



# Land North of Thetford, Norfolk

## Anglian Water Scheme CCR- 00007-63

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# ***Land to the North and East of Thetford, Norfolk: Anglian Water Scheme CCR-00007-63***

## ***Archaeological Excavation and Monitoring Report***

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## Summary

Between 20th January 2020 and 18th March 2022 Oxford Archaeology East undertook several phases of excavation and monitoring along the route of an Anglia Water pipeline on the outskirts of Thetford, Norfolk (TL 8641 8490 to TL 8768 8215). Seven parts of the pipeline route were subject to archaeological works (Areas 1-7), with excavation carried out in Areas 1 and 6 and monitoring of topsoil stripping in the other five areas.

Area 1 was located close to a major Iron Age and Roman site at Fison Way, to the north of Thetford, and revealed a relatively large number of poorly dated archaeological features, dominated by ditches alongside small pits and natural features. Aside from prehistoric worked flints and a small number of medieval to modern metal finds from topsoil/subsoil deposits, finds from these features were restricted to small quantities of Early Iron Age pottery (totalling 87 sherds, 426g), in poor condition and in most cases probably representing residual material caught up in later features/deposits. A single cremation burial, represented by some 400g of cremated human bone interred in a small pit, has also been radiocarbon dated to the Early Iron Age.

Area 6 was located to the east of Arlington Way, on the south-eastern outskirts of Thetford, and lay adjacent to a Romano-British farmstead first excavated in the 1990s. Again, a relatively large number of archaeological features, dominated by ditches, were revealed along the pipeline easement, but most produced no dateable finds. Only two of the ditches (neither of which produced any finds) seem likely, on the basis of their alignment, to have related to boundaries contemporary with the neighbouring Romano-British farmstead. The most significant remains in this area were a section of probable enclosure ditch and a number of associated pits which produced Middle Iron Age pottery (59 sherds, 1634g) and charred plant remains including cereal grain. These features probably represent part of a more extensive area of Middle Iron Age settlement, predating the significant Romano-British remains already known from the area.

No significant archaeological features or deposits were recorded during monitoring in the other areas of the pipeline route and finds were restricted to a single Late Neolithic flint arrowhead collected during topsoil stripping in Area 5, immediately north of Area 6.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake excavations and monitoring works along the route of an Anglian Water pipeline) on the northern and eastern outskirts of Thetford, Norfolk (Anglian Water Scheme CCR-00007-63; TL 8641 8490 to TL 8768 8215; Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken in compliance with the Anglian Water Code of Practice and in response to a brief issued set by John Percival of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCCES; dated 29/01/2018). The brief required archaeological mitigation (excavation or monitoring) in seven sections (Areas 1-7) along the 9.1km long scheme. A written scheme of investigation was produced by OA (Brudenell 2019a) detailing the methods by which OAE proposed to meet the requirements of the brief. The fieldwork was undertaken in several stages between January 2020 and March 2022.

## 1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The c. 9.1km route of the scheme skirted the northern and eastern edge of suburban Thetford, with the seven areas subject to excavation and monitoring laying in the parishes of Thetford and Croxton, in the north and Brettenham, in the south. Areas 1-3 were located along the northern part of the scheme and Areas 4-7 were located along the eastern and southern part of the scheme (Fig. 1; Table 1).

1.2.2 The entire area of the scheme is underlain by bedrock geology of chalk belonging to the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation. In Areas 1-2, in the northern part of the scheme, the chalk is overlain by superficial deposits of sands and gravels belonging to the Croxton Member, whilst Area 3, to the east, was located partly across superficial head deposits infilling a dry valley leading to the Thet valley to the south. Areas 4-7, along the southern part of the scheme, lay on the sands and gravels of the river terrace deposits on the southern side of the valley of the River Thet. Summaries of the geology and topography of each of the archaeological investigation sites are provided in Table 1.

Mitigation Area	Grid reference	Parish	Extent (length)	Superficial geology	Solid geology	Topography and landuse
1 (excav.)	TL 8686 8487 to TL 8711 8489	Thetford	370m	Sand and gravel	Chalk	Broadly flat, 50-51m OD. Arable
2 (monitor.)	TL 8711 8490 to TL 8747 8491	Croxton	620m	Sand and gravel	Chalk	Broadly flat, 50-51m OD. Arable
3 (monitor.)	TL 8766 8472 to TL8779 8466	Croxton	150m	Clay, silt and gravel (Head deposits)	Chalk	Gently sloping down to the east, 29-35m OD. Arable
4 (monitor.)	TL 8859 8312 to TL 8821 8292	Brettenham	450m	Sand and gravel	Chalk	Sloping down to the south-west, 22-16m OD. Arable
5 (monitor.)		Brettenham	150m	Sand and gravel	Chalk	Broadly flat, 18m OD. Pasture



Mitigation Area	Grid reference	Parish	Extent (length)	Superficial geology	Solid geology	Topography and landuse
6 (excav.)	TL 8802 8274 to 8764 8204		220m	Sand and gravel	Chalk	Broadly flat, 18-16m OD. Pasture
7 (monitor.)			330m	Sand and gravel	Chalk	Broadly flat, 18-16m OD. Pasture

Table 1 Summary of the geology and topography of the archaeological investigation sites

## 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site is based on a search of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) for an area within 500m of the route of the pipeline (NHER Enquiry 19\_02\_06), supplemented by information from available historic maps and other documentary evidence. The locations of selected NHER records referred to below are shown in Fig. 2.

### **Area 1 – TL 8686 8487 to TL 8711 84890**

1.3.2 The area is located just to the south-west of Fison Way (NHER 5853; Scheduled Monument, Historic England List Entry Number 1021416), the site of a of Late Iron Age and Early Roman rectilinear enclosure complex excavated in the early 1980s interpreted as a major religious/elite regional centre, associated with the remains of exceptionally large and elaborate roundhouse structures, funerary activity and specialised metalworking including minting of coinage (Gregory 1991a).

1.3.3 To the west, evaluation and subsequent excavation in 2006 revealed a Middle Iron Age pit group, as well as Iron Age to Roman linear features and a possible enclosure (NHER 38138).

1.3.4 The area to the north was subject to field walking and geophysical survey in 2010 (Holmes *et al* 2010). Neolithic and Bronze Age worked flints were recovered to the north-east (NHER 55882), whilst trenching immediately north of Area 1 exposed five ditches of unknown date (NHER 55938; Holmes *et al* 2011). To the south, three ditches containing worked flint were recorded in monitoring works on the industrial estate (NHER 59569).

1.3.5 To the east of Area 1 was Thetford's small civil airport located between the Croxton and Mundford Roads (NHER 24572). Its first known use was in 1932. In 1939 it was taken over as part of an army camp.

### **Area 2 – TL 8711 8490 to TL 8747 8491**

1.3.6 Whilst much of the archaeological background pertaining to Area 1 is applicable to Area 2, several other records have a bearing on this part of the scheme. In particular, Area 2 crosses a former World War Two military accommodation and training site, as recorded from aerial photographs on land to the east of Lodge Farm, Croxton (NHER 54509). Geophysical survey of the area in 2010 revealed large discrete anomalies which could represent buried structural features such as practice trenches (Holmes *et al* 2010).

1.3.7 A fieldwalking survey in 2010 also recovered finds across the various fields that Area 2 crosses. To the north, Neolithic to Early Bronze Age worked flint was found, together

with Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery (NHER 55884). Material of similar date was found in the field at the eastern end of Area 2, with worked flints including cores, flakes, blades, scrapers and an axehead (NHER 55922). Further flintwork was recorded to the north-east as part of the same fieldwork programme (NHER 55879), whilst metal detecting in 1996 recovered Saxon strap ends, a medieval finger ring, medieval buckles and a seal matrix (NHER 31906).

- 1.3.8 South of the eastern end of Area 2, a possible earthwork bank has been recorded from aerial photography (NHER 54531). Excavations in this area revealed six undated ditches and a post medieval posthole (NHER 58209), with no evidence of the bank. Further south, excavation revealed a single pit dated to the 17th century by a token recovered from its fill (NHER 58208), together with worked flint from the subsoil. In the same area metal detecting in the early 1980s recovered two 13th century pointed oval seal dies and a medieval English jetton (NHER 17952).

#### ***Area 3 – TL 8766 8472 to TL8779 8466***

- 1.3.9 Area 3 crossed a field where Roman to medieval pottery and worked flint was recovered from fieldwalking in 2010 (NHER 55922 – see above). To the east of the area fieldwalking in the early 1990s identified two scatters of ?medieval pottery, and more systematic fieldwalking survey undertaken in 2010 recovered Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery and an assemblage of struck flint of Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date (NHER 55926).
- 1.3.10 To the north-east of Area 3 there are cropmarks of possible undated ditches and former field boundaries (NHER 53464). To the south-east metal detecting recovered a Roman coin, a medieval token and a medieval lead trial piece for a coin die (NHER 38083).

#### ***Area 4 – TL 8859 8312 to TL 8821 8292***

- 1.3.11 Area 4 crossed a field that was subject to metal detecting in 2004 and 2011. Artefacts recovered include Roman and post-medieval coins, and Roman, Saxon and medieval dress accessories (NHER 42644).
- 1.3.12 A similar repertoire of metal detecting finds was recovered to the north of the site in 2012 (NHER 56663), whilst to the north-west, linear earthwork banks have been recorded from aerial photography either side of the River Thet and the Thetford/Brettenham parish boundary (NHER 54594).

#### ***Areas 5, 6 and 7 – TL 8802 8274 to 8764 8204***

- 1.3.13 This section of the route crosses a series of paddocks that were subject to geophysical survey (Richardson 2015; ENF144682) and trial trenching (Clover 2017; ENF141846) between 2015 and 2016. A series of linear ditches and gullies were found across the site, together with scatters of pits and postholes. Some of the ditches appear to form part of a system of enclosures on an east-west and north-south alignment. Few datable finds were recovered, but it seems likely that the remains are a continuation of the archaeology revealed immediately north-west at Arlington Way (NHER 17269), where two phases of excavation, in 1994 and 2009, uncovered a settlement of Roman and

Early Anglo-Saxon date, with the remains of domestic and agricultural buildings, including sunken-featured buildings, pits and other features. The site also included a small cemetery of late Roman (4th century) date with 22 inhumations. Ten of the individuals recovered were 'deviant' burials, showing evidence of decapitation (Mudd 2002).

1.3.14 In the south of the route, in Area 7, several earthwork banks and ditches have been recorded from aerial photography (NHER 54549), together with the cropmark of a rectilinear feature (NHER 37350).

1.3.15 Outside the area of HER search carried out for this project, but relevant to the remains uncovered in Area 6 is the site of Thetford Castle (NHER 5747, Scheduled Monument, Historic England List Entry Number 1017670). The site is dominated by the earthwork remains of a medieval motte and baily castle, but these overlie the earthworks of a major Iron Age hillfort/defended enclosure, elements of which have been investigated through excavations in 1962 and 1985-6 (Davies and Gregory 1992).

## **2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Aims**

- 2.1.1 The overall aim of the investigations was to preserve by record the archaeological evidence contained within the footprint of easement areas, prior to damage by development, and investigate the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status, and significance of the remains revealed, and place these in their local, regional and national archaeological context.
- 2.1.2 Following the completion of the fieldwork, research aims will be revised and redefined or expanded as necessary, ensuring that they contribute to the goals of the Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area.

### **2.2 Regional Research Aims**

- 2.2.1 The mitigation works will take place within the context of, and aimed to contribute to, the goals of Regional Research Framework for the East of England (<https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/resource-assessments/>)

### **2.3 Fieldwork Methodology**

- 2.3.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the brief and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Brudenell 2019a).
- 2.3.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360° type excavator using a 2.1m 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'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 The line of the route and the width of the easement was set out by Anglian Water in advance of archaeological works. The mitigations areas were set out by OA in accordance with the plan attached to this WSI using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.
- 2.3.6 Topsoil and subsoil were stored within the footprint of the pipeline easement. Subsoil storage was upon the stripped topsoil on one half of the easement.
- 2.3.7 The top of the first archaeological deposits was cleared by machine, then cleaned off by hand. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as necessary, in order to clarify located features and deposits.
- 2.3.8 When human remains were encountered during mitigation works, the Client, Norfolk County Coroner, and the NCCES were informed immediately.

- 2.3.9 Human remains were excavated in accordance with all appropriate legislation and Environmental Health regulations. Excavation only took place after Oxford Archaeology had obtained a Ministry of Justice exhumation license.
- 2.3.10 Metal detector searches took place at all stages of the mitigations works by an experienced metal detector user. Areas were detected immediately before and after mechanical stripping. Both excavated areas and spoil heaps were checked. To prevent losses from night-hawking, features were metal detected immediately after stripping.
- 2.3.11 Metal detectors were not set to discriminate against iron.
- 2.3.12 Sampling methods followed guidelines produced by Historic England and Oxford Archaeology. Environmental samples (up to 40 litres) were taken from a range of potentially datable features and well-stratified deposits to target the recovery of plant remains, fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone and small artefacts.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the excavation are presented below, organised by Area, and include a stratigraphic description of the archaeological remains. Details of all contexts are included in App. A, with finds and environmental reports presented in Apps B and C respectively.
- 3.1.2 Cut/intervention numbers appear in **bold**. Where individual features were investigated by multiple interventions they are generally referred to by the lowest cut number assigned to the feature as a whole. In some instances, features have been grouped, and are again referred to using the lowest cut number assigned to any of features in the group.

#### *Phasing*

- 3.1.3 A large proportion of the excavated features in Areas 1 and 6 did not produce dateable finds, and this - together with the difficulty of establishing the full layout and relationships of features exposed along the narrow pipeline easement – has precluded secure dating and phasing of many of these features. Where possible, however, the remains have been attributed to four broad periods, as defined below.

Period 1: ?Prehistoric

Period 2: Early Iron Age

Period 3: Middle Iron Age

Period 4: Modern

### 3.2 Ground conditions

- 3.2.1 Ground conditions throughout the excavation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

### 3.3 Area 1 (Figs 3 and 4)

- 3.3.1 The programme of excavation works at Area 1 was commissioned due to the close proximity of the Scheduled Monument at Fison Way located to the west and north-west of the excavated pipeline (see Section 1.3). The investigated easement of the pipeline was L-shaped, extending for 164m on a north north-east to south south-west alignment, and a further 208m on a north-west to south-east alignment (Plates 1 and 2). The easement was between 5m and 7m wide. The natural geology of light yellow sand was overlain by a mid reddish brown silty sand subsoil (2), with an average thickness of 0.13m thick, which in turn was overlain by ploughsoil (1) with an average thickness of 0.41m.
- 3.3.2 The excavation uncovered field system ditches and a series of discrete features (pits, postholes, a single cremation burial and natural features). The majority of features uncovered were devoid of finds. However, a small assemblage of Early Iron Age pottery and worked flint was recovered from the area and the cremation burial has been

radiocarbon dated to the Early Iron Age. The only dateable finds from the ditches consisted of small quantities of Early Iron Age pottery, and on this basis the main group of ditches have been tentatively assigned a prehistoric date, although this is far from certain and given their alignment with modern field boundaries it is possible they relate to much later (medieval-post-medieval) land use (see Discussion, Section 4).

### Period 1: ?Prehistoric

- 3.3.3 The excavations at Area 1 uncovered a series of field division ditches forming a rectangular field system. A small amount of Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from these features.

#### Field system 10

- 3.3.4 In total, 15 linear features were recognising as forming part of an extensive field system (ditches **10, 30, 36, 39, 50, 57, 59, 86, 90, 100, 106, 108, 110, 113** and **115**). The majority of these were aligned north-east to south-west, with only two ditches (**30** and **39**) aligned perpendicular to this: north-west to south-east. These features were generally relatively slight (typically up to 0.3-0.5m deep) and were filled by deposits of mid greyish brown silty sand. They are described here from east to west across the excavation area.
- 3.3.5 Ditch **110** was 1.08m wide and 0.36m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 44; Plate 3). It was filled by a deposit of dark brown silty sand (111) which contained 15 sherds (34g) of Early Iron Age pottery and five flint flakes.
- 3.3.6 Ditch **106** was 0.56m wide and up to 0.22m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand (107), which contained a single sherd (6g) of Early Iron Age pottery.
- 3.3.7 Ditch terminus **115** was 0.56m wide and 0.31m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by two deposits. The basal fill of mid yellowish brown sand (116), 0.19m thick, was overlaid by 0.12m thick deposit of mid greyish brown sand (117). The upper fill contained three sherds (26g) of Early Iron Age pottery.
- 3.3.8 Ditch terminus **113** was excavated immediately south-west of ditch **115**. It was 0.75m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Plate 4). It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand (114), which contained a sherd (6g) of Early Iron Age pottery.
- 3.3.9 Ditch **108** was 0.35m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 42; Plate 5). It was filled by a deposit of mid greyish yellow silty sand (109), which contained a single sherd (4g) of Early Iron Age pottery, two flint flakes and one flint core.
- 3.3.10 Ditch **86** was 0.25m wide and 0.05m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish yellow sandy silt (87), which contained a single flint flake.
- 3.3.11 Gully **100** (=102) was between 0.38 and 0.5m wide and up to 0.19m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand (101=103), which contained a flint flake and two unworked burnt flints (16g).



- 3.3.12 Ditch terminus **59** was 0.52m wide and 0.15m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brown sand (60).
- 3.3.13 Ditch terminus **90** was 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep with sharp sides and concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid yellowish brown silty sand (91).
- 3.3.14 Ditch terminus **57** was 0.26m wide and 0.08m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand (58).
- 3.3.15 Ditch **50** was 0.73m wide and 0.28m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 19). It was filled by up to two deposits. The basal fill consisted of light yellowish brown sand (51), 0.08m thick. It contained a single sherd (1g) of Early Iron Age pottery. It was overlain by mid brownish grey sand (52), 0.24m thick.
- 3.3.16 Ditch **36** was 0.6m wide and 0.21m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid yellowish brown silty sand (37).
- 3.3.17 Ditch **39** was 0.94m wide and 0.31m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 12; Plate 6). It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand (40).
- 3.3.18 Ditch **30** was 0.7m wide, 0.13m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a deposit of mid greyish yellow sand (31). A single flint flake was recovered from this feature.
- 3.3.19 Ditch **10** was 0.56m wide, 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 6). It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (11).

#### **Discrete features**

- 3.3.20 A total of thirteen poorly dated discrete features had been tentatively identified as potentially being of prehistoric date. They are described here from east to west across the excavation area.
- 3.3.21 Posthole **140** was located north-west of ditch **113**. It was 0.41m in diameter and 0.16m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown sand (141), which contained a small assemblage of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flintwork (three flint flakes, two flint blades and one blade-like flint) alongside one small sherd of Early Iron Age pottery (2g). It was truncated by posthole **142**, which measured 0.2m in diameter and 0.13m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a deposit of mid greyish brown sand (143).
- 3.3.22 Pit **82** was located immediately south-east of posthole **140**. It was 0.87m in diameter, 0.13m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey silty sand (83), which contained a single flint flake and a small assemblage of Early Iron Age pottery.
- 3.3.23 Possible beam slot/gully **96 (=98)** was truncated by gully **100** of field system **10** (see above). Two postholes (**92** and **94**) were located just to the south-west of this feature, which was 4.20m long, up to 0.73m wide and up to 0.28m deep, with steep sides and concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 38). It was filled by a single deposit of mid reddish brown silty sand, which contained three flint flakes.

- 3.3.24 The two postholes (**92** and **94**) measured 0.30m and 0.56m in diameter respectively and were up to 0.13m deep with steep sides and concave bases (Fig. 6a, Section 37). They were filled by homogenous deposits of mid brownish grey silty sand. A flint flake was recovered from posthole **94**.
- 3.3.25 Pit **41** was excavated north-west of ditch **50**, field system **10**. It measured up to 1.18m in diameter, 0.23m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a deposit of light yellowish brown silty sand (42), which contained one flint flake and a Mesolithic microlith.
- 3.3.26 Quarry pit **34** was located towards the south-east corner of the Area 1 and continued beyond the south-western limit of excavations. The exposed part of this pit measured up to 1.95m wide and 1.40m deep, with vertical sides (Fig. 6a, Section 15; Plate 7). Due to safety concerns the pit was excavated by hand to a depth of 0.90m and was then augured a further 0.50m to its base. This pit was filled by a single homogenous deposit of mid brown sand (35). A total of four flint flakes were recovered from this feature.
- 3.3.27 Pit **24** was subcircular in plan with gently sloping sides and an irregular base. It measured up to 0.5m in diameter and 0.13m deep and was filled by a single deposit of dark greyish brown silty sand (25).
- 3.3.28 Pit **18** was an amorphous shape in plan with gently sloping sides and an irregular base (Fig. 6a, Section 13; Plate 8). It measured up to 1m in diameter and 0.05m deep and was filled by a single deposit of dark greyish brown silty sand. In total six worked flints, one irregular waste flint and five flakes, and four unworked burnt flints (26.7g) were recovered from this feature.
- 3.3.29 Amorphous shaped feature **20** had gently sloping sides and an irregular base (Fig. 6a, Section 13). it measured up to 1.1m in diameter, 0.05m deep and was filled by a single deposit of mid brown fine sand (21), which contained seven flint flakes and eleven unworked burnt flints (80g).
- 3.3.30 Amorphous feature **22** measured up to 0.9m in diameter, 0.09m deep with gently sloping sides and an irregular base (Fig. 6a, Section 13). it was filled by a single deposit of yellowish brown fine sand (23), which contained two flint flakes and five unworked burnt flints (36.6g).

### Natural features

- 3.3.31 An extremely irregular complex of natural features (**128**), thought to represent the remains of network of animal burrows., was investigated towards the eastern half of the north-west to south-east aligned section of Area 1. The fills of these features produced a significant proportion of the Early Iron Age pottery from Area 1. Multiple interventions were excavated in this feature (**128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 144, 146, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160**; Plate 9) and an associated linear feature (**148=150**). The natural feature measured up to 13m in diameter and varied in depth between 0.06m to 0.50m (average 0.23m), with irregular but often steep to vertical edges and a generally concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 61). It was filled by a fairly homogenous mid greyish brown silty sand deposit. A total of 36 sherds (166g) of Early Iron Age pottery and four flint flakes and a flint blade were recovered from these interventions.

