

Excavation of Late Iron Age and Early Roman Activity at Innisfree, Mill Lane Hemingford Grey



Excavation Report



October 2014

Client: TC Property Developments

OA East Report No: 1682

OASIS No: oxfordar3-192987

NGR: TL 2953 7082

**Excavation of Late Iron Age and Early Roman Activity at Innisfree, Mill Lane,
Hemingford Grey**

Archaeological Excavation

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Report Date: October 2014

Report Number: 1682
Site Name: Innisfree, Mill lane, Hemmingford greys
HER Event No: ECB4128
Date of Works: Jan/Feb 2014
Client Name: TC Property Developments
Client Ref:
Planning Ref: 1201189FUL
Grid Ref: TL 2953 7082
Site Code: HMG MIL14
Finance Code: HMG MIL14
Receiving Body: CCC Stores

Accession No:

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Date: 27th March 2015

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Summary

A small excavation, following on from a previous evaluation (Gilmour 2014), was carried out at Innisfree, Mill Lane, Hemmingford Grey, during February 2014.

The works uncovered a series of boundary or drainage ditches across the footprints of the two houses. An assemblage of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery was recovered from the ditches, which relate to a substantial cropmark complex to the east of the development. It is clear from the pottery recovered that the ditches were either part of or near to a low status settlement or farmstead.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted at Innisfree, Mill Lane, Hemmingford Grey.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Dan McConnell of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application 1201189FUL), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Stocks-Morgan and Connor 2014).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on a bedrock of Oxford Clay formation with superficial river terrace deposits of sand and gravel (BGS). The site is flat and lies at approximately 7m OD (British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 09/10/2014).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following section has been adapted from Gilmour (2014) and Bush (2013). Although little excavation has taken place within Hemmingford Grey itself, there are several known archaeological sites (cropmarks and find-spots) in the vicinity of the subject site, the most pertinent of which are discussed below.

Bronze Age

- 1.3.2 The gravel terraces of the Great Ouse are known to support Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement and ceremonial sites. However in the vicinity of Hemmingford Grey little definitive evidence has been seen.
- 1.3.3 An aerial photographic assessment (Palmer 2013) has suggested an Early Bronze Age burial mound c.30m-32m in diameter, located c.100m to the south east of the current site (CHER 06822). This survey also indicated possible Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age rectangular enclosures within the field immediately to the east of the proposed development area (CHER 06822). An evaluation 0.25km to the east identified several undated ditches, which may also be pre-Roman (Bush 2013).
- 1.3.4 An evaluation carried out at land off London Road (MCB 17813), approximately 1.4km south-east of the current site revealed a tentatively named Bronze Age field system along with a pit which contained two sherds of Bronze Age pottery.
- 1.3.5 Bronze Age activity can also be supposed from aerial photographs which show a large oval enclosure c.1km to the south-east of site (HER 06779). Further activity can be seen within the landscape by the presence of funerary monuments, consisting of

possible round barrows, seen on aerial photographs 0.7km to the south of the site (HER 06820).

Iron Age and Roman

- 1.3.6 Several Iron Age and Roman sites have been recorded within 0.5km of the site. The site itself is situated adjacent to a complex of rectilinear field systems and potential roads or trackways (CHER 06822), which are likely to date to the Iron Age and Roman period. It is thought that this activity may continue to the west of Mill Lane as 30 to 40 pottery sherds of an Iron Age and Roman date were found at a depth of 1.72m when a trench was dug there (CHER 00863). A Belgic cremation urn, uncovered 60m to the north-west, at 7 Mill Close, (CHER 02757) may also relate to this settlement.
- 1.3.7 Other contemporary find spots within Hemingford Grey may denote further settlements. These include an Iron Age jar found by a member of the public (CHER 02062), 0.7km to the south-west of the site. A Roman coin (CHER 00866) has been found 0.6km to the east, and Roman pottery has been recovered 0.5km to the north-east (CHER 02762) and 0.6km to the east of site (CHER 03579).
- 1.3.8 A previous archaeological evaluation on the site identified a series of ditches and pits dated to the Late Iron Age and Early Roman (Gilmour 2014).

Saxon

- 1.3.9 It is likely the site is located close to the Saxon and medieval settlement. The village of Hemingford Grey is thought to date from the Saxon period, with the name meaning 'the ford of the people of Hemma' (Mawer and Stenton 1969), however little evidence has been found to validate this.
- 1.3.10 Evidence for occupation during the Saxon period includes several find spots; two loom weights were found in the vicinity in the early 20th century (HER 02816) with pottery of this date also being retrieved from 0.45km to the south of the site, from within the current cemetery (HER 07929).
- 1.3.11 An evaluation c.0.25km to the east of the site uncovered a probable sunken featured building, containing pottery of 6th century date, together with fragments of a bone comb (Bush 2013).

Medieval

- 1.3.12 A medieval moated site, known as 'The Manor' which was built around AD 1130 is located c.0.4km to the west of site adjacent to the River Great Ouse. The moat island is 85m by 66m in size with the moat arms being 10m wide. At this time the church of St James (c.0.3km to the west) was also in existence (CHER 10349).
- 1.3.13 Land to the south of the High Street would have been farmed on an 'open field' system, as suggested by the remains of ridge and furrow agriculture seen on aerial photographs and in subsequent evaluations are evidence for this (HER 10124).
- 1.3.14 To the north of the site is part of an ancient medieval road used by travellers going to St Ives for the fair, and this can be traced along the modern day Meadow Lane (HER 08664), 0.3km north of the site.

Post-medieval

- 1.3.15 Situated 0.4km to the east of the site is a tower windmill (CHER 02755). This can be seen on the 1801 Enclosure map and the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map.
- 1.3.16 During the Flood Alleviation Scheme just to the north-east of site, a late 17th to early 18th century Quaker burial ground was uncovered (MCB 17482) which contained at

least sixteen graves aligned north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east. Along with the burials, 79 pottery sherds were recovered of a range of types dating from the 12th to the 19th centuries.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank TC Property Development Ltd. for commissioning the work especially Jim Marsh. The author would also like to thank Tim Wright of B Wright and sons for his assistance during the works.
- 1.4.2 Further praise should go to the site staff, Graeme Clarke, Nick Cox, Daria Tsybaeva and Adele Lord for their perseverance and dedication in extremely difficult conditions. The site survey was undertaken by Dave Brown and the figures and plates were prepared by Severine Bezie. Aileen Connor managed the project and Dan McConnell of CCC monitored the works.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Brief (McConnell 2014) and Written Scheme of Investigation (Stocks-Morgan and Connor 2014).

2.1.2 The main aims of this excavation were

- To mitigate the impact of the development on the surviving archaeological remains. The development would have severely impacted upon these remains and as a result a full excavation was required, targeting the areas of archaeological interest highlighted by the previous phases of evaluation.
- To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

2.1.3 The aims and objectives of the excavation were developed with reference to Regional Research Agendas (Brown and Glazebrook, 2000 and Medleycott 2011).

2.2 Regional Research Aims

2.2.1 The particular research aims which are relevant to this excavation include:

- Social organisation and settlement form in the Iron Age and Roman period.
- The agrarian economy
- Economic and social change during the Late Iron Age and Roman transition

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the Brief (McConnell 2014) and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Stocks-Morgan and Connor 2014).

2.3.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360° type excavator using a 1.8m wide flat bladed ditching bucket. under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

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

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

2.3.5 Due to the nature of the site a watching brief was carried out on the cutting of the building footings which were laid prior to excavation of the interior of the two buildings under construction.

2.3.6 Environmental sampling was undertaken from various features across the site.

2.3.7 The works were carried out in generally cold sunny weather with occasional showers. Due to the low lying nature of the site and high water table the excavations were generally water-logged.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results are presented by house plot (Area 1 to the north and Area 2 to the south; fig. 1) and phase, with the Area 1 discussed first. An evaluation of the development was carried out by Gilmour and the results from this are briefly incorporated within the following text (For further detail see Gilmour 2014). It was not possible to relate the features found in Evaluation Trench 2 to those found within the excavated areas and therefore the trench has been phased separately in the text below. All other features uncovered during the evaluation are mentioned with the features they relate to. Finds are mentioned in the text below where present with full reports presented in Appendix B and Appendix C. A context inventory is presented in Appendix A.

3.2 Phase 1: Late Iron Age

Area 1 (Fig. 2)

3.2.1 The earliest dated features on site are pits (**118** and **128**). Pit (**118**) was sub-circular in plan with shallow sloping sides and a diameter of 0.96m and a maximum depth of 0.21m. This pit contained a single fill (119) of dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent pea gravel inclusions. Pit (**128**) was a circular feature, 0.9m in diameter and 0.22m deep, again with shallow sloping sides and a similar profile to pit **118**. This pit contained a single fill (127) of very dark grey silty sand with frequent pea gravel inclusions. Both pits were truncated by ditch (**126/120**).

