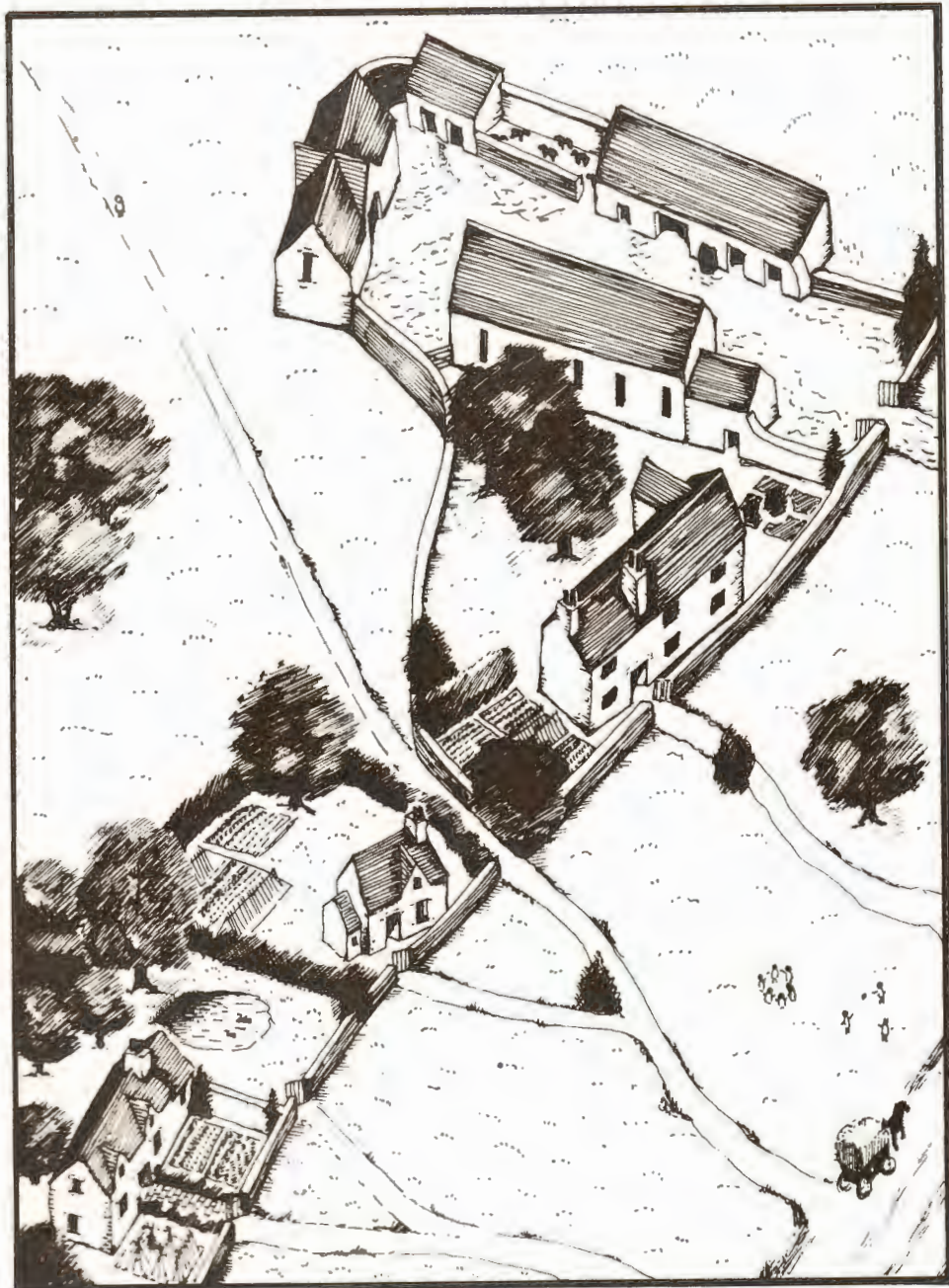


BRISTOL & AVON ARCHAEOLOGY



Volume 5

LESLIE VALENTINE GRINSELL OBE MA FSA FMA



Leslie emerging from Stoney Littleton Long Barrow in 1986. Photograph by R. Williams

In 1972 I wrote about Leslie Grinsell for a volume of essays published in his honour, called *Archaeology and the Landscape*. In my contribution I included this sentence: "Leslie Grinsell's astonishing volume of published fieldwork has assured for him a place without equal in the history of British archaeological studies." Fifteen years on, this claim remains true and has been enhanced. For LVG has not allowed retirement (in 1972) to deaden his enthusiasm for fieldwork and other scholarship. On the contrary, it has enabled him to change his routine from part-time fieldworking to as full-time an occupation as the project in hand requires. Since he left Bristol City Museum, he has put an astonishing volume of original work into print and has contributed massively to his principal field of study, the round barrows of Britain; contributed, too, to his own reputation as the pre-eminent authority on British round barrows as field monuments.

During this new phase in LVG's life — his work-in-retirement on our unique inheritance of burial mounds, long and round — invaluable reviews of his earlier work, so much of it pre-1939, have now been placed alongside the new surveys. Of his publication since 1972 about seventeen are directly concerned with prehistoric barrows and burials in England: three, with a fourth in press, are major additions to the primary surveys of burial mounds in our country.

One of the most recent major pieces of writing by LVG has been the development of his booklet of 1962 on the Bristol Mint into a completely re-written and enlarged book on the subject for the City Museum & Art Gallery, *The History and Coinage of the Bristol Mint* (1986). Its publication reminds us that from the moment of his installation in Bristol as a museum curator in 1952, LVG added yet another string to the bow of his

achievement — numismatics. In 1973 his *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles 19*, the Bristol portion, became a major scholarly contribution to knowledge in this field. Barrow surveys, pyramids and Egyptology, folklore, museum curatorship, numismatics: few people in a lifetime can master even one of these. LVG has achieved mightily in all of them. Not for nothing the O.B.E. and the M.A. *honoris causa* which nation and university granted him upon 'retirement'.

Those of us who know Leslie and treasure his industry and single-mindedness do not doubt that in a few years from now he will have added further to the volume of his original work. Who knows: he may even have branched off into a new direction of enquiry. Meanwhile, for St. Valentine's Day, 1987, his eightieth birthday, the least we can do is to dedicate this volume to Leslie Valentine Grinsell, OBE, MA, FSA, with pride and with affection.

Leslie Grinsell is one of British archaeology's great men, who, happily for us in BAARG, chose to settle finally in Bristol. Here, among many of his museum duties, he played a leading role in the founding of BAARG twenty-five years ago and it is yet another reason why we should honour him now and be grateful for his contribution to the subject which all our members love most, the practical study of archaeology and history.

Let the final word be Leslie's. In 1940 he explained in his inimitable way what had motivated him and we would all do well to accept the wisdom of it:

"... perhaps above all, the many benefits which nearly everyone experiences when walking over the Downs, including a sense of safety and freedom, and also the tonic properties of the air."

Nicholas Thomas
City of Bristol Museum & Art Gallery
May 1987

Some W. U. ...

BRISTOL & AVON ARCHAEOLOGY 5, 1986

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THE LOWER BRISTOL AVON AS A THOROUGHFARE FROM PREHISTORIC TIMES TO THE NORMAN CONQUEST

Leslie Grinsell

It seems opportune to consider the Lower Bristol Avon as a thoroughfare in the past, if only to emphasize that the carving up of parts of south Gloucestershire and north Somerset to form the County of Avon under the Local government reorganisation act of 1974 has at least encouraged the treatment of the Bristol Avon and its environs as a unity in its own right.

The gravel terraces of the Bristol Avon have yielded numerous lower palaeolithic implements, predominantly hand-axes, especially from its lower reaches between Shirehampton and Avonmouth. Their production doubtless extended over very many thousands of years. The physiography of the region has however changed so much since then that it would be difficult to decide to what extent the Avon valley was used as a thoroughfare rather than a settlement area. Much the same may be said of the mesolithic sites, of which those at Birdcombe near Wraxall and Tog Hill are among the more important.

When we come to the neolithic period we are on firmer ground. The Stoney Littleton chambered long barrow, the only accessible example with three pairs of side-chambers and an end-chamber, and the destroyed site at Nempnett Thrubwell on the Butcombe boundary, are paralleled by examples of similar though less elaborate types further down the Severn estuary, including that at Parc Cwm on the Gower peninsula. These in their turn are closely paralleled by the transepted chamber tombs at Les Mousseaux and elsewhere around Pornic in southern Brittany (Bender 1986, 120:1). Cross-Channel contact is generally accepted as the C14 dates from both groups are not later than the first half of the third millennium bc (Thomas and Whittle 1986, 138). Relations between Brittany and Mendip are also shown by the fragment of a dolerite axe of Group X from Priddy (P 1071 of the SW. Implement Petrology records, Evens et al, 1962 and 1972) the source of which is the extensive stone-axe factory at Sélédin near Plussulien in central Brittany (Le Roux 1979; Bender 1986, 77-8) which was in production throughout the neolithic period. The local distribution of stone axes of Group I (Cornish origin) also suggests transport along the Bristol Channel and in some instances up the Bristol Avon: Portishead (P 224 and P 1362); Priddy (P 899); Abbots Leigh (P 939); Olveston (P 1193) and Colerne (P 1161). The stone axes of Group IV (Balstone Down, Cornwall) found at Monkton Farleigh (P 888) south-east of Bath, and Lansdown (P 1250) provide additional evidence of the use of this route. Axes or axe-fragments of Group VI (Great Langdale, Cumbria) have been found at Bath (P 587, P 1150 and P 1249) and Chew Park (P 902) and could suggest transport down the west coast, and the same would apply to the axe of Group VII (Graig Lwyd near Penmaenmawr) from Lansdown near Bath (P 545), and to that of Group VIII (probably south-west Wales) from Shirehampton (P 75).

The foot-carved wall slab of the stone cist beneath a round

barrow at Pool Farm, (WEST HARPTREE 8 in Grinsell 1971 but transferred to Priddy parish in 1974) has been assumed to be Bronze Age as the primary deposit was cremated. The closest parallel to the carved slab comes however from the Calderstones megalithic tomb near Liverpool, assumed to be neolithic. In the light of the study by Ian Kinnes (1979) of neolithic round barrows, it would be as well to get a C14 date on the deposit from the Pool Farm round barrow. The sitings of the Calderstones and the Pool Farm barrow are consistent with communication by transport down the west coast and up the Bristol Channel.

The problem of the transport of the bluestones from the Presely Hills to Salisbury Plain has now to be considered. In July 1801 William Cunnington of Heytesbury explored Boles Barrow long barrow (HEYTESBURY 1, Wilts) and found that its interior contained a deposit of 14 human skeletons in disorder on a flint pavement, surrounded and overlaid by large sarsens and at least one block of bluestone which weighed more than a ton. He took ten or twelve of these stones to ornament his garden at Heytesbury, including the block which he later recognised as a bluestone, - now in Salisbury Museum (Cunnington 1924). There seems little doubt that the sarsens and bluestone block formed part of the primary deposit. The only possible conclusion seems to be that the bluestone block was 'swiped' by the builders of Boles Barrow while being transported from the Presely Hills down the Wylde to Salisbury Plain. However, the C14 dates suggest that long barrows as such were usually built and used several centuries earlier than the construction of the inner bluestone circle and horseshoe at Stonehenge. Atkinson (1979, 214) stated that the bluestone formerly in Boles Barrow 'cannot have been deposited there much later than about 2900 B.C., 'about six centuries earlier than the first likely date for the use of the bluestones at Stonehenge'.

Dr J.F.S. Stone (1948) suggested that the abundance of bluestone chippings south of the west end of the Stonehenge Cursus indicated the former existence of a 'Blue Stonehenge' which included the two mortised bluestones later incorporated in Stonehenge. He repeated this suggestion (Stone 1953, 9-10 with site shown on map), but not in his *Wessex before the Celts* (1958), edited from a preliminary draft after his untimely death. Current thought, based on recent excavations at other 'henge' monuments and ceremonial sites, suggests that there was a tendency to replace timber structures by stone circles c 2000 BC and it is highly improbable that such a replacement (implied by the mortised bluestone lintels) could have dated from the early third millennium B.C; on the other hand the bluestone chips south of the west end of the Cursus could indicate the former existence of a circle of bluestone monoliths. It is strange that the extensive recent literature on Stonehenge appears to contain no reference to this possibility. It remains to add that the attempt

by Kellaway and Hawkins (1971) to invoke glacial movement as the transporting agent for moving the bluestones from the Presely Hills to Stonehenge has found little favour.

The use of the Bristol Channel and the Lower Bristol Avon throughout the Bronze Age is clearly shown by various weapons, implements and ornaments of Irish, Welsh or other exotic types found in the vicinity. These include flat axes of Irish types from Banner Down above Bath and from Bristol Bridge. It is a question whether the Westbury-on-Trym hoard of decorated flanged axes was imported from Ireland or the work of an Irish immigrant (as suggested by the presence of a chisel or tracer in the hoard). A hoard of four socketed axes of Irish type from near Bath is in the Pump Room Museum. The spiral twisted and penannular armlets from the Monkwood hoard near Bath could well be of Irish origin.

Items probably of Welsh origin include a haft-flanged axe or palstave of Welsh type from Bristol Bridge, an early palstave from Solsbury Hill above Bath of composition similar to the metal of the hoard from Acton Park (Denbighshire), and the rapier from Avonmouth Docks, which although of Irish (Keelogue) type is likewise of metal similar to that of the Acton Park hoard. All these are described in Grinsell 1986a with bibliography in Grinsell 1987; reattribution of the items in the last paragraph to Wales has resulted from metal analyses by Dr J. P. Northover to whom the writer is indebted.

Evidence for the probable use of river transport in the Early Bronze Age is also provided by the distribution of stone axe-hammers and battle-axes of picrite (Group XII, Corndon area, site not yet precisely located, near border of Powys and Shropshire). Axe-hammers from this working-site have been found near Cromhall (P 1245) and at Long Reach, Keynsham (P 889). The Severn passes within c 10 km of the likely working site and that river with its tributaries was probably the chief means of distribution to the valley of the Bristol Avon and its hinterland.

It remains to consider the pair of gold discs from round barrow MERE 6a (Wilts) and the single gold disc from Jug's Grave round barrow (MONKTON FARLEIGH 2, Wilts), the latter just above the valley of the Bristol Avon. Taylor (1980, 23) notes that they have fairly close parallels in Ireland but each was associated with a beaker of Middle Rhenish type. As 20 out of 29 of these gold discs were found in Ireland (Taylor 1980, 131), it seems reasonable to favour an Irish origin.

Finally there is the gold-covered bronze 'sun-disc' from a small round barrow on Lansdown above Bath (NORTH STOKE 5, now in Avon). Its continental and Irish parallels have often been discussed, most recently by Taylor (1980, 52-3) and Hawkes (1981). Its date is thought to be between 1400 and 1000 B.C. As to its origin, all that can safely be said is that it is most unlikely to be local.

The pre-Roman Iron Age has now to be considered. From the siting of Clifton, Stokeleigh and Burwalls hillforts in relation to the Bristol Avon it is abundantly clear that they were placed where they are - on the high ground immediately above the lower reaches of the river, Clifton on the right side and Burwalls and Stokeleigh on the left - in order to keep watch on those coming upstream from the Bristol Channel, particularly the Silures of South Wales. There are no records of any adequate excavation at Burwalls and Clifton hillforts. Limited excavation at Stokeleigh hillfort has shown that its substantial defences date from between the 3rd and 1st centuries B.C., at latest (Haldane 1966). Among chance finds of this general period the most outstanding is the anthropoid-hilted iron dagger or short sword of continental type (head missing, probably originally of bronze),

dredged from the Avon at Sea Mills before 1913, now in the British Museum, and attributed by Hawkes to the late second century BC (Clarke and Hawkes 1955, 212, 226). Here if anywhere should be mentioned the two bronze figurines of a pre-Roman Iberian type (one in the British Museum, the other lost), found at Aust Cliff about 1900 (Dawson 1980).

In the early Roman period the construction of the Roman road from ABONA (Sea Mills) to Bath (MARGARY 54), there to connect with others eastward to London and south and southwest to Ilchester, Dorchester and Exeter, inevitably led to reduced usage of the Avon. The Roman immigrants are likely to have been the principal users of their road and the native population to have continued to use the Avon, traffic along which would have been subject to Roman control from ABONA, the name of which is derived from that of the river, — British *abona*, Welsh *afan*, Breton *aven* (Rivet and Smith 1979, 239-40). Roman pigs of lead from the silver-lead mines at Charterhouse-on-Mendip would have been transported via Margary's road 540 (Margary 1955, i, 128), represented partly by Stratford Lane, and the River Chew to its confluence with the Bristol Avon at Keynsham, and then both upstream to Bath where lead pigs of Hadrian (AD 117-38) were found in 1819 and 1822, and downstream to where now is Bristol, where two lead pigs of Antoninus Pius (AD 138-61) were found in 1865 in Wade Street in the River Frome, not far from its confluence with the Bristol Avon (Elkington 1976, 233-4).

It is extremely probable that the Irish and other pirates responsible for the incursions of c AD 367 came up the Bristol Avon where there is evidence that they plundered Roman villas including those at Kings Weston, Brislington, Keynsham and Wellow, the last on a tributary of the Bristol Avon. It is believed that marine transgression during the later Roman period would have rendered these villas more easy of access by boat than they would be today (Branigan 1969, 8; 1976, 136-9).

The collapse of Roman influence in Britain c AD 410 was followed by a period of continued though impoverished existence in and around Bath.

It is an open question whether the Roman road from Sea Mills to Bath remained in use after the Roman withdrawal. It is however certain that the Bristol Avon continued in use, probably even more than previously as a reaction to romanization. It is generally accepted that the process of Christianization was effected largely by sea and river transport. In the words of Canon G. H. Doble (1931, 169), 'the early Celtic missionaries preferred to travel by water, as quicker, safer, and more convenient, and all the chief monastic establishments are on or near tidal rivers . . . So is Keynsham'. This is illustrated by the life of St Keyne, traditionally a daughter of Brychan, king of Brecknock, which describes her journey up the Bristol Channel and the Avon to Keynsham, where she turned into stone the vipers with which the area was reputed to be infested, now represented by the fossil ammonites derived from the local liassic rocks. The story could well have been invented by a monk of Margam Abbey to explain the name Keynsham (in Domesday Book Cainesham, Caegin's meadow or enclosure) and the local ammonites. Keynsham Abbey was founded 1167-72 and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St Peter and St Paul; but fragments of Saxon sculpture found on the site suggest the possibility of a pre-Conquest forerunner.

There are several other examples of pre-Conquest architecture and sculpture in the Avon valley, including the chapel of St Laurence at Bradford-on-Avon, the church of St Mary the Virgin at Limpley Stoke, and the church of St Mary at Bitton. At Bath there is the tradition of a Convent of Holy Virgins having been founded by Osric, king of the Hwicce, in 675. By 957 this had

been rebuilt and in 973 it was used for the coronation of King Edgar as King of England (Cunliffe 1986, 49-54). The present Abbey houses several important items of pre-Conquest sculpture from the vicinity. In Bristol the Cathedral of St Augustine contains the relief of the Harrowing of Hell, c. 1025-50, suggesting the possibility of a pre-Conquest foundation (Dickinson 1976).

In Bath a coin-mint is known from the reign of King Edward the Elder (899-924/5), for which Bath is in fact the only mint named on any coins so far known (Grinsell 1973, 10-11). The Bath mint appears to have increased its output during the reigns of Edgar (959-75), Aethelred II (978-1016), and Cnut (1016-35). After the establishment of the Bristol mint from the last issue of Aethelred II the rivalry between the two mints resulted in the Bristol mint gaining supremacy from the reign of William I (1087-1100) onwards, reflecting the rapidly increasing importance of Bristol as a port and a trading centre (Grinsell 1986b, 26). The available coin evidence suggests that the Bath mint ceased to function from the end of the reign of Stephen (1154).

Evidence of Christian Viking presence in Bath is derived from several sources. First of all there is a Runic-inscribed stone memorial, probably of the early or mid 11th century, to one GUNNAR at Nävelsjö in Smaland (Sweden), stating that he was laid in a stone coffin 'in England at Bath'. Beside the last phrase is inscribed a Maltese cross (Jansson 1962, 52-3 with illustrations). There can be little doubt that he was buried in the Abbey church which had been used for the coronation of King Edgar in 973. Secondly there is a fine Viking sword inscribed with a blundered version of the name ULFBERHT, found in November 1981 in the city ditch by the Northgate and now on display in the foyer of Upper Borough Court in Upper Borough Walls; it is believed to date from the tenth century (Cunliffe 1986, 63, fig. 47). Thirdly there are references in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle to the visit of Swein King of Denmark to Bath in 1013 where he settled with his levies. Lastly there is the occurrence of Hiberno-Norse imitations of Bath mint coins struck in Dublin, notably a Long Cross issue (c. 997-1003) of Aethelred II with the blundered reverse legend HDLSTAN O BADL for EDSTAN MÆO BAD, and a Quatrefoil issue (c. 1017-23) of Cnut with an inscription of the same moneyer and mint (Grinsell 1973, 23, for the first).

It remains to consider the development of Bristol from the standpoint of water transport. Towards the end of the tenth century, trade between England and Ireland (especially Dublin) was for some reason (perhaps the silting up of the estuary of the river Dee) switched from Chester to the Bristol Channel and particularly Bristol. This was soon followed (c. 1010) by the establishment in Bristol of a mint from the last coinage of Aethelred II onwards. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records that in 1051 Godwine's son Harold (later Harold II) sailed from the mouth of the Bristol Avon to Ireland (presumably Dublin), where he stayed until early the following year. A little later there is evidence of a slave trade between Bristol and Dublin, a practice which was condemned by St Wulfstan for some years before his death in 1095 (Betty 1986, 8-10 with references). A hint of Viking relations is provided by the finding of a copper alloy pin of Viking type in the excavations at St Mary-le-Port (Watts and Rahtz 1985, fig 87, CA7).

Finally, it needs to be stressed that passage along the Bristol Avon in the past was not always as plain sailing as it is today. The period covered by this account, roughly from 4000 BC to AD 1066, experienced various changes in climate, rainfall and vegetation. It seems reasonable to believe that man devised his own methods of river transport to meet the varying conditions during this long period, and where difficulties were

insurmountable he would have taken to land.

The writer is grateful to Georgina Plowright and Michael Ponsford of the City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, and Stephen Bird of the Roman Baths and Museum in Bath, for helpful comments on a preliminary draft of this paper, which have resulted in various improvements. For the errors that remain the writer is alone responsible.

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SURVEY OF DOLEBURY HILLFORT AND DOLEBURY WARREN

C. & N. Hollinrake

A survey of Dolebury Hillfort and Dolebury Warren carried out by the authors on behalf of the National Trust has resulted in the planning of an extensive pre-medieval field system and the recording of new features concerned with the hillfort defences. A chronology for the hillfort is attempted in the light of this new information. Features connected with a medieval or post-medieval rabbit warren inside the hillfort have also been recorded.

INTRODUCTION

The survey was carried out in April and May 1985 in order to record all archaeological features within the area recently

Key to Figure 1

B ... Banwell hillfort; Bu ... Burlage hillfort; BC ... Burrington Camp; BD ... Brean Down fort and Romano-British temple site; BK ... Brent Knoll hillfort and Romano-British temple site; Ch ... Charterhouse lead mining area; CC ... Cadbury Congresbury hillfort; CG ... Cheddar Gorge; D ... DOLEBURY; Di ... Dinghurst Camp; HW ... Henley Wood Romano-

acquired by the National Trust, and to recommend areas for clearing and conservation on behalf of the Avon Wildlife Trust who are to manage the land. Dolebury is one of the most impressive hillforts in the country and, arguably, the best preserved hillfort in Somerset or Avon. With the exception of one survey in 1872 (Dymond 1883) all modern plans of the hillfort area, including those carried out by the Ordnance Survey, have omitted major features, both pertaining to the hillfort or the rabbit warren, with the result that Dolebury's importance as a major, fully developed hillfort, has not been properly recognised and the exceptional preservation of the warren has not been appreciated.

British temple site; M ... Maesbury hillfort; PH ... Pagans Hill Romano-British temple site; W ... Worlebury Camp hillfort; WC ... Westbury Camp; WH ... Wookey Hole; R ... Rowberrow Cavern; RC ... Reads Cavern; 1 ... Rowberrow Camp; 2 ... Blackdown Camp 1; 3 ... Shipham enclosure; 4 ... Blackdown Camp 2, 5 ... Elborough enclosure; 6 ... Pitchers enclosure; 7 ... Cheddar Caves;

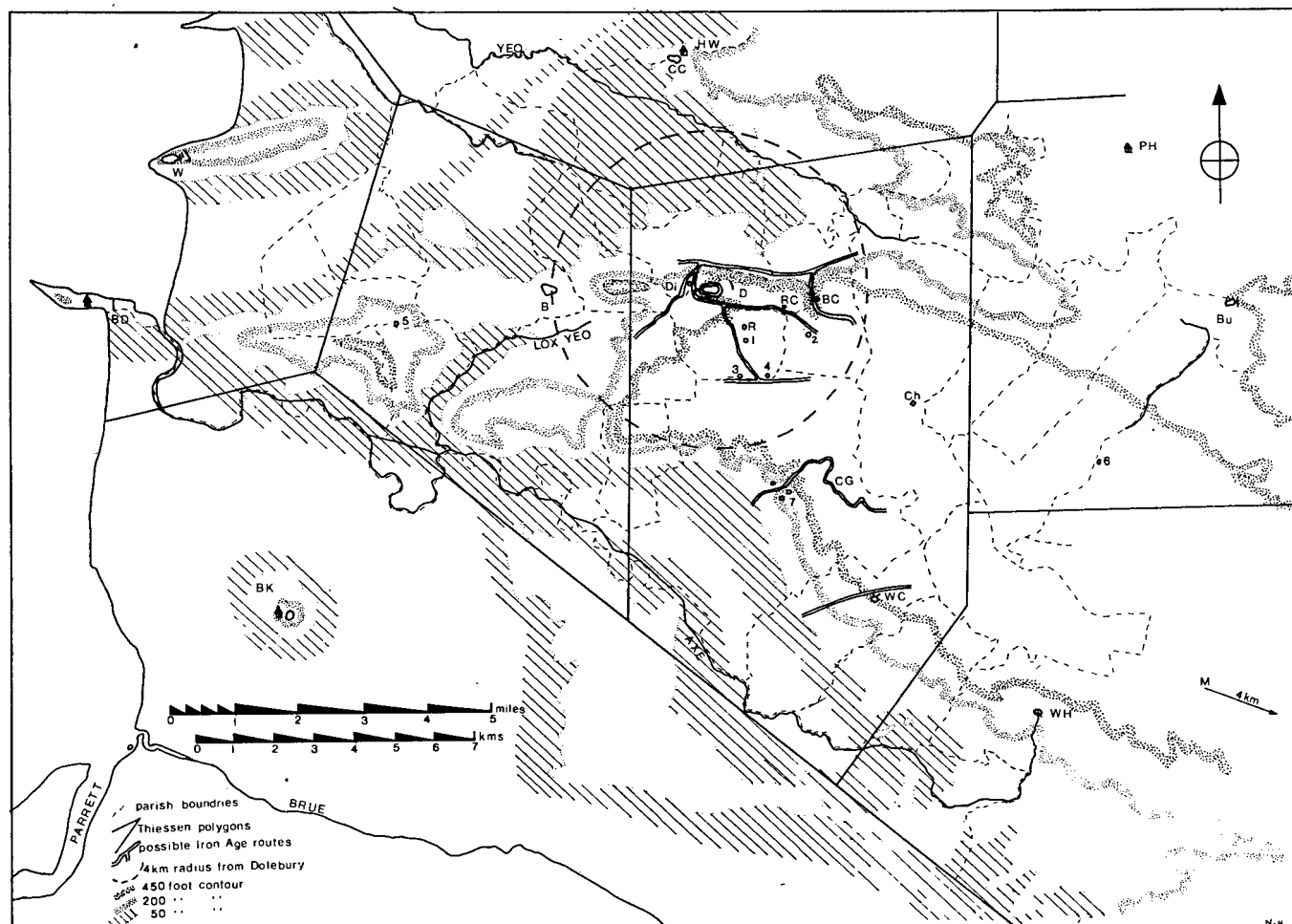


Fig 1. Thiessen Polygons for the Iron Age period.

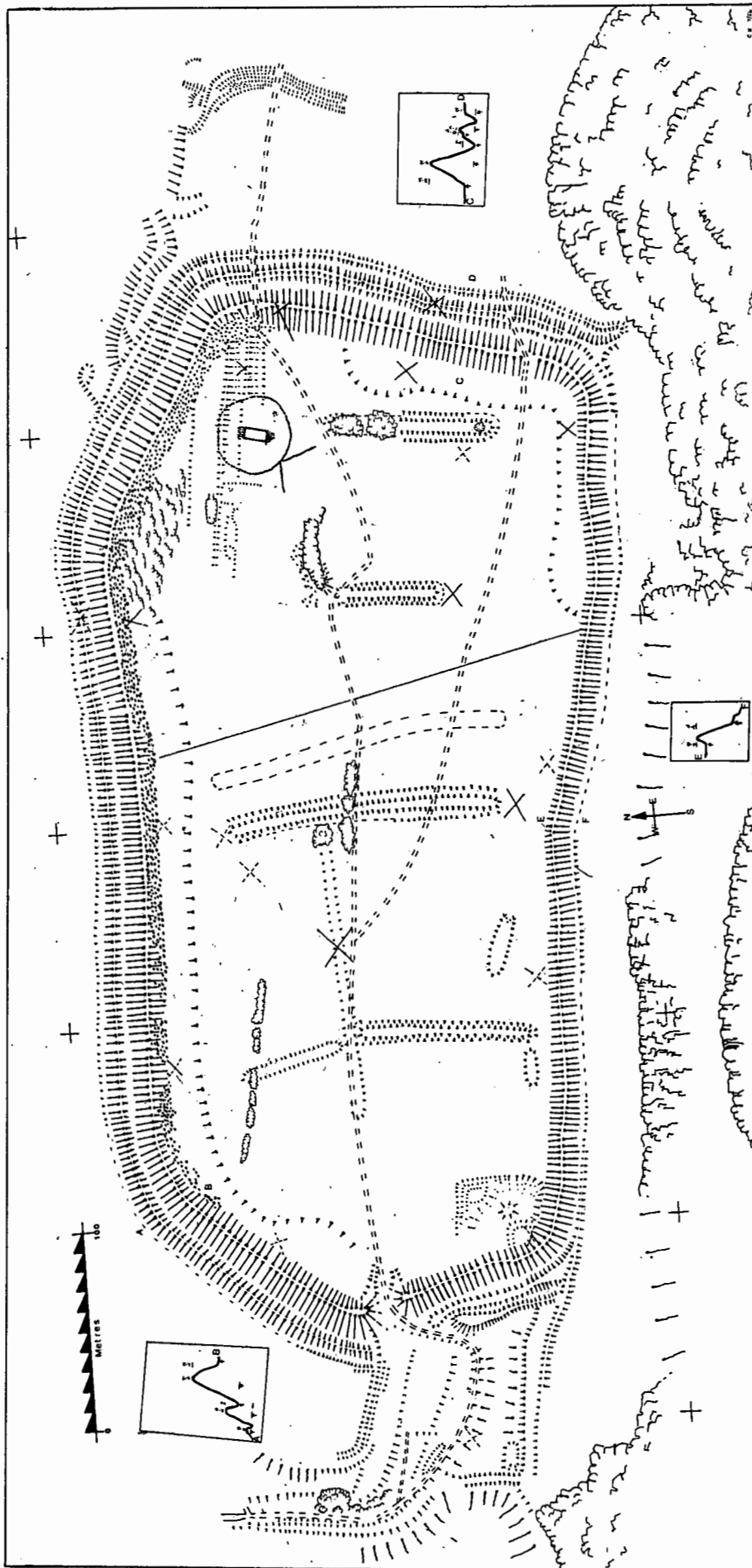


Fig 2. Dolebury Hillfort — all features.

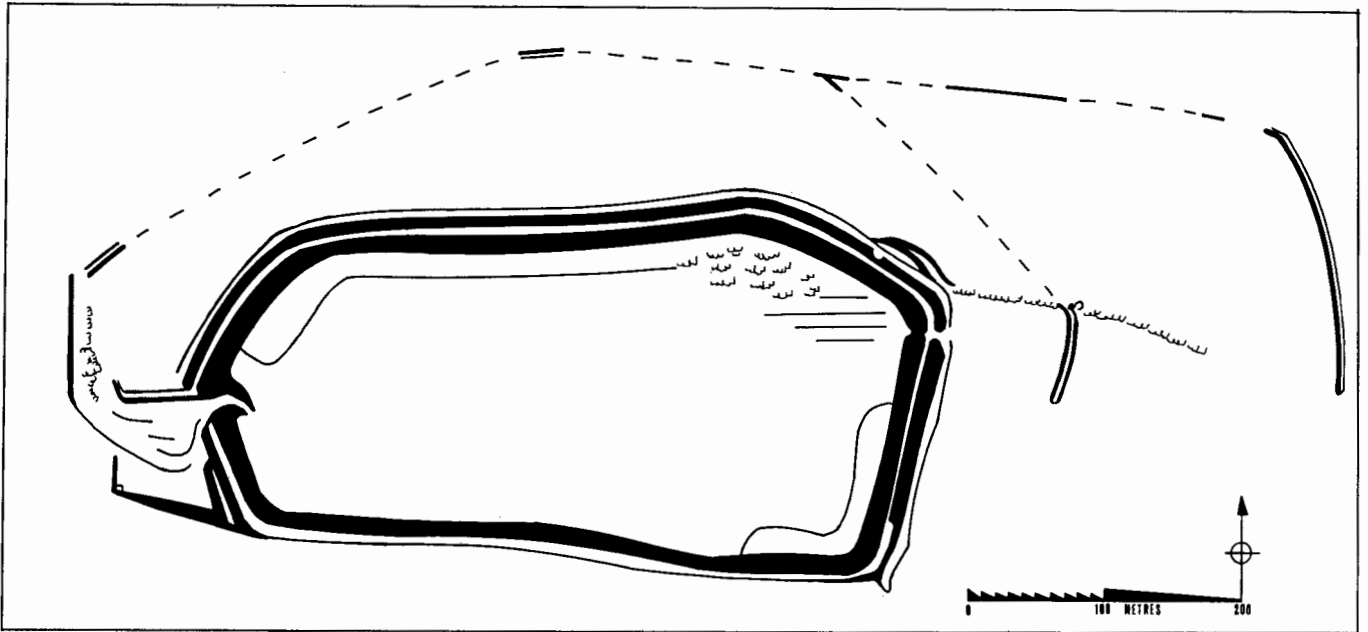


Fig 3. Dolebury Hillfort — probable Iron Age features.

TOPOGRAPHY and GEOLOGY

Dolebury warren and hillfort are situated on an east-west promontory on the northern edge of the Mendip Hills. The ridge is composed of five bands of carboniferous limestone with a band of dolomite running eastward from the valley floor at Dolebury Bottom to form a gully that terminates in the south-west corner of the hillfort. The northern slopes of the ridge have an incline of about 60 degrees and the southern slopes have an incline of about 75 degrees (OS 1962,1963). The soils throughout are shallow, reddish-brown soils of the Lulsgate series with fertile gleyed brown earth of the Worcester series on the lower northern slopes and loams of the Tickenham series in the valley bottom (Findlay 1965).

The hillfort is situated on the western slope of the ridge although the north-eastern ramparts enclose the most westerly portion of the level ridge top on which the warreners house stood. The north-east corner is about 180m high and the ridge drops to about 135m at the west gate. The fort is also situated on the southern slope of the ridge so that, apart from the down slope from east to west, the interior of the hillfort also drops sharply from north to south. Beyond the western defences the slope drops sharply to about 90m at Dolberrow Bottom. The ridge to the east of the fort is narrow and falls gently for about 900m to a col, on which the field system is centred, standing at around 150m.

THE SITE

All of the hillforts on western Mendip are situated on the northern edge of the plateau adjacent to gaps or passes through which major routeways run and Dolebury, together with Dinghurst Camp, was ideally sited to control at least three routes (fig 1). From the eastern end of the hillfort there are clear views towards the hillfort at Worlebury and the promontory fort of Brean Down, with a long stretch of the Bristol Channel, from Clevedon to Bridgwater Bay visible, and clear views across the Channel to the South Wales coast and hills. The hillfort at Cadbury Congresbury is only 6 km away across the valley of the Congresbury Yeo.

Dolebury was also capable of exploiting a full range of soil conditions. To the north are coastal marshes and riverine sediments, the Mendip plateau has always been suited to grazing sheep or cattle, while the gentler slopes could be used for arable land. The nearest water supply is the stream in Rowborough Combe to the south of the fort.

