

CAMBRIDGE INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGY – CIA6 (HS11)

EXCAVATION AT CAMBRIDGE PLANTS NURSERY, THE LODGE HORNINGSEA 2011

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This report is an addendum to the report dated May 2012 on excavation of an enclosure at this site (Trench B), and gives the results of the excavation of trenches A, C1, C2 and D.

Background

The excavation in 2011 placed trenches over 4 areas that had been identified by the resistivity survey made in 2007 by the RheeSearch Archaeology Group.

Two areas of high resistance and two areas of low resistance were selected, as possible locations for pottery kilns.

Trenches A and B were over the low resistance areas, and C1, C2, and D over the high resistance areas (Figs 1, 2, 3 & 3B).

Excavation

In summary very few finds were made, and they did not indicate any presence of kilns.

Trench A (1.75 x 0.57m)

Trench A was placed over the low resistance area which was a possible flue for the adjacent trench B. Only a few pieces of kiln material (with grass marks) were found and no evidence of a flue or burning which would indicate possible linkage to the adjacent Trench B. Some Horningsea roman pottery was found and one piece of possible earlier iron age pottery.

The trench was excavated down to the natural and this showed in section that there were probably two ditch cuts (Fig 3C).

Trench C1 (2 x 1m) and C2 (1.75 x 0.5m)(Fig 4A,4B, 5,6)

Trench C1 was placed over a high resistance area. Initially it was proposed to dig a 2 x 2 metre trench if this exploratory trench of 2 x 1 metre revealed anything of significance. But no finds were found excavating down to 70/80cm. Sondages dug at either end of the trench showed that there was natural gravel at a depth of 1.0 and 1.2 metres. Therefore a further trench C2 was dug (1.5 x 0.5m) at 90 degrees to C1. Only a few finds were made, and the sondage down to 65cm at the South West end showed similar natural sandy gravel to that in C1.

A flint blade of Neolithic or early Bronze Age from the top of the spoil heap probably came from the bottom of sondage in the south west end of C2 (Fig 7).

Trench D (2 x 1m)(Fig 8, 9, 10)

Again there were very few finds and the sondage dug in the south west end again showed a natural of gravel at 55/60 cm depth similar to that found in trenches C1 & C2. The small piece of fired clay is not regarded as significant as this is found in small quantity all over the site.

Finds

The spreadsheet Fig 11 gives details of the finds.

Discussion

The results from trenches C1, C2 and D clearly show that there were no kilns there. The high resistance is thought to be due to the good drainage given by the natural sandy gravel relatively near to the surface, whereas in trench A the natural was not as gravelly and was deeper, and in an area where nearby there was a clay layer which would retain water thus giving a low resistance area.

The profile of the bottom of trench A seemed to indicate that two ditches had been dug. As only trench A was excavated in this area no real comment can be made on their relevance if any to the enclosure in trench B reported earlier.

