An Iron Age Settlement at Land North of Hare Street Road Buntingford, Hertfordshire

Post-Excavation Assessment & Updated Project Design

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Post-Excavation Assessment

An Iron Age Settlement at Land North of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Hertfordshire

Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

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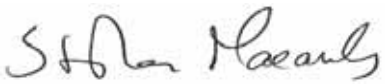
Signed:	

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Summary

Between the 29th September and 11th November 2014 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out excavations at Land North of Hare Street, Buntingford, Hertfordshire. The proposed excavation initially comprised two areas, each targeting a ditched enclosure revealed during a geophysical survey of the area carried out by Archaeological Services WYAS during a previous phase of work in 2012.

An archaeological evaluation was carried out prior to the excavation to establish the presence/absence of archaeological features in areas of the site not previously covered by an evaluation by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2012 that targeted the enclosures identified by the geophysical survey. Significant Iron Age and Roman archaeological remains were encountered by the evaluation trenching in the southwestern corner of the site in a parcel of land previously used as allotment gardens. Consequently an additional third area of excavation encompassing these remains was agreed upon. Furthermore, upon the completion of the excavation a programme of archaeological monitoring was undertaken between the 8th June and 14th July 2015 during the excavation of an attenuation pond in the western part of the site.

Middle Neolithic remains, including decorated pottery sherds and worked flint flakes, were encountered in two pits at the base of the dry valley and in a palaeochannel running through the site. The excavation identified rural settlement remains, including roundhouses, with an associated system of land division and enclosure originating in the Middle Iron Age and evolving through the Late Iron Age period into the Early Roman period. The latter included ditches forming a Middle Iron Age enclosure system which included a possible stock enclosure. This interpretation is perhaps enforced by the presence inside the enclosure of square four-post structures that may have served as animal feed stores. Late Iron Age remains within and further enclosures that appear to respect the Middle Iron Age remains indicate a continuity of this settlement. Although the Early Roman period witnessed a change in land economy with the introduction of a system of cultivation furrows, one of the Late Iron Age enclosures did appear to be respected. Furthermore, pitting activity in the settlement area continued from the Late Iron Age into the Early Roman period indicating a continuation of occupation at the site across these periods. An additional element of Early Roman land use was also identified, comprising of a zone of marl quarrying pits.

A quantity of Iron Age pottery and kiln furniture was recovered from the site which demonstrate good research potential for these remains in their local and regional context. The pottery recovered indicates that the occupation had ceased by the end of the second century AD. The environmental assemblage including faunal remains was poor in comparison with low research potential. These remains and associated features on the site are evidence for farming predominantly based on cattle in all phases but with no direct evidence of breeding or crop processing.

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Between the 29th September and 11th November 2014 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out excavations at Land North of Hare Street, Buntingford, Hertfordshire (NGR TL 3678 2958; Fig. 1). This work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, in respect of a proposed residential development on the site (Planning Application: 3/13/1000/FP / appeal ref APP/J1915/A/13/22005581). The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Specification prepared by OA East (Macaulay 2014).

1.1.2 The proposed excavation initially comprised two areas, each targeting ditched enclosures revealed during a geophysical survey of the area carried out by Archaeological Services WYAS in 2012. This survey was presented with the findings of a subsequent archaeological evaluation conducted by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Event no. EHT 7289) in a Heritage Statement for the site by BSA Heritage (Stephenson 2012).

1.1.3 A further phase of archaeological evaluation was carried out prior to the excavation in order to establish the presence/absence of archaeological features in areas of the site not previously covered by the evaluation by Northamptonshire Archaeology, which only targeted the enclosures and features identified by the geophysical survey. This evaluation consisted of 14 trenches (13 40m x 2m, and one 22.5m x 2m). Significant Roman archaeological remains were encountered in the southwestern corner of the site in a parcel of land previously used as allotment gardens. Consequently an additional third area of excavation encompassing these remains was agreed upon after consultation with Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire County Council and Rob Bourn of CgMs for Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd.

1.1.4 The total area of the excavation phase was approximately 1.5ha and comprised three separate areas (Areas 1, 2 and 3).

1.1.5 Due to the importance of the remains encountered during the excavation a programme of archaeological monitoring was also carried out during the development of the site on the excavation of an attenuation pond covering an area of approximately 0.5ha in the western part of the site (Area 4). The monitoring of this excavation was carried out intermittently between the 8th June and 14th July 2015.

1.1.6 This assessment has been conducted in accordance with the principles identified in English Heritage's guidance documents *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment,* specifically *The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide* (2006) and *PPN3 Archaeological Excavation* (2008).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site comprises an undulating agricultural field to the north of Hare Street Road (B1038) and on the eastern edge of the small market town of Buntingford, at a height of approximately 105m OD (Fig. 1).

1.2.2 The underlying geology of the proposed development site comprises Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation And Seaford Chalk Formation (undifferentiated). Superficial deposits are indicated to comprise Lowestoft Formation – Diamicton (chalky till). (http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html, accessed 13th November 2014).

1.2.3 The previous phase of evaluation trenching conducted by Northamptonshire Archaeology encountered the remains of substantial palaeochannels running from east to west and following a low point in the topography of the central part of the site (Fisher 2012).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 The Heritage Statement for the site by BSA Heritage for Taylor Wimpey Uk Ltd (Stephenson 2012) details the archaeological potential of the site, presents the results of the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching, and should be referred to for full background. The following is a summary based on this report:

Hertfordshire Historic Environment Records (HHER) in the vicinity of the site

1.3.2 The important Roman route of Ermine Street runs through the historic core of Buntingford at its crossing with the River Rib. Its presence is believed to have been the catalyst for the settlement of Buntingford. Excavations on the western side of Ermine Street and Buntingford by Pre-Construct Archaeology in 2010 revealed a Late Iron Age enclosure and a Roman cremation burial (Jarrett 2010). Roman pottery and coins have been found on Alswick Hall Farm land to the east of the site (HER995; 1346).

1.3.3 An archaeological investigation was carried on Land off Owles Lane, Buntingford by Heritage Network in 2012, immediately south of Hare Street Road and the current site (HER18767, HER18768; Fig.1). This investigation comprised a desk study, geophysical survey and archaeological trial trenching. A ditched enclosure and further boundary ditches were encountered of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date. The artefacts recovered, including pottery and animal bone, suggested occupation was focused within this area in this period (Snee 2012).

1.3.4 Archaeological Solutions conducted an evaluation on Land off Longmead, Buntingford in 2011 (HER18762; Fig.1) to the west of the site. This revealed a Roman field system comprising rows of parallel gullies possibly for drainage for raised beds of arable crops or horticulture (Leonard & Stoakley 2012).

1.3.5 An archaeological excavation was carried out at St Bartholemew's Church, Layston, Buntingford (HER4351, HER30336; Fig.1) by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd in 2011. Excavations inside the nave of the church revealed structural evidence for an earlier church building dating to the 11th or 12th centuries. This earlier church structure included a large quantity of Roman ceramic building material (CBM) and painted and moulded *opus signinum* (a mixture of lime or sand mortar and broken tiles). This material suggests the presence of a substantial Roman building or settlement nearby. Graves were also excavated in the nave and churchyard dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods (Langthorne 2011).

1.3.6 In October 2013 Oxford Archaeology East conducted an evaluation on land north of Buntingford (HER30412; Fig.1). This encountered features and artefacts spanning the Early to Middle Iron Age. A possible settlement focus was identified adjacent to Ermine Street evidenced by a ring ditch and post hole with a quantity of Middle Iron Age pottery. To the north of these remains one further area of Early to Middle Iron Age settlement comprising gullies, cultivation strips, pits and post holes was encountered. In addition, a hollow way and more ditched boundaries from this period were present in the wider extent of the evaluation. A quantity of struck flint artefacts were also recovered dating from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age periods. Medieval and post-medieval quarry pits and ditches were also identified (Clarke 2013).

1.3.7 Further archaeological investigations include a watching brief undertaken in 1986 in advance of the construction of the Buntingford Bypass (MHT 2261). This revealed a large, irregular spread of dark brown clay with charcoal, chalk and flint. A linear feature ran westward from this spread. The features contained Late Iron Age/Roman pottery of the 1st century AD, one piece of Roman tile, and animal bone. Further south, an evaluation carried out in May 2000 at the former Sunnyside Nursery, Baldock Road recorded a number of undated features, possibly associated with prehistoric agriculture (EHT 5000).

The site

1.3.8 There are no designated heritage assets or other nationally important remains or sites lying within or close to the site. The boundary within the site enclosing the allotments in the southwestern corner of the proposed development is shown on the 1842 Tithe map (not illustrated) and so has local historic significance. The site has been an agricultural field from at least the medieval period when historic map sources confirm it to be part of Great Bartholomew Field.

1.3.9 The HHER records findspots in the area from the Neolithic period onwards. The geophysical survey revealed two ditched enclosures, considered by their shape to be part of later prehistoric or Roman field systems, and other possible archaeological features. The subsequent evaluation trenching confirmed the presence of the enclosures as sub-surface ditches which yielded limited finds of Iron Age or Roman date (Fisher 2012). A number of palaeochannels were also revealed.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank Rob Bourn and subsequently Peter Reeves both of CgMs for commissioning the work on behalf of Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd who funded the work. Stephen Macaulay managed the project and Alison Tinniswood of Hertfordshire County Council monitored the works. The fieldwork was supervised by the author and excavated by Louise Bush, Andy Greef, Emily Abrehart, Kat Hamilton, Alex Cameron, Adele Lord, Robin Webb, Toby Knight, Zoe Clarke, Chris Swain and Rebecca Pridmore. The site survey was conducted by Robin Webb, James Fairbairn and Dave Brown. The illustrations were produced by Daria Tsybaeva. Thanks are extended to the various specialists for their contributions.

2 Project Scope

2.1.1 This report deals solely with the 2015 evaluation and excavation undertaken by OA East at Land North of Hare Street Road, Buntingford. Relevant parts of previous phases of work undertaken, including the desk-based assessment, geophysical survey and evaluation are detailed in the Heritage Statement for the site by BSA Heritage (Stephenson 2012). This will be referred to during the assessment where appropriate.

3 Interfaces, Communications and Project Review

3.1.1 The Post-Excavation Assessment has been undertaken principally by Graeme Clarke (GC) and edited and quality assured in-house by Project Manager Stephen Macaulay (SM) and Post-Excavation Editor Rachel Clarke (RC). It will be distributed to the Client (Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd), their archaeological consultant Peter Reeves (PR) of CgMs Consulting, and Alison Tinniswood (AT) from HCC for comment and approval.

3.1.2 Following approval of the Post-Excavation Assessment discussions will be had between GC, SM, RC, RB and AT to discuss post-excavation analysis and publication. As a result of this meeting, a Publication Synopsis will be prepared.

3.1.3 In addition, following approval of the Post-Excavation Assessment, specialist meetings will be arranged to discuss and timetable the analysis stage of the work. Following these meetings, the post-excavation analysis and publication timetable will be finalised.

3.1.4 Meetings will be arranged at relevant points during the post-excavation analysis with RB and AT, or be conducted via email or telephone as appropriate.

4 Original Research Aims and Objectives

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Based on the Heritage Statement produced for the site (Stephenson 2012) a Written Scheme of Investigation was produced for this phase of evaluation and excavation (Macaulay 2014) that identified a suite of research aims (organised on a national, regional, local and more site-specific level) that were designed to provide a framework for the subsequent assessment and analysis of results, these are included below.

4.2 National Research Objectives

4.2.1 Understanding continuity in settlement and land use and in social and economic organisation between the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods: regional variations, complexity and ethnicity.

4.3 Regional Research Objectives

4.3.1 The following aims have been identified in the Regional Research Agendas (Bryant et al 2000 & revised 2008 and Medlycott 2011). In general terms the site will contribute to the over-arching research themes of 'Chronologies' & Process of Change and Landscape & Environment:

- Rural settlements and landscape;
- Process of economic and social change and development during the Late Iron Age and the Iron Age/Roman transition;
- Investigation of the adoption of an agrarian economy and changing patterns in agricultural production and consumption through full quantification and standardised reporting of environmental remains;
- Settlement types; and
- The Agrarian economy.

4.4 Local and Site Specific Research Objectives

4.4.1 The previous phase of evaluation in 2014 identified Late Iron Age and Early Roman (100BC-ADc.100) activity and the investigation and understanding of these remains constitute the research aims of the overall project.

4.4.2 The characterisation of the form and development history of the settlement.

Evidence of structures was revealed during the evaluation, proximity to known Iron Age and Roman settlements. If remains of any occupational evidence or domestic buildings survive, their form and associated artefacts will help to define their function, date and use and any subsequent modifications in form and usage. If evidence of crop or food processing survives (burnt grain, butchered animal bone) conclusions can be drawn on the type(s) of agricultural regimes that may have been in operation.

4.4.3 The characterisation of the form, date of establishment, subsequent development of the field systems, and their relationship to the settlement.

Do the enclosures relate to any field systems in the vicinity and can their development be understood?

4.4.4 The determination of the relationship of the agricultural regime and any associated settlement with the local and regional economy.

Analysis of artefactual and ecofactual material may determine whether the area was a largely self-sufficient farming community or whether it was producing a surplus of either crops or meat for local population centres. Evidence of large-scale crop processing or butchery will be sought, as will evidence of importation of luxury or specialised items such as fine pottery (if present).

4.4.5 The creation of a model of land-use and organisation over time.

The evidence from this project will be set within the framework of existing knowledge of the archaeology of the area and will make a valuable contribution to ongoing local research. Known Iron Age and Roman settlements are located to the east at Alswick's Hall Farm (HER995, 1346).

5 Summary of Results

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The archaeological works uncovered evidence for activity spanning the Middle Neolithic to the medieval/post-medieval periods with the majority of features dating to the Iron Age and Early Roman periods. Summaries and descriptions of the features identified and artefacts recovered are given in this section with a context inventory presented in Appendix A, Tables 7 & 8. Feature locations are shown in Figures 2-6 and selected sections presented as Figure 7.

5.1.2 The proposed development area was subject to 14 evaluation trenches and three open-area excavations (referred to as Areas 1, 2 & 3 totalling approximately 1.5 hectares) with an additional (approximate 0.5ha) area subject to archaeological monitoring and referred to as Area 4 (Fig. 2).

5.1.3 The evaluation trenches were opened in advance of the excavations in areas not investigated by previous phases of work. Area 1 targeted remains encountered by Trench 23 during the evaluation on the southern edge of the site. Areas 2 & 3 each targeted a ditched enclosure revealed by the previous phases of work. Area 4 encompassed the excavation for an attenuation pond in the west of the site.

5.1.4 The excavation demonstrated the presence of significant Iron Age settlement remains in Area 1, a Middle Iron Age date for the enclosure in Area 2 and a Late Iron Age date for the enclosure in Area 3.

5.1.5 Further remains encountered included a Middle Iron Age boundary ditch extending across Areas 2, 3 & 4 and the presence in Area 3 of agricultural strip furrows dating to the Early Roman period. A large zone of inter-cutting pits dating to the Early Roman period were also identified in Area 2. Area 4 revealed two pits of Neolithic date in the base of the dry valley running east to west through the central part of the site; these features were sealed by a layer of colluvium.

5.1.6 The chronological phasing presented below is largely based on stratigraphic relationships, spatial associations and, to a certain extent, similarity of alignment of linear features. Where possible this has been combined with dating evidence provided by stratified artefacts.

5.1.7 Four periods of activity have been identified:

Period 1: Neolithic (*c.*4000-2500BC)

Period 2: Middle to Late Iron Age (300BC-AD*c.*50)

Period 2.1: Middle Iron Age (300-100BC)

Period 2.2: Late Iron Age (100BC-AD43)

Period 3: Early Roman (AD43-150)

Period 4: Medieval & post-medieval (*c.*1066-1800)

5.2 Natural features

5.2.1 A palaeochannel running east to west across the central part of the site was investigated as cut **1074** in Trench 15 (Fig. 2; Plate 1), as cut **1062** in Trench 16 and was also encountered in Area 4. This former water course was excavated by machine in Trench 15 and found to be 28m wide and 1.3m deep. It contained heavy clay silting events (1061) with numerous frost damaged flint nodules and gravel inclusions.

5.2.2 Twelve tree throws/tree root systems (Fig 2; **1059**, **1070**, **1102**, **1104**, **1227**, **1229**, **1400**, **1402**, **1413**, **1551**, **1554** & **1571**) were encountered across the evaluation trenches and excavation areas and are not considered further.

5.3 Period 1: Neolithic (c.4000 – 2500BC)

5.3.1 A small assemblage, weighing 0.253kg, of worked flint was recovered from Areas 1-3. This was entirely residual Neolithic material found in later Iron Age and Roman deposits. No recognisable tool forms or cores were recovered.

Area 4 (Figs 2, 6, 7)

5.3.2 Two pits (**1604** & **1611**) were encountered, cutting the palaeochannel, that contained 0.02kg and 1.11kg of worked flint respectively. Pit **1611** also contained an assemblage of 0.17kg of Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware pottery. Pit **1604** measured up to 4.25m in diameter and 0.55m deep. Pit **1611** measured up to 2.6m in diameter and 0.6m deep (Fig.7). These pits were sealed by an overlying layer of colluvium (1603) up to 0.28m thick from which four flint flakes were recovered. This layer was in turn cut by Late Iron Age ditch **1506** (see below).

5.4 Period 2.1: Middle Iron Age (300 – 100BC)

Area 1 (Figs 2, 3, 7; Plates 2, 7)

Enclosure 1204

5.4.1 This comprised five separate ditch segments (**1204**, **1241**, **1243**, **1246** & **1602**) forming an enclosure around roundhouse gully **1113**. These ditch segments measured up to 0.74m wide and 0.6m deep. Each gully segment contained single silt fill which combined yielded a total of 40 Middle Iron Age pottery sherds and a cattle jaw bone. This enclosure was partly re-instated and cut by Late Iron Age ditch **1080** (see below).

Roundhouse Gully 1113 (Figs 3 and 7, Plate 2)

5.4.2 This comprised three separate segments (**1113**, **1121** & **1136**) forming the ring gully for a roundhouse up to 12m in diameter. These gullies measured up to 0.6m wide and 0.37m deep. Each gully segment contained a single silt fill and yielded 53 Middle Iron Age pottery sherds and several sheep bone fragments.

Associated Features

5.4.3 A curved gully (**1238**), possibly representing a further roundhouse, also lay to the south of roundhouse gully **1113**. This feature was heavily truncated by Late Iron Age ditch **1170** and Roman pit **1173**.

5.4.4 Ditch **1212** was revealed in the southwestern corner of Area 1, its fill yielded a single Middle Iron Age pottery sherd.

5.4.5 Eight sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery were recovered from pit **1119**, which truncated the Middle Iron Age roundhouse gully **1113**.

Area 2 (Figs 2, 3, 7; Plate 3)

Enclosure 1335 (Fig 7)

5.4.6 This comprised a large rectangular ditched enclosure, encompassing an area of 50m x 35m, with a 4m wide entrance on the western side. Nine sections of this ditch cut (**1335**, **1336**, **1344**, **1387**, **1390**, **1394**, **1399**, **1407** & **1435**) were excavated across the ditch, which measured up to 4.1m wide and 1.8m deep. Each section contained silting deposits and yielded finds including 57 Middle Iron Age pottery sherds, daub fragments

and residual Neolithic flint flakes. Ditch cut **1387** also contained residual Early Iron Age pottery.

5.4.7 A ditch (**1411=1433**) extended from the northwestern corner of the enclosure, its path may be extrapolated across the site to be continuous with ditch **1506** in Areas 3 & 4 (Fig 2).

Four-Post Structures within Enclosure 1335

5.4.8 A set of four 3m x 3m square post structures (**1289**, **1302**, **1323** & **1354**) were present within the eastern part of enclosure **1335**. The fills of these structures contained a mixed assemblage of pottery from the Middle, Late and Roman periods.

Area 3 (Figs 2, 5; Plate 8)

Ditch 1506

5.4.9 This ditch (also encountered as ditch **1055** in Trench 13) ran from east to west on the southwest corner of Area 3. Three sections of this ditch (**1506**, **1509** & **1581**) were excavated and measured up to 1.36m wide and 1.34m deep. It turned to the southeast into Area 4 where it was recorded as ditch **1607** *etc*. A further continuation may be extrapolated across the site to Area 2 (ditch **1411**) where this boundary meets enclosure **1535**. The fills of ditch **1509** contained Early and Middle Iron Age pottery sherds and residual flint flakes.

Area 4 (Figs 2 and 6)

Ditches

5.4.10 A continuation of ditch **1506** in Area 3 (and possibly ditch **1411** in Area 2) was encountered that ran from northwest to southeast across the area, **1607=1613=1615** cut the layer of underlying colluvium (1603). The ditch contained a Late Iron Age pottery sherd and two residual flint flakes. A further ditch (**1609**) was encountered to the east, also on a northwest to southeast alignment, and is probably part of the same phase.

5.5 Period 2.2: Late Iron Age (100BC – AD43)

Area 1 (Figs 2, 3, 7; Plates 6, 7; Section 63)

Settlement Boundary Ditch 1222

5.5.1 During this period of activity the settlement remains were enclosed on the eastern side by a large boundary ditch **1222** (excavated as **1085** in Trench 23) measuring up to 5m wide and 1.6m deep. Each excavated section (including **1262**) contained both disuse backfills and silting deposits that yielded finds including numerous pottery sherds and fragments of baked clay kiln furniture. Fragments of animal bones from cattle, sheep, pig and dog were also recovered. In addition a copper alloy brooch fragment (SF 23) and a residual flint flake were also recovered.

5.5.2 This boundary was found to be a re-instatement of earlier settlement boundary ditch **1149**, the fill of which also contained pottery sherds, kiln furniture fragments and some dog bone fragments.

