

Life and Death in Prehistoric March, Excavations at March Highways Depot



Post-Excavation Assessment



September 2009

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Life and Death in Prehistoric March, Excavations at March Highways Depot

Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

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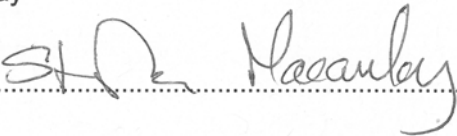
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Summary

Between October and December 2008 Oxford Archaeology East, formerly CAMARC (the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit carried out an archaeological excavation at land at March Highways Depot, The Hundred, March. This was in response to a previous archaeological evaluation, which identified several areas of archaeological potential. A condition was placed on planning consent requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken prior to any development. This specified the opening of two areas with a total area of c.2.2ha. The excavation was centred on TL 4075 9848. The work was commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council.

Archaeological evidence from the Mesolithic through to Roman periods was recorded during the course of the excavation. However the most extensive remains dated to the Prehistoric periods, particularly the Bronze Age. The most significant remains were a sequence of large watering holes and pits in the northern part of Area 2. Seven cremations, a post-built structure, ring gully and linear gully were all recorded in association with these features whilst much of the finds evidence recovered from them appeared to be associated with funerary practise.

During the Roman period a series of enclosures were laid out and were part of wider rural landscape. These included a field system comprised of sub rectangular boundaries enclosing cultivation beds and a trackway demarcated by a segmented ditch, which continued towards the western limit of the excavation. Also of note was a substantial boundary ditch that was directed around the edge of the watering holes, which suggests that even though the water pits had fallen out of use, they had left a considerable impression on the landscape.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 The proposed development site (TL 4075 9848) is located to the north of the historic town of March, off Hundred Road.
- 1.1.2 An evaluation was conducted on the site by the CAU (Hutton, J 2008 - Hundred Road, March, Cambridgeshire; An Archaeological Evaluation. CAU Report). Evidence for Bronze Age settlement and funerary practice of regional significance was recorded, along with Mesolithic and Neolithic activity and Prehistoric and Roman field systems and cultivation beds (ECB 2965).
- 1.1.3 As a result of these findings CAPCA determined that a full record of these remains must be made in advance of the proposed development.
- 1.1.4 The excavation of the site was severely affected by the wet weather in October and November with the water table rising above the surface level of site. The surface water made it impossible to fully excavate a number of features, and in some cases resulted in a limited number of features being completely covered and therefore unexcavable for the duration of the project.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site (total area 4.53ha) is located on former agricultural lying on a terrace of the March Gravels and Till deposits (British Geological Survey 1978).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 Abundant archaeological remains are known from the surrounding landscape and previous fieldwork has revealed a widely utilised landscape with evidence of settlement spanning the last three to four thousand years. The Archaeological background for this report is drawn from the Evaluation Report (Hutton, J & Standring, R, 2008).
- 1.3.2 Earlier activity from the Mesolithic period is recorded in the form of flint scatters in the vicinity of Gaul Road, where finds were dominated by blades and cores with very few microliths and small blades. The confluence of the Nene and associated channels to the west would have provided a rich food resource during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods which is reflected by the (mostly plough soil derived) flint artefacts that have been recorded throughout the landscape of the peninsula on which the Proposed Development Area (PDA) lies.
- 1.3.3 There were complex and varying environmental conditions around March during the Bronze Age with the rise of water levels and encroachment of the fen edge. Occupation during the Bronze Age is well represented in the form of flint assemblages, both as background activity and in three concentrations at Cherryholt (TL 40 96), Westry (TL 40 98) which was to the southwest of the PDA, and Flaggrass Hill (TL 42 99) (Hall 1987). Barrows are recorded to the southeast at Stonea , in addition to a Bronze Age vessel that was found north of the station at March in 1860.
- 1.3.4 Systematic fieldwork in recent years at Whitemoor Sidings to the east of the PDA found truncated ditches, pits and post holes from the Early Bronze Age as well as gullies, large pits and post holes dated to the later Bronze Age. At the nearby site of Barn Farm (500m to the north), evidence of early land division was found in the form of a series of undated truncated ditches on a NW/SE alignment which were tentatively dated to the prehistoric period and a Roman field system dated from 1st to 3rd century AD. A field

system thought to date from the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age was recorded on land between Greek Road and Station Road, March to the south of the PDA. These linear features were thought to be for the purpose of drainage (with boundary a secondary function) due to the area becoming increasingly wet due to contemporary inundations.

- 1.3.5 By the Iron Age, environmental conditions greatly influenced the location of settlements with occupation concentrated on 'islands' such as Ely and Stonea. Two major Iron Age sites are known on the March island; one at Grandford on the most northerly tip of the island and the other on Flaggrass to the east. At The March Northern County Offices site, north of the PDA, linear features were thought to represent an agricultural enclosure and possible droveway dating from the Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age. A contemporary crouched inhumation was also found on the periphery of the presumed occupation area.
- 1.3.6 During the Roman period, the growth of peat covered the whole of the lower-lying March fens and encroached on the March Island. To the north of the PDA runs the route of the Fen Causeway, a Roman road that ran between Denver to the east and Peterborough to the west, where it joins Ermine Street. The road was built across marshy fen, linking to areas of higher ground such as the March gravel island. The road appears to have been built across the fen using layers of gravel, a construction method confirmed by a nearby evaluation at 92 Elm Road, March, where the gravel was found to overly a thin alluvial soil. Further from the PDA, a large segment of the causeway was sampled at King's Dyke West, Whittlesey during an excavation carried out by the CAU – also revealing a gravel metalled surface flanked by two ditches.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) who commissioned and funded the archaeological work and Eliza Alqassar and Kasia Gdaniec who monitored the Archaeological Work, also Alistair Frost who project managed the site for CCC. The project was managed by Stephen Macaulay. Chris Thatcher, Dan Hounsell and Lucy Offord directed and supervised the fieldwork with the assistance of Nick Pankhurst, Jim Blinkhorn, John Diffey, Helen Lomas, Liz Jeffries, Graeme Clarke, Louis Budworth, Chris Faine, Caoimhin O Coileain, Zoe Ui Choileain, Rachelle Wood, Anna Finesilver.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Prehistoric

- 2.1.1 The archaeological remains identified in the 2008 evaluation clearly had the potential to make an important contribution to the understanding of the prehistoric (in particular Bronze Age) landscape of March. The most notable individual Bronze Age elements comprised the watering holes and cremations; achieving an understanding of the overall Bronze Age settlement perhaps linked to a field system was also deemed significant.
- 2.1.2 As such the site had the potential to contribute to research themes such as the development of the fen edge Bronze Age landscape in the 2nd and 1st Millenniums BC and to compliment the archaeological investigations at similar sites such as Pode Hole Quarry and Eye Quarry. Pode Hole Quarry revealed mid-late Bronze Age field systems around Bronze Age barrows, with wells and some houses set within the field systems.
- 2.1.3 Furthermore the evidence for Late Mesolithic/Neolithic activity suggested an opportunity to not only characterise its nature but perhaps identify links to the more substantial Bronze Age occupation.

English Heritage National Research Priorities

- 2.1.4 English Heritage identify a number of National Research priorities which the remains at The Highways Depot, March will contribute towards, particularly Process of Change (English Heritage Research Agenda 1997)
- Process of Change - Communal Monuments into settlement and field landscapes (c2000-300BC).
 - Chronological Priorities – Territories and tenure in the 4th and 3rd Millennium BC & Late Bronze and Iron Age landscapes
 - Themes – Rural settlement and relict field systems

Regional Research Priorities

- 2.1.5 The Eastern Counties regional research framework (Brown, N & Glazebrook, J. 2000. Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. research agendas and strategy, EAA Occasional paper 8) specifically identifies a central problem of the Neolithic and Bronze Age as being “the development of farming and the attendant development and integration of monuments, fields and settlements” (Brown and Murphy p10 in Brown & Glazebrook 2000).
- 2.1.6 The current revision of the regional research frameworks (2008) specifically identifies the understanding of the development of structured Bronze Age landscapes, settlement hierarchies, river and fen-edge and fenland occupation as a priority. The key type sites being in the vicinity of March, at Pode Hall Farm, also in Thorney, and the quarry sites at Whittlesey, Must Farm, Bradley Fen and Kings Dyke. Closer to the site is the Bronze Age remains at Whitemoor Sidings.

2.2 Roman

- 2.2.1 Although not extensive the Roman remains at March offer two specific elements of research investigation to enhance the understanding of this period. These relate to the investigation of the field system and specifically the cultivation trenches.

- The determination of the relationship of the agricultural regime and any associated settlement with the local and regional economy.
- The characterisation of the form, date of establishment, subsequent development of the field systems, and their relationship to the settlement.

English Heritage National Research Priorities

2.2.2 English Heritage identify a number of National Research priorities which the remains at The Highways Depot, March will contribute towards, particularly Process of Change (English Heritage Research Agenda 1997)

- Process of Change - Briton into Roman (c 300 BC-AD 200)
- Themes - Settlement hierarchies and interaction
- Themes – Rural settlement and relict field systems

Regional Research Priorities

2.2.3 The Eastern Counties regional research framework (Brown, N & Glazebrook, J. 2000. *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. research agendas and strategy*, EAA Occasional paper 8) specifically identifies a need to understand '*Food: consumption and production and Agricultural Production* (Going and Plouviez p21 in Brown & Glazebrook 2000). The current revision of the regional research frameworks (2008) specifically identifies the understanding of *landscape and environment* whilst a specific agenda is a better understanding of *Roman Agriculture, farming and consumption*.

3 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Evidence for human activity comprised features and deposits spanning the Mesolithic to Roman periods, although features directly associated with settlement appeared to date predominantly to the Bronze Age (c. 2000BC - 700BC).

3.2 Provisional Site Phasing

3.2.1 As with many rural sites very little complex stratigraphy was present, although several areas of inter-cutting ditches and pits were recorded across the site. The preliminary phasing presented in this work is largely based on stratigraphic relationships, spatial associations and, to a certain extent, similarity in alignment of linear features. Where possible this has been combined with dating evidence provided by stratified artefacts, primarily pottery. Four main periods have been provisionally identified, although these may be subject to refinement for analysis and publication:

Period 1: Mesolithic to Neolithic (c.10,000BC – c.2000BC)

3.2.2 An assemblage of residual worked flint was recovered from across the site that was representative of low level activity throughout this period. It was comprised mainly of flakes dated to the Late Neolithic period with a number of re-touched blades and thumbnail scrapers also recorded.

Period 2: Bronze Age (c.2000BC – c.700BC)

3.2.3 Evidence from this period comprised a variety of feature types. Of note were a sequence of large watering holes and pits in the northern part of Area 2, around which were located six cremations, a post-built structure and ring gully. A steep sided gully, aligned south west to north east, was recorded that terminated just short of the south-western of the watering holes.

Period 3: Iron Age (c.700BC - AD43)

3.2.4 During this period it seems that there was an extension and refinement of the boundaries first laid out during the Bronze Age. There was also evidence for pitting on a smaller scale and possible funerary activity. The enclosures laid out during this time were subsequently overridden during the Roman phase in favour of north to south aligned field systems.

Period 4: Roman (AD43 – AD410)

3.2.5 Ditches and gullies were the predominant feature type attributed to this period. These features formed two distinct groupings that probably formed part of a much wider rural landscape. In Area 1 to the east, a field system comprised of sub rectangular boundaries enclosing north to south aligned cultivation gullies was recorded. At the southern limit of this system was a possible trackway demarcated by a segmented ditch aligned east to west. This apparently continued westwards into Area 2. Traversing the centre of Area 2 was a substantial boundary ditch that was directed around the edge of the watering holes described above (para. 3.2.3)

3.3 Period 1: Mesolithic to Neolithic (c.10,000BC – c.2000BC)

- 3.3.1 An assemblage of worked flint was recovered that was dispersed widely across the site. Much of this material was probably residual rather than representative of *in situ* deposits within contemporary features, the presence of this material does however indicate activity, albeit ephemeral, on the site throughout these periods (Appendix B.1).
- 3.3.2 A small number of pieces characteristic of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic industries were recovered but by far the greatest proportion of the assemblage comprised flakes dateable to the Later Neolithic period. The manufacture of which carried over into the Early Bronze Age. The raw material was derived primarily from localised fluvioglacial deposits (Appendix B.1).

3.4 Period 2: Bronze Age (c.2000BC – c.700BC)

Area 2

Watering Holes

- 3.4.1 In the north western part of Area 2 a particularly large sub-circular feature (approximately 22m long on its north to south axis by 17m wide, east to west) was recorded. The excavation of the feature was primarily undertaken by hand, although in the later stages of excavation a machine was used to strip the uppermost layer (**1828**) once adequate dating and phasing had been established.
- 3.4.2 In the event over 75% of the feature was excavated and the exposed sections revealed a total of eight inter-cutting pits (**1836, 1810, 1849, 1816, 1496, 1491, 1939 & 1927**).
- 3.4.3 It was not possible to reach the base of the northern part of the pit sequence as a result of the high water table and unstable ground conditions. However augering of the fills revealed that at its deepest point the pitting extended to 1.83m below Ordnance Datum.
- 3.4.4 The entire sequence was sealed by a dark grey silty sand layer numbered 1828, 1189, 1908 & 1885 that will hereafter be referred to as **1828**. This layer represented an accumulation of material in the depression presumably left by the settlement of the pit fills. As stated above, ground conditions were very unstable on site and it seems likely that any excavated features would have been prone to slumping and side collapse. It is therefore suggested that pit fills were primarily naturally derived and deposited as a result of weathering rather than representative of deliberate backfill.
- 3.4.5 A number of other feature types were recorded from this period. However this feature is described first as it appears to be a *loci* for the other activities in evidence around the site.
- 3.4.6 The pit sequence is described below, beginning with the latest feature.

Pit 1927

- 3.4.7 The latest pit in the sequence was the furthest north eastern feature in the sequence. Pit **1927** was, at its widest, 13m in diameter. Its northern edge was cut into sandy silts that were particularly unstable, making it very difficult to discern the true edge of the feature. As with the earlier features described below, its fills comprised material probably derived via natural slumping. This precluded the excavation of the pit to its full depth but a number of sherds of pottery, dated to the Late Bronze Age were recovered from its upper fills (1751 & 1753) along with Early Bronze Age also recovered from the upper fills (1887 & 1930).

Pit 1939

- 3.4.8 Pit **1939** was situated in the north western corner of the pit sequence. At its widest point it measured 12m. It was markedly deeper than many of the early pits, extending to at least 2.6m below ground level (-1.83mOD). A sherd of Devel Rimbury pottery, dated to the Middle Bronze Age was recovered from fill 1877. Pit **1939** had an increasingly steep sided profile as it got deeper.

Pit 1491

- 3.4.9 This pit was one of the largest in the sequence, up to 14m on its north to south axis and 10m on its east to west axis. It had a gently sloped profile with no perceptible break in slope between the sides and base and was up to 1.2m deep. Fill 1189 of this feature contained Early Bronze Age pottery.

Pit 1496

- 3.4.10 Pit **1496** lay on the eastern side of the pit sequence and had a diameter of 5.5m. In plan it was sub-circular, whilst in section it had a gently undulating profile and slightly concave base 1.2m below ground level.

Pit 1816

- 3.4.11 Immediately to the west of pit **1946** lay pit **1816**. The edges of these features did not meet and it is possible that they were both open at the same time. This feature was only visible in section in the southern quadrants, having been entirely truncated to the north by later features. In relation to the rest of the pitting **1816** was quite shallow, descending to approximately 1m below ground level at its lowest recorded depth. It was 7m in width and had a fairly shallow, gently sloping profile.

Pit 1849

- 3.4.12 This feature sat on the western side of the sequence. It measured 11m by 8m in plan and was up to 1.80m in depth and had a steep sided profile with a relatively flat base.

Pits 1836 & 1810

- 3.4.13 Pit **1836**, the southernmost of the pits within the sequence, was approximately 12m in width with a fairly shallow profile whose break of slope at ground level was comparatively subtle. Pit **1810** was located close its centre point and had a very pronounced edge with a sub square profile in plan. The spatial relationship between these two features suggests that they may have been contemporary.
- 3.4.14 Early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the upper fill of **1836** (1497), whilst large quantities of roundwood were recovered from fill 1490, on the eastern side of the pit (Plates 1a-d). Bulk and spot samples were taken of these pieces and several displayed evidence of having been trimmed to length, probably with an edged tool such as an axe. The diameter, and the straight, even stems devoid of side branches in evidence on many of them was contiguous with coppicing. Twenty four of the sampled pieces were identified as oak, which again, is suitable for coppicing and was often utilised in wattle structures and hurdles (Bamforth, Appendix B.3).
- 3.4.15 Pit **1810**, the smallest feature in this sequence at 3.5m in diameter and 1.70m deep, was apparently cut into the base of **1836** at a fairly steep angle. Large quantities of preserved roundwood were also recovered from this feature, particularly context 1813.

As with the material recovered from 1490 the roundwood was predominantly copped oak pieces, with little evidence of roundwood debris (Bamforth, Appendix B.3).

- 3.4.16 None of the above material was recorded *in situ*. However a remnant of a collapsed wattle lining or revetment, constructed from copped roundwood with a number of half split timbers forming the sails (uprights) was recorded on the southernmost side of pit **1810** (Bamforth, Appendix B.3). The presence of this structural remnant taken in conjunction with the lack of roundwood debris from contexts 1490 and 1813 suggests that much of the sampled wood may have represented previously *in situ* material rather than general woodworking debris, suggesting that the wattle lining of this feature may originally have been far more extensive than the small segment in evidence during the excavation.

Function

- 3.4.17 The function of the pits in this sequence is not entirely clear. Their cuts were, on the whole fairly shallow sloped which may suggest that their primary function was as watering holes. The exceptions to this rule were **1810**, **1849** and **1939**, which were characterised by steep sided profiles that were probably inappropriate for watering livestock.
- 3.4.18 However, the natural deposits which the pit sequence was cut into shifted from sandy material in the north to clay in the south and it may be that true edges of the pit sequence only survived where they were cut into the far more stable clay. If this were the case then it seems unlikely that any of the features recorded above served as watering pits.
- 3.4.19 The finds evidence recovered from these features is of note in that the majority of the identifiable pottery types were urn forms (Appendix B.2). It is possible that the assemblage therefore represents deposition of funerary material within the pits as part of a funerary practise. However it must also be borne in mind that the pits lay in the centre of an area used for the burial of cremations (para 3.4.20) and that the pottery may therefore represent residual material disturbed by the digging of the pits.

Cremations

- 3.4.20 A total of six cremations were identified grouped in to two clusters. The first lay to the north of the water pits and comprised two burials (**1074** & **1202**) the other, on the southern side consisted of four cremations (**1071**, **1081**, **1136** & **1150**). Two of the southern grouping (**1136** & **1150**) were urned cremation burials, the remainder were either unurned or represented redeposited pyre debris (Appendix C.1). Without exception the features were truncated by ploughing and all bar one were less than 0.15m deep. This resulted in only a small quantity of diagnostic elements being recovered, it was however possible to age four of the burials.
- 3.4.21 Of the cremations in the northern group **1074** was identified as an adult, whilst **1202** contained cremated human bone that could not be aged. Neither of these cremations was urned (Appendix C.1).
- 3.4.22 The southern group consisted of four burials. Cut **1071** contained an infant aged c.18mos and **1081** contained the burnt remains of two individuals. The majority of the identifiable fragments from this feature were from a juvenile aged between 6 and 9 years, the remainder were identified as adult (Appendix C.1). The two cremations from this group lying closest to the watering holes were urned. The remains from **1136** were found to be of a juvenile aged c. 6 years, contained within an urn tentatively dated to

the Early to Middle Bronze Age (Appendix B.1). From **1150** cremated human bone that could only be identified as juvenile/sub-adult/adult was recovered that was contained within a Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury urn form (Appendix B.1). This feature was truncated by a plough scar (**1270**), that contained 1g of unidentifiable bone (Appendix C.1).

- 3.4.23 Whilst this was admittedly a small assemblage, both in terms of the number of interred individuals and volume of remains, there did appear to be a spatial distribution of the burials according to age, with adults buried to the north and juvenile burials located to the south of the watering pits. Also of note is that both of the urned cremations were recorded to the south of the watering pits.

