploughzone assemblages. The harder-fired medieval sandy wares, and most of the post-medieval wares, have survived better, but the shelly wares (Late Saxon/medieval, and possible prehistoric) are badly abraded and frequently leached. The Romano-British wares are also quite abraded.

4.3.3 Prehistoric

Only a handful of sherds have been identified, with varying degrees of confidence, as of prehistoric date. All are plain body sherds. Five of the seven sherds are in coarse, shelly fabrics which are not in themselves chronologically distinctive, but which could potentially be of late 2nd or 1st millennium date, as could a single sherd from FW3, with rock inclusions. The final sherd, also from FW3, is grog-tempered and could be of Early Bronze Age date.

4.3.4 Romano-British

Pottery identified as Romano-British (concentrated in FW1) consists mainly of coarse greywares, and the possibility exists that further sherds remain unidentified amongst the Late Saxon and medieval greywares. Diagnostic sherds are scarce but appear to represent exclusively jars. Oxidised sandy wares are also present in small quantities; two or three sherds from mortaria, gritted with iron slag, could be Nene Valley products. There are also a few sherds of grog-tempered wares. Finewares comprise a few sherds of samian and colour-coated ware, the latter possibly from the local kilns at South Carlton.

4.3.5 Early/Mid Saxon

A small group of sherds has been tentatively identified as Early/Mid Saxon. Of these, the only sherds which are relatively confidently assigned to this date range are five sandy sherds from one collection unit in FW3, which include a fairly diagnostic jar rim, and an organic-tempered body sherd from FW1. The other 21 sherds, mainly from FW3, are in coarse sandy fabrics but are not diagnostic.

4.3.6 Late Saxon/Medieval

The majority of the fieldwalking assemblage has been broadly dated as Late Saxon or medieval (9th – 15th century). This essentially consists of two broad fabric groups – shelly wares and sandy wares, both of which have a lengthy currency in the region. No attempt has been made at this stage to identify specific types within the regional type series.

4.3.7 Shelly wares span the Late Saxon and early medieval periods (9th to 13th centuries), and several different types have been identified in Lincoln (see, for example, Gilmour 1988). The sherds from the fieldwalking assemblage are largely undiagnostic (and frequently heavily abraded), but the diagnostic sherds that are present (internally hollowed jar rims, inturned or internally bevelled bowl rims, rouletted sherds) indicate that a high proportion of this group falls within the early part of the potential date range.

4.3.8 Sandy wares were in use for the whole of the Late Saxon and medieval periods, and several different sources are likely to be represented here. There are certainly sherds of Late Saxon Torksey-type wares (frilled jar rims), and possibly some Lincoln Sandy ware (forms as for the Late Saxon shelly wares), as well as a few body sherds of glazed Stamford wares. However, a much higher proportion of the sandy wares comprise hard-fired, oxidised wares characteristic of the later medieval period (12th/13th century onwards), many of them glazed and presumably deriving from jug forms, some highly decorated. These almost certainly include Lincoln types, but possibly also some Humber Wares, and products of the Potter Hanworth and Toynton All Saints kilns.

4.3.9 Post-Medieval
The distinction between the finer sandy wares of the late medieval period and post-medieval earthenwares is not always clearcut, and some wares may have been wrongly assigned at this stage. Nevertheless, it is apparent that the incidence of post-medieval pottery across the fieldwalked area was relatively low, the majority occurring in FW1. As well as earthenwares there are sherds of English stonewares of 17th century and later date, and Staffordshire-type slipwares and mottled wares (17th/18th century). There are very few industrial wares of 19th/20th century date.

4.4 Ceramic building material

4.4.1 The ceramic building, like the pottery, is generally in fragmentary and abraded condition. This means that the majority of the assemblage consists of small undiagnostic fragments which are difficult or impossible to date. Much of the assemblage appears to comprise fragments of medieval and post-medieval roof tile, but identifiable Romano-British brick/tile types are present, primarily from FW 1, including *imbrex* and *tegula* fragments.

4.5 Clay pipes

4.5.1 These comprised one plain stem fragment and two bowl fragments, one decorated – none of these pieces are closely datable.

4.6 Worked flint

4.6.1 A small amount of worked flint was recovered, mainly from FW2. This consists largely of waste flakes, with two possible scrapers. Patination varies, and most pieces show signs of edge damage consistent with a ploughzone assemblage.

4.6 Stone

4.7.1 This includes portable objects as well as possible building material. Objects comprise five whetstones and three spindlewhorls, all from FW2 and 3. None of these objects are chronologically distinctive, but the concentration of Late Saxon/medieval material in these fields suggests a similar date for the whetstones and spindlewhorls. Two flattish fragments from FW1 and one broken, rounded pebble from FW2 could also have been utilised. There are two possible tile fragments, one from FW1 and one from FW2.

4.8 Glass

4.8.1 A few fragments of vessel and window glass were recovered. Most of the vessel fragments derive from green wine bottle of post-medieval date (mid 17th century or later), with three pieces of modern clear bottle/jar (including one stopper). The window glass is also of post-medieval date. Two tiny fragments in pale blue or greenish glass, both from FW3, could conceivably be Romano-British, but are too small to tell.

4.8.2 In addition, an opaque blue, cylindrical bead, of Anglo-Saxon type, was recovered from FW3.

4.9 Iron

4.9.1 As stated above, the ironwork collected has not been recorded, but there is one exception – a key of late medieval or post-medieval date from FW2.

4.10 Finds from the evaluation trenches

4.10.1 Finds were recovered from eight of the 12 evaluation trenches excavated (**Table 2**). Within this part of the finds assemblage, the most important group comprises the human remains and associated grave goods recovered from three inhumation burials (two in Trench 1 and one in Trench 2) and two disturbed cremation burials (one in Trench 1 and one in Trench 7) of Anglo-Saxon date. Other stratified finds derived from topsoil and subsoil contexts, and from stratified archaeological features, and range in date from early prehistoric to post-medieval.

4.10.2 In addition, a systematic metal detector survey over the area, including the scanning of all spoil, yielded a number of objects. Few of these are chronologically distinctive, and none can be convincingly linked to the Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

Table 2: Evaluation finds totals (number / weight in grammes)
CBM = ceramic building material

Material	Tr. 1	Tr. 2	Tr. 3	`Tr. 4	Tr. 5	Tr. 7	Tr. 11	Tr. 12	unstrat	TOTAL
Pottery	61/140	54/368	5/43	2/17	6/72	-	1/2	1/8	-	130/650
Prehistoric	-	-	-	*2/17*	-		-	-		*2/17*
Romano-British	*9/50*	*9/54*	*2/14*	-	*6/72*		-	-		*26/190*
Early/Mid Saxon	*51/89*	*44/299*	*1/1*	-	-		-	-		*96/389*
Medieval	*1/1*	-	-	-	-		-	-		*1/1*
Post-Medieval	-	*1/15*	*2/28*	-	-		-	*1/8*		*4/51*
Undated	-	-		-	-		*1/2*	-		*1/2*
Ceramic Building Material	-	-	6/42	-	1/80	-	-	-	-	7/122
Stone	-	-	-	1/76	-	-	-	-	-	1/76
Flint	-	-	1/1	2/10	-	-	-	-	-	3/11
Glass	10/11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10/11
Vessel	*1/2*									*1/2*
Beads	*9*									*9*
Amber	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Fibre	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Metalwork	18	22	20	2	-	-	-	3	15	80
Iron	*11*	*19*	*18*	*1*				-	*8*	*57*
Copper alloy	*7*	*1*	*1*	*1*				*2*	*3*	*15*
Lead	-	*2*	*1*	-				*1*	*4*	*8*
Human bone	2 inhum 183g crem	1 inhum	-	-	-	- 31g crem	-	-	-	3 inhum 10g crem
Animal Bone	-	1 / 2	10/25	1/2	48/946	-	-	-	-	60/975

4.11 Human bone

4.11.1 Human remains were recovered from three inhumation burials (107, 110, 211) and from two disturbed cremation burials, one possibly urned (104, subsoil layer 702). A brief assessment of the age and sex of the individuals, observed pathology, and the condition of the bone, is included in the grave catalogue (**Appendix 1**). Two of the inhumation burials (107 and 110) also contained redeposited (unburnt) human bone, incorporated in the grave backfill.

