

Contents

List of figures	ix
List of tables	x
Summary	xi
Acknowledgements	xii
Location of archive	xii
<i>Chapter 1: Introduction</i>	
Introduction by <i>John Moore</i>	1
Excavation methods	2
Report structure	4
Location, topography and geology by <i>David Jennings</i>	4
Soils, sediments and hydrology by <i>Mark Robinson</i>	5
<i>Chapter 2: Area 7000 by David Jennings</i>	
Neolithic activity	6
Dating	8
Late Bronze Age activity	8
Area III	8
Pits	8
Postholes	11
Human burials	11
A late Bronze Age enclosure	11
Area 3017	12
Roman activity	12
Post-medieval activity	12
Undated activity	13
Tree throw holes	13
<i>Chapter 3: Area 5 by John Moore</i>	
Summary	14
Introduction	14
Postholes	14
The buildings	14
Building 1	15
Building 2	19
Building 3	19
Building 4	19
Building 5	21
Building 6	21
Building 7	21
Building 8	22
Building 9	22
Building 10	23
Building 11	23
Building 12	23
Building 13	23
Building 14	23
Building 15	23
Building 16	23
Building 17	23
Building 18	25
Building 19	25
Building 20	25
Chronology	25

Four and six post structures	27
Fence lines	27
Two post structures	27
Pits	27
Boundary ditch	29
Field systems	29

Chapter 4: Area 3100 by John Moore

Summary	30
Introduction	30
Pre-settlement field system	30
Boundary ditches	30
Ring ditch	34
Postholes	34
The buildings	35
Building 3100	35
Building 3101	35
Building 3102	35
Building 3103	37
Building 3104	37
Building 3105	37
Building 3106	37
Building 3107	38
Building 3108	38
Building 3109	38
Building 3110	38
Building 3111	38
Building 3112	38
Building arrangement	38
Four and six post structures	39
Two post structures	39
Fence lines	39
Pits	39
Grave 3376	42
Layout	42
Tree throw holes	46

Chapter 5: Areas 4000, 5000 and 6000 by John Moore

Area 4000	48
Area 5000	48
Pit alignments	48
Segmented ditches	52
Continuous ditches and gullies	52
Sequence of field boundaries	55
Other features	56
Area 6000	56
Bronze Age	56
Post-medieval	57

Chapter 6: Area 2000 by David Jennings

Summary	58
Dating	58
Ditches	58
Pits	61
Gullies	61
Postholes	61
Old ploughsoils/ground surfaces	62

Chapter 7: the artefacts

The prehistoric pottery by Melanie Hall	63
Introduction	63

Fabrics	63
Group 1	63
Group 2	63
Group 3	63
Group 4	63
Group 5	64
Group 6	64
Group 7	64
Group 8	64
Group 9	64
Group 10	64
Group 11	64
Forms	64
Rim and body forms	64
Base forms	68
Treatment and decoration	68
Illustrated sherds	71
Context, chronology and wider associations <i>by Richard Bradley and Melanie Hall</i>	71
The Roman pottery <i>by Jane R Timby</i>	82
Introduction	82
Description of fabrics	82
Imported wares	82
Fine wares	82
Amphorae	82
British mortaria	82
Coarsewares	82
Grog tempered wares	82
Flint tempered wares	84
Grog and flint tempered wares	84
Sand and flint tempered wares	84
Grog and sand tempered wares	84
Sandy wares	85
Comments	86
Fired clay objects <i>by Richard Bradley and Melanie Hall</i>	87
Clay mould fragments <i>by Peter Northover</i>	87
Oven fragments or pit liner <i>by Richard Bradley and Melanie Hall</i>	89
Flint artefacts <i>by Richard Bradley and Andrew Brown</i>	89
Worked flint – Neolithic <i>by Richard Bradley</i>	89
Worked flint – late Bronze Age <i>by Andrew Brown</i>	90
Small finds <i>by David Jennings</i>	93
Neolithic finds	93
Bronze Age finds	93
Copper alloy object	93
Bone objects	93
Antler	93
Stone objects	93
Saddle querns	94
Stone rubbers	94
Roman finds	95
Coins	95
Copper alloy objects	95
Lead objects	95
Iron objects	95
Glass objects	97
Antler	97
Quernstones	97
<i>Chapter 8: environmental evidence</i>	
Human remains <i>by Angela Boyle</i>	98
The inhumations	98
The cremations	98
Vertebrate remains <i>by Bruce Levitan</i>	98

Introduction	98
Neolithic assemblage	99
Species exploited	99
Cattle burial	101
Bronze Age assemblage	101
Chronological comparison	101
Species exploited	101
Cattle	101
Sheep/goat	102
Pig	102
Horse	102
Red deer	102
Comments	102
Archive	103
Bronze Age plant remains <i>by Gill Campbell</i>	103
Results	103
Charred plant remains	103
Waterlogged remains	105
Discussion	107
Roman plant remains <i>by Gill Campbell</i>	110
The waterlogged plant remains from ditch 2822	111
Charred plant remains from ditch 2221	111
Acknowledgements	112
Insect remains from two late Bronze Age waterlogged features <i>by Mark Robinson</i>	112
Introduction	112
The composition of the faunas and general environmental conditions	112
Grassland	112
Arable and disturbed ground	114
Woodland and scrub	116
Decaying organic material and buildings	116
Differences between the assemblages	116
Comparison with environmental evidence from other late Bronze Age insect assemblages from the region	116
 <i>Chapter 9: Discussion</i>	
Neolithic activity <i>by David Jennings</i>	117
Pits	117
Postholes	117
Bronze Age activity: the site in its landscape <i>by John Moore</i>	118
Field systems	120
Seasonal occupation	120
Pits	121
Structures	121
Ring ditches	121
Postholes	121
Economic evidence	122
Textile production	122
Cereal production	122
Metalworking	122
Conclusions	123
Roman activity <i>by David Jennings</i>	123
Appendix 1: analysis of a bronze pin fragment <i>by Peter Northover</i>	126
Bibliography	127

List of figures

- Figure 1 Location plan
Figure 2 Plan of assessment trenches and excavated areas
Figure 3 Area 7000 pit sections
Figure 4 Area III
Figure 5 Area 7000: Roman enclosures
Figure 6 The creation of a tree throw hole
Figure 7 Area 7000: note zone of tree throw holes on edge of silt island and prehistoric enclosure in background
Figure 8 Area 7000: fold-out
Figure 9 General plan of Area 5
Figure 10 Area 5, Buildings 1–10
Figure 11 Area 5, Buildings 11–20
Figure 12 Area 5, possible contemporaneity of buildings, schemes 1–4
Figure 13 Area 5, Buildings 1, 2, 4, 14, 16, 17 and 18
Figure 14 Area 5, Buildings 7 and 7a and 12
Figure 15 Area 5, Buildings 8 and 8a, 9 and 15
Figure 16 Area 5, Buildings 6, 10, 13, 19 and 20
Figure 17 Area 5: pit sections
Figure 18 Area 3100: pre-settlement field system
Figure 19 Area 3100: pre-settlement field system, sections
Figure 20 Area 3100: pre-settlement field system, sections
Figure 21 Area 3100: entrance through late Bronze Age boundary ditch with ring ditch in foreground
Figure 22 Area 3100: Buildings 3100–3110
Figure 23 Area 3100: Building 3100
Figure 24 Area 3100: Building 3111
Figure 25 Area 3100: Building 3112
Figure 26 Area 3100: four and six post structures
Figure 27 Area 3100: line of retting pits cutting pre-settlement field boundary
Figure 28 Area 3100: pits 3468, 3474, 3475, 3514, 3517, 3585, 3631, 3663, 3664, 3676
Figure 29 Area 3100: pits 3338, 3371, 3420, 3469, 3661, 3762
Figure 30 Area 3100: pits 3129, 3185, 3210, 3228, 3275, 3304, 3314, 3315, 3229, 3330, 3331, 3333, 3376, 3508, 3930
Figure 31 Area 3100 general plan (foldout)
Figure 32 Area 4000: plan
Figure 33 Area 5000: plan
Figure 34 Area 5012: plan
Figure 35 Areas 5000/6000 pit sections 5027–29, 5051, 5053–54, 5079, 5087, 5089, 5094, 5122, 5126, 5172–73, 5196, 5199
Figure 36 Areas 5000/6000 pit sections 5027, 5031–32, 5130–31, 5133, 5135, 5141, 5160–63, 5185–89, 6031–35
Figure 37 Area 6000: plan
Figure 38 Trench 2008: plan
Figure 39 Trenches 2004 and 2005: plan
Figure 40 Area 2004: phase plan
Figure 41 Type series 1–8
Figure 42 Type series 8–10
Figure 43 Type series 11–B5
Figure 44 Prehistoric pot 1–48
Figure 45 Prehistoric pot 49–69
Figure 46 Prehistoric pot 70–98
Figure 47 Prehistoric pot 99–137
Figure 48 Prehistoric pot 138–158
Figure 49 Prehistoric pot 159–178
Figure 50 Prehistoric pot 179–204
Figure 51 Prehistoric pot 205–219
Figure 52 Fired clay objects
Figure 53 Neolithic and Bronze Age flints
Figure 54 Neolithic and Bronze Age small finds
Figure 55 Roman small finds
Figure 56 Area 7000, Neolithic cattle burial in pit 7057