Horningsea HS11 Addendum report trenches A+C+D

Fig 1 location of site

Fig 2 Plan of site

Fig 3 Trench location on geophysical survey

Fig 3B View of trenches C1, C2 & D looking north east

Fig 3C Trench A section

Fig 4A Plan of trenches C1 & C2

Fig 4B View of trench C1 looking south west

Fig 5 View of trench C2 looking south west

Fig 6 Trench C2 sondage

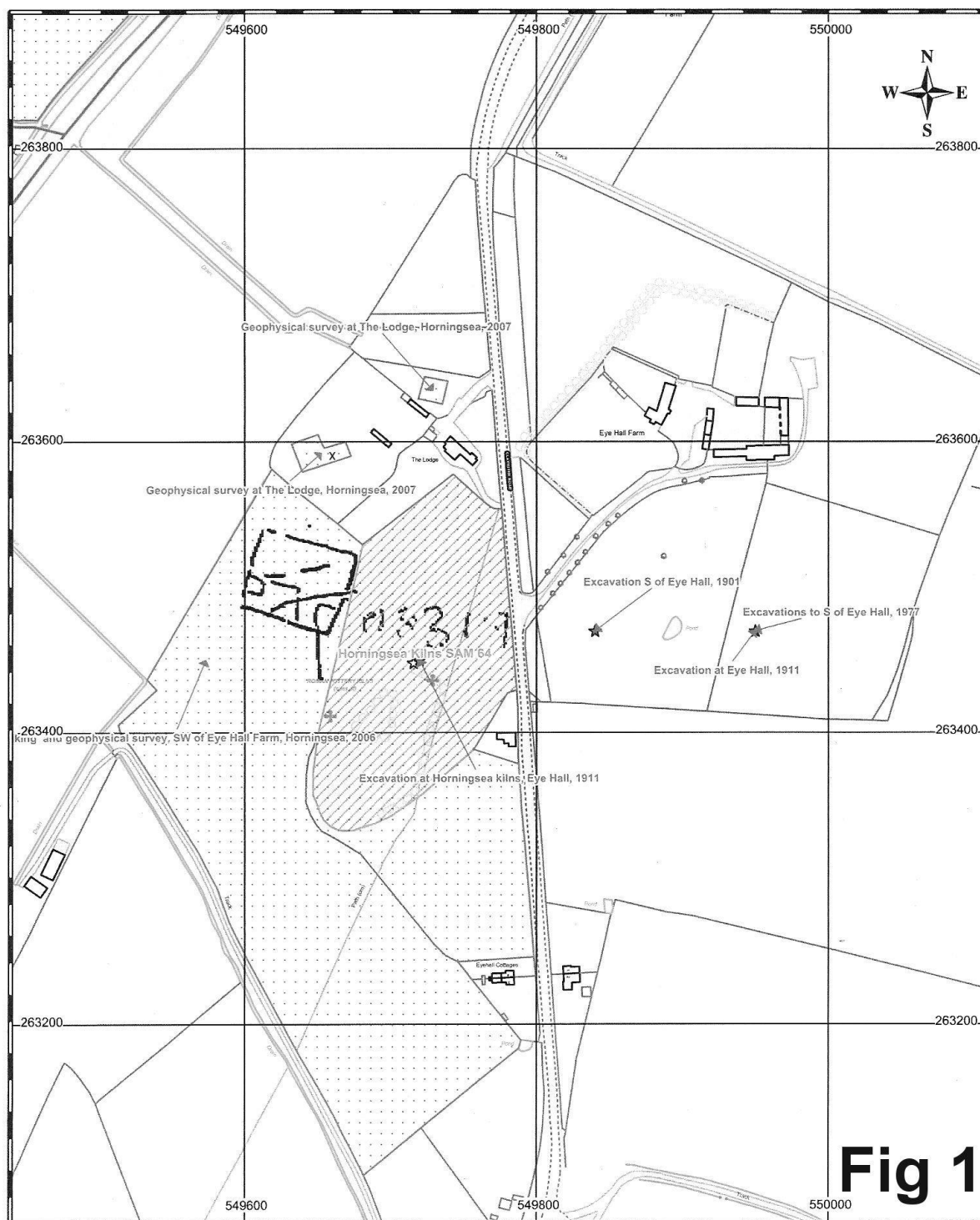
Fig 7 Worked Flint ex trench C2 spoil heap

