Chewells Lane, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Chewells Lane, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 15th and 18th of May 2017 Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Chewells Lane, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire (TL 4669 7559). The work represented the first phase of evaluation trenching. Parts of the site could not be evaluated due to the presence of large greenhouses, which were still in use at the time of the fieldwork.

A total of eight 30m trial trenches were excavated across the proposed development area. The earliest activity on the site was dated as Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (c. 1100-350 BC) with features including a group of postholes and two small pits.

A buried soil was present below the subsoil in the north of the site (Trenches 3 – 8), both sealing and being cut by archaeological features. It appeared to extend across the entirety of the area covered by Trenches 3 – 8 and contained a small number of pottery sherds dating between the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age.

Several Middle Iron Age features (c. 350-50 BC) were identified truncating the buried soil. The features were predominantly ditches, which formed part of a field-system in Trenches 4, 5, 6 and 8.

There was also an Early Anglo-Saxon presence on the site (c. AD 450-650) evidenced by a large pit in Trench 7 and two large circular loom-weights (one complete and one semi-complete) found in Trench 6.

In the south-western corner a series of five truncated east to west aligned furrows were identified.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Alexandra Gillard of CgMs for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Andy Thomas who monitored the work on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Tom Phillips. The fieldwork was directed by Nicholas Cox, who was supported by Daniel Firth. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska and Gareth Rees. Thanks is also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the management of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land to the east of Chewells Lane on the northern-eastern edge of the village of Haddenham, Cambridgeshire (TL 4669 7559). The work represented the first phase of evaluation trenching. Parts of the site could not be evaluated due to the presence of large greenhouses, which were still in use at the time of the fieldwork.

1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the Planning Authority in advance of a submission of a Planning Application. A brief was set by Gemma Stewart and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process/discharge the planning condition. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements for this stage of work.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The village of Haddenham lies on a prominent ridge running roughly east to west, with a spur running south-west from the village. Surrounding the high ground lies former fenland. The site itself is situated on the top of the ridge at 34m OD, although the land begins to drop noticeably directly to the north (the former Haddenham railway station to the north lies at 12 OD).

1.2.2 The ridge is formed on a line of Woburn sandstone. To the south of the development site, there is a small area of Gault Clay, overlying the sandstone. To the north is a large area of Kimmeridge clay. (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

1.2.3 The area of proposed development is currently used as a plant nursery and, like many of the fields around Haddenham, had previously been used as an orchard since the mid-nineteenth century.

There are deep sandy soils on the site.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site below is drawn from the WSI (Wiseman 2017). Record numbers from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) are included, with selected records labelled on Figure 1.

Palaeolithic to Bronze Age

1.3.2 Excavations at 40 West End, 800m west of the development site, found evidence for small scale, temporary encampments during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods (MCB17792; ECB2767).

1.3.3 No Bronze Age finds are recorded within a kilometre of the development site. However, a 2014 evaluation by Oxford Archaeology, south of Wilburton Road (Diffey 2014; ECB4264), uncovered a pit containing a cow and dog skeleton with a possible fragment of Beaker pottery.

Iron Age and Roman

1.3.4 Iron Age and Roman activity is found along the ridgeline, marked roughly by Haddenham Road, Hop Road and West End. Two areas of Iron Age and Roman settlement have been identified near the development site.

1.3.5 The first was identified in a geophysical survey 500m south-east of the site (MCB20847). A subsequent evaluation by Oxford Archaeology identified a sub-rectangular enclosure of Late Iron Age or Early Roman date (Diffey 2014; ECB4264).

1.3.6 The second settlement area is located 700m west of the site, along West End. Excavations at Ashleaf Close revealed boundary and enclosure ditches, pits and postholes spanning the Iron Age (MCB18421; ECB3031), with Early and Middle Iron Age pottery found nearby (MCB 17792).

1.3.7 An excavation 200m to the east, to the rear of 40 West End (CB15624) uncovered Late Iron Age ditches, one containing 19 complete cattle and horses, buried nose-to-tail and carbon-dated to 40 – 230 cal AD (ECB1939). The site also produced later evidence of Roman field systems, and yielded considerable amounts of Roman pottery.

1.3.8 An Iron Age ditch and pit were also uncovered in an evaluation at 5 The Green, 250m west of the development site (MCB20012). The evaluation found Iron Age pottery and daub.

1.3.9 A Roman structure was excavated in the 1960s at Hinton Hall, approximately 300m east of the site (CHER05795B), and an Iron Age or Roman quernstone 300m to the west (CHER 02044).

Saxon

1.3.10 Although the name of the village has an Anglo-Saxon name, meaning *Hæda's* homestead (Reaney 1943), there is only limited evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation.

1.3.11 A 1990 excavation in the carpark of the Three Kings pub at the crossroads of the High Street and Hop Row (250m south-west of the site) identified nine Anglo-Saxon inhumations (CHER 09831; Robinson & Duhig 1993). A subsequent excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology in 2014, not yet included in the CHER, found a further 9 burials.

1.3.12 Excavations at Hinton Hall, 250m east of the development site, identified two Saxo-Norman buildings dating to the 11th century (CHER 05795A) – although finds of Ipswich Ware on the same excavation suggest earlier occupation on the site.

1.3.13 A Middle Saxon cross, Ovin's Cross (CHER 05721) stood at the junction of High Street and Duck Lane. The base of the cross is now in Ely Cathedral.

Medieval

1.3.14 The Domesday Book lists Haddenham as a moderate sized village in 1086, with 18 households. Twice the size was the village of Linden or Linden End to the south. The latter has now been absorbed into Haddenham. The modern High Street presumably connects the two settlements.

1.3.15 The village was organised around the Church of Holy Trinity (DCB1343), 300m west of the development site. The current building dates from the 13th century AD. A medieval gravestone is recorded nearby (CHER 05698).

1.3.16 Most excavations in the village have been concentrated along the line of High Street and West End, so may not reflect the organisation of the medieval village. Excavated medieval features and finds are clustered around the centre of the modern village (CB 15289; ECB194), with areas of extensive made ground excavated near the Green (MCB 20012; ECB3290). Boundary ditches have been excavated 600m south-east of the site (MCB17365; ECB2160). Areas of upstanding ridge-and-furrow are apparent north of the village (e.g. CHER 09869, 05718, MCB 19906).

1.3.17 Hinton Hall (CHER 05795), 300m west of the development site, is first recorded in 1221, although Hinton is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The site acquired a moat and – in the 17th and 18th centuries– extensive gardens, now all ploughed out.

Post-medieval and modern

1.3.18 Development of the village through to the early 20th century was mostly along the line of the High Street. Most of the listed buildings in the village lie along it (DCB765, 975, 974, 800, 798, 796, 1342) and date from the 17th and 18th centuries.

1.3.19 A number of mounds near the site are either the result of quarrying (05718) or are probably mill mounds (CHER 05719, 05802).

1.3.20 With the opening of the railway in 1866, large areas around Haddenham were converted to orchards.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
iii. To set results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions
iv. To provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 A total of eight trenches were excavated, measuring 30m long x 1.6m wide for this stage of work.

2.2.2 Service plans were checked before work commenced on site. Before trenching, the footprint of each trench was scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny with a valid calibration certificate.

2.2.3 Bucket samples of 90 litres of excavated soil were taken from the end of each trench, in order to characterise artefactual remains in the topsoil and other soil horizons above the archaeological level. These were sieved on site for the purposes of finds retrieval. Two fragments of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) were recovered from the topsoil of Trench 3, including a post-medieval tile. Two sherds of medieval Ely ware pottery were recovered from the subsoil in Trench 7. Small fragments of animal bone were recovered from both topsoil and subsoil across the site.

2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector.

2.2.5 All machine excavation was undertaken under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

2.2.6 The trial trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits. A toothless ditching bucket was used to excavate the trenches. Overburden was excavated in spits not greater than 0.1m thick.