Post Built Structure

- 3.4.24 Approximately 5m to the north-east of the pit sequence (Para 3.4.1) a total of 27 postholes, forming a ring 3m in diameter, were excavated. These were all between 0.10m and 0.25m deep and filled with charcoal rich silty clay. A modern ditch ran straight through the centre of this feature on a north to south alignment and so it was not possible to ascertain either the presence of any internal features, or whether the posthole sequence formed an unbroken ring.
- 3.4.25 It was however possible to identify at least three phases to this structure from the stratigraphic relationships recorded in section. The latest phase comprised postholes **1104, 1114, 1122, 1130, 1159, 1181, 1166, 1169 & 1171**, which were spaced at regular intervals approximately 0.6m apart.
- 3.4.26 The middle phase comprised **1099, 1101, 1116, 1124, 1128, 1131, 1157, 1162, 1178, & 1185**. The spacing between these postholes appeared to be similar to that of the latest phase, although inevitably truncation had occurred.
- 3.4.27 The earliest identifiable phase was made up of **1108, 1111, 1119, 1126, 1126, 1154, 1164, 1174 & 1176**. A similar pattern of spacing between the postholes was in evidence with this phase despite a higher level of truncation by later phases.
- 3.4.28 There may well have been more than three phases to this feature. The high frequency of charcoal in the posthole fills suggests that at each stage the posts were burnt out and subsequently replaced. It seems likely therefore that the three recorded phases represent merely those that survived, by virtue of their being the latest, rather than the totality of this form of activity.
- 3.4.29 This feature was particularly intriguing. At 3m in diameter, it was too small to have been a dwelling and it had no visible entrance, although this may have been masked by the modern ditch. Furthermore, as described above, it had also been repeatedly burnt out. This raises the possibility that it may in fact have represented a pyre used for cremations; the presence of numerous cremations (Para 3.4.20), which were found to contain pyre debris (Appendix C.1), in the vicinity certainly lends weight to such an interpretation.

Ring Gully

- 3.4.30 A horseshoe shaped gully (**1224**) lay 2m to the north west of the post-built structure described above. It had an internal diameter of 3m with a south facing, 2.5m wide entrance. A single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from fill 1223 of this feature and it was truncated by a Roman Boundary ditch (**1267**). It was also situated close to the Bronze Age remains so prevalent in this area, which suggests that it may have been extant during this period.

Ditches and Gullies

- 3.4.31 A 32m long south-west to north-east aligned gully was recorded that ran to within 2m of the south-western edge of the watering holes **1300**, **1302**, **1306**, **1426**, **1482** & **1485**. This feature was on average 0.30m in width by 0.25m deep and comprised of four segments, **1300** & **1302**, closest to the watering holes, **1306** which was truncated by a north to south aligned Roman boundary ditch, **1426**, **1482** & **1485**, the longest unbroken segment and a 3m unexcavated stretch that marked the southern limit of the gully.
- 3.4.32 The gully terminated just short of the edge of the water pits and for this reason it is suggested that these two features were perhaps contemporary. It may be that the gully formed the setting for a fence line or served as a marker leading towards the pits. Also of note is that the gully was aligned exactly towards the post built structure described in 3.4.27.
- 3.4.33 On the opposing side of the water pits a more extensive ditch was recorded that lay on exactly the same alignment (**1086**). This feature was probably dated to a later period and may have entirely truncated any continuations of the original gully. It does however suggest that whatever the purpose of the gully to the south, the layout it demarcated endured beyond the Bronze Age.

3.5 Period 3: Iron Age (700BC – AD43)

Area 1

Boundary Ditches

- 3.5.1 A number of ditches were recorded in Areas 1 and 2 on alignments contiguous with the preceding period (Section 3.4.31) these were however markedly larger than those positively identified as of Bronze Age provenance. It is suggested that these formed part of an Iron Age boundary system that evolved from a layout first established during the Bronze Age.
- 3.5.2 In Area 1 this system was formed of a series of shallow ditches on north-east to south-west alignments (**1598**, **1606**, **1611**, **1679** & **1861**) that traversed the centre of, and were probably subsequently truncated by, the Roman field system. To the east of Area 1 ditch **1721**, a ten metre long ditch segment on the same alignment, may have formed another element of this system.

Area 2

Boundary Ditches

- 3.5.3 To the west, In Area 2, a number of ditches were recorded on the same and perpendicular alignments. To the east, ditches **1911** and **1313**, in conjunction with the perpendicularly aligned **1796**, formed what appeared to be the south-western corner of an enclosure whose ten metre wide, north-west facing entrance was formed by ditch terminus' **1911** and **1770**. This entrance faced the pits described below (Section 3.5.5).
- 3.5.4 Towards the northern limit of Area 2 the south-eastern corner of a second enclosure was recorded that comprised ditch **1086**, aligned north-east to south-west, and **1454**, **1789** aligned north-west to south-east.

Pitting

- 3.5.5 To the immediate north-west of the watering holes described in Section 3.3.1 a second, albeit much smaller, cluster of pits was recorded. Excavation of these features revealed a total of up to five individual cuts (**1354, 1502, 1525, 1563 & 1803**), all of which were very steep sided and, where it was possible to excavate them to their full depth, flat based.
- 3.5.6 From pit **1525** a number of sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered (fills 1195, 1530 & 1531) (Appendix B.3) whilst the fills of pit **1803**, one of the pits located on the northern side of the sequence, yielded Early Bronze Age pottery (1805) and sherds of collared urn from within fill 1804 (Appendix B.2).
- 3.5.7 The latest cut in this group, **1502**, was found to contain a disarticulated, fragmented adult skull and adult sized fibula shaft within fills 1148 and 1153 respectively. Sherds of Mid to Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from fills 1148 and 1151.
- 3.5.8 A sequence of shallow pits (**1092, 1137, 1139, 1238**) was recorded that truncated the western edge of watering hole **1849**. Sherds of Mid to Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from fills 1138. This pit sequence was truncated on its western side by Roman boundary ditch **1234** (Section 3.6.7).

3.6 Period 4: Roman (AD43 – AD410)

Area 1

Field System

- 3.6.1 The archaeological remains in this area formed a sub-rectangular field system comprised of boundary ditches and cultivation beds aligned north to south.
- 3.6.2 Two fields, separated by an east to west aligned boundary ditch (**1567**) were identified within the excavation area. Four sections were excavated through the boundary (**1068, 1567, 1665, & 1666**), which revealed it to be 1.1m in width by 0.74m wide.
- 3.6.3 A total of eleven cultivation beds that extended beyond the northern limit of the excavation were identified terminating approximately five metres north of the field boundary (**1473, 1710, 1719, 1736, 1741, 1769, 1777, 1794, 1831, 1835 & 1870**) Several of these contained Roman pot sherds dated to the 2nd century AD (Appendix B.4). These measured on average 0.60m in width by 0.30m in depth and were spaced approximately five metres apart.
- 3.6.4 This field was bounded to the east and west by ditches that extended southwards to enclose the southernmost field system (**1005 & 1688** respectively).
- 3.6.5 The southern field system followed a similar pattern with ten cultivation beds (**1054, 1351, 1414, 1460, 1627, 1567, 1668, 1676, 1677, 1684 & 1696**) recorded on a north to south alignment bounded on all sides by ditches. The entirety of this field was exposed within the excavation area, which revealed the cultivation beds to be approximately 40m long and between 0.60m – 0.80m in width by 0.20m – 0.30m deep. Roman pot sherds were recovered from a number of these (Appendix B.4).
- 3.6.6 The southern field boundary (**1007, 1028, 1030, 1034 & 1036**) was on average smaller than the other boundaries at approximately 0.50m wide and no more than 0.20m deep. This feature continued beyond the western limit of Area 1 on the same east to west alignment and may have formed the northern limit of a trackway, bounded five to six metres to the south by ditch **1043**.

Area 2

Boundary Ditches

- 3.6.7 A series of Roman boundary features were recorded in the western and southern part of Area 2. Towards the south of Area 2 there was an apparent continuation of the trackway delineated by **1007** & **1043** in Area 1. Only a limited amount of investigation of this feature was possible as a result of the ground conditions; this part of the site was underwater for much of the duration of the excavation. It was however possible to excavate two sections through the northernmost of these two east to west aligned ditches (**1439** & **1958**). The southern element of this feature curved southwards slightly and terminated seven metres from the eastern baulk, suggestive of an entrance, perhaps to another part of the field system.
- 3.6.8 This ditch truncated one element of the most extensive feature recorded in Area 2, a north to south aligned boundary ditch comprised of three elements. This feature was on average 1.20m wide and at least 0.40m deep and of particular note as it was routed around the edge of the watering pits discussed in Section 3.4.1.
- 3.6.9 The southernmost section (**1243**, **1338**, **1435**) extended to within twenty metres of the watering pits before terminating, Roman pottery dated to the mid 2nd Century was recovered from this section (Appendix B.4). The ditch terminal (**1243**) intersected with the eastern limit of a second east to west aligned segment (**1249**) that extended westwards for ten metres before returning to northwards trajectory. It continued on this line passed the western edge of the watering pits before terminating just short of their northern limit. A total of three sections were excavated along this segment, cut **1083**, its northern terminus, **1234** & **1315**.
- 3.6.10 The third segment of this boundary, which was found to contain Roman pottery dated to the mid 2nd Century (Appendix B.4), (**1333**, **1355**, & **1267**) began three metres to the east of ditch terminus **1083** and continued eastwards for approximately fifteen metres and then turned onto a south to north alignment that carried it beyond the limit of the excavation area.
- 3.6.11 It is clear that the boundary ditch was deliberately routed around the edge of the watering pits. However, the northernmost segment of the boundary actually truncated the final parts of the fill sequence for the watering pits, which indicates that by the time it was cut the pit sequence had fallen entirely out of use. It is therefore suggested that even though the pit sequence was not extant during the Roman period its presence had impacted upon ground conditions in the vicinity to such an extent that the locality was unsuitable for cut features. Fill 1322 contained possible Early Roman pottery.
- 3.6.12 The final feature attributed to this period was a north to south aligned boundary ditch lying approximately seven metres to the west of ditch **1083**. This feature was re-cut on at least two occasions

4 FACTUAL DATA AND ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

4.1 Stratigraphic and Structural Data

The Excavation Record

- 4.1.1 The written and drawn elements of the contextual record form the main components of the excavation data and are sufficient to form the basis of the site narrative. The main phases of activity on the site span the Bronze Age and Roman periods. Whilst all of these periods will be addressed by the aims and objectives of the post-excavation analysis, the main areas of research will focus on the Bronze Age period in March, particularly further stratigraphic analysis of the site and documentary research of the area.
- 4.1.2 The greatest potential for fulfilling the original aims and objectives of the excavation set out in Section 3 lies in further analysis of the Bronze Age watering holes and possible structural remains and finds assemblage. Further study of the Bronze Age and Roman settlement and field system within the wider topographical and archaeological context will also enhance understanding of the development and use of this landscape.

Type	Number of records
Context Register	25
Context numbers	981
Context records	981
Level record sheets	10
Plan Registers	4
Plans	160
Total Station Survey	1
Sections register sheets	7
Sections	253
Sample Register sheets	34
Photo Register sheets	45
Black and White Films	22
Colour slide	23
Small finds register sheets	2

Table 1: Quantity of written and drawn records

Finds and Environmental Quantification

Site/Area	Quantity
Flint	58 struck flints
Pottery	1.473kg
Environmental Samples	169
Pollen Samples	8 Subsamples
Inhumations	7
Animal Bone	6.72kg

Table 2: Quantity of Finds

Environmental Samples	Number
Samples taken	169
Samples floated	169

Table 3: Quantity of environmental samples

4.2 Range and Variety

- 4.2.1 Cut features comprised ditches, pits, postholes and cremations. Deposits comprised predominantly feature fills. Relatively little complex stratigraphy was encountered and features were mostly cut into the natural underlying geology.

4.3 Condition

Condition of the Excavation Area

- 4.3.1 The survival of the archaeological features on site was on the whole good. Overall very little modern disturbance down to the underlying geology was recorded.

Condition of the Primary Excavation Sources and Documents

- 4.3.2 The records are complete and have been checked for internal accuracy. Written and drawn records have been completed on archival quality paper and are indexed. All paper archives have been digitised into the individual site Access database. Site drawings have been digitised in AutoCAD. Site matrices have been drawn up for selected/more complex areas. All primary records are retained at the offices of OA East, Bar Hill. The site code MAR HID 08 is allocated and all paper and digital records, finds and environmental remains are stored under this site code.
- 4.3.3 The site data is of sufficient quality to address all of the project's Research Objectives and form the basis of further analysis and targeted publication of the key features, finds and environmental assemblages.

Survey Data

- 4.3.4 The excavation areas were located onto the Ordnance Survey with the aid of a Leica TCR705 Total Station Theodolite. All survey data is stored in digital format with the archive.

4.4 Artefact Summaries

- 4.4.1 The following section summarises the potential of each artefact group with reference to the project's original Research Aims and Objectives (outlined in Section 2 above). The further work recommended for each artefact group is set out in Section 6 and the full reports are contained within the appendices.

Worked Flint Assemblage (Appendix B.1)

Summary

- 4.4.2 A total of 58 struck flints and 131g of burnt flint fragments were recovered. The assemblage was relatively small and in a variable condition with the majority of pieces displaying some post-depositional damage. Small quantities of burnt flint fragments were also recovered with no concentrations evident. The assemblage demonstrates activity at the site over a considerable period, from the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic to at least the Middle Bronze Age.

Statement of Potential

- 4.4.3 Further analysis of the lithic assemblage has good potential to contribute to the Research Aims of the project (Sections 2.1.3 & 2.1.5), especially with regards achieving a more comprehensive understanding of the chronology of occupation and the nature of the activities conducted at the site.

Early Prehistoric Pottery Assemblage (Appendix B.2)

Summary

- 4.4.4 The earlier prehistoric pottery assemblage comprised 87 sherds weighing 1473g. The bulk of the assemblage was comprised of fragments from three large urns. The remainder of the collection comprised mostly small crumbling or laminating fragments with feature sherds few and far between. Five predominantly grog based fabric types were identified.

Statement of Potential

- 4.4.5 The results of the assessment will be included in the publication report. This data will add to the general interpretation of site activities and has good potential to address the project's Research Objectives (Section 2.1).

Later Prehistoric Pottery Assemblage (Appendix B.3)

Summary

- 4.4.6 A total of 71 sherds of later prehistoric pottery weighing 470g was recovered. The material recovered spanned the Late Bronze Age through to the Late Iron Age, and comprised small abraded sherds (87% measuring less than 4cm in size) with a low mean sherd weight (MSW) of 6.6g. The assemblage contained no decorated pieces and very few diagnostic sherds, with only six different vessel rims and one base fragment identified. Nonetheless, several phases of later prehistoric activity, spanning the first millennium BC, were attested by the ceramic evidence.

Statement of Potential

- 4.4.7 The results of the assessment will be included in the publication report. This data will add to the general interpretation of site activities and has good potential to address the project's Research Objectives (Section 2.1).

Romano-British Pottery Assemblage (Appendix B.4)

Summary

- 4.4.8 A total of 40 sherds, weighing 259g were recovered. The assemblage was fragmentary and significantly abraded suggesting its generally poor condition. The pottery suggests that it was subject to high levels of post-depositional disturbance. The assemblage provides evidence that occupation of the settlement was continuous during the Roman period from the mid 1st century AD through to the mid/late 2nd century AD.

Statement of Potential

- 4.4.9 The results of the assessment will be included in the publication report. This data will add to the general interpretation of site activities and has moderate potential to address the project's Research Objectives (Section 2.1).

Waterlogged Wood Assemblage (Appendix B.5)

Summary

- 4.4.10 The assemblage comprised a total of 177 pieces, of which the majority was Roundwood, with moderate debris and occasional timber also present. The majority of the material was well preserved revealing evidence for felling, trimming and the reduction of timbers by splitting.

Statement of Potential

- 4.4.11 The waterlogged wood has moderate potential for further analysis that will contribute to the general interpretation of site activities and the project's Research Objectives (Section 2.1).

Ceramic Building Material, Daub and Fired Clay. (Appendix B.6)

Summary

- 4.4.12 A total of 161 fragments, weighing 609g, of ceramic building material (CBM), daub and fired clay were recovered. The assemblage comprised very small fragments the majority of the material of which was heavily abraded. The material was in all likelihood intrusive material dating to the Iron age.

Statement of Potential

- 4.4.13 The results of the assessment will be included in the publication report. This data will add to the general interpretation of site activities and has low potential to address the project's Research Objectives (Section 2.1).

4.5 Environmental Summaries

Human Remains (Appendix C.1)

Summary

- 4.5.1 A total of 6 cremations were identified, clustered in two groups within Area 2. Two of these were urned, the remainder were unurned or deposits of redeposited pyre debris. Four contained sufficient diagnostic fragments to enable ageing to take place, which revealed that three were juvenile cremations, the fourth adult. The weight of bone collected was relatively low, in part due to truncation by ploughing but also potentially as a result of juvenile bone fragments not surviving in the relatively acidic soil conditions.

- 4.5.2 A disarticulated, fragmentary adult skull and an adult sized fibula shaft were recovered from an Iron Age pit

Statement of Potential

- 4.5.3 A limited programme of further analysis is recommended for this assemblage which has moderate potential to contribute to the projects Research Objectives.

Faunal Remains (Appendix C.2)

Summary

- 4.5.4 A total of 85 fragments of animal bone, weighing 6.72Kg, were recovered, of which 30 were identifiable to species. The majority of this material was recovered from Bronze Age pits. Cattle were the most common species type with small numbers of sheep/goat and pig remains also recovered, along with a single canine example. The assemblage was particularly small and preservation of the material was extremely bad largely due the acidic soil conditions.

Statement of Potential

- 4.5.5 The results of the assessment will be included in the publication report. This data will add to the general interpretation of site activities. It has low potential to address the project's Research Objectives.

Environmental Remains (Appendix C.3)

Summary

- 4.5.6 A total of 169 environmental samples were taken. Six samples were found to contain charred remains and charcoal fragments whilst abundant waterlogged remains were preserved in five samples. Undifferentiated cereals grains, chaff and charred weed seeds were also recorded. Insufficient levels of charred plant remains were recovered to make further inferences as to the localised economy or crops grown on the site, whilst the charcoal fragments suggested that a mixed assemblage of wood was being burnt.
- 4.5.7 In contrast the waterlogged samples were rich in well preserved plant remains from both dryland, scrub/hedgerows, wet ground and aquatic communities. The assemblage of weed seeds suggest that cultivated, waste ground, scrub/hedgerows and grassland were present in and around the site.

Statement of Potential

- 4.5.8 Further analysis of the plant and insect remains in the five waterlogged samples has good potential to address the Research Objectives (Section 2.1) and provide information about the ecology and economy of the site.

Pollen Assessment (Appendix C.4)

Summary

- 4.5.9 A total of eight pollen samples were taken from fills of the large water pits. A significant variation in pollen concentrations was recorded between samples, of which three proved to be barren. Preservation of the fossil pollen grains (palytomorphs) in the remaining 5 samples was variable. Pollen counts were relatively low and this should be borne in mind when making any interpretations regarding the floral habitat. However it was possible to infer that the locality was a fairly treeless environment and also to trace a sequence of vegetation changes during the Bronze Age period from cereal cultivation, suggestive of arable activity, ground disturbance and hazel scrub nearby to a sparse arboreal signal and then a return to arable activity, ground disturbance and human activity.

Statement of Potential

- 4.5.10 A programme of further analysis is recommended for this assemblage in order to bring the pollen counts up to publication standards. This assemblage has good potential to contribute to the projects Research Objectives (Section 2.1).

5 UPDATED RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 5.1.1 Completion of the post-excavation assessment has shown that all of the original aims and objectives of the excavation can be met through the analysis of the excavated materials. A number of new objectives have also been identified as a result of the assessment process, many of which will contribute to a variety of research themes at national, regional and local levels.
- 5.1.2 The following research objectives draw upon national (English Heritage 1997) and regional (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) research assessments and agendas. These will supplement the original Research Objectives outlined in Section 2 above.

5.2 Additional Research Objectives

- 5.2.1 The excavation recorded a relatively high proportion of finds associated with funerary practise and in the light of the potential established by the assessment it has been determined that an additional research objective for the further analysis should be a more detailed study of the remains associated with burial practise. The following aims have been defined in order to maximise the potential of the site data.

To understand the development of the site as a possible funerary centre.

- 5.2.2 Analysis of the finds and stratigraphic data to try and more fully understand the nature of the funerary practises taking place on the site, with specific reference to the function of the large pits recorded in Area 2. Was their primary function a focus for funerary activity? Also to try and trace any shifts in burial practise throughout the life of the site.

To understand how the burial remains compare with other contemporary examples within the region.

- 5.2.3 Comparison of the site data with other examples in order to see how the site fits into the wider context of the contemporary landscape and also to elucidate any site specific anomalies.