4.10.3 Skeleton 110 (grave 108) warrants some comment. This individual was identified as female on site, probably on the basis of the skull morphology. Subsequent examination has found that the skull traits could equally well indicate male gender. The additional fact that the skeleton as a whole is massive, with particularly large femurs and feet, suggests that identification as male would be more appropriate (and would fit with the grave goods), but some slight question still remains.

4.12 Grave goods

4.12.1 The artefacts accompanying the five excavated burials are summarised in **Appendix 1**. These objects are consistent with a proposed date range for the cemetery of late 5th to early 7th century. It is worth noting, however, that there is a marked discrepancy between the range of grave goods from the excavated graves, and those recovered during previous metal detector survey (see

below), in that the brooches so common within the latter group were completely absent from the excavated graves.

4.12.2 Cremation burial (104) was contained within a pottery vessel. The vessel survives as plain body sherds in a very friable, organic-tempered fabric; the original form is uncertain. No other artefacts were found associated with this burial, or with the cremated animal burial (114).

4.12.3 A second pottery vessel was found accompanying inhumation burial (210) (adult male). This vessel is also in a very fragmentary and friable condition; the fabric is calcareous and the original form is uncertain. Apart from the pot, an iron nail was found with this burial, and an iron object, which si currently unlocated.

4.12.4 The other two inhumation burials were better furnished. Burial 105 (adult ?female) contained glass and amber beads, found in the neck area of the skeleton and presumably forming a necklace string. The glass beads all appear to be of different types, and include both monochrome and polychrome examples. This burial also produced a pair of copper alloy sleeve clasps (hook and eye fittings to fasten the sleeve cuffs); an iron ring, found near the pelvis and perhaps representing a suspension ring for a girdle group; and an iron annular buckle. In addition, organic material, possibly bark rope, was found beneath the knees.

4.12.5 The adult ?male in burial (108) was accompanied by a shield boss and knife. Two rivets found separately almost certainly also derive from the shield, while copper alloy strip fragments (with mineralised organic material) could represent other shield fittings. A small fragment of iron, possibly part of a second knife, and two nails were also found within the grave fill.

4.13 Pottery from other contexts

4.13.1 Pottery from other contexts includes sherds of prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date. The earliest sherds came from the lower fill of ditch 404 (Trench 4). These are both grog-tempered, and include one body sherd decorated with twisted cord impressions, which can be identified as Collared Urn, and one plain body sherd which is also likely to be of Early Bronze Age date but of uncertain ceramic tradition.

4.13.2 One sherd in a fine, sandy fabric with prominent iron inclusions, from subsoil in Trench 11, could also be prehistoric but, on the grounds that it is quite hard fired, is more likely to be Saxon.

4.13.3 Romano-British sherds were recovered from Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5. These consist largely of undiagnostic coarsewares (greywares, oxidised sandy and shelly), with one sherd of colour coated ware (South Carlton?) from topsoil in Trench 5.

4.13.4 Apart from the two vessels from grave contexts, only three (possibly four) further sherds were dated as Early/Mid Saxon, only one definitively – an

organic-tempered sherd from grave 108 (although almost certainly residual in this context). Two sandy sherds are more tentatively assigned to this period (subsoil in Trench 1 and topsoil in Trench 3). The fourth sherd is the one with prominent ironstone inclusions already mentioned.

4.13.5 Only one medieval sherd was recovered – a small glazed, sandy sherd from subsoil in Trench 1.The remaining four sherds are post-medieval, all coarse redwares from topsoil contexts or unstratified.

4.14 Metalwork from other contexts

4.14.1 Apart from the grave goods, metal objects (iron, copper alloy and lead) came from topsoil and subsoil contexts, and from metal detector survey. Few of these objects are closely datable – those that are comprise two Romano-British lead curses (metal detector finds) and two Roman coins (topsoil in Trench 4, and unstratified from Trench 12). Other identifiable objects comprise nails, a possible horseshoe fragment, a possible knife blade and a plumb bob.

4.15 Animal bone

4.15.1 Of the 46 bones recovered from trenches 3, 4 and 5, only 29 were from cut features. Nine from ditch 308 were in very poor condition, of which only one (a fragmentary cattle lower molar) could be identified. Twenty bones from Romano-British ditch 504 were in fair condition and 12 were identified to species: a small horse scapula, young goat horn cores, a dog canine and cattle metacarpal, jaw and heavily chopped calcaneum were recovered.

4.15.2 The topsoil in trench 5 contained three cattle bones and the jaw of a dog with some bone resorption along the toothrow, although the dog was not of great age. All topsoil finds were in poor or very poor condition, and only one other fragment, an unerupted lower pig molar, could be identified.

4.15.3 Gnawing was noted on one bone, the cattle metapodial in ditch fill 505, and this was of noticeably worse condition than the other bones in this context. Butchery was noted on two bones in total, four could be aged and two measured, all from context 505.

4.16 Other finds

4.16.1 Other finds from the evaluation trenches comprise a few fragments of ceramic building material (one possible Romano-British, from Trench 5), stone (possible building material from natural feature 406), vessel glass (post-medieval), and worked flint (two waste flakes).

4.17 Metal detector finds

4.17.1 A number of metal-detected finds (36), collected at South Cliff Farm prior to the Time Team investigations, have been included in the overall assemblage. Most of these objects have already been recorded under the Portable

Antiquities Scheme. The objects are listed in **Appendix 2**. They comprise one object of iron, two of lead, and 33 of copper alloy.

4.17.2 The majority are of Anglo-Saxon date, and include a shield boss, 21 brooches or brooch fragments (mostly cruciform type), two sleeve clasps, a girdle hanger, a faceted pin head, and a ring and strap-loop. Apart from the pin head, which is of 8th or 9th century date, these objects date between the 5th and the 7th century, and the likelihood is that they originated from further graves within the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. The shield boss may in fact be the same as one previously observed associated with human remains in the same field.

4.17.3 Five objects are Romano-British in date – three coins and two brooch pins. There is one lead token of 15th/16th century date, and an incised lead fragment of uncertain date.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

5.1 Five bulk soil samples were taken from Early Bronze Age, Anglo-Saxon and undated contexts (Table 3). The samples were processed by standard flotation methods at Wessex Archaeology for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals.

5.2 The flots were generally small around 20 to 100 ml. Most contained quite a high proportion of roots and in some cases leaves as well. Modern seeds and shells of the burrowing species of snail, *Cecilioides acicula*, were also present.

5.3 Cremation samples, by their very nature, seldom contain cereal remains and only a single unidentifiable cereal grain was recovered from cremation burial (104).

5.4 All the remaining features produced cereal remains. The Early Bronze Age ring ditch in Trench 4 also produced numerous fragments of hazelnut shell. The sample from natural feature (406) contained a hulled barley grain (*Hordeum sativum*) and a couple of large fragments of parenchyma (soft plant tissue) perhaps from a nut kernal or tuber.

5.5 The samples from the Early Bronze Age ring ditch contained five cereal grains identified as barley (*Hordeum sativum*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.). At least one barley grain was probably of the naked variety while two of the wheat grains are most probably of emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*). The samples also contained seeds of vetch (*Vicia* sp.) and of black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*). Both also contained around twenty to fifty fragments of hazelnut shell. They also contained numerous fragments of parenchyma perhaps from the inner kernal of hazelnut. A whole immature shell of hazelnut was also recorded. The samples also contained a fragment of root from a cereal or grass and an unidentified seed head. This latter object was very small and may even be modern.