The most important factor in the development of Dolebury, however, was probably the various mineral ores available in the vicinity. Figure 1 shows that the Charterhouse lead mining region probably lay within the territory controlled from the hillfort and lead and iron ore deposits were also found near to the hillfort. Two caves known to have been inhabited in the Iron Age, Read's Cavern and Rowberrow Cavern, and adjacent to Dolebury, had evidence for iron working when they were excavated (Cunliffe 1982).

The etymology of Dolebury appears to be from the English 'dole' meaning a share of (common) land, and 'bury' which could mean fort or possibly be a reference to the rabbit warren (burrows).

DOLEBURY HILLFORT

The hillfort is essentially bivallate in a promontory location and 9.15 hectares (22 acres) in extent. The ramparts are strongest on the northern and eastern sides where the approaches are easiest, with extra defences on the north-eastern quadrant across the level ridge top. The southern rampart is not strong but the slopes there are in the main precipitous scree and rock faces. The narrow berm between the fort and the southern slopes is protected on the south-east corner by curved bank and ditch and on the south-western corner by the outworks around the west gate. The main entrance to the fort is on the western side and was of the inturned entrance type with extra outworks added to protect the approach road. The north eastern entrance may have been contemporary with the latest Iron Age period but the south-eastern entrance is probably nineteenth century.

The earliest reference to Dolebury is from 1549 when Leland recorded the doggerel 'if Dolbyr dygygd ware of Gold shud be the share'. In the late 18th century Collinson (1791, 579) reported finds of Roman and Saxon coins, spear heads and swords, but

the earliest plans and accounts are from the Rev J. Skinner who visited the site on a number of occasions between 1818 and 1830. Skinner made copious notes in his diaries on his field trips and drew sketch plans of sites and finds. He noted that both Iron Age and Roman artefacts had been found, and that the hillfort had been under plough (Fig 6) and in one observation recorded that 'about 2 or 3 ft under the present bank of stones (the main rampart) which encloses the camp, there is a list of mould a foot and a half or two feet in thickness ...' indicating a rebuilding or heightening of the defences (Skinner 1818-1830). The first published plan was made in 1823 by S. Seyer and thereafter many plans, of various degrees of competence, were produced including Ordnance Survey editions, none agreeing in detail and all omitting important features. There have been no excavations although Skinner dug a number of holes and a trench was put across the width of the camp in 1904 (Allcroft 1908, 684-697).

Figure 3 shows all probable Iron Age features connected with the hillfort. Due to the lack of excavation any interpretation of the fort's phasing has to be based on analogy with other hillforts and the following interpretation is subject to that caveat. There are no indications on the ground that there was an early enclosure taking a different line to that occupied by the present ramparts and it is assumed, for the following reasons, that the first phase of Dolebury lies below the main rampart. The inner rampart, on the south-western corner, runs across, and cuts off, the combe leading up to the fort from Dolberrow Bottom. This has the effect of blocking off the natural route to the fort and forcing traffic to turn up to and into the main entrance. The southern rampart is sited to get the maximum protection from the sheer slopes, and the north-eastern segment of the ramparts encloses the highest point of the ridge top. The eastern and northern defences simply join these points together. The second phase, possibly in the middle to late Iron Age period, would involve constructing a second defensive earthwork and heightening the inner bank. The third phase, in the late Iron Age period, developed the outworks outside the main entrance and, presumably, those to the north and northeast of the hillfort. The effect of the hornwork, on the north of the main gate, and

the scarping overlooking the track to the entrance, together with the construction of the long bank and ditch system to the north of the hillfort, would be to restrict movement towards the north and northeastern slopes. It could be that it was at this time that the north-east entrance was cut through the bank to provide access to this area. There is a large internal quarry ditch on the northern and eastern areas of the hillfort, where the defences are highest, and the large quarry rakes in the north-east corner, which run below the warrener's house and garden, may also be contemporary with the Iron Age period, they are certainly several hundred years old (Pers. comm. Dr. Keith Crabtree).

There is an annexe built across the comb below the main entrance which appears to have a building platform in its south-west corner, and this feature may well be replicated outside the north-east corner of the hillfort where the edge of the northern slope has been scarped and this, with a cross-bank cutting off the ridge top, forms another subsidiary enclosure. This north-east annexe also has some possible house platforms attached to it. Approximately 300m east of the hillfort is a large defensive bank, with ditch to the east, that starts just below the ridge top and runs north for over 200m across open and relatively gentle slopes. These slopes are now covered in dense scrub and bracken but it is possible to trace a ditch system across this area until it reaches the entrance way to the west of the fort.

FINDS LIST

Palaeolithic: Ovate core implement in Taunton Museum, ACC no. A2010. Hand Axe found by H. St. George Gray, lost.

Neolithic/Bronze Age: Flints in Bristol Museum destroyed 1939-45, others in private hands. Bronze spear head, Penard phase (1100-850BC) in York Museum.

Iron Age: Pottery in Woodspring Museum, Weston-Super-Mare, on loan from Taunton Museum, ACC Nos A3006, A3432, A243, A245. Pottery in Bristol Museum plus Sandstone Disc, ACC No 8990; Rotary Quern fragment in Woodspring Museum, ACC No 70/101. Coin: Gallo-Belgic gold stater in Taunton Museum, lost.

Roman: Three bronze coins (AD 253-375) in private hands.

Saxon: 1 sherd of late Saxon pottery in Woodspring Museum ACC No A3006. Late Saxon cross shaft in Rowberrow church.

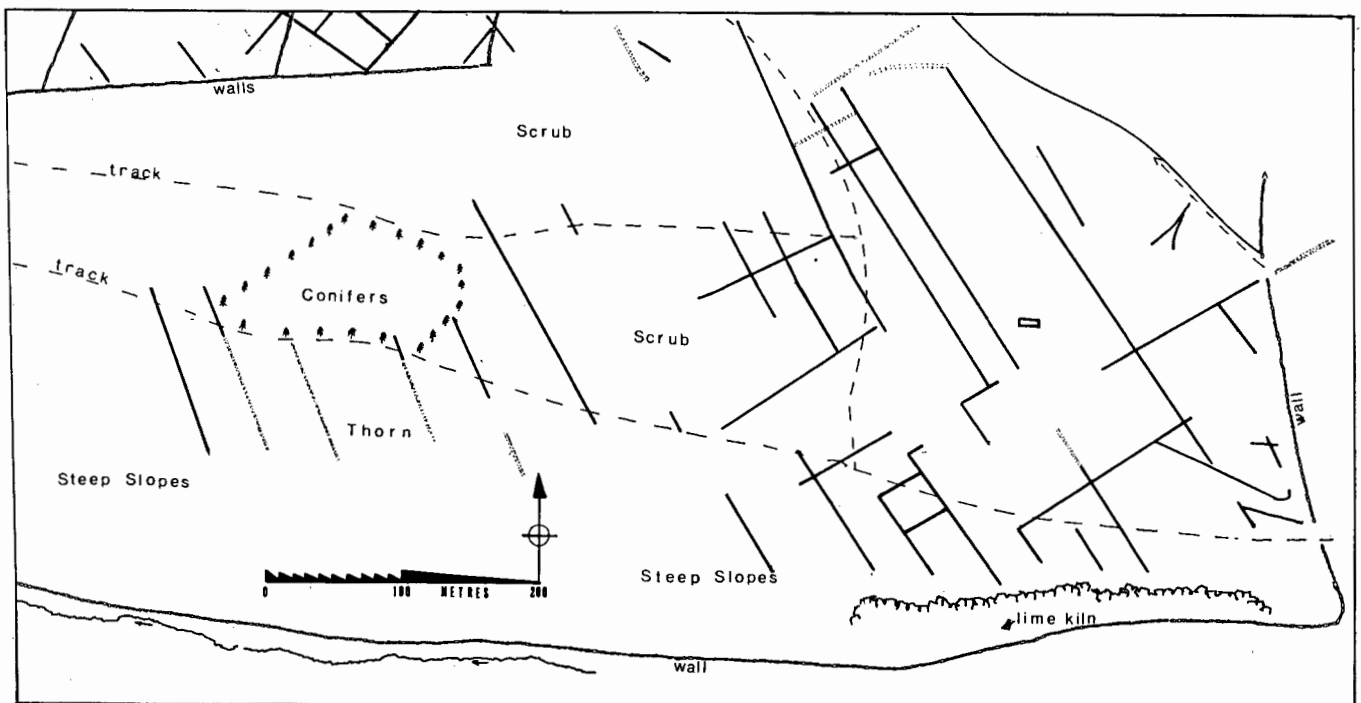


Fig 4. Dolebury Warren — The field system, east of the fort.

THE FIELD SYSTEM

Fig 4 shows the field system centred on ST 463588. It lies to the east of the hillfort on National Trust land and extends into land to the east (which was not surveyed). The fields are laid out on a regularly spaced north-west to south-east axis and, for the following reasons, are now somewhat fragmentary. In the east and south-east of the survey area are two large fields that were ploughed and improved between 1939-45 totalling about 23 acres. The field system is clearest here but is still fragmentary; to the north and west of these fields, and south of the ridge running eastwards from the hillfort, is a large area of thorn and scrub which masks all features, and a conifer plantation over an area of dense quarrying which has obliterated them.

The best preserved field banks are immediately north and south of the eastern end of the ridge where the banks are still standing up to 1m high, and on the eastern end of the ridge itself, where the banks have silted up on their western sides, to form sizeable lynches. It was possible to plan those banks now masked by thorn scrub from an air photo held by Avon County Council Sites and Monuments Record. It is impossible to date the construction and use of the field system but it was presumably in use during the life of the hillfort and may also have been associated with a Romano/British farm site at Springhead Farm, (ST 465593); it is certainly pre-medieval.

DOLEBURY WARREN

Fig 5 shows all features relevant to the rabbit warren within Dolebury Hillfort. All warren features are contained within the ramparts of the fort, although the Ordnance Survey has always marked the area to the east as the Warren. The vermin traps around the hillfort also prove the limits of the warren and do not extend to the eastern areas and the Enclosure Plan of 1797 shows a working warren within the hillfort with the land to the east of the fort parcelled out. Dolebury Warren is one of the best preserved specimens anywhere; it comprises a warrener's house and garden, 21 vermin traps, some traceable on the ground and some only from air photographs, eight pillow mounds, five of them north-south, three roughly east-west and one doubtful north-south mound visible only on air photographs.

The warrener's house is situated on the highest point of the hillfort, just inside the eastern entrance. The remains consist of a roughly circular drystone enclosure wall with a diameter of about 40m and the remains on a rectangular building of approx 10 x 5 metres. The base of the building now comprises two to four courses of well cut, mortared, limestone blocks, of a double skin construction with rubble infill. The likelihood is that the building was a tower of three stories, the lower used as a store room and the upper two floors being living space and a lookout over the warren and ridgetop. Its date is unknown and although it could be medieval it is probably 18th century and was in ruins by 1830 (Phelps 1836).

There have been few histories of rabbit warrening and all background information on rabbits is best referred to in Sheail (1972). Warrens were usually sited on marginal or waste land that was well drained. The Mendip was well stocked (Neale 1976, 92) and presumably catered for the large population around Bristol, and others were scattered around the county (Aston 1978, 27; Iles 1984).

Pillow mounds are long mounds, normally built down slopes, with ditches down either side to facilitate drainage and to avoid flooding the burrows inside the mounds. Their purpose is

assumed to be to encourage rabbits to breed in one place and not to stray beyond the warren's boundary. Many warrens were enclosed when surrounding common land was brought into private ownership and farmed, the farmers demanding that warren owners stopped their rabbits straying. Dolebury, of course, is ideal for warrening having the necessary south facing slope and an existing boundary bank and it is not surprising that other hillforts in similar situations, Danebury and Portbury for instance, were also utilised for this purpose. Construction dates for pillow mounds cannot be known without excavation unless there is documentary evidence for their origin.

Vermin traps were, it is believed, built to trap rodents who preyed on the rabbits and their young. A number of traps on Dartmoor have been published (Cook 1964) and they all seem to use the same basic principle. A covered run was constructed which led to a trap, often a stone box or a pit, from which the vermin could not escape. There are 21 known traps inside Dolebury of which all but two have a central trap with four arms leading into it, the whole forming a cross. One trap has two arms leading to a pit and one has two arms leading to a trap with the wall of the warrener's garden forming the other arms.

A number of early writers comment on the warren. Skinner believed the mounds formed square enclosures and noted plough marks over some of them (Skinner 1819) (Fig 6). Dymond was the only person to plot some of the traps onto his fine plan (Dymond 1883) and he also reported the interesting information that the warrener did not believe that the mounds were part of the warren. In a later report (1885) Dymond identified the correct use of the vermin traps and quoted a Mr Simmons who said that the "traps were the work of the grandfather of the present warrener"; this would place their construction around 1800. Only a quarter of a century after Dymond's reports, however, it was possible for a writer on Dolebury not to know what the long mounds were originally used for, and for the then warrener to declare that the vermin traps were constructed by miners to trap rabbits for the pot (Allcroft 1908). Warrens were sometimes ploughed to improve surface drainage and also to provide fodder and root crops to feed the rabbits through the winter. There are traces of narrow rig on Dolebury and it is obvious on some air photographs. The enclosure in the south-west corner of the camp has not been ploughed over and it is possible that this was a part of the warren, although its true function is unknown.

Finally, although no dates are known for the warren it is possible that there may be more than one phase to it. There are three distinct types of mound. Pillow mounds 1, 2, 3 and 5 are still in good condition and have not weathered appreciably. Mounds 4 and 6 however are very low and quite difficult to find and PM6 also has a vermin trap, VT19, cut into it, which suggests that it may have been out of use when the trap was constructed. Mounds 7 and 8 are quite different from the others, being somewhat amorphous in shape and very much smaller in size. They may not be rabbit mounds at all but may be connected with mining or farming or some other activity.

THE PILLOW MOUNDS, (PM) AND VERMIN TRAPS (VT) (FIG 5)

PM1 ... 85 m long, north-south, c 5m wide, ditched; damaged by extensive quarrying on the north with some disturbance on its southern tip, otherwise well preserved.

PM2 ... 55 m long, north-south, c 4m wide, ditched; damaged by quarrying on its northern tip, very well preserved.

PM3 ... 150 m long, north-south, c 5m wide, ditched; badly damaged by quarrying and traffic on the central portion of the bank, otherwise

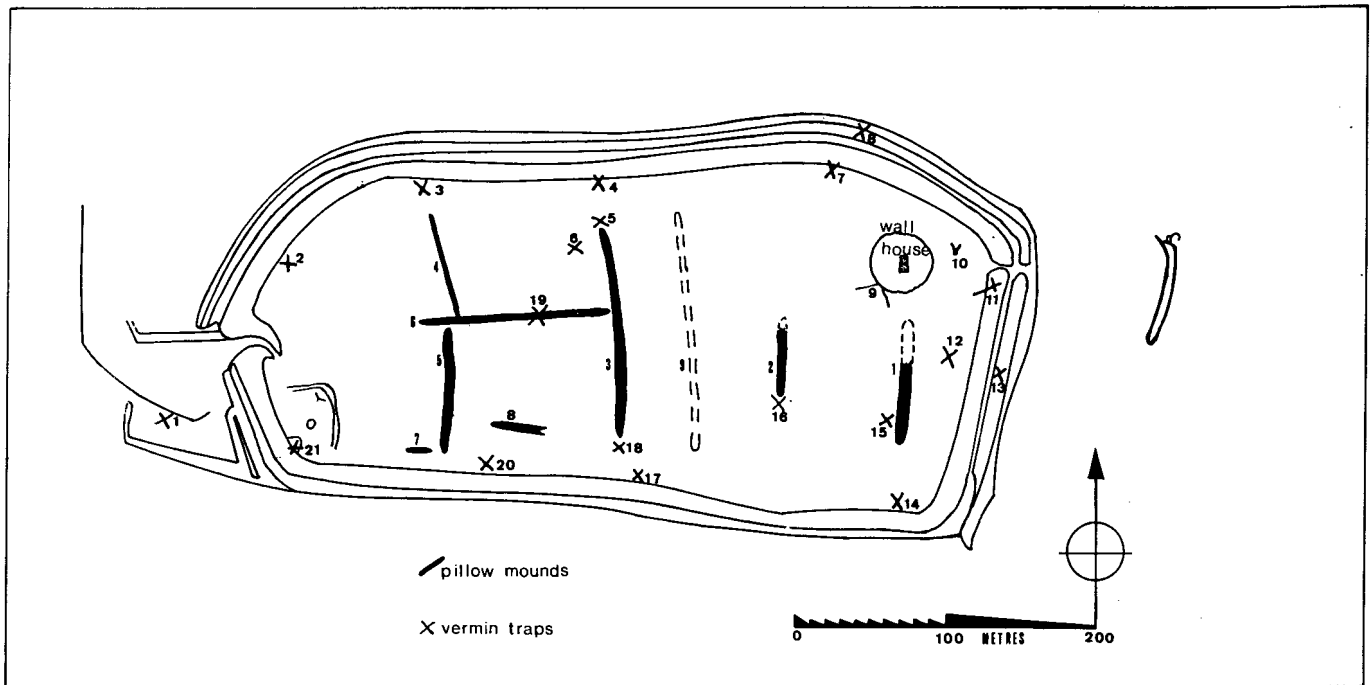


Fig 5. Dolebury Hillfort — The rabbit warren.

well preserved.

PM4 ... 70m long, north-south, c 4m wide but badly eroded and now very low, damaged by quarrying on the north.

PM5 ... 90 m long, north-south, c 4m wide, ditched; in good condition.

PM6 ... 150m long, west-east; very low and badly eroded, damaged by quarrying and foot traffic and sometimes difficult to trace. Vermin trap VT19 has cut through it.

PM7 ... 20 m long, east-west; may not be a pillow mound but this function is assumed for it until proved otherwise.

PM8 ... 30 m long, east-west, damaged on eastern end; may not be a pillow mound but assumed to be so until proved otherwise.

PM9 ... 130 m long, north-south; a possible pillow mound only faintly visible on air photographs, doubtful.

VT1 ... Shown by Dymond (1883) and visible on early air photo's but now either overgrown or destroyed.

VT2 ... Fragmentary; arms 12m x 9m.

VT3 ... Fragmentary; NE-SW arm 9m long, the other arm destroyed.

VT4 ... Fragmentary; lower arms c 6m long, upper arms destroyed.

VT5 ... Visible on air photos but area covered in bramble; not found.

VT6 ... Visible on air photos but area covered in bramble; not found.

VT7 ... Fragmentary; arms c 10m long.

VT8 ... Shown by Dymond and visible on air photos but covered by scrub and bramble; not found.

VT9 ... Two arms, 15 and 20m long with the wall of the warren's house used in place of the other two arms, still traces of a pit at the junction of the arms.

VT10 ... The only trap seen that utilises two arms and a pit rather than the crossed arms found in all other traps in Dolebury. Two arms c 5m long end at a pit c 3m in diameter dug against the face of a quarry rake.

VT11 ... Fragmentary; one long arm c 11m long running down the inside of the inner rampart, fragments of the other arms on the brow of the bank; possibly re-using an old prospecting rake.

VT12 ... Good condition with arms c 15m long; and traces of the central pit.

VT13 ... Shown by Dymond and visible on air photos; apparently destroyed.

VT14 ... Badly overgrown by scrub but appears to be complete.

VT15 ... Visible on air photos but covered in scrub; not found.

VT16 ... Fragmentary; arms c 10m long.

VT17 ... Visible on air photos; not found due to dense undergrowth.

VT18 ... Appears to be in good condition but badly overgrown. Arms c 12m.

VT19 ... Good condition; arms c 11m long with visible pit. Cut through pillow mound PM6.

VT20 ... Good condition; arms c 10m long.

VT21 ... Fragmentary; very overgrown.

It is possible that more vermin traps will be found after clearance of scrub and undergrowth within the hillfort. It is hoped to plan the best preserved of the vermin traps in the near future and details of their construction and method of use should then be clearer. Apart from VT9 and 10 all of the traps seem to belong to Cook's type 1 (Cook 1964), VT 9 and 10 corresponding to his type 111a.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the help given to us during the survey by the following: Michael Aston, Michael Costen, Dr Keith Crabtree, David Bromwich, Dr Ian Burrow, Ed Dennison, Jane Evans, Lynn and Malcolm Cotterill of Walnut House, Dolberrow, Rob Iles, The Avon Wildlife Trust and the staff of the Somerset Record Office. The full archive is housed at the National Trust Archaeology Office, Spitalgate Lane, Cirencester, Glos.

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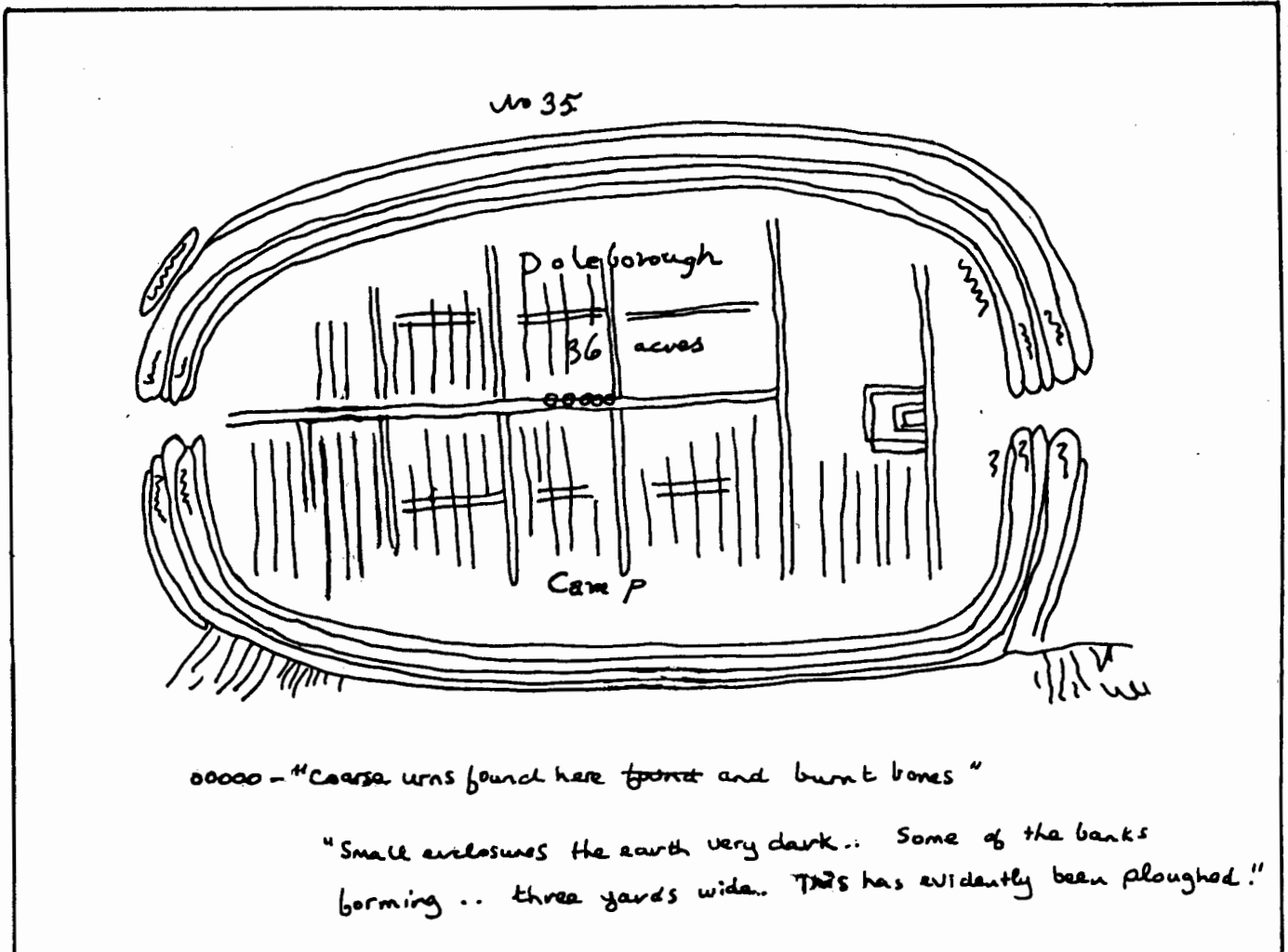


Fig 6. Sketch plan of Dolebury by the Rev. J. Skinner, 1819.

EXCAVATIONS AT LOWER COURT FARM, LONG ASHTON

Roger H. Leech and Terry Pearson

Eleven enclosures were thought to be part of a deserted medieval settlement, immediately to the north of the manor house of Ashton Philips. Excavation demonstrated that only three of these, of the 11th to the 13th centuries, were probably the sites of houses. The remainder were either uninhabited enclosures of medieval date or were associated with an 18th-century mill.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The excavation was undertaken by the Committee for Rescue Archaeology in Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset (now the Western Archaeological Trust) on behalf of the Department of the Environment. Generous grants towards the cost of the work were also made by the Manpower Services Commission, Avon County Council, the Maltwood Trust and Woodspring District Council. The work took place with the kind permission of Laing Homes Ltd., to whom we are grateful for much assistance.

The excavations were directed by Roger Leech and Terry Pearson, assisted by Eric Elias and Jeremy Sampson (assistant supervisors). Historical research was undertaken by Dorothy Salmon. For archaeological advice, during and after the excavation, we are also indebted to P. Ellis, M. W. Ponsford, Dr. W. J. Rodwell, Dr. C. J. Young and Miss Lindsay Alison-Jones.

INTRODUCTION

Lower Court Farm is 4.9 km (3 miles) to the south-west of the medieval centre of Bristol (Fig. 1). It is the ancient manor house of Ashton Philips, in the parish of Long Ashton, formerly in Somerset but now in Avon. The excavations took place in West Leaze, a large meadow to the north of the farm, to the north of and alongside the Ashton Brook. The underlying geology was Keuper Marl with patches of Glacial Head.

The excavations took place from March to October 1978. Their purpose was to examine eleven enclosures thought to be part of a deserted medieval settlement, perhaps associated with the surviving medieval manor house immediately to the south. Hitherto, the only extensive examination of a deserted medieval settlement in the Bristol region had been that of Morton in the Chew Valley (Rahtz and Greenfield 1977, 90). It was thought that the examination of a deserted rural settlement so close to the centre of the important medieval city of Bristol would be of particular interest.

The excavations took place in advance of the total development of the field for a new housing estate and for a school. Development began whilst excavations were in progress and, with the exception of the school, had been completed by the end of 1980.

The records and finds from the excavations are deposited in the museum of Woodspring District Council at Weston-super-Mare. Most of the excavation records and a fuller version of this report may also be consulted through microfiche copies at the National Monuments Record.

THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

by Dorothy Salmon

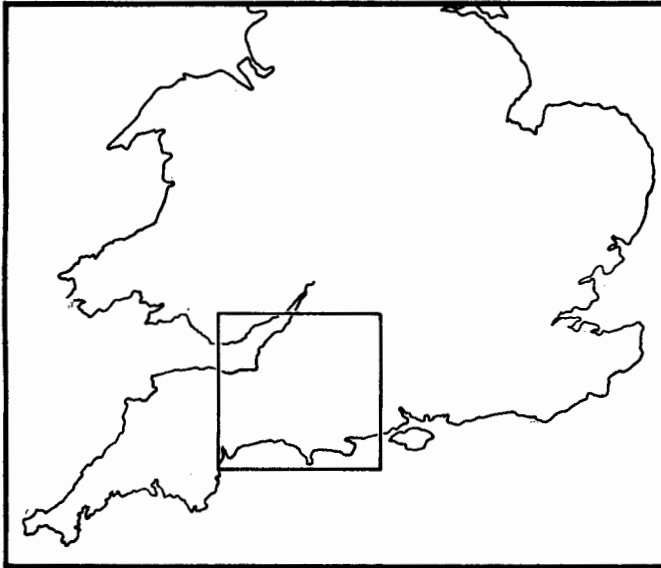
THE SITE OF THE EXCAVATIONS (Figs 1, 2)

The field at Lower Court Farm in which the excavation took place has not always been one large field as shown on maps from 1826 onwards (B.R.O. AC/PL 105 (1826); S.R.O. Long Ashton Tithe Map (1842)). In the 18th century, map evidence shows it to have been divided into two while the names given to parts of the field at different times suggest a further division into three (B.R.O. AC/PL 86 (1765)).

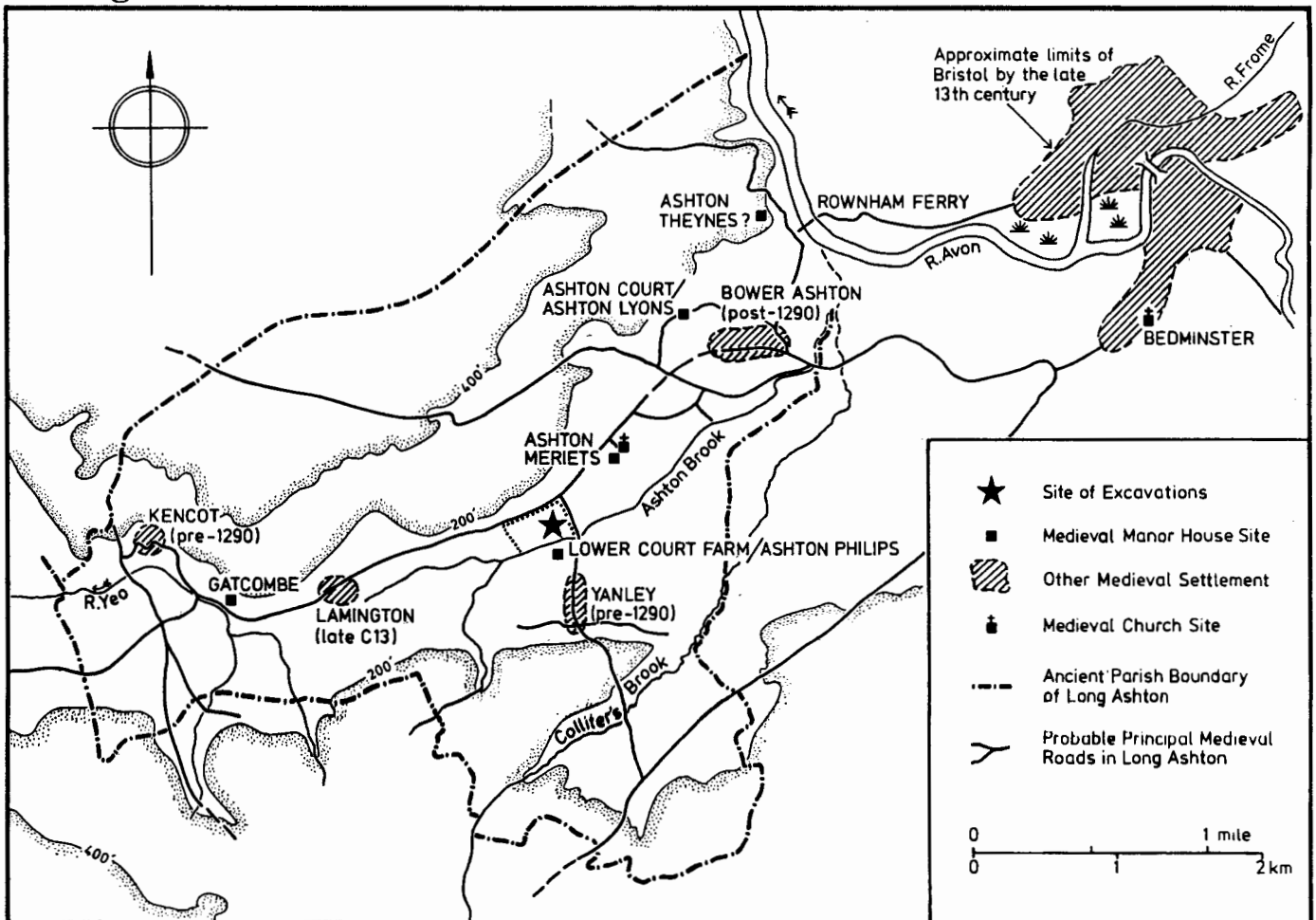
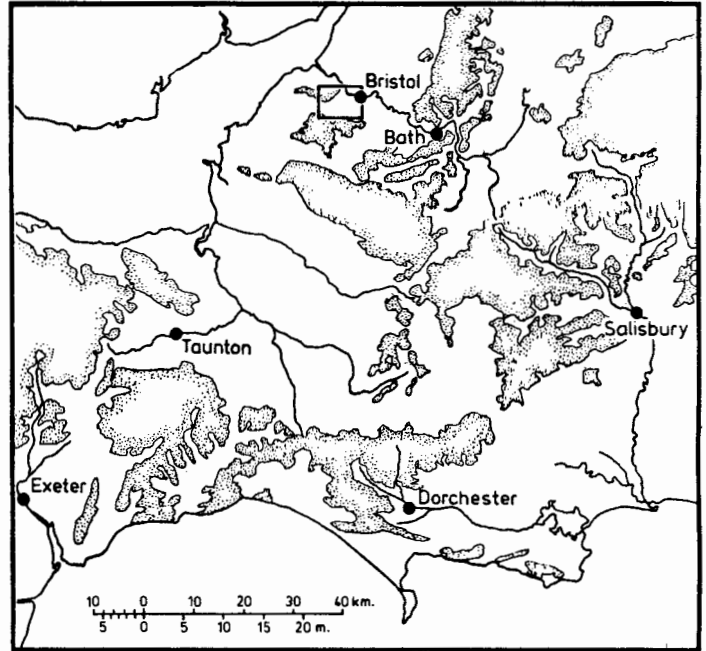
In 1666, 'West Leaze' comprised eight acres of pasture to the north of a water-mill near the manor house of Ashton Philips (B.R.O. AC/S 18/1). West Leaze belonged to the manor of Ashton Philips by 1611, although before 1604 it had been part of the demesnes of Ashton Theynes (B.R.O. AC/M11/16; AC/D1/178; AC/S 7/9a). By 1604, however, not only were Ashton Theynes and Ashton Philips both in the hands of Hugh Smyth, but the demesnes of Ashton Theynes and the manor of Ashton Philips were being closely linked in a marriage settlement (B.R.O. AC/S 7/9a). This, together with the proximity of West Leaze to the manor house of Ashton Philips, probably led to its assimilation into that manor.

The twelve acres of pasture to the north of the manor house (Lower Court Farm,) in 1666 were called 'Rygh Croft' (B.R.O. AC/S 18/1). In 1573 Ryecroft was described as 'now being the Coniger' (B.R.O. AC/D1/167). This name is found also in the 15th century, when 'Ricroft' was part of the demesnes of Ashton Philips, and adjoined Theynescroft (B.R.O. AC/M3/22 & 23). Theynescroft presumably took its name from its tenure by the lords of Theynescourt *als.* Ashton Theynes, who paid 5d. p.a. rent for it to the lord of Ashton Philips (B.R.O. AC/M3/21; P.R.O. Calendar of Ancient Deeds B 150). The name 'Theynescroft' is not found in surviving documents between 1443 and 1802; between those dates 'Ryecroft' is used, but that in turn falls into disuse as 'theynescroft' re-emerges in the 19th century. This early division into three seems to be reflected in a survey of 1730. West Leaze has increased to 14 acres in that survey, while the 12 acres attributed to Ryecroft in the 17th century and Theynescroft in the 19th is subdivided into two, both going under the name of West Leaze (B.R.O. AC/M11/31; AC/S 18/1; AC/E 14).

None of these subdivisions are indicated in the quitclaim of 1434, which deals with the 'moity of the manor of Assheton . . . which Richard Weston recently held and lived in, with the houses, closes, gardens, and their appurtenances lying between the lane called Yandleylane on the East, and the lane called Copfordlane on the West, and the lane called Courtlane on the South, and the highway there which leads towards Bristol on the North' (B.R.O. AC/D1/63). The hollow-way to the west of West Leaze runs into a field called 'Copper' by 1730, — a probable corruption of Copford — while the presence of Lower



Lower Court Farm
Long Ashton ~ Location



1. Location.

Court Farm explains the name Courtlane. This is the only medieval document to refer specifically to houses in the area of West Leaze, other than the manor house of Lower Court Farm itself.

ASHTON PHILIPS (Fig. 1)

The field, then, became part of the manor of Ashton Philips,

and adjoined its manor house. The property of the manor was scattered. It formed no compact block, but was mingled with that of the other manors, Ashton Lyons or Long Ashton, Ashton Meriets, and Ashton Theynes. Its demesne lands too were scattered, although certainly by the 17th century there was some concentration of these around the manor house (B.R.O. AC/M3/23; AC/M11/16).