3.2.2 Ditch (**126/120**), which truncated earlier pits (**118** and **128**), was aligned north-west to south-east (Fig. 3; Plate 1) and contained four fills. The earliest fill (121/125) was a 0.3m thick reddish brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions located along the north east side of the ditch, and this produced mid to late 1st century pottery. Fill 121/125 was overlain by a secondary fill (124) of a dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions that produced a small assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery dated to c. AD 65/70 (App. B.1). This was in turn sealed by fill (123) a grey silty sand/gravel, 0.55m thick, that produced an assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery dated to c. AD 50/60 (App B.1). The final fill in the sequence (122) was a grey silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions, 0.25m thick that also produced an assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery that was dated c. AD 55/60 (App. B.1). This ditch is the same as ditch **3** found in Trench 3 of the evaluation (see Fig. 2)

Area 2 (Fig. 2)

3.2.3 Within the foot print of the southern building; Ditch **108**, part of a series of linear features aligned north-east to south-west, was 0.48m wide and 0.32m deep with steep sides and a concave base aligned north-east to south-west. It contained a single fill (109) of dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate gravel inclusions that produced a small assemblage of mid to late 1st century date. Fill 109 was truncated on the north-west side by ditch (**106**) (Fig. 3).

3.2.4 Ditch (**106/145/148**) is 0.65m wide and 0.33m deep, aligned north-east to south-west turning to west-north-west to east-south-east. This ditch had steep sides with a flat slightly concave base and contained a single fill (107/146/149), of dark reddish-grey to dark brownish-grey silty sand with frequent pea gravel inclusions that produced an assemblage of Iron Age pottery dated to AD 60/70 (App. B.1) Ditch **148** is truncated by ditch (**150**) to the east of the development plot and to the south-west of the development plot by ditch (**104/139**) a 0.55m wide and 0.37m deep steep sided ditch

with a “U” shaped profile. Ditch **104/139** contained a single fill (105/140) of dark grey-brown sandy silt with moderate gravel inclusions that produced a small assemblage of mid 1st to early/mid 2nd century pottery (App B.1; Fig. 3; Plate 2). Ditch (**104/139**) equates to ditch (**12**) and fill (11) from the evaluation, trench 4, that produced two sherds of pottery dated to AD 60/70 (App. B.1; Fig. 2)

- 3.2.5 The main ditch sequence (See Figs. 2 and 3; Plates 3-5) was a series of ditches running across the southern development plot on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment and incorporates ditch **148** and ditch **150**. The earliest features in the sequence are ditch cuts (**148**) and (**155**). Ditch **148** was shallow with gently sloping sides and a width of 1.3m and a depth of 0.28m. This feature contained a single fill (149) of dark greyish-brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions that produced an assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery dated c. AD 60/70 (App. B.1). Ditch **148** was truncated to the north by ditch **150/141**.
- 3.2.6 Ditch **155**, was 0.9m wide and 0.48m deep with steep sides and a flat base that contained a single fill (156) of dark blackish-brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions. Fill 156 produced a small assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery dated to c. AD 60-70 (App. B.1). Ditch **155** was truncated to the north by ditch (**157**) and to the south by ditch (**152**).
- 3.2.7 To the north ditch **157/137** was 1.2m wide and 0.54m deep with steep sides and a flat base containing a single fill (158/138) of mid greyish-brown clayey sand that produced Late Iron Age pottery dated c. AD 60-70 (App. B.1). This ditch was truncated by a modern foundation trench (**135**).
- 3.2.8 A ditch (**152**), which was situated to the south, had steep sides and a flat base and was 1.4m wide and 0.54m deep. The primary fill (153) of this ditch was a mid greyish-brown clayey sand which was 0.54m deep and situated along the southern side of the ditch. This fill produced pottery dated to the Mid-Late 1st century (App. B.1) and was truncated by ditch cut (**150**). The secondary fill (154) was 0.54m deep, situated along the northern side of the ditch and produced pottery dated to the Late Iron Age c. AD 60-70 (App. B.1). The third fill (147) was a small deposit of burnt material in the top of the ditch that produced a small assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery dated to c. AD60-70 (App. B.1). The environmental evidence recovered from this fill suggests it was a deliberate dump of hearth sweepings (App. C.1). Ditch **29**, which was found in Evaluation Trench 1, produced an assemblage of mid to late 1st century pottery and is likely to be the same feature as ditch **152** (Fig. 2).
- 3.2.9 Ditch (**150/141**) was a shallow ditch with gently sloping sides, 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep, that contained a single fill (151) of dark brownish-grey clayey sand with frequent gravel inclusions. A small assemblage of mid to late 1st century pottery was recovered from fill 151 (App. B.1). This ditch is likely to be the same as ditch **27** found in Evaluation Trench 1 (Fig. 2). Ditch **27** produced an assemblage of mid to late 1st to early 2nd century pottery (App. B.1).

Evaluation Trench 2 (Fig. 2)

- 3.2.10 North-east to south-west aligned inter-cutting ditches (**6** and **8**) relate to this period.

3.3 Phase 2: Mid to Late 1st Century

Area 1 (Fig. 2)

- 3.3.1 Within Area 1 a pit (**114**) was located in the south of the excavated area, just to the east of ditch (**130**). This pit was sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 1.8m and a depth of 0.3m with shallow sloping sides and a slightly concave base. The pit contained a single fill (**115**) of a dark grey-brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions that produced sixteen sherds of mid to late 1st to early 2nd century pottery (App. B.1)

Area 1 and 2 (Fig. 2)

- 3.3.2 A ditch (**102/130**) was found to truncate the top of the entire west-north-west to east-south-east aligned ditch sequence (**148, 150, 152, 155 and 157**) on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment. This ditch was a steep sided and flat based, with a width of 1.2m and a depth of 0.42m. It contained a single fill (**103/131**) of dark blackish-brown clayey sand with frequent gravel inclusions and this produced two sherds of pottery dated to the Late Iron Age c. AD 60-70 and a single sherd (**105g**) of mid 1st to early mid 2nd century pottery (App. B.1). This ditch is the same feature as ditch (**10**) found within Evaluation Trench 4, that produced an assemblage of mid to late 1st century pottery (Fig. 2).

Evaluation Trench 2

- 3.3.3 A number of features within Evaluation Trench 2 have been assigned to this phase. A north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**22**) and a pit (**14**), both are truncated by a west-north-west to east-south-east aligned ditch (**18**), which is also assigned to this period.

3.4 Phase 3: Post-Medieval and Modern

- 3.4.1 The earliest feature within this phase is a boundary/drainage ditch (**110**) which was aligned west-north-west to east-south-east, on a slightly different orientation to the Late Iron Age ditch sequence (**148, 150, 152, 155 and 157**). The ditch, which was 0.82m wide and 0.6m deep, had steep sides and a flat base and contained a single fill (**111**) of dark greyish-brown sandy silt. This fill produced post-medieval ceramic building material and clay pipe which was not retained. It was truncated by a foundation cut (**135**) and is likely to be the same feature as a ditch cut (**24**) found in Evaluation Trench 1 (Fig. 2)
- 3.4.2 Foundation cut **135** was 0.6m wide and 0.17m deep with vertical sides and a flat base that truncated ditch cuts (**137 and 110**). It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown clayey sand with a high gravel content.

3.5 Unphased

Area 1 (Fig. 2)

- 3.5.1 Two undated features were excavated within Area 1. Post-hole (**116**) was 0.37m in diameter and 0.4m deep with vertical sides and a flat base, located near the centre of the plot at the end of undated linear feature (**133/132**). Post-hole **116** contained a single fill of dark black-brown sandy-silt.
- 3.5.2 Linear feature (**132/133**), which terminated at the centre of the northern development plot, was aligned north-east to south-west and had steep irregular sides and irregular base. This linear feature was 1m wide and 0.4m deep and contained a single fill (**129/133**) of sandy gravel – similar to the surrounding natural geology. The nature of the feature's sides and the form of the fill suggests that this was a natural band of gravel within the natural geology and not an archaeological feature.

Area 2 (Fig. 2)

- 3.5.3 Found within Area 2, pit/post-hole (**112**) was a sub-circular feature, 0.4m wide and 0.36m deep, with near vertical sides and concave base. It contained a single fill of dark grey-brown sandy silt with moderate gravel inclusions.

3.6 Finds Summary

Roman pottery (App. B.1)

- 3.6.1 The pottery assemblage from the site fits into a narrow time period chiefly between AD43 and 60/70, and there is little evidence for pre-conquest Late Iron Age material (c. 20BC-AD43). The material recovered is dominated by jars and the common Late Iron Age/early Roman period platter forms are absent. The assemblage corresponds to low status rural activity and is likely to have derived from a small settlement or farmstead.

