Multi-period Settlement and Funerary Evidence at Tithe Barn Farm Chatteris

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Multi-Period Settlement and Funerary Evidence at Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris

Archaeological Evaluation

By Rob Atkins BSocSc Diparch

With contributions by Barry Bishop BA, Peter Boardman BA, Carl Champness BA MSc AIfA, Zoë Uí Choileáin MA PGDip MSc, Steve Critchley BSc MSc, Chris Faine MA MSc BABAO, Rachel Fosberry HNC Cert Ed AEA, Kath Hunter, Alice Lyons BA MA MIfA and Sarah Percival BA MA MIfA

Editor: Aileen Connor BA AIfA

Illustrators: Andy Corrigan BA, Matt Lees BA, Gareth Rees BA MA AIfA and Carl Champness BA MSc

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Prepared by:	Rob Atkins
Position:	Project Officer
Date:	September 2011
Checked by:	Aileen Connor
Position:	Senior Project Manager
Date:	September 2011
Signed:	A.A. Connor .....

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Oxford Archaeology East,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast

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Summary

In a four week period during July and August 2011, OA East conducted an archaeological evaluation comprising sixty trenches and ten test pits at Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris in advance of a proposed residential development. Trenches were targeted over features identified by a previous geophysical survey (Walford 2008). A main north-to-south palaeochannel was identified, with evidence for a second palaeochannel branching off from it, which probably dates from the Late Pleistocene/Holocene period.

A small assemblage of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint tools was found, although only one tool (a blade) was found in a possibly contemporary post hole. More definite settlement evidence (a hollow and a well containing burnt flint possibly derived from a "burnt mound") is dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Clear and extensive evidence for a Middle Bronze Age settlement and associated field system was found in Field 1, adjacent and to the west of the main palaeochannel. Features associated with this settlement included post hole structures and a scatter of pits and ditches. Evidence for possible ritual/funerary and/or settlement of Middle Bronze Age date was also found in Field 2. Here, two possible ring ditches may be the remains of barrows or possibly round houses. Other ditches are presumably field systems associated with the settlement. Further evidence of this period includes large watering holes in three locations, cutting into relict palaeochannels. The evaluation has produced a significant assemblage of Middle Bronze Age artefacts comprising 272 pottery sherds (2.6kg) with a major component of this being Deverel Rimbury type ware, a moderate collection of animal bone, in addition to flint pieces (including cores) and a piece of slag. Waterlogged deposits containing preserved insects and wood fragments were found in deeper features.

No evidence for Late Bronze Age activity was identified, indicating that the site was abandoned until the Middle/Late Iron Age, when a new settlement was established that appears to have continued to be occupied into the Late Roman period. Evidence for possible round houses and other buildings was found along with features associated with settlement such as pits and enclosure ditches; a single cremation was also present. Evidence for copper and iron smithing in the Middle/Late Iron Age is of particular interest. A second farmstead was established at the eastern area of the site in the latest Iron Age/Early Roman period and this also continued into the Late Roman period.

Of note is the presence of an apparently isolated possible Saxon building (SFB).

In the medieval and post-medieval periods the site was largely under cultivation, although a map of 1819 hints that a former road (Hill Road) may have crossed the site to a small hamlet that extended partly into the north-eastern edge of the site. No evidence was found for settlement or other activity associated with the 16th century Tithe barn.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation comprising sixty trenches and ten test pits was conducted at Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris over a four week period during July and August 2011. The work took place in advance of proposed development on the 59.5 hectare site, which will consist of mixed use to include residential (up to 1,000 dwellings), some industrial units, a local centre, primary school, playing fields, landscaping, open space, highways and ancillary development.

1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Kasia Gdaniec, Senior Archaeologist (Gdaniec 2011) of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application F/YR10/0804/0), supplemented by a Specification prepared by CgMs (Bourn 2011) and a Written Scheme of Investigation by Oxford Archaeology East (Connor 2011).

1.1.3 Previous archaeological work within the development area (Fig. 1) comprises fieldwalking (Hall 1992), geophysical survey (Walford 2008) and a desk-based assessment (Weaver 2006). The entire site was fieldwalked as part of the Fenland Survey in the late 1980s and this work identified a Bronze Age/Saxon pottery and flint scatter in one location as well as a Late Iron Age/Roman pottery scatter in another (Hall 1992, Chatteris sites 28 and 29; Fig. 1 CHERs 10901/10901A and 08803; Fig. 2). The results of the geophysical survey revealed features relating to settlement (thought to be possibly late prehistoric or Roman) in Field 2 as well as features within Field 3 in the area of the Roman pottery scatter found during the 1980s Fenland Survey; an extensive area of ridge and furrow cultivation was also recorded (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). A large linear feature on a north-to-south orientation was interpreted as a possible palaeochannel.

1.1.4 The trenching described in this report was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2010). The results will enable decisions to be made by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Planning Advice Team, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

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

1.2 Topography and Geology

By Rob Atkins and Steve Critchley

1.2.1 The subject site is located to the south of Chatteris between the A142 and Tithe Road. The site is situated on a gentle west-to-east slope, with a fall of between 4.6m and 8m. The highest point is 9.52m OD (Trench 2) on the southwestern side and the lowest is 1.44m OD (Test pit 62) on the southeastern edge of the site. Within the site there are gentle undulations including several slightly raised “plateaux”, where evidence for prehistoric and Roman settlement was found. The results of a topographic survey undertaken across the whole area of the site are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

1.2.2 A slight north to south depression running across the entire length of the site indicates the position of a possible palaeochannel identified by geophysical survey.

1.2.3 The solid geology on the eastern and topographically lowest part of the site (Fields 3, 4, 5 and 7) is composed of undifferentiated fossiliferous mudstones and calcareous mudstones belonging to the West Walton and Ampthill Clay Formations, which are part of the Ancholme Group of the Middle Jurassic Age (British Geological Survey (BGS) 1995).

1.2.4 To the west (in Fields 1 and 2) these beds are overlain by drift sediments composed of sands and gravels belonging to the March Gravels Member which are overlain in part by periglacial Head deposits (BGS 1995). The March Gravels were found mostly in Field 2 and are coarse orange brown poorly sorted sandy gravels composed of rounded to irregular clasts dominantly of flint with sandstone/quartzite, limestone and ironstone and commonly cross bedded and shelly.

1.2.5 The Head deposits occurred downslope to the east of the Tithe Barn Farm buildings and the western portion of Field 1; they are the product of periglacial ground ice processes active during the Late Pleistocene Devensian Glaciation. Some evidence of active ground ice features were noted in some trenches as machine planed involutions where the thinner portions of the March Gravels overlay the Jurassic clays. However, most evidence had been blurred by weathering and plough action at the levels exposed in the evaluation trenches. The dominant periglacial process operating appears to have been seasonal gelifluction freeze thaw action on waterlogged soils overlying permafrost, the product of which has been mapped as Head.

1.2.6 A north to south palaeochannel (of probable Holocene period) is located on the March Gravels and Head deposits.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A 1km search of the Historic Environment Record was carried out on 30th August 2011 around a centre point of the site at TL 398 847 (Fig. 1). Other sites have been referred to where relevant but are not mapped in this report.

Earlier prehistoric

1.3.2 During the Neolithic period a major river channel ran north to south approximately 1km to the west of the site, and its associated tributaries came within a few hundred metres of the site (Hall 1992, fig. 52). Directly to the south of the site, a Neolithic axe was found at Wood Farm (Fig. 1, CHER 3699).

1.3.3 The majority of the earlier prehistoric settlement and finds evidence has been found in the southern and eastern part of Chatteris parish, more than *c*.1km away from the subject site (Hall 1992, fig. 52). These sites include scheduled Neolithic enclosures (DCB 163), located on a slight rise within a small tongue of fen on the east side of subject site. A flint scatter and Neolithic axe have been found to the west of the modern settlement of Chatteris and a polished axe was found at Delve Terrace.

Bronze Age

1.3.4 During the Bronze Age, peat fen encroached on the area covering some of the lower-lying marine sediments. Chatteris is mostly located on relatively high land, several metres above sea level, and this relative dryness of much of the area appears to have led to more extensive occupation of the island (Hall 1992). The subject site is located

within the higher land with the postulated Fen edge being *c*.1km to the west and south (Hall 1992 fig. 53).

1.3.5 Fieldwalking uncovered a possible Bronze Age settlement in the centre of the subject site (Hall 1992, Chatteris site 28; Fig. 1, CHER 10901). Evidence included pottery, worked flints (including a single scraper) and fire cracked flints. Directly to the west of the site a Middle to Late Bronze Age shield and socketed bronze spear-head were found in 1870 (Fig. 1, CHER 3697). Near to this point a Bronze Age dugout canoe and rapier were also recovered in the 19th century (Fig. 1, CHER 3777). Their location is vague but was probably several hundred metres further away to the west, nearer to the Fen edge and the postulated river (see 1.3.2 above). Other evidence of settlement in the immediate vicinity of the site is indicated by surface finds uncovered during fieldwalking along the route of the Chatteris bypass, *c*.50m to the north-east (Fig. 1, CHER 08771B) and *c*.280m to the east of the site where Bronze Age arrowheads were found (Fig. 1, CHER 05804).

1.3.6 In addition to the possible settlement noted within the subject site, another two Bronze Age domestic sites have been postulated within the parish (Hall 1992, 90 and fig. 53). Numerous artefacts have also been recovered, indicating widespread activity during the Bronze Age. This evidence includes flint-working sites, and a considerable amount of Bronze Age metalwork. Although the latter may derive from disturbed cemeteries it also demonstrates occupation (Hall 1992). Burials of this period are relatively numerous in the parish and include a dispersed barrow field of at least 15 barrows occupying the eastern half of the island towards the Fen edge (Hall 1992). In addition to these barrows, a recent excavation 1km to the north of Tithe Barn Farm recorded three cremations, one of which was contained within a pottery urn. These were dated to the Middle Bronze Age but no associated contemporary settlement features were found (Thatcher 2008; CHER MCB 17496). This separation of burial and settlement sites is a pattern that has been observed throughout the region with many burial sites being located along the Fen edge (Hall 1992).

Iron Age and Roman

1.3.7 By the Iron Age, and persisting into the Roman period, Chatteris had become an island surrounded by peat due to a rise in the water table in the Middle and Late Bronze Age period (Weaver 2006, 9). In Chatteris parish, Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery has been found together on several sites suggesting continuity of settlement into the Iron Age period (Hall 1992).

1.3.8 Late Iron Age and Roman pottery sherds were recovered within the subject site suggesting long term occupation (Hall 1992, Chatteris site 29; Fig. 1, CHER 08803). An undated cropmark on the south side of the site did not produce any finds from fieldwalking (Weaver 2006, 8; Fig. 1, CHER 10664) but geophysical (magnetometer) survey in this area found two probable round houses and a small ditched enclosure possibly dating to the late prehistoric or Roman period (Walford 2008; Fig. 2).

1.3.9 Hall has emphasised that Chatteris is remarkable for its Iron Age sites, with six areas of occupational remains and a further two cropmark sites which could be from this period being identified. These were located predominantly to the east (*c*.1km) and north-east (*c*.3km) of the subject site (Hall 1992, fig. 54). The two largest sites (Chatteris sites 26 and 10), covered 10 and 2.5 hectares respectively and produced pottery dating from the Late Bronze Age (*ibid*, 93). Several of these postulated Iron Age sites may have continued into the Roman period. Excavations 1km to the north of Tithe Barn Farm

have found a previously unknown Early Iron Age to Early Roman settlement (Cooper 2004; Thatcher 2008; CHER MCB 17496).

1.3.10 Chatteris appears to have been an important area in the Roman period with evidence for settlement and a local economy based on stock rearing (Hall 1992, 94). Near to the subject site a Roman pottery scatter, indicative of further settlement, was found at what would have been Fen edge in the Burrow Lands (MCB 10577). The settlements in Chatteris parish vary from a high status Roman villa at Langwood Farm more than a kilometre away at TL 420853 (Evans 2003; CHER 09567) to the average status small farms such as that at New Road, Chatteris (Cooper 2004; Thatcher 2008; CHER MCB 17496).

Saxon

1.3.11 Fieldwalking tentatively identified possible Saxon pottery within the subject site alongside Bronze Age pottery, suggesting the potential for Saxon remains to be present on the site (Hall 1992, Chatteris site 28; Fig. 1, CHER 10901A). A few (13) probably Early Saxon pottery sherds and some Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware was found in a few features on a site approximately 1km to the north (Thatcher 2008) also indicative of settlement here in this period.

Medieval

1.3.12 A 16th century Grade II listed Tithe Barn is located within the southern part of the site (Fig. 1, CHER MCB 19434; listed building 48012). The barn is described as having five symmetrical bays and contains some of the original 16th century timber and a threshing floor (Edis 2010). The Tithe Barn now appears to be isolated although it may originally have belonged to a manorial farm.

1.3.13 Part of Chatteris (the extreme northern, north-eastern and western part of the parish) was given to Ramsey Abbey by Athelstan Mannesson; tgis gift was confirmed by King Edgar in 974 (Hampson 1967, 105 and fig. on p.3). The remainder of the parish was the soke (central, southern and most of the eastern areas) and belonged to the Abbot of Ely (Hampson 1967, 105 and fig. on p.3). The subject site lay within this latter manor. The Ely manor was recorded in the Domesday book as being 2 hides and a virgate with land for 3 ploughs (*ibid*, 105) and worth 40 shillings. Half a virgate was in demesne and there were 6 villeins, 2 bordars and 2 cottars. The land consisted of meadow for 3 plough teams, woodland for 20 pigs, and fisheries providing 1,500 eels. This manor was later given to Chatteris nunnery, which was founded by Eadnoth, former Abbot of Ramsey, between AD 1006 and 1008 (Hall 1992). The 15th century cartulary of the nunnery shows a very large number of small grants, usually up to an acre of land (Hampson 1967, 105). The manor and rectory were granted in 1551 to Lords Clinton and Saye (*ibid*, 105). The manor then passed through several families. The Tithe Barn is located within the lands of the manor and a moated site, possibly manorial, is located approximately 200m to the south of it (Fig. 1, CHER 1097). A 17th century house and brick kiln sit within this moated site (Fig. 1, CHER 1097A).

1.3.14 An extensive system of ploughed-out ridge and furrow exists across much of the site but can only be seen as cropmarks and by geophysical survey (Walford 2008; Fig. 1, CHER 8911 and 11443). It is Midland-type strip cultivation, and a reconstruction of the medieval field pattern has been illustrated by Hall (1992, fig. 56). This shows fields on both east-to-west and north-to-south alignments within the subject site. The geophysical survey shows similar arrangements but with more north-to-south furrows (Walford 2008, fig. 3).

1.3.15 The medieval Fen edge was tentatively postulated by David Hall to start around Hill Road and extend eastwards into the eastern edge of the subject site (Hall 1992).

1.3.16 Excavation to the north-west of the subject site at Cromwell Community College has identified medieval and post-medieval features (Fig. 1, Lyons forthcoming).

Post-medieval and modern

1.3.17 The earliest surviving map of the subject site is probably the 1819 Inclosure Map (Weaver 2006, 13, fig. 4; not illustrated). This and later maps indicate that the subject site remained within agricultural use. Much of the western and central two-thirds of the subject site was within Horselode Field and marked as Impropriator (this refers to Charles Cholmondeley who was returned as impropriator in 1819 (Hampson 1967, 107)). An impropriator is a layman in possession of church property - presumably a relict name from when the site belonged to Chatteris nunnery. The 16th century Tithe barn does not appear on this map - presumably this was a mistake as the barn timber clearly dates to this late medieval/early post-medieval period and is clearly shown on the roughly contemporary 1" Ordnance Survey map (see below). The barn may have been referred to in the Victoria County History under Nunns manor when in 1624 the great tithes, a barn and an acre of land was conveyed (Hampson 1967, 106).

1.3.18 This 1819 map recorded that strip farming still prevailed within the extreme south-western side for a time after enclosure.

1.3.19 The 1819 map shows Hill Road, a "main" road located within the subject site, aligned roughly north-to-south and parallel with a turnpike road (now the B1050), directly to the west of the site. Hill Road ran through the eastern side of the site before joining Ely Road (now the A142). Hill Road survives as a hedged trackway (Fig. 1; Weaver 2006, 13). Around the northern end of Hill Road the map shows buildings that may have been a small hamlet that developed around the junction with Ely Road. The southern end of this possible hamlet is located within the present evaluation area. There are three fields on the western side of Hill Road, two of which are aligned on it; one structure is also shown. The location of this structure seems to relate to an anomaly located on the geophysics survey directly to the north-east of Test Pit 63 (Fig. 1; Walford 2008, fig. 6). Most of the possible hamlet lies directly to the north of the subject site with further fields located on either side of Hill Road, mostly aligned off this former road with at least two further structures (dwellings or agricultural buildings) perpendicular to it. Hill Road continues to the south of the subject site and then turns back to the west to join the turnpike road. Weaver (2006, 14) suggests that the hedge boundaries around Hill Road may be potentially pre-enclosure and may be considered important under the Hedgerows Regulations Act 1999 (revised 2002) as they are illustrated on a map of Sutton and Mepal levels produced by William Elsobb in 1750.

1.3.20 The 1" Ordnance Survey Edition plan was surveyed from 1810 and first published in 1824 (Sheet 45 Downham; not illustrated). This map shows the site at a very small scale but it clearly illustrates that the 16th century barn and two other structures were located directly to the north of an east-to-west road which ran from the turnpike road to Hill Road. This road was presumably far older, linking the barn to the main road system around Chatteris. The westernmost structure was within a small enclosure and may represent a domestic building (which was presumably later replaced by the present houses in this location). A north to south boundary separated this from the two eastern structures which were located within their own enclosure. The western one of these buildings was aligned north to south and this is presumably the barn. A single building

was shown fronting near to the western side of Hill Road within the subject site, probably the same building illustrated on the 1819 Inclosure Map.

1.3.21 By the time of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey of 1887-91 additional sub-divisions of the main former field had occurred compared with the 1819 map (Weaver 2006, 14 and fig. 5; not illustrated). Hill Road remained as a route, although it was now known as Dean Drove. The east-to-west road and Tithe Barn complex was similar to that shown on the earlier 1" Ordnance Survey plan, although the enclosure around the barn complex had been enlarged.

1.3.22 The Ordnance Survey 1958 edition shows that the fields were further consolidated and the Tithe Barn complex was increased in size, within which a number of new buildings had been constructed (Weaver 2006, 14 and fig. 6). The later 1983 and 2000 maps of the area show continued further removal of field boundaries within the subject site and Dean Drove becoming less important, being downgraded to a track (Weaver 2006 figs. 7 and 8).

1.3.23 Beyond the subject site, to the west, an evaluation uncovered a number of large pits which were interpreted as evidence for late post-medieval sand and gravel extraction (Peachey 2006; Fig. 1, CHER MCB 17442).

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank CgMs who commissioned the work, especially to Rob Bourn and Will Bedford. The project was managed by Aileen Connor who also edited this report. Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council monitored the evaluation on behalf of the planning authority. Steve Critchley metal-detected the site and found the majority of the metal artefacts. Hazel White of Cambridgeshire County Council kindly supplied HER information. Andy Chapman and Adrian Butler of Northamptonshire Archaeology gave permission to use their geophysical evaluation data in this report (Fig. 2).

1.4.2 I am grateful for specialist analysis from Barry Bishop, Peter Boardman, Carl Champness, Steve Critchley, Chris Faine, Rachel Fosberry, Kath Hunter, Alice Lyons and Sarah Percival. Gareth Rees carried out both the topographic survey, site survey and digitised the plans and sections. Carl Champness and Matt Lees transformed the data into a 3D map of the site. Andrew Corrigan drew the majority of the illustrations. The fieldwork was carried out by the author assisted by Peter Boardman, Zoë Uí Choileáin, Graham Clarke, Nick Cox, John Diffy, Michael Green, Anthony Haskins, Katherine Hamilton, Stuart Ladd, Patrick Moan, Julian Newman and Steven Porter.

2 Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area. The evaluation attempted to clarify the nature and extent of any existing disturbance and intrusions to assess the potential survival of buried remains.

2.1.2 The evaluation attempted to address the following objectives:

- Determine/confirm the nature of remains present
- Determine/confirm the date/date range of remains using appropriate methods
- Determine/confirm extent of remains
- Determine condition and state of preservation of remains
- Determine degree of complexity of remains and any stratigraphy present
- Determine/confirm range, quality and quantity of artefactual remains present
- Determine potential for palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The Brief required a programme of test pitting and trial trenching (Gdaniec 2011). The Brief stipulated a sample of the 59.5ha site was to be investigated, comprising 12 test pits and a total of 4,700sqm of linear trenching using a minimum of 1.8m wide bucket. The trench design was prepared by Rob Bourn (CgMs) and approved by Kasia Gdaniec (CCC).

2.2.2 Test pitting took place prior to evaluation trenching. These were excavated to gauge the depth of potential medieval Fen deposits in the eastern part of the site. Ten 2m by 2m test pits were dug (the two proposed in Field 7 were not excavated due to standing crop). Trial trenches were subsequently excavated across the entire area of the proposed development.

2.2.3 Trial trenches were excavated by machine under constant archaeological supervision. Two tracked 360° type excavators fitted with 2m wide toothless ditching buckets were used to excavate the trenches. There were 59 trenches between 40m and 80m in length and one (Trench 71) at nearly 25m long. After monitoring, one of the 60m long trenches (Tr. 39) was extended by 13m on its western side and a new trench (Tr. 71; see above) was excavated directly to the west of the 16th century barn.

2.2.4 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS 1200 system with SmartNet. All trenches were located to Ordnance Survey; topsoil depth along with the height at the top and bottom of the trenches was also recorded (Appendix B). Those trenches containing no archaeological remains or only modern features such as furrows or drains were planned using the GPS. In the others, hand drawn features and sections were located by GPS using surveying points. Plans were drawn at 1:50 and sections drawn at 1:10 or 1:20. The topographic survey was based on transects 15m to 20m

apart with points along these transects recorded at 5m – 15m intervals. In addition points were recorded 20m apart along the top of all excavated trenches (see above).

2.2.5 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.

2.2.6 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Colour, monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and trenches.

2.2.7 Trench topsoil was sampled and hand-sorted for finds retrieval with two 30 litre samples (one at each end) from each of the smaller trenches (60m or less) and three 30 litre samples (one from each end and one in the middle) from each of the longer trenches (80m or more).

2.2.8 A borehole survey and sampling of the palaeochannel was carried by a geoarchaeologist.

2.2.9 A total of 38 bulk samples was taken from a variety of features and deposits.

3 Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Test pits and trenches that contained archaeological features are described below by field and by then by trench in numerical order. Those test pits and trenches with no archaeological features or only post-medieval features are summarised. A full list of contexts can be found in Appendix A1 (Table 1) and in Appendix A2 there is a table listing heights (m OD) with topsoil and subsoil depths by trench (Table 2).

3.1.2 Ten main periods of activity have been identified spanning the Early Bronze Age to modern periods (see Section 4.1.1).

3.2 Field 1

3.2.1 Field 1 was by far the largest field within the subject site and nearly half the evaluation trenches (twenty-seven) were located here (Trenches 21-26, 31-35, 43-57 and 71) as well as two test pits (58 and 63). Five trenches had pre-medieval remains (24, 25, 26, 33 and 52) and these are described in detail below. A further four trenches contained the north-south palaeochannel and post-medieval and modern remains (Trenches 34, 46, 53 and 57).

3.2.2 Twenty-three trenches/test pits contained either no archaeological remains or only furrows or later features (21, 22, 23, 31, 32, 34, 35, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 63 and 71). Five of these 23 trenches had isolated undated features which are very unlikely to be anything of significance; most were probably post-medieval or more recent field boundaries removed to increase the size of the field. Trenches 45 and 46 in the middle-eastern side of the field each contained one shallow undated north-south ditch (0.6m and 0.85m wide and 0.07m and 0.2m deep respectively). Trench 50 in the northwestern side of the field recorded a very shallow (0.6m wide and 0.08m deep) ditch. Trench 55 near the northern side of the site contained a probable tree throw that measured 1.25m by 0.8m and 0.1m deep, whilst in the extreme north-eastern part of Field 1, within Trench 57, a pit or ditch was identified that was 1m wide and 0.4m deep.

Trench 22 (Fig. 2)

3.2.3 Trench 22 was located near to Tithe Barn Farm, within which, in addition to furrows, two 19th century (Period 10) quarry pits (**202** and **204**) were identified. These quarry pits, presumably for gravel extraction, were located closest to the access road (not illustrated). The geophysical survey recorded the pits as an extensive magnetic noise covering an area of about 50m² (Fig. 2).

*Trench 23 (*Fig. 5)

3.2.4 Trench 23 was aligned east to west directly to the north of the Tithe Barn complex (Fig. 2). The majority of the trench was recorded as a magnetic noise in the geophysical survey (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). This magnetic response was found (in the eastern two-thirds of the trench) to have been an extensive modern layer up to 0.3m deep which was machined off with only natural exposed below it (Fig. 5). It is very likely that all the features within the western part of the trench dated to the late post-medieval and modern periods (Period 10) with only one feature, post hole **156**, being possibly early

post-medieval in date but this is unlikely given that all the other features were recent. A north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**154**) dates to the post-medieval or modern period. The ditch seems to coincide with an east-west boundary shown on the *c.*1887 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (Weaver 2006, fig. 5). Ditch **154** was 0.5m wide and 0.14m deep with moderately steep sides, a rounded base and contained a piece of post-medieval or modern pantile roof tile (18g). The ditch was cut by a modern calf burial and recent pits (**152** and **158**); the former contained a post-medieval or modern roof tile fragment (4g) whilst the latter contained a clay pipe stem. Post holes or pits found in the trench include **156** which contained a tiny single 15th/16th pottery sherd (3g) and **302** which had a modern calf bone in it. Ditch/drain **160** is likely to have been post-medieval or modern in origin. An additional trench, 71, was placed between Trenches 22 and 23 but found only modern features (Fig. 5).

Trench 24 (Fig. 5)

3.2.5 Trench 24 was located directly to the east of the Tithe Barn building complex and was aligned east to west (Fig. 5). The southern 8m of the trench exposed a section across a north-south aligned palaeochannel (**71**). The uppermost deposits of this channel were hand sampled and comprised at least nine layers (contexts 75-83; Fig. 5, S. 121 and S.123). Artefacts within many of these layers showed that the fills are likely to have entered the palaeochannel relatively quickly.

3.2.6 The lowest hand excavated layer within the palaeochannel (75), 0.2m thick, was a mixed light grey, orange and mid brown clay, sandy gravel. Flint inclusions were frequent in gravelly areas and occasional charcoal flecks were noted throughout. Two Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (4g) and a small amount of animal bone were recovered. This was sealed by layer 76, 0.26m thick, which comprised a mid to dark yellowish brown sand. Inclusions consisted of occasional to moderate quantities of small round flint gravel. Two Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds, a single worked flint flake and some animal bone were found in this deposit. Overlying this deposit was layer 77, up to 0.3m thick, comprising a light orange/yellow sand containing moderate to frequent small flint inclusions and rare charcoal flecks. Finds from 77 comprised nine Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (64g), some daub fragments (62g; one which had a large wattle impression), and a worked flint core. This layer was in turn sealed by a 0.08m-thick light yellow sterile sand (78). Overlying this deposit was a 0.28m-thick light grey silty sand (79) with occasional small flint inclusions and moderate pea shingle as well as occasional charcoal flecks. A single Middle Bronze Age pottery sherd, a single worked flint flake and some animal bone were recovered from this layer. This in turn was sealed by a fairly sterile mid orange grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks (80). Overlying this deposit was a 0.4m-thick mid to dark grey brown clayey silt (81), in turn sealed by a 0.18m-thick mid grey sandy silt (82). The uppermost deposit (83) was a 0.1m thick light yellow sand and gravel.

3.2.7 The palaeochannel deposits were cut by a Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) watering hole (**70**), which was only partly exposed within the eastern end of the trench. It was more than 2.91m in length and was hand excavated to 1.13m deep (Fig. 5, S.121). The lowest 0.45m of this pit was hand augered (Appendix D.5). The north-western segment of the watering hole was sampled and this side varied from vertical to very steep (*c.*70º). The basal fill of the watering hole was sampled by auger and contained some organic material including wood, plant stems, insects and other remains (Appendix D.4).

3.2.8 The earliest hand excavated deposit within the feature was a very dark grey brown clay (72). In this deposit there were a few small wood flecks/pieces which suggests that the layer had a high organic content. Other inclusions included very occasional small rounded flints and moderate charcoal flecks. There were 12 sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (181g), including a complete "thumb cup" pottery vessel (SF8; See Percival Appendix B.4), a single worked flint flake and animal bone. A soil sample from the fill (16) produced a few weed seeds. Deposit 72 was sealed by a 0.35m-thick layer of mid to dark grey silty clay (73). Inclusions within the deposit comprised occasional small rounded flint and charcoal flecks and there was also moderate iron panning. Finds comprised 20 sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (446g) which represented parts of five vessels as well as a presumably intrusive sherd of Latest Iron Age/Early Roman pottery (311g), animal bone and a minimally worked flint core. The upper deposit (74), 0.34m thick, was a light to mid grey clayey silt with occasional small flint and charcoal flecks. From this layer there was a single worked flint flake and moderate quantities of fired clay (208g), some of which possibly derived from a domestic or industrial hearth.

3.2.9 Approximately 20m to the west of the palaeochannel, and parallel to it, was a north-south aligned ditch (**126**). It was 0.74m wide and 0.36m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The basal fill (128) was a mid to dark grey brown silt which contained no artefacts. This was overlaid by a mid to dark grey brown clay silt (127) containing three small sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (4g). Directly to the west of the ditch was a small undated post hole (**124**), 0.34m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had steep sides and a concave base and was filled with a dark grey silt.

3.2.10 To the west of post hole **124** there was an undated possible curvilinear ditch (**129**), 1.94m wide and up to 0.33m deep. To the west of this was an oval pit (**134**), which had gradual sides and an irregular base and measured 0.96m by 0.45m and 0.19m deep. It was filled with a dark grey clay silt containing two sherds of prehistoric pottery that are not closely datable, in addition to some animal bone.

Trench 25 (Fig. 6)

3.2.11 Trench 25 was directly to the north of Trench 24 and was aligned roughly north to south. It was located over the area of Bronze Age pottery, flint and possible Saxon pottery recovered in the 1980s by David Hall (Fig. 2). The trench had a moderate to dense spread of 28 features although six of these features were furrows (**176**, **170**, **304**, **469, 467** and **401**; Fig. 6). The remaining 22 features within the trench were relatively shallow and included *c*.13 post holes, it is likely that these represented four different structures. The remaining nine features were pits and ditches.

3.2.12 It is likely at least two phases of activity are represented as some of the features were intercutting. Five of the features contained Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) pottery within their backfills, a further one had two prehistoric pottery sherds which are not closely datable and a single post hole contained three very small sherds of a single Roman pottery vessel (5g). The lack of other Roman pottery from this trench may suggest it was intrusive. In addition to the pottery, a few Bronze Age flints were also found. The overall quantity of the Early and Middle Bronze Age pottery recovered from this trench was relatively small (37 sherds weighing 139g) but the lack of other period pottery coupled with the fieldwalking evidence suggests that most if not all these features are likely to Middle Bronze Age.

3.2.13 At the southern end of the trench there were four post holes (**406**, **451**, **457** and **459**) within an 8m area and these may be indicative of one or more structures. The four post holes were similar, ranging in size from 0.25m to 0.4m in diameter and 0.1m to 0.2m

deep. All four had steep to nearly vertical sides although their bases varied from flat to concave. The backfill of the post holes ranged from a mid yellow grey silty clay to a dark grey silty clay. Only one of the post holes (**459**) provided any dating evidence, comprising six Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (19g). Post hole **457** contained some animal bone but nothing else.

3.2.14 Close to the post holes were two possibly related ditches (**453** and **455**) - this is suggested as they possibly respected each other and were of a similar size. Ditch **453** ran north-to-south across the trench whereas **455** started/abutted up to ditch **453** and then ran perpendicular to it (westwards for 1m before stopping). The two ditches (**453** and **455**) were 0.34m and 0.26m wide and 0.14 and 0.07m deep respectively. Ditch **453** had a single Middle Bronze Age sherd (1g) in it and **455** contained two scraps of prehistoric pottery (1g) which could not be closely dated. They have both been given a tentative Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) date.

3.2.15 To the west of these two ditches, was a north-south aligned ditch (**403**) which cut post hole **406**. Ditch **403** was 0.95m wide and 0.29m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. It was backfilled with two similar mid grey brown sandy silt deposits which contained one Early Bronze Age pottery sherd (4g) and eight Middle Bronze Age sherds (17g) as well as a centripetal flint core of probable Bronze Age date.