Table 3: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

				Flot						Residue	
Feature type/ No	Context	Sample	size litres	flot size ml	Grain	Chaff	Weed seeds uncharred	Weed seeds charred	Charcoal >5.6mm	Other	Charcoal >5.6mm	analysis
Early Bronze Age												
Ring ditch 404	403	401	25	100 [70]	C	-	c	A (h)	C	Moll-t (C)	-	
Ring ditch 404	403	403	20	100 [80]	C	-	c	A* (h)	C	Moll-t (C)	-	C
Anglo Saxon												
Feature 114	113	104	10	100 [10]	-	-	c	C(h)	B	Moll-t (C)	-	
Cremation burial 104	104	106	5	20 [15]	C	-	-	-	-	Moll-t (C)	-	
Unphased												
Natural feature 406	405	402	10	40 [35]	C	-	c	-	-	Moll-t (C)	-	
Hand-picked Charcoal												
Cremation burial 104		104A		5 [n/a]	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	C
Feature 114	113	107	0.1	40 [5]	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	C

KEY: A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, (h) = hazelnuts,; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs; Analysis, C = charcoal

NOTE: [1]flot is total, but flot in superscript = ml of rooty material. [2]Unburnt seed in lower case to distinguish from charred remains

5.6 Hazelnut shell is a common feature of British sites from the Neolithic through the Beaker period to the end of the earlier Bronze Age (Moffett *et al*. 1989). These findings combined with the low density of cereal remains has often been taken as characteristic of a greater reliance on wild foods remains during these period compared with much later prehistory (Moffett *et al*. 1989; Robinson 2000).

5.7 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in Table 3. The charcoal fragments were generally quite small and it was not possible to tell in the assessment whether they came from heart or roundwood, although some from the handpicked cremation samples were characteristic of oak.

5.8 During the processing of bulk soil samples for the recovery of charred plant remains and charcoals, snails were noted, and recorded in the flots. Snail shells were in very low numbers. They included shells of *Vallonia* sp. *Hellicella* sp. and probably *Cepea* sp. from the ring ditch, which also contained a probably shell of *Carychium* sp.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Much of the occupation and activity within the project area at South Cliff Farm was largely determined by the topography. The scarp of the Lincolnshire Edge dominates land to both east and west, has favourable soils and has undoubtedly been utilised as a major route from prehistoric times. It forms the west edge of a block of land stretching east to the North Sea and from Lincoln

to the Humber in the north. The enclosed area is conventionally known as Lindsey.

6.2 Ring ditches, representing ploughed round barrows have been recorded from adjacent fields. The discovery of a previously unknown ring ditch at South Cliff Farm provides additional evidence for the use of the area in the Early Bronze Age. Although the monument has been heavily ploughed a fragment of Collared Urn from the primary fill of the ditch suggested that the monument was probably constructed sometime between 2,250-1,750 BC. The limited dimensions of the ditch make it more likely that it was constructed as a disc or saucer barrow. The absence of internal features suggests that the primary burial, like the secondary cremation burial observed in the evaluation, had not been placed in a rock-cut grave in the limestone bedrock. The barrow was located behind the brow of the hill and is unlikely to have been visible from the west, but would have been seen from the gentle dip slope to the east.

6.3 Bronze Age pottery from the surface collection in FW3 has hinted that the clay vale was also occupied in the 2nd or 1st millennium BC.

6.4 There were no finds of Iron Age date from the surface collection or the evaluation.

6.5 Extensive areas of cultivation with planned field systems were in place during the Roman period, possibly adapted from earlier field systems. It is likely that the field boundaries identified by geophysics formed part of the estate connected to the villa site at Scampton, 1.5 km to the north, or possibly to that at Burton, 2.5 km south. These villas lay within an affluent grain producing area, immediately north of Lincoln and adjacent to the Ermine Street, which formalised the line of the prehistoric ridge-way.

6.6 The Anglo-Saxon occupation of the area is thought to have commenced during the 4th century when German mercenaries or *foederati* may have settled in the area. Occupation, however, is best documented from a number of pagan cemeteries (Leahy 1993) of which at least 43 are known and which date from the middle of the 5th century. Excavations elsewhere in the area have shown that cremation cemeteries, sometimes containing in excess of 1,000 burials, predated the use of inhumation as a means of disposing with the dead in the same cemetery. There is nothing to indicate whether the cremation burial found at South Cliff is earlier, later or contemporary with the inhumations, although one grave was seen to cut through a feature containing cremated animal bone.

6.7 Faull (1976, 231-2) argued that cremation burial cemeteries were frequently larger than later largely inhumation burial cemeteries, dating from the last quarter of the 5th century, which may have served small nucleated settlements. The evaluation suggested that the cemetery at South Cliff Farm is relatively small, probably covering no more than 0.25 ha, but including both cremation and inhumation burials.

6.8 Finds from the metal detector searches and the results of the evaluation have confirmed that the cemetery was in use between the late 5th and early 7th centuries AD, a period when other cemeteries are known from Lincolnshire. The dating also correlates with the known change of cremation to inhumation burial introduced by groups who arrived from Scandinavia in the last quarter of the 5th century (Leahy 1993, 37). They are known to have introduced new forms of dress fitting, including the sleeve clasp from west Norway, of which two were found in grave (105).

6.9 Inhumation cemeteries are well documented from the sides of the Wolds and the Lincoln Edge, occupying places that offer a wide view over the landscape. Leahy mapped the known distribution of inhumation cemeteries aligned along the Lincoln Edge and showed that they were approximately 3 km apart. The South Cliff Farm, lying 5 km north of Lincoln, is currently the most closely located Anglo Saxon inhumation cemetery to Lincoln. It also lies in an area that, apart from the poorly dated burials from the Roman villa site at Scampton, was not previously known to contain Anglo-Saxon burials.

6.10 The cemetery lies relatively close to the Early Bronze Age barrow, a monument type that was frequently adopted by Anglo-Saxon communities for their own burials, however it is by no means certain whether the monument might not have been ploughed out by Roman agriculture. The cemetery enjoys a closer relationship to the bank, recorded on the Tithe Map, and which is visible in the field. It is possible that this feature marks a much earlier boundary, possibly a Roman field or estate boundary, that was adopted by the Anglo-Saxon communities. The bank does not contribute to the present parish boundary of South Carlton although the field boundary forming the north side of the site does mark the present parish boundary of South Carlton. The parish itself is a strip parish that may incorporate elements of the former Romano-British estate boundaries. The parish contains representative samples of the clay vale, the spring line and the well-drained limestone uplands and terminates along the line of the Ermine Street. A few sherds of pottery from the surface collection in FW3 at Middle Carlton indicate that occupation of the village is likely to have begun by the Early/Mid Saxon period. An additional sherd of the same date was found from the cemetery field in FW1.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

7.1 Time Team's evaluation at South Cliff Farm has produced significant new information on a site of local and regional significance. The evaluation produced evidence for an Early Bronze Age barrow and firm evidence for the existence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, including both inhumation and cremation burials, and dating between the 5th and early 7th centuries. The survival of cremated bone from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery was minimal, but the inhumed bone provides details of the age and sex of the individuals, and possibly pathological details (evidence for disease, trauma, etc), to which can be added the evidence of the grave goods (weapons, jewellery and personal items).

7.2 The Anglo-Saxon material is augmented by the metal detector finds made prior to the Time Team investigations – admittedly unstratified, and possibly a biased sample (they include a very high proportion of brooches but only one iron object), but in all likelihood deriving from further burials, and providing valuable dating evidence.