3.7 Environmental Summary

Animal Bone (App. C.1)

- 3.7.1 Animal bone was recovered from contexts dating to phase 1 and phase 2, primarily from the ditch fills. The assemblage is dominated by cattle and sheep/goat remains, with some pig and a single horse element and is likely to represent general domestic waste.

Bulk Environmental samples (App C.2)

- 3.7.2 The environmental samples were generally poor in terms of identifiable material. The majority of the charred plant remains consist of cereal grains that were all poorly preserved and therefore could not be easily identified to species. Grains of barley, wheat and oats were tentatively identified. Free threshing wheat grains were recovered from pit **14** and ditch **27**. A glume base of spelt wheat, which was commonly cultivated in the Iron Age, was recovered from pit **114**, indicating that some cereal processing had occurred on or near the site.
- 3.7.3 Finally the sample recovered from ditch fill (147) produced burnt material, potentially hearth sweepings, that was deliberately deposited into the top of ditch **152**.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Discussion

4.1.1 Due to the close date range it is difficult to ascertain the exact phasing of the site, although stratigraphic relationships define some of the phasing, it seems that the site was a moderately short-lived low status settlement/farmstead that dates from the Iron Age and into the Early Roman periods. It may be possible to relate this to at least some of the known cropmarks to the east of the development (Fig. 4) to these periods and start to gain a better understanding of the settlement pattern and development over the Iron Age/Early Roman transition.

4.2 Phase 1: Late Iron Age

4.2.1 Within Area 1 the two undated pits (**118** and **128**) are likely to be some of the earliest features on site and are most certainly Iron Age in date. They are truncated by the later boundary ditch (**126**) which is at right angles to the small boundary ditches within Area 2 and Evaluation Trench 2. The ditch shows no sign of having been re-cut and the loose nature of the local gravels and frequent re-cutting of the larger boundary ditch suggests that it did not last for a long period of time and may have been replaced by the main ditch sequence in Area 2.

4.2.2 It seems likely that the re-cut boundary ditch (**148/150/152/155/157**), in Area 2, was one of the main land divisions during the Late Iron Age. This feature had small plot boundary ditches emanating off it, such as ditch sequence (**104/106/108**) and ditch sequence (**6/8**) – in Evaluation Trench 2. It is possible that this ditch represents a re-alignment of the plot boundaries within the Iron Age. The frequent re-cutting of this boundary is probably due to necessity as the local gravels are extremely mobile and would of rapidly filled the ditches.

4.3 Phase 2: Early Roman (Mid to Late 1st century)

4.3.1 Only a two features within Area 1 relate to this phase of occupation, although it is possible that the boundary marked by ditch **126** was still visible and was partially backfilled during this period.

4.3.2 Pit **114** was probably dug during this period. It's similarity to the earlier pits **118** and **128** may be due to the nature of the natural or it may have been dug for a similar undefined purpose.

4.3.3 Boundary ditch **130**, which is likely the same feature as ditch **102** and **10** in Area 2, is on a different alignment to the earlier plot boundaries and cuts across the top of the main ditch sequence this part of the site. This suggests that in the Early Roman period the settlement pattern was significantly altered. It is likely that ditch cut **18**, in Evaluation Trench 2, is also part of this realignment.

4.3.4 The large quantities of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery, in contrast to the apparent lack of pottery from earlier the Iron Age, would suggest that the original settlement/farmstead was much further away from this area and that occupation moved nearer to the site in this period.

4.4 Phase 3: Post medieval and Modern

4.4.1 Agricultural landscape use continued into the post-medieval period as shown by field boundary/drainage ditch **110/24**. This landscape was then replaced with the construction of the bungalow that occupied the plot until it's demolition in early 2014.

4.5 Conclusion

- 4.5.1 The excavation has revealed a small portion of features related to the known cropmarks to the east of the development. When the results from this excavation are combined with those from Bush (2013) it is entirely possible to begin to date the known cropmarks. Bush suggests a pre-Roman origin for at least some of the crop marks and this report adds support to this argument.
- 4.5.2 In addition to the evidence found during this development, the two potential Saxon sunken featured buildings uncovered by Bush (2013) suggest some continuation of the settlement throughout the Roman period and into the Saxon period. The extensive re-cutting of the boundaries over the Late Iron Age and Early Roman transition may indicate that the area around the development was wetter and the underlying gravels were more mobile than those further to the east. This suggests that the focus of the settlement had moved away from the current development in the later Roman period.

APPENDIX A. CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Length(m)	Breadth(m)	Depth(m)
1		3	topsoil	5	1.8	0.52
2	3	3	ditch	4	1.45	0.45
3	3	3	ditch	4	1.45	0.45
4	0		subsoil	5	1.8	0.27
5	6	2	ditch	2.5	0.75	0.18
6	6	2	ditch	2.5	0.75	0.18
7	8	2	ditch	2.5	0.75	0.25
8	8	2	ditch	2.5	0.75	0.25
9	10	4	ditch	1.8	1.16	0.28
10	10	4	ditch	1.8	1.16	0.28
11	12	4	ditch	1.8	0.98	0.3
12	12	4	ditch	1.8	0.98	0.3
13	14	2	pit	1.17	0.9	0.3
14	14	2	pit	1.17	0.9	0.3
15	16	4	post hole	0.38	0.3	0.12
16	16	4	post hole	0.38	0.3	0.12
17	18	2	ditch	2.23	0.94	0.19
18	18	2	ditch	2.25	0.94	0.19
19	20	2	ditch	2.25	1.15	
20	20	2	ditch	0		
21	22	2	ditch	2.35	2	0.28
22	22	2	ditch	2.35	2	0.28
23	24	1	ditch	1.8	0.82	0.25
24	24	1	ditch	1.8	0.82	0.25
25	0	1	subsoil	1.8	3.34	0.14
26	27	1	ditch	1.8	0.88	0.44
27	27	1	ditch	1.8	0.88	0.44
28	29	1	ditch	1.8	0.72	0.44
29	29	1	ditch	1.8	0.72	0.44
100			topsoil	0		0.5
101			Subsoil	0		0.3
102	102		ditch	1	1.3	0.2
103	102		ditch	1	1.3	0.2
104	104		ditch	1	0.55	0.37
105	104		ditch	1	0.55	0.37
106	106		ditch	1	0.65	0.33
107	106		ditch	1	0.65	0.33
108	108		ditch	1	0.48	0.32
109	108		ditch	1	0.48	0.32
110	110		ditch	1	0.82	0.6
111	110		ditch	1	0.82	0.6
112	112		post hole	0.5	0.4	0.36
113	112		post hole	0	0.4	0.36
114	114		pit	0	1.8	0.3
115	114		pit	0	1.8	0.3

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Length(m)	Breadth(m)	Depth(m)
116	116		post hole	0	0.37	0.4
117	116		post hole	0	0.37	0.4
118	118		pit	0	0.96	0.21
119	118		pit	0	0.96	0.21
120	120		ditch	0.8	0.3	0.14
121	120		ditch	0.8	0.3	0.14
122	126		ditch	1	1.5	0.14
123	126		ditch	1	2.5	0.54
124	126		ditch	1	1.6	0.1
125	126		ditch	1	1.3	0.6
126	126		ditch	1	2.9	0.65
127	128		pit	0.9	0.9	0.22
128	128		pit	0.9	0.9	0.22
129	132		natural	1	0.8	0.4
130	130		ditch	0.85	0.59	0.42
131	130		ditch	0.85	0.59	0.42
132	132		natural	1	0.8	0.4
133	133		natural	1	1	0.4
134	133		natural	1	1	0.4
135	135		foundation trench	1.1	0.6	0.17
136	135		foundation trench	1.1	0.6	0.17
137	137		ditch	1	0.6	0.2
138	137		ditch	1	0.6	0.2
139	139		ditch	0.5	0.4	0.26
140	139		ditch	0.5	0.4	0.26
141	141		ditch	0.8	0.4	0.34
142	141		ditch	0.8	0.4	0.34
143	143		ditch	0.58	0.15	0.1
144	143		ditch	0.58	0.15	0.1
145	145		ditch	0.66	1.06	0.2
146	145		ditch	0.66	1.06	0.2
147	152		ditch	1.1	0.4	0.25
148	148		ditch	1	1.3	0.28
149	148		ditch	1	1.3	0.28
150	150		ditch	1	1.2	0.25
151	150		ditch	1	1.2	0.25
152	152		ditch	1	1.4	0.54
153	152		ditch	1	0.6	0.54
154	152		ditch	1	0.78	0.54
155	155		ditch	1	0.9	0.48
156	155		ditch	1	0.9	0.48
157	157		ditch	1	1.2	0.54
158	157		ditch	1	1.2	0.54

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Late Iron Age and Early Roman Pottery

By Andy Fawcett

Introduction

B.1.1 A total of 506 sherds of Late Iron Age/Roman pottery weighing 11894g with a total EVE of 5.76 was recorded from the evaluation and excavation stages at Innisfree Mill Lane, Hemingford Grey, Cambridgeshire. An overview of the pottery is presented below and a complete contextual breakdown of the pottery assemblage can be seen in the Pottery Catalogue.