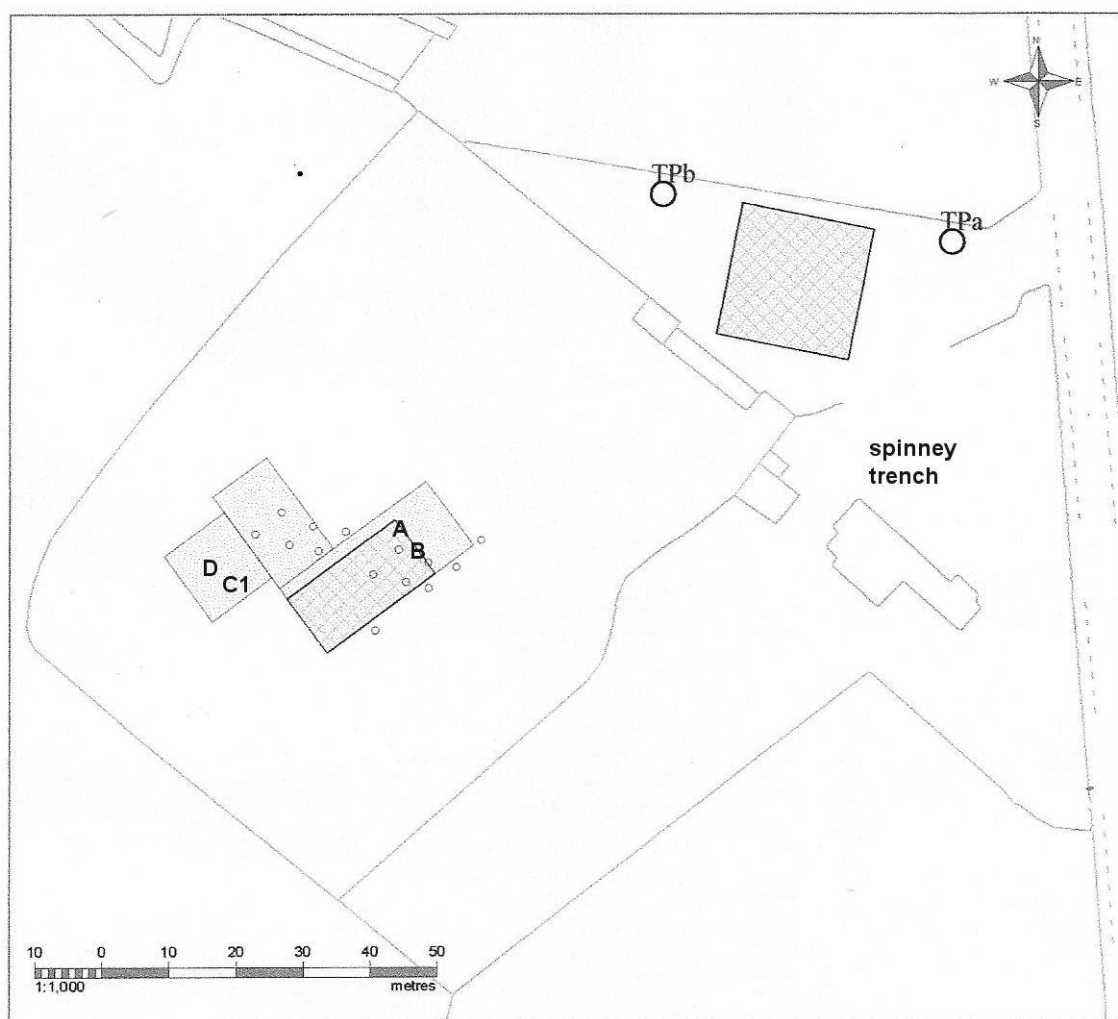
Fig 8 Plan of trench D

Fig 9 View of trench D looking south west