Ashton Philips was held by the family de Ashton from the 13th century until the death of Robert de Ashton in 1384 led to a division between co-heirs (P.R.O. Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem Vol. 15 p. 358). Two of the four portions into which it had been divided were purchased by Jane Smyth in 1593, and the other two by her son and heir, Hugh, in 1599 and 1603 (B.R.O. AC/D1/185-192; AC/D1/198). Hugh already held Ashton Lyons and Ashton Meriets, and he bought Ashton Theynes in 1603; from which time until 1741 all the manors descended in the hands of the Smyth family (B.R.O. AC/D1/185, 187, 190, 192 & 198; Collinson 1791, pp. 293-4, 296-8). Lower Court Farm was among the one-third of property which descended to the Gore family following the division of the manors among the three sisters of Sir John Smyth after his death without issue in 1741. The other two-thirds descended through Jarrit Smith to a family taking the name of Smyth (S.R.O. DD/PH/48; Collinson 1791, p. 294; S.R.O. Tithe Map). The manors were fragmented by this division, although by the 18th century they had ceased to have any real importance.

YANLEY (Fig. 1)

Yanley, the settlement lying closest to the manor house of Ashton Philips, is one of the earliest to be recorded in Long Ashton. Before 1290, three acres of land are described as being 'in the combe above Yhonlegh', while a Matilda de Yhonlegh held an acre of land (B.R.O. AC/D1/4). Yanley Lane too has at least medieval origins; it is mentioned as the way at Yonleygh in 1369, and called 'Yandleylane', running between the road to Bristol and Courtlane in 1434 (B.R.O. AC/M1/1; AC/D1/63).

The earliest house sites in Yanley which can be identified from

documentary evidence lie near the valley bottom by Lower Court Farm, and to the east of Yanley Farm, with one freehold property in Yanley Lane. These can all be found in documentary references in the 14th and 15th centuries, but only the freehold property can be traced to the present day. The others, Bulkes, Gardiners, Carters and Brook Close, all appear to have been abandoned as the settlement known as Yanley was spreading during and after the 16th century, to occupy the present house sites (B.R.O. AC/M3/1; AC/M3/8 & 9; AC/M3/23).

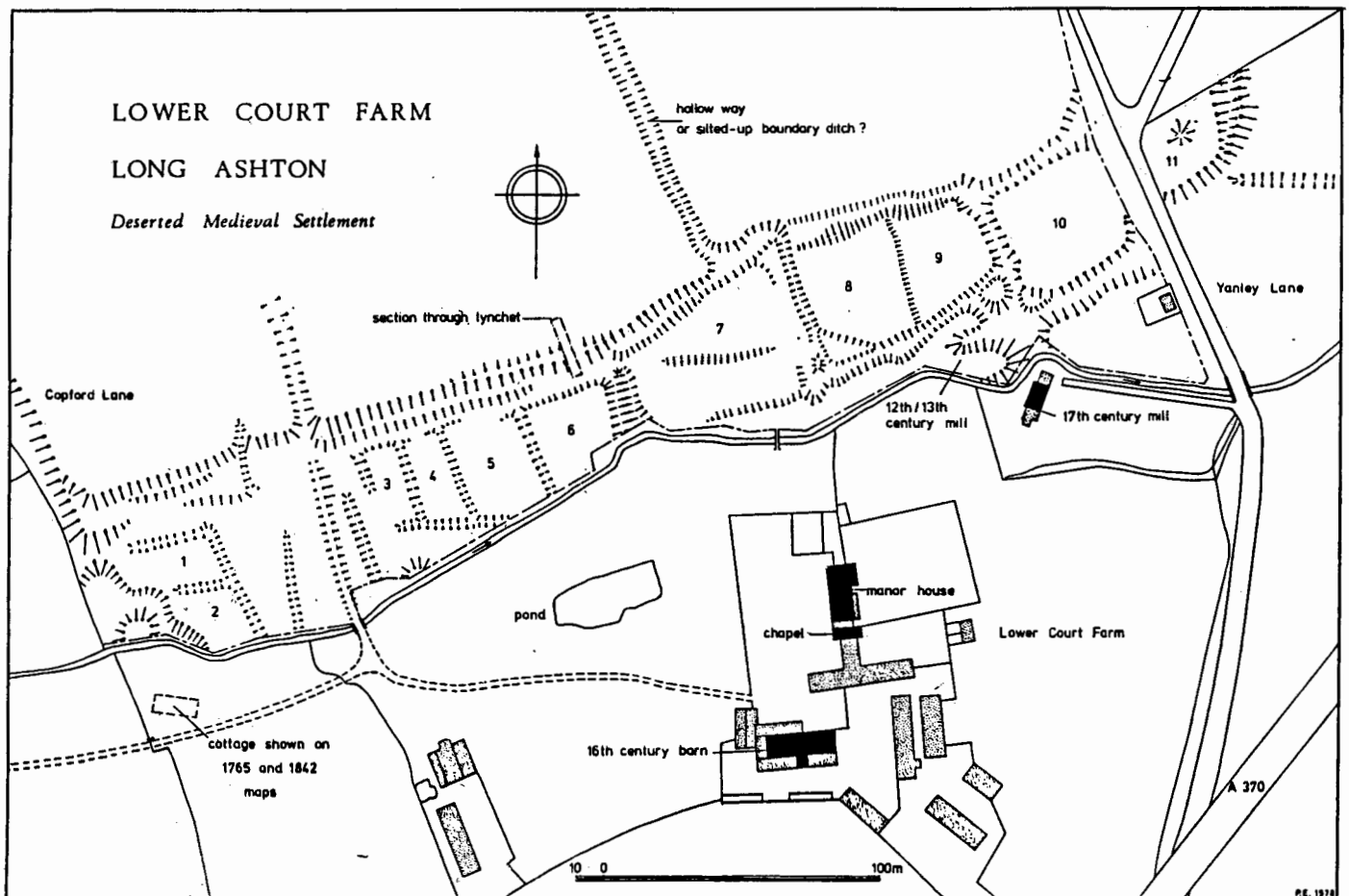
Despite being so near the manor house of Ashton Philips, even the earliest houses in Yanley were not all part of that manor. Of those named above, Gardiners and Brook Close belonged to Ashton Philips, and Carters and Bulkes to Ashton Meriets. As the settlement expanded, so the later houses also belonged to different manors, reflecting the distribution of houses belonging to different manors found over the parish as a whole.

SURVEY AND EXCAVATION

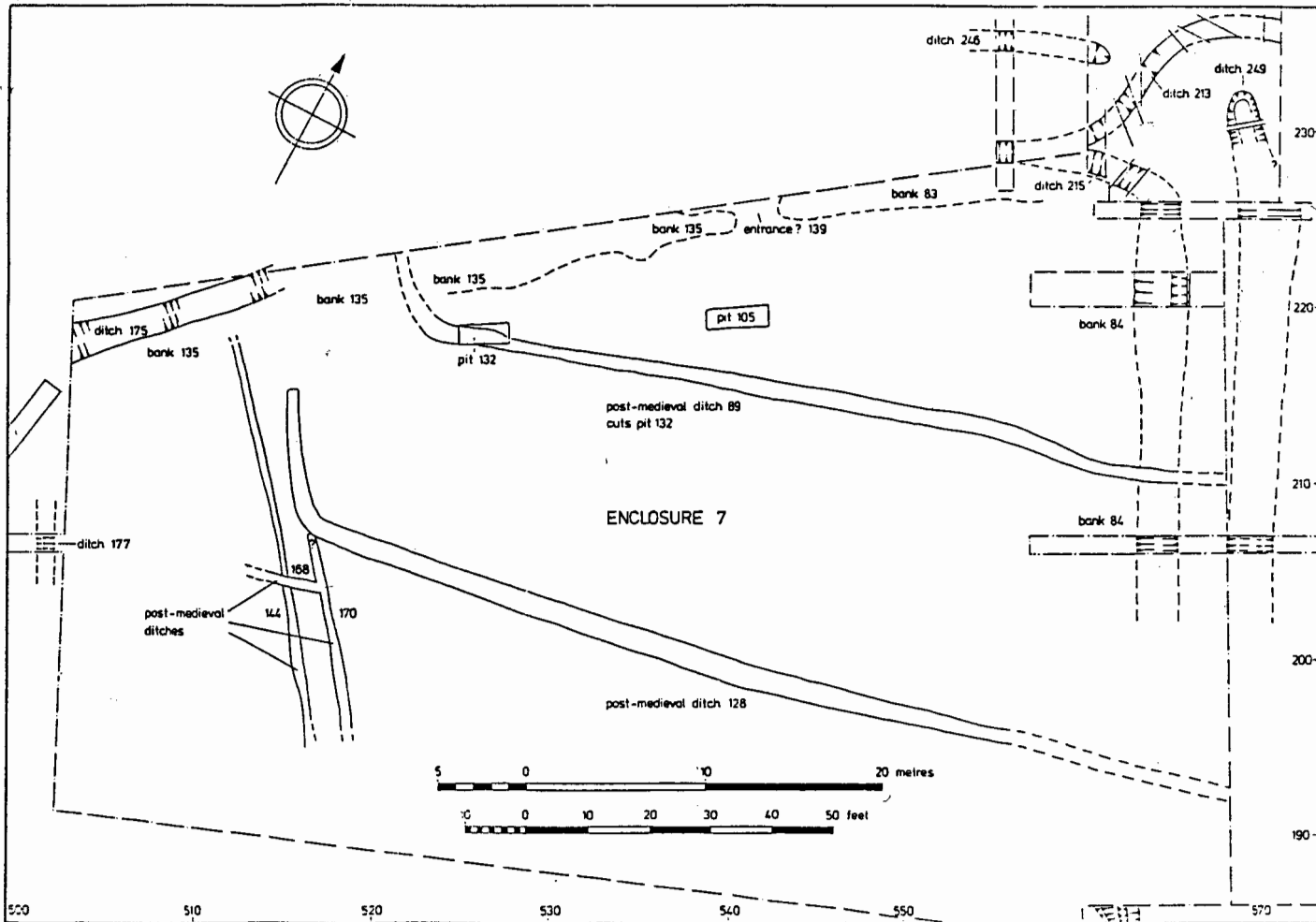
By Roger Leech

The earthworks (Fig. 2)

The earthworks at Lower Court Farm were first recorded by Peter Ellis of C.R.A.A.G.S., in 1977. Since it had already been decided to develop the field for housing, a survey (at 1:500) was immediately undertaken. This indicated that to the north of Ashton Brook were eleven enclosures, defined by ditches and sometimes by banks. To the north, these were defined by a lynchet, broken by a hollow way descending the hill to the brook and then probably to the manor house. On the west was a second hollow way now marking the west side of the field, whilst on



2. *The settlement and enclosures.*



3. Enclosure 7.

the east side was Yanleigh Lane, also a deep hollow way and still used as a pond. Both at the west and towards the east of the field were earthworks probably created by the courses of former streams or mill leats.

The manor house and adjacent buildings

Survey of Lower Court Farm, the site of the manor of Ashton Philips, indicated that the present house is of the 15th century or earlier, much altered both in the 16th and 18th centuries. Part of its medieval roof was possibly reused in extending the barn. In plan and size, the medieval manor house was almost identical to those at Gatcombe and Ashton Court elsewhere in the parish. To the south of the house is a manorial chapel of the 15th century, while to the south-west is a barn with an integral dovecote, probably of the 16th or 17th centuries. North-east of the farm is Brookside Cottage, of the late 17th or early 18th century. Its position adjacent to Ashton Brook, and the presence of two mill stones, indicate that it was formerly a mill. Detailed accounts of these buildings and others in the parish of Long Ashton have been deposited in the National Monuments Record.

THE EXCAVATIONS

The interiors of Enclosures 7, 8 and 9 were completely excavated. Enclosures 1, 2, 5 and 10 were also partly examined. Smaller areas were excavated across the lynchet to the north of Enclosure 6 and across the mound to the south of Enclosure 9.

In recording the excavations, metric measurements were used throughout, a metric grid was used for location purposes, all features, which included layers, walls, etc., were given a unique

reference number beginning at F1, and a parallel unique number series was used for specifically recorded finds. The following synthesis of the results of the excavation is based on the detailed analysis of the features excavated, included in the excavation records.

Pre-medieval land use

Analysis of the flint assemblage indicated activity of the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods in the area of the later medieval settlement. The small amount of Romano-British pottery found in the excavations indicates that no settlement of that date was immediately adjacent.

The eleventh and twelfth centuries

Enclosure 7 (Fig. 3) was in the centre of the earthworks immediately north of Lower Court Farm and was approached from the north by a hollow way which deviated from its line to pass along the east side of the enclosure. The entrance to the enclosure was possibly on the north side, where excavation indicated a break in the bank.

The banks were of clay and stone, with a particularly large boulder marking the north-east corner. Pottery sealed by the banks was of the 11th century. The ditches were U-shaped in section and were cut into the subsoil.

Pottery from the ditch fills and the interior of the enclosure was predominantly of the 11th and 12th centuries, but despite very careful examination and detailed recording no associated structural features were observed. It may be inferred only from the quantity and types of pottery found that the enclosure was

actually inhabited. It was noted that the greatest amounts of pottery and the largest sherds came from the layers closest to the uppermost worm-sorted soils, indicating that both medieval and later cultivation had possibly created much disturbance.

Possibly, the enclosure was associated with the manor house site to the south. If part of an earlier manorial complex, the east side of Enclosure 7 was perhaps continuous with now vanished boundaries to the south enclosing the manor house and adjacent buildings.

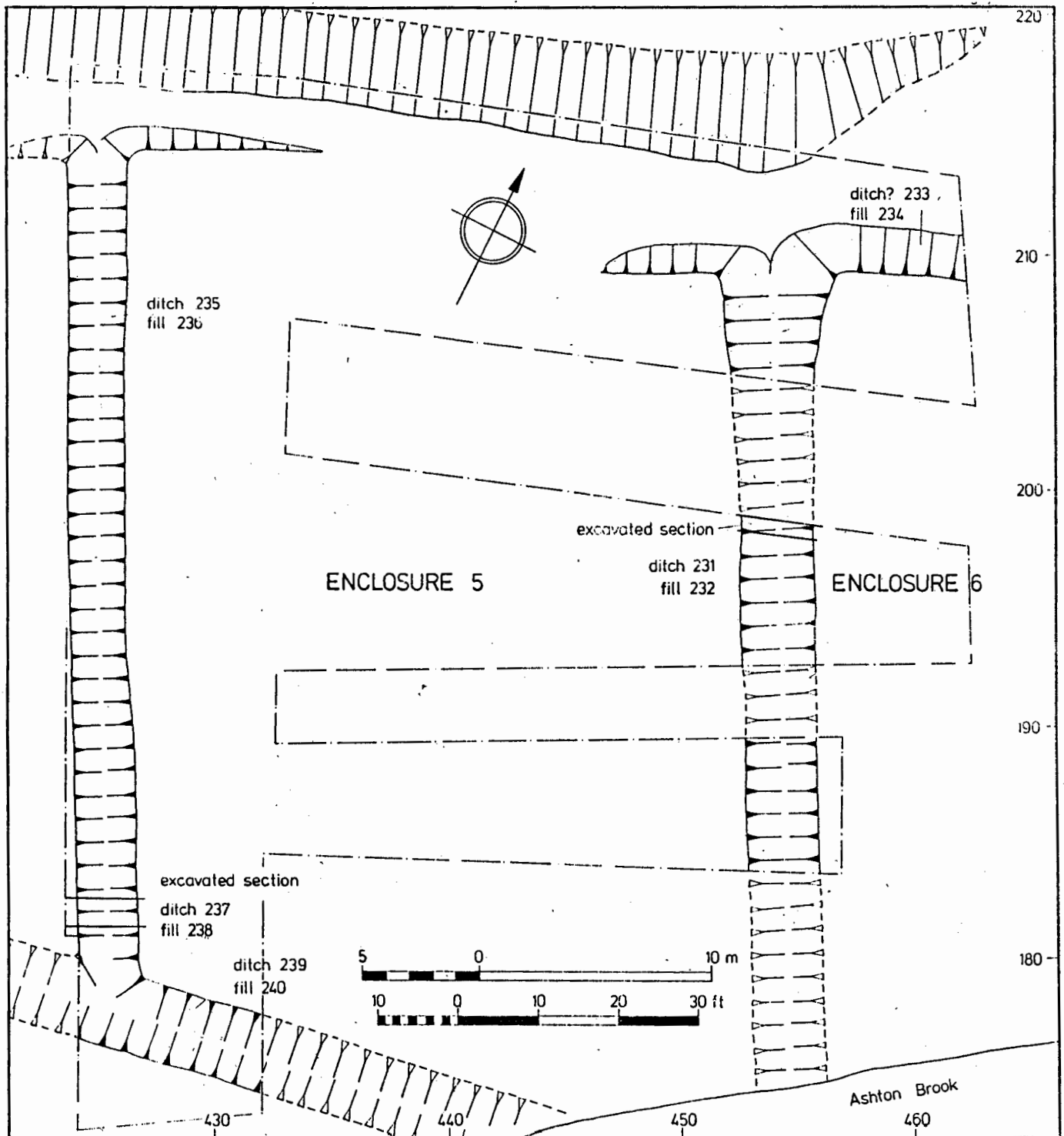
The enclosures to the east and west of Enclosure 7 probably did not exist in the 11th and 12th centuries. Very little pottery of that date came from the excavations outside Enclosure 7.

The twelfth and thirteenth centuries

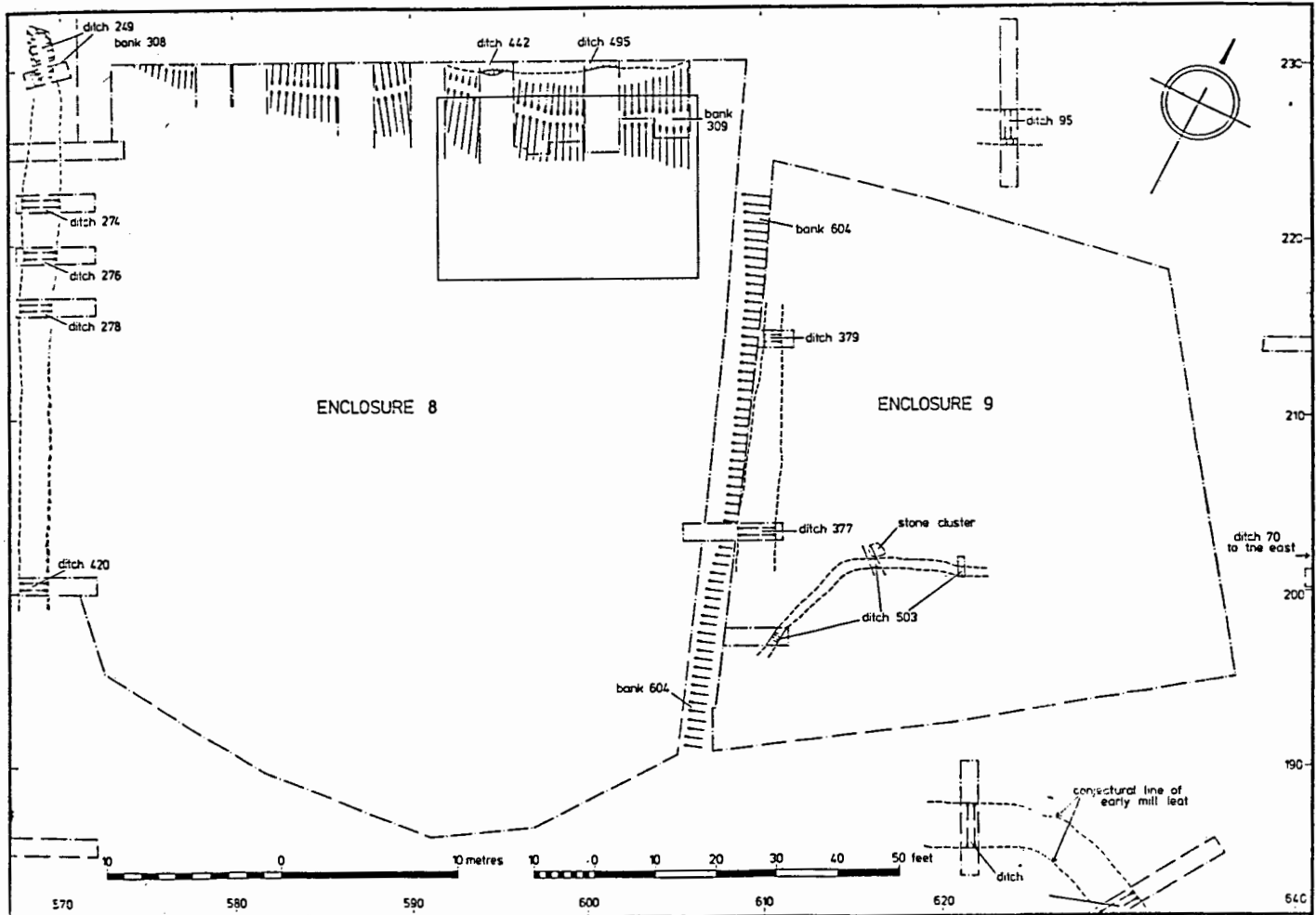
Enclosures 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Fig. 4)

Enclosures 3, 4, 5 and 6 were recorded as slight earthworks before excavation commenced. On the north and south sides, there were common boundary ditches indicating that the four enclosures were set out at the same time.

Only Enclosure 5 was examined by excavation. The worm-sorted soil was removed mechanically, as was the underlying orange-brown clay loam F241. The removal of these layers was undertaken very carefully, the soil being removed in thin layers with an observer present. No structural features were seen and



4. Enclosure 5



5. Enclosures 8 and 9.

only thirteen sherds of medieval pottery came from layer F241, giving an approximate date to the use of the enclosure and, by contrast to Enclosures 8 and 9, indicating that its use was agricultural rather than domestic.

In excavation, the ditches surrounding the enclosure were exceedingly difficult to identify. This was partly because of exceptionally dry weather at the time of excavation and partly because the fill of the ditches was so similar in appearance to the subsoil. Only the ditch on the east side of the enclosure could be clearly identified.

The adjacent Enclosures 3, 4 and 6 were similar in plan and thus probably similar in function to Enclosure 5. All were probably enclosures for agricultural use.

Enclosures 8 and 9 (Fig. 5)

Enclosures 8 and 9 were formerly one large enclosure, similar in size to Enclosure 7, and entered at the north-west corner. There, a complex pattern of ditches was probably associated both with the original entrance and the subsequent cutting off of the hollow way between Enclosures 7 and 8. The associated ditches were U-shaped in section, cut 0.1 - 0.3 m. into the subsoil.

Pottery from the fills of the ditches was predominantly of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the quantity and types indicating that the enclosure was inhabited during that period. In the north-east corner, stone scatters were possibly of a building defined also by a stormwater gully on the north side (Fig. 6). However, no hearths were recognised and elsewhere in the enclosure, despite very careful excavation and recording of all stones, pottery and other finds, no associated structural features were observed.

The bank and ditch dividing the enclosure into Enclosures 8 and 9 sealed both the possible building in the north-east corner of Enclosure 8 and pottery of the 11th to possibly the 13th centuries (pottery catalogue, nos. 63, 144-5, 147). Much pottery of the 12th and 13th centuries came from the interior of Enclosure 9, again indicating domestic use, but this could not be related to any structural features, and no hearths were observed elsewhere in the enclosure. The absence from Enclosure 9 of earlier pottery types, of groups 3 and 4, of the late 11th and early 12th centuries is particularly striking when compared with the analysis for Enclosure 8 (Fig. 15).

The mound to the south of Enclosure 9 (Figs 7, 8)

To the north of Ashton Brook, two trenches were cut across the south side of the mound which was evident as an earthwork before excavation commenced. Magnetometer survey (by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, DoE, now H.B.M.C.) had indicated the probable presence of a building. It was shown that the mound consisted partly of clay deposits 1.2 m. in depth, possibly the collapsed structure of a clay-walled building. On the south, the clay layers were revetted by an unmortared stone wall, to the south of which was probably a pond, the bottom of which was 2.7 m. below present ground surface. The lowest layer (F496) in the clay mound contained pottery of the 12th to 13th centuries.

Most probably, the clay mound and wall belonged to a mill of the 13th and 14th century, constructed with clay stone-revetted walls, to the north of the brook opposite the surviving mill of 17th century date.

Enclosure 10 (Fig. 9)

Only the north part of Enclosure 10 was examined. It was defined on the west and north by ditches, U-shaped in section and cut c. 0.5 m into the subsoil on the north side of the enclosure was the unmortared foundation of a stone wall (F91) whilst, on the east, the enclosure was bounded by Yanley Lane, a deep hollow way. Within the enclosure, no medieval structural features were recognised. The quantities of pottery were comparable to those in Enclosure 5 rather than Enclosures 8 and 9, indicating that its use was agricultural rather than domestic.

The seventeenth to nineteenth centuries

Dating from the mid 17th century were Enclosures 1 and 2, associated with a mill and miller's cottage. The mill was in the south-east corner of Enclosure 2 and was rectangular in plan with the mill race running diagonally under the building (Figs. 10, 11). The exterior walls (F121) c. 0.7 m. wide, were of random rubble. New Red Sandstone set in a white lime mortar. No springings for an arch could be seen in the sides of the mill race (F116, F117) and the wall was probably carried across the stream on timber lintels. The building was probably roofed with pantiles, fragments of which were found in the debris layers in and around the building. The only internal feature recorded was a brick wall (F123) alongside the race. Outside the building were considerable quantities of cattle bones.

The former course of the stream, widened to form a pond, was apparently used for the course of the mill race. An artificially constructed leat was possibly followed by the present course of the stream which had cut through the west side of the mill race,

possibly destroying the remains of a sluice gate at this point. The absence of any substantial leat earthworks indicates that the mill was probably undershot.

The lynchet to the north of Enclosures 1 - 7 (Fig. 12)

Before the excavations began, one of the most prominent earthworks was the lynchet to the north of Enclosures 1-7. A section was cut across this to the north of Enclosure 6. The lynchet was shown to be an accumulation of hill wash (F34, F187) up to 1m. in depth, to the north of a ditch (F229) and sealing an earlier soil layer (F227). For the lynchet to have formed, the field uphill and to the north must have been ploughed. It was not possible to provide a chronology for this process.

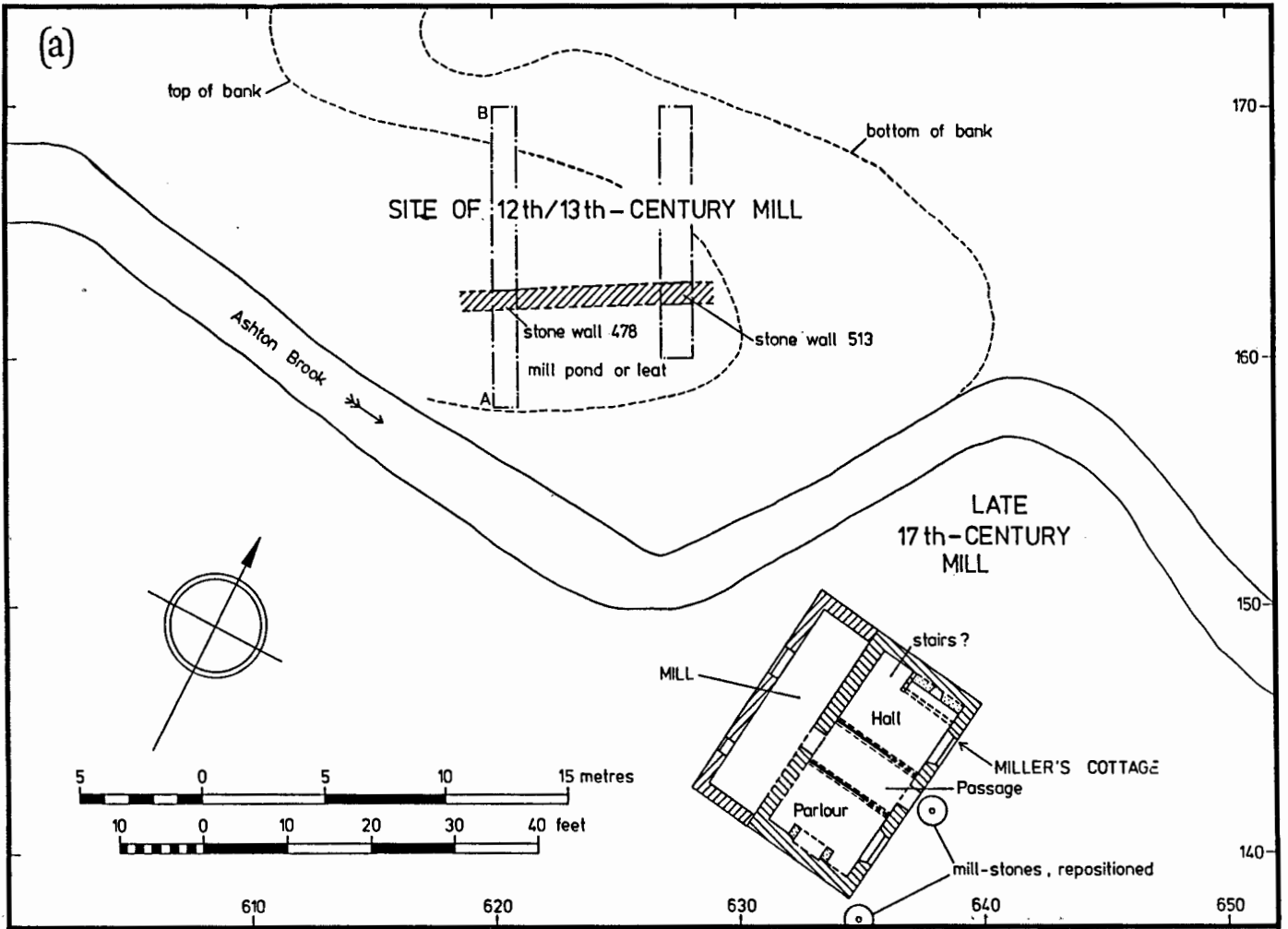
CONCLUSIONS

The earthworks to the north of Ashton Brook were thus the result of complex changes in the landscape over at least one millenium. Excavation and survey indicated that the large field in which the excavations took place was originally three fields. Two were arable fields on the upper slope, separated by the hollow way with a lynchet gradually building up on the south side, which was originally defined by a ditch. The third field was the meadow to the south, in which the various enclosures were sited. The subdivision into three is probably that reflected in the survey of 1730.

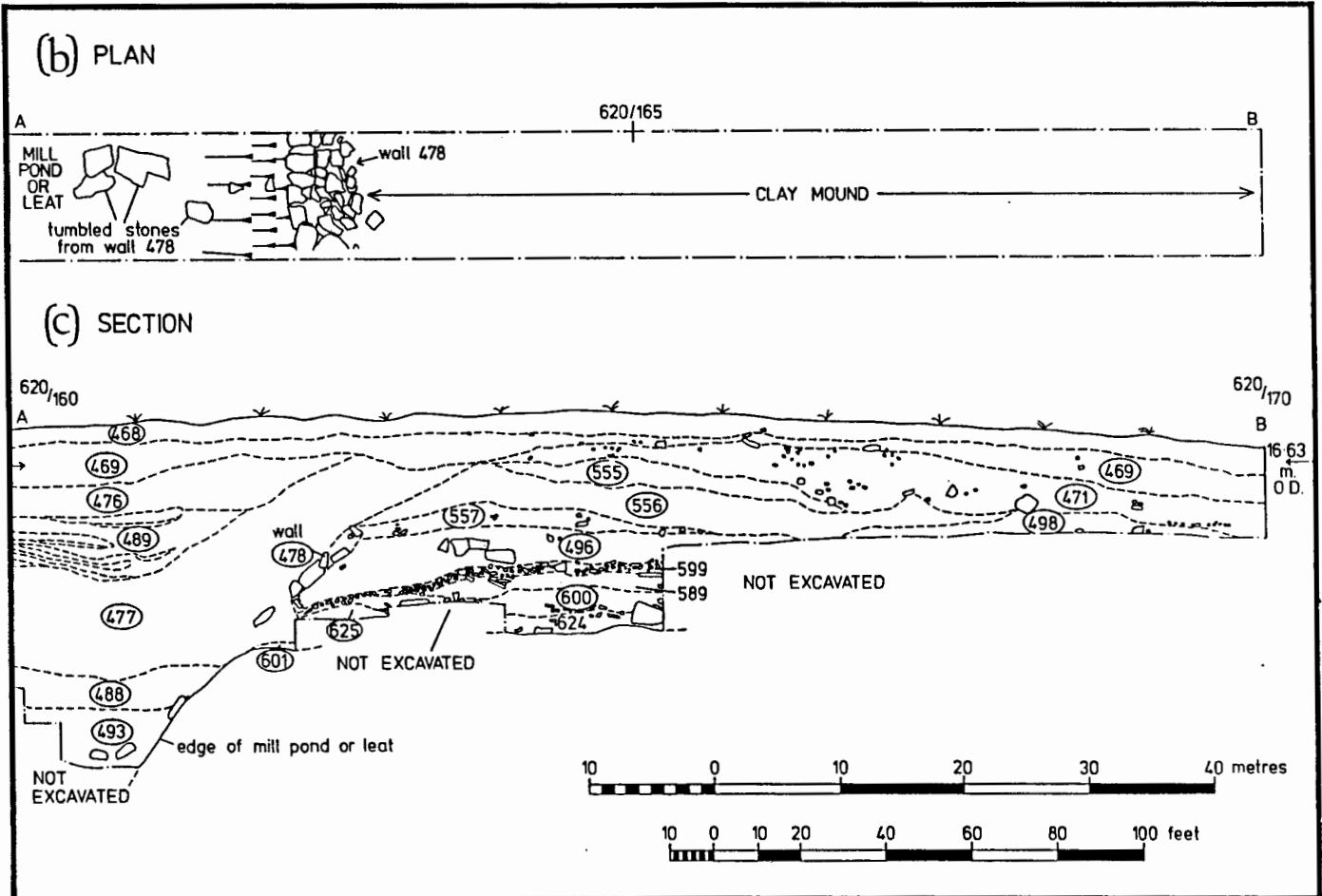
In the 11th century, Enclosure 7 was set out in the centre of the meadow opposite the manor house of Ashton Philips, not certainly in existence by that date. In the 12th century, further



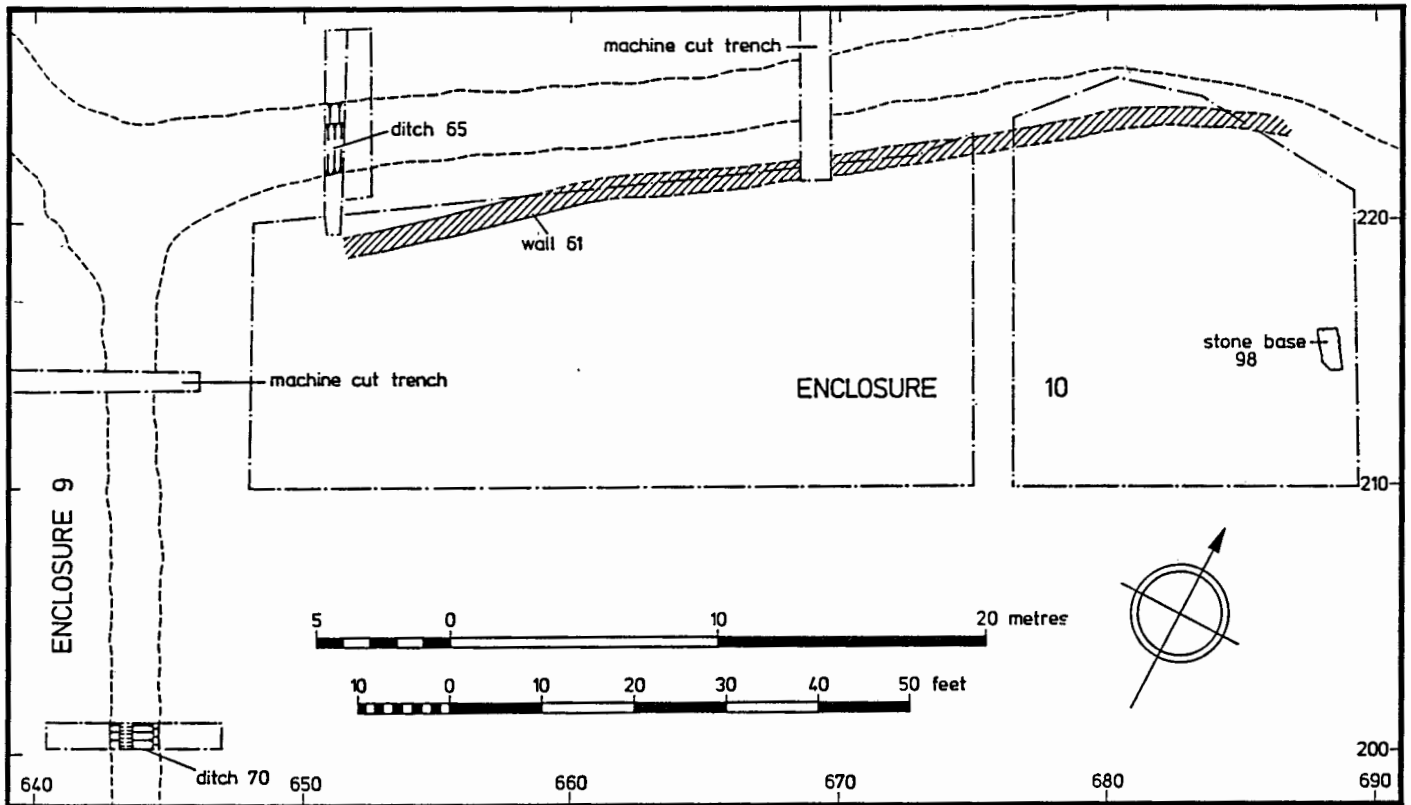
6. North-east corner of Enclosure 8.



