



Archaeological Excavation on Land west of Long Buckby

Excavation Report



March 2014

Client: CgMs Consulting

OA East Report No: 1579

OASIS No: oxfordar3-172401

NGR: SP 6222 6071

Archaeological Excavation on land west of Long Buckby

By James Fairbairn

*With contributions by Chris Faine MA, Msc, Andy Fawcett BA MA, Rachel Fosberry HNC
(Cert Ed) AEA, Sarah Percival BA MA MIFA*

Editor: Chris Thatcher BA and Aileen Connor BA AIFA

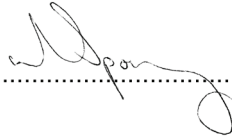
Illustrator: David Brown BA

Report Date: March 2014

Report Number: 1579
Site Name: Land west of Long Buckby
OASIS No: oxfordar3-172401
Date of Works: December 2014
Client Name: CgMs Consulting
Planning Ref: APP/Y2810/A/12/217386
Grid Ref: SP 6222 6071
Site Code: XNNLOB13
Finance Code: XNNLOB13
Receiving Body: TBC
Accession No: TBC

Prepared by: James Fairbairn
Position: Supervisor
Date: March 2014

Checked by: Paul Spoerry
Position: Manager
Date: March 2014
Signed:



Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology East,

15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

© Oxford Archaeology East 2011
Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Table of Contents

Summary.....	5
1 Introduction.....	6
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	6
1.2 Geology and topography.....	6
1.3 Previous Archaeological Work on the Site.....	6
1.4 Project Team.....	6
2 Aims and Methodology.....	7
2.1 Aims.....	7
2.2 Methodology.....	7
3 Results.....	8
3.1 Introduction.....	8
3.2 Phase 1 (fig. 2).....	8
3.3 Phase 2 (fig. 2).....	10
3.4 Finds Summary.....	11
4 Discussion and Conclusions.....	12
4.1 Discussion.....	12
4.2 Significance.....	12
Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....	13
Appendix B. Finds Reports.....	16
B.1 Metalwork.....	16
B.2 Worked Stone.....	16
B.3 The Roman pottery and fired clay.....	16
Appendix C. Environmental Reports.....	30
C.1 Environmental samples.....	30
Appendix D. Bibliography	32
Appendix E. OASIS Report Form.....	34

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location map and excavation area
- Fig. 2 Site plan
- Fig. 3 Sections 2,13,14,15 and 17

List of Plates

- Plate. 1 Pottery in pit **172**
- Plate. 2 Ditch **137**
- Plate. 3 Gully **114**
- Plate. 4 Oven **102**

List of Tables

- Table 1 Roman fabric quantities
- Table 2 Pottery by feature
- Table 3 Form assemblage
- Table 4 Context assemblage
- Table 5 Environmental samples

Summary

Between the 10th and 17th December 2013 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an excavation on land to the west of Long Buckby, Northamptonshire in advance of residential development. An Early Roman farmed landscape was found along with evidence for the presence of settlement nearby (possibly to the west of the site). At least two phases of activity were identified with the majority of the features dated to the mid/late 1st century AD to early 2nd century AD and a single ditch possibly continuing into the second half of the 2nd century AD. Features included ditches, pits, a possible shelter and a possible oven or cooking pit that indicate transient habitation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Between the 11th and 16th December 2013 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out an archaeological excavation at land to the east of Station Road, Long Buckby Northamptonshire (centred on SP 6222 6071). The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting and was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Lesley-Ann Mather on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council Planning Services (NCCPS), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.
- 1.1.2 The scope of work was agreed by CgMs Consulting and the NCCPS to allow discharge of the planning condition in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012).
- 1.1.3 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The excavation area was located c. 300m to the west of Station Road on the outskirts of the village of Long Buckby. The area measured approximately 110sqm and was bounded by a railway line to the west, Station Road to the east, and a field boundary and hedgerow to the north-west. The site lay at c.117m AOD rising gently to the east and then more sharply towards the village.
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology is Jurassic rocks of the Whitby Mudstone formation, comprising medium and dark grey fossiliferous mudstone and siltstone, laminated and bituminous in part (BGS 1999). Superficial geology comprised heavy silty clays.

1.3 Previous Archaeological Work on the Site

- 1.3.1 Previous work carried out on the site includes a desk-based assessment (Bourn 2011) and an archaeological evaluation (Carlyle 2012). The latter suggested the possibility of a small farming community that may have existed to the west of the development area. A full resume of the historical and archaeological background can be found in the desk based assessment.
- 1.3.2 The desk-based assessment concluded that the vast majority of recorded heritage assets within a 1km radius of the site are related to the medieval and post-medieval historic core of Long Buckby. There are limited earlier archaeological assets recorded within the study area. There are no listed buildings within or in close proximity of the site.

1.4 Project Team

- 1.4.1 The project was managed by Paul Spoerry. James Fairbairn directed the fieldwork with the assistance of Tam Webster, Helen Stocks-Morgan and Patrick Moan, who also surveyed the site.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Brief (Northampton County Council Planning services 2013) and Specification (Bush 2013).
- 2.1.2 The aims and objectives of the excavation as set out in the WSI (Bush 2013) were:
- To mitigate the impact of the development on the surviving archaeological remains. The development would have severely impacted upon these remains and as a result a full excavation was required, targeting the areas of archaeological interest highlighted by the previous phases of evaluation.
 - To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.
- 2.1.3 The Eastern Region Research Frameworks (Medlycott 2011) offers a general context within which to interpret these remains, with particular reference to research objectives relating to both Romano-British rural settlement and land-use.
- 2.1.4 The excavation has shown that aims relating to Early Romano-British agricultural land-use and rural settlement have most relevance to this project.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the Brief (NCCPS 2013) and detailed in the Specification (Bush 2013).
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a tracked 360 type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.2.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.5 Environmental samples were taken from eleven different contexts. None contained plant remains thought to be indicative of deliberate deposition.
- 2.2.6 Site conditions were wet throughout the excavation with the later stages of excavation being hampered by excessive amounts of water that flooded many of the features.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results from the excavation indicate that the majority of the activity took place in the late 1st Century AD with some continuity into the 2nd Century AD. The evidence suggests two main phases of activity, associated with a farmed landscape, these two phases have been further sub-divided where stratigraphic evidence allows but dating of the phases could not be further refined. The results are described below by phase, individual context descriptions are provided in Appendix A, cuts are shown in **bold**.

3.2 Phase 1 (*fig. 2*)

3.2.1 The earliest phase of activity dated from the late 1st century AD, possibly Flavian and consisted of small shallow ditches and gullies that are likely to be evidence of farming and associated activities.

3.2.2 The earliest phase of activity (1.1) was represented by three parallel ditches (**1**, **2** and **4**). These were aligned north-west to south-east and spaced approximately 10m apart. The most westerly of the ditches (**2**) contained the only pottery that could be firmly dated as mid to later 2nd Century AD and its allocation to this earliest phase is therefore questionable. However, its form and character are very similar to ditches **1** and **4**, which suggests that it was part of the same field system but that it may either have been a later addition or have remained open for a longer period of time.

3.2.3 One further ditch (**3**) was located to the south of ditches **1** and **2** on a south-west to north-east orientation. This ditch appears to have formed the southern boundary of a field system with ditch **1** and ditch **2** but this is not clear and there was no stratigraphic association between the features.

3.2.4 A second phase of activity (phase 1.2) is indicated by the presence of several pits and a gully cutting through ditch **1**. The gully is possibly evidence for the remains of a windbreak or open fronted shelter, the presence of a possibly contemporary oven or cooking pit suggests that there may have been short term, transient settlement for a small number of people working in the fields. A group of two pits or post holes (130, 132) cutting into ditch **1** at the northern end of the site perhaps suggests an attempt to continue to mark the boundary without re-digging the ditch. Whilst an elongated pit (**123**) at the southern end of ditch **1** may be evidence that the boundary was extended southwards.

Phase 1.1

*Ditch 1 (fig. 2; **104, 128, 152**)*

3.2.5 Ditch **1** was approximately centrally located between ditch **2** and ditch **4**. In profile it was shallow and V shaped with a yellow brown silty clay ditch fill and had a maximum depth of 0.20m and a width of 0.40m. Ditch **1** was truncated by and had clearly been filled in by the time phase 1.2 pits **102**, **106**, **130** and **132** and gully **114/118** were constructed.

3.2.6 It is possible that ditch **1** may have terminated where it met and was truncated by phase 1.2 gully (**114/118**), it certainly did not continue to the south of the gully.

Ditch 2 (fig. 2; 108, 112)

- 3.2.7 Ditch **2**, the western-most feature associated with Phase 1, was orientated north-west to south-east and continued beyond the edge of the excavation area. In profile it had steep sides with a width of 0.70m and a maximum depth of 0.30m. Its fill (107) consisted of a yellowy brown silty clay. Pottery dating to the mid-late 2nd century AD was recovered from ditch **2** and was also one of the only two finewares from the site. The later date for the backfill of this ditch may indicate that it remained open for longer and was perhaps a more permanent field boundary more closely associated with putative settlement to the west.

