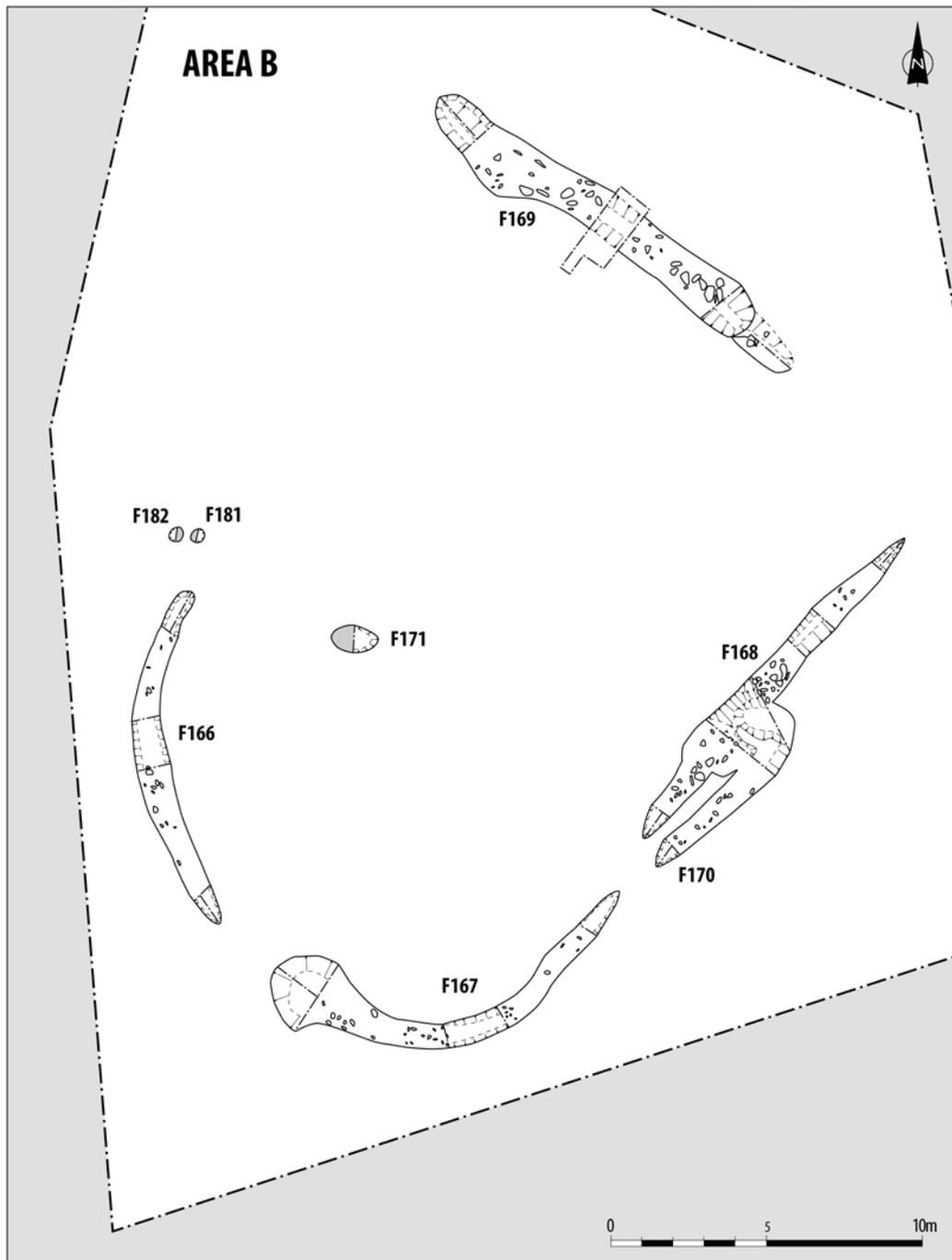


7 SEGMENTED DITCHED ENCLOSURE (Area B)

The segmented ditched enclosure (*illus 25*) was situated on sloping ground just below the lip of the plateau where the Neolithic structure was identified. It had a diameter of *c* 25m and consisted of four separate segments.

The enclosure ditch consisted of four segments

(F166, F167, F168/F170 and F169) of lengths varying between *c* 11m and 13m and surviving widths of between 0.8m and 1.4m (segment F168 ran parallel with F170 and is probably a re-cut of this feature). Sections excavated at the ditch terminals and across the centre of the ditches showed that they were very



Illus 25 Area B: segmented ditched enclosure

vestigial, typically only surviving to a depth of 0.1m. A large gap in the enclosure to the north-west within an area of very shallow topsoil suggests that there may have been a fifth segment that has now been completely ploughed out.

The pit (F171) within the interior of the enclosure was oval in shape, measuring 1.4m NW–SE by 0.7m SW–NE by 0.24m deep. The fill of the pit consisted of mid-brown silt containing lumps of organic material.

Due to the degree of survival, analogies with other

sites are problematic. Two recently discovered ring-ditches from the Colne Valley, West London ([Barclay *et al* 2009](#)) enclosed pits containing cremation burials dating to the latter part of the fourth millennium BC. However, at Lockerbie the absence of both artefacts and material suitable for radiocarbon-dating mean that it is impossible to tell if this enclosure was of a similar date or shared a similar function. The degree of plough truncation suggests that this area has been heavily exploited for agricultural purposes in recent years.