7.3 The finds from fieldwalking comprise a collection which is essentially unstratified, and not in very good condition, but which can provide distributional data. Datable finds (largely pottery) have served to identify a concentration of Romano-British material in FW1, and a concentration of Late Saxon/medieval material in FW2 (over the main area of the deserted village of Middle Carlton). Further refinement of the pottery dating could provide a clearer picture of the earliest date, development and abandonment of Middle Carlton, while identification of Romano-British and medieval ceramic building material would inform an understanding of the types of structures in use during these periods.

7.4 The results of the archaeological work should be made available to the wider archaeological and academic community through publication of the results in an appropriate format. The emphasis of the report should lie with the evidence for the Anglo-Saxon cemetery and recommendations for further work have been made on this basis. In additional certain further work is required as an essential archival requirement of the proposed recipient museum (City of Lincoln).

7.5 The site data for the Anglo-Saxon cemetery will be extracted from this evaluation report to which will be added additional information as a result of further analysis of the human bone, grave goods and charcoal. Plans and photographs will be included as appropriate. Publication will be in an appropriate academic journal.

7.6 Full analysis and publication is proposed for the human bone and associated grave goods from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. These will primarily consist of the material excavated during the Time Team investigations, but use could also be made of the metal detector finds made previously.

7.7 Analysis of the cremated bone will follow the writer's standard procedure (McKinley 2000). All unsorted <4mm residues will be subject to a rapid scan to extract any identifiable material, osseous or artefactual. It may be possible to place the inhumed individuals within a tighter age range with further analysis. It may be possible to take further measurements and to calculate skeletal indices.

7.8 The analysis of the human bone will aim to cover (a) demography (minimum numbers, age and sex); (b) pathology; and (c) the nature of the cremation-related deposits; (d) pyre technology and aspects of cremation rites and rituals.

7.9 It would be worth taking a DNA sample from Skeleton 110 (large adult ?male), because of the apparently contradictory gender traits. If this is a male,

the skull is of unusual morphology, and if female, the individual would have been unusually large.

7.10 Three charcoal samples may be analysed to provide information about the Anglo-Saxon pyre-technology and woodland management.

7.11 Metalwork from Time Team investigations will be X-rayed (but not previous metal detectorist finds). Selected items (mainly grave goods, plus two Roman coins) will be conserved. Expansion of catalogue-style entries for all metal objects (apart from nails) as appropriate, including relevant references; these will be used as the basis for a grave catalogue. A short discussion of the grave goods will be prepared in terms of chronology and any implications for social status of the individual. All grave goods will be illustrated. In addition, a short discussion and catalogue of the other probable grave goods recovered during previous metal detector survey will be prepared.

7.12 The glass and amber beads do not require conservation. A catalogue will be prepared, using recommended terms for the recording of colour, form and decorative techniques (Hirst 2000) and will form the basis of a short discussion of types present, with chronological implications. All beads will be illustrated.

7.13 The two pottery vessels will be described in terms of fabric type and form (if possible), and the information will be fed into the grave catalogue. It is unlikely that either vessel will prove suitable for illustration.

7.14 No further work is proposed for any of the other finds recovered during the evaluation.

7.15 A limited amount of further work is proposed for the fieldwalking assemblage, mainly focusing on refining the existing spot dating information where possible, and enhancing the pottery data.

7.16 For pottery, the minimum archive requirement of the proposed recipient museum is for quantification (count and weight) by ware type, following the local (city of Lincoln) type series (unpublished). This must therefore be carried out for the entire fieldwalked assemblage.

7.17 Following this quantification, a text report will briefly describe and comment on the range of types present in terms of potential date range and sources, focusing on the Saxon and medieval assemblage, and drawing any conclusions as to the nature, extent and chronological development of the deserted village of Middle Carlton.

7.18 The minimum archive requirement for any ceramic building material to be deposited with the recipient museum is for quantification by date range and by type (where possible). Much of the fieldwalked assemblage is undiagnostic, and long-term storage is not warranted. However, quantification by period at least will provide more accurate information on the relative quantities of brick/tile by period, which can then be used to enhance the existing

distributional data. Diagnostic pieces such as glazed or nibbed tiles can be dated more accurately using the local (City of Lincoln) type series. A brief report will summarise this information, with any implications for our understanding of Romano-British and medieval structures on (or close to) the site.

7.19 The worked flint will be quantified by type (flake, core, etc), and discussed briefly, with specific reference to technology and potential chronology.

7.20 A copy of this report and the geophysical survey report will be deposited with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record.

8 THE ARCHIVE

8.1 The archive, which includes all artefacts, written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken, is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the site code SCSC 03 and Wessex Archaeology project code 52568. It is intended that, in accordance with the wishes of the landowner, the excavated material and records will eventually be deposited and curated at Lincoln City Museum in Lincoln under accession number LCNCC 2003.304.

The paper archive is contained in a lever arch ring binder file. It includes:

Project Design
Finalised Assessment Report

The geophysics report includes a record of all data, plots of the results, interpretation with detailed comments and conclusions.

The excavation archive includes:
5 A4 context index sheets
47 A4 context record sheets
7 A4 Test Pit/Trial Trench Record sheets
4 A4 graphics register sheets
2 A1 drawing sheets
4 A3 drawing sheets
11 A4 drawing sheets
6 A4 Photographic register sheets
4 A4 Sheets of results, showing levels data
14 A4 Sheets of GPS data showing trench location, geophysics grid and TBMs

The photographic archive includes:
88 colour transparency slides
Monochrome photographs

There is also:
A 1 page report on the location and recording methodology of field walked areas FW1 -3
5 pages A4 Palaeo-environmental report
1 page A4 Animal bone assessment report
1 page A4 Evaluation pot scan table
2 pages A4 Finds by Context
1 pages A4 Field walking pot by field
7 pages A4 Pot Scan (fieldwalking)
1 page A4 Field walking finds totals by field
2 pages A4 Object register
13 pages A4 Field walking finds by context
2 pages A4 Environmental Sample Index
11 pages A4 Environmental Sample record

