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PORTS IN ROMAN BRITAIN

BY

JOHN FRYER

VOLUME TWO

1978

UNIVERSITY
OF NEELE

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-
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Chester-le-Street - The Channel of the River Wear, opposite the fort.

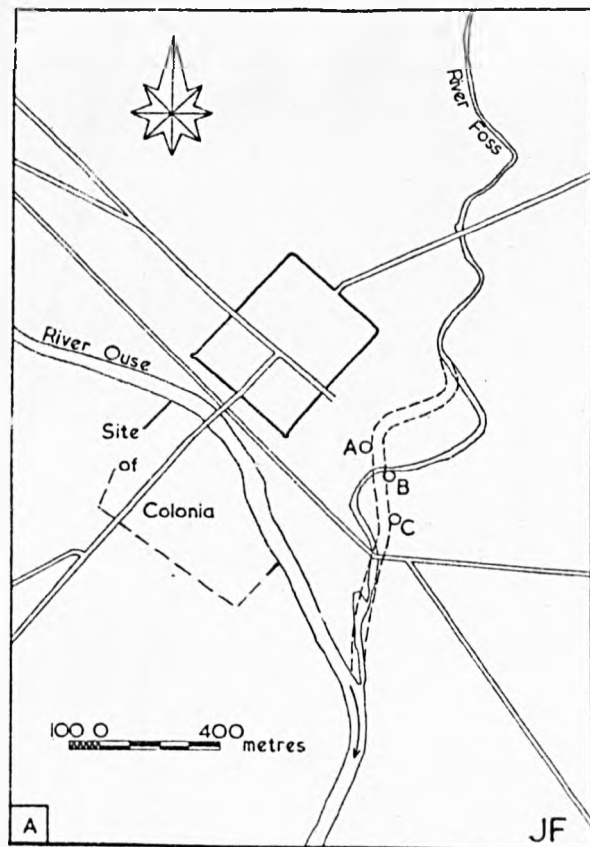


Whitby - The Harbour.

Chart of the River Humber, by John Scott, A.D. 1734. The Roman ferry terminals at Brough and Old Winteringham fall in the top, left-hand corner of the chart. Admiralty. Hydrographic Dept..

Admiralty, Hydrographic Dept.,

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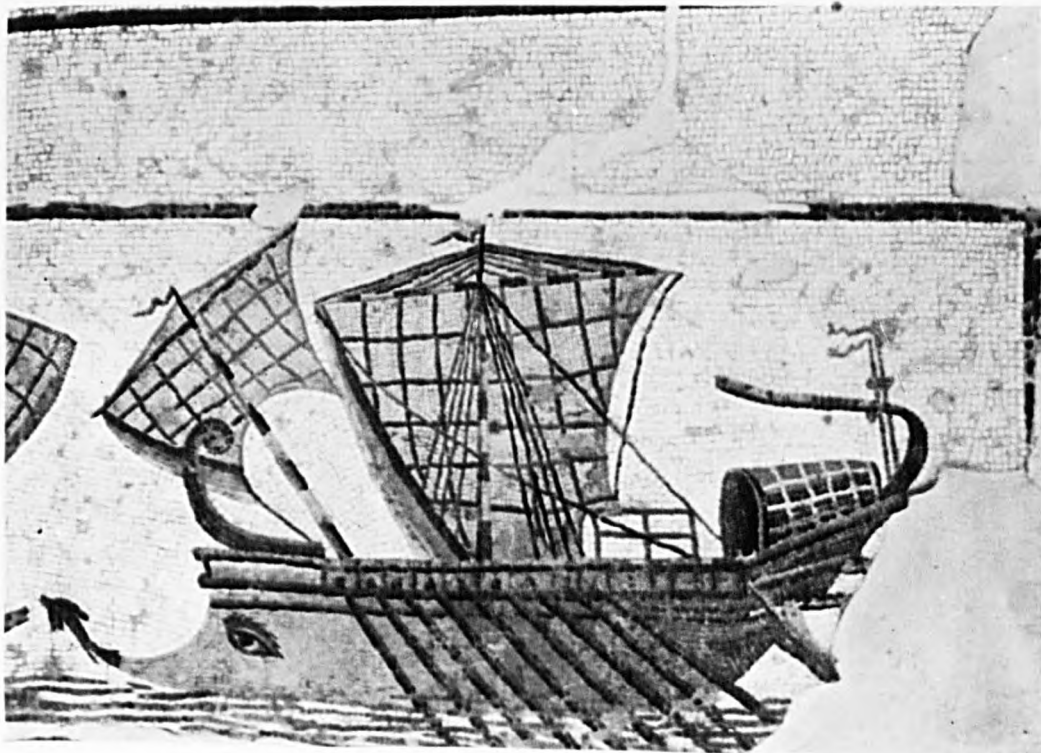


York, Plan of the legionary fortress and colonia, illustrating the relationship between them and the harbour installations which probably lined the River Foss, the hypothetical course of which (in the 1st century A.D.) is shown by broken lines.
 based on R.C.H.M., York, 1962, fig. 52 and Map.
 A = Telephone Exchange Site (Hungate) ; B = Wall of Roman bricks found in 1829 ; C = Two rows of rough stone columns, found in 1938.

Sousse, Mosaic depicting Roman merchantman.

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Musée Archéologique de Sousse.



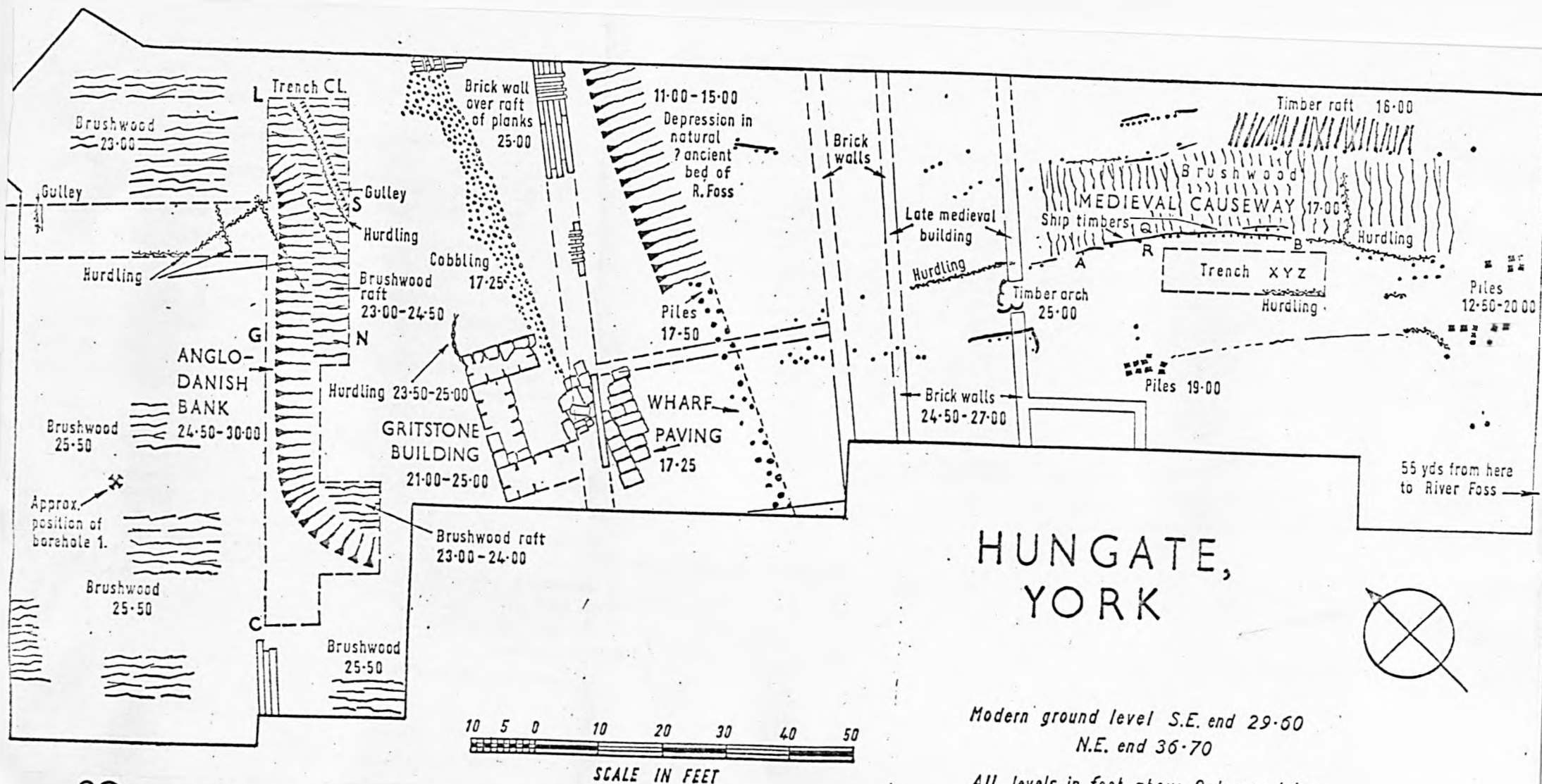
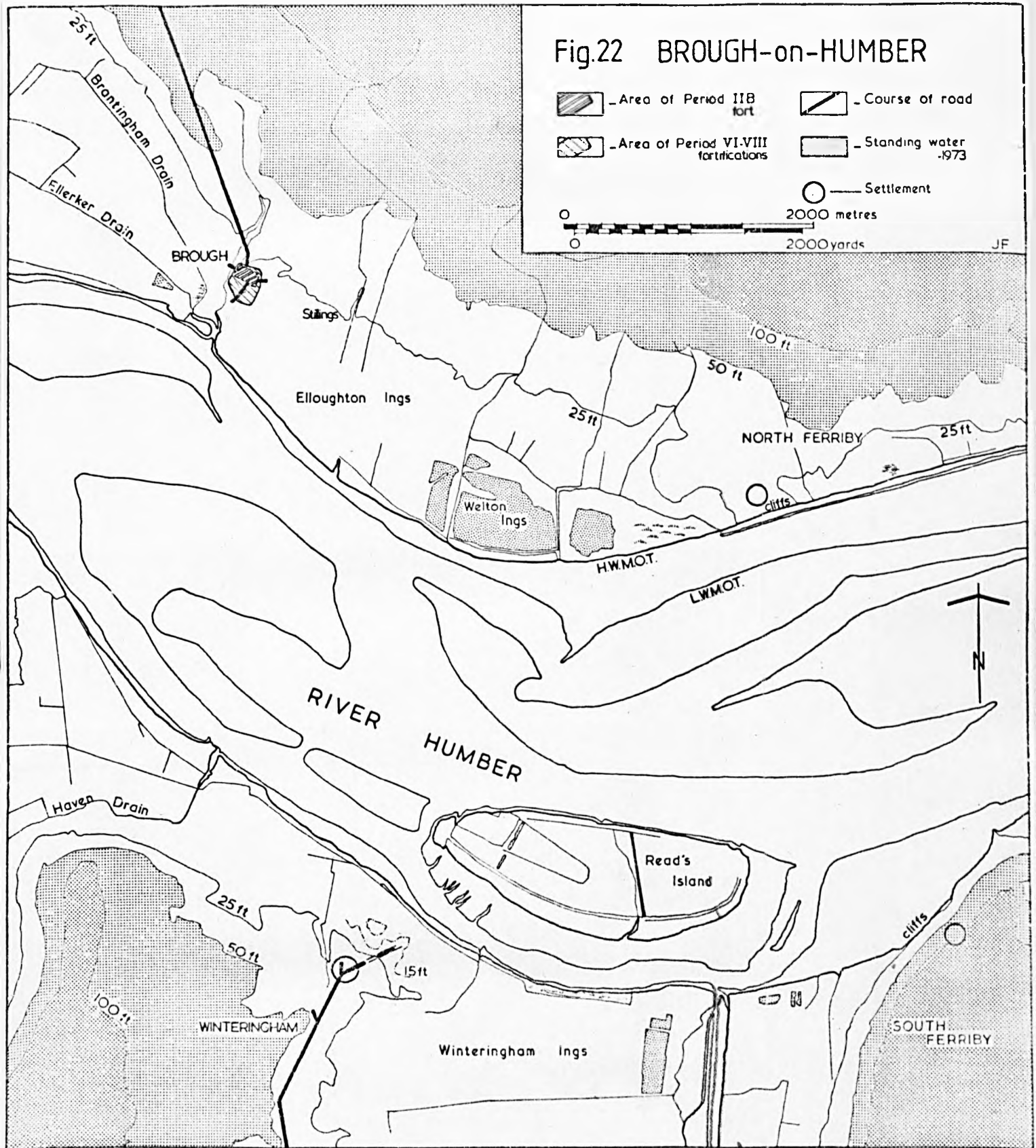
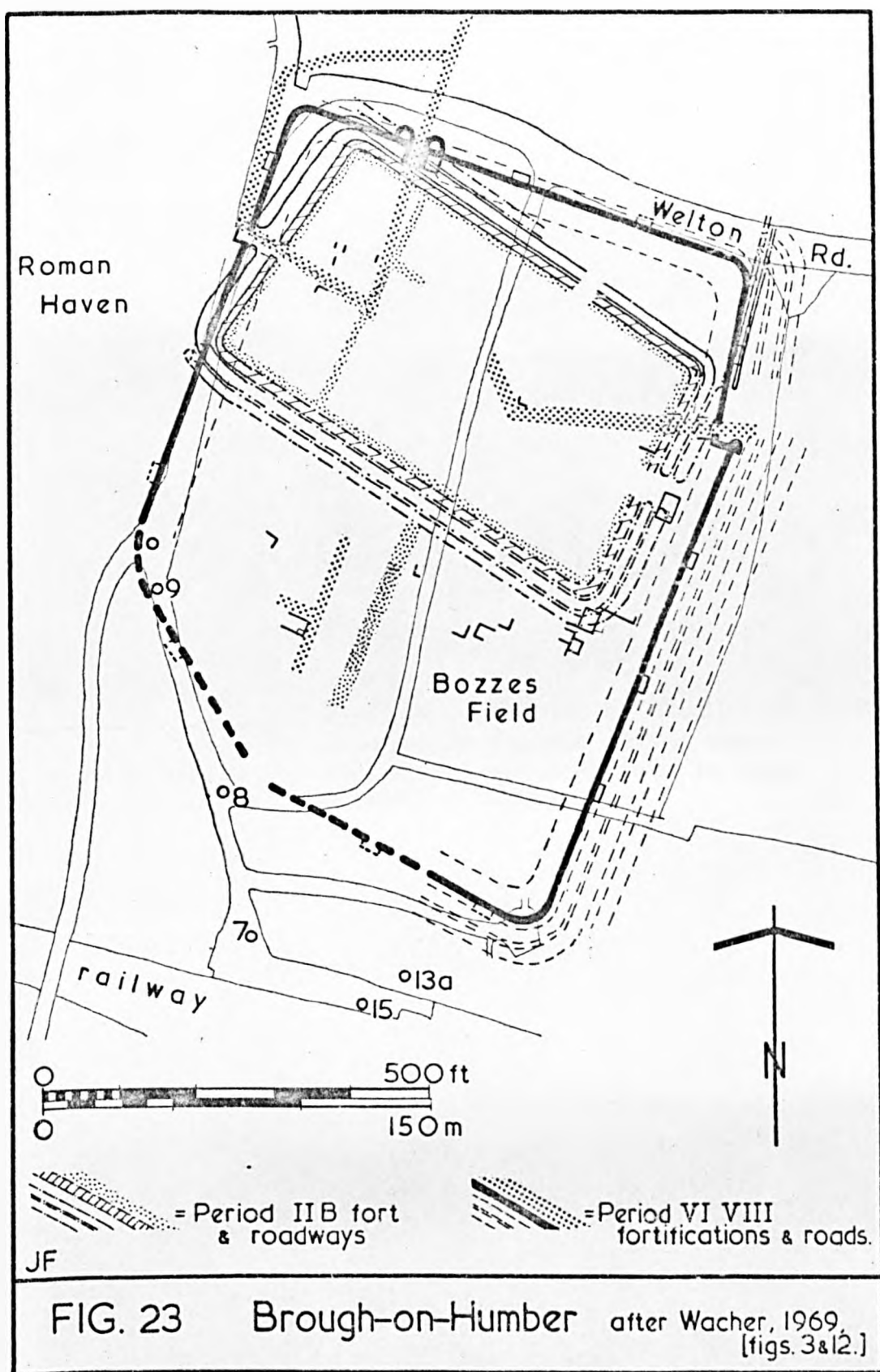


Fig.22 BROUGH-on-HUMBER





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Brough-on-Humber: the shoreline of the 20th century haven; the creek extended further inland, and northwards, in Roman times, although its configuration is obscure.

25

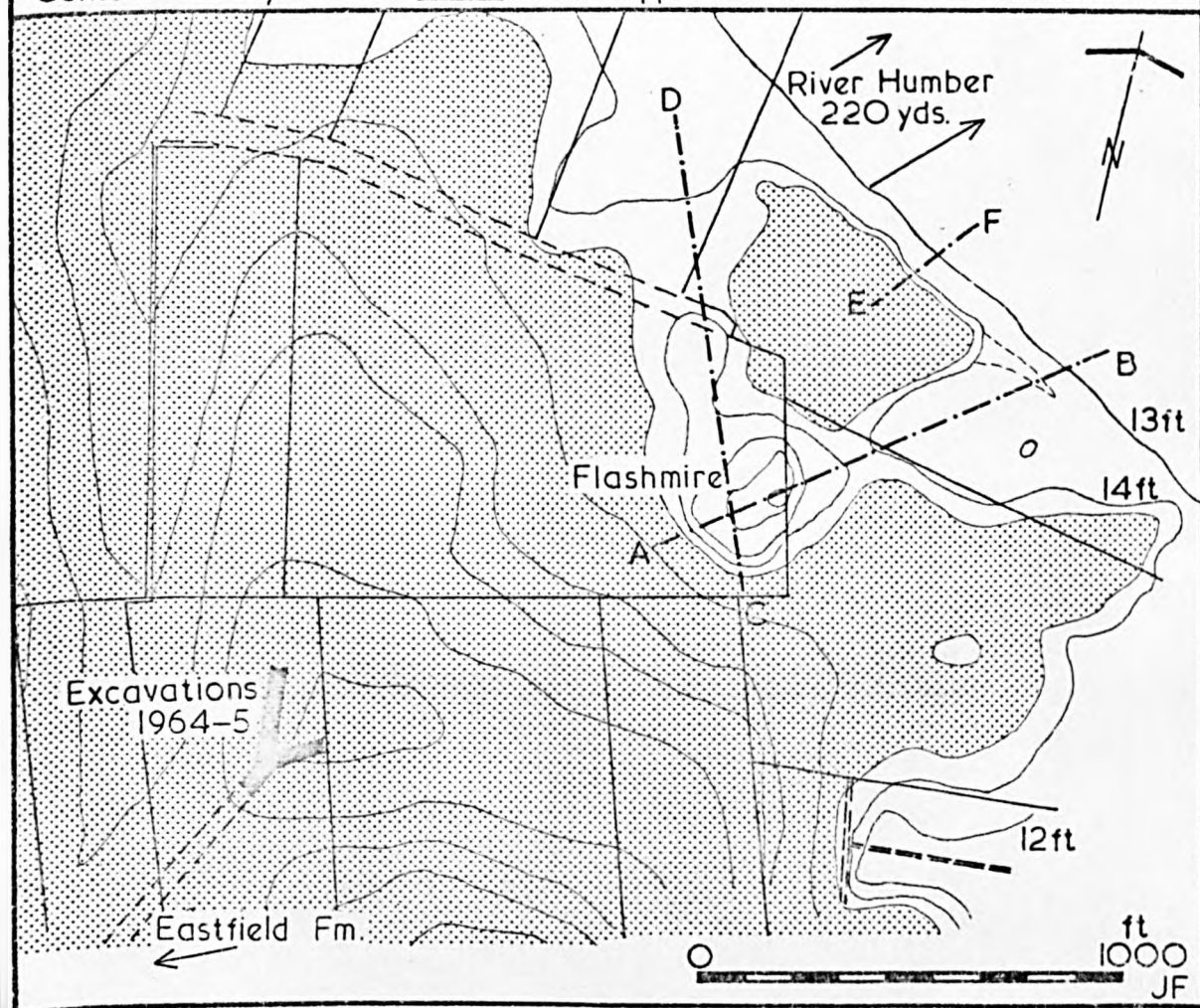


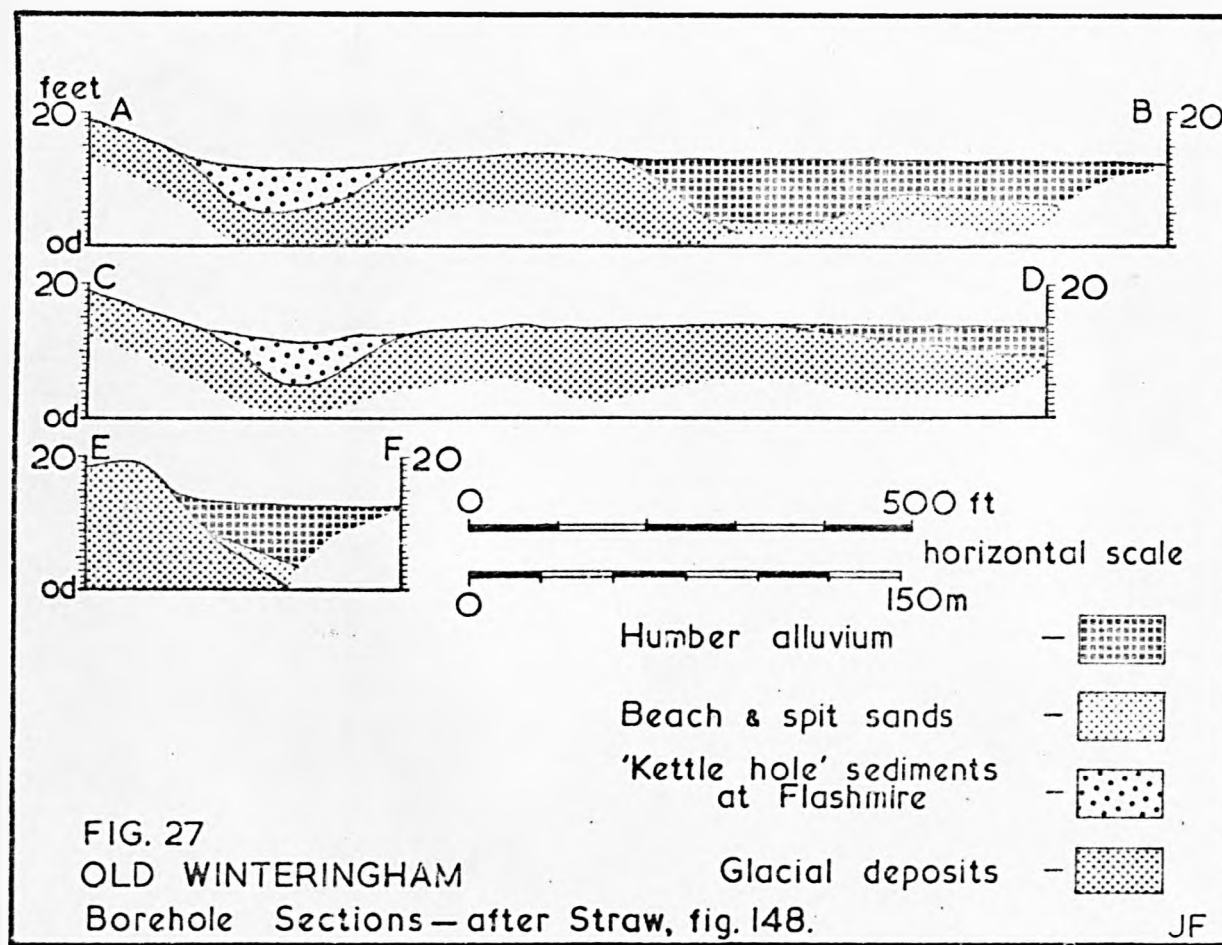
Old Winteringham: the South bank of the Humber, looking North towards the depression known as Flashmire (middle distance & right of centre picture).

FIG. 26

OLD WINTERINGHAM — after Stead op. cit. fig. 3.

Contour survey—areas above 15 ft, stippled, with contours at 5 ft intervals





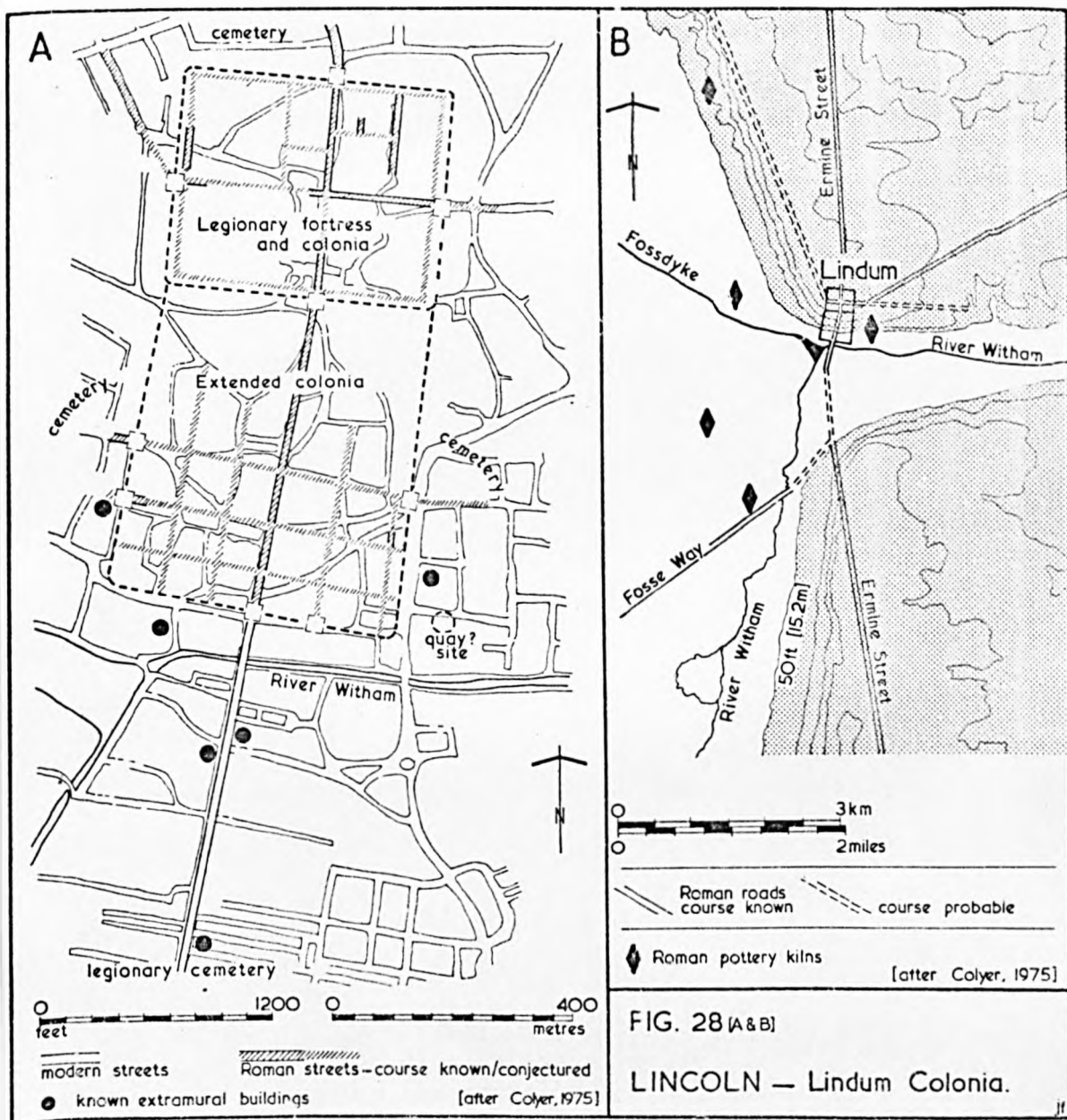
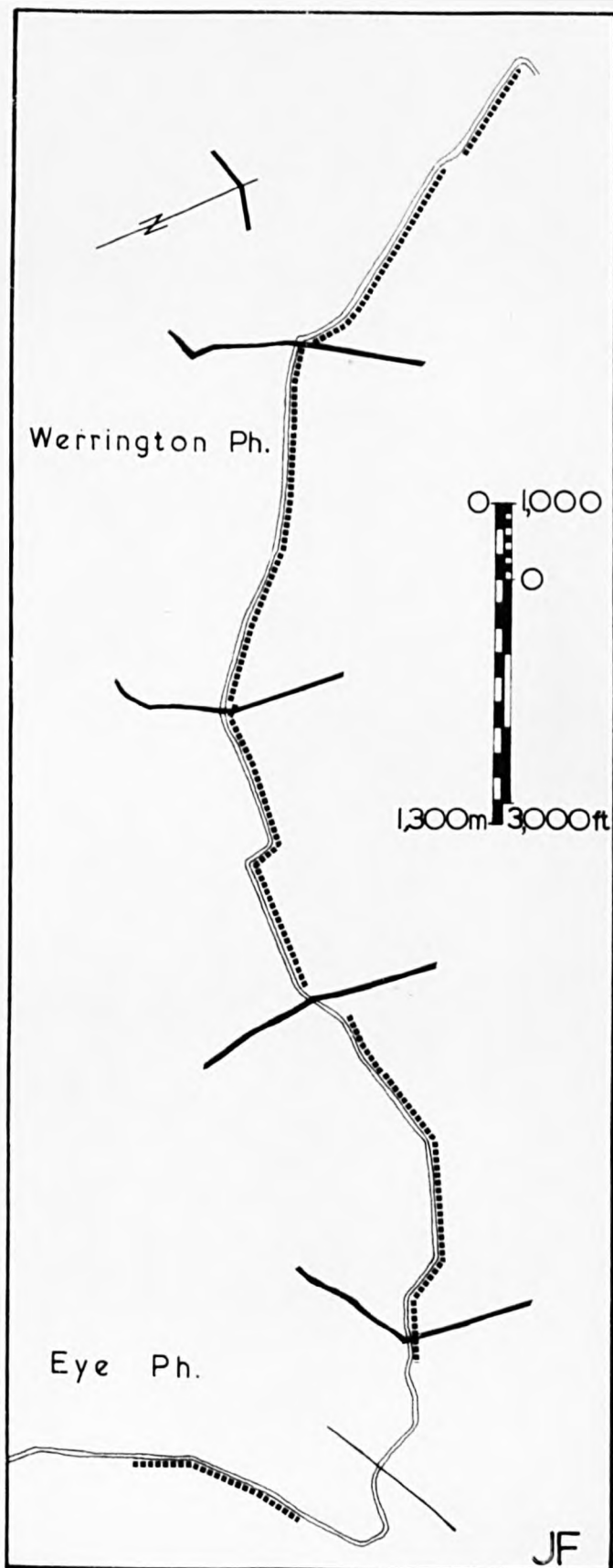
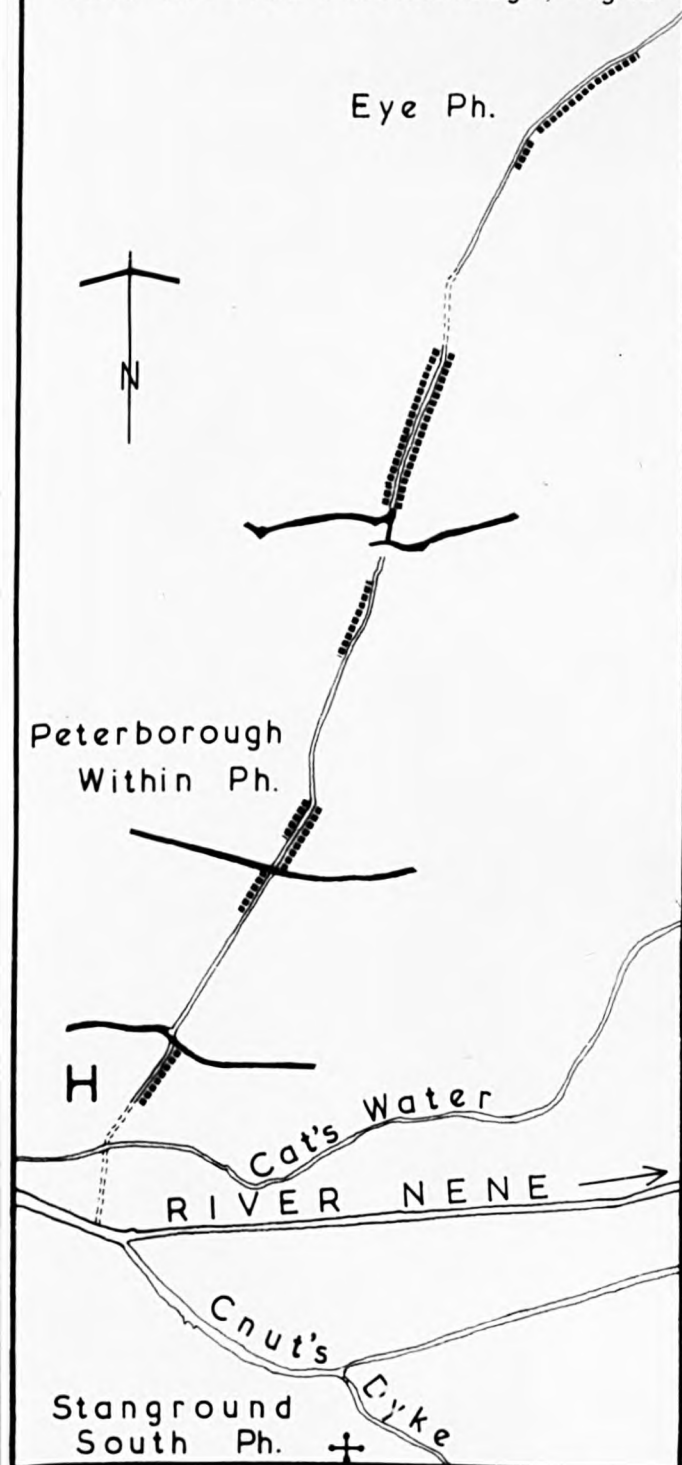