6 METHODS STATEMENTS

6.1 Stratigraphic Analysis

6.1.1 Full but selective further stratigraphic analysis is required, concentrating on the following key sequences and areas:

- Finalise site groups and phasing, with particular emphasis on the Water pit sequence and Bronze Age features (CT).
- Full integration of the artefact dating and phasing (CT).
- Compilation of text sections for all features, ordered by phase, and group to enable interpretation and discussion (CT).
- Compilation of group, phase and site narrative (CT),

6.2 Illustration

6.2.1 Subsequent to integration of the finds and environmental data with the stratigraphic data site phase/group plans will be produced to illustrate the development of the site. This will potentially include 3D drawings of the water pit sequence (ILL).

6.3 Documentary Research

6.3.1 Documentary research should be carried out in order to find comparative examples within the region. This will aid the interpretation of the Bronze Age pitting and help to put into context the transition through the Bronze Age to the Iron Age period (CT).

6.4 Artefactual Analysis

Full Analysis

Lithic Assemblage

6.4.1 The full cataloguing of the assemblage, with particular regard to context, both within individual features and spatially across the site. Followed by the production of a full report on the assemblage to accompany the final report (BB). This will include illustrations of some of the more significant implements (ILL).

Little/No further analysis

6.4.2 The remaining artefact assemblages require full integration into the results of the further analysis and adding to the final phasing of the report (CT). These are generally relatively small assemblages where catalogues and appropriate levels of analysis have already been undertaken as part of the assessment process and will only require small amounts of work for publication. All of these assemblages have potential to address the research objectives and as such will provide the basis for summaries for the inclusion in the publication.

Pottery Assemblage

6.4.3 The results of the assessments should be incorporated with the site phasing and a summary be included in the publication report (CT).

Waterlogged wood assemblage

- 6.4.4 Species identification and ring counts for the remaining 46 unrecorded individual and bulk samples (MB). The results of the assessment will then be incorporated with the site phasing and a summary included in the publication report (CT).

Ceramic Building Material, Daub and Fired Clay Assemblage

- 6.4.5 The results of the assessments should be incorporated with the site phasing and a summary be included in the publication report (CT).

6.5 Ecofactual Analysis

Full Analysis

Human Remains

- 6.5.1 Further analysis of this group will include the investigation of the features in the vicinity of the cremations that contained charcoal and burnt stone/clay, to see if they relate to funerary activities (CT/RF). Also the scanning of the 2mm unsorted residues from the cremations for identifiable elements (particularly teeth) which may help age some of the individuals (RF).

Charred and Waterlogged Plant Remains

- 6.5.2 Further analysis of this assemblage should include detailed analysis of the plant and insect remains in the five waterlogged samples (EH). A more detailed assessment of the charcoal in three of the samples should be undertaken (EH). The quality of material for dating is not particularly high but an estimated 4-6 pieces from the environmental assemblage should be sent for radio carbon dating.

Pollen

- 6.5.3 Further analysis of this assemblage will include full counts on the five samples that contained pollen followed by the production of a full report (SB).

7 REPORT WRITING, ARCHIVING AND PUBLICATION

7.1 Report Writing

A full report will be compiled from the results of the further analysis detailed above.

7.2 Archiving

7.2.1 Excavated material and records will be deposited with, and curated by, OA East in appropriate stores under the Site Code MAR HID 08 and the county HER code ECB 3027. A digital archive will be deposited with ADS. OA East requires transfer of ownership prior to deposition. During analysis and report preparation, OA East will hold all material and reserves the right to send material for specialist analysis.

7.2.2 The archive will be prepared in accordance with current OA East guidelines, which are based on current national guidelines

7.3 Publication

7.3.1 It is proposed that the results of the project should be published in the journal Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society (PCAS), under the title 'Bronze Age Funerary Practises at March Highways Depot', by Chris Thatcher.

8 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

8.1 Staffing and Equipment

Name	Initials	Project Role	Establishment
Chris Thatcher	CT	Project Officer	OA East
Stephen Macaulay	SM	Project Manager	OA East
Elizabeth Popescu	EP	Editor/Publications Manager	OA East
Gillian Greer	GG	Illustrate selected finds	OA East
Barry Bishop	BB	Lithic Specialist	Freelance
Mike Bamforth	MB	Wood Specialist	LP Archaeology
Elizabeth Huckerby	EH	Environmental Supervisor	OA North
Rachel Fosberry	RF	Environmental Supervisor	OA East
Steve Boreham	SB	Pollen Specialist	University of Cambridge
Illustrator	ILL	Digitise Selected Plans and Sections	OA East

Table 4: Project Team

8.2 Task Identification

Task No.	Task	Staff	No. Days
Project Management			
1	Project management	SM	2.5
2	Team meetings	SM/ CT/ EP	1.5
3	Liaison with relevant staff and specialists, distribution of relevant information and materials	CT	1
Stratigraphic analysis			
4	Integrate ceramic/artefact dating with site matrix	CT	1
5	Update database and digital plans/sections to reflect any changes	ILL	0.5
6	Finalise site phasing	CT	2
7	Add final phasing to database	CT	0.5
8	Compile group and phase text	CT	3
9	Compile overall stratigraphic text and site narrative to form the basis of the full/archive report	CT	3
10	Review, collate and standardise results of all final specialist reports and integrate with stratigraphic text and project results	CT	0.5
Illustration			
11	Digitise selected sections	ILL	0.5
12	Prepare draft phase plans, sections and other report figures	CT	0.5
13	Select photographs for inclusion in the report	CT	0.5
Documentary research			
14	Research into comparative examples	CT	2
Artefact studies			

Task No.	Task	Staff	No. Days
15	Full detailed descriptions of lithic assemblage in relation to site phasing.	BB	3
16	Illustration of lithics for report (10 pieces)	ILL	2
17	Species identification and ring counts for the remaining 46 unrecorded waterlogged wood samples	MB	2
Environmental Remains			
18	Further investigation of the features in the vicinity of the cremations that contained charcoal and burnt stone/clay, to see if they relate to funerary activities	CT/ RF	0.5
19	Scanning of the 2mm unsorted residues from the cremations for identifiable elements (particularly teeth)	RF	1.5
20	Detailed analysis of the Charred and Waterlogged Plant Remains in the five waterlogged samples	EH	5
21	Preparation of Waterlogged Plant Remains report	EH	2
22	Detailed analysis of the insect remains in the five waterlogged samples	EH	3
23	Detailed assessment of the charcoal in three of the samples should be undertaken	EH	3
24	Preparation of Charcoal report	EH	2
25	Further analysis of this assemblage will include full counts on the five samples that contained pollen followed by the production of a full report	SB	1.5
26	Preparation of Pollen report	SB	0.5
27	Scientific Dating		2
Report Writing			
28	Integrate documentary research	CT	1
29	Write historical and archaeological background text	CT	2
30	Edit phase and group text	SM/ EP	0.5
31	Compile list of illustrations/liaise with illustrators	CT/ ILL	0.5
32	Write discussion and conclusions	CT	5
33	Prepare report figures	ILL	3
34	Collate/edit captions, bibliography, appendices etc	CT	0.5
35	Produce draft report	CT	5
36	Internal edit	EP	0.5
37	Incorporate internal edits	CT	0.5
38	Final edit	EP	0.5
39	Send to publisher for refereeing	CT	0.25
40	Post-refereeing revisions	CT	0.5
41	Copy edit queries	CT	0.5
42	Proof-reading	EP	0.5
Archiving			
43	Compile paper archive	CT	0.25
44	Archive/delete digital photographs	CT	0.25
45	Compile/check material archive	CT	0.25
Report production			
46	Produce final report and illustrations	CT/ ILL	1
47	Distribute report	CT	0.25

Table 5: Task list

APPENDIX A. CONTEXT SUMMARY WITH PROVISIONAL PHASING

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1003	1003	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1004	1003	fill	ditch	disuse
1005	1005	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1006	1005	fill	ditch	disuse
1007	1007	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1008	1007	fill	ditch	disuse
1009	1010	fill	ditch	disuse
1010	1010	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1011	1012	fill	ditch	disuse
1012	1012	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1013	1014	fill	ditch	disuse
1014	1014	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1015	1016	fill	ditch	disuse
1016	1016	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1017	1018	fill	ditch	disuse
1018	1018	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1019	1020	fill	ditch	disuse
1020	1020	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1021	1022	fill	ditch	disuse
1022	1022	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1023	1024	fill	ditch	disuse
1024	1024	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1025	1026	fill	ditch	disuse
1026	1026	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1027	1028	fill	ditch	disuse
1028	1028	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1029	1030	fill	ditch	disuse
1030	1030	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1031	1031	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1032	1031	fill	ditch	disuse
1033	1034	fill	ditch	disuse
1034	1034	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1035	1036	fill	ditch	disuse
1036	1036	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1037	1037	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1038	1037	fill	ditch	disuse
1039	1040	fill	ditch	disuse
1040	1040	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1041	1042	fill	pit	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1042	1042	cut	post hole	structural
1043	1043	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1044	1034	fill	ditch	disuse
1045	1045	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1046	1045	fill	ditch	disuse
1047	1045	fill	ditch	disuse
1048	1048	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1049	1048	fill	ditch	disuse
1050	1050	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1051	1050	fill	ditch	disuse
1052	1052	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1053	1052	fill	ditch	disuse
1054	1054	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1055	1054	fill	ditch	disuse
1056	1054	fill	ditch	disuse
1057	1057	cut	ditch	modern
1058	1057	fill	ditch	disuse
1059	1060	fill	natural	disuse
1060	1060	cut	natural	stream bed
1061	1062	fill	natural	disuse
1062	1062	cut	natural	stream bed
1063	1063	cut	natural	hedge row
1064	1063	fill	natural	disuse
1065	1065	cut	natural	stream bed
1066	1065	fill	natural	stream bed
1067	1068	fill	ditch	disuse
1068	1068	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1069	1068	fill	ditch	disuse
1071	1071	cut	pit	cremation
1072	1072	cut	post hole	structural
1073	1073	cut	pit	cremation
1074	1074	cut	pit	cremation
1075	1076	fill	natural	disuse
1076	1076	cut	natural	tree bole
1077	1073	fill	pit	cremation
1078	1071	fill	pit	cremation
1079	1071	fill	pit	cremation
1080	1072	fill	post hole	disuse
1081	1081	cut	pit	cremation
1082	1081	fill	pit	use
1083	1083	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1084	1083	fill	ditch	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1085	1083	fill	ditch	disuse
1086	1086	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1087	1086	fill	ditch	disuse
1088	1086	fill	ditch	disuse
1089	1086	fill	ditch	disuse
1090	1086	fill	ditch	disuse
1091	1086	fill	ditch	disuse
1092	1092	cut	pit	use
1093	1092	fill	pit	disuse
1094	1094	cut	pit	use
1095	1094	fill	pit	disuse
1096	1105	fill	ditch	disuse
1097	1099	fill	post hole	disuse
1098	1099	fill	post hole	disuse
1099	1099	cut	post hole	structural
1100	1101	fill	post hole	disuse
1101	1101	cut	post hole	structural
1102	1104	fill	post hole	disuse
1103	1104	fill	post hole	disuse
1104	1104	cut	post hole	structural
1105	1105	cut	ditch	modern
1106	1108	fill	post hole	disuse
1107	1108	fill	post hole	disuse
1108	1108	cut	post hole	structural
1109	1111	fill	post hole	disuse
1110	1111	fill	post hole	disuse
1111	1111	cut	post hole	structural
1112	1114	fill	post hole	disuse
1113	1114	fill	post hole	disuse
1114	1114	cut	post hole	structural
1115	1116	fill	post hole	disuse
1116	1116	cut	post hole	structural
1117	1119	fill	post hole	disuse
1118	1119	fill	post hole	disuse
1119	1119	cut	post hole	structural
1120	1122	fill	post hole	disuse
1121	1122	fill	post hole	disuse
1122	1122	cut	post hole	structural
1123	1124	fill	post hole	disuse
1124	1124	cut	post hole	structural
1125	1126	fill	post hole	disuse
1126	1126	cut	post hole	structural

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1127	1128	fill	post hole	disuse
1128	1128	cut	post hole	structural
1129	1130	fill	post hole	disuse
1130	1130	cut	post hole	structural
1131	1131	cut	post hole	structural
1132	1131	fill	post hole	disuse
1133	1131	fill	post hole	disuse
1134	1131	fill	post hole	disuse
1135	1131	fill	post hole	disuse
1136	1136	cut	pit	cremation
1137	1137	cut	pit	use
1138	1137	fill	pit	disuse
1139	1139	cut	pit	use
1140	1139	fill	pit	disuse
1141	1141	cut	pit	use
1142	1141	fill	pit	disuse
1143	1136	fill	pit	disuse
1144	1136	fill	pit	disuse
1145	1136	fill	pit	disuse
1146	1136	fill	pit	disuse
1147	1502	HSR	skeleton	
1148	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1149	1149	cut	pit	use
1150	1150	cut	pit	cremation
1151	0	layer		disuse
1152	1748	fill	pit	disuse
1153	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1154	1154	cut	post hole	structural
1155	1157	fill	post hole	disuse
1156	1157	fill	post hole	disuse
1157	1157	cut	post hole	structural
1158	1159	fill	post hole	disuse
1159	1159	cut	post hole	structural
1160	1162	fill	post hole	disuse
1161	1162	fill	post hole	disuse
1162	1162	cut	post hole	structural
1163	1164	fill	post hole	disuse
1164	1164	cut	post hole	structural
1165	1166	fill	post hole	disuse
1166	1166	cut	post hole	structural
1167	1169	fill	post hole	disuse
1168	1169	fill	post hole	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1169	1169	cut	post hole	structural
1170	1171	fill	post hole	disuse
1171	1171	cut	post hole	structural
1172	1174	fill	post hole	disuse
1173	1174	fill	post hole	disuse
1174	1174	cut	post hole	structural
1175	1176	fill	post hole	disuse
1176	1176	cut	post hole	structural
1177	1178	fill	post hole	disuse
1178	1178	cut	post hole	structural
1179	1181	fill	post hole	disuse
1180	1181	fill	post hole	disuse
1181	1181	cut	post hole	structural
1182	1185	fill	post hole	disuse
1183	1185	fill	post hole	disuse
1184	1185	fill	post hole	disuse
1185	1185	cut	post hole	structural
1186	1188	fill	ditch	disuse
1187	1188	fill	ditch	disuse
1188	1188	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1189	1491	fill	pit	disuse
1190	1491	fill	pit	disuse
1191	1491	fill	pit	disuse
1192	1491	fill	pit	disuse
1193	1491	fill	pit	disuse
1194	1194	cut	pit	use
1195	1194	fill	pit	disuse
1196	1198	fill	pit	cremation
1197	1198	fill	pit	cremation
1198	1198	cut	pit	cremation
1199	1202	fill	pit	cremation
1200	1202	fill	pit	cremation
1201	1202	fill	pit	cremation
1202	1202	cut	pit	cremation
1203	1074	fill	pit	cremation
1205	1205	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1206	1205	fill	ditch	disuse
1207	1205	fill	ditch	disuse
1208	1205	fill	ditch	disuse
1209	1209	cut	ditch	modern
1210	1209	fill	ditch	disuse
1211	1211	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1212	1211	fill	ditch	disuse
1213	1214	fill	gully	disuse
1214	1214	cut	gully	structural
1215	1216	fill	gully	disuse
1216	1216	cut	gully	structural
1217	1218	fill	gully	disuse
1218	1218	cut	gully	structural
1219	1220	fill	gully	disuse
1220	1220	cut	gully	structural
1221	1222	fill	gully	disuse
1222	1222	cut	gully	structural
1223	1224	fill	gully	disuse
1224	1224	cut	gully	structural
1225	1150	fill	pit	cremation
1226	1270	fill	pit	cremation
1227	1227	cut	gully	structural
1228	1227	fill	gully	disuse
1229	1229	cut	gully	structural
1230	1229	fill	gully	disuse
1231	1231	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1232	1231	fill	ditch	disuse
1233	1231	fill	ditch	disuse
1234	1234	cut	pit	use
1235	1234	fill	pit	disuse
1236	1236	cut	pit	use
1237	1236	fill	pit	disuse
1238	1238	cut	pit	use
1239	1238	fill	pit	disuse
1240	1240	cut	pit	use
1241	1240	fill	pit	disuse
1242	1139	fill	pit	disuse
1243	1243	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1244	1243	fill	ditch	disuse
1245	1243	fill	ditch	disuse
1246	1243	fill	ditch	disuse
1247	1247	cut	natural	animal burrow
1248	1247	fill	natural	animal burrow
1249	1249	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1250	1249	fill	ditch	disuse
1251	1249	fill	ditch	disuse
1252	1253	fill	ditch	disuse
1253	1253	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1254	1254	cut	gully	structural
1255	1254	fill	gully	disuse
1256	1256	cut	gully	structural
1257	1256	fill	gully	disuse
1258	1258	cut	gully	structural
1259	1258	fill	gully	disuse
1260	1260	cut	gully	structural
1261	1260	fill	gully	disuse
1262	1262	cut	gully	structural
1263	1262	fill	gully	disuse
1264	1265	fill	ditch	disuse
1265	1265	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1266	1267	fill	ditch	disuse
1267	1270	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1268	1150	fill	pit	cremation
1269	1150	fill	pit	cremation
1270	1270	cut	modern	plough scar
1271	1272	fill	ditch	disuse
1273	1154	fill	post hole	disuse
1274	1267	fill	ditch	disuse
1275	1277	fill	ditch	disuse
1276	1277	fill	ditch	disuse
1277	1277	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1278	1278	cut	gully	structural
1279	1278	fill	gully	disuse
1280	1280	cut	pit	use
1281	1280	fill	pit	disuse
1282	1282	cut	pit	use
1283	1282	fill	pit	disuse
1284	1284	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1285	1284	fill	ditch	disuse
1286	1287	fill	ditch	disuse
1287	1287	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1288	1289	fill	ditch	disuse
1289	1289	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1290	1291	fill	ditch	disuse
1291	1291	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1292	1293	fill	ditch	disuse
1293	1293	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1294	1295	fill	ditch	disuse
1295	1295	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1296	1297	fill	ditch	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1297	1297	cut	ditch	modern
1298	1299	fill	natural	disuse
1299	1299	cut	natural	hedgeline
1300	1300	cut	gully	fenceline
1301	1300	fill	gully	disuse
1302	1302	cut	gully	fenceline
1303	1304	fill	gully	disuse
1304	1304	cut	gully	fenceline
1305	1304	fill	gully	disuse
1306	1306	cut	gully	fenceline
1307	1306	fill	gully	disuse
1308	1308	cut	pit	use
1309	1308	fill	pit	disuse
1310	1308	fill	pit	disuse
1311	1312	fill	natural	disuse
1312	1312	cut	natural	stream bed
1313	1313	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1314	1313	fill	ditch	disuse
1315	1315	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1316	1315	fill	ditch	disuse
1317	1315	fill	ditch	disuse
1318	1315	fill	ditch	disuse
1319	1319	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1320	1319	fill	ditch	disuse
1321	1319	fill	ditch	disuse
1322	1315	fill	ditch	disuse
1323	1323	cut	pit	use
1324	1323	fill	pit	disuse
1325	1326	fill	ditch	disuse
1326	1326	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1327	1328	fill	ditch	disuse
1328	1328	cut	ditch	modern
1329	1330	fill	ditch	disuse
1330	1330	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1331	1333	fill	ditch	disuse
1332	1333	fill	ditch	disuse
1333	1333	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1334	1334	cut	pit	use
1335	1334	fill	pit	disuse
1336	1336	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1337	1336	fill	ditch	disuse
1338	1338	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1339	1338	fill	ditch	disuse
1340	1338	fill	ditch	disuse
1341	1338	fill	ditch	disuse
1342	1342	cut	natural	natural deposit
1343	1342	layer	natural	natural deposit
1344	1330	fill	ditch	disuse
1345	0		ditch	cultivation bed
1346	1347	fill	ditch	disuse
1347	1347	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1348	1349	fill	ditch	disuse
1349	1349	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1350	1351	fill	ditch	disuse
1351	1351	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1352	1354	fill	pit	disuse
1353	1354	fill	pit	disuse
1354	1354	cut	pit	use
1355	1355	cut	pit	use
1356	1355	fill	pit	disuse
1357	1355	fill	pit	disuse
1358	1355	fill	pit	disuse
1359	1360	fill	ditch	disuse
1360	1360	cut	ditch	modern
1361	1363	fill	ditch	disuse
1362	1363	fill	ditch	disuse
1363	1363	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1364	1365	fill	ditch	disuse
1365	1365	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1366	1367	fill	ditch	disuse
1367	1367	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1368	1369	fill	ditch	disuse
1369	1369	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1370	1373	fill	pit	disuse
1371	1373	fill	pit	disuse
1372	1373	fill	pit	disuse
1373	1373	cut	natural	tree bole
1374	1378	fill	pit	disuse
1375	1378	fill	pit	disuse
1376	1378	fill	pit	disuse
1377	1378	fill	pit	disuse
1378	1378	cut	pit	use
1379	1383	fill	pit	disuse
1380	1383	fill	pit	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1381	1383	fill	pit	disuse
1382	1383	fill	pit	disuse
1383	1383	cut	natural	tree bole
1384	1384	cut	pit	use
1385	1384	fill	pit	disuse
1386	1386	cut	pit	use
1387	1386	fill	pit	disuse
1388	1388	cut	post hole	use
1389	1388	fill	post hole	disuse
1390	1390	cut	pit	use
1391	1390	fill	pit	disuse
1392	1392	cut	pit	use
1393	1392	fill	pit	disuse
1394	1394	cut	post hole	use
1395	1394	fill	post hole	disuse
1396	1396	cut	post hole	use
1397	1396	fill	post hole	disuse
1398	1398	cut	pit	use
1399	1398	fill	pit	disuse
1400	1400	cut	pit	use
1401	1400	fill	pit	disuse
1402	1402	cut	pit	use
1403	1402	fill	pit	disuse
1404	1404	cut	pit	use
1405	1404	fill	pit	disuse
1406	1406	cut	pit	use
1407	1406	fill	pit	disuse
1408	1409	fill	ditch	disuse
1409	1409	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1410	1410	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1411	1410	fill	ditch	disuse
1412	1412	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1413	1412	fill	ditch	disuse
1414	1414	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1415	1414	fill	ditch	disuse
1416	1418	fill	ditch	disuse
1417	1418	fill	ditch	disuse
1418	1418	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1419	1420	fill	ditch	disuse
1420	1420	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1421	1422	fill	ditch	disuse
1422	1422	cut	ditch	cultivation bed

