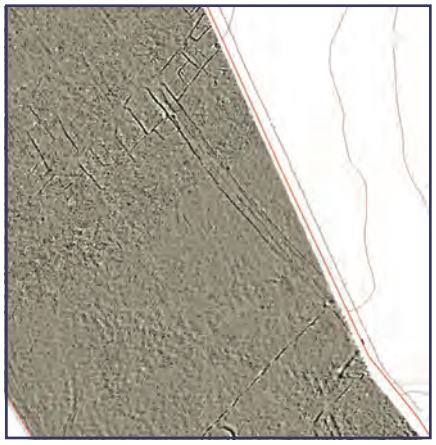
Land at Black Peak Farm Melbourn Cambridgeshire



Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Client: CgMs on behalf of Lightsource Renewable Energy

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

Land at Black Peak Farm, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

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Summary

In October 2014, Oxford Archaeology East undertook an evaluation following geophysical survey at Black Peak Farm, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire (TL 405 441). In total 0.4ha of trenching was opened. This was followed by three further investigatory trenches (0.13ha in total) and a watching brief along some 6km of service trenches. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd.

The site's eastern boundary follows the Bran Ditch, a 7th-century earthwork crossing the zone of the Icknield Way.

Plough-truncated Bronze Age barrows were identified. A near-by pit was excavated, containing pieces of Beaker pottery.

One ditch in the west of site contained a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pot in its upper fill. This followed the general site alignment, northwest-southeast but could not be placed in context, lying at some 180m west of the Bran Ditch.

A number of parallel undated and Early to Middle Iron Age boundary ditches were found extending northwest from the Bran Ditch's main line. This zone of 'precursor' ditches was shown to form not just a boundary across the Icknield Way but potentially also a route way from the southerly chalk ridge towards the springs and wetlands by Black Peak. It also demonstrated the suspected prehistoric origins of the line followed by the Bran Ditch.

An Early or Middle Iron Age ditch crossed the south of site, cutting through one barrow ditch. Running perpendicularly to the precursor ditch alignment, it may be contemporary with one of the ditches on that line.

In the far northwest of the evaluation area were a series of Early Iron Age enclosures and early Roman ditches associated with the springs.

In the centre-east of site was an early Roman settlement consisting of post built structures within a co-axial system of enclosures. The precursor ditches formed one axis (probably a lane at this time), with Ashwell Street forming the other axis, extending eastwards out of the evaluation area. It persisted to the 4th Century when two enclosures south of Ashwell Street were re-established with much deeper ditches, either side of the lane. The junction, likely the core of the settlement, had by this point eroded and been reinforced with flint cobbling.

The watching brief identified an area of probable Roman field system in the northwest of the site.

An undated southerly route branching from Ashwell Street was identified by geophysics, crossing the Bran Ditch around the site of a Saxon execution cemetery excavated in the early 20th Century. This route survived until parliamentary enclosure in the early 19th Century.

The modern field system was set out by enclosure in the 19th Century. The construction during the second world war and then contraction of Fowlmere Airfield has also left its mark on the site with part of the perimeter track and gun testing facility foundations falling within the evaluation area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Black Peak Farm, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire (Figure 1).

1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Dan McConnell formerly of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East, and under the oversight of Kasia Gdaniec of CCC.

1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

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

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 Most of the site lies on Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation with the northern part sitting on Zig Zag Chalk formation. The band of Melbourn Rock Chalk Formation separates the two, running approximately south-north towards the springs to the north-east of the site (BGS 2014).

1.2.2 The southern part of the site sits on a rise at up to 37.5m OD, sloping down to the north around 24m OD.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 Details of archaeological features within 1km of the site boundary are listed in a desk-based assessment provided for the evaluation (Smalley 2014). Additional details specific to the site and its immediate surroundings are provided here with CHER references shown on Figure 1.

1.3.2 For reference, several major landmarks need introduction out of chronological order (see Figures 1 & 2), but are described in more detail below. The site's eastern boundary is formed from the line of the Bran Ditch (SAM 1410907), an Anglo-Saxon apparently defensive earthwork that later became a track and forms the parish boundary. Black Peak (CHER 8921), a rise lying to the north of the site, giving its name to the modern farm. Ashwell Street survives mainly as a green way, following the line of a Romanised route way, a northern lowland parallel of the Icknield Way zone, which can be traced from Ashwell and Baldock in the west, through the south of Melbourn, across the site, south of Black Peak and through Fowlmere to the northeast. Its route through this part of Melbourn is less certain than stretches to the east and west, although post-medieval sections are mapped (Figures 2 & 3).

Geophysical Survey

1.3.3 A geophysical survey has also been completed on the site (Bartlett 2014; and Figures 4 & 5). This enhanced the previously known archaeological sites visible in cropmarks and recorded in the Cambridgeshire HER. The survey clarified 3 large ring ditches 30-40m across at the south of the site, probably Bronze Age barrows, though possible causeways or back-filled segments and inner concentric features suggest they could

have other monument forms. One of these was known from aerial photographs (CHER 03986), another may have previously been recorded in the wrong location (CHER 09722).

1.3.4 In the north of the site, there was a complex of enclosure ditches, including parts of a semi-circular ditch 55m across and linear ditches aligned eastwards to the springs as well as north-south. This appeared to be an Iron Age enclosure, previously recorded as crop marks (CHER 8920)

1.3.5 A set of track ditches was detected, probably a branch of Ashwell Street (details below) as well as a fainter linear disturbance corresponding to the post-medieval Old Walden Way (Figure 2) heading southeast-wards.

1.3.6 There were also a series of parallel ditches branching from the turn of the Bran Ditch, northeast towards a series of rectangular enclosures (CHER 4203). These enclosures spread southwest-northeast (CHER 8625) beyond the site and towards Fowlmere, a probable Roman 'ladder' settlement.

1.3.7 Across the south of the site was a strong linear ditch signal crossing from southwest to northeast. Perhaps significantly this passed very close to the ring ditches. It is also visible on aerial photographs for a further 2.5km to the southwest (CHER 09728). This is probably the same ditch excavated in 1959 by then landowner F. Pepper, although the record disagrees on the location so may refer to an undetected feature (CHER 04089).

1.3.8 A number of likely modern features were also revealed, including a known demolished farm structure (R.J. Pepper, present landowner, pers. comm.) and parts of the neighbouring Fowlmere airfield (see below).

Prehistoric & Roman

1.3.9 Excavations across the Bran Ditch in 1993 revealed a buried soil with evidence of a Mesolithic or Neolithic lithic production site in its lower layers and Roman and Iron Age finds in its upper fills (CHER 1137A/B; Welsh 1996). This was in close proximity to enclosure crop marks on Black Peak (CHER 08921). The evaluation at New Road, Melbourn some 500m west of the site identified deposits within glacial hollows which contained mesolithic and neolithic flint assemblages and neolithic pottery (Ladd 2014). Similar hollows containing mesolithic and neolithic flints were found at Royston Road Melbourn during monitoring of an electric cable pipeline (Ladd 2016).

1.3.10 In addition to the barrows/ring ditches highlighted by geophysics (CHER 03986, CHER 09722), several others dot the surrounding landscape, particularly along the chalk ridge to the south (e.g. Bowl Barrow on Goffers Knoll, SAM 1011715) following the Icknield Way zone of ancient track ways.

1.3.11 A complex of settlement enclosures visible as cropmarks is recorded in the north of the site (corresponding with those identified from geophysics) and a quantity of Roman pottery, beehive querns and tile were found in the area (CHER 04203). This settlement appears from aerial photography to have continued northeast into Fowlmere parish (CHER 08625).

Anglo-Saxon to Medieval

1.3.12 Lying midway between the Saxon/Medieval village cores of Melbourn and Fowlmere, there is as yet no record of Anglo-Saxon settlement activity within 1km of the evaluation area (excluding the monumental Bran Ditch and its cemeteries; see below). It was probably mostly agricultural land at this time (Smalley 2014, 15). The system of

furlongs or headlands (see Figure 2) visible in crop marks in the surrounding area are probably Late Saxon or Medieval agricultural furlongs. In Abington Pigots and Litlington 8km to the west, similar aerial photographic features correspond with the pre-enclosure furlongs dating to the Medieval period, and potentially much earlier (Hesse, 2000).

Bran Ditch & Anglo-Saxon Execution Cemetery

1.3.13 The Bran Ditch (or Heydon Ditch) is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, comprising a *c*. 6th century ditch with a bank on the east side (SAM 1410907). It forms the eastern boundary of the site and the boundary between Melbourn and Fowlmere parishes. On the 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing it was also mapped as a track (Figure 3).

1.3.14 It is one of four monumental dykes of similar date in Cambridgeshire, all crossing the Icknield Way zone, the others lying to the northeast: the Brent Ditch, Fleam Dyke and Devils Dyke (Malim 1996, fig. 2). Their large form (the Bran Ditch being the smallest at around 2-2.5m deep) with massive banks on the northeastern side are suggestive of a defensive function, potentially in the context of Mercian incursion into East Anglia, blocking the Icknield Way (Malim 1996). The end points which they connect (normally springs or water courses in the northwest and the boulder clay plateau in the southeast) are perhaps significant, joining the watershed to the springline.

1.3.15 The Cambridgeshire dykes parallel earlier but smaller ditches to the west in Hertfordshire. These include the triple ditches at Deadman's Hill, Sandon/Kelshal near Baldock (Crawford, 1936, 105 & pl. xxxi) and the Mile Ditches at Royston, the latter dating to the Mid-Late Iron Age (Burleigh 1983, Bryant 1995). To the east of the Devil's Dyke, at Cavenham in Suffolk, are the Black Ditches, possibly part of the same series. All appear to cross the zone of the Icknield Way. Taken as a whole, they suggest the Anglo-Saxon Cambridgeshire Dykes may follow or re-establish prehistoric features (Malim 1996, 27).

1.3.16 The Bran Ditch earthwork stretches for 5km between Heydon on the chalk ridge to the south and Black Peak, a small hill immediately north of this site next to a chalk spring. The scheduled area takes in an Iron Age enclosure on Black Peak (CHER 8921), a medieval lynchet close to Heydon and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery east of the boundary of the evaluation area (SAM 1410907). Adjacent to the evaluation area, it makes a slight turn north-northwest, deviating from its main more southerly line to terminate on the eastern side of Black Peak.

1.3.17 Excavation by Beldam in the 19th century had suggested the ditch appeared to break to allow 'the Icknield Way' though (or a modern track within the Icknield Way zone; Fox 1926, 17). Excavations in 1923 comprised a series of trenches excavated along the northern half of the monument (Fox 1926), finding one burial in the base of the ditch in Trench C (see Figure 1) and one next to a smaller parallel ditch in Trench D. In 1927, Trench D was reopened and extended, revealing two earlier smaller ditches below the bank with 50 burials between them, all aligned with their heads to the west/southwest (Lethbridge 1928). Lethbridge was 'almost certain' the bank of the Bran Ditch had been thrown up in an arc deviating around the burials 'in spite of pessimistic comments from several friends' (Lethbridge & Palmer 1928, 81) and despite this requiring the transportation of upcast a further 8m from the edge of the ditch.

1.3.18 The only artefacts recovered from these burials were a knife, a clip or belt buckle and apparent fragments of Anglo-Saxon pottery (*ibid*). Reynolds (2009) agrees the form of the knife is consistent with the Anglo-Saxon date given but could also match ninth and tenth century examples from York. This excavation also uncovered a large pit, the subsidence of which had supposedly caused a collapse in the vallum leading, it was

suggested, to the development of a medieval track here (*ibid* and see Track C, the Old Walden Way, below).

1.3.19 Additional excavation was undertaken by Lethbridge in 1931 following the accidental discovery of human bones by workers; this revealed 6 further skeletons within a small ditch adjacent to the Bran Ditch (Palmer 1932) aligned with their heads to the southeast. One of these was found with a broken pot of 'sub-Roman' form (Palmer 1932, 55 & fig 1). Reynolds (2009) mentioned these with the 50 recovered in Lethbridge's Trench D, but they were buried some 400m to the southeast within a ditch and aligned with heads to northwest rather than between ditches with heads to the southwest.

1.3.20 Many of the bodies recovered showed evidence of decapitation, in Lethbridge's opinion resulting from a 'massacre' (1929, 88). Hill (1976) reinterpreted this 'massacre' site as an execution site, although this was based on parallels normally associated with the Late Saxon period. Reynolds (2009, 108) notes that pre-enclosure place names of 'Gallows Gate' (for the gap in the bank here) and Hangman's Field to the northeast are suggestive of a tradition of execution at this spot, but may refer to medieval or later practices. Malim (1996, 112) suggests that absent further analysis, a later date for the cemetery may be more likely.

1.3.21 A series of excavations were undertaken in 1993 at Black Peak (Welsh 1996) as part of a wider project examining the Cambridgeshire Dykes (Malim 1996). Welsh's excavations on the Bran Ditch showed a single phase of construction with a narrow revetment trench between the bank and the ditch (Malim 1996, fig. 8). The bank survived to varying degrees with a berm up to 3.5m wide separating it from the main ditch, which had a flat base between 1.4 and 3.6m wide (typically around 2.5m across), cutting between 1.2m below modern ground level (at Fox & Palmer's Trench B) and around 2.7m (Fox & Palmer's Trench F; Malim 1996, table 11a).

Medieval & Pre-Enclosure Tracks: Ashwell Street and Fowlmere Path

1.3.22 The 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing, recorded before enclosure, shows a network of tracks crossing the site's open landscape (see Figure 2). Prior to enclosure in 1839, the site lay across Fox Field and Cawden Field, both of which are shown on the enclosure map (see Figure 3). Over time and different publications these routes and names have in some sections been conflated. Where they fall within site they have been labelled Tracks A-E for clarity, with their associated historic names (Figure 2).

1.3.23 Ashwell Street is generally known as a Romanised northern parallel of the Icknield Way, following the spring lines rather than the chalk hills. Parts of its course may have been lost and reformalised in more recent centuries. OGS Crawford traced Ashwell Street's main line as heading through Melbourn across the north of site towards Fowlmere (Track A) and on towards Worsted Lodge on Worsted Street Roman Road (1936, pl xxiii). However, its Roman route between Melbourn and Fowlmere is less certain. The pre-enclosure lines avoid the wet ground at Black Peak but these are most likely medieval or post-medieval formalised routes.

1.3.24 A medieval or later branch line from Ashwell Street was mapped forking southwards just west of the site, crossing the site on a southeasterly line atop the headland (which may appear on geophysics as a broad faint disturbance) between the two medieval open fields (Track C on Figure 2). This split immediately east of the Bran Ditch, with a northerly route heading to Fowlmere and a southeastern branch heading towards Saffron Walden (Fox 1923, 147-8 & Crawford 1936, 100 & pl. xxiii). Evaluation 1km to the west at New Road, Melbourn (Ladd 2014, ECB4241) confirmed the presence of

multiple phases of undated trackside ditches and a section of hollow way where OGS Crawford's Ashwell Street passed south of Melbourn.

1.3.25 To the west of the Bran Ditch, parts of this route may have been known as the Royston Joint Way (Baggs *et al.* 1982b). East of the Bran Ditch, heading towards Saffron Walden it was known as the Old Walden Way (*ibid.*). To confuse matters, the Fowlmere Path is recorded as running from Royston Heath northeast to Fowlmere, through the fields south of Melbourn (Baggs *et al.* 1982a). No doubt this designation overlapped with sections known as Ashwell Street and the Royston Joint Way.

1.3.26 Additionally the geophysics suggest several tracks within the site itself, one branching from Track C at the western edge of site. It is marked by faint ditches before heading through the series of enclosures, apparently heading towards Fowlmere (Track B). This branch off Ashwell Street does not appear on historic maps and, forming the longer axis of the 'ladder' settlement, is probably of at least Roman date.

1.3.27 The northwest-southeast ditches running from the Bran Ditch into the settlement enclosures on geophysics may have formed another track. The southwest-northeast aligned ditch seen on geophysics and aerial photos lines up with another mapped Ashwell Street branch heading northeast from the Bran Ditch to Fowlmere.

1.3.28 In summary, the tracks crossing the site are labelled:

- Track A: Ashwell Street/Fowlmere Path (northernmost branch; suggested by OGS Crawford and Fox; mapped in 1799, possibly informed by the Roman settlement to its south)
- Track B: Roman 'ladder' settlement track (detected on geophysics; not on historic maps)
- Track C: Branch from Ashwell Street (between medieval fields; Ashwell Street/Old Walden Way; probably medieval or later)
- Possible Track D: Potential southwest-northeast track (single long ditch on geophysics and crop marks southwest of Bran Ditch; not mapped)
- Track E: Roman 'ladder' settlement minor axis track from the Bran Ditch meeting Track B at 90 degrees (geophysics; not on historic maps)

1.3.29 The Bran Ditch itself is shown on these maps in the same dashed or dotted line style as a road or path, suggesting equal importance with the tracks that have now disappeared or have become modern roads.

1.3.30 While most of these tracks survive through the post-medieval period, up until enclosure in the 1840s, their origins are not fully understood. Track B is clearly Roman or earlier (Crawford 1936,101) and other may also be Roman, while Track C on the headland might only be medieval, depending on whether the track followed the headland, or the headland followed the track. Furthermore it is not clear when they went out of use, the map of 1799 may not have shown all the surviving earlier tracks across an open landscape.

Enclosure

1.3.31 The area west of the Bran Ditch, within Melbourn parish was enclosed in 1839 (Baggs *et al.* 1982a). Fowlmere was enclosed in 1845, although the area around the Bran Ditch may have been enclosed earlier (Baggs *et al.* 1982b).

First World War

1.3.32 In 1915, the land immediately east of the Bran Ditch was occupied by the War Office as a landing station (Baggs *et al.* 1982b). It is unclear if the airfield extended westwards across the Bran Ditch at the time. It was abandoned in 1919 and demolished in 1923 (*ibid.*).

Second World War 1939-1945

1.3.33 Falling between consecutive editions of the Ordnance Survey map shown in the desk-based assessment (Smalley 2014), was the expansion of the airfield at Fowlmere (CHER CB15133) immediately east of the site. This was built in 1940 and extended in 1943, becoming a USAAF station in 1944 (Baggs *et al.* 1982b).

1.3.34 Aerial photographs (Appendix E.) show that during the Second World War the airfield was extended west across the Bran Ditch into the site. Part of the perimeter track, later perimeter fence and a gun testing facility lay within the evaluation area (Mark Donagain, pers. comm.). After the war, the earlier field pattern respecting the Bran Ditch was re-established with the facility and concrete track evidently being removed (see CHER 04180) but leaving geophysical traces.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The work was commissioned by Will Bedford of CgMs on behalf of Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd. working with R.J. Pepper, the land owner. Richard Mortimer managed the project and it was monitored by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council. The watching brief within the Bran Ditch Scheduled Ancient Monument was monitored by Sarah Poppy of Historic England.

1.4.2 Trenches were machined by Malcolm Searle, Nick Richardson and Lee Scott of Anthill Plant Hire. Excavations on site were undertaken by Andy Greef, Dave Browne, Mary Andrews, Ted Levermore, Daria Tsybaeva, Emily Abrehart and Richard Higham, supervised by Stuart Ladd. Site survey was conducted by Louise Bush, James Fairbairn, Dave Brown and Stuart Ladd.

1.4.3 Due to the risk of unexploded ordnance associated with Fowlmere Airfield, Bill Maskell and Nigel Rowland of 1st Line Defence scanned trenches and monitored hand excavations. After the discovery of a First World War bomb in Area 59 Rik Noke of 1st Line Defence handled the unexploded ordnance.

2 Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

Evaluation

2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area. As a pre-determination evaluation, the objective was to determine whether or not it would be appropriate to develop a solar farm over this known site, and if so, how a mitigation strategy could be developed that would allow it to proceed.

Further work

2.1.2 The nature and condition of the archaeology was such that an area within the Roman site was excluded entirely from the development, arresting further impacts (plough damage had already taken place). The prehistoric barrows and a buffer around them were also excluded in their entirety from development, as was a buffer strip on the western side of Bran Ditch, the latter as required by Historic England. Other planning requirements prevailed that would limit the northern extent of the development into sensitive wildlife habitat areas. The solar panels were erected on concrete shoes in the vicinity and at the margins of the Roman site; elsewhere normal piles were used as panel foundations.

2.1.3 A watching brief was carried out to monitor this and the groundworks during construction (Section 4) and the removal of the construction access road (Section 5). A program of targeted small excavation areas was also carried out in order to answer questions resulting from the evaluation trenching (see Section 6 for detailed aims).

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The Brief required that top and sub soils were bucket sampled for finds.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360 excavator using a 2m toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GS08 RTK GPS.

2.2.4 Trenches were targeted on the basis of the interpretation of the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2014). Due to hares disturbing survey flags overnight, some trench markers moved slightly but were resurveyed after excavation.

2.2.5 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for assessment, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.6 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.7 In total, thirty soil samples were taken for environmental processing and finds retrieval.

2.2.8 Site conditions varied from clear and sunny to driving rain but no features flooded due to the porosity of the chalk geology.

Geophysical Survey Interpretation

2.2.9 The interpretation provided in this report (Figures 5-11) of signals on the original geophysical survey (Figure 4) go much further than the pre-excavation interpretation presented by Bartlett (2014, Figs. 9 & 10). This is with the benefit of light shed on the magnetically weaker features following evaluation. Excavated features have been extrapolated beyond the trench plans and where these lines correspond with fainter features on the grey scale plot (Figure 3) they have been assumed to continue and traced further. This has resulted in a much greater number of features than previously thought, with confidence that they are genuine archaeological features. Crop marks from the HER (Figure 1) were not re-used due the potential for misidentifying features.

3 Evaluation Trench Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Evaluation trenches are discussed in numerical order with (where known) earliest features discussed first. A summary context list with all feature dimensions is provided in Appendix A. A total of 0.4ha was stripped over 49 trenches each approximately 1.9m wide. Trenches are shown on Figures 6-11.

3.2 Natural Hollows

3.2.1 A number of large glacial hollows were recorded in trenches, mainly across the western half of site. These resemble the hollows tested in more detail at New Road 1km to the west, where they were up to 35m across and 1-2m deep, preserving buried soils with neolithic flints and prehistoric pottery throughout and subsoil depressed over their upper fills (Ladd 2014).

3.2.2 Where these were clearly the same type of features as those examined at New Road, they were not excavated but finds were kept from the machined surface and their extents were recorded. The hollow in Trench 28 was partially excavated by machine to confirm it was not an archaeological feature. The hollow in Trench 30 was test-pitted by hand and shown to be natural.

3.3 Bran Ditch Precursors and Track E

3.3.1 The line of Track E was suggested in the introduction based on the geophysical survey (see Figures 2-4). The results support the presence of a track in at least the Roman period. However, some of the ditches on the line appeared to be prehistoric. The Bran Ditch clearly followed and truncated this early ditch/track line, before diverging to the north.

3.3.2 For brevity, these ditches are referred to as Bran Ditch precursors. Track E is used to refer to the track (Roman or otherwise) that follows the line of the precursors. The distinction is made because the ditches may not always have marked a track.

3.4 Trench 1 (Figure 6)

Length (m):	*41.0*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.25*
Orientation:	*E-W*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0.2*

3.4.1 Trench 1 was targeted across an enclosure boundary. Machining revealed a natural hollow at least 13.5m across the west of the trench which was not excavated. Another possibly natural feature or pit (**367**) or pit at least 1.6m across in the centre of the trench, containing a fragment of undiagnostic Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, was cut by two small ditches which made up the signal on the geophysical survey. The western ditch (**346**) had steeper sides and a flat base (0.7m wide, 0.4m deep, 0.4m base) and cut the other (**348**) which had shallow sides and a concave base (at least 0.8m wide, 0.4m deep).

3.4.2 An undated small, shallow pit (**344**) lay 4.5m to the east of these ditches.

3.5 Trench 2

Length (m):	*40.2*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.2-0.3*
Orientation:	*E-W*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0.1*

3.5.1 This trench targeted the western side of the partial circular ditch seen on the geophysics. Machining showed a probable natural hollow (**385**) 13m across the west of the trench, again with Late Iron Age/Early Bronze Age pottery at the machined surface.

3.5.2 Three probably prehistoric features lay in the centre of the trench: a sub-circular pit (**392**) 2.7m across and at least 0.3m deep; a sub-square pit (**389**) 1.3m long and 1m wide; and a section of the circular ditch (**387**, Plate 1) 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep. Although they coincided, the sub-square pit and the ditch had an unclear relationship. All contained small amounts of flint, some burnt.

3.6 Trench 3

Length (m):	*35.3*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.3-0.35*
Orientation:	*NE-SW*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0.2-0.35*

3.6.1 Trench 3 was targeted across a small square enclosure but had moved slightly. As a result it took in what appeared to be a natural feature (**382**) but which may have been the irregular southeastern side of an enclosure ditch, this produced no finds. A very shallow, irregular linear feature 0.6m wide was recorded as natural, although it did produce pottery of 1st century date (**384**). This did not correspond with any geophysical feature.

3.6.2 At the southern end of the trench, the intersection of two ditches was slightly over-machined as their tops were filled with subsoils. The possibly earlier ditch (**368**) was 1.1m wide, with a depth of 0.4m excavated by hand and ran parallel to the trench and contained Roman pottery. This appeared to be cut perpendicularly by a broader ditch (**380**) which was not excavated due to the unclear relationship within the trench. This was 3.3m across and had Middle Iron Age pottery within its top fill.

3.7 Trench 4

Length (m):	*37.0*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.3*
Orientation:	*NW-SE*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0.2*

3.7.1 This trench contained several features. The earliest feature, at the southeastern end of the trench was a shallow pit or tree throw (**375**) 1.4m across and containing two flint flakes. This was cut by a narrow linear ditch which may be the continuation of Ditch **368** in Trench 3. Further north was another linear ditch (**455**), aligned northeast, 0.6m across and 0.1m deep. This produced Roman pottery. This was associated with a small possible posthole (**377**) 0.1m across and undated. The two ditches could be related to the post-medieval Track A (OGS Crawford's Ashwell Street/Fowlmere Path; see Figures 2/3).

3.8 Trench 5

Length (m):	*43.0*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.3*
Orientation:	*E-W*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0.2*

3.8.1 Trench 5 targeted the eastern side of the circular ditch seen in Trench 2.

3.8.2 This trench revealed another smaller natural hollow (**399**) 3.6m across near its eastern end. The targeted ditch (**403**) at the western end of the trench was not excavated and it was unclear if it was the linear ditch running off-north-south on the geophysics or the opposite side of the semi-circular ditch, or the result of one cutting the other. Its fill more closely resembled the semi-circular ditch (Trench 2: **387**) than the linear ditch (Trench 6, below) but finds from its surface were Middle Iron Age in date whereas neither the semi-circular ditch nor the linear ditch were dated elsewhere.

3.8.3 At the eastern end of the trench was a linear ditch (**396**) 1.2m across and 0.4m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base which produced 2nd to 3rd-century Roman pottery. This was aligned north-northeast towards the springs with a parallel, undated ditch (**373**) 8.5m to the northwest. This second ditch was 0.8m wide, 0.35m deep with a flat base 0.6m across.

3.8.4 Three metres to the west was a shallow ditch terminus (**401**) only 0.15m deep, aligned closer to north, again with Roman pottery in its fill.

3.8.5 In retrospect, the parallel ditches can perhaps be seen on the geophysical survey. They may delineate a route or track way towards the wetland and springs to the northeast.

3.9 Trench 6

Length (m): *35.8* *Topsoil (m):* *0.2*

Orientation: *E-W* *Subsoil (m):* *0.2*

3.9.1 Trench 6 contained two patches of natural hollow, 10m across the centre of the trench and 1.8m at its western end. The north-south linear boundary ditch (**394**) crossed its eastern end, continuing up to Trench 5. This was 1.8m wide and 0.8m deep with shallow, straight sides and a concave base. No finds were retrieved.

3.10 Trench 7

Length (m): *33.2* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *0.1*

3.10.1 This trench contained another natural hollow (**428**) 7.2m across, apparently cut by a linear ditch 1.9m across, aligned northwest-southeast. This was not excavated to avoid contaminating the tentative relationship at this point. To the north of this was a parallel ditch (**405**) 1m wide and 0.4m deep, which was targeted from the geophysical survey. It likely continues northwest before turning northwards as one of the Ditches **346**/**348** in Trench 1. It was not dated here. Further south were a narrow ditch terminus (**406**) aligned east and a possible linear ditch (**427**) with width varying from 1.4 to about 3m. These were not excavated and did not correspond to any geophysical features.

3.11 Trench 8

Length (m): *45.1* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3-0.4*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *-*

3.11.1 Much of this trench covered the area of two natural hollows (**411** & **412**) 17m across. The fill of these made any features difficult to see but two parallel ditches (**407**, **409**) lay to the northeast of the hollow. At least one of these may be relatively modern as perforated brick was pulled up during machining. At the western end of the trench, a small ditch terminus or pit (**413**) 0.5m across lay partially under the northern baulk.

3.12 Trench 9

Length (m): *40.2* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.2*

3.12.1 An area of amorphous geophysical anomalies was targeted here and produced an unclear picture, with a probable natural hollow (**429**) at its northern end and a series of linear features: three crossing its southern half and a possible ditch near its northern end (**431**). In the centre was a broad patch of broken angular flints (435) 4.2m across, initially thought to be natural but apparently lying within a cut (**433**) 10m across. This was only partially excavated but appeared to have vertical sides.

3.12.2 The three linear features all contained post-medieval material including pottery and a clay tobacco pipe, while the larger cut contained fragments of coal/clinker. It appears these features may result from some kind of quarrying, potentially with the flints being discarded to backfill the larger hole.

3.12.3 The natural chalk here was more sandy with gravels.

3.13 Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13

3.13.1 These trenches were removed from the scheme and are not shown on the figures in this report.

3.14 Trench 14 (Figure 7)

Length (m): *40.4* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *0.1*

3.14.1 This trench revealed a number of north-south linear ditches, which in retrospect are visible on the geophysical survey. They are continuations of the multiple north-south ditches south of the settlement area diverging northwards towards the wetlands and springs.

3.14.2 Dated features were all Roman. Two boundary ditches were excavated (**20** & **8**) as was a third (**4**) on a similar northwesterly alignment but not traceable by the geophysics. All were smaller (no more than 0.5m deep) than any of the main ditches excavated close to the settlement or further south, although ditch **20** was 2.2m wide.

3.14.3 Three features, thought to be postholes on machining were excavated, showing they were parts or termini of irregular linear features (**11**, **13** & **15** with **13** being undated). A linear ditch with no finds (**17**) cut across the centre of the trench, just cutting Ditch **20** before being lost in an amorphous area of possible pits. This area was also cut by a possible curvilinear ditch (**84**) containing a posthole (**86**).

3.14.4 An undated pit or tree throw (**6**) lay near the western end of the trench.

3.15 Trenches 15, 16

3.15.1 These trenches were removed from the scheme and are not shown on the figures in this report.

3.16 Trench 17

Length (m): *38.0* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *–*

3.16.1 Near the western boundary of the site, Trench 17 revealed a small natural hollow 7m across and a sub-circular pit (**282**) 1.2m by 1.4m across and 0.4m deep with shallow, irregular sides and base. The fill of this (283) produced a copper allow ring (SF7) of post-medieval date (see Appendix B.1).

3.17 Trench 18

Length (m): *42.6* *Topsoil (m):* *0.25*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.1 (north) - 0.4 (south)*

3.17.1 The northern end of Trench 18 was occupied by a natural hollow 14m across. No archaeological features were recorded.

3.18 Trench 19

Length (m): 44.7 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.1

3.18.1 Trench 19 was targeted to detect north-south boundary/enclosure ditches in Trench 26 beyond the point where they are lost on the geophysical survey. No archaeological features were found.

3.19 Trench 20

Length (m): 39.4 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.1

3.19.1 A linear ditch (**350**) ran along the northeastern trench baulk from the southern end. The trench was extended eastwards here to enable a full slot to be excavated, revealing a full width of 2.8m and depth of 0.6m with gradually sloping sides. The upper fill contained a sherd of heavily mineralised early Roman pottery – a sign of the wetter landscape here. The relative absence of Roman pottery from such a broad ditch, contrasted with the more finds-rich features in the trench, could suggest an earlier date. Its relationship with the trench's other features would lie outside the northeastern baulk.

3.19.2 At the trench's northern end, a broad, amorhpous feature (**227**) 8.3m across contained a metalled surface (228) below 0.1m of silt (229) containing a number of Roman pottery sherds in the 1m segment excavated. This was cut by a small shallow ditch (**230**) aligned perpendicular to Ditch **350**, also with Roman pottery.

3.19.3 In the centre of the trench's southwestern baulk was a shallow amorphous feature (**232**) or multiple features/tree throws containing a fragment of pottery.

3.20 Trench 21

Length (m): 42.7 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.2

3.20.1 A number of northwest-southeast aligned ditches containing Roman or Late Iron Age pottery were recorded here but not excavated. At the western end two ditches (**234**) and (**238**) correspond with track side ditches in Trench 25 (below) and can be traced there on the geophysical survey. Although they lacked a metalled surface between them, a number of large flints were evident in the top fill of Ditch **234**. Between them was a 0.3m diameter post hole (**236**) 0.04m deep. Two further undated postholes (**458** & **459**) were recorded east of the track ditches. East of these postholes was a narrower ditch (**240**) 0.8m across.

3.20.2 At the eastern end of the trench, a number of linear features intersected and the picture was not entirely clear within the confines of the trench. It appeared a narrow linear feature (**246**) ran from the northeastern end of the trench, down its centreline for 3.5m. This appeared to be cut perpendicularly by another ditch, itself indistinguishable from another linear feature running 10.5m along the northwestern side of the trench (together numbered **244**). This was cut by an undated ditch on the main northwest-southeast alignment (**242**).

3.21 Trench 22 (Figure 8)

Length (m): 41.6 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.25

3.21.1 Due to the density of archaeology in this trench, not all features were excavated. Most features had a very dark silty fill with a large quantity of pottery, clearly indicative of settlement activity.

3.21.2 At the centre of the trench was a mass of pits and/or linear features, all of Roman date but with uncertain extents (**51**, **53**, **55**, **69**). Immediately south of this was a collection of Roman cremations (Plate 2) in/with fine ware vessels (including stamped samian dishes SF19, SF 20; Plate 23), some surviving intact almost into the plough soil (**33**, **29**, **31**, **35**), 0.2-0.25m from the surface. These were not excavated, though pottery recovered from the spoil heap came from these cremations.

3.21.3 A further two small unexcavated pits (**57**, **65**) nearby may also be cremations but appeared to be cut by part of the pit group (**51**, **53**, **55**, **69**). A larger (0.9m) unexcavated circular pit (**37**) was also associated with the cremations.

3.21.4 A series of ditches of different sizes pass through the trench parallel or near-parallel to the main settlement/enclosure alignment along TrackB. Ditch **21** was 2m wide and cut another feature of uncertain form (**19**) at the northern end of the trench. South of this, a pair of small linear ditches 6.8m apart crossed the northern end of the trench: Ditch **25** was 0.6m wide with very steep sides and a flat base at 0.5m deep – a possible palisade trench; and its unexcavated parallel (**45**) to the south appeared to cut part of the pit group (**51** etc.) Between Ditches **25** and **49**, a south-facing shallow ditch terminus was truncated by a possible beam slot or gully (**47**) which continued south (**43**) and truncated Ditch **49** and the pit group.

3.21.5 Near the southern end of the trench, a narrow (0.5m) linear ditch (**45**) cut along a line closer to north-south. At the southern end were at least two inter-cutting features (**62**, **71**) of uncertain nature and of probable Roman date.

3.22 Trench 23

Length (m): *43.9* *Topsoil (m):* *0.2*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.1*

3.22.1 At the eastern edge of the evaluation area, close to the Bran Ditch scheduled area, a number of probable enclosure/Ashwell Street ditches were targeted. The linear features excavated correlate well with these. Ditch **196** and its recut (**191**) match the southern side of Track B, with a parallel slightly further south (**42**). Ditches **186** and (unexcavated) **184** fit the northern side of Ashwell Street.

3.22.2 Two metres to the north of this, a likely enclosure ditch (**177**) was excavated and found to have a cobbled surface (183) spread across its upper fills. This is continued to the south-west in Trench 24, although the geophysical signal indicating their continuity is weak. It is not clear whether the cobbled surface spread over a wider area and has since been truncated, except where depressed into the ditch, or whether it was only spread here to consolidate the softer ground over the silted up ditch.