Fig. 29

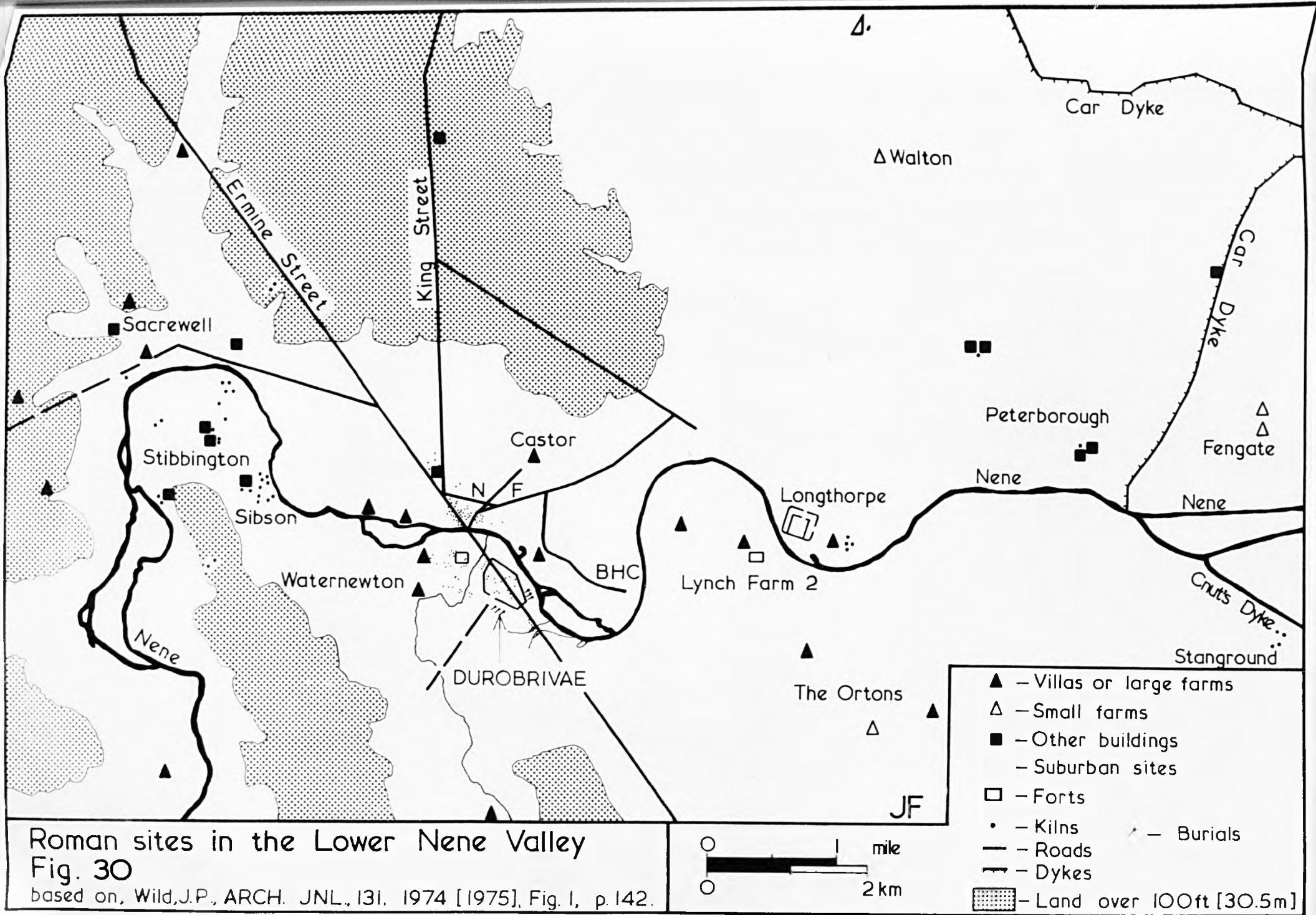
CAR DYKE

after R.C.H.M. Peterborough, Fig.16



Course of Car Dyke; Embankment; modern roads

JF



(after R.C.H.M., Peterborough New Town, Fig. 9)

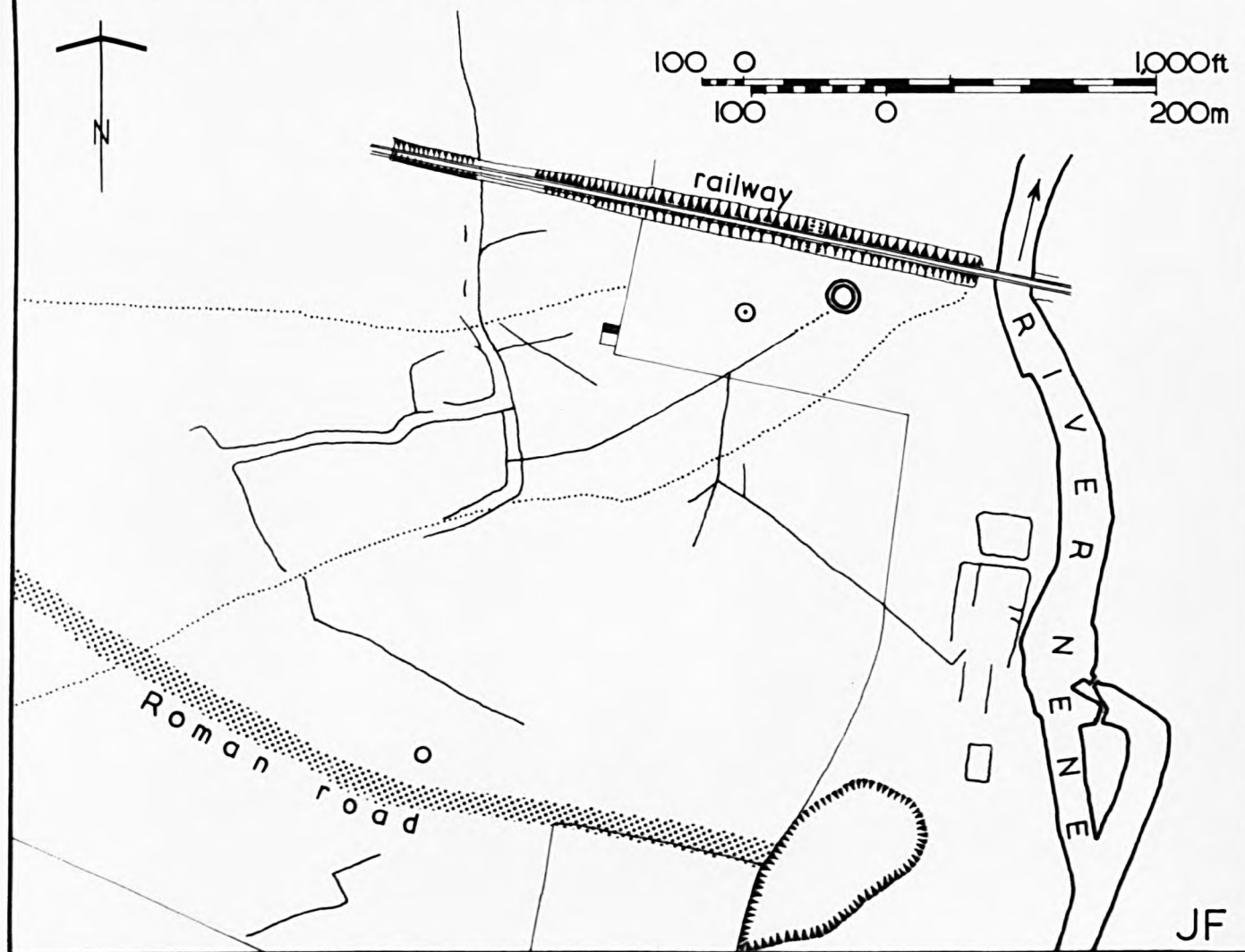
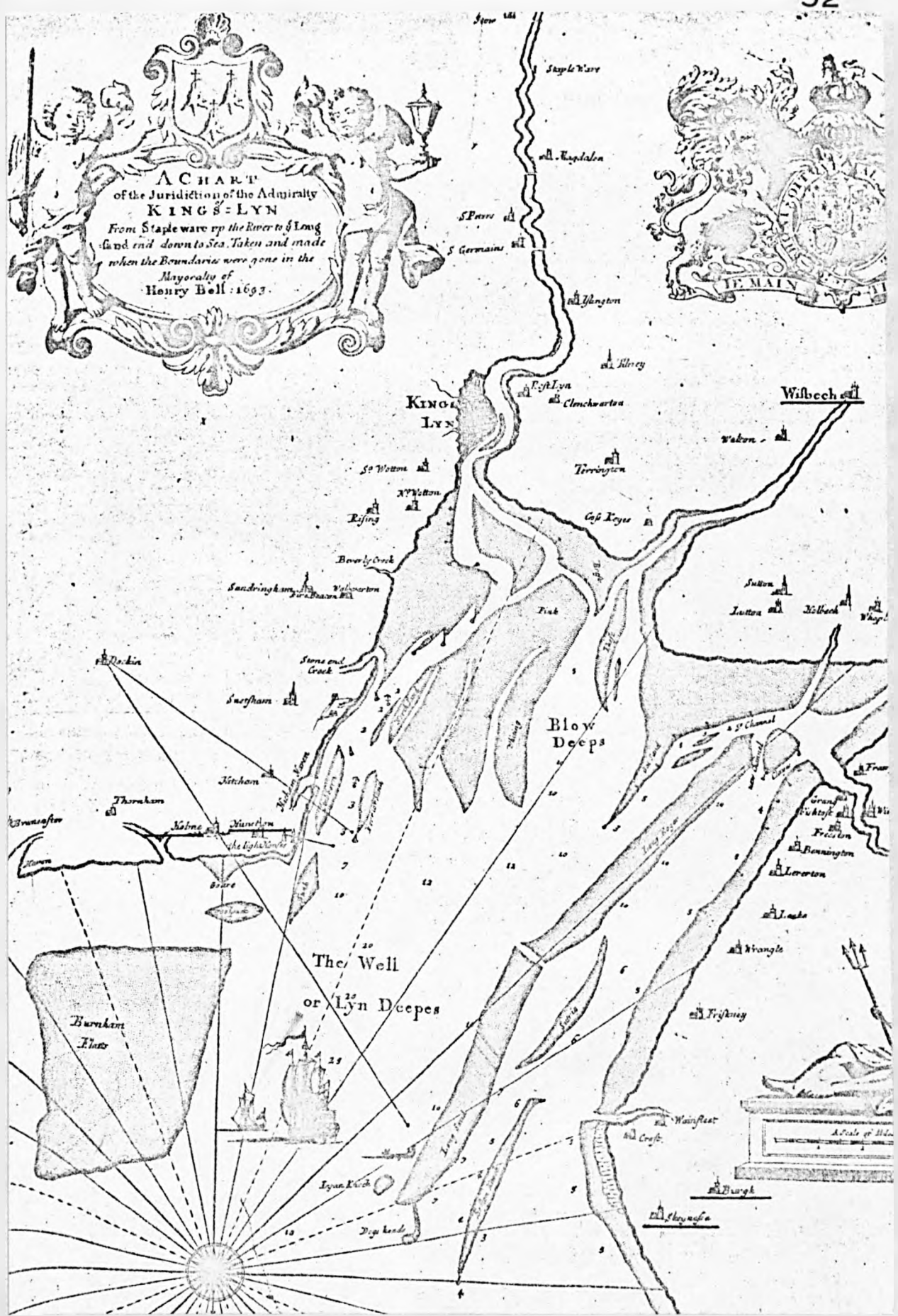



Fig. 31

CASTOR — Boat House Complex



The Wash, A chart based on a survey made by C. Merit in A.D. 1693, showing the now-silted tidal creeks at Wainfleet, South of Skegness, Holme-next-the-Sea and Brancaster. Admiralty, Hydrographic Department, A 31 Qf.



Holme-
next-the
-Sea

 = conjectured course
of Roman road.



Holme-next-the-Sea, after D.O.E. RS 106G/UK/1571 4006 & RP 106G/UK/1571 3004.

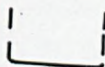


Holme-
next-the-
Sea

--- = conjectured course
of Roman road.

Mow
Creek

Early
Fort



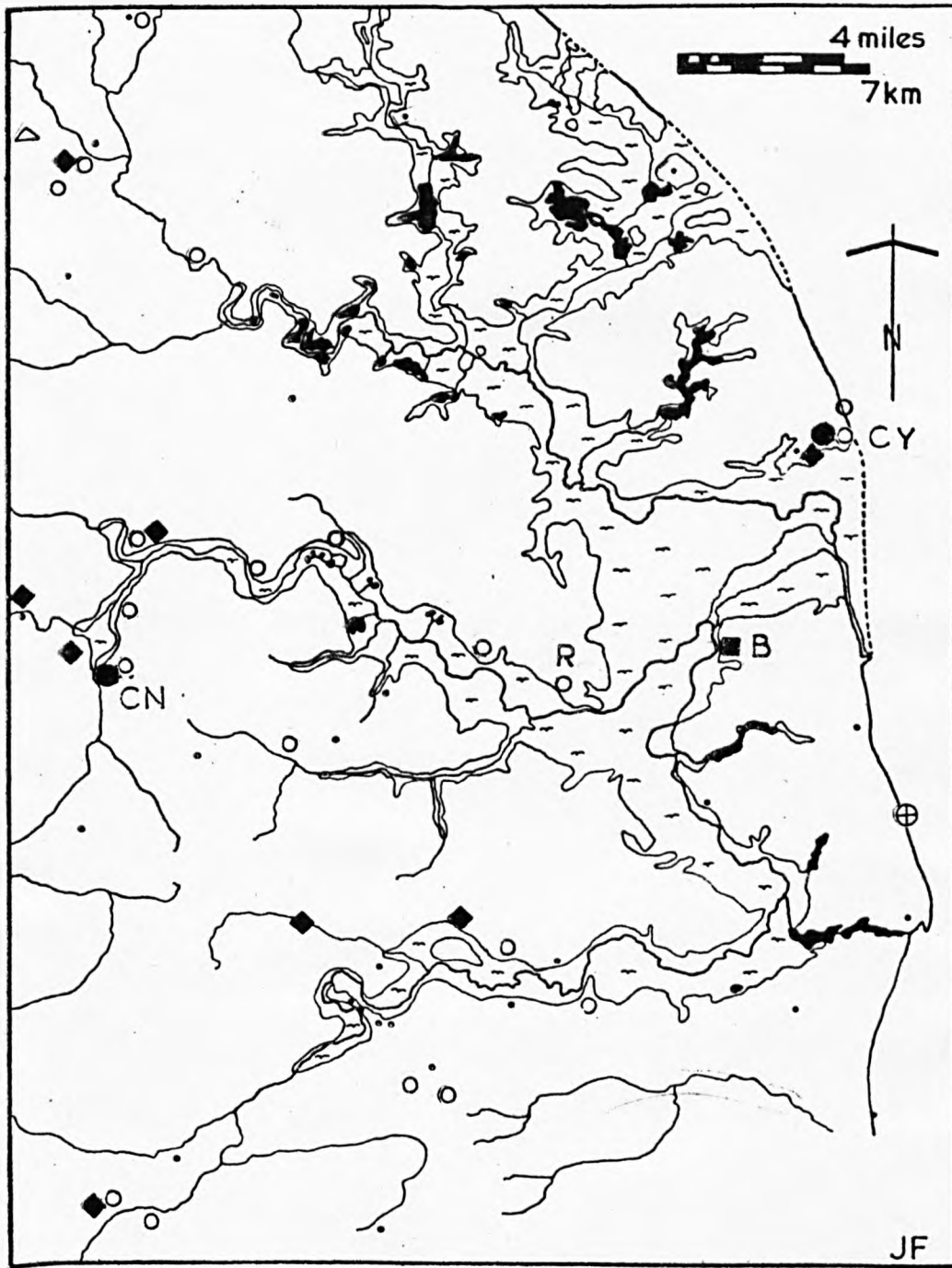
Late
Shore
Fort



Brancaster, Site of the late shore fort, after D.O.E. RS 106G/UK/1571
7.vi.46. 4018 and RP 106G/UK/1571 7.vi.46. 3016.



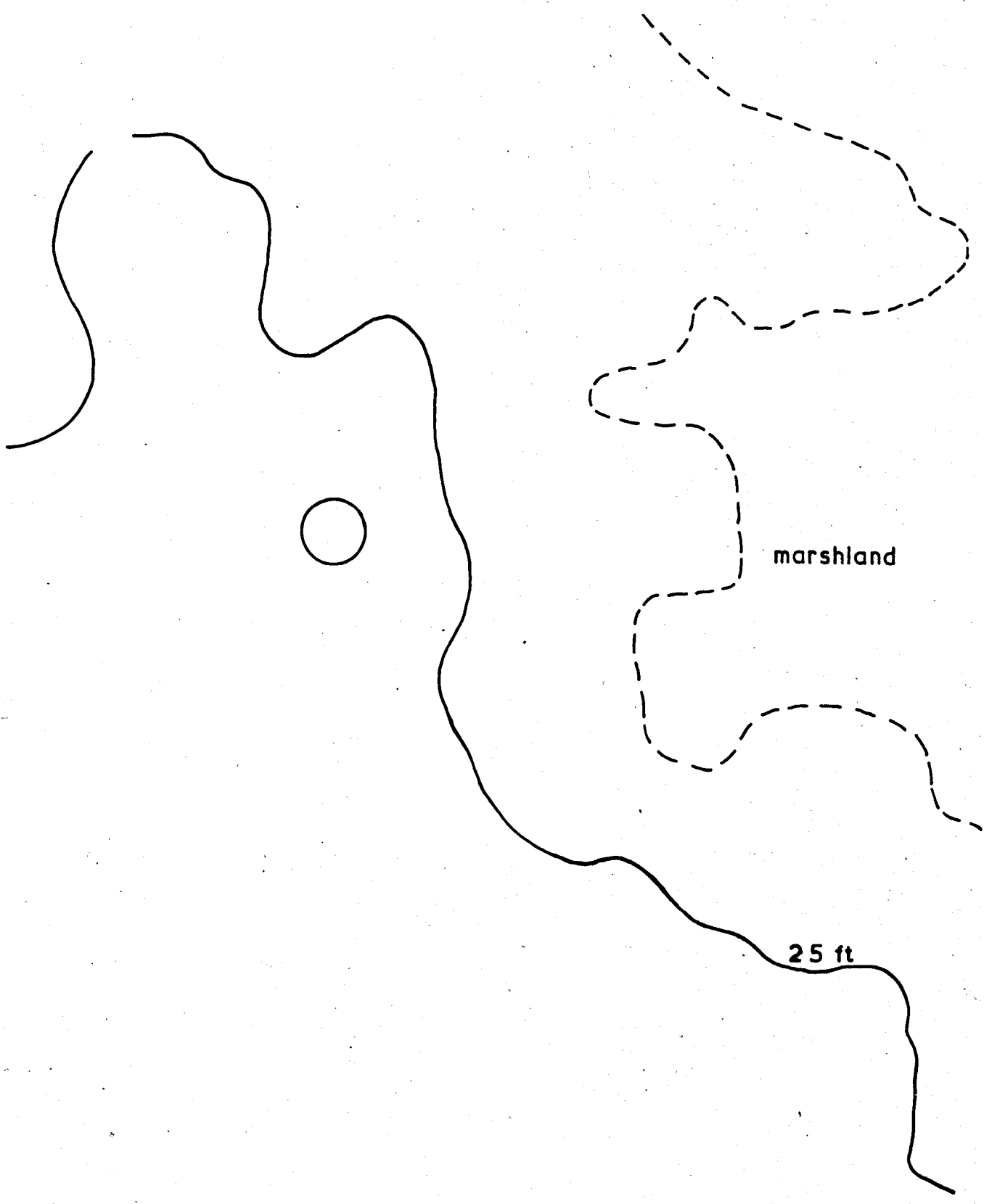
Brancaster, Site of the late shore fort, after D.O.E. RS 106G/UK/1571
7.vi.46. 4018 and RP 106G/UK/1571 7.vi.46. 3016.



- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Walled Towns..... | ● | B..Burgh Castle |
| Signal Stations..... | ⊕ | R..Reedham |
| Kilns..... | ◆ | CY..Caister-by-Yarmouth |
| Substantial Buildings. | △ | CN..Caistor-by-Norwich |
| Forts..... | ■ | Inland Water... |
| Finds..... | • | Alluvium..... |
| Occupation Sites..... | ○ | |

THE GREAT ESTUARY. ROMANO-BRITISH PERIOD.

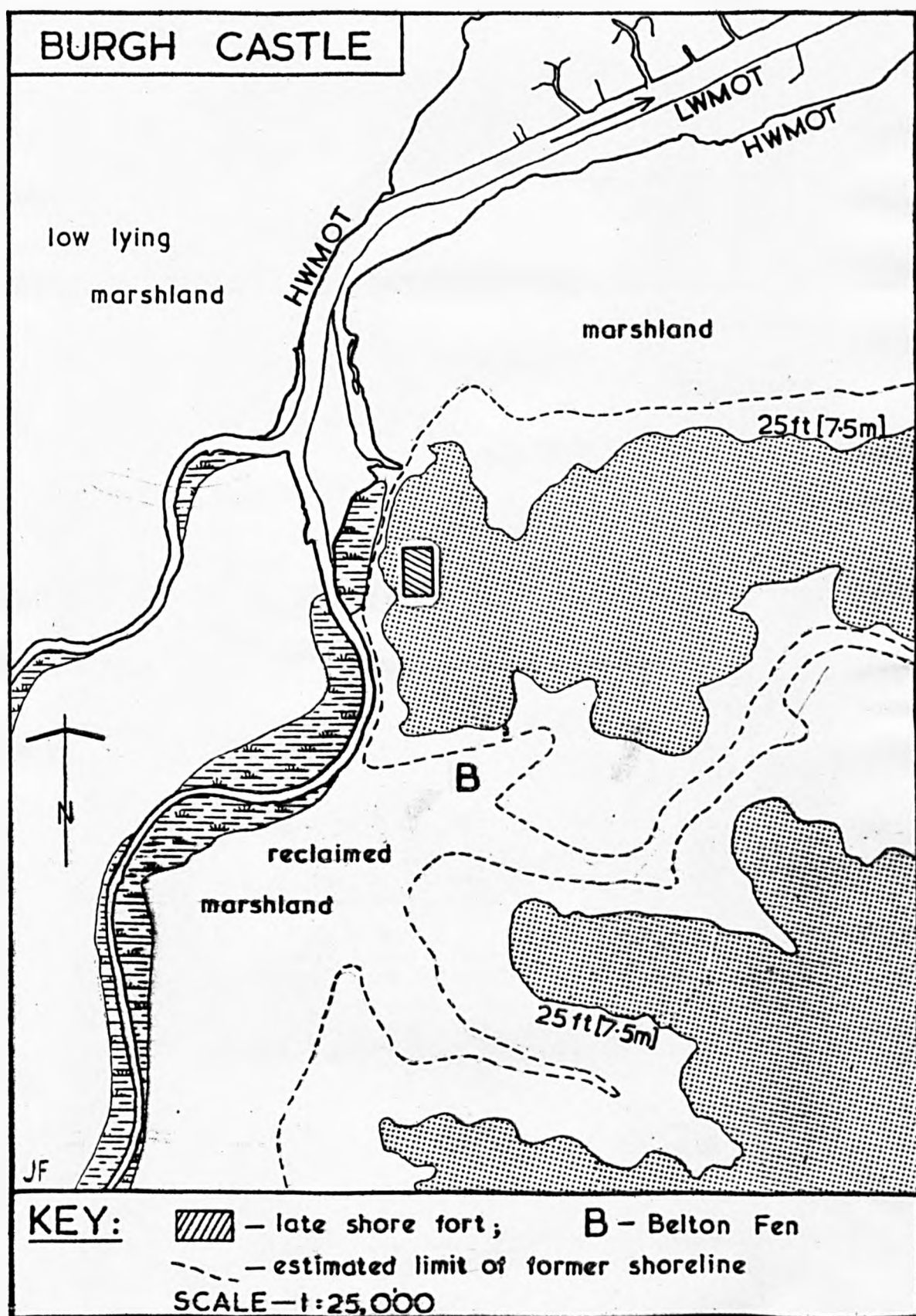
[after Lambert]

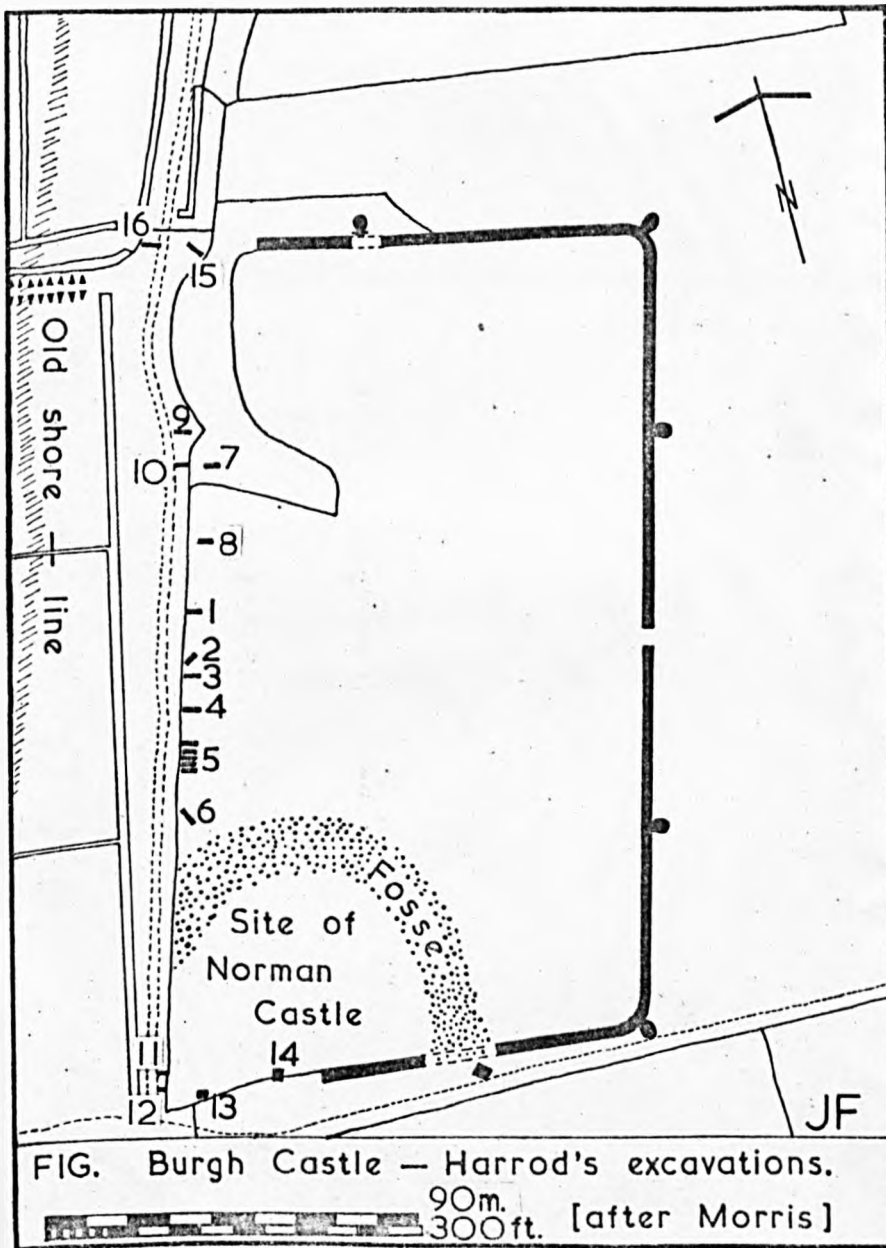




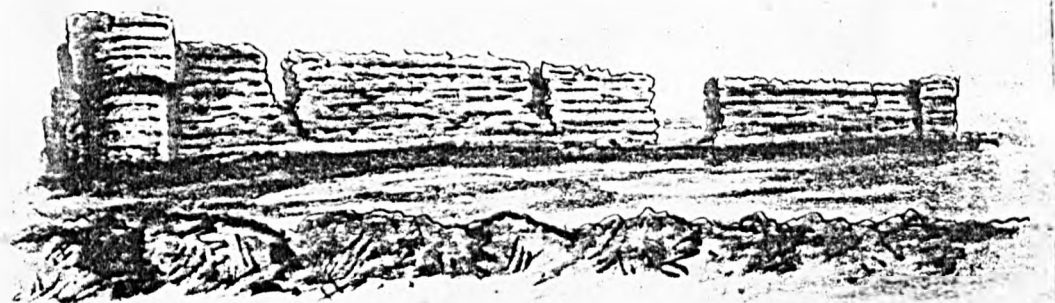
Caister-by-Yarmouth, after D.O.E. F21 82/RAF/1214 0419 & F22 82/RAF/1214 0419



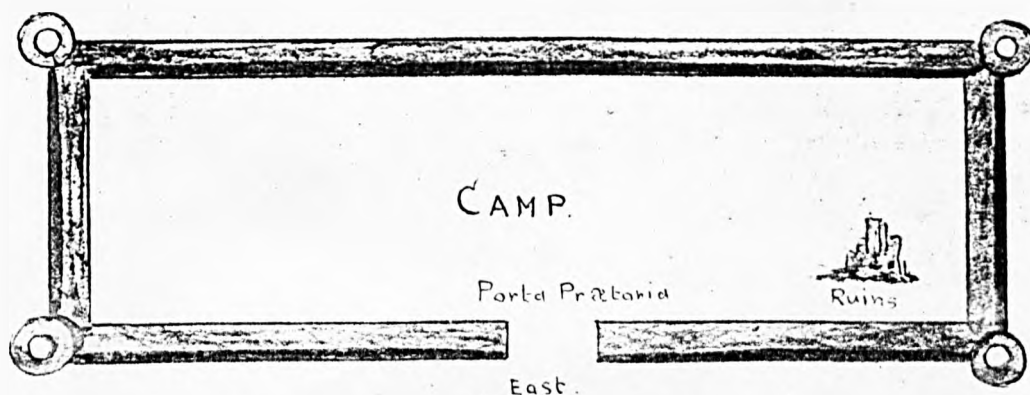




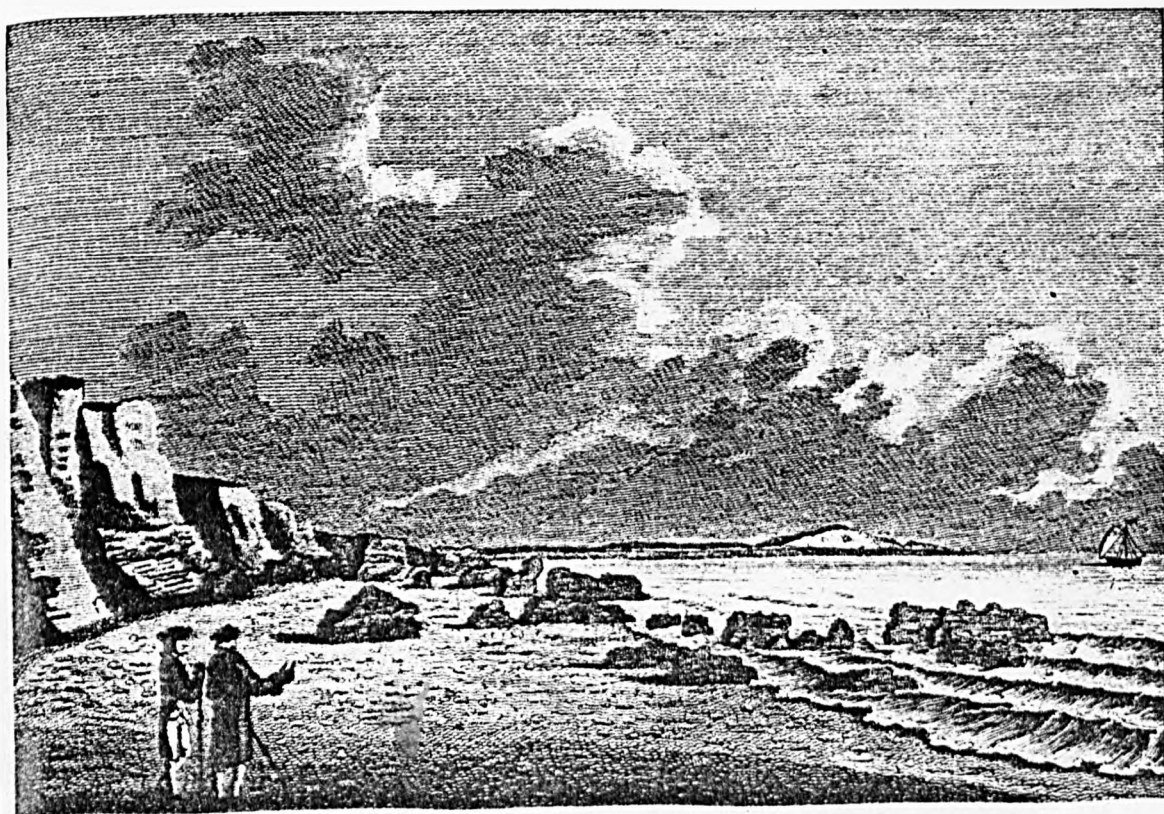
Burgh Castle: plan of the late shore fort, showing the location of Harrod's trenches.



Walton Castle

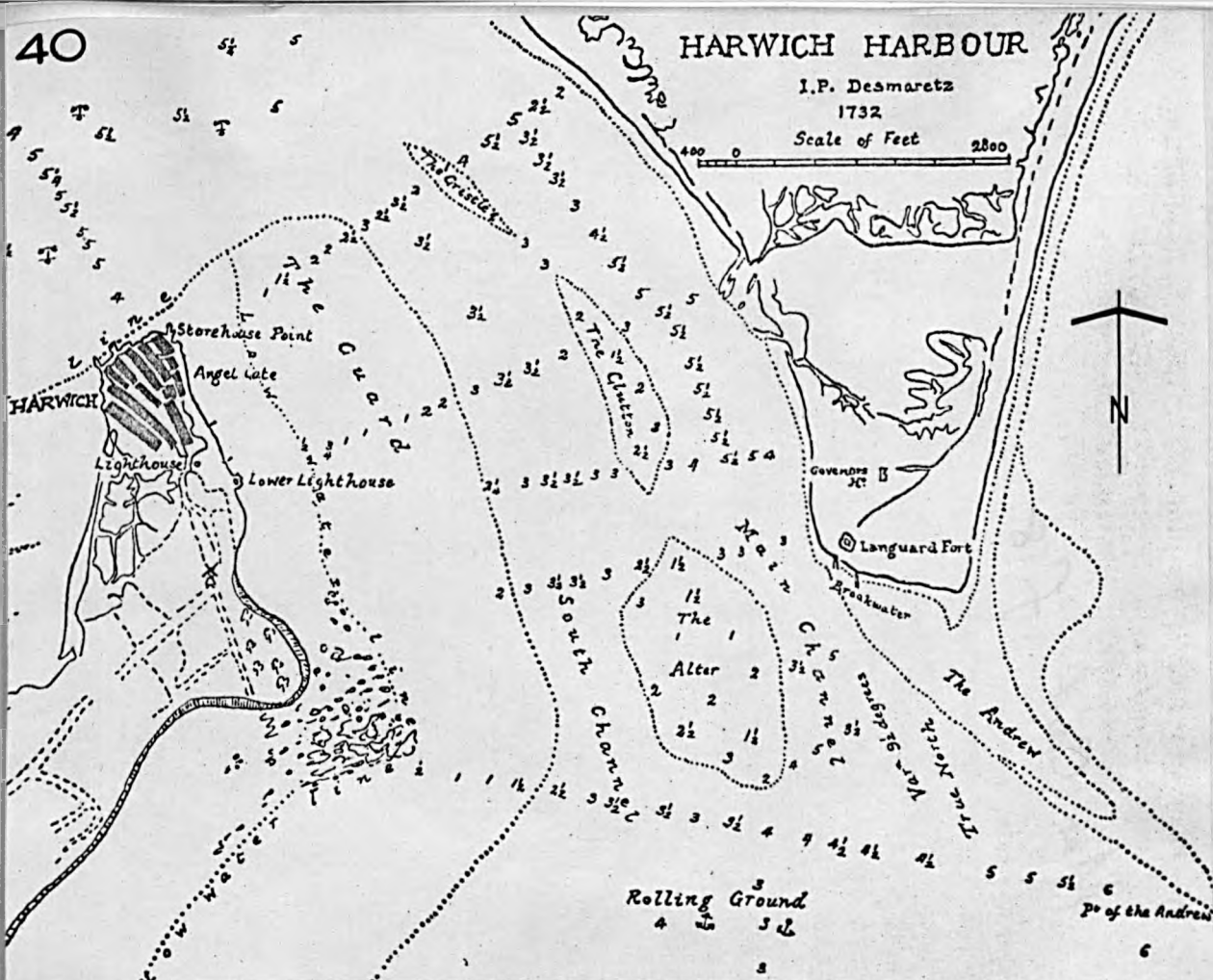


WALTON CASTLE: GROUND PLAN AND RUINS
(From a drawing made in 1623)



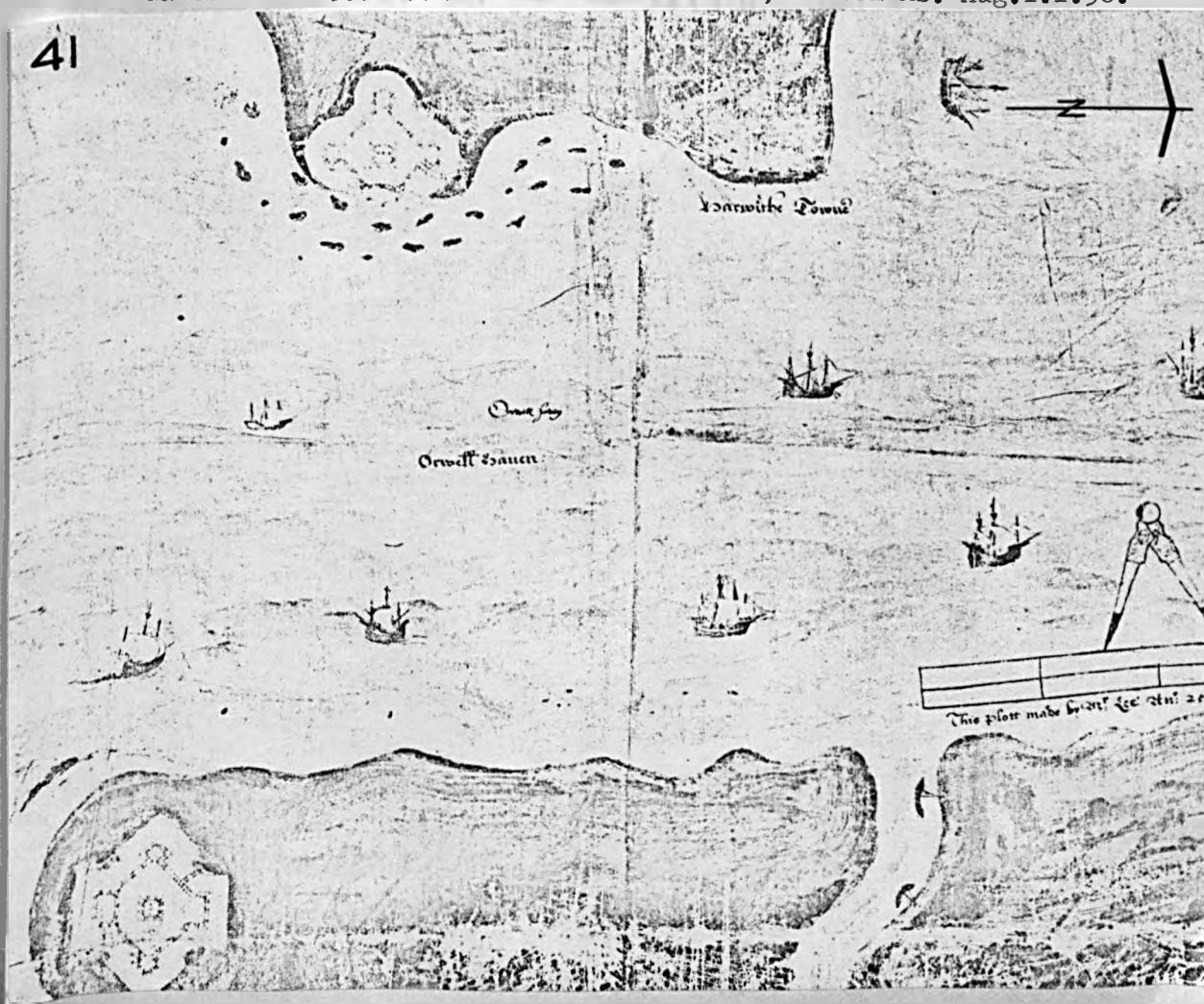
WALTON CASTLE: RUINS
(From a drawing made in 1700)

Walton Castle, Felixstowe, Drawings and sketch-plan of the late shore fort.
reproduced in V.C.H., Suffolk, Vol. I, 1911, opp. p. 288.