Pit Group 1

5.5.3 Forming a broad arc around enclosure **1204** is a group comprised of fourteen discrete pits (**1082** (excavated in Trench 23), **1108**, **1111**, **1148**, **1164**, **1190**, **1192**, **1234, 1250**, **1252**, **1261**, **1264**, **1269** & **1271**). They measured up to 1.92m in diameter by 0.72m

deep and each contained disuse backfills. The fill of pit **1108** containing fragments of baked clay kiln furniture with a notable concentration of baked clay kiln furniture fragments also recovered from pit **1082**. The fills of pits **1082**, **1108**, **1148**, **1164**, **1192**, **1264** & **1298** contained Late Iron Age pottery sherds. The fill of pit **1192** also contained a Middle Iron Age pot sherd and pig bone fragments.

Ditch 1080

5.5.4 This ditch (Plate 7; excavated in Trench 23) partly re-instated Middle Iron Age enclosure **1204** around Roundhouse gully **1113** and measured up to 0.92m wide and 0.6m deep. Each excavated section (**1080** (excavated in Trench 23), **1196**, **1206** & **1219**) contained single fills. A moderate quantity of pottery spanning the Middle and Late Iron Age periods were recovered from this feature. This included 74 Middle Iron Age pottery sherds recovered from all the excavated fills and cuts with a total of 52 Late Iron Age sherds recovered specifically from the fill of ditch cut **1196**. A Late Iron Age pottery sherd was also recovered from the fill of cut **1080**. Ditch cut **1219** also cut pit **1298**, which contained Late Iron Age pottery. The mixed assemblages of Middle and Late Iron Age pottery recovered from this ditch may be due to the truncation of fills within the earlier enclosure **1204** that this boundary reinstated. This may also indicate the ditch being backfilled at the end of its use, sometime in the later Iron Age, with a mixture of deposits from the surrounding settlement in a clearing event with perhaps specific deposits deliberately placed within this feature. Furthermore, ditch cut **1219** also yielded a sherd of earlier Iron Age pottery.

Ditch 1170

5.5.5 This ditch lay within the settlement area to the south of ditch **1080** and comprised ditch cuts **1170**,**1236** & **1285**. These contained Late Iron Age pottery sherds, along with cattle and sheep bones with one fragment partially worked to form a scoop or weaving tool. A concentration of daub and some kiln furniture fragments were recovered from the southern terminus. An iron nail (SF 8) was also found from the uppermost fill of **1170** that may possibly be intrusive. A residual flint flake was also recovered.

Boundary Ditches

5.5.6 Three boundary ditches (**1157=1166**, **1160** & **1162**) were revealed to the east of settlement boundary ditch **1222**/**1149**. The fills of these ditches yielded finds including pottery sherds, CBM and daub fragments. The fill of cut **1166** also produced Late Iron Age pottery, while the fill of ditch **1157** contained Late Iron Age pottery along with a residual sherd of Early Iron Age pottery and flint flake.

5.5.7 Ditch **1054** in Trench 19 to the north of Area 1 (Fig 2) is probably a continuation of the set of boundary ditches **1160** etc. This ditch measured 0.66m wide and 0.21m deep and contained a single silting event.

Area 2 (Figs 2, 4; Plate 3)

Enclosure 1366

5.5.8 This comprised part of the northern and western sides of a large rectangular ditched enclosure encompassing an area of at least 40m x 40m located to the immediate east of Middle Iron Age enclosure **1335**.

5.5.9 The earliest phase of this enclosure appeared to have been north-south ditch **1465**. Three sections of this ditch cut (**1465**, **1468** & **1499**) were excavated along its length, and measured up to 1.15m wide and 0.65m deep. Each section contained silting deposits with Middle Iron Age pottery recovered from fills of cuts **1465** & **1468** and a

Late Iron Age pottery sherd recovered from the fill of cut **1468**. The latter fill also containing a burnt clay object possibly associated with a kiln and a fragment of daub.

5.5.10 Seven sections of the later phase of the enclosure ditch cut (**1366**, **1368**, **1372**, **1389**, **1427**, **1428** & **1471**) were excavated, measuring up to 1.38m wide and 0.6m deep. Early, Middle and Late Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from this feature. The Late Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from the fills of cuts **1372**, **1427** & **1428**. The fills of cuts **1427** & **1428** contained Early Iron Age pottery and worked flint that is probably residual.

Area 3 (Figs 2, 5, 7; Plate 8)

Pits

5.5.11 A group of three large pits (**1541**, **1551=1546**, **1590=1600**) measuring up to 1.5m in diameter by 1.6m deep were heavily truncated by Enclosure **1522**. Each contained a series of disuse backfills that yielded finds including pottery sherds, fired clay and daub fragments. The fill of pit cut **1590** (Fig. 7) yielded pottery sherds, a single piece of clay kiln lining and a fragment of burnt clay kiln furniture. An iron nail fragment (SF 21) was also recovered but is considered to be intrusive. Pit **1541** also contained residual worked flint.

Enclosure 1522

5.5.12 This feature comprised the west, south and eastern sides of a large rectangular ditched enclosure, that extended north beyond the limit of excavation, and encompassed an area of at least 70m x 30m. Eight sections of this ditch cut (**1522**, **1526**, **1531**, **1554**, **1573**, **1576**, **1584** & **1597**) were excavated measuring up to 2.46m wide and 1.15m deep. Each section contained silting deposits and yielded finds including Late Iron Age pottery sherds, a fragment of kiln furniture, a semi-complete lower quern of Hertfordshire Pudding Stone and some residual flint flakes. A single large decortication flake with retouch, from ditch cut **1597**, could possibly represent flint use during this period. Residual pottery from the Early Iron Age was also recovered from ditch cuts **1522**, **1573** & **1576**.

Sub-enclosure 1512 and pit 1539

5.5.13 Three separate gully segments enclosed the southwestern corner of enclosure **1522** to form sub-enclosure **1512** (**1512=1514=1516**, **1518** & **1520**). The fill of cut **1512** contained a Late Iron Age pottery sherd, while Early Roman pottery sherds were recovered from cut **1516**. A residual Middle Iron Age pottery sherd was recovered from the fill of cut **1514**.

5.5.14 Enclosure **1522** also contained a single pit (**1539**) whose fills yielded Late Iron Age pottery sherds, daub and CBM fragments.

5.5.15 An isolated pit (**1063**) was excavated in Trench 12 to the south of Enclosure **1522** and contained a Late Iron Age pottery sherd and two residual Early Iron Age sherds. Other pits in the area included **1569** & **1560**, the latter containing Late Iron Age pottery fragments.

5.6 Period 3: Early Roman (AD43 – 150)

Area 1 (Figs 2 and 3)

Pit Group 2

5.6.1 This comprised a group of nine discrete pits (**1144**, **1173**, **1208**, **1230**, **1232**, **1276**, **1279**, **1281** & **1283**) located to the south of Late Iron Age ditch 1080; some of these truncated Late Iron Age features. The pits contained disuse backfills that yielded finds including CBM and daub fragments, and an unidentified iron fragment (SF 10). An amphora sherd and jar rim were recovered from pit **1281** and further Early Roman pottery was recovered from pits **1144** & **1173**. Pottery sherds of Late Iron Age date were recovered from pits **1232**, **1281** & **1283** with cattle bone fragments also recovered from pit **1144**.

Pit Group 3

5.6.2 A group of four larger inter-cutting pits (**1178**, **1185**, **1189** & **1199**), measuring up to 2.1m wide by 0.75m deep, were exposed in the southwestern corner of Area 1. Each contained a series of disuse backfills that yielded finds including Late Iron Age pottery sherds recovered from pit **1178** & **1185**, along with daub and animal bone fragments including cattle and pig. Iron nails and structural fragments (SF 3, 4, 6 & 22) were also recovered, in addition to a copper alloy brooch fragment (SF 5) and a sherd of residual Early Iron Age pottery from pit **1185**.

Fence lines 1a & 1b

5.6.3 A north to south and east to west alignment of post-holes forming probable fence lines were excavated that bisected the site of the Late Iron Age enclosure **1204** and Middle Iron Age roundhouse **1113**. This group comprised a total of thirteen posts (**1126**, **1128**, **1130**, **1132**, **1134**, **1215**, **1218**, **1253**, **1272**, **1274**, **1310**, **1313** & **1316**). These post-holes measured up to 0.57m in diameter and 0.2m deep. Each contained a single disuse fill and yielded Roman CBM fragments and iron nails (SF 7, 9, 12 & 13).

Area 2 (Figs 2, 4; Plate 3)

Pit Group 4

5.6.4 This group comprised a large zone of inter-cutting quarry pits that truncated the north west corner of Late Iron Age enclosure **1366** (**1287**, **1422**, **1424**, **1431**, **1437**, **1443**, **1446**, **1454**, **1457**, **1458**, **1460**, **1462**, **1479**, **1481**, **1483** & **1485**). Measuring up to 4.25m wide by 1.6m deep, each contained a series of disuse backfills that yielded finds including Roman pottery from pit **1422**, Roman CBM (including roof tile fragments), daub and animal bone fragments. Pit **1422** also yielded an iron knife blade (SF 17). Fragments of residual pottery from the Early Iron Age were also recovered from pit **1457**.

Area 3 (Figs 2, 5; Plate 8)

Cultivation Furrows 1090

5.6.5 A group of nine parallel furrows on a north/north west to south/south east alignment extending around the east and south sides of enclosure **1522** probably formed part of a horticultural field system. Twenty-three sections of the furrow cuts (**1090=1493=1495**,

1092=1489=1491, **1094=1497**, **1096=1106**, **1098**, **1100**, **1476=1478=1504**, **1533=1535=1537**, **1556=1558** & **1563=1565=1567**) were excavated and measured up to 0.7m wide and 0.34m deep. Each furrow contained a single backfill that yielded finds including CBM fragments. Residual Late Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from the fills of furrows **1065** & **1096**.

5.7 Period 4: Medieval/post-medieval (ADc.1066 – 1800)

5.7.1 Two boundary ditches (**1069** & **1072**) were excavated in Trench 20 and Trench 15 respectively during the evaluation phase and yielded medieval/post-medieval CBM and iron fragments that were not retained. Ditch **1069** was observed to cut the subsoil horizon.

Area 2 (Figs 2, 4; Plate 3)

Fence 2

5.7.2 A north-south post alignment of five post-holes (**1373**, **1375**, **1377**, **1379** & **1381**), measuring up to 0.45m in diameter by 0.18m deep, was observed to extend over the top of Middle Iron Age enclosure **1335**. Each post-hole contained a single disuse fill with a pottery sherd and nail (SF 15) recovered from the fill of **1377**, CBM fragments and a horseshoe nail (SF 16) recovered from the fill of **1381** and an unidentified iron object (SF 14) recovered from **1375**.

5.7.3 A tertiary layer (**1487=1464**) extended across Roman pit group 4 that yielded three medieval iron horseshoe fragments (SF 24, 25 & 26) and an associated iron “fiddle key” (SF 11).

6 Factual Data and Assessment of Archaeological Potential

6.1 Stratigraphic and Structural Data

The Excavation Record

6.1.1 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 phases of activity on the site span the Neolithic to post-medieval 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 Neolithic, Middle to Late Iron Age and Roman periods, particularly further stratigraphic analysis of the site and documentary research of the area.

6.1.2 The greatest potential for fulfilling the original aims and objectives of the excavation set out in Section 4 lies in the study of the archaeological features and finds assemblages associated with:

1) the Middle to Late Iron Age and Early Roman settlement remains in Area 1;

2) the Middle Iron Age enclosures and associated four-post-structures in Area 2; and

3) the Late Iron Age enclosure and surrounding Roman agricultural furrows in Area 3.

6.1.3 Additional aims and objectives will be set out in Section 7 associated with the Neolithic pits identified in Area 4.

Condition of the Primary Excavation Sources and Documents

6.1.4 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.

Type	Evaluation	Excavation
Context Register	2	19
Context numbers	40	524
Context records	40	519 (5 void records)
Trench Record sheets	14	
Watching Brief Recording Sheets		20
Plan Registers	1	5
Plans at 1:10		7
Plans at 1:20		105
Plans at 1:50	8	7
Plans at 1:100		2
Sections register sheets	1	6
Sections at 1:10	9	99
Sections at 1:20	6	48
Sections at 1:50		1
Sample Register sheets	1	15
Photo Register sheets	2	14
Black and White Films		6
Digital photographs	63	417
Small finds register sheets	1	1

Table 1: Quantity of written and drawn records

6.1.5 All primary records are retained at the offices of OA East, Bar Hill. The site code XHTHSB14 is allocated and all paper and digital records, finds and environmental remains are stored under this site code.

6.1.6 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.

Finds and Environmental Quantification

6.1.7 All finds have been washed, quantified and bagged. The catalogue of all finds has been entered onto an MS Access database. Total quantities for each material type are listed below.

Category	Weight (kg)
Pottery	15.20
CBM	1.26
Daub	0.78
Oven/Kiln superstructure	0.07
Kiln Bars	0.26
Kiln slabs	2.83

Category	Weight (kg)
Worked flint	1.49
Quern	4.94
Animal bone	13.1
Small finds (number)	23

Table 2: Finds quantification

6.1.8 Environmental bulk samples were collected from a representative cross section of feature types and deposits. Bulk samples were taken to analyse the preservation of micro- and macro-botanical remains as well as for finds retrieval.

Sample type	*Posthole*	*Pit*	*Ditch*	*Total*
Flotation	17	13	20	**70**

Table 3: Quantification of samples by feature type

Range and Variety

6.1.9 Features on the site included: Neolithic pits; Middle to Late Iron Age and Early Roman settlement remains; Iron Age agricultural animal enclosure ditches and field boundaries; Roman agricultural furrows and quarry pits cut into the underlying chalky marl; and square post-hole structures associated with one of the Middle Iron Age enclosures (and possibly interpreted as fodder stores).

Condition

6.1.10 The survival of the archaeological features was on the whole good, and particularly well preserved in Area 1 due to the presence of allotment gardens protecting underlying features from truncation by the plough.

6.2 Artefact Summaries

Metalwork

Summary

6.2.1 An assemblage of thirteen metal small finds was recovered, comprised almost exclusively of iron objects including a fragment of a knife blade, a possible handle fitting, iron nails, possible structural fragments and unidentified objects. These were mostly recovered from Roman features although some iron objects (SF 8 (ditch **1170**), SF 15 (post-hole **1377**) and SF 21 (pit **1590**)) were recovered from Iron Age features are probably intrusive. An Early Roman copper alloy brooch was also recovered from the subsoil in Trench 15.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.2.2 X-radiography of the iron objects, particularly the iron knife blade SF17 may help to clarify their identification. However, due to the majority of the assemblage being not closely datable, and the brooch (SF 1) being recovered from the subsoil, there is little potential for the small finds to aid in further dating or understanding of the site. Therefore no further work on this assemblage is recommended.

Lithics

Summary

6.2.3 A total of 132 worked flints and a single piece of unworked burnt flint were recovered by the excavations. Over 70% of the worked flint (97 pieces) was derived from the fill of Neolithic pit **1611**. The remainder of the assemblage derives from a relatively large number of individual contexts and, with the exception of three flakes from the fill of a further Neolithic pit (**1604**), appears to largely represent residual material reworked in later deposits.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.2.4 The lithic assemblage from the excavations as a whole is relatively small and its most significant aspect is the substantial and coherent assemblage of worked flint from pit **1611**, together with the much smaller but potentially contemporary assemblage from pit **1604**. The assemblage suggests specialised activity with an emphasis on the preliminary working of nodules and cores contrasting with the assemblages that appear to reflect more settlement/domestic type activity from the relatively well documented pit sites of East Anglia. The remainder of the assemblage appears to represent residual Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flintwork and it is notable that there is little convincing evidence for any flintworking associated with the Iron Age phases of the sites use.

6.2.5 The entire assemblage has been fully analysed. Any publication of the site should include a description and discussion of the lithic assemblage, especially the material from pit **1611**, and it would be useful to briefly compare the composition and landscape location of the site with other examples of assemblages from the wider region which attest to the acquisition and primary working of flint resources during the Neolithic.

Quern

Summary

6.2.6 A semi-complete lower quern of Hertfordshire Pudding Stone was recovered from fill 1530 of ditch **1531**, Enclosure **1522**, Area 3. The bun-shaped quern, formed the bottom half of a pair stones of East Anglian form, and dates to the end of the Iron Age to the Early Roman period. The stone was probably quarried at Radlett some 44km to the south-west of Buntingford, with mining and production ending here in around AD70. The quern is considered to have been deliberately broken suggesting the quern had been re-used for some unknown secondary function before being discarded into the Late Iron Age Enclosure **1522**.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.2.7 The quern has been fully assessed and no further work is required.

Pottery

Summary

6.2.1 A total of 1110 sherds (15,212g) were collected from excavated features and from unstratified surface collection. The assemblage comprises sherds of both earlier and later prehistoric date, the majority being Late Iron Age ('Belgic') pottery spanning the late 1st century BC to the end of the 1st century AD. The earliest pottery recovered is Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware dating to *c.*3400 to 2500BC. The moderate assemblage of 242 Middle Iron Age sherds comprises coarse scored jars with some fine, decorated bowl sherds. The largest component of the assemblage is formed of Late Iron Age hand and wheelmade jars and bowls in a range of sandy, grog and shell-

tempered fabrics. A number of fully Romanised fabrics were also present and include fine, wheelmade jars in sandy greyware and sandy oxidised fabrics. Although these Early Roman fabrics continued to be used into the full Roman period it is likely that this group were in use contemporaneously with the Late Iron Age forms. No Late Roman pottery was recovered and it is likely therefore that occupation at the site ended by the early 2nd century.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.2.2 The small assemblage of Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware is of interest, being relatively rare in the region. Several authors have speculated that isolated pits such as these containing the remains of elaborate vessels represent markers of special events or places (Thomas 1999, 72) and the Hare Street pit fits this profile when considered with the lithic assemblage also recovered. This assemblage will be compared with local parallels.

6.2.3 The Middle Iron Age assemblage conforms well with the forms found in the region. Milton Keynes, south Cambridgeshire and south Essex containing a limited range of utilitarian cooking and serving vessels.

6.2.4 The Late Iron Age assemblage is typical of domestic occupation with the coarse jar and bowl forms being supplemented with a selection of storage jars plus a limited range of serving vessels such as platters and butt beakers. The sources of the platter and butt beaker is uncertain and further work is required to establish if these are Gaulish imports or local copies. A single fragment of Gaulish amphorae indicates that some trade connections with France were available to the inhabitants but the paucity of such imports perhaps suggests that the settlement was low status or did not choose to participate in 'Romanisation'. The date of the assemblage focusses on the end of the 1st century BC to mid to late 1st century AD, suggesting that the settlement went out of use after this time.

6.2.5 Full analysis of the Middle and Late Iron pottery with comparison of local parallels to place it within its regional context, plus identification of the sources for the possible Gaulish imports is recommended. A maximum of 15 sherds require illustration.

Ceramic Building Material and Kiln Furniture

Summary

6.2.6 A small assemblage of ceramic building material, weighing 5.291kg, including the fragmentary remains of (at least) one Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery kiln, was found during this excavation. The kiln material consists of displaced superstructure fragments and kiln furniture primarily recovered from two unrelated pits and a ditch. The pottery taken from these features is of Late pre Roman Iron Age type (c.130 BC – AD 80), while the kiln technology suggests a date no earlier than the second quarter of the 1st century AD.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.2.7 This is a small, but stratified and well-recorded, assemblage of ceramic building material and kiln furniture primarily recovered from two unrelated pits and a ditch. Recorded examples of pre-Flavian pottery production (including dumped kiln waste) are very rare within north Hertfordshire and this assemblage adds considerably to the corpus of available data of pre Flavian pottery production in the region. This assemblage has been fully recorded and no further work is required.

6.3 Environmental Summaries

Faunal Remains

Summary

6.3.1 A total of 13.1kg of faunal material was recovered from contexts dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods. The Early, Middle and Late Iron Age assemblage is dominated by cattle with some sheep remains also present. Dog is the next most prevalent species in the Late Iron Age assemblage, with equal numbers of pig and horses. Faunal remains from Roman contexts including cattle, pig and horse are scarce.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.3.2 This is a small sample with the domestic assemblage from all phases representing initial processing of complete carcasses with further butchery taking place elsewhere. No evidence of on-site cattle breeding was observed, and it is likely that animals were kept elsewhere in the area. Cattle, sheep and pigs from all periods were largely kept for meat, with some evidence of sheep and pig breeding in the Middle Iron Age. Horses were ridden, and dogs used as guard animals. This assemblage has been fully recorded and no further work is required.

Environmental Remains

Summary

6.3.3 Seventy bulk samples were taken from features within the three excavated areas in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from ditches and pits dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods and include a series of cultivation strips thought to date to the Early Roman period, Middle and Late Iron Age enclosure ditches and Iron Age four-post structures.

Statement of Potential and recommendations for further work

6.3.4 In general the samples were poor in terms of identifiable material. The charred plant remains consist mainly of cereal grains that were all poorly preserved, either because of taphonomic factors or because they had been charred at a high temperature. The poor preservation did not allow detailed identifications and most of the grains have been identified simply as cereals. The presence of charred grain in the post-holes of four-post structures does not substantiate any interpretation of the structures as the grains were already charred when they accumulated in the post holes. The samples taken from the cultivation strips were typically sterile.

6.3.5 In summary, environmental sampling has shown that there is limited potential for the recovery of preserved plant remains. Preservation is by charring and is largely limited to cereal grains with a distinct lack of chaff or weed seeds. This potentially indicates that cereals were not being processed on site although cereals are far more likely to survive burning and burial. The poor preservation of the cereals precludes further interpretation particularly with regard to changes in the use of the site at the different periods of occupation. The samples have been fully assessed and no further work on the assemblages is required.

