

Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1 Archaeological Excavation Report

February 2020

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Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1 Archaeological Excavation Report

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Contents

Sumn	mary	v
Ackno	nowledgements	vi
1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Scope of work	
1.2	Location, topography and geology	
1.3	Archaeological and historical background	1
2	EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	3
2.1	Aims	3
2.2	Regional Research Aims	3
2.3	Site Specific Research Objectives	3
2.1	Fieldwork Methodology	4
3	RESULTS	6
3.1	Introduction and presentation of results	
3.2	General soils and ground conditions	
3.3	Period 1: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age/Early Roman Transition	6
3.4	Post-medieval/modern and natural features	11
3.5	Finds and environmental summary	11
4	DISCUSSION	13
4.2	Conclusions	15
5	ARCHIVING	16
APPI	PENDIX A CONTEXT INVENTORY	17
APPI	PENDIX B FINDS REPORTS	28
B.1	Pottery	28

Land Ea	st of the New Be	dford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1	v.2 (Final)
B.2	Ceramic Buil	ding Material	35
B.3	Fired/Baked	Clay	36
B.4	Slag and fue	residues	39
B.5	Worked and	Burnt Flint	39
B.6	Stone		39
B.7	Glass		40
B.8	Clay Tobacco) Pipe	40
APPE	NDIX C	ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS	41
C.1		al Samples	
C.2	Animal Bone		43
APPE	NDIX D	BIBLIOGRAPHY	45
APPE	NDIX E	SITE SUMMARY DETAILS / OASIS REPORT FORM	48



List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location showing excavation are (black) in wider development area (red)
- Fig. 2 HER plot
- Fig. 3 Phased plan of all features
- Fig. 4 Selected sections
- Fig. 5 Distribution of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery
- Fig. 6 Pottery illustrations

List of Plates

Plate 1	North facing section of ditch 2098
Plate 2	Ditch 2073, looking north-east
Plate 3	South facing section of pits 2032, 2034, 2036, 2039 and 2041
Plate 4	North facing section of pit 2043

List of Tables

Table 1	Summary of Period 1 pits
Table 2	The pottery quantified by feature
Table 3	Pottery from the evaluation and excavation
Table 4	The pottery quantified by feature
Table 5	The pottery fabrics and forms, listed in descending order of weight (%)
Table 6	Pit 2110, the pottery fabrics and forms listed in descending order of weight (%)
Table 7	Summary pottery catalogue
Table 8	Summary CBM catalogue
Table 9	Fired clay fabrics
Table 10	Summary fired clay catalogue (fs=flattened surface and hf=hand-forming)
Table 11	Environmental samples
Table 12	List of Identifiable fragments from hand-collection and environmental samples
Table 13	Number of identifiable fragments (NISP) from faunal assemblage.



Summary

Between the 18th of June and the 5th of July 2019, Oxford Archaeology East carried out an excavation on a small parcel of land on the northern edge of the village of Mepal, Cambridgeshire (TL 4414 81358). The excavation exposed a series of enclosure ditches and a relatively large number of small pits associated with Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery and representing activity dating almost exclusively to the mid-1st century AD.

These features produced relatively modest finds assemblages, dominated by pottery, with small quantities of animal bone and fired clay. Although most of the pottery was highly fragmented and abraded, a few features produced relatively coherent and substantial assemblages which appear to reflect the deliberate deposition of material associated with domestic activity. Although the small scale of the excavation has rendered interpretation of the site difficult, it seems likely that it lay within or adjacent to an area of settlement, which, based on the character of the finds, seems likely to have been a relatively low status rural farmstead. Settlement of this date – in the decades either side of the Roman conquest – is well-attested elsewhere on the Isle of Ely, although in this local context the Bridge Road excavations are somewhat unusual for not producing evidence of earlier, Middle/Late Iron Age, activity, or for continued occupation into the 2nd century AD.



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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Louise Moan. The fieldwork was directed by Dan Firth, who was supported by Yerai Francisco Benet, Jamie Hirst, William Kelly and Cleve Roberts. Survey and digitising was carried out by Sarita Louzolo and Katie Hutton. Thanks are extended to the staff who 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 supervision of Kat Hamilton.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Mr Mark Littlefield to undertake an excavation on land proposed for the erection of residential dwellings, access and landscaping on land east of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1; TL 4414 8135).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. 18/00909/OUT). A brief was set by Gemma Stewart of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (CHET) outlining the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process (Stewart 2019). A written scheme of investigation was then produced by OA detailing the methods by which OA proposed to meet the requirements of the brief (Moan 2019).
- 1.1.3 The site archive is currently held by OA and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores under the Site Code ECB5916 in due course.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 Mepal is located on the edge of the Isle of Ely, around 9km west of Ely and 6.5km south-east of Chatteris. The site itself is situated on the northern limits of the modern village, adjacent to the New Bedford River, on land previously used as pasture.
- 1.2.2 The geology of the area is mapped as a bedrock geology of Ampthill formation mudstone (British Geological Survey online mapping: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html). The site lies at around 4m OD and is located approximately 500m from the estimated historic (medieval) fen edge, to the north east (Hall 1996, fig. 26).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site is based on a 1km search of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) supplemented by information from available historic maps and other documentary evidence as outlined in the WSI (Moan 2019). The locations of selected historic environment records are plotted on Fig. 2.

Prehistoric to Anglo-Saxon

- 1.3.2 There is little evidence for prehistoric activity in the area, with the findspots of a Neolithic polished stone axe (CHER 08042) and a Bronze Age palstave (CHER 05806) being the only findspots in the search area, located c.0.6km to the north-west and c.0.7km to the south of site respectively.
- 1.3.3 Roman and Anglo-Saxon remains are equally limited and are evidenced by pottery and metal detecting finds (MCB16264) on land around 0.7km northeast of the current site.



Medieval

- 1.3.4 St Mary's Church (CB14893) dates from the 13th century and is situated around 200m to the south of the site. The historic shrunken core of Mepal is located around the church, extending to within 100m to the south of the current site (CHER 05831). This c.4ha area of land contains upstanding earthworks of housing platforms, a hollow way, a pond and ridge and furrow. Further contemporary earthworks and features have been recorded on the southern edge of this area, around 0.3km to the south of the current site, with a series of ditches, a hollow way and possible house platform. Trial trenching (ECB4767) at this location uncovered ditches and pits containing 11th to 14th century pottery (MCB20932).
- 1.3.5 Medieval ridge and furrow has also been recorded as earthworks around 4km southwest (CHER 09270), as cropmark evidence c.0.7km south-east (CHER 11464) and as earthworks (CHER 11923 & ECB1371) c.0.7m south of the site.

Post-medieval and modern

- 1.3.6 Post-medieval and modern remains across the village include a small number of listed buildings, the closest of which, Grove House (DCB767), is located just 70m to the south-west of the site (not plotted on Fig. 2). There are also a series of pumps (MCB20283-20286) illustrated on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1885).
- 1.3.7 The site is located just 50m south-east of the New Bedford River (MCB23934), a major 17th century dyke, constructed to help drain the fens after the construction of the Old Bedford River (MCB23933) earlier in the 17th century, which is situated around 0.3km to the north-west of the site.

Previous work

- 1.3.8 A small parcel of land (0.34ha) immediately to the south of the current development area was subject to trial trenching in 2018 (ECB5280; McDonald and Summers 2018) This revealed no archaeological remains but identified a probable palaeochannel running north to south across the western part of the site presumably representing a minor, pre-drainage, watercourse running down to the fen edge.
- 1.3.9 Evaluation of the current site was carried out in March 2019, with four 40m trenches excavated across an area of *c*.0.6ha (ECB5816; Locke 2019). Despite the western part of the site having suffered some modern disturbance (with an extensive shallow cut, backfilled with natural clay, cutting through the subsoil) a series of pits and ditches were recorded, mostly in the north-western part of the area. These features were associated with a small assemblage of Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'Belgic' type pottery and animal bone, whilst environmental sampling produced small quantities of charred grain and grain processing residues.



2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 **Aims**

2.1.1 The overall aim of the investigation was to preserve by record the archaeological evidence contained within the footprint of the development area, prior to damage by development, and investigate the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status and significance of the remains revealed, and place these in their local, regional and national archaeological context.

2.2 Regional Research Aims

- 2.2.1 This excavation took place within the context of the Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:
 - Glazebrook J. (1997). Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 1. Resource Assessment. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3.
 - Brown, N. & Glazebrook, J. (2000). *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8.
 - Medlycott, M. (2011). Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24.

2.3 Site Specific Research Objectives

- 2.3.1 The CHET Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Stewart 2019) also set out a number of specific research aims for the site. These are listed below, along with additional research questions (in italics).
 - To investigate the character and morphology of the Late Iron Age-Early Roman fen margin occupation on the site.
 - When exactly did activity begin at the site and what was the duration of occupation?
 - Is there any evidence to explain why the site was abandoned?
 - What is the exact nature of the activity on the site and how close is it to the settlement?
 - Do the changes in ditch orientation signify a change in land-use and can the date of these different ditch orientations be elucidated?
 - Using the fen landscape to assess evidence for the exploitation of fen resources and examine if this site forms part of a settlement pattern and population that was centred on focal points such as the contemporary hill fort at Wardy Hill to the east.
 - Is there evidence to suggest that the site has any ties to the Wardy Hill site?



- To examine the available evidence to reconstruct the diet and economy of the site, with reference to the recovered floral and faunal remains and contribute to an understanding of the pattern of land-use and agricultural practices.
 - The limited faunal remains from the evaluation showed clear evidence for butchery. Furthermore, environmental bulk soil remains produced substantial assemblages of carbonised grain. How do these relate to the activities of the site? Are they merely food debris or is a more specialised activity being undertaken in the vicinity?
- To examine the ceramic traditions and contribute to an understanding of local and regional ceramic developments.
 - How does the pottery assemblage compare to other contemporary assemblages in the area? Can the date range of the 'Belgic' wares be honed? Are there any imported/non-local wares to indicate the size/prosperity of the associated settlement?
- To examine the faunal remains and the contribution the assemblage can make to our understanding of animal husbandry practices for this area.
 - The cut marks on the animal bone assemblage provide clear evidence for butchery. Is this just happening on a local scale for food consumption?

 And is it a restricted range of animals being used for food?
- Through a programme of environmental sampling to reconstruct the environmental conditions of the site and the impact of the settlement on the local environment.
 - Can agricultural land-use be modelled from the faunal and environmental record and other strands of evidence?

2.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 2.1.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the brief (Stewart 2019) and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Moan 2019).
- 2.1.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360° mechanical excavator using a 1.8m wide flat-bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.1.3 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.
- 2.1.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and high resolution digital photos were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.1.5 Bulk environmental samples were taken from contexts deemed likely to preserve ecofactual remains in order to gain data that could aid with the interpretation of past land use.
- 2.1.6 All archaeological features were planned (pre-excavation) using a Leica GS08 GPS.



2.1.7 Plans of selected archaeological features were supplemented with photogrammetric recording. Photogrammetric models were based on high resolution digital photographs with a minimum file size of 5MB. Photogrammetric processing was conducted using Agisoft Photosoft (Professional Edition) software, and incorporated reference points taken by GPS based survey equipment.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The excavations involved the investigation of a single, rectangular shaped area covering some 900m². The results presented here provide a description of the archaeological remains, with a full context inventory included as Appendix A and specialist reports on the finds and environmental evidence presented in Appendices B and C respectively. A phased site plan is provided by Fig. 3, with selected section drawings on Fig. 4. Selected photographs are included as Plates 1-4.
- 3.1.2 Throughout the text cut/intervention numbers appear in **bold** type. Where features were investigated by more than one intervention they are referred to by the lowest cut number allocated to that feature, which is also highlighted on the relevant figures.
- 3.1.3 Aside from a small number of natural features and three modern pits, the features encountered during the excavation have been attributed to a single period/phase:
 - Period 1: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age/Early Roman Transition c. 50 BC AD 100.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 Over most of the site the natural geology, a pale yellowish grey silty clay, was overlain by a 0.2-0.3m thick layer of redeposited natural clay which filled a shallow, extensive area of modern disturbance/truncation which had first been identified during the evaluation (Locke 2019). Some areas along the north eastern edge of the excavation had escaped this disturbance, and here a thin (0.15m thick) deposit of mid yellow grey clayey silt subsoil overlay the natural geology. Sealing both this subsoil and the redeposited natural clay was a dark brown clay silt topsoil, generally 0.35m deep.
- 3.2.2 The exposed surface of the natural geology was marked by several irregular and poorly defined patches of siltier material (2153 and 2155), which were test excavated by two 1x1m test pits (test pits 2152 and 2153, see Fig. 3) which showed them to be thin (<0.25m thick), sterile deposits of natural origin, although a single, fragment of clay tobacco pipe was found in the top of one of these deposits (2155).
- 3.2.3 Site conditions throughout the excavation were generally dry, with either clear sunny days or light cloud cover.

3.3 Period 1: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age/Early Roman Transition

3.3.1 The excavation revealed a fairly dense spread of features, with a series of enclosure/boundary ditches associated with a relatively large number of pits (Fig. 3). All of the ditches and many of the pits can be firmly attributed to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period on the basis of their associated pottery). Although clearly showing some development over time, with multiple phases of ditches and several intercutting sequences of pits, all of these features appear to relate to a restricted period of time centred on the mid-1st century AD.



Enclosure/Boundary Ditches

- 3.3.2 A sequence of intercutting ditches was exposed in the southern part of the site, whilst two less substantial ditches were found in the northern part of the site, both of which terminated within the excavation area.
- 3.3.3 Stratigraphically, the earliest of the intercutting ditches exposed in the southern half of the excavation area was ditch 2150 (2150, 2179). This feature had been heavily truncated by later ditches, but could be traced for a distance of 20m on a south-west to north-east alignment. At its south-eastern end it had been entirely cut away by later ditch 2045 (cut 2176), whilst to the north east it ended in a regular rounded terminus. At no point did the full width of the ditch survive; at its south-eastern end it measured in excess of 0.8m wide and over 0.72m deep, whilst at its terminus it was over 0.66m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.17m. It contained two fills, a lower light greyish blue clay (2180) and an upper mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt (2151=2181). This upper fill produced eleven sherds (110g) of pottery dating to the early- to mid-1st century AD.
- At its south-eastern end, ditch 2150 was cut by a north-northwest to south-southeast 3.3.4 aligned ditch, 2045 (2045, 2063, 2098, 2176). A 15m length of this ditch was exposed, running from the north-western edge of excavation; its southern end was cut away by later ditch 2054 (see below). This feature was cut by several of the Period 1 pits (2050, 2065 and 2101; Section 2030, Fig. 4) and in one of the excavated sections a recut (2048) was identified. The ditch was investigated in four individual interventions, and measured up to between 1.92 and 2.5m wide and 0.59 and 0.72m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base (Section 2030; Fig. 4; Plate 1). Where fully excavated, it contained two fills. The lower fill, a light brown to blue slightly silty clay (2046, 2099, 2177) produced 19 sherds of pottery dated to the early- to mid-1st century AD, including eight large sherds (400g) from a cordoned jar, found in deposit 2099 (cut 2098). This lower fill was sealed by an upper deposit of clayey silt, generally a dark greyish brown in colour (2047, 2064, 2100, 2178), from which 34 sherds (717g) of pottery were recovered, again dated to the early- to mid-1st century AD, alongside 15g of fired clay and two small pieces of slag (11g). Sampling of the basal and upper fills in one section of the ditch (cut 2098) produced few charred plant remains beyond a single fragmentary cereal grain, but the lower fill did contain untransformed duckweed seeds suggesting the ditch had once held standing water.
- 3.3.5 In one of the excavated section through ditch 2045, there was evidence for a later, partial, recut of the ditch (2048). This feature was cut through the upper fill of the earlier feature and measured 1m wide and up to 0.5m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a dark brownish grey clayey silt (2049), with frequent flecks of charcoal, which produced 16 sherds of pottery (1555g) of mid-1st century AD date.
- 3.3.6 To the east of ditch 2045, a short length (1.4m) of north-east to south-west aligned ditch was exposed (2156) cut away at either end by ditch 2054 and pit 2157 (see below). This feature was up to 0.9m wide and 0.26m deep and was filled by a mid reddish brown clay silt (2157), which produced four sherds (23g) of early- to mid-1st century AD pottery.



- 3.3.7 The latest ditch in this sequence was a straight, north-east to south-west aligned linear feature, ditch 2054 (2054, 2073, 2088, 2158) which ran the entire length of the excavation area and cut across ditches 2045 and 2016. Measuring between 1.67 and 2.12m wide and between 0.37 and 0.6m deep, it had steeply sloping sides and a concave base (Sections 2016 and 2023, Fig 4; Plate 2) and contained between two and three fills. In two of the fully excavated sections (2073 and 2088) a thin basal deposit of brownish yellow clay was recorded (2074, 2089), from which six sherds (62g) of early- to mid-1st century AD pottery was recovered. This was overlain by a thicker deposit of mid brownish grey clayey silt (2055, 2075, 2090) which produced 13 sherds (76g) of pottery. The upper fill (2056, 2076, 2091, 2159) was typically a mid brownish grey clay silt which produced seven sherds (72g) of pottery and 8g of fired clay. Sampling of the ditch fills failed to yield any remains beyond sparse wood charcoal.
- 3.3.8 In the north-eastern corner of the excavation area two lengths of ditches/gullies were exposed; both features were similar in size/morphology and terminated within the excavation area. Ditch 2003 (2003, 2005) was aligned east to west, and extended from the north-western edge of excavation for 5.3m before ending in a regular rounded terminus which kinked slightly towards the north. This feature measured between 0.6m and 0.7m wide and a maximum of 0.22m deep (Section 2001, Fig. 4). it was filled by a single deposit of dark to mid brownish grey silty clay (2004, 2006) from which a relatively substantial assemblage of 67 sherds (563g) of early 1st century AD pottery was recovered, alongside 9g of fired clay.
- 3.3.9 The second ditch in this area, 2012 (2012, 2185, 2186) extended for 7.4m from the north-eastern edge of excavation on a broadly north-east to south-west alignment although it was somewhat sinuous in plan again ending in a regular rounded terminus. It measured between 0.56m and 0.85m wide and up to 0.32m deep and was filled by a dark grey clay silt (2013, 2184, 2187; Section 2059, Fig. 4). Eight sherds of pottery (125g), dating to the early- to mid-1st century AD, were recovered from this feature, together with 23g of fired clay.

Pits

- 3.3.10 A total of 58 individual pits have been attributed to this period. It should be noted, however, that over half of these features (31 pits) did not produce dateable finds and have been included on the basis of their similarity, in terms of morphology and fills, to the better dated features. The pits were distributed widely across the excavation area, although it may be notable that none were found to the south/east of ditches 2150 and 2054. Many of the features were discrete, but intercutting pairs and clusters of pits were also found (see Sections 2013, 2029 and 2034, Fig. 4; Plate 3), including a cluster of eight intercutting pits close to the north-western edge of excavation which were subject to almost total excavation (2110, 2112, 2114, 2116, 2118, 2120, 2138, 2140; Section 2034, Fig. 4). It was noted above that in the few instances where pits intercut with the various ditches described above, the pits were clearly stratigraphically later although given the small number of such relationships, this need not imply that all of the pits postdate the ditched enclosures/boundaries.
- 3.3.11 Summary information on all of the pits attributed to this period is provided in Table 1. There was a great deal of variability in the size and morphology of the pits. Some of



the smaller examples may represent postholes, although no positive evidence in the form of post pipes/packing was observed during excavation. The pits were circular to sub-circular in plan and typically had simple U-/bowl-shaped profiles (*e.g.* Section 2017, Fig. 4; Plates 3 & 4). They ranged in diameter/maximum width from 0.16m to 2.2m, with the majority (39 features) in the range of 0.4m to 1.2m across. The vast majority of features were relatively shallow – all but three measuring under 0.3m deep and many little more than 0.1m deep. The depth of features appeared to bear little relation to their width/diameter, although the deepest feature, 2101 (which cut partially through the fills of ditch 2045, Section 2030, Fig 4), was an unusually large oval-shaped pit measuring 1.74m in width and up to 0.42m deep.

- 3.3.12 The vast majority of the pits contained single fills, with only four features (2036, 2057, 2060 and 2101) containing two fills. The pit fills were invariably mid to dark brownish grey silty clays or clayey silts, and in most cases seemed likely to represent deliberate backfill deposits. Many of these fills were, however, devoid of finds with 28 pits producing finds of pottery and/or fired clay and animal bone.
- 3.3.13 Pottery was the most common find from the pits, with a total of 412 sherds (3724g), overwhelmingly dominated by material dated to the early to mid-1st century AD, with a small proportion of pottery with somewhat wider date ranges, from the 1st century BC into the mid-1st century AD or from the mid-1st century AD into the early 2nd century AD (App. B.1). Of the 27 pits which produced pottery, 17 of these contained small assemblages of between one and seven sherds and only five pits contained more than 20 sherds (pits 2007, 2057, 2110, 2043, 2112; see Fig. 5 for the distribution of Late Iron Age/Roman pottery across the site). In most cases even the larger assemblages were made up of small abraded sherds derived from a large number of individual vessels. The only major exception to this was a large assemblage of 183 sherds (1891g) from pit 2112 (part of the cluster of eight intercutting pits adjacent to ditch 2045), which included sherds making up substantial proportions of several vessels including two cordoned jars and serval beakers (App. B.1). A total of 872g of fired clay was recovered from the pits overwhelmingly dominated by small amorphous fragments (App. B.3).
- 3.3.14 Very small quantities of animal bone were recovered from ten of the pits, with identifiable elements largely made up of loose teeth and cattle, pig and sheep/goat all represented (App. C.2). Bulk samples were processed from twelve of the pits, targeted on those features which had produced substantial finds assemblages and/or with fills thought likely to have a high potential for charred plant remains. Despite this, the results were generally poor, with only occasional charred cereal grains and weed seeds, many of which may be intrusive (App. C.1).

Cut	Diameter/max. breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Filled By	Pottery No.	Pottery Wt (g.)	Bone Wt. (g)	Fired clay Wt. (g)	Illustrated section (Fig. 4)
2007	0.8	0.24	2008	22	149	7	- (9)	-
2010	0.65	0.13	2011	1	1	-	_	-
2014	0.43	0.11	2015	1	8	-	-	-
2016	1.74	0.26	2017	2	17	3	-	-
2018	0.62	0.18	2019	1	1	4	-	-
2020	1.05	0.26	2021	1	13	ı	-	-
2022	1.7	0.14	2023	3	12	-	18	-



Cut	Diameter/max.	Depth (m)	Filled By	Pottery	Pottery	Bone	Fired	Illustrated
	breadth (m)			No.	Wt (g.)	Wt.	clay Wt.	section (Fig.
2024	0.0	0.4	2025	4	20	(g)	(g)	4)
2024	0.9	0.1	2025	1	29	-	-	-
2026	0.35	0.08	2027	-	-	-	-	-
2028	0.58	0.2	2029	6	26	-	-	-
2030	1.4	0.23	2031	-		-	-	
2032	0.98	0.14	2033	3	11	-	-	S. 2013
2034	1.16	0.22	2035	12	59	-	50	S. 2013
2036	1.14	0.25	2037, 2038	14	191	-	16	S. 2013
2039	0.52	0.17	2040	2	28	-	18	S. 2013
2041	0.16	0.11	2042	-	-	-	-	S. 2013
2043	1.22	0.25	2044	42	286	11	22	-
2057	1.4	0.3	2058, 2059	23	125	3	72	S. 2017
2060	1.76	0.2	2061, 2062	11	55	-	22	-
2065	0.86	0.16	2066	-	-	-	-	-
2067	0.48	0.12	2068	7	71	2	9	-
2069	0.4	0.09	2070	2	1	-	-	-
2071	0.3	0.07	2072	-	-	-	-	-
2077	1.12	0.18	2078	-	-	-	-	-
2079	1.2	0.16	2080	-	-	-	-	-
2081	1.36	0.14	2082	-	-	-	-	-
2083	1.6	0.18	2084	-	-	-	-	-
2085	1.16	0.2	2086	-	-	-	-	-
2093	1.3	0.18	2092	-	-	-	-	S. 2029
2095	1.88	0.22	2094	-	-	-	-	S. 2029
2097	0.94	0.16	2096	-	-	-	-	S. 2029
2101	1.74	0.42	2102, 2103	14	189	67	187	S. 2030
2105	0.67	0.06	2104	-	-	-	-	-
2107	1.06	0.12	2106	-	-	-	-	-
2109	1.12	0.1	2108	-	-	-	-	-
2110	0.7	0.12	2111	24	282	-	52	S. 2034
2112	0.89	0.12	2113	183	1891	-	373	S. 2034
2114	0.57	0.12	2115	7	28	-	-	S. 2034
2116	1.25	0.21	2117	17	118	3	-	S. 2034
2118	0.67	0.14	2119	-	-	-	-	S. 2034
2120	0.59	0.13	2121	_	_	_	_	S. 2034
2123	2.22	0.18	2122	-	-	-	-	-
2127	1.01	0.1	2126	4	62	-	-	_
2131	0.82	0.08	2130	-	-	-	-	-
2133	0.56	0.06	2132	-	-	-	-	-
2135	0.8	0.1	2134	_	-	_	_	-
2137	0.92	0.14	2136	5	57	15	_	-
2138	0.46	0.14	2139	-	-	-	-	-
2140	0.99	0.13	2139	_	_		_	-
2148	0.6	0.33	2149	_	_	_	_	-
2163	0.27	0.07	2162	_	_	_	33	-
2165	0.19	0.09	2164	-	-	-	-	-
2169	0.19	0.09	2168					-
				-	-	-	-	-
2171	0.42	0.08	2170	-	-	-	-	
2173	0.92		2172		- 7	-		-
2175	0.5	0.25	2174	2	7	-	-	-
2183	1.16	0.2	2182	2	7	1	-	-
2188	ble 1: Summary of	0.1	2189	-	-	-	-	-

Table 1: Summary of Period 1 pits



3.4 Post-medieval/modern and natural features

- 3.4.1 Three pits in the western part of the site have been attributed to the early modern period. All three features (2142, 2144, 2146) were shallow circular/sub-circular pits with identical fills of mid brownish grey silty clay which appeared to represent redeposited topsoil. Three sherds of 18th century glazed pottery were recovered from pit 2146, alongside 224g of ceramic building material and two shards of glass.
- 3.4.2 Four discrete natural features, probably representing tree throw features or tree bowls, were found scattered across the site (2052, 2125, 2129, 2167); all were shallow amorphous features, measuring up to 1m in dimeter, and could be clearly distinguished from the pits on the basis of their irregular cuts and diffuse edges. None of these features produced finds.

3.5 Finds and environmental summary

Pottery (App. B.1)

3.5.1 A total of 617 sherds of pottery (6154g) representing 136 individual vessels was recovered from the excavations. Aside from three sherds of 18th-19th century pottery, the assemblage is made up of Late Iron Age/Early Roman material and appears to largely, if not exclusively, reflect activity taking place over the course of the 1st century AD. The pottery is mostly in highly fragmented and abraded condition and as such is likely to have been residually incorporated into many of the features, although several larger assemblages from individual contexts probably represent deliberate dumps of material.

Ceramic Building Material (App. B.2)

3.5.2 A small quantity of post-medieval to modern brick and tile (5 fragments; 355g) was recovered, including two small intrusive pieces from the fills of two of the Period 1 pits and three pieces from one of the post-medieval/early modern pits.

Fired/Baked Clay (App. B.3)

3.5.3 Just over 1kg of fired/baked clay was recovered during the excavations, largely from the Period 1 pits. This assemblage comprised both amorphous pieces with no discernible features and a small fraction of more 'structural' pieces with flattened surfaces and signs of hand-forming. No diagnostic objects were present. Generally, this material was moderately to severely abraded.

Slag and fuel residues (App. B.4)

3.5.4 A small assemblage of slag, three fragments weighing 0.027kg, was collected from two Period 1 features; ditch 2176 and pit 2028.

Flint and stone (Apps B.5 & B.6)

3.5.5 Two flint flakes were recovered from the fills of Period 1 features; these are not chronologically diagnostic but presumably represent residual material. A burnt quarzitic cobble from Period 1 pit 2043 appears to have been previously utilised as a



small rubbing stone, whilst a burnt flint cobble was also recovered from Period 1 ditch 2073.

Other finds (Apps B.7 & B.8)

3.5.6 Three shards of glass and a single fragment of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from post-medieval/early modern contexts.

Environmental samples (App.C.1)

3.5.7 Twenty bulk environmental samples were taken from the fills of Iron Age and early Roman features within the excavated area. Although the evaluation of the site showed good potential for the recovery of carbonised plant remains, particularly cereal grain and chaff (Summers, in Locke 2019), the results from the excavation phase were generally poor, with only occasional charred cereal grains and weed seeds recovered.

Animal bone (App. C.2)

3.5.8 The animal bone assemblage was small (580g) and the number of recordable fragments totalled 13. Material from hand collection totalled seven fragments, with six from environmental samples. Animal bone was recovered from ditches and pits dated to the Iron Age and Roman period. The species represented include cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*), and pig (*Sus scrofa*).



4 DISCUSSION

Introduction

4.1.1 The excavation at Bridge Road confirmed the results of the trial trenching in terms of revealing a series of ditches and discrete features of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date. As outlined in Section 2.3, a series of site specific research objectives/questions had been set out for the excavation based on the results of the trial trenching (Stewart 2019). The results of the excavation allow the site to be discussed in the context of these research questions, although it is important to note that the small scale of the excavations and the relatively modest finds assemblages render many aspects of the site's interpretation uncertain.

Site sequence and chronology

- 4.1.2 Leaving aside the few post-medieval/early modern pits in the western part of the excavation area, all of the archaeological remains exposed across the site have been attributed to a single broad period spanning the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age/Early Roman transition. This dating is based entirely on the pottery assemblage recovered from the site, which was made up almost exclusively of Late Iron Age and Early Roman forms with a date range spanning the 1st century BC to the early 2nd century AD (App. B.3).
- 4.1.3 In this context it is important to note that the pottery derived from the stratigraphically earliest of the major set of enclosure/boundary ditches exposed in the southern half of the excavation area (ditch 2150) produced a small assemblage of pottery (eleven sherds) which was dominated by material of early to mid-1st century AD date, and the pottery recovered from the other ditches, including the stratigraphically latest ditch (2054), included no material postdating the mid-1st century AD. This strongly suggests that the construction and infilling of the features making up this relatively complex sequence actually took place over a restricted period of perhaps only a few generations in the early to mid-1st century AD. A comparable date is probable for the pair of less substantial ditches/gullies exposed in the northern corner of the site (2003 and 2012), the pottery from which was made up exclusively of mid-1st century material.
- 4.1.4 Evidence for activity continuing into the later 1st century AD is, however, hinted at by some of the material recovered from the numerous pits found across the site. Most of the pits which produced pottery contained small quantities of early to mid-1st century material comparable to that from the ditches, and the largest individual assemblage of pottery from the site the 207 sherds from pit 2110 can be securely dated to the mid-1st century (see App. B.1). However, one pit (2101), a large oval feature which cut ditch 2054, produced sherds from two jars dated to the mid/late 1st century to the early 2nd century AD suggesting activity may have extended into, and perhaps beyond, the late 1st century AD.
- 4.1.5 On this basis, the remains investigated at Bridge Road seem likely to have belonged exclusively to the 1st century AD. In the local context, this is somewhat unusual; elsewhere on the Isle of Ely, evidence for activity/settlement of this date is invariably recovered from sites which show essentially continuous occupation from the



Middle/Late Iron Age through until at least the mid-2nd century AD. This is the case at the Iron Age ringwork/enclosure at Wardy Hill, Coveney (Evans 2003), and at several sites in Ely, including those at the Trinity Lands (Evans *et al* 2007, 66-69), Hurst Lane (Evans *et al* 2007), North-West Ely (Phillips 2013; Moan 2017) and West Fen Road (Mudd and Webster 2011). Several other sites with Middle/Late Iron Age origins have even longer sequences, with Roman activity extending into the 3rd or 4th centuries AD, including Prickwillow Road, Ely (Atkins and Mudd 2003) and Watsons Lane, Little Thetford (Evans *et al* 2007, 70-71). At most of these sites (although not at Wardy Hill) irregular 'organic-type' Iron Age enclosures/compounds associated with roundhouse ring gullies were succeeded in the 1st century AD by arrangements of more rectilinear enclosures/paddocks.

4.1.6 When seen in this context, the short duration of the Bridge Road activity is difficult to interpret. Given the small scale of the investigations it is entirely possible that evidence for activity of earlier (Middle/Late Iron Age) and later (2nd century AD onwards) date may be present outside the immediate limits of excavation. However, it is notable that there was no evidence for this from the trial trenches excavated to the east and south east of the site (both those within the current development area and in the adjacent parcel of land, ECB5280, ECB5816; Locke 2019, McDonald and Summers 2018; see Fig. 2), whilst no other Iron Age or Roman finds are known from the immediate area of the site (see Section 1.3).

Site character and function

- 4.1.7 The excavation provides only a window onto what is evidently a more extensive site; in particular, the partial exposure of the various ditches makes reconstructing their layout (and assessing their likely function) very difficult. The sequence of relatively substantial enclosure/boundary ditches in the southern half of the site (ditches 2045, 2150 and 2054) appear to form parts of broadly north-east to south-west/north-west to south-east aligned system of rectilinear boundaries/enclosures potentially comparable to those of similar date known from many of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman sites on the Isle of Ely referred to above, where they form both the boundaries of fields/paddocks and enclosed areas of domestic activity. The pair of less substantial ditch terminals in the northern corner of the excavation area (2003 and 2012) seem likely to have defined an entranceway into an enclosure of unknown extent and morphology, most of which lay beyond the limits of excavation.
- 4.1.8 The function of the large number of pits found in and around the area of these various boundary/enclosure ditches also remains unclear. The shallowness of the vast majority of the pits, and the impervious nature of the geology into which they were dug, strongly suggests that they were not designed for storage, and given that the vast majority contained very few finds they do to not seem to represent rubbish pits. Some of these features may have been dug to extract clay, perhaps for use in daub or some other purpose, but the regular circular shape of many of the features suggests they may have had a more formal primary use. As noted above, some of the smaller pits may represent post-settings, but no convincing ground plans of structures could be discerned.



- 4.1.9 Although a small number of pits and ditch fills produced fairly substantial assemblages of pottery which may represent deliberate dumps of material (most notably the material from pit 2101, see above), most contained small numbers of heavily abraded sherds of pottery which had evidently seen considerable disturbance. Other finds were rare, with relatively small quantities of fired clay, and a very small quantity of animal bone. Thus, whilst presumably attesting to domestic activity somewhere in the vicinity, the quantity and condition of this material makes it unclear whether such settlement occurred within the excavated area itself. The pottery itself is relatively undistinguished and is dominated by utilitarian storage/cooking vessels, with very few fine wares represented (although one vessel appears to represent a non-local import from West Norfolk) and the assemblage has been interpreted as representing low-status, domestic-type activity (see Lyons, App. B.1).
- 4.1.10 The evidence for environment and economy, meagre as it is, suggests a typically mixed agricultural regime. The animal bone assemblage was small and poorly preserved, with thirteen identifiable specimens from the excavation phase (App. C.2) and three from the evaluation (Curl in Locke 2019), dominated by sheep/goat and cattle, with a single pig bone. A significant assemblage of charred plant remains was recovered from the fill of one ditch excavated during the trial trenching, located in the southern part of Trench 1 (F1008, Locke 2019), equating to ditch 2045 in the subsequent excavation phase. A sample of the lower fill of this feature produced an assemblage of charred grain, chaff and weed seeds representing both cleaned grain and crop processing residues (Summers in Locke 2019). Unfortunately, although ditch 2045 was sampled during the excavation phase, this, and sampling of other features, produced poor results, with only occasional charred cereal grains and weed seeds, many of which could represent intrusive material (App. C.1). Nonetheless, the results from the trial trenching do provide some evidence for on-site crop processing/consumption, providing further evidence that the site lay within or adjacent to an area of settlement.

4.2 Conclusions

4.2.1 The excavated remains at Bridge Road appear to relate exclusively to activity during the 1st century AD, in the decades either side of the Roman conquest. Although interpretation is hampered by the small scale of the excavation, the enclosure/boundary ditches and large number of pits exposed across the site seem likely to have lain within or adjacent to an area of settlement. The lack of fine wares or metalwork from the site suggests that this represents a fairly low status rural farmstead, whilst the environmental evidence points to an economy based on mixed agriculture, including cattle and sheep/goat husbandry and cereal production. Little evidence for contemporary activity is known from the immediate area of the site, although Iron Age and Early Roman settlement is well attested elsewhere on the Isle of Ely, further to the east. The site makes a small but useful contribution to the local/regional record of this period and highlights the potential for further work in the area.



5 ARCHIVING

5.1.1 Proposals for the deposition of the project archive follow the CCC HET's *Archaeological Archives Requirements for Post-Excavation Analysis* document. The site records, artefacts and digital records produced during the excavation and post-excavation work will be deposited in accordance with the CCC HET guidelines set out in Deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire (2017, Version 2). The physical archive consists of ten bulk archive boxes of finds and two paperwork boxes. Transfer of Title will be acquired for the material remains and these will be deposited with the CCC HET approved store. Following the specialist recommendations provided as part of the post-excavation programme, all finds have been retained in the archive. Digital media will be deposited with ADS – the accredited, publicly accessible, digital repository.



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

CONTEXT INVENTORY **APPENDIX A**

L.					Ш																						
Orientation					N-S / E-WE			SE-NW			N/A					N/A			N-S				N/A				SW-NW
Base					concave			concave			concave					concave			concave				concave				concave
Side					gradual			gradual			SW -	gradual, ne - steep				moderate			moderate				moderate				gentle
Shape in plan					curvilinear			curvilinear			sub-circular					circular			linear				circular				sub-circular
Coarse component	occasional small sub-angular	stones	occasional sub-	rounded to sub- angular stones)	small sub-	rounded flint		occasional	charcoal; rare rounded flint			frequent small	sub-rounded flint;	occasional charcoal		n/a			rare small sub-	rounded unsorted	stones and rare		rare charcoal and	small unsorted	sub-rounded stones	
Fine component	clay silt		clay			silty clay			silty clay				sandy clay				clayey silt			clayey silt				clayey silt			
Colour	dark brown	grey	mid blue	grey		dark	blueish grev		mid	brownish gray			mid	brownish	grey		light	yellowish brown		dark grey				mid	brownish	grey	
Depth					0.16	0.16		0.22	0.22		0.24		0.24			0.13	0.13		0.22	0.22			0.11	0.11			0.26
Breadth					0.62			0.72			8.0					0.65			0.56				0.43				1.74
Length	0		0		2	0		2	0		0		0			0	0		0	0			0	0			0.62
Period	n/a		n/a		1	1		1	1		1		1			1	1		1	1			1	1			1
Filled By					2004			2006			2008					2011			2013				2015				2017
Cut					2003	2003		2005	2005		2007		2007			2010	2010		2012	2012			2014	2014			2016
Feature Type	top soil		lios dns		ditch	ditch		ditch	ditch		pit		pit			pit	pit		ditch	ditch			pit	pit			pit
Category	layer		layer		cut	ĮĮ.		cut	ĮĮĮ.		cut		Į]			cut	fill		cut	till			cut	ţill			cut
Context	2000		2001		2003	\vdash		2005	2006		2007		2008			2010	2011		2012				2014	2015			2016



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Orientation			N/A		N/A			N/A		N/A			N/A		N/A		E-W		N/A		N/A
Base			concave		concave			concave		flat irregular		1	concave		concave		flat		coancave		concave
Side			gentle		moderate			gradual		gentle		-14	gentle		moderate		moderate		gentle		gradual
Shape in plan			sub-circular		circular			sub-circular		sub-circular			sub-circular		circular		sub-circular		sub-circular		sub-circular
Coarse component	rare charcoal and smal unsorted rub-rounded	stones		n/a		rare small unsorted sub-	rounded stones		occasional small sub-rounded flint		occasional small flint			frequent charcoal		rare charcoal and small unsorted sub-rounded stones		n/a		occasional small sub-rounded flint	
Fine component	clayey silt			clayey silt		clayey silt			clayey silt		silty clay			clayey silt		clayey silt		clayey silt		clayey silt	
Colour	mid blueish grev			mid blueish grey		mid brownish	grey		mid brownish grey		mid brownish	grey		dark brownish grey		mid brownish grey		mid brownish grey		mid brownish grey	
Depth	0.26		0.18	0.18	0.26	0.26		0.14	0.14	0.1	0.1	000	0.08	0.08	0.2	0.2	0.23	0.23	0.14	0.14	0.22
Breadth			0.62		1.05			1.7		6.0		L	0.35		0.58		0.62		0.98		1.16
Length	0		0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	(O	0	0	0	1.4	0	0	0	0
Period	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	₽	1	,	1	П	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Filled By			2019		2021			2023		2025		1	7707		2029		2031		2033		2035
Cut	2016		2018	2018	2020	2020		2022	2022	2024	2024	2000	7079	2026	2028	2028	2030	2030	2032	2032	2034
Feature Type	pit		pit	pit	pit	pit		pit	pit	pit	pit	4	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit
Category	ĮIIJ		cut	ţiil	cut	ĮII		cut	fill	cut	ĮIIJ		cut	ĮII	cut	ĮII	cut	ĮIII	cut	fill	cut
Context	2017		2018	2019	2020	2021		2022	2023	2024	2025	0000	7079	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034

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Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