2.2.7 Spoil was stored alongside trenches. Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations.

2.2.8 All archaeological features and deposits were excavated by hand, in slots of at least 1.0m in width.

2.2.9 Site survey was carried out using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.

2.2.10 The site grid is accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid and located on the 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. Elevations are levelled to the Ordnance Datum.

2.2.11 A register has been kept of all trenches, features, and photographs.

2.2.12 All features, layers and deposits have been issued with unique context numbers. Each feature is individually documented on context sheets, and hand-drawn in section and plan. Written descriptions are recorded on pro-forma sheets comprising factual data and interpretative elements.

2.2.13 Sections of features have been drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 dependent on their size. All sections are tied in to Ordnance Datum.

2.2.14 All site drawings include the following information: site name, site code, scale, plan or section number, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.

2.2.15 The photographic record comprises high resolution digital photographs.

2.2.16 Photographs include both general trench shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature has been photographed at least once. Photographs include a scale, north arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant), unless they are to be used in publications. The photograph register records these details, and photograph numbers are listed on corresponding context sheets.

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

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The natural geology of silty sand was overlain by a mid brownish grey sandy silt subsoil, which in turn was overlain by topsoil. A mid brownish grey sandy silt buried soil (4) was present below the subsoil in Trenches 3 – 8, both sealing and being cut by archaeological features. It measured between 0.1 and 0.25m thick and appeared to extend across the entirety of the area covered by trenches 3 – 8. Areas of the buried soil were left *in-situ* at one end of the trenches where it was present and hand-excavated for the purposes of finds retrieval. Within the remainder of trenches 3 – 8 the buried soil was removed by machine to allow for investigation of the features below, therefore only the truncated remains of the layer are depicted in Figure 2.

Ground conditions during the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology but not as easy to identify against the buried soil.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in all of the trenches, with a higher density of features in the north.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 Trench 1 was located in the south-western corner of the investigation area. It was 28m long and had an average depth of 0.5m. The trench was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. The natural geology was clay with much shallower deposits of subsoil and topsoil than in other trenches.

It contained five parallel truncated furrows, aligned west-north-west to east-south-east (Fig.2). The northern most of these (**41**) measured 0.86m wide and 0.12m deep, with gently sloping side and a concave base. It had a mid brownish grey silty clay fill (42), from which no finds were recovered.

3.5 Trench 2

3.5.1 Trench 2 was in the south-eastern corner of the investigation area, aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. It was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.75m.

3.5.2 At the northern end was a small pit (**5**), measuring 0.8m wide and 0.18m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a dark brownish grey clay silt (6).

3.5.3 To the south of pit **5** was a slightly sinuous line of eight postholes, extending along the entire trench (Fig. 2 inset), five of which were excavated. Postholes **7** and **9** in the north were a pair of intercutting postholes (Fig.3, Section 14; Plate 1). The earlier of the two (**9**) was 0.4m wide and 0.13m deep with shallow sides and a concave base; it was filled by a mid brownish grey clayey silt (10), containing 3g of animal bone (see Appendix C.1). Posthole **9** was cut on its northern edge by posthole **7**. This measured 0.42m wide and 0.21m deep, with a U-shaped profile, and was filled by a dark greyish brown clayey silt (8). The fill contained four sherds (74g) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery (see Appendix B.1).

3.5.4 A further posthole (**11**) was located south of posthole **9**. This was 0.37m in diameter and 0.18m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The fill was a dark brown grey clayey silt (12), an environmental sample was taken which contained charcoal (Appendix C.2).

3.5.5 Halfway along the trench was a fourth posthole (**13**), which measured 0.24m wide and 0.12m deep, with a U-shaped profile. It was filled by a dark brownish grey clayey silt (14), which contained one sherd (6g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, an environmental sample produced charcoal.

3.5.6 At the southern end of the trench was another posthole (**15**), which had a diameter of 0.22m and was 0.15m deep, with a U-shaped profile. It contained a dark brown grey clayey silt (16).

3.6 Trench 3

3.6.1 Orientated north to south along the eastern edge of the investigation area, Trench 3 was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.96m.

3.6.2 A shallow ditch (**53**) ran across the northern end of the trench on an east to west alignment. It measured 0.86m wide and 0.14m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown sandy silt (54).

3.6.3 Overlying ditch **53** and covering the entirety of the trench was buried soil layer (4), which averaged 0.21m in depth and contained 520g of animal bone and 19g of fired clay (see Appendix B.3).

3.7 Trench 4

3.7.1 North of Trench 3 was Trench 4, with an east to west alignment. The trench was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.7m (Plate 2).

3.7.2 Sealing the natural geology along the entirety of the trench was buried soil layer (4), which averaged 0.15m in depth. The buried soil was truncated by all the other features in the trench.

3.7.3 At the eastern end of the trench was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**31**). This measured 1.3m wide with a depth of 0.42m with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a dark grey sandy silt (32), which contained three sherds (11g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, 1 sherd (8g) of possibly intrusive Early Saxon pottery (see Appendix B.2) and 610g of animal bone.

3.7.4 Just to the west of ditch **31** were a pair of large postholes. The first posthole (**33**) was 0.45m wide and 0.3m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (Fig.3, Section 8). It

was filled by a mid brownish grey sandy silt (34), which produced animal bone. Environmental sampling of the fill produced a charred barley grain. The second posthole (**35**) was 0.3m wide and 0.26m deep with a U-shaped profile; its fill was a mid brownish grey sandy silt (36).

3.7.5 A second north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**37**) was located west of the two postholes. This measured 2m wide and 0.46m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch was filled by a dark grey sandy silt (38) containing 30g of animal bone.

3.7.6 In the middle of the trench was an irregular shaped feature, possibly a tree throw (**39**). This was 1.3m wide and a maximum of 0.2m deep with an irregular profile. It was filled by a light greyish brown sandy silt (40).

3.8 Trench 5

3.8.1 Trench 5 was located to the north-west of Trench 4, aligned north-west to south-east. The trench was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.6m (Plate 3).

3.8.2 At the north-west end of the trench was a shallow pit (**29**), which was 1.04m wide and 0.06m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The pit was filled by a light greyish brown sandy silt (30), which contained two sherds (65g) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery.

3.8.3 Pit **29** was sealed by the buried soil (4). The buried soil also appeared to fill a natural hollow in the centre of the trench (Fig.3, Section 5 and Plate 4). It had a maximum depth of 0.37m and contained four sherds (75g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.

3.8.4 The buried soil was cut by ditch **25**, which had a north-east to south-west alignment (Fig.3, Section 5 and Plate 4). The ditch was 1.1m wide and 0.26m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It had a fill of dark grey sandy silt (26), which produced four sherds (43g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and 148g of animal bone.

3.8.5 To the south-east was another ditch (**27**), also truncating the buried soil, aligned east to west. It measured 1m wide and 0.22m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill was a dark grey sandy silt (28), which contained four sherds (59g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and 117g of animal bone.

3.9 Trench 6

3.9.1 Trench 6 was located to the north-east of Trench 5, on an east to west alignment. The trench was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.6m (Plate 5).

3.9.2 Natural geology was sealed by buried soil layer 4 along the whole of the trench, measuring up to 0.1m thick. The soil was truncated by all other features in the trench.

3.9.3 At the western end of the trench the buried soil was cut by a shallow ditch (**51**), which was aligned north to south. It measured 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep, with gently sloped sides and a flat base. The ditch was filled by a dark brownish grey sandy silt (52), which contained seven sherds (62g) of mostly Middle Iron Age pottery (with some residual Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age) and 117g of animal bone.

3.9.4 At the mid-point of the trench was a wide but shallow hollow (**47**), measuring 8.5m wide and 0.2m deep, with gently sloping sides and a flat base. The hollow extended

across the trench (Plate 6). It was filled by a dark brownish grey sandy silt (48), which produced eleven sherds (60g) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery, 62g of animal bone and two Early Anglo-Saxon loom weights (SF 1 and SF 2, see Appendix B.4 and Plates 10-11). However, it should be noted that the pottery was recovered from the western intervention and the loom weights came from the test-pit excavated within the centre of the feature. An environmental sample from the test pit produced charred barley grains and a charred oat.