Methodology

B.1.2 All of the pottery has been examined at x20 vision and allocated to fabric groups. Codes have been assigned to these groups using the format adopted for the national fabric reference system (Tomber and Dore 1998). For comparative purposes, fabric codes from the nearby site of Swavesey (Willis 2008) have also been used in tandem where applicable. Form types (where possible) have been recorded using Going's Chelmsford catalogue (1987) and Thompson's *corpus* on 'Belgic' pottery (1982), other publications where necessary (for particular local/regional forms and fabrics) have also been utilised, such as Swavesey (Willis 2008), Baldock (Stead and Rigby 1986) and *Verulamium* (Wilson 1984). The pottery has all been recorded by sherd count, weight and EVE. A full breakdown of fabric quantities can be seen in Table 1.

Fabric	No	%	Wgt/g	%	Eve	%
UNS WH	19	4	221	2	-	-
UNS BU	2	0.5	13	Pres	0.07	1
UNS OX	17	3.5	334	3	0.32	5.5
UNS OX (St)	9	2	364	3	-	-
?BSW	25	5	1201	10	0.85	14.5
BSW	90	18	1544	13	0.45	8
BSW (St)	8	1.5	430	3.5	-	-
GRF	1	Pres	3	Pres	-	-
GRS	11	2	208	2	0.07	1
GRS (St)	2	0.5	137	1	-	-
SOB GT	170	33.5	2970	25	2.48	43
SOB GT/BSW	16	3	766	6.5	0.19	3.5
SOB GT (St)	24	4.5	1215	10	-	-
UNS GC	38	7.5	736	6	0.25	4.5
UNS GS	24	4.5	275	2.5	0.11	2
UNS GS (St)	5	1	261	2	0.22	4
UNS SC	3	0.5	33	0.5	-	-
UNS SO	3	0.5	145	1	0.06	1
UNS SH	39	7.5	1038	8	0.69	12
Totals	506	100	11894	100	5.76	100

Table 1: Fabric quantities

The assemblage

B.1.3 The pottery assemblage has chiefly been recovered from eighteen ditch fills, with small amounts recorded in one post-hole and two pit fills, one sub-soil layer and three unknown context types. Table 2 shows the combined amount of pottery within each context type.

Type	No	%	Wgt/g	%	Eve	%
Ditch	455	90	11137	93	5.54	96
Pit	8	1.5	338	3	0.11	2

Type	No	%	Wgt/g	%	Eve	%
Post-hole	11	2	151	1	0.04	0.5
Sub-soil	1	0.5	19	1	-	-
Unknown	31	6	249	2	0.07	1.5
Total	506	100	11894	100	5.76	100

Table 2: Pottery by context type

- B.1.4 Table 2 demonstrates that by sherd count, weight and EVE, 93% of the pottery is derived from ditch fills with negligible amounts present in the remaining context types.
- B.1.5 As a whole the pottery assemblage may be described as suffering from little abrasion; very few sherds within the assemblage displayed abrasion below this level. Due to the presence of a large number of storage jar sherds (which occur in most contexts) it is not possible to use average sherd weights with reasonable accuracy, to assess the brokenness of the assemblage across context types. However, none of the contexts contained groups that may be described as being overly fragmented, and in some contexts (for example ditch fill 123) good form profiles are present.

Dating

- B.1.6 The assemblage clearly shows that the main period of activity across the site was from the Late Iron Age (late 1st century BC/AD5) to around AD60/70. However, within this range at least fifteen of the twenty-five contexts are dated to the immediate post-conquest period (c mid-late 1st century) with only three cautiously dated to the pre-conquest phase (see Pottery Catalogue, ditch fills 122, 123 and 124). The remaining seven contexts cannot be dated either side of the Roman conquest.
- B.1.7 The majority of contexts recorded at the evaluation stage of the project are dated from the mid-late 1st century with a small number being dated slightly later. These later dates (up to the early/mid 2nd century) are likely to be unrealistic and are in actual fact too, dated from the mid to late 1st century. The later dated contexts relied upon grogged storage jar fabrics that have a somewhat extended lifespan; none of the assemblages (including sub-soil context 004) within both phases of investigation contained pottery that is clearly dated as late as the 2nd century.
- B.1.8 There are a number of reasons as to why there is some ambiguity in the dating of several contexts, these are principally concerned with abrasion, form and fabric, and shall be explained in further detail during the following sections.

Fabric

- B.1.9 None of the contexts contained finewares from the continent, for instance Gallo-Belgic or samian ware (which might have been expected to be present in assemblages dated from the Late Iron Age to early Roman period) or Romano-British finewares. Only a single possible butt beaker body sherd (recorded in ditch fill 017 Tr.2; see Pottery Catalogue) exhibited a fabric that may have originated from the continent. Its surface is burnished and the fabric contains very fine and well-sorted lime/calcite, which bares some resemblance to Gaulish fabric styles (this sherd was originally highlighted at the evaluation stage of the project by S. Wadson).
- B.1.10 A very small number of oxidised finer coarserwares (UNS OX) are sporadically present, for example in fill 142 and in ditch fill 124 (UNS BU) that are undoubtedly beaker sherds. Not all of the oxidised sherds are fine.
- B.1.11 Table 1 demonstrates, 90%+ of the fabric assemblage is made up of locally produced coarsewares. The coarsewares recorded at Innisfree Mill Lane are broadly comparable to the range of fabrics recorded at the nearby contemporary site of Swavesey (Willis 2008, 62). They are equally dominated by fabrics SOB GT and BSW (Swavesey fabrics

A, B and D) with considerably lesser quantities of fabrics containing variable combinations of calcite, sand and grog (for instance Swavesey fabrics I and M). A small number of Roman sandy grey wares (GRS) are also present within the assemblage.

- B.1.12 The occurrence of a large quantity of long-lived coarseware fabrics, alongside the absence of/few datable form types, has meant that the dating of contexts has frequently fallen back on the not so ideal scenario of using certain fabric combinations to determine a pre or post-conquest date.
- B.1.13 Many of the fabrics that originate in the Late Iron Age continue through into the very early Roman period, such as SOB GT, UNS SH or UNS GC and it is only through the presence of either true Roman fabrics like UNS WH, GRS or Romanising fabrics such as BSW that a date can be assigned to the post-conquest period.
- B.1.14 The site location is on the periphery of the main grog-tempered zone (Thompson 1982, 17), and as was noted at Swavensy (Willis 2008, 62-65), sand and grog-tempered wares (UNS GS) are also a common occurrence here during the transition period, alongside SOB GT. Nevertheless at both Innisfree Mill Lane and Swavensy, SOB GT is the most frequently recorded fabric.
- B.1.15 One of the main dating problems is the presence of BSW, a Romanising fabric that in the main grog-tempering zone is synonymous with the early Roman period. Similar fabrics in this area are also present in the later Iron Age too (see Swavesey fabrics A and B for instance; Willis 2008, 62). Therefore at times the BSW style fabric and SOB GT has not necessarily been a reasonable guide to either a pre or post-conquest date. However, true BSW fabrics are present within the assemblage and where those that are listed as unsure occur, comments supplement the provided date range.

Form

- B.1.16 A breakdown of the form assemblage, based on the presence of rims, is presented in Table 3. Analysis of the assemblage shows that jars account for over 82% of the total, the only other two identifiable form by general class are two beakers.

General form type	No
Plate/bowl (A/C)	1
Dish/bowl (B/C)	2
Jar (G)	23
Beaker (H)	2
Total	28

Table 3: Form assemblage

- B.1.17 Most of the jar rims were too small to be identified beyond their class of vessel. However of the identifiable forms, the majority fall into Thompson’s ‘B1’ class (1982), which display everted rims and a variety of cordons. Within this category two are in the B1-6 range (exhibiting lid seated rims). Of particular interest is a B1-5 type that has a girth groove. This was noted in ditch fill 151 in fabric BSW and is associated with the post-conquest period (Thompson 1982, 109). Ditch fill 154 (from the same sequence as 151) contained a good profile of a B2-1 jar with rippled shoulders (BSW/SOB GT). A barrel type jar, similar to Thompson’s B5-2 or 3, was noted in ditch fill 124 (UNS GC). It has a small beaded rim and a neck cordon. Jars in this style were previously recorded near Cambridge (Thompson 1982, 199) and continue just into the post-conquest period.
- B.1.18 There are two instances of jars with everted rims and rilled bodies (Thompson 1982, 273: C7-1). These were recorded from ditch fills 123 and 124, both occur in fabric SOB

GT. They have short necks and are the precursors of Going's more developed G21 version (1987, 25) more popularly known as a 'Braughing' jar.