## Period 2: Early Iron Age

- 3.3.32 A single un-urned cremation burial held in a small pit (**112**) was identified towards the south-eastern corner of the site. This feature measured up to 1.17m in diameter and 0.25m deep with vertical sides and a very irregular irregular base (Fig. 6a, Section 47; Plates 10-12). The fill of the pit (118) was a very dark grey silty sand with lenses of dark brown silty sands, in addition to cremated bone, it contained a single sherd (1g) of Early Iron Age pottery and a flint flake. A small amount of cremated bone and charcoal was also recovered from the upper part of the natural sands into which the pit been cut (119), presumably as a result of bioturbation A sample of the cremated bone has been radiocarbon dated to 774-403 cal BC (95.4% probability, SUERC-107155; App. D).
- 3.3.33 The cremation was disturbed by a probably plough scar or natural feature (**120**), It contained a single deposit of mixed, yellow, brown and black sand (121), which also contained 30g of cremated bone.

## Period 4: Post-Medieval to Modern

- 3.3.34 Rectangular pit **75** was located in the north-western part of the excavation area. It was 1.80m long, 1.30m wide and 0.15m deep, with gently sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 6a, Section 26; Plate 13). This pit was filled by two deposits. The lower fill of dark blackish brown sandy silt (76) was characterised by very frequent charcoal inclusions. It was overlaid by mid greyish brown sandy silt (77), which contained two modern nails (SF 7).

## Unphased

- 3.3.35 A total of four linear features did not follow the alignment of ditches of the Period 1 field system (see 3.3.4 above).
- 3.3.36 In the eastern part of the excavation area, ditch **16** was aligned west north-west to east south-east. It was 0.67 wide and 0.19m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand (17).
- 3.3.37 Ditch terminus **48** was aligned north north-east south south-west. It was 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown sand (49), which contained three flint flakes and one blade-like flake.
- 3.3.38 Ditch terminus **104** was aligned east north-east to west south-west. It was 0.83m wide, 0.42m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish grey sand (105).
- 3.3.39 Irregular gully **122 (=126)** was roughly orientated north north-west to south south-east. It was between 0.26m and 0.32m and between 0.09m and 0.12m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a homogenous deposit of mid brownish grey sand. It was truncated by a small posthole (**124**).

## Fence line 61

- 3.3.40 A possible fence line was recognised within the western part of Area 1. It consisted of seven postholes (**61, 63, 65, 69, 71, 73** and **78**) which were aligned north-west to

south-east, between Period 1 ditches **113** and **115** to the west and ditch **86** to the east. No finds were recovered from any of these features.

- 3.3.41 Posthole **78** intercut with post-medieval pit **75**; however, the relationship between these two features was unclear. The posthole was 0.4m in diameter, 0.14m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by three deposits. The basal fill of mid brownish black sandy silty contained frequent charcoal inclusions (79) and was 0.06m thick. It was overlain by mid pinkish yellow sand deposit 0.1m thick (80), which was covered by dark grey sandy silt 0.05m thick.
- 3.3.42 Posthole **73** was 0.29m in diameter, 0.21m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 30). It was filled by a mid brownish grey sand (74).
- 3.3.43 Posthole **71** was 0.29m in diameter, 0.23m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 30). It was filled by a deposit of mid brownish grey sand (72).
- 3.3.44 Posthole **69** was 0.35m in diameter, 0.29m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a light greyish brown sand (70).
- 3.3.45 Posthole **63** was up to 0.24m in diameter 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a deposit of mid greyish brown sand (64), which was truncated by posthole **65**.
- 3.3.46 Posthole **65** measured 0.18m in diameter 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by dark greyish brown sand (66).
- 3.3.47 Posthole **61** was 0.26m in diameter, 0.27m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brown sand (62), which contained two flint flakes.

#### **Discrete features**

- 3.3.48 Nine unphased postholes, three pits and seven possible pits/natural features were identified within this area. These features were widely spread across the excavated area and did not have any clear relationships with the phased features. They are described here from west to east.
- 3.3.49 Posthole **84** was excavated east of ditch **106**, field system **10**. It measured 0.26m in diameter and 0.12m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mid brownish grey sand (85).
- 3.3.50 Posthole **67** was identified north-west of ditch **57**, field system **10**. It was 0.32m in diameter and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mid brownish grey sand (68).
- 3.3.51 Pit or natural feature **88** was excavated north-west of natural feature **128**. It measured 2.03m long, 0.84m wide and 0.26m deep with steep sides and an irregular base. It was filled by a homogenous deposit of mid yellowish brown silty sand (89). A single flint flake was recovered from this feature.
- 3.3.52 Probable natural feature **55** was identified north of feature **88**. It was amorphous in shape with gently sloping sides and a flat base. This feature was up to 0.65m in diameter 0.14m deep. It was filled by light greyish yellow sand (56), which was truncated by posthole **53**.

- 3.3.53 Posthole **53** was 0.4m in diameter and 0.3m deep with very steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand (54).
- 3.3.54 Pit **43** was 0.7m in diameter and 0.22m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a deposit of light yellowish grey (44). It was truncated by pit **45**.
- 3.3.55 Pit **45** measured 0.8m in diameter and 0.39m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by two deposits. The basal fill of light yellowish grey sandy silt (46). It was overlain by a deposit of mid yellowish grey sandy silt (47).
- 3.3.56 Pit **32** was excavated south of ditch **39**, field system **10**. It measured up to 1.54m in diameter and 0.27m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brown sand (33).
- 3.3.57 Pit **26** was identified north of ditch **30**, field system **10**. It measured 0.64m in diameter and 0.43m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 10; Plate 14). It was filled by three deposits. The basal deposit was a light brownish grey sand (27), 0.13m thick. This was overlain by light yellowish brown sand (28), 0.11m thick. The top deposit consisted of mid greyish brown sand (29), up to 0.33m thick.
- 3.3.58 Pit **24** was excavated north of pit **26**. It measured 0.5m in diameter, 0.13m deep, with gently sloping sides and an irregular base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark brownish grey silty sand (25).
- 3.3.59 Posthole **12** was excavated south of ditch **10**, field system **10**. It measured 0.51m in diameter and 0.11m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey silty sand (13).
- 3.3.60 Posthole **14** was identified east of posthole **12**. It measured 0.27 in diameter and 0.06m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (15).
- 3.3.61 A further three features, two possible pits/natural features and a posthole, were excavated towards the north-eastern end of Area 1. Feature **8** measured 0.55m in diameter and 0.24m deep with irregular sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish yellow sand (9).
- 3.3.62 Feature **4** measured up to 1.82m in diameter and 0.28m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6a, Section 1). It was filled by a single deposit of mid yellowish brown sand (5). A flint blade was recovered from this feature.
- 3.3.63 Posthole **6** measured 0.45m in diameter, 0.26m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish yellow sand (7).

### 3.4 Areas 2 – 5 and 7

- 3.4.1 Throughout Areas 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 the pipeline easement measured up to 12m wide and was excavated up to a depth of between 0.2 to 0.4m through the topsoil (Plates 15-17). Topsoil stripping did not identify any archaeological features or deposits of any kind. A single oblique flint arrowhead of Late Neolithic date was recovered from the topsoil (5000) of Area 5.

### 3.5 Area 6 (Fig. 5)

- 3.5.1 The programme of excavation works at Area 6 was commissioned due to the proximity of Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon settlement at Arlington Way. The investigated part of the pipeline easement was 255m long on north-east to south-west alignment. It was up to 8m wide. The natural geology of light yellow sand was overlain by a mid reddish brown silty sand subsoil, with an average thickness of 0.1m thick, which in turn was overlain by ploughsoil with an average thickness of 0.2m.

#### Period 3: Middle Iron Age

- 3.5.2 The earliest dated features revealed by the excavation related to Middle Iron Age activity, consisting of a probable enclosure ditch (ditch **6110**) and a group of associated pits in the southern part of the excavation area and further, scattered, pits to the north and south. The enclosure and pit group in the centre of area cut through a pair of earlier features, a linear ditch and a curvilinear gully, and although these did not produce dateable finds they may relate to an earlier phase of Middle Iron Age activity. This complex of features in the central part of the site is described below, followed by description of the other Period 3 features found across the area.

#### Ditch 6108 and gully 6056

- 3.5.3 In the southern part of Area 6 ditch **6098** (= **6108**, **6130**, **6132**) was orientated north north-east to south south-west. It was 0.42m to 0.52m wide and between 0.1 and 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 645). It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown sand. This ditch was truncated by Middle Iron Age ditch **6104** and ditches **6094** and **6102** of undated field system **6015** (see below)
- 3.5.4 Appended to ditch **6098**, at its south-eastern end, was curvilinear gully **6056** (= **6106**), which formed a semi-circular feature some 6m in diameter. It measured between 0.28m and 0.3m wide and was up to 0.24m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand. This feature was truncated by Middle Iron Age features, pit **6035** (pit group **6031**) and ditch **6104**.

#### Enclosure ditch 6110 and associated pits

- 3.5.5 Both ditch **6098** and **6056** were cut by an L-shaped section of ditch (**6110** = **6134**, **6104**) which seems likely to have formed the northern corner of a rectilinear enclosure, although the absence of any corresponding feature to the south suggests it may have been opened sided in that direction. The ditch was aligned north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east and measured between 0.93 – 1.48m wide and 0.2-0.4m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 634). It was filled by a single homogenous deposit of mid greyish brown sand. Two sherds (12g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, five flint chips, five flint flakes, 92 fragments of unworked burnt flints (510g) and a flint scraper were recovered from intervention **6134**.
- 3.5.6 Within the area enclosed by L-shaped ditch **6110** was a group of five intercutting pits (**6031**, **6035**, **6039**, **6043**, **6049**; Fig. 6b, Section 614; Plate 18). The earliest of these features (pit **6031**) was subcircular in plan, measuring 0.8m in diameter, 0.72m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled with three deposits. Its basal fill (6032) of



light orange brown sand was 0.14m thick. This was overlain by a 0.24m thick deposit of dark grey sand (6033). The upper fill was a light greyish brown sand (6034), 0.25m thick. It was truncated by pit **6035**.

- 3.5.7 Sub-circular pit **6035** was up to 2.8m in diameter and 0.76m deep with irregular sides and a flat base. It was filled by three deposits. Its basal fill of light grey sand (6036) was overlain by a dark grey sand (6037), which contained 18 sherds (177g) of Middle Iron Age pottery. The upper fill was a light greyish brown sand (6038). This was truncated by pit **6039**.
- 3.5.8 Sub-circular pit **6039** was up to 1.65m in diameter, 0.97m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. Its basal fill of grey sand (6040) was 0.6m thick. This was overlain by a deposit of dark grey sand (6041) which was in turn sealed by a light greyish brown sand deposit (6042) 0.39m thick, which contained four sherds (122g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.5.9 This feature was cut by pit **6043**, which was up to 2.4m in diameter and 1.02m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by a total of five deposits. Its basal fill (6044) of light grey sand was overlain by two deposits of light yellowish brown sand (6045) and (6046). These were sealed by a 0.31m thick dark grey sand (6047). The uppermost deposit consisted of a mid greyish brown sand (6048), which contained 15 sherds (881g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, a flint flake and four unworked burnt flints (132.7g). Pit **6043** also cut through another pit, **6049**, which measured up to 1.4m in diameter and 0.37m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown sand (6050).
- 3.5.10 A further three discrete pits were found in close proximity to this group of intercutting pits (**6051**, **6054** and **6112**); none contained any find but they are thought likely to be broadly contemporary with the Period 2 features.
- 3.5.11 Sub-circular pit **6051** was 1.45m in diameter and 0.47m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by two deposits. The basal fill of dark greyish brown sand (6052) was overlain by a deposit of light greyish brown sand (6053).
- 3.5.12 Sub-circular pit **6054** was 0.42m in diameter 0.11m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single homogenous deposit of dark greyish brown sand (6055).
- 3.5.13 Pit **6112** was 0.7m in diameter and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand (6113).

### Discrete features

- 3.5.14 A further ten discrete features in Area 6 have been attributed to Period 2.
- 3.5.15 Three of these features were found south of Enclosure ditch **6110** (**6138**, **6160**, **6163**), and the remainder to the north.
- 3.5.16 Tree throw **6138** was 1.36m in diameter and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 653). It was filled by a single deposit of mid orangey brown sand (6139), which contained a single sherd (1g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and 18 fragments of unworked burnt flints (167.4g).



- 3.5.17 Pit **6160** was excavated against the western edge of the excavations. It was 1.16m in diameter 0.4m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark greyish brown sand (6161), which contained a single sherd (45g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.5.18 Pit **6163** was excavated between two undated linear features, ditches: **6116** and **6114**. It measured 1.22m in diameter and up to 0.5m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 656). The basal fill of light greyish brown sand (6164), 0.2m thick, contained two sherds (28g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, 18 flint chips, a flint flake, 15 fragments of unworked burnt flint (255g) and three fragments of burnt bone of a medium sized mammal. It was overlain by a deliberate backfill of 0.14m thick yellowish and orangey brown clay (6165). The uppermost fill consisted of mid greyish brown sand (6166), 0.2m thick, which contained seven sherds (251g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and five fragments of unworked burnt flints (340.4g).
- 3.5.19 Features to the north of enclosure ditch **6110** consisted of five pits and two short lengths of gully.
- 3.5.20 Sub-circular pit **6007** was up to 1.48m in diameter and 0.18m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish sand, which contained two sherds (23g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.5.21 Circular pit **6009** was up to 1.08m and 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 64). It was filled by a single deposit of mid yellowish grey silty sand, which contained six sherds (25g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.5.22 Circular pit **6003** was up to 0.65m in diameter and 0.12m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 61). It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey silty sand.
- 3.5.23 Circular pit **6005** was up to 0.96m in diameter and 0.24m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base (Plate 19). It was filled by a single deposit of mid yellowish grey silty sand (6006), which contained a fragment of a carpo-metacarpus from a Bantam hen.
- 3.5.24 Sub-circular pit **6019** was excavated towards the centre of Area 6. It was up to 1.76m in diameter, 0.2m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (6020), which contained a sherd (57g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.
- 3.5.25 Short gully **6064** aligned east-west was 2.3m long, 0.31m wide and 0.07m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey sand (6065).
- 3.5.26 Short gully **6066** aligned north north-west to south south-east was located towards the southern part of Area 6. It was 3.13m long, 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey sand (6067), which contained a single sherd (15g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.

## Undated

3.5.27 The majority of features, dominated by linear ditches, excavated throughout Area 6 did not produce dateable finds and cannot be assigned to a specific period. At a very general level however, a distinction can be made between a large number of linear and curvilinear ditches on varying alignments (and often intercutting) and a later group of north-west south-east aligned ditches which seem to belong to a single system of boundaries (field system **6015**, described separately below).

### Ungrouped linear features

3.5.28 In the northern part of the excavation area a complex group of intercutting ditches was revealed. The earliest of these features was ditch **6197**. Aligned north-west to south-east, this feature was 0.5m wide, 0.14m deep with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish grey sand.

3.5.29 To the south-west of this feature was a short length of similarly aligned ditch which terminated within the excavation area (**6187=6189**). This ditch was between 0.37m and 0.44m wide, and 0.2m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand.

3.5.30 Ditches **6197** and **6187** were both cut by curvilinear ditch 6185 (= **6191, 6199**), which was orientated north-east to south-west turning to a north-west-south-east alignment to the south. This feature was up to 0.83m wide and 0.38m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single homogenous deposit of mid greyish brown sand.

3.5.31 Ditch **6185** was cut by a pair of parallel, intercutting, north-west to south-east aligned ditches, **6201** and **6205**. Ditch **6201** (= **6203, 6207**) was the earliest of these two features and was 0.77m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 672). It was filled by a predominantly mid brownish grey sand deposit, with some interventions containing rooting disturbance. Ditch **6205** measured 1m wide, 0.34m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mixed light to dark grey sand.

3.5.32 Parallel to these two ditches, located less than 4m to the north, was ditch **6167** (= **6171**). This feature was up to 0.75m wide and up to 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single homogenous deposit of light greyish brown.

3.5.33 Ditches **6201, 6205** and **6167** were all cut across by ditch **6173** (= **6177, 6169, 6209**), a curvilinear/sinuuous feature roughly aligned north-east to south-west. It measured up to 0.95m wide, and 0.34m deep with predominately steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 659). It was filled by a homogeneous deposit of light brownish grey.

3.5.34 To the east of ditch **6185**, L-shaped gully **6193** (= **6195**) was orientated north-east to south-west and west north-west to east south-east alignment. It was between 0.17m and 0.41m wide and up to 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by light greyish brown sand (6194) which became dark greyish brown sand (6196) towards its northern terminus.

- 3.5.35 Ditch **6183** was identified towards the central part of Area 6. It was aligned north-west to south-east, was 0.36m wide, 0.14m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown sand.
- 3.5.36 Two further east to west aligned ditches, were revealed within the centre of Area 6. Ditch **6181** was 0.69m wide, 0.17m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand. Ditch **6179** was identified immediately south of ditch **6181**. It was 1.82m wide, 0.6m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a homogenous deposit of mid greyish brown sand.
- 3.5.37 To the south, ditch **6025** (=6027) was orientated north-west to south-east. It was between 0.33m to 0.4m wide and up to 0.12m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light yellowish grey silty sand. This ditch was truncated by ditch **6011**.
- 3.5.38 Cutting across ditch **6025** was curvilinear ditch **6011** (=6013, 6023, 6029, 6058), this was aligned north-east to south-west turning to a north north-east to south south-west alignment to the south. It was between 0.41m and 0.72m wide and between 0.1m and 0.24m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 611). It was filled by a single deposit of light yellowish grey silty sand.
- 3.5.39 A second major group of intercutting linear features was excavated in the southern part of Area 6. The earliest element of this complex of features appears to have been two parallel north-east to south-west aligned ditches, **6118** and **6070**. Ditch **6118** (=6074) was orientated north-east to south-west. It measured up to 0.58m wide and 0.22m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mixed deposit of dark and mid grey sand (6119, 6075). Ditch **6070** (=6084, 6122) was 0.47m to 0.75m wide and up to 0.28m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mixed dark and light grey sand.
- 3.5.40 Ditch **6070** was cut by north-west to south-east aligned ditch **6082** (=6086, 6124). It was between 0.55m and 0.6m wide and up to 0.21m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 20). It was filled by a single deposit of light greyish brown sand. This feature was in turn cut by ditch **6068** (=6072, 6076, 6088, 6114) which was aligned north-east to south-west. It was between 0.65m and 1m wide and between 0.28 to 0.37m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single homogenous deposit of mid grey sand. Four flint chips and an unworked burnt flint (2.7g) were recovered from intervention **6088**.
- 3.5.41 All of these earlier ditches were cut across by a length of north north-east to south south-west aligned linear ditch, **6078** (=6092, 6116, 6128). This feature measured between 0.4m to 0.8m wide and up to 0.27m deep with predominately gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey sand, with a mix of dark greyish brown sand in the area of intervention **6128**.
- 3.5.42 The final feature in this sequence (aside from ditch **6120**, part of field system **6015**, see below), cutting across ditch **6978**, was ditch **6080** (=6126) was aligned north-west to south-east. It measured between 1m and 1.17m wide and up to 0.4m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 642). It was filled by a

single deposit of light grey sand, which contained a single flint chip and two flint flakes, recovered from intervention **6126**.

- 3.5.43 A further two curvilinear ditches were excavated towards the southern limit of excavation of Area 6 (Plate 21). Ditch **6142** (=6145) was aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 0.5m wide and up to 0.5m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by two deposits. The lower fill of dark brownish grey sand (6143) of 0.2m thick, was overlain by 0.15m thick deposit of dark grey sand (6144=6146). It was truncated by ditch **6147** (=6149) which was aligned north-west to south-east. It was 0.58m to 0.65m wide and between 0.26m and 0.44m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 648). It was filled by up to two deposits: a basal deposit of mid brownish grey sand (6150) and an upper dark grey sand (6151).

### Field system 6015

- 3.5.44 The stratigraphically latest features in Area 6, revealed across the southern part of the area, where six west north-west to east south-east ditches. These seem to relate to a single system of boundaries (field system **6015**) and are closely aligned on the modern field boundaries. They are described here from north to south.
- 3.5.45 Ditch **6015** was 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (6016).
- 3.5.46 Ditch **6017** was 0.41m wide, 0.07m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand (6018).
- 3.5.47 Ditch **6060** was 0.7m wide, 0.3m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid yellowish grey silty sand (6061). This feature cut earlier, unphased, ditch **6013**.
- 3.5.48 Ditch **6062** was 0.42m wide, 0.1m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey sand (6063).
- 3.5.49 Ditch **6094** (=6096) was 0.9m wide and up to 0.34m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 630). It was filled by a single homogenous deposit of mid greyish brown sand. This feature cut earlier, unphased, ditch **6098**.
- 3.5.50 Ditch **6102** (=6136) was 0.4m wide, and up to 0.34m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Plate 22). It was filled by a light to mid greyish brown sand deposit. This feature cut earlier, unphased, ditch **6098** and was cut by unphased pit **6100** (see below).
- 3.5.51 Ditch **6120** (=6090) was between 0.92m and 0.95m wide, up to 0.36m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6b, Section 639; Plate 23). It was filled mid greyish brown sand (6091), mixed with light grey sand (6121) in the area of intervention **6120**. This feature cut across the dense set of intercutting linear features in the southern part of Area 6 (see above).

### Undated discrete features

- 3.5.52 Circular pit **6021** was excavated north-west of ditch **6011**. It measured up to 0.83m in diameter and 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey silty sand (6022).

- 3.5.53 Sub-circular pit **6100** was excavated north of, and truncated ditch **6102**. It measured up to 1m in diameter and up to 0.2m deep. This pit had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of dark greyish brown sand (6101).
- 3.5.54 Posthole **6158** was excavated to the east of ditch **6116**. It measured up to 0.3m in diameter and up to 0.15m, with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey sand (6159).
- 3.5.55 Sub-circular pit **6140** was identified south of posthole **6158**. It measured up to 0.8m in diameter and 0.16m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown sand (6141).
- 3.5.56 Posthole **6156** was excavated between ditches **6072** and **6070**. It measured up to 0.37m in diameter and 0.39m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by two deposits. The basal fill of light greyish brown sand (6157) was 0.26m thick. It was overlain by 0.16m thick deposit of dark greyish brown sand (6162).
- 3.5.57 A possible fence line was identified towards the southern end of Area 6 and consisted of postholes **6152** and **6154**. They measured between 0.25m and 0.28m in diameter and between 0.17m and 0.26m deep with steep sides and flat bases. Both these postholes were filled by deposits of dark grey sand.