3.2.16 More than 10m to the west of ditch **403** was a group of four similar post holes (**408**, **410**, **412** and **414**) in a 3m area. The post holes were of a similar size, between 0.27m and 0.35m in diameter and 0.09m and 0.18m deep. All had steep or near vertical sides but their backfill deposits were all different. Post hole **408** was undated and infilled with a mid grey brown sandy silt from which a soil sample (21) produced only charcoal. In contrast post hole **410** was fairly sterile although some animal bones were recovered from its backfill. Post hole **412** was filled with a mid brown sandy silt with occasional to moderate burnt clay flecks and fragments. Eight small Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (10g) and some fired clay fragments were recovered from its fill. Post hole **414** contained a mixed dark brown and black sandy silt with frequent charcoal in addition to some fired clay fragments. There were also three very small sherds (5g) of a single Roman pottery vessel in its backfill. Apart from a further Roman sherd in furrow **467**, *c*.5m to the west, no other Roman pottery was recovered from within the trench. It is probable, therefore, that the Roman pottery in this post hole was intrusive - and the post hole group has therefore tentatively been dated to the Middle Bronze Age. A soil sample (22) from the post hole contained a few cereal and weed seeds.

3.2.17 To the west of this post hole group were five undated features. These consisted of a narrow, undated east-to-west ditch (**465**), 0.24m wide and 0.07m deep. The other four features comprised probable post holes - they may not relate to each other although it is possible they were part of a single feature or more likely possibly parts of two or more structures. There were two adjacent undated post holes **461** and **463**, three metres to the west of ditch **465**. The post holes were 0.25m and 0.34m in diameter respectively and 0.07m and 0.1m deep. Less than three metres to the west of these two post holes was a further post hole or pit (**471**) which was partly within the evaluation trench. It was more than 0.45m long, 0.5m wide and 0.13m deep. Five metres to the west was the other post hole (**181**), 0.41m in diameter and 0.17m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The basal fill (180) was a light brownish grey silty sand with some charcoal flecks but no artefacts. The upper deposit (179) was a mid grey brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks from which a soil sample (10) produced only charcoal.

3.2.18 Two metres to the west of post hole **181** was an oval pit (**178**), 0.75m long, 0.27m wide and 0.12m deep with steep sides and a flatish base. It was backfilled with a dark grey

brown sandy silt with some charcoal flecks (177). Within this deposit was a single Middle Bronze Age pottery sherd (11g). The soil sample (9) from this deposit produced only charcoal.

3.2.19 Post holes **167**, **172** and **174** were located in the northern end of the trench and were revealed over a 6m area. These three post holes were of a similar size (0.44m to 0.5m diameter and were between 0.12m to 0.24m deep). The post holes had steep sides and flatish bases although the former two had light grey brown sandy silt backfills in contrast to the latter which had a mid grey brown sandy silt. Post hole **167** was undated, whilst **172** contained an Early Neolithic leaf shaped arrowhead (SF 7) and two flint flakes, whilst **174** contained 20 Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) pottery sherds (87g). Environmental bulk samples were taken from **167** and **174** (7 and 8) with the former barren and the latter producing only a few pieces of chaff.

3.2.20 An undated ditch (**165**) was identified 2m to the north of the post holes. It was curvilinear, apparently terminating in the middle of the trench, 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep with gentle sides and a slightly rounded base. Directly to the north of ditch **165** was a wide ditch terminus (**163**). This ditch was 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep with gradual sides and a flat base. The two backfill deposits were undated and fairly sterile with a soil sample from the upper fill (6) producing only charcoal.

3.2.21 Extending across most of the trench were six equally-spaced furrows (**176**, **170**, **304**, **469, 467** and **401**). They ran east to west *c*. 8.5m apart and were between 0.08m and 0.13m deep. Three furrows had pottery in their backfills (**176**, **467** and **401**) with respectively two small Middle Bronze Age sherds, an Early Roman sherd (4g) and two medieval and post-medieval sherds (4g).

Trench 26 (Fig. 6)

3.2.22 Trench 26 was located in the extreme southeastern part of Field 1, to the east of the palaeochannel, and was aligned east to west. There were three features within the eastern part of the trench, a possible SFB (**552**) with an internal oven or hearth (**556**) and two post-medieval ditches (**230** and **232**; Fig. 6). No Saxon pottery was recovered from the SFB, just a moderate collection of Roman sherds dating up to the end of this period. The SFB's size and shape, its alignment and infilling is consistent with other excavated examples. There are many other parallels for an oven/hearth within an SFB (Tipper 2004). The SFB (**552**) may possibly be a Roman ditch although this is far less likely as the nearest settlement of the period were just 200m to the north-east in Trench 38 and just over 200m to the south-west in Trench 12. A ditch would also unlikely to have a heath or oven within it.

3.2.23 The SFB was 3.2m long (east to west) and more than 2m wide - the SFB continued beyond the trench sections to the north and south (Fig. 6, S.221 and S. 222). The SFB was 0.6m deep with moderately-steep sides (*c*.45º) and a flat base (Plate 2). The primary deposit (553) was a mid blue grey brown clay with a little silt; some iron panning stains along with the occasional flint stone as well as charcoal flecks were also noted in this deposit. Ten Early Roman pottery sherds (32g), a central-pedal core of possible Bronze Age date and some animal bone were recovered. Cutting into deposit 553 was probable oven or hearth **556** (Plate 2). This oven/hearth was only partly within the trench, it extended into the southern baulk so it is uncertain whether it was sub-round, or sub-rectangular in shape. It was more than 0.7m long, 0.8m wide and 0.52m deep with moderately steep side and a fairly flat base. The fill (554) mostly comprised burnt clay and charcoal. The oven/hearth comprised thin bands of soil with the lowest, a charcoal layer, sealed by lenses of powdered chalk and fired clay. The top half of the

deposit comprised mostly fired clay. Soil sample (53) from the oven hearth produced some weed seeds. The oven/hearth was then sealed by a grey brown clay with a little silt (555). There was a moderate pottery collection from this deposit (23 sherds weighing 203g from six vessels) with the pottery dating into the Late Roman period, including one late 3rd to early 5th century sherd.

3.2.24 The two ditches (**230** and **232**) were part of a north-south boundary ditch demarcating the eastern extent of the ridge and furrow (Fig. 2). The ditches were sterile in Trench 26 but were dated by a section through the eastern ditch in Trench 17. In Trench 26 the ditches were fairly small, both were 0.7m wide and 0.17m and 0.2m deep respectively.

Trench 33 (Fig. 7)

3.2.25 Directly to the north of Trench 25 was Trench 33 (Fig. 2). This trench had peripheral remains pre-dating the furrows (four small features), which could suggest that this trench marked the northern extent of the Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) settlement. There were just two small pits of Middle Bronze Age date (**31** and **35**), a Middle/Late Iron Age cremation (**29**), an undated post hole (**37**) in addition to east-to-west furrows including **33**. These pre-furrow features were only found in the southern half of the trench (Fig. 7).

3.2.26 Pits **31** and **35** were less than 3m apart with the former partly within the eastern baulk. Pit **31** was 1.1m in diameter and 0.2m deep with moderate sides and a flat base and was filled with a mid brownish grey silty clay. The pit contained 20 Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (162g), representing small parts of four separate vessels. A soil sample (12) from the deposit produced a few cereal seeds and large quantities of charcoal. To the north, undated pit **35** was oval in shape, 1.2m by 0.5m in size and 0.25m deep. It had moderate sides and a slightly concave base and was backfilled with a single fairly sterile deposit. A bulk sample (13) from this deposit did produced a few legume seeds. More than 5m to the north of pit **35** was an undated post hole (**37**), which measured 0.4m in diameter with steep sides and a flat base.

3.2.27 Two metres to the north of post hole **37** was cremation **29**, which extended beyond the eastern baulk of the trench. It was probably rounded in shape, 0.5m in diameter and 0.4m deep with moderate sides and a flatish base. The cremation was filled with a dark yellowish black silty clay with abundant burnt charcoal and burnt bone. It was initially thought to be a post hole but during excavation burnt bones were observed and the whole half-sectioned deposit was collected as a soil sample (11). The sample recovered 341g of burnt bone from an adult (see Appendix D.1) and a single hand made Middle/Late Iron Age pottery sherd with sparse flint inclusions (Richard Mortimer pers. comm.). There were also a few charred cereal seeds in the sample and moderate quantities of charcoal.

Trench 52 (Fig. 7)

3.2.28 Six features pre-dating the furrows were found in Trench 52, all within the centre of the trench (Fig. 7). These comprised a possible palaeochannel which pre-dated five intercutting pits (**501**, **506**, **510**, **516** and **522**). The five pits were presumably watering holes using the line of the former watercourse. The palaeochannel was seen below the present water table, more than 1.4m below the height of the ground surface. The full dimensions are uncertain but it appeared to have been aligned north-west to south-east. A sondage, *c*.0.3m deep, was hand dug into the possible feature and this fill was a light greyish blue clay with common wood and roots (526; Fig. 7, S.201). A soil sample (41) from this layer contained a few weed seeds.

3.2.29 The earliest of the five pits was on the north-eastern side (**522**) and the later three pits progressively cut south-westwards (**516**, **510** and **501**). The latest pit (**506**), was slightly different in that it cut into the middle of pit **501**; Fig. 7, S. 201; Plate 3). The five pits were all sub-circular, and ranged in size from 0.85m to 3m long and between 0.6m and 0.9m deep. All five pits had very steep sides (from 70° to 80°/near vertical) and all had flat bases. The lowest deposits in all the pits were partly waterlogged and organic. They were similar and comprised either dark brownish grey or dark greyish brown clay silts or silty clays. Rare small wood pieces survived in two deposits (502 of pit **501** and 511 of pit **510**). Charcoal was common in four of the deposits. A soil sample (42) from fill 504 of pit **501** produced some weed seeds. Deposit 511 also contained two small Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (5g). The middle and upper fills of the pits were above the water level, were not organic and very few artefacts were recovered from them. Pottery was only found in one deposit (fill 504 of pit **501**) and this comprised just four small Iron Age sherds (26g). It is uncertain if the watering holes were all from different periods ranging from the Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) to the Iron Age (Period 3). The three earliest pits have tentatively been assigned a Middle Bronze Age date and the two latest pits an Iron Age date.

3.2.30 Modern disturbance in the northern part of the trench included a recent culvert and two areas of disturbance on the southern side of the trench. These latter areas correspond with anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 2).

3.3 Field 2

3.3.1 Field 2 was on the southern side of the subject site and contained 17 evaluation trenches (Trenches 1-17). Seven of these trenches only had furrows or later features in them (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 13 and 17). Trenches 10 and 13 also had modern drain(s) respectively on the same alignment as the furrows. Trench 17 was located over a north-south boundary ditch (**53**) recorded in the 2008 geophysical survey which showed that this ditch once defined the eastern extent of a field (Fig. 2). Boundary ditch **53** was 3m wide and 1m deep and contained residual Middle Bronze Age pottery and three sherds of 16th to 18th century pottery as well as four clay pipe stems. There was also a modern drain (**51**) within Trench 17.

3.3.2 Ten trenches in Field 2 (Trenches 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16) contained archaeological remains.

Trench 3 (Fig. 8)

3.3.3 Trench 3 was aligned east-west at the south-western corner of the site. Within the 40m long trench there were two intercutting natural hollow 'features' (**38**) and (**40**), which are likely to date to the Early Bronze Age (Period 2) period (Fig. 8). The earliest was hollow **40**, which was slightly irregular in shape, measured *c*.4m long east-west and more than 2m north-south; it was 0.3m deep with gradual but irregular sides and a flat base. It was filled with a single deposit (41), comprising a mid reddish brown silty sand and contained 16 pottery sherds (48g) from a single Early Bronze Age urn as well as a single worked flint flake. A soil sample (14) from this deposit only produced small quantities of charcoal. Hollow **38** cut **40** and was partly within the trench. The feature was probably sub-circular in shape with a *c*.1.6m diameter and 0.5m deep. It had steep sides, an irregular base and was filled with a sterile light yellowish grey silty clay.

Trench 5 (Fig. 8)

3.3.4 Trench 5 was moved eastwards from its original proposed position due to the presence of overhead cables and towards cropmark enclosure features recorded in the

geophysical survey that were sampled in Trenches 7-9 (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). The trench had originally been located over two north-south linear anomalies shown in the geophysical survey, although the easternmost of these was still within the trench and proved to be modern. This was probably the recent former boundary ditch shown on the 1958 OS map (Weaver 2006, fig. 6). The other linear north-south feature, which was not evaluated due to the trench being moved, was probably the field boundary recorded on the 1819 Inclosure map (Weaver 2006, fig. 4). Within the trench there was also a Late Iron Age or Early Roman boundary or enclosure ditch (**420**), a possible Early Roman pit (**427**), and three possible drains including **425** (not illustrated), and a east-to-west furrow (Fig.8).

3.3.5 Ditch (**420**) was near the eastern side of the trench and was aligned north-south. It was a substantial ditch at 3.3m wide and 0.85m deep (Fig. 8, S.149) but was not recorded by the geophysical survey (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). The ditch had four infilling deposits which ranged from a mid light brown clayey sandy silt to a mid grey brown sandy silt. A mixed pottery assemblage was recovered comprising three Iron Age pottery sherds (2g) from the primary deposit (421) whilst the second layer (422) was more productive with two Middle Bronze Age sherds (10g) and eleven Iron Age sherds (31g). This was sealed by fill 423, which contained nine sherds dating to the Latest Iron Age and Early Roman (Period 4) periods (125g), a small fragment of hearth lining, an iron ore piece and a single worked flint flake. Environmental samples were taken both from the primary deposit (23) and the upper backfill (24) but only contained charcoal.

3.3.6 A possible Roman pit (**427**) was located within the centre of the trench but was partly within the north baulk. It was possibly oval in shape, 1.3m in diameter and 0.2m deep with gentle sides, an irregular base and was filled with a mid orange brown sandy silt. Three sherds of Early Roman pottery (24g) dating to the mid-1st century AD to early-mid-2nd century AD were recovered from its single deposit there were. In the trench there was also a possible undated drain (**425**) which may have been cut by a furrow (not illustrated). It was aligned north-south, 0.35m wide and 0.2m deep. The other two drains in the trench were also undated, of a similar size to **425** and ran on the same alignment, but were not equal distance apart (not illustrated).

Trench 7 (Fig. 9)

3.3.7 Trench 7 was located within the middle southern part of Field 2 on an east to west axis and had been placed over two features seen in the geophysical survey, one of the possible round houses and a north-south boundary ditch (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). Eight features were found within the trench, comprising at least three phases of occupation of Middle Bronze Age date (Fig. 9).

3.3.8 On the western side of the trench there was a very large Middle Bronze Age ditch (**537**) aligned north-south which was part of the 14m-diameter possible ring ditch recorded in the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). Ditch **537** was 3.2m wide and 1.35m deep with steep *c*.70º sides (Fig. 9, S. 204). The base and lower profile of the ditch is not known as, for health and safety reasons, the lowest 0.3m of the ditch was only found through being hand augered. The ditch was infilled with at least six deposits. The two lowest fills (538 and 539) were both sterile and may be redeposited natural slumped in from the eastern side of the ditch. The next two deposits (540 and 541) may represent slumping on the western side although both contained pottery (a presumably intrusive hand made Iron Age sherd (32g) and four Middle Bronze Age sherds (87g)). This layer was sealed by fill 542, a light greenish grey sandy clay which also contained a large quantity of Middle Bronze Age pottery (15 sherds weighing 580g) and some animal bone. This layer was sampled for environmental evidence (63) from which a few cereal seeds were

recovered. The final backfill was a mid greyish brown silty clay (543). Within it there was a small slag lump, ten sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (87g), several pieces of daub (98g, one of which had a wattle impression) and some animal bone. The function of the ring ditch is open to interpretation. One possibility is that it represents the gully or ditch surrounding a round house, finds of daub and other "domestic" rubbish perhaps support this theory, but the ditch itself is quite large and round houses of this date are rare, particularly in this area. The alternative is that it is the remains of a ploughed out round barrow, and therefore served a ritual or funerary function. Only further excavation would help to elucidate this.

3.3.9 The upper fill of ditch **537** was cut by another ditch (**544**), possibly dating to the Middle or Late Iron Age (Period 3). Ditch **544** was aligned on roughly the same north-south alignment as ditch **537**; it was 2m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately-steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 9, S. 204). The ditch was infilled with a single dark greyish brown clayey silt deposit which contained a moderate assemblage of artefacts associated with metal working. The objects imply smithing was taking place in the immediate vicinity (see Appendix C3). There was vitrified clay from furnace hearth lining (0.589kg), part of a crucible, and wastage from copper object production (a copper alloy droplet (SF3) was metal detected from the upper fill of the ditch). Metalworking was confirmed by hammerscale recovered from a soil sample. The pottery assemblage comprised 52 Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (390g) and just two hand made Iron Age sherds (12g), a small quantity of fired clay or daub (12g), and animal bone. It is likely the Middle Bronze Age pottery originated from ditch **537**. A soil sample (64) from this deposit produced a few cereal seeds.

3.3.10 Ring ditches **483** and **485** probably formed the western and eastern sides of a Middle or Late Iron Age round house, *c.*10m in diameter. The ditches were curvilinear, measuring 0.44m and 0.3m wide, 0.2m and 0.17m deep respectively. They were both infilled with a mid brown grey sandy clay. The former contained a Middle Bronze Age pottery sherd (15g) while the latter contained two hand made Iron Age sherds (17g).

3.3.11 To the east of this probable round house there were two undated north to south linear ditches (**481** and **479**), 0.28 and 0.30m wide and 0.12m and 0.11m deep respectively. These were either small ditches or drains. If the latter they are likely to be post-medieval or modern in date (Period 10).

3.3.12 On the eastern side of the trench was a linear north-south boundary ditch (**475**) recorded within the geophysical survey as being more than 103m long in Field 2 and more than 150m long if the ditch continued into Field 1 to the north (Fig. 2). The ditch's southern side continued beyond Trench 7 but it did not reach Trench 6. Ditch **475** was roughly the same size, just slightly smaller, than the section excavated through this ditch in Trench 8 (**527**). It was 1.7m wide and 0.42m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. The primary deposit (476) was 0.09m thick and consisted of a sterile deposit, probably a natural infilling. This was sealed by a mid grey brown sandy clay (477) which contained one residual Early Bronze Age pottery sherd 13g), 59 hand made Iron Age pottery sherds (231g) and some animal bone. Soil sample (61) from this fill produced only charcoal. The upper deposit (478) was a dark brown grey sandy clay charcoal enriched layer. A small quantity of residual Middle Bronze Age and hand made Iron Age pottery was recovered, found in association with a moderate collection of latest Iron Age or Early Roman pottery (30 sherds weighing 185g from 11 different vessels). There were also small quantities of fired clay or daub (9g) and some animal bone fragments. A soil sample (62) from this fill produced a few cereal and chaff remains.

3.3.13 On the extreme eastern side of the trench there was a single post hole or small pit (**473**), 0.74 by 0.64m in size and 0.09m deep. The only dating evidence from it was a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flint blade.

Trenches 8 and 9 (Fig. 9)

3.3.14 In the middle northern part of Field 2, two Trenches (8 and 9) were combined to form a "T" shape and these trenches were located over an enclosure, a linear north to south ditch and a possible round house identified by the geophysical survey (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). The two evaluation trenches located a moderate quantity of archaeological remains with six archaeological features (**183**, **186**, **238**, **527**, **529**, **531**) and four east-to-west furrows in Trench 9 representing at least four phases of use (Periods 2, 4, 5 and 9; Fig. 9). There was also a modern drain in Trench 8.

3.3.15 On the north-eastern side of Trench 8 was a north-west to south-east orientated ditch (**183**) and its probable recut (**186**), which have both been tentatively assigned a Middle Bronze Age date (Period 2). These ditches were located where the ring ditch was recorded by the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). The ring ditch measured 13m in diameter and the north-eastern part of this lay within the trench. Ditch **183** was more than 1.2m wide and 0.32m deep with moderate sides and a concave base but only contained a worked flint flake of probable Bronze Age date. It was recut by ditch **186**, which was 0.92m wide and 0.41m deep. In its upper deposit the recut contained 17 very small Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (43g) and some animal bone fragments.

3.3.16 At the junction of the two trenches there were three intercutting features (**527**, **529** and **531**) which have been dated to the Latest Iron Age to Early Roman period (Period 4 and 5; Fig. 9). The geophysical survey recorded a north to south boundary ditch running for more than 103m with a "D" shaped enclosure possibly abutting it on its western side (Fig. 2). Ditch **527** was part of the boundary ditch, **531** the enclosure ditch whereas ditch **529** was not recorded by the geophysical survey. The earliest of the three ditches was the north-south ditch (**527**) which was 1.8m wide and 0.56m deep with moderately steep *c*.50º sides and a flat base. This ditch was backfilled with a single fill containing three sherds (380g) of Latest Iron Age wheel thrown pottery, a worked flint flake and a few animal bone fragments.

3.3.17 The "D" shape enclosure recorded in the geophysical survey abutting the north-south ditch **527** was sub-rectangular, measuring 80m north to south and 27m east to west (Fig. 2). It was excavated at two points in Trench 9, at the northern end (**238**) and near the southern side (**531**; Fig. 9, S. 203). Ditch **238** was 1.89m wide and 0.84m deep and ran roughly east-to-west within the trench. It had moderate to steep sides (*c*.50º -60º) and a slightly rounded base. The primary deposit (237), 0.22m thick, probably represented natural silting of the feature and only contained a few artefacts including three sherds of hand made Iron Age pottery (33g) and a fragment of fired clay (6g). The middle deposit (236) was a mid-green sandy silt with some clay and may have been a cess related deposit. The upper layer (235) was a dark grey brown sandy silt with a little clay and this deposit contained a moderate quantity of domestic artefacts (pottery and animal bone). As Iron Age pottery was found in the primary deposit, the 25 Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (184g) are likely to be residual and presumably derived from a disturbed Bronze Age feature. Ditch **531** was larger at 2m wide with very steep *c*.80º sides; it was 1.25m deep (Fig. 9, S. 203). The lower (0.25m) of the ditch was hand augered due to the depth. The ditch was infilled with at least four deposits ranging from a light reddish brown sandy clay to a mid brownish grey sandy clay. The base of the feature was wet although the deposit, a mid brownish grey sandy clay recovered in the auger, was not organic and implied the water logging was periodic. Pottery comprised

three residual Middle Bronze Age sherds as well as 15 sherds of Latest Iron Age to Early Roman pottery (89g), a probable Bronze Age central-pedal flint core, one piece of probable daub (14g) and some animal bone.

3.3.18 The latest intercutting feature was ditch **529** and this was not recorded in the geophysical survey. It was aligned east-west, was more than 1.8m wide and 0.4m deep and had gentle sides and a concave base. It was backfilled with a single deposit comprising a dark greyish brown silty clay. The ditch was probably Early Roman (Period 5) in date and the Latest Iron Age pottery recovered from it was therefore residual. Soil sample 43 from the deposit produced small quantities of cereal and weed seeds.

Trench 11 (Fig. 10)

3.3.19 Trench 11, aligned east-west, contained three ditches (**604**, **607** and **612**; Plate 4) in the eastern part of the trench representing three separate phases of occupation (Fig. 10). The earliest was perhaps undated ditch **612** on the westernmost side of the three and this ditch ran north-west to south-east. It was more than 1.8m wide and 0.7m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 10, S. 241). It was infilled with four deposits , the lower three of which were sterile whilst the upper fill produced some animal bone. This deposit was environmentally sampled (71) but only charcoal was recovered. The second ditch (**604**) was the easternmost and ran north-to-south. It was more than 1.8m wide and 0.6m deep with moderate sides and a flatish base. The basal deposit was sterile, the middle and upper 0.2m contained some artefacts including two Mid Roman pottery sherds. Ditches **604** and **612** were both cut by **607**, which was 1.1m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 10, S. 241). It is likely to be Late Roman although only animal bone and two worked flint flakes were found within its two backfill deposits.

Trench 12 (Fig. 10)

3.3.20 Directly to the east of Trench 11 was Trench 12. The trench was aligned north-west to south-east. Silt and sand deposits in this trench are likely to be a continuation of the palaeochannel observed in Field 1 to the north. Three features were uncovered within the extreme north-western side of the trench and all are likely to pre-date the furrows. These were a probable Middle Bronze Age watering hole (**8**), a Middle or Late Roman pit (**12**) and an undated post hole (**10**).

3.3.21 Watering hole (**8**) was only partly within the trench (Fig. 10). It was at least 3.9m in diameter with gradual sides near the top becoming very steep further down (Fig. 10, S. 4; Plate 5). The watering hole was not bottomed and was more than 1.2m deep with the water table encountered at *c.*1m below ground level. The lowest four layers contained no artefacts but the earliest three of these produced evidence of partly waterlogged deposits. It was noticeable that there was more organic material present at the limits of the excavated layer (7). Deposit 7 comprised a dark blue grey clay and was presumably a low density water-deposited layer and this had some organic material. Sample 3 produced a few weed seeds and snails. This was sealed by a light grey clayey sand (6). This deposit was in turn sealed by a dark blueish grey clay (5) and then by a light grey clayey sand (4). This deposit contained a probable Early Bronze Age short end scraper and a worked flake. Overlying this, deposit 3 consisted of a dark brownish grey clay with frequent burnt material. An environmental sample (2) was taken and produced a few weed seeds and charcoal. This layer was sealed by a deposit (2), which contained seven sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (10g) and some animal bone. The upper deposit, a mid to dark greenish grey silty clay had a single intrusive sherd of Latest Iron Age or Early Roman pottery (3g), two probable Bronze Age flint flakes, some fired clay

or daub fragments (57g) and some animal bone. Soil sample 1 from this deposit produced only charcoal.

3.3.22 To the east of the water hole was a small pit (**12**), 1.15m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It was backfilled with a mid grey silty sand with some Mid Roman or Late Roman pottery (late 2nd to early 4th century AD and animal bone. Adjacent to the pit was an undated post hole (**10**), 0.4m in diameter and 0.21m deep.

Trench 14 (Fig. 11)

3.3.23 Trench 14 was aligned north-west to south-east within the central northern part of Field 2. In the north-western two-thirds of the trench there were up to five features uncovered (Fig. 11). These comprised a probable Latest/Early Roman ditch (**113**), a Latest Iron Age/Early Roman pit (**103**; possibly two post holes), a Latest Iron Age/Early Roman pit or probable watering hole (**118**) and a large Early Roman pit (**105**). In the south-eastern one third of the site there was a substantial post-medieval layer (135), possibly the remnants of a headland sealing the natural, and this deposit was mostly left unexcavated. Three machine slots were excavated through layer 135 exposing the natural subsoil. It is possible that other earlier features were present under the unexcavated areas of this layer.

3.3.24 Ditch **113** was in the centre of the trench and was aligned east-west. The ditch was 2.1m wide and 0.64m deep with steep sides, a concave base and had been infilled with three sterile deposits (Fig. 11, S.114). Ditch **113** was cut by Late Iron Age pit **105** which was oval in shape, more than 2.5m long and 1.08m deep with steep sides, almost vertical in places, and a concave base (Fig. 11, S.113). Pit **105** was infilled with six deposits. The basal fill, 0.24m thick, was similar to the natural and implied a slow silting of the feature presumably over a long period of time. This was an undated light to mid yellow brown clay sand (117) with frequent rounded and sub angular gravel. This was sealed by an undated mid to light blue grey clay with patches of red/brown manganese/iron staining (112), which may imply the layer was water affected. The upper three deposits (106, 109 and 110) contained 20 small sherds of Latest Iron Age and Early Roman pottery (51g) dating from the mid 1st century AD to the 2nd century AD, animal bone and a probable Bronze Age central-pedal core and two flint flakes. Soil sample 51 was taken from this deposit and produced a few charred cereal grains.

3.3.25 Six metres to the north of ditch **113** and pit **105** was possible pit **103**. It was very irregular in shape, *c*.0.55m in length and width and 0.10m deep. The feature had steep sides and an irregular base. It was filled with a mid grey brown and black clay silt with very frequent charcoal flecks, mostly at the top of the deposit. From the fill there was a single Latest Iron Age/Early Roman pottery sherd (29g) and frequent (unburnt) bone. A bulk environmental sample (5) of this deposit only contained large quantities of charcoal.

3.3.26 At the north-western end of the trench, a small part of a presumably large watering hole (**118**) was uncovered. The geophysical survey shows a large pit-like feature at this point, *c*.4.5m in diameter (Walford 2008; Fig. 2). This feature had a gradual southern slope at the top of the cut although a modern drain did not allow further examination of this edge (Fig. 11, S. 13). The watering hole was dug to a depth of 1.05m and then hand augered to expose natural yellow/orange gravel a further 0.45m down. The water table was reached just above the excavated base of the water hole at c.1.35m below ground level. There were seven layers within the feature with some of the deposits seemingly tipped in from the southern side, implying at least part of the feature was quickly backfilled. The basal deposit (recovered by auger) comprised a mid to dark grey

brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal; none of the other deposits were organic. A small to moderate collection of artefacts was recovered, including 27 small sherds (110g) of Latest Iron Age/Early Roman pottery, and five worked flakes from deposit 120. A bulk sample from the second most recent backfill (120; sample 52) produced only a few charred cereal seeds.

3.3.27 The natural was sealed in the south-eastern part of the trench by a buried soil layer (135), at least 27m in length under the topsoil. The layer was a light grey brown silty sand and up to 0.4m thick. It is possible this represented a ploughed out headland - certainly the depth diminished north-westwards. A 17th century crotal bell (SF 2) was recovered from the layer by metal detecting which ties in with the date of the excavated furrows.

Trench 15 (Fig. 11)

3.3.28 Trench 15 was located directly to the south of the Tithe Barn building complex and was aligned north-south. The geophysical survey shows a very large pit-like feature in the northern part of the trench. This survey also indicates that the area to the west of the trench was probably disturbed nearly as far as up to Trench 14 and to the road to the north. This disturbance was noticeable here as the furrows largely do not survive in this area (Fig. 2). In the evaluation the northern half of the trench comprised a series of at least ten linear east-west aligned post-medieval quarry pits (**14**, **16**, **18**, **20**, **325**, **329**, **331**, **331** and **335**). In contrast the southern half of the trench was not affected by post-medieval quarrying (Fig. 11). There were two possible prehistoric features within this southern half of the trench comprising a possible Middle Bronze Age pit (**24**) and a ditch (**22**) as well as a later furrow (**27**).

3.3.29 At the southern end of the trench was ditch **22** which ran east to west. It was 0.8m wide and 0.28m deep with steep sides, a concave base and was filled with a brown grey clayey silt with frequent stone inclusions as well as small quantities of charcoal. A single Middle Bronze Age pottery sherd (10g) and animal bone was recovered from it. A possible pit (**24**), partly within the eastern baulk of the trench, was slightly amorphous and may have been a tree throw. This feature was *c*.0.6m in diameter and 0.1m deep with gradual sides and an undulating base. It was filled with a dark grey clayey silt and infrequent charcoal flecks and some burnt flint pieces. Three very small Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (7g) were found in this fill.

3.3.30 The linear east to west quarry pits within the northern half of the trench are dated to the mid 18th to mid 19th century (Period 10). A representative sample of five (**14**, **16**, **18**, **20** and **325**) were hand excavated whilst the others were machined afterwards - it was only after the initial slots were excavated that it was recognised that they were quarries (**326**, **329**, **331**, **333** and **335**). The quarry pits cut natural March Gravels and were between 0.9m and 3.25m wide and 0.4m and 0.78m deep with steep sides and fairly flat bases. They were mostly filled with a grey brown silt with some stone inclusions. Linear quarry pit **14** contained a clay pipe stem fragment, two late 18th-mid 19th century brick fragments, roof tile fragments (29g) and some 16th to 18th century pottery. Pit **18** had three clay pipe stem pieces in it, whilst a post-medieval brick fragment came from pit **333**. The quarry pits were sealed by layer 25, up to 0.2m thick, and this layer consisted of redeposited natural yellow orange gravel.

Trench 16 (Fig. 11)

3.3.31 Trench 16 was positioned to the east of Trench 15 and its eastern side was within the former north-south Holocene palaeochannel recorded in the geophysical survey. which continued to the north within Trenches 24, 34, 46 and 53 in Field 1 (Fig. 2). A north-

south aligned ditch was recorded by the geophysical survey and this proved to be modern (Fig. 11, unlabelled). There were five probable pre-furrow features within the trench: two probable Bronze Age pits (**60** and **64**), and three small ditches, two of which were Latest Iron Age/Early Roman in date (**62**, **66** and **68**).

3.3.32 The two probable Middle Bronze Age (Period 2) pits (**60** and **64**) and a small ditch **62** were in the western half of the trench to the west of the uppermost palaeochannel/colluvium deposits. The two easternmost features were intercutting (probable pit **60** and small ditch **62**) but it was uncertain which was the earliest. Most of pit **60** was within the trench. It was irregular in shape *c.*1.7m in diameter, 0.32m deep with slightly concave upper sides and gentle to moderate lower sides and a slightly irregular flatish base. It is possible this was a former tree throw. The feature was filled with a mid to light grey clayey silt with the occasional charcoal fleck. This deposit also contained five small Middle Bronze Age pottery sherds (9g), four flint flakes and some animal bone. Undated ditch **62** ran north-south, it was 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep with gentle sides and a rounded base. To the west of these features was a probable pit (**64**). It was an irregular oval shape, 1.76m by 1.2m and 0.26m deep with moderate sides and a flat base. It was filled by a light to mid grey clayey silt with occasional small natural flints and charcoal flecks. A single flint flake, some fired clay (6g) and animal bone were recovered. An environmental sample (4) was taken and produced only charcoal.

3.3.33 Two similar ditches (**66** and **68**), were aligned roughly parallel on a north-south orientation, 30m apart within the western part of the trench and were likely to date to the Latest Iron Age/Early Roman period (Phase 4). The ditches were 0.5m and 0.57m wide, 0.3m and 0.24m deep respectively. The two ditches had steep sides and a single similar backfill, a mid to dark brown grey silt. Within both deposits there were respectively two Middle Bronze Age (8g) and a Latest Iron Age pottery sherd (6g), bone and a flint flake piece.

3.4 Fields 3 and 4

3.4.1 Fields 3 and 4 have been combined in this report as there were the remains of part of a very Late Iron Age to Roman settlement at the crest of a very small knoll in Field 3, with a few sparse features which relate to it recovered in Field 4. There were eleven trenches located in the two fields (Trenches 19, 20, 27, 28, 29, 30, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 72) as well as eight 2m² test pits (59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67 and 68). Unlike Fields 1 and 2, the ridge and furrow within this area was far less defined in the geophysical survey (Walford 2008, fig. 7). In Field 3 they ran north to south whilst they were east to west in Field 4. The geophysical survey also showed four linear and curvilinear features and two possible pits in the northern part of Field 3, and three ditches and a pit in Field 4. The three ditches in Field 4 vaguely seemed to respect each other and may represent former fields with two of these ditches aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and one perpendicular to them.

3.4.2 Of the eleven trenches evaluated, seven contained no evidence for archaeological remains (Trenches 19, 20, 27, 28 , 30, 36 and 72) and no features were found in the test pits. The only archaeological features were found in three or four trenches (29, 37, 38 and possibly 39).

Trench 29 (Fig. 12)

3.4.3 Trench 29 was aligned north-south over a possible east-north-east to west-south-west ditch shown on the geophysical survey (Walford 2008, fig. 7; Fig. 2). This anomaly proved to be two ditches (**429** and **433**; Fig. 12). The southernmost ditch (**433**) may

have been the earliest. It was 1m wide and 0.45m deep with moderate sides and a rounded base (Fig. 12, S.151). It was filled with a single deposit containing four very small sherds of Latest Iron Age date (8g). The ditch to the north (**429**) was 2.6m wide and 0.8m deep with steep sides and a flattish base. There were three infilled deposits (430-432), all fairly sterile, although two Early Roman pottery sherds (76g) were recovered from context 432.

Trench 37 (Fig. 12)

3.4.4 Trench 37 was located in the north-eastern part of Field 3 and was aligned roughly north to south. The geophysical survey showed no features within this location (Fig. 2). The northern two-thirds of the trench (26m long) was busy with dense archaeological remains comprising nine features ranging from ring ditches to ditches and pits. In contrast, there was a single ditch within the southern third of the trench. The features in the trench ranged in date from Latest Iron Age/Early Roman to Middle Roman in date (Periods 4-6).

3.4.5 A ring ditch was partly-exposed within the north-eastern corner of the trench and was sampled in two places (**89** and **93**). It was between 0.33m and 0.41m wide and 0.11m and 0.24m deep. The ring ditch was filled with a mid dark grey silty clay and produced collectively five sherds (59g) of Latest Iron Age/Early Roman pottery and bone. An environmental sample was taken (15) of the deposit but contained only charcoal. Within the ring ditch was a post hole (**91**), 0.41m in diameter and 0.11m deep. It had steep sides and a flat base and was filled with a mid grey brown silty clay with the occasional charcoal fleck. Pottery from the post hole (35 sherds weighing 477g) was of the same Latest Iron Age/Early Roman date as the ring ditch. A soil sample from this deposit (17) produced only small quantities of charcoal.

3.4.6 Cutting the ring ditch (**89**/**91**) was an east to west ditch (**87**), which was 0.61m wide and 0.34m deep. Ditch **87** had steep sides and a flat base and contained a single mid grey brown silty clay deposit. A moderate assemblage of Early Roman pottery was found (11 sherds (95g)), in addition to a single possible tile fragment (23g) and some animal bone. An environmental bulk sample was taken (18), from which there was only small quantities of charcoal.

3.4.7 To the south of ditch **87** was a further possible ring ditch (**49**), curvilinear in shape, which may be part of the curvilinear ditch (**45**) 12m to the south. Ring ditch **45** butt ended in the middle of the trench, roughly on the eastern side of the postulated house and this may have represented the entranceway into the structure. The two ditches were similar, 0.38m and 0.35m wide and 0.32m and 0.33m deep respectively with both ditches having near vertical sides and slightly concave bases. Collectively there were 14 sherds (158g) of pottery, all Early Roman in date (middle to late 1st century AD), and some animal bone.

3.4.8 Within the postulated round house (**45**/**49**) there was a Middle Roman pit (**84**), which was sub-circular in shape, measuring 1.87m by 1.42m across and 0.58m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. The pit contained two deposits, within which there were collectively 24 sherds (169g) of pottery and some animal bone. The upper backfill (86), was a mid-dark grey brown silty clay with occasional to moderate charcoal flecks. This deposit was environmentally sampled (19) but only produced charcoal. An undated ditch (**47**) ran north-east to south-west through this postulated house (**45**/**49**). This ditch was ephemeral, 0.39m wide and 0.1m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. It contained a single fired clay fragment (4g).

3.4.9 To the south of house **45**/**49**, was a Middle Roman north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**42**), measuring 1.4m wide and 0.58m deep. It had steep sides and a slightly concave base and had been backfilled with two deposits (43 and 44). The basal fill, 0.11m thick, was sterile and probably represented natural silting within the feature. The upper deposit (44) was a mid to dark grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks. In this deposit there was a moderate pottery assemblage of 22 pottery sherds (150g) from seven different vessels, a flint flake and some animal bone. An environmental sample was taken from this deposit (20) which contained a few weed seeds. Adjacent to and to the south of ditch **42** was another north-west to south-east orientated ditch (**95**), which was 0.71m wide and 0.16m deep. It had moderate sides and a concave base and a sterile single infilled deposit. Eight metres to the south was a further north-west to south-east aligned, undated ditch (**487**), 0.9m wide and 0.14m deep.

Trench 38 (Fig. 13)

3.4.10 Trench 38 was positioned on flat ground at the top of the small knoll. The trench was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west and had been placed over three geophysical linear anomalies (Walford 2008, fig. 7; Fig. 2). There were nine features within the trench, demonstrating a moderate density of use (Plate 1). Several of the features were intercutting with the features within the trench dating from the Early Roman to the Late Roman (Phases 5-7).

3.4.11 The extreme western part of the trench contained a pit (**620**) and the southern corner of a probable enclosure comprising ditch (**617**) and its recut (**615**). Pit **620** was more than 0.7m in length and 0.3m deep (Fig. 13, S. 242). It was filled with two deposits (618 and 619) which contained eight pottery sherds (168g) dating to the Early Roman period and some animal bone. The enclosure ditch (**617**) was recorded in the geophysical survey as continuing at least 20m to the north-west (Fig. 2). It was more than 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It was infilled with a mid greenish brown sandy clay from which three Middle Roman pottery sherds (34g) and some animal bone were recovered. The recut (**615**) was on the inside of the former ditch and was of a similar size at 1.2m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The primary silting deposit (614) was a mid greenish brown sandy clay which only contained a few animal bones. This was sealed by a dark grey to black sandy clay (613) within which there was a moderate to large assemblage of domestic artefacts which comprised a 3rd or 4th century Roman coin (SF 9), 15 pottery sherds (376g) which also dated to the 3rd/4th century, a fired clay piece (17g) and some animal bones. A residual prehistoric saddle quern was also recovered from the ditch. A soil sample (72) taken from this deposit produced large quantities of crop processing waste (see Appendix D. 3).

3.4.12 Seven metres to the east of enclosure ditches **615**/**617** were three intercutting features (**240**, **360** and **356**). The earliest was Early Roman pit **360** which was cut on its eastern side by pit **356** and on its western side by ditch **240**. Pit **360** was probably sub-rectangular in shape, 1.8m long and at least 1.4m wide and 0.1m deep. It was backfilled with a moderate quantity of artefacts including 47 small sherds of pottery (321g). Pit **356** was partly within the trench and had a diameter of 2.4m and was 0.08m deep. It was filled by a dark greyish brown silty clay which contained a moderate collection of finds including 13 pottery sherds weighing 319g and a number of daub pieces (81g) with wattle impressions. This feature was finds-rich if the extreme shallowness of the feature is taken into account. Ditch **240** was aligned north-west to south-east, was 1.64m wide and 0.7m deep with moderate sides and a flatish base (Fig. 13, S.225). The geophysical survey showed the ditch was at least 70m long with

its western side then curving to the north suggesting it may have been an enclosure (Fig. 2). Within its single backfill deposit there was a small to moderate quantity of pottery (24 sherds weighing 339g from 14 separate vessels) and some animal bone.

3.4.13 Ten metres to the east of these three intercutting features was an undated north to south ditch (**358**), which measured 0.6m wide and 0.08m deep. At the eastern side of the trench there were two intercutting features with pit **244** cut by ditch **241**. Pit **244** measured 1.1m long and 0.12m deep and produced seven Early Roman pottery sherds (35g) in its backfill. Ditch **241** ran north-west to south-east and was probably recorded in the geophysical survey as being a linear feature at least 50m long (Fig. 2). It was seemingly segmented as the ditch changed from a wide moderately deep cut at its north-western end to being narrower and slightly deeper on its south-western side. The ditch was up to 1.02m wide and 0.31m deep (Fig. 13, S. 224). Its sides were slightly irregular, varying from steep (north-eastern side) and gradual (south-western side) and it had a flat base. It was backfilled with a single deposit which comprised a mixed mid browny grey and reddish yellow sandy clay. A moderate quantity of artefacts was recovered, consisting of 18 pottery sherds (110g) dating to the Early Roman period, some burnt/fired clay and animal bone.

Trench 39

3.4.14 Trench 39 was within Field 4, to the east of Trench 38. It was 75m long and only contained two possible shallow undated pits (**188** and **190**; not illustrated). Pit **188** was oval in shape, 0.85m by 0.48m and 0.05m deep with steep sides and an irregular base. It was filled with a light brownish grey silty clay. Pit **190** was sub-circular, 1.1m by 0.75m and 0.2m deep. It had steep sides and a slightly concave base and was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay.

3.5 Field 5

3.5.1 The single trench in Field 5 (Trench 18) contained no archaeological remains.

3.6 Field 7

3.6.1 Field 7 was to the north of Field 4 and here geophysical anomalies comprised ephemeral evidence for north to south ridge and furrow (Walford 2008, fig. 7), some magnetic noise areas and a couple of pits (Fig. 2). Three trenches were located within this field, one on its north side (Trench 42) and two in its southern area (Trenches 40 and 41). Trench 40 was located over a possible pit (6.5m by 3.5m area) shown on the geophysical survey on its far western side, and an area of magnetic noise on its eastern side (Fig. 2). The pit shown in the geophysical survey proved to be a probable well (**263**); there was also a possible undated pit (**338**) in the trench. Trenches 41 and 42, in contrast, were completely barren.

3.6.2 The well (**263**) was partly within the extreme western part of Trench 40 (Fig. 13; Plate 6) and was revealed at 2.11m OD. It was likely to date to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age (Richard Mortimer pers. comm.). Only a small part of the well was within the evaluation trench, just over 2m, and it was more than 1m deep with a gentle eastern side at the top of the feature, becoming steeper (Fig. 13, S. 261). It was not excavated to the natural for health and safety reasons due to its deep size. The earliest excavated fill (262) was a 0.45m wide deposit which had been tipped into the feature from the east. It was a dark greyish black sandy silt with abundant charcoal and small burnt flint (up to 50mm in length) and the occasional burnt sandstone piece. These inclusions were more than 25% of the deposit. A soil sample (82) of the deposit only produced large quantities of charcoal. This deposit was presumably the remains of a

burnt mound which had been situated adjacent to the east of the well (Richard Mortimer pers. comm.). This former mound material was sealed by a 0.22m thick dark brownish orange clayey silt (261) with very frequent charcoal flecks, and occasional small sub-rounded stone pieces or burnt flint. This layer was overlaid by a deposit, 0.38m thick, consisting of a dark brownish grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks. The upper deposit (259) was a 0.48m thick, dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

3.6.3 Pit **338** was undated and was located within the centre of the trench (Fig. 13). It was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.75m by 0.52m and 0.26m deep. It had steep sides and a concave base and was filled by a mid reddish blue clay and charcoal flecks. A soil sample (81) from the deposit only produced large quantities of charcoal.

3.7 Summary of Finds and Environmental Evidence

3.7.1 A moderate to large collection of artefacts was recovered from the evaluation.

3.7.2 A lithic assemblage of 38 worked flints includes some dated to the Mesolithic or Neolithic but mainly comprises pieces from the later prehistoric period. Several Bronze Age cores, other tools and flakes are present, some of which were found in contemporary features.

3.7.3 There is a small group of six copper-alloy and lead objects comprising one Roman coin and five post-medieval or modern artefacts.

3.7.4 The metalworking remains consist of 0.795kg of industrial residues. One slag piece originates from the Middle Bronze Age whereas the remainder are all Middle to Late Iron Age (Phase 3) and comprise hearth lining, roasted iron ore, a copper alloy droplet, slag and crucible fragments.

3.7.5 The pottery assemblage comprises 380 hand made prehistoric sherds (3.03kg). This includes a very small component of Early Bronze Age sherds but most are Middle Bronze Age (2.603kg) with a relatively small quantity of Middle to Late Iron Age wares. The Middle Bronze Age (Deverel Rimbury) assemblage is of regional importance. The wheel thrown Iron Age and Roman assemblage totals 421 sherds (4.334kg) of abraded pottery, mostly dating to the earlier periods but with a minority of Middle and Late Roman wares. There are just seven medieval sherds and 18 post-medieval to modern pieces.

3.7.6 There is a very small collection of fired clay and daub (46 pieces (0.624kg) from 14 contexts dating from the Bronze Age to the post-medieval period. Five have wattle impressions and several have smoothed sides. A single saddle quern fragment was found as a residual element in a Roman context. Five brick fragments (1.089kg) and five ceramic roof tile fragments (71g) are all probably post-medieval in date. There are also ten clay pipe stem fragments and two post-medieval glass fragments.

3.7.7 A single unurned cremation of an adult (341g) is likely to date to the Middle/Late Iron Age with half the cremation excavated.

3.7.8 There are 445 animal bone fragments (12kg) of which 224 can be identified to species or as large/medium mammal fragments. The bone survives in generally good condition.

3.7.9 Thirty-eight bulk samples were taken and generally the plant remains within these is sparse. An exception is a sample from a Late Roman ditch which contains evidence of crop processing waste. A sample recovered from the base of a deep waterhole contained remains of wood and insects.

4 Discussion and Conclusions

4.1 Activity and Occupation by Period

4.1.1 Ten periods of activity have been identified by the evaluation as follows:

Period 1	Early Bronze Age
Period 2	Middle Bronze Age
Period 3	Middle to Late Iron Age (?3rd century BC to late 1st century BC)
Period 4	Latest Iron Age/Early Roman (Late 1st century BC to late 1st century AD)
Period 5	Early Roman (late 1st century to middle/end 2nd century AD)
Period 6	Middle Roman (middle/end 2nd century AD to late 3rd century AD)
Period 7	Late Roman (late 3rd to 4th century)
Period 8	?Early Saxon
Period 9	Medieval to early post-medieval
Period 10	Late post-medieval to modern

In addition there is a palaeochannel of probable Holocene date and residual flints of Mesolithic and Neolithic date.

4.1.2 The palaeochannel that crosses the entire site from north to south (through Fields 1 and 2) is likely to date to the Holocene period. A second palaeochannel seems to feed into/branch off this main channel (recorded in Trench 52). The channels would have been significant landscape features and appear to have heavily influenced the location of later prehistoric (particularly Middle Bronze Age) settlement (Appendix D.5).

Mesolithic and Neolithic

4.1.3 A single post hole or small pit in Trench 7 may date to this period as it produced a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flint blade but no other artefacts. No other features of earlier prehistoric date were found although the site was clearly visited during both the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods as shown by the presence of worked flint of this date including fragments of an Early Neolithic leaf shaped arrow head found in Trench 25.

Bronze Age

Early Bronze Age (Period 1)

4.1.4 Two isolated Early Bronze Age features were found, one, a “hollow” in Trench 3 on the western side of Field 2 at about 9m OD, and the second a well found in Trench 40 at about 2m OD. The “hollow” consisted of a shallow (0.3m) depression, *c*.4m long and more than 2m wide from which 16 small pottery sherds from a single urn vessel and a single flint flake were recovered. The well was 6.5m in size and more than a metre deep, it's primary fill consisted of charcoal and small burnt flint pieces suggesting a “burnt mound” was located nearby. Wells are often found near to the Fen edge and seem to occur as isolated features several hundred metres apart (Richard Mortimer pers. comm.). Two residual Early Bronze Age pottery sherds were found on other parts of the site although their significance is unknown.

4.1.5 During the Early Bronze Age water levels were relatively low and most Early Bronze Age domestic occupation seems to occur between 0m and 1m OD. The limited number

of sites excavated of this date may simply be due to lack of development on low lying ground. Three Early Bronze Age settlements that have been excavated are all a considerable distance from the subject site, these are: Sutton Gault, less than 10km to the east (Connor 2009; Rees 2009; Webley and Hiller 2009); Shippea Hill, *c*.25km to the north-east (Clark 1933) and Hockwold-cum-Wilton, *c*.35km to the north-east (Bamford 1982). As water levels began to rise at the end of the Early Bronze Age such settlement sites were abandoned for higher ground (Rees 2009).

Middle Bronze Age (Phase 2)

4.1.6 Evidence for Middle Bronze Age settlement within the subject site is quite extensive, with a loosely linear north to south distribution of settlement features and associated artefacts being observed in the evaluation trenches (Trenches 12, 15, 16, 24, 25, 33 and 52). This relatively narrow band of activity extends for almost 600 metres (including a watering hole found in Trench 52) and appears to respect the main palaeochannel, keeping always to the west and slightly higher ground. To the south and west of the settlement and apparently (although not necessarily) isolated from it were two possible Middle Bronze Age ring ditches (Field 2 in trenches 7 and 8).

4.1.7 The Middle Bronze Age settlement appears to have been comparatively long lived since there is clear evidence for more than one phase of activity (intercutting features). It is not possible yet to tie down the date range but the occupation did not continue into the Late Bronze Age (no pottery artefacts of the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age have been found). Fieldwalking identified the site in the 1980s (Hall 1992, Chatteris site 28) as one of only three domestic Bronze Age sites in the parish, all located on higher ground away from barrows which tended to be nearer the Fen edge (Hall 1992, 90 and fig. 53). This is the only one to have received any intrusive investigation and so it is not confirmed whether sites 11 (2km to the north-east) and 39 (1km to the south) are contemporary.

4.1.8 Hall noted that evidence for Bronze Age settlement in the parish was “sparse” and in the 20 years since Hall's publication no new settlements have been discovered despite many archaeological interventions. An apparent lack of Bronze Age funerary remains in the evaluation appears to conform to the regional pattern of settlement separated from burial sites (Hall 1992; see Section 1.3.7 above). However, the interpretation of the two possible ring ditches in trenches 7 and 8 remains open to question, and although small in diameter, one or both may be the remains of ploughed-out barrows, the ring ditch in Trench 7 in particular seems somewhat large to be the remains of a round house.

4.1.9 The extensive evidence of the Middle Bronze Age activity at Tithe Barn Farm appears to suggest something more substantial than a simple farmstead. Two main areas of activity can be identified. One is located within Trench 25 at 7.14m OD, situated adjacent to and to the west of the palaeochannel, where evidence for at least three separate post hole structures was found. The adjacent palaeochannel contained contemporary ?domestic rubbish and appears to have silted up rapidly, presumably due to the effects of farming. After the channel had largely silted up a large watering hole was cut into it. This well was later backfilled with a significant quantity of Middle Bronze Age artefacts including a complete thumb pottery vessel.

4.1.10 The other focus of Middle Bronze Age activity (Trenches 7 and 8) was located more than 300m to the south-west of Trench 25 at between 9.44m OD and 9.38m OD on a slightly raised plateau. This is amongst the highest land around and is possibly the reason for settlement-location here (Figs. 3 and 4; see Section 1.22-1.23 above). Two adjacent ring ditches (13m and 14m diameter) have been tentatively assigned a Middle

Bronze Age date (Figs. 2 and 9). Their function is open to interpretation; they could represent round houses although there are no known Middle Bronze Age round houses so either the date or function has to be questioned. It is possible the Bronze Age artefacts from the ditches were residual and they are later, alternatively they may be the remains of ploughed out barrows. The larger ring ditch in particular, at 3.2m wide and 1.35m deep, seems rather large for a ring gully surrounding a house. Whilst the smaller ring ditch was backfilled with a relatively small quantity of pottery, the larger one had a significant quantity of pottery and other "domestic" waste in its three upper fills (29 Bronze Age pottery sherds weighing 754g from twelve separate vessels (and an ? intrusive small Iron Age sherd, as well as animal bone, daub and a piece of slag).

4.1.11 Three large watering holes (in Trenches 12, 24 and 52), all cut into the silted up palaeochannels, were found over an area measuring 500m north to south. It is likely there are other wells and watering holes within the site - an interesting comparison site is the large scale excavations at Brigg's Farm, Thorney which uncovered twelve wells (Pickstone and Mortimer 2011, 45).

4.1.12 Five other ditches were found in three trenches (Trenches 8, 15 and 25) and it is likely these represent field boundaries. The ditches ranged from 0.26m to 1.2m wide and 0.07m and 0.41m deep. The field system at Tithe Barn Farm is probably characteristic of Middle Bronze Age activity identified most famously in the Peterborough Fenland basin and extending as far as Thorney (Pickstone and Mortimer 2011). However, it is a pattern which has become more widely recognised across the region and beyond in the past decade with recent large-scale excavations such as those along the Ouse valley (Evans and Knight 2000), in the Thames valley (Lewis *et. al.* 2010) on the Norfolk Broads (Gilmour and Mortimer, 2011), in South Cambridgeshire (Phillips and Mortimer forthcoming) and with the publication of Yates' (2007) work on the Field Systems of Southern England. Despite the increasing number of sites recorded, and published, the continued lack of material culture or environmental remains recovered from the earliest phases of these ditches has meant that the field systems frequently elude precise dating.

4.1.13 The evaluation has produced a remarkably large quantity of Middle Bronze Age artefacts. The pottery assemblage (272 sherds weighing 2.603kg), including a significant Deverel Rimbury component, is regionally important (Percival, Appendix C.4). This evaluation has recovered an assemblage of Middle Bronze Age pottery that is amongst the largest in the region - larger than Bradley Fen and nearly the same size of the pottery from the excavation at Briggs Farm Thorney (Knight 2011, including chart 4). Deverel Rimbury pottery is the 'classic pottery of the Middle Bronze Age' (Brown and Murphy 1997, 16) and an assemblage of this size is rare. Deverel Rimbury pottery is mostly poorly understood in the region with the notable exception of Essex.

4.1.14 A moderate quantity of the flint assemblage recovered is likely to date to this period, some of which was recovered from contemporary features but some was residual. Flint tools of this period are poorly understood (see Bishop, Appendix C.2) and the evaluation has shown that there is very good potential to understand this elusive industry more. A single slag piece from Trench 7 indicates some metal working industrial activity was occurring on site. Animal bone including a horse bone has survived well. The potential for well preserved environmental remains is also high, particularly from waterlogged deposits where insect remains and wood fragments have been found. Overall, the evaluation indicates excellent potential to understand the environment in and around this settlement.

4.1.15 The regional framework for the East Anglia region notes that, "for the Middle Bronze Age, with some notable exceptions, very few settlements are known and there is clearly a need to rectify this situation" (Brown and Murphy 2000, 9). Brown and Murphy (1997, 16) list important Middle Bronze Age sites in the region, south Essex is the best represented including North Shoebury which has the most complete settlement plan, but for many counties there is little settlement evidence for this period. This has led to the suggestion that there may be differential settlement development in the region (Healey 1993). As a consequence, the Middle Bronze Age settlement is highlighted as an area requiring further research in the regional research framework (Brown and Murphy 1997, 16; Brown and Murphy 2000, 12).

Middle and Late Iron Age to Roman settlements

Middle/Late Iron Age to Late Roman settlement in Fields 1 and 2 (Phases 3-7)

4.1.16 The settlement does not appear to have continued into the later Bronze Age and it is assumed to have been abandoned until the Middle or Later Iron Age. Interestingly the later settlement seems to have returned to the areas occupied in the Middle Bronze Age. Re-settlement in the same location was probably largely dictated by the topography of the site; the areas of activity focus on the higher ground (Figs. 3 and 4).

4.1.17 Hand made Iron Age pottery (possibly Middle Iron Age) was recovered from features in five trenches (Trenches 5, 7, 24, 33 and 52) but this only comprised six separate features or groups of features. The main focus of activity seems to have been limited to the area of Trenches 5 and 7 in Field 2, Features relating to the main activity included a possible round house in Trench 7 and enclosure ditches in Trenches 5 and 7. Artefacts and ecofacts recovered suggest agriculture and industrial activities were occurring within the enclosed area and/or nearby. Evidence for metalworking included a crucible, copper slag droplet, hearth lining, slag and hammerscale. Although the main focus of activity during this period appears to be confined to the areas around trenches 5 and 7 there is clearly some limited activity elsewhere including a cremation in Trench 33, a single small pit in Trench 24 and watering holes in Trench 52, presumably to provide a convenient source of water for livestock.

4.1.18 Cremation was re-introduced into the region during the later 2nd/early 1st century BC (Bryant 1997, 27). The cremation in Trench 33 is only tentatively dated at present, based on a sherd of hand made Iron Age pottery and is therefore 'early'. It is therefore important to gain a more precise date for this and any other cremations found, should excavation take place in the future.

4.1.19 Metalworking evidence is not common in this part of Cambridgeshire and the presence of it here is locally significant and will be an important aspect for study should excavation take place.

4.1.20 Evidence for the latest Iron Age/Early Roman period (Period 4) was found in five trenches in Field 2 (Trenches 7, 8, 9, 14 and 16), extending over an area measuring *c*.300m by more than 150m. Unlike the earlier phase there were no recorded 'peripheral' features in Field 1. The features dating to this period included an enclosure and possibly related boundary ditch in Trenches 7, 8 and 9, a ring ditch in Trench 7, a large boundary ditch in Trench 16, as well as a pit and a watering hole in Trench 14. The boundary ditch was recorded by the geophysical survey as being more than 150m long north to south, probably continuing a little way into Field 1 and stopping or turning between Trenches 6 and 7 in Field 2 (Fig. 2).

4.1.21 Five features found in four trenches (Trenches 5, 9, 11 and 14) represent the Early Roman period (Period 5). The evidence for this period extended over a smaller area than the previous phase (*c*.200m by 100m). The range of feature types was also more limited with only pits and ditches found suggesting that the focus of settlement may have moved elsewhere, possibly further to the south-west outside of the proposed development area in Field 2. A single Middle Roman ditch was recorded in Trench 11 and just two Late Roman features (a pit and a ditch in Trenches 12 and 11 respectively) were identified on the extreme periphery of the subject site.

Latest Iron Age to Late Roman settlement in Fields 3 and 4

4.1.22 Evidence for a Latest Iron Age/Early Roman to Late Roman settlement was found in trenches in Fields 3 and 4. This settlement was on relatively low-lying ground at just over 3m OD, on clay subsoil. The reason for utilisation of apparently lower quality land is debatable, perhaps the “better” area in Field 2 was already occupied when this new settlement was established, or perhaps the move was associated with a shift to a different type of farming.

4.1.23 Two features in this area, a round house in Trench 37 and a ditch in Trench 29, were dated to the Latest Iron Age/Early Roman period. There was an increase in activity in the Early Roman phase with features being found in Trenches 29, 37 and 38, including a round house, three ditches and two pits. It is likely that the settlement continues to the north of Field 3, beyond the development boundary so its full extent is unknown. Three ditches and a pit in Trenches 37 and 38 date to the Middle Roman period. A single Late Roman ditch in Trench 38 continued north and beyond the development area. Although only limited evidence for buildings was found, a moderate to large quantity of domestic rubbish and crop processing waste implies the main focus of the settlement was close by, but possibly just beyond the development area.

4.1.24 Chatteris parish may have been unusual for its occupation in the Iron Age (Hall 1992, 93). Hall recorded six areas of occupational remains and a further two cropmarked sites. In addition to these a further previously unknown settlement has been found 1km to the north (Cooper 2004; Thatcher 2008). The evaluation at Tithe Barn has added a further site in Field 2. It is likely that the two Iron Age/Roman settlements were not of high status and they were not extensive, probably merely farmsteads. The evaluation has shown that a reasonable quantity of artefacts can be expected and some good environmental remains. The two Iron Age to Roman settlements can be compared with nearby Langwood Farm (Evans 2003), the as yet unpublished excavations 1km to the north (Cooper 2004, Thatcher 2008) as well as many well published contemporary sites in the Ely and March areas.

?Saxon SFB in Trench 26

4.1.25 A possible Sunken Featured Building was found apparently isolated from any other archaeological evidence, it was 3.2m long east to west, more than 2m north to south and 0.6m deep and contained 33 Roman pottery sherds (235g) dating up to the Late 3rd to early 5th century (Lyons, Appendix C.5). The feature is slightly deeper than the average (Tipper 2004, 65 and table 20) but is otherwise within the normal parameters for the feature type. An oven or hearth found within it is also relatively common (*e.g.*. *ibid*, fig. 18 and plate 5).

4.1.26 It is possible that similar features are located in the vicinity to this one, although lone examples are not uncommon. The date of the feature is difficult to determine based on the limited excavation it received during evaluation, it may be Late Roman of Early

Saxon, only further excavation could help determine this. It was situated between the two Iron Age/Roman settlements, with the nearest Late Roman features being more than 200m to the south-west in Trench 12 and *c*.200m to the north-east in Trench 38. Sunken Featured Buildings have been found in many archaeological excavations in England, they date from the Middle Roman (2nd century AD) to the medieval period, although most date to the Early and Middle Saxon period (Tipper 2004). A number of excavations (especially in the East Anglia region) have uncovered evidence of Late Roman and Early Saxon occupation on the same site (*ibid*, 9-10). Some excavators have argued for an overlap between the foundation of Saxon settlements and the abandonment of nearby Roman towns. West (1985), for example, argues that West Stow began as early as AD 400 whilst the nearby Roman town of Icklingham was not abandoned until the late 4th or early 5th century, although Tipper suggests such precise dating for the start of Saxon settlements needs to be accepted with caution (*ibid*, 10). Published examples of a possible Late Roman/Early Saxon overlap include Orton Hall Farm (near Peterborough; Mackreth 1996), West Stow (Suffolk; West 1985) and Thetford (Norfolk; Atkins and Connor 2010).

Medieval to modern

4.1.27 The evaluation has identified no evidence of any settlement features associated with the 16th century Tithe barn. This appears to confirm the 19th century 1st Edition OS map which only shows the barn and two other structures immediately to the east and west of it (see section 1.3.20). Indeed, only in the late 19th century did the present complex of buildings expand up around the barn.

4.1.28 Most of the site lay within a medieval/post-medieval field system, there is evidence across much of the site for the ridge and furrow typical of the medieval period although only the furrows survive. The evidence from the evaluation suggests that the furrows would still have been open into the 17th or even 18th century, possibly the land was given over to pasture rather than arable. A 17th century crotal bell in a former headland and calf burials of *c*.19th date suggest that at least some of the development area was subject to pastoral farming during the post-medieval period. The only other evidence of activity in more recent times is in the form of small scale *c*.18th and 19th century quarrying for gravel near to the Tithe barn complex.

4.2 Significance

4.2.1 The evaluation has uncovered two Holocene period palaeochannels, which are filled by sterile colluvium and have little potential for further environmental analysis.

4.2.2 Although sparse, there is clear evidence for Early Bronze Age occupation on the site - a small hollow and a probable well/burnt mound, there is therefore a likelihood that other features of this date are present.

4.2.3 The most significant remains within the subject site comprises an extensive, regionally significant Middle Bronze Age settlement with associated field system and possible evidence of ritual/funerary remains (barrow(s)). The settlement appears to be focused along the side of a relict palaeochannel with a second distinct area that may have been a focus for ritual and/or settlement. The work has shown that these remains survive in good condition. The evaluation has shown that there is good potential for evidence relating to building types and settlement structure as well as significant artefact assemblages especially Middle Bronze Age pottery (specifically Deverel Rimbury), the dating and characterisation of which are important to further study of the period. In addition there is good potential for the study of flint. Animal bone is well preserved and

waterlogged environmental remains survive in the lower deposits of watering holes and wells.

4.2.4 Evidence for two Middle and Latest Iron Age to Late Roman settlements are also present, more common than Bronze Age settlement, the remains survived in reasonable condition with structures such as ring ditches and post holes surviving and these have the potential to provide at least partial building plans. A Middle/Late Iron Age cremation and varied metalworking evidence are particularly significant, since evidence for disposal of the dead and metalworking are not common for the Middle Iron Age period.

4.2.5 A possible Sunken Featured Building indicates that further evidence of Late Roman/Early Saxon date may be present on the site. Although increasingly found, evidence for this transitional period is still rare and requires investigation.

4.3 Recommendations

4.3.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

Appendix A. Context List And Trench Heights

A1: Context list

Table 1 Context list

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
1	8	12	fill	pit	water hole				2
2	8	12	fill	pit	water hole				2
3	8	12	fill	pit	water hole	0			2
4	8	12	fill	pit	water hole	0			2
5	8	12	fill	pit	water hole	0			2
6	8	12	fill	pit	water hole	0			2
7	8	12	fill	pit	water hole	0			2
8	8	12	cut	pit	water hole	3.9+		1.2+	2
9	10	12	fill	post hole		0			0
10	10	12	cut	post hole		0.4	0.4	0.21	0
11	12	12	fill	pit		0			7
12	12	12	cut	pit		1.15	1.15	0.15	7
13	14	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
14	14	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	1.38	0.4	10
15	16	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
16	16	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	1.04	0.52	10
17	18	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
18	18	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	1.08	0.42	10
19	20	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
20	20	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	1.2	0.4	10
21	22	15	fill	ditch		0			2
22	22	15	cut	ditch		0	0.8	0.28	2
23	24	15	fill	?pit		0			2
24	24	15	cut	?pit		0.6		0.1	2
25	0	15	layer			0			10
26	27	15	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
27	27	15	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.9	0.16	9
28	29	33	fill	cremation		0			3
29	29	33	cut	cremation		0.5			3
30	31	33	fill	pit		0			2
31	31	33	cut	pit		0.34		0.2	2
32	33	33	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
33	33	33	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.85	0.1	9
34	35	33	fill	pit		0			0
35	35	33	cut	pit		0.4		0.25	0
36	37	33	fill	post hole		0			0
37	37	33	cut	post hole		0.4		0.12	0
38	39	3	fill	natural hollow		0			1

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
39	39	3	cut	natural hollow		0	1.6	0.5	1
40	41	3	fill	natural hollow		0			1
41	41	3	cut	natural hollow		4		0.3	1
42	42	37	cut	ditch	boundary	0	1.4	0.58	6
43	42	37	fill	ditch	boundary	0			6
44	42	37	fill	ditch	boundary	0			6
45	45	37	cut	ring ditch	round house	0	0.35	0.33	5
46	45	37	fill	ring ditch	round house	0			5
47	47	37	cut	ditch		0	0.39	0.1	0
48	47	37	fill	ditch		0			0
49	49	37	cut	ring ditch	round house	0	0.38	0.32	5
50	49	37	fill	ring ditch	round house	0			5
51	51	17	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.7	0.05	9
52	51	17	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
53	53	17	cut	ditch	boundary	0	3.55	0.87	9
54	53	17	fill	ditch	boundary	0			9
55	53	17	fill	ditch	boundary	0			9
56	56	13	cut	furrow	agriculture	0			9
57	56	13	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
58	58	13	cut	furrow	agriculture	0			9
59	58	13	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
60	60	16	cut	pit/tree throw		0	1.7	0.32	2
61	60	16	fill	pit/tree throw		0			2
62	62	16	cut	ditch		0	0.6	0.1	0
63	62	16	fill	ditch		0			0
64	64	16	cut	pit/tree throw		1.76	1.2	0.26	2
65	64	16	fill	pit/tree throw		0			2
66	66	16	cut	ditch		0	0.5	0.3	4
67	66	16	fill	ditch		0			4
68	68	16	cut	ditch		0	0.57	0.24	4
69	68	16	fill	ditch		0			4
70	70	24	cut	water hole		2.91	1.74	1.13	2
71	71	24	cut	palaeochannel	stream	7.9		1.1+	2
72	70	24	fill	water hole		0			2
73	70	24	fill	water hole		0			2
74	70	24	fill	water hole		0			2
75	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
76	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
77	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
78	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
79	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
80	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
81	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
82	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
83	71	24	fill	palaeochannel	stream	0			2
84	84	37	cut	pit		1.87	1.42	0.58	6
85	84	37	fill	pit		0			6
86	84	37	fill	pit		0			6
87	87	37	cut	ditch		0	0.61	0.34	5
88	87	37	fill	ditch		0			5
89	89	37	cut	ring ditch	round house	0	0.32	0.24	4
90	89	37	fill	ring ditch	round house	0			4
91	91	37	cut	post hole	?round house	0.41		0.11	4
92	91	37	fill	post hole	?round house	0			4
93	93	37	cut	ring ditch	round house	0	0.33	0.22	4
94	93	37	fill	ring ditch	round house	0			4
95	95	37	cut	ditch		0	0.71	0.16	0
96	95	37	fill	ditch		0			0
101	101	10	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1	0.17	9
102	101	10	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
103	103	14	cut	?pit		0	0.55	0.1	4
104	103	14	fill	?pit		0			4
105	105	14	cut	pit		2.5	2.5	1.08	5
106	105	14	fill	pit		0			5
107	107	43	cut	furrow	agriculture	0			9
108	107	43	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
109	105	14	fill	pit		0			5
110	105	14	fill	pit		0			5
111	105	14	fill	pit		0			5
112	105	14	fill	pit		0			5
113	113	14	cut	ditch		0	2.1	0.64	4
114	113	14	fill	ditch		0			4
115	113	14	fill	ditch		0			4
116	113	14	fill	ditch		0			4
117	105	14	fill	pit		0			4
118	118	14	cut	?water hole	?water hole	1.7		1.45	4
119	118	14	fill	?water hole		0			4
120	118	14	fill	?water hole		0			4
121	118	14	fill	?water hole		0			4
122	118	14	fill	?water hole		0			4
123	118	14	fill	?water hole		0			4
124	124	24	cut	post hole		0.34	0.3	0.15	0
125	124	24	fill	post hole		0			0

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
126	126	24	cut	ditch		0	0.74	0.36	0
127	126	24	fill	ditch		0			0
128	126	24	fill	ditch		0			0
129	129	24	cut	ditch		0	1.94	0.33	0
130	129	24	fill	ditch		0			0
131	129	24	fill	ditch		0			0
132	134	24	fill	pit		0			3
133	0	24	layer			0			0
134	134	24	cut	pit		0.96		0.19	3
135	0	14	layer	headland	agriculture	0			9
151	152	23	fill	pit		0			10
152	152	23	cut	pit		2.5		0.1	10
153	154	23	fill	ditch		0			10
154	154	23	cut	ditch		0	0.5	0.14	10
155	156	23	fill	post hole	structure	0			10
156	156	23	cut	post hole	structure	0.5	0.43	0.48	10
157	158	23	fill	pit		0			10
158	158	23	cut	pit		1.7		0.15	10
159	160	23	fill	ditch		0			10
160	160	23	cut	ditch		0	0.35	0.07	10
161	163	25	fill	ditch		0			0
162	163	25	fill	ditch		0			0
163	163	25	cut	ditch		0	0.8	0.1	0
164	165	25	fill	ditch		0			0
165	165	25	cut	ditch		0	0.2	0.05	0
166	167	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
167	167	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.5	0.4	0.16	2
168	170	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
169	170	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
170	170	25	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.9	0.12	9
171	172	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
172	172	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.5		0.12	2
173	174	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
174	174	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.44	0.38	0.24	2
175	176	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
176	176	25	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.88	0.08	9
177	178	25	fill	pit		0			2
178	178	25	cut	pit		0.75	0.27	0.12	2
179	181	25	fill	post hole		0			0
180	181	25	fill	post hole		0			0
181	181	25	cut	post hole		0.41	0.39	0.17	0
182	183	8	fill	ditch	?ring ditch	0			2

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
183	183	8	cut	ditch	?ring ditch	0	1.2	0.32	2
184	186	8	fill	ditch	?ring ditch	0			2
185	186	8	fill	ditch	?ring ditch	0			2
186	186	8	cut	ditch	?ring ditch	0	0.92	0.41	2
187	188	39	fill	pit		0			0
188	188	39	cut	pit		0.85	0.48	0.05	0
189	190	39	fill	pit		0			0
190	190	39	cut	pit		1.1	0.75	0.2	0
200	0	22	layer	topsoil		0			10
201	202	22	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
202	202	22	cut	pit	quarry	6.5		0.8	10
203	204	22	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
204	204	22	cut	pit	quarry	3.4			10
205	206	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
206	206	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.2	0.1	9
207	208	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
208	208	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.9	0.2	9
209	210	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
210	210	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.9		9
211	212	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
212	212	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.8		9
213	214	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
214	214	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.7		9
215	216	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
216	216	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.4		9
217	218	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
218	218	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.5	0.11	9
219	220	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
220	220	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.9		9
221	222	22	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
222	222	22	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.6	0.11	9
223	224	21	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
224	224	21	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.6	0.18	9
225	226	31	fill	drain	agriculture	0			10
226	226	31	cut	drain	agriculture	0	0.6	0.31	10
227	228	31	fill	drain	agriculture	0			10
228	228	31	cut	drain	agriculture	0	0.5	0.3	10
229	230	26	fill	ditch		0			9
230	230	26	cut	ditch		0	0.7	0.17	9
231	232	26	fill	?ditch		0			9
232	232	26	cut	?ditch		0	0.7	0.2	9
233	234	35	fill	ditch		0			9

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
234	234	35	cut	ditch		0	0.9	0.6	9
235	238	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
236	238	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
237	238	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
238	238	9	cut	ditch	enclosure	0	1.89	0.84	4
239	240	38	fill	ditch		0			6
240	240	38	cut	ditch		0	1.64	0.7	6
241	241	38	cut	ditch		0	1.02	0.31	5
242	241	38	fill	ditch		0			5
243	244	38	fill	pit		0			5
244	244	38	cut	pit		1.1		0.12	5
251	252	6	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
252	252	6	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	1.36	0.09	9
253	254	6	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
254	254	6	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.9	0.04	9
255	256	6	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
256	256	6	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	2.5	0.06	9
257	258	6	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
258	258	6	cut	furrow	agriculture	1.75		0.18	9
259	263	40	fill	pit	well	0			?1
260	263	40	fill	pit	well	0			?1
261	263	40	fill	pit	well	0			?1
262	263	40	fill	pit	well	0			?1
263	263	40	cut	pit	well	2m+		1+	?1
264	265	4	fill	ditch		0			0
265	265	4	cut	ditch		0	1.2	0.12	0
301	302	23	fill	post hole		0			10
302	302	23	cut	post hole		0.5		0.13	10
303	304	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
304	304	25	cut	furrow	agriculture	0			9
305	306	49	fill	ditch	drain	0			10
306	306	49	cut	ditch	drain	0	0.7	0.05	10
307	308	49	fill	ditch		0			10
308	308	49	cut	ditch		0	0.7	0.18	10
309	310	50	fill	ditch		0			0
310	310	50	cut	ditch		0	0.6	0.08	0
311	312	51	fill	ditch		0			10
312	312	51	cut	ditch		0	0.6	0.18	10
313	314	45	fill	ditch		0			0
314	314	45	cut	ditch		0	0.6	0.07	0
315	316	46	fill	ditch		0			0
316	316	46	cut	ditch		0	0.8	0.2	0

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
317	0	15	layer			0			10
318	326	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
319	326	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
320	325	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
321	326	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
322	325	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
323	325	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
324	326	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
325	325	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	2.8	0.78	10
326	326	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	1.2	0.6	10
327	326	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
328	329	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
329	329	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	3.25		10
330	331	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
331	331	15	cut	pit	quarry	0			10
332	333	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
333	333	15	cut	pit	quarry	0	2.25	0.5	10
334	335	15	fill	pit	quarry	0			10
335	335	15	cut	pit	quarry	0			10
336	338	40	fill	pit		0			0
337	338	40	fill	pit		0			0
338	338	40	cut	pit		0.75	0.52	0.26	0
351	352	55	fill	tree throw		0			0
352	352	55	cut	tree throw		1.25	0.8	0.1	0
353	353	57	cut	pit or ditch		0	1	0.4	0
354	353	57	fill	pit or ditch		0			0
355	356	38	fill	pit		0			6
356	356	38	cut	pit		2.4		0.08	6
357	358	38	fill	ditch		0			0
358	358	38	cut	ditch		0	0.6	0.08	0
359	360	38	fill	pit		0			5
360	360	38	cut	pit		1.85		0.1	5
401	401	25	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.5	0.1	9
402	401	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
403	403	25	cut	ditch		0	0.95	0.29	2
404	403	25	fill	ditch		0			2
405	403	25	fill	ditch		0			2
406	406	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.4	0.4	0.15	2
407	406	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
408	408	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.32		0.18	2
409	408	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
410	410	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.35	0.26	0.1	2

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
411	410	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
412	412	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.27		0.09	2
413	412	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
414	414	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.34	0.34	0.12	2
415	414	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
416	416	54	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.8	0.16	9
417	416	54	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
418	418	54	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.5	0.2	9
419	418	54	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
420	420	5	cut	ditch	enclosure	0	3.3	0.85	3
421	420	5	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			3
422	420	5	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			3
423	420	5	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
424	420	5	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
425	425	5	cut	ditch	drain	0	0.35	0.2	10
426	425	5	fill	ditch	drain	0			10
427	427	5	cut	pit		0			5
428	427	5	fill	pit		0			5
429	429	29	cut	ditch		0	2.6	0.8	5
430	429	29	fill	ditch		0			5
431	429	29	fill	ditch		0			5
432	429	29	fill	ditch		0			5
433	433	29	cut	ditch		0	1	0.45	4
434	433	29	fill	ditch		0			4
451	451	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.25	0.25	0.1	2
452	451	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
453	453	25	cut	ditch		0	0.34	0.14	2
454	453	25	fill	ditch		0			2
455	455	25	cut	ditch		0	0.26	0.07	2
456	455	25	fill	ditch		0			2
457	457	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.36	0.36	0.2	2
458	457	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
459	459	25	cut	post hole	structure	0	0.39	0.13	2
460	459	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			2
461	461	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.25		0.07	0
462	461	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			0
463	463	25	cut	post hole	structure	0.34	0.34	0.1	0
464	463	25	fill	post hole	structure	0			0
465	465	25	cut	ditch		0	0.24	0.07	0
466	465	25	fill	ditch		0			0
467	467	25	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	2.2	0.09	9
468	467	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
469	469	25	cut	furrow	agriculture	0	0.75	0.13	9
470	469	25	fill	furrow	agriculture	0			9
471	471	25	cut	pit		0	0.5	0.13	0
472	471	25	fill	pit		0			0
473	473	7	cut	pit		0.74	0.64	0.09	0
474	473	7	fill	pit		0			0
475	475	7	cut	ditch	boundary	0	1.7	0.42	4
476	475	7	fill	ditch	boundary	0			4
477	475	7	fill	ditch	boundary	0			4
478	475	7	fill	ditch	boundary	0			4
479	479	7	cut	ditch or drain		0	0.28	0.12	0
480	479	7	fill	ditch or drain		0			0
481	481	7	cut	ditch or drain		0	0.3	0.11	0
482	481	7	fill	ditch or drain		0			0
483	483	7	cut	ring ditch	round house	0	0.44	0.2	3
484	483	7	fill	ring ditch	round house	0			3
485	485	7	cut	ring ditch	round house	0	0.3	0.17	3
486	485	7	fill	ring ditch	round house	0			3
487	487	37	cut	ditch		0	0.9	0.14	0
488	487	37	fill	ditch		0			0
501	501	52	cut	pit		3		0.6	3
502	501	52	fill	pit		0			3
503	501	52	fill	pit		0			3
504	501	52	fill	pit		0			3
505	501	52	fill	pit		0			3
506	506	52	cut	pit		0.85	0.5	0.75	3
507	506	52	fill	pit		0			3
508	506	52	fill	pit		0			3
509	506	52	fill	pit		0			3
510	510	52	cut	pit		1.2		0.7	2
511	510	52	fill	pit		0			2
512	510	52	fill	pit		0			2
513	510	52	fill	pit		0			2
516	516	52	cut	pit		2.4		0.9	2
517	516	52	fill	pit		0			2
518	516	52	fill	pit		0			2
519	516	52	fill	pit		0			2
520	516	52	fill	pit		0			2
521	0	52	layer			3.3		0.28	0
522	522	52	cut	pit		1.3		0.65	2
523	522	52	fill	pit		0			2
524	522	52	fill	pit		0			2

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
525	522	52	fill	pit		0			2
526	0	52	fill	?palaeochannel		0			1
527	527	8	cut	ditch	boundary	0	1.8	0.56	4
528	527	8	fill	ditch	boundary	0			4
529	529	9	cut	ditch		0	1.8	0.4	5
530	529	9	fill	ditch		0			5
531	531	9	cut	ditch	enclosure	0	2	1.25	4
532	531	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
533	531	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
534	531	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
535	531	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
536	531	9	fill	ditch	enclosure	0			4
537	537	7	cut	? ring ditch	?house	0	3.2	1.35	2
538	537	7	fill	? ring ditch	?house	0			2
539	537	7	fill	? ring ditch	?house	0			2
540	537	7	fill	? ring ditch	?house	0			2
541	537	7	fill	? ring ditch	?house	0			2
542	537	7	fill	? ring ditch	?house	0			2
543	537	7	fill	? ring ditch	?house	0			2
544	544	7	cut	ditch		0	2	0.35	3
545	544	7	fill	ditch		0			3
551	0	26	layer	natural		0			0
552	552	26	cut	?SFB	?building	3.2		0.6	8
553	552	26	fill	?SFB	?building	0			8
554	556	26	fill	?hearth/oven	?building	0			8
555	556	26	fill	?SFB	?building	0			8
556	556	26	cut	?hearth/oven	?building	0			8
601	604	11	fill	ditch		0			6
602	604	11	fill	ditch		0			6
603	604	11	fill	ditch		0			6
604	604	11	cut	ditch		0	1.8	0.6	6
605	607	11	fill	ditch		0			7
606	607	11	fill	ditch		0			7
607	607	11	cut	ditch		0	1.1	0.4	7
608	612	11	fill	ditch		0			?5
609	612	11	fill	ditch		0			?5
610	612	11	fill	ditch		0			?5
611	612	11	fill	ditch		0			?5
612	612	11	cut	ditch		0	1.8	0.7	?5
613	615	38	fill	ditch	?enclosure	0			7
614	615	38	fill	ditch	?enclosure	0			7
615	615	38	cut	ditch	?enclosure	0	1.2	0.4	7

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Length	Breadth	Depth	Phase
616	617	38	fill	ditch		0			6
617	617	38	cut	ditch		0	0.9	0.4	6
618	620	38	fill	pit		0			5
619	620	38	fill	pit		0			5
620	620	38	cut	pit		0			5

A2: Trench heights

Table 2 Trenches by height (m OD) and thickness of topsoil and subsoil

Trench	Top of Trench (m OD)	Base of Topsoil (m OD)	Base of Trench (m OD)	Topsoil Depth (m)	Subsoil Depth (m)
1	8.67	8.37	8.32	0.30	0.05
2	9.52	9.23	9.16	0.29	0.07
3	9.39	9.06	8.89	0.33	0.17
4	9.37	9.02	9.02	0.35	0.00
5	9.00	8.81	8.72	0.19	0.09
6	9.29	9.00	8.93	0.29	0.07
7	9.44	9.19	9.00	0.25	0.19
8	9.38	9.20	9.03	0.18	0.17
9	9.17	8.90	8.83	0.27	0.07
10	8.42	8.24	8.03	0.18	0.21
11	7.61	7.40	7.30	0.21	0.10
12	6.53	6.01	5.96	0.52	0.05
13	4.68	4.40	4.25	0.28	0.15
14	8.68	8.37	8.08	0.31	0.29
15	7.54	7.25	7.16	0.29	0.09
16	5.52	5.24	5.16	0.28	0.08
17	3.65	3.42	3.34	0.23	0.08
18	2.79	2.51	2.43	0.28	0.08
19	2.53	2.26	2.17	0.27	0.09
20	2.14	1.90	1.80	0.24	0.10
21	8.91	8.62	8.57	0.29	0.05
22	8.88	8.62	8.55	0.26	0.07
23	8.59	8.37	8.31	0.22	0.06
24	7.39	7.04	6.91	0.35	0.13
25	7.14	6.85	6.55	0.29	0.30
26	4.85	4.61	4.57	0.24	0.04
27	2.97	2.72	2.61	0.25	0.11
28	2.85	2.70	2.55	0.15	0.15
29	2.54	2.39	2.28	0.15	0.11
30	2.16	1.97	1.80	0.19	0.17
31	8.27	8.03	8.00	0.24	0.03
32	8.53	8.28	8.21	0.25	0.07
33	7.78	7.55	7.31	0.23	0.24
34	6.82	6.45	6.16	0.37	0.29

Trench	Top of Trench (m OD)	Base of Topsoil (m OD)	Base of Trench (m OD)	Topsoil Depth (m)	Subsoil Depth (m)
35	5.06	4.80	4.77	0.26	0.03
36	3.37	3.14	3.05	0.23	0.09
37	3.21	3.02	2.89	0.19	0.13
38	3.59	3.36	3.26	0.23	0.10
39	2.32	2.12	1.98	0.20	0.14
40	2.66	2.47	2.15	0.19	0.32
41	3.13	2.87	2.68	0.26	0.19
42	3.71	3.47	3.23	0.24	0.24
43	8.01	7.79	7.71	0.22	0.08
44	7.84	7.62	7.52	0.22	0.10
45	7.02	6.82	6.68	0.20	0.14
46	6.89	6.55	6.50	0.34	0.05
47	5.18	4.97	4.82	0.21	0.15
48	4.75	4.53	4.43	0.22	0.10
49	8.30	8.07	7.87	0.23	0.20
50	7.19	6.94	6.18	0.25	0.76
51	6.81	6.59	6.49	0.22	0.10
52	6.63	6.38	6.18	0.25	0.20
53	5.66	5.43	5.20	0.23	0.23
54	5.47	5.26	5.19	0.21	0.07
55	6.78	6.48	6.37	0.30	0.11
56	7.68	7.18	7.10	0.50	0.08
57	6.69	6.52	6.26	0.17	0.26
58	3.54	3.28	3.24	0.26	0.04
59	2.38	2.13	1.98	0.25	0.15
60	2.30	2.10	2.10	0.20	0.00
61	2.18	1.92	1.92	0.26	0.00
62	1.44	1.27	1.20	0.17	0.07
63	4.50	4.30	4.19	0.20	0.11
64	3.92	3.65	3.56	0.27	0.09
65	3.34	3.15	2.99	0.19	0.16
67	2.32	2.03	2.03	0.29	0.00
68	2.18	1.83	1.83	0.35	0.00
71	8.80	8.44	8.31	0.36	0.13
72	2.64	2.36	2.24	0.28	0.12

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Flint

By Barry Bishop with Rob Atkins

Introduction and methodology

B.1.1 A collection of 38 worked flints were hand collected during the evaluation (Table 3). The flint assemblage was laid out and the assemblage identified by context by Barry with notes taken by Rob Atkins.

B.1.2 The location of the flint recovered was plotted. They derived from features within the south-eastern corner of Field 1 (Trenches 24, 25 and 26), Field 2 (Trenches 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 16) and a single flint flake from Field 3 (Trench 37).

Cont & Cut	Trench	Phase	Number and wt (g)	Comments
2 (**8**)	12		2 (18g)	Flakes (?Bronze Age)
4 (**8**)	12		2 (16g)	Short end scraper and flake (?Early Bronze Age)
41 (**41**)	3		1 (16g)	Flake
44 (**42**)	37		1 (2g)	Flake
61 (**60**)	16		4 (8g)	Flakes
65 (**64**)	16		1 (8g)	Flake
69 (**68**)	16		1 (2g)	Flake
72 (**70**)	24		1 (2g)	Flake
73 (**70**)	24		1 (35g)	Core which has been minimally worked
74 (**70**)	24		1 (11g)	Flake
76 (**71**)	24		1 (7g)	Flake
77 (**71**)	24		1 (45g)	Core
79 (**71**)	24		1 (2g)	Flake
106 (**105**)	14		2 (10g)	Flakes
110 (**105**)	14		1 (36g)	Centripetal core (?Bronze Age)
120 (**118**)	14		5 (23g)	Flakes (not closely dated)
171 (**172**)	25		3 (6g)	leaf shaped arrowhead (broken) (Early Neolithic); 2 flakes
184 (**183**)	8		1 (4g	Flake (?Bronze Age)
405 (**403**)	25		1 (20g)	Centripetal core (?Bronze Age)
422 (**420**)	5		1 (2g)	Flake
474 (**473**)	7		1 (3g)	Blade (Mesolithic/Early Neolithic)
528 (**527**)	8		1 (9g)	Flake
535 (**531**)	9		1 (19g)	Centripetal core (?Bronze Age)

553 (**552**)	26		1 (18g)	Centripetal core (?Bronze Age)
605 (**607**)	11		2 (3g)	Flakes
Total			**38 (325g)**	

Table 3 Lithics

Conclusions and significance

B.1.3 The flint work is multi-period starting in the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic and continuing to the late prehistoric but the former comprises only a few of the flints including a well worked Early Neolithic leaf shaped arrowhead. Most of the assemblage comprised crude flakes but also included simply worked cores. These flint types are typical of a late prehistoric (Middle Bronze Age and after) assemblage.

B.1.4 The majority of the flints are likely to be contemporary with the prehistoric settlement(s) uncovered in the evaluation. Later prehistoric flint work is poorly understood. The Chatteris assemblage is therefore quite important as it seems to be a well dated assemblage.

B.2 Metal objects

By Steve Critchley

Introduction and methodology

B.2.1 A total of six metal objects was uncovered by metal detecting at Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris. There were three copper alloy and three lead objects dating from the Roman and post-medieval periods.

Results

B.2.2 The three copper-alloy objects comprised:

SF1 Trench 12 furrow. Either part of a jetton or a sheet fragment (1g). Extremely poor condition.

SF 2 Trench 14 (135) layer. Crotal bell, 17th century, one piece casting in a bell metal type alloy (68g). Early type with a 'sunburst' pattern.

SF 9 Trench 38 (613) Ditch **615**. 3rd/4th century illegible Nummus (<1g)

B.2.3 The three lead objects comprised:

SF 4 Trench 21 Lead weight (13g) ?Sub rounded 20mm by 18mm and c.5mm thick

SF 5 Trench 31 Lead weight or possibly a spindle whorl (139g). Round 25mm diameter and 25mm thick with internal 7mm diameter hole. Post-medieval

SF 6 Trench 44 furrow. Possible net weight comprised a rolled 15mm wide strip. This could have been used for the base of fishing nets or catching small birds or small animals.

Discussion

B.2.4 The evaluation produced only a few metal objects but as only a small percentage of the total site was examined, any extrapolation using this data needs to be taken with caution. Tentatively it is worth asking whether the paucity of metal objects recovered

from the area of the Iron Age and Roman settlements may relate to their relative low level status. The few post-medieval objects could be due to the site being a long way from the medieval and post-medieval settlement.

B.2.5 The copper alloy coin and possible jetton have not survived in good condition and this is due to the soil conditions. It is likely that at excavation stage any copper-alloy objects recovered will need to be conserved and cleaned for stabilisation and identification.

Statement of Research Potential

B.2.6 The site has produced a few metal objects (albeit the copper alloy objects are in poor condition). The evaluation has shown that it is unlikely the excavation will produce a large quantity of metal objects but it is important to note that the projected relative scarcity of these would be a significant indicator to gauge such aspects as the sites' status. In excavations the vast majority of metal objects are normally uncovered during the actual machining and it is therefore extremely important that if the site is subsequently excavated, the topsoil and subsoil should both be thoroughly metal detected.

B.2.7 None of the six metal objects uncovered in the evaluation are of great importance in their own right. The only object which may be worth illustrating is the scarce early crotal bell.

B.3 Metalworking

By Peter Boardman

Introduction and methodology

B.3.1 The total of 0.795kg of industrial residues was recovered from the hand digging of evaluation trenches at Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris (Table 4). The residues recovered via hand excavation were limited to features within the Middle Bronze Age and Middle and Late Iron Age settlement located within Trenches 5 and 7. Bulk samples were also taken from features across the site although metalworking residues were found in one sample (64) from Trench 7 (Table 5)

Results

Cxt No.	Cut No.	Sample No.	Material	Description	Interpretation	Weight (Kg)	Feature Type	Date	Trench No.
421	420	-	Vitrified clay	1 small fragment of semi-vitrified clay	Fragment of hearth lining	0.01	ditch	Mid I.A.	5
422	420	-	Roasted Iron ore	Crushed and roasted ore fragments	Pre-extraction treated ore	0.06	ditch	Mid I.A	5
543	537	-	Iron slag	1 homogeneous flat lump of slag with concretions	Slag lump from indeterminate process	0.131	ditch	Mid BA	7
545	544	64	Vitrified clay	Fragments of orange clay, vitrified and	Fragments of hearth lining.	0.525	ditch	Mid I.A.	7

Cxt No.	Cut No.	Sample No.	Material	Description	Interpretation	Weight (Kg)	Feature Type	Date	Trench No.
				glassy on one side					
545	544	64	Heavily vitrified clay	Small fragments of clay, almost 100% vitrified	Fragments of hearth lining.	0.064	ditch	Mid I.A.	7
545	544	64	CuA	Copper alloy droplet (Small find no.3)	Wastage from copper object production	0.005	ditch	Mid I.A.	7

Table 4 *Slag found in hand-excavation*

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Material	Description	Interpretation	Weight (Kg)	Feature Type	Date	Trench No.
64	545	544	slag	Fragmented pieces of smooth but roughly shaped slag	Slag from indeterminate metalworking process		ditch	Mid I.A	7
64	545	544	Vitrified clay	3 small fragments of heavily vitrified clay with some rounded form	Fragments of crucible		ditch	Mid I.A.	7

Table 5 *Industrial residues recovered from samples*

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Total weight (kg)	Spheroids	Flakes	Hammerslag
64	545	544		++	++	+++

Table 6 *Hammerscale recovered from samples*

Key: + = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Discussion

B.3.2 The material recovered from Trench 5 came from ditch **420** which probably dates to the Middle Iron Age. The material from ditch **420** consisted of one small fragment of semi-vitrified clay (from fill 421) and a fragmented piece of heavily roasted iron ore (from fill 422). The piece of vitrified clay is small and its presence can be explained as contamination between features and cannot be used to identify any specific metal working process close by. The presence of the roasted ore in fill 422 could be contamination, but it could also be an indicator of an iron smelting site process present near by. However, one piece of roasted ore is not enough evidence to suggest this, so an interpretation of the ore being contamination from elsewhere and incidental is perhaps appropriate at this stage.

B.3.3 The material recovered from Trench 7 was limited to ditches **544** (fill 545) and **537** (fill 543). The one piece of ferrous slag recovered from ditch **537** (fill 543) is flat and dense with oxide and clay concretions. It cannot be used to determine the process of its production, whether smelting of smithing. If an estimation had to be made then, due to its dense nature and the level of concretion, an interpretation that it was from the smithing process could be suggested.

B.3.4 The material recovered was mostly in the form of fired clay in varying levels of vitrification. One small copper alloy (Cua) droplet (SF. 3) was also recovered. No true slag lumps, such as that recovered from **537** were found. The vitrified clay can be interpreted as hearth lining, probably from the smithing furnace. The moderate to abundant levels of all types of hammerscale (Table 6) present within sample 64, taken from fill 545 are indicative of the smithing process and are above the expected level of 'background' hammerscale that should be expected on most sites of this multi-phase occupation. Also recovered from sample 64 were three fragments of heavily vitrified clay, with some evidence of a rounded form (Table 5). These appear to be the remains of a crucible, used for the casting of molten metals. As there are no rim sherds it is not possible to indicate size of crucible, but with the presence of SF. 3 it could be assumed that the crucible may have been used to cast small copper alloy objects. Several small pieces of slag-like material were also recovered from sample 64. These not only have a ferrous content but have some vitrification adhered to them, suggesting that they are from a smithing furnace and not from a smelt. The evidence from the ditch **544** points heavily to there being small scale copper and iron working present on site.

B.3.5 The evidence recovered during the evaluation would support an interpretation of low level metalworking on the site. This does not extend to say that smelting of raw material was being carried out here, but only smithing. The smithing is on a scale that could support a small settlement, but produce items for external trade. Evidence of small scale partially open/semi-enclosed settlement was also found on the site. The evidence for metal working on this site appears to be limited to the features of Middle Iron Age date, suggesting that the occurrence of metalworking did not continue through into the Later Iron Age or Roman periods.

Statement of Research Potential

B.3.6 This small assemblage of metalworking debris is limited due to the nature archaeological evaluation. Despite this, a cross section of several aspects of metal working was uncovered ranging from iron ore, to a crucible, hearth material and a copper alloy drip - all from one settlement area. Middle Iron Age metalworking evidence is relatively uncommon and as such these remains are of interest.

Further Work and Methods Statement

B.3.7 No further work is required at this stage. If further excavation is planned, detailed sampling should be undertaken. Recovery of any iron ore would be of great interest. Care should be taken to identify any features that may relate to small scale iron working.

B.3.8 The metalworking objects/residues from the evaluation should be integrated with artefacts/residues from any excavation.

B.4 Prehistoric pottery

By Sarah Percival

Introduction and methodology

B.4.1 A total of 380 sherds weighing 3,032g was collected from 42 excavated contexts across thirteen evaluation trenches. A range of periods are represented within the assemblage; the majority of the sherds are Middle Bronze Age. The earliest are Early Bronze Age and the latest later Iron Age (Table 7). Four sherds, 2g, are prehistoric but are too small to be identified to type. The sherds are mostly small and highly abraded with the exception of several bases which are largely complete, though these too are fragmentary and show a high degree of abrasion.

Spot Date	Quantity	% quantity	Weight (g)	% weight	Number of vessels
Early Bronze Age	18	4.74%	55	1.81%	
Middle Bronze Age	272	71.58%	2603	85.85%	10
Iron Age	80	21.05%	334	11.02%	4
Later Iron Age	6	1.58%	38	1.25%	2
Not closely datable (prehistoric)	4	1.05%	2	0.07%	
Total	380	100.00%	3032	100.00%	16

Table 7 *Quantity and weight of prehistoric pottery by period*

Methodology

B.4.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1992; 1997, revised 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion present (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was recorded; R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are currently curated by OAE.

Early Bronze Age

B.4.3 Early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from Trenches 3, 7 and 25. The largest single assemblage comprised sixteen body sherds weighing 48g recovered from the fill of natural hollow (**41**) in Tr. 3. Single body sherds were also found in ditch fills in Tr. 7 and Tr. 25. All are made of soft, grog-tempered fabric and all are undecorated. The sherds from the natural hollow have a smoothed, wet-hand-wiped surface typical of Biconical or other urns found at Fen edge sites (Healy 1995). It is likely that the assemblage results from intermittent settlement activity at the site and forms part of a large group of 'indeterminate, amorphous plain wares' prevalent in the Fen edge region in the Early Bronze Age (Healy 1995, 180).

Middle Bronze Age

B.4.4 A total of 272 sherds weighing 2,603g were identified as being Middle Bronze Age based principally on the presence of characteristic fabric and tub-shaped vessel form. Middle Bronze Age sherds were recovered from 28 features across twelve trenches with notable concentrations being found in a possible enclosure ditch in Tr. 7, waterhole (**70**) and palaeochannel (**71**) in Tr. 24 and post hole structure (**459**) and other features in Tr. 25.

Fabric

B.4.5 A range of fabrics were identified in three fabrics groups. Fabrics with quartz sand temper predominate with sandy sherds representing 42% of the total Middle Bronze Age assemblages (1096g). The remainder of the sherds have either flint or shell as the dominant inclusion or contain a combination of two or all three of these main inclusion types (Tables 8 and 9).The fabrics are hard fired and dense and many sherds have large flints protruding from the surface. The flint inclusions have a characteristic rounded, crackled appearance; the result of being heated and then rapidly cooled by immersion in cold water. The even size of the flint inclusions in some sherds suggests that they may have been sieved before being added as an opener to the clay.

B.4.6 The range of fabrics identified compares well with the large contemporary assemblage from Grimes Graves in which the main deliberate inclusions were flint and shell, though here grog-tempered sherds were also found (Ellison 1988).

Fabric group	Fabric	Description	Quantity	% quantity	Weight (g)	% weight
Flint	F1	Common sub-rounded calcined flint	41	15.07	310	11.91
	F2	Moderate sub-rounded calcined flint	59	21.69	371	14.25
	FS	Moderate sub-rounded calcined flint; sparse fossil shell	14	5.15	310	11.91
Total			114	41.91	991	38.07
Quartz sand	Q1	Dense, common quartz sand	30	11.03	166	6.38
	Q2	Common to moderate quartz sand	12	4.41	388	14.91
	QS	Dense, common quartz sand; sparse fossil shell	32	11.76	205	7.88
	QSF	Dense, common quartz sand; sparse fossil shell; moderate sub-rounded calcined flint	15	5.51	337	12.95
Total			89	32.72	1096	42.11
Shell	S1	Common large fossil shell	15	5.51	64	2.46
	S2	Moderate medium to small fossil shell	54	19.85	452	17.36
Total			69	25.37	516	19.82
Grand Total			**272**	**100.00**	**2603**	**100.00**

Table 8 *Quantity and weight of MBA pottery by fabric*

Form

B.4.7 Rims from ten Middle Bronze Age vessels were recovered. Six are tub-shaped jars, very similar to examples from the large Deverel Rimbury assemblage from Grimes Graves (Ellison 1988). One such vessel has a flattened rim with a row of impressed dots below (Fig.# P1). The impressions were made pre-firing but do not pierce the body of the vessel (Ellison 1988, fig.34, 279 – 281). The remaining tubs are undecorated with rounded, in-turned rims which again find parallel within the Grimes Graves assemblage (Ellison 1988, fig.23, 30 – 32; Fig.#. P4). One example is a miniature vessel, a thumb-pot c.48mm high, with a diameter at the rim of 50mm and at the base of 40mm (Fig.#.P3). Ellison notes that cups form an important element of the Grimes Graves

assemblage however no vessels of this extremely small size were found there (1988, fig. 17). Of the remaining vessels two have everted rims (Fig.#. P2), one decorated with slashes to the rim top (Fig.# P5; Ellison 1988, fig.28, 164) and the last has a T shaped rim with fingertip-impressed decoration to the rim top and incised scoring to the body (Fig.#. P6; Ellison 1988, fig.28, 154, fig.38, 409). Bases are simple with 90° base angles (Ellison 1988, fig.42, 562) or are slightly pinched out (Ellison 1988, fig.41, 528).

Discussion

B.4.8 The Deverel Rimbury pottery is extremely similar to the large assemblage from Grimes Graves (Longworth *et al.* 1988). Other contemporary finds from the region include Ardleigh Ring III, Essex (Brown 1999) and an unpublished assemblage from Kirton Lodge Farm in the Deben estuary in Suffolk (Percival 2008). Thirteen radiocarbon determinations on samples associated with the pottery from Grimes Graves suggest that the Deverel Rimbury occupation there spanned the period from *c*.1375-845BC (Longworth 1988, 48). Dates from Ardleigh indicate that the largely undecorated vessels with expanded rims and rows of perforations found at Ring III and at other sites in northern Essex belong to the latest Deverel-Rimbury, the second half of the second millennium (Brown 1999, 78).

B.4.9 In common with the domestic assemblage from Grimes Graves the Tithe Barn Deverel Rimbury assemblage, though considerably smaller, demonstrates a range of vessel sizes and finishes, almost certainly designed to perform a variety of tasks (Ellison 1988, 49). Many of the sherds found at Tithe Barn have sooting or burnt food residue confirming that they were used for domestic purposes. Several authors have suggested that the rows of perforations below the rim of Deverel Rimbury vessels (P1) were designed to attach a lid, a characteristic perhaps associated with dairying (Brown 1999, 78).

Iron Age

B.4.10 The small Iron Age component comprises 80 sherds weighing 334g and includes rims from three vessels. The inconclusive character of the mid and later Iron Age pottery from the region has been noted for other contemporary assemblages from Chatteris as the largely undecorated slack shouldered jars have few characteristics which survive well in archaeological conditions (Hill 1995). The use of dense sandy fabrics and shell-tempered fabrics which form the bulk of the Iron Age sherds found at the Tithe Barn site is common to several Iron Age assemblages from Chatteris (Hill 1995) and are also characteristic of other contemporary pottery from the region (Hill and Horne 2003, 168; Atkins and Mudd 2003, 23). The assemblage includes few diagnostic sherds with the exception of a decorated vessel with two shallow incised bands running around the neck (Fig.#. P7) which is similar to vessels found at Wardy Hill, Ely (Hill and Horne 2003, fig.78, 1) and three jars with simple upright rims (Hill and Horne 2003, fig.77, 1).

B.4.11 The sherds were recovered from ditch fills in Trenches 5 and 7 with the exception of one burnished jar rim which came from the fill of round house **845**. The sherds are likely to represent domestic debris from occupation at the site in the mid to later Iron Age, perhaps around the 4th/3rd centuries BC.

Later Iron Age

B.4.12 Later Iron Age sherds are principally defined by the use of fine grog-tempering. Grog was present in five of the six later Iron Age sherds identified. The remaining sherd has fine shell temper giving the fabric a soft soapy texture. The grog-tempered sherds

include two from a fine, cordoned jar and single sherds from a further two jars with rounded rims. The later Iron Age sherds were found in pit (**501**) Tr. 52 and ditch (**544**) in Trench 7.

Statement of Research Potential and Further Work

B.4.13 The prehistoric assemblage suggests significant occupation at the site during the Middle Bronze Age. Settlement evidence for this period is scarce within the region and has been highlighted as an area requiring further research in the regional research framework (Brown and Murphy 1997, 16; Brown and Murphy 2000, 12).

B.4.14 The presence of Deverel Rimbury pottery in some quantity within the evaluation trenches at Tithe Barn Farm suggests that full scale excavation would reveal a significant assemblage. Deverel Rimbury pottery, although acknowledged as the 'classic pottery of the Middle Bronze Age' (Brown and Murphy 1997, 16), is mostly poorly understood in the region with the notable exception being the Ardleigh Urns of Essex (Brown 1999). Work on the Ardleigh pottery has suggested that the style shows distinct regional variation (Brown 1995, 1999). Further archaeological investigation at Tithe Barn Farm would, therefore offer an opportunity to characterise Deverel Rimbury pottery within Cambridgeshire and to more fully understand regional and national affinities.

B.4.15 Several of the sherds within the Deverel Rimbury assemblage have sooting or burnt food residues adhering. These provide an opportunity for radiocarbon dating of the vessels. Absolute dates for Deverel Rimbury pottery are largely lacking within the region and any additional dates would provide a useful comparison to the series of dates obtained for the Ardleigh Group (Brown 1999) and for the Grimes Graves assemblage with which the pottery shares many stylistic characteristics (Longworth *et al* 1988). Seven pottery vessels are recommended for illustration.

context	DRAW	fab	F2	dsc	qty	wt	form	vess #	no of vess	surface	spot date	rim type
41		G1	G	U	16	48				WHW	EBA	
405		G1	G	U	1	4					EBA	
477		G1	G	U	1	3					EBA	
2		S1	S	U	7	10				W	MBA	
21		F1	F	U	1	10				W	MBA	
23		F1	F	U	3	7				W	MBA	
30		F1	F	U	9	44				W	MBA	
30		F1	F	D	3	30				W	MBA	
30		FS	F	U	6	59				W	MBA	
30	Y	FS	F	R	2	29	tub	1	1	W	MBA	simple flat
32		Q1	Q	U	3	17				S	MBA	
55		F1	F	U	1	1					MBA	
61		F1	F	U	5	9					MBA	
67		F1	F	U	2	8					MBA	
72	Y	F1	F	R	1	100	bowl	3	1	RW	MBA	everted
72		FS	F	R	1	26	closed	4	1	S	MBA	simple rounded
72		FS	F	R	1	10	closed	5	1	W	MBA	rounded
72		FS	F	U	3	18					MBA	
72	Y	Q2	Q	CP	6	27	thumb pot	2	1		MBA	

73		F2	F	B	1	54	tub	6		S	MBA	
73		F2	F	U	9	53	tub	6		S	MBA	
73	Y	F2	F	R	3	32	tub	6	1	S	MBA	simple rounded
73		FS	F	B	1	168					MBA	
73		S2	S	B	6	139					MBA	
75		F2	F	U	2	4				S	MBA	
76		F1	F	U	2	50				S	MBA	
77		F2	F	U	1	10					MBA	
77		S1	S	U	1	45					MBA	
77		S1	S	U	7	9					MBA	
79		QS	Q	U	1	6				S	MBA	
127		F2	F	U	3	4					MBA	
173		F2	F	U	16	39					MBA	
173		F2	F	B	1	25					MBA	
173		F2	F	R	3	23	tub	7	1	S	MBA	simple rounded
175		F2	F	U	2	5					MBA	
177		Q1	Q	U	1	11					MBA	
184		Q1	Q	U	17	43					MBA	
235	Y	Q1	Q	R	1	18	jar	8	1	S	MBA	everted
235		Q1	Q	U	6	71				S	MBA	
235		QS	S	U	12	38				S	MBA	
235		S2	S	U	5	48					MBA	
235		S2	S	B	1	9				S	MBA	
404		QS	Q	U	3	2				S	MBA	
405		F1	F	U	3	9					MBA	
405		Q1	Q	U	2	6				S	MBA	
413		F2	F	U	8	10					MBA	
422		F1	F	U	2	10					MBA	
454		F2	F	U	1	1					MBA	
460		F1	F	U	6	19					MBA	
478		QSF	Q	U	3	37				S	MBA	
478	Y	QSF	Q	R	1	17	jar	12	1		MBA	T shaped
484		F2	F	U	1	15				B	MBA	
511		F1	F	U	2	5					MBA	
534		S2	S	U	3	19					MBA	
541		Q2	Q	U	1	10				B	MBA	
541		QSF	Q	D	3	77					MBA	
542		F1	F	U	1	8					MBA	
542		Q2	Q	B	5	351					MBA	
542		QSF	Q	U	8	206					MBA	
542		S2	D	R	1	15	closed	14	1	S	MBA	simple rounded
543		S2	S	U	9	30					MBA	
543		S2	S	B	1	57					MBA	
545		F2	F	U	7	90				S	MBA	
545		F2	F	D	1	6					MBA	
545		QS	Q	U	16	159				S	MBA	
545		S2	S	U	28	135					MBA	
421		S1	S	U	1	1				S	Iron Age	
421		S2	S	U	2	1				S	Iron Age	
422		Q1	Q	U	11	31				S	Iron Age	

477		Q1	Q	U	13	47				S	Iron Age	
477		Q1	Q	B	1	25					Iron Age	
477	P7	Q1	Q	D	1	12		9	1		Iron Age	
477		QS	Q	R	1	4		10	1		Iron Age	simple rounded
477		QS	Q	R	1	1		11	1		Iron Age	simple rounded
477		S1	S	D	42	142					Iron Age	
478		Q1	Q	U	1	12				S	Iron Age	
478		QS	Q	U	1	5					Iron Age	
486		Q1	Q	R	4	21		13	1	B	Iron Age	rounded
540		S2	S	U	1	32					Iron Age	
504		GTW	G	D	3	9					LIA	
504		S1	S	B	1	17					LIA	
545		GTW	G	R	1	5		15	1		LIA	simple rounded
545		GTW	G	R	1	7		16	1		LIA	simple flat
132		S1	S	U	2	1					NCD	
456		Q1	Q	U	2	1					NCD	

Table 9 *Catalogue of prehistoric hand made pottery*

B.5 Latest Iron Age to modern pottery

By Alice Lyons

Summary

This is a small severely abraded assemblage of multi-period pottery, the majority of which dates from the Latest Iron Age and Early Roman periods. These wares are locally produced utilitarian coarse wares typical of low order pottery use at that time.

Introduction *(Tables 10 and 15)*

B.5.1 A total of 446 sherds weighing 4.586Kg (2.15 EVE) of multi-period pottery was recovered during this evaluation project. The majority of the assemblage consists of Latest Iron Age and Early Romano-British wares (*c*. 79%). The assemblage is significantly abraded, with an average sherd size of only *c*.10g.

ERA	**Sherd Count**	**Sherd Weight (g)**	**ASW (g)**	**EVE**	**Sherd Weight (%)**
Latest Iron Age/Early Romano-British	146	1642	11.25	0.38	35.79
Early Romano-British	225	1989	8.84	1.47	43.37
Romano-British	50	703	14.06	0.30	15.33
Saxon	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medieval	7	48	6.86	0.00	1.05
Post-medieval to Early Modern	18	204	0.06	0.00	4.45
Total	**446**	**4586**	**10.28**	**2.15**	**100.00**

Table 10 *The Latest Iron Age to modern pottery assemblage, listed in chronological order*

Methodology

B.5.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Webster 1976; Darling 1994; Willis 2004). The total assemblage was studied and a catalogue prepared.

B.5.3 The sherds were examined using a hand lens (x20 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted.

Structure of Report

B.5.4 The pottery is described in chronological order:

Latest Iron Age to Early Roman

B.5.5 A total of 146 sherds, weighing 1642g of pottery transitional between the Latest Iron Age and Early Roman periods were recovered during this evaluation (Table 11).

Fabric Family	Sherd Count	Sherd Weight (g)	EVE	ASW	Sherd Weight (%)
Sandy Reduced Ware	60	786	0.15	13.36	47.87
Grey Ware	79	805	0.13	10.19	49.03
Shell Tempered Ware	7	51	0.10	7.29	3.10
Total	**146**	**1642**	**0.38**	**11.25**	**100.00**

Table 11 *Latest Iron Age pottery, listed in descending order (by weight) of fabric family*

B.5.6 Pottery assigned to the transitional periods between the Latest Iron Age and Early Roman eras (late 1st century BC-AD mid 1st century) constitutes a minimum of 37 vessels recovered from 24 contexts within pits and ditches from Trenches 5, 7, 8, 12, 16, 24, 29, and 38. It was notable that the majority of this period group comes from a single pit **105** in Trench 14, the roundhouse (or roundhouses: **42**, **49**, **87**, **89**, **91**, and **93**) in Trench 37 and ditches (**238**, **529** and **531**) in Trench 9. Otherwise most features produced only limited quantities of small and abraded material with an average sherd weight (ASW) of *c*. 11g.

B.5.7 At this time nearly all of the vessels are constructed using handmade technology (although wheel made vessels are present in the assemblage) and form a limited repertoire of wide mouthed jars with 'S' –shaped rims (Hill with Horne 2003, 157, nos 5 and 7), thick-walled undiagnostic storage jars and one example of a finer jar or beaker possibly copying the Gaulish Butt beaker form (Thompson 1982, 507-530). A small number of jar/bowl shell tempered vessels were also in use at this time. Most of the vessels were made in a dark sandy reduced fabric, but as Roman influence became stronger grey vessels became more popular. Both the sandy reduced fabrics and the grey wares are commonly tempered with grog (fragments of pre-fired pottery). All of these vessels were produced using clays that were available in the locality, probably from a variety of sources, and could have been produced by the Chatteris inhabitants or neighbouring settlements.

Early Roman *(Table 12)*

B.5.8 A total of 225 sherds, weighing 1989g of Early Roman (mid 1st century to early–mid 2nd century AD) pottery were recovered during this excavation. This assemblage constitutes a minimum of 70 vessels, recovered from 22 contexts within pits, ditches, a round-house and a possible SFB. Material was recovered from Trenches 5, 7, 11, 14, 25, 26 and 29, although most of the early Romano-British assemblage was found in Trenches 37 and 38. Pottery continues to be severely abraded with an ASW of only *c*. 9g.

B.5.9 At this time, however, not only was more pottery available to the Chatteris community generally, but a wider range of fabrics and forms were in use. Although (similarly to the previous phase) Sandy reduced wares are still the most abundant fabric and are present in a similar range of jar/bowl and storage jar forms, although now these vessels are largely wheel made and a dish/platter form is also in use.

Fabric Family	Sherd Count	Sherd Weight (g)	EVE	ASW	Sherd Weight (%)
Sandy reduced ware	105	890	0.57	7.70	44.75
Sandy grey ware (proto)	76	660	0.78	8.68	33.19
Shell tempered ware	18	277	7	15.39	13.93
Samian	7	56	0.05	8.00	2.82
Sandy white ware	13	43		3.31	2.16
Sandy coarse ware	2	39		19.50	1.96
Amphora	1	14		14.00	0.70
Grey ware (fine)	2	7		3.50	0.35
Red Ware	1	3		3.00	0.14
Total	**225**	**1989**	**1.47**	**8.48**	**100.00**

Table 12 *Early Romano-British pottery, listed in descending order (by weight) of fabric family*

B.5.10 Wheel-made pre-industrial grey wares (or proto grey wares) are the second most frequently found fabric in Early Roman deposits. These are found in a limited range of rolled rim jar/bowl forms, although one reeded-rim carinated bowl (Hull 1963, fig. 103, 248) was also recorded. Shell tempered wares are also well represented, although in a very limited range of undiagnostic jar/bowl and storage jar forms.

B.5.11 Where this pattern of pottery manufacture and use changes significantly from the latest Iron Age is the presence of supplementary fabrics. Glossy red Samian tablewares imported from Central Gaul (Tyers 1996, 105-111) are available for the first time and a shallow bowl (Dr31R) was identified. A single sherd of (soft orange) amphora which maybe an olive oil amphora from Southern Spain (Tyers 1996, p.88) was also found. In addition to this imported material finer grey, red and wares are found in small quantities which may also be non-local products.

B.5.12 The Early Roman pottery assemblage reflects a society in which lifestyles were gradually evolving; and how ceramic vessels were made, acquired and used also changed.

Romano-British *(Table 13)*

B.5.13 A total of 50 sherds, weighing 703g of Romano-British (mid 2nd to 4th centuries AD) pottery were recovered during this evaluation. This is a small assemblage that represents a minimum of 19 vessels. The pottery had been recovered from 7 individual ditch and pit contexts in Trenches 11, 12, 25, 37, although most pottery was retrieved from the provisional SFB (**552**) in Trench 26 and a ditch (**240**) in Trench 38. The pottery is slightly less fragmentary than in previous ceramic eras, with an ASW of *c*. 14g. This large average sherd size may be due to the higher firing temperatures involved in making this pottery which made it more durable and less likely to decay due to post-depositional processes.

B.5.14 At this time the Sandy reduced wares that formed the largest component of the Latest Iron Age and Early Roman ceramic assemblages have totally fallen from use. They have been replaced by wheel-made mass produced (unsourced) sandy grey wares present in this small group as undiagnostic jar/bowl sherds.

B.5.15 Products from the industrial Nene Valley industry (Perrin 1999), located *c*. 15km to the north-east of Chatteris, are also well represented. It is worthy of note that all these wares are from the same context (613) which is a ditch (**615**) excavated in Trench 38. They constitute chunky Late Roman dish and flanged dish sherds. Also two mortaria (Roman mixing bowls; Tyers 1996 117-134) one of which was colour-coated (although most of this slip had been completely worn away) and one of which was a plain (self-coloured) white ware.

B.5.16 Very small quantities (single sherds only) of imported samian and amphora sherds were recorded (too fragmentary to assign to source) which may reflect the Late Roman character of the majority of the Romano-British pottery assemblage. Both samian and amphora were generally not imported into this country after the mid 3rd century AD (Tyers 1996 171-172).

B.5.17 Sandy oxidized wares were also found in small, but potentially significant, quantities. The fragments of jar/bowl and jar/flaggon vessels were recorded as was an undiagnostic mortaria sherd. Where these vessels were manufactured is not certain but Verulamium (Tyers 1996, 132-134 and 199-201) and Nene Valley (Tyers 1996 127-129; Tomber and Dore 1998 119) sources cannot be discounted.

B.5.18 Undiagnostic shell tempered, red and coarse wares are also found in very small quantities.

Fabric Family	**Sherd Count**	**Sherd Weight (g)**	**EVE**	**ASW**	**Sherd Weight (%)**
Sandy grey ware	25	249	0.07	9.96	35.42
Nene Valley colour coat	7	204	0.08	29.14	29.02
Nene Valley oxidised ware	1	64	0.00	64.00	9.10
Sandy oxidized ware	7	55	0.00	7.86	7.82
Red Ware	1	45	0.00	45.00	6.40
Amphora	1	33	0.00	33.00	4.69
Shell tempered ware	3	27	0.06	9.00	3.84
Sandy Coarse Ware	4	25	0.00	6.25	3.55
Samian	1	1	0.00	1.00	0.14
Total	**50**	**703**	**0.21**	**14.06**	**100.00**

Table 13 *Romano-British pottery, listed in descending order (by weight) of fabric family*

Saxon

B.5.19 No Saxon pottery was recovered during this evaluation.

Medieval

B.5.20 A total of seven sherds, weighing 48g, of medieval pottery were recovered during this evaluation. Four of these fragments (20g) were undiagnostic sandy grey ware sherds of Grimston ware-type (Laing 2003, 97), three of which were decorated with a green glaze, dated between 13th to 15th centuries. The remaining three sherds (28g) were a sandy oxidized fabrics also decorated with a green glaze, probably imported from Surrey during the 15th or 16th century.

Post-Medieval and Early Modern

B.5.21 A total of 18 sherds, weighing 204g of post-medieval and early modern pottery were recovered during this evaluation. The majority of the post-medieval pottery consists of glazed red earthen wares (10 sherds, weighing 56g), mostly open plate forms. A single slip ware (3g) plate sherd was identified; also two small stoneware flask fragments (8g) (Laing 2003). The remainder of the assemblage (5 sherds, weighing 137g) consists of Stafford white ware transfer printed wares, dated between the mid 18th and early 20th centuries (Laing 2003, 125).

B.5.22 All of these fabrics and forms are typical of pottery found in this region at this time.

Conclusion

B.5.23 This is a multi-period assemblage within which the majority of the pottery can be dated to the Latest Iron Age and the Early Roman eras. Unfortunately the preservation of the pottery on this site is poor which is part due to how the pottery arrived in the ground (as rubbish) and what has happened to it in the last 2000 years where it has been repeatedly ploughed and/or damaged by water. As a result of these processes few diagnostic vessel fragments remain and all of the assemblage is severely abraded.

B.5.24 The surviving ceramic material does show, however, that during the Latest Iron Age and Early Roman eras there was a small settlement at Chatteris which was using locally produced utilitarian jar/bowl and storage jar ceramic wares for cooking and small scale storage of dry goods, although the scarcity of soot may suggest that they these vessels were also being used as table wares. This is a pattern of manufacture and use that is typical of domestic low order pottery use in the region (Percival 2007, 56). Indeed it can be seen that many of the fabrics and forms are paralleled at several sites in the locality including the Hurst Lane Reservoir Site (Percival 2007, 52-57 and Lucas *et al* 2007, 56-62) and the nearby contemporary hilltop settlement at Wardy Hill (Hill with Horne 2003, 166-182), although without the high status aspect present at that settlement.

B.5.25 It is significant that this assemblage follows on without an apparent chronological break from the earlier Iron Age material also found during this excavation (Percival elsewhere in this report).

B.5.26 The ceramic repertoire expanded as the Romano-British progressed; with the introduction of more widely traded and imported ceramic goods. Notably the introduction of tablewares (such as samian bowls) as pottery became more widely used in the domestic setting and mortaria as new Roman vessel types were incorporated into everyday life.

B.5.27 One notable atypical aspect of this assemblage is the absence of diagnostic Horningsea material (commonly found as distinctive large storage jars). This absence is

worthy of note as this large industry, located only *c*. 15km to the south-east of Chatteris, exported wares around the Fen-basin during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD (Evans 1991) and are commonly seen elsewhere in the vicinity such as at Prickwillow Road, Ely (Atkins and Mudd 2003). This absence may indicate that the settlement at Chatteris was not particularly active during this mid Roman period. Late Romano-British Nene Valley wares were found however, which form a ceramic marker for the end point of this particular farmstead as no Early Saxon pottery was found.

B.5.28 The medieval, post-medieval and early modern wares are typical of fragmentary ceramics that found their way into the field as part of the rubbish and manuring process on agricultural land.

The Pottery Catalogue (with key) in context order

Key	
AMPH	Amphora
ASW	Average sherd weight
B&W	Blue and White transfer printed ware
BSRW	Black surface red ware
C	Century
CALC	Calciferous
CG	Central Gaulish
E	Early
EMOD	Early Modern
ERB	Early Romano-British
EVE	Estimated Vessel Equivalent
FLAG	Flagon
HM	Handmade
L	Late
LATEST IA	Latest Iron Age
LATEST IA/ERB	Latest Iron Age/Early Romano-British
LIA	Late Iron Age
MED	Medieval
MORT	Mortarium
NVCC	Nene Valley colour coat
OX	Oxidised
PMED	Post-medieval
RB	Romano-British
SAM	Samian
SCW	Sandy coarse ware
SGW	Sandy grey ware
SOW	Sandy oxidized ware
SRW	Sandy reduced ware
STAFF	Staffordshire
STW	Shell tempered ware
WM	Wheelmade
WW	White Ware

Table 14 *The Latest Iron Age to modern pottery catalogue (key)*

Cxt	Cut	Era	Fabric Family	Hand / wheel	Descript	Form	Sherd Count	Sherd Wt (g)	Abrasi on	Pot date
1	8	LATEST IA/ERB	STW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	3		C1BC-ADC1
11	12	RB	STW	WM	D	SJAR	2	17		C1-C4
11	12	RB	SGW	WM	U	JAR	2	5		LC2-EC4
13	14	PMED	SLIPWARE	WM	D	PLAT	1	3		C16-C18
13	14	PMED	STONEWARE	WM	D	JAR/BOWL	2	8		C16-C18
13	14	PMED	GRE	WM	D	PLAT	5	25		C16-C18
43	42	ERB	STW	WM	R	JAR	1	16	SEVERE	MC2-C4
43	42	ERB	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	3	16	SEVERE	MC1-C2

Cxt	Cut	Era	Fabric Family	Hand / wheel	Descript	Form	Sherd Count	Sherd Wt (g)	Abrasion	Pot date
44	42	ERB	AMPH	HM	U	AMPH	1	14	SEVERE	C2
44	42	ERB	SAM	WM	UB	BOWL	5	27	SLIGHT	C2
44	42	ERB	SRW	WM	RU	JAR/BOWL	5	24	SEVERE	MC1-C2
44	42	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	6	34	SEVERE	MC1-MC2
44	42	LATEST IA/ERB	STW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	19	SEVERE	C2-C1BC
46	45	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	R	JAR/BOWL	1	4	MODERATE	MC1-E/MC2
46	45	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	3	11	SEVERE	C1
50	49	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR	3	34	SEVERE	MC1-E/MC2
50	49	ERB	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	4	28	SEVERE	MC1-C2
50	49	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	U	SJAR	1	41	SEVERE	LC1BC-ADE/MC1
50	49	RB	SOW	WM	B	MORT	1	40	SEVERE	C2-C4
55	53	PMED	GRE	WM	LEAD GLAZE	BOWL	3	25		C16-C18
69	68	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	6		C1AD
73	70	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR	1	311		C1BC-ADE/MC1
85	84	ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	0	SEVERE	C1AD
86	84	ERB	SAM(CG)	WM	R	BOWL (DR31R)	1	29	SLIGHT	MC2-MC3
86	84	ERB	SAM(CG)	WM	U	BOWL (DR31R)	1		SLIGHT	MC2-MC3
86	84	ERB	SRW	SW/WM	UD	JAR/BOWL	2	36	SEVERE	MC1-E/MC2
86	84	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	RU	JAR/BOWL	6	50	SEVERE	MC1-C2
86	84	ERB	STW	HM	UB	JAR/BOWL	12	54	SEVERE	C1-C2
88	87	ERB	SCW	WM	U	SJAR	1	35	SEVERE	C1-E/MC2
88	87	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	4	20	SEVERE	C1-E/MC2
88	87	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	5	15	SLIGHT	MC1-MC2
88	87	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	WM	B	JAR/BOWL	1	25	SEVERE	E/MC1
90	89	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	U	SJAR	1	28	SEVERE	LC1BC-ADE/MC1
90	89	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	RU	JAR/BOWL	3	24	SEVERE	LC1BC-ADE/MC1
92	91	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	WM	RUD	BOWL/CUP	6	54	SEVERE	MC1(+/-)
92	91	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	UD	JAR/BOWL	29	423	SEVERE	ADC1
94	93	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	7	MODERATE	ADC1
104	103	LATEST IA/ERB	SGW(PROTO)	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	29		MC1(+/-)
106	105	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	D	JAR/BOWL	2	14		LC1BC-ADE/MC1
106	105	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	SJAR	3	8		ADC1
106	105	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	U	JAR/SJAR	5	9		C1-E/MC2
106	105	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	6	6		LC1BC-ADE/MC1
108	107	EMOD	STAFF WW	WM	D	JAR/VASE	2	41		C18-C19
108	107	MED	SGW(?GRIM)	WM	B	JAR/BOWL	1	13		C13-C15
110	105	ERB	SOW	WM	U	JAR/FLAG	2	3		MC1-C2

Cxt	Cut	Era	Fabric Family	Hand / wheel	Descript	Form	Sherd Count	Sherd Wt (g)	Abrasion	Pot date
110	105	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	SW/WM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	11		ADC1
120	118	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM/SW	RUB	JAR/BEAK(3.13)	27	110	SEVERE	E/MC1
155	156	MED	SOW	WM	GREEN GLAZE	JAR/BOWL	1	3		C15-C16
200	0	EMOD	STAFF WW	WM		MEAT PLATE	1	69		C18
201	202	EMOD	STAFF WW	WM		SOUP BOWL	1	26		C18/19
205	206	MED	WW	WM	BOWL		2	25	FRESH	C14-C16
223	224	MED	SGW(?GRIM)	WM	GREEN GLAZE	JAR/BOWL	1	3	SEVERE	C13-C15
225	226	EMOD	STAFF WW	WM	D	BOWL	1	1		C18-C19
227	228	PMED	GRE	WM	GREEN GLAZE	PLAT	1	5		C16-C18
237	238	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	D	SJAR	1	27		C1BC-ADE/MC1
237	238	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	6		LC1BC-ADC1
239	240	ERB	STW	HM	U	SJAR	1	116		C1-C2
239	240	ERB	SGW	WM	U	SJAR	1	45		M/LC1-C2
239	240	ERB	SGW	WM	R	JAR	1	17		M/LC1-C2
239	240	ERB	SGW	WM	R	BOWL	1	5		MC1-MC2
239	240	ERB	STW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	15		C1
239	240	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	RB	BOWL(REEDED RIM)	2	20		MC1-MC2
239	240	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	3	29		MC1-E/MC2
239	240	ERB	SRW	WM	UB	JAR/BOWL	4	50		MC1-E/MC2
239	240	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	4	14		MC1-E/MC2
239	240	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	12		C1BC
239	240	LATEST IA/ERB	STW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	4		C1-C2
239	240	RB	SAM	WM	R	CUP	1	1		MC1-MC3
239	240	RB	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	6		MC1-C4
239	240	RB	SCW	WM	B	JAR/BOWL	1	5		MC1-C2
242	241	ERB	SRW	WM	D	SJAR	1	47		C1-E/MC2
242	241	ERB	SCW	WM	U	JAR	1	4		MC1-C2
242	241	ERB	SOW	WM	U	JAR	1	1		MC1-C2
242	241	ERB	GW(FINE)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	7		MC1-E/MC2
242	241	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	4	16		MC1-E/MC2
242	241	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	RUB	JAR	4	28		MC1-MC2
242	241	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	5	7		MC1-E/MC2
243	244	ERB	GW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	8		C1-E/MC2
243	244	ERB	SGW	WM	RU	JAR	3	8		MC1-C2
243	244	ERB	GW	HM	RU	SJAR	3	19		C1-E/MC2
327	326	MED	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	1	AB	C13-C15
355	356	ERB	SRW	WM	R	SJAR	1	210	MODERATE	MC1-C2
355	356	ERB	SOW	WM	U	JAR/FLAG	2	15	SEVERE	MC1-MC2
355	356	ERB	SRW	WM	D	JAR	3	24	MODERATE	MC1-MC2

Cxt	Cut	Era	Fabric Family	Hand / wheel	Descript	Form	Sherd Count	Sherd Wt (g)	Abrasion	Pot date
355	356	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	RUD	JAR	5	39	MODERATE	MC1(+/-)
355	356	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	WM	UB	JAR	2	31	SEVERE	E/MC1
359	360	ERB	SRW	SW/WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	11	MODERATE	MC1-MC2
359	360	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	11	MODERATE	MC1-C2
359	360	ERB	SRW	WM	U	SJAR	2	33	MODERATE	MC1-C2
359	360	ERB	SRW	WM	R	DISH/PLAT	2	23	MODERATE	MC1-E/MC2
359	360	ERB	SRW	WM	UB	JAR	39	221	SEVERE	MC1(+/-)
359	360	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	D	SJAR	1	22	SEVERE	C1BC
402	401	MED	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	3	SEVERE	C13-C15
402	401	PMED	GRE	WM	R	BOWL	1	1		C16-C18
415	414	RB	SGW	WM	RU	JAR	3	5		MC1-C4
423	420	ERB	SOW	HM	U	SJAR	1	8		LC1BC-ADE/MC1
423	420	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	4	11		C1-E/MC2
423	420	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	HM	U	SJAR	2	1		LC1BC-ADE/MC1
423	420	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	DB	SJAR	2	105		LC1BC-ADE/MC1
428	427	ERB	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	23	SEVERE	MC1-E/MC2
428	427	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	1	SEVERE	C1
432	429	ERB	STW	HM	U	SJAR	2	76	SEVERE	C1-C2
434	433	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	RU	JAR/BOWL	4	8	SEVERE	LC1BC-ADE/MC1
468	467	ERB	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	4	SEVERE	C1-C4
478	475	ERB	SOW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	1	SEVERE	MC1-C2
478	475	ERB	SGW	WM	U	DISH/PLAT	1	1	SLIGHT	MC1-MC2
478	475	ERB	GW	WM	R	JAR/BOWL	1	22	MODERATE	MC1-E/MC2
478	475	ERB	GW	WM	R	JAR/BOWL	1	11	MODERATE	MC1-E/MC2
478	475	ERB	SGW	WM	U	DISH/PLAT	1	8	SLIGHT	M/LC1
478	475	ERB	SGW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	5	SLIGHT	MC1-C2
478	475	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	6	SEVERE	MC1-C2
478	475	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	1	SEVERE	MC1-E/MC2
478	475	ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	6	10	SEVERE	MC1-E/MC2
478	475	ERB	SRW	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	9	73	SEVERE	MC1-MC2
478	475	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	UD	JAR/BOWL	6	47	MODERATE	LC1BC-ADE/MC1
528	527	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	RU	JAR/BOWL	3	38		C1BC-ADE/MC1
530	529	LATEST IA/ERB	GW	WM	U	JAR	1	8		C1AD
530	529	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	R	BOWL	1	10		C1BC-ADE/MC1
530	529	LATEST IA/ERB	STW	HM	R	BOWL	1	9		C1BC-ADE/MC1
530	529	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	9	65		C1BC-ADE/MC1
530	529	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	23		C1BC-ADE/MC1
535	531	LATEST IA/ERB	STW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	2	7	MODERATE	C1

Cxt	Cut	Era	Fabric Family	Hand / wheel	Descript	Form	Sherd Count	Sherd Wt (g)	Abrasion	Pot date
535	531	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	WM	UB	JAR/BOWL	5	43	MODERATE	C1
535	531	LATEST IA/ERB	SRW	HM	UB	JAR/BOWL	8	39	MODERATE	C1
553	552	ERB	RED WARE	WM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	3	SEVERE	MC1-C2
553	552	ERB	SGW(PROTO)	WM	RU	JAR/BOWL	3	14	SEVERE	MC1-C2
553	552	ERB	SOW	WM	U	FLAG	6	15	SEVERE	MC1-C2
555	556	RB	STW	WM	R	JAR/BOWL	1	10	SEVERE	LC3-EC5
555	556	RB	SOW	WM	R	BOWL/DISH	1	5	SEVERE	C16-C18
555	556	RB	SOW	WM	UB	JAR/BOWL	2	2	SEVERE	C2-C4
555	556	RB	SCW	WM	RUB	JAR	3	20	SEVERE	C2-C4
555	556	RB	SOW	WM	UB	JAR/FLAG	3	8	SEVERE	C2-C3
555	556	RB	SGW	WM	RUB	JAR	13	158	MODERATE	C3-C4
601	604	ERB	SRW	WM	D	JAR/BOWL	1	10	MODERATE	MC1-E/MC2
602	604	RB	RED WARE	WM	B	BEAK	1	45	SEVERE	M/LC2-C4
613	615	RB	NVOW	WM	UB	MORT	1	64	SEVERE	C3-C4
613	615	RB	AMPH	HM	U	AMPH	1	33	SEVERE	C2-C3
613	615	RB	NVCC	WM	R	DISH	1	21	SEVERE	C3-C4
613	615	RB	NVCC	WM	RU	FBOWL	2	39	MODERATE	C3-C4
613	615	RB	NVCC	WM	UB	MORT	4	144	SEVERE	C3-C4
613	615	RB	SGW	WM	U	JAR	6	75	SEVERE	LC2-C4
616	617	ERB	SGW	WM	RU	JAR	3	34	SEVERE	MC1-MC2
618	620	ERB	SGW	WM	RD	SJAR	7	159	SEVERE	MC1-C2
618	620	LATEST IA/ERB	STW	HM	U	JAR/BOWL	1	9	SEVERE	C1BC-ADE/MC1

Table 15 *Catalogue of Latest Iron Age to modern pottery*

B.6 Fired clay and daub

By Rob Atkins

Introduction and methodology

B.6.1 A small collection of fired clay and daub (46 pieces weighing 624g) was found. This material was found in 14 separate contexts from various parts of the subject site and from a range of features which dated from the Bronze Age to a medieval/post-medieval furrow (Table 16). The material was assessed by eye.

Cxt (cut)	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Trench, feature and period
1 (**8**)	4	57	?	Tr. 12, water hole
48 (**47**)	1	4	?	Tr. 37, ditch
65 (**64**)	2	6	?	Tr. 16, ?pit
74 (**70**)	7	208	Some pieces have a smoothed faces including two which have a corner - possibly	Tr. 24, waterhole

Cxt (cut)	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Trench, feature and period
			from domestic or industrial oven/hearth?	
77 (**71**)	4	62	One with large wattle impression *c*.26mm diameter	Tr. 24, palaeochannel
88 (**87**)	1	23	??red sandy fabric...Roman tile?	Tr. 37, ditch
237 (**238**)	1	6	??	Tr. 9, ditch
355 (**356**)	9	81	All daub? Three have wattle impressions, one was *c*.10mm diameter whilst another was *c*.13mm diameter.	Tr. 38, pit
417 (**416**)	1	27	Smoothed side	Tr. 54, furrow
478 (**475**)	3	9		Tr. 7, ditch
534 (**531**)	1	14	Smoothed side	Tr. 9, ditch
543 (**537**)	7	98	Three have smoothed sides. One has wattle impression *c*.13mm diameter	Tr. 7, ditch
545 (**544**)	4	12	?	Tr. 7, ditch
613 (**615**)	1	17	?	Tr. 38, ditch
Total	**46**	**624**		

Table 16 *Fired clay and daub*

Discussion

B.6.2 There are several daub fragments with wattle impressions and several have smoothed faces. There is also some fired clay which could be remains from ovens or hearths. It is therefore likely the material could give insights to activities within the excavation area from all three main phases settlement periods (Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman).

Further Work and Methods Statement

B.6.3 The present small collection has shown that fired clay and daub analysis will help to understand occupation usage within the prehistoric and Roman settlements. A full fabric descriptions of the fired clay and daub should be undertaken if the site is excavated.

B.7 Brick and tile

By Rob Atkins

Introduction and methodology

B.7.1 Just five post-medieval brick fragments (1.089kg) and five tile fragments (71g) were recovered from seven relatively recent features in the subject site (Tables 17 and 18).

Context	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Feature and period
13 (**14**)	2	875	Two part bricks. One 4" wide and 2.5" thick (c.60mm). Both poorly mixed yellow/red clay. Late 18th-mid 19th century	Tr. 15, quarry pit
221 (**222**)	1	35	Red sandy. Post-medieval	Tr. 22, furrow
223 (**224**)	1	120	Red sandy	Tr. 21, furrow
332 (**333**)	1	59	Poorly sorted yellow/red clay. Post-medieval	Tr. 15, quarry pit
Total	**5**	**1089**		

Table 17 *Brick by context*

Context	No	Wt (g)	Comments	Feature and period
13 (**14**)	2	29	Orange sandy. Medieval or post-medieval	Tr. 15, quarry pit
151 (**152**)	1	4	Red sandy fabric. Post-med - modern	Tr. 23, pit
153 (**154**)	1	18	Red sandy. Pantile. 18th/19th century	Tr. 23, ditch
209 (**210**)	1	20	Orange sandy with small yellow clay inclusions. Medieval or post-medieval	Tr. 22, furrow
Total	**5**	**71**		

Table 18 *Ceramic roof tile by context*

Further works and methods statement

B.7.2 The brick and tile fragments are all relatively modern and are of little importance. No further work is required on these artefacts.

B.8 Clay pipe and glass

By Rob Atkins

Introduction and methodology

B.8.1 The glass from the site comprised two pieces of 18th/19th century green bottle glass (7g) and these came from context 55 (ditch **53**) Trench 17. A very small collection of ten clay pipe stem fragments (35g) from five separate contexts. Context 13 fill of quarry pit **14** (Trench 15) contained 1 stem fragment (1g); context 17 fill of quarry pit **18** (Trench 15), 3 fragments (6g); context 55 fill of ditch 53 (Trench 17), 4 pieces (12g); 157 fill of pit 158 (Trench 23), 1 piece (8g) and context 468 fill of furrow 468 (Trench 25), 1 stem fragment (8g).

Summary of potential and recommendations for further work

B.8.2 The clay pipe and glass collection are of marginal interest and have no further potential.

B.9 Stone object

By Rob Atkins

Introduction and methodology

B.9.1 A single worked stone object was recovered from the evaluation. It was part of a saddle quern (1.23kg) which was found in a Late Roman ditch (**615**) from Trench 38, within a Late Iron Age to Roman settlement. It is clearly residual as the quern would date to the prehistoric period. The saddle quern is a sandstone conglomerate which has been imported to the site. The worked surface survives between 5.5 and 7cm thick.

Summary of potential and recommendations for further work

B.9.2 The quern is of interest and should be included in any future excavation report for the site. It should be sent to a specialist for analysis to identify where the stone had been produced. It is probably not worth illustrating.

Appendix C. Environmental Reports

C.1 Human skeletal remains

By Zoë Uí Choileáin

Introduction

C.1.1 A single unurned cremation (context 28) was found in Trench 33 during the evaluation of the site of Tithe Barn Farm in Chatteris. This was the only cremation found on the site and preliminary dating, derived from a fragment of pottery found within the burial, places it in the Middle Iron age.

Methodology

C.1.2 On site the burial was half excavated as it was not initially evident that it was a cremation. As this was an evaluation the other half of the cremation was left *in situ* to be removed later if there is an excavation stage.

C.1.3 The cremation was excavated on site and wet sieved in the lab. The bone was then separated into four different fraction sizes using a 10mm 5mm and 2mm sieve. Bone from the >10mm, 5-10mm and 2-5mm fractions was separated and examined by the osteologist. Bone from the <2mm fraction was not examined due to its small size but the residue was retained for the permanent record.

C.1.4 Analysis of the bone was undertaken in accordance with the guidelines laid out by McKinley (2004). Animal bone was identified by macroscopic appearance where possible. All human bones identified were separated into the following four categories: upper limb, lower limb, axial and skull.

C.1.5 The potential for full analysis was assessed by following the guidelines laid out by McKinley (2004). The weight (in grams) of each fraction size was recorded and the total weight noted. Fragment size and colour were recorded based upon a macroscopic examination of the bones. The potential for full analysis has been noted referring to the level of information that may be gained from a full analysis of the deposit once the second half of the cremation has been excavated. A full analysis will examine evidence for particular funerary rites (for example whether there was any preference for retaining particular body parts for burial). It will also examine the nature of the deposit, that is whether it is redeposited pyre debris or a cremation, and will allow the biological parameters to be estimated; minimum number of individuals, age and sex). As this is only one cremation there is limited potential for evaluating any wider facts about the health and lifestyle of the population.

Results

Cont	Wt	colour	Degree of fragmentation	Deposit type/relationship of deposits	Comments and potential for full analysis
28	341g	mostly buff white some blue grey	Majority of bone is <5mm with a decreasing amount of fragments being >5 or >10mm	Bone from pit 29 taken as a sample on site	Adult, several large identifiable fragments, minimal potential for age/sex estimation. Potential for context as a whole moderate

Table 19 *Assessment of the cremated remains*

C.1.6 The cremated remains from this site represent a single individual. The weight of the bone is fairly large for only half a cremation suggesting high potential for estimating the fraction of the body collected for burial. The number of identifiable fragments gives some potential for estimating a minimum number of individuals and possible a preference to body parts collected but has only limited potential for estimation of sex or age the majority of the ageing material being the tooth roots present. At this stage it is suggested that the remains are adult. Further analysis of the bones may reveal evidence for pathology however potential is low.

Summary of potential and recommendations for further work

C.1.7 Overall deposit 28 is assessed as having moderate potential. It is recommended that this deposit undergo a full analysis in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Mckinley (2004). This analysis would include the identification of skeletal elements (where possible) to explore whether there had indeed been any selection process favouring certain body parts and a detailed analysis of the depositional context;any associated artefacts and burnt material. Comparison with other burials similar in weight and type could also be examined in order to explore burial practice demography and paleopathology.

C.2 Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

Introduction

C.2.1 Four hundred and forty-five fragments were recovered with 224 identifiable to species or as large/medium mammal fragments (50.3% of the total sample). This assessment concerns the hand collected assemblage (material from environmental samples is not included). Material was recovered from a variety of features including pits, ditches and post holes largely dating from the Middle Bronze Age to Late Iron Age/Romano British periods. The preservation of the assemblage is generally good, with no information regarding residuality or contamination being available to the author at this time. The hand collected animal bone is stored in 2 long bone boxes measuring 610 x 305 x 203mm. The bones are washed and bagged by context. The total weight of the hand-collected bone is 12kg.

Methodology

C.2.2 The entire assemblage was scanned initially by context, with all “countable” bones being recorded on a specially written MS Access database. The overall species distribution in terms of fragments (NISP) is shown in Table 20. The numbers of ageable mandibles and epiphyses, along with numbers of measurable and sexable bones are recorded in Tables 21 and 22. The counting system is based on a modified version of the system suggested by Davis (1992) and used by Albarella and Davis (1994). Completeness was assessed in terms of diagnostic zones (Dobney and Reilly 1988). Ageing was assessed via tooth wear (Grant 1982).

Assessment results

C.2.3 Cattle are the dominant taxon in the assemblage, both in terms of identifiable fragments but also ageable and sexable elements for both phases. Proportionally sheep/goat remains are slightly more prevalent in the Late Iron Age/Roman sample. No ageable

mandibles or sexable elements were recovered from any other taxon aside from cattle. Whilst some unfused epiphyses were observed there is no evidence of neonatal animals within the sample. Only one instance of horse (a fragmentary mandible) was observed in Middle Bronze Age fill (74) of water hole **71**. No instances of pathology were observed in the assemblage.

Statement of Potential/Recommendations

C.2.4 As a whole this is a small assemblage with some potential for further work, through analysis of body part distribution and ageing via epiphyseal fusion rates. A larger sample size would enable the faunal material to be put into a wider local context. Similar Roman assemblages within the immediate area include New Road (Thatcher 2008) along with numerous other examples further afield, especially further to the west (Davis 2001). Of more importance is the presence of Bronze Age features, the first such seen in the area. Its is recommended that this and any further material from excavation be recorded fully.

	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Horse	Large Mammal	Medium Mammal	Total
BA	29	9	3	1	15	4	60
LIA/ERB	59	11	1	0	24	5	100
Un-phased	19	0	0	0	0	0	20
Total:	107	20	4	1	39	9	180

Table 20 *Species distribution (NISP)*

	Ageable epiphyses	Ageable mandibles	Sexable bones	Measurable bones
Cattle	22	2	2	3
Sheep/Goat	11	0	0	1
Pig	1	0	0	0
Horse	1	0	0	1
Total:	**35**	**2**	**2**	**5**

Table 21 *Numbers of ageable,sexable and measurable bones for the Bronze Age sample*

	Ageable epiphyses	Ageable mandibles	Sexable bones	Measurable bones
Cattle	16	5	2	2
Sheep/Goat	5	0	0	1
Pig	0	0	0	0
Horse	0	0	0	0
Total:	**21**	**5**	**2**	**3**

Table 22 *Numbers of ageable, sexable and measurable bones for the LIA/ERB sample*

C.3 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction and Methods

C.3.1 Thirty-eight bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated areas in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations (Table 23).

C.3.2 Features sampled include ditches, pits and post holes dating from the Bronze Age to the Roman period and an Iron Age cremation deposit .The total volume of Sample 11, cremation deposit 28, pit **29** was processed for the recovery of cremated human skeletal remains and for the recovery of dating evidence. It must be noted that this sample represents only a proportion of the total volume of the cremation's deposit as this feature was half-excavated.

C.3.3 Twelve of the samples had a moderate clay content and were subjected to a pre-treatment using sodium carbonate. After a few days of soaking A single bucket (up to ten litres) of each of the samples was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The flot was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residue were allowed to air dry. The dried residue was passed through a 10mm sieve and the >10mm fraction was sorted and discarded. The <10mm fraction was scanned by eye and any artefacts present were noted. The residue of Sample 64 (fill 545 of ditch **544**) was sorted for metalworking residues which were retrieved and reintegrated with the hand excavated finds. The flot was examined under a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or other artefacts are noted on Table 23. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers *et al* 2006) and the authors' own reference collection.

Quantification

C.3.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens

C.3.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance

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

Results

C.3.6 A single piece of pottery was recovered from the cremation deposit and has been dated to the Early to Middle Iron Age. The cremated bone was sieved through 10mm, 5mm and 2mm sieves and the resulting fractions have been passed to an osteologist for processing and recording.

C.3.7 Flot volumes are generally small despite the majority of them containing numerous rootlets. Preservation is predominantly by carbonisation and is generally poor with the single exception of sample 72, fill 613 of Roman enclosure ditch **615**. Sample 72 contains a significant quantity of crop processing waste in the form of charred cereal

grains, chaff elements and weed seeds. The cereals have been identified as Spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) based on the characteristic morphology of the glume bases present. The accompanying charred weed seeds include stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), brome (*Bromus* sp.), grass seeds (Poaceae), rye-grass (*Lolium* sp) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). The calcified remains of seeds of duckweed (*Lemna* sp.) and oogonia of Charophytes (a type of green algae) were also recovered from this sample.

C.3.8 Sample 41, fill 526 of palaeochannel and sample 42, fill 504 of pit **501** from Trench 42 are preserved by waterlogging. Sample 42 contains waterlogged stems and roots along with numerous seeds of bramble (*Rubus* sp.) and occasional seeds of stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and sedges (*Carex* sp.). Sample 41 in contrast contains occasional bramble seeds along with waterlogged stems and roots.

C.3.9 Sample 16, fill 72 of waterhole **70** from Trench 24 is preserved by waterlogging and also contains carbonised plant remains in the form of charcoal. Occasional seeds of elderberry were noted amongst the waterlogged stems and roots.

C.3.10 Of the remaining samples, six samples contain charred cereal grains but in quantities of less than 5 grains. Charred weed seeds occur rarely and include seeds of cultivated/disturbed ground such as grass seeds (Poaceae), colver/medick (*Trifolium medicago* sp.), cleavers (*Gallium* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.), vetch (*Vicia* sp.) and burdock *(Arctium lappa).* Wetland seeds include charred nutlets and leaf fragments of saw sedge *(Cladium mariscus*).

C.3.11 A fragment of charred legume was identified in Sample 13, fill 34 of Iron Age pit **35** based on the characteristic internal structure.

C.3.12 The residue of cremation Sample 11 contained very little charcoal suggesting that the cremated bone had been picked out of the pyre and redeposited.

Discussion

C.3.13 Preservation of plant remains is generally sparse. In the majority of the flots the volume of charred remains is small with the bulk of the flot volume made up of rootlets. The presence of rootlets in many of the samples may have led to movement of environmental material from higher deposits and so the small quantities of charred plant remains may possibly be intrusive.

C.3.14 The sample with the greatest archaeobotanical potential is Sample 72 which contains evidence of the burning of crop processing waste. Spelt wheat is the most common hulled wheat variety in the Roman period (Grieg 1991). Hulled wheats require several stages of processing to release the grain from the tightly surrounding glume. Parching, pounding and sieving result in a characteristic assemblage of chaff, grain and weed seeds which preserve well when burnt either accidentally or deliberately as light fuel. The inclusion of the calcified remains of duckweed and charophytes could suggest that the ditch was seasonally wet or the remains could have become incorporated in the dumped deposit through the use of water collected elsewhere.

C.3.15 The accompanying weed seeds in the assemblage provide information on cultivation conditions and techniques are they are harvested along with the crops. The presence of stinking mayweed indicates the cultivation of heavy clay soils while brome and rye grass are likely to be tolerated crop contaminants as they would not greatly affect the quality of flour.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Function	Comments	Volume processed (L)	Preservation	Cereals	Chaff	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Snails from flot	Small Bones	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Residue Volume (ml)	Small animal bones	Large animal bones	Pottery	CBM	Slag	Magnetic residues	Burnt flint	Flint debitage
1	1	8	12	pit	water hole	Upper fill of ?MBA pit [8]. Maybe cess.	8	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	1600	0	#	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	8	12	pit	water hole	Burnt fill in?MBA pit [8].	6	Charred	0	0	0	#	0	0	++	+	1100	#	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
3	7	8	12	pit	water hole	Basal fill of ?MBA pit containing organic material - mainly roots.	4	Charred	0	0	0	#	+	0	+	+	400	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
4	65	64	16	pit		Fill of MBA pit/ Tree Bowl [64]	9	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	600	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
5	104	103	14	?pit		Fill of LIA/ER pit/treethrow. Lots of charcoal, very fragmentary bone found in it.	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+++	+++	800	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
6	161	163	25	ditch		Ditch terminus. Probably prehistoric. No finds. Charcoal flecking. Tr. 25. Dark rich fill	8	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	1200	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
7	166	167	25	post hole	structure	Fill of MBA post hole. Charcoal flecks. Probably prehistoric. Dark rich fill. Tr. 25.	5	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	1200	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
8	173	174	25	post hole	structure	Fill of MBA post hole. Charcoal flecks. Tr. 25. Dark rich fill	8	Charred	0	#	0	0	0	0	+++	+++	1000	0	0	##	0	0	#	#	0
9	177	178	25	pit		Fill of MBA pit . Charcoal flecks. Tr. 25. Dark rich fill.	8	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	1600	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	#
10	179	181	25	post hole		Fill of post hole. Undated. Charcoally fill. Tr. 25. Dark rich fill.	4	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	1000	0	0	#	0	0	##	0	0
11	28	29	33	cremation		Middle Iron Age cremation	15	Charred	#	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	30	31	33	pit		Small pit containing MBA pot	8	Charred	#	0	0	0	0	0	+++	+++	800	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
13	34	35	33	pit		Small pit	8	Charred	0	0	#	0	0	0	+	+	800	0	0	#	0	0	#	0	0
14	41	41	3	natural hollow		Fill of natural hollow? Containing EBA pottery and signs of burning.	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	600	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
15	94	93	37	ring ditch	round house	Fill of LIA/ERpossible ring gully. Some charred remains. Tr. 37	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	200	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
16	72	70	24	water hole		Organic fill of pit [70]. Contained waterlogged wood. MBA	8	Waterlo gged	0	0	0	#	0	0	+++	+++	600	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
17	92	91	37	post hole	?round house	LIA/ER pit fill charcoal flecked fill.	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	200	0	#	#	0	0	#	0	0
18	88	87	37	ditch		Early Roman ditch fill. Tr. 27.	9	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	500	#	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
19	86	84	37	pit		Mid Roman Charcoal flecked top fill of pit [84]. Tr. 37.	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Function	Comments	Volume processed (L)	Preservation	Cereals	Chaff	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Snails from flot	Small Bones	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Residue Volume (ml)	Small animal bones	Large animal bones	Pottery	CBM	Slag	Magnetic residues	Burnt flint	Flint debitage
20	44	42	37	ditch	boundary	Middle Roman. Charcoal rich burnt fill of ring gully terminus. Tr. 37.	8	Charred	0	0	0	#	0	0	++	++	200	#	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
21	409	408	25	post hole	structure	Undated post hole in BA area, (no finds yet), associated with 3 other post holes.	7	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	1800	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
22	415	414	25	post hole	structure	M BA. Fill contained daub/burnt clay, associated with 3 other post holes, one of which had daub and MBA pot.	6	Charred	#	0	0	#	0	0	+++	+++	600	0	##	0	0	0	#	0	0
23	421	420	5	ditch	enclosure	IA boundary ditch basal fill. Probably little change of enviro decent charcoal. Could use more finds.	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	###	0	++	++	800	0	0	#	0	0	0	0	0
24	422	420	5	ditch	enclosure	Same as <23>, but higher up the cut.	10	Charred	0	0	0	0	+	0	++	+	800	0	0	#	0	0	0	0	0
41	526	0	52	palaeo		Blue clay alluvial deposit of palaeochannel.	8	Charred	0	0	0	#	0	0	0	0	200	0	#	0	0	0	0	0	0
42	504	501	52	pit		Iron Age. Dark organic fill of pit - unknown use of pit.	8	Waterlo gged	0	0	0	##	0	0	0	0	2000	#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43	530	529	9	ditch		E. Roman. Dark charcoal fill of ditch [529]	8	Charred	#	0	0	#	0	0	+++	+	600	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	#
51	110	105	14	pit		Early Roman. Upper clay in pit, bone, pot and flint recovered from context	8	Charred	#	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	600	0	0	#	0	0	##	0	0
52	120	118	14	?water hole		LIA?ER Darker grey silty clay fill of pit [118].	10	Charred	#	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	800	#	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
53	554	556	26	hearth/oven	?building	?Saxon . ?SFB	10	Charred	0	0	0	##	0	0	+++	+++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
61	477	475	7	ditch		LIA/ER Charcoally fill of ditch.	8	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+++	++	800	#	0	#	#	0	#	0	0
62	478	475	7	ditch		LIA/ER Dark layer at top of ditch.	8	Charred	#	#	0	0	0	0	+++	++	600	#	#	0	#	0	#	0	0
63	542	537	7	ditch	?enclosure	MBA Possible cess layer within ditch.	7	Charred	#	0	0	0	0	0	+++	+++	1600	0	#	#	0	0	#	0	#
64	545	544	7	ditch		IA Upper fill of ditch containing metalworking slag.	8	Charred	#	0	0	0	0	0	+++	+++	800	0	#	#	#	##	###	0	0
71	608	612	11	ditch		?ER ditch, Tr. 11.		Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+++	+++	600	#	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
72	613	615	38	ditch	enclosure	Late Roman backfilling event of boundary [615]	6	Charred	###	####	0	##	0	0	+++	+++	200	0	#	0	0	0	#	0	0
81	336	338	40	pit		Undated	8	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+++	++	100	0	0	0	0	0	#	0	0
82	262	263	40	pit	?well	Undated ?Early Bronze Age	9	Charred	0	0	0	0	0	0	+++	++	1300	0	0	0	0	0	##	###	0

C.3.16 The waterlogged samples provide information on local vegetation. The presence of elderberry, brambles and nettles suggest disturbed/waste ground. Where waterlogged and charred plant remains are both found together it is most likely that the waterlogged remains represent plant species growing around and/or within the feature whereas the charcoal is more likely to be derived from settlement waste that has been dumped into the feature. The presence of duckweed seeds indicates standing water found in ponds or wet ditches. Charophytes are commonly found in rivers and streams.

Further Work and Methods Statement

C.3.17 The quantity and quality of the material recovered from evaluation trenches at Tithe Barn Farm is insufficient for many firm conclusions to be drawn. Preservation is variable but this may be changeable for the different periods of occupation. The presence of charred grain from the Iron Age samples and the excellent preservation of crop processing waste in the Roman period indicates that there is the potential to recover evidence of domestic and agricultural activity.

C.3.18 If future excavations are planned, it is recommended that that a schedule for environmental sampling should be appended to the updated project design. Further sampling could provide an insight into to utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence from the multi-period occupation of this site.

C.4 Waterlogged plant remains assessment from waterhole 70

By Kath Hunter

Introduction

C.4.1 Three samples from a Middle Bronze Age pit (**70**) were rapidly scanned to assess their potential for preservation of waterlogged plant remains. The results are shown in the table below and are measured down from the hand excavation limit:

Depth/m	Context	Charcoal	Wood	Monocot. stems/ leaf	Seeds	Other	Insect	Bone	comments
0.00-0.08	72	** (*)	**	**	***		**	*	*Lemna* sp., *Juncus* sp., *Rubus* sp., *Ranunculus* subsect. *batracium*. Insect remains include *Daphnia* sp. Egg cases. Very sandy residue with partially decayed seeds and other plant remains.
0.08-0.24	85	*	*	*	***	*	***		Sand and gravel. *Lemna* sp., *Juncus* sp., *Rubus* sp., *Ranunculus* subsect. Batracium. Cf. *Chenopodium* sp. moss leaves and stem. Insect remains include *Daphnia* sp. Egg cases. Mammal skull fragments.
0.24-0.40	85	**	*	*	**		*	*	Sand and gravel. *Lemna* sp., *Rubus* sp., *Ranunculus* sp., Ranunculus subsect. *batracium*. Cf. Chenopodium, Cyperaceae.