7 Updated Research Aims and Objectives

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The research aims and objectives identified for the project in section 4 are further repeated below with summary statements outlining the potential further analysis and discussion of the remains encountered on the site in achieving these objectives.

7.1.2 Additional research aims have also been identified with reference to the Regional Research Agendas (Bryant *et al*. 2000; 2008 and Medlycott 2011) as a result of the identification and excavation of a Neolithic pit group during the archaeological monitoring phase of the investigation.

7.2 Additional Research Objectives

7.2.1 The identification, dating and recording of further potential flint mines in the region. Linked to this is the study of the choice and sources of flint for particular tool types, most particularly axes and arrowheads, where there is evidence that particular types of flint were preferred.

7.2.2 *The substantial proportion of the archaeological record which is not readily identifiable from the aerial photographs — flint-working sites, agriculture, unenclosed settlement or pit groups — is under-represented in the NMP/HER dataset.*

7.2.3 Two Neolithic pits have been identified on site containing pottery and flintwork indicating flint acquisition from a source probably associated with the dry valley and palaeochannel running through the site. The flint displays only evidence for primary working suggesting a specialised activity possibly associated with flint acquisition from the locality. Further work would compare the composition of the assemblage and its landscape location with other examples from the region.

7.3 National Research Objectives

7.3.1 Understanding continuity in settlement and land use and in social and economic organisation between the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods: regional variations, complexity and ethnicity.

7.3.2 Settlement remains spanning these periods, and extending back to the Middle Iron Age period, have been identified with associated artefacts from the site. Pottery forms the major tool in exploring the Late Iron Age to Roman transition and level of Romanisation evident at this settlement.

7.4 Regional Research Objectives

7.4.1 *Chronologies & process of change and landscape & environment.*

7.4.2 A working chronology of the archaeological features and associated artefacts has been established which will be finalised during analysis. This will provide a basis for a detailed interpretation of the evolution of the site in its landscape setting which will be compared to other similar rural settlements of the region. Limited evidence for the development of the site from the Late Iron Age into the Roman period has been identified. The pottery suggests abandonment by the early 2nd century AD. Environmental evidence in the form of faunal and plant remains have proved to be of limited potential to address this research objective.

7.5 Local and Site Specific Research Objectives

7.5.1 The characterisation of the form and development history of the settlement.

7.5.2 Settlement remains include Middle Iron Age roundhouse gullies and associated features and finds. There is evidence for the evolution of the site into the Late Iron Age period when it was enclosed by a settlement boundary ditch. There is also evidence for the shifting locations of stock enclosures between these periods. The locations of Late Iron Age pitting activity is also identified within the settlement and although these only contained disuse/waste fills, they provide evidence for the material culture of the period including kiln furniture indicative of pottery production in the locality. Environmental samples of these features also yielded hammerscale providing evidence for metalworking in the vicinity. The pitting activities in the settlement area extended through to the Early Roman period. Plant processing evidence in the form of charred plant remains were scarce.

7.5.3 The characterisation of the form, date of establishment, subsequent development of the field systems, and their relationship to the settlement.

7.5.4 The layout of a boundary ditch and enclosure probably associated with the Middle Iron Age settlement remains has been established. The development of the enclosure system, possibly relating to a cattle based economy (whose remains dominated the faunal assemblage), into the Late Iron Age was evidenced by further enclosures mirroring the development of the associated settlement. The Early Roman cultivation furrows probably formed a horticultural field system which respected a Late Iron Age enclosure indicating its continued use from the Late Iron Age into the Early Roman period.

7.5.5 The determination of the relationship of the agricultural regime and any associated settlement with the local and regional economy.

7.5.6 The faunal remains assemblage is dominated by cattle, although there is no evidence from the assemblage for cattle breeding on the site. Analysis of the remains showed evidence indicates that only primary butchery was being carried out on this site. The limited charred cereal remains, with the lack of chaff or weed seeds, indicate that crop processing was not being carried out on this site. Therefore the agrarian regime of this site in its relationship with other sites can not be determined based on the limited assemblages recovered. Evidence for the importing of luxury goods is only evidenced by a single amphora sherd recovered from a Roman pit in the settlement area.

7.5.7 The creation of a model of land-use and organisation over time.

7.5.8 The settlement pattern of the site in the Iron Age and Roman periods has been established and will form a valuable contribution to ongoing local research and comparisons will be made to known sites in the wider area.

8 Methods Statements for Analysis

8.1 Stratigraphic Analysis

8.1.1 Contexts, finds and environmental data will be analysed using an MS Access database. The specialist information will be integrated to aid dating and complete more detailed phasing of the site. A full stratigraphic narrative will be produced and integrated with the results of the specialist analysis and will form the basis of the archive report (see below).

8.2 Illustration

8.2.1 The existing CAD plans and sections will be updated with any amended phasing and additional sections digitised if appropriate. Report/publication figures will be generated using Adobe Illustrator. Finds recommended for illustration will be drawn by hand and then digitised, or where appropriate photography of certain finds-types will be undertaken.

8.3 Documentary Research

8.3.1 Primary and published sources will be consulted where appropriate using the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record and other resources and will also include aerial photographs and reports on comparable sites locally and nationally in order to place the site within its landscape and archaeological context. This evidence will be collated and where relevant reproduced in the full grey literature report and any subsequent publication.

8.4 Artefactual Analysis

8.4.1 All the artefacts and environmental remains have been assessed/analysed with recommendations for any additional work given in the individual specialist reports (Appendices B1-5). Further work is recommended as follows:

Metalwork:

- No further work is required other than the stabilisation of copper alloy brooch fragments SF1, SF5 & SF23 (identified as being in a very fragile condition) prior to deposition in the archive.

Lithics:

- Incorporation into the archive report. Description and discussion of the lithic assemblage, especially the material from pit **1611**, at the publication stage including a comparison with the landscape location of the site with other examples of assemblages from the region attesting to the acquisition and primary working of flint resources during the Neolithic.

Quern:

- No further work.

Neolithic pottery:

- Full analysis and discussion in archive report.
- Incorporation in publication report.
- ***Illustration***: A maximum of 3 sherds require illustration.

Neolithic derived or later flint tempered prehistoric pottery:

- To be considered along with the total assemblage during analysis and a note prepared for the publication report.

Middle and Late Iron Age pottery:

- Full analysis and discussion in archive report.
- Incorporation in publication report.
- ***Illustration***: A maximum of 15 sherds require illustration.

Ceramic Building Material including kiln furniture:

- No further work other than incorporation into archive report and any proposed publication.
- ***Illustration***: A maximum of 1 piece requires a photographic plate produced.

8.5 Ecofactual Analysis

8.5.1 All environmental remains have been assessed/analysed with recommendations for any additional work given in the individual specialist reports (Appendices C 1-2). Further work is recommended as follows:

Faunal remains:

- No further work other than incorporation into archive report and any proposed publication

Environmental samples:

- No further work other than incorporation into archive report and any proposed publication

9 Report Writing, Archiving and Publication

9.1 Report Writing

9.1.1 Tasks associated with report writing are identified in Table 5. An archive report will be prepared that will include results of all analyses. It is proposed that a short publication article will be produced which summarises the results and focuses on the key aspects of the site (see below).

9.2 Storage and Curation

9.2.1 Excavated material and records will be deposited with, and curated by, Hertfordshire Museum under the Site Code XHT HSB14 and the county HER code EHT 7908 (evaluation) & EHT 7909 (excavation). A digital archive will be deposited with OA Library/ADS. HCC requires transfer of ownership prior to deposition (see Section 11). During analysis and report preparation, OA East will hold all material and reserves the right to send material for specialist analysis.

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

9.3 Publication

9.3.1 It is proposed that the results of the project should be published in Hertfordshire Archaeology and History journal under the working title 'A Middle to Late Iron Age Farmstead and Enclosures at Hare Street Road, Buntingford' by Graeme Clarke.

10 Resources and Programming

10.1 Project Team Structure

Name	Initials	Project Role	Establishment
Stephen Macaulay	SM	Project Manager	OAE
Liz Popescu	EP	Post-Excavation and Publication Manager	OAE
Rachel Clarke	RC	Editor	OAE
Graeme Clarke	GC	Project Officer & Author	OAE
Sarah Percival	SP	Prehistoric pottery, Quern & millstone Specialist	OAE
Alice Lyons	AL	Ceramic building material & Roman pottery specialist	OAE
Lawrence Billington	LB	Lithic specialist	self employed
Chris Faine	CF	Animal Bone & metalwork specialist	OAE
Rachel Fosberry	RF	Archaeobotanist	OAE
Severine Bezie	SB	Illustrator	OAE
Gillian Greer	GG	Finds illustration	OAE
Katherine Hamilton	KH	Archive supervisor	OAE

Table 4: Project team

10.2 Stages, Products and Tasks

Task No.	Task	Staff	No. Days
Project Management			
1	Project management	SM EP	3
2	Team meetings	SM EP GC	2
3	Liaison with relevant staff and specialists, distribution of relevant information and materials	GC SP AH	3
Stage 1: Stratigraphic analysis			
4	Integrate ceramic/artefact dating with site matrix	GC	1
5	Update database and digital plans/sections to reflect any changes	GC	1
6	Finalise site phasing	GC	1
7	Add final phasing to database	GC	1
8	Compile group and phase text	GC	1
9	Compile overall stratigraphic text and site narrative to form the basis of the full/archive report	GC	4
10	Review, collate and standardise results of all final specialist reports and integrate with stratigraphic text and project results	GC	1
Illustration			
11	Prepare draft phase plans, sections and other	SB	1

Task No.	Task	Staff	No. Days
	report figures		
12	Select photographs for inclusion in the report	GC	0.5
13	Illustrate prehistoric pottery: *c.*18 sherds	GG	4
14	Photograph burnt clay object	GG	0.5
Documentary research			
15	Research into relevant Iron Age sites	GC	1
16	Additional research into the Roman cultivation strips	GC	1
Artefact studies			
17	Pottery: archive catalogue, research, report *etc*	SP	3
18	Research into relevant Iron Age pot assemblages	SP	1
19	Iron Age pottery: short publication report	SP	1
20	CBM Kiln assemblage: short publication report	AL	1
Stage 2: Report Writing			
21	Integrate documentary research	GC	1
22	Write historical and archaeological background text	GC	1
23	Compile list of illustrations/liaise with illustrators	GC GG SB	0.5
24	Write discussion and conclusions	GC	1
25	Prepare report figures	SB	0.5
26	Collate/edit captions, bibliography, appendices etc	GC	1
27	Internal edit	RC/EP	1
28	Incorporate internal edits	GC	0.5
29	Final edit	RC SM	0.5
30	Send to HCC for approval	SM GC	0.5
31	Approval revisions	GC	0.5
Stage 3: Publication			
32	Produce draft publication	GC	5
33	Compile list of illustrations/liaise with illustrators	GC GG SB EP	1
34	Produce publication figures	GG SB	2
35	Internal edit	EP	2
36	Incorporate internal edits	GC	0.5
37	Final edit	EP SM	1
38	Send to publisher for refereeing	EP	0.5
39	Post-refereeing revisions	GC/EP	2
40	Copy edit queries	EP	1
41	Proof-reading	GC SM EP	1
Stage 3: Archiving			
42	Compile paper archive	GC	1
43	Archive/delete digital photographs	GC	1
44	Compile/check material archive	GC/KH	2

Table 5: Task list

* See Appendix D for product details and Appendix E for the project risk log.

10.3 Project Timetable

10.3.1 Compilation of a final archive report is normally completed within 1 year of the approval of the Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design. We propose however to complete the final archive report by June 2016. A publication proposal will be submitted to Hertfordshire Archaeology and History journal, from 2017 at the earliest, with the aim of publishing a short article on the Iron Age settlement.

11 OWNERSHIP

11.1.1 All artefactual material recovered will be held in storage by OA East and ownership of all such archaeological finds will be given over to the relevant authority to facilitate future study and ensure proper preservation of all artefacts. In the unlikely event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, and if they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated. It is Oxford Archaeology Ltd's policy, in line with accepted practice, to keep site archives (paper and artefactual) together wherever possible.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Summary with Provisional Phasing

Evaluation

Trench 11						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with one Iron Age pit and ditch.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1063	Cut	1.3	0.14	Cut of pit	-	Late Iron Age
1064	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit	Pottery	Late Iron Age
1065	Cut	0.6	0.1	Cut of ditch	-	Roman
1066	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	Pottery	Roman
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with one Iron Age ditch and four natural ice-cracks in the chalk geology running north to south across the trench.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**

1050	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1055	Cut	1.7	0.22	Cut of ditch	-	Middle Iron Age
1056	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Middle Iron Age
1057	Cut	0.8	0.15	Cut of ditch	-	Middle Iron Age
1058	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Middle Iron Age
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with one post-medieval ditch, one treebole and a palaeochannel running east to west across the trench.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1070	Cut	0.8	0.18	Cut of treebole	-	-
1071	Fill	-	-	Fill of treebole	-	-
1072	Cut	0.95	0.45	Cut of ditch	-	Post-medieval
1073	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	CBM	Post-medieval
1074	Cut			Cut of palaeochannel	-	-
1075	Fill	-	-	Fill of palaeochannel	-	-
1076	Fill	-	-	Fill of palaeochannel	-	-
1077	Fill	-	-	Fill of palaeochannel	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with a palaeochannel running east to west across the trench.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1061	Fill	-	-	Fill of palaeochannel	-	-
1062	Cut	>3.2m	>0.12m	Cut of palaeochannel	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with one natural treebole.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1059	Cut	0.6	0.2	Cut of treebole	-	-
1060	Fill	-	-	Fill of treebole	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with one ditch of possible Iron Age date.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1053	Cut	0.66	0.21	Cut of ditch	-	Iron Age?
1054	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Iron Age?
1052	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil overlying a post-medieval ditch cutting the subsoil overlying chalk natural.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1068	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	CBM	Post-medieval
1069	Cut	0.8	0.25	Cut of ditch	-	Post-medieval
1051	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with two ditches and one pit of the Roman period.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	40
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1080	Cut	0.8	0.6	Cut of ditch	-	Late Iron Age
1081	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	Pot, bone	Late Iron Age
1082	Cut	1.05	0.25	Cut of pit	-	Late Iron Age
1083	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit	Pot, kiln bar frag.	Late Iron Age
1084	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit	Pot, kiln bar frag.	Late Iron Age
1085	Cut	3	>0.8	Cut of ditch	-	Late Iron Age
1086	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Late Iron Age
1087	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	Pot, bone, kiln bar frag.	Late Iron Age
1088	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Late Iron Age
1089	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Late Iron Age
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Consists of soil and subsoil overlying chalk natural with one ditch of possible Iron Age date.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	22.5
Contexts						
context no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
1050	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1051	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1078	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch	-	Roman
1079	Cut	0.7	0.15	Cut of ditch	-	Roman
1052	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Table 6: Evaluation context inventory

Excavations

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
	1050			layer	Topsoil		
	1051			layer	Subsoil		
	1052			layer	natural		
3	1090	1090	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1091	1090	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1092	1092	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1093	1092	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1094	1094	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1095	1094	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1096	1096	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1097	1096	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1098	1098	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1099	1098	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1100	1100	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1101	1100	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1102	1102		cut	natural	treebole	
3	1103	1102		fill	natural	treebole	
3	1104	1104		cut	natural	treebole	
3	1105	1104		fill	natural	treebole	
3	1106	1106	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1107	1106	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
1	1108	1108	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1109	1108	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1110	1108	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1111	1111	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1112	1111	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1113	1113	1113	cut	ditch	roundhouse gully	2.1
1	1114	1113	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1115	1113	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1116	1113	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1117	1113	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1118	1113	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1119	1119		cut	pit	unknown	2.1
1	1120	1119		fill	pit	disuse	2.1
1	1121	1121	1113	cut	ditch	roundhouse gully	2.1
1	1122	1121	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1123	1121	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1124	1121	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1125	1121	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1126	1126	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1127	1126	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
1	1128	1128	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1129	1128	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1130	1130	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1131	1130	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1132	1132	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1133	1132	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1134	1134	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1135	1134	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1136	1136	1113	cut	ditch	roundhouse gully	2.1
1	1137	1136	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1138	1136	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1139	1136	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1140	1136	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1141	1136	1113	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1142	1144	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1143	1144	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1144	1144	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1145	1148	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1146	1148	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1147	1148	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1148	1148	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1149	1149		cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1150	1222	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1151	1149		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1152	1222	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1153	1222	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1154	1149		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1155	1222	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1156	1222	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1157	1157		cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1158	1157		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1159	1157		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1160	1160		cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1161	1160		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1162	1162		cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1163	1162		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1164	1164	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1165	1164	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1166	1166		cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1167	1166		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1168	1166		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1169	1166		fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1170	1170	1170	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1171	1170	1170	fill	ditch	silting	2.2

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
1	1172	1170	1170	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1173	1173	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1174	1173	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1175	1178	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1176	1178	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1177	1178	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1178	1178	Pit Grp. 3	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1179	1185	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1180	1185	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1181	1185	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1182	1185	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1183	1185	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1184	1185	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1185	1185	Pit Grp. 3	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1186	1189	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1187	1189	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1188	1189	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1189	1189	Pit Grp. 3	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1190	1190	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1191	1190	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1192	1192	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1193	1192	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1194	1192	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1195	1192	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1196	1196	1080	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1197	1602	1204	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1198	1196	1080	fill	ditch	disuse	2.1
1	1199	1199	Pit Grp. 3	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1200	1199	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1201	1199	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1202	1199	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1203	1199	Pit Grp. 3	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1204	1204	1204	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1205	1204	1204	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1206	1206	1080	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1207	1206	1080	fill	ditch	disuse	2.1
1	1208	1208	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1209	1208	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1210	1212		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1211	1212		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1212	1212		cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1213	1215	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1214	1215	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1215	1215	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
1	1216	1218	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1217	1218	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1218	1218	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1219	1219	1080	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1220	1219	1080	fill	ditch	disuse	2.1
1	1221	1219	1080	fill	ditch	disuse	2.1
1	1222	1222	1222	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1223	1227		fill	natural	treebole	
1	1224	1227		fill	natural	treebole	
1	1225	1227		fill	natural	treebole	
1	1226	1227		fill	natural	treebole	
1	1227	1227		cut	natural	treebole	
1	1228	1229		fill	natural	treebole	
1	1229	1229		cut	natural	treebole	
1	1230	1230	Pit Grp. 2	cut	natural	treebole	3
1	1231	1230	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1232	1232	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1233	1232	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1234	1234	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1235	1234	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1236	1236	1170	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1237	1236	1170	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1238	1238		cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1239	1238		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1240	1241	1204	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1241	1241	1204	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1242	1243	1204	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1243	1243	1204	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1244	1080		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1245	1080		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1246	1246	1204	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
1	1247	1246	1204	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1248	1250	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1249	1250	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1250	1250	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1251	1252	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1252	1252	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1253	1253	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1254	1253	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1260	1261	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1261	1261	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1262	1262	1222	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1263	1262	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1264	1264	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
1	1265	1264	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1266	1264	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1267	1269	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1268	1269	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1269	1269	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1270	1271	Pit Grp. 1	fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1271	1271	Pit Grp. 1	cut	pit	unknown	2.2
1	1272	1272	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1273	1272	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1274	1274	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1275	1274	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1276	1276	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1277	1276	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1278	1276	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1279	1279	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1280	1279	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1281	1281	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1282	1281	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1283	1283	Pit Grp. 2	cut	pit	unknown	3
1	1284	1283	Pit Grp. 2	fill	pit	disuse	3
1	1285	1285	1170	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1286	1285	1170	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1287	1287	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1288	1287	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1289	1289	1289	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1290	1289	1289	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1291	1291	1289	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1292	1291	1289	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1293	1293	1289	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1294	1293	1289	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1295	1295	1289	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1296	1295	1289	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
1	1297	1285	1170	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1298	1298		cut	pit	unknown	2.1
1	1299	1298		fill	pit	disuse	2.1
1	1300	1298		fill	pit	disuse	2.1
1	1301	1298		fill	pit	disuse	2.1
2	1302	1302	1302	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1303	1302	1302	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1304	1304	1302	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1305	1304	1302	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1306	1306	1302	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1307	1306	1302	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1308	1308	1302	cut	post hole	structure	2.1