## 3.6 Finds and environmental summary

### *Metalwork (App. B.1)*

- 3.6.1 The metalwork assemblage consists of seven iron and copper alloy artefacts all from Area 1, recovered from the topsoil and from post-medieval/modern pit **75**. Alongside modern artefacts and unidentified pieces, the assemblage includes an iron knife blade potentially of Anglo-Saxon date and a medieval plate brooch.

### *Iron Age pottery (App. B.2)*

- 3.6.2 An assemblage totalling 147 sherds (2063g) of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the excavations in Areas 1 and 6. The assemblage from Area 1 consists of 87 sherds (426g) of Early Iron Age pottery, generally in poor condition and recovered in low densities largely from the fills of ditches and natural features. The pottery from Area 6 consisted of 59 sherds (1634g) of Middle Iron Age pottery (alongside one tiny sherd of undiagnostic 'prehistoric' pottery), recovered largely from the fills of pits and including some moderately substantial assemblages.

### *Flint (App. B.3)*

- 3.6.3 A total of 124 worked flints and 1567.5g (157 fragments) of unworked burnt flint were recovered during the excavations and watching brief. The majority of the flint derived from the excavations in Area 1 (83 worked flints, 159g of burnt flint) and Area 6 (40 worked flints, 1408g burnt flint), with just a single worked flint collected during the watching brief in Area 5. The assemblage is of limited significance but does clearly indicate activity across this landscape from the Mesolithic through to the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

### *Human skeletal remains (App. C.1)*

- 3.6.4 A single unurned cremation burial **112** was uncovered in Area 1. The burial has been dated to the Early Iron Age by radiocarbon dating of the cremated bone (774-403 cal BC; 95.4% probability; SUERC-107155; App. D). A total of 481g of cremated human bone has been recovered from the deposits associated with this burial. Based on the size and robustness of the elements the feature contains the remains of an older subadult/adult.

### *Animal Bone (App. C.2)*

- 3.6.5 A small collection of animal bone was collected from features excavated in Area 6, from two pits (**6005** and **6163**). A total of four recordable fragments are present, only one of which is identifiable to taxon- a bantam hen.

### *Environmental remains (App. C.3)*

- 3.6.6 The plant material from these two areas consists primarily of carbonised (charred) plant remains which are in a moderate state of preservation. The only notable remains from Area 1 were from cremation burial **112**, consisting of charred grass and weed seeds and woody stem fragments, potentially of heather. In Area 6 Samples from features associated with Middle Iron Age pottery produced occasional charred cereal gains (barley and wheat) and weed seeds, with the most significant assemblage, which includes some chaff and a relatively large quantity of charcoal, including possible heather stems, coming from a fill of pit **6035**.



## 4 DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following discussion provides an interpretation of the remains recorded in the two excavation areas (Areas 1 and 2). Both excavations revealed relatively large numbers of archaeological features, especially ditches, most of which could not be confidently assigned to a specific phase/period of activity due to a lack finds and/or clear associations/relationships with dated features. Nonetheless, remains relating to activity from prehistory to the modern period were recorded, with the most significant findings relating to Early Iron Age activity in Area 1 and Middle Iron Age in Area 6.
- 4.1.2 No archaeological features were identified during monitoring works in 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7; across all the monitoring areas only a single Late Neolithic (oblique) flint arrowhead was recovered from topsoil of Area 5.

### 4.2 Area 1

- 4.2.1 The assemblage of 83 worked flints from Area 1 provides evidence for long term, episodic, prehistoric activity at the site from the Mesolithic through to the Early Bronze Age, with notable finds including a Mesolithic microlith (App. B.3). The vast majority of this material clearly represents residual material caught up in the fills of later features, and although several small potentially single period assemblages were recovered from individual contexts it is unclear whether they are contemporary with the features from which they derive.
- 4.2.2 Aside from this flintwork (and leaving aside metalwork from topsoil/subsoil deposits and two nails from a single modern pit (**75**); App. B. 1) the only closely dateable finds recovered from Area 1 consisted of small quantities of Early Iron Age pottery (App. B.2), recovered in low densities from the fills of ditches, natural features/deposits and a small number of discrete features. This pottery was highly fragmented (mean sherd weight of 4.8g) and with the exception of one sherd from cremation burial **112** (see below) it is far from clear how much, if any, of this material derived from contemporary deposits, as opposed to it representing residual material. This is especially true of the material from the 15 linear ditches which have been tentatively attributed a prehistoric date (field system **10**; Period 1), which collectively produced some 22 sherds (77g) of highly fragmented Early Iron Age pottery. Despite the complete absence of any later finds from these features this pottery may well be residual, and given that the ditches are fairly closely aligned on the modern/historic layout of field boundaries and do not share the same alignment as the complex of Late Iron Age and Early Roman enclosures at Fison Way located under 200m to the north-west of Area 1 (Plate 1; Fig. 2; NHER 5853; Section 1.3), it is possible they relate instead to much later, medieval/post-medieval, land use.
- 4.2.3 Of the other features and deposits associated with Early Iron Age pottery in this area, much of the pottery (28 sherds, 115g), including most of the better preserved sherds (Fig. 8) were derived from a very irregular complex of natural features (probably animal burrows) in the central part of the area (including features **128**, **132**, **134**, **136**, **144** and **158**) with the remainder coming from a small number of the thirteen discrete



pits and postholes which have tentatively been assigned to Period 1. The only feature which can be confidently regarded as contemporary with the pottery itself is cremation burial **112**. A sample of the 411g of cremated bone recovered from the dark, charcoal-rich fills of this pit has returned a radiocarbon date of 744-403 cal BC (95% confidence), with a narrower date range of 550-403 cal BC at 79% confidence (App. D), consistent with the dating of the pottery assemblage to c. 850-500 BC (App. B.2). The cremated remains included few identifiable/diagnostic pieces but probably belong to a single adult/subadult individual (App. C.1). Evidence for funerary activity during the Early Iron Age is very elusive in the region, but in recent years (as samples of cremated bone from otherwise undated cremation burials have begun to be routinely radiocarbon dated) isolated examples of Early Iron Age cremations have begun to be documented quite widely across Eastern England (see Brudenell 2018).

4.2.4 A further notable feature of the cremation burial is the, admittedly slender, evidence it provides for the contemporary environment, with the charred plant remains from the cremation deposit including probable stems of heather, a classic indicator of heathland habitats (App. C.3; similar remains were also recovered from one of the Middle Iron Age contexts in Area 6, see below). Ericaceous, heathland, taxa are abundant among the charred plant remains from Late Iron Age and Roman contexts at Fison Way, in contrast to the samples taken from earlier, Early and Middle Bronze Age contexts at the site, which were dominated by charcoal from species of deciduous woodland (Murphy 1991). As recently discussed by Frances Healy (Healy *et al.* 2014, 91-2), these changes in the composition of charred plant remains have implications for our understanding of the development of the once very extensive heathland environments of the Norfolk and Suffolk Breckland, often attributed only vaguely to the effects of 'Neolithic settlement and clearance' (e.g. Historic England 2020). Although the development of heathland in the region should be expected to have been asynchronous (and there are reports of evidence for early Holocene heathland environments from some locales, such as Cavenham Mere/Heath and Wangford Warren, Suffolk; Austin 2001; Bateman and Godby 2004), Healy's review of the important pollen sequence from Hockham Mere and the record of charred plant remains from prehistoric sites across the Breckland suggests that large-scale heathland development did not occur until the late 1st millennium BC/early 1st millennium AD, suggestive of a major step change in land use or environmental 'tipping point' during this period. In this context, the possible evidence here of heathland at a relatively early date in the 1st millennium BC is unusual and could arguably reflect a history of particularly intensive landuse and activity in this area during the Early Iron Age, leading to the localised development of the kind of heathland environments that became much more widespread in the centuries either side of the Roman conquest.

4.2.5 Despite the lack of substantial assemblages from contemporary features, the presence of Early Iron Age pottery across Area 1 and the single cremation burial clearly indicates Early Iron Age occupation in the immediate area. By analogy with Early Iron Age settlement sites elsewhere in the region this is likely to have taken the form of an unenclosed settlement, represented archaeologically by scatters of pits and the remains of post built structures, and it should be emphasised that it would be highly unusual for a system of linear ditches such as that represented by field system **10** to

belong to this period (cf. Ashwin 1996, 7-8; Brudenell 2018). The earliest phases of the enclosure complex at Fison Way, were suggested by the excavator to have originated some time in the 4th to 2nd centuries BC (Gregory 1991a, 189), but there have been subsequent suggestions that activity may have begun somewhat earlier (Hill 2007, 19), with the illustrated pottery from the site including some forms which may be of Early Iron Age date (Gregory 1991a, fig. 140). Taken together with the evidence for Early Iron Age activity described here, this may suggest fairly extensive Early Iron Age settlement in the wider area preceding the development of the enclosure complex in the Middle to Late Iron Age.

### 4.3 Area 6

- 4.3.1 As set out above in Section 1.3, the excavations at Area 6 took place immediately to the south-east of an large Romano-British farmstead and later Early Saxon settlement at Melford Meadows, excavated in two phases in 1994 and 2009 (NHER 17269; Mudd 2002; Pine 2014), whilst the field in which Area 6 was located, east of Arlington Way, had itself been previously subject to a programme of geophysical survey and trial trenching in 2011 (Clover 2017). The Area 6 excavations are shown in relation to the results of this earlier work in Fig. 7. The trial trenching carried out east of Arlington Way revealed a number of linear ditch alignments; these were very poorly dated but many followed the same general alignment as the enclosures of the Roman farmstead to the west and were thought likely to represent outlying field boundaries contemporary with the farmstead (*ibid.*).
- 4.3.2 Despite this background of Romano-British landuse, the most significant remains revealed in Area 6 were of Middle Iron Age date, and there was a complete dearth of Roman finds. Features associated with this Middle Iron Age pottery were concentrated in the southern part of Area 6, consisting of an L-shaped ditch (**6104**) and a group of adjacent, intercutting, pits (**6031**, **6035**, **6039**, **6043**, **6049**), with further isolated/scattered pits associated with Middle Iron Age pottery found to the north and south of this. Ditch **6104** cut across two earlier, otherwise undated, features, a linear ditch and a curvilinear ditch, which must relate to an earlier phase of Middle Iron Age activity or be of earlier prehistoric date, and this raises the possibility that other features among the large number of undated linear features revealed across the area may be of comparable date, perhaps particularly in the case of other lengths of curvilinear/sinuuous ditches such as ditches **6011**, **6173** and **6185** to the north and ditches **6142** and **6147** in the extreme southern end of the exaction area (Plate 21).
- 4.3.3 Regardless of this issue, ditch **6104** and its associate pits indicate that this section of the pipeline passed through an area of Middle Iron Age settlement associated with at least one enclosure/boundary ditch and groups of pits, including several relatively large features which could represent disused storage pits (Plate 18). In contrast to the Early Iron Age material from Area 1, the Middle Iron Age pottery (59 sherds, 1634g), broadly dated to c. 350-50 BC, is in relatively good condition and includes some moderately substantial assemblages from pits **6035**, **6039** and **6163** (App. B.2). The composition and character of the pottery assemblage is in keeping with domestic-type activities involving the preparation and consumption of food, whilst the recovery of small quantities of charred cereal grain, most notably from pit **6035**, is also consistent

with small scale crop processing and/or food preparation taking place with a settlement context, whilst probable charred heather stems similar to those from the Iron Age cremation burial in Area 1 also hint at heathland habitats in this area, albeit here belonging to the later 1st millennium BC (see above).

- 4.3.4 In the context of earlier work in the area, the Middle Iron Age remains are of some significance; the extensive excavations at Melford Meadows recovered no evidence for Iron Age activity, with the Romano-British farmstead probably first developing in the late 1st century AD (Mudd 2002), and the Iron Age remains in Area 6 provide the first evidence for earlier occupation in the area, although the site lies only a short distance from the major Iron Age earthworks at Thetford Castle which enclosed an area of some 6ha on the opposite bank of the River Thet (Fig. 2, NHER 5747; Davies and Gregory 1992)
- 4.3.5 With a complete absence of Roman finds, very few of the remains uncovered in Area 6 can be confidently associated with Romano-British landuse associated with the nearby farmstead at Melford Meadows. Very few of the ditches exposed in the area follow the alignment of the enclosures and boundaries associated with the farmstead and there was a particular lack of correspondence with the projected courses of ditches uncovered in the trial trenches immediately to the east of the site (Fig. 7). The only real exceptions to this are two undated/unphased ditches close to the centre of the Area, ditches **6181** and **6179**. Neither produced any finds but they are aligned with, and could possibly represent the continuation of linear ditches exposed in the south-east corner of the Melford Meadows excavation area, some 70m to the west.
- 4.3.6 Later landuse, of medieval or later date, is likely to be represented by a distinct group of six west north-west to east south-east ditches in the southern part of the Area (field system **6015**). In all cases where they intercut with other features they were the stratigraphically latest features in the sequence, and they follow the alignment of modern field boundaries. They seem likely to have defined a series of narrow fields/holdings in this part of the site, although they do not appear to correspond closely with features exposed by the trial trenches immediately to the east (Fig. 7).

## 4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 Although interpretation has been rendered difficult by a paucity of dateable finds and the narrow, restricted areas subject to investigation, the excavations in both Area 1 and Area 6 have uncovered remains of Iron Age activity which are of some significance in the local context of the known record of Iron Age activity in and around Thetford, an area long suggested to be of special, regional, importance during this period (Ashwin 1996, 78-80). Work at Area 1 uncovered evidence of Early Iron Age activity which may provide evidence for continuity of occupation in this area of the landscape over much of the 1st millennium BC, culminating in the development of the major ritual/elite Late Iron Age enclosure complex just to the west at Fison Way. Equally, in Area 6 the discovery of an area of Middle Iron Age settlement provides evidence for occupation preceding the establishment of a major Roman rural settlement/farmstead at Melford Meadows immediately to the west of the site, activity that may be broadly contemporary with the construction of the Iron Age defensive earthworks on the site of Thetford Castle to the north-west.

## **5 ARCHIVING**

### **5.1 Archiving, Retention and Dispersal**

- 5.1.1 The site archive (under Site Code ENF 146516; Accession No. TBC) will be deposited with Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service and comprises a maximum of 3 bulk finds and document boxes and one small find box. Transfer of title will be obtained prior to deposition of the archive.

## APPENDIX A CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
1	1	layer	topsoil		0		0.41	very dark grey	silty sand	some sub-rounded and sub-angular stones					
2	1	layer	subsoil		0		0.13	mid reddish brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded and rounded stones					
3	1	layer	natural geology		0			light whitish yellow	sand	some angular stones					
4	1	cut	natural feature	4	1.82	0.54	0.28				amorphous	steep	concave	n/a	irregular
5	1	fill	natural feature	4	1.82	0.54	0.28	mid yellowish brown	sand	occasional flints at base					
6	1	cut	post hole	6	0.45	0.45	0.26				sub-circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shaped
7	1	fill	post hole	6	0.45	0.45	0.26	mid greyish yellow	sand	very few angular stones					
8	1	cut	natural feature	8	0	0.55	0.24				sub-circular	E: steep, W: gentle	concave	n/a	bended V-shape
9	1	fill	natural feature	8	0	0.55	0.24	mid greyish yellow	sand	very few poorly sorted angular stones					
10	1	cut	ditch	10	0	0.56	0.12				linear	gentle	concave	NE-SW	wide U-shape
11	1	fill	ditch	10	0	0.56	0.12	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones					
12	1	cut	post hole	12	0	0.51	0.11				sub-circular	moderate	concave	n/a	wide U-shape
13	1	fill	post hole	12	0	0.51	0.11	mid grey	silty sand	occ small sub-angular stone					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
14	1	cut	post hole	14	0	0.27	0.06				sub-circular	gentle	concave	n/a	base of U-shape
15	1	fill	post hole	14	0	0.27	0.06	light grey	silty sand	none					
16	1	cut	ditch	16	0	0.67	0.19				linear	gentle	concave	E-W	U-shape
17	1	fill	ditch	16	0	0.67	0.19	mid greyish brown	sand	moderate flint					
18	1	cut	tree throw	18	1	0.9	0.05				amorphous	gentle	irregular	n/a	irregular
19	1	fill	tree throw	18	1	0.9	0.05	dark greyish brown	fine sand	frequent angular flints					
20	1	cut	natural feature	20	1.1	0.9	0.05				amorphous	gentle, concave	irregular	n/a	shallow U-shape
21	1	fill	natural feature	20	1.1	0.9	0.05	mid brown	fine sand	occ stone					
22	1	cut	natural feature	22	0.9	0.7	0.09				amorphous	gentle, concave	concave	N-S	shallow U-shape
23	1	fill	natural feature	22	0.9	0.7	0.09	mid yellowish brown	fine sand	occasional stone					
24	1	cut	pit	24	0	0.5	0.13				amorphous	gentle	irregular	n/a	shallow V-shape
25	1	fill	pit	24	0	0.5	0.13	dark brownish grey	silty sand	few poorly sorted angular stones					
26	1	cut	pit	26	0	0.64	0.43				sub-circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
27	1	fill	pit	26	0		0.13	light brownish grey	sand	some flints					
28	1	fill	pit	26	0		0.11	light yellowish brown	sand	occasional flints					
29	1	fill	pit	26	0		0.33	mid greyish brown	sand	none					
30	1	cut	ditch	30	0	0.7	0.13				linear	gentle	flat	NW-SE	U-shape

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
31	1	fill	ditch	30	0	0.7	0.13	mid greyish yellow	sand	few poorly sorted angular stones					
32	1	cut	pit	32	1.54	0.32	0.27				sub-circular	steep	flat	E-W	wide U-shape
33	1	fill	pit	32	1.54	0.32	0.27	mid brown	sand	occasional small stones					
34	1	cut	pit	34	1.22	1.95	1.4				circular?	vertical, E: stepped at top	n/a		U-shaped
35	1	fill	pit	34	0	1.95	1.4	mid brown	sand	moderate stones, mostly concentrated in the middle of the fill					
36	1	cut	ditch	36	0	0.6	0.21				linear	moderat	concave	N-S	U-shaped
37	1	fill	ditch	36	0	0.6	0.21	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	none					
38			VOID	0	0										
39	1	cut	ditch	39	0	0.94	0.31				linear	steep	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
40	1	fill	ditch	39	0	0.94	0.31	mid greyish brown	silty sand	freq angular and sub-angular stones					
41	1	cut	natural feature	41	0.81	1.18	0.23				sub-circular	steep	concave	N-S	wide U-shape
42	1	fill	natural feature	41	0.81	1.18	0.23	light yellowish brown	silty sand	some small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones, rare charcoal flecks					
43	1	cut	pit	43	0	0.7	0.22				sub-circular	moderate	concave	n/a	wide U-shape
44	1	fill	pit	43	0	0.7	0.22	light yellowish grey	sandy silt	few poorly sorted sub-angular stones					
45	1	cut	pit	45	0	0.8	0.39				sub-circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shaped



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
46	1	fill	pit	45	0	0.7	0.39	light yellowish grey	sandy silt	none					
47	1	fill	pit	45	0	0.55	0.17	light yellowish grey	sandy silt	none					
48	1	cut	ditch	48	0	0.6	0.3				linear	steep	concave	N-S	U-shape
49	1	fill	ditch	48	0	0.6	0.3	light greyish brown	sand	moderate flint					
50	1	cut	ditch	50	0	0.73	0.28				linear	steep	concave	N-S	U-shape
51	1	fill	ditch	50	0		0.08	light yellowish brown	sand	frequent flint					
52	1	fill	ditch	50	0		0.24	mid brownish grey	sand	occasional flint					
53	1	cut	post hole	53	0	0.4	0.3				circular	very steep, near vertical	concave	n/a	U-shape
54	1	fill	post hole	53	0	0.4	0.3	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some moderately sorted sub-angular stones					
55	1	cut	natural feature	55	0	0.65	0.14				amorphous	gentle	flat	n/a	wide U-shape
56	1	fill	natural feature	55	0	0.65	0.14	light greyish yellow	sand	none					
57	1	cut	gully	57	0	0.26	0.08				linear	moderate	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
58	1	fill	gully	57	0	0.26	0.08	mid greyish brown	sand	moderate stones					
59	1	cut	ditch	59	0	0.52	0.15				linear	steep	flat	NE-SW	U-shape
60	1	fill	ditch	59	0	0.52	0.15	mid brown	sand	occasional stones					
61	1	cut	post hole	61	0.26	0.26	0.27				circular	vertical	concave	n/a	U-shape

