Excavation Report

Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent

Excavation Report

oxfordarchaeology east

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Client: Pentland Properties Ltd

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Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent

Archaeological Excavation

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Summary

Between the 12th June and 27th July 2017 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out excavations at Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent. In total, 1.27ha was investigated by two areas of excavation (Areas 1 and 2) within the 73 hectare development area of nine arable fields, extending to the south of Thanington. Area 1 comprised 0.92ha within a large field to the south of Cockering Road and Area 2 comprised 0.35ha of land on the northern edge of the development, adjacent to the A2 carriageway.

The locations of the excavation areas were based on the results of previous stages of evaluation work. A desk-based assessment was carried out by Wardell Armstrong in 2013 with a geophysical survey undertaken in 2015. An archaeological trench evaluation was conducted across the full extent of the development area by OA East in January 2017. The evaluation identified two areas of significant prehistoric remains within the development. These remains included Bronze Age enclosure ditches with Bronze Age and Iron Age pitting activity in their vicinity. Furthermore, medieval and post-medieval boundary ditches and evidence for modern hop-gardens were also revealed across the wider extent of the development.

Small scale pit deposits of Early-Middle Neolithic date were encountered in both excavation areas. The range of flintwork recovered along with hazelnut and dried crab apple demonstrate at least transient occupation of the site at this early period associated with the foraging of food in the local environment. Enclosures of Middle Bronze Age date were also revealed in both areas which probably relate to the wider intensification of farming associated with animal husbandry observed across Kent in this period. A radiocarbon date on material associated with a large cache of pottery recovered from one of the ditches returned a date of 1440-1300 cal BC.

In Area 2, these remains were succeeded by Late Bronze Age settlement represented by two loose groups of pits. The large assemblage of pottery recovered from these groups was radiocarbon dated to the 9-10th centuries BC. A scatter of Early Iron Age pits was also found to extend across part of Area 1, with a single pit producing the majority of the pottery assemblage; this was radiocarbon dated to 540-390 cal BC.

The remains encountered in this excavation are of local and regional significance, providing secure radiocarbon dates for later prehistoric settlement and pottery traditions upon the northern edge of the rarely excavated North Downs. The importance of these remains is enhanced further by their discovery out-with the known concentrations of later prehistoric sites (as a result of greater development pressure) upon the lower lying areas of Ashford and the north Kent coastal plain.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Between the 12th June and 27th July Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out excavations on land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent (centred on NGR TR 134 561; Fig. 1). Pentland Properties Ltd commissioned and funded this archaeological work, sub-contracted to OA East by Wardell Armstrong acting as the Consultant Archaeologist, in respect of a proposed residential development on the site (Planning Application: CA/15/01479/OUT). The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation for the New Thanington development prepared by Wardell Armstrong (Dawson 2017) and approved by Kent County Council Heritage Conservation Team (KCC/HCT).

1.1.2 The site comprised two excavation areas (Areas 1 and 2; Fig. 1) within the 73ha development area of nine arable fields (Fields A-I), extending to the south of Thanington. Area 1 comprised 0.92ha within a large field to the south of Cockering Road and Area 2 comprised 0.35ha of land on the northern edge of the development adjacent to the A2 carriageway.

1.1.3 A Desk-Based Assessment was undertaken for the site in 2013 by CgMs that indicated a high archaeological potential for prehistoric remains for the site (Hawkins 2013; Fig. 2). A geophysical survey on the site was also carried out by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in 2015 that determined the probable presence of archaeological features within the site (Railton 2015; Fig. 2). Significant remains belonging to the Bronze Age and Iron Age periods were encountered during the subsequent evaluation; conducted in 2017 by OA East (Clarke 2017; Fig. 3).

1.1.4 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The subsequent recording and dissemination of the results mitigates the impact to the archaeological resource.

1.1.5 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with Canterbury Museum under the site code XKTTHA17 in due course. The dissemination of the results of the excavation is described in Section 4.7 below.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The development area comprises nine arable fields (designated Fields A-I; Figs 2 and 3) to the south of Cockering Road within the civic parish of Thanington Without. These fields extend westwards from the A2 carriageway, and the western limit of the City of Canterbury, to the eastern edge of the Larkey Valley Wood (Fig. 1). The westernmost field (Field A) rises from 44m OD adjacent to Cockering Road to the higher plateau of Fields B and C, lying at a height of 64m OD. The topography falls in the eastern fields (Fields C to I) to a height of 18m OD adjacent to the A2 carriageway.

1.2.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the site comprises chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation. Superficial deposits comprise either River Terrace or Head deposits (www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html, accessed 1st February 2016). The underlying geology of each field is summarised below in Table 1.

Field	Underlying geology
A	Chalk
B	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
C	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
D	Head – Clay and Silt
E	Head – Clay and Silt
F	Head – Clay and Silt
G	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
H	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
I	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel

Table 1: Underlying geology by field

1.2.3 During the excavation, the underlying geology of Area 1 in Field B was found to consist of orange brown silty sand and gravel, representing River Terrace Deposits (Plate 1). Area 2 in Field F was underlain by firm yellowish brown clay and silt, representing Head deposits (Plate 2).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Desk-Based Assessment (Fig. 2)

1.3.1 A Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) of the site was carried out by CgMs in January 2013 (Hawkins 2013), which details the archaeological potential of the site and should be referred to for the full background. The DBA included: a search of the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER); a study of historical aerial photographs of the site and a cartographic search. The main results of this report are summarised below and detailed on Figure 2.

Bronze Age (c.2500-800BC)

1.3.2 Two findspots of Bronze Age date are recorded in Field D. These are a copper alloy razor (MKE 57157) and a copper alloy 'object' (MKE 57161). An assemblage of flint spanning the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods is also recorded immediately to the north-east of Field F (KHER reference: TR 15 NW 614).

Iron Age (c.800BC-AD43)

1.3.3 Two findspots of Iron Age date are recorded in Field C, both of which are copper alloy coins (MKE 57031 and MKE 57674). A copper alloy brooch is also recorded in Field B (MKE 57151). An archaeological watching brief also revealed Iron Age remains immediately to the east of Field H (KHER reference: TR 15 NW 215).

Roman (c.AD43-410)

1.3.4 Previous metal detecting events have recorded numerous metalwork findspots across all the fields that form the site. The metalwork mostly comprises low denomination bronze coins with a few bronze brooches and cosmetic implements. The metalwork is indicative of manuring of these fields with rubbish and 'night soil' brought from the Roman city of Canterbury, within which the metalwork was intermixed. These findspots have therefore not been presented on Figure 2.

Post-Roman (c. 410-1900)

1.3.5 Numerous metalwork findspots spanning the medieval to modern periods have also been recorded across the site from previous metal detecting events. As with the Roman metalwork, these probably also represent manuring of fields throughout this period, with material brought in from the city of Canterbury. These findspots are similarly not presented on Figure 2. Historical cartographic evidence shows that the present layout of the fields comprising the site developed from smaller pre-existing subdivisions.

Geophysical Survey (Fig. 2)

1.3.6 The geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in January and February 2015 (Railton 2015). The results of the survey are presented on Figure 2. The majority of the anomalies are considered to be agricultural in origin, representing post-medieval field boundaries and plough furrows. Possible tree pits were also identified believed to be associated with former orchards and shown on historical maps of the site. Some of the linear and discrete anomalies were interpreted to be possible soil-filled features that may represent underlying archaeological features. These were interpreted as probably representing possible former field boundary ditches, quarry pits or ponds of uncertain date.

Evaluation (Fig. 3)

Prehistoric remains

1.3.7 Although over two-thirds of the trenches contained no archaeological features or deposits, two areas of significant later prehistoric activity were identified.

Fields B (encompassing excavation Area 1) and C

1.3.8 One of these areas was found along the northern edge of the plateau extending across Field B to the western edge of Field C. The presence of archaeological remains focused in this area had previously been suggested by the results of a geophysical survey. Ditches on various alignments were revealed that probably belong to a network of fields or enclosures of Middle Bronze Age origin. A total of six pits were also identified in this area that contained assemblages of later prehistoric pottery and worked flint spanning the Early Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age periods. One Middle Iron Age pit contained substantial quantities of pottery, burnt flint and daub, perhaps indicating that industrial or craft processes were being undertaken in the area during this period.

Field F (encompassing excavation Area 2)

1.3.9 A second smaller area of prehistoric remains was also revealed in the northeastern corner of the site (Field F). Two Middle Bronze Age ditches were uncovered here that yielded further assemblages of prehistoric pottery, worked and burnt flint.

Medieval remains

1.3.10 In Field B, a ditched boundary was revealed in a trench immediately to the south of Cockering Farm (Cockering Manor) that contained locally-produced medieval pottery sherds dated to the 12th-13th centuries.

Post-medieval remains

1.3.11 Trenching also identified ditches of post-medieval/modern date that respect current field boundaries, with many containing brick and tile fragments.

Modern remains

1.3.12 Trenches on the sloping east-facing ground in the eastern part of the site (Fields C, D, F, H and I) contained the remains of linear post hole alignments, with many containing modern brick and tile fragments. These post holes were associated with recent activity associated with hop growing.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 Oxford Archaeology East would like to thank Nigel Borrell of Pentland Properties Ltd for commissioning the work and for his practical help and organisation on the ground, and Charlotte Dawson of Wardell Armstrong for overseeing the project. Thanks are also extended to Rosanne Cummings, who monitored the work on behalf of Kent County Council, for her advice and guidance.

1.4.2 The project was managed for OA East by Richard Mortimer. The evaluation fieldwork was directed by Graeme Clarke, who was supported by Simon Birnie, Lee Sparks, Ben Slader and Camille Guezennec. The excavation fieldwork was directed by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska, supported by Daniel Firth, Joanna Nastaszyc, Laura James and Eben Cooper.

1.4.3 The illustrations were produced by Séverine Bézie with the exception of Figure 8, created in collaboration with Stuart Ladd. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the direction of Katherine Hamilton.

2 Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Dawson 2017). These aims were developed with reference to the Brief for Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample excavations set by Canterbury City Council (2017).

2.1.2 The objective of the excavation is to:

- Record archaeological remains within Area 1 and Area 2 such that they are preserved by record in order to contribute to an increased knowledge of Kent's past and providing a resource for future research and education.

2.1.3 Broadly, this will be achieved by:

- Establishing a broad phased plan of the archaeology revealed following the stripping of the site;
- Providing a refined chronology of the archaeological phasing; and
- Investigating the function of structural remains and the activities taking place within and close to the site.

2.1.4 Specifically the work would aim to:

- Establish the nature of the Middle Bronze Age activity within Areas 1 and 2; and
- Establish the nature of the Iron Age activity within Areas 1 and 2.

2.2 South East Research Framework

2.2.1 Research priorities of the South East Research Framework (SERF) for Kent, relating to the aims of the project, are summarised below for each period (http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/history-and-heritage/south-east-research-framework, accessed 3rd July 2017).

Neolithic and Early Bronze Age

2.2.2 Discussion notes from the SERF public seminar on the Neolithic to early Bronze Age, 8th December 2007 (SERF Seminar 2007b).

Environment and landscape during the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age, Mike Allen (SERF Seminar 2007b, 1).

2.2.3 Another important issue to redress is the lack of environmental information in conjunction with archaeological data.

Neolithic geography and the English channel, David Field (SERF Seminar 2007b, 1).

2.2.4 The movement of objects such as polished axes over various distances needs further study within the region. In terms of materials, it is sometimes difficult to pin down provenance, but the idea of Greensand quarries is worth further exploration.

2.2.5 Key research themes for the period are also discussed in seminar papers on the period on the SERF website:

- *Landscape, monuments and social practices in the late 4th and 3rd millenia BC: a survey*, by Paul Garwood;

- *Neolithic and Early Bronze Age lithics in South East England: some preliminary notes,* by Matt Leivers.

Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age

2.2.6 Notes on the SERF public Seminar on the middle Bronze Age and Iron Age, 20th October 2007 (SERF Seminar 2007a).

The middle to late Bronze Age potters of Kent, Barbara McNee (SERF Seminar 2007a, 2-4).

2.2.7 A number of directions for future work suggested, arguing a need to:

- Look into why so many sites appear to have been abandoned at the end of the Late Bronze Age, and look for patterns within the landscape;
- Look at sites in both a local and regional context in order to define their relationship to a wider first millennium BC cultural system;
- Note that the transition between the Middle Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age is a recognisable pattern; and
- Refine the form type series and create a user-friendly fabric type series.

Iron Age pottery from Kent, c. 600-100 BC, Peter Couldrey (SERF Seminar 2007a, 4-8).

2.2.8 Discussion of perceived problems with absolute and relative dating, arguing a need for:

- New radiocarbon dates for the Late Bronze to Middle Iron Age period.
- There *are* radiocarbon dates for the Middle and Late Bronze Age, but these are not always associated with pot, as a lot of radiocarbon dates tend to have been taken from aceramic contexts on the basis that pottery evidence can be used to date the other deposits.
- There is a need to look at relative functionality of pottery, and distribution of different forms and fabrics around individual sites.
- Next to nothing is known about kiln technology, because what is known is only that which can be inferred from the vessels themselves.
- In terms of pottery functions, the comparison of food remains residues for different forms would be useful.

The evolution of later prehistoric settlement in Kent and Surrey, Tim Champion (SERF Seminar 2007a, 8-11).

2.2.9 Uneven pattern of development lead work:

- In Kent in particular, work has been highly skewed towards the east coast and Thanet.

2.2.10 Discussion on Bronze Age remains:

- It can be said that many ditches seem to have been filled in during the middle Bronze Age, and others seem to have been subject to re-organisation in the late Bronze Age; other systems actually begin in the late Bronze Age.
- an important question for future research is to find more houses and other structures dating to the period. Only few Middle Bronze Age houses known from East Valley Farm, near Dover, and another at Kemsley Fields, Sittingbourne.

- We begin to see enclosures more generally in the Late Bronze Age, including: circular 'ringworks', as at Mill Hill, Deal; rectangular/square enclosures, as at Nore Hill, Chelsham; and oval enclosures with interrupted ditches, as at Highstead and Ramsgate.
- The is also evidence of organised landscapes in wider excavations that include boundaries reinforced by ritual in some way, as at Shelford Quarry, near Canterbury, where field systems included special deposits and cremation material in aligned pits (cf. recent work at Ellington Farm, Ramsgate).
- In terms of Late Bronze Age crop preferences, early use of spelt but equally a late survival of emmer.

2.2.11 Discussion on Iron Age remains:

- There is no evidence of continuity of this landscape organisation into the Early Iron Age, with all the evidence pointing to some form of major hiatus at this point.
- Whole sub-regions seem to be little occupied in the Early and especially Middle Iron Age.
- What happened to the systems when they went out of use? Or perhaps this is evidence more of a change of use. Or were some of these areas indeed completely abandoned?
- No certain divisions of the Early Iron Age landscape are known, and there is only sparse evidence of settlement, as at North Foreland on Thanet, at White Horse Stone in the Medway area.
- Looking in the wrong place? Shift of settlement at this time has not been picked up.
- In the Middle Iron Age we have the emergence of hillforts in the region, but evidence of other settlements is rare. The Farningham Hill site in west Kent provides some of the best of the sporadic settlement evidence, being a completely excavated enclosure with a good ceramic sequence as well as stratified brooches to assist with chronology.
- There is a further major hiatus between Middle and Late Iron Age sites, and settlement evidence becomes more common again in the late Iron Age, accompanied by a new phase of land division and enclosure.
- Many sites show evidence of continuity into the Roman period (such as the Thurnham Roman Villa site in Kent).

2.2.12 Future work:

- Advances in understanding of chronology rest on recognition of field systems, which can be hampered by development led focus on a particular site area.
- The need to put visual data into GIS, in order to see the bigger pattern.

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the Brief (Canterbury City Council 2017) and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Dawson 2017) which required that approximately 1.27ha in total (Area 1 encompassing 0.92ha and Area 2 encompassing 0.35ha) be machine stripped to the level of natural geology or the archaeological horizon.

2.3.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a tracked 360º type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

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

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

2.3.5 A total of 50 bulk samples were taken from the excavated features. These each totalled between 10-40L and were processed by flotation at OA East's environmental processing facility at Bourn.

2.3.6 Site conditions were good, with rain at times.

3 Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The proposed development area was subject to 246 evaluation trenches by OA East in January 2017 and two open-area excavations by OA East totalling 1.27ha in June-July 2017.

3.1.2 Combined, these demonstrated the presence of significant later prehistoric remains around the southern periphery of Thanington (Fig. 3). Artefacts recovered from features indicate sites within the development area were occupied between the Middle Bronze Age and Early Iron Age periods. The sparse recovery of residual Early Bronze Age artefacts from feature fills and the presence of a single pit containing beaker pottery to the north of Area 1 are suggestive of earlier occupation. In addition, the presence of Early Neolithic flintwork and pottery, including fragments of polished axes found in pits within both areas of investigation suggest at least transient occupation on the site during this earlier period.

3.1.3 Summaries and descriptions of the features identified during the evaluation and excavation conducted by OA East, and the artefacts recovered are given in this section. Full context inventories and quantification of finds for the evaluation and excavation phases of work are presented in Appendix A.1-3, Tables 8-10.

3.1.4 The layout of the evaluation trenches excavated in relation to the geophysical survey and HER entries is given as Figure 2. An overview of evaluation and excavation results is shown on Figure 3. A topographical model (based on 2m resolution LIDAR dataset) of Fields B and C overlain on the results of the geophysical survey and excavation of Area 1 is given as Figure 4. Detailed phase plans of the excavation Areas 1 and 2 are shown as Figures 5 and 6 respectively. The relevant findings of the trial trench investigations are presented along with the results of the excavation on Figures 5 and 6. Selected sections are presented in Figure 7.

3.1.5 Very little complex stratigraphy was present on the site although some inter-cutting discrete and linear features were observed. The chronological phasing presented below is largely based on stratigraphic relationships, spatial associations and, to a certain extent, similarity of alignment of linear features. Where possible this has been combined with dating evidence provided by stratified artefacts and radiocarbon dating.

3.1.6 The activity identified on the site has been subdivided into five main periods:

Period 1: Natural features

Period 2: Early-Middle Neolithic (*c*.4000-3000/2800 BC)

Period 2.1: Early Neolithic (*c*.4000-3500 BC)

3.1.7 Period 2.2: Middle Neolithic (*c*.3500-3000/2800 BC)

Period 3: Bronze Age (*c*.2500-800 BC)

Period 3.1: Early Bronze Age (*c*.2500-1600 BC)

Period 3.2: Middle Bronze Age (*c*.1600-1200 BC)

Period 3.3: Late Bronze Age (*c*.1200-800 BC)

Period 4: Early Iron Age (*c*.800-350 BC)

Period 5: Medieval and later periods (*c*.AD 1066-present)

3.1.8 Numerous metalwork findspots dating from Period 5 were found in topsoil across the site during the evaluation phase of the investigation. Furthermore, during the excavation phase a small quantity of diagnostically later artefacts, including pottery and ceramic building material (including a very small quantity of Roman CBM) were recovered from features dating to Period 5. These items are described in the results section below along with Appendix reports but as they fall outside the scope of research aims for the project (see Section 2) they are not considered further.

3.2 Period 1: Natural Features

Geology

3.2.1 During the evaluation stage of this project the underlying natural deposits were found to be consistent with the superficial Head or River Terrace deposits indicated for each Field by BGS mapping. The Chalk bedrock was only encountered as an outcrop in the eastern part of Field C, in the area encompassing Trenches 139, 140, 142, 143 and 146. During the excavation, the underlying geology in both excavation Areas 1 and 2 was found to consist of silty and clayey sand and gravel River Terrace Deposits (462).

3.2.2 The overlying soil sequence was fairly uniform. The natural geology was overlain by a subsoil (2, 151), which in turn was overlain by topsoil/ploughsoil (1, 150).

Fluvial deposits

Evaluation Trenches 56 and 57 (Fig. 3)

3.2.3 These trenches lay towards the northern end of the north-facing slope in this part of the site (Field B), immediately to the northwest of Area 1, where a layer of possible colluvium was revealed beneath the subsoil in each trench. A test pit excavated at the northern end of Trench 56 revealed this deposit to be to be up to 1.5m thick, overlying the natural River Terrace Gravels.

Excavation Area 1 (Fig. 5)

3.2.4 The deposit identified by Trenches 56 and 57 was found in the excavation phase of the investigation to terminate within excavation Area 1. It was revealed to be the head of a fluvial channel (461) that lay within a small depression in the surface topography of this part of the site (Fig. 4). This feature therefore represents the route of a geological/fluvial channel, an addition to similar channels shown by the geophysical survey extending across the site (Fig. 2).

Sinkholes

Evaluation Trenches 23, 24, 67 and 74 (Fig. 3)

3.2.5 Some of the larger discrete geophysical anomalies targeted by the evaluation trenching were found to be soil filled sinkholes. The sinkholes are geological features, encountered on sites with underlying Chalk bedrock. The sinkhole revealed in Trench 74 formed a broad circular depression still extant in the landscape.

3.2.6 Trenches 23 and 24, located to the southwest of Area 1, each contained natural sinkhole deposits (7) that consisted of mid brown sandy clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. These deposits extended across much of the length of the trenches indicating that the geological features were approximately 30m in diameter. A test pit was excavated into each sinkhole deposit by the 360º mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m below ground level to investigate the extent of these features and sample the resultant spoil for finds. No artefacts were recovered from either of the sinkhole deposits.

3.2.7 To the north of Area 1, Trenches 67 and 74 contained similar natural sinkhole deposits (7) The deposits extended across the most of the length of the trenches, indicating that the geological features were in excess of 30m in diameter. A test pit was excavated into the sinkhole in Trench 74 with a 360º mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m below ground level. The deposit in this test pit yielded a fragment (75g) of post-medieval tile. A test pit (**10**) was also excavated by hand (11 and 12) in Trench 67 to sample the deposit for artefacts, although none were recovered.

Tree-boles

3.2.8 No tree-boles/tree root systems were uncovered during the evaluation. However, the excavation of Area 1 revealed 13 tree-boles/root systems (Fig. 5; **266**, **268**, **275**, **288**, **290**, **292**, **319**, **342**, **350**, **393**, **395**, **407**, **449**). They were amorphous in plan and measured between 0.42-1.8m in diameter and 0.09-0.35m deep.

3.2.9 These natural features each contained a single fill (267, 269, 276, 289, 291, 293, 320, 343, 351, 394, 396, 408 and 450 respectively) that consisted of mid-dark greyish brown/brownish grey silty or sandy silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Few finds were recovered from the fills of any these natural features. However, the fills of tree-boles **268** and **292** were found to contain fragments of burnt flint. In addition, tree-bole **275** contained two sherds (12g) of abraded medieval and post-medieval pottery along with fragments (14g) of CBM and clinker. Furthermore, the fill of tree-bole **449** produced a small quantity (20g) of fired clay. Lastly, the fill of tree-bole **350** yielded four worked flints.

3.3 Period 2.1: Early Neolithic (*c.*4000 – 3500BC)

Area 1 (Fig. 5)

Pit Group 1

3.3.1 A group of three pits (**262** (Section 111; Fig. 7), **280** and **282**) were located in the southeastern corner of Area 1.

3.3.2 Pit **262** was sub-circular in plan with a U-shaped profile and measured up to 1.1m in diameter by 0.56m deep. The upper backfill (263) consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions that produced 41 sherds (270g) of Early Neolithic pottery and 52 worked flints including a fragment of polished axe head, cores, blade-like flakes and retouched items. The basal backfill (463) also yielded 16 worked flints including nine blade-like flakes. Furthermore, the basal backfill also contained occasional charred barley grains, a fragment of hazelnut shell and several fragments of crab apple (Appendix C.3.7).

3.3.3 Pit **262** was flanked to the east and west by two similarly amorphous shaped pits (**280** and **282**). Each measured up to 0.8m in diameter and 0.2m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (281 and 283 respectively) similarly consisted of mid orange/greyish brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Fill 281 contained 15 sherds (77g) of Early Neolithic pottery. Fill 281 also yielded 19 worked flints including an edge trimmed flake/blade and a blade-like flake. It is possible the unusual morphology of these two pits may have resulted from tree disturbance (tree-boles/tree-throws).

3.4 Period 2.2: Middle Neolithic (*c.*3500 – 3000/2800BC)

Area 2 (Fig. 6)

3.4.1 A single circular pit (**158**), located towards the western corner of Area 2, contained 10 sherds (17g) of Middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware pottery and three worked flints. It

measured 0.58m in diameter and 0.2m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (157) consisted of mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions.

3.5 Period 3.1: Early Bronze Age (*c*.2500 – 1600BC)

Evaluation (Fig. 3)

3.5.1 To the north of Excavation Area 1, a single circular pit (**37**) was revealed in Trench 71 of the evaluation phase of the investigation. The pit measured 1.5m in diameter and 0.15m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The fill (38) consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced four sherds (16g) of Early Bronze Age pottery (including an urn sherd decorated with fingertip impressions), 41 worked flints and a burnt flint (4g).

Area 2 (Fig. 6)

3.5.2 Residual Early Bronze Age beaker sherds (4 sherds, 17g) were also recovered from excavated sections **95** and **98** of Period 3.2 Ditch 6 during the evaluation phase of the investigation.

3.6 Period 3.2: Middle Bronze Age (*c*.1600 – 1200BC)

Area 1 (Fig. 5)

Enclosure 1

3.6.1 The excavation revealed the southeastern part of a large rectilinear enclosure, defined by two parallel ditch alignments (Ditches 1 and 2), placed *c*.10m apart. These alignments enclosed an area of at least 65m by 50m that extended beyond the northern and western limits of excavation. The partial remains of three further 'outer' ditches (Ditches 3-5) also shared alignment with the enclosure, that when taken as a whole, may possibly delineate a concentric arrangement of enclosed land that encompassed an area of at least 120m by 95m.

3.6.2 Each southeastern corner of these ditch alignments converged on the northwest-southeast axis of the depression in the surface topography formed by the fluvial channel 461. This alignment in the topography in the locality may also have been respected in the Early Neolithic (see Section 3.4) by the placing of the Period 2 Pit Group 1 near to the southeastern limit of this depression/deposit. It is interesting to note that the only large assemblage of pottery of the period was recovered from the corner of Ditch 3 (cuts **264**, **270** and **294**), adjacent to the Early Neolithic pit group.

Ditch 1

3.6.3 The innermost of the enclosure ditches was Ditch 1 (comprising cuts **365**, **369** (Section 156), **377** (Section 157), **391**, **426**, **436** and **440**) which measured between 0.7-1.6m wide and 0.2-0.66m deep with a U-shaped profile. The ditch was observed to be cut by later ditch cut **379** of Ditch 11 (Section 157); tentatively placed within Period 4.

3.6.4 Each cut contained a single fill (366, 370, 378, 392, 427, 437 and 441 respectively) which consisted of mid yellowish/greyish brown sandy clayey silt with occasional gravel inclusions. This ditch was also encountered in Trench 62 during the evaluation phase as ditch **18**. A further ditch segment (**326**) was partly revealed at the northern limit of the excavation that probably represents a northward continuation of this ditch alignment. It measured 1.06m wide and 0.22m deep with a U-shaped profile and contained a similar fill (327).

3.6.5 A combined total of three sherds (20g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and 46 worked flints including a scraper, a retouched flake, a core on a flake, an edge trimmed

flake/blade, a blade-like flake and a denticulate were recovered from the fills of Ditch 1. In addition, the fills produced three sherds (9g) of Early Neolithic pottery.

3.6.6 A 10m-long spur (comprising cuts **430** and **434**) also extended southwest from the main ditch alignment at its southeastern corner. This ditch measured 0.4m wide and 0.14m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (431 and 435) consisted of light yellowish brown sandy clay with rare gravel inclusions.

Ditch 2

3.6.7 This ditch lay parallel to the south and east of Ditch 1 at a distance of between 5-10m. It comprised cuts **344**, **363**, **367**, **383**, **385**, **397** (Section 166), **418**, **428** and **432** which measured between 0.54-1.1m wide and 0.18-0.4m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (345, 364, 368, 384, 386, 398, 419, 429 and 433 respectively) consisted of mid-dark orange grey or greyish brown silty sand/clayey silt with moderate gravel inclusions. The fills produced a combined total of two sherds (7g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and 12 worked flints. This ditch was also encountered in Trench 63 during the evaluation phase as ditch **64**.

Ditch 3

3.6.8 The three segments that comprised this ditch alignment lay between 35-45m to the southeast of Ditches 1 and 2. The ditch cuts (**264**, **270**, **294** (Section 123), **302**, **328**, **330** (Section 138), **332**, **346**, **457** and **459** (Section 190)) measured between 0.76-1.4m wide and 0.1-0.42m deep with a U-shaped profile. The western and central segments were separated by a 10m-wide gap and the central and eastern segments were separated by a narrower 3m-wide gap that suggest possible entrance ways. The fills (265, 271/272, 295/296, 303/304, 329, 331, 333, 347, 458 and 460 respectively) consisted of mid greyish/yellowish brown sandy clayey silt with frequent gravel inclusions.

3.6.9 The fills from the eastern/northern segment (**264**/**270**/**294**) of this alignment produced a large quantity of Middle Bronze Age pottery; totalling 105 sherds (1938g). Five worked flints, including a bladelet, were also recovered. The fill (296) of ditch cut **294** yielded charcoal that was radiocarbon dated to 1440-1300 cal BC (95.4% confidence SUERC-76181 (3112 ± 27 BP)).

Ditch 4

3.6.10 This ditch (comprising cuts **284**, **286**, **297**, **338** and **340**) lay 2m to the east, and parallel to, the north-south aligned segment of Ditch 3. The two sections of this ditch alignment were separated by an 8m-wide gap, which is probably the result of truncation. It measured between 0.5-0.7m wide and 0.07-0.18m deep with a U-shaped profile. Each cut contained a single fill (285, 287, 339 and 341) which consisted of mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions.

Ditch 5

3.6.11 Located 17m to the south and parallel to the east-west aligned segment of Ditch 3, Ditch 5 (comprising cuts **451** (Section 186), **453** and **455**) measured between 0.56-0.8m wide and 0.13-0.29m deep with a U-shaped profile. It extended for approximately 10m before turning in an 'L-shape' to the north at its eastern end where it was truncated by Period 5 clay quarry pit **444**. The fills (452, 454 and 456) consisted of mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions. An intrusive fragment (12g) of post-medieval CBM was recovered from the upper fill of ditch **455**.

Evaluation (Fig. 3)

3.6.12 To the east of Area 1, Trench 162 (Field C) contained a ditch (**89**) that may be attributed to this phase. It lay on a northwest-southeast alignment and measured 1.35m wide and 0.53m deep, with a rounded V-shaped profile. The fill (90) consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This yielded four worked flints broadly dated to the later prehistoric period. The ditch was observed to be cut by Early Iron Age pit **87** (see Section 3.7.9 below).

3.6.13 To the south of Area 1, Trenches 35 and 88 each contained a single undated ditch (**122** and **29** respectively) that may also be tentatively attributed to the Middle Bronze Age. Ditch **122**, on a north-south alignment, measured 0.67m wide and 0.3m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (121) consisted of mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Ditch **29**, on an east-west alignment, measured 0.61m wide and 0.17m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (30) consisted of light brownish grey clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

Area 2 (Fig. 6)

Enclosure 2

3.6.14 Part of a further arrangement of rectilinear enclosure was defined by a series of ditches (Ditches 6-8) that extended across the lower/flatter part of the site encompassing Area 2.

Ditch 6

3.6.15 Ditch 6 (comprising cuts **153**, **162** (Section 64), **170** (Section 66), **186** and **188**), on an east-west alignment, measured between 0.55-1.5m wide and 0.23-0.46m deep with a U-shaped profile. The two sections that comprised this ditch alignment were separated by a 2.5m-wide gap, probably representing an entranceway. The fills (154, 163, 171, 187 and 189 respectively) consisted of mid to light yellowish/brownish grey clayey sand with occasional gravel inclusions. The fills of cuts **153**, **162**, **170** and **186** produced a total of 59 worked flints, including four scrapers, along with three sherds (31g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery. A residual sherd (9g) of Early Neolithic pottery was also recovered. The fill of cut **186** also contained a single fragmentary fish vertebra.

3.6.16 This ditch was also encountered in Trenches 215 and 216 during the evaluation phase as ditches **95** and **98** respectively. A further two scrapers were recovered from the fills (96/97 and 126 respectively) along with a blade-like flake and retouched/rejuvenation flakes. A total of three sherds (14g) of Early Bronze Age pottery and eight sherds (18g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery were produced by these fills.

Ditch 7

3.6.17 This east-west aligned ditch (comprising cuts **225** and **227** (Section 93)) was located 43m to the south of Ditch 6. It measured between 0.39-0.6m wide and 0.06-0.11m deep with a U-shaped profile. The shallow western terminus of the ditch is probably the result of truncation. At its eastern end, this ditch alignment respected north-south aligned Ditch 8 to form a 'T-junction'. Therefore Ditch 7, also when considering its slight nature, probably represents a subdivision within a rectilinear enclosure formed by Ditches 6 and 8. Each cut contained a single fill (226 and 228) consisted of light greyish brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions. The fill of cut **227** produced two worked flints.

Ditch 8

3.6.18 Forming a 'T-junction' with Ditch 7, north-south aligned Ditch 8 (comprising cuts **209**, **229**, **239** and **243**) measured between 0.06-0.25m wide and 0.53-0.8m deep with a U-

shaped profile. The shallow northern terminus is probably the result of truncation. The fills (210, 230, 240 and 244 respectively) consisted of mid greyish/orange brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions that contained a combined total of 12 sherds (177g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and four worked flints.

?Possible trackway

3.6.19 The *c.*8m-wide gap formed by parallel east-west aligned Ditches 9 and 10 could potentially have defined a trackway that led eastward from Enclosure 2 beyond the eastern limit of the excavation. No evidence of surfacing for this possible trackway was revealed.

Ditch 9

3.6.20 The northern ditch (comprising cuts **217** and **219** (Section 89)) measured 0.5m wide and between 0.12-0.21m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (218 and 220) consisted of light greyish brown silty clay. The fill of cut **219** yielded six worked flints.

Ditch 10

3.6.21 The southern ditch (comprising cuts **221** (Section 90) and **223**) measured between 1.1-1.5m wide and 0.31-0.36m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (222 and 224) consisted of mid greyish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel inclusions that yielded a combined total of four sherds (69g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery along with 26 worked flints. The flint assemblage included two core fragments, two blade-like flakes and an edge trimmed flake/blade. This ditch was also encountered in Trench 218 during the evaluation phase as ditch **123** that yielded four sherds (26g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery from its fill (124).

3.7 Period 3.3: Late Bronze Age (*c.*1200 – 800BC)

Area 2 (Fig. 6)

Introduction

3.7.1 Period 3.2 Enclosure 2 was encroached upon by a later phase of pitting activity. A total of 18 pits of varying dimensions were encountered across the excavation area. These were focussed within two areas of greater concentration, along with a few outliers. Pit Group 2 was focussed on an area immediately to the north of Ditch 6 in the northwestern part of the excavation, with pit **207** observed to truncate the deposits of the Period 3.2 ditch. Pit Group 3 was focussed on an area to the north of Ditch 8 in the southeastern part of the excavation. No fills or artefacts associated with the use of the pits were present to indicate a primary function, if indeed they had one other than as repositories for buried waste deposits. Each was filled with a series of backfill deposits with some pits (Pit Group 2 pits **166** (Plate 3), **172** and **202** (Plate 4); Pit Group 3 pit **205** (Plate 5)) containing large quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery suggestive of formal/structural deposition.

Pit Group 2

3.7.2 A tight cluster of seven pits (**155**, **159** (Section 63), **166** (Section 69), **172** (Section 67), **177** (Section 71), **200** and **207**) were located immediately to the north of Ditch 6, one of which (**207**) truncated Ditch 6 the Period 3.2 enclosure. A further three more dispersed, outlying pits (**164**, **181** (Section 72) and **202** (Section 82)) lay to the south of the main group and Ditch 6. Each pit was sub-circular in plan with near vertical sides and slightly concave bases. Only backfill deposits were encountered in each of the pits (Table 2), although six examples contained multiple fills. Pit **172** appeared to have been truncated by pit **177**.

Pit	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Deposits	
			Fill	Description
155	1.84	0.32	156	Light yellowish grey clayey sand with occasional gravel inclusions
159	0.54	0.24	160	Light yellow silty sand with occasional charcoal inclusions
			161	Mid yellowish grey clayey sand with occasional charcoal inclusions
164	1.14	0.22	165	Light yellow silty sand
166	0.86	0.36	167= 466	Dark greyish brown clayey sand with moderate gravel, burnt stone and charcoal inclusions
			174	Mid brownish grey silty sand with frequent charcoal inclusions and thin ash-like lenses
172	2.15	0.36	173	Light greyish brown clayey sand with occasional gravel inclusions
			179	Light grey sandy clay with burnt flint inclusions
177	0.8	0.35	178	Dark grey sandy clay with frequent charcoal inclusions
			179	Reddish grey sandy clay with frequent burnt flint inclusions
			180	Greyish brown sandy clay
181	1.16	0.45	182	Mid orange brown clay
			183	Light greyish brown clay with occasional gravel inclusions
200	0.7	0.21	201	Mid greyish brown clayey sand with frequent gravel inclusions
202	1.45	0.57	203	Dark grey clay with rare gravel inclusions
			204	Dark greyish brown clay with frequent gravel inclusions
207	0.34	0..04	208	Light greyish yellow clayey sand with some chalk gravel inclusions

Table 2: Pit Group 2 deposits in Area 2

Finds

3.7.3 The majority of the pits within this group produced varying quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery. The largest assemblages were recovered from pits **166** (72 sherds; 3167g), **172** (182 sherds; 1754g) and **202** (119 sherds; 2092g). Substantial assemblages were also found in pits **155** (30 sherds; 318g), **159** (31 sherds; 351g), **177** (36 sherds; 228g) and **181** (43 sherds; 924g).