Ditch 4 (fig. 2; 154, 156)

- 3.2.8 Ditch **4** was located approximately 10m to the east of ditch **1** and on a similar alignment. This small shallow ditch traversed the entire excavation area on a north-west to south-east orientation. An intervention (**154**) at the southern end of the ditch revealed a steep sided, flat bottomed ditch that was no more than 0.20m deep. Its fill (153) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay that contained a small pot sherd dating to the 1st century.

Ditch 3 (fig. 2; 149)

- 3.2.9 Ditch **3** lay to the south of pit **123** and ditch **1**. It was curvilinear in plan (0.6m wide by 0.24m deep) and on an east to west orientation. The profile of ditch **3** was steep sided with a slightly concave base that was similar in form to ditches **1** and **2**. It is possible that ditches **1**, **2** and **3** together formed an enclosure.

Phase 1.2

Gully 114/118 (fig. 2 & plate 3)

- 3.2.10 A small gully (**114**) was recorded to the west of ditch **1** that ran for 2m before turning 90° onto a north-west to south-east alignment (**118**). In profile it had vertical sides with a flat base. Its yellow brown silty clay fill (113) contained a small amount of pottery dating to the 1st century AD. The profile of the ditch suggested it may have once housed a beam slot but no continuation or opposing gully was recorded. It is possible that it held a temporary windbreak or shelter which was perhaps no longer needed when the field system was re-modeled in phase 2.

Pit 123 (fig. 2)

- 3.2.11 A small shallow oval pit was recorded at the southern end of ditch **1**, this feature had a maximum depth of 0.28m. It was truncated on its northern edge by later ditch (**5**) and to the south by a medieval furrow. The fill of the pit contained fragments of Roman pottery and consisted of a yellowy brown silty clay material similar to that found in gully **114**. In plan it appears to form an extension to ditch **1** and the same line continues as ditch **6** (phase 2.1) to the south.

Pit 102 (fig. 2 & plate 4)

- 3.2.12 An elongated keyhole-shaped pit measuring 1.8m x 0.80m x 0.24m was found adjacent to ditch **1** on its west side. The shape of the feature suggests that it may have been a small bread oven although there was a lack of charred cereals in its fill, the only other indicator of a possible function being the presence of a large fragment of burnt lower quern stone and charcoal in its lower fill. Alternatively the feature may be the remains of

a temporary general purpose cooking pit or a camp fire, although the keyhole shape is very distinctive.

3.2.13 The pit contained three fills, the earliest (160) consisted of a charcoal rich deposit with a maximum depth of 0.08m, it was from this layer that the fragment of quern stone was recovered. The reverse of the stone showed some signs of heating and may indicate it had a secondary use in the pit. Environmental processing of a sample taken from this context produced only a single cereal grain (appendix C). Above this layer a compacted yellowy brown silty clay layer with a maximum depth of 0.10m (159) was recorded. No finds were found within this deposit. The sequence was sealed by a brown grey silty clay layer (101) that contained no finds.

3.2.14 A very shallow (0.14m) gully (**1507**) excavated during the evaluation phase (Carlyle 2012), may be associated with pit **102** and contained 33 sherds of pottery dated to the 2nd century AD. The gully was not observed during the excavation, but coincided with pit **102**.

Pit 106 (fig. 2)

3.2.15 This small steep sided, flat bottomed pit measured 0.65m in diameter and was 0.22m in depth. It contained a large amount of charcoal in its silty clay fill which may have derived from the possible bread oven or cooking pit located 2m to the south (**102**).

Pit 132 (fig. 2)

3.2.16 Pit **132** was located at the northern end of ditch **1**. It was circular in plan and measured 0.65m in diameter and 0.44m deep. Its dark grey silty fill (131) contained small stones, charcoal flecks and pottery dating to the early Roman period. A flat stone was also found in the base that appeared to be deliberately placed, possibly to form a base for a wooden post which may have acted as a marker along the field boundary that had previously been defined by ditch **1**. The pit had been truncated by a smaller circular pit (**130**).

Pit 130 (fig. 2)

3.2.17 Pit **130** had a diameter of 0.65m and was 0.25m deep. Its mid grey brown clay silt fill (129) contained Roman pottery, its position in close proximity to the possible boundary marker pit **132** may indicate that it had perhaps been used to insert a replacement boundary marker or perhaps a mend for the original post.

3.3 Phase 2 (fig. 2)

3.3.1 The second phase of activity also consisted of three ditches (**5**, **6** and **7**). The ditches formed the possible northern boundary of a southern enclosure with an entrance formed by a short lozenge shaped ditch located at the western end of ditch **7**. The slightly later pottery recovered from this phase suggests that the field system was extended to the south and remodeled in the 2nd century AD.

Phase 2.1

Ditch 5 (fig. 2; 110, 116, 120, 122, 125, 174)

3.3.2 A curvilinear ditch **5** was orientated south to north before turning sharply to the east and terminating at the southern end of ditch **1**, truncating the earlier feature. The profile of the ditch was gentle to steep sided and flat based and was 0.40m deep. This feature contained a mid grey silty clay fill (121) from which a small amount of pottery dated to the mid 1st to 2nd century was recovered.

- 3.3.3 A section through the ditch was excavated during the evaluation (**1504**), pottery from the ditch can not be more closely dated than Roman.
- 3.3.4 At the eastern end of ditch **5** a small pit (**172**; plate1) had been dug that contained a possibly deliberate deposition of pottery. This dated to the 1st century AD and it is thought to have been the remains of a small vessel.

Ditch 6 (fig. 2; 134, 137)

- 3.3.5 Approximately 1.2m to the south of ditch **5** a small curvilinear feature ditch **6** was recorded. This feature contained two fills and was steep sided with a flat base. It was 1.3m in length and 0.3m deep. The earliest fill (145) consisted of a mid greyish brown silty clay which contained charcoal flecks. The upper fill (136) was of a slightly darker grey silty clay that again contained occasional flecks of charcoal. The terminals of ditch **6**, (**134 & 137**) were rounded and sloped gently towards the base of the feature.
- 3.3.6 The position of this feature, along with ditches **5** and **7**, suggests a later enclosure existing to the south (fig. 2) with ditch **6** forming a part of an entrance way (plate2).

Ditch 7 (fig. 2; 139, 141, 143)

- 3.3.7 Ditch **7** was located 0.5m to the east of ditch **6** and would have formed the northern limit of an enclosure. The ditch had steep sides and a flat bottom and a maximum depth of 0.40m. Two fills were recorded, the earliest (146) of which consisted of a mid brown silty clay that was devoid of finds. The upper fill (140) was a dark brownish silty clay that contained sixteen sherds of pottery dated to the early Roman period along with occasional flecks of charcoal.

3.4 Finds Summary

- 3.4.1 Utilitarian type pottery along with the quern stone found in pit **160** suggest low level domestic activity was occurring close to the excavation area which was relatively short lived. Only two sherds of fineware were found during the excavation one in ditch fill 107 and one in ditch fill 144 these were both identified as Samian ware (Appendix B). The sparsity of fine wares suggest that any settlement would have been of a low status. An indication of this was a small lead pot mend (SF2) found in the sub soil close to ditch **1**, this would have been used to stem or plug a leak in the fabric of a cooking pot or storage jar. Although the example found was unstratified, they are generally of a Roman date. A small silver hammered coin found within a medieval furrow also gives an indication of activity in the medieval period. The land at this time was turned over to farming and it is probable that the coin was a casual loss.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Discussion

- 4.1.1 The site at Long Buckby gives an insight into farming practices associated with a low status Roman settlement dating to around the mid-late 1st century AD and continuing into the 2nd century AD. The pottery is of a low status and the assemblage consists mostly of locally produced coarse wares used for food preparation. Although no focus for the settlement was identified, the small ditches and gullies that indicate enclosed fields and temporary shelters strongly suggest that a small farmstead or similar settlement lay close by. Activity is more concentrated toward the north of the excavation area and it is possible that a focus of activity maybe located somewhere to the west of the development area.
- 4.1.2 Although utilisation of the land here seems to have been relatively short lived, with finds suggesting a period of no more than 100 years and possibly much less, there were several changes to the landscape and by inference farming practices, during that time. The earliest, regular, parallel ditches were positioned across the natural slope but over time a series of additional more irregular ditches were introduced that both enclosed and would have served as drainage. It is also clear that even when the earlier ditches began to silt up there were attempts to maintain their boundaries by use of posts or boundary markers and in the case of the westernmost field, the ditch was probably maintained into the 2nd century AD. The presence of a possible shelter and oven or cooking pit provide evidence for transient, short lived habitation possibly associated with seasonal farming activity.
- 4.1.3 It is unclear whether the settlement ceased completely or had simply relocated by the mid 2nd century AD. The regional pattern shows a general decline at this time as seen in places such as West Haddon and Towcester, however, it is possible that local circumstances may have dictated a move rather than abandonment.
- 4.1.4 No post Roman activity was recorded other than that related to ridge and furrow ploughing. This is likely to be medieval or post-medieval farming landscape on the basis of a small medieval coin recovered from one of the furrows. This find is assumed to have been deposited as a result of casual loss during work on the land.