3.10 Trench 7

3.10.1 Trench 7 was located in the north-east corner of the development area, on a north to south alignment. The trench was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.8m (Fig.2, Plate 7).

3.10.2 Along the entire length of the trench natural geology was overlain by buried soil layer 4, which measured up to 0.16m thick (Fig.3, Section 22; Plate 9). It contained three sherds (24g) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age and Middle Iron Age pottery. An environmental sample was taken from the buried soil which contained charred barley and oats.

3.10.3 The buried soil was cut at the southern end of the trench by a large pit (**49**), which measured at least 5m wide and 0.4m deep, with steep sides and flat base (Fig.3, Section 20; Plate 8). The pit was filled by a dark grey sandy silt (50), which produced 22 sherds (330g) of Early Saxon pottery (see Appendix B.2), one residual Late Iron Age sherd (11g), two struck flints (see Appendix B.5), 1.68kg of animal bone, and 18g of fired clay. Environmental sampling of the fill produced charred barley and wheat along with amphibian bones.

3.10.4 Two tree bowls (**43** and **45**) also cut the buried soil to the north of pit **49**. Tree bowl **43** was 0.84m wide and 0.22m deep with an irregular profile. It was filled by a mid brown grey sandy silt (44), which contained a one sherd (10g) of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery and 8g of animal bone. Tree bowl **45** was 0.74m wide and 0.2m deep also with an irregular profile. The fill was a mid brown grey sandy silt (46).

3.11 Trench 8

3.11.1 Located in the north-west corner of the development area, Trench 8 was on an east to west alignment. The trench was 30m long and had an average depth of 0.64m.

3.11.2 In the western half of the trench was a small truncated posthole (**23**). This was 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep, with a U-shaped profile. It was filled by a light grey brown sandy silt (24).

3.11.3 Buried soil layer 4 sealed the posthole and extended along the entirety of the trench. It had an average depth of 0.24m within the trench.

3.11.4 A large slightly curvilinear ditch (**21**) extended across the trench at the eastern end on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment, truncating the buried soil. This was 0.78m wide within the trench and more than 0.44m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (Fig.3 Section 8). It was filled by a dark grey sandy silt (22), which produced 31 sherds (448g) of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery, a single struck flint and

167g of animal bone. The fill was sampled for environmental evidence and produced three charred barley grains.

3.11.5 Two shallow north to south aligned ditches (**17** and **19**) truncated the buried soil at the western end of the trench. Ditch **17** was 1m wide and 0.18m deep, with a U-shaped profile. Its fill (18) was a mid grey brown sandy silt, which produced 66g of animal bone. Ditch **19** was also 1m wide, and was 0.16m deep with a U-shaped profile. It was filled by a mid grey brown sandy silt (20), which contained one sherd (13g) of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery and 57g of animal bone.

Finds summary

3.11.6 The evaluation produced a moderate quantity of pottery including a small amount (26 sherds, 288g) of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery (Appendix B.1), 50 sherds (658g) of Middle Iron Age pottery (Appendix B.1), two sherds (17g) of Late Iron Age pottery (Appendix B.1), and 23 sherds (333g) of Early Saxon pottery (Appendix B.2).

3.11.7 One complete and one partial loom weight of Anglo-Saxon date (Appendix B.4) were retrieved. Three other fragments of fired clay weighing 37g were also recovered.

3.11.8 Four struck flints were recovered from two features (Appendix B.5).

3.11.9 A large quantity of animal bone was also recovered totalling 4.53kg (Appendix C.1).

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 All the trenches contained a similar soil profile including the presence of the buried soil layer 4 in Trenches 3 to 8.

4.1.2 Features were easy to identify against the natural geology although less so where they cut through the buried soil.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The evaluation has identified the presence of archaeological features within the development area with features present in all trenches.

4.2.2 Dating evidence has been collected from the majority of features, with clear stratigraphic distinction between those features above and below the buried soil layer.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The earliest activity on the site was dated as Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (*c*. 1100-350 BC) evidenced by pottery of that date in several features – posthole **7** in Trench 2, pit **29** in Trench 5, hollow **47** in Trench 7 and ditch **19** in Trench 8, as well as residual sherds in other features including ditch **51** in Trench 6 and ditch **21** in Trench 8. It is possible that the other postholes in Trench 2 are of similar date, although posthole **11** contained pottery of Middle Iron Age date (*c*. 350-50 BC). The postholes formed a line and could represent the side of a structure or a fence line, with posthole **7** possibly being a replacement for posthole **9**.

4.3.2 Ditch **53** in Trench 3 was undated but was sealed by the buried soil layer and could be of similar date to the other features below the soil layer.

4.3.3 The buried soil layer (4) was present in Trenches 3 to 8, and was truncated by the majority of features, apart from three features which it sealed – ditch **53** in Trench 2, pit **29** in Trench 5 and posthole **23** in Trench 8. The soil varied in depth and seemed to have filled in hollows and undulations in the natural geology, most notable around ditch **25** in Trench 5 where the natural dropped down on both sides of the ditch to a depth of 0.24m which was then filled in by the buried soil. The buried soil contained a mixture of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age and Middle Iron Age pottery (a total of 7 sherds, 99g, recovered from Trenches 5 and 7). The dating evidence, combined with the fact that it was truncated by features of Middle Iron Age date, suggests the buried soil dates to the Middle Iron Age or earlier.

4.3.4 There were a number of Middle Iron Age features identified cutting into the buried soil, mainly ditches which formed part of a field-system. Three of the ditches were on north-east to south-west alignments (**31** and **37** in Trench 4, **25** in Trench 5) with two orientated east to west (**27** in Trench 5 and **21** in Trench 8). A single north to south aligned ditch (**51** in Trench 6) was also identified.

4.3.5 There was also an Early Anglo-Saxon presence on the site (*c*. AD 450-650) evidenced by a large pit (**49**) in Trench 7. The possibility that pit **49** is part of a sunken featured building (SFB) should not be discounted although with only one edge visible within the

trench interpretation is difficult. Environmental sampling (Appendix C.2) suggests that it was backfilled with midden-like material including hearth sweepings. Hollow **47** in Trench 6 contained two Anglo-Saxon loom-weights (Appendix B.4) in addition to Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery. As these finds came from different parts of the hollow and the extents of the feature were beyond the limits of the trench it is possible that the feature was more complex than what was visible. A single sherd of Early Saxon pottery was also recovered from ditch **31** in Trench 4, alongside Middle Iron Age pottery.

4.3.6 The furrows in Trench 1 were undated but were most likely to be of medieval or later date.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The site revealed features from multiple phases of activity, dating from the Late Bronze Age through to the Early Anglo-Saxon period, along with furrows of medieval or later date. The Late Bronze Age through to Middle Iron Age activity is significant as it suggests early activity on the site, which continued for a prolonged period of time, and links with similarly dated evidence at Ashleaf Close, 700m to the west (MCB 18421).