7. Site of 12th—13th century mill.



8. Plan and sections of trench A—B.



9. Enclosure 10.

enclosures were added, of which Enclosures 3, 4, 5 and 6 were possibly for agricultural use.

From the 14th century, the use of the various enclosures did not create any accumulations of domestic debris, although throughout the ensuing centuries the continuing use of the meadow is well attested by the number of lost coins and buttons found by excavation.

The archaeological and documentary evidence for the use of the enclosures may be tested against two hypotheses. In the first, the enclosures were the tofts of a small hamlet to the north of the surviving manor house, developing from one toft in the 11th century to no more than five by the late 13th, and abandoned by the mid 14th century.

The quantities and types of pottery found in Enclosures 7, 8 and 9 indicate that there was domestic occupation in or near to the tofts. The 'houses, closes gardens and their appurtenances', referred to in the Quitclaim of 1434 were possibly these enclosures, legal documents perhaps still referring to the settlement long after it had been abandoned. That changes in the settlement pattern in the immediate vicinity of the enclosures were certainly taking place in the late medieval period can be seen from the abandonment of at least four house sites in Yanley in the 15th or 16th centuries. The structures were possibly clay walled. Clay was readily available in the valley bottom and close to Ashton Brook the only certainly medieval structure excavated was probably a mill of 13th and 14th century date, constructed with clay stone revetted walls. Within the excavated areas as a whole, fragments of burnt Jaub, possibly from demolished buildings, were almost completely confined to within Enclosures 8 and 9, which, with the addition of Enclosure 7 occupied at an earlier date, were the areas which produced the greater amount of the pottery found.

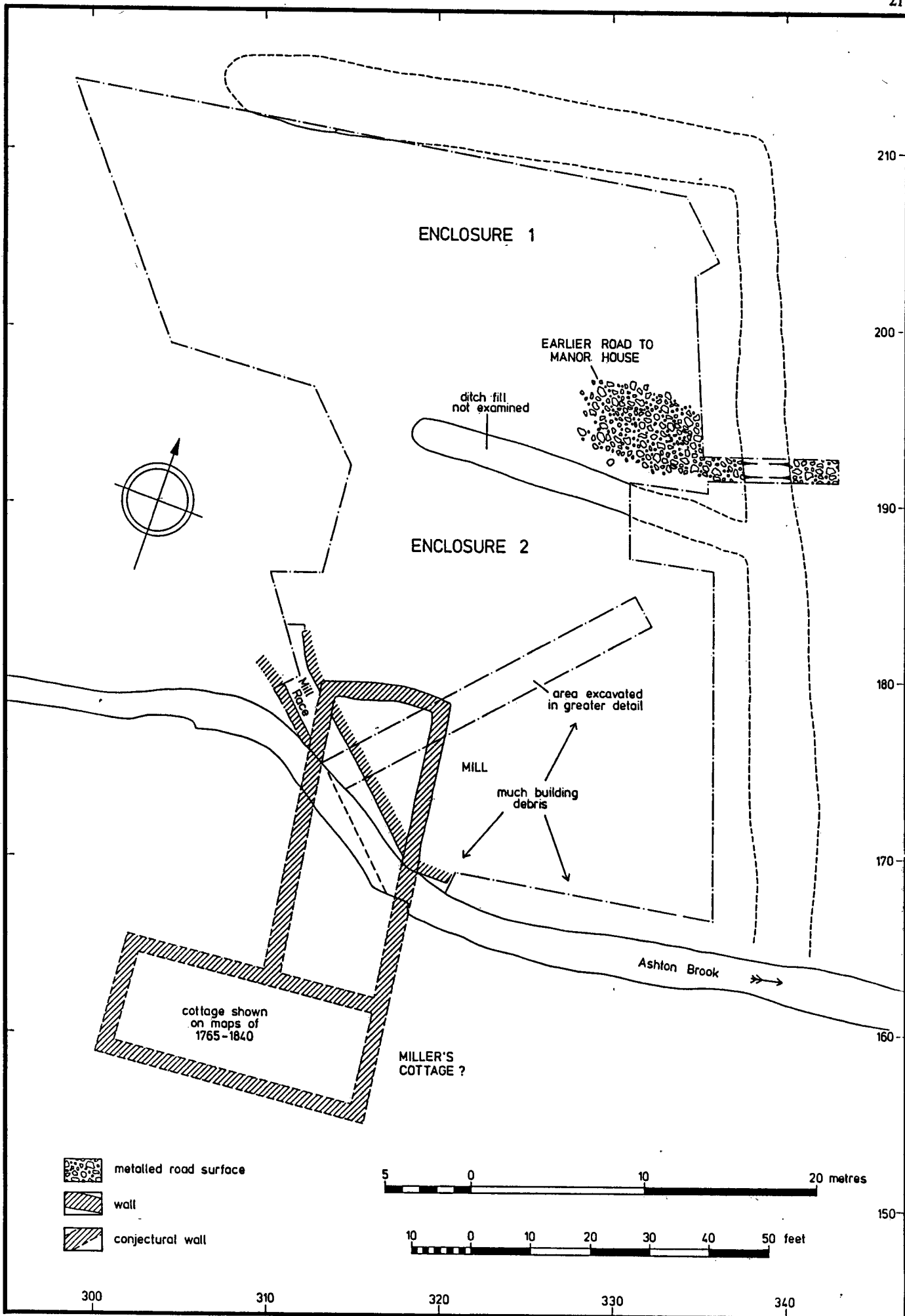
Against this hypothesis, it can be argued that the excavations produced no certain evidence for medieval structures within the enclosures. There were not found any hearths, ditches, pits or

non-random distributions of pottery which might be expected to have at least partially survived later cultivation disturbance. Moreover, the assemblage of metal artefacts does not include items which might be expected from a settlement, such as eating and cooking utensils. For instance, the excavations produced only one knife blade. The total absence of worked building stone or grinding stones, querns, bones etc., is also noteworthy.

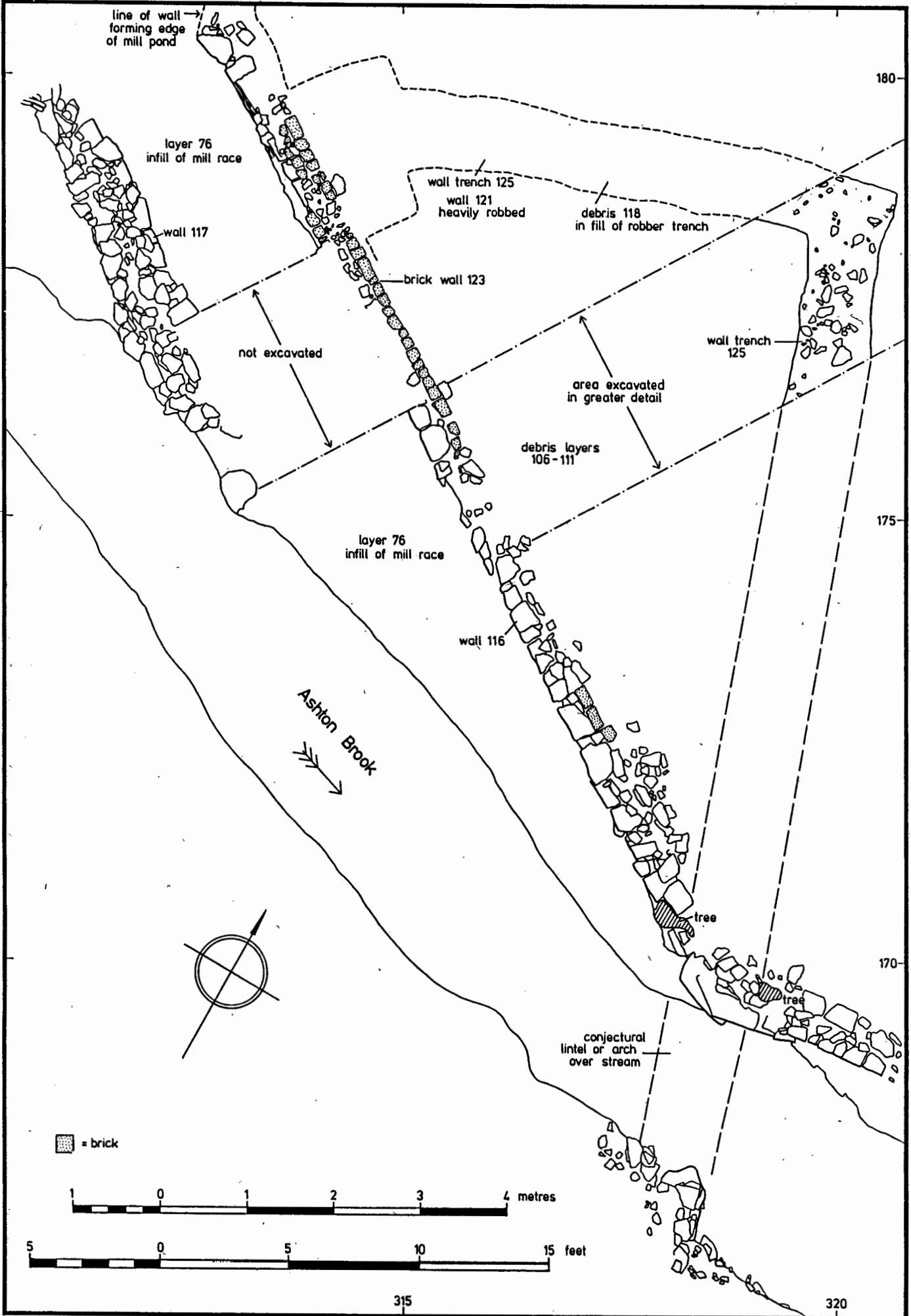
A second hypothesis is that the enclosures were associated with a succession of mills, the frequent resiting of mills with undershot wheels being necessitated by the constantly changing geomorphology of the soft stream bed and banks. The enclosures could have been gardens or paddocks for the miller's horses.

Enclosure 7 could not be related to a contemporary mill although the area to the south was not examined by excavation. Enclosures 8 and 9 were contemporary with the probable mill cut by the two trenches excavated to the south of Enclosure 9. The earthworks between this and Enclosure 9, one certainly a ditch or leat of medieval date, were probably of former watercourses and ponds associated with a mill or mills. Enclosures 1 and 2 were shown to be associated with a mill of late 17th and early 18th centuries. Brookside, a mill of the late 17th or 18th century was possibly contemporary with the latter.

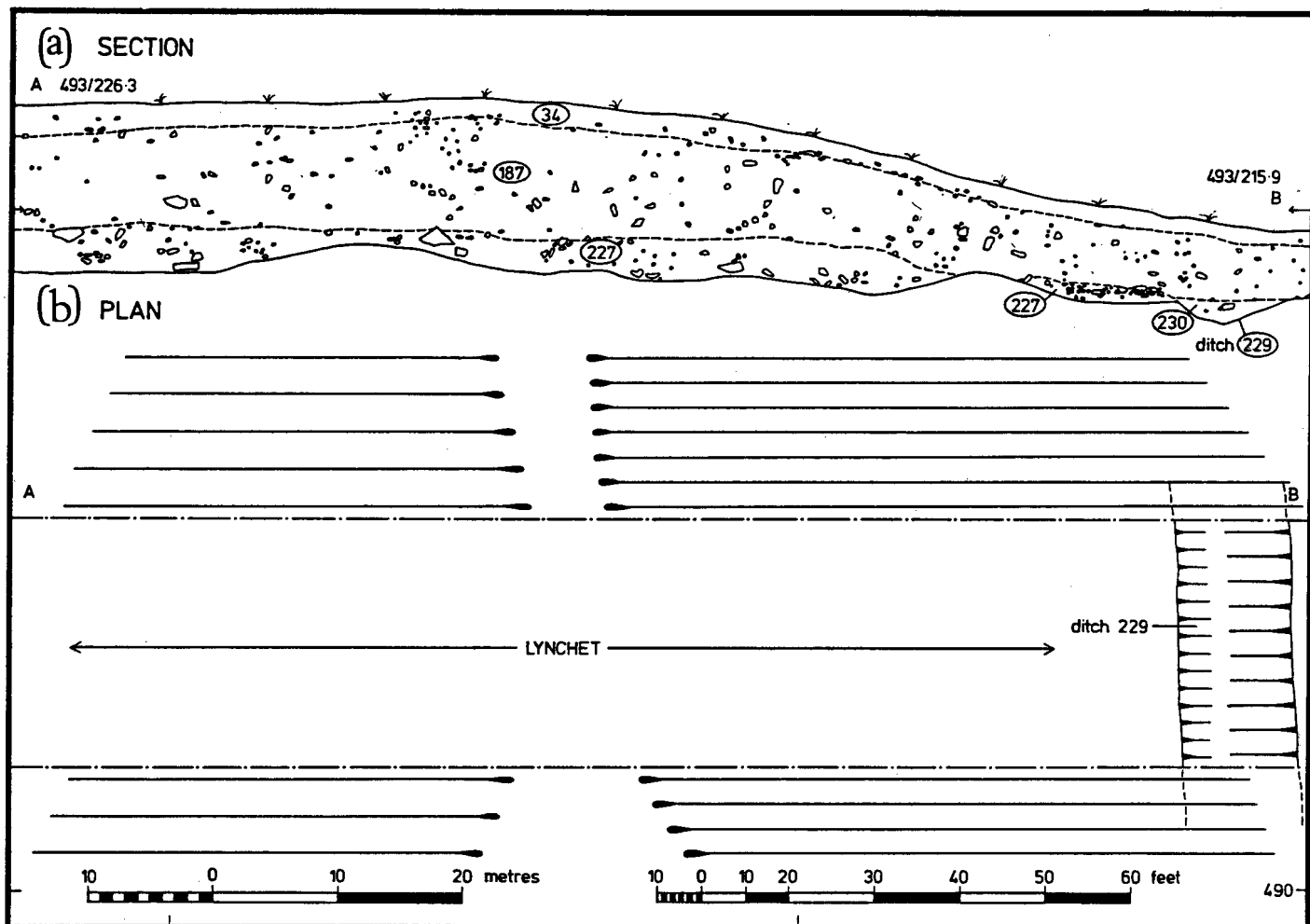
The results of these extensive excavations clearly have implications for the investigation of clayland deserted medieval settlements adjacent to streams. A future research design for this parish could be directed more to the dynamics of changing land use rather than simply to the recovery of the changing plans of presumed settlements. A basis for further research is provided by this excavation, the detailed historical research which accompanied it and by the investigations undertaken at the Roman (but also medieval) settlement of Gatcombe in the west part of the parish.



10. Enclosures 1 and 2.



11. Enclosure 2, detail of excavation



12. Section and plan of excavation across the lynchet to the north of Enclosures 1-7.

THE ARTEFACTS

Since no certain conclusions could be reached from the excavation of the structure of the site, only certain categories of the artefacts have been examined or summarised in varying degrees of detail. Other material from the site, including examples taken for environmental analysis, are listed in the unpublished archive report. Owing to the acidity of the soil there was almost no bone from Enclosures 5 - 10.

STONE

No stone objects certainly associated with the medieval settlement or activity were recorded.

THE FLINT INDUSTRY

by Alan Saville

A collection of 360 flints, representing the total recovered during the excavation, was submitted to the writer for examination. The flints came from 80 separate excavation contexts, none of them features, and are therefore not in any determinable, temporal or spatial relationship, except insofar as they must result from prehistoric activity on or near the valley bottom.

Excluding the burnt pieces, approximately 80% of the total flints are uncorticated, the flint being predominantly grey or grey-brown in colour, with smaller numbers of ochrous, red, and brown varieties. Three pieces of chert are included in the total. Where cortex is present it is not heavily abraded and is stained

red-brown, and probably derives from a relatively local Pleistocene non-gravel deposit. The flints are almost all in a fresh condition, though a few exhibit obvious recent damage.

The composition of the collection in terms of major artefact classes is as follows:

	No.	%	wt. in g.	%
Unretouched flakes etc.	240	67	651.7	47
Cores etc.	11	3	246.9	18
Retouched pieces	109	30	492.7	35
Total	360		1391.3	

This immediately demonstrates that the assemblage does not represent a balanced assemblage, in which the waste material would normally be far more prominent. This is often the case with prehistoric lithic material recovered in the excavation of sites of later date, when various unknown biases have operated to produce an arbitrary and uneven sample. Therefore, while the collection is discussed and described in detail in the unpublished Levell III report, only the main conclusions for this study are set out below.

Conclusions

The 360 artefacts from Lower Court Farm represent a typologically mixed assemblage which cannot be ascribed to any single flint-working tradition. It is clear, however, that there is a significant Mesolithic aspect to the collection. In addition to microliths and a microburin there are backed blades, some

scrapers, points and one at least of the cores which are undoubtedly Mesolithic, and this is probably true of a large proportion of the remaining assemblage. The microlith types present could be used to suggest an attribution to the earlier Mesolithic (Mellars 1974), but there is insufficient material for certainty. The Mesolithic pieces could themselves result from widely separated chronological phases of activity.

The most obvious post-Mesolithic implements are two *petit tranchet* derivative arrowheads, which are conventionally of late Neolithic attribution, though other examples are present. Typologically, the exceptional 'fabricator' is the most interesting piece in the collection, but the chronological range of these prismatic tools is extremely wide, and an attempt at dating this example would be unwise.

In summary it can be said that the Lower Court Farm collection indicates multi-period pre Iron Age activity in the area of the later medieval settlement. The collection is particularly important in providing a well documented Mesolithic findspot, since this lithic tradition is still very imprecisely known in the Bristol region.

SOIL SAMPLES

Soil samples were taken from 29 contexts, but owing to the lack of data for medieval structures these were not examined at the post-excavation stage.

BURNT CLAY

Fragments of burnt clay daub, most smaller than 3mm³ were recorded as follows:

- Enclosure 8 — 29 fragments
- Enclosure 9 — 37 fragments
- Enclosure 10 — 1 fragment

The absence of burnt daub from Enclosure 7, and its localisation within Enclosures 8 and 9 is significant, for it was the latter which produced the largest pottery assemblages of the later 11th century onwards; it is possible that the burnt daub from these enclosures is derived from collapsed structures of a type which were confined to those areas.

THE LATE SAXON AND MEDIEVAL POTTERY

by T. Pearson

Introduction

The excavations produced a total of 9,602 late Saxon and Medieval sherds. Classification and quantification by form and fabric was undertaken to investigate possible differences in the chronology and patterns of pottery-use, not only between the principal excavated enclosures, but between the enclosures within the settlement and other nearby sites, notably those excavated in the medieval city of Bristol. In the preliminary analysis for the dating and identification of the Long Ashton types, particular reference was made to the well stratified pottery series from Bristol Castle (Ponsford and Price 1979; Ponsford 1980).

A substantial quantity of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the site. It has not been included in this report because of its predominantly local nature and because, except in Enclosure 2, it was unassociated with any structural features.

Condition of the pottery

Most of the pottery from the excavation was abraded with most surfaces removed by harsh soil conditions. Many of the lead-glazed sherds had been eroded to the extent that little or no glaze

remained apart from specks visible with a hand lens. Generally, the medieval sherds from Groups 4 and 8 (below) had suffered most, although sherds from all groups with softer-fired oxidised surfaces had damaged or removed surfaces. The notable exception was the late Saxon pottery from Enclosure 7, the sherds from which (types LAP71 and LAP72) were much less abraded. The pottery was generally found at a deeper level on this enclosure.

The condition of the pottery made identification of types difficult, but sufficient undamaged sherds were available to construct a representative type-series.

Analysis and quantification

Pottery types were defined on the basis of common fabric, manufacturing techniques and typological traits (where possible). For fabric identifications, the visible inclusions were analysed as outlined by Peacock (1977, 30-2). To facilitate comparison with the Bristol pottery, the pottery types have been separated into groups, each of a different date range (below).

Quantification was by sherd count. Minimum vessel estimation was not attempted because of the condition of the pottery particularly because of the large numbers of small abraded sherds. Owing to the lack of vertical stratigraphy, numerous contexts have been coalesced to form the basis of the conclusions that follow. Here, two vessels accounted for the large numbers of sherds of types LAP 44 and LAP 49.

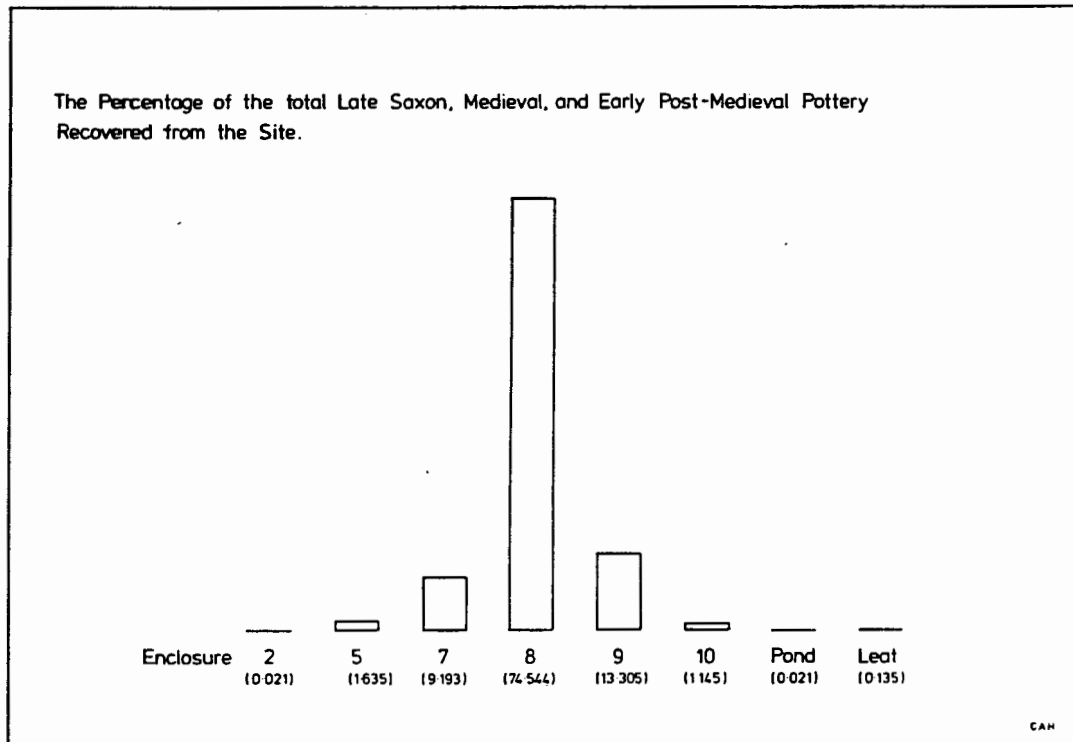
Figure 13 shows the percentages of the total sherd count represented by the pottery recovered from each enclosure. Fig. 14 shows the percentages of each pottery group, by date, from Enclosure 7 and 8 (A and B), and for the whole site (C). Fig. 15 shows the quantification by sherd count of each pottery group from each enclosure.

Conclusions

In date, the late Saxon and Medieval pottery from Long Ashton extends from c. 1000 to 1350 and probably represents occupation from the mid-11th century to some time within the second quarter of the 13th century (Fig. 14). The main focus of activity was in Enclosure 7 in the 11th century (with 79.8% of Group 2 pottery) but in Enclosure 8 in the 12th century to the early 13th century (Figs. 14, 15). The early date range is reflected in the small number of glazed sherds, only 2.7% of the total. The pottery from Enclosure 2 was all post-medieval (late 17th to 19th century n date), and has not been included in this report, apart from two sherds and a Malvernian jug (LAP 39). The pottery from Enclosures 5, 9 and 10 was a much smaller quantity but reflecting the types from Enclosure 8 (Figs. 13-15).

The analysis therefore showed that while there was a lack of vertical stratigraphy within the enclosures, the horizontal stratigraphy within one enclosure was clearly distinct from the next. This was apparent from the exclusion of some pottery types in certain enclosures and is clearly evident in the analyses (see especially Figs. 14, 15).

The late Saxon pottery is of considerable interest because it forms the largest collection of this type yet recovered from the area. It comprises 447 (Group 2) sherds, a total exceeding those of the Cheddar and Bristol collections. Typologically the forms are the same as those from Cheddar (Rahtz 1979, Type C and CC). The fabrics are the same as those from Bristol Castle (Ponsford 1980, BPT 176). Some of the sherds of this type are warped and the possibility that they were of local manufacture cannot be ruled out. However, the comparability of the forms does suggest that a strong late Saxon pottery tradition was current in a wide area extending at least from Bristol as far as



13. Percentage of the total late Saxon and Medieval pottery recovered from the site.

Cheddar and Ilchester (Pearson forthcoming).

Of the medieval pottery from Long Ashton, 95% of the sherds can be paralleled exactly in the series from Bristol Castle, although there were significant variations of those pottery types amounting to over 10% of the total, in most cases representing separate vessels. Many of the coarse-ware types from Bristol and Long Ashton were probably the product of local kilns within the hinterland of the medieval city. Of the total assemblage only 0.26% of the pottery was of types that had not yet been found in Bristol.

Comparison in reverse, of the Bristol pottery with that from Long Ashton, might be especially illuminating. It might be expected that the different social and economic organisation of a large medieval city would be reflected in a more wide ranging pottery series than that from a contemporary nearby rural community. However, the only large assemblage from the 1965-86 Bristol excavations yet published in detail is that from Bristol Castle, and obviously hardly typical of the city as a whole. Comparisons can be made though between the Long Ashton series and the relatively small later 13th century and earlier assemblage (222 sherds) from excavations in Baldwin Street, Bristol adjacent to the town wall (Ponsford and Price 1979). Here 28% of the pottery (by sherd count) was not represented in the Long Ashton series, made up as follows:

(a) <i>local</i> (within 25km)	
Bristol Pottery Type 1 Pre Conquest	
Cooking Pot	5.5%
Bristol Pottery Type 18, 18C, 18E	
Tripod pitchers, glazed	10.0%
Bristol Pottery Type 48	
Ham Green cooking pot	4.5%
Bristol Pottery Type 125	
Reduced Redcliff ware	1.0%
(b) <i>non local</i>	
Bristol Pottery Type 191	
Stamford ware, post 1150	1.0%

(c) *imports*

Bristol Pottery Type 192
N. France import

6.0% (1 vessel)

Clearly there is a significant difference between this and the very much larger total assemblage of roughly contemporary date from Long Ashton where only 0.26% of the pottery was of types not represented in Bristol. Thus, as predicted, the pottery series from a site in the medieval city is indeed derived from a wider range of sources. It will however be of interest to see the pottery analyses from other recent excavations of domestic buildings in Bristol where larger assemblages may provide better statistical comparisons with the Long Ashton material.

The Pottery Type Series

The pottery type series is described in detail in the unpublished Level III report. The pottery types are subdivided for analysis (see above) into nine groups, in which comparisons with the assemblages from Cheddar and Bristol are of particular importance (Rahtz 1979, Ponsford 1980).

- Group 1 pre-Saxon*, including both indigenous handmade and imported foreign types; Long Ashton Pottery Types (hereafter LAP) 53 and 85.
- Group 2 11th century*, mainly cooking pots and unglazed storage jars, for which the Long Ashton series provides a larger group than has yet been obtained in excavations in Bristol (illustrated, nos. 15-31, 46-8); LAP 71 and 92.
- Group 3 later 11th century*, cooking pots and unglazed storage jars; LAP 72 is well dated at Bristol Castle (Type 115) to 1070-1100 (Ponsford 1980).
- Group 4 late 11th and early 12th century*, cooking pots and unglazed storage jars, with slightly everted or upright rims; of late Saxon date paralleled in Bristol (Types 10/142) and N. Somerset (Ponsford *ibid*); LAP 52.
- Group 5 late 11th and early 12th century*, cooking pots and unglazed storage jars, similar to Bristol Types AA and AC (*ibid*); LAP 65, 68, 81, 91.
- Group 6 later 12th and early 13th century*, cooking pots and jars, some of the latter glazed, most have parallels in the Bristol series; LAP 50, 59, 84, 90, 93, 97.

Group 7 13th century, cooking pots and jars, including Ham Green coarse wares and glazed jars, most have parallels in the Bristol series; LAP 45, 51, 55, 56, 58, 64, 80, 83, 95, 100, 101.

Group 8 later 13th and early 14th century, glazed jugs, all paralleled in the Bristol series; LAP 44, 46, 47, 49.

Group 9 early post-medieval, 16th-17th centuries, Malvern (see Vince 1979, 257-305) and possibly Wanstraw products; LAP 39, 69.

Catalogue of pottery illustrated or of especial note

Enclosure 2 (Fig. 16)

1. Oxidised orange fabric, LAP 39, F76.

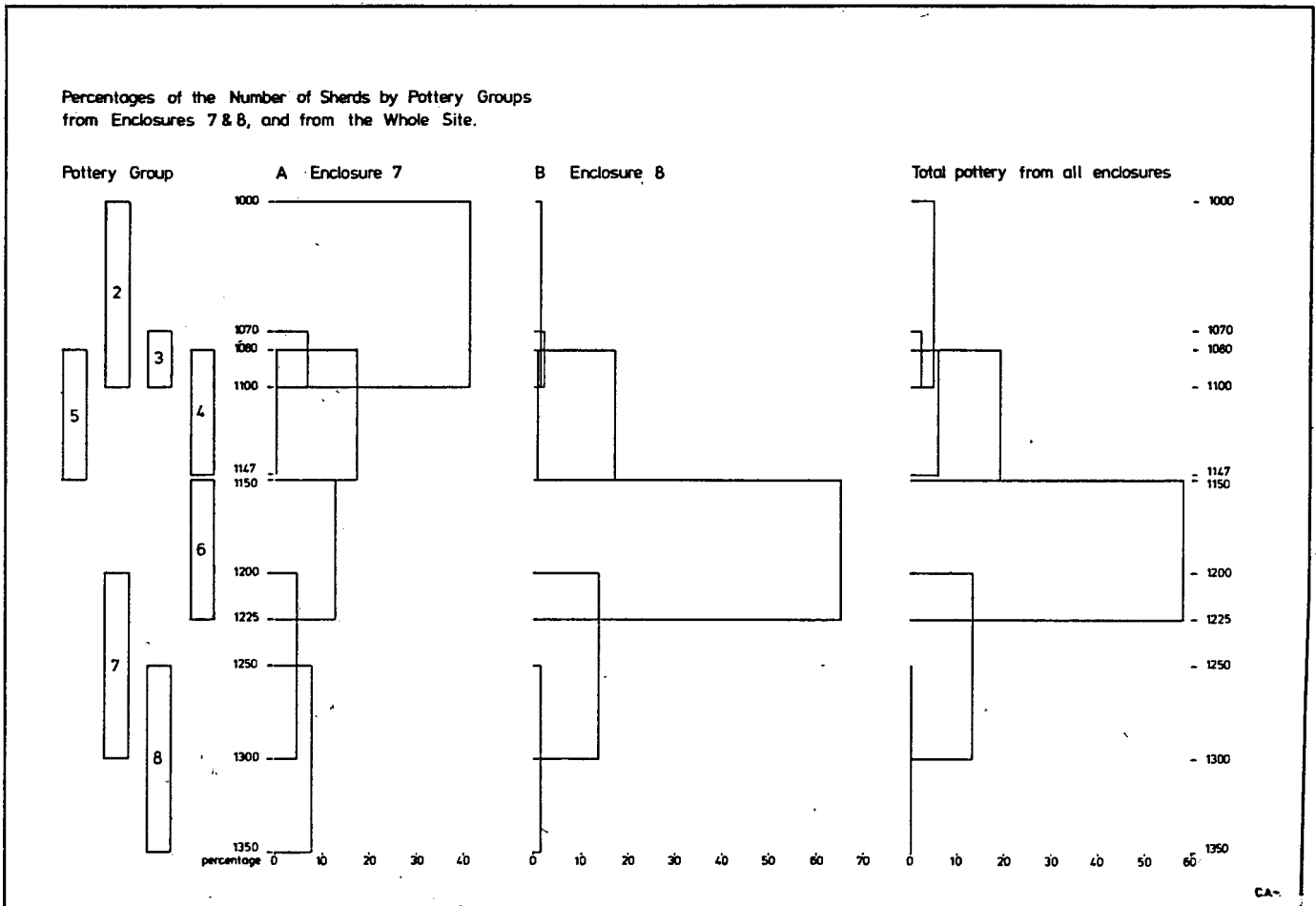
Enclosure 5

2. Body sherd from the lower part of a large vessel, very thickly made and grass-tempered, honey-combed fabric, LAP 53, F28, not illustrated.
3. Reduced grey core with oxidised buff-brown surfaces, internally smoothed, LAP 52, F28.
4. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, externally fire blackened, LAP 65, F28.
5. Reduced dark grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, smoke blackened on rim, applied strip of the same clay as body, LAP 50, F28.
6. Reduced grey to black core with black external surface, internally buff-coloured, smoke blackened, LAP 50, F28.
7. Thumb impressed rim, oxidised red-brown fabric with slightly reduced dark grey to brown external surface, LAP 50, F241.
8. Reduced light grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, smoke blackened at the junction of the rim and neck on the inside surface, LAP 64, F28.
9. Reduced blue-grey core with oxidised orange surfaces, LAP 56, F28.

10. Reduced grey fabric with grey to off-white surfaces, smoke blackened and eroded, LAP 51, F28.
11. Body sherd, crucible, thin refractory-quartz-sand tempered clay, externally smoke-blackened, LAP 55, F28, not illustrated.
12. Reduced grey core with oxidised off-white to cream surfaces with external grey patches and patchy green lead glaze, LAP 44, F28.
13. Oxidised off-white to yellow fabric with reduced light grey zones and external green lead glaze, LAP 47, F28.
14. Reduced grey fabric with thin oxidised yellow-pink surface, lead glaze on upper surface, green-brown in colour and badly developed, LAP 46, F28.

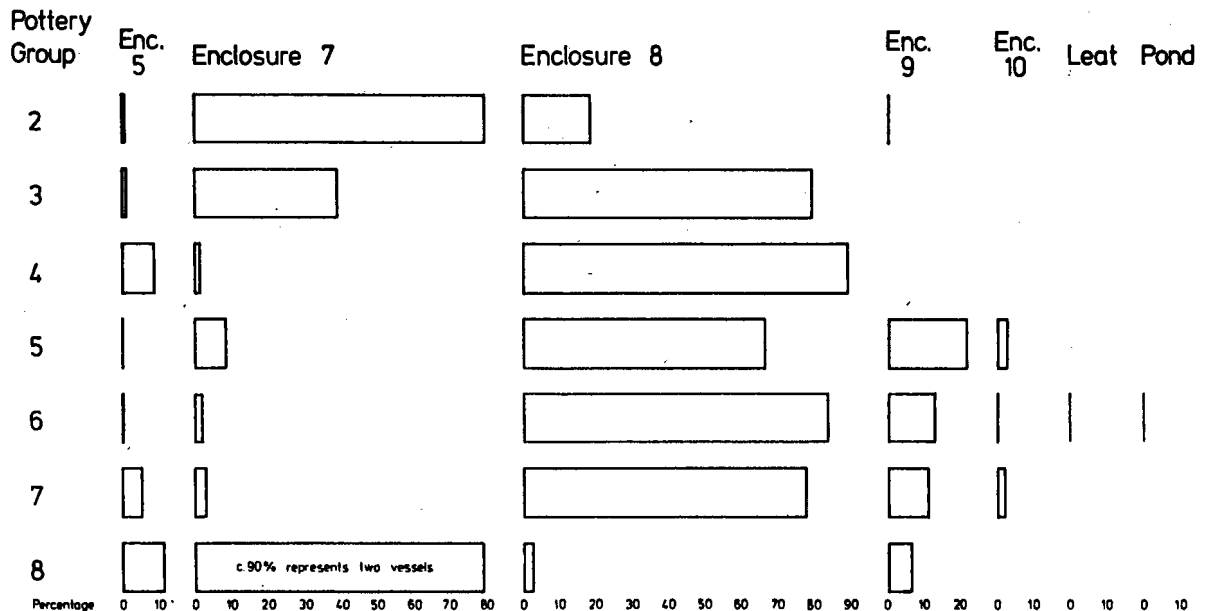
Enclosure 7

15. Reduced grey-black fabric, LAP71, F40.
16. Reduced black to dark-grey fabric with oxidised orange to brown internal patches, LAP 71, F96.
17. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised buff-brown external surfaces, reduced grey on the rim; this rim sherd is warped, possibly a waster or a second, LAP 71, F96.
18. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised orange-buff surfaces, LAP 71, F100.
19. Reduced grey core with oxidised orange-brown surfaces, rim internally wheel-turned, LAP 71, F103.
20. Reduced dark-grey to black core with oxidised orange to brown external surfaces, externally smoke, blackened, rim internally wheel-turned, LAP71, F104.
21. Reduced dark-grey to black core with oxidised orange to brown external surfaces, rim warped (waster?), LAP 71, F104.
22. Reduced grey to black fabric with slightly oxidised dark brown surfaces, LAP 71, F104.
23. Reduced grey to black fabric and internal surface, oxidised buff-brown external surface, eroded, LAP 71, F104.
24. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised orange-buff external



14. Percentages of the number of sherds by pottery groups from Enclosures 7 and 8 and from the whole site.

Percentages of the dateable Late Saxon and Medieval Pottery Groups from each Excavated Enclosure.