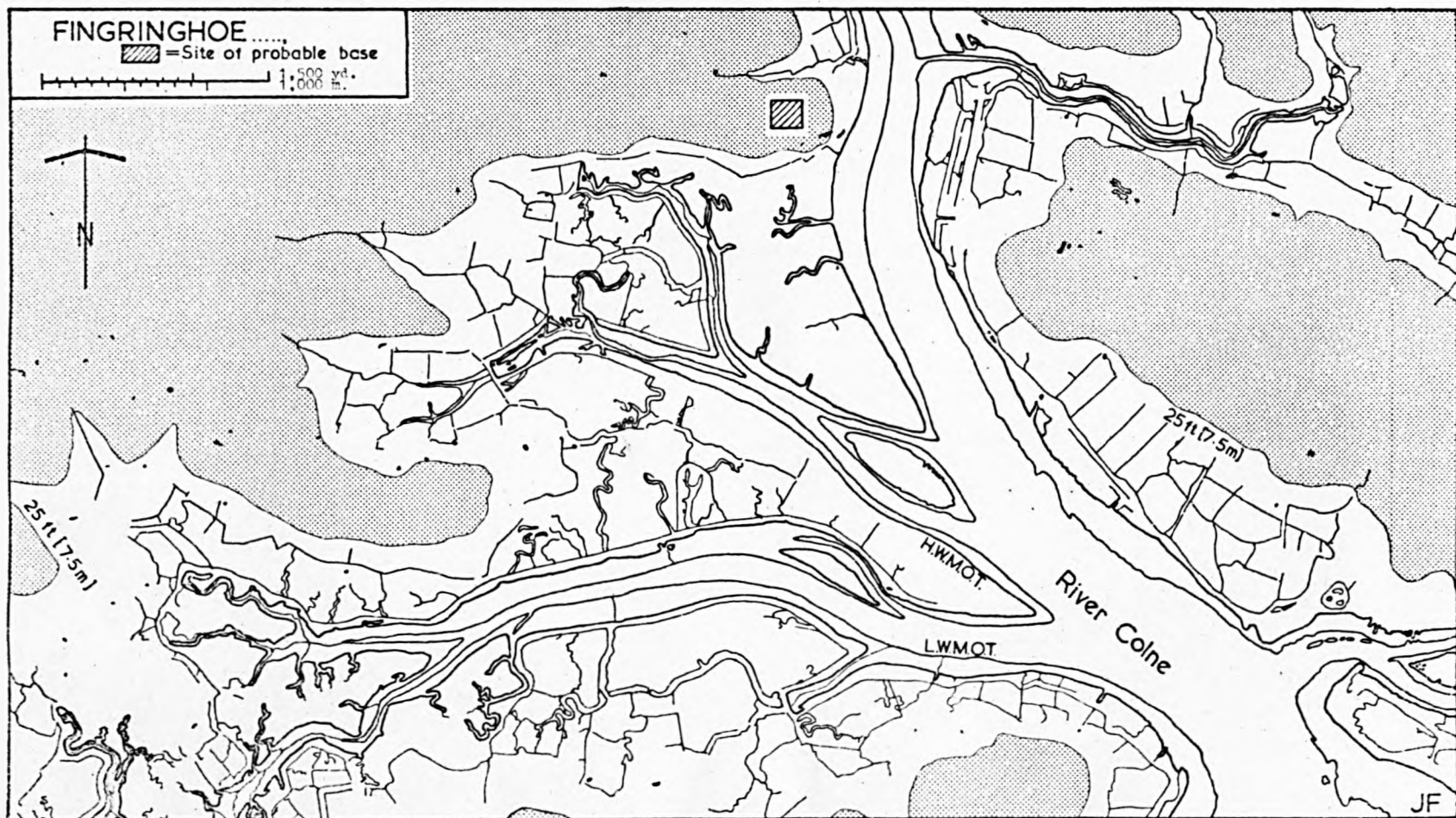


Harwich Harbour, A survey by J.P. Desmaretz, A.D. 1732, Admiralty, Hydrographic Department, L3314 5c. (above).

Orwell Haven (= entrance to Harwich Harbour), attributed to Richard Lee, dated A.D. 1533-1534. British Museum, Cotton Ms. Aug. I. i. 56.



Fingringhoe, site of probable supply base



Site of
probable
base





Fingringhoe, Site of the probable supplies-base on the West bank of the River Colne, after D.O.E. F64 543/RAF/4304 14.v.68 0382.



Fingringhoe, Site of the probable supplies-base on the West bank of the River Colne, after D.O.E. F64 543/RAF/4304 14.v.68 0382.

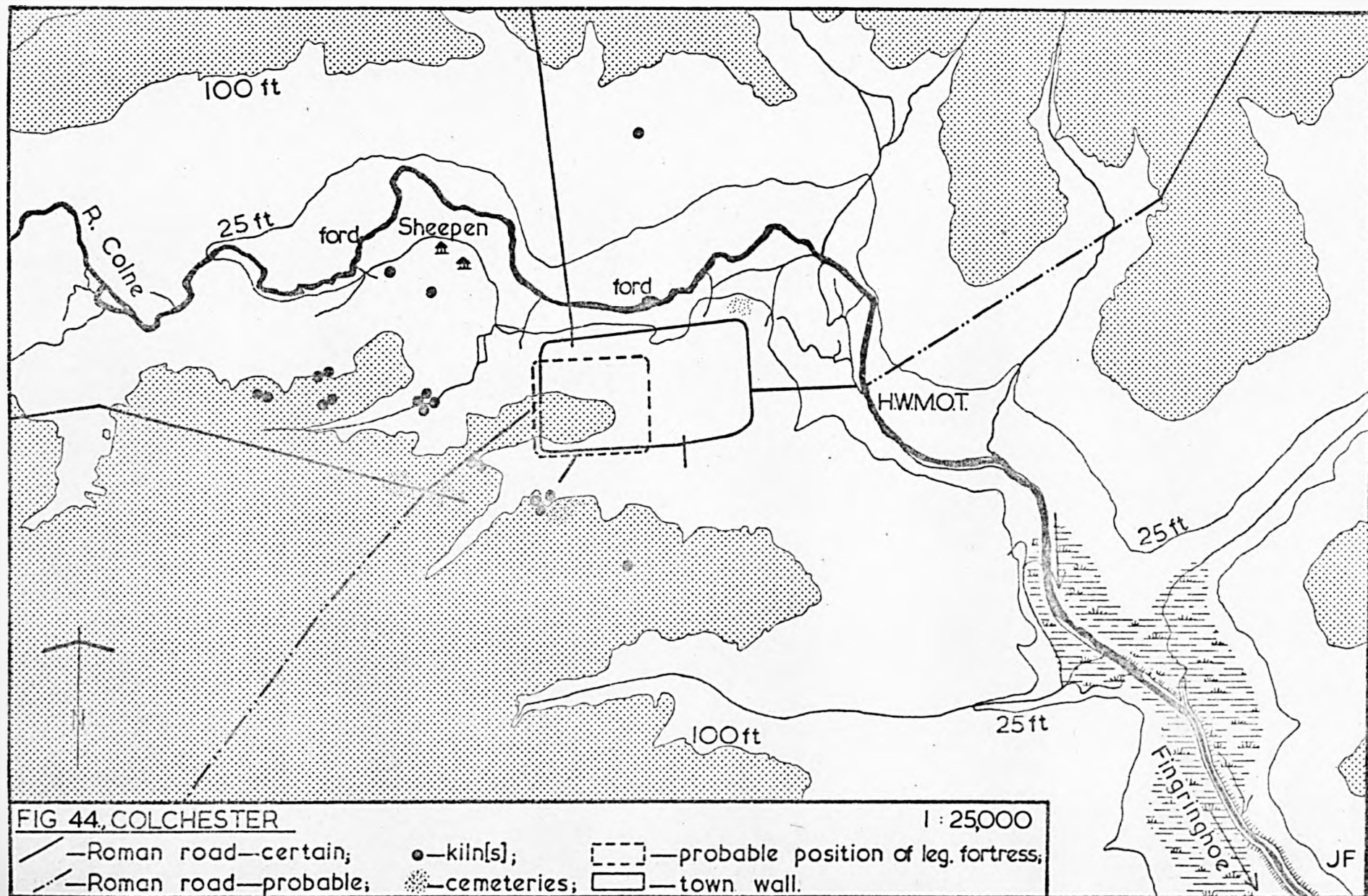


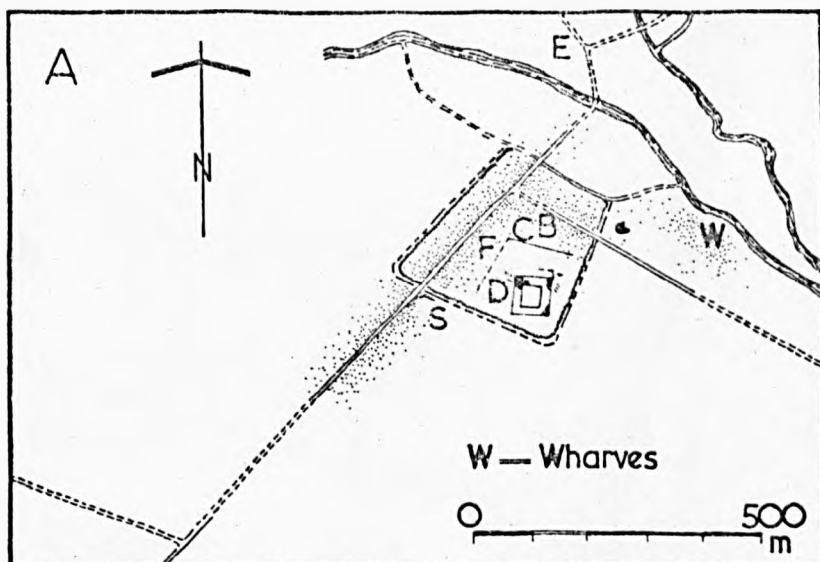
FIG.45

Distribution of stamped mortaria from the
potteries at
COLCHESTER

The total number, where more than two, of
stamps from each site is indicated.



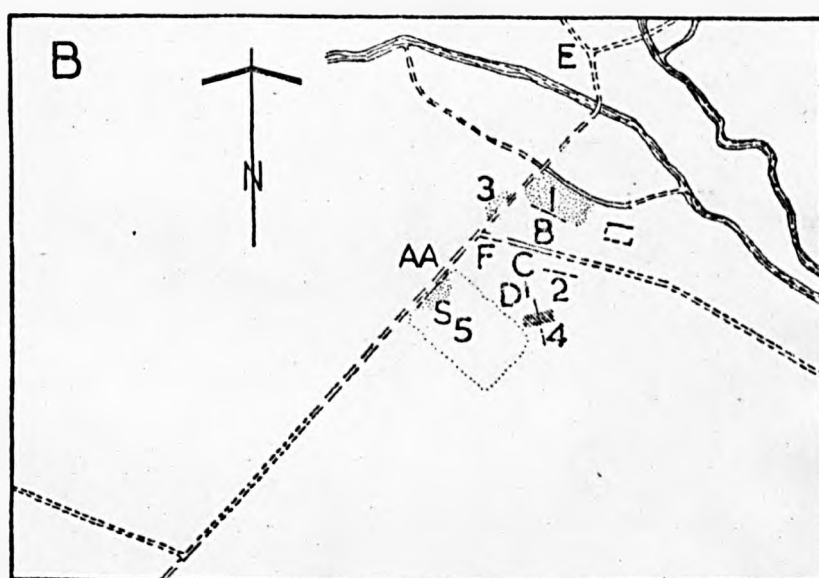
after Hull, op. cit., 1963a, Fig. 62.



Chelmsford

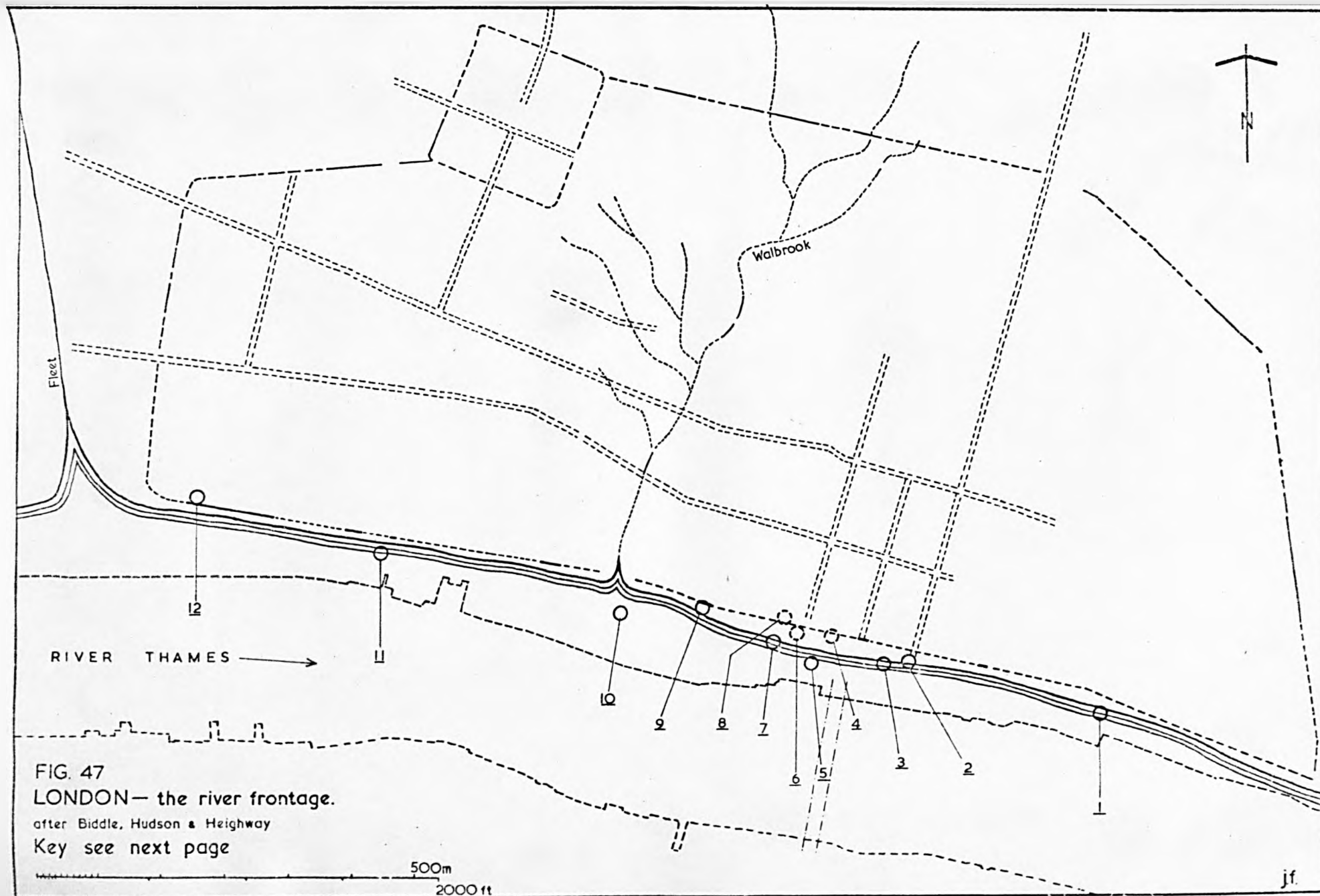
(Above) - The Roman Town from the late 1st to the early 5th century ; not all the features shown were in contemporary use. after Drury, P., "Chelmsford", Current Archaeology 41, April 1974, fig.2, p.167.

(Below) - Chelmsford, 1st century features :-
 1 = early military site; 2 = ditch taking discharge from mansio drain; 3 = evidence of pre-A.D.60 occupation; 4 = masonry structure destroyed by fire, ca A.D. 60 ; 5 = West side of post-Boudiccan fort.
 after Drury, op. cit., fig 1, p.174.




Chelmsford, Plan of site.

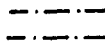
JF

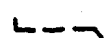


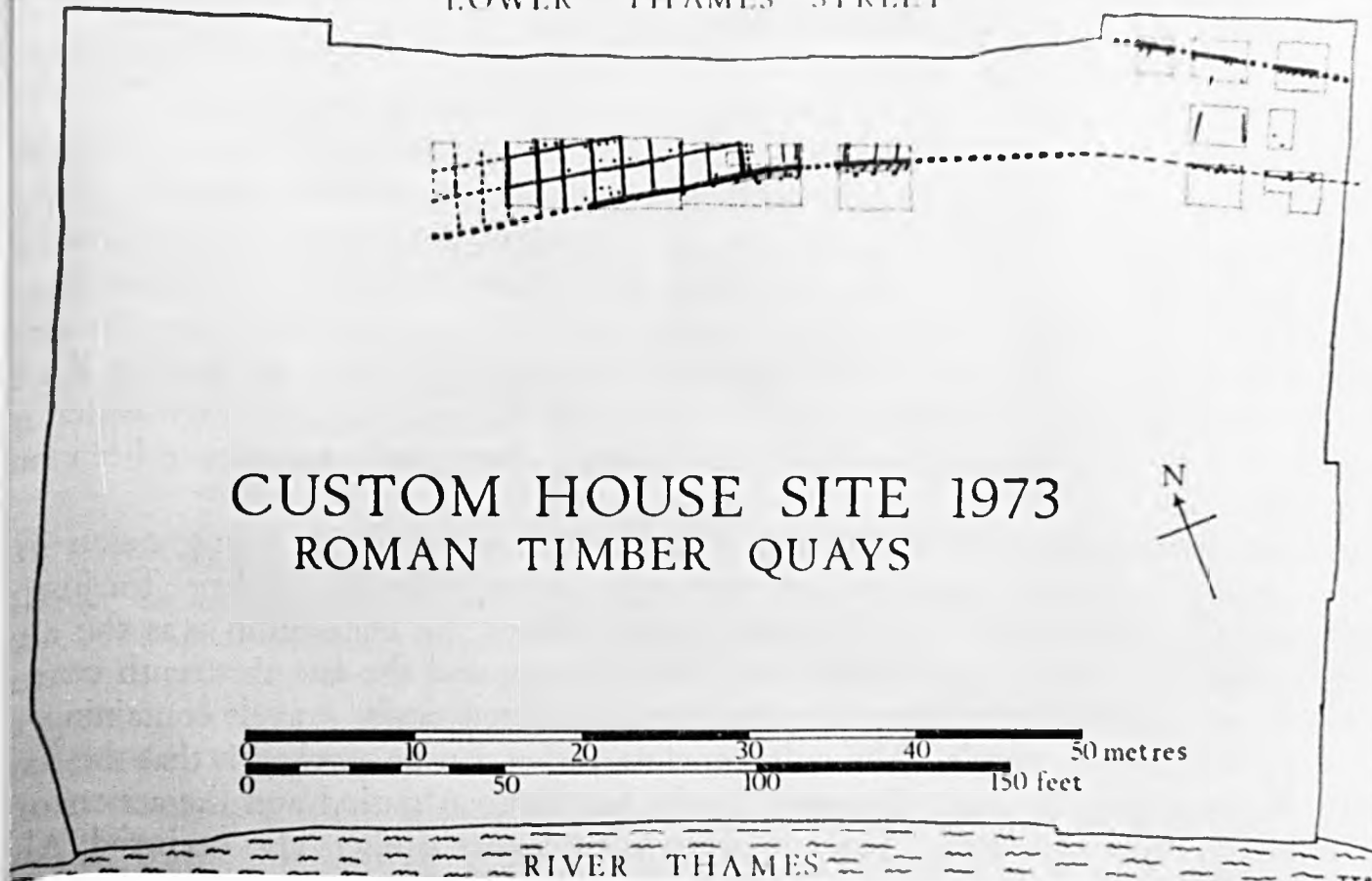
KEY TO FIGURE 47 - London, the River Frontage.

- 1 Old Custom House Site.
- 2 Botolph's Wharf Gateway.
- 3 New Fresh Wharf Site.
- 4 Regis House Site (approximate location).
- 5 London Bridge Approach.
- 6 King William Street - 1920-1 (approximate location).
- 7 Seal House Site.
- 8 Miles Lane (approximate location).
- 9 Suffolk Lane.
- 10 Public Cleansing Depot.
- 11 Trig Lane Site.
- 12 Mermaid Site.

 -restored line of Roman waterfront.

 -possible position of Roman London Bridge.

 -existing river frontage.



CUSTOM HOUSE SITE 1973 ROMAN TIMBER QUAYS



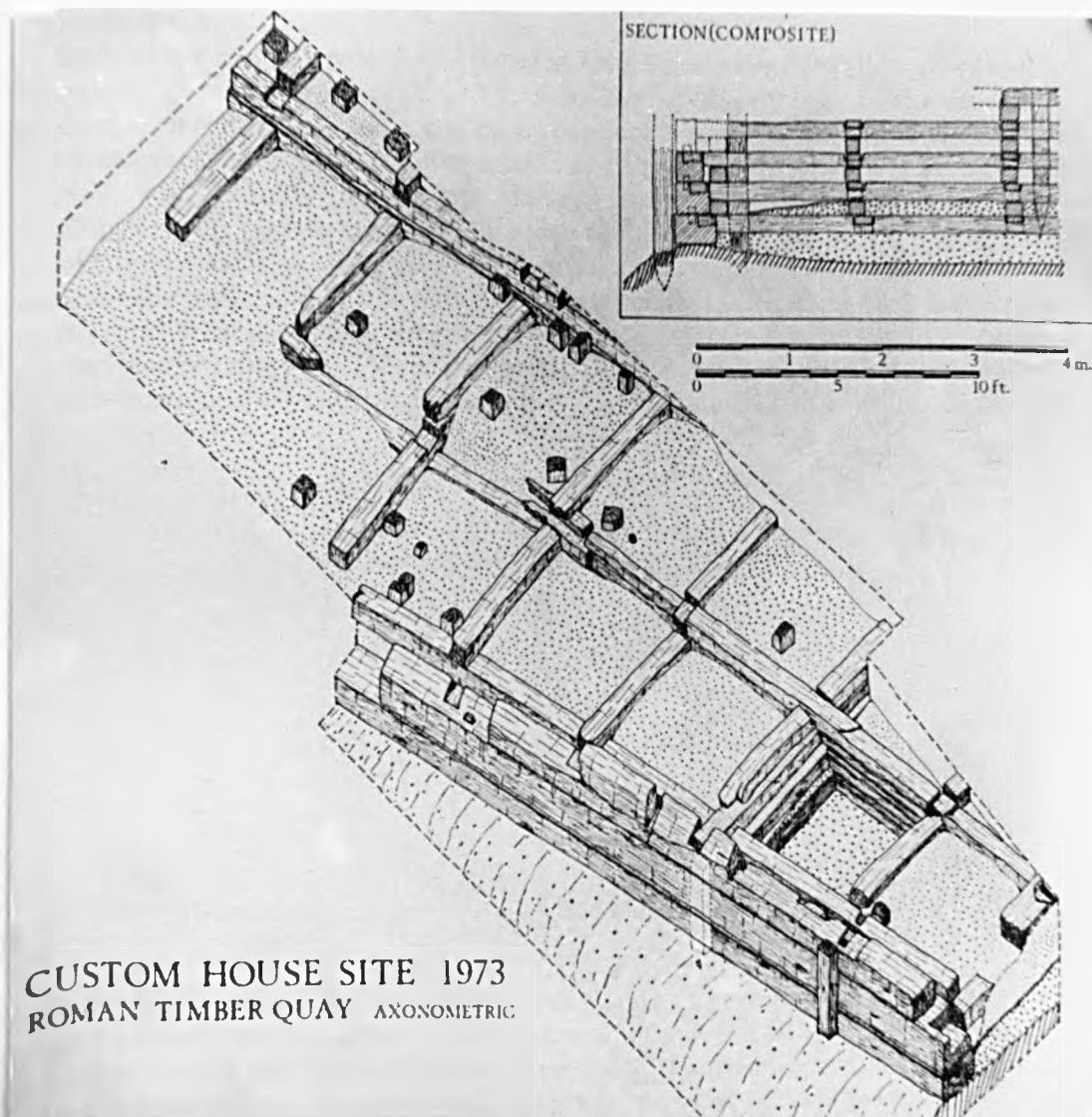
0 10 20 30 40 50 metres
0 50 100 150 feet

RIVER THAMES

London, Custom House Site - after Tatton-Brown, op. cit., fig.4.

48

London, Custom House Site - after Tatton-Brown, op. cit., fig.8.

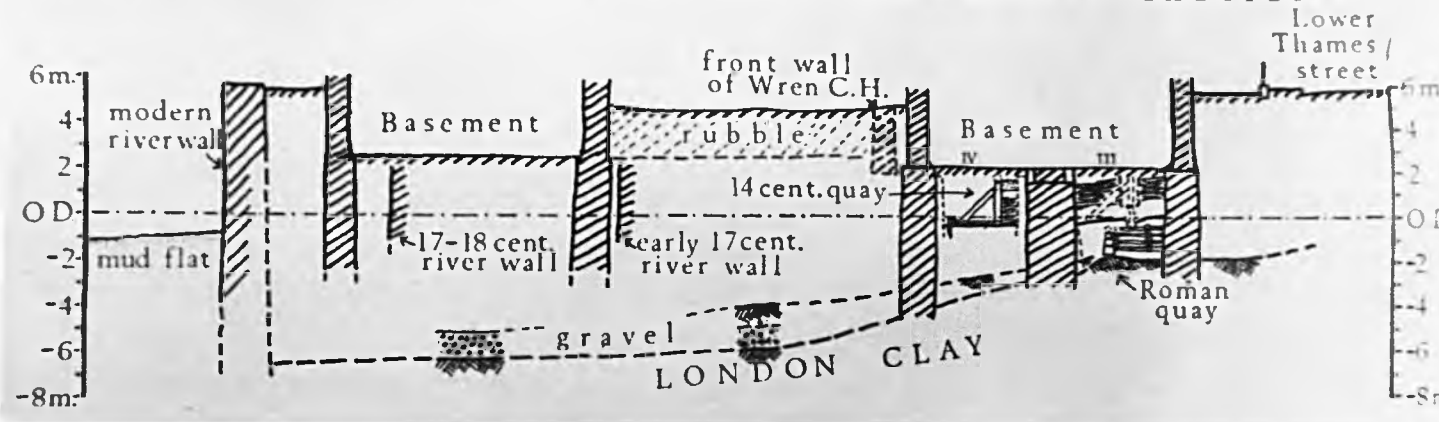


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CUSTOM HOUSE SITE 1973
ROMAN TIMBER QUAY AXONOMETRIC

CUSTOM HOUSE SITE 1973 COMPOSITE SECTION

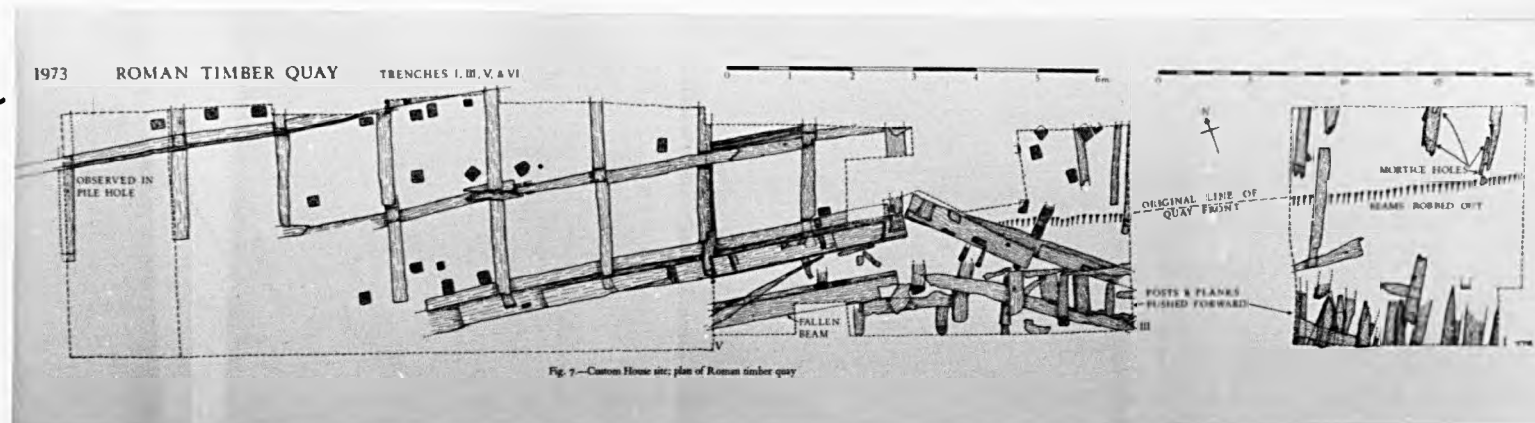
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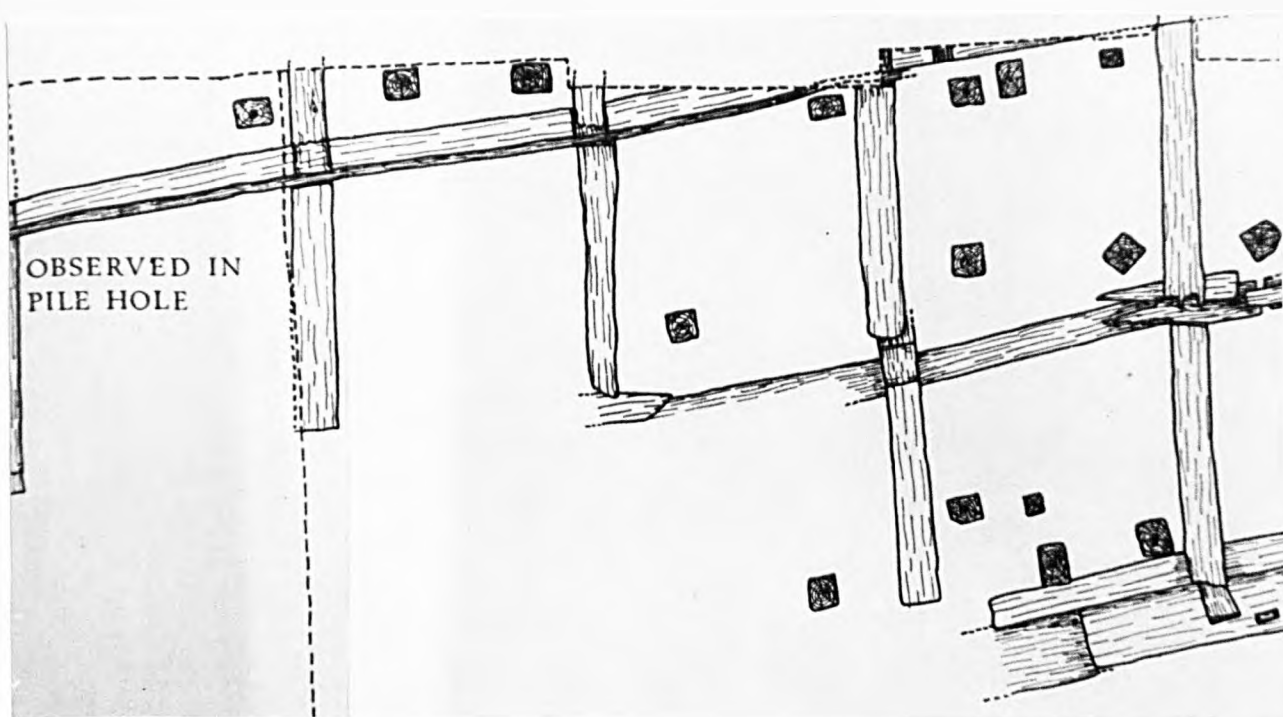


London, Custom House Site ~ Composite Section ~ after T. Tatton-Brown in Trans. London & Middlesex Arch. Soc., 25, 1974, fig. 2.