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1423	1410	fill	ditch	disuse
1424	1410	fill	ditch	disuse
1425	1412	fill	ditch	disuse
1426	1426	cut	gully	fenceline
1427	1426	fill	gully	disuse
1428	1428	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1429	1428	fill	ditch	disuse
1430	1430	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1431	1430	fill	ditch	disuse
1432	1412	fill	ditch	disuse
1433	1414	fill	ditch	disuse
1434	1414	fill	ditch	disuse
1435	1435	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1436	1435	fill	ditch	disuse
1437	1435	fill	ditch	disuse
1438	1435	fill	ditch	disuse
1439	1439	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1440	1439	fill	ditch	disuse
1441	1442	fill	ditch	disuse
1442	1442	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1443	1444	fill	ditch	disuse
1444	1444	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1445	1446	fill	ditch	disuse
1446	1446	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1447	1448	fill	ditch	disuse
1448	1448	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1449	1450	fill	ditch	disuse
1450	1450	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1451	1452	fill	natural	disuse
1452	1452	cut	natural	tree bole
1453	1454	fill	ditch	disuse
1454	1454	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1455	1456	fill	ditch	disuse
1456	1456	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1457	1458	fill	ditch	disuse
1458	1458	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1459	1460	fill	ditch	disuse
1460	1460	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1461	1461	cut	pit	use
1462	1461	fill	pit	disuse
1463	1464	fill	ditch	disuse
1464	1464	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1465	1465	cut	natural	tree bole
1466	1465	fill	natural	disuse
1467	1468	fill	ditch	disuse
1468	1468	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1469	1470	fill	ditch	disuse
1470	1470	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1471	1465	fill	natural	tree bole
1472	1473	fill	ditch	disuse
1473	1473	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1474	1474	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1475	1474	fill	ditch	disuse
1476	1476	cut	ditch	trackway
1477	1476	fill	ditch	disuse
1478	1478	cut	natural	tree bole
1479	1478	fill	natural	disuse
1480	1480	cut	natural	tree bole
1481	1480	fill	natural	disuse
1482	1482	cut	gully	fenceline
1483	1482	fill	gully	disuse
1484	1428	fill	ditch	disuse
1485	1485	cut	gully	fenceline
1486	1485	fill	gully	disuse
1487	1489	fill	ditch	disuse
1488	1489	fill	ditch	disuse
1489	1489	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1490	1492	fill	pit	disuse
1491	1491	cut	pit	use
1492	1492	cut	pit	use
1493	1496	fill	pit	disuse
1494	1496	fill	pit	disuse
1495	1496	fill	pit	disuse
1496	1496	cut	pit	use
1497	1492	fill	pit	disuse
1498	1492	fill	pit	disuse
1499	1492	fill	pit	disuse
1500	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1501	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1502	1502	cut	pit	watering hole
1504	1504	cut	post hole	structural
1505	1504	fill	post hole	disuse
1506	1506	cut	post hole	structural
1507	1507	cut	post hole	structural

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1508	1508	cut	pit	use
1509	1509	cut	gully	robber trench
1517	1517	cut	post hole	structural
1518	1507	fill	post hole	disuse
1519	1508	fill	post hole	disuse
1520	1509	fill	gully	disuse
1521	1509	fill	gully	disuse
1522	1517	fill	gully	disuse
1524	1506	fill	gully	disuse
1525	1525	cut	pit	use
1526	1526	cut	pit	use
1527	1527	cut	pit	use
1528	1528	cut	pit	use
1530	1525	fill	pit	disuse
1531	1525	fill	pit	disuse
1532	1525	fill	pit	disuse
1533	1526	fill	pit	disuse
1534	1526	fill	pit	disuse
1535	1526	fill	pit	disuse
1536	1526	fill	pit	disuse
1537	1527	fill	pit	disuse
1538	1527	fill	pit	disuse
1539	1527	fill	pit	disuse
1540	1527	fill	pit	disuse
1541	1527	fill	pit	disuse
1542	1528	fill	pit	disuse
1544	1525	fill	pit	disuse
1545	1545	layer	pit	disuse
1546	1546	cut	pit	use
1547	1547	cut	pit	use
1549	1549	cut	pit	use
1550	1550	cut	pit	use
1551	1546	fill	pit	disuse
1552	1546	fill	pit	disuse
1553	1546	fill	pit	disuse
1554	1546	fill	pit	disuse
1555	1546	fill	pit	disuse
1558	1549	fill	pit	disuse
1559	1549	fill	pit	disuse
1560	1547	fill	pit	disuse
1561	1550	fill	pit	disuse
1562	1549	fill	pit	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1563	1563	cut	pit	use
1564	1563	fill	pit	disuse
1565	1563	fill	pit	disuse
1567	1526	fill	pit	disuse
1568	1569	fill	ditch	disuse
1569	1569	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1571	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1573	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1574	1577	fill	ditch	disuse
1575	1577	fill	ditch	disuse
1576	1577	fill	ditch	disuse
1577	1577	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1578	1578	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1579	1578	fill	ditch	disuse
1580	1581	fill	pit	disuse
1581	1581	cut	pit	use
1582	1583	fill	ditch	disuse
1583	1583	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1584	1585	fill	ditch	disuse
1585	1585	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1586	1587	fill	ditch	disuse
1587	1587	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1588	1827	fill	ditch	disuse
1589	1149	fill	pit	disuse
1590	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1591	1149	fill	pit	disuse
1592	1502	HSR	skeleton	
1593	1594	fill	pit	disuse
1594	1594	cut	pit	use
1595	1596	fill	ditch	disuse
1596	1596	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1597	1598	fill	ditch	disuse
1598	1598	cut	ditch	trackway
1599	1600	fill	ditch	disuse
1600	1600	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1601	1602	fill	ditch	disuse
1602	1602	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1603	1604	fill	ditch	disuse
1604	1604	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1605	1606	fill	ditch	disuse
1606	1606	cut	ditch	trackway
1607	1607	cut	ditch	trackway

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1608	1607	fill	ditch	disuse
1609	1609	cut	ditch	trackway
1610	1609	fill	ditch	disuse
1611	1611	cut	ditch	trackway
1612	1611	fill	ditch	disuse
1613	1613	cut	ditch	trackway
1614	1613	fill	ditch	disuse
1615	1615	cut	ditch	trackway
1616	1615	fill	ditch	disuse
1617	1617	cut	ditch	trackway
1618	1617	fill	ditch	disuse
1619	1619	cut	ditch	trackway
1620	1619	fill	ditch	disuse
1621	1621	cut	ditch	trackway
1622	1621	fill	ditch	disuse
1623	1623	cut	post hole	structural
1624	1623	fill	post hole	disuse
1625	1623	fill	post hole	disuse
1626	1627	fill	ditch	disuse
1627	1627	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1628	1629	fill	ditch	disuse
1629	1629	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1632	1633	fill	ditch	disuse
1633	1633	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1634	1635	fill	ditch	disuse
1635	1635	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1636	1598	fill	ditch	disuse
1637	1598	fill	ditch	disuse
1638	1600	fill	ditch	disuse
1639	1639	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1640	1639	fill	ditch	disuse
1641	1641	cut	post hole	structural
1642	1641	fill	post hole	disuse
1643	1643	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1644	1643	fill	ditch	disuse
1645	1645	cut	post hole	structural
1646	1645	fill	post hole	disuse
1647	1647	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1648	1647	fill	ditch	disuse
1649	1650	fill	ditch	disuse
1650	1650	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1651	1651	cut	ditch	cultivation bed

<i>Context</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Function</i>
1652	1651	fill	ditch	disuse
1653	1653	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1654	1653	fill	ditch	disuse
1655	1655	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1656	1655	fill	ditch	disuse
1657	1657	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1658	1657	fill	ditch	disuse
1659	1659	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1660	1659	fill	ditch	disuse
1661	1662	fill	ditch	disuse
1662	1662	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1663	1664	fill	ditch	disuse
1664	1664	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1665	1666	fill	ditch	disuse
1666	1666	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1667	1668	fill	ditch	disuse
1668	1668	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1669	1669	cut	post hole	structural
1670	1669	fill	post hole	disuse
1671	1671	cut	ditch	trackway
1672	1671	fill	ditch	disuse
1673	1673	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1674	1673	fill	ditch	disuse
1675	1676	fill	ditch	disuse
1676	1676	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1677	1677	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1678	1677	fill	ditch	disuse
1679	1679	cut	ditch	trackway
1680	1679	fill	ditch	disuse
1682	1682	cut	post hole	structural
1683	1682	fill	post hole	disuse
1684	1684	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1685	1684	fill	ditch	disuse
1686	1687	fill	ditch	disuse
1687	1687	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1688	1688	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1689	1688	fill	ditch	disuse
1690	1690	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1691	1690	fill	ditch	disuse
1692	1692	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1693	1692	fill	ditch	disuse
1694	1694	cut	ditch	cultivation bed

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1695	1694	fill	ditch	disuse
1696	1696	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1697	1696	fill	ditch	disuse
1698	1699	fill	ditch	disuse
1699	1699	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1700	1700	cut	ditch	trackway
1701	1700	fill	ditch	disuse
1702	1690	fill	ditch	disuse
1703	1704	fill	ditch	disuse
1704	1704	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1705	1708	fill	ditch	disuse
1706	1708	fill	ditch	disuse
1707	1708	fill	ditch	disuse
1708	1708	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1709	1710	fill	natural	disuse
1710	1710	cut	natural	stream bed
1711	1712	fill	ditch	disuse
1712	1712	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1713	1714	fill	ditch	disuse
1714	1714	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1715	1716	fill	ditch	disuse
1716	1716	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1717	1717	cut	post hole	structural
1718	1717	fill	post hole	disuse
1719	1719	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1720	1719	fill	ditch	disuse
1721	1721	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1722	1721	fill	ditch	disuse
1723	1723	cut	post hole	structural
1724	1725	fill	post hole	disuse
1725	1725	cut	ditch	trackway
1726	1725	fill	ditch	disuse
1727	1727	cut	ditch	trackway
1728	1727	fill	ditch	disuse
1729	1729	cut	ditch	trackway
1730	1729	fill	ditch	disuse
1731	1731	cut	ditch	trackway
1732	1731	fill	ditch	disuse
1733	1734	fill	ditch	disuse
1734	1734	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1735	1736	fill	ditch	disuse
1736	1736	cut	ditch	cultivation bed

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1737	1738	fill	ditch	disuse
1738	1738	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1739	1740	fill	ditch	disuse
1740	1740	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1741	1741	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1742	1741	fill	ditch	disuse
1743	1741	fill	ditch	disuse
1744	1741	fill	ditch	disuse
1747	1727	fill	ditch	disuse
1748	1748	cut	pit	use
1749	1749	cut	pit	watering hole
1750	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1751	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1752	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1753	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1754	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1755	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1756	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1757	1757	cut	pit	use
1758	1757	fill	pit	disuse
1759	1757	fill	pit	disuse
1760	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1761	1757	fill	pit	disuse
1762	1762	cut	pit	use
1763	1762	fill	pit	disuse
1764	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1765	1749	fill	pit	disuse
1766	1766	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1767	1766	fill	ditch	disuse
1768	1769	fill	ditch	disuse
1769	1769	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1770	1770	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1771	1770	fill	ditch	disuse
1772	1773	fill	ditch	disuse
1773	1773	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1774	1775	fill	ditch	disuse
1775	1775	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1776	1777	fill	ditch	disuse
1777	1777	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1778	1779	fill	ditch	disuse
1779	1779	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1780	1781	fill	ditch	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1781	1781	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1782	1783	fill	ditch	disuse
1783	1783	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1784	1785	fill	ditch	disuse
1785	1785	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1786	1786	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1787	1786	fill	ditch	disuse
1788	1789	fill	ditch	disuse
1789	1789	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1790	1791	fill	ditch	disuse
1791	1791	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1792	1793	fill	modern	disuse
1793	1793	cut	modern	plough scar
1794	1794	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1795	1794	fill	ditch	disuse
1796	1796	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1797	1796	fill	ditch	disuse
1798	1799	fill	ditch	disuse
1799	1799	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1800	1794	fill	ditch	disuse
1801	1802	fill	ditch	disuse
1802	1802	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1803	1803	cut	pit	use
1804	1803	fill	pit	disuse
1805	1803	fill	pit	disuse
1806	1807	fill	ditch	disuse
1807	1807	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1808	1809	fill	natural	disuse
1809	1809	cut	natural	stream bed
1810	1810	cut	pit	watering hole
1811	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1813	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1814	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1815	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1816	1816	cut	pit	watering hole
1817	1816	fill	pit	disuse
1818	1816	fill	pit	disuse
1819	1816	fill	pit	disuse
1820	1816	fill	pit	disuse
1821	1816	fill	pit	disuse
1822	1909	fill	pit	disuse
1823	1909	fill	pit	disuse

<i>Context</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Function</i>
1824	1909	fill	pit	disuse
1825	1825	cut	ditch	modern
1826	1825	fill	ditch	disuse
1827	1827	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1828	1828	layer	pit	disuse
1829	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1830	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1831	1831	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1832	1831	fill	ditch	disuse
1833	1708	fill	ditch	disuse
1834	1835	fill	ditch	disuse
1835	1835	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1836	1836	cut	pit	watering hole
1837	1836	fill	pit	disuse
1838	1836	fill	pit	disuse
1839	1839	cut	pit	use
1840	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1841	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1842	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1843	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1844	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1845	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1846	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1847	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1848	1839	fill	pit	disuse
1849	1849	cut	pit	watering hole
1850	1849	fill	pit	disuse
1851	1849	fill	pit	disuse
1852	1852	cut	pit	use
1853	1852	fill	pit	disuse
1854	1852	fill	pit	disuse
1855	1855	cut	pit	use
1856	1855	fill	pit	disuse
1857	1857	cut	post hole	structural
1858	1857	fill	post hole	disuse
1859	1859	cut	post hole	structural
1860	1859	fill	post hole	disuse
1861	1861	cut	ditch	trackway
1862	1861	fill	ditch	disuse
1863	1861	fill	ditch	disuse
1864	1867	fill	ditch	disuse
1866	1867	fill	ditch	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1867	1867	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1868	1149	fill	pit	disuse
1869	1149	fill	pit	disuse
1870	1870	cut	ditch	cultivation bed
1871	1870	fill	ditch	disuse
1872	1803	fill	pit	disuse
1873	1803	fill	pit	disuse
1874	1502	fill	pit	disuse
1875	1876	fill	ditch	disuse
1876	1876	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1877	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1878	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1879	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1880	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1881	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1882	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1883	1884	fill	pit	disuse
1884	1884	cut	pit	watering hole
1885	1885	layer	pit	disuse
1886	1892	fill	pit	disuse
1887	1892	fill	pit	disuse
1888	1892	fill	pit	disuse
1889	1892	fill	pit	disuse
1890	1892	fill	pit	disuse
1891	1892	fill	pit	disuse
1892	1892	cut	pit	watering hole
1893	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1894	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1895	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1896	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1897	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1898	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1899	1902	fill	pit	disuse
1900	1902	fill	pit	disuse
1901	1902	fill	pit	disuse
1902	1902	cut	pit	watering hole
1903	1905	fill	natural	disuse
1904	1905	fill	natural	disuse
1905	1905	cut	natural	tree bole
1906	1907	fill	ditch	disuse
1907	1907	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1908	1908	layer		disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1909	1909	cut	pit	watering hole
1910	1911	fill	ditch	disuse
1911	1911	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1912	1913	fill	pit	disuse
1913	1913	cut	post hole	structural
1914	1915	fill	post hole	disuse
1915	1915	cut	post hole	structural
1916	1918	fill	post hole	disuse
1917	1918	fill	post hole	disuse
1918	1918	cut	post hole	structural
1919	1920	fill	post hole	disuse
1920	1920	cut	post hole	structural
1921	1922	fill	post hole	disuse
1922	1922	cut	post hole	structural
1923	1924	fill	post hole	disuse
1924	1924	cut	post hole	structural
1925	1925	cut	pit	use
1926	1925	fill	pit	disuse
1927	1927	cut	pit	watering hole
1928	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1929	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1930	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1931	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1932	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1933	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1934	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1935	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1936	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1937	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1938	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1939	1939	cut	pit	watering hole
1940	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1941	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1942	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1943	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1944	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1945	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1946	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1947	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1948	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1949	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1950	1939	fill	pit	disuse

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function
1951	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1952	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1953	1956	fill	pit	disuse
1954	1954	cut	pit	use
1955	1956	fill	ditch	disuse
1956	1956	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1957	1958	fill	ditch	disuse
1958	1958	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1959	1960	fill	ditch	disuse
1960	1960	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1961	1962	fill	ditch	disuse
1962	1962	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1963	1963	cut	pit	use
1964	1963	fill	pit	disuse
1965	1954	fill	ditch	disuse
1966	1966	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure
1967	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1968	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1969	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1970	1939	fill	pit	disuse
1971	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1972	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1973	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1974	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1975	1810	fill	pit	disuse
1976	1977	fill	ditch	disuse
1977	1977	cut	ditch	use
1978	1927	fill	pit	disuse
1979	1980	fill	ditch	disuse
1980	1980	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Lithic Assessment

Barry Bishop

Introduction

B.1.1 The excavations at the above site resulted in the recovery of 58 struck flints and 131g of burnt flint fragments. This report quantifies and describes the material, comments on its significance and recommends any further work needed for it to attain its full research potential. More detailed information and a quantification of the lithic material by context is provided in Appendix 1. All metrical descriptions follow Saville (1980).

Quantification

B.1.2 The assemblage may be regarded as relatively small and was found widely dispersed across the site. Altogether 36 separate contexts produced struck flint with the greatest quantities, totalling 12 pieces, coming from context [1191] and with most of the others only containing single pieces (see Table 8).

Type	Decorated flake	Flake	Blade	Blade-like flake	Core	Conchoidal Chunk	Retouched	Total Struck	Burnt Flint (No.)	Burnt Flint (wt:g)
No.	6	22	5	4	2	4	15	58	22	131
%	10.3	37.9	8.6	6.9	3.4	6.9	25.9	99.9		

Table 6: Quantification of Lithic Material from MAR HID 08

Burnt Flint

B.1.3 Small quantities of variably burnt flint fragments were recovered from 11 separate contexts (see Table 8). It was found in small quantities with no concentrations evident. It most likely represents 'background' waste resulting from hearth use and other fire-related activities and no evidence for its deliberate production was noted.

Struck Flint

Raw Material

B.1.4 All of the struck pieces are made from good knapping-quality translucent black or brown 'glassy' flint with occasional opaque mottling. It has a weathered but often thick and rough cortex and contains frequent thermal flaws. It would have been obtained from derived sources, most likely fluvio-glacial deposits that would have been very common in the vicinity of the site, although during the prehistoric period peat and alluvial deposits would have gradually submerged many of the lower-lying sources.