The artefact assemblage is contained in:
12 cardboard boxes
2 plastic tubs

9 REFERENCES

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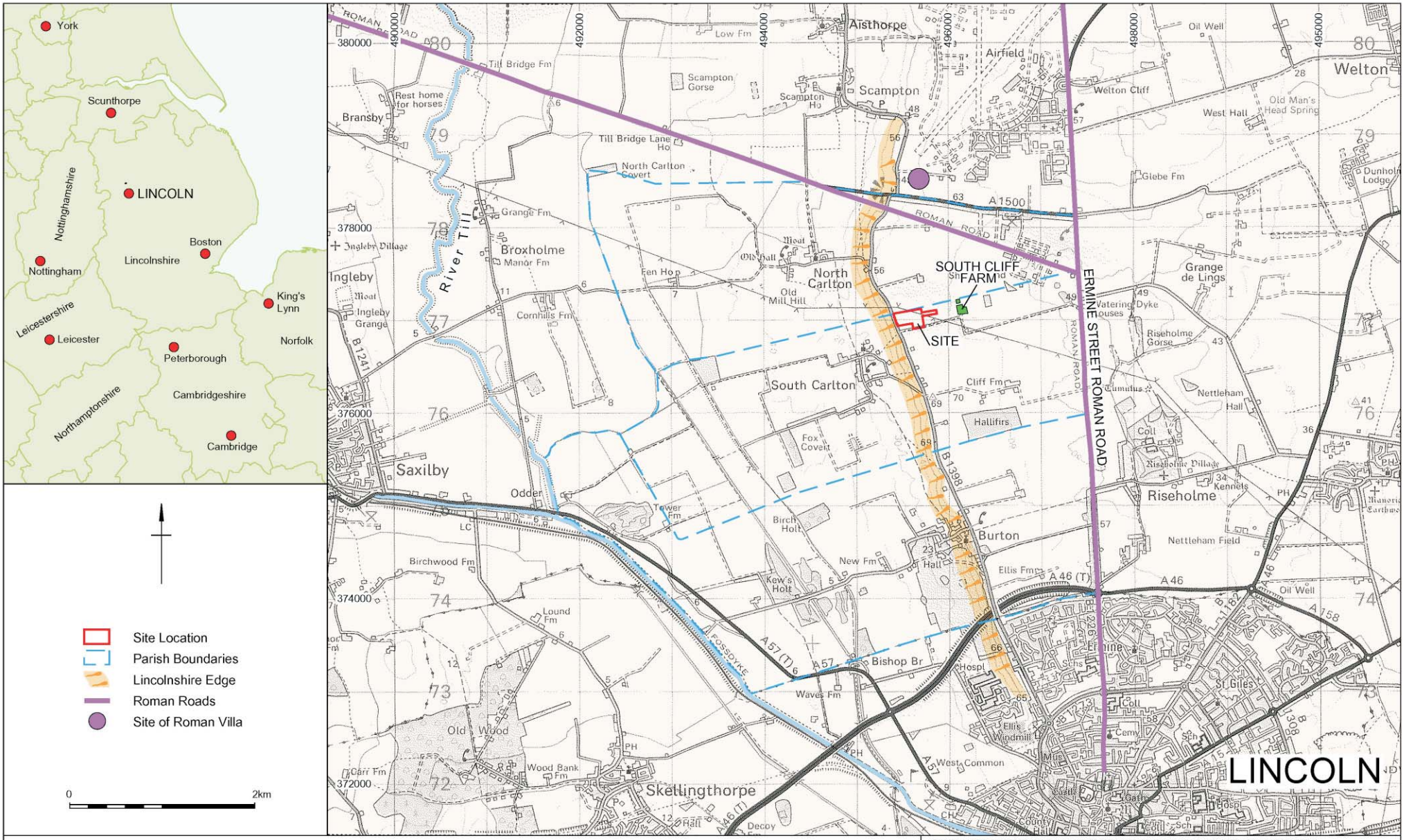
APPENDIX 1: Grave catalogue

Grave No.	Grave Fill	Burial Type	Human Bone	Grave goods
105	106	Inhumation	Skeleton 107: adult >40yr, ?female; caries; *ante mortem* tooth loss; calculus; abscess; pitting – clavicle; heavily fragmented, mostly beyond reconstruction; root marked & eroded; copper-alloy staining both forearm c.100 v small frags redeposited in grave fill: adult >18 yr	9 glass beads (ONs 1013, 1018-20, 1025-7, 1032, 1035) 3 amber beads (ONs 1012, 1017, 1043) 2 copper alloy sleeve clasps (ONs 1023, 1024) iron ring (ON 1011) iron buckle (ON 1033) Bark rope (ON 1031) c.2.5g cremated animal bone
108	109	Inhumation	Skeleton 110: adult >45 yr, ?male (gsn 3; skull traits similarly borderline & not strongly masculine except mandible); massive skeleton; eroded & root worn; upper limb worse, no articular surfaces; skull very poorly preserved 7 frags redeposited in grave fill: subadult/adult	iron object (ON 1042) copper alloy strip fragments (ONs 1002, 1003, 1010) iron shield boss (ON 1001) 3 iron [shield] rivets (ONs 1004, 1005, 1042) iron knife (ON 1016) iron ?blade fragment (ON 1015) 2 iron nails (ONs 1021, 1022)
210	212	Inhumation	Skeleton 211: adult >45 yr, male; caries; abscesses; periodontal disease; calculus op – left patella very dry, eroded appearance (2-3); some reconstruction required	pottery vessel (ON 1034) iron nail (ON 1030)
104		Cremation (?urned)	183g cremated bone: subadult/adult	pottery vessel
-	(702)	Cremation (disturbed)	31.4g cremated bone: subadult/adult	

APPENDIX 2: Metal detector finds

Obj. No.	P.A. Ref	Material	Type	Description	Date
200		Iron	shield boss		A-S
201		cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch, incomplete	A-S
202		cu.alloy	Brooch	Incomplete brooch, probably cruciform	A-S
203		cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
204	15	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment; small-long type?	A-S
205	22	cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch fragment	A-S
206	16	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
207	27	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch pin	?R-B
208	9	cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch fragment	A-S
209	14	cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch fragment	A-S
210	18	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
211	13	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
212	7	cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch, incomplete	A-S
213	26	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch pin with spring coil	R-B
214	2	cu.alloy	Clasp	Sleeve clasp	A-S
215	25	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
216	10	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, small-long type?	A-S
217	12	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
218	17	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
219		cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch fragment	A-S
220		cu.alloy	girdle hanger	Incomplete	
221		cu.alloy	Brooch	Enamelled disc brooch	R-B
222	21	cu.alloy	Brooch	Enamelled lozenge-shaped brooch	R-B
222	21	cu.alloy	Pin	Faceted cuboid pin head with stamped decoration	A-S
223	11	cu.alloy	Brooch	Brooch fragment, uncertain type	A-S
224	24	cu.alloy	Coins	3 coins	R-B
225	8	cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch in two pieces, with (modern) resin mends	A-S
226	5	cu.alloy	Brooch	2 disc brooches, with stamped decoration	A-S
227	20	cu.alloy	ring+loop	Ring and strap-loop	A-S
228	19	cu.alloy	Clasp	Sleeve clasp	A-S
229	6	Lead	Token		post-med
230	28	Lead	Object	With cut/engraved markings	uncertain
231	3	cu.alloy	Brooch	Cruciform brooch in three pieces, with (modern) resin mends	A-S



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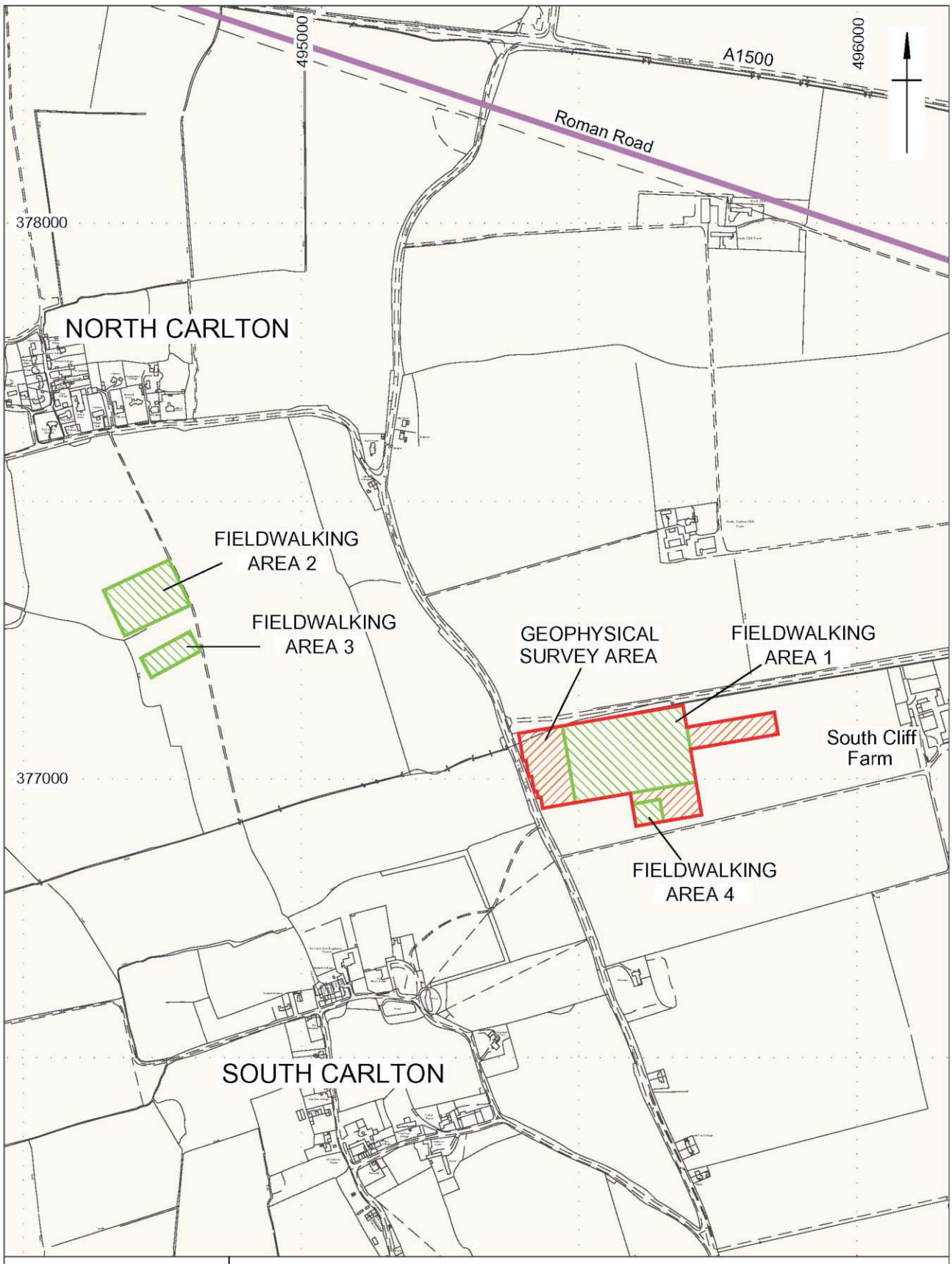
Wessex Archaeology

