

AN IRON AGE AND ROMANO-BRITISH

'LADDER' SETTLEMENT

AT

MELTON, NORTH HUMBERSIDE

SITE NARRATIVE AND STRATIGRAPHICAL MATRICES

FOR THE

ARCHIVE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

NAA

NOVEMBER 1994

Introduction

The stated aims of the excavation were

- i) to confirm the results of the geophysical survey,
- ii) to test the presence of archaeological deposits associated with the features thereby identified,
- iii) to determine the depth and stratigraphic complexity of deposits,
- iv) to determine the date and relative significance of any deposits, and
- v) to provide information to assist in determining the parameters for any further work

Trenches were located with specific aims: C, E, G, and H to test intersections of features revealed by the geophysical survey, F to examine an area internal to a major complex of features, whilst A, B, D, I, and J concentrated on areas where the geophysical survey provided insufficient information. The area to be excavated comprised a total of 1065m², or 4% of the area affected by the proposed road development at the time, and less than 2% of the total area of the known site.

Excavation for Anthony Walker and Partners took place from 25th July to 26th August 1994. The 10 evaluation trenches (A–J) were excavated with the aid of a 360° tracked excavator to remove the topsoil and B horizon (where appropriate) down to the level at which archaeological remains were seen to be preserved. Thereafter, excavation was continued by hand using mattock and shovel, or hoe, spade, or trowel as the need arose. In line with a policy of minimum intervention, large features were usually only sampled, in order to determine characteristics such as profile and depth and also to provide dating material and samples for environmental examination. Pits and postholes were normally half- (occasionally quarter-) sectioned, but where large concentrations of postholes were identified, only a representative proportion were excavated. After stripping, the exposed trenches (and the spoil removed from them) were examined by metal detector and anomalies tagged.

Context information was recorded on DUA-style context sheets adapted in line Northern Archaeological Associates' excavation manual. Exposed features were recorded by pre- and post-excavation (multiple context) plans (drawn on dimensionally stable film at 1:20), whilst sections were drawn (on dimensionally stable film at 1:10) of excavated features. Photographic prints were made of all features as excavated, together with overall views and working shots, and selected slides.

Thirty-litre bulk environmental samples were taken for wet-sieving on site by the Department of Archaeology of the University of Durham; those that proved particularly productive were re-sampled before the end of the excavation. Bulk finds were cleaned, marked, and bagged on site.

At the time of excavation, the eastern two-thirds of the site had been harvested of winter barley, whilst oilseed rape was still standing over the rest of the area under examination.

TRIAL TRENCH A

Deposit 010: Subsoil

The deposit formed the subsoil within trench A and consisted of a friable light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/3) chalk gravel and marl with infrequent medium sized irregular shaped flint fragments.

Primary stratigraphical group of features

Cut 018: EW ditch

A cut for a linear slot or gully which was exposed for 1.8m on an E–W alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.5m wide, 0.35m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 017.

Deposit 017

The deposit was the fill of slot or gully 018 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The fill was homogeneous in nature and may have represented a process of deliberate backfill rather than natural silting. The deposit contained pottery of either Iron Age or Romano-British date.

The feature was cut by ditch 012.

Second stratigraphical group of features

Cut 012: NW/SE ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 2.25m on a NW–SE alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.48m deep and 0.36m wide, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposits 009 and 011.

Deposit 011

The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 012 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.36m thick.

Deposit 009

The deposit was the secondary fill of ditch 012 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.28m thick.

Both deposits which formed the fill of ditch 012 had a low subsoil content and did not have the appearance of a natural silting process. The ditch may have been kept clean whilst in use and then deliberately backfilled. If so then this would indicate that the ditch was more than a mere boundary ditch and may have demarked a stock enclosure or garden plot. The ditch cut and post-dated ditch 018 and was in turn cut by ditch 006.

Cut 022: NW/SE slot

A cut for a rectilinear slot trench which was exposed for 2.2m on a NW–SE alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.25m wide and 0.34m deep with a narrow U-shaped profile. The feature contained deposit 021.

Deposit 021

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear slot trench 022 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained pottery of either Roman or Medieval date.

The slot was cut by slot 024

Third stratigraphical group of features

Cut 006: NW/SE ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 2.25m on a NW–SE alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.92m wide and 0.39m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 005.