51

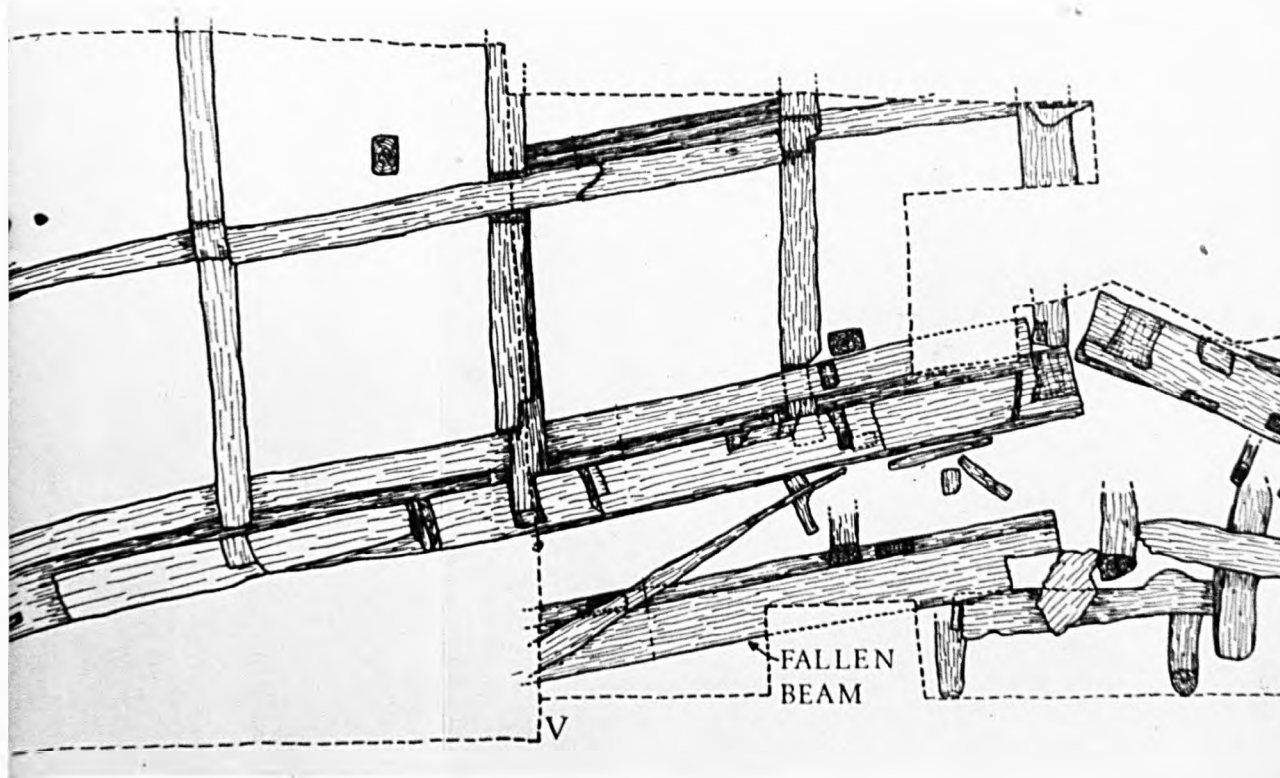
London, Custom House Site ~
Plan of Roman timber quay.
after Tatton-Brown op. cit., fig. 7.

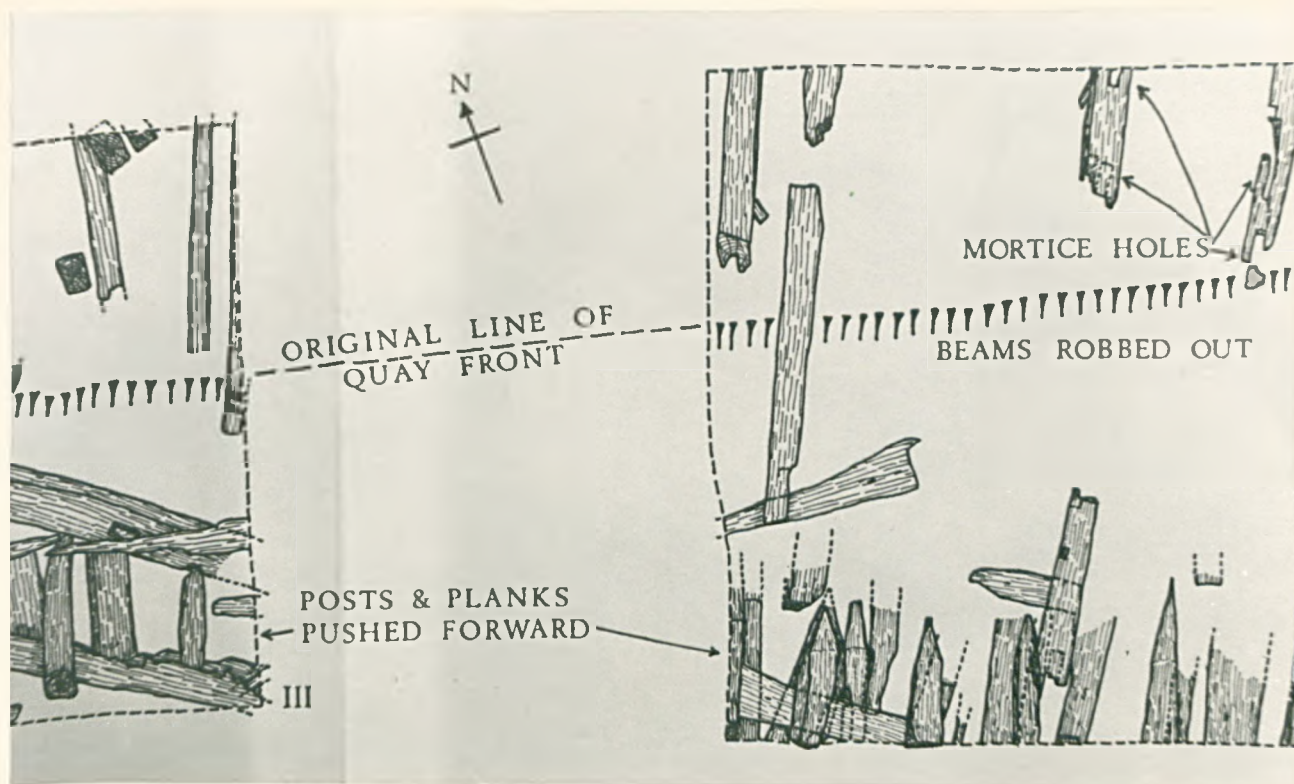




52-3

London, Custom House Site - Details of plan of Roman timber quay, western section. after Tatton-Brown, op. cit., fig. 7.





London, Custom House Site - Detail of plan of Roman timber quay.
after Tatton-Brown, op. cit., fig. 7.

London, Custom House Site - Roman posts & planks in front of timber quay,
as excavated. after Tatton-Brown, op. cit., pl. 3.



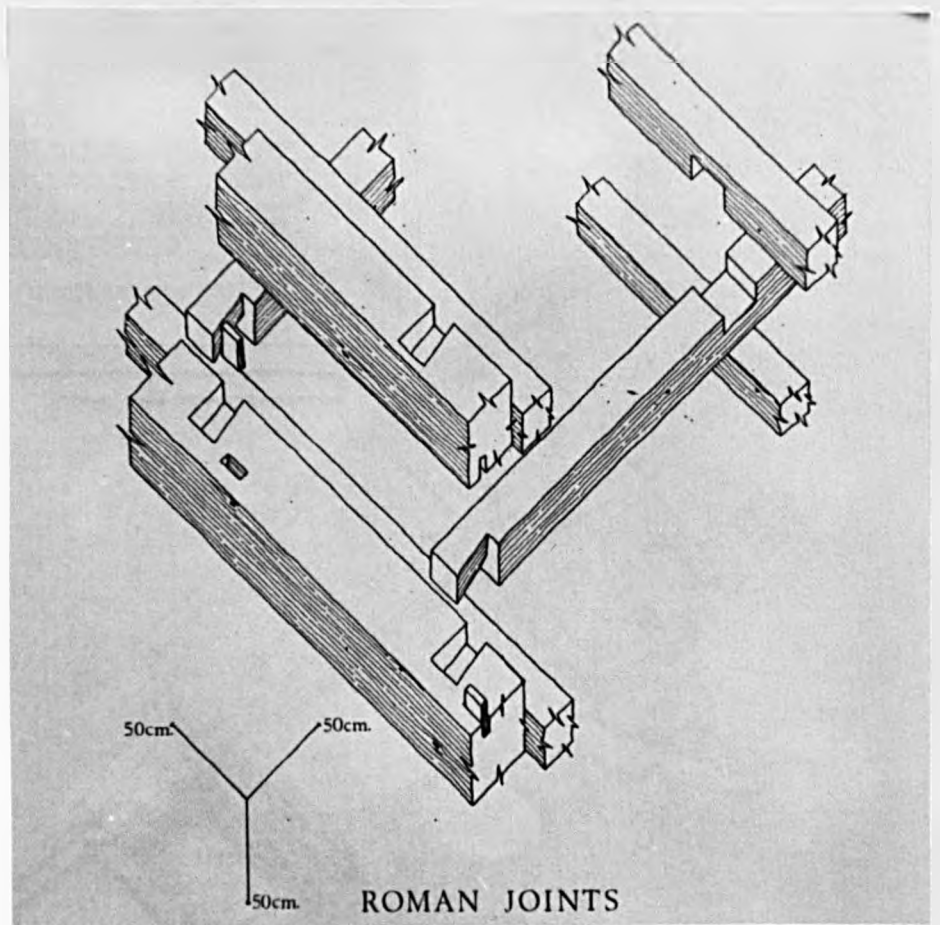
56



London, Custom House Site - Details of Roman timber quay, looking South (above) and South-East (below). after Tatton-Brown, *op. cit.*, plates 1&2.

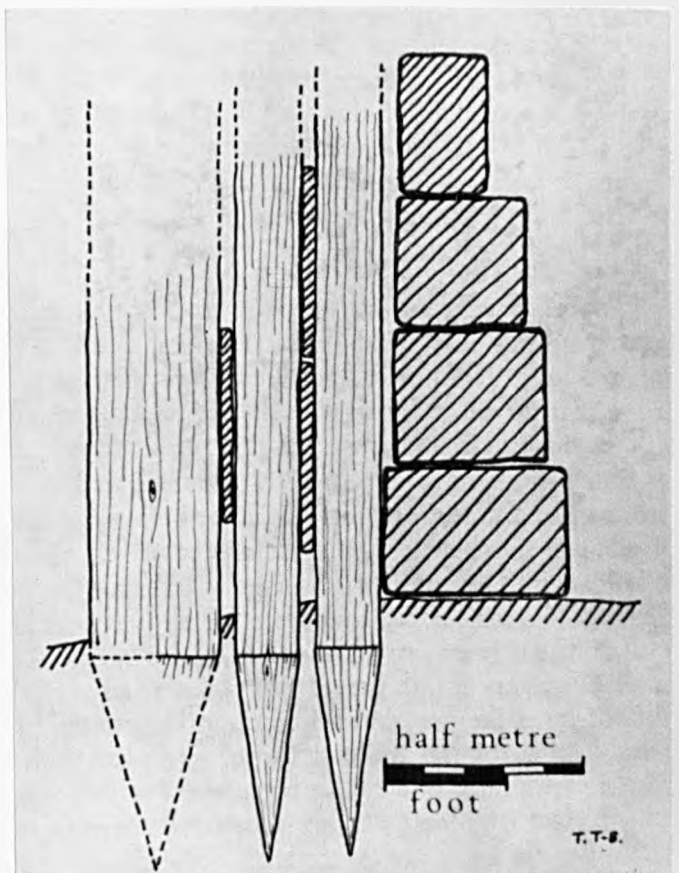
57

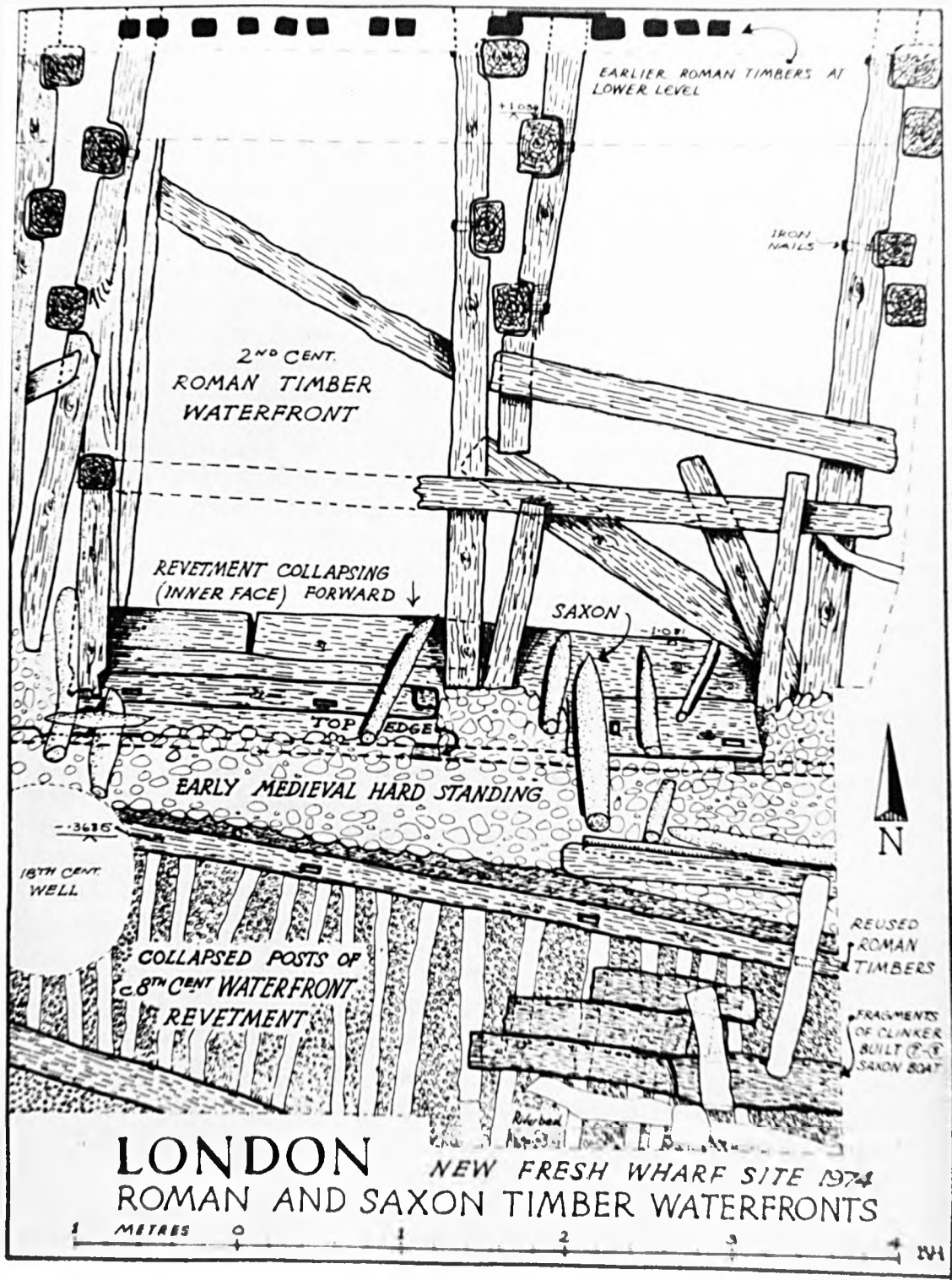




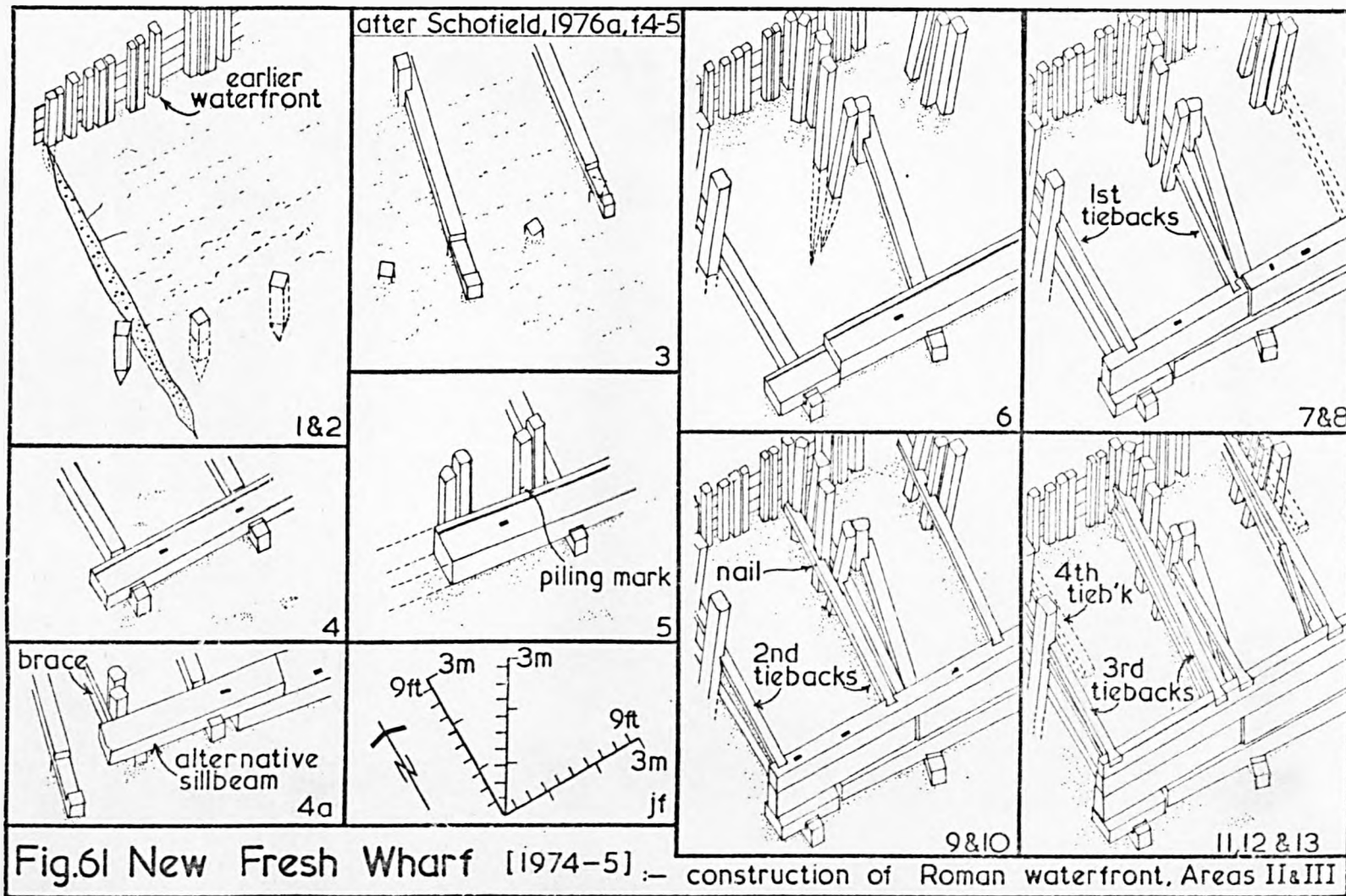
London, Custom House Site - Roman Joints, after Tatton-Brown, *op. cit.*, fig.9.

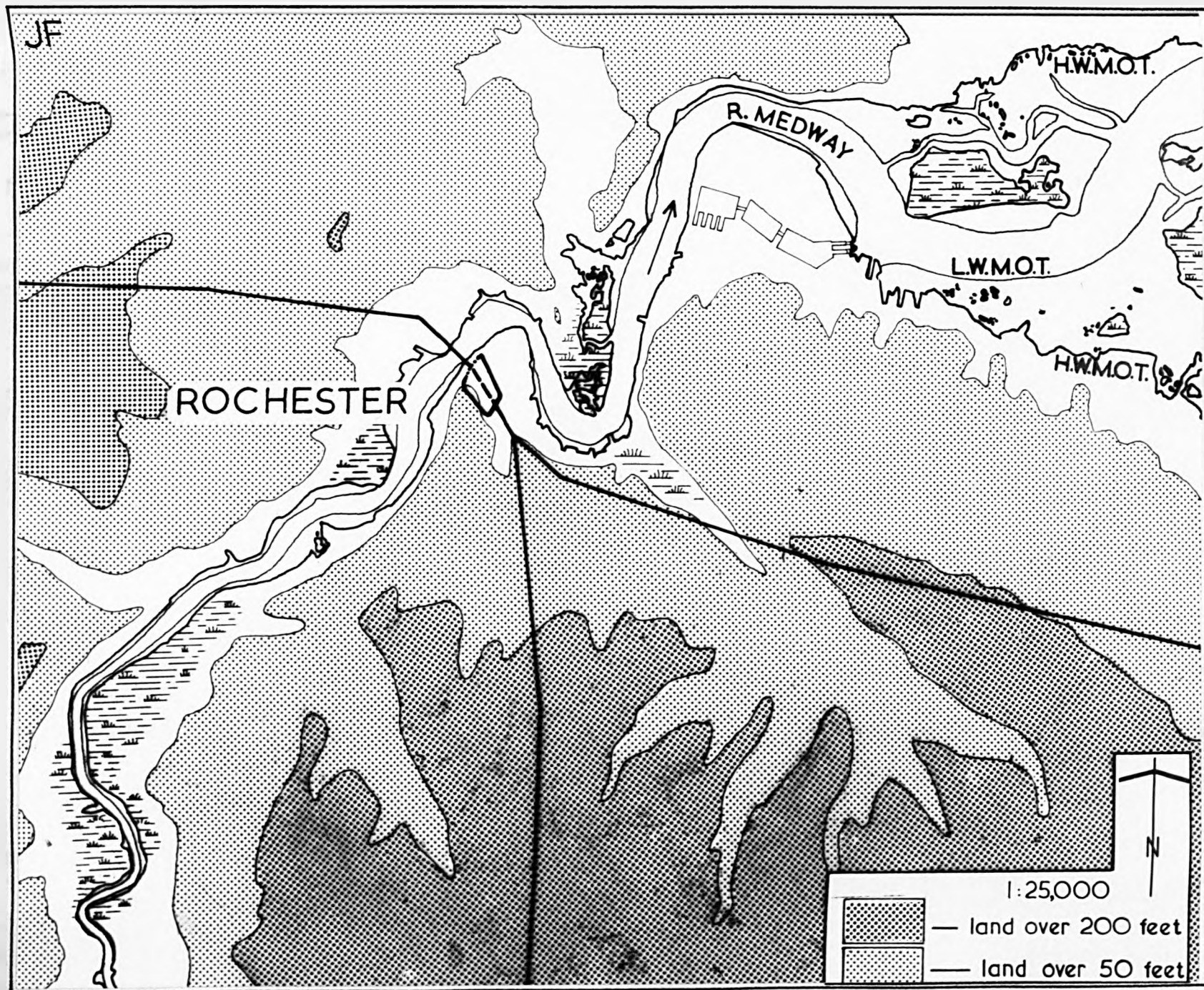
London, Custom House Site - Reconstructed Roman Posts, after Tatton-Brown,
op. cit., fig.10.





London, New Fresh Wharf - Plan of Roman & Saxon Waterfronts.
(after B.Hobley, Britannia, VI, 1975, fig.15.)





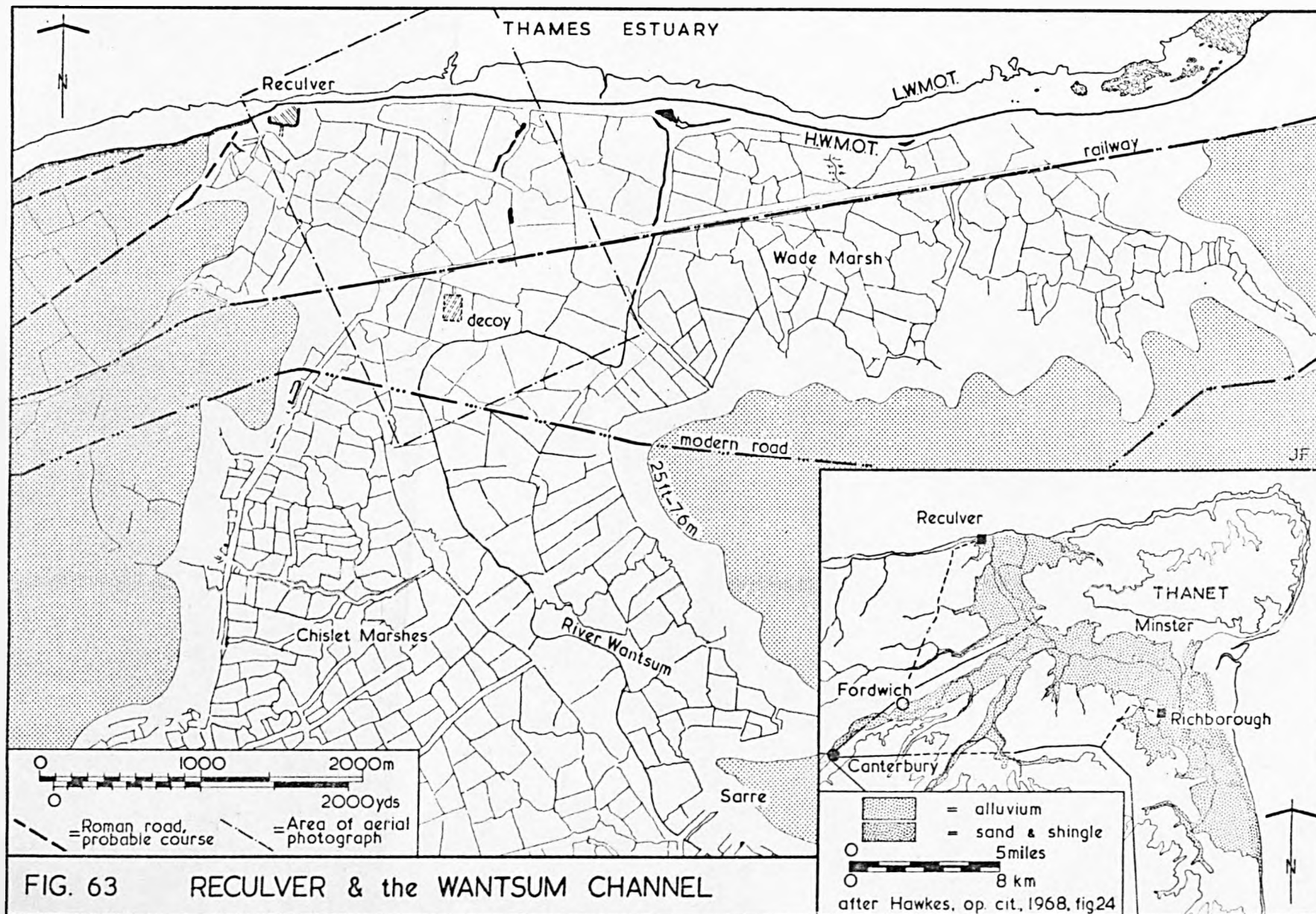
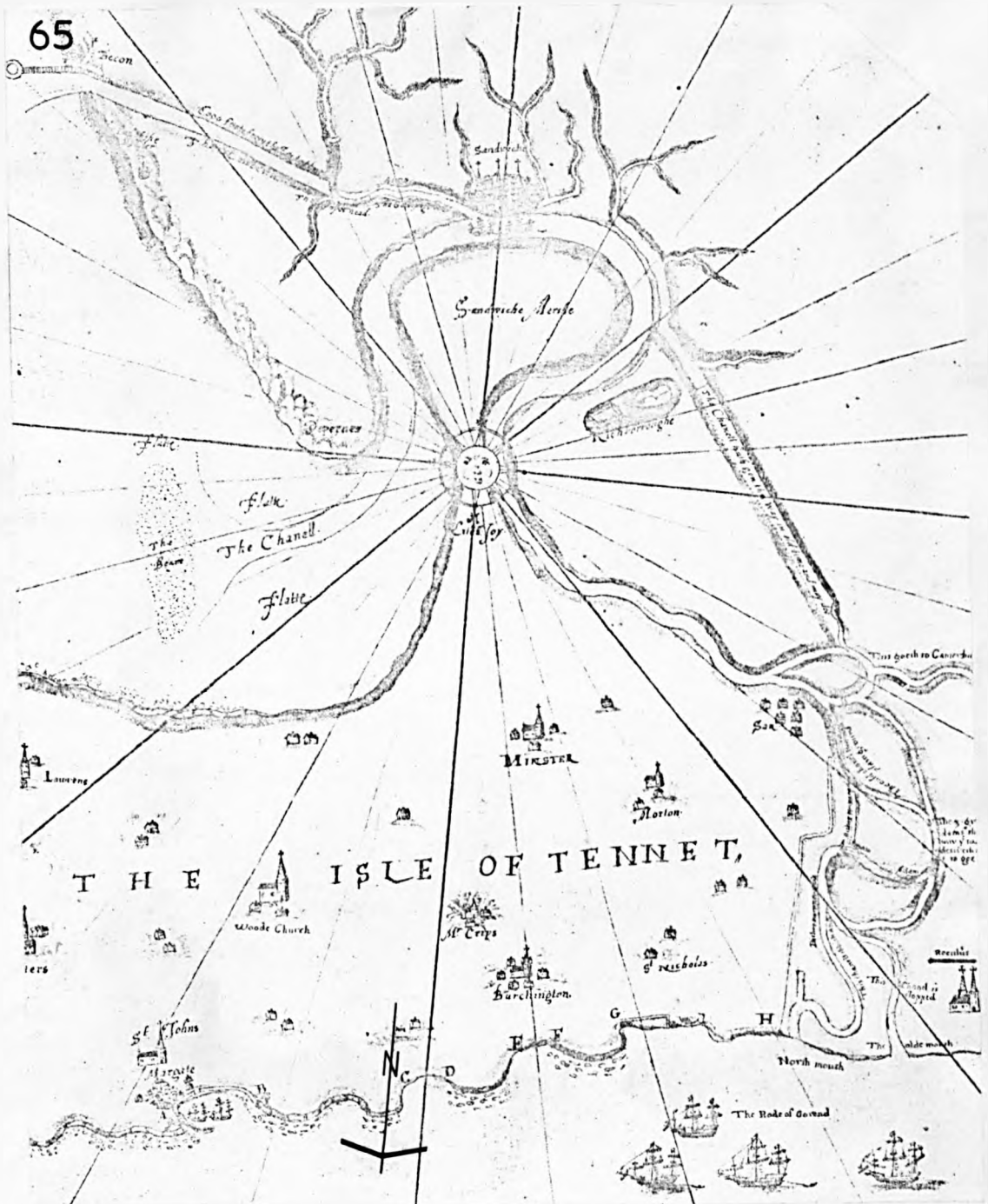


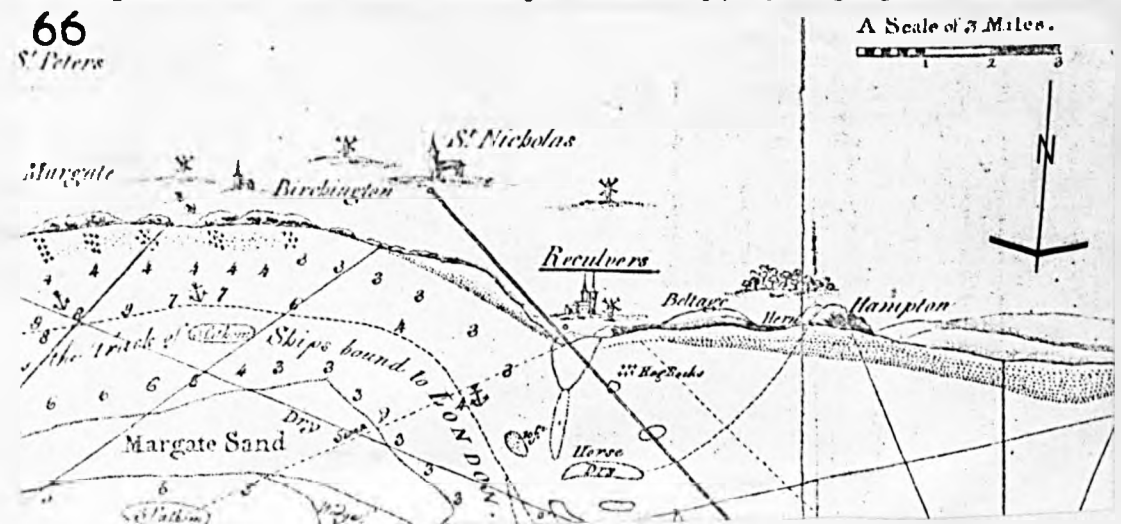
FIG. 63 RECULVER & the WANTSUM CHANNEL

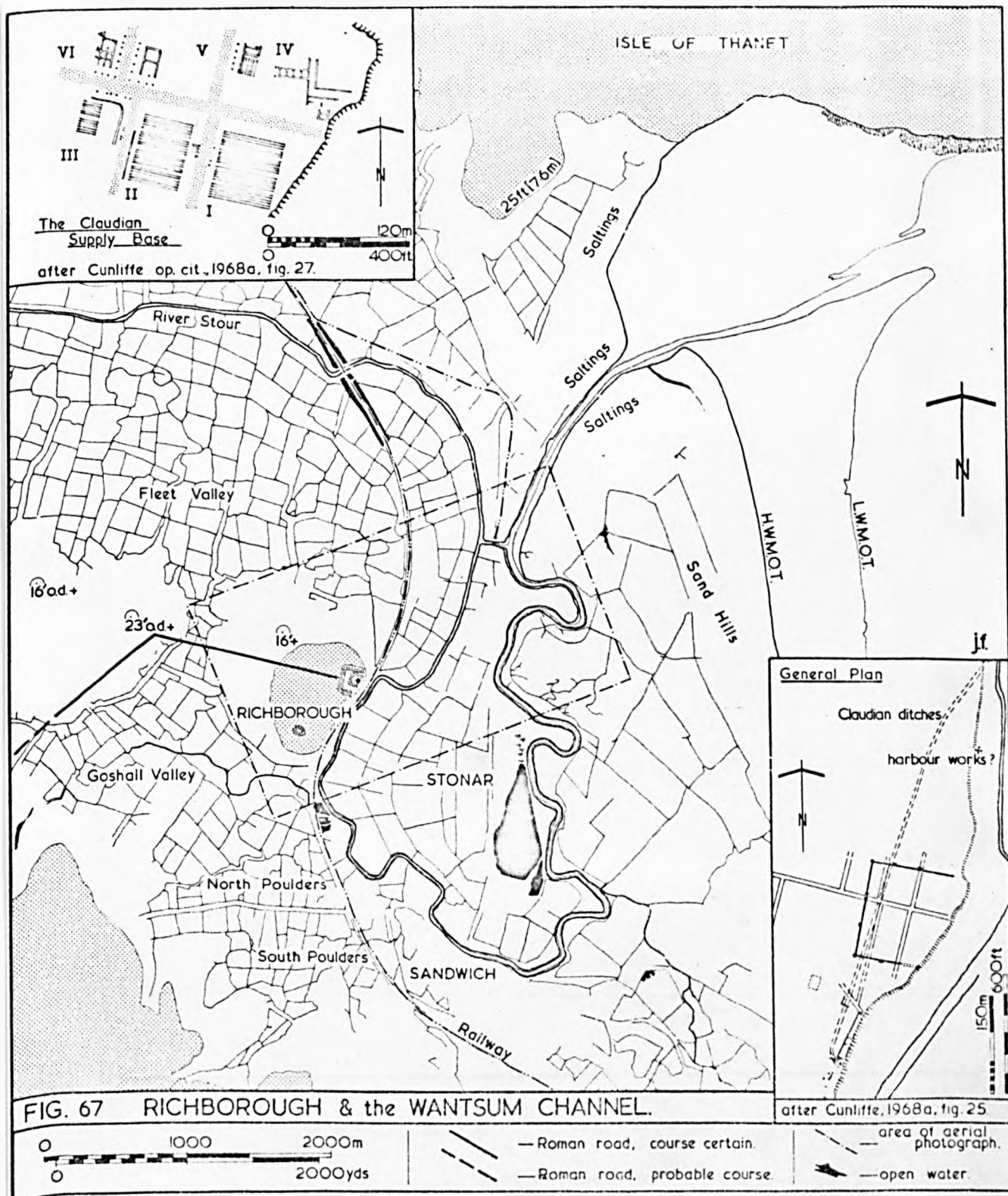




Detail of an Elizabethan plan of the Isle of Thanet and the Wantsum Channel. British Museum, Cotton MS. Aug.I.i.54.