- B.1.19 Although many storage jar body sherds were noted (several of which are combed) only a single rim was recorded. This was noted in ditch fill 122 (SOB GT St) and is in Thompson's C6-1 class (1982, 266; No 44); it has wavy lines below the rim with curved combing directly below. A C8-1 (Thompson 1982, 289) was noted in ditch fill 151. This version displays a line of notches with wavy lines beneath. The form is hand-made with a black core in fabric UNS SO. This is considered one of the earliest Belgic forms, and has consistently been noted residually in ditches that overlap the conquest. However, the form does continue up until at least the conquest and in this case the jar displays no abrasion in comparison to the rest of the assemblage in the fill. Finally two Going G5 (1987) types were recorded, one each in ditch fills 026 (UNS SH) and 149 (UNS GC). These fall into Thompson's C5 group (1982, 245-255) and are both early in style.
- B.1.20 Just two beaker rims are present within the entire assemblage, although body sherds from other vessels are present too, indicating their numbers are under represented. The first is a Going H1/2 identified in ditch fill 028. It is in fabric UNS BU and is dated from the mid to later 1st century. The second was recorded in ditch fill 115 in fabric SOB GT and is in Going's H7 style (butt beaker) and is dated no later than AD60/70.

Features

- B.1.21 Ditch **126** (contexts 122, 123 and 124) and the single fills of the boundary ditches (149, 151, 153, 154, 156 and 158) contain the largest ceramic groups. Combined they account for 67% of the entire pottery assemblage.
- B.1.22 Both groups contain a similar range of fabrics, and equally each, contain just eight identifiable jar forms. The boundary group are dated from the mid-late 1st century, whereas the dating of ditch **126** is a little more problematic. This is due to the lack of Roman or clearly identifiable Romanising fabrics. The forms as well as the fabrics, straddle the conquest period, and although on the face of it, this could be an earlier feature than the boundary group, this is not entirely certain.

Conclusion

- B.1.23 Analysis of the pottery assemblage from Innisfree Mill Lane has demonstrated that the site was in use over a fairly narrow period of time, chiefly between AD43-60/70. There is however no certainty within the ceramic evidence as to what extent the site might have been utilised (if at all) during the late Iron Age (c 20BC-AD43).
- B.1.24 The consistent presence of fabric SOB GT alongside Romanising/Roman fabrics provides the latest date after which no further Roman activity takes place.
- B.1.25 Imported wares, both continental and regional (with the exception of one uncertain butt beaker sherd) are absent and without doubt the overwhelming majority of coarsewares are locally produced. Many of the fabrics are directly comparable to those identified at nearby Swavensey (Willis 2008, 62) and further a field at Bluntisham (Fawcett 2006) and Godmanchester (Lyne 2000) for instance.
- B.1.26 The form range is very restricted, with the exception of two beaker rims the assemblage is dominated by jars. Examination of rims against body sherds shows that storage jars in particular have been under represented, as well as to a lesser extent, beakers. A significant absentee (apart from bowls and flagons for example) is the platter, a form particularly associated with the Late Iron Age/early Roman period. The absence of a characteristic form like this may simply indicate, that other materials were being utilised for this purpose, such as wood.

B.1.27 The pottery assemblage corresponds to low status rural activity, and is likely to have derived from a small nearby (as its condition suggests) settlement/farmstead. This interpretation was suggested at the evaluation stage of the project (Wadeson 2014, 11-12) and there is nothing present within the excavated assemblage to change this perception.

Pottery Catalogue

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
2	Ditch	UNS GS (St)	B	Body	Rilling	4	0	103	Sli	Tr 3. Sieve piercing. ?HM. Grog ill-sorted but sparse	LIA-c AD60/70	Mid-late 1st C
2	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	9	Sli	Tr 3. ?HM. With sparse organics	LIA-c AD60/70	
2	Ditch	UNS GS	A	Body	Burnished	1	0	12	Sli	Tr 3. Oxidised, grey core, sparse fine grog/cal like BSW	?Early Roman	
4	Sub-soil	BSW	?A	Body	Incised lines	1	0	19	Sli	Hard grey core with fine rare grog	Early Roman	
11	Ditch	SOB GT (St)	D	Body	Groove	1	0	61	Sli	Tr 4. Oxidised, ill sorted grog	1st-early/mid 2nd	LIA-c AD60/70
11	Ditch	UNS SC	?F	Body		1	0	8	Sli	Tr 4. Oxidised, common very fine calcite	LIA-c AD60/70	
13	Pit	BSW		Body	Burnished	2	0	12	Sli	Tr 2.	Early Roman	
13	Pit	GRS		Body	Rilling	1	0	22	Sli	Tr 2. A G21 body sherd?	Late 1st-mid/late 2nd	Late 1st/early-mid 2nd
17	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	8	Sli	Tr 2. Soapy/sandy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	Mid-late 1st/early 2nd
17	Ditch	GRS (St)		Body	Combed	2	0	137	Sli	Tr 2. With red iron ore and sparse large flint, like HORRE, ?early version	Late 1st-2nd?	
17	Ditch	BSW		Body		2	0	23	Abr	Tr 2.	Early Roman	
17	Ditch	BSW		Base		1	0	19	Sli	Tr 2. B.eve 0.10.	Early Roman	
17	Ditch	BSW		G		1	0.06	12	Sli	Tr 2. G in Goings 16-19 style	Mid-late 1st/early 2nd	
17	Ditch	BSW		G7		1	0.07	19	Sli	Tr 2.	Late 1st-early/mid 2nd	
17	Ditch	UNS OX		Body	Burnished	1	0	3	Sli	Tr 2. Very fine, grey inner surface, dark grey core, with fine well sorted lime/calcite, beaker sherd	?Early Roman	
21	Ditch	UNS OX (St)		Body		1	0	87	Sli	Tr 2. Dense quartz	Roman	Mid-late 1st
21	Ditch	UNS OX		Base		1	0	15	Sli	Tr 2. B.eve 0.32	Roman	
21	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	10	Sli	Tr 2.	LIA-c AD60/70	
26	Ditch	UNS WH		Body		19	0	221	Sli	Tr 1. All same vessel. Similar fabric to COL WH but with common silver mica, sparse gold likely	Mid/late 1st-mid/late 2nd	Mid-late 1st/early 2nd

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
										Cambs fabric		
26	Ditch	UNS SH	F	G5.3	Rilling, groove	33	0.69	931	Sli/gd	Tr 1. B.eve 0.64. Like Baldock 214/Ver 2304/Tho C5.3. All same vessel	Mid 1st-late 2nd (poss only to early 2nd)	(possibly mid-late 1st)
26	Ditch	UNS SH	F	Body		1	0	5	Sli	Tr 1.	LIA-early Roman	if cohesive)
26	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Base		1	0	8	Sli	Tr 1. B.eve 0.16. Shattered	LIA-c AD60/70	
26	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		6	0	47	Sli	Tr 1.	LIA-c AD60/70	
26	Ditch	GRS		Base	Incised lines	1	0	100	Sli	Tr 1. B.eve 0.19	Roman	
26	Ditch	GRS		Body		3	0	21	Sli	Tr 1. Mostly fine with sparse grog, like a Romanising fabric	Early Roman	
26	Ditch	UNS OX		G		1	0.07	18	Sli	Tr 1.	Roman	
26	Ditch	BSW		Body		13	0	79	Sli	Tr 1.	Early Roman	
26	Ditch	BSW		Base		2	0	32	Sli	Tr 1. B.eve 0.25	Early Roman	
26	Ditch	BSW		Base		1	0	18	Sli	Tr 1. B.eve 0.18	Early Roman	
26	Ditch	BSW		B/C	Burnished	1	0.2	105	Sli	Tr 1. Form too small like Going C 29 or Baldock 270 or Cam 299	c Late 1st-early 2nd ?+	
26	Ditch	UNS OX (St)		Body	Rilling	3	0	67	Sli	Tr 1.	Roman	
26	Ditch	BSW (St)		Body	Rilling	5	0	121	Sli	Tr 1.	Roman (?early)	
26	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body	Notches, combing	7	0	298	Sli	Tr 1.	1st-early/mid 2nd	
28	Ditch	UNS SH	F	Base		1	0	23	Abr	Tr 1. B.eve 0.15	1st/Early Roman	Mid-late 1st
28	Ditch	BSW (St)		Body	Combing	1	0	84	Sli	Tr 1.	Roman (early)	(poss to early 2nd if mixed)
28	Ditch	UNS OX (St)		Body	Combing	1	0	35	Sli	Tr 1.	Roman	
28	Ditch	UNS GC	M	Body	Grooves	2	0	22	Sli	Tr 1.Sandy feel	LIA-Early Roman	
28	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		3	0	73	Abr-sli	Tr 1.	LIA-c AD60/70	
28	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G		1	0.07	25	Sli	Tr 1. G too small but in Going 16-9 style?	LIA-c AD60/70	
28	Ditch	GRS		Body		2	0	18	Sli	Tr 1. With some fine grog, Romanising fabric	Roman	
28	Ditch	GRS		G		1	0.07	10	Sli	Tr 1.	Roman	
28	Ditch	UNS BU		H1/2		2	0.07	13	Sli	Tr 1. Very fine with well sorted cal/lime, some iron ore, silver mica and burnt	Mid-late 1st/? early	