4.4.2 The Early Anglo-Saxon features and artefacts suggests settlement nearby, which is significant because there is only limited evidence for occupation at this date in the village.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	NNE-SSW
Trench contained five east-west aligned furrows. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay.					**Length (m)**	28
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
41	Cut	0.86	0.12	Furrow	-	-
42	Fill	-	0.12	Furrow Fill	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	NNE-SSW
Trench contained a small pit and nine postholes. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.75
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.45	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5	Cut	0.80	0.18	Pit	-	-
6	Fill	-	0.18	Pit Fill	-	-
7	Cut	0.42	0.21	Posthole	-	LBA/EIA
8	Fill	-	0.21	Posthole Fill	Pottery	LBA/EIA
9	Cut	0.40	0.13	Posthole	-	-
10	Fill	-	0.13	Posthole Fill	Animal Bone	-
11	Cut	0.37	0.17	Posthole	-	-
12	Fill	-	0.17	Posthole Fill	-	-
13	Cut	0.23	0.12	Posthole	-	-
14	Fill	-	0.12	Posthole Fill	-	-
15	Cut	0.22	0.15	Posthole	-	-
16	Fill	-	0.15	Posthole Fill	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a buried soil throughout and a single undated ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.96
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Layer	-	0.21	Buried Soil	Animal Bone	-
53	Cut	0.86	0.14	Ditch	-	-
54	Fill	-	0.14	Ditch Fill	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a buried soil throughout and two north-east to south-west aligned ditches, two postholes and a tree throw. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.70
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.33	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Layer	-	0.15	Buried Soil	-	-
31	Cut	1.30	0.42	Ditch	-	Iron Age
32	Fill	-	0.42	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Iron Age
33	Cut	0.45	0.30	Posthole	-	-
34	Fill	-	0.30	Posthole Fill	Animal Bone	-
35	Cut	0.30	0.26	Posthole	-	-
36	Fill	-	0.26	Posthole Fill	-	-
37	Cut	2.00	0.46	Ditch	-	Iron Age
38	Fill	-	0.46	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Iron Age
39	Cut	1.30	0.20	Tree Bowl	-	-
40	Fill	-	0.20	Tree Bowl Fill	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a buried soil throughout, two north-east to south-west aligned ditches and a shallow pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Layer	-	0.25	Buried Soil	-	-

25	Cut	1.10	0.26	Ditch	-	Saxon
26	Fill	-	0.26	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Saxon
27	Cut	1.00	0.22	Ditch	-	Saxon
28	Fill	-	0.22	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Saxon
29	Cut	1.04	0.06	Pit	-	-
30	Fill	-	0.06	Pit Fill	Pottery	LBA/EIA

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a buried soil throughout, a large shallow hollow and a ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.45	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Layer	-	0.10	Buried Soil	-	-
47	Cut	8.50	0.20	Hollow	-	Saxon
48	Fill	-	0.20	Hollow Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Saxon
51	Cut	0.80	0.10	Ditch	-	Iron Age
52	Fill	-	0.10	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Iron Age

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a buried soil throughout, two tree bowls and a large pit at the southern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.80
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Layer	-	0.16	Buried Soil	A. Bone	-
43	Cut	0.84	0.12	Tree Bowl	-	LBA/EIA
44	Fill	-	0.12	Tree Bowl Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	LBA/EIA
45	Cut	0.74	0.10	Tree Bowl	-	-
46	Fill	-	0.10	Tree Bowl Fill	A. Bone	-
49	Cut	5.00	0.40	Pit	-	Saxon
50	Fill	-	0.40	Pit Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Saxon

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a buried soil throughout, a small posthole, two narrow ditches, and a larger ditch at the eastern end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.60
					Avg. depth (m)	0.64
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	-	0.37	Topsoil	-	-
2	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4	Layer	-	0.24	Buried Soil	-	-
17	Cut	1.00	0.18	Ditch	-	Iron Age
18	Fill	-	0.18	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Iron Age
19	Cut	1.00	0.16	Ditch	-	Iron Age
20	Fill	-	0.16	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Iron Age
21	Cut	0.78	0.44	Ditch	-	Iron Age
22	Fill	-	0.44	Ditch Fill	Pottery, A. Bone	Iron Age
23	Cut	0.30	0.06	Posthole	-	-
24	Fill	-	0.06	Posthole Fill	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Prehistoric Pottery

By Matt Brudenell

Introduction

B.1.1 The evaluation yielded 78 sherds of later prehistoric pottery (963g) with a mean sherd weight (MSW) of 12.31g. The pottery was recovered from 14 contexts relating to six ditches, three pits, two post holes, two natural features and a buried soil horizon (Table 1).

B.1.2 The pottery predominantly dates from the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (c. 1100-350 BC) and Middle Iron Age (c. 350-50 BC). However, the assemblage also includes two sherds of Late Iron Age pottery (c. 50 BC-AD 50), one of which is wheel-made.

B.1.3 The pottery is in good condition and includes some large unabraded sherds, particularly those from ditch **21**, Trench 8.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature type	No. sherds	Weight (g)	Spot date
4	NA	5	Buried Soil	4	75	MIA
4	NA	7	Buried Soil	3	24	LBA-EIA and MIA
6	**5**	2	Pit	1	3	MIA
8	**7**	2	Post hole	4	74	LBA-EIA
12	**11**	2	Post hole	1	6	MIA
20	**19**	8	Ditch	1	13	LBA-EIA
22	**21**	8	Ditch	31	448	M-LIA (plus residual LBA-EIA)
26	**25**	5	Ditch	4	43	MIA
28	**27**	5	Ditch	4	59	MIA
30	**29**	5	Pit	2	65	LBA-EIA
32	**31**	4	Ditch	3	11	MIA
44	**43**	7	Natural scoop	1	9	LBA-EIA
48	**47**	6	Natural hollow	11	60	LBA-EIA
50	**49**	7	Pit	1	11	LIA?
52	**51**	6	Ditch	7	62	MIA (plus residual LBA-EIA)
TOTAL	-	-	-	*78*	*963*	-

Table 1. Quantification of pottery by context

Methodology

B.1.4 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2011). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group. Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (wheel-made or handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and were assigned vessel numbers. Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. In cases

where a sherd or groups of refitting sherds retained portions of the rim and shoulder, the vessel was also categorised by form. The Middle Iron Age-type forms were codified using the series developed by JD Hill (Hill and Horne 2003, 174; Hill and Braddock 2006, 155-156). All pottery was subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as 'small' (46 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' (30 sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter will be classified as 'large' (2 sherds). The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the site archive.

Fabrics

F1: Modern to common coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm in size)

F2: Modern to common medium burnt flint (mainly 1-2mm in size)

F3: Modern to common fine burnt flint (mainly <1mm in size)

FQ1: Modern to common coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm in size) and quartz sand

FQ2: Modern to common medium burnt flint (mainly 1-2mm in size) and quartz sand

S1: Sparse to common coarse shell (mainly 2-4mm in size)

S2: Moderate to common medium shell (mainly 1-2mm in size)

S3: Moderate to common fine shell (mainly <1mm in size)

Q1: Moderate to common quartz sand

QS1: Moderate to common quartz sand and sparse to moderate medium shell (mainly 1-2mm in size)

VEQ1: Moderate to common linear voids from burnt out organic matter and sparse to moderate quartz sand

Fabric	Fabric group	No. sherds	Weight (g)	% fabric (by wt.)	MNV
F1	Flint*	9	156	16.2	1
F2	Flint*	6	30	3.1	1
F3	Flint*	1	8	0.8	-
FQ1	Flint and sand*	3	34	3.5	-
FQ2	Flint and sand*	1	12	1.2	-
Q1	Sand	30	432	44.9	6
QS1	Sand shell	1	13	1.3	1
S1	Shell	11	104	10.8	1
S2	Shell	9	78	8.1	2
S3	Shell	4	28	2.9	1
VEQ1	Veg. & sand	3	68	7.1	1
TOTAL	-	*78*	*963*	*99.9*	*14*

Table 2. Quantification of Iron Age pottery by fabric.
MNV calculated as the total number of different rims and bases (nine rims, five bases).
** fabrics exclusively LBA-EIA in date.*

Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery

B.1.5 A total of 26 sherds (288g) from the evaluation were assigned a Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date. The pottery derived from eight contexts relating to posthole **7** in Trench 2, pit **29** in Trench 5, ditch **51** and hollow **47** in Trench 6, natural scoop **43** and buried soil horizon **4** in Trench 7, and ditches **19** and **21** in Trench 8 (see below).

B.1.6 The group is dominated by sherds with flint and flint and sand fabrics; both typical of the period (Brudenell 2012). By weight these account for 83% of the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery. The remaining pottery comprises shelly wares (10% by weight), shell and sand wares (5%) and sherds with just sand (2%). The group includes two vessel rim and two bases. One of the rims is decorated with fingertip impression on the rim-exterior. This is a type of decoration more commonly associated with Early Iron Age pottery.