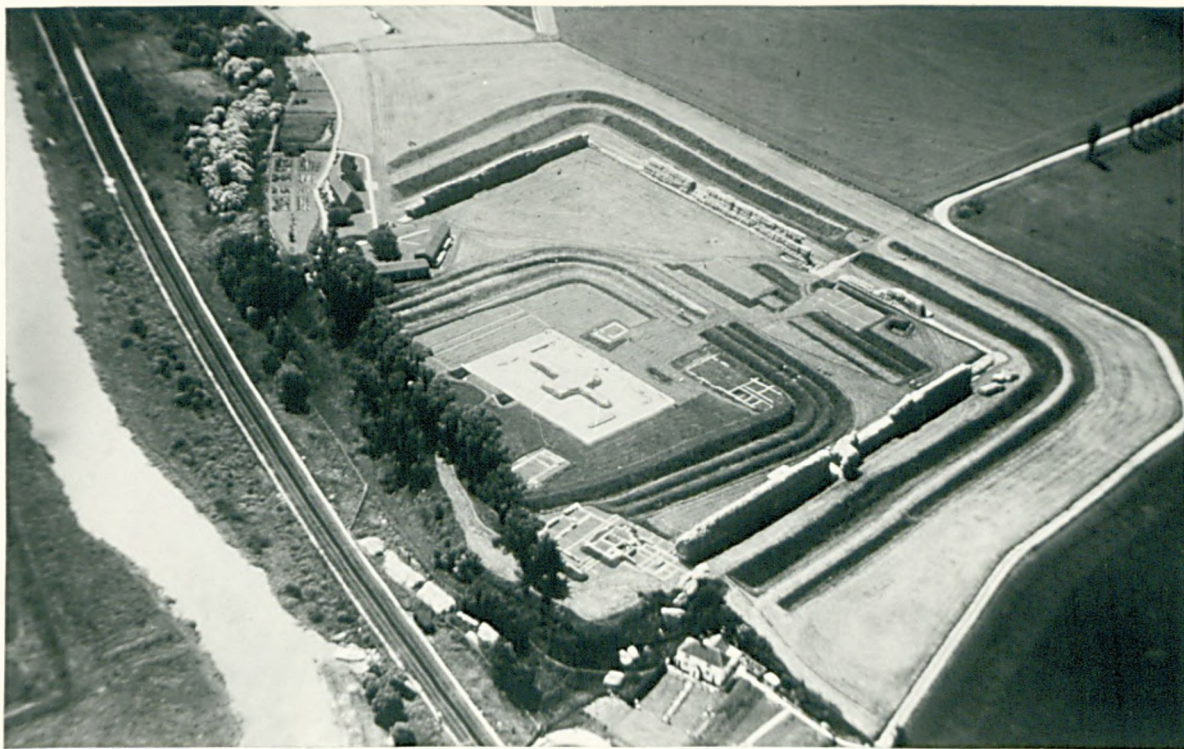
Detail of a printed chart of the waters off Reculver, by Thomas Conway, third quarter of the 18th century. Admiralty, Hydrographic Dept., 16 Qe.







Richborough, The estuary of the River Stour and the site of the fort,
after D.O.E. F61 543/RAF/4304 14.v.68. 0564.
(See also Fig. 67)



Richborough: looking South-West - the Monument, the late-3rd century earth fort, and the Saxon Shore fort. After: Ministry of Public Buildings & Works - slide of Richborough Castle, No.469.



Richborough: the silted site of the Wantsum Channel, and the North-East scarp of Richborough Hill, looking towards the find-spot of the wharf-like structure.

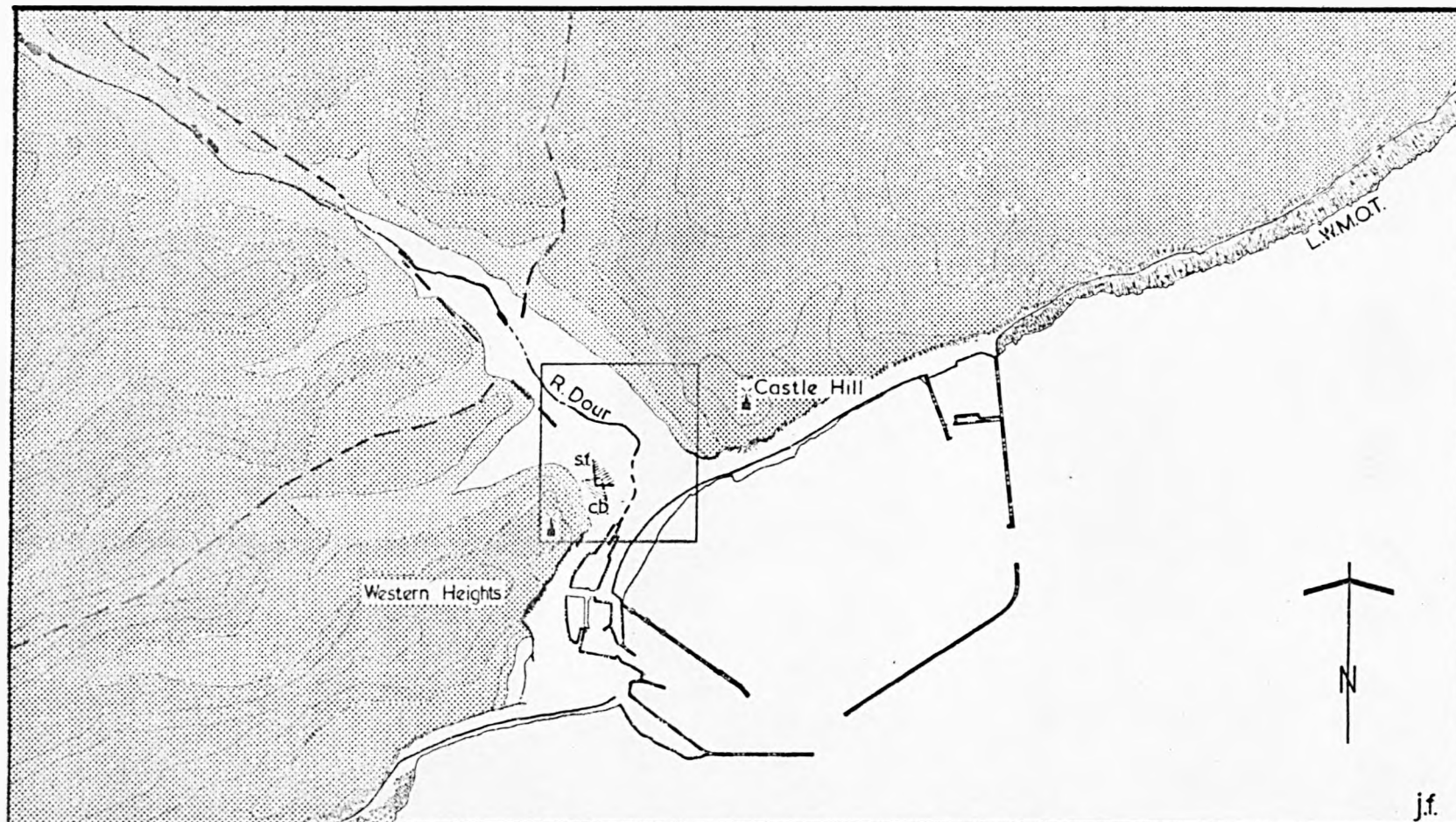


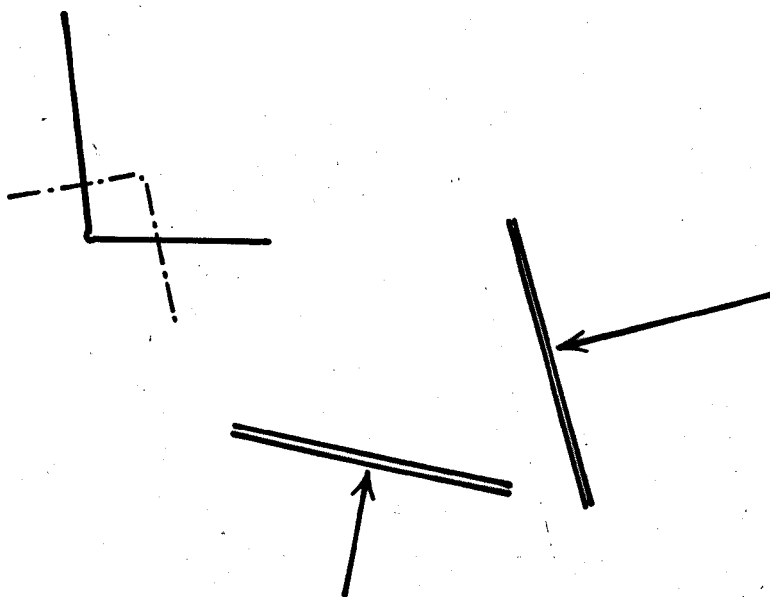
FIG. 71 DOVER



- ☛ = pharos
- s.f. = late shore fort
- cb = 2nd fort

- Contours at 50, 100 & 200 ft.
[15.2, 30.5 & 61 m] intervals.
- Modern harbour installations

- - - Roman road, course probable.
- Area of site plan, fig. 72.



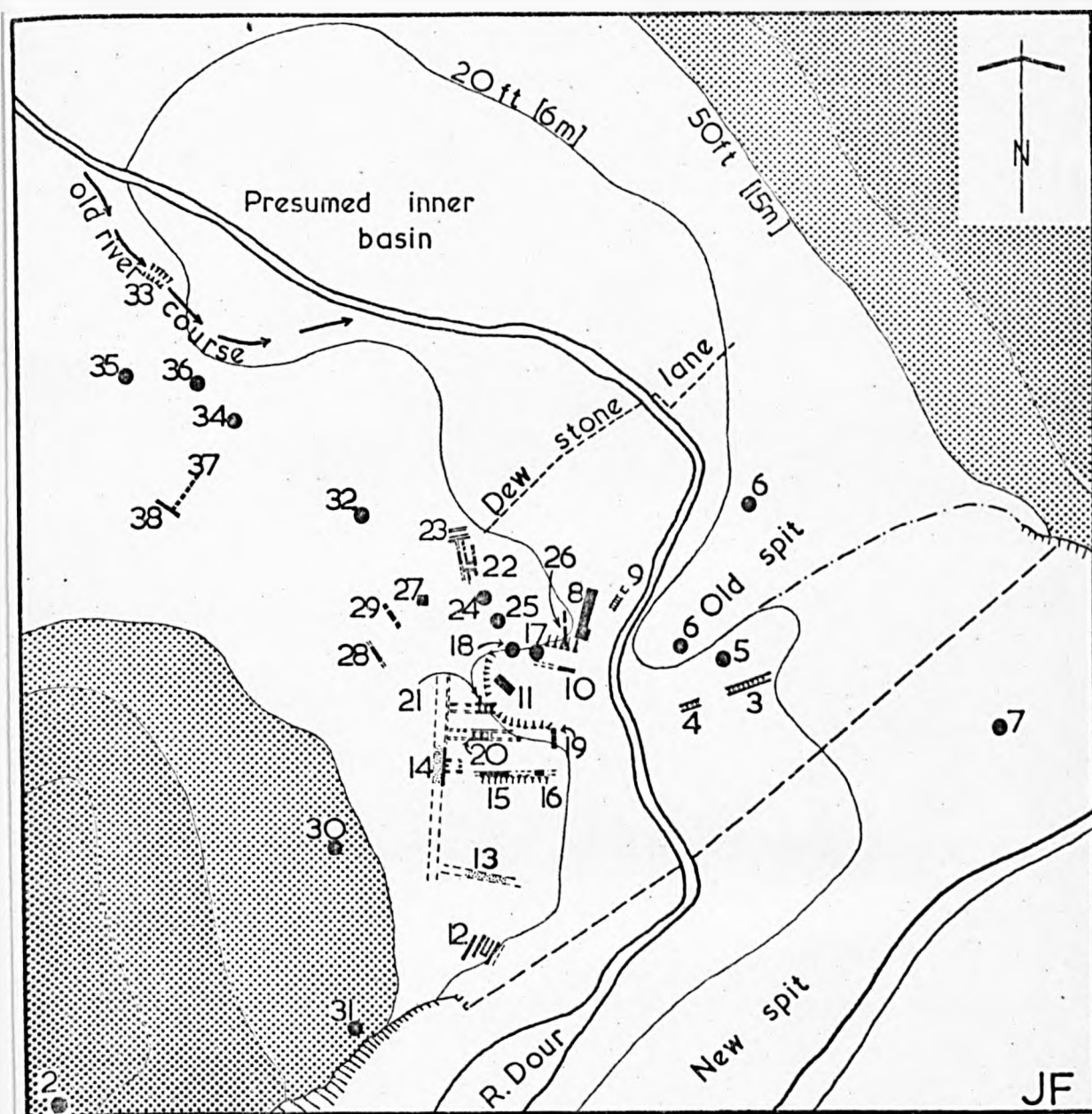


FIG.72 DOVER

based on Rigold

Key:

Numbers 1-38, refer to features discussed in the text.

● - finds; — — structures, location certain;

= — structures, location uncertain.

Contours, above 50ft, are shown at 30 & 60m [100 & 200 ft].

Overlay: ↙ — direction of wave fronts.

/ — late shore fort; / — classis britannica fort.

300m 1000ft

Dover, Plan of Harbour area, with overlay showing position of the early 'Classis Britannica' fort and the late shore fort, in addition to the direction of wave-fronts in the approaches to the haven.

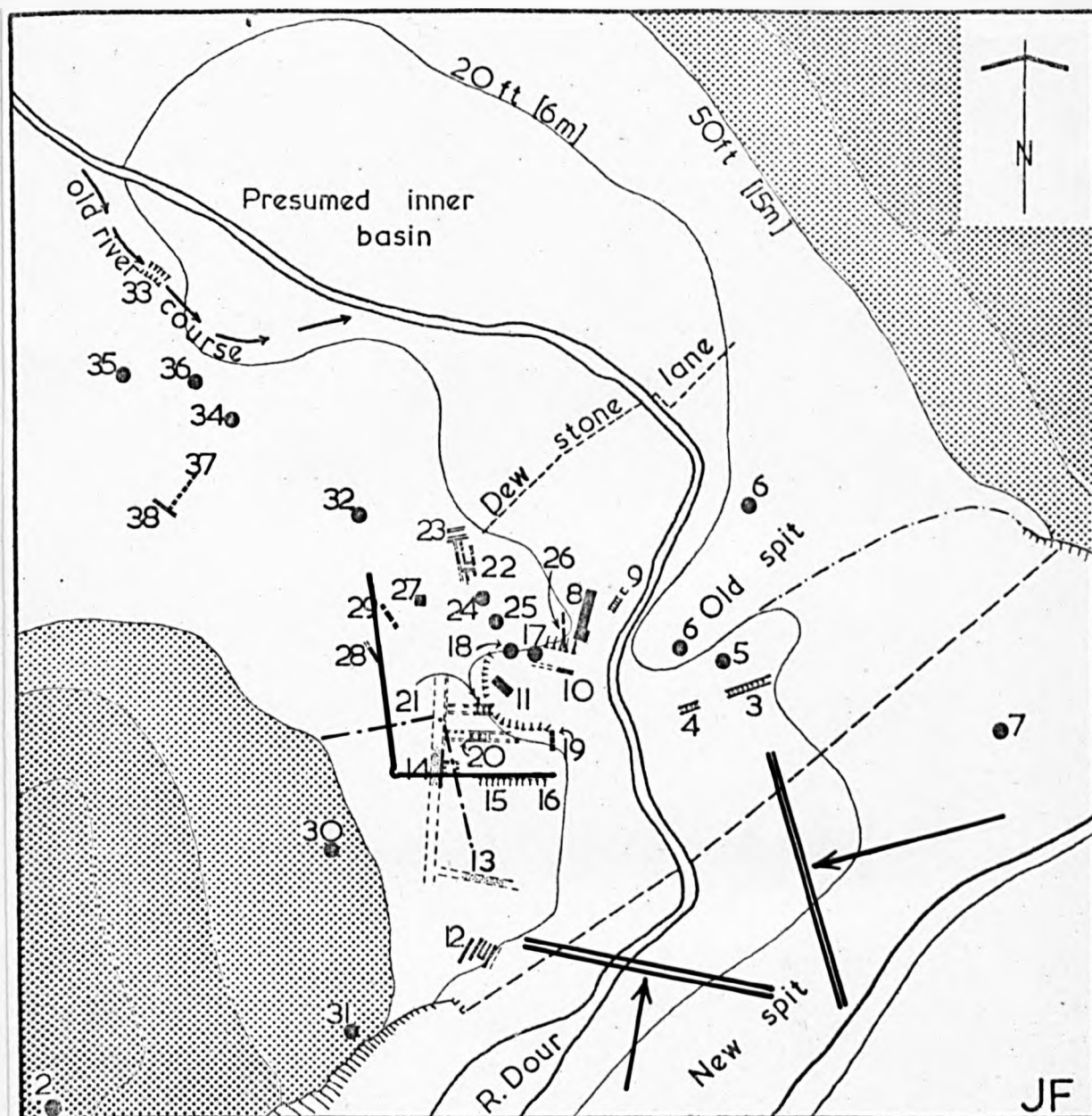


FIG.72 DOVER

based on Rigold

Key:

Numbers 1-38, refer to features discussed in the text.

● - finds; — — structures, location certain;

= — structures, location uncertain.

Contours, above 50ft, are shown at 30 & 60m [100 & 200 ft].

Overlay: ↙ — direction of wave fronts.

—— — late shore fort; - - - classis britannica fort.

300m 1000ft

Dover, Plan of Harbour area, with overlay showing position of the early 'Classis Britannica' fort and the late shore fort, in addition to the direction of wave-fronts in the approaches to the haven.



Dover, West wall of late shore fort cutting the barracks of the early 'Classis Britannica' fort, after Philp, B., *Current Archaeology* 38, 1973, p.87.

Dover, Buildings within the early fort, after Philp, B., "Dover", *Current Archaeology* 25, 1971, p.55.

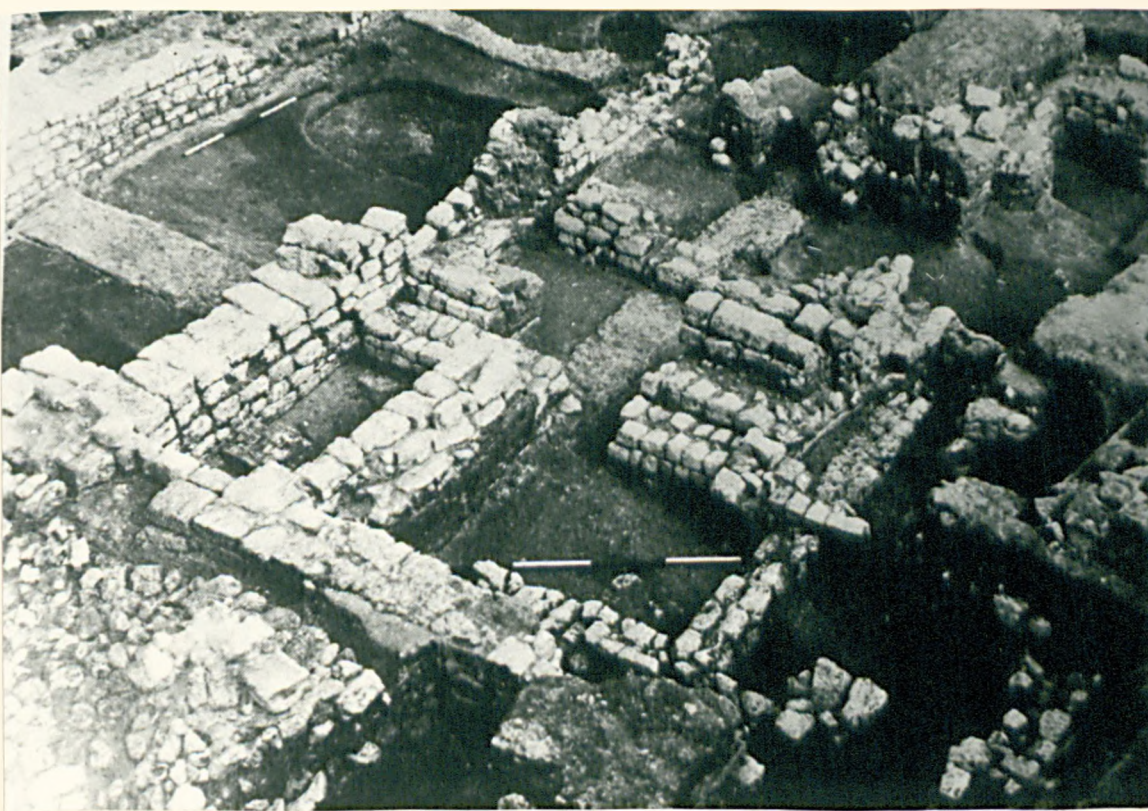
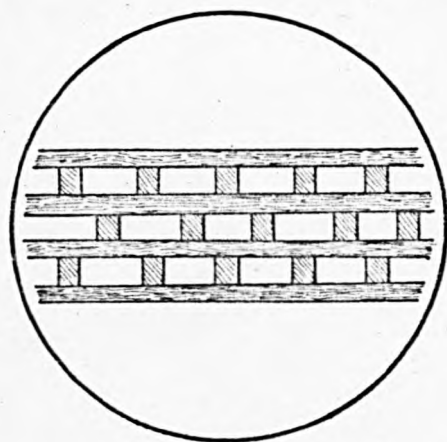


FIG. 75

Dover—mole



30m
100ft
after Elsted

JF

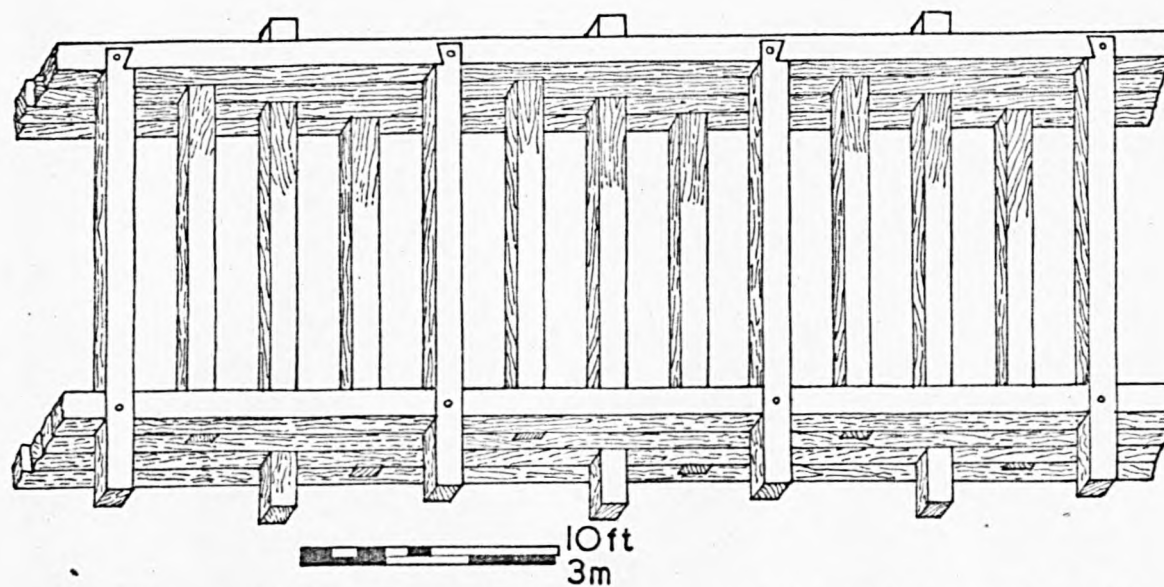


FIG. 76

Dover—Mole

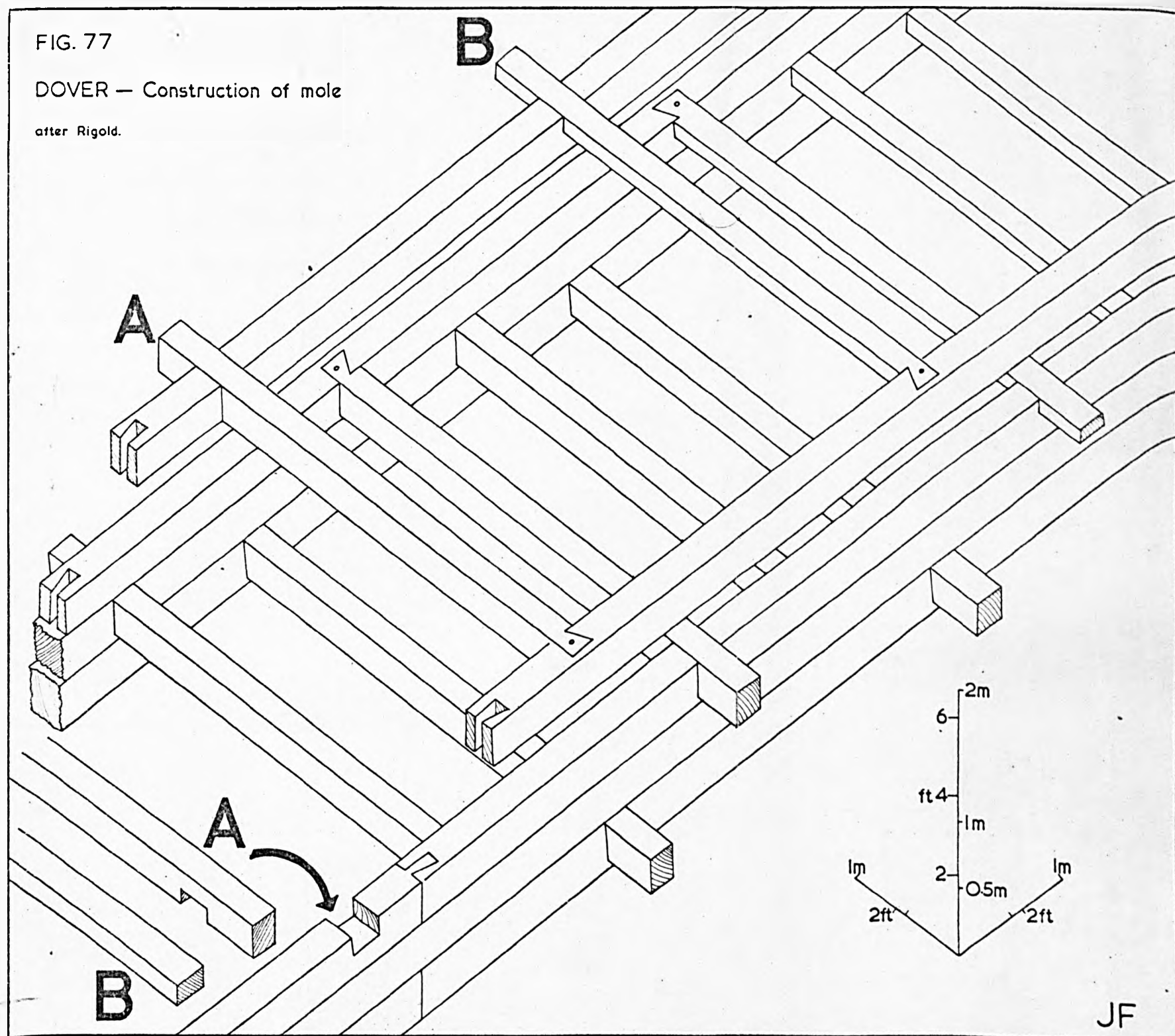
after Amos & Wheeler

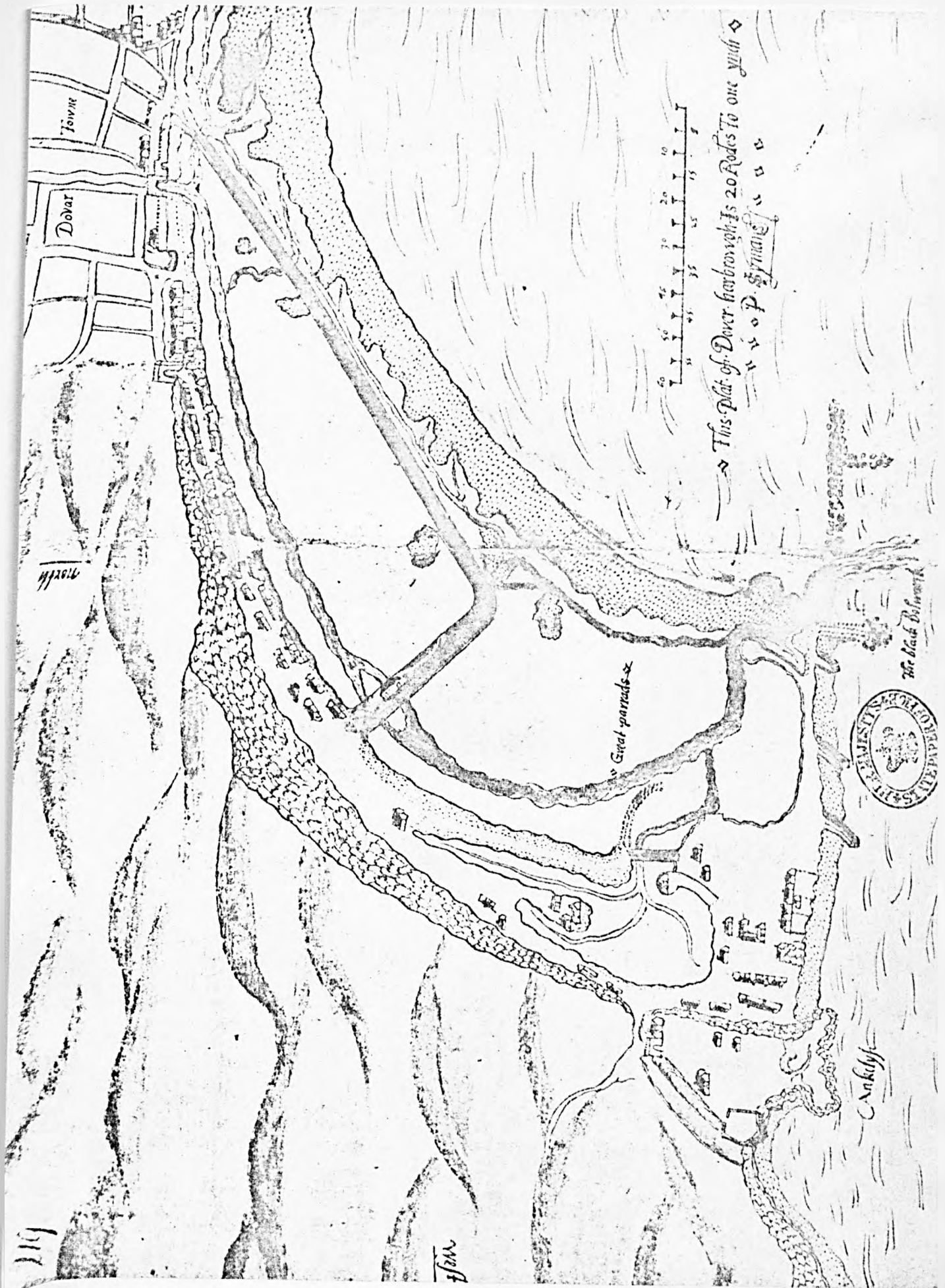
JF

FIG. 77

DOVER — Construction of mole

after Rigold.



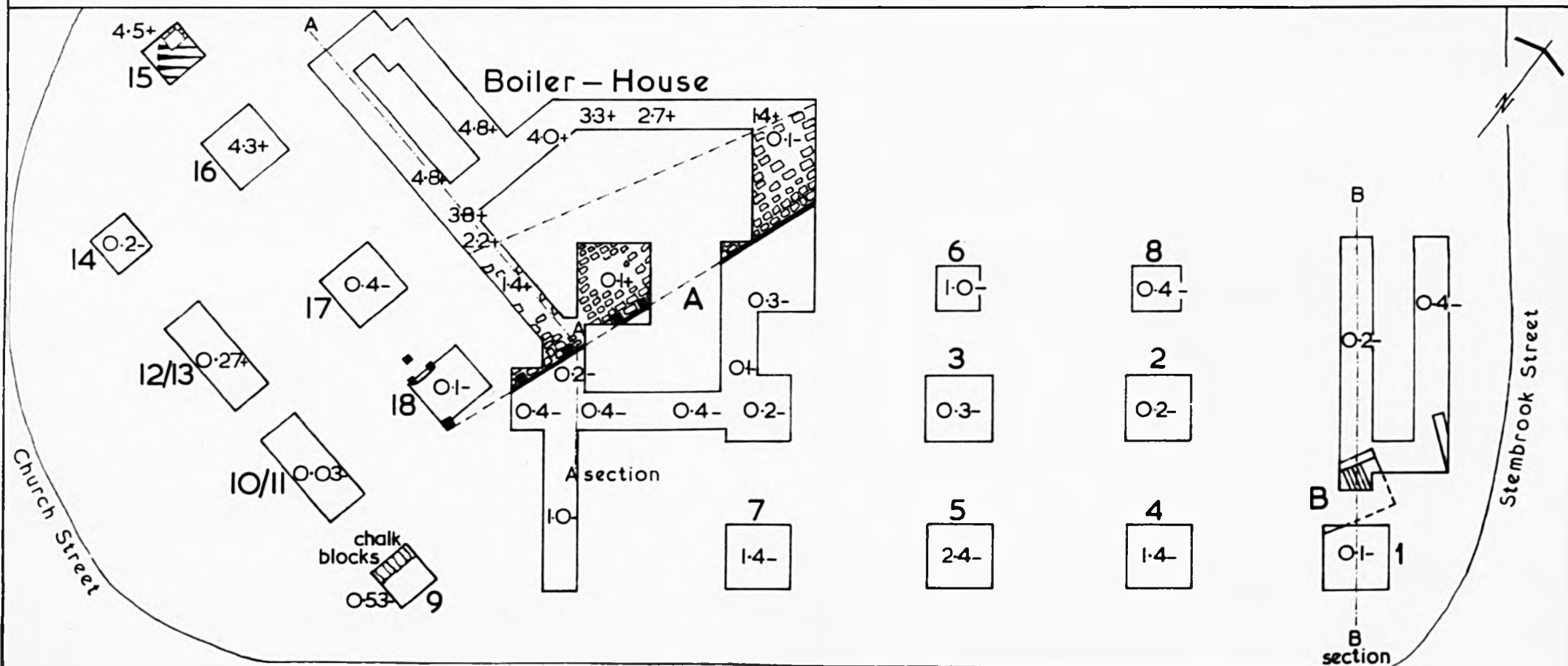


Dover, "Plot of Dover Harbrowh", attributed to Phillip Symonson, Public Record Office, MPF 122

DOVER 1956

Plan of Excavations and Structures

STEMBROOK



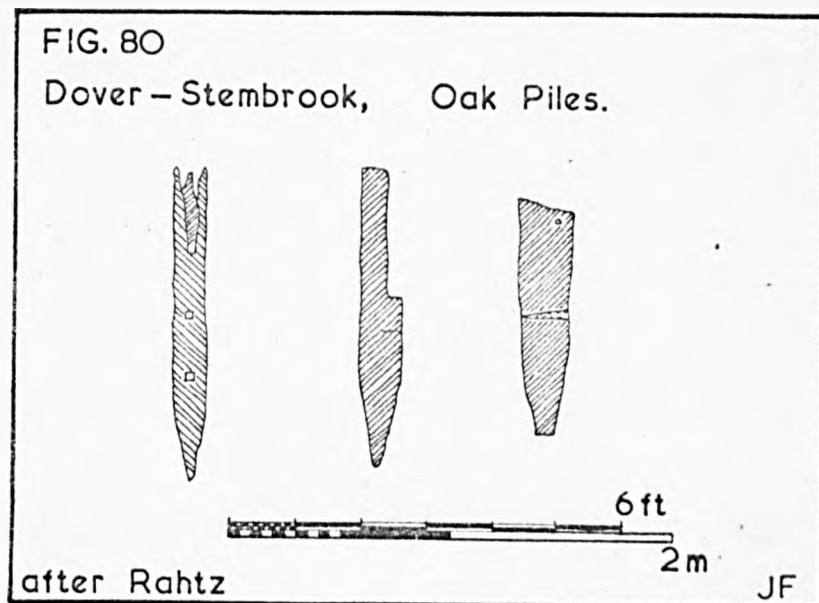
After, White, P.4., "Dover : Stembrook and St. Martin-le-Grand, 1956,"

Arch. Inst., lxxii, 1958, fig.1.

depths indicated are in feet and represent the depth of natural gravel related to Ordovician datum.