Site location maps

Figure 1



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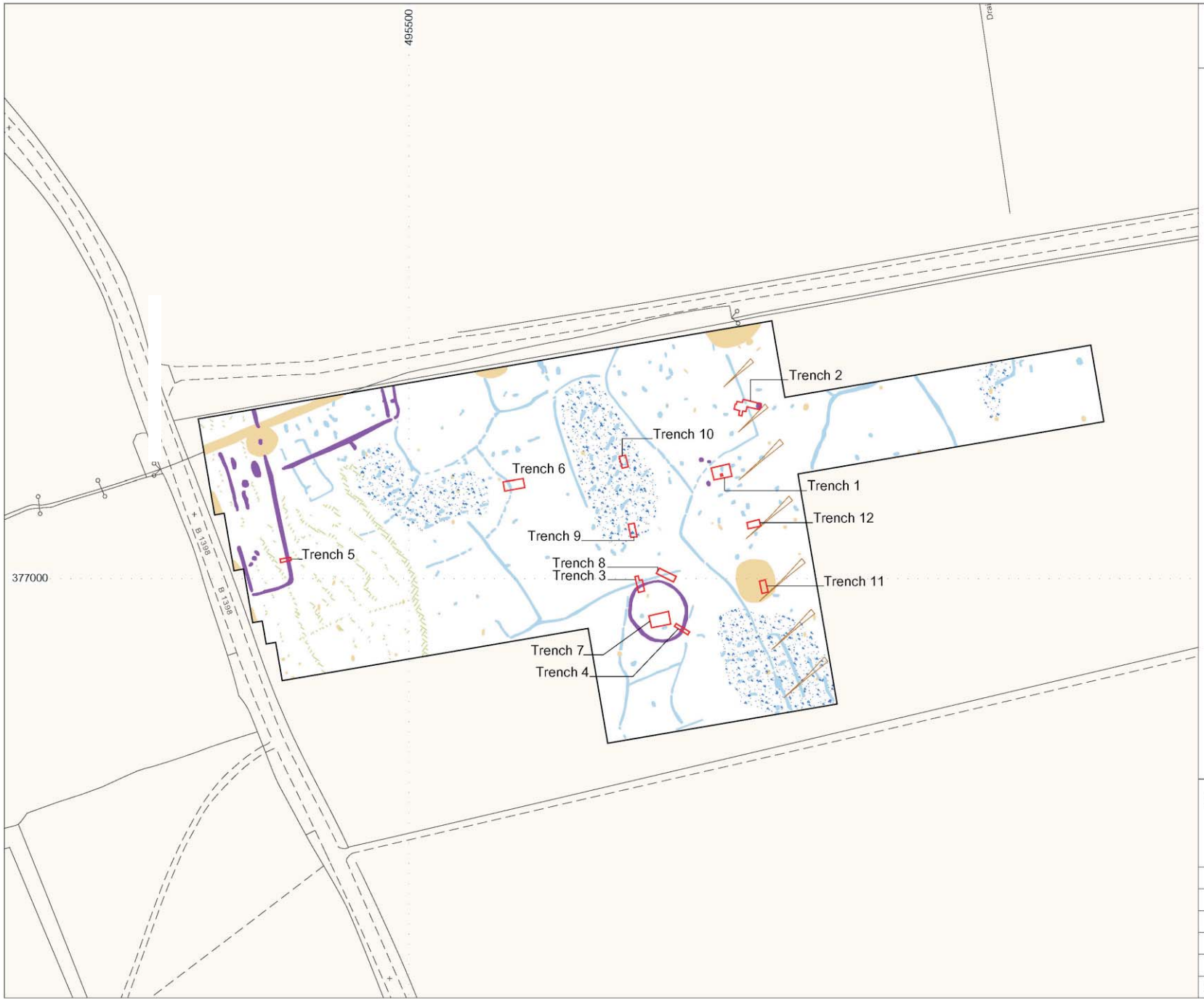
Location of fieldwalking and geophysical survey areas

Figure 2



Wessex Archaeology

Trenches

Indication of slope

Archaeology

?Archaeology/Natural

Increased Magnetic Response

Natural (frost wedges)

Ferrous

Mapping supplied by Time Team.
Licence number AL 100018665.

Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

Revision Number:	0
Illustrator:	MR
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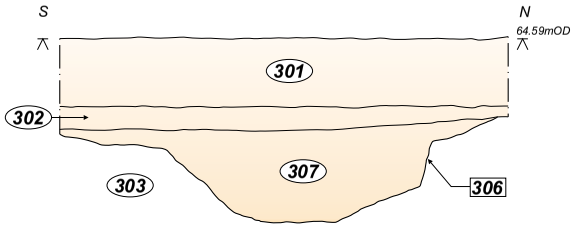
Geophysical survey results and trench location plan

Figure 3

Cross section through Ditch 306

TRENCH 3, Section 1



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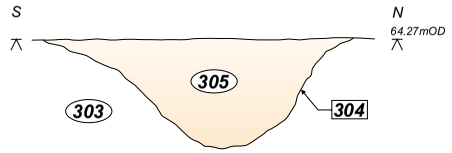

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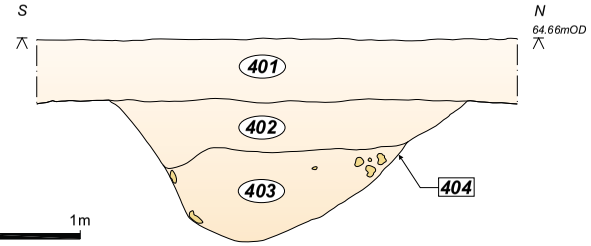