3.22.3 In the northern half of the trench, apparently within an enclosure, were a pit (**173**), cut by a ditch (**175**, both unexcavated) and a parallel ditch (**171**). Their full extents are unclear from geophysics.

3.23 Trench 24 (Figure 7)

Length (m): *37.5* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *–*

3.23.1 Lying southwest of Trench 23, this trench targeted similar features reaching south as far as the southern side ditch of Ashwell Street. All bar one were of Roman date.

3.23.2 At the northern end of the trench was a large posthole (**139**) and ditch (**135**, Section 37) which had a flat, possible stepped base and steep sides, possibly curving but similar to the trackway alignment. The stratigraphic relationship between the two was unclear as most of the posthole was within the extents of the ditch. However, sherds of pottery from the posthole base appear to be of Middle Iron Age date, suggesting it pre-dates the Roman ditch. It was at least 0.7m across and 0.5m deep.

3.23.3 The southern portion of the trench, within the established line of Track B, featured two small linear gullies (**203**, excavated, **205**, unexcavated), aligned parallel to the route, and a small square unexcavated posthole (**201**). Given the likely longevity of Ashwell Street, Track B and these features may pre-date it or indicate an earlier position – they could also be wheel ruts, though no similar features were recorded in Area 58 (below).

3.23.4 At the northern side of Track B, a larger pit (**99**) was cut by a probable linear ditch (**124**) which is likely the continuation of ditches in Trench 23 (**184**, **186**). The pit's upper fill (100) contained an Iron blade (SF1), nail (SF2) and parts of a quern stone (SF3). Again the geophysical signal for these features is weak between the trenches. Immediately north of this pit and ditch was the continuation of Ditch **177** with flint cobble Surface183 in its upper fills. A broader area of this was exposed in plan here as the trench was extended 2m eastwards.

3.24 Trench 25

Length (m): *40.1* *Topsoil (m):* *0.2*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *0.2*

3.24.1 This trench was targeted across the faint signal of a pair of ditches running northwest, perpendicular to Track B. Excavation revealed that between these two wide ditches (**210**, **286**) lay a spread of cobbles (209) 7m across, spilling into the sides of the ditches. The ditches but not the cobbles survive further north in Trench 21. They both produced a quantity of discarded animal bone.

3.24.2 To the east lay a near-parallel linear ditch (**215**) and the corner of a rectilinear ditch (**213**) ordinal with the others. To the west was an amorphous shallow feature (**217**) against the northern baulk. The latter is on the line of a linear feature parallel to the two Ditches **210** and **286** on geophysics.

3.25 Trench 26

Length (m): *50.3* *Topsoil (m):* *0.15-0.3*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *0.25*

3.25.1 Trench 26 targeted a series of parallel ditches to the north of Track B. The furthest west (**258**, Section 59, Plate 3) was 2m wide at the top and 0.9m deep with steep sides funnelling to a flattish base 0.4m wide. A series of early chalky fills indicated a bank on its southwestern side. Finds from its final fill (275) included a number of sherds of a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age vessel. A tentative Bronze Age date for the cut of the ditch itself is suggested. This ditch was not mapped on the pre-excavation geophysical interpretation used for targeting the trench, but in retrospect it can be traced on the grayscale plot (Figures 4 & 5) extending a further 40-50m northwest and *c*.20m southeast, before potentially returning northeastwards. This suggests an enclosure and other hints of lines on these axes may form a field system now mostly obscured by the Roman enclosures and Track B. The ditch's fills also differed significantly from the fills of the Roman ditches, being darker, and apparently more peaty compared to the more clayey silt of most of the Roman ditches nearby.

3.25.2 The other ditches within the trench (from west: **267**, and close together: **253**, **251**, **249**) were parallel but unexcavated, forming part of the Roman enclosure system. Extending further south, they appeared on geophysics breaking for the line of Track B, but align with enclosure ditches excavated in Trench 29.

3.25.3 A small posthole (**255**) was unexcavated, lying against the southern baulk, near the northeastern end of the trench.

3.26 Trench 27

Length (m): *43.0* *Topsoil (m):* *0.25*

Orientation: *NNW-SSE* *Subsoil (m):* *–*

3.26.1 Lying at the west of the site, this trench picked up a natural hollow (**444**) 9.9m across the northern end as well as two (targeted) parallel ditches (**456**, **457**) 1.8 and 3.7m wide. If these delineate Track B (see Figure 2), they must turn sharply to the northeast to match the line passing through the settlement. These were not excavated due to the low potential for retrieval of secure dating evidence for such ditches away from settlements and their potential longevity. They are probably a branch of Track C, which was excavated at several locations further west and although undated probably had Roman or earlier origins (Ladd 2014).

3.26.2 South of the ditches were two undated circular postholes (**460**, **461**) each 0.3m across and 0.1m deep forming a line perpendicular to the track (Plate 4).

3.27 Trench 28

Length (m): *41.5* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.15*

3.27.1 Trench 28 was targeted at the spot the ditches in Trench 27 would turn northeast to head through the centre of the settlement enclosures (i.e. Track B) but where the geophysical signal is lost or unclear. Most of the trench was taken up by a natural hollow (**446**) 26.8m across. A machine sondage 0.5m deep and 4m across was excavated through this to confirm its nature (Plate 5). The base of the feature was not reached. The track may only have been marked by posts in this area or simply did not leave any below-ground impression.

3.28 Trench 29

Length (m): *39.6* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *–*

3.28.1 Targeted south of Track B, Trench 29 picked up an amorphous, possibly prehistoric feature (**156**) at its centre. This was an irregular, almost linear feature aligned east-west, 2.7m across and approximately 0.45m deep below the natural chalk horizon. By some process, its upper fill (156, a dark peaty silt) survived around 0.1m above the level of the surrounding natural chalk. This was topped by a thin band of redeposited chalk fragments (153; Plate 6).

3.28.2 This feature produced sherds of Early Iron Age pottery. Along one side of it was a line of 4 small postholes (**158**, **160**, **162**, **220**), one of which (**160**) produced Early Iron Age pottery as well. These features may relate to a weak linear east-west aligned trend on the geophysical survey.

3.28.3 At either end of this trench, enclosure ditches (**142** northeast, 1.2m wide by 0.4m deep; **166** southwest, 2.6m wide, 0.8m deep) were excavated, producing pottery of 2nd to 4th century date. A small v-profiled gully (**164**) 0.25m wide parallel to and within the

southwestern side of the enclosure. To the northeast lay a probable beamslot (**146**) parallel with the enclosure ditches as well as postholes in a perpendicular line (**148**, **150**, **152**).

3.28.4 Outside the southwestern enclosure ditch lay two cremations (**168**, **170**, Plate 7) including a copper brooch in Cremation **168** (SF5) and another likely from a cremation but found in the topsoil (SF4). More cremations probably survive but under only thin (up to 0.3m) topsoil with no subsoil around this end of the trench.

3.29 Trench 30

Length (m): 49.6 *Topsoil (m):* 0.3

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* –

3.29.1 This trench was targeted across an enclosure south of Ashwell Street. The southeastern curvilinear ditch could not be clearly seen, apparently falling within the extents of a shallow natural hollow (**82**) 12.5m across, and so remained unexcavated. A 1m test pit was hand excavated away from the line of the ditch to a depth of 0.5m but produced no finds.

3.29.2 At the northeastern end of the trench were a number of Roman features. The main enclosure ditch (**74**) appeared between 6 and 8m across, likely formed of several ditch cuts, but this was not excavated due to lack of clarity. To the southwest. Within the enclosure, was a parallel, smaller ditch (**76**) with an 'ankle-breaker' profile 1.4m across, 0.6m deep and base 0.4m wide. Perpendicular to this was a shallow gully (**80**) terminating 5.8m to the southeast and an associated posthole (**78**) with no finds.

3.30 Trench 31

Length (m): 49.7 *Topsoil (m):* 0.35

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* –

3.30.1 Trench 31 was targeted on Track E, south of Track B, across two enclosures and the complex of ditches along Track E.

3.30.2 Initial excavation revealed five parallel linear ditches following the alignment of Track E. All were excavated. In addition, a line of postholes (**299**, **301**, **305** and pair **309**/**311**) and an amorphous pit (**313**) extended southwest, perpendicular to the main alignment. Two additional postholes (**303**, **307**) lay just south of this line. Posthole **311** produced a piece of undiagnostic Early Neolithic or Early Iron Age pottery, more likely the latter given finds in the associated ditches (below). The shallow pit (**313**) contained pieces of burnt flint and a sherd of Roman pottery.

3.30.3 Of the ditches, two were smaller and produced exclusively Early Iron Age pottery sherds. At the northeastern side of the alignment, Ditch **101** (Section 26) was 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep with gradually sloping sides and a near-flat base, filled with a dark greyish brown silt (102). Further south, between later ditch cuts was Ditch **264** (Section 61), of similar proportions but slightly narrower at 0.9m wide and with two fills – a primary fill, possibly slumped bank material, of light greyish brown silt (265) followed by a dark greyish brown silt (266). Both fills produced Early Iron Age pottery.

3.30.4 In the centre of the alignment, Ditch **289** (Section 63, Plate 8) was 3.2m wide and 1.1m deep with undulating sides gradually reaching a concave base. Its basal fill (293) was a mid greyish yellow/brown silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions, suggesting a bank, on the eastern side. This contained Early Iron Age pottery. The fill above this was divided into spits during excavation (from lowest: 292, 291, 290). The lower spits contained Early Iron Age pot sherds with the upper fill containing Middle Iron Age

sherds. The irregular western side suggest an additional earlier shallow ditch was truncated by Ditch **289**, but this is unclear.

3.30.5 Despite its size, Ditch **289**'s form differs from the final two ditches (below). The cutting of the two Roman enclosure ditches either side would make this ditch entirely redundant. Lacking Roman pottery even in the upper fills, it had clearly silted up before they were cut. So a Middle or more probably Early Iron Age date is likely.

3.30.6 The two remaining ditches lay at the northeastern and southwestern edges of the 'precursor' zone and formed parts of rectangular enclosures in the angles between the precursor line and Track B. Ditch **103** was 2.5m wide, 1.4m deep with steep sides and a larger 'ankle-breaker' base 0.7m wide (Section 27, Plate 9). Finds throughout this ditch are predominantly later Roman, from the late 3rd-Century to 4th century. It had a number of fills, starting with a mid brown clayey silt with very frequent chalk inclusions (104) filling much of the 'ankle-breaker', slumping in from the northeastern side, suggesting a bank inside the enclosure. The next fill (105) was a mid brown clayey silt, lacking chalk inclusions from the bank and containing later Roman material: animal bone and a sherd of Roman pottery as well as a worked bone possible pin (SF 13). The final fill (106) of light brown silt similarly contained animal bone and later Roman pottery.

3.30.7 Ditch **294** (Section 64) lay southwest of the others, forming the opposing enclosure to Ditch **103**. This was 3m wide at the top with steep sides and a concave base. The finds overlap with Ditch **103** in date, with some potential 1st and 2nd century material in the earliest fill (298). This was a mid greyish brown silt containing frequent chalk inclusions, built up the western side, suggesting a bank on that side (again, within the enclosure). This contained a residual Early Iron Age sherd. The next fill was excavated in spits (earliest: 297, 296, 295) and consisted of a dark greyish brown silt containing several large unworked stones (not retained) and a quantity of Roman pottery as well as fragments of human skull (296).

3.30.8 To the southeast of the trench, the larger precursor Ditch **289** and two more aligned on Ditches **103** and **294** have a strong signal on the geophysical survey, becoming weaker after 90m, before Trench 42. Elements of the earlier, smaller ditches can tentatively be traced too (Figures 4 and 5). The entire alignment continues southeast until it reaches the main section of the Bran Ditch. It is unclear from the geophysics alone whether the enclosure ditches (**103**, **294**) are contemporary with those continuing southeast, or if they were a discrete later addition, cutting on the same line.

3.30.9 The gap between the two later Roman enclosures suggests the line of prehistoric precursor ditches had become a lane or track (Track E) by the Roman period, although no surface was detected in this trench.

3.31 Trench 32

Length (m):	*61.6*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.3*
Orientation:	*NE-SW*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0.1*

3.31.1 Due to wildlife interference on site, the survey markers for this trench moved several metres. As a result it exposed a targeted sub-enclosure ditch (**90**) obliquely, but it was still possible to excavate this to its base at 0.95m. Where this met the main northwest-southeast enclosure ditch, no relationship could be determined. Other ditches internal to the larger enclosure were also revealed (**87**, excavated, **285**, unexcavated). The excavated ditches contained Roman pottery as well as residual flints.

3.31.2 Two undated postholes (**95**, **97**) were also excavated.

3.32 Trench 33

Length (m): *37.0* *Topsoil (m):* *0.2*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.15*

3.32.1 Located east of the precursor ditches but south of the Roman enclosures, Trench 33 produced no archaeological features. At its northern end was a natural hollow at least 5m across.

3.33 Trench 34

Length (m): *40.9* *Topsoil (m):* *0.2*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *0.2*

3.33.1 Located south of the enclosures and west of the precursor ditches, this trench revealed a spread of silty material (362) sealing flint cobbles (361, 'cut': **360**). This was not excavated. It extended for 7.2m and appears to share the northwest-southeast alignment of the Roman settlement, although its extents cannot be traced on the geophysical survey.

3.33.2 At the eastern end of the trench was a post hole (**363**) 0.3m wide by 0.22m deep. There were no finds from within the trench.

3.34 Trench 35

Length (m): *39.3* *Topsoil (m):* *0.25*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.1*

3.34.1 The ditches targeted here appear to form subdivisions of the Roman enclosure system on the south of Ashwell Street, to which they are parallel. The southern-most (**120**) was unexcavated. Further north, Ditch **116** had straight sides with a flat base and produced no finds. At the northern end, Ditch **110** produced no finds but its recut (**108**) contained Roman sherds.

3.34.2 Around the middle ditch (**116**) were three postholes. The posthole to the north (**112**) contained Roman pottery and a piece of coal/clinker. To the south, one posthole (**114**, 0.6m wide by 0.35m deep) contained pottery and some slag while the second (**118**, 0.5m by 0.6m) contained no finds, but was shallower at 0.2m.

3.34.3 The coal/clinker and slag finds are evidence of industrial use within the broader enclosure here. The postholes lie either side of a sub-division ditch possibly suggesting two phases of use within the Roman period.

3.35 Trench 36 (Figure 9)

Length (m): *41.9* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *0.1*

3.35.1 Trench 36 was targeted on a sub rectangular area of disturbance within the geophysical survey. No archaeological features were revealed. It is possible that variations in the chalk geology, which was weathered here, caused the disturbance.

3.36 Trench 37

Length (m): *39.6* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.3 – 0.4 (within hollows)*

3.36.1 This trench revealed two broad areas of natural hollow, lying close to the western edge of site. The northern hollow was at least 7m across and the southern one approximately 7.5m across.

3.37 Trench 38

Length (m): 40.2 *Topsoil (m):* 0.3

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.25

3.37.1 Further south, close to the western boundary, this trench revealed two small natural hollows, one 8m across, one at least 4m across. Between them was a small possible post hole (**462**) only 0.15m wide and 0.05m deep. With no finds this could be a modern or natural feature.

3.38 Trench 39

Length (m): 42.5 *Topsoil (m):* 0.3

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.1 (unclear horizon with colluvium/headland)

Colluvium (m): Up to 0.5m

3.38.1 Positioned across the 'Old Walden Way', Track C, at the bottom of a slight slope down to the north, this trench had a build up of up to 0.5m of colluvium below top- and sub-soils. This may have been headland material on the line of the pre-enclosure medieval field boundary but the hill slope made it difficult to tell. Track C here is clearer from aerial photographs as a possible headland between pre-enclosure fields. A linear disturbance is evident on the geophysical survey but without side ditches.

3.38.2 Below the colluvium/headland was a series of amorphous slight hollows, likely of natural origin. However, two possible archaeological features were excavated. Possible Pit **358** contained no finds and may have been a solution hollow as its lower edges were not clear cut, with a very fine silty/chalky fill. It was 0.25m deep and 0.6m across with a bowl profile. Further north, a linear patch of subsoil-filled feature (**356**) could have been a northern track-side ditch but is more likely the result of frost fracturing or root damage.

3.39 Trench 40 (Figure 10)

Length (m): 44.7 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.2

3.39.1 A large natural hollow (**448**) here, at least 30m across, produced Early Iron Age pottery and Neolithic flints.

3.40 Trench 41

Length (m): 42.4 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.2

3.40.1 No archaeological features were recorded.

3.41 Trench 42 (Figure 7)

Length (m): 40.2 *Topsoil (m):* 0.22

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.1-0.3

3.41.1 Trench 42 was targeted across the line of Track E at a point where the ditches have a weaker geophysical signature, 120m southeast of the Roman enclosures excavated in Trench 31.

3.41.2 Five distinct linear features could be seen in plan. These were not excavated and are numbered on the assumption that they are continuations of features in Trench 43. The exception to this is the narrow Ditch **264** which appears to continue from Trench 31, deviating under Ditch **129** just north of this trench. Ditch **260** as visible on the geophysical survey is lost within a broader spread of probably multiple ditches.

3.42 Trench 43 (Figure 10)

Length (m): *53.5* *Topsoil (m):* *0.2*

Orientation: *NE-SW* *Subsoil (m):* *<0.1 (at ends), 0.2-0.3 (between ditches)*

3.42.1 This trench offered the opportunity to excavate all the Bran Ditch precursor ditches on the line of Track E well away from the Roman enclosures 230m to the northwest. At this location, 5 features were visible cutting the natural but resolved to 8 separate linear ditch cuts on excavation.

3.42.2 Only one was dated here, a small gully (**131**, Section 35) 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep with shallow sides, containing a single sherd of Early Iron Age pottery. The ditch was too small to trace confidently on the geophysical survey back to Trenches 42/31.

3.42.3 Ditch **222** (Section 46, Plate 10) cut through the centre of the trench and seemed, based on its form and tracing through geophysics, to be equivalent to Ditch **289** (Section 63, Trench31), which was of Early Iron Age date. Here, Ditch **222** it is 2.2m wide, 1.2m deep with steep sides and a narrow concave base. There was no definition between the main fill (224) and a basal deposit (223) containing a small quantity of charcoal.

3.42.4 The rest of the features in the trench remain undated, beyond saying they are probably broadly contemporary, paralleling Ditch **222**/**289** and the prehistoric ditches of Trench 31. At the northeastern side of the system, was a steep-sided ditch (**127**) 1m wide with a flat-base 0.4m across, probably cut by a second ditch (**129**, Section 34) with concave sides 1.6m wide and 0.4m deep. Between Gully **131** and the central ditch, was a more substantial ditch (**133**, Section 36) 1.8m wide and 0.6m deep with a wide flat base 0.8m wide and very steep sides. This can be traced northwest for 95m before it becomes indistinct from its northeastern neighbours on the geophysical plot.

3.42.5 Three ditches (Section 58) lay to the southwest. At the level of the natural chalk, they are all filled with subsoil (2). The central ditch (**260**) is possibly the earliest, its primary fill (261) apparently being sealed by subsoil which fills and overflows the northern ditch (**259**). This later ditch had an irregular base and could be the result of vegetation growing alongside Ditch **260**. The southwestern ditch (**262**) had a v-shaped profile 0.7m deep and at least 1.6m wide but its exact relationship to the others was not clear.

3.42.6 The level of natural chalk to the southwest of Ditch **262** is around 0.3m higher than on the opposite side. Similarly, a few metres north of Ditch **127**, the natural chalk rises up as well. This means there is essentially no subsoil, (2), to the southwest nor to the northeast of the ditch zone but approximately 0.2-0.3m of it, in a depression across the middle of the trench, between the ditches. This may be a hollow way and suggests that the ditches at times formed a track way (the postulated Track E).

3.43 Trench 44

Length (m): *39.6* *Topsoil (m):* *0.3*

Orientation: *NW-SE* *Subsoil (m):* *0.2 (top fill of hollow)*

3.43.1 Trench 44 contained no archaeological features, just a natural hollow at least 8.1m across at the north of the trench.

3.44 Trench 45

Length (m): 39.6 *Topsoil (m):* 0.2

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.05

3.44.1 No archaeological cut features were revealed, although a natural hollow (**450**) 4m across the north of the trench produced prehistoric pottery from its upper fill.

3.45 Trench 46 (Figure 9)

Length (m): 44.8 *Topsoil (m):* 0.2

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.35 (top fill of hollow)

3.45.1 A large natural hollow 30m across covered the majority of this trench from the northwestern end.

3.46 Trench 47 (Figure 10)

Length (m): 42.4 *Topsoil (m):* 0.15

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.05

3.46.1 Targeted on the ditch marking possible Track D, this trench exposed a 2.5m wide portion of the ditch. This which was excavated in Trench 49 (Ditch **315**). This ditch appears on geophysics and aerial photographs, aligned perpendicularly to the precusor ditches. There was no additional evidence for a track.

3.47 Trench 48

Length (m): 40.5 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* <0.05

3.47.1 Trench 48 was targeted across the northwestern side of a large ring ditch, assumed to be a barrow ditch, on a slight promontory, where it is closest to the possible Track D and Ditch **315** (Trench 49).

3.47.2 The barrow ditch (**329**) was 9.7m wide and filled with a light greyish brown sandy silt (328) with frequent chalk inclusions. Immediately north west of it was a sub-circular pit (**325**) 1m across with a similar fill so is assumed to be associated with the barrow ditch.

3.47.3 In contrast, Ditch **315** clearly cut across the silted up barrow ditch with a top fill of mid-dark brown silt. This was 2.75m wide here and remained unexcavated.

No mound survives within the barrow, with ploughing having reduced the top soil to no more than 0.2m. A depression following the full ring of the ditch is just visible at ground level. There was no additional evidence for a track.

3.48 Trench 49

Length (m): 43.9 *Topsoil (m):* 0.2

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.1-0.3

3.48.1 The only feature within this trench was Ditch **315**, thought potentially to mark a track (Track D). It was excavated, giving a width of 3.15m and depth of 1m with steep sides gradually breaking to a flat base 0.6m wide. A chalky slump (349) on its southeastern side suggests a bank built up on that side. This was followed by a fill of silty clay (316) then a silt fill (317) 0.6m thick with more chalk content, containing fragments of Middle Iron Age pottery. The final fill (318) was a more sorted silty clay 0.55m thick with fewer inclusions and containing abraded Roman pottery sherds. There was no additional evidence for a track.

3.49 Trench 50

Length (m): 38.7 *Topsoil (m):* 0.2

Orientation: NNW-SSE *Subsoil (m):* 0.15

3.49.1 This trench was targeted on geophysical features on the headland of the southern branch of the OldWalden Way, Track C, 30m west of its intersection with the Bran Ditch.

3.49.2 At the northern end of the trench was a natural hollow at least 10m across.

3.49.3 Two small ditches, potentially relating to Track C were recorded (north: **334**, 1.4m wide; south **333**, 0.75m wide). Between the northern ditch and the hollow was a slightly irregular linear feature (**335**) 0.65m wide.

3.49.4 At the southern end of the trench were two sub-circular features (**334**, **335**). Containing subsoil, these may be natural features.

3.49.5 The geophysical anomaly passing through the southern end of the trench matches a destroyed modern field boundary still visible as a small bank on the surface.

3.50 Trench 51

Length (m): 39.2 *Topsoil (m):* 0.3

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.2

3.50.1 Across the eastern half of Trench 51 was a natural hollow (**454**) at least 20.4m across.

3.50.2 The furrow-like lines from the geophysical survey were not visible.

3.51 Trench 52

Length (m): 40.9 *Topsoil (m):* 0.2

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* 0.15

3.51.1 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

3.52 Trench 53

Length (m): 40.7 *Topsoil (m):* 0.25

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* –

3.52.1 Located south of the three barrow ring ditches on the geophysical survey this trench exposed part of a single pit or ditch terminus (**354**) 3m across and 1m deep with gently curving sides and slightly concave base. Its fill of friable sandy silt with frequent chalk inclusions (355) produced a single piece of Beaker pottery.

3.53 Trench 54

Length (m): 38.6 *Topsoil (m):* 0.3

Orientation: NW-SE *Subsoil (m):* 0.1

3.53.1 No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

3.54 Trench 55

Length (m): 20.4 *Topsoil (m):* 0.3

Orientation: NE-SW *Subsoil (m):* –

3.54.1 Trench 55 was targeted on an area of possible modern disturbance. However there was evidence of discharged 0.50 calibre anti-aircraft rounds in the ploughsoil and on the surface. Under the supervision of Nigel Rowland of First Line Defence machining proceeded but was halted when a dump of burnt ammunition (**342**) was uncovered.

3.54.2 No further archaeological work was undertaken around this trench, with the ammunition being excavated later by First Line Defence. With remains of a burnt wooden box and discharged rounds but un-hammered, exploded casings, the dump appeared to have been burnt for disposal in a shallow pit (Nigel Rowland, pers. comm.).

3.54.3 Further research shows that the geophysical disturbance 20m south of the trench was the remains of the airfield's gun testing facility (Mark Donaghan pers. comm.).

3.55 Trench 56

3.55.1 Part of the original scheme, this trench was not opened as it targeted the area of Second World War perimeter track of Fowlmere Airfield.

4 Monitoring and Recording

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Following the evaluation trenching, a number of areas were preserved *in situ* by exclusion from the construction plan for the solar installation.

4.1.2 The Roman cremations identified in Trench 29 were to be excluded, with no construction within a 20m square surrounding them, as were the three ring ditches, excluded within a T-shaped buffer area. Similarly the Bran Ditch precursor alignment was to be respected, with a buffer extending some 20m to the west of the ditches. This left part of the Roman settlement area (approx. 200m x 180m) within the construction area. This area covering the settlement was re-designed to have no below-ground works or piling in order to protect archaeological remains. Solar panels in the protected area were installed on concrete feet and cables laid in steel ducts on the surface within the protected area. Elsewhere they were installed on steel piles.

4.1.3 A watching brief was undertaken within the construction area between November 2014 and March 2015 to record any further archaeological features exposed during construction. This was prior to further investigatory trenching within the evaluation area, outside the footprint of the solar arrays.

4.1.4 The watching brief enabled further exploration of known features, but also revealed features in areas previously thought to lack archaeological remains.

4.2 Electrical Cable Trenches

4.2.1 Outside of the protected Roman settlement area, some 6km of trenches were excavated for electrical cables – typically 1m deep and 0.5m wide by a number of tracked 360 excavators using toothed buckets. Additional branch trenches were cut, shallowing out from the main trunk to each solar array, typically 2-3m in length but not offering clear cross-sections through the ground.

4.2.2 Where features exceeded the depth of the trench, it was sometimes possible to hand excavate further to retrieve finds. Elsewhere it was only possible to record features in cross section and attempt to excavate finds from the baulk section.

4.2.3 An additional trench was excavated along the site's western boundary, connecting the plant to the grid. West of this site, that watching brief is covered in a separate report (Ladd 2016). Within this site, that trench ran for 800m along the western boundary and was stripped of topsoil in advance of trenching, enabling hand excavation within the 1m-wide strip where necessary.

4.2.4 Results of this part of the watching brief are described in chronological order of feature. The network of trenches and the features recorded are shown on Figure 11.

Natural Hollows

4.2.5 Along the western boundary, a number of deeper patches of subsoil (**500**, **502**, **504**, **509**, **511**, **513**) were exposed. Only the upper fills, subsoils, were exposed. Small test pits produced a few sherds of pottery ranging from prehistoric to post-medieval date (see Appendix B.4).

4.2.6 Around 34m south of Trench 36, 64m north of Trench 39, another natural hollow of buried soils was uncovered (**592**). This was 14.5m across and exceeded 1m in depth. No finds were retrieved.

Ditch 315

4.2.7 The long boundary Ditch **315** (excavated in Trench 49 during the evaluation and visible on aerial photographs; marking possible Track D) was encountered four times during the watching brief phase (prior to the excavation of Area 59). At the western boundary (**506**) a 0.5m wide slot was excavated by hand after stripping top soil, showing a v-shaped cut with concave base 1m in depth. This produced 1st-2nd century Roman pottery from its upper-most fill.

4.2.8 Further east, 3.7m southwest of Trench 47 (where it was only recorded in plan), mechanical excavators went through the ditch's upper 1m, showing it to be 3.4m wide with sides of moderate steepness. The lower fills were hand-excavated in a slot (**583**; Plate 11) a further 0.6m deep, with the sides breaking sharply to a much steeper angle to a flat base,1.4m deep in total. Finds included a small assemblage of bone, flint flakes and prehistoric, possibly Bronze Age, pottery from the lower fills (585/586).

4.2.9 The ditch was also observed 9m to the northeast of Trench 47 and on the cable route between Trenches 48 & 49 (see Figure 11, inset D).

4.2.10 No evidence of an accompanying track or parallel ditch was observed in the trench sections.

Roman Field System and Medieval Ditches

4.2.11 Across the north and west of the site, southeast of Trench 8, a number of previously ditches were recorded, probably part of the Roman field system surrounding the settlement enclosures (CHER 8918; Figure 1). Typically these were between 1m and 1.3m wide, although they crossed the trench at oblique angles so dimensions are approximate.

4.2.12 Close to Trench 8, Ditch **615** was significantly wider than those described below, at 3m, but its alignment was unclear. It only appeared in one baulk as the trench turned northwards, so it may have been a northern terminus. This was associated with a narrower, likely perpendicular ditch (**569**) 5m to the east.

4.2.13 To the north of Trenches 17, 18 and 19, a series of ditches were recorded with a fair degree of confidence as being aligned either northwest-southeast, parallel to the western boundary (Ditches **571**, **600**) or perpendicular to this (Ditches **571**, **602**, **604**, **607**, **611** and **613** as well as **609**, further south). See Plate 12 for Ditch **602**. Ditch **604** was visible within two parallel cable trenches 7m apart, while others apparently on the same alignment were only clearly visible in one or the other of those trenches (see Figure 11, inset A). Ditches **571**, **607** and **611** all produced earlier Roman sherds. Ditch **613** produced three sherds of medieval pottery.

4.2.14 To the southwest of Trench 14, two ditches were recorded. Ditch **594** crossed the trench very obliquely so its alignment and width are unclear, but it may have followed the northeast-southwest alignment. Its lower 0.2m fill was excavated by hand and produced a single sherd of an earlier Roman storage jar. Immediately to the west, Ditch **597** appeared to be the northwestern continuation of Ditch **350** excavated in Trench 20.

Second World War

4.2.15 Modern concrete foundations (590) of structures that were part of the Second World War airfield were recorded 4-9m south of Trench 55, where a burnt ammunition dump (**342**) had been found during the evaluation.

4.3 Perimeter Fence Trench

4.3.1 In addition to the electrical trenches, a small (*c*.0.2 x 0.2m) trench was excavated around the site perimeter (approximately 3km in total) for fencing. Generally this did not penetrate far beneath the top soil, except where described below.

Roman Settlement Ditches

4.3.2 Three ditches were uncovered 15m north of Trench 25, just visible within the base of the trench. Northern-most was Ditch **575** (2.8m wide, unexcavated), with **577** (1m wide, 0.6m deep) almost immediately to the south. The latter was probably cut to the south by Ditch **578** (0.8m wide, 0.5m deep). A 0.2m-wide slot was excavated by hand. These appeared to fit the general site alignment of northeast-southwest, oriented on the Bran Ditch precursor axis. Despite their proportions they did not appear on the geophysical survey. The moderately sized assemblage of earlier Roman pottery from the narrow excavated slot places these ditches closer to settlement rather than in a wider field system.

5 Watching Brief Results – Access Road

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Following construction of the solar farm, a watching brief was undertaken to monitor removal of a section of tarmac access road. This had been installed close to the Bran Ditch, within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area where it meets London Road, 500m southeast of the evaluation area. No archaeological intervention was intended apart from recording the extent of any truncation. The area was 23m wide at the side of London Road narrowing to approximately 6m wide in the field, 9m from London Road (Figure 12).

5.2 Access Road

5.2.1 A depth of 0.5-0.6m of tarmac was removed from the whole area by mechanical excavation with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. The installation of the tarmac had evidently done no significant damage to the natural subsoil beyond that which had already been done in previous decades. Fragments remained of a substantial concrete surface (mostly removed during the installation of the tarmac). This was probably originally laid down during or before the Second World War, when a concrete slip road was installed to access the ammunition dump for RAF Fowlmere immediately to the northeast.

5.2.2 Removal of tarmac exposed natural subsoils of silt rather than chalk, potentially colluvium (Plate 13). Within the trench there was no evidence of the Bran Ditch. Near its eastern corner was a small linear feature of slightly darker silt 0.6m wide, possibly aligned west-northwest to east-southeast, somewhat at odds with the line of the Bran Ditch and the earlier ditches (which could have extended this far southeast, possibly appearing in Fox's Trench F). It may have been a natural feature in the colluvial natural silts but was not excavated.

5.2.3 Immediately to the north, the Bran Ditch is much reduced having been partially filled in during the Second World War and probably at inclosure, if not earlier. By London Road, its in-filled edge probably lies 1 or 2m to the northeast of the monitored area. 20th century concrete slab and hardcore still covered parts of that area to a depth of around 0.3m.

5.2.4 The trench was backfilled with top soil.

6 Further Investigation Results

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Further evaluation areas were excavated after an initial assessment of the material from Trenches 1-56. Primarily these were targeted based on geophysics, using the information added from the previously targeted trenches in order to learn more about the development of the Bran Ditch, and its precursors.

6.2 Area 57 Aims

Size (m):	*5.4 x 3.8*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.3*
Orientation:	*SW-NE*	*Subsoil (m):*	*0-0.2*

6.2.1 This small area was targeted on a linear feature highlighted by geophysics parallel to the northern spur of the Bran Ditch (i.e. the modern field boundary). It lay 140m south of Black Peak and just west of the scheduled area. Smaller ditches had been recorded at the various Bran Ditch excavations during the 20th Century. This trench sought evidence to date the change from the old, straight alignment through the Roman settlement (precursors/Track E) onto the Bran Ditch's northern spur towards Black Peak.

6.3 Area 57 Results

6.3.1 Machine excavation revealed the outline of a linear ditch (**648**), aligned parallel with the Bran Ditch. Hand excavation through Ditch **648** produced no finds but showed that it appeared to cut the remains of the subsoil. It was 0.5m deep, 1.2m wide with a flat base and extended across the length of the trench. To the west were a pair of plough scars paralleling the ditch. As such it has been interpreted as a probable modern feature, unrelated to the establishment of the Bran Ditch.

6.4 Area 58 Aims

Size (m):	*74.5x3.8 & 33.6x13.5*	*Topsoil (m):*	*0.3*
Orientation:	*SW-NE*	*Subsoil (m):*	*–*

6.4.1 Area 58 aimed to take in the intersection of the later Roman enclosure ditches, Track B and the Bran Ditch precursors/Track E. The aim was to establish the extents of the precursor ditches: both northwards, for those already known; and westwards searching for additional precursor ditches not shown on geophysics. It was hoped that with minimal intervention it would be possible to compile a more detailed record of the sequence of the prehistoric ditches, Track B and the Roman enclosure ditches as well as the cobbled lane (208) seen in Trench 25.

6.4.2 In order to record earlier features that would have been truncated either side of Track B, but protected within its limits, the trench was targeted along the line of the track. A wider area at the eastern end enabled the inclusion of parts of the enclosure ditches at the cross roads of Track B and Track E (the precursor ditches).

6.5 Area 58 Results – Northeast (Figure 13)

6.5.1 The northeastern part of the trench took in the corners of two enclosure ditches thought to be of later Roman date (Figure 13; Plate 14). The entire area between the ditches and the northwestern baulk (i.e. the intersection of Tracks B and E) was filled with silty soil below top- and sub-soils, with some patches of flint cobbling showing through in the east and northwest. The southeastern half of the area was then machine excavated

through this silt down to natural chalk, showing further patches of cobbling at a lower level.

Natural Hollow?

6.5.2 It is unclear whether the hollowing was a natural formation, eroded further by traffic, then augmented with cobbling, or if it is entirely anthropogenic. A topographic survey of the unexcavated ground surface around the excavation area did not give any indication whether the hollow was discrete (and hence natural) or extended along site alignments (i.e. a hollow way). In trenches immediately around Area 58, Tracks B and E did not exhibit signs of erosion, however, the total modern plough truncation on site is unknown and may have masked this.