CAH

15. Percentages of the dateable late Saxon and Medieval pottery groups from each excavated enclosure.

- surfaces, internally eroded, rim distorted, LAP 71, F109.
24. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised orange-buff external surfaces, internally eroded, rim distorted, LAP 71, F109.
25. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised orange-brown external surface and reduced internal surface of rim, LAP 71, F109.
26. Reduced dark-grey core with oxidised patchy orange-brown surface areas, smoke blackened on rim, LAP 71, F109.
27. Reduced dark-grey to black core with oxidised orange-brown surfaces, LAP 71, F109.
28. Reduced grey-black core with dark grey internal surface and oxidised orange-brown external surface, LAP 71, F109.
29. Reduced grey fabric core with oxidised orange-brown external and orange to dark brown internal surfaces, LAP 71, F126
30. Reduced grey to black fabric with slightly oxidised dark brown external surface, internally wheel-turned rim, eroded, LAP 71, F127.
31. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised brown-buff surfaces, externally fire-blackened, LAP 71, F127.
32. Reduced dark grey to black core with oxidised buff-brown external and brown internal surfaces, discoloured through heating, LAP 71, F190.
33. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised red-brown surfaces, internally smoothed, LAP 72, F104.
34. Reduced grey-black fabric with oxidised brown-buff patch on the internal surface, smoothed surfaces, LAP 72, F104.
35. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised buff-red surfaces, LAP 72, F190.
36. Reduced grey core with oxidised yellow-brown to buff surfaces, LAP 68, F183.
37. Reduced grey-black fabric with external oxidised orange-brown surface, internally eroded, LAP 50, F104.
38. Reduced dark-grey fabric with oxidised orange-brown external surface, both external and internal surfaces eroded, LAP 50, F104.
39. Reduced grey-black fabric, wheel-turned rim, LAP 84, F211.
40. Reduced dark grey core with oxidised buff surfaces, wheel-turned rim, LAP 90, F195.
41. Bowl?, reduced grey core with oxidised off-white surfaces under green lead glaze, LAP 44, F40.
42. Reduced grey core with oxidised off-white to cream surfaces and external patchy green lead glaze, LAP 44, F96.
43. Ink well, reduced blue-grey core with oxidised pink internal and off-white to pink external surfaces, external patchy green lead glaze, LAP 44, F134.
44. Rim and handle sherds reconstructed, reduced light blue-grey core with oxidised cream-buff surfaces, traces of external patchy green lead glaze on handle and body, very eroded, a round pointed tool was used.
45. Base sherd, description as no. 44, probably from the same vessel, LAP 49, F190.
- Enclosure 8.*
46. Reduced grey core with oxidised orange external and internal surfaces, LAP 71, F191.
47. Reduced light-grey fabric with oxidised buff to orange external surfaces, LAP 71, F191.
48. Reduced grey fabric, with slightly oxidised dark brown external surface, internally eroded, LAP 71, F191.
49. Cresset lamp, reduced black core with oxidised orange-buff coloured surfaces, external burnt 'bib', LAP 92, F191.
50. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised buff-orange surfaces, LAP 72, F587.
51. Reduced yellow-grey core with oxidised buff-brown surfaces, internally mostly eroded away, LAP 52, F191.
52. Reduced yellow-grey core and surfaces with smoothed band on

the inside of the lip of the rim, LAP 52, F191.

53. Reduced grey to yellow-grey core with oxidised brown-buff surface patches, externally fire blackened and discoloured, very honeycombed, LAP 52, F191.
54. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown external surfaces, LAP 52, F300.
55. Reduced grey core and internal surface with oxidised brown-buff external surface, badly eroded, LAP 52, F356.
56. Reduced grey-black to oxidised brown-buff fabric, externally fire-blackened, LAP 65, F299.
57. Reduced grey-brown core with oxidised brown external surfaces, the oxidised layer has laminated away from the core, LAP 65, F510.

Fig. 18.

58. Reduced grey fabric, surfaces eroded, there was probably an oxidised brown surface, thumb or finger impressions on the rim, LAP 65, F540.
59. Reduced grey fabric, surfaces eroded, there was probably an oxidised brown surface (suggested by traces), LAP 65, F540.
60. Reduced grey fabric with oxidised brown surfaces, very eroded, LAP 65, F540.
61. Reduced grey fabric with grey surfaces, slightly oxidised buff internal surface, LAP 65, F545.
62. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, possibly top of thumbed strip from the neck, LAP 65, F545.
63. Reduced grey fabric with grey surfaces, LAP 65, F545.
64. Reduced grey-black fabric with oxidised buff-orange external surface, rim internally wheel turned, LAP 65, F554.
65. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised brown internal surface, discoloured, smoke-blackened external surface, LAP 65, F554.
66. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, cordon decoration, LAP 65, F554.
67. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised buff to orange-brown surfaces, rim internally turned and top of rim has grooves probably made with a stick, LAP 68, F191.
68. Reduced dark-grey core with grey surfaces, rim smoke-blackened?, LAP 68, F191.
69. Reduced grey core and oxidised brown surfaces, internally badly eroded, LAP 68, F191.
70. Slightly oxidised brown fabric with reduced grey-black patches, fire blackened on rim, smoothed external surface, LAP 68, F191.
71. Reduced light-grey to yellowish-grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, LAP 68, F191.
72. Reduced dark-grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, externally badly eroded, LAP 68, F191.
73. Reduced grey-black fabric, inside of rim wheel-turned, LAP 81, F191.
74. Reduced to oxidised grey to black to red core with light brown internal and dark brown external surfaces, smoke-blackened, LAP 91, F191.
75. Oxidised buff fabric and surfaces, wheel turned internally, LAP 91, F191.
76. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces externally fire blackened, LAP 91, F191.
77. Reduced grey core with oxidised buff-brown surfaces, LAP 91, F191.
78. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces externally fire-blackened, LAP 91, F191.
79. Reduced grey fabric and internal surface with external slightly oxidised brown surface, LAP 91, F191.
80. Reduced grey core with dark buff-brown external surface, LAP 91, F191.
81. Reduced grey core and internal surface, external slightly oxidised brown surface, fire blackened, LAP 91, F191.
82. Reduced grey-black core with grey internal surface and oxidised buff-grey external surface, LAP 91, F356.
83. Reduced grey fabric and internal surface with external oxidised orange-buff patches, LAP 50, F191.

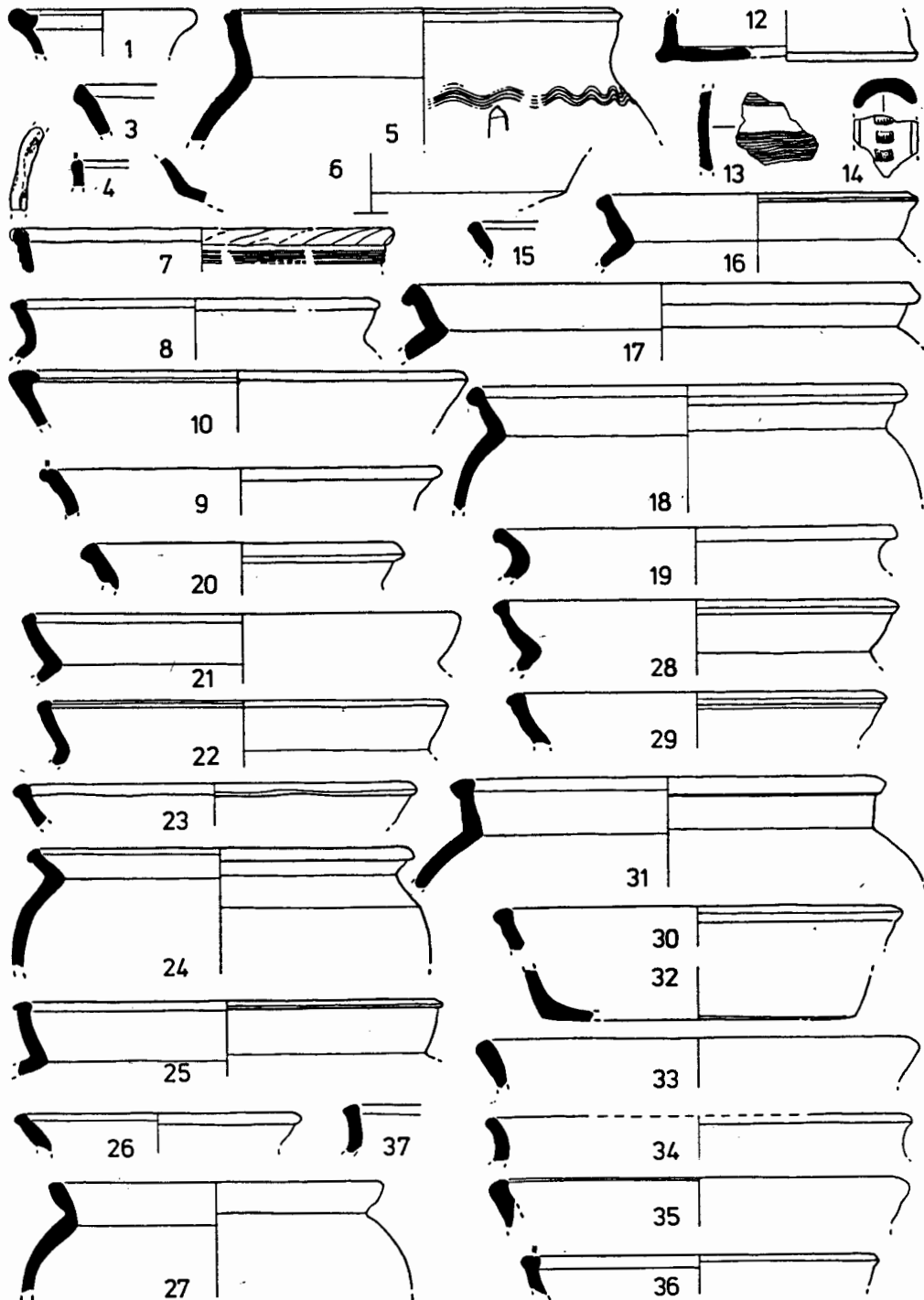
84. Reduced grey-brown core with slightly oxidised yellow-grey internal surface and oxidised orange external zone, LAP 50, F191.
85. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown-pink external surfaces, eroded on rim, LAP 50, F191.

Fig. 19

86. Reduced grey fabric and internal surface with oxidised orange-brown external surface, eroded, LAP 50, F191.
87. Slightly reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, LAP 50, F191.
88. Reduced yellow-grey core with oxidised yellow-orange-brown surface patches, fire-blackened on rim, LAP 50, F191.
89. Slightly reduced yellow-grey core to light grey with oxidised brown surfaces, fire-blackened on rim, LAP 50, F191.
90. Reduced grey-brown core with yellow-grey internal surface and external oxidised buff-brown surface, LAP 50, F191.
91. Reduced grey core and internal surface, oxidised external orange-brown surface, LAP 50, F191.
92. Reduced yellow-grey core and internal surface, external oxidised brown surface, fire blackened, LAP 50, F191.
93. Oxidised brown core and surface patches with reduced grey surfaces, LAP 50, F191.
94. Reduced yellow-grey fabric externally fire blackened, LAP 50, F191.
95. Oxidised orange-brown fabric, internally discoloured by heat, LAP 50, F191.
96. Reduced grey fabric and external surface, internally oxidised brown, eroded, LAP 50, F191.
97. Oxidised brown to orange fabric with grey external patches, LAP 50, F191.
98. Oxidised brown-buff fabric (6 prong comb), LAP 50, F191.
99. Reduced dark grey core with lighter grey external surfaces, LAP 50, F191.
100. Oxidised brown fabric with external smoke discolouration, LAP 50, F191.
101. Oxidised brown-buff fabric, LAP 50, F191.
102. Reduced yellow-grey fabric, externally eroded, LAP 50, F191.
103. Reduced grey fabric with lighter grey surfaces. The pocked or stab marks may have been made after firing, LAP 50, F191.
104. Reduced grey fabric with comb stabbed decoration on rim, LAP 50, F191.
105. Reduced grey fabric with external incised wavy line decoration and comb stabbing on rim, LAP 50, F191.
106. Reduced grey fabric with external eroded combed wavy-line and stabbed decoration on the rim, LAP 50, F191.

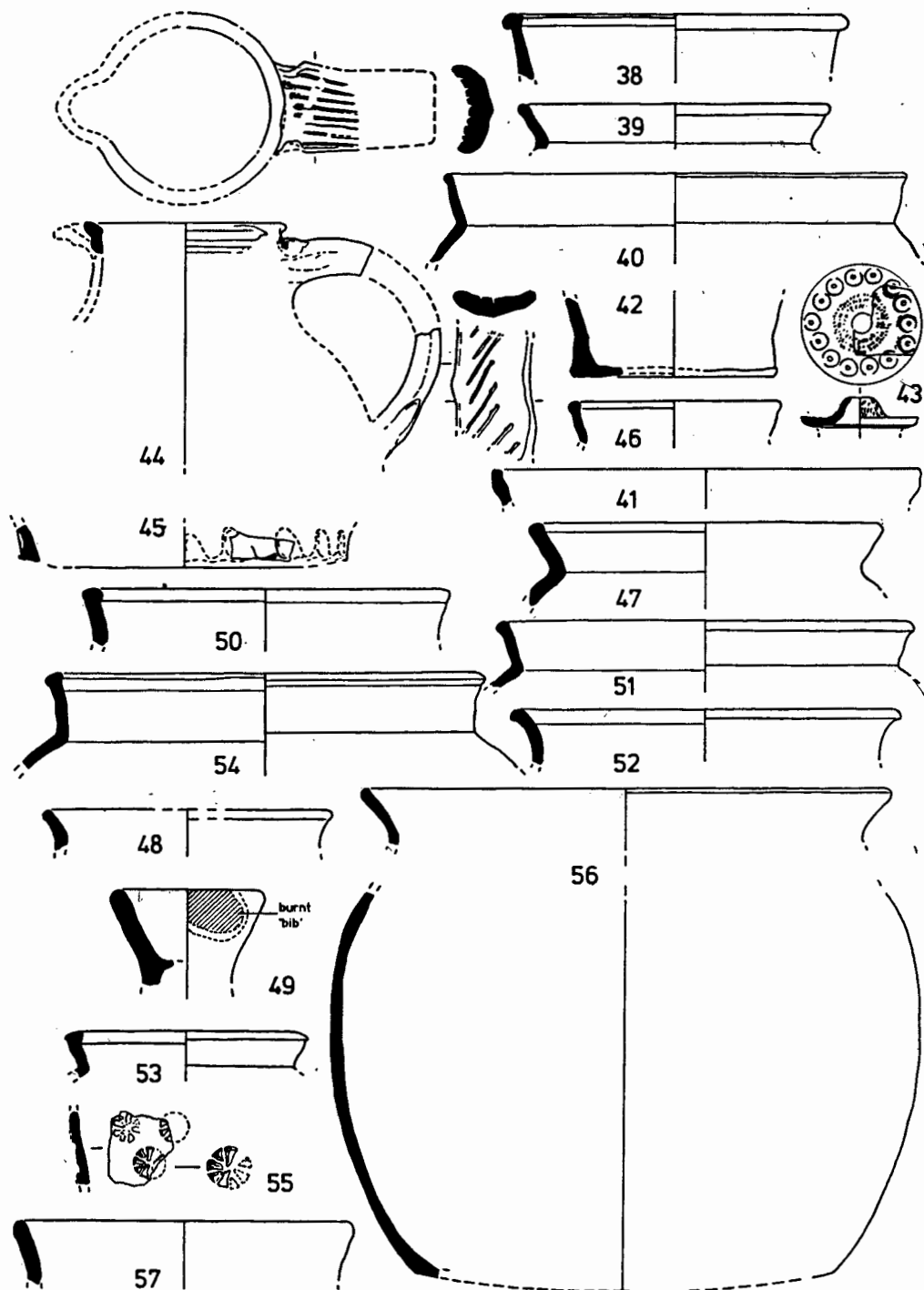
Fig. 20.

107. Oxidised brown fabric with reduced black-dark brown fire discoloured external surface (reconstructed from rim and base sherds), LAP 50, F191.
108. Oxidised brown-orange fabric, externally badly eroded with reduced smoke-blackened areas, LAP 50, F587.
109. Reduced grey-black fabric, wheel-turned rim, externally eroded, LAP 84, F540.
110. Reduced grey black fabric with comb incised wavy-line decoration, LKAP 84, F540.
111. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised brown internal surface and brown to grey external surface, applied strip of the same clay as the body, LAP 93, L191.
112. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, fire blackened and eroded underneath, LAP 64, F191.
113. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, LAP 64, F191.
114. Reduced grey-black core with internal grey off-white to yellow and external oxidised brown surface, LAP 64, F191.
115. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown surface, the external surface is badly eroded and a surface layer has gone, LAP 64, F191.
116. Reduced grey core with brown external surfaces, LAP 64, F191.



16. Pottery, Enclosures 2, 5 and 7 (part), nos. 1—36. Scale $\frac{1}{4}$.

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 117. | Slightly reduced yellow-grey core with oxidised brown surfaces, externally eroded, LAP 64, F191. | 124. | Reduced grey core with lighter grey external surface and yellow-grey internal surface, badly eroded, which has probably removed all evidence of glaze, LAP 45, F191. |
| 118. | Oxidised off-white to yellow fabric with patchy green lead glaze, LAP 45, F191. | 125. | Reduced blue-grey core with oxidised off-white to pink surfaces, badly eroded, LAP 45, F191. |
| 119. | Reduced blue-grey core with oxidised off-white to pink external surfaces, with patchy yellow-green lead glaze, LAP 45, F191. | 126. | Buff-pink oxidised fabric with traces of external green lead glaze, very eroded, LAP 101, F191. |
| 120. | Reduced blue-grey core with oxidised off-white to pink surfaces and patchy lead glaze, LAP 45, F191. | 127. | Reduced grey core and internal surface and oxidised brown on side and buff-orange underneath, fire blackened externally, internally badly eroded, LAP 83, F191. |
| 121. | Reduced blue-grey core with oxidised off-white to yellow-grey surfaces, traces of external lead glaze, LAP 45, F191. | 128. | Reduced grey core with external off-white to buff-pink oxidised surface, internally eroded, LAP 83, F191. |
| 122. | Reduced blue-grey fabric and external surface, oxidised off-white to pink internal surface, traces of external lead glaze, LAP 45, F191. | 129. | Reduced dark-grey core and oxidised buff-orange to brown |
| 123. | Reduced dark grey-blue core with oxidised off-white to buff | | |

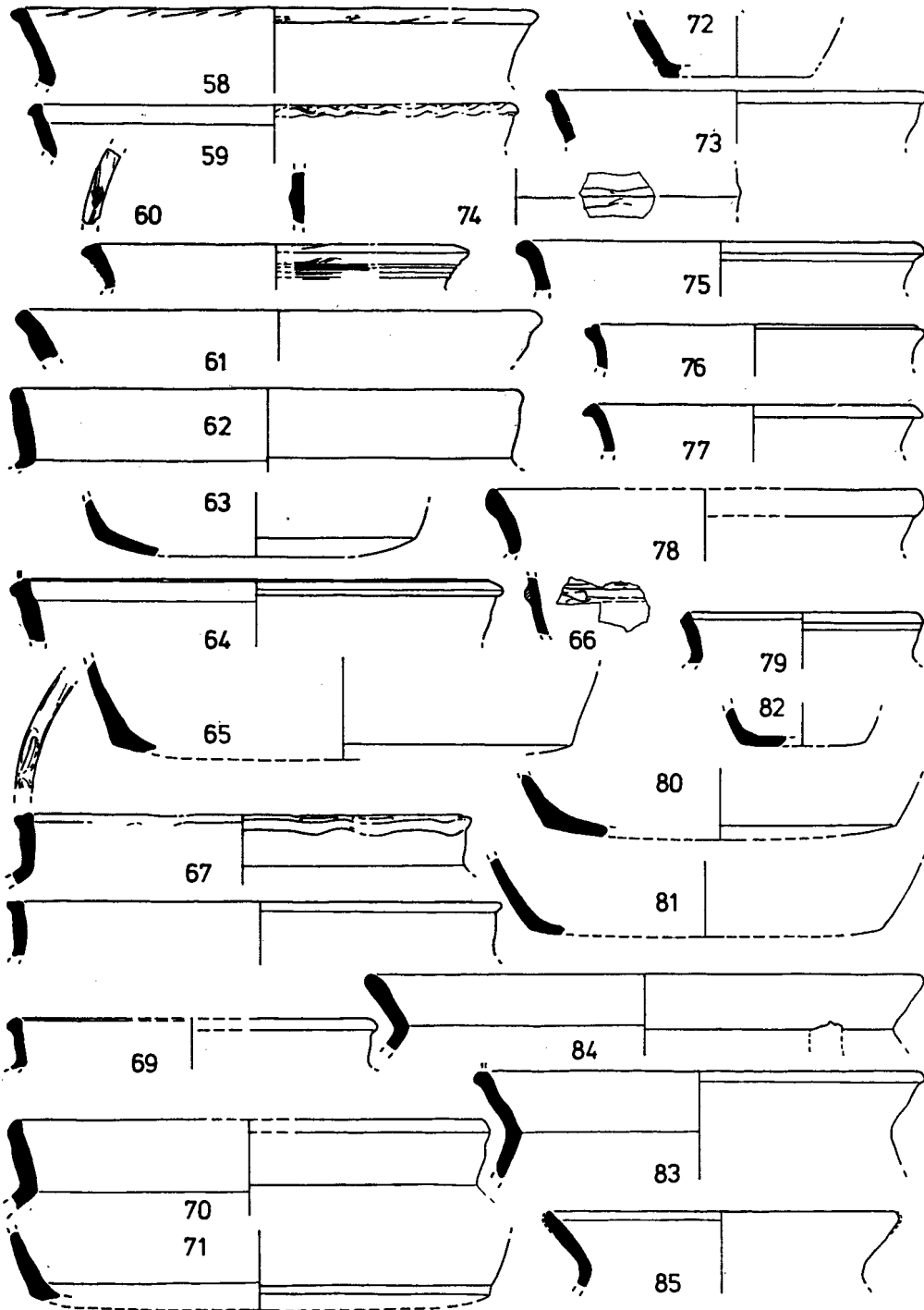


17. Pottery, Enclosures 7 (part) and 8 (part), nos. 37–57. Scale ¼.

- surfaces, rim internally wheel-turned and smoothed, LAP 83, F191.
130. Reduced grey fabric with lighter grey to buff external surface, LAP 83, F191.
131. Reduced grey fabric with grey internal and light grey external surface, LAP 51, F191.
132. Reduced grey core with oxidised white-buff surfaces, LAP 51, F191.
133. Reduced grey core with oxidised external buff-pink and internal off-white to grey surfaces, LAP 51, F191.
134. Reduced grey fabric with grey surfaces, very eroded, LAP 52, F191.
135. Reduced grey core and internal surface with oxidised off-white to buff external surface, eroded, LAP 51, F191.
136. Reduced yellow-grey core with oxidised buff-orange surfaces, LAP 51, F348.

Fig. 21

137. Reduced light grey core with oxidised buff-brown surfaces, LAP 58, F191.
138. Reduced yellow-grey core with oxidised buff-brown surfaces, LAP 58, F191.
139. Oxidised buff-brown fabric with slightly darker surfaces, LAP 58, F191.
140. Reduced grey fabric with yellowish-grey internal surface, externally fire blackened, LAP 58, F191.
141. Reduced light grey core with slightly oxidised buff-brown to grey surfaces, externally fire-blackened and discoloured, LAP 58, F587.
142. Reduced yellow-grey core with oxidised grey-brown external and grey internal surfaces, LAP 80, F394.
143. Reduced light grey core with surfaces eroded, probably originally had oxidised brown-orange surfaces (as 144), LAP 80, F484.



18. Pottery, Enclosure 8 (part), nos. 58—85. Scale $\frac{1}{4}$.

- 144. Reduced light grey core with traces of oxidised brown surfaces, very eroded, LAP 80, F576.
- 145. Reduced light grey core with oxidised brown surfaces mostly eroded away, probably the base of 144, LAP 80, F576.
- 146. Reduced grey core with oxidised cream-buff surfaces, LAP 49, F356.
- 147. Reduced light grey fabric with oxidised off-white to yellow zones, external traces of yellow-brown lead glaze (only surviving in grooves), LAP 47, F576.

Enclosure 9

- 148. Reduced grey core with oxidised brown-orange surfaces, LAP 65, F286.
- 149. Reduced grey-black core with oxidised cream-buff surfaces, surface eroded, LAP 49, F48.
- 150. Oxidised buff-pink fabric with traces of external green lead glaze, very eroded, LAP 101, F333.
- 151. Reduced grey core with oxidised yellow-buff surfaces, LAP 51, F286.
- 152. Reduced grey core with external oxidised buff-pink surfaces, eroded overall, LAP 100, F315.
- 153. Reduced grey core with slightly oxidised brown internal and brown-grey external surfaces, LAP 100, F339.

Enclosure 10

154. Reduced grey fabric with lighter grey surfaces, traces of yellow-brown external lead-glaze, applied strip of the same clay as the body, LAP 45, F311.
155. Reduced grey core with oxidised yellow-grey surfaces, external eroded glaze, LAP 45, F312.
156. Slightly reduced grey core with oxidised buff-brown surfaces, eroded, LAP 100, F58.

MORTAR SAMPLES

Mortar samples were taken from wall F121 of the late 17th - early 18th century mill. The mortar was white lime putty or mortar but was not analysed in detail.

OBJECTS OF COPPER ALLOY

Fifty-five objects of copper alloy are listed and described in detail in the Level III report. Most of these came from the uppermost worm-sorted soils and most are of post-medieval or modern date. Included in the assemblage are 7 buckles, 16 buttons or studs and 5 rings. The following illustrated objects are probably of medieval or early post-medieval date.

Illustrated objects (descriptions by Lindsay Alison-Jones)*Fig. 22*

1. Fragmentary, double curved buckle of oval shape and elliptical section. The loop expands to take an iron bar which is still in position although the pin is missing. F4, wormsorted soil within Enclosure 10.
2. Incomplete, double curved buckle of oval shape and rectangular section, lacking its iron (?) pin and bar. The convex upper face has chipped and incised decoration, F40, worm-sorted soil within Enclosure. At Worcester a brooch of similar form to nos. 1, 2 and 3 came from a context of 15th to mid 17th century date (Carver 1980, Fig. 58).
3. Small, double flat buckle of oval shape and triangular section. The iron bar is still in position with fragments of leather adhering although the pin is missing. F40 (see no. 2).
4. Incomplete, double curved buckle of rectangular shape and hemispherical section, decorated on the flat upper face with a moulded design of *peltae* interspersed with plain raised panels. There are bands of incised lines at the corners. The bar and pin are missing, F4 (see no. 1). Possibly of early 13th or 15th century date (Williams 1979, 253, Cu 27).
5. Fragment of strap-end buckle which has been rivetted onto leather by two circular sectioned bronze rivets. F286 (Enclosure 9).
6. Complete, double buckle of rectangular shape and section. The bar is cast in one with the loop, and the pin is missing. Angular 'fleur-de-lys' motifs project from the edges and single petals from each corner. The whole buckle curves forward rather than back and the upper edges are bevelled. F101 (Enclosure 7). At Worcester a more ornate example came from a context of 17th century date (*ibid.*, Fig. 59)
7. Triangular harness (?) mount with a curvilinear outline and a shallow convex face. A loop projects from the back and there are indications of two more — one in each angle. Surface find.

OBJECTS OF LEAD

Seventeen objects or fragments of lead are described in detail in the Level III report; included are glazing bars, a seal and weights. None illustrated.

1. Circular seal, 18mm diameter, 2mm thick, obverse with E L, reverse roughly finished, F40.
2. Weight, 50g., 29mm dia., 8mm thick, rounded edges, F56.

3. Weight. 25g., 25mm dia., circular, moulded centre hole, F191.
4. Weight, 60g., 26mm dia., at base, moulded centre hole, F357.

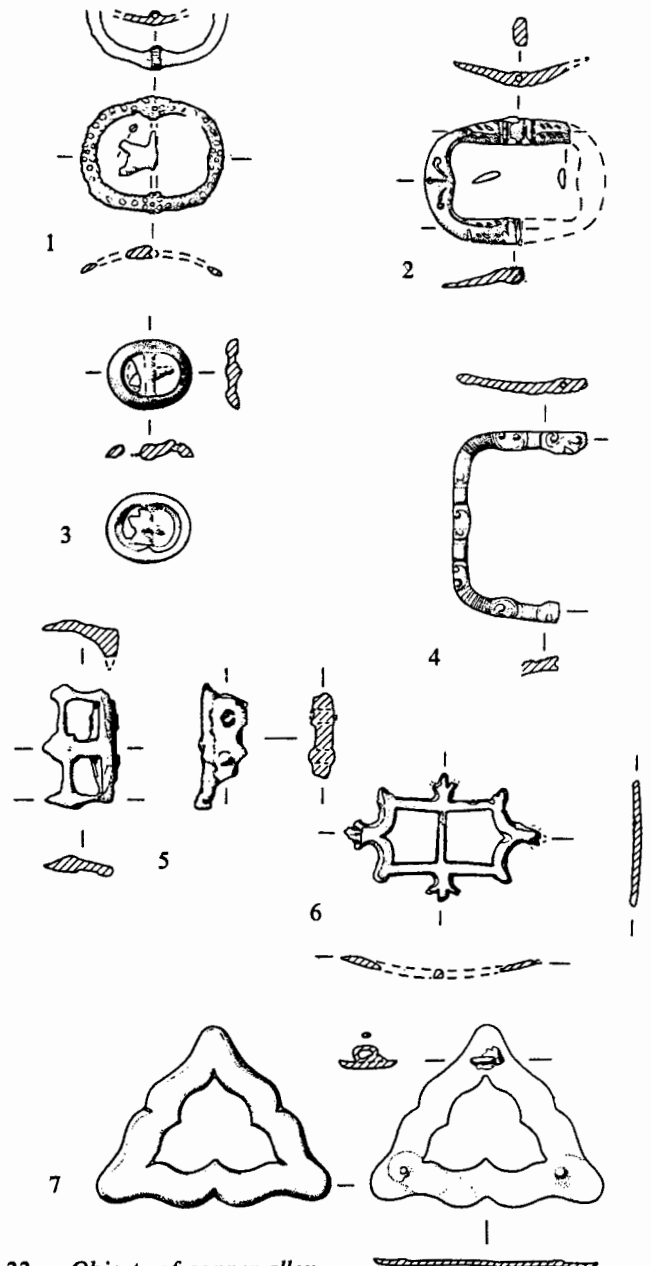
OBJECTS OF PEWTER

(Not illustrated) Disc, 75mm dia., originally with one moulded ring, possibly the base of a vessel, F4.

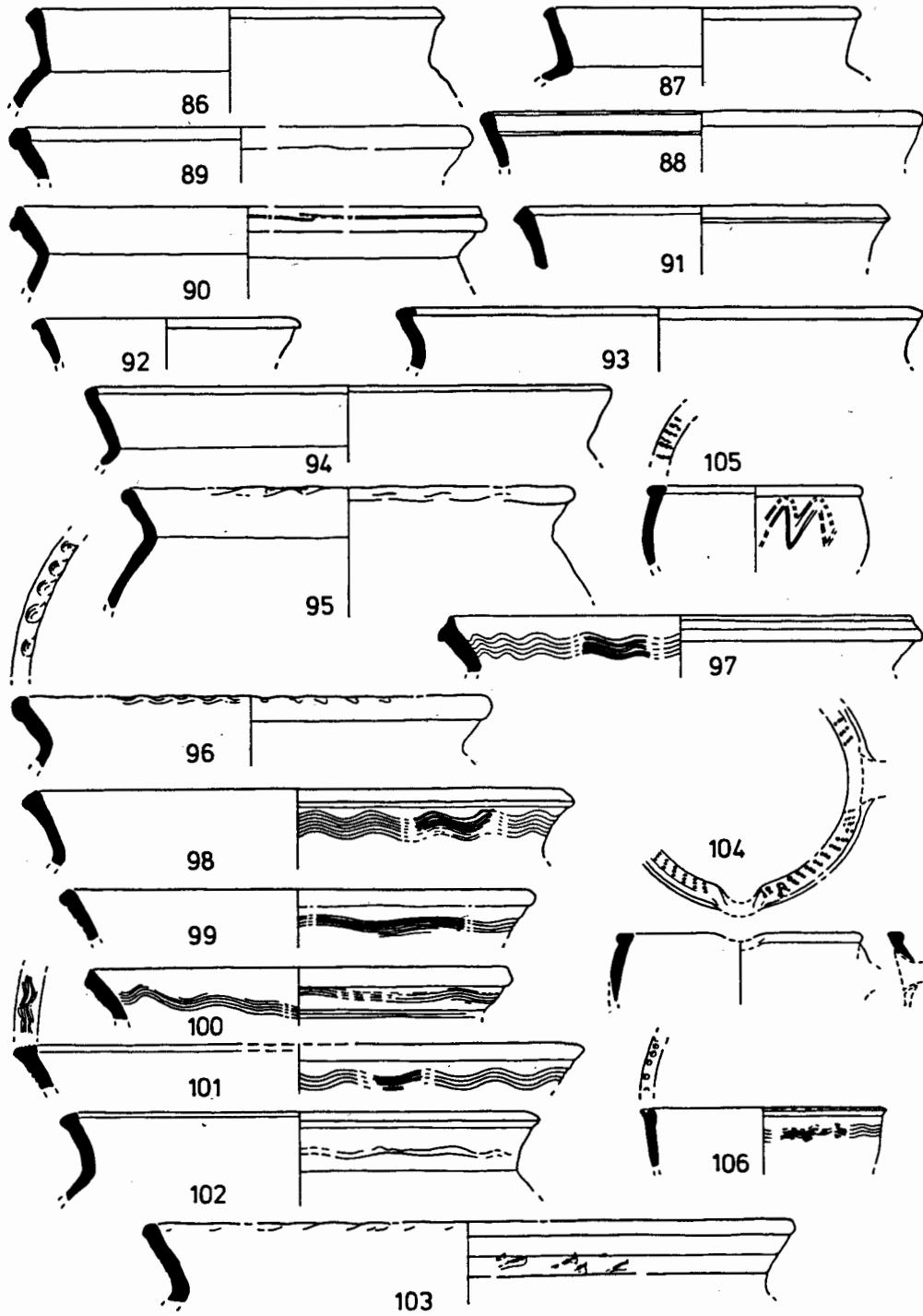
5. Crudely finished spoon, possibly medieval, F56.