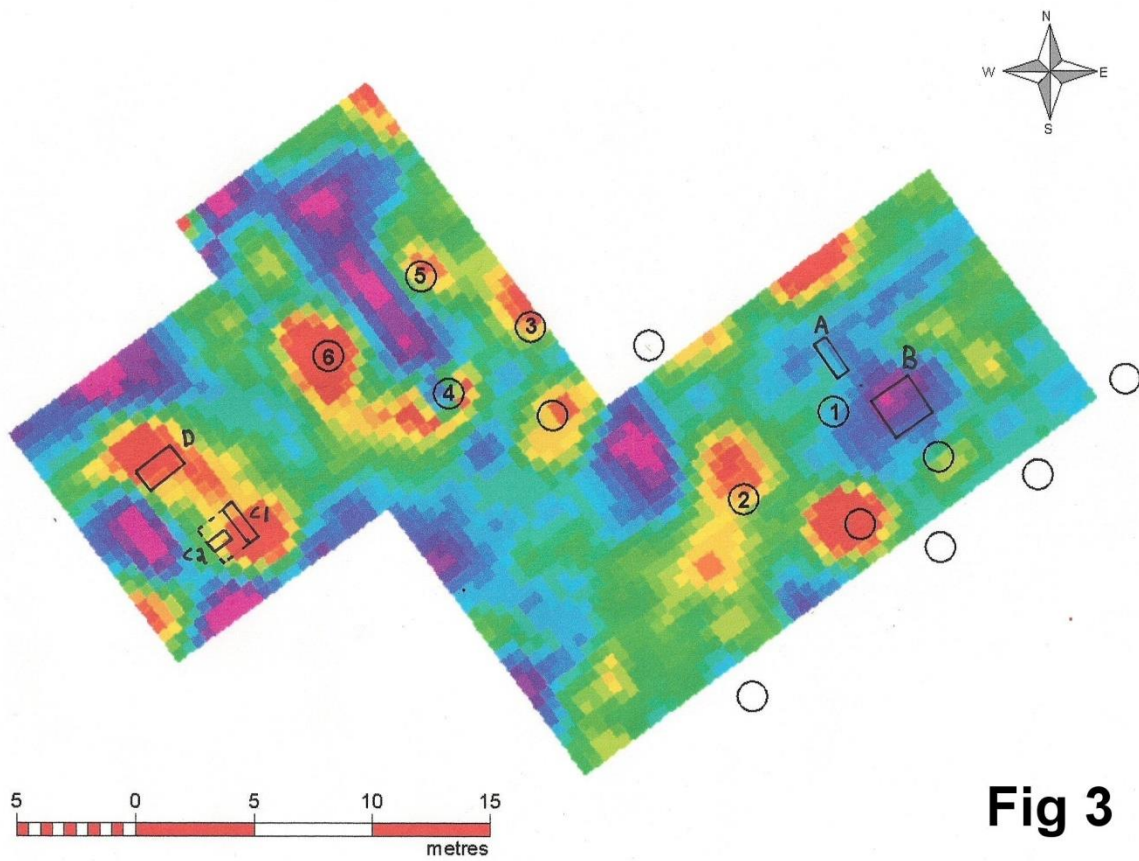
Fig 10 Trench D sondage in west corner

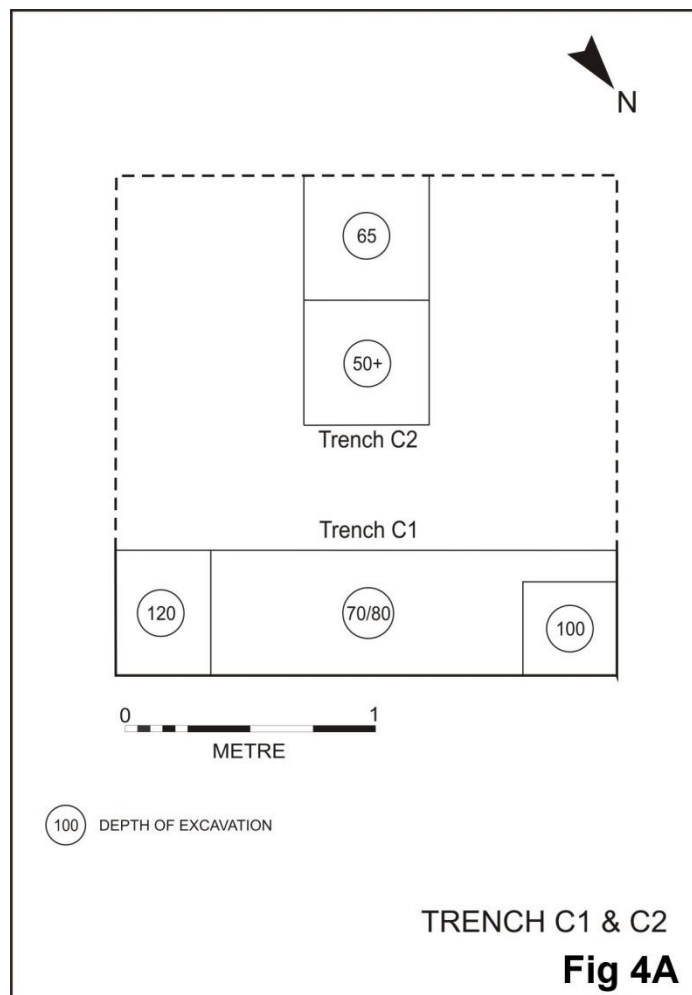