Absence of Bran Ditch Precursor Ditches

6.5.3 The machined sondage and several hand excavated slots established that probably none of the precursors extended across the line of Track B. Although truncation by the hollow was up to 0.5m, it is unlikely smaller ditches ever extended this far. The deeper central ditch (**222**/**289**, Trench 43/31 respectively) clearly never extended this far northwest. This suggests that the precursor ditches (some of which are prehistoric) respected the line of Track B, so there may have been some feature or boundary here prior to the development of the Roman settlement.

Track Junction

6.5.4 As discussed, the hollowing out (**515**) of this area may have natural origins, but the erosion had been mitigated by the laying down of a flint cobbled surface (516) across the area in the Roman period. Dating this more precisely is problematic as the final phase of activity would truncate any earlier erosion and feature relationships were unclear. Large enclosure ditches lay to the east and south of the junction, south of Track B, either side of Track E.

6.5.5 Between the two enclosures, against the southeastern baulk, was a circular pit (**523**; Plate 15) 1.4m in diameter cutting 0.5m below the depth of the hollow. It had steep sides and a flattish base 1.1m across (Section 106). Above its basal fill (clayey silt 524), its sides had eroded slightly leaving a deposit of chalk (525). The bulk of its fill (525) was made up of clayey silt with several large flints. The relationship between this and the Hollow **515** was unclear, with no clear difference between its top fill and that of the hollow. The few pottery sherds from its upper fill (526) date from the earlier Roman period, centuries earlier than the large enclosure ditches either side of it.

6.5.6 The conspicuous cross-roads location and form of this pit raise the possibility that it was a very large post-hole. The stones may be packing or could have intruded (from cobbled surfacing) once the post was removed. Conceivably it could even pre-date the Roman settlement, positioned as it is in line with the Early/Middle Iron age Ditches **222** & **289** to the southeast.

6.5.7 Two smaller ditches had an unclear relationship with the larger enclosure ditches and the hollow. Ditch **521** ran for 2.4m parallel to Track B, lying within the enclosure east of the junction. Ditch **558** appeared to mark the southern corner of an enclosure lying to the north of the junction. It produced a single sherd of 2nd-3rd century pottery.

6.5.8 The later features in the area are all recorded on Section 106. The enclosure east of the junction may have been marked by earlier ditches (**564** & **566**) which were recorded in Section 106. These were truncated by Ditch **560** (Plate 16; equivalent to **103**, Trench 31). The opposite enclosure ditch (**548**, equivalent to **294**, Trench 31) south of the junction did not show evidence of earlier cuts, though they could have been truncated.

Both final enclosure ditches contained pottery of later Roman date. The exact dimensions of the ditches here is unclear due to the erosion at the junction but both cut to 1.3m below the chalk either side (within the enclosures) or 0.5-0.6m below the level of Track E between them. There was a 3m berm of relatively undisturbed chalk between Ditch **560** and Hollow **515** (see Section 106).

6.5.9 Across Hollow **515** and spilling into both enclosure ditches was a patchy surface of large flint cobbles (516) generally 0.05m to 0.2m in size. Parts protruded high up through the hollow fills (particularly outside Ditch **560** and against the northwestern baulk). At the machined base of the hollow the cobbles ran deeper into irregular shallow depressions (less than 0.2m deep), again probably caused by erosion. Throughout and around the cobbles a deposit of disturbed chalky silt had built up, probably through continued erosion and exposure to the elements. The remaining hollow fill (518) was almost indistinguishable from the subsoil above it (2, which was barely present away from the hollow and ditches), except for being darker and finer.

6.6 Area 58 Results – Southwest

Absence of Bran Ditch Precursor Ditches

6.6.1 Much of this area was undisturbed natural chalk on the line of Track B. No precursor ditches (potential westerly outliers) were visible. Roman ditches (below) were unlikely to have truncated any such evidence.

Structure 528

6.6.2 At the far southwestern end of the trench, aligned with Ashwell Street, was a rectangle of six postholes (**528**, **530**, **532**, **534**, **537**, **539**) with a seventh (**541**) lying within the northeastern half. These appear to have formed a structure alongside Track B, probably on its northern side (Plate 17). Postholes **532**, **537** and **539** still contained a number of packing flint nodules. Pottery came from Posthole **534** and from an environmental sample from Posthole **539**, all of 2nd-3rd century date.

Track features

6.6.3 Immediately northeast of Structure 528 was an area of several probable linear features. Based on the geophysics, these may represent a northwesterly Roman track, one ditch of which appears to be equivalent to Ditch **350** in Trench 20 (**597** in the watching brief). These were not excavated.

A depression (**543**) just northeast of this contained a layer of flint cobbles (544) and probably represents the southern end of Surface 208, the cobbled track seen in Trench 25.

6.7 Area 59 Aims

6.7.1 Area 59 was designed to investigate the intersection of several landscape features identified on the geophysics and in the evaluation trenches. Prehistoric Ditch **315** (i.e. possible Track D), runs for at least 2.5km across the landscape from the southwest of the Bran Ditch. An additional linear crop mark extends a further 500m to the northeast of the Bran Ditch, potentially a continuation of Ditch **315**. It cut across the top of a Bronze Age barrow ditch in Trench 48.

6.7.2 Ditch **315** is perpendicular to the Bran Ditch precursor ditches (and Track E), intersecting them around 130m northwest of the point at which the Bran Ditch diverges from them. At least two of these ditches were visible here on the geophysical survey,

but the intersection with Ditch **315** was obscured by a stronger magnetic anomaly (see Figures 4 & 5).

6.7.3 Area 59 covered the intersection of these ditches/tracks, just west of the Bran Ditch scheduled area (Figure 14).

6.8 Area 59 Results (Figure 14)

Early Iron Age

6.8.1 Ditches were repeatedly recut, shifting positions within Area 59, re-establishing the two ordinal alignments seen across the site: southwest-northeast (possible Track D/Ditch **315**) and southeast-northwest (Bran Ditch, its precursors and Track E). A near-complete absence of artefacts from primary contexts prevented much firm dating, however a radiocarbon date was obtained for the earliest ditch in the sequence.

6.8.2 There was clear evidence of reworking of the area with a sequence of ditches building up with features at the centre of the site containing significantly lighter (chalkier) fills – indicative of the spoil that must have been thrown up and reworked in digging the various ditches. This can be seen in Figure 14's aerial orthophotograph, showing the paler fills closer to the centre of the site.

6.8.3 The two earliest features in the sequence did intersect but were in turn truncated at that point by a later feature so their relationship is unknown. On the precursor alignment was a shallow ditch (**629**; 1.3m wide, 0.3m deep). This was clearly a smaller antecedent of Ditch **315**, lying on the same line but beyond the terminus of that ditch (which lay at the centre of the area). It was much shallower and produced no finds.

6.8.4 On the precursor ditch alignment, was a deeper ditch (**658**). This had an almost V-shaped profile with steep sides 1.4m wide and 0.6m deep. Although its geophysical signal is faint and not necessarily continuous, it did align with Ditch **222** in Trench 43 (which has a similar, although deeper profile). That in turn may equate to Ditch **289** in Trench 31. A slot excavated in Ditch **658** close to the northwestern baulk produced three horse's teeth articulated together, though with no sign of the mandible.

6.8.5 Coming from the very base of the ditch (Fill 659) as a semi-articulated find (albeit only 3 adjacent teeth absent any skull), these represented the closest thing to a find contemporary with the cutting of Ditch **658**. One was selected for radiocarbon dating, returning an Early Iron Age date. Due to the flat calibration curve for the period there are a number of probable dates, all within the *c.*800-400BC range:

- 68.2%: 510-405calBC
- 95.4%:
  - 8.6%: 735-689calBC
  - 2.1%: 663-648calBC
  - 84.7%: 546-397calBC

  (SUERC-65107)

6.8.6 As stratigraphically the earliest feature so far excavated in the sequence, this provides a back bone from which to hang the relative dating of the precursor ditch complex.

Middle-Late Iron Age?

6.8.7 Ditch **315** (Trenches 47, 48 and 49 and various watching brief records and crop marks) continued into Area 59. It had a consistent form with the profiles seen to the southwest, but its terminus lay close to the centre of the area.

6.8.8 Within Area 59, Ditch **315** (Slot **664**) was 1.1m deep, 2.4m wide with steep sides and a flat base 0.2m across. Its terminus (**620**) had similarly steep sides and an almost V-shaped base, although its upper portion was truncated by a later ditch.

6.8.9 Beyond the terminus of Ditch **315** was an 8m break (in which earlier Ditch **629** survived) before a second, opposing ditch terminus (**670**) appeared to resume the line heading northeast out of the area. Ditch terminus **670** was at least 2.3m wide, with a steep northwestern side. Its base was not reached, but it appeared to have similar proportions to Ditch **315** and it is on that basis and their positions in plan that the two are assumed to be contemporary.

6.8.10 At its terminus (Slot **620**), the fills of Ditch **315** were very chalky in comparison with the slot 4m to the southwest (**664**). In contrast the fills at Slot **664** were siltier with chalkier lower fills slumping in from either side equally (Section 107; Plate 19). The upper fill (657), in common with previously excavated slots, was a mid brown silt with few chalk inclusions. It probably remained open and visible as an earthwork at least into the Roman period.

6.8.11 Adjacent to Ditch Terminus **670** was a cluster of shallow pits or tree throws (**631**, **633**, **635**, **638**) and two possible postholes (**640**, **642**). Although the level of site truncation was unclear, these barely overlapped suggesting contemporaneity. They appeared to respect Ditch Terminus **670** while cutting earlier Ditch **629**.

6.8.12 The pits were irregularly shaped, two being oblong (**631** 1.1m by 0.5m; and **638** 1.5m by 0.75m) and two closer to sub-circular (**633** 1.5m by 1.2m; and **635** 2.4m by 1.7m). Pits **631**, **633** and **635** were adjacent in an irregular line. Pit **635** produce two large pieces of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery.

6.8.13 On the Bran Ditch precursor alignment was the truncated terminus of a small ditch (**644**/**675**; 0.12m deep; Plate 20) extending 6.3m from the southeastern baulk, terminating 4.5m from the end of Ditch **315** (Slot **620**). Stratigraphically this may be contemporary with Ditches **315** and **670**, all together forming a pair of openings around Ditch **315**'s terminus.

6.8.14 A later ditch (**617**) recut the line of Ditch **644**, continuing across the area, aligning (based on geophysics) with the westernmost ditches of the Bran Ditch precursor zone (Ditches **259**, **260**, **262**, Trench 43). This is the line eventually re-used by the Roman enclosures (Ditch **294**/**548**, Trench 31 and Area 58). Ditch **617** was 1.1-1.6m wide, with shallow sides and a concave base typically 0.4m deep (Slots **617**, **624**, **646**, **672**). It clearly cut across the top of the chalkier fill of Ditch Terminus **620**, showing that that part at least of Ditch **315** had silted up (or been backfilled) with the chalk spoil that must have lain on the surface there.

Roman

6.8.15 Evidence that Ditch **315** remained partially open as an earthwork through to the Roman period came in the form of an eroded track way (**627**, Plate 21). This swept from the southwest parallel to Ditch **315**, cutting across Ditch **617** curving to the north. In its southwestern portion it took the form of a single wheel rut up to 0.3m wide and 0.3m deep (Slots **652** and **662**). As it swept northwards the wheel rut continued on the outside of the bend but shallowed and broadened with wider spread of erosion and a

second rut 1.75m away at the inside of the bend (**627**). Here the track was 3.6m wide and generally 0.15m deep with the ruts reaching a depth of 0.2m.

6.8.16 The variations in depth and asymmetry of the track could be due to lost features now truncated, variations in the natural chalk and also the crossing of silted up ditches. For example the track was wider where it crossed the Ditch **617** perhaps as a cart's wheels would have dug deeper into the siltier material and would then have a greater impact on the chalk either side of the old ditch.

6.8.17 Finds from the track included a 4th century Roman coin (SF25, Fill 628, Slot **627**) and a hobnail (SF 26, Fill 662, Slot **662**).

6.8.18 This shows that the suggested Track D following Ditch **315** existed at least in the Roman period and at least around Area 59. With the Early and Middle Iron Age dates for the ditches it was probably in use earlier as well. The track does not appear on geophysics, but it seems likely that it swept northwestwards onto the line of Track D, on the Bran Ditch precursor zone, heading towards the Roman settlement (around Area 58).

6.8.19 An additional possible hollow or track way (**650**) extended along the southwestern baulk, paralleling the southeast-northwest aligned prehistoric ditches. This was wide and shallow but appeared to cut the tops of Ditch **315** and Track **627**. Again it does not appear on the geophysical survey but being parallel with the older ditches suggests it was not an earlier natural feature. As such it lies slightly to the west of any other parallel features associated with the prehistoric ditches on the same alignment.

First World War

6.8.20 Prior to the excavation of the archaeological features, machine removal of the topsoil was halted due to the exposure of unexploded ordnance. First Line Defence were brought back in and identified the bomb. It was not retained, being detonated by RAF Bomb Disposal under controlled circumstances a safe distance away from the site.

6.8.21 It appeared to be a First World War bomb designed to be hand dropped from the air into trenches where its casing would fragment and release ball bearings (Rik Noke pers. comm.). So it is assumed the Bran Ditch was being used for target practice during the war. On an approach from the southeast, following the main line of the Bran Ditch, the location of the bomb was only 100m northwest of the turn in the ditch. It may have been an overshot from a series of bombs dropped along the line of the ditch further south, suggesting more unexploded ordnance may lie within the remains of the Bran Ditch itself.

6.8.22 The ferrous shell of the bomb was responsible for the strong, wide geophysical anomally in the area, its strength diminished by time in the ground. This presumably explains why it was not interpreted as a strong ferrous anomaly in the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2014, Fig. 10).

7 Finds Summary

7.1.1 In total 1289 sherds of pottery weighing 15.7kg were recovered, the vast majority being of Roman date. Of worked flint there were 86 pieces, with an additional 34 pieces of burnt flint. A number of metal finds were recovered, including two copper alloy brooches probably from cremation contexts, a number of iron nails and a blade as well as a single Roman coin from the track way in Area 59 and a single piece of metal working debris (smithing slag) and two pieces of possible kiln or oven furniture. Quern stones and a chalk weight were also found. Small quantities of ceramic building materials and

baked clay were recovered, including a large tegula fragment, a tessera and fragments of daub.

8 Environmental Summary

8.1.1 Animal bone totaling 168 identifiable pieces was recovered from the evaluation trenches, with a further 65 identifiable pieces coming from Areas 58 and 59. One horse tooth was radiocarbon dated to a broad range within the Early Iron Age.

8.1.2 Thirty bulk environmental samples were taken. In general the environmental samples were poor, with charred cereal grains being poorly preserved. Spelt wheat has been identified, being the favoured cereal in the Roman period. All of the charred remains were found in features within trenches that were located in the north-east of the site, in the focus of settlement.

9 Discussion

9.1 Introduction

Following the further excavations undertaken in December 2014 and December 2015 it is possible to consider the results from the evaluation trenches in the broader context of the local landscape. The retrieval of additional pottery and scientific dating have enhanced the understanding of features recorded in Areas 58 and 59.

9.2 Natural Hollows

9.2.1 Many of these were recorded, predominantly along the western side of the site and on the higher ground. They are thought to be periglacial in origin although their specific formation process has not been considered. As discussed, these have been examined in more detail 1km to the west at New Road and were found to preserve prehistoric soils at depths of up to 2m with evidence of Neolithic and possible Mesolithic activity. There is some potential for *in situ* stratified remains but environmental sampling showed a prevalence of burrowing snails sufficient to move small flints and pottery. Attempts at pollen sampling showed no potential for analysis (Ladd 2014).

9.2.2 Whereas at New Road the hollows contained exclusively Early Neolithic material, here a number of Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age sherds were retrieved from their upper fills. This may reflect more later prehistoric activity in the locality or may be a result of shallower machining levels used at this site, effectively leaving some sub soil in place in the top of the hollow.

9.2.3 Similar periglacial hollows following the Melbourn Rock geological fault were identified east of Thriplow, 5km to the northeast of this site (Wright 2014). In that location, hollows contained similar peaty deposits, suggesting waterlogging, followed by colluvial deposits, with some hollows remaining visible on the modern surface (*ibid.*). The work at Black Peak has confirmed the preservation of early prehistoric evidence within these hollows.

9.3 Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age

9.3.1 An isolated pit (**367**, Trench 53) on the high ground to the south of the field produced a single piece of beaker pottery, possibly deriving from domestic activity. Unless residual, this is probably contemporary with some stage of the development of the three ring ditches (presumably ploughed out barrows) 90m to the north. One of these ditches was exposed in this excavation and two further ring ditches are shown on the geophysical survey (Figures 4 & 5).

9.3.2 Possible Bronze Age pottery was recovered from a lower fill of Ditch **315** during the watching brief.

9.4 Bronze Age to Early Iron Age

9.4.1 Elsewhere on the site, Ditch **258** at the western end of Trench 26 contained several sherds of a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age vessel within its final fill, being otherwise devoid of finds. The ditch was 1m deep with a v-shaped profile. Its fill sequence raised the suspicion that the ditch could have been dug earlier than the pot's date. Middle Bronze Age enclosures have been recorded to 1.5km to the west (Ladd 2014).

9.4.2 Perhaps coincidentally, Ditch **258**'s alignment was near-parallel with the Early Iron Age Bran ditch precursors some 170m to its east. The HER lists a series of cropmarks around this area as part of the broader Roman settlement (CHER 08918). Many of

those are not reflected on the geophysics and they may not all relate to the Roman settlement.

9.4.3 The limited scope of evaluation trenching has not thrown much light on the Bronze Age landscape at Black Peak Farm and these features were not the focus of subsequent areas of investigation. Ditch **258** may well belong in the Early Iron Age.

9.5 Early Iron Age

9.5.1 In the northern part of the field, a number of finds of Early to Middle Iron Age date come from enclosure or track ditches. The picture here is unclear but these features appear to form a distinct focus, separate from the area around the Roman settlement.

9.5.2 The postholes in Trench 31 may be Early Iron Age, producing sherds of that date. The associated small pit or possible hearth (**313**) contained burnt flint and simple flint flakes consistent with that date. Further west, a posthole (**160**) and the upper fill of Ditch **156** in Trench 29 also produced a number of Early Iron Age sherds.

9.5.3 Of the Bran Ditch precursors, the smaller ditches produced pottery from this period: Ditch **365** (Trench 31); Ditch **264** (Trench 31 and, potentially, Trench 42); and Ditch **131** (Trench 43). A tooth (one of 3) from Ditch **658** in Area 59 has been radiocarbon dated to the Early Iron Age. Central Ditch **289** in Trench 31 had Early Iron Age sherds in its lower fills and Middle Iron Age sherds in its final fill. The other smaller parallel ditches in Trenches 31, 42 and 43 remain undated as do the slightly larger ones, Ditches **260**, **262** and **133** (Trench 43).

9.5.4 The respect shown by the precursor ditches for the line of Track B through the Roman settlement (or vice versa) may suggest that there were Early Iron Age features there. The postholes in Trench 31 may represent part of a settlement at that location, long pre-dating the Roman enclosures.

9.6 Middle Iron Age

9.6.1 A large posthole (**139**) in Trench 24 contained Middle Iron Age pottery. A small number of sherds came from the north of site in Trenches 3 and 5 and from Ditch **315** (Trench 49) and Ditch **131** in Trench 43.

9.7 Late Iron Age

9.7.1 Late Iron Age pottery was collected from a number of features across the site, but may be residual within Roman contexts, and many Roman contexts were of a later date with finds from the 3rd to 4th centuries. It is unclear based on the present results whether there was a substantial Late Iron Age settlement preceding the Roman settlement, but it looks unlikely. Although the Early Iron Age precursor ditches and their probable end point clearly informed the layout of the Roman settlement, there was not necessarily a continuity of settlement from the Early/Middle Iron Age to the Roman period.

9.8 Bran Ditch Precursors, Ditch 315 and Track E

9.8.1 The earlier precursors are almost certainly Early Iron Age, with parallel lines probably appearing in the Middle and Late Iron Age, being taken up again the Roman period. Dating is tentative but an evaluation is a difficult context to establish more concrete understanding. However, Early Iron Age finds and one radiocarbon date were produced from several secure contexts in different locations along and different slots across parallel ditches.

9.8.2 The intersection of the precursor ditches and the Bran Ditch itself was not covered by the geophysical survey or site investigation, so the ditches' southeastern extents are not known, probably truncated by the Bran Ditch.

9.8.3 Ditches immediately adjacent to and earlier than the Bran Ditch were identified in 1923 in Lethbridge and Fox's Trench D, as was a revetment or pallisade Trench near Black Peak (Fox's Trench A and Welsh's 1993 Trenches A and B). Lethbridge's 'Mid Ditch' and 'Back Ditch' could correspond with those in this evaluation. The 'Mid Ditch' is shown around 2m wide (Lethbridge 1928, pl.ii) with varying profiles but a consistent depth of around 1m. It seems almost certain that the earlier ditches recorded in the 1920s and 1930s are some of the precursor ditches. There is no evidence they reached Heydon, although Fox's (1926) Sections F and G either side of the Royston-Newmarket Road showed a 'shelf' on the northeastern side of the Bran Ditch which could represent an earlier truncated cut.

9.8.4 No precursor ditches appeared within Area 58, in the core of the Roman settlement. This suggests their northwestern limit was between Trench 31 and Area 58 where they were replaced by the Late Roman enclosure ditches and Track E. Northwest of Area 58, only Roman features were observed, although there is a pair of ditches on geophysics continuing the Track E/precursor ditch line which were not evaluated northwest of the settlement.

9.8.5 Prior to excavation of Area 59, no relationships had been observed between the precursor ditches. Area 59 provided valuable detail on the relationships between some of the precursor ditches and their possible functions. The lines of Ditches **127**, **129**, **131** and **133**, seen in Trench 43, fell outside Area 59.

Early Iron Age Precursor Ditches and Ditch 629

9.8.6 Ditch **658** had an uncertain relationship with perpendicular Ditch **629**, a smaller precursor (of uncertain length) of Ditch **315.** So in the Early Iron Age, both the southeast-northwest (Bran Ditch/precursor) and the southwest-northeast (Ditch **315** & Ditch **629**) alignments were established here.

9.8.7 The function of these ditches at this earliest stage is unclear. The later Ditch **315** was very substantial and may have formed a boundary paralleling the Icknield Way Zone and both alignments came to mark Tracks D and E, at least by the Roman period. This does not, however, necessarily mean that was their function in the Early/Middle Iron Age.

Ditch 315 and Ditch 670

9.8.8 Ditch **315** and its (probably contemporary) northeastern counterpart, Ditch **670**, form a slightly curving southwest-northeast line at least 2.5km in length. At its southwestern observable limits, it passes a shorter, parallel linear cropmark 50m to its south (Figure 2). This feature cuts the northern side of two ring ditch crop marks close to Goffers Knoll (Figure 2), a surviving bowl barrow (SAM 1011715) on the crest of a hill. There is also an apparent spur, reaching further south to another ring ditch 460m northeast of Goffer's Knoll. The shorter parallels may be later features, but the spur appears contemporary, exactly meeting the main line of Ditch **315**.

9.8.9 Ditch **670** probably extended northeastwards beyond the Bran Ditch, but it can not be seen as a crop mark, probably because it would have fallen under the perimeter track of Fowlmere Airfield during the Second World War. Beyond the airfield, 850m from Area 59 on a line projected from Ditches **315** & **670** are the cropmarks of sub-rectangular enclosures around 40-50m wide and 60-80m long (CHER 8914; see Figures 1 and 2).

9.8.10 Finds from Ditch **315** are limited, but included possible Bronze Age sherds from a basal fill (watching brief Slot **583**), Middle Iron Age sherds in a central fill and abraded Roman sherds from an upper fill (Slot **315**). The fact it cut the barrow ditch in Trench 48, its association with ring ditch crop marks elsewhere and the relationship with the Early Iron Age ditches in Area 59 point to an Early or Middle Iron Age date.

9.8.11 The monumentality of Ditch **315**, 2.5km long, over 1.2m deep and 2m wide begs the question of its purpose. Clearly it could have formed a boundary and it is perhaps notable that it passes close to the north side of at least three ring ditches, almost segregating them on its southern side. It is perpendicular to the shallower but potentially longer Bran Ditch predecessors but also forms an opening where they intersect – clearly respecting one iteration of that line.

9.8.12 Evidently it later become a reasonably well-used track by the later Roman period (Track D) as evidenced by the wheel ruts at the junction with Track E but it may not have represented a track in the Iron Age, lacking as it does a parallel ditch. However, its use of existing landmarks (Bronze Age Barrows now surviving as ring ditches) parallels the development of the Avenell Way (Atkins & Hurst 2015), a Late Iron Age routeway that appears to have developed using older monuments as way markers. If in the Iron Age the Icknield Way was more of a zone of routes across an open landscape, Ditch **315** would have presented a formidable obstacle and a natural guide deflecting traffic along its length. Dray's ditches (Dyer 1961) and others in Hertfordshire have returns paralleling the Icknield Way. A closer parallel is perhaps a long crop mark extending northeast from the southeastern end of the triple ditches at Deadman's Hill, Sandon 13km southwest of the site.

9.8.13 The break of Ditch **315** within Area 59, suggests the point at the centre of Area 59, the intersection of the Bran Ditch predecessors and Ditch **315** and its earlier form **629** was an intersection of boundaries by the Middle/Late Iron Age and probably earlier and potentially a crossroads in the spaces between the ends of Ditches **315** (Slot 620), Ditch **644** (Slot **675**) and Ditch **670** by the Late Iron Age.

Later Precursor Ditches

9.8.14 By the Late Iron Age, Ditch **617** cut across the silted up terminus of Ditch **315**, closing the postulated cross roads. This line forms the southwestern side of the precursor ditch zone, although clearly it was not have been the first on this line (there are three adjacent ditches in Trench 43).

9.8.15 Whether continuously in use or not, wheel ruts with a 4th century coin demonstrate the junction in Area 59 was a crossing point of Roman tracks of uncertain status, potentially minor routes relating largely to the settlement. A potentially later track was represented by subsoil-filled Feature **650** whiched paralleled the precusor ditches along the southwestern edge of Area 59.

Precursor Ditches in Context

9.8.16 Other triple ditch boundary alignments of the Iron Age, dissociated from settlement, exist in Cambridgeshire and the surrounding region (e.g. at Ketton/Tixover, Rutland; Mackie 1993). Morphologically similar neighbouring parallels are in Hertfordshire on the East Chiltern scarp: cutting the Icknield Way zone and terminating on low areas near water and at the edges of the chalk scarp and boulder clay plateau. The closest parallel, the Mile Ditches, 8km to the west of the Bran Ditch had depths and widths of (from west to east): 1.2m and 3.5m; 0.75m and 2m; and 0.95m and 3m, with spacing of 5 to 8m between them (Burleigh 1980). The western-most, straightest and possibly earliest of the 3 Mile Ditches has produced a Late Iron Age date, but may have been

cleaned out periodically (Bryant 1995). Dray's Ditches near Luton featured a triple ditch and quadruple bank arrangement, with post alignments, following a Bronze Age ditch (Dyer 1961). They and others have been interpreted as probable Iron Age territorial boundaries and sub-divisions relating to shifting Middle and Late Iron Age settlement centres in the region (Bryant 1995). The early dates from the Bran Ditch suggest the boundaries here on the Icknield Way zone were coming into existence by the Early Iron Age.

9.9 Ashwell Street Tracks

9.9.1 The positions of several branches of Ashwell Street were established during this evaluation. As a strand of the Icknield Way zone, skirting the springs to the north off the chalk ridge, Ashwell Street likely has some antiquity and may only be Romanized in sections (such as the section near Ashwell that gives it the name; Fox 1923, 149-150; Crawford 1936, 103). Clearly there was a shifting array of tracks across the landscape from prehistory through to the medieval period. This project has revealed previously unknown tracks and clarified the history of those that were known.

9.9.2 Track A (Fowlmere Path?) is only known from the 19th century but could well be much earlier. It may follow the northern side of the Roman 'ladder' settlement. Track B around 12m wide and was in use by the Roman period, forming the backbone of the settlement. Whether this was the main line of Roman Ashwell Street or primarily for settlement use is not clear. A substantial cobbled surface was laid at its well worn intersection with Track D (15m wide) in Area 58. Its line was also respected by the Bran Ditch precursor ditches which reach back to the Early Iron Age, although that does not prove an Early Iron Age predecessor. It had probably gone out of use within the site prior to the 19th century.

9.9.3 Track C (the headland across the site) ignores the Roman and earlier features, heading for the later cross roads (site of the execution cemetery excavated by Lethbridge in 1927). This was probably a medieval development, a southern diversion of the more northerly Roman Track B.

9.9.4 Ditch **315** would have had an effect on routeways but may not have seen more traffic (as Track D) until the Roman period. The fact that the Saxon cemetery and medieval cross roads lie some 170m south of the old cross roads in Area 59 suggests that Track D was disused by the time the Bran Ditch was dug. Track E on the precursor ditch line could have functioned as a track from an earlier date and was diverted by (or disused before) the construction of the Bran Ditch with its turn to a more northerly line in the fifth or sixth century.

9.10 Roman Settlement

9.10.1 The Roman pottery is summarised (see Lyons in Appendix B.3 page 70) as representing activity (including cremations) in the early Roman period, with a lull before significant quantities of settlement detritus build up in the 3rd and 4th centuries AD. There is a noteworthy quantity of imported goods, perhaps resulting from the site's proximity to Great Chesterford and it's position on a major routeway.

9.10.2 Several linear ditches in the northwestern part of the field (Trenches 1-9), where dated, were of Late Iron Age to early Roman date. Their purpose is not clear but is likely related to the springs north of site.

9.10.3 The enclosure ditches along Track B contain earlier and later Roman material, showing their persistence throughout the period. The two enclosures either side of Track E with the most substantial ditches (**103**, **294**, Trench 31) may have been recut or cleaned as

they contained predominantly later Roman material throughout. These may re-cut the larger ditches on the prehistoric alignment (tentatively **129** and **260** respectively in Trenches 42 & 43). Clearly the Early-Middle Iron Age precursor ditch alignment remained a feature in the Roman landscape, either as a track way or as earthworks.

9.10.4 Some of the enclosures may have been for livestock. The ditches of the smaller tracks (Surface 208, Ditch **350**) run northeast from Track B, towards the springs. They could have been used for driving livestock from the enclosures to water. Arable farming is evidenced by the presence of spelt wheat (Appendix C.), typical for the Roman period.

9.10.5 To the north and east of Track B, there is more evidence of settlement occupation with pits (Trenches 23, 24), beamslots (Trench 22) and postholes (Trench 21) all generally of earlier Roman date. There is evidence within the settlement of surfacing of Track B itself with cobbled surfaces surviving in the tops of nearby ditches (**177**, Trenches 23 and 24), also of an earlier Roman date.

9.10.6 Two areas with cremation burials in urns (an earlier Roman practice) were uncovered: one south of the Track B branch, outside of the west of the enclosures (Trench 29); and one in an uncertain setting, probably close to a denser area of settlement, towards the northeast of the site (Trench 22).

9.10.7 Postholes in Trench 35 contained evidence of industry, with finds of coal/clinker and slag. Their (possible) alignment conflicts with undated subdivisions of a larger enclosure (which likely spans the Roman period) and their pottery dates overlap in the later Roman period.

9.10.8 The settlement itself can be traced further east from Track B on aerial photographs (CHER 08918) covering an area at least 250m wide and 1.3km long, over 32ha.

9.10.9 The (mostly undated) ditches recorded in the northwest of site during the watching brief may be part of a Roman field system surrounding the settlement enclosures, close to the springs, or could be medieval/post-medieval enclosure divisions with occasional residual Roman pottery (although none are known from historic maps).

Ground truthing

9.10.10 It should be noted that the ditches identified in the watching brief were not generally visible on geophysics. As a result (and also because of a latent possible asbestos risk) the area in which most of them were situated (north of Trench 18) was subjected to a lower density of trenching (even prior to the removal of Trenches 15 and 16 from the project). Many ditches are recorded here on aerial photographs (see Figure 1).

9.11 Bran Ditch and the Cambridgeshire Dykes

9.11.1 It has long been suspected that the Cambridgeshire dykes have significantly earlier origins than the 5th-6th century dates obtained from excavation (Malim 1996). Malim suggested the regularity and consistency of the Cambridgeshire dykes was reminiscent of pre-historic land divisions (1996, 109). This project has shown that the Bran Ditch was part of a continuum of boundaries and track ways dating back to at least the Early Iron Age. These would have functioned first as a territorial boundary but probably also as a routeway at different times. The Bran Ditch seems a decisively defensive enlargement of the prehistoric boundary but could also have been used as a routeway or droveway following its construction.

9.11.2 This opens the possibility that the other Saxon Cambridgeshire dykes re-established, lengthened and/or heightened earlier land divisions. It seems unlikely that the Bran Ditch is a unique phenomenon enabled by the Roman re-establishment of the precursor

line. The Mile Ditches for example probably informed the medieval furlong system in Litlington (Hesse 2000) and were still upstanding earthworks in 1934 (Burleigh 1980, 25). If more multiple ditches paralleling these had existed throughout Cambridgeshire, they would certainly have been visible in the 5th and 6th centuries, natural choices, possibly even recognised boundaries, for newer works.

9.11.3 In the case of the other Cambridgeshire Dykes, the more substantial Anglo-Saxon earthworks would largely have truncated any earlier evidence. However, if their final earthworks deviated enough from their prehistoric lines, their precursors may also survive. The Fleam Dyke for example exhibits one earlier cut in the sections explored to date (Malim 1996, fig. 37) although this had a Late Roman to Early Saxon date. Their size (and the Bran Ditch is typically the smallest) could easily have removed earlier lines. The Black Ditches, a double ditched Iron Age boundary in Suffolk, east of but in a similar topographical and geological context to the Cambridgeshire dykes suggest the continuance of the Hertfordshire system through Cambridgeshire in the Iron Age.

9.11.4 Only geophysical survey and subsequent evaluation brought to light the number of earlier ditches at Black peak Farm and their close association with the Bran Ditch.

9.12 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

9.12.1 The almost complete absence of Anglo-Saxon or Medieval evidence from this evaluation is perhaps noteworthy, given its location immediately next to a Roman settlement and an Anglo-Saxon monument with an execution cemetery (possible late Saxon or Medieval) at a cross-roads. This does however fit with the disuse of the site following the Late Roman period. The area appears to have become peripheral or liminal, later a parish and hundred boundary, with contemporary settlement evidence coming from Melbourn and Fowlmere. It remained in use only for its tracks, common grazing and this seems to have been the case until inclosure in the 19th century.