Condition

B.1.5 The assemblage is in a variable condition although the majority of pieces display some post-depositional damage and three struck pieces had been burnt. This is consistent with the majority of the assemblage having been subjected to some trampling and/or redeposition but, generally, it would not appear to have experienced any extensive

post-depositional movement and was probably recovered close to where it was originally discarded.

Description

- B.1.6 The assemblage appears to have been manufactured over a considerable period, from the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic to the Middle Bronze Age or later.

Mesolithic/Early Neolithic

- B.1.7 The earliest pieces comprise a small collection of systematically produced blades characteristic of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic industries. No cores dateable to these periods were identified and the retouched pieces were limited to an edge-trimmed or worn serrated blade and a long-end scraper (Table 7). By itself, this small group can only indicate transient or low-key activity at the site.

Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

- B.1.8 The bulk of the assemblage comprises thick but mostly narrow and competently produced flakes, which can be broadly dated to the Later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age periods. Such dating is supported by many of the retouched implements. These include ‘thumbnail’ type scrapers and three narrow flakes with semi-invasive retouch along their lateral margins, two of which are burnt and the other possibly unfinished. It is not entirely clear what type of implement these represent; the unfinished example is very reminiscent of plano-convex knives and the two burnt fragments appear to be from very similar implements. Given the evidence for cremation at the site, it is interesting to note that plano-convex knives are frequently associated with funerary activity and were often included as grave goods in Later Neolithic, Beaker and Early Bronze Age burials in the region (eg Clark 1932; Leaf 1936; Saville 1985; Bishop in press).
- B.1.9 The retouched component form a very high proportion of the overall assemblage and other possibly retouched were noted, the condition of these precluding positive identification. This indicates that, although some core reduction was occurring during this period, tool use and discard was an important element of the lithic-based activities conducted at the site.

Context	Raw Materials	Condition	Description	Suggested date
1027	Translucent brown	Slightly chipped	Scraper: Steep, rather irregular convex retouch around part of a thermal spall	?late
1074	Translucent Black	Slightly chipped	Scraper: Small partially cortical flake with fine semi-invasive convex retouch along distal. cf Thumbnail type	LN/EBA
1085	Translucent Black	Slightly chipped	Scraper: Small partially cortical flake with fine semi-invasive convex retouch along distal. cf Thumbnail type	LN/EBA
1093	Translucent Black	Chipped	Long-end scraper: narrow partially cortical flake with moderate steep convex retouch around distal	M-EBA
1151	Unknown	Burnt	Possible plano-convex knife: burnt bulbar fragment - narrow flake with semi-invasive straight retouch along both lateral margins	LN/EBA
1189	Translucent Black	Good	Possible scraper: Thick narrow flake with steep scalar convex retouch to bulbar end - unusual	?late
1190	Translucent brown	Chipped	Composite scraper/knife: wide cortical flake with fine convex retouch around one edge of scraper but also shallow semi-invasive along one edge	N-EBA
1190	Translucent Black	Slightly chipped	Small circular scraper with many flakes removed inversely from around perimeter - odd	UD
1190	Translucent	Slightly	Edge-retouched blade: proximal end with fine	M/EN

	brown	chipped	retouch/worn serrations along both margins	
1298	Translucent brown	Chipped	Edge retouched flake: fine steep retouch around distal and left side, cortical 'backing' on other	M-EBA
1415	Translucent Black	Chipped	Scraper, side and end: almost all-over invasive convex retouch around distal and right margin – resharpened. of large thumbnail type	LN/EBA
1453	Translucent Black	Slightly chipped	Edge-trimmed narrow flake: fine retouch along right margin, cortical 'backing' along left - used for cutting	M-EBA
1705	Unknown	Burnt	Possible plano-convex knife: burnt medial fragment - narrow flake with semi-invasive straight retouch along both lateral margins	LN/EBA
1751	Translucent Black	Slightly chipped	Edge-trimmed narrow flake: fine steep retouch along both lateral margins - used for cutting?	M-EBA
1805	Translucent brown	Good	Plano-convex knife: Thick but narrow flake with invasive flaking along all of one end and extending to the other end where it had broken, probably during manufacture	LN/EBA

Table 7: Description of Retouched Implements

Middle Bronze Age or Later

- B.1.10 There is less evidence for later, post Early Bronze Age, flintworking at the site. A few of the flakes are thick and short with wide, often obtuse striking platforms, typical of those from Middle Bronze Age and later industries (eg Martingell 1990; Young and Humphrey 1999), and some of the retouched pieces, such as the irregular scrapers from contexts [1027] and [1189], are perhaps most typical of examples of this date. The only two cores recovered are both irregularly and minimally reduced, these also being common traits in Middle Bronze Age or later industries. Taken together these pieces do suggest persistence flint use during these periods although it appears to be opportunistic and of limited scale.

Significance and Recommendations

- B.1.11 The assemblage may be regarded as small but it does indicate activity at the site from the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic through to the Middle Bronze Age or later. It has the ability to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the chronology of occupation at the site and the nature of the activities conducted there. Further work should concentrate on providing a more detailed description of the assemblage and compiling a short report of the material to accompany any published accounts of the archaeological investigations at the site, alongside illustrations of some of the more significant implements. This should be conducted with full considerations to context, both within individual features and spatially across the site, and, where appropriate, with regard to the material's relationship with other artefact classes.

Context	Ref	Decortication flake	Flake	Blade	Blade-like flake	Core	Conchoidal Chipped	Retouched	Raw Materials	Condition	Suggested Date	Comments	Burnt Flint (No.)	Burnt Flint (wt.%)
1025			1						Translucent Black	Chipped	M-EBA			
1027								1	Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	UD	Scraper: Steep, rather irregular convex retouch around part of a thermal spall		
1055			1						Translucent Black	Chipped	UD			
1059 <12>				1					Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	MEN	Medial segment		
1059 <12>			1						Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	M-EBA			
1074								1	Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	LNEBA	Scraper: Small partially cortical flake with fine semi-invasive convex retouch along distal. of Thumbnail type		
1085								1	Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	LNEBA	Scraper: Small partially cortical flake with fine semi-invasive convex retouch along distal. of Thumbnail type		
1093								1	Translucent Black	Chipped	M-EBA	Long-end scraper: narrow partially cortical flake with moderate steep convex retouch around distal		
1093				1					Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	MEN	Proximal		
1093													1	5
1138		1							Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	UD			
1151								1	Unknown	Burnt	LNEBA	Possible plano-convex knife: burnt bulbar fragment - narrow flake with semi-invasive straight retouch along both margins		
1151							1		Unknown	Burnt	UD			
1151 SF10			1						Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	M-EBA			
1153 <41>				1					Unknown	Slightly Chipped	MEN			
1189								1	Translucent Black	Good	UD	Possible scraper: Thick narrow flake with steep scalar convex retouch to bulbar end - unusual scraper?		
1190								1	Translucent Brown	Chipped	N-EBA	Composite scraper/knife: wide cortical flake with fine convex retouch around one edge of scraper but also semi-invasive along one edge of knife		
1190								1	Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	UD	Scraper with many flakes removed inversely from around edge - odd		
1190								1	Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	MEN	Edge-retouched blade: proximal end with fine retouch/worn serrations along both margins		
1190			1						Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	MBA+	Squat		
1191			1						Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	UD			
1191			9			1	2		Translucent Black	Variable	N-BA	Irregular and minimally reduced core. Many of the flakes are also 'late' looking squat flakes		
1193							1		Translucent Brown	Chipped	UD			
1266			1						Translucent Black	Good	M-EBA			
1298								1	Translucent Brown	Chipped	M-EBA	Edge retouched: fine retouch around distal and left side, cortical 'backing'		
1301													3	6
1303													1	19
1332													1	4
1348 <84>			2						Translucent Brown	Chipped	UD			
1411					1				Translucent Brown	Chipped	M-EBA		1	6
1415								1	Translucent Black	Chipped	M-EBA	Scraper, side and end: almost all-over invasive convex retouch around distal and right margin - resharpened, probably LNEBA		
1438			1						Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	M-EBA			
1440					1				Translucent Brown	Chipped	M-EBA	Possibly edge-trimmed/notched		
1440				1					Translucent Brown	Slightly Chipped	MEN			
1453								1	Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	M-EBA	Edge-trimmed narrow flake: fine retouch along right margin, cortical 'backing' along left - used for cutting		
1483												All natural		
1486												All natural		
1520				1					Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	MEN	Distal segment Possibly edge trimmed to form a minimal piercer on a converging distal end		
1637								1	Translucent Black	Good	UD	Minimally reduced: angular chunk with a few flakes randomly removed		
1705								1	Unknown	Burnt	LNEBA	Possible plano-convex knife: burnt medial fragment - narrow flake with semi-invasive straight retouch along both margins		
1720		1							Translucent Brown	Good	UD	Nodular protuberance removal flake		
1726		1							Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	UD			
1751								1	Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	M-EBA	Edge-trimmed narrow flake: fine retouch along both lateral margins - used for cutting		
1751													4	12
1753													5	34
1755			1						Translucent Black	Slightly Chipped	UD			
1755													1	13
1782		1							Translucent Black	Variable	N-BA			
1804					1				Translucent Black	Good	M-EBA			
1804													3	23
1805								1	Translucent Brown	Good	LNEBA	Plano-convex knife: Thick but narrow flake with invasive flaking along all of one end and extending to the other where it has broken, probably during manufacture		
1863			1						Translucent Black	Good	UD			

Table 8: quantification of the lithic material by context

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B.2 Earlier Prehistoric Pottery

By Mark Knight

Introduction

- B.2.1 The earlier prehistoric pottery assemblage comprised 87 sherds weighing 1473g. The bulk of the weight was made up by base and lower wall fragments from three large urns that were encrusted with a mixture of soil, charcoal and calcined bone. The remainder of the collection comprised mostly small sherds although a re-constructible lower section of a medium-sized urn was also present.
- B.2.2 The condition of the material varied between contexts and the majority consisted of small crumbling or laminating fragments. Five different fabric types were identified and these were predominantly grog based. Feature sherds were rare but included four base fragments and two sherds with decoration.

Context	Number	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	Fabric	Type
1143	27	155	5.7	1	EBA/DR
1189	2	4	2.0	1	EBA
1268	1	555	?	5	DR
1497	10	50	5.0	3	CU
1605	1	2	1.0	1	EBA
1804	3	13	4.3	3	CU
1805	13	19	1.5	1	EBA
1877	?	279	?	5	DR
1887	6	15	2.5	4	EBA
1908	1	7	7.0	1	EBA
1930	23	374	16.3	1, 2	CU
Totals:	87	1473g		5	

Table 9: Assemblage Breakdown

Fabric Type	Description
1	Medium hard with frequent small-medium rounded GROG
2	Hard with common SAND and common small burnt FLINT
3	Medium hard (soapy) with common medium GROG
4	Hard with abundant small GROG and SAND
5	Medium with frequent VOIDS (corky; lost shell) and possible GROG

Table 10: Fabric Series

- B.2.3 Of the sherds that were large enough to give some indication of original size or form the impression was that most belonged to urn forms. Similarly, with the exception of Fabric 2, the fabric types were appropriate for early/middle Bronze Age urns.
- B.2.4 The assemblage can be broken down into three categories: Collared Urn, Early Bronze Age and Deverel-Rimbury. The first of these categories included two possible 'collar' sherds, both of which were decorated, whilst the latter category comprised bases of

large diameter urns whose sherds had almost returned back to clay and had a characteristic cross-section of reddy-orange oxidised exterior and brown-black un-oxidised interior. The 'middle' category represented well-made grog tempered sherds.

Collared Urn

- B.2.5 Context [1930] included the base (0.12m diameter) and lower body of an urn with a splayed profile. Its fabric (Fabric 1) and finish (well made, smoothed surface, compact fabric) suggests that it represents the bottom half of a medium-sized Collared Urn. A single burnt flint tempered sherd (possibly residual Neolithic) also came from the same context.
- B.2.6 Context [1804] produced three sherds one of which appeared to be a heavily abraded fragment of a decorated collar (incised herring-bone) whilst another possible decorated (incised diagonal lines) collar fragment came from [1605].

Early Bronze Age

- B.2.7 Part of a base angle (diameter 0.10m) from context [1497] was badly laminated but was made of an EBA type fabric as was a single small and thin-walled sherd from context [1605]

Deverel-Rimbury

- B.2.8 Contexts [1286] and [1877] both produced large fragments from large diameter vessels (c. 0.30m) made of a characteristic corky Deverel-Rimbury type fabric. The former of the two contexts included an almost complete base with soil and calcined bone still attached. The presence of the base and absence of sherds from the upper parts of the vessels suggests the urns had been buried upright. Unfortunately it is the upper portions of Deverel-Rimbury urns that are typically decorated or embellished.

Discussion

- B.2.9 The lack of feature sherds and the upper portions of most of the vessels made identification problematic. Similar mixed assemblages of Early and Middle Bronze Age ceramics have been found at other northern Cambridgeshire sites (such as Brigg's Farm, Thorney; Pickstone & Mortimer 2009) and Stonald Field, Whittlesey; Gibson & Knight 2002) that showed equivalent fabric characteristics but with a greater frequency of diagnostic feature sherds. The evaluation phase of the excavation (Hutton & Standring 2008) also produced a rusticated Beaker fragment made with a grog-rich fabric the same as Fabric 1.

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B.3 The Later Prehistoric Pottery

By Matt Brudenell

Introduction

- B.3.1 A small assemblage of later prehistoric pottery was recovered from the excavations, totalling 71 sherds weighing 470g (Table 10). The pottery was recovered from 24 different contexts, though only eight of these contained more than one sherd. The material dates from the Late Bronze Age through to the Late Iron Age, and comprises of mainly small abraded sherds (87% measuring less than 4cm in size) with a low mean sherd weight (MSW) of 6.6g.
- B.3.2 Given the nature and condition of this assemblage, it is important to point out that the dates given in this report are based primarily on the assessment of sherd fabrics. Dating later prehistoric pottery by fabric type alone is problematic, as many 'fabric recipes' have long currencies which are not necessarily exclusive to individual prehistoric periods. However, given that the assemblage contained very few diagnostic sherds (with only six different vessel rims and one base fragment identified) and no decorated pieces, fabrics are by default the primary means of dating in this context.
- B.3.3 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendation laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (1997). However, tiny crumbs of pottery (all under 1g) have been excluded from the quantification and analysis in this report, but are noted in the archive data sheets.

Fabric	No. sherds	Weight (g)	% of assemblage by weight	MNI vessels
F1	3	14	3.0	1
F2	3	1	0.2	
F3	2	4	0.9	
G1	1	5	1.1	
Q1	42	236	50.2	2
Q2	2	29	6.2	1
Q3	2	131	27.9	1
QG1	1	20	4.3	
QG2	12	29	6.2	2
S1	3	1	0.2	
TOTAL	71	470	100.0	7

Table 11: Quantified later prehistoric pottery.

MNV = minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified.
No burnished or decorated sherds were present in the assemblage.

Sandy fabrics:

Q1 Moderate to common fine to medium sand

Q2 Sparse sand, sparse coarse voids (possible dissolved shell, mainly over 2mm), and rare medium crushed flint (mainly under 1mm)

Q3 Moderate to common sand with rare coarse flint (mainly 2-5mm)

Burnt flint tempered fabrics:

F1 Moderate medium to coarse flint (mainly 1-2mm) in a sandy clay matrix

F2 Moderate medium to coarse flint (mainly 1-2mm)

F3 Common coarse flint (mainly 2-5mm)

Shelly fabrics:

S1 Moderate or common fine to medium shell (up to 2mm). On occasions the shell is leached out leaving plate-like voids

Grog tempered fabrics:

G1 Moderate to common coarse grog (mainly over 2mm)

Sand and grog tempered fabrics:

QG1 Sparse sand and rare to sparse very coarse grog (up to 4mm)

QG2 Moderate to common sand and moderate to common medium to coarse grog (mainly 1-2mm)

Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age sherds (c. 1100 BC – 350/300 BC)

B.3.4 The eight sherds (19g) in burnt flint tempered fabrics (F1-3) probably date to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. These were recovered from eight separate contexts, including 1223 (<1g), 1332 (1g), 1348 (1g), 1466 (1g), 1652 (11g), 1751 (<1g), 1753 (2g) and 1530/1531 (3g). The only non-body sherd was found in context 1652, and consisted on a plain, rounded rim.

Middle/Later Iron Age sherds (c. 350/300 BC – AD 50)

B.3.5 In total 41 sherds (377g) Later Iron Age pottery were identified in the assemblage, all of which were characterised by sandy fabrics (Q1-4). The pottery was recovered from eight contexts, including 1138 (1 sherd, 4g), 1148 (5 sherds, 45g), 1151 (12 sherds, 112g), 1191 (1 sherds, 11g), 1193 (7 sherds, 47g), 1195, (13 sherds, 37g), 1649 (1 sherd, 1g) and 1830 (1 sherd, 120g). Context 1151 yielded the only partial vessel profile in the assemblage. This belonged to a Form A slack shouldered jar (Hill and Horne 2003, 174; Hill and Braddock 2006, 155-6) complete with rounded rim. Two other vessel rims were recovered from context 1148; one with a flat top, the other with a rounded lip measuring 11cm in diameter (c. 11% of the circumference intact). The only other feature sherd from this group was a base fragment from context 1830, measuring 14cm in diameter (c. 21% the circumference intact).

Late Iron Age sherds (c. 50 BC – AD 50)

B.3.6 Possibly contemporary with the sandy later Iron Age pottery discussed above was the group of 13 sherds (49g) in sand and grog tempered fabrics (QG1-2). These were probably made at the end of the Iron Age, after c. 50 BC, when grog was more regularly used for potting in certain parts of Cambridgeshire (particularly in the south of the county). Though commonly associated with wheel-turned Late Iron Age 'belgic' ceramics, grog was also employed as a tempering agent for the production of contemporary handmade vessels. Five contexts yielded sand and grog tempered sherds, including 1151 (1 sherds, 20g), 1341 (1 sherd, 6g), 1782 (1 sherds, 5g), 1863 (1 sherd, 1g) and 99999 (9 sherds, 17g). None of the sherds were identified as being wheel-turned, though their small size may have prevented recognition. Feature sherds were present in contexts 1782 and 99999, each of which contained single rounded rim sherds.

B.3.7 The only other grog-tempered sherd in the assemblage (fabric G1) derived from context 1863 (5g). This abraded sherd is potentially of Late Iron Age date, though the character of the grog is similar to that in some Early Bronze Age ceramics.

- B.3.8 Two thin-walled sand tempered sherds (5g) from context 1252 (1g) and 1322 (4g) may also date to the Late Iron Age, though they are conceivably Early Roman. In these examples the fabrics are best paralleled in 'conquest period' ceramic assemblages from southern Cambridgeshire, which date from c. 40 BC-50/60 BC.

'Generic' later prehistoric sherds (c. 1100 BC – AD 50)

- B.3.7 The remaining six sherds (15g) in the assemblage cannot be dated with any accuracy. These include the three shell tempered sherds from contexts 1138 (<1g), 1630 (<1g) and 1863 (1g), and three sandy sherds in fabric Q1; two from context 1885 (<1g), and one from context 99999 (14g).

Discussion

- B.3.8 Whilst the character and condition of the sherds in this small assemblage has undoubtedly made the pottery dating problematic, it is nonetheless clear that several phases of later prehistoric activity are attested by the ceramic evidence, including a presence in both the beginning and end of the first millennium BC. Most of the pottery would seem to date to the later Iron Age, with some apparently belonging to the period's closing stages. Of interest in this context is the absence of Scored Ware sherds at the site, suggesting that the Iron Age assemblage has affinities to the 'Plainware' potting tradition evident in southern Cambridgeshire and the other central in-fen islands, including Chatteris and Ely (Evans 2006, 323, fig. 6.32).

Recommendations

- B.3.9 No further recording of the later prehistoric pottery is required. It would be useful, however, to check the sites' other pottery catalogues in order to clarify whether or not some of this material is residual or intrusive. Feature numbers/cut numbers also need to be added to the archive data sheets in order to aid further contextual analysis.