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
62	1	fill	post hole	61	0.26	0.26	0.27	mid brown	sand	rare stones					
63	1	cut	post hole	63	0.24	0.2	0.14				sub-circular	steep	concave	E-W	U-shape
64	1	fill	post hole	63	0	0.2	0.14	mid greyish brown	sand	rare stones					
65	1	cut	post hole	65	0.24	0.18	0.14				sub-circular	steep	concave	E-W	U-shape
66	1	fill	post hole	65	0	0.18	0.14	dark greyish brown	sand	rare stones					
67	1	cut	post hole	67	0	0.32	0.18				circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
68	1	fill	post hole	67	0	0.32	0.18	mid brownish grey	sand	occ small flints					
69	1	cut	post hole	69	0	0.35	0.29				circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
70	1	fill	post hole	69	0	0.35	0.29	light greyish brown	sand	occasional flints					
71	1	cut	post hole	71	0	0.29	0.23				circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
72	1	fill	post hole	71	0	0.29	0.23	mid brownish grey	sand	occasional flints					
73	1	cut	post hole	73	0	0.29	0.21				circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
74	1	fill	post hole	73	0	0.29	0.21	mid brownish grey	sand	occasional flints					
75	1	cut	pit	75	1.8	1.3	0.15				rectangular	gentle	flat	n/a	flat and wide
76	1	fill	pit	75	1.8	1.05	0.08	dark blackish brown	sandy silt	very few poorly-sorted sub-angular stones, lots of charcoal					
77	1	fill	pit	75	1.8	1.3	0.11	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	very few poorly sorted sub-angular stones					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
78	1	cut	post hole	78	0	0.4	0.14				sub-circular	moderate	concave	n/a	U-shaped profile
79	1	fill	post hole	78	0	0.25	0.06	mid brownish black	sandy silt	abandoned charcoal					
80	1	fill	post hole	78	0	0.38	0.1	mid pinkish yellow	sand	none					
81	1	fill	post hole	78	0	0.3	0.05	dark grey	sandy silt	freq charcoal					
82	1	cut	pit	82	0	0.87	0.13				sub-circular	shallow	concave	n/a	U-shape
83	1	fill	pit	82	0	0.87	0.13	dark grey	silty sand	moderate flints, moderate charcoal					
84	1	cut	post hole	84	0.26	0.23	0.12				circular	steep	concave	n/a	V-shaped
85	1	fill	post hole	84	0.26	0.23	0.12	mid brownish grey	sand	freq gravel, frequent small stones					
86	1	cut	gully	86	0	0.25	0.05				linear	shallow	concave	N-S	U-shaped
87	1	fill	gully	86	0	0.25	0.05	mid brownish yellow	sandy silt	none					
88	1	cut	tree throw	88	2.03	0.84	0.26				amorphous	steep	irregular (concave)	n/a	irregular
89	1	fill	tree throw	88	2.03	0.84	0.26	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	some small sub-rounded stones					
90	1	cut	gully	90	1.96	0.65	0.2				curvilinear	steep	concave	N-S	bended U-shape
91	1	fill	gully	90	1.96	0.65	0.2	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	occasional sub-angular stones					
92	1	cut	post hole	92	0.29	0.3	0.09				circular	moderate	concave	n/a	U-shape
93	1	fill	post hole	92	0.29	0.3	0.09	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	occasional gravel					
94	1	cut	post hole	94	0.56	0.44	0.13				sub-circular	steep	concave	n/a	wide U-shape

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
95	1	fill	post hole	94	0.56	0.44	0.13	mid brownish grey	silty sand	occ gravel, sub-angular small stones					
96	1	cut	gully	96	4.2	0.37	0.19				linear	steep, near vertical	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
97	1	fill	gully	96	4.2	0.37	0.19	mid reddish brown	silty sand	sub-rounded and sub-angular small and medium stones, occasional charcoal					
98	1	cut	gully	98	0	0.73	0.28				linear	steep	flattish	NW-SE	longitudal section
99	1	fill	gully	89	0	0.73	0.28	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	occasional sub-angular to rounded stones					
100	1	cut	gully	100	0	0.38	0.19				linear	steep	concave	N-S	U-shape
101	1	fill	gully	100	0	0.38	0.19	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some small and medium sub-angular stones					
102	1	cut	gully	102	0	0.5	0.14				linear	steep	concave	N-S	U-shape
103	1	fill	gully	102	0	0.5	0.14	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded to sub-angular stones					
104	1	cut	ditch	104	0	0.83	0.42				linear	steep	concave	E-W	U-shape
105	1	fill	ditch	104	0	0.83	0.42	mid brownish	sand	occasional small sub-angular stones					
106	1	cut	ditch	106	0	0.56	0.22				linear	moderate	concave	N-S	U-shape
107	1	fill	ditch	106	0	0.56	0.22	mid greyish brown	silty sand	moderate flints					
108	1	cut	ditch	108	0	0.35	0.1				linear	moderate	concave	N-S	U-shaped

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
109	1	fill	ditch	108	0	0.35	0.1	mid greyish yellow	silty sand	none					
110	1	cut	ditch	110	0	1.08	0.36				linear	steep	concave	N-S	U-shape
111	1	fill	ditch	110	0	1.08	0.36	dark brown	silty sand	moderate flints, small rounded stones					
112	1	cut	cremation	112	1.17	0.96	0.26				circular	steep	irregular	n/a	U-shaped
113	1	cut	ditch	113	0	0.75	0.35				linear	moderate	concave	N-S	V-shaped
114	1	fill	ditch	113	0	0.75	0.35	mid greyish brown	sand	moderate flints					
115	1	cut	ditch	115	0	0.56	0.31				linear	steep	concave	N-S	U-shape
116	1	fill	ditch	115	0	0.38	0.19	mid yellowish brown	sand	occasional flints					
117	1	fill	ditch	115	0	0.56	0.12	mid greyish brown	sand	occasional flints					
118	1	fill	cremation	112	0.93	0.96	0.21	black with dark brown lenses	sand	rare small sub-angular stones, freq charcoal					
119	1	natural	Underlying cremation	112	0.44	0.7	0.25	mixed yellow, dark brown, and orange	sand	charcoal, occasional stones					
120	1	cut	ploughing	120	0.55	0.4	0.04				linear	moderate	flat	NNE-SSW	U-shape
121	1	fill	ploughing	120	0.55	0.4	0.04	mixed, yellow, brown and black	sand	moderate charcoal, occasional small sub-angular stones					
122	1	cut	ditch	122	0	0.32	0.12				linear	shallow	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
123	1	fill	ditch	122	0	0.32	0.12	mid brown	sand	occasional flint					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
124	1	cut	post hole	124	0	0.4	0.11				circular	shallow	concave	n/a	U-shape
125	1	fill	post hole	124	0	0.4	0.11	mid greyish brown	sand	occasional flints					
126	1	cut	ditch	126	0	0.26	0.09				linear	shallow	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
127	1	fill	ditch	126	0	0.26	0.09	mid brownish	sand	occasional flint					
128	1	cut	natural feature	128	0	0.57	0.1				amorphous	irregular	irregular	n/a	irregular
129	1	fill	natural feature	128	0	0.57	0.1	mid brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded stones, occasional charcoal					
130	1	cut	natural feature	130	0	0.76	0.1				curvilinear	steep	flat	N-S	flat and wide
131	1	fill	natural feature	130	0	0.76	0.1	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional charcoal, some sub-rounded stones					
132	1	cut	natural feature	132	0	0.41	0.5				linear	vertical	flat	N-S	U-shape
133	1	fill	natural feature	132	0	0.41	0.5	mid brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded and sub-angular stones					
134	1	cut	natural features	134	0	0.27	0.27				curvilinear	steep	concave	N-S	bended U-shape
135	1	fill	natural feature	134	0	0.27	0.27	mid brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded and sub-angular stones					
136	1	cut	natural feature	136	0	0.86	0.25				curvilinear	steep	irregular	n/a	irregular
137	1	fill	natural feature	136	0	0.86	0.25	mid brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded to sub-angular stones					



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
138	1	cut	natural feature	138	0	0.4	0.06				amorphous	imperceptible	flat	n/a	imperceptible
139	1	fill	natural feature	138	0	0.4	0.06	mid greyish brown	silty sand	frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular stones					
140	1	cut	post hole	140	0	0.41	0.16				circular	shallow	concave	n/a	U-shape
141	1	fill	post hole	140	0	0.41	0.16	light greyish brown	sand	occasional flint, rare sub-rounded stones					
142	1	cut	post hole	142	0	0.2	0.13				circular	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
143	1	fill	post hole	142	0	0.2	0.13	mid greyish brown	sand	rare small sub-rounded stones					
144	1	cut	natural feature	144	0	0.44	0.32				curvilinear	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
145	1	fill	natural feature	144	0	0.44	0.32	dark greyish brown (mixed)	sand	moderate flints					
146	1	cut	natural feature	146	0	0.36	0.32				curvilinear	steep	concave	n/a	U-shape
147	1	fill	natural feature	146	0	0.36	0.32	dark greyish brown (mixed)	sand	moderate flints					
148	1	cut	natural feature	148	0	0.3	0.15				curvilinear (irregular)	steep	concave	E-W	V-shaped
149	1	fill	natural feature	148	0	0.3	0.15	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional small sub-rounded stones					
150	1	cut	natural feature	150	0	0.24	0.2				irregular linear	vertical	concave	NE-SW	U-shape

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
151	1	fill	natural feature	150	0	0.24	0.2	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some sub-rounded and sub-angular stones					
152	1	cut	natural feature	152	0	0.2	0.07				linear	steep	flat	N-S	U-shape
153	1	fill	natural feature	152	0	0.2	0.07	mid greyish brown	sand	occasional small stones					
154	1	cut	natural feature	154	0.37	0.25	0.1				linear	steep	flat	NE-SW	U-shape
155	1	fill	natural feature	154	0.37	0.25	0.1	mid greyish brown	sand	occasional stones					
156	1	cut	natural feature	156	0.63	0.62	0.3				sub-circular	moderate	concave	N-S	U-shape
157	1	fill	natural feature	156	0	0.62	0.3	mid brownish	sand	moderate stones					
158	1	cut	natural feature	158	0	0.58	0.36				linear	vertical	flat	NW-SE	U-shape
159	1	fill	natural feature	158	0	0.58	0.36	mid greyish brown with yellow patches and mid brown	sand	moderate small stones					
160	1	cut	natural feature	160	0	0.86	0.42				amorphous	steep	flat	n/a	irregular
161	1	fill	natural feature	160	0	0.86	0.42	mixed: yellow, dark greyish brown, mid brown	sand	moderate small stones, occasional charcoal					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6000	6	layer		0	0		0.15	mid-brownish grey	silty sand						
6001	6	layer		0	0		0.1	light-orangey brown	sand						
6002	6	layer	natural	0	0			light-orangey brown	sand						
6003	6	cut	pit	6003	0.65	0.62	0.12				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6004	6	fill	pit	6003	0.65	0.62	0.12	mid-grey	silty sand						
6005	6	cut	pit	6005	0.96	0.8	0.24				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6006	6	fill	pit	6005	0.96	0.8	0.24	mid-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6007	6	cut	pit	6007	1.48	0.75	0.18				sub-circular	gentle	concave		U-shape
6008	6	fill	pit	6007	1.48	0.75	0.18	mid-grey	sand	occasional flint and burnt flints					
6009	6	cut	pit	6009	0	1.08	0.24				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6010	6	fill	pit	6009	0	1.08	0.24	mid-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6011	6	cut	ditch	6011	0	0.41	0.1				curvilinear	gentle	concave		U-shape
6012	6	fill	ditch	6011	0	0.41	0.1	light-grey	silty sand						
6013	6	cut	ditch	6013	0	0.72	0.2				curvilinear	moderate	concave		U-shape
6014	6	fill	ditch	6013	0	0.72	0.2	light-grey	silty sand						
6015	6	cut	ditch	6015	0	0.6	0.25				linear	moderate	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shape
6016	6	fill	ditch	6015	0	0.6	0.25	light-grey	silty sand						
6017	6	cut	ditch	6017	0	0.41	0.07				linear	gentle	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shape
6018	6	fill	ditch	6017	0	0.41	0.07	light-grey	silty sand						
6019	6	cut	pit	6019	1.76	0.7	0.2				sub-circular	gentle	concave		U-shape
6020	6	fill	pit	6019	1.76	0.7	0.2	light-grey	silty sand						
6021	6	cut	pit	6021	0.83	0.8	0.15				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6022	6	fill	pit	6021	0.83	0.8	0.15	mid grey	silty sand						
6023	6	cut	ditch	6023	0.52	0.5	0.12				curvilinear	moderate	concave		U-shape
6024	6	fill	ditch	6023	0.52	0.5	0.12	light-yellowish brown	silty sand						
6025	6	cut	ditch	6025	0	0.33	0.08				linear	gentle	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6026	6	fill	ditch	6025	0	0.33	0.08	light-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6027	6	cut	ditch	6027	0	0.4	0.12				linear	gentle	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6028	6	fill	ditch	6027	0	0.4	0.12	light-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6029	6	cut	ditch	6029	0	0.49	0.13				curvilinear	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	U-shape
6030	6	fill	ditch	6029	0	0.49	0.13	mid-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6031	6	cut	pit	6031	0	0.8	0.72				sub-circular	steep	flat		Flat-based U
6032	6	fill	pit	6031	0		0.14	light-orangey brown	sand	occ. Flint gravel					
6033	6	fill	pit	6031	0		0.24	dark-grey mixed with light-greyish brown	sand	occ. Flint, moderate charcoal					
6034	6	fill	pit	6031	0		0.25	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6035	6	cut	pit	6035	2.8	2	0.76				sub-circular	steep NE side, moderate SW side	flat		flat-based U
6036	6	fill	pit	6035	0	2.1	0.52	light grey	sand	occ flints					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6037	6	fill	pit	6035	0		0.24	dark grey	sand	occ flints, moderate charcoal					
6038	6	fill	pit	6035	0		0.2	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6039	6	cut	pit	6039	1.65	1.25	0.97				sub-circular	vertical	concave		U-shape
6040	6	fill	pit	6039	0		0.6	light grey	sand	occ flint					
6041	6	fill	pit	6039	0		0.08	dark grey	sand	occ flints and charcoal					
6042	6	fill	pit	6039	0		0.39	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6043	6	cut	pit	6043	2.4	2.1	1.02				sub-circular	vertical	flat		U-shape
6044	6	fill	pit	6043	0	1.83	0.43	light grey	sand	occ flint					
6045	6	fill	pit	6043	0	0.7	0.2	light-yellowish brown	sand	occ flint					
6046	6	fill	pit	6043	0	0.72	0.62	light-yellowish brown	sand	occ flint					
6047	6	fill	pit	6043	0	1.94	0.31	dark grey	sand	occ flint and moderate charcoal					
6048	6	fill	pit	6043	2.4	2.1	0.43	mid-greyish brown	sand	occ flint					
6049	6	cut	pit	6049	1.4	0.88	0.37				sub-circular	vertical	flat		flat-based U
6050	6	fill	pit	6049	1.4	0.88	0.37	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6051	6	cut	pit	6051	1.45	1.2	0.47				sub-circular	steep	flat		flat-based U

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6052	6	fill	pit	6051	0	1.42	0.15	dark-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, rare charcoal					
6053	6	fill	pit	6051	1.45	1.2	0.33	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6054	6	cut	post hole	6054	0.42	0.38	0.11				sub-circular	steep	flat		U-shape
6055	6	fill	post hole	6054	0.42	0.38	0.11	dark-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6056	6	cut	gully	6056	0	0.3	0.16				curvilinear	steep	concave		V-shape
6057	6	fill	gully	6056	0	0.3	0.16	mid-greyish brown	sand	occ flint gravel					
6058	6	cut	ditch	6058	0	0.45	0.24				linear	moderate	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6059	6	fill	ditch	6058	0	0.45	0.24	light-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6060	6	cut	ditch	6060	0	0.7	0.3				linear	moderate	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shaped
6061	6	fill	ditch	6060	0	0.7	0.3	mid-yellowish grey	silty sand						
6062	6	cut	ditch	6062	0	0.42	0.1				linear	gentle	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shape
6063	6	fill	ditch	6062	0	0.42	0.1	light grey	sand						
6064	6	cut	gully	6064	0	0.31	0.07				curvilinear	gentle	concave	E-W	U-shape
6065	6	fill	gully	6064	0	0.31	0.07	light grey	sand						
6066	6	cut	gully	6066	3.13	0.6	0.15				linear	moderate	concave	NNW-SSE	U-shape
6067	6	fill	gully	6066	3.13	0.6	0.15	mid grey	sand						
6068	6	cut	ditch	6068	0	0.7	0.34				linear	steep	flat	SW-NE	flat-based V
6069	6	fill	ditch	6068	0	0.7	0.34	mixed fill of dark grey and light yellowish grey	sand	occ flints, v. small to medium					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6070	6	cut	ditch	6070	0	0.47	0.28				linear	steep	uneven	NE-SW	U-shape
6071	6	fill	ditch	6070	0	0.47	0.28	dark grey	sand	occ flint, v.small to medium					
6072	6	cut	ditch	6072	0	0.65	0.37				linear	steep	concave	SW-NE	U-shape
6073	6	fill	ditch	6072	0	0.65	0.37	mid grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6074	6	cut	ditch	6074	0	0.22	0.15				linear	steep	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6075	6	fill	ditch	6074	0	0.22	0.15	mixed fill of dark grey and light orangey brown (re-dep. Natural)	sand	occ flints v. small					
6076	6	cut	ditch	6076	0	0.75	0.36				linear	steep	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6077	6	fill	ditch	6076	0	0.75	0.36	mid grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6078	6	cut	ditch	6078	0	0.45	0.21				linear	moderate	flat	NNE-SSW	Flat-based U
6079	6	fill	ditch	6078	0	0.45	0.21	mid grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6080	6	cut	ditch	6080	0	1	0.28				linear	gentle	unknown	NNW-SSE	U-shape
6081	6	fill	ditch	6080	0	1	0.28	mid-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6082	6	cut	ditch	6082	0	0.55	0.2				linear	steep	concave	NNW-SSE	U-shape
6083	6	fill	ditch	6082	0	0.55	0.2	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6084	6	cut	ditch	6084	0	0.75	0.25				linear	steep	unknown	NE-SW	U-shape
6085	6	fill	ditch	6084	0	0.75	0.25	light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6086	6	cut	ditch	6086	0	0.55	0.21				linear	steep	concave	NNW-SSE	U-shape
6087	6	fill	ditch	6086	0	0.55	0.21	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6088	6	cut	ditch	6088	0	0.75	0.3				linear	steep	unknown	NE-SW	unknown
6089	6	fill	ditch	6088	0	0.75	0.3	mid grey	sand	occ flints, v.small					
6090	6	cut	ditch	6090	0	0.95	0.36				linear	steep	unknown	WNW-ESE	unknown
6091	6	fill	ditch	6090	0	0.95	0.36	mid-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6092	6	cut	ditch	6092	0	0.4	0.12				linear	gentle	concave	NNE-SSW	U-shape
6093	6	fill	ditch	6092	0	0.4	0.12	light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6094	6	cut	ditch	6094	0	0.9	0.3				linear	moderate	concave	ESE-WNW	U-shape
6095	6	fill	ditch	6094	0	0.9	0.3	mid-greyish brown	sand						
6096	6	cut	ditch	6096	0	0.9	0.34				linear	moderate	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shape
6097	6	fill	ditch	6096	0	0.9	0.34	mid-greyish brown	sand						
6098	6	cut	gully	6098	0	0.45	0.2				linear	moderate	flat	NNE-SSW	U-shape
6099	6	fill	gully	6098	0	0.45	0.2	light-greyish brown	sand						
6100	6	cut	pit	6100	1	0.58	0.2				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6101	6	fill	pit	6100	1	0.58	0.2	dark-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6102	6	cut	ditch	6102	0	0.4	0.2				linear	moderate	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shape
6103	6	fill	ditch	6102	0	0.4	0.2	light-greyish brown	sand						
6104	6	cut	ditch	6104	0	0.93	0.3				linear	moderate	concave	NW-SE	U-shape

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6105	6	fill	ditch	6104	0	0.93	0.3	light-greyish brown	sand						
6106	6	cut	ditch	6106	0	0.28	0.24				curvilinear	moderate	concave		U-shape
6107	6	fill	ditch	6106	0	0.28	0.24	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare small fints					
6108	6	cut	ditch	6108	0	0.42	0.24				linear	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	U-shape
6109	6	fill	ditch	6108	0	0.42	0.24	light-greyish brown	sand						
6110	6	cut	ditch	6110	0	1.48	0.4				linear	moderate	concave	NE-SW	U-shaped
6111	6	fill	ditch	6110	0	1.48	0.4	mid-greyish brown	sand						
6112	6	cut	pit	6112	0.7	0.48	0.2				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6113	6	fill	pit	6112	0.7	0.48	0.2	mid-greyish brown	sand						
6114	6	cut	ditch	6114	0	1	0.28				linear	moderate	concave	SW-NE	U-shape
6115	6	fill	ditch	6114	0	1	0.28	mid grey	sand	occ flints, small-medium					
6116	6	cut	ditch	6116	0	0.65	0.27				linear	steep	concave	SSW-NNE	U-shape
6117	6	fill	ditch	6116	0	0.65	0.27	light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6118	6	cut	ditch	6118	0	0.58	0.22				linear	steep	concave	NE-SW	V-shape
6119	6	fill	ditch	6118	0	0.58	0.22	mixed fill of dark and mid grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6120	6	cut	ditch	6120	0	0.92	0.28				linear	moderate	concave	ESE-WNW	V-shape
6121	6	fill	ditch	6120	0	0.92	0.28	mixed fill of mid and light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6122	6	cut	ditch	6122	0	0.65	0.18				linear	gentle	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6123	6	fill	ditch	6122	0	0.65	0.18	mixed fill of dark grey and light greyish brown	sand	occ flints, small					
6124	6	cut	ditch	6124	0	0.6	0.19				linear	gentle	concave	SSE-NNW	U-shape
6125	6	fill	ditch	6124	0	0.6	0.19	light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small					
6126	6	cut	ditch	6126	0	1.17	0.4				linear	moderate	concave	SSE-NNW	U-shape
6127	6	fill	ditch	6126	0	1.17	0.4	light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6128	6	cut	ditch	6128	0	0.8	0.18				linear	gentle	concave	SSW-NNE	U-shape
6129	6	fill	ditch	6128	0	0.8	0.18	mixed fill of dark greyish brown and light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6130	6	cut	ditch	6130	0	0.5	0.23				linear	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	U-shape
6131	6	fill	ditch	6130	0	0.5	0.23	light-greyish brown	sand						
6132	6	cut	ditch	6132	0	0.52	0.18				linear	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	U-shape
6133	6	fill	ditch	6132	0	0.52	0.18	light-greyish brown	sand						
6134	6	cut	ditch	6134	0	1.06	0.2				linear	moderate	concave		U-shape
6135	6	fill	ditch	6134	0	1.06	0.2	mid-greyish brown	sand						
6136	6	cut	ditch	6136	0	0.4	0.34				linear	moderate	concave	WNW-ESE	U-shape
6137	6	fill	ditch	6136	0	0.4	0.34	mid-greyish brown	sand						