Appendix A. Context Summary

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
	1		layer			plough soil
	2		layer			subsoil
14	3	4	fill	0.7	0.2	ditch
14	4	4	cut	0.7	0.2	ditch
14	5	6	fill	0.5	0.1	pit
14	6	6	cut	0.5	0.1	ditch
14	7	8	fill	0.9	0.15	ditch
14	8	8	cut	0.9	0.15	ditch
14	9	11	fill	0.5	0.2	pit
14	10	11	fill	0.5	0.1	pit
14	11	11	cut	0.5	0.3	pit
14	12	13	fill	0.3	0.2	?
14	13	13	cut			?
14	14	15	fill	0.4	0.1	gully
14	15	15	cut	0.4	0.1	gully
14	16	17	fill	0.6	0.1	ditch
14	17	17	cut	0.6	0.1	ditch
14	18	20	fill	2.6	0.4	ditch
14	19	20	fill	2.6	0.1	ditch
14	20	20	cut	2.6	0.5	ditch
22	21	21	cut	1.84	0.72	ditch
22	22	21	fill		0.3	ditch
22	23	21	fill		0.24	ditch
22	24	21	fill		0.2	ditch
22	25	25	cut	0.6	0.4	ditch
22	26	25	fill		0.11	ditch
22	27	25	fill		0.11	ditch
22	28	25	fill		0.17	ditch
22	29	29	cut			cremation pit
22	30	29	fill			cremation
22	31	31	cut			cremation
22	32	31	fill			cremation
22	33	33	cut			cremation
22	34	33	fill			cremation
22	35	35	cut			cremation
22	36	35	fill			cremation
22	37	37	cut			pit
22	38	37	fill			pit
22	39	39	cut	0.6	0.2	pit
22	40	39	fill	0.6	0.2	pit
22	41	41	cut	0.6	0.1	ditch
22	42	41	fill	0.6	0.1	ditch
22	43	43	cut	0.38	0.08	ditch
22	44	43	fill	0.38	0.08	ditch
22	45	45	cut	0.42	0.08	ditch
22	46	45	fill	0.42	0.08	ditch
22	47	47	cut			ditch
22	48	47	fill			ditch
22	49	49	cut			ditch
22	50	49	fill			ditch
22	51	51	cut			ditch
22	52	51	fill			ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
22	53	53	cut			ditch
22	54	53	fill			ditch
22	55	55	cut			ditch
22	56	55	fill			ditch
22	57	57	cut			pit
22	58	57	fill			pit
22	59	29	topsoil			cremation
22	60	31	topsoil			cremation
22	61	35	topsoil			cremation
22	62	62	cut			ditch
22	63	62	fill			ditch
22	64	29	subsoil			cremation
22	65	65	cut			pit
22	66	65	fill			pit
22	67	67	cut			ditch
22	68	67	fill			ditch
22	69	69	cut			ditch
22	70	69	fill			ditch
22	71	71	cut			ditch
22	72	71	fill			ditch
30	73	74	fill	2		hollow
30	74	74	cut	2		hollow
30	75	76	fill	1.3	0.6	ditch
30	76	76	cut	1.3	0.6	ditch
30	77	78	fill	0.3	0.15	post hole
30	78	78	cut	0.3	0.15	post hole
30	79	80	fill	0.7	0.15	gully
30	80	80	cut	0.7	0.15	gully
30	81	82	fill			hollow
30	82	82	cut			hollow
14	83	84	fill	0.6	0.06	gully
14	84	84	cut	0.6	0.06	gully
14	85	86	fill	0.7	0.4	post hole
14	86	86	cut	0.7	0.4	post hole
32	87	87	cut	1.1	0.65	ditch
32	88	87	fill	1.1	0.4	ditch
32	89	87	fill		0.25	ditch
32	90	90	cut	1.3	0.95	ditch
32	91	90	fill	1.3	0.18	ditch
32	92	90	fill	1.3	0.23	ditch
32	93	93	fill	1.3	0.05	ditch
32	94	93	fill	1.3	0.05	ditch
32	95	95	cut	0.47	0.25	post hole
32	96	95	fill	0.47	0.25	post hole
32	97	97	cut	0.4	0.1	post hole
32	98	97	fill	0.4	0.1	post hole
24	99	99	cut	2.5	0.8	pit
24	100	99	fill			pit
31	101	101	cut	1	0.2	ditch
31	102	101	101	1	0.2	ditch
31	103	103	cut	2.5	1.4	ditch
31	104	103	fill	1.8	0.8	ditch
31	105	103	fill	2.5	0.4	ditch
31	106	103	fill	1.5	0.4	ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
35	107	108	fill	1.9	0.4	ditch
35	108	108	cut	1.9	0.4	ditch
35	109	110	fill	0.9	0.7	ditch
35	110	110	cut	0.9	0.7	ditch
35	111	112	cut	0.6	0.35	post hole
35	112	112	cut	0.6	0.35	post hole
35	113	114	fill	0.5	0.4	post hole
35	114	114	cut	0.5	0.4	post hole
35	115	116	fill	0.8	0.3	gully
35	116	116	cut	0.8	0.3	gully
35	117	118	fill	0.5	0.15	post hole
35	118	118	cut	0.5	0.15	post hole
35	119	120	fill	2.25		ditch
35	120	120	cut	2.25		ditch
35	121	108	fill	1.8	0.8	ditch
24	122	99	fill			pit
24	123	99	fill			pit
24	124	124	cut	2	0.9	ditch
24	125	124	fill	2	0.9	ditch
24	126	124	fill			ditch
43	127	127	cut	0.85	0.45	ditch
43	128	127	fill	0.85	0.45	ditch
43	129	129	cut	1.65	0.35	ditch
43	130	129	fill	1.65	0.35	ditch
43	131	131	cut	0.5	0.1	ditch
43	132	131	fill	0.5	0.1	ditch
43	133	133	cut	0.8	0.65	ditch
43	134	133	fill	0.8	0.65	ditch
24	135	135	cut	1.6	0.7	ditch
24	136	135	fill			ditch
24	137	135	fill			ditch
24	138	135	fill			ditch
24	139	139	cut	0.75	0.55	post hole
24	140	139	fill	0.75	0.55	post hole
29	141	142	fill	2.5	0.6	ditch
29	142	142	cut	2.5	0.6	ditch
29	143	144	fill	1.3	0.5	ditch
29	144	144	cut	1.3	0.5	ditch
29	145	146	fill	0.6	0.2	beamslot
29	146	146	cut	0.6	0.2	beamslot
29	147	148	fill	0.4	0.2	post hole
29	148	148	cut	0.4	0.2	post hole
29	149	150	fill	0.2	0.15	post hole
29	150	150	cut	0.2	0.15	post hole
29	151	152	fill	0.5	0.1	pit
29	152	152	cut	0.5	0.1	pit
29	153	156	layer		0.2	structure
29	154	156	fill	2	0.3	ditch
29	155	156	fill	3.4	0.1	ditch
29	156	156	cut	3.4	0.1	ditch
29	157	158	fill	0.25	0.05	post hole
29	158	158	cut	0.25	0.05	post hole
29	159	160	fill	0.2	0.75	post hole
29	160	160	cut	0.2	0.75	post hole

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
29	161	162	fill	0.3	0.2	post hole
29	162	162	cut	0.3	0.2	post hole
29	163	164	fill	0.3	0.1	gully
29	164	164	cut	0.3	0.1	post hole
29	165	166	fill	1.3	0.4	ditch
29	166	166	cut	1.3	0.4	ditch
29	167	168	fill	0.5		cremation
29	168	168	cut	0.5		cremation
29	169	170	fill	0.5		cremation
29	170	170	cut	0.5		cremation
23	171	171	cut	1.5	0.35	ditch
23	172	171	fill	1.3	0.35	ditch
23	173	173	cut			pit
23	174	173	fill			pit
23	175	175	cut			ditch
23	176	175	fill			ditch
23	177	177	cut	3	0.74	ditch
23	178	177	fill		0.08	ditch
23	179	177	fill		0.1	ditch
23	180	177	fill		0.3	ditch
23	181	177	fill		0.3	ditch
23	182	177	fill		0.3	ditch
23	183	177	fill			cobble layer
23	184	177	cut			ditch
23	185	184	fill			ditch
23	186	186	cut	1.46	0.38	ditch
23	187	186	fill	1.46	0.38	ditch
23	188	188	cut		0.8	ditch
23	189	188	fill			ditch
23	190	188	fill			ditch
23	191	191	cut	2	1.2	ditch
23	192	191	fill	0.5	0.25	ditch
23	193	191	fill	0.6	0.15	ditch
23	194	191	fill	1	0.3	ditch
23	195	191	fill	5	1	ditch
23	196	196	cut	2.5	1	ditch
23	197	196	fill			ditch
23	198	198	cut	1	0.6	ditch
23	199	198	fill	1	0.3	ditch
23	200	198	fill	0.8	0.3	ditch
24	201	201	cut	0.35	0.25	post hole
24	202	201	fill	0.35	0.25	post hole
24	203	203	cut	0.33		gully
24	204	203	fill	0.33	0.35	gully
24	205	205	cut	0.45		gully
24	206	206	fill	0.45		gully
25	207	207	cut	14		cobbled road
25	208	207	layer		0.05	overlay
25	209	207	layer		0.05	cobbles
25	210	210	cut	2.9	0.6	ditch
25	211	210	fill		0.2	ditch
25	212	210	fill		0.32	ditch
25	213	213	cut	1		ditch terminus/corner

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
25	214	213	fill	1		ditch terminus/corner
25	215	215	cut	1		ditch
25	216	215	fill	1		ditch
25	217	217	cut	1.5	0.15	pit
25	218	217	fill		0.15	pit
29	219	220	fill	0.2	0.2	post hole
29	220	220	cut	0.2	0.2	post hole
31	221	294	fill		0.2	ditch
43	222	222	cut	2.2	1.2	ditch
43	223	222	fill	0.2	0.1	ditch
43	224	222	fill	2.2	1.2	ditch
29	225	160	fill			post hole
29	226	162	fill			post hole
20	227	227	cut	7	0.1	uncertain
20	228	227	fill	7	0.1	uncertain
20	229	227	fill			uncertain
20	230	230	cut	0.55	0.25	ditch
20	231	230	fill	0.55	0.25	ditch
20	232	232	cut	0.9	0.2	pit
20	233	232	fill	0.9	0.38	pit
21	234	234	cut	2		ditch
21	235	234	fill			ditch
21	236	236	cut	0.28	0.04	post hole
21	237	236	fill	0.28	0.04	
21	238	238	cut	0.9		ditch
21	239	238	fill	0.9		ditch
21	240	240	cut	0.8		ditch
21	241	240	fill	0.8		ditch
21	242	242	cut	0.9		ditch
21	243	242	fill	0.9		ditch
21	244	244	cut			ditch
21	245	244	fill			ditch
21	246	246	cut	0.6		ditch
21	247	246	fill			ditch
26	248	249	fill	1		ditch
26	249	249	cut	1		ditch
26	250	251	fill	1.4		ditch
26	251	251	cut	1.4		ditch
26	252	253	fill	1.5		ditch
26	253	253	cut	1.5		ditch
26	254	255	fill	0.2		pit
26	255	255	cut	0.2		pit
26	256	257	fill	1.75		ditch
26	257	257	cut	1.75		ditch
26	258	258	cut	0.8	0.9	ditch
43	259	259	cut	1.3	0.3	ditch
43	260	260	cut	1.4	0.34	ditch
43	261	260	fill	1.4	0.34	ditch
43	262	262	cut	1.5	0.68	ditch
43	263	262	fill	1.6	0.68	ditch
31	264	264	cut	0.8	0.2	ditch
31	265	264	fill	0.8	0.2	ditch
31	266	264	fill	0.8	0.2	ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
42	267	267	cut			ditch
42	268	267	fill			ditch
42	269	269	cut			ditch
42	270	270	fill			ditch
42	271	271	cut			ditch
43	272	271	fill			ditch
42	273	273	cut			ditch
42	274	273	fill			ditch
26	275	258	fill	1.5	0.5	ditch
26	276	258	fill	0.5	0.1	ditch
26	277	258	fill	0.4	0.1	ditch
26	278	258	fill	1.3	0.7	ditch
26	279	258	fill		0.2	ditch
26	280	258	fill	0.6	0.4	ditch
26	281	258	fill	0.8	0.6	ditch
17	282	282	cut	1.4	0.4	pit
17	283	282	fill			pit
32	284	284	cut	1.3		ditch
32	285	285	fill	1.3		ditch
25	286	286	cut	4.25	0.74	ditch
25	287	286	fill		0.3	ditch
25	288	286	fill			ditch
31	289	289	cut	3	0.9	ditch
31	290	289	fill	3	0.2	ditch
31	291	289	fill		0.2	ditch
31	292	289	fill		0.2	ditch
31	293	289	fill		0.3	ditch
31	294	294	cut	3.5	1.2	ditch
31	295	294	fill		0.4	ditch
31	296	294	fill		0.2	ditch
31	297	294	fill		0.2	ditch
31	298	294	fill		0.4	ditch
31	299	299	cut	0.4	0.1	post hole
31	300	299	fill	0.4	0.1	post hole
31	301	301	cut	0.3	0.17	post hole
31	302	301	fill	0.3	0.17	post hole
31	303	303	cut	0.25	0.2	post hole
31	304	303	fill	0.25	0.2	post hole
31	305	305	cut	0.4	0.1	post hole
31	306	305	fill	0.4	0.1	post hole
31	307	307	cut	0.25	0.16	post hole
31	308	307	fill	0.25	0.16	post hole
31	309	309	cut	0.25	0.15	post hole
31	310	309	fill	0.25	0.15	post hole
31	311	311	cut	0.25	0.05	post hole
31	312	311	fill	0.25	0.05	post hole
31	313	313	cut	0.7	0.4	hearth/pit
31	314	313	fill	0.7	0.4	hearth/pit
49	315	315	cut	3	1.12	ditch
49	316	315	fill	0.2	0.1	ditch
49	317	315	fill	2.4	0.4	ditch
49	318	315	fill	3	0.6	ditch
47	319	321	fill	1		ditch
47	320	321	fill	1.5		ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
47	321	321	cut	1.5		ditch
47	322	323	fill	1		ditch
47	323	323	cut	1		ditch
48	324	325	fill	0.5		pit
48	325	325	cut	1		pit
48	326					void
48	327					void
48	328	329	fill	10		ditch
48	329	329	cut	9.8		ditch
50	330			1		void
50	331	331	cut	1		pit/natural
50	332	332	cut	1		pit/natural
50	333	333	cut	0.3		ditch
50	334	334	cut	0.4		ditch
50	335	335	cut	0.5		ditch
50	336	331	fill	0.5		pit
50	337	332	fill			ditch
50	338	333	fill	0.3		ditch
50	339	334	fill	0.4		ditch
50	340	335	fill			ditch
55	341	342	fill			pit
55	342	342	cut			pit
1	343	344	fill	0.5	0.1	pit
1	344	344	cut			pit
1	345	346	fill	0.7	0.4	ditch
1	346	346	cut	0.7	0.4	ditch
1	347	348	fill	0.9	0.4	ditch
1	348	348	cut	0.9	0.4	ditch
49	349	315	fill	0.8	0.1	ditch
20	350	350	cut			ditch
20	351	350	cut			ditch
20	352	350	fill			ditch
20	353	350	fill			ditch
53	354	354	cut	1.2	1	pit
53	355	354	fill			pit
39	356	356	cut	0.35	0.03	ditch/natural
39	357	356	fill			ditch/natural
39	358	358	cut	0.6	0.4	pit/natural
39	359	358	cut			pit/natural
34	360	360	cut	7.2		surface (external)
34	361	360	fill			surface (external)
34	362	360	fill			surface (external)
34	363	363	cut	0.3	0.2	post hole
34	364	363	fill			post hole
31	365	365	cut	1		pit
31	366	365	fill	1		pit
1	367	367	cut			pit
3	368	368	cut	1.04	0.4	ditch
3	369	368	fill			ditch
1	370	367	fill	1.5	0.3	pit
1	371	367	fill			pit
4	372	455	fill			ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
5	373	373	cut	0.8	0.35	ditch
5	374	373	fill			ditch
4	375	0	cut	1.3	0.05	pit/natural
4	376	375	fill			pit/natural
4	377	377	cut	0.2	0.1	post hole
4	378	377	377			post hole
3	379	368	fill		0.15	ditch
3	380	380	cut			ditch
3	381	380	fill			ditch
3	382	382	layer			Hollow?
3	383	383	cut	0.5	0.1	Ditch?
3	384	383	fill	0.5	0.1	Ditch?
2	385	385	cut			Hollow
2	386	385	fill			Hollow
2	387	387	cut	1.6	0.62	ditch
2	388	387	fill			ditch
2	389	389	cut	1.8	0.65	pit
2	390	389	fill		0.42	pit
2	391	389	fill		0.23	pit
2	392	392	cut	1.3	0.3	pit
2	393	392	fill	1.3	0.3	pit
6	394	394	cut	2	0.8	ditch
6	395	394	fill	0.5	0.56	ditch
5	396	396	cut	1.3	0.4	ditch
5	397	396	fill			ditch
5	398	396	fill			ditch
5	399	399	cut	3.6		hollow
5	400	399	fill			hollow
5	401	401	cut	0.9	0.15	ditch
5	402	401	fill			ditch
5	403	403	cut	1.4		ditch
5	404	403	fill			ditch
7	405	405	cut	1	0.4	ditch
7	406	404	cut	0.75		gully
8	407	407	cut	1.2		ditch
8	408	407	fill	1.2		ditch
8	409	409	cut	2		ditch
8	410	409	fill	2		ditch
8	411	411	layer	2		Hollow
8	412	412	layer	1.2		Hollow
8	413	413	cut	0.75		ditch
8	414	413	fill	0.75		ditch
1	415	367	fill	1.7	0.3	pit
1	416	367	fill	1.4	0.1	pit
1	417	367	fill	2	0.7	pit
1	418	367	fill			pit
1	419	367	fill			pit
6	420	394	fill	0.8	0.1	ditch
6	421	394	fill	1.6	0.8	ditch
7	422	405	fill	1	0.4	ditch
7	423	404	fill	0.75		ditch
7	424	425	fill	2		ditch
7	425	425	cut	2		ditch
7	426	427	fill	2		ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
7	427	427	cut	2		ditch
7	428	0	layer			Hollow
9	429	429	cut	4		Hollow?
9	430	429	fill	4		Hollow?
9	431	431	cut	2		ditch
9	432	431	fill	2		ditch
9	433	433	cut	6		Quarry?
9	434	433	fill			Quarry?
9	435	433	fill	5		Quarry?
9	436	436	cut	2		ditch
9	437	436	fill	2		ditch
9	438	438	cut	2		ditch
9	439	438	fill	1		ditch
9	440	440	cut	5		ditch
9	441	440	fill	5		ditch
9	442	442	cut	5	0.2	test pit
27	443	444	fill			Hollow
27	444	444	cut	0.5	0.1	hollow
28	445	446	fill	10		Hollow
28	446	446	cut	10		Hollow
40	447	448	fill			hollow
40	448	448	cut			Hollow
45	449	450	fill	2		Hollow
45	450	450	cut	2		Hollow
50	451	452	fill	19		Hollow
50	452	452	cut	19		Hollow
51	453	454	fill	15		Hollow
51	454	454	cut	15		Hollow
4	455	455	cut	0.5	0.1	ditch
27	456	456	cut	1.7		ditch
27	457	457	cut	3.2		ditch
21	458	458	cut	0.65		post hole
21	459	459	cut	0.25		post hole
27	460	460	cut	0.25		post hole
27	461	431	cut	0.25		post hole
WB	500	500	cut	16		natural hollow
WB	501	500	fill			natural hollow
WB	502	502	cut	16		natural hollow
WB	503	502	fill			natural hollow
WB	504	504	cut	32		natural hollow
WB	505	504	fill			natural hollow
WB	506	506	cut	2.5	1	ditch
WB	507	506	fill			ditch
WB	508	506	fill			ditch
WB	509	509	cut	57		natural hollow
WB	510	509	fill			natural hollow
WB	511	511	cut	54		natural hollow
WB	512	511	fill			natural hollow
WB	513	513	cut	120		natural hollow
WB	514	513	fill			natural hollow
58	515	515	cut			hollow way
58	516	515	fill			hollow way
58	517	515	fill			hollow way
58	518	515	fill			hollow way

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
58	519	519	cut			hollow way
58	520	519	fill			hollow way
58	521	521	cut			ditch
58	522	521	fill			ditch
58	523	523	cut	1.76	0.54	pit
58	524	523	fill			pit
58	525	523	fill			pit
58	526	523	fill			pit
58	527	523	fill			pit
58	528	528	cut	0.58	0.19	posthole
58	529	528	fill			posthole
58	530	530	cut	0.36		posthole
58	531	530	fill			posthole
58	532	532	cut	0.49	0.3	posthole
58	533	532	fill			posthole
58	534	534	cut	0.35	0.25	posthole
58	535	534	fill			posthole
58	536	537	fill			
58	537	537		0.62	0.3	
58	538	537	fill			
58	539	539	cut	0.52	0.25	posthole
58	540	539	fill			posthole
58	541	541	cut	0.32	0.15	posthole
58	542	541	fill			posthole
58	543	543	cut	2.8		hollow way
58	544	543	fill			hollow way
58	545	543	fill			hollow way
58	546	546	cut	0.3	0.4	post hole
58	547	546	fill			post hole
58	548	548	cut	4	1.3	ditch
58	549	548	fill			ditch
58	550	548	fill			ditch
58	551	548	fill			ditch
58	552	548	fill			ditch
58	553	548	fill			ditch
58	554	548	fill			ditch
58	555	549	cut		0.2	hollow way
58	556	555	fill			hollow way
58	557	555	fill			hollow way
58	558	558	cut	2	0.3	ditch
58	559	558	fill			ditch
58	560	560	cut	7.3	1.3	ditch
58	561	561	fill			ditch
58	562	561	fill			ditch
58	563	561	fill			ditch
58	564	564	cut	0.9	1	ditch
58	565	561	fill			ditch
58	566	564	cut	0.8	1.1	ditch
58	567	561	fill			ditch
58	568	0	layer			surface (external)
WB	569	569	cut	0.3	0.2	ditch
WB	570	569	fill			ditch
WB	571	571	cut	1.4	0.4	ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
WB	572	571	fill			ditch
WB	573	573	cut	1.2	0.4	ditch
WB	574	573	fill			ditch
WB	575	575	cut	2.8		ditch
WB	576	575	fill			ditch
WB	577	577	cut	1.1	0.6	ditch
WB	578	577	fill			ditch
WB	579	577	fill			ditch
WB	580	580	cut	0.8	0.5	ditch
WB	581	580	fill			ditch
WB	582	580	fill			ditch
WB	583	583	cut	3.4	1.4	ditch
WB	584	583	fill			ditch
WB	585	583	fill			ditch
WB	586	583	fill			ditch
WB	587	587	cut	1.8	1	ditch
WB	588	587	fill			ditch
WB	589	587	fill			ditch
WB	590	590	cut			foundation trench
WB	591	590	masonry			wall
WB	592	592	cut			natural hollow
WB	593	592	fill			natural hollow
WB	594	594	cut	1.3	0.7	ditch
WB	595	594	fill			ditch
WB	596	594	fill			ditch
WB	597	597	cut	2.8	0.7	ditch
WB	598	597	fill			ditch
WB	599	597	fill			ditch
WB	600	600	cut	1.6	0.6	ditch
WB	601	600	fill			ditch
WB	602	602	cut	1.3	0.7	ditch
WB	603	602	fill			ditch
WB	604	604	cut	1.05	0.3	ditch
WB	605	604	fill			ditch
WB	606	604	fill			ditch
WB	607	607	cut	1.15	0.5	ditch
WB	608	607	fill			ditch
WB	609	609	cut			ditch
WB	610	609	fill			ditch
WB	611	611	cut	1.3	0.3	ditch
WB	612	611	fill			ditch
WB	613	613	cut	1	0.7	ditch
WB	614	613	fill			ditch
WB	615	615	cut	3	1	ditch
WB	616	615	fill			ditch
59	617	617	cut	1.2	0.4	ditch
59	618	617	fill	1.2	0.22	ditch
59	619	617	fill	1.2	0.18	ditch
59	620	620	cut	1.9	0.8	ditch
59	621	620	fill	1.9	0.4	ditch
59	622	620	fill	1.9	0.3	ditch
59	623	620	fill			ditch
59	624	624	cut	1.26	0.36	ditch

Trench	Context	Cut	Category	Breadth	Depth	Feature Type
59	625	624	fill		0.2	ditch
59	626	624	fill		0.16	ditch
59	627	627	cut	4	0.18	trackway
59	628	627	fill	4	0.18	trackway
59	629	629	cut	1.2	0.28	ditch
59	630	629	fill		0.28	ditch
59	631	631	cut	0.5	0.2	pit
59	632	631	fill	0.5	0.2	pit
59	633	633	cut	0.9	0.12	pit
59	634	633	fill		0.12	pit
59	635	635	cut	2.26	0.22	pit
59	636	635	fill		0.2	pit
59	637	635	fill		0.09	pit
59	638	638	cut	0.7	0.1	pit
59	639	638	fill	0.7	0.1	pit
59	640	640	cut	0.7	0.04	pit
59	641	640	fill	0.7	0.04	pit
59	642	642	cut	0.38	0.1	post hole
59	643	642	fill		0.1	pit
59	644	644	cut	0.3	0.2	gully
59	645	644	fill	0.3	0.2	gully
59	646	646	cut			ditch
59	647	646	fill			ditch
59	648	648	cut	1	0.24	ditch
59	649	648	fill		0.24	ditch
59	650	650	cut	1.3	0.3	ditch
59	651	650	fill			ditch
59	652	652	cut	0.6	0.27	trackway
59	653	652	fill		0.27	trackway
59	654	654	cut	0.35	0.28	post hole
59	655	654	fill	0.35	0.28	post hole
59	656	656	cut		0.1	trackway
59	657	656	fill		0.1	trackway
59	658	658	cut	1.4	0.6	ditch
59	659	658	fill	1.4	0.2	ditch
59	660	658	fill			ditch
59	661	658	fill			ditch
59	662	662	cut	1	0.1	trackway
59	663	662	fill		0.1	trackway
59	664	664	cut	2.45	1.24	ditch
59	665	664	fill	0.46	0.18	ditch
59	666	664	fill	2.25	0.39	ditch
59	667	664	fill	2.45	0.5	ditch
59	668	668	cut	0.9	0.16	natural
59	669	668	fill	0.9	0.16	ditch
59	670	670	cut			ditch
59	671	670	fill			ditch
59	672	672	cut	0.9	0.2	ditch
59	673	672	fill		0.18	ditch
59	674	672	fill		0.05	ditch
59	675	675	cut	0.48	0.08	gully

Table 1: Context Summary

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Small Finds Catalogue

By Chris Faine and James Fairbairn

B.1.1 SF 1 (100): Iron knife blade. Length: 76.9mmmm. Whittle tang set with sloping shoulder. Date: Appearance Medieval due the length of tang compared to the blade but it may be earlier. Found in 2nd to 3rd century Roman pit.

B.1.2 SF 2 (100): Iron square section nail with square head. Length: 67.5mm. Date: Uncertain. Found in 2nd to 3rd century Roman pit.

B.1.3 SF 3 (100): Quern stone (see Appendix B.6)

B.1.4 SF 4 (1): A Copper brooch of the “Colchester” type. Length: 33mm. Catch-plate intact with two circular holes. No other decoration. Mid 1st century (40-60 AD). A very late version of the type due it's size and catch-plate design it marks the transition between the “Colchester” and “Colchester derivative” types but is characteristic of the former. Similar examples have been found at Colchester & Gorhambury (Mackreth, 2011; Crummy, 1998).

B.1.5 SF 5 (169): A copper alloy brooch of the “Hod Hill type”. Length: 34.1mm. Cross moulded lower bow with three ridges and knop and lateral lugs set in the middle of the upper bow. Solid catch-plate. Mid 1st century (35-60 AD). Appearing in Britain in great numbers from the time of the conquest onwards, similar examples have been found at Colchester, Gorhambury and Richborough (Mackreth, 2011, Crummy, 1998).

B.1.6 SF 6 (221): Iron hook/fitting. Length: 89.5mm. Date: Uncertain.

B.1.7 SF 7 (283): A copper alloy harness ring. Diameter 32.2mm. Decorated with a single concentric groove. Date: Post-Medieval

B.1.8 SF 8 (165): Unidentifiable lead fragment. Possibly casting waste.

B.1.9 SF 9 (1): Iron object. Length: 118mm Tapered square section shank with point flaring out to a flat blade (width: 45mm). Possibly a chisel. Date: Uncertain. Modern context (topsoil).

B.1.10 SF 10 (1): Collection of 7 Iron square section nails. Average length: 34mm. Date: Uncertain.

B.1.11 SF 11 (136): Iron square section nail shank. Length: 53.6mm. Date: uncertain

B.1.12 SF 12 (106): Iron square section nail shank. Length: 41.9mm. Date: uncertain

B.1.13 SF 13 (105): Two fragments of bone pin. Most likely worked from medium mammal long bone shaft. Length: 406/154mm. Larger fragment displays one bulbous end (max. width: 66mm) tapering down (min. width: 26mm). The bulbous area of the shank would have had the effect of holding the pin in place when in clothing. Date: 3rd-4th Century AD. Similar examples have been found at Colchester (Crummy, 1998) and Chalk, (MacGregor, 1985).

B.1.14 SF 14 (1): Quern stone (see Appendix B.6)

B.1.15 SF 15 (1): Chalk weight (see Appendix B.6)

B.1.16 SF 16 (176): Iron square section nail with square head. Length: 45mm. Date: uncertain.

B.1.17 SF 17 (218): Oven or kiln furniture (See Appendix B.10).

B.1.18 SF 18 (136): Oven or kiln furniture (See Appendix B.10).

B.1.19 SF 19 (59): Stamped Samian (see Appendix B.3).

B.1.20 SF 20 (59): Stamped Samian (see Appendix B.3)

B.1.21 SF 21 (519): Copper alloy object. Length: 70mm (width 7mm). Ring and dot and X decoration above a central incised line. Probably a fragment of bracelet. Date: Roman.SF 22 (519): Copper alloy object. Length: 62mm (width 7mm). feathered decoration above a central incised line tapering to a point. Probably the terminal of bracelet and part of SF 21. Date: Roman.

B.1.22 SF 23 (544): Copper alloy object. Diameter: 18mm. Heavily corroded Barbarous Radiate (bust facing right). Date: late 4th-5th century, Roman

B.1.23 SF 24 (554): Iron nail

B.1.24 SF 25 (628): A copper-alloy nummus of the House of Constantine dating to the period AD 335 - 341 (Reece Period 17). Reverse probably GLORIA EXERCITVS reverse type depicting two soldiers and one standard. Mint uncertain.

B.1.25 SF 26 (663): Iron hobnail

B.2 Prehistoric Pottery

By Sarah Percival

B.2.1 A total of 78 sherds weighing 538g were collected from 23 excavated contexts and from plough soil. A single sherd of Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age Beaker was the earliest pottery recovered, the remainder of the assemblage being Later Bronze Age to mid Iron Age (Table 2). The pottery is fragmentary and no complete vessels were recovered. The sherds are mostly small and poorly preserved and the average sherd weight is 7g.

Trench	Feature	Feature Type	Context	Spot Date	Qty	Weight (g)
1	367	Pit	370	Later Bronze Age /Earlier Iron Age	5	17
2	385	Hollow	386	Later Bronze Age /Earlier Iron Age	3	4
3	380	Ditch	381	Middle Iron Age	1	11
5	403	Ditch	404	Middle Iron Age	6	19
24	139	Post Hole	140	Middle Iron Age	4	13
26	258	Ditch	275	Later Bronze Age /Earlier Iron Age	9	114
27	444	Hollow	443	Earlier Iron Age	1	7
29	156	Ditch	155	Earlier Iron Age	3	50
	160	Post Hole	159	Earlier Iron Age	2	9
31	1	Plough Soil	1	Earlier Iron Age	1	8
	76	Ditch	75	Earlier Iron Age	1	1
	101	Ditch	102	Earlier Iron Age	2	31
	264	Ditch	265	Earlier Iron Age	2	1
			266	Earlier Iron Age	1	3
	289	Ditch	290	Middle Iron Age	8	113
			291	Earlier Iron Age	5	8
			292	Earlier Iron Age	1	1
			293	Earlier Iron Age	3	14
	294	Ditch	295	Earlier Iron Age	2	12
			298	Earlier Iron Age	1	3
	309	Post Hole	309	Earlier Iron Age Or Earlier Neolithic	1	9
40	448	Hollow	447	Earlier Iron Age	2	11
43	131	Ditch	132	Middle Iron Age	2	15
49	315	Ditch	317	Middle Iron Age	11	58
53	354	Pit	355	Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age	1	6
Total					**78**	**538**

Table 2: Quantity and weight of prehistoric pottery by trench and feature

Methodology

B.2.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was 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 present (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was recorded; R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are curated by OAE

Later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age

B.2.3 A single sherd of Beaker weighing 6g was recovered from Pit **367** in trench 1. The sherd is made of sand and grog tempered fabric and is decorated with square-toothed comb impressed decoration. Beaker pottery was in use from *c.* 2600-1800BC.

Later Bronze Age to Iron Age

B.2.4 The later prehistoric assemblage can be broadly divided into three phases. The earliest of these being Later Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (100-800BC). Seventeen sherds of this date weighing 135g were recovered from four contexts (Hollow **385**, Ditch **258** and Pit **367**). All are flint tempered and include a pinched, gritted base and a rounded body sherd from a jar with high rounded shoulder.

B.2.5 A total of 27 sherds weighing 159g are Early Iron Age (800-500BC). Again all the sherds are made of flint-tempered fabrics (Table 3). The assemblage includes a flat, gritted base sherd and a body sherd decorated with a fingertip impressed cordon. The Early Iron Age pottery was all recovered from ditch fills in Trenches 29 and 31 (Table 2) including ditches **289** which also contained Middle Iron Age sherds and **294** which also contained Roman pottery.

B.2.6 Middle Iron pottery (300-100BC) was recovered from the fills of five ditches and one posthole, these included a number of sherds from Ditch **289** which also contained Early Iron Age pot. The sherds are made of sandy fabrics, some with shell inclusions and include a T shaped rim, from an ovoid jar, with slashed decoration along the outer edge.

Discussion

B.2.7 The single sherd of Beaker may derive from domestic activity. The Later Bronze Age to Early Iron Age assemblage suggests occupation in the early first millennium BC, especially in the area around Trenches 29 and 31. The extensive use of flint-tempering within the assemblage compares well with other PDR assemblages from the region (Brudenell 2012).

B.2.8 The mid Iron Age pottery fabrics, being sandy with shell, compare well to those from nearby Duxford (Lyons 2011, table 15). For this period evidence is more dispersed, being found in trenches 3,5, 24, 31, 43 and 49.

Spot Date	Fabric	Fabric Description	Qty.	Weight (g)
Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age	QG	Sandy fabric with common small rounded grog	1	6
Later Bronze Age /Earlier Iron Age	F1	Common fine angular flint pieces up to 2mm	3	4
	F2	Common medium angular flint pieces up to 3mm	13	120
	F3	Moderate to common coarse flint over 3mm	1	11
Earlier Iron Age	F1	Common fine angular flint pieces up to 2mm	12	63
	F1stone	Common fine angular flint pieces up to 2mm plus rare large limestone inclusion up to 5mm	1	8
	F2	Common medium angular flint pieces up to 3mm	11	84
	F3	Moderate to common coarse flint over 3mm	2	12
	FSh	Common fine angular flint pieces up to 2mm	2	1
Middle Iron Age	Q1	Sandy clay with moderate rounded quartz grains up to 1mm	22	175
	QCh	Sandy clay with sparse sub rounded chalk	3	15
	QF	Sandy clay with sparse flint	2	15
	QSh	Sandy clay with moderate shell	4	13
	QShF	Sandy clay with moderate shell and sparse flint	1	11
Total			**78**	**538**

Table 3: Prehistoric pottery by fabric

B.3 Roman Pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

B.3.1 A total of 1206 sherds of Romano-British pottery, weighing 15219g, with an Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) of 12.56, representing a minimum of 409 individual vessels, was recorded. This pottery was recovered from 121 deposits, within 91 features were which primarily ditches, also pits and other features including cremations (Table 4).

B.3.2 The pottery is significantly abraded, with an average sherd weight (ASW) of c. 12.5g, which suggests that the majority of the assemblage has suffered a high level of post-depositional disturbance.

Feature	Sherd count	Weight (g)	EVE	Weight (%)
Ditch	745	8506	6.92	55.89
Pit	143	2012	2.00	13.22
Cremation	98	1210	0.57	7.95
Hollow way	56	1086	0.19	7.14
Plough soil	44	909	1.04	5.97
Topsoil	15	414	1.00	2.72
Gully	14	308	0.33	2.02
Overlay	32	278	0.23	1.83
Hollow (including natural features)	33	149	0.05	0.98
Post hole	13	146	0.19	0.96
Cobble layer	1	103	0.00	0.68
Structure	1	32	0.00	0.21
Uncertain	5	23	0.00	0.15
Beam-slot	1	17	0.00	0.11
Trackway	2	14	0.00	0.09
Subsoil	2	9	0.00	0.06
Hearth/hollow/pit	1	3	0.00	0.02
Total	**1206**	**15219**	**12.56**	**100.00**

Table 4: The Roman pottery from features, listed in descending order of weight (%)

Methodology

B.3.3 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 2004). The total assemblage was studied and a catalogue prepared.

B.3.4 For each context the pottery was sorted by fabric and form, and then the sherds were counted and weighed. In addition, the fabric of the sherds was examined using a hand lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of the dominant inclusion type present. The fabric codes are descriptive and abbreviated by the main letters of the title (e.g. SGW = Sandy grey ware ASG); vessel form was also recorded. Decoration and abrasion were also noted and a spot date has been provided for each individual sherd.