4.2 Significance

- 4.2.1 The excavation carried out at Long Buckby has allowed an insight into a small part of an Early Roman farmed landscape on the edge of rural settlement. Evidence for the possible remodeling of enclosures and boundaries, along with transient habitation show that the farmed landscape, whilst short lived was dynamic and changed to suit the needs of the occupants. This site contributes to the growing body of evidence for the nature and distribution of small scale, domestic Roman rural settlement and farming activity in this part of Northamptonshire.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

context no	type	cut	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100	Layer			0.25m	Soft mid brown clay silt subsoil		
101	Fill	102	0.08	0.1	Brown grey silty clay		
102	Cut		0.08	0.2	pit		
103	Fill	104	0.4	0.2	Yellow brown silty clay		
104	Cut		0.4	0.2	Ditch		
105	Fill	106	0.62	0.2	Dark grey silty lay		
106	Cut		0.62	0.2	Pit		
107	Fill	108	0.7	0.3	Yellowy brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
108	Cut		0.7	0.3	Ditch		
109	Fill	110	0.4	0.15	Yellowy brown silty clay		
110	Cut		0.2	0.15	Cut		
111	Fill	112	0.5	0.3	Brown yellow silty clay	Pottery	Roman
112	Cut		0.5	0.3	Cut		
113	Fill	114	0.2	0.08	Mid grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
114	Cut		0.2	0.08	Ditch		
115	Fill	116	0.5	0.21	Mid to dark grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
116	Cut		0.5	0.21	Ditch		
117	Fill	118	0.45	0.16	Mid grey brown clay silt		
118	Cut		0.45	0.18	Ditch		
119	Fill	120	0.25	0.15	Mid grey brown clay silt	Pottery	Roman
120	Cut		0.25	0.15	Ditch		
121	Fill	122	0.62	0.22	Mid grey clay silt	Pottery	Roman
122	Cut		0.62	0.22	Ditch		
123	Cut		1.1	0.23	Pit		
124	Fill	123	1.1	0.30	Light brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
125	Cut		0.3	0.31	Ditch		
126	Fill	126	0.3	0.31	Dark brown grey silty clay		
127	Fill	128	0.6	0.25	Pale grey brown silty clay		
128	Cut		0.6	0.25	Ditch		
129	Fill	130	0.65	0.25	Mid grey brown clay silt	Pottery	Roman
130	Cut		0.65	0.25	Pit		
131	Fill	132	0.65	0.44	Dark grey clay silt	Pottery	Roman
132	Cut		0.65	0.44	Pit		
133	Layer		1	0.25	Furrow		
134	Cut		0.9	0.27	Ditch		

context no	type	cut	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
135	Fill	134	0.9	0.27	Mid brownish grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
136	Fill	137	0.6	0.15	Dark grey brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
137	Cut		0.6	0.30	Ditch		
138	Fill	139	0.50	0.10	dark greyish brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
139	Cut		0.50	0.34	Ditch		
140	Fill	141	0.58	0.10	Dark brownish grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
141	Cut		0.60	0.20	Ditch		
142	Fill	143	0.70	0.10	Dark brownish grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman/ post medieval
143	Cut		0.70	0.25	Ditch		
144	Fill	137	0.40	0.15	Mid brownish grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
145	Fill	139	0.45	0.20	Mid greyish brown silty clay		
146	Fill	141	0.60	0.30	Mid greyish brown silty clay		
147	Fill	143	0.70	0.20	Mid greyish brown silty clay		
148	Cut		0.6	0.24	Ditch		
149	Fill	148	0.6	0.24	Dark brown grey silty clay		
150	Fill	148	0.6	0.24	Dark brown grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
151	Fill	152	0.90	0.30	Dark brown grey silty clay		
152	Cut		0.90	0.30	Ditch		
153	Fill	154	0.40	0.2	Mid greyish brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
154	Cut		0.40	0.2	Ditch		
155	Fill	156	0.30	0.1	Mid greyish brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
156	Cut		0.30	0.1	Cut		
157	Fill	158	0.35	0.1	Dark brownish grey silty clay		
158	Cut		0.35	0.1	Post hole		
159	Fill	102	0.7		Oven pit		
160	Fill	102	0.88	0.08	Oven pit	Quern	Roman
161	Fill	163	1	0.5	Blue grey silty clay		
162	Fill	163	1	0.5	Brown yellowy grey silty clay	Pottery	Roman
163	Cut		0.5	0.5	Pit		
164	Fill	166	0.25	0.25	Yellowy brown blue silty clay		
165	Fill	166	0.25	0.25	Yellowy brown silty clay	Pottery	Roman
166	Cut		0.25	0.25	gully		
167	Fill	168	0.36	0.3	Blue grey silty clay with yellow sandy lenses		
168	Cut		0.36	0.3	Ditch		
169	Fill	170	0.9	0.35	Yellowy brown with blue grey		

context no	type	cut	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
					lenses.		
170	Cut		0.9	0.35	Ditch		
171	Fill	172	0.25	0.15	Mid brown yellow silty clay	Pottery	Roman
172	Cut		0.25	0.15	Pit		
173	Fill	174	0.25	0.2	Browne yellow silty clay	Pottery	Roman
174	Cut		0.25	0.2	gully		
200	Layer				Natural grey blue clay		

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Chris Faine

Introduction

- B.1.1 SF 1: Silver Venetian "Type 1" soldino (also known as 'gally halfpenny') issued by Doge Michael Steno (1400-13). Diameter: 15.4mm Obverse: Doge kneeling left holding a banner: [MICH]AEL [STEN. DVX] Mint mark symbol to right; D with a star above it. Reverse: Winged nimbate lion holding a gospel book. Inscription illegible. Soldini were (illegally) imported by Venetian merchants primarily from 1400 to 1521. In 1415 after English pressure the Venetian senate banned their exportation. However the influx resumed in the Early 16th Century till about 1525 AD.
- B.1.2 SF 2: Lead alloy pot mend. 14mm. Roman.
- B.1.3 SF 3: Copper alloy harness ring. Diameter: 19mm. Medieval.

B.2 Worked Stone

By Sarah Percival

- B.2.1 An incomplete lower quern stone, provisionally identified as being made of Old Red Sandstone, was recovered from oven **102**. The quern has a drilled, central spindle socket which does not perforate the stone, the underside is rough and unfinished or perhaps missing and the upper, grinding surface is smoothed and slightly sloping.
- B.2.2 The quern is 80mm thick at the centre and thins to c.25mm at the edges, which are vertical. The external diameter of the quern is 350mm and it weighs c.6kg. Cake-shaped querns, such as this example, are not closely datable, being in use throughout the Roman period (Shaffrey 2006, 42).
- B.2.3 Old Red Sandstone querns had a wide distribution across south-western Britain during the Roman period. Sites in Northamptonshire represent the north-eastern edge of this distribution, and were probably supplied by quarries in the Wye Valley and Bristol area (Shaffrey 2006, 49).
- B.2.4 Examples of querns from these sources have been found at both Higham Ferrers and Stanwick Villa some 50km to the east of Long Buckby (Shaffrey 2006, 87). Re-use of querns in structures and as hard core is common and re-deposited quern fragments have been identified in Roman ovens and drying kilns at Wakerley (Jackson and Ambrose 1978, 143).

B.3 The Roman pottery and fired clay

By Andy Fawcett

Introduction

- B.3.1 A total of 422 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 3527g with a total EVE of 4.36 was recorded from the excavation at Long Buckby, Northamptonshire. The assemblage is dated to the early Roman period. An overview of the pottery is presented below and a complete contextual breakdown of the pottery assemblage is presented at the end of the report in Table 4.

Methodology

B.3.2 All of the pottery has been examined at x20 vision and allocated to fabric groups. Codes have been assigned to these groups using the format adopted for the national fabric reference system (Tomber & Dore 1998). Form types (where possible) have been recorded using Going's Chelmsford catalogue (1987) and other publications where necessary (for particular local/regional forms) have also been utilised, such as Baldock (Stead & Rigby 1986), *Verulamium* (Wilson 1984), Towcester (Symonds 1980) and *Bannaventa* (MacRobert 1988). The pottery has all been recorded by sherd count, weight and EVE. A full breakdown of fabric quantities (excluding a single post-medieval sherd) can be seen in Table 1.

Fabric	No	%	Wgt/g	%	Eve	%
LGF SA	1	0.25	17	0.50	0.13	3
LEZ SA 2	1	0.25	38	1	0.14	3.25
VER WH	1	0.25	22	0.50	-	-
UNS WH	15	3.50	101	3	-	-
UNS OX	102	24.25	661	18.75	0.95	22
BSW	102	24.25	505	14.25	-	-
GRS	192	45.50	2014	57	2.04	46.75
UNS SH	1	0.25	4	Present	1.03	23.50
PNK ST	1	0.25	29	1	-	-
SOB GT	5	1.25	134	4	0.07	1.50
Totals	421		3525		4.36	

Table 1. Roman fabric quantities

The assemblage

B.3.3 The Roman pottery assemblage has chiefly been recovered from fifteen ditch and five pit fills, thereafter smaller quantities were recorded in two gullies, one post-hole and as an unstratified group. Table 2 shows the combined amount of pottery within each feature type.