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
										out organics	2nd	
103	Ditch	SOB GT (St)	D	Base		1	0	105	Sli	B.eve 0.11. Abundant ill sorted grog, sparse organics	1st-early/mid 2nd	Mid 1st-early/mid 2nd
103	Ditch	UNS GS	B	G		1	0.04	3	Sli	Soapy feel with sparse calcite	LIA-c AD60/70	
105	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body		1	0	45	Sli	Tr 2. Oxidised soapy feel	1st-early/mid 2nd	?Mid 1st-early/mid 2nd?
105	Ditch	BSW	?A	Body	Burnished /vertical lines	1	0	8	Sli	Tr 2. Dark core, fine	Early Roman	
105	Ditch	?BSW	?A	Body	Fine incised lines	1	0	23	Sli	Tr 2. Close to UNS GS. Patchily reduced, sandy feel	?Early Roman	
109	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G		1	0.03	4	Sli	Tr 4. Soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	Mid-late 1st
109	Ditch	SOB GT	D	B/C		1	0.02	4	Sli	Tr 4. Soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	
109	Ditch	?SOB GT	?D	A/C		1	0.01	4	Abr	Tr.4. Soapy/sandy feel	LIA/Early Roman	
109	Ditch	BSW	?A	Body	Incised lines	1	0	6	Sli	Tr 4. Sandy like 006, no grog/cal	Early Roman	
115	Pit	UNS SH	?F	Body		3	0	76	Sli	Tr 4. Coarse and abundant ill sorted shell	LIA-Early Roman	
115	Pit	BSW	?A	Body	Coarse rilling	4	0	34	Sli	Tr 4. Quartz with sparse grog	Early Roman	Mid-late 1st/? early 2nd?
115	Pit	GRS		Body		3	0	37	Sli	Tr 4. Quartz with fine rare calcite	Roman	
115	Pit	UNS GC	M	Body		1	0	4	Abr	Tr 4. Soapy feel with sparse calcite	LIA-c AD60/70	
115	Pit	UNS OX		Body		1	0	3	Sli	Just quartz	Roman	Mid-late 1st
115	Pit	BSW		Base		1	0	66	Sli	B.eve 0.17. Close to GRS	Roman	
115	Pit	SOB GT	D	H7		1	0.11	10	Sli	Oxidised	LIA-c AD60/70	
115	Pit	BSW (St)		Body	Wavy line, rilling	2	0	225	Sli	Quartz with sparse grog and rare lime, wheel thown	Early Roman	
122	Ditch	UNS SH	F	Body		1	0	3	Sli		1st/Early Roman	LIA-c AD55/60
122	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body	Combed	2	0	135	Sli	Dark surfaces grey core, join. A Tho C6-1 body sherd	1st-early/mid 2nd	(lack of clear Roman fabrics
122	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body	Dotted lines	1	0	7	Sli	Fine fabric and reduced poss H7/G5.1 style	LIA-c AD60/70	could indicate pre-conquest)
122	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body	Combed	3	0	58	Sli	Partly oxidised	1st-early/mid 2nd	
122	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	9	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	
122	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G Tho B1-4	Neck cordon	13	0.43	277	Sli	B.eve 0.22. Not sure if base from vessel. Going range	c AD55/70	

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
										G16+. Oxidised with grey core, piercing at neck		
122	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G Tho B style		25	0.13	148	Sli	Sherds mostly shattered. Reduced with sandy feel, close to BSW	LIA-c AD60/70	
122	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G Tho B1-1	Neck cordon	17	0.42	467	Sli	Common form, like Going G16+	LIA-c AD60/70	
122	Ditch	UNS GC	I	Body		1	0	59	Sli	Reduced with soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	
122	Ditch	UNS GS	B	Body		1	0	28	Sli	Soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	
122	Ditch	UNS SC	?	Body		2	0	25	Sli	Common ill sorted calcite but sandy feel, reduced	1st/?+	
122	Ditch	UNS GS	?/A/B	Body		2	0	38	Sli	Grog sparse hard and sandy like BSW style	LIA-c AD60/70?+	
122	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	30	Sli	Orange margins, grey core, soapy feel but close to BSW	LIA-c AD60/70	
122	Ditch	UNS GS (St)	B	G Tho C6-1		1	0.22	158	Sli	Close to BSW but soapy feel	?1st-? early Roman	
123	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G21/Tho C7-1	Rilling	6	0.25	336	Sli/gd	Reduced with a soapy feel but some quartz, short neck therefore earlier in this sequence of jars	LIA-c AD65/70	LIA-c AD50/60
123	Ditch	UNS GC	M	Body	Dotted lines	22	0	295	Sli	Reduced, soapy feel, cal frags rare	LIA-c AD60/70	(lack of clear Roman fabrics)
123	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		4	0	60	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	could indicate pre-conquest)
123	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G		2	0.07	6	Sli	Two jars too small for ID	LIA-c AD60/70	
123	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G Tho B1-4	Neck cordon	3	0.22	112	Sli		AD5-50/60	
123	Ditch	UNS GS	B	Body		2	0	9	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	
123	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body	Part burnished	2	0	86	Sli		1st-early/mid 2nd	
123	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Base	Combed	2	0	172	Sli	B.eve 0.36. Oxidised, soapy feel	1st-early/mid 2nd	
123	Ditch	UNS GS	B	Base		2	0	54	Sli	B.eve 0.13. Reduced with dark core and sparse organics	LIA-c AD60/70	
124	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G21/Tho C7-1	Rilling	1	0.24	102	Sli	Soapy feel with rare calcite and obvious quartz	LIA-c AD60/70	LIA-c AD65/70
124	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		2	0	3	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	(lack of clear Roman fabrics)
124	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body	Rilling	1	0	42	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	could indicate pre-conquest)
124	Ditch	UNS GC	I	G Tho B5-2/3	Neck cordon	3	0.13	67	Sli	Grog is sparse	LIA-c AD60/70	

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
											0	
131	Ditch	UNS GC	?M	Body	Cordon and bulge	1	0	4	Sli	Reduced calcite sparse	LIA-c AD60/70	LIA-c AD60/70
141	Unkno wn	UNS GS	?B/N	Body		1	0	6	Sli	Reduced and soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	?Mid-late 1st?+
141	Unkno wn	?BSW		Base		6	0	39	Abr-sli	B.eve 0.20.	?LIA-Early Roman	
142	Unkno wn	UNS OX		Body	Combed	1	0	16	Sli	Quartz and sparse grog looks like a Romanising fabric	?Early Roman	Mid-late 1st
142	Unkno wn	UNS OX		Body		1	0	6	Sli	Very fine with a grey core	Early Roman	
142	Unkno wn	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	6	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	
142	Unkno wn	BSW		Body	Burnished	1	0	27	Sli	No grog/calcite just quartz	Early Roman	
147	Unkno wn	?BSW		Body		2	0	1	Very		? Roman	LIA-c AD60/70
147	Unkno wn	UNS GS	B	Body		9	0	78	Sli	BSW traits	LIA-c AD60/70	(BSW style fabrics, looks
147	Unkno wn	SOB GT	D	Body		5	0	32	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	post-conquest)
147	Unkno wn	UNS GS	B	Body		1	0	1	Sli	Reduced, soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	
147	Unkno wn	UNS GS	B	Body		1	0	6	Sli	Close to BSW	LIA-c AD60/70	
147	Unkno wn	UNS GS	B	Body	Rilling	1	0	19	Sli	Oxidised sandy, Romanising	?LIA-Early Roman	
147	Unkno wn	UNS GS	B	G		1	0.07	12	Sli	BSW traits	?LIA-c AD60/70	
149	Ditch	UNS GS	A/B	Body		1	0	9	Sli	BSW traits	?LIA-c AD60/70	LIA-c AD60/70
149	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body	Combed	3	0	72	Sli		1st-early/mid 2nd	(presence of BSW looks
149	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		5	0	95	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	mid-late 1st)
149	Ditch	?BSW		Body		3	0	40	Sli	No grog looks post Roman	?Early Roman	
149	Ditch	UNS OX		Body		1	0	2	Abr		? Roman	
149	Ditch	UNS GC	A/B	G5-1.1/Tho ?C5	Girth grooves	1	0.12	46	Sli	Soapy feel	LIA-c AD60/70	
151	Ditch	SOB GT	D	G16-19/Tho B1-1		24	0.48	572	Sli	B.eve 0.42. All same vessel with sparse/rare calcite, hard and soapy	LIA-c AD60/70	Mid-late 1st
151	Ditch	UNS OX (St)		Body		2	0	139	Abr-sli	One with rare grog Romanising	Early Roman	
151	Ditch	UNS SO		G Tho	Notches,	1	0.06	105	Sli	HM black core with	LIA?+	