		_			_	_											
Orientation		N/A			N/A		N/A		NE-SW		NW-SE			NW-SE		N/A	
Base		concave			concave		uncertain		concave		concave			flat		flat	
Side		gradual			gradual		gradual		gradual		steep			steep irregular		steep	
Shape in plan		sub-circular			sub-circular		sub- rectangular		sub-circular		curvilinear			linear		indeterminate	
Coarse component	rare charcoal; occasional small sub-rounded flint		frequent charcoal	occasional small sub-rounded flint		occasional smal sub-rounded flint		n/a		occasional smal sub-rounded flint; frequent charcoal		rare charcoal	rare charcoal and small stones		frequent small stones and charcoal		frequent small stones
Fine component	silty clay		silty clay	silty clay		silty clay		clayey silt		sitly clay		clay	clayey silt		clayey silt		silty clay
Colour	mid brownish grey		dark brownish grey	mid brownish grey		mid brownish grey		mid greyish brown		mid grey		light blueish brown	mid brownish green		dark brownish grey		mid brown
Depth	0.22	0.25	0.11	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.11	0.11	0.25	0.25	0.59	60.0	0.32	0.5	0.5	0.14	0.14
Breadth		1.14	66:0	1.14	0.52		0.16		1.22		1.36			1.02		0.7	
Length	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period	1	1	Т	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Filled By		2037, 2038			2040		2042		2044		2046, 2047			2049		2051	
Cut	2034	2036	2036	2036	2039	2039	2041	2041	2043	2043	2045	2045	2045	2048	2048	2050	2050
Feature Type	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	gully	gully
Category	fill	cut	ĮĮį	III.	cut	III.	cut	fill	cut	fill	cut	fill	ĮII	cut	₽	cut	fill
Context	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Orientation	N/A		N-S				N/A			N/A			NW-SE		N/A		N/A		N/A
Base	flat uneven		concave				concave			concave			n/a		irregular		concave		concave
Side	gradual		moderate				gradual			gradual			steep		gentle		gradual		gradual
Shape in plan	indeterminate		linear				sub-circular			sub-circular			curvilinear		circular		sub-circular		circular
Coarse component		n/a		rare charcoal and	rounded gravels	rare charcoal		frequent charcoal, occasional smal rounded flint	occasional smal sub-rounded flint		frequent charcoal; occasional smal sub-rounded flint	occasional small sub-rounded flint		rare small stones and charcoal		rare small stones		frequent charcoal; rare small rounded flint	
Fine component		sandy silt		clayey silt		silty clay		silty clay	silty clay		silty clay	clayey silt		clay silt		sandy silt		silty clay	
Colour		mid redish brown		mid	grey	mid blueish grey		dark brownish grey	mid brownish	814	dark brownish grey	mid brownish grey		dark blueish grey		mid yellowish brown		dark brownish grey	
Depth	0.14	0.14	0.37	0.24		0.26	0.3	0.12	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.11	0.42	0.42	0.16	0.16	0.12	0.12	0.09
Breadth	1.44		2.12				1.4	1.22		1.76	1.72	1.64	9.0		98.0		0.48		0.4
Length	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period	natural	natural	1	П		1	1	1	П	1	П	П	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Filled By	2053		2055, 2056				2058, 2059			2061,			2064		2066		2068		2070
Cut	202	202	2054	2054		2054	2057	2057	2057	2060	2060	2060	2063	2063	2065	2065	2067	2067	2069
Feature Type	natural	natural	ditch	ditch		ditch	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	ditch	ditch	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit
Category	cut	fill	cut	fill		fill	cut	III.	ij.	cut	III.	III.	cut	fill	cut	III.	cut	III.	cut
Context	202	2053	2054	2055		2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

v.2 (Final)

	ı	1	ı	1	ı	ı	ı	ı	1	-				1		1	1		
Orientation		N/A		S-N				N/A			N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		
Base		concave		concave				flat			concave		concave		flat		flat		
Side		steeep		steep				sloped			sloped		sloped		sloped		sloped		
Shape in plan		sub-circular		linear				sub-circular			circular		sub-circular		circular		sub-circular		
Coarse component	n/a		occasional charcoal		rare small sub- angular stones including flint	rare charcoal	rare charcoal and small unsorted sub-rounded stones		n/a			n/a		occasional stones		occasional stones		occasional stones	
Fine component	silty clay		silty clay		clay	clayey silt	clayey silt		silty clay			silty clay		silty clay		silty clay		silty clay	
Colour	mid greyish brown		mid brownish grey		mid brownish yellow	mid brownish grey	mid blueish grey		mid orange	brown		light orange brown		mid orange brown		mid orange brown		dark	orange brown
Depth	60.0	0.07	0.07	9.0	60.0	0.26	0.24	0.18	0.18		0.16	0.16	0.14	0.14	0.18	0.18	0.2	0.2	
Breadth		0.3		1.67				1.12			1.2		96.0		1.6				
Length	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.0	0		0.68	0	1.36	0	1.3	0	1.16	0	
Period	П	1	П	П	П	П	1	1	1		1	1	1	П	1	П	1	1	
Filled		2072		2074, 2075, 2076				2078			2080		2082		2084		2086		
Cut	5069	2071	2071	2073	2073	2073	2073	2077	2077		2079	2079	2081	2081	2083	2083	2085	2085	
Feature Type	pit	pit	pit	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	pit	pit		pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	
Category	III.	cut	III.	cut	#	III.	III	cut	≣		cut	fill	cut	III.	cut	III.	cut	ĮĮĮ	
Context	2070	2071	-	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077				2080	\vdash	2082	-	2084	-	2086	

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Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Orientation	N-S											.,	N/A			N/A				N/A	NW-SE					N/A		
Base	concave												concave			concave				concave	concave					concave		
Side	steep												moderate			moderate				moderate	steep					gentle		
Shape in plan	linear											-	sub-circular			sub-circular				sub-circular	curvilinear					sub-circular		
Coarse component		rare charcoal and small unsorted sub-angular	stonesq	rare charcoal and	small unsorted	sub-rounded stones	rare charcoal and	sub-rounded	stones	occasional small	rounded stones			very occasional	stones		very occasional	small rounded	stones			frequent charcoal,	rare small stones	rare charcoal and	small stones		rare small stones	
Fine component		clay		clayey silt			clayey silt			silty clay				silty clay			silty clay					clay		clay silt			clay	
Colour		mid brownish yellow		mid	brownish	grey	mid blueish	grey		dark	prownish	grey		dark	grev		dark	brownish	grey			mid	brownish blue	dark	greyish brown		mid brownish	yellow
Depth	9.0	0.07		0.27			0.28			0.18		0.00	0.18	0.22		0.22	0.16			0.16	0.62	0.1		0.52		0.42	0.19	
Breadth	1.96											,	1.3			1.86				0.94	1.92					1.74		
Length	0	0		0			0			0			1.32	0		1.88	0			1.06	0	0		0		0	0	
Period	1	1		1			1			П		,	1	⊣		1	1			1	П	1		1		1	1	
Filled By	2089, 2090, 2091												7607			2094				2096	2099, 2100					2102, 2103		
Cut	2088	2088		2088			2088			2093			2093	2095		2085	2097			2097	2098	2098		2098		2101	2101	
Feature Type	ditch	ditch		ditch		_	ditch			pit	_		pıt	pit		pit	pit		_]	pit	ditch	ditch	_	ditch		pit	pit	
Category	cut	ĮĮĮ		ĮĮĮ			ĮII			Įį.			cut	≣		cut	Į.			cut	cut	ĮĮĮ		ĮII.		cut	fill	
Context	2088	5089		2090			2091			2092		0	\dashv	2094		2095	\vdash			2097	2098	5099		2100		2101	2102	



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Orientation																								
Orien					N/A			N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A			N/A
Base					concave			concave		concave	concave		concave		flat		flat		flat		concave			concave
Side					shallow			moderate		moderate	gentle		gentle		steep		gentle		n/a		gentle			moderate
Shape in plan					sub-circular			sub-circular		sub-circular	sub-circular		sub-circular		sub-circular		sub-circular		sub-circular		sub-circular			sub-circular
Coarse component	rare small stones		occasional small	rounded stones		n/a			occasional small round stones			rare charcoal and burnt clay		rare charcoal and burnt clay		n/a		rare small stones		n/a		n/a	occasional small round stones	
Fine component	clay silt		silty clay			silty clay			silt clay			clay silt		clay silt		silt clay		silt		silty clay		clay	silty clay	
Colour	dark	brown	mid	brownish grey		mid	grey		mid brownish grey			dark grey		dark grey		mid reddish brown		dark greenish brown		mid yellowish brown		light reddish yellow	mid brownish grey	
Depth	0.34		90.0		90.0	0.12		0.12	0.1	0.1	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.21	0.21	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.18	0.18
Breadth					0.37			0.56		0.83	0.7		0.89		0.57		1.25		0.67		0.59			1.8
Length	0				0.67	0		1.06	0	1.12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.22
Period	1		1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Filled By								2106		2108	2111				2115		2117		2119		2121			2122
Cut	2101		2105		2105	2107		2107	2109	2109	2110	2110	2110	2112	2114	2114	2116	2116	2118	2118	2120	2120	2123	2123
Feature Type	pit		pit		pit	pit		pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit
Category	fill		FIILL	_	cut	fill		cut	ĮĮĮ	cut	cut	fill	cut	fill	cut	fill	cut	III.	cut	ĮĮĮ	cut	III.	Įį.	cut
Context	2103		2104		2105	2106		2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

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Orientation		N/A		N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A	N/A		N/A		N/A	
Base		concave		concave			concave			concave			concave			concave			concave	concave		concave		flat	
Side		gentle		moderate			moderate			gentle			gentle			moderate			moderate	gentle		gentle		moderate	
Shape in plan		sub-circular		sub-circular			irregular			sub-circular			sub-circular			sub-circular			sub-circular	circular		circular		circular	
Coarse component	occasional small round stones		n/a		n/a			occasional small round stones			occasional small	rounded stones		n/a			n/a				n/a		n/a		n/a
Fine component	silty clay		silt clay		silty clay			silty sand			silty clay			silty clay			silty sand				silty clay		clay		silty clay
Colour	mid brownish grey		dark brownish grey		mid	grey		mid brownish	grey		mid	brownish grey		dark	brownish grey		dark	brownish grey			dark yellowish brown		mid brownish yellow		mid brownish grey
Depth	0.07	0.07	0.1	0.1	0.22		0.22	0.08		0.08	90.0		90.0	0.1		0.1	0.14		0.14	0.16	0.16	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.15
Breadth		0.73		0.83			1.08			0.78			0.5			0.7			0.61	0.46		0.99		1.26	
Length	0	0.73	0	1.01	0		2.15	0		0.82	0		0.56	0		0.8	0		0.92	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period	natural	natural	1	1	natural		natural	1		1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	Post- med/mod	Post- med/mod
Filled By		2124		2126						2130			2132			2134				2139		2141		2143	
Cut	2125	2125	2127	2127	2129		2129	2131		2131	2133		2133	2135		2135	2137		2137	2138	2138	2140	2140	2142	2142
Feature Type	natural	natural	pit	pit	natural		natural	pit		pit	pit		pit	pit		pit	pit		pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit
Category	ĮĮĮ	cut	III.	cut	ĮĮ.		cut	III.		cut	ĮĮĮ		cut	ĮĮĮ		cut	ĮĮĮ		cut	cut	III	cut	III.	cut	ĮĮĮ.
	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128		2129	2130		2131	2132		2133	2134		2135	2136		2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143

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Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

				7 1111		14		-		i			-1-10		
Context	category	reature Type	cut	r IIIed By	Period	Lengtn	Breadth	Deptn	Colour	rine component	component	snape in pian	side	Base	Orientation
2144	cut	pit	2144	2145	Post- med/mod	0	1.04	0.14				sub-circular	moderate	flat	N/A
2145	fill	pit	2144		Post- med/mod	0		0.14	mid brownish grey	silty clay	n/a				
2146	cut	pit	2146	2147	Post- med/mod	0		0.4				irregular	moderate	flat	N/A
2147	fill	pit	2146		Post- med/mod	0		0.4	mid brownish grey	silty clay	n/a				
2148	cut	pit	2148		1	0	9.0	0.33				circular	steep	concave	N/A
2149	fill	pit	2148		1	0		0.33	dark brownish grev	clay silt	rare small unsorted sub- rounded stones				
2150	cut	ditch	2150	2151	1	0	0.66	0.17	(2.0			linear	moderate	flat	N-S
2151	lll	ditch	2150		1	0		0.17	mid	clay silt	rare charcoal and				
									greyish brown		small unsorted sub-rounded stones				
2152					n/a	0									
2153	layer	natural			n/a	0		0.24	dark brownish red	clay silt	frequent small unsorted sub- angular to sub- rounded stones				
2154					n/a	0									
2155	layer	natural			n/a	0		0.18	light yellow brown	clay	n/a				
2156	cut	ditch	2156	2157	1	0	6.0	0.26				sub-circular	n/a	flat	N/A
2157	ij	ditch	2156		П	0		0.26	mid reddish brown	clay silt	rare small sub- rounded stones and charcoal				
2158	cut	ditch	2158	2054, 2073	1	0	0.71	0.32				linear	steep	n/a	N-S
2159	fill	ditch	2158		1	0		0.32	mid reddish brown	clay silt	rare small unsorted sub- rounded stones				
2160	VOID				n/a	0									
2161	VOID				n/a	0									

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Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

			-				I									1	-				1		ı		
Orientation			N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A			N/A		N/A	E-W			N-SE	
Base			concave			concave			concave			concave			concave			concave		concave	concave			concave	
Side			steep			steep			moderate			gentle			gentle			gentle		steep	steep			steep	
Shape in plan		-	sub-circular			sub-circular			sub-circular			sub-circular			sub-circular			sub-circular		sub-circular	linear			curvilinear	
Coarse component	n/a			occasional small	מוומפת פרסוופפ		n/a			occasional small	rounded stones		n/a			n/a			n/a			frequent charcoal	rare stones and charcoal		frequent charcoal
Fine component	silty clay			silty clay			silty clay			silty clay			silty clay			silty clay			silty clay			сІау	clay silt		clay
Colour	mid brownish	grey		mid	grey		mid brownish	grey		dark	brownish grey		mid	brownih grey		mid	brownish grey		dark brownish grey			light greyish blue	dark greyish brown		light greyish blue
Depth	0.07	1	0.02	60.0		0.09	0.22		0.22	90.0		90.0	0.08		0.08	90.0		90.0	0.25	0.25	0.72	0.17	0.62	0.72	0.16
Breadth		(0.2			0.15	0.74		0.74			0.34			0.42			89.0		0.5	2.5			8.0	
Length	0	1	0.27	0		0.19	1.4		1.4	0		0.38	0		0.77	0		0.92	0	0.65	0	0	0	0	0
Period	1	,	1	1		1	natural		natural	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Filled By						2164															2177, 2178			2180, 2181	
Cut	2163		2163	2165		2165	2167		2167	2169		2169	2171		2171	2173		2173	2175	2175		2176	2176	2179	2179
Feature Type	pit	:	pit	pit		pit	natural		natural	pit		pit	pit		pit	pit		pit	pit	pit	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch
Category	III.		cut	≡		cut	ŧiii		cut	≡		cut	fill		cut	fill		cut	ţiii	cut	cut	ĮĮĮ	III.	cut	ĮĮĮ
Context	2162		2163	2164		2165	2166		2167	2168		2169	2170		2171	2172		2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Orientation SW-NE N-S N/A N/A concave concave concave Base moderate moderate steep gentle Side Shape in plan sub-circular sub-circular linear linear rare charcoal and small unsorted sub-rounded stones occasional small rounded stones Coarse component n/a n/a n/a Fine component clay silt silty clay silty clay clay silt clay silt dark blue grey dark brownish grey dark brownish mid greyish brown dark greyish brown Colour grey Depth 0.08 0.32 0.1 0.64 0.08 0.2 0.87 Breadth 0.77 0.45 Length 1.16 0 0 0 0 0 0 Period 2182 2189 2187 Filled By 2183 2179 2185 2186 2186 2188 2183 Cut Feature Type pit ditch ditch ditch ditch ditch pit pit pit Context | Category 2185 cut 2186 cut 2187 fill 2188 cut 2189 fill 2183 cut 2184 fill ≣ ≣ 2181 2182

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APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

B.1.1 A total of 617 sherds, weighing 6154g (2.18 Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE)), of primarily Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery was recovered from the site (Table 2).
 A minimum of 136 individual vessels are recorded. The condition of the pottery is fragmentary with an average sherd size of only 10g.