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
2	1309	1308	1302	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
1	1310	1310	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1311	1310	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1312	1310	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1313	1313	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1314	1313	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1315	1313	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1316	1316	Fence 1	cut	post hole	structure	3
1	1317	1316	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1318	1316	Fence 1	fill	post hole	disuse	3
1	1319	1319	1222	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
1	1320			surface finds unit Area 1			
2	1321	1302	1302	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1322	1308	1302	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1323	1323	1323	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1324	1324	1323	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1325	1325	1323	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1326	1326	1323	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1327	1291	1289	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1328	1293	1289	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1329	1295	1289	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1330	1289	1289	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1331	1335	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1332	1335	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1333	1335	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1334	1335	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1335	1335	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1336	1336	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1337	1336	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1338	1336	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1339	1336	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
1	1340	1319	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1341	1319	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1342	1319	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
1	1343	1319	1222	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1344	1344	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1345	1344	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1346	1344	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1347	1344	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1348	1323	1323	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1349	1323	1323	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1350	1324	1323	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1351	1325	1323	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
2	1352	1326	1323	fill	post hole	post packing	2.1
2	1353	1326	1323	fill	post hole	post pipe	2.1
2	1354	1354	1354	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1355	1354	1354	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1356	1356	1354	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1357	1356	1354	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1358	1358	1354	cut	post hole	structure	2.1
2	1359	1358	1354	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1362	1366	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1363	1366	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1364	1366	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1365	1366	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1366	1366	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1367	1368	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1368	1368	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1369	1354	1354	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1370	1356	1354	fill	post hole	disuse	2.1
2	1371	1372	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1372	1372	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1373	1373	Fence 2	cut	post hole	structure	4
2	1374	1373	Fence 2	fill	post hole	disuse	4
2	1375	1375	Fence 2	cut	post hole	structure	4
2	1376	1375	Fence 2	fill	post hole	disuse	4
2	1377	1377	Fence 2	cut	post hole	structure	4
2	1378	1377	Fence 2	fill	post hole	disuse	4
2	1379	1379	Fence 2	cut	post hole	structure	4
2	1380	1379	Fence 2	fill	post hole	disuse	4
2	1381	1381	Fence 2	cut	post hole	structure	4
2	1382	1381	Fence 2	fill	post hole	disuse	4
2	1383	1387	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1384	1387	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1385	1387	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1386	1387	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1387	1387	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1388	1389	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1389	1389	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1390	1390	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1391	1390	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1392	1390	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1393	1390	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1394	1394	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1395	1394	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1396	1394	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1397	1394	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
2	1398	1394	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1399	1399	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1400	1400		cut	natural	treebole	
2	1401	1400		fill	natural	treebole	
2	1402	1402		cut	natural	treebole	
2	1403	1402		fill	natural	treebole	
2	1404	1399	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1406	1399	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1407	1407	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1408	1407	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1409	1407	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1410	1407	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1411	1411		cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1412	1411		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1413	1413		cut	natural	treebole	
2	1414	1413		fill	natural	treebole	
2	1416	1422	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1417	1422	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1418	1422	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1419	1422	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1420	1422	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1421	1422	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1422	1422	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1423	1424	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1424	1424	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1425	1427	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1426	1427	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1427	1427	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1428	1428	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1429	1428	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1430	1428	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1431	1431	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1432	1431	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1433	1433		cut	ditch	boundary	
2	1434	1433		fill	ditch	silting	
2	1435	1435	1335	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
2	1436	1435	1335	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
2	1437	1437	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1438	1437	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1439	1437	Pit Grp. 4	fill	ditch	silting	3
2	1440	1437	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1441	1437	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1442	1437	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1443	1443	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
2	1444	1443	Pit Grp. 4	fill	ditch	silting	3
2	1445	1443	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1446	1446	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1447	1446	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1448	1428	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1449	1454	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1450	1454	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1451	1454	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1452	1454	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1453	1454	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1454	1454	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1455	1457	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1456	1457	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1457	1457	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1458	1458	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1459	1458	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1460	1460	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1461	1460	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1462	1462	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1463	1462	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1464			layer	natural	tertiary layer	4
2	1465	1465	1465	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1466	1465	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1467	1465	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1468	1468	1465	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1469	1468	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1470	1468	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1471	1471	1366	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1472	1471	1366	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1473	1468	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1474	1468	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1475	1476	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1476	1476	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1477	1478	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1478	1478	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
2	1479	1479	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1480	1479	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1481	1481	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1482	1481	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1483	1483	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1484	1483	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1485	1485	Pit Grp. 4	cut	pit	quarry	3
2	1486	1458	Pit Grp. 4	fill	pit	disuse	3
2	1487			layer	natural	tertiary layer	4

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
3	1488	1476	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1489	1489	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1490	1489	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1491	1491	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1492	1491	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1493	1493	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1494	1493	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1495	1495	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1496	1495	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1497	1497	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1498	1497	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
2	1499	1499	1465	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
2	1500	1499	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
2	1501	1499	1465	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1502	1504	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1503	1504	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1504	1504	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1506	1506	1506	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
3	1507	1506	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
3	1508	1506	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
3	1509	1509	1506	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
3	1510	1509	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
3	1511	1509	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
3	1512	1512	1512	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1513	1512	1512	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1514	1514	1512	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1515	1514	1512	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1516	1516	1512	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1517	1516	1512	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1518	1518	1512	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1519	1518	1512	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1520	1520	1512	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1521	1520	1512	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1522	1522	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1523	1522	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1524	1522	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1525	1522	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1526	1526	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1527	1526	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1528	1526	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1529	1531	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1530	1531	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1531	1531	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1532	1526	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
3	1533	1533	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1534	1533	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1535	1535	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1536	1535	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1537	1537	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1538	1537	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1539	1539		cut	pit	unknown	2.2
3	1540	1539		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1541	1541		cut	pit	unknown	2.2
3	1542	1541		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1543	1541		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1544	1541		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1545	1541		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1546	1546	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1547	1546	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1548	1546	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1549	1546	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1550	1546	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1551	1551		cut	natural	treebole	
3	1552	1551		fill	natural	treebole	
3	1553	1551		fill	natural	treebole	
3	1554	1554		cut	natural	treebole	
3	1555	1554		fill	natural	treebole	
3	1556	1556	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1557	1556	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1558	1558	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1559	1558	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1560	1560		cut	pit	unknown	2.2
3	1561	1560		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1562	1560		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1563	1563	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1564	1563	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1565	1565	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1566	1565	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1567	1567	1090	cut	ditch	furrow	3
3	1568	1567	1090	fill	ditch	backfill	3
3	1569	1569		cut	pit	unknown	2.2
3	1570	1569		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1571	1571		cut	natural	treebole	
3	1572	1571		fill	natural	treebole	
3	1573	1573	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1574	1573	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1575	1573	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1576	1576	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2

Area	Context	Cut	Group	Category	Feature Type	Function	Period
3	1577	1576	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1578	1576	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1579	1576	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1580	1576	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1581	1581	1506	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
3	1582	1581	1506	fill	ditch	boundary	2.1
3	1583	1581	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
3	1584	1584	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1585	1584	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1586	1584	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1587	1584	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1588	1584	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1589	1584	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1590	1590		cut	pit	unknown	2.2
3	1591	1590		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1592	1590		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1593	1590		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1594	1590		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1595	1590		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1596	1590		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
3	1597	1597	1522	cut	ditch	boundary	2.2
3	1598	1597	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1599	1597	1522	fill	ditch	silting	2.2
3	1600	1600		cut	pit	unknown	2.2
3	1601	1600		fill	pit	disuse	2.2
1	1602	1602	1204	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
4	1603			layer	natural	colluvium	1
4	1604	1604		cut	pit	unknown	1
4	1605	1604		fill	pit	disuse	1
4	1606	1604		fill	pit	disuse	1
4	1607	1607	1506	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
4	1608	1607	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
4	1609	1609		cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
4	1610	1609		fill	ditch	silting	2.1
4	1611	1611		cut	pit	unknown	1
4	1612	1611		fill	pit	disuse	1
4	1613	1613	1506	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
4	1614	1613	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1
4	1615	1615	1506	cut	ditch	boundary	2.1
4	1616	1615	1506	fill	ditch	silting	2.1

Table 7: Excavation context inventory

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Metalwork

By Chris Faine

B.1.1 An assemblage of 22 metal small finds was recovered (see Table 8 below), comprised almost exclusively of iron objects including iron nails, structural fragments and objects from Roman features. An Early Roman copper alloy brooch was also recovered from the subsoil of Trench 15 and two fragments of brooches were also recovered from pit **1185** and ditch **1222**.

Small Find No.	Context No.	Group/ Feature No.	Description	Date
1	1051	Subsoil	Copper alloy object. Diameter: 29.8mm. Repousee sheet with central hole 9.1mm in diameter. Possibly a stud or a front plate from a later "Rosette" type brooch. Similar types have been recovered from Baldock (Stead & Rigby, 1986) and King Harry Lane (Stead & Rigby, 1989).	Roman (AD30-65)
2	1114	1113	Large Iron square section masonry nail with square head. Length: 108mm. Head width: 47.9mm.	Post-medieval/Modern
3	1175	Pit Grp.3	Unidentified cylindrical iron rod object. Length: 40mm. Diameter: 8mm.	Uncertain
4	1183	Pit Grp.3	x2 wrought iron nails. Length: 31mm/30mm. Both have tapering rectangular shanks with one square head remaining.	Roman
5	1183	Pit Grp.3	Copper alloy brooch fragment. Length: 19mm Width: 13mm. Upper part of bow (body) of brooch. Poor condition and either Dolphin (sprung or hinged) or Polden Hill type.	Roman (AD43-175)
6	1187	Pit Grp.3	Wrought iron nail. Length: 31.5mm. Tapered rectangular shank, no head remaining.	Uncertain
7	1216	Fence 1	Wrought iron nail. Length: 56.4mm. Tapered rectangular shank, no head remaining.	Uncertain
8	1172	1170	Triangular Iron fragment. Length: 45.9mm Width: 34.1mm. Concave in profile with the remain of single hole in one side. Most likely a socket for attaching a tool to a handle.	Roman
10	1282	Pit Grp. 2	Unidentified iron fragment. Length: 32mm Width: 15mm. Possibly a structural fragment.	Uncertain
11	1487	1487	"fiddle key" nail found with horseshoe fragments SF 24, 25 & 26.	Medieval (AD1200-1400)
12	1311	Fence 1	Wrought iron nail. Length: 56.4mm. Tapered rectangular shank, no head remaining.	Uncertain
13	1311	Fence 1	Iron object. Length: 75mm Width: 15mm. Thickness: 12mm. Tapered rectangular shank with rectangular head. Possibly a masonry nail.	Uncertain
14	1376	Fence 2	Unidentified iron object. Diameter: 36.5mm Width: 23.3mm. Rectangular bar 9mm thick tapered at both ends twisted to form a rough circle.	Uncertain
15	1378	Fence 2	Wrought iron nail. Length: 30mm. Tapered rectangular shank, with heavily corroded head.	Uncertain
16	1382	Fence 2	Wrought iron horseshoe nail. Length: 36.9mm. Tapered rectangular shank, with rectangular head.	Later Medieval

Small Find No.	Context No.	Group/ Feature No.	Description	Date
				(AD1350-1450)
17	1417	Pit Grp. 4	Iron knife blade. Length: 107mm Width: 19.9mm. Straight backed with no tang or shoulder remaining to identify the type or closely date.	Roman/Post-Roman
21	1594	1590	Wrought iron nail. Length: 34.6mm. Tapered rectangular shank, no head remaining.	Uncertain
22	1202	Pit Grp. 3	Unidentified rectangular iron object. Length: 111mm Width: 29.8mm. Thickness: 2.4mm. Possibly a structural fragment.	Uncertain
23	1155	1222	Possible Copper alloy brooch fragment (catch plate/pin rest fragment?). Length: 17mm Width: 6mm.	Uncertain
24	1487	1487	Iron horseshoe fragments: Length: 103mm Width: 30.5mm. Heavily concreted and displays a thickened heel indicative of a Clark "transitional" type 3. Found with "fiddle key" nail SF 11.	Medieval (AD1200-1400)
25	1487	1487	Iron horseshoe fragments: Length: 80mm Width: 24mm. Heavily concreted and displays a thickened heel indicative of a Clark "transitional" type 3. Found with "fiddle key" nail SF 11.	Medieval (AD1200-1400)
26	1487	1487	Iron horseshoe fragments: Length: 95mm Width: 25.5mm. Heavily concreted and displays a thickened heel indicative of a Clark "transitional" type 3. Found with "fiddle key" nail SF 11.	Medieval (AD1200-1400)

Table 8: Metalwork

Artefact function

B.1.1 Each object has been assigned to one of the functional categories defined in Crummy 1983, and these are summarised in Table 9 below.

B.1.2 Dress accessories include the brooch (SF1) and brooch fragments (SF5 & SF23). The fasteners and fittings category comprise nails (SF4, SF6, SF7, SF12, SF15 & SF21), possible masonry nails (SF2 & SF13) and possible structural fragments (SF10, SF13 & SF22). The items in the 'transport' category are the horseshoe fragments (SF24, SF25 & SF26), the horseshoe nail (SF16) and the "fiddle key" (SF11). The tools comprise the iron knife blade (SF17) and the possible handle socket (SF8). Items of unidentified function include the rectangular and cylindrical objects SF3, SF14 & SF22.

Category	Function	Number
1	dress and dress accessories	3
2	toilet items	
3	textile manufacture and working	
4	household utensils and furniture	
5	recreation	
6	weighing and measuring	
7	literacy and written communications	
8	transport	5
9	buildings and services	
10	tools	2
11	fasteners and fittings	9
12	agriculture and animal husbandry	
13	military	
14	religious	
15-17	tools and waste from working metal, skeletal materials and pottery	
18	unknown function	3
Total of artefacts in functional categories		**22**
Total number of artefacts		**22**

Table 9: Small finds by function

Condition

B.1.3 The condition of the iron metalwork is good with no items identified as in need of conservation. The condition of the copper alloy brooches SF1, SF5 & SF23 are very fragile and although packaged with the other brooch fragments to a high standard requires stabilisation prior to deposition in the archive.

Statement of potential and recommendations for further work

B.1.1 The majority of the assemblage is not closely datable, and the brooch (SF1) was recovered from the subsoil, there is little potential for the small finds to aid in further dating or understanding of the site. Therefore no further work on this assemblage is recommended.

B.2 Lithics

By Lawrence Billington

Introduction and Quantification

B.2.1 A total of 132 worked flints and a single piece of unworked burnt flint were recovered by the excavations. The worked flint assemblage is quantified by type and context in table 10. Over 70% of the worked flint (97 pieces) was derived from a single context, 1612, the fill of a Neolithic pit (**1611**). The remainder of the assemblage derives from a relatively large number of individual contexts and, with the exception of three flakes from context 1606, the fill of a further Neolithic pit (**1604**), appears to largely represent residual material reworked in later deposits.

B.2.2 There is a complete absence of formally retouched, diagnostic, tool forms and dating is based entirely on the technological attributes of the assemblage. This report first discusses the substantial assemblage from pit **1611** in some detail, followed by a discussion of the flintwork derived from other contexts.

Feature type	Feature Group/ Cut	Context	Chip	Irregular waste	Flake	Narrow flake	Blade	Blade like flake	Core tablet	Irregular core	Keeled core	Core fragment	Retouched flake	Total worked flint
Pit	1522	1545			1									1
Pit	1604	1606			2	1								3
Pit	1611	1612	2	3	74	7	2	2	1	2	2	2		97
Palaeoch annel	1074	1077			5									5
Layer	1603	1603			4									4
Ditch	1222	1155				1								1
Ditch	1157	1158			1		1							2
Ditch	1170	1286				1								1
Ditch	1335	1397			1									1
Ditch	1335	1398			2									2
Ditch	1366	1472			1			1						2
Ditch	1506	1507	1											1
Ditch	1506	1510			1									1
Ditch	1522	1525			1			1						2
Ditch	1522	1579			1									1
Ditch	1522	1599						1					1	2
Ditch	1506	1608			1									1
Ditch	1506	1616			1									1
		Totals	3	7	96	10	3	5	1	2	2	2	1	132

*Table 10: The assemblage from pit **1611***

Raw materials

B.2.1 The raw material is made up entirely of good quality flint. The dominant flint type is dark, semi-translucent and fine grained, although there are smaller proportions of mottled opaque grey flint with a somewhat coarser texture. Surviving cortical surfaces are characterised by fresh, unstained and often relatively thick cortex together with corticated thermally fractured surfaces. In some cases the cortex retains delicate fossil impressions. This material is characteristic of flint derived from deposits closely associated with a primary source in the chalk but which has been subject to some thermally induced fracture and is typical of material collected from surface exposures of chalk flint or from sediments derived from the mass wastage of chalk such as solifluction or colluvial deposits. The British Geological Survey 1:50,000 map of the site's location appears to show it occupying a minor (currently) dry valley which is cut into chalk of the Lewes Nodular Chalk formation and partly filled with head (BGS sheet 221). It is very likely that the flint represented in the assemblage from pit **1611** was derived from the immediate environs of the site, either from exposures on the slopes of the dry valley or from the head deposits lining the valley floor. A single secondary flake from the assemblage has a thin, abraded cortex that appears to derive from a rounded cobble of flint derived from a rather different source of material, probably fluvial gravels, the nearest source of which would probably be the glacial outwash gravels on the floodplain of the river a short distance to the west.

Condition

B.2.1 In general the assemblage is in good, very fresh condition. Very little of the flint is corticated ('patinated'), and where present cortication takes the form of an incipient blue clouding/mottling. Two slightly more heavily corticated pieces are, however, present in the assemblage: a bladelet fragment and a core tablet/platform rejuvenation flake. Both of these pieces are likely to represent earlier, residual, material, of earlier Neolithic or, more likely, Mesolithic date. The assemblage exhibits very little post depositional damage, with edge damage largely restricted to occasional small spalls consistent with some limited edge on edge contact or slight trampling/disturbance. Three pieces/flakes from this context are burnt, with heat crazed and spalled exterior surfaces.

Composition and technology

B.2.1 Aside from the two probably residual pieces noted above, the assemblage is very homogenous in terms of raw materials, technological traits and composition. The assemblage is dominated by waste pieces, including decortication flakes, irregular waste and discarded cores. Whilst there are no retouched pieces in the assemblage, six flakes show patterns of edge damage consistent with their utilisation as cutting or scraping tools. A large proportion of the flints, 66% of all pieces, retain some cortex and it seems that non cortical pieces are underrepresented, suggesting that the assemblage derives largely from the earlier stages of core reduction and/or that non-cortical pieces have been removed for use or further modification elsewhere. No concerted or systematic attempt at refitting was made during analysis although one dorsal-ventral refit was made between two flakes and it was noted that several pieces appeared to be derived from the same nodules of raw material.

B.2.2 The assemblage is dominated by flake based removals. The flakes are of varied morphology but include some fine relatively regular blade like/elongated removals alongside broader and more irregular forms. Reduction appears to have been undertaken exclusively by direct hard hammer percussion. Whilst many of the flakes could have been removed from simple flake cores, several pieces show traits

suggestive of the reduction of discoidal or levallois-like cores. These include at least four pieces with fine multi-directional dorsal scars which appear to have been struck from centripetally worked cores and two removals with finely faceted striking platforms which probably derive from levallois–like cores. The cores present in the assemblage are mostly fragmentary or irregular pieces which appear to represent failed and discarded pieces, two of which show some evidence for the use of 'keeled' platforms where removals are made from either side of a ridge or crest.

Dating

B.2.1 The absence of retouched forms and incomplete nature of the reduction sequences in the assemblage renders any attempt at dating somewhat speculative. The technological signature of the assemblage, which includes relatively systematically produced, regular and blade like flakes strongly suggests a Neolithic date whilst the use of levallois-like, discoidal and keeled core forms is particularly characteristic of Later Neolithic flintworking (Ballin 2011). In Eastern England such technologies are best known from assemblages associated with Grooved Ware pottery (*e.g.* Healy 1985; Pollard 1998; Bishop 2008; Beadmoore 2009), but may have its origins somewhat earlier, during the currency of Peterborough Ware, based on evidence from Peterborough Ware associated assemblages known elsewhere in the country (e.g. Dickson and Edmonds 2009, Anderson-Whymark 2013).

The flint assemblage from other contexts

B.2.1 A total of 35 worked flints were recovered from other contexts. These include three flakes from Neolithic pit 1604 which, whilst not particularly distinctive, are in fresh condition and are broadly comparable to the material from pit 1611. The remainder of the assemblage is largely derived from the fills of later prehistoric features (see table 1). The condition of this material is varied and includes pieces with moderate to severe edge damage, suggestive of substantial post-depositional disturbance. Cortication is also common with 43% of flints displaying some degree of cortication, varying from a light blue through to a heavy white. There is no evidence from the technological traits of the flintwork that this cortication is chronologically significant and it seems to likely to relate instead to differences in the post-depositional histories of individual pieces and contexts. The raw materials appear to be comparable to those found in the assemblage from pit **1611** and probably also represent the use of locally available material. Technologically the assemblage is made up almost entirely of hard hammer struck flake based material. There is no definite evidence for any dedicated blade/bladelet based technologies of earlier Neolithic or Mesolithic date and in general the assemblage would appear to relate to later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flintworking, some or all of which could be broadly contemporary with the activity represented by the assemblage from pit **1611**. Whilst flint was recovered from several Iron Age contexts this appears to represent residual material there is no clear evidence for flint working or use during this period, which is usually characterised by an extremely expedient/crude flake based technology (see Humphrey 2004; 2007). A single large decortication flake with a length of expedient retouch on its ventral face from context 1599, ditch **1597**, could possibly be an exception and represent flint use during this period.

Discussion and Recommendations

B.2.1 The lithic assemblage from the excavations as a whole is relatively small and it's most significant aspect is the substantial and coherent assemblage of worked flint from pit **1611**, together with the much smaller but potentially contemporary assemblage from pit **1604**. The remainder of the assemblage appears to represent residual Neolithic/Early

Bronze Age flintwork and it is notable that there is little convincing evidence for any flintworking associated with the Iron Age phases of the sites use.

B.2.2 The assemblage from pit **1611** appears to represent the deposition of material deriving from a single episode of flint working, using raw materials sourced from (or in the immediate vicinity of) the site. On the basis of the technological traits of the assemblage it is suggested this took place in the later Neolithic. The assemblage is heavily biased towards waste products and pieces deriving from the earlier stages of core reduction and it seems likely that finer pieces, including blanks for tools and partly worked cores, were removed for use and further working elsewhere beyond the site. This suggests that the activity represented by the assemblage is somewhat specialised, with an emphasis on the preliminary working of nodules and cores. As such, the assemblage, and others like it, contrast with Neolithic assemblages that appear to reflect more settlement/domestic type activity, particularly those from the relatively well documented pit sites of East Anglia (see Garrow 2006, chapter 6).

Statement of potential

B.2.3 The location of the site is significant here, with the dry valley representing one of the few locations in the local landscape where the chalk is exposed rather than being mantled by the deposits of glacial till which characterise the interfluves and higher ground of the area. It seems probable that such areas were known and important locations for the acquisition of lithic resources during certain periods of prehistory; a theme that has been developed in detail by Barry Bishop in the context of the lithic record from East Anglia (Bishop 2012). Despite the emphasis on flint working seen in the assemblage, the presence of a few utilised pieces and burnt worked flints suggests that, whilst the occupation/visitation of the site may have been very short lived, some other activities, potentially more 'domestic' in nature, were also undertaken.

Recommendations for further work

B.2.4 The entire assemblage has been fully analysed, including the recording of selected technological and metric attributes. The only further analytical work which might be of some benefit is a more considered attempt at refitting the assemblage from pit **1611**, although subjectively it is felt that the incompleteness of the reduction sequence will probably limit the success of any refitting exercise. Any publication of the site should include a description and discussion of the lithic assemblage, especially the material from pit **1611**, and it would be useful to briefly compare the composition and landscape location of the site with other examples of assemblages from the wider region which attest to the acquisition and primary working of flint resources during the Neolithic.

B.3 Quern

By Sarah Percival

Description

B.3.1 A semi-complete lower quern of Hertfordshire Pudding Stone was recovered from fill 1530 of ditch **1531**, Enclosure **1522**, Area 3. The fragment weighs 4.94kg and has a diameter of 300mm and is 80mm thick at the centre. The remains of a drilled spindle socket is present at the centre of the stone. The grinding surface is smoothed from wear.

Discussion

B.3.1 The bun-shaped quern, formed the bottom half of a pair stones of East Anglian form, and dates to the end of the Iron Age to the Early Roman period (King 1986). The stone

was probably quarried at Radlett some 44km to the south-west of Buntingford, with mining and production ending here in around AD70, though the querns remained in circulation for sometime after this (Williams 1999, 82).

B.3.2 The quern is considered to have been deliberately broken vertically on its central plane resulting in its semi-complete form. This suggests the quern had been re-used after its primary use as a lower quern for some unknown secondary function. The quern was recovered from the primary silting event of Late Iron Age Enclosure ditch **1522** where it was presumably discarded.

Recommendations for further work

B.3.1 The quern has been fully assessed and no further work is required.

B.4 Pottery

By Sarah Percival

Summary

B.4.1 A total of 1110 sherds (15,212g) were collected from excavated features and from unstratified surface collection. The assemblage comprises sherds of both earlier and later prehistoric date, the majority being Late Iron Age ('Belgic') pottery spanning the late 1st century BC to the end of the 1st century AD (Table 12).

B.4.2 The earliest pottery recovered is Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware dating to *c.*3400 to 2500BC. This distinctive style is characterised by thick 'T' shaped rims with profuse impressed decoration in coarse flint-tempered fabric.

B.4.3 Undecorated flint-tempered sherds are also present, mostly as single residual sherds in later ditches and other features. These featureless, largely undiagnostic sherds have been tentatively dated to the earlier Iron Age (800-350BC) but could easily be Neolithic or Later Bronze Age.

B.4.4 The moderate assemblage of 242 Middle Iron Age sherds comprises coarse scored jars with some fine, decorated bowl sherds. These are mostly made of dense, reduced sandy fabrics, lacking the range of grog and shell-tempered forms which characterise the Late Iron Age assemblage.

B.4.5 The largest component of the assemblage is formed of Late Iron Age hand and wheelmade jars and bowls in a range of sandy, grog and shell-tempered fabrics. A number of fully Romanised fabrics are also present, listed in Table 11 as Early Roman and include fine, wheelmade jars in sandy greyware and sandy oxidised fabrics. Although these Early Roman fabrics continued to be used into the full Roman period it is likely that this group were in use contemporaneously with the Late Iron Age forms. No Late Roman pottery was recovered and it is likely therefore that occupation at the site ended by the early 2nd century.

B.4.6 A single sherd of late medieval/ transitional coarse ware was found in post-hole **1377**.

Spot Date	Date Range	Quantity	Weight
Early prehistoric	Peterborough Ware Middle Neolithic (3400-2500 BC)	45	169

Spot Date	Date Range	Quantity	Weight
Early Iron Age	800-350BC	24	125
Middle Iron Age	350-100/50BC	242	2965
Late Iron Age	100/50BC-AD50/100	770	11485
Early Roman	AD43-150	28	464
Post Medieval	Late medieval transitional coarse ware	1	4
Total		**1110**	**15212**

Table 11: Quantity and weight of prehistoric pottery by spot date

Methodology

B.4.7 The prehistoric assemblage was analysed in accordance with the guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration, condition, food residues and sooting were also noted. The catalogue was recorded using Microsoft Excel 2010.

B.4.8 The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion type: F representing flint, G representing grog and Q representing quartz. The Later prehistoric and early Roman fabrics were recorded following Marney (1989).

B.4.9 Vessel form was recorded: R representing rim sherds, B representing base sherds, D representing decorated sherds and U representing undecorated body sherds. Middle Iron Age forms follow Hill 2000. Late Iron Age vessel types were recorded using Thompson (1982) and with reference to Marney (1989).

Neolithic

B.4.10 A small assemblage of 45 sherds weighing 169g was identified as being Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware.

Fabric

B.4.11 Three fabrics were identified, all tempered with crushed calcined flint (Table 12). Two very small scraps of pottery are too diminutive to accurately classify to a fabric type.

Fabric	Fabric Description	Quantity	Weight (g)
F10	Fine white angular crushed flint >2mm in fine clay matrix	5	3
F11	Common mixed white angular flint >3mm in fine clay matrix	27	45
F12	Common large white angular flint inclusions >6mm in fine clay matrix	11	119
Q	Miscellaneous possibly sandy fabric	2	2
Total		45	169

Table 12: Quantity and weight of Neolithic pottery by fabric

B.4.12 The range of fabrics is typical of Neolithic pottery in the region, which typically contain moderate to profuse inclusions, often a mix of unburnt and burnt flint (Cotton and Johnson 2004, 128).

Form and Decoration

B.4.13 The assemblage includes a broadly 'T' shaped rim elaborately decorated on the rim top with fingernail and twisted cord impressions forming filled triangular panels, and on the interior with further fingernail impressions. Deep fingertip-impressed pits encircle the body of the vessel below the rim. A further 36 sherds are undecorated or too abraded for decoration to survive.

B.4.14 The rim is from a Peterborough Ware bowl, of the Mortlake/ Fengate sub-style, characterised by the presence of profuse decoration, expanded rim/collar and deep pits on a concave neck (Smith 1974) and is similar to examples from Mortlake and Heathrow (Cotton 2004, Fig.15.2; Grimes 1960, fig.76).

Deposition

B.4.15 The sherds appear to represent a maximum of three vessels, all incomplete and each represented by only a few sherds. The sherds were all collected from the fill of a single pit, **1611**. Cotton and Johnson 2004 note that in the Thames valley pits are the most common context of deposition from which Peterborough Ware is recovered, with isolated pits being especially prevalent on the higher terrace gravels (2004, 145).

Statement of potential

B.4.16 The small assemblage is of interest, being relatively rare in the region, and represents the remains of perhaps three vessels deposited in an isolated pit. The fragmentary condition of the vessels and the incomplete nature of the assemblage suggests that it was a secondary deposit, the pit being filled with sherds already broken and abraded perhaps taken from an established midden or surface deposit. Several authors have speculated that isolated pits such as these containing the remains of elaborate vessels represent markers of special events or places (Thomas 1999, 72) and the Hare Street pit fits this profile.

Recommendations for Further Work

B.4.17 A full report should be compiled detailing fabric and form and comparing the sherds with contemporary local parallels. This work will be undertaken in consultation with Dr A. Tinsley (OAN), whose recent PhD studied Peterborough Ware in south east England.

B.4.18 Three sherds are recommended for illustration and a full illustrated sherd catalogue will be provided.

Early Iron Age

B.4.19 A total of 24 sherds have been assigned an Early Iron Age date. These sherds, which weigh 125g, are all undecorated body sherds in flint-tempered fabric (F1) which contains common pale angular flint pieces in a sandy clay matrix.

Feature type	Feature	Group	Quantity	Weight (g)
Ditch	1157		1	4
	1219	1080	1	10
	1427	1366	2	17

Feature type	Feature	Group	Quantity	Weight (g)
	1428	1366	2	15
	1522	1522	1	3
	1573	1522	1	2
	1576	1522	1	9
	1581	1506	1	7
Natural	1074		3	18
Pit	1063		2	15
	1185	Pit Grp. 3	1	12
	1457	Pit Grp. 4	8	13
Total			24	125

Table 13: Features containing possible Early Iron Age pottery

B.4.20 The possible Early Iron Age pot came from a series of later ditches and pits and from natural feature **1074**. The sherds were recovered in low numbers and mostly from features which also contained later pottery, the exceptions being ditch **1581** and pit **1457**, which produced only flint-tempered sherds, the latter generating eight sherds weighing 13g.

Discussion

B.4.21 The small flint-tempered assemblage may represent limited Early Iron Age occupation on the site or is perhaps earlier prehistoric derived from the Neolithic activity evidenced by the Peterborough Ware sherds.

Recommendations for Further Work

B.4.22 These sherds should be considered along with the total assemblage during analysis and a note prepared for the publication.

Middle Iron Age

B.4.23 The Middle Iron Age assemblage comprises 242 sherds weighing 2,965g, and contains a minimum of 13 vessels including both coarse, scored jars and fine, decorated bowls. The assemblage dates to *c*.350-100/50BC.

Fabric

B.4.24 Eight fabrics were identified in two fabric groups (Table 14). Over 98% of the assemblage is formed of sherds of sandy fabrics (Group Q). This sandy group is made of clay with moderate to common round quartz grains, both clear and opaque, with a mix of other inclusions, principally chalk, fossil shell, flint and mica which probably represent naturally occurring detrital material within the clays of the glacial till of the Lowestoft Foundation which surrounds Buntingford (BGS http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?location=hertford&gobBtn=go). The ubiquitous coverage of the till prevents exact identification of clay sources but it is likely that most of the mid Iron Age pottery was manufactured close to the site.

B.4.25 A small proportion of the sherds are shell-tempered (S group). These fabrics become much more common within the later Iron Age assemblage but are found in small quantities within the middle Iron Age assemblage. The shell-tempered fabrics may represent pots imported to the site from outside the immediate vicinity of Buntingford,

perhaps from towards Cambridgeshire where they form a high proportion of Iron Age assemblages in areas of underlying Jurassic geology in the west of the county (Abrams and Ingham 2008, fig.2.11).

Fabric	Fabric Description	Quantity	Weight (g)	No. of vessels
Q1	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse shell, common elongated voids, sparse mica	114	1399	9
Q1 chalk	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse to moderate medium sub-rounded chalk, moderate elongated voids, sparse mica	47	753	1
Q1F	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse medium angular flint (fresh not calcined)	43	425	2
Q1mica	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, common mica	29	287	1
Q1S	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with sparse to moderate shell, common elongated voids, sparse mica	5	39	
QSm	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with sparse to moderate shell, moderate elongated voids, common mica	2	13	
S1	Common coarse shell 2-5mm in fine clay matrix	1	1	
SG	Common coarse shell 2-5mm in fine clay matrix with sparse rounded pale grog >4mm	1	48	
Total		**242**	**2965**	**13**

Table 14: Quantity and weight of Middle Iron Age pottery by fabric

Form and Decoration

B.4.26 In common with many Iron Age sites from around Cambridgeshire and Milton Keynes, the assemblage is dominated by slack shouldered jar forms with either upright or out-turned necks (Types A & D, Table 15). Of the eight slack-shoulder jar rims found two examples are decorated with diagonal slashes along the rim top and have sharply incised, vertical scoring to the vessel body, similar to examples found locally at Pennyland and Wavedon Gate, Milton Keynes (Williams 1993, Fig.91,11; Williams *et al.* 1996, fig.100, 11). A round shouldered jar is also scored and slashed on the rim top, finding parallel with vessels from nearby Stansted (Leivers 2009, Fig.17.7, 38)

B.4.27 Bowl forms are distinguished by closed, finely finished surfaces. Both the bowls are ovoid globular forms. One (bowl Type M) is decorated with shallow incised arcs reminiscent of La Tène decorated vessels from Northamptonshire sites such as Weekley (Jackson and Dix 1987, fig.33, 55) but also found more locally at Little Paxton (Hancocks 2003, fig.7.8, 29).

Hill form code	Description	No. of vessels by rim count
A	Slack shouldered jar with upright neck	3
A1	Slack shouldered jar with upright neck and flat rim	2
D	Slack shouldered jar with flared neck and flat rim	4

Hill form code	Description	No. of vessels by rim count
E	Jar with high rounded shouldered upright neck flat rim	1
K	Ovoid or rounded slack shouldered bowl, no distinct rim	1
M	Round globular bowl, no neck rounded rim	1
Unknown	Too small to be identified	1
Total		**13**

Table 15: Quantity and weight of Middle Iron Age pottery by form

Deposition

B.4.28 The majority of the sherds of Middle Iron Age date were recovered from the fills of ditches which produced over 93% of the total assemblage (2,716g: Table 16). The average sherd weight for the ditch assemblages is 12g, a little over a gram larger than the average for contemporary ditch assemblages from Cambridgeshire (Percival forthcoming) but still small enough to indicate that the vessels had been considerably broken up before deposition. The sherds found in the pits and postholes are even smaller perhaps suggesting that they are residual within these features.

Feature type	Feature	Group	Quantity	Weight (g)
Ditch	1080	1080	55	479
	1113	1113	33	435
	1136	1113	20	277
	1196	1080	9	81
	1206	1080	2	4
	1212		1	86
	1219	1080	8	65
	1298		39	802
	1335	1335	23	286
	1387	1335	5	45
	1394	1335	28	169
	1399	1335	1	12
	1465	1465	1	2
	1468	1465	2	7
	1509	1506	1	3
	1514	1512	1	8
Gully	1241	1204	1	74
Pit	1119		8	60
	1192	Pit Grp. 1	1	48
Post hole	1325	1323	1	4
	1354	1354	2	18
Total			**242**	**2965**

Table 16: Quantity and weight of Middle Iron Age pottery by feature

Discussion

B.4.29 The assemblage conforms well with Middle Iron Age pottery forms found in the region. Milton Keynes, south Cambridgeshire and south Essex containing a limited range of utilitarian cooking and serving vessels. The major difference between the Buntingford assemblage and those found further west is the use of sandy fabrics derived from alluvial clays which differ from the predominantly shell-rich fabrics used in south Cambridgeshire and Milton Keynes and sourced from local Jurassic clays, the different fabrics reflecting differences in the underlying geology and the locally available clays.

Late Iron Age and Early Roman

B.4.30 The later Iron Age pottery forms the bulk of the assemblage: a total of 770 sherds weighing 11,485g were collected. A further 28 sherds 464g are of Early Roman forms, almost certainly in use alongside the Late Iron Age vessels.

Fabric

B.4.31 The Late Iron Age pottery is found in three main fabric groups. Over 64% of the sherds are grog tempered, 31% are made of sandy fabrics and 5% are shell-tempered.

ERA	Fabric code	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)	No. of vessels
Late Iron Age	G1	Handmade Very dark dense fabric. Abundant small rounded grog.	5	168	2
	G2	Handmade common, medium pale grog pieces; some quartz sand	1	15	
	GAL AM 2	Common fine red grog sprase gold and silver mica	1	54	
	GSH	Handmade common, medium pale grog pieces; some shell plates and platey voids	9	150	1
	GTW	Grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix	78	1275	3
	GTW gr	Fine grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded dark grey grog in fine clay matrix	71	2185	6
	GTW mica	Fine grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix with mica shreds	16	227	1
	GTWfine	Fine grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix	228	2175	8
	GTWgrfine	Fine grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded dark grey grog in fine clay matrix	1	8	
	GTWox	Grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix with oxidised surfaces	3	64	
	GTWpale	Grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded pale grog in fine clay matrix	75	1011	3
	GTWS	Grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix and sparse fine shell	7	124	1
	MSGW	Micaceous sandy greyware	2	31	1
	Q1	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse shell, common elongated voids, sparse mica	113	1669	2
	Q1F	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse medium angular flint (fresh not calcined)	7	44	
	Q1mica	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, common mica	28	416	3
	Q1S	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with sparse to moderate shell, common elongated voids, sparse mica	36	253	1
	Qch	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common	2	3	

ERA	Fabric code	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)	No. of vessels
		round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse to moderate medium sub-rounded chalk, moderate elongated voids, sparse mica			
	QfSH	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains, sparse to moderate medium shell and rare medium flint	8	74	
	QG	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains and rare grog	7	478	
	QQu	Handmade Iron Age fine sandy fabric with common round clear and opaque quartz grains and quartz pieces >4mm	9	383	2
	S1	Common coarse shell 2-5mm in fine clay matrix	3	23	1
	SGW	Sandy greyware	6	101	1
	SGWmica	Micaceous sandy greyware	2	31	
	SOW	Sandy oxidised ware	8	33	
	SOW flint	Sandy oxidised ware with rare flint >2mm	1	43	1
	SRW	Sandy reduced ware	1	35	
	SRWflint	Sandy reduced ware with rare flint >2mm	1	12	
	STW	Shell tempered ware with common shell pieces > 3mm	24	139	2
	STW coarse	Shell tempered ware with common shell pieces > 6mm	9	67	
	STW fine	Shell tempered ware with common shell pieces > 3mm	2	13	1
	STWG	Shell tempered ware with common shell pieces > 3mm with rare pale sub-rounded grog	6	181	
Early Roman	GSH	Grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix and sparse fine shell	1	9	
	GTW	Grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded grog in fine clay matrix	1	8	
	GTWgr	Fine grog tempered ware with moderate small rounded dark grey grog in fine clay matrix	2	15	
	SAM	samian	1	5	
	SGW	Sandy greyware	1	2	
	SGWox	Sandy greyware with oxidised surfaces	9	18	
	SOW	Sandy oxidised ware	7	31	
	SOWmica	Sandy oxidised ware with common silver mica shreds	2	31	1
	SRW	Sandy reduced ware	3	256	
	STW	Shell-tempered ware	1	89	1
Total			**798**	**11949**	**42**

Table 17: Quantity and weight of Later Iron Age pottery by fabric

Form and Decoration

B.4.32 The Late Iron Age assemblage contains an expanded range of vessel forms from those present in the Middle Iron Age. Rims from a total of 42 vessels were recovered in nineteen forms (Table 19). These include both handmade and wheelmade forms with wheelmade vessels forming *c*.24% of the total assemblage.

Form	Description	Decoration	No. of vessels
A (Hill)	Slack shouldered jar		1
D (Hill)	Slack shouldered jar with flared neck and flat rim		1

Form	Description	Decoration	No. of vessels
B	Fine Ware jar (too small to identify)		3
B1-1	Plain everted-rim necked jars		11
		Cordon	1
		X shaped incision on interior	1
B1-2	Plain everted-rim necked jars, tall		1
B1-3	Plain everted-rim necked jars, short and round.		2
B3-1	Everted-rim jars with bulges between cordons on shoulder, wide-mouthed	Cordon	1
B3-2	Tall narrow cordoned rims	Diminished cordon	1
B5-4	Barrel jars, plain and globular with bead rim		1
C1	Bead rim jar	Fine scored	1
C5-1	Lid-seated jars, plain.		3
C6-1	Storage jars	Combed	2
C6-1		Cordon dots below combed below shoulder	1
		Grooved cordon	1
		Plain	1
C7-1	Rilled jars, ordinary, with everted rims.	Rilled	3
D1-1	Bowls with offset neck, and often one cordon		1
D1-5	Plain necked bowls without true defined offset or cordon.	Combed wavy line	1
D2-1	Bowl version of B3-1, cordoned	Cordon	1
E2	Squat wide-mouthed cups, still related to carinated cups.	Cordoned	1
G1	Platter		1
G5-2	Butt Beaker (rouletted/decorated barrel shape).	Incised cross-hatched	1
Total			42

Table 18: Quantity and weight of Late Iron Age pottery by form

B.4.33 The late assemblage is characterised by the presence of fine sinuous, wide-mouthed often carinated jars, bowls and cups made of both sandy and grog-tempered fabric, with everted rounded or bead rims and often with cordons (Thompson 1982, Forms D and B). These wide mouth and cordoned bowls and jars form the most identifiable marker of late Iron Age 'Belgic' pottery and are widely found in assemblages dating to the late 1st century AD.

B.4.34 Alongside the small number of slack shouldered jars the coarse jar forms include lid-seated jars (Thompson C5-1) and barrel-shaped globular jars with bead rims (B5-4). Very common, perhaps as they are easily identified even as body sherds, are rilled jars of Thompson's form C7-1. This form is abundant in Hertfordshire dating from late 1st century BC and continuing in use into the late 1st century AD (Thompson 1982, 298).

B.4.35 Rims from five large, thick-walled storage jars were found (Thompson type C6-1). These include several shell-tempered examples and often have combed surfaces.

B.4.36 Serving vessels / imports are rare but include the base of a platter and a butt Beaker with

incised cross hatched decoration which may be Gaulish imports. A single body sherd from a Gaulish amphora was also found (Haltern type 70; Peacock and Williams no 59).

Deposition

B.4.37 The Late Iron Age pottery was principally recovered from ditch fills which contributed a little over 60% of the assemblage. Pits provided a further 32% and the remainder came from post-holes, gullies and natural features (Table 20).