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B.4 The Romano-British Pottery

By Stephen Wadeson

Introduction

- B.4.1 A small assemblage of Romano-British pottery, totalling 40 sherds, weighing 259g were recovered during excavations at Plot 5, Over Industrial Estate, Cambridgeshire (OVE INE 09). Early Roman in date, the pottery was recovered from 24 stratified deposits. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from ditches 85% and can be associated with the remains of Roman field systems, with a further 10% of pottery retrieved from pits.
- B.4.2 The majority of the assemblage is fragmentary and significantly abraded with an average sherd weight of c.6g suggesting that most of the pottery was not found within its primary site of deposition. Many of the sherds do not retain their original surface finish and few signs of use survive. The poor condition of the pottery indicates high levels of post-depositional disturbance possibly the result of middening and/or manuring as part of the waste management during the Roman period (Lyons 2004).

Methodology

- B.4.3 The assemblage was examined in accordance with the guidelines set down by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Webster 1976; Darling 2004; Willis 2004). The total assemblage was studied and a preliminary catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a magnifying lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. The fabric codes are descriptive and abbreviated by the main letters of the title (Sandy grey ware = SGW) vessel form was also recorded.
- B.4.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

Quantification

- B.4.5 All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted and a spot date has been provided for each individual sherd and context.

The Assemblage

- B.4.6 The majority of the pottery recovered are locally produced, unsourced domestic coarse wares (reduced and oxidised) present in a range of forms including jars and dishes. Often used for both cooking and serving food these vessel types are commonly found in most domestic assemblages in this region throughout the Roman period. The bulk of these sherds are Sandy grey wares, c.62% by weight with oxidised wares forming only c.22% by weight of the assemblage.
- B.4.7 Fine wares are rare within the assemblage, only six sherds of Samian (c.8%) were identified, all from Southern and Central Gaul. The earliest of this material is a single sherd of South Galulish samian from La Graufesenque (Tomber and Dore 1998, 28). Decorated en barbotine the sherd is from the flange of a Curle 11 bowl, which can be dated to the early Flavian period. The remaining five sherds of samian date from the 2nd century (120-200AD) and were produced at Lezoux in Central Gaul (Tomber and Dore 1998, 32). Forms present include Drag. 27 and Drag. 33 cups and a Drag. 18/31 dish. The remaining single sherd is too small to attribute form.

B.4.8 A single sherd of locally produced Verulamium type white ware, from the handle of a flagon, a form typical of the early Roman period, is the only specialist ware present in the assemblage.

Discussion

B.4.9 Although not the focus of a settlement itself, the small number of sherds recovered from site and their condition would suggest there is an as yet un-located Romano-British settlement or farmstead nearby associated with field systems identified during excavation. This small assemblage provides evidence that occupation of the settlement was continuous during the Roman period from the mid 1st century AD through to the mid/late 2nd century AD.

B.4.10 The pottery is typical of a utilitarian domestic assemblage recovered from low order settlements within this region (Evans 2003, 105).

Sampling Bias

B.4.11 Excavation was carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling strategies on a feature by feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases. Where bulk samples have been processed for environmental and artefactual remains, there has also been some recovery of pottery. These are a small quantity of abraded sherds which have been quantified, and added to the catalogue.

Acknowledgements

B.4.12 Special thanks to Carole Fletcher, OA East for her support and patience.

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Context	Cut	Feature	Fabric	Des	Form	Qty	Wt (g)	Decoration	Spot date	Feature date	Comments
1006	1005	Ditch	CGSAM	R	Drag. 27 Cup	1	4		120-160AD	E/MC2	
1011	1012	Ditch	PMGRW	R		1	14		1500-1800	16C-19C	Post_med
1023	1024	Ditch	SGW	U		3	9		LC1-C2	LC1-C2	
1189	1491	Pit	SGW	U		1	11		MC1-LC1/EC2	MC1-LC1/EC2	?Proto
1190	1491	Pit	SOW (flint)	U		1	2		?C1		?LPRIA
1235	1234	Pit	SGW	U		1	5		MC1-MC2	MC1-MC2	Gritty
1252	1253	Ditch	SGW	U		1	1		MC1-LC1/EC2	MC1-LC1/EC2	Sample 71, ? Proto
1266	1267	Ditch	SGW	U		3	24		MC1-EC2	MC1-EC2	
1322	1315	Ditch	SGW	U		1	4		MC1-LC1/EC2	MC1-LC1/EC2	Sample 79, ? Proto
1331	1333	Ditch	SGW	UR	Jar	6	45		LC1-C2		Outer surfaces abraded
1331	1333	Ditch	SGW	U		2	7		MC1-MC2		
1331	1333	Ditch	SGW	R	Jar	1	7		MC1-MC2		Gritty
1343	1342	Nat Layer	SGW	U		1	9		MC1-E/MC2		
1368	1369	Ditch	SGW	U		1	2		MC1-LC1/EC2	MC1-LC1/EC2	?Proto
1415	1414	Ditch	STW	U		1	1		MC1-C4	MC1-C4	Sample 96, ? Pre
1438	1435	Ditch	SGW	R	Jar	1	4		MC1-MC2	MC1-MC2	Gritty
1453	1454	Ditch	CGSAM	U	Drag. 33 Cup	2	2		120-200AD	C2	
1472	1473	Ditch	SGW	U		1	3		MC1-E/MC2		
1472	1473	Ditch	CGSAM	U		1	1		120-200AD	C2	
1586	1587	Ditch	SGW	U	Jar	2	13		MC1-EC2		
1586	1587	Ditch	SGSAM	F	Curle 11 Bowl	1	2	Barbotine	70-100 AD	MC1-EC2	
1630	1631	Ditch	SOW	R	Dish	3	54		MC2+	MC2+	?Gritty, Sooting on rim
1640	1639	Ditch	RFWE			1	1		1790	C18-C19	Sample 117, Transfer printed
1685	1684	Ditch	SGW	U		1	10		MC1-LC1/EC2	MC1-LC1/EC2	?Proto
1720	1719	Ditch	SGW	U		1	4		MC1-EC2	MC1-EC2	
1908		Layer	SGW	U		1	3		LC1-C2	LC1-C2	Recovered with pre-his pot
1953	1956	Pit	CGSAM	B	Drag. 18/31	1	12		120-150AD	E/MC2	
1959	1960	Ditch	VER Type	H	Flagon	1	20		MC1-MC2	MC1-MC2	

Table 12: The Pottery Catalogue

Key: C=Century, E=Early, M=Mid, L=Late.

R=Rim, U=Undecorated body sherd, D=Decorated body sherd, B=Base.

B.5 Waterlogged wood Assessment

Michael Bamforth

Introduction

B.5.1 This assessment report has been compiled by Michael Bamforth of L-P Archaeology on behalf of Oxford Archaeology East (OAE). This document aims to assess the potential of the waterlogged wood assemblage in terms of woodworking technology, woodland reconstruction, decay analysis, species identification, dendrochronology and conservation and retention. A total of 177 discrete items were recorded, and a single bulk assemblage of roundwood containing c. 60 items was also assessed. The material was recorded during a single visit to the site on 20th November 2008 and two subsequent visits to the offices of OAE.

Provenance

B.5.2 The material was recovered during excavations carried out by OAE at Hundred Road, March (MARHID 08), Cambridgeshire, during Winter 2008. The waterlogged wood was recovered from the lower, waterlogged fills of several large pits (**TABLE 12**). The function of the pits remains uncertain at this stage, although they have provisionally been assigned a Mid to Late Bronze Age date (C. THATCHER PERS. COMM.)

Methodology

- B.5.3 This document has been produced in accordance with English Heritage guidelines for the treatment of waterlogged wood (BRUNNING 1996) and recommendations made by the SOCIETY OF MUSEUM ARCHAEOLOGISTS (1993) for the retention of waterlogged wood.
- All discreetly numbered items and those displaying evidence of modification or woodland management were recorded individually using the L - P: Archaeology *pro forma* 'wood recording sheet' which is based on the sheet developed by Fenland Archaeological Trust for the post excavation recording of waterlogged wood. All records were then entered into a database.
 - Bulk collections or samples of natural wood were assessed as a whole. Every effort was made to refit broken or fragmented items. However, due to the nature of the material, the possibility remains that some discreet yet broken items may have been processed as their constituent parts as opposed to as a whole.
 - The metric data were taken with hand tools including rulers and tapes, the toolmarks were measured using a profile gauge.
 - The system of categorisation and interrogation developed by TAYLOR (1998 & 2001) has been adopted within this report.
 - Joints and fixings are described in accordance with the Museum of London archaeological site manual (SPENCE 1994).
 - Items identifiable to species by morphological traits visible with a hand lens (oak – *Quercus* sp. and ash – *Fraxinus excelsior*) were noted. Other items were sub-sampled to allow later identification to genus via microscopic identification as necessary.

- During the site visit, it was advised that 100% of the waterlogged wood encountered should be retained for subsequent examination. In the case of long lengths of roundwood, it was advised that only a sub-sample of each item be retained.

Range and Variation

B.5.4 This assemblage contains a moderate range of material (**TABLE 12**). Roundwood dominates the assemblage, with moderate debris and occasional timber also present. A large bulk assemblage of roundwood from context (1490) that contained c.60 items was also assessed. No material classed as artefacts was recorded.

Feature	Context	Debris	Roundwood	Timber	Totals
1492	1490	6	62	4	72
1502	1500	4	14	-	18
1810	1813	11	20	-1	32
1816	1820	15	36	1	52
1927	1930	1	2	-	3
Totals		37	134	6	177

Table 13: Frequency of wood categories by context

Feature [1492], Context (1490)

- B.5.5 This context is dominated by roundwood. In addition to the 62 items recorded individually, an additional c.60 items were also assessed as a bulk assemblage. The bulk assemblage contained c.60 pieces of fragmented, small diameter roundwood, varying in diameter between 15-34mm. No evidence of woodworking was recorded, possibly due to the fragmented nature of the sub-samples.
- B.5.6 The 62 individually recorded sub-samples of roundwood vary in diameter between 11 - 60mm. The mean average diameter is 29mm. Seven pieces of roundwood have been trimmed to length with an edged tool, probably an axe. To date, 24 items have been identified as oak – the remainder were sub-sampled to allow microscopic analysis as required. Oak is suitable for coppicing and was often utilised in wattle structures and hurdles (GALE & CUTLER 2000). Coppicing evidence, in the form of a straight, even stem was noted from 50 pieces of roundwood. Both the diameter, and the straight, even stems devoid of side branches are suggestive of material derived from coppiced woodland (TAYLOR 2003, RACKHAM 1977). Surprisingly, context (1490) produced no roundwood debris.
- B.5.7 The four items from this context classed as timber are all radially half split lengths, fashioned from raw material with a diameter of between 35-48mm. None of the material has been identified to species. One of the timbers had been trimmed at one end.
- B.5.8 A single piece of radially aligned oak timber debris and three oak wood chips (one tangentially aligned and two radially aligned) were also recovered from this context.
- B.5.9 It seems likely that the majority, if not all of the roundwood material is the product of coppicing. The high incidence of roundwood, coupled with the low incidence of roundwood or other debris suggests that this is not simply accumulated waste and detritus, but is more likely to be the remains of some degraded wattle lining or discarded hurdle. It is entirely possible that the half split timbers were also associated with some form of wattle structure, possibly utilised as the sails (uprights) of a wattle structure.



The three oak wood chips and the piece of timber debris point to the shaping and trimming of one or more larger timbers, not seen in the assemblage.

Feature [1502], context (1500)

- B.5.10 Of the 14 pieces of roundwood recovered from this context, a single piece was identified as oak and two pieces displayed worked ends. No coppicing evidence was noted. The roundwood in this context varied in diameter between 19-105mm, with a mean average diameter of 39mm.
- B.5.11 A single piece of roundwood debris, two pieces of relatively substantial, radially aligned timber debris and a single piece of large, unclassified debris (W142) were recovered from this context. This last item (W142) has been identified as oak. It displays evidence of having been worn or exposed in antiquity. It is of uncertain conversion, and may be naturally occurring.
- B.5.12 The lack of woodworking or coppicing evidence suggests they the roundwood in this context may represent naturally accumulated detritus. Similarly, the timber debris may also be detritus. This is further supported by the presence of (W142), with evidence of wear and aging on its surface prior to waterlogging.

Feature [1810], Context (1813)

- B.5.13 This context produced 20 pieces of roundwood, varying in diameter between 7-76mm, with a mean average diameter of 34mm. 15 pieces of roundwood were identified as oak, one of which had a trimmed end and one of which had a trimmed side branch. 17 items displayed morphological evidence of coppicing, in the form of straight, even stems devoid of side branches. Four pieces of oak, roundwood debris were also recorded from this context.
- B.5.14 A single item from this context, W169, was classed as timber due to its length (1250mm). This radially split piece of oak had been trimmed to a point at one end. Four smaller pieces of oak, all of which were either radially $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ split are classed as timber debris, one of which had a trimmed end.
- B.5.15 A single, radially aligned oak wood chip was recovered, as were two tangentially aligned pieces of unclassified oak debris. As discussed above, oak is suitable for coppicing and is often utilised as wattle (GALE & CUTLER 2000). The diameters, although slightly on the large size, also suggest coppiced material (TAYLOR 2003, RACKHAM 1977). Again, this material could well represent a collapsed wattle revetment, or discarded hurdle. In particular, the area of roundwood assigned as small find 40, looks very much like a section of collapsed wattle work. The roundwood debris suggests some woodworking took place in situ. Similarly, the timber and timber debris seems suitable to have formed part of a revetment for the pit. The wood chip and unclassified debris also point to some woodworking activity taking place in-situ.

Feature [1816], Context (1820)

- B.4.16 This context produced 36 pieces of roundwood. Diameters vary between 7- 330mm, with a mean average diameter of 37mm. Ten items were identified as oak, and two pieces had been trimmed to length. Coppicing evidence, in the form of a straight, even stem was noted from 34 of the pieces of roundwood. The straight, even stems devoid of side branches are suggestive of material derived from coppiced woodland (RACKHAM 1977). Although some of the items are somewhat larger than would be expected from coppiced material, the mean diameter sits well within the suggested range (TAYLOR 2001). Small find 19 (W174) is an unusual item, it has several large side branches, measuring c. 60-100mm in diameter and the centre of this item has rotted

away, probably in antiquity. This item resembles the crown of a small tree, or possibly that of a pollard.

- B.5.17 Eight pieces of roundwood debris were recovered from this context, all of which were identified as oak, six of which were radially aligned, and two of which were tangentially aligned.
- B.5.18 A single piece of square cross sectioned, radially and tangentially aligned oak timber was recovered from this context (W175). Unusually, this item was almost all sapwood. Three smaller oak items with a similar conversion to (W175) were classed as timber debris, as was a radially aligned piece of oak.
- B.5.19 A piece of oak burr wood recovered from this context was assigned as unclassified debris, and may well be naturally occurring. Two tangentially aligned oak wood chips were also recovered.
- B.5.20 The relative abundance of material that is likely to be derived from coppice, and is such suitable for use as wattle, suggests there may have been a wattle revetment or similar in this feature that has subsequently collapsed. The presence of roundwood debris suggests that some of the roundwood was worked *in-situ*. However, the presence of other forms of debris and the large piece of tree crown / pollard boll raises the potential that some or all of the assemblage from this feature could simply be detritus, indicative of woodworking in the vicinity.

Feature [1927], context (1930)

- B.5.21 Two pieces of roundwood were recovered from this context. Small find 38 (W145), was identified as oak, and has an off centre pith, suggesting it may be a limb. This relatively large item (Length: 1880mm, Diameter: 130mm) has been worked from one end in two directions, leaving a felling scar.
- B.5.22 Small find 39 (W055) has also been trimmed at one end from two directions. This is the only item in the assemblage from which tool marks were recorded. These marks describe the cutting blade of an axe, where it has become wedged in the wood. Toolmarks are expressed in mm, with a measurement for the width (W) and the depth (D) provided thus W:D. The following equation is used to express D as a percentage of W, described as the curvature index (SANDS 1994, TAYLOR 2001):

Curvature index % = $D/(W/100)$

- B.5.23 Although there is not enough data to allow a statistical analysis of the toolmarks, the curvature indexes of the marks are well within the range that would be expected of Late Bronze Age axes (TAYLOR 2001). The marks suggest the use of two different tools.
- B.5.24 A piece of oak debris that has been worn or exposed in antiquity was also recorded. This item may well be naturally occurring. It seems likely that the material in this feature is accumulated detritus. Although the items are worked, they do not point towards any kind of structure or finishing of timbers.

Timber	Toolmark	Curvature Index %
WO55	29.4	13.8
WO55	49.5	10.2

Table 14: Toolmarks (in mm)

Condition of material

B.5.25 If preservation varies within a discreet item, the section that is best preserved is considered when assigning the item a condition score. Items that were set vertically in the ground often display relatively better preservation lower down and a relatively poorer preservation higher up.

	Museum Conservation	Technology Analysis	Woodland Management	Dendro-chronology	Species Identification
5	+	+	+	+	+
4	-	+	+	+	+
3	-	+/-	+	+	+
2	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+
1	-	-	-	-	+/-
0	-	-	-	-	-

Table 15: Condition Scale used in this report

B.5.26 The condition scale developed by the Humber Wetlands Project (VAN DE NOORT, ELLIS, TAYLOR & WEIR 1995 TABLE 15.1), will be used throughout this report (**TABLE 15**). The condition scale is based primarily on the clarity of surface data. Material is allocated a score dependent on the types of analysis that can be carried out, given the state of preservation. The condition score reflects the possibility of a given type of analysis but does not take in to account the suitability of the item for a given process.

Condition	Frequency	% of Assemblage
0	0	0
1	0	0
2	2	1.1
3	41	23.2
4	134	75.7
5	0	0

Table 16: Condition Score

B.5.27 well The majority of the material scores a **4 (TABLE 16)**. This condition score reflects a preserved assemblage. Technological analysis, an assessment of possible woodland management practices and species identification is possible throughout the assemblage.

Statement of Potential

Woodworking technology

B.5.28 A low level of woodworking technology was recorded within this assemblage. There is evidence of both felling and trimming. There are also timbers that have been reduced by splitting, with simple, primary splits. The occasional incidence of timber debris and woodchips points to the reduction and finishing of larger oak timbers, none of which are present in the recorded assemblage. No joints or fixings were recorded, and there are no artefacts. There is no scope for further work in this area.

Species identification and woodland reconstruction

B.5.29 The practice of coppicing and the subsequent use of the harvested rods to produce wattle work has been shown to date back to at least the Neolithic period in England

(RACKHAM 1977, TAYLOR 1998). The presence of wattle revetments in pits, wells and watering holes in the Bronze Age is well documented in the region (PRYOR *ET AL.* FORTHCOMING). There is moderate potential for further analysis in this area.

Feature [1492], Context (1490)

- B.5.30 It seems likely that much of the roundwood recorded from this context is derived from coppicing. Identifying the potentially coppiced non-oak material to species, as well as carrying out ring counts could provide further information on woodland management practices in the vicinity of the site.

Feature [1810], context (1813)

- B.5.31 It again seems likely that the roundwood in this context is derived from coppice, as possibly is the timber and timber debris.

Feature [1816], Context (1820)

- B.5.32 It again seems likely that the roundwood in this context is derived from coppice,
Decay analysis
- B.5.33 It is suggested that the visual assessment of condition carried out for this assessment is adequate. As the identified waterlogged remains have all been fully excavated and recorded, a programme of decay analysis to provide baseline data is not advised.
Dendrochronology
- B.5.34 No material suitable for dendrochronology was encountered
Conservation and retention
- B.5.35 Due to the lack of artefacts or complex woodworking, no programme of conservation or retention is required.

Recommendations

- B.5.36 In total, 39 individually recorded items remain un-identified to species. In addition, ten sub-samples were recovered from bulk collection (1490) for subsequent identification. It is suggested that all the samples related to roundwood and potentially coppiced timber and timber debris are identified to species and subjected to ring counts, in an attempt to clarify the issue of potential woodland management in the form of coppicing. This represents a total of 46 ID samples.

Suggested timetable of works

- B.5.37 Once removed from an anoxic burial environment, waterlogged wooden remains will begin to breakdown and decay. It is therefore essential that the suggested programmes of species identification and ring counts are carried out within a year of the original excavation.

B.6 Ceramic Building Material, Daub and Fired Clay.

By Carole Fletcher and Stephen Wadeson

Introduction

- B.6.1 A total of 161 fragments, weighing 609g (Table1), of ceramic building material (CBM), daub and fired clay were recovered during excavations. The majority of the material is heavily abraded and comprises mainly of very small fragments of fired clay with an average weight of approximately 8g for the CBM, 22g for the daub and 3.5g for the fired clay.

	Quantity	Weight (kg)	Weight (%)
CBM	3	0.025	4.1
Daub	1	0.022	3.6
Fired Clay	157	0.562	92.3

Table 17: CBM and Fired Clay functional assemblage.