Ceramic Period: abbreviation (date range)	Sherd	Weight	EVE	Weight
	Count	(g)		(%)
Iron Age: IA (800 – 350BC)	8	107	0.16	1.74
Late Iron Age: LIA to LATEST IA (350 BC-AD 43)	329	2906	0.73	47.22
Latest Iron Age to Early Roman: LIA-ER (AD 0-100)	162	2134	0.51	34.68
Early Roman: ER (AD 43-150)	106	888	0.78	14.42
Post-medieval: PMED (AD 1500-1750)	9	73	0.00	1.19
Early modern: EMOD (AD 1750- 1900)	3	46	0.00	0.75
Total	617	6154	218	100.00

Table 2: The pottery quantified by feature

B.1.2 This is a larger, although similar in character, assemblage than was recorded at the evaluation stage of the project (Table 3).

Fieldwork phase	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
Evaluation (Peachey 2019)	65	661	9.70
Excavation (Lyons this report)	617	6154	90.30
Total	682	6815	100.00

Table 3: Pottery from the evaluation and excavation

B.1.3 The pottery was primarily recovered from pits and ditches, with very small quantities found in other deposits (Table 4).

Feature	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Weight (%)
Pit	420	3806	61.85
Ditch	195	2313	37.58
Topsoil	1	29	0.47
Redeposited natural	1	6	0.10
Total	617	6154	100.00

Table 4: The pottery quantified by feature

Methodology

B.1.4 The pottery was evaluated following the national guidelines (Barclay *et al* 2016). The total assemblage was studied, and a catalogue was prepared (in archive, reproduced here in summary form as Table 7). 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 gramme and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted.

The Pottery

The Iron Age and Early Roman Pottery

B.1.5 The majority of the pottery found and recorded during the excavation spans the Iron Age to Early Roman periods. A total of 605 sherds, weighing 6035g (2.18EVE) was found and eight broad fabric groups recorded (Table 5).

Fabric Name: abbreviation Published reference	Form	Sherd count	EVE	Weight (g)	EVE (%)	Weight (%)
Reduced ware with quartz inclusions: RW(Q); SGW Hill with Horne 2003, 167-168	Bowl, jar, storage jar	462	1.83	4454	83.95	73.80
Sandy oxidised ware: OW; OW(Q); SOW	Jar, storage jar	79	0.23	1101	10.55	18.24
Reduced ware with common grog inclusions: RW(GROG) Tomber and Dore 1998; SOB GT, 214; Hill with Horne 2003, 168	Jar, storage jar	25	0.00	181	0.00	3.00
Fine reduced ware: GW(FINE)	Beaker	15	0.00	86	0.00	1.43
Reduced ware with organic inclusions: RW(ORG); RW(Q)(ORG) Hill with Horne 2003, 168	Bowl, jar, storage jar	8	0.00	74	0.00	1.24
Reduced ware with common flint inclusions: RW(FLINT)	Storage jar	2	0.00	60	0.00	0.99
Reduced ware with shell inclusions: RW(SHELL) Hill with Horne 2003, 167	Storage jar	8	0.12	51	5.50	0.84
Oxidised ware with shell and organic inclusions: OW (SHELL & ORG)	Jar	6	0.00	28	0.00	0.46
Total		605	2.18	6035	100.00	100.00

Table 5: The pottery fabrics and forms, listed in descending order of weight (%)

Coarse Wares

- B.1.6 Chronologically the earliest pottery in the assemblage are a small number of handmade low-fired reduced ware storage jar fragments made with common flint, shell or organic inclusions. These are Iron Age in date (800-350BC) and have survived as a residual element within the soil.
- B.1.7 The most common pottery-type, however, are reduced (grey/black) wares with sand as an abundant temper (mixing agent). Those produced in the Late Iron Age tradition (RW(Q)) are handmade and low-fired and found in a conservative range of carinated bowls (Thomson 1983; E1-1), also cordoned jars and storage jars (*ibid*, B3-1). This range of vessels continued to be made into the Early Roman era (SGW) when wheel technology and kiln firing became the normal method of production. The number of vessel types remained very limited although a single example of a jar with an everted rim was noted. A smaller number of similar jar and storage jar vessels which had been fired in an oxidizing atmosphere (OW; OW(Q); SOW) were found, some tempered with shell and organic material (OW (SHELL & ORG)) that has leached away to leave voids. Although no evidence for on-site pottery production was found, local contemporary pottery manufacture has been recorded in the region at Swavesey (Willis *et al* 2008) and Brampton (Lyons and Blackbourn 2017), so it is known the extended local



population were skilled ceramicists and early adopters of new pottery making technologies.

B.1.8 Vessels produced in this Sandy clay matrix were supplemented with a small number of reduced ware wheel-made vessels made with clay mixed with grog (crushed previously fired clay). Most of the material was very fragmentary and undiagnostic, although a cordoned jar (Thompson 1982, B3-1) was recognised. These Belgic-inspired latest Iron Age grog-tempered wares (SOB GT) would have been produced in relatively local specialist kilns in the early to mid-1st century AD (Hill with Horne 2003, 171).

Adapted coarseware vessels

B.1.9 It is interesting to note that no evidence of repair was found within this assemblage, perhaps reflecting the low status (utilitarian) character of this assemblage. The two vessels that were adapted had major alterations to their bases which significantly changed their original function.

Adapted coarseware vessels: Illustrated sherds

- P1 (Fig. 6) SGW(Q)(SANDW) jar with multiple small post-firing holes (between 2-4mm in diameter) drilled through its base, of which seven survive intact. A similar vessel has been recorded near-by at Wardy Hill (Hill with Horne 2003, fig 83, no 1). Fill 2113 within Pit 2110. Early-mid 1st century AD
- P2 (Fig. 6) SGW (West Norfolk type; Peachey 2018) jar base, with large (15x18mm) post-firing central perforation. A similar adaptation has been recorded near-by at Wardy Hill (Hill with Horne 2003, fig 83, no 2). Fill 2103 within Pit 2101. Early to mid-2nd century AD

Fine Wares

B.1.10 Fine wares are very scarce within the assemblage. The remains, however, of two locally produced fine greyware beakers were recorded; unfortunately, too fragmentary to assign to type.

Key contexts: Pit 2110, dated to the mid-1st century AD

B.1.11 A total of 207 sherds, weighing 2173g (0.47 EVE) were recovered within Pit 2110, which represents 36% (by weight) of the entire period assemblage. The small oval pit was located just inside the large enclosure ditch on the northern edge of excavation. The pottery, although fragmentary with an average sherd weight of 10.5g, represents the remains of several beakers, jars and storage jars manufactured in both Late Iron Age and Early Roman traditions. No soot residues survive on the fragmentary pottery, although one of the better preserved jars (P3, Fig. 6) has an internal purple hue, it is possible that this is due to being slightly mis-fired or even from prolonged exposure to salt. The condition and character of this pottery suggest that it has seen less post-depositional disturbance that much of the the material from other features on the site and may, therefore, be more closely (or directly) associated with domestic settlement in the vicinity.

Pit 2110: Illustrated sherds:

P3 (Fig. 6) Rilled jar with everted rim, similar to Thompson 1982, C7-1. SGW. Fill 2113

P4 (Fig. 6) Cordoned storage jar with hooked rim, similar to Thompson 1982, C6-1. RW(Q). Fill 2113



Fabric description: abbreviation	Method of manufacture	Form	Count	Weight (g)	EVE
Iron Age tradition Reduced ware with quartz inclusions: RW(Q)	Handmade and slow wheel	Jar/bowl, storage jar	57	1162	0.10
Romanised Reduced ware with quartz inclusions: SGW	Slow and fast wheel	Cordoned jar, jar with everted rim, sieve	122	732	0.22
Romanised Sandy oxidised ware: OW(Q)	Handmade and fast wheel	Cordoned jar, jar or flagon	10	170	0.15
Romanised Fine reduced ware: GW(FINE)	Fast wheel	Beaker	12	81	0.00
Iron Age tradition Oxidised ware with shell and organic inclusions: OW (SHELL & ORG)	Handmade	Jar	6	28	0.00
Total			207	2173	0.47

Table 6: Pit 2110, the pottery fabrics and forms listed in descending order of weight (%)

Post-medieval and early modern pottery

B.1.12 A total of nine sherds (73g) of Glazed red earthen ware post-medieval pottery (Laing 2014, 118) including a spouted vessel (pits: 2007; 2101; 2146) and three sherds (46g) of an early modern china (*ibid*, 123) glazed plate (pit 2146) were recovered. Eight small sherds (60g) of the red earthen ware were recovered as intrusive finds from two of the Period 1 pits (2007 and 2101) whilst the remainder of this material derived from post-medieval/modern pit 2146.

Conclusion

- B.1.13 This is a small mostly stratified group, retrieved from pits and ditches, of primarily Late Iron Age and Early Roman locally produced utilitarian coarseware pottery. Most of the vessels were produced in the sandy clay matrix which was used to produce a limited range of bowls, jars and storage jars. No purpose made specialist wares were found to isolate any specific activity beyond the small-scale storage of water and dry goods such as cereals and possibly salt. Several vessels, however, were adapted to act as strainers which may have been useful in several tasks including cheese making and brewing (Abrams and Ingham 2008, 63).
- B.1.14 The majority of the pottery vessels found, however, are very similar to those recovered during the evaluation (Peachy 2018), and are also comparable to those from other larger contemporary sites in the area, such as Wardy Hill, 3km to the north-east (Hill with Horne 2003). Although there is no substantial evidence of long-distance trade the presence of a single sherd of West Norfolk reduced ware pottery combined with the small quantities of relatively fine grog-tempered wares does hint at connections to other communities within the region.
- B.1.15 Pottery was deposited on this site during the early to mid-1st century AD, and is largely pre-conquest in character (pre-43 AD) it may be, however, that small-scale deposition continued until the early 2nd century AD after which time the ceramic evidence suggests that this site fell from use. There is no catastrophic event horizon visible in the pottery assemblage to explain this demise, although several pottery sherds found in ditch deposits are burnt but this could be due to cooking accidents or the periodic burning of rubbish.



- B.1.16 Unfortunately, the assemblage has suffered from severe post-use weathering which possibly occurred during a period of middening and most is clearly residual in character, deposited into the pits and ditches unintentionally as part of a rubbish dispersal process. Only Pit 2110 has a more cohesive assemblage suggesting a closer relationship to the community who used this material.
- B.1.17 The few post-medieval and early modern sherds found reflect the resumption of agrarian activity untaken at that time.

2000	Context	Cut	Туре	Era	HM/WM	Fabric	Form	No.	Wt. (g)	Spotdate
2008 2007 Pit ER WM SGW JAR 4 28 MC1										•
2008 2007 Pit ER	-	2007			WM	, ,	<u> </u>			
2008 2007 Pit ER								5		
2035 2034 Pit ER	2008	2007	Pit	ER	WM		<u> </u>	1	16	
2037 2036 Pit ER SW SOW JAR/FLAG 2 1 MC1	2035	2034	Pit	ER	WM		JAR	2	16	MC1
2040 2039 PIT ER		2034	Pit	ER	WM	, ,, ,	JAR/BOWL	4	11	MC1
2044 2043 Pit ER	2037	2036	Pit	ER	SW	SOW	JAR/FLAG	2	1	MC1
2044 2043 Pit ER	2040	2039	Pit	ER	WM	SGW(SANDW)	JAR	2	28	MC1
2044 2043 PİR ER WM SGW JAR 1 13 M/LC1	2044	2043	Pit	ER	WM	RW(Q)(SGW)	JAR	9	36	MC1
2044 2043 PİT	2044	2043	Pit	ER	WM	SOW	JAR/BOWL	10	28	MC1
2049 2048 Ditch ER	2044	2043	Pit	ER	WM	SGW	JAR	1	13	M/LC1
2049 2048 Ditch ER	2044	2043	Pit	ER	WM	GW(SANDW)FINE	BEAK	3	5	E/MC1
2049 2048 Ditch ER							CORDONED			M/LC1-
2049 2048 Ditch ER		2048	Ditch		WM	SGW(BLUE)(MICA)	JAR	1	11	E/MC2
2058 2057 Pit ER	2049	2048	Ditch	ER	WM	RW(Q)(SGW)	JAR	1	3	MC1
2061 2060 Pit ER SW OW(Q)(FINE FLINT) JAR/FLAG 2 4 MC1	2049		Ditch	ER	WM	RW(Q)(WS)	-	1	8	
2074 2073 Ditch ER							JAR/BOWL			
2100 2098 Ditch ER	-					, ,,	<u> </u>			
2103 2101 Pit ER						, ,, ,				
2103 2101 Pit ER	2100	2098	Ditch	ER	WM	OW(ORANGE)		1	4	MC1
2103 2101 Pit ER	24.02	24.04	Dit	ED.	14/0.4	CC/A//A/A/D/A/)		10	1.12	NA/LC4 FC3
2111 2110 Pit ER										
2113 2112 Pit ER WM SGW(OX SURFACES) JAR 12 254 M/LC1-EC2 2113 2112 Pit ER WM OW(Q) JAR/FLAG 8 29 E/MC1 2113 2112 Pit ER WM GW(SANDW)FINE BEAK 4 20 E/MC1 2117 2116 Pit ER WM SGW JAR 1 6 E/MC1 2117 2116 Pit ER SW RW(GROG) JAR/BOWL 1 4 E/MC1 2117 2116 Pit ER SW SGW(OX SURFACES) JAR/BOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2172 2150 Ditch ER SW SGW(OX SURFACES) JAR/BOWL 1 1 MC1 2172 2175 Pit ER WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 1 1 MC1 2181 2179 Ditch ER SW OW	-						-			-
2113 2112										
2113 2112 Pit ER WM GW(SANDW)FINE BEAK 4 20 E/MC1 2117 2116 Pit ER WM SGW JAR 1 6 E/MC1 2117 2116 Pit ER SW RW(GROG) JAR/BOWL 1 4 E/MC1 2151 2150 Ditch ER SW SGW(OX SURFACES) JAR/BOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2174 2175 Pit ER WM RW(Q)(SGW) JAR/BOWL 1 1 MC1 2178 2176 Ditch ER SW SGW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 1 9 E/MC1 2181 2179 Ditch ER SW OW(Q) JAR 3 22 C1 2184 2185 Ditch ER WM SGW JAR 1 4 MC1-EC2 2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/							-			-
2117 2116 Pit ER	-					, ,	<u> </u>			
2117 2116 Pit ER SW RW(GROG) JAR/BOWL 1 4 E/MC1						,	+			
2151 2150 Ditch ER SW SGW(OX SURFACES) JAR/BOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2174 2175 Pit ER WM RW(Q)(SGW) JAR/BOWL 1 1 MC1 2178 2176 Ditch ER SW SGW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 1 9 E/MC1 2181 2179 Ditch ER SW OW(Q) JAR 3 22 C1 2184 2185 Ditch ER WM SGW JAR 1 4 MC1-EC2 2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/BOWL 1 13 C2BC-ADEC1 2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(CCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>										
2174 2175 Pit ER WM RW(Q)(SGW) JAR/BOWL 1 1 MC1 2178 2176 Ditch ER SW SGW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 1 9 E/MC1 2181 2179 Ditch ER SW OW(Q) JAR 3 22 C1 2184 2185 Ditch ER WM SGW JAR 1 4 MC1-EC2 2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/BOWL 1 13 C2BC-ADEC1 2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 1 29 600-200BC 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(GCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(, ,	 			
2178 2176 Ditch ER SW SGW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 1 9 E/MC1 2181 2179 Ditch ER SW OW(Q) JAR 3 22 C1 2184 2185 Ditch ER WM SGW JAR 1 4 MC1-EC2 2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/BOWL 1 13 C2BC-ADEC1 2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 1 29 600-200BC 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)							<u> </u>			
2181 2179 Ditch ER SW OW(Q) JAR 3 22 C1 2184 2185 Ditch ER WM SGW JAR 1 4 MC1-EC2 2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/BOWL 1 13 C2BC-ADEC1 2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(FLINT) SJAR 1 29 600-200BC 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2006 2005 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)							 			
2184 2185 Ditch ER WM SGW JAR 1 4 MC1-EC2 2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/BOWL 1 13 C2BC-ADEC1 2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(FLINT) SJAR 1 29 600-200BC 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2006 2005 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(S							<u> </u>			
2017 2016 Pit IA HM RW(Q) JAR/BOWL 1 13 C2BC-ADEC1 2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(FLINT) SJAR 1 29 600-200BC 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2006 2005 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) SJAR 2 147 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1	-					, ,				
2025 2024 Pit IA HM RW(FLINT) SJAR 1 29 600-200BC 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2006 2005 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) SJAR 2 147 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1									13	
2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q) NECKLESS JAR 2 55 400BC+ 2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2006 2005 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) SJAR 2 147 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1							 			
2068 2067 Pit IA HM RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT) BOWL 4 10 C2BC-ADEC1 2006 2005 Ditch IA WM RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 55 150 E/MC1 2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) SJAR 2 147 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1		2067	Pit	IA	НМ		NECKLESS JAR	2	55	
2006 2005 Ditch IA							+			
2037 2036 Pit				LATEST		, ,,				
2037 2036 Pit IA HM/SW RW(Q) SJAR 2 147 E/MC1 2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1 LATEST	2006	2005	Ditch	IA	WM	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR/BOWL	55	150	E/MC1
2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1 LATEST LAT										
2046 2045 Ditch IA WM RW(Q) CBOWL 1 5 E/MC1 2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1 LATEST LATEST IATEST	2037	2036	Pit		HM/SW	RW(Q)	SJAR	2	147	E/MC1
2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1	2046	2045	Dital		14/8.4	D)4/(O)	CDOM	_	_	E /b 4 C 4
2058 2057 Pit IA SW RW(Q)(SANDW) JAR/BOWL 5 19 E/MC1	2046	2045	Ditch		WW	ĸw(Ų)	CROMF	1	5	E/IVIC1
LATEST	2052	2057	Pit		SW	RW(O)(SANDW)	IAR/ROW/I	5	10	F/MC1
	2030	2031	110		3**	THE CONTRACTOR	JANYBOWL	,	13	L/ IVIC1
2030 2037 FIL IA 3W NW(UND)(UN SUKFACES) JAK 3 27 E/MCI	2058	2057	Pit	IA	SW	RW(ORG)(OX SURFACES)	JAR	3	27	E/MC1



Context	Cut	Туре	Era	HM/WM	Fabric	Form	No.	Wt. (g)	Spotdate
2058	2057	Pit	LATEST IA	SW	RW(Q)(OCC. FINE FLINT)	JAR	1	24	E/MC1
2059	2057	Pit	LATEST IA	HM/SW	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR	7	25	E/MC1
2059	2057	Pit	LATEST IA	HM/SW	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR	1	6	E/MC1
2059	2057	Pit	LATEST IA	HM/SW	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR	4	16	E/MC1
			LATEST	,	(2)(2:3:2:3)	•			_,
2070	2069	Pit	IA	SW	SGW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR/BOWL	2	1	E/MC1
2074	2073	Ditch	LATEST IA	WM	RW(Q)	CORDONED BOWL	1	11	E/MC1
2099	2098	Ditch	LATEST IA	WM	RW(Q)(SANDW)(OCC. FLINT)	CORDONED JAR	8	400	E/MC1
2100	2098	Ditch	LATEST IA	НМ	OW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(ORANGE)	JAR/SJAR	29	683	E/MC1
			LATEST		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	CORDONED			,
2113	2112	Pit	IA	SW	SGW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR	110	478	E/MC1
2115	2114	Pit	LATEST IA	HM/SW	RW(Q)(SANDW)(OCC. FLINT)	JAR	7	28	E/MC1
2117	2116	Pit	LATEST IA	HM/SW	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR	12	71	E/MC1
2174	2175	Pit	LATEST	WM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)(SANDW)	JAR/BOWL	1	6	E/MC1
2174	2173	- 110		*****	3011171023)(371112117)	3711720112		Ü	C2BC-
2000		Layer	LIA	НМ	RW(GROG)	JAR/SJAR	1	6	ADE/MC1
2004	2003	Ditch	LIA	НМ	STW	SJAR	1	32	C2BC-ADC1
2004	2003	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(GROG)(OCC. FLINT)(OX SURFACES)	SJAR	1	36	C2BC-ADC1
2004	2003	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)	SJAR	1	179	C2BC-ADC1
2004	2003	Ditch	LIA	HM	RW(GROG)	JAR/BOWL	1	8	E/MC1
2006	2005	Ditch	LIA	HM	RW(Q)(GROG)(OCC. FLINT)	JAR	1	26	C1BC-ADEC1
2006	2005	Ditch	LIA	HM	RW(Q)	SJAR	2	13	C1BC-ADEC1
2015	2014	Pit	LIA	HM	RW(GROG)	JAR/BOWL	1	8	E/MC1
2017	2016	Pit	LIA	HM	RW(GROG)(OX SURFACE)	JAR/BOWL	1	4	C2BC-ADEC1 C1BC-
2019	2018	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/SJAR	1	1	ADE/MC1 C2BC-
2021	2020	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(ORG)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/SJAR	1	13	ADE/MC1
2023	2022	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(GROG)(OCC FLINT)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	3	12	C2BC-ADEC1
2029	2028	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	1	7	C1BC-ADEC1
					RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(ORG)(OX				
2029	2028	Pit	LIA	HM	SURFACES)	BOWL	5	19	C1BC-ADEC1
2044	2043	Pit	LIA	HM	RW(FLINT)	SJAR	1	31	350+ C2BC-
2047	2048	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(ORG)	JAR/SJAR	1	4	ADE/MC1
2068	2067	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(GROG)(OCC. FINE FLINT)	JAR/BOWL	1	6	C1BC-ADEC1
2075	2073	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	12	65	C2BC-ADEC1
2089	2088	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(GROG)	JAR/BOWL	2	1	E/MC1
2091	2088	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	5	24	C2BC- ADE/MC1
2099	2098	Ditch	LIA	нм	RW(SHELL)	SJAR	4	6	C1BC- ADE/MC1
2100	2098	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(FLINT)	JAR/SJAR	1	12	C2BC-ADEC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)	SJAR	2	50	C1BC- ADE/MC1
2126	2127	Pit	LIA	НМ	RW(GROG)(SPARSE CALC & FLINT)	JAR/SJAR	2	45	C2BC- ADE/MC1



Context	Cut	Туре	Era	HM/WM	Fabric	Form	No.	Wt. (g)	Spotdate
2426	2427	D:t			DIAMONON CHIDEACEC	14 D /D O 14 //	,	47	C2BC-
2126	2127	Pit	LIA	HM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	2	17	ADE/MC1
2136	2137	Pit	LIA	HM	RW(Q)(ORG)	BOWL	4	20	C2BC-ADEC1
2136	2137	Pit	LIA	HM/SW	RW(Q)(FINE F LINT)	SJAR	1	37	C1BC- ADE/MC1
2151	2150	Ditch	LIA	НМ	DW(ODC)(OOC SHELL)	SJAR	1	27	C2BC-
2151	2130	DILCII	LIA	ПІИ	RW(ORG)(OOC. SHELL)	SJAK	1	21	ADE/MC1 C2BC-
2181	2179	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(OCC FINE FLINT)	JAR/BOWL	1	6	ADE/MC1
2182	2183	Pit	LIA	HM	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	2	7	C2BC-ADEC1
2184	2185	Ditch	LIA	HM	RW(Q)(BS)	JAR/BOWL	4	15	C2BC-ADEC1
2184	2185	Ditch	LIA	НМ	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR/SJAR	8	38	C1BC- ADE/MC1
									C2BC-
2187	2186	Ditch	LIA	HM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/SJAR	1	23	ADE/MC1
2187	2186	Ditch	LIA	HM	RW(GROG)	JAR/BOWL	4	11	C1BC-ADEC1
2006	2005	Dital	LIA-ER		D)4/(O)	CIAD		445	C1BC-
2006	2005	Ditch Ditch	LIA-ER LIA-ER	HM WM	RW(Q) RW(Q)	SJAR JAR	4	115 4	ADE/MC1 E/MC1
2000	2003	DILCII	LIA-LIN	VVIVI	NW(Q)	JAK		4	C1BC-
2008	2007	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)	SJAR	6	42	ADEC/MC1
2008	2007	Pit	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/SJAR	1	13	E/MC1
					(2)(0.1201111022)	,			C1B-
2011	2010	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR	1	1	ADE/MC1
2013	2012	Ditch	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	2	13	E/MC1
2013	2012	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR	1	10	C1BC- ADE/MC1
2033	2032	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR/SJAR	2	10	E/MC1
2033	2032	Pit	LIA-ER	SW	OW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	1	1	E/MC1
					RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(SANDW)(OX				C1BC-
2035	2034	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	6	32	ADE/MC1
2038	2036	Pit	LIA-ER	WM	SGW(SANDW)(OCC FLINT)	JAR	10	43	E/MC1
2044	2043	Pit	LIA-ER	SW	RW(GROG)	CORDONED JAR	2	21	E/MC1
					RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(SANDW)(OX				
2044	2043	Pit	LIA-ER	SW	SURFACES)	JAR	14	136	E/MC1
2044	2043	Pit	LIA-ER	HM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/SJAR	1	5	E/MC1
2044	2043	Pit	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)(VOIDS)	JAR	1	11	E/MC1
2049	2048	Ditch	LIA-ER	HM/SW	OW(Q)	SJAR	10	93	E/MC1
						CORDONED			
2049	2048	Ditch	LIA-ER	WM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	BOWL	2	22	E/MC1
2049	2048	Ditch	LIA-ER	HM/SW	OW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)	JAR	1	18	MC1
2056	2054	Ditch	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	1	3	E/MC1
2058	2057	Pit	LIA-ER	HM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/SJAR	1	5	E/MC1
2061	2060	Pit	LIA-ER	HM/SW	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR	7	46	E/MC1
2062	2060	Pit	LIA-ER	WM	SGW(SANDW)(OCC FLINT)	JAR/BOWL	2	5	E/MC1
2090	2088	Ditch	LIA-ER	WM	SGW(SANDW)(OCC FLINT)	JAR/BOWL	1	11	C1 C1BC-
2091	2088	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(SGW)	SJAR	1	45	ADE/MC1
2099	2098	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	OW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(ORANGE)	JAR	1	6	E/MC1
2099	2098	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	3	3	E/MC1
2099	2098	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	1	1	E/MC1
2099	2098	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	OW(Q)	SJAR	1	12	C1BC- ADE/MC1
2100	2098	Ditch	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL	1	5	E/MC1
2111	2110	Pit	LIA-ER	SW/WM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	15	106	E/MC1
2111	2110	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(FINE FLINT)	SJAR	1	115	C2BC-ADC1



Context	Cut	Туре	Era	HM/WM	Fabric	Form	No.	Wt. (g)	Spotdate
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	нм	RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(SANDW)(OX SURFACES)	SJAR	18	748	E/MC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	HM	OW(SHELL & ORG)	JAR	5	27	E/MC1
2113	2112	FIL	LIA-LIX	TIIVI	OW(SITELE & ONG)	CORDONED		21	L/IVICI
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	OW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(ORANGE)	SJAR	2	141	E/MC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR/BOWL	13	102	E/MC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	OW(SHELL & ORG)	JAR	1	1	E/MC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(SANDW)	JAR/BOWL	6	18	E/MC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(OCC. FLINT)(SANDW)(OX SURFACES)	SJAR	1	16	E/MC1
2113	2112	Pit	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(Q)(SANDW)(OX SURFACES)	JAR/BOWL	1	7	E/MC1
2117	2116	Pit	LIA-ER	HM	OW(Q)(ORANGE)	SJAR	3	37	C1BC-ADC1
2151	2150	Ditch	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)	JAR/SJAR	1	13	C1BC-ADC1
2151	2150	Ditch	LIA-ER	SW	RW(Q)(BS)	CORDONED JAR	1	24	E/MC1
2157	2156	Pit	LIA-ER	WM	RW(Q)(OX SURFACES)	CORDONED JAR	4	23	E/MC1
2181	2179	Ditch	LIA-ER	НМ	RW(SHELL)	SJAR	3	13	C2BC- ADE/MC1
2184	2185	Ditch	LIA-ER	HM	OW(Q)(ORANGE)	SJAR	1	11	E/MC1
2147	2146	Pit	MOD	WM	OW(CLEAR GLAZE)	PLATE	3	46	C18-C20
2008	2007	Pit	PMED	НМ	SREDW(GLAZED)(GRE)	JAR	5	31	C16-C18
2103	2101	Pit	PMED	SW	SREDW(SOME GLAZED)(GRE)	JAR/BOWL	3	29	C16-C18
2147	2146	Pit	PMED	НМ	SREDW(SLIPPED AND GALZED)	SPOUT	1	13	C16-C18

Table 7: Summary pottery catalogue (HM= handmade; WM= wheelmade)

B.2 Ceramic Building Material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction and methodology

- B.2.1 Archaeological excavations produced a small assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) totalling five fragments weighing 355g. The assemblage is comprised of postmedieval to modern Burwell yellow type brick and orange sandy tile fragments. All were fragmentary, abraded and largely uninformative.
- B.2.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible. Woodforde (1976) and McComish (2015) form the basis of reference material for identification and dating. The quantified data are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive.

Assemblage and Discussion

B.2.3 The fragments recovered were collected from three contexts. The catalogue is summarised in Table 8 below. Single, relatively small, pieces of tile were recovered from the fills of two of the Period 1 (LIA-ER) pits – this appears to represent intrusive material. A slightly larger quantity of material, including brick and tile, was recovered from the fill of one of the post-medieval/modern pits. As a whole, the assemblage is



severely abraded and as such is largely uninformative. The presence of post-medieval fragments of CBM is usually related to discard of the material into the modern agricultural landscape. Later material is therefore often intrusive to archaeological features. It therefore represents little more than background noise.

Context	Cut	Feature	Period/phase	Object	Form	Date	Count	Weight
2044	2043	Pit	Period 1	Tile	Flat	Post-med to modern	1	29
2103	2101	Pit	Period 1	Tile	?Curved	Post-med to modern	1	101
2147	2146	Pit	Post- med/mod	Tile	Curved	Post-med to modern	1	64
2147	2146	Pit	Post- med/mod	Brick	Fragments	Post-med to modern	2	161
	Total							

Table 8: Summary CBM Catalogue

B.3 Fired/Baked Clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction and methodology

- 5.1.2 The excavation produced 84 fragments, 1.02kg, of fired clay. This assemblage comprised both mostly amorphous pieces with no discernible features and a small fraction of more 'structural' pieces with flattened surfaces and signs of hand-forming. No diagnostic objects were present. Generally, this material was moderately to severely abraded.
- 5.1.3 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible. The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table 10.

Results of Analysis

Fabrics

Five fabrics were recorded from this small assemblage (Table 9). All fabrics could be considered as deriving from local silt clays with varying amounts of sand, grit and clay inclusions. Varying degrees of paste preparation and different clay sources are evident.

Code	Colour	Matrix	Fine inclusions	Coarse inclusions	Mixing	Comments
F1	Mid Orange	fine sandy	common sandy grit, occ reddish pellets	occ red pellets, rare flint	mod	compact but friable
F2	Mid red-brown, browns	compact silt	occ red pellets and grit	occ red pellets	mod	sandy face
F3	oranges, greys, browns	fine sandy	occ mica, common sandy grit	rare quartz, flint or dark grit	mod	
F4	Dark grey/black core with light brown faces	compact silt	common fine quartz, rare gritty material	no vis	well	well mixed sandy fabric
F5	Mid orange-brown, stripy core of orange and mid-brown orange	fine sandy	common quartz and sandy grit	occ sandy material	well	_

Table 9: Fired clay fabrics



Assemblage

B.3.1 The fired clay assemblage was collected from 16 pit and ditch features, all belonging to Period 1. The material was mostly severely abraded, rounded and uninformative even when structural features like exacted surfaces were present. The only noteworthy fragment was a flared wedge shaped fragment reminiscent of pit lining lip or an object apex from pit 2112. However, its original form is unclear.

Discussion

B.3.2 The material recovered is heavily abraded and fragmentary. There is very little that can be drawn from the assemblage in sum or individually.



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Mt (kg)	0.009	0.023	0.018	0.050	0.008	0.005	0.003	0.018	0.022	0.084	0.008	0.072	0.007	0.022	0.009	0.015	0.187	0.052	0.147	0.226	0.033
Count	3	4	1	6	1	2	2	1	2	13	2	6	2	2	3	1	10	3	2	4	∞
səĵoM					poss organic impression on face. Fine sanded face					Fragments of an object with reduced grey/black core and light brown surfaces. No clear form.	reduced, friable	Includes an arris, not clear form					from a single object, no clear form		Large flared/wedge shaped fragment with large rounded arris. Perhaps a lining lip, or vertex from an angled object. Unclear original form.	Large refitting fragments, no clear form	
noiss1dA	sev	sev	sev	sev	pow	sev	sev	sev	sev	pow	sev	pow	sev	sev	sev	sev	pow	sev	pow	sev	sev
Date/Period																					
Object Form																					
Object Class																					
Structural type					fs					fs		a/fs/c					a/fs		fs/c/hf		
Fragment type	в	а	в	ъ	s	ъ	В	В	в	S	в	a/s	а	а	а	а	a/s	В	s	в	В
Fabric group																					
Fabric type	F3	F3	F3	F3	F2	F3	F3	F3	F3	F4	F3	F2	F1	F2	F2	F1	F2	F2	F5	F3	F3
Sample									2008												
Sontext Notes	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Silting	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	Disuse	
Feature Type	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit
JuO	2003	2002	2022	2034	2036	2036	2036	2039	2043	2043	2054	2057	2057	2060	2067	2098	2101	2110	2112	2112	2163
Context	2004	2006	2023	2035	2037	2037	2038	2040	2044	2044	2056	2058	2059	2061	2068	2100	2103	2111	2113	2113	2162

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B.4 Slag and fuel residues

By Carole Fletcher (with identifications by Simon Timberlake)

- B.4.1 A small assemblage of slag, three fragments weighing 27g, was collected by hand from two features. The slag was weighed and rapidly recorded, with basic description and weight recorded in the text.
- B.4.2 A single fragment of fuel ash slag (16g) was recovered from Period 1 pit 2028 (fill 2029). This fragment is externally pale grey, with occasional sand and small stones. It is moderately dense and non-magnetic, while internally, the fragments are dark grey with some vesicular areas. The slag is not closely datable in itself, however, it was recovered alongside Latest Iron Age pottery.
- B.4.3 Period 1 ditch 2176 (fill 2178) produced two fragments of metalworking slag (11g). The irregular fragments of dark grey vesicular smithing slag are possibly Roman, and the ditch did produce early Roman pottery.
- B.4.4 The slag assemblage is fragmentary and uninformative, although it does indicate high temperature processing and metalworking. The low levels of material recovered mean the significance of the assemblage is uncertain. If the smithing slag from ditch 2176 represents metalworking, the small amount present suggests that its presence is very probably due to general rubbish deposition or manuring, the slag having been created elsewhere.

B.5 Worked and Burnt Flint

By Lawrence Billington

B.5.1 Two worked flints and a single unworked burnt flint cobble were recovered during the excavations. Pit 2060 (fill 2061) produced a single fragment of a narrow flake, whilst ditch 2073 (fill 2075) produced a large hard hammer struck primary flake and a heavily burnt flint cobble weighing 241g. The worked flint presumably represents residual material but is not chronologically diagnostic. The burnt flint cobble may represent a deliberately heated 'pot-boiler' and may be contemporary with the Late Iron Age/Early Roman activity at the site.

B.6 Stone

By Simon Timberlake

- B.6.1 A single piece of burnt and worked stone weighing 359g was recovered from Period 1 pit 2043 (fill 2044). The stone was examined by hand under a x10 illuminated magnifying lens and tested with dilute HCL to confirm the presence/ absence of limestone or a carbonate cement.
- B.6.2 The stone is a burnt and cracked fragment of a well-rounded glacial erratic cobble (80mm x 65mm x 50mm) which is composed of a hard quartzitic grit (metasandstone) that appears, prior to it having been used as burnt stone for the purposes of cooking or for boiling water, to have functioned as a small rubbing stone in conjunction with a flat to slightly concave-topped saddlequern, or simply as a stone for softening hides or



- for crushing food stuffs. The original rubber stone would have been flattened oval in shape and most probably 130mm x120mm in size and was used just upon its basal ever so slightly faceted polished surface,
- B.6.3 This is an example of an expediently used prehistoric stone tool which could be Neolithic to Iron Age in date. The stone had seen considerable use before it was discarded then picked up again for use as burnt stone for the purposes of cooking/ boiling water or perhaps even to generate steam for cleansing (Buckley 1990; O'Kelly 1954).

B.7 Glass

By Carole Fletcher

- B.7.1 A small assemblage of 18th or 19th century glass, consisting of three shards weighing 18g, was recovered from the site. The glass was scanned and recorded by form, colour, count and weight, and dated where possible.
- B.7.2 From Period 1 pit 2032 (fill 2033), a small fragment of olive green vessel glass (1g) was recovered. The pit also produced Latest Iron Age-early Roman pottery, however, such a small fragment of glass is not closely datable and, although it could be Roman, it might equally be an intrusive fragment from a 19th century or later vessel. Post-medieval/modern pit 2146 (fill 2147) produced two iridescent, mid olive green shards of glass (17g), from the neck and shoulder of a cylindrical utility bottle that is very probably late 18th-19th century.
- B.7.3 The presence of small fragments of vessel glass suggests low levels of domestic rubbish deposition or manuring. The plain and fragmentary nature of the total assemblage means it is of little significance.

B.8 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

- B.8.1 During fieldwork, one fragment of white ball clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald's simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41), and Hind and Crummy 1988, 47-66).
- B.8.2 A fragment of plain clay tobacco pipe stem 28mm long and 6.9mm in diameter, weighing 2g, was recovered from layer 2155. The fragment of clay tobacco pipe recovered represents what was most likely a casually discarded pipe. The fragment does little, other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on, or near, the site, sometime after the later 16th century.



APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Twenty bulk environmental samples were taken from the fills of Iron Age and early Roman features within the excavated area at Bridge Road, Mepal in accordance with the sampling strategy for this site, which aimed to maximise the recovery of ecofacts and small artefacts from all feature types, phases and areas. Samples taken during the evaluation of the site showed good potential for the recovery of carbonised plant remains, particularly cereal grain and chaff (Summers, in Locke 2019).

Methodology

- C.1.2 The samples were processed by tank flotation using modified Sīraf-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. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction for the recovery of magnetic residues prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds.
- C.1.3 The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 11. 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 (2010) for other plants. Carbonised 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.1.4 For the purpose of this report, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

C.1.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and molluscs have been scored for abundance:

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

U=untransformed, f = fragment



Results

C.1.6 Preservation of plant remains is predominantly by carbonisation and is restricted to sparse charcoal fragments and occasional cereal grains. The grains are poorly preserved and are present in such low quantities that they may not be contemporary with the deposits sampled, particularly as the flots contained abundant modern rootlets which may have caused movement of material. Tentative identification based on grain morphology indicate the presence of barley (*Hordeum* sp.), wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and oat (*Avena* sp.) but the level of preservation is too poor to identify the grains to species. A single degraded glume base is representative of hulled wheat spelt/emmer (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*). Single seeds of brome (*Bromus* sp.) and grass (Poaceae) are the only charred seeds recovered. Untransformed seeds of elder (*Sambucus nigra*) in pit 2112 may be indicative of differential preservation caused by movement of the water table as untransformed seeds of duckweed (*Lemna* sp.) are preserved in the basal fill of ditch 2098 indicating the feature once held water, possibly seasonally.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Weed Seeds	Charcoal volume (ml)	Pottery	Fired clay
2000	2004	2003	Ditch	14	20	0	0	<1	#	0
2001	2008	2007	Pit	18	55	0	0	2	#	0
2002	2027	2026	Pit	6	2	0	0	0	0	0
2003	2068	2067	Pit	17	1	0	0	<1	#	0
2004	2072	2071	Pit	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
2005	2099	2098	Ditch	16	5	0	###u	<1	#	0
2006	2100	2098	Ditch	16	20	#f	0	<1	#	0
2007	2111	2110	Pit	8	20	#	0	<1	0	0
2008	2113	2112	Pit	17	60	##	#u	<1	##	##
2009	2074	2073	Ditch	14	5	0	0	0	0	0
2010	2075	2073	Ditch	17	5	0	0	<1	0	0
2011	2089	2086	Ditch	16	2	#	0	<1	#	0
2012	2090	2088	Ditch	16	5	0	0	0	0	0
2013	2187	2186	Ditch	19	5	0	0	0	#	0
2014	2182	2183	Pit	16	30	#	0	<1	#	0
2015	2017	2016	Pit	18	10	#	0	<1	#	0
2016	2029	2028	Pit	18	40	#	0	<1	#	0
2017	2058	2057	Pit	16	50	#	#	<1	#	0
2018	2044	2043	Pit	17	10	#	0	<1	#	0
2019	2015	2014	Pit	14	10	0	0	<1	0	0

Table 11: Environmental samples

Discussion

C.1.7 The environmental bulk samples taken from the latest phase of excavation from this site have not produced the same level of density and diversity as those taken from the evaluation. Charred plant remains from the deposits sampled are sparse, which precludes further interpretation on the economy and environment of the site.



C.2 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster

Introduction

C.2.1 This report details the analysis of the animal bone recovered from Bridge Road, Mepal, Cambridgeshire. The assemblage was of a small size (580g) and the number of recordable fragments totalled 13. Material from hand collection totalled seven fragments with six from environmental samples. Animal bone dated to the Iron Age and Roman period. Remains were retrieved from ditches and pits. The species represented include cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*), and pig (*Sus scrofa*).

Methodology

- C.2.2 The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which was modified from Albarella and Davis (1996).
- C.2.3 Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972) and von den Driesch (1976) were used where needed for identification purposes.
- C.2.4 Dental ageing could not be carried out however epiphyseal fusion could be assessed in some cases. The state of epiphyseal fusion is determined by examining the metaphysis and diaphysis of a bone. Fusion was recorded according to Silver (1970) and Schmid (1972) for cattle, sheep and pig. Measurements could not be carried out on any of the fragments and taphonomic processes were limited due to fragmentation and condition of the assemblage.

Results

C.2.5 The assemblage was small in size with most fragments classified as in a poor condition, with high levels of fragmentation. Cattle were the best represented species followed by sheep/goat and pig. The remains recovered were mainly comprised of loose teeth fragments. Taphonomic processes were only noted in the form of carnivore gnawing on the caput of a cattle femur from ditch 2073. Ageing data revealed that no fragments contained unfused epiphyses suggesting an absence of very young animals.

Context	Cut	Feature	Sample	Species	Element	Period
2037	2036	Pit		Sheep/Goat	Loose Tooth	1
2068	2067	Pit		Cattle	Loose Tooth	1
2068	2067	Pit	<2003>	Pig	Loose Tooth	1
2068	2067	Pit	<2003>	Cattle	Loose Tooth	1
2074	2073	Ditch	<2009>	Cattle	Femur	1
2090	2088	Ditch		Cattle	Radius	1
2100	2098	Ditch		Cattle	Loose Tooth	1
2100	2098	Ditch		Cattle	Radius	1
2103	2101	Pit		Sheep/Goat	Pelvis	1
2103	2101	Pit		Cattle	Loose Mandibular Tooth	1
2187	2186	Ditch	<2013>	Sheep/Goat	Loose Mandibular Tooth	1
2187	2186	Ditch	<2013>	Sheep/Goat	Metapodial 1	1
2187	2186	Ditch	<2187>	Sheep/Goat	Patella	1

Table 12: List of Identifiable fragments from hand-collection and environmental samples



Species	NISP
Cattle	7
Sheep/Goat	5
Pig	1
Total	13

Table 13: Number of identifiable fragments (NISP) from faunal assemblage

Discussion

C.2.6 At Bridge Road, domestic mammals were the mainstay of the food economy, with sheep/goat and cattle remains being the most well represented species. The small amount of data and lack of ageing data does not allow for any significant interpretations to be made about husbandry practices and dietary preferences at this site. It also does not allow for comparisons with regional assemblages as the sample size is particularly small.



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APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS / OASIS REPORT FORM

Site name: Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Site code: ECB5916

Grid Reference TL 44146 813588

Type: Excavation

Date and duration: June-July 2019, 3 weeks

Area of Site 0.096ha

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OAE, and will be deposited with

Cambridgeshire County Council in due course, under the following

accession number: ECB5916.

Proi	iort	Detai	lc
1 10	June	Detai	IJ

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-359077
Project Name	Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge Road, Mepal, Plot 1

Start of Fieldwork	18/06/2019	End of Fieldwork	05/07/2019
Previous Work	Yes	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	ECB5916		Planning App. No.	18/00909/OUT	
HER Number	ECB5916		Related Numbers	MEPBRR19	
Prompt		NPPF			
Development Type		Residential			
Place in Planning Process		After full determination (eq. As a condition)			

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

	Aerial Photography –	\boxtimes	Open-area excavation	Salvage Record
	interpretation			
	Aerial Photography - new		Part Excavation	Systematic Field Walking
	Field Observation		Part Survey	Systematic Metal Detector Survey
\boxtimes	Full Excavation		Recorded Observation	Test-pit Survey
	Full Survey		Remote Operated Vehicle	Watching Brief
			Survey	
	Geophysical Survey		Salvage Excavation	

Monument Period

Ditch	Roman (43 to 410)
Ditch	Iron Age (- 800 to
	43)
Pit	Roman (43 to 410)
Pit	Iron Age (- 800 to
	43)

Object Period

Pottery	Roman (43 to 410)
Pottery	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
Animal Bone	Roman (43 to 410)
Animal Bone	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)



Proje	CU	Locat	ION

•		
County	Cambridgeshire	Address (including Postcode)
District	East Cambridgeshire	Bridge Road
Parish	Mepal	Mepal
HER office	Cambridgeshire County	Cambridgeshire
	Council	CB6 2AR
Size of Study Area	0.096ha	
National Grid Ref	TL 44146 81358	

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	Gemma Stewart
Project Design Originator	Louise Moan
Project Manager	Louise Moan
Project Supervisor	Dan Firth

Project Archives

Physical Archive (Finds) Digital Archive Paper Archive

LocationIDCambridgeshire County CouncilECB5916OAEMEPBRR19Cambridgeshire County CouncilECB5916

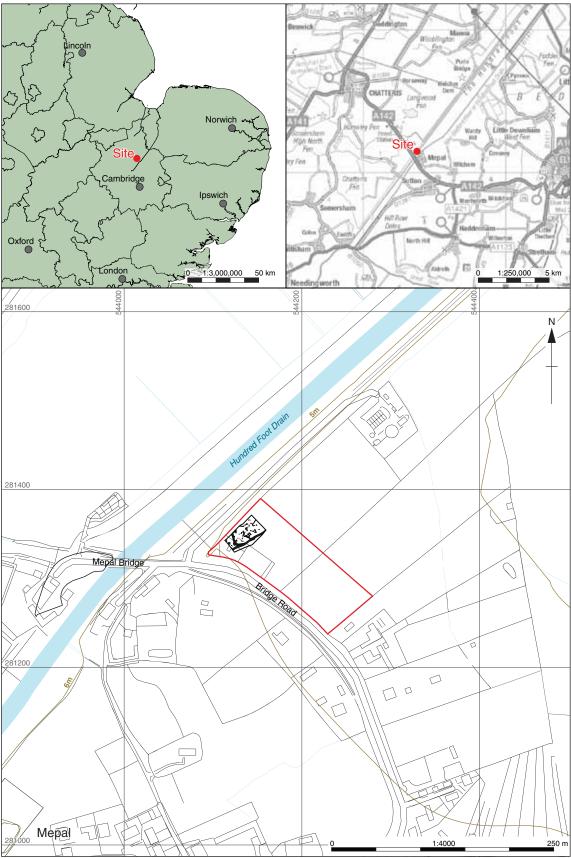
Physical Contents	Present?		Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	\boxtimes			
Ceramics	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes
Environmental	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes
Glass	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes
Human Remains				
Industrial				
Leather				
Metal				
Stratigraphic				
Survey				
Textiles				
Wood				
Worked Bone				
Worked Stone/Lithic				
None				
Other				
Digital Media			Paper Media	
Database		\boxtimes	Aerial Photos	
GIS			Context Sheets	\boxtimes
Geophysics			Correspondence	
Images (Digital photos)		\boxtimes	Diary	
Illustrations (Figures/Pla	tes)	\boxtimes	Drawing	



Land East of the New Bedford River, Bridge	Road, Mepal, Plot 1		v.2 (Final)
Moving Image		Manuscript	
Spreadsheets		Map	
Survey	\boxtimes	Matrices	
Text	\boxtimes	Microfiche	
Virtual Reality		Miscellaneous	
		Research/Notes	
		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	
		Plans	
		Report	\boxtimes
		Sections	\boxtimes
		Survey	

Further Comments





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Figure 1: Site location showing excavation area (black) in wider development area outlined (red)



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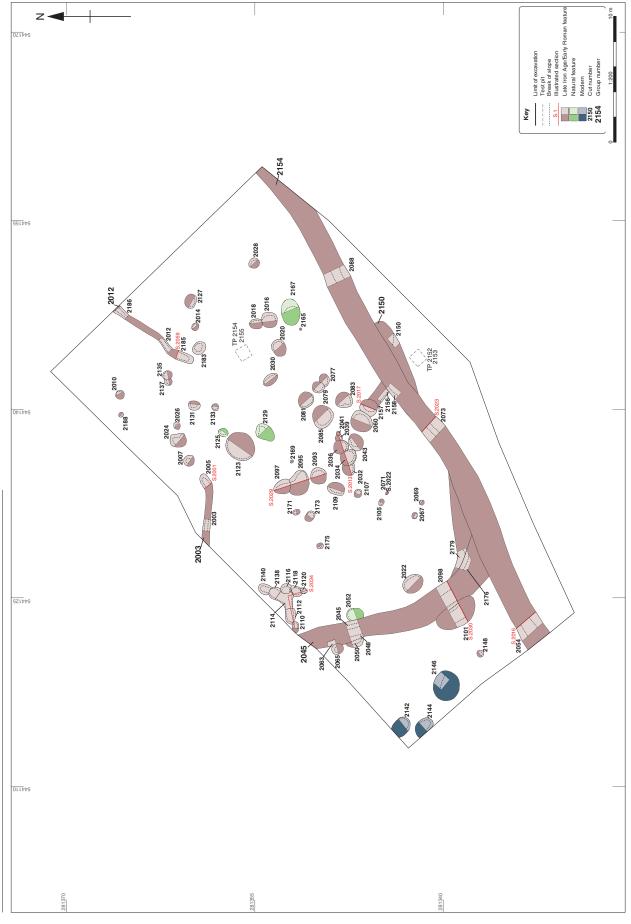


Figure 3: Phased plan of all features

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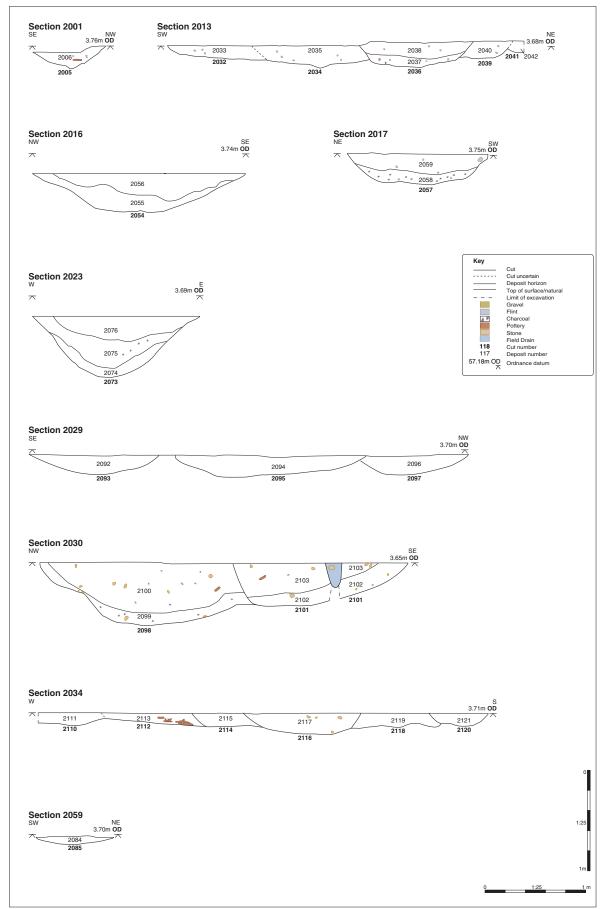
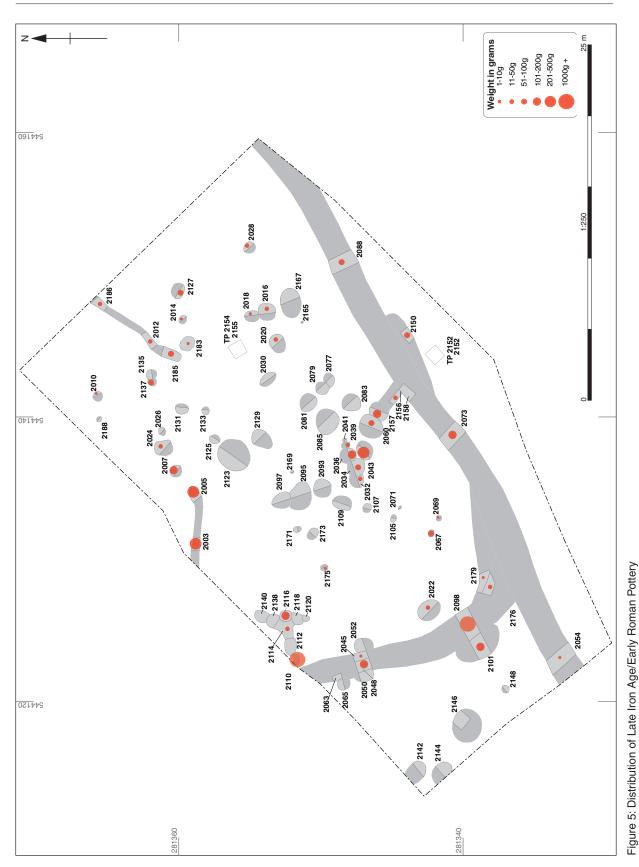


Figure 4: Selected Sections

Report Number 2356







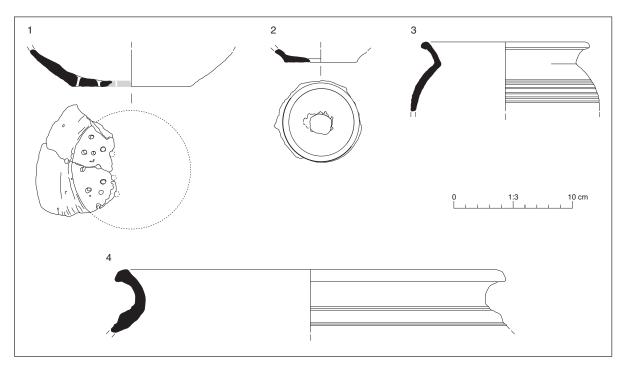


Figure 6: Roman pottery





Plate 1: North facing section of ditch 2098



Plate 2: Ditch 2073, looking north-east



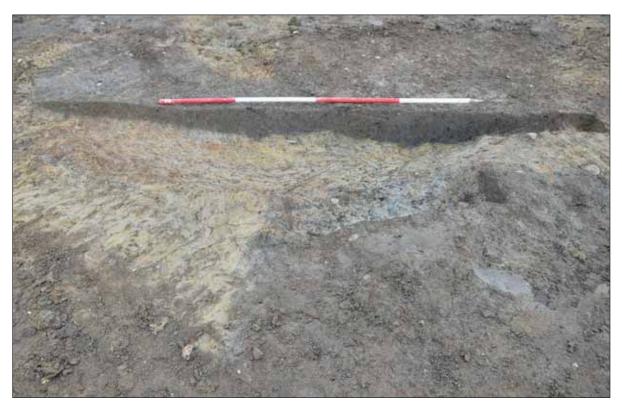


Plate 3: South facing section of pits 2032, 2034, 2036, 2039 and 2041



Plate 4: North facing section of pit 2043





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