Deposit 005

The deposit was the fill of ditch cut 006 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained Roman and Romano-British pottery. The ditch fill showed no indication of silting processes and may have been kept clean prior to a deliberate backfill event in a manner similar to 012 which cut and post-dated ditch 006.

Cut 024: NW/SE slot

A cut for a rectilinear slot trench which was exposed for 1.9m on a NW–SE alignment. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation to the E and terminated within the trench to the W. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.24m deep with a narrow U-shaped profile. The feature may well have been structural in nature and contained deposit 023.

Deposit 023

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear slot trench 024 and consisted of a firmly compacted very dark brown (7.5YR 5/2) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The fill was homogeneous in nature and may have represented a process of deliberate backfill rather than natural silting. The slot cut and post-dated slot 022

Roman

Cut 004: NE/SW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 3.0m on a NE–SW alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.8m wide and 0.54m deep with a steep sided U-shaped profile. The feature was not structural in nature and contained deposit 003.

Deposit 003

The deposit was the fill of ditch cut 004 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained pottery of possible Roman date.

Features of Iron Age or Roman date

Cut 016: NE/SW ditch

A cut for a linear slot or gully which was exposed for 3.3m on a NE–SW alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.35m wide, 0.25m deep with steep sides and a gradual break of slope to a concave base.

Deposit 015

The deposit was the fill of linear slot 016 and consisted of a hard compacted reddish yellow (5YR 5/4) clay with no inclusions. The deposit contained pottery of Iron Age or Romano-British date.

Features of unknown date

Cut 008: NE/SW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 3.0m on a NE–SW alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 1.0m wide and 0.28m deep with an irregular profile. The feature contained deposit 007.

Deposit 007

The deposit was the fill of ditch cut 008 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy clay with abundant small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained fragments of metal working slag. The feature was difficult to discern in plan and the profile could only be interpreted in box section.

Cut 014: NE/SW ditch

A cut for a linear construction slot trench which was exposed for 3.0m on an SW-NE alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.52m wide and 0.31m deep with a steep sided V-shaped profile. The feature had a structural appearance and contained deposit 013.

Deposit 013

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 014 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) silty sand with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

The feature was difficult to define and was therefore difficult to interpret, a structural interpretation cannot be ruled out.

Cut 020: EW slot/gully

A cut for a linear slot or gully which was exposed for 1.8m on an E-W alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.52m wide and 0.26m deep with a wide U-shaped profile. The feature contained deposit 019.

Deposit 019

The deposit was the fill of slot or gully 020 and consisted of a friable dark brown sand with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments. The fill was homogeneous in nature and may have represented a process of deliberate backfill rather than natural silting.

The feature was similar in profile to construction slots within trench C, a structural interpretation should not be discounted.

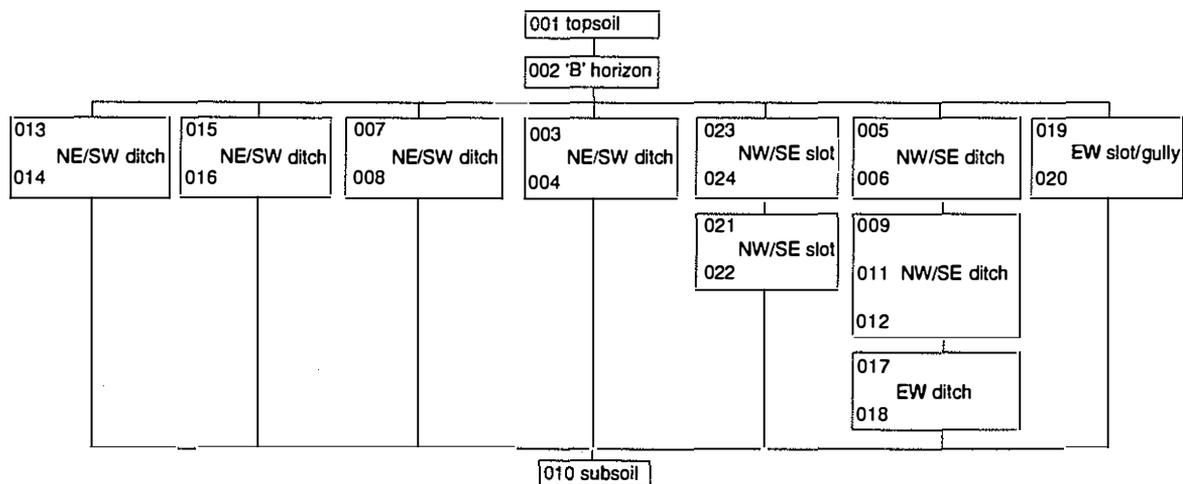
Deposit 002: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (7.5YR 4/3) sandy silt with very occasional sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.3–0.4m thick and extensive over the trench.