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6138	6	cut	pit	6138	1.36	1.3	0.2				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6139	6	fill	pit	6138	1.36	1.3	0.2	mid-orangey brown	sand						
6140	6	cut	pit	6140	0.8	0.76	0.16				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6141	6	fill	pit	6140	0.8	0.76	0.16	mid-greyish brown	sand						
6142	6	cut	ditch	6142	0	0.5	0.35				curvilinear	steep	concave		V-shape
6143	6	fill	ditch	6142	0	0.38	0.2	dark-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6144	6	fill	ditch	6142	0	0.5	0.15	dark grey	sand	occ flints, v. small					
6145	6	cut	ditch	6145	0	0.5	0.32				curvilinear	steep	concave	SW-NE	V-shape
6146	6	fill	ditch	6145	0	0.5	0.32	mixed fill of dark grey and dark orangey brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6147	6	cut	ditch	6147	0	0.65	0.26				curvilinear	moderate	concave		U-shape
6148	6	fill	ditch	6147	0	0.65	0.26	dark grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6149	6	cut	ditch	6149	0	0.58	0.44				curvilinear	steep	concave	NNW-SSE	V-shape
6150	6	fill	ditch	6149	0	0.35	0.28	mid-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6151	6	fill	ditch	6149	0	0.56	0.19	dark grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6152	6	cut	post hole	6152	0.28	0.21	0.26				sub-circular	steep	flat		flat-based U
6153	6	fill	post hole	6152	0.28	0.21	0.26	dark grey	sand	occ flints, small to medium					
6154	6	cut	post hole	6154	0	0.25	0.17				circular	steep	concave		U-shape
6155	6	fill	post hole	6154	0	0.25	0.17	dark grey	sand	occ flints, small to medium, occ burnt flints					
6156	6	cut	post hole	6156	0.37	0.32	0.39				circular	steep	flat		flat-based U
6157	6	fill	post hole	6156	0	0.35	0.26	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6158	6	cut	post hole	6158	0	0.3	0.15				circular	steep	concave		U-shape
6159	6	fill	post hole	6158	0	0.3	0.15	mid grey	sand	occ. Flints, v.small					
6160	6	cut	pit	6160	0	1.16	0.4				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6161	6	fill	pit	6160	0	1.16	0.4	dark-greyish brown	sand						
6162	6	fill	post hole	6156	0.37	0.32	0.16	dark-greyish brown	sand	occ. Flints, v.small					
6163	6	cut	pit	6163	1.22	1.1	0.5				circular	moderate	concave		U-shape
6164	6	fill	pit	6163	0	0.96	0.2	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints					
6165	6	fill	pit	6163	0	1.1	0.14	yellowish and orangey brown	clay	frequent flints and burnt flints					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6166	6	fill	pit	6163	1.22	1.1	0.2	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare flints					
6167	6	cut	ditch	6167	0	0.65	0.35				linear	steep	flat	NW-SE	Flat-based U
6168	6	fill	ditch	6167	0	0.65	0.35	mixed fill of dark grey and mid-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6169	6	cut	ditch	6169	0	0.75	0.2				curvilinear	gentle	concave		U-shape
6170	6	fill	ditch	6169	0	0.75	0.2	light-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small					
6171	6	cut	ditch	6171	0	0.75	0.25				linear	steep	unknown	NW-SE	unknown
6172	6	fill	ditch	6171	0	0.75	0.25	light-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to small					
6173	6	cut	ditch	6173	0	0.95	0.28				curvilinear	moderate	flat	NE-SW	flat-based U
6174	6	fill	ditch	6173	0	0.95	0.28	light-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small					
6175	6	cut	pit	6175	0.6	0.5	0.17				sub-circular	moderate	concave		V-shape
6176	6	fill	pit	6175	0.6	0.5	0.17	light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small					
6177	6	cut	ditch	6177	0	0.9	0.34				curvilinear	steep	flat	NNE-SSW	flat-based U
6178	6	fill	ditch	6177	0	0.9	0.34	mixed fill of light grey and mid brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium, occ burnt flints					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6179	6	cut	ditch	6179	0	1.82	0.6				linear	moderate	concave	E-W	U-shape
6180	6	fill	ditch	6179	0	1.82	0.6	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare flints					
6181	6	cut	ditch	6181	0	0.69	0.17				linear	moderate	concave	E-W	U-shape
6182	6	fill	ditch	6181	0	0.69	0.17	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare flints, small					
6183	6	cut	ditch	6183	0	0.36	0.14				linear	gentle	concave	SE-NW	U-shape
6184	6	fill	ditch	6183	0	0.36	0.14	light-greyish brown	sand						
6185	6	cut	ditch	6185	0	0.52	0.15				curvilinear	moderate	concave		U-shape
6186	6	fill	ditch	6185	0	0.52	0.15	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare flints, small					
6187	6	cut	ditch	6187	0	0.44	0.2				linear	moderate	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6188	6	fill	ditch	6187	0	0.44	0.2	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare flints, small					
6189	6	cut	ditch	6189	0	0.37	0.2				linear	moderate	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6190	6	fill	ditch	6189	0	0.37	0.2	mid-greyish brown	sand	rare flints, small					
6191	6	cut	ditch	6191	0	0.77	0.34				curvilinear	moderate	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6192	6	fill	ditch	6191	0	0.77	0.34	dark-greyish brown	sand						
6193	6	cut	gully	6193	0	0.41	0.15				linear	gentle	concave		U-shape
6194	6	fill	gully	6193	0	0.41	0.15	light-greyish brown	sand						
6195	6	cut	gully	6195	0	0.17	0.05				linear	moderate	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6196	6	fill	gully	6195	0	0.17	0.05	dark-greyish brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Side	Base	Orientation	Profile
6197	6	cut	ditch	6197	0	0.5	0.14				linear	moderate	flat	NW-SE	flat-based U
6198	6	fill	ditch	6197	0	0.5	0.14	mid-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, small					
6199	6	cut	ditch	6199	0	0.83	0.38				curvilinear	steep	concave	NE-SW	U-shape
6200	6	fill	ditch	6199	0	0.83	0.38	mid-greyish brown, mixed with dark grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6201	6	cut	ditch	6201	0	0.75	0.31				linear	steep	flat	NW-SE	Flat-based U
6202	6	fill	ditch	6201	0	0.75	0.31	mid-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6203	6	cut	ditch	6203	0		0.4				linear	moderate	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6204	6	fill	ditch	6203	0		0.4	mixed fill of dark and light grey and dark orangey brown	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6205	6	cut	ditch	6205	0	1	0.34				linear	moderate	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6206	6	fill	ditch	6205	0	1	0.34	mixed fill of dark and mid and light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					
6207	6	cut	ditch	6207	0	0.77	0.33				linear	steep	concave	NW-SE	U-shape
6208	6	fill	ditch	6207	0	0.77	0.33	mixed fill of dark and light grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to small					
6209	6	cut	ditch	6209	0	0.6	0.34				curvilinear	steep	concave	NE-SW	V-shape
6210	6	fill	ditch	6209	0	0.6	0.34	mid-brownish grey	sand	occ flints, v.small to medium					

## APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Metalwork

*By Denis Sami*

#### *Introduction*

B.1.1 The metalwork assemblage consists of seven artefacts, all from Area 1 and deriving largely from topsoil deposits, with two iron nails coming from the fill of pit **75** (context 77). The assemblage comprises copper-alloy (CuA) and iron (Fe) artefacts (Table 2).

Material	No. Artefact
CuA	3
Fe	4
<i>Total</i>	7

*Table 2 Quantification of metalwork by material*

B.1.2 The bulk of the assemblage dates to the medieval and modern periods with a single artefact of possible Early to Middle Anglo-Saxon date.

B.1.3 The general preservation of finds is poor with iron (Fe) artefacts presenting heavy encrustation, mineralization of soil and fragmentation, while the copper-alloy (CuA) objects show patina and oxidation. This does not, however, prevent identification of the artefacts.

#### *Methodology*

B.1.4 The metalwork was examined in accordance with the Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) metalwork finds standard based on the guidance of the Historical Metallurgy Society (Dungworth 2012; Davis and Starley 2012) and Historic England's *Archaeometallurgy: Guidelines for Best Practice* (Bayley *et al* 2015) and *Guidelines for the Storage and Display of Archaeological Metalwork* (Rimmer *et al* 2013).

B.1.5 The material was classified according to Crummy's (1983) functional categories. The items were catalogued, and the details are presented at the end of this report (Table 3).

B.1.6 Finds were quantified using a Microsoft Access database, while a single Microsoft Excel spreadsheet was used to enter details and measurements of each artefact. This database was interrogated to compile statistics. All metal finds were counted, weighted when relevant and classified on a context-by-context basis. The catalogue is organised by small find number.

#### *The assemblage*

B.1.7 Brooch SF 5 is an incomplete, although well-preserved, medieval brooch decorated with a devotional inscription reading +IhESUS nA[ZARENUS] dating to the period between c. AD 1200-1400. This type of cloth fastener was a popular dress accessory in the high and late medieval periods and are documented all over the country (Egan

and Pritchard 1991; 1337, 254; a close parallel is recorded in the Portable Antiquities Scheme Database: PAS: LEIC-4F2C65).

- B.1.8 It is possible that a small casted copper alloy loop (SF 1) was part of a larger medieval dress accessory, possibly serving a belt, but other interpretations cannot be excluded.
- B.1.9 Button SF 2 is a modern machine-made fastener possibly dating to between c. 1920 and 1940s.
- B.1.10 The iron knife blade (SF 3) is potentially an Early to Middle Anglo-Saxon knife type (Evison type C). dating to the 6th to 8th centuries period. However, this artefact may be an unfinished tool as it is missing the cutting edge and the tang appears thicker than usual.
- B.1.11 The remaining ironwork is undiagnostic and likely to be modern in date.

### Catalogue

SF	Context	Material	Artefact	Category	No. Category	Description	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Diam. (mm)	Weight (gr)	Spot date
1	2	CuA	Unidentified	Miscellaneous	18	A small casted loop with D cross-section. It is possible the loop was part of a larger artefact perhaps a dress accessory or belt mount	0	0	1.6	8.2	0.33	MED
2	2	CuA	Button	Dress accessories	1	A modern 20th century industrial made button with 4 fastening holes	0	0	2.1	12.8	0.94	MOD
3	2	Fe	Knife	Tool	10	A possible early to middle Anglo-Saxon knife with tapering tang splaying into a straight back and angled tip type Evison C. This artefact appears not to have been finished, the cutting edge is absent as it was not hammered	120	12.5	4.5	0	0	AS?
4	2	Fe	Unidentified	Miscellaneous	18	An unidentified artefact made by a fragment of a rod with circular cross-section. Three parallel incomplete prongs project from the rod	41	18	5	0	0	MOD
5	2	CuA	Brooch	Dress accessories	1	Nearly half preserved cast annular plate brooch frame with a decorative inscription on one side reading: +hESUS nA[ZARENUS]	0	0	1.8	32.5	2.96	MED
7	77	Fe	Nail	Fittings	11	Two modern nails with tapering square cross-section stem and circular flat head	37	3	0	0	0	MOD

Table 3 Catalogue of metalwork

## B.2 Iron Age Pottery

*By Carlotta Marchetto*

### Introduction

- B.2.1 An assemblage totalling 147 sherds (2063g) of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the excavation, displaying a mean sherd weight (MSW) of 14g. The pottery was recovered from a total of 34 contexts relating to 31 features/labelled interventions in Areas 1 and 6 (Table 4).
- B.2.2 The material primarily derives from pits, with small quantities from ditches and gullies, one cremation burial, one posthole, natural features and the subsoil. The material dates from the first phase of the Early Iron Age to the Middle Iron Age (Table 5), though the majority by weight is of Middle Iron Age origin (59 sherds, 1634g, c. 350-50 BC). One sherd (3g) in area 6 was so small and abraded that was assigned a generic prehistoric date.

Area	Context	Cut	Feature Type	No sherds	Wt (g)	Date
1	2	-	subsoil	2	7	EIA
1	51	50	ditch	1	1	EIA
1	83	82	pit	13	108	EIA
1	107	106	ditch	1	6	EIA
1	109	108	ditch	1	4	EIA
1	111	110	ditch	15	34	EIA
1	114	113	ditch	1	6	EIA
1	117	115	ditch	3	26	EIA
1	118	112	cremation	1	1	EIA
1	129	128	tree throw	1	9	EIA
1	131	130	gully	7	39	EIA
1	133	132	natural	4	13	EIA
1	135	134	natural	1	12	EIA
1	137	136	natural	7	31	EIA
1	141	140	posthole	1	2	EIA
1	145	144	natural	3	10	EIA
1	147	146	natural	3	7	EIA
1	149	148	natural	2	3	EIA
1	157	156	natural	3	15	EIA
1	159	158	natural	4	21	EIA
1	161	160	natural	1	3	EIA
1	99999	-	unstrat	12	68	EIA
6	6008	6007	pit	2	23	MIA
6	6010	6009	pit	6	25	MIA
6	6020	6019	pit	1	57	MIA
6	6037	6035	pit	18	177	MIA
6	6042	6039	pit	4	122	MIA
6	6048	6043	pit	15	881	MIA
6	6067	6066	gully	1	15	MIA
6	6135	6134	ditch	1	9	MIA
6	6135	6134	ditch	1	3	Prehistoric
6	6139	6138	pit	1	1	MIA

Area	Context	Cut	Feature Type	No sherds	Wt (g)	Date
6	6161	6160	pit	1	45	MIA
6	6164	6163	pit	2	28	MIA
6	6166	6163	pit	7	251	MIA
<i>Total</i>				<i>147</i>	<i>2063</i>	

Table 4 Iron Age pottery quantification by context

Period	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	% of assemblage (by wt.)	MSW (g)
Early Iron Age	87	426	20.6	4.9
Middle Iron Age	59	1634	79.2	27.7
Generic Prehistoric	1	3	0.2	3
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>2063</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>14</i>

Table 5 Quantification of Iron Age pottery by period

- B.2.3 The pottery from Area 1 is in poor condition and most sherds are small (<4cm in size) and abraded, as reflected by the low MSW (4.9g). The pottery from Area 6 is in a stable condition, as reflected by the relatively high MSW (27.7g). The assemblage includes a small number of feature sherds characteristic of ceramics of the Early and Middle Iron Age periods, together with fabrics typically associated with these ceramic traditions in the region.
- B.2.4 This report provides a fully quantified description of the material by period, and a discussion of its date and affinities.

### Methodology

- B.2.5 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2011). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group. Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (wheel-made or handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue and were assigned vessel numbers.
- B.2.6 Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. In cases where a sherd or groups of refitting sherds retained portions of the rim and shoulder, the vessel was also categorised by form. Early Iron Age vessels were classified using a form series devised by M. Brudenell (Brudenell 2012), and the class scheme created by J. Barrett (1980). The Middle Iron Age-type forms were codified using the series developed by J.D. Hill (Hill and Horne 2003, 174; Hill and Braddock 2006, 155-156).
- B.2.7 All pottery was subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as 'small' (112 sherds; 76%); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' (28 sherds; 19%), and sherds over 8cm in diameter will be classified as 'large' (7 sherds; 5%). The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the project archive.

## **Fabrics Series**

### *Flint fabrics*

F1: Moderate to common fine to coarse flint (mainly 1-4mm in size). Sherds may contain rare very coarse angular flint

F2: Sparse to moderate fine to coarse flint (mainly 1-4mm in size). Sherds may contain rare very coarse angular flint

F3: Sparse to moderate fine flint (mainly <1mm in size)

F4: Rare fine to coarse flint

### *Sandy fabrics*

Q1: Moderate to common fine quartz sand. Sherds may contain linear voids from burnt out organic matter or rare medium to coarse angular flint

### *Void fabrics*

VeQ1: Moderate quartz sand and moderate linear voids from organic matter. Sherds may contain sparse fine to medium dissolved shell

## **Early Iron Age, c. 850/800-600/500 BC**

B.2.8 Pottery dating to the Early Iron Age comprises 87 sherds (426g) with a MSW of 4.9g. The Early Iron Age assemblage derived exclusively from features in Area 1, coming from 22 contexts relating to 20 cut features/labelled interventions: six ditches, one gully, one pit, one cremation burial, one posthole, one tree throw, nine natural features, subsoil deposits and unstratified contexts).

### **Assemblage characteristics**

B.2.9 The assemblage is dominated by sherds in flint (fabrics F1-F4); the grade of the crushed burnt flint inclusions varying along a spectrum of coarse to fine, and common to sparse depending on the size of the vessel and quality of ware (Table 6). This is typical of Early Iron Age assemblages across the eastern region (Brudenell 2012).

<b>Fabric Type</b>	<b>Fabric Group</b>	<b>No./Wt. (g) sherds</b>	<b>% fabric by Wt.</b>	<b>No./Wt. (g) burnished</b>	<b>% fabric burnished</b>	<b>MNV</b>	<b>MNV burnished</b>
F1	Flint	25/198	46	-	-	-	-
F2	Flint	28/119	28	-	-	-	-
F3	Flint	18/71	17	4/13	18	3	-
F4	Flint	16/38	9	-	-	3	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>87/426</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4/13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>

Table 6 Quantification of Early Iron Age pottery by fabric. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and rim and shoulders identified (five rims and one vessel profile)

B.2.10 Based on the total number of different rims and rim and shoulders identified, the Early Iron Age assemblage is estimated to contain a minimum of six different vessels: five different rims and one partial vessel profile. Only one vessel profile can be assigned to form and belongs to a cup with convex walls (Form S). Measurable vessel rims (only two in total) have diameters of 6-16 cm and represent a range of small and medium-sized pots. Residues are rare in the assemblage, with only eight sherds with residues recorded (84g).

B.2.11 In total, four sherds in the assemblage are burnished (13g), representing 3% by sherd count or 4% by weight. As is characteristic, burnishing is primarily found on sherds with inclusions at the finer end of the fabric spectrum, notably F3 (Table 6).

B.2.12 Decoration is present on five sherds (33g). A range of applications and techniques typical of the Early Iron Age are evident, with fingertip and fingernail applications on the shoulder. Other sherds have distinctive pinched decoration on the neck or cabled on the rim exterior (Table 7). These decorations are typical of the early decorated ware groups of the first phase of the Early Iron Age. Changes in decorative frequency went hand-in-hand with the emergence of a more varied repertoire of motifs and applications, which were now regularly employed across multiple vessel zones (Brudenell 2012, p.191). Residues are present in the assemblage, with eight sherds with residue recorded (84g).

Decoration	Vessel zone	No./Wt. (g) sherds	No. vessels	Vessel forms, & rim-diameters (cm)
Fingertip	Shoulder	1/9	-	-
Fingertip and fingernail	Shoulder/unclear	2/11	-	-
Cabled	Rim exterior	1/1	1	-
Pinched	Neck	1/12	-	-
TOTAL	-	5/33	1	-

Table 7 Quantification of Early Iron Age decoration

### Middle Iron Age, c. 350-50 BC

B.2.13 The bulk of the pottery recovered from the excavation comprises handmade Middle Iron Age-types wares – all from Area 6. These include 59 sherds (1634g) deriving from 12 contexts relating to 11 features/interventions. These comprise nine pits, one ditch and one gully.

#### *Assemblage characteristics and key groups*

B.2.14 The assemblage is dominated by sandy wares, typical of the Middle Iron Age in East Anglia (Table 8). Sherds with quartz sand and inclusions of vegetable matter (fabric QVE1) are more prolific, accounting for 63% of the pottery by weight. Sherds with just quartz sand in the clay matrix (fabric Q1) account for 37% of the assemblage.

Fabric Type	Fabric Group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
Q1	Sand	36/597	37	15/426	71.4	5	3
VeQ1	Void	23/1037	63	15/918	88.5	3	3
TOTAL	-	59/1634	100	1/4	82.2	8	6

Table 8 Quantification of Middle Iron Age pottery by fabric. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims, bases and rim and shoulders identified (one rim, four bases and three vessel profiles)

B.2.15 Based on the total number of different rims and bases identified, the Middle Iron Age assemblage is estimated to contain a minimum of eight different vessels: one rim, four different bases and three partial vessel profiles.

B.2.16 Most vessels have simple flat-topped, externally, internally thickened or everted rims. A total of three vessels are sufficiently intact to assign to form (37% of vessels). One vessel is a slack-shouldered jar with short upright rim (Hill Form A). Other types include



a globular S-profiled vessel (Hill Form F) and a slightly globular vessel with no distinct neck zone but with rim defined by very slight eversion (Hill Form N).

B.2.17 Measurable vessel rims (only three in total) have diameters of 12-26cm and belong to small to medium-sized pots. Vessels of this size are likely to have been everyday cooking and serving pots, although only two retains traces of carbonised residue. In general, residues are prolific in the assemblage, with 15 sherds with residues recorded (230g). Only one sherd displays a scored decoration, characteristic of the East Midlands Scored Ware tradition (Elsden 1992)

B.2.18 The surface treatments recorded in the assemblage are burnishing and smoothing. This is very common with 30 sherds (1344g) having carefully smooth/burnished surfaces, representing 51% of the assemblage by sherd count or 82% by weight. These figures are relatively high for Middle Iron Age-type pottery groups, possibly reflecting an emphasis on serving vessels or a local preference for pots with a lustrous surface finish (Brudenell 2019b).

### ***Key groups***

B.2.19 Most features/interventions containing Middle Iron Age-type pottery yielded less than 100g of material (seven of the 11 features/interventions) and contained only a few sherds. Three contained slightly larger assemblages (pits **6035**, **6039** and **6163**), but only that from pit **6043** may be considered 'large' (over 500g of pottery), and constitute key groups. Between them these yielded 46 sherds (1459g), accounting for 78% of the Middle Iron Age assemblage by sherd count or 89% by weight. They contained six of the eight vessels in the entire assemblage.

### ***Discussion***

B.2.20 The pottery dates to the first phase of the Early Iron Age and Middle Iron Age, suggesting activity at the site throughout much of the 1st millennium BC. Most of the pottery recovered from the site dates to the Middle Iron Age (c. 350-50 BC).

B.2.21 The Early Iron Age assemblage from Area 1 belongs to the Post Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) ceramic tradition, c. 1150-350 BC (Brudenell 2012). It is a small and highly fragmented assemblage. However, the type of decoration and the vessel forms present in this assemblage can be associated with 'Early' Decorated ware groups of PDR pottery, dating to c. 850/800-600/500.

B.2.22 The vessel forms, types and frequencies of decoration and surface treatment can be paralleled in a range of contemporary domestic assemblages across the region. Some similarities with the West Harling pottery assemblage are noticed (Clarke and Fell 1953). However, the Early Iron Age assemblage from Area 1 is not of great significance compared with this and other major assemblages from Norfolk.