B.3.5 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited within the appropriate county stores in due course.

Acknowledgements

B.3.6 Thanks to Stephen Wadeson (OA East) for identifying the samian stamps and to Carole Fletcher (OA East) for identifying the post-Roman pottery.

The Pottery Fabrics and associated forms, listed in alphabetical order

B.3.7 **BAT AM 2**: Baetican (late) amphoraeA dense distinctive fabric that is very hard with a fine appearance with a thick grey core with a buff external surface (Tomber and Dore 1998, 85).
Vessel types: Amphora: DR20.

B.3.8 **CGBLW**: Central Gaulish Black Slip ware
A fine textured fabric; generally pink or light red with glossy black or dark reddish brown slip (Tyers 1996, 137-8).
Vessel types: Beaker: 3.

B.3.9 **Gaulish WW**: Gaulish White ware
This is a hard cream to white pipe-clay fabric, largely manufactured in Lezoux and imported with central Gaulish samian (Tomber and Dore 1996, 22).
Vessel types: Flagon: 1.5

B.3.10 **GW(FINE)**: fine grey ware
This is a distinctive very fine grey ware with no visible inclusions and a soft soapy feel sometimes referred to as 'London ware' (Tyers 1996, 169-70). This fabric was made at several centres including West Stow and Wattisfield in Suffolk, the Nene Valley, also London. This is a fine fabric used to make good quality vessels in the Early Roman period, some of the vessels copied samian and other Gaulish pot shapes. All of the form evidence points to a late 1st- to early–mid 2nd-century date.
Vessel types: Beaker: 3. Dish: Dr18/31 copy

B.3.11 **GW (GROG)**: Grey ware with grog inclusions
This has a dark brownish grey fabric with a similar or darker surface. It is quite a hard, soapy, hackly-fractured fabric with frequent very coarse (larger than 1mm) grog inclusions. This fabric was initially used to produce handmade forms in the Belgic style, however its suitability for wheel production quickly established it as the main Early Roman utilitarian ware.
Vessel types: Wide mouthed jar: 5.2

B.3.12 **HADRW**: Hadham red ware
Typically, orange-brown, with quartz and sandstone inclusions, occasionally with a darker core (Tomber and Dore 1998, 151). Where intact, the external surface is burnished in narrow horizontal bands. Common in the late Roman period, its forms are similar to those of the Oxfordshire red ware industry and the combinations of decorative 'Romano-Saxon' bosses, dimples and grooves are diagnostic.
Vessel types: Dishes: 6.14, 6.19

B.3.13 **HORN**; Horningsea coarse wares
HORN; Horningsea grey ware
This is generally a very coarse sandy ware usually with a reddish core and variable surface colours from buff to grey (Tomber and Dore 1998, 116).
Vessel types: Medium mouthed jar: 4.13, 4.14; storage jar: 4.14; dish: 6.18

B.3.14 **NFSW**: New Forest Slip ware
A range of dark or red-slipped wares (Tyers 1996, 171-2).
Vessel types: Beaker: 3.

B.3.15 **NVCC**: Nene Valley colour-coats
Vessels with a soft pale fabric and dark matt colour coat. Colour-coats from this industry were reaching Haddenham from the Antonine (mid-2nd century) period onwards

(Tomber and Dore 1998, 118).
Vessel types: Beaker: 3, 3.6 (hunt cup). Dishes: 6.17, 6.19

B.3.16 **Nene Valley oxidised ware**
A white fabric with cream surfaces and some variation, it was frequently used in the production of mortaria (Tomber and Dore 1998, 119).
Vessel types: Reeded mortaria: 7.9.1

B.3.17 **Oxfordshire red ware with a red colour-coat**
These are oxidized, normally red or orange with either a red/brown or a white slip, and frequently have a reduced core and pink margins (Tomber and Dore 1998, 176). The fabric contains well-sorted inclusions and is characterized by common fine, silver (sometimes gold) mica and common to abundant quartz. This fabric is particularly common in the late Roman period in the 4th and early 5th centuries.
Vessel types: medium mouthed jar: 4.5; Dish: 6.14; mortaria: 7

B.3.18 **Pink grog tempered ware**
This is a Romano-British grog tempered ware with a soft pale fabric with a grey core and pinkish surface. The fabric is typical of the Milton Keynes area manufactured between the mid-2nd and early 5th centuries (Marney 1989, 174-175).
Vessel types: Storage jar

B.3.19 **SAM CG**: Samian
A distinctive glossy red fabric, often decorated (Tomber and Dore 1998, 25–41). A limited range of central Gaulish dishes were recovered.
Vessel types: Dishes: Dr18/31, ?Curle15

B.3.20 **SCW**: Sandy coarse ware
This is a loosely mixed sandy fabric that often presents as a sandwich ware with a variety of core and surface colours ranging from pale grey to dark brown. It is a poorly made fabric that represents low quality utilitarian vessel manufacture throughout the Roman period.
Vessel types: Storage jar: 4.14

B.3.21 Sandy grey ware
A light brown to dark grey fabric that contains abundant well-rounded quartz and sparse mica (Perrin 1996, 120). It is a utilitarian fabric that was used to produce most jar and bowl forms during the Roman period.
Vessel types: Narrow mouthed jar: 2.1; medium mouthed jars: 4.5, 4.13; wide mouthed jars: 5.3, 5.13; dishes: 6.17, 6.18, 6.19

B.3.22 **SOW**, Sandy oxidised ware
An oxidized fabric that can vary in colour from very pale brown to creamy white, and often has sand inclusions (Andrews 1985, 94–5, OW2).
Vessel types: Ring neck flagon: 1.1

B.3.23 **SOW(GROG)**: Sandy oxidised grog ware
An oxidized fabric that can vary in colour from very pale brown to creamy white, and has common sand and grog inclusions. A non-local source is suggested as the fabric is consistent with production at Caldecotte during the mid- 1st to early 2nd century AD (Marney 1989, 92, no 28).
Vessel types: Storage jar: 4.14

B.3.24 **SREDW**: Sandy red ware
An oxidised fabric that is consistently red in colour and has common sand inclusions. This group may include pieces of Hadham origin. Few forms are discernible. A wide 1st-

to 4th-century date range for this material is also probable.
Vessel types: Wide mouthed jar: 5.3. Bowl: 6

B.3.25 **STW**: Midlands shell-tempered ware
This is a reduced soapy fabric. Where it was made is not known although it is worthy of note that it is not of the Lincolnshire Dales (Tyers 1996, 190) or Bourne-Greetham (Tomber and Dore 1998, 156) type. It most likely originated from the Harrold kilns in Bedfordshire (Brown 1994, 19-107).
Vessel types: Medium mouthed jar: 4.4, 4.5, 4.13.

B.3.26 **STW (GROG)**: Shell tempered ware with grog inclusions
This is a reduced soapy fabric with fossilized shell as a natural component of the clay, with common grog inclusions added. This is primarily an early Roman fabric used to make jar/bowl forms.
Vessel types: Jar/bowl: 4 or 6

B.3.27 **VER OW**: Verulamium white ware
This is a hard, cream or off-white fabric, the fracture is invariably hackly, with harsh surfaces (Tomber and Dore 1998, 154).
Vessel types: Medium mouthed jar: 4.4, 4.8

The Forms

B.3.28 Numeric vessel type codes, descriptions and compared to published examples.

Coarsewares

B.3.29 1.1. Ring-necked flagons (Perrin 1996, 90)
1.5. Hofheim type, single (Stead and Rigby 1986, 191) and double (ibid, 229) handled flagons with cylindrical necks and out-curved lips, triangular in section
2.1. Narrow-mouthed jar with rolled everted rim, rounded body and various cordons, with decoration on the neck, body and base of the vessel (Perrin 1996, 132; 222; 416)
3. Miscellaneous beakers
3.6. Bag-shaped beakers (Howe et al 1980, 46; Perrin 1996, 233)
4.4. Jar with short angular neck, lid-seated or flattened rim (Perrin 1996, 387)
4.5. Medium-mouthed jar, short neck, rolled and generally undercut rim and globular body (Rogerson 1977, 43; 93; 115; 202)
4.8. Medium-mouthed jar, everted rim that is hollowed or with projection underneath (bifid), globular body (Perrin 1996, 592; 583)
4.13. Medium-mouthed jar, rounded body and simple everted rim (Rogerson 1977 5; Martin 1988, 250; 251)
4.14. Large storage vesselsmiscellaneous or indeterminate
5.2. Carinated jars (Perrin 1996, 71)
5.3. Rounded jar with a reverse ‘S’ profile and a groove on the neck (Rogerson 1977, 39; 46; 94)
5.13. Carinated jar, plain (no cordons) with groove at base of neck (Stead and Rigby 1986, 610)
6. Miscellaneous or indeterminate bowl, cup, dish, platter
6.14. Hemispherical bowl with a plain hooked flange, copy of samian form Dr 38 (Howe et al. 1980, 83; 101)
6.17. Flanged rim straight-sided dishes with a flat base (Perrin 1996, 468; 469; 483)
6.18. Dish, straight-sided, flat-based, thickened everted ‘triangular’ rim (Perrin 1996, 417; 426; 449; 453; 455)
6.19. Dish, straight sides which may be upright or angled, plain rim or may have external groove just below the rim (Perrin 1996, 402; 403; 415; Darling and Gurney

1993, 642; 643)
7.9.1. A Nene Valley mortarium with slightly angled reeded rim, usually with three grooves. The bead is substantial and often square in section (Howe et al. 1980, 102)
Dr18/31. A shallow bowl, with a very slightly curved wall, (the division between the wall and the floor is apparent), while the floor rises noticeably in the centre.
Curle 15. Dish, with flaring walls which are concave externally (Webster 1996, 57)
DR20. A large globular form (principally olive oil containers) with two handles and thickened, rounded or angular rim, concave internally (Webster 1996, 33)

Assemblage characteristics – Coarsewares

B.3.30 The pottery assemblage is characterised by the presence of utilitarian coarse sandy grey wares found in a limited range of utilitarian forms comprising jars and dishes. Some of this material consists of wide mouthed cordoned jars, including grog tempered carinated examples, consistent with the early Roman era. The majority, however, are medium mouthed jars (some with soot residues) and dishes which date from the mid to late Roman period. The source of this material is unknown, and could originate from anywhere within a radius of twenty to thirty miles, perhaps further if water transport was available (Perrin 1996, 121).

B.3.31 Also common within the assemblage are Horningsea coarse ware storage jar, jar and dish fragments of which only combed body sherds were recovered. Although produced in Cambridgeshire over a long period most products from this kiln site were most widely traded during the 2nd and 3rd centuries (Evans and Macaulay in prep.). Other non-local storage jars fragments were also found most commonly the pink grog tempered ware manufactured in the Milton Keynes area (Marney 1989, 174-175). A small amount of grog tempered sandy oxidised storage jar material, possibly from Caldecotte (Marney 1989, 92, no 28), was also found. It is possible all these storage jars were brought to the site not only for the value of the pottery but also because of their contents.

B.3.32 The most common oxidised coarse ware was the hard gritty jars/cooking pots manufactured in the Verulamium region from the mid-1st to the end of the 2nd century (Tyers 1996, 199-201).

B.3.33 In the later Roman period shell tempered globular jars with rolled underscored rims became a relatively common component of this assemblage. It is likely these wares were produced within the Harrold kiln site located c. 45 km to the north-west (Brown 1994, 19-107).

Assemblage Characteristics – Fine wares

B.3.34 In the early Roman era the most common fine ware was well made grey ware vessels. These were found as undiagnostic beaker forms and also copying samian dish forms. This fabric was made at several centres including West Stow and Wattisfield in Suffolk, the Nene Valley, also London (Tyers 1996, 169-70).

B.3.35 A small amount of 2nd century central Gaulish samian was identified (Webster 1996, 13-14). The best preserved pieces were associated with cremation deposits (see below). The remainder of the assemblage was severely abraded and probably residual.

B.3.36 Nene Valley colour coated vessels are the most common fine ware within this group. This industry grew up near (modern) Peterborough and commenced production in the mid-2nd century and bag-shaped beakers of this date – including hunt cups – are found here. More common, however, are the later Roman Nene Valley jars and straight-sided dishes traded throughout eastern Britain in the 3rd and 4th centuries (Tyers 1996, 173-175).

B.3.37 In addition to this material a small amount of Central Gaulish Black Slip ware (Tyers 1996, 137-138) and New Forest slip ware (Tyers 1996, 171-173) were found in very small quantities as undiagnostic beaker fragments only.

Assemblage Characteristics – Specialist wares

B.3.38 Specialist wares are represented by fragmentary Spanish olive oil amphora. Imported from the late Iron Age, the majority was brought into the eastern region of Britain during the 2nd century AD (Tyers 1996, 87-89).

B.3.39 Other specialist wares comprised the fragmentary remains of a north Gaulish Hofheim flagon. This is a high status object and may have been displaced from a cremation burial.

B.3.40 Also found were three pieces of Nene Valley white ware mortaria, distinctive mixing bowls with iron slag trituration grits and reeded rims (Tyers 1996, 127-129). Most commonly made and traded in the 3rd and 4th centuries.

Fabric	Code	Vessel types	Count	Weight (g)	EVE	Weight (%)
Sandy grey ware	SGW	Narrow mouthed jar: 2.1. Medium mouthed jar: 4.5, 4.13. Wide mouthed jar: 5.3, 5.13. Dishes: Dr18/31 copy,6.17, 6.18, 6.19	492	5294	5.78	34.80
Horningsea coarse ware	HORN	Storage jar: 4.14	55	2043	0.00	13.42
Shell tempered ware	STW	Medium mouthed jar: 4.4, 4.5, 4.13	92	1259	1.24	8.27
Grey ware with grog inclusions	GW(GROG)	Wide mouthed jar: 5.2	88	1078	0.44	7.08
Sandy red ware	SREDW	Wide mouthed jar: 5.3. Bowl: 6	125	937	0.23	6.16
Nene Valley colour coat	NVCC	Beaker: 3, 3.6. Dishes: 6.17, 6.19	60	758	0.66	4.98
Oxfordshire red slipped ware	OXREDCC	Medium mouthed jar: 4.5. Bowl: 6.14. Mortaria 7	34	650	0.77	4.27
Horningsea grey ware	HORN GW	Medium mouthed jar: 4.13, 4.14. Dish: 6.18	19	468	0.16	3.08
Hadham red ware	HADRW	Bowl: 6.14. Dish: 6.19	58	461	0.45	3.03
Central Gaulish samian	SAM CG	Dishes: Dr18/31, ?Curle15	27	436	0.58	2.86
Pink grog tempered ware	PGROG	Storage jar	13	387	0.00	2.54
Spanish amphora	BAT AM	Amphora: DR20	9	346	0.00	2.27
Sandy oxidised ware	SOW	Flagon: 1.1	63	271	0.20	1.78
Fine grey ware	GW(FINE)	Beaker: 3. Dish: Dr18/31 copy	26	180	0.36	1.18
Shell tempered ware with grog inclusions	STW(GROG)	Jar/bowl: 4 or 6	10	176	0.07	1.16
Nene Valley oxidised ware	NVOW	Mortaria: 7.9.1	3	135	0.17	0.89
Verulamium oxidised ware	VER OW	Medium mouthed jar: 4.4, 4.8	14	124	0.15	0.81
Gaulish white ware	GAULISH WW	Flagon: 1.3, 1.5	4	107	1.30	0.70
Sandy oxidised grog ware	SOW(GROG)	Storage jar: 4.14	2	84	0.00	0.55
Central Gaulish Black Slip ware	CGBLW	Beaker: 3	10	21	0.00	0.14
New Forest slip ware	NFSW	Beaker: 3	2	4	0.00	0.03
Total			**1206**	**15219**	**32.36**	**100.00**

Table 5: The Roman pottery fabrics, listed in descending order of weight (%)

Vessels associated with cremation

B.3.41 The fragmentary remains of eleven early to mid-2nd century pottery vessels were found associated with (at least) two cremation burials (Table 6). Unfortunately, most of this material had been disturbed and was recovered from the topsoil.

B.3.42 The most complete vessels consist of a Sandy red ware flagon of which body sherds and a handle remain. Also found was a Sandy grey ware jar with oxidised surfaces, decorated with a single girth groove. In addition, a fine grey ware bag-shaped beaker was recorded. The best preserved vessels, however, comprise two central Gaulish samian Dr18/31 dishes. One (SF19) was manufactured in Lezoux and was stamped by SEVERUS V and can be dated to AD125-150, the other (SF20) was made in Les Martres by REGINUS ii and is dated to AD120-150 (Plate 23).

B.3.43 The tradition of accompanying cremated human remains with ceramic vessels began in Iron Age Gaul and was adopted by Romanising communities in south-east Britain throughout the early Roman era. This tradition was eventually widely replaced by inhumation during the mid to late 2nd century (Philpott 1991).

Context	Cut	Trench	Fabric	Form	Type	Sherd count	Weight (g)	Spot date	Comment
32	31	22	SGW	JAR		2	3	LC1-C4	
36	35	22	SGW	JAR/BOWL		5	57	MC1-MC2	
59	29	22	SAM CG	DISH	Dr18/31	5	70	AD125-150	SF 19: POTTER: SEVERUS V
59	29	22	SAM CG	DISH	Dr18/31	6	246	AD120-150	SF 20: POTTER: REGINUS ii
61	35	22	SREDW	JAR		6	252	LC1-C2	
61	35	22	SAM CG	DISH		1	23	C2	
61	35	22	SOW	FLAG		1	5	MC1-C3	
61	35	22	SGW	JAR		1	11	MC1-C3	
64	29	22	SREDW	FLAG		24	124	C2-C3	
64	29	22	SGW	JAR/BOWL		35	339	MC1-MC2	
64	29	22	GW(FINE)	BEAK	3	12	80	MC2	

Table 6: The Roman pottery from cremations

Summary

B.3.44 This is a large well-recorded assemblage of Romano-British pottery recovered from within the rich archaeological landscape of Melbourn; an area already known for settlement (CHER 042203) and burial (CHER 031197) during the Roman era.

B.3.45 The evaluation of this assemblage has demonstrated that early Roman activity, including the cremation of the dead, was taking place in the vicinity. There appears to have been a lull in the mid Roman era with settlement detritus only being deposited in significant quantities the later 3rd and 4th centuries AD. After which time all activity seems to cease as there is no evidence of continuity with the early Saxon era (although scraps of post-medieval pottery were found – see Appendix 2).

B.3.46 This assemblage although dominated by utilitarian locally produced sand tempered coarse ware also included imported goods, especially from central Gaul, in the early Roman era. In the later Roman period the majority of traded wares originated from other British manufacturing centres, predominately the lower Nene Valley.

B.3.47 Although these are all fabrics and forms typically found in southern Cambridgeshire the range of imported goods is noteworthy for a rural settlement and this may have been the result of being located within the hinterland of the nearby town of Great Chesterford (Medlycott 2011b).

Further work

B.3.48 No further work is recommended.

Roman Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
1	STW	U	SJAR		1	50	C1-C4
1	SAM CG (LEZOUX)	B	DISH	?CURLE 15	1	38	C2
1	SAM CG	RB	DISH	Dr18/31	2	18	C2
1	SAM CG	R	DISH	Dr18/31	1	7	C2
1	HORN(RW)	U	SJAR		1	14	C2-C3
1	SGW(BS)(HORN)	U	JAR/BOWL		2	30	C2-C3
1	VER OW	R	MJAR	4.8	1	25	C2-C3
1	HORN OW	D	SJAR		1	8	C2-C3
1	SGW(HORN)	U	JAR		2	31	C2-C3
1	NVCC	B	BEAK		1	81	C3-C4
1	NVCC	P	DISH	6.19	1	76	C3-C4
1	SGW(BS)	U	JAR		1	53	C3-C4
1	OXREDCC	R	BOWL		1	9	C4
1	SGW	UD	JAR		2	15	LC1-C4
1	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	7	LC1-C4
1	NVCC	D	CBOX		1	3	LC2-MC4
1	SOW	RU	FLAG	1.1	14	87	MC1-C2
1	SOW(GROG)	U	SJAR		1	80	MC1-C2
1	SGW(Q)	UB	JAR		1	22	MC1-C2
1	SGW(BLUE)	RU	JAR/BOWL	6	2	21	MC1-C4
1	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	3	MC1-C4
1	SGW(GROG)	R	WAJR	5.3(CARINATED)	1	39	MC1-EC2
1	NVCC	U	BEAK		1	4	MC2-C4
1	STW	R	MJAR	4.5.3	1	67	MC3-C4
1	SGW(MICA) (HAD)	R	DISH	6.17	1	24	MC3-EC5
1	SGW(BS)	RF	FDISH	6.17	1	97	MC3-EC5
2	SOW(Q)	U	JAR/FLAG		1	3	MC1-C3
2	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	6	MC1-C4
3	VER OW	RU	JAR	4.4	2	11	MC1-C2
3	SGW(FLINT)	U	JAR		4	8	MC1-C2
7	SCW	U	SJAR		1	21	C2-C3
7	SREDW	RU	BEAK		2	8	C2-C4
7	SOW	U	FLAG		2	12	MC1-C3
7	SGW	U	JAR/BEAK		6	13	MC1-C4
9	SGW	RU	JAR/BOWL		4	15	LC1-C4
14	RW(GROG)	RD	MJAR		6	164	M/LC1
18	HORN OW	D	SJAR		2	9	C2-C3
18	NVCC	B	DISH		2	14	C3-C4
19	SCW	UB	SJAR		1	30	C2-C3
19	SOW(Q)	U	JAR		1	18	C2-C3
19	SREDW	U	FLAG/BEAK		1	1	MC1-C3
19	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		6	15	MC1-C4
19	STW	UB	JAR		10	43	NC1-C4
22	STE(GROG)	U	JAR/BOWL		4	14	C1
22	SRW	D	JAR		1	9	C1-E/MC2
23	RW(GROG)	U	JAR/BOWL		20	83	C1-E/MC2
23	STW(GROG)	U	JAR/BOWL		1	10	MC1-MC2
23	SGW(PROTO)	UD	JAR/BOWL		21	155	MC1-MC2
24	GW(GROG0	UD	JAR/SJAR		28	384	C1
24	STW	R	JAR/BOWL	4.4	1	62	C1

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
24	BAT AM	U	AMPH		1	0	C1BC-ADC3(C2)
24	SGW(FINE)(OX SURFACES)	U	BEAK		5	28	MC1-E/MC2
26	SREDW(Q)	U	JAR		2	7	MC1-C2
32	SGW	U	JAR		2	3	LC1-C4
36	SGW(FLINT)	U	JAR/BOWL		5	57	MC1-MC2
40	RW(GROG & FLINT)	RU	WJAR	5	12	100	C1-EC2
44	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	13	LC1-C4
48	SGW(Q)	UB	JAR		2	16	MC1-C2
56	SGW(Q)	D	JAR		1	13	MC1-C2
59	SAM CG (LES MARTRES)	P	DISH	Dr18/31	6	246	AD120-150
59	SAM CG (LEZOUX)	B	DISH	Dr18/31	5	70	AD125-150
59	SGW(HORN)	R			13	390	C2-C3
59	SREDW	H	JUG		1	15	C2-C3
59	SGW(Q)	U			1	9	C2-C4
61	SAM CG	B	DISH		1	23	C2
61	SREDW(Q)	UB	JAR		6	252	LC1-C2
61	SOW	UB	FLAG		1	5	MC1-C3
61	SGW	B	JAR		1	11	MC1-C3
64	SREDW	UH	FLAG		24	124	C2-C3
64	SGW(OX SURFACES)	UD	JAR/BOWL		35	339	MC1-MC2
64	GW(FINE)	RUB	BEAK	3	12	80	MC2
75	HORN OW	D	SJAR		1	20	C2-C3
75	SREDW	U	BOWL		1	0	C2-C4
79	NVCC	U	JAR		1	7	C3-C4
81	HORN OX	D	AMPH		1	48	C2-C3
81	HADRW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	0	C4
81	SGW	RU	JAR/BOWL		5	21	LC1-C4
81	NVCC	UB	BEAK	3	2	9	MC2-C3
81	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		3	7	MC2-C4
81	OXRCC	U	JAR/BOWL		1	11	MC3-EC5
85	STW	U	JAR		1	5	C1-C4
85	HORN OW	D	SJAR		1	33	C2-C3
85	NVCC	D	BEAK	HUNT CUP	1	6	M/LC2
85	SGW	RU	WJAR	5.3	2	44	MC1-MC2
91	SGW	R	DISH	6.19	1	55	C3-C4
91	OXREDCC	RF	FBOWL	6.14	1	85	C4
91	SREDW (FINE)	U	BEAK		5	10	C4
91	SGW	U	JAR		5	22	MC1-C4
91	NVCC	B	BEAK		1	52	MC2-C4
91	STW	RU	MJAR	4.5.3	3	36	MC3-EC5
92	NVCC	U	JAR		1	5	C3-C4
92	SREW(?HAD)	U	JAR/BEAK		5	12	C4
92	SGW	U	JAR		1	3	LC1-C4
100	SAM CG	U	DISH		1	1	C2
100	HORN	D	SJAR		13	525	C2-C3
100	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		3	42	C2-C4
100	SGW(BS)	RU	DISH	6.19	4	33	C3-C4
100	GW(FINE)	D	BOWL		1	1	C3-C4
100	HAD RW	U	BOWL		7	22	C4
100	WW	R	FLAG	DISC	1	15	LC2-C4
100	VEROW	U	JAR		1	8	MC1-C2

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
100	STW	RU	JAR/BOWL		11	94	MC1-C2
100	VEROW	R	MORT		1	46	MC1-C2
100	SOW	U	FLAG		1	5	MC1-C3
100	PGROG	U	SJAR		1	71	MC1-C4
100	NVCC	B	BEAK		1	44	MC2-C3
100	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		13	100	MC2-C4
104	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	13	MC1-C4
105	HAD GW	UB	DISH		3	30	C4
105	HAD REDW	UB	BOWL		2	1	C4
105	OXREDCC	UB	BOWL		1	0	MC3-EC5
106	STW	R	MJAR	4.5.3	2	88	LC3-EC5
106	OXREDCC	RFU	FBOWL	6.14	9	191	MC3-EC5
107	NVCC	UB	JAR/BOWL		1	13	C3-C4
107	NVCC	UB	DISH		1	25	C3-C4
107	SOW	UB	FLAG		3	1	MC1-C3
107	SGW	UB	JAR/BOWL		5	14	MC1-C4
107	NVCC	UB	BEAK		3	9	MC2-C4
112	SREDW	R	DISH		1	1	C2-C4
112	NVOW	R	MORT	7.9.1	1	40	C3-C4
112	NVCC	U	BEAK		1	0	MC2-C4
114	SREDW	U	JAR		1	0	C2-C4
114	SGW	U	JAR		1	4	LC1-C4
123	CENTRAL GAULISH BLACK SLIPPED WARE	D	BEAK		10	21	C2
123	SGW(MICA)	P	DISH	6.19	10	456	C3-C4
123	SGW(MICA)	U	JAR/BOWL		1	5	LC1-C4
123	SOW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	11	MC1-C3
123	OXRCC	RI	JAR/BOWL	4.5	2	15	MC3-EC5
125	HORN OW	D	SJAR		3	96	C2-C3
125	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	5	C2-C4
125	SGW	R	DISH/CUP	6.19	1	20	MC2-C3
125	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		3	34	MC2-C4
126	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	3	LC1-C4
126	SGW(HORN)	R	DISH	6.18	3	236	MC2-C3
126	SGW	R	DISH	6.17	2	32	MC3-EC5
136	HORN OW	D	SJAR		2	62	C2-C3
136	BSRW	U	JAR/BOWL		15	27	C3-C4
136	HADRW	D	BOWL		1	1	C4
136	SGW	RUDB	JAR/BOWL		10	72	LC1-C4
136	VER OW	U	JAR		1	3	MC1-C2
136	STW	U	JAR		2	11	MC1-C4
138	PGROG	UD	SJAR		3	215	C1-C2
138	STW	B	JAR/BOWL		1	6	C1-C2
138	SGW(OX SURFACES)	U	JAR/BOLW		4	23	C1-E/MC2
138	GAULISHWW(FINE)	RU	FLAG	1.5	3	92	C1-EC2
138	HORN GW	RD	SJAR	4.14	3	166	C2-C3
138	HORN GW	D	SJAR		1	29	C2-C3
138	SOW	U	FLAG		3	0	MC1-C3
138	SGW(Q)	RU	WJAR	5.3	20	263	MC1-E/MC2
141	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	8	C1-C4
141	SAM CG	U			1	0	C2
141	PGROG	U	SJAR		1	9	C2-C4
141	SREDW	U	BOWL		5	9	C2-C4

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
141	NVOW	U	MORT		1	41	C3-C4
141	SGW	R	MJAR	4.5	1	6	E/MC2-C3
141	SGW	R	MJAR	4.5	1	11	E/MC2-C3
141	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		6	72	LC1-C4
141	SGW	R	DISH	6.18	1	18	MC2-C3
141	NVCC	U	UH		3	4	MC2-C4
143	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	4	C1-C4
143	SREDW	U	BOWL		1	3	C2
143	HORN OX	UB	SJAR		1	110	C2-C3
143	SGW(CALC)	B	JAR		1	15	LC1-C4
143	SREDW(Q)	U	JAR/BOWL		1	4	MC1-C4
143	SGW(BS)(MICA)	U	DISH		1	18	MC2-C4
145	OXREDCC	B	DISH		1	17	MC3-EC5
153	SOW(Q)	U	SJAR		1	32	C1-C4
165	NFSW	D	FLAG		2	4	MC2-C4
165	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		3	29	MC3-C4
172	STW	UB	JAR/BOWL		1	29	C1-C2
172	HORN GW	U	SJAR		1	61	C2-C3
172	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	3	C2-C4
172	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	7	LC1-C4
172	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	6	MC1-C4
174	HORN OW	D	SJAR		3	36	C2-C3
174	SGW	UB	JAR/BOWL		4	23	LC1-C4
176	NVCC	U	JAR		2	15	C3-C4
176	SRW	D	JAR		1	12	C3-C4
176	HADRW	U	JAR		2	22	C4
176	SGW	U	JAR		3	14	LC1-C4
176	SGW (GROG & FLINT)	B	JAR		1	84	MC1-E/MC2
178	SREDW(Q)	U	JAR/SJAR		2	80	MC1-C2
180	SGW	UD	JAR/BOWL		3	22	MC1-C2
180	SOW	U	FLAG		1	12	MC1-C3
182	SAM CG	U			1	1	C2
182	BAT AM	U	AMPH		4	68	C2
182	HORN	D	SJAR		1	10	C2-C3
182	HORN GW	D	JAR/SJAR		1	89	C2-C3
182	SREDW	U	BOWL		1	8	C2-C4
182	SREDW	B	BOWL		1	3	C4
182	HADRW	U	BOWL		1	10	C4
182	GW(FINE)	UD	BOWL		2	13	MC1-E/MC2
182	STW(GROG)	U	JAR/BOWL		4	64	MC1-MC2
182	SGW(BLUE)	RU	MJAR	4.13	13	125	MC2-C3
182	NVCC	RU	FDISH	6.17	2	36	MC3-EC4
183	SREDW(?HAD)	B	PURN		1	103	C2-C4
185	SGW	UD	JAR		2	8	C2-C4
185	NVCC	D	JAR		1	17	C3-C4
185	HADRW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	8	C4
187	OXREDCC	U	BEAK		1	1	C3-C4
187	HADRW	R	BOWL		1	12	C4
187	NVCC	D	BEAK		1	0	MC1-C4
187	OXREDCC	U	BOWL		1	1	MC3-EC5
189	SGW	B	JAR/BOWL		1	30	C2-C3
189	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	40	C2-C4
192	SOW(Q)	U	SJAR		2	15	C1-C3

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
192	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	5	C2-C4
192	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	6	C2-C4
192	HADRW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	7	C4
194	SGW	UD	JAR		2	25	C3-C4
194	OXREDCC	RU	MORT	7	2	91	C4
194	HADRW	U	BOWL		1	6	C4
194	SGW(HAD)	U	BOWL		1	4	C4
194	NVCC	UB	BEAK		4	30	MC2-C4
195	SAM CG	R	DISH		1	0	C2
195	SGW(MICA)	B	DISH		2	81	C3-C4
195	HADRW	U	BOWL		1	3	C4
195	OXREDCC	D	BOWL		1	19	C4
195	OXREDCC	B	BOWL		1	25	C4
195	SGW	RUB	JAR/BOWL		5	84	MC2-C4
197	SGW(BLUE)	UB	JAR		2	33	LC1-C4
199	GW(GROG)	B	JAR		5	49	MC1-E/MC2
204	HORN)OX)	D	SJAR		2	85	C2-C3
204	HORN(RW)	D	SJAR		2	25	C2-C3
204	SGW	U	JAR		1	6	MC1-C4
206	SGW	B	SJAR		1	20	C2-C3
206	SGW	U	JAR		1	1	LC1-C4
208	SCW	U	SJAR		1	1	C1-C3
208	PGROG	U	SJAR		1	9	C1-C4
208	SAM CG	U	DISH		1	0	C2
208	SGW(FINE)	UB	BOWL		8	15	C2
208	HORN OW	D	SJAR		2	105	C2-C3
208	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	8	C2-C4
208	SGW(BS)	U	JAR/BOWL		3	16	C2-C4
208	VGW	U	BOWL		1	26	LC1-C4
208	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	6	LC1-C4
208	SGW(FLINT)	UB	JAR/BOWL		2	38	MC1-C2
208	SOW(CALC)	U	FLAG		1	2	MC1-C3
208	SGW(OX SURFACES)	U	JAR/BOWL		3	11	MC1-MC2
208	STW	RU	JAR/BOWL	4.5.3	5	41	MC2-C4
212	PGROG	U	SJAR		1	8	C1-C4
212	HORN OW	U	SJAR		2	53	C2-C3
212	HORN OW	U	JAR		4	17	C2-C3
212	BAT AM	U	AMPH		1	109	C1BC-ADC3(C2)
212	SGW	U	JAR		5	37	LC1-C4
212	SOW	U	FLAG		10	9	MC1-C3
218	PGROG	UB	SJAR		6	75	C1-C4
218	SOW(FLINT & GROG)	B	FLAG		1	17	MC1-C2
218	SOW	UB	FLAG		2	4	MC1-C3
218	SGW	RU	DISH/CUP	Dr18/31 COPY	13	62	MC1-MC2
229	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	4	C1-C4
229	SREDW	U	JAR/BEAK		1	0	C2
229	SAM CG	U	DISH		1	3	C2
229	SGW	UD	JAR/SJAR		2	16	MC1-C4
231	SAM CG	U	DISH		1	1	C2
233	SRW(OX SURFACES)	U	BEAK		1	1	C1-E/MC2
235	SREDW(Q)	RU	WJAR	5.3	11	76	MC1-C2