Deposit 001: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil and consisted of a friable very dark brown (7.5YR 2.5/2) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-rounded chalk fragments. The context was 0.2m thick and extensive over the area of the trench.

MEL94 Trench A



TRIAL TRENCH B

Deposit 080: Subsoil

The deposit formed the natural subsoil within the trench and consisted of a friable light yellowish brown (2.5YR 6/3) chalk gravel and marl with occasional irregular shaped flint fragments.

Medieval

Structure 085

A group number allocated to a sequence of rectilinear construction cuts which formed a rectangular building. The whole of the north wall and parts of the east and west walls were exposed within the trench.

Cut 061: NS slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench which was exposed for 6m on a N–S alignment. The feature had a rounded terminus within the trench at its northern end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The feature was 0.4m wide and 0.24m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 060.

Deposit 060

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 061 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy silt with a moderate number of small chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 089: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench which formed an extension of construction trench 061 towards the E and extended into the limit of excavation after 0.3m. The feature was 0.45m wide and 0.24m deep, U-shaped in profile with steep sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 088.

Deposit 088

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 089 and consisted of a firmly compacted dusky red (2.5YR 3/3) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel.

The E–W wall of structure 085 was recorded in a number of sections listed below.

Cut 063: EW slot

A rectilinear construction cut which extended for 12m on an E–W alignment and was completely exposed within the trench. The feature was 0.45m wide and 0.16m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 062.

Deposit 062

The deposit was the fill of construction slot 063 and was excavated in a 0.45m slot. The deposit consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy silt with frequent small chalk gravel fragments and occasional larger stones up to 0.12m x 0.1m x 0.08m. The deposit contained animal bone and pottery of Medieval date.

Cut 067: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench which formed a deeper section of trench 063. The feature extended at this deeper level for a length of 0.8m. The feature was 0.44m wide and 0.32m deep with steep near vertical sides and a gradual break of slope to flat base. The feature contained deposit 066.

Deposit 066

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 067 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 069: EW slot

Part of construction trench 063.

Deposit 068

Part of 062 which formed the fill construction trench 063. The deposit contained animal bone and pottery of

Medieval date.

Cut 071: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench which formed a deeper section of trench 063. The feature extended at this deeper level for a length of 1.8m. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.22m deep with steep near vertical sides and a sharp break of slope to flat base. The feature contained deposit 070.

Deposit 070

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 071 and consisted of a friable dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 073: posthole

A cut for a possible sub-oval posthole 0.33m at its widest point. The feature was 0.32m deep, V-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 072.

Deposit 072

The deposit was the fill of posthole 073 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (7.5YR 4/6) silty sand with occasional small chalk gravel fragments

Feature 073 was excavated because it occupied a position between the terminals of 063 and 061 and may therefore have formed part of structure 085. However as no other postholes were associated with the structure, and the fill of the feature was identical to the fills of many of the natural features within the trench, a natural origin for the feature cannot be ruled out.

Cut 077: slot terminus

A cut for a construction trench terminus which formed the end of feature 063. A 0.4m section of the terminus of the feature was excavated. The feature was 0.47m wide and 0.5m deep, U-shaped in profile with a slightly concave base. The corners were rounded. The feature contained deposit 076.

Deposit 076

The deposit was the fill of construction trench terminus 077 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy silt with frequent small chalk gravel fragments and occasional larger chalk fragments up to 0.12m in diameter.

Cut 075: NS slot

A cut for a construction trench which was exposed for 0.4m on a N-S alignment. The feature had a rounded terminus within the trench at its northern extent and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The feature was 0.4m wide and 0.35m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 074.

Deposit 074

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 075 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Structure 085 was rectangular in plan and measured 11.5m E-W, and more than 6m N-S, with an extension 089 towards the east of unknown dimension. The full extent of the structure was not exposed within the trench as the south wall and parts of the east and west walls lay beyond the limit of excavation.