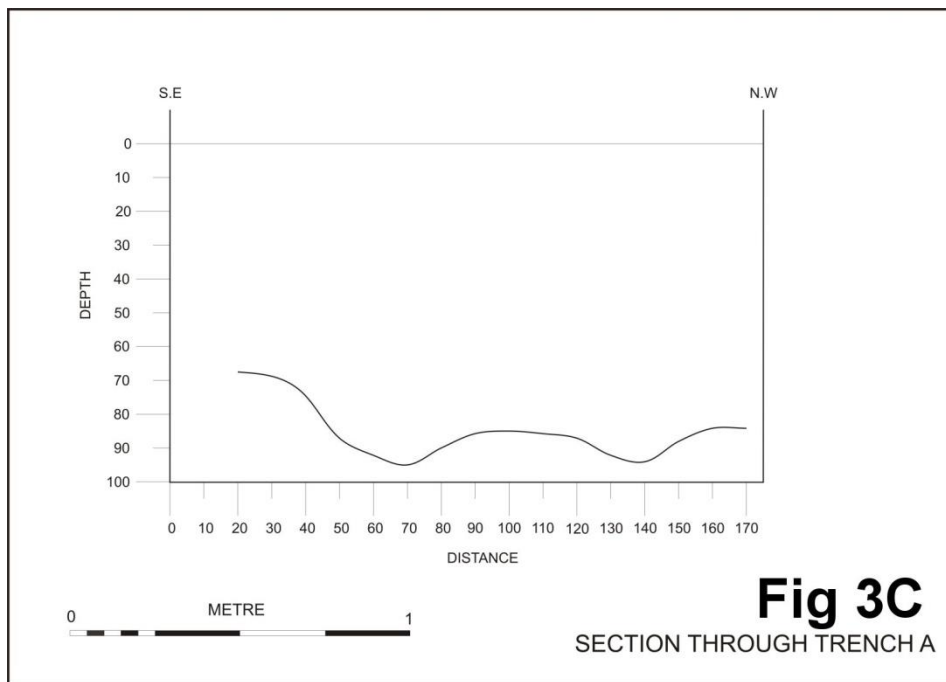
Fig 11 Finds spreadsheet for trenches A, C1, C2, D





