



Archaeological Field Unit

**Bronze Age Boundaries and Cremations at  
Roman Way,  
Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire**  
(TL 252 699)

Taleyna Fletcher

December 2004

**Cambridgeshire County Council**

Report No. 217

Commissioned by *Twigden Homes*

**Bronze Age Boundaries and Cremations  
at Roman Way,  
Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire  
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## **SUMMARY**

*An archaeological excavation was carried out at Roman Way, Godmanchester in advance of the construction of a proposed housing development. The work was carried out on behalf of Twigden Homes by the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council between 27th and 31st October 2003.*

*An area of approximately 0.24ha was excavated and contained a number of archaeological features. Some disturbance associated with development work on the site approximately twenty years ago was encountered, but this had little impact on the archaeology.*

*The earliest phase was represented by a "working hollow" characterised by a spread of worked flints and pottery fragments, two isolated pits and a narrow ditch. Pottery and flint from these features date this phase of activity to the Early/Middle Neolithic period.*

*A second phase of activity was represented by a number of boundary ditches at the southern end of the site, which were on an approximately north-west to south-east alignment. The small amount of pottery suggests that these ditches date to the Bronze Age. Three pits containing cremated human remains, probably contemporary with these ditches, were revealed in the north-west of the excavation area. Two narrow ditches running approximately at right angles to each other, presumably forming a later enclosure, on a north-north-west to south-south-east and east to west alignment also contained Bronze Age pottery.*

*A series of undated features, including isolated postholes, quarries and several natural anomalies were also present.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4 RESEARCH AIMS</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5 METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6 RESULTS</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>7 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	
Figure 1 Location	2
Figure 2 Site Location in relation to other recently excavated sites	6
Figure 3 Site Plan	14
Figure 4 Sections	17
<b>LIST OF PLATES</b>	
Plate 1 Profile of ditches <b>59</b> and <b>52</b>	18
Plate 2 Cremation <b>02</b>	20
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES</b>	
Appendix 1 The Prehistoric Pottery Assessment	30
Appendix 2 The Lithics Assessment	33
Appendix 3 The Cremated Human Bone Assessment	36
Appendix 4 Environmental Results	39
Appendix 5 Context List	40

# Drawing Conventions

## Sections

Limit of Excavation	
Cut	
Cut - Conjectured	
Soil Horizon	
Soil Horizon - Conjectured	
Intrusion/Truncation	
Top of Natural	
Top Surface	
Break in Section	
Cut Number	
Deposit Number	117
Ordinance Datum	$\frac{18.45m}{X}$ ODN

## Plans

Limit of Excavation	
Deposit - Conjectured	
Natural Features	
Intrusion/Truncation	
Sondages/Machine Strip	
Illustrated Section	
Archaeological Deposit	
Excavated Slot	
Archaeological Layer	
Quarry Pits	
Machined Level	
Modern Deposit	
Cut Number	118

**Bronze Age Boundaries and Cremations  
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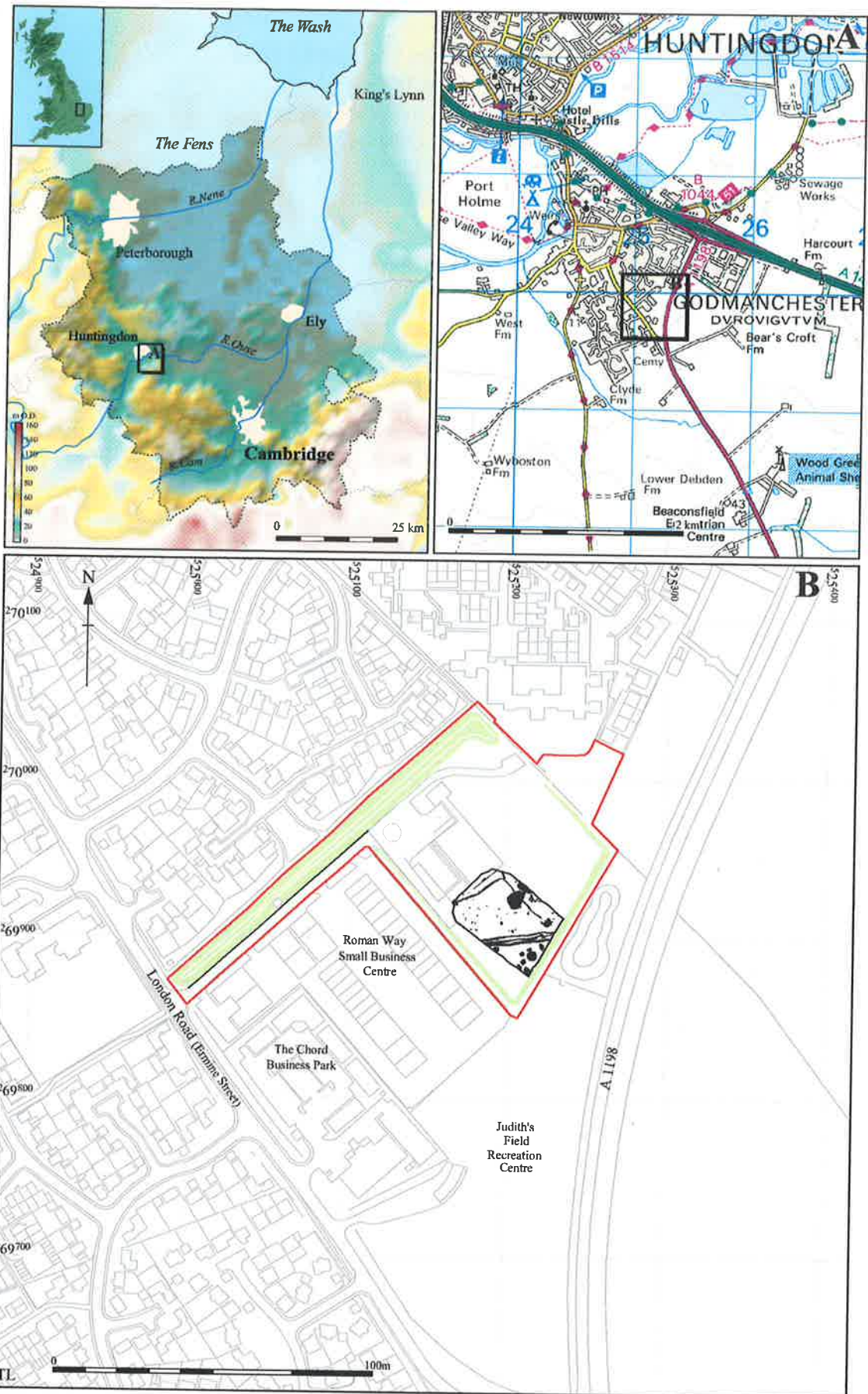
**1 INTRODUCTION**

In late October 2003 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council (AFU) undertook an excavation based on the results of recent trial trenching on land at Roman Way, Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire (Bolderson and Atkins 2003). The work was commissioned by Twigden Homes in advance of the proposed development of the site for residential dwellings. The evaluation revealed a range of heavily truncated archaeological features which consisted of pits and ditches, some of prehistoric date, a single undated cremation and a large undated quarry pit.

The subsequent excavations were carried out in accordance with the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Office (CAO) Brief dated 15th May 2003 (Thomas 2003). The archaeological objectives and methodology for the excavation were recorded in the specification for the site (Roberts 2003).

**2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The site lies on grey mudstone (Oxford Clay) close to a band of 1st and 2nd Terrace Gravels (BGS 1975). In the excavation the natural geology consisted of mid-orange to red gravelly silty clay. The site was on level ground at approximately 15m OD. The nearest benchmark was 13.373m, located on the edge of the approach road to the site and set out by the surveyors from Twigden Homes.



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**Figure 1** Location of Excavation (black) with Development Area (red), landscape banks within the development area are shown in green.

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 Prehistoric

The Ouse Valley in the vicinity of Godmanchester has yielded abundant evidence of prehistoric activity.

The gravel terrace of the River Great Ouse has revealed a great variety and concentration of cropmarks dating to prehistoric and later times. Some of the most significant cropmark sites that have been excavated in the area are at Brampton and close by at Rectory Farm, Godmanchester. River valleys were occupied early in prehistoric times as the rivers provided transport routes and the surrounding valleys had fertile soils which were easily cleared of vegetation for farming.

Early prehistoric occupation around Godmanchester is indicated by flint tools in both Mesolithic and Neolithic forms. A Mesolithic camp and a later, Neolithic farmstead was located just east of the town during excavations in 1990 (Wait 1992). Contemporary with the latter is the extensive and obscure ritual complex of a giant enclosure and cursus excavated near Rectory Farm (McAvoy in preparation). A mortuary enclosure at the end of the cursus has been excavated just west of Brampton (Malim 2000). Bronze Age barrows (or ring ditches) at Brampton (White 1969) and at Rectory Farm (McAvoy in preparation) have also been excavated. Many other sites, probably farmsteads, are likely to have been scattered over the four by one kilometre gravel terrace upon which Godmanchester sits, enabling successive populations to exploit the light, free draining soils so amenable to early farming technology. Such sites are known only through collections of flint tools.

Later prehistoric settlement is relatively better understood, not least because Iron Age pottery survives much better than earlier pottery. One such farmstead has been sample excavated just east of the town (Wait 1992) and others are known beneath modern Godmanchester in the form of roundhouses and ditched enclosures encountered below Roman occupation.

Although predominately Roman occupation from the first century to the fourth century AD was found 190m to the west of the subject site (CB 14646; Hinman 1996; Jones 1999), excavations revealed evidence of Early Neolithic and Bronze Age activity consisting of a single small pit of Late Neolithic date and residual lithics recovered from later deposits on the same site.

Similar evidence was recovered at the A14/A604 Junction site (Wait 1992), Cardinal Way (Gibson and Murray, in preparation) and to the north at Rectory Farm (McAvoy, forthcoming) and Cow Lane (Hinman 1998). The flint recovered from the Junction site was mainly residual, derived from Romano-British ditches. At the adjacent Cardinal Distribution Park site a number of probable prehistoric features including pits and postholes were present; all



were associated with a small amount of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery.

### 3.2 Romano-British

The town of Godmanchester owes its Roman development to its situation on an important Roman Road (Ermine Street) adjacent to a crossing of the Ouse. A fort was established on this river crossing soon after the conquest. Settlement grew rapidly around this early nucleus and along Ermine Street; re-development in the early second century saw the construction of the massive *mansio* and bathhouse, whose remains have been excavated to the north-west of the development site on Pinfold Lane (Green 1977; Hinman 1998).

Many of the excavations within the vicinity of the subject site (Fig. 1) have revealed the presence of Romano-British burials (see below). Other Romano-British sites in the area include Ermine Street and a series of roadside buildings to its west (CB 14646). Evaluation immediately adjacent to and west of the subject site revealed evidence of Romano-British activity and a single burial (Macaulay 1994).

Between 1978 and 1984 Granville Rudd (unpublished; H.J.M. Green, pers. comm.) recorded the presence of a minimum of 60 bodies (TL 24 70; SMR 7224) during the construction of housing estates at Porch Farm to the north and adjacent to the subject site. Anecdotal evidence gathered from Porch Farm recalled that the area of land north of the farm had been extensively quarried for gravel during the 19th century (H.J.M. Green, pers. comm.). Numerous skeletons had apparently been disturbed during this quarrying.

The inhumed remains of at least thirteen individuals were recovered during rescue excavations at London Street c.350m north of the subject site in 1991 (Hoyland and Wait 1992). Excavation to the north-west of the subject site (TL 2460 7000) revealed surviving traces of the southerly continuation of the Romano-British cemetery despite a high degree of truncation due to later quarrying (Macaulay 1994).

Further evidence for a cemetery beyond the southern limits of the Roman town, adjacent to Ermine Street, is known from an assessment of an area covering c.2.5ha immediately to the south of the 1994 excavation (Macaulay 1994) (TL 2470 6970). This revealed a number of archaeological features surviving beneath the remains of a ridge and furrow system (SMR 10122).