ANIMAL BONE

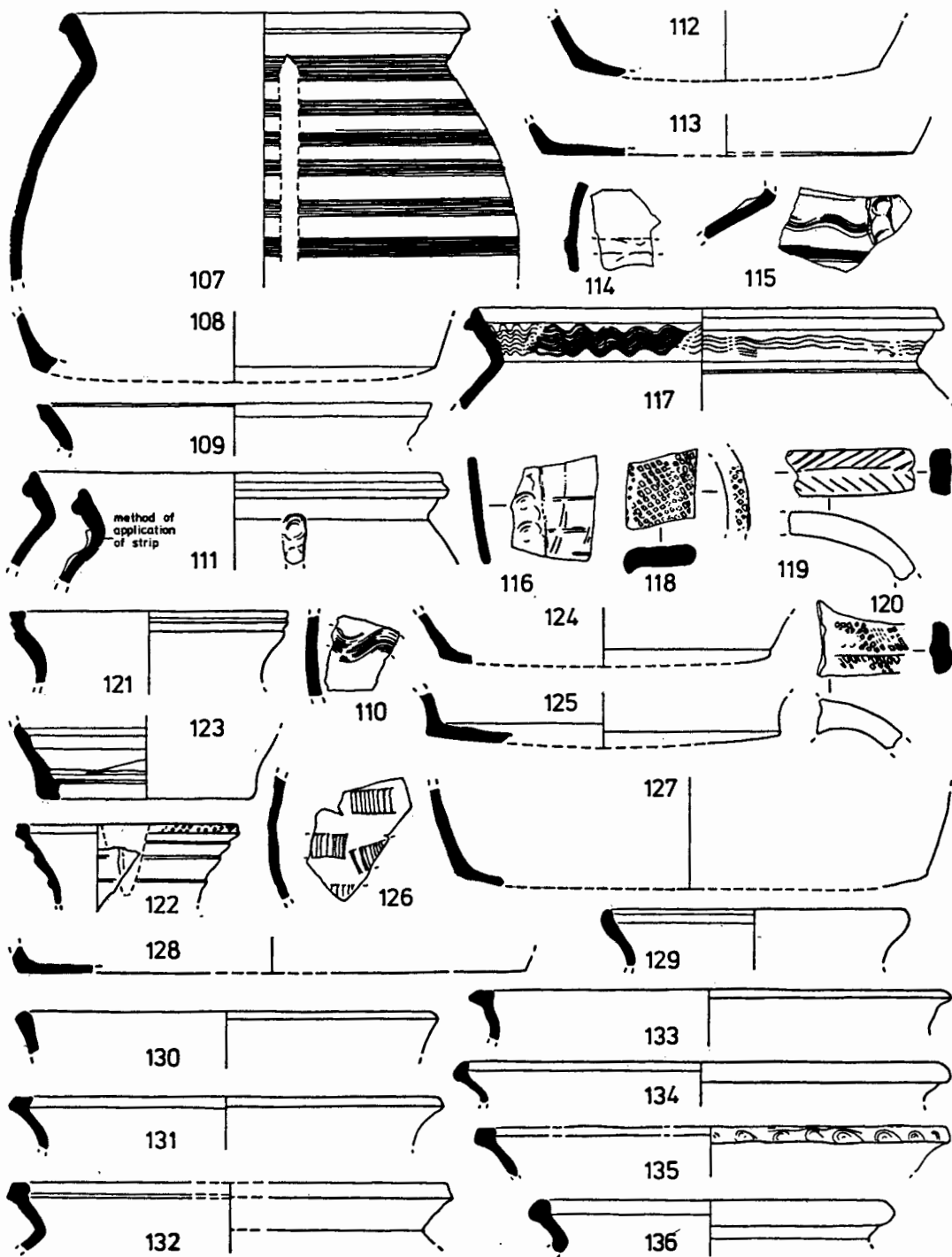
Animal bone came from post-medieval deposits. None came from layers F191 and F286, the layers which produced the greatest quantities of medieval pottery. The acid soil may have led to the total disappearance of much bone refuse.



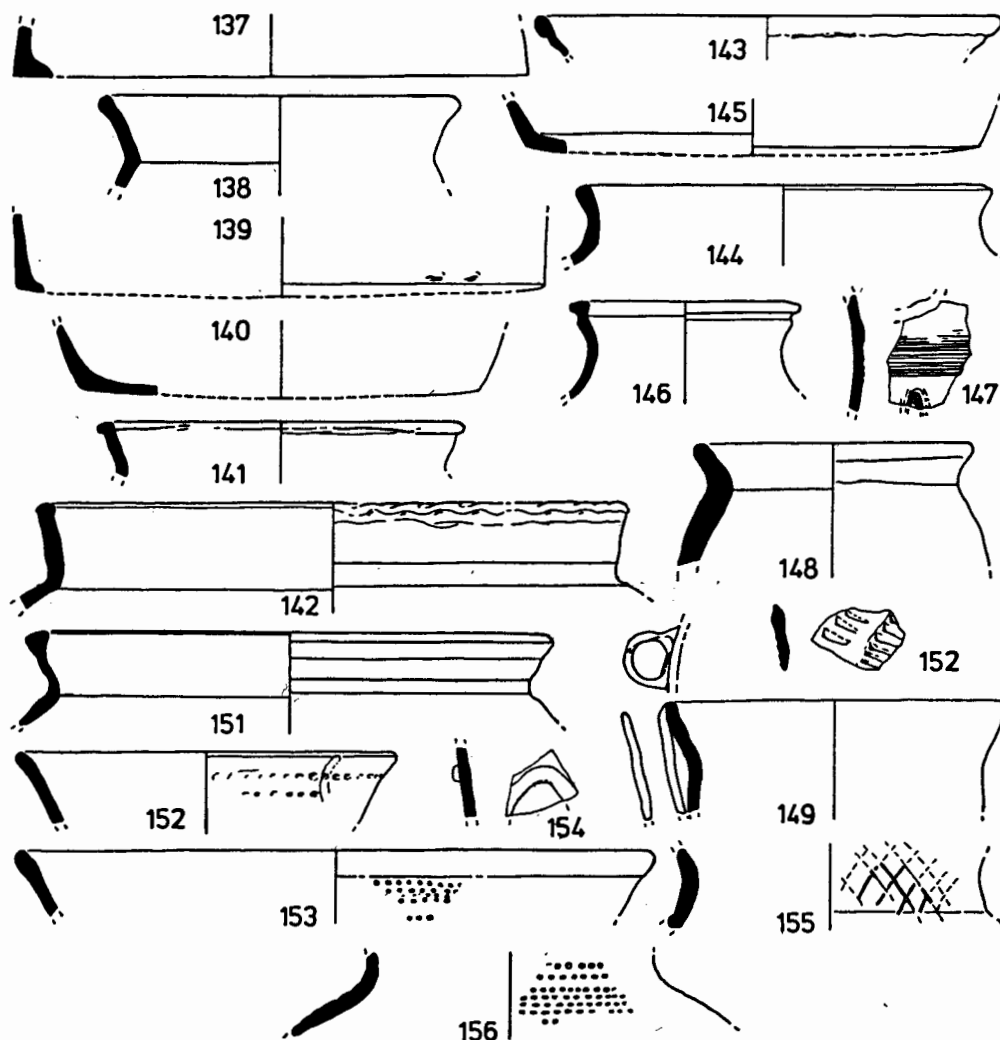
22. Objects of copper alloy.



19. Pottery, Enclosure 8 (part), nos. 86—106. Scale 1/4.



20. Pottery, Enclosure 8 (part), nos. 107—136. Scale $\frac{1}{4}$.



21. Pottery, Enclosure 8 (part) 9 and 10, nos. 137–156. Scale $\frac{1}{4}$.

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EXCAVATIONS AT PARSONAGE FIELD, STOKE GIFFORD, 1984-85: A SUMMARY

James Russell

Between March 1984 and November 1985 building platforms and other earthworks in Parsonage Field, on the western edge of the present village of Stoke Gifford (or Great Stoke) (ST 625800) were cleared in advance of housing development, revealing extensive evidence for medieval and later occupation. With the permission of the developers, Bovis Homes Ltd., an *ad hoc* programme of recording and salvage excavation was carried out at weekends by amateur members of the Bristol & Avon Archaeological Research Group, under the supervision of J. M. Hunt and J. R. Russell. Finds have been deposited in Bristol City Museum (Accession no. BRSMG 18/1985). A full report is in preparation.

Parsonage Field formerly occupied the western edge of a large triangular green; since the 16th century this has been almost wholly enclosed and infilled, although its outline can still be detected in the present road pattern. It is suggested that this green and the house-sites around it represent an early medieval (?11th-12th century) expansion of Great Stoke away from a putative pre-Conquest settlement centred on the parish church of St. Michael to the south-west (ST 62277970). Within Parsonage Field two main areas of early medieval occupation, A and B, producing large quantities of 12th-14th century pottery and evidence for timber structures, were identified; the high quality of the ceramics from Area B suggests that it may have been the site of a manor house.

From the mid 14th century onwards timber structures seem to have given way to more substantial stone buildings, mostly laid out parallel with, and close to, the present eastern edge of the field; these included a large farmhouse (Area F) and the probable Parsonage (Area G). From the 17th century onwards the house-sites in the field seem to have been gradually abandoned as the green onto which they faced was encroached upon; the last building to survive was probably the Parsonage, which appears to have gone out of use in the mid 18th century. No structures are shown in the field on 19th century tithe or Ordnance Survey maps, although there are local oral reports, as yet unsubstantiated, that standing ruins were visible there within living memory.

The six main areas examined in 1984-85 (A,B,E,F,G,H), are described below in topographical order, starting at the north end of the field and working southwards. Two other areas, C and D, which produced spreads of medieval or later pottery but no definite structural features, are not described. Dating should be regarded as provisional, pending a full analysis of the pottery and other finds. Unless otherwise stated all stone buildings were constructed of local white lias limestone bonded with yellow lias clay.

AREA A (ST 62588017)

Within an extensive scatter of predominantly 12th-13th century pottery a stone-packed post-base and a series of shallow, discontinuous drainage gullies, running north-west/south-east, were briefly examined. As well as pottery the gullies produced substantial deposits of animal bone and a bone die.

AREA H (ST 62658016)

Parts of two rooms of a stone structure at least 12.00m long, occupying a walled enclosure in the north east corner of the field, were briefly examined. Pottery found within and outside the building was of 14th-18th century date. Other finds included a perforated hone-stone and an iron key from the doorway linking the two partly excavated rooms.

AREA B (ST 62568003)

A sample area of approx. 100 square metres was excavated near the southern end of an extensive spread of 12th-14th century occupation debris. Within the excavated area two successive medieval buildings were examined. Building 1 was a very small timber structure of 13th-early 14th century date measuring little more than 3.50m square internally and containing a stone-floored oven with a raking or stoking pit to the south, later replaced by an open semi-circular hearth edged with stones. The floor-levels associated with the later hearth produced deposits of cockle, mussel and oyster shells, together with many sherds of glazed wine-jugs, mostly of Bristol (Redcliffe) manufacture but including fragments of polychrome Saintonge ware. Building 1 almost certainly formed part of a larger, unexcavated structure to the north, which in view of the high quality of the pottery found may well have been a manor house of the Giffard family, who held Stoke Gifford from the Conquest until 1322.

Around the middle of the 14th century Building 1 was demolished, the destruction layer containing large sections of an elaborate green-glazed louver or roof-ventilator of Bristol (Redcliffe) ware, the most complete object of its kind yet found in the Bristol region. Building 2, stone based and measuring in its final form 6.00 by 9.00 metres externally, was constructed immediately to the south. It is possible that these changes were associated with the disgrace and execution of John Giffard in 1322 and the subsequent acquisition of the manor, around 1338, by Maurice de Berkeley. Building 2 was probably used as a store-room since no traces of hearths or of a well-defined occupation layer were found; by the 16th century it seems to have been largely demolished, its ruins being incorporated in a complex of walls which almost certainly represent outbuildings of the Area F farmhouse situated immediately to the south.

AREA F (ST 62557997)

Clearance of a building platform exposed the central and northern sections of a three-unit stone farmhouse laid out parallel to the eastern edge of the field. The building measured 23.00 by 7.50 metres externally and was almost certainly of two stories, the outer walls being 0.90m thick with substantial additional offsets at foundation level. The central room or 'hall' was originally open to the roof, with a rectangular stone hearth near its centre; this was subsequently replaced by a chimney stack of mortared pennant sandstone, incorporating two semicircular oven bases, which backed on to a through-passage at the south-west end of the room. The northern room, which was not fully excavated, appears to have been unheated. Projecting from the

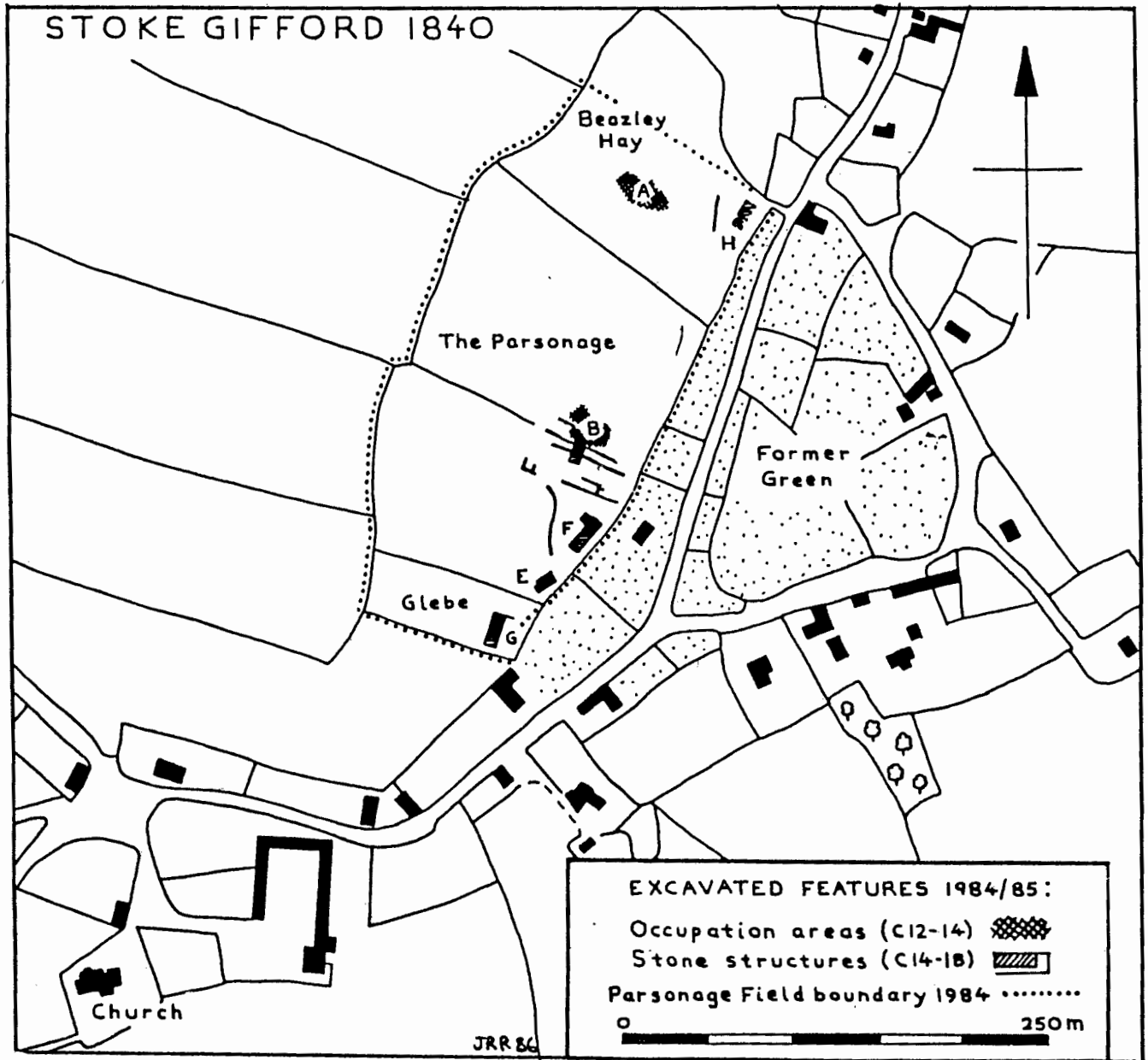


Fig 1. The centre of Stoke Gifford c. 1840, with features excavated 1984/85 superimposed.

north corner of the house was a rectangular garderobe block containing two shafts connected below ground level. Doorways to the 'hall' and garderobe block retained slots for timber door-frames. The presence of a primary central hearth in the 'hall' suggests that the building was constructed not later than the 15th century. Demolition, followed by extensive stone-robbing and the construction of drainage channels through the outer walls of the 'hall', seems to have taken place not long after 1600, large portions of a late 16th century jug being found in a robber trench.

AREA E (ST 62537994)

Partial clearance of a building platform exposed the north east and north west sides of a stone structure measuring 9.50 by 6.00 metres externally, with a small annexe to the south west. The interior of the structure could not be examined, although burning along the inner face of the north east (gable) wall suggested the presence of a hearth. Outside the south western annexe a spread of pennant sandstone roof tiles, associated with green-glazed

roof-crests, was recorded. Pottery from the exterior of the building was mainly of 14th-18th century date.

AREA G (ST 62507991)

A multi-phase stone building was partly excavated within an area at the southern end of Parsonage Field which is described as 'Glebe' on a plan of 1840. This structure can be identified with some confidence as the Parsonage of Stoke Gifford, which according to episcopal records had become 'very much out of repair' by 1735 and was no longer in existence by 1766. The original building, probably of late 14th century date, measured 12.50 by 6.00 metres externally and had either one or two rooms, with a hearth and oven at the north end and what appears to have been a window recess in the south wall. Walls extended north and east from the building to enclose a midden or garden area producing much 14th-17th century pottery, including the mask from a 14th century Bristol face-jug and large portions of another Bristol wine-jug of similar date. A room was subsequently added to the north end of the building, divided

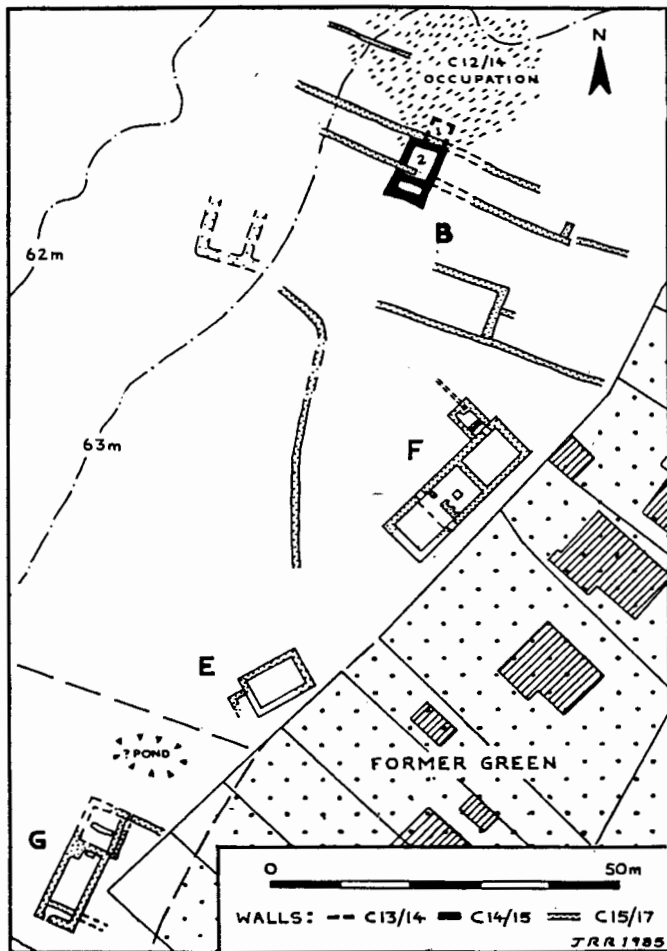


Fig 2. Excavated structures in S.E. corner of Parsonage Field.

in two by a partition resting on a line of flat stone slabs. Pottery from the floor-level within the extension was of late 15th-16th century date and included sherds of 'Tudor Green' ware (also present in areas F and H). Meanwhile the south end of the original structure was truncated, a new south wall being inserted 2.00m north of the original. Further major alterations seem to have taken place around 1700, when the original building was

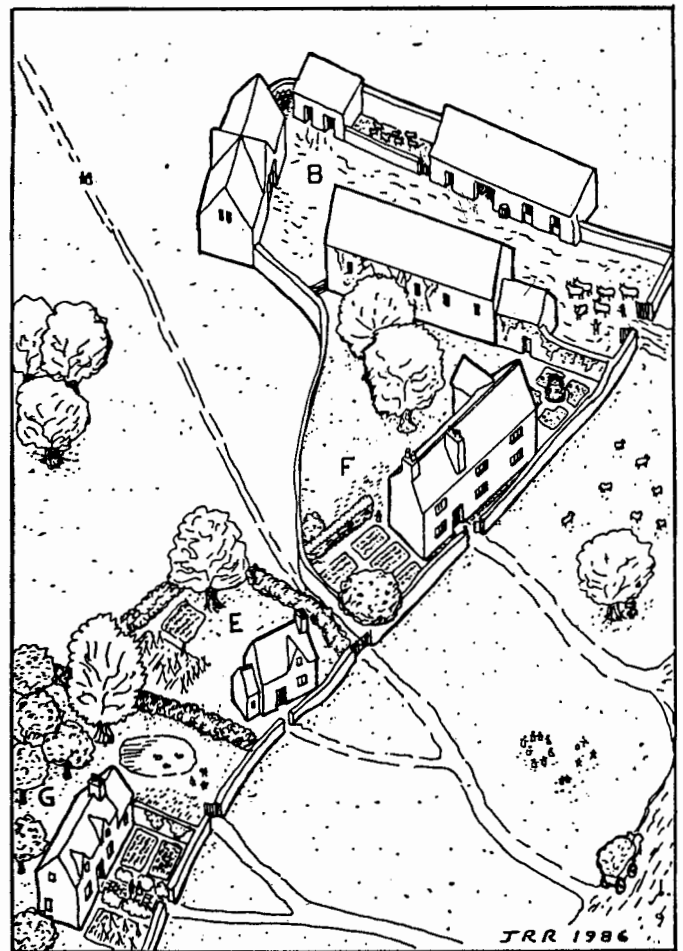


Fig 3. Conjectural reconstruction of excavated structures c. 1600

given a wooden floor of which joist impressions survived, and a wing with a flagged floor was added to the south east. Abandonment of the structure in the mid 18th century, as suggested by the finds of pottery and glass from the demolition layers; destruction was followed by extensive robbing of the foundations and garden cultivation of the site.

JOHN STRACHEY FRS: A REVIEW OF FIELDWORK BY AN EARLY ANTIQUARY IN SOUTH AVON

R. G. J. Williams

The antiquaries of the eighteenth century have rightly been described as the first archaeologists. Not only did they make accurate observations of the many field monuments that survived in what was still a largely medieval landscape but they were able to link these 'antiquities' either with documented sources or prehistory. Amongst this elite company was John Strachey (1671 - 1743) of Sutton Court in the parish of Chew Magna. The background, life and achievements of this ingenious man has been carefully researched by Michael McGarvie (1983) who has restored Strachey to his rightful position amongst the celebrated antiquaries of Wessex. He is described as an affable country gentleman who was twice married and fathered nineteen children.

Despite his domestic responsibilities at Sutton Court and in the management of his large estates at Elm and Buckland Dinham near Frome, Strachey was able to engage in a number of intellectual pursuits. His limited printed works show that he was a pioneer geologist with a particular interest in the stratification of the Somerset coal measures. He travelled widely to seek out original historical sources and was astute in his observations of the landscape with a natural bias towards local 'antiquities'. Following the fashion of his day Strachey was inclined to attribute many of these features to the work of the Romans but his theories were certainly not so outlandish as those put forward by some of his worthy contemporaries. Strachey was a careful cartographer and in 1736 published 'Somersetshire survey'd and projected' which was the first large scale map of the county. The more well known map of Somerset by Emanuel Bowen published in 1750 has only slight variations and is otherwise a blatant copy.

Strachey's lifelong ambition was to publish a comprehensive physical and historical description of the County of Somerset but unfortunately due to his advancing years and possibly the lack of financial backing this vast project did not materialise. A prospectus for this work, which would have been known by the short title *Somersetshire Illustrated*, was published on the 24th July 1737 and this was reproduced in full by his ancestor Sir Edward Strachey (1869) in an article on Sutton Court and Chew Magna. Fortunately the extensive notes, drafts and other material relating to the Strachey research is preserved in the Somerset Record Office (DD/SH,1-404). This includes handwritten notebooks and some of the drafts for the proposed *Somersetshire Illustrated* (DD/SH, 107, 108). Extracts from this section of the manuscripts have been published; by McGarvie (1983) mainly concerning features in the Frome area; by Webbey (1967) on geological matters, including a reduced copy of the north eastern part of the Strachey map of 1736; and by Rendell (1979-80) concerning Banwell. These articles provide information about the Strachey family history and his printed works which has not been repeated here.

The present writer has made a selection from the Strachey manuscripts (DD/SH,107,108) relating to landscape features in the old area of North Somerset now of course in South Avon. Strachey's liberal use of capital letters, lack of punctuation, shortened words and misspelling have been left unedited to preserve the style and content of his work. Where a word is illegible the writers interpretation has been bracketed (---) and explanations or modern place names are bracketed (---). A plan of the area covered by these extracts is Fig 1.

A RESUME OF THE NOTES ON STRACHEY'S SKETCH PLAN

Monument	Number of Stones			Measurements in Ft.		Remarks
	Exant	Standing	Estimated	Spacing	Diameter	
'A' 5 Concentric Circles 1st Inner	8	3	8	36	96	Stukeley is said to have remarked that the spacing in the Inner Circle was the same as at Avebury. All stones are about 21' in girth at the base. Stone H is almost square and the others are more cylindrical. Stone K is 13' long with 3 stones broken from it lying nearby and the remainder are about 9' long.
	2	—	12	39	156	
	2	—	20	34	216	
	6	5	34	24	272	
	3	3	24	39	324	
'B' Great Circle	12	3	24	45	357	Several buried stones could be located either by parch marks in dry weather or by thrusting down a sword.
'C' Circle in the Orchard	8	8	8	45	119	All stones lying flat and the diameter 1/3 that of the Great Circle
'D' The Cove	3	2	—	—	—	Stone E, 13' long and lying flat is similar to stone K in the Inner Circle A1 where it is suggested there may have been another Cove or Alter.

Hautvills Coyt is a flat round stone 300 yards to the north on the other side of the river.

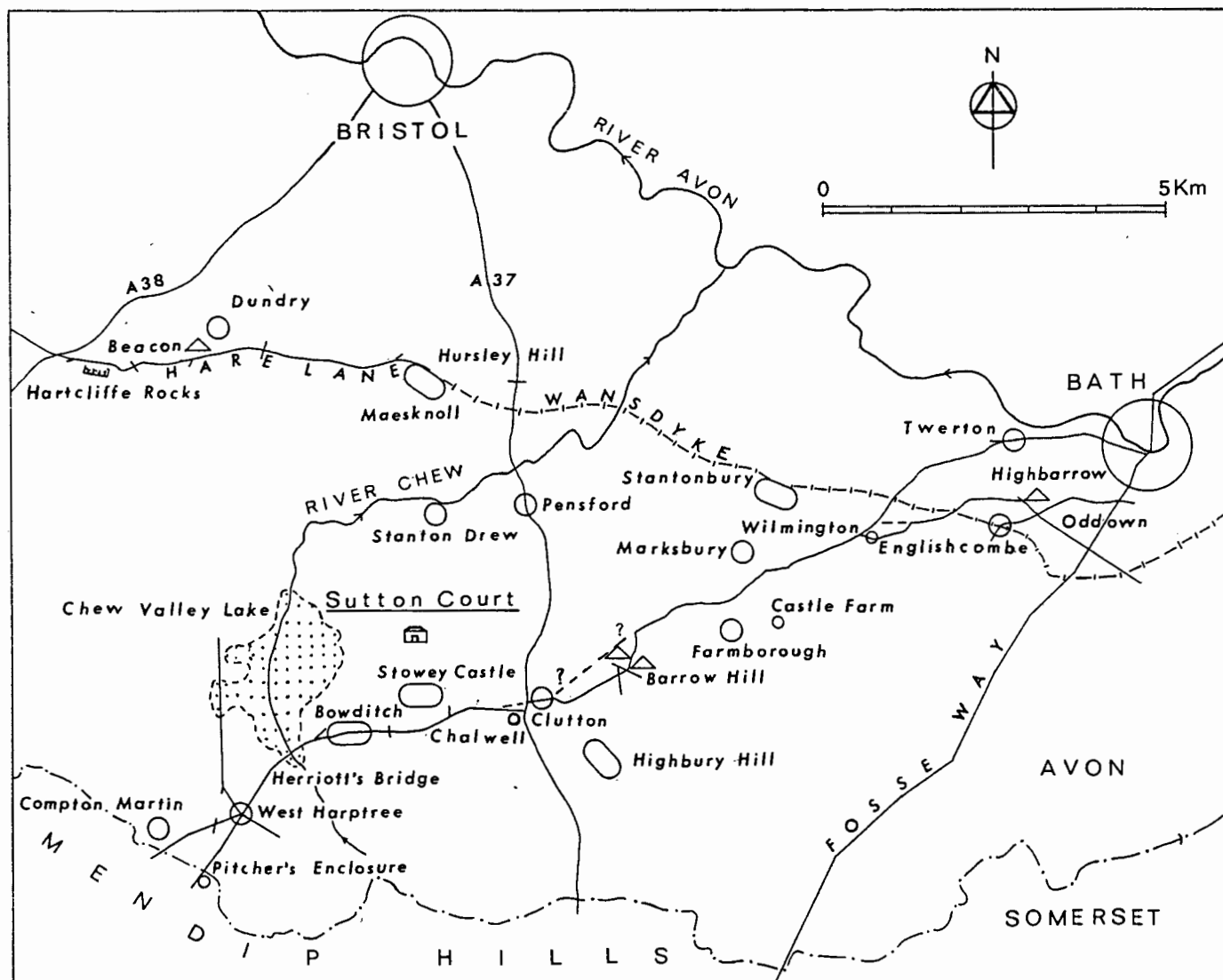


Fig 1. Area covered by the fieldwork of John Strachey, circa 1730.

STANTON DREW STONE CIRCLES

In July 1723 the renowned antiquary William Stukeley (1681 - 1765) visited Sutton Court at the invitation of his friend Strachey and together they carried out a detailed examination of the Stanton Drew Stone Circles and associated monuments then called 'The Wedding' from local folklore. The collaboration of these antiquaries in westcountry fieldwork has been noted by Piggot (1950 p.96) who provides good evidence that a plan of Stanton Drew published by Dr William Musgrave (1719, pl. XIV, opp. p. 209) was supplied by Strachey. In his full but controversial account of the monuments which he ascribed to the Druids, Stukeley (1776, Cent. II, pp 169-177) acknowledges that Strachey "was the first to have measured it, since his original ground-line was stretched upon the spot". McGarvie (1983, pp 102-104) has annotated Strachey's general description of the monuments and makes a passing reference to his sketch plan. The topographical details of this plan are reproduced in Fig. 2 and although described as a sketch it compares favourably in accuracy to modern surveys. The hand written notes on the plan are rather jumbled but are summarised on p 39.

Although the theory of concentric circles has been abandoned by later authorities Strachey's observations remain an important contribution to the study of these monuments and his method of locating buried stones would not be out of place in modern fieldwork. An excellent Folder Guide by Leslie Grinsell (1985) provides all the information required by visitors to this important site.

BOWDITCH and an Old Road from the Mendips to Bath

DD/SH.108.3(3).

Chew Hund. Chew Parish. Bishop Sutton Tithing. Bowditch corruptly Burditch is an old fortification in this Tithing & Partly in Witcomb (Widcombe)-it hath a Double ditch & in some part a triple Ramp. & there is an Old Road passing thro it wch Comes from Mendip (Lypietts?) ye Portway at Whitecross near Harptre to over bridge (Herriott's Bridge) cross ye River Chew in a very strait line thro a Watery Lane mounts ye hill to this fortification on the north side leaving Witcomb & ye present road on the right hence it goes in a strait line towards Chalwel leaving ye Castl (space left) on the right to Barrow Hill from thence over

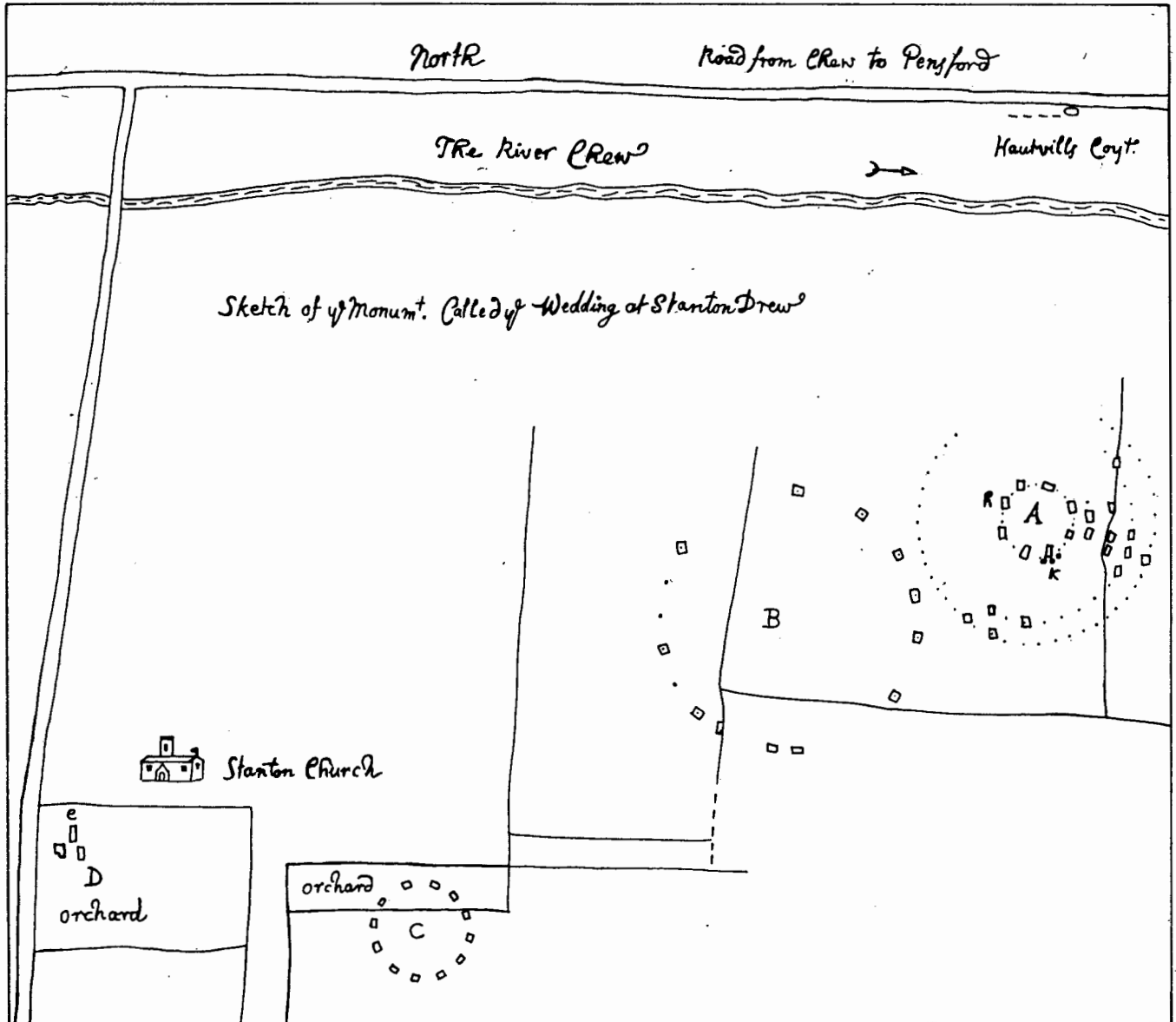


Fig 2. Copy of sketch plan of Stanton Drew by John Strachey, circa 1723.

Wilmington Down joins Wansdike & above Inglescombe (Englishcombe) by Bury Hill (Highbarrow Hill) falls into ye foss to Bath add to this that just under it (Bowditch) is Sutton Wike w.ch generally speaking denotes A Roman Vicus & giving Strong Marks of a Roman Work but I never head of any urns or coyns found thereabout

This is the earliest known reference to 'Bowditch' and finally confirms that it is the Iron Age hill-fort now called Burledge Camp (ST 582585). It is shown as 'Burditch' on the Strachey map of 1736 and is briefly described by Stukeley (1776, Cent. I, p. 149) but he left only vague topographical clues to locate this fortification. Further confusion was created by Collinson (1791, p. 196) and Rutter (1829, p. 207) who imply that Bowditch was close to the town of Chew Magna. When the Reverend John Skinner of Camerton visited on the 9th May 1821 he called it Burledge Camp in Castle Field and his full description with several sketches are recorded in his unpublished journals (information from Mr W. J. Wedlake, 1986). Skinner speaks of a regular trackway across the high ground from Clutton to the camp which defends the valley crossing to West Harptree and the ascent to the mining district on Mendip. The

camp then became effectively lost until its rediscovery in 1948 by Crook and Tratman (1946-48) but they did not then recognise it as Bowditch which they thought at the time was at Blacklands a hill just to the north of Chew Magna town. ApSimon (1977) who carried out trial excavations at Burledge Camp in 1955 suggested that it was Bowditch from the clues left by Stukeley. ApSimon quoted an incorrect reference to Stukeley which has been righted above.

The course of the 'Old Road' described by Strachey is loosely shown on his map and has been traced with reasonable certainty by the present writer. Such projections must be viewed with caution but the Strachey route does deserve consideration. The road comes from the Mendip Hills and although not mentioned by Strachey the association with lead mining as claimed by Skinner could well be a factor. The 'Mendip Lypiatts' are no doubt Lypiatt Gates which separated the medieval inclosed lands from the old commonland on the hilltop. For further examples of Lypiatt as a place name in the area see Neale (1976, p. 90).