Feature	No	%	Wgt/g	%	Eve	%
Ditch	176	42	1550	44	2.72	62
Pit	173	41	1371	39	1.34	31
Gully	29	7	276	8	0.17	4
Post-hole	13	3	30	1	-	-
Unstratified	31	7	300	8	0.13	3
Total	422		3527		4.36	

Table 2. Pottery by feature

B.3.4 As Table 2 demonstrates, 83% of the pottery assemblage is derived from ditch and pit fills. Groups from within ditch contexts are generally smaller, however there is little difference in the average sherd weight of the pottery (less than 1g) from these features; the gully average is slightly higher due to the presence of large jar sherds in one context.

B.3.5 As a whole the condition of the pottery may be described as being between abraded and slightly abraded, although in reality the larger part of the assemblage displays only slight abrasion. The assemblage at times is quite fragmented and many of the rims were simply too small to identify beyond their general class of vessel (i.e. jar).

B.3.6 The lack of finewares alongside form fragmentation, and for the most part, the presence only of long-lived coarseware forms and fabrics, has meant that several contexts are dated either broadly or with some uncertainty. Another hindrance to the dating process was that almost half of the contexts with pottery contained ten or fewer sherds.

Dating

- B.3.7 The assemblage as a whole clearly shows that the main period of activity on the site was from the mid/late 1st and into the early 2nd century. Only ditch fill 107 (ditch 2) could be dated with certainty from the mid to later 2nd century; none of the pottery within the unstratified assemblage is dated beyond the 2nd century. The consistent presence of Romanising fabrics and the few truly grog-tempered sherds (or other local fabrics dated from around 15BC to c.AD60/70) within the assemblage, may suggest that the main phase of activity began around the late 1st century, perhaps in the Flavian period. Certainly utilisation of the site within the Roman period appears to have fallen off fairly quickly from around the early/mid 2nd century.

Fabric

- B.3.8 Table 1 shows that the assemblage contained only two finewares, both of which are fragments of samian ware from La Graufesenque and Lezoux (southern and central Gaul). One base sherd of *Verulamium* white ware (VER WH) represents the only regional coarseware present within the assemblage (dated from the mid/late 1st to mid/late 2nd century).
- B.3.9 The fabric assemblage is dominated by three groups, which are likely to have been produced moderately locally, black surfaced/Romanising ware (BSW), sandy grey wares (GRS) and oxidised ware (UNS OX). These fabric groups account for around 90% of the entire assemblage by both sherd count and weight. Typically the BSW sherds have a sandy feel and range from fine through to quite coarse and contain varying amounts of grog (sparse to common, fine to coarse). These always occur alongside GRS and UNS OX sherds.
- B.3.10 Within the GRS group there are two clear divisions. The majority contain ill-sorted abundant quartz, sparse to common grog, and variable quantities of silver mica. Several of these have degraded surfaces and may well actually belong in the BSW category, however they are clearly Romanising grey wares. The second category within GRS are the true Roman fabrics which tend to be higher fired; the most frequent of these contains fairly dense abundant quartz, along with common silver mica and sparse black iron ore.
- B.3.11 The UNS OX group (like GRS) also contains a variety of fabrics, some Romanising others simply with abundant quartz and sparse calcite like voids.
- B.3.12 In conclusion the range of fabrics recorded at Long Buckby is quite limited and consists almost exclusively of locally produced types that are predominantly Romanising in their nature.

Form

- B.3.13 Although only a small number of forms are present, analysis of the assemblage (as Table 3 indicates) shows that jars account for almost 50% of the total.
- B.3.14 The single plate/dish is a samian Drg18/31 from La Graufesenque in ditch fill 144.
- B.3.15 Both of the dishes were noted in ditch fill 107, one being a samian Drg31 from Lezoux and the other a flat-rimmed type in GRS, both being dated from around the mid to later 2nd century. A significant absentee from the entire form assemblage is the B1 'pie' or plain-rimmed dish style, a form very popular from the early 2nd century onwards.
- B.3.16 Four bowls were identified. Of note is a C2 style bowl with a slightly everted rim in GRS. This has no direct match but similar types can be seen at Baldock (Stead & Rigby 1986: No 360/592), Towcester (Symonds 1980: No 48), Causeway Lane (Clark 1999: No 12)

and Camp Hill (Shaw 1979: No 40). It is dated from around the late 1st to early 2nd century. Of a comparable date in ditch fill 144 is a bowl imitating a samian form. Although the fragments are too small to make a direct match, the rim is fairly plain and one surviving bulged cordon can be seen just below the rim. The style is well documented as part of the 'London' ware industry (Tyers 1996), but examples similar to this one can also be seen at *Verulamium* (Wilson 1984: No 2385) and Baldock (Stead & Rigby 1986: No 363/412).

- B.3.17 Many of the jars rims were too small to be identified, but several appear to be in Goings G16-20 range (1987) dated from the mid 1st to at least the early 2nd century. One of the earliest jar forms present is in fabric SOB GT in ditch fill 138, and is probably dated no later than the end of the 1st century. It has an everted dished rim and is in the Thompson C5 range (1982), a similar version can also be seen at *Bannaventa* (MacRobert 1988: No 55). Other forms of note are a channel rim jar (pit fill 162), a style that continued from the late Iron Age into the second century. This one occurs in BSW, alongside a PNK GT sherd (dated from around the mid 2nd century onwards). This version of the jar, with only a slight neck area and an almost squared outer rim, is comparable to types at both *Verulamium* (Wilson 1984: No 2303) and Baldock (Stead & Rigby 1986: No 614). Finally in ditch fill 150 is an unusual type in a Romancing GRS fabric that is almost certainly a jar. It displays a slightly curved and everted rim and has an ovoid/barrel like body. It appears to have some butt beaker influence in its style and its closest match can be seen in Thompson's B5.2 range (1982: No 12), but it also has some affinity with an example from Clay Lane (Aird 1990: No 3c. 33).
- B.3.18 Of the three definitely identified beakers two are early and in the H1/2 style (GRS and UNS OX), globular in shape with short thin everted rims (pit fills 124 and 129). The third is from the unstratified group and is too small to be identified further.
- B.3.19 The form assemblage is quite restricted in its range, and there appears little correlation in the distribution of forms across feature types. The only potential trait is that both beakers were recorded in pit fills. This may represent a particular type of activity, perhaps related to a food event, however in the absence of other archaeological evidence (not available at the time of writing) it is not possible to comment further on this.

General form type	No
Plate/dish (A/B)	1
Dish (B)	2
Bowl (C)	4
Bowl or jar (C/G)	1
Jar (G)	14
Jar or beaker (G/H)	3
Beaker (H)	3
Lid (K)	1
Base (not in total)	14
Total	29

Table 3. Form assemblage

Discussion

- B.3.20 The Roman pottery assemblage from Long Buckby reveals a short period of activity on the site that starts from around the mid or late 1st century and then tails off around the early/mid 2nd century.
- B.3.21 The assemblage is dominated by locally produced coarsewares whose form assemblage is fairly basic, being comprised chiefly of jars with only small numbers of other form types present. Although both beakers and bowls were noted in the analysis, particularly absent from the group in this early period are for instance platters, *mortaria*, flagons and to a large extent dishes (with the exception of the two samian and one coarseware form), vessels associated with the preparation and consumption of food.
- B.3.22 The assemblage from Long Buckby is likely to represent some form of low status rural activity, indeed at nearby West Haddon (a short distance north of the current site) a similar ceramic picture emerged in the early Roman period (Fawcett 2006). Here too activity had steadily increased from the mid/late 1st century and into the early 2nd only to decline at some point from around the mid 2nd century. The assemblage too in this period at West Haddon was dominated by locally produced coarsewares with a similar restricted range of forms. Other work at West Haddon also revealed parallel trends to this current site, no pre-conquest activity, finewares, *mortaria* or flagons and with activity ending around AD150 (Mackreth 1998,6). It is interesting to note that at Towcester, although several miles to the south, a ceramic decline was also noted at this site from around the late 2nd century (Symonds 1980,89). The assemblage from this current site in one respect may be symptomatic of a larger local/regional decline that occurred from around the mid/late 2nd century. Further archaeological investigation in the future at Long Buckby may reveal if Roman activity did revive again at some point in the 3rd century, like it did at parts of West Haddon and at Towcester.

Fired clay

- B.3.23 A total of thirteen fragments of fired clay with a weight of 275g was retrieved from five contexts (ditch fills 121, 138, 142 and pit fills 105 and 162).
- B.3.24 The majority of fragments are small and abraded (less than 4g each). Most of the pieces are variably coloured, exhibiting both reduced and oxidised areas; some fragments show signs of burning, for instance in ditch fills 121 and 138. None of the fragments display impressions such as rod marks.
- B.3.25 The fabrics are fairly inconsistent in terms of their inclusions. This is due to the fragmentary nature of most of the pieces, therefore they do not necessarily reflect the actual character of the fired clay as might be seen more clearly in larger pieces. Without a good selection of larger pieces it is therefore not possible to determine with certainty if all of the pieces are from the same structure. However, most are medium sandy (ill sorted quartz sand), with varying frequencies of organic voids, grog/naturally occurring clay like pellets (sometimes iron rich) and large fragments of flint. These are typical combinations that are regularly found in Roman fired clay.
- B.3.26 The largest fragments are present in pit fill 105 and were recovered as part of the sampling strategy. With the exception of one, with a patchy burnt area all are oxidised. Their fabrics are medium sandy with organics, iron ores, clay pellets/grog. All of these pieces display areas of flat irregular surface. Two of these surfaces occur on the inner side of fragments that show some curving, indicating that they may have been part of an oven or a kiln for instance. In fact just to the south of pit 106 a possible bread oven was identified, it is therefore likely that these fragments represent partial remnants of this. Unfortunately pottery evidence was absent from contexts associated with these

features. Outside of pit fill 105 the remaining small fragments of fired clay show no concentration in terms of their distribution across the site.