A post in trench construction technique would appear to have been employed as each wall was cut as a continuous open trench. Parts of the trench base were cut to a substantially deeper level. These deeper sections measured up to 0.5m in length and occurred at approximately 1m intervals. The northern end of the east wall and the eastern end of the north wall both terminated in such deeper sections. These deeper sections could be interpreted as the settings for substantial uprights; which logically would have formed the main load bearing framework of the building. The gaps between the uprights filled by plank or hurdle work sections groundfasted in the more shallow lengths of the trench.

The north wall was not carried round to the south at its eastern end. This created a small gap of less than 0.5m between the north and east walls. Such a gap would clearly be unsuitable as an entrance way and would seem therefore to be an eccentricity of the constructional technique. There was therefore no obvious entrance way

exposed within the trial trench.

Features of unknown date

Cut 053: NS slot

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 1.8m on a N–S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.76m wide and 0.36m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 052.

Deposit 052

The deposit was the fill of linear ditch 053 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) fine sandy silt with numerous small sub-angular stone fragments and infrequent charcoal lumps. The concentration of chalk gravel increased towards the base probably due to worm sorting. The accumulation of the deposit would appear to have been due to a process of natural silting. The deposit contained animal bone and traces of burnt daub.

Cut 055: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.4m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 054; and was not excavated.

Deposit 054

The deposit was the fill of posthole 054 and consisted of a brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments.

The posthole existed in isolation and was not associated with any structure or feature exposed within the trench.

Cut 057: NW/SE slot

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 1.8m on an NW–SE alignment; and continued beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.55m wide and 0.07m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 056.

Deposit 056

The deposit was the fill of ditch 057 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 059: NS slot

A cut for a rectilinear ditch or trench which was exposed for 1.8m on a N–S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.48m wide and 0.06m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 058.

Deposit 058

The deposit was the fill of ditch or trench 059 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt with moderate small chalk gravel fragments. The mixed nature of the fill would not be inconstant with a process of deliberate backfill.

The steep sides and flat base make a structural interpretation possible but this is uncertain.

Cut 065: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.3m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 064 and was not excavated.

Deposit 064

The deposit was the fill of posthole 065 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) sandy silt with occasional fragments of sub-rounded chalk gravel. The deposit contained a limestone packing stone 0.1m in diameter.

Cut 079: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole 0.2m in diameter. The feature was 0.18m deep, U-shaped in profile with steep sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 078.

Deposit 078

The deposit was the fill of posthole 079 and consisted of a firmly compacted dusky red (2.5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 082: pit

A cut for a sub-rectangular pit. The feature measured 0.65m N-S, 0.90m E-W and was 0.18m deep, U-shaped in profile with steep sides and a uneven base. The feature contained deposit 081. The feature was cut by or cut trench 084 the relationship was however unclear.

Deposit 081

The deposit was the fill of pit 082 and consisted of a firmly compacted dusky red (2.5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit had a somewhat mixed appearance but it was not clear if this was representative of the deposit originating as waste material.

Cut 084: curving trench

A cut for a curvilinear slot trench which was exposed for 3.5m on an E-W alignment. The feature had a rounded end terminus at its eastern extent within the trial trench. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.18m deep, steeply cut on its northern side and quite shallow on its southern side with a flat if uneven base. The feature contained deposit 083.

Deposit 083

The deposit was the fill of curvilinear slot 084 and consisted of a firmly compacted dusky red (2.5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 087: pit

A cut for a substantial sub-circular pit 1.3m in diameter and 0.71m deep. The feature had a steep sided V-shaped profile with a step just below the top and a concave base. The feature may have been a waste pit as the fill deposit 086 was of a mixed nature.

Deposit 086

The deposit was the fill of substantial pit 087 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) fine sandy silt. The deposit contained frequent small chalk gravel fragments, occasional larger stones up to 0.09m across, occasional small reddish brown clay patches and occasional small lint fragments. Some of the larger chalk fragments showed signs of having been burnt and occasional small patches of charcoal were noted. In addition the deposit contained a small quantity of animal bone. The fill showed some signs of banding which may indicate episodic deposition.

The pit was cut within structure 085 but no clear relationship with this structure could be defined.

Deposit 051: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 3/4) sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.3m thick and extensive over the trench. The deposit contained a flint fragment which may have been an arrowhead.

Deposit 050: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (10R 3/3) sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk fragments and occasional small angular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.25m thick and extensive over the area of the trench.

MEL94 Trench B

050 topsoil

051 'B' horizon

064 post hole	074	070	068	066	076	062	EW slot	072 post hole	060 NS slot	088 EW slot	085	086 pit	058 NS slot	056 NW/SE slot	054 post hole	052 NS slot	083 curving trench	081 pit
065	075	071	069	067	077	063		073	061	089		087	059	057	055	053	084	082

080 subsoil

TRIAL TRENCH C

Deposit 112: Subsoil

The deposit formed the subsoil within Trial Trench C and consisted of a friable light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/3) chalk gravel and marl with infrequent medium sized iregular shaped flint fragments.

The only stratigraphic relationship that was recorded within Trial Trench C was a cutting relationship between ditches 111 and 103. None of the other features could be phased.

Iron Age or Romano-British date

Cut 109: NS slot

A cut for a rectilinear ditch exposed for 3.7m on a N–S alignment. The feature had a rounded end terminus within the trial trench at its northern end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The feature was 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep, uneven in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 108.

Deposit 108

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear ditch 109 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand with occasional small chalk gravel fragments. Occasional small charcoal patches were noted in addition to a circular iron rod and pottery of Iron Age or Romano-British date.

Cut 107: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench exposed for 1.96m on an E–W alignment. The feature had a square ended terminus within the trial trench at its eastern end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the west. The feature was 0.54m wide and 0.14m deep with steep near vertical sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 106.

Deposit 106

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 107 and consisted of a friable brown (7.5YR 4/6) sandy silt with occasional small chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone and pottery of Iron Age or Romano-British date.

Cut 114: EW ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch exposed for 4m on an E–W alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.83m wide and 0.22m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 113.

Deposit 113

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear ditch 114 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/6) fine sandy silt with infrequent chalk gravel fragments and occasional irregular flint fragments. The deposit contained pottery of Romano-British date.

Features of unknown date

Structure 120: round house

A circular posthole alignment which formed a probable round house. The structure consisted of postholes:

Cut 116: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.31m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 115 and was not excavated.

Deposit 115

The deposit was the fill of posthole 116 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 118: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 117 and was not excavated.

Deposit 117

The deposit was the fill of posthole 118 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 121: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.33m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 119 and was not excavated.

Deposit 119

The deposit was the fill of posthole 121 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 129: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 128 and was not excavated.

Deposit 128

The deposit was the fill of posthole 129 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 135: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.22m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 134 and was not excavated.

Deposit 134

The deposit was the fill of posthole 135 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 137: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.2m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 136 and was not excavated.

Deposit 136

The deposit was the fill of posthole 137 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 139: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.22m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 138 and was not excavated.

Deposit 138

The deposit was the fill of posthole 139 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

The following postholes were recorded in the immediate vicinity of structure 120. The relationship between these postholes and the structure was however not clear.

Cut 103: EW slot

A cut for a curvilinear ditch exposed for 4.9m on an E–W alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.7m wide and 0.34m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature was cut by and pre-dated ditch 111, and contained deposit 102.

Deposit 102

The deposit was the fill of curvilinear ditch 103 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) sandy silt with infrequent chalk gravel. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 111: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear ditch exposed for 1.9m on an E–W alignment. The feature had a rounded end terminus within the trial trench at its western end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The feature was 0.57m wide and 0.32m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature cut and post-dated ditch 103, and contained deposit 110.

Deposit 110

The deposit was the fill of ditch 111 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with frequent small chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit included a fragment of tile.

Cut 123: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.3m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 122 and was not excavated.

Deposit 122

The deposit was the fill of posthole 123 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 125: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole 0.33m E-W and 0.56m N-S. The feature contained deposit 124 and was not excavated.

Deposit 124

The deposit was the fill of posthole 125 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 127: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.3m in diameter. The feature contained deposit 126 and was not excavated.

Deposit 126

The deposit was the fill of posthole 127 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 131: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole. The feature was 0.47m in diameter and 0.2m deep, U-shaped in profile with steep sides and an uneven concave base. The feature contained deposit 130.

Deposit 130

The deposit was the fill of posthole 131 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments. The deposit contained a rounded stone 0.07m in diameter which may have been a packing stone.

Cut 133: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole 0.3m E-W and 0.18m N-S. The feature contained deposit 132 and was not excavated.