Trench 2

B.1.7 Post hole **7** yielded four plain sherds (74g) of flint tempered pottery. This includes a base fragment (67g).

Trench 5

B.1.8 Pit **5** yielded two plain body sherds (65g) of flint tempered pottery.

Trench 6

B.1.9 Hollow **47** yielded 11 sherds (60g) of pottery in a variety of fabrics: flint (26g); flint and sand (23g); sand (6g); shell (5g). The group includes a single flat-topped vessel rim fragment (1g) and two burnished sherds (8g).

B.1.10 Ditch **51** yielded five sherds (51g) in flint (27g) and shell (24g) fabrics. This includes a single base sherds (18g). The pottery was found alongside Middle Iron Age ware and is considered to be residual.

Trench 7

B.1.11 The buried soil horizon (4) in Trench 7 yielded a single plain body sherd of flint tempered pottery (8g). Natural scoop **43** yielded the same (9g).

Trench 8

B.1.12 A single flint and sand tempered sherd was recovered from ditch **21** (8g), whilst ditch **19** yielded a decorated rim fragment in fabric QS1 (13g). The former was found alongside Middle Iron Age wares and is considered residual. The latter is likely to be Early Iron Age in date.

Middle Iron Age pottery

B.1.13 A total of 50 sherds (658g) from the evaluation were assigned a Middle Iron Age date. The pottery derived from eight contexts relating to pit **5** and posthole **11** in Trench 2, ditch **31** in Trench 4, ditch **25**, **27** and buried soil horizon (4) in Trench 5, ditch **51** in Trench 6, buried soil horizon (4) in Trench 7, and ditch **21** in Trench 8 (see below).

B.1.14 The group is dominated by sherds with sandy fabrics typical of Plainware Middle Iron Age assemblages from the Ely region (Hill and Horne 2003). By weight these account for 62% of the Middle Iron Age pottery. The remaining pottery comprises shell wares (28% by weight) and wares with organic matter and sand (10%). The group includes six vessel rims and three bases. Three of the rims are sufficiently intact to assign to form and are described below.

Trench 2

B.1.15 Post hole **11** yielded a single shelly ware sherd (6g), whilst pit **5** yielded a single sandy ware sherd (3g). Both are plain body sherds.

Trench 4

B.1.16 Three plain body sherds in shell (8g) and sand (3g) fabrics were recovered from ditch **31**.

Trench 5

B.1.17 Buried soil horizon (4) yielded four plain sherds (75g) in shell (25g) and sand fabrics (50g). This includes a base sherd (12g).

B.1.18 Ditch **25** yielded four plain sherds (43g) in shell (24g) and sand fabrics (19g), including a second base sherd (11g) and a shoulder sherd (6g).

B.1.19 Four further body sherds were recovered from ditch **27**, again is shell (47g) and sand (12g) fabrics. The sandy ware sherds were both burnished.

Trench 6

B.1.20 Two shelly ware sherds (11g) were recovered from ditch **51**. They include a plain burnished sherd, and a shoulder sherd from an East Midlands style Scored Ware vessel (8g; Elsdon 1992).

Trench 7

B.1.21 Buried soil horizon (4) yielded two sherds (16g) in shell (8g) and organic matter and sand fabrics (8g). This included a rim fragment with an everted lip (8g).

Trench 8

B.1.22 The single largest feature assemblage delivered from ditch **21**, which yielded 29 sherds (434g) in sand (322g), shell (52) and organic matter and sand (60g) fabrics. The group includes five vessel rims (114g) and a base sherd (49g). One of the rims is decorated (20g) with fingernail impression on the rim-top whilst three others are sufficiently intact to assigned to form (95g). They include two small slack-shouldered jars with short upright rims (Hill Form A), one of which was burnished, and a round-shouldered jar with off-set upright neck (Hill Form B). In total the group includes nine (165g) burnished sherds.

Late Iron Age pottery

B.1.23 Two sandy ware sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the evaluation (17g), both of which are burnished and decorated. The first is a wheel-made shoulder sherd recovered from ditch **21** in Trench 8 decorated with burnished horizontal lines (6g). This is likely to date to the early to mid-first century AD.

B.1.24 The second is handmade and recovered from pit **49**, Trench 7. The sherd is decorated with a horizontal groove around the neck (11g).

Discussion

B.1.25 The earliest pottery recovered from the evaluation dates to the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, and belongs to the Post Deverel-Rimbury Ceramic tradition, dated *c*. 1100-350 BC (Brudenell 2012). Although individual feature assemblages cannot be dated any closer, the range of fabrics and the presence of a few diagnostic sherds suggest that the material is likely to include pottery that is both Late Bronze Age (*c*. 1100-800 BC) and Early Iron Age (*c*. 800-350 BC) in origin.

B.1.26 The bulk of the pottery dates to the Middle Iron Age and constitutes a typical plain, sandy ware group from the Ely region, exemplified by the assemblage from Wardy Hill (Hill and Horne 2003). The pottery dates between *c*. 350-50 BC.

B.1.27 The two sherds of Late Iron Age pottery recovered from the site suggest that activity continued into the late 1st century BC and early 1st century AD.

B.2 Early Anglo-Saxon Pottery

By Richard Mortimer

Introduction

B.2.1 The evaluation yielded 23 sherds of Early Saxon pottery (333g) with an average sherd weight of 14.5g (Table 3). The pottery was recovered from two contexts relating to one ditch fill and one large, shallow, flat-based pit, possibly a sunken featured building (SFB). The pottery dates from the Early Anglo-Saxon period (*c*. AD 450-650).

B.2.2 The pottery is in very good condition and includes some large unabraded sherds.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature type	No. sherds	Weight (g)	Spot date
32	**31**	4	Ditch	1	8	ES
50	**49**	7	?*SFB*	22	325	ES
TOTAL	-	-	-	*23*	*333*	

Table 3. Quantification of pottery by context

Methodology

B.2.3 Rapid recording was carried out using OA East's in-house. All sherds have been counted, classified, weighed and recorded on a context-by-context basis in an Access database. Pottery was recorded following the minimum standards laid out in the MPRG guidelines (Slowikowski 2001).

The Assemblage

B.2.4 The group contains four rim sherds and one base sherd and is dominated by grit and quartzite tempered fabrics with some mica and the occasional vegetable tempered sherd, all typical of the period. The majority of the sherds are black throughout with burnishing on their outer surfaces and come from smallish, open jars with simple, upright rounded rims. There are no decorated sherds present.

B.2.5 The precise date of the pottery recovered from the evaluation is uncertain but lies within the *c*. AD 450-650 bracket, and most likely within the sixth century. The bulk of the assemblage – from pit **49** – is in a good and unabraded condition and clearly not residual.

B.2.6 The pottery derived from two contexts, both of which also contained small quantities of Middle Iron Age pottery (3 sherds in ditch **31** – 11g; 1 sherd in pit **49** – 11g). It is currently thought that the Middle Iron Age pottery in pit **49** may be residual and the Saxon pottery in ditch **31** may be intrusive, although it can be difficult to separate some plain body sherds between these two periods.

B.3 Ceramic Building Material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.3.1 Archaeological excavation produced a small assemblage of Ceramic Building Material (CBM); 2 fragments (22g). The assemblage is fragmentary and abraded and largely uninformative.

Methodology

B.3.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, 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 where possible. Woodforde (1976) and McComish (2015) form the basis of reference material for identification and dating.

B.3.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive.

Assemblage and Discussion

B.3.4 The fragments recovered were collected from the topsoil of Trench 3. One fragment, 10g, was too abraded to identify and the other, 12g, was likely a piece of post-medieval flat tile. These fragments provide limited information; they represent little more than background noise within the modern agricultural landscape.

Recommendations and Further Work

B.3.5 The assemblage has been fully recorded and described. The report should be incorporated into the archive report and updated, where necessary. There are no fragments that require illustration or photography. All fragments should be considered for deselection.