100 feet
30 metres

JF



81

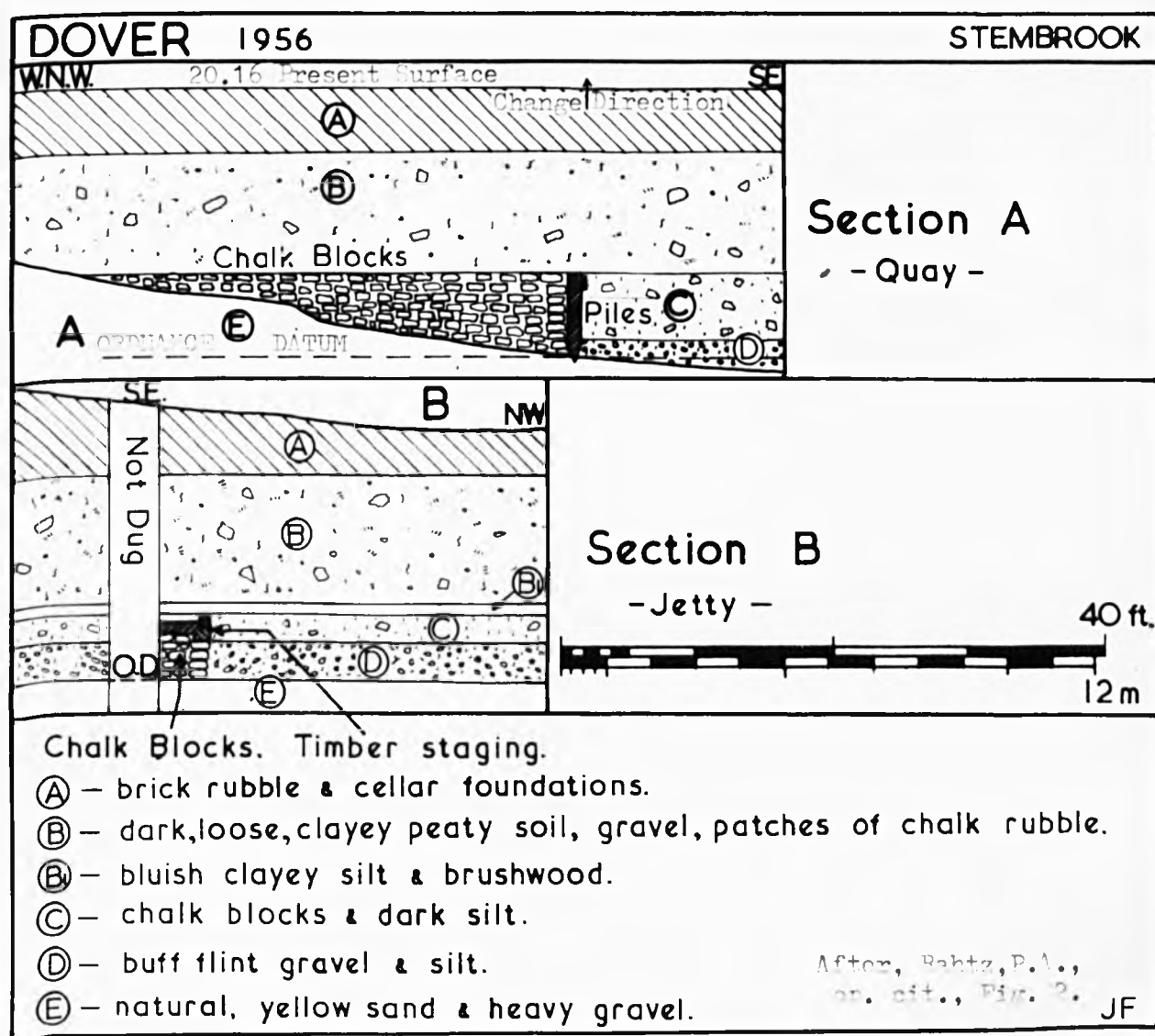




FIG. 82

DOVER:

EASTERN PHAROS

after Wheeler op. cit., Pl. 2.

-  — Roman work
-  — Mediaeval work

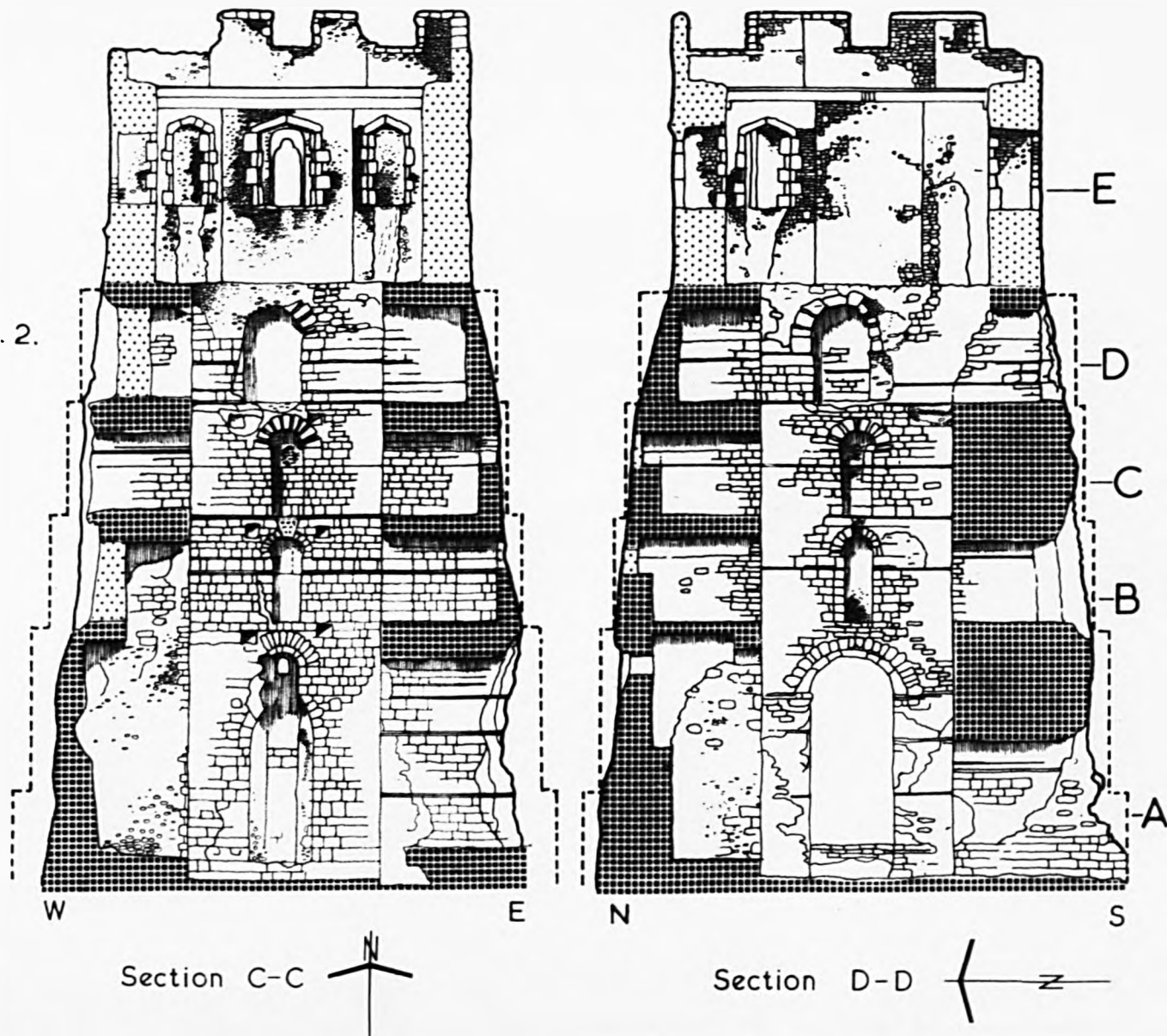


FIG. 83

DOVER:

EASTERN PHAROS

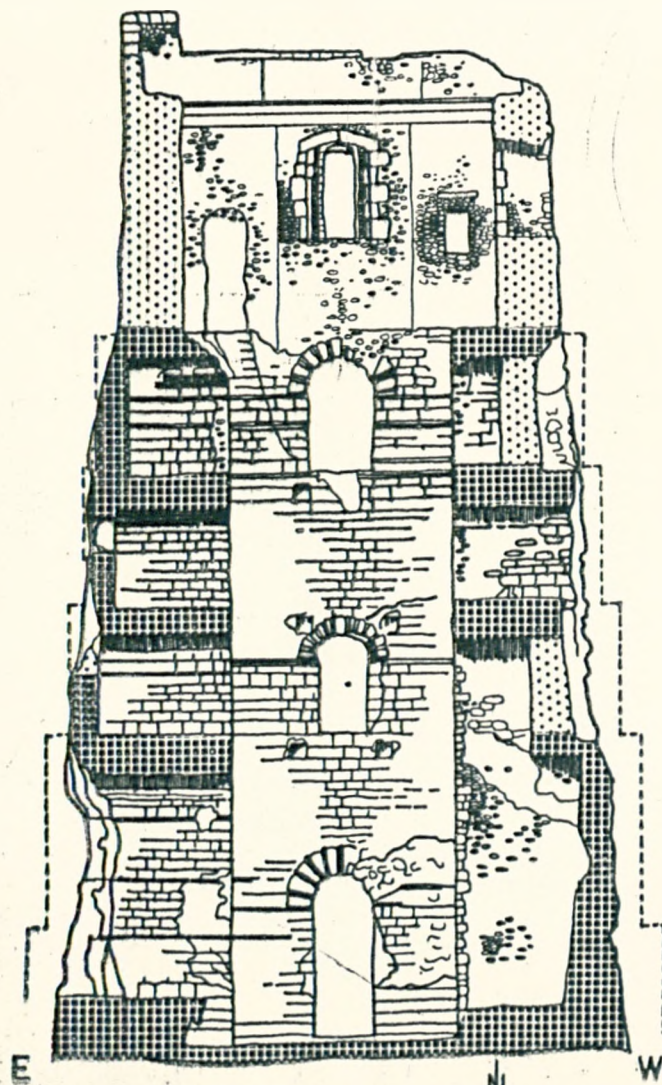
after Wheeler, *op. cit.*, pl. 2.



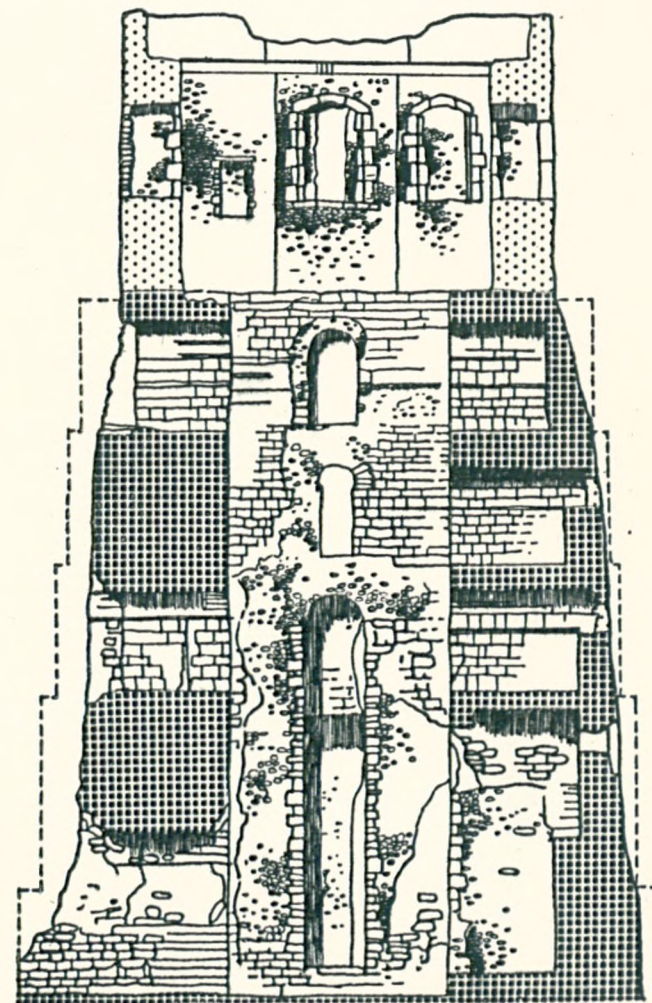
— Roman work



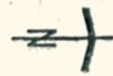
— Mediaeval work



Section A-A

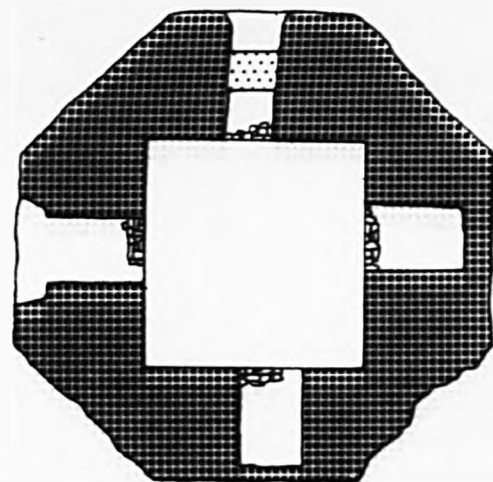


Section B-B

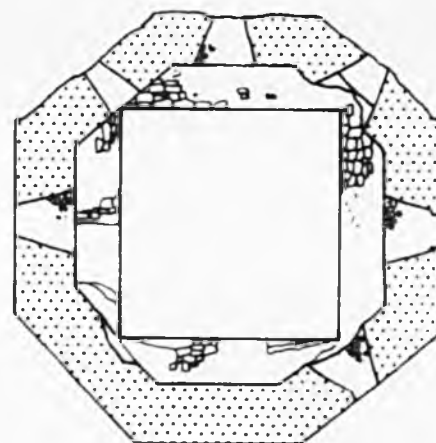


N
JF

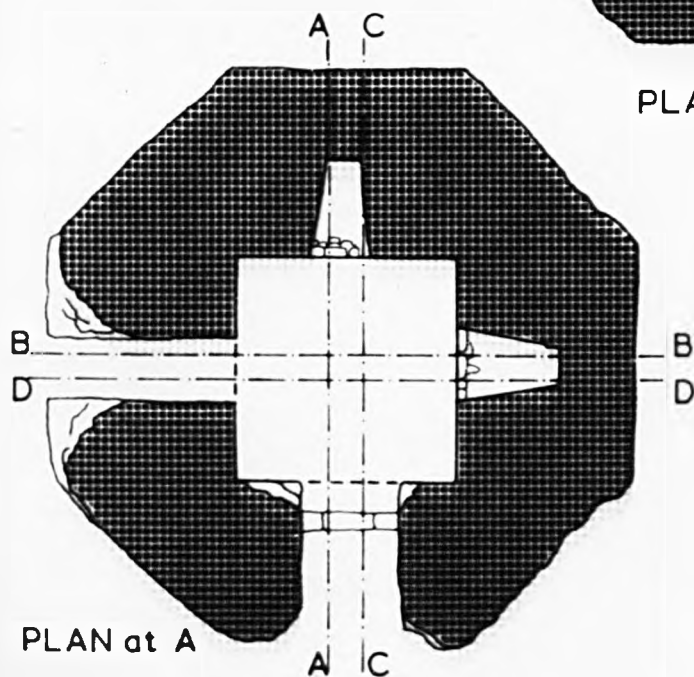
after Wheeler,
op. cit., pl. I.



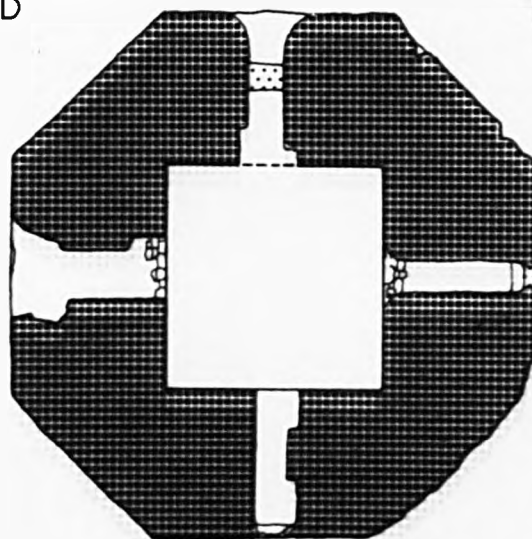
PLAN at D



PLAN at E



PLAN at A



PLAN at B



PLAN at C

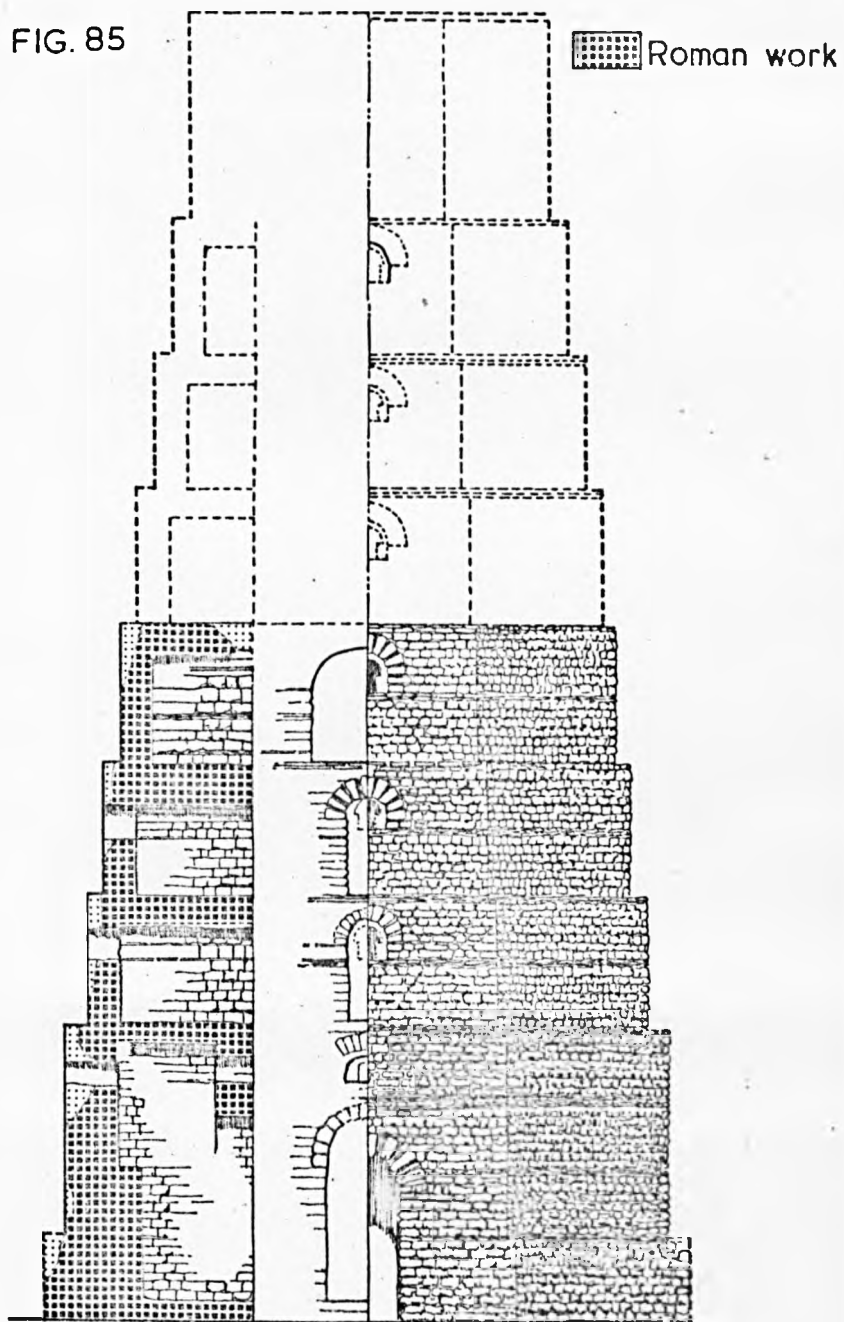
— Roman work



— Mediaeval work

FIG. 84 DOVER — EASTERN PHAROS

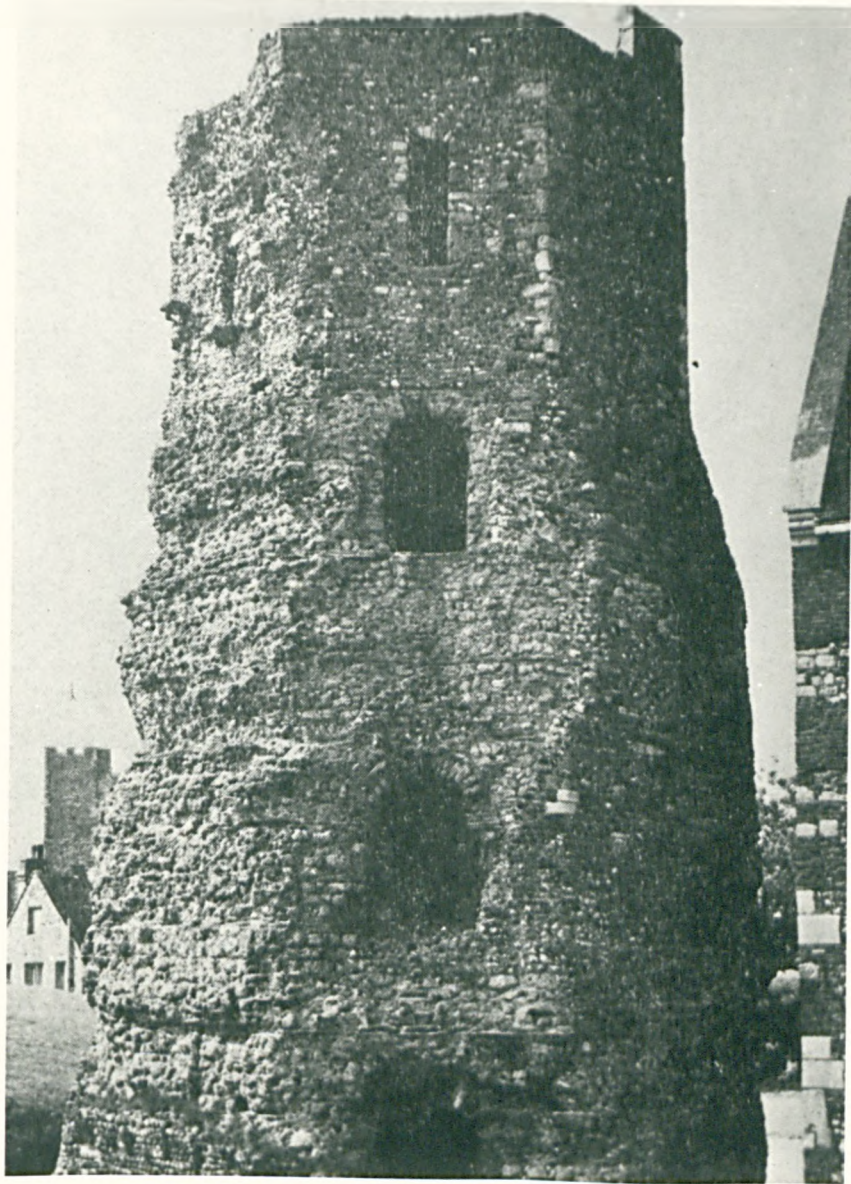
FIG. 85



DOVER — Eastern Pharos — partial reconstruction
of South face

after Wheeler

JF



Dover, Eastern Pharos (above) - after Hague, D.B., "Lighthouses", op.cit., 1973, fig. 5.
 Dover, Western Pharos (below) - broken masonry, set up on the Drop Redoubt.





Ostia, Relief of a pharos on a sarcophagus, after Hague, op. cit., fig.3.

Ostia, Mosaic pavement, illustrating a pharos. Piazzale delle Corporazioni,

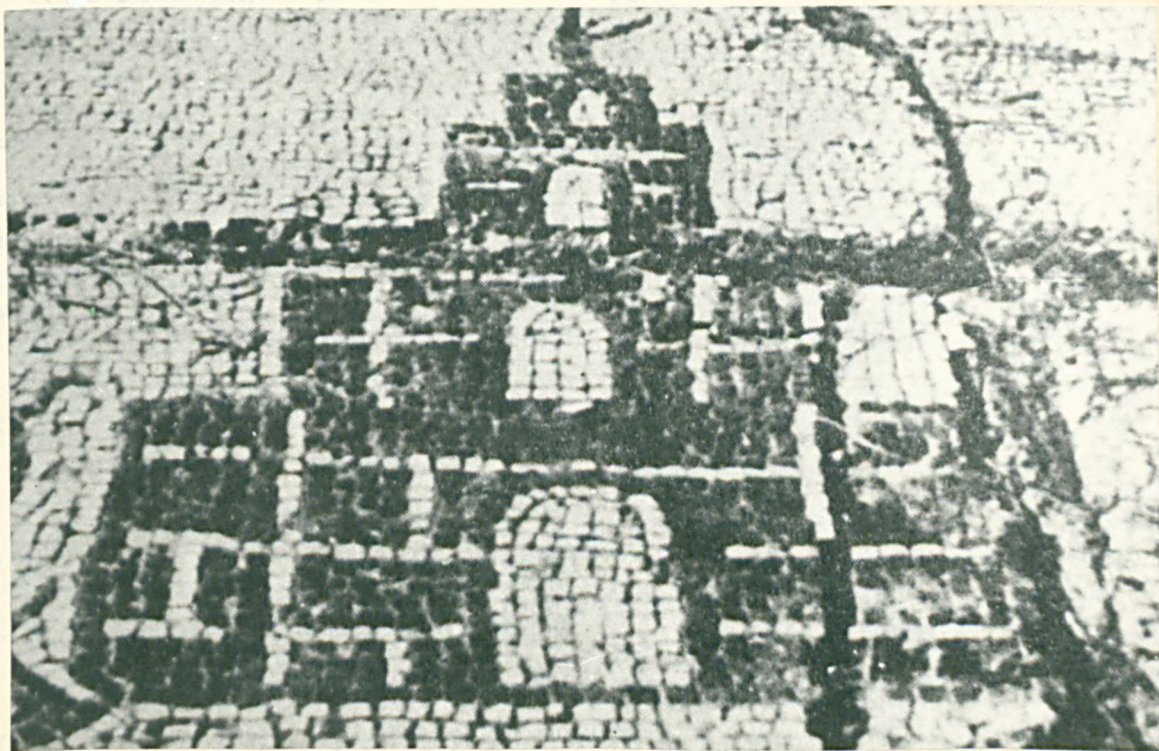
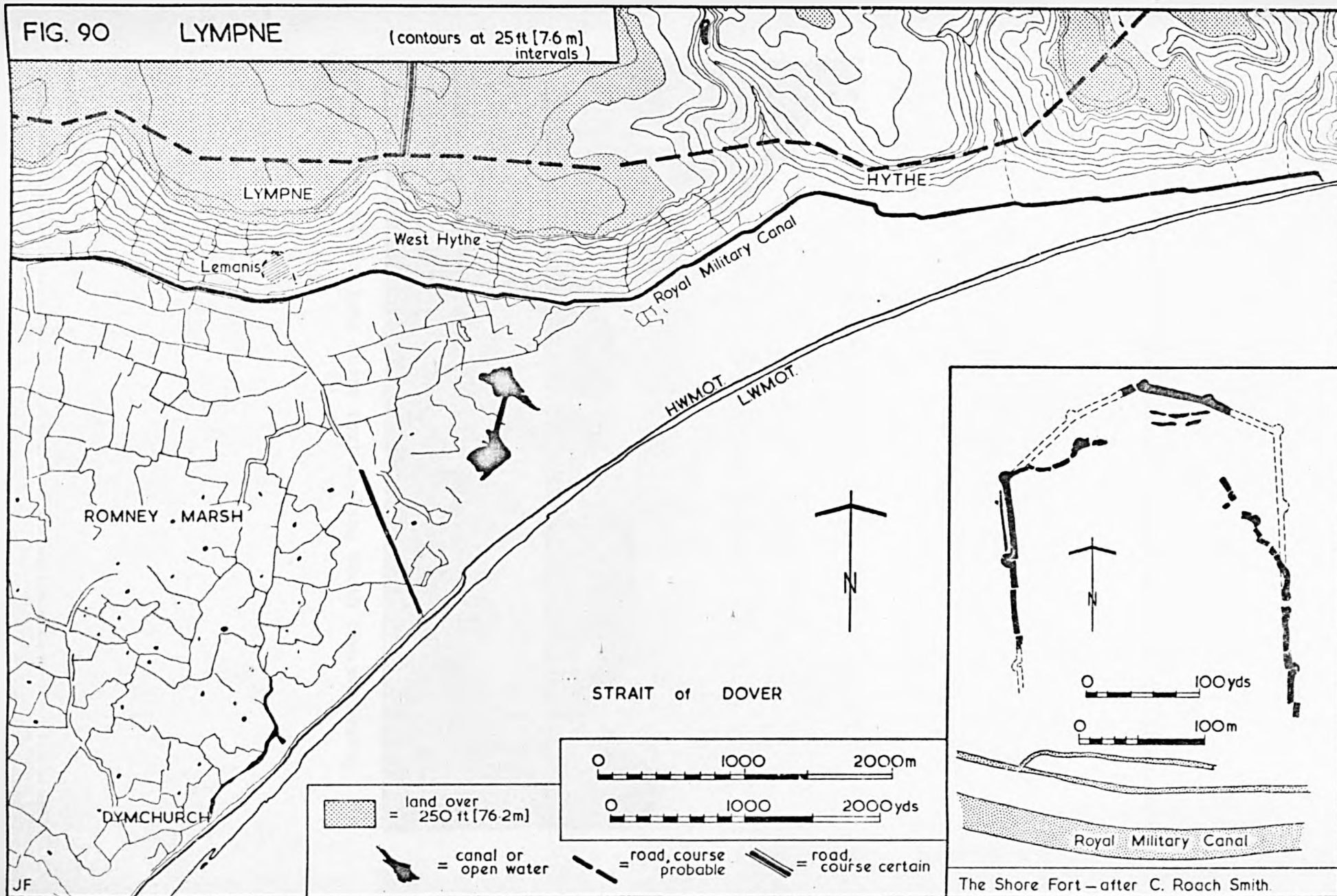


FIG. 90

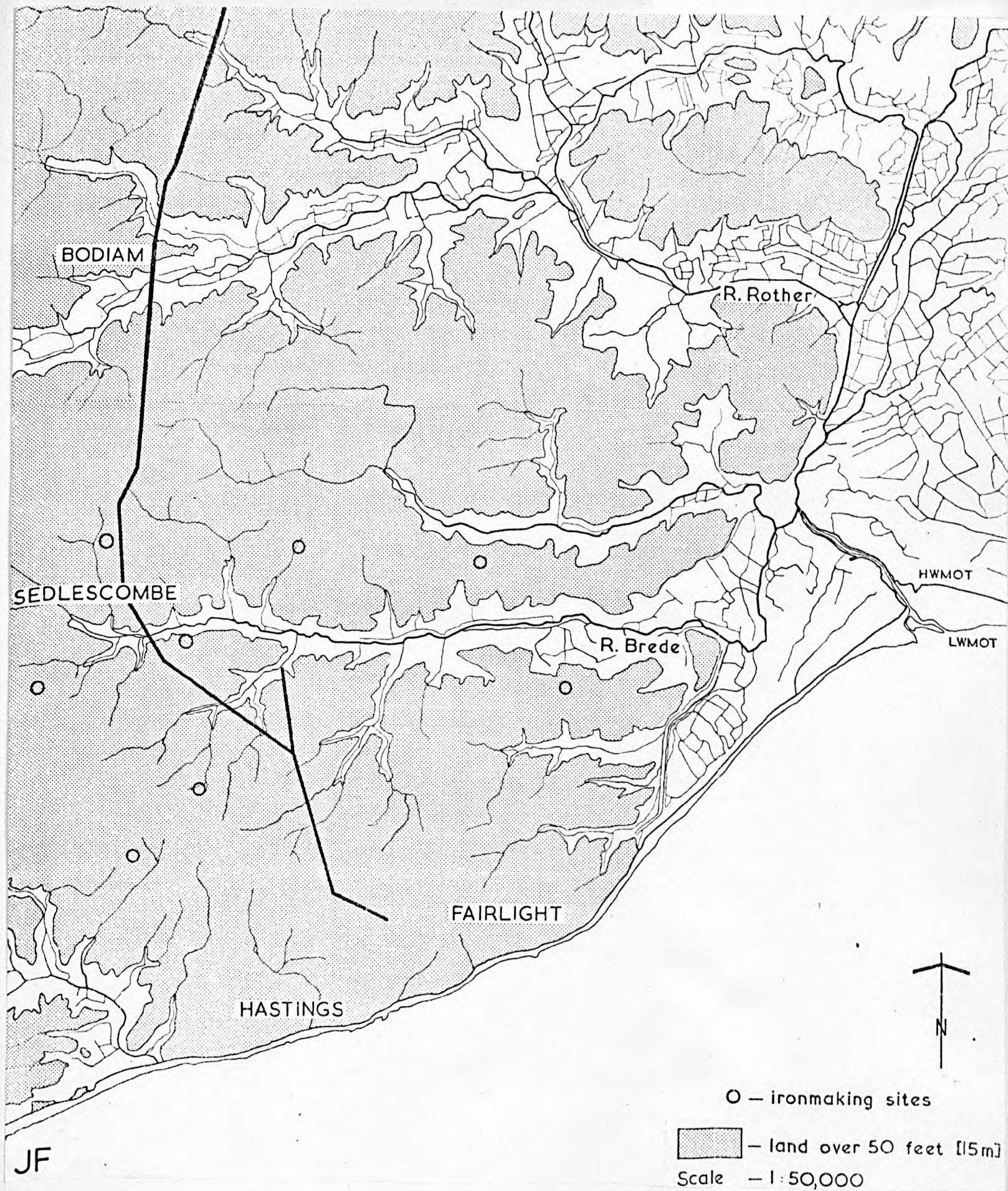
LYMPNE

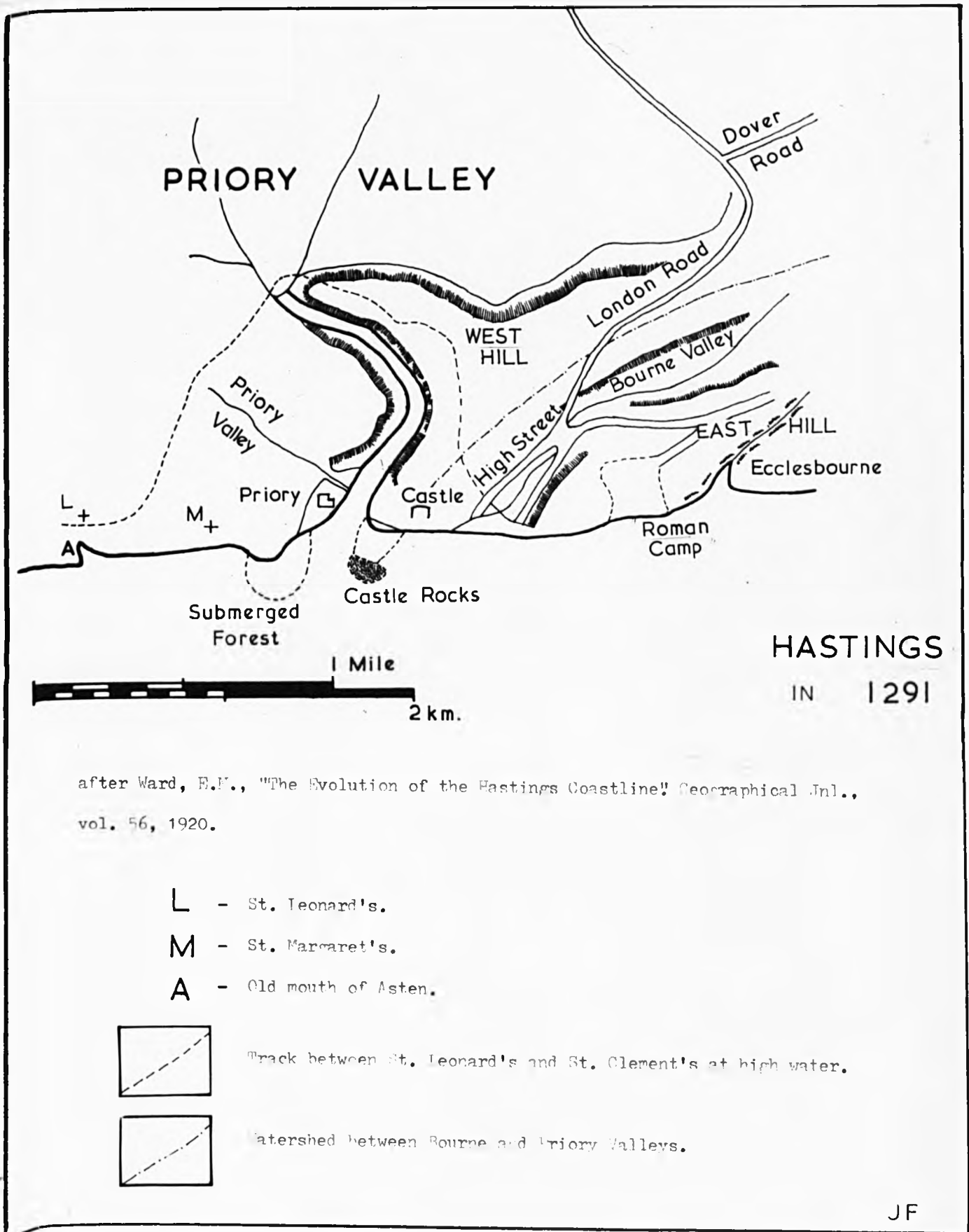
(contours at 25 ft [7.6 m] intervals)





Lympne - Site of the late shore fort looking South towards Romney Marsh.