After study of a map of this part of Mendip, circa 1570 (DD/XX/NW,c/189) and other documents in the Somerset Record Office, two early tracks from the hilltop to the village

of West Harptree have been traced. First from Bellgate on Knighton Hill (ST54745541) descending by a now disused holloway to cross the old toll road at Harptree Hill, into Cowleaze Lane now a bridleway to the village. Secondly a track which fits Strachey's description more securely leaves the scarp of the hill only 500 metres north of the Iron Age settlement of Pitcher's Enclosure (ST 549545). This exit, called Stenhorns Upper Gate in the 18th century, is at Dumpton Cottage at Ridge (ST 54995497). A direct route by way of paths through a jumble of cottages links up with Ridge Lane which descends directly to the village. "Portway" and "Whitecross" survive as local place names.

The crossing of the River Chew is at Herriott's Bridge, where excavations in the early 1950's by Rahtz and Greenfield (1977, p. 69-82) showed continuous occupation from the Iron Age to the 4th Century AD. Significantly the processing of Galena and the desilvering of lead was being carried on here during the Roman period. The road continues straight to "Bowditch" ascending the hill by way of a track which is still best described as "a Watery Lane". Ap Simon (1977) thought that this western entrance to the camp was prehistoric and speculated on a link with Herriott's Bridge and other Iron Age sites in the Chew Valley Lake area. It is interesting that the "urns and coyns" from Roman occupation lacking in Strachey's day had finally been unearthed over two centuries later. Leaving the camp the road to Clutton follows the high ground and several parish boundaries (the significance of this is discussed later.) The identification of the "Castl" is difficult as Stowey Castle (ST 597593) is on the left and not the right of the route as described. This enigmatic fortification is shown but not named on the Strachey map and the only reference to it in his notes is in a list of "Old Fortifications" which records — "Mudstock above Stowey. Single trench Oval". Another possibility is the supposed Iron Age hill-fort at Highbury Hill (ST 636579), which is on the right and in Clutton but not marked on the Strachey map or mentioned in his notes. As there is a space in the text after the word "Castl" it could be Castle Farm in Farmborough parish (ST 672608)

On his map Strachey shows a direct route from Clutton passing to the west of a line of three hills which he names collectively 'The Barrow Hills', but the modern road takes a more southerly route up Clutton Hill. There is an unmade road and various paths which pass between and around the hills which are all in Farmborough Parish. There are no barrows recorded in this area by Grinsell (1971) and fieldwork by the present writer has not revealed any sign of burial mounds on Barrow Hill and Blackberry Hill, named on modern Ordnance Survey maps. However, there is a mound on the summit of the central hill, upon which is sited an Ordnance Survey Triangulation Pillar (ST 63996016). This possible barrow is 1 metre high and may have originally been round with a diameter of 10 metres, but the southern sector has been cut across by a scarp in a hedge line which may have been formed by quarrying the limestone cap of the hill above strata of Midford Sands (1" Geological Map of the Bristol District, special sheet). Disturbance by quarrying and farming makes the identification difficult.

Thereafter Strachey's route can easily be followed by way of roads which follow the hill ridges to Wilmington Down and for long stretches it again coincides with parish boundaries. This factor has been examined by Costen (1984) in a study of Saxon Charters around Stantonbury and he concludes that this road and others in the district were in use during the Roman period. The link with Wansdyke, the Fosseyway and 'Bury Hill', now called Highbarrow Hill, will be discussed later.

Roads are often the oldest archaeological features surviving

in the landscape but as clearly demonstrated by Aston (1985, pp. 138-148) there are many complexities in the examination of a local communication network and many factors must be considered including the settlement pattern, with related land use, in different ages. Although there is good evidence that long stretches of Strachey's route were in use during the Roman period, and may even be prehistoric in origin, it would be highly speculative to suggest a direct road between the Mendips and Bath. However, it is a possibility and there remains much in Strachey's observations that deserves consideration in local landscape studies.

A BEACON AND THE 'SOLDIER'S GRAVE' AT DUNDRY

DD/SH.108,3(3)

Chew Hundred. Dundry.

Ye ridge of the hill is very wel adapted to ye situation of this place for the Church Tower on the westerly summit of the hill is an Eminent Mark both by land and sea & there hath been a Beacon about a furlong from the Church & near the hole in wch the Beacon post was fastned is one of those stone chests or monumts wch the West call Kist=iewvaen of 3 Stones supporting a 4th making a hollow Six feet Long & four and a half wide this hath been made use of for a Watchhouse or Look out for those who attended the beacon in time of danger.

The site of this mysterious monument, which was destroyed between 1840 and 1890, is just to the north of the Ordnance Survey triangulation point amongst the old stone quarries on Dundry Down (ST 55356674). It is recorded as a doubtful chambered long barrow by Grinsell (1971, p.85) who summarises all the references then known including a visit by the Reverend John Skinner on the 14 August 1826. A local tradition that human bones had been unearthed at this spot giving rise to the name of 'Soldier's Grave' is noted by Tratman (1958) who also discusses whether it was a prehistoric burial chamber adapted as a quarry workers hut or had been constructed in recent times for this purpose. Several authorities seem to have taken up Strachey's account that it had been used in connection with a nearby beacon but there are significant differences in his description of the structure. Whereas Skinner and later observers speak of four upright and two cover stones (one fallen); Strachey clearly records three upright stones and one cover stone which would be more in keeping with a prehistoric grave. Scath (1890) who saw the structure in about 1840 thought it to be modern and it has this appearance in a sketches by Skinner and Phelps (1836, p.90) the latter being reproduced in Fig 3. There may have been structural alterations after Strachey's time but as this cannot now be tested by modern methods the mystery remains.

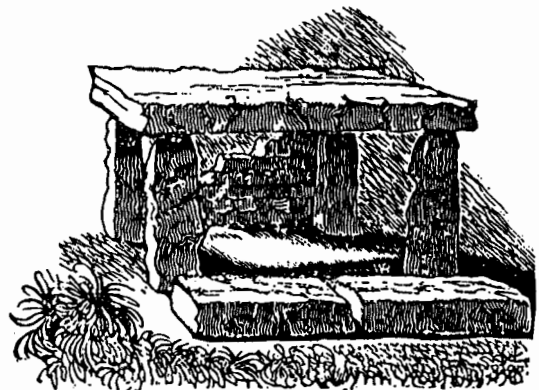


Fig 3. Cistvaen on Dundry Hill by Phelps (1836).

WANSDYKE, HARE LANE AND HUNDRED MEETING PLACES

DD/SH,108,3(2)

"Hundred of Harecliff cum Bedminster"

Hareclif wch gives name to this hundred and was the place where the Hundred Court was formally kept is now only a Craggy Rock having a Precepice to the South seems to have been a place of strength tho nothing now appears but the Natural fortification but it terminates a lane wch I may call a line of communication between *Mizknowl* an old fortification in Chew hundred. This Lane is called Harelane wch word hath been observed to signify something Military²--(following a discussion on the origins of the word hare the text continues) --"this road is to this day to be traced Eastward to Stantons-bury another Remarkable fortification & thence tho Newton Park where its now called Wansditch & above Inglescomb Intercepts or falls in with the foss near Bury Hill on the Edg of Oddown where another Torn of the Sherif was formally kept & therefore I have Attempted to prove it a contunuation of that famous Ditch but tho I have dilligently traced it hither I cannot discover wth any certainty how it proceeds Westwards only over Broadway Down there is remains of causeway poynting to the Left of Backwel Lodge & I suspect it goes down the hill & (joyning) the Modern Road about Clavam (Claverham) & so over Worl hill!"

DD/SH, 107. (rough note book).

"Wellow Hundred.Twerton Parish". After several historical references the text continues --- "The Revel is on ye 5.July.In this P.sh behod this (presumably the site of the Revel) & Inglescomb & near ye meeting of ye foss & Wansditch at a Knoll call.d Highborow or Burial Hill where there is a tradition of K. (King) was buried the Sherifs Turn used to be kept abt Mich.s (Michaelmas) called Oddown Turn".

Although Wansdyke is thought to be a dark age defensive boundary it may also have been a means of communication as claimed by Strachey and although the continuation as Hare Lane is unlikely this is obviously a ridgeway of some antiquity. The 'Folk Moots or Tourns' are the meeting places of the old Hundred Courts and although these had not been held for many centuries before Strachey's time the tradition must have still lingered amongst local inhabitants. Aston (1985,p.45-46) discusses the role of the hundred meeting points as focal places in the Saxon and early medieval landscape which has largely been unexplored. The hundred meeting place at Hartcliffe Rocks in Winford Parish (ST 533662) appears as Strachey states to be a natural feature although extensively quarried. The other hundred meeting point known by Strachey as 'Oddown Torn' (perhaps derived from Mod-down) is at 'Bury Hill' now known as Highbarrow Hill, in Twerton Parish (ST 72486334). The local tradition that it was the burial mound of a King is quite common in barrow folklore. A barrow is recorded on the hill by Grinsell (1971,89). McGarvie (1983,92) records another extract from the Strachey notes relating to a meeting of the Hundred Court and Sherrif's tourn at 'Madbarrow' (shown as 'Modbury' on Strachey's map) which is a possible long barrow (Grinsell, 1971,p.83) on high ground at Buckland Dinham. The selection of prominent features in the open air for these gatherings was usual and as Highbarrow Hill is almost on the boundary of the Hundreds of Wellow and Bath Forum it would have been a convenient venue when the Sherif was visiting this division of the county.

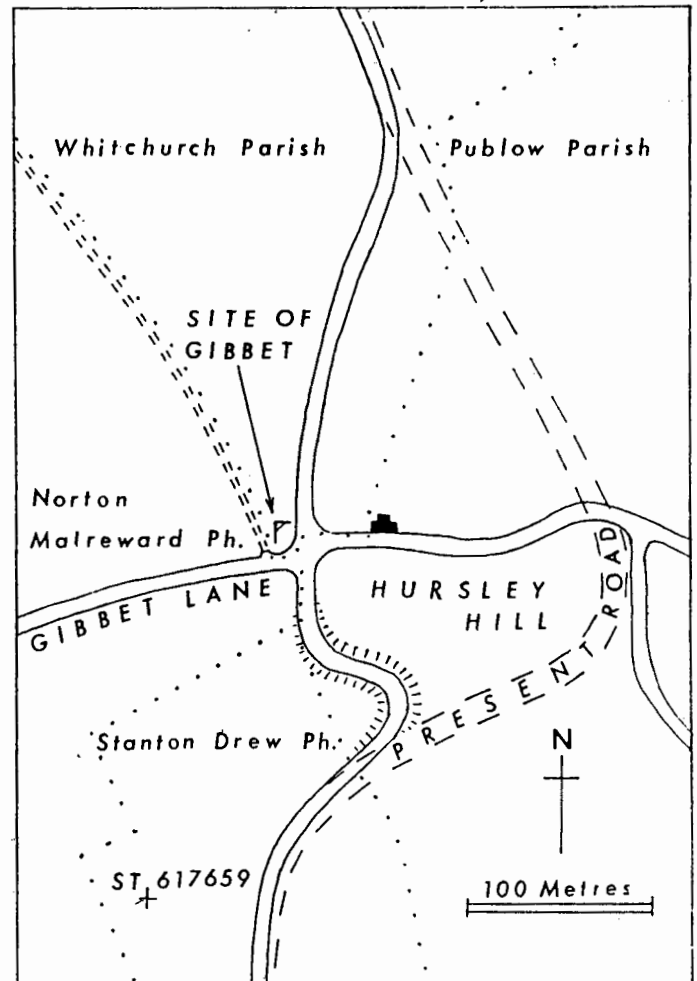


Fig 4. Hursley Hill, circa 1800, showing possible site of Gibbet.

MAESKNOLL AND A GIBBET ON HURSLEY HILL

DD/SH, 108,3(3).

Chew Hund. Chew Parish. Norton Hautville Tithing. *Mizknowl*. There is in this Tithing on the Eastern poynt of Dundriy an old fortification of about 20 acres Incompassed wth one single Ramp.t. wch is cast up very high toward ye West but very little Elevated to ye East but there the Ascent to it is Naturally Steep and made more Easy by a Military Way or rather Dyke or line of communication wch comes from Stantons bury crossing ye road by the Gibbet on (space left) Hill (Hursley Hill) thro a Mizy & now unfrequented Lane ascends directly hither & is Undoubtedly the Continuation of Wandsdike wch name it carries to Stantons bury aforesaid but from this place takes the name Harelane & Proceeds over Dundriy to Harecliffe the place that gives the denomination of that Hundred. This fortification is called *Mizknowl* perhaps from Maez an Intricacy or Embarras.t as wee say a man is in a Maez when he is Under any difficulty that he knows not how to turn

This is the first known description of the Maesknoll hill-fort (ST 600660) called 'Mizknowl' by Strachey whose suggestgion that the name was derived from 'a maze or intricacy' is unconvincing. A Smyth estate map dated 1736 in the Bristol Record Office (AC/PL,5) shows it as May's Knoll which was also used by Collinson (1791,p.108.) and suggests a personal name, possibly of a former landowner. The association with Wansdyke and Hare Lane has already been discussed. The

Gibbet mentioned by Strachey is shown in the area of Hursley Hill on his map of 1736 and he provided Stukeley (1776) with the information for this harrowing account:-

Near Stanton Drue, in a trivium, is an old elm-tree made infamous for the bloody trophies of judge Jeffry's barbarity in the duke of Monmouth's rebellion; for all its broad-spreading arms were covered over with the heads and limbs of the unfortunate countrymen.

McDonald Wigfield (1985) gives the names of six rebels who were tried at Wells Assize by Judge Jeffreys in 1685 and hanged at Pensford. The execution would no doubt have been in the town centre but after quartering the gruesome remains would have been exhibited in neighbouring parishes as dire warning of the consequences of insurrection. There is a local tradition (information from Mrs M. Wade who is carrying out a parish survey of Whitchurch) that the tree used was at the spot in Gibbet Lane indicated on a plan of the area (Fig. 4). There is good supporting evidence for this siting for not only was this a cross roads until about 1800 when the Bristol to Wells toll road was diverted to ease the gradient at Hursley Hill but four parish boundaries converged here until about 1900 when this part of Stanton Drew was ceded to Publow.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Author is grateful to Mr Derek Shorrocks, the Somerset County Archivist, for permission to publish the Strachey extracts and for the help given by his staff in the transcribing. Lord O'Hagan of Sutton Court kindly confirmed background particulars of his ancestor John Strachey and the assistance given by Mr Bill Wedlake, Miss Jane Evans and Mrs Meryl Wade has been invaluable.

A special appreciation is extended to Leslie Grinsell, not only for his encouragement during the preparation of this paper, but also for his contribution to field archaeology generally thus maintaining a tradition pioneered locally by John Strachey over 250 years ago.

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- Cistvaen, Dundry. 14 August 1826*. Add Mss., 33,692,f153. Sketches, f.151, No's 65 and 66.

NINETEENTH CENTURY PIPES MADE BY JONATHAN MOUL OF BRISTOL

Ian Beckey and Reg Jackson

Bristol was a major centre for the production of clay tobacco pipes and over 1500 pipemakers have been recorded in the city during the 300 year history of the industry. Bristol pipemakers had a vast export trade particularly with North America and the West Indies and it is for this reason that pipe research in the city is of great interest to archaeologists working overseas.

In the 17th century the pipemakers lived and worked largely in the parishes of St. James and St. Michael, with a concentration in Lewin's Mead on the north bank of the River Frome. The problems caused by the use of pipe kilns in a heavily populated district containing many timber buildings was almost certainly one of the main reasons for the industry's movement away from Lewin's Mead to the outskirts of the city. By the early 19th century the majority of pipemakers had moved to the parish of St. Philip and Jacob and were working in the area covered by Great Ann Street, Great George Street, Wade Street and New Street.

Although documentary research has provided us with detailed information concerning the various pipe manufacturers and the operation of the trade, the type of pipes being made by individual

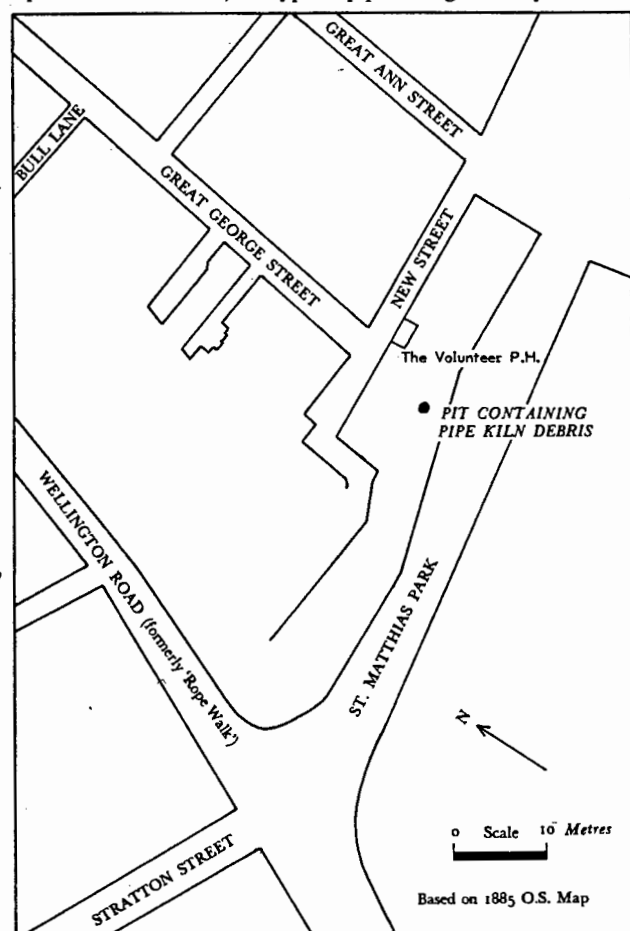


Fig 1. Location Plan

makers during the 19th century and the date ranges of the various forms of pipe decoration being used, are still poorly understood. We can only advance our knowledge of this aspect of the industry through the excavation of closely dated groups of pipes, particularly those associated with pipe kiln material attributable to documented manufacturers.

Therefore, it was considered important to check any ground disturbance caused by redevelopment in areas where pipemakers were known to have been working. In October 1985 construction work started on a new Day Centre for the Cyrenians between New Street and St. Matthias Park, west of The Volunteer public house (Fig 1; ST 59657334). It was known that a number of pipemakers had worked in New Street, for example, George Gay (1832-61), Jonathan Moul (1840-47), John Pearce (1848-59), Elon Golding (1848-63) and John George Reynolds (1849-53) (Jackson & Price, 1974; Price & Jackson, 1979).

The buildings fronting New Street had already been demolished and their foundations were noted in the contractor's trenches. A number of stray finds of clay tobacco pipes and pottery were made. However, of special interest was the discovery of a shallow pit below what would have been the backyard of one of the 19th century houses. This contained clay tobacco pipe 'wasters' and pipe kiln debris. The pit had been cut by one of the contractor's service trenches but it was possible to excavate the remainder of this feature in order to recover material from a stratified context.

The number of examples of each type of pipe found in the pit (Figs. 2 - 5; all pipes are illustrated full size) are listed below.

Pipe No.	No. of Examples	Pipe No.	No. of Examples
1	2	18	1
2	2	19	8
3	2	20	4
4	5	21	1
5	3	22	4
6	13	23	1
7	1	24	3
8	1	25	1
9	5	26	2
10	1	27	3
11	1	28	2
12	1	29	5
13	1	30	4
14	1	31	6
15	1	32	3
16	2	33	1
17	1	34	1

All the pipes are unsmoked and are typical of 'wasters' from a pipe kiln, being damaged and/or poorly finished. They all have a stem bore diameter of 4/64". The decoration is in relief and is the same on both sides of the bowl unless otherwise stated.

Pipes 1 - 6 have undecorated bowls. Pipes 7 - 28 (but excluding 20, 21 and 26) all have decoration on the front and/or back

mould lines of the bowl. This generally takes the form of stylized 'leaves' or, in some cases, acorns (10 & 11), elaborate leaves (12) and scrolls (13). The main bowl decoration is either ribbing with lines between (15 & 16) or simple ribbing (17 - 28). This is made more elaborate by the addition around the upper part of the bowl of bands comprising raised dots and lines (19, 20 & 23), diamonds (22) wavy lines (21 & 24), trelliswork (25), festoons (26 & 27) or interlocking circles (28).

Only a few of the pipes have spur marks - a raised circle on one side of the spur (7), an initial (?)W on one side of the spur (14) and panels of dots on both sides of the spur (16).

The initials 'TD' on the back of some of the bowls (29) are found on pipes of 18th and 19th century date made in all the main manufacturing centres in Britain. Unlike the initials found on most pipes they are not those of a particular pipemaker and, as yet, their meaning is unknown, although a suggestion has been made (Oswald, 1978, 354) that they are linked with Thomas Dormer, an 18th century London pipemaker. That the initials were used to identify a certain type of pipe is confirmed by references to them in contemporary documents, for example a Jamaican newspaper, the *Cornwall Chronicle* for 14 December 1776, contains the advertisement 'Just imported in the Ann Galley, Capt. Sherry from Bristol, and to be sold by Quick & Brewer at their store in the Market Place, Montego Bay ... T. D. and negro pipes' (Jackson, 1984, 13). It is known that pipes marked with the initials TD were made by the Bristol pipemakers John Ring & Company in the early 19th century (Jackson, 1984, 13-14; Egan, 1984, 318) and by Richard Frank Ring & Company c. 1850 (Price & Jackson et al., 1984, fig.19).

Some stems are decorated with spirals of raised lines and dots (30 & 31). Stem decoration of any form is unusual on pipes made in Bristol. The only other 19th century examples known are those with very similar decoration made by Richard Frank Ring & Company and dated to the early 1850's (Price & Jackson, et al., 1984, fig. 19). Some stems are marked with the words 'OHIO' and 'MOUL BRISTOL' (32) or, in one case, '(OHI)O' and 'BRI(STOL)' (33). The word 'MOUL' is the name of the manufacturer. The use of the word 'OHIO' on pipe stems has, until now, also only been found on those made by the Ring family (*Archaeological Review*, 1971, 47). The relevance of the word Ohio is not known.

The initials 'SR' on the spur of pipe 34 presumably refer to the manufacturer Samuel Richards who was working in Bristol from 1812 to c.1817. It is not known how this much earlier pipe came to be in the pit. It could simply be residual material although it is not impossible that Richards' moulds were used by a later manufacturer after he left Bristol to carry on his business in Swansea (Price & Jackson, 1979).

In addition to the pipes illustrated a number of stem mouthpieces were also found and these had been glazed either red or light green. The pit contained kiln debris comprising some large pieces of clinker, unfired pipe clay and irregular shaped pieces of fired pipe clay. Associated with the pipes were a few pieces of redware, stoneware and transfer printed pottery of 19th century date.

It seems most likely that all these pipes were the product of the manufacturer whose name, Moul, is actually given on some of the pieces of pipe stem. We know from documentary research that a pipemaker called Jonathan Moul worked in the city. The pipes may also be dated with some accuracy as Moul worked in New Street, St. Philip & Jacob parish for only a few years in the second quarter of the 19th century.

Jonathan Moul was born in Bristol c.1811 and by 1835 he had

married Matilda who was also a pipemaker. He had three children, William born c.1835, Matilda born in 1840, and Sarah born in 1844. From 1836-37 he was living at 17 Great Ann Street, St. Philip & Jacob parish, but by 1840 he had moved to New Street and he was still living there in 1841 when he and his family were recorded in the Census taken in that year. The later directory entries for Moul are confusing. One for 1844 lists him in Great George Street although the street directories for 1846-47 show him as still working in New Street. He had died by 1851 when his wife, Matilda, was recorded in the Census as a widowed pipemaker living at 5 Providence Buildings, Temple parish (Price & Jackson, 1979). Unfortunately the documents do not tell us exactly where Moul was working in New Street but it is quite likely that the pipes described in this report came from a pit in the backyard of his premises and thus his kiln may have been close by. Parts of the site remain undisturbed below the garden of the new Day Centre and further archaeological investigation might therefore be possible at some future date. There is also a vacant plot of ground east of The Volunteer public house and any building work there should be watched for evidence of clay pipe manufacture.

CONCLUSION

The pipes from the pit at the rear of the New Street property are the first that can be positively identified as having been made by Jonathan Moul. If they were made during the period of Moul's residence in New Street, as seems most likely, then they may be dated to between 1837 and 1851. This group increases our knowledge of the types of pipes being manufactured during the second quarter of the 19th century, a time when large quantities of pipes were being exported from Bristol to North America.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are very grateful to the main contractors, Halsall Builders Ltd., of Radstock, for kindly allowing access to the site and permitting us to carry out the small excavation. Miss M. Williams and her staff at the Bristol Record Office and Mr. G. Langley and his staff at the Bristol Reference Library have been of great assistance during our research into the Moul family.

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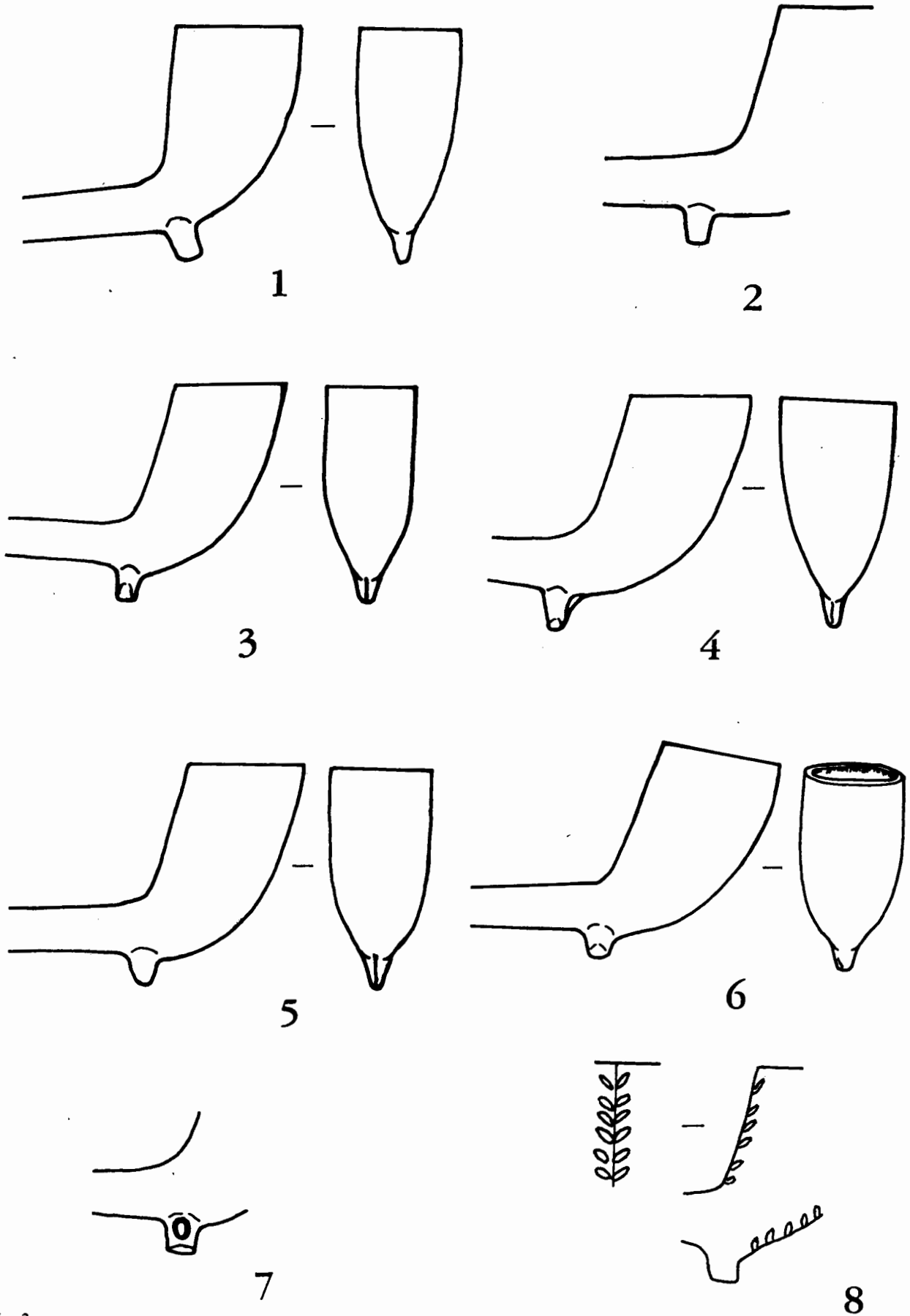


Fig. 2.

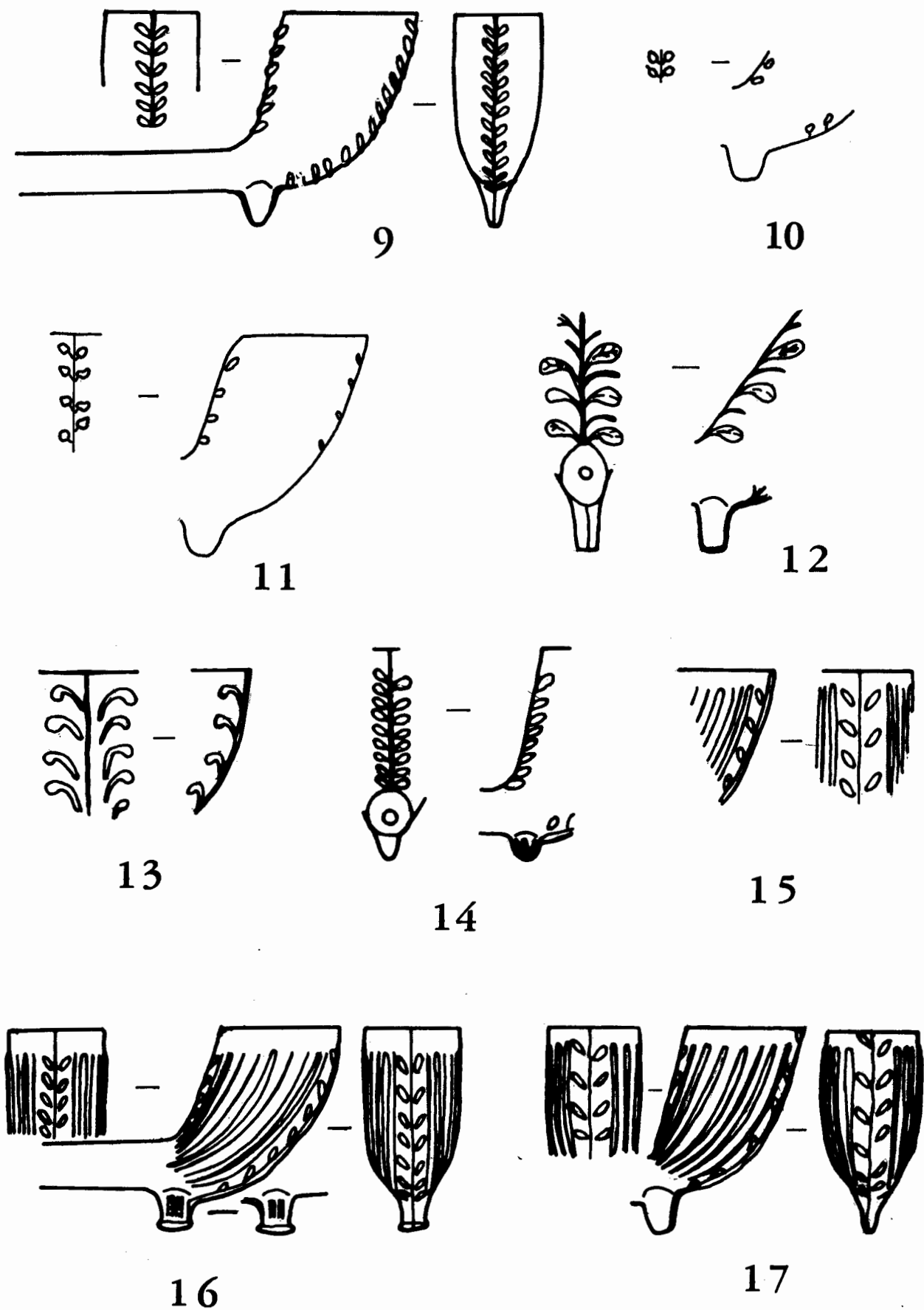
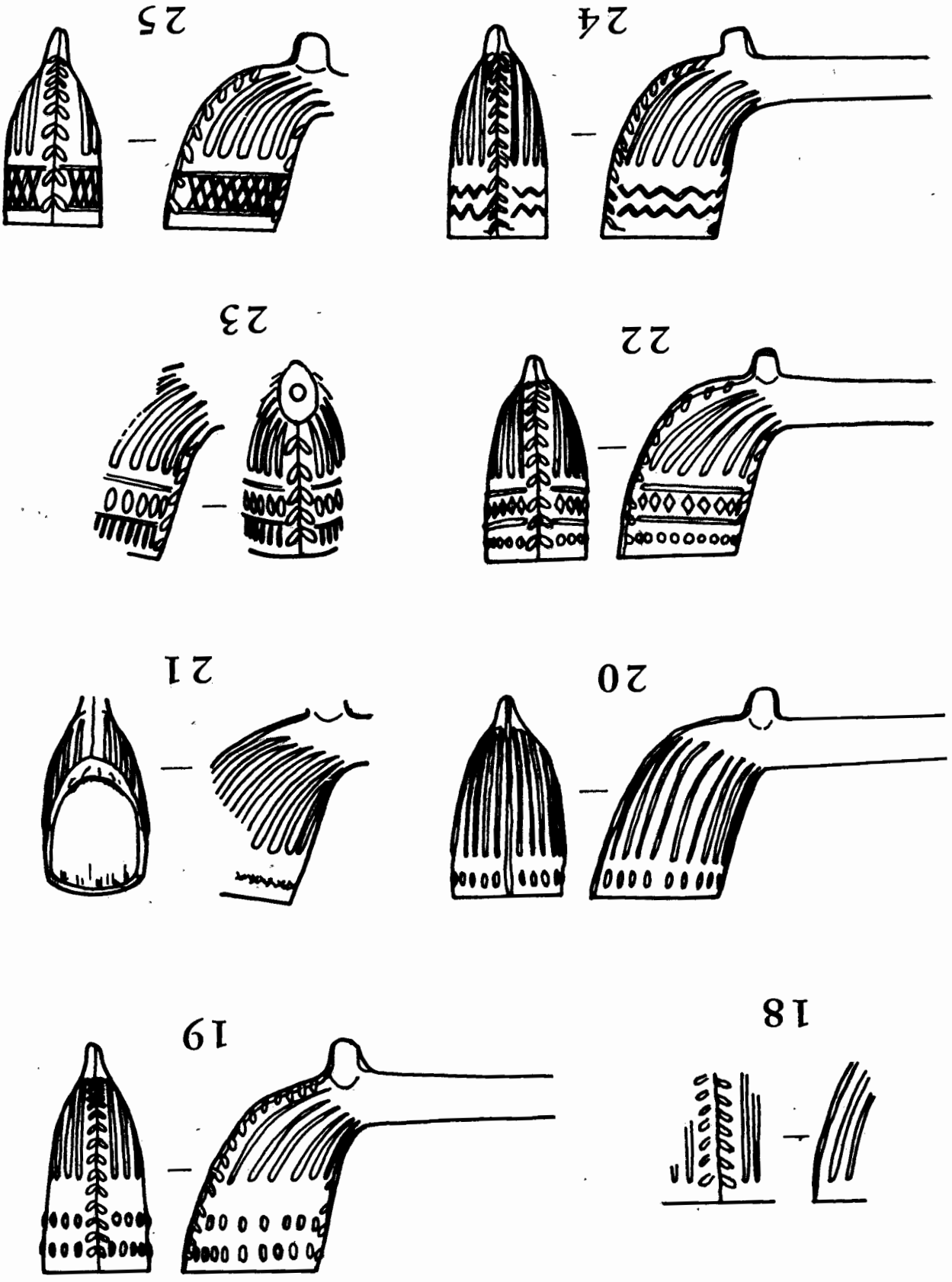


Fig. 3.