A single, isolated burial was recovered by a member of the public and reported to the AFU from the New School Site, London Road (Hinman 1996), west of the subject site, following the completion of excavations by BUFAU in 1997. This inhumation was deposited by the AFU with the CAO in 1997 (TL 2492 6990; SMR 2660A).

### **3.3 Anglo Saxon**

Excavations at Cardinal Way c.400m north-east of the subject site revealed an Early Anglo-Saxon settlement, occupied in the 6th and 7th centuries, consisting of six sunken-featured buildings, a possible droveway, a number of animal pens and possible rectangular structures, a large causewayed enclosure and an animal enclosure (see below).

### **3.4 Medieval**

Other than ridge and furrow cultivation visible within the landscape both on the subject site and in the immediate environs, there is little other evidence of medieval settlement.

### **3.5 Post-Medieval**

The subject site was outside the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Godmanchester and was only affected by development in recent years. Examination of the first, second and third edition Ordnance Survey maps indicate that the site was under pasture or arable farming during this period. In 1984 the site was levelled and topsoil and subsoil were removed and a factory was built in the centre of the area.

### **3.6 Sites and Monuments Record Summary**

*(See Figure 2)*

The Sites and Monuments Record was visited for records of previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the subject site (Fig. 2).

#### ***8a Almond Close (2000)***

TL 2500 7052. In 2000 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken at No. 8 Almond Close in advance of the construction of a dwelling. Despite the potential for the presence of Roman burials and the course of the *Via Devana*, the site produced negative evidence (Boyer and Prosser 2000).

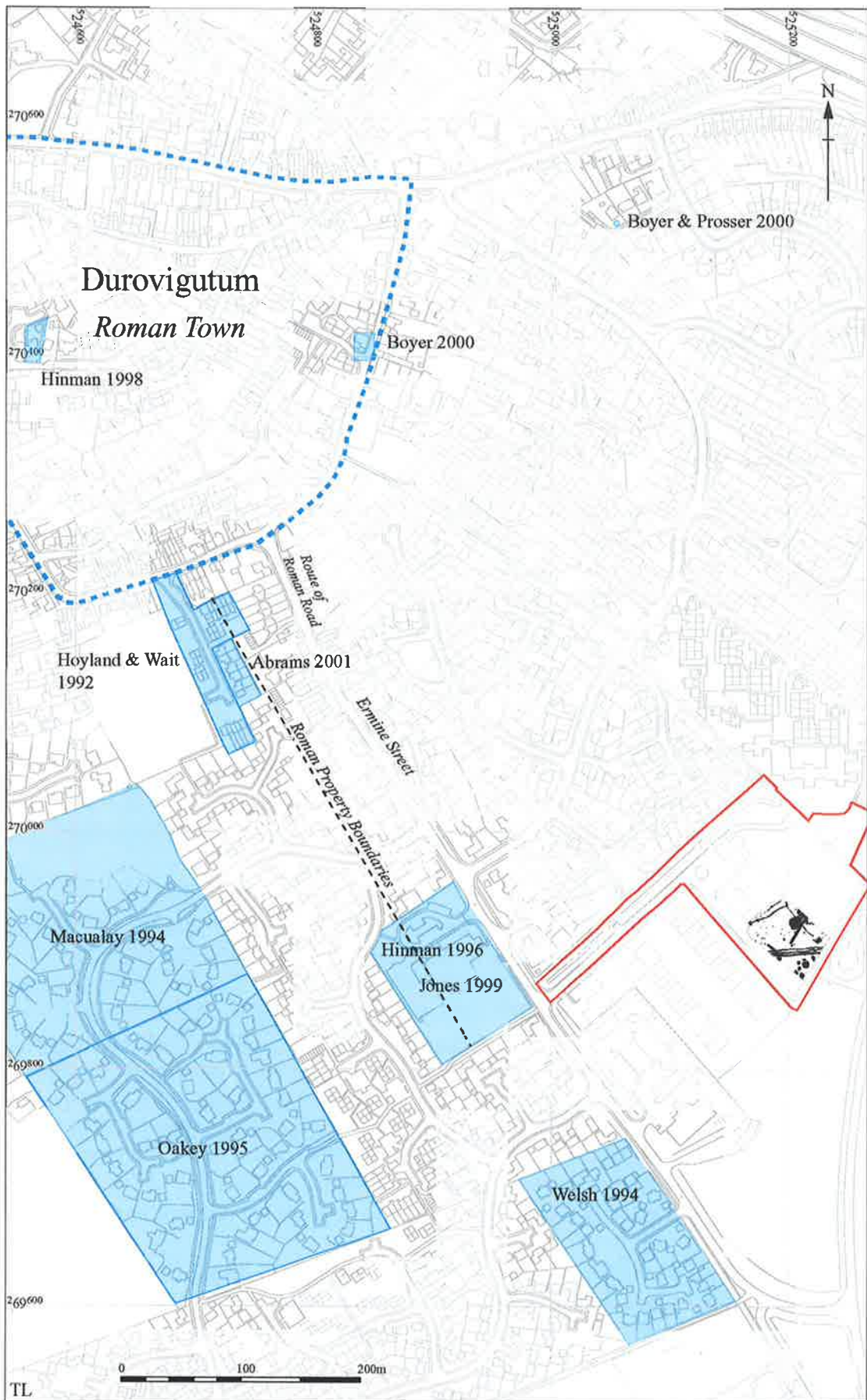


Figure 2 Site Location (red) in relation to other recently excavated sites (blue)

***Cardinal Distribution Park (1998, 1999)***

SMR 09834, 13011, TL 2550 7030. During 1998 an evaluation was carried out on land at the Cardinal Distribution Park in advance of redevelopment of the site. Two main periods of occupation were identified: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and Early to Middle Saxon. The range of features indicated settlement during both periods and included pits and ditches for the prehistoric period, and pits, ditches, postholes and a sunken-featured building of Saxon date. Unstratified Roman pottery suggested that the site was under cultivation in Roman times.

The subsequent excavation confirmed the results from the evaluation. Three main phases of activity were identified. Phase 1 was prehistoric and consisted of a few isolated pits and a possible post-built round house dating to the late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. Phase 2 produced evidence for Roman activity in the form of a ditch and a substantial curvilinear ditch (part of an enclosure?), suggesting agricultural activities. Phase 3 produced early Saxon remains including enclosures, trackways and domestic structures, both sunken-featured building and timber-framed buildings, consistent with the presence of a farmstead or small hamlet (Murray and Last 1999).

***Cardinal West (2000)***

TL 2570 7040. During 2000 an archaeological evaluation was conducted on land at Cardinal West in advance of light industrial development. The evaluation revealed the presence of a second century pit. Much of the site had been disturbed during the construction of a lorry park (Seddon 2000).

***A14/A604 Junction (1988)***

SMR 09834, 09834A, TL 255 704. The area was field-walked by County Archaeology staff in 1988. The recovery of Neolithic flint and Roman pottery prompted further investigations.

***A14/A604 Junction (1989)***

In 1989 trenching was carried out in an area at the junction of the A14 and A604 in advance of a proposed industrial development. The site produced negative evidence although residual abraded pottery dating to the Roman period suggested the presence of a settlement in the vicinity (Wait 1990a).

***A14/A604 Junction (1990)***

SMR 09902, TL 255 705. Trial trenching was carried out to the south of the 1989 evaluation area. An area of 1ha in the extreme south-western corner of the proposed development produced evidence for one inhumation burial and a dense pattern of ditches, pits and postholes that were interpreted as belonging to a small Roman farmstead (Wait 1990b).

***A14/A604 Junction (1991)***

Further investigations in the southern part of the site produced evidence for Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age activity in the form of lithic scatters. No features dating to these periods were found. During the Late Iron Age a

pattern of small ditched plots (paddocks) were present, while during the Roman period the site was a small farm (Wait 1992).

***Buttermel Meadow (1991)***

SMR 10116, TL 246 701. In 1991 a theodolite earthwork survey was conducted on land at Buttermel Meadow to the south of London Street prior to development. The site lies in an area of high archaeological potential in terms of evidence for Roman burials (below) and village earthworks consisting of a hollow way and associated house platforms. The survey produced evidence for a multi-period site, including recent pitting, the construction of the platforms and an earlier phase of banks and ditches on varying alignments (Hoyland and Kemp 1991).

***London Street (1992)***

SMR 10376, TL 2470 7020. During 1992 rescue excavations were conducted in London Street following the discovery of human bones during development. At least thirteen unfurnished inhumations were excavated, together with a series of earlier features, namely pits and ditches, possibly associated with Roman suburban activity during the second and third centuries. The extent of the cemetery was not defined due to major disturbance caused by building work in progress. The cemetery probably belonged to the later third and fourth century (Hoyland and Wait 1992).

***Sweetings Road (1994, 1995)***

SMR 11421A, TL 246 698. An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Sweetings Road in 1994 in advance of housing development. The site had undergone extensive gravel pitting during the post-medieval period. The paucity of finds, with particular reference to the Roman period, would indicate that this site was outside the area of Roman occupation. Of particular interest were the finds from a rescue trench located near the eastern boundary of the development site. This contained inhumation burials, which probably belonged to the cemetery at Porch Farm and London Street (above) (Macaulay 1994).

Further work comprising an earthwork survey and trenching was carried out to the south of the 1994 site. Evidence emerged for medieval cultivation in the form of ridge and furrow (SMR 10122) (Oakey 1995).

***London Road (1994)***

SMR 11423, TL 2510 6974. An assessment of a small area at London Road in 1994 revealed only the presence of 19th century field drains (Welsh 1994).

***London Road (1996)***

SMR CB14645, CB14646, TL 2492 6992. In 1996 an archaeological evaluation was conducted at London Road in advance of the construction of a new school complex. A preliminary earthwork survey revealed the presence of ridge and furrow. The evaluation trenches produced evidence for Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pits and ditches, in addition to evidence for Roman suburban ribbon occupation and associated activities, dating from the

late first to the fourth century AD. Plots defined by ditches flanked the western side of Ermine Street (London Road). Rubbish pits contained charred seeds indicative of agricultural activity. A possible furnace was interpreted as evidence for (unspecified) industrial activity (Hinman 1996).

***20-28 London Road (2001)***

SMR CB14808, CB14809, TL 2473 7013. An archaeological evaluation was conducted near the junction between London Street and London Road, to the east of the site excavated in 1992 (Hoyland and Wait 1992), in advance of housing development. The evaluation produced evidence for Roman activity in the form of rubbish pits from which pottery and organic remains, including cereal grains, were recovered. The significant assemblage of pottery dating from the first to the fourth century would suggest that this area was used for dumping rubbish from the Roman town. A series of post-medieval quarry pits were also recorded. These contained residual sherds of Roman pottery, and are likely to have partly obliterated the evidence for earlier occupation. The absence of human remains indicated that the western limit of the Roman inhumation cemetery excavated in 1992 at London Street did not extend as far as London Road (Abrams 2001).

***Chord Business Park (1998)***

CB 14530, SMR 13012, TL 2566 7078. In 1998 an archaeological investigation was carried out at the Chord Business Park, on land adjacent to London Road. Trial trenching identified a group of Roman features, comprising a ditch, a human burial and a posthole, all located near London Road. The fill of the grave contained (residual?) 2nd century pottery (Coates 1998).

***The Parks (1991)***

SMR 10136, 10136A, 10136B, TL 2460 7080, evaluation. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in 1991 to the west of a medieval moated site (SMR 11550) on behalf of the school who wished to purchase the land as an extension to the playing field. The area is presently known as The Parks. The site produced evidence for Roman quarry ditches that had been excavated and immediately backfilled, and for slightly later rubbish pits containing pottery (both fine and coarse ware), glass, metalwork, building debris, and painted plaster. Evidence for bone working indicates a craft/industrial aspect of the town. At the end of the second century boundary ditches were dug, probably to fence off the quarry area. The date range (Flavian-Hadrianic) provided by the pottery from the site supports Green's evidence of major building and road construction at Godmanchester during the 2nd century. The Roman features were overlain by the remains of a 12th century fish tank system associated with the moated site to the east. The fish tanks were linked-up by a series of ditches. A bank between these ditches probably served as high ground providing access to the tanks. At a later stage during the medieval period a large pond was dug, partially obliterating the old tank. The pond was served by a ditch leading to the extant pond of the moated site to the east (Gdaniec 1991).

