Roman Road at Land South of Stanley Road, Great Chesterford, Essex



Interim Report



March 2014

Client: CgMs on behalf of Bellway Homes

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Roman Road and Occupation at Land South of Stanley Road, Great Chesterford, Essex

Interim Report

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Summary

Between 7th and 8th January 2014, OA East carried out an archaeological evaluation on land south of Stanley Road and Four Acres, Great Chesterford, Essex (TL 511 431). A total of 10 trenches were excavated, and one Roman roadside ditch and an undated post hole were found in the southern part of the development area. All other trenches were devoid of archaeological features.

Further investigation was required prior to development and between 20th and 24th January 2014 OA East returned to site to carry out an excavation targeted on the area of the roadside ditch. Upon stripping the area, two clusters of large pits, two parallel linear features, a well and an inhumation were uncovered.

A large pottery assemblage was recovered from one of the pit clusters, along with a number of glass and metal artefacts. Analysis of environmental samples from the pits and parallel linear features found they contained large quantities of hammerscale and clinker, indicating nearby smithing activity.





1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation and excavation was conducted at land south of Stanley Road and Four Acres, Great Chesterford, Essex (TL 511 431) (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation issued by Myk Flitcroft of CgMs Consulting (Flitcoroft 2013 A), following discussions with the Senior Historic Environment Officer of Essex County Council (Planning Application UTT/12/09/5513/OP), supplemented by a Further Works Specification prepared by CgMs (Flitcroft 2013 B).
- 1.1.3 The work was required due to a condition attached to the planning permission for the development and was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the development area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). All features were excavated and recorded so that any archaeology to be affected by development was preserved by record.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located on the eastern edge of Great Chesterford, lying on a chalk ridge overlooking the River Cam to the south-west. The B184 Walden Road forms the eastern boundary to the site and existing residential development lies to the north of site. The southern boundary is formed by the back gardens of properties on High Street and an area of pasture lies to the west. The development site is approximately 1.8 hectares in size.
- 1.2.2 The site geology consists of chalk of the New Pit Formation and lies at an elevation of approximated 45mAOD, with the elevation rising to the southern end of site, which forms the highest part of the chalk ridge.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The background below has been taken from a thorough Desk-Based Assessment undertaken last year (Gajos 2012).

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 There are a number of prehistoric find spots within 1000m of the site. These include a collection of Palaeolithic tools (HER 4923) although their exact provenance is unclear. Similarly, a fragment of greenstone hand-axe is recorded as being found 600m to the south of the site.
- 1.3.3 Mesolithic material has been recovered from near to the site, with one possibly from the study site itself (HER 4831). The HER states however, that the exact location of these finds is unclear and may have actually come from Little Chesterford instead. More accurately located Mesolithic finds include 2 cores and 10 blades from a field 600m to the north-west (HER 4947). Also, a possible Mesolithic settlement was excavated at the former Greyhound public house 900m to the south-west of the site (HER 4931).
- 1.3.4 Neolithic records are represented within the area by flint scatters and or individual artefacts (HER 4898, 4913, 4938, 17392, 4745 & 4804). The majority of these are poorly located although HER 4745 & 4938 are both recorded within 500m of the site.



Neolithic features were recorded during an excavation undertaken 1.2km to the northwest of site, at a sewage treatment plant, where a pit of Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date was discovered (HER 46340)

- 1.3.5 Bronze Age finds discovered in the vicinity of site include a Late Bronze Age socketed axe head (HER 45897) and a probably barrow located within the late Roman town (HER 4936).
- 1.3.6 Iron Age activity appears to have been focused around the lower lying ground to the west of the site. A major Late Iron Age settlement existed in the area subsequently occupied by the Roman town (HER 4916, 4746, 4957 & 4963). The closest known location of the settlement to site is 500m to the west.
- 1.3.7 The Roman shrine to the north-west of site appears to have Late Iron Age origins as a shrine comprising a small ditched enclosure and rectangular timber structure (HER 4980). To the south of the shrine, a Late Iron Age burial is recorded (HER 4981) although the exact location of the burial is disputed.

Roman

- 1.3.8 The majority of records of Roman date within the area relate to the Roman fort and town of Great Chesterford, situated 500m to west of the site. An detailed monograph of the town was written by Medlycott (2011) and has been referred to for the information below.
- 1.3.9 The earliest Roman settlement appears to be the Pre-Flavian fort, dating to the period following the Boudican revolt of AD 60. A settlement developed outside the southern gate of the fort, most likely based on the preceding Iron Age settlement. The fort was abandoned at the end of the 1st century AD and the settlement expanded into this area, incorporating a number of the fort's internal features. This settlement expanded considerably during the second century, before going through a period of decline in the third century. There was expansion again in the fourth century, leading to the construction of the town walls. The town is known to have been the economic focus of the surrounding area, and would have likely been the trade centre for Romano-British people living within a radius of roughly 15km. Similarly, Great Chesterford was an located in an area of strategic importance, which controlled the northern exit of the River Cam from Essex and a southern branch of the lcknield Way (Lyons 2011).
- 1.3.10 Due to the town being a major trade centre during much of the Romano-British period, the surrounding road network is extensive. The town was situated on a nodal point of the network, where the Cambridge, Braughing and Radwinter roads met at the crossing of the River Cam. Other roads are thought to exist, with proposed routes making up part of the Icknield Way Southern Route heading north-east towards Linton and Bartlow.
- 1.3.11 Other Roman activity is seen outside of the town, including HER 46618, 225m to the south of site, where Roman occupation was recorded during a watching brief and numerous cropmarks are seen extending along the lower slopes of the river valley to the south-east of site (HER 4803, 4794, 13926).

Saxon

1.3.12 A large Early Saxon cemetery (HER 4939, 13918) is located north-west of the Roman town (950m from site). 161 inhumations, 33 cremations were recorded during a rescue excavation in the 1950's, and at least a further 100 graves were presumed lost due to gravel quarrying prior to the excavation. Five other Saxon inhumations were recorded in land adjoining Great Chesterford churchyard (HER 4951).



1.3.13 The location of the Early Saxon settlement related to the burials is unknown and the excavations in the Roman town did not identify and evidence of later Saxon occupation, suggesting the town was not reoccupied. References to levelling operations in the Rectory Orchard 550m to the south-west of site noted uncovering pottery of a Saxon description. This suggests a possible focus of settlement within this area.

Medieval

- 1.3.14 Great Chesterford was small but rather prosperous during the medieval period, mainly due to the cloth trade. The medieval streets converged upon a central green about 350m south-west of the site, although the full layout of the town during the medieval period is unclear.
- 1.3.15 There are two records of medieval date nearby site: a domed well at Brettanby Cottage, 180m south of the site (HER19048) and a small section of wall thought to relate to a late medieval/early post-medieval farm building (HER 45206, 250m south-west of the site)

Post-Medieval and Modern

- 1.3.16 Great Chesterford was in a period of decline during the post-medieval period, due to the collapse of the cloth trade. Cartographic evidence suggests the town expanded very little during the period, although the green was infilled during the 16th century, although most buildings currently standing on the area are of 19th century date. Modern developments expanded the town greatly, with industrial development taking place to the north-east.
- 1.3.17 Within 250m of the site, a 16 of the records from the HER relate to post-medieval buildings of grade II listing. These are located to the south-west of site, mostly along High Street and Carmel Lane.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Bellway Homes who funded the archaeological works and Myk Flitcroft of CgMs consulting who commissioned the work and liaised with the developer and Essex HER office.
- 1.4.2 The site was monitored and visited by Richard Havis of the Essex Historic Environment Office and managed by Richard Mortimer. Excavation and recording of the site was undertaken by the author, Matthew Brooks, Steve Graham and Robin Webb. Machine excavation was carried out by Frank Hicks Plant Hire during the evaluation and Anthill Plant Hire during the excavation.