Era	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)	% weight
Late Iron Age	Unknown	1	155	1.30%
	Ditch	427	7221	60.43%
	Gully	1	11	0.09%
	Natural	1	4	0.03%
	Pit	318	3914	32.76%
	Post hole	16	86	0.72%
	U/s	6	94	0.79%
Early Roman	Ditch	12	54	0.45%
	Gully	1	1	0.01%
	Pit	13	404	3.38%
	Post hole	2	5	0.04%
Total		**798**	**11949**	**100.00%**

Table 19: Late Iron Age pottery recovery by feature type

ERA	Feature	Group	Context	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)
Late Iron Age			1320		1	155
	1063		1064	Pit	1	1
	1065	1090	1066	Ditch	1	3
	1074		1077	Natural	1	4
	1080	1080	1081	Ditch	1	44
	1082	Pit Grp. 1	1084	Pit	57	878
	1085	1222	1087	Ditch	9	158
	1096	1090	1097	Ditch	1	4
	1108	Pit Grp. 1	1110	Pit	14	201
	1148	Pit Grp. 1	1147	Pit	1	26
	1149		1151	Ditch	11	131
			1152	Ditch	131	2162
			1154	Ditch	4	58
			1155	Ditch	5	271
	1157		1158	Ditch	5	16
	1164	Pit Grp. 1	1165	Pit	1	8
	1166		1167	Ditch	12	396
			1169	Ditch	1	3

ERA	Feature	Group	Context	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)
	1170	1170	1172	Ditch	5	178
	1173	Pit Grp. 2	1174	Pit	1	15
	1178	Pit Grp. 3	1175	Pit	2	39
	1185	Pit Grp. 3	1179	Pit	1	22
			1180	Pit	5	57
			1183	Pit	3	76
	1192	Pit Grp. 1	1193	Pit	7	472
	1196	1080	1198	Ditch	52	914
	1232	Pit Grp. 2	1233	Pit	2	4
	1264	Pit Grp. 1	1265	Pit	10	139
	1281	Pit Grp. 2	1282	Pit	11	146
	1283	Pit Grp. 2	1284	Pit	1	3
	1285	1170	1286	Ditch	29	224
	1289	1289	1290	Post hole	4	29
	1298		1299	Ditch	73	1388
	1306	1302	1307	Post hole	3	17
	1323	1323	1348	Post hole	1	4
	1324	1323	1350	Post hole	5	17
	1335	1335	1333	Ditch	12	13
	1356	1354	1370	Post hole	1	16
	1372	1366	1371	Ditch	1	5
	1375	Fence 2	1376	Post hole	2	3
	1407	1335	1409	Ditch	1	2
	1427	1366	1425	Ditch	7	38
	1428	1366	1429	Ditch	10	15
	1468	1465	1473	Ditch	1	1
	1516	1512	1517	Gully	1	11
	1522	1522	1525	Ditch	6	103
	1539		1540	Pit	13	64
	1560		1561	Pit	8	14
	1576	1522	1577	Ditch	1	304
			1579	Ditch	16	284
	1584	1522	1585	Ditch	2	76
			1588	Ditch	8	110
			1589	Ditch	1	86
	1590		1591	Pit	136	1287
			1592	Pit	22	314
			1594	Pit	22	148
	1597	1522	1599	Ditch	20	231

ERA	Feature	Group	Context	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)
	1607	1506	1608	Ditch	1	3
	Unstratified		99999		6	94
Early Roman	1085	1222	1087	Ditch	10	23
	1144	Pit Grp. 2	1143	Pit	5	359
	1173	Pit Grp. 2	1174	Pit	2	17
	1306	1302	1307	Post hole	1	2
	1308	1302	1309	Post hole	1	3
	1422	Pit Grp. 4	1416	Pit	6	28
	1516	1512	1517	Gully	1	1
	1576	1522	1579	Ditch	2	31
Total					**798**	**11949**

Table 20: Quantity and weight of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery by feature

Discussion

B.4.38 The Late Iron Age assemblage is typical of domestic occupation, with the coarse jar and bowl forms being supplemented with a selection of storage jars plus a limited range of serving vessels such as platters and butt beakers. The sources of the platter and butt beaker is uncertain and further work is required to establish if these are Gaulish imports or local copies. A single fragment of Gaulish amphorae indicates that some trade connections with France were available to the inhabitants but the paucity of such imports perhaps suggests that the settlement was low status or did not choose to participate in 'Romanisation'.

B.4.39 The date of the assemblage focusses on the end of the 1st century BC to mid to late 1st century AD, suggesting that the settlement went out of use after this time. The sherds are spread fairly evenly across the ditch and pit fills, with the exception of ditch **1149**/**1085** which contained 23% of the total Late Iron Age assemblage. These dumps or caches of pottery perhaps suggest a special deposit.

Recommendations for Further Work

B.4.40 Full analysis of the Middle and Late Iron pottery is recommended. The catalogue should be updated to include any refined phasing or dating uncovered during post-excavation analysis.

B.4.41 Forms should be fully described including analysis of vessel size and fragmentation to supplement a consideration of depositional practices.

B.4.42 The report should include a consideration of local parallels for the assemblage to place it fully within its regional context.

B.4.43 Further analysis should include detailed descriptions of the fabrics, plus identification of the sources for the possible Gaulish imports.

B.4.44 A maximum of 15 sherds should be illustrated and a full illustrated sherd catalogue should be provided.

B.5 Ceramic Building Material and Kiln Furniture

By Alice Lyons

Summary

B.5.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material, including the fragmentary remains of (at least) one Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery kiln was found during this excavation. The kiln material consists of displaced superstructure fragments and kiln furniture primarily recovered from two unrelated pits and a ditch. The pottery taken from these features is of Late pre Roman Iron Age type (*c*.130 BC – AD 80), while the kiln technology suggests a date no earlier than the second quarter of the 1st century AD.

Introduction

B.5.2 A small assemblage of 211 fragments, weighing 5291g, of ceramic building material (CBM) was recorded as part of the Buntingford project. This material comprises the fired clay remains of at least one Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery kiln (CBM Table 21), also contemporary structural daub and Romano-British tile. All the material is extremely fragmented with an average sherd weight of only 25g.

Material Type	Fragment Count	Fragment weight (%)
Kiln Superstructure and furniture	91	3164
Tile	41	1295
Daub	67	790
Undiagnostic fragments	12	42
Grand Total	**211**	**5291**

Table 21. The Ceramic Building Material

Methodology

B.5.1 The CBM was counted and weighed, by form and fabric type and any complete dimensions measured (mm) and a catalogue prepared. Levels of abrasion, any evidence of re-use or burning were also recorded. This follows guide lines laid down by Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (ACBMG 2002).

B.5.2 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate museum stores in due course.

Aknowledgements

B.5.3 Thanks to Cynthia Poole (OA South) for commenting on the report and providing references.

The Assemblage

The Fabrics

B.5.4 Two broad fabric groups were identified during this analysis. The tile and a small part of the daub was produced in a hard fired red sandy fabric (F1). More usual however, and used to produced the kiln superstructure and furniture, is the soft chalky material (F2) almost certainly sourced from the local chalky boulder clay found commonly in the local area (see Geology description).

Code	Fabric Description	Fragment Count	Fragment weight (g)	Fragment weight (%)
F1	Hard fired to a mid red colour, with common sand temper and occasional fine flint	69	1871	35.36
F2	A soft material with common natural chalk inclusions and roughly mixed sand and fine flint	142	3420	64.64
Total		**211**	**5291**	**100.00**

Table 22. The Fabrics

Daub

B.5.5 A small number of Late Iron Age or Early Roman structural daub fragments (66 pieces, weighing 777g) were recovered from ditches, pits and post holes across the site, perhaps with a slight concentration in ditch **1285** (10 pieces, weighing 146g).

B.5.6 This hardened clay was manufactured from local materials and used in the production of ovens, kilns and houses (Rigby and Foster 1986, 184, fig. 80). It often has at least one smoothed, or wiped, surface and sometimes bears the impressions of wattles and withies which formed the superstructures of these buildings and 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 that daub is a soft porous substance and not as resilient as kiln fired CBM; only material that has been deliberately or accidentally burnt will survive in the soil.

Fabric	Fragment Count	Weight (g)
F1	10	95
F2	56	682
Total	**66**	**777**

Table 23. The Daub, quantified by fabric

Kiln Superstructure and Furniture

B.5.7 A total of 91 pieces of redeposited burnt clay, weighing 3164g, associated with (at least) one Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery kiln were found. The material, consisting of kiln superstructure, also kiln bars and clay slab plates (Table 24) was recovered from several ditches and pits, with the majority found in only three unrelated features (Table 25). Although the kiln itself was not discovered it is possible it, or they, were originally located close to pit **1082**, ditch **1085** and pit **1108**.

Description	Fragment Count	Fragment weight (g)
Kiln slabs	80	2828
Kiln bars	10	263
Superstructure, lining	1	73

Table 24. The Kiln Furniture, quantified by type

Feature	Group	Fragment Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
Pit 1082	Pit Group 1	53	1348	42.60
Ditch 1085	Ditch 1222	16	629	19.88
Pit 1108	Pit Group 1	11	503	15.90
Ditch 1149	Ditch 1149	7	285	9.01
Ditch 1285	Ditch 1170	1	54	1.71
Ditch 1526	Enclosure 1522	1	95	3.00
Pit 1590	Pit 1590	2	250	7.90
Total		**91**	**3164**	**100.00**

Table 25. The main features within which kiln superstructure and furniture were found

Oven/Kiln Superstructure

B.5.8 A single piece of kiln lining, weighing 73g, was recovered from pit **1590**. The fragment was produced in the F1 fabric and has a smoothed surface with a fingernail incised decorative finish.

B.5.9 This baked clay constitutes the remains of the lining of the kiln furnace chamber (Swan 1984, 32). The material is pale orange (oxidised) throughout and contains coarse inclusions of chalk and some flint. Large inclusions were added to help reduce shrinkage during firing and therefore prevent the collapse of the kiln.

Kiln Bars

B.5.10 Only 10 fragmentary kiln bar pieces, weighing 263g, were recovered from two features (ditch **1085** and pit **1082**). The kiln bars were manufactured in the F2 fabric and have a square section (between 40-45mm). Unfortunately no complete examples, or end pieces, were recovered to establish their full length and design.

B.5.11 It is likely, however, that they were of the 'cigar-shaped' type which is the most common kiln bar-form in this region. Moreover it is the only type of kiln bar with a clearly concentrated distribution around the area of the Wash (Swan 1984, 63). Bars of this type can be found to the north into South Lincolnshire and as far south as Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. An increasing corpus of evidence suggests that this type of portable furniture was in use in pre-Flavian (AD69-95) contexts and possibly even pre-conquest (AD43) deposits.

B.5.12 Of all the types of kiln furniture found, bars are the most frequently encountered (Swan 1984, 62). Kiln bars were used in conjunction with a (usually central) pedestal on which one end rested and from which the bars radiated (*ibid*, 60-63, plates 18 and 20). The bars were generally tapered to allow the maximum number to be placed on a single pedestal. The other end of the bar was seated on a ledge constructed integrally as part of the lining of the firing chamber (ibid, 63, plate 20). The shape and length of kiln bars, even within the same kiln can be seen to vary quite considerably, presumably as the bars from different kilns became mixed through re-use, which would also have the advantage of allowing the potter to arrange the kiln bars individually for each new kiln that was constructed.

Clay Plates

B.5.13 Baked clay plates were perhaps used as part of the portable kiln floor and may also have helped to separate layers of pots within the kiln (Swan 1984, 64).

B.5.14 Within this assemblage a small group of seven pieces, weighing 342g, were found within three ditches (**1085**, **1222** and **1285**). Nearly all were made in F2, although one piece was manufactured in the harder fabric (F1). No complete examples were found, but the pieces measure between 20-27mm thick. Two examples were perforated, perhaps to allow hot gases to pass through the plates during firing.

Clay Slab Bars

B.5.15 Slab bars are quite flat objects with a rectangular section (Swan 1984, 64). Objects of this type are colloquially referred to as 'Belgic Bricks' and have been found at several sites within the region always in association with latest Iron Age or Early Roman kilns. Published examples include Water Newton in the Lower Nene Valley (Swan 1984, 96-97), Baldock (Rigby and Foster 1986, 187-88), Bancroft (Williams 1994, 363) and Verulamium (Wheeler and Wheeler 1936:178, fig 26, no. 3). The slabs are often found in addition to kiln bars and may have been used as a portable floor plate in conjunction with them.

B.5.16 A total of 72 pieces, weighing 2390g, were found within three ditches (**1085**, **1222** & **1526**) and three pits (**1082**, **1108** & **1590**). Nearly all were made in F2, although three pieces were manufactured in the harder fabric (F1). No complete examples were found, but the pieces measure between 35-60mm thick.

Burnt Clay Object

B.5.17 A single piece of the Buntingford daub assemblage appears to have been shaped; it is a tubular piece 36mm long with a 17mm diameter. One end has been pierced leaving a 3mm diameter circular hole, presumably where the unfired clay was wrapped around a fine stick. It is made in a hard sandy fabric with flint inclusions (F1), it weighs only 13g and was found in the fill (1474) of ditch **1468**. Looking a bit like a bullet its purpose is unknown, but it could have been used as a small spacer within the kiln.

Roman Ceramic Building Material

B.5.18 A very small amount of fragmentary Roman tile was recovered. A total of 41 pieces, weighing 1295g, all produced in the F1 fabric were found within three ditches (**1100**, **1157**, **1493**), six pits (**1281**, **1287**, **1422**, **1443**, **1460**, **1560**) and four post-holes (**1134**, **1291**, **1308**, **1381**). These were fragmentary flat tiles, ranging between 11 and 15mm thick.

Statement of Potential

B.5.19 This is a small, but stratified and well-recorded, assemblage of ceramic building material that includes the fragmentary remains of (at least) one disturbed Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery kiln. The surviving parts of which suggest a date of between 25 and 69AD (Thompson 1982, 23; Swan 1984, 63).

B.5.20 The kiln material, however, was not found *in situ* but was primarily recovered from two unrelated pits and a ditch. Kiln material found dumped in this way has been recorded at other sites in the region, notably Swavesey in south-east Cambridgeshire (Lyons 2008) and Dagenham in east London (Poole 2010).

B.5.21 Recorded examples of pre-Flavian pottery production (including dumped kiln waste) are very rare within north Hertfordshire, with most recorded examples located further to the south such as Bricket Wood, South Mimms (Poole fth), Prae Wood near St. Albans (Swan 1984, HHER 6813 & 14026) and Crookhams (HHER 1142), also Grubs Barn (HHER 2818), near Welwyn Garden City.

B.5.22 Even though the original site of the kiln(s) has been lost this assemblage adds considerably to the corpus of available data of pre Flavian pottery production in the region.

Recommendations for further work

B.5.23 The ceramic building material has been fully recorded and no further work is required other than incorporation into the full archive report and any subsequent publication.

B.5.24 Appendix 1: The CBM Catalogue

Key: IA = Iron Age, RB= Romano-British

Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Group	Fabric	Era	Type	Fragment Count	Weight (g)	Thickness (mm)
1081	Fill	Ditch	1080	1080	F2	IA/RB	Daub	3	18	-
1081	Fill	Ditch	1080	1080	F2	IA/RB	Daub	2	17	-
1084	Fill	Pit	1082	Pit Grp. 1	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/slab	44	1131	55
1084	Fill	Pit	1082	Pit Grp. 1	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/Kiln bar	9	217	45
1087	Fill	Ditch	1085	1222	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/slab	14	499	35
1087	Fill	Ditch	1085	1222	F1	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/Kiln bar	1	46	40
1087	Fill	Ditch	1085	1222	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/Kiln plate	1	84	20
1101	Fill	Ditch	1100	1090	F1	RB	Roof tile	1	6	14
1110	Fill	Pit	1108	Pit Grp. 1	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/slab	11	503	60
1151	Fill	Ditch	1149	1149	F2	IA/RB	Daub	1	43	-
1152	Fill	Ditch	1222	1222	F1	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/slab	2	81	-
1152	Fill	Ditch	1222	1222	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/Kiln plate	5	204	27
1158	Fill	Ditch	1157	1157	F1	RB	Tile	8	64	-
1169	Fill	Ditch	1166	1166	F2	IA/RB	Daub	1	18	-

Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Group	Fabric	Era	Type	Fragment Count	Weight (g)	Thickness (mm)
1179	Fill	Pit	1185	Pit Grp.3	F1	RB	Daub	2	37	-
1193	Fill	Pit	1192	Pit Grp. 1	F1	IA/RB	Daub	3	31	-
1209	Fill	Pit	1208	Pit Grp. 2	F1	IA/RB	Daub	2	4	-
1217	Fill	Post hole	1218	Fence 1	F1	RB	Undiagnostic fragments	2	0	-
1233	Fill	Pit	1232	Pit Grp.2	F2	IA/RB	Daub	1	4	-
1233	Fill	Pit	1232	Pit Grp. 2	F1	RB	Daub	1	8	-
1265	Fill	Pit	1264	Pit Grp. 1	F2	IA/RB	Daub	4	42	-
1282	Fill	Pit	1281	Pit Grp. 2	F2	IA/RB	Daub	8	64	-
1282	Fill	Pit	1281	Pit Grp. 2	F1	RB	Roof	1	19	15
1286	Fill	Ditch	1285	1170	F2	IA/RB	Daub	10	146	-
1286	Fill	Ditch	1285	1170	F1	RB	Kiln furniture/Kiln plate	1	54	25
1288	Fill	Pit	1287	Pit Grp. 4	F1	RB	Roof tile	7	417	15
1292	Fill	Post hole	1291	1289	F1	RB	Roof tile	2	14	11
1303	Fill	Post hole	1302	1302	F2	RB	Daub	7	14	-
1305	Fill	Post hole	1304	1302	F2	IA/RB	Daub	6	15	-
1309	Fill	Post hole	1308	1302	F1	RB	Roof tile	1	5	13
1309	Fill	Post hole	1308	1302	F1	RB	Undiagnostic fragments	2	14	-

Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Group	Fabric	Era	Type	Fragment Count	Weight (g)	Thickness (mm)
1332	Fill	Ditch	1335	1335	F1	RB	Roof tile	1	13	-
1369	Fill	Post hole	1354	1354	F2	IA/RB	Daub	2	8	-
1374	Fill	Post hole	1373	Fence 2	F1	RB	Undiagnostic fragments	6	7	-
1382	Fill	Post hole	1381	Fence 2	F1	RB	Roof tile	4	37	12
1392	Fill	Ditch	1390	1335	F2	IA/RB	Daub	2	4	-
1416	Fill	Pit	1422	Pit Grp. 4	F1	RB	Roof tile	4	78	14
1420	Fill	Pit	1422	Pit Grp. 4	F1	RB	Roof tile	2	205	-
1442	Fill	Pit	1437	Pit Grp. 4	F2	IA/RB	Daub	2	266	-
1444	Fill	Pit	1443	Pit Grp. 4	F1	RB	Roof tile	4	350	11
1461	Fill	Pit	1460	Pit Grp. 4	F1	RB	Roof tile	2	55	15
1474	Fill	Ditch	1468	1465	F1	IA/RB	Daub	1	13	-
1494	Fill	Ditch	1493	1090	F1	RB	Roof tile	1	16	12
1511	Fill	Ditch	1509	1506	F1	RB	Undiagnostic fragments	1	16	-
1511	Fill	Ditch	1509	1506	F2	IA/RB	Undiagnostic fragments	1	5	-
1527	Fill	Ditch	1526	1522	F2	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/slab	1	95	35
1540	Fill	Pit	1539	1539	F2	IA/RB	Daub	3	7	-
1543	Fill	Pit	1541	1541	F2	IA/RB	Daub	1	7	-
1561	Fill	Pit	1560	1560	F2	IA/RB	Daub	3	9	-
1561	Fill	Pit	1560	1560	F1	RB	Roof tile	3	16	12

Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Group	Fabric	Era	Type	Fragment Count	Weight (g)	Thickness (mm)
1579	Fill	Ditch	1576	1522	F1	IA/RB	Daub	2	15	-
1594	Fill	Pit	1590	1590	F1	IA/RB	Kiln furniture/slab	1	177	60
1596	Fill	Pit	1590	1590	F1	RB	Kiln furniture/lining	1	73	-

Table 26: *The CBM Catalogue*

Appendix C. Environmental Reports

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

Introduction

C.1.1 A total of 13.1kg faunal material was recovered from the excavation yielding 92 "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. Faunal material was recovered from contexts dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods.

Methodology

C.1.2 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 & Davies (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, see Table 27) and numbers of individuals (MNI, see Table 28). 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.1.3 As mentioned above species distribution for the assemblage is shown in Tables 27 & 28.

C.1.4 The Middle Iron Age assemblage comprises mostly cattle remains, with a single example of sheep. Cattle remains consisted primarily of hind limb elements with few front limbs being recovered. Three measurable bones were recovered giving an average withers height for the sample of 1.09m. A single mandible was recovered from context 1240 (enclosure **1204**) from an animal around 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 years of age. No neonatal elements were recovered. Sheep remains were limited to a mandible from context 1118 (roundhouse gully **1113**) from an animal around 2-3 years of age.

C.1.5 The Late Iron Age assemblage is again dominated by cattle, with sheep remains also present. Dog is the next most prevalent species, with equal numbers of pig and horse. A wider range of cattle body parts was recovered compared to the Middle Iron Age, with all skeletal elements being represented. No juvenile elements were recovered, with a single mandible from an animal around 6-8 years age being recovered from context 1152 (ditch **1222**). A single measurable metatarsal was also recovered from context 1152 (ditch **1222**) from animal around 1.2m at the shoulder. A partial cattle radius and tibia were recovered from from context 1286 (ditch **1170**) along with a metacarpal and a 2-3 year old mandible (most likely from the same animal). A single metatarsal from

context 1237 (ditch **1170**) was partially worked distally, possibly to form a scoop or weaving tool. Sheep remains consist almost entirely of lower limb elements including two from animals around 4-6 years old at death from contexts 1081 (ditch **1080**) & 1172 (ditch **1170**), with a single juvenile mandible (6 months-1 year) being recovered from context 1152. As mentioned above, dog is the third most prevalent taxon, largely consisting of partially articulated limbs from contexts 1087, 1154 & 1155 (ditch **1222**/**1149**). Intact humerii from context 1155 suggest and individual around 58.2cm. This is towards the upper end of Harcourts range for Iron Age dogs (Harcourt 1974), and most likely came from a hunting or guard animal. Two pig elements were recovered, consisting of a juvenile ulna and inominate from contexts 1087 (ditch **1222**) & 1193 (pit group 1) respectively. Fragmentary adult horse metacarpal and ulna were recovered from contexts 1152 (ditch **1222**) & 1591 (pit **1590**), with a single adult horse metatarsal from context 1169 (ditch **1166**).