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
				C8-1	wavy line					abundant ill sorted voids, residual?		
151	Ditch	?BSW	?A/B	G16-19/Tho B1-5	Girth groove	13	0.85	1098	Sli/gd	More sandy than soapy, grog sparse and quartz abundant, all ill sorted. Tho describes form as post conq	Mid-late 1st	
151	Ditch	BSW		Base	Grooved, vertical lines	49	0	899	Sli	B.eve 0.82. Sieved base, hard and sandy quartz with rare calcite as B1-5	Early Roman	
151	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		1	0	3	Abr	Close to UNS OX	?LIA-c AD60/70	
151	Ditch	GRF		Body		1	0	3	Sli	Looks like a Suffolk derived fabric, pale grey, slight soapy feel, highly micaceous, iron ore/calcite	Early Roman	
153	Ditch	UNS OX	?A/B	G		5	0.12	147	Sli	Quartz well sorted, sparse/rare grog	?Early Roman	Mid-late 1st
153	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		8	0	116	Sli	Some are oxidised	LIA-c AD60/70	
153	Ditch	SOB GT		Base		1	0	42	Sli	B.eve 0.32	LIA-c AD60/70	
153	Ditch	SOB GT (St)		Body	Combed	2	0	183	Sli		1st-early/mid 2nd	
153	Ditch	BSW		Body	Incised lines	2	0	65	Sli	Hard and fine	Early Roman	
153	Ditch	UNS OX		Body	Incised lines, burnished	1	0	3	Sli		?LIA-c AD60/70?+	
153	Ditch	BSW		G Tho ? B1-6		1	0.12	7	Sli	Lid-seated jar, Romanising with sparse large flint	Roman	
153	Ditch	UNS OX	B/C	G Tho B1-6		1	0.13	8	Sli	Lid-seated jar with calcite and grog	LIA/Early Roman	
154	Ditch	UNS GC	I	Base		2	0	87	Sli	B.eve 0.15	LIA-c AD60/70	
154	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		21	0	71	Sli/frg	Orange margins and grey core	LIA-c AD60/70	LIA-c AD60/70
154	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Base		1	0	137	Sli	B.eve 0.40 (pedestal)	LIA?+	(many fabrics transitional, but
154	Ditch	UNS OX (St)		Body		2	0	36	Sli		Roman	more sandy ones could
154	Ditch	BSW/SOB GT	B/D	G Tho B2-1	Ripples	16	0.19	766	Sli	Not sure if all the same vessel, form overlaps into post conquest period	LIA-c AD60/70	indicate mid-late 1st)
154	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		6	0	76	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	
154	Ditch	UNS SO		Body		2	0	40	Sli	With some quartz	LIA-c AD60/70	
154	Ditch	UNS OX	B/C	Body		1	0	5	Sli	Romanising fabric	?Early Roman	
154	Ditch	BSW	?A	Body	Rilling	2	0	62	Sli	This looks more Roman, hard, dense quartz rare grog close to Swav A	? Roman	

Context	Type	Fabric	Swav fab	Form	Dec	No	EVE	Wgt/g	State	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
156	Ditch	UNS GC	I/M	Body		3	0	82	Sli	Cup sherds, probably from E1 types	LIA-c AD60/70	LIA-c AD60/70
156	Ditch	SOB GT	D	Body		2	0	19	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	
156	Ditch	BSW	?G	Body		3	0	32	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	
158	Ditch	UNS GC	M	Body		2	0	70	Sli		LIA-c AD60/70	LIA-c AD60/70
158	Ditch	UNS OX	A/B	Base		2	0	108	Abr-sli	B.eve 0.17. Dense quartz with sparse grog	LIA-c AD60/70	(post-LIA?)

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal bone

By Chris Faine

- C.1.1 5.1kg of animal bone was recovered from the evaluation at Mill Lane, yielding 90 fragments of animal bone of which 35 were identifiable to species. Material was recovered from contexts dating from the following periods.
- **1:** Late Iron Age
 - **2:** Mid to Late 1st century
- C.1.2 The majority material from phase **1** were cattle remains with slightly smaller numbers of sheep/goat and single instances of pig and horse. Cattle remains consisted of partial upper limb elements along with two mandibles from animals aged 8 months to 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 to 3 years. These came from ditch fills 122 and 123 respectively. Sheep/goat remains consisted of a partial metacarpal and radius from fill (122) and mandible from (123). Fill 122 contained a partial pig mandible.
- C.1.3 As with phase **1** the assemblage from phase **2** is dominated by cattle remains, these consisting of lower limb elements and mandible fragments. Two ageable mandibles were recovered from ditch fills 153 and 154, coming from animals aged 1 1/2 to 2 years old and 4 years old respectively. Sheep/Goat remains recovered consisted mainly of tibia fragments along with humeri and metacarpals. Pig remains are limited to a juvenile scapula and ulna from ditch fills 156 and 158. A single horse 1st phalanx was recovered from ditch fill 147 and a partial pig radius from ditch fill 149.
- C.1.4 This is a small assemblage that most likely represents general settlement waste.

	1	2	Total
Cattle (<i>Bos</i>)	6	10	16
Sheep/Goat (<i>Ovis/Capra</i>)	3	8	11
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)	1	5	6
Horse (<i>Equus</i>)	0	1	1
Total:	11	22	34

Table 4: Species distribution for the assemblage

C.2 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 A total of ten bulk samples were taken from features within the excavated areas at Mill lane, Hemmingford Grey. Features sampled include ditches and pits dating from the Iron Age period through to the Roman period. The purpose of this assessment is to determine whether plant remains are present, their mode of preservation and whether they are of interpretable value with regard to domestic, agricultural and industrial activities, diet, economy and rubbish disposal.

Methodology

C.2.1 The total volume (up to 20 litres) of each bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and a list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 5. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Stace (1997). Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Results

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Charred plant remains
1	9	10	Ditch	40	#	0	0	+	0	Single barley and wheat grains
2	13	14	Pit	140	#	0	0	++	++	Free-threshing wheat grain
3	15	16	Post hole	20	0	0	0	+	0	Sparse charcoal only
4	23	24	Ditch	80	0	0	0	+	0	Sparse charcoal only
5	26	27	Ditch	30	##	0	0	++	+	Free-threshing wheat grains
100	124	126	Ditch	45	#	0	0	+	0	Oats and indet. grain. Vitrified charcoal
101	131	130	Ditch	30	0	0	0	+	0	sparse charcoal only
102	119	118	Pit	50	#	0	0	+	0	wheat and indet. grain
103	115	114	Pit	60	#	#	#	+	0	Barley, indet grain, spelt glume base,

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Charred plant remains
										indet glume base, oat/grass seed, knotgrass seed
104	147	xxx	Ditch	2 #		0	#	++	++	small flot volume. Barley, wheat and indet grain. Grass seeds, charred grass stems, dock, clover and spike rush seeds.

Table 5: Environmental samples

C.2.1 Hammerscale is present in samples all of the samples bar Samples 101 and 103.

Discussion

- C.2.1 In general the samples were poor in terms of identifiable material. The charred plant remains consist mainly of cereal grains that were all poorly preserved, either because of taphonomic factors or because they had been charred at a high temperature. The poor preservation did not allow detailed identifications and most of the grains have been identified simply as cereals although barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and oats (*Avena* sp.) have been tentatively identified. Free-threshing wheat grains (*T. aestivum sensu-lato*) are present in Samples 2 (fill 13 of pit **14**) and 5 (fill 26 of ditch **27**). A glume base of spelt (*T. spelta*) wheat was identified in Sample 103 (fill 115 of pit **114**) by its characteristic morphology. Spelt is a hulled wheat species that was commonly cultivated in the Iron Age and the presence of chaff elements, albeit few, indicates that some cereal processing was taking place on site during this period.
- C.2.2 The charred weed seed assemblage has only limited species diversity and is comprised of oat/grass (Poaceae) seeds, single grains of knotgrass (*Polygonum* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.). Sample 104, fill 147 of ditch 152 produced a small flot volume (2 ml) that was entirely composed of burnt material and is likely to have been a deliberate deposit, of possibly hearth sweepings, within the top fill of the ditch.