B.2.23 The small size of the excavation in Area 6 does not allow much useful comment regarding the Middle Iron Age occupation of the site. The pottery assemblage is small but comprises large and unabraded sherds with a range of vessels represented. Given the relatively large sherd size and good condition, the pottery from pits was probably deposited quite soon after breakage. The pottery represents a utilitarian domestic assemblage with a limited range of mainly plain jar and bowl forms, typical of ceramic

repertoires of the 4th to 1st century BC in Norfolk. The assemblage can be compared with other similar contemporary collections in Norfolk, for example the pottery from Phase I, Fison Way, Thetford (Gregory 1991b), or Spong Hill (Gregory 1995). The assemblage only comprises one scored sherd (1% by count) and reflects the geographic position of the site on the periphery of the main Scored Ware-zone distribution in the East Midlands (Elsdon 1992).

### *Illustration catalogue (Fig. 8)*

#### **Early Iron Age**

1. (V.5, rim diam 6cm). Class V cup, form S, fabric F3. Natural feature **148**, context 149
2. Shoulder, fabric F1. Fingertip and fingernail decoration (possible lid-seated rim). Tree throw **128**, context 129

#### **Middle Iron Age**

3. (V.11, rim diam 14cm). Class small jar/bowl, form F, fabric Q1. Pit 6035, context 6037
4. (V.13, rim diam 26cm) Class jar, form A, fabric VeQ1. Pit 6043, context 6048
5. (V.14, rim diam 12cm) Class small bowl, form N, fabric VeQ1. Pit 6163, context 6166

## **B.3 Flint**

*By Lawrence Billington*

### *Introduction and methodology*

- B.3.1 A total of 124 worked flints and 1567.5g (157 fragments) of unworked burnt flint were recovered during the excavations and watching brief.
- B.3.2 The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Excel spreadsheet, with the artefacts classified according to a system of broad artefact/debitage types based on standard definitions for post-glacial lithic assemblages from southern Britain (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Butler 2005; Ballin 2021).

### *Quantification and distribution*

- B.3.3 A summary quantification of the flint assemblage by Area is provided in Table 9, with a full catalogue of the flint by context in Table 10. The majority of the flint derived from the excavations in Area 1 (83 worked flints, 159g of burnt flint) and Area 6 (40 worked flints, 1408g burnt flint), with just a single worked flint collected during the watching brief in Area 5.

Area	Area 1	Area 5	Area 6	Totals
Chip			28	28
Irregular waste	4			4
Flake	62		10	72
Blade	7			7
Blade-like flake	3		1	4

Area	Area 1	Area 5	Area 6	Totals
End scraper	1		1	2
Microlith	1			1
Oblique arrowhead		1		1
Barbed and tanged arrowhead	1			1
Gunflint	1			1
Two platform flake core	1			1
Core on flake	1			1
Hammerstone	1			1
<b>Total worked</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>124</b>
Unworked burnt count	22		135	157
Unworked burnt weight (g)	159.3		1408.2	1567.5

Table 9 Basic quantification of the flint assemblage

- B.3.4 The worked flint from Area 1 was thinly distributed, deriving from some 25 individual contexts – most of which were the fills of cut features including ditches, gullies, postholes, pits and natural features, with a small quantity of material collected from topsoil/subsoil deposits. Much of this material is clearly residual, but a few features containing small but potentially coherent/single period assemblages were excavated (see below for details).
- B.3.5 In Area 6, almost all of the flint was recovered from bulk sampling of the fills of pits and ditches, and the worked flint was dominated by undiagnostic small chips and flake fragments; here there is little to suggest that any of the worked flint represents anything other than residual material.

### *Raw materials and condition*

- B.3.6 The flintwork is generally made of good quality, fine grained flint, with varied cortical surfaces and colours typical of the abundant flint cobbles/nodules that can be found in superficial deposits right across the Breckland (Healy 1991a, 1998), exemplified locally by the assemblage from the excavations at the Iron Age enclosure complex at Fison Way (Healy 1991b). There was no clear evidence for the use of flint procured directly from the parent chalk.
- B.3.7 The condition of the majority of the worked flint is consistent with its origin as a residual element within later features or from unstratified deposits, with minor edge damage/rounding being fairly common. A small number of assemblages from a few of the cut/natural features, are however in better, fresh condition (see below). Very few worked flints (three) display any traces of recortication ('patination').

### *Assemblage characterisation*

- B.3.8 Among the worked flint from Area 1, very small assemblages of worked flint from four features (**20**, **41**, **140** and **148**) may represent coherent single period assemblages broadly contemporary with the features from which they derive.
- B.3.9 Pit **41** produced only two worked flints, but these comprised a fine tertiary blade and a Mesolithic microlith – a complete slender lanceolate form (Jacobi's (1978) class 3d,

L=17mm, W=8mm). Basally modified lanceolate microliths of this form are best documented in Middle Mesolithic ('Honey Hill type') assemblages in eastern and central England, dated to between c. 8000-6500 BC (Conneller et al 2016), with comparable forms occurring locally in assemblages from Spong Hill, north Elmham, (Healy 1988; associated with a 7th millennium BC radiocarbon date) and Two Mile Bottom, Thetford (Jacobi 1984; little more than 2.5km north-east of the site).

- B.3.10 Posthole **140**, although producing a small quantity of Early Iron Age pottery, contained a coherent assemblage of blade-based flintwork (six pieces, including two blades and a blade like flake). This material, although potentially residual in this context, is in fresh condition and can be dated to the Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic. A small but coherent assemblage of seven simple hard-hammer struck flakes was recovered from natural feature **20**, this material is not strongly diagnostic but is likely to be of later Neolithic or Bronze Age date. Finally, two simple hard hammer struck flakes and fine, heavily used spherical flint hammerstone were recovered from natural feature **148**. This was recovered in association with Early Iron Age pottery, and in this case, (although not strongly diagnostic) the flintwork could be contemporary with the pottery, and it is notable that heavily used flint hammerstones very similar to this example are a major feature of other later prehistoric assemblages in the area including the Middle Bronze Age assemblages from Grimes Graves, Weeting-with-Broomhill (Herne 1991), and Early Iron Age assemblages from Moulton Paddocks, Suffolk (Bush 2015).
- B.3.11 Leaving aside these possible single period assemblages, the remainder of the worked flint is dominated by simple hard hammer struck flakes, which can only be broadly dated to the later Neolithic or Bronze Age, with a relatively small number of blades and blade-like flakes indicating a Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic presence. The few retouched tools are also largely consistent with a later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date, including two simple convex end scrapers (one from ditch **6134**, Area 6 and one from gully **89**, Area 1) as well as a Late Neolithic oblique arrowhead found during soil stripping in Area 5 and a Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead recovered from the subsoil in Area 6. Post-medieval/early modern activity is also represented by a single gunflint collected from the topsoil in Area 1.

### *Discussion*

- B.3.12 This small assemblage of largely poorly stratified flintwork is of limited significance but does clearly indicate activity across this landscape from the Mesolithic through to the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. In terms of its character and composition it is very closely comparable to the much larger assemblage of material from the excavations at Fison Way (1481 worked flints; Healy 1991b), which similarly included some evidence for Mesolithic and Earlier Neolithic activity alongside a much larger proportion of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age material. More generally, the chronological make-up and character of this material is entirely typical of the rich record of prehistoric flint scatters from the Norfolk and Suffolk Breckland (Healy 1984, 126-7; Bishop 2012).

**Catalogue**

Area	Context	Cut	Context type	sample	Chip	Irregular waste	Flake	Blade	Blade-like flake	End scraper	Microlith	Oblique arrowhead	Barbed and tanged arrowhead	Gunflint	Two platform flake core	Core on flake	Hammerstone	Total worked	Unwrkd burnt count	Unwrkd burnt weight (g)
1	1	-	topsoil	-		1	2	1										4		
1	2	-	Subsoil	-									1					1		
1	5	4	Natural feature	-				1										1		
1	19	18	pit	-		1	5											6	4	26.7
1	21	20	Natural feature	-			7											7	11	80
1	23	22	Natural feature	-			2											2	5	36.6
1	31	30	ditch	-			1											1		
1	35	34	pit	-			4											4		
1	42	41	Natural feature	-				1			1							2		
1	49	48	ditch	-			3		1									4		
1	62	61	Posthole	-			1		1									2		
1	83	82	pit	-			1											1		
1	87	86	Gully	-			1											1		
1	89	88	Tree throw	-			1											1		
1	95	94	Posthole	-			1											1		
1	99	98	Gully	-			2			1								3		
1	103	102	Gully	-			1											1	2	16
1	109	108	ditch	-			2									1		3		
1	111	110	ditch	-			5											5		
1	117	118	ditch	-			1											1		
1	133	132	Natural feature	-			2											2		

Area	Context	Cut	Context type	sample	Chip	Irregular waste	Flake	Blade	Blade-like flake	End scraper	Microlith	Oblique arrowhead	Barbed and tanged arrowhead	Gunflint	Two platform flake core	Core on flake	Hammerstone	Total worked	Unwrkd burnt count	Unwrkd burnt weight (g)
1	141	140	Posthole	-			3	2	1									6		
1	149	148	Natural feature	-			4										1	5		
1	151	150	Natural feature	-			1											1		
1	161	160	Natural feature	-			1	1										2		
1	99999	-	topsoil	-		2	11	1						1	1			16		
5	5000	-	topsoil	-								1						1		
6	6001	-	topsoil	-			1		1									2		
6	6048	6043	pit	403			1											1	4	132.7
6	6089	6088	ditch	414	4													4	1	2.7
6	6127	6126	ditch	413	1		2											3		
6	6135	6134	ditch	412	5		5											10	92	510
6	6135	6134	ditch	-						1								1		
6	6139	6138	pit	407															18	167.4
6	6164	6163	pit	408	18		1											19	15	255
6	6166	6163	pit	409															5	340.4

Table 10 Catalogue of flint

## APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Human skeletal remains

*By Zoë Uì Choileàin*

#### *Introduction*

C.1.1 A single un-urned cremation burial **112** was excavated in Area 1. The burial has been radiocarbon dated to the Early Iron Age (SUERC107155, 2420BP ± 26, 744-403BC; App.. D). A total weight of 481g of cremated human bone was recovered from the deposits associated with the burial

#### *Provenance*

C.1.2 Burial **112** is situated in the southern area of excavation. The pit is relatively large for a cremation burial and oval in shape (1.17m long and 0.96m wide). The top surface has been disturbed by ploughing and the fill of adjacent plough scar **120** contained cremated human bone almost certainly derived from pit **112**. The burial is isolated, with the only features in close proximity being ditch **39** and pit **32**. The excavation area was very narrow, however, and it is entirely possible that there may be further cremation burials outside of these limits.

#### *Methodology*

C.1.3 Excavation, processing and analysis of the cremation was carried out in accordance with published guidelines (McKinley 2004; Mays *et al* 2004). In order to comment on the degree of bone fragmentation, the residues from wet sieving of the excavated deposits were separated into three fractions; >10mm, 5-10mm and 2-5mm, the extraneous material was removed and the total weight of bone was recorded.

#### *Preservation*

C.1.4 The feature has been truncated to an unknown degree and, therefore the bone present does not represent the quantity of bone originally deposited. The fragment size is very small meaning that few fragments were identifiable to element (skull fragments, tibia, distal phalange, sesmoids and a single tooth root).

#### *Results and Discussion*

C.1.5 Less than 500g of bone was recovered from the pit. and the bone fragments were small, with the majority from each deposit being between 5-10mm in size (Table 11). Whether the fragment size is the result of deliberate breakage prior to burial or factors relating to the burial environment and the degree of truncation is uncertain.

C.1.6 The degree of fragmentation greatly limited the information that could be gleaned but based on the size and robustness of the elements the feature contains the remains of an older subadult/adult.



C.1.7 All of the bone fragments are white in colour indicative of complete oxidisation of the organic component of the bone and pyre temperatures in excess of approximately 600°C (McKinley 2004, 11).

Cut	Fill	Sample No.	Depth (m)	Largest fragment (mm)	Weight (g)			
					>10mm	5-10mm	2-5mm	Total
112	118	12	0.21	241 x 60 (limb)	124	152	16	292
112	119	13	0.25	113 x 77 (limb)	26	40	80	146
120	121	14	0.04	89 x 71 (humerus)	16	14	13	43

Table 11 Fragment size and weights of the cremated bone

C.1.8 The Early Iron Age is a period for which further research into funerary practices is much required. An increase in C14 dating in recent years and developments allowing the direct dating of cremated bone has provided a wealth of evidence regarding the continuation of Middle Bronze Age practices of cremation burial into the Late Bronze Age in the region and there are indications that this may have continued into the Early Iron Age (see Brudenell 2018).

C.1.9 A picture is forming of a wider variety of burial practices existing within Early Iron Age Norfolk and East Anglia as a whole. In addition to cremation burials the period includes inhumations and the deposition of selected and disarticulated body parts including, but not limited to, polished or otherwise modified bone (*ibid*). The current regional research agenda for East Anglia includes a focus on whether patterns in burial practice can be identified, be they related to localised tribal beliefs or the status/age/sex of individuals (<https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/research-agenda/late-bronze-age-to-middle-iron-age/> LBA-MIA 19). The information recorded on this cremation burial adds to the corpus of information being built to answer some of these questions.

## C.2 Animal bone

*By Zoë Uì Choileàin*

### *Introduction and Methodology*

C.2.1 A small collection of animal bone was collected from features in Area 6. A total of four recordable fragments are present only one of which is identifiable to taxon. The bone was collected from two contexts. One bone was identified as Bantam hen.

C.2.2 All bone was identified using Schmid (1972) and Cohen and Serjeantson (1996). Surface preservation was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by McKinley (2004 14-15).

### *Results of Analysis*

C.2.3 The preservation of bone is relatively good measuring a Grade 1 (McKinley, 2004, 14-15).

- C.2.4 Deposit (6006) of pit **6005**, sample 400, contained the proximal end of a carpo-metacarpus from a chicken. Basal fill (6164) of pit **6163**, sample 408, contained three fragments of indeterminate burnt bone from a medium sized mammal.

### C.3 Environmental Samples

*By Martha Craven*

#### *Introduction*

- C.3.1 This report details the results of the processing of environmental samples from Areas 1 and 6. A total of 17 samples were taken from Area 1 and 19 from Area 6. The purpose of the sampling was to determine whether plant remains and other environmental indicators are present, their mode of preservation and what information can be inferred about such things as diet, economy, agricultural practices and trade. The features sampled during this excavation range in date from the prehistoric period to post-medieval.

#### *Methodology*

- C.3.2 Each sample was processed by tank flotation using modified Sīraf-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.
- C.3.3 A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction for the recovery of magnetic residues prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds.
- C.3.4 The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in tables 1-2.
- C.3.5 Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers et al. 2006) and OAE's reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (2010) for other plants. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

#### *Quantification*

- C.3.6 For the purpose of this assessment, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:
- # = 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens
- C.3.7 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as snails have been scored for abundance  
+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = frequent, ++++ = abundant, +++++ = super abundant

Key to tables:

U=untransformed, f= fragment

## Results

C.3.8 The plant material from these two areas consists primarily of carbonised (charred) plant remains which are in a moderate state of preservation. It should be remembered that carbonised plants remains are only a fraction of the original material that was burnt and lighter material (such as straw) will not usually survive this process (Boardman and Jones 1990, 1). Untransformed material is also present at the site but to a lesser extent. Untransformed material may or may not be contemporary to the feature from which it was sampled and are usually seeds with a tough outer coating resistant to decay.

### Area 1

C.3.9 Samples from Area 1 are taken from features that range in date from prehistory to the modern period. The botanical assemblage from this area is largely characterised by a low density of material, however, there are exceptions.

C.3.10 Samples from Early Iron Age cremation burial **112** and associated plough scar **120** contain woody, twisted stem fragments which are thought to be heather (*Calluna vulgaris*). Other botanical remains found in these cremations include seeds of grasses (Poaceae), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and docks (*Rumex sp.*).

C.3.11 Sample 7, fill (76) of modern pit **75**, contains a large quantity of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains and barley chaff. This sample also contains a single large legume (Fabeaceae) and a moderate quantity of weed seeds including cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*), speedwell (*Veronica sp.*) and shepherd's needle (*Scandix pecten-veneris*).

C.3.12 The samples vary considerably in their charcoal content with the largest quantity, 140ml, being recovered from pit **75**.

C.3.13 Small quantities of untransformed elder (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds were noted in cremation **112** and ditch **113**.

C.3.14 The majority of the samples contain a small quantity of relatively well-preserved molluscs.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Heathland Macrofossils	Tree/Shrub Macrofossils	Snails	Charcoal Volume (ml)	Pottery	Human skeletal remains	Burnt flint	Flint debitage	Metal Fe
1	11	10	Ditch	17	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	1	0	0	0	0	0
2	25	24	Tree-throw	18	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	15	0	0	0	0	0
3	19	18	Natural feature	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	1	0	0	#	0	0
4	35	34	Pit	16	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	<1	0	0	0	0	0
5	37	36	Ditch	16	80	0	0	0	0	#	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	49	48	Ditch	16	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	<1	0	0	0	#	0
7	76	75	Pit	16	180	###	###	#	##	0	0	++	145	0	0	0	#	##
8	83	82	Pit	16	20	#f	0	0	0	0	0	++	1	0	0	0	0	0

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Heathland Macrofossils	Tree/Shrub Macrofossils	Snails	Charcoal Volume (ml)	Pottery	Human skeletal remains	Burnt flint	Flint debitage	Metal Fe
9	97	96	Gully	19	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	1	0	0	0	0	0
10	111	110	Ditch	20	10	0	0	0	0	0	#U	+	1	0	0	0	0	0
11	114	113	Ditch	18	20	0	0	0	+	0	#U	+	<1	#	0	0	#	0
12	118	112	Cremation	52	50	0	0	0	0	##	#U/#	+	10	0	###	0	#	0
13	119	112	Cremation	71	60	0	0	0	#	##	#U	++	4	0	###	0	0	0
14	121	120	Cremation	17	20	0	0	0	#	##	0	++	2	0	###	0	#	0
15	131	130	Ring gully	20	5	0	0	0	0	0	#f	+	2	#	0	0	#	0
16	137	136	Gully/rooting	18	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0	0	0
17	141	140	Posthole	9	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	25	24	Natural feature	10	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	20	0	0	0	0	0
19	19	18	Natural feature	10	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	8	0	0	##	##	0

Table 12 Environmental Samples from Area 1

## Area 6

- C.3.15 Samples from Area 6 were taken from features that are thought to either date to the Middle Iron Age or are undated. The majority of samples from Area 6 contain scarce plant remains.
- C.3.16 Cereal grains are present, mostly as single specimens, in a several of the features from this area. These cereals consist of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), spelt/emmer (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*) and grains that are too poorly preserved to identify. Chaff is absent in all but one of the features. It can be very difficult to differentiate between spelt and emmer morphologically and as such this distinction has not been made in this report.
- C.3.17 Pit **6035** is notable in that it contains frequent cereal grains. This feature also contains a single barley rachis fragment and two spelt/emmer glume bases. A large quantity of charcoal, 90 millilitres, was also recovered from this pit. Some of these charcoal fragments have the appearance of heather.
- C.3.18 Carbonised weed seeds are rare across most of the area. Weed taxa present include bromes (*Bromus sp.*), black bind-weed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) and pearlworts (*Sagina sp.*).
- C.3.19 An unidentifiable charred fragment, which may be dung or burnt food, was noted in ditch **6134**.
- C.3.20 Features from this area mostly contain small quantities of charcoal and are either devoid of or contain only occasional snails.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume Processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	Heathland Macrofossils	Charred Indet.	Snails	Charcoal Volume (ml)	Pottery	Bird Bones	Burnt flint	Flint debitage
400	6006	6005	Pit	1	5	#	0	#	0	0	0	2	0	#	0	#
401	6010	6009	Pit	8	5	0	0	#	0	0	0	1	#	0	0	0
402	6014	6013	Ditch	16	5	0	0	#	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	#
403	6048	6043	Pit	18	30	0	0	#	0	0	+	5	#	0	#	#
404	6037	6035	Pit	16	100	###	#	##	##	0	0	90	##	0	0	#
405	6065	6064	Ring Ditch	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	<1	0	0	#	#
406	6067	6066	Ring Ditch	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	#
407	6139	6138	Pit	16	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	<1	0	0	##	#
408	6164	6163	Pit	14	30	#	0	0	0	0	+	10	#	0	##	##
409	6166	6163	Pit	16	5	0	0	0	0	0	+	2	#	0	##	##
410	6144	6142	Ditch	16	100	#	0	#	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
411	6153	6152	Posthole	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
412	6135	6134	Ditch	20	50	#	0	0	0	+	+	11	#	0	##	##
413	6127	6126	Ditch	20	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	#
414	6089	6088	Ditch	20	10	#	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	#	#
415	6174	6173	Ditch	20	40	#	0	0	0	0	0	<1	0	0	0	0
416	6204	6203	Ditch	20	30	#	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	#

Table 13 Environmental Samples from Area 6

## Discussion

C.3.21 Samples taken from features in Areas 1 and 6 have recovered carbonised, and untransformed archaeobotanical material. Most of the samples are very sparse with regards to plant remains and so little information can be drawn from them. However, some inferences can be made from the few richer samples.

### Area 1

C.3.22 Modern pit **75** contains a large quantity of barley grains; including grains with morphological traits of the two-row hulled variety. Two-row hulled varieties of barley grain appear to be more rounded and symmetrical than their six-row counterparts (Jacomet 2006). Many of the barley grains are missing their embryo ends which suggests they had germinated prior to burning. This germination may be indicative of malting practices, or the grains may have accidentally germinated due to damp conditions in in storage or processing (Pelling 2013, 5). The large quantity of charcoal in this sample suggests that this assemblage is not the result of stubble-burning and may instead represent a waste deposit of spoiled grain or malting (Fosberry, per comm).

C.3.23 Cremations **112** and **120** contain moderate quantities of heather which is indicative of acidic soils (Pelling 2013, 4). Heather has been traditionally used as fuel (Ibid., 4) and so its presence in cremation samples is not surprising. Bronze Age cremations are known at the nearby site of Fison Way. These cremations do not contain heather fragments but heather is present in later features at the site (Murphy 1991, 175).

