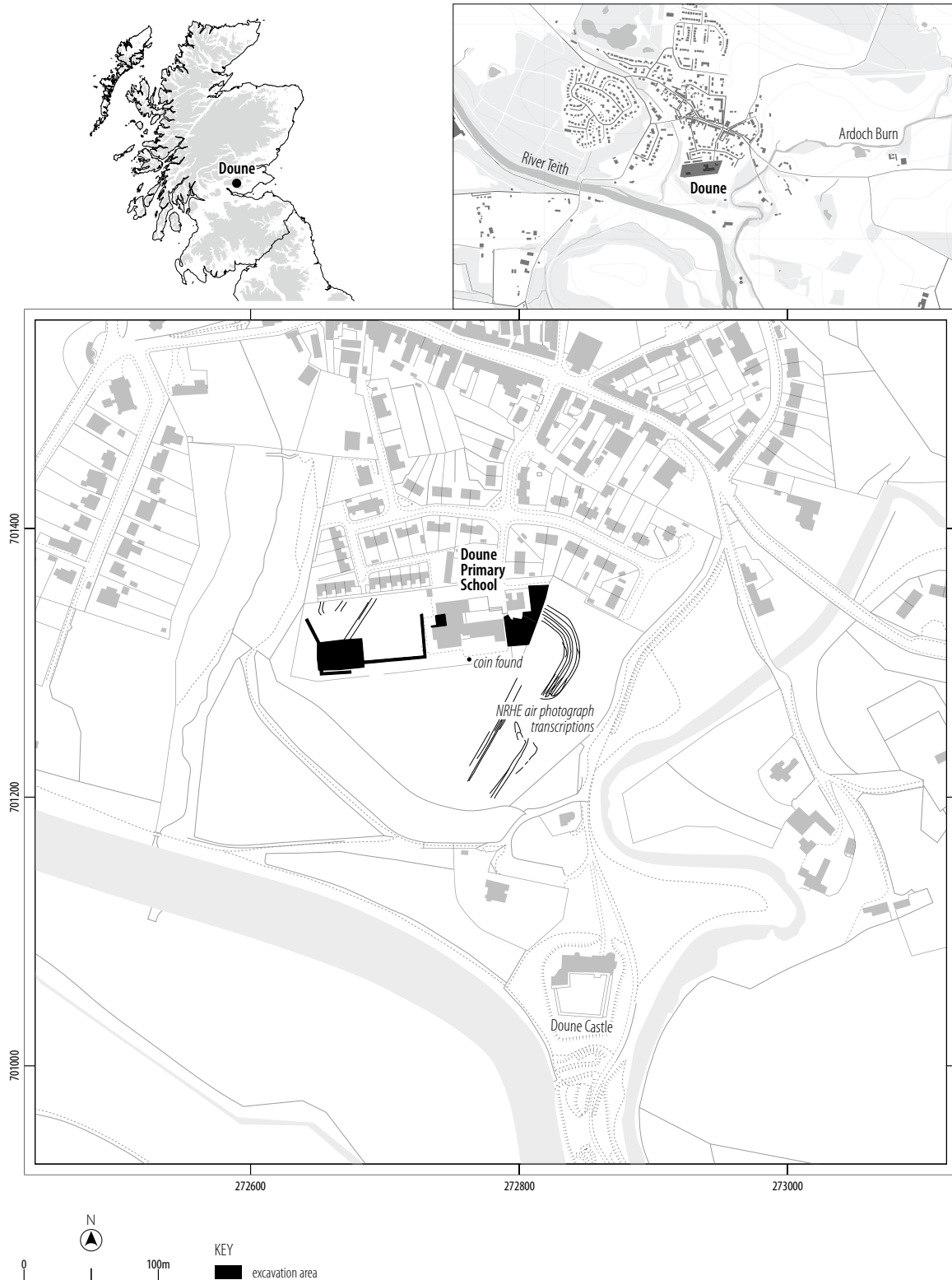


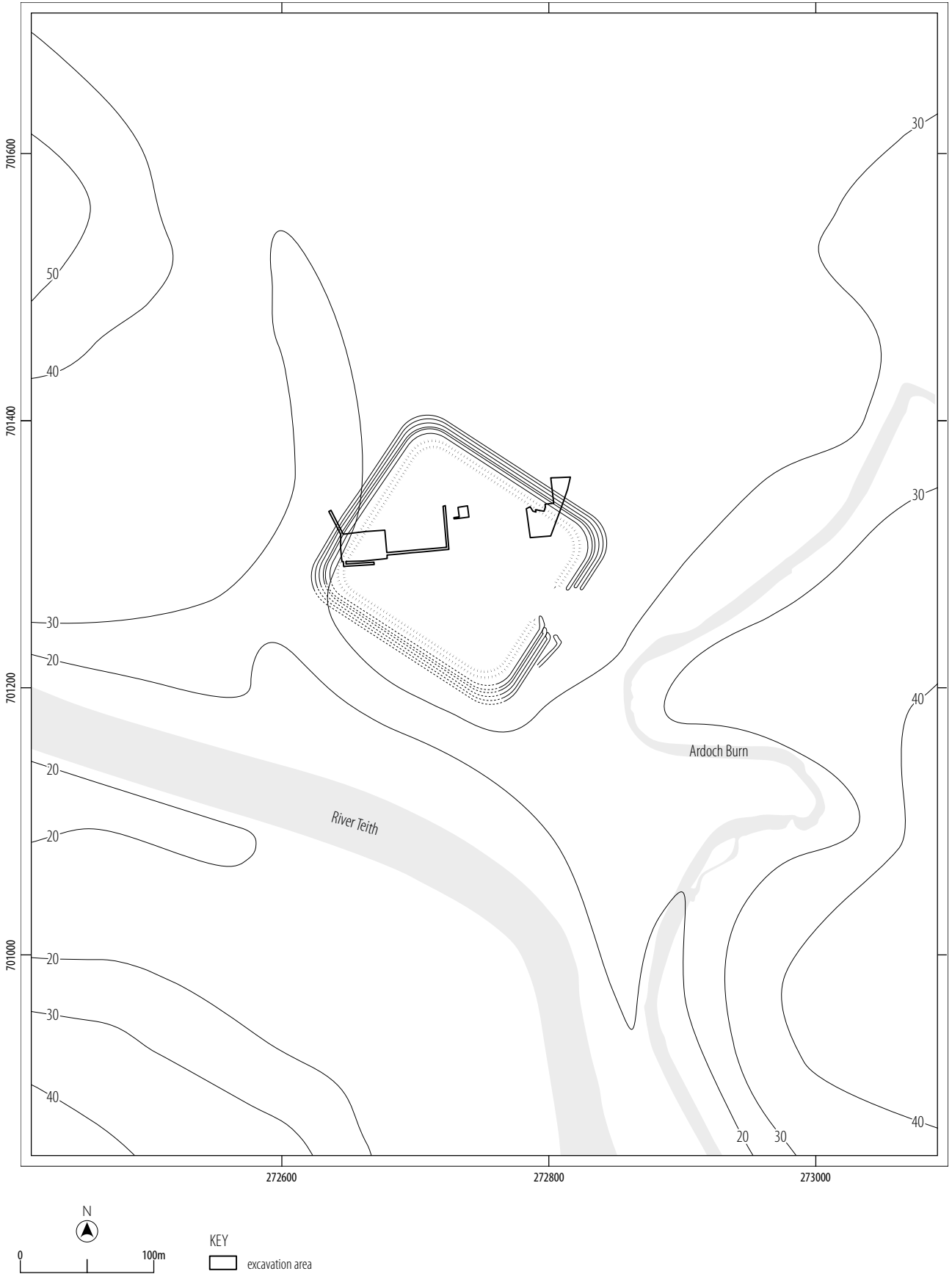
2. INTRODUCTION

Archaeological excavations were carried out in 1999, 2008 and 2010 in advance of development within the grounds of Doune Primary School,