Methodology

- B.6.2 CBM, daub and fired clay was counted, weighed to the nearest whole gram and classified by form. Fabric types were initially recorded using an alphanumeric indicator while abrasion and any evidence of re-use or burning were also recorded following the guidelines laid down by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (ACBMG 2002). The terminology for the CBM follows Brodribb (1987).

CBM

- B.6.3 Fieldwork generated a small assemblage of 0.025kg of CBM recovered from ditches and a layer. The three fragments recovered were all abraded and consist of a single fragment of pale cream hard fired fabric (CBM 1) from a modern ridge tile or field drain, a small fragment of tile with a sanded base (CBM 2) and a larger slightly curved fragment tile possibly from an imbrex. The fragments are too small for a definitive identification of form.
- B.6.4 The quantities of material present are not sufficient to indicate a tiled roofed or heated building on the site. though they do suggest that a building may have existed in the vicinity of the site. The location of the building or buildings that are the source of the CBM remain unknown.

Daub and Fired Clay

- B.6.3 A total of 158 fragments weighing 584g of fired clay and daub were recovered. Two individual fabric types were identified and recorded (Appendix A). The most common of these is (C2) accounting for 56% (by weight) of the assemblage. Also identified is fabric C1 which is similar to C2 without the addition of flint.

Fabric		Quantity	Weight (kg)	Weight(%)
C1	Fired Clay	143	0.257	44.0
C2	Daub	1	0.022	3.8
C2	Fired Clay	14	0.305	52.2

Table 18: Quantity and weight of fired clay and daub by fabric type.

- B.6.4 The fragments of hardened clay were produced from local materials and were used in the production of ovens, kilns and houses (Rigby and Foster 1986, 184, fig. 80). Only a single fragment bears the impression of wattles or withies that formed the superstructure of these buildings which helped to maintain their shape and reduce shrinkage during construction. The wattles and withies, made of twigs, then either rot or have been burnt, away. It should be noted is that fact daub is a soft porous material and is not as strong as CBM; only material that has been deliberately burnt survives in the soil (Lyons 2007).
- B.6.5 Daub and fired clay was recovered from a variety of features across the excavated area. The majority were however recovered from pits. The small nature of the majority of fragments of fired clay suggest that their deposition may be due to reworking and later infilling of features rather than deliberate deposition after they were broken.

	Cremation Pit.	Ditch	Pit	Post Hole	Ring Gully	Layer	Other	Total(%)
Daub			3.7					3.7
Fired Clay	13.9	12.5	57.9	3.4	6.7	1.4	0.5	96.3

Table 19: Daub and Fired Clay percentage by weight and by feature type.

Discussion

- B.6.6 This is a relatively small assemblage the majority of which is made up of fired clay fragments.
- B.6.7 The presence of fired clay within the disuse and demolition fills of the round house gully may relate to the original building. The majority of the fired clay recovered from within several cremation pits however is most likely intrusive due to their truncation in the Roman period by ditches.
- B.6.8 It is likely that much of the material recovered dates to the Iron age, however due to disturbance by later activity the majority of the material recovered is unlikely to be in its original place of deposition and therefore intrusive.

Sampling Bias

- B.6.9 The open area excavation was carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling strategies on a feature by feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases. Where bulk samples have been processed for environmental remains, there has also been some recovery of fired clay. These small quantities of abraded sherds have been included in this report.

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Notes

CBM	Fabric Description
CBM 1	Hard fired creamy coloured completely oxidised pale firing clay. Occasional moderate iron stone fragments and occasional moderate grog.
CBM 2	Hard fired dull orange-red fabric completely oxidised, rough fracture. Frequent small quartz and occasional small ironstone inclusions.

Fired Clay/Daub	Fabric Description
C1	Soft poorly mixed sandy fabric with frequent small subrounded quartz and moderate medium quartz. Ranging in colour from dark red-orange to pale orange-pink or completely reduced.
C2	Hard fired sandy fabric with frequent small subrounded quartz and moderate medium quartz with occasional subangular flint. Ranging in colour from dark red-orange to pale orange-pink or completely reduced.

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Human Remains

By Natasha Dodwell

Introduction

- C.1.1 Cremated bone was identified in six, possibly seven small pits, clustered in two groups to the north and south of a series of intercutting middle to late Bronze Age wells. Two can be classified as urned cremation burials, four as unurned burials or deposits of redeposited pyre debris whilst one might just be displaced bone from one of the unurned burials. All of the features are truncated. A disarticulated, fragmentary adult skull and an adult sized fibula shaft were recovered from a separate well cut to the west of the northern group

Methods of recovery and analysis

- C.1.2 The age of the unburnt skull, (1147) was determined by the degree of molar attrition on the surviving maxillary molars (Brothwell and the sex by the morphology of the supraorbital ridges, the orbital rims and the mastoid processes).
- C.1.3 All deposits containing cremated bone were half sectioned and all of the soil recovered was wet sieved and the residue passed through 10mm and 5mm sieves. All bone >5mm was extracted for analysis. Osteological analysis followed procedures for cremated human bone outlined by McKinley (2002 and 2004). A loose epiphysis and a number of tooth crowns were identified and this enabled relatively precise aging of the immature individuals (Schaefer *et al* 2009, Brown 1985 and Ubelaker 1989). Adults were identified solely on the size and robustness of the limb shafts and skull fragments. No estimate of sex could be made. No evidence of pathological lesions was observed and no pyre or grave goods, other than the two urns. Full details of identifications are held in the archive.

Results and recommendations

- C.1.4 Basic osteological and contextual information is summarised in the table at the end of this report.
- C.1.5 Refitting fragments of a mature (45years+) adult male skull were recovered from cut **502** along with an adult-sized fibula shaft was recovered from 1153, a fill of the same cut.
- C.1.6 Of the six features containing cremated bone, four had fragments with sufficient diagnostic elements to age them. One, [1071] was an infant aged c.18mos, one in an urn, [1136] was a juvenile aged c. 6 years, one, [1074] was an adult and one, [1081] contained the burnt remains of two individuals, an adult and a juvenile aged between 6 and 9 years. Most of the identifiable fragments from the multiple burial are from the immature individual with only a few adult-sized limb shafts and a single skull fragment from an adult. Two further features, [1150] and [1202] contained cremated human bone that could only be identified as juvenile/subadult/adult. The former is an urned burial. A seventh feature, cut [1270] described as a plough scar, truncated the urned burial [1150] and contained 1g of unidentifiable bone.
- C.1.7 The bone fragments were predominantly buff white in colour indicative of full oxidation of the bone. All of the bone fragments have a slightly worn and chalky appearance.

Trabecular bone and articular surfaces were not represented and this is likely due to adverse soil conditions. All of the features have been truncated to some degree by ploughing; the depths of the cuts range from 0.08-0.30m deep, with all but one being less than 0.15m. This has implications with regards determining the nature of the deposits and it is highly probably (although unquantifiable) that the weight of bone recovered is less than that originally deposited.

- C.1.8 With the exception of cut [1074] where 1024g of cremated bone was recovered, the weight of bone from each feature is very low, between 1g and 226g. Whilst this is undoubtedly due in part to the degree of truncation it might also be because of the number of immature individuals represented. Infant bones survive the cremation process but the quantity of bone which is recovered from the pyre (and/or survives the burial environment) is usually small (e.g. at the middle Bronze Age cemeteries at Papworth Everard, Cambs. and Broom, Beds. Dodwell 2007a and b).
- C.1.9 The majority of cremated bone fragments could not be identified beyond 'limb' or 'skull' because they were so fragmentary. With the exception of bone from cuts [1074] and [1081] the majority of bone, if not all of it was <5mm in size. The largest bone fragments were 8mm-80mm from cuts [1071] and [1081] respectively. There is nothing to suggest deliberate fragmentation. No faunal remains were positively identified but it is possible that some of the unidentifiable fragments are in fact animal.
- C.1.10 With the exception of the two urned burials, cuts [1136] and [1150], the relative shallowness of the deposits makes it difficult to determine the nature of the other deposits. No concentrations of bone were noted in the field and the cremated bone is described as being mixed with charcoal stained silt and in most cases, frequent fragments of charcoal. Burnt clay and burnt flint are also recorded suggesting that a quantity of pyre material may have been included in the deposit. Thus the deposits with cremated bone, but without urns could be viewed as either truncated unurned burials or features containing redeposited pyre debris. It is perhaps understandable that pyre material would be included (deliberately or not) whilst collecting the small, fragile elements of an immature individual from a pyre.

Recommendation

- C.1.11 Several deposits close to the features containing cremated bone are described as containing charcoal and burnt stone/clay e.g. cut [1073] and it is possible that these relate to funerary activities. They should be investigated in more detail. In addition it is recommended that the 2mm unsorted residues, if available are scanned for identifiable elements (particularly teeth) which may help age some of the individuals.

Context (fill)	Context (cut)	Total weight (g) *		Age	Depth of deposit	Deposit type
(1078/9)	[1071]	3		Infant (18mos±8mos)	0.08m	Unurned burial/redeposited pyre debris
(1082)	[1081]	226		Juvenile (6-9yrs) & subadult/adult	0.08m	Unurned burial/redeposited pyre debris
(1143)	[1136]	3	1	Juvenile (6yrs±24mos)	0.09m	Urned
(1144)		12	6			
(1145)		1				
(1200)	[1202]	<1		Juvenile/subadult/adult	0.30m	Cremation related feature
(1203)	[1074]	1024		adult	0.30m	Unurned burial
(1226)	[1270]	1		Unidentifiable (? Immature)	0.05m	Plough scar - Disturbance from [1150]
(1268)	[1150]	23		Juvenile/subadult/adult	0.15m	Urned burial

* total weights of bone >5mm

Table 20: Summary Table

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C.2 Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

Introduction

- C.2.1 6.72Kg of faunal material was recovered from the excavations at Hundred Road, March, yielding 30 “countable” bones (see below). All bones were collected by hand apart from those recovered from environmental samples; hence a bias towards smaller fragments is to be expected. Residuality appears not to be an issue and there is no evidence of later contamination of any context. Faunal material was mostly recovered from pits and largely dated from the late Bronze Age. Eighty-five fragments of animal bone were recovered with 30 identifiable to species (35.2% of the total sample).

Methodology

- C.2.2 All data was initially recorded using a specially written MS Access database. Bones were recorded using a version of the criteria described in Davis (1992) and Albarella & Davis (1994). Initially all elements were assessed in terms of siding (where appropriate), completeness, tooth wear stages (also where applicable) and epiphyseal fusion. Completeness was assessed in terms of percentage and zones present (after Dobney & Reilly, 1988). Initially the whole identifiable assemblage was quantified in terms of number of individual fragments (NISP) and minimum numbers of individuals (MNI). The ageing of the population was largely achieved by examining the wear stages of cheek teeth of cattle, sheep/goat and pig (after Grant, 1982). Wear stages were recorded for lower molars of cattle, sheep/goat and pig, both isolated and in mandibles. The states of epiphyseal fusion for all relevant bones were recorded to give a broad age range for the major domesticates (after Getty, 1975). Measurements were largely carried out according to the conventions of von den Driesch (1976). Measurements were either carried out using a 150mm sliding calliper or an osteometric board in the case of larger bones.

The Assemblage

- C.2.3 The largest number of fragments was recovered from context **1930**, the one of the fills of a large watering hole dating to the late Bronze Age. Large numbers of shattered cattle ribs were recovered along with a variety of other elements including long bone, skull and vertebral fragments, all from adult animals. The remaining contexts contained only a few fragments, consisting mostly of shattered cattle elements, along with small numbers of sheep/goat and pig remains from contexts **1571** and **1490** respectively. Loose cattle 1 molars recovered from contexts **1157** and **1193** were relatively unworn, suggesting young adult animals. A single partial horse mandible recovered from **1266** showed extensive molar wear suggesting an animal around 14-16 years of age. Only one pig fragment was recovered from the assemblage in the form of a single canine from **1490**. Almost certainly from a male animal due to its size, it displays a number of linear enamel hyperplasias, indicative of periods of stress during the animal's development.

Conclusion

- C.2.4 Given the size of the excavation area this is a very small assemblage that unfortunately tells us little about the site as a whole. Preservation of the material was extremely bad largely due to the acidic soil conditions and as a result the vast majority of

the assemblage was unidentifiable. The assemblage most likely represents occupational debris from the edge of settlement with cattle the main focus in terms of animal husbandry, as is the case with many contemporary sites in the area.

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C.3 Charred and Waterlogged plant Remains Assessment

By Rachel Fosberry and Elizabeth Huckerby

Results

Preservation

- C.3.1 Six samples contained some charred remains and charcoal fragments. There were abundant waterlogged remains preserved in five samples. The latter survived because of the anoxic conditions of those fills. The data is presented in Table 21 and Table 22.

Charred Plant remains (see table 21)

Cereals

- C.3.2 Occasional undifferentiated cereals grains were recorded in the fills (context **1415** and context **1340**) from two ditches (cut **1414** and cut **1338**). Two grains were recorded in each sample and neither contain a quantifiable assemblage. Further processing would not enable sufficient recovery.
- C.3.3 Chaff was identified in only two samples, a culm node in context **1082** from cut **1081**, a cremation and a single cf spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) glume base in context **1415** from cut **1414**, a ditch.

Seeds

- C.3.4 Occasional charred weed seeds were identified in the six carbonised samples and included bedstraw sp (*Galium* sp), great fen-sedge (*Cladium mariscus*), spurge (*Euphorbia* sp) and fat-hen type (*Chenopodium* sp). Great fen-sedge is a fen species, spurge and fat-hen are from cultivated or waste ground and bedstraws are often to be found in similar habitats or hedgerows.

Other charred plant remains

- C.3.5 Tubers of false oat-grass, also known as onion couch, (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) were recorded in the two samples (contexts **1082** and **1203**) from cremations (cuts **1081** and **1204**). Onion couch tubers are a feature of many prehistoric cremation deposits.

Charcoal

- C.3.6 Charcoal fragments were observed in the six carbonised samples. Oak (*Quercus*) charcoal dominated the assemblage from cremation **1081** and there was a mixed assemblage of oak and diffuse porous taxa such as hazel/alder/birch (*Corylus/Alnus/Betula*) in cut **1086**, a ditch.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Comments	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	<2mm Charcoal	2mm Charcoal	Flot comments	Potential
21	1082	1081	cremation	Fill of cremation pit with lots of cremated bone and charcoal. No dateable finds	0	#	#	###	#	small burnt bone fragments, culm node, <i>Arrhenatherum</i> sp, <i>Quercus</i> charcoal	Assess charcoal
22	1089	1086	ditch	Burnt / charcoal rich fill of ditch with possible organic remains in fill	0	0	0	###	###	shrubby charcoal –mixed assemblage including diffuse porous taxa.	Assess charcoal
57	1203	1204	cremation	Main fill of cremation pit [1204], lots of bone	0	0	##	###	##	<i>Arrhenatherum</i> sp. <i>Galium</i> sp, <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> , burnt bone fragments	Assess charcoal
96	1415	1414	ditch	Centre of field system ditch	#	#	#	#	#	two undiff cereal grains, single glume base, <i>Cladium mariscus</i>	None
103	1340	1338	ditch	Ditch fill, possible boundary around large pits and cremations, charcoal present, no finds	#	0	#	#	#	2 undiff cereal grains, Unknown seed	None
119	1646>20	1645	Pit	Fill of possible post hole, no finds			#	#	##	Spheroid hammerscale, burnt grass, <i>Chenopodium</i> , <i>Euphorbia</i> sp, molluscs, vitrified charcoal	None

Key: # = 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### > 51,

Table 21: Charred plant remains

Waterlogged plant remains (see table 22)

- C.3.6 Waterlogged seeds were abundant in five samples see table 19. Both weed seeds, wet ground plants and obligate aquatics were identified. The weed seeds included some plants of cultivated or waste ground for example pale persicaria (*Persicaria lapathifolia*), knotweed (*Polygonum aviculare*), members of the cabbage and mustard family (*Brassica* sp), common stitchwort (*Stellaria media*), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), and common nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Others like common stitchwort (*Stellaria gramineus*) are found in grassland and others like creeping buttercup-type (*Ranunculus repens*-type) legume seeds <4mm (Fabaceae) are found in a broad range of plant communities. Blackberry (*Rubus*) pips were recorded and this suggests either scrub, hedgerow or waste ground. Some plants of wet ground including sedges (*Carex trigynous*) and common spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris*) were also identified.
- C.3.7 Obligate aquatics were abundant and included duckweed (*Lemna*), horned pondweed (*Zannichellia palustris*), crowfoots (*Ranunculus Batrachium* type), and pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp), These aquatics are widespread in the British Isles and are found in ditches, streams, rivers and ponds and horned pondweed and some species of crowfoots can be found in brackish water as well as freshwater.
- C.3.8 Other plant remains in the samples included thorns of the rose family (Rosaceae), leaf fragments, wood fragments, buds and bud scales from woody taxa and abundant amorphous plant remains. Insect remains were also recorded in the waterlogged samples.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Comments					Plant and insect remains	Potential
110	1490	1492	pit	Dark fill with lots of wood fragments, waterlogged, big pit	10	50	20	###	Good seeds seeds of <i>Ranunculus</i> Batrachium type, <i>Ranunculus repens</i> type, <i>Rumex acetosa</i> , <i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i> , <i>Alisma plantago aquatica</i> , <i>Lemna</i> sp, <i>Carex</i> , <i>Eleocharis palustris</i> , Rosaceae thorns, buds, leaf fragments, insects remains.	Good for waterlogged plant remains and insects
147	1820	1816	pit	Dark clay in pit. Contains wood and burnt wood fragments	10		50	###	Abundant seeds incl <i>Ranunculus</i> Batrachium type, <i>Zannichellia palustris</i> , <i>Potamogeton</i> spp, <i>Carex</i> trig, <i>Ranunculus repens</i> type, Asteracea sp, wood fragments, AMP	Good for waterlogged plant remains and insects
156	1813	1810	pit	Waterlogged oil with many wooden objects and fragments	10		80	###	Abundant well preserved seeds, <i>Rubus</i> sp, <i>Rumex</i> sp, <i>Ranunculus repens</i> type, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp, <i>Urtica dioica</i> , <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> , <i>Carex</i> sp. AMP, wood fragments	Good for waterlogged plant remains and insects
159	1926	1925	pit	Fill of pit surrounding worked wood SF 38 and SF 39	10		100	###	Vivianite, abundant well preserved seeds including <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> , <i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i> , <i>Stellaria media</i> , <i>Chenopodium/Atriplex</i> , <i>Urtica dioica</i> , Legume <4mm (Fabaceae), <i>Eleocharis palustris</i> , <i>Carex</i> sp, <i>Lemna</i> , wood fragments, thorns+P2, AMP	Good for waterlogged plant remains and insects
154	1813				10		50	###	Well preserved seeds including <i>Eleocharis palustris</i> , <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> , <i>Stellaria media</i> , <i>Ranunculus repens</i> type, <i>Ranunculus</i> Batrachium type <i>Chenopodium</i> sp, wood fragments, AMP, charcoal	Good for waterlogged plant remains and insects

Key # = 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### >51, AMP = amorphous plant remains

Table 22: Waterlogged plant remains

Discussion

- C.3.9 There are insufficient charred plant remains in the carbonised samples to provide any information about the economy or crops from the site. The charcoal fragments suggest that a mixed assemblage of wood was being burnt.
- C.3.10 In contrast the waterlogged samples were rich in well preserved plant remains from both dryland, scrub/hedgerows, wet ground and aquatic communities. The assemblage of weed seeds suggest that cultivated, waste ground, scrub/hedgerows and grassland were present in and around the site. The obligate aquatic seeds in the fourcuts (**1492**, **1816**, **1810** and **1925**) suggest that the four features did contain water. The presence of vivianite is indicative how rapidly the artefacts and plant remains were preserved.

Potential and Recommendations

Waterlogged plant remains

C.3.11 The analysis of the plant and insect remains in the five waterlogged samples has the potential to provide information about the ecology and economy of the site. The samples with a high potential for the analysis of the plant and insect remains are shown in Table 23. If necessary a selection of these samples may be made to avoid duplication by period or site position.

Sample number	Context number	Cut No.	Feature Type
110	1490	1492	pit
147	1820	1816	pit
156	1813	1810	pit
159	1926	1925	pit
154	1813		

Table 23: Samples recommended for the analysis of waterlogged plant remains

Charred plant remains

C.3.12 There is no potential for the analysis of charred plant remains.

Charcoal

C.3.13 It is however recommended that a more detailed assessment of the charcoal in three of the samples (the two cremations, **1081** and **1204** and the burnt charcoal rich ditch fill **1089**) should be undertaken.