Roman fabric codes

<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Code</i>
La Graufesenque samian ware	LGF SA
Lezoux samian ware 2	LEZ SA 2
Verulamium white ware	VER WH
Un sourced white ware	UNS WH
Un sourced oxidised	UNS OX
Black surfaced/Romanising grey ware	BSW
Un sourced sandy grey ware	GRS
Un sourced shell-tempered ware	UNS SH
Pink grog-tempered ware	PNK GT
Southern British grog-tempered ware	SOB GT

Roman form codes (Based upon Going 1987)

B = dish, C = bowl, G = jar, H = beaker, K = lid, ND = non-diagnostic, tsm = too small to identify

Abrasion: Very = very abraded, abr = abraded, sli = slightly abraded, gd = good condition



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
000	U/s	U/s	GRS	Base		1	0	8	Sli	No	Beve 0.08	Roman	
000	U/s	U/s	UNS OX	H		1	0.04	2	Abr	No	Abundant quartz, similar to VER, too small to ID	Late 1st-2nd in style	
000	U/s	U/s	UNS OX	Body		1	0	66	Abr	No	Romanising storage jar sherd	Roman	
000	U/s	U/s	UNS OX	Body		4	0	12	Abr-sli	No	Various fabrics	Roman	
000	U/s	U/s	UNS OX	G16-19	Cordon	1	0.09	37	Sli	No		Mid/late 1st-early/mid 2nd C	
000	U/s	U/s	BSW	Body		1	0	2	Sli	No		Roman (early)	
000	U/s	U/s	UNS OX	Base		1	0	19	Abr	No	Quartz, mica and black iron ore. Beve 0.37	Roman	
000	U/s	U/s	GRS	Body		21	0	154	Abr-sli	No	Mixed fabrics	Roman	Mid/late 1st-2nd C
107	Ditch	108	LEZ SA 2	B Drg 31		1	0.14	38	Sli	No	Surface part degraded	Mid-late 2nd C	Mid-late 2nd C
107	Ditch	108	GRS	B 2.1/2		1	0.1	116	Sli	No	Quartz, common mica, ill sort brown/grey grog (Romanising fabric). Like Perrin 102/3	Mid 2nd-early/mid 3rd C	
107	Ditch	108	UNS WH	Base		1	0	41	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse red iron rich grains. Beve 0.30	?2nd C?+	
111	Ditch	112	GRS	Body		3	0	122	Sli	No	Fabric like 107. Sherds all join, jar sherds, surface degraded	Roman (?early)	Roman (?early)
111	Ditch	112	UNS OX	Base		1	0	97	Sli	No	Quartz with rare small voids, friable. Beve 0.66	Roman	
113	Ditch	114	BSW	Body		3	0	5	Sli	No	Quartz with common ill sorted grog, friable	Roman (early)	
113	Ditch	114	GRS	Body		1	0	8	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse black iron ore.	Roman	Roman (?early)
113	Ditch	114	BSW	G		2	0.16	15	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse grog. Sherds join, everted rim style too small for ID but looks early.	Roman (?early)	
115	Ditch	116	GRS	Body		1	0	2	Abr	No	Quartz with common mica and sparse grog	Roman	
115	Ditch	116	BSW	G		1	0.13	9	Sli	No	Quartz with rare fine grog. Form too small for ID, but style looks early similar to G19+ style	?Mid/late 1st-early/?mid 2nd C	



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
115	Ditch	116	GRS	Base		2	0	8	Abr-sli	No	Quartz, mica and grog, surface degraded. Could be BSW Beve 0.08	Roman (?early)	
115	Ditch	116	GRS	Body		4	0	55	Sli	No	Fabric like 113. All belong to jar neck	Roman	?mid/late 1st-early/?mid 2nd C
115	Ditch	116	BSW	Body		2	0	4	Sli	No	Quartz	Roman (?early)	
119	Ditch	120	?SOB GT	Body		1	0	4	Sli	No	Thin walled with orange surface and grey core, soapy/sandy feel with abundant pale ill sorted grog, ?wheel thrown. Could be a Romanising UNS OX	1st C	1st C or early Roman
121	Ditch	122	?GRS	Body		1	0	8	Sli	No	Like 107, could be a degraded BSW	Roman	
121	Ditch	122	UNS OX	Body		1	0	60	Sli	No	Wheel thrown, grey core, hard sandy but with less soapy feel, abundant ill sorted pale grog	Early Roman	
121	Ditch	122	UNS OX	Body		1	0	9	Sli	No	Like 119 but less soapy more sandy	?Early Roman	
121	Ditch	122	BSW	Body		1	0	3	Sli	No	Fine quartz with sparse fine grog	Roman (early)	Mid 1st-early 2nd C?
121	Ditch	122	UNS OX	Body		11	0	110	Sli	No	Quartz with common black iron rich grains, sparse red. Orange with grey core, wheel thrown hard and sandy	Roman	
124	Pit	123	UNS OX	Body		1	0	3	Abr	No	Quartz with some grog	Roman (?early)	
124	Pit	123	BSW	Body		2	0	16	Sli	No	Quartz sandy	Roman	
124	Pit	123	GRS	Base		1	0	82	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse fine grog, surface degraded could be BSW. Beve 0.16	Roman	
124	Pit	123	GRS	Body		1	0	5	Abr	No	Quartz with sparse grog	Roman	
124	Pit	123	GRS	H1 or 2		11	0.21	95	Sli	No	Fabric like 113 (bio). Globular with short everted rim, all same vessel	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C	
124	Pit	123	GRS	C2.1?		1	0.07	17	Sli	No	Fabric like 113 (bio). No direct match, but similar types at Baldock (360/592/206), Causeway Lane (12), Towcester (48), Camp Hill (40)	Late 1st-early 2nd C	Late 1st-early 2nd C
124	Pit	123	BSW	G		1	0.1	10	Sli	No	Form too small for ID but same style as in 115	Mid/late 1st-early 2nd C	



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
124	Pit	123	BSW	Body		14	0	32	Sli	No	Sandy but with abundant ill sorted grog, a bit like the oxidised type in in 119.	Early Roman	
129	Pit	130	BSW?	G?		5	0.04	12	Abr/frg	No	Quartz sparse red iron ore. Too small for ID ?all same vessel	Roman	
129	Pit	130	GRS	Base		26	0	104	Sli	No	Ill sorted coarse quartz, all same vessel with body sherds. Beve 0.29	Roman	?Mid/late 1st-early/?mid 2nd C
129	Pit	130	GRS	Body		5	0	4	Sli	No	Ill sorted quartz plus grog, thin walled	Roman (early)	
129	Pit	130	GRS	Body		2	0	22	Abr	No	Quartz	Roman	
129	Pit	130	GRS	G?		1	0.07	6	Abr	No	Quartz, too small for ID	Roman	
129	Pit	130	UNS OX	H?1/2		19	0.25	67	Abr-sli	No	Quartz with bio (?streaked), friable and surface degraded. Rim is upright but slightly everted, possible neck cordon present on globular body. Like Ver 2074/8, Towcester 18. Beve 0.24, no whole profile.	?Mid/late 1st-early/?mid 2nd C (rim looks late 1st+)	
129	Pit	130	UNS OX	G	Cordon & groove	49	0.51	124	Abr-sli	No	Hard sandy ill sorted quartz sparse/rare small calictic voids. No direct match, narrow-neck with upright/ everted rim short neck globular body. Like Thompson B3, Towcester 199, Verulamium 2321-2323, Cam 175b (253) honey pot style also Camp Hill similar rims	?Mid/late 1st-early//mid 2nd C (looks late 1st early 2nd C)	
131	Post-hole	132	BSW	Body		1	0	3	Sli	No	Quartz and grog	Roman (early)	
131	Post-hole	132	UNS OX	Body	Groove	3	0	10	Abr-sli	No	Similar fabric to jar in 129	Roman (?early)	
131	Post-hole	132	BSW	Body		1	0	2	Abr	No		Roman (early)	
131	Post-hole	132	GRS	Body		8	0	15	Sli	No	Thin walled, ill sorted quartz and grog like in 129, another Romanising fabric	Roman (early)	Early Roman
135	Ditch	134	UNS OX	Body	Groove	2	0	6	Abr	No	Beaker sherds, bright orange, grey core with ill sorted quartz and common mica	Roman	Roman
136	Ditch	137	BSW	Body		1	0	9	Sli	No	Quartz and common grog	Roman (early)	