C.1.6 Roman remains are scarce, consisting of three fragments of adult cattle from contexts 1143 (pit group 2), 1187 (pit group 3) & 1444 (pit group 4), and a single pig inominate from context 1187 (pit group 3). Fragments of horse metatarsal and maxilla were recovered from contexts 1288 & 1444 (pit group 4) respectively.

Statement of Potential

C.1.7 This is a small sample with the domestic assemblage from all phases representing initial processing of complete carcasses with further butchery taking place elsewhere. No evidence of on-site cattle breeding was observed, and it is likely that animals were kept elsewhere in the area. Cattle, sheep and pigs from all periods were largely kept for meat, with some evidence of sheep and pig breeding in the Middle Iron Age. Horses were ridden, and dogs used as guard animals.

	Middle Iron Age		Late Iron Age		Roman	
	NISP	NISP%	NISP	NISP%	NISP	NISP%
Cattle (Bos)	19	70.3	29	52.9	4	50
Sheep/Goat (Ovis/Capra)	7	26	11	20.8	0	0
Pig (Sus scrofa)	0	0	2	3.7	1	16.6
Horse (Equus)	1	3.7	2	3.7	2	33.4
Dog (Canis familiaris)	0	0	10	18.9	0	0
Total	**27**	**100**	**53**	**100**	**6**	**100**

Table 27*: Species distribution for the assemblage (NISP)*

	Middle Iron Age		Late Iron Age		Roman	
	NISP	NISP%	NISP	NISP%	NISP	NISP%
Cattle (Bos)	12	66.6	12	42.8	3	0
Sheep/Goat (Ovis/Capra)	5	27.9	8	28.7	0	0
Pig (Sus scrofa)	0	0	2	7.1	1	16.6
Horse (Equus)	1	5.5	2	7.1	0	0
Dog (Canis familiaris)	0	0	4	14.3	2	33.4
Total	**18**	**100**	**28**	**100**	**6**	**100**

Table 28: *Species distribution for the assemblage (MNI)*

C.2 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 Seventy bulk samples were taken from features within the three excavated areas in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data in order to address the projects research objectives.

C.2.2 Samples were taken from ditches and pits dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods that include a series of cultivation strips thought to date to the Early Roman period, Middle and Late Iron Age enclosure ditches and Iron Age four post structures.

Methodology

C.2.3 For this initial assessment a single bucket (approximately 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 and a complete list of the recorded remains are presented in Tables 29 & 30. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Carbonised seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.2.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and legumes have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens #### = 100+ specimens

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Key to table x: Ph = post hole u = untransformed by charring or waterlogging, possibly modern

Results

C.2.5 Plant remains are preserved by preservation and are generally scarce. Hammerscale was recovered from most of the samples from each area.

Area 1

C.2.6 Twenty-five samples were taken from deposits in Area 1, from pits, ditches and post holes that date from the Middle Iron Age through to the Roman period. Charred plant

remains are scarce and are restricted to occasional cereal remains and charcoal fragments. Three of the seven samples from roundhouse gully **1113** contained a total of five poorly-preserved cereal grains that are unlikely to represent deliberate deposition and most probably indicate discarded burnt grains that have accumulated in the ring gully. Similarly, sparse quantities of abraded charred grains were recovered from the fills of ditches **1206**, **1219** and **1285**. Pit **1192** contained two fills, 1193 (Sample 17) and 1195 (Sample 18) that contain occasional abraded charred grains in addition to a degraded glume base of a hulled wheat which was the only chaff element found in this area. The inclusion of such sparse quantities of cereal remains is likely to be through the disposal of hearth sweeping and general domestic refuse.

Sample No.	Cxt	Cut	Feature Type (fills)	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	Hammer scale	Charcoal	Flot comments	Small animal bones	Large animal bones	Pottery	Fired clay
3	1114	1113	Ditch	10	1	0	0	0	+	0	No preservation	0	#	0	0
4	1118	1113	Ditch	9	5	#	0	0	+	+	Single wheat grain	0	0	#	0
5	1115	1113	Ditch	8	15	#	0	0	+	+	single indet grain	0	#	0	#
6	1141	1136	Ditch	7	5	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	#	0	0
7	1131	1130	Post hole			0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
8	1135	1134	Post hole	9	30	#	0	0	++	0	three indet grains	0	#	0	#
9	1138	1136	Ditch	7	10	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	#	#	#
10	1143	1144	Pit	10	1	0	0	0	++	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	#	0	0
11	1146	1148	Pit	9	1	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	#	0	0
12	1147	1148	Pit	9	1	0	0	0	++	++	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	#	0
13	1152	1222	Ditch	9	5	#	0	0	0	+	5 indet grain fragments	0	#	#	0
14	1172	1170	Ditch	7	1	#	0	0	+	+	single indet grain	0	#	#	0
15	1174	1173	Pit	7	1	#	0	0	+	+	single indet grain	#	#	0	0
16	1124	1121	Ditch	8	5	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0	0
17	1193	1192	Pit	8	1	#	0	0	+	+	2 wheat, 2 indet grains	0	#	#	0
18	1195	1192	Pit	9	1	0	#	0	+	0	single spelt/emmer glume base	#	#	0	0
19	1198	1196	Ditch	8	1	0	0	0	++	+	Sparse charcoal only	##	#	#	0
20	1220	1219	Ditch	8	5	#	0	0	+	0	single indet grain	0	#	#	0
21	1207	1206	Ditch	7	1	#	0	0	+	+	single indet grain	0	#	0	0
22	1209	1208	Pit	7	1	0	0	0	++	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	#	0
23	1124	1121	Pit	8	50	0	0	0	+	+++	moderate charcoal	#	0	0	0
24	1278	1276	Pit	7	1	0	0	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	#	#	0

Sample No.	Cxt	Cut	Feature Type (fills)	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	Hammer scale	Charcoal	Flot comments	Small animal bones	Large animal bones	Pottery	Fired clay
25	1282	1281	Pit	9	1	#	0	0	+	+	single wheat grain, 5 indet grain fragments	0	#	#	0
26	1286	1285	Ditch	7	2	##	0	#	+	+	charred wheat grains	##	##	#	0
27	1300	1298	Ditch	7	1	0	0	0	+	0	No preservation	0	0	0	0

Table 29: Environmental samples from Area 1

Area 2

C.2.7 Twenty-six samples were taken from Area 2. Charred plant remains were scarce and, as in Area 1, are restricted to cereal grains and charcoal. There were four sets of four post-holes that are thought to have comprised square structures that may have been raised granaries or platforms for storing fodder. Three of these possible structures have post holes that contain occasional charred grains. Mostly, they are abraded and only identifiable as wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains, but preservation of the grains within post hole **1295** (Sample 32, fill 1296) enable them to be identified as spelt (*T. spelta*) through their characteristic elongated morphology with flattened ventral surfaces.

C.2.8 Ditch fills are either sterile or contain only sparse charcoal and the post-medieval quarry pit fills are also devoid of charred plant remains.

Sample No.	Context	Cut	Feature Type	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Hammerscale	Charcoal	Flot comments	Large animal bones	Pottery	Fired clay
29	1290	1289	Posthole fill	8	1	#	++	+	2 spelt, 3 indet grains	0	0	##
30	1292	1291	Posthole fill	8	1	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	#	##
31	1294	1293	Posthole fill	7	1	#	+	+	single wheat grain	0	#	0
32	1296	1295	Posthole fill	7	1	#	0	++	3 spelt grains	0	0	0
33	1303	1302	Posthole fill	8	1	##	+	++	charred wheat grains	0	0	##
34	1305	1304	Posthole fill	10	1	#	0	+	occasional charred wheat grains	0	0	0
35	1307	1306	Posthole fill	8	1	#	+	+	indet grain	0	0	#
36	1309	1308	Posthole fill	10	2	#	+	+	indet grains	0	0	#

Sample No.	Context	Cut	Feature Type	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Hammerscale	Charcoal	Flot comments	Large animal bones	Pottery	Fired clay
37	1348	1323	Posthole fill	8	1	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
38	1350	1324	Posthole fill	10	1	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
39	1351	1325	Posthole fill	10	1	0	+	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
40	1352	1326	Posthole fill	8	10	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
41	1355	1354	Posthole fill	9	5	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
42	1357	1356	Posthole fill	10	10	0	+	++	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
43	1359	1358	Posthole fill	9	2	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0	0
44	1386	1387	Ditch	6	15	0	0	++	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
45	1391	1390	Ditch	6	20	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0	0
46	1393	1390	Ditch	8	3	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0	0
47	1404	1399	Ditch fill	8	25	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
48	1397	1394	Ditch fill	9	25	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
49	1414	1413	Pit fill	7	35	0	0	++	Moderate charcoal only	0	0	0
50	1429	1428	Ditch fill	9	25	0	++	++	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
53	1467	1465	Ditch terminus	8	20	#	0	+	Single indet grain	0	0	0
54	1469	1468	Ditch	10	1	0	+	0	No preservation	0	0	0

Sample No.	Context	Cut	Feature Type	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Hammerscale	Charcoal	Flot comments	Large animal bones	Pottery	Fired clay
51	1439	1437	Pit	7	20	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0	0
52	1444	1443	Pit	8	30	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	#	0	0

Table 30: Environmental samples from Area 2

Area 3

C.2.9 Four samples were taken from a series of parallel ditches (**1493**, **1494**, **1504** and **1534**) that are characteristic of Early Roman cultivation strips. These deposits are typically sterile although a single possible spelt wheat grain was recovered from **1493**. Samples taken from enclosure ditch **1576** are also poor in terms of charred plant remains with only a few barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and abraded cereal grains being present.

C.2.10 Two pits were sampled; fill 1540 of pit **1539** and fill 1562 of pit **1560**: both contain occasional wheat grains.

C.2.11 The most noteworthy sample from Area 3 was taken from fill 1579 of ditch **1576** and thought to be a deliberate deposit. Charred wheat and barley grains are present along with a single charred rush (*Juncus* sp.) seed.

Statement of potential and recommendations for further work

C.2.12 In general the samples were poor in terms of identifiable material. The charred plant remains consist mainly of cereal grains that were all poorly preserved, either because of taphonomic factors or because they had been charred at a high temperature. The poor preservation did not allow detailed identifications and most of the grains have been identified simply as cereals.

C.2.13 Charred grain is commonly recovered from archaeological sites due to cereals being a staple crop that would have been processed as required. Grains would have been burnt accidentally during cooking or deliberately through the disposal of floor sweepings on a fire. Once charred the grains are resistant to decay and are light, easily wind-blown and tend to accumulate in negative features.

C.2.14 The presence of charred grain in the post-holes of four-post structures does not substantiate the interpretation that the structures were used for storing grain as any spilt grain would have rotted away. The grains recovered have been preserved by charring and, as there isn't any evidence of the posts burning *in-situ*, it must be assumed that the grains were already charred when they accumulated in the post holes.

C.2.15 Areas were marked out for cultivation with a series of parallel ditches apparently deliberately sited in a lower-lying area. These cultivation strip patterns appear to be an Early-Roman phenomenon and are presumed to have been for horticultural use. Plant remains and pollen are rarely preserved precluding full interpretation. There is no evidence of root holes in the ditches which are always uniform in width and usually flat-bottomed. It is likely that the ditches served as drainage, and plants were grown in the soil piled up in the strips between the ditches. Plants such as root vegetables and herbs are usually grown from seed and harvested prior to them setting seed (other than a few

plants that are grown specifically for their seed such as coriander and fennel or for seed for future cultivation).

C.2.16 In summary, environmental sampling has shown that there is limited research potential for further analysis of preserved plant remains. Preservation is by charring and is largely limited to cereal grains with a distinct lack of chaff or weed seeds. This potentially indicates that cereals were not being processed on site although cereals are far more likely to survive burning and burial. The poor preservation of the cereals precludes further interpretation, particularly with regard to changes in the use of the site at the different periods of occupation. The samples have been fully assessed and no further work on the assemblages is required.

Appendix D. Product Description

Product number: 1

Product title: Full archive report
Purpose of the Product: To analyse the site and address the research aims and objectives stated in this report and to disseminate to the local community
Composition: Grey literature archive report deposited at Hertfordshire HER and ADS/OA online library
Derived from: Analysis of site records, specialist reports and data and background research
Format and Presentation: Grey literature client report
Allocated to: GC, SM
Quality criteria and method: Checked and edited by RC SM
Person responsible for quality assurance: SM
Person responsible for approval: SM
Planned completion date: 2016

Product number: 2

Product title: Publication report
Purpose of the Product: To disseminate the findings of the archaeological investigations to the local community
Composition: Published report, in accordance with the relevant journal and EH guidelines
Derived from: Analysis of site records, specialist reports and data and background research
Format and Presentation: Article in serial journal
Allocated to: GC, SM, EP
Quality criteria and method: Checked and edited by EP
Person responsible for quality assurance: EP
Person responsible for approval: EP
Planned completion date: (at earliest) 2017

Appendix E. Risk Log

Risk Number: 1
Description: Specialists unable to deliver analysis report due to over running work programmes/ ill health/other problems
Probability: Medium
Impact: Variable
Countermeasures: OA has access to a large pool of specialist knowledge (internal and external) which can be used if necessary.
Estimated time/cost: Variable
Owner: SP
Date entry last updated: June 2015

Risk Number: 2
Description:non-delivery of full report due to field work pressures/ management pressure on Co-authors
Probability: Medium
Impact: Medium - High
Countermeasures: Liaise with OA Management team
Estimated time/cost: Variable
Owner: GC SM
Date entry last updated: June 2015

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Appendix G. OASIS Report Form

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-215832		
Project Name	Land North of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Hertfordshire. PXA		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	29-09-2014	Finish	11-11-2014
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	Yes

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XHTHSB14	Planning App. No.	3/13/1000/FP
HER No.	Ev. EHT7908; Ex. EHT7909	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt: Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5

Please select all techniques used:

☐ Field Observation (periodic visits)	☐ Part Excavation	☐ Salvage Record
☐ Full Excavation (100%)	☐ Part Survey	☐ Systematic Field Walking
☐ Full Survey	☐ Recorded Observation	☐ Systematic Metal Detector Survey
☐ Geophysical Survey	☐ Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	☐ Test Pit Survey
☒ Open-Area Excavation	☐ Salvage Excavation	☐ 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/pits/posts	Iron Age -800 to 43	flint	Neolithic -4k to -2k
Ditches/pits	Roman 43 to 410	Ceramics/animal bone	Iron Age -800 to 43
Pits	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901	Ceramics/animal bone	Roman 43 to 410

Project Location

County	Hertfordshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	East Hertfordshire	Land North of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Hertfordshire	
Parish	Buntingford		
HER	Hertfordshire HER		
Study Area	1.5ha	National Grid Reference	TL 3678 2958

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Alison Tinniswood (Herts. County Council)
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay (OA East)
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay (OA East)
Supervisor	Graeme Clarke (OA East)

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Herts. Museum	OA East	Herts. Museum
XHTHSB14	XHTHSB14	XHTHSB14

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	☒	☐	☐
Ceramics	☒	☐	☐
Environmental	☒	☐	☐
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Bones	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☒	☐	☐
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☒	☐	☐
None	☐	☒	☒
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media	Paper Media
☒ Database	☒ Aerial Photos
☐ GIS	☒ Context Sheet
☐ Geophysics	☐ Correspondence
☒ Images	☐ Diary
☒ Illustrations	☐ Drawing
☐ Moving Image	☐ Manuscript
☐ Spreadsheets	☐ Map
☒ Survey	☐ Matrices
☒ Text	☐ Microfilm
☐ Virtual Reality	☐ Misc.
	☒ Research/Notes
	☒ Photos
	☒ Plans
	☒ Report
	☒ Sections
	☒ Survey

Notes:

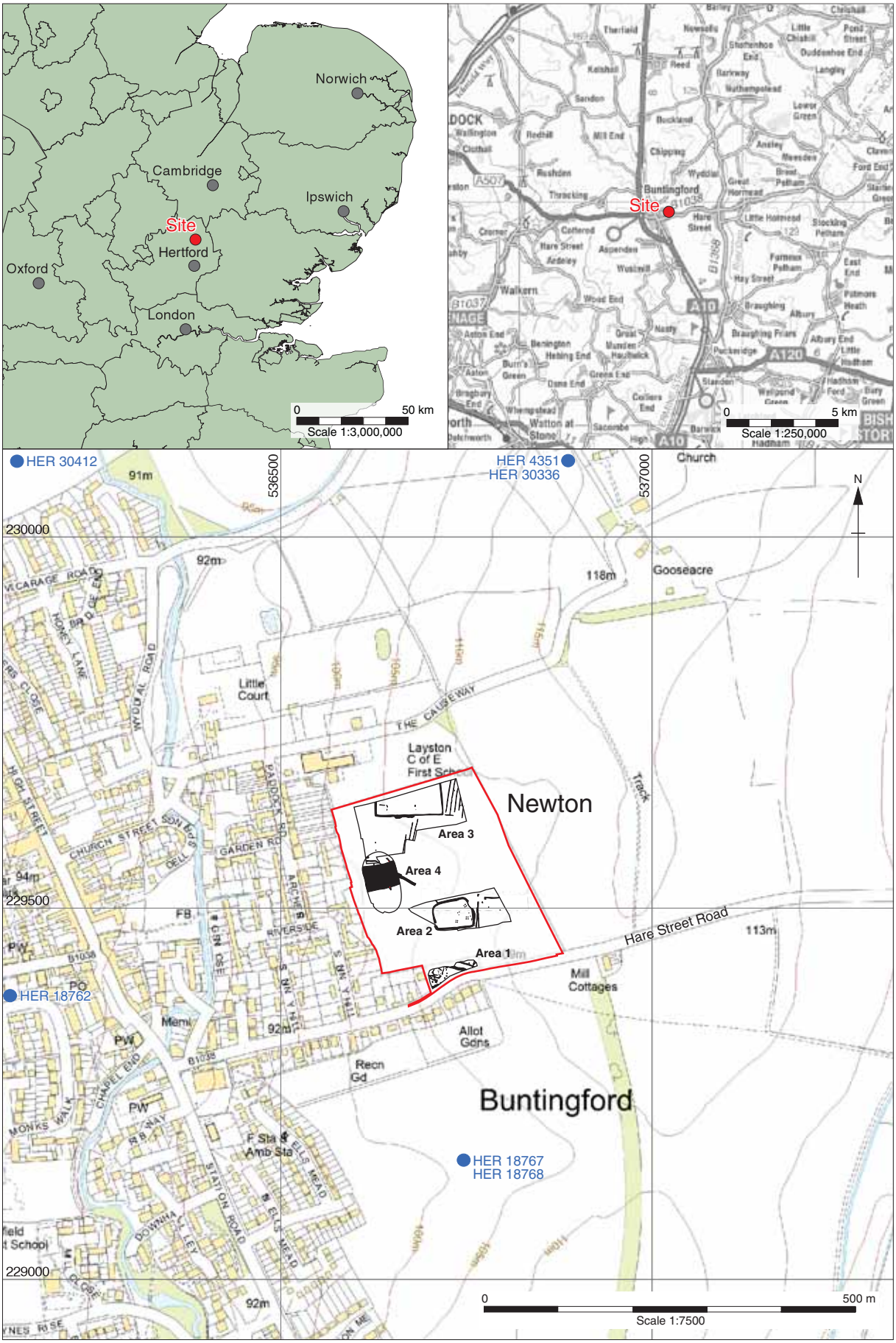

Figure 1: Site location showing overall development (red) and excavation areas (1-4)