B.4 Fired Clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.4.1 Archaeological work produced 5 fragments, 710g, of fired clay. The most significant portion of this assemblage comprises one and a half Saxon ring or 'doughnut' loom-weights recovered from a natural hollow. They are largely unabraded and indicate domestic activity in the vicinity.

Methodology

B.4.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, 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.

B.4.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A catalogue of the fired clay objects can be found in Table 4.

Fabrics

B.4.4 The fired clay was attributed to four fabrics. They consist mostly of silty or sandy clay matrices with a range of tempers including grit, calcareous chunks and grog/clay pellets. Although the exact source of the clay or inclusions has not been proven for this assemblage these are likely to have been naturally occurring in the local clay. The poor sorting of the inclusions suggests minimal paste preparation, although organic matter (chaff?) may have been added to some of the clay recipes.

Assemblage

B.4.5 The fired clay was collected from three contexts from Trenches 3, 6 and 7.

Trench 3

B.4.6 A fragment of structural fired clay, 19g, was recovered from the buried soil (4). Although it was somewhat abraded, this fragment still exhibited a flattened and wiped surface that was cream coloured with a reddish core. The object it originated from is unknown.

Trench 6

B.4.7 Natural hollow **47** produced one and a half Saxon ring loom-weights; SF1 and SF2, 466g and 207g respectively (Plates 10-11). Their catalogue descriptions can be found below (Table 4).

Trench 7

B.4.8 Two fragments, 18g, of amorphous fired clay, were recovered from pit **49**. These fragments were very rounded and abraded.

Discussion

B.4.9 The fragments of fired clay that could not be attributed to any particular objects are only broadly useful for identifying the presence of historic domestic and/or light industrial activities. They may have originated from ovens, hearths, kilns or any number of portable clay objects.

Loom-Weights

B.4.10 The ring or 'doughnut' loom-weights are examples of domestic Saxon weaving technology. These weights were used in sets and hung from a loom in rows, at the end of vertical 'warp' threads. The two examples assessed here are of different types. The complete example (SF 1) is of 'intermediate' form (after Hurst 1959), where the thickness of the clay loop does not exceed the width of the central perforation. The incomplete example (SF 2) may be an 'annular' weight, where the central perforation is larger in diameter than the thickness of the clay loop (*ibid*.). Needless to say, such classifications can be misleading as they suggest divisions where there is considerable variation. As such, the incomplete example may only present 'annular' traits in the fragment recovered whereas its complete form could be 'intermediate'.

B.4.11 The incomplete example, SF 2, is probably 45% of the whole, meaning that the total weight of the object would have been around 460g. This would make its complete form about the same weight as SF 1, 466g. This, and the fact they were found together, suggests they may have come from the same set (cf. Mårtensson 2009). It is interesting to note, then, that these two examples differ in fabric and form.

B.4.12 This class of object are difficult to date precisely. The technology was largely made locally, on an ad hoc basis and with little investment (Petty 2014). Further, there have, so far, been few attempts to study the distribution of these objects nationally and so there is no date series available. Nevertheless, it is suggested that the 'annular' shape is oldest, arriving in Britain with the earliest Saxons (Petty 2014; Hamerow 1993). At Mucking, Essex, where a considerable number of Saxon loom-weights were recovered, the 'annular' weights were gradually replaced by the 'intermediate' type, with their dates ranging from fifth to sixth-century contexts (Hamerow 1993). The use of such weights continued throughout the Saxon period, but considering the possible presence of an 'annular' and an 'intermediate' weight an early date is likely.

Recommendations

B.4.13 The assemblage has been fully assessed and described. This report should be included in the full report and the catalogue with the archive. The amorphous fragments are recommended for discard.

Trench	Context	Cut	SF No.	Notes	W (mm)	Th (mm)	Perforation Diameter (mm)	Weight (g)
6	48	**47**	1	Complete Saxon ring loom-weight. 'Intermediate' type (after Hurst, 1959). It is hand-formed, the upper portion is domed and smoothed with some evidence of finger/hand pressing. It has sooting/reduced fabric at one end, 20% of face, probably from firing. The underside is flattened and covered with organic impressions. Very likely from the surface the clay was left to dry on. the central perforation was likely made by poking out the centre which has created an irregular shaped perforation. There is some surface damage and cracking but all related to use or post-deposition.	117	42	40 x 30	466
6	48	**47**	2	Half of a Saxon ring loom-weight. Incomplete, around 45% surviving. It is very likely an 'annular' type (after Hurst, 1959). Surviving measurements recorded. Hand formed ring of clay, central hole does not show evidence of being made by perforation. Organic impressions are present across the lower and inner faces. The upper face is smoothed and domed, lower face is flatter - probably from drying.	111	35	50	207

Table 4. Catalogue of Saxon Loom-Weights

B.5 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

B.5.1 Four residual struck flints were recovered from ditch and pit fills. These included two blades and two flakes struck from a mid reddish brown good quality translucent flint with a yellowish white abraded cortex. The typological character of the flint suggests a Neolithic date.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster

Introduction

C.1.1 The animal bone represented faunal remains weighing 4.53 kg in total. There were 74 fragments that were identifiable to species, detailed in Table 6 below. Bone was hand collected (from all eight trenches) and from environmental samples. The species represented included cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*), pig (*Sus* sp.), and horse (*Equus cabullus*). There were also two identifiable fragments from a medium sized bird and four fragments from an amphibian, likely a frog, found in environmental samples. The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007), which is modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972), von den Driesch (1976) were used where necessary.

Results of Analysis

Element	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Horse	Total
Horncore	1				1
Loose teeth	2	1	1		4
Loose lower incisor	1	1			2
Loose lower premolar	2				2
Loose lower M1/2	3	2	1		6
Loose lower M3	1				1
Mandible	6	5	2		13
Scapula	2	2			4
Humerus	2	2	1		5
Radius	2	2			4
Ulna	2				2
Metacarpal		6			6
Pelvis	1	1			2
Femur	1	1			2
Fibula			1		1
Tibia	1	5		1	7
Calcaneum	1				1
Metatarsal	1	1			2
Metapodial		1			1
Phalanx 1		1			1
Phalanx 3		1			1
NISP	**29**	**32**	**6**	**1**	**68**
%NISP	**42.6**	**47.1**	**8.8**	**1.5**	
MNI	**2**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**7**
%MNI	**28.6**	**42.9**	**14.3**	**14.3**	

Table 6: Total number of identifiable fragments (NISP) by species.

C.1.2 Cattle and sheep/goat remains represented the majority of fragments in this faunal assemblage. The data indicates that there was a minimum number of individuals (MNI) of two for cattle, three for sheep/goat, one for pig and one for horse.

C.1.3 In regards to age at death of animals, cattle were being slaughtered between 36-50 months of age and older. This is typical of cattle being raised for meat as they would not be slaughtered until they had reached an optimum weight. The ageing data for sheep/goat varies somewhat with individuals around 12-21 months, 26-28 months and at least one adult present. Most of the unfused elements were late fusing elements. This may be indicative of a mixed economy for sheep/goat in that the species were exploited for meat but also for secondary products. There were only two elements that could be used to assess ageing for pig and they were a mandible with tooth wear indicating a pig 19-21 months of age at death and an unfused proximal humerus that indicates an animal less than 42 months of age at death.

C.1.4 Overall the assemblage was fairly fragmentary but in good condition, though there were no obvious taphonomic changes evident, such as gnawing, burning or weathering.

C.1.5 There were two examples of butchery evidence on sheep/goat remains. There were three cut marks on the posterior side of the neck of a scapula, which is a common disarticulation point of the shoulder joint. There were also three cut marks on a distal humerus on the posterior side, another common disarticulation point for separation of the lower leg.

C.1.6 Overall the species present in the assemblage are the types of animals that would be expected as a food source and for husbandry practices in the region across this time period. The assemblage was moderate in size, therefore the potential for further investigation is somewhat limited unless further remains are recovered.

C.2 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 Seven bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

C.2.2 The total volume (up to 19L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved 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.