***The Parks (1992)***

SMR 10487, 10487A, 10487B, TL 2470 7085, evaluation. In advance of an application for planning consent for a housing development an archaeological investigation was carried out at The Parks, immediately to the north of the area evaluated in 1991. Preliminary fieldwork consisted of an earthwork survey and a geophysical survey that included the 1991 area. The surveys confirmed the presence of features in the form of ridge and furrow, ponds, banks, a driveway, a series of pits and two parallel ditches possibly flanking the projected line of the *Via Devana* (Green, Site 17). The subsequent excavation confirmed the presence of a number of 2nd to 3rd century pits and ditches containing domestic refuse, an enclosure with adjacent driveway and a gravel quarry. In addition, five Roman inhumations dating to the fourth century were found near the north-western side of the site. They were interpreted as belonging to the burial ground excavated by Green in 1976 (Site 17). A foundation trench for a masonry building of probable Roman date was also identified. Later activity was represented by ridge and furrow from medieval agricultural activities. No evidence for the Roman road was found (Reynolds 1992).

***The Parks (1998)***

SMR CB14699, TL 2470 7085. In 1998 an open area excavation was carried out in the western corner of The Parks site, including the 1991 evaluation area and part of the 1992 investigation area, in advance of housing development.

Residual Neolithic activity was identified in the assemblage of unstratified flints and pottery sherds. The majority of the evidence was Roman in date, ranging from late 1st century road and property boundaries, a 2nd to 4th century building, kilns, hearths and cremations and a 4th century inhumation cemetery.

***Cow Lane (1984)***

SMR 10158A, TL 259 714. In 1984 rescue excavations were carried out in advance of gravel extraction at Cow Lane in an area of known cropmarks associated with a villa site. The investigations showed that this area was part of the villa complex at Rectory Farm with Iron Age occupation preceding the Roman field systems (Haigh 1984).

***Cow Lane (1997-1998)***

SMR CB14624, CB14625, TL 2566 7078. An evaluation and subsequent excavation were undertaken on land adjacent to Cow Lane near Rectory Farm in advance of the proposed construction of an access route into the new Cow Lane landfill site. The evaluation demonstrated the exceptional level of preservation of archaeologically significant deposits from the Neolithic and later prehistoric periods in the area. Evidence of prehistoric remains in the form of ditches, pits and postholes were interpreted as belonging to the Neolithic period ritual complex at Rectory Farm. Romano-British ditches were probably part of the field systems surrounding the later villa site.

Farming in the post-Roman period had caused some degree of truncation affecting shallow features (Hinman and Kenney 1998).

#### 4 Research Aims

Research Aims and objectives were laid out in the specification for the excavation as follows:

##### 4.1 National Research Aims

4.1.1 Contribute Towards an Understanding of Patterns of agriculture and to investigate the character, extent and morphology of prehistoric activity in the area with reference to the wider landscape context. (Thomas, A, 2003, *Communal monuments into settlement and field landscapes (2000 – 300 BC)* English Heritage Draft Research Agenda (1997) cites the change from a monument dominated landscape to a settlement-dominated landscape as one that is poorly understood both regionally and nationally. The Roman Way remains may in a small way contribute to the investigation of this research aim.

4.1.2 Contribute Towards Understanding Rural Settlement Patterns  
Settlement patterns have been identified as being key to the understanding of the economic, social and political structures of rural England. The few pits of probable prehistoric date, whether proven to be outliers from a settlement focus, or alternatively evidence for less dense and more extensive landscape utilisation, may contribute towards identifying settlement/land-use patterns for the prehistoric period.

4.1.3 The impact of the development of Roman towns on the surrounding countryside is a key theme as defined in the English Heritage Draft Research Agenda (1997). The eastern region is seen as a key area for the study of the relationship between town and countryside due to the scarcity of urban centres in comparison to areas further west. The subject site is ideally situated to address this issue due to its proximity to Roman Godmanchester and this theme has been picked up on by the local Research Aims below, as defined in the excavation Brief (Thomas 2003). The type and density of features, quantity and identity of material culture and environmental indicators can all be analysed from this perspective.

4.1.4 The study of *Relict Field Systems*  
The nationally defined research priority may be relevant to boundary features in this location.

4.1.5 To identify any evidence for activity on the site in the Saxon period, with particular reference to continuity of land-use from the Roman period and the relationship of the site to areas of known Saxon settlement in the vicinity.



## 4.2 Regional Research Aims

- 4.2.1 A framework for a regional research agenda and strategy for the Eastern Counties has been published (EAA Occasional Paper 8). The Roman Way project has the potential to contribute towards research priorities associated with settlement studies; the paucity of excavated sites especially for the middle Bronze Age and Neolithic-Bronze Age transition is noted. Perhaps of more relevance is the recognition that Late Bronze Age settlement studies has been biased towards the south of the region and particularly towards enclosed, rather than unenclosed settlement. The low-density remains suggested by the Roman way evaluation does indeed suggest potential to study unenclosed settlement and the relationship between settlement and wider landscape utilisation.
- 4.2.2 Can Relict Field Systems assumed to be Roman or earlier in date, be confirmed as such?
- 4.2.3 What happened to the countryside at the end of the Roman period? As well as the investigation of landscape data, if continuity/progression from late Roman to Saxon is suspected in boundary feature relationships, greater emphasis on environmental investigation and reconstruction needs to be considered.
- 4.2.4 The study of rural settlement diversity. This would become relevant should the small amount of putative Saxon pottery be shown, alongside relevant excavated feature types, to indicate settlement here or close by. The key question being; 'what kind of settlement size, shape and patterning is represented'?
- 4.2.5 Field Systems. A study of East Anglian field patterns is recommended, but in addition evidence for sub- regional variations needs to be considered. If boundary systems here prove to be saxon in origin or a utilisation of earlier systems in the Saxon period, then this data is significant

## 4.3 Local Research Aims

These are essentially a cascade-down of national priorities applied to the Ouse valley, itself an important landscape for the study of monumental to settled.

- 4.3.1 To place any Neolithic and Bronze Age activity within the context of the extensive monumental landscape of the Great Ouse valley.
- 4.3.2 To contribute to an understanding of Neolithic / Bronze Age land use in the Ouse Valley, its tributaries and immediate hinterland.
- 4.3.3 To investigate the character, extent and morphology of any Roman activity in the area. (Thomas, A, 2003, 4.2.2.1).

- 4.3.4 To place the evidence for Roman activity on the site within the context of the wider landscape, including Ermine Street (A14) and urban expansion along Ermine Street to the south of Durovigutum (Godmanchester). (Thomas, A, 2003, 4.2.2.2).
- 4.3.5 Knowledge of the Saxon settlement pattern around Godmanchester has been added to recently through excavations at Cardinal Distribution Park (Murray and Last 1999), which build on Green's observations in the village itself (Green 1977). If further settlement were defined here, or indeed agricultural landscape features can be identified, opportunities to further our understanding of an apparently dispersed yet dense settlement pattern and associated landscape management are presented.

## 5 METHODOLOGY

An area approximately 0.24ha was stripped of topsoil and modern overburden using a mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under the supervision of an archaeologist. The area was determined by the results of the trial trenching (Bolderson and Atkins 2003) and it was considered that this area had the greatest potential for survival of archaeological remains. The results of the evaluation within the area of the excavation have been incorporated into this report. This area was within the proposed site of the building development.

A 10m by 10m grid was set out using a Leica Total Station Theodolite, the site base plans were then hand drawn at a scale of 1:50. All features were hand excavated in accordance with the written schemes of investigation (Thomas, 2003, Roberts 2003). All features and deposits were recorded using the AFU's single context recording system. Each cut, fill and layer was allocated an individual number, and incorporated into the indices used during the evaluation. The location of the site was tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using the Leica Total Station Theodolite.

In this report deposit numbers are shown in plain text and cut numbers are in **bold** text. Context numbers 1-99 are from the excavation stage of investigations, whereas 100-304 are from the evaluation. Environmental samples were taken from a representative quantity of deposits for post-excavation analysis. Colour print, colour slide and monochrome photographs were taken as well as digital photographs using a Canon A10 Digital camera.

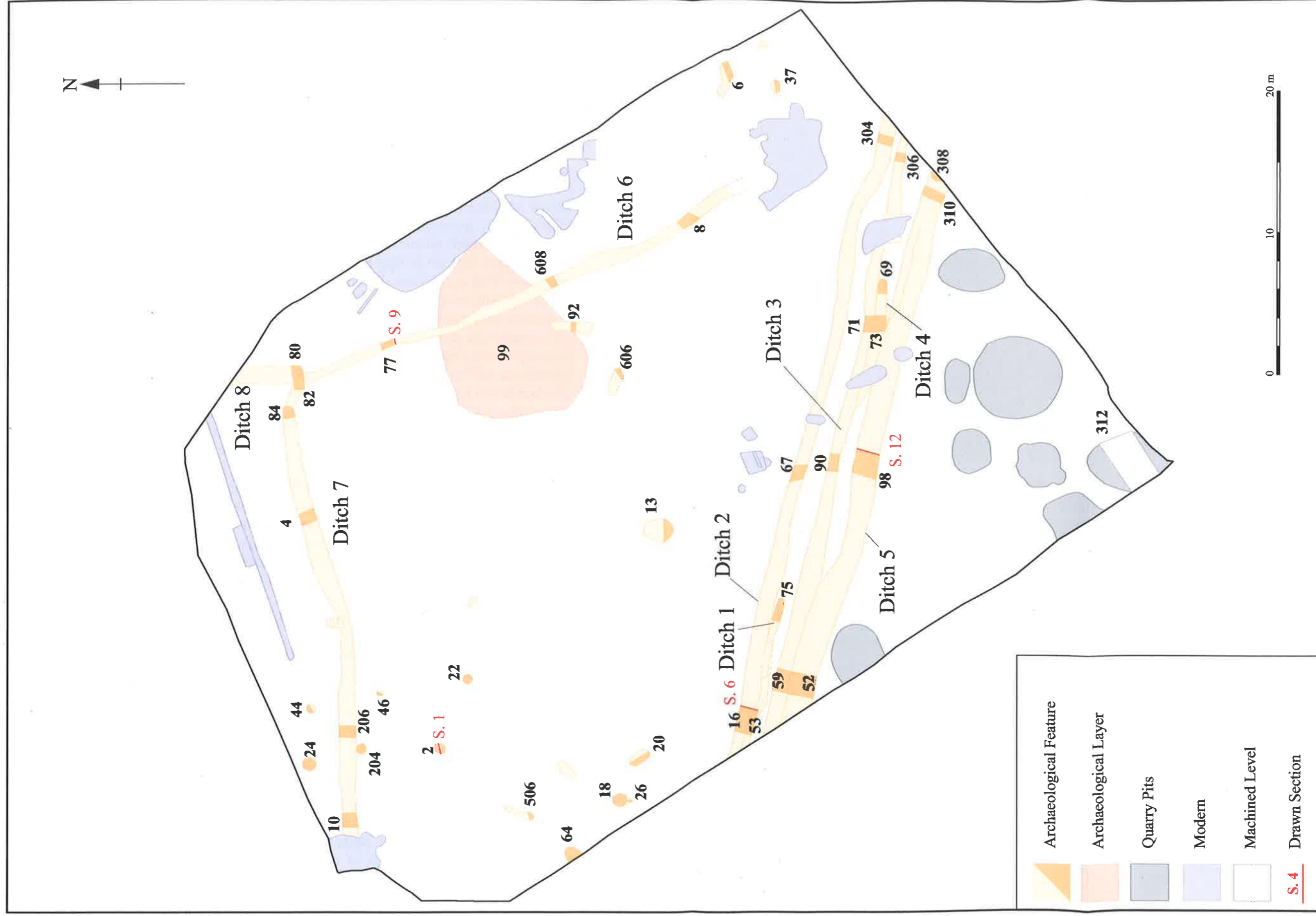


Figure 3 Site Plan

## 6 RESULTS

### 6.1 Phase 1: Early/Middle Neolithic

This phase of activity was represented by a "working hollow" (context 99) characterised by an *in-situ* knapping scatter of lithics, a ditch and a pit.