2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Flitcroft 2013 A)
- 2.1.2 The main aims of this excavation were
 - To mitigate the impact of the development on the surviving archaeological remains. The development would have severely impacted upon these remains and as a result a full excavation was required, targeting the areas of archaeological interest highlighted by the previous phases of evaluation.
 - To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.
- 2.1.3 The aims and objectives of the excavation were developed with reference to Regional and Local Research Agendas.

2.2 Regional Research Aims

- 2.2.1 There are a number of Regional research aims that have been identified (Going 2000) that can be applied to the site at Great Chesterford. These are:
 - Further research into Roman road networks
 - The complexity of trade and economic links to Roman Britain
 - Evidence of the "Antonine Fires"

2.3 Site Specific Research Objectives

- 2.3.1 Site specific research aims were:
 - Assess the impact of ploughing upon the survival of the road
 - Assess evidence of any extra-mural roadside settlement and how it may relate to Great Chesterford.
 - Consider why the road fell into disuse but the boundary is still respected.

2.4 Methodology

- 2.4.1 The methodology used followed that detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Flitcroft 2013 A) and supplemented by a Specification written after the evaluation (Flitcroft 2013 B).
- 2.4.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a tracked 360 type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket. under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.4.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metaldetected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.4.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.4.5 Trenches with a width of 4m were to be excavated along the line of the roadside ditch identified in the evaluation, with the option to expand the trenches should further



archaeological deposits or features be identified. A single section would be hand dug through the ditch in each trench, to recover finds and quantify the material through the length of the ditch. If significant finds assemblages were recovered from the intervention, it would be extended to recover as much of the assemblage as possible. Any features found relating to roadside activity would also be hand dug to recover any finds assemblage they may contain.

- 2.4.6 Environmental samples were taken from features deemed to have potential for any surviving plant remains or features with well stratified finds to date the feature.
- 2.4.7 Site conditions were overcast with occasional heavy rain. Ground conditions were wet.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The archaeology is discussed below by each phase of work it was recorded in. Results from both phases have been amalgamated in Figure 2. Trenches excavated during the second phase of work continued the numbering from the evaluation for ease of reference. Feature descriptions are written in stratigraphic order.

Roadside Ditch 1

3.1.2 Due to the roadside ditch being seen in numerous trenches during the excavation, and being numbered separately in each trench, the ditch will be referred to as Ditch **1** in any discussion after the results section. For ease of reference for finds however, each intervention has been described separately below.

3.2 Evaluation Phase

3.2.1 A total of 10 trenches were excavated during the evaluation phase. Only Trench 5, located in the southern part of the development area, shall be discussed below. This is due to it being the only trench containing features of archaeological significance. All other trenches were devoid of archaeological features. All trench dimensions and descriptions can be found in Appendix A.

Trench 5

- 3.2.2 Trench 5 was located in the south-west corner of the eastern field (Fig. 1 & Fig. 2) and contained the only archaeological features within the evaluation. A single ditch (1) was seen on an ENE-WSW alignment (plate 2), and was cut by a later posthole (4). Another linear feature (6) of unknown function was also recorded.
- 3.2.3 Ditch **1** (plate 2) was 1.8m wide and 0.55m deep, with a concave base, moderately sloping sides, and bowl profile. Fill 2 was a mid yellowish brown sandy silt with charcoal and chalk inclusions moderately. A total of 1kg of Roman pottery was recovered from this fill. Fill 3 was a dark greyish brown sandy silt, with chalk and flint inclusions. Fill 8 was a light brownish-grey sandy silt, with common chalk inclusions. Fill 9 was a dark reddish brown sandy silt, with rare charcoal inclusions.
- 3.2.4 Posthole **4** was 0.27m in diameter and 0.38m deep, with a U-shaped profile. Fill 5 was a mid greyish brown sandy silt with moderate chalk inclusions.
- 3.2.5 Linear feature **6** was 1.45m wide, and 0.13m deep, with an irregular base and gently sloping sides. Fill 7 was a mid greyish brown sandy silt, with very common chalk inclusions.



3.3 Excavation Phase

3.3.1 A further six trenches were opened during the excavation phase. They will be discussed separately below. All trenches were opened along the line of the roadside ditch uncovered during the evaluation, and extended as necessary. See Appendix A for full trench descriptions and Fig. 2 for site plan.

Trench 11

3.3.2 Trench 11 was located in the south-west corner of site and contained roadside ditch **48**. The ditch was aligned north-east to south-west and truncated by recut **50**. Ditch **48** was 1m wide, 0.55m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 49 was a mid greyish-brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal and chalk inclusions. Ditch recut **50** was 1.4m wide, 0.35m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 51 was a dark greyish-brown sandy silt with common charcoal inclusions. 0.33kg of Roman pottery and 0.87kg of animal bone were recovered from this fill.

Trench 12

3.3.3 Trench 12 contained roadside ditch (46) aligned north-east to south-west and truncated by recut 43. Ditch 46 was 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 47 was a mid greyish brown sandy silt with moderate chalk inclusions and 0.61kg of animal bone. Ditch recut 43 was 3m wide, 0.4m deep with a bowl profile and filled by 44 and 45. Fill 44 was 0.4m thick and a dark reddish brown sandy silt with rare charcoal inclusions. Upper fill 45 was 0.3m thick and a dark greyish brown sandy silt with charcoal inclusions common.

Trench 13

- 3.3.4 Trench 13 contained grave **26** with inhumantion SK27, pits **29** and **31**, roadside ditch **33** truncated by recut **35** and pit cluster **37**.
- 3.3.5 Grave **26** (Plate 6) was 1.95m long, 0.65m wide, 0.2m in depth, aligned east-west and sub-rectangular in plan. Inhumation SK27 was in an extended supine position in good preservation and approximately 75% complete. A single grave good was recovered with the inhumation; a small iron knife (SF 3). Backfill 28 was a light brownish grey sandy silt with common chalk inclusions.
- 3.3.6 Pit **29** was sub-oval in plan, 1.3m in diameter, 0.26m deep with a flat U-shaped profile. Fill 30 was a mid reddish brown silty sand with rare chalk and flint inclusions and contained 0.15kg of Roman pottery.
- 3.3.7 Pit **31** was found adjacent to pit **29**. The feature was sub-oval in plan, 1m in diameter and 0.2m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 32 was a mid reddish brown silty sand with rare flint inclusions.
- 3.3.8 Roadside ditch **33** was aligned north-east to south-west, 1.2m wide, 1m deep with a U-shaped profile and was truncated by recut **35**. Fill 34 was a light yellowish brown silty sand with rare flint inclusions and 0.34kg of Roman pottery. Recut **35** was 2m wide, 0.4m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 36 was a dark greyish brown silty sand with moderate charcoal inclusions.
- 3.3.9 Pit Cluster **37** was a minimum of 2.4m in diameter, although the full feature was not uncovered during excavation. The pits had a depth of 1.1m and had a square profile. Backfill 38 was a light yellowish brown silty sand, 0.9m thick, with regular chalk inclusions. Upper fill 39 was a dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.3m thick, with occasional charcoal inclusions.



Trench 14

3.3.10 Trench 14 contained roadside ditch **42** (Fig. 3), aligned north-east to south-west. The ditch was 2.3m wide, 0.64m deep with a bowl profile. Uppermost fill 40 was a mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.48m thick, with regular angular flint and chalk inclusions. A total of 0.5kg of Roman pottery and 0.4kg of building material were recovered from the fill. Lower fill 41 was a mid reddish brown silty sand, 0.24m thick, with frequent chalk inclusions.

Trench 15

- 3.3.11 Trench 15 (Plate 8) contained roadside ditch 10 (consists of 10, 52 & 87), pit 15, well 60, pit cluster 64 (consists of 22, 24, 64, 65, 66), and parallel tracks or ditches 58 and 62.
- 3.3.12 Roadside ditch **10** (consists of **10**, **52** & **87**) (Fig. 3) was aligned north-east to southwest and measured between 0.8m and 2.42m wide and 0.4m to 0.64m in depth. Lower fill 11 (consists of 11, 53 and 82) was a light yellowish brown silty sand with rare flint inclusions. A total of 0.23kg of animal bone and 0.003kg of Roman pottery were recovered from this fill. Upper fill 12 (consists of 12 and 81) was a dark reddish brown sandy silty with occasional angular flint and chalk inclusions. A total of 0.37kg of Roman pottery, 0.35kg of animal bone and 0.64kg of building material were recovered from the fill. Tertiary fill 81 was seen in the central intervention, which was 0.36m thick and a mid greyish brown sand silt with occasional chalk inclusions, 0.56kg of Roman pottery, 0.62kg of building material and 0.2kg of animal bone. Recut **54** was seen in the northern most intervention in the ditch, which was 1.5m wide and 0.3m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 55 was a dark greyish brown silty sand with rare chalk inclusions and 8g of Roman pottery.
- 3.3.13 Posthole **13** was circular in plan, 0.8m in diameter, 0.3m deep with a U shaped profile. Fill 14 was a light reddish brown silty sand with common chalk inclusions. A total of 0.017kg of Medieval pottery was recovered from the fill. Upper fill 15 was a mid reddish brown sandy silty with occasional small stone and chalk inclusions.
- 3.3.14 Pit **16** was sub-rectangular in plan, 1.4m long, 0.8m wide and 0.29m deep with a U shaped profile. Fill 17 was a light reddish brown silty sand with regular chalk inclusions.
- 3.3.15 Well **60** (Plate 5) was sub-circular in plan, 1.6m in diameter and 7m in depth with vertical sides. Fill 61 was a mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional flint inclusions, 0.63kg of Roman pottery, 0.06kg of animal bone and one fragment of lava quern with a weight of 0.97kg.
- 3.3.16 Pit cluster **64** (Fig. 4 & Plate 7) (consists of pits **22**, **24**, **64**, **65** & **66**) was an irregular sub-circle in plan, 7m long and 3.1m wide.
- 3.3.17 Pit **22** was 1.7m in diameter and 0.22m deep with a sub-circular shape in plan and bowl profile. It was truncated by pit **66**. Fill 23 was a light reddish brown clayey silt with sub-angular stones, 0.28kg of Roman pottery, 0.1kg of ceramic building material and 0.57kg of animal bone.
- 3.3.18 Pit 65 survived for 3.1m in diameter, 0.6m in depth, and was heavily truncated by pits
 64, 66 and 24. Fill 72 was a light reddish brown silty sand with 0.24kg of Roman pottery, a whetstone (SF 39) and rare stone inclusions.
- 3.3.19 Pit **64** was sub-circular in plan, 2.7m in diameter, 1.3m deep with a U-shaped profile and truncated pit **65**. Basal fill 91 was a dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.1m thick, with regular flint inclusions and contained 14g of Roman pottery. The backfill above this (67,



68, 69 & 70) was a light reddish brown silty sand with chalk and flint inclusions. A total of 14.4kg of Roman pottery and 6.82kg of animal bone was recovered from these fills. Uppermost fill 71 was a dark greyish brown silty sand with moderate chalk and flint inclusions from which 2.34kg of Roman pottery and 0.23kg of animal bone was recovered. Other deposits of slumping and backfill were seen (67, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97) which were all a mixed dark reddish brown silty sand with regular stone, flint and chalk inclusions. From these fills, a total of 1.5kg of Roman pottery and 0.48kg of animal bone were recovered.

- 3.3.20 Pit **66** was 1.4m in diameter, 0.4m deep and heavily truncated by pit **24**. Tip lines of backfill (73, 74, 75, 76 & 77) were all a dark reddish brown silty sand with rare stone inclusions. A total of 0.38kg of Roman pottery was recovered from fill 73. Upper fills 78 & 79 were a light yellowish brown silty sand with regular stone and chalk inclusions.
- 3.3.21 Pit **24** was the latest in the sequence of pits, was sub-circular in plan, 2.5m in diameter and 0.65m deep. Lower Fill 92 was a dark reddish brown silty sand, 0.24m thick with moderate stone inclusions and 2.2kg of Roman pottery and 0.13kg of animal bone. Backfill 25 was a dark reddish brown sandy silt with regular flint and chalk inclusions, from which 11.28kg of Roman pottery, 1.6kg of animal bone and 0.17kg of Roman glass were recovered.
- 3.3.22 Trackway or ditch **58** (Plate 4) was linear in plan and parallel with trackway or ditch **62**. The feature was 1.4m wide and 0.2m deep, with a bowl profile. Fill 59 was a light brownish grey silty sand with regular chalk inclusions.
- 3.3.23 Trackway or ditch **62** (Plate 4) was linear in plan and parallel with trackway or ditch **58**. The feature was 1.1m wide and 0.24m deep with a bowl profile. Fill 63 was a mid reddish yellow silty sand with common chalk inclusions, from with 8g of coal were recovered during sample processing.

3.3.24 Trench 16

3.3.25 Trench 16 contained no features of archaeological interest.

3.4 Finds Summary

3.4.1 A total of 39.8kg of pottery were recovered from the excavation, with a large variety of pottery all dating from the mid 2nd to 3rd century, 12.2kg of animal bone was recovered, along with quantities of glass and metalwork. See Appendix D for further details of type and quantity of finds. Full finds analysis will be undertaken for the Analysis Report.

Human Skeletal Remains

3.4.2 The inhumation from site (sk27) (Plate 6) was in relatively good condition and contained a small kinfe (SF 3) as a grave good. A full analysis of the inhumation and grave good will be undertaken for the Analysis Report.

3.5 Environmental Summary

3.5.1 A total of 19 bulk samples were taken from site and analysed. Samples from pit cluster **64** and trackway **58** were found to contain large amount of clinker and hammerscale, indicating nearby industrial activity, presumably smithing, taking place.



4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1.1 Evidence from the evaluation and excavation south of Stanley Road, Great Chesterford, indicated Roman activity and occupation in the southern area of the development. This was in a narrow corridor approximately 20m wide leading east to west and continuing under the wooded area currently forming a boundary in the southeast part of site. The rest of the development area to the north was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2 Roman Roadside Ditch

- 4.2.1 During initial post-excavation work following the evaluation, the alignment of ditch **1** was seen to correlate with a cropmark seen on 2009 satellite imagery (Figs. 5 & 6). The cropmark has been traced for 1.4km heading north-east out of Great Chesterford, towards Bartlow and Linton. The cropmark is mostly seen as one linear, but in two areas a second linear can be seen running parallel approximately 30m to the north (see Fig. 5).
- 4.2.2 This cropmark is evidently part of a Roman road, and is likely one of the roads that formed part of the Icknield Way Southern Route. Ditch **1**, seen in Trench 5, appears to be the southern road side ditch for this route. No surviving *in situ* road surface or evidence of a hollow way was seen, most likely due to ploughing since the post-medieval period eroding any of these remains.
- 4.2.3 The large amount of pottery recovered from the fills of Ditch **1** suggests that there is settlement activity within close proximity to the area. Great Chesterford is known to have extra-mural settlement outside the walls and geophysics data has shown these areas of settlement extend up to 300m outside of the walled town to the north. Archaeological interventions to the east of the town, towards the development site, have also located evidence of extra-mural settlement, though the evidence is sparse, likely due to the lack of investigations made on this side of Great Chesterford (Medleycott 2011). Because the walls are 4th Century, this is mostly an artificial division, and these areas of settlement were most likely an integral part of the main urban area prior to the wall's construction (Medleycott 2011).
- 4.2.4 Postholes **4** and **13** indicates a later fence line introduced some time during the post-Roman period. As can be seen within the area plan, a current boundary is still in use along this same line, forming part of the original northern boundary for land belonging to Chesterford House to the south. This suggests the line of the road was still known and being used as a boundary into the medieval and post-medieval period.

4.3 Roadside Settlement

- 4.3.1 The archaeology found during excavation provides further evidence for the Roman road with related settlement being located within the area. The two large pit clusters indicate activity within the area whilst the road was in use, and the other features on site, such as the linear features currently interpreted as trackways (58 & 62), well 60 and the single burial (SK27) also support this.
- 4.3.2 The period of time this route of the lcknield Way was in use is unclear, although the evidence of recuts in some slots through Ditch **1** indicates it was maintained for some time these recuts simply represent phases of cleaning out of the ditch once it had begun to silt up.
- 4.3.3 No evidence of roadside buildings was seen on site. One working theory is that the nearest farmstead outside of Great Chesterford is located nearby, possibly underneath



Chesterford House, to the south of site. It is possible the trackway features **58** and **62** form an enclosure or boundary around this farmstead and pit clusters **37** and **64** along with well **60** all relate to this farmstead.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The location of the Icknield Way Southern Route is known to have run through Great Chesterford, but evidence for its location on the north-eastern side of Great Chesterford has not been clearly seen in the archaeological record previously. The proposed route for the road was thought to be approximately 100m to the south of where it has been located within the site. Because of this, the findings from this excavation can be considered to be of local and regional significance.
- 4.4.2 The Romano-British pottery assemblage is very large for such a limited excavation and further analysis has the potential to inform greatly on the extramural settlement development of the town. That it comes with a sizeable animal bone assemblage, glasswork and a large group of metal objects add to it's significance.
- 4.4.3 An in-depth assessment of the evidence and further discussion will be undertaken in the Analysis Report when a full analysis of finds have been completed.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1							
General de	escriptio	ı			Orientation		ENE-WSW
			_		Avg. depth	(m)	0.31
Trench dev natural.	oid of arc	haeology.	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)	1.6		
natarai.			Length (m)		30		
Trench 2							-
General de	escriptio	า		Orientation		NNW-SSE	
			Avg. depth	(m)	0.3		
Trench dev natural.	oid of arc	haeology.	Consists o	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
nataran.					Length (m)		30
Trench 3							1
General d	escriptio	า			Orientation		NNW-SSE
					Avg. depth	(m)	0.32
Trench dev natural.	oid of arc	haeology.	Consists o	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
naturai.					Length (m)		30m
Trench 4							1
General d	escriptio	า			Orientation	ENE-WSW	
					Avg. depth (m)		0.32
Trench dev natural.	oid of arc	haeology.	Consists o	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
naturai.					Length (m)		30
Trench 5							1
General d	escriptio	า			Orientation		NNW-SSE
					Avg. depth (m)		0.39m
				ned. Trench consists of rn overlying a chalk natural.	Width (m)		1.6
	nying a ti	11 300301	ayer, in tu	in ovenying a chair hatara.	Length (m)		30
Contexts							1
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
1	Cut	1.8	0.55	Ditch Cut	-		-
2	Fill	0.8	0.2	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-	3rd C
3	Fill	1.8	0.4	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-	3rd C
4	Cut	0.27	0.38	Post hole Cut	-		_
5	Fill	0.27	0.38	Post hole Fill	-		_
6	Cut	1.45	0.13	Trackway Cut	-		_
7	Fill	1.45	0.13	Trackway Fill	-		_
8	Fill	0.3	0.17	Ditch Fill	-		_
9	Fill	1.05	0.11	Ditch Fill	-		_



Trench 6							
General d	escriptior	ו			Orientation	1	ENE-WSW
					Avg. depth	0.33	
Trench dev natural.	oid of arc	haeology.	Width (m)	1.6			
natarai.			Length (m)		30		
Trench 7							
General d	escriptior	ו			Orientation	1	ENE-WSW
			Avg. depth	(m)	0.35		
Trench dev natural.	old of arc	haeology.	Consists c	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
naturan					Length (m)		30
Trench 8							
General d	escriptior	ו			Orientation	ı	NW-SE
			•		Avg. depth	(m)	0.36
Trench dev natural.	oid of arc	haeology.	Consists c	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
naturan					Length (m)		25
Trench 9							
General d	escriptior	ı			Orientation	1	NNW-SSE
			o		Avg. depth	0.38	
natural.	loid of arc	naeology.	Consists c	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
					Length (m)		25
Trench 10							
General d	escriptior	1			Orientation	ENE-WSW	
T				6 (Avg. depth (m)		0.4
natural.	loid of arc	naeology.	Consists c	of topsoil overlying a chalk	Width (m)		1.6
					Length (m)		25
Trench 11							
General d	escriptior	ı			Orientation	1	NNW-SSE
T 1				- 1 -	Avg. depth	(m)	0.4
				ed. Trench consists of rn overlying a chalk natural.	Width (m)		4.5
			,		Length (m)		39
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
48	Cut	2.36	0.55	Ditch Cut	-		-
49	Fill	2.36	0.55	Ditch Fill	-		-
50	Cut	1.4	0.35	Ditch Cut	-		-
51	Fill	1.4	0.35	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-	3rd C



	2						
General d	escriptio	on			Orientation		NNW-SSE
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
			ned. Trench consists of Irn overlying a chalk natural.	Width (m)		4.5	
	sing a c		and overlying a chait natarah	Length (m)		38	
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	te
43	Cut	3	0.4	Ditch Cut	-	-	
44	Fill	3	0.4	Ditch Fill	-	-	
45	Fill	3	0.32	Ditch Fill	Glass & Pottery	2nd-3	Brd C
46	Cut	1.2	0.3	Ditch Cut	-	-	
47	Fill	1.2	0.3	Ditch Fill	Bone	-	
Trench 13	;						
General d	escriptio	n			Orientation		NNW-SS
Trench co	ntained o	ne ditch. N	-SW aliq	ned, an inhumation, 2	Avg. depth (m)	0.38
11011011 001	number of		_ 011 aligi		Width (m) 16		
	ts and a p			sists of topsoil overlying a	Width (m)		16
	ts and a p	oit cluster. T turn overly			Width (m) Length (m)		16 38
thin subso	ts and a p						
	ts and a p					da	38
thin subso Contexts context	ts and a p il layer, in	turn overly Width	ving a chal Depth	k natural.	Length (m)		38
thin subso Contexts context no	ts and a p il layer, in type	turn overly Width (m)	ving a chal Depth (m)	k natural.	Length (m)		38 te
thin subso Contexts context no 26	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut	turn overly Width (m)	ving a chal Depth (m) 0.2	k natural. comment Grave Cut	Length (m) finds	da -	38 te
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk	Width (m) 0.65 -	ving a chal Depth (m) 0.2 -	k natural. comment Grave Cut Human Skeletal Remains	Length (m) finds	da -	38 te
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65	ving a chal Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2	k natural. comment Grave Cut Human Skeletal Remains Grave Fill	Length (m) finds - Fe Knife -	da -	38 te Brd C
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28 29	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3	ving a chal Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.2 0.26	k natural.	Length (m) finds - Fe Knife - -	da - 2nd-3 - -	38 te Brd C
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28 29 30	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3	Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.26 0.26	k natural.	Length (m) finds - Fe Knife - -	da - 2nd-3 - -	38 te Brd C
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28 29 30 31	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3	Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.26 0.26 0.2	k natural.	Length (m) finds Fe Knife - Pottery -	da - 2nd-3 - -	38 te Brd C
thin subso Contexts context 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3 1 1	Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.26 0.22 0.23 0.24 0.25 0.26 0.21 0.22 0.23 0.24 0.25 0.26 0.21 0.22 0.21 0.21 0.22 0.23 0.24	k natural.	Length (m) finds Fe Knife Fe Knife Pottery -	da - 2nd-3 - -	38 te Brd C Brd C
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3 1 1 1 1.2	ring a chal Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.26 0.26 0.26 0.2 0.2 1	k natural.	Length (m) finds Fe Knife Fe Knife Pottery - - - - - - - - - - - - -	da 	38 te Brd C Brd C Brd C
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1 1 1 1.2 1.2	ring a chal Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.26 0.26 0.26 0.2 1 1 1	k natural.	Length (m) finds Fe Knife Fe Knife Pottery - Pottery Pottery	da 	38 te Brd C Brd C
thin subso Contexts context 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1 1.2 1.2 1.2 2	Depth 0.2 - 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.26 0.26 0.21 1 0.2	k natural.	Length (m) finds finds Fe Knife Fe Knife Pottery Pottery Pottery	da 	38 te Brd C Brd C
thin subso Contexts context 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	Width (m) 0.65 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 2 1.2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Depth 0.2	k natural.	Length (m) finds Fe Knife Fe Knife Pottery Pottery Pottery -	da 	38 te Brd C Brd C
thin subso Contexts context no 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	ts and a p il layer, in type Cut Sk Cut Sk Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	Width (m) 0.65 - 0.65 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.3 1.2 2 1.2 2 2.2	Depth (m) 0.2 - 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 1 0.4 0.4 1.1	k natural.	Length (m) finds Fe Knife Fe Knife Pottery Pottery Pottery -	da 	38 te Brd C Brd C Brd C Brd C



Trench 14							
General d	escription	า			Orientation	NW-SE	
					Avg. depth	m) 0.35	
			0	ned. Trench consists of urn overlying a chalk natural.	Width (m)	2	
topsoli ove	nying a tri	in subsoir	Length (m)	30			
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
40	Fill	2.2	0.48	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C	
41	Fill	1.6	0.24	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C	
42	Cut	2.3	0.64	Ditch Cut	-	-	
Trench 15							
General d	escription	1			Orientation	NNW-SS	
	•			and a wall a sit direter and	Avg. depth	m) 0.41	
				ned, a well, a pit cluster and soil overlying a thin subsoil	Width (m)	14	
layer, in tu					Length (m)	29	
Contexts					,		
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
10	Cut	1.7	0.52	Ditch Cut	-	-	
11	Fill		0.26	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C	
12	Fill		0.52	Ditch Fill	Pottery & Glass	2nd-3rd C	
13	Cut	0.8	0.3	Posthole Cut	-	-	
14	Fill	0.8	0.2	Posthole Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C	
15	Fill	0.8	0.1	Posthole Fill	-	-	
16	Cut	0.8	0.29	Pit Cut	-	-	
17	Fill	0.8	0.29	Pit Fill	-	-	
	-	1	0.23	Linear Cut	-	-	
18	Cut					- 2nd-3rd C	
18 19	Cut Fill	1	0.23	Linear Fill	CBM	2nd-3rd C	
			0.23 0.29	Linear Fill Linear Cut	CBM	2nd-3rd C -	
19	Fill	1				2nd-3rd C - -	
19 20	Fill Cut	1 1.4	0.29	Linear Cut	-	2nd-3rd C - - -	
19 20 21	Fill Cut Fill	1 1.4 1.4	0.29 0.29	Linear Cut Linear Fill	-	2nd-3rd C - - - 2nd-3rd C	
19 20 21 22	Fill Cut Fill Cut	1 1.4 1.4 0.8	0.29 0.29 0.2	Linear Cut Linear Fill Pit Cut	- - - Pottery &	-	
19 20 21 22 23	Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	1 1.4 1.4 0.8 0.8	0.29 0.29 0.2 0.2	Linear Cut Linear Fill Pit Cut Pit Fill	- - Pottery & CBM	- - - 2nd-3rd C	
19 20 21 22 23 24	Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	1 1.4 1.4 0.8 0.8 2.5	0.29 0.29 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.65	Linear Cut Linear Fill Pit Cut Pit Fill Pit Cut	- - Pottery & CBM - Pottery &	- - - 2nd-3rd C -	



54	Cut	1.5	0.3	Ditch Cut	-	-
55	Fill	1.5	0.3	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
58	Cut	1.4	0.2	Linear Cut	-	-
59	Fill	1.4	0.2	Linear Fill	-	-
60	Cut	1.6	7	Well Cut	-	-
61	Fill	1.6	7	Well Fill	Pottery & Quern	2nd-3rd C
62	Cut	1.1	0.24	Linear Cut	-	-
63	Fill	1.1	0.24	Linear Fill	-	-
64	Cut	2.7	1.3	Pit Cut	-	-
65	Cut	1	0.57	Pit Cut	-	-
66	Cut	1.4	0.4	Pit Cut	-	-
67	Fill	1.2	0.15	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
68	Fill	2	0.2	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
69	Fill	3	0.4	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
70	Fill	1.3	0.23	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
71	Fill	2.5	0.4	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
72	Fill	1	0.6	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
73	Fill	1	0.1	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
74	Fill	1	0.1	Pit Fill	-	-
75	Fill	1	0.1	Pit Fill	-	-
76	Fill	1.2	0.11	Pit Fill	-	-
77	Fill	1.4	0.17	Pit Fill	-	-
78	Fill	0.5	0.2	Pit Fill	-	-
79	Fill	0.6	0.2	Pit Fill	-	-
81	Fill	2.42	0.36	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
82	Fill	1.76	0.3	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
83	Cut	2.47	0.64	Ditch Recut	-	-
84	Fill	0.7	0.28	Ditch Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
87	Cut	3	0.68	Ditch Cut	-	-
88	Fill	0.3	0.2	Ditch Fill	Pottery & CBM	2nd-3rd C
91	Fill	0.8	0.1	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
92	Fill	2	0.24	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
93	Fill	2.5	0.34	Pit Fill	Pottery	2nd-3rd C
94	Fill	2.2	0.06	Pit Fill	-	-
95	Fill	2.4	0.3	Pit Fill	-	-
96	Fill	1.35	0.04	Pit Fill	-	-
97	Fill	1.1	0.13	Pit Fill	_	



Trench 16						
General description	Orientation	ENE-WSW				
	Avg. depth (m)	0.37				
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying a chalk natural.	Width (m)	2				
natural.	Length (m)	38				



APPENDIX B. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

B.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- B.1.1 Nineteen bulk samples were taken from Roman deposits during excavations at Stanley Road, Great Chesterford. Features sampled included pits, a roadside ditch, a possible trackway and a well thought to be associated with a Roman farmstead (assumed to be under Chesterford House). The purpose of this assessment is to determine whether plant remains are present, their mode of preservation and whether they are of interpretable value with regard to domestic, agricultural and industrial activities, diet, economy and rubbish disposal.
- B.1.2 Two samples were taken from a single adult inhumation with the aim to maximise full recovery of skeletal elements and any grave goods in addition to any preserved plant remains.

Methodology

B.1.3 The total volume of each of the samples (with the exception of the well samples which were sub-sampled) were processed by tank flotation (using modified Siraff-type equipment) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Stace (1997). Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

B.1.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens #### = 100+ specimens

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal have been scored for abundance

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

Results

B.1.5 Plant remains are scarce and are preserved by carbonisation. Neither of the samples from well 60 contained any plant remains preserved by waterlogging and it is assumed that this feature had completely dried out. The carbonized material is comprised of sparse cereal grains in addition to small amounts of charcoal, clinker and coal. The cereal grains are poorly preserved and can only be identified as such by their



characteristic 'honeycomb' internal morphology. Occasional grains resemble spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) although these identifications are tentative. A single glume base of spelt wheat was noted in Sample 15, fill 56 of track way ditch **58**.

Sample No.	Contex t No.	Cut No.	Featur e Type	Volume proces sed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereal s	Chaff	Charco al	Amphib ian bones	Large animal bones	Human bones
1	2	1	Ditch	8	1	0	0	+	0	#	0
2	3	1	Ditch	8	2	0	0	+	0	#	0
3	12	10	Ditch	15	20	#	0	++	0	#	0
4	27	26	Grave	10	2	#	0	+	0	0	#
5	28	26	Grave	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	#
6	45	43 + 46	Ditch	17	10	#	0	++	0	#	0
7	39		quarry pit	18	10	#	0	+	0	#	0
8	61	60	Well	8	2	0	0	+	0	0	0
9	40	42	Ditch	10	2	0	0	+	0	#	0
10	41	42	Ditch	10	2	0	0	+	0	0	0
11	81	83	Ditch	10	5	0	0	+	##	0	0
12	82	83	Ditch	10	1	#	0	+	#	#	0
13	84	85	Ditch	10	1	0	0	+	0	0	0
14	23	22	Pit	10	5	#	0	++	0	#	0
15	59	58	Track way	8	10	0	#	++	0	0	0
16	63	62	Track way	6	5	0	0	+++	0	0	0
17	71	64	Pit	20	10	#	0	++	#	#	0
18	67	64	Pit	17	1	0	0	+	##	#	0
19	61	60	Well	0.1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

 Table 1: Environmental samples from GC56

B.1.6 Charcoal is present in all of the samples in minute quantities. Clinker occurs more commonly especially in Samples 15 to 18 which were taken from track way ditches **58**



and **62** and from nearby pits **22** and **64**. Hammerscale is present in nearly all of the samples in three forms; spheroidal hammerslag, flake hammerscale and microhammerslag (table 2).

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Spheroidal hammersla g	Flake hammersca le	Micro hammersla g	Clinker	Metal
1	2	1	Ditch	0	0	0	0	0
2	3	1	Ditch	+	+	++	+	0
3	12	10	Ditch	+	+	++	+	Fe nail
4	27	26	Grave	0	++	+	0	0
5	28	26	Grave	0	+	+	0	0
6	45	43 + 46	Ditch	+	++	+	0	Fe nail x2
7	39		Quarry pit	0	+	+	0	0
8	61	60	Well	+	+	+	0	0
9	40	42	Roadway Ditch	0	+	0	+	0
10	41	42	Roadway Ditch	0	0	+	0	0
11	81	83	Roadway Ditch	0	+	+	0	0
12	82	83	Roadway Ditch	+	+	+	0	0
13	84	85	Roadway Ditch	+	+	+	0	0
14	23	22	Pit	+	++	+	++	0
15	59	58	Trackway	+	+	+	++	0
16	63	62	Trackway	0	+	0	+++	0
17	71	64	Pit	+	+	+	+	0
18	67	64	Pit	+	+	+	0	Fe nail + hob nails
19	61	60	Well	0	0	0	0	0

 Table 2: Metalworking residues from GC56

B.1.7 The sample residues contain occasional iron nails (including hob-nails), several pottery fragments, occasional animal bone fragments and amphibian bones, small quantities of oyster shell and a single piece of coal. The two samples from grave 26 both contained human bones. A single charred grain had most likely been accidentally incorporated in the grave during backfilling.



Discussion

- B.1.8 The sparse charred plant assemblage recovered from excavations at Stanley Road, Great Chesterford are comprised of cereal grains that were most likely to have been accidentally burnt during food preparation and subsequently been wind-blown across the site accumulating into negative features. There is no evidence of deliberate deposition.
- B.1.9 The presence of clinker and coal is indicative of coal being used as fuel for industrial use such as in a metalworking furnace and may be evidence of industrial activity occurring nearby. There is increasing evidence of the use of coal as a fuel for metalworking in the Roman period (Dearne and Branigan 1995 in Bayley, Dungworth and Paynter 2001). The recovery of metalworking residues within most of the contexts sampled suggests blacksmithing and possibly smelting taking place. Hammerscale is produced during iron-working processes; flake hammerscale consists of flakes of iron oxide that are expelled in large quantities when hot iron objects are struck, usually against an anvil during smithing. Micro-hammerslag fragments are similarly formed and often flake off when the hot object is immersed in water during cooling. Spheroids of molten slag are formed during the smelting and consolidation of a primary iron bloom and are also formed during the welding of pieces of iron (Starley 1995). Metalworking residues are very small (1-5mm) and can easily work their way through deposits through bioturbation. Iron working waste is also recorded as being used for 'metalling' Roman roads (Margary 1973, 46-47).

Statement of potential

B.1.10 The preserved plant assemblage is too small to be of significance permitting only a tentative conclusion that plant remains have not been included in the small amounts of domestic waste deposited within the features sampled. The recovery of clinker is indicative of the burning of coal that may have occurred on site, presumably for metalworking as there is a significant spread of metalworking residues across the area excavated.



APPENDIX C. FINDS QUANTITIES & SMALL FINDS

Material	Total Weight (kg)	Object Name
Bone	12.253	Bone
Bone	0.002	Small Amphibian Bone
Ceramic	0.477	
Ceramic	0.070	Fired Clay?
Ceramic	4.439	Ceramic Building Material
Ceramic	0.060	Daub
Ceramic	0.033	Fired Clay
Ceramic	39.821	Vessel
Ceramic	9.888	Artefact
Chalk	0.010	Worked
Charcoal	0.008	
Coal	0.017	
Flint	0.018	Worked
Glass	0.968	Vessel
Lava	0.657	Quern
Shell	0.496	
Stone	1.036	Artefact?
Stone	0.035	Whetstone

C.1 Material Quantities

C.2 Small Finds

Number	Context	Material	Object	
1	25	Fe	Artefact	
2	25	Fe	Nails x11	
3	28	Fe	Knife	
4	25	Fe	Artefact	
5	25	Glass	Sherd (Part of SF 24)	
6	71	Fe	Agricultural?	
7	69	Fe	Latch lifter?	
8	40	Fe	Nail	
9	84	Fe	Nail	
10	86	Fe	Nail	
11	70	Fe	Nail x5	
12	70	Cu Al	Artefact	
13	45	Glass	Glass Fragment	



14	68	Chalk	Worked Artefact
15	25	Ceramic	Nene Valley beaker
16	61	Fe	Nails x4
17	61	Fe	Object
18	61	Fe	Object
19	61	Lava	Quern
20	25	Ceramic	Samian: Form 33, stamped
21	68	Ceramic	Samian: Form 45, Lion Head Spout
22	69	Ceramic	Samian: Form 33, fits with SF 20
23	25	Ceramic	Nene Valley Beaker, plain rim
24	25	Glass	Hexagonal Bottle
25	12	Glass	Vessel
26	25	Glass	Vessel
27	25	Glass	Vessel
28	25	Glass	Vessel
29	25	Fe	Nail
30	84	Fe	Nail
31	71	Fe	Nail
32	67	Fe	Nail
33	67	Fe	Hobnails x3
34	12	Fe	Nail
35	45	Fe	Nail
36	45	Fe	Hobnail
37	71	Ceramic	Nene Valley beaker – cornice rim
38	71	Fe	Ring
39	72	Stone	Whetstone
40	25	Fe	Nail
41	25	Fe	Artefact
42	25	Fe	Artefact
43	71	Chalk	Worked Artefact



APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Electronic Resources

Google Earth	2013, Getmapping plc.	2007 satellite image
v.7.1.2.2041		



APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-168484			
Project Name	Roman Roadside	Ditch and Settlement, G	reat Chesterford, Essex	
Project Dates (field	dwork) Start	07-01-2014	Finish 24-01-2014	I
Previous Work (by	[,] OA East)	No	Future Work No]

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	GC56	Planning App. No.	UTT/12/09/5513/OP
HER No.	GC56	Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5

Please select all techniques used:

Field Observation (periodic visits)	Part Excavation	Salvage Record
Full Excavation (100%)	Part Survey	Systematic Field Walking
E Full Survey	Recorded Observation	Systematic Metal Detector Survey
Geophysical Survey	Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	Test Pit Survey
Open-Area Excavation	Salvage Excavation	Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Roadside Ditch	Roman 43 to 410	Pottery	Roman 43 to 410
Pits	Roman 43 to 410	Glass	Roman 43 to 410
Burial	Roman 43 to 410	Metalwork	Roman 43 to 410

Project Location

County	Essex	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Uttlesford	Stanley Rd Great Chesterford, Saffron Walden
Parish	Graet Chesterford	CB10 1QB
HER		
Study Area	1.8	National Grid Reference TL 510 431



Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Myk Flitcroft
Project Design Originator	Myk Flitcroft
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer
Supervisor	Pat Moan

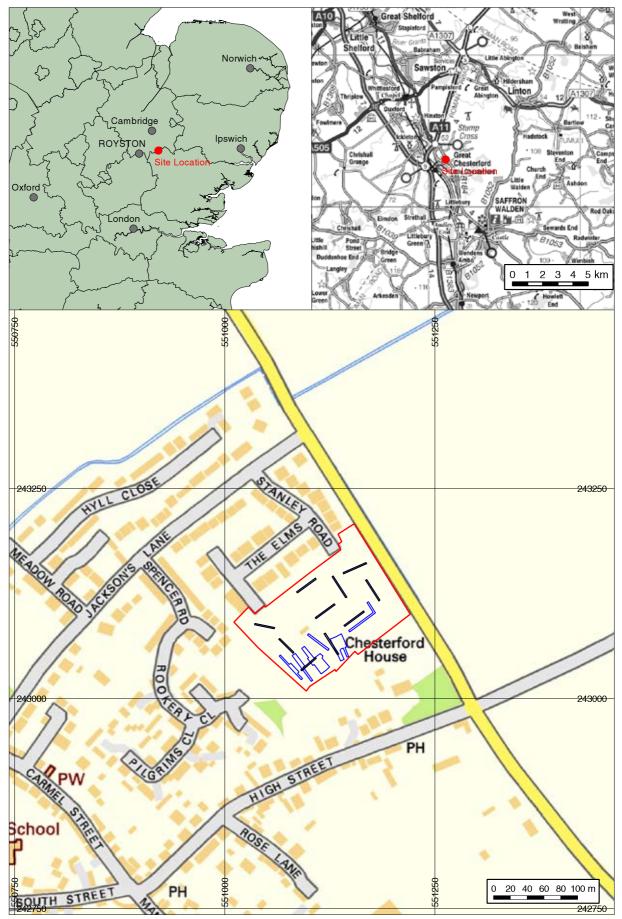
Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
ТВА	OA East Office	ТВА
ТВА	XEXCSR13	ТВА

Archive Contents/Media

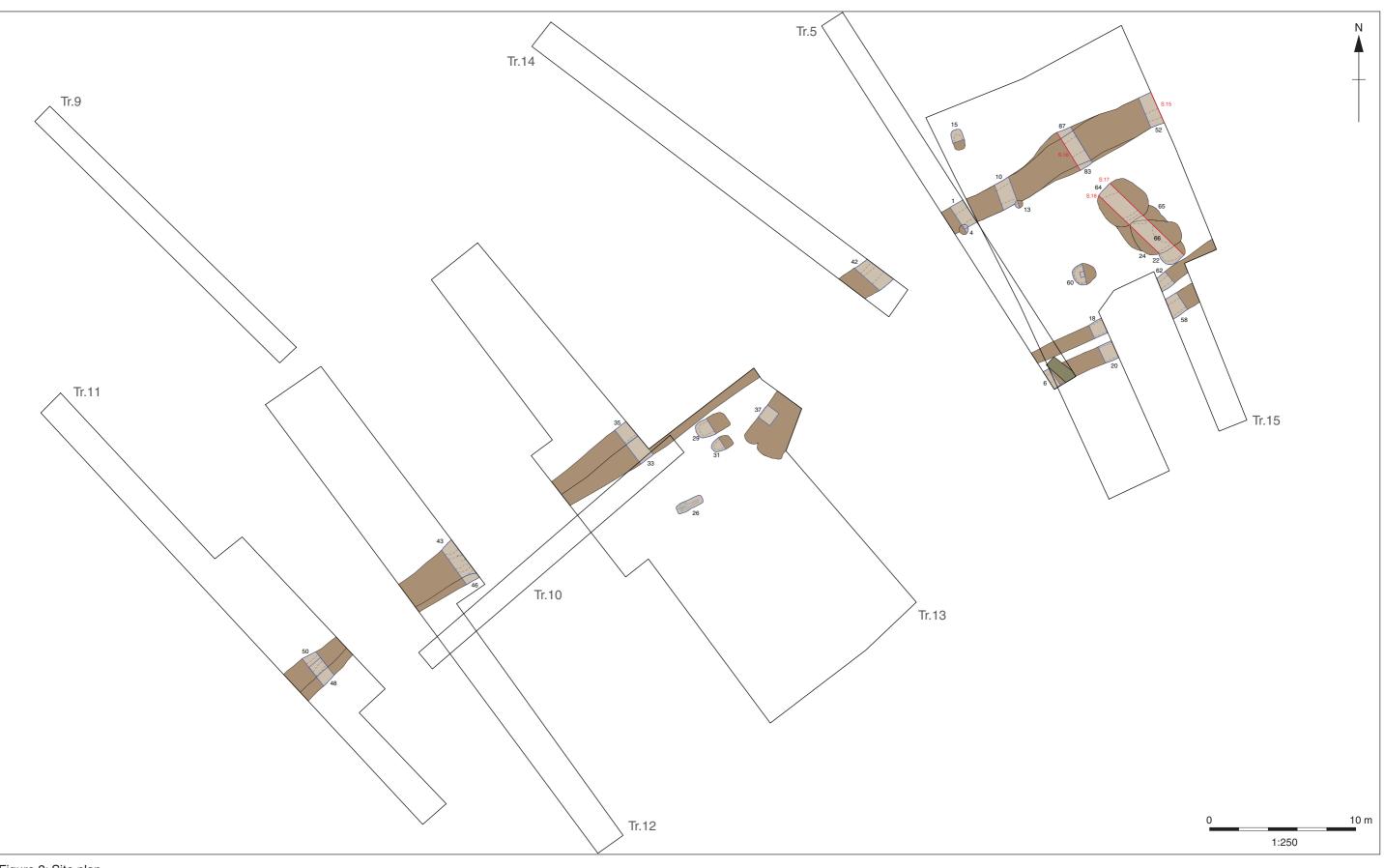
	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	\mathbf{X}		
Ceramics	\boxtimes		
Environmental			
Glass	\mathbf{X}		
Human Bones	\mathbf{X}		
Industrial			
Leather			
Metal	\times		
Stratigraphic			
Survey			
Textiles			
Wood			
Worked Bone			
Worked Stone/Lithic	\mathbf{X}		
None			
Other			

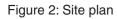
Notes:



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013. All rights reserved. Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) and excavation areas (blue) in development area (red)







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Report Number 1567



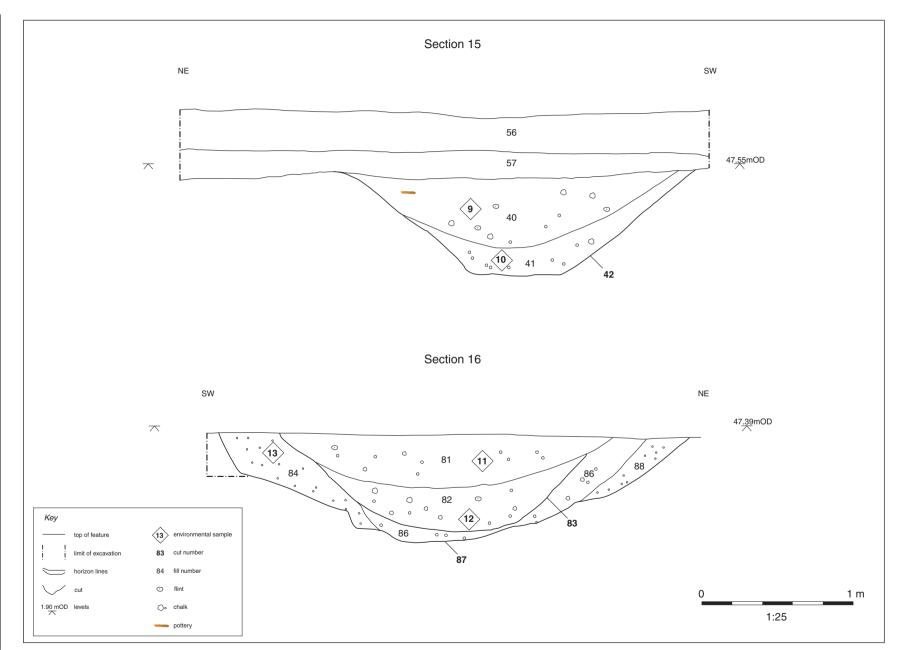


Figure 3: Sections 15, 16

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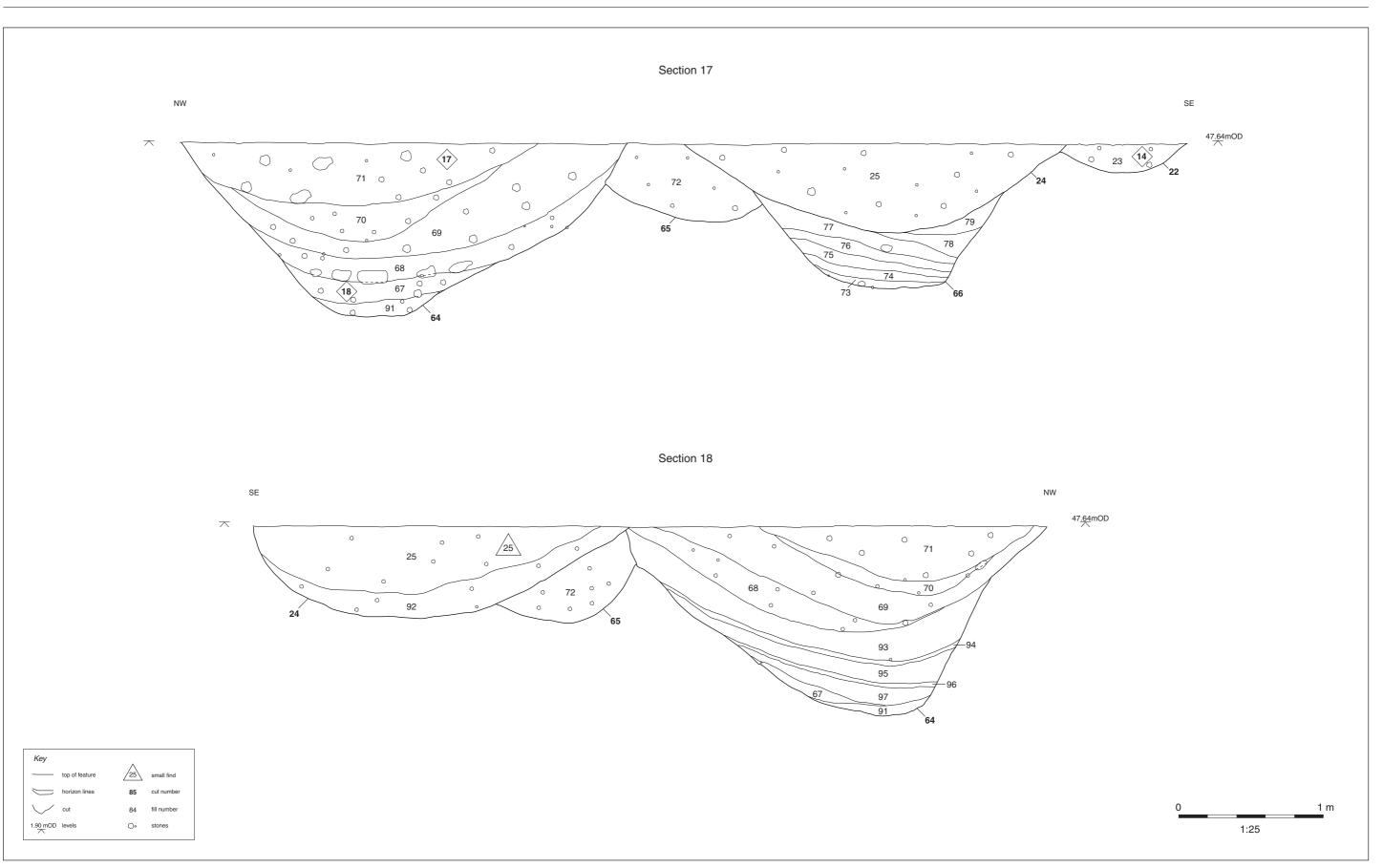


Figure 4: Sections 17 and 18

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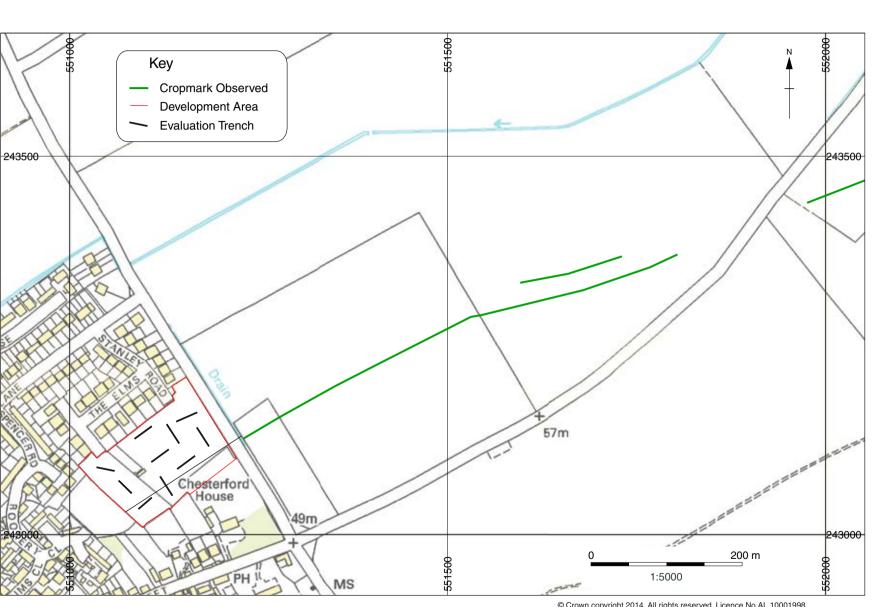


Figure 5: Plan of Cropmarks

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Figure 6: Satellite Image of Cropmarks





Plate 1: Trench 5, looking north north-west



Plate 2: Ditch 1 Section, looking north-east





Plate 3 : Roadside Ditch 83 Section, looking south-east



Plate 4: Linear features 58 & 62, looking south-west





Plate 5 : Well 60, looking north-west



Plate 6: Human Skeletal Remains 27, looking north





Plate 7: Section of part of Pit Cluster 64, looking north-east



Plate 8: Trench 15 during excavation, looking north-west



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Plate 9: Examples of Small Finds



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