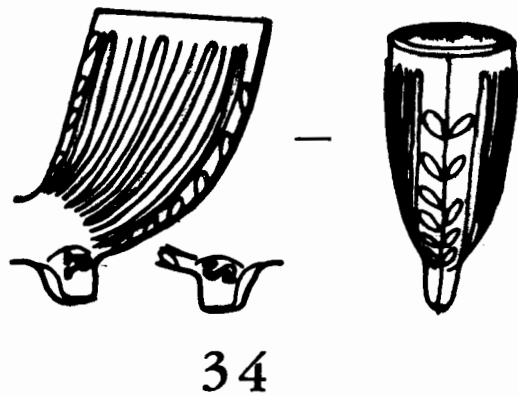
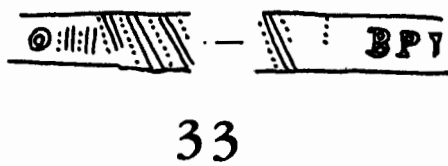
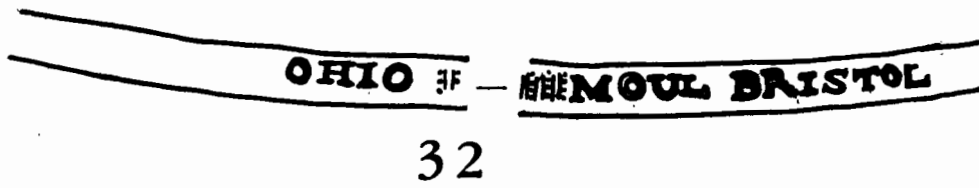
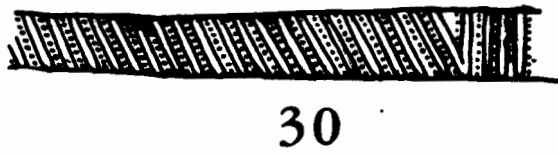
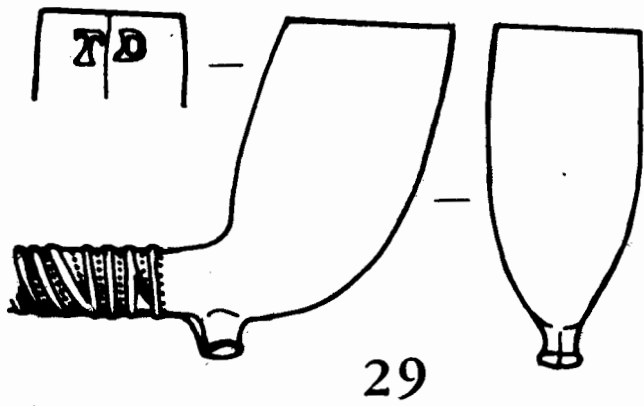
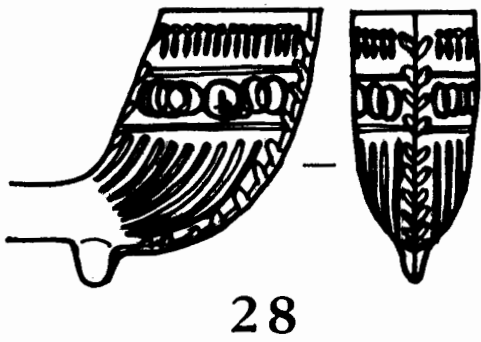
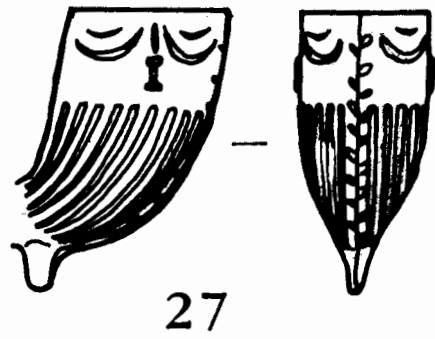
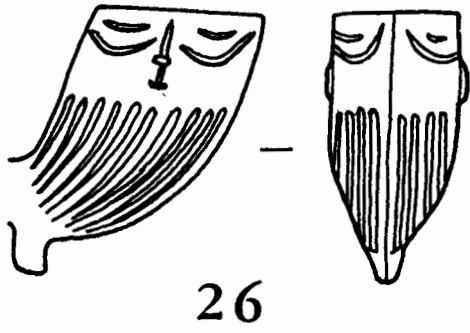


Fig. 5.

AVON ARCHAEOLOGY 1985

Rob Iles and Hilary White

As in previous years the only major excavations took place in Bath and Bristol. A gas pipeline from Ilchester to Pucklechurch brought to light a number of discoveries, notably a Roman enclosure with brooch-making equipment at Compton Dando.

Two important county-wide surveys were completed in 1985: first, an inventory of ancient woodlands carried out for the Nature Conservancy Council; and secondly a survey of Historic Gardens done by ACCES (Avon County Community & Environment Scheme). The ACCES team are now engaged in setting up a Gardens Trust and beginning to do practical projects. Another ACCES team helped to design a permanent display on the archaeology of Bathampton Down to be put up in the clubroom of Bath Golf Club.

The Avon Industrial Buildings Trust, has begun an ambitious programme of practical conservation projects throughout Avon, including the Avon and Gloucestershire Tramroad (Kingswood) and the Somerset Coal Canal at Combe Hay. There is still only a trickle of archaeological sites being added to the schedule of ancient monuments. One of the latest locally must also be one of the most unusual. It is the anti-aircraft gun battery on Purdown, Bristol; known locally as Purdown Percy.

The Avon Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) computerisation project has nearly been completed by Hilary White. It is hoped that more local historians and archaeologists will make use of the SMR and indeed make corrections and additions to it. The primary purpose of the SMR is to relate the historic environment to planning requirements; therefore the more correct information that is available, the better informed will be the response to future development proposals. The SMR now includes a large amount of unpublished researches freely given by many individuals. Therefore it is expected of any future users that they will credit the origin of this material if published.

PREHISTORIC

BATH, Lower Common, ST7365

See Roman section.

BATHFORD, Warleigh, ST795640

The area around Warleigh has a number of large lynchets and field banks, some of which are probably the remains of a late prehistoric or Roman field system. (R. Iles)

COMPTON DANDO, ST6463

See Roman section.

HAWKESBURY, Stonehill, Tresham, ST804914

Blade fragment of neolithic polished axe and flint scraper discovered by Mr Arthur Price.

NORTON MALREWARD, Maes Knoll Hillfort, ST601661

Five sherds of Iron Age pottery, two worked flints & a whetstone were discovered in the ploughsoil, where a terrace occurs towards the eastern end of the camp; indicating that in this area the Iron Age levels are probably being disturbed. (R. Iles, H. White)

ROMAN

BANWELL, Bower House, ST40216095

A collection of Romano British pottery was discovered beside the rhyne in an area scraped for a gas pipeline. Remains of at least 8 vessels (1 bbw, 3 samian, and several greywares). There was also a large bone and stone scatter, although no obvious building structures. (H. White)

BATH, Lower Common, ST7365

An excavation, 11m × 9m, revealed part of a Roman corridor plan rural building at least 9.5m wide and of unknown length (at least 11m). The corridor (2.5m wide) on the east, had been subdivided, as had the northern of the 2 rooms excavated. The dividing wall of the northern room had been rebuilt and three clay & tile ovens inserted in the floor. These had been used for secondary glass working. Glass cullet, strip, cone & beads were found in quantity. Pottery & coin evidence suggests a fourth century date. A palaeomagnetic date assay is awaited. Under the building were a bank & ditch of Trajanic-Hadrianic date, probably part of a field system. These in turn overlay three intercutting circular hut gullies with fragmentary floors & central hearths. Scattered post holes occurred. The huts seem to have been occupied in the first half of the first century AD. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust)

BATH, St Peter & St Paul, ST75096463

Roman buildings & courtyards were uncovered over limited parts of the excavation area as time was insufficient for complete excavation. The buildings were part of an east-west range, the eastern part of which was investigated in 1964 & 1971. A possible northern range was separated by an alleyway with a stone rainwater gutter. It appears that an extensive and thick concrete raft covered the area prior to the building's construction. The Roman buildings were buried after their collapse or demolition in dark silts, in places interspersed with lenses of clay & mortar. There seems to have been episodes of silting and dumping in different degrees in different parts of the site. This took place between ?450 & 1090 AD. See medieval section. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust)

BATHEASTON, Ramscombe Bottom, ST77456905 (Fig 1)

A "corn drying" kiln was discovered and partially exposed by a market gardener, Mr H R Hallett in the mid 1970s. The site is still open & although partly covered in scrub, is in excellent condition. On examination, it appears to be a typical T-shaped Roman kiln. It lies on the edge of a field which is south facing & generally steep. Just below the kiln is a levelled area, the ploughsoil of which contains building rubble & Roman pottery. The pottery consisted of greywares, samian, mortarium & colour coated wares. Other finds included broken tegulae, a tessera and a pennanular brooch (all with Mr Hallett). The kiln is only 450m south of Holt Down where there is a surviving pre-medieval field system, trackways & settlement (planned by Grimes in 1940).

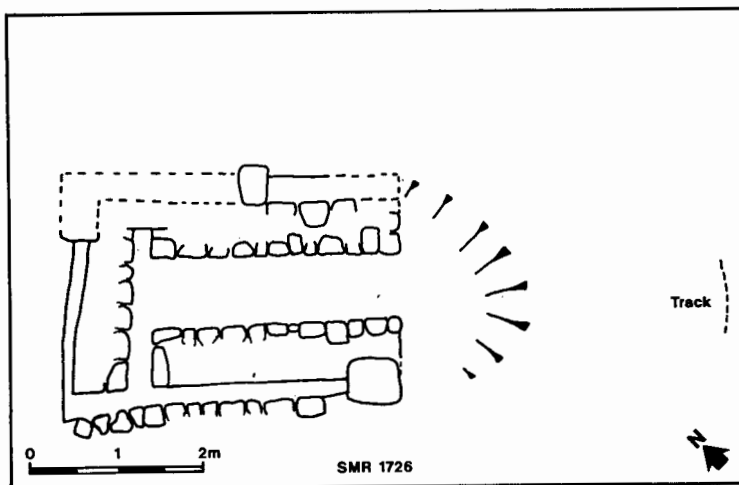
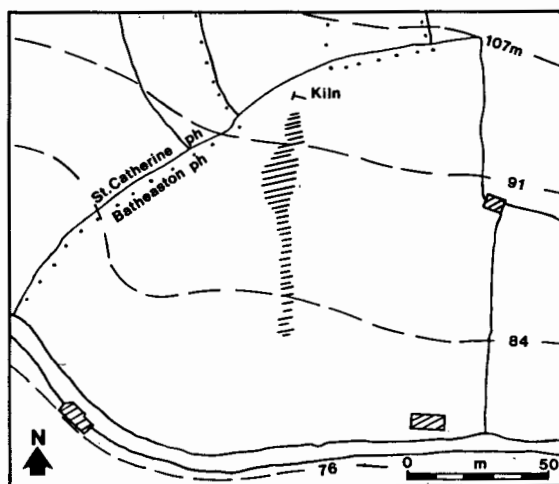


Fig 1. Bathaston 'corn-drying' kiln

On the slopes between these two sites there are a number of lynchets, most of which are likely to be medieval in date, but some could have earlier origins. (R. Iles & B. Ware)

BATHFORD, Warleigh
See Roman section.

BITTON, ST68606955

Scatter of Romano British pottery & quern fragment discovered during stripping of topsoil for gas pipeline. Scatter confined to 50m stretch, no features identified but almost certainly present. (J. A. Gater)

BRISTOL, Lawrence Weston

A sestertius of Vespasian was recently found under an old floor of 31, Atwood Drive. Probably part of the floor make up. (S. Giles).

CAMELEY, ST61085726

Scraping for a gas pipeline brought a small series of Romano British coarse wares to the surface. There was a collection of limestone & pennant slabs some of which looked like floor slabs, although there were no obvious Roman features revealed in the sections of the pipe trench. (R Iles & H. White)

COMPTON DANDO, ST6463

Watching brief previous to a gas pipeline passing through the area produced a series of Romano British finds & a quantity of worked flint. A magnetometer survey revealed a series of ditches (& enclosures) & pits. A small excavation on the site of a small circular enclosure by Phil Catherall recovered 5-6000 fragments of clay brooch moulds of a wide range of brooch types and shapes. (J. A. Gater)

HAWKESBURY, Tresham, ST78479171

Roman pottery was found in this area by Donald Watts following ploughing in 1985. There was said to be a lot of stone in the area. When visited in 1986 the site was under pasture, but there is a large terrace in the lower part of the sloping field.

KEYNSHAM, Cemetery, ST646693

Trial excavations, by Avon County Planning Dept, in the area of proposed expansion of the cemetery (ST64566928), to the

north east of the known villa buildings, revealed building rubble, pottery & coins of the third-fourth centuries, at one metre below ground surface. No obvious structures were found in the small area it was possible to excavate. (R. Iles & H. White)

In discussions with the present grave digger, Mr Pat Morris, information was given on the discovery of Roman coins found in the northern part of the cemetery in 1975. 6 coins were discovered at a depth of 8 feet. Three of the coins are now lost, but those examined were 1 antoninianus of Gordian III & 2 sestertii of probable second century date. (A. Borgelin)

KEYNSHAM, Manor Woods, ST66836710

An extensive Romano British site was reported to British Gas by A Borgelin & J Durnell, after being revealed by pipeline topsoil stripping. The site was gridded and a wide range of finds, including two coin moulds were recovered. No further work was then done on the site because of the amount of material removed from the site by individuals unknown.

A list of a small proportion of the finds from the area has been submitted to the SMR by A Borgelin. This includes 40 coins of the early 2nd - late 4th century. A series of brooches of both bronze & iron, bronze bracelets & rings, & some unspecified bone & iron finds.

KEYNSHAM, Wickhouse Fields, Saltford, ST673663

Fieldwalking (& metal detecting) in the area of Roman finds discovered in 1948, during ploughing revealed a range of coarse wares (10 oz orange, 10 oz grey, 16 oz bbw & a few odd sherds of samian & calcite gritted wares). 11 coins of the third-fourth centuries were discovered, as were some nails, bone & a small crucible with copper alloy deposit. (A. Borgelin & J. Durnell)

MARSHFIELD, Ironmongers Piece, ST798760

The training excavation of Bristol University Dept of Classics & Archaeology continued to work on the circular structure exposed in 1984. It was erected not earlier than the late 2nd century AD; 2 lambs had been buried beneath the rubble make up close to the south wall. A loamy layer, presumably representing a period of disuse or cultivation, underlay the structure, over the thin, irregular cobbling of an early Roman yard surface which petered out to the north. To the south west, a partly robbed wall turned out to be the north east side of a rectangular building, which post dated the circular structure. (A. Parker)

MEDIEVAL

BATH, St Peter & St Paul, ST75096463

This site was chosen in 1091 for the construction of the palace of the newly established bishopric of Bath. A substantial stone hall, 30' × 50' was revealed by excavations and this seems to be of early 12th century date. Stone culverts were associated with this and a later phase, the latter involving the doubling of the length of the building and possible inclusion within a defended circuit.

Extensive alterations of 13th century date mark changes in the status of the palace, which was transferred to Bath Priory when the bishop chose Wells as a preferred residence. Further work in the mid 14th century is attested by unfinished window tracery in contemporary floors.

Evidence was found for continuing use of some of the buildings and certainly their foundations, into the 17th century. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeol Trust)

BRISTOL, Corn Street, ST58767298

A small 15th century cellar below the front of number 35 was visited by J. Bryant & D. Dawson. Some investigation was carried out prior to the removal of an inserted strongroom. The vault over the cellar is carried on ribs which are Y-shaped, the prong of the Y being in the Corn Street end of each rib.

BRISTOL, Redcliffe Street, ST59067263

Excavations by a Bristol City Museum team, led by A Nicholson, at 110 - 112 (Buchanans Wharf) revealed a sequence of buildings dating from the late 12th century, with associated yard surfaces. Originally timbered, the buildings were fully stone founded by the mid 13th century. No river front structures were found, although tipping deposits indicated a location immediately west of the excavated area.

BRISTOL, Redcliffe Street, ST59067256

Large scale excavations continued at 95-97 (Canynge House). An interim report: *Excavations in Redcliffe 1983-5* by R. H. Jones was published by Bristol City Museum.

BRISTOL, Temple Street, ST59227291

J. Bryant of Bristol City Museum recorded the northern end of a vaulted cellar of possible 15th century date. The cellar had been backfilled during the construction of Philip Street c 1840.

CROMHALL, Cromhall Abbots, ST688907 (Fig 2)

A survey of this deserted settlement was carried out by R. Iles, M. Aston and C. Gerrard. Historical research of the area has been started by D. Pierce. In 1086 there were two manors at Cromhall, probably to be equated with Cromhall Abbots and Cromhall Lygon as they were known in the later medieval period. Roger of Berkeley held the smaller of the Domesday manors and his descendent Robert of Berkeley gave his land at Cromhall to St Augustine's Abbey, Bristol, in 1148. After the dissolution Cromhall Abbots passed to the Chapter of Bristol and in 1632 it and Cromhall Lygon came into the hands of the Ducie family who still own it today.

Smyth, in the early 17th century, says that Cromhall Abbots was a third of the parish of Cromhall. He also mentions 12 inhabitants liable to pay tithes and there being 20 men fit for war there. A map of 1760 marks 12 houses and 9 cottages in the manor, all but three in the Abbotside area. The final desertion of the village took place between 1841, when there was 10 inhabited houses, and 1881, when there were only two. The

Ducie's built many new estate houses at that time throughout their estates, usually on new sites.

The survey revealed a layout of house sites and abandoned lanes very similar to the 1760 map. The map also showed 4 cottages to the south west of Abbotside Farm and not on Fig 2. Some shrinkage had already taken place by 1760; for instance the triangular area with earthworks north east of Abbotside Farm is a paddock on the 1760 map. A number of old walls survive (marked with letters or a thick line) including a complete gable at 'a'. There appears to be a cellar at 'd'. The 'enclosure' marked by a broken line is a low spread bank which may correspond with a field boundary on the 1760 map. However it's nature and situation, perched on the edge of a gorge, possibly suggests a much older and more significant origin. (D. Pierce and R Iles)

CLAVERTON, Churchyard, ST788641

Two medieval tombstones were discovered. Probably moved during the church rebuilding in 1850s. Will possibly be placed in the church.

CLEEVE, Bickley, ST451650

Work continued on previous areas and a new one to the south to elucidate the suggested timber framed building. Three phases were defined, the first two were represented by post hole structures, the third by sill beam & post construction. Wattle & daub partitions or side walls were also apparent. The northern terrace or field wall is almost certainly pre-Conquest, but was in use until the site was abandoned c1200. (M. Ponsford)

KEYNSHAM, Abbey, ST655688

Excavation by Bristol Folkhouse Club have continued in the Lay Nave, North East Cloister, Chapter House, Novices Room and Slype, as well as attempts to locate the east end of the Abbey Church. (B. Lowe)

POST MEDIEVAL

BRISTOL, 3-17 Bath Street, ST59147288

J. Bryant, for Bristol City Museum, recorded the surviving parts of the 18th century terrace, designed in 1786 by Thomas Patey. The remaining storeys of the former Talbot Hotel were also recorded, as were later additions to the rear of the terrace.

BRISTOL, Crow Lane, ST58897280

J. Bryant, for Bristol City Museum, recorded a 19th century brick-lined grave discovered during trial trenching through the former St Nicholas burial ground. A portion of gravestones was removed from the area.

BRISTOL, Somerset Street, ST59457225

M. Coxah and a Bristol City Museum MSC team excavated an area close to the 19-20th century glass and pottery works in the suburb of Redcliffe. No direct evidence was found of these industries, although a pit full of 18th century stoneware wasters was found. Apart from some late medieval sherds in the old meadowland surface, there was no trace of building before the 19th century tenements.

BRISTOL, Purdown, ST61327726

This mound, originally thought to be a long barrow, was investigated prior to drawing up plans for a playing field on the site. Initially a trench was dug across the centre by V. Russet and T. Downey, later followed by a series of machine-cut trenches

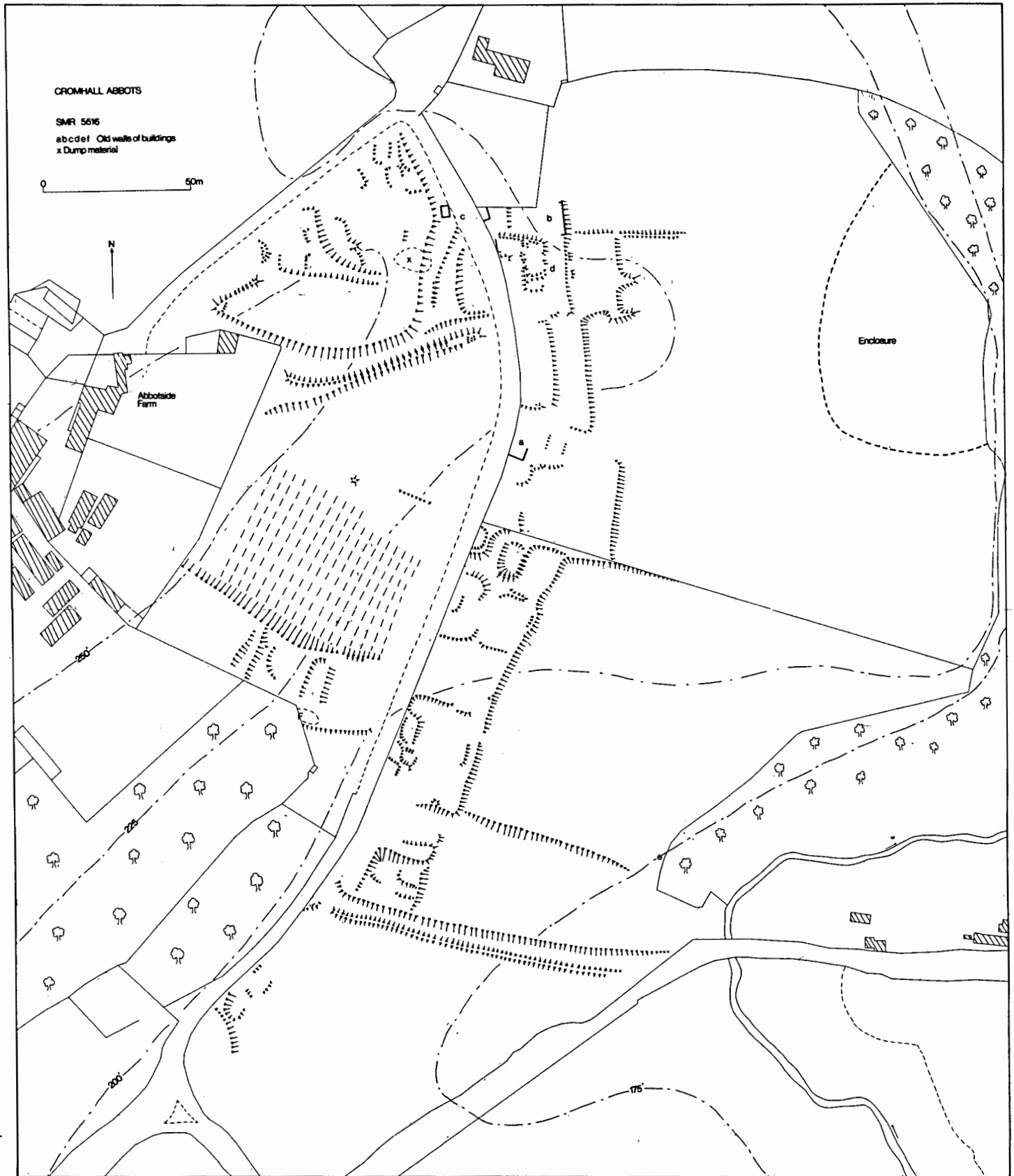


Fig 2. Cromhall Abbots deserted settlement

watched by R. Iles. No finds or other information was seen apart from the site of a 1954-5 sondage by the Folk House Club. The purpose and date seem obscure but it could be part of the landscaping scheme for Stoke Park. (R. Iles)

CHELWOOD, Chelwood Park Farm, ST61556107

Remains of deserted farm still visible; including wall foundations, enclosures, well, and staddlestones. Deeds go back to 1708 (SRO) and it is shown on the tithe map (1837). The 1885 OS plan shows the farm in ruins. (R. Williams)

IRON ACTON, Acton Court, ST687843 (Fig. 3)

A series of garden earthworks and other remains were surveyed by R. Iles to the north and west of Acton Court, a large 16th century mansion of the Poyntz family. The court was built around a small rectangular courtyard and only the east range survives. A large courtyard to the south may have been the original entrance and could have had retainers lodgings and stabling, as at Thornbury Castle, or it might be a large enclosed garden. In 1985 Bristol Visual & Environmental Trust discovered a very elaborate sundial dated 1520 and with Nicholas Kratzer's (horologist to Henry VIII) initials, which were identified by Sir G. White. It is the earliest garden sun-dial in England.

To the south and south-west of Acton Court is a series of medieval fishponds. They are only partially shown on Fig 3 but are described and illustrated in *BAA* 4 (37-9, Fig 3). To the north the earliest earthworks are ridge and furrow, which is overlain by two sets of linear features. Possibly the earlier of these is a broad flat-topped bank, with occasional side ditches and forming a T-shape (orientated WNW/ESE and NNE/SSW). This bank formerly extended into the field to the west in 1946. The other linear features consist of two long scarps (orientated N/S) north of the house. Between the scarps and just north of the ruined walls of a former dovecot is a rectangular area of earthworks which may be the site of some buildings. Further east are some slight platforms possibly the sites of small buildings or cottages.

The other features of note are a pond just to the west of the court and a narrow canal-like feature further west. The pond has a large embankment on its west side and may be the remains of one arm of a moat. The canal-like feature cuts the base of the T-shaped bank and its western arm as it goes northwards in a slight curve. This and many other earthworks are less clear now than on 1946 air photographs due to indiscriminate dumping.

The exact purpose of many of these earthworks is not clear without further research. They are most likely to be connected an elaborate garden and park. The T-shaped bank, especially the western extension, could have been a park boundary. There are records of a hunting park here from the late 14th century. In c.1540 Leland describes '2 parkes by the house'. There are in fact two areas of park field names on the tithe map to the west of Iron Acton village and north-east of Acton Lodge. However the tithe also calls the field to the north of the Court 'Connygare' so some of the earthworks may be part of a warren. (R. Iles)

MARSHFIELD, "Ringhills", ST787712C

Maps of 1777 & 1787 show the village of Ring Hills in this area, these together with field research (Marshfield Parish Survey) indicate the site of a shrunken settlement. The maps show 11 buildings and the old road system which now survives as a series of deep holloways. 2 buildings also survive: Ashwicke Home Farm & a ruined cottage (ST78607154). 2 further buildings are indicated, 1 by an aerial photo at ST78507156 & 1 by a cropmark at ST785714. (info, owner of Motcombe Farm). Another building

site (?) was discovered during the survey at ST78687107 — a gate post, base of wall & worked stone lie to the W of the holloway & another platform lies immediately to the S. Several sherds of medieval pottery were found about 20m to the west of this site. If the map is correct another building must lie in woodland to the south of these. There are no other references to a settlement at Ringshill (although there could be a confusion of names with Ringswell/Kingswell that lies to the east of Marshfield Town). The site lies within the bounds of Ashwicke estate — although the village of Ashwicke (first ref 13th century) is assumed to lie near the site of Ashwicke House where 13-15th century pottery has been discovered, by the C16 there is a reference to Hagh Ashwicke perhaps implying that there were 2 centres of settlement or that with the emparking around the house the original village site has moved. (H. White)

NAILSEA, Scotch Horn Colliery, ST478709

A horse gin was excavated by Nailsea Local History Society prior to conservation work on the gin and adjoining engine house by Avon Industrial Buildings Trust. (D. Lambert-Gorwyn)

NAILSEA, Nailsea Glassworks, ST477709

Following the demolition of a building (in 1984) over the centre of the New House Cone, excavations were resumed by T Downey for Avon Industrial Buildings Trust. The four main airways leading to the base of the furnace were revealed.

NAILSEA, "Elms" Colliery, ST482706

Nailsea Local History Society excavated part of this extensive late 18th-early 19th century colliery. There still exists several standing buildings including an engine house and a horse gin as well as two shafts. These excavations uncovered the foundations of a second gin, another engine house and boiler with a tunnel. (M. Thomas)

NAILSEA, Kingshill Tannery, ST460703

A watching brief on some new houses revealed a series of seven tanning pits which were recorded by M Thomas and T Bowen.

STANTON DREW, Stanton Wick, ST615619

In a field south of Carpenter's Arms are the foundations of a house discovered following removal of a hedge (ST61576196). In the area was found 17th-18th century pottery, slag and broken bottles, the latter appear to be of the type made at Stanton Wick glassworks (1660-1815). The next field to the south at ST61496186 contains a bell pit: there are several others west of the disused coalworks in Wick Lane. (R. G. J. Williams)

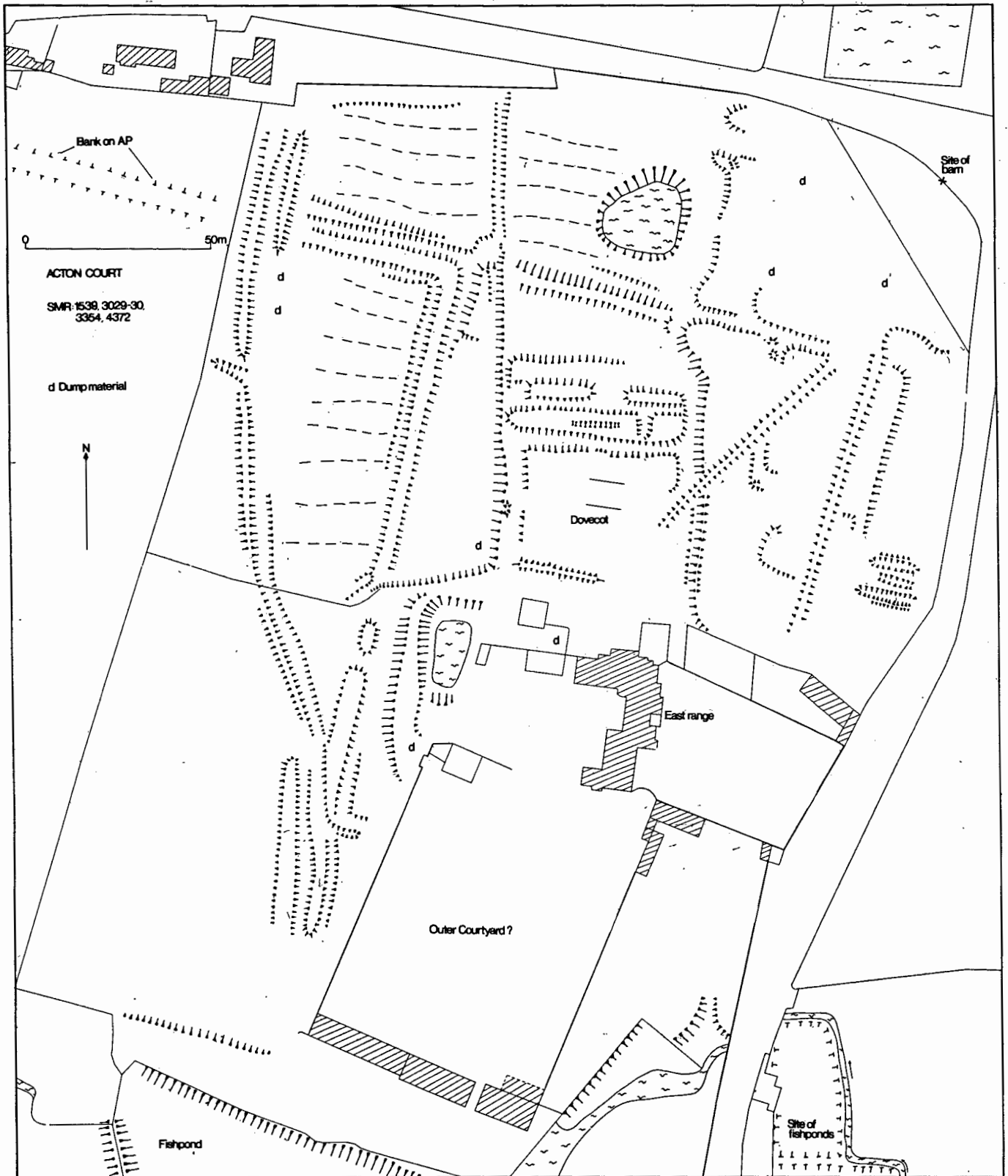


Fig 3. Earthworks, Acton Court, Iron Acton

BUILDING RECORDING

The listed building resurvey programme for Avon was completed by the County Planning Department on behalf of English Heritage. However it was only done for rural parts of the County and there still remains many historically significant buildings without listed status in Bristol and Bath.

A national barns survey is being undertaken by the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings. The local survey is being co-ordinated by John Winstone.

In the following list the surveyors of buildings are indicated by their initials at the end of the brief description: LH - Linda Hall; EHDW - E.H.D. Williams; JW - John Winstone.

BARROW GURNEY, Steps Farmhouse, ST532681

17th-18th centuries. EHDW

BATH, Pennhill Farmhouse, Weston, ST726666

Early 16th century (longhouse) and additions. EHDW

BATHFORD, Lower Shockerwick Farm, ST802687

Barn 16th century; house, stables and yard all mid 17th century; granary 19th century. EHDW

BITTON, Church Farmhouse, ST681694

Late medieval, modified. EHDW

BUTCOMBE, Butcombe Farmhouse, ST503608

Late 14th-15th centuries, with later additions and alterations. EHDW

CROMHALL, Royal Oak, Bibstone, ST699911

Medieval open hall with 2-storey upper end. Parlour wing 1672. LH

DUNDRY, Hazel Farmhouse, Upper Littleton, ST391640

Mid-late 17th century. EHDW

EAST HARPTREE, Coley Court, ST583557

Early 16th century long house. EHDW

FLAX BOURTON, Mill Farmhouse, ST512698

Early 16th century and additions. EHDW

FRESHFORD, Old Parsonage, ST788602

17th century rebuild of earlier house. EHDW

IRON ACTON, Two Wheels, The Green, ST677837

T shaped house with stair turret. Either through-passage house or late 17th 2 roomed house with later wing. LH

KEWSTOKE, Home Farmhouse, ST343638

16th century, with 17th century additions. EHDW

MIDSOMER NORTON, The Priory, ST663543

16th-17th century rebuild of medieval. EHDW

OLVESTON, The Old Meeting House, The Green, ST601868

Small 1 & 1/2 storey house. Features are late 17th century but is probably modification of earlier house. LH

PUXTON, The Grange, West Hewish, ST391640

Mid-late 17th century. EHDW

SISTON, Siston Court,

Floor plans arranged according to a description of c 1625. JW

SOUTH STOKE, Manor Farm Barn, ST746612

Late 15th century. EHDW

WHITCHURCH, Lyons Court Farmhouse, ST609674

Late 15th century. EHDW

WICK ST LAWRENCE, Banksea Cottages, ST366654

15th century Church House. EHDW

WINSOMBE, Orchard Cottage, Sandford, ST424596

Mid 15th century, much altered. EHDW

WRITHLINGTON, Combe Farmhouse, ST705548

Early-mid 16th century. EHDW

WORLE, 83 High Street, ST353626

Early 16th century. EHDW

YATTON, Butcher's Arms, ST433654

c 1600. EHDW

YATTON, Causeway House, ST432655

17th century. EHDW

YATTON, Home Farmhouse, ST448672

Late 15th century. EHDW

YATTON, Old Rectory, ST 432654

Late 15th century. EHDW

YATTON, Well Cottage, ST440662

Mid 17th century. EHDW

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

In the coming year it is hoped to produce a catalogue of all the air photographs in Avon Sites and Monuments Record as well as other collections for the area. The aim is to provide an assessment of what flying has been done and which areas and types of flying should be done in future.

M. Aston did several winter flights in late 1985 over southern Avon with the help of grants from the Maltwood Fund. This produced very good results providing photographs of many known sites not previously recorded from the air and the following sites not otherwise recorded are all. Photo references are shown in brackets:

BANWELL, shrunken settlement, East Rolstone, ST399622

Earthworks of platforms, ditches and enclosures suggest abandoned farm sites within this scattered hamlet (16690).

BLEADON, deserted settlement, ST325578

Several earthwork platforms and enclosures at the junction of at least two droveways might indicate a deserted farm site (16666).

NEWTON ST LOE, possible shrunken village remains, ST698648

Area of not very well defined enclosures west of church probably representing former village properties (15425).

NORTH STOKE, shrunken village, ST703692

Three ditches or holloways on each side of the churchyard suggesting a village enclosure, now only occupied by the church (15429).

PAULTON, abandoned fields, ST668575

Extensive earthworks of rectangular enclosures, strip fields and strip lynchets suggesting the long medieval fields were altered from pre-existing rectangular fields (16807-8).

PEASEDOWN ST JOHN, deserted village of Eckweek, ST713578

Well-preserved earthworks to north and south of Eckweek House and east of the new cemetery representing holloways, house platforms and enclosures of an abandoned hamlet (15491-7).

PRISTON, abandoned fields, ST702607

Earthworks of long strip fields apparently associated with former square and rectilinear enclosures (15500-2)

STANTON DREW, deserted settlement, ST608611

Earthworks of enclosures, linear banks and ditches and ridge and furrow suggest a possible deserted farm site (16812).

WRINGTON, shrunken settlement, Cowslip Green, ST484617

Earthworks of platforms, ditches and enclosures suggest an abandoned farm site, where there is now a small barn (16691-2).