#### 6.1.1 "Working hollow" (context 99)

This feature, which covered an area approximately 10m by 11m and had a maximum depth of only 0.20m was interpreted as a natural geological feature which had been utilised as a working hollow for flint knapping. It produced 21 struck flints, mostly a result of knapping waste, trimming flakes, a core and a core fragment. The similarity of the colour and type of the flint suggested that they originated from one or two nodules and the assemblage as a whole was from no more than three or four cores. This evidence suggests that the hollow may only have been in use for a very short period, perhaps long enough to produce one or two blades or tools or that it was systematically cleaned and maintained during its use. The built up deposit within this depression contained 34 sherds of pottery. Specialist examination of the assemblage concluded that the poor condition of the pottery suggested that it was probably all redeposited and not closely datable. The fact that most of the pottery was retrieved from the surface of the deposit does not allow a firm date to be ascribed for the period of its use.

One number was assigned to this "working hollow" as it has no distinct or deliberate cut. The deposit itself was made up of a mottled dark orangish brown silty clay with moderate charcoal flecks, occasional pot sherds and worked flints. The environmental sample produced very little results, other than a possibly intrusive small copper alloy fragment (<3mm) and flecks of charcoal.

#### 6.1.2 Ditch 1 (cut 53 filled by 15 and 75 filled by 74)

This ditch survives for 10m in length and continues beyond the western limits of the excavation area and terminates to the east. This ditchline was on a north- north-west to south-south-east alignment. Moderately narrow, it had fairly steep sloping edges and concave base. No finds were retrieved from the terminal, yet one sherd of very abraded, undecorated earlier Neolithic pottery was found in context 15.

This ditch was truncated by a later ditch (ditchline 2) on the same alignment on the northern side of ditch 1, which is one of a series of later phase Bronze Age inter-cutting boundary ditches. This could be evidence to suggest that the boundaries and field systems established in the early Neolithic period were re-established or even maintained through to the Bronze Age. As only one pottery sherd was retrieved and it is the only dating evidence for this ditch, it must be considered that it could be residual.

### 6.1.3 *Pit / Tree throw (context 13, filled by 12)*

This isolated pit measured approximately 2m in length and was 1.5m wide with a maximum depth of 0.13m. The base of this feature was very irregular with several depressions likely to have been caused by tree roots. The soft silty fill, which contained flecks of charcoal, also produced two worked flints; one flake and a blade fragment, that are unlikely to have naturally collected in a natural feature. This irregular shaped pit, like the working hollow less than 10m to the north-east, could have been a utilised tree throw.

### 6.1.4 *Surface Finds*

Other evidence of activity from this period was indicated by one sherd of earlier Neolithic pottery found on the surface whilst machining. This sherd however cannot be attributed to a feature and was located close to an area of modern disturbance.

## 6.2 **Phase Two : Bronze Age**

Far more evidence exists for this phase of activity, not only within the excavation area, but activity was also identified within some of the evaluation trenches. This phase of occupation was represented by a series of re-cut boundary/enclosure ditches on a west-north-west to east-south-east orientation, two pits, three cremations and a north-west to south-east aligned ditch.

### 6.2.1 *Ditches*

Ditch 2 (contexts **16** filled by 14 and 60, **67** filled by 65 and 66 and **304** filled by 303) was on a west-north-west to east-south-east orientation. This ditch is one of six ditches of similar width and depth which were on the same alignment in the southern corner of the excavation area and was also identified in trench 3 during the evaluation (Bolderson/Atkins 2003). This ditch had a wide "U" shaped profile, with moderate sloping sides and a concave base (*see Fig. 3, Section 6*). The investigative segments through the ditch also revealed that it contained two deposits and had a consistent depth of 0.36m. Investigations showed that this ditch truncated an earlier ditch dated by its pottery to the early Neolithic period. The phasing of this ditch was somewhat complicated by the discovery of an early/middle Neolithic re-touched scraper at the western end and six sherds of undecorated Bronze Age pottery from an eastern excavated slot investigated during the evaluation. The possibility of the scraper being residual or the fact that it could be from the earlier ditch, as it was recovered from the point at which it intersects it, has to be considered.

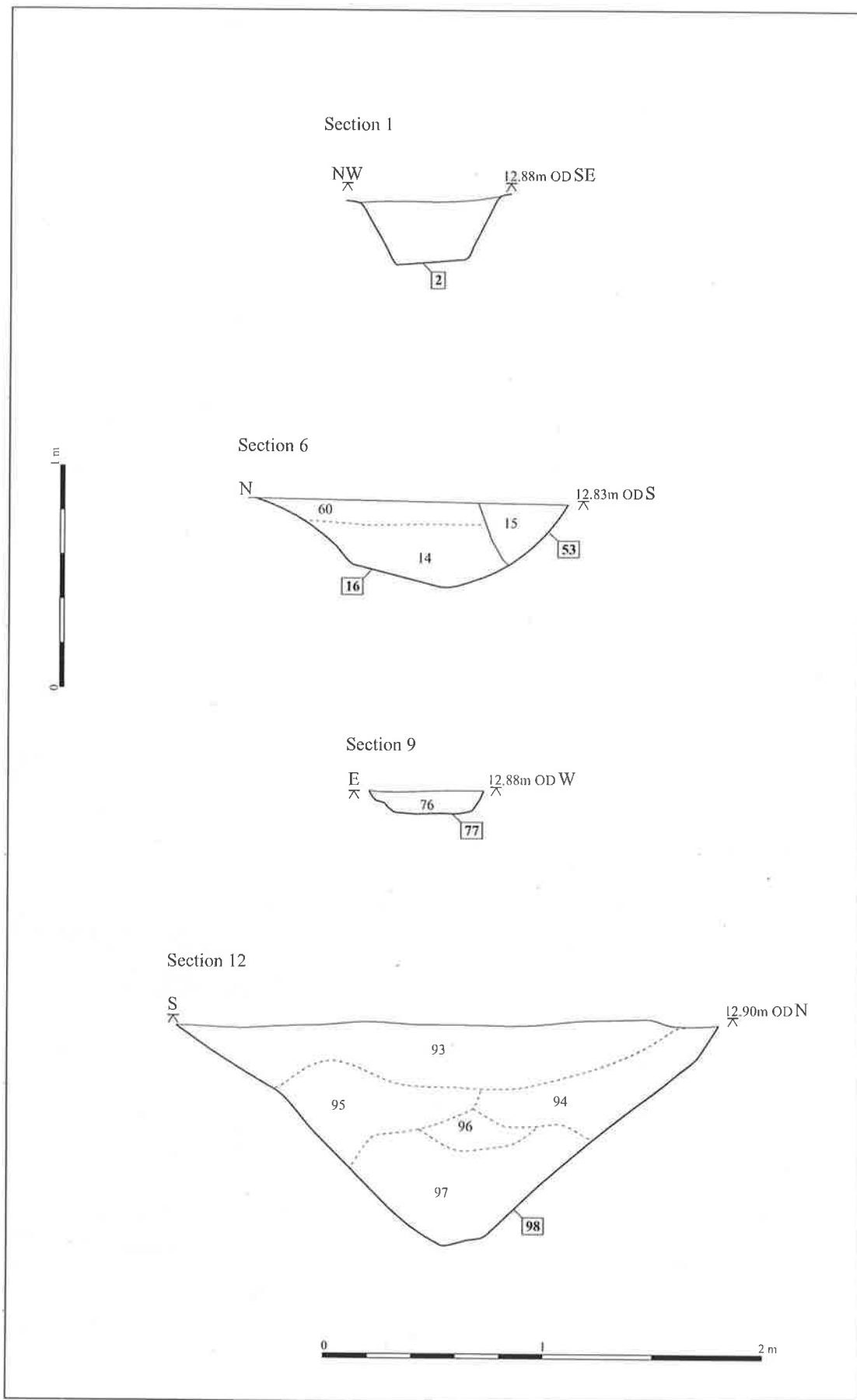


Figure 4 Section Drawings

The discovery of six sherds of pottery secures a firmer date of the ditch to the Bronze Age. It should be mentioned here that these six sherds were initially identified during the evaluation as dating to the Early Saxon period, however, upon re-examination by pottery specialists, these sherds were identified as Bronze Age in origin.

Ditch 2 apparently respects the alignment of an earlier ditch suggesting continuity of land use. Later ditches may have been used to re-establish or maintain an existing boundary over an extended period of time.

Ditch 3 (contexts 59 filled by 56, 57 and 58, 90 filled by 87, 88 and 89, 71 filled by 70 and 306 filled by 305) was on the same alignment as ditches 1 and 2. It contained one sherd of abraded, undecorated Bronze Age pottery found during the evaluation in context 305 in trench 3. Sections through this ditchline revealed that it had a wide "U" shaped profile and varied in depth between 0.16m and 0.34m with between one and three fills. This ditch was truncated by a small modern feature associated with development on the site c.20 years ago. A single 10 litre sample of soil was taken from the upper fill of cut 59. It contained numerous charcoal fragments up to 0.5cm in length but no seeds.

Ditch 3 truncated ditch 4 to the south, which contained pottery of the same date. This is further evidence to suggest that this group of ditches was continuously cut over a period of time to reinstate or maintain a significant boundary.



*Plate 1 Profile of ditches 59 and 52*

Ditch 4 (contexts **73** filled by 72 and **69** filled by 68) measured only 7m in length. It was truncated on its north side by ditch 3 and was also truncated by a small modern feature. The profile of the ditch showed that it was moderately shallow with gradual sloping edges and a concave base. Within the fill of the terminus (**69**) was one sherd of undecorated and abraded Bronze Age pottery. A sample taken from 68 contained numerous charcoal fragments up to 4mm in length, as well as half of a single vetch seed.

Ditch 5 (contexts **52** filled by 107, 108, 49, 50 and 51, **98** filled by 93, 94, 95, 96 and 97 and **310** filled by 309) was on the same alignment as ditches 1 to 4, the identification of one sherd of very abraded, undecorated pottery suggests this ditch may be broadly contemporary with those previously discussed in this phase. Ditch 5 truncated ditch 3 and was truncated by two small modern features/deposits. This is the southernmost of the aligned ditches and appears to be the most substantial in terms of both width and depth. At its widest point, this ditch measured 2.40m and has a maximum recorded depth of 1.0m (*see Fig. 3, Section 12*). The pottery suggests that this ditch also dates to the Bronze Age. It truncates a ditch, context **308**, yet no date for this ditch could be established due to lack of dating evidence.

Ditch 6 (contexts **82** filled by 81, **77** filled by 76, **608** filled by 607 and **08** filled by 07) was orientated north-west to south-east; entirely different to the alignment of ditchlines 1 to 5. A 32m long section of this ditch was revealed during the excavation; it faded out to the south-east and could not be traced again beyond an area of modern truncation, and appears to turn to the west at the north-west extreme of the feature before being truncated by a later, undated ditch (ditch 7). Ditch 6 is also truncated by the terminus of another later and undated ditch (8), which appears to continue beyond the northern edge of the excavation area on a north to south orientation. This ditch truncates the "working hollow" **99**. The excavated segments show that it had an average width of 0.67m and an average depth of 0.17m. Although the profile varied throughout the ditch, one fill was observed constantly (*see Fig. 3, Section 9*). Two sherds of very abraded pottery were retrieved from the fill of context **08**, and were dated to the Bronze Age.

Although ditch 6 contained similar pottery to ditches 2 to 5, its alignment suggests that it is unlikely to be contemporary. It may, however, be contemporary with ditches 7 and 8. Ditch 7 appears to form a right angle with ditch 6, continuing beyond the north-western corner of the excavation area.

