Another preparation in which an electrode array was inserted at the time the temporal bone was fresh and unfixed. After fixation and osmium staining, the array was removed from scala tympani. This SEM image shows the surface of the spiral ligament in an area where the array contacted the lateral wall. In the upper portion of the image the spiral ligament tissue is seen to be compressed and marked by grooves produced by the electrode. Below that area the normal porous surface of the spiral ligament is seen.