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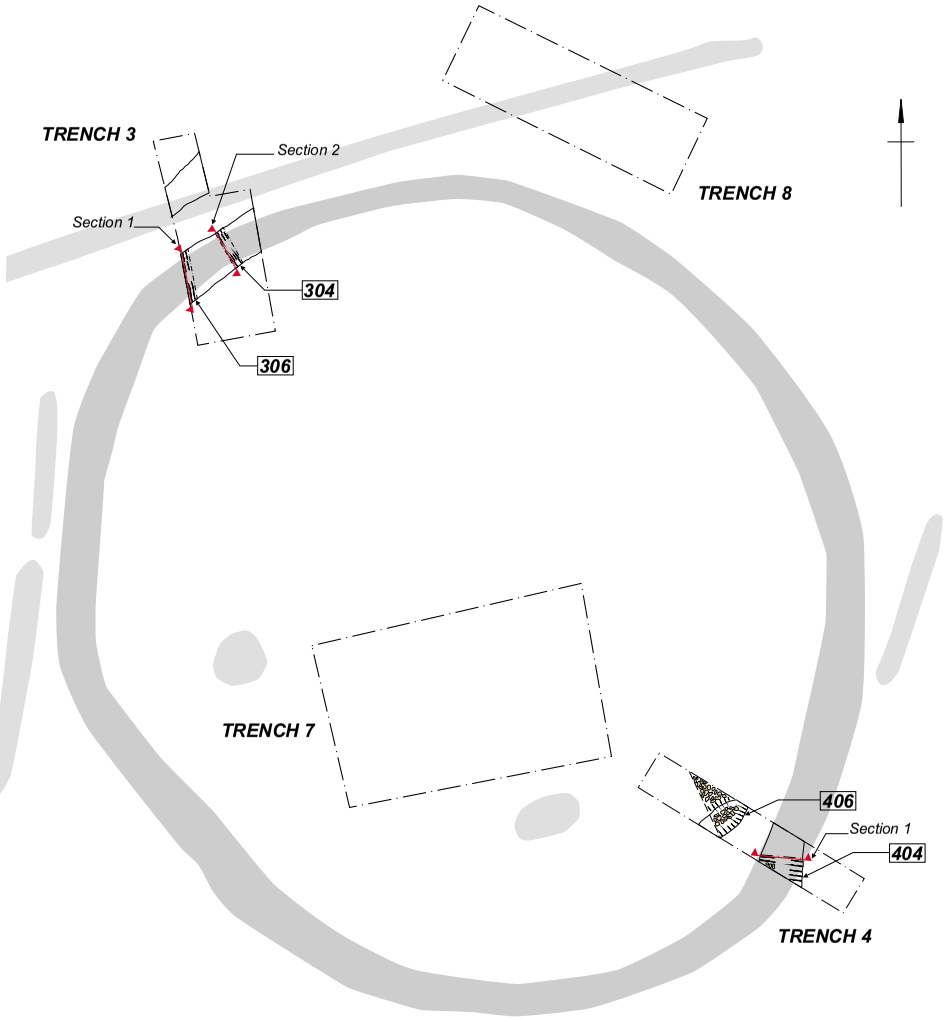

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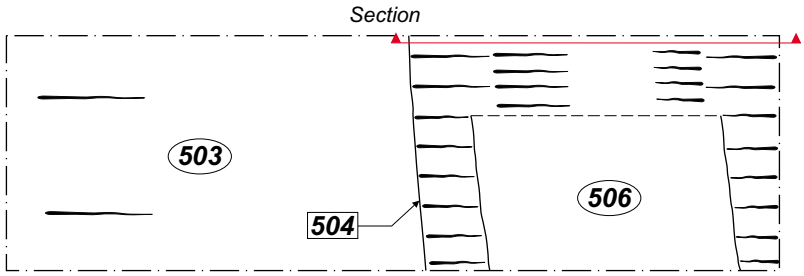
Trenches 3, 4, 7 & 8 plans and sections.

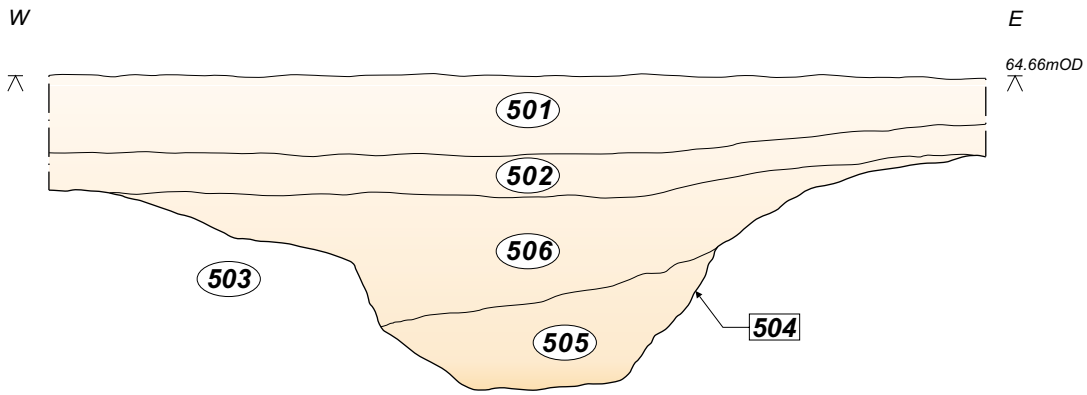
Figure 4

TRENCH 5



(Scale for plan = 1:50)

Trench 5 Section



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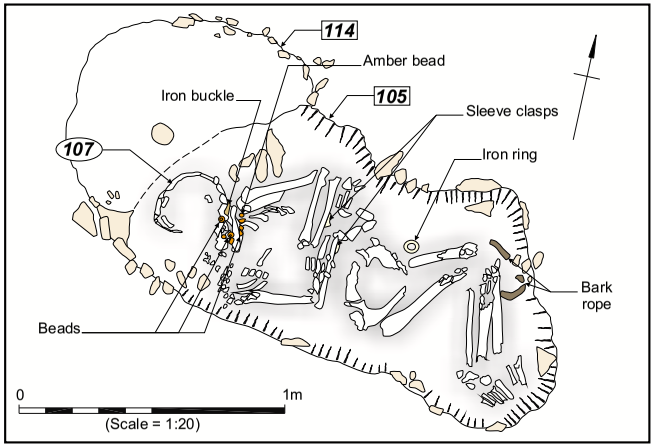
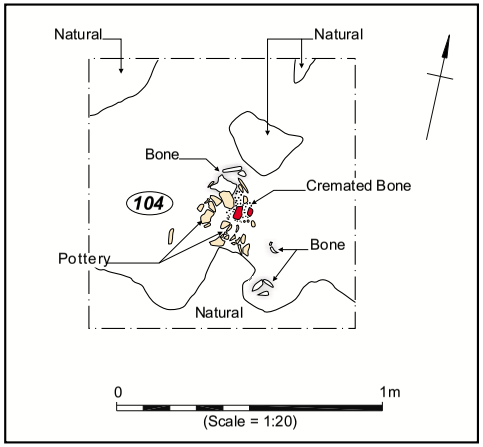
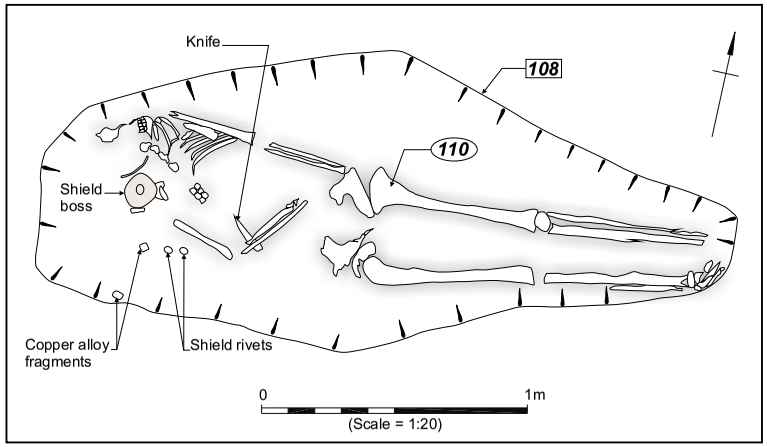
Trench 5 plan and section