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
136	Ditch	137	GRS	Body		1	0	7	Abr	No	Ill sorted quartz, pale grey	Roman	Mid-later 1st C?+
136	Ditch	137	SOB GT?	Body		1	0	28	Abr	No	Soapy feel, abundant ill sorted grog, degraded surface, this could be dated up to early 2nd, given rural location	1st C	
136	Ditch	137	GRS	Body		1	0	7	Abr	No	G19? Body sherd, mica and black iron ore (?mid 1st-early/mid 2nd C). From sample 2	Roman	
138	Ditch	139	SOB GT	G	Rilling	1	0.07	24	Sli	No	Ill sorted pale grog, very small neck zone. Like Thompson C5, Ban 55, Going G5.5/1	1st C	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C
138	Ditch	139	GRS	C/G	Rilling	3	0.13	13	Sli	No	Thin walled. Style similar to VER 2166, Bal 226 & 317	c Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C	
138	Ditch	139	BSW	Body		3	0	8	Sli	No	Quartz and ill sorted grog	Roman (early)	
138	Ditch	139	UNS WH	Body	Partial thin orange line?	2	0	3	Sli	No		Roman	
138	Ditch	139	UNS OX	Body	Rilling	1	0	8	Sli	No		Roman	
138	Ditch	139	GRS	Body		2	0	32	Abr	No	Degraded surfaces	Roman	
138	Ditch	139	GRS	Body		5	0	6	Sli	No	Thin walled, quartz with sparse grog	Roman (early)	
140	Ditch	141	BSW	Body	Rilling	10	0	35	Sli	No	Sandy feel, quartz and common grog	Roman (early)	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C
140	Ditch	141	GRS	G8.1/2		2	0.25	25	Abr	No	Quartz, mica and sparse grog. Looks mid-late 1st C	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C	
140	Ditch	141	BSW	Base		3	0	27	Sli	No	Includes x2 body sherds, quartz with sparse fine grog. Beve 0.10	Roman (early)	
140	Ditch	141	GRS	Body		1	0	1	Sli	No	Thin walled, quartz and sparse grog	Roman (early)	
142	Ditch	143	GRS	Body		1	0	1	Abr	No		Roman	Early Roman and ?16th-18th C
142	Ditch	143	Black glazed	Body		1	0	2	Sli	No	?Intrusive or just disturbed deposit	16th-18th C	



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
			ware										
142	Ditch	143	BSW?	Body		2	0	4	Sli	No	Cant tell if hand-made or wheel thrown, but not a typical fabric arrangement with sparse very fine orange grog/or naturally occurring clay particles, residual?	?IA+	
142	Ditch	143	BSW	Body	Rilling	1	0	2	Sli	No	Sandy, quartz with sparse large grog	Roman (early)	
144	Ditch	137	LGF SA	A/B Drg18/31		1	0.13	17	Sli	No	This shares some similarity at the neck to Drg31, but fabric typical LGF, fine lime, elongated voids	c Late 1st-early 2nd C	c Late 1st-early 2nd C
144	Ditch	137	GRS	C10-13 or 22/23	Cordon	4	0.08	8	Sli	No	All join, quartz with sparse grog and calcitic like streaks, Romanising fabric but surfaces degraded. Samian copy in London ware style, like Bal363/412, Ver 2385	c Late 1st-early 2nd C	
144	Ditch	137	GRS	Base		1	0	8	Abr	No	Like 113 (bio). Beve 0.09.	Roman	
150	Ditch	148	BSW?	Base		2	0	18	Sli	No	Close to GRS. Beve 0.26	Roman (?early)	
150	Ditch	148	GRS	G/H?		8	0.47	85	Sli	No	Grey, brown core, quartz, common ill sorted grog, mica. No direct match, in style like ovid/barrel, see Thompson A10/B5.2 (No 12), affinity with Clay lane 3c (33), thereafter Causeway Lane 67 and shape Bal 369/603. Shows some butt beaker influence in shape. Beve 0.19	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd C
150	Ditch	148	GRS	G16-20		20	0.36	65	Abr	No	Same fabric as G/H, surface degraded. Form also like Thompson B1 range	Mid-late 1st/early 2nd C	
150	Ditch	148	GRS?	G		3	0.24	47	Sli	No	Two jars too small for ID. Ill sorted quartz, sparse/rare grog.	?Mid 1st-early 2nd style	
150	Ditch	148	GRS	G		1	0.06	25	Sli	No	Quartz, black iron ore, mica. Too small for ID	Roman	
150	Ditch	148	GRS	Body		15	0	69	Sli	No	Quartz, sparse black iron ore/grog, very sandy	Roman	
150	Ditch	148	VER WH	Base		1	0	22	Sli	No	Beve 0.13	Mid/late 1st-mid/late 2nd C	
150	Ditch	148	BSW	Body		2	0	2	Abr	No	Mica	Roman (early)	
150	Ditch	148	GRS	Body		3	0	19	Sli	No	Orange core, quartz, common ill sorted grog, mica	Roman (early)	



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/ g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
150	Ditch	148	GRS	Body		1	0	35	Sli	No	Quartz, black iron ore	Roman	
150	Ditch	148	BSW	G/H		7	0.07	42	Sli	No	Very coarse, surfaces degraded, ill sorted quartz, sparse grog	Roman (early)	
150	Ditch	148	BSW	K		10	0.33	60	Sli/frg	No	Sandy, orange core, ill sorted quartz, sparse grog and large flint	Roman (early)	
150	Ditch	148	UNS OX ?	Body		1	0	4	Sli	No	Ill sorted quartz	Roman	
150	Ditch	148	GRS	Base		1	0	5	Abr	No	Orange core, quartz and some grog. Beve 0.30	Roman (early)	
153	Ditch	154	BSW	Body		1	0	5	Abr	No	Fine quartz, mica sparse large grog. From sample 6	Roman(early)	Roman (early)
155	Ditch	156	UNS WH	Body		11	0	52	Abr-sli	No	Ill sorted quartz, sparse red iron ore and ?pale grog	Roman (possibly mid/late 1st- 2nd C)	Roman (? mid/late 1st- 2nd C)
162	Pit	163	BSW	G5		1	0.03	3	Sli/frg	No	Quartz and common grog. Like Ver 2303/Bal 614, form could be slightly earlier	Early-late 2nd C	
162	Pit	163	PNK GT	Body		1	0	29	Sli	No	Hard with pale grey/grog and mica, not a Belgic fabric	c Mid 2nd-3rd C?+	Early/mid- later 2nd C
162	Pit	163	UNS OX	Body		1	0	1	Sli	No	Less than one gram	Roman	
162	Pit	163	GRS	Body		1	0	1	Sli	No	Less than one gram	Roman	
165	Gully	166	SOB GT	Body		2	0	78	Sli	No	Join, storage jar sherds	Roman (?mid 1st-early/mid 2nd C)	
165	Gully	166	BSW	G/H		1	0.1	1	Sli	No	Quartz, sparse large grog. Less than one gram, too small for ID	Roman	
165	Gully	166	BSW	Body		13	0	27	Abr-sli	No	Ill sorted quartz, mica and spars large grog	Roman (early)	
165	Gully	166	BSW	C3/4 or 18		1	0.07	6	Sli/frg	No	Fine quartz and fine sparse grog. Like VER 2441/3	?Late 1st- early/mid 2nd C	?Late 1st/early-mid 2nd C
165	Gully	166	GRS	Body		7	0	92	Sli	No	Quartz and iron rich frags	Roman	
167	Pit	168	BSW	Body	Rilling	1	0	112	Sli	No	Sandy, ill sorted quartz and grog. Storage sherd	Roman	



Context	Fill	Cut	Fabric	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/ g	State	Illus	Comments	Fabric date range	Date
167	Pit	168	GRS	Base		3	0	25	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse black iron ore. With two body sherds. Beve 0.18	Roman	
167	Pit	168	UNS WH	Body		1	0	5	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse grog	Roman (early)	
167	Pit	168	BSW	Body		2	0	10	Sli	No	Fine well sorted quartz, thin walled	Roman (?early)	
167	Pit	168	BSW	Body		4	0	18	Sli	No	Ill sorted quartz sparse grog	Roman (early)	
167	Pit	168	BSW	Base		2	0	2	Sli	No	Quartz, thin walled. Beve 0.18	Roman	
167	Pit	168	UN SH	Body		1	0	4	Sli	No	?Storage sherd	Roman	
167	Pit	168	UNS OX	C?16		2	0.06	8	Sli	No	Close to VER fabric, too small for ID but looks earlier in reed-rim bowl typology, plus one body sherd.	?Late 1st-early/mid 2nd C	
167	Pit	168	GRS	Body		2	0	4	Very	No	Quartz, black iron ore, mica	Roman	?Late 1st-early/mid 2nd C?
167	Pit	168	GRS	Base		1	0	29	Sli	No	Quartz with sparse red iron ore. Beve 0.24	Roman	
171	Pit	172	UNS OX	Body		1	0	18	Sli	No	Sandy with grey core with common ill sorted grog	Roman (early)	
171	Pit	172	GRS	Body		8	0	498	Sli	No	Quartz, iron rich/grog grains, ?Romanising fabric. Storage jar sherds	Roman	
171	Pit	172	GRS	Body		2	0	5	Abr	No	Quartz	Roman	Roman (early)
173	Gully	174	GRS	Body		2	0	2	Sli	No	Quartz, sparse very small calcite, thin walled	Roman	
173	Gully	174	GRS	Body		2	0	69	Sli	No	Quartz iron rich/grog fragments, mica	Roman (?early)	
173	Gully	174	BSW	Body		1	0	1	Sli	No	Quartz and common grog	Roman (early)	Roman (early)