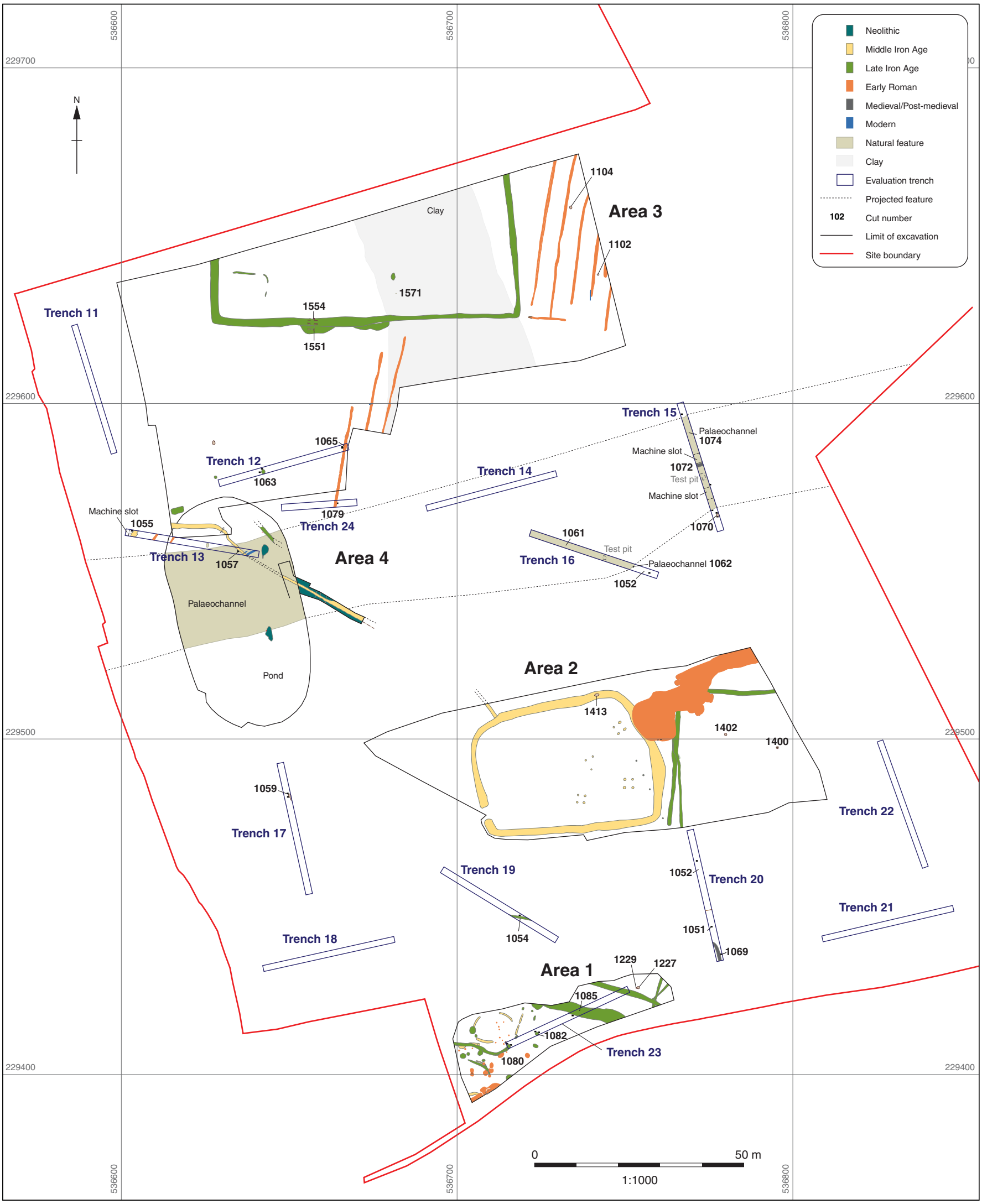

Figure 2: Overall site plan with evaluation trenches

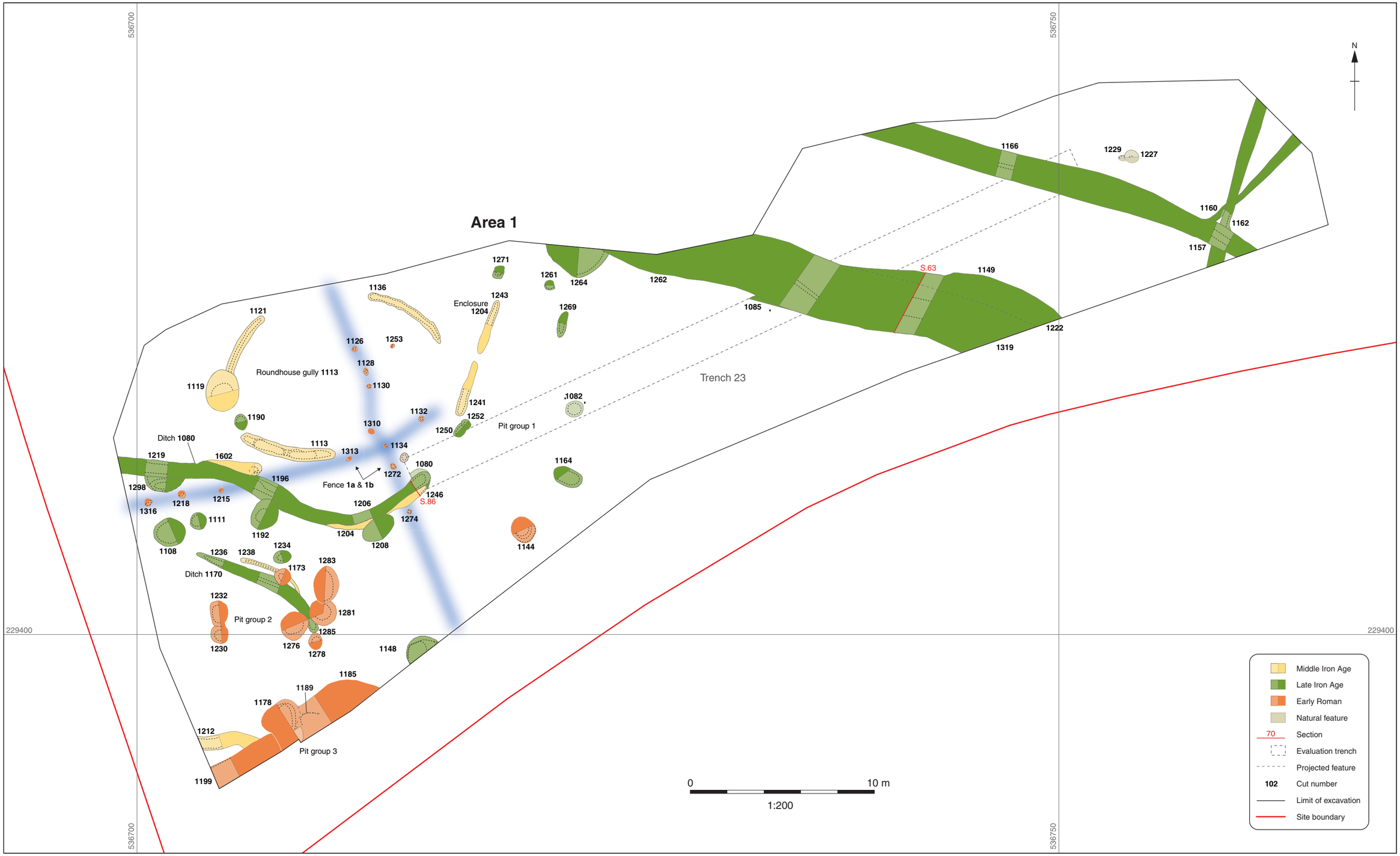

Figure 3: Area 1 excavation plan with preliminary phasing

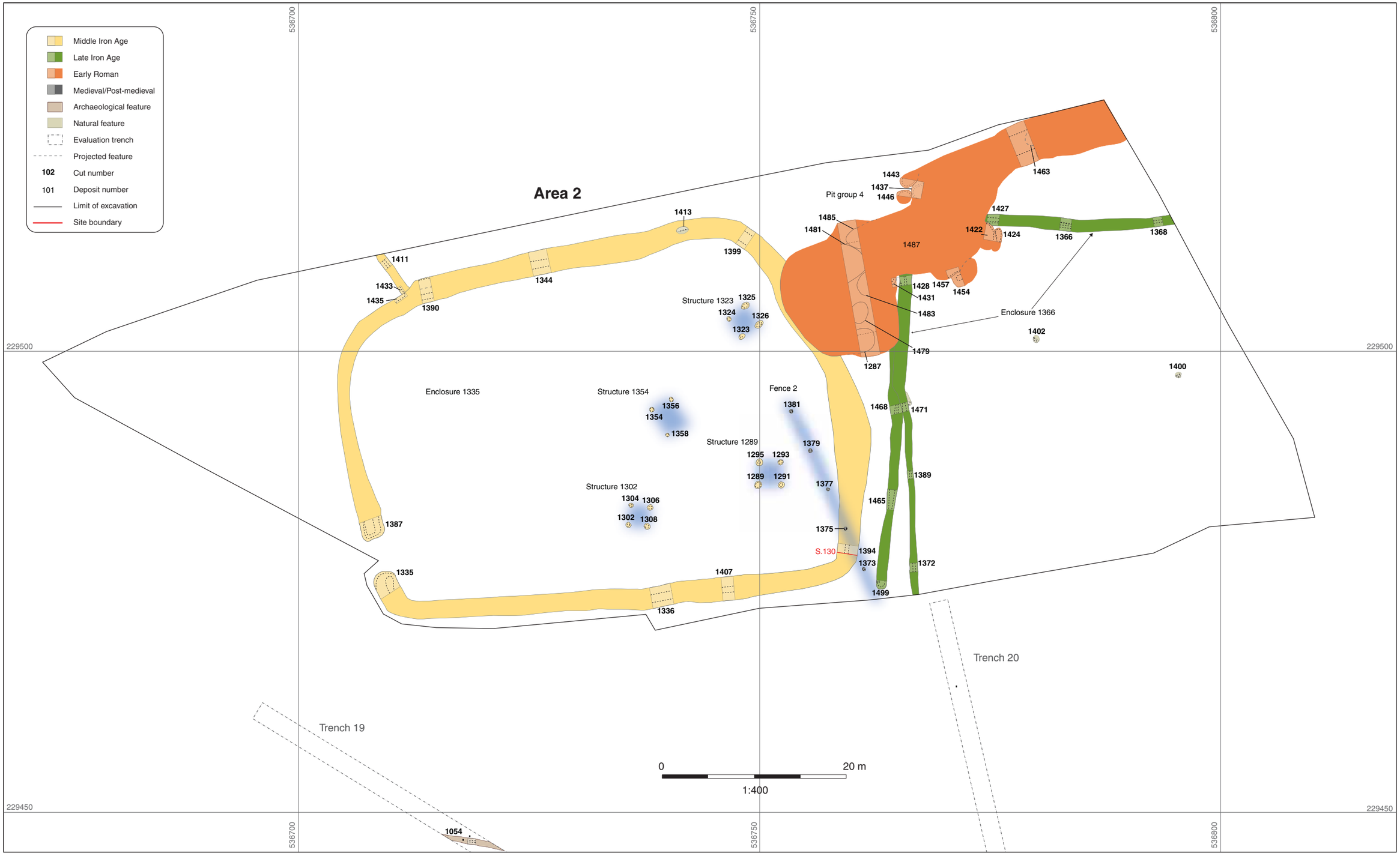

Figure 4: Area 2 excavation plan with preliminary phasing

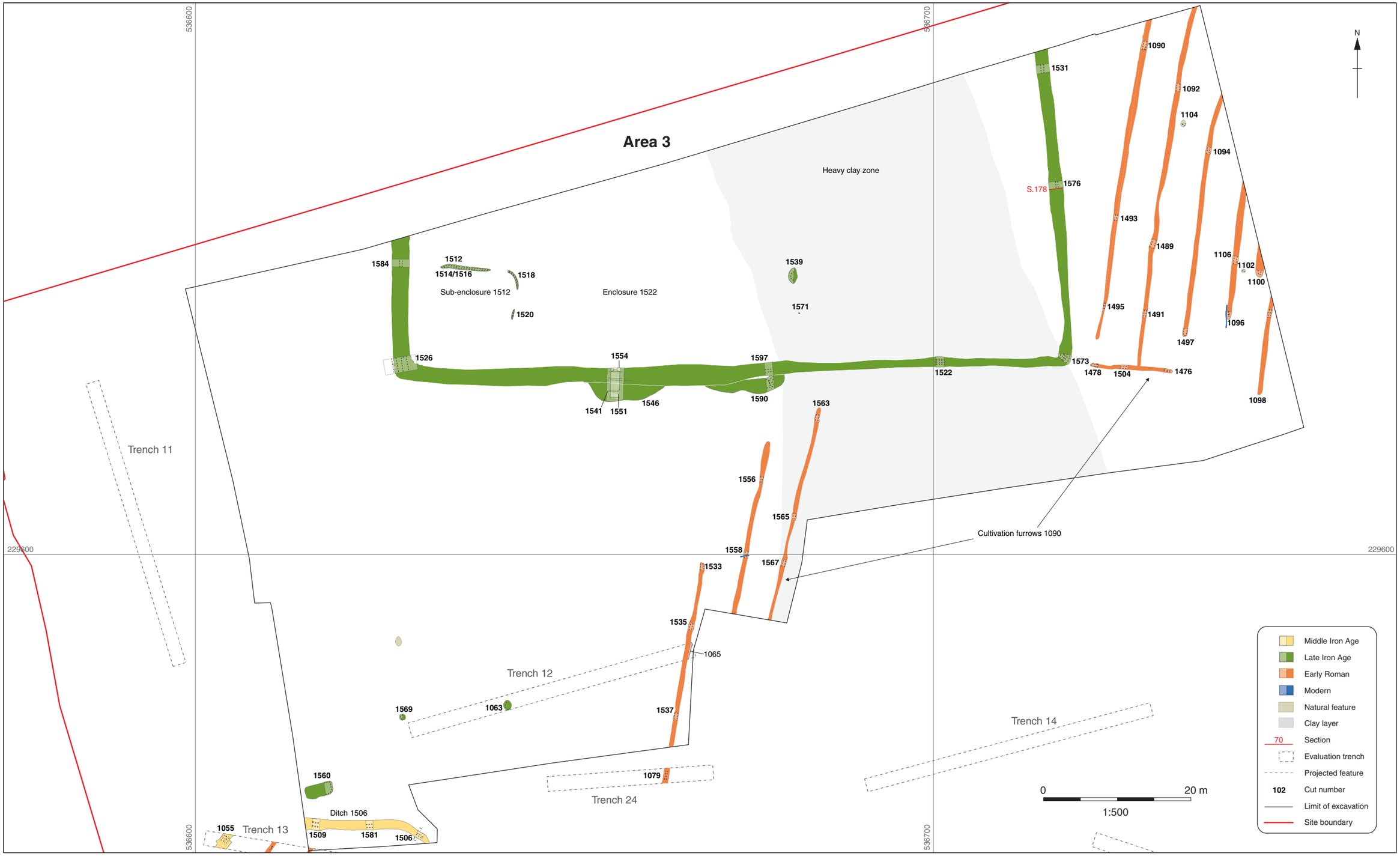

Figure 5: Area 3 excavation plan with preliminary phasing

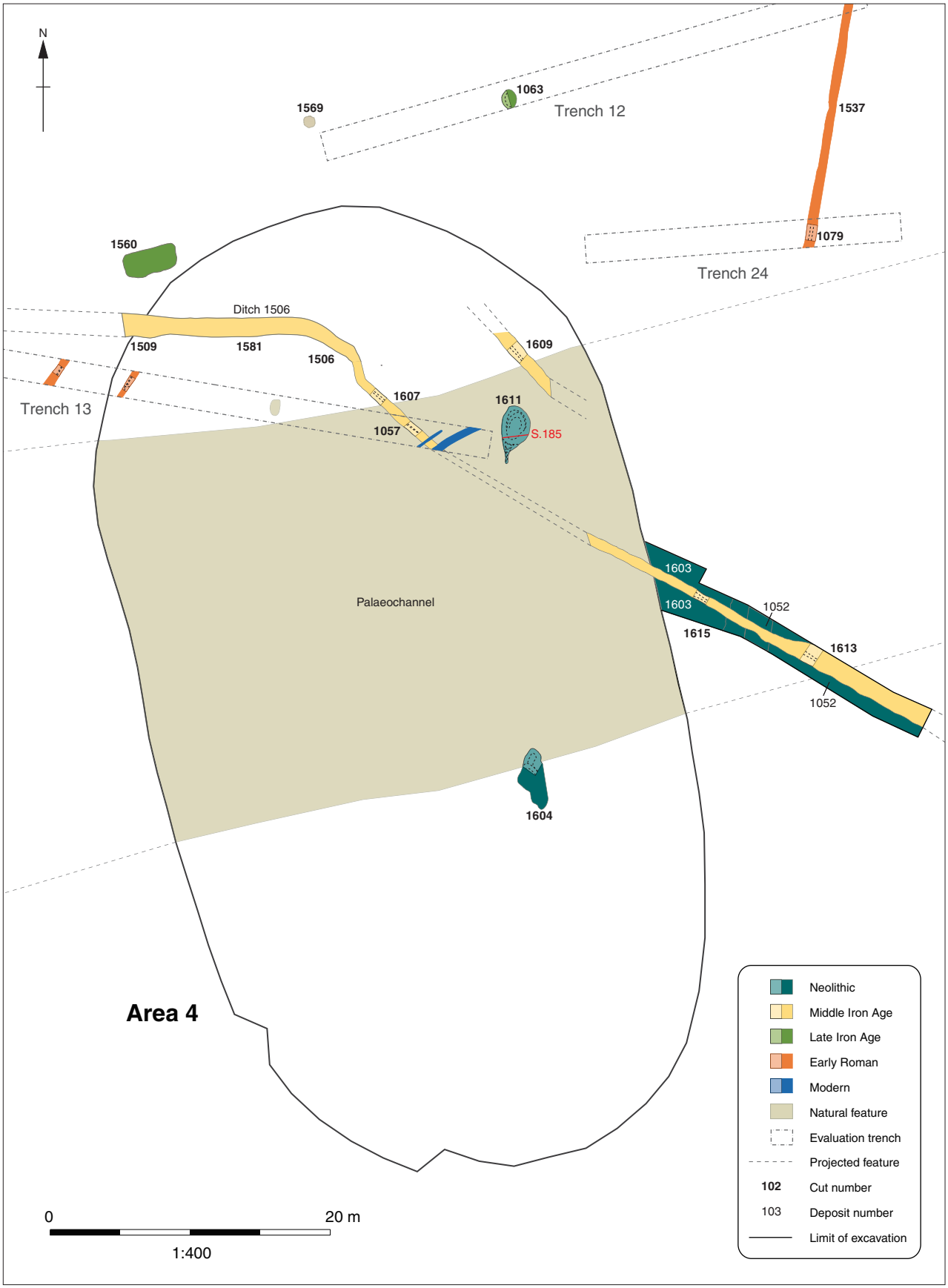

Figure 6: Area 4 excavation plan with preliminary phasing

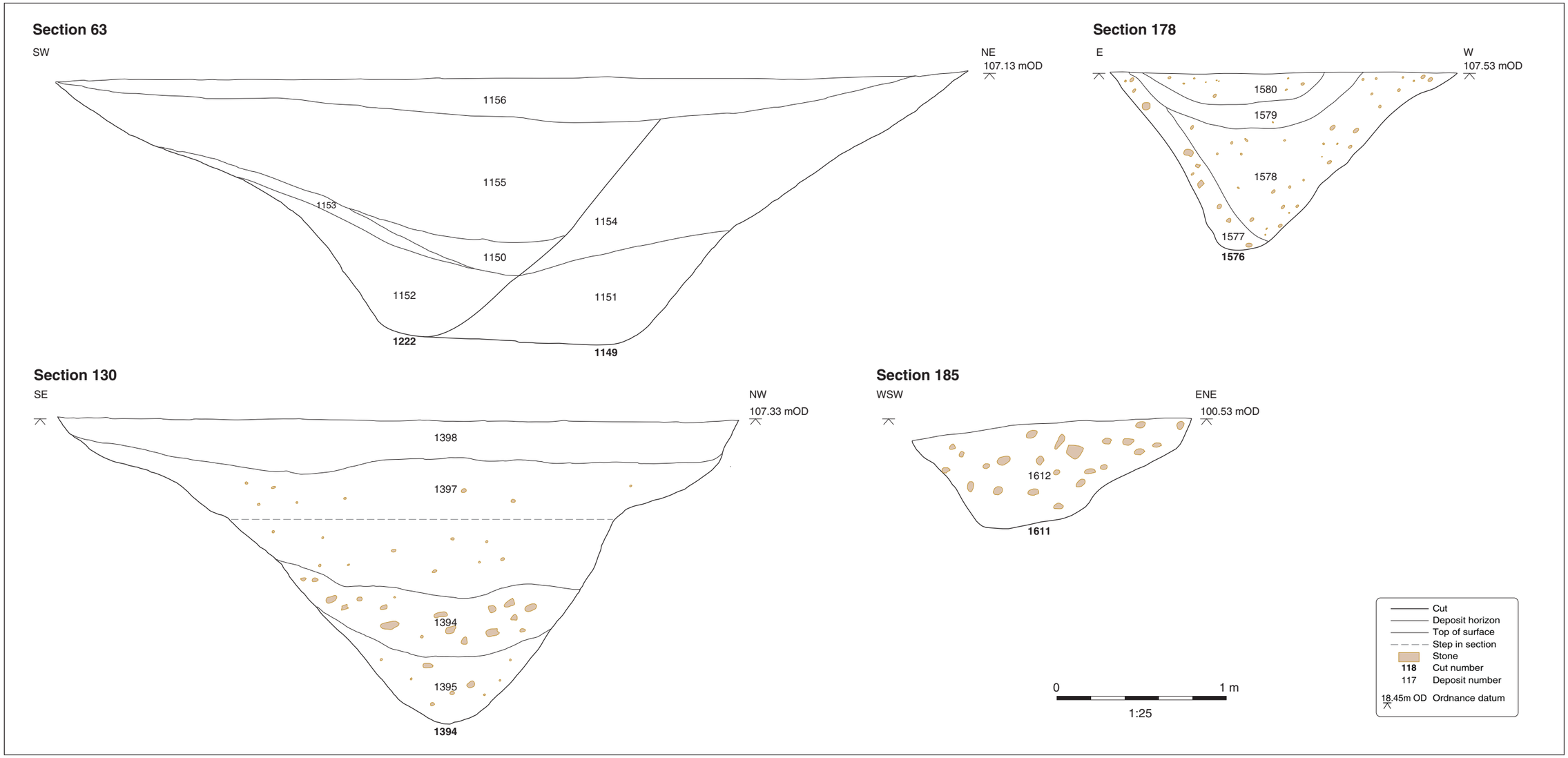

Figure 7: Selected sections

Plate 1: Trench 15 showing palaeochannel **1074**, looking north

Plate 2: Roundhouse gullies **1113**, **1121** & **1136** in Area 1, looking south

Plate 3: Area 2, looking west

Plate 4: Four-post structure **1302**, looking north

Plate 5: Four-post structure **1323**, looking north

Plate 6: The eastern part of Area 1, showing ditch **1222**

Plate 7: The western part of Area 1, showing ditch **1080** and surrounding features, looking west

Plate 8: Area 3, looking west

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