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
235	SOW	UB	FLAG		7	18	MC1-C3
239	SAM CG	UB	DISH		2	24	C2
239	SGW	B	JAR/BOWL		2	10	LC1-C4
239	SREDW(MICA)	U	DISH		1	3	MC1-C2
239	STW	U	JAR		1	18	MC1-C4
241	STW(GROG)	R	SJAR	4.13	1	88	MC1-C2
241	RW(GROG)	UD	JAR		8	56	MC1-E/MC2
241	SGW	UD	WJAR		3	74	MC1-E/MC2
248	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	6	C2
254	VER OW	U	FLAG		4	1	MC1-C2
287	STW	U	JAR		1	0	C1-C3
287	GW(FINE)	D	BOWL		8	63	C1-EC2
287	SGW(FLINT0	UB	JAR		16	40	MC1-C2
287	SREDW	U	FLAG		5	14	MC1-C3
288	SAM CG	U	BOWL		1	3	C2
288	SGW(HORN)	D	SJAR		2	105	C2-C3
288	STW	RU	MJAR	4.4	4	26	MC1-C2
288	SOW	UB	FLAG		4	9	MC1-C3
288	SGW	RUD	WJAR	5.3	19	114	MC1-E/MC2
295	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	19	C1-C4
295	SGW	RB	JAR/BOWL		2	38	C2-C4
295	NVOW	R	MORT	7.9.1	1	54	C3-C4
295	NVCC	U	JAR/BOWL		2	10	C3-C4
295	HADRW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	4	C4
295	STW	U	JAR		8	98	MC3-EC5
295	OXREDCC	UB	JAR/BOWL		2	17	MC3-EC5
296	HADRW	RU	WJAR/BOWL	5OR6	9	78	C4
297	SGW(BS)	R	WJAR	5.13	1	101	C3-C4
297	NVCC	R	DISH	6.19	1	17	C3-C4
297	NVCC	U	JAR		1	6	C3-C4
297	NVCC	U	BOWL		1	5	C3-C4
297	HADRW	F	FDISH	6.14	1	84	C4
297	HADRW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	6	C4
297	STW	UB	JAR		3	45	MC1-C4
297	STW	U	JAR		1	10	MC3-EC5
298	SRW	U	DISH		1	3	C1-C4
298	NVCC	U	JAR		7	68	C3-C4
298	NVCC	R	DISH	6.19	2	22	C3-C4
298	SGW(BS)	R	NJAR	2.1	1	47	C3-C4
298	HADRW	UB	JAR/BOWL		16	96	C4
298	HADRW	R	DISH	6.19	1	21	C4
298	NVCC	U	BEAK		2	3	MC2-C4
298	SGW(?HAD)	RU	BOWL		3	53	MC2-C4
298	STW	R	MJAR	4.5.3	8	91	MC3-EC5
314	SGW	U	JAR		1	3	LC1-C4
318	SOW	U	FLAG		1	0	MC1-C3
351	SGW(GROG)	U			1	11	MC1-E/MC2
353	SGW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	U			2	4	MC1-C2
353	SGW	U			4	6	MC1-C4
369	VEROW	U	JAR/FLAG		4	30	MC1-C2
369	SGW	RUD	JAR	4OR5	6	126	MC1-C2
372	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	32	MC1-C4
379	SREDW	R	BOWL	6	1	8	C2

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
379	GW(FINE)(MICA)	R	DISH	Dr18/31 COPY	2	17	MC1-C2
379	SGW	UB	DISH		2	15	MC2+
384	GW(GROG)	R	WJAR	5.3	1	20	E/MC1
398	HORN GW	RUB	MJAR	4.13	10	84	C2-C3
402	BAT AM	U	AMPH		1	60	C1BC-ADC3(C2)
445	STW	R	JAR/BOWL		2	6	C1-C4
453	SGW(GROG&FLINT)	U	JAR/BOWL		6	12	MC1-MC2
501	SOW(Q)	R	JAR		1	4	C2-C3
501	BSRW	U	JAR		2	11	MC1-C4
501	SGW	U	JAR		6	13	MC1-C4
505	GW(GROG)(OX SURFACES)	U	SJAR		2	6	C1BC-ADC1
507	SREDW	D	JAR		1	1	E/MC2-C3
507	GW(FINE GROG)	U	JAR		1	3	MC1-MC2
514	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	1	C1-C2
517	HORN CW	D	SJAR		5	480	C2-C3
517	NVCC	R	JAR	ROLLED RIM	1	17	C3-C4
517	NVCC	UB	DISH		6	38	C3-C4
517	SGW(BLUE)	U	JAR		1	17	LC1-C4
517	SGW	U	JAR		3	14	MC1-C4
518	HORN CW	D	SJAR		1	87	C2-C3
518	BSRW	UB	DISH		3	27	C2-C4
518	NVCC	R	JAR	ROLLED RIM	1	28	C3-C4
518	OXREDCC	U	MORT		1	27	C4
518	HADRW	UB	BEAK		4	42	C4
518	SGW(OX SURFACES)	U	SJAR		1	23	MC1-C2
520	STW	U	SJAR		2	68	C1-C3
520	SREDW (FINE)	RUB	BOWL	DR37 COPY	17	67	C2
526	STW	U	JAR		1	17	C1-C2
526	SGW(Q&FLINT)	UB	JAR		1	30	MC1-C2
526	SREDW(SANDW)	U	JAR/BOWL		2	5	MC1-C4
535	SGW(BLUE)	U	JAR		1	1	LC1-C4
540	SGW(HORN)	U	JAR		1	6	C2-C3
540	SGW	U	JAR		1	6	MC1-C4
549	HORN CW	D	SJAR		3	32	C2-C3
549	SGW	U	JAR		3	19	MC1-C4
549	SGW	R	FDISH	6.17	1	5	MC3-C4
551	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	2	C2-C4
551	OXREDCC	U	JAR/BOWL		1	5	C4
551	NVCC	U	JAR		1	4	MC2-C4
553	SAM CG	R	DISH/BOWL		1	1	M/LC1
553	SOW(GRITTY)	U	JAR		1	1	MC1-C2
553	SGW	UD	JAR		3	12	MC1-C4
553	NVCC	R	JAR		1	11	MC2-C4
554	SGW(HORN)	R	DISH/LID		3	25	C3-C4
554	SGW(OX SURFACES)	R	JAR	5.3	2	27	C3-C4
554	OXREDCC	U	JAR/BOWL		2	44	C4
554	HADRW	R	DISH	6.19	1	8	C4
554	SGW(Q)	DB	JAR		1	16	MC1-C2
557	SREDW (FINE)	D	BEAK		1	5	155-80
557	HORN CW	D	SJAR		2	95	C2-C3

Context	Fabric family	Desc	Form	Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot date
557	HORN GW	U	JAR		1	9	C2-C3
557	SGW	UB	JAR		4	35	LC1-C2
557	GW FINE	D	JAR		1	6	M/LC1-EC2
557	SREDW	U	BEAK		1	1	MC1-MC2
559	SREDW	R	JAR/BOWL		5	13	C2-C4
562	STW	R	JAR	4.5	3	62	C2-C4
562	NVCC	U	JAR		1	29	C3-C4
562	SGW(BB2)	P	DISH	6.18	1	91	C3-C4
562	HADRW	R	WJAR	5.3	2	26	C4
562	OXREDCC	U	JAR/BOWL		3	9	C4
562	NVCC	UH	JAG		1	50	C4
562	SGW	U	JAR		1	13	MC1-C4
562	SGW(FINE)	U	BEAK		1	8	MC1-C4
562	STW	R	JAR	4.5.3	2	43	MC3-C4
563	?HADREDW	UB	JAR		1	4	?C4
563	SGW	UB	JAR		5	55	C2-C4
563	SREDW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	1	C2-C4
563	OXREDCC	RUB	MORT	7	3	83	MC3-C4
572	BAT AM	U	AMPH	DR20	1	80	C1BC-ADC3(C2)
576	GW(GROG)	U	JAR		2	27	MC1
576	SGW	U	JAR		2	17	MC1-C2
579	HORN CW	U	SJAR		1	55	C2-C3
579	SGW(BLUE)	R	WJAR		1	23	C2-C4
579	SGW	U	JAR		2	31	LC1-C4
579	SGW(HORN)	R	JAR		1	23	MC1-C4
581	SGW(SANDW)	RU	BEAK	3.7(EVERTED)	3	13	M/LC1-E/MC2
582	GW(GROG & FLINT)	U	SJAR		1	15	C1
582	SGW(BLUE)	U	JAR		1	3	LC1-C4
596	STW	U	SJAR		1	133	C1-C2
599	SGW(Q)	UD	JAR		2	20	E/MC2-C3
599	SGW(BLUE)	U	JAR/BEAK		8	17	LC1-C2
599	SGW(OX SURFACES)	U	BEAK		1	3	MC1-E/MC2
608	HORN CW	D	SJAR		1	38	C2-C3
608	SGW(SANDW)	UB	JAR		3	11	MC1-C2
612	BAT AM	U	AMPH		1	29	C1BC-ADC3(C2)
612	SOW	U	FLAG/BEAK		2	3	MC1-3
619	SGW(MICA)	D	JAR		1	1	E/MC2-C3
628	SREDW (FINE)	D	BEAK		1	13	155-80
628	STW	U	JAR/BOWL		1	1	C1-C2
637	SGW(FLINT)	U	JAR/BOWL		1	3	C1
637	GW(GROG)	U	JAR		1	87	C1BC-ADE/MC1
637	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL		2	1	MC1-C2
637	SCW	U	JAR		1	20	MC1-C2
647	SGW(BLUE)	U	JAR/BOWL		1	1	LC1-C2
647	SOW(FLINT)	B	BOWL		1	3	MC1-C2
651	OW(GROG)	D	BOWL		1	4	C1BC-ADE/MC1
651	SREDW(FINE)	RD	BEAK	?BUTT	12	22	M/LC1-EC2
651	SGW(FLINT)	U	JAR		3	4	MC1

Table 7: Roman pottery catalogue

B.4 The Post-Roman pottery

By Alice Lyons

B.4.1 A total of 5 sherds, weighing 35g, of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered (Table 8).

B.4.2 This pottery was identified by Carole Fletcher (OA East).

Context	Cut	Fabric	Dsc	Form	Sherd count	Weight (g)	Spot date
1	layer	Glazed red earthen ware	U	PLATTER	1	6	C17-C19
248	249	Black glazed ware	D	?	1	0	Post medieval
614	613	Hedingham fine ware	U	JUG	1	4	1150-1350
614	613	Shell tempered ware	R	JUG	1	19	1150-1500
514	513	?Mill Green fine ware	R	JAR	1	6	1250-1400

Table 8: The post-Roman pottery

B.5 Flint

By Lawrence Billington

Introduction and quantification

B.5.1 A total of 86 worked flints and 523g (34 pieces) of unworked burnt flint were recovered from the excavations. The assemblage is quantified by type and context in Table 9. The flint was largely derived from the fills of cut features with smaller amounts coming from deposits preserved within natural periglacial hollows (12 worked flints) and subsoil deposits (18 pieces). The worked flint was thinly distributed, deriving from a total of 31 individual contexts, very few of which yielded more than three worked flints. At this stage of analysis the only flintwork which can be regarded as coming from a relatively secure context is the material derived from the periglacial hollows which may represent *in situ* lithic scatters within preserved soil horizons. The vast majority of the remainder of the assemblage is likely to represent residual material inadvertently caught up in the fills of later features.

Context	Cut	Context type	Chip	Irregular Waste	Flake	Narrow Flake	Blade	Bladelet	Blade like Flake	Microburin	Retouched Flake	Single Platform Blade Core	Opposed Platform Blade Core	Core Fragment	Total Worked	Unworked Burnt Flint	Unworked Burnt Flint (g)
88	87	Ditch			1										**1**		
92	90	Ditch			2										**2**		
107	108	Ditch			1										**1**		
138	135	Ditch	2							1					**3**		
154	156	Ditch			2		2								**4**		
155	156	Ditch					1								**1**		
180	177	Ditch			1		2				1				**4**		
182	177	Ditch			1		1	1							**3**		
212	210	Ditch			1		1								**2**		
223	222	Ditch			1										**1**		
224	222	Ditch			2										**2**		
275	258	Ditch			1										**1**	**4**	**99.1**
369	368	Ditch					1								**1**		
388	387	Ditch														**1**	**9**
395	394	Ditch			1										**1**		
585	583	Ditch			5								1		**6**		
619	617	Ditch			2								1		**3**		
623	620	Ditch			2	1			1						**4**		
660	658	Ditch			1										**1**		
661	658	Ditch			1									1	**2**		
666	664	Ditch			1										**1**		
667	664	Ditch			3										**3**	**1**	**81.1**
314	313	Hearth/ Hollow			2										**2**	**13**	**135**
81	82	Hollow			1			1							**2**		
447	448	Hollow	2		3		1		2			1			**9**		
449	450	Hollow														**1**	**8.8**
451	452	Hollow						1							**1**		

Context	Cut	Context type	Chip	Irregular Waste	Flake	Narrow Flake	Blade	Bladelet	Blade like Flake	Microburin	Retouched Flake	Single Platform Blade Core	Opposed Platform Blade Core	Core Fragment	Total Worked	Unworked Burnt Flint	Unworked Burnt Flint (g)
283	282	Pit														**6**	**124**
370	367	Pit			1										**1**	**1**	**21.2**
390	389	Pit			1										**1**		
393	392	Pit														**3**	**20.9**
632	631	Pit			1										**1**		
376	375	Pit/ Natural					2								**2**		
2		Subsoil		1	9		2	2	2			2			**18**	**4**	**23.3**
628	627	Trackway			2										**2**		
		Total	**4**	**1**	**49**	**1**	**13**	**5**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**86**	**34**	**523**

Table 9: Basic quantification of the flint assemblage by type and context

Raw materials and condition

B.5.2 The entire assemblage is made up of good quality fine grained flint. The original colour of most pieces is masked by heavy cortication which is present on 85% of the assemblage (73 pieces). A few pieces have been subject to only incipient, light cortication or are entirely uncorticated. This differential cortication does not appear to have any chronological significance and must relate to differences in the burial environment/taphonomic history of the assemblage. Particularly notable are 7 flints from Ditch **177** (contexts 180 and 182) which are very fresh or only partially corticated and which include a high proportion of blade based material probably of Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic date.

B.5.3 Where the original colour of the flint can be discerned it is dominated by very dark greys/blacks. Surviving cortical surfaces are varied but are generally unweathered and sometimes retain a nodular form. This material is likely to derive from deposits closely associated with the parent chalk and which may have been available very locally, derived from the flint bearing layers of the Holywell Chalk Formation.

Characterisation

B.5.4 The assemblage is overwhelmingly dominated by unretouched material and a wide range of core reduction strategies are represented. Blade based material characteristic of Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic technologies is well represented. Blade based removals comprise 27% of the assemblage as a whole and are accompanied by four blade cores. Flakes exhibiting similar technological traits to the blades, including careful platform trimming, soft hammer percussion and regular dorsal scars are also common, suggesting a large proportion of the total assemblage reflects activity during this broad time period. Blade based material is particularly well represented in the small assemblages derived from the periglacial hollows, including the nine flints from Hollow **448** which include a blade, blade-like flakes and a fine single platform blade core. There is a degree of variability within the blade based material which suggests that both Mesolithic and Early Neolithic material is present. Almost certainly of Mesolithic date is a probable proximal microburin, a distinctive by-product of microlith manufacture, recovered from a bulk soil sample taken from 138, fill of Ditch **135**. A substantial

Mesolithic contribution is also suggested by the large proportion of blade cores which have been systematically reduced from opposed striking platforms, and several blades, including a fine plunging blade from Context 182, Ditch **177**, clearly show very regular opposed scars on their dorsal surfaces. The use of such opposed platform cores is very common in Mesolithic assemblages in the wider region (e.g. Clark 1955) but is very much rarer in the Early Neolithic (e.g. Beadsmoore 2006; Bishop 2011).

B.5.5 Aside from this blade based material the remainder of the assemblage is characterised by a relatively simple but competent flake based technology. This material is varied but is characterised by relatively broad and think flake removals, with evidence for direct hard hammer percussion and only occasional platform edge trimming. Whilst not strongly chronologically diagnostic this is typical of flintwork of Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age date. There is a very little of the very expediently worked material that is characteristic of later prehistoric (Middle Bronze Age onwards) flintwork (see, e.g. Ford et al 1984; Ballin 2002; MacLaren 2010). Two simple hard hammer flakes were found associated with 135g of burnt unworked flint in Hearth/Pit **313** and this may represent a prehistoric feature with associated flintwork, otherwise no flintwork of this kind was found within the periglacial hollows and the vast majority appears to be represented by a residual scatter of flintwork in later features or in subsoil features.

Discussion and Recommendations

B.5.6 The assemblage recovered from the excavations provides clear evidence for prehistoric activity at the site from the Mesolithic until, at least, the later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and complements previous discoveries in the locality including the results of the New Road evaluation (Ladd 2014) and the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic lithic assemblage recovered from buried soils sealed by the Bran Ditch immediately adjacent to the PDA (Welsh 1994). The vast majority of the assemblage is represented by residual material caught up in later deposits but the small assemblage of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flintwork from periglacial Hollow **448** indicate the potential of these features to contain *in situ* lithic scatters. The interpretative potential of such scatters has been highlighted by Bishop in his report on the analogous but much larger assemblages recovered from hollows at the nearby New Road excavations (Bishop 2014), and his recommendations for any further work (i.e. provision for adequate sampling of these deposits and recovery of as large and closely contextually defined lithic assemblage as possible) apply equally in this instance.

B.6 Objects of Stone

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

B.6.1 The worked stone assemblage comprises pieces from two Millstone Grit querns, some very small crumbs of lava stone, almost certainly also derived from quern or millstones and a chalk weight. All are probably Roman.

Small Find Number	Trench	Feature	Feature type	Context	Type	Petrology	Quantity	Weight (g)
SF3	24	99	Pit	100	Quern	Millstone Grit	1	1238
-	25	207	Gully	208	Quern	Lava	7	8
SF1	29		Plough soil	1	Quern	Millstone Grit	1	155
SF15			Plough soil	1	Weight	Chalk	1	172
	Total						**10**	**1573**

Table 10: Objects of stone

Methodology

B.6.2 A full catalogue was prepared of the total assemblage. Each piece was examined using a hand lens (x20 magnification) and the basic lithology recorded. The pieces were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Type and form were observed. For saddle querns grinding surface, wear angle, thickness, secondary re-use and tooling were recorded. For rotary shape, collar width, collar depth, hopper diameter, hopper shape, hopper depth, handle attachment, handle socket height above grinding surface, handle socket angle, spindle notch and diameter of feed were recorded. Spindle material, use wear, secondary re-use and tooling were also noted. The typological variables were selected to aid identification of the chronology and form of the quern, the petrological examination was undertaken to distinguish possible imports and locate the source of supply of stone to the site. OAE curate the assemblage and archive.

Querns

B.6.3 A large fragment from the rim of the upper stone of a Roman disc quern (SF3) was found in the fill of Pit ***99,*** Trench 24 (King 1986, fig.6). The fragment, which is made of Millstone Grit, is 64mm thick and has some smoothing on the grinding surface. A lump of Millstone Grit 35mm thick and also with a smoothed grinding surface came from plough soil in Trench 29. Millstone grit was widely imported into Cambridgeshire from the mid Iron Age and throughout the Roman period (King 1986).

B.6.4 A small quantity of lava fragments came from Gully **208**, Trench 25. Lava was also commonly found in the county from AD50 (King 1986, 95).

Chalk Weight

B.6.5 A complete chalk weight (SF15) weighing 172g was found in plough soil. The weight is 81mm long by 74mm wide and 28mm thick with a central drilled perforation 10mm in diameter. The perforation has been drilled from both sides producing an hourglass section. Wear marks radiating from the central perforation suggest that the weight was suspended when used, perhaps in a warp weighted loom. Similar weights have been found in Roman contexts at Brancaster, Norfolk (Hincliffe with Green 1985 fig.41, 145).

B.7 Metal Working Debris

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

B.7.1 A single piece of MWD weighing 60g was recovered from Posthole **114** in Trench 35. The small pieces of smithing slag suggests some metal working at the site. The fragment is undated.

Methodology

B.7.2 The MWD was scanned with a magnet to establish the presence of iron and was counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram.

B.8 Ceramic Building Material

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

B.8.1 A small assemblage of thirteen pieces of CBM weighing 506g was recovered from five excavated features and from plough soil and subsoil. Roman CBM was found in Trenches 14 and 25 (Table 11). The remainder of the assemblage is post medieval.

B.8.2

Trench	Feature	Feature type	Context	Type	Spot date	Quantity	Weight (g)
9	1	Plough soil	1	Roof tile	Post medieval	3	66
	431	Ditch	432	Uncertain	Post medieval	4	2
	436	Ditch	437	Brick	Post medieval	1	14
	440	Ditch	441	Uncertain	Post medieval	1	5
14	20	Ditch	18	Roof tile	Roman	1	290
25	207	Subsoil	208	Floor tile	Roman	1	29
	213	Ditch terminus	214	Tile	Roman	1	87
31	1	Plough soil	1	Roof tile	Post medieval	1	13
Total						**13**	**506**

Table 11: Quantity and weight of CBM by trench and feature

Methodology

B.8.3 The assemblage was quantified by context by fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded.

Roman

B.8.4 A large fragment of tegula 23mm thick and weighing 290g was recovered from the fill of Ditch **20**, Trench 14. The tile was made of a pale brown silty fabric with no visible inclusions. A second fragment in similar fabric from subsoil in Trench 25 had been cut to form a tessera. A tile fragment in soft, orange, silty fabric with no visible inclusions came from Ditch Terminus **213**, Trench 25.

Post-medieval

B.8.5 Post-medieval building material was found in three ditches in Trench 9 and from plough soil in Trenches 9 and 31. The assemblage comprises incomplete brick and flat tile fragments in hard red orange sandy fabrics with few visible inclusions.

Spot date	Type	Fabric	Qty	Weight (g)
Roman	Tessara	Pale brown silty fabric with no visible inclusions	1	29
	Tegula	Pale brown silty fabric with no visible inclusions	1	290
	Tile	Soft orange silty fabric with no visible inclusions	1	87
Post medieval	Brick	Dense orange sandy fabric with no visible inclusions	1	14
	Miscellaneous	Dense orange red sandy fabric with occasional quartz inclusions	4	2
		Dense orange sandy fabric with no visible inclusions	1	5
	Roof Tile	Dense orange sandy fabric with no visible inclusions	4	79
Total			**13**	**506**

Table 12: Ceramic building material by period

B.9 Baked Clay Objects

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

B.9.1 A total of 47 fragments weighing 355g were recovered from two excavated features. The assemblage comprises incomplete objects, perhaps rods or bars associated with cookery.

B.9.2 The assemblage is poorly preserved and fragmentary. No complete objects were recovered.

Small Find number	Trench	Feature	Feature type	Context	Quantity	Weight (g)
SF18	24	135	Ditch	136	1	83
SF17	25	217	Pit	218	46	272
Total					**47**	**355**

Table 13: Baked Clay Objects by fabric and feature

Methodology

B.9.3 The complete assemblage was analysed and the baked clay recorded by context, grouped by object type, form and fabric, and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Diameter, width and height of objects were noted where complete measurements were available. Fabrics were identified following examination using a x10 hand lens and are classified by major inclusion present.

Introduction

B.9.4 The fragments are made of poorly mixed clay with numerous sub-rounded chalk inclusions. Several pieces have flat surfaces forming right angles suggesting they belong to an elongated bar with rectangular profile.

B.9.5 The function of the fragments is uncertain as they lack the distinctive salt colours associated with briquetage and do not appear to have been subject to a high heat process suggesting kiln bars. It is perhaps more likely that they are oven furniture. The fragments are not closely datable.

B.10 Baked Clay

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

B.10.1 A total of 76 pieces of baked clay weighing 573g were collected. These include some fragments with smoothed upper surfaces and a few with wattle impressions which may represent structural debris. The assemblage is made of a variety of fabrics (Table 15) and is mostly poorly fired and crumbly.

Trench	Feature	Context	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)
2	387	388	Ditch	2	5
21	234	235	Ditch	3	12
	240	241	Ditch	3	8
22	21	23	Ditch	1	23
		24	Ditch	5	91
	25	26	Ditch	44	194
23	177	182	Ditch	2	17
	188	189	Ditch	1	36
24	99	100	Pit	1	53
	135	138	Ditch	1	6
25	286	287	Ditch	1	1
		288	Ditch	1	18
29	156	155	Ditch	4	101
31	294	297	Ditch	2	5
		298	Ditch	5	3
Total				**76**	**573**

Table 14: Quantity and weight of baked clay by trench and feature

Methodology

B.10.2 The complete assemblage was analysed and the baked clay recorded by context, grouped by form and fabric, and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Diameter of withy or round wood impressions was noted where available. Surface treatment and impressions were recorded along with the form and number of surviving surfaces. Fabrics were identified following examination using a x10 hand lens and are classified by major inclusion present. The archive is held by OAE.

Description and discussion

B.10.3 Almost all of the baked clay was recovered from the fills of ditches and displayed a wide distribution across the site. A fragment with a withy or round wood wattle impression 6mm wide was found in the fill of Ditch **387**, Trench 2. This fragment may be from the superstructure of a building or oven.

B.10.4 Several smoothed fragments with curved profiles were also recovered. These were found in Ditch **25**, Trench 22 and Pit **99**, Trench 24 and may represent baked clay lining from a hearth or pit. The remainder the assemblage is undiagnostic and none are closely datable.

Fabric	Quantity	Weight (g)
Dense fine fabric with common angular chalk up to 3mm	58	408
Dense fine fabric with common angular chalk up to 3mm; sparse flint up to 6mm, sub-rounded ferruginous sandstone	5	91
Dense silty fabric no visible inclusions	10	66
Sandy fabric with common angular chalk up to 3mm	3	8
Total	**76**	**573**

Table 15: Quantity and weight of baked clay by fabric

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

C.1.1 A total of thirty bulk samples were taken during several phases of evaluation and excavation at Black Peak Farm, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

C.1.2 Features sampled include ditches and pits dating from the prehistoric to the Roman period.

Methodology

C.1.3 The samples were 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 Table 1. 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. Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.1.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:
= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens #### = 100+ specimens

C.1.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and magnetic residues have been scored for abundance:
+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Results

C.1.6 Preservation of plant remains is generally poor with only five of the thirty samples containing charred remains. Cereal grains occur in each of these five samples, often as single identifiable grains and only occasionally identifiable as wheat (Triticum sp.). The presence of chaff in the form of glume bases of spelt (T. spelta) wheat in Sample 3, Fill 91 of Ditch **90**, suggests that the wheat grains preserved are also likely to be spelt.

Sample No.	Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Chaff	Charcoal	Flot comments	Large animal bones	Pottery
1	85	86	14	post hole	8	25	None	0	0	0	No preservation	#	0
2	104	103	31	ditch	10	5	None	0	0	0	No preservation	#	0
3	91	90	32	ditch	6	30	0	##	#	+	charred wheat grains and spelt glume bases	##	0
4	123	99	24	pit	8	5	0	#	0	++	charred wheat grains	##	#
5	134	133	43	ditch	10	40	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
6	138	135	24	ditch	10	2	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	#	0
7	193	191	23	ditch	8	2	0	#	0	+	indet charred grain	###	#
8	154	156	29	ditch	8	50	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
9	235	234	21	ditch	10	5	0	#	0	+	indet charred grain	0	#
10	223	222	43	ditch	4	20	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0
11	224	222	43	ditch	10	80	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
12	275	258	26	ditch	10	50	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0
13	281	258	26	ditch	6	5	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
14	218	217	25	pit	10	30	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	#
15	288	286	25	ditch	10	5	0	0	0	0	No preservation	##	0
16	292	289	31	ditch	8	5	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0
17	298	294	31	ditch	10	20	0	#	0	++	indet charred grain	##	#
18	317	315	49	ditch	10	70	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0

Sample No.	Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Chaff	Charcoal	Flot comments	Large animal bones	Pottery
19	353	350	20	ditch	10	20	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0
20	228	226	20	pool	10	30	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
21	355	354	53	pit	10	50	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	#	0
22	388	387	2	ditch	10	30	0	0	0	0	No preservation	#	0
25	540	539	58	Post hole	15	20	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
26	524	523	58	pit	11	10	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
27	665	664	59	ditch	18	30	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
28	636	635	59	pit	17	15	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
29	639	638	59	pit	15	10	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
30	643	642	59	Post hole	9	10	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
31	647	646	59	ditch	15	20	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
32	659	658	59	ditch	19	40	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	0	0

Table 16: Environmental samples

Discussion

C.1.7 In general the samples were poor in terms of identifiable material. The charred plant remains consist mainly of cereal grains that were poorly preserved, probably because of taphonomic factors. Spelt wheat has been identified which was the favoured cereal in the Roman period. It is interesting to note that all of the charred remains were found in features within trenches that were located in the north-east of the site. This is an area of Roman activity shown by geophysics along the side of a branch of Ashwell Street, a Roman road/trackway.

C.1.8 If further excavations were planned for this site, a targeted approach to environmental sampling is recommended as the samples from Black Peak Farm have shown that there is limited preservation of plant remains.

C.2 Animal Bone – Evaluation Trenches

By Chris Faine

C.2.1 The faunal material in question was recovered from an excavation at Black Peak Farm, Melbourn. Faunal material was recovered almost entirely from features dating from Romano-British period. Fifty-one contexts contained faunal material. Five hundred and fourteen fragments were recovered with 168 identifiable to species (32.6% of the total sample). No information regarding residuality or contamination is available to the author at this time. The preservation of the assemblage is generally good. The hand collected animal bone is stored in 3 crates measuring 45x30x23cm. The bones are washed and bagged by context. The total weight of the hand-collected bone is 21.3 Kg (see Table 17). The entire assemblage was scanned initially by context, with all "countable" bones being recorded on a specially written MS Access database. The overall species distribution in terms of fragments (NISP) along with the numbers of ageable mandibles, epiphyses and measurable/sexable bones are recorded in Table 18. The counting system is based on a modified version of the system suggested by Davis (1992) and used by Albarella and Davis (1994). Completeness was assessed in terms of diagnostic zones (Dobney & Reilly, 1988). Ageing was assessed via tooth wear (Grant, 1982).

C.2.2 As mentioned above, Table 18 shows the species distribution for the assemblage. Cattle is the dominant taxa, along with smaller numbers of horse and sheep/goat remains. Pig is a minor taxon, with a single fragmentary dog mandible being recovered from context **24**. As one would expected given this species distribution the largest number of ageable epiphyses were recovered from the cattle assemblage, with the higher numbers of sheep epiphyses than horse indicative of the types of elements found rather than differential preservation etc. Due to the fragmentary nature of the assemblage few measurable elements were recovered, with those that were consisting of cattle and sheep with a single measurable horse bone from context **105**. A small number of ageable mandibles were recovered mirror this distribution, consisting of cattle and sheep mandibles with single examples of pig and horse from contexts **105** & **192** respectively. No sexable elements were recovered.

C.2.3 This is a small assemblage with limited potential for further analysis. Any further work would involve analysing body part distribution of the main domesticates, in particular the cattle remains.

Context	Weight in kg	Context	Weight in kg
2	0.00	176	0.04
7	0.30	180	0.02
9	0.05	185	0.03
18	0.15	192	0.49
19	1.03	194	0.52
22	0.00	195	0.86
24	0.07	208	2.21
23	0.20	212	0.27
81	0.05	214	0.01
85	0.10	229	0.01
88	0.16	288	2.33
92	0.34	287	0.43
91	0.94	290	0.08
100	1.07	291	0.28
106	0.89	296	0.22
105	0.49	295	0.63

Context	Weight in kg	Context	Weight in kg
104	0.60	298	1.90
107	0.65	317	0.02
123	0.22	318	0.00
125	0.05	351	0.03
126	0.31	353	0.00
138	0.03	355	0.09
136	0.13	371	0.37
140	0.12	372	0.04
141	0.72	369	0.00
143	0.51	388	0.05
145	0.02	402	0.07
153	0.04	432	0.02
165	0.00	441	0.12
172	0.93		

Table 17: Bone weight by context

	Identifiable Bones	Ageable Epiphyses	Measurable Bones	Ageable Mandibles
Cattle (Bos)	101	53	12	6
Sheep/Goat (Ovis/Capra)	25	12	2	5
Pig (Sus scrofa)	3	0	0	1
Horse (Equus)	38	10	1	1
Dog (Canis familaris)	1	0	0	0
Total:	**168**	**75**	**15**	**13**

Table 18: Numbers of Identifiable/Ageable/Measurable elements

C.3 Animal Bone – Areas 58 and 59

By Vida Rajkovača

C.3.1 Investigation resulted in the recovery of two small assemblages, with a combined total of 195 assessable specimens, only 65 of which were identified to species. This includes material from two areas, hand-recovered and that coming as residues following the processing of bulk soil samples. Following aims to briefly quantify and characterise the assemblage and assess its potential.

Methods: Identification, quantification and ageing

C.3.2 The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

C.3.3 Bone showed moderate to quite poor level of preservation, and a high degree of fragmentation. This was especially evident from the horse cohort, where, of 22 identified to species, 18 were loose teeth. Overall, the assemblage was dominated by the remains of cattle (Table 98), the prevalence expected for the Romano-British period (King 1999). Sheep/ goat was also identified, based on three specimens. It was not possible to note any butchery marks.

C.3.4 In addition to the hand-recovered material, further 16 specimens came as heavy residues from Context 524 (Pit **523**, Area 58), all as unidentifiable crumbs of mammalian bone.

Taxon	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	32	56.1	2
Sheep/ goat	3	5.3	1
Horse	23	38.6	1
Sub-total to species	57	100	.
Cattle-sized	39	.	.
Sheep-sized	10	.	.
Mammal n.f.i. *	6	.	.
Total	**112**	**.**	**.**

Table 19: Area 58 and 59: Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all contexts: hand-recovered material

Taxon	Context 524
Cattle-sized	1
Mammal n.f.i.*	15
Total	**16**

Table 20: Area 58 and 59: Number of Identified Specimens for all species from heavy residues

C.3.5 Though on a rather small scale the assemblage generated results in keeping with expected period patterns. The dominant cattle cohort fits well with the Romano-British date of the majority of the contexts.

* the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

Areas 58 and 59 Animal Bone Catalogue

Record ID	Context	Species	Side	Element	How many?	Zones	Prox fusion	Dist fusion	Porosity	%	Fragmented	Eroded	Weathered	Ivoried	Concretions	Charred	Calcined	Gnawed	Teeth Present	General wear	Toothwear	Butchered	Measurable	comments
1	659	HOR		LT	3	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	MAX MOLARS
2	651	ULM		LF	2	0					0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
3	585	UMM		FRAG	2	0					0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
4	608	COW		TF	1	0				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
5	596	SG		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
6	520	COW	R	MT	1	345				50	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
7	520	COW		LT	5	0				90	0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
8	520	HOR		LT	2	0				90	0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
9	520	COW		MT	1	1				10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
10	520	ULM		HUM	1	0				10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
11	520	COW		CQ	1	0				25	0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
12	520	ULM		LF	4	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
13	520	UMM		LF	2	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
14	554	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	MAND M3 -SMALL
15	554	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	P2?
16	554	COW		MC	1	3				10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
17	562	ULM		RIB	1	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
18	562	COW		CAR	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
19	562	COW		SKL	1	0				10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	OVER 40 FRAGS COUNTED AS ONE
20	553	COW		HC	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
21	553	HOR		LT	3	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
22	553	HOR		SCAP	1	1				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
23	553	ULM		LF	1	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
24	553	HOR		MC4	1	0				50	0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
25	517	ULM		HUM	1	0				10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
26	517	COW		MT	1	3				10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
27	517	COW		PH1	1	0				90	0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	

Record ID	Context	Species	Side	Element	How many?	Zones	Prox fusion	Dist fusion	Porosity	%	Fragmented	Eroded	Weathered	Ivoried	Concretions	Charred	Calcined	Gnawed	Teeth Present	General wear	Toothwear	Butchered	Measurable	comments
28	517	COW		VL	1	1				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
29	517	COW		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
30	517	COW		ULN	1	3				10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
31	517	ULM		LF	4	0					0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
32	563	HOR		MT3	1	12				50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
33	563	COW		RAD	1	3				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
34	563	COW		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
35	563	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
36	563	SG		TF	1	0				50	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
37	563	ULM		LF	3	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
38	563	UMM		FRAG	4	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
39	582	ULM		VT	1	4				10	0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
40	551	COW		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
41	551	ULM		LF	1	0				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
42	559	ULM		FRAG	2	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
43	559	UUM		FRAG	3	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
44	518	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
45	518	ULM		LF	7	0					0	1	1	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
46	526	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L			0	0	0	
47	526	COW		MP	1	4/5				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
48	526	ULM		FRAG	2	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
49	562	COW		VC	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
50	562	COW		HC	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0			0	0	0	
51	562	HOR		MC3	1	3				25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
52	562	COW		MAN	1	9				50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
53	562	COW		MC	1	3		U		25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
54	562	COW		RAD	1	1				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
55	562	COW		MT	1	1				10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
56	562	COW		TIB	1	0		U		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
57	562	ULM		VT	1	14				25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	

Record ID	Context	Species	Side	Element	How many?	Zones	Prox fusion	Dist fusion	Porosity	%	Fragmented	Eroded	Weathered	Ivoried	Concretions	Charred	Calcined	Gnawed	Teeth Present	General wear	Toothwear	Butchered	Measurable	comments
58	562	ULM		VT	3	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
59	562	COW		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
60	562	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
61	562	COW		FEM	1	14				10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
62	562	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
63	562	SG		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
64	562	HOR		LT	2	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	INCISOR AND MOLAR
65	562	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	INCISOR
66	562	COW		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
67	562	HOR		LT	1	0				90	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	INCISOR
68	562	ULM		FRAG	5	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
69	562	UMM		FRAG	2	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	
70	562	UUM		FRAG	3	0					0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0	

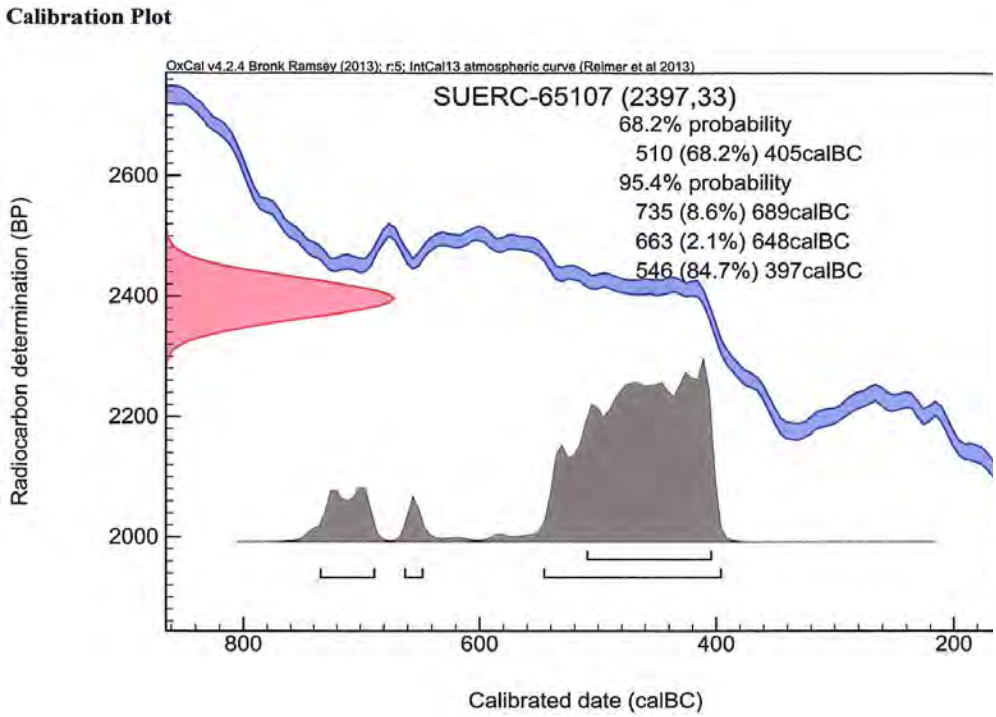
Table 21: Area 58 and 59 Animal Bone Catalogue

Appendix D. Radiocarbon Determination

D.1.1 One of three horse teeth from Context 659, basal fill of Ditch **658** was selected for radiocarbon dating. Due to the flat calibration curve for the period there it returned a range of probable dates, all within the *c.*800-400BC range, i.e. Early Iron Age.