Deposit 132

The deposit was the fill of posthole 133 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 105: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench exposed for 2.5m on an E-W alignment. The feature had a rounded end terminus within the trial trench at its eastern end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the west. The feature was 0.85m wide and remained unexcavated, it contained deposit 104.

Deposit 104

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 105 and consisted of a dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments.

Deposit 101: B Horizon

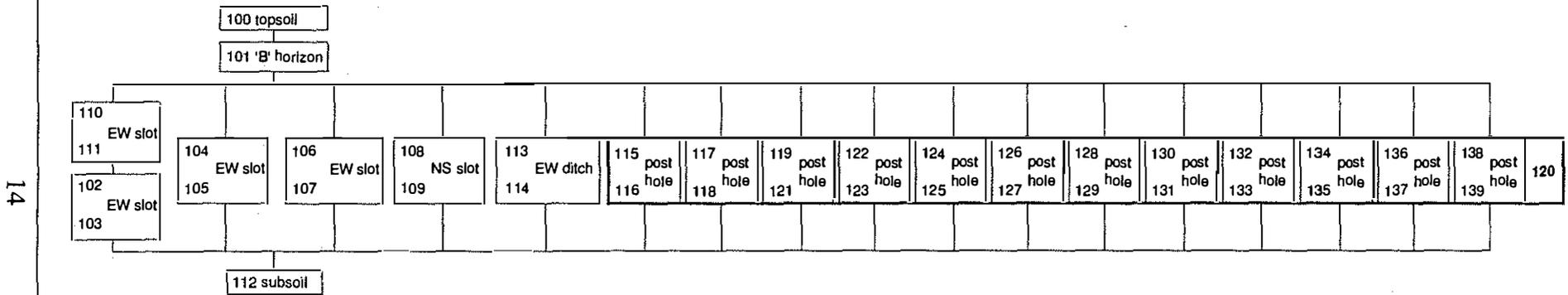
The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 3/4) sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.35m thick and extensive

over the trench.

Deposit 100: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil and consisted of a friable very dusky red (10R 2.5/2) sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.25m thick and extensive over the area of the trench.

MEL94 Trench C



14

TRIAL TRENCH D

Deposit 702: Subsoil

The deposit formed the subsoil within Trial Trench D and consisted of a friable yellowish red (5YR 5/6) chalk gravel and marl.

The subsoil was heavily disturbed by natural activity; no anthropogenic activity other than of the modern period was detected.

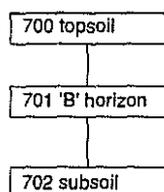
Deposit 701: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 3/4) sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.2m thick and extensive over the trench.

Deposit 700: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil and consisted of a friable very dark brown (7.5YR 2.5/2) sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.3m thick and extensive over the area of the trench.

MEL94 Trench D



TRIAL TRENCH E

Deposit 230: Subsoil

The deposit was the natural subsoil within Trial Trench E and consisted of a firmly compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/4) chalk gravel and marl with occasional sub-rounded flint fragments.

Features of Iron Age or Roman date

Ditches 203, 217 and 225 were cut by and therefore pre-dated ditch group 220.

Cut 217: NS ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 3m on a N–S alignment. The feature was cut by ditch 211/213 at its southern extent and continued beyond the limit of excavation to the north. The feature was 2.2m wide and 0.8m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature would appear to have been a boundary ditch and contained deposits 216 and 224.

Deposit 216

The deposit was the primary fill of rectilinear ditch 217 and consisted of a friable strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) fine sand with a moderate chalk gravel content. The deposit was not formed from erosion product and may have originated as a waste material as it appeared to have a substantial organic content. The deposit was 0.5m thick. The deposit contained a worked flint flake.

Deposit 224

The deposit was the secondary fill of rectilinear ditch 217 and consisted of a very firmly compacted yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty sand with a moderate chalk gravel content. The deposit was 0.25m thick and contained snail shell and pottery of Iron Age date.

Cut 203: NS ditch

A cut for a substantial rectilinear ditch exposed for 7.5m on a N–S alignment to the south of E–W ditch 213 which cut through ditch 203. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south and continued to the north of ditch 213 where it was recorded as ditch 225. The feature was 3.5m wide and contained deposit 202.

