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Sheen Farm, Litlington, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

In 2019 This Land Limited commissioned a six trench archaeological evaluation at Sheen Farm, Litlington in Cambridgeshire. Currently the site is occupied by modern farm buildings and the surrounding farm land is under the plough. Two trenches were empty but the remaining four contained archaeological features which dated to the Neolithic and Roman periods. Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery in the Durrington Walls style was recovered from two intercutting pits in the northern part of the site. Romano-British remains, including pottery, animal bone and a coin were recovered from a series of linear ditches and discrete features in two trenches towards the south-eastern boundary of the site.

The Romano-British pottery was of particular significance. Local and imported coarse and fine wares were represented and were found to have a similar range of forms and fabrics as those from the Roman villa estate 250m to the west of Sheen Farm. The potential for this to be a high status site associated with the villa is further enhanced by the presence of ceramic building material which included *tegula, imbrex* and box flue tile.

The recovery of only two Middle Saxon pottery sherds from ditch fills suggest only minimal post-Roman occupation of the site. There was no evidence for any further activity prior to the post-medieval period when the eastern side of the site was levelled for the erection of the current farm buildings.



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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Liz Muldowney. The fieldwork was directed by Rona Booth, who was supported by Sam Corke and Eban Cooper. Survey and digitizing was carried out by Sarita Louzolo and Gareth Rees with illustrations by Charlotte Walton. Thank you 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 Fosbury, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Katherine Hamilton.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by This Land Limited to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the Sheen Farm complex and part of a neighbouring arable field immediately to the north-east of Royston Road, Litlington, Cambridgeshire (TL 3156 4238; Fig. 1); the site of a proposed new residential development.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. S/2927/17/FL). A brief was set by Gemma Stewart of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CCC HET) outlining the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process (Stewart 2018). A written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the methods by which OA proposed to meet the requirements of the brief (Muldowney 2018).

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The Sheen Farm site is centrally placed toward the eastern side of Royston Road in the village of Litlington, in South Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1).

The area of proposed development consists of farm buildings, areas of yard or hard standing and part of a larger arable field. The plot is bounded to the south-west by Royston Road, to the north-west and north-east by open farm land and to the south-east partly by open farm land and neighbouring residential property. The geology of the area is mapped as Zig Zag Chalk Formation – Chalk with no superficial geology recorded (http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html, accessed 8th November 2018).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The following archaeological and historical background summary of this site has been drawn from data provided by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) for a 1km radius centred on the evaluation site (under CCC HET licence number 18-3699), with pertinent records shown on Fig. 1.

Prehistoric

1.3.2 Evidence for confirmed prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity of the development area is relatively limited, Mesolithic flint and a macehead (03071) were recovered from ploughsoil just to the north-west of the site. Undated linear ditches and ring ditches (09460), recorded as cropmarks just to the south-east of the site have been ascribed a possible prehistoric to Romano-British date.

Iron Age and Romano-British

1.3.3 Cropmark evidence for enclosures, trackways and boundaries of likely Iron Age to Romano-British date have been recorded approximately 800m to the east of the development area. Previous archaeological interventions to the west of Church Street/Royston Road, approximately 250m to west of the site, have revealed evidence



for Iron Age antecedents to more substantial Romano-British settlements and activity (11752).

- 1.3.4 A villa (03186) was partially excavated in the 19th century in this location, 400m to the west of the development area. It was thought to be a courtyard villa with buildings surrounding the central space. Interventions in the vicinity have revealed tesserae, demolition material and other features likely to be associated with the villa both to the north and south of its known location (11752, MCB17646, MCB19307).
- 1.3.5 A walled Romano-British cemetery site, Heavens Walls, was identified approximately 400m to the south-east of the villa and 300m to the south-west of the development area (03262). It was discovered in the 19th century and has been investigated by geophysical survey and evaluation. However, its full extent and exact position could not be determined

Anglo-Saxon

1.3.6 Anglo-Saxon occupation and inhumations were discovered during archaeological investigations approximately 500m to the north-west of the development area (CB15696 and 01235).

Modern

1.3.7 RAF Steeple Morden (CB15152) was located approximately 500m to the south-west of the development area and was in operation during World War 2. Initially, it functioned as a satellite airfield to the main base at Bassingbourn but then was handed over to the USAAF in 1942-3. The airfield had a number of satellite camps and ancillary areas around the village and a number of public air raid shelters are also recorded close to the development area.



2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:
 - i. To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains;
 - ii. To provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits;
 - iii. To provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits;
 - To set results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions; and
 - v. To provide in the event that archaeological remains are found sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 A total of six trenches (measuring 50m by 1.8m) were excavated representing a 5% sample of the *c*.0.9ha development area (Fig. 2).
- 2.2.2 All the trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket until either archaeological or geological horizons were reached.
- 2.2.3 All archaeological features were hand excavated, drawn and photographed. All finds were retained unless identified as modern in date. Metal detecting and bucket sampling (totalling 90 litres) was undertaken for each trench. The perimeter of Trench 5 was found to be contaminated with modern material.
- 2.2.4 Masking deposits (modern made ground) were removed by a mechanical excavator from Trenches 5 and 6. Representative baulk sections were cleaned, photographed and recorded.
- 2.2.5 Environmental samples from datable features, or those with organic material present, were processed in accordance with the OA Sampling Policy to evaluate their ecofactual potential.
- 2.2.6 Archaeological features and excavated slots were recorded using survey-grade GPS with Smartnet capabilities.



3 **R**ESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of Trenches 3, 4, 5, and 6. Trenches 1 (Plate 1) and 2 were devoid of archaeology and are not described further.
- 3.1.2 Full details of all trenches are given along with dimensions and depths of features and deposits in Appendix A, Table 1. Finds reports are presented as Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence for each trench was fairly uniform across the site. The natural Zig Zag chalk geology was overlain successively by a sandy silt subsoil and topsoil/ploughsoil, although subsoil was found to be absent at eastern end of Trench 4. In Trenches 5 and 6 the topsoil/ploughsoil was capped by a series of levelling deposits associated with the construction of the modern barn.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were for the most part clearly identifiable against the background geology. However, the presence of heavily indurated fills similar to the subsoil in some of the archaeological features, especially near the modern buildings, necessitated some exploratory testing of ambiguous features.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 A total of four archaeological features were present in Trenches 3 and 4, on the arable field comprising the northern and eastern parts of the site. The majority of the archaeological features (15 in total) were found in Trench 5 and Trench 6 to the southeast of the modern farm building complex. Most of these were excavated into the chalk and were partly protected by a series of levelling and foundation deposits associated with the modern use of the site.

3.4 Trench descriptions

Trenches 3 and 4 (Fig. 2)

- 3.4.1 Three discrete archaeological features were identified towards the north-eastern end of Trench 3. The southernmost feature was a small circular pit (104) that truncated a larger sub-circular pit (132; Plate 2; Section 1). The fill (105) produced sherds of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery, probably derived from a single vessel contained within earlier pit 132. Heavily abraded ceramic building material (CBM), cattle and pig bone were also recovered along with a fragment of hazelnut shell. The fill of pit 132 contained a further thirty sherds of Grooved Ware pottery, probably from a single vessel.
- 3.4.2 To the north of this pit, a gully (106) ran across the trench in a north-westerly to southeasterly direction but did not produce any finds.
- 3.4.3 Located at the north-western end of Trench 4, pit **108** (Plate 3) contained no finds.



Trench 5 (Figs 2 and 3; Plate 4)

- 3.4.4 A total of five features were observed in Trench 5. Of these, two amorphous shaped discrete features (134 and 137) were located at the northern end of the trench that produced no finds and were interpreted as natural features.
- 3.4.5 Ditches **128** and **130** were located in the southwestern part of Trench 5. Ditch **130** was slightly wider and deeper but otherwise they were similarly shaped in profile. The single fill (129) of ditch **128** contained five sherds of Roman pottery (dating from the mid-1st to mid-2nd century AD), ceramic building material (CBM) and cattle bone. A small piece of indeterminate slag (0.008kg) and a lightly burnt piece of unworked flint were also recovered. The single fill (131) of ditch **130**, also contained thirty-seven sherds of late Roman pottery (including a sherd of Samian mortaria), CBM (including box flue tile) and horse, sheep and cattle bone along with a burnt stone. A single sherd of possibly intrusive Ipswich ware Anglo-Saxon pottery, dating from the 7th to 9th century AD, was also collected.
- 3.4.6 Pit **153** was overlain by loose hardcore/rubble layer 149. It was cleaned but left unexcavated owing to health and safety concerns. At the base of this feature, stone was observed. It is possible that these flat looking stones were structural. A Roman tile was recovered from the fill (154), as it fell out of the section.
- 3.4.7 A further two metre length of the western baulk section adjacent to feature **153**, was cleaned to expose modern levelling deposits 149, 150 and 151 overlying the subsoil (Plate 5; Section 15). Layer 151 consisted of rolled and compacted topsoil of the same composition as the underlying subsoil. Overlying the compacted topsoil was a thin (*c*.0.05m thick) layer of cement trample (150) in turn overlain by hardcore/rubble layer (149); a modern levelling layer probably associated with the construction of the barn. It was very loose material, composed of a mixture of modern brick, stone, chalk, limestone and an unidentified concreted substance, within a sand and silt matrix.

Trench 6 (Figs 2 and 4; Plate 6)

- 3.4.8 A total of ten features were excavated in Trench 6. The northern third of the trench was found to be overlain by two successive modern levelling deposits (146 and 147) consisted of a sandy silt with abundant flint inclusions. It is probable that these deposits relate to ground levelling associated with the modern farm buildings.
- 3.4.9 Towards the north-eastern end of the trench lay a large pit (112) excavated partially through the levelling deposits described above and therefore likely to be of modern origin.
- 3.4.10 To the southwest lay a single posthole (**116**), the fill (117) of which produced a sherd of later Roman pottery.
- 3.4.11 Three further discrete features (114, 118 and 120) were revealed in the central part of the trench, along the southern baulk. The fills (119 and 121 respectively) of features 118 and 120 both contained a single sherd of Roman pottery.
- 3.4.12 A series of five ditches (122, 124, 139, 142 and 144) lay at the southwestern end of Trench 6. Four ditches were aligned north-north-west to south-south-east parallel with



the present site boundary and the road beyond with a single ditch (124) aligned on a more north-west to south-east direction.

- 3.4.13 The easternmost ditch (**122**; Plate 7) had a noticeably siltier fill than the other ditches uncovered on the site. The fill (123) contained 1.894kg of animal bone (horse, cattle and sheep), 1.441kg of late Roman pottery, 2.099kg of CBM (including *tegula* and box flue tile fragments) and an iron nail (SF01) and iron ring (SF02). The pottery included a large, but fragmentary, sandy grey ware jug, which was in fresh condition and had surviving surface residues.
- 3.4.14 To the southwest ditch **124** contained horse and cattle bone and adjacent ditch **139** (Section 17) contained eight sherds of later Roman pottery, cattle bone, CBM, burnt stone and a 4th century copper alloy coin (SF03) within the lower fill (140). The upper fill (141) produced eighteen sherds of Roman pottery, cattle bone, CBM, oyster shell and a piece of iron wire (SF04). A single sherd of possibly intrusive Middle Saxon pottery was also recovered from the upper fill.
- 3.4.15 At the southwestern end of Trench 6 lay the terminus of gully **142** that truncated ditch **144** along its north-eastern edge (Section 17). The gully fill (143) produced two sherds of later Roman pottery and a small mammal bone.
- 3.4.16 Ditch **144** was only partially revealed within the limit of the trench. The fill (145) contained two sherds of non-diagnostic Roman pottery and a single piece of CBM.

3.5 Finds summary

- 3.5.1 A total of 38 sherds (0.502kg) of Durrington Walls style Late Neolithic Grooved Ware were recovered from Pits **104** and **132** in Trench 3 (Appendix B.1). Two worked flints (a scraper and a broken flake) were also recovered from the topsoil (101) at the southern end of Trench 3. The density of worked flint recovered was low but this might be down to recovery bias. These flints broadly date to either the Neolithic or Bronze Age periods. In addition, a burnt piece of unworked flint was collected from Roman ditch **128** in Trench 5 (Appendix B.7).
- 3.5.2 A total of 107 sherds (3.340kg) of mid-late Roman coarse and fine ware pottery, including a sherd of Samian mortaria, were recovered during the evaluation. The pottery was recovered from linear and discrete features in Trenches 5 and 6. The pottery was generally in good condition, indicating minimum post-depositional disturbance. Two sherds of possibly intrusive Middle Saxon pottery (0.084kg) was recovered from ditches **130** and **139** in Trenches 5 and 6 respectively (Appendix B.2).
- 3.5.3 A range of Roman CBM (9.324kg; including *tegula*, *imbrex* and box flue tile) was recovered from Trenches 5 and 6. This material was largely broken and abraded indicating that any building was probably not situated in the exact location of these trenches (Appendix B.3). A total of 0.572kg of stone was recovered from these trenches (Appendix B.5).
- 3.5.4 A small piece of non-diagnostic slag (0.008kg) was found in ditch **128** within Trench 5 (Appendix B.4) and metalwork (iron nail, ring and wire) was recovered along with a late 4th century copper alloy coin from ditches within Trench 6 (Appendix B.6).
- 3.5.5 A single oyster shell was recovered from ditch **122** in Trench 6 (Appendix C.3).



4 **DISCUSSION**

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The archaeological features were clearly visible within the evaluation trenches with no standing water as a result of bad weather to hinder their identification. Therefore, the results of the evaluation trenching are considered to have a good level of reliability.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The project aims and objectives defined in the WSI (Muldowney 2018) are listed in Section 2.1. The following statements outline the remains encountered on the site and how these help in achieving these objectives.
- 4.2.2 Archaeological remains were present in four out of six trenches (Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6). Prehistoric activity was identified in Trench 3, in the northern part of the site, where two intercutting pits produced Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery. Features were located mainly in the south-eastern part of the site (Trenches 5 and 6) where a significant concentration of Roman material was found. The recovery of two Middle Saxon pottery sherds from upper ditch fills testify to Anglo-Saxon activity continuing in the vicinity of the site into at least the 7th century, with a lack of further remains to suggest an apparent hiatus of further activity on the site until the post-medieval period.
- 4.2.3 Levelling deposits partially overlay features in Trenches 5 and 6 but had not impacted unfavourably on the archaeological remains and may have aided preservation in this part of the site.
- 4.2.4 The results of the evaluation add to the known Late Neolithic, Roman and Anglo-Saxon sites in Litlington. The presence of high status Roman pottery in fresh condition along with a range of CBM suggests the presence of a building somewhere nearby that may be related to the villa estate 250m to the west (Fig. 1, 03186; Hall 2010).
- 4.2.5 There is moderate potential for the preservation of environmental remains on the site, with animal bone being the most likely material to be recovered. Sufficient data was gathered by the evaluation to inform a mitigation strategy for further archaeological work on the site.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 Two distinct phases of activity, prior to the post-medieval period, were identified during the evaluation. Late Neolithic activity was identified in the northern part of the site (Trench 3) comprising two intercutting pits containing pottery sherds. Roman activity, forming the most significant phase of use on the site, was focussed towards the south-eastern side of the development area comprising boundary or enclosure ditches along with a number of shallow pits and posthole like features.

Late Neolithic remains

4.3.2 Considerable Neolithic activity is known from other areas of South Cambridgeshire (See Appendix B.1). Whilst the Grooved Ware pottery sherds recovered from pits 132 and 104 probably resulted from a single depositional episode, they were abraded

suggesting the pottery was originally deposited elsewhere prior to deposition on the site (Gilmour pers. com). Only two worked flints were recovered from the evaluation but these are potentially commensurate with the Late Neolithic date posited by the pottery.

Roman remains

- 4.3.3 The ditches were likely to represent boundary divisions or an enclosure ditch sequence perhaps originating in the mid Roman period and continuing in use till the 4th century AD. The distribution of discrete features suggests that activity was focussed in the southern part of the site immediately to the north-east of the sequence of ditches at the western end of Trench 6. The CBM recovered is almost exclusively of Roman date. The quality and nature of this material indicates the presence of one or more tile roofed buildings with heated rooms somewhere nearby. It is not unreasonable to suggest that these remains possibly derived from the Roman villa estate (Fig. 1, 03186) that lay 250m to the west of the site.
- 4.3.4 This connection to the villa is further substantiated by the Roman pottery, which included high status imported wares and locally produced grey wares of similar forms and fabrics found at the villa estate (Hall 2010).
- 4.3.5 The animal bone, which included horse, cattle and sheep alongside a small number of poorly preserved cereal grains suggest a site where mixed husbandry was practised. It is possible that the presence of slag indicates some 'industrial' activity also took place within the development area.

Anglo-Saxon remains

4.3.6 The recovery of two sherds of Middle Saxon pottery from ditches 130 (Trench 5) and 139 (Trench 6) indicates a low level of background activity of the period, presumably when these ditches remained as partially silted features within the landscape. Saxon occupation has been recorded 500m to the north-west of the development area and it is possible that this material was derived from that activity.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The results of this evaluation are significant in that they further elucidate what is known of the extent of Romano-British occupation in Litlington and south Cambridgeshire. The pottery and ceramic building material suggests a possible link between the activity here and the nearby villa, either directly or indirectly.
- 4.4.2 The Late Neolithic Groove Ware assemblage, although small is significant as there are few known sites of this date in the immediate vicinity. The abraded pottery may be residual and likely derived from a single vessel. The fragility of pottery of this date means that its original point of deposition is unlikely to have been far from where it was recovered. Its presence adds to the corpus of later Neolithic sites in south Cambridgeshire.



APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1 General de	escription				Orientation	SE-NW-NE
		id of archae	ology Cor	sists of topsoil (0.34m) and subsoil	Length (m)	50
				nical pit was located at the southern	Width (m)	1.8
end.	enying nata	indi geology	rigeoteen	filed pit was located at the southern	Avg. depth (m)	0. 56
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.	Type	(m)	(m)	Description	Tinus	Date
101	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	0.66	Subsoil	-	-
103	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
Trench 2					1	
General de					Orientation	NNE-SSW
			onsists of t	opsoil (0.30m) and subsoil (0.42m)	Length (m)	50
overlying r	natural geolo	ogy.			Width (m)	1.8
			1		Avg. depth (m)	0.65
101	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	0.42	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 3						
General de					Orientation	NE-SW
				e present. Consists of topsoil (0.33m)	Length (m)	50
and subsoi	il (0.39m) ov	erlying natu	ural geolog	у.	Width (m)	1.8
				Avg. depth (m)	0.65	
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
101	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	0.39	Subsoil	-	-
104	Cut	0.46	0.26	Pit	-	-
105	Fill	-	0.26	Pit	Pottery & bone	Late Neolithic
106	Cut	0.30	0.25	Gully	-	-
107	Fill	-	0.25	Gully	-	-
132	Cut	1.05	0.33	Pit	-	-
133	Fill	-	0.33	Pit	Pottery	Late Neolithic
Trench 4	•					
General de					Orientation	NW-SE
One pit pre	esent. Consis	sts of topsoi	I (0.28m) a	nd subsoil (0.22 m) overlying natural	Length (m)	50
geology.					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Туре	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
101	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
108	Cut	0.56	0.30	Pit	-	-
109	Fill	-	0.30	Pit	-	-
Trench 5					1	
General de	escription				Orientation	E-W
	es and two	unknown/	Length (m)	50		
			ral geology. In the southern half of	Width (m)	1.8	
the trench		eposits of h		nd compressed sub-soil also overlie	Avg. depth (m)	0.80
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
101	Lavor		0.25	Topsoil	_	
	Layer	-				-
102	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-