3.7.4 The backfill of pit **155** contained 12 earlier worked flints including two multiple platform cores. The assemblage (21 worked flints) recovered from pit **181** was also especially rich including a polished axe head and core fragments along with a scraper and retouched flake. The backfills of the remaining pits **159**, **164**, **166**, **172, 177** and **202** also contained predominantly worked flint flakes (nine, three, seventeen, six, four and twelve flints respectively). A fragment (6g) of a biconical spindle whorl was also recovered from the fill (173) of pit **172**. In addition, the upper backfills of pit **202** yielded four fragments (39g) of fired clay and a single pea-sized legume.

3.7.5 The primary fill (167) of pit **166** yielded a fragment of charcoal (unidentified) that was radiocarbon dated to 910-810 cal BC (95.4% confidence SUERC-76175 (2705 ± 29 BP)). The fill (203) of pit **202** yielded charred plant remains (*Triticum sp.*) that were radiocarbon dated to 980-830 cal BC (95.4% confidence SUERC-76180 (2756 ± 29 BP)).

Pit Group 3

3.7.6 Similar to Pit Group 2, a second tight cluster of six pits (**190**, **192**, **194** (Section 78), **196**, **198** (Plate 6) and **205** (Section 83)) was also located along the projected northern continuation of Ditch 8, along with a further three more dispersed, outlying pits (**213**, **215** and **241**) located to the west and south of the main group. Each pit was sub-circular in plan with near vertical sides and slightly concave bases. Only backfill deposits were encountered in each of the pits (Table 3).

Pit	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Deposits	
			Fill	Description
190	0.32	0.15	191	Mid greyish brown clay
192	0.52	0.12	193	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions
194	0.94	0.24	195	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions
196	0.77	0.26	198	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions
198	0.67	0.1	199	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions
205	0.72	0.15	206	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions
213	0.9	0.2	214	Mid greyish brown clay with frequent gravel inclusions
215	0.42	0.1	216	Dark greyish brown clay
241	1.1	0.38	242	Mid greyish orange clayey sand with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions

Table 3: Pit Group 3 deposits in Area 2

Finds

3.7.7 Three of the pits within this group produced quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from pit **205** (92 sherds; 1178g), along with smaller quantities found in pits **194** (2 sherds; 3g) and **213** (19 sherds; 231g).

3.7.8 Within the tight cluster of pits of this group, the backfills of pits **194** and **198** each produced two worked flints. The backfill of pit **205** contained a richer assemblage of nine worked flints including two blade-like flakes. Outlying pit **213** also yielded seven worked flints including an irregular core and a blade-like flake. The fill (206) of pit **205** yielded charred plant remains (*Corylus avellana*) that were radiocarbon dated to 850-790 cal BC (90.3% confidence SUERC-76176 (2650 ± 29 BP)).

3.8 Period 4: Early Iron Age (*c*.800 – 350BC)

Area 1 (Fig. 5)

Pit Group 4

3.8.1 A group of four pits (**299** (Section 125; Plate 7), **309** (Section 128), **313** and **336** (Section 141), located along the northeastern limit of Area 1, produced Early Iron Age pottery and worked flint. Each pit was sub-circular in plan with near vertical sides and flat bases. Only backfill deposits were encountered in each of the pits (Table 4), although two examples contained multiple fills.

3.8.2 Pit **299** was also encountered in Trench 76 during the evaluation phase as pit **39**. The fills (40 and 41) produced a combined total of 94 sherds (1700g) of Early Iron Age pottery.

Pit	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Deposits	
			Fill	Description
299	1.2	0.4	448	Mid yellow brown silty sand
			300	Dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent burnt flint inclusions
			301	Mid greyish brown silty sand
313	1.2	0.28	314	Mid greyish brown silty sand
309	1	0.53	310	Dark grey silty sand
			311	Mid reddish brown silty clay
			312	Mid greyish brown silt with frequent gravel inclusions
336	1.8	0.76	337	Dark orange brown sandy silt

Table 4: Pit Group 4 deposits in Area 1

Finds

3.8.3 The majority of the Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fill (300) of pit **299** (241 sherds; 4820g). The backfill (300) of pit **299** also yielded a large quantity (3.229kg) of fired clay. This fragmentary assemblage consists of pieces of structural fired clay/daub, with straw or grass impressions visible on some broken surfaces (Appendix B.8.5-6). Pieces were also recovered with smoothed surface(s) and wattle/withy impressions including hazel (*Corylus avellana*). In addition, these backfills also produced an assemblage of charred barley, wheat and oat grains along with weed seeds. A charred wheat grain (*Triticum sp.*) from fill 300 was radiocarbon dated to 540-390 cal BC (95.4% confidence SUERC-76182 (2365 ± 29 BP)). Furthermore, 27 (mostly residual) worked flints were recovered from backfills 300 and 301 including a core on a flake and two blade-like flakes. The primary backfill (448) also contained a worked flint.

3.8.4 The remaining pits within this group also produced varying quantities of Early Iron Age pottery and flintwork. As with pit **299**, the worked flint proved mostly to comprise residual items from earlier periods 'swept' into feature fills. The backfills of pit **309** produced 30 sherds (665g) of pottery and four worked flints including a core fragment. Pit **313** contained 15 sherds (128g) of pottery and two worked flints and pit **229** produced a single sherd (9g) of pottery. Furthermore, the backfill of pit **336** produced 30 sherds (379g) of pottery and 17 worked flints including a scraper and an edge trimmed flake/blade.

Further pits

3.8.5 A pit (**260**) was encountered in the southeastern corner of Area 1 and immediately west of Period 4 pit **27,** revealed by evaluation Trench 83 (see Section 3.8.11). This pit measured up to 1m in diameter and 0.22m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (261) consisted of mid greyish brown clay. Although no finds were contained within the fill to aid the dating of this feature, its morphology suggests it was associated with adjacent Period 4 pit **27**, rather than with the adjacent Period 2 Pit Group 1.

3.8.6 Pit **315** lay adjacent to the northern arm of Period 3.2 Ditch 3 in the eastern part of Area 1. This circular pit measured up to 1.3m in diameter and 0.37m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (316) consisted of mid orange brown sandy clay with rare gravel inclusions. Similar to pit **260**, the morphology of the pit suggests an Early Iron Age date, when considering the morphologies of Pit Group 4 to the north and pit **27** to the south of this feature.

3.8.7 Pit **402** (Plate 8) lay on the fluvial deposit (461) between Ditches 1 and 2 of Enclosure 1. This sub-circular pit measured up to 0.5m in diameter and 0.08m deep with a shallow

U-shaped profile. A very thin (0.01m thick) primary fill (403) consisting of light brownish red fired clay was observed around the edge of the cut. The majority of the overlying fill (404) consisted of charcoal mixed with some brownish yellow silty sand and burnt flint inclusions along with a single worked flint. Considering the majority of the prehistoric pitting activity in Area 1 can be attributed to the Early Iron Age, this feature has also been tentatively placed within this period.

Ditch 11

3.8.8 Located towards the western limit of the excavation, Period 3.2 Ditches 1 and 2 were truncated by south-southwest to north-northeast aligned Ditch 11. This ditch (comprising cuts **371**, **379** (Section 157), **387** and **409**) measured between 1.2-1.66m wide and 0.4-0.84m deep with a U-shaped profile. Each cut contained a single fill (372, 374, 380, 388 and 410) consisting of mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions. A separate spur (**389**) of this ditch, broadly aligned east-west, was also found to extend beyond the western limit of the excavation area.

3.8.9 The fill of cut **379** contained 13 worked flints, including a single platform core and a chisel, along with a fragment (5g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery. This ditch was also encountered in Trench 58 during the evaluation phase as ditch **21**.

3.8.10 Although no diagnostic Iron Age artefacts were recovered from this ditch, this feature was observed to truncate two ditches of Period 3.2 Enclosure 1, and therefore likely to be a later phase of activity. The ditch itself did not lie on a compatible alignment with the current layout of the field or contain any recent artefacts. The fills bore a greater similarity to the Period 3.2 enclosure than to the features belonging to the more recent periods (Period 5). As the only further later prehistoric activity identified within Area 1 comprised the scatter of Early Iron Age pits including those of Pit Group 4, this ditch has been very tentatively placed within this period, possibly acting as a western limit to the pitting/settlement activity or possibly representing an associated enclosure. The possibility remains however this feature may have been a later redevelopment and realignment of the enclosure system in the later Bronze Age period.

Evaluation (Fig. 3)

Field B

3.8.11 A pit (**27**) that produced 10 sherds (87g) of Early Iron Age pottery was also encountered in Trench 83 (Field B) during the evaluation phase of the investigation, later encompassed in the southeastern corner of excavation Area 1 (Fig. 5). This circular pit measured 0.65m in diameter and 0.15m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (28) consisted of dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that, as well as the pottery, yielded three worked flints and 6g of fired clay.

Field C

3.8.12 Trench 157 contained a narrow ditch or gully (**80**) on a northwest-southeast alignment. It measured 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (81) consisted of mid orange brown sandy clayey silt with occasional flint gravel inclusions that yielded two sherds (13g) of Early Iron Age pottery.

3.8.13 Period 3.2 ditch **89** (see Section 3.5.7 above) was cut by a circular pit (**87**) in Trench 162. This pit measured 0.93m in diameter and 0.27m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The fill (88) consisted of dark brown sandy clayey silt with moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. This fill produced 11 sherds (60g) of Early Iron Age pottery, two worked flints and a burnt flint (7g).

3.8.14 In Trench 169 single circular pit (**16**) was also revealed. The pit measured 0.67m in diameter and 0.21m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (17) consisted of mid greyish

brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced 10 sherds (39g) of Early Iron Age pottery and four worked flints.

3.8.15 Furthermore, a single undated pit (68) revealed by Trench 177 may also be tentatively be attributed to this period. The pit measured 0.9m in diameter and 0.5m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The fill (69) consisted of dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions.

DBA evidence in the vicinity of Area 1 (Fig. 3)

3.8.16 The DBA for the site described the presence of a copper alloy brooch dated to the Iron Age period in the vicinity of Trench 90, to the southeast of Area 1 in Field B (MKE 57151; Fig. 2). The DBA also describes the presence of two copper alloy coins dated to the Iron Age in the vicinity of Trench 157, to the east of Area 1 in Field C (MKE 57031 and MKE 57674; Fig. 2).

3.9 Period 5: Medieval and later periods (*c.*AD 1066 – present)

Evaluation (Fig. 3)

3.9.1 To the west of Area 1 and towards Cockering Farm (the site of Cockering Manor), Trench 15 contained a single ditch (**25**) on a southwest-northeast alignment. The ditch measured 1.09m wide and 0.41m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (26) consisted of mid yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced two sherds of medieval pottery; dated to the 12th-13th centuries.

Area 1 (Fig. 5)

Ditch 12

3.9.2 This ditch (comprising cuts **324**, **334**, **352** and **400**) entered the excavation area from the northwest and extended for 23m to its southeastern terminus. It measured between 0.48-0.8m wide and 0.09-0.17m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (325, 335, 353 and 401 respectively) consisted of light-mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. The fill of ditch **334** contained a sherd (4g) of Canterbury-type fine earthenware dated to *c.*1475-1525/50 along with a tile fragment (7g). The fill of ditch **334** also produced a fragment (22g) of tile.

Ditch 13

3.9.3 This ditch (**273**) entered the excavation area from the east-northeast and extended for 31m to its west-southwestern terminus. It measured 0.7m wide and 0.22m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (274) consisted of mid yellowish brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions that included a single worked flint.

Quarry pits

3.9.4 Four large sub-circular pits (**307** (Section 133; Plate 9), **411**, **442** and **444**) were revealed to be present across the excavation area, and contained fragments of CBM and pottery dated to the post-medieval period (Table 5). These features were situated on the sand and gravel geology and are therefore interpreted as gravel quarries. One of these quarries (**444**) truncated Period 3.2 Ditch 5. A test pit was excavated into each quarry pit by the 360º mechanical excavator to a maximum depth of 1m below ground level. Test pits were also excavated by hand into the bases of the machined slots into quarry pits **307** and **411**.

Pit	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Deposits	
			Fill	Description
307	8.8	1.7	308	Dark brownish grey clayey silt with frequent gravel inclusions
			321	Dark brownish grey clayey silt with frequent gravel inclusions
411	10.8	1.2	412	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions
			413	Dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions
442	4.12	1	443	Mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions
444	9.2	1	445	Dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions
			446	Light reddish yellow silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions
			447	Dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions

Table 5: Quarry pit deposits in Area 1

Finds

3.9.5 The backfill of pit **307** yielded three sherds (97g) of Canterbury-type sandy ware and sooted Early medieval shelly-sandy ware pottery dated from the late 11th to early 13th centuries. The backfills of pit **411** also contained three sherds (22g) of similar medieval pottery types. All of the quarry pit backfills (**307**, **411**, **442** and **444)** produced quantities of CBM (496g, 599g, 220g and 804g respectively) that included a mixture of Roman and post-medieval material. Furthermore, the backfills of pits **307**, **411** and **444** contained quantities (49g, 29g and 291g respectively) of oyster shell. In addition, the backfill of pit **442** contained a well preserved horse cranium.

Smaller pits

3.9.6 A cluster of three similar sub-circular pits (**317** (Section 131), **322** and **348**) were also revealed in the northern part of the excavation area (between quarry pits **307** and **442**) that produced finds of this period. These pits may possibly represent exploratory test pits into the underlying geology in advance of the quarrying activity.

3.9.7 These features measured between 1.1-1.3m in diameter and 0.42-0.51m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (318, 323 and 349 respectively) consisted of mid-dark orange brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions.

3.9.8 Pit **317** contained a mixture of Roman tile (76g) and post-medieval tile (253g) fragments. The backfill of pit **348** produced eight worked flints.

3.9.9 The backfill of pit **322** contained four pieces (27g) of mid grey, vesicular basalt lava. These fragments of querns/hand mills were recovered along with four sherds (27g) of Canterbury-type sandy ware pottery dating from the late 11th to 13th centuries. Two residual worked flints were also present.

Animal burials

3.9.10 A sub-rectangular pit (**277**) was encountered, in the northeastern part of Area 1, that contained the articulated skeletal remains (1.2kg) of a sheep laid on the base of the cut (Plate 10). These remains were heavily truncated by the lower horizon of the topsoil/subsoil. The pit measured 0.8m in length, 0.6m wide and 0.07m deep. The overlying backfill (278) consisted of mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. The backfill also contained a pig bone fragment along with a piece (5g) of solidified tar.

3.9.11 A further sub-rectangular pit (**405**) was encountered, adjacent to the corner of Period 3.2 Ditch 1 in the central part of Area 1, that contained articulated (but heavily truncated) skeletal remains (4.3kg) of cattle on the base of the cut (Plate 11). The pit measured 1.8m in length, 1.1m wide and 0.17m deep. The overlying backfill (406) consisted of dark greyish brown clayey silt that yielded post-medieval tile fragments (234g).

3.9.12 Although undated, these remains probably represent the burial of deceased livestock associated with the historical Cockering Manor/Farm complex to the west of excavation Area 1.

Area 2 (Fig. 6)

Ditch 14

3.9.13 This ditch (comprising cuts **175**, **184** (Section 73), **211** and **245**) extended across the full extent of Area 2 on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured between 0.9-1.26m wide and 0.4-0.48m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The fills (176, 185, 212 and 246 respectively) consisted of light greyish brown silty clay with rare flint gravel inclusions. The fill of cut **211** produced small fragments (1g) of post-medieval CBM. The fills of cuts **184** and **211** contained a total of 13 residual worked flints including two irregular cores and a blade-like flake. This residual material is likely to originate from the Bronze Age activity in Area 2 belonging to Periods 3.2 and 3.3 described above.

3.9.14 A short 5m-long section of ditch (**235**) was revealed parallel to Ditch 14, which extended beyond the northeastern limit of the excavation. This ditch with a similar morphology (0.56m wide and 0.2m deep) and fill (236) to Ditch 14 is therefore attributed to this phase of activity.

Evaluation (Fig. 3)

Post-medieval field boundaries

3.9.15 Evidence for pre-existing subdivisions of the current fields was found in Trenches 16, 66, 73, 120, 123 and 200 (ditches **70**, **35**, **61**, **13**, **116** and **118** respectively) in the northern part of the development towards Cockering Road, to the north of Area 1. A ditch (**120**) dating to the post-medieval period was also encountered in Trench 239 in Field H. These are likely to relate to earlier boundaries shown on historic mapping.

Pit

3.9.16 A single post-medieval pit (**56**) containing CBM was revealed to the northeast of Area 1 in Trench 124 of Field C.

Modern hop garden activity

3.9.17 The trenches on the east-facing slopes of Fields D, F (encompassing Area 2), H and I, comprising the eastern part of the site, revealed numerous post holes containing recent CBM. The presence of the post holes indicates that these fields were used as hop gardens in the recent past. The geophysical survey showed the presence of many buried water pipes within these fields for crop irrigation. Water pipes were encountered in Trench 208 in Field D and Trenches 243 and 244 in Field I. Relict posts were observed still standing amongst the undergrowth bordering the eastern edge of the Field F. These features indicated the presence of a pre-existing hop growing garden in this part of the site. In addition, a discrete area on the east facing slope of Field C (encompassing Trenches 151, 154-157 and 163-165) contained rows of circular post holes (**43**, **45**, **47**, **49**, **51**, **53**, **55**, **74**, **76**, **78**, **82**, **84**, **101**, **103**, **105**, **107**, **109**, **111**, **113** and **114**) the fills of which incorporated recent CBM fragments. The fill of post hole 107

also produced a small fragment (1g) of clay tobacco pipe broadly dating from the post-medieval period.

Modern ditch

3.9.18 Evidence for a recently filled in ditch (**33**) was found in Trench 20 along the western boundary of Field B, with the fill (34) containing much modern rubbish.

3.10 Finds Summary

Introduction

3.10.1 Finds were recovered from both of the excavated areas and consisted of: prehistoric worked and burnt flint spanning the Early Neolithic to Iron Age periods; Early Neolithic, Early to Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery; and Early Iron Age fired clay.

3.10.2 The metalwork, pottery, faunal remains, CBM (including a few residual Roman CBM items), and oyster shell recovered from Period 5 features and deposits fall outside the scope of research aims for the project (see Section 2) and are not discussed further.

Lithics (Appendix B.2)

3.10.3 A total of 552 struck flints and 25,556g of unworked burnt flint were recovered from 85 contexts, with the vast majority originating from the fills of cut features. Although the numbers and relative densities of flints retrieved from the site were relatively low, the assemblages described here attest to continuous occupation and utilisation of local flint resources from the Neolithic through to the Early Iron Age.

Prehistoric pottery (Appendix B.4)

3.10.4 A total of 1352 sherds (21820g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the combined evaluation and excavation, displaying a relatively high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 16.1g. The pottery derived from 52 contexts, relating to 42 interventions across 22 pits, seven ditches and a layer. The pottery dates from the earlier Neolithic to the Early Iron Age, though the bulk of the assemblage is of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age origin. By contemporary standards, the prehistoric pottery assemblage from Thanington is relatively modest in size, but is well preserved, contains a number of partial vessels profiles and, more importantly, is associated with five relevant radiocarbon dates.

Fired clay (Appendix B.8)

3.10.5 A fragmentary assemblage of structural fired clay/daub (84 pieces weighing 3.229kg) was recovered from Period 4 pit **299** in Area 1. In addition, a small quantity of fired clay was recovered from Period 3.3 pit **202** in Area 2. A piece of a ceramic spindle whorl was also found from Period 3.3 pit **172** in Area 2.

3.10.6 The spindle whorl Indicates the spinning of wool or other fibres on the site, most likely within a domestic setting. This item mostly resembles a Danebury Type 3b (Poole 1984 402 fig. 7.46, 7.39) more usually associated with an Iron Age context, and as such is a very early example of this type in a Late Bronze Age setting.

3.10.7 The fired clay from pit **299** consists of pieces of structural fired clay/daub that seem to have been burnt, being both hardened and heat-discoloured in some instances. Some pieces also display wattle/withy impressions of hazel.

3.11 Environmental Summary

Faunal remains (Appendix C.1)

3.11.1 A single fragmentary fish vertebrae was recovered from Period 3.2 Ditch 6 (cut **186**) in Area 2.

Environmental remains (Appendix C.3)

3.11.2 A total of sixty-six bulk samples were taken during excavations at the site. Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and is generally poor with only a low density of charred remains recovered. The only samples that contain significant quantities of plant remains to indicate deliberate deposition are from Period 2 (Early Neolithic) pit **262** and Period 4 (Early Iron Age) pit **299**. Pit **262** contained occasional barley grains, a small fragment of hazelnut shell and several fragments of crab apple. Pit **299** contained an assemblage of charred grain including barley, wheat and oats. In addition, a pea-sized legume was recovered from Period 3.3 (Late Bronze Age) pit **202**.

Radiocarbon dating (Appendix C.4)

3.11.3 Five samples of organic remains were selected from the environmental bulk samples from: the fill of Period 3.2 Ditch 3 of Enclosure 1 containing Middle Bronze Age pottery and flintwork; the fill of Period 3.3 pits **166**, **202** (Pit Group 2) and 205 (Pit Group 3) yielding Late Bronze Age pottery and flintwork; and the fill of Period 4 pit **299** producing Early Iron Age pottery and flintwork (Table 2).

Sample No.	Sample type	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Feat-ure type	Date (cal BC)	Lab Code	Radio-carbon Age (BP)
50	Charcoal *(un-identified)*	296	294	Ditch 3	3.2	Ditch	1437-1296 (95.4% confidence)	SUERC-76181	3112 ±27
26	Charcoal *(un-identified)*	167	166	Pit Group 2	3.3	Pit	907-807 (95.4% confidence)	SUERC-76175	2705 ±29
36	Charred plant remains *(Triticum sp.)*	203	202	Pit Group 2	3.3	Pit	976-828 (95.4% confidence)	SUERC-76180	2756 ±29
35	Charred plant remains *(Corylus avellana)*	206	205	Pit Group 3	3.3	Pit	849-791 (90.3% confidence)	SUERC-76176	2650 ±29
51	Charred plant remains *(Triticum sp.)*	300	299	Pit Group 4	4	Pit	536-387 (95.4% confidence)	SUERC-76182	2365 ±29

Table 6: Radiocarbon dating results (See Appendix C.4 for radiocarbon certificates)

4 Discussion and Conclusions

4.1 The topographical setting

4.1.1 The development area overlooks the lower lying environs of Canterbury and northeastern Kent from the northern edge of the North Downs ridge. The site also overlooks a break in this ridge formed by the valley of the River Great Stour leading from its headwaters in the Ashford area to the southwest towards the environs of Canterbury and ultimately to the north Kent coastal plain beyond (Fig. 8). This valley and watercourse would have formed an important natural highway through the North Downs during the later prehistoric period. The further natural highway provided by the coastal environment, to which the Great Stour led, would also have been in far greater proximity to the Canterbury area than today from the Bronze Age to Roman periods (Andrews *et al.* 2015, 116 fig. 3.21; Moody 2008, figs 17-19). By the first century AD this important juncture in the landscape was recognised as the tribal centre for the *Cantiaci* tribe. A road was also placed along this natural corridor during the Roman period that borders the northern edge of the wider development area of the site. The eastern extremity of the development area also borders the Roman road of Stone Street that led from Canterbury (*Durovernum Cantiacorum*) southwards towards the historic port of Lympne (*Portus Lemanis*) to the south.

4.1.2 The chalk ridge forming the North Downs was subject to repeated cycles of erosion and deposition, often under periglacial conditions, during the Pleistocene. These processes carved the many steeply sided dry-valleys that can be observed within the development area and across the North Downs. Within the development geophysical survey and excavation also evidenced many smaller tributaries criss-crossing the higher ground that fed these dry-valleys and ultimately led to the valley of the River Great Stour.

4.1.3 The geology and topographical setting would probably have influenced the spatial organisation of the local landscape within the development area during the later prehistoric period. The Neolithic pit group (Pit Group 1) in Area 2 lay close to the head of a sand filled depression representing the former course of one of the fluvial channels. It is interesting to note that during the Middle Bronze Age period the axis of this channel (perhaps reinforced by the Neolithic pit group) may also have been respected by the concentric ditches of Enclosure 1 whose south-east corners aligned on this same axis along the channel towards the Neolithic pit group. The only large Middle Bronze Age pottery assemblage from the site came from the outermost corner of Enclosure 1 (adjacent to the Neolithic pits) at the head of this channel.

4.2 Early-Middle Neolithic pits

4.2.1 The Early Neolithic pit group at the northern edge of the plateau overlooking the Great Stour valley in Area 1, produced pottery along with a range of flintwork (polished axe head, cores, blades and retouched items) indicative of at least transient occupation of the area during this early period. The small quantity of flintwork and pottery recovered is considered typical of 'domestic' sites (Appendix B.2.77 and B.4.39). The charred hazelnut and crab apple remains found within one of the pits demonstrate the foraging of food in the local environment. It is possible this selection of items, along with other more perishable items now invisible in the record, were deliberately 'swept up' and (ritually?/formally?) deposited at the beginning or end of a period of occupation.

4.2.2 The single Middle Neolithic pit revealed in Area 2 is indicative of a further earlier period of activity in the northeastern part of the site. The recovery of residual sherds of Neolithic pottery from the fills of the Middle Bronze Age enclosure in Area 2 and the

findspot of Neolithic flintwork in the KHER immediately to the north of the site (Fig. 2; Section 1.3.2) demonstrate these pits probably lay within a wider zone of Neolithic occupation on the northern edge of the downlands.

4.2.3 Such occupation may have been associated with woodland clearance, as was postulated by the recovery of flintwork including polished axes at the site of Eddington, Kent (Allen 2009, 193). The items themselves may have been selected for 'special' deposition as described for the assemblages of polished axes, pottery and flint blades in pits at Iwade, Kent (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 122). In the wider region, both tabular and nodular flint were mined for axe production at the base of the Upper Chalk on the South Downs during the Early Neolithic (Leivers n.d., 1). Small scale pit deposits in Kent, similar to the pits encountered at Thanington, have also been encountered at Grovehurst and Milton-next-Sittingbourne (Leivers SERF Seminar, 5; Wilkinson 2000, 34).

4.3 Middle Bronze Age remains

Enclosures and field systems

4.3.1 The southeastern part of a large enclosure (Enclosure 1) was recorded in Area 1, delineated by the remains of what appears to be a set of concentric ditched boundaries. The substantial pottery assemblage recovered from Ditch 3 dates the enclosure to the Middle Bronze Age period. This date was further refined by radiocarbon dating of charcoal from Ditch 3 to the 14th century BC (1440-1300 cal BC). The concentration of this single large deposit of pottery may possibly represent a clearing event from (preceding) settlement. The exterior of one of the urns within this pottery group was sooted, indicative of cooking activity (Appendix B.4.15). The possibility of Early Bronze Age beginnings to the occupation of this area is suggested by the presence of pit **37**, containing beaker sherds, revealed in Trench 71; to the north of Area 1.

4.3.2 Similarly, in Area 2, the partially revealed remains of a ditched enclosure system (Enclosure 2) were also revealed and dated by their associated pottery sherds to the Middle Bronze Age period. The orientation of the enclosure suggests an approximate north-south/east-west alignment for the wider agricultural landscape beyond the excavation. The prehistoric flint scatter found immediately to the east of the site, beyond the A2 carriageway (KHER TR15 NW614; Fig. 2) indicates the field system revealed on the site was probably part of a zone of wider Middle Bronze Age occupation at the base of the ridge. There is evidence for Early Bronze Age beginnings to this occupation, with the recovery of residual beaker pottery and possibly associated scrapers from Ditch 6 of Enclosure 2 (Appendix B.2.39). However, there was no evidence for any alterations (re-cuts, post holes/fencing) or reinforcing (hedges, banks, further ditches) to the enclosure system to indicate any evolution in its use over multiple periods.

4.3.3 An organisation of the settled landscape into coaxial field systems commenced at the start of the Middle Bronze Age and evolved throughout the later Bronze Age period (Champion 2007, 298). The layout of these systems were probably orientated on the ritual landscape of barrows and other monuments in the landscape with which these fields had a relationship (Booth *et al.* 2011, 149). The appearance of extensive systems of enclosures, fields, trackways, droveways, and hedgelines across southern England is believed to reflect a period of intensification of agricultural practice that served small-scale scattered settlements in a mixed farming landscape (Bishop and Bagqwell 2005, 125; Yates 2007, 110). It is possible there may have been movement of livestock from low to higher ground to exploit seasonal pasture (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 126), and

parallel ditches found at some sites are indicative of trackways (Booth *et al.* 2011, 183). It is possible the two parallel Ditches 9 and 10 leading east from Enclosure 2 in Area 2 may be an example of such a trackway.

4.3.4 The distribution of enclosures and field systems found in Kent appear to show this intensification gravitating towards the Thames estuary and along the coastal north Kent plain (Yates 2007, 22). This zone of agricultural intensification on the lower lying ground may have been connected via the Great Stour valley to a further concentration of enclosures and field systems identified by excavation on the low lying headwaters of the Great Stour tributaries within the Ashford area, to the south of the North Downs (*Ibid.*, figs 3.2-3, 12.2-3). The corresponding distribution of metalwork also reflects the probable importance of an arterial routeway along the Great Stour valley during the Bronze Age between these two apparent zones of intensification (*Ibid.*, figs 3.1, 12.3).

4.3.5 The agricultural intensification of the period was probably associated with a mixed farming system with livestock rearing a special priority (Pryor 1998; Yates 2007, 21). It has also been postulated that the possible expansion of livestock rearing during this period may have been associated with greater exploitation of animals for secondary products; such as wool or dairy products (Champion 2007, 299). Enclosures would have acted as corrals for the stock control and animal husbandry practices as well as offering a degree of protection. Ditched boundary systems would also have aided the herding of animals along defined corridors of movement. Livestock would have comprised a central element of the mixed farming economy, providing an important source of meat and dairy products as well as providing many other vital materials for daily use, such as leather, wool and horn. Livestock were also working animals, with cattle used to pull ploughs tilling the surrounding fields of wheat and barley. The presence of enclosures on the site at Thanington may therefore comprise a further example to illustrate the importance of livestock management to the farming economy of the period (Yates 2007, 78).

4.3.6 The site, on the edge of the downlands, would certainly appear to lie firmly within a zone of Middle Bronze Age agricultural occupation *on the downlands*. Middle to Late Bronze Age activity has long been observed to be 'riverine, estuarine and coastal' in nature (Yates 2007, 21). This picture of distinct areas or zones of coastal/riverine agricultural intensification suggests a possible absence of such areas of occupation along the North Downs during this period. However, this view has also been recognised as misleading due to the bias of recent development led archaeology within the low lying and coastal zones, as well as around Ashford (Champion 2007, 294-95; Booth *et al*. 2011, 176). Therefore, the presence of a Middle Bronze Age enclosures on the site, on the foothills of the North Downs (at the northern end of the Great Stour valley), may be regarded as a significant addition to the regional record; extending the anticipated occupation area.

4.3.7 With the approach of the Late Bronze Age period in Kent there appears to be a possible shift in focus to more 'aggrandized' enclosures within the wider field systems, at commanding positions in the landscape (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 125-126 fig. 114). An enclosure revealed through excavation at Castle Street, Canterbury, 750m to the northeast of the site is described as possibly representing one such enclosure (*Ibid.*). These 'elite enclosures' are further described as being present within areas of more concentrated settlement and field systems. Therefore, the presence of a possible high status site in the middle of Canterbury (and in close proximity to the site) indicates this key location was being recognised as far back as the Late Bronze Age period (*Ibid.*; Yates 2007, 25, fig. 3.3). Indeed, the concentric nature of Enclosure 1, at its

commanding position overlooking Canterbury and the northern end of the Great Stour valley, may lend itself to the more elaborate category of enclosures described as possibly serving a local community rather than a single farmstead (Yates 2007, 16; Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 125).

4.4 Late Bronze Age remains

Introduction

4.4.1 Within Area 2, the presence of Middle Bronze Age pottery from the enclosure ditches and securely dated (9-10th century BC) Late Bronze Age pottery pit groups demonstrates the continued occupation of this lower lying part of the site during both these periods. The absence of Late Bronze Age pottery from the enclosure ditches taken together with its truncation by a pit within Pit Group 2 suggest the Middle Bronze Age system of land division had fallen out of use prior to the Late Bronze Age settlement of the site. Although no evidence for roundhouses lay within Area 2, the pit groups with their relative wealth of pottery and flintwork assemblages suggest these remains probably lay within a wider zone of settlement of the period. This partially revealed zone of Late Bronze Age occupation possibly continued across the relatively level ground to the north of the site (now traversed by the A2 carriageway) towards the findspot of Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork described in the KHER (Fig. 2; Section 1.3.2). It is interesting to note the only metalwork of the period recorded in the KHER study area was discovered in a neighbouring field (Copper alloy razor and object; Fig. 2; Section 1.3.2).

Pits – evidence for 'special/formal' deposition

4.4.2 Radiocarbon dates belonging to the 9-10th century BC were determined from charred plant remains recovered from two pits within Pit Group 2 (**166**; 907-807 cal BC and **202**; 976-828 cal BC) that contained significant quantities of unabraded pottery. A radiocarbon date belonging to the later 9th century BC was also determined for the large pottery assemblage recovered from a pit within neighbouring Pit Group 3 (**205**; 849-791 cal BC).

4.4.3 The assemblages of pottery recovered from pits **166**, **172**, **181** and **202** within Pit Group 2 and pits **205** and **213** within Pit Group 3 were especially large, consisting in part of near complete (but fragmentary) vessels. It has been suggested that the presence of fragmentary but near complete vessels may be characteristic of 'special' or 'formal' deposition. The most likely candidate for such deposition was the assemblage recovered from pit **202** that included two partially intact coarsewear storage jars and largely complete finewear (omphalos) cup along with fragments of further vessels (Appendix B.4.28).

4.4.4 The ritual deposition of vessels associated with Mid-Late Bronze Age settlement has previously been recorded at several sites in Kent including: Shrubsoles Hill, Sheerness (Coles *et al.* 2003); Hillborough Caravan Park, Reculver (Allen 2009, 194); Willow Farm, Herne Bay (SERF Seminar 2007b, 4); Sandway Road, Lenham (Booth *et al*. 2011, 177, 230); Kemsley Fields (Diack 2006); and Iwade (Bishop and Bagwell 2005) (Fig. 8). These examples of 'special deposition' of pottery have been described as possibly being placed at important focal points within settlement areas. Other selected items described for such deposition also include bronze objects, quern and cremated human remains (Yates 2007, 18).

4.4.5 At Iwade, pits containing near-complete Deverel-Rimbury vessels and bucket urns were considered to be deliberately excavated for the purpose of their deposition (Bishop and

Bagwell 2005, 14). The presence of the urns, with their coarse fabrics and evidence of repair, were considered to be associated with storage. In contrast, a further pit containing a whole globular vessel was believed to be a ritual offering. Similarly to Thanington a pit contained 19 large bucket urn sherds with fresh breaks that were also considered to represent ritual deposition. Rich arrays of deliberately cached items such as pottery and animal bone remains (the latter absent from Thanington) may represent special deposition associated with the ritual life of a settlement (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 124).

Pits – evidence for industrial activity/craft processes

4.4.6 The pit groups may represent the remains of the type of unenclosed and low density Late Bronze Age settlement that has recently come to light across Kent (Andrews *et al.* 2015, 109). Such remains have often been found within areas of established earlier Bronze Age field systems as few new fields appear in the Late Bronze Age record, a pattern seen across southern England during this period (*Ibid*., 110; Champion 2007, 302). The excavated settlements of this type within Kent have been found to be extant only as scatterings of a few pits and post holes that only partially reveal the footprints of roundhouses and extent of settled areas (Andrews *et al.* 2015, 109; Champion 2007, 302).

4.4.7 It has been observed on sites across England that during the Late Bronze Age there appears to have been deliberate organisation to the activities taking place within enclosed ground (Yates 2007, 15). However, within Kent there are few examples where the organisation of settlements has been studied in detail (Champion 2007, 302). The pottery and flint assemblages recovered from the Late Bronze Age pit groups in Area 2 (Pit Groups 2 and 3) only offer a partial insight into the activities taking place within this part of the (presumed) settled area. Organic remains have not survived due to the acidic nature of the soils on the site. However, six pits in Pit Group 2 and a single pit in Pit Group 3 were found to contain significant quantities of burnt flint. This assemblage is an important indicator for possible industrial activity/craft processes taking place within the settlement. The burnt flint pieces are considered to have been subjected to a high intensity heat source (Appendix B.2.81). Equally, the burnt flint pieces may also have arisen from domestic cooking activity. A total of 41 sherds of coarsewear pottery from the pit groups were observed to have carbonised residues on their surfaces, displayed either as thin soot-like residues or thicker possible food crusts (Appendix B.4.25).

4.4.8 Two of the pits within Pit Group 2 contained stratified deposits containing charred plant remains and burnt stone along with ash-like lenses. None of the pit cuts displayed any evidence for burning, which may indicate the burnt deposits were left to cool before being interred within the pits. Similar concentrations of burnt flint within pits found through excavation of Middle Bronze Age sites have been linked with 'burnt mound' activity, interpreted variously as cooking sites, sweat lodges, dyeing or fulling sites, *etc* (Crowson 2004, 35). However, due to the 9-10th century BC date and lack of a nearby water supply characteristic of burnt mound sites such an association is considered unlikely for this site.

4.4.9 The burning of flint may possibly have been associated with the production of flint temper for pottery. Such an interpretation would therefore infer pottery production as possibly being the craft process taking place on this part of the site. A comparison of the presence/absence of charred plant remains and burnt flint/stone along with the large caches of pottery is shown in Table 7. It is interesting to note the presence of the charred plant remains of *Corylus avellana* (Hazel) within the fill of pit **205**. This is a tree

species that may be coppiced for firewood and may possibly have been the source of fuel for the craft process.

Pit	>1kg pottery	Charred plant remains	Burnt flint/stone
Pit Group 2	-	-	**155**
	-	-	**159**
	-	-	**164**
	166	**166**	**166**
	172	-	-
	181	-	**181**
	202	**202**	**202**
Pit Group 3	**205**	**205**	**205**
	213	-	-
	-	**241**	-

Table 7: Comparison of assemblages in Period 3.3 Pit Groups 2 and 3

4.5 Early Iron Age remains

Pits indicative of 'invisible' Early Iron Age settlement

4.5.1 Across Kent, many sites with Bronze Age occupation and field systems appear to have fallen out of use by the Early Iron Age period (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 126). Early Iron Age sites in Kent appear to have been rarely excavated, with few published examples (Andrews *et al.* 2015, 180), with the few exceptions including Thanet Earth, Monkton (Champion 2007, 302) and White Horse Stone (Booth *et al.* 2011, 199 fig. 4.24, 211-12). On the north Kent coast a significant change in settlement pattern has been suggested for this period (Allen 2009, 201-202), perhaps as a result of change in sea-level or associated with economic factors (trade), and a similar change has been observed more generally for the Kent region (Champion 2007, 299). This change may well have been in response to a rise in sea-level driving a southward shift in occupation/settlement to the foothills of the downlands (Booth *et al.* 2011, 182). However, this interpretation may not hold true for the whole of Kent with a similar pattern of settlement being observed in the Ashford area between the Bronze Age and Iron Age (Booth *et al.* 2008, 7).

4.5.2 Within Area 1, although no Late Bronze Age remains were discovered on the higher plateau to succeed the Middle Bronze Age enclosure, a scatter of Early Iron Age pits were revealed across its eastern part with a closer grouping concentrated towards its northeastern corner (Pit Group 4). Although only backfill deposits were encountered within the majority of the pits with varying quantities of fragmentary pottery sherds and flintwork, a significant assemblage of artefacts including pottery, fired clay and burnt flint were recovered from pit **229**. The fired clay displays structural elements including smoothed surfaces and wattle/withy impressions of hazel, raising the possibility this assemblage of artefacts represents the discarded remains of a kiln or oven. These artefacts were recovered along with an assemblage of charred grains (barley, wheat and oats, radiocarbon dated to 540-390 cal BC) perhaps indicative of either crop drying activity or food preparation. The refitting burnt and un-burnt pottery sherds are also

indicative of breakage whilst cooking on hearths (Appendix B.4.37). Overall the remains give the impression of deliberate deposition of waste within a domestic setting. Therefore, the extent of the pitting activity revealed by the excavation and wider evaluation of Fields B and C on the plateau (Fig. 3) probably defines the extent of a zone of Early Iron Age settlement/occupation. The pottery recovered from the pit group as a whole was observed to be a coherent and contemporary assemblage indicative of sustained settlement rather than transient/sporadic activity (Appendix B.4.36).

4.5.3 These remains, therefore, probably represent an example of ('invisible') less intensive and unenclosed Early Iron Age settlement within Kent (Booth *et al.* 2011, 181). Similarly to the current site, the presence of only slight remains to evidence Early Iron Age occupation in the form of widely scattered pits or of a single pit or ditch containing artefacts are described for sites such as Eyhorne Street, Tutt Hill and Blind Lane (*Ibid*.). Scattered features of the period in an open landscape were also found along the A2 road widening scheme to the south of Gravesend (Allen *et al*. 2012, 317). The excavation at Blind Lane had a further affinity with the current site with only a single pit (as with pit **299**) containing a selection of artefacts to evidence activities within the settlement (Booth *et al.* 2011, 188). Even the more substantially surviving settlements of the period may have been unenclosed such as those at White Horse Stone (Booth *et al.* 2011, 199 fig. 4.24) and Thanet Earth, Monkton (Champion 2007, 302). The lack of any evidence for land division associated with the Early Iron Age occupation may be considered typical of the wider region, with an absence of field systems of this period (Champion 2007, 301). This may also be true of the remains at Thanington, although the single partially revealed ditch (Ditch 11) revealed cutting the Middle Bronze Age enclosure within Area 1 may also have belonged to this period, possibly defining the western limit of settlement. Of greater significance is the location of the Early Iron Age settlement remains on the higher ground on the northern edge of the downlands, a separate and distinct settlement zone to the north Kent coastal plain with its numerous excavated Middle and Late Bronze Age sites (Fig. 8). It has been postulated that there was a shift in the preferred location of settlements at this time from the coastal plain southwards to the foothills of the downlands due to a rise in sea-level (Booth *et al.* 2011, 182). Due to the lack of development on the downlands, the current excavation at Thanington has provided evidence to support this hypothesis.

4.6 Significance

4.6.1 The remains encountered in this excavation are of local and regional significance, providing secure radiocarbon dates for later prehistoric settlement and pottery traditions upon the northern edge of the rarely excavated North Downs (see also Appendix B.4.41-42). The importance of these remains is enhanced further by their discovery out-with the known concentrations of later prehistoric sites (as a result of greater development pressure) upon the lower lying areas of Ashford and the north Kent coastal plain.

4.7 Dissemination of the results of excavation

4.7.1 A publication proposal will be submitted to the Kent Archaeological Society with the aim of publishing a short article on the prehistoric remains in the Society's journal; Archaeologia Cantiana. The article to be published will be submitted by the end of 2018.

4.7.2 The publication will include illustration catalogues of *c*.10 vessels from the radiocarbon dated ditches and pits belonging to the Middle and Late Bronze Age, and Early Iron Age periods; along with the fragmentary clay spindle whorl.

4.7.3 It is anticipated that the archive for the project will be deposited with Canterbury Museum and Galleries in 2018.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

A.1 Evaluation Trenches

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
-		1	1	layer	natural	topsoil	dark grey	loam	frequent flint gravel inclusions						
-		2	1	layer	natural	subsoil	orange brown	loam	frequent flint gravel inclusions						
-		3	0	layer	river terrace deposits	drift geology	orange brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						1
-		4	0	layer	head deposits	drift geology	mid brownish orange	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions						1
-		5	0	layer	chalk	Solid geology	white	chalk	occasional flint nodule inclusions						1
-		6	0	layer	natural	fluvial deposit	mid orange brown	sandy silt	occasional flint gravel inclusions						1
-		7	0	layer	natural	sink hole	mid brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						1
B	67	10	10	cut	natural	sink hole				2	0.52	unknown	unknown		1
B	67	11	10	fill	natural	sink hole	dark brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						1
B	67	12	10	fill	natural	sink hole	mid brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						1
C	120	13	13	cut	ditch	boundary				0.67	0.24	linear	U-shaped		5
C	120	14	13	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
C	120	15	13	fill	ditch	silting	light yellowish brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
C	169	16	16	cut	pit	unknown				0.67	0.21	circular	U-shaped		4
C	169	17	16	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						4
B	62	18	18	cut	ditch	boundary				1.04	0.34	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
B	62	19	18	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish yellow	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
B	62	20	18	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions	0.63	0.18			Ditch 1	3.2
B	58	21	21	cut	ditch	boundary				1.66	0.84	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 11	4
B	58	22	21	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions	1.66	0.34			Ditch 11	4
B	58	23	21	fill	ditch	silting	dark yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions	1.66				Ditch 11	4
B	58	24	21	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions	0.45				Ditch 11	4
B	15	25	25	cut	ditch	boundary				1.09	0.41	linear	U-shaped		5
B	15	26	25	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions	1.09					5
B	83	27	27	cut	pit	unknown				0.65	0.15	circular	U-shaped		4
B	83	28	27	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						4
B	88	29	29	cut	ditch	boundary				0.61	0.17	linear	U-shaped		3.2
B	88	30	29	fill	ditch	silting	light brownish grey	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						3.2
B	20	33	33	cut	ditch	boundary				0.86	0.39	linear	U-shaped		5
B	20	34	33	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
B	66	35	35	cut	ditch	boundary				0.5	0.17	linear	U-shaped		5
B	66	36	35	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
B	71	37	37	cut	pit	unknown				1.5	0.15	circular	flat based U-shape		3.1
B	71	38	37	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions						3.1
B	76	39	39	cut	pit	unknown				1	0.28	sub-circular	flat based U-shape	Pit Group 4	4
B	76	40	39	fill	pit	backfill	mid yellowish	silty clay	frequent flint gravel					Pit Group 4	4

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
							brown		inclusions						
B	76	41	39	fill	pit	backfill	dark brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel and charcoal inclusions					Pit Group 4	4
B	76	42	39	fill	pit	backfill	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel and charcoal inclusions					Pit Group 4	4
C	164	43	43	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.42	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	164	44	43	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	164	45	45	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.48	0.12	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	164	46	45	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	164	47	47	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.45	0.14	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	164	48	47	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	164	49	49	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.44	0.09	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	164	50	49	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	164	51	51	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.49	0.15	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	164	52	51	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	164	53	53	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.42	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	164	54	53	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	164	55	55	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.49	0.13	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	124	56	56	cut	pit	unknown				3	0.5	circular	U-shaped		5
C	124	57	56	fill	pit	backfill	mid orange brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
C	124	58	56	fill	pit	backfill	dark orange brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
B	73	61	61	cut	ditch	boundary				1.2	0.25	linear	U-shaped		5

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
B	73	62	61	fill	ditch	silting	dark grey	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
B	63	64	64	cut	ditch	boundary				0.7	0.15	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
B	63	65	64	fill	ditch	silting	mid brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
C	177	68	68	cut	pit	unknown				0.9	0.5	circular	flat based U-shape		4
C	177	69	68	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						4
B	16	70	70	cut	ditch	boundary				0.8	0.15	linear	U-shaped		5
B	16	71	70	fill	ditch	silting	dark grey	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
C	165	72	72	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.5	0.2	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	165	73	72	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	165	74	74	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.45	0.15	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	165	75	74	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	163	76	76	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.5	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	163	77	76	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	163	78	78	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.4	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	163	79	78	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	157	80	80	cut	ditch	boundary				0.2	0.05	linear	U-shaped		4
C	157	81	80	fill	ditch	silting	mid orange brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint gravel inclusions						4
C	155	82	82	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.5	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	155	83	82	fill	post hole	disuse	mid orange brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	155	84	84	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.5	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
C	155	85	84	fill	post hole	disuse	mid orange	sandy clayey	occasional flint					Hop garden	5

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
							brown	silt	gravel						
C	164	86	55	fill	post hole	disuse	dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
C	162	87	87	cut	pit	unknown				0.93	0.27	circular	flat based U-shape		4
C	162	88	87	fill	pit	backfill	dark brown	sandy clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions						4
C	162	89	89	cut	ditch	boundary				1.35	0.53	linear	rounded V-shaped		3.2
C	162	90	89	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions						3.2
F	215	95	95	cut	ditch	boundary				1.5	0.58	linear	V-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
F	215	96	95	fill	ditch	silting	mid brown	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions					Ditch 6	3.2
F	215	97	95	fill	ditch	silting	light brown	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions					Ditch 6	3.2
F	216	98	98	cut	ditch	boundary				0.44	0.3	linear	V-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
H	239	99	120	fill	ditch	silting	mid brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint and chalk gravel inclusions						5
C	151	100	101	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	151	101	101	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.45	0.13	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	151	102	103	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	151	103	103	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.42	0.08	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	151	104	105	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	151	105	105	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.3	0.05	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	151	106	107	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish	silty clay	occasional flint					Hop garden	5

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
							brown		gravel inclusions						
F	151	107	107	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.62	0.15	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	151	108	109	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	151	109	109	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.58	0.13	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	151	110	111	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	151	111	111	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.55	0.13	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	151	112	113	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	151	113	113	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.5	0.13	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	154	114	114	fill	post hole	disuse	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions					Hop garden	5
F	154	115	114	cut	post hole	hop garden				0.7	0.3	circular	U-shaped	Hop garden	5
F	123	116	116	cut	ditch	boundary				0.5	0.2	linear	U-shaped		5
F	123	117	116	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						5
D	200	118	118	cut	ditch	boundary				0.5	0.1	linear	U-shaped		5
D	200	119	118	fill	ditch	silting	dark grey	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint and chalk gravel inclusions						5
H	239	120	120	cut	ditch	boundary				3.5	0.45	linear	flat based U-shape		5
B	35	121	122	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						3.2
B	35	122	122	cut	ditch	boundary				0.67	0.3	linear	U-shaped		3.2
F	218	123	123	cut	ditch	boundary				1.78	0.39	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 10	3.2
F	218	124	123	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 10	3.2
F	218	125	123	fill	ditch	silting	light brownish grey	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 10	3.2
F	216	126	98	fill	ditch	silting	mid brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel					Ditch 6	3.2

Field	Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
									and charcoal inclusions						
F	216	127	98	fill	ditch	silting	light brownish grey	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions					Ditch 6	3.2

Table 8: Evaluation context inventory

A.2 Excavations

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
	150		layer	natural	topsoil	dark grey	loam	frequent flint gravel inclusions						
	151		layer	natural	subsoil	orange brown	loam	frequent flint gravel inclusions						
	152		layer	superficial geology	river terrace deposits	orange brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions						1
Area 2	153	153	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.13	0.3	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	154	153	fill	ditch	silting	light yellowish grey	v fine clayey sand	occasional small to medium angular flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	155	155	cut	pit	unknown				1.3	0.32	sub-circular/ oval	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	156	155	fill	pit	backfill	light yellowish grey	clayey sand	occasional small to large angular flint gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	157	158	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	some small angular gravel inclusions, occasional charcoal						2.2
Area 2	158	158	cut	pit	unknown				0.56	0.2	circular	U-shaped		2.2
Area 2	159	159	cut	pit	unknown				0.5	0.24	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	160	159	fill	pit	backfill	light yellow	silty sand	occasional small to moderate fragments of charcoal					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	161	159	fill	pit	backfill	mid yellowish grey	clayey sand	occasional flecks of charcoal, small flint gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	162	162	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.5	0.42	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	163	162	fill	ditch	silting	light yellowish grey	clayey sand	occasional small to large angular flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 6	3.2

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 2	164	164	cut	pit	unknown				0.71	0.22	amorphous	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	165	164	fill	pit	backfill	light yellow	silty sand	frequent manganese					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	166	166	cut	pit	unknown				0.76	0.36	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	167	166	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	clayey sand	frequent burnt stone, frequent charcoal specks, some lumps, occasional small rounded gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	170	170	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.18	0.46	linear, square terminus	U-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	171	170	fill	ditch	silting	light brownish grey	clayey sand	occasional small to medium angular flint gravel inclusions, flecks of charcoal					Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	172	172	cut	pit	unknown				1.16	0.36	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	173	172	fill	pit	backfill	light greyish brown	clayey sand	occasional small to large flint gravels, frequent flecks and small fragments of charcoal					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	174	166	fill	pit	backfill	mid brownish grey	silty sand	frequent charcoal, lenses of ash					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	175	175	cut	ditch	boundary				0.9	0.42	linear	flat based U-shape	Ditch 14	5
Area 2	176	175	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	rare small gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Ditch 14	5
Area 2	177	177	cut	pit	unknown				0.8	0.35	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 2	178	177	fill	pit	backfill	dark grey	sandy clay	frequent charcoal inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	179	177	fill	pit	backfill	reddish grey	sandy clay	fired clay, burnt flint inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	180	177	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	sandy clay						Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	181	181	cut	pit	unknown				1.16	0.45	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	182	181	fill	pit	backfill	mid orange brown	clay	none					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	183	181	fill	pit	backfill	light greyish brown	clay	some medium to large flints					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	184	184	cut	ditch	boundary				1.04	0.48	linear	flat based U-shape	Ditch 14	5
Area 2	185	184	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	rare small flint gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Ditch 14	5
Area 2	186	186	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.62	0.24	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	187	186	fill	ditch	silting	mid grey	clayey sand	some small to medium flint gravel inclusions					Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	188	188	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.55	0.23	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	189	188	fill	ditch	silting	mid grey	clayey sand	none					Ditch 6	3.2
Area 2	190	190	cut	pit	unknown				0.32	0.15	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	191	190	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	clay	none					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	192	192	cut	pit	unknown				0.52	0.12	sub-circular	V-shaped	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	193	192	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty clay	rare flint gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	194	194	cut	pit	unknown				0.94	0.24	sub-circular	V-shaped	Pit Group 3	3.3

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 2	195	194	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty clay	rare flint gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	196	196	cut	pit	unknown				0.77	0.26	sub-circular	irregular	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	197	196	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty clay	rare flint gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	198	198	cut	pit	unknown				0.67	0.1	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	199	198	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty clay	rare flint gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	200	200	cut	pit	unknown				0.7	0.21	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	201	200	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	clayey sand	frequent gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	202	202	cut	pit	unknown				1.45	0.57	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	203	202	fill	pit	backfill	dark grey	clay	few small to medium gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	204	202	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	clay	freq small to medium gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	205	205	cut	pit	unknown				0.72	0.15	sub-circular	flat based U-shape	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	206	205	fill	pit	backfill	mid brownish grey	silty clay	occasional small gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	207	207	cut	pit	unknown				0.27	0.04	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	208	207	fill	pit	backfill	light greyish yellow	clayey sand	chalk					Pit Group 2	3.3
Area 2	209	209	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.56	0.25	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 8	3.2
Area 2	210	209	fill	ditch	silting	mid orangey brown	silty clay	chalk, occasional					Ditch 8	3.2

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
								fragments of fried clay						
Area 2	211	211	cut	ditch	boundary				1.1	0.4	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 14	5
Area 2	212	211	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	few flints and small to large gravel inclusions					Ditch 14	5
Area 2	213	213	cut	pit	unknown				0.9	0.2	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	214	213	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	clay	freq medium to large flint gravel inclusions					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	215	215	cut	pit	unknown				0.42	0.1	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	216	215	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	clay	none					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	217	217	cut	ditch	trackway				0.5	0.12	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 9	3.2
Area 2	218	217	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	none					Ditch 9	3.2
Area 2	219	219	cut	ditch	trackway				0.5	0.21	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 9	3.2
Area 2	220	219	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	none					Ditch 9	3.2
Area 2	221	221	cut	ditch	trackway				1.5	0.36	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 10	3.2
Area 2	222	221	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	sandy clay	burnt flints, gravel inclusions, flecks of charcoal					Ditch 10	3.2
Area 2	223	223	cut	ditch	trackway				1.1	0.31	linear, rounded terminus	U-shaped	Ditch 10	3.2
Area 2	224	223	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy clay	frequent medium to large gravel inclusions					Ditch 10	3.2
Area 2	225	225	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.6	0.06	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 7	3.2
Area 2	226	225	fill	ditch	silting	light greysih brown	silty clay	none					Ditch 7	3.2
Area 2	227	227	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.39	0.11	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 7	3.2
Area 2	228	227	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	rare gravel inclusions, charcoal flecks					Ditch 7	3.2
Area 2	229	229	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.8	0.06	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 8	3.2
Area 2	230	229	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty clay	few small gravel					Ditch 8	3.2

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
								inclusions						
Area 2	235	235	cut	ditch	boundary				0.56	0.2	linear	U-shaped		5
Area 2	236	235	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	rarel gravel inclusions						5
Area 2	239	239	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.53	0.08	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 8	3.2
Area 2	240	239	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent small to large gravel inclusions					Ditch 8	3.2
Area 2	241	241	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.38	sub-circular	irregular	Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	242	241	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish orange	clayey sand	occasional charcoal, small gravel inclusions					Pit Group 3	3.3
Area 2	243	243	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.6	0.1	linear	U-shape	Ditch 8	3.2
Area 2	244	243	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	frequent gravel inclusions					Ditch 8	3.2
Area 2	245	245	cut	ditch	boundary				1.26	0.45	linear	flat based U-shape	Ditch 14	5
Area 2	246	245	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty clay	rare small gravel inclusions					Ditch 14	5
Area 1	260	260	cut	pit	unknown				1	0.22	circular	U-shaped		4
Area 1	261	260	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	clay	none						4
Area 1	262	262	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.56	circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 1	2.1
Area 1	263	262	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent small to very large flint gravel inclusions					Pit Group 1	2.1
Area 1	264	264	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.2	0.26	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	265	264	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent small gravel inclusions, occasional large flint nodules					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	266	266	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.42	0.2	sub-circular	irregular U-shape		1
Area 1	267	266	fill	natural	tree-bole	dark brownish grey	silty sand	very frequent small and medium sub-rounded gravel inclusions						1

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 1	268	268	cut	natural	tree-bole				1.2	0.35	sub-circular	irregular		1
Area 1	269	268	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid greyish orange	silty sand	gravel inclusions						1
Area 1	270	270	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.24	0.38	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	271	270	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	clayey silt	occasional large sub-angular gravel inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	272	270	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent gravel inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	273	273	cut	ditch	boundary				0.7	0.22	sub-circular	shallow U-shape	Ditch 13	5
Area 1	274	273	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	silty clay	few small gravel inclusions					Ditch 13	5
Area 1	275	275	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.4	0.24	linear	U-shaped		1
Area 1	276	275	fill	natural	tree-bole	dark grey brown	silty clay	freq small to large flint gravel inclusions						1
Area 1	277	277	cut	pit	grave				0.6	0.07	sub-circular	U-shaped		5
Area 1	278	277	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional flint stone inclusions						5
Area 2	279	202	fill	pit	fill of pot	dark greyish brown	silty clay							3.3
Area 1	280	280	cut	pit	unknown				0.8	0.18	linear	shallow V-shape	Pit Group 1	2.1
Area 1	281	280	fill	pit	backfill	mid orangey brown	clay	frequent medium to large flint stones inclusions					Pit Group 1	2.1
Area 1	282	282	cut	pit	unknown				0.7	0.25	curvilinear	U-shaped	Pit Group 1	2.1
Area 1	283	282	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent small to medium gravel inclusions					Pit Group 1	2.1
Area 1	284	284	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.7	0.15	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	285	284	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	very frequent small and medium stone inclusions					Ditch 4	3.2

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 1	286	286	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.7	0.18	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	287	286	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	very frequent small and medium stone inclusions					Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	288	288	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.5	0.2	sub-circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	289	288	fill	natural	tree-bole	dark brownish grey	silty sand	very frequent small to medium stone inclusions						1
Area 1	290	290	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.4	0.17	sub-circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	291	290	fill	natural	tree-bole	light brownish grey	silty sand	small stone inclusions						1
Area 1	292	292	cut	natural	tree-bole				1.3	0.18	sub-circular	irregular		1
Area 1	293	292	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid greyish brown	loamy sand	frequent small to medium stone inclusions						1
Area 1	294	294	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.2	0.36	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	295	294	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent medium to large stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	296	294	fill	ditch	silting	dark yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent small to large stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	297	297	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.5	0.07	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	298	297	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	very frequent small and medium stone inclusions					Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	299	299	cut	pit	unknown				1.2	0.4	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	300	299	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	silty sandy	frequent burnt flints, fired clay, charcoal inclusions					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	301	299	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty sand	frequent burnt flints					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	302	302	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.4	0.42	linear, rounded end	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	303	302	fill	ditch	silting	dark yellowish		moderate medium to					Ditch 3	3.2

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
						brown		large stone inclusions						
Area 1	304	302	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	few medium stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	307	307	cut	pit	quarry				8.8	1.7	sub-circular	U-shaped	Quarry pits	5
Area 1	308	307	fill	pit	backfill	dark brownish grey	clayey silt	very frequent small to large stone inclusions					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	309	309	cut	pit	unknown				1	0.53	sub-circular	flat based U-shape	Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	310	309	fill	pit	backfill	dark grey	silty sand	very frequent charcoal flecks					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	311	309	fill	pit	backfill	mid reddish brown	silty clay	n/a					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	312	309	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	loamy silt	frequent small stone inclusions					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	313	313	cut	pit	unknown				1.2	0.28	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	314	313	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty sand	stone inclusions					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	315	315	cut	pit	unknown				1.3	0.37	circular	U-shaped		4
Area 1	316	315	fill	pit	backfill	mid orangey brown	sandy clay	few small to large stone inclusions						4
Area 1	317	317	cut	pit	unknown				1.3	0.5	circular	U-shaped		5
Area 1	318	317	fill	pit	backfill	mid orangey brown	sandy silt	very frequent small to large stone inclusions						5
Area 1	319	319	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.4	0.19	sub-circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	320	319	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid greyish brown	silty sand	small stone inclusions						1
Area 1	321	307	fill	pit	backfill	dark brownish grey	clayey silt	very frequent large stone inclusions, occasional chalk and charcoal flecks, lenses of sand and clay					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	322	322	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.42	circular	U-shaped		5

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 1	323	322	fill	pit	backfill	dark orangey brown	sandy silt	frequent small to large stone inclusions						5
Area 1	324	324	cut	ditch	boundary				0.48	0.09	linear	shallow U-shape	Ditch 12	5
Area 1	325	324	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty sand	gravel					Ditch 12	5
Area 1	326	326	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.56	0.1	linear	shallow U-shape	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	327	326	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	sandy silt	small stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	328	328	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.06	0.22	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	329	328	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	330	330	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.9	0.18	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	331	330	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	332	332	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.9	0.2	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	333	332	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	334	334	cut	ditch	boundary				0.8	0.12	linear	shallow U-shape	Ditch 12	5
Area 1	335	334	fill	ditch	silting	light greyish brown	silty sand	small stone inclusions					Ditch 12	5
Area 1	336	336	cut	pit	unknown				1.8	0.76	sub-circular	U-shaped	Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	337	336	fill	pit	backfill	dark orangey brown	sandy silt	frequent small to large stone inclusions					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	338	338	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.5	0.1	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	339	338	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	very frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	340	340	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.65	0.18	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	341	340	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	v frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 4	3.2
Area 1	342	342	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.5	0.28	circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	343	342	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	moderate small to						1

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
								medium fill						
Area 1	344	344	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.8	0.2	linear, rounded end	shallow V-shape	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	345	344	fill	ditch	silting	mid orangey brown	clayey silt	moderate small to large flints					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	346	346	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.96	0.28	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	347	346	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	moderate gravel					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	348	348	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.51	circular	U-shaped		5
Area 1	349	348	fill	pit	backfill	mid orange brown	sandy silt	freq small to large flint						5
Area 1	350	350	cut	natural	tree-bole									1
Area 1	351	350	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stones				U-shaped		1
Area 1	352	352	cut	ditch	boundary				0.5	0.12	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 12	5
Area 1	353	352	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 12	5
Area 1	363	363	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.1	0.28	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	364	363	fill	ditch	silting	light orange grey	silty sand	very frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	365	365	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.18	0.36	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	366	365	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	small to large stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	367	367	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.9	0.26	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	368	367	fill	ditch	silting	dark brown	clayey silt	few small to medium stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	369	369	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.6	0.66	linear	irregular U-shape	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	370	369	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	clayey silt	moderate small to medium, subangular small stone inclusions, occasional charcoal flecks					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	371	371	cut	ditch	boundary				0.8	0.36	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 11	4
Area 1	372	371	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	rare small stone					Ditch 11	4

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
								inclusions						
Area 1	377	377	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.37	0.22	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	378	377	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	sandy silt	moderate small and medium stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	379	379	cut	ditch	boundary				1.2	0.57	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 11	4
Area 1	380	379	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	few small to medium stone inclusions					Ditch 11	4
Area 1	383	383	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.84	0.24	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	384	383	fill	ditch	silting	light orange grey	silty sand	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	385	385	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.7	0.4	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	386	385	fill	ditch	silting	mid orange grey	sandy silt	frequent small stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	387	387	cut	ditch	boundary				0.4	0.4	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 11	4
Area 1	388	387	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	rare small stone inclusions					Ditch 11	4
Area 1	389	389	cut	ditch	boundary				1.4	0.4	linear	flat based U-shape	Ditch 11	4
Area 1	390	389	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	freq small stone inclusions					Ditch 11	4
Area 1	391	391	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.04	0.3	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	392	391	fill	ditch	silting	light brown	sandy silt	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	393	393	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.5	0.09	amorphous	irregular		1
Area 1	394	393	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stones						1
Area 1	395	395	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.55	0.09	sub-circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	396	395	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stones						1
Area 1	397	397	cut	ditch	enclosure				1	0.27	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	398	397	fill	ditch	silting	mid orangey brown	clayey silt	few small to medium stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	399		layer	natural	geology	light greyish yellow	sandy clay	sandy lenses	4.9	0.15				1

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 1	400	400	cut	ditch	boundary				0.6	0.17	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 12	5
Area 1	401	400	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand	none					Ditch 12	5
Area 1	402	402	cut	pit	unknown				0.5	0.08	sub-circular	U-shaped		4
Area 1	403	402	fill	pit	backfill	light brownish red	fired clay	none						4
Area 1	404	402	fill	pit	backfill	light brownish yellow	silty sand	very frequent charcoal flecks						4
Area 1	405	405	cut	pit	grave				1.1	0.17	sub-rectangular	Shallow U-shape		5
Area 1	406	405	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	clayey silt	none						5
Area 1	407	407	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.9	0.2	sub-circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	408	407	fill	natural	tree-bole	dark brownish grey	clayey silt	occasional gravel						1
Area 1	409	409	cut	ditch	boundary				1.3	0.6	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 11	4
Area 1	410	409	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 11	4
Area 1	411	411	cut	pit	quarry				10.8	1.2	sub-circular	U-shaped	Quarry pits	5
Area 1	412	411	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	loamy silt	rare small stone inclusions					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	413	411	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	sandy silt	freq small stone inclusions, occasional chalk flecks					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	414	414	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.26	0.1	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	419	418	fill	ditch	silting	light brownish yellow	silty sand	small stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	426	426	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.7	0.2	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	427	426	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	few small stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	428	428	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.54	0.2			Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	429	428	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	430	430	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.4	0.14		U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	431	430	fill	ditch	silting	light yellowish	sandy clay	few small stone					Ditch 1	3.2

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
						brown		inclusions						
Area 1	432	432	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.76	0.18	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	433	432	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occasional stone inclusions					Ditch 2	3.2
Area 1	434	434	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.4	0.14	curvilinear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	435	434	fill	ditch	silting	light yellowish brown	sandy clay	few small stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	436	436	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.93	0.28	curvilinear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	437	436	fill	ditch	silting	mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	few small to medium stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	440	440	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.6	0.12	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	441	440	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 1	3.2
Area 1	442	442	cut	pit	quarry				4.12	0.84	sub-circular	irregular U-shape	Quarry pits	5
Area 1	443	442	fill	pit	quarry	mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent large sub-rounded to sub-angular stone inclusions					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	444	444	cut	pit	quarry				9.2	0.92	sub-circular	U-shaped	Quarry pits	5
Area 1	445	444	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	silty sand	frequent small stone inclusions					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	446	444	fill	pit	backfill	light reddish yellow	sand	very frequent small stones and gravel					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	447	444	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	silty sand	frequent small stone inclusions					Quarry pits	5
Area 1	448	299	fill	pit	backfill	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	occasional sub-rounded stone inclusions, occasional charcoal flecks					Pit Group 4	4
Area 1	449	449	cut	natural	tree-bole				0.35	0.2	circular	U-shaped		1
Area 1	450	449	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid greyish brown	silty clay	occ small sub-rounded stones						1

Area	Cxt.	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan	Profile	Group	Period
Area 1	451	451	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.8	0.29	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 5	3.2
Area 1	452	451	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 5	3.2
Area 1	453	453	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.56	0.13	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 5	3.2
Area 1	454	453	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 5	3.2
Area 1	455	455	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.76	0.2	curvilinear	U-shaped	Ditch 5	3.2
Area 1	456	455	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stone inclusions					Ditch 5	3.2
Area 1	457	457	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.76	0.1	linear	wide flat-based U-shape	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	458	457	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	moderate small stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	459	459	cut	ditch	enclosure				0.76	0.15	linear	U-shaped	Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	460	459	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	moderate small stone inclusions					Ditch 3	3.2
Area 1	461	0	layer	natural	fluvial deposit	light orangey yellow	clayey silt	occasional large sub-rounded flints						1
Area 1	462	0	layer	natural	gravels	mixed yellowish brown	clayey silt	very frequent angular stone inclusions of various sizes						1
Area 1	463	262	fill	pit	backfill	dark grey	sandy silt	rare stone inclusions					Pit Group 1	2
Area 1	464	464	cut	natural	tree-bole				4	0.15	amorphous	irregular		1
Area 1	465	464	fill	natural	tree-bole	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small stones						1
Area 2	466	166	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	clayey sand	frequent burnt stone, frequent charcoal specks, some lumps, occasional small rounded gravel inclusions					Pit Group 2	3.3

Table 9: Excavation context inventory

A.3 Finds quantification inventory

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Buckle	0
1	Pewter	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Bell	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Buckle	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Nail	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Button	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Buckle	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	0
1	Ag (silver)	Coin	0
1	Ag (silver)	Artefact	0
1	Pb (lead)	Artefact	0
1	Pb (lead)	Artefact	0
1	Pb (lead)	Musket ball	0
1	Pb (lead)	Musket ball	0
1	Pb (lead)	Weight	0
1	Pb (lead)	Musket ball	0
1	Pb (lead)	Artefact	0
1	Pb (lead)	Artefact	0
1	Pb (lead)	Artefact	0
14	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.013
14	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.008
17	Flint		0.063
17	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
17	Ceramic	Vessel	0.033
19	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.019
19	Flint		0.016
26	Ceramic	Vessel	0.015
28	Flint		0.03
28	Ceramic	Vessel	0.028
28			0
28	Ceramic	Vessel	0.056
28	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.006
28	Ceramic	Vessel	0.001
36	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.05
36	Ceramic	Vessel	0.003
38	Flint	Artefact	0.583
38	Flint		0.031
38	Ceramic	Vessel	0.017
38	Ceramic	Vessel	0.004
40	Flint	Flint	2.47
40	Ceramic	Vessel	0.147
40	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
41	Flint	Flint	2.912
41	Flint	Flint	2.716
41	Ceramic	Vessel	1.518

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
41	Ceramic	Fired clay	1.245
42	Ceramic	Vessel	0.024
42	Ceramic	Vessel	0.003
42	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.025
44	Ceramic	Vessel	0.001
60	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.243
62	Fe (iron)	Stirrup	0
67	Flint		0.024
71	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.136
75	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.006
81	Ceramic	Vessel	0.013
83	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.014
85	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.01
88	Flint		0.006
88	Ceramic	Vessel	0.054
88	Flint		0.011
88	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
90	Flint		0.017
90	Flint		0.103
90	Flint		0.001
96	Flint		0.028
96	Ceramic	Vessel	0.001
97	Flint		0.149
97	Flint		0.106
97	Ceramic	Vessel	0.003
97	Ceramic	Vessel	0.005
100	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.006
106	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.047
106	Ceramic	Tobacco pipe	0.001
110	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.024
112	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.059
115	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.034
119	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.075
124	Flint		0.48
124	Flint		0.183
124	Ceramic	Vessel	0.026
124	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.001
125	Flint		0.396
126	Flint		0.283

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
126	Flint		0.262
126	Ceramic	Vessel	0.024
151	Flint	Flint	0.27
154	Flint	Flint	0.045
154	Flint	Flint	0.009
154	Ceramic	Vessel	0.015
156	Flint	Flint	0.681
156	Ceramic	Vessel	0.329
156	Flint	Flint	0.004
156	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
157	Flint	Flint	0.059
157	Ceramic	Vessel	0.02
157	Ceramic	Vessel	0.002
157	Ceramic	Vessel	0.159
160	Flint	Flint	0.003
160	Ceramic	Vessel	0.027
161	Flint	Flint	0.291
161	Ceramic	Vessel	0.354
161	Flint	Flint	0.002
161	Ceramic	Vessel	0.026
163	Flint	Flint	0.876
163	Ceramic	Vessel	0.016
163	Flint	Flint	0.001
165	Flint	Flint	0.727
167	Flint	Flint	0.892
167	Flint	Flint	0.886
167	Ceramic	Vessel	0.973
167	Flint	Flint	0.277
167	Ceramic	Vessel	0.558
167	Flint	Flint	0.034
167	Flint	Flint	0.002
171	Flint	Flint	0.296
173	Flint	Flint	0.164
173	Ceramic	Vessel	0.902
173	Ceramic	Spindlewhorl	0.006
173	Ceramic	Vessel	0.625
173	Ceramic	Vessel	0.24
173	Flint	Flint	0
173	Ceramic	Vessel	0.022

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
174	Ceramic	Vessel	0.017
174	Flint	Flint	0.167
174	Flint	Flint	0.017
174	Ceramic	Vessel	0.027
176	Flint	Flint	0.012
179	Flint	Flint	0.096
179	Flint	Flint	0
179	Ceramic	Vessel	0.006
180	Ceramic	Vessel	0.113
180	Flint	Flint	0.605
180	Ceramic	Vessel	0.119
183	Flint	Flint	0.772
183	Ceramic	Vessel	0.051
183	Flint	Axe	0.082
183	Flint	Flint	0.445
183	Ceramic	Vessel	0.336
183	Ceramic	Vessel	0.537
185	Flint	Flint	0.035
187	Flint	Flint	0.049
187	Ceramic	Vessel	0.01
189	Organic	Bone	0
193	Flint	Flint	0.018
193	Flint	Flint	0.032
195	Flint	Flint	0.138
195	Ceramic	Vessel	0.003
195	Flint	Flint	0.014
199	Flint	Flint	0.049
199	Flint	Flint	0.012
199	Ceramic	Vessel	0.006
203	Flint	Flint	0.647
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.073
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.167
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.644
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.35
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.273
203	Flint	Flint	0.001
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.047
203	Ceramic	Vessel	0.038
204	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.039

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
204	Ceramic	Vessel	0.033
204	Flint	Flint	1.938
204	Ceramic	Vessel	0.048
204	Ceramic	Vessel	0.38
204	Flint	Flint	0.009
204	Ceramic	Vessel	0.061
206	Flint	Flint	0.742
206	Ceramic	Vessel	0.222
206	Ceramic	Vessel	0.258
206	Ceramic	Vessel	0.263
206	Ceramic	Vessel	0.436
206	Flint	Flint	0
206	Flint	Flint	0
206	Ceramic	Vessel	0.083
206	Ceramic	Vessel	0.019
212	Flint	Flint	0.058
212	Flint	Flint	0.058
212	Ceramic	Vessel	0.012
212	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.002
212	Flint	Flint	0.007
214	Flint	Flint	0.273
214	Ceramic	Vessel	0.263
214	Flint	Flint	0.001
214	Ceramic	Vessel	0.015
220	Flint	Flint	1.719
220	Flint	Flint	0.676
220	Flint	Flint	0.015
222	Flint	Flint	1.453
222	Ceramic	Vessel	0.058
224	Flint	Flint	0.264
224	Ceramic	Vessel	0.011
228	Flint	Flint	0.073
230	Flint	Flint	0.019
244	Flint	Flint	0.55
244	Ceramic	Vessel	0.176
263	Flint	Axe	0.155
263	Flint	Flint	0.045
263	Flint	Flint	1.489
263	Ceramic	Vessel	0.268

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
263	Flint	Flint	1.321
263	Flint	Flint	0.041
263	Ceramic	Vessel	0.01
265	Ceramic	Vessel	0.278
272	Flint	Flint	0.004
272	Ceramic	Vessel	0.105
272	Ceramic	Vessel	0.177
274	Flint	Flint	0.012
276	Clinker		0.027
276	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.012
276	Ceramic	Vessel	0.012
276	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.003
278	Organic	Bone	0.172
278	Organic	Bone	0.094
278	Organic	Bone	0.232
278	Organic	Bone	0.03
278	Organic	Bone	0.164
278	Flint	Flint	0.037
278	Tar		0.005
278	Organic	Bone	0.071
278	Organic	Bone	0.157
278	Organic	Bone	0.235
278	Organic	Bone	0.061
278	Organic	Bone	0.011
279	Ceramic	Vessel	0.119
281	Flint	Flint	0.255
281	Ceramic	Vessel	0.077
293	Flint	Flint	0.387
296	Ceramic	Vessel	1.384
296	Flint	Flint	0.003
296	Ceramic	Vessel	0.022
300	Flint	Flint	1.073
300	Flint	Flint	0.857
300	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.161
300	Ceramic	Vessel	1.168
300	Flint	Flint	1.599
300	Flint	Flint	1.398
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.665
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.6

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.466
300	Ceramic	Vessel	1.093
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.782
300	Ceramic	Fired clay	1.268
300	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.278
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.049
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.716
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.094
300	Ceramic	Vessel	0.053
300	Ceramic	Fired clay	1.584
300	Shale	Armlet	0.004
301	Flint	Flint	1.078
301	Flint	Flint	0.098
301	Ceramic	Vessel	0.072
301	Flint	Flint	1.42
301	Flint	Flint	0.833
301	Flint	Flint	1.387
301	Ceramic	Vessel	0.117
301	Flint	Flint	0.005
306	Ceramic	Vessel	0.004
306	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.023
308	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.568
308	Organic	Bone	0.022
308	Ceramic	Vessel	0.01
310	Ceramic	Vessel	0.377
310	Ceramic	Vessel	0.074
310	Ceramic	Vessel	0.042
312	Flint	Flint	0.866
312	Ceramic	Vessel	0.06
312	Ceramic	Vessel	0.157
312	Flint	Flint	0.763
314	Ceramic	Vessel	0.129
314	Flint	Flint	0.081
318	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.274
318	Ceramic	Vessel	0.014
321	Ceramic	Vessel	0.088
321	Organic	Shell	0.05
323	Flint	Flint	0.045
323	Stone	Quern	0.027

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
323	Ceramic	Vessel	0.027
335	Fe (iron)	Nail	0
335	Ceramic	Vessel	0.015
335	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.007
337	Flint	Flint	0.154
337	Ceramic	Vessel	0.277
337	Flint	Flint	0.487
337	Ceramic	Vessel	0.058
337	Ceramic	Vessel	0.027
349	Flint	Flint	0.062
351	Flint	Flint	0.203
351	Flint	Flint	0.003
353	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.022
362	Flint	Flint	0.017
366	Flint	Flint	0.068
368	Flint	Flint	0.044
370	Flint	Flint	0.152
370	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
377	Flint	Flint	1.645
378	Flint	Flint	0.072
380	Ceramic	Vessel	0.005
380	Flint	Flint	0.598
380	Flint	Artefact	0.019
380	Flint	Flint	0.002
382	Flint	Flint	0.057
384	Flint	Flint	0.017
392	Flint	Flint	0.098
394	Flint	Flint	0.051
398	Ceramic	Vessel	0.002
398	Flint	Flint	0.122
399	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
404	Flint	Flint	0.108
404	Flint	Flint	0.001
404	Ceramic	Vessel	0.029
406	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.233
406	Organic	Bone	0.559
406	Organic	Bone	0.424
406	Organic	Bone	0.629
406	Organic	Bone	0.145

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
406	Organic	Bone	0.725
406	Organic	Bone	0.318
406	Organic	Bone	0.648
406	Organic	Bone	0.254
406	Organic	Bone	0.617
406	Organic	Bone	0.021
406	Ceramic	Vessel	0.006
413	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.602
413	Organic	Shell	0.029
413	Organic	Bone	0.007
413	Ceramic	Vessel	0.022
419	Flint	Flint	0.032
423	Flint	Flint	11
427	Ceramic	Vessel	0.006
427	Flint	Flint	0.389
429	Ceramic	Vessel	0.008
435	Flint	Flint	0.016
437	Flint	Flint	0.177
437	Ceramic	Vessel	0.003
439	Flint	Flint	0.421
439	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.119
441	Flint	Flint	0.005
441	Ceramic	Vessel	0.011
443	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.221
443	Flint	Flint	0.227
443	Organic	Bone	0.233
443	Organic	Bone	0.746
443	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	0
446	Organic	Shell	0.246
446	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.359
447	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.163
447	Organic	Shell	0.049
448	Ceramic	Vessel	0.009
448	Flint	Flint	0.009
448	Ceramic	Vessel	0.008
450	Ceramic	Fired clay	0.02
456	Ceramic	Ceramic Building Material	0.012
460	Flint	Flint	5
461	Flint	Flint	0.083

Context	Material	Object Name	Weight in kg
463	Flint	Flint	0.022
463	Ceramic	Vessel	0.655
463	Ceramic	Vessel	0.285
463	Flint	Flint	0.005
463	Flint	Flint	0.003
463	Flint	Flint	0.021
463	Ceramic	Vessel	0.059
466	Ceramic	Vessel	0.751

Table 10: Finds quantification inventory

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Metalwork

By Simon Birnie

Introduction

B.1.1 An assemblage of 52 metallic small finds were recovered almost exclusively from the excavated topsoil of the evaluation trenching phase of the investigation (Tables 11-14).

Methodology

B.1.2 The spoil from all trenches was scanned using a Technetics T2 metal detector. The detector screened against the recovery of iron objects as items of this material were found to be very common in the topsoil across the site, especially in Field C.

Results

B.1.3 Two items of silver (Table 13) were recovered comprising a silver groat of Elizabeth I (Sf 1) and a walking stick ferrule of Victorian date (Sf 2). A total of 40 copper-alloy items (Table 14) were also recovered. Items retained for the archaeological archive included: a medieval buckle and buckle plate (Sf 44); a post-medieval clothes fastener (Sf 13), a decorative mount (Sf 23) and buckle (Sf 41); a modern barrel tap key (Sf 24), a crotal bell (Sf 42) and a watch key (Sf 43). Eight lead objects (Table 15) were also recovered, of which three are musket balls and one is a post-medieval horse boss (Sf 19). The single item recovered from a feature fill comprised an iron stirrup (Sf 34; Table 16) found in post-medieval ditch **61** in Trench 73 (Field B).

Discussion

B.1.4 The DBA of the site carried out by CgMs (Hawkins 2013; Section 1.3.5) describes numerous metalwork findspots recovered from the site. The metalwork is described as being intermixed with rubbish and 'night soil' brought onto the fields from the city of Canterbury for manuring purposes. The post-medieval and recent metalwork items recovered by the current phase of work add to this corpus of items resulting from this activity.

Retention, dispersal and display

B.1.5 The remaining copper-alloy items consisted of modern buttons and coins that were subsequently discarded after cataloguing. The lead objects, apart from the horse boss (Sf 19) were also discarded.

Metalwork catalogues

Sf no.	Context no.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
1	1	B	28	Coin	Post-medieval Tudor	A silver groat of Elizabeth I (Spink and Son 2010, 248). The coin measures 24mm in diameter.
2	1	B	49	?Walking stick ferrule	Modern	A highly decorated but rather worn silver object, it is now squashed, but originally it would have been a tapered tube. It is possible that that this item is a walking stick ferrule dating to the mid 19th century. Walking sticks had a ferrule attachment to prevent the wood from wearing, most walking stick ferrules were made of base metals such as brass, however it is known that the very wealthy used silver ferrules. They generally display a hall mark (Bailey 1997, 34-35), although one is not apparent on this example which may be due to its worn state. This item does not appear to be broken on its 'top' or its 'bottom' but it has remains of an attached silver band at the 'bottom' which has segments missing. In its squashed form the item measures 26mm wide at its 'top' and 20mm at its 'bottom'.

Table 11: Silver catalogue

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
3	1	B	67	Stud	Modern	A copper-alloy stud of probable Modern date. The stud is conical in shape and retains a copper-alloy pin which has been distorted and bent. This stud was probably used to decorate leather or wood. It measures 15mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including the attachment pin). The bent pin measures 13mm in length.
4	1	B	51	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century. It is conical in form. The front face has a fine sunburst design, showing a central 'pimple'. The back face is missing, no sewing loop is present. The button measures 13mm in diameter and 5mm in thickness. All surfaces have an added silver coloured metal coating.
5	1	B	89	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and a flat back. The back face has a broken sewing loop which extends from a conical and tapered stem. The button measures 23mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop). Some signs of an added sliver coloured

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						metal coating remains on the front and back face.
6	1	B	99	Livery button	Modern	A copper-alloy Livery button displaying a standing lion facing to the left. Livery buttons often show a family crest, they were used by families of high status, they can offer a diverse display, including people, animals, castles and mythical creatures (Bailey 1992, 22; Cuddeford1994,15). This button is disc-shaped in form with a convexed front and concaved back, Both front and back display a pronounced outer lip. The back face has a complete circular sewing loop which is attached directly to the back of the button. It probably dates from the mid 19th century. A high percentage of gold coloured gilding remains on the front of the button. It measures 15mm in diameter and 8mm in thickness (including the loop).
7	1	B	77	Unidentified object	Modern/Uncertain	A small copper alloy disc with a rectangular attachment to the back. The front shows some remains of a silver coloured metal coating. The item is very worn. It measures 13mm in diameter and 15mm in height (including its attachment).
9	1	B	41	?Vessel fragment	Uncertain	A broken fragment of copper-alloy, showing a raised rim to the 'top'. Possibly part of a large metallic cooking vessel. The object measures 34mm in length and up to 27mm in height, the rim measures 4mm in thickness. Also see **Sf 26.**
10	1	B	19	Coin	Modern	A copper coin, worn to a blank disk, probably a farthing of George I (1714-27), George II (1727-60) or William IV (1830-7) (Spink and Son 2010, 386, 398, 429). The coin measures 20mm in diameter.
11	1	B	105	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and back, the back has a raised outer rim and a broken sewing loop. The button measures 19mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
13	1	B	23	?Clothes fastener	Uncertain ?Post-medieval	A copper alloy object displaying an upward facing blunt hook of square design on the lower flat back, a body which tapers towards an upper loop. The front of body is adorned with two protruding notches a quarter of the way up its length leading to a damaged loop at the top. The upper loop displays very small fragmented remains of decoration, petals perhaps. This is a cast copper-alloy example, possibly dating to the 17th century. Hooked methods of fastening clothing date back

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						thousands of years. Some fasteners had very sharp hooks which allowed the fitting to pierce the garment directly, some had a blunt hook (like this example) which was incorporated with an eyelet attached to the garment. It can be seen that some of these 'hooks' were very ornate and became not just functional but also pieces of ornamental jewellery (Bailey 1995, 29-33; Read 1995,117-119). The blunt hook on this example measures 8mm in length and 3mm in thickness, the upper loop measures 17mm in diameter (with its damaged decoration) the undamaged internal loop measures 10mm in diameter, the tapering body of the fastener measures 10mm at the point of the protruding notches and 4mm where it meets the upper loop.
14	1	B	90	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century, AD. It is disc-shaped in form, the front and back are flat, the back has a raised outer rim and has a broken sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
15	1	B	25	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and back face. The back face has a broken sewing loop which extends from a conical and tapered stem. The button measures 14mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop)
16	1	B	55	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably19th or 20th century AD. It is of disc-shaped form with a concaved front and back face. The button is hollow and constructed from two pieces of copper-alloy. The back face retains a bent circular sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 9mm in thickness (including the sewing loop).
17	1	B	30	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and back face. The back face has a broken sewing loop which extends from a conical and tapered stem. The button measures 30mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop). Some signs of an added sliver coloured metal coating remain on the front and back face.
18	1	B	90	Coin	Modern	A copper coin, worn to a blank disc, probably a half penny of George I (1760-1820) (Spink and Son 2010, 385-6). The coin measures 25mm in diameter.

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
20	1	B	100	Coin	Modern	A copper coin, worn to a blank disk, probably a half penny of George II (1727-60) or George III (1760-1820) (Spink and Son 2010, 396, 412). The coin measures 27mm in diameter.
21	1	B	19	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form. The front and back face are flat. The back face has a broken sewing loop. The button measures 16mm in diameter and 2.5mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
22	1	B	30	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, displaying a convex front and a concaved back. The back face has an intact circular sewing loop attached directly to the button. It measures 16mm in diameter and 9mm in thickness (including the sewing loop).
23	1	C	118	Decorative mount.	Uncertain ?Post-medieval	A highly decorative copper-alloy cast mount, the back is of flat form. This item displays two fleur de lis designs, one sitting above the other and was probably used to decorate a leather fitting. The lower fleur de lis has a sharp downward facing curved pin attached to the back. The upper fleur de lis has six pointed spikes protruding from it and a decorated loop to the right. The mount appears to be complete and displays no damage. The pin attached to the lower rear measures 10mm, the lower fleur de lis measures 15mm in height and 22mm in width, the upper fluer de lis measures 15mm in height and 25mm in width. The complete length of the mount is 43mm (including the curved pin and upper loop).
24	1	C	169	Barrel tap key	Modern	A copper-alloy barrel lock key, these keys came into high usage during the early 18th century through into the late 19th century, they allowed the owner of the barrel to be the only person to be able to unlock the barrel tap. Unlocking the barrel tap allowed the liquid to flow after turning the tap valve 45 degrees. Makers marks can sometimes be observed on these keys (Bailey 1993, 60-63). This design is 'T' shaped. It has a hole through the centre of the 'T' measuring 10mm in diameter, it is 45mm in length and up to 14mm thick (at the locks aperture). The locks aperture is triangular in shape.
25	1	C	175	Coin	Modern	A George I[t] copper half penny dating 1718. A "'Dump' issue obv. legend continuous over bust, plain edge..." (Spink and Son 2010, 385). The coin is in worn condition and measures 25mm in diameter.

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
26	1	C	182	?Vessel fragment	Uncertain	A broken fragment of copper-alloy, showing a raised rim to the 'top'. Possibly part of a large metallic cooking vessel. The object measures 23mm in length, up to 12mm in height, the rim measures 4mm in thickness. Also see **SM 9**.
27	1	C	125	Unidentified object	Modern	A broken and distorted copper-alloy object of unknown function and of probable Modern date. It consists of a flat formed circular loop which is attached to to three flat strips. The item measures 36mm in width, 34mm in height and 3mm in thickness.
28	1	C	176	Ring	Uncertain	A copper-alloy ring of unknown date or function. The ring measures 17mm in diameter and 2mm in thickness.
29	1	C	187	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped, it has a flat front and a concaved back, retaining a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 8mm in thickness (including the sewing loop). Some added silver coloured metal coating remains on the front.
30	1	C	153	Coin	Post-medieval	A Rose Farthing of Charles I (1625-49). This example is a later edition of this coinage and dates from approximately 1642 to 1649 (Spink and Son 2010, 308). The coin is in worn condition and measures 13mm in diameter and a thickness of 1mm.
31	1	C	154	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a convexed front and a concaved back. A broken sewing loop is present. The button measures 10mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
32	1	C	172	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and concaved back. A broken sewing loop is present. The button measures 16mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop). Some added silver coloured metal coating remains on the back.
36	1	F	232	Stud	Modern	A copper-alloy stud of probable Modern date. The stud is conical in shape and retains it's copper-alloy attachment pin. It was probably used to decorate leather or wood and measures 11mm in diameter and

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						15mm in thickness (including the attachment pin).
39	1	D	206	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a raised rim to the front. No sewing loop is present. The button measures 23mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness. A small amount of gilding survives on the front.
40	1	D	207	Copper Alloy disc	Modern	A copper alloy disc of probable modern date, its function is unknown. The item has two pierced holes and is concaved in shape. One of the pieced holes shows evidence of an iron attachment. It measures 41mm in diameter and 1mm in thickness. The piercings measure 3mm in diameter.
41	1	I	246	Buckle part	Post-medieval	Part of a copper-alloy two piece shoe buckle. This example is called a ”cooking pot” shaped loop-chape and has an internal spike. The pin is missing from this loop-chape and dates from around 1690-1720 AD. Until the 17th century AD the majority of buckles were made in one piece and after 1680 AD two piece buckles became widespread (Whitehead 1996, 96-103). Some examples display a makers mark (Cuddeford 1994, 10). It measures 35mm in width and 27mm in length.
42	1	A	3	Crotal bell	Modern	A copper alloy crotal bell probably dating between the 17th and 18th century AD. This type of bell is spherical in form, the bell generally has two holes at the bottom separated by an open slot in the cast construction. Generally bells of this age contain an iron ball which acts as a ringer, this iron ball has often corroded before the bell is recovered, It has been noted that sheep wore bells for a variety of reasons, it helped the flock stay together, or if the flock was disturbed by predators the bells would give the shepherd warning of such an assault (Bailey 1995, 35-45; Bailey 2000, 64-67). This example retains a complete rectangular loop at the top. The bell is fairly worn, however there is some evidence of the typical sunburst design on its lower surviving quarter. One bottom quarter of this bell is missing, probably due to plough action, resulting in one of the founders initials being missing. The remanding bottom quarter displays the letter 'R'. This is the makers mark indicating the name of the bell founder. Examples of crotal bell founders which include the letter 'R' as their makers mark are as follows-

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						R.C. (Robert Corr)1694-1715, Aldbourne foundary R.C. (Robert Corr) 1716-1724, Aldbourne R.W. (Robert Wells) 1716-1781, Aldbourne R.W. (Robert Wells Jnr) 1781-1799. Aldbourne R.A. (Ralph Ashton) 1703-1720. Wigan R.S. (Richard Sellers) 1713-1760, York R.H. (Unknown) 18th-19th Century R.M. (Robert Mott) 1575-1607, Whitechapel R.P. (Richard Phelps) 1700-1738, Whitechapel R.W. (Robert Wiseman) 1589-1618, Somerset R.K. (Richard Keanes) 1656-1704, Woodstock R.P. (Roger Purdue) 1649-1688, Bristol R.B. (Richard Bowler) 1587-1603, Colchester (Bailey 1995, 35-45) This crotal bell measures a diameter of 37mm across and 46mm in height (including the loop).
43	1	H	239	Watch key	Modern	A copper-alloy watch key of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. This is a very plain example, however many elaborate examples exist (Cuddeford 1994, 53). Some keys from this period display a number which explains the dimension of the square winding shaft it was designed to fit, many watch keys advertised the name of the watch makers or suppliers. Watch keys are rarely found from the 18th century AD due to being so fragile (Bailey 1993, 26-28). This key is a broken example and is missing an additional loop on the top from where it would have hung from a chain, it measures 21mm in length and

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						11mm across its circular body, with a thickness of up to 4mm.
44	1	A	3	Buckle and buckle plate	High to Late Medieval	A cast copper-alloy single loop D-shaped buckle showing a notched lip with part of a copper-alloy buckle plate (Whitehead 1996, 21). The buckle plate shows one rivet hole. The pin is missing from the buckle. Probably dating between 1350-1450. The buckle measures 22mm in width and approx 15mm in height (the bottom of the buckle is concealed by the buckle plate). The buckle plate measures 14mm in length and 13mm in width. The buckle shows a dark brown patina, the buckle plate shows a light green patina due to continuing corrosion.
46	1	G	235	Buckle	Early Modern	A cast copper-alloy rectangular boot or garter buckle. It is likely that buckles measuring less than 25mm were used for fastening garters on boots during the 18th century AD. These buckles were attached above or below the knee to prevent close fitting boots from falling down. Most of these buckles are tinned copper-alloy and have a double spiked tongue (Whitehead 1996, 114). However, no tinning remains on this example and the double spiked tongue is missing. The buckle measures 16mm in length and 15mm in width.
47	1	D	200	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, it is flat to the front and to the slightly concaved back it retains a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including sewing loop). All surfaces have an added silver coloured metal coating.
48	1	C	125	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a convexed front and a concaved back which displays a raised outer rim. The button retains a complete circular sewing loop. It measures 17mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including sewing loop). The back retains most of its gilding and the letters GED can be observed.
50	1	B	48	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, it is convexed to the front and concaved to the back. It retains a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 12mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including sewing loop). Some gilding remains on back.
51	1	B	15	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form and displays a convex front and a flat back. The back retains a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 10mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including sewing loop) All surfaces have an added silver coloured metal coating.
52	1	F	216	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, displaying flat front and back, retaining a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 13mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including sewing loop).

Table 12: Copper-alloy catalogue

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
8	1	B	72	Musket ball	Post-medieval	Musket shot or musket balls were fired from smoothbore pistols or muskets, the bore of these weapons varies (Read 1995, 162). Prior to the Civil War in England (1642-1651) a variety of metals had been experimented with in an attempt to find the best material to produce musket balls. Lead was found to be the most efficient material as it had a low melting point, and to cast the material over a fire was an easy process. Prior to the Civil War, in 1630 and in 1638, attempts were undertaken by the Council of War to standardise the bores of the matchlock musket to 12 bullets from each pound of lead, 17 balls per pound of lead for the arquebus and the caviler and 24 balls per pound of lead for the pistol and carbine. A standard calibre size of musket shot did not exist during the Civil war, and each gun was issued with its own individual mould, of course this could cause problems if shot was needed to be used from a different supply which would often mean adjustments were needed to be made to the musket ball using a knife (Bailey 2002. 22). This example measures 20mm in diameter, due to its larger size it is likely that it was used in a 'Brown Bess' (18th century) dating it to the Napoleonic period (Cuddeford 1994, 3).
12	1	B	63	?Plumb bob	Uncertain	A circular lead item with a conical tip at the ' bottom', the lead shows an even white patina. To the 'top' of the item the remains of some iron can be observed, this could possibly have acted as an attachment loop.

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						If the iron was originally a loop then this item would have acted as an effective plumb bob. It measures 15mm across its body, and 23mm from 'top' to 'bottom' (including the iron remains). The iron remains measure 6mm in length.
19	1	A	13	Horse boss	18th century AD	A lead horse boss. This item would have been part of a pair. Each boss would have been attached either side of the snaffle bit. Snaffle bits have changed very little over time, they are generally made of iron and have either a ridged or two linked bar. The horse boss was the equivalent of heraldic plaques, but instead of displaying a coat of arms personal designs were displayed. Sizes vary between 40mm and 80mm, materials also vary, using lead, bronze and pewter, often with silver or gold gilt, and sometimes enamel would be incorporated. A few oval ones are known but they are usually circular in form (Bailey 1995, 84-86; Bailey 2002, 30-31). This example displays an interwoven design on the outer front face surrounding blank central boss. The reverse shows remains of an attachment loop. The boss, which is slightly convex-ed, measures 46mm in diameter and 8mm in thickness (including attachment loop remains).
33	1	C	181	Folded lead	Uncertain	A folded piece of lead of unknown date or function, it has a white patina. It measures17mm in length and 8mm in width.
35	1	F	232	Musket ball	Napoleonic	As seen with **SF 8**, **t**his example also measures 20mm in diameter, due to its larger size it is likely it was used in a 'Brown Bess' and dates to the Napoleonic period (Cuddeford 1994, 3).
37	1	D	198	Lead object	Uncertain	A lead item of unknown date or function, displaying no patina. Its length is 30mm and tapers towards the 'top', its width at the top is 7mm. At the 'bottom' it becomes foot like in shape and measures 18mm in width.
38	1	D	203	Lead pipe fragment	Modern	A squashed lead pipe fragment, probably of modern date. It shows no patina and measures 40mm in length and 15mm in diameter.
45	1	F	234	Lead weight	Uncertain	An almost circular lead item, with an off centered hole pieced through its body, probably a lead. The weight shows no patina suggesting a modern date. It measures 16mm across, with a height of 13mm, the piecing has a diameter of 6mm.
49	1	C	154	Lead shot	Modern	A small calibre lead shot, this type of ammunition was often used in small pocket pistols, it is also of the type and size which is used as 'buck shot' and is still used for shotguns of a modern date (Cuddeford 1994, 3).

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						This example measures 12mm in diameter.

Table 13: Lead catalogue

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
34	62	B	73	Stirrup	Post-medieval	Probable broken iron stirrup, in heavily corroded and damaged condition. A surviving width of 85mm and a surviving height of 100mm. The thickness varies from 6mm to 20mm due to heavy corrosion of the iron.

Table 14: Iron catalogue

B.2 Lithics

By Rona Booth

Introduction and quantification

B.2.1 A total of 552 struck flints and 25,556g of unworked burnt flint were recovered from 85 contexts, with the vast majority originating from the fills of cut features. This total include the lithics recovered from both the evaluation and excavation phases of the fieldwork. A summary of the total worked flint by period is provided in Table 15, and a full catalogue of worked flint by context is presented in Appendix 16.

Period/type	0	1	2	3.1	3.2	3.3	4	5	6	Total
flake	6	3	41	21	93	61	36	8	4	273
narrow flake			1	2	2		3			8
bladelet					1					1
blade-like flake	3	4	17	1	6	5	5	1	1	43
chip					2	2				4
rejuvenation flake			6	2	6	4	2			20
irregular waste	1	3	15	7	38	36	10	2	6	118
scraper				1	9	1	2			13
axe head			1			1				2
miscellaneous retouched flake			1		3			3		7
notched flake			1	2						3
denticulate					1					1
edge trimmed flake/blade	5		3		4	1	1			14
abruptly retouched piece						1				1
chisel						1				1
heavy implement						1				1
combination tool					1					1
irregular core			1		1	1				3
single platform core						1				1
multiple platform core			1			2				3
core fragment	3				2	2	1			8

Period/type	0	1	2	3.1	3.2	3.3	4	5	6	Total
tested/minimally worked core	1		1		9	2	1			14
core on a flake					1		1			2
natural modified/usewear			1		3	3	3			10
total struck flint	**19**	**10**	**90**	**36**	**182**	**125**	**65**	**14**	**11**	**552**

Table 15: Basic quantification of the worked flint assemblage by period

B.2.2 The worked flint assemblage was recorded following standard technological and typological classifications based largely on Inzian *et al.* (1999). Classification of retouched tools followed standard practice for post glacial British lithic assemblages (e.g. Healy 1988, Bamford 1985 and Butler 2005). Measurements were taken following the methodology of Saville (1980).

B.2.3 The assemblage was quantified by context and this report follows the phasing as set out in the results section, although it should be emphasised that much of the material from later periods was clearly chronologically mixed, suggesting a high degree of residuality, alongside some evidence of scavenging and re-use of earlier material.

Raw materials and condition

B.2.4 The whole assemblage was of flint, which has been classified into four broad types, although there was considerable variability within several of these types. These were a fine grained translucent brown flint, a translucent mid to dark grey flint, an opaque (sometimes mottled) light to mid grey flint and bullhead flint.

B.2.5 The assemblage is dominated by the translucent and opaque grey flint with a smaller but substantial quantity of the bullhead flint, with its distinctive greyish green cortex and orange banding. Some further pieces within the assemblage exhibited the same translucent dark greyish brown interior of the bullhead flint but only those pieces retaining cortex were quantified as such. The bullhead flint is found throughout Kent where certain tertiary deposits overlay the chalk (Shepherd 1972, 114).

B.2.6 All these materials were available from the local area. The condition of the majority of the flint suggests it is derived from secondary sources of flint weathered/eroded from the parent chalk and was probably available in local head deposits whilst the bullhead flint may originate from similar deposits or potentially from primary sources, where the Tertiary deposits (Thanet formation) overlie the Seaford chalk some 2 to 3 km from the site.

B.2.7 The majority of the assemblage was fresh in appearance with little or no patination, although occasional pieces exhibited deeper patination.

Period 1: natural features

B.2.8 Four struck flints, all of probable Neolithic date, and two burnt unworked flints, were recovered from tree bole **350**.

B.2.9 Nine struck flints were found within fluvial deposit 461. All would sit comfortably in a Neolithic assemblage.

B.2.10 A further sixteen struck flints were retrieved from the subsoil 151. These consisted mostly of large, thick, crudely retouched and utilised flakes and core fragments characteristic of later prehistoric flint work.

B.2.11 The context types and small numbers of flints found within these deposits precludes detailed interpretation of these assemblages.

Period 2: Neolithic

B.2.12 A total of 90 worked flints were recovered from four contexts from three individual pits, **158**, **262** and **280**. Pits **262** and **280** were located adjacent to each other within Pit Group 1 in Area 1 whilst pit **158** was an isolated feature in Area 2. These pit assemblages were dominated by flakes and blade-like flakes with some retouched pieces, including an incomplete polished axe head (pit **262**), but produced little burnt flint compared to pits from later periods. Bullhead flint accounted for approximately 12% of the total of struck flint. Seven pieces including the axe head were classified as retouched tools.

B.2.13 Pit **158** contained three flakes and a piece of unworked burnt flint weighing 30g. One flake was edge trimmed, but the assemblage was most notable for the inclusion of a large partially retouched decortication flake of bullhead flint.

B.2.14 Pit **280** produced 15 flakes, including a small core tablet, and four pieces of irregular waste, one of which was lightly burnt. Three of the five unworked burnt flints were noticeably different to the majority of burnt flint from later periods in that they were mostly very small cortical thermal flakes and weighted only 3g in total. Bullhead flint accounted for four of the pieces from this context and included three flakes and a piece of irregular waste. As well as an edge trimmed flake one of the flakes appeared minimally modified to produce an expedient point/piercer.

B.2.15 Pit **262** comprised two fills; the basal fill (463) produced 16 flakes (three of which were bullhead flint) and no burnt flint, whilst the upper fill (263) contained 33 flakes, 11 pieces of irregular waste and one burnt unworked flint nodule weighing 24g. The upper fill also produced cores, three retouched flakes and an incomplete axe head. Five of the pieces from this upper fill were of bullhead flint.

B.2.16 Most of the struck flints from pits **280** and **262**, whilst they originate from several parent cores, form a coherent assemblage in that most flakes and debitage are 40mm or below in length, have little or no cortex surviving on their dorsal surfaces (many flakes have cortex at their extreme distal end only) and have some degree of platform preparation in the form of dorsal trimming/abrasion. The presence of narrow flakes, narrow flake scars on blanks, the relative thinness of many of the flakes and small exhausted cores point toward an early Neolithic technology which is commensurate with the pottery dating of these pits.

B.2.17 Retouched tools, making up nearly 7% of the total struck flints from Period 2 deposits, were found in all three of the pits that contained struck flint. The retouched decortication bullhead flint flake from pit **158** had semi-abrupt continuous parallel retouch at its proximal end and finer more abrupt backing on the opposing edge.

B.2.18 A partially serrated/edge-trimmed blade-like flake of translucent brown flint was recovered from pit **180**.

B.2.19 The three retouched items from pit **262** included a finely notched core rejuvenation flake made of grey flint. This had occasional small spots of gloss on its dorsal and ventral surfaces. A larger, thicker flake also made from grey flint had semi-abrupt, short continuous retouch at the distal end along both laterals.

B.2.20 The incomplete axe head from upper fill 263 of pit **262** comprised the butt end of a polished axe made of light grey mottled flint. The break surface had a slight lip protruding from a hinge-like break, and was clearly broken in antiquity. It measured 89mm in length and 24mm in breadth. At its widest point it was 54mm narrowing to 31mm at the butt end. The maximum width of the ground edges was 8mm. These

edges were flat for 50mm from the butt end and more rounded toward the broken end. The axe weighed 155g and had a symmetrical, elongated oval cross section. The polish was extensive, although traces of at least eight small pre-polish flake scars were evident on the surface. At least four more flakes were removed post-polish and may indicate partial reworking of the axe before deposition.

B.2.21 The struck flint from this period was generally in good condition, and the majority of pieces had little or no patination. Approximately a third of the total assemblage displayed signs of utilisation, with a few exhibiting striations and heavier spalling, perhaps from being used on relatively hard materials.

B.2.22 The flint deposited into the Period 2 pits was not particularly remarkable in its own right, although the inclusion of a broken polished axe into pit **262** may imply some kind of formal deposition. Whether the deposition of a polished axe, scraper and retouched flakes into this pit might be considered a more special deposit than the material from the other pits is debatable. It may be that the incorporation of all the worked and utilised flint into these pits had significance beyond the mundane nature its immediate form and condition might imply. Alternatively, some of the flint, at least from pits **158** and **180** might have been incorporated into the fills as part of a less formalised process of pit filling.

Period 3.1: Early Bronze Age

B.2.23 Pit **37** contained a total of 36 struck flints and one piece of unworked burnt flint weighing 27g. The struck pieces included a total of 26 flakes, seven pieces of irregular waste, a worn scraper and two large crudely notched flakes. The flint used was mostly opaque grey flint with the occasional use of more translucent pieces and three pieces (8%) were made from banded flint.

B.2.24 The assemblage was dominated by relatively large thick hard hammer flakes made from unprepared cores interspersed with some smaller and narrow flakes and debitage. The latter included some possibly residual Neolithic material in the form of narrow and blade-like flakes. Some pieces show signs of utilisation and edge damage.

B.2.25 The side/end scraper was made on a damaged plunging flake in a grey opaque flint. The retouch is worn but identifiable as direct and semi-abrupt to abrupt; it extends along the left lateral and forms a short convex arc at the distal end. The two notched flakes are very crude and none of the retouched pieces are particularly datable.

B.2.26 The assemblage is reasonably coherent but not strongly diagnostic, however, it is likely to be earlier prehistoric based on the technological attributes of the flints and therefore would be consistent with the early Bronze Age pottery from the pit.

Period 3.2: Middle Bronze Age

B.2.27 A total of 182 struck flints were recovered from ditches spot dated to the Middle Bronze Age. These derived from 33 contexts and eight separately numbered ditches, as well as a ditch slot in trench 162. The assemblages were dominated by flakes and irregular waste but also included a core, some irregular nodular shatter, three natural modified/utilised pieces and 94 unworked burnt flints weighing a total of 4061g. The full range of raw material was found in the ditch deposits. Bullhead flint accounted for around 6% of the total struck flints, a relative drop of 50% from the Neolithic period.

B.2.28 The struck flint was thinly spread over the excavation area and most contexts produced between one and 23 pieces of struck flint. However, there were some significant concentrations of activity when these contexts are amalgamated into ditch groupings.

B.2.29 In Area 1, 46 struck flints and 486 grams of unworked burnt flint originated from Ditch 1 and a further 12 struck flints and 23 grams of unworked burnt flint came from the adjacent and parallel Ditch 2.

B.2.30 A further five struck flints were recovered from Ditch 3. These would comfortably fit into a Neolithic assemblage, although a small bladelet had potential to be late Mesolithic, and these were therefore probably all residual.

B.2.31 In Area 2, ditches 10 and 6 produced the largest assemblage of flint from the Middle Bronze Age ditches. Ditch 10 contained 44 struck flints and 19 unworked burnt flints weighing 560g whilst Ditch 6 produced 59 struck flints and 57 burnt unworked flints weighing 697g.

B.2.32 Struck flint was also recovered in smaller numbers from ditches 7, 8 and 9, with Ditch 9 also producing a large unworked lightly burnt nodule weighing 1308g and one further unworked burnt flint weighing only 7g. The struck flint from these ditches numbered only 12 pieces in total and if treated as a whole, the assemblage is notable for its expedient nature and poor flaking; minimally tested nodules accounted for five of the pieces.

B.2.33 A further ditch section, context **89** in Trench 162—investigated during the evaluation phase—produced four struck flints, which included two end scrapers made on large thick flakes.

B.2.34 As with the Area 1 assemblage, the flint from the Area 2 ditches is chronologically mixed. Much of the assemblage consisted of narrower flakes and blade-like flakes, some with prepared platforms and the same distal cortication as seen in the Period 2 deposits, suggesting residual Neolithic material was incorporated into the ditches.

B.2.35 The remainder of the flakes were thicker, squatter and more crudely struck with large, unprepared platforms, characteristic of later flint work and could be assigned a Bronze Age date. However, some of this material was relatively well struck and the angle of striking was generally more acute on many of these flakes than on those found in the later Bronze Age contexts, and this technological attribute could be indicative of an earlier, perhaps Early Bronze Age, date commensurate with some residual pottery found in some of the ditch deposits.

B.2.36 Four of the ditches: 1, 6, 10 and cut **89** in evaluation trench 162 produced a total of 18 retouched pieces which accounted for 10% of the total Period 3.2 assemblage. The high figure of retouched items retrieved might be down to collection bias, but also may indicate areas where these tools were used and ultimately deposited.

B.2.37 A combination tool was found in fill 124 in Ditch 10. This was made on an opaque dark grey, secondary flake which was retouched through heavy patination to make a combined scraper/piercer/notched tool. Combination tools such as this typically date to the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age and this example seems likely to be residual.

B.2.38 One of the most interesting aspects of the Middle Bronze Age assemblage was the nine scrapers recovered from the ditch assemblages. Whilst the numbers are small, six were retrieved from just three contexts 126, 163 and 187 within Ditch 6, three of which were found within the one context, 163. A further two were found in evaluation trench 162, within context 90 and a single scraper was found in Ditch 1, context 378.

B.2.39 The six scrapers from Ditch 6 appear fresh and in good condition and make a coherent sub-assemblage. All are made on reasonably thick flakes with large plain platforms and were struck at an obtuse angle. The blanks are clearly expediently produced flakes but the retouch they exhibit is quite fine, semi-abrupt scalar retouch of the kind common in Late Neolithic and, especially, Early Bronze Age assemblages. Whilst it is possible that

these pieces could date to the Middle Bronze Age, and thus be broadly contemporary with the feature from which they derive, it seems more likely that they represent a concentration of residual Early Bronze Age material, perhaps relating to the residual beaker pottery recovered from the fills of **95** and **98** of Ditch 6.

B.2.40 The remaining scrapers from the Middle Bronze Age features were quite distinct from the relatively fine pieces from Ditch 6; the two from trench 162 were made on much larger flakes and were considerably more worn with steeper retouch, whilst one from Ditch 1 (context 378) was made on a piece of irregular waste with quite short abrupt retouch. This may further support the earlier date for the scrapers from Ditch 6 but the stylistic differences in retouch and blank technology might also be explained in functional terms if the scrapers were used for different purposes.

B.2.41 A further eight retouched items consisted of variably retouched flakes, none of which were sufficiently diagnostic but their attributes suggest they date from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age.

Period 3.3:Late Bronze Age

B.2.42 A total of 112 struck flints and 152 unworked burnt flints weighing 6348g were recovered from 14 pits dated to the Late Bronze Age.

B.2.43 Eight of these pits: **155**, **159**, **164**, **166**, **172**, **177**, **181** and **202** were located within Pit Group 2, in the north-western half of Area 2. These produced a total of 92 struck flints and 125 unworked burnt flints weighing 6453g.

B.2.44 Pit **155** produced 12 residual struck flints and nine unworked burnt flints weighing 262g. These included a multi-platform core, weighing 91g, of probable Neolithic date and a medium sized chunk of bullhead flint, weighing 258g, which was either used as a hammerstone/percussor or was subject to rigorous mechanical wear, as signs of crushing/pounding were evident on its surface. The remaining struck flint was not strongly diagnostic and could be residual.

B.2.45 Pit **159** contained just two flakes and two pieces of irregular waste in the lower fill 160 and four flakes and a heavily burnt core fragment in the upper fill 161. None were strongly diagnostic.

B.2.46 Pit **164** produced two large flakes and a corticated nodule used as a core. Although not closely datable, these are consistent with the phasing.

B.2.47 Pit **166** had two fills. The basal fill 174 contained three flakes and two pieces of irregular waste along with two pieces of unworked burnt flint weighing 119g. The uppermost fill 167 contained ten flakes and six pieces of irregular waste, some of which were burnt. In addition, a total of 40 burnt unworked flints weighing 1580g were recovered and these included a nodule that appeared to have been used as a pounder; this weighed 283g. The general character of the flakes suggests a later prehistoric date.

B.2.48 Pit **172** produced four flakes, two pieces of irregular waste and six unworked burnt flints weighing 152g. The flakes are almost certainly later prehistoric.

B.2.49 Pit **177** contained three fills, the uppermost two produced struck flint. The flint from middle fill 179 comprised three pieces of chip sized debitage and three unworked burnt flints weighing 95g, whilst the uppermost fill 180 contained three large, thick flakes, including a decortication flake and a finely struck thinner, potentially residual, flake as well as twelve unworked burnt flints that weighed 511g.

B.2.50 Pit **181** was of particular interest. The sole fill 183, produced 21 struck flints and these comprised a broken polished axe, a scraper, 14 flakes, two pieces of irregular waste, a

tested flint pebble and a large core fragment, best described as a chunk of an expedient flake core. Nine unworked burnt flints weighing 713g and two small flint pebbles were also recovered. Whilst there are suggestions of residuality within the assemblage, the smaller flakes form a coherent sub-assemblage and were likely deposited together. The polished axe head (described below) is of Neolithic date but was possibly used in the Bronze Age as a core.

B.2.51 Pit **202** contained two fills, the lower (203) contained three pieces of irregular waste and 22 unworked burnt flints weighing 628g; the upper fill 204 produced eight flakes and one piece of irregular waste and 15 unworked burnt flints, including a possible tested nodule, that weighed a total of 1690g. The flakes include some thinner pieces, suggesting a degree of residuality and one of the larger thicker flakes showed traces of percussive damage on its dorsal surface suggesting it had been removed from a percussor/hammerstone.

B.2.52 A further 6 pits: **192**, **194**, **196**, **198**, **205** and **213**, part of Pit Group 3, in the south-western edge of Area 2 produced 20 struck flints and 27 unworked burnt flints weighing 374g.

B.2.53 Pits **192**, **194**, **196** and **198** within Pit Group 3 produced a total of only four struck flints and 11 unworked burnt flints weighing 157g.

B.2.54 Pit **213** contained seven pieces of struck flint including an irregular multi-platform core with flake removals. None of the flakes or debitage were particularly diagnostic, although at least one flake was potentially Mesolithic or early Neolithic and residual. An expedient chunk of flint with a triangular profile had pronounced use wear and was likely contemporary with the proposed date of the pit.

B.2.55 The struck flint from Pit **205** consisted of nine flakes and 16 unworked burnt flints weighing 217g. There was clearly a residual element to the assemblage, as most of the flakes and debitage had attributes that correspond to earlier flintworking practises. An irregular chunk of bullhead flint was also incorporated into the fill and was similarly likely to be residual. Of particular interest was a heavily 'bashed' nodule weighing 401g used as a percussor/hammerstone.

B.2.56 The flint assemblages from the pit deposits were variable in form and date. Four of the eight pits in Pit Group 2 and at least two of the six pits in Pit Group 3 contained residual elements. Some pieces showed signs of utilisation.

B.2.57 Bullhead flint featured rarely, making up just 5% of the total number of struck flints whilst banded flint accounted for less than 1%. This is comparable with the Middle Bronze Age ditch deposits. However, because the numbers of struck flint found in these pits was quite low, nothing more meaningful can be said about the use of Bullhead flint during this period, other than people had used it occasionally in an expedient fashion.

B.2.58 Retouched items accounted for just over 4% of the struck flints and these were found in just three of the pits **155**, **166** and **181**.

B.2.59 The polished axe head from Pit **181** was made of a light grey mottled flint and weighed 82g. It was incomplete and its length comprised 51mm of the butt end of the axe-head. It had a breadth of 20mm and was 20mm at its widest point tapering to 10mm toward the blade end. The width of the ground edges measured between 5mm and 8mm. The original break has a slight lip across the width of the piece and was broken in antiquity, to expose a symmetrical, elongated oval cross section. It is highly likely that the axe head was used as an impromptu core, as there are at least 6 flake removals and signs

of faceting on the broken edge. Five small flake scars on the surface of the axe suggest the axe head was subject to mechanical damage before its final deposition.

B.2.60 The scraper from pit 181 was made on a thick flake of opaque grey flint with steep to semi-abrupt continuous scalar retouch. A further flake from this context was abruptly retouched. Both are consistent with, if not diagnostic of, a Late Bronze Age date.

B.2.61 A thick core rejuvenation flake with short continuous denticulated removals at the proximal end was retrieved from pit **166**. Pit **155** produced a very large, thick and heavily patinated flake which had been bifacially worked to form a denticualted edge along one lateral end possibly used for chopping and cutting. These tools are typical of tools found in Middle to Late Bronze Age contexts.

B.2.62 The numbers of flints deposited into most of the later Bronze Age pits is relatively low and at least some may have been inadvertently/incidentally incorporated in the back fill. The inclusion of an incomplete polished axe head, along with a scraper and a retouched flake into pit **181** was, however, more likely to be deliberate. The inclusion of polished axes into pits and other features of post-Neolithic date has been recorded in Kent, for example at Ellington School, Ramsgate (Boden 2007) and Iwade (Bishop and Bagwell 2005). Whilst possibly not a curated item in the strictest sense, as Champion suggests (2011, 239-340), the polished axe was perhaps recognised as a prestigous/exotic item from the past, and it was perhaps deemed appropriate to deposit within the pit.

Period 4: Early Iron Age

B.2.63 In total, eight pits produced 65 struck flints and 387 unworked burnt flints weighing 15,299g. The bulk of this material came from four pits; **39**/**299**, **309**, **313** and **336** within Pit Group 4 in Area 1. The remaining four pits (**16**, **27**, **87** and **402**) were outliers from this group.

B.2.64 Pit **27** was located near to the Neolithic pits in Pit Group 1, Area 1, and contained only three flakes, all of which were probably residual. Pit **87** in evaluation trench 162 contained a pointed flake and a piece of miscellaneous debitage along with one unworked burnt flint weighing 7g.

B.2.65 The three flakes and the large scraper from pit **16** in evaluation trench 169 were assigned to the Neolithic based on their technological attributes. Pit **402**, located between ditches 1 and 2 in Area 1, also appeared to contain residual material; this small assemblage consisted of a very small fine flake and four unworked burnt flints weighing 63g.

B.2.66 Of the four pits in Pit Group 4, three (**39**/**299**, **309** and **336**) contained substantial amounts of unworked burnt flint, weighing a total of 15,201g, but relatively few struck flints, 55 in total. The fourth pit (**313**) in this group contained only two flakes and one piece of unworked burnt flint none of which was particularly diagnostic.

B.2.67 Pit **39**/**299** produced a total of 32 struck flints (mostly residual) from three fills and 316 unworked burnt flints weighing 12,051g. The flint was not consistent between the fills. The basal fill 42/448 contained just one piece of irregular waste and was probably residual. The second fill 41/300 contained five struck flints and 195 unworked burnt flints weighing 7111g. Of the three large flakes, two were burnt, as was a piece of irregular debitage. A large tested nodule with three flake removals was incorporated into the deposit but was not burnt. The uppermost fill 40/301 contained less unworked burnt flint, a total of 121 pieces weighing 4940g but more struck flint with 26 pieces originating from this deposit. The majority of the struck flint from this pit exhibited characteristics

similar to those from the Neolithic pits, there was very little that was consistent with a later prehistoric date.

B.2.68 The assemblage from Ditch 11 was recovered from a single context (fill 379) and was chronologically mixed. With only 13 struck flints and ten pieces of unworked burnt flint weighing 390g, the numbers were not substantial enough to make meaningful comment, however of note, within this small assemblage, was a single platform core and an incomplete, partially polished, Neolithic chisel.

B.2.69 The struck flint from the Early Iron Age features appeared to be mostly residual with a considerable Neolithic component. The flint also included some squatter thicker flakes comparable to those of the later Bronze Age. Whilst there is a possibility these flakes are Early Iron Age, as they cannot be definitively dated, the fact that residual material in the form of Neolithic flakes was incorporated into the back fill of the pits suggests these later flakes are also residual.

B.2.70 The range of raw materials occurred at a similar level to the later Bronze Age assemblages with bullhead flint accounting for just over 5% and banded flint just over 1% of the total assemblages.

B.2.71 Retouched items accounted for 5% of the total struck flints. These included the Neolithic scraper from pit **16**. This was made on a large bullhead flint flake with fine, semi-abrupt scalar retouch at its distal end. A roughly made side/end scraper from bullhead flint was retrieved from pit **336**. This appeared to be made on an earlier flake and the retouch was rather crude. An abruptly retouched large pointed flake of opaque grey flint also came from this pit. The technology of both pieces is indicative of later prehistoric flint working.

B.2.72 The chisel from Ditch 11 measured 57mm in length and 11mm in breadth. At its widest point, it was 25mm wide narrowing to 20mm at the tip. The chisel was broken in antiquity, was hinge fractured and the break was partially lipped. It had an elongated cross section and the lateral margins were very worn. The chisel was made from an opaque dark grey flint with lighter grey inclusions and retained no cortex. Polish was visible along the central spine of the implement on the dorsal surface.

B.2.73 The struck flint from these pits and ditch deposits appeared mainly residual, therefore little can be said about the nature of deposition. It is perhaps the case that most of the struck flint was 'swept' into the features during backfilling, although, as suggested above, the deliberate inclusion of earlier material cannot be dismissed entirely.

Period 5: Medieval and later periods

B.2.74 Eleven struck flints were retrieved from pits **322** and **348** and an unworked burnt flint from pit **442**. A further 13 struck flints were retrieved from Ditches 13 and 14.

B.2.75 The flint from these contexts had a tendency toward being rolled with a high degree of edge damage, as might be expected from early material from features of a much later date. None of this material was strongly diagnostic.

Discussion

B.2.76 Although the numbers and relative densities of flints retrieved from the site were relatively low, the assemblages described here attest to continuous occupation and utilisation of local flint resources from the Neolithic through to the Early Iron Age. A small number of flints were also recovered that may possibly date to the late Mesolithic.

B.2.77 Neolithic activity is represented by residual pieces, found in features belonging to most periods of the site, as well as by assemblages from several Neolithic pits. The residual

material suggests a wider zone of activity than that represented by the cut features belonging to this period whilst the assemblages from the pits are consistent with a range of settlement/domestic type activities including flint working and tool production/use.

B.2.78 Early Bronze Age flintwork was recovered from pit **37**, but there was little distinctive about this assemblage and it may contain some residual Neolithic material. The concentration of relatively finely made scrapers in Middle Bronze Age Ditch 6 may also belong to this period and represent material ultimately derived from surface scatters or ephemeral features subsequently disturbed by the ditch in this area of the site.

B.2.79 Larger quantities of unworked burnt flint were recovered from Late Bronze Age features (152 pieces totalling 6348g) compared to that distributed throughout the Middle Bronze Age ditches (94 pieces weighing just 3021g). This is a trend that continues into the Early Iron Age, with the incorporation of relatively large quantities of burnt flint into some of the pits alongside worked flint assemblages which include both residual and contemporary material.

B.2.80 It is likely that much of the flintwork dating to all periods of the sites occupation was incorporated into features in a fairly informal manner, either via deliberate backfill deposits, or introduced incidentally during natural silting of features. This does not rule out the possibility that in some cases, flints were deliberately collected and were a significant element of more structured/formal pit deposits. This would be a feasible explanation, for example, for the deposition of flints including the incomplete polished axe into the Neolithic pit **262**. Equally, in the case of the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pits, flintwork belonging to earlier periods, may have been recognised as significant and included deliberately within pit deposits (Champion 2011, 239-240).

B.2.81 Burnt flint was found in features from all periods, but the highest densities were found in features dating to the Later Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. Lawrence and Mudd (2015) have recently explored how the surface appearance of burnt flint can indicate the type of heat source it was subjected to. Whilst for this assemblage, in-depth analysis of the burnt flint was not carried out, it is suggested that the majority of the pieces were subjected to high intensity heat source that caused heavy but uniform fracturing of the flints surface. This implies that some kind of ‘craft’ or ‘industrial’ processing was taking place (ibid). The burnt material ranged in size from small pieces weighing just a few grammes to larger nodules of more than 100g.

B.2.82 In summary, the assemblage from Thanington represents a useful addition to the regional record of prehistoric flint assemblages. Particularly notable are the securely dated assemblages from early Neolithic pit deposits. The worked flint from later periods of the sites occupation, whilst including a relatively high proportion of residual material, provides good evidence for continued use of flint resources throughout the Middle and Late Bronze Age, and potentially into the Early Iron Age, and clearly relate to working and use of flint tools as part of domestic/settlement type activity on the site.

context	cut	feature type	Group	phase	flake	narrow flake	bladelet	blade-like flake	chip	rejuvenation flake	irregular waste	scraper	axe head	miscellaneous retouched flake	notched flake	denticulate	edge trimmed flake/blade	abruptly retouched piece	chisel	heavy implement	combination tool	irregular core	single platform core	multiple platform core	core fragment	tested nodule/minimally worked core	core on a flake	natural modified/usewear	total struck flint
17	16	pit	-	4		2		1				1																	**4**
19	18	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	1																								**1**
28	27	pit	-	4	2			1																					**3**
38	37	pit	-	3.1	21	2		1		2	7	1			2														**36**
40	39	pit	Pit Grp 4	4	4																								**4**
41	39	pit	Pit Grp 4	4																									
88	87	pit	-	4	1						1																		**2**
90	89	ditch	-	3.2	1						1	2																	**4**
96	95	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	1																								**1**
97	95	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	3			1			1																	1	**6**
124	123	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2	8	1		2	1	1	3										1								**17**
125	123	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2																						1			**1**
126	98	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	12					1	7	2		1															**23**
151		subsoil	-	-	6			3			1						5								3	1			**19**
154	153	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	3												1												**4**
156	155	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	4					1	4						1							2					**12**
157	158	pit	-	2	2												1												**3**
160	159	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	1			1			2																		**4**
161	159	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	1				1		2														1				**5**
163	162	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	7				1			3					1					1				1			**14**
165	164	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	2																					1			**3**

context	cut	feature type	Group	phase	flake	narrow flake	bladelet	blade-like flake	chip	rejuvenation flake	irregular waste	scraper	axe head	miscellaneous retouched flake	notched flake	denticulate	edge trimmed flake/blade	abruptly retouched piece	chisel	heavy implement	combination tool	irregular core	single platform core	multiple platform core	core fragment	tested nodule/minimally worked core	core on a flake	natural modified/usewear	total struck flint
167	166	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	9					1	6									1									**17**
171	170	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	5																								**5**
173	172	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	4						2																		**6**
174	166	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	3						2																		**5**
176	175	ditch	Ditch 14	5	1																								**1**
179	172	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3					1		2																		**3**
180	177	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	2			1		1																			**4**
183	181	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	14						2	1	1					1							1	1			**21**
185	184	ditch	Ditch 14	5	2									1															**3**
187	186	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	4						1	1																	**6**
193	192	pit	Pit Grp 3	3.3																									
195	194	pit	Pit Grp 3	3.3	2																								**2**
197	196	pit	Pit Grp 3	3.3																									
199	198	pit	Pit Grp 3	3.3	2																								**2**
203	202	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3							3																		**3**
204	202	pit	Pit Grp 2	3.3	8						1																		**9**
206	205	pit	Pit Grp 3	3.3	2			2			4																	1	**9**
212	211	ditch	Ditch 14	5	5			1			1			2															**9**
214	213	pit	Pit Grp 3	3.3	1			1			3											1						1	**7**
220	219	ditch	Ditch 9	3.2	3						1															2			**6**
222	221	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2	7			2		1	3														1	2			**16**

context	cut	feature type	Group	phase	flake	narrow flake	bladelet	blade-like flake	chip	rejuvenation flake	irregular waste	scraper	axe head	miscellaneous retouched flake	notched flake	denticulate	edge trimmed flake/blade	abruptly retouched piece	chisel	heavy implement	combination tool	irregular core	single platform core	multiple platform core	core fragment	tested nodule/minimally worked core	core on a flake	natural modified/usewear	total struck flint
224	223	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2	4					2	1			1			1								1				**10**
228	227	ditch	Ditch 7	3.2	1																					1			**2**
230	229	ditch	Ditch 8	3.2	2																								**2**
244	243	ditch	Ditch 8	3.2																						2			**2**
263	262	pit	Pit Grp 1	2	21			7		5	11		1	1	1		1					1		1		1		1	**52**
272	270	ditch	Ditch 3	3.2							1																		**1**
274	273	ditch	Ditch 13	5							1																		**1**
281	280	pit	Pit Grp 1	2	11	1		1		1	4						1												**19**
296	294	ditch	Ditch 3	3.2	1		1				1																		**3**
300	299	pit	Pit Grp 4	4	3						1															1			**5**
301	299	pit	Pit Grp 4	4	11	1		2		2	4																1	1	**22**
312	309	pit	Pit Grp 4	4	2																				1			1	**4**
314	313	pit	Pit Grp 4	4	2																								**2**
323	322	Pit	-	5				1			2																		**3**
337	336	pit	-	4	11						3	1					1											1	**17**
349	348	pit	-	5	4						4																		**8**
351	350	tree bole	-	1				3			1																		**4**
364	363	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	2																								**2**
366	365	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2							4																	1	**5**
368	367	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	3						1																		**4**

context	cut	feature type	Group	phase	flake	narrow flake	bladelet	blade-like flake	chip	rejuvenation flake	irregular waste	scraper	axe head	miscellaneous retouched flake	notched flake	denticulate	edge trimmed flake/blade	abruptly retouched piece	chisel	heavy implement	combination tool	irregular core	single platform core	multiple platform core	core fragment	tested nodule/minimally worked core	core on a flake	natural modified/usewear	total struck flint
370	369	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	6						1																		**7**
378	377	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	3						5	1																	**9**
380	379	ditch	Ditch 11	3.3	6					1	3								1				1					1	**13**
384	383	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	1																								**1**
392	391	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	1						2																		**3**
398	397	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	1						2																		**3**
404	402	pit	-	4				1																					**1**
419	418	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	1	1																							**2**
427	426	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	4					1	2																	1	**8**
435	434	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	4									1															**5**
437	436	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	2			1			1					1	1										1		**7**
441	440	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	1																								**1**
443	442	quarry pit	Quarry pits	5																									
448	299	pit	Pit Grp 4	4							1																		**1**
460	459	ditch	Ditch 3	3.2	1																								**1**
461		fluvial deposit	-	1	3			1			2																		**6**
463	262	pit	Pit Grp 1	2	7			9																					**16**
Total					**273**	**8**	**1**	**43**	**4**	**20**	**118**	**13**	**2**	**5**	**3**	**1**	**14**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**3**	**8**	**14**	**2**	**10**	**552**

Table 16: Basic quantification of the flint assemblage by context

B.3 Non-building stone

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.3.1 A small assemblage of lava fragments was recovered from the area of excavation. The functional category used is defined by Crummy (1983, 1988), Category 4: Household utensils and furniture. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text. The lava and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or deselection.

Assemblage

B.3.2 Category 4: Household utensils and furniture: Four pieces of mid grey, vesicular basalt lava (0.027kg), were recovered from pit **322**, Period 5. The pieces of lava are small, weathered, sub-rectangular or sub-rounded, somewhat friable fragments with no diagnostic features, from (presumably) one or more rotary lava querns/hand mills.

B.3.3 Lava querns from the Mayen-Niedermendig area in the Eifel Hills region of Germany were imported into Britain (as blanks) from the Late Iron Age onwards. The quern fragments were recovered alongside medieval pottery from pit **322** and medieval pottery was also recovered from the adjacent quarry pits.

Discussion

B.3.4 The lava fragments, which may have broken up due to extensive use/wear, are likely to have originated in a domestic setting, strongly linked to agriculture. Timberlake indicates that 'weathered and finely broken-up quern such as this is commonly found at both Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon sites in Eastern England'. (Fletcher and Timberlake forthcoming). The pit from which the lava fragments were recovered also produced moderately abraded medieval pottery, and the lava is likely to be residual.

Retention, dispersal and display

B.3.5 The fragmentary nature of the total assemblage means it is of little significance. The lava fragments may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.4 Prehistoric pottery

By Matthew Brudenell

Introduction

B.4.1 A total of 1352 sherds (21820g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the combined evaluation and excavation, displaying a relatively high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 16.1g. The pottery derived from 52 contexts, relating to 42 interventions across 22 pits, seven ditches and a layer (Table 17). The pottery dates from the earlier Neolithic to the Early Iron Age, though the bulk of the assemblage is of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age origin (Table 18).

B.4.2 The material is in a good condition, as reflected by the MSW. It includes a relatively high proportion of medium and large sized sherds (41% of total), and a series of partial vessel profiles. This report provides a full quantified characterisation of the material by period, and a discussion of its date and affinity. It also includes recommendations for publication.

Context	Cut	Trench/ Area	Feature Type	Feature Group	Phase	No. of sherds	Wt. (g)	Pottery date
17	16	169	pit	-	4	10	39	Early Iron Age
28	27	83	pit	-	4	10	87	Early Iron Age
38	37	71	pit	-	3.1	4	16	Early Bronze Age
40	39/300	76	pit	Pit Group 4	4	17	158	Early Iron Age
41	39/300	76	pit	Pit Group 4	4	77	1542	Early Iron Age
81	80	157	ditch	-	4	2	13	Early Iron Age
88	87	162	pit	-	4	11	60	Early Iron Age
96	95	215	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	1	2	Early Bronze Age
97	95	215	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	4	7	Middle Bronze Age
124	123	218	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2	4	26	Middle Bronze Age
126	98	216	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	2	12	Early Bronze Age
						4	11	Middle Bronze Age
154	153	2	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	1	15	Middle Bronze Age
156	155	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	30	318	Late Bronze Age
157	158	2	pit	-	2.2	10	17	Middle Neolithic
161	159	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	31	356	Late Bronze Age
163	162	2	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	2	16	Middle Bronze Age
167	166	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	41	2372	Late Bronze Age
173	172	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	182	1754	Late Bronze Age
174	166	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	3	44	Late Bronze Age
180	177	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	36	228	Late Bronze Age
183	181	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	43	924	Late Bronze Age
187	186	2	ditch	Ditch 6	3.2	1	9	Early Neolithic
195	194	2	pit	Pit Group 3	3.3	2	3	Late Bronze Age
203	202	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	80	1514	Late Bronze Age
204	202	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	37	459	Late Bronze Age
206	205	2	pit	Pit Group 3	3.3	92	1178	Late Bronze Age
214	213	2	pit	Pit Group 3	3.3	19	231	Late Bronze Age
222	221	2	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2	3	58	Middle Bronze Age
224	223	2	ditch	Ditch 10	3.2	1	11	Middle Bronze Age
244	243	2	ditch	Ditch 8	3.2	12	177	Middle Bronze Age
263	262	1	pit	Pit Group 1	2	41	270	Early Neolithic
265	264	1	ditch	Ditch 3	3.2	32	277	Middle Bronze Age

Context	Cut	Trench/ Area	Feature Type	Feature Group	Phase	No. of sherds	Wt. (g)	Pottery date
272	270	1	ditch	Ditch 3	3.2	55	280	Middle Bronze Age
279	202	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	2	119	Late Bronze Age
281	280	1	pit	Pit Group 1	2.1	15	77	Early Neolithic
296	294	1	ditch	Ditch 3	3.2	18	1381	Middle Bronze Age
300	299	1	pit	Pit Group 4	4	241	4820	Early Iron Age
310	309	1	pit	Pit Group 4	4	9	450	Early Iron Age
312	309	1	pit	Pit Group 4	4	21	215	Early Iron Age
314	313	1	pit	Pit Group 4	4	15	128	Early Iron Age
337	336	1	pit	Pit Group 4	4	30	379	Early Iron Age
364	363	1	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	1	5	Middle Bronze Age
370	369	1	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	2	9	Early Bronze Age
380	379	1	ditch	Ditch 11	3.3	1	5	Middle Bronze Age
398	397	1	ditch	Ditch 2	3.2	1	2	Middle Bronze Age
399	NA	1	Layer	-	-	2	10	Middle Bronze Age
427	426	1	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	2	6	Early Neolithic
437	436	1	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	1	3	Early Neolithic
441	440	1	ditch	Ditch 1	3.2	1	11	Middle Bronze Age
448	229	1	pit	Pit Group 4	4	1	9	Early Iron Age
463	262	1	pit	Pit Group 1	2.1	61	956	Earlier Neolithic
466	166	2	pit	Pit Group 2	3.3	28	751	Late Bronze Age
TOTAL						1352	21820	

Table 17: Quantified prehistoric pottery by context

Period	Ceramic Tradition	Date	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% of assemblage (by wt.)
Early Neolithic	-	c. 3700-2250 BC	121/1321	6.1
Middle Neolithic	Peterborough Ware	c. 3350-2800 BC	10/17	0.1
Early Bronze Age	Beaker	c. 2200-1900 BC	9/39	0.2
Middle Bronze Age	Deverel-Rimbury	c. 1600-800 BC	142/2292	10.5
Late Bronze Age	Post Deverel-Rimbury	c. 1150-800 BC	626/10251	47.0
Early Iron Age	-	c. 600-350 BC	444/7900	36.2
TOTAL	-	-	1352/21820	100.1

Table 18: Quantified prehistoric pottery by period

Methodology

B.4.3 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2010). All sherds were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to fabric (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim forms have been described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and are assigned vessel numbers. Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. In cases where a sherd or groups of refitting sherds

retained portions of the rim and shoulder, the vessel was also categorised by form and class. The Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age vessels were classified using a form series devised by the author (Brudenell 2011a; 2012), and the class scheme created by John Barrett (1980). All pottery has been subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter have been classified as 'small' (798 sherds; 59%); sherds measuring 4-8cm are classified as 'medium' (448 sherds; 33%), and sherds over 8cm in diameter 'large' (106 sherds; 8%). A programme of refitting was also conducted, and sherd joins were noted within and between contexts. The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the project archive.

Fabric series

B.4.4 Flint

F1: Spares coarse to very coarse flint (mainly 2-6mm in size).

F2: Abundant medium to coarse flint (mainly 1-4mm in size).

F3: Moderate to common coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm in size).

F4: Moderate to common medium flint (mainly 1-2mm in size).

F5: Sparse to common fine flint (mainly 0.25-1mm in size).

F: Sherds with flint temper too small to assign to a specific type.

Flint in a micaceous clay matrix

FM1: Spares coarse to very coarse flint (2-6mm in size) in a micaceous clay matrix.

FM2: Moderate to common coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm in size) in a micaceous clay matrix.

FM3: Moderate to common medium to flint (mainly 1-2mm in size) in a micaceous clay matrix.

FM4: Sparse to common fine flint (mainly 0.25-1mm in size) in a micaceous clay matrix.

Flint and voids

FV1: Sparse to moderate medium to coarse flint (mainly 1-3mm in size), with rare to sparse linear voids from burnt out vegetable matter. Clay matrix is slightly micaceous.

Flint and grog

FG1: Moderate to common coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm in size) and moderate medium to coarse buff grog (mainly 1-3mm in size).

FG2: Moderate to common coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm in size) and sparse to moderate medium to coarse black grog (mainly 1-3mm in size). Clay matrix is slightly micaceous.

FG3: Moderate to common fine flint and sparse fine to moderate grog (mainly 0.25-1mm in size).

Grog

G1: Moderate to common medium to coarse grog (mainly 1-3mm in size).

Sand

Q1: Moderate to common quartz sand. Clay matrix may be slightly micaceous.

Early Neolithic pottery

B.4.5 A total of 121 (1321g) sherds of Early Neolithic pottery were identified in the assemblage, with a MSW of 10.9g. The pottery was recovered from six contexts relating to two pits from Period 2, Pit Group 1 (262 and 280), and three ditch interventions from Period 3.2 ditches, Ditch 1 (426 and 436) and Ditch 6 (186). The pits in Pit Group 1 yielded the vast majority of the pottery, with pit 262 containing 102 sherds (1226; 93% of the Earlier Neolithic pottery by weight), and pit 280 containing 15 sherds (77g). The pottery from the ditches comprises just four sherds (18g), all of which of are residual.

B.4.6 The pottery broadly belongs to the bowl tradition of the Early Neolithic, *c*. 3700-3350 BC, though the small size of the group and scarcity of diagnostic sherds makes further classification as either Plain Bowl or Decorated Bowl problematic.

Assemblage characteristics

B.4.7 The Early Neolithic pottery is characterised by sherds in flint tempered fabrics, with inclusions varying in grade and density from very coarse wares with moderate to abundant flint, to wares with sparse, finely crushed inclusions (Table 19). In general, coarser fabrics dominate (e.g. F1 and FM1, accounting for 72% of the pottery by weight), and are likely to belong to large vessels with little or no exterior surface treatment. A basic distinction in fabrics can also be made between sherds with a powdery texture that have mica in the clay matrix (FM fabrics), which account for 56% of the pottery by weight, and those with just flint (F fabrics), accounting for 44% of the pottery by weight. This suggests that at least two basic clay sources were exploited for potting.

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished
F1	Flint	19/455	34.4	-/-	-
F2	Flint	1/7	0.5	-/-	-
F3	Flint	6/36	2.7	-/-	-
F4	Flint	6/65	4.9	2/41	63.1
F5	Flint	1/15	1.1	-/-	-
FM1	Flint with mica	45/497	37.6	8/71	14.3
FM2	Flint with mica	10/96	7.3	-/-	-
FM3	Flint with mica	14/81	6.1	8/52	64.2
FM4	Flint with mica	19/69	5.2	5/33	47.8
TOTAL	-	121/1321	99.8	23/197	14.9

Table 19: Quantification of Early Neolithic pottery by fabric

B.4.8 The assemblage is predominately plain, with only one vessel rim displaying subtle, closely-spaced fingertip-like impressions along the rim-top. This belongs to a shouldered coarseware vessel (eight sherds, 246g) with rim diameter of c. 36cm – the only partial vessel profile in the Early Neolithic assemblage.

B.4.9 Other feature sherds are equally rare, with a few shoulder sherds – some of which may belong to bowls – and just five other vessel rims. Four of these are simple rounded rims, but one is slightly flanged on the exterior and burnished on the exterior and interior. In total, 23 sherds (197g) in the assemblage are burnished (15% of the assemblage by weight) with a further 17 (117g) being smoothed, largely on the interior. These surface treatments are mainly associated with fabrics containing flint at the finer end of the inclusion size spectrum, e.g. F4 and FM3-4. Some have a slip-like burnished exterior, lending the sherds a leathery texture and appearance. This is quite different to

the Late Bronze Age sherds discussed below, despite broad similarities in the basic nature of the fabrics.

Middle Neolithic pottery

B.4.10 Ten sherds (17g), with a low MSW of 1.7g are assigned to the Middle Neolithic, all of which derive from pit 158, Pit Group 1. The sherds are in fabric F3 and include a single rim sherd (3g) with an impressed herringbone pattern on the rim-top, and two other impressed body sherds (5g). The pottery is broadly related to the Peterborough Ware tradition, and can be dated *c*. 3350-2800 BC.

Early Bronze Age pottery

B.4.11 A small group of Early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the excavations, comprising nine sherds (39g) with a MSW of 4.3g. The pottery was recovered from four contexts relating to a Period 3.1 pit (pit 37, Trench 71), and three interventions from Period 3.2 ditches (Ditch 1 (369) and Ditch 6 (96 and 126)). The pottery from the ditches (five sherds, 23g) is residual. The pottery is Beaker related, and may be broadly dated *c*. 2200-1900 BC.

Assemblage characteristics

B.4.12 The Early Bronze Age pottery is characterised by sherds in flint (F3 and F4) and grog tempered fabrics (F4); the flint being relatively fine and well-sorted (Table 20). Five of the sherds (28g) are fragments of Beaker pottery. These include body sherds with comb, cord and fingertip impressions, one of which (10g) may be classified as a fragment of rusticated Beaker.

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.
F3	Flint	3/15	38.5
F4	Flint	1/2	5.1
G1	Grog	5/22	56.4
TOTAL	-	9/39	100.0

Table 20: Quantification of Early Bronze Age pottery by fabric

Middle Bronze Age pottery

B.4.13 Pottery assigned to the Middle Bronze Age comprises 142 sherds (2292g) with a MSW of 16.4g. The pottery was recovered from 16 contexts relating to 15 interventions through Period 3.2 ditches, Ditch 1 (144; one sherd, 11g), Ditch 2 (364 and 398; two sherds, 7g), Ditch 3 (265, 272 and 296; 105 sherds, 1938g), Ditch 6 (11 sherds, 49g), Ditch 8 (244; 12 sherds, 177g), Ditch 10 (124, 122 and 224; eight sherds, 95g), Ditch 11 (380, 1 sherds, 5g) and layer 399 (two sherds, 10g). The pottery is unambiguously related to the Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition, dated *c*. 1600-1150 BC.

Assemblage characteristics

B.4.14 With the exception of a single flint and grog tempered sherd (FG1, 11g), all the Middle Bronze Age pottery is simply flint tempered (Table 21), with none of the sherds displaying the powdery micaceous clay matrix characteristic of the Early Neolithic assemblage.

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.
F	Flint	2/3	0.13
F1	Flint	1/19	0.83
F2	Flint	122/2186	95.4
F3	Flint	13/60	2.62
F4	Flint	1/3	0.13
F5	Flint	2/10	0.44
FG1	Flint and grog	1/11	0.48
TOTAL	-	142/2292	100.1

Table 21: Quantification of Middle Bronze Age pottery by fabric

B.4.15 The group is dominated by sherds in fabric F2, which accounts for 95% of the period assemblage by weight. This is a distinctive, hard fabric with abundant coarse flint. Diagnostic sherds are relatively rare, but include a fingertip decorated sherd (19g) from the girth of a bucket-shaped vessel, fragments from two different vessel bases (11 sherds, 233g), a flat-topped rim of a bucket urn (five sherds, 22g), and the partial profile of a further bucket-urn (21 sherds, 1395g). Sherds from the latter refit, showing the vessel to be over 32cm tall with a plain flat-topped rim and mouth diameter of c. 20cm. The exterior of the urn is sooted, indicating the vessel was used in cooking activities, and the body has broken away form the base at a coil join. This pot was recovered from Ditch 3, and accounts for 61% of the total Middle Bronze Age assemblage by weight.

B.4.16 The only burnished sherds in the assemblages are two small fragments of pottery (2g) in fabric F3.

Late Bronze Age pottery

B.4.17 A total of 626 sherds (10251g) of pottery are assigned to the Late Bronze Age, with a MSW of 16.4g. The pottery derives from 14 contexts related to ten pits in the Period 3.3 Pit Group 2 (pits 155, 159, 166, 172, 177, 181, 202; 513 sherds, 8839g) and Pit Group 3 (194, 205 and 213; 113 sherds, 1412g). These assemblages form coherent groups of pottery belong to the Plainware Post Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) ceramic tradition, dating *c.* 1150-800 BC.

Assemblage characteristics

B.4.18 Calcined flint continued to be the preferred additive to potting clays in the Late Bronze Age, though the grade and density of flint varied more widely, reflecting the greater range of vessel sizes, forms and qualities of ware being produced in this period. By weight, 88% of the pottery is in F group fabrics (Table 22), with coarseware fabric F1 dominating the assemblage (69% of the period assemblage by weight). Of the remaining 12%, flint and grog fabrics account for 11% of the pottery by weight; flint with mica 1%, with sandy wares represented by just a single sherd.

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
F	Flint	12/20	0.2	-/-	-/-	-	-
F2	Flint	2/8	0.1	2/8	100	-	-
F3	Flint	393/7092	69.2	14/170	2.4	17	1
F4	Flint	93/1533	15	3/10	0.7	6	1
F5	Flint	35/378	3.7	31//358	94.7	8	8
FG1	Flint and grog	56/851	8.3	-/-	-/-	2	-
FG2	Flint and grog	22/221	2.2	-/-	-/-	1	-

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
FG3	Flint and grog	1/17	0.2	1/17	100	1	-
FM2	Flint with mica	10/97	0.9	7/75	77.3	-	-
FM3	Flint with mica	1/15	0.1	-/-	-/-	-	-
Q1	Sand	1/19	0.2	1/19	100	-	-
TOTAL	-	626/10251	100	-/-	6.4	35	10

Table 22: Quantification of Late Bronze Age pottery by fabric. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified (20 rims, 14 bases, 1 complete profile).

B.4.19 Calcined flint continued to be the preferred additive to potting clays in the Late Bronze Age, though the grade and density of flint varied based on the minimum number of different identifiable rims and bases, the assemblage is estimated to contain fragments of at least 35 different vessels. This includes 21 different rims and 14 bases. Most coarseware rims are flat-topped, rounded, slightly pinched or internally-bevelled, whilst the fineware are more carefully moulded with everted or tapering lips (recorded diameters of 9-36cm). The bases are predominately flat with four having heavy flint gritting on the underside. Three of the fineware bases, however, are of omphalos forms; all probably being from cups.

B.4.20 In total, eight vessels can be reconstructed and assigned to form, which includes 100 sherds (2034g) – 16% of the assemblage by sherd count, or 29% by weight. The forms are all characteristic of Late Bronze Age ceramics of the PDR tradition. The coarsewares comprise five Class I jars (96 sherds, 1900g), including an ovoid jar with distinct rim-zone, decorated with fingertip impressions on the rim-top (Form D, five sherds, 97g); a plain bipartite jar with internally-bevelled rim (Form E, one sherd, 42g); two plain weekly shouldered jars with rim diameters of 15 and 28 cm (Form G, 23 sherds, 551g), and two decorated jars with marked shoulders and concave hollowed necks (Form H, 67 sherds, 1210g). Of the latter, one has a mouth diameter of 25cm decorated with a plain neck cordon, and fingertip impression on the rim-top and shoulder, whilst the other which has a mouth diameter of 20cm and is decorated with fingertip impressions on the rim-top and fingernail impressions on the shoulder.

B.4.21 The remaining three fineware vessels comprise two burnished thin-walled Class VI bowls (two sherds, 15g) and the complete profile of a burnished fineware Class V cup (2 sherds, 119g). The bowls include a fragment of an open hemispherical bowl with mouth diameter of c. 16cm (Form J, one sherd, 16g) and part of a round-bodied bowl with upright neck and mouth diameter of c. 17cm (Form K, 1 sherds, 4g). The cup has a marked shoulder and hollowed neck with mouth diameter of 9cm, and small omphalos base, 2cm in diameter (Form V, two sherds, 119g).

B.4.22 In general, burnished fineware sherds account for just 6% of the pottery, with this form of surface treatment being largely associated with finer grade flint fabrics, namely F5. The burnished sherds are largely plain, but the shoulder of one vessel – almost certainly a bowl – is decorated with horizontal and vertical bands of combined lines (four sherds, 23g). This type of Late Bronze Age fineware decoration has been recorded at a number of sites in Kent and parts of south Essex, for example Highstead (Couldrey 2007) and Mucking (Brudenell 2016).

B.4.23 Coarseware decoration is more prolific and includes cabling, fingertip and nail applications on the rim-top, rim-exterior and shoulder, with a plain neck cordon applied to a jar described above. In total there are 49 decorated sherds (1162g) in the Late Bronze Age assemblage, including the comb decorated fineware. These derive from a maximum of ten different vessels, with decoration on six different coarseware vessel rims. In terms of frequency, this means that over a quarter of vessel rims in the assemblages are ornamented (six of the 21 represented, or 28%), or nearly half of coarsewares rims (six out of 14, or 43%). These figures are very high, and more characteristic of the Earliest Iron Age pottery groups (Brudenell 2012).

B.4.24 Mention must also be made of two rusticated sherds (35g) with a slurry-like slip on their exterior (eclabousée), and a coarseware body sherd in fabric F3 which appears to have a painted brown vertical line on the exterior (13g). Painted pottery is a feature of Early Iron Age assemblages in Kent but is, to the author's knowledge, unknown in Late Bronze Age contexts and is otherwise associated with finewares not coarsewares. It seems unlikely then that this line was deliberately applied, but is possibly a result of something leaning against the pot during firing causing a localised alteration to the colour of the exterior.

B.4.25 Traces of usewear are present in the form of carbonised residues, recorded on a total of 41 sherds (1148g), all of which are coarsewares. Residues are present on the exterior of 35 of these sherds (911g); 25 of which are thin and soot-like (605g), the remainder being thicker possible food crusts. Interior residues are rare with only six sherds (237g) recorded; two thin residual (140g), four thick ones (97g).

Key groups

B.4.26 The quantity of pottery from each pit in Pit Group 2 and 3 varies significantly (Table 23). Small and medium-sized pottery groups were recovered from pits **155**, **159**, **177**, **194**, and **213**, yielding between 2-36 sherds apiece, with MWS ranging from 1.5-12.2g. These tend to be dominated by small sized sherds in varying states of fragmentation, with few rims or bases represented and few refitting sherds identified.

Pit	Pit Group	No. /wt. sherds	Deposit size classification	MNV	MSW (g)	No. refitting sherds	% small sherds	% medium sherds	% large sherds
155	2	30/318	Medium	4	10.6	0	60	40	0
159	2	31/356	Medium	1	11.5	6	84	6	10
166	2	72/3167	V. Large	5	44.0	29	24	47	29
172	2	182/1754	V. Large	7	9.6	20	64	35	1
177	2	36/228	Small	1	6.3	4	83	17	0
181	2	43/924	Large	4	21.5	11	51	37	12
202	2	119/2092	V. Large	7	17.6	27	52	39	9
194	3	2/3	Small	0	1.5	0	100	0	0
205	3	92/1178	V. Large	3	12.8	40	58	35	7
213	3	19/231	Small	3	12.2	4	53	42	5
TOTAL	-	626/10251	-	35	16.4	141	57	35	8

Table 23: Quantification of pottery from Period 3.3: Pit Groups 2 and 3. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified. Deposit size classification: Small, <250g; medium, 251-500g; large 501-1000g; very large 1001g+.

B.4.27 More significant are the large and very large assemblages from pits **166**, **172**, **181**, **202** and **205**. These account for the bulk of the pottery in the assemblage (81% by sherd count, 89% by weight), but have varying attributes. For example, the character and content of the assemblages in pits **172** and **205** is broadly similar to the small groups, in term of MSWs and the portion of small, medium and large sized sherds. The same is true of pottery from pit **181**, though the MSW is notably higher. Pit 205 does, however, have a high number of refitting sherds, most of which relate to a single partially intact, decorated Form H coarseware jar – 51% of the rim circumference being represented (when refitted). The rims and bases of seven different vessels were also recovered from pit **172**, including two other form-assigned vessels.

B.4.28 The group from pit **166** contained some of the largest sherds, as reflected by the very high MSW and percentage of large sherds generally. Many of these are parts of a large vessel base, 27cm in dimeter, which belongs to a coarseware vessel, probably a storage jar. Pit **202** contained the single largest assemblage, and includes fragments of a minimum of seven different vessels. Two of these are partially intact form-assigned coarseware jars (form H and G), about a third of which are represented (based on the serval of 32-37% of the rim circumferences). These were accompanied by a largely complete Form V fineware cup, missing only 30% of the rim. The near complete condition of this vessel is unusual, and raises the question as to whether this pot was deposited with more care and attention than the matrix of other broken ceramics (and other material detritus) interred with it. This is difficult to answer, though deposits with similar characteristics are often classed as 'formal', and the label may be appropriate here.

Early Iron Age pottery

B.4.29 Pottery dating to the Early Iron comprises an assemblage of 444 sherds (7900g), with a high MSW of 17.8g. The pottery derives from 12 Period 4 contexts, relating to five pits in Pit Group 4 (**229**, **299**, **309**, **313**, **336**; 411 sherds, 7701g), and three pits and a ditch from the evaluation in Trenches 83 (pit **27**; ten sherds, 87g), 157 (ditch **80**; two sherds, 13g), 162 (pit **87**; 11 sherds, 60g) and 169 (pit **16**; ten sherds, 39g). The assemblage from Pit Group 4 forms a coherent body of Early Iron Age pottery dating *c*. 600-350 BC.

Assemblage characteristics

B.4.30 Flint remained the ubiquitous additive to potting clays in the Early Iron Age. As with pottery from the preceding periods, the grade and density of flint varies along a spectrum of coarse to fine, and sparse to common, based largely on the size of the vessel and quality of ware. By weight, 72% of the pottery belongs to fabrics group F with burnt flint inclusions, 39% of which belongs to fabrics F3 (Table 24). A quarter of the pottery by weight (24%) is fabric FV1, which is unique to the Early Iron Age assemblage at the site, and contains rare to sparse linear voids from burnt out vegetable matter as well as flint. The clay matrix of these wares is also slightly micaceous, but not as much so as the sherds assigned to the FM fabric groups, which accounts for 4% of the pottery. Other minor fabrics groups represented include single examples of sherds with flint and grog (FG3, 0.1% of the assemblage by weight) and sand (Q1, <0.1% by weight).

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
F1	Flint	3/8	0.1	-/-	-	-	-
F2	Flint	3/56	0.7	-/-	-	-	-
F3	Flint	189/3055	38.7	8/196	6.4	12	2

Fabric	Fabric group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
F4	Flint	155/2294	29.0	11/224	9.8	4	3
F5	Flint	29/247	3.1	24/209	84.6	1	1
FG3	Flint and grog	1/9	0.1	-/-	-	-	-
FM2	Flint with mica	5/258	3.3	-/-	-	1	-
FM3	Flint with mica	3/32	0.4	-/-	-	-	-
FM4	Flint with mica	1/8	0.1	1/8	100.0	-	-
FV1	Flint and veg.	54/1930	24.4	17/453	23.5	5	2
Q1	Sand	1/3	<0.1	-/-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	444/7900	99.9	61/1090	13.8	23	8

Table 24: Quantification of Early Iron Age pottery by fabric. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified (15 rims, 8 bases).

B.4.31 Based on the minimum number of different identifiable rims and bases, the assemblage is estimated to contain fragments of at least 23 different vessels. This includes 15 different rims and eight bases. Rim forms vary, with flat-topped, expanded, beaded, bevelled and hooked varieties recorded (recorded diameters of 14-32cm). Most, however, are relatively simple, being flat-topped and slightly expanded or rounded externally. The base forms are all flat, with no omphalos, foot-ring or pedestal varieties present. Two of the bases have heavy flint gritting on the underside, which is common to both Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pots.

B.4.32 In total, the partial profiles of eight vessels can be reconstructed and assigned to form, which includes 63 sherds weighing 2292g – 14% of the assemblage by sherd count, or 29% by weight (figures very similar to the Late Bronze Age). The forms are all fairly common of the Early Iron Age, and include two burnished Class IV fineware bowls, one decorated burnished Class II fineware jar, and five plain Class I coarseware jars.

B.4.33 The fineware bowls comprise a round-bodied vessel with rim diameter of 14cm (Form K, three sherds, 11g), and a bipartite bowl with tool impressed shoulder (Form M, 1 sherds, 5g). The Class II fineware jar is a buff coloured weakly shoulder ovoid vessel (Form G, nine sherds, 133g) decorated with horizontal combing on the shoulder, and with a mouth diameter of 23cm. The form-assigned Class I coarseware jars have similar rim diameters ranging from 24-32cm. These include two bipartite jars (Form E, 21 sherds, 672g), an ovoid vessel with distinct rim (Form D, four sherds 257g), and two round-shouldered jars (Form F, 25 sherds, 1214g), one of which has heavy wiping below the neck. This wiping created a rusticated effect to the body of the jar, and some sherds from the lower walls possibly have clay slurry wiped across the exterior.

B.4.34 This heavy wiping and/or slurry effect (eclabousée) is recorded on 31 sherds (1308g), and is a feature of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age ceramics in Kent. Burnishing is found on 61 sherds (1090g), representing 14% of the pottery by both sherd count and weight. A further 20 sherds (721g) can also be described as smoothed, though this treatment may not have been deliberate. In general, burnishing and smoothing tends to be more common on sherds with finer grade fabrics, for example F5.

B.4.35 Decoration is restricted to just 19 sherds (408g), relating to a maximum of 14 different vessels. Eight sherds (311g) display combining on the shoulder or body, and one shoulder sherd has tool impressions (5g). The remaining ten sherds are red-finished, burnished haematite coated sherds (92g), two of which (40g) are from the rim of a

flared-necked vessel, probably a bowl. Red-finished pottery forms a small component of many Early Iron Age assemblages in Kent and other parts of southern and south-east England, but is rare elsewhere.

Key Groups

B.4.36 The vast majority of the Early Iron Age pottery derived from Pit Group 4, the material from which forms a coherent and contemporary assemblage. In total the group contains 411 sherds, weighing 7701g. This represents 93% of the Early Iron Age assemblage by sherd count, or 97% by weight. The quantification of pottery from different pits in Pit Groups 4 is given below in Table 25.

Pit	No. /wt. sherds	Deposit size classification	MNV	MSW (g)	No. refitting sherds	% small sherds	% medium sherds	% large Sherds
229	1/9	Small	0	9.0	0	0	100	0
299	335/6520	V. Large	15	19.5	53	50	39	11
309	30/665	Large	3	22.2	6	53	37	10
313	15/128	Small	0	8.5	0	67	27	6
336	30/379	Medium	3	12.6	0	63	30	7
TOTAL	411/7701	-	21	18.7	59	51	38	11

Table 25: Quantification of pottery from Period 4: Pit Group 4. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified. Deposit size classification: Small, <250g; medium, 251-500g; large 501-1000g; very large 1001g+.

B.4.37 Pits **299**, **313** and **336** contained small to medium sized assemblages, with pit **229** yielding just a single sherd. Pottery from these features was characterised by mixed groups of predominately small sherds, with MSWs of 8.5-12.6g. Few rim and base sherds are represented and no refitting sherds are identified. The largest groups of pottery were recovered from pit **313** and **309**. In terms of composition – as reflected by the MSWs, the relative percentages of small, medium and large sized sherds, and the proportion of refitting sherds in each group – both assemblages are very similar. These are characterised by a much higher proportion larger, 'fresh' sherds, and include fragments of multiple different vessels. Pit **299** contained fragments of five of the eight form assigned vessels from the overall Early Iron Age assemblage, with pit **309** yielding two of the other three. Whilst none of these pots are intact, the rim circumferences of the form-assigned vessels in **299** were between 20-48% complete (when refitted), indicating that substantial parts of these vessels were represented/deposited. Interestingly, some of these refitting sherds have been differentially transformed by heat post-vessel breakage, i.e. there are refitting burnt and un-burnt sherds. This may have resulted from vessels breaking whilst in use during cooking on hearths. The fact that all fragments were deposited alongside multiple parts of other pots suggest they were probably incorporated into a midden with other ceramic refuse prior to deposition in the pits.

Discussion

B.4.38 By contemporary standards, the prehistoric pottery assemblage from Thanington is relatively modest in size, but is well preserved, contains a number of partial vessels profiles and more importantly, is associated with five relevant radiocarbon dates.

B.4.39 The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age assemblages are all small, and reflect the periodic use of the site over the course of the fourth to second millennium BC. Early Neolithic

wares, Peterborough Ware and Beaker are all represented in small quantities, which is typical of many 'domestic' sites. The Middle Bronze Age assemblage, however, is slightly larger, and undoubtedly belongs to the Deverel-Rimbury tradition. The pottery is characterised by coarse flint tempered wares and bucket-shaped vessels, which are common to large parts of southern Britain. The largest group of pottery – from Ditch 3 (105 sherds, 1938g) – is associated with a radiocarbon date of 1437-1296 Cal. BC (SUERC-76181; 3312±27 BP); a date which places the material firmly in the middle of the known currency of Deverel-Rimbury ceramics. This date add to a growing number of radiocarbon determinations for the tradition in Kent (Champion 2011, 158, Table 4.2), which span the period been c. 1600-1150 BC.

B.4.40 The Late Bronze Age assemblage forms a coherent group of material derived from Pit Groups 2 and 3. The material is characterised by flint tempered coarsewares and finewares belonging to jars, bowls and cups, typical of the Post Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition in southern Britain (Barrett 1980; Brudenell 2012). Both Pit Groups are associated with radiocarbon dates, with determinations achieved for pits **166** (907-807 Cal. BC; SUERC-76175; 2705±29 BP), **202** (976-828 Cal. BC; SUERC-76180; 2756±29 BP) and **205** (895-791 Cal. BC; SUERC-76176; 2650±29 BP). Combined, this provides a scientific date for 45% of the Late Bronze Age assemblage by sherd count or 63% by weight (283 sherds, 6437g).

B.4.41 The dates have not been subject to modelling, but all fall within a 10th-9th century BC bracket, and therefore within the accepted currency of Post Deverel-Rimbury 'Plainwares' (Needham 2007). This makes them broadly contemporary with published pottery groups from Monkton Court Farm (Macpherson-Grant 1994), Highstead (Couldrey 2007), Cobham Golf Course and White Horse Stone from the High Speed 1 Scheme (Champion 2011), Cliffs End Farm (Leivers 2014), and Zones 4, 7 and 12 along the East Kent Access Scheme (Leivers 2015). Interestingly, the assemblage here contains a relatively high proportion of decorated wares, which makes the 'Plainware' label seem somewhat inappropriate, even though there can be no doubt about the Late Bronze Age attribution. Indeed, the levels of decoration at Thanington are more in line with that associated with Early Iron Age 'Decorated wares', whilst the forms are typically Late Bronze Age. This raises the question of how relevant the 'Plainware' label is for some Late Bronze Age ceramics from Kent, and echoes some of the conclusion reached from the detailed analysis of material at Cliffs End Farm. Whether these trends represent local variations in Kent are difficult to judge at present, but it is entirely possible that there are subtle regional differences in the character of Post Deverel-Rimbury ceramics that are only just starting to be recognised (Brudenell 2012).

B.4.42 On typo-chronological grounds The Early Iron Age pottery from Thanington dates to c. 600-350, which is again, broadly confirmed by the radiocarbon date achieved for the largest assemblage from pit **299** (536-387 Cal. BC; SUERC-76182; 2365±29 BP). The pottery is characterised by fragments of a series of medium and jar-sized vessels, some of which are decorated and rusticated. Finewares are also present, and include a small number of red-finished haematite coated sherds. The assemblage is typical of the period and region, and falls within the Cunliffe's Higstead-Dolland's Moor style (2005, 103), and includes what Macpherson-Grant has called the 'East Kent Rusticated Tradition' (1989; 1991). The material can be paralleled with recently published groups from Tolgate from the High Speed 1 Scheme (Champion 2011), and Zones 6, 13, 19 on the along the East Kent Access Scheme (Leivers 2015).

Recommendations

B.4.43 A publication arising from this project should include a summary of the prehistoric pottery, focussing on the later material from the Middle and Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. All form-assigned vessels from radiocarbon dated pits should be illustrated. This comprises ten vessels, likely to fill 1.5-2 A4 pages. The illustrations should be accompanied by a short catalogue.

B.4.44 All the prehistoric pottery should be retained as part of the project archive.

B.5 Post-Roman pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

B.5.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage of pottery, 14 sherds, weighing 0.162kg, recovered from two quarries, a pit, a single ditch and a tree bole, all within Area 1 (Table 26). A single medieval feature produced late medieval pottery. The majority of the features are in Period 5 (medieval and later) and the pottery is mostly residual. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded to abraded and the average sherd weight is low at approximately 0.010kg.

Methodology

B.5.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG 1998) act as standards. Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system, based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all sherds, using the Kent ceramic codes, supplied by John Cotter, although fabric identification is tentative. All sherds have been counted, classified, minimum number of vessels (MNV) established, and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) has been established, where possible. The assemblage is recorded in the catalogue at the end of this report. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or dispersal.

Sampling bias

B.5.3 The excavation was carried out by hand, and selection made through standard sampling strategies, on a feature by feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases.

Assemblage

B.5.4 Five post-Roman fabric types were identified: two early medieval, one late medieval and one post-medieval; the bulk of these sherds are Canterbury fabrics. The final fabric, an abraded coarse quartz-tempered type, was not identified. The full catalogue is recorded in Table 26.

B.5.5 A Period 1 tree bole, **275**, produced two sherds of pottery: an abraded undiagnostic body sherd, tentatively identified as Canterbury-type sandy ware (EM1), the second sherd is a fragment from a strap handle, most likely from a post-medieval red earthenware (PM1) jug c.1550-1800. The feature also produced two fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) of probable post-medieval date. Ditch **334** in Period 5 contained an undiagnostic body sherd of Canterbury-type fine earthenware (LM2) c.1475-1525/50, alongside a possible post-medieval tile fragment.

B.5.6 The bulk of the assemblage was recovered from Period 5 features, of which the assemblage from pit **322** contained four sherds of Canterbury-type sandy ware (EM1), from three different vessels. These consist of a single body sherd with a remnant of a thumbed applied strip, an undecorated body sherd and a rim sherd from a jar, and lastly a jug sherd with traces of glaze surviving. Canterbury-type sandy ware (EM1), includes glazed jugs in the 12th century (John Cotter *pers comm*).

B.5.7 The remaining sherds were recovered from quarries **307** and **411**. Quarry **307** contained sherds of both Canterbury-type sandy ware (EM1), recovered from fill 308, and rim sherds from a sooted Early medieval shelly-sandy ware (EM3) jar (c.1075-1225/50) from fill 321. The second quarry, **411**, contained a single sherd of Canterbury-type sandy ware (EM1) and an unidentified, heavily abraded, oxidised sandy ware sherd. Both quarries also produced CBM assemblages that included Roman material.

Discussion

B.5.8 The small and fragmentary assemblage of post-Roman pottery is domestic in origin, with sooted vessel sherds indicating the preparation of food. Pottery dates range from the late 11th to mid 16th century, with the overall assemblage being medieval. The assemblage indicates low levels of medieval pottery distributed across the site. Additionally, the largest medieval sherds were recovered as a residual element in quarry **307**, therefore none of the material should be considered as primary deposition. Although the pottery identifications are tentative for some sherds, the paucity of post-Roman pottery indicates this material is mostly background noise. This indicates medieval activity in the vicinity of the excavated area, the assemblage being indicative of domestic occupation rubbish spread over fields, most likely through manuring.

Post Roman pottery catalogue

Period	Cxt.	Cut	Fabric and form	MNV	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
1	276	**275**	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy, abraded undiagnostic body sherd (oxidised surfaces, dull pale-brown core).	1	1	0.009	1075-1225
			PM1 Post-medieval red earthenware small abraded thickened strap handle sherd with traces of honey coloured glaze.	1	1	0.003	1550-1850
6	308	**307**	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy, abraded undiagnostic body sherd (oxidised surfaces, reduced core).	1	1	0.010	1075-1225
			EM3: Early medieval shelly-sandy ware rim sherds (240mm diameter EVE 24%). Everted, near-square rim with slight external bevel. Externally and internally sooted on body, moderately abraded.	1	2	0.087	1075 -1225/50
6	323	**322**	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy, abraded body sherd (oxidised surfaces, dull pale-brown core) from a jug, traces of glaze survive.	1	1	0.008	1100-1225
			EM1 Canterbury-type sandy, moderately abraded body sherd and rim sherd, everted near square rim (oxidised surfaces, reduced core).	1	2	0.012	1075-1225
			EM1 Canterbury-type sandy, moderately abraded body sherd. Traces of thumbed applied strip, possibly from a jar (slightly oxidised surfaces, otherwise reduced).	1	1	0.007	
5	335	**334**	LM2 Canterbury-type fine earthenware, (smooth oxidised fabric) moderately abraded to abraded undiagnostic body	1	1	0.004	1475-1525/50

Period	Cxt.	Cut	Fabric and form	MNV	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
			sherd.				
6	413	**411**	EM1 Canterbury-type sandy, moderately abraded undiagnostic body sherd (slightly oxidised surfaces, otherwise reduced).	1	1	0.010	1075-1225
			Unidentified fabric, oxidised coarse sandy ware, heavily abraded body sherd.	1	2	0.012	Not closely datable
Total				**11**	**15**	**0.166**	

Table 26: Post-Roman pottery catalogue

B.6 Clay tobacco pipe

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.6.1 A single fragment of white ball clay tobacco pipe, weighing 0.001kg, was recovered during archaeological works. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald's simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41), and Hind and Crummy (Crummy 1988, 47-66). Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text. The clay tobacco pipe and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or deselection.

Methodology

B.6.2 From evaluation Trench 151, post hole **107**, Period 5, a single abraded fragment of undecorated clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered. It is 27mm long and slightly oval, 6.1 x 6.4mm. Part of the stem side is missing, revealing a clean, wide bore placed off-centre towards the narrowest point of the stem. The fragment was recovered alongside post-medieval ceramic building material, and is not closely datable.

Discussion

B.6.3 The fragment of clay tobacco pipe recovered represents what is most likely a casually discarded broken pipe. However, the unstained and non-blackened nature of the piece suggests it was, perhaps, deliberately broken to shorten the length of the original stem. Recovered from a post hole that forms part of what is described as modern hop garden activity, the pipe fragment does little other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on or near the site, most likely in the 19th century.

Retention, dispersal and display

B.6.4 The fragmentary nature of the total assemblage means it is of little significance. The clay tobacco pipe may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

B.7 Ceramic building material

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.7.1 A moderate assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM), 41 fragments weighing 2.735kg, was recovered from pits, ditches and quarry pits across Area 1. A single fragment of CBM weighing 0.001kg was also found in a tree bole in Area 2. The CBM recovered from the evaluation was recorded from features outside the areas of excavation, and is discussed by Levermore (2017a).

B.7.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, counted, weighed, and form recorded, where this was identifiable. Only complete dimensions were recorded, which was most commonly thickness. All fabrics are fully recorded, with descriptions given in Table 27. In total 17 CBM fabrics were identified during the excavation, including four previously seen during the evaluation. Fabric descriptions A-F are based on those defined by Levermore (2017a) in the evaluation report. The Archaeological Ceramic Building Material Group (ACBMG) *Minimum Standards for Recovery Curation Analysis and Publication* acts as a standard, Brodribb (1987) forms the basis of identification for Roman CBM types and McComish (2015) does so for later tiles. Dating is uncertain where the form is unclear.

Assemblage

B.7.3 The small assemblage of CBM is generally moderately abraded, except for two fragments that are heavily abraded, smoothed as if waterworn. Most of the assemblage consists of fragments of tile of various dates from Roman to post-medieval, with much of the material being not closely datable (Table 28). Fabric type alone is a somewhat unreliable guide to dating, with Fabric A proving to be relatively unchanged over time, occurring in both Roman and post-medieval forms. Fabric A is also overwhelmingly dominant in this assemblage, forming 40% by weight. These facts might suggest that the source material of this fabric was local to the site.

B.7.4 Period 1 tree bole **275**, Period 3.2 ditch **455** and Period 5 ditches **211**, **334** and **352** all produced fragments of undiagnostic CBM or tile that is not closely datable but most likely to be post-medieval.

B.7.5 Period 5 features produced the largest assemblage of CBM, recovered from several pits and quarries, some features containing both Roman and medieval or post-medieval material. Pit **317** contained a single fragment of abraded Roman tile, alongside a fragment from a tin-glazed earthenware wall/fireplace tile (*c*.1500-1800) and tile fragments that are also likely to be post-medieval. Pit **405** produced post-medieval tile fragments.

B.7.6 The bulk of the assemblage was recovered from the quarries. Quarry pit **307** produced five fragments from a minimum of four Roman brick/tile(s), including two fragments from a probable tegula with part of a finger signature. Also present is a fragment of late medieval or post-medieval peg tile.

B.7.7 Of particular interest is a fragment of Roman *tegula mammata* Type A with a single surviving *mamma*, recovered from quarry pit **411**. This form of tile is rectangular, with a variable number (usually four) of shallow bosses or *mammae* attached to the surface, and it is thought that these aided in bonding tile courses or floor tiles (Brodribb 1987 62). The quarry pit also produced two further fragments of tile that are possibly Roman.

B.7.8 From quarry pit **442**, a fragment of what may be Roman tile was recovered, that has a surviving corner with an angle of approximately 120°, which is unusual, and far too great for almost all forms of tile in this period. The only example of Roman ceramic tiles with these angles comes from Crookhorn in Hampshire, where heptagonal roof tiles (*tegula pavonis*) were recovered that would match this corner (Soffe *et al.* 1989 74). Although the thickness of the Crookhorn heptagonal tiles is not mentioned, it can be safely assumed that they are in the range of standard *tegulae* from the same kiln, around 23mm. The fragment from Thannington was originally at least 28mm deep, although tegulae have been recorded with thicknesses in excess of 30mm (McComish 2012 252). This identification of a heptagonal tile is tentative. Otherwise, the function of this particular tile, with its unusual corner angle, is unknown.

B.7.9 Quarry **444** contained a single fragment of Roman brick/tile 38mm thick, alongside fragments of glazed medieval or late-medieval roof tile and late-medieval or post-medieval tile.

Discussion

B.7.10 A fragmentary and mixed assemblage of CBM was recovered from the excavation, mostly pieces of roof tile of probable post-medieval date with some medieval or late-medieval material. There are also some significant Roman components that most likely originate from buildings in the hinterland of Canterbury (*Durovernum Cantiacorum*). The relatively low levels of abrasion for much of the Roman material suggests its presence was not the result of night soil distribution. The medieval and later CBM indicates the presence of other structures, however, these were not located within the excavated area. The Roman CBM was possibly reused in the medieval period as building material or hardcore and subsequently deposited within the features, alongside the later post-medieval material.

Retention, dispersal and display

B.7.11 The fragmentary nature of the total assemblage means it is of little significance. However, the more unusual fragments of Roman CBM or probable Roman CBM should be retained. The remainder of the CBM assemblage may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

CBM fabrics

Fabric code	Description	% of assemblage by weight
A	Orange silty fabric with occasional rounded quartz and flint, rare rounded quartz pebbles, ironstone flecks or voids	40
C	Light orange/buff silty fabric with occasional calcareous flecks, ironstone flecks and irregular yellow clay pellets	1.7
Cv1	Fabric C, variant with considerably fewer voids	0.6
D	Light orange silty fabric with rare rounded voids	2.5
E	Mid to dark orange fine sandy fabric with occasional calcareous flecks	10.2
Fv1	Orange-brown coarse fabric with frequent rounded quartz grains, variant with rougher surfaces and occasional voids	9.7
H	Pale pink smooth silty fabric with rare tiny calcareous and tiny voids	<0.01
I	Pale brick red gritty fabric with frequent tiny quartz grains throughout and rare calcareous specks. Core slightly brighter than margins, lower surface appears gritted	1.5
J	Cream silty fabric with rare red grog, glazed white upper and sanded lower surface	6.6
K	Pale orange sandy fabric with dark grey core. Frequent clear and white tiny quartz grains, rare calcareous specks, occasional mica	3.7
Kv1	Fabric K, variant with duller outer surfaces and green-glazed upper, glaze sometimes yellower	12.4
Kv2	Fabric K, variant with rare pale grog	1.1
L	Brick red gritty fabric with frequent tiny quartz grains (clear, iron-stained and milky) and moderate red grog and rare mica	0.9
M	Brick red, high fired, slightly gritty fabric with occasional quartz, mica and calcareous specks. Outer surfaces reduced or discoloured in use	0.9
N	Brick red slightly gritty fabric with moderate extremely fine quartz and rare irregular voids	4.3
O	Pale orange silty fabric, paler buff surfaces and mixed mid grey and very pale yellow core. Extremely mixed, laminar and swirled. Inclusions are frequent overall and give the fragments a mottled appearance from almost any angle. Rare quartz grains, frequent grog of varying colours, occasional	4.1

Fabric code	Description	% of assemblage by weight
	calcareous grains, occasional black grains, possibly ironstone. All inclusions are rounded or sub-rounded	

Table 27: CBM fabrics

CBM catalogue

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Fabric code	CBM Description and Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Date
212	211	5	H	Small fragment of moderately abraded CBM, single surviving surface/edge	1	0.001	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
276	275	1	A	Small fragment of moderately abraded CBM, single surviving surface/edge	1	0.003	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			C	Small fragment of moderately abraded roof tile, two surviving surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 10mm thick	1	0.011	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
308	307	5	I	Small fragment of moderately abraded roof tile, two surviving surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 10-11mm thick	1	0.013	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			A	Two refitting fragments of moderately abraded brick/tile with a surviving surface and two short lengths of edge, joined by a corner. Slightly redder than other most examples of Fabric A. Overfired or slightly burned on surface near corner. Arc of finger signature on surface	2	0.203	Roman
			A	Small fragment of moderately abraded brick/tile with tiny areas of two surfaces surviving	1	0.025	Roman?
			A	Fragment of moderately abraded brick/tile with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. Fabric has a thick, redder core. 25-30mm thick	1	0.203	Roman?
			Cv1	Small fragment of moderately abraded ?tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces, finger groove on upper surface. Lower surface sanded. 20-22mm thick	1	0.017	Roman?
			K	Small sub-rectangular fragment of moderately abraded tile with surviving upper and lower surfaces and one edge. Lower surface sanded. 9mm thick	1	0.014	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			K	Small sub-rectangular fragment of peg tile with surviving upper and lower surfaces and a portion of a	1	0.019	Medieval/post-medieval

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Fabric code	CBM Description and Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Date
				nail hole. Lower surface sanded. 11-12mm thick			
318	317	5	E	Moderately-sized triangular fragment of extremely abraded tile. 20mm thick	1	0.076	Roman?
			J	Corner fragment of moderately abraded wall tile. Tin-Glazed Earthenware. 19mm thick	1	0.190	Post-medieval
			I	Sub-triangular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. Fabric has intermittent dark grey core. 11mm thick	1	0.020	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			C	Sub-rectangular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 12mm thick	1	0.016	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			A	Sub-triangular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 9mm thick	1	0.010	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			A	Sub-rectangular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 12mm thick	1	0.017	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
335	334	5	A	Sub-rectangular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 9-11mm thick	1	0.007	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
353	352	5	A	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 9mm thick	1	0.022	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
406	405	5	L	Sub-rectangular fragment of abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 14mm thick	1	0.015	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			L	Sub-rectangular fragment of abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 11mm thick	1	0.012	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			A	Sub-triangular fragment of abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 12mm thick	1	0.015	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			N	Sub-rectangular corner fragment of slightly abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces and part of two edges. Lower surface sanded. 10mm thick	1	0.100	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Fabric code	CBM Description and Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Date
			N	Sub-triangular fragment of slightly abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. Has a dark grey core. 12mm thick	1	0.024	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			M	Sub-rectangular corner fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces and part of two edges. Lower surface sanded. 12mm thick	1	0.025	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
			D	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. 12mm thick	1	0.043	Not closely datable, but likely to be post-medieval
413	411	5	A	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces. Lower surface sanded. Has an intermittent dark grey core. 23mm thick	1	0.027	Not closely datable, possibly Roman
			A	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces and part of edge. Lower surface sanded. Curved finger signature on upper surface. Has an intermittent dark grey core. 23mm thick	1	0.070	Not closely datable, possibly Roman
			A	Sub-rectangular fragment of moderately abraded *Tegula mammata* with single surviving boss. About 80% of the single *mamma* survives and was probably originally oval, 55 x 40mm and 22mm deep. *Tegula mammata* Type A (Brodribb 1987 62). Fabric thickness is divided into three equal layers with a darker red core. The same fabric is seen in post-medieval tiles. 36-38mm thick	1	0.502	Roman
443	442	5	E	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with partial surviving upper surface and part of two edges, joined at an obtuse corner of approximately 120-130 degrees. 28mm+ thick	1	0.220	Roman?
446	444	5	Kv1	Irregular fragments of moderately abraded tile, surviving glazed upper and sanded lower surfaces, with single partial edge on each. 12-13mm thick	5	0.279	Late Medieval/ post-medieval
			Kv1	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded tile, surviving glazed upper and	1	0.079	Late Medieval/ post-medieval

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Fabric code	CBM Description and Form	Count	Weight (kg)	Date
				sanded lower surfaces, with two partial edges joined at a right-angle. 10-12mm thick			
			Fv1	Irregular fragment of slightly abraded tile, partial surviving upper and lower surfaces and part of one edge. Possibly a fragment of *pedalis*. 38mm thick	1	0.279	Roman?
447			K	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded peg tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces and a single hole. Lower surface sanded. Fabric has darker surfaces, thinner margins, and a thicker grey core. The oval hole tapers slightly from upper to lower, 15-12mm, and appears to have been cut rather than pressed through; 12mm from surviving tile edge. 15mm thick	1	0.074	Late Medieval/ post-medieval
			A	Sub-rectangular fragment of moderately abraded tile, with surviving upper and lower surfaces and part of one edge. Lower surface sanded. 13mm thick	1	0.044	Late Medieval/ post-medieval
			D	Irregular fragment of slightly abraded brick/tile, appears spalled. Fabric exhibits darker red patches	1	0.016	Late Medieval/ post-medieval
			Kv2	Irregular fragment of moderately abraded brick/tile, slightly purple in places, with a single surviving surface	1	0.033	Not closely datable
456	455	3.2	D	Sub-rectangular corner fragment of moderately abraded thin tile. 8mm thick	1	0.012	Not closely datable, probably post-medieval
Total					48	2.891	

Table 28: CBM catalogue

B.8 Fired clay

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.8.1 A fragmentary assemblage of structural fired clay/daub, 84 pieces weighing 3.229kg, was recovered from Period 4, pit **299** in excavation Area 1 (Table 29). The material appears to be Early Iron Age, based upon the pottery from this feature. Pit **299** was the number assigned to the remaining portion of a feature, which had been part-excavated as pit **39** in Trench 76 during the evaluation phase. Additionally, small amounts of fired clay were recovered from pit **202** in Area 2 and tree bole **449** in Area 1, the latter close to pit **39**/**299**. Also recovered was a piece of a ceramic spindle whorl, found in Area 2, pit **172**.

B.8.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, counted, weighed and form recorded, where this was identifiable. The single fabric for the structural fired clay/daub is described (after Levermore 2017b). In total, the assemblage of fired clay consists of 124 fragments weighing 4.483kg, 99% of which by weight came from pit **39**/**299**.

Assemblage: fired clay spindle whorl

B.8.3 The sole fired clay object is a fragment of a ceramic spindle whorl, a Danebury Type 3b (Poole 1984 402 fig. 7.46, 7.39), recovered from Period 3.3 pit **172** in Area 2. Approximately a third of the spindle whorl survives, weighing 6g. The original weight was probably 18-20g which puts it at the lower end in the lighter Danebury group (18-28g) (Poole 1984, 401).

B.8.4 The spindle whorl Indicates the spinning of wool or other fibres on the site in the Iron Age, most likely within a domestic setting. The spindle whorl was found alongside Late Bronze Age pottery, suggesting it is intrusive in the feature.

Catalogue:

> SF70 Fragment of biconical spindle whorl, upper portion slightly larger than lower. Spindle hole appears cylindrical, slight evidence of polishing. Danebury Type 3b (Poole 1984 402 fig7.46, 7.39), Iron Age. Fabric is a black, fine silty clay with rare mica and moderate sub-angular calcareous (possibly calcite) inclusions and moderate sub-rounded quartz grains. Height 18mm, diameter 35mm, spindle hole 6mm, weight 6g. Period 3.3 Pit Group 2, 172, 173.

Assemblage: structural fired clay/daub

B.8.1 The moderate assemblage of fired clay from **39**/**299** is moderately abraded. It consists of pieces of structural fired clay/daub that seem to have been burnt, being both hardened and heat-discoloured in some instances. Generally, the colour is an even buff, with more deeply-fired examples shading from orange through reds to dull purple and reduced black in places. The fired clay is all in a fine silty clay with rare mica, rounded, sub-rounded and sub-angular flints less than 8mm, and occasional dark grits. Throughout the fabric, small voids of varying shapes and sizes appear to represent vegetable matter used as temper and subsequently burnt out. Straw or grass impressions are also visible on some broken surfaces.

B.8.2 Over half of the material exhibits diagnostic features, such as smoothed surface(s), wattle/withy impressions or both. Three pieces show the clear pattern of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) bark, indicating that this was the wood used in construction. From the evaluation, the largest piece of this daub appears to be a fragment from the top of a wall. Where the clay from two parallel faces have been rounded and smoothed together, within its perpendicular break is a large wattle impression running the length of this fragment (Levermore 2017b).

B.8.3 A substantial assemblage of Early Iron Age pottery, 337 sherds weighing 5.892kg, was recovered during the excavation of pit **299**; this can be considered to date the structural fired clay. During the evaluation, a smaller, very similar assemblage of pottery was recovered from the part of the feature excavated as pit **39** in Trench 76 This portion contained 94 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery, weighing 1.699kg; in total the feature produced 431 sherds, weighing 7.591kg. Pit **39**/**299** which is part of Phase 4 Pit Group 4, also produced a substantial assemblage of burnt flint. The other pits in the group, **313** and **336**, both contained small assemblages of Early Iron Age pottery and burnt flint, but no fired clay.

B.8.4 Despite being from different periods and areas of the site, the small amounts of undiagnostic fired clay from pit **202** and tree bole **449** both appear to be made from the same fabric as that found in pit **39**/**299**. Examination by hand lens and microscope found no observable differences.

Discussion

B.8.5 In total, 115 fragments of structural fired clay/daub (4.424kg) were recovered from pit **39**/**299**, including a piece identified by Levermore (2017b) as being from the top of a wall. The section through the excavated pit, from which the material was recovered, shows the layer of fired clay above a substantial deposit of Early Iron Age pottery, 431 sherds, weighing 7.593kg. Levermore proposes that the poor and patchy firing of the fired clay suggests that it may have been part of a wall structure which had been burnt unintentionally. However, it may have been burnt deliberately, and may form a placed deposit, with the fired clay being used to seal the pottery deposit below.

B.8.6 The type of structure from which the fired clay originates is uncertain, and no settlement evidence, in the form of post holes and/or ring gullies, was found dating to the Iron Age, although it seems unlikely that the daub would have been moved far from its original location. A considerable quantity of burnt unworked flint, 229 pieces weighing 13.035kg, was also recovered from pit **39**/**299**. The quantities of daub, pottery and burnt flint, in what was a relatively small and shallow pit, strongly suggest considered action in the placement of deposits, perhaps in the form of a 'closure' ritual.

B.8.7 The small quantities of fired clay found in pit **202** and tree bole **449** were probably introduced to the features accidentally and are likely to be of little significance.

Retention, dispersal and display

B.8.8 The spindle whorl Sf 70 should be retained. The more structural pieces of fired clay and those with the hazel bark impressions should also be retained. The remainder of the fired clay assemblage may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

Fired clay catalogue

Cxt.	Cut	CBM Description and Form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
41	**39**	Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with no diagnostic features such as surface(s) and/or wattle impressions	16	0.259	Pottery is Early Iron Age
		Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with a portion of one or more surfaces	2	0.039	
		Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with wattle impressions	3	0.068	
		Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with both a portion of one or more surfaces and wattle impressions	10	0.829	
204	**202**	Fragments of undiagnostic fired clay	4	0.039	Pottery is Late Bronze Age
300	**299**	Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with no diagnostic features such as surface(s) and/or wattle impressions	33	0.552	Pottery is Early Iron Age
		Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with a portion of one or more surfaces	8	0.203	
		Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with wattle impressions	16	0.612	
		Fragments of structural fired clay/daub with both a portion of one or more surfaces and wattle impressions	27	1.862	

Cxt.	Cut	CBM Description and Form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
450	**449**	Fragments of undiagnostic fired clay	5	0.020	Not closely datable
Total			**124**	**4.483**	

*Table 29: Fired clay from pit **39**/**299***

Appendix C. Environmental Reports

C.1 Faunal remains

By Haley Foster

Introduction and methodology

C.1.1 The animal bone from New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent, represents a small assemblage of faunal remains weighing 6.5kg in total. There are 120 fragments recorded, most of which are from articulated animal skeletons (Tables 31 and 32). 105 fragments are from hand-collection and 15 are from environmental samples. Bone was recovered from three pits (pit **277**, **405** and **442**) and one ditch **186**. The species represented include cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep (*Ovis aries*), horse (*Equus cabullus*), pig (*Sus scrofa*) and a fish vertebra, likely belonging to a gadiform. All faunal remains dated to the Post-medieval/modern period (Period 5), except the single fish vertebrae from the Middle Bronze Age (phase 3.2).

C.1.2 The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which is modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972), von den Driesch (1976) were used where necessary. Ribs and vertebrae (except the atlas and axis) were not included in the quantification.

C.1.3 Two methods of ageing were implemented when analysing the mammalian bone remains. These methods include observing dental eruption and wear and epiphyseal fusion. When analysing tooth wear of sheep/goat, tooth wear stages by Payne (1973 and 1987) were implemented. Tooth wear stages by Grant (1982) were implemented when assessing wear for cattle and pig. Higham (1967) mandibular wear stages (MWS) were assigned to loose mandibular M3s and mandibles with the innermost tooth still present. The Higham wear stages are used to estimate a minimum age of an individual animal. The state of epiphyseal fusion is determined by examining the metaphysis and diaphysis of a bone. Fusion was recorded according Silver (1970) and Schmid (1972) for cattle, sheep and pig.

C.1.4 Taphonomic changes including butchery, burning and gnawing were noted where applicable.

C.1.5 Measurements were taken according to the specifications of von den Driesch (1976), Payne and Bull (1988) and Davis (1992).

Results of analysis

C.1.6 The faunal remains from Thanington are largely in good condition with fair preservation. There is no evidence of butchery, burning or gnawing, however the material from pit **422** exhibits minimal evidence of weathering and root etching.

C.1.7 Pit **277** contains the remains of two articulated sheep skeletons that were heavily truncated. The majority of the main skeletal elements are present and in good condition. From the ageing data the mandible wear indicates both animals aged between 6-12 months of age at death. The mandibles are fragmentary but still contain the deciduous fourth premolar. The epiphyseal fusion data corroborates this range as the acetabulum of the pelves are unfused indicating animals of 6-10 months of age at death. A single fragment belonging to a pig came from the same pit. Material from this pit weights 1.2kg in total.

C.1.8 Pit **405** contains the partial remains of one articulated cattle skeleton that was heavily truncated. The remains are somewhat fragmentary with several fresh breaks. Ageing from epiphyseal fusion indicates an animal less than 3-4 years of age at death. All vertebrae consist of unfused bodies and femora contain unfused epiphyses. Material from this pit weighs 4.3kg in total.

C.1.9 Pit **442** contained the cranium of a horse. The cranium was in excellent condition with very little fragmentation. The loose teeth recovered, were from the maxilla of the same animal. Metrical data can be in Table 30.

Measurement	mm
Greatest Inner Length of Orbit	56.34
Greatest Inner Height of Orbit	50.24
Length of Diastema	77.11
Length of Cheek tooth row	155.85
Length of Molar row	75.18
Length of Premolar row	85.92
Least Breadth in the Region of the Diastema	53.10

*Table 30: Measurements from horse cranium from pit **442***

C.1.10 Ditch **186** (Period 3.2 Ditch 6) contains the only faunal material dating to the Middle Bronze Age period, which consists of a single fragmentary fish vertebra.

C.1.11 Metrical data was minimal as most long bone fragments contained at least one unfused epiphyses. There were no obvious signs of contamination and material was recovered from both-hand collection and a small amount of bone retrieved from environmental samples.

Discussion

C.1.12 The faunal evidence suggests that the sheep and cattle recovered from the site were not from animals that were specifically exploited for food as they were articulated skeletons. The sheep were likely animals that died from disease or were males slaughtered as surplus stock as they were only 6-10 months of age at death. The cattle would have been less than 3-4 years of age, and again was not slaughtered for meat. The presence of deceased livestock is likely associated with the neighbouring farm.

C.1.13 While buried horse crania are often associated with ritual purposes in the Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon periods, particularly when buried in doorways or with human remains, it is unlikely that the horse cranium from a Post-medieval/modern quarry pit holds the same ritual significance.

C.1.14 As the assemblage is somewhat unique in the absence of co-mingled faunal food and butchery waste from pits and ditches, there is a distinct lack of comparative assemblages. While the assemblage does not supply solid amounts of data on diet and husbandry practices, we can conclude that cattle and sheep husbandry was likely taking place in a close proximity to the site and that fish and pork were exploited, however were only represented by a single fragment each.

Retention, dispersal and display

C.1.15 The small amount of faunal material does not need to be retained as it is dates to the Post-medieval/modern period. However, the material may be of interest for educational

purposes as the assemblage contains articulated skeletal remains and a well-preserved horse cranium.

Faunal remains catalogue

	Pit 405	Pit 277	Pit 277	Pit 442	
Element	**Cattle**	**Sheep**	**Pig**	**Horse**	**Total**
Cranium		2		2	4
Loose teeth		18		6	24
Loose lower incisor		6			6
Loose lower premolar		1			1
Loose lower M1/2		6			6
Mandible		3			3
Atlas		1			1
Axis		3			3
Scapula	1	2			3
Humerus	2	4			6
Radius	1	3			4
Ulna	1	4			5
Pelvis	2	8			10
Femur	2	9			11
Patella	1	1			2
Tibia	1	4	1		6
Astragalus		2			2
Calcaneum		2			2
Scafocuboid		1			1
Phalanx 1	2				2
Phalanx 2	2				2
Phalanx 3	1				1
NISP	16	80	1	8	105
%NISP	15.2	76.2	1.0	7.6	
MNI	1	2	1	1	5
%MNI	20	40	20	20	

Table 31: Number of identifiable fragments by species for hand-collected material

	Pit 277 <49>	Ditch 186 <29>	
Element	**Sheep**	**Fish**	**Total**
Loose teeth	5		5
Loose lower incisor	8		8
Femur	1		1
Vertebra		1	1
NISP	14	1	15

Table 32: Number of identifiable fragments by species for environmental samples material

C.2 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

C.2.1 A total of 0.369kg of shells were collected by hand during the excavation (Table 33). The shells recovered are edible examples of oyster *Ostrea edulis*, from estuarine and shallow coastal waters. The shell is moderately well-preserved and does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed, however, it has suffered post-depositional damage.

Methodology

C.2.2 The shells were weighed and recorded by species, with right and left valves noted, when identification could be made, using Winder (2011) as a guide. The minimum number of individuals (MNI) was not established, due to the small size of the assemblage.

Assemblage

C.2.3 Shells were recovered from three quarry pits in Area 1 (**307**, **411** and **444**) during the excavation. The shells probably became incorporated into the fills of these features as general rubbish. No feature contained enough bivalve shells to indicate a single meal, however, they may have been combined with other foods. The assemblage is too small a sample to draw any but the broadest conclusions, in that shellfish were reaching the site from the coastal regions, indicating trade with the wider area. A few shells show evidence of damage in the form of a small 'V' or 'U' shaped hole on the outer edge of the left valve. This damage is likely to have been caused by a knife during the opening, or ‘shucking’, of the oyster, prior to its consumption.

Discussion

C.2.4 The shells vary from relatively old, thick oysters of a moderate size, to some young shells. The shells recovered represent general discarded food waste and, although not closely datable in themselves, may be dated by their association with pottery or other material also recovered from the features. Period 5 quarry pit **444** produced late medieval or post-medieval ceramic building material and quarry pits **307** and **411** (Period 5) both produced medieval pottery.

C.2.5 The oyster shells recovered indicate transportation of a marine food source to the site, and formed part of the medieval diet. The assemblage indicates the ability of the occupants of the settlement(s) to access foods sources outside their immediate area and surrounding hinterland.

Retention, dispersal and display

C.2.6 The mollusca may be of some use for educational/handling collections, otherwise it may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

Mollusca catalogue

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Species	Common Name	Habitat	No of Shells or Fragments	No. left valve	No right valve	Description/Comment	Total Weight (kg)
321	307	5	Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and	2	1	1	Complete right valve, with slight damage to the ventral	0.049

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Species	Common Name	Habitat	No of Shells or Fragments	No. left valve	No right valve	Description/Comment	Total Weight (kg)
					shallow coastal water				margin. Incomplete, moderately thick left valve, with some marine polychaete worm burrow damage to the shell and severe damage to the ventral margin, which may be shucking or post-depositional damage	
413	411	5	Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	1	1		Near-complete left valve, with some marine polychaete worm burrow damage and possible borings of predatory gastropods to the shell, and damage to the ventral margin which may be post-depositional.	0.029
446	444	5	Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	6	4	2	Near-complete left valve, from relatively thick, old shell, the exterior of which is damaged by the borings of sponge *Cliona celata*. A shucking mark is present on the ventral edge, which has also suffered other damage that may be post-depositional. Near-complete left valve, from relatively thick, old shell, the ventral edge has suffered damage which may be post-depositional. Partial left valve, from relatively thick, old shell, with some marine polychaete worm burrow damage. The ventral edge and much of the posterior margin is missing due to post-depositional, possibly recent, damage. Partial left valve, thin and powdery shell, with some marine polychaete worm burrow damage externally and internally, and the ventral margin almost completely missing, most likely due to post-depositional damage. Small, near-complete right valve, with part of posterior margin missing, this appears to be old damage. Partial right valve from a moderately thick shell, with boring damage below the dorsal margin, which is completely absent, as is the ventral margin, missing due to	0.243

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Species	Common Name	Habitat	No of Shells or Fragments	No. left valve	No right valve	Description/Comment	Total Weight (kg)
									post-depositional, possibly recent, damage.	
447			Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	6	1	5	Powdery fragment of left valve, evidence of boring below dorsal margin, possibly by predatory gastropods piercing the shell, which is thin and damaged at this point. The posterior margin is almost completely absent and half of the ventral margin is also missing. Near-complete, thin and slightly powdery, right valve, with damage to the posterior margin and obvious V-shaped shucking mark on the ventral margin. Near-complete, thin and slightly powdery right valve, with shucking damage to the anterior/ventral margin. Near-complete, small, thin, powdery right valve, with some post-depositional damage to the ventral margin. Two fragments of left valve.	0.048
Total						15	7	8		0.369

Table 33: Mollusca catalogue

C.3 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.3.1 A total of sixty-six bulk samples were taken during excavations at the site. Features sampled were mainly prehistoric in date and include Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age pits and Bronze Age enclosure ditches.

Methodology

C.3.2 The samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Tables 34 - 39. As a result of an initial scan of the flots, the remaining soil from Sample 64 was processed for maximum retrieval of preserved remains. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial,

become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.3.3 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and legumes have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

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

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

Results

C.3.4 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and is generally poor with only a low density of charred remains recovered. The burrowing snail, *Ceciliodes acicula*, is frequent along with modern seeds that are intrusive. Charred cereals are represented by barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and hulled wheat (*Triticum* sp.) varieties that are likely to be emmer (*T. dicoccum*) or spelt (*T. spelta*) but preservation was not conducive to species identification. The only samples that contain significant quantities of plant remains to indicate deliberate deposition are from Neolithic pit **262** and Iron Age pit **299**.

C.3.5 The results are presented chronologically:

Period 1: Natural Features

C.3.6 Samples taken from tree-boles did not contain preserved remains other than sparse charcoal

Feature No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm
350	55	351	+	+
450	66	449	0	0

Table 34: Samples from natural features

Period 2: Early Neolithic (c.4000 – 3500BC)

C.3.7 Pit **262** was located in the south-east of Area 1 and contained two fills: The basal fill (463) contains occasional barley grains, a small fragment of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell and several fragments of crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*) endocarp and a pip. Two samples were taken from the upper fill (263) of pit **262** and each contain just two charred cereal grains.

Feature No.	Context No.	Sample No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Other charred remains	Pottery	Burnt flint	Worked flint
262	263	69	Pit	17	30	#	#	0	#	0
262	463	70	Pit	11	40	##	#	##	0	##

Table 35: Samples from early Neolithic deposits

Period 3: Bronze Age (c.2500 – 800BC)

C.3.8 Samples from Bronze Age deposits were mostly devoid of preserved plant remains other than occasional charred cereal grains (mostly present as single grains) and the odd fragment of hazelnut shell. A pea-sized legume was recovered from fill 203 of Late

Bronze Age pit **202** in Area 2. Charcoal volumes were greatest in the samples from which burnt flint were recovered.

Phase	Area	Feature Type	Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Charcoal	Pottery	Burnt flint
3.1	H	Pit	1	38	37	16	35	0	0	0	0	#	0
3.2	A	Ditch	14	94	93	17	30	#	0	0	0	#	0
3.2	A	Ditch	17	96	95	15	20	0	0	0	0	#	#
3.2	A	Ditch	16	97	95	16	5	#	0	0	0	##	#
3.2	A	Ditch	15	124	123	18	5	0	0	0	0	##	#
3.2	H	Ditch	13	30	29	16	50	0	0	0	0	#	0
3.2	Area 1	Pit	46	264	263	18	30	0	0	0	+	#	0
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	50	296	294	14	50	0	0	0	+	##	0
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	54	331	330	16	10	0	0	0	+	0	0
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	57	398	397	17	1	0	0	0	+	0	0
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	61	427	426	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	62	429	428	14	1	0	0	0	0	#	9.4kg
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	67	454	453	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.2	Area 1	Ditch	68	460	459	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.2	Area 2	Ditch	24	163	162	17	1	0	0	0	+	0	#
3.2	Area 2	Ditch	29	189	188	18	1	0	0	0	++	0	#
3.2	Area 2	Ditch	41	222	221	15	1	0	0	0	+	#	#
3.2	Area 2	Ditch	40	224	223	12	1	0	0	0	+	0	0
3.2	H	Ditch	4	19	18	17	15	#	0	0	0	0	0
3.3	Area 1	Ditch	56	380	379	17	1	0	0	0	+	0	0
3.3	Area 1	Ditch	60	410	409	15	1	0	0	#	+	0	0
3.3	Area 2	Pit	20	156	155	18	1	#	0	0	+	##	0
3.3	Area 2	Pit	21	156	158	9	1	0	0	0	+	#	#
3.3	Area 2	Pit	22	160	159	10	10	0	0	0	++++	##	##
3.3	Area 2	Pit	23	161	159	10		0	0	0	++	##	##
3.3	Area 2	Pit	26	167	166	19	10	#	0	0	++++	###	0.34kg
3.3	Area 2	Pit	25	173	172	19	10	0	0	0	+++	##	#
3.3	Area 2	Pit	27	174	166	9	1	0	0	0	+	0	#
3.3	Area 2	Pit	28	179	177	17	5	#	0	0	++++	#	#
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	30	193	192	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	0.39kg
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	42	193	192			0	0	0	0	0	0
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	31	195	194	19	5	0	0	0	++	#	#
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	43	195	194			0	0	0	0	0	0
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	32	197	196	20	10	0	0	0	+	#	#
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	44	197	196			0	0	0	0	0	0
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	33	199	198	14	10	#	0	0	+++	#	0
3.3	Area 2	Post hole	45	199	198			0	0	0	0	0	0
3.3	Area 2	Pit	36	203	202	12	5	#	#	#	+++	##	2.9kg
3.3	Area 2	Pit	47	203	202	18	20	0	0	0	++++	#	47.3kg
3.3	Area 2	Pit	34	204	202	19	15	0	0	0	++++	##	2.6kg
3.3	Area 2	Pit	35	206	205	20	5	#	0	0	+++	##	0
3.3	Area 2	Pit	37	206	205	3	1	0	0	0	+	##	#
3.3	Area 2	Pit	39	214	213	19	1	0	0	0	++	#	0.9kg

Phase	Area	Feature Type	Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Charcoal	Pottery	Burnt flint
3.3	Area 2	Pot	48	279	202	1	1	0	0	0	++++	0	0

Table 36: Samples from early Bronze Age deposits

Period 4: Early Iron Age (c.800 – 350BC)

C.3.9 Samples were taken from pits within Area 1. Pit **299** was located in the north-east of this area. Excavated as pit **39** in the evaluation, this feature had a total of 5 samples taken. The assemblages were quite uniform with evidence of charred barley, wheat and oats (*Avena* sp.) along with seeds of plants that were most likely to have been growing amongst the crops including bromes (*Bromus* spp.), small-seeded goosefoots (*Chenopodium* spp.), vetches/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), knotgrass (*Polygomum aviculare*), scentless mayweed (*Tripleurspermum inodorum*) and grasses (Poaceae). It is possible that the oats are a wild variety present as a weed rather than a cultivated crop. Pit **309** also contains occasional charred plant remains but preservation was poor.

Feature No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Chaff	Weed Seeds	Charcoal	Pottery	Burnt flint
16	3	17	18	30	0	0	0	0	##	0
27	10	28	14	50	0	0	0	0	#	#
27	11	28	14	250	0	0	0	0	##	0
39	2	40	16	20	#	0	0	0	##	###
68	7	69	16	20	0	0	0	0	##	0
87	9	88	34	70	#	0	0	0	##	##
299	51		12	10	###	#	#	+++	##	#
299	64	300	35	70	###	0	0	0	##	193kg
299	65	448	18	15	###	0	0	0	#	0
309	52	310	14	10	##	#	#	++++	#	#
336	53	337	16	5	0	0	#	+	#	0
402	58	404	9	200	0	0	0	++++	#	0

Table 37: Samples from Iron Age deposits

Period 5: Medieval and later periods (c.AD 1066 – present)

C.3.10 A single sample from ditch (**212**) in Area 1 produced a single barley grain and burnt flint. A single barley grain was recovered from pit **442**

Feature No.	Context No.	Feature Type	Sample No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Charcoal	Pottery	Large mammal bones	Burnt flint
211	212	38	Ditch	16	1	#	+	0	0	0.06kg
277	278	Pit	49	18	80	0	+	#	##	0
405	406	Burial	59	16	10	0	0	##	##	0
442	443	Pit	63	18	10	#	0	0	#	0

Table 38: Samples from medieval and later deposits

Discussion

C.3.11 The charred assemblage of cultivated cereal grains alongside evidence of wild food collection and consumption is considered typical of the Neolithic period (Robinson 2000, 86). The small, wild crab apple and the nuts of the hazel tree would have been

seasonally collected and stored. The recovery of charred apple indicates that it had been deliberately dried prior to consumption. Hazelnut shells, when burnt, survive well in archaeological deposits which partly explains their frequent recovery (Jones 2000, 80). It is probable that the nut shells and the apple were discarded into a fire that had subsequently been swept up and deposited in the pit, although the charcoal content of the samples is low. It is also possible that they were a deliberate ritual inclusion (along with flint debitage, worked flints and pottery fragments).

C.3.12 Samples taken from Bronze Age deposits were not productive and any occasional grains (usually as single specimens) may be intrusive. The features sampled were predominantly ditches from field systems which would not be expected to contain preserved plant remains. It is interesting to note that single barley grains were recovered from samples from medieval and post-medieval deposits which may be a further indication that the cereals in the Bronze Age deposits may not be contemporary.

C.3.13 Iron Age pit **299** contains a charred plant assemblage that is consistent with the date of the deposit. The morphology of a few of the barley grains is suggestive of 6-row hulled barley but the wheat variety could not be identified beyond being a hulled type as the two glume bases recovered were stunted and degraded. The weed assemblage hints at cultivation of acid soils.

C.3.14 In summary, the preservation of plant remains from this site is generally poor but the recovery and identification of charred apple from a Neolithic context is significant.

C.4 Radiocarbon dating certificates

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
29 November 2017

Laboratory Code	SUERC-76175 (GU45750)
Submitter	Zoe Ui Choileain Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
Site Reference	XKT THA 17
Context Reference	167
Sample Reference	26
Material	charcoal : unidentified
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-26.9 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2705 ± 29

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

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

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-25.*

For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : C. Dunbar

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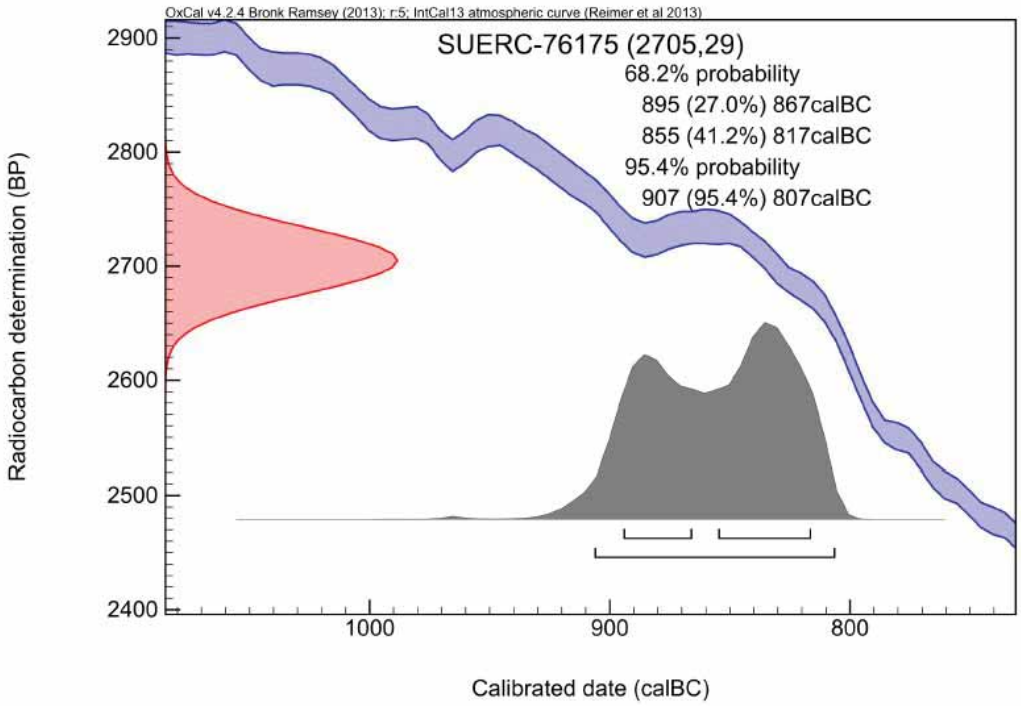

The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve†

Please contact the laboratory if you wish to discuss this further.

* Bronk Ramsey (2009) *Radiocarbon 51(1) pp.337-60*
† Reimer et al. (2013) *Radiocarbon 55(4) pp.1869-87*

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
29 November 2017

Laboratory Code	SUERC-76176 (GU45751)
Submitter	Zoe Ui Choileain Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
Site Reference	XKT THA 17
Context Reference	206
Sample Reference	35
Material	cpr : corylus avellana
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-25.1 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2650 ± 29

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

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

For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

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

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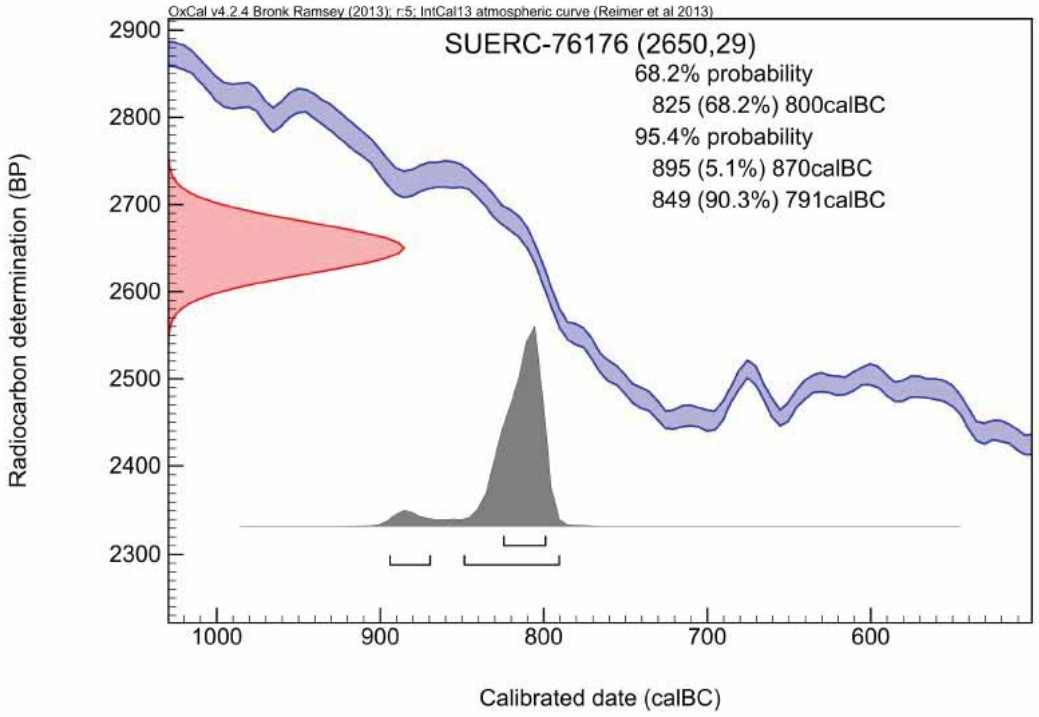

The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve†

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
29 November 2017

Laboratory Code	SUERC-76180 (GU45752)
Submitter	Zoe Ui Choileain Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
Site Reference	XKT THA 17
Context Reference	203
Sample Reference	36
Material	cpr : triticum sp.
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-21.1 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2756 ± 29

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

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

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

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

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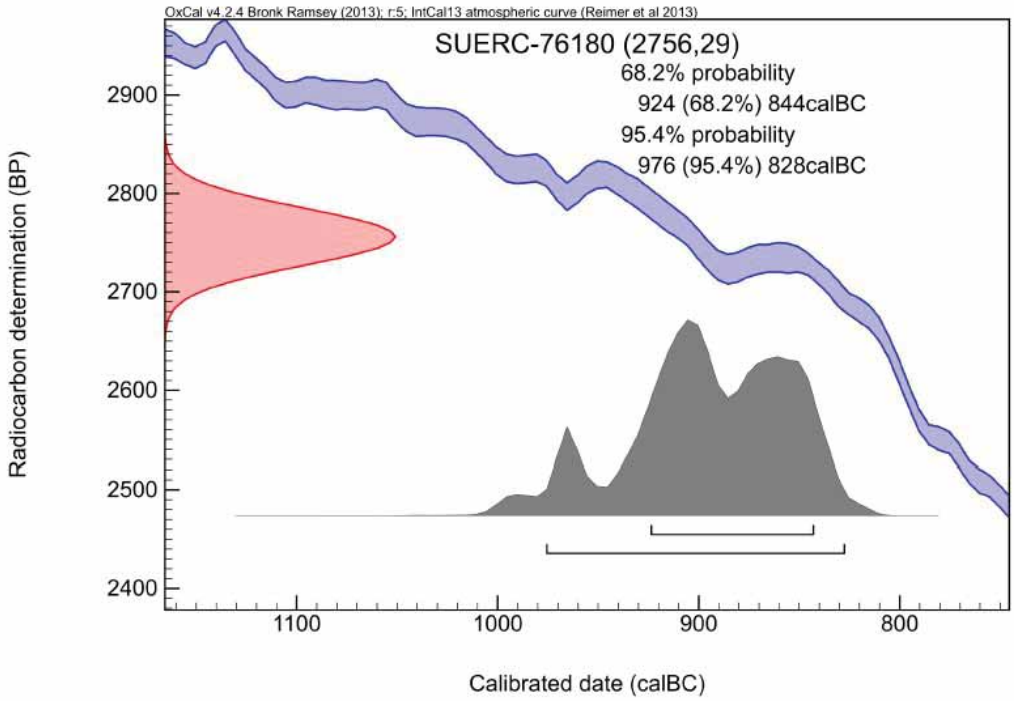

The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve†

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
29 November 2017

Laboratory Code	SUERC-76181 (GU45753)
Submitter	Zoe Ui Choileain Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
Site Reference	XKT THA 17
Context Reference	296
Sample Reference	50
Material	charcoal : unidentified
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-26.0 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	3112 ± 27

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

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

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

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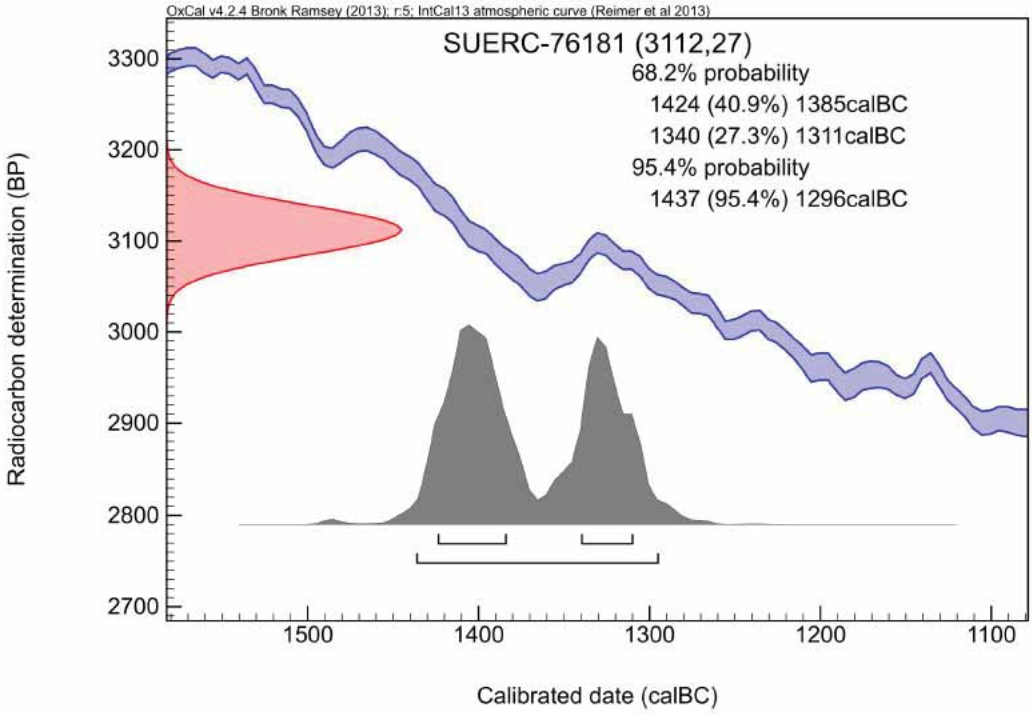

The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve†

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
29 November 2017

Laboratory Code	SUERC-76182 (GU45754)
Submitter	Zoe Ui Choileain Oxford Archaeology East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ
Site Reference	XKT THA 17
Context Reference	300
Sample Reference	51
Material	cpr : triticum sp.
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-24.3 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2365 ± 29

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

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

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

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

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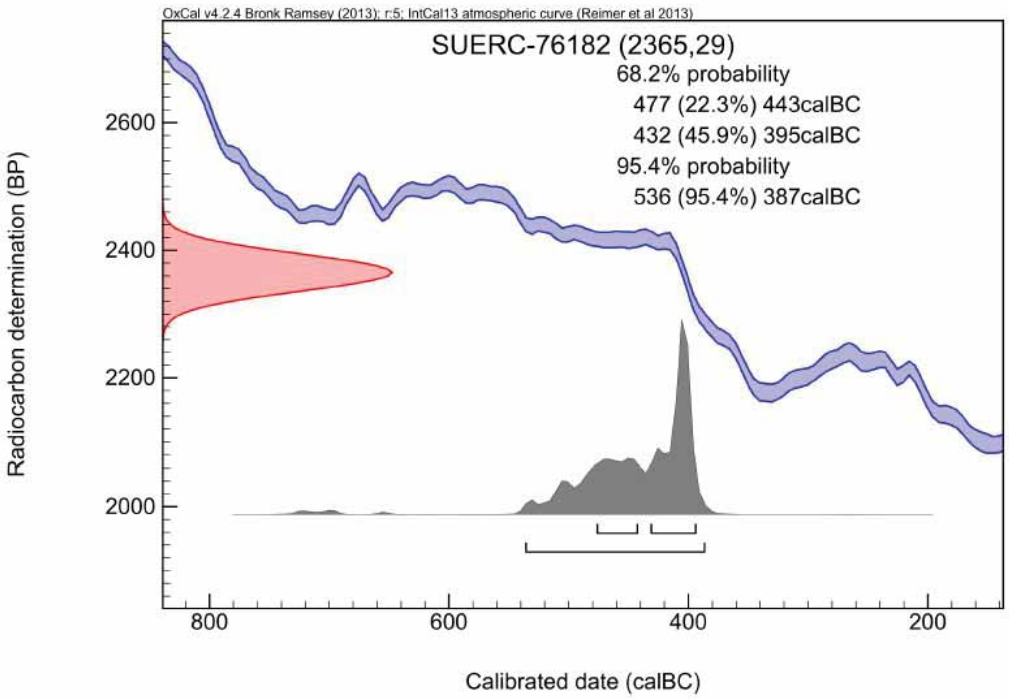

The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal13 atmospheric calibration curve†

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Appendix E. OASIS Report Form

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-304298		
Project Name	Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent. Archaeological excavation.		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	12-06-2017	Finish	07-08-2017
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XKTTHA17	Planning App. No.	CA/15/01479/OUT
HER No.		Related HER/OASIS No.	

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt: Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5

Please select all techniques used:

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

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
pit	Neolithic -4k to -2k	flintwork	Neolithic -4k to -2k
pit and ditch	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700	pottery, flintwork	Bronze Age -2.5k to -700
pit	Iron Age -800 to 43	pottery, fired clay	Iron Age -800 to 43

Project Location

County	Kent	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	City of Canterbury	Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Thanington Without, Canterbury , Kent	
Parish	Thanington Without		
HER	Kent Historic Environment Record		
Study Area	73 ha	National Grid Reference	centred on TR 134 561

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Rosanne Cummings (Kent County Council)
Project Design Originator	Charlotte Dawson (Wardell Armstrong)
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer (OA East)
Supervisor	Malgorzata Kwiatkowska (OA East)

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Canterbury Museum and Galleries	OA East	Canterbury Museum and Galleries
XKTTHA17	XKTTHA17	XKTTHA17

Archive Contents/Media

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

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

Notes:

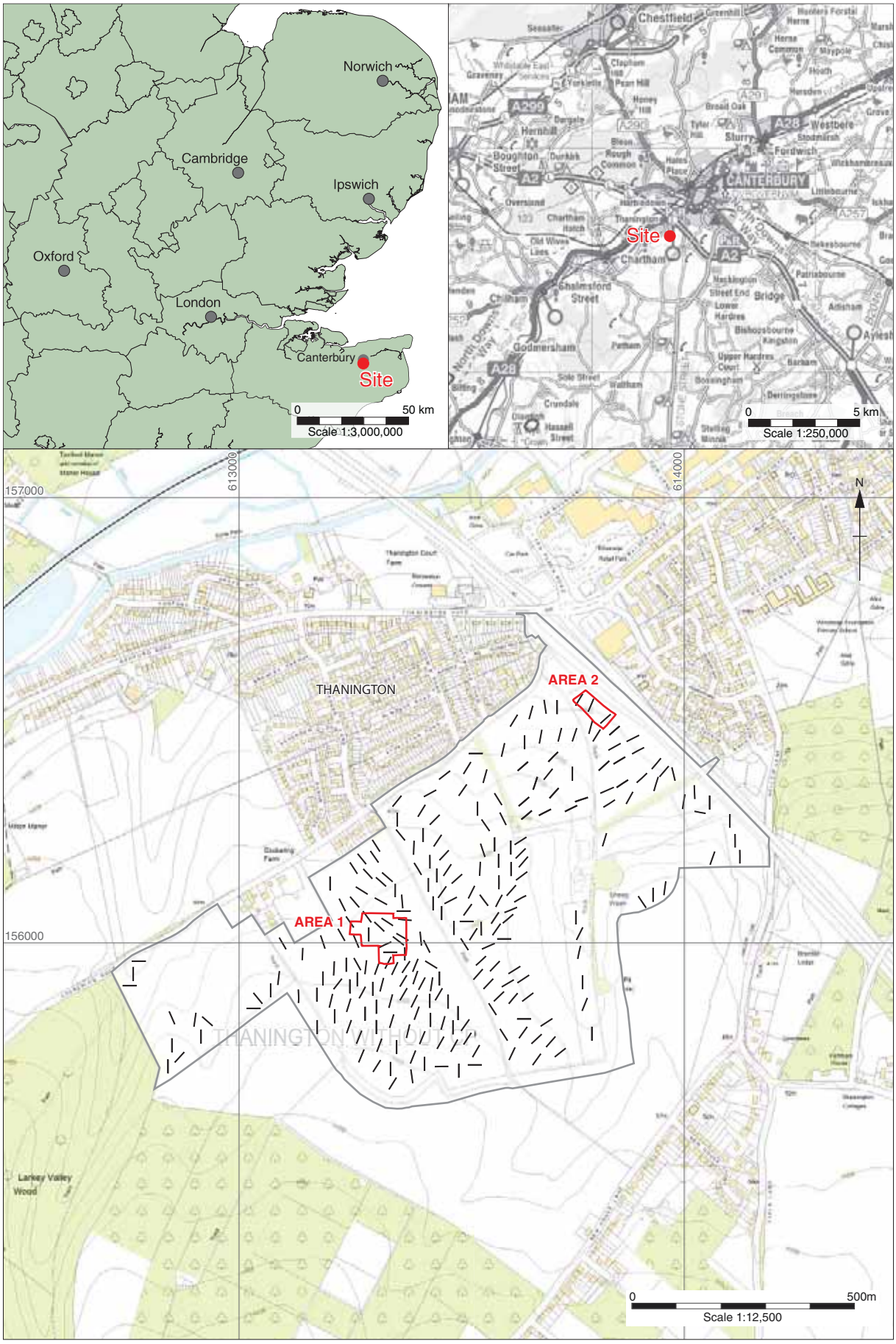


Figure 1: Site location showing overall development area (dark grey) with excavation areas (red) and evaluation trenches (black)

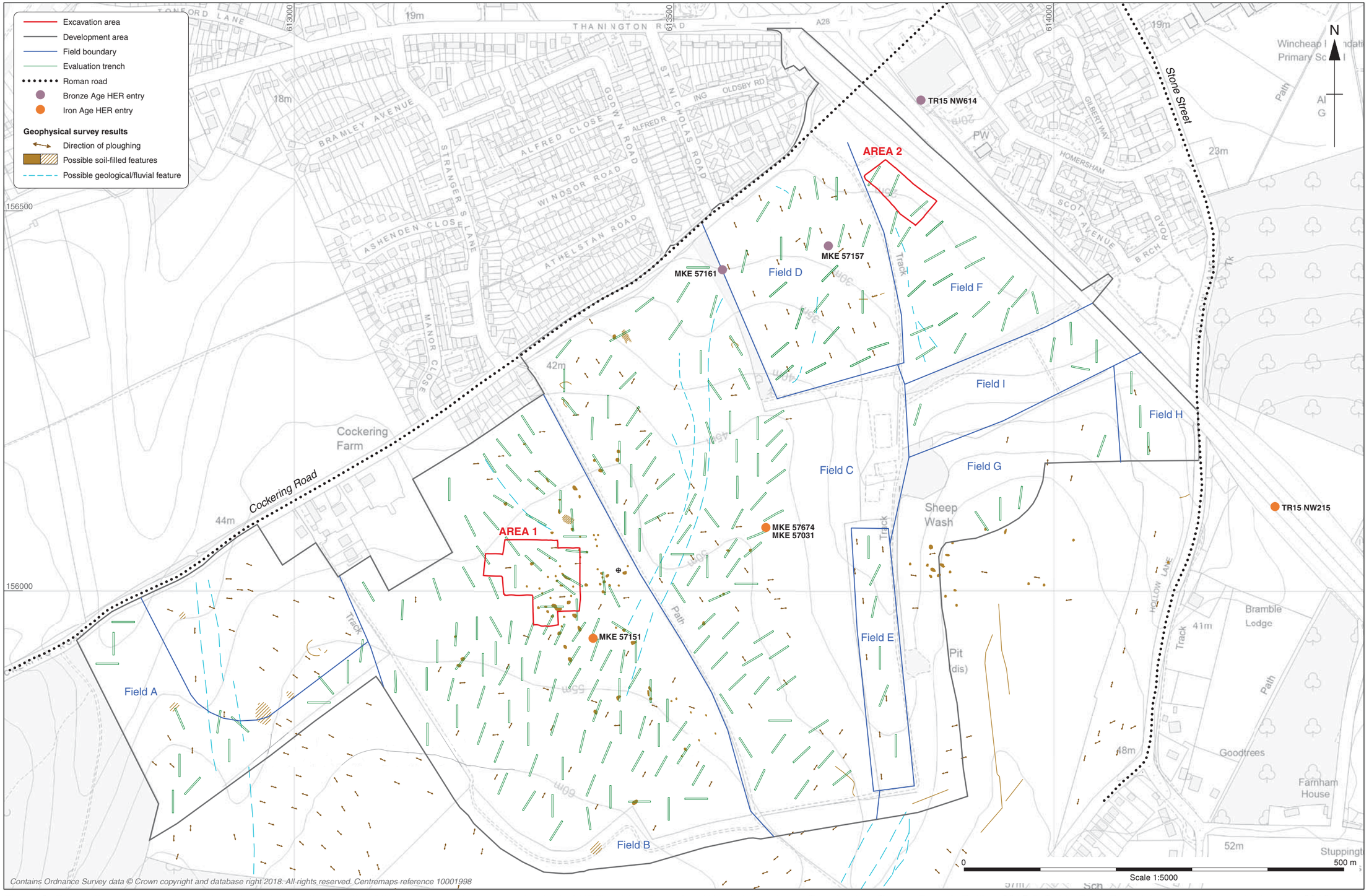


Figure 2: Excavation areas and trench layout overlain on the results of the geophysical survey and selected HER entries (based on Wardell Armstrong Geophysical Survey Report; Railton 2015 & CgMs Desk-Based Assessment report; Hawkins 2013)

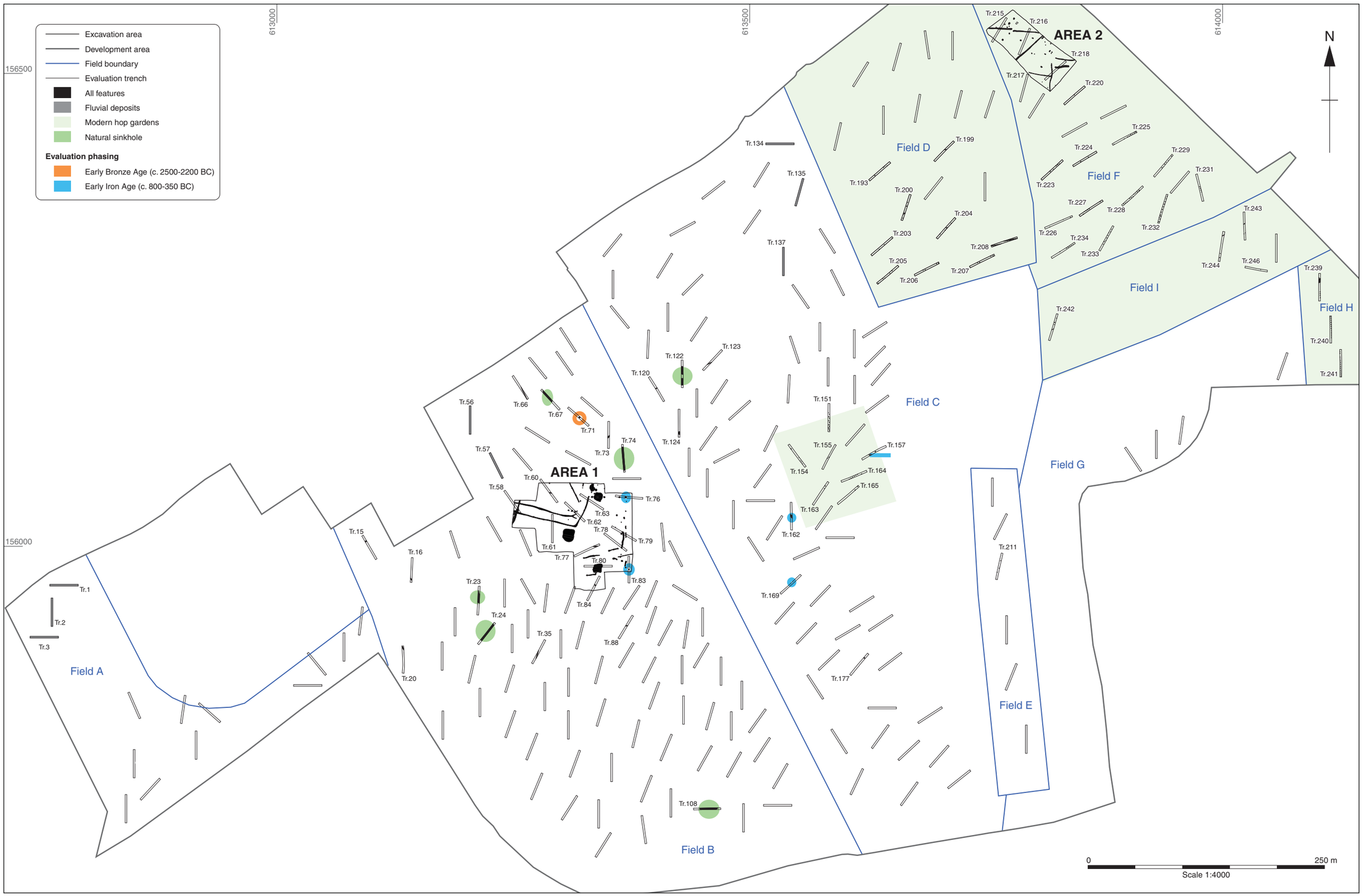


Figure 3: Overview of excavation and evaluation results

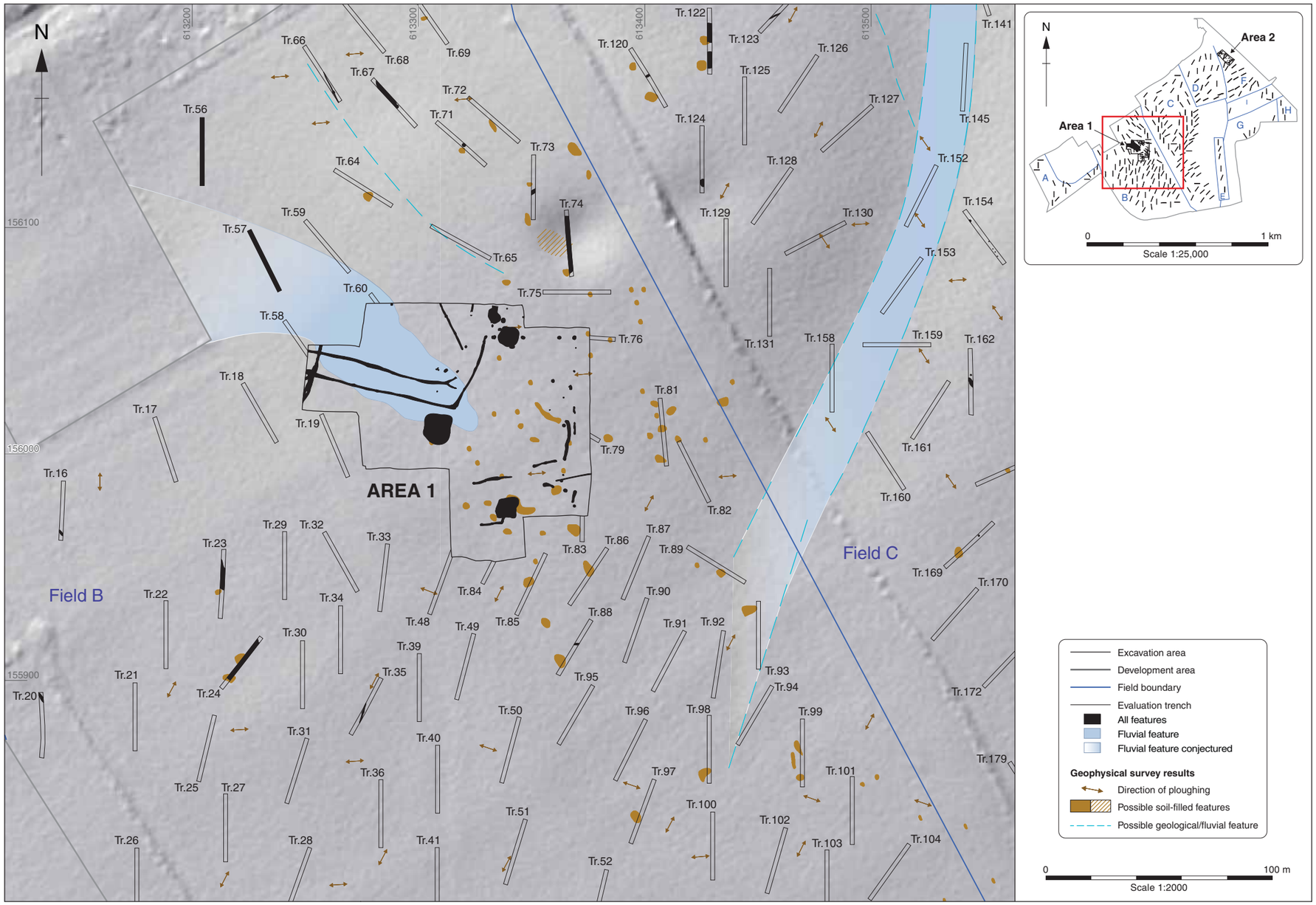


Figure 4: Topography (based on LIDAR dataset) of Fields B and C overlain on results of geophysical survey and excavations

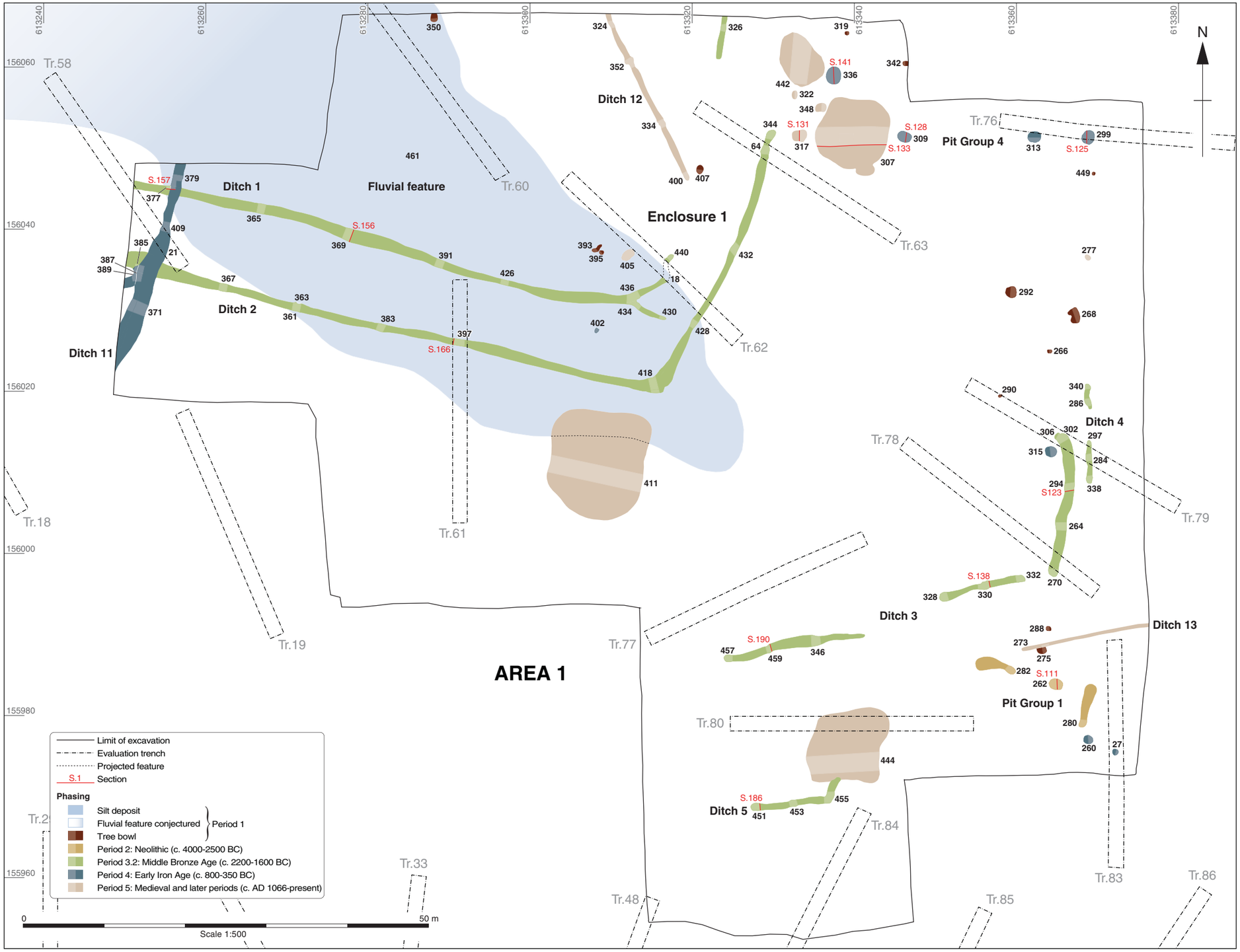


Figure 5: Area 1: Excavation plan with phasing

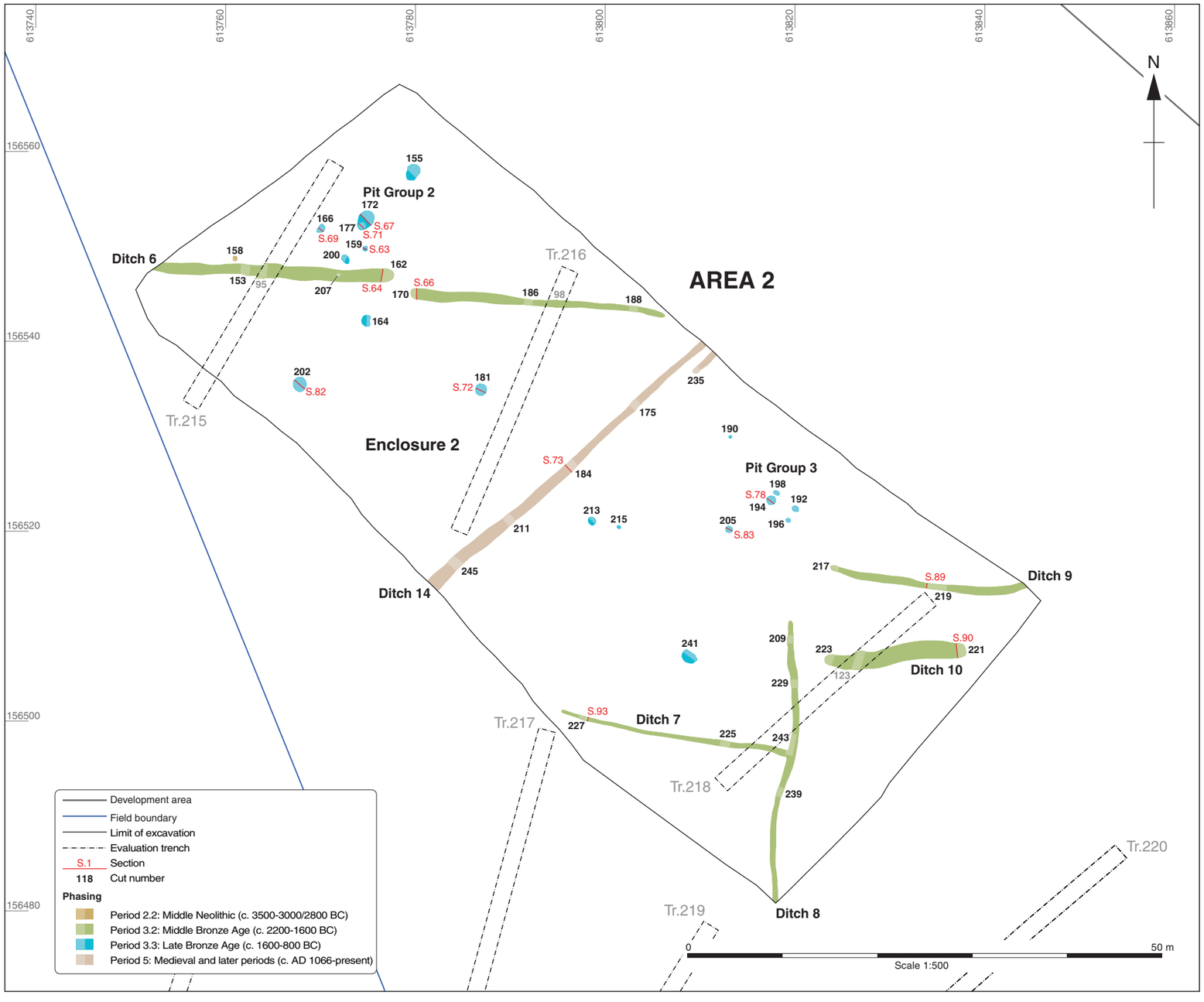
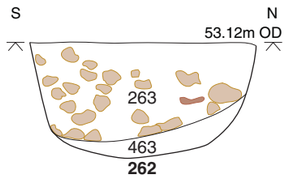


Figure 6: Area 2: Excavation plan with phasing

AREA 1

Section 111



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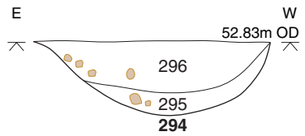

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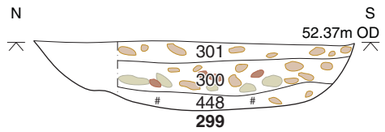

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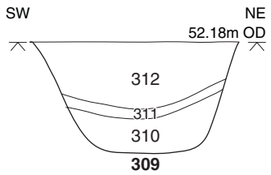

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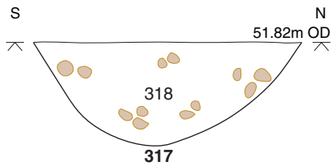

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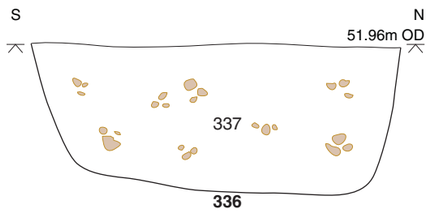

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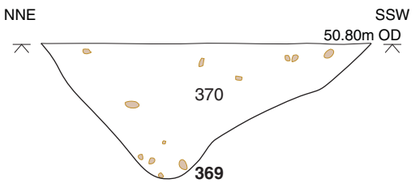

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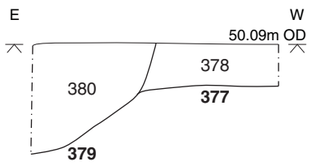

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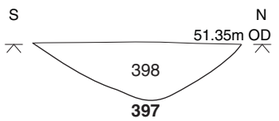

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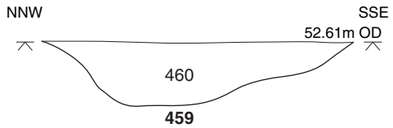
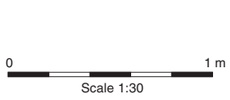
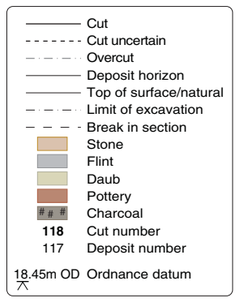
Section 190







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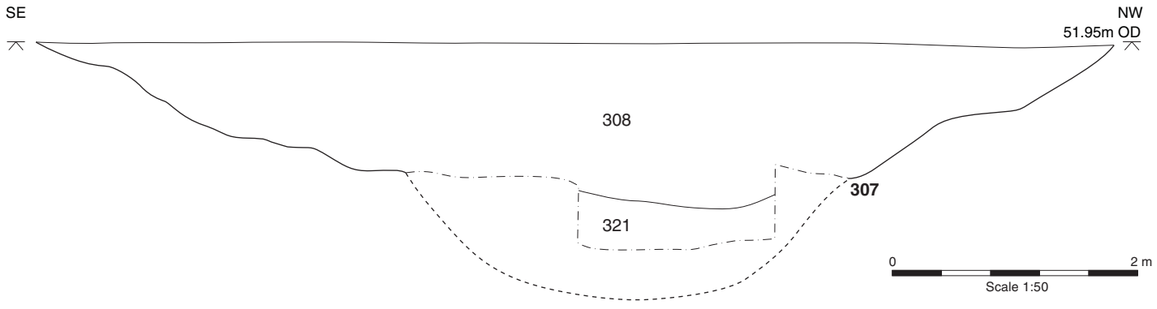

AREA 2

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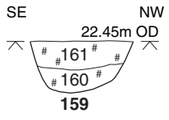

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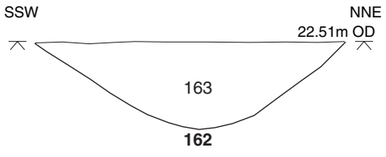

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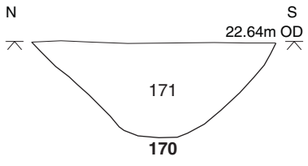

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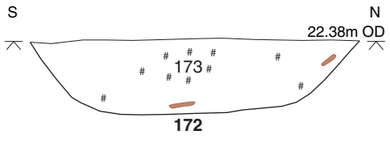

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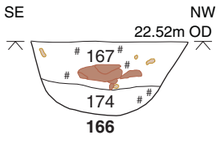

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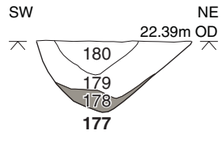

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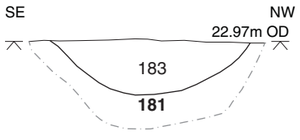

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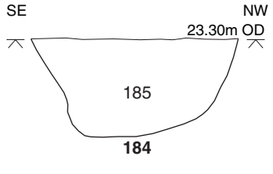

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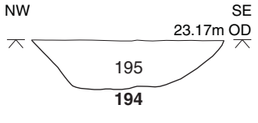

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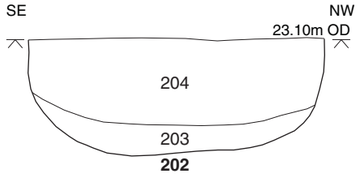

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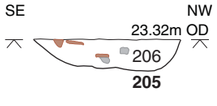

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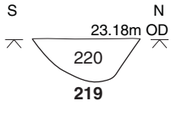

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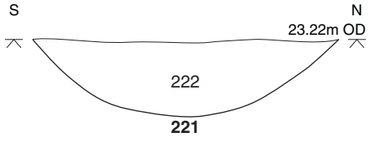

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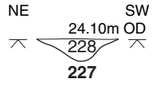

Figure 7: Selected sections

1. Iwade (Bishop and Bagwell 2005)
2. Highstead, near Chislet (Seager-Thomas 2005; Bennett *et al.* 2007; Couldrey 2007)
3. Shrubsoles Hill, Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey (Coles *et al.* 2003)
4. Kemsley Fields (Diack 2006; Yates 2001, 2, fig. 3.3)
5. Kingsborough, Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey (Allen *et al.* 2008; Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 126)
6. Claxfield Farm, Lynsted (CAT website, review 2012-13)
7. Westhawk Farm, Kingsnorth (Booth *et al.* 2008, 25)
8. Brisley Farm, Kingsnorth (Stevenson 2012, 87)
9. Thanet Earth, Birchington-on-Sea (Rady 2010)
10. Mill Hill, Deal (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 126, Fig. 114)
11. St Edmund's School, Canterbury (CAT website, review 2012-13)
12. Blacksole Farm, Herne Bay (Allen 2007)
13. Hillborough Caravan Park, Reculver (Allen 2009)
14. Sarre Penn, Chislet (Allen 2009)
15. Churchwood Drive, Chestfield (Allen 2002)
16. East Hall Farm, Sittingbourne (Stansbie *et al.* 2007)
17. Iwade (Bishop and Bagwell 2005)
18. 68 Castle Street, Canterbury (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 25; Yates 2007, 23, Fig. 3.3)
19. Sandway Road (Booth *et al.* 2011, 177, 230)
20. Sunset Caravan Park, Whistable (Bishop and Bagwell 2005, 126, Fig. 114)
21. Willow Farm, Herne Bay (SERF 2007b, 4)
22. East Kent Access, South Thanet (Andrews *et al.* 2015)
23. Cliffs End Farm (McKinley *et al.* 2014)
24. Monkton Court Farm (Macpherson-Grant 1994)
25. White Horse Stone (Champion 2011)

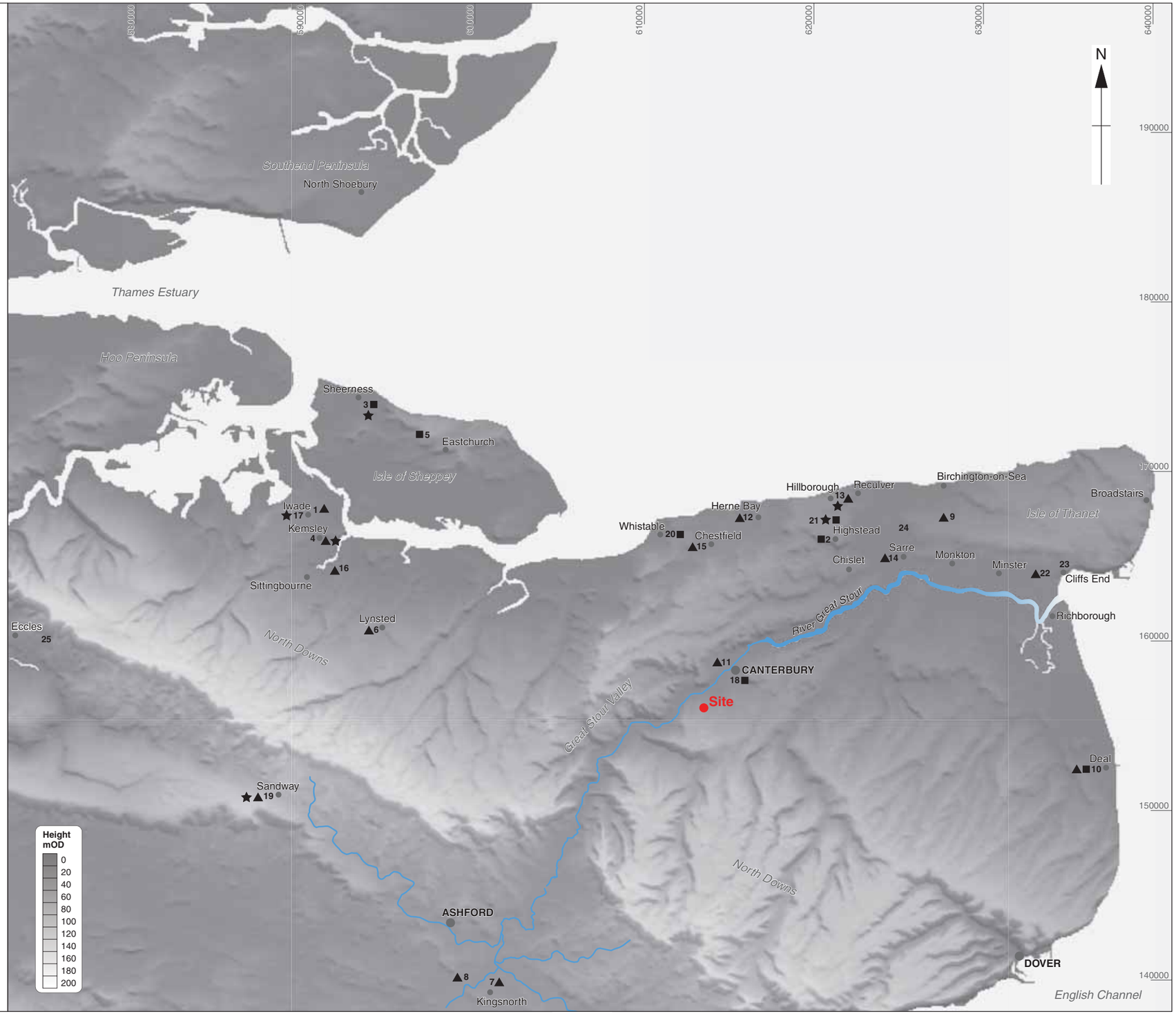

Figure 8: Overview of Bronze Age Kent sites mentioned in text

Plate 1: Area 1, looking north

Plate 2: Area 2, looking east

Plate 3: Period 3.3: pit **166**, looking southeast

Plate 4: Period 3.3: pit **202**, looking western

Plate 5: Period 3.3: pit **205**, looking west

Plate 6: Period 3.3: pits **192**, **194**, **196** and **198** in Late Bronze Age Pit Group 3, looking southwest

Plate 7: Period 4: pit **299**, looking east

Plate 8: Period 4: pit **402**, looking west

Plate 9: Period 6: quarry pit **307**, looking south

Plate 10: Period 6: sheep burial **277**, looking west

Plate 11: Period 6: cow burial **405**, looking east

Plate 12: Field D, looking east, with Canterbury Cathedral in the background

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