C.3.24 The weed taxa at this site helps to provide some idea of the surrounding environs. Cornflower and shepherd's needle, recovered from pit **75**, are usually associated with arable land (Stace 2010, 698-811) and are likely to have grown alongside the barley also recovered from this pit. The weed seeds within cremations **112** and **120** are likely to be the result of plant material around the cremation pyre being accidentally burnt and subsequently incorporated into the cremated remains. Docks, grasses and ribwort plantain, the weed taxa found within the cremations, are associated with grassland and wasteland areas (Ibid., 440-974).

### *Area 6*

C.3.25 There are a number of features in this area with small quantities of grain. These features do not appear to be clustered together, which might otherwise suggest a focus of domestic activity. These plant remains likely represent a background scatter of refuse which has accumulated into the features gradually over time, perhaps blown in by the wind.

C.3.26 The material recovered from pit **6035** appears to consist largely of fully-processed grain. The cereal types present are typical of the Iron Age period where spelt/emmer and barley predominate. It is likely that the assemblage in pit **6035** is the result of refuse that was deposited intentionally into this feature when it had fallen out of use. Contemporary assemblages at the nearby site of Fison Way in Thetford are similar in composition. A number of the Middle to Late Iron Age features at Fison Way contain frequent hulled wheats and barley with occasional oats (Murphy 1991, 175).

C.3.27 The majority of the weed seeds recovered from Area 6 are common arable and ruderal weeds such as black-bindweed. Sheep's sorrel is more ecologically specific and tends to favour acidic soils (Stace 2010, 446).

C.3.28 The lack of significant quantities of chaff material across Area 6 could imply that cereal processing did not take place in the vicinity. Alternatively, the chaff may have been utilised as fodder, as was common in the Iron Age period (Campbell 2000), with the result that the remains were less likely to be subject to burning and consequently be preserved.

C.3.29 The presence of heather in Iron Age pit **6035** is interesting as many Iron Age features at the nearby site of Fison Way were also found to contain fragments of heather. It has been argued that the heather at Fison Way may have been used as flooring, bedding, thatch or perhaps as fuel (Murphy 1991, 175). It is likely that the heather may have been utilised in the same manner in Area 6. The presence of heather in many of the Iron Age features at Fison Way has also been used to suggest that there was an expansion onto sandier soils in this period. Heather is a common plant on the nearby Breckland heaths which are areas of infertile heathland caused by prehistoric clearance (Historic England 2020, 4).

### *Retention, dispersal and display*

C.3.30 The samples from areas 1 and 6 have now been fully processed, assessed and warrant no further work. Any remaining sub-samples can be dispersed. The sample flots will be retained in the project archive.



## APPENDIX D      RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE



**Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre**  
Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK  
Director: Professor F M Stuart    Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332    Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898    www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc



### RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE 18 November 2022

<b>Laboratory Code</b>	SUERC-107155 (GU62679)
<b>Submitter</b>	Rachel Fosberry Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
<b>Site Reference</b>	ENF146516
<b>Context Reference</b>	118
<b>Sample Reference</b>	12
<b>Material</b>	Bone - Humerus : Human
<b><math>\delta^{13}\text{C}</math> relative to VPDB</b>	-23.2 ‰
<b>Radiocarbon Age BP</b>	2420 $\pm$ 26

**N.B.** The above  $^{14}\text{C}$  age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon* 58(1) pp.9-23.

For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at [suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk).

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : *E Dunbar*

Checked and signed off by :

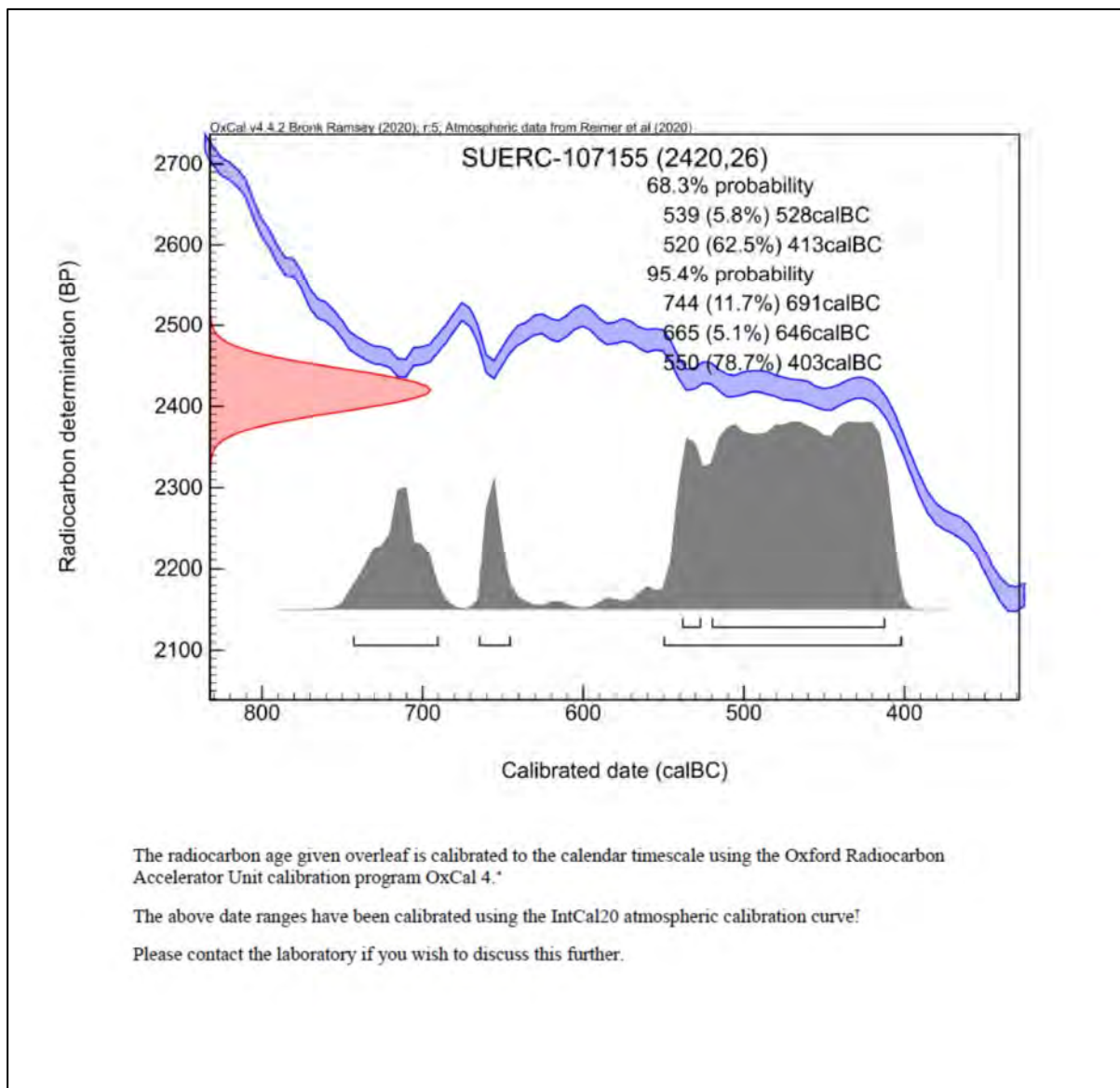
*B. [Signature]*



The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401



The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC006336





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## APPENDIX F OASIS REPORT FORM

### Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-514264		
Project Name	Land to the North and East of Thetford, Norfolk, Anglian Water Scheme CCR-00007-63		
Start of Fieldwork	20/01/2020	End of Fieldwork	18/03/2022
Previous Work	No	Future Work	No

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	ENF 146516	Planning App. No.	n/a
HER Number	ENF 146516	Related Numbers	n/a

Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice
Development Type	Pipelines/Cables
Place in Planning Process	Not known/Not recorded

### Techniques used (tick all that apply)

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography – interpretation | <input type="checkbox"/> Grab-sampling          | <input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area excavation          | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-core           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning         | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Augering                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey        | <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey          | <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors        | <input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey       | <input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling              | <input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watching brief            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography  |   |

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditch	Late Prehistoric ( - 4000 to 43)	Worked flint	Mesolithic ( - 10 000 to - 4000)
Cremation burial	Early Iron Age ( - 800 to - 400)	Worked flint	Late Prehistoric ( - 4000 to 43)
Pit	Early Iron Age ( - 800 to - 400)	Pottery	Early Iron Age ( - 800 to - 400)
Ditch	Middle Iron Age ( - 400 to - 100)	Pottery	Middle Iron Age ( - 400 to - 100)
Pit	Middle Iron Age ( - 400 to - 100)		

### Project Location

County	Norfolk	Address (including Postcode) Land to the North and East of Thetford
District	Breckland	
Parish	Thetford, Brettenham, Croxton	
HER office	Norfolk	
Size of Study Area	9.1km (linear)	

National Grid Ref TL 8686 8487 to TL 8764 8204

### Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	John Percival
Project Design Originator	Matt Brudenell
Project Manager	Matt Brudenell/Nick Gilmour
Project Supervisor	Malgorzata Kwiatkowska

### Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	NMAS	
Digital Archive	NMAS	
Paper Archive	NMAS	

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Remains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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

Database	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Images (Digital photos)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spreadsheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Text	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/>

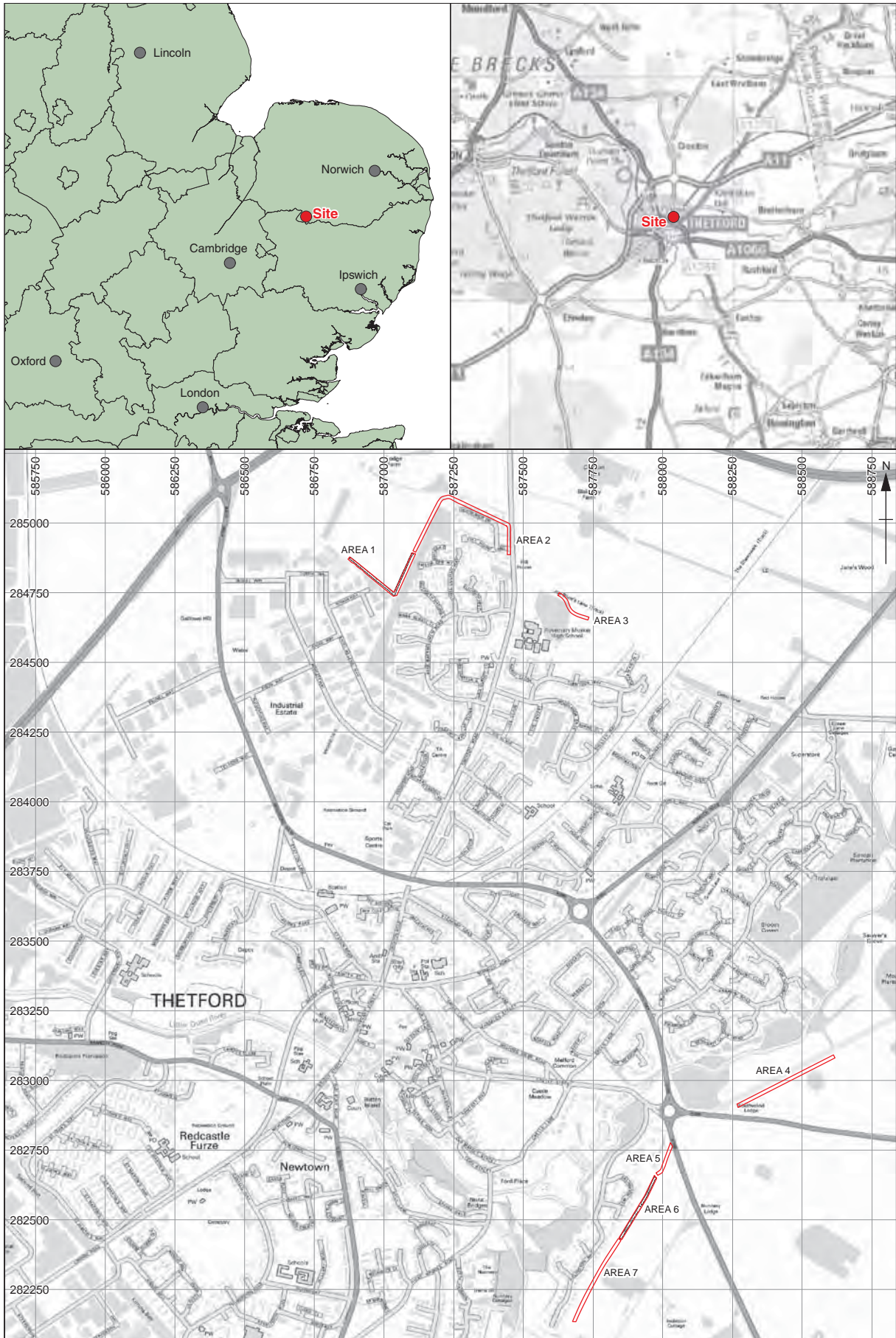
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Manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/>
Map	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matrices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microfiche	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miscellaneous	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research/Notes	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Photos (negatives/prints/slides)
- Plans
- Report
- Sections
- Survey

## Further Comments

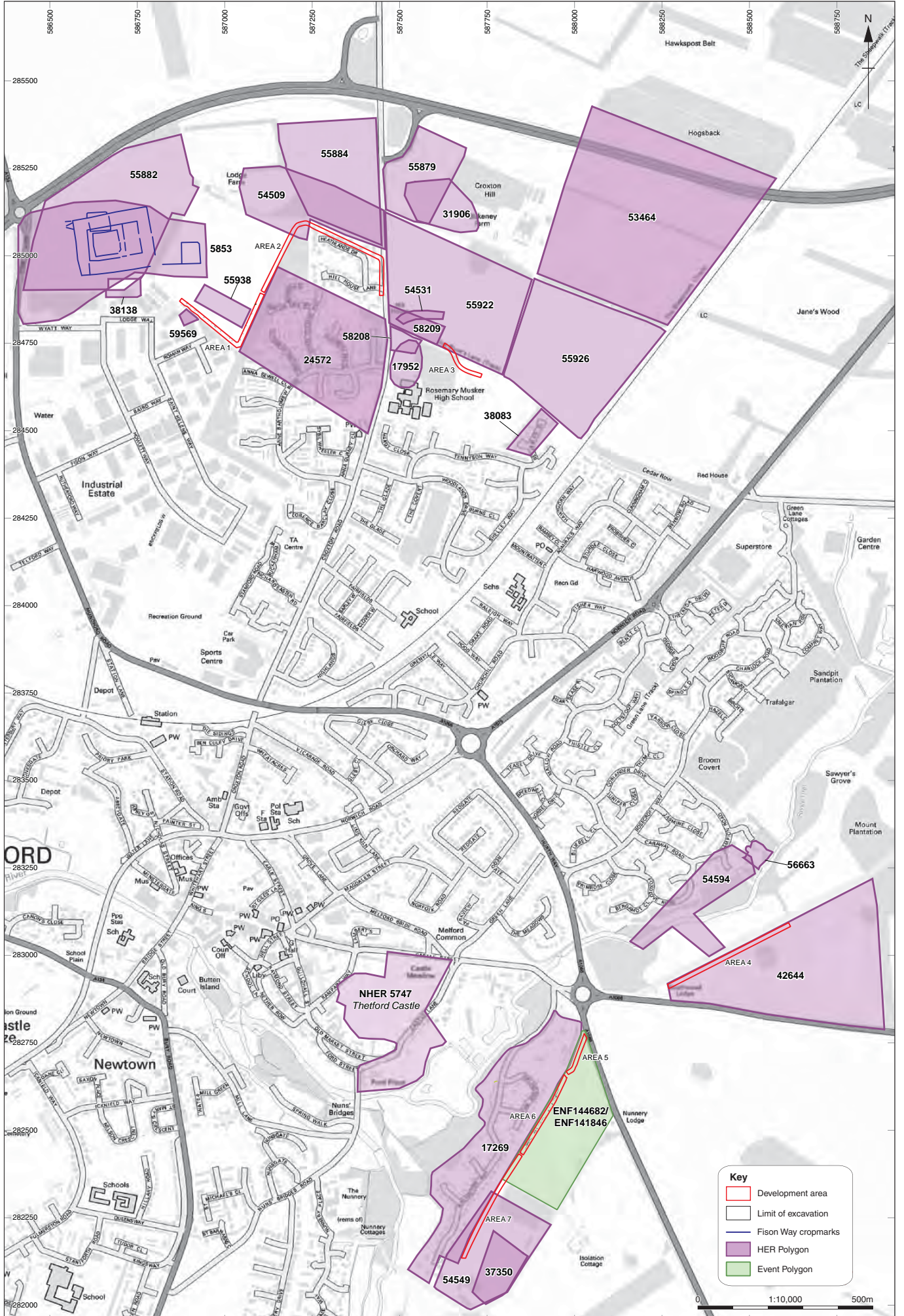




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Figure 1: Site location showing areas subject to monitoring (red) and excavation areas (black)





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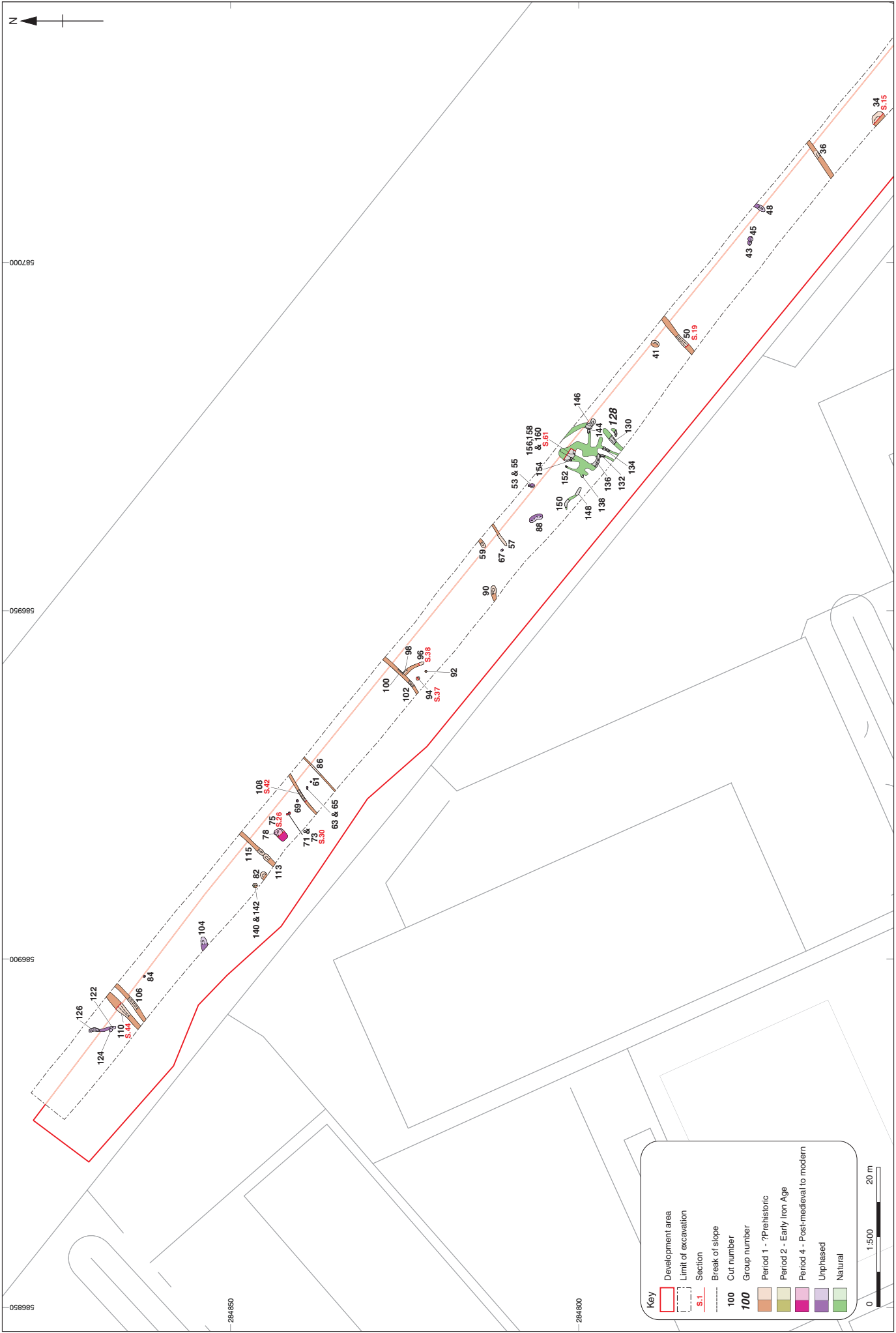