Version 1

128	Cut	2.10	0.26	Ditch	-	-
129	Fill	-	0.26	Ditch	Pottery,CBM, Bone	Roman – early
						Medieval
130	Cut	2.90	0.34	Ditch	-	-
131	Fill	-	0.34	Ditch	Pottery,CBM, Bone	Roman – early Medieval
134	Cut	0.52	0.24	Unknown or natural	-	-
135	Fill	-	0.08	Unknown or natural	-	-
136	Fill	-	0.24	Unknown or natural	-	-
137	Cut	0.32	0.12	Unknown or natural	-	-
138	Fill	-	0.12	Unknown or natural	-	-
149	Layer	-	0.40	Hardcore/rubble	-	Modern
150	Layer	-	0.05	Cement	-	Modern
151	Layer	_	0.34	Rolled & compacted subsoil	_	Modern
				Subsoil (same as (102)		
152	Layer	-	0.44	,	-	-
153	Cut	-	0.70	Possible pit		-
154	Fill	-	0.70	Possible pit	Tile & Pottery	Roman
Trench 6						
General de					Orientation	NE-SW
				d three potential features present.	Length (m)	50
				m) overlying natural geology. In the swere also present.	Width (m)	2 0.30
Context	Type	Width	Depth		Avg. depth (m) Finds	Date
No.	туре	(m)	(m)	Description	rinus	Date
101	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
112	Cut	0.90	0.24	Pit	-	
112	Fill	0.70	0.24	Pit	-	
113	Cut	0.75	0.24	Unknown	-	
115	Fill	-	0.12	Unknown	Pottery	Roman
116	Cut	0.30	0.12	Posthole	-	Roman
117	Fill	-	0.12	Posthole	Pottery	Roman
118	Cut	0.70	0.10	Unknown	-	
119	E:11					
117	Fill	-	0.10	Unknown	Pottery	Roman
120	Cut	- 0.60	0.06	Unknown	-	-
120 121	Cut Fill	0.60	0.06	Unknown Unknown	Pottery - Pottery	Roman - Roman
120 121 122	Cut Fill Cut	0.60 - 1.20	0.06 0.06 0.36	Unknown Unknown Ditch	- Pottery -	- Roman -
120 121 122 123	Cut Fill Cut Fill	0.60 - 1.20 -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work	- Roman - Roman
120 121 122 123 124	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	0.60 - 1.20	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work -	- Roman - Roman -
120 121 122 123 124 125	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work - -	- Roman - Roman - - -
120 121 122 123 124 125 139	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work -	- Roman - Roman - - - -
120 121 122 123 124 125	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work - -	- Roman - Roman - - - - - Roman- early
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Fill Fill	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 - - -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.28	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work - - - - Pottery	- Roman - Roman
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141 142	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Fill Cut	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.52 0.28	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Gully	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work - - -	- Roman - Roman
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141 142 143	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Fill Fill Cut Fill Fill Cut Fill	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 - - 0.60 -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.52 0.52 0.28 0.28	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Gully Gully	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work Pottery Pottery	- Roman - Roman - Roman
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141 142 143 144	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 - - 0.60 - - - 0.60 - -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.52 0.28 0.28 0.63	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Gully Gully	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work Pottery Pottery	- Roman - Roman - Roman
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141 142 143 144 145	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 - - 0.60 -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.52 0.28 0.28 0.63 0.26	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Gully Gully Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work Pottery Pottery	- Roman - Roman - Roman
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Layer	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 - - 0.60 - - - 0.60 - -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.52 0.28 0.28 0.28 0.28 0.63 0.26 0.60	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Gully Gully Ditch Ditch Levelling deposit	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work Pottery Pottery	- Roman - Roman - Roman - Roman- early Medieval -
120 121 122 123 124 125 139 140 141 142 143 144 145	Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill Cut Fill	0.60 - 1.20 - 0.90 - 3.00 - - - 0.60 - - - - - - - - - - -	0.06 0.06 0.36 0.36 0.18 0.18 0.52 0.52 0.28 0.28 0.63 0.26	Unknown Unknown Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Ditch Gully Gully Ditch Ditch	- Pottery - Pottery, bone, metal work Pottery Pottery	- Roman - Roman - Roman

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Context	Trench	Category	Feature type	Cut	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Course component	Compaction	Shape in plan	Side	Base	Profile
104	3	cut	pit	104	0.46	0.26					circular	steep	concave	U-shaped
105	3	fill	pit	104		0.26	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	occasional flint	firm				
106	3	cut	gully	106	0.3	0.25					linear	steep	flat	flat bottomed V-shaped
107	3	fill	gully	106		0.25	light greyish brown	sandy silt		indurated				
108	4	cut	pit	108	0.56	0.3					sub-circular	steep	concave	U-shaped
109	4	fill	pit	108		0.3	light brownish grey	sandy silt		indurated				
112	6	cut	pit	112	0.9	0.24					sub-circular	steep to north-west, gentle to south-east	concave	U-shaped
113	6	fill	pit	112		0.24	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint and rounded stone	firm				
114	6	cut	unknown	114	0.75	0.12						gentle	concave	U-shaped
115	6	fill	unknown	114		0.12	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent small flint	firm				
116	6	cut	post hole	116	0.3	0.02					circular	steep	concave	U-shaped
117	6	fill	post hole	116		0.12	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent small flint	firm				
118	6	cut	unknown feature	118	0.7	0.1						steep	flat	U-shaped
119	6	fill	unknown	118		0.1	mid greyish brown	sandy silt	occasional flint	firm				
120	6	cut	unknown	120	0.6	0.06						steep	flat	U-shaped
121	6	fill	unknown	120		0.06	light brownish grey	sandy silt		firm				
122	6	cut	ditch	122	1.2	0.36					linear	steep to south , stepped to north	flat	
123	6	fill	ditch	122		0.36	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	abundant flint , rare charcoal	firm				
124	6	cut	ditch	124	0.9	0.18					linear	steep	concave	U-shaped

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Context	Trench	Category	Feature type	Cut	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Course component	Compaction	Shape in plan	Side	Base	Profile
125	6	fill	ditch	124		0.18	light brownish grey	sandy silt	abundant flint and stone	indurated				
128	5	cut	ditch	128	2.1	0.26					linear	gentle	concave	U-shaped
129	5	fill	ditch	128	2.1	0.26	light greyish brown	sandy silt	abundant flint and stone	firm				
130	5	cut	ditch	130	2.9	0.34					linear	gentle	concave	U-shaped
131	5	fill	ditch	130		0.34	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	frequent flint	indurated				
132	3	cut	pit/natural feature	132	1.05	0.33					sub-circular	steep to north, stepped to south	irregular	irregular
133	3	fill	pit/natural feature	132		0.33	light yellowish grey	sandy silt	occasional flint and cobbles	firm				
134	5	cut	unknown	134	0.52	0.24					linear	steep	concave	U-shaped
135	5	fill	unknown	134		0.08	mid reddish brown	sandy silt		soft				
136	5	fill	unknown	134		0.24	light bluish grey	sandy silt		indurated				
137	5	cut	unknown	137	0.32	0.12					amorphous tending toward curvilinear	steep	concave	U-shaped
138	5	fill	unknown	137		0.12	light bluish grey	sandy silt	rare flint	indurated				
139	6	cut	ditch	139	3	0.52					linear	steep	flat	U-shaped
140	6	fill	ditch	139		0.52	light brownish grey	sandy silt	frequent flint and stone small to large	indurated				
141	6	fill	ditch	139		0.28	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small to medium flint and stones	firm				
142	6	cut	gully terminus	142	0.6	0.28					linear	steep	concave	U-shaped
143	6	fill	gully terminus	142		0.28	dark greyish brown	sandy silt	occasional flint and stones- small	soft				
144	6	cut	ditch	144	0.63	0.26					linear	gentle	concave	

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Context	Trench	Category	Feature type	Cut	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Course component	Compaction	Shape in plan	Side	Base	Profile
145	6	fill	ditch	144		0.26	mid brownish grey	sandy silt	occasional small to medium flecks , pieces chalk and lint	indurated				
146	6	layer	levelling deposit	0		0.6	dark greyish brown	sandy silt	abundant flint small to medium	firm				
147	6	layer	levelling deposit	0		0.54	dark brownish grey	silty sand	frequent flint and stone, small to medium					
148	6		geological layer	0										
149	5	layer	hard core levelling	0		0.4	mid yellowish brown	sand	brick, ceramic building material, limestone/chalk, unidentified concretion	loose				
150	5	layer	levelling	0		0.03	light grey	cement		friable				
151	5	layer		0		0.34	mid brownish grey	silty clay	ceramic building material, flint, stone	firm				
152	5	layer	sub soil	0										
153	5	cut	possible pit	153		0.7								
154	5	fill	possible pit	153		0.7	mid grey	clayey silt	ceramic building material stone, bone	firm				

Table 1: Context dimensions and descriptions

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Later Neolithic Pottery

By Nick Gilmour

Introduction

- B.1.1 The evaluation yielded 38 sherds of Later Neolithic pottery (502g) with a high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 13.2g. The pottery was recovered from two contexts, fill 105 of post hole **104** and fill 133 of pit **132** (Table 2).
- B.1.2 The pottery dates from the Late Neolithic period. It includes a small number of feature sherds characteristic of Grooved Ware ceramics, together with fabrics typically associated with this ceramic tradition in the region.
- B.1.3 The pottery is in moderate to good condition, as reflected in the high MSW, although the surface of most sherds is abraded.

			Feature				Comment
Trench	Context	Cut	Туре	Spot Date	Sum of No sherds	Sum of Wt (g)	
3	105	104	Pit	LNEO	2	10	Flat base
					2	38	
					4	19	
3	133	132	Pit	LNEO			Re-fitting vertical applied
					2	144	cordon
							vertical applied
					3	133	cordon
					3	14	Pointed rim
					1	21	Flat base
					9	77	
					10	38	
							Small incised
					2	9	lines
Total					38	503	

Table 2: Catalogue of prehistoric pottery

Methodology

B.1.4 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2011). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group 9 in this case only one). Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described in the catalogue, and were 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, shoulder and/or other diagnostic features, the vessel was categorised by ceramic tradition (Collared Urn, Deverel-Rimbury etc.).

Prehistoric pottery fabrics

B.1.5 All of the pottery is in the same fabric; common fine to medium grog (1-3mm), with sparse quartz sand.

Grooved Ware pottery

B.1.6 All of the pottery (38 sherds, 502g) examined within this report is Grooved Ware. The assemblage is characterised by sherds in a soft grog tempered fabric, which are not unusual within Grooved Ware in this region.

Posthole 104

B.1.7 All of the pottery from context 105, pit 104 is likely to derive from the same vessel. The assemblage from this feature consists of 6 plain body sherds (57g) and two sherds (10g) from a simple flat base. This material has been dated to the Late Neolithic period and is believed to be from the Grooved Ware tradition because of the fabric it is in and the similarity of these sherds to those recovered from feature 132.

Pit 132

B.1.8 The majority of the prehistoric pottery recovered during this evaluation was found within context 133, within a pit or natural hollow **132**. The assemblage from this feature comprised 30 sherds (436g) of pottery, which are likely to be from the same vessel. Although the surface of all of these sherds is highly abraded, five sherds (277g) retained parts of an applied vertical cordon. This cordon is decorated with discontinuous diagonal strokes (Longworth 1971, p64, F25 no.10). On one of these sherds is probable remains of diagonal grooved lines, which may have formed a filled triangle decorative feature. Three sherds (14g) are from the rim of a vessel. This is a pointed closed rim (Longworth 1971, p57, Fig 20 No. 4).

Discussion

- B.1.9 The Grooved Ware was all recovered from two features in the same trench. It is possible that all of this pottery originates from the same vessel. Some re-fitting is present, although only within the assemble from feature **132**. The presence of this pottery is still of interest and adds to a limited corpus of locations where this type pottery has been found in the region.
- B.1.10 This Grooved Ware pottery is likely to fall within the Durrington Walls sub-style, as defined by Longworth (1971, 240). The probable single vessel present is bucket-shaped. The decoration on the vessels also fits within this sub-style, consisting of a decorated cordon, with potential incised decoration in panels either side.
- B.1.11 There are few very local sites where Grooved Ware has been found, but sherds are known from across Cambridgeshire, particularly on Chalk geology. Some of the closest sites include Cambridge (Hills Road), Cherry Hinton (South barrow) and Chippenham



(Barrow II) (Longworth and Cleal 1999, 180). More recently, 96 sherds (238g) of Grooved Ware were recovered from five pits, cut into the natural chalk, at Peterhouse Technology Park, Cherry Hinton (Gilmour 2106). Perhaps a better comparison comes from pottery found at Linton Village College, Linton. Here 292 sherds (872g) of pottery were recovered from eight pits and two later ditches (Percival forthcoming). The Linton pottery is also almost entirely in grog tempered fabrics.

B.2 Roman and later pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

- B.2.1 A total of 107 sherds, weighing 3340g, of Roman pottery was recovered from the site. Where the pottery can be closely dated it comprised coarse and fine wares consistent with late Roman production. A minimum of 45 vessels were found.
- B.2.2 Pottery was recovered in two (Trenches 5 & 6) of the six trenches that were excavated; both of which were located in the south-eastern part of the site. Most of the pottery was found within ditches, but smaller amounts were also found in a possible pit, a gully, a post-hole and undiagnostic features (Table 3).
- B.2.3 None of the vessels were deliberately placed and all are fragmentary. It is worthy of note, however, that a large part of a Sandy grey ware jar, although shattered, was recovered from deposit 123 in Ditch **122**. The pottery has survived in good condition with surface finishes and residues surviving which suggests minimal post-depositional disturbance. The pottery has an average sherd size of 31g.

Trench	Feature	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
5		44	606	18.14
	?pit	2	23	
	ditch	42	583	
6		61	2712	81.20
	ditch	56	1737	
	gully	2	3	
	post hole	1	918	
	undiagnostic	2	54	
Plough				0.66
soil		2	22	
Total		107	3340	100.00

Table 3: The Roman pottery quantified by trench and feature type

Methodology

B.2.4 The pottery was evaluated following the national guidelines (Barclay et al 2016). The total assemblage was studied, and a catalogue was prepared (Table 5). The sherds were examined using a hand lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined based on inclusion types present. Vessel forms (jar, bowl) were also

recorded. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted. The assemblage was assessed for illustration, however, due to its small sherd size and general poor condition none was selected. OA East curates the pottery and archive.

The Fabrics and Forms

B.2.5 Seven broad fabric groups were identified (Table 4).

Fabric (Abbreviation)	Vessel Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
Sandy grey ware (SGW)	Beaker, dish, flanged dish, jar	74	2637	78.95
Horningsea coarse ware (HORN)	Storage jar	7	462	13.83
Nene Valley colour coat (NVCC)	Beaker, bowl, castor box, flanged bowl, jar, jug	17	124	3.71
Grey ware with grog temper (GW(GROG))	Storage jar	2	79	2.37
Shelly ware (STW)	Jar	5	24	0.72
Hadham red ware (HAD REDW)	Jar/bowl	1	7	0.21
Samian (SAM)	Mortaria	1	7	0.21
Total		107	3340	100.00

Table 4: The Roman pottery, listed in descending order of weight (%)

Coarse wares

- B.2.6 Chronologically the earliest material are two handmade grog tempered storage jar fragments, one of which has external combed decoration. These vessels started to be produced in the Late Iron Age and continued in use well into the Roman period. Other storage jar wares include several examples of handmade Horningsea vessels, distinctively combed on both internal and external surfaces. These large jars were made within an industry centred around Horningsea located north-east of Cambridge, c. 27km to the north-east of Litlington (Evans *et al.* 2017).
- B.2.7 The majority of the assemblage, however, comprises utilitarian Sandy grey ware jars and dishes which are the products of local kilns. These vessels are mostly undecorated, although some are burnished to a high sheen. Various kiln sites around Cambridge are probable sources, but other local kiln sites undoubtedly await discovery. Small quantities of Shelly wares were also found, although only in small quantities and exclusively as globular jars (cooking pots), their origin is thought also to be local (Monteil 2013, 93).

Fine ware

B.2.8 Domestic fines wares are relatively well-represented within the assemblage with a range of Lower Nene Valley colour coated vessels recorded. This material includes folded beakers (Perrin 1999, 94), flanged bowls (Perrin 1999, 102) and Castor boxes



(Perrin 1999, 98-100) all of which formed part of the late Roman repertoire of the industry. Other late Roman fines wares include a single fragment from a Hadham red-slipped ware jar/bowl form (Tyers 1996, 168-169).

Imported specialist ware

B.2.9 A single sherd from a central Gaulish samian mortarium was recovered. These mixing bowls, designed for the table, were high-status expensive items imported into Britain between the mid-2nd and mid-3rd centuries AD (Tyers 1996, 110, fig 94, Dr43 & Dr 45).

Post-Roman pottery

B.2.10 A very small quantity of pottery post-dating the Roman period was found (Table 6). Two mid-Saxon Ipswich ware (Laing 2003, 76) jar body sherds were found in ditches 130 and 139. In addition, a post medieval or early modern glazed white ware plate fragment was recovered from the plough soil.

Summary

B.2.11 This is a small group of well-preserved, primarily, Late Roman pottery. The assemblage includes locally made utilitarian kitchen ware vessels, as well as finer tables wares including an imported samian mortaria. The pottery is similar in fabric, form and date to the ceramic material found during earlier excavations by the Time Team (Perrin 2010) and may relate to the villa estate that was known to have existed near-by.

Recommendations for further work

B.2.12 No further analytical work is recommended at this stage of works. If the site does progress to full excavation, however, it is recommended that the pottery from all stages of archaeological works be incorporated into the interpretation of the complete assemblage.

Pottery catalogue (Roman)

KEY: B = base, C=century, D = decorated body sherd, Dsc = description, E=early, ERB = Early Roman, L=late, M=mid, R = rim, U=undecorated body sherd

Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	*Fabric	Dsc	Vessel	Count	Weight (g)	Pot Date
	101		plough soil	NVCC	U	JAR	1	18	C3-C4
	101		plough soil	STW	UB	JAR/BOWL	1	4	C1-C4
6	117	116	post hole	SGW	R	DISH	1	918	MC3-C4
6	119	118	unknown	SGW	U	JAR	1	15	MC1-C4
6	121	120	unknown	SGW	R	JAR	1	39	C3-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	RUDB	JAR	10	757	C3-C4

*For full fabric names see Table 4.



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ų	ext		Ire	. <u>9</u>			t	Weight (g)	ate
Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	*Fabric	Dsc	Vessel	Count	Weig	Pot Date
6	123	122	ditch	HORN	D	STORAGE JAR	3	275	C2-C3
6	123	122	ditch	GW(GROG)	U	STORAGE JAR	1	60	C1-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	В	DISH	1	111	C3-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	UB	BEAKER	1	52	LC1-C4
6	123	122	ditch	NVCC	UH	JUG	2	38	C3-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	RU	JAR	3	109	C2-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	RUDB	JAR	1	7	C3-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	В	DISH	1	1	C3-C4
6	123	122	ditch	SGW	U	JAR	5	25	LC1-C4
5	129	128	ditch	SGW	RU	JAR	4	45	MC1-MC2
5	129	128	ditch	SGW	R	DISH	1	7	MC1-MC2
5	131	130	ditch	SAM	U	MORTARIA	1	7	M/LC-MC3
5	131	130	ditch	HORN	D	SJAR	1	97	C2-C3
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	FLANGED DISH	1	9	MC3-C4
5	131	130	ditch	NVCC	RD	CASTOR BOX	5	34	C3-C4
5	131	130	ditch	NVCC	RUD	BEAK	6	21	LC2-C4
5	131	130	ditch	STW	RU	JAR	3	18	C1-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	DISH	1	19	MC2-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	DISH	1	23	MC2-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	В	DISH	1	75	C2-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	U	JAR	12	80	C2-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	JAR	2	64	C3-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	JAR	1	39	C3-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	JAR	1	9	C2-C4
5	131	130	ditch	SGW	R	JAR	1	36	C2-C4
6	140	139	ditch	NVCC	R	BOWL	1	1	C3-C4
6	140	139	ditch	HAD REDW	U	JAR/BOWL	1	7	C4
6	140	139	ditch	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL	4	25	C3-C4
6	140	139	ditch	GW(GROG)	D	STORAGE JAR	1	19	C1
6	140	139	ditch	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL	1	8	C3-C4
6	141	139	ditch	HORN	D	STORAGE JAR	3	90	C2-C3
6	141	139	ditch	NVCC	UF	FLANGED BOWL	1	11	C3-C4
6	141	139	ditch	SGW	В	DISH	4	29	C3-C4
6	141	139	ditch	SGW	U	JAR	5	57	LC1-C4
6	141	139	ditch	SGW	U	JAR/BOWL	5	43	C3-C4
6	143	142	gully	NVCC	U	BEAKER	1	1	MC2-C4
6	143	142	gully	STW	U	JAR/BOWL	1	2	NCD
6	145	144	ditch	SGW	UD	JAR	2	12	MC1-C4

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	Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	*Fabric	Dsc	Vessel	Count	Weight (g)	Pot Date
5	5	154	153	?pit	SGW	U	JAR	2	23	MC1-C4

Table 5: Roman pottery catalogue

Pottery catalogue (post-Roman)

	Trench	Context	Cut	Feature	Fabric Family	Dsc	Vessel	Count	Weight (g)	Pot Date
ſ		101		Plough soil	White ware	U	PLATE	1	12	C18-C19
Ī	5	131	130	ditch	IPS PIMP	U	JAR	2	42	C7-C9
	6	141	139	ditch	IPS PIMP	U	JAR	1	42	C7-C9

Table 6: Post-Roman pottery catalogue

B.3 Ceramic building material

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- B.3.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM), 60 fragments weighing 9.324kg, was recovered mainly from ditches across the evaluated trenches. The bulk of the assemblage by weight is Roman brick/tile (to which a form cannot be assigned)
- B.3.2 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. Fabrics are briefly described; a fuller description would be recorded if further work is undertaken. Dating is broad as there is no indication of legionary or other marks, and Brodribb (1989), McComish (2015) and Warry (2006) form the basis for identification.

Assemblage

- B.3.3 The assemblage of CBM is mostly moderately abraded, except for a few small abraded fragments. The bulk of the assemblage is Roman with only a single fragment of CBM from ditch **144** in Trench 6, which may be post-Roman.
- B.3.4 Ditch **130** in Trench 5 and ditches **122** and **139** in Trench 6 all contained Roman CBM indicative of a villa or similar building with a tile roof (*tegula* and *imbrex*), and an underfloor heating system (box flue tile).

Discussion

B.3.5 A fragmentary assemblage of mostly Roman CBM was recovered from the site, with box flue tile and t*egula* fragments recovered from ditches in Trenches 5 and 6



suggesting that a substantial and high-status Roman building existed nearby. Most likely the CBM originates from the villa which lies to the west of the development and was partially excavated in the 19th century. The majority of the CBM is likely to have been produced locally, the only exception to this may be the shell-tempered *tegula* from ditch **130**.

Retention, dispersal or display

- B.3.6 The CBM assemblage is fragmentary, although its significance is certain, given the presence of box flue tiles. Should further work be undertaken, additional CBM would probably be recovered. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the CBM may be deselected prior to archive deposition.
- B.3.7 CBM catalogue by Trench is shown in Table 7.

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Feature	CBM Description and Form	No. of	Weight (kg)	Date
3	105	104	type Post hole	Formless fragment of CBM or fired/burnt clay in a dull red-brown silty fabric. Fabric B. Heavily abraded	fragments 1	0.010	Roman?
5	129	128	Ditch	Fragment of brick/tile broken into four pieces in a dull red-brown silty fabric with a black core. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Lightly sanded but uneven base. Fabric B with black core. Thickness 34-39mm. Moderately abraded	4	0.278	Roman
				Formless fragment of CBM in a dull red- brown silty fabric. A single surface survives. Fabric B. Abraded	1	0.012	
				Slightly curved fragment of brick/tile possibly a fragment of <i>imbrex</i> in a dull red-brown silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 18-22mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.049	
				Triangular fragment of brick/tile possibly a <i>tegula</i> fragment in a dull orange silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Uneven, coarsely sanded base. Fabric A. Thickness 19- 22mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.091	
	131	130	Ditch	Fragment of <i>tegula</i> broken into three pieces. Tile thickness 23-25mm, flange height 28mm, flange width 20mm. Flange form E (Warry 2006). Lightly sanded base. Shelly fabric with fine quartz and rare mica, dull grey-brown in colour. Fabric C. Moderately abraded	3	0.391	Roman
				Formless fragment of CBM in a dull red- brown silty fabric. A single surface survives. Fabric B. Abraded	1	0.002	
				Fragment of <i>tegula</i> . Tile thickness 23- 25mm, flange incomplete. Lightly sanded base. Silty fabric with fine quartz and occasional calcareous inclusions, dull orange-red in colour.	1	0.265	



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Feature type	CBM Description and Form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
				Fabric A, with dark grey core. Moderately abraded			
				Possible fragment of <i>box flue tile</i> . Tile thickness 23-25mm, flange absent. Lightly sanded base. Both surfaces very uneven. Dull red-brown silty fabric. Fabric B, darker. Moderately abraded	1	0.084	
				Box flue tile fragment with fine, shallow combed lines (comb of 7 or more teeth). Thickness 20mm. Fabric A, with dark grey core. Moderately abraded	1	0.101	
				Triangular fragment of brick/tile in a dull red-brown silty fabric with a dark grey core. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Uneven, coarsely sanded base. Fabric B, darker. Thickness 38mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.471	
				Fragment of brick/tile in a dull red- orange silty fabric. Uneven, coarsely sanded base. Fabric B, more orange. 39mm thick. Moderately abraded	1	0.156	
				Box flue tile fragment with fine, shallow combed lines (comb of 5 or more teeth). Internally sooted. Thickness 21mm. Fabric A, more buff, with dark grey core. Moderately abraded	1	0.145	
				Fragment of brick/tile (?box flue tile) in a dull red-brown silty. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Uneven, coarsely sanded base. Fabric B, darker. Thickness 18-22mm. Moderately abraded	2	0.067	
				Possible corner fragment of tile in Fabric A. Thickness 16-18mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.033	
	154	153	Pit	Fragment of brick/tile thickness 23- 25mm, Lightly sanded base. Both surfaces uneven. Dull orange silty fabric. Fabric B, orange. Moderately abraded	1	2.019	Roman
6	123	122	Ditch	<i>Tegula</i> fragment. Tile thickness 19- 17mm, flange is a variation on type E (Warry 2006). Lightly sanded base. Silty fabric with fine quartz and occasional calcareous inclusions, dull orange-red in colour. Fabric A. Moderately abraded	1	0.240	Roman
				Box flue tile fragment with fine, shallow combed lines (comb of 14 or more teeth) Pattern appears to be vertical with a diagonal cross. Edge scar survived. Thickness 19-21m. Fabric A, with mid grey core. Moderately abraded	1	0.348	
				Formless fragment of CBM in a dull orange silty fabric. Fabric A. Abraded Fragment of brick/tile or in a dull red- brown silty fabric. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Moderately abraded	1	0.007	



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Feature type	CBM Description and Form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
				Fragment of CBM possibly a <i>tegula</i> in a dull red-brown silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 20mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.048	
				Fragment of brick/tile in a dull orange silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Lightly sanded base. Fabric A. Thickness 32mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.104	
				Fragment of brick/tile in a dull red- brown silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive, upper surface smooth and burnt. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 31mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.107	
				Fragment of brick/tile in a dull red- brown silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive, upper surface is reduced. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 34mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.085	
				Fragment of brick/tile in a purplish black silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Lightly sanded but uneven base. Fabric A reduced. Thickness 36mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.098	
				Triangular fragment of tile/brick in a dull orange silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive, and a section of edge. Uneven, lightly sanded base. Fabric A. Thickness 31mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.286	
				Fragment of brick/tile in a dull orange silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Uneven and distorted. Rough, lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 28-30mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.365	
				Sub-rectangular fragment of tile/brick (most likely a <i>tegula</i>) in a dull orange silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Smooth upper surface has a single-digit finger signature. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 25mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.383	
	140	139	Ditch	Formless fragment of CBM in a dull red- brown silty fabric. Fabric B. Moderately abraded	1	0.003	Roman?
				Possible fragment of <i>tegula</i> , ?flange broken. Lightly sanded base. Dull red- brown silty fabric. Fabric B, with a dark grey core. Moderately abraded	1	0.045	
				Corner fragment of brick/tile. Upper and lower surfaces survive, also two lengths of edge. Lightly sanded but uneven base. Fabric A. Thickness 31- 36mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.282	
	141	139	Ditch	Fragment of brick/tile in a very laminar mid grey silty fabric with some red- brown lenses. Partial upper and lower surfaces and a portion of edge survive.	1	0.309	Roman



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Feature type	CBM Description and Form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
				Lower surface is very coarsely sanded. Fabric D. Thickness 53mm. Moderately abraded			
				Seven fragments, possibly from the same tile. Upper surface smooth, possibly reduced, purplish-brown; lower surface moderately sanded. Two fragments also have a portion of edge. Fabric B, with a dark grey core. Thickness 36-37mm. Slightly abraded	7	0.544	
				Curved tile/ <i>imbrex</i> broken into two pieces. Upper surface smooth, lower surface moderately sanded. One fragment also has a portion of edge, the second has a portion of edge/end. Fabric B. Thickness 22-27mm. Slightly abraded	2	0.602	
				Curved tile/ <i>imbrex</i> broken into two pieces. Upper surface smooth, lower surface moderately sanded. Fragments also have a portion of edge/end. Fabric B. Thickness 19mm. Slightly abraded	2	0.042	
				One fragment of curved tile/ <i>imbrex</i> . Upper surface smooth, lower surface moderately sanded. Fabric B. Thickness 23mm. Slightly abraded	1	0.120	
				Fragment of brick/tile. Upper and lower surfaces and a portion of edge survive. Lower surface is coarsely sanded. Fabric B, Thickness 40mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.463	
				Three formless fragments of CBM with a surviving surface that is coarsely sanded and bears traces of mortar. Fabric B with occasional grog. Slightly abraded	3	0.026	
				Formless fragment of brick/tile. Fabric A. Moderately abraded	1	0.035	
				Fragment of tile, probably <i>tegula</i> . Upper and lower surfaces survive. Buff gritty fabric. Fabric E. Thickness 22mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.081	
				Fragment of <i>tegula</i> . Tile thickness 18- 19mm, flange incomplete. Lightly sanded uneven base. Silty fabric with fine quartz and occasional calcareous inclusions, dull orange-red in colour. Fabric A. Moderately abraded	1	0.116	
				Fragment of <i>tegula</i> . Tile thickness 18mm, flange height 26mm, flange width 20mm. Flange form E and lower cutaway C1 (Warry 2006) with a shallow groove along the top. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Moderately abraded	1	0.139	
				Fragment of <i>tegula</i> . Tile thickness 29mm, flange height 21mm, flange width 20mm. Flange form E (Warry	1	0.228	



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Feature type	CBM Description and Form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
				2006) with beginning of a cutaway. Fabric A. Moderately abraded			
	145	144	Ditch	Fragment of tile in a dull red-brown silty fabric. Upper and lower surfaces survive. Lightly sanded base. Fabric B. Thickness 11mm. Moderately abraded	1	0.022	?Post- medieval
Total					60	9.324	

 Table 7: Ceramic Building Material catalogue

B.4 Ceramic building material

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.4.1 A single fragment of slag, weighing 0.008kg, was collected by hand from Trench 5. The slag was weighed and rapidly recorded, with basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

B.4.2 The slag was recovered from Ditch **128** in Trench 5. It consists of a small formless piece of near-black glassy undiagnostic slag. The fragment is completely non-magnetic.

Discussion

B.4.3 The slag indicates iron smelting or ironworking on or close to the area evaluated. Alternatively, the material may represent the disposal of waste, as only small quantities were recovered. Ditch **128** contained Roman pottery and ceramic building material.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.4.4 The slag assemblage is fragmentary, and its significance is uncertain, other than to possibly indicate metalworking. Should further work be undertaken, additional metalworking deposits may be recovered. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the slag may be deselected prior to archive deposition

B.5 Building stone

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.5.1 A total of 0.572kg of stone was recovered from two ditches, 130 in Trench 5 and 139 in Trench 6. Basic recording only has been undertaken with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

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- B.5.2 Trench 5, Ditch **130** produced an irregular, thin fragment of greyish pink fine-grained sandstone (0.091kg). Although several faces appear to be roughly flat, this is due to the natural cleavage of the stone, and none show evidence of working. It is likely to originally have been used for roofing or flooring.
- B.5.3 From Ditch **139** in Trench 6, four irregular fragments (0.481kg) of greyish pink finegrained sandstone were recovered. As with the previous example, there is no evidence of working and these fragments may also be related to roofing or flooring.

Discussion

B.5.4 The stone recovered from the ditches is not closely datable, although Roman pottery and CBM was recovered from the features.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.5.5 The stone assemblage is fragmentary, and its significance is uncertain, other than to possibly indicate roofing or flooring techniques. Should further work be undertaken, additional stone may be recovered. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the stone may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

B.6 Metalwork

By Denis Sami

Introduction

B.6.1 A total of four metal artefacts were recovered from the excavation of a ditch in Trench 6 (Table 8). The assemblage dates to the Roman period.

Methodology

B.6.2 All artefacts were analysed according to the Oxford Archaeology East small finds standard. Manning (1985) was used as reference for the iron artefacts, while the Roman Imperial Coinage vol. IX (RIC) was consulted in the identification of coin SF 03.

The assemblage

- B.6.3 Iron objects dominate the assemblage with only one artefact made in copper-alloy (Table 6). All metal artefacts were recovered from the backfills of a ditch excavated in Trench 6.
- B.6.4 Iron artefacts are heavily rusted and have thick encrustation, while the copper alloy coin is heavily oxidised and partially readable.
- B.6.5 The coin can only be identified by its type as a A3, SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE, Victory left dating between AD 364 and 378 (RIC IX). No obverse or reverse inscriptions are readable.



Version 1

SF	Context	Trench	Feature	Material	Artefact	Quantity	Description	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Diam. (mm)	Weight (gr)	Spot date	Date min.	Date max.
1	12 3	6	ditc h	Fe (iron)	nail	1	Truncated tapering shaft with sub-square cross- section and sub- rectangula r flat head	49. 2	6. 4	19.8			RM		
2	12 3	6	ditc h	Fe (iron)	rin g	1	A very encrusted ring with oval cross- section			4.3	45. 3		RM		
4	14 1	6	ditc h	Fe (iron)	wir e	1	a fragment of a metal wire with circular cross- section	53. 2			2.8		MO D		
3	14 0	6	ditc h	CuA (coppe r-alloy)	coi n	1	SECVRITAS REI PVBLICAE				18. 4	2.3 3	RM	36 4	37 8

 Table 8: Metalwork quantification

Chronology

B.6.6 Given the limited variation in shape, size and forging technique, nails and other iron artefacts are difficult objects to date. The chronology of the iron assemblage is here assumed from the associated ceramic (Lyons this report).

Character and distribution

- B.6.7 Given the limited variation in shape, size and forging technique, nails and other iron artefacts are difficult objects to date. The chronology of the iron assemblage is here assumed from the associated ceramic (Lyons this report).
- B.6.8 The metal artefacts are concentrated exclusively in Trench 6.

Discussion

B.6.9 It is most likely that excavation around Trench 6 will produce more metalwork.

B.7 Flint

By Rona Booth

Introduction and methodology

B.7.1 Three pieces of flint were recovered from the evaluation. They were examined at the macro-scale and no catalogue was produced at this stage.



Results

- B.7.2 Flints were recovered from only two contexts. The top soil 101 at the southern-most end of Trench 3 produced a partially retouched flint flake and a broken blade-like flake. An unworked flint was recovered from Ditch **128** in Trench 5.
- B.7.3 The retouched flake was semi-abruptly retouched through the blue-white patinated surface to produce a crude convex scraping edge on one lateral and a concave scraping edge on the opposing lateral. It broadly dates to the Neolithic or Bronze Age. The broken flake was blade-like and is possibly Neolithic.
- B.7.4 The miscellaneous flint from Ditch **128** in Trench 5 was unworked and lightly burnt

Discussion and further work

- B.7.5 Although limited, this assemblage indicates later prehistoric activity in the area and further flint may be recovered during any excavations.
- B.7.6 Further work is not required at this stage, but this material should be added to any further flint assemblage obtained from future excavations.

B.8 Miscellaneous

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.8.1 A fragment of cement weighing 0.029kg was collected by hand during the evaluation, from Ditch **130** in Trench 5.

Discussion

B.8.2 The presence of the fragment of cement is likely to be the result of minor disturbance by animals or later ploughing and its presence alongside Roman material suggests it may be intrusive.

Retention, dispersal or display

B.8.3 The cement is fragmentary, and its significance is uncertain, other than to possibly indicate modern disturbance. Should further work be undertaken, additional cement fragments may be recovered. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the cement may be deselected prior to archive deposition.



APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Martha Craven

Introduction

- C.1.1 Five bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area at Sheen Farm, Litlington, Cambridgeshire in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from features encountered within trenches 3, 5 and 6 from deposits that are thought to be mid to late Roman.
- C.1.2 The total volume (up to 16L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

Methodology

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 9. 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. 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.1.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:
 - # = 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens
- C.1.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and molluscs have been scored for abundance

+ = occasional, ++ = moderate, +++ = frequent, ++++ = abundant

Key to tables:

f=fragmented

Results

C.1.6 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and is generally poor; many of the flots contain rootlets which may have caused movement of material between contexts. A total of three samples contain preserved plant remains.



- C.1.7 Sample 5, fill 143 of gully 142 (Trench 6) contained 7 very poorly preserved cereal grains. These were very abraded which precludes accurate identification to species although some of the grains most resemble barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Sample 1, fill 123 of ditch 122(Trench 6), Sample 2, fill 129 of ditch 128 (Trench 5) and Sample 4, fill 140 of ditch 139 (Trench 6) all contained two or less, heavily abraded, cereal grain fragments which were unable to be identified. Sample 3, fill 105 of pit 104, (Trench 3), contained a fragment of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*).
- C.1.8 None of the sample residues are particularly finds-rich although pottery was recovered from Samples 1,3,4 and 5, which may be useful for dating.
- C.1.9 All of the samples contained reasonably well-preserved molluscs in moderate quantities.

Sample No.	Context No.	Trench No.	Cut No.	Feature type	Volume processed	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Hazel nut Shell	Snails In Flot	Charcoal Volume (ml)	Pottery	Small mammal bones	Large mammal bones	Hammer scale: flake
1	123	6	122	Ditch	14	20	#f	0	++	0	##	0	0	+
2	129	5	128	Ditch	16	50	#f	0	++	3	0	0	0	0
3	105	3	104	Pit	8	40	0	#f	+++	5	#	0	#	0
4	140	6	139	Ditch	12	50	#f	0	++	<1	#	0	0	0
5	143	6	142	Gully	13	50	##	0	++	0	#	#	0	0

Table 9: Environmental samples from Sheen Farm, Litlington

- C.1.10 The recovery of charred grain, nut-shell and charcoal indicates that there is moderate potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site. Future excavation has the potential to recover larger, more meaningful assemblages that would contribute to the evidence of diet and economy at this site.
- C.1.11 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Animal Bone

By Zoë Uí Choileáin

Introduction and methodology

- C.2.1 A small assemblage of animal bone weighing 3427g and totalling 48 countable fragments was recovered from the evaluation at Littlington. The phased material is Late Roman in date and was primarily recovered from ditches. The majority of material recorded is hand collected. The fragmentation levels are high and only 26 specimens can be identified to taxon. The remaining fragments were recorded as large or medium mammal and are included in Table 11.
- C.2.2 All bone was identified using Schmid (1972). Preservation condition was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (2004 14-15).

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Results

C.2.3 The surface condition of the bone on average is good representing 1 on the scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (ibid). 46.15 percent of the identifiable material represented is cattle. The remainder of the identifiable bone are examples of horse, Sheep/goat and deer. NISP (Number of identifiable specimens) and MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) are summarised for each taxon in Table 10.

Taxon	NISP	NISP%	MNI	MNI %	
cattle	12	46.15	1	16.66	
horse	7	26.92	1	16.66	
pig	1	3.85	1	16.66	
sheep/goat	5	19.23	2	33.33	
vole	1	3.85	1	16.66	
	26	100	6	100	

Table 10: NISP (Number of identifiable specimens) and MNI (Minimum number of individuals)

C.2.4 All taxons except for sheep/goat have an MNI of 1. There is no gnawing observable on the bone. Aging potential is primarily through fusion data. Only two unfused epiphyses are present; a cattle tibia and femur. Chop marks are observable on the distal thirds of a horse humerus and tibia. There are complete cattle metapodials meaning that metric data is available in order to estimate withers height and sex. A single example of pathology is present in the form of osteoarthritis on a cattle pelvis.

Summary and recommendations

C.2.5 This is a small assembly however it is a fairly typical representation of Romano-British domestic faunal assemblages where cattle often exists in higher proportions to sheep/goat or pig. The presence of horse bones could be a reflection of higher status occupation. It is possible that the butchery observed on the horse bone is more reflective of industrial processes rather than domestic. It is recommended that should further excavations take place this be investigated and the fusion data, sex estimations and withers height estimation be recorded and incorporated into any larger analysis.

Trench	Context	cut	Type	Date	Weight	Element	Count	Тахоп
3	105	104	pit		19	Loose max cheek tooth	1	Cattle
3	105	104	pit		10	Mandible	1	Large mammal



Version 1

Trench	Context	cut	Туре	Date	Weight	Element	Count	Taxon
						Loose mand		
3	105	104	pit	_	1	cheek tooth	1	Pig
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	156	Metacarpus	1	Cattle
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	178	Metacarpus	1	Cattle
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	121	Scapula	1	Cattle
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	174	Femur	1	Horse
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	112	Scapula	1	Horse
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	350	Tibia	1	Horse
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	368	Humerus	1	Horse
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	12	Humerus	1	Large mammal
								Large
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	21	Scapula	1	mammal
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	106	Skull	1	Large mammal
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	33	Skull	1	Large mammal
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	6	Rib	2	Medium mammal
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	44	Mandible	1	Sheep/Goat
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	10	Mandible	1	Sheep/Goat
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	15	Tibia	1	Sheep/Goat
						Loose mand		
6	123	122	ditch	C3-C4	4	cheek tooth	1	Sheep/Goat
	125				27	Loose max cheek tooth	1	Cattle
	125				186	Pelvis	1	Horse

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Version 1

Trench	Context	cut	Type	Date	Weight	Element	Count	Taxon
	125				88	Loose max cheek tooth	1	Horse
	105				70	Skull	1	Large
	125				78	SKUII	1	mammal Large
	125				57	Rib	1	mammal
				MC1-		Loose max		
5	129	128	ditch	MC2	31	cheek tooth	1	Cattle
5	129	128	ditch	MC1- MC2	25	Vertebra	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	183	Femur	1	Cattle
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	59	PH1	1	Horse
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	29	Femur	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	105	Scapula	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	9	Skull	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	58	Scapula	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	65	Vertebra	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	13	Mandible	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	27	Humerus	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	16	Vertebra	1	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	10	Rib	2	Large mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	5	Fibula	1	Medium mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	3	Rib	1	Medium mammal
5	131	130	ditch	MC3 +	9	Metapodial	1	Sheep/Goat
6	140	139	ditch	C4	129	Pelvis	1	Cattle

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Trench	Context	cut		Type	Date	Weight	Element	Count	Taxon
6	141	139	ditch		C4	31	Tibia	1	Cattle
6	141	139	ditch		C4	175	Radius	1	Cattle
6	141	139	ditch		C4	67	Loose mandibular row	1	Cattle
6	141	139	ditch		C4	201	Pelvis	1	Cattle
6	143	142	Gully		MC2-C4	1	Mandible	1	Vole/shrew
						3427		48	

Table 11: Total weight count and taxons present by feature

C.3 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

- C.3.1 A total of 0.012kg of shell was collected by hand during the evaluation. The shell recovered is an edible example of oyster *Ostrea edulis*, from estuarine, shallow coastal waters and intertidal zones. The shell is relatively moderately well preserved and does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed.
- C.3.2 The shell was weighed and recorded by species, with complete or near-complete right and left valves noted where identification can be made, using Winder (2011) as a guide and recorded in the text. The minimum number of individuals (MNI) was not established, due to the small size of the assemblage. Average size, age, infestations and descriptive characteristics have not been recorded due to the size of the assemblage.

Assemblage

C.3.3 The shell was recovered from ditch **139** and is a partial right value of oyster *Ostrea edulis*. A single shell 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.

Discussion

C.3.4 The shell is incomplete and of a moderate size. The shell does indicate the use of food sources from beyond the immediate area and surrounding hinterland, most likely arriving by river transportation, and shellfish are known to form part of the Roman diet. The shell represents general discarded food waste and, although not closely datable in itself, the shell may be dated by its association with pottery or other material also recovered from the features.

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Retention, dispersal and display

- C.3.5 The assemblage indicates that, should further work take place, shell might be found, however, the evaluation suggests there will be only low levels of shell deposition. If further work is undertaken, this assemblage should be incorporated into any later catalogue.
- C.3.6 If no further work is undertaken the catalogue acts as a full record and the shell may be dispersed or deselected prior to archive deposition

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APPENDIX E

OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details
OASIS Number
Project Name

oxfordar3-342387 Sheen Farm, Litlington

Start of Fieldwork7th January 2019End of Fieldwork11th January 2019Previous WorkNoneFuture WorkNot known

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	LGTSFM18	Planning App. No.	S/2927/17/FL
HER Number	ECB5739	Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Rural residential
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

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

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Ditch	Roman (43 to 410)	Pottery	Roman (43 to 410)
Ditch	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)	Pottery	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)
Pit	Neolithic (- 4000 to - 2200)	Coin	Roman (43 to 410)
Posthole	Roman		

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire
District	South Cambridgeshire
Parish	Litlington
HER office	Cambridgeshire
Size of Study Area	0.9ha
National Grid Ref	TL 3156 4238

Address (including Postcode)

Sheen Farm	
Royston Road	
Litlington	
Royston	
SG8 ORH	

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Gemma Stewart
Project Design Originator	Liz Muldowney



Version 1

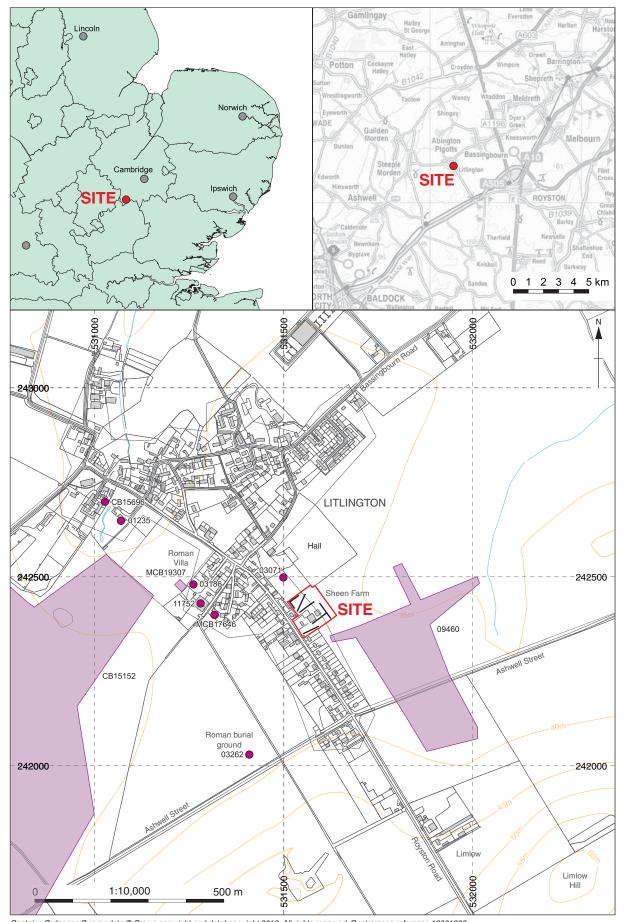
Project Manager	Liz Muldowney
Project Supervisor	Rona Booth

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	CCC stores	ECB5739
Digital Archive	OA East	LGTSFM18
Paper Archive	CCC stores	ECB5739

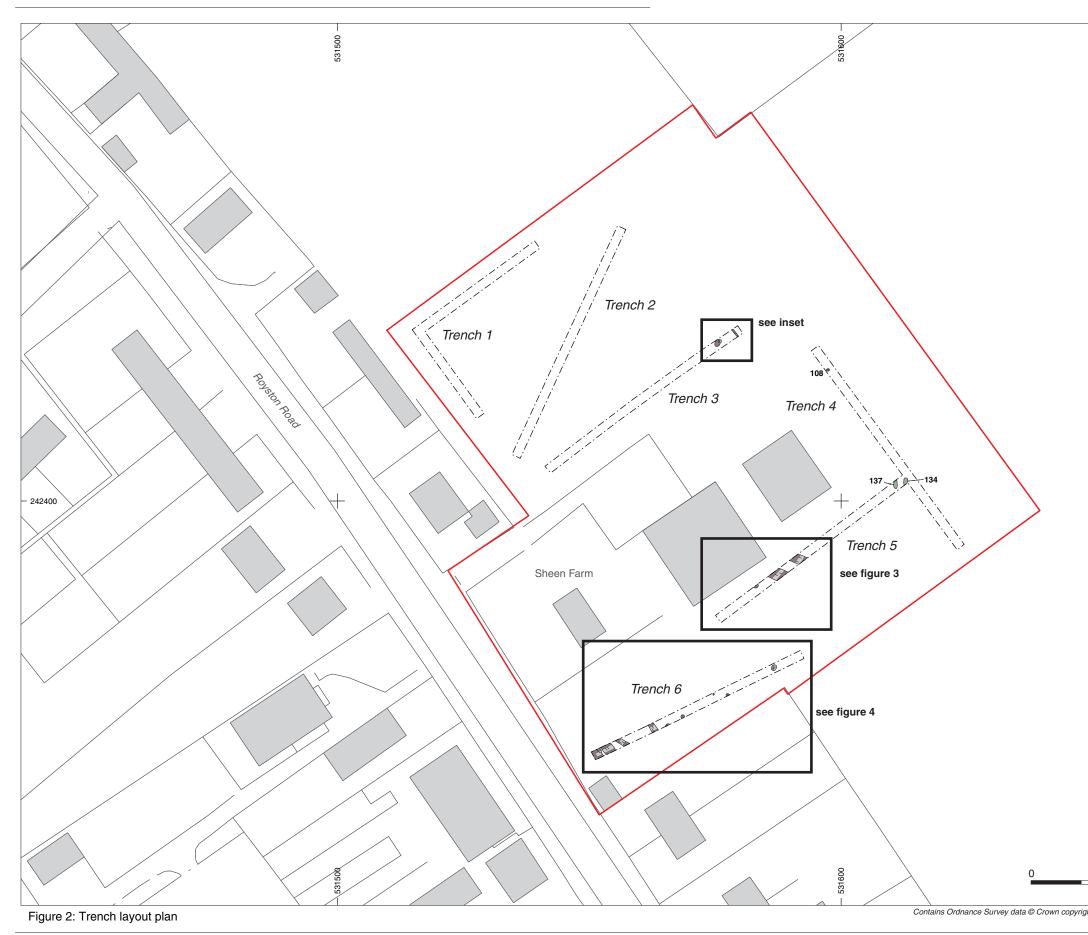
Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated v Finds	vith
Animal Bones Ceramics Environmental Glass Human Remains Industrial Leather Metal Stratigraphic Survey Textiles Wood Worked Bone Worked Stone/Lithic None Other				
Digital Media Database GIS Geophysics Images (Digital photos) Illustrations (Figures/Pla Moving Image Spreadsheets Survey Text Virtual Reality	tes)	Paper Media Aerial Photos Context Sheets Correspondence Diary Drawing Manuscript Map Matrices Microfiche Miscellaneous Research/Notes Photos (negatives/prints Plans Report Sections Survey	s/slides)	

Further Comments

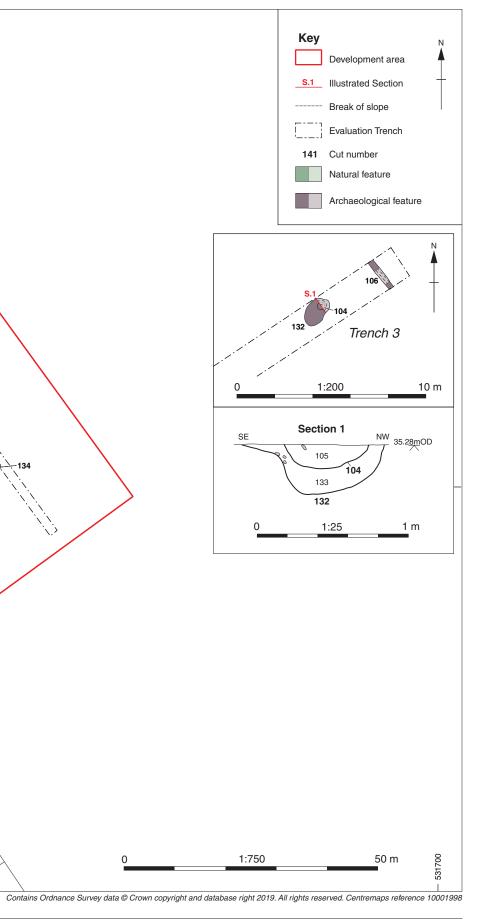


Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019. All rights reserved. Centremaps reference 10001998 Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red), with HER entries





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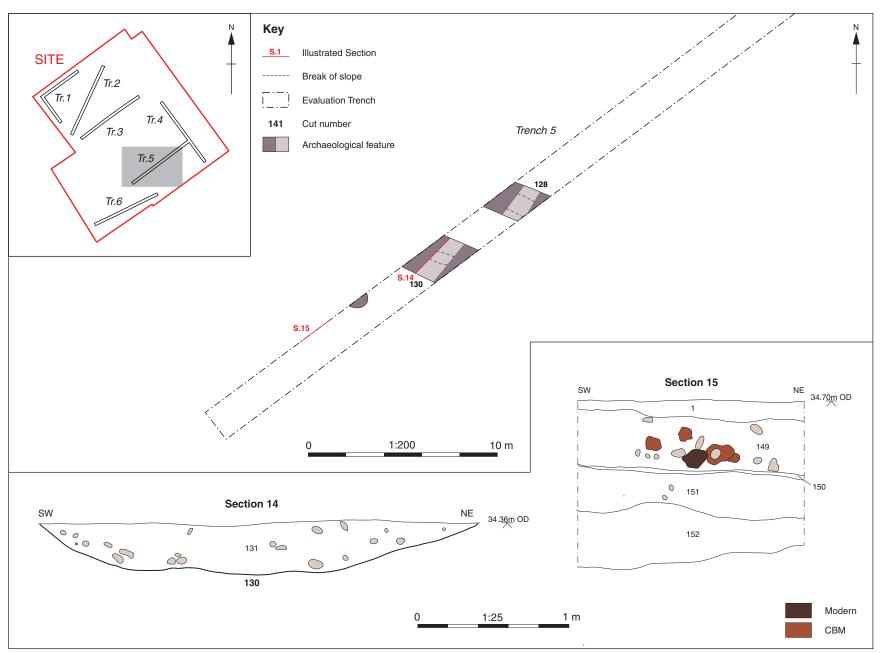
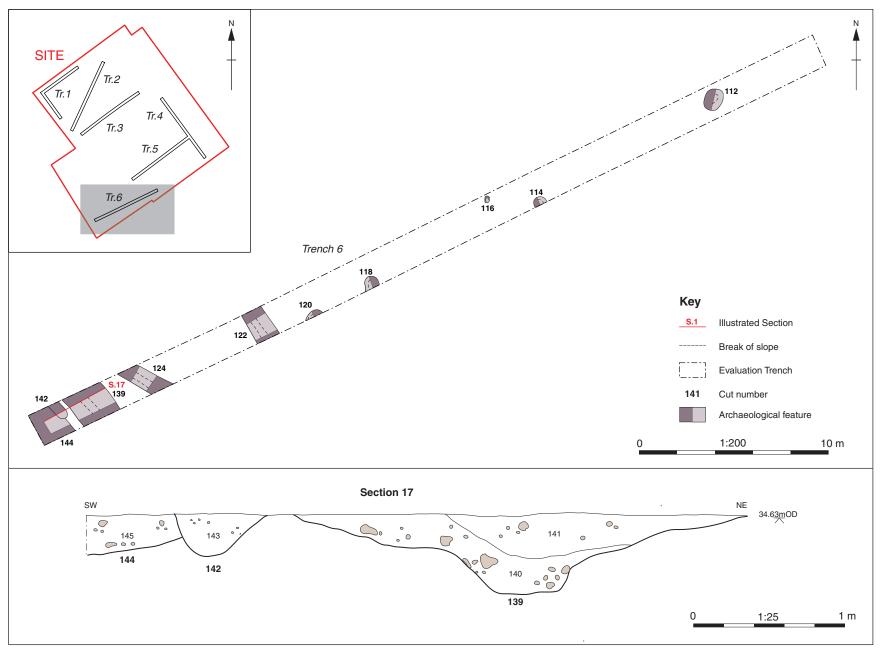


Figure 3: Detail plan of Trench 5 with selected sections

east east east



P a

east

east

Figure 4: Detail plan of Trench 6 with selected sections

Report Number 2283





Plate 1: Trench 1, looking north-east



Plate 2: Pit 133 & 104, Trench 3, looking south-west





Plate 3: Pit 108, Trench 4, looking south-west



Plate 4: Trench 5, looking north-east





Plate 5: Baulk section 15, Trench 5, looking north-west



Plate 6: Trench 6, looking north-east





Plate 7: Ditch 122, Trench 6, looking north-west





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