Table 4: Context Assemblage



v.draft

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Twelve bulk samples were taken from features within the excavated areas at Long Buckby Northamptonshire. The features date from the Roman-British period and include small ditches and pits and a feature that could possibly have been a small bread oven sealed by a broken quern stone made of millstone grit. The purpose of this report is to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

C.1.2 The samples were comprised of heavy clay that required deflocculation in a solution of sodium carbonate prior to processing. One bucket (up to ten litres) of each bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60

Results

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Charred plant remains
1	129	130	pit	single wheat grain
2	136	137	ditch	Single grain fragment
3	138	139	ditch	
4	142	143	ditch	
5	124	123	pit	
6	153	152	ditch	
7	171	172	pit	
8	160	102	oven	Single grain fragment
9	107	108	ditch	
10	111	112	ditch	
11	105	106	pit	
12	121	122	ditch	Single sedge seed

Table 5: Environmental samples

C.1.3 Preservation of plant remains is extremely poor. The majority of the samples did not contain any preserved plant remains other than sparse charcoal. Only three samples contain charred grain and these were either single or partial specimens with only a single grain of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) being identifiable (Sample 1, fill 129 of pit **130**). A single sedge (*Carex* sp.) seed was noted in Sample 12, fill 121 of 122.

Discussion

- C.1.4 The samples from Long Buckby do not contain preserved plant remains other than occasional charred grains and a single sedge seed. It is unusual for a site of this date to not produce charred plant remains and it is possible that this is due to lack of preservation due to the heavy clay soil. Alternatively the features sampled may not have been used for the disposal of domestic/culinary waste.
- C.1.5 The small quantities of charred plant remains recovered are not indicative of deliberate deposition and preclude any further interpretation of the site.

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aird, P., 1990, 'The Iron Age and Romano-British ware' in Windell, D. *Excavations at Clay Lane 1980, Level III: The finds*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Unit, Northampton, 2-48
- Bush, L., 2012, *Specification for Archaeological Excavation*
- Carlyle, S., 2012, *Land at Station Road Long Buckby, Northamptonshire*
- Bourn, R., 2011, *An archaeological desk based assessment Land at Station Road Long Buckby, Northamptonshire*
- Clark, R., 1999, 'The Roman pottery' in Conner, A & Buckley, R. *Roman and medieval occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph No 5, ULAS, 95-138
- Fawcett, A. R., 2006, 'The late Iron Age and Roman pottery' in *Excavations at West Haddon*, Northamptonshire Archaeological Report No xx (WHB05)
- Going, C. J., 1987 *The Mansio and other sites in the south-eastern sector of Caesaromagus; The Roman pottery*, CBA Research Report 62
- Jackson, D.A. and Ambrose, T.M., 1978 'Excavations at Wakerley', *Britannia*, Vol. IX, 115-242.
- Mackreth, D., 1998, 'The pottery' in Atkins, R. *Archaeological evaluation along the proposed route of the A428 West Haddon Bypass*, Northamptonshire Archaeological Evaluation Report No xx
- MacRobert, E. H, 1988, 'The pottery' in Dix, B & Taylor, S. *Excavations at Bannaventa, 1970-1*, *Britannia* Vol XIX, 316-334
- NCCPS, 2012, *Brief for a programme of Archaeological Investigation, Recording Analysis and Publication of land to the west of Station Road, Long Buckby, Northamptonshire*
- Shaffrey, R., 2006 *Grinding and Milling. A study of Romano-British rotary querns and millstones made from Old Red Sandstone*. BAR British Series 409, Oxford, British Archaeological Reports.
- Shaw, M., 1979, *Romano-British pottery kilns on Camp Hill, Northampton, Northamptonshire* *Archaeology* Vol 14, 17-30
- Stead, I and Rigby, V., 1986, *Baldock: The excavation of a Roman and pre-Roman settlement 1968-72*, *Britannia* Monograph Series 7, Society for the promotion of Roman studies
- Symonds, R. P., 1980, 'The coarse and other finewares' in Lamrick, G. *Excavations in Park Street, Towcester*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Vol 15, 69-102
- Symonds, R. P and Wade, S., 1999, *Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester 1971-76*, Colchester Archaeological Report 10, Colchester Archaeological Trust
- Thompson, I., 1982, *Grog-tempered 'Belgic' pottery of south-eastern England, parts I-III*, BAR British Series 108
- Timby, J., 2005, 'The pottery' in Mason, P. *An archaeological excavation and watching brief at West Haddon Bypass*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Report 05/130

Tomber, R and Dore, J., 1998, *The national Roman fabric reference collection: A handbook*, MoLAS Monograph, 2, London: Museum Archaeology Service

Tyers, P., 1996, *Roman pottery in Britain*, Batsford, London

Webster, P., 1996, *Roman samian pottery in Britain*, Practical handbook in archaeology 13, CBA, York

Wilson, M. G., 1984, 'The other pottery' in Frere, S. S. *Verulamium excavations III*, OUCA Monograph 1, Oxford

Woods, P & Hastings, S., 1984, *Rushden: The early finewares*, Northamptonshire County Council

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-172401		
Project Name	Archaeological Excavation on Land west of Long Buckby		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	11-12-2013	Finish	16-12-2013
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XNNLOB13	Planning App. No.	APP/Y/A?12/2174386
HER No.		Related HER/OASIS No.	

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
Ditches	Roman 43 to 410	Pottery	Roman 43 to 410
Pits	Roman 43 to 410	Coin	Medieval 1066 to 1540
Furrows	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...

Project Location

County	Northamptonshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Daventry	Land at Station Road, Long Buckby Northamptonshire.
Parish	Long Buckby	
HER		
Study Area	930sqm	National Grid Reference
		SP 6222 6701

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Northamptonshire CC Archaeological service
Project Design Originator	Lesley Ann Mather
Project Manager	Paul Sperry
Supervisor	James Fairbairn

Project Archives

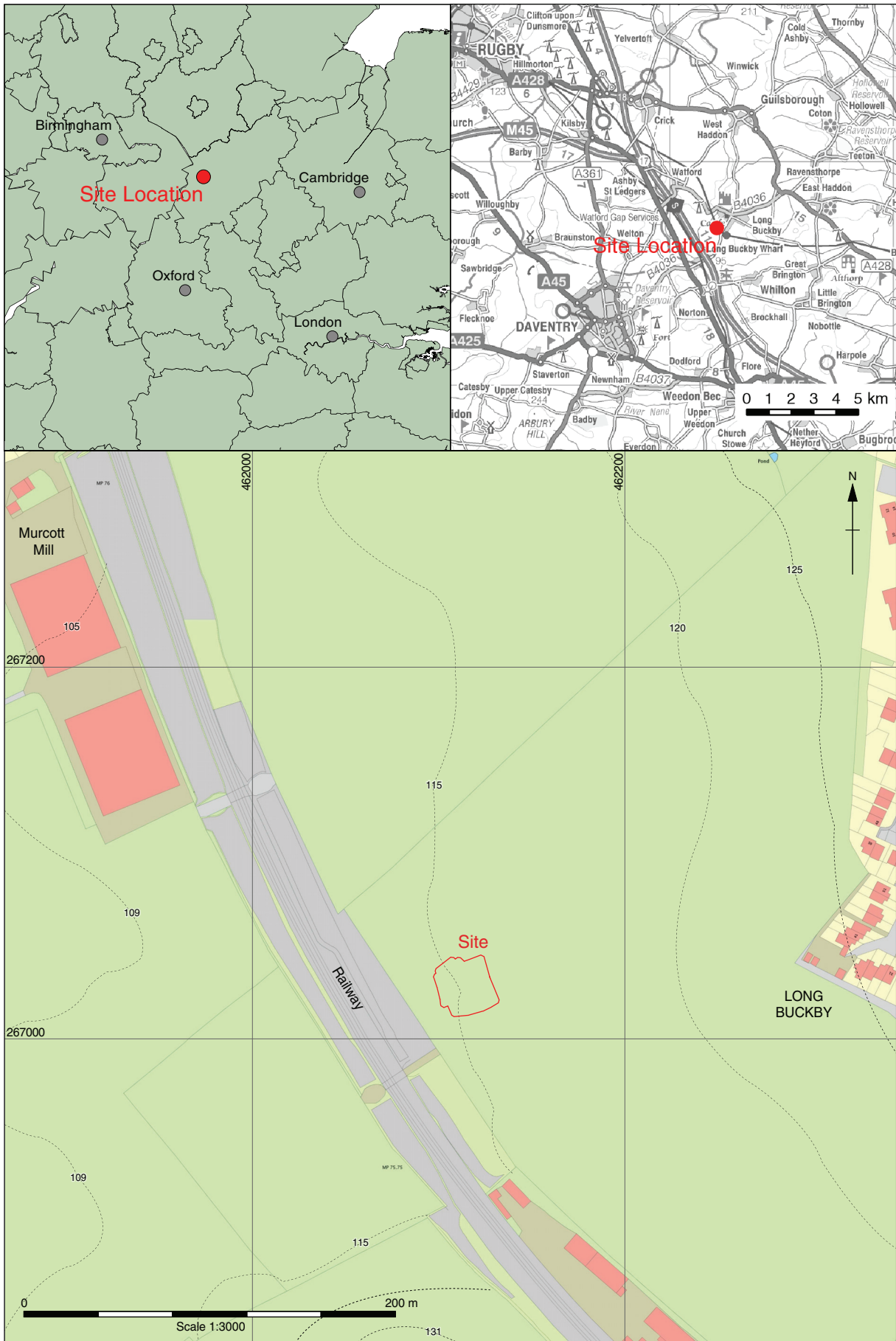
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	Oa East	OA East
XNNLOB13	XNNLOB13	XNNLOB13