Table 24 *Plant remains from hand auger within water hole 70*

Interpretation

C.4.2 The seeds preserved in the three samples were of relatively robust types and all showed evidence of decay suggesting more delicate remains may have been lost over

time. All of the species present are either water plants or those preferring damp conditions, with the possible exception of one Ranunculus type achene from sample 0.24-0.4m. There were few monocotlydonous leaf and stem fragments preserved in the samples and some wood fragments but none of these would be identifiable further. Charcoal fragments mostly under 2mm were present in all the samples.

Potential

C.4.3 All the samples show that there is the potential for waterlogged and charred plant remains to be recovered on the site. Any further sampling should take this in to account and expect potentially waterlogged deposits from deep features or those dug into the potential palaeochannel. No further work is recommended on these samples. Both bone and insect remains were also noted in small quantities from all samples.

C.5 Geoarchaeological auger survey

By Carl Champness

Introduction

Scope of work

C.5.1 An auger survey was undertaken by OA Geoarchaeological Services to investigate a large linear feature thought to represent a possible palaeochannel, identified during an evaluation at the site of Tithe Barn, Chatteris, in Cambridgeshire. A sequence of six auger samples provided a sedimentary profile across the feature and obtained samples suitable for palaeoenvironmental assessment (Figs. 2 and 14).

Topography and geology

C.5.2 The site lies within the Fen Basin, on low-lying ground at the south-eastern edge of the former Fen island of Chatteris. Most of the area is slightly raised land between 9.5m and 1.5m OD at the edge of the fen. The topsoil is partially peat derived mixed with gravel terrace soils. Thin peat deposits may have once accumulated at the edge of the site but have now wasted away through modern drainage and farming. The area is accessed by regularly laid out dirt tracks locally called droves.

C.5.3 The surface geologies of the site is predominantly mapped as March Gravels and mixed Head deposits, overlying West Walton Formation/Ampthill Clay (BGS sheet 172 1:50,000). The normal appearance of the bedrock is stiff greenish grey clay, which occasionally contain fossils and siltstone. The undulating nature of the bedrock is indicated by various outcrops within the base of the trenches where the Pleistocene gravels were either absence or very thin. A previous geophysical survey on the site (Walford 2008) also identified a linear anomaly that ran north to south through Fields 1 and 2, and was thought to be of geological origin.

Methodology

C.5.4 Six sampling locations were used to provide a profile across the feature that had been identified on the site. The sample locations are shown in Figure 2 and a cross-section produced in Figure 14.

C.5.5 The equipment comprised a standard hand operated soil auger. A selection of different auger heads (Dutch, Stoney soil and Gouge Heads) was employed in order to deal with

the stony and compacted sediments encountered in the field. Samples for palaeoenvironmental assessment were obtained using a 1m long gouge head. Each location was recorded in three dimensions with a GPS.

C.5.6 Each position was augered until the underlying basal gravels or bedrock had been proven, whichever was reached first and providing no obstructions were encountered. The sediments were recovered at each location according to depth. Care was taken to minimise contamination of samples through soil sloughing into the hole upon inserting the auger or from sidewall contamination when removing an auger with open sides. The profile at each location was recorded on a summary proforma sheet and the main lithological units identified. Relative depths were noted and a description of the deposits using standard geological terminology (colour, texture, compaction, inclusions) was undertaken.

Results

C.5.7 The results of the auger survey identified a sequence of commonly occurring deposits across the sample profile. A number of broad stratigraphic units were identified based on the lithology identified from the sampling. It should be noted, however, that there was a degree of variation recorded in lithology that could not be fully defined within the scope of the survey. In addition not all sample locations were able to prove bedrock due to frequent obstructions encountered in the stony deposits.

C.5.8 A profile of the stratigraphic units is presented in Figure 14 based on the location and elevation of the samples.

C.5.9 At the base of the sample profile an undulating bedrock surface of West Walton Formation/Ampthill Clay was encountered between depths of 2.0m (3.4m OD) in OAAH5 and rising to 1.50m in depth (4.3m OD) in OAAH1 at the edge of the profile. This formed a slightly undulating linear depression that corresponded with the geophysical anomaly. The bedrock was recorded as soft slightly weathered greenish/bluish pale grey clay/marl with siltstone inclusions. No thick overlying gravel deposits were identified. Instead filling the undulation within the bedrock was a sequence of loose pale yellow medium-coarse sands and clayey sands. These deposits appeared to have been coarsely laminated representing fluvial deposits suggestive of seasonal fluctuations in channel flow. They accumulated to depths of 1.15m to 0.70m (4.5-4.6m OD) across the profile, with a maximum thickness of 1.30m recorded in the deepest part of the depression.

C.5.10 The sequence appears to have rapidly silted-up and later overlain by a stratified sequence of colluvial deposits that appeared to have been eroded and washed-in from the surrounding gravel deposits. These deposits were thickest towards the edges of the depression up to 1m in thickness and became progressively thinner towards the middle. They comprised of gravelly sands and sandy gravel deposits, some of the upper deposits producing prehistoric finds. A colluvial subsoil deposit and the modern ploughsoil sealed this sequence.

C.5.11 A Bronze Age pit (**70**) was dug from the top of colluvial deposits and into the underlying fluvial sands, during a period of possible stabilisation. This pit was investigated in OAAH2 in order to establish the base of the feature within Trench 24. The base of the pit was recorded at a depth of 0.45m below the trench and filled by a sequence of organic silty clay deposits (85, 72, 73, and 74) that produced frequent finds and a piece of worked wood. The lower contexts were sampled and assessed for palaeoenvironmental preservation (See Kath Hunter, Section C.4). All three samples produced a partially waterlogged assemblage with plant, bone and insect remains

preserved. There were signs of decay in the assemblage possibly as a result of later agricultural drainage. The plant remains assemblage indicated that the pit would have been originally filled with water and may have functioned as a well or waterhole.

C.5.12 The profile indicates a sand dominated potentially braided palaeochannel sequence, similar in nature to channels of Late Pleistocene to Early Holocene age. This sequence appears to represent the transition of high-energy gravel filled glacial outwash channels into shallow braided sand dominated surface drainage channels between the late Pleistocene and the Early Holocene. The main palaeochannel sequence identified in the profile represents the gradual transition of these shallow braided channels into a main incised channel during the onset of the Holocene. The minerogenic nature of these deposits would suggest that the main channel would have silted-up during the early Holocene but may still have provided a drainage function. It is possible that the surface of this palaeochannel was seasonally waterlogged and boggy in late prehistory and into the early historical period.

C.5.13 The archaeological interest in these early channel systems is not for their environmental or sedimentary sequences, but the fact that they would have continued to influence drainage and vegetation patterns on the site during prehistory. In fact, the palaeochannel may have developed into a natural boundary in the area, especially to early farming communities, as the land may have been too wet or boggy to cultivate. It may also have been used as a means of obtaining easy access to water through the digging of small pits and waterholes within its upper fills. During excavations at Heathrow (Lewis *et al* 2010) a similar sand dominated palaeochannel sequence was seen subsequently to shape the architectural development of the landscape through later prehistory and into the medieval period. The palaeochannel there developed into a major Bronze Age field boundary and a division between early settlement and was also utilised for its water supply from the Mesolithic onwards, despite having been largely silted-up centuries before.

Conclusions

C.5.14 The results of the auger survey have indicated that the linear north-south feature identified in the geophysical survey and during the trenching represents a potentially late Pleistocene/Early Holocene palaeochannel sequence. This sequence has limited potential for palaeoenviromental assessment or dating. The channel would have been predominantly in-filled and inactive during the time the prehistoric activity identified on the site was occurring. However, it may be that the channel might still have provided field drainage and access to water. This area of seasonally boggy ground may have helped to influence the architecture and boundaries of early prehistoric field systems, settlements and areas of activity at the site.

C.5.15 Any further work at the site should aim to confirm these initial observations of the sequence through the excavation of slots through the palaeochannel and any associated archaeology. The palaeoenviromental potential of the palaeochannel sequence should be considered to be low and its importance lies in its relationship and influence on the prehistoric activity present on the site.

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Appendix E. OASIS Report Form

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-109757		
Project Name	Earlier prehistoric palaeochannels, Early and Middle Bronze Age, Middle Iron Age to Late Roman		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	25-07-2011	Finish	18-08-2011
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	CHATBF11	Planning App. No.	F/YR10/0804/0
HER No.	ECB 3632	Related HER/OASIS No.	10901/08803/10664/19434/

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5
Development Type	Urban Residential

Please select all techniques used:

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

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Settlement	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700	Domestic and industr	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700
Settlement	Iron Age -800 to 43	Domestic, funeral an	Iron Age -800 to 43
Settlement	Roman 43 to 410	Domestic	Roman 43 to 410

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Fenland	Tithe Barn Farm, Chatteris Cambridgeshire	
Parish	Chatteris		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	59.5 hectares	National Grid Reference	TL 3980 8480

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Kasia Gdaniec, CCC
Project Design Originator	Aileen Connor, OA East
Project Manager	Aileen Connor
Supervisor	Rob Atkins

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
OA East	OA East	OA East
CHATBF11	CHATBF11	CHATBF11

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	☒	☒	☒
Ceramics	☒	☒	☒
Environmental	☒	☒	☒
Glass	☒	☐	☐
Human Bones	☒	☒	☒
Industrial	☒	☒	☒
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☒	☒	☒
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☒	☒
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☒	☒	☒
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media	Paper Media
☒ Database	☐ Aerial Photos
☒ GIS	☐ Context Sheet
☐ Geophysics	☐ Correspondence
☒ Images	☐ Diary
☒ Illustrations	☐ Drawing
☐ Moving Image	☐ Manuscript
☒ Spreadsheets	☐ Map
☒ Survey	☐ Matrices
☒ Text	☐ Microfilm
☐ Virtual Reality	☐ Misc.
	☐ Research/Notes
	☐ Photos
	☐ Plans
	☐ Report
	☐ Sections
	☐ Survey

Notes:

Drawing Conventions

Plans

Limit of Excavation	
Deposit - Conjectured	
Natural Features	
Sondages/Machine Strip	
Intrusion/Truncation	
Illustrated Section	S.14
Archaeological Deposit	
Excavated Slot	
Furrow	
Modern Deposit	
Cut Number	**118**

Sections

Limit of Excavation	
Cut	
Cut-Conjectured	
Deposit Horizon	
Deposit Horizon - Conjectured	
Intrusion/Truncation	
Top Surface/Top of Natural	
Break in Section/ Limit of Section Drawing	
Cut Number	**118**
Deposit Number	117
Ordnance Datum	18.45m OD
Inclusions	

Convention Key

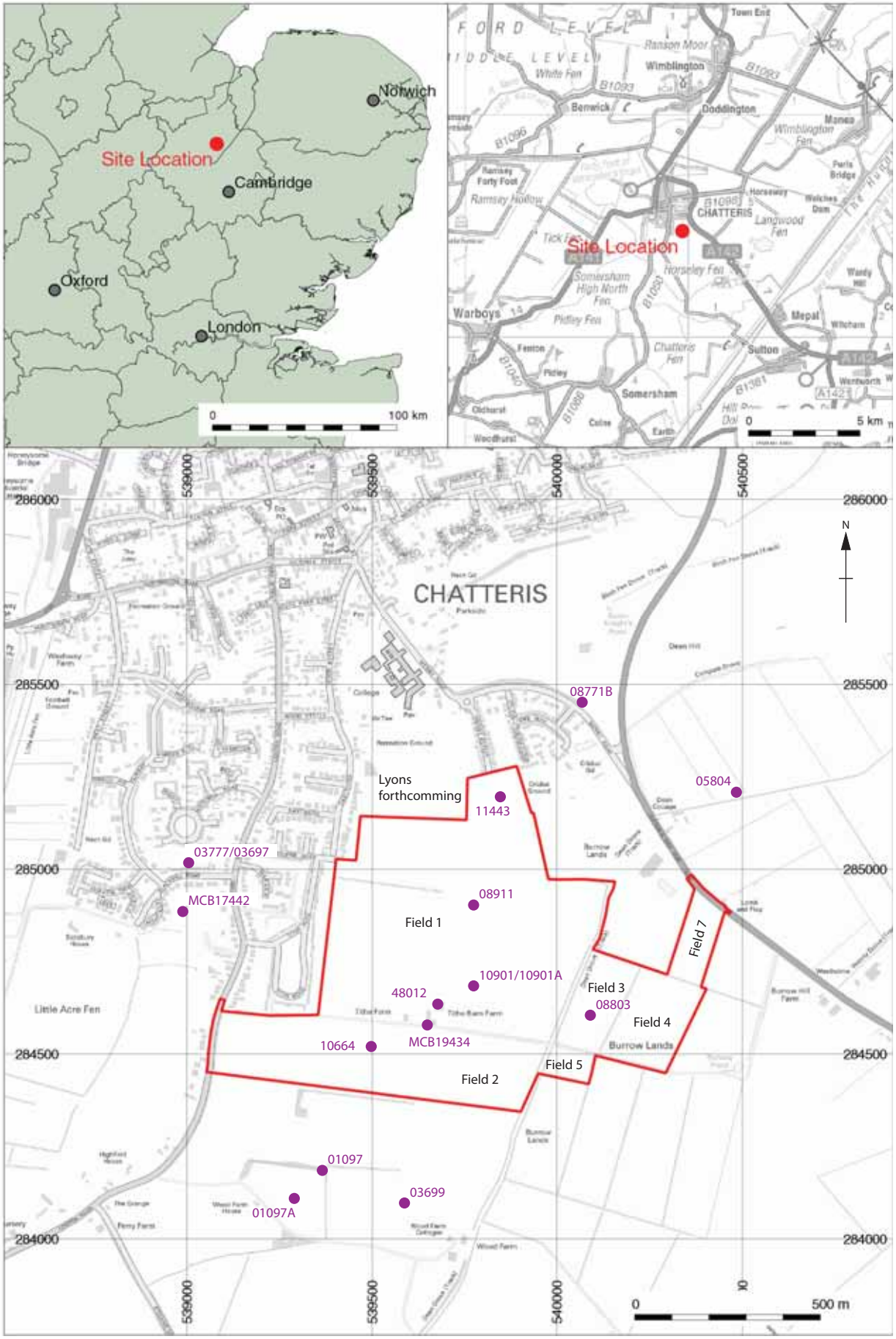

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Figure 1: Site location showing development area outlined red and HER entries

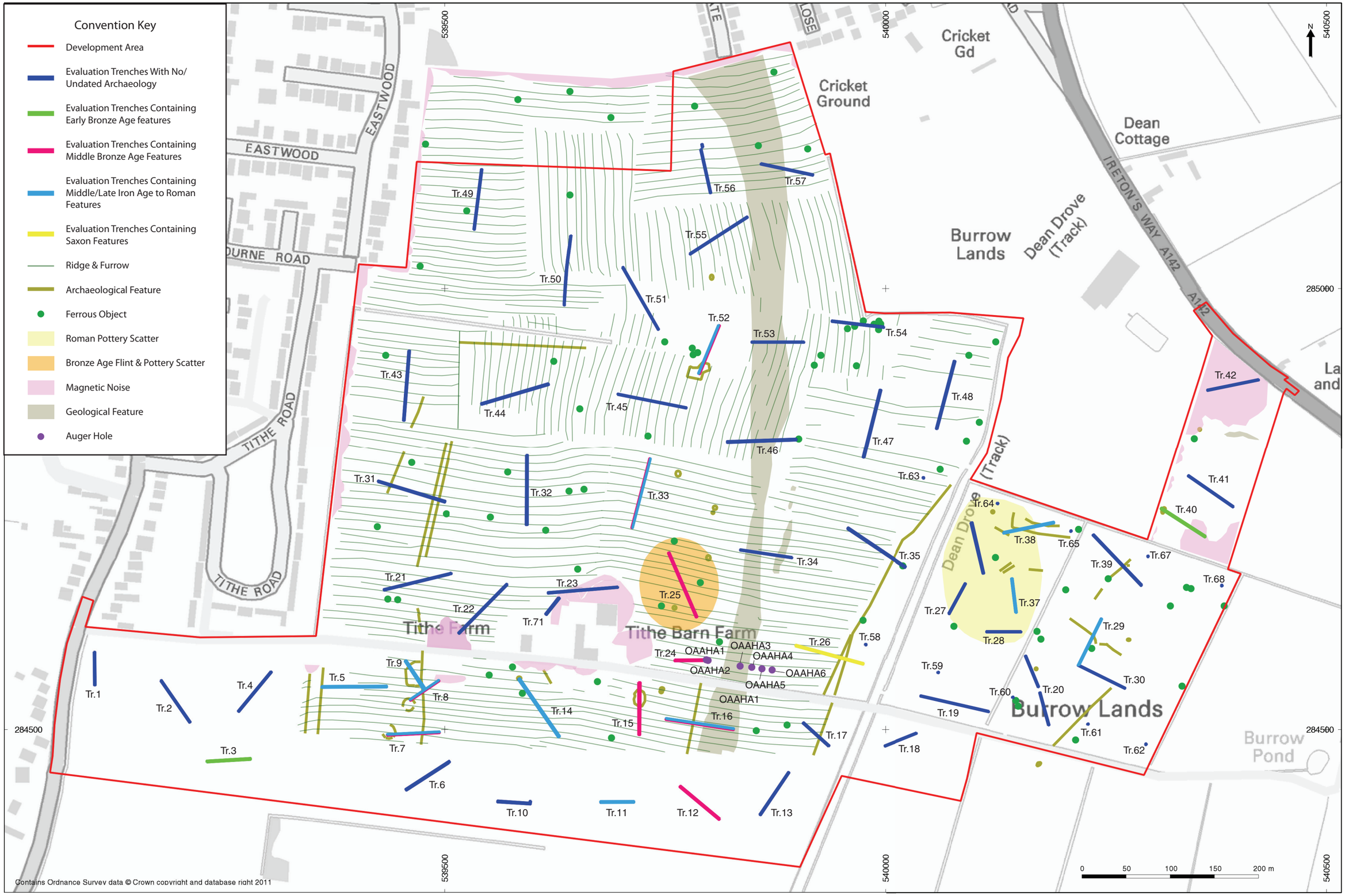
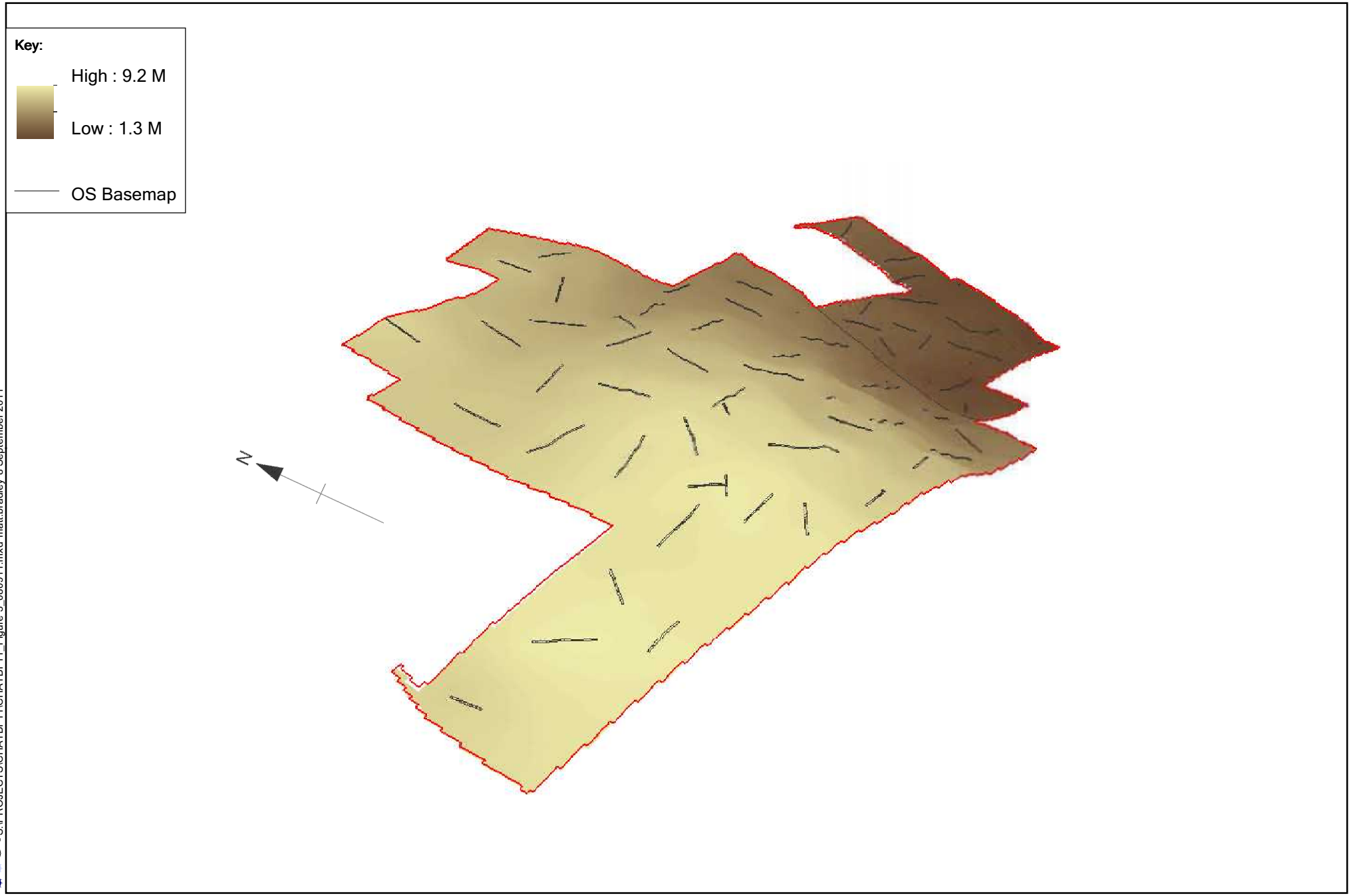


Figure 2: Location of trenches, showing geophysics interpretation (courtesy of Northamptonshire Archaeology)



- S:\PROJECTS\CHATBF11\CHATBF11_Figure 3_080911.mxd*matt.bradley*8 September 2011

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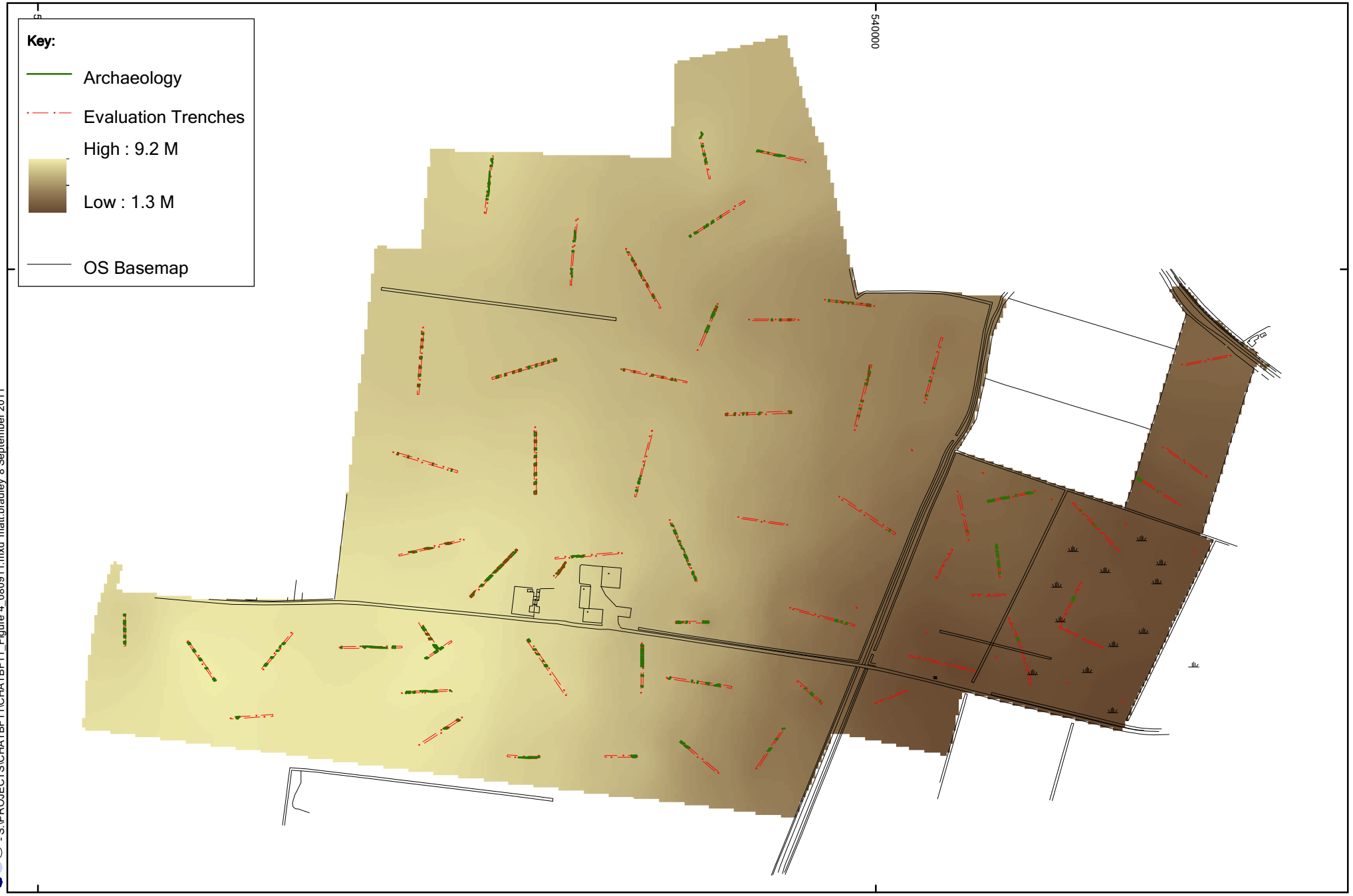
not to scale