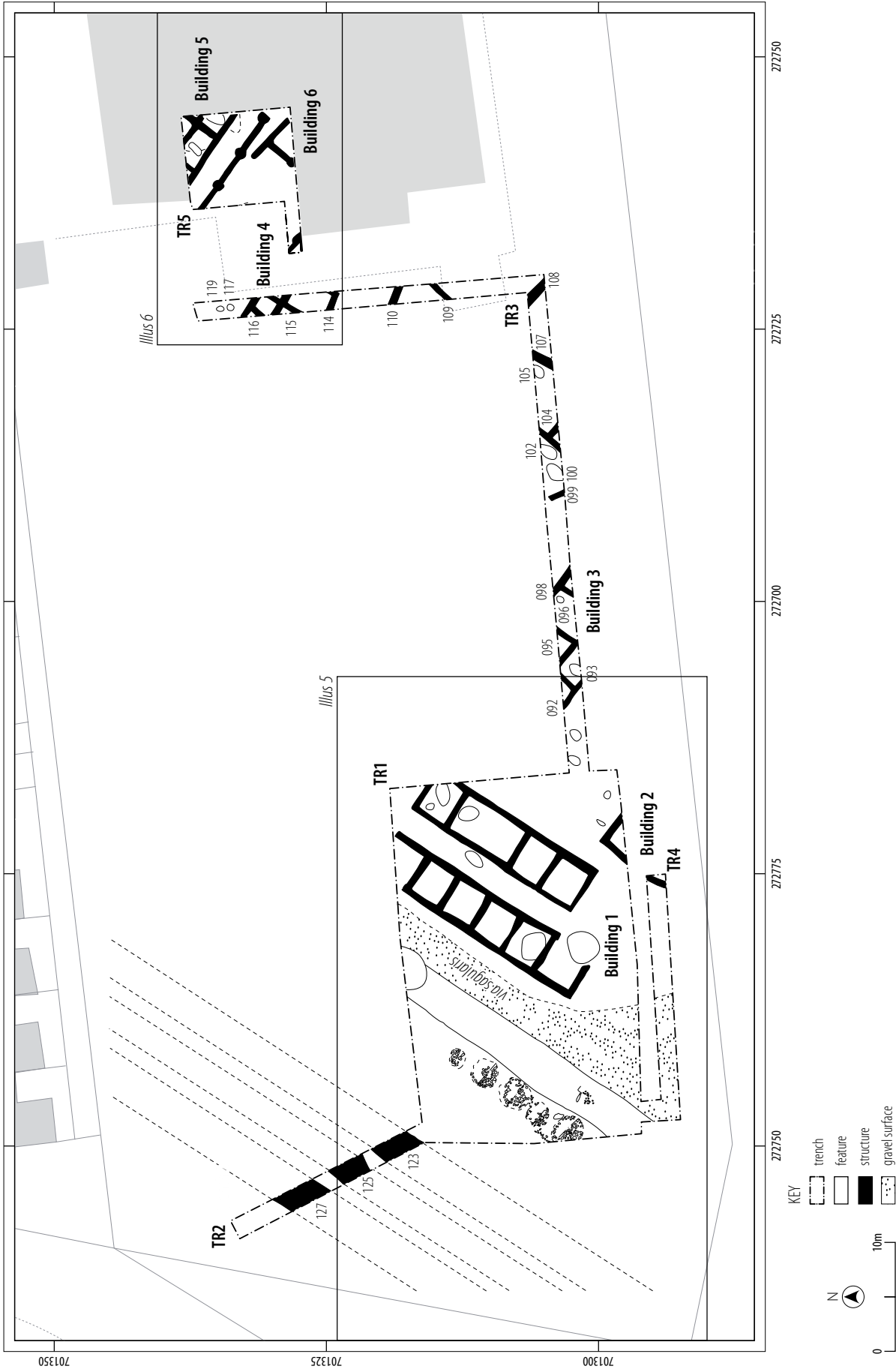
which partially overlies the Roman fort at Doune (NGR: NN 7272 0130; NRHE No. NN70SW 36; Canmore ID 24767) (Illus 1 & 2). All phases of this work were commissioned by Stirling Council and undertaken by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd.



Illus 1 Site location. © Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd



Illus 2 Setting and contour map. © Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd



Illus 3 Plan of archaeological features: 1999 and 2008. © Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd

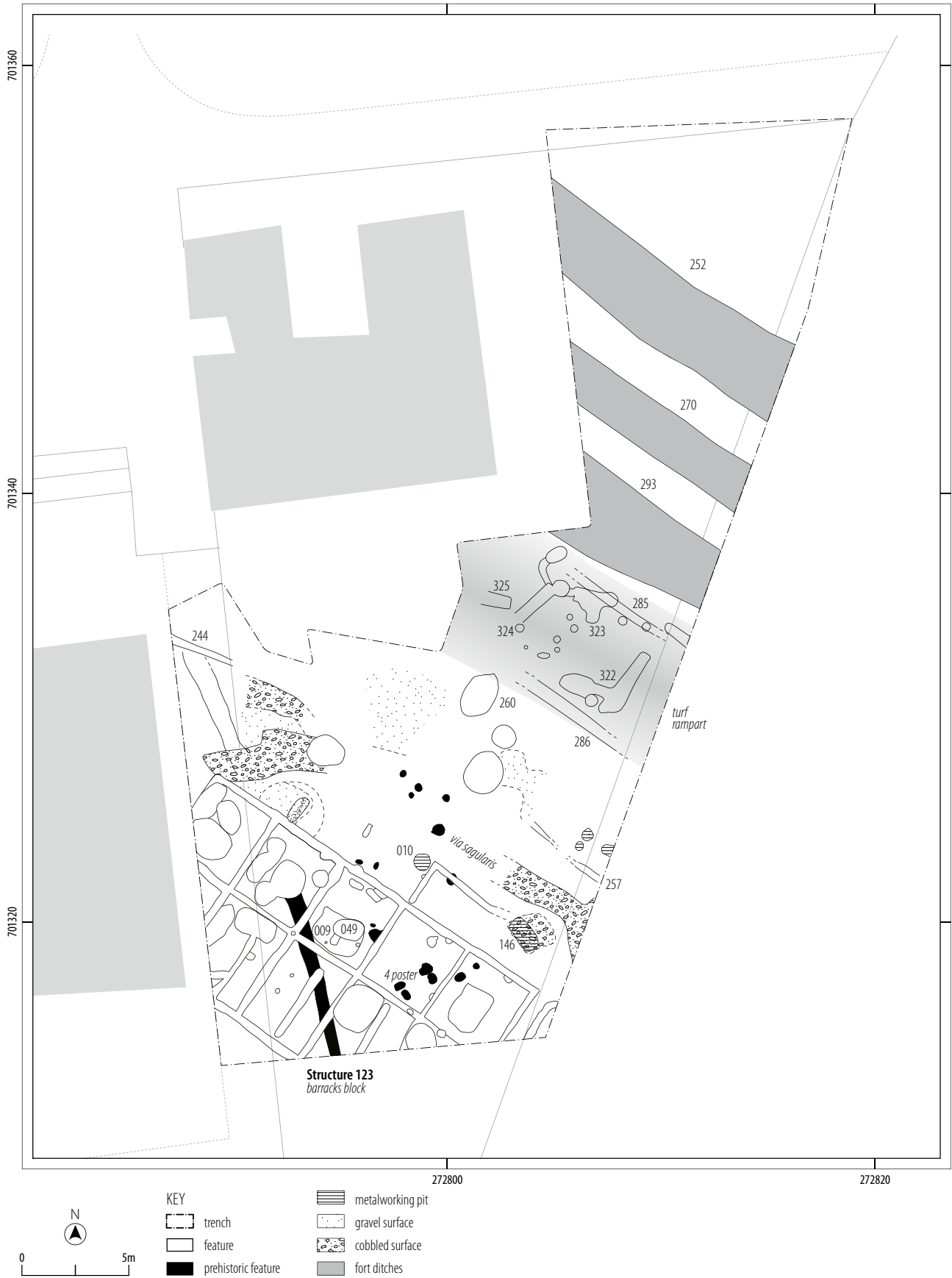
The first phase of work was carried out in 1999 and was directed by Colm Moloney. This excavation covered the footprint and services of a new nursery located to the west of the main school building (Illus 3, Trenches 1–4). The excavation was located on the west side of the fort and revealed evidence for internal buildings, a row of ovens and a furnace. It also provided a section across the fort's defences and the intervallum road.

A second phase of work was undertaken in 2008 and was directed by Paul Masser. This small-scale excavation was undertaken prior to the construction of a classroom extension adjoining the existing school and revealed further evidence for buildings located within the interior of the fort (see Illus 3, Trench 5).

A third phase of work was undertaken in 2010, directed by Paul Masser. It was located within a garden to the east of the primary school, on the east side of the fort (Illus 4). The triple

ditch defences of the fort and the remains of the turf rampart were exposed alongside cobbled surfaces relating to the intervallum road. A group of shallow pits between the road and the rampart contained evidence for metalworking. Within the interior of the fort, part of a timber building was excavated, which is interpreted here as a cavalry barracks block. Numerous large pits were identified within the building, and between it and the rampart. The pits located within the building may represent gravel quarrying or improvised latrines, probably excavated after the building's main phase of occupation was over and possibly evidence of the partial abandonment of the fort. Some features within this trench clearly pre-dated the fort and are thought to be prehistoric.

The 1999 excavation is archived with the NRHE with Project Code DPS99, the 2008 as DPSE07 and the 2010 as DPSX10.



Illus 4 2010 trench. © Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd