

Archaeological Field Unit

# Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman Remains at Butt Lane, Milton Area A: Summer 1997 Training Excavation

Aileen Connor

1998

**Cambridgeshire County Council**

Report No. 145

*Commissioned By East Waste Ltd.*

**Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman Remains at Butt Lane, Milton  
Area A: Summer 1997 Training Excavation**

Aileen Connor

1998

Edited by Tim Malim

Illustrations by Caroline Gait and Jon Cane

With Contributions by Jonathon Last BA Phd, Duncan Schlee BSc MSc.

*Report No 145*

©Archaeological Field Unit  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Fulbourn Community Centre  
Haggis Gap, Fulbourn  
Cambridgeshire CB1 5HD  
Tel (01223) 881614  
Fax (01223) 880946

## **LIST OF CONTENTS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>THE TRAINING EXCAVATION</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND</b>	<b>4</b>
4.1	Prehistoric	
4.2	Roman	
4.3	Saxon	
4.4	Medieval and Post-Medieval	
<b>5.</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY AND CONSTRAINTS</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1	Excavation	
5.2	Post-excavation	
<b>6.</b>	<b>RESULTS</b>	<b>7</b>
6.1	Phase 0	
6.2	Phase 1	
6.3	Phase 2	
6.4	Phase 3	
6.5	Phase 4	
<b>7</b>	<b>THE POTTERY</b>	<b>27</b>
7.1	Introduction	
7.2	Condition and Formation Processes	
7.3	Fabrics	
7.4	Forms and Typology	
7.5	Spatial Distribution and Stratigraphy	
7.6	Conclusions	
<b>8</b>	<b>DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>32</b>
	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>34</b>
	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>34</b>
	<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	
1	Location Maps	1
2	Location of Excavated Areas (1994-7) and Evaluation Trenches (1995)	2
2	Sections through Bronze Age Features	13
3	Plan of Phase 1 Bronze Age Features	14
4	Plan of Phase 2 Iron Age features	19
5	Plan of Phase 3 Late Iron Age/Roman Features	21
6	Plan of Phase 4 Post Roman and Unphased Features	24
	<b>LIST OF PLATES</b>	
1	Some of the Trainees and AFU Staff	3
	<b>LIST OF APPENDICES</b>	
A	Catalogue of Pottery	35
B	Environmental Samples	35
C	Context List	37

## SUMMARY

*Area A at Milton Landfill Site was archaeologically excavated between 14th July and 23rd August 1997. The work was undertaken by trainees under the direction and supervision of Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit (AFU) staff.*

*Milton lies to the north of Cambridge and the Landfill site is situated between the A14 Trunk road and Butt Lane. Area A is located within the proposed Landfill Site at TL 5461 2626.*

*The excavated area was 45m north-south by 40m east-west with a T-shaped trench extension on the eastern edge.*

*The site was characterised by features representing small timber structures, several pits, a quarry, ditches, a possible trackway and a possible buried soil.*

*Small quantities of pottery were recovered from the possible buried soil and structures in the southern part of the site dating to the Middle Bronze Age. Of particular interest is the Middle Bronze Age date attributed to the structures, which gives the Milton East Waste Site regional importance for this period.*

*Post hole structures dated to the late Iron Age are much less coherent but a number of other features including ditches and pits can also be attributed to this period. The ditches may represent a trackway on an east-west orientation.*

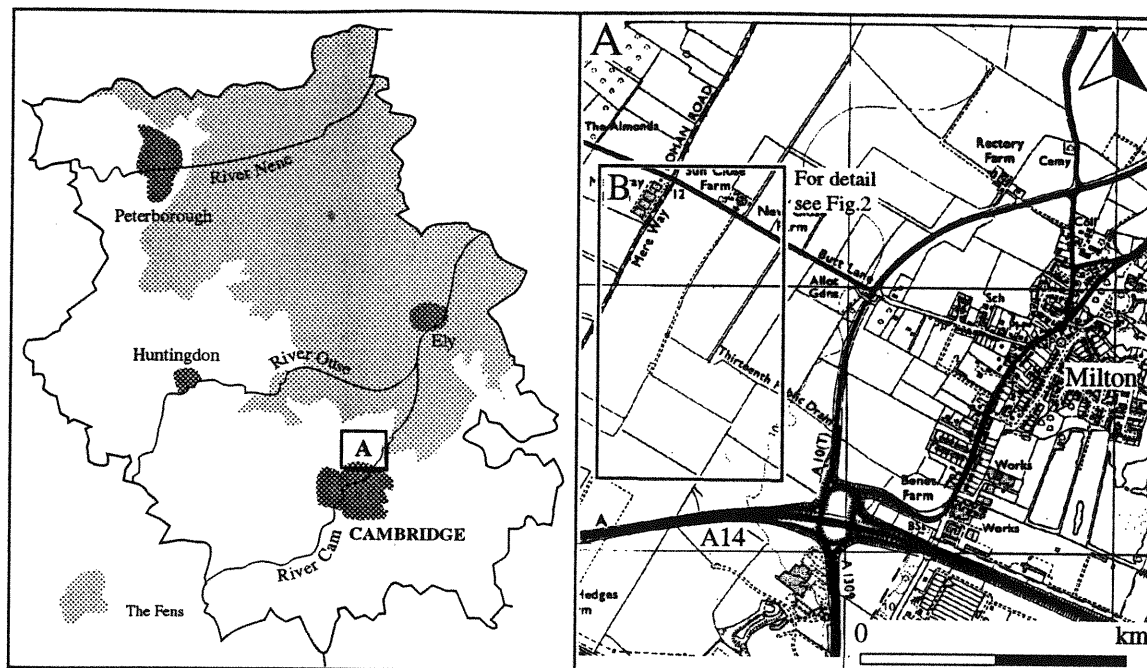
*Evidence for occupation continuing into the Roman period comes from an area of quarry pitting (possibly associated with the construction of Mere Way, (Akeman Street, a Roman Road to the west of the excavation) at the northern edge of the site and from parallel ditches which may represent the continuity of the possibly Iron Age trackway.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

The excavation in 1997 on the proposed Milton Landfill Site was part of an overall strategy to excavate and record archaeological remains threatened by future development. Three areas (A, C and D) of high archaeological potential, and a fourth of lesser significance (B) were identified during evaluation trenching undertaken by the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit in 1995 (Bray and Reynolds 1997). This evaluation followed on from the unexpected discovery and subsequent excavation of Roman and Iron Age remains in 1994 and 1995 elsewhere on the Landfill Site (Reynolds 1994).

Subsequent to the evaluation (MILEW95), East Waste Ltd. agreed to contribute substantially towards the excavation of the three most significant areas of archaeological potential (A, C and D) over a period of three years. The first of the excavation areas (area D) was investigated in the summer of 1996 and is reported on elsewhere (Connor, 1997). The second area to be excavated was area A. This document reports the findings from that excavation.

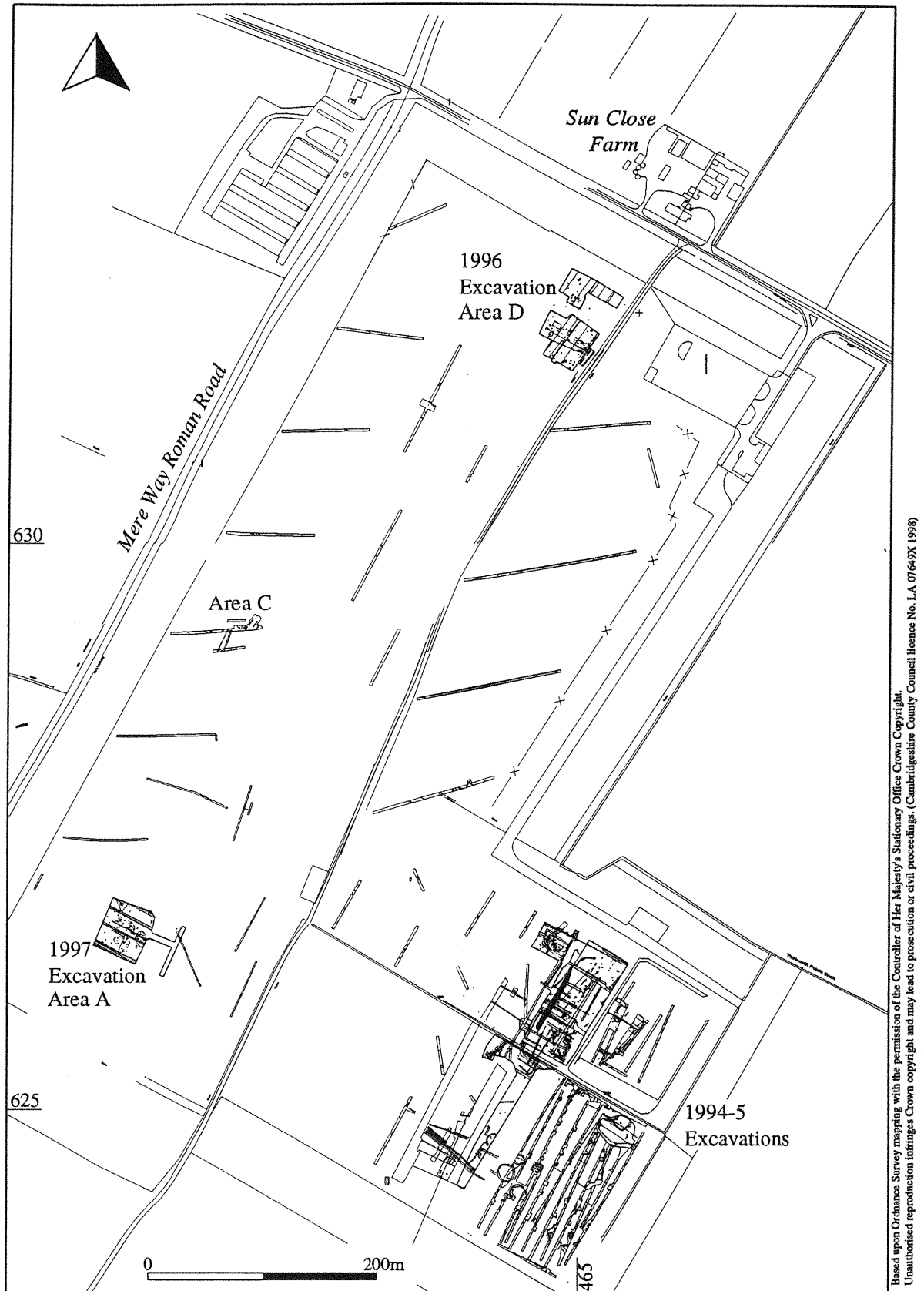
The proposed Milton Landfill Site is located approximately four miles north-east of Cambridge. Excavation area A is situated towards the west boundary of the proposed landfill site, approximately 750m south of Butt Lane and 100m east of Mere Way. The field is currently farmed by Mr. Harold with whose agreement the work was undertaken. The field was under winter wheat at the time of the excavation.



Based upon Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. (Cambridgeshire County Council licence No. LA 07649X 1998)

**Figure 1** Location maps

Although the excavation was largely funded by East Waste Ltd., additional funding was received from individuals participating in a training excavation on the site.



**Figure 2** Location of Excavated Areas (1994-7) and Evaluation Trenches (1995)

## 2 GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

The site lies on the third terrace river gravels of the River Cam. The underlying geology is Jurassic Gault Clay with sporadic capping of Pleistocene gravels, silts and marls (Worssam and Taylor 1969). The site lies at approximately 11m above ordnance datum and is generally flat. Topsoil was between 0.20 and 0.40m in depth across the site overlying subsoil which was almost non-existent over the west area of the site thickening to 0.15m in the east.

## 3 THE TRAINING EXCAVATION

The excavation had two main aims: to excavate and record threatened archaeological remains, 'preserve by record'; to enable a wide range of inexperienced people the opportunity to learn some of the techniques involved in archaeological excavation, a 'training excavation'.



*Plate 1      Some of the trainees and AFU staff*

The following people participated as trainees in the excavation and carried out all the excavation and recording of the archaeological deposits under the close supervision and tuition of AFU staff, the number of weeks trainees participated in the excavation is noted in brackets :

Michelle Bullivant (1), Alison Cameron (1), Kamena Dorling (1) Vivien Bray (1), James Price (1), Richard Cramp (1), Kirsty Bone (2), Gwon Gu Kim (1), Jessica Mills (2), Andrew Smith (2), Ben Croxford (2), Rachel Wellman (1), Francesca Towers (2), Morgan Di Rodi (1), Emma Twigger (2), Chris Chapman (1), Kate Chapman (2), Mary Chester-Kadwell (4), Elizabeth Hart (4), Mathew Morris (2), David Conran (4), Ruth Krueger (4), Sarah Head (1), Cyril Pritchett (4).

An essay competition open to Cambridgeshire school children in the 12 to 13 age group was run with a prize of a week on the training excavation. The competition was won by 12 year old Richard Holmes who attends Impington Village College, for his essay on Archaeology and Rubbish.

A total of 24 participants joined in the excavation as paying trainees ranging from 14 to over 60 years of age. Each participant received an attendance certificate indicating the range of topics covered during their stay. A small number of participants also chose to enter the Madingley Board of Continuing Education University accreditation scheme.

The first group of trainees commenced after initial machine stripping and clearance of the site. Four full time staff were employed to teach and supervise the twelve participants, under the direction of a full time Project Officer. The training programme involved hands-on experience supported by background theory, lectures on a wide range of topics, practical experimental archaeology sessions including building a smithing hearth and flint knapping, and outings to other sites and monuments in Cambridgeshire.

## **4 HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **4.1 Prehistoric**

The area north of Cambridge has traditionally been seen as marginal during the prehistoric period. Much of the land is clay and therefore heavy to work, and, it has been thought, too heavy for prehistoric tools. This land, has therefore been thought of as being wooded. Until recently the evidence has done little to dispute this theory, little prehistoric evidence has been encountered in the Milton area; Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic evidence is absent from the vicinity of the landfill site, and although Bronze Age material was found at Impington, that is some distance away. Fieldwalking over the landfill site had produced only a small quantity of late Bronze Age or Iron Age pottery and a scatter of burnt flint. For the Iron Age, there is evidence of more activity, since there is a defensive late Iron Age ringwork at Arbury Camp (Hughes 1904; Alexander and Trump 1970; Evans 1991a, 1991b) and evidence of Iron Age fields. Evaluation in 1995, (Bray and Reynolds 1997) and excavation in 1996 (Connor 1997) and 1994-5 (Reynolds, forthcoming) showed that there has been prehistoric activity dating to the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age



periods, including Iron Age roundhouses situated along a slight rise in the gravel.

Aerial photographs of the site taken by Ben Robinson in 1996 have shown the presence of cropmarks on the proposed landfill site. Of particular significance is a large subrectangular enclosure on the west of the area, apparently earlier than Mere Way, which may belong to the Iron Age period.

#### **4.2 Roman**

The Roman remains in the area to the north of Cambridge are relatively well documented. Roman Akeman Street, now known as Mere Way along part of its length, bounds the proposed Milton Landfill Site to the West. This road was the major route between Cambridge and Ely. Cremations were found adjacent to the road during work at Kings Hedges (Ette, 1993). Roman Villa buildings were found at Arbury during the construction of a housing estate (Frend, 1955; Alexander et al 1966, 1968, 1969, 1974). Roman farmsteads and kilns are located within the parish of Milton on the first and second river terraces (Bray and Reynolds, 1997). Most recently a large Roman site, including remains of a farming landscape, settlement, industrial and religious activity (Reynolds, 1994) and a Romano-British burial mound (Reynolds, forthcoming) was discovered on the landfill site and excavated under rescue conditions in 1994.

#### **4.3 Saxon**

The nearby parish of Chesterton has been identified as the location for an early Saxon royal estate (Haslam, 1984). Milton itself, however, has very little documented Saxon activity, although a bronze wrist clasp of the period was found whilst recording on MILEW III was being undertaken (Reynolds, forthcoming).

#### **4.4 Medieval and Post-medieval**

A short documentary search of the site was undertaken by Twigs Way, and the following is a summary of the report which is held in archive

The site was nominally part of the 'East Field' one of the three open fields of the parish, but was already recorded as being part of a series of 'ancient enclosures' or 'closes' at the time of the nineteenth century Enclosure Act. A draft pre-enclosure map shows a series of four closes aligned along Mere way, the area under investigation lying within the most southerly of these. In addition there is an east-west drain or trackway marked as 'old enclosure' which may mark the line of an earlier track through the open fields (Way 1997).

## **5 METHODOLOGY AND CONSTRAINTS**

### **5.1 Excavation**

Evaluation of the proposed landfill site in 1995 (Bray & Reynolds, 1997) had highlighted three areas of potential archaeological importance, indicated as areas A, C and D. Practical considerations led to a scheduled programme of work which began with the excavation of area D in July and August 1996, area A was excavated during July and August 1997 and area C will be excavated in the summer of 1998. In order to 'preserve by record' the remains assessed to be present in area A, excavation focused on the evaluation trenches I, X and XXXVIII, and broadened out beyond these trenches in order to locate any peripheral activity. One area 40 x 45 metres and a T shaped trench extending from the eastern edge of the area were mechanically stripped by a tracked excavator, spoil was stockpiled around the edges of the site using a six wheeled tipper truck.

Grid pegs were located across the site at 10 metre intervals using a Total Station Surveying Instrument. Archaeological deposits were excavated by trainees. Discrete features such as pits and post holes were half sectioned or quadranted where practicable. Sections were placed across linear features at regular intervals. All excavated deposits were ascribed an individual 'context' number and recorded using the AFU's recording system: individual deposits were all described using single context recording sheets, pre-excavation plans were drawn using the Total Survey Instrument, post-excavation plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20, sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Photographs in monochrome and colour were taken to supplement the record. Where possible, trainees were encouraged to undertake all the recording steps under close supervision from AFU staff.

Seventeen environmental samples were taken from a broad range of feature types and processed by supervised trainees during the excavation.

Finds processing was undertaken by trainees in the field under the supervision of the AFU's Finds Supervisor as appropriate.

### **5.2 Post-Excavation**

All finds collected from the site were washed, bagged and broadly catalogued, records were checked, consolidated and entered onto a site Database.

Pottery was analysed and reported on by Jonathon Last. Duncan Schlee has scanned the residues from the environmental samples and recommended that no further work is necessary. A short documentary search was carried out by Twigs Way and the full report is kept in archive.

The following report is organized following the standard practice of a hierarchically structured site narrative: post-excavation analysis of individual contexts, plans, sections and dating evidence, has provided the information to construct matrices, and to group contexts into interpretative elements described

chronologically by phase. A summary discussion of each phase is followed by the detailed description of each group.

## 6 RESULTS

All context numbers ascribed to excavated deposits have been grouped according to their stratigraphic and interpretative associations. Context numbers are shown in normal text except where they refer to **cuts**, in which case they are shown in **bold**. Some context groups include context numbers assigned in the evaluation phase (MILEW95) these context numbers are shown in *italics*, and ***bold italics*** where they refer to cuts. The groups are numbered from 1 to 26.

All context groups have been assigned to one of four phases as a means of showing the chronological development to the site. The results are reported on by phase (earliest first where known) and by context group (in numerical order).

### 6.1 Geological (context group 27)

The undisturbed natural within the excavated area was mixed gravel and clay with occasional outcrops of chalky marl.

Two features were excavated which were thought to be geological or natural in origin **413** and **418**. Context 366 was also thought to be natural.

#### Context group 27

Natural features, either geological or animal/plant derived.

366 Number allocated to natural sandy gravel geology.

**413** Irregular ?root hole (0.03m x 0.07m x 0.15m deep). Filled by 373 a dark greyish brown soft silty sand.

**418** Irregular oval hollow (1.90m x 0.50m x 0.08m deep). Filled by 417, a light brownish grey clayey sand. Possibly a natural hollow.

### 6.2 Phase 1 (context groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 26)

#### Middle Bronze Age

Analysis of the pottery suggests the strong possibility that activity was taking place on areas A and D during the Bronze Age. The pottery from area A has been attributed more specifically to the middle Bronze Age, although the assemblage is small, and firm conclusions can not therefore be reached.

Several groups of features could be attributed a middle Bronze Age date based on the pottery found within the features, including evidence for a possible roundhouse (group 1), a four-post structure (group 3), and a deposit (group 6)

which had previously been interpreted as a 'midden' (Bray & Reynolds 1996). These features contained exclusively Bronze Age pottery with no later inclusions, and in addition there was little sign of residual Bronze Age material in later features. This dichotomy between features containing pottery exclusively of one period or the other illustrates a clear separation between the Bronze Age and Iron Age activities on the site.

The Bronze Age activity was largely confined to the south and east of the excavation area and is particularly interesting on two counts: the presence of a small "roundhouse", only five metres in diameter associated with nearby buildings, at least one of which was a four-post structure; and the presence of a deposit (group 6) which contained a relatively large quantity of cultural material and may itself be associated with some kind of building or working area. The survival of this latter was extremely fortuitous given its location within a heavily ploughed landscape, and was due only to the fact that the deposit had formed within a hollow.

Group 11 may represent a larger subrectangular structure in the vicinity of, and cutting through the possible buried soil discussed above (group 6).

If the interpretation of these groups of features, particularly the "roundhouse", as middle Bronze Age in date is correct then they become especially interesting, since very few roundhouses of this date are known in the region. Amongst those that are known is an almost exact parallel excavated at Fengate, Newark Road Subsite, Area IV, Structure 2 (Pryor et al 1980: 60-61), which was also attributed to the 2nd millennium BC. The dimensions of this structure would be consistent with the kind of ancillary buildings ("workshops" etc.) found in association with domestic habitation (eg Hut 2 at Black Patch, East Sussex, Drewett et al 1982: 326, 333, 339-340; or Hut IVB at Thorny Down, Wiltshire, Ellison 1987: 388-390). If the "midden" material (group 6) containing daub and charcoal, 11m square and filling a hollow which may have been man made, is seen in conjunction with those post holes clearly dated to the Bronze Age, and some others which are undated but could also be Bronze Age in date, then we have a strong possibility that these remains are those of a domestic roundhouse located approximately 15m away from the ancillary structure Group 1. A similar distance separates the 2nd millennium BC roundhouse (Structure 1) at Fengate, Newark Road, from Structure 2 with its similar plan of post holes to that of the Group 1 Structure at Milton.

#### **6.2.1 Context group 1**

A group of ten post holes located in the southern half of the excavated area. Nine of the post holes formed an incomplete circle approximately 5 metres in diameter, with a tenth post hole 384 located at its centre. The post holes were all very shallow and truncated, the north-west post holes were deepest at between 0.15m and 0.24m, those on the southern perimeter were only 0.03m deep and post holes may once have existed along the eastern side of the structure but as they were not found during excavation it is likely that they were removed by later agricultural activity. This small structure may be a Roundhouse and has been attributed to the Middle Bronze Age on the basis of a sherd of pottery from 385 the fill of post hole 386. No other finds were recovered from the post holes in this structure.

**368** Circular ?post hole with round based V shaped profile (0.35m diameter x 0.20m deep). Filled by 367, a brownish yellow firm sandy silt with no finds.

**376** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.25m deep). Filled by 375, a light brownish grey firm sandy silt with no finds.

**378** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.16m deep). Filled by 377, a light yellowish brown firm sandy silt with no finds.

**384** Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.18m deep). Filled by 383, a light yellowish brown firm sandy silt with no finds.

**386** Sub circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.50m x 0.40m x 0.15m deep). Filled by 385, a light yellowish brown firm silty sand with a sherd of Bronze Age pottery.

**430** Circular ?post hole with heavily truncated flat based U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.05m deep). Filled by 429, a yellowish brown sandy silt with no finds.

**432** Circular ?post hole with heavily truncated flat based U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.03m deep). Filled by 431, an olive yellow firm silty sand with no finds.

**538** Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.25m diameter x 0.24m deep). Filled by 537, an olive yellow firm silty sand with no finds.

#### **6.2.2 Context group 2**

Less than 5 metres to the east of group 1 were several intercutting post holes and a pit. One of these post holes **505** contained sherds of Bronze Age pottery within its olive brown silty sand fill. The post hole had been truncated by a small pit **420**. No post pipe was observed. The post hole may be associated with the group 1 structure although this can not be confirmed. **420** contained no dating evidence but did contain fragments of burnt daub. Also located adjacent were a further two post holes **575** and **586**. **575** contained fragments of burnt daub, although neither of the post holes contained any dating evidence, their close proximity to **505** suggests a possible Bronze Age date.

**420** Oval pit with flat based stepped U shaped profile (0.56m x 0.40m x 0.24m deep). Filled by 419 and 485. 419 was a dark brown sandy clay with flecks of charcoal and burnt daub. 485 was a dark yellowish brown soft silty sand.

**437** Circular post hole (0.28m x 0.32m x 0.23m deep) in centre of pit **420** filled by 436, a dark olive brown charcoal flecked silty sand.

**505** Circular ?post hole with heavily truncated U shaped profile (0.23m diameter x 0.09m deep). Filled by 506/507 an olive brown firm silty sand containing pottery.

**575** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.38m deep). Filled by 574, a light olive brown sandy clay containing burnt daub. Cut by **586**.

**586** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.50m diameter x 0.40m deep). Filled by 585 a light olive brown sandy clay with charcoal flecks but no finds. Cuts **575**.

#### **6.2.3 Context group 3**

Approximately 8 metres to the south-east of group 1 was a group of four post holes forming a square approximately 2m x 2m. Two of the post holes **491** and **552** contained fragments of Bronze Age pottery and thus the structure has been attributed to the Bronze Age. The most southerly of the post holes **577** was also cut by a later larger post hole **567** (context group 15) which contained fragments of Iron Age pottery. The positioning of this latter post hole may be entirely coincidental and is probably unassociated with the earlier four post structure. The reason for the increased depth observed in post hole **577** is not apparent and it can not be discounted that the associated post holes were incompletely excavated since the difference between subsoil and fills was very subtle.

**491** Circular ?post hole with V shaped profile (0.28m diameter x 0.26m deep), two fills were observed within the cut, 489 was a soft black sandy silt containing fragments of burnt daub and sandstone, and fragments of pottery, 490 was a soft yellowish brown sandy silt. 489 may represent the remnant of a post. Fragments of pottery were found in 490.

**493** Circular ?post hole with vertical sided U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.35m deep). Two fills were observed within the cut, 492 was a very dark greyish brown firm silty sand

and 497 was a dark greyish brown silty sand. 492 may represent the remnant of a post, and 497 the packing around a post.

**552** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.28m diameter and 0.29m deep). One fill 551 was observed within the cut, a very dark greyish brown silty clay containing some pottery.

**577** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.36m in diameter x 0.46m deep). It contained one fill 576 an olive brown soft clayey silt from which animal bone was recovered but no pottery. Cut by 567.

#### **6.2.4 Context group 4**

Seven post holes were thought to have been sealed beneath a “midden” deposit (group 6). These post holes formed a loosely linear alignment on a north-west to south-east orientation. Their alignment was broadly parallel with and approximately 5 metres to the south of a similarly orientated group of post holes (group 11) which cut through the group 6 deposit.

Two post holes **169** and **171** were excavated during evaluation in 1995 which can be attributed a Bronze Age date based on pottery found in their fills. These were both thought to be sealed by the deposit described below (group 6). A further four post holes (**173**, **285**, **291**, **307**) excavated in the evaluation were thought to have been sealed by the group 6 deposit and may date to the Bronze Age based on this association but contained no dateable finds. A seventh post hole **288** was also thought to have been sealed by the group 6 deposit but contained a single sherd of possibly Iron Age pottery, which may be intrusive.

**169** Oval ?post hole with vertical sides and flat base (0.36m x 0.20m x 0.10m deep). Filled by 168, a compact very dark greyish brown sandy clay containing ?Bronze Age pottery.

**171** Oval ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.37m x 0.28m x 0.14m deep). Filled by 170, a compact very dark greyish brown sandy clay containing ?Bronze Age pottery.

**173** Oval ?post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.33m x 0.24m x 0.12m deep). Filled by 172 a very dark greyish brown sandy clay containing no finds.

**285** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.32m diameter x 0.11m deep). Filled by 286, a very dark greyish brown sandy silt containing no finds.

**288** was a subcircular post hole filled by 287 which contained Iron Age pottery. The feature was thought to be sealed by 124 at the time of excavation, however, it was very difficult to distinguish features within this deposit, and the presence of Iron Age pottery within its fill suggests that the feature may be later than deposit 124.

**291** Oval ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.23m x 0.18m x 0.14m deep). Filled by 292, a compact brown sandy silty clay with no finds.

**307** Circular ?post hole with vertical sides and flat base (0.16m diameter x 0.12m deep). Filled by 308, a compact dark yellowish brown sandy silty clay with no finds.

**511** (same as **535**) was a shallow (0.20m) linear feature at least 2m long NE-SW x 0.53m wide. The feature had a U shaped profile and was filled by 536/534 which contained no artefacts. The feature terminated in the south-west and may be part of a subrectangular structure. Its relationship with the buried soil (group 6) is unknown as the layer had been removed during evaluation. It was cut by a ?Roman ditch **579** (group 18)

**515** was a subcircular post hole (0.35m diameter x 0.17m deep). It was filled by 516 and contained no artefacts. The post hole was located 2m to the south-west of **511** with which it formed a line. Its relationship with the buried soil (group 6) is unknown since the layer had been removed during evaluation.

#### **6.2.5 Context group 5**

A small pit **166** was excavated during the evaluation in 1995, the pit was thought to be sealed by the group 6 deposit and can be attributed to the Bronze Age on the basis of pottery found within its fills. As with the group 4 post holes this pit was very shallow, and may have been truncated either by the hollow within which the group 6 deposit had formed or by the formation of the group 6 deposit.

**166** Circular pit with a U shaped profile (0.96m diameter x 0.23m deep). Two fills were observed within the cut. The primary fill, 165 was a very dark grey sandy silt containing

fragments of ?Bronze Age pottery. The upper fill, 180, was a dark grey fine silty clay with no finds.

#### **6.2.6 Context group 6**

A layer of light olive brown soft silty clay sand with whitish yellow and pale orange mottling extended over a sub rectangular area approximately 11m north-south and 11m east-west in the eastern area of the site. The deposit had been observed and excavated during evaluation in 1995 when it was recorded as 123, 124, and 128 and has variously been described as dark greyish brown compacted sandy silty clay, very dark greyish brown sandy silt and very dark grey silty clay. In practice the differentiation between these hues in the munsell chart are rather subtle and could easily be accounted for by slight differences in moisture content or real differences within the deposit itself. Excavation in 1997 recorded the remains of the deposit as 591 and showed that it was not entirely homogeneous and that in places it was very stoney. A recorded depth of 0.15m is consistent between evaluation and excavation although it became clear from the excavation that contrary to being a slightly mounded layer, the deposit actually appeared to fill a slight hollow within the natural. The underlying natural deposit was a compact and almost white chalky marl.

The deposit contained small fragments of burnt daub, pottery and occasional charcoal fragments, its mottled appearance and fine grained composition were reminiscent of an extremely decayed cultivated soil. Its proximity to a number of post holes and its artefactual content, had led to an interpretation as a 'midden' or managed muck heap, and certainly the presence of artefacts and nearby post holes strongly suggests the presence of nearby habitation. The hollow in which the deposit had survived may also, arguably, be an archaeological rather than a natural feature; the chalky marl was extremely compacted and could have been caused by trampling feet perhaps suggesting the presence of some sort of structure here. A number of post holes 169, 171, 173, 285, 288, 291 and 307 and a pit 166 were thought to be sealed by the deposit during the evaluation in 1995, however, these post holes were extremely shallow suggesting either that they had been truncated or that in fact they had originally cut through the deposit from a higher level but had not been observed. No features were found beneath the deposit during excavation in 1997 although several were observed cutting through it.

#### **6.2.7 Context group 7**

Three post holes were cut by features of probable Iron Age date and have been tentatively attributed to the Bronze Age given no other dating evidence.

380 and 474 were shallow circular cuts truncated by and observed beneath ditch 404 (group 16). They may represent a boundary of posts later replaced by the ditch. Alternatively the location of the post holes centrally within the ditch cut suggests that the post holes and ditch were in some way associated and may have been contemporary.

Posthole 565 was located close to and severely truncated by pit 342. It has been tentatively attributed a Bronze Age date based on this relationship. A number of other unphased post holes were located nearby, but formed no coherent pattern.

380 Circular ?post hole with vertical sides and flat base (0.30m diameter x 0.10m deep). Filled by 379, a light olive brown silty sand with no finds. Cut by ditch 404.

474 Circular ?post hole with irregular U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.17m deep). Filled by 475, a dark yellowish brown medium sand with no finds. Cut by ditch 404.

565 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.18m deep). Filled by 564, a dark yellowish brown silty sand with no finds.

#### **6.2.8 Context group 11**

A group of post holes which cut through buried soil (group 6). Most of the post holes contained no dating evidence, and it could, therefore be argued that they may have been much later in date. However, 129, 569 and 175 all contained pottery of possible Bronze Age date, and given that the post holes were all cutting through and may be associated with a possible Bronze Age buried soil it may be argued that all these post holes are of Bronze Age date. Four of the post holes; 569, 601, 607, 610, formed an alignment on an approximately

north-west to south-east orientation, 5 metres to the north of and parallel with group 4 post holes.

*129* Subcircular post hole cut filled by *148* which contained possible Bronze Age and a small sherd of Iron Age pottery which may be intrusive. The post hole cut through deposit *124* (group 6).

*175* Circular post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.46m x 0.44m x 0.18m deep). Filled by *174*, a very dark greyish brown sandy clay containing animal bone and a fragment of prehistoric pottery of uncertain date.

*569* was a circular post hole with a U shaped profile (0.35m diameter x 0.37m deep). Its upper fill was *568*, a greyish brown firm clayey sand with no artefacts, this sealed *602* and *603*. *602* was a dark grey soft silty clay containing Bronze Age pottery. It formed a vertical interface with *603* and may represent the remains of a rotted post. *603* a pale brown firm clay sand filled the gap between the post and the cut but contained no artefacts. The feature cut through buried soil (group 6).

*598* was a circular post hole with a flat based U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.18m deep). Its upper fill was *596*, a dark greyish brown soft silty sand containing small fragments of burnt daub. The deposit may represent the much truncated base of a decayed post. The primary fill was *597* a light brownish grey concreted silty sand with no artefacts. The feature cut through buried soil (group 6).

*601* was a circular post hole with a flat based U shaped profile (0.38m diameter x 0.16m deep). It was filled by *599* and *600*. Its upper fill was *599* a dark greyish brown slightly clayey silty sand containing small fragments of burnt stone. The deposit may represent the truncated base of a decayed post. Surrounding and below *599* was *600*, a light brownish grey mottled silty sand with frequent flints and flecks of charcoal, interpreted as possible post packing. The feature cut through buried soil (group 6).

*605* Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.30m deep). Filled by *604*, unrecorded with no finds. The feature cut through buried soil (group 6).

*607* Circular ?post hole with flat base and vertical sides (0.46m diameter x 0.34m deep). Filled by *606* a very dark greyish brown soft clayey sand containing fragments of animal bone, charcoal, burnt daub and undated pottery. The feature cut through buried soil (group 6).

*610* Circular ?post hole with flat base and vertical sides (0.34m diameter x 0.40m deep). Filled by *609* (unrecorded) with no finds. The feature cut through buried soil (group 6)

#### **6.2.9 Context Group 26**

Four post holes, *122*, *126*, *177*, *183* were excavated during evaluation along the northern perimeter of the buried soil (group 6) two more, *614* and *615* were observed but unexcavated on the western edge of the buried soil, a seventh post hole, *616*, was observed but unexcavated on the southern edge of group 6. Although no dateable finds were recovered from any of these post holes, their location around the edges of the Bronze Age buried soil (group 6) would seem to be more than coincidental. It is possible that these post holes represent part of a putative round house structure perhaps associated with group 6.

*122* Circular post hole with vertical sides and flat base (0.30m x 0.21m x 0.14m deep). Filled by *121*, a very dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal and no finds.

*126* Circular post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.30m x 0.25m x 0.14m deep). Filled by *125*, a very dark greyish brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal and no finds.

*177* Circular post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.37m x 0.41m x 0.13m deep). Filled by *176*, a very dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal and no finds.

*183* Circular post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.28m x 0.33m x 0.12m deep). Filled by *274*, a very dark greyish brown sandy silt with no finds, and *275*, a very dark grey clay silt with no finds.

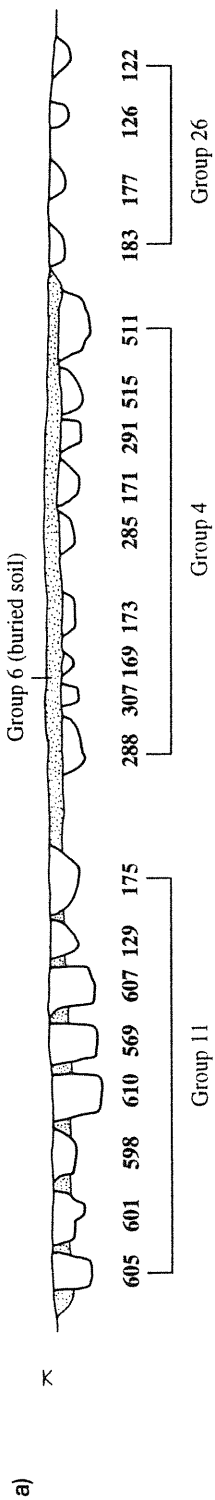
*614* Circular ?post hole, unexcavated

*615* Circular ?post hole, unexcavated

*616* Circular ?post hole, unexcavated

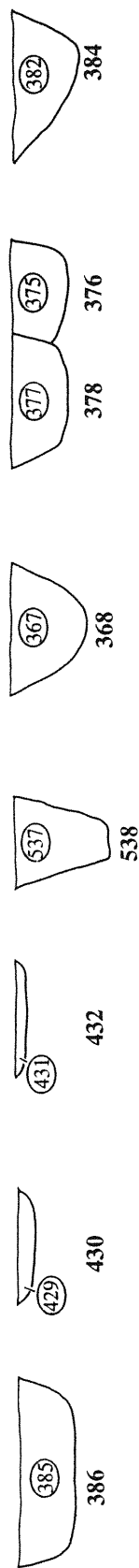


10.98mOD

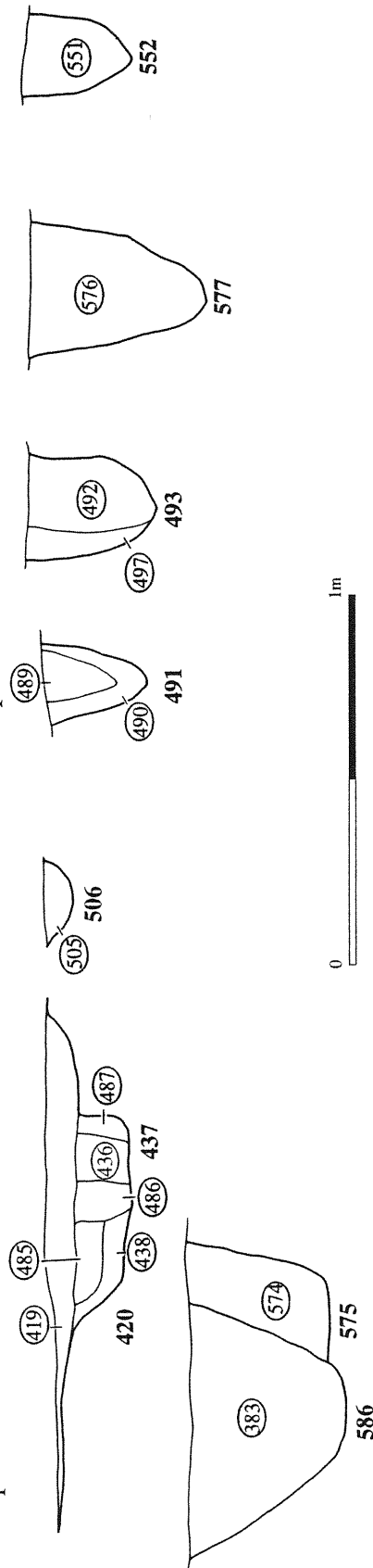


b)

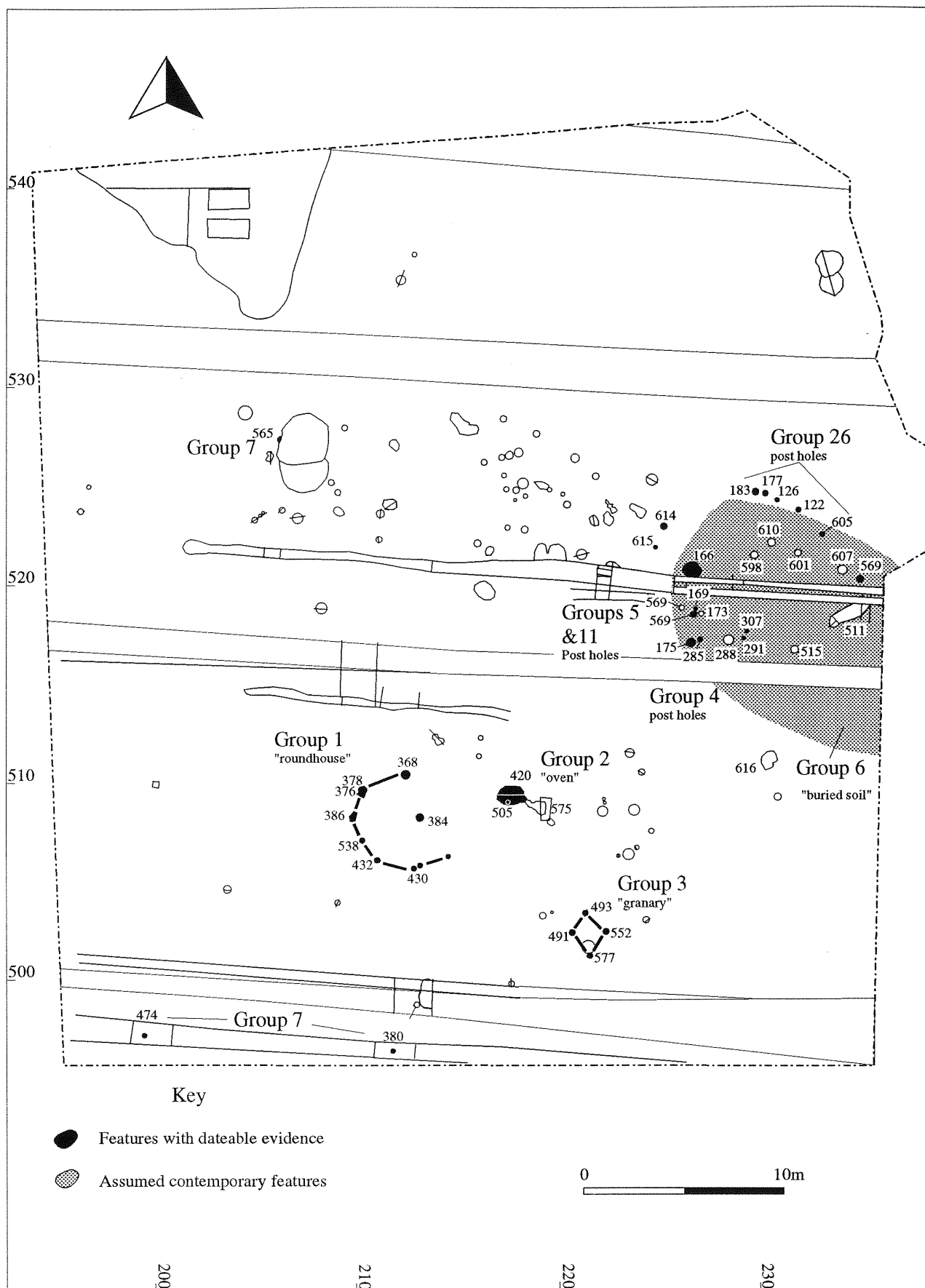
Group 1



Group 2



**Figure 3** (a) Sections through Bronze Age post hole groups 4, 11 and 26, and "Buried Soil" group 6  
(b) Sections through Bronze Age post hole groups 1, 2 and 3.



**Figure 4** Phase 1 Bronze Age Features

### 6.3 PHASE 2 (Context groups 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 19)

#### Iron Age

The majority of the ceramic assemblage is later Iron Age in date. A distinction has been made here between a later Iron Age component and a later Iron Age/Roman (phase 3) component, although in ceramic terms that distinction has not been made (Last, this report).

Although a number of post holes have been assigned to this phase (groups 9, 10), there were also a number of features of different character which have been interpreted as Iron Age in date, including intercutting pits (group 8), and ditches (group 16).

Of the groups of post holes, groups 9 and 10 were possible four-post structures. Both structures are trapezoid in shape and are paralleled by an almost identical example at Fengate, South Drove subsite, Structure 1, which has been attributed a 2nd millennium BC date (Pryor et al 1980: 135-138). Storage structure VII, Thorny Down was a similar structure approximately 5 metres to the north-east of Major living house V, also attributed a date in the middle Bronze Age (Ellison, 1987). The presence of Iron Age pottery within the fills of post holes from both the Milton structures suggests a later date, although the pottery could be intrusive, and given the proximity of a "roundhouse" and second trapezoid structure (group 3), thought to be Bronze Age, a Bronze Age date, at least for structure group 9 may be more likely.

The post holes within group 15 are not associated with one another or, apparently with any other features, and have been so assigned purely for convenience. Post hole 567, however, deserves a particular mention in that it was located at the south corner of a ?Bronze Age four-post structure, where it had cut through an earlier ?Bronze Age post hole. It is difficult to determine whether or not the location of post hole 567 is significant in regard to the four-post structure, although it would seem unlikely that a flimsy structure constructed in the middle ?Bronze Age could survive into the late Iron Age. All these post holes were assigned an Iron Age date on the basis of Iron Age pottery found in the fills of at least one of the associated post holes within each group.

One group of pits (group 8) clearly contained pottery dating to the late Iron Age. Its pottery assemblage was very similar, both in terms of fabrics, quantities and levels of abrasion, to that recovered from the quarry pits (group 17) a few metres to the north. The deposits filling the pits also had a number of similarities and it is likely that the material backfilling both groups of pits was derived from the same source, probably an Iron Age plough soil. The quarry pits have been interpreted as slightly later in date (see below), although it is feasible that both groups were contemporary.

Finally a pair of parallel ditches (group 16) have been assigned to this phase based on pottery from their fills. These east-west orientated ditches were approximately 16 metres apart. Both ditches were shallow and narrow, and the more northerly ditch (358) appeared very truncated; only a 12 metre length had survived, petering out to the east, and terminating, or more probably truncated to the west.

These ditches may represent fence lines, boundaries or possibly a track or droveway. If the latter, it would seem unlikely to be contemporary with post hole structures such as group 9 since this structure would lie directly on the path of the track or droveway. Evidence of this trackway or boundary continuing into phase 4 is discussed below.

#### **6.3.1 Context group 8**

A group of two or possibly three intercutting pits located towards the north-west area of the excavation area. These pits had been half sectioned across their width during the evaluation and the southern half removed, they were recorded as a single pit **110**. The pits were further excavated in 1997 using a north-south section line, this revealed that there were at least two **342** and **496**, and possibly a third pit. **342** was the later pit. Small sherds of abraded Iron Age pottery were recovered from its fills, the majority of the pottery was recovered from **341** the uppermost fill of **342**, a small number of Iron Age pottery sherds were also recovered from **447**, a soft dark grey clayey sand primary fill of **342** and **465** a soft dark grey clayey sand secondary fill of **342**. No finds were recovered from the earlier pit **496** in 1997, however, the majority of its fills had been excavated in 1995, and recorded as fills of **110**, only one large Iron Age rim sherd was recovered from **109** the upper fill of the pit. The upper deposit **341** was very similar to that observed in the top of quarry pits to the north where it has been interpreted as a redeposited Iron Age plough soil, the features themselves have in this case been interpreted as ?Roman (see below). Pits **342** and **496**, however were somewhat more discrete and smaller than the quarry pits and may be interpreted as Iron Age, possibly associated with nearby structural evidence. Slumping from the sides was evident in both phases of its excavation and suggests that the pits were open for some time prior to being backfilled. Their lower fills showed more sign of rubbish disposal than other features and may, therefore, have been used as such, at least as a secondary function.

**342** Circular pit with wide U shaped profile (1.18m diameter x 0.65m deep). Five fills were observed within the cut. The primary fill, **447/560/558**, was a soft dark grey clayey sand containing fragments of Iron Age pottery, burnt flint and animal bone. Overlaid by **494** and **465**. **465** was a dark greenish grey clayey sand with fragments of pottery. **494/559/561** was a dark greyish brown silty sand with no finds. **465** was overlaid by **445/526** a soft dark grey clayey sand with no finds. **445** was overlaid by **446/488**, a soft dark yellowish brown silty sand with no finds. Overlaid by **341/353** a very dark greyish brown clayey sand containing pottery, animal bone, burnt daub and burnt flint. Thin lenses of sandy gravel, **557**, **559** and **561** occurred at the base of fill **465**. Cuts pit **496**.

**354** (same as **342**).

**496** Circular pit with flat based, wide U shaped profile (<0.92m diameter x 0.73m deep). Eight fills were observed within the cut. The primary fill, **478/555**, was a yellowish brown clayey sand with no finds. Overlaid by **477**, a yellow medium sand and gravel with no finds. Overlaid by **472**, a yellowish brown clayey sand with no finds. Overlaid by **473**, a dark olive brown clayey sand with no finds. Overlaid by **462/555** a very dark greyish brown clayey sand containing pottery and burnt flint. Overlaid by **461**, a dark yellowish brown soft silty sand with no finds. Overlaid by **423**, a dark yellowish brown clayey sand with no inclusions. Overlaid by **411**, a very dark greyish brown clayey sand containing pottery and burnt daub.

**556** Unknown shape in plan ?pit cut, possibly the edge of pit **110** excavated in 1995 evaluation. Filled by **556**, a very dark grey soft clayey sand with no finds.

#### **6.3.2 Context group 9**

Group of post holes forming a trapezoid shaped four post structure which was 2.5 metres across its longest side and 1.25 metres on the remaining three sides.

Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from three of the corner post holes; **439** fill of **440**, **441** fill of **442** and **468**, fill of **469**. The fourth corner of the structure was represented by a much shallower (0.05m) circular cut containing no finds. Two more possible post holes were

located on each side of 469, the south-west corner of the structure. One of these was excavated and found to be very shallow (0.05m) with no finds. It is possible that these post holes represented a different phase of the same structure.

**440** Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.50m diameter x 0.29m deep). Filled by 439, a light olive brown friable silt with occasional charcoal, pottery and bone fragments.

**442** Circular ?post hole with stepped based U shaped profile (0.50m diameter x 0.34m deep). Filled by 441, a dark greyish brown soft clayey silt with occasional charcoal, bone and pottery fragments.

**469** Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.56m diameter x 0.31m deep). Filled by 468, a dark brown soft silty sand with pottery fragments.

**480** Circular ?post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.20m diameter x 0.05m deep). Filled by 479, a brownish yellow silt with no finds.

**530** Circular ?post hole with wide U shaped profile (0.23m diameter x 0.05m deep). Filled by 529, a dark yellowish brown silty sand with no finds.

### **6.3.3 Context group 10**

Group of post holes forming a trapezoid shaped four post structure, approximately 2.5 metres by 2.5 metres, close to pit group 8. The structure has been attributed an Iron Age date based on the presence of Iron Age pottery from two of the features.

The north-east corner of the possible structure is represented by **112**, excavated during the 1995 evaluation, it was a large post hole with evidence for a post pipe. **314** was also large with evidence for a post pipe. **314** lay at the south-east corner of the structure and appears to have replaced an earlier post, **399**. The north-east corner post was held by **583**. Although **336** was only 0.06m deep the presence of Iron Age pottery and its location relative to other post holes within this group suggests that it held the south-east corner post of a structure.

**112** Circular ?post hole with flat base and vertical sides (0.70m diameter x 0.25m deep). Filled by 111 and 135. 111 was a compact yellowish brown clayey silt with a sherd of Iron Age pottery, it may be evidence of a post pipe. 135 was a compact yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional stones and no finds, it may be evidence of post packing.

**314** Oval ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.50m x 0.70m x 0.23m deep). Filled by 313, a dark grey firm clayey sand with no finds. Cuts 399.

**336** Oval ?post hole with heavily truncated flat based U shaped profile (0.70m x 0.36m x 0.06m deep). Filled by 335, an olive grey firm sandy clay with Iron Age pottery.

**362** was a shallow subcircular post hole with a flat based U shaped profile (0.26m diameter x 0.16m deep). It contained only one fill, 361, a dark grey firm clayey sand with a sherd of Iron Age pottery.

**364** Circular ?post hole with flat stepped base and vertical sides (0.34m diameter x 0.34m deep). Filled by 363, a dark grey firm clayey sand with no finds. No evidence for a post pipe within the fill, although the shape of the base suggests that a post was located at the southern end of the feature.

**399** Circular ?post hole with irregular U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.15m deep). Filled by 400 and 401. 400 was a dark grey firm clayey sand with no finds, and may be interpreted as the remains of a post pipe. 401 was a brown clayey sand with frequent flints and may be packing for the post. Cut by 314.

**583** Oval ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.45m diameter x 0.15m deep). Filled by 582, a dark yellowish brown soft silty sand with no finds. No evidence for a post pipe.

### **6.2.11 Context group 14**

A pair of post holes possibly representing a two post structure

**426** was a circular post hole with a flat based U shaped profile (0.23m diameter x 0.26m deep). Its upper fill, 425, was a very dark greyish brown soft silty sand with a sherd of Iron Age pottery. Its lower fill, 448, was a dark yellowish brown firm sandy clay containing no finds.

428 was a circular post hole with a U shaped profile (0.25m diameter x 0.24m deep). It contained two fills, 427, a dark yellowish brown soft clayey sand containing fragments of burnt sandstone and daub may represent a decayed post. 435, a dark yellowish brown soft silty sand containing no finds may represent packing around the post.

#### **6.3.8 Context group 15**

Several post holes could be attributed an Iron Age date based on finds recovered from their fills, but were isolated or showed no discernible patterning or association with nearby features these have been allocated to a single group for convenience.

11 Circular ?post hole with flat base (0.8m x 0.76m x 0.15m deep). Filled by 10, a dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and one sherd of Iron Age pottery.

452 Circular ?post hole with a flat base and vertical sides (0.35m diameter x 0.14m deep). Filled by 302, a dark grey silty clay, containing a sherd of Iron Age pottery.

567 was a large, deep, circular post hole or small pit (0.54m diameter x 0.52m deep). It contained three fills, 566, a dark greyish brown soft silt containing Iron Age pottery, 572, an olive brown soft silty sand with no finds, and 573, an olive brown soft sandy clay at the base of the cut which contained Iron Age pottery and animal bone. 567 cut post hole 577 (group 3, Bronze Age).

#### **6.3.9 Context group 16**

A pair of parallel ditches on an east-west orientation located approximately 16 metres apart. The ditches may represent the earliest phase of a track or droveway, they may have been replaced by similar parallel ditches slightly further apart discussed in phase 3 below.

337 (same as 404) filled by 306, a light olive brown compact silty sand, which contained Iron Age pottery and a small fragment of burnt daub.

358 (same as 370) was a shallow linear gully on an east-west orientation. It was filled by 357 (same as 369), a light yellowish brown soft sandy silt with no finds.

370 (same as 358) was filled by 369 (same as 357).

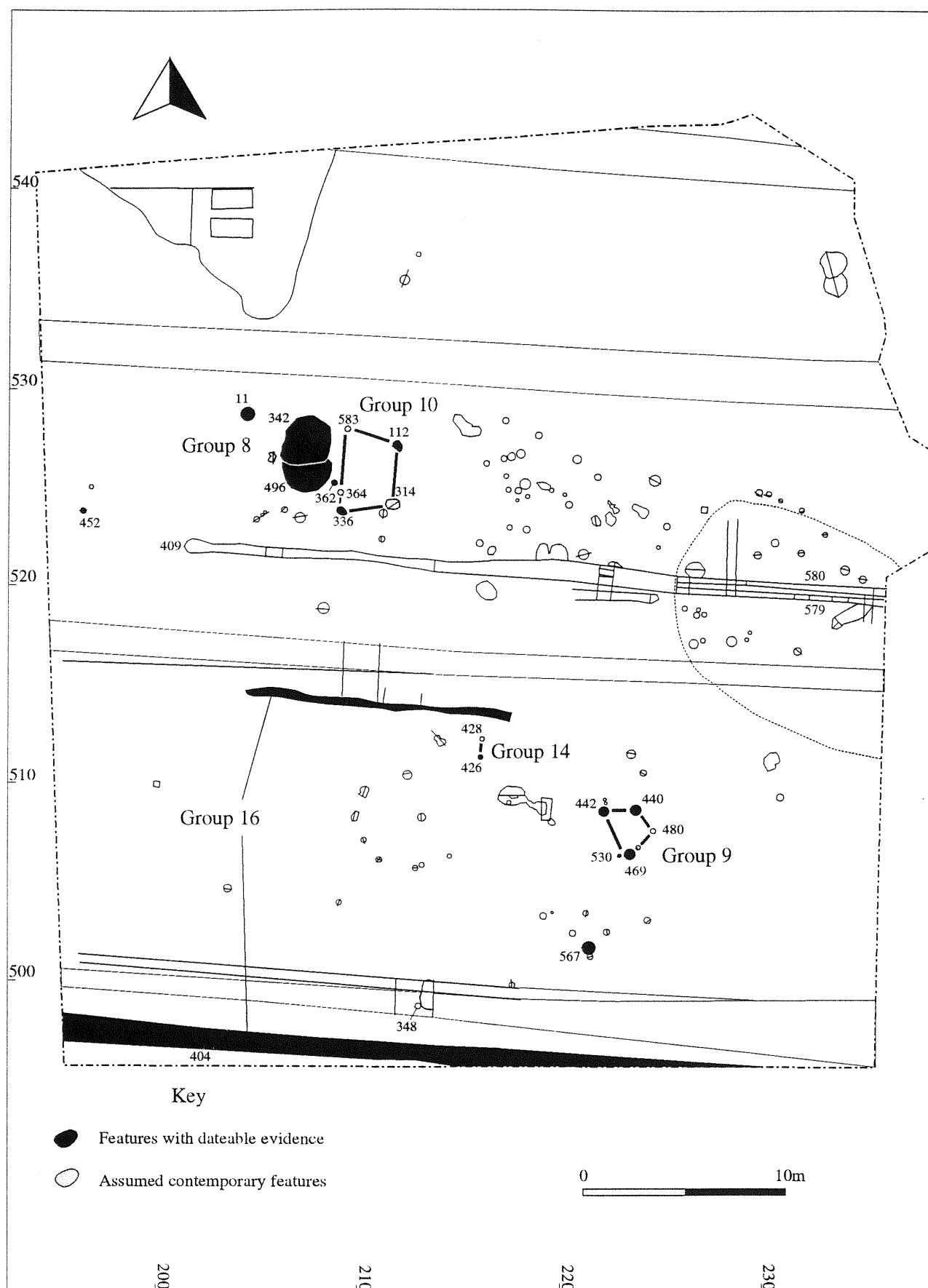
404 (same as 337) was a shallow linear ditch (0.22m deep x 0.81m wide) on an east-west orientation. It was filled by 403 a dark yellowish brown firm medium sand Iron Age pottery and burnt daub. 404 appeared to cut a post hole 474 (group 7).

#### **6.3.10 Context group 19**

Two post holes have been attributed to this phase on the basis that they were cut by later features.

348 Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.28m diameter x 0.14m deep, truncated by 349). Filled by 347, a light olive brown silty sand with no finds.

581 Circular cut (0.50m diameter x 0.12m deep) with wide, flat based U shaped profile. Filled by 539, a very dark greyish brown friable sandy clay, containing no finds. Cut by ditch 580.



**Figure 5** Phase 2 Iron Age Context Groups

## **6.4 Phase 3 (context groups 17, 18)**

### **Late Iron Age or Roman**

Although no real distinction was made in the ceramic assemblage between phases 2 and 3, the presence of a small number of positively identified Roman pottery sherds and a Roman hair pin introduces the possibility of identifying a slightly later phase of activity. Two groups of contexts were identified as being possibly slightly later in date than phase 2 features, groups 17 and 18. Group 17, a sequence of quarry pitting was located on the northern edge of the excavation. The pitting occurred in an area of fine white gravel not observed elsewhere in the area of excavation, it is likely that this was the material extracted. The lower fills of the pits contained few finds, and the sides were vertical to undercut, suggesting rapid backfilling. Only the upper fills contained relatively large quantities of abraded Iron Age pottery in an homogeneous dark grey soil, possibly a remnant Iron Age plough soil (see Bray & Reynolds 1997 pp10-11). A chance loss of a Roman hair pin recovered from the ?Iron Age plough soil suggests the possibility that the pits were actually dug and backfilled in the early Roman period, and that the small, abraded sherds of Iron Age pottery from the feature, although relatively plentiful, were in fact residual in the plough soil. The presence of quarrying in relatively close proximity to the Mere Way, a Roman Road, prompts the suggestion that gravel extracted from the quarry may have been used in the construction of the road, its relative distance from the road may be explained if a sought after seam of gravel was followed. Alternatively the ?track or droveway located only a few metres to the south of the quarry may be the more likely feature for which gravel was extracted.

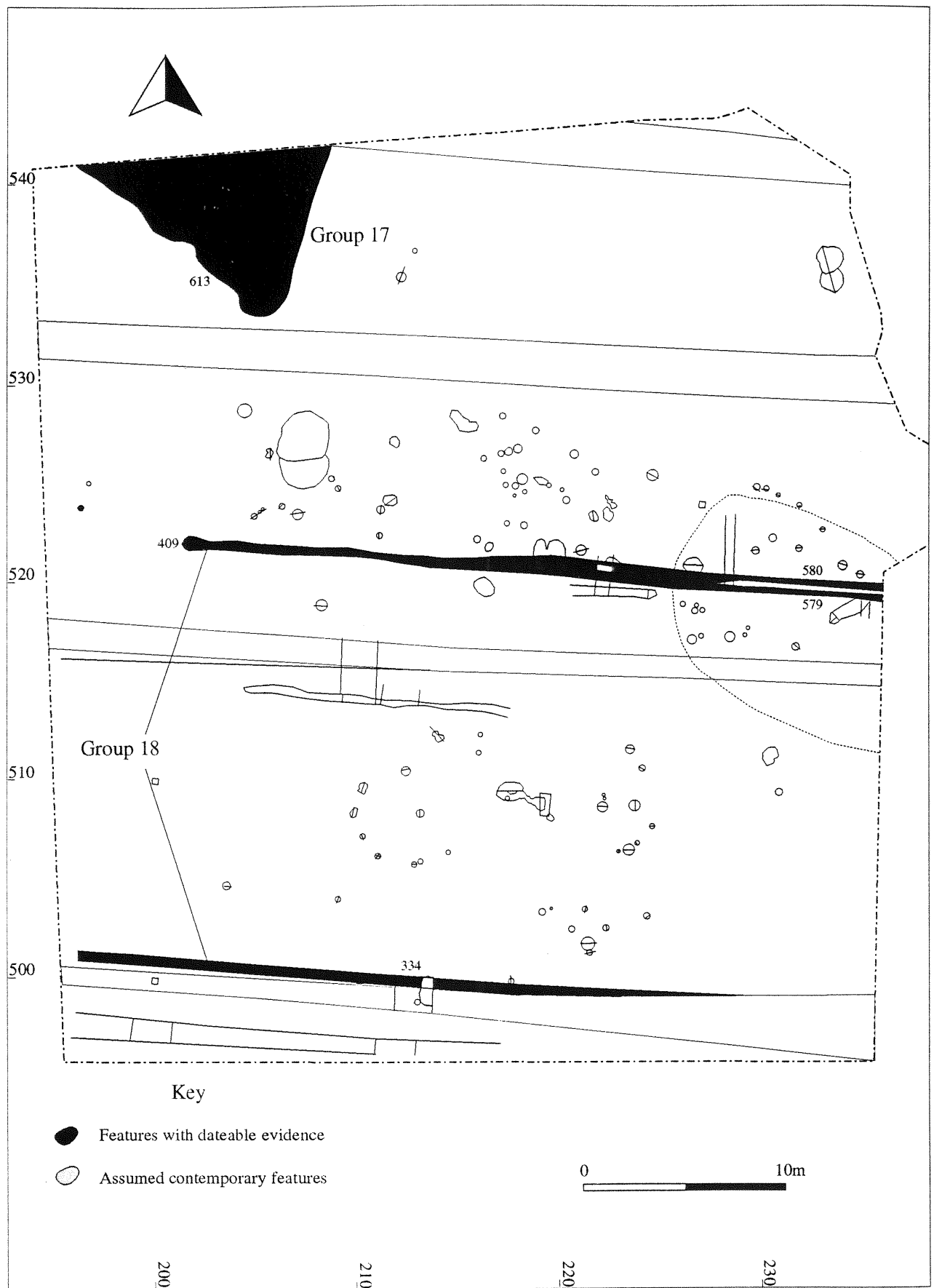
Two parallel ditches (group 18) orientated east-west and approximately 20 metres apart may represent a later replacement of the possible track or droveway discussed above (group 16). Although finds from the ditches were few, a small number of Roman sherds were recovered from both ditches. The northern side of the track would also seem to have been recut at least twice since there were two similar ditches along the same boundary. The northern ditch appeared to terminate in the west but this may be a factor of truncation rather than a true terminus.

#### **6.4.1 Context group 17**

A group of large pits on the north edge of the excavation, they were all the same depth and were probably excavated at the same time for the extraction of gravel. It is suggested that the gravel may have been used in the construction of the possible trackway (group 16, 18) or even in the construction of Mere Way Roman Road to the west.

613 (= 407, 546, 476, 482) is the number allocated to a group of pits at the northern edge of the excavation. In the 1995 evaluation a section was cut north-south through 613 which revealed at least ten pits and a layer 207, which was identified as an Iron Age plough soil based on the pottery assemblage. 207 is probably the same as the upper 0.50m deposits within 613 (described below).





**Figure 6** Phase 3 Late Iron Age/Roman Features

During the excavation four 1m x 2m box sections A, B, C and D were placed through the fills of 613, box sections C and D were later expanded to form a quarter section. The upper fills of the pits were largely homogeneous and were therefore excavated in 0.10m deep spits. The upper 0.50m of each of the box sections was filled by a very dark greyish brown firm sandy clay containing a relatively large quantity of small abraded sherds of Iron Age pottery (contexts 325, 326, 351, 360, 387, 412 in Box section B, 331, 381, 424 in Box section C, 330, 350, 382, 455 in Box section A, 329 and 365 in Box section D), and occasional fragments of burnt daub (360, 365). A Roman copper alloy hair pin was recovered by metal detector from 332, the upper 0.10m of the fills.

459, a 0.15m thick layer of yellowish brown fine loose sandy gravel occurred directly beneath the homogeneous upper layer in Box section C, it was even and laid horizontally, it appeared in Box section D as 456 where it was 0.20m thick, but did not occur in Box sections A or B. It sealed 460 in Box section C, a dark grey friable sandy silt, probably derived from organic material but entirely leached and decomposed when excavated, this deposit was not observed to continue into box section D.

The base of the cut was flat and the sides vertical to undercut where soft gravels had slumped in from the top. The sharp breaks in slope, vertical sides, flat base and horizontal filling of the feature suggests a single cut or phase of cutting, rapidly backfilled such as might be caused by quarrying. Only Box section C, context 460 showed any sign that material other than that derived from the immediate vicinity may have been incorporated into the backfilling, and the band of gravel covering it may have been a deliberate attempt to seal over a layer of organic material.

406 was observed in section only as a 0.20m deep cut in the top of box section B, filled by 405, a dark grey sandy silt. This may be a post hole, no finds were recovered.

550 was observed in section of box section B only. The U shaped cut was 0.71m deep x 1.20m wide, filled by 531 a grey clayey sand, 547 a dark greyish brown sandy silt, 548 a yellowish brown sandy silt and 549 a dark greyish brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered.

590 was observed in section of box section B only. The U shaped cut was 0.60 m deep x 0.70 m wide filled by 589, a dark greyish brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered.

#### 6.4.2 Context group 18

A number of shallow, parallel ditches on the same alignment as those described above (group 16). It is suggested that these ditches may have formed the northern and southern boundaries of a trackway or droveway leading towards the Mere Way, the earliest phase of which was begun in the Iron Age (phase 2, above). The ditches are wider apart in this phase and the northern boundary shows signs of having been recut on a number of occasions.

334 Linear ditch cut (0.40m wide x 0.16m deep x 30m (min) long) on an east-west orientation. Filled by 307 a light olive brown firm clayey silt containing fragments of Roman and Iron Age pottery, and 333 an olive yellow firm clayey silt containing no finds. The ditch was on a similar alignment to and cut by 349 a possible medieval or later furrow. The ditch may form the southern boundary of a wide trackway.

409 Linear ditch cut (0.36m wide x 0.13m deep x 10m (min) long). Filled by 408, a dark grey firm clayey sand containing no finds. The ditch terminates or peters out at its west end and divides into two (579 and 580) at the east end. The ditch may form the northern boundary of a wide trackway with 579 and 580.

510 (same as 579) filled by 517 which contained a sherd of Roman pottery.

519 (same as 579)

533 (same as 579) filled by 532, a yellowish brown friable silty sand, containing fragments of Iron Age pottery.

579 Linear ditch cut (0.40m wide x 0.23m deep x 15m (min) long) on an east-west orientation. Filled by 570 a greyish brown soft sandy clay containing fragments of Iron Age pottery. Cut 511, an ?Iron Age linear feature. The ditch may form the northern boundary of a wide trackway with 580 and 409.

**580** Linear ditch cut (0.25m wide x 0.18m deep x 15m (min) long) on an east-west orientation. Filled by **571** a dark yellowish brown soft sandy clay containing no finds. Cut **166** a ?Bronze Age pit and **581** an ?Iron Age post hole. The ditch may form the northern boundary of a wide trackway with **579** and **409**.

## **6.5 Phase 4 (context groups 20, 21, 22)**

### **Medieval and post-medieval**

Evidence of agricultural activity dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods was found within the excavation area. Three linear cuts on an east-west orientation and spaced at intervals of approximately 12 metres were probably the remnant of a medieval ridge and furrow field system. Sections were excavated across the southernmost two furrows showing them to be medieval or later in date. The most northerly furrow was not excavated. Field drains dating to the later post-medieval were found associated with each of the furrows, their location was probably not coincidental, and suggests that the ridge and furrow was still visible as earthworks, possibly until this century. There were no other features which could be dated to this period.

#### **6.5.1 Context group 20**

Group of three wide linear features on an east-west orientation, spaced at regular intervals and containing similar fills. **349** the most southerly ditch truncated earlier Roman or Iron Age features. Probably the remains of medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow.

**320** (same as **372, 340**) Linear ditch cut filled by **319**, a dark yellowish brown sandy silt with no finds and **359**, a dark yellowish brown clayey silt with no finds.

**340** (same as **372, 320**) Linear ditch cut filled by **339**, a yellowish brown soft sandy silt containing no finds.

**349** (same as **503, 525, 524**) Linear ditch cut (0.93m wide x 0.14m deep x 40m (min) long) on an east-west orientation. Filled by **309** an olive brown firm silty sand containing Roman pottery, mussel shells, slag, and **345** a light olive brown firm silty sand containing oyster shell. Cut by shallow pit **346**.

**372** (same as **320, 340**) Linear ditch cut (1.30m wide x 0.12m deep x 40m (min) long). Filled by **371**, a yellowish brown soft sandy silt containing no finds.

**503** (same as **349, 525, 524**) Linear ditch cut filled by **498**, a light yellowish brown silty sand containing iron nails and post-medieval pottery. Six ?stakeholes **504** were observed at the base of the cut.

**524** (same as **349, 525, 503**) Linear ditch cut filled by **523**, a light olive brown sandy clay, and **522/499/502** an olive brown sandy silt containing fragments of post-medieval pottery.

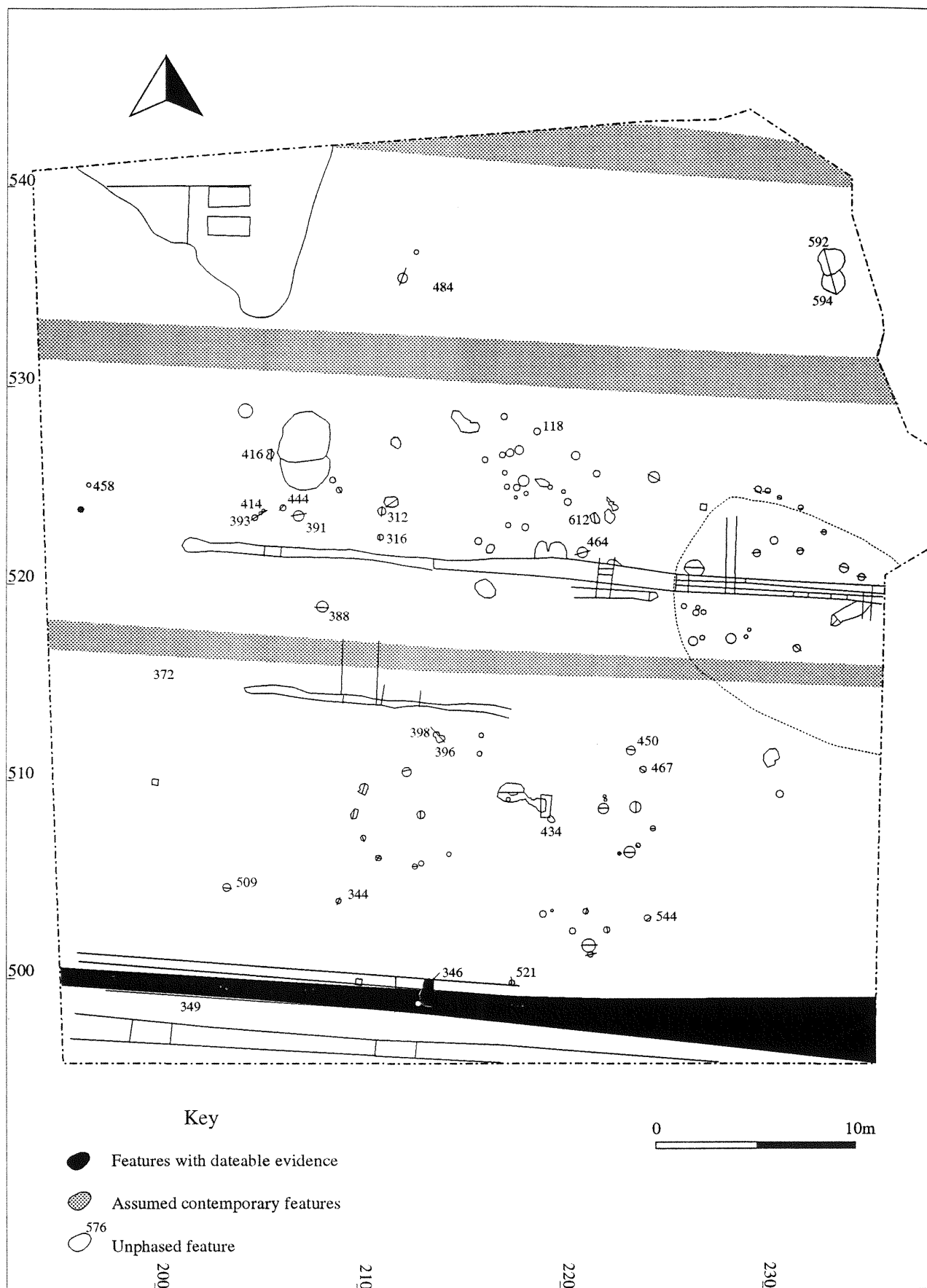
**525** (same as **349, 524, 503**) Linear ditch cut filled by **500**, a light yellowish brown silty sand containing Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval pottery.

#### **6.5.2 Context group 21**

##### **Pits**

**324** Circular, shallow pit (0.70m x 0.50m x 0.23m deep) filled by **323**, a yellowish brown sandy silt containing no finds.

**346** Circular, shallow pit cut (0.92m diameter x 0.08m deep) filled by **355**, an olive brown firm silty sand containing Medieval pottery, and **374** a light olive brown silty sand with no finds. Cuts ditch **307** (group 18)



**Figure 7** Phase 4 Medieval, Post-Medieval Features and Unphased Features

### 6.5.3 Context group 22

Several recent field drains containing ceramic drain pipes were observed crossing the excavation area on an east-west orientation. They generally followed the line of an earlier furrow (group 20) suggesting that the medieval ridge and furrow was still visible as an earthwork at the time the drains were installed. Sections were hand excavated across two of the drains.

322 Field drain on an east-west orientation, filled by 321 and containing ceramic drain pipe, probably 19th century.

352 Field drain on an east-west orientation, filled by 308 and containing ceramic drain pipe, probably 19th century.

## 6.6 Unphased Features (context groups 12, 13, 23, 24, 25)

A large number of post holes were excavated and others observed which could not be attributed to a period based either on finds or on stratigraphic associations. Several of these post holes have been grouped into structures based on their spatial associations. Groups 13 and 14 appear to be paired post holes and group 12 may represent a fence line. These structures are likely to be Iron Age or earlier based on their morphology, however, it is not possible to attribute them to any particular phase.

### 6.2.9 Context group 12

Four possible post holes forming a line, only one, 118 was excavated (Milew95), and dateable pottery was recovered from the surface of 527, the others were plotted but not described or excavated.

118 Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.26m diameter x 0.13m deep). Filled by 115, a dark greyish brown firm sandy silt.

527 Unexcavated circular deposit (0.35m diameter), probably a post hole with several sherds of Iron Age pottery recovered from its surface.

### 6.2.10 Context group 13

A pair of post holes, possibly representing a two post structure.

312 was a circular post hole with a flat based U shaped profile (0.36m diameter x 0.24m deep). Its upper fill was 311, a firm clayey sand with no finds, its lower fill was 402, a brown, firm clayey sand with no finds

316 was a circular post hole with a U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.21m deep). Its upper fill was 315, a dark grey firm clayey sand with no finds. Its lower fill was 422, a brown, friable clayey sand with no finds.

### 6.6.1 Context group 23

Two shallow intercutting pits were excavated they contained no dateable material and could not be associated with any other features based on stratigraphy or position. Since the majority of the shallow discrete features can be attributed to an Iron Age or Bronze Age date it is not unreasonable to assume a similar date for these pits. The evidence is insufficient to confirm this, however.

592 Oval, shallow pit cut (1.50m x 1.20m x 0.15m deep) filled by 593, a greyish brown sandy silt with no finds. Cuts 594.

594 Oval, shallow pit cut (1m x 0.80m x 0.15m deep) filled by 595, a yellowish brown sandy silt with no finds.

### 6.6.2 Context group 24

## Topsoil and cleaning layers

300 Topsoil, dark greyish brown sandy clay removed by machine over the area of the excavation, varied between 0.20 and 0.40m deep. Overlay 301.

301 Subsoil, yellowish brown sandy clay removed by machine over the area of the excavation, varied between 0 and 0.15m deep, quite patchy, deeper over the eastern part of the site.

304/305/310/338/356 Finds retrieved during hand cleaning over the excavation area.

512 Metal finds retrieved from plough soil immediately to north of excavation area.

540 Cleaning over linear ditches 579 and 580, and post hole 581.

### 6.6.3 Context group 25

Post holes, undated, and otherwise unphased. It would seem unlikely that the post holes belong to a period later than the late Iron Age or early Roman, but it is impossible to associate them with any particular phase.

344 Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.22m diameter x 0.08m deep). Filled by 343, an olive brown clayey silt with no finds.

388 Circular ?post hole with irregular based U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.46m deep). Filled by 410 and 389. 410 was the upper fill, a brown silty sand with some bone and charcoal but no dateable finds. The earlier fill, 389, was a dark yellowish brown clayey sand containing bone and charcoal but no dateable finds.

391 Oval ?post hole with vertical sides and stepped base (0.56m x 0.40m x 0.10m deep). Filled by 390, a dark greyish brown sandy clay with no finds.

393 Circular ?post hole with vertical sides and stepped base (0.33m diameter x 0.17m deep). Filled by 392, a dark greyish brown clayey sand with no finds.

396 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.25m deep). Filled by 395, a dark yellowish brown sandy clay with no finds. Cuts 398.

398 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.40m diameter x 0.13m deep). Filled by 397, a dark yellowish brown sandy clay with no finds. Cut by 396.

414 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.26m diameter x 0.16m deep). Filled by 394, a dark grey firm clayey sand with no finds.

416 Oval ?post hole with stepped vertical sides and flat base (0.52m x 0.32m x 0.26m deep). Filled by 415, a brown clayey sand with no finds.

434 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.60m diameter x 0.40m deep). Two fills contained within the cut. 433 was a dark greyish brown silty sand with no finds and is probably a post pipe. 453 surrounded 433 at the base and sides and may have been packing for the post.

444 Circular ?post hole with vertical sides and flat base (0.26m diameter x 0.16m deep). Filled by 443 and 528. 443 was a dark grey clayey sand with no finds and is probably a post pipe. 528 was a brown clayey sand surrounding 443 and may have been packing for the post.

458 Irregular oval ?post hole with vertical sides and flat base (0.58m x 0.38m x 0.15m deep). Filled by 457, a dark greyish brown clayey silt with no finds.

464 Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.52m diameter x 0.29m deep). Filled by 463 and 584. 463 was a dark olive brown clayey sand with vertical sides and flat base (0.23m diameter) and is probably a post pipe. 584 was a dark yellowish brown clayey sand surrounding 463 and may have been packing for the post.

509 Oval ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.37m x 0.26m x 0.17m deep). Filled by 508, an olive brown silty sand with no finds.

521 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.26m x 0.31m x 0.18m deep). Filled by 520, a dark yellowish brown silty sand with no finds.

554 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.39m diameter x 0.22m deep). Filled by 553, a dark olive brown clayey silt with fragments of burnt daub.

612 Circular ?post hole. Filled by 611, no finds.

### Possible 2 post structure

450 Circular ?post hole with flat based U shaped profile (0.33m diameter x 0.19m deep). Filled by 449, a brown clayey silt with no finds.

467 Circular ?post hole with U shaped profile (0.30m diameter x 0.27m deep). Filled by 466, a light olive brown clayey silt with no finds.

#### **Possible 2 post structure**

484 Oval ?post hole with vertical sides and irregular base (0.70m x 0.40m x 0.20m deep). Filled by 483 and 501. 501 was a dark greyish brown sandy clay with no finds, and is possibly a much truncated post pipe. 483 was a dark yellowish brown sandy clay surrounding 501 and may be post packing.

## **7 The Pottery** by Jonathon Last

### **7.1 Introduction**

The 1997 season at Milton (training excavation) produced a small assemblage of 345 potsherds, weighing a total of 1276g. Of this number, 31 (172g) were medieval or later, or residual in later deposits. The remainder date to the Late Iron Age, with 8 Roman sherds and a few of Bronze Age date (see appendix for quantification).

### **7.2 Condition and Formation Processes**

In general the pottery was small and abraded in condition, and refitting was not possible. There were no deposits which might be considered genuine secondary refuse assemblages and most of the pottery has probably been redeposited from surface or ploughsoil contexts.

### **7.3 Fabrics**

The vast majority of the Iron Age sherds fall into two main fabric groups:

'Iron Age gritty': tempered with moderate to common, poorly sorted subrounded or subangular white quartz and/or flint, ranging in size from fine to very coarse but generally 1-2mm. Often mixed with sand and occasionally with other coarse mineral inclusions. Pure flint temper seems to be rare.

'Iron Age sandy': This group is subdivided according to density of conclusions:  
(a) tempered with common fine to medium quartz sand.  
(b) tempered with sparse to moderate fine to medium quartz sand.

Surfaces can be oxidised or unoxidised but the core is almost always unoxidised; the most common biscuit has an oxidised exterior with unoxidised core and interior. Surface treatments are rare but smoothed or dark-slipped exteriors are sometimes found; burnishing is very rare. A few sherds have

roughened surfaces which may be the result of scoring and finger impressions are found occasionally on rims (see below).

These fabrics are probably contemporary, although the proportion of 'gritty' to 'sandy' wares may have chronological significance. Sandy fabrics probably appear in the Middle Iron Age (3rd-2nd century BC) and become more common through the Late Iron Age, on typological grounds this small assemblage would seem to be Late Iron Age (see below). At Milton they are found across the site; there is no evidence for a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age component. Only 527 (an unexcavated post hole) has exclusively gritty sherds, while 365 (context group 17 - quarry pit) and 540 (context group 24 - cleaning over southern ditches) have more than 50% gritty, but are parts of larger features with a lot of sandy fabrics. Exclusively sandy contexts include 350 (context group 17), 353 (context group 8 - pit complex), and 566/572 (context group 15 - post hole).

#### Other Iron Age Fabrics

Other typical Late Iron Age fabrics are found in smaller quantities: a little vegetable-tempered material; some fabrics with a mixture of grog, vegetable and sand; two forms of shelly ware, one with very common very coarse fossiliferous shell, the other with sparse, moderate to coarse shell and some sand or mineral. Shelly wares were less common in 1997 than in 1996; they may be imported from areas to the north or north-west (Huntingdonshire and the Fenland) where these fabrics are more abundant in Iron Age contexts. Single sherds came from contexts 381 (context group 17), 447 (context group 8) and 572 (context group 15).

#### Bronze Age

The other prehistoric fabric is a light-faced, coarsely grog-tempered ware which occurs in separate contexts from the Late Iron Age material. Forms are not apparent but the soft fabric and use of grog puts this pottery in the Bronze Age (see below).

### 7.4 Forms and Typology

Diagnostic sherds are both rare and small, so little can be said with regard to typological dating. Twelve Iron Age rims were found, of which four appear to have finger-impressions on the top. Seven rims in all (including these four) are externally or internally thickened. Only a single rim is definitely everted, while two or three seem to derive from shouldered jars with short upright rims. Three are in gritty fabrics, eight sandy and one shelly, which approximately matches the proportions of these wares across the site as a whole. Rim sherds derived from the following contexts: 301, 305 (both unstratified); 329 - 2 cases, 331, 365, 381 (context group 17); 341 - 2 cases, 465 (context group 8); 540 (context group 24), 570 (context group 18).

Bases are also rare, the best example being one with a weak foot in a sandy fabric from 353 (context group 8). This has clear striations on the exterior wall



and underside of the base, indicative of scraping to produce an even vessel thickness. As well as some other base fragments, usually of simple form, a few body sherds with a change of angle (i.e. shoulders or carinations) were found, but nothing which approached a complete profile.

In terms of dating, weak shouldered profiles with short upright rims (as probably in 329, 341) are typical of a Late Iron Age assemblage. Finger impressions are generally earlier Iron Age, but continue into the 1st century AD at e.g. Burgh, Suffolk. Similarly, scoring occurs as late as the Roman Conquest at some sites. Everted rims in sandy fabrics, like the example from 381, are found in Late Iron Age contexts at e.g. Spong Hill, Norfolk. Nothing at Milton is therefore out of place in a Late Iron Age (1st century BC-1st century AD) assemblage, especially given the known conservatism of the region. Iron Age ceramic technology may have persisted well into the Roman period; the presence of occasional Roman sherds at Milton might be indicative of a relatively late date (see below).

The Bronze Age material is more enigmatic, because of its scantiness. However, it is the same as that found in e.g. pit 157/158 at Milton 1996, and in the 'midden' deposit in the 1995 evaluation. The small assemblage from these deposits appears to be characterised by coarse, poorly-fired fabrics with uneven surfaces, and by simple upright forms with little if any decoration. It is quite distinct from the shell and grog-tempered sherds found in pit 239 at Milton in 1996, which from their forms and associations would appear to be Middle/Late Iron Age in date - although the use of grog as a filler is unusual for that period. The material under discussion here is closer to the Urn tradition of the Early/Middle Bronze Age in both fabric and form. Because of the absence of decoration and complex profiles, as well as its association here with a roundhouse and four-post structure it is more likely to be Middle Bronze Age (late 2nd millennium BC), pre-dating the Deverel-Rimbury tradition of coarsely flint-gritted pots. The assemblage from Witton, referenced in the 1996 pot report, still appears to be the best comparison (Lawson 1983).

## **7.5 Spatial Distribution and Stratigraphy**

### **7.5.1 Quarry pit 613 (context group 17)**

This was a large feature in the north-west of the site. Pottery came from the following contexts: 326, 329, 330, 331, 350, 351, 360, 365, 381, 382, 387, 412. A total of 158 sherds weighing 534g (mean 3.4g) came from this feature, in common with the majority of the Late Iron Age pottery the sherds were all very small, and abraded. All the pottery is Late Iron Age with the exception of a single Roman rim sherd and a handmade sherd of 'Romano-British' type. 22% of sherds have unoxidised (dark) exteriors, while 38% are gritty and 51% sandy. The Roman piece came from the second spit (381) and is unlikely to be intrusive. This, together with the fragmented and abraded quality of the assemblage implies that the bulk of the assemblage is either residual or dates from a time when Roman pottery was also being used at the site (i.e. later 1st century AD). Both scenarios are possible, but the latter may be more likely,

given evidence elsewhere for the late survival of Iron Age ceramic technology in this region (e.g. Martin 1988: 34).

#### **7.5.2 Pit complex (context group 16)**

This was a moderately large feature south of **613**. It produced 71 sherds weighing 272g (mean 3.8g). All the pottery is Late Iron Age; 30% of exteriors are unoxidised, 27% of fabrics are gritty and 65% sandy. The assemblage therefore differs little from **613**, and is most likely contemporary.

#### **7.5.3 Post structure (context group 9)**

This consists of a group of three post-holes (fill numbers 439, 441, 468) in the centre of the site. They produced 21 sherds weighing a total of 80g (mean 3.8g). Again all the pottery is Late Iron Age with the proportions of unoxidised surfaces, sandy and gritty fabrics almost identical to Group 2.

#### **7.5.4 Four-post structure (context group 3 and post hole 567)**

This group of postholes lies south of context group 9 and can be divided into two subgroups. Context group 3 consists of four small postholes forming a square structure. Two of these (491 [sic] and 551) produced fragments of grogged Bronze Age pottery. A single large posthole **567** cut the southern post of the earlier structure. This had three fills 566, 572, 573, which yielded 5 sherds of Iron Age type weighing 17g (mean 3.4g). All have oxidised surfaces and there are no gritty sherds; however, the small size of the assemblage makes it impossible to draw any conclusions on the relative chronology of this feature.

#### **7.5.5 Roundhouse (context group 1)**

Only two postholes associated with the possible roundhouse contained potsherds, but in both cases (385, 506/507) they are of Bronze Age type. It seems, therefore, that the roundhouse and four-post structure to its south-east are part of an early phase of activity long predating the Late Iron Age activity, which structurally is far more amorphous. If these features can indeed be assigned to the pre-Deverel Rimbury Bronze Age the site becomes an interesting addition to the short list of 2nd millennium BC roundhouses in the region, which begins with the Beaker house from Sutton Hoo, Suffolk.

#### **7.5.6 Southern ditches**

This group covers a series of parallel east-west ditches and related features by the southern edge of the site. A number of these contexts produced Iron Age and Roman material but three features are later in date. Context 355 (fill of pit 346) yielded two medieval sherds, while 498/500 (ridge and furrow) and 499 (fill of ditch 524, apparently cutting 500) produced a mixture of post-medieval pottery (18th century stoneware and glazed earthenwares) with residual Late Iron Age and Roman material. From the remaining ditch fills (306, 307, 309, 403, 540, 570) came 26 Iron Age and 3 Roman sherds weighing 73g (mean 2.5g). 17% of the assemblage has unoxidised exteriors, while 40% of sherds are gritty and 48% sandy. However, the relatively small size of these pieces, even compared to the rest of the site, suggests they may be residual: the relationship of the apparently Iron Age/Roman contexts to the later features on the same alignment is uncertain.

#### **7.5.7 Isolated contexts**

Another small ditch in the east of the site was aligned with those in Group 6. It was partly excavated as 517 and 532, which again produced a mixture of Roman and Late Iron Age sherds, this time rather larger in size (but only three in total). Ditch fill 317, on a similar alignment in the centre of the site, yielded a single small Iron Age sherd. It seems possible, therefore, that all these ditches are Roman in date. They may have been preserved because of the overlying ridge and furrow with which they appear to be associated.

Just north of 517 was a group of postholes, one of which (602) produced a sherd of Bronze Age type - these post-holes, which may form the corner of a rectangular structure, can therefore be assigned to the early (roundhouse) phase of activity at Milton.

Posthole 426, immediately north of the roundhouse, produced a single Iron Age sherd. Iron Age pottery also came from isolated features 302, 335 and 361.

### **7.6 Conclusions**

#### **7.6.1 Early/Middle Bronze Age**

Ironically, the most coherent phase structurally is the one which produced the least pottery - i.e. the Bronze Age roundhouse and post structures. None of the grogged pottery was mixed with later material, however, so this settlement horizon can be clearly distinguished. On the other hand it is unclear precisely how this phase is related to other potentially early features, especially the 'midden' deposit on the east side of the site which was tested during the initial evaluation.

#### **7.6.2 Late Iron Age/Roman**

The Late Iron Age occupation is harder to characterise since the bigger assemblages come from large pits of uncertain function, while the remaining features are generally isolated post-holes (even Group 3 makes little sense morphologically). The presence of occasional Roman sherds in some contexts of Groups 1 and 6 might indicate a 1st century AD date for much of this activity, or the incorporation of material from the previous century into later features.

#### **7.6.3 Medieval**

The third clear phase is represented by a single feature: pit-fill 355, with two medieval sherds, which cuts ditch 307 (group 18).

#### **7.6.4 Post-medieval**

The latest phase of ditch-digging and agricultural activity (ridge and furrow) can be dated to the 18th century or later.

## 8 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

This most recent phase in the investigation, excavation and interpretation of the Milton Landfill Site landscape supports the original proposition of its importance as put forward by Tim Reynolds and Simon Bray (Reynolds 1994, Reynolds and Bray, 1997). Although the Roman element within the landscape had a great impact (Reynolds, 1994) it has since become clear that there is also an important prehistoric and Iron Age component to be investigated and understood. Previous excavation (Bray and Reynolds, 1997; Connor, 1997) had indicated small scale Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity at various locations across the study area, possibly representing a culture of shifting, seasonal settlements. Excavation of area D in 1996 exposed in detail an area that had been a focus of settlement in all these periods, where the prehistoric remains suggested that cooking had taken place, temporary shelters had been erected, and that some ritual activity had taken place as evidenced by the presence of at least one human cremation. The late Iron Age presence on the area was much more substantial, with a possible roundhouse, fence lines, four-post structures and pits all contributing to the interpretation that a range of domestic and possibly agricultural activities had taken place here. Some slight evidence of a presence in the Roman period was observed but it need have been no more than might be expected from fields associated with a nearby farm or villa such as had been proposed from earlier excavation (Reynolds 1994). The 1997 excavations undertaken of Area A bore a number of similarities to this evidence with the presence of Bronze Age, late Iron Age and Roman activities being represented. However, evidence of a Neolithic presence was not encountered, and the ritual component observed in area D was absent from area A. The Bronze Age features were consistent with settlement; more robust structures and ancillary buildings such as a small roundhouse associated with a four-post structure appears to have been constructed at this date, and may have been used for storing grain in the same way as Iron Age structures of a similar character. Once again any evidence for a presence in the period between the middle Bronze Age and the late Iron Age appears to be absent. These results from 1997 have highlighted the Bronze Age as being a period at Milton which has regional importance. Very few settlement features from the middle Bronze Age have been excavated in Cambridgeshire, or indeed in neighbouring counties. The possibility of a surviving middle Bronze Age landscape within this area is becoming increasingly clearer and a continuing strategy to investigate it thoroughly needs to be devised in the immediate future. The importance of these settlement remains has been synthesised in the Research Agenda for the Eastern Counties (Glazebrook 1997) and in the draft Research Agenda in which a bald statement refers to the paucity of our knowledge of the middle Bronze Age “for the MBA ..... there is very little evidence for settlement and there is clearly a need to rectify this situation”.

It is proposed that a differentiation can be made between a purely late Iron Age and a late Iron Age/Roman phase of activity on area A. It is certainly possible to see a sequence of activity, beginning with a phase of structures built from posts and including four and two-post structures and possible fence lines. A pair of ditches may be contemporary with some of the post-built structures, but

it is suggested that these ditches may have bounded a track or drove way. They therefore could not possibly be contemporary since they would have been located on the track. The track may have continued in use into the early Roman period, although it was shifted slightly to the north and made wider by this time. This later trackway more clearly post-dates the buildings phase since the northern ditch physically truncated a number of post holes. Pits, especially a group of quarry pits at the northern edge of the excavation may have been dug for the purpose of extracting gravel to use in the construction of such trackways, although the gravel could also have been used in the construction of Mere Way Roman Road to the west.

The east-west orientation of these possible trackways leading towards the Mere Way (Roman Akeman Street) in the west and towards the Roman and Iron Age settlements to the east suggests the possibility that they may have been part of a series of droveways and tracks linking the major focus of occupation in the vicinity to the main route between Cambridge and Ely. Akeman Street ran from Cirencester through Verulamium (St Albans) and possibly Biggleswade before connecting Ermine Street with Cambridge and on north-east across the Fens. Although Akeman Street has been investigated a number of times in Cambridgeshire it had only been given a general Roman date for its construction until a section was excavated at Car Dyke Farm, Landbeach (Macaulay 1997). Macaulay concluded that the date for the construction of Akeman Street at Landbeach was 2nd century AD or later based on the presence of a stratigraphically earlier trackway ceramically dated as 2nd century AD or later. Macaulay also concluded that the discrepancy between the date of construction of this eastern section of the road compared to the first century construction date attributed to more westerly sections is particularly important and requires further investigation. The presence of a Late Iron Age phase at Milton suggests the track existed prior to the construction of Akeman Street. The alignment of these ditches is remarkably similar to that of the later (medieval) furrows, which may be coincidental or may be the outcome of a landscape feature (perhaps the Mere Way) exerting a strong influence over the area for many centuries. It should also be noted, however, that an east-west track was marked on the pre-enclosure map (Way, unpublished) in the vicinity of the excavation, which could indicate that the ditches observed by excavation were somewhat later than our dating evidence suggests.

Evidence for the medieval and post-medieval farming landscape was present in the form of remnant ridge and furrow, land drains and small ditches and fence lines. The Mere Way and possibly the drove or trackways discussed above appear to have exerted an extremely strong influence over the landscape for many centuries since all of the later linear features continued to follow that same east-west orientation.

It is planned to concentrate on another focus of activity in 1998 (area C), once again training will be a high priority.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to East Waste Ltd. for generously sponsoring the excavations, especially to Rebecca Holiday; also to Clive Carr, Paul Farrington and Russell Hurst. Thanks to Paul Harold who suffered disruption to his field and farming programme with great good will. Valued assistance was provided by AFU staff, namely Wendy Wilson, Simon Bray, Oscar Aldred, Rebecca Casa, Christopher Monague and Tony Austin. Thanks to Will Wall, Jon Cane, Phil Copleston, Tim Reynolds, Duncan Schlee, Celia Honeycombe, and Steve Kemp, who gave up their time to talk to the trainees, and to Simon and Wendy for helping at the open day. Ann Davison organised bookings and administration and Stephen Macaulay and Caroline Gait helped with publicity, the essay competition and the open day. Finally, thanks to all the trainees who worked so hard and helped make the excavation both enjoyable and successful.

## Bibliography

- Alexander, J & Trump, D. 1970. Arbury Camp Cambridge. A Preliminary Report on Excavations. Board of Extra Mural Studies, Cambridge and Dept. Of Extra Mural Studies, London.
- Bray, S & Reynolds, T. 1997. Bronze-Age & Iron-Age activity at Milton: An archaeological evaluation, *Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Report No. 132*
- Connor, A 1997. Late Neolithic, Bronze Age and Late Iron Age Occupation at Butt Lane, Milton: A Training Excavation, *Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Report No. 135*
- Drewett, P 1982. Later Bronze Age Downland Economy and Excavations at Black Patch, East Sussex, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 48: 321-400.
- Ellison, A 1987. The Bronze Age Settlement at Thorny Down, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 53: 385-392
- Ette, J. 1993. Kings Hedges Farm: An Archaeological Assessment, *Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Report No. 34*
- Evans, C. 1991a. Archaeological Investigations at Arbury Camp, 1990, *Cambridge Archaeological Unit*.
- Evans, C. 1991b. Arbury East. The Archaeology of the Arbury Environs, Part II: The Unex Lands and Gypsy Ditches Site, *Cambridge Archaeological Unit*.
- Freund, W H C. 1955. A Romano-British Settlement at Arbury Road, Cambridge, *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* 48: 10-43
- Glazebrook, J (ed) 1997. Research & Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, East Anglian Archaeology 1997 Occasional Paper No. 3
- Haslam, J. 1984. Development of the topography of Saxon Cambridge, *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* 72: 13-29
- Hughes, McKenny, T. 1904. Arbury, *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* 46: 211-219
- Lawson, A. 1983. *The Archaeology of Witton, near North Walsham, Norfolk*. East Anglian Archaeology 18.
- Macaulay, S. 1997. Akeman Street Roman Road and Romano-British Settlement at Landbeach, Car Dyke Farm. *Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Report No. 141*.
- Pryor, F. 1980. Excavation at Fengate, Peterborough, England: The Third Report, *Northamptonshire Archaeological Society Monograph 1*. Royal Ontario Museum Archaeology Monograph 6.
- Martin, E. 1988. *Burgh: Iron Age and Roman Enclosure*. East Anglian Archaeology 40.
- Reynolds, T. 1994. Iron-Age and Romano-British Settlement at Milton: An Archaeological Rescue Project, *Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Report No. 104*.
- Reynolds, T. (forthcoming). Report on Archaeological Investigations at MILEW III and IV Way, T (unpublished). Milton East Waste 1997: Brief documentary research. (Unpublished Archive Report AFU MILEW97).
- Worssam, B C & Taylor, J H. 1969. *Geology of the County around Cambridge*. Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, HMSO, London.

## Appendix A catalogue of pottery

Context.	Sherd count	Weight (g)	Post-Roman	Roman	Iron Age 'gritty'	Iron Age 'sandy'	Iron Age other	Bronze Age
301	1	4				1		
302	2	5			1	1		
304	6	27			2	3	1	
305	14	47	2	1	6	4	1	
306	4	19			2	2		
307	3	20		2	1			
308	2	11	1	1				
309	2	9		1			1	
310	2	6	1				1	
317	1	4			1			
321	1	2	1					
326	33*	89			13	10	3	
327	1	7			1			
329	6	27			3	3		
330	5	8			2	2	1	
331	20*	50		1	5	10	2	
335	1	1				1		
341	45	140			13	29	3	
350	7	36				5	2	
351	29	73			8	16	5	
353	10	48				9	1	
355	2	19						
356	1	6	1					
360	16	65			5	10	1	
361	1	1			1			
365	10	40			7	2	1	
381	9	48		1	4	3	1	
382	6	16			3	3		
385	1	10						1
387	14	64			6	7	1	
403	8	12			3	5		
412	3	18			2	1		
426	1	2				1		
439	5	11			1	4		
441	6	36			2	4		
447	4	41			2	1	1	
465	7	38			3	4		
468	10	33			3	6	1	
491	1	4						1
498	2	31	2					
499	3	10	2				1	
500	4	40	1	1	1	1		
506	1	2						1
507	2	12						2
517	1	11		1				
527	4	8			4			
532	2	18			1	1		
540	8*	8			3	1	1	
551	2	7						2
566	2	4				2		
570	4	5			1	2	1	
572	2	10				1	1	
573	1	3				1		
602	1	5						1

\* some small fragments not assigned to fabric groups

## Appendix B Environmental Samples

By Duncan Schlee

Seventeen soil samples for the recovery of charred plant remains were taken during the excavation. Although previous seasons excavations have shown that charred or waterlogged plant remains have not been preserved under the soil conditions which prevail at the site, significant features, or deposits that appeared to contain charred material were sampled, in order to check previous results and to provide experience of the taking and processing of environmental samples.

Seven samples were selected for processing and assessment. the remaining samples were discarded.

Table of Selected Samples

Sample	Context no.	Context type
1	353	Pit fill
2	421	Pit? fill
7	433	Post hole fill
9	473	Pit fill
14	489	Post hole fill
17	532	Pit? fill
18	591	Layer

## RESULTS

### sample

- 1 Sterile
- 2 Small charcoal fragments
- 7 Charcoal fragments
- 9 Sterile
- 14 Charcoal fragments
- 17 Sterile
- 18 Charcoal fragments, charred *Triticum aestivum* (bread wheat) grains. Non charred specimens of *Polygonum aviculare* (Knotgrass), *Chenopodium album* (Fat Hen), *Vitis vinifera* (grape).

## INTERPRETATION

While the Bread wheat grains are ancient, and are presumably the result of a cooking accident in a domestic context, only two specimens were recovered and no other charred plant seeds were present. In such isolation, their significance is very limited. The non charred weed seeds are unlikely to be ancient, and probably represent reasonably recent contamination through root or animal activity. They are very common weeds. The grape pip is also unlikely to be ancient. Although the grape was introduced to Britain in Roman times, the sample is believed to come from a Bronze Age deposit. Since it is not charred it is likely to be a relatively recent contaminant, possibly representing previous land use, or someone's lunch.



# Appendix C Context List

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date	Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date
110	11	15	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age	180	166	5	1	Pit fill	
111	11	15	2	Post hole cut		183	183	26	1	Post hole cut	
111	112	10	2	Post hole fill		274	183	26	1	Post hole fill	
112	112	10	2	Post hole cut	Iron Age	285	285	4	1	Post hole cut	
115	116	12	unphased	Post hole fill		286	285	4	1	Post hole fill	
116	116	12	unphased	Post hole cut		287	288	4	1	Post hole fill	Iron Age
117	118	12	unphased	Post hole fill		288	288	4	1	Post hole cut	
118	118	12	unphased	Post hole cut		291	291	4	1	Post hole cut	
121	122	26	1	Post hole fill		292	291	4	1	Post hole fill	
122	122	26	1	Post hole cut		307	307	4	1	Post hole cut	
123		6	1	Buried Soil		308	307	4	1	Post hole fill	
124		6	1	Buried Soil		300		24	unphased	Topsoil	
125	126	26	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age	301		24	unphased	subsoil	Iron Age
126	126	26	1	Post hole cut		302	452	15	2	Post hole	Iron Age
128		6	1	Buried Soil		303		21	4	plough furrow	
129	129	11	1	Post hole cut		304		24	unphased	cleaning	Iron Age
135	112	10	2	Post hole fill		305		24	unphased	cleaning	Post-Roman/ Roman/ Iron Age
148	129	11	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age?	306	337	16	2	Ditch fill	Iron Age
165	166	5	1	Pit fill	Bronze Age?	307	334	18	3	Ditch fill	Roman/ Iron Age
166	166	5	1	Pit cut		308	352	22	4	drain fill	Post-Roman/ Roman
168	169	4	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age?	309	349	20	4	Ditch fill	Roman/ Iron Age
169	169	4	1	Post hole cut		310		24	unphased	cleaning	Post-Roman/ Iron Age
170	171	4	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age?	311	312	13	unphased	Post hole fill	
171	171	4	1	Post hole cut		312	312	13	unphased	Post hole cut	
172	173	4	1	Post hole fill		313	314	10	2	Post hole fill	
173	173	4	1	Post hole cut		314	314	10	2	Post hole cut	
174	175	11	1	Post hole fill	Prehistoric	315	316	13	unphased	Post hole fill	
175	175	11	1	Post hole cut		316	316	13	unphased	Post hole cut	
176	177	26	1	Post hole fill		317	318	21	4	Gully fill	Iron Age
177	177	26	1	Post hole cut		318	318	21	4	Gully cut	
						319	320	20	4	Ditch fill	

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date	Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date
320	320	20	4	Ditch cut		352	352	22	4	drain cut	
321	322	22	4	drain cut	Post-Roman	353	354	8	2	Pit fill	Iron Age
322	322	22	4	drain cut		354	354	8	2	Pit cut	
323	324	21	4	Pit fill		355	346	21	4	Pit fill	Post-Roman
324	324	21	4	Pit cut		356		24	unphased	cleaning layer	Post-Roman
325	613	24	3	Pit fill		357=369	358	16	2	Gully fill	
326	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age	358=370	358	16	2	Gully cut	
327	328	18	3	Ditch fill	Iron Age	359	320	20	4	Ditch fill	
328	328	18	3	Ditch cut		360	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age
329	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age	361	362	10	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age
330	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age	362	362	10	2	Post hole cut	
331	613	17	3	Pit fill	Roman/ Iron Age	363	364	10	2	Post hole fill	
332		24	unphased	cleaning layer		364	364	10	2	Post hole cut	
333	334	18	3	Gully fill		365	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age
334	334	18	3	Gully cut		366		27	0	Natural layer	
335	336	10	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age	367	368	1	1	Post hole fill	
336	336	10	2	Post hole cut		368	368	1	1	Post hole cut	
337=404	337	16	2	Ditch cut		369=357	370	16	2	Gully fill	
338		24	unphased	cleaning layer		370=358	370	16	2	Gully cut	
339	340	20	4	plough furrow fill		371	372	20	4	Gully fill	
340	340	20	4	plough furrow cut		372	372	20	4	Gully cut	
341	342	8	2	Pit fill	Iron Age	373	413	27	0	Natural fill	
342	342	8	2	Pit cut		374	346	21	4	Pit fill	
343	344	25	unphased	Post hole fill		375	376	1	1	Post hole fill	
344	344	25	unphased	Post hole cut		376	376	1	1	Post hole cut	
345	349	20	4	Ditch fill		377	378	1	1	Post hole fill	
346	346	21	4	Pit cut		378	378	1	1	Post hole cut	
347	348	19	2	Post hole fill		379	380	7	1	Post hole fill	
348	348	19	2	Post hole cut		380	380	7	1	Post hole cut	
349	349	20	4	Ditch cut		381	613	17	3	Pit fill	Roman/ Iron Age
350	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age	382	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age
351	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age	383	384	1	1	Post hole fill	

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date	Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date
384	384	1	1	Post hole cut	Bronze Age	416	416	25	unphased	Post hole cut	Iron Age
385	386	1	1	Post hole fill		417	418	27	0	Natural fill	
386	386	1	1	Post hole cut		418	418	27	0	Natural cut	
387	613	17	3	Pit fill	Iron Age	419	420	2	1	Post hole fill	
388	388	25	unphased	Pit cut		420	420	2	1	Post hole cut	
389	388	25	unphased	Pit fill		421		17	3	Pit fill	
390	391	25	unphased	Post hole fill	Iron Age	422	316	13	2	Post hole fill	
391	391	25	unphased	Post hole cut		423	496	8	2	Pit fill	
392	393	25	unphased	Post hole fill		424	613	17	3	Pit fill	
393	393	25	unphased	Post hole cut		425	426	14	2	Post hole fill	
394	414	25	unphased	Post hole fill		426	426	14	2	Post hole cut	
395	396	25	unphased	Post hole fill		427	428	14	2	Post hole fill	
396	396	25	unphased	Post hole cut		428	428	14	2	Post hole cut	
397	398	25	unphased	Post hole fill		429	430	1	1	Post hole fill	
398	398	25	unphased	Post hole cut		430	430	1	1	Post hole cut	
399	399	10	2	Post hole cut	Iron Age	431	432	1	1	Post hole fill	
400	399	10	2	Post hole fill		432	432	1	1	Post hole cut	
401	399	10	2	Post pipe fill		433	433	25	unphased	Post hole fill	
402	312	13	2	Post hole fill		434	434	25	unphased	Post hole cut	
403	404	16	2	Ditch fill		435	428	14	2	Post hole fill	
404=337	404	16	2	Ditch cut		436	437	2	1	Post hole fill	
405	406	17	3	Post hole fill		437	437	2	1	Post hole cut	
406	406	17	3	Post hole cut		438	420	2	1	Post hole fill	Iron Age
407	407	17	3	Pit cut		439	440	9	2	Post hole fill	
408	409	18	3	Ditch fill		440	440	9	2	Post hole cut	
409	409	18	3	Ditch cut	Iron Age	441	442	9	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age
410	388	25	unphased	Pit fill		442	442	9	2	Post hole cut	
411	496	8	2	Pit fill		443	444	25	unphased	Post hole fill	
412	613	17	3	Pit fill		444	444	25	unphased	Post hole cut	Iron Age
413	413	27	0	Natural cut		445	342	8	2	Pit fill	
414	414	25	unphased	Post hole cut		446	342	8	2	Pit fill	
415	416	25	unphased	Post hole fill		447	342	8	2	Pit fill	

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date	Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date
448	426	14	2	Post hole fill		480	480	9	2	Post hole cut	
449	450	25	unphased	Post hole fill		481	481	17	3	Pit fill	
450	450	25	unphased	Post hole cut		482	482	17	3	Pit fill	
451	378	1	1	Post hole fill		483	483	25	unphased	Natural fill	
452	452	15	2	Post hole cut		484	484	25	unphased	natural cut	
453	434	25	unphased	Post hole fill		485	485	2	1	Post hole fill	
454	496	8	2	Pit fill		486	486	2	1	Post hole fill	
455	613	17	3	Pit fill		487	487	2	1	Post hole fill	
456	613	17	3	Pit fill		488	488	8	2	Pit fill	
457	458	25	unphased	Pit fill		489	489	3	1	Post hole fill	
458	458	25	unphased	Pit cut		490	490	3	1	Post hole fill	
459	613	17	3	Pit fill		491	491	3	1	Post hole cut	Bronze Age
460	613	17	3	Pit fill		492	492	3	1	Post hole fill	
461	496	8	2	Pit fill		493	493	3	1	Post hole cut	
462	496	8	2	Pit fill		494	494	8	2	Pit fill	
463	464	25	unphased	Post hole fill		495	495	8	2	Pit fill	
464	464	25	unphased	Post hole cut		496	496	8	2	Pit cut	
465	354	8	2	Pit fill	Iron Age	497	497	3	1	Post hole fill	
466	467	25	unphased	Post hole fill		498	498	20	4	plough furrow fill	Post-Roman
467	467	25	unphased	Post hole cut		499	499	20	4	Ditch fill	Post-Roman/ Iron Age
468	469	9	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age	500	500	20	4	plough furrow fill	Post-Roman/ Roman/ Iron Age
469	469	9	2	Post hole cut		501	501	25	unphased	natural fill	
470	613	17	3	Pit fill		502	502	20	4	Ditch fill	
471	613	17	3	Pit fill		503	503	20	4	Ditch cut	
472	496	8	2	Pit fill		504	504	20	4	6 stakeholes	
473	496	8	2	Pit fill		505	505	2	1	Post hole cut	
474	474	7	1	Post hole cut		506	506	2	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age
475	474	7	1	Post hole fill		507	507	2	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age
476	476	17	3	Pit cut		508	508	25	unphased	Post hole fill	
477	496	8	2	Pit fill		509	509	25	unphased	Post hole cut	
478	496	8	2	Pit fill		510=579	510	18	3	Ditch cut	
479	480	9	2	Post hole fill		511=535	511	4	1	Gully cut	

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date	Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date
512		24	unphased	Topsoil		544	546	17	3	Pit fill	
513		6	1	Layer		545	546	17	3	Pit fill	
514		6	1	Layer		546	546	17	3	Pit cut	
515	515	4	1	Post hole cut		547	550	17	3	Pit fill	
516	515	4	1	Post hole fill		548	550	17	3	Pit fill	
517	510	18	3	Ditch fill	Roman	549	550	17	3	Pit fill	
518	519	18	3	Gully fill		550	550	17	3	Pit cut	
519=579	519	18	3	Cut		551	552	3	1	Post hole fill	Bronze Age
520	521	25	unphased	Post hole fill		552	552	3	1	Pit cut	
521	521	25	unphased	Post hole cut		553	554	25	unphased	Post hole fill	
522	524	20	4	Ditch fill		554	554	25	unphased	Post hole cut	
523	524	20	4	Ditch fill		555	563	8	2	Pit fill	
524	524	20	4	Ditch cut		556	563	8	2	Pit fill	
525	525	20	4	Ditch cut		557	563	8	2	Pit fill	
526	354	8	2	Pit fill		558	342	8	2	Pit fill	
527		12	unphased	Post hole fill	Iron Age	559	563	8	2	Pit fill	
528	444	25	unphased	Post hole fill		560	496	8	2	Pit fill	
529	530	9	2	Post hole fill		561	342	8	2	Pit fill	
530	530	9	2	Post hole cut		562	563	8	2	Pit fill	
531	550	17	3	Pit fill		563	563	8	2	Pit cut	
532	533	18	3	Gully fill	Iron Age	564	565	7	1	Post hole fill	
533=579	533	18	3	Gully cut		565	565	7	1	Post hole cut	
534=536	535	4	1	Gully fill		566	567	15	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age
535=511	535	4	1	Gully cut		567	567	15	2	Post hole cut	
536=534	511	4	1	Gully fill		568	569	11	1	Post hole fill	
537	538	1	1	Post hole fill		569	569	11	1	Post hole cut	
538	538	1	1	Post hole cut		570	579	18	3	Ditch fill	Iron Age
539	581	19	2	Post hole fill		571	580	18	3	Ditch fill	
540		24	unphased	cleaning layer	Iron Age	572	567	15	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age
541	546	17	3	Pit fill		573	567	15	2	Post hole fill	Iron Age
542	546	17	3	Pit fill		574	575	2	1	Post hole fill	
543	546	17	3	Pit fill		575	575	2	1	Post hole cut	

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date	Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Context type	Pottery date
576	577	3	1	Post hole fill		610	610	11	1	Post hole cut	
577	577	3	1	Post hole cut		611	612	25	unphased	Post hole fill	
578	546	17	3	Pit fill		612	612	25	unphased	Post hole cut	
579	579	18	3	Ditch cut		613	613	17	3	Pit	
580	580	18	3	Ditch cut		614		26	1	?Post hole	Unexcavated
581	581	19	2	Post hole cut		615		26	1	?Post hole	Unexcavated
582	583	10	2	Post hole fill		616		26	1	?Post hole	Unexcavated
583	583	10	2	Post hole cut							
584	464	25	unphased	Post hole fill							
585	586	2	1	Post hole fill							
586	586	2	1	Post hole cut							
589	590	17	3	Pit fill							
590	590	17	3	Pit cut							
591		6	1	buried soil							
592	592	23	unphased	Pit cut							
593	592	23	unphased	Pit fill							
594	594	23	unphased	Pit cut							
595	594	23	unphased	Pit fill							
596	598	11	1	Post hole fill							
597	598	11	1	Post hole fill							
598	598	11	1	Post hole cut							
599	601	11	1	Post hole fill							
600	601	11	1	Post hole fill							
601	601	11	1	Post hole cut							
602	569	11	1	Post hole fill							
603	569	11	1	Post hole fill							
604	605	11	1	Post hole fill							
605	605	11	1	Post hole cut							
606	607	11	1	Post hole fill							
607	607	11	1	Post hole cut							
608	601	11	1	Post hole fill							
609	610	11	1	Post hole fill							

Bronze Age



Cambridgeshire  
County Council

Archaeology

The Archaeological Field Unit  
Fulbourn Community Centre  
Haggis Gap  
Fulbourn  
Cambridge CB1 5HD  
Tel (01223) 881614  
Fax (01223) 880946