Figure 3 : Surface model



S:\PROJECTS\CHATBF11\CHATBF11_Figure 4_080911.mxd*matt.bradley*8 September 2011

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0 250 m

1:6,000 @ A4

Figure 4 : Surface model showing varying density of archaeology

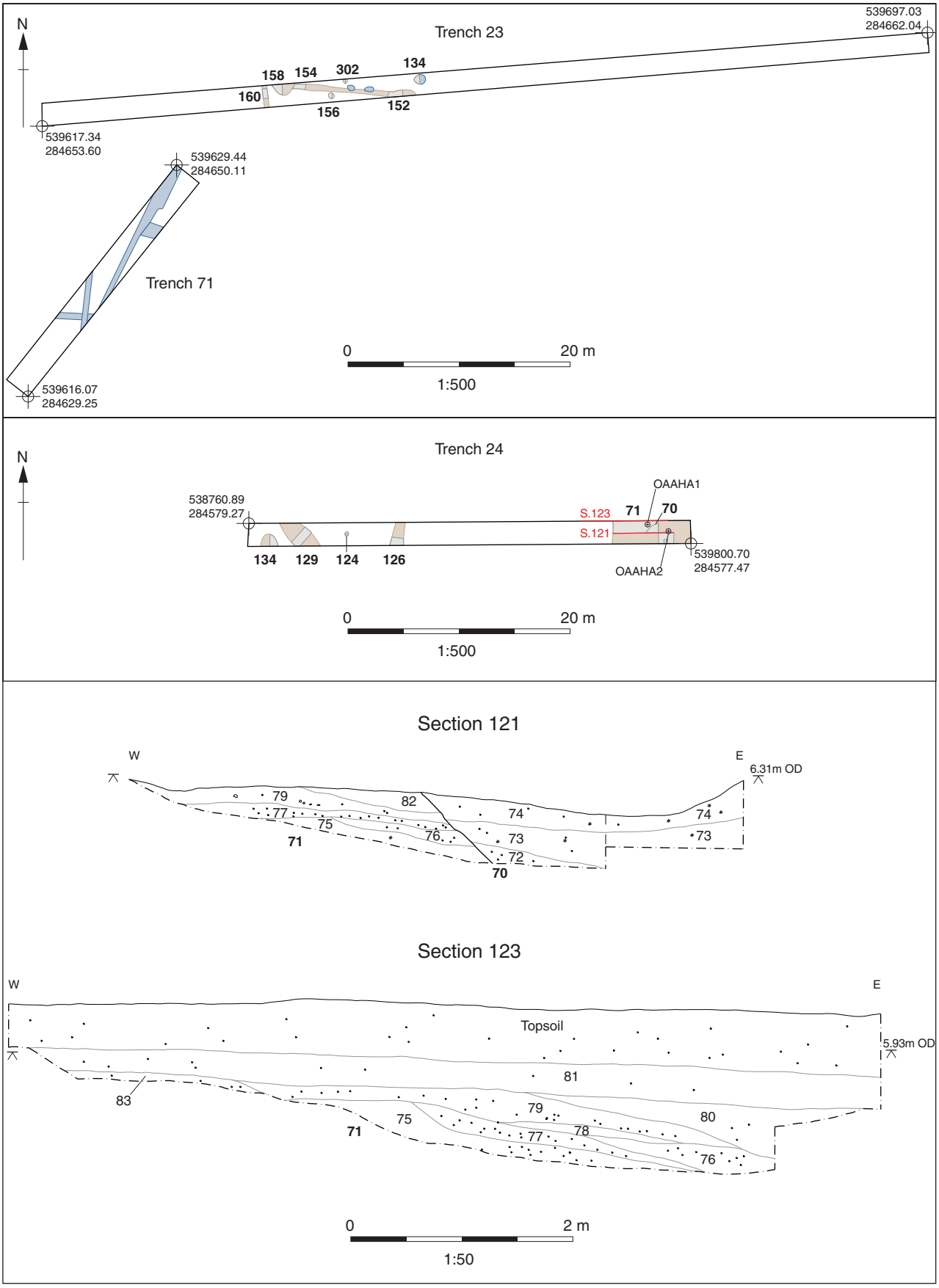

Figure 5: Trenches 23 and 24 plans and sections

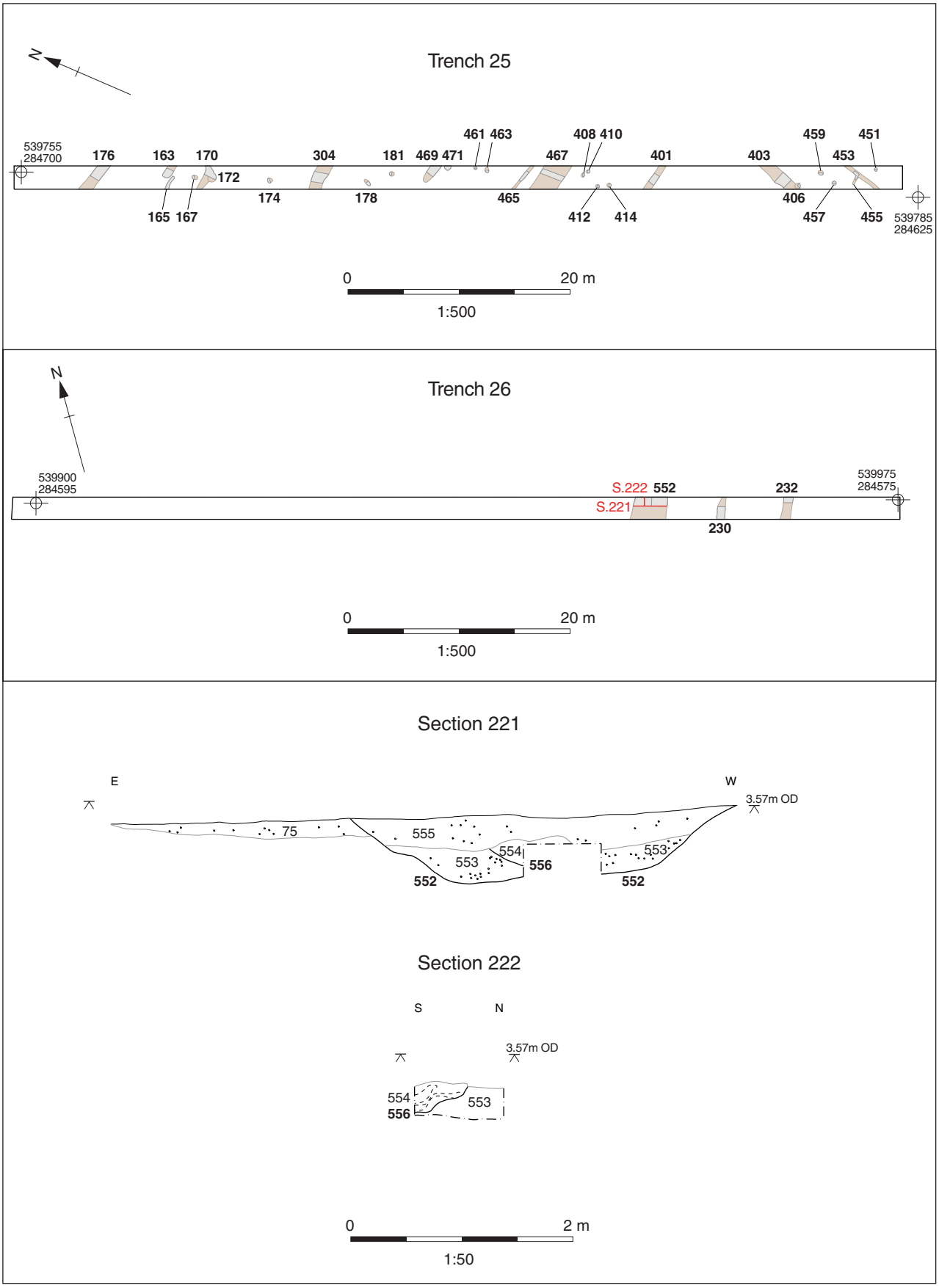

Figure 6: Trenches 25 and 26 plans and sections

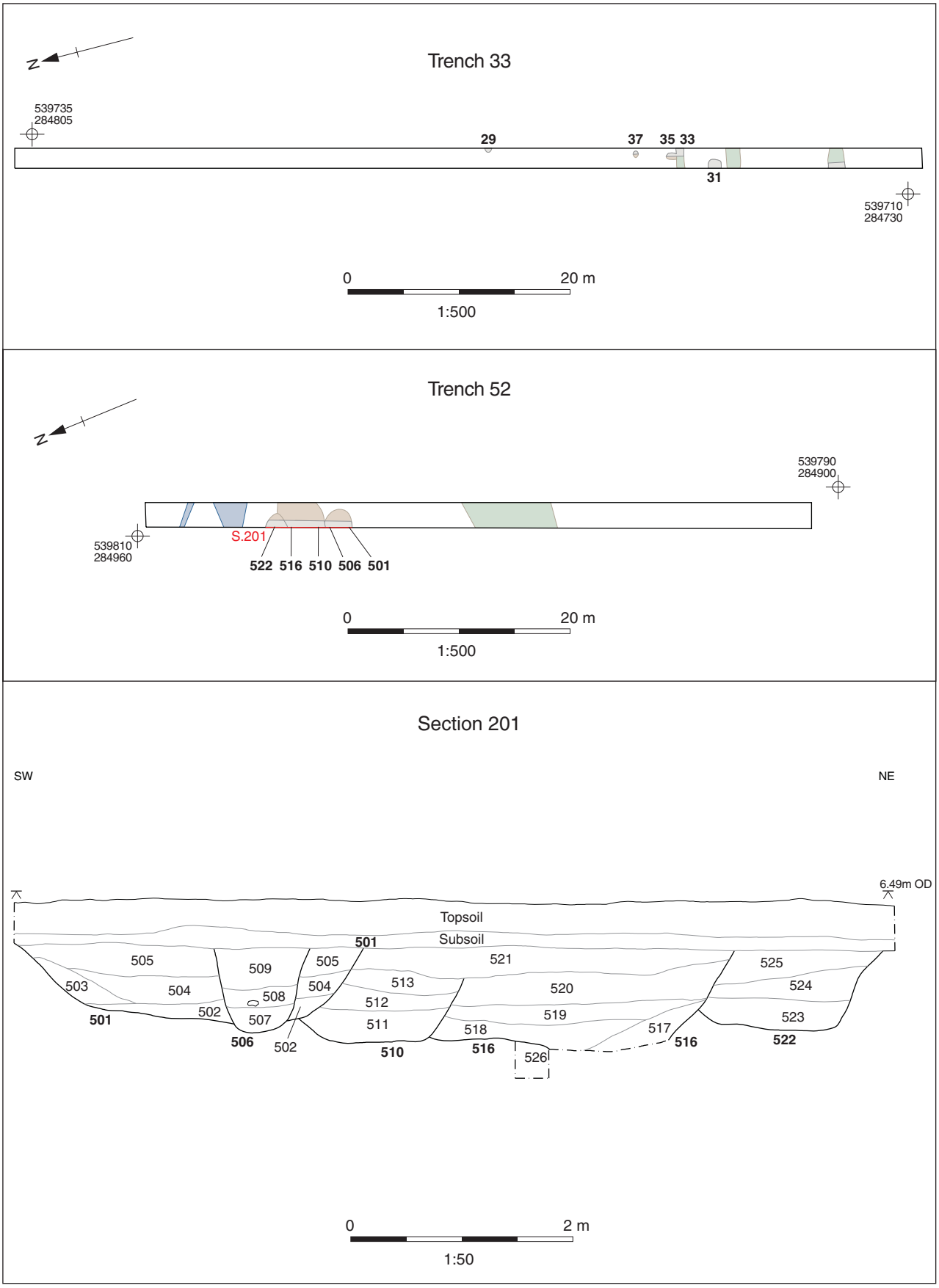

Figure 7: Trenches 33 and 52 plans and section

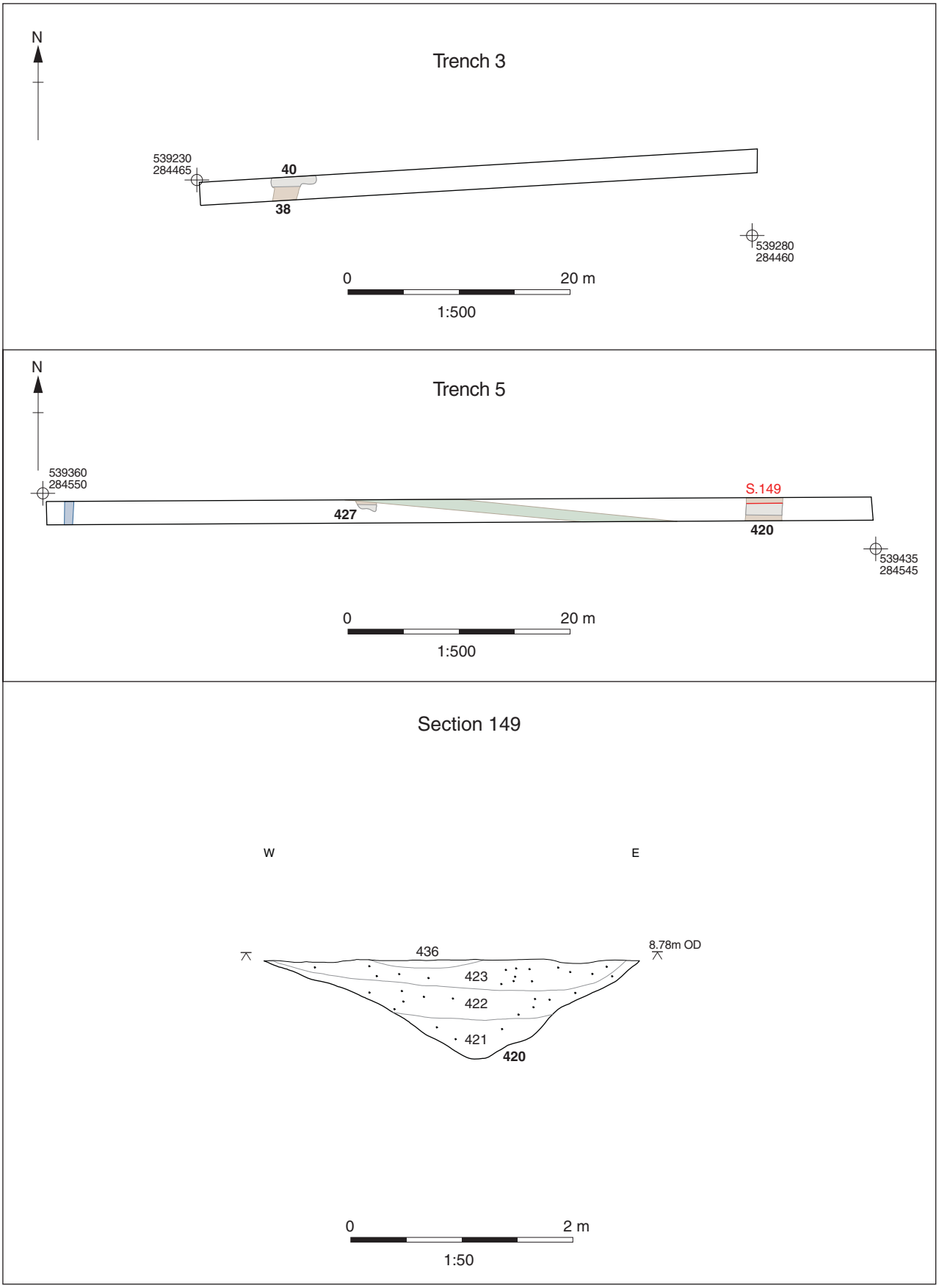

Figure 8: Trenches 3 and 5 plans and section

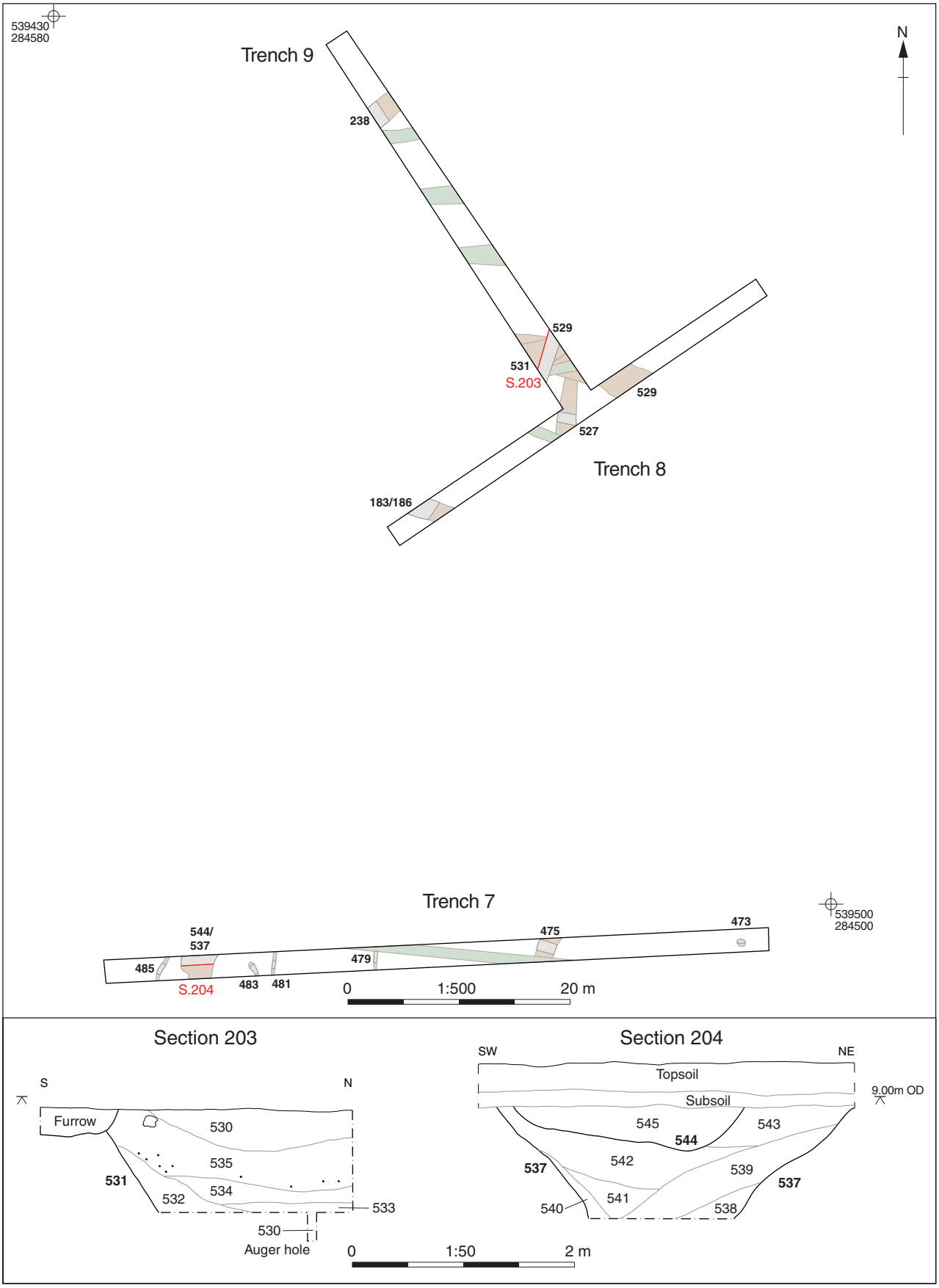

Figure 9: Trenches 7, 8 and 9 plans and sections

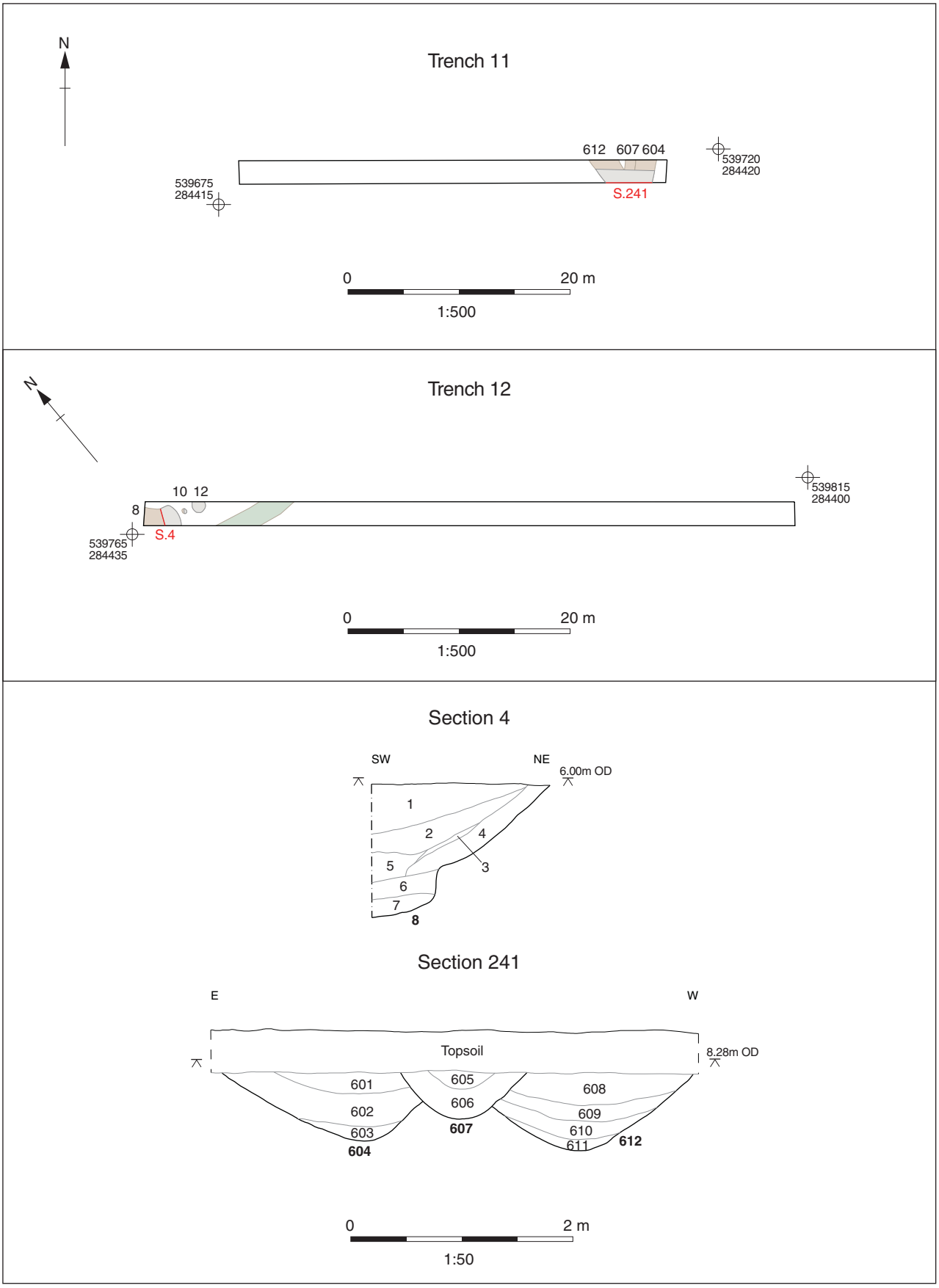

Figure 10: Trenches 11 and 12 plans and sections

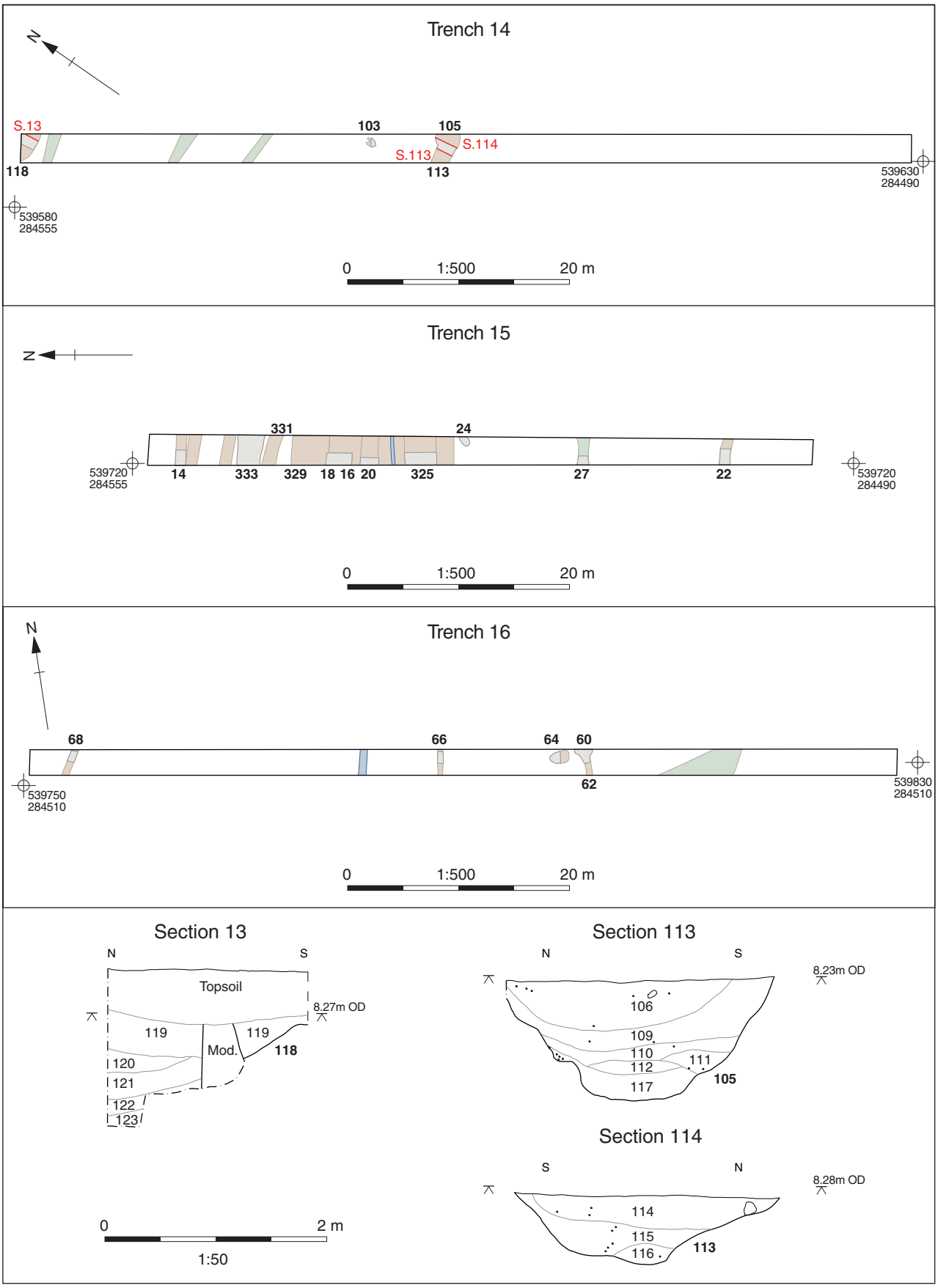

Figure 11: Trenches 14, 15 and 16 plans and sections

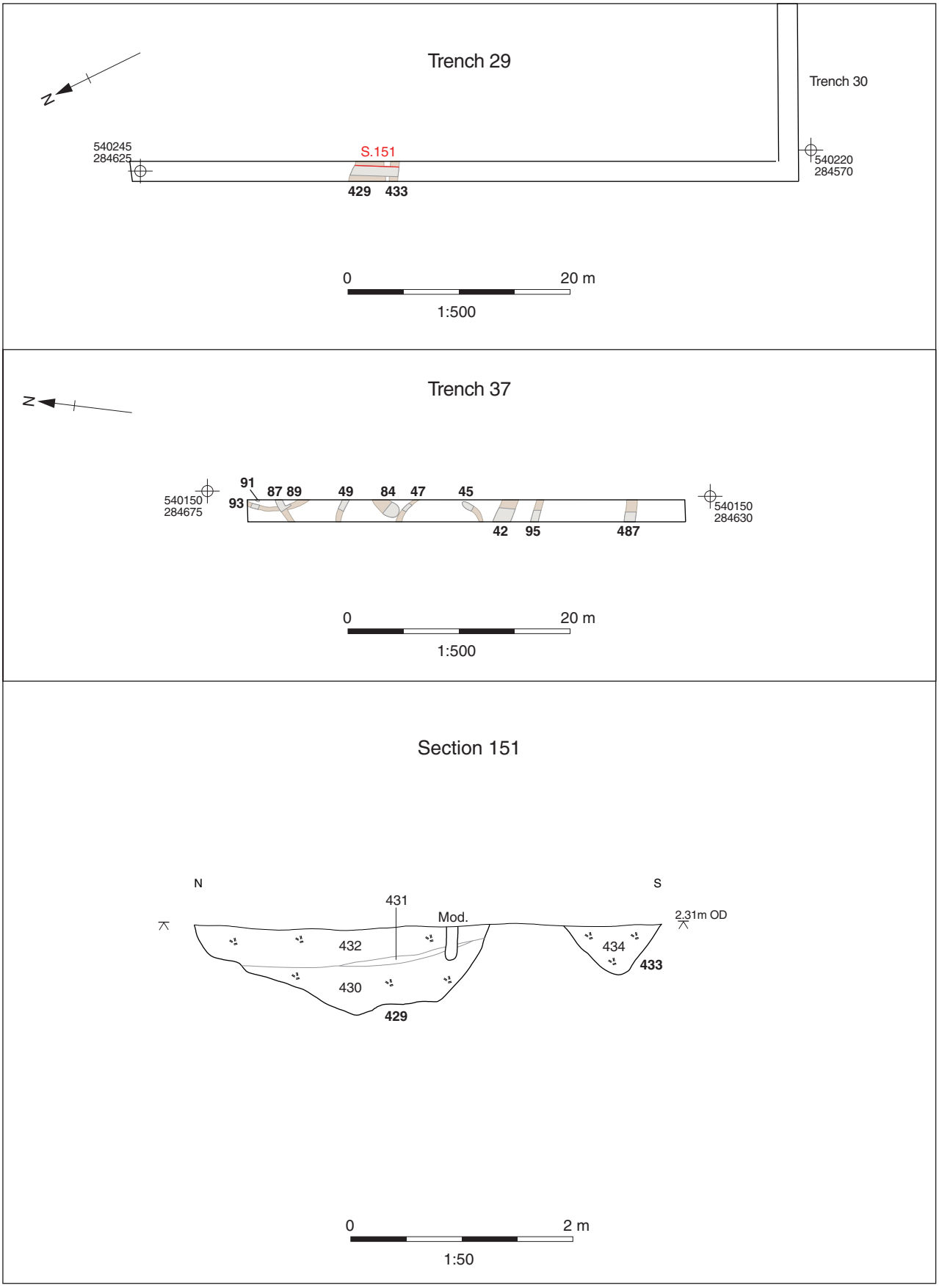

Figure 12: Trenches 29 and 37 plans and section

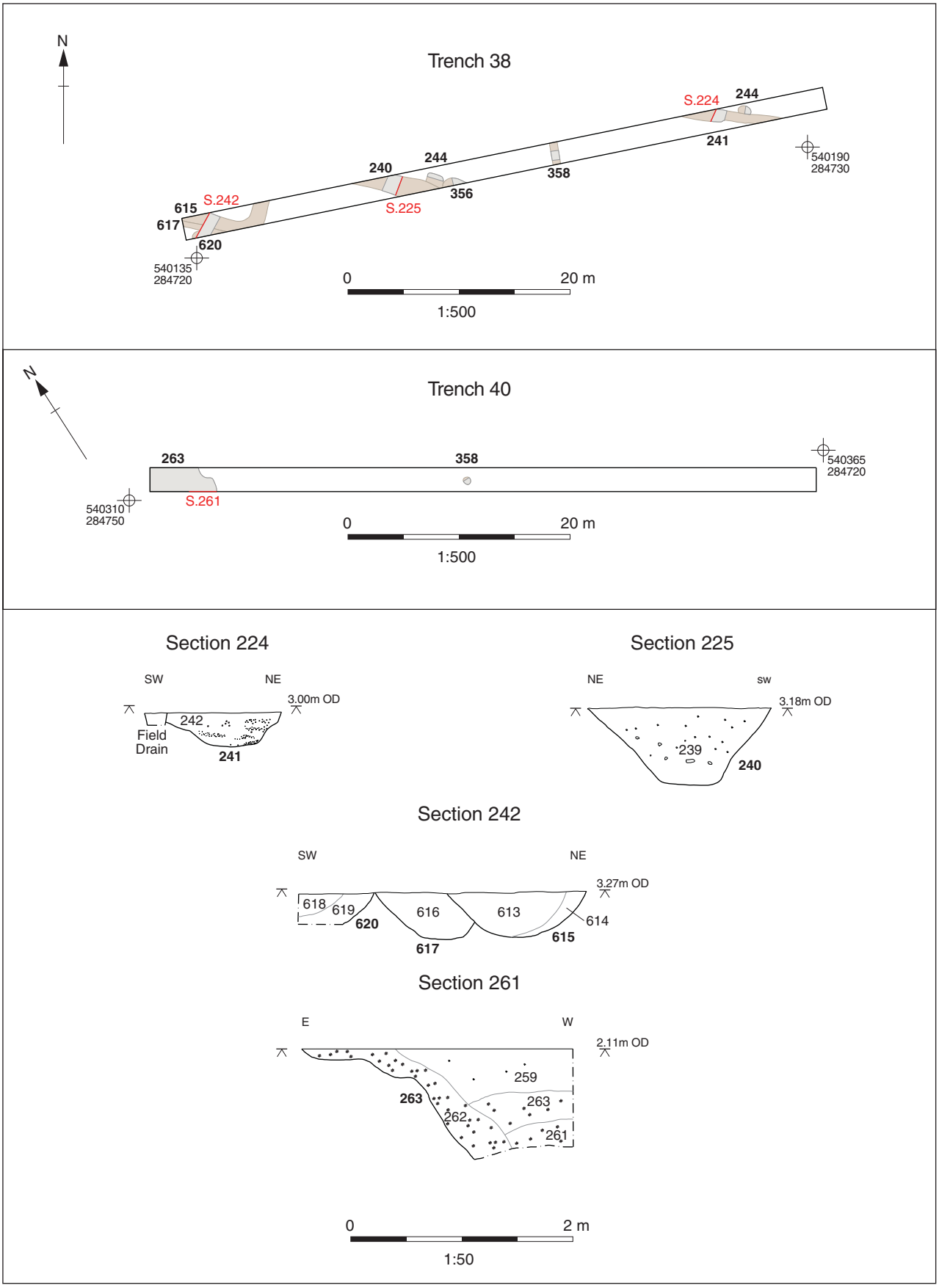

Figure 13: Trenches 38 and 40 plans and sections

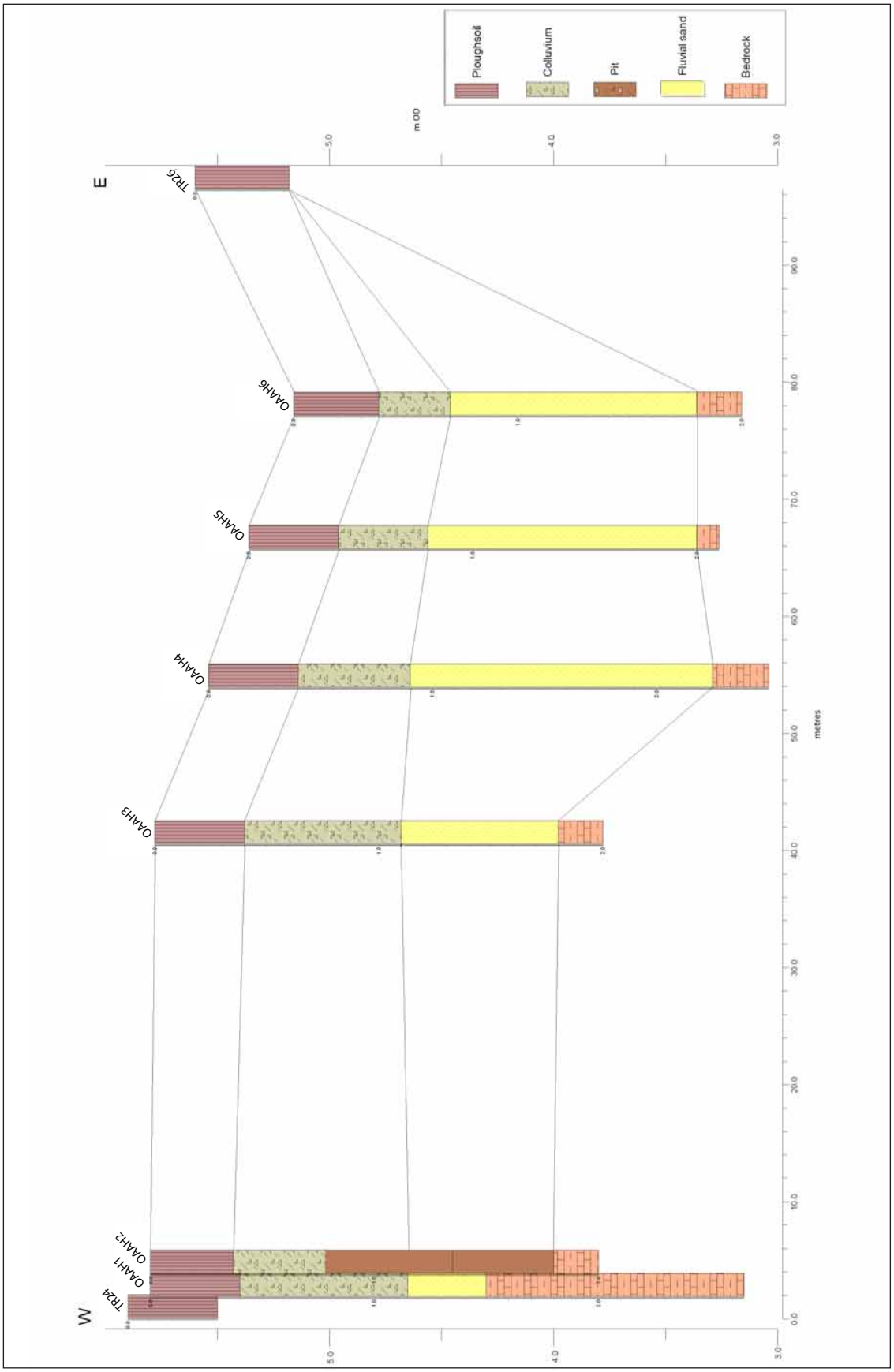

Figure 14: Auger survey of Trench 24 and to the wast through paleochannel

Plate 1: General shot of Trench 38, looking north-west

Plate 2: Trench 26, possible SFB **552** and oven **556**, looking west

Plate 3: Trench 52, pits **501**, **506** and **516**, looking west

Plate 4: Trench 11, ditches **601**, **607** and **612**, looking south

Plate 5: Trench 8, waterhole **8**, looking west

Plate 6: Trench 40, well **263**, looking south

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0)1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w:http://thehumanjourney.net

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@thehumanjourney.net
w:http://thehumanjourney.net

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0)1223 850500
f: +44 (0)1223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w:http://thehumanjourney.net

Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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