Figure 3: Area 1 West  
 © Oxford Archaeology East

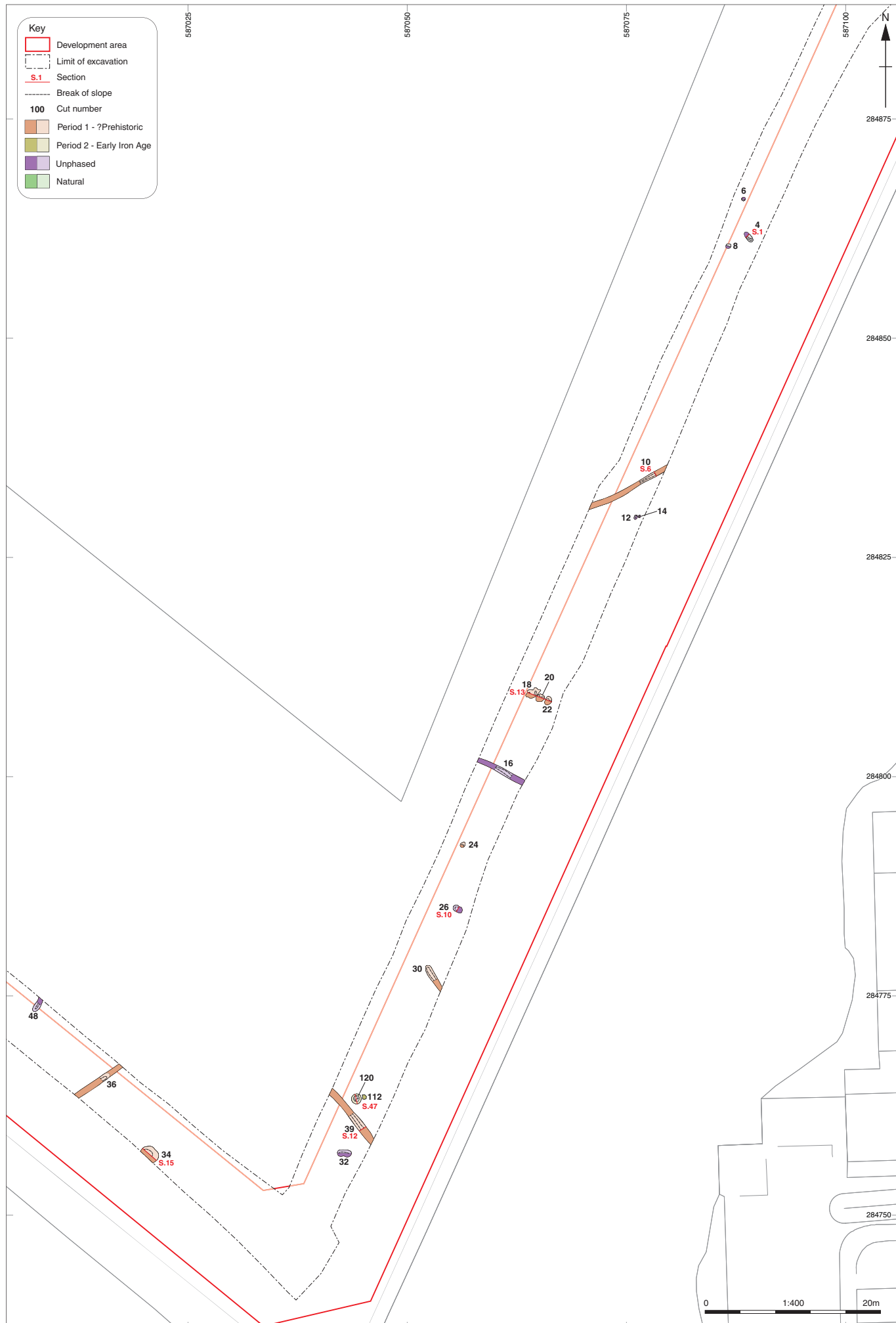


Figure 4: Area 1 East

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**Key**

- Limit of excavation
- Top surface
- - - - - Cut / conjectured
- Deposit horizon
- Cut number
- Deposit number
- 32.26 m OD Level
- Stone
- Charcoal
- Bone

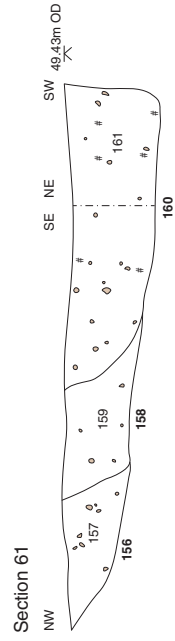
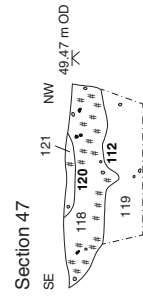
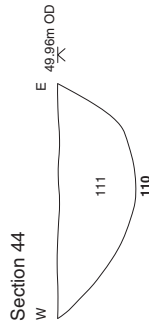
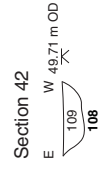
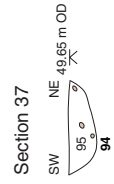
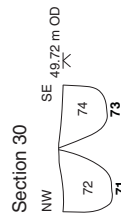
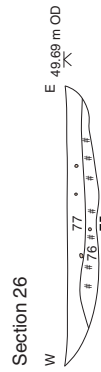
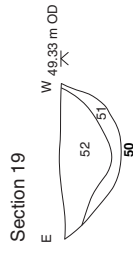
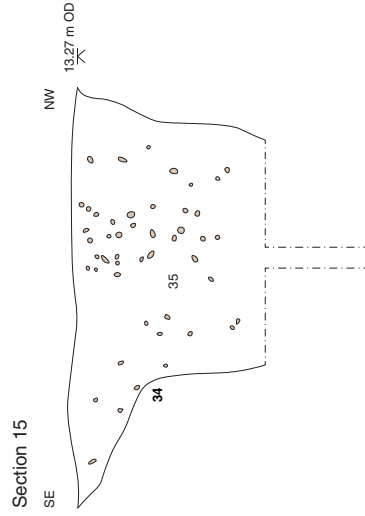
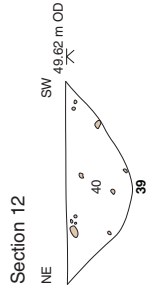
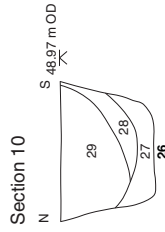
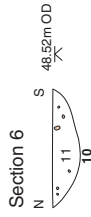
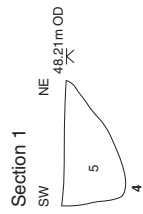


Figure 6a: Selected sections - Area 1

**Key**

- Limit of excavation
- - - Top surface
- - - Cut / conjectured
- - - Deposit horizon
- Cut number
- Deposit number
- 32.26 m OD Level
- Stone
- Charcoal
- ◆ Sample number

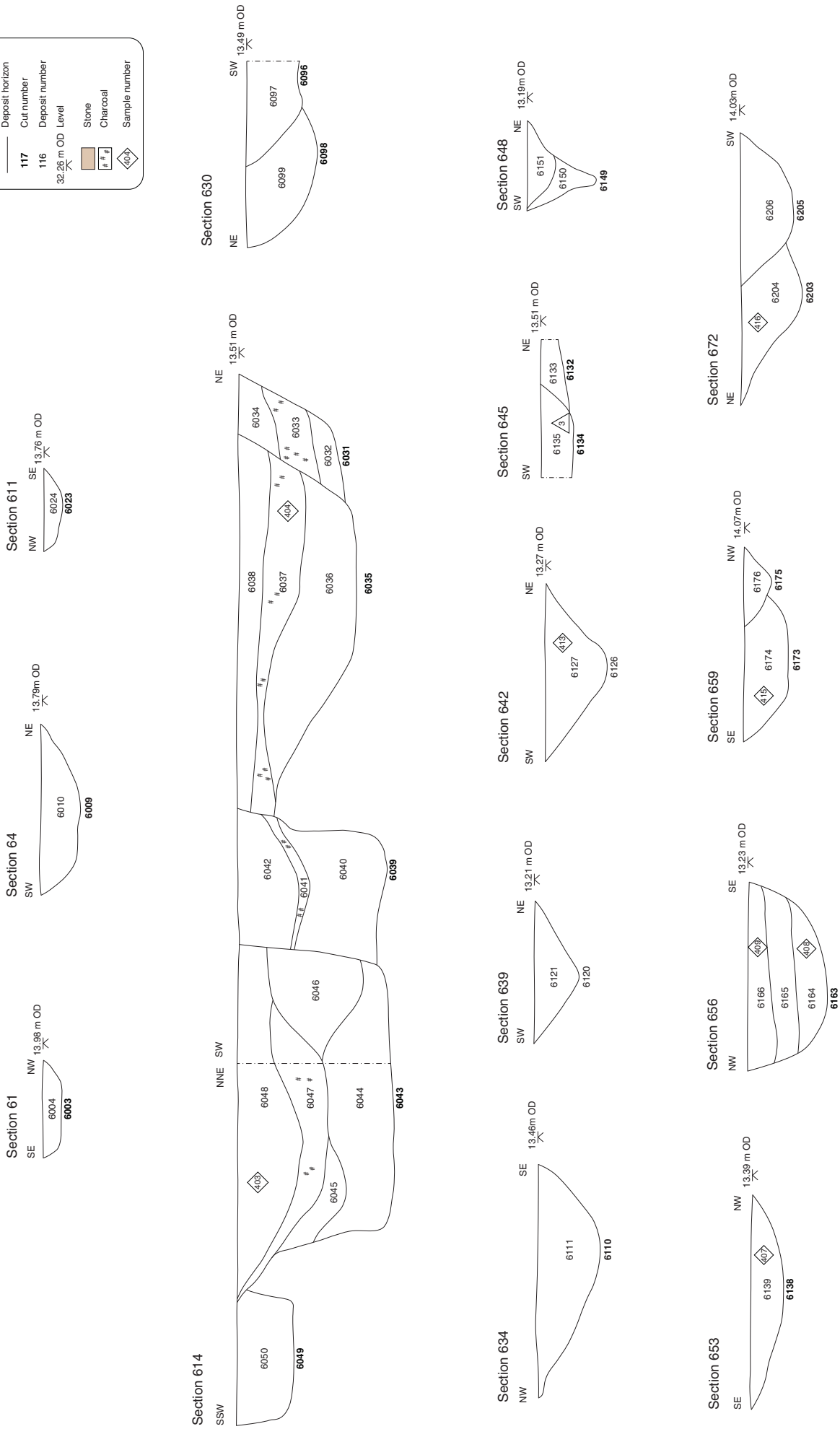
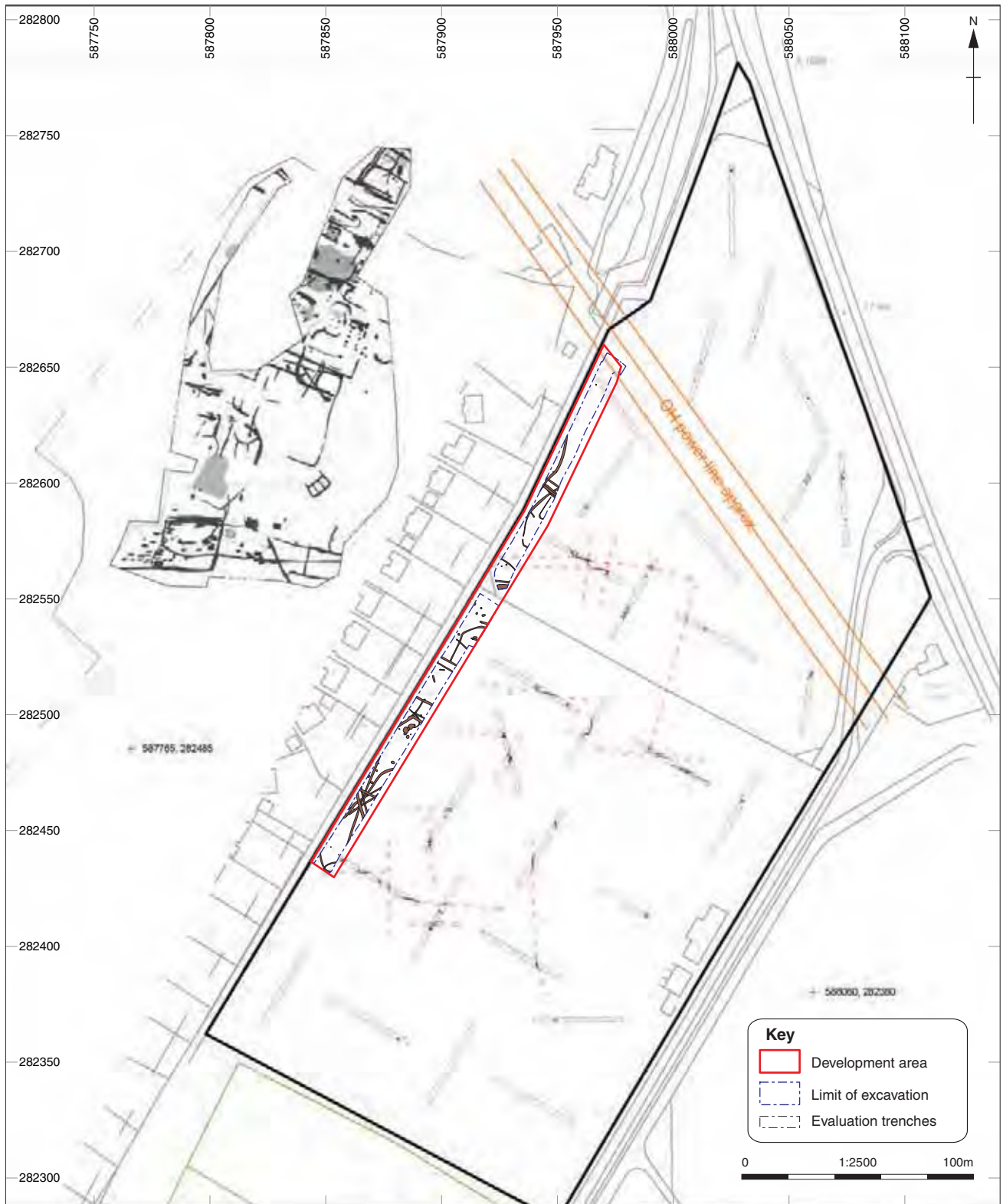


Figure 6b: Selected sections - Area 6



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Figure 7: Area 6 in relation to the excavations at Melford Meadows (Mudd 1992; Pine 2014) and the 2016 trial trenching east of Arlington Way (Clover 2017), after Clover 2017, fig. 27

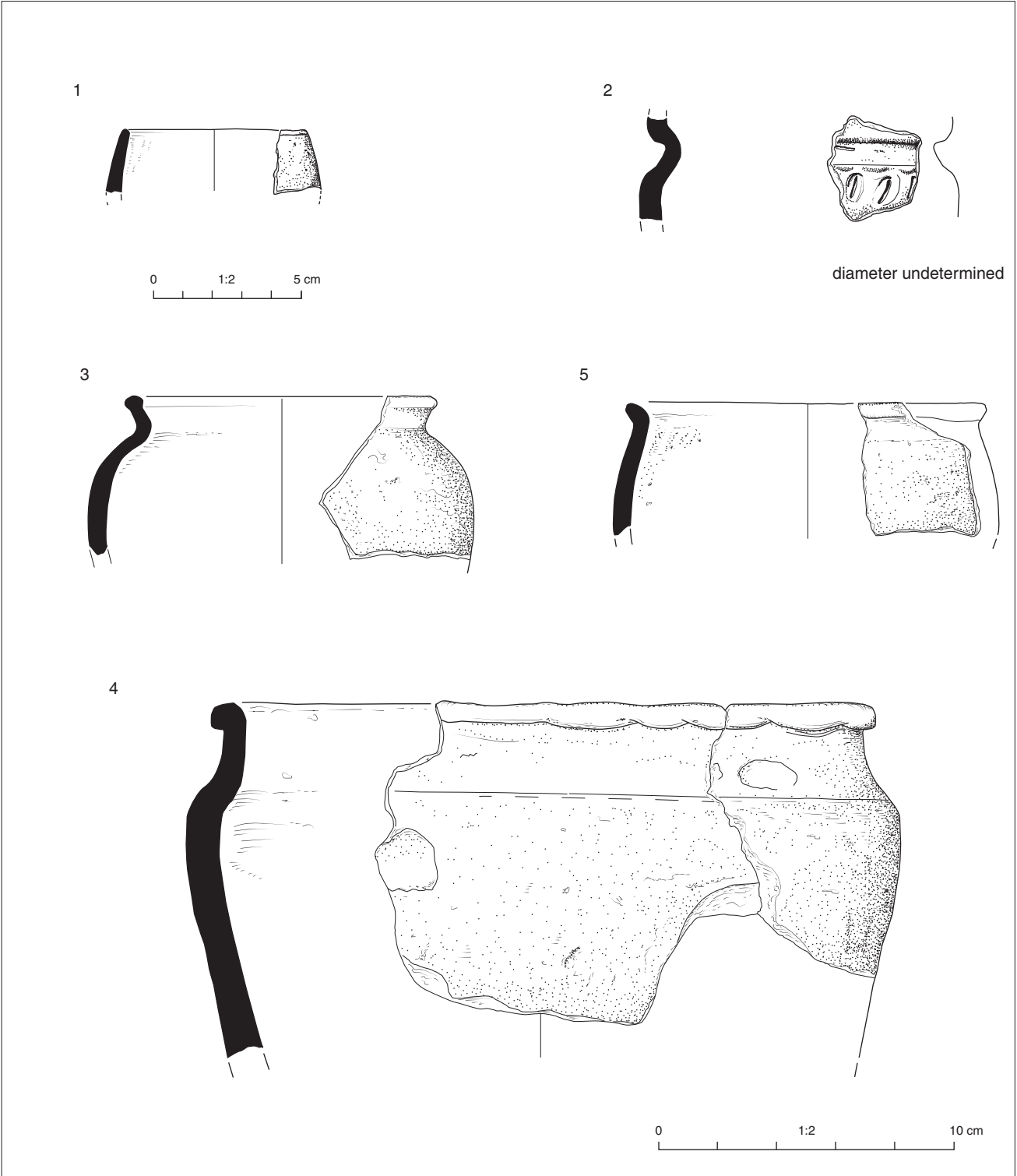


Figure 8: Prehistoric pottery





Plate 1: Area 1: Looking north-west along the western part of the excavation area. The major Iron Age/Roman enclosure complex at Fison Way (NHER 5853) lies beneath and just beyond the belt of trees in the background of the shot



Plate 2: Area 1: Looking north-east along the eastern part of the excavation area





Plate 3: Area 1: Ditches **110** and **106**, looking north-east (0.4m scale)



Plate 4: Area 1: Ditch **113**, looking south-west (0.4m scale)





Plate 5: Area 1: Ditch **108**, looking south-west (0.2m scale)



Plate 6: Area 1: Ditch **39**, looking south-east (0.4m scale)





Plate 7: Area 1: Pit **34**, looking south-west (1m scale)

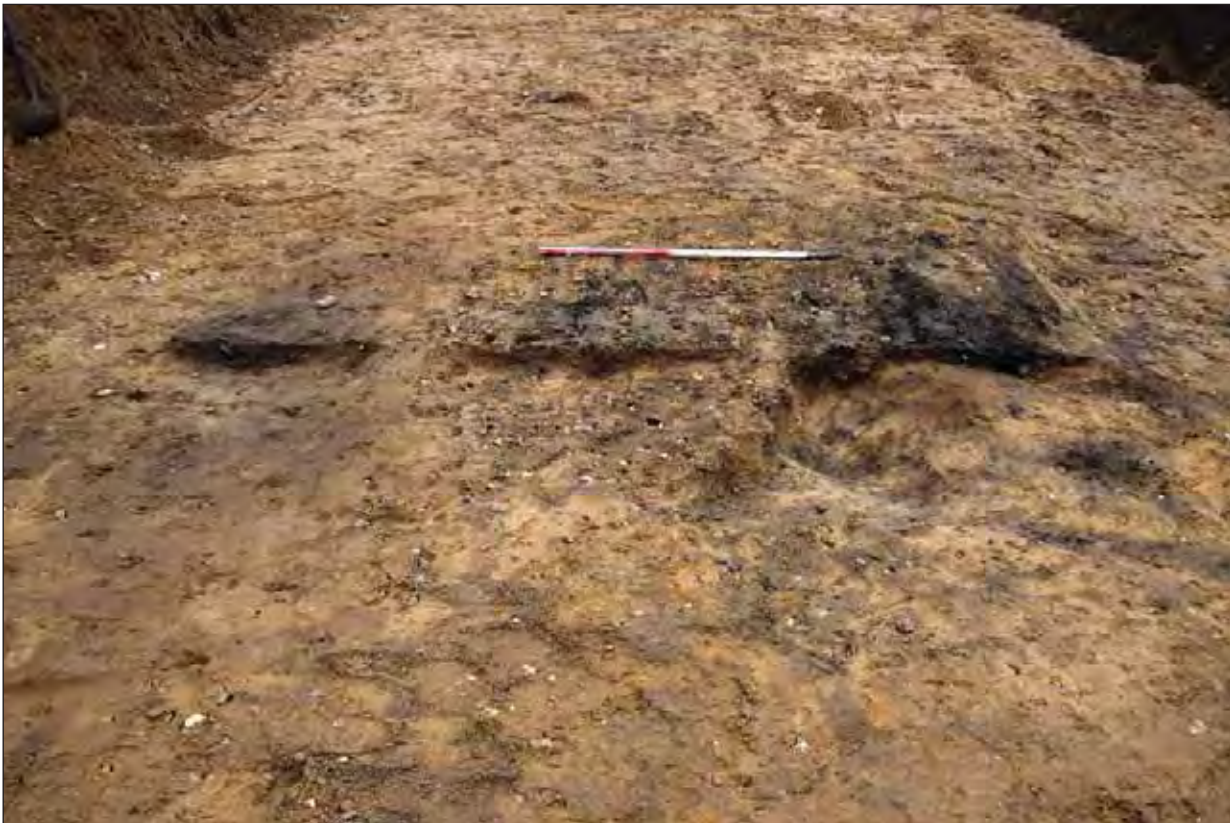


Plate 8: Area 1: Pits **18**, **20** and **22**, looking south (1m scale)





Plate 9: Area 1: Natural features (probable animal burrows) **132**, **234** and **136**, looking north-east (0.4m and 0.2m scales)



Plate 10: Area 1: Cremation burial **112** pre-excitation, looking south-east (1m scale)





Plate 11: Area 1: Cremation burial **112** under excavation, looking north-west



Plate 12: Area 1: Cremation burial **112** half-sectioned, looking south-east (0.4m scale)





Plate 13: Area 1: Pit 75, looking south-west (1m scale)



Plate 14: Area 1: Pit 26, looking east (0.4m scale)





Plate 15: Area 2: General view of machine stripping of topsoil along the pipeline easement



Plate 16: Area 3: General view of machine stripping of topsoil along the pipeline easement





Plate 17: Area 7: General view of machine stripping of topsoil along the pipeline easement



Plate 18: Area 6: Pits **6031**, **6035**, **6043**, **6049**, **6051** and **6054**, looking north-west (1m scales)





Plate 19: Area 6: Pit **6005**, looking east (0.4m scale)



Plate 20: Area 6: Ditch **6124**, looking north-west (0.4m scale)



Plate 21: Area 6: Ditches **6142** and **6147**, looking north-west (1m scales)



Plate 22: Area 6: Ditch **6102** and pit **6100**, looking west (1m scale)





Plate 23: Area 6: Ditch **6120**, looking west (0.4m scale)



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