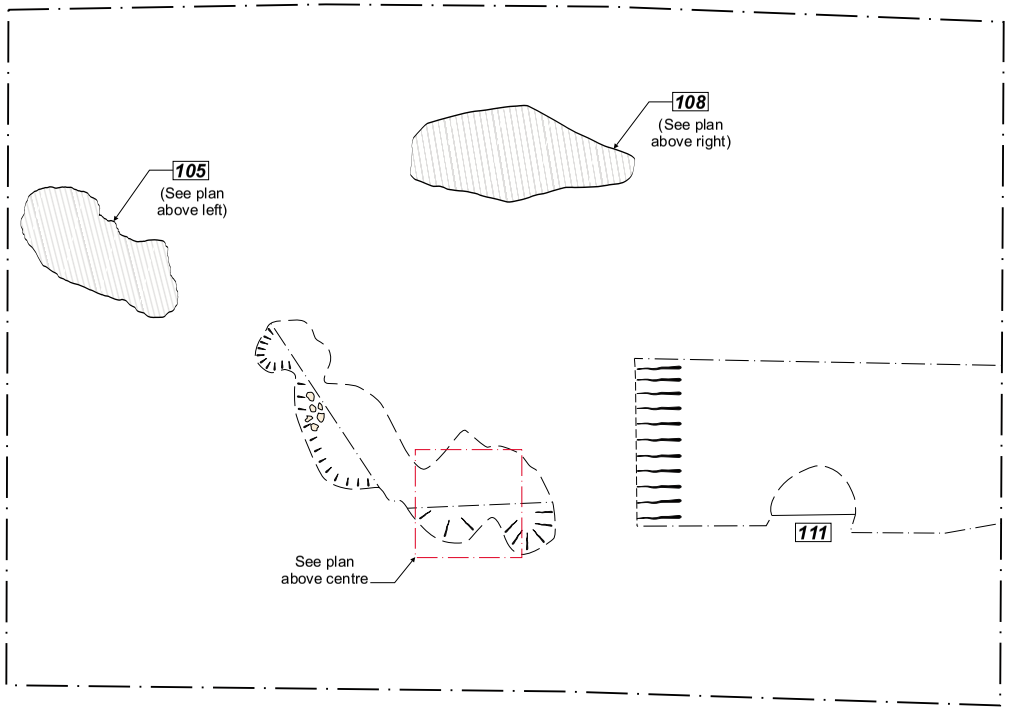
Figure 5







Inhumation 107



Inhumation 110

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0 2m
(Scale for plan Trench 1 = 1:50)

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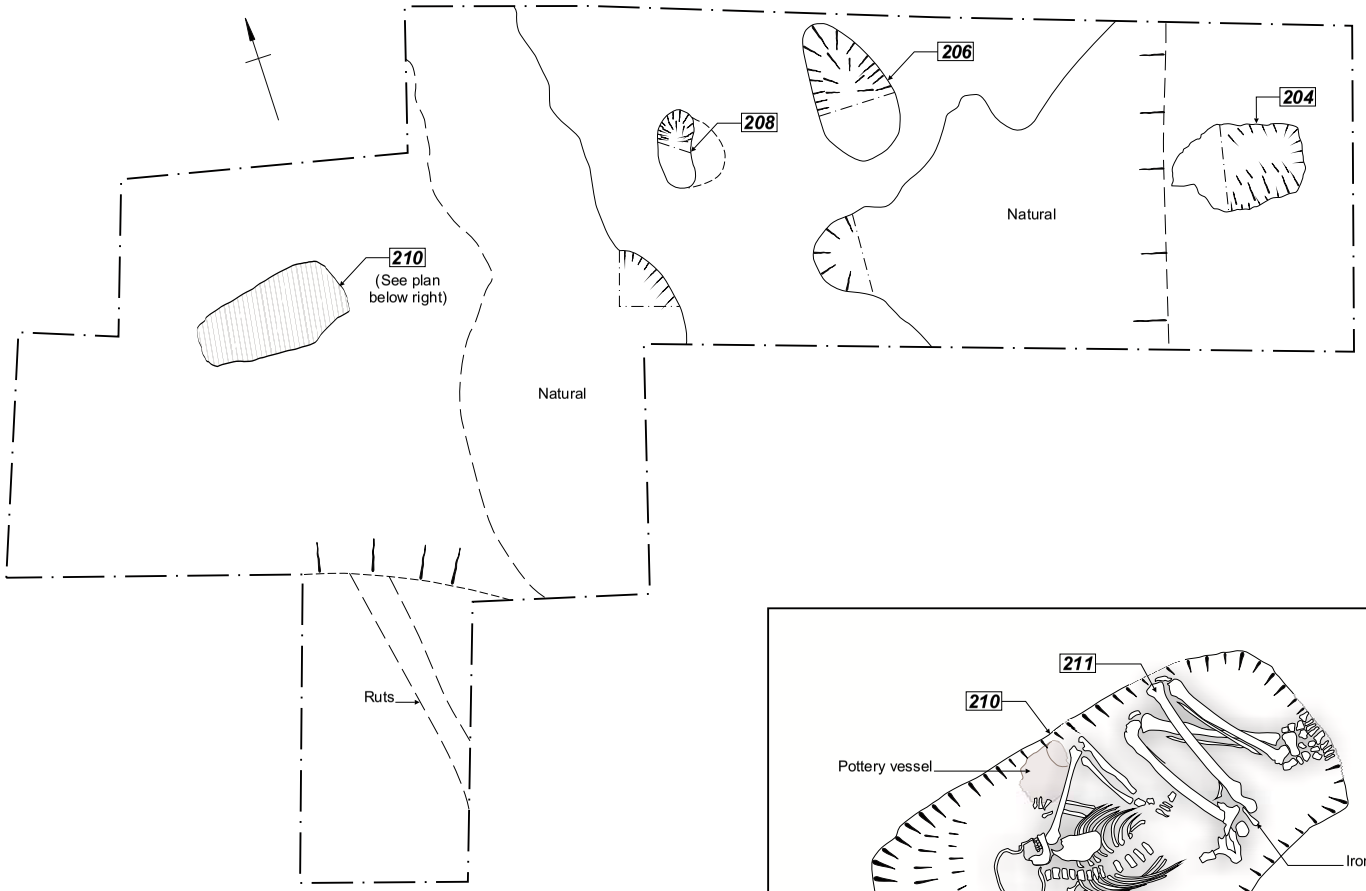
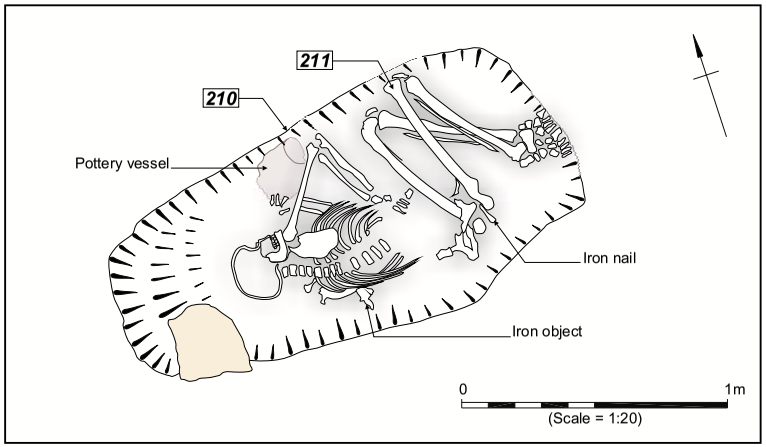
Trench 1 plan and plans of inhumations (**107** & **110**) and cremation remains

Figure 6

Inhumation 211





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0 2m
(Scale for plan of Trench 2 = 1:50)

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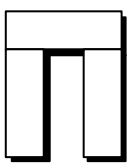
Trench 2 plan and plan of inhumation **211**

Figure 7



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