Fishbourne, Site of the harbour settlement and Flavian palace, at the head of the Fishbourne Channel (centre left), after :-
D.O.E. F43 58/RAF/2860 1.vi.59. 0093.



Fishbourne, Site of the harbour settlement and Flavian palace, at the head of the Fishbourne Channel (centre left), after :-
D.O.E. F43 58/RAF/2860 1.vi.59. 0093.



Fishbourne, Head of the western arm of the Fishbourne Channel, South of the main A 27 road.

Fishbourne, The Fishbourne Channel at L.W.M.O.T., looking northwards from Dell Quay towards the site of the Flavian palace.



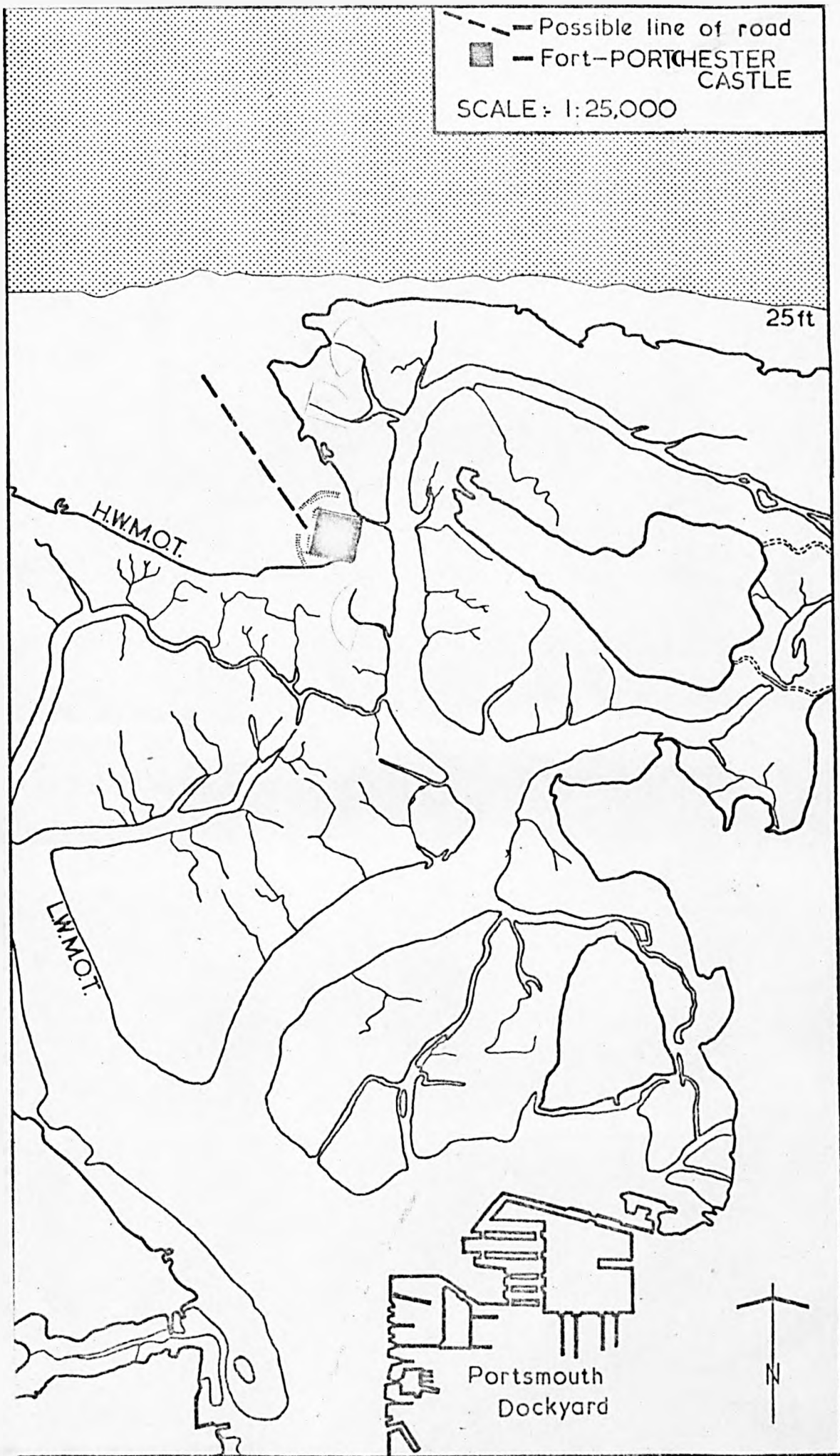


FIG. 97

PORTCHESTER

A PLAN
of
PORTSMOUTH
and parts adjacent, fi-
nished in the year 1716.

N.B. The Figures are the Soundings or
depth of the Sea at low water in Fathoms
and the ground colour is yellow from
the Kings Land. That marked
being purchased in 1710 for
Fortification.



Portsmouth Harbour, part of a survey attributed to Talbot Edwards,
A.D. 1716+. Bodleian Library, Gough Maps, Hants. 12.



Portchester Castle, looking West, from Horsea Island.

Portchester Castle, the East fort wall and the shore of Portsmouth Harbour.

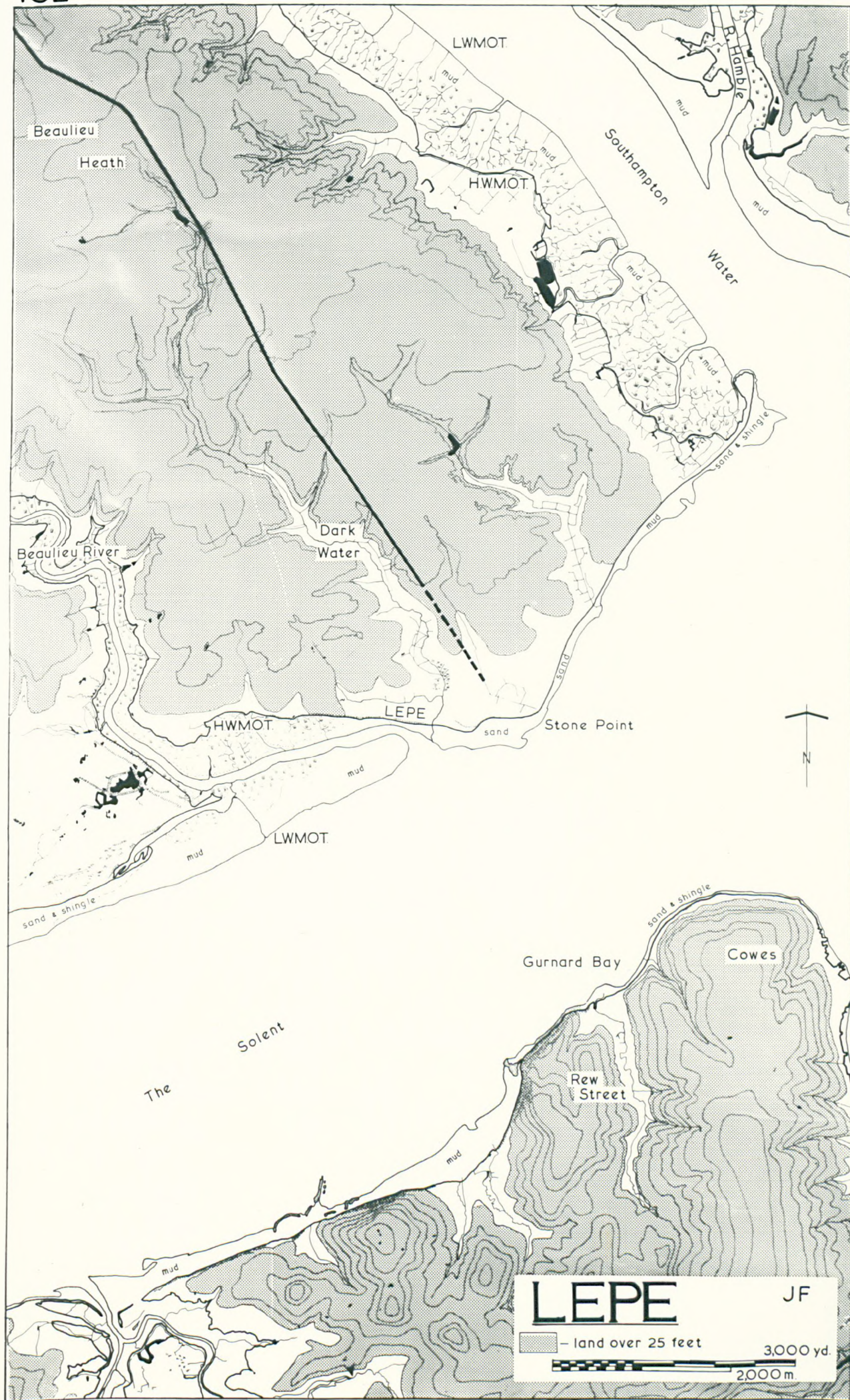


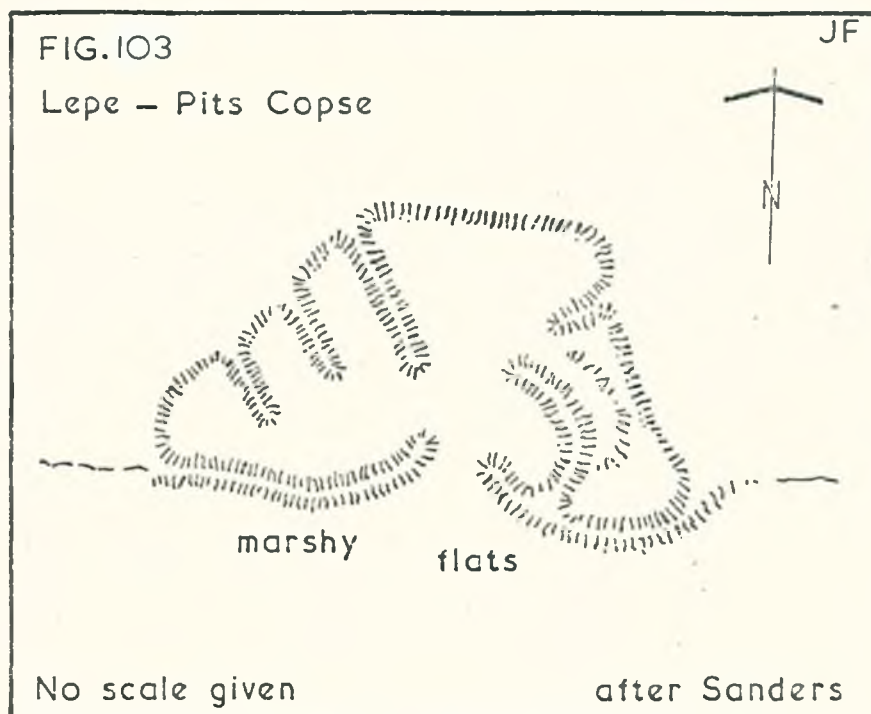
101



Bitterne - The East bank of the River Itchen, immediately below Bitterne Bridge; the Roman shoreline lies some distance behind that of the 20th century.

LEPE

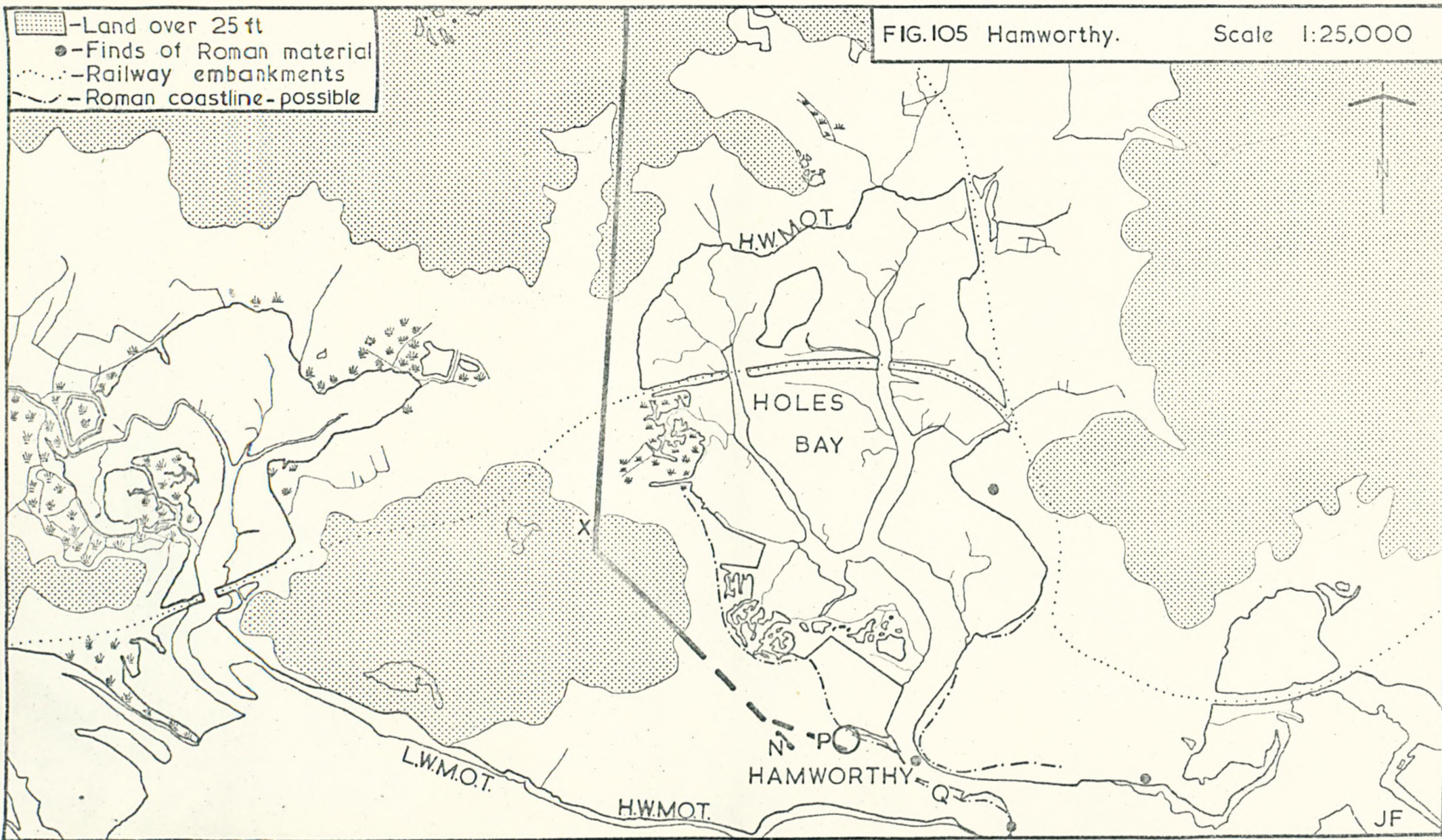


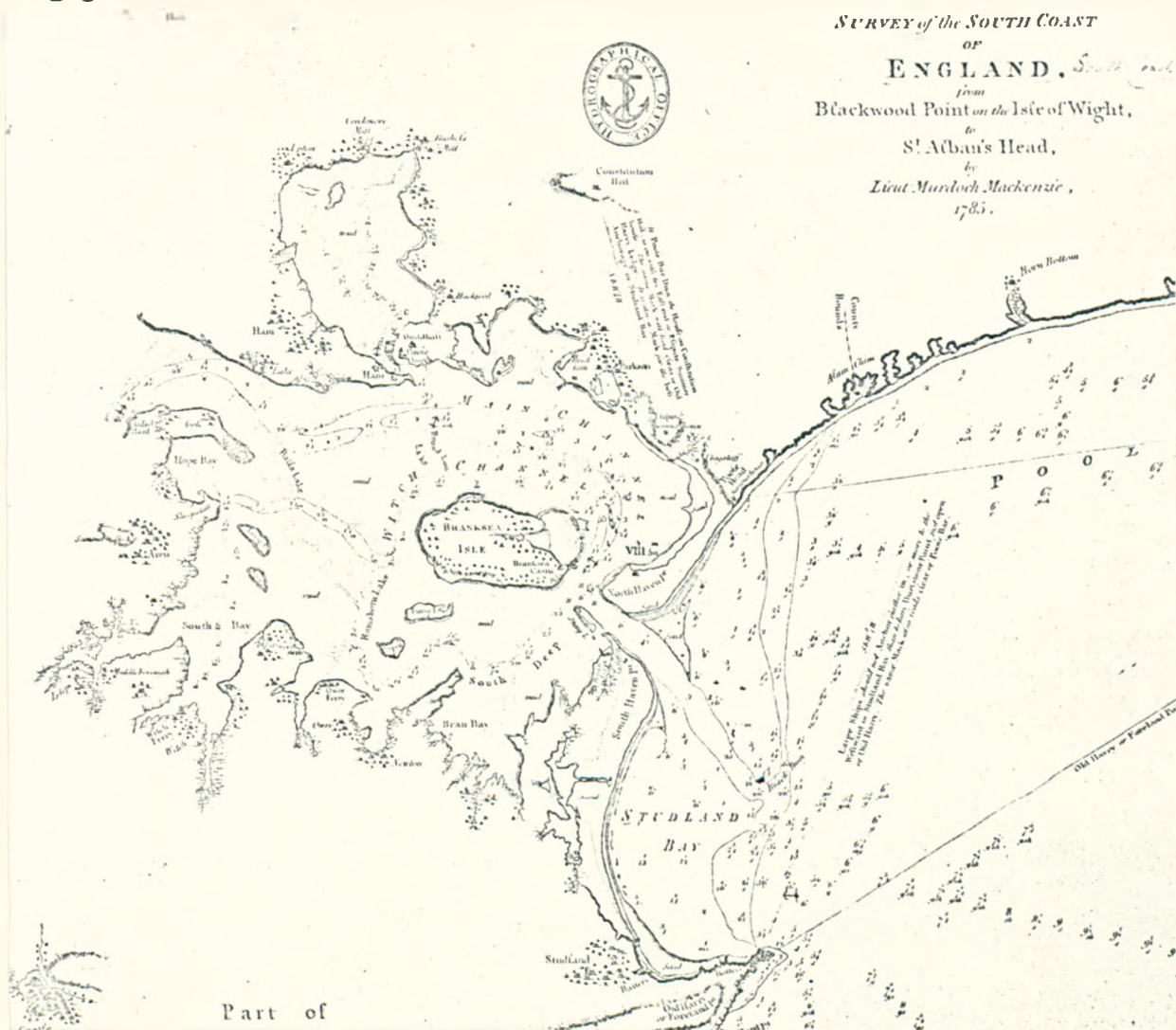


Lepe, Sketch plan of Pits Copse, after Sanders, op.cit.,p.39.

Lepe, The estuary of the Dark Water, looking North.



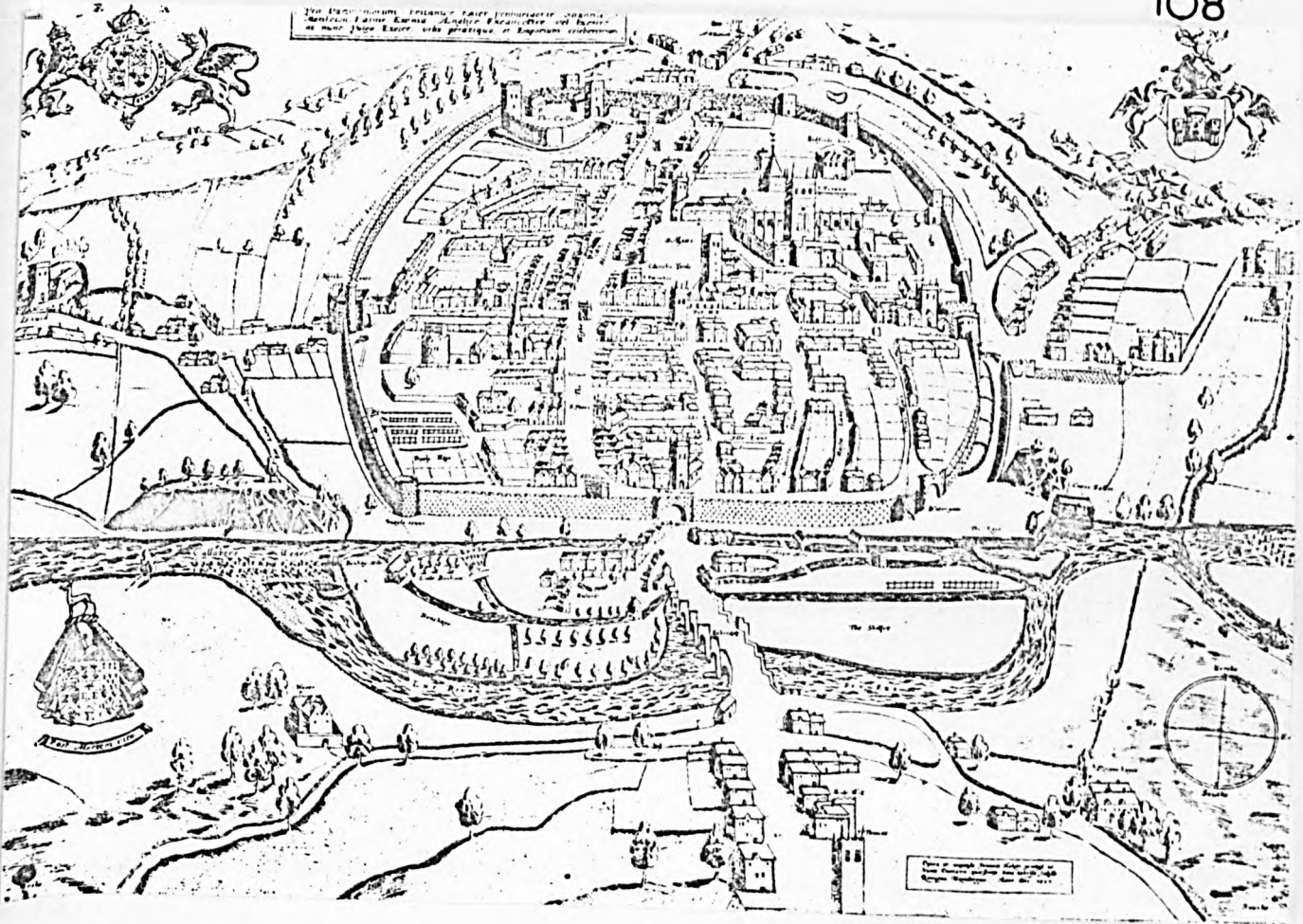




Poole Harbour, based on a "Survey of the South Coast of England from Blackwood Point on the Isle of Wight to St. Alban's Head, by Murdoch Mackenzie, 1785. British Museum, Maps Sec.I (20).

Hamworthy, The East Shore of the Hamworthy Peninsula, from Poole.





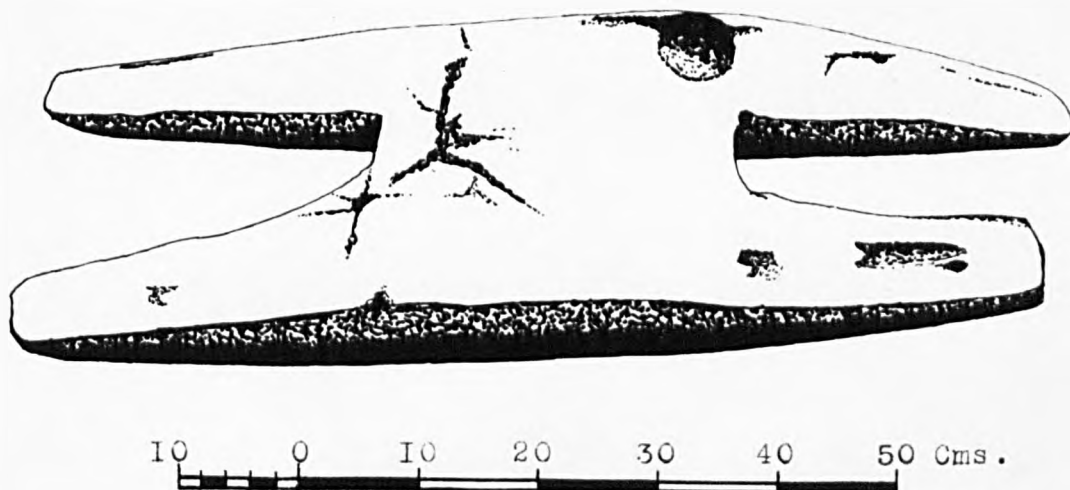
Exeter, Map of the City in A.D.1587, by Hogenberg.

109



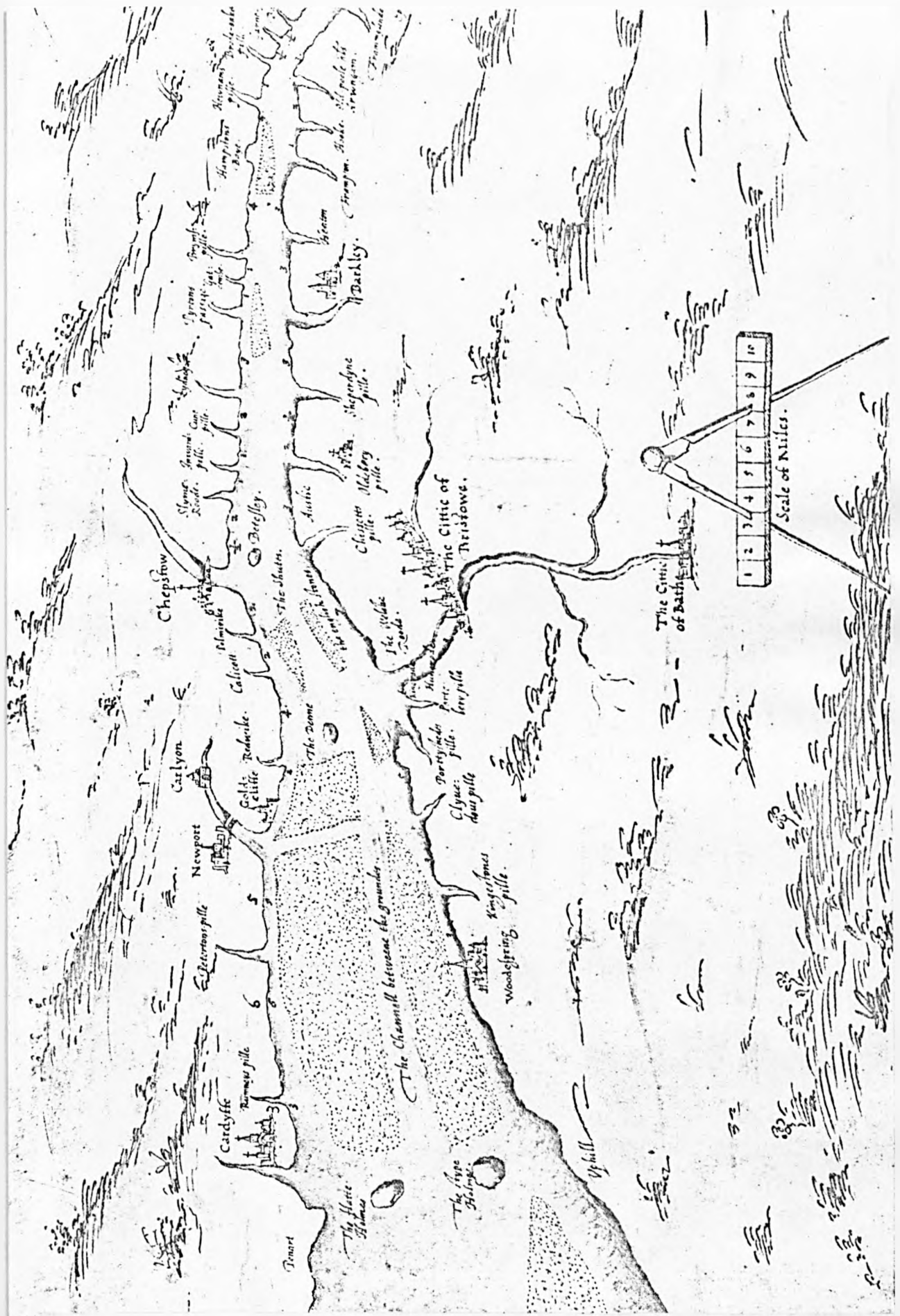
Topsham - The estuary of the River Exe at the site of the Roman settlement.

110



Falmouth - An uninscribed ingot of tin from Carrick Roads, drawn from A.Fox, "South-West England", 1964, Pl.60. (Truro Museum)

JF



A late 16th century chart of the Severn Estuary and the Bristol Channel, British Museum, Cotton MS. Aug. I. ii. 17.





Sea Mills, Site of the Roman settlement, just North of the confluence of the River Trym and the River Avon (South of centre picture), after D.O.E. F42 39/RAF/3764 7.ix.71. 0102

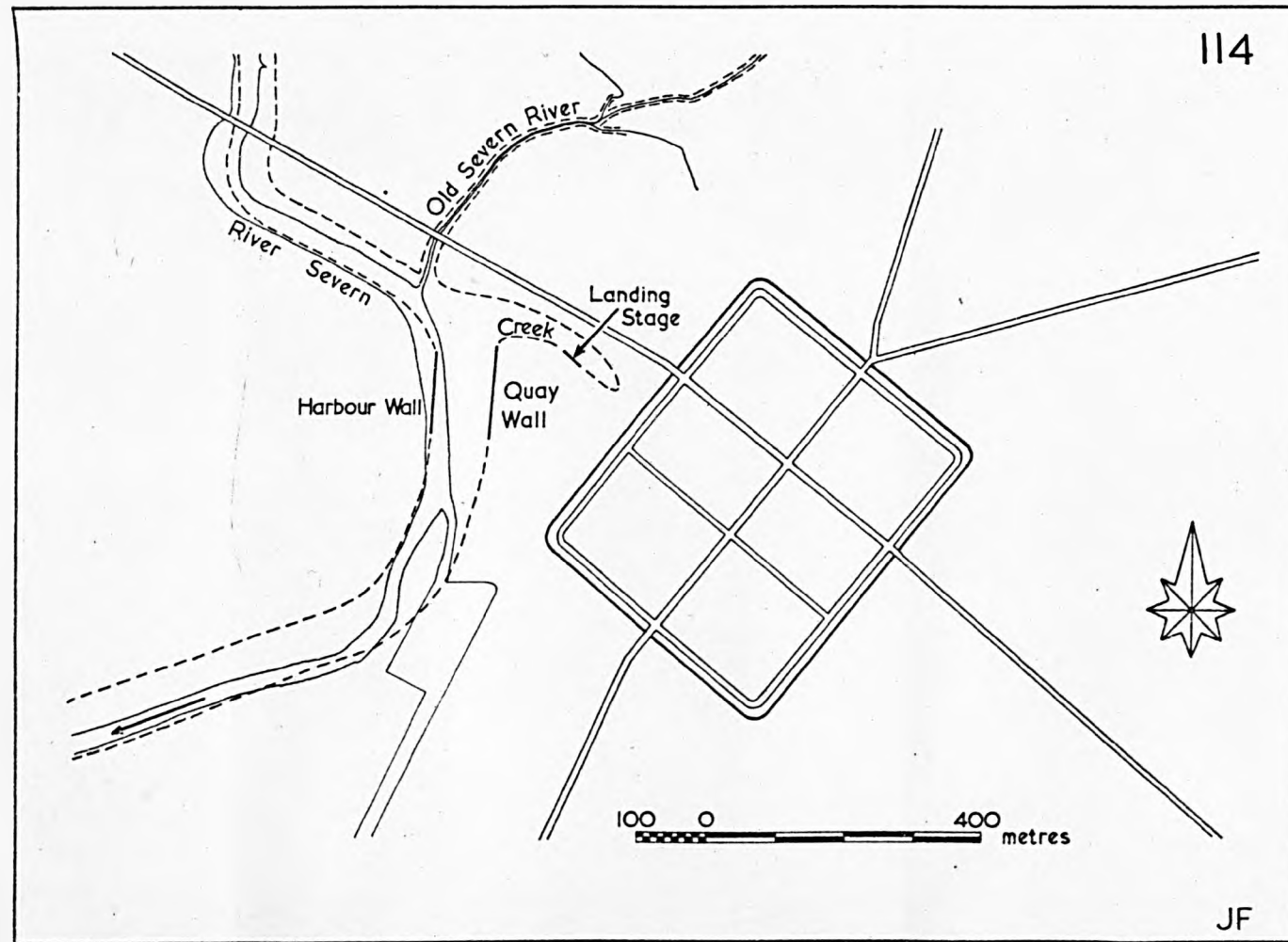


Sea Mills, Site of the Roman settlement, just North of the confluence of the River Trym and the River Avon (South of centre picture), after D.O.E. F42 39/RAF/3764 7.ix.71. 0102

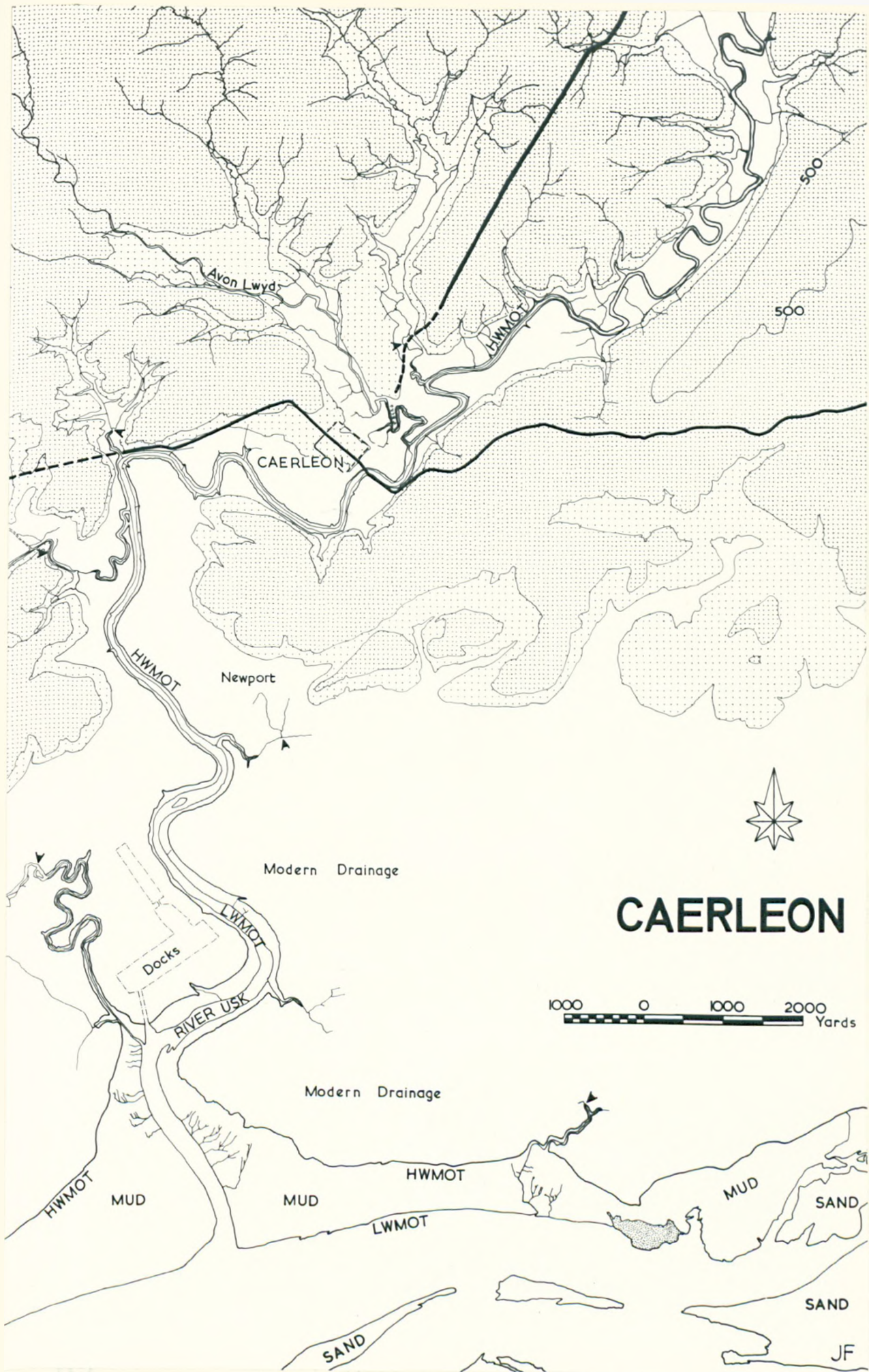
113



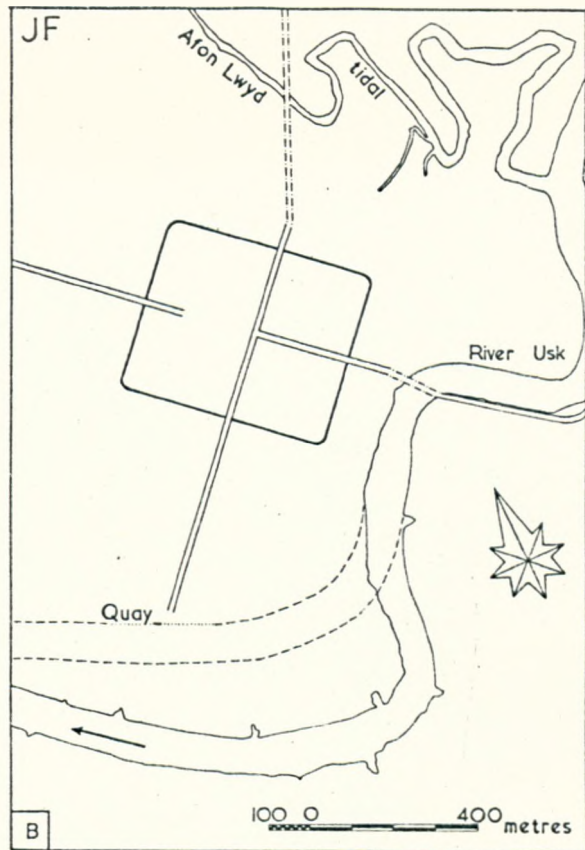
Sea Mills - The estuary of the River Trym immediately above its confluence with the River Avon, at low water.