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-192987			
Project Name	Excavation of Late Iron Age and Early Roman Activity at Innisfree, Mill Lane, Hemmingford Greys			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	11-02-2014	Finish	28-02-2014
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes		Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	HMG MIL14	Planning App. No.	1201189FUL
HER No.	ECB4128	Related HER/OASIS No.	ECB 4115

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt: Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation (100%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pit Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Open-Area Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditch	Iron Age -800 to 43	Pottery	Iron Age -800 to 43
Ditch	Roman 43 to 410	Pottery	Roman 43 to 410
pit	Iron Age -800 to 43		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Huntingdon	Innisfree Mill Lane Hemmingford Grey	
Parish	Hemmingford Grey		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	c. 0.15ha	National Grid Reference	TL 2953 7082

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Dan McConnell
Project Design Originator	Helen Stocks-Morgan and Aileen Connor
Project Manager	Aileen Connor
Supervisor	Anthony Haskins

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CCC Stores	OA EAST	CCC Stores
HMG MIL14	HMG MIL14	HMG MIL14

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location map showing excavation areas (red,) evaluation trenches (green), cropmarks (black) and Bush (2013) evaluation (blue)

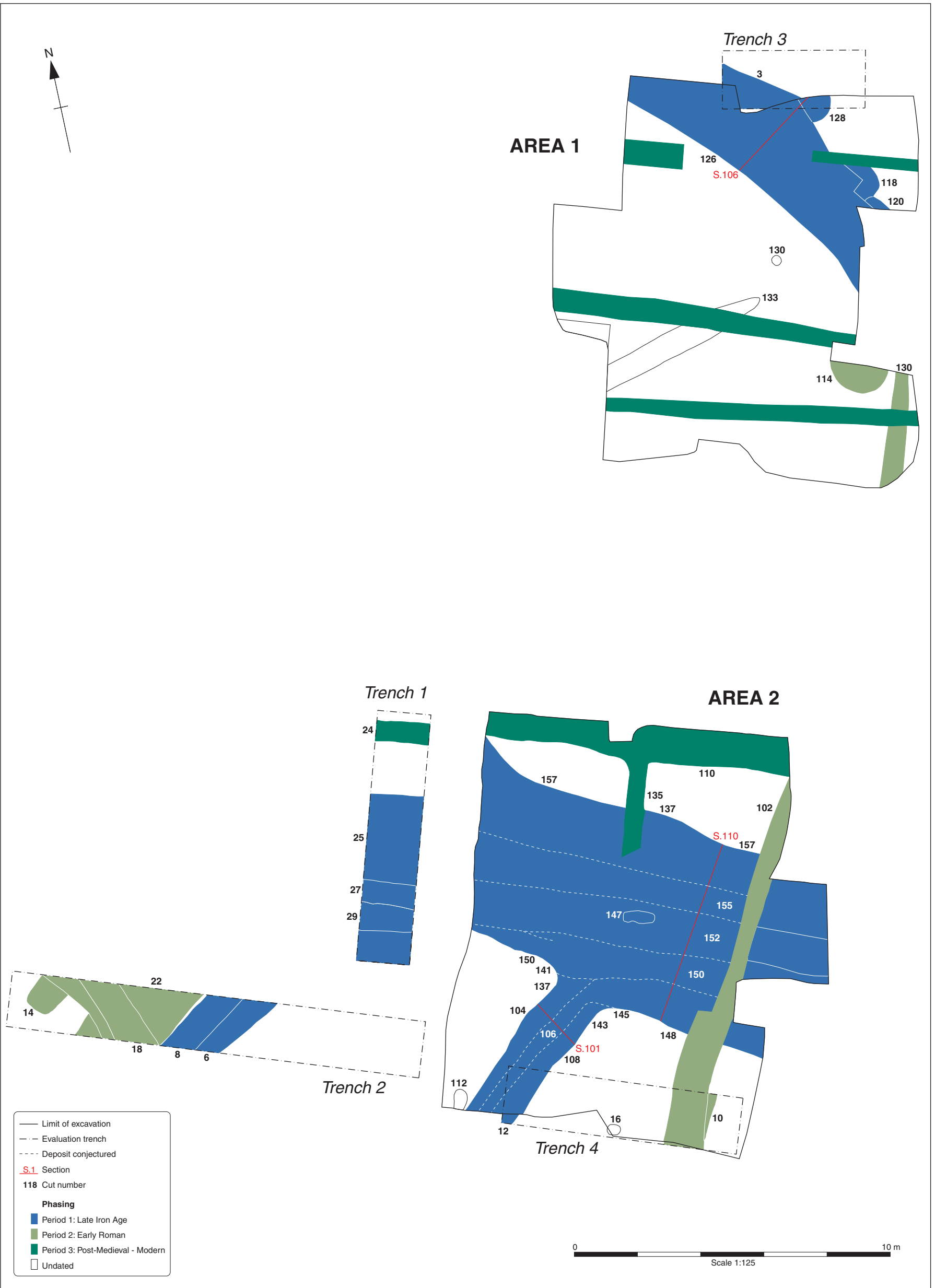


Figure 2: Phase plan

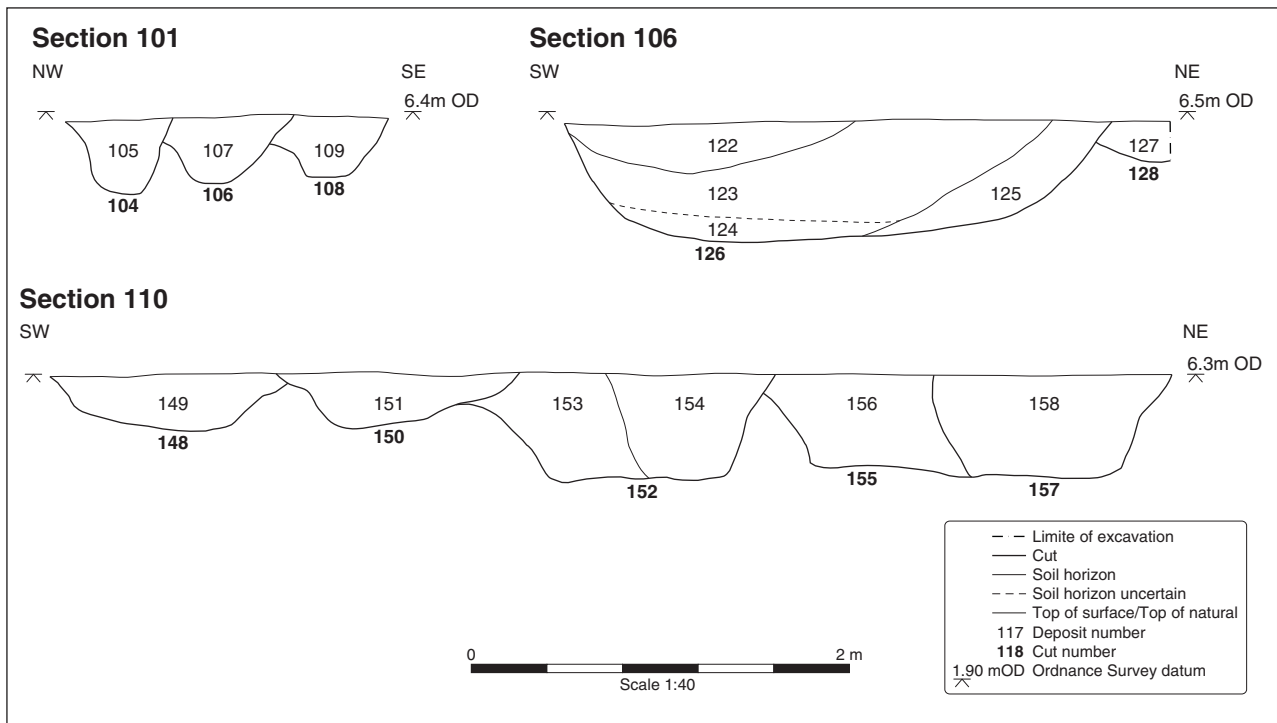


Figure 3: Selected sections



Plate 1: South-east facing section of ditch **126**



Plate 2: South-west facing section of ditches **104, 106 and 108**



Plate 3: East facing section of ditches **148, 150 and 152**



Plate 4: East facing section of ditches **150, 152 and 155**



Plate 5: East facing section of ditches **152**, **155** and **157**



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