C.2.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 7.

Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers *et al*. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

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

= 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

C.2.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal has been scored for abundance

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

Results

C.2.6 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and is generally poor. The results are discussed by trench

Trench 2

C.2.7 Samples taken from post holes **11** and **13** both produced sparse charcoal along with pottery and bone fragments.

Trench 4

C.2.8 Fill 32 of Middle Iron Age ditch **31** produced a single charred barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain along with pottery and animal bone.

Trench 6

C.2.9 Fill 48 of natural hollow **47** produced eight charred barley grains and a single charred oat (*Avena* sp.) grain with several pot sherds and frequent animal bone.

Trench 7

C.2.10 Fill 50 of Saxon pit **49** produced the largest charred plant assemblage that is comprised of charred barley and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains and a single charred seed of goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). Amphibian bones are also present in addition to larger mammal bone fragments and pottery. Sample 5 was taken from buried soil 4 (which covered most of the trenches) and was found to contain single charred grains of oat and barley, pottery and animal bone.

Trench 8

C.2.11 Fill 22 of Middle Iron Age ditch **21** contains three barley grains, pottery and animal bone.

Area/trench No.	Feature No.	Context No.	Sample No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Weed Seeds	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Pottery	Small mammal bones	Large mammal bones	Burnt mammal bones	Bird/amphibian bones
2	11	12	1	Post hole	14	5	0	0	+++	0	#	#	##	0	0
2	13	14	2	Post hole	7	2	0	0	++	0	#	#	#	#	0
4	31	30	7	Ditch	15	2	#	0	++	0	#	#	##	#	0
6	47	48	6	Hollow	17	10	##	0	+++	++	##	#	##	#	0
7	-	4	5	Buried soil	17	1	#	0	++	0	#	#	##	0	0
7	49	50	3	Rubbish pit	19	10	###	#	++++	++	#	##	#	##	##
8	21	22	4	Ditch	15	20	#	0	+++	++	##	#	#	#	0

Table 7. Environmental samples

Discussion

C.2.12 The environmental samples have produced evidence of the preservation of charred plant remains in the form of cereal grains. The assemblages are mostly too small to be considered significant within the context and may be intrusive, especially from features that have been covered by buried soil layer 4. The only sample that is likely to represent deliberate deposition of burnt material (probably as hearth sweepings in midden material) is from pit **49**.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-285886
Project Name	Chewells Lane, Haddenham

Start of Fieldwork	15-05-2017	End of Fieldwork	18-05-2017
Previous Work	No	Future Work	Yes

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	HADCHE17	Planning App. No.	N/A
HER Number	ECB 5108	Related Numbers	N/A

Prompt	Advice from local planning authority
Development Type	Rural Residential
Place in Planning Process	Pre-application

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

☐	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	Period
Ditch	Late Iron Age (- 100 to 43)
Pit	Late Iron Age (- 100 to 43)
Pit	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)
Ditch	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)
Posthole	Bronze Age (- 2500 to - 700)

Object	Period
Vessel	Bronze Age (- 2500 to - 700)
Vessel	Late Iron Age (- 100 to 43)
Vessel	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)
Loom Weight	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire
District	Fenland
Parish	Haddenham
HER office	Cambridgeshire
Size of Study Area	15300 sq. m
National Grid Ref	TL 4669 7559

Address (including Postcode)

Chewells Lane
Haddenham
Ely
Cambs
CB6 3SS

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Gemma Stewart
Project Design Originator	Rob Wiseman

Project Manager	Tom Phillips
Project Supervisor	Nicholas Cox

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC Stores	ECB 5108
Digital Archive	OA East	ECB 5108
Paper Archive	CCC Stores	ECB 5108

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	☒	☐	☐
Ceramics	☒	☐	☐
Environmental	☒	☐	☐
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Remains	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☐	☐	☐
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☒	☐	☐
None	☐	☒	☒
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media		Paper Media	
Database	☒	Aerial Photos	☐
GIS	☒	Context Sheets	☒
Geophysics	☐	Correspondence	☐
Images (Digital photos)	☒	Diary	☐
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	☒	Drawing	☐
Moving Image	☐	Manuscript	☐
Spreadsheets	☒	Map	☒
Survey	☒	Matrices	☐
Text	☒	Microfiche	☐
Virtual Reality	☐	Miscellaneous	☐
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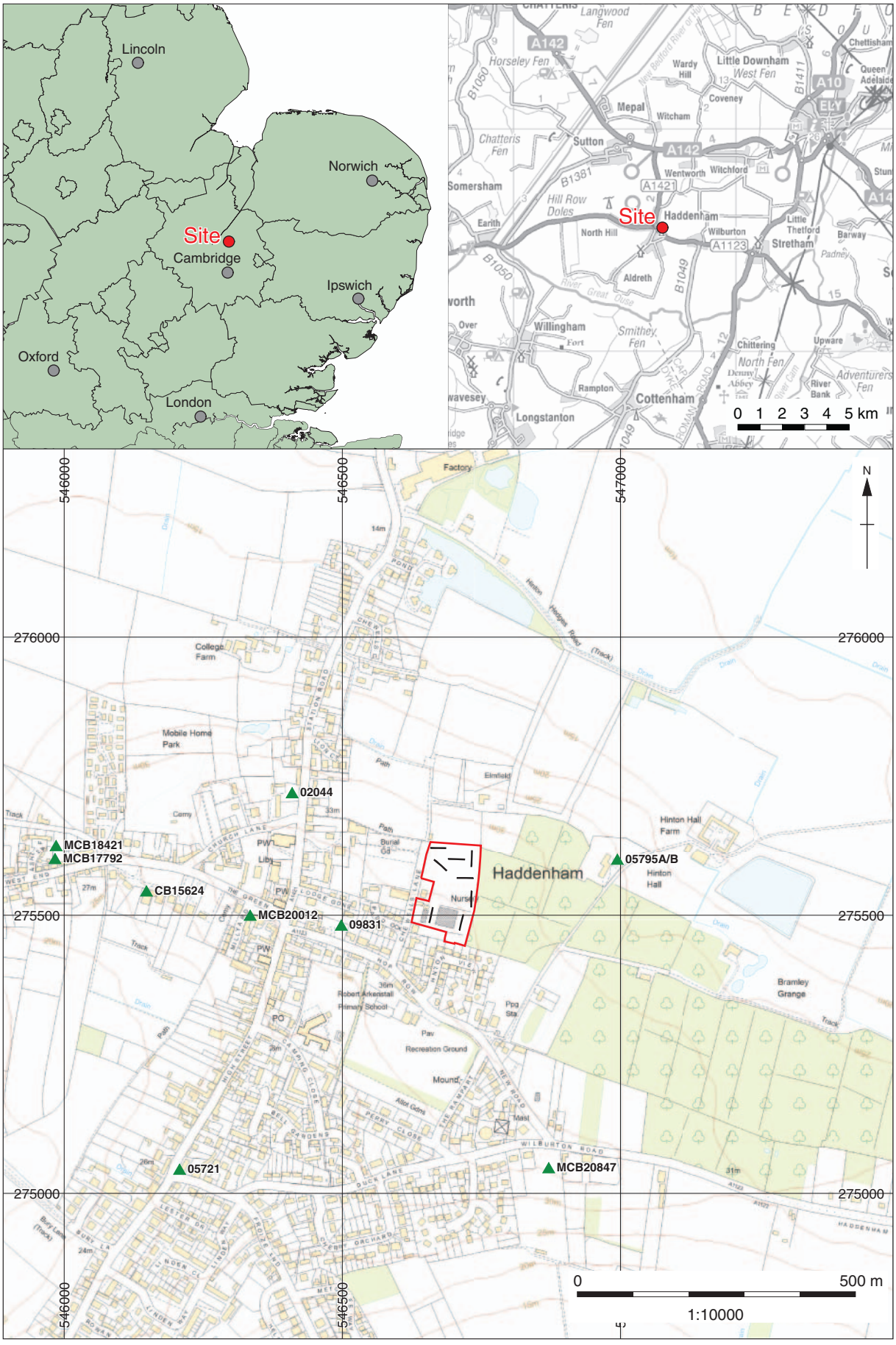


Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red), with selected HER records (green)

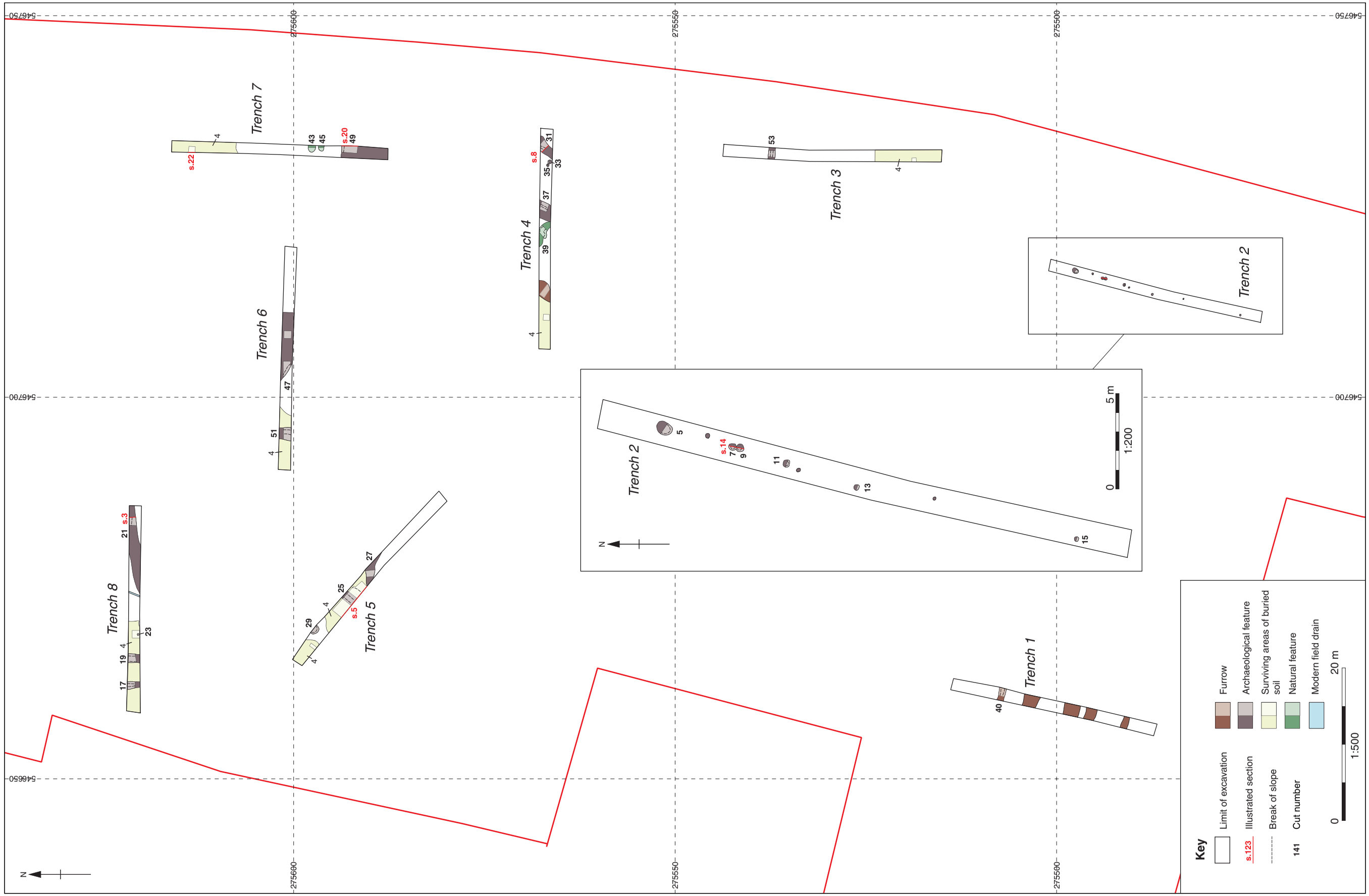
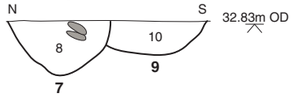


Figure 2: Trench layout plan

Trench 2

Section 14



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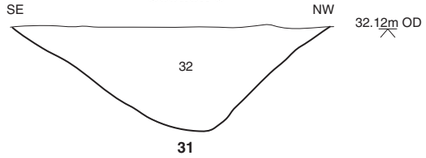
Section 8



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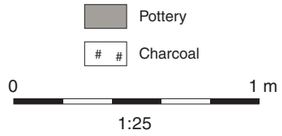
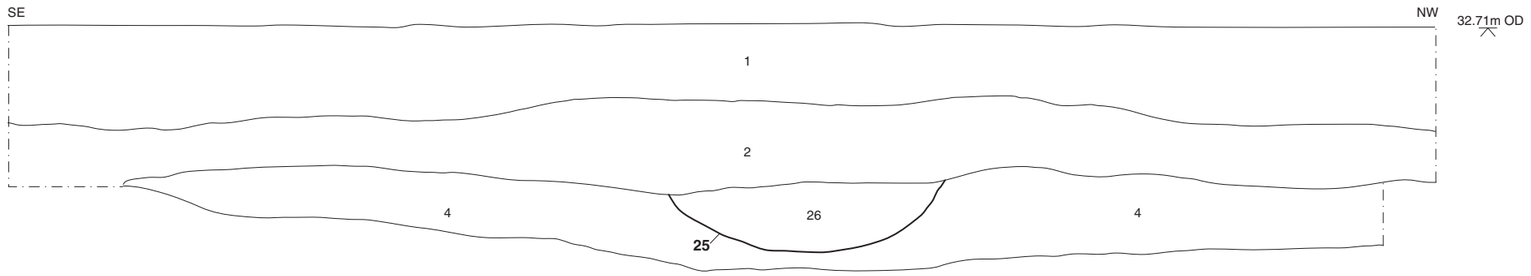


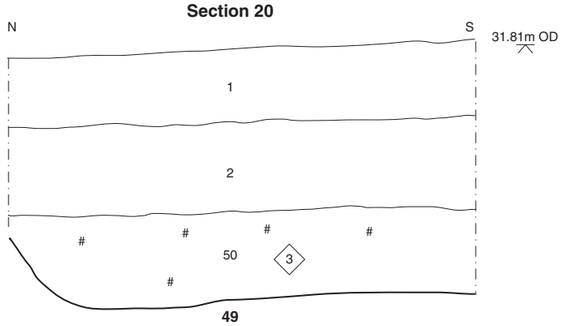
Trench 5

Section 5



Trench 7

Section 20



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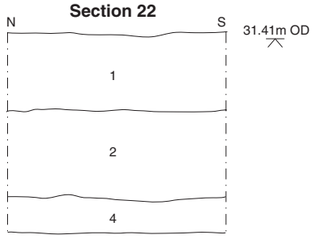

Trench 8

Section 3

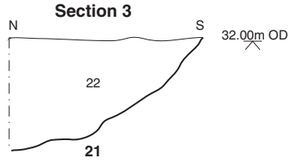

Figure 3: Selected sections

Plate 1: Postholes **7** and **8**, Trench 2, looking east

Plate 2: Trench 4, looking west

Plate 3: Trench 5, looking north-west

Plate 4: Ditch **25**, Buried Soil 4, Trench 5, looking west

Plate 5: Trench 6, looking east

Plate 6: Hollow **47**, Trench 6, looking north

Plate 7: Trench 7, looking north

Plate 8: Pit **49**, Trench 7, looking east

Plate 9: Buried Soil 4, looking west

Plate 10: Early Anglo-Saxon loom weights (SF 1 and SF 2), from hollow **47**, Trench 6

Plate 11: Detail of complete Early Anglo-Saxon loom weight (SF 1)

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