- Figure 57 Holly leaves (*Ilex aquifolium*)
 Figure 58 Bronze Age sites in the area of Reading Business Park
 Figure 59 Romano-British sites in the area of Reading Business Park

List of tables

- Table 1: Area 5, house dimensions
 Table 2: Area 5, doorway direction
 Table 3: Area 5, dimensions and posthole depths of four and six post structures
 Table 4: Area 5, pit type and filling sequence
 Table 5: area 3100, doorway direction
 Table 6: Area 3100, house dimensions
 Table 7: Area 3100, four and six post structures, overall dimensions and depth of postholes
 Table 8: Area 3100, relationship between pit type and filling sequence
 Table 9: Bronze Age pottery, representation of each form according to fabric group, as a percentage
 Table 10: Bronze Age pottery in terms of Barrett's five functional categories
 Table 11: Bronze Age pottery, associations between different forms.
 Table 12: Bronze Age pottery, the number of forms found together in three or more contexts
 Table 13: Bronze Age pottery: distribution by area
 Table 14: Bronze Age pottery: Barrett's five functional classes of Late Bronze Age pottery as a percentage of all classifiable material.
 Table 15: Bronze Age pottery: Barrett's five functional classes of Late Bronze Age pottery according to the types of context in which they were found
 Table 16: summary of Roman pottery
 Table 17: contexts containing Roman and post-medieval pottery
 Table 18: fired clay, identifiable fragments
 Table 19: Length/breadth index in flint samples from the two main areas of BA activity and Area 7000
 Table 20: analysis of a bronze pin
 Table 21: summary of the vertebrate remains from Reading Business Park
 Table 22: summary of epiphyseal fusion for cattle, Bronze Age
 Table 23: summary of Neolithic cattle burial, context 7057
 Table 24: measurements of Neolithic cattle burial bones, context 7057
 Table 25: summary of Bronze Age measurements
 Table 26: Bronze Age waterlogged plant remains
 Table 27: Bronze Age charred plant remains
 Table 28: waterlogged plant remains from a Roman ditch (2822)
 Table 29: charred plant remains from sample 2006, taken from a Roman ditch 2221/A/2
 Table 30: Coleoptera
 Table 31: Other insects
 Table 32: Species groups of terrestrial Coleoptera as a percentage of the total terrestrial individuals
 Table 33: Host plants of the Phytophagous Coleoptera and Hemiptera
 Table 34: comparison of percentages of postholes found and assigned to structures in Areas 5 and 3100