### 6.2.2 Cremations

Cremation 1 (context **02** filled by 01) consisted of a circular pit 0.65m in width with a maximum depth of 0.28m and consisted of a dark silty clay deposit containing fragments of cremated bone, charcoal and pottery (*see Fig. 3, Section 1*). A 100% sample was collected, from which 510g of cremated bone and numerous charcoal fragments up to 1cm in length, likely to be remains from the pyre, were retrieved.



Analysis of the bone confirmed that it was human, possibly male, whose exact age was undeterminable. The total weight of the bone was much lighter than expected of a complete adult cremation, suggesting that the cremation was not complete, perhaps as a result of truncation or that only a token amount had been deposited. Examination of the colouration of the bone fragments suggests that the bone was exposed to high temperatures over several hours; a result of good pyre construction and firing techniques (Duhig).

No flint implements or evidence for a cremation vessel were recovered and the few small pottery sherds were too small for sufficient conclusions to be drawn from their analysis.



*Plate 2 Cremation 02*

Cremation 2 (context 22 filled by 21) consisted of a circular pit 0.60m in width with a maximum depth of 0.20m, and a dark silty clay deposit containing fragments of cremated bone, charcoal and pottery.

A 100% sample was taken for environmental analysis, from which 500g of cremated bone was retrieved. As with the sample from cremation 1, numerous

charcoal fragments up to 1cm in length were noted, likely to be remains from a pyre. There was no evidence of the cremations having been placed in any type of vessel, nor was there any surviving diagnostic pottery for dating.

The similarities in the bone analysis to cremation 1 are apparent with cremation 2. Again, the total weight of the bone was much lighter than expected of a complete adult cremation, suggesting that the cremation was not complete. This cremation appears to be of another adult, but age and sex are indeterminable.

Cremation 3 (context **204** filled by 203) consisted of a circular pit 0.80m in width with a maximum depth of 0.20m, with a dark silty clay fill containing fragments of cremated bone, charcoal, pottery and small pebble stones. This pit was excavated and sampled during the evaluation stage of investigations. Although similar in dimension and fill to cremations 1 and 2, it contained only a few fragments of burnt bone, mostly long-bone shafts. The colouration of the bone suggests that it was not exposed to such high temperatures during the cremation process. If this context is a genuine cremation deposit then it is likely to have been burnt and deposited in a different way to cremations 1 and 2. This cremation may have been deposited without the protection of a perishable container, or perhaps it is the remains of material discarded from the pyre site itself (Duhig, App. 3). No suggestions of sex, age range or date could be established from this cremation. There was no evidence that it had been placed in any type of vessel, nor was there any surviving diagnostic pottery for dating.

A 10 litre sample was taken from the deposit of this pit, and the residue contained numerous charcoal fragments up to 2cm in length, burnt bone and small pottery fragments. These pottery fragments, which were initially dated in the evaluation report as Anglo-Saxon were re-examined and concluded to be of Bronze Age date. The flots comprised several more charcoal fragments, modern rootlets and modern charred seeds. Single charred seeds of knotweed, *Rumex* sp and *Chenopodium* sp. were found. These seeds are very common and are found in most habitats. A single seed of bulrush, a wetland species, was present. It may well be that rushes were used as fuel, although the charcoal indicates a mixture of fuel plants including straw. A single charred, fragment of barley was also recovered, this may have been windblown or incorporated in the fuel.

### 6.2.3 Pits

Pit 1 (context **24** filled by 23 and 27) was circular and initially believed to be another cremation, with a width of 0.80m and a depth of 0.25m; it was in the same area of the site as the cremations and had the same dimensions, profile and shape in plan. The deposit appeared to have flecks of cremated bone within it, yet it was a lighter colour. Analysis of this context showed no

evidence of this being a cremation, however, it did contain the largest assemblage of pottery found during the investigations at Roman Way. The upper fill of this pit contained 6 sherds of Bronze Age pottery, including a rim sherd from a small undecorated jar with upright rim and slightly rounded shoulder. The lower deposit contained two sherds of undecorated and very abraded pottery, again dated to the Bronze Age. The pit may be contemporary with the cremations, possibly associated with the cremation process.

Pit 2 (context **20** filled by 19) was sub-circular in plan with gradual sloping edges and a flat base. It had a length of 1.18m, maximum width of 0.73m and a depth of 0.23m. This appears to be a relatively isolated feature and no function could be established. The fill contained five sherds of abraded Bronze Age pottery and the environmental sample produced numerous charcoal fragments, but no seeds or other significant indicators of the environment were present.

Pit 3 (context **18** filled by 17) was circular in plan with a maximum width of 0.80m and a depth of 0.28m. Initially thought to be a cremation (due to the similarity in dimension and deposit to cremations found within close proximity), this pit contained a very dark deposit rich in charcoal and large lumps of burnt wood, burnt flints and stones. Two samples were taken from the fill for environmental analysis. Large quantities of wood charcoal were recovered through the flotation process and residue examination. Although no evidence of the direct environment was recovered, two unburnt flint flakes were found within the sample residue. One of these worked flints was a small bladelet with an abraded striking platform. Pit 3 is strikingly similar to pit 1 and may be associated with the cremation process either directly or indirectly.

#### 6.2.4 *Miscellaneous*

In addition to the features recorded, several sherds of Bronze Age pottery were also identified from the upper layers of machining of the evaluation trenches. Although these artefacts cannot be attributed to any specific features, finds from trenches 4 and 7 located between 25m and up to 50m to the north and north-east of the excavation area indicate that there may have been more activity in that direction. This was probably heavily disturbed during development of the land during the 1980s.

### 6.3 **Phase Three: Post-medieval**

This phase of activity on the site was represented by a number of large circular and sub-circular features in the southern corner, interpreted as quarry pits and tentatively dated to the post-medieval period.

One of these possible quarry pits was investigated. Context **312** was excavated by a mechanical digger during the evaluation stage of investigations and was not revealed to its full extent in plan. It continued beyond the edge of the area of excavation and measured approximately 4.5m by 6m and was sub-circular in plan with very steep edges. The base was not found. The fill was a light-mid-orange brown sandy silt with no obvious inclusions.

No finds were retrieved and no paper record or plan was made at the time. When the site entered the excavation phase, several more of these features were revealed in plan in the same corner of the site, suggesting a complex of large pits for the extraction of clay or gravels. Examination of the section revealed a sequence of sterile fills which were a result of natural silting up over a period of time following abandonment.

Because these possible pits did not produce any dating evidence, it is not possible to securely date them to the post-medieval period. The only evidence for this tentative date comes from the discovery of post-medieval gravel quarrying pits at Sweetings Road (Oakley 1994; 1995), approximately 400m to the west of the subject site.

One definitely modern feature was recorded, a pit **(6)**.

#### **6.4 Undated Features**

##### Postholes/natural features

Several sub-circular features were identified, seemingly concentrated in the south-west and central areas of the site. Several of these were investigated through excavation to establish if they were in fact genuine archaeological features or natural geological anomalies. Over thirty of these features were excavated and fifteen of them were allocated numbers and fully recorded. None of the recorded features are datable, and appeared quite randomly spaced and located, suggesting that these were natural features. These have not been represented on the site plan within this report.

Ditch 7 (contexts **10** filled by 09 and 11, **206** filled by 205, **04** filled by 03 and **84** filled by 83) was aligned approximately east to west and measured 35m in length with an average depth of 0.32m. This ditch was truncated by modern intrusions close to the western limit of the site and in turn, truncated ditch 6, where it terminated to the east. Its depth remained constant, as did its profile. Despite several sections being excavated through this ditch during the evaluation and excavation phases, no dating evidence was found.

It is possible that this is evidence of reinstatement or maintenance of ditch 6 where it has turned to form an east to west boundary. It could also be argued that this later ditch, together with ditch 8, form another enclosure attached on to the north, or that it acted as a sub division of the area demarcated by ditches 6 and 8.

Ditch 8 (context 80 filled by 79) was aligned approximately north to south and measured 4m in length, continuing into the northern limit of the excavated area and terminating to the south where it truncated 82, (ditch 6). Ditch 80 was 1.27m wide and 0.25m deep. It had moderately steep sloping edges and a flat base. The fill was mid brown silty clay.

It is possible that this ditch was contemporary with ditch 7; it appears to be aligned at a right angle to it and may be part of an enclosure, possibly an addition to the enclosed area to the south formed by ditches 6 and 7. It could also be suggested that this ditch is a reinstatement or recut of ditch 6. Since it was significantly deeper it could easily have removed any evidence of that ditch 6 originally continued further north.

A number of pits (26, 36, 44, 46, 64, 92 and 606) contained no dating evidence, and were otherwise undistinguished. Another pit (506) was a possible natural feature, perhaps a tree throw, and did not appear to have been utilised

## 7 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Excavations on land at Roman Way, Godmanchester have revealed significant prehistoric, and most significantly Bronze Age archaeology, little of which has been recorded previously in the Godmanchester area outside Rectory Farm (Hinman and Kenney 1998).

The Early to Middle Neolithic phase was represented by a working hollow, which may have been a natural depression utilised for flint working. It could also be suggested that the hollow was a large tree bole, a result of localised land clearance by burning. This argument is supported by the large amount of charcoal in its fill. A short, terminating ditch was also assigned to this period based on pottery within its fill. This may represent the earliest enclosed field systems or settlement boundaries, which appear to have been maintained until, or reinstated, in the Bronze Age. However, it is more likely that this tiny fragment was residual in the ditch, since Neolithic field systems are rare.

The Bronze Age activity on the site is also of significance. It appears that the enclosure/boundary system represented by at least four ditches on a north-north-west to east-south-east alignment may have served an important function, since it apparently defines the boundary between an area containing no archaeological features and one within which significant archaeological features were encountered. Evidence of periodic reinstatement or maintenance of the boundaries in the form of re-cuts may also suggest that these land divisions were more than a passing phase.

The area, which appears to be enclosed by ditch 6, turning at a right angle into an undated ditchline on an east to west orientation, may be forming an enclosed area for the cremations. A later, again undated, ditch on a north to south alignment, which truncates the corner of the square enclosure, may be evidence of the landscape being subdivided or the addition of another enclosure to the north. It is difficult to say more about the extent or function of these enclosures due to the limits of the site and lack of evidence from the immediate areas.

Analysis of the three cremations revealed that two of the cremations were burnt at extremely high temperatures over a long period of time, indicating well-constructed and well-maintained pyres. These cremations were tentatively dated to the Bronze Age by the small amount of pottery recovered from one. Only two of the cremation contents contained significant amounts of bone for interpretation. Two certainly contained the remains of adults; one was identified as being male. The third cremation may not have been a cremation at all, but the remains from a cremation pyre or a cremation deposited in a different way. Without knowing how far the cremations extend to the west, it is not possible to say whether these are isolated burials or are simply on the edge of a larger cemetery. If these were isolated burials, it would not be unusual to find them on the edge of an enclosure, rather than in a designated cemetery.

The absence of any Roman features on the site was initially surprising given the Roman occupation and development of the Godmanchester area. However, the subject site is some distance from the Roman town of Godmanchester (*Durovigutum*), and despite the presence of 'ribbon development' extending south of the town adjacent to Ermine Street no occupational material was recovered from the current development area and the only Roman pottery sherd found was unstratified. This pottery may have found its way here as a result of manuring the fields around the town. The location of the site is set far enough back from the Roman Road to not have been affected by any development at all and it could be suggested that it was land set out for pasture or agricultural use. The later (and undated) ditches running at right angles in the northern area of the site might have dated to this period and mark out divided plots of land for such use.

It must be considered that the dating of most of the features relies on a fairly small assemblage of pottery; the majority of which was highly abraded and therefore does not necessarily provide reliable dating evidence. However, the absence of any later material does support an early date for these features.