Time needed

C.3.14 Please allow 1 day for the analysis of each sample and 2 days to write a report for example 5 sample a total of 7 days, 3 samples a total of 5 days etc.

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C.4 Pollen Analysis of Sediments

By Steve Boreham BSc PHD

Introduction

- C.4.1 This report presents the results of assessment pollen analyses from 8 samples of sediment taken from five sections in pit features at March, Cambridgeshire.
- C.4.2 Section 140/141 was sampled for pollen analysis with a spot sample taken from context 1490 in the basal part of a pit-filling. Section 213 was sampled for pollen analysis with a spot sample taken from context 1752 in the basal part of a pit-filling. Section 239 (west facing section) was sampled for pollen analysis using three spot samples from contexts 1813, 1817 (25cm above base of lower step) & 1820 (40cm above base of lower step) in the basal part of a pit-filling. Section 240 (south facing section) was sampled for pollen analysis using two spot samples from contexts 1851 (52cm above base of lower step) & 1854 (15cm above base of upper step) in the upper parts of a pit infilling. Section 242 was sampled for pollen analysis with a spot sample taken from context 1947 in the upper part of a pit-filling.
- C.4.4 The 8 samples were prepared using the standard hydrofluoric acid technique, and counted for pollen at x400 magnification, with x1000 used for critical determinations using a high-power stereo microscope. The percentage pollen data from these samples is presented in Appendix 1.

Pollen Analyses

- C.4.5 Pollen concentrations varied widely between <1052 and 183,171 grains per ml. Unfortunately, the three pollen samples from sections 213 & 240 were barren. Preservation of the fossil pollen grains (palynomorphs) in the remaining 5 samples was variable, and the presence of micro-charcoal and finely divided organic debris made counting difficult in some samples. Pollen counting of a single slide for each sample produced assessment counts of between 88 and 209 grains. Counting another 4-5 slides of the poorest sample would probably give a main sum above the statistically desirable total of 300 pollen grains. In view of the low main pollen sums achieved, care should be exercised in the interpretation of these pollen assessment results.

Section 140/141 (context 1490)

- C.4.6 The sample from the basal pit-filling (context 1490) produced a pollen assemblage dominated by grass (Poaceae) (52.6%), with a range of herbs including buttercup (*Ranunculus* type) (6.0%), the ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) (4.3%), the cabbage family (Brassicaceae) (2.6%) and the lettuce family (Asteraceae (Lactuceae)) (2.6%). Arboreal taxa included alder (*Alnus*) (4.3%), oak (*Quercus*) (2.6%), birch (*Betula*), pine (*Pinus*), lime (*Tilia*) & hazel (*Corylus*) (all <2%). Cereal pollen was present at 3.4%. Lower plants included the polypody fern (*Polypodium*) (0.9%) and undifferentiated fern spores (10.3%). Pollen of obligate aquatics was represented by bur-reed (*Sparganium*) (4.3%).

Section 239 (contexts 1813, 1817 & 1820)

- C.4.7 The sample from context 1813 was dominated by grass (44.5%), with a range of herbs including the ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) (10.9%), sedges

(Cyperaceae) (4.2%), buttercup (*Ranunculus* type) (3.4%), the fat hen family (Chenopodiaceae) (3.4%) and the lettuce family (Asteraceae (Lactuceae)) (3.4%). Arboreal taxa included hazel (*Corylus*) (6.7%), oak (*Quercus*) (4.2%), alder (*Alnus*) & pine (*Pinus*) (both <1%). Cereal pollen was present at 3.4%. Lower plants included the polypody fern (*Polypodium*) (0.8%) and undifferentiated fern spores together reaching 5.9%. Pollen of obligate aquatics was represented by bur-reed (*Sparganium*) (2.5%).

- C.4.8 The sample from context 1817 was again dominated by grass (65.4%), with a range of herbs including buttercup (*Ranunculus* type) (2.9%), the fat hen family (Chenopodiaceae) (2.9%) and the lettuce family (Asteraceae (Lactuceae)) (2.9%). Arboreal taxa included pine (*Pinus*), elm (*Ulmus*), oak (*Quercus*), (2.6%), lime (*Tilia*), hazel (*Corylus*) & juniper (*Juniperus*) (all <2%). Lower plants included mare's tail (*Equisetum*) (1.0%), the polypody fern (*Polypodium*) (1.9%) and undifferentiated fern spores (8.7%).
- C.4.9 The sample from context 1820 was dominated by grass (64.8%), with a limited range of herbs including the ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) (5.7%) and the lettuce family (Asteraceae (Lactuceae)) (2.3%). Arboreal taxa included oak (*Quercus*) (3.4%), birch (*Betula*), alder (*Alnus*), hazel (*Corylus*) and holly (*Ilex*) (6.7%) (all <2%). Cereal pollen was present at 2.3%. Lower plants included the polypody fern (*Polypodium*) (2.3%) and undifferentiated fern spores together reaching 10.2%. Pollen of obligate aquatics was represented by bur-reed (*Sparganium*) (1.1%).

Section 242 (context 1947)

- C.4.10 The sample from the upper part of a pit-filling (context 1490) produced a pollen assemblage dominated by grass (Poaceae) (69.9%), with a limited range of herbs including the ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) (18.7%), the fat hen family (Chenopodiaceae) (1.4%) and the lettuce family (Asteraceae (Lactuceae)) (1.9%). Arboreal taxa included pine (*Pinus*), oak (*Quercus*), lime (*Tilia*), alder (*Alnus*) & hazel (*Corylus*) (all <2%). Cereal pollen was present at 0.5%. Lower plants were represented by undifferentiated fern spores (together reaching 1.5%), while pollen of obligate aquatics was represented by bur-reed (*Sparganium*) (1.0%).

Discussion & Conclusions

- C.4.11 It is unfortunate that the pit-fillings from sections 213 & 240 failed to produce any pollen. Although samples were chosen for their highest fines/organic content and apparently least-oxidised nature, it is clear that pollen and other organic material from these sediments has broken down by oxidative soil processes.
- C.4.12 The three spot samples from section 239 allow a sequence of vegetation changes to be described. The basal sample (context 1813) has cereals, abundant ribwort plantain and hazel, suggesting arable activity, ground disturbance and hazel scrub nearby. In contrast the overlying sample in the re-cut pit (context 1817) has no cereals, little ribwort plantain and a sparse arboreal signal. However, the upper part of the pit-fill (context 1820), again has cereals, ribwort plantain and the eutrophication indicator *Urtica*, indicating a return to arable activity, ground disturbance and human activity.
- C.4.13 Taken together, the pollen assemblages from these pit in-fillings have many similarities and appear to come from a relatively treeless environment. However, the presence of the components of mixed-oak woodland, including lime (*Tilia*), suggests that these samples may not be from a post-clearance sequence, but instead may represent local clearance of woodland. In some samples there is also the suggestion of alder or hazel scrub. The presence of the polypody fern may also indicate mature

woodland trees nearby. The high proportion of grass pollen together with sedges and bur-reed may represent the presence of reedswamp in the local area. Cereal pollen is present in many of these samples, and some have rather high proportions of ribwort plantain, indicating considerable soil disturbance. Herbs of riparian (bank-side) and meadow (tall-herbs) environments are present and several indicators hint at local pastoral and arable activity.

Table 24: Percentage Pollen Data

Section	140/141	213	239	239	239	240	240	242
Context	1490	1752	1813	1817	1820	1851	1854	1947
Sample height above step base in section	-	-	-	25cm	40cm	52cm	15cm	-
Trees & Shrubs								
<i>Betula</i>	0.9		0.0	0.0	1.1			0.0
<i>Pinus</i>	0.9		0.8	1.0	0.0			0.5
<i>Ulmus</i>	0.0		0.0	1.0	0.0			0.0
<i>Quercus</i>	2.6		4.2	1.9	3.4			1.0
<i>Tilia</i>	0.9		0.0	1.0	0.0			0.5
<i>Alnus</i>	4.3		0.8	0.0	1.1			1.0
<i>Corylus</i>	1.7		6.7	1.9	1.1			0.5
<i>Juniperus</i>	0.0		0.0	1.0	0.0			0.0
<i>Ilex</i>	0.0		0.0	0.0	1.1			0.0
Herbs								
Poaceae	52.6		44.5	65.4	64.8			69.9
Cereals	3.4		3.4	0.0	2.3			0.5
Cyperaceae	1.7		4.2	1.0	1.1			1.0
Asteraceae (Asteroidea/Cardueae) undif.	0.0		0.8	0.0	0.0			0.5
Asteraceae (Lactuceae) undif.	2.6		3.4	2.9	2.3			1.9
<i>Cirsium</i> type	0.0		0.0	1.0	0.0			0.0
<i>Centaurea nigra</i> type	0.9		0.8	0.0	1.1			0.0
Caryophyllaceae	1.7		0.8	0.0	0.0			0.5
Chenopodiaceae	0.9		3.4	2.9	0.0			1.4
Brassicaceae	2.6		0.0	1.9	1.1			0.0
<i>Filipendula</i>	1.7		1.7	0.0	0.0			0.0
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	4.3	Barren	10.9	1.9	5.7	Barren	Barren	18.7
<i>Ranunculus</i> type	6.0		3.4	2.9	0.0			0.5
<i>Rumex</i>	0.9		1.7	1.0	0.0			0.5
<i>Thalictrum</i>	0.0		1.7	0.0	0.0			0.5
<i>Urtica</i>	0.0		0.0	0.0	1.1			0.0
Apiaceae undiff.	0.0		0.8	0.0	0.0			0.0
<i>Veronica</i> type	0.0		0.0	1.0	0.0			0.0
<i>Symphytum</i>	0.0		0.0	0.0	1.1			0.0
Lower plants								
Equisetum	0.0		0.0	1.0	0.0			0.0
Polypodium	0.9		0.8	1.9	2.3			0.0
Pteropsida (monolete) undif.	10.3		3.4	8.7	9.1			0.5
Pteropsida (trilete) undif.	0.0		2.5	0.0	1.1			1.0
Aquatics								
<i>Sparganium</i> type	4.3		2.5	0.0	1.1			1.0
Summary								
Sum trees	9.5		5.9	4.8	5.7			2.9
Sum shrubs	1.7		6.7	2.9	2.3			0.5
Sum herbs	79.3		81.5	81.7	80.7			95.7
Sum spores	11.2		6.7	11.5	12.5			1.4
Main Sum								
	116		119	104	88			209
Concentration (grains per ml)								
	71763	<1052	65870	121530	71192	<1052	<1052	183171

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Macaulay, S 2008 Specification for an Archaeological Excavation at March Highways Depot, The Hundred, March

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-64533		
Project Name	Excavation at March Highways Depot, The Hundred, March		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	16-09-2008	Finish	26-11-2008
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	MAR HID 08	Planning App. No.	F/02011/08/CCC
HER No.	3027	Related HER/OASIS No.	N/A

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation (100%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pit Survey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open-Area Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Pottery	Iron Age -800 to 43	Waterlogged wood	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700
Pottery	Roman 43 to 410	Pottery	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700
Bone	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700	Lithics	Neolithic -4k to -2k

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Fenland	March Highways Depot The Hundred March
Parish	March	
HER		
Study Area	4.53ha	National Grid Reference
		TL4075 9848

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	CAPCA
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay
Project Manager	Stephen MAcaulay
Supervisor	Chris Thatcher, Dan Hounsell

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	OA East	OA East

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



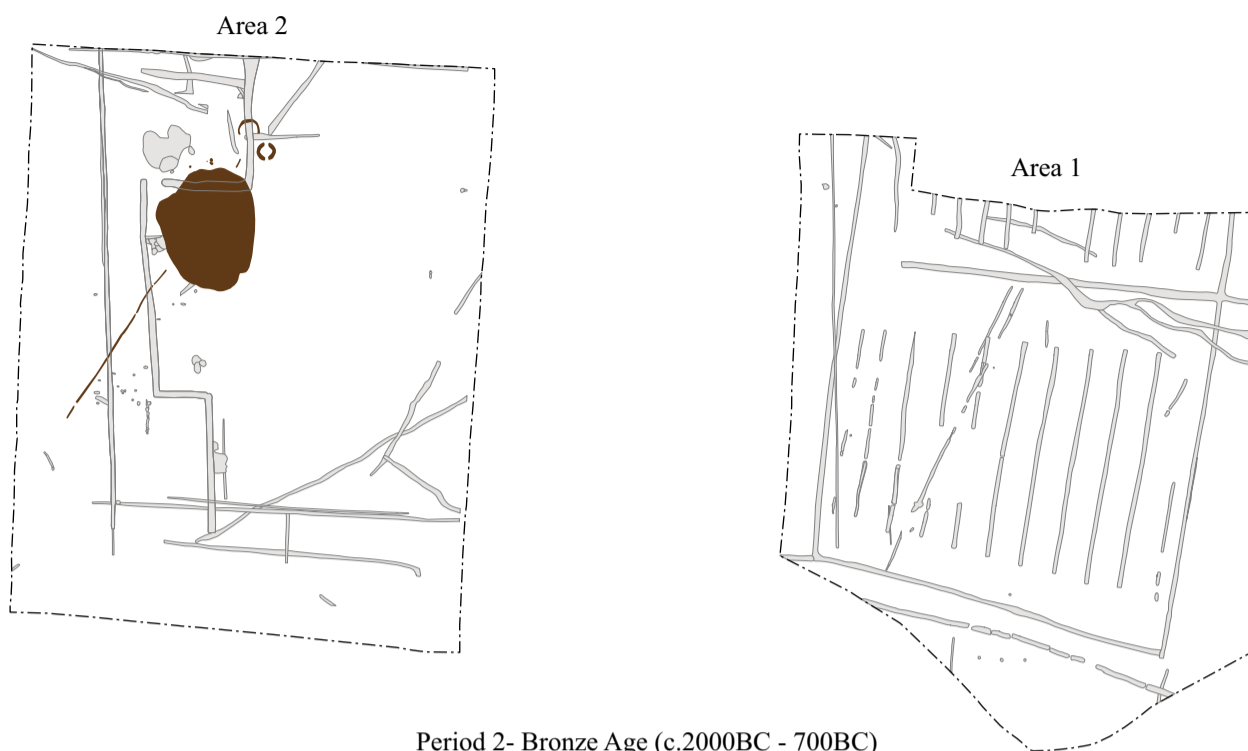
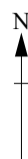
Figure 1 Location of Excavation Areas (1 and 2) outlined (red)



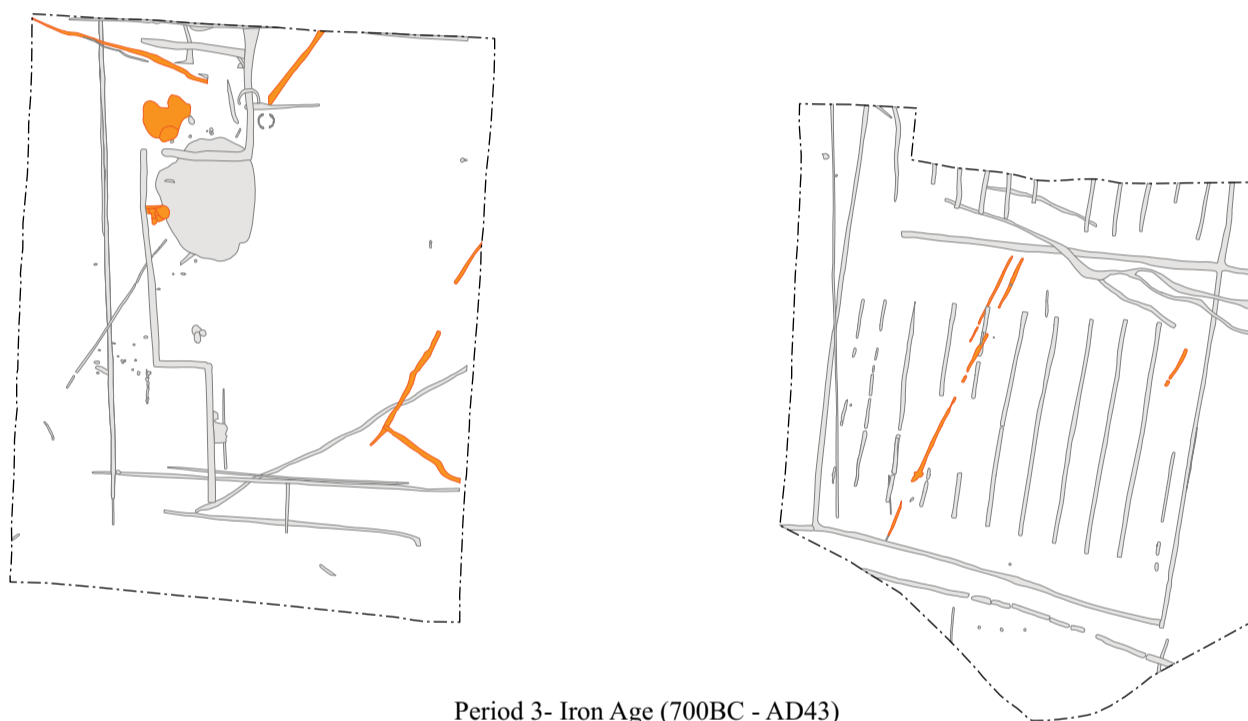
Figure 2a: Excavation plan



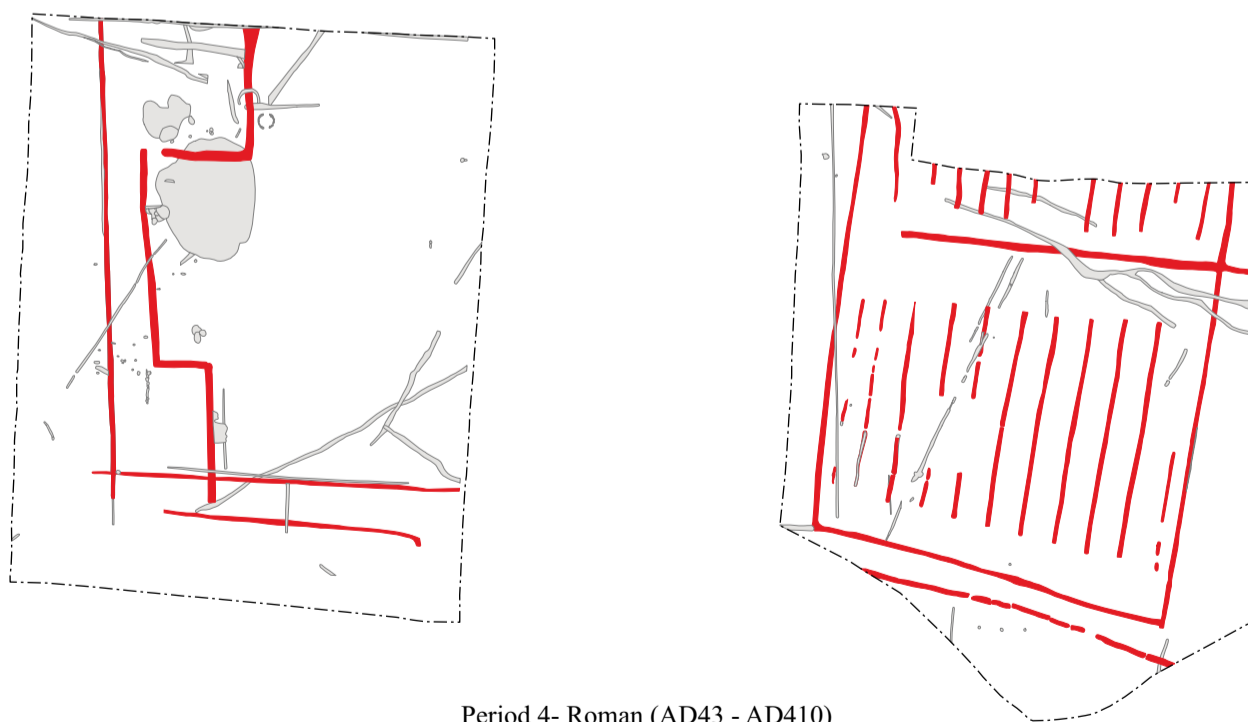
Figure 2b: Excavation plan



Period 2- Bronze Age (c.2000BC - 700BC)



Period 3- Iron Age (700BC - AD43)



Period 4- Roman (AD43 - AD410)



Figure 3: Phase Plan



Plate 1a: Preserved wood



Plate 1b: Preserved wood



Plate 1c: Preserved wood



Plate 1d: Preserved wood



Plate 2a: Cremation



Plate 2b: Cremation



Plate 2c: Cremation



Plate 3a: Human skeleton remains



Plate 3b: Human skeleton remains



Plate 3c: Human skeleton remains



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