- 68.2%: 510-405calBC
- 95.4%:
  - 8.6%: 735-689calBC
  - 2.1%: 663-648calBC
  - 84.7%: 546-397calBC

(SUERC-65107)



Radiocarbon Calibration plot for horse tooth from Context 659

Appendix E. Mapping and Aerial Photographic Sources Consulted

E.1.1 1799 '[Anstey]' Ordnance Surveyor's Drawing by Verron
http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/ordsurvdraw/other/002osd000000002u00096000.html
Accessed 12/08/2015

E.1.2 1839 Melbourn Inclosure Map
CRO K296/P/B/24

E.1.3 1944 RAF Fowlmere
English Heritage USAAF Photography
Object number: US_7GR_LOC356_V_5039 31/05/1944
http://www.americanairmuseum.com/media/5685
Accessed 15/01/2016

E.1.4 1947 Aerial photograph of Fowlmere Airfield, England
Royal Ordinance Survey 13/04/1947
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fowlmere-13April1947.png
Accessed 15/01/2016

E.1.5 2003 Aerial Photographs
Google earth V 7.1.5.1557. (10/16/2003). Melbourn.
52°04'07.36" N 0°02'23.72" E, Eye alt 2.74km.
Digital Globe 2015. http://www.earth.google.com
Accessed 14/01/2016

E.1.6 2007 Aerial Photographs
Google earth V 7.1.5.1557. (1/1/2007). Melbourn.
52°04'07.36" N 0°02'23.72" E, Eye alt 2.74km.
GetMapping plc 2015. http://www.earth.google.com
Accessed 14/01/2016

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APPENDIX G. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-245212		
Project Name	Archaeological Evaluation Land at Black Peak Farm, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	13-10-2014	Finish	10-12-2015
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	MELBLA14	Planning App. No.	S/1902/14/FL
HER No.	ECB4298	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Development Type	Service Infrastructure

Please select all techniques used:

☐ Aerial Photography - interpretation	☐ Grab-Sampling	☐ Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
☐ Aerial Photography - new	☐ Gravity-Core	☐ Sample Trenches
☐ Annotated Sketch	☐ Laser Scanning	☐ Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
☐ Augering	☐ Measured Survey	☒ Targeted Trenches
☐ Dendrochronological Survey	☒ Metal Detectors	☐ Test Pits
☒ Documentary Search	☐ Phosphate Survey	☐ Topographic Survey
☒ Environmental Sampling	☒ Photogrammetric Survey	☐ Vibro-core
☐ Fieldwalking	☒ Photographic Survey	☒ Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
☒ Geophysical Survey	☐ Rectified Photography	

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
Field boundary	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700	Pottery	Late Prehistoric -4k to 43
Field boundary	Iron Age -800 to 43	Pottery	Roman 43 to 410
Settlement	Roman 43 to 410	Coin	Roman 43 to 410

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	S. Cambridgshire	Black Peak Farm Melbourn Cambridgeshire	
Parish	Melbourn		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	0.55ha	National Grid Reference	TL 405 441

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	CCC HET
Project Design Originator	William Bedford (CgMs)
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer (OA East)
Supervisor	Stuart Ladd (OA East)

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	OA East	OA East
MELBLA14	MELBLA14	MELBLA14

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:

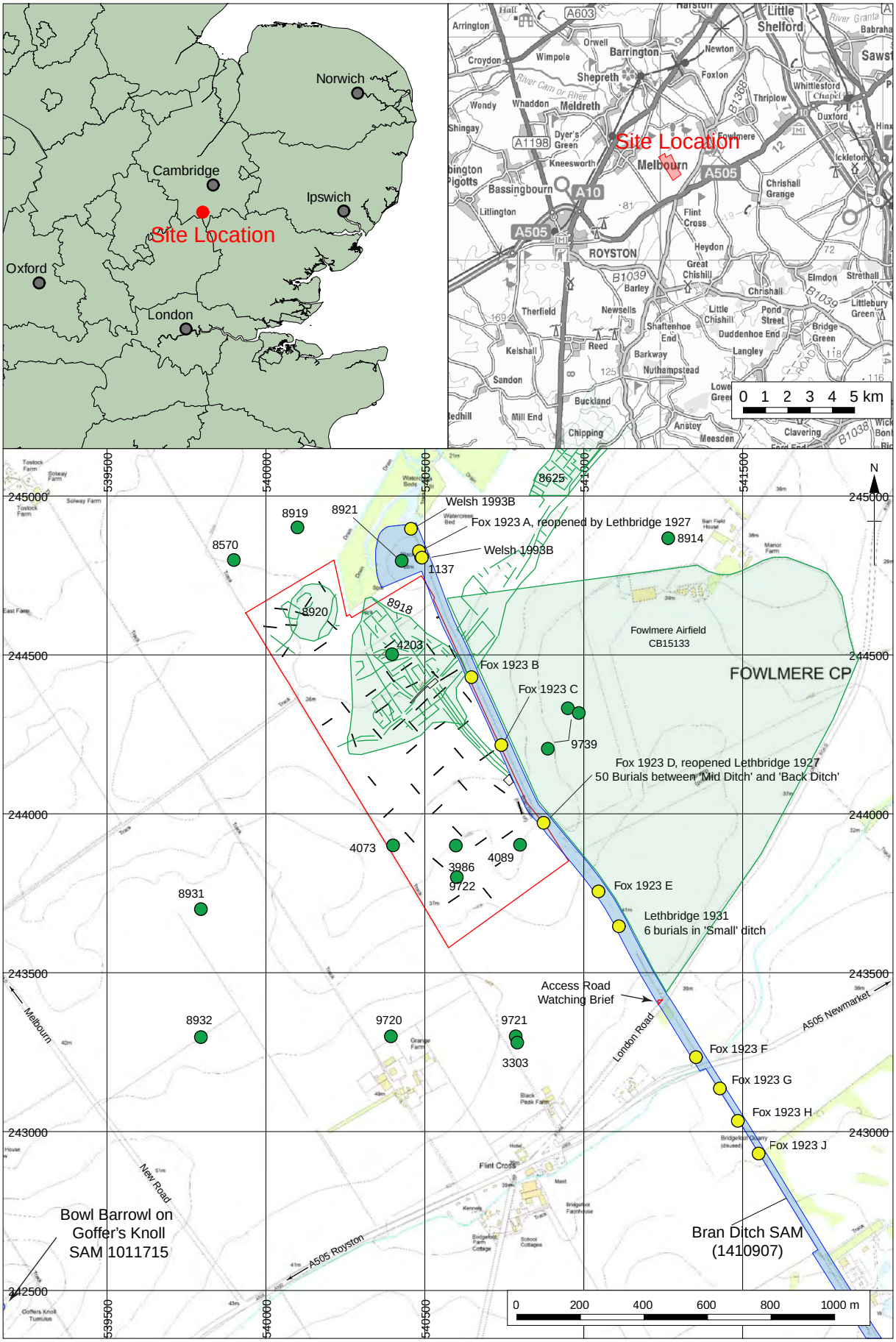


Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in evaluation area (red), with scheduled monument areas (blue) and HER entries and crop marks mentioned in the text (green). Previous excavations shown in yellow.

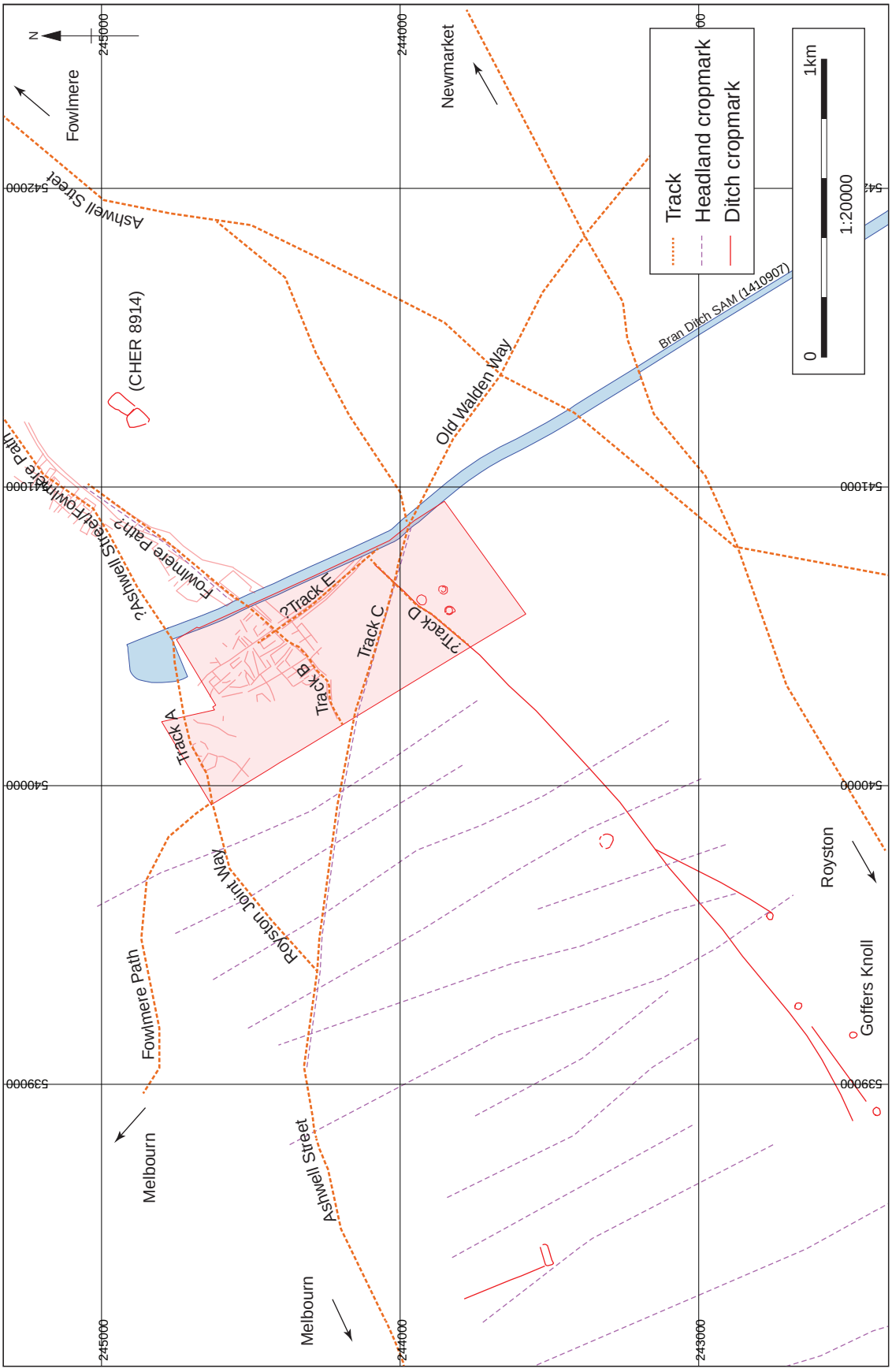


Figure 2: Tracks (orange) after Baggs *et al.* (1982a & b) and the 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing, with selected crop marks. Scale 1:20000.

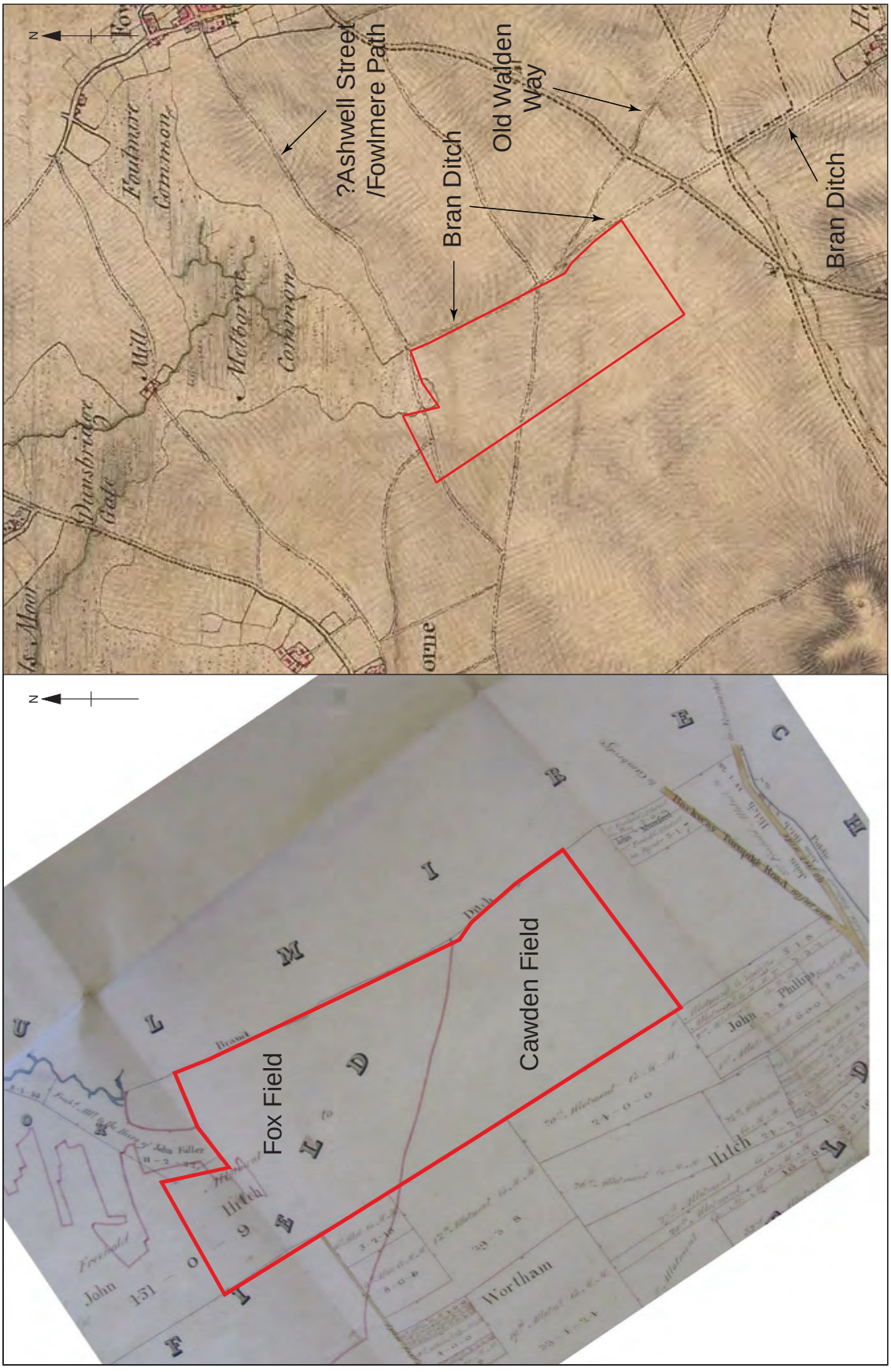


Figure 3: Enclosure map (left; after Smalley 2014, fig. 3) and 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing (right) showing approximate site location (not to scale)

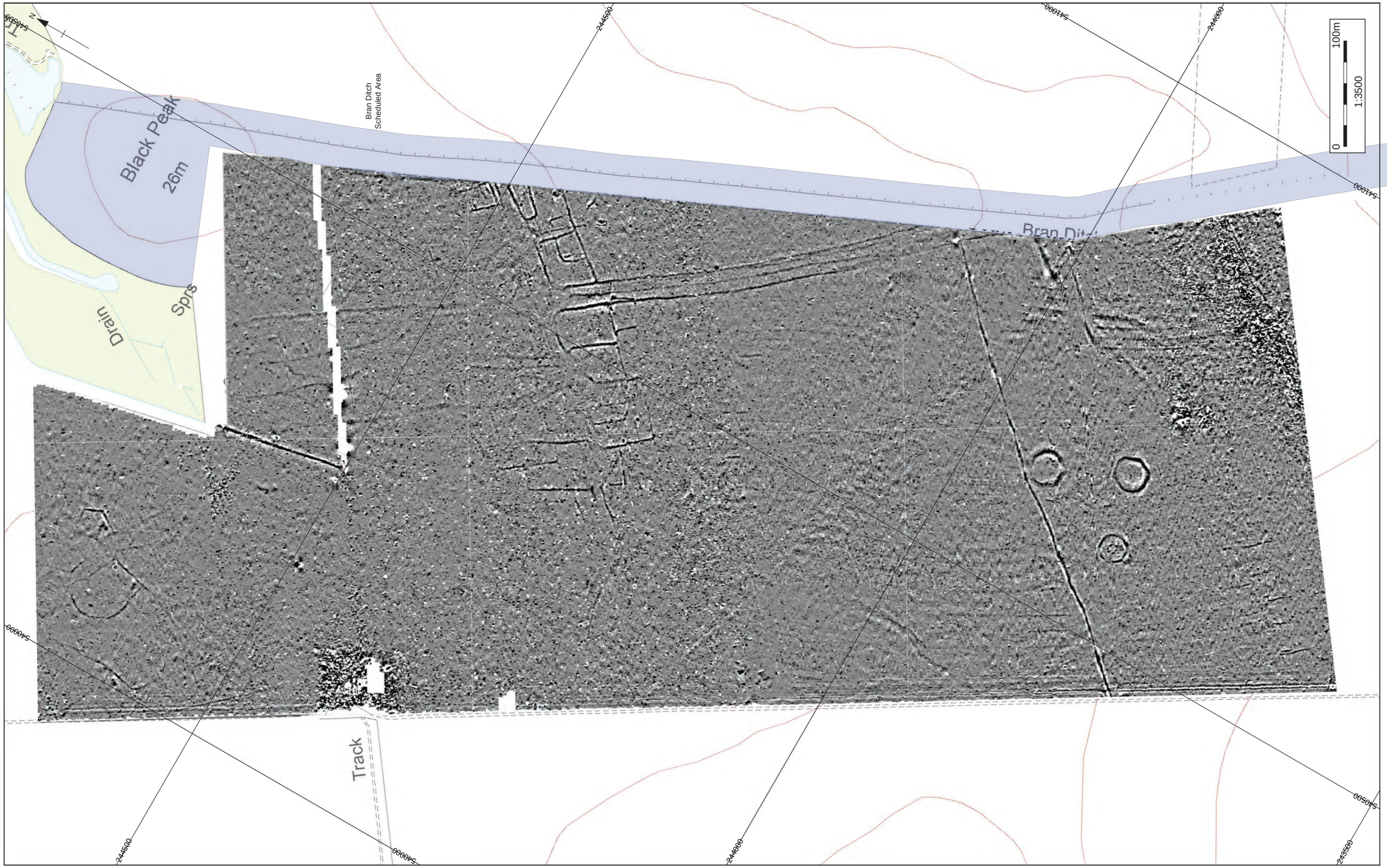


Figure 4: Geophysical survey raw data (after Bartlett 2014). Scale 1:3500

Figure 5: Trench layout showing all recorded features against geophysical survey & indicative interpretation incorporating results of evaluation (after Bartlett 2014). Scale 1:5500.

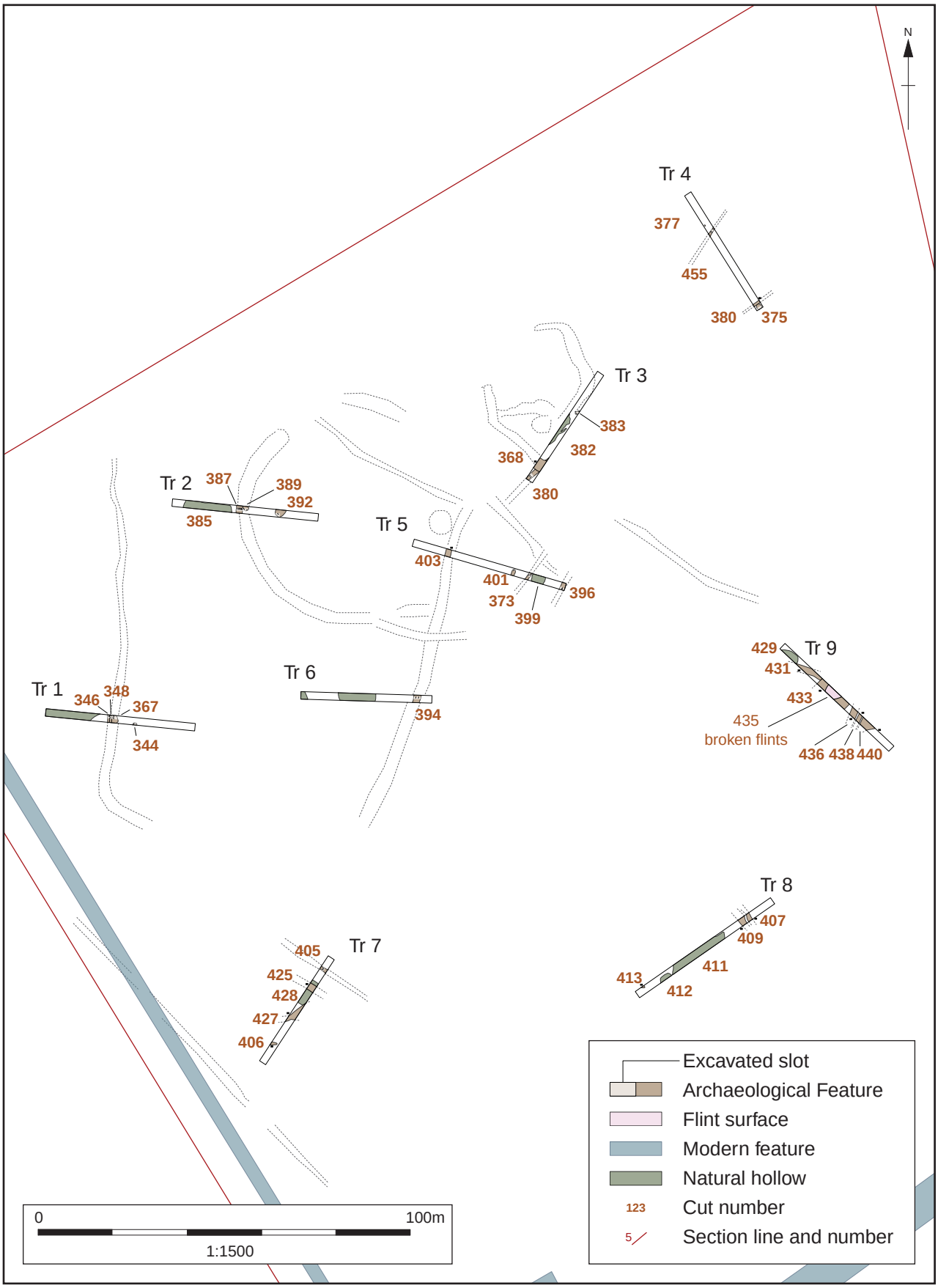


Figure 6: Trenches 1-9. Scale 1:1500

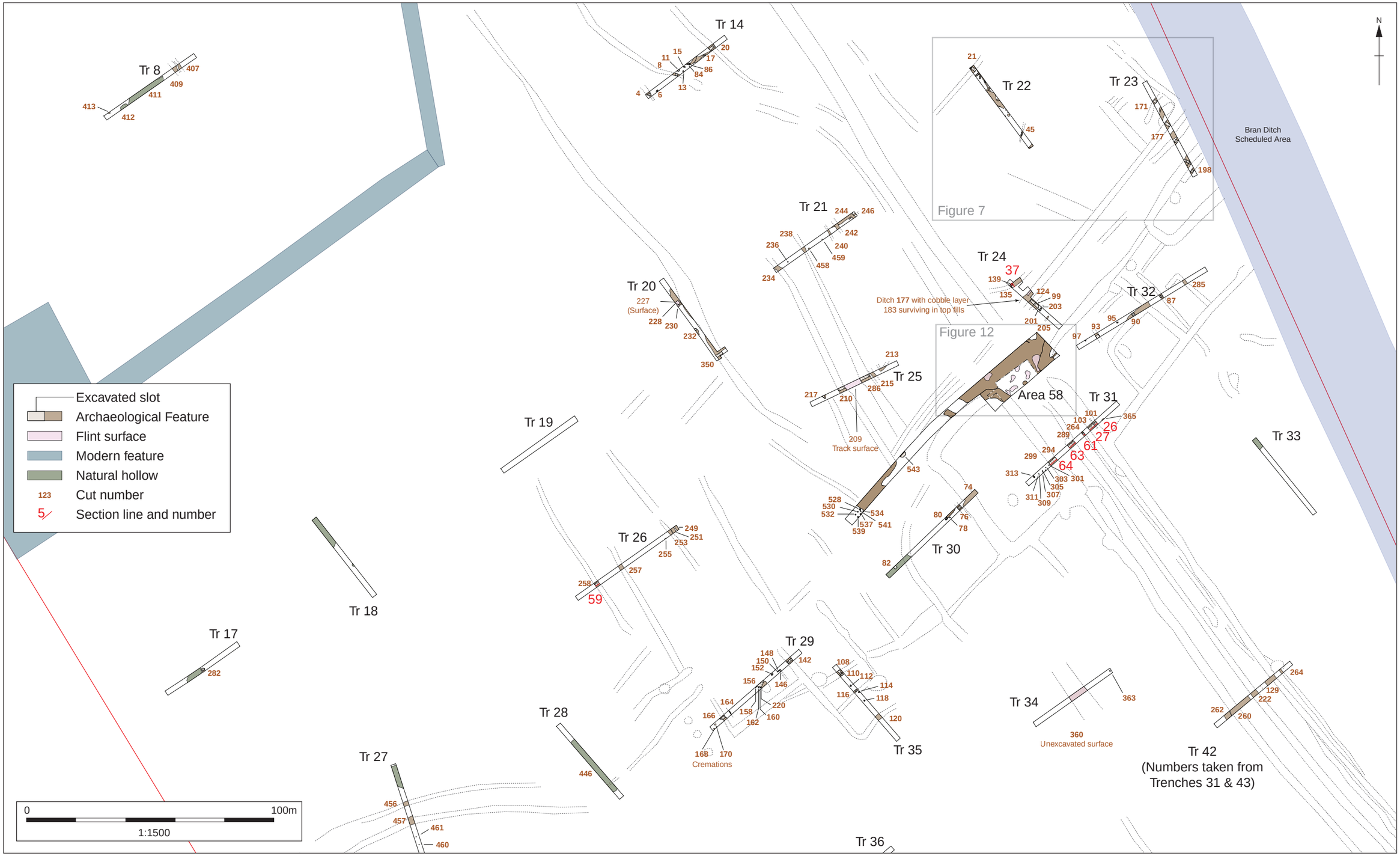


Figure 7: Trenches 14, 17-35 and 42. Scale 1:1500.

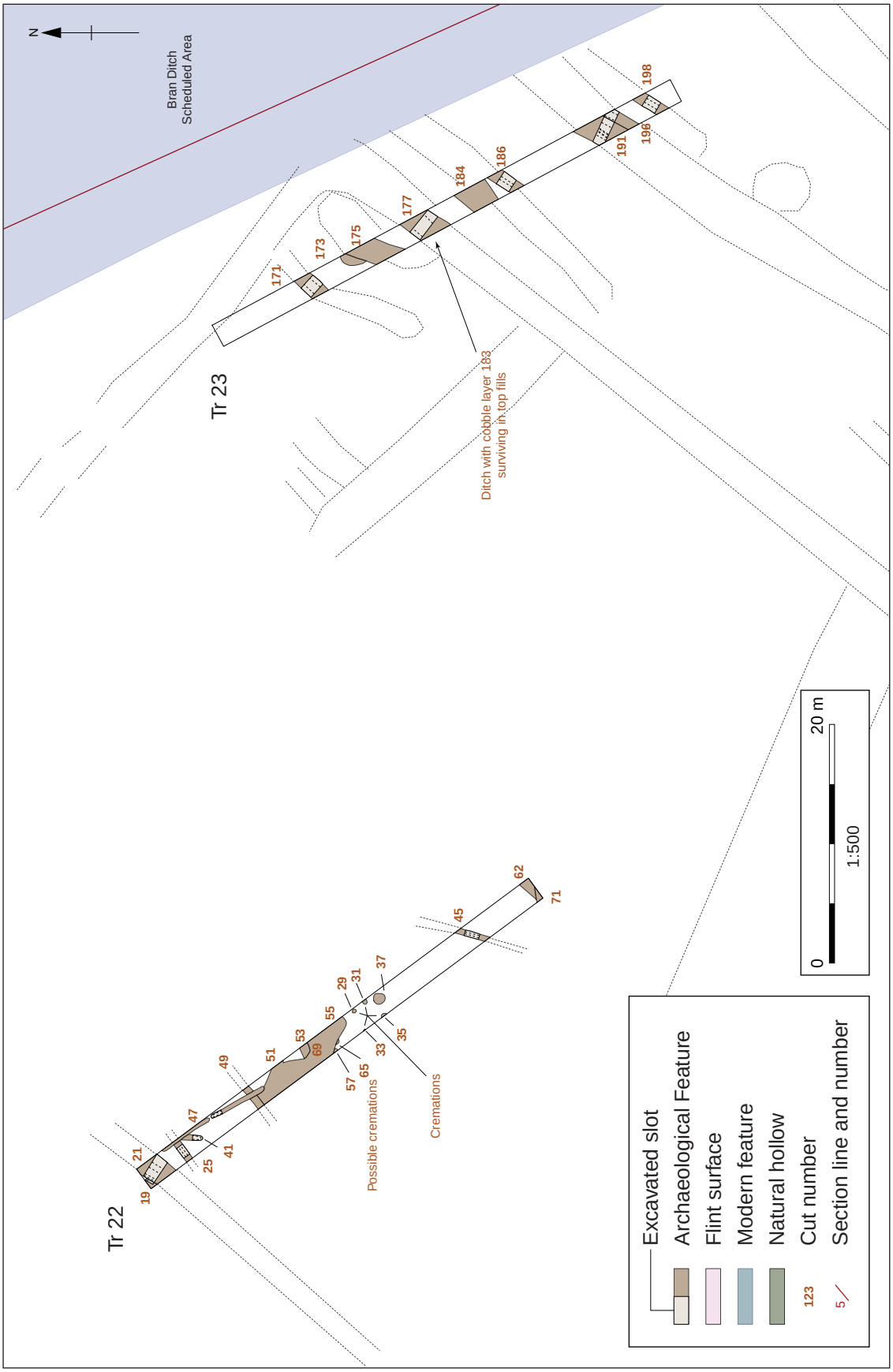


Figure 8: Trenches 22 and 23. Scale 1:500

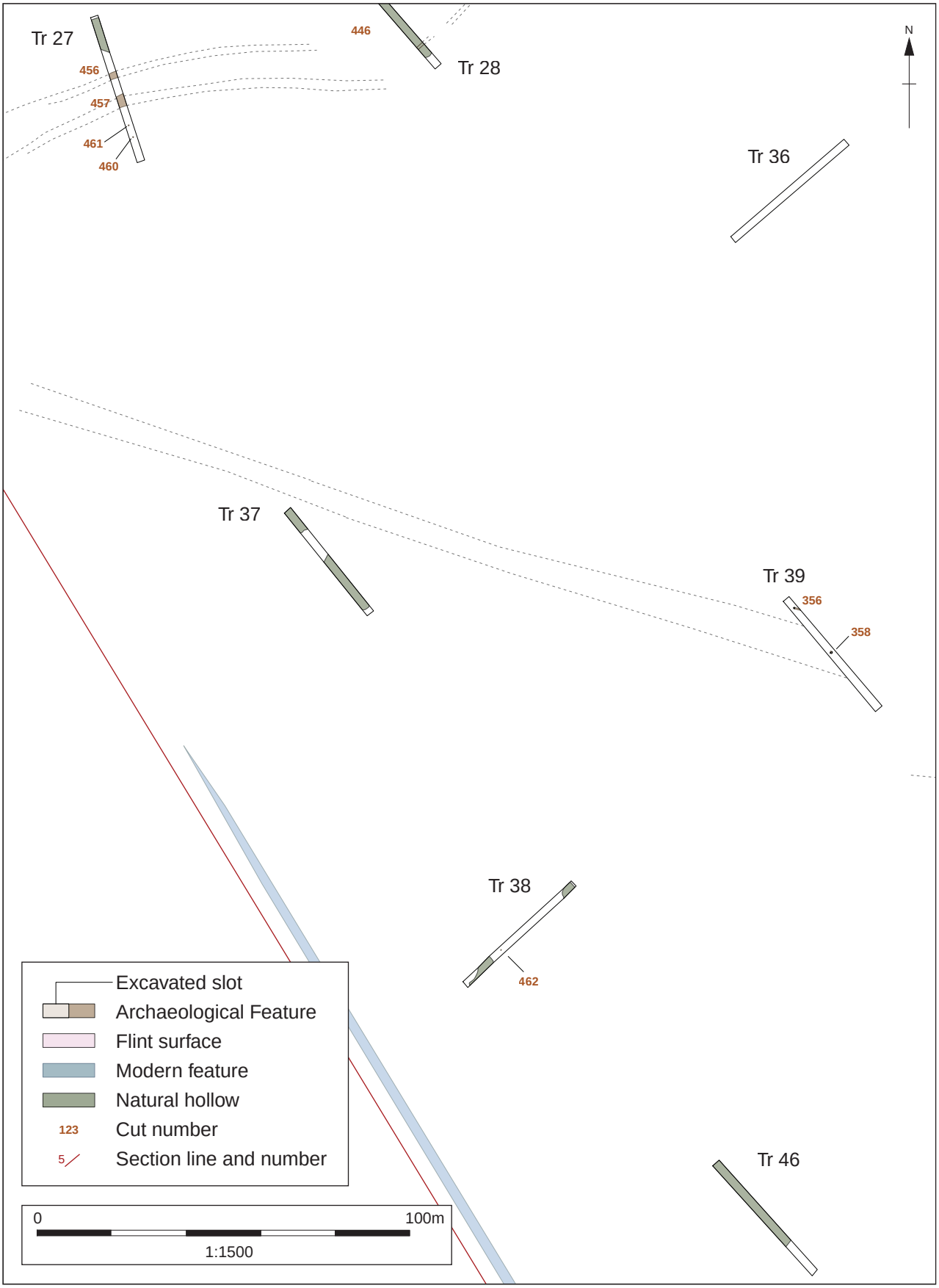


Figure 9: Trenches 27, 36-39 and 46. Scale 1:1500.