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



Ordnance Survey. © Crown copyright 2014. All rights reserved. Licence number 0100031673

Figure 1: Site location

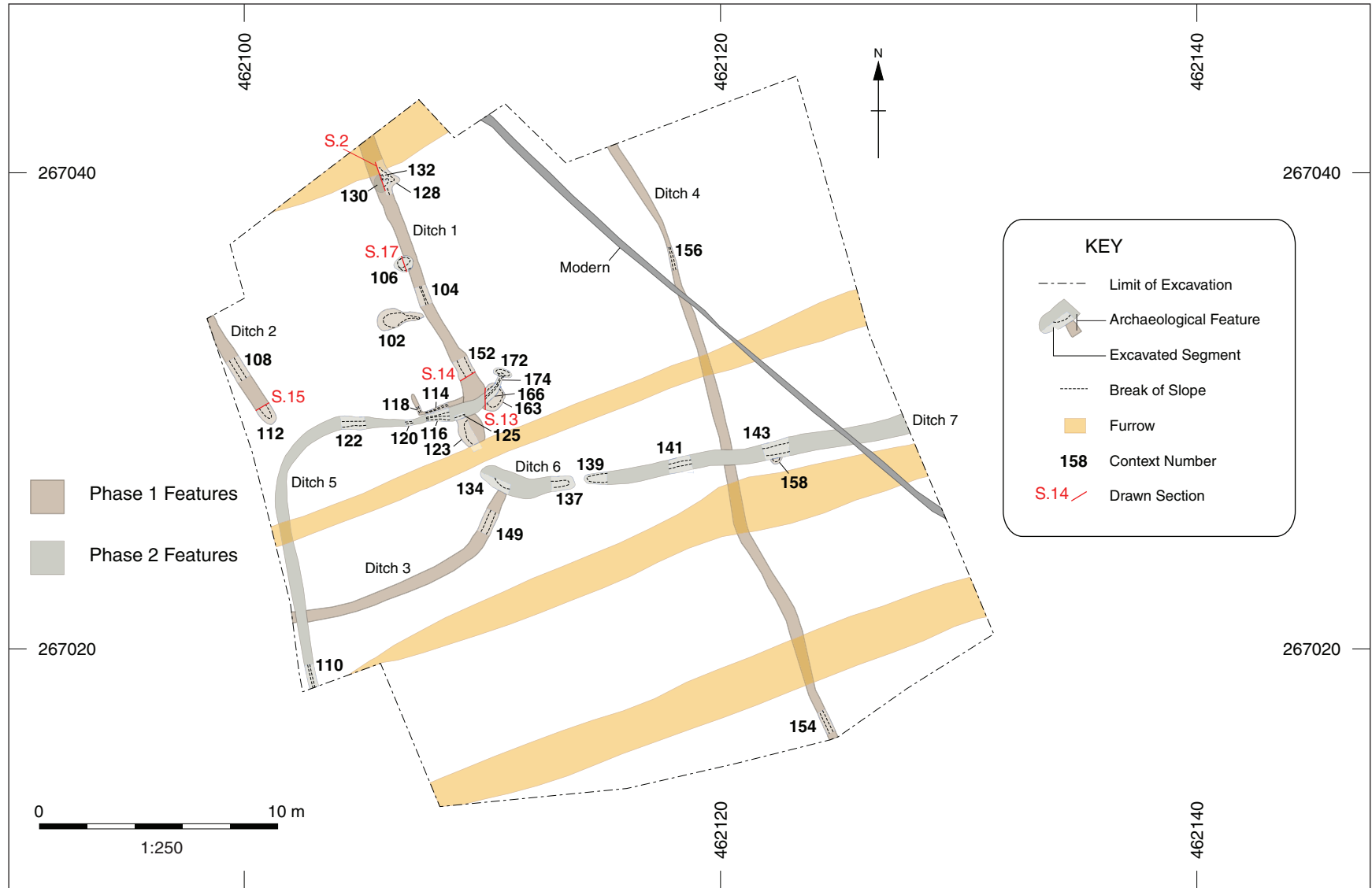


Figure 2: Site Plan



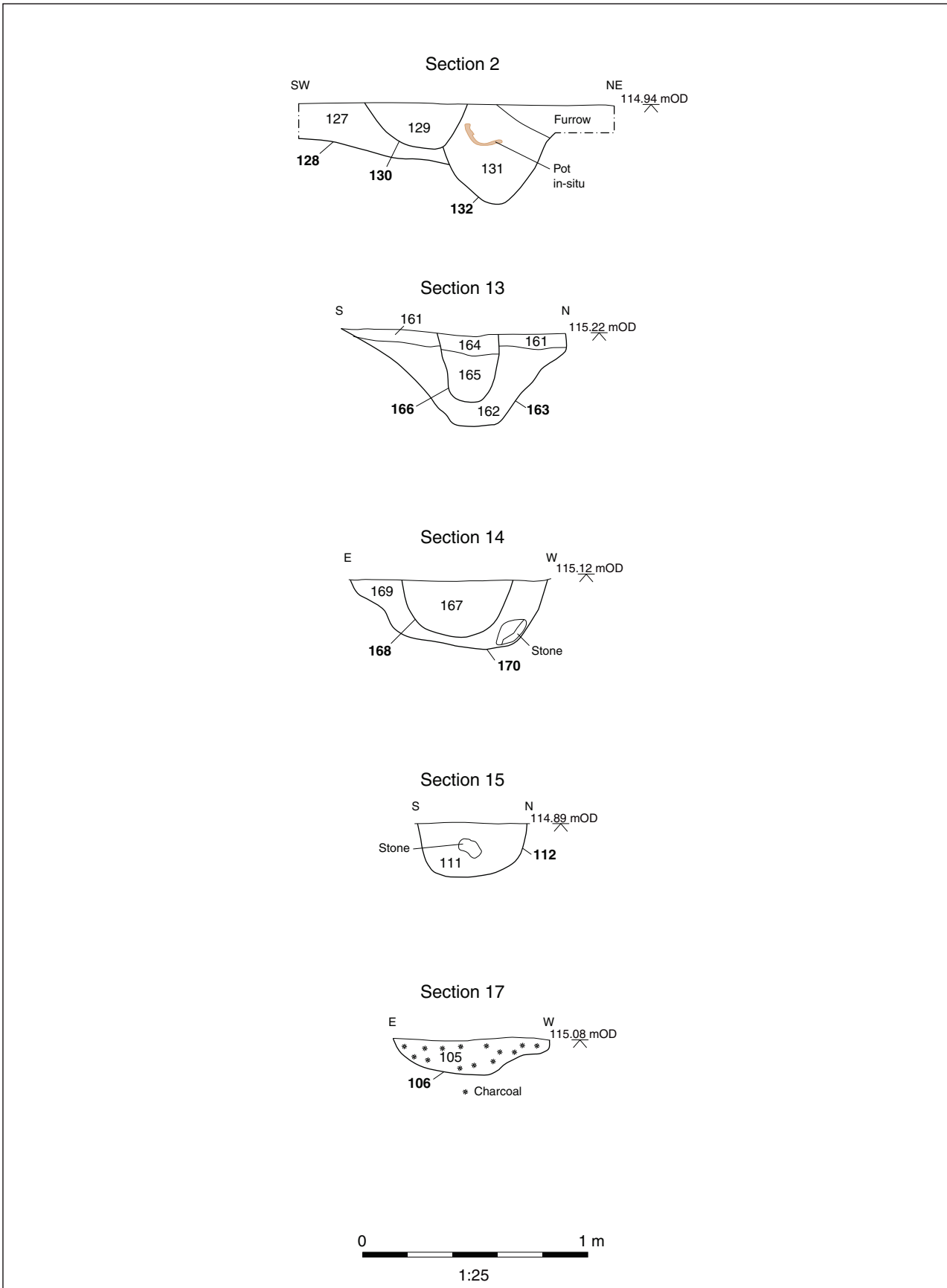


Figure 3: Selected Sections



Plate 1: Pottery in pit 172



Plate 2: Ditches 6 and 7



Plate 3: Gully 114



Plate 4: Oven 102



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*