Location plan: Survey areas with Clayhithe Road to the east. **Fig 2**
 (Resistivity survey areas solid, Magnetometry areas crosshatched, trees circles)

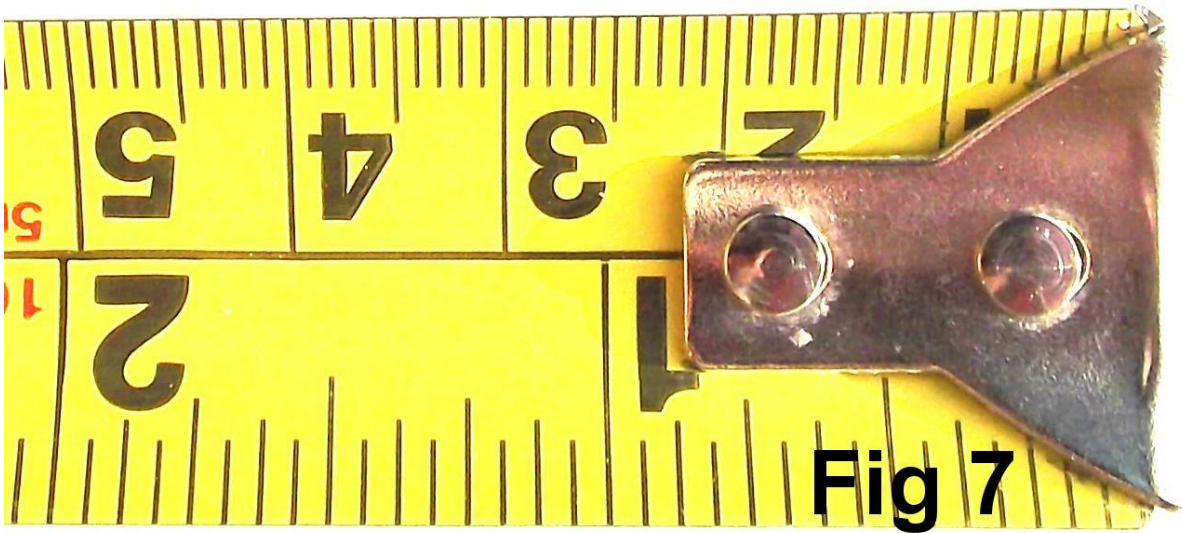


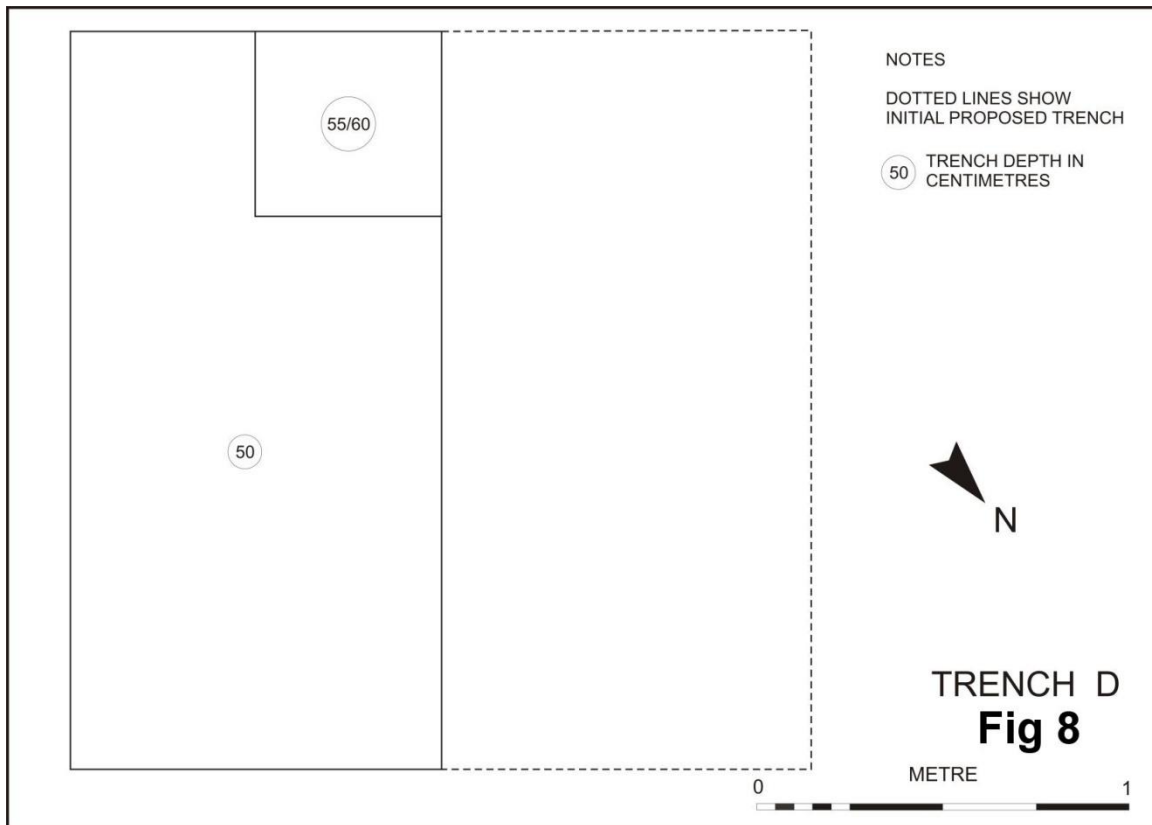
















Ref. No	Date	Excavator	Trench area	Depth cm	Fired clay Wt g			Roman Pottery		Pottery Wt PM&Mod.	Bone		Other
					wall	grooved	grass mark	No	Wt A		No	Wt g	
								TRENCH					
A1	07-May	sr	centre				38		30	83			
A2	21-Jun	wh	NW						111		7	38	charcoal 1g
A3	21-Jun	sr	SE					5	96		4	15	charcoal < 1g, Mod. Metal plate 90g, Mod. Brick+concrete 108g
A4	01-Jul	rs	ex spoil										lead 30g
								TRENCH	C1				
C1-1		rbs											
								TRENCH	C2				
C2-1	17-Apr	wh						3	102				1 flint, charcoal 1g+, 1 Mod. Tile 10g, 1 clay pipe stem, sandstone 111g,
C2-2		rs	ex spoil										1 worked flint ex spoil heap, probably from bottom of SW sondage
								TRENCH	D				
D1		rs		0-20				6	199	3	2	8	1 nail, 1oyster shell, PM brick/tile 37gN.B. PM Pot +brick/tile not kept,
D2	16-Apr	rs		20-natural		28		5	29	1	4	65	Not kept 1 slate 2g,PM pot, fired clay