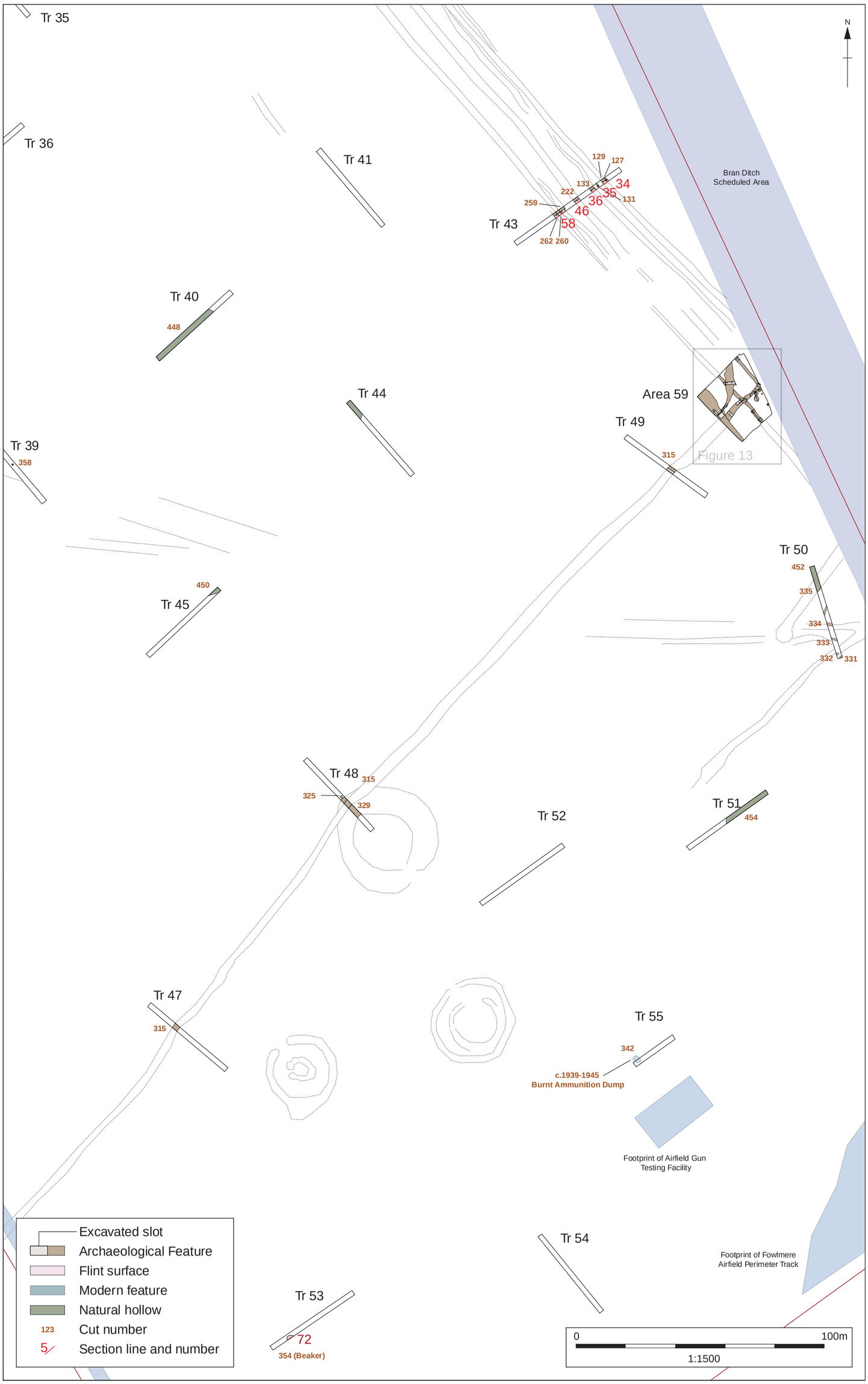


Figure 10: Trenches 39-41, 43-45 and 47-55. Scale 1:1500

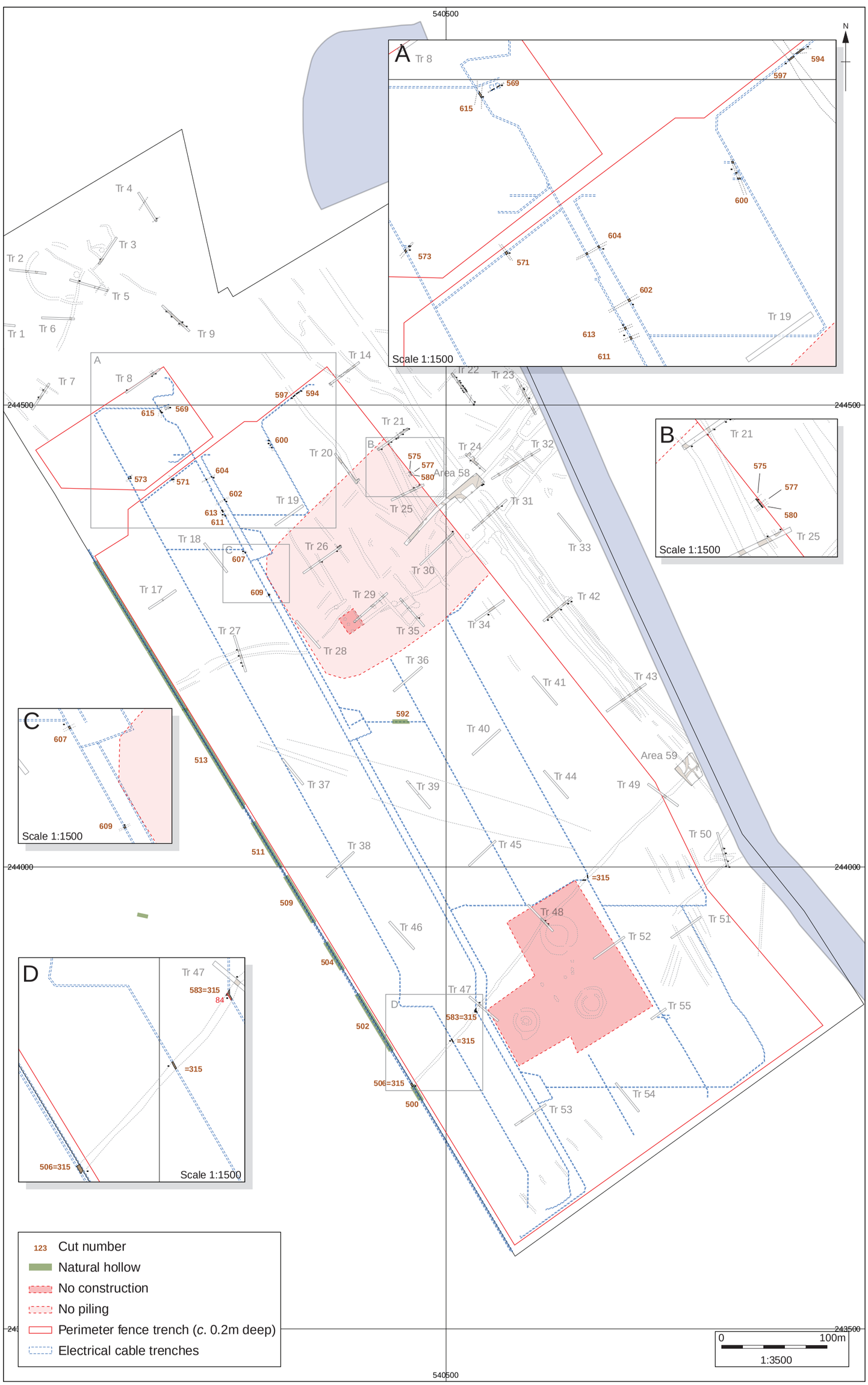


Figure 11: Watching brief trenches and features recorded. Scale 1:3500.

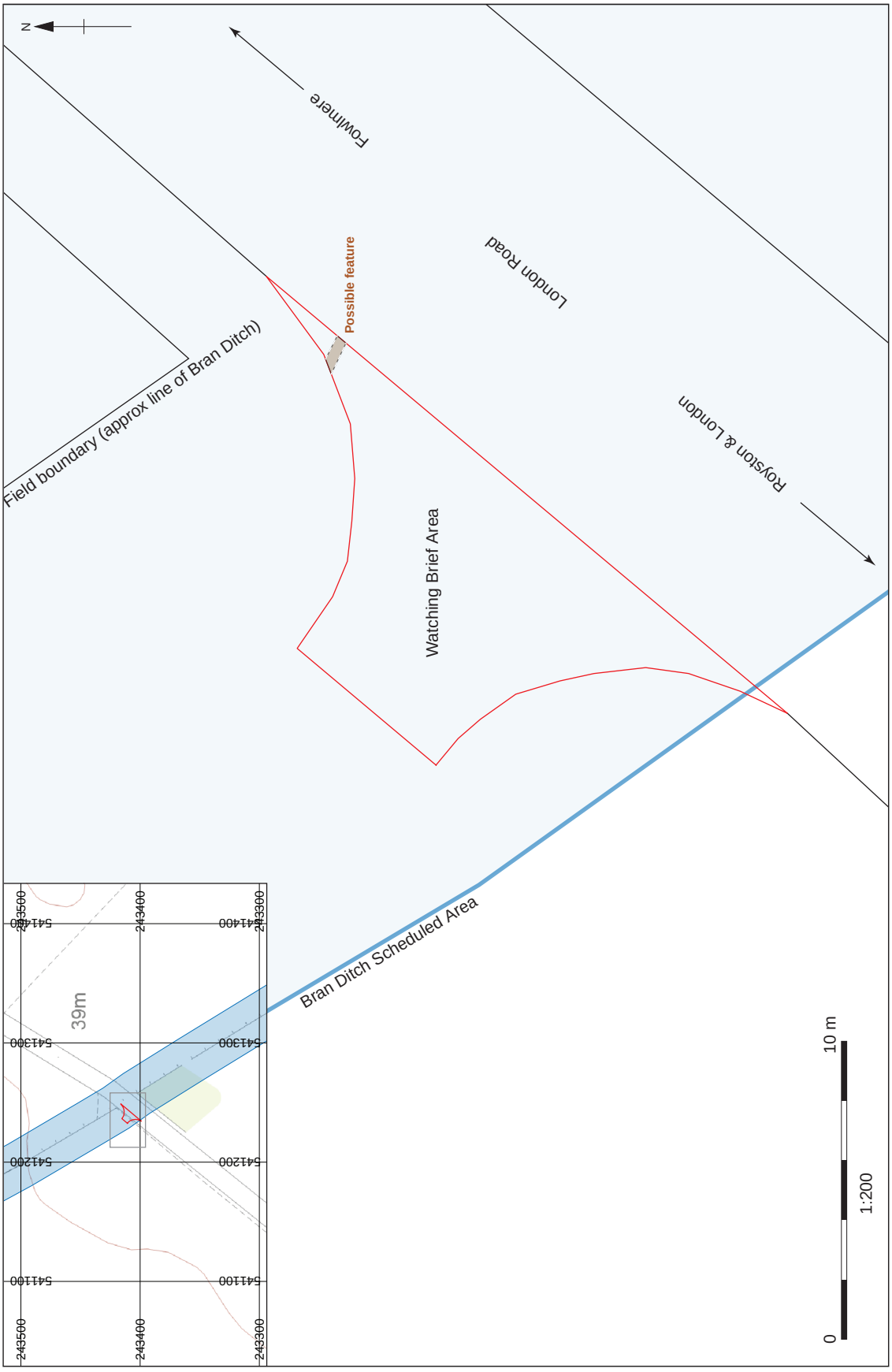


Figure 12: Access Road Watching Brief. Scale 1:200.

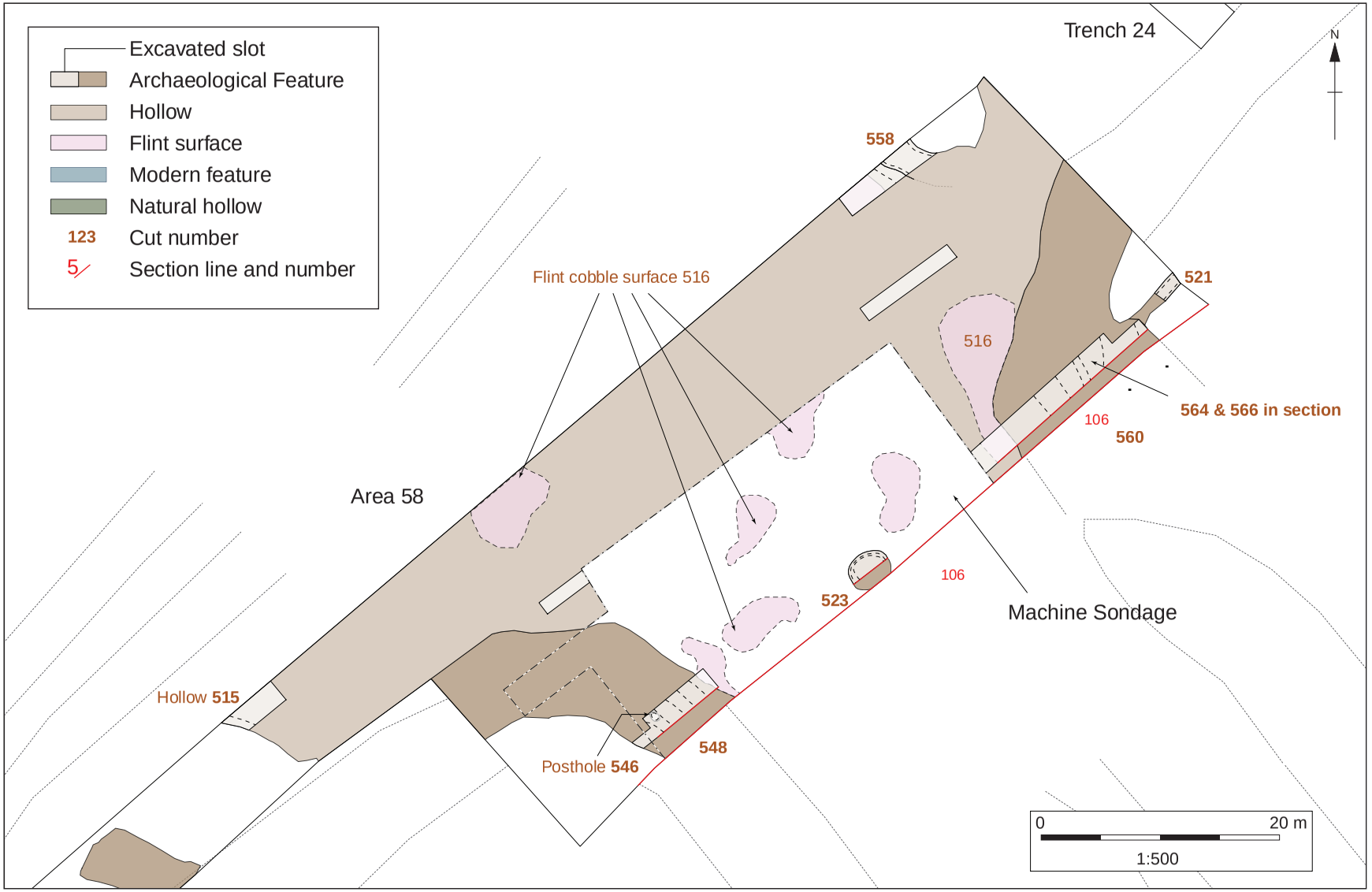


Figure 13: Area 58 (east). Scale 1:500.

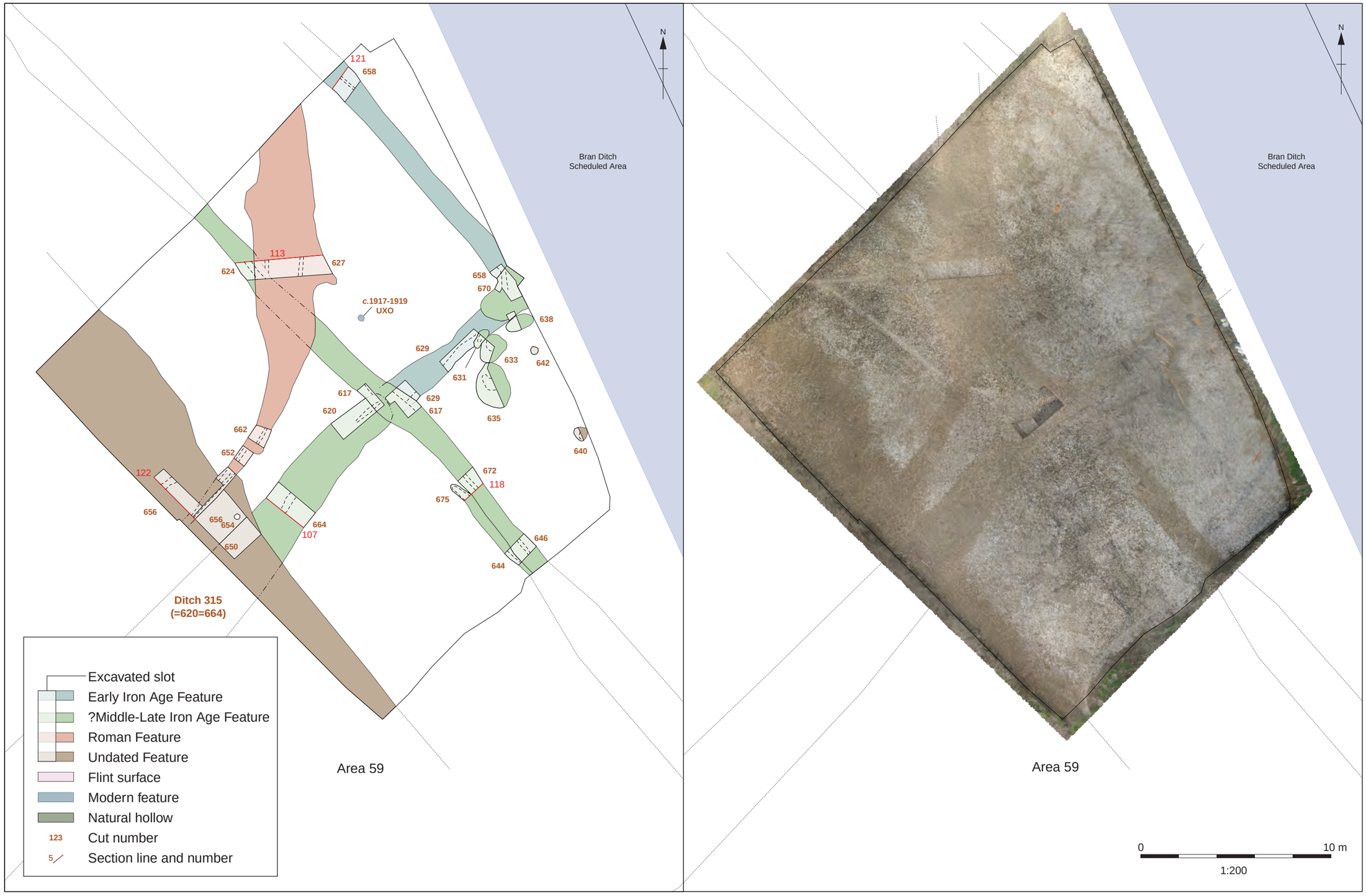
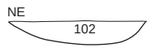


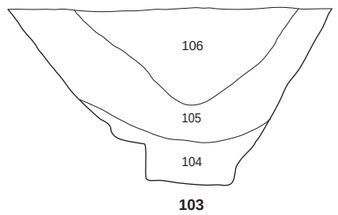
Figure 14: Area 59 plan and photogrammetric orthophoto showing initial slots excavated. Scale 1:200.

Trench 31

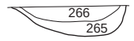
Section 26



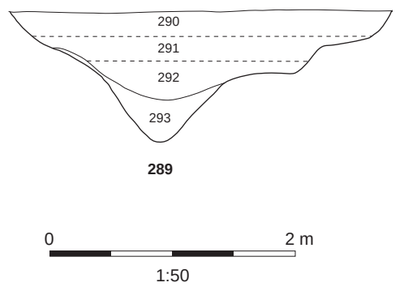
Section 27



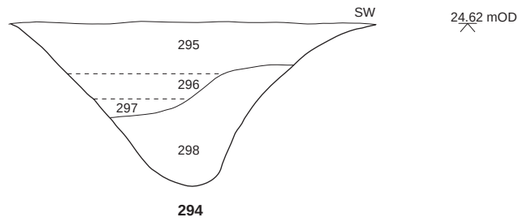
Section 61



Section 63

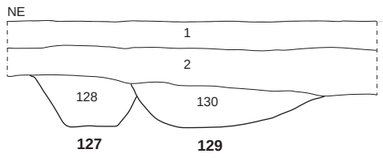


Section 64

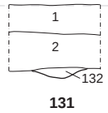


Trench 43

Section 34



Section 35



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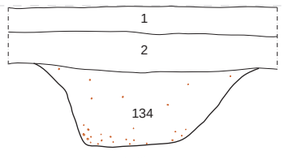

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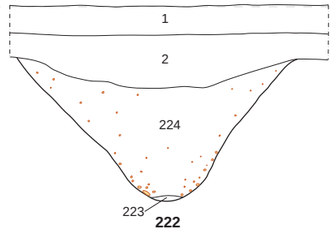
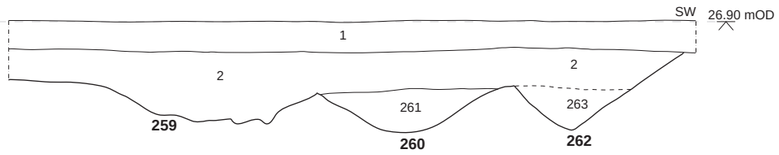
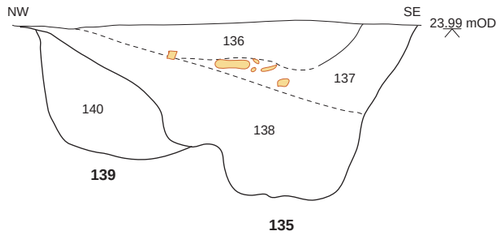


Section 58



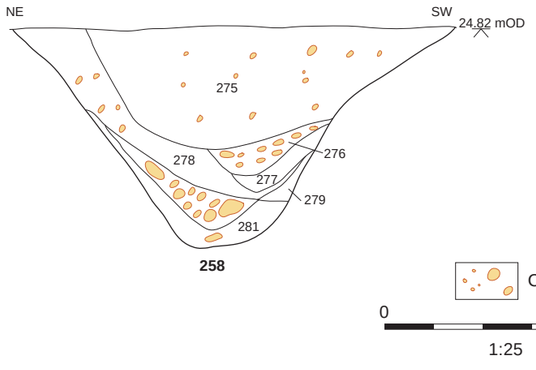
Trench 24

Section 37



Trench 26

Section 59



Trench 53

Section 72

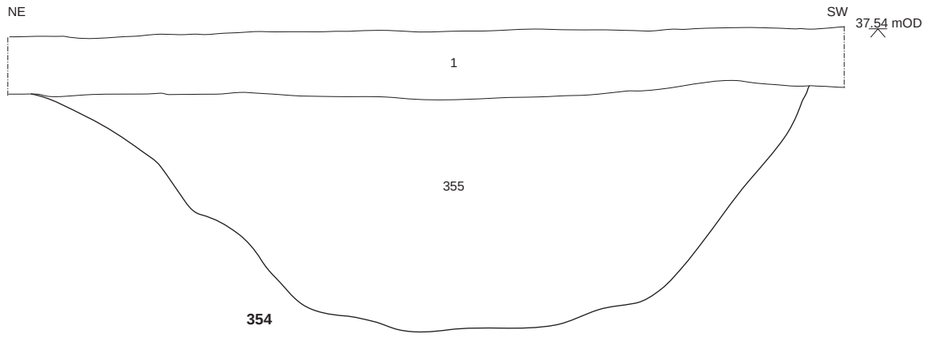
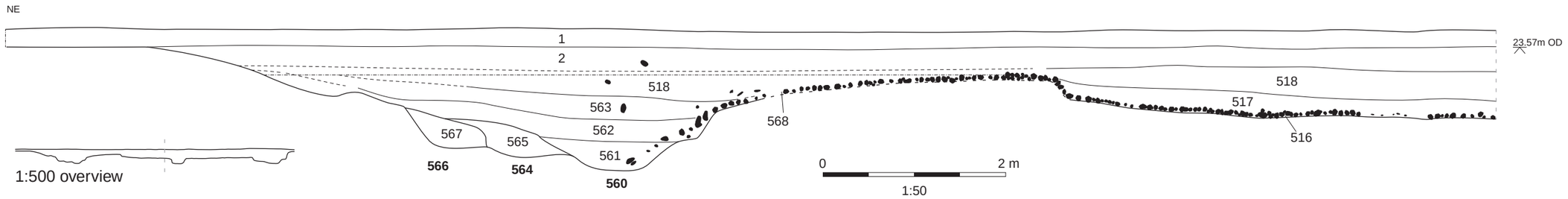
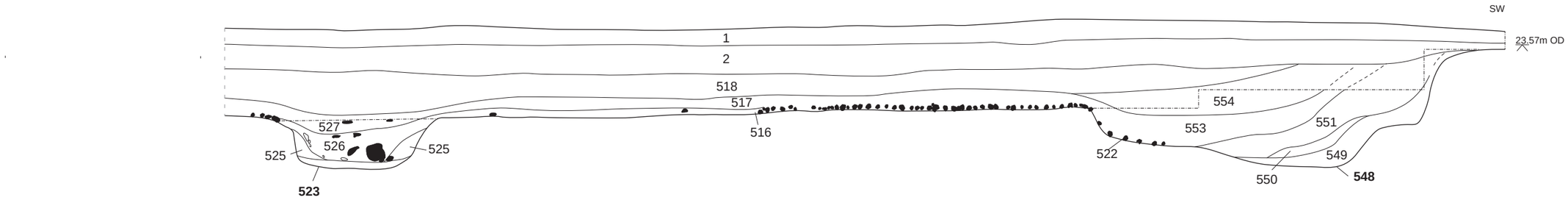


Figure 15: Selected section drawings from evaluation trenches.

Area 58

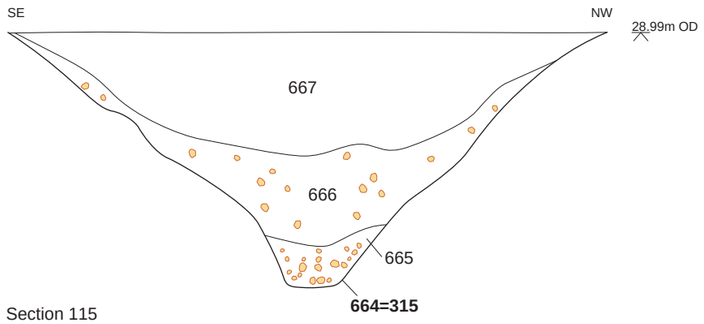
Section 136



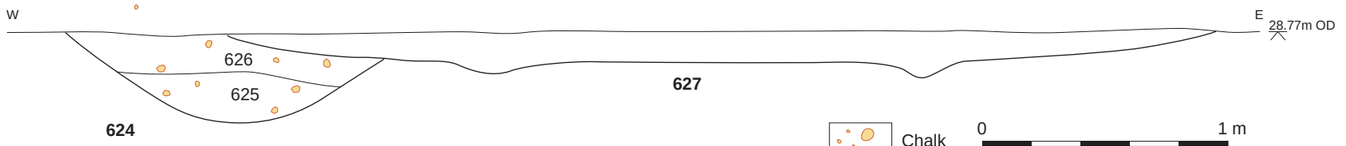


Area 59

Section 107



Section 113



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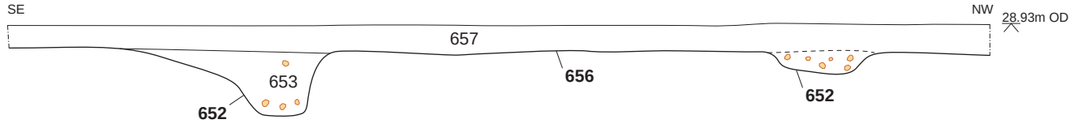

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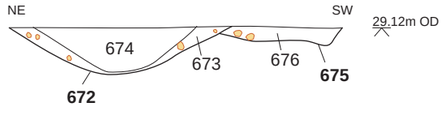
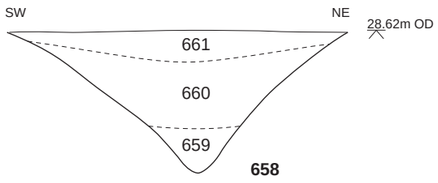


Section 121



Watching Brief

Section 84

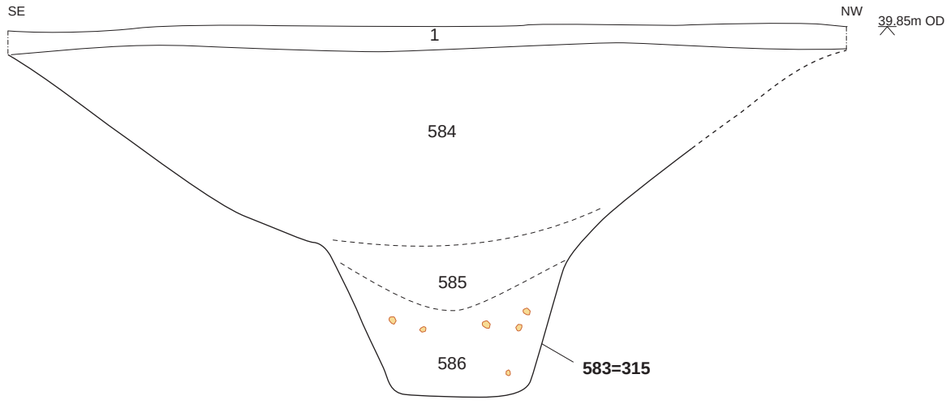


Figure 16: Selected evaluation section from Areas 58 and 59.

Plate 1: Section through semi-circular Ditch **387** and Pit **389**, Trench 2. View north.

Plate 2: Cremations **29** and **31**, Trench 22. View east.

Plate 3: Possible Bronze Age/Early Iron Age boundary/enclosure Ditch **258**, Trench 26. View northwest.

Plate 4: Postholes **460** and **461** (foreground) associated with Track B Ditches **456** and **457** and natural hollow (background), Trench 27. View west.

Plate 5: Natural hollow **446** and machine sondage in Trench 28. View northwest.

Plate 6: Early Iron Age Feature **156** and associated post holes, Trench 29. View northwest.

Plate 7: Southwestern end of Trench 29 showing Cremation **168** (foreground left) and **170** (centre). View northeast.

Plate 8: Middle/Early Iron Age boundary Ditch **289**, central ditch, Trench 31. View southeast.

Plate 9: Late Roman enclosure ditch **103** established on line of earlier ditches, Trench 31. General view west.

Plate 10: Middle/Early Iron Age Ditch **222**, central ditch, Trench 43. View southeast.

Plate 11: Ditch **315** (Slot **583**) excavated during the watching brief, near Trench 47. View west.

Plate 12: Ditch **602** within watching brief trench, near Trench 19. View northeast.

Plate 13: Scheduled area following removal of access road material. View northwest.

Plate 14: Area 58, with Late Roman enclosure Ditch **560** in the foreground. View southwest.

Plate 15: Late Roman enclosure Ditch **560** and cobbled Surface 516 on its edge. View south.

Plate 16: Pit **523** in the centre of the Roman Hollow Way **515**. View southeast.

Plate 17: Structure **528** in southwest of Area 58 with possible hollow way in background. View east.

Plate 18: Ditch **658**, Area 59. View northwest.

Plate 19: ?Middle Iron Age Ditch **315** (Slot **664**), Area 59, with Roman Wheel Rut **652** (background), Area 59. View northwest.

Plate 20: ?Later Iron Age Ditches **646** and **644**, Area 59. View southeast.

Plate 21: Roman track with Wheel Ruts **627**, Area 59. View north.

Plate 22: Roman Wheel Rut **652** (foreground) and Track Way **627** (background) meeting Hollow **656** (left), Area 59. View north.

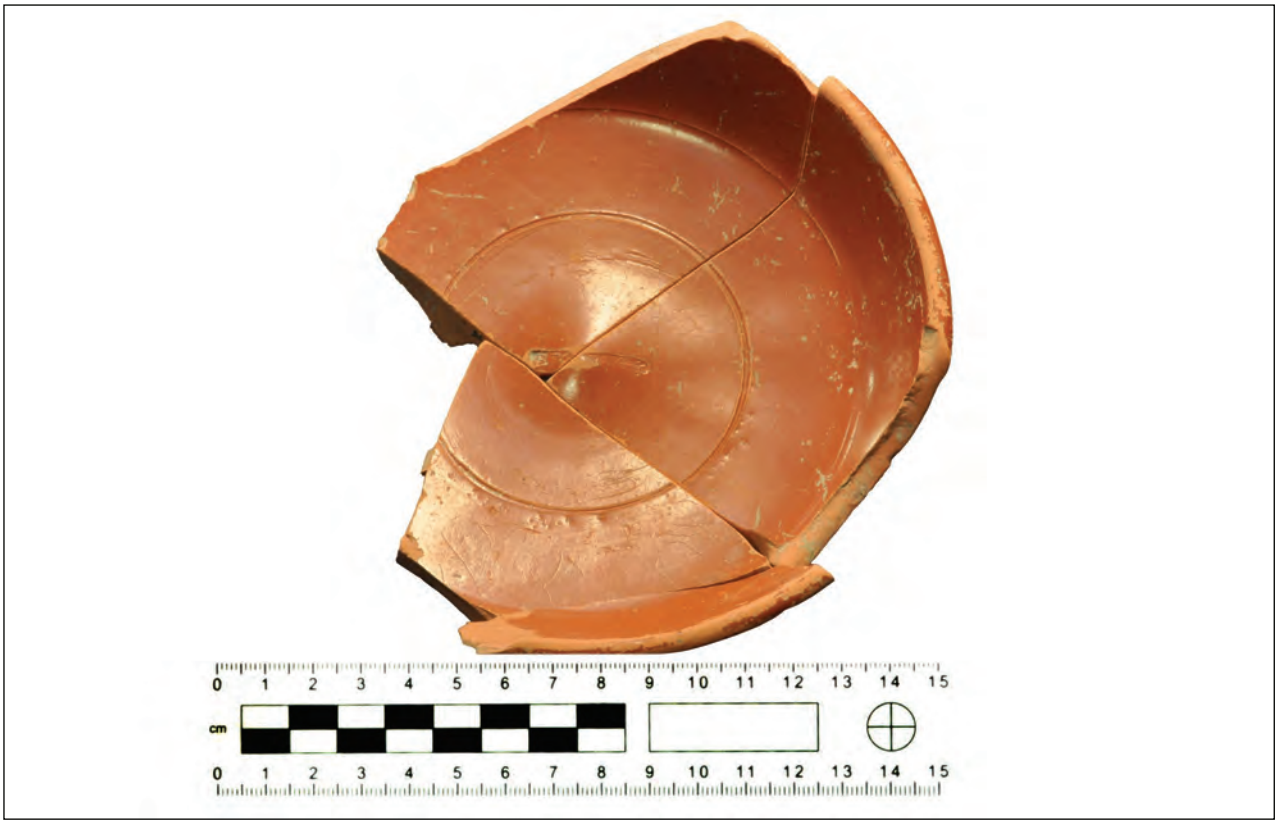


Plate 23: SF20, stamped central Gaulish samian dish from Cremation **29**, Trench 22.