Gloucester, Plan of the legionary fortress, and colonia, after 19th century accounts and maps. The approximate course of the River Severn in the 1st century A.D., designated by broken lines, is here seen in relation to the 19th century channel of the river. The siting of the Harbour Wall is uncertain, although its alignment is known.



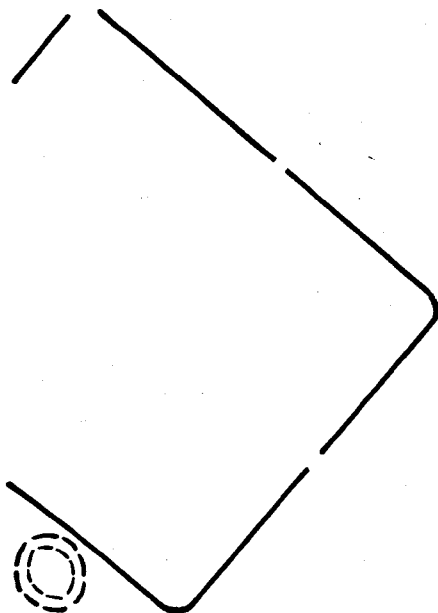
115 Caerleon, The site of the legionary fortress in relation to the Roman road system and the valley of the River Usk.
 Contours at 25 feet (7.6m) and 50 feet (15.2m.), except as otherwise indicated.
 ▶ - head of tidal limits.



Caerleon, Plan of the legionary fortress, showing the location of the quay, on the North bank of the 3rd century channel of the River Usk. based partly on Nash-Williams, V.E., *The Roman Legionary Fortress at Caerleon, Monmouthshire*, 1940, Map B.

Caerleon, View of the site of the fortress from the East. after Nash-Williams, V.E., *"The Roman Frontier in Wales"*, ED.II, 1969, Pl.I.



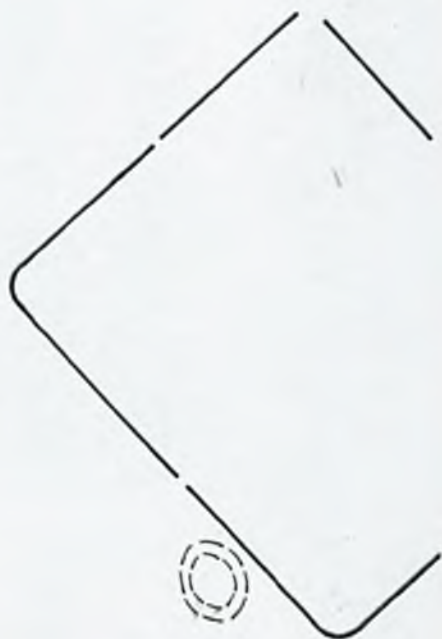




Caerleon, The confluence of the Afon Lwyd and the River Usk, to the East of the legionary fortress, after D.O.E. V OS/67/089 10.v.67.(67 089)093.



Caerleon, The confluence of the Afon Lwyd and the River Usk, to the East of the legionary fortress, after D.O.E. V OS/67/089 10.v.67.(67 089)093.



Wharves

Roman
Course of
R. Usk



Caerleon, Site of Extramural Area, after D.O.E. V OS/67/089 068, 10.v.67.



Caerleon, Site of Extramural Area, after D.O.E. V OS/67/089 068, 10.v.67.

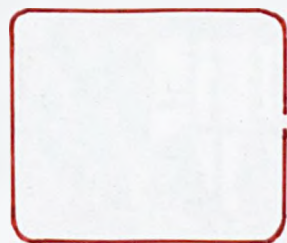


Pennal, The estuary of the Dyfi, looking southwards from the site of the fort (above).

Pennal, The confluence of the Afon Dyfi and the Afon Pennal, and their marshlands.



Hen
Waliau





Caernarvon, Site of fort and extramural enclosure, after D.O.E. V 58/RAF/8596
0095 19.ii.68.



Caernarvon, Site of fort and extramural enclosure, after D.O.E. V 58/RAF/8596
0095 19.ii.68.



Caernarvon, Estuary of the Seiont, looking North (above), towards the Menai Strait, and South (below) towards the harbour area at the foot of the scarp.



Caer
Cybi





Caer Gybi, Holyhead, The site of the late Roman enceinte, on the West bank of the harbour (looking West), after D.O.E. F21 543/RAF/3487 1.viii.66 0095.



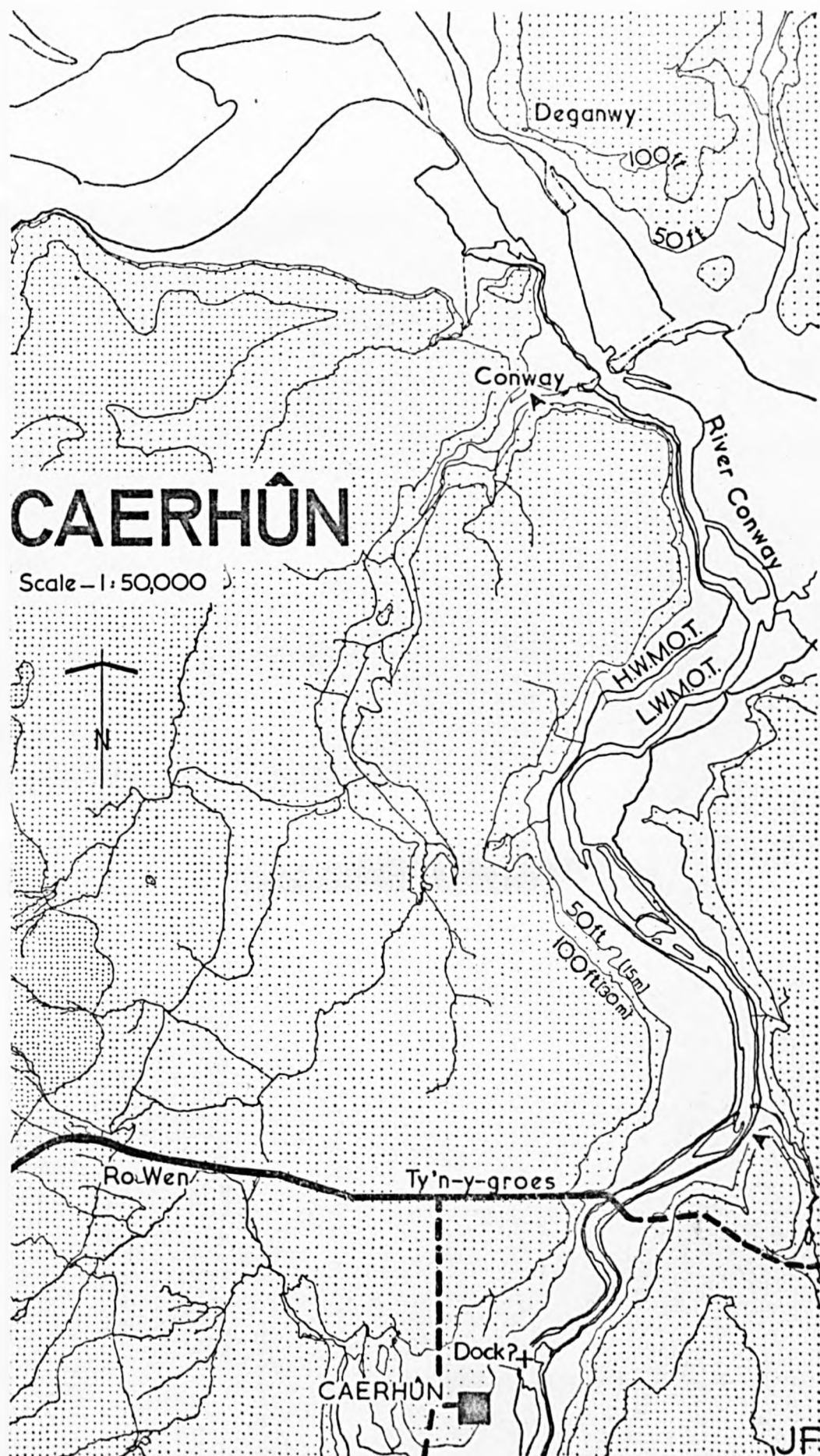
Caer Gybi, Holyhead, The site of the late Roman enceinte, on the West bank of the harbour (looking West), after D.O.E. F21 543/RAF/3487 1.viii.66 0095.



Caer Gybi, East wall and North-East tower of the enceinte, now occupied by the Church of St. Gybi, and the lower cemetery.

Caer Gybi, The site of the Roman harbour, now occupied by the railway sidings and water-front installations of the modern port.





Caerhûn, Map of the valley of the River Conway, and the site of the fort and dock.



Caerhŷn, Site of the Dock and Jetty, looking East towards the River Conway.

Caerhŷn, The flood-plain of the River Conway, looking northwards.





Rhuddlan, The River Clwyd by the Edwardian Castle, looking South, illustrating the relationship of the low-lying land on the West bank of the Clwyd to the embanked channel of the river.

Rhuddlan - St. Asaph, The confluence of the Clwyd and the Elwy, midway between the two towns.

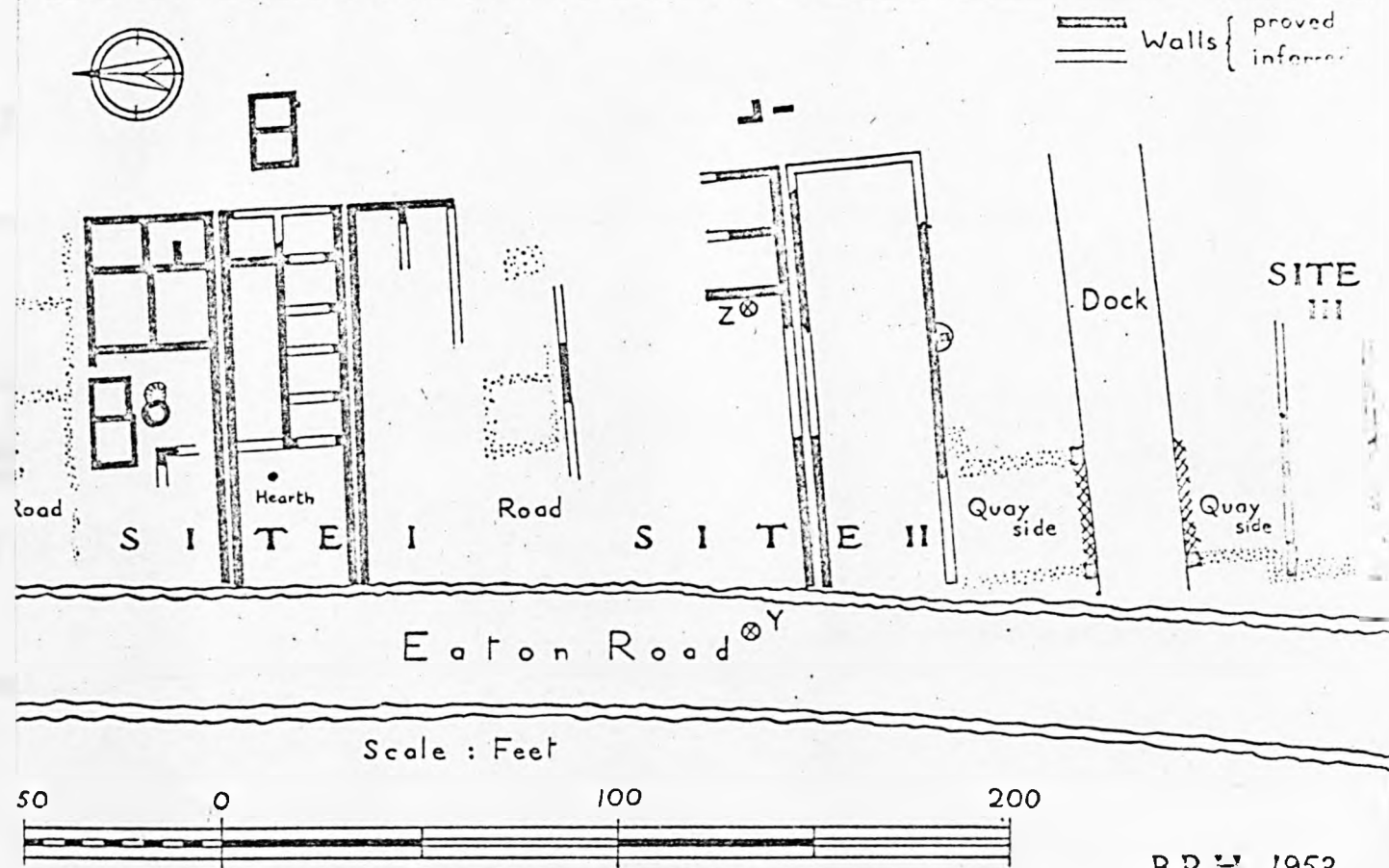




Garreg, Holywell - alleged Roman pharos.



HERONBRIDGE & SITES I-III



B.R.H. 1953

Heronbridge, Roman "Dock" and Buildings, after Hartley and Kaine, op.cit., fig.8.

137

Heronbridge, Section of "Dock", after Hartley and Kaine, op. cit., fig.7.

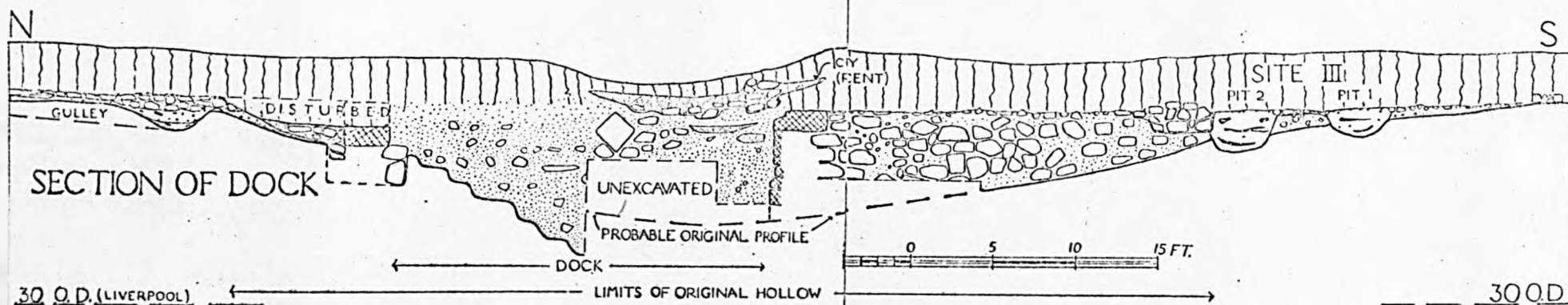
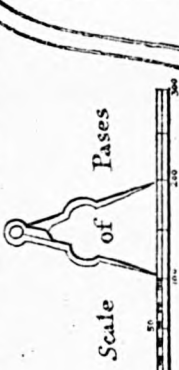


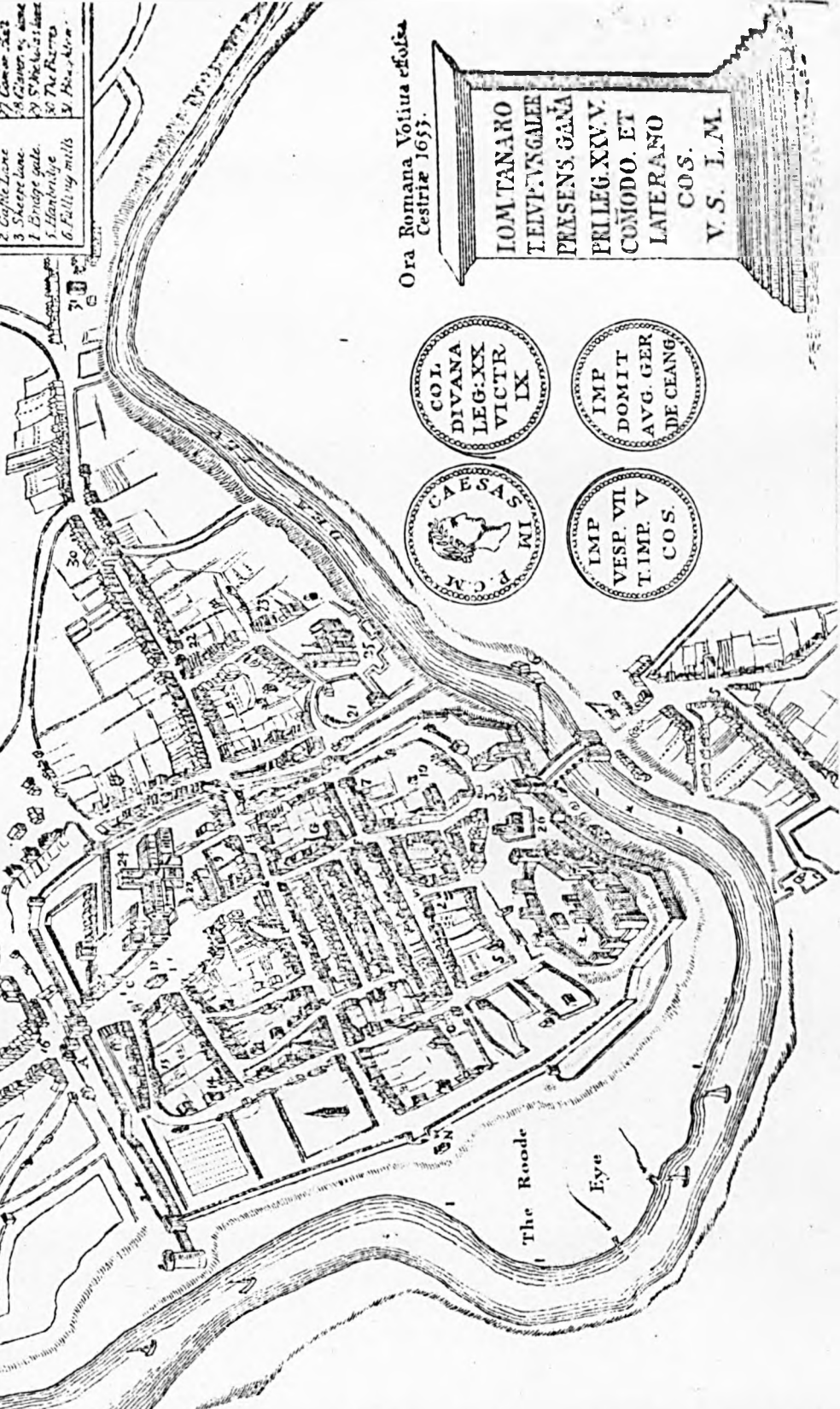
FIG. 7.

The ground plan of CHESTER

- THE EAR
 Richard the Son of H
 LES OF
 Ranulph Merchines
 CUNSTON
 Ranulph Gernones
 SING THE
 Hugh Gernone Es.
 RANULPH BLANCHEILL
 CONQUEST
 John Scot Earle



- A North gate
 B North wall
 C Corner Market
 D Stables
 E Stables
 F Stables
 G Stables
 H Stables
 I Stables
 J Stables
 K Stables
 L Stables
 M Stables
 N Stables
 O Stables
 P Stables
 Q Stables
 R Stables
 S Stables
 T Stables
 U Stables
 V Stables
 W Stables
 X Stables
 Y Stables
 Z Stables



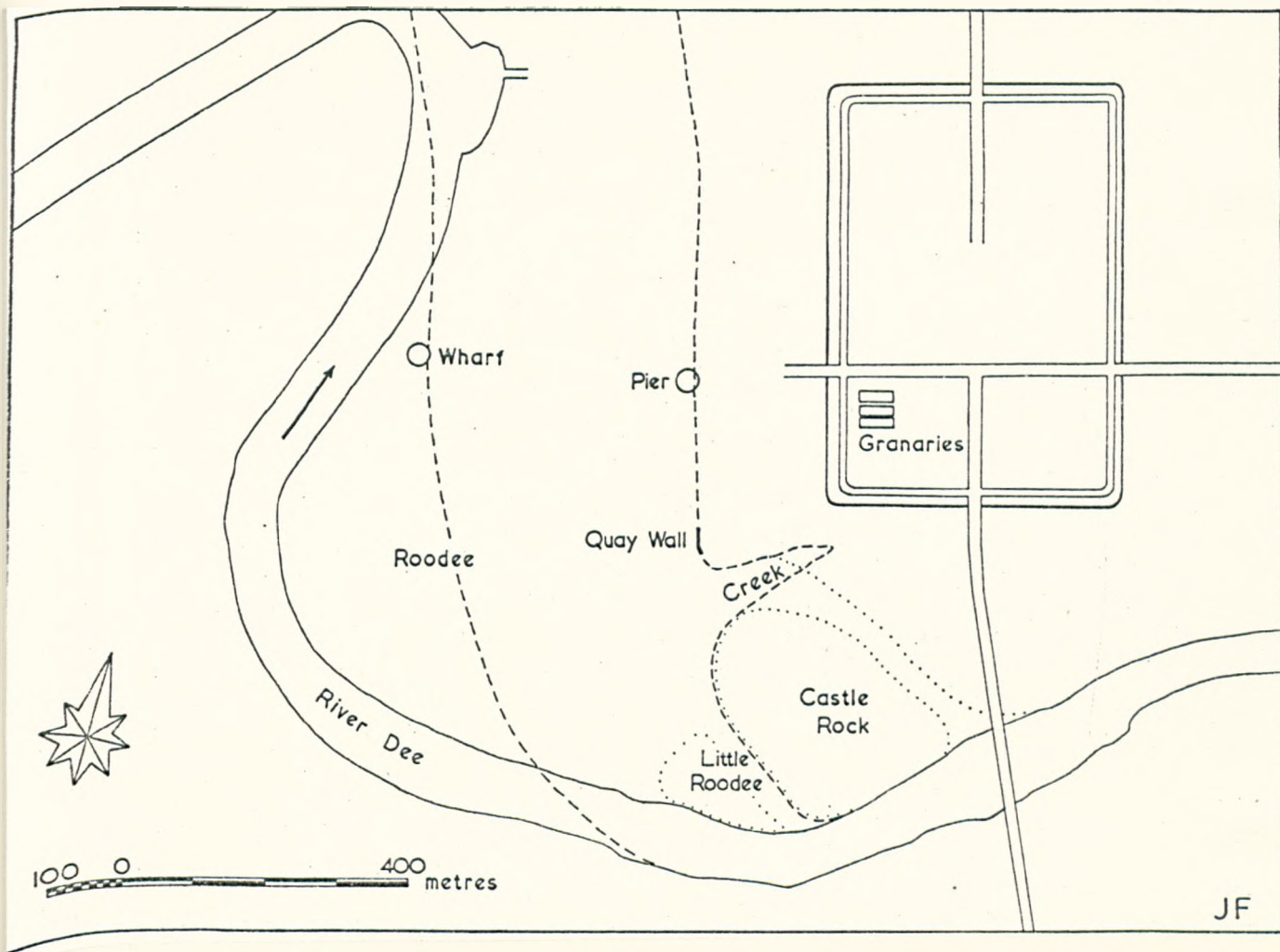
The 8 Barons of the County Palatine of Cheliter:

- W Fitzwilliam Baron of
 Fitzwilliam
 David Baron of Mal
 pos. Clark or Secre
 lary
 Rich Vernon Ba
 ron of Shipbrode
 Rich Stockport
 Baron of Stoford
 W Fitzwilliam Baron of
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 David Baron of Mal
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 Rich Vernon Ba
 ron of Shipbrode
 Rich Stockport
 Baron of Stoford



IOM. TANARO
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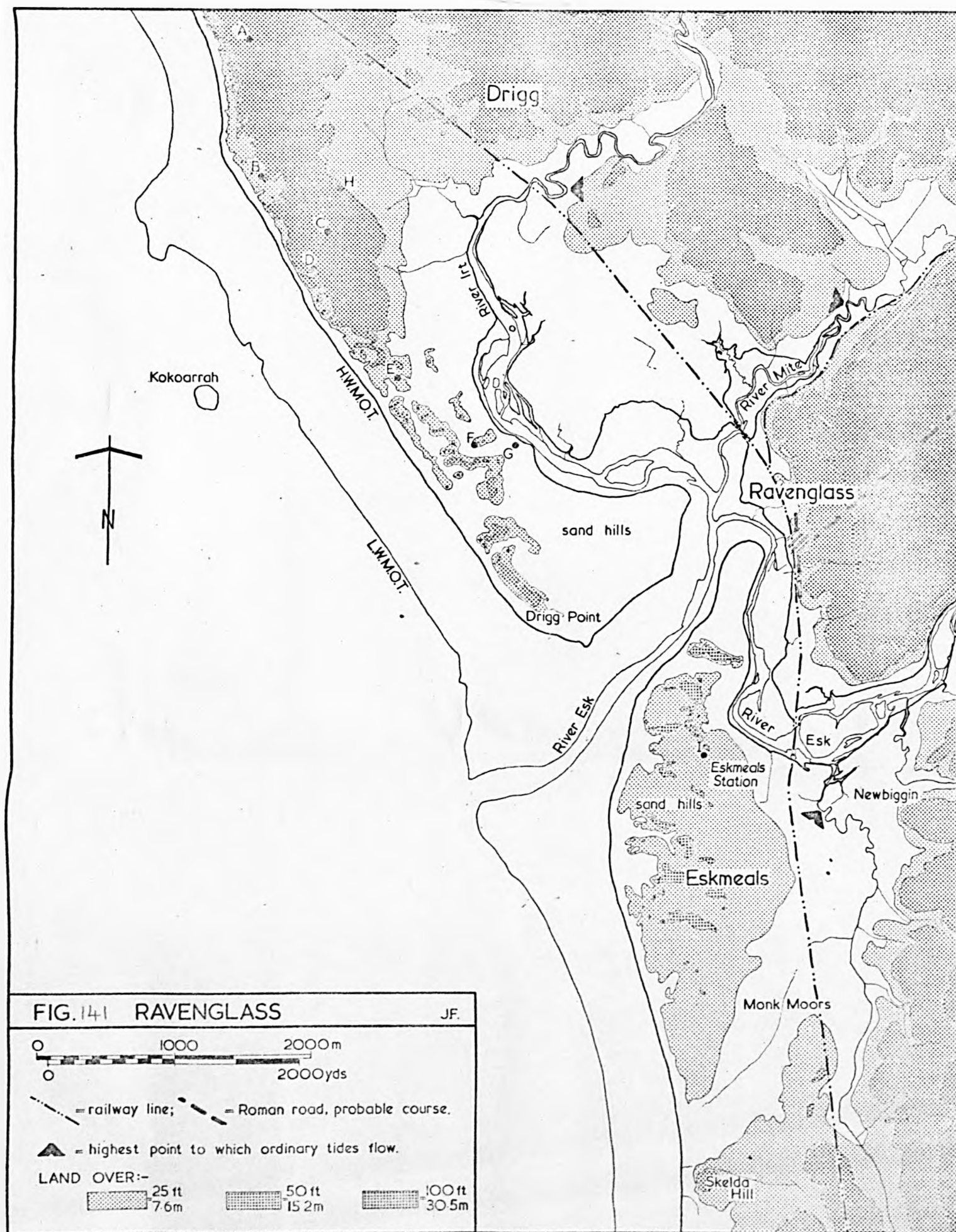
Ora Romana Voliua efolia
Cestrie 1655.



Chester, Plan of the legionary fortress. The 1st century channel of the Dee as reconstructed by Thompson, F.H., in "Roman Cheshire", 1965, fig. 2 & 4, is represented by broken lines. The dotted lines mark the possible course of the arm of the river which may have run between Castle Rock and the fortress. (above)

Chester, Roman Harbour Wall on the Roodee, after Thompson, op. cit., Pl 31.





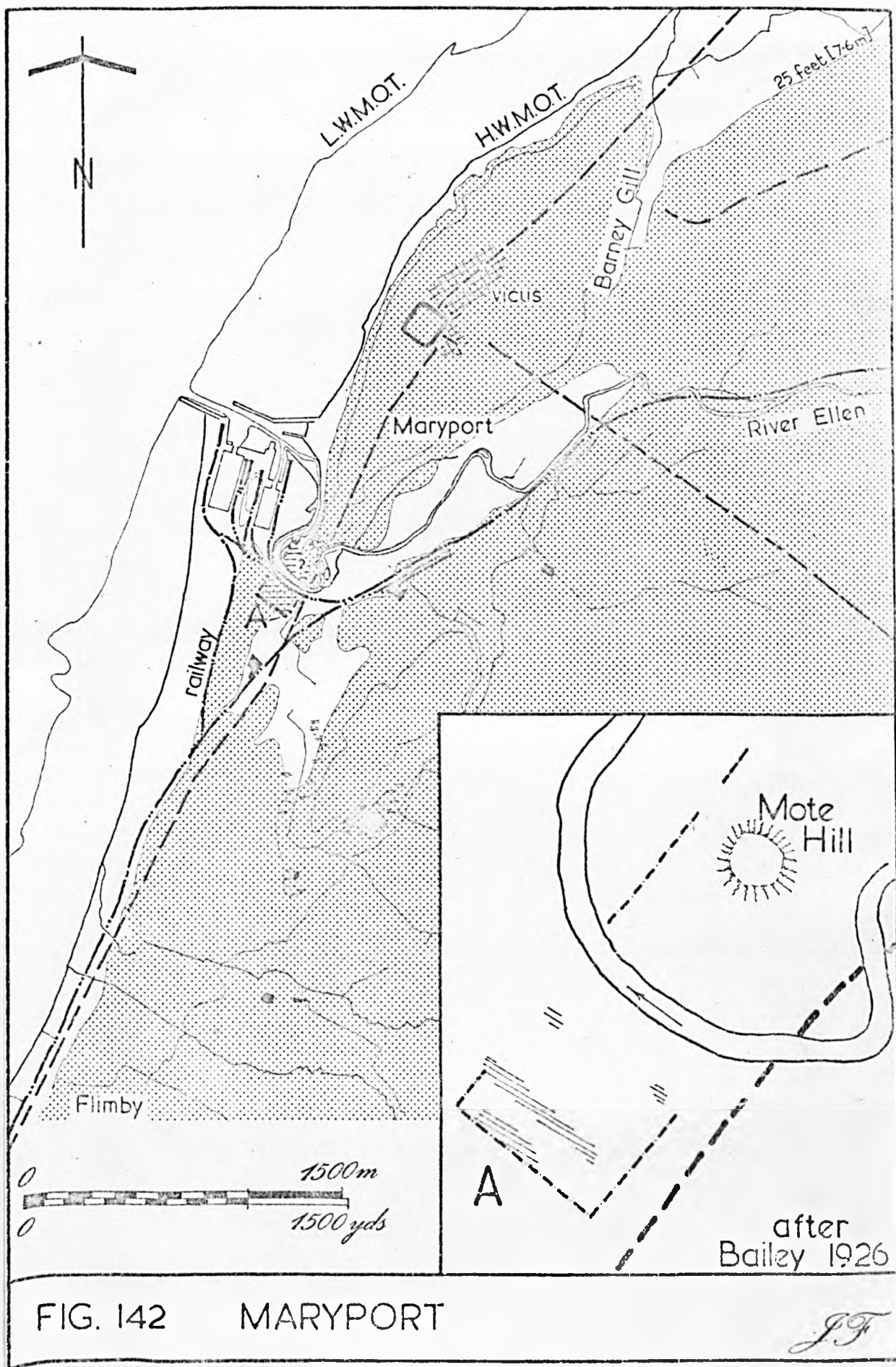


FIG. 142 MARYPORT

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Bowness: view of the site from the West

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Carlisle: view of the River Eden, looking westwards from the present road bridge