Approximately 700m north-east of Roman Way, excavations at Rectory Farm (McAvoy, in preparation) are of particular relevance to the subject site. The excavations revealed a highly significant prehistoric ritual complex which included a square ditched enclosure, a rectangular enclosure and a cursus. The projected line of the cursus possibly passes through or close to the subject site. The Neolithic features at Roman Way may be associated with a wider ritual landscape. At Rectory Farm, pit clusters were located close to the intersection

of the main enclosure and the cursus, and cremations were found near to a small ring ditch between the cursus ditches, about 200m south of this intersection. At Roman Way, cremations were also discovered, allowing another comparison between the two sites. Bronze Age cremations are often sited close to Neolithic ritual monuments, on prominent visible points on high ground and river valleys; this is possibly the case with these two sites.

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**APPENDIX 1: THE PREHISTORIC POTTERY ASSESSMENT**  
**Sarah Percival (Norfolk Archaeological Unit).**

Evaluation trenches and full excavation at Roman Way, Godmanchester produced a small assemblage of 69 prehistoric sherds weighing 207g. The evaluation trenches produced thirteen sherds of Bronze Age pottery weighing 37g from five features. The excavation recovered 56 sherds weighing 170g from eight excavated features and from surface collection. The excavation also produced a small quantity of Bronze Age pottery (20 sherds 83g) but the majority of the sherds dated to the earlier Neolithic (36 sherds 87g).

Table 1: Quantity and weight of pottery by ceramic period.

<i>Spotdate</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>% total quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>% of total weight</i>
Earlier Neolithic	36	52.17%	87	42.03%
Bronze Age	33	47.83%	120	57.97%
<i>Total</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>100.00%</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>100.00%</i>

The assemblage contains only fragmentary sherds and is mostly in poor condition, 12% (24g) is very abraded and 68% (140g) is abraded. Only three rim sherds were found. There are no base sherds or decorated sherds. In the absence of diagnostic sherds the pottery was dated by fabric type.

**Methodology**

The assemblage was analysed using the pottery recording system described in the Norfolk Archaeological Unit Pottery Recording Manual and in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1992). 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 present. 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 Cambridge Archaeological Field Unit.

**Earlier Neolithic**

All the earlier Neolithic pottery was found during the full excavation phase. Thirty-six sherds of probable earlier Neolithic pottery weighing 87g were recovered from three features. The assemblage was characterised by fabric tempered with burnt crushed flint. One rim sherd was recovered from surface finds (context 86), from a vessel with an out-turned rim possibly a Plain Bowl (cf. Healy 1988, fig.66, P72). One undecorated body sherd was found in ditch 53, and thirty-four undecorated body sherds weighing 69g were found in working hollow 99. The poor condition of the

sherds suggests that they were probably redeposited. The assemblage is highly fragmentary and is not closely datable.

Table 2: Quantity and weight of earlier Neolithic pottery by feature.

Feature	Cut number	Fill	Quantity	Weight (g)
ditch	53	15	1	1
surface finds		86	1	17
working hollow		99	34	69
<b>Total</b>			<b>36</b>	<b>87</b>

### The Bronze Age

The Bronze Age assemblage comprised 33 sherds weighing 120g. The sherds were identified by the presence of grog, or crushed pottery, inclusions which are highly diagnostic of Bronze Age pottery from East Anglia and beyond.

The sherds were recovered from twelve contexts, five from evaluation trenches and the remainder from full excavation.

Thirteen sherds weighing 37g were found during the evaluation trenching, four very small sherds were found in a layer (context 102) in the excavation. A possible boundary ditch (cut 304) contained six unabraded sherds weighing 25g, suggesting a possible Bronze Age date for this feature.

During the excavation most of the sherds were found in pit fills. The largest single assemblage, comprising eight sherds weighing 33g, came from two fills of a single pit (cut 24 fills 23 and 27). The assemblage included a rim sherd from a small, undecorated jar with upright rim and slightly rounded shoulder. The sherds were highly abraded suggesting that they may have been redeposited. A second pit contained five small, abraded sherds weighing 18g (pit 20). Four sherds were found in ditch fills (52 and 69) and three from a working hollow (99). The poor condition of the sherds suggests that they probably spent some time on the surface, perhaps in midden deposits before being redeposited in the features. The assemblage is highly fragmentary and is not closely datable.

## Prehistoric Pottery Catalogue

<i>Context</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Dsc</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>Ab</i>	<i>Spotdate</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Feature</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Evaluation/ excavation</i>
7	G1	U	2	10	V	Bronze Age		ditch	8	excavation
15	F1	U	1	1	V	earlier Neolithic		ditch	53	excavation
19	G2	U	5	18	Y	Bronze Age		pit	20	excavation
23	G2	R	1	8	Y	Bronze Age		pit	20	excavation
23	G2	U	4	10	Y	Bronze Age		pit	20	excavation
23	Q1	U	1	11	V	Bronze Age		pit	20	excavation
27	G2	U	2	4	Y	Bronze Age		cremation pit	24	excavation
49	G2	U	1	2	V	Bronze Age	curved	ditch	52	excavation
68	F1	U	1	8	Y	Bronze Age		ditch	69	excavation
86	F2	R	1	17		earlier Neolithic	plain bowl	surface finds		excavation
99	F1	U	34	69	Y	earlier Neolithic		working hollow		excavation
99	G2	U	3	12	Y	Bronze Age		working hollow		excavation
102	G2	U	4	1	Y	Bronze Age	burnt/?crucible	layer		evaluation trench
303	G1	U	6	25		Bronze Age		boundary ditch	304	evaluation trench
305	G2	U	1	6	Y	Bronze Age		ditch – drainage?	306	evaluation trench
401	G1	R	1	1		Bronze Age	rounded	modern feature		evaluation trench
701	G1	U	1	4	Y	Bronze Age		modern feature		evaluation trench
			69	207						

**Dsc** = description of form

Fabric codes as above.

U = undecorated body sherd

R = rim

**Ab** = abraded

Y = yes

V = very

### ***Fabric Descriptions***

G1: Moderate, medium, sub-rounded, *grog*; Sparse, small, rounded, *quartz-sand*. Exterior surface orange/yellow; core and interior dark brown/black.

G2: Moderate, medium, sub-rounded, *grog*; Sparse, medium, sub-angular, *flint*. Sparse, small, rounded, *quartz sand*. Exterior, core and interior dark orange brown/black.

F1: Moderate, medium to large, sub-angular, *flint*; Sparse, small, rounded, *quartz-sand*. Exterior surface orange/yellow; core and interior dark brown/black.

F2: Moderate, medium to large, sub-angular, *flint*; Sparse, small, rounded, *quartz-sand*. Exterior surface orange/yellow; core and interior dark brown/black.

Q1: Sparse, small, rounded, *quartz-sand*; Moderate, large to medium, sub-rounded, *grog*; Exterior, core and interior dark brown/black.

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## **APPENDIX 2: LITHIC ASSESSMENT**

**Barry John Bishop**

### **Introduction**

Excavations at Roman Way, Godmanchester recovered 27 struck flints. This report quantifies and describes the material by context, suggests a chronological framework, includes some general, preliminary impressions and interpretations of the material and recommends any further work required. As the material was only cursorily examined and no statistically based technological, typological or metrical analyses were attempted, a more detailed examination may alter or amend any of the interpretations offered here.

### **Description**

Context 12: Fill of natural feature **13**

Primary narrow flake from thermally shattered nodule, bulbar end missing. Possible use-wear traces on left lateral margin.

Abraded blade fragment with severe bashing to right lateral margin. This damage had occurred after a significant time after the blade was made. Although superficially resembling retouch it is perhaps most likely accidental, such as through trampling or ploughing or other mechanical means.

Context 14: Fill of ditch **16**

Scraper made on large flake or core fragment with straight, rather irregular, steep retouch along one edge.

Context 17 Sample <6>: Fill of pit **18**

Small bladelet with an abraded striking platform, distal missing.

Context 78: Surface Finds

Broken Distal Blade Fragment

End Scraper with steeply worked concave distal, some evidence it was in the process of being 'sharpened'. Some additional blunting along lateral margins including two small notches at bulbar end, possibly to aid hafting. Bulbar end is missing and it is conceivable that it broke in its haft during the resharpener.

Context **99**: Layer (working hollow)

This feature produced twenty-one struck flints, mostly consisting of irregular knapping waste and including small trimming flakes (seven), decortication flakes (two), irregular 'maintenance' flakes (two) and a core and core fragment. Also present were five blades, two flakes with blade technological characteristics, and an end

scraper. All of this material was in very good condition and some pieces were so similar in flint colour and cortex type that, although not refitting, it was likely they derived from the same nodules. Nevertheless, differences in the assemblage as a whole suggests that the products from at least three different cores were present.

No chronologically diagnostic pieces were present but technologically the assemblage was homogenous and characteristic of an approach whereby cores were carefully shaped in an attempt to systematically produce narrow and thin flakes and blades. The core consisted of a small rounded pebble reduced 'keel' style, one side primarily to provide and improve a striking platform, which was then used to produce numerous small flakes and blades. The core fragment was similar in that it had been worked 'keel' style, although its small size means that it may actually represent initial attempts at producing a bifacially worked tool, akin to an arrowhead blank, that broke during manufacture. The end scraper had broken, losing its proximal end, and curiously had two deeply cut notches set either side of the scraping edge. It is unclear what this was for although it would appear to represent a very specialized implement.

### **Discussion**

The bulk of the lithic assemblage consisted of a small but apparently more or less, *in situ* 'knapping scatter', located in a hollow. Although no chronologically diagnostic pieces were recovered, the technological traits of the assemblage would indicate a date of around the fourth millennium BC. A few other struck flints were recovered from scattered contexts, predominantly consisting of scrapers and blades. Again no chronologically diagnostic implements were present although the blades were unlikely to have been made long after the Early-Middle Neolithic, and although scrapers are usually notoriously difficult to date, these examples would fit convincingly into Neolithic assemblages, suggesting that these pieces are broadly contemporary with the assemblage from layer 99.

The evidence from the struck flint would suggest a broadly contemporary phase of activity occurring around the fourth millennium BC involving the extraction and reduction of flint raw materials. It would appear that most of the useful products had been removed for use elsewhere, although there was a relatively high proportion of scrapers present. Although this could indicate that activities involving scraper use were being undertaken, it was interesting to note that all of the scrapers had broken, which although not particularly unusual, could indicate that along with raw material acquisition, tool repair and replacement was also occurring.

### **Recommendations**

Due to its size and paucity of chronologically diagnostic artefacts, this report is all that is required of the material for the purposes of the archive and no further analytical work is proposed. The assemblage is of some significance in that it represents evidence for Neolithic landscape exploitation, which could complement the more detailed work undertaken on the complex, organised ceremonial landscapes of the Fen basin to the north. Therefore, a short description of the assemblage, preferably including illustrations of the more technologically diagnostic flintwork, should be included in any published account of the fieldwork.

Should further fieldwork be considered attention should focus on obtaining as large and closely contexted lithic assemblage as possible, in order to attempt to understand the nature, extent and chronology of any prehistoric lithic-based activities. Should sufficient quantities of lithic artefacts be procured from any future work, full metrical, typological and technological analysis may be warranted, and, through consideration of other recovered artefact groups and environmental based evidence, this information should be incorporated into establishing as detailed and complete an understanding as possible of the prehistoric exploitation of the area.



### APPENDIX 3: CREMATED HUMAN BONE ASSESMENT

**Corinne Duhig** PhD MIFA, Anglia Polytechnic University and Wolfson College, Cambridge

Methods used are those of Cho *et al.* and Ubelaker for general bone analysis and of McKinley and Mays for cremations (Cho *et al.* 1996; Mays 1998: Chapter 11; McKinley 1989; Ubelaker 1989). For each specimen the material is passed through sieves of 4mm and 2mm, the largest fraction (>4 mm) fully sorted, the medium size (between 2 and 4 mm) sorted for diagnostic fragments and the smallest (< 2 mm, usually dust, minute flakes of unidentifiable bone and soil particles) not examined. Pebbles, pea grit, concreted soil lumps and other extraneous material is often found in cremations and is removed during the sorting process.

#### Cremation 1 (sample 2)

After removal of non-bone material the sample weighed 404g. The usual weight range for ancient cremations is approximately 200 to 2000g, average 800g, and modern complete cremations are between 1600 and 3600g, so this sample is too light to be a complete adult skeleton and is at the lower end of the range for archaeological specimens. This is presumably due to the horizontal truncation which was observed at the site.

Although stained by soil the bone is mainly white in colour, showing that burning was sufficient to remove almost all the organic content of the bone, which would have required a temperature of at least 645°C and combustion over several hours with adequate oxygen access (Mayne Correia 1997; Mays 1998: 216, Table 11.1; McKinley 1989). Pyre technology in this case was therefore very good, with a well-constructed, well-maintained pyre. There are a few small areas of the internal surface of long-bone shafts which are blue-grey or black, indicating less complete burning because these areas tend to be protected from the fire by the thickness of the outer layer of the bone.

Stirring and raking of the pyre improves completeness of combustion by bringing rogue bones back into the fire and improving oxygen access, but also breaks up the fragile, hot bones. Some of the fragments of this specimen are quite large, up to 7cm at maximum dimension, suggesting that stirring was not carried out to any great extent.

All areas of the skeleton are present, in the proportions shown below:

	<i>weight (g)</i>	<i>% of whole</i>	<i>% of identified bone</i>
skull	90	22.3	26.5
axial skeleton	52	12.9	15.3
limbs	198	49.0	58.2
all identified bone	340	84.2	100.0
unidentified	SF 0 + 64 64	=	15.8
TOTAL	404	100.0	

The proportions of an average modern cremation are: skull 18.2%, axial skeleton 23.1%, limbs/extremities 58.7% [McKinley, 1989 #516: 68]. It can be seen, therefore, that in this case the skull is over-represented and the axial skeleton severely under-represented. The axial skeleton is the most fragile area of the skeleton, so is the most likely to be damaged and lost into the small fraction. There is no small fraction in this cremation but 16% is unidentifiable, suggesting that much of this material is from the axial skeleton (it is probably mainly rib, which in very small fragments is difficult to distinguish from fragments of the shafts of the smaller long-bones).

The absence of a small fraction is inexplicable, even given that the bone was not badly broken — there is always some ashy residue. Perhaps it was lost through a sieve of greater than 2 mm mesh during post-excavation processing?

A large portion of the nuchal area of the skull is present, with a large nuchal crest, which is a male characteristic. No other features are available to determine sex, so the sex can only be suggested as possibly male. Age, other than 'adult', is not determinable.

#### Cremation 2 (sample 4)

Removal of extraneous material left a cremation of 402g, of similarly low weight to the previous. Burning was equally thorough, with only a few blue-grey fragments and most of the deposit white but soil-stained. The largest fragments did not reach the size of those in cremation (1), but were the common size (in this author's experience) of 2–3cm; the largest were long-bone shaft fragments of approximately 5cm in length but only 1cm wide.

	<i>weight (g)</i>	<i>% of whole</i>	<i>% of identified bone</i>
skull	92	22.9	23.9
axial skeleton	36	9.0	9.3
limbs	257	63.9	66.8
all identified bone	385	95.8	100.0
unidentified	SF 17 + 0 17	= 4.2	
TOTAL	402	100.0	

The table above shows that in this case it is limbs and skull which are over-represented at the expense of the axial skeleton, but the small fraction is not sufficient to contain the missing material. It is suggested that there had been either differential deposition — the skull and limbs being preferentially recovered from the pyre and deposited — or selective layering of the deposit and removal of the upper layer containing the axial bones by truncation.

This is another adult specimen but age range and sex are not determinable.

### **Cremation 3 (sample 1)**

Only a few fragments are present in this sample, mostly long-bone shafts, with a total weight of 7g and the largest fragment being only 1.5m long. It differs from the other two cremations also in that the colour is white, blue-grey and black — indicating poorer burning — the fragments are abraded and there were small pieces of charcoal present. If this is a genuine cremation deposit then it was burnt and deposited in a different way to the others, perhaps without the protection of even a perishable container, but it might be some material discarded from the pyre site and not formally disposed of.

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#### APPENDIX 4: ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

Sample Number	Context Number	FLOT: Volume in ml	FLOT: Comments	RESIDUE: Comments
2	1	950	Numerous charcoal fragments up to 1cm. No seeds seen = wood charcoal.	510g cremated bone.
3	19	30	Numerous charcoal fragments up to 1cm. No seeds seen.	Nothing.
4	21	200	Numerous charcoal fragments up to 1cm. No seeds seen = wood charcoal.	500g cremated bone.
5	23	70	Numerous charcoal fragments up to 1cm. Single <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. 1 possible grain but very degraded. Lots of roots.	Burnt flint.
6	17	800	20% scanned. No seeds seen = wood charcoal.	40 litres of burnt flint and stone. Two unburnt flint flakes recovered. One 3cm and the other 1cm. No bone.
7	17	110	All wood charcoal.	Burnt stones up to 6cm. Sub-sampled – small bag of charcoal in environmental fridge.
11	65	30	Some charcoal fragments up to 1cm. No seeds seen.	Nothing.
14	57	Dirty	Numerous charcoal fragments up to 0.5cm. No seeds seen.	Nothing.
15	68	50	Numerous charcoal fragments up to 4mm. Single half a vetch seed ( <i>Vicia</i> sp).	Nothing.
16		10	Few specks of charcoal. Nothing significant.	Nothing except tiny (3mm) copper alloy fragment.

APPENDIX 5: CONTEXT LIST

Context	Same as	Cut	Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
1		2	Fill	pit	cremation	0.65	0.65	0.28	
2		2	cut	pit	cremation	0.65	0.65	0.28	Circular in plan, steep sided concave based "U" profile
3	83, 9, 205		fill	ditch	disuse	1	1.2	0.38	Dark brown, clayey silt (50/50%), occasional stones
4	84, 10, 206		cut	ditch	boundary / enclosure	1	1.2	0.38	Linear in plan, gradual rounded E-W orientation, rounded "U" shape profile
5		6	fill	modern feature		1.45	0.4	0.11	Brownish grey sandy clay, occasional chalk and charcoal flecks, two small fragments of modern brick
6			cut	modern	modern	1.45	0.4	0.11	Sub-circular, gently sloping sides, flat based, E-W orientation, wide, shallow flat bottomed "U" profile
7	607, 76, 81	8	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.65	0.16	Light greyish brown sandy clay, occasional flecks of charcoal, occasional stones, one pottery fragment, compact, 0.16m / extent of cut
8	608, 77, 82		cut	ditch	boundary / enclosure	1	0.65	0.16	Linear, gentle slope, concave, SE-NW, "V" shaped
9	3, 83, 205	10	fill	ditch	disuse	1.2	1	0.2	Mid brown with orange sandy mottling, sandy clayey-silt occasional - moderate flint, gravel and pebble stones, compact, 0.20m / upper fill of ditch
10	4, 10, 206		cut	ditch	- boundary	1.2	1	0.3	Linear, moderate slope, narrow, concave base, E-W orientation, wide "U" profile
11		10	fill	ditch	disuse	1.2	1	0.1	Mid reddish brown, silty sand, frequent flint stones and gravels, occasional flint pebbles, compact, 0.10m / primary fill of ditch
12		13	fill	natural feature	natural	1.25	1.5	0.13	Mid greyish brown, sandy silt, occasional rounded and sub angular flint gravels, moderately soft, but not loose, 0.13m / extent of feature
13			cut	natural	natural	1.25	1.5	0.13	Sub rectangular, irregular
14	66	16	fill	ditch	disuse	1.75	0.7	0.3	Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, moderate pea grit flint gravels, occasional flint pebbles, compact, 0.30m / main and lower fill of ditch
15	74	53	fill	ditch	disuse	1.75	0.6	0.25	Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, occasional sub-angular flint gravels, moderate - loose, 0.25m / full extent of cut

Context	Same as	Cut	Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
16	67		cut	ditch	boundary	1.75	0.7	0.36	Linear, concave, gently rounded sides, E-W orientation, wide and rounded - "bowl"-shaped
17		18	fill	pit	rubbish	0.8	0.8	0.28	Mixed dark brown and dark blackish brown, sandy silt, frequent medium - large stones, frequent charcoal lumps and fleck, occasional burnt clay flecks, very compact and hard, 0.28m / full extent of cut
18			cut	pit	rubbish	0.8	0.8	0.28	Circular, moderately steep break of slope, sided rounded but with irregular, depressions, wide shallow "U" profile
19		20	fill	pit	disuse	1.18	0.73	0.23	Mid brown, silty clay, occasional stones - more concentrated towards the base, occasional charcoal flecks, moderately compact, 0.23m / full extent of cut
20			cut	pit	rubbish?	1.18	0.73	0.23	Oval, flat based, shallow bowl shaped with steep edges
21		22	fill	pit	cremation	0.6	0.6	0.2	Blackish brown, clayey silt, occasional - moderate charcoal flecks, occasional - moderate fired clay lumps, occasional burnt bone fragments and flecks, moderate, 0.20m / extent of cut
22			cut	pit	burial	0.6	0.6	0.2	Circular, steep sided, concave based, "U"-shaped
23		24	fill	pit	cremation? Disuse?	0.8	0.8	0.25	Mid brown, silty clay, moderate charcoal flecks, occasional small and medium sized flint stones, moderate, 0.10m / upper fill of pit
24		24	cut	pit	cremation?	0.8	0.8	0.25	Circular, very steep sided, flat based, steep sided "U" shape profile
25		26	fill	post hole	disuse	0.27	0.23	0.04	Mid grey brown sandy silt, occasional small pea grit stones, occasional charcoal flecks, soft, 0.04m / extent of cut
26			cut	post hole	structural?	0.27	0.23	0.04	Sub circular, steep sided, flat based, very shallow, wide irregular "U" shape profile
27		24	fill	pit	cremation??	0.8	0.8	0.15	Mixed brown clay, occasional stones, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional burnt clay, occasional burnt bones, very compact - hard to excavate using trowel, 0.15m / lower and main extent of fill
28		28	fill/cut	natural	root disturbance	0.95	0.25	0.08	Sub-circular, gently sloping sides, irregular.
29		30	fill	natural?	disuse?	0.47	0.4	0.08	Mottled orangish grey brown sandy silt, occasional charcoal flecks, soft - lightly compact, 0.08m / extent of cut
30			cut	natural	natural	0.47	0.4	0.08	Sub circular, moderately steep sides, flat base, shallow bowl shape
31		33	fill	post hole	post?	0.2	0.2	0.24	Darkish brown silty clay, moderate - frequent charcoal flecks and lumps, occasional small and medium sized stones, compact, 0.24m / upper fill located in the centre, vertically
32		33	fill	posthole	post packing	0.53	0.2	0.24	Mid brown silty clay, occasional small and medium sized stones, occasional charcoal flecks, very compact, 0.20m / main fill, packing around (31)

Context	Same as	Cut Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
33		cut	post hole	structural?	0.53	0.53	0.24	Sub-circular, gradual sides, narrow, rounded wide, round bottomed "V" Greyish brown clayish silt, occasional flecks and pieces of organic material, 0.20m / extent of feature
34		fill	natural	natural	0.95	0.95	0.2	
35		cut	natural	tree bole	0.95	0.95	0.2	Circular, steep sides, irregular base
36		fill	pit / modern feature	disuse	0.54	0.74	0.15	Dark blackish grey-brown, silt, occasional small stones, occasional charcoal flecks, moderately firm and compact, 0.15m / extent of cut
37		cut	pit / modern disturbance	rubbish/modern	0.54	0.74	0.15	Sub-circular /rectangular, moderately steep sides, irregular/concave base, irregular depressions
38		fill	post hole	post	0.26	0.26	0.3	Darkish brown silty clay, moderate - frequent charcoal flecks and lumps, occasional small and medium sized stones, compact, 0.30m /upper fill located in the centre, vertically
39		fill	post hole	post packing	0.6	0.6	0.25	Mid brown, silty clay, occasional stone, occasional charcoal flecks, very compact, 0.25m /rain fill, packing around (38)
40		cut	post hole	structural	0.6	0.6	0.3	Sub-circular, moderate sides, narrow and rounded base, wide, round bottomed "V" profile
41		fill	post hole	disuse	0.25	0.25	0.1	Dark brown, silty clay, moderate charcoal flecks, occasional small and medium stones, firm, 0.10m / extent of cut
42		cut	post hole	structural	0.25	0.25	0.1	Sub-circular, gradual sides, narrow and rounded base, wide, round bottomed "V" profile
43		fill	pit	disuse	0.5	0.5	0.15	Dark brown silty clay, frequent stones, occasional charcoal flecks, sandy patches, moderately compact but loose around the stones, 0.15m / full extent of cut
44		cut	pit	rubbish?	0.5	0.5	0.15	Sub-circular, gradual sides, concave base, rounded, "U" shape
45		fill	pit	disuse	0.4	0.4	0.1	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay, occasional stone inclusions, occasional charcoal flecks, firm, 0.10m / extent of cut
46		cut	pit	?	0.4	0.4	0.1	Sub-circular, gradual sides, rounded base, wide, shallow "U" shape profile
47		fill	pit	rubbish?	0.34	0.34	0.08	Mid yellowish brown silty clay, occasional stone inclusions, occasional charcoal flecks, firm, 0.08m / extent of cut
48		cut	pit	rubbish	0.34	0.34	0.08	Sub-circular, gradual sides, rounded base, rounded "U" shape profile
49	96	fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	1.4	0.22	Light yellowish brown silty clay, occasional flint stones, occasional pebbles, occasional burnt stones, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional degraded ceramic fragments, compact, 0.22m / tertiary and mid fill of ditch

Context	Same as	Cut Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description	
50	95	52	fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	0.8	0.1	Dark orangish grey brown, sandy silty clay, moderate gravel stones, occasional flint stones, compact, 0.10m / mid fill on one side only of ditch cut
51	97	52	fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	1	0.3	Mid orangey grey silty clay, occasional flint stones, occasional gravel stones, compact, 0.30m / primary fill of ditch on base of cut
52	98	cut	ditch	boundary	boundary	1.6	2	0.66	Linear, moderately steep sides, concave base, E-W, "U" shaped
53	75	cut	ditch	boundary	boundary	1.75	0.5	0.25	Linear, moderately steep sides, rounded base, E-W, wide, rounded "U" shaped profile
54						0			
55						0			
56		fill	ditch	disuse	disuse	1.6	1.1	0.16	Dark orange brown silty clay, occasional gravel stones, occasional charcoal and traces of unretrievable ceramic, soft, 0.16m / - uppermost fill of ditch
57		59	fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	0.76	0.12	Light yellowish brown silty clay, occasional sub rounded pebbles, compact, 0.12m / secondary and mid fill of ditch
58	70?	59	fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	0.42	0.06	Mid orange brown silty clay, moderate gravel and flint stones, compact, 0.06m / primary fill on base of ditch
59	71?	cut	ditch	boundary	boundary	1.6	1.1	0.34	Linear, moderately steep sides, concave base, SE-NW, "v" shaped with a rounded base
60	65	16	fill	ditch	disuse	1.75	0.7	0.1	Mid greyish brown, sandy silt, occasional flint gravels, moderately compact, 0.10m / upper fill of ditch
61		62	fill	post hole	disuse	0.45	0.45	0.08	Light grey brown, silt occasional fleck of pottery/burnt clay (unretrievable), occasional charcoal flecks, soft, 0.08m / extent of cut
62		cut	post hole	?		0.45	0.45	0.08	Circular, very gradual slope, slightly concave base, wide, shallow "bowl" shape
63		64	fill	ditch	disuse	0.75	0.7	0.2	Mid brown silty clay, occasional pea grit stones, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional flecks of pottery/fired clay, moderately compact, 0.20m / extent of cut
64		cut	ditch	disuse	disuse	0.75	0.7	0.2	Not entirely visible in plan - continues beyond edge of excavation, gradual slope, concave, unknown - continues beyond area of excavation. wide, shallow "U" shape
65	60	67	fill	ditch	disuse	1	1.06	0.28	Mid grey brown silty clay, occasional small stones, occasional charcoal fleck, moderately compact, 0.28m / upper fill of cut
66	14	67	fill	ditch	disuse	1	1.2	0.36	Mid grey brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional small stones, moderately compact, 0.36m / primary fill on base and edges of ditch



Context	Same as	Cut Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
67	16	cut	ditch	boundary	1	1.2	0.36	Linear, steep sides, concave base, NE - SW, "U" shaped
68	72	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.7	0.1	Light greyish brown clayey silt, occasional flecks of charcoal, one sherd of pottery, moderate, 0.10/extent of cut
69	73	cut	ditch	boundary	1	0.7	0.1	Linear, terminating, gentle slope, concave base, SE - NW, "U" shaped
70	587	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.62	0.16	Light grey brown clayey silt, occasional charcoal flecks, two fragments of animal bone, one fragment of pot, moderate, 0.16m / extent of cut
71	597	cut	ditch	boundary	1	0.62	0.16	Linear, steep sides, flat based, NW - SE, flat bottomed "U" shaped profile
72	68	fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.84	0.26	Light grey brown clayey silt, occasional charcoal flecks, moderate, 0.26m / extent of cut
73	69	cut	ditch	boundary	1.1	0.84	0.26	Linear, gentle slope, concave, NW - SE, "U" shape
74	15	fill	ditch	disuse	2	0.3	0.1	Mid reddish brown sandy silt, occasional sub angular flint gravel stones, moderately loose, 0.10m / extent of cut
75	53	cut	ditch	boundary	2	0.3	0.1	Linear, terminating, concave, gently rounded, E - W, wide rounded "U" shape
76	7, 607, 81	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.55	0.1	Mid grey brown, silt, occasional small stones, occasional charcoal flecks, moderate, 0.10m / extent of cut
77	8, 82	cut	ditch	boundary / enclosure?	1	0.56	0.1	Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, NNW - SSE, wide, shallow, flat and wide based "U"
78								Mid brown silty clay, occasional stones, firm, 0.25m / extent of cut
79		fill	ditch	disuse	1	1.27	0.25	
80		cut	ditch	boundary / enclosure	1	1.27	0.25	Linear, moderately steep sides, flat base, N - S, rounded "U" shape
81	76, 007, 607	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.62	0.13	Mid brown silty clay, occasional stones, occasional charcoal, firm, extent of cut
82	77, 608, 008	cut	ditch	boundary / enclosure	1	0.62	0.13	Linear, gradual sides, rounded base, N/S, rounded "U" shape profile
83	3, 9, 205	fill	ditch	disuse	0.5	0.81	0.23	Mid brown silty clay, occasional stones, occasional charcoal flecks, firm, 0.23m / extent of cut

Context	Same as	Cut Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
84	4, 10, 206	cut	ditch	boundary / enclosure	0.5	0.81	0.23	Linear, terminus, gradual sides, rounded base, E - W, rounded "U" shape
85					0			
86					0			
87		90	fill	disuse	1	1.4	0.18	Dark orange brown silty clay, occasional small flint stones, moderately loose, 0.18m / upper fill of ditch
88		90	fill	disuse	1	1.1	0.28	Light orange brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional small stones, moderately compact, 0.28m / secondary, mid fill of cut
89		90	fill	disuse	1	0.2	0.04	Yellowish brown silty clay, occasional small stones, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional flecks of pot/ceramic, moderately compact, 0.04m / primary fill of cut, a thin deposit on the base.
90			cut	boundary	1	1.4	0.34	Linear, very gradual slope, rounded base, NE - SW, very wide, shallow "U" with straight sides
91		92	fill	disuse	0.5	0.68	0.18	Mid mixed brown silty clay, occasional small stones, occasional charcoal flecks, firm, 0.18m / extent of cut
92			cut	?	0.5	0.68	0.18	Linear, west edge - gradual, east edge - vertical, rounded base, N - S, "V" shape, but with one vertical edge and rounded
93	107	98	fill	disuse	2	2.2	0.3	Mid grey brown clayey silt, occasional small stones, occasional charcoal flecks, soft, 0.30m / upper fill of ditch
94	108	98	fill	disuse	2	1.18	0.24	Pale grey brown clayey silt, occasional flint and gravel stones, very compact, 0.24m / mid fill of ditch, on one side only
95	50	98	fill	disuse	2	1.08	0.36	Yellowish brown silty sand, occasional flint and pebble stones, occasional charcoal flecks, compact, 0.36m / mid fill of ditch. On one side only
96	49	98	fill	disuse	2	0.66	0.12	Greyish brown clayey silt, occasional patches of orange sand, occasional gravel and flint stones, occasional charcoal flecks, moderately compact, 0.12m / secondary fill of ditch
97	51	98	fill	disuse	2	1.26	0.48	Grey brown clayey silt, occasional gravel stones, compact, 0.48m / primary fill of ditch on base of cut.
98	52		cut	boundary	2	2.4	1	Linear, moderately steep sides, rounded base, E - W, "U" shaped
99			layer	working hollow	10	10	0.1	Irregular shape, grey brown, clayey silt, occasional small gravel stones, occasional flecks of pot and charcoal, moderately firm, 0.10m/
100			layer	topsoil	0			

Context	Same as	Cut Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
101		layer	colluvium		0			
102		layer			0			
103		layer	modern		0			
104		layer	modern		0			
105		layer	subsoil		0			
106		fill & cut	post hole		0			Dark orange brown silty clay, occasional small gravel stones, occasional flecks of degraded ceramic material, soft, 0.19m / upper fill of ditch
107		fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	1.54	0.19	Mid orange brown sandy silty clay, moderate rounded gravel stones, occasional flint stones, moderately compact, 0.14m / fill of ditch, concentrated on one side only
108		fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	0.64	0.14	Dark brown silty clay, occasional flintstones, occasional pottery fragments, moderate charcoal flecks, very compact, 0.20m / extent of cut
203		fill	pit	cremation	0.8		0.2	
204		cut	pit	cremation	0.8		0.2	Circular, steep sides, flat base, wide, shallow "U" shape
205		fill	ditch		0.6	1.05	0.37	Dark brown silty clay, occasional small flint stones, occasional bone, very compact, 0.37m / extent of cut
206		cut	ditch	drainage	1.05	0.6	0.37	Linear, moderately steep sides, North-east to south-west, "V" shaped with a slightly rounded, narrow base
207		fill	pit	disuse	0.45	0.45	0.13	Dark greyish brown silty clay, occasional flintstones, occasional pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, compact 0.13 / extent of cut
208					0.5	0.5	0.13	Circular, moderate sides, concave base, u-shaped
209		fill	ditch	boundary	1.05	60	20	Linear in plan, 40 degrees to the horizontal, light brown, silty clay, fine gravel
210		cut	ditch	n/a	1	0.6	0.2	Linear, 40 degrees to the horizontal, flat base, east-west, flat-based v
300					0			

Context	Same as	Cut Category	Type	Function	Length	Width	Depth	Description
301		2	cut	pit	0.65	0.65	0.28	Dark blackish brown sandy silty clay, moderate gravel stones, moderate bone fragments, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional fragments of degraded pottery, compact, 0.28m / extent of cut
303		304	fill	ditch	0.6	1.35	0.35	Linear in plan, light greyish brown silty clay, occasional pebbles and occasional angular stones with degraded pottery, very compact, 0.35 cm
304			cut	ditch	1.25	1.25	0.35	light greyish brown silty clay, occasional pebbles and occasional angular stones with degraded pottery and animal bone, very compact,
305		306	fill	ditch				
306			cut	ditch		0.75	0.27	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides n NE-SW orientation
307		308	fill	pit				Light grey brown silty clay, occasional flints, rare pebbles, frequent charcoal
308			cut	pit	0.95	0.95	0.27	Sub-circular with moderately sloping sides and flat base
309		310	fill	ditch				Light greyish brown silty clay, occasional pebbles and occasional angular stones, very compact,
310			cut	ditch				Linear in plan with flat based V shaped profile, NE-SW orientation



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