Deposit 202

The deposit was the fill of substantial ditch 203 and consisted of a friable yellowish red (5YR 4/6) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 225: NS ditch

A cut for a substantial rectilinear ditch exposed for 3.5m on a N–S alignment to the north of E–W ditch 213 which cut through ditch 225. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north and continued to the south of ditch 213 where it was recorded as ditch 203. The feature was 3.75m wide and 2m deep, V-shaped with steep sides and a flat base. The feature contained a number of deposits (221, 222, 223, 226, 228 and 229) which appeared to represent a gradual silting process, no re-cuts were identified.

Deposit 229

The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 225 and consisted of a friable strong brown (2.5YR 5/6) sandy silt with common sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.5m thick. The deposit was close to subsoil in consistency and therefore likely to have represented silting due to the erosion of the sides and bank. The deposit was concentrated on the east of the section which may be indicative of the presence of an upcast bank on the eastern side. This interpretation must remain tentative without further corroborative evidence.

Deposit 228

The deposit was the secondary fill of ditch 225 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt with abundant small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments and occasional small-medium sub-angular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.5m thick and would appear to have been formed from waste as well as erosion deposit.

Deposit 226

The deposit was a tertiary fill of ditch 225 and consisted of a friable yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty sand with frequent small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.1m thick and contained a substantial subsoil content.

Deposit 223

The deposit was a tertiary fill of ditch 225 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with abundant chalk gravel fragments and common small sub-angular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.46m thick. A small find 323 AA which consisted of part of a human skull was recovered from this deposit in addition to animal bone, snail shell and pottery of Iron Age or Romano-British date.

Deposit 222

The deposit was a tertiary fill of ditch 225 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt with numerous small chalk gravel fragments and infrequent small sub-angular flint fragments. In addition the deposit also contained occasional small patches of ash and occasional small pieces of charcoal. The deposit was heterogeneous in nature and produced a number of finds which included animal bone, iron working slag and pottery of Iron Age date. The deposit was 0.2m thick and likely to have been generated from anthropogenic waste.

Deposit 221

The deposit was a tertiary fill of ditch 225 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with frequent small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments and infrequent small angular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.15m thick. The deposit contained a number of finds which included animal bone, snail shell, iron working slag and pottery of Romano-British date.

Ditch group 220

A very substantial T-shaped ditch recorded in three sections as 207, 211 and 213. The feature extended to the north, south and east beyond the limit of excavation and was up to 2m in depth. The feature formed a substantial boundary ditch and could be traced on the geophysical plot as a rectangular enclosure; the eastern side of which exposed in Trial Trench G. The enclosure completely contained Trial Trench F.

Cut 207: NS ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 5m on a N-S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 3.7m wide and 1.9m deep, V-shaped in profile with a concave base. On excavation the feature was found to be continuous with the E-W ditch 211 and was therefore T-shaped in plan. The feature contained deposits 232, 227, 231 and 206 and had not been re-cut.

Deposit 232

The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 207 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with abundant sub-angular stones. The deposit was 0.6m deep and appeared to represent silting due to erosion of the sides of the feature.

Deposit 227

The deposit was the secondary fill of ditch 207 and consisted of a firmly compacted very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular stones. The deposit contained very infrequent charcoal flecks and patches of material that appeared to have been of organic origin in addition to animal bone and pottery. The deposit was 0.3m thick and almost certainly originated as a waste material dumped into the ditch.

Deposit 231

The deposit was a tertiary fill of ditch 207 and consisted of a firmly compacted very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/3) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular stones. The deposit was 0.6m thick.

Deposit 206

The deposit was a tertiary fill of ditch 207 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular stones. The deposit was 0.7m thick and contained both animal bone and pottery of Roman date.

Cut 211: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 3.4m on an E–W alignment. The feature was cut at its eastern extent by N–S ditch 215 and at its western extent merged with N–S ditch 207 to form a large T-shaped ditch. The feature continued to the east of ditch 215 as ditch 213. The feature was 2.8m wide and 1.9m deep, V-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposits 234, 233 and 210.

Deposit 234

The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 211 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular stones. The deposit was close to subsoil in consistency and therefore likely to have represented silting due to erosion of the sides and bank. The deposit was concentrated on the north of the section which may be indicative of the presence of an upcast bank on the northern side. This interpretation must remain tentative without further corroborative evidence. The deposit was 0.7m thick.

Deposit 233

The deposit was the secondary fill of ditch 211 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular chalk gravel. The deposit was 0.35m thick.

Deposit 210

The deposit was the fill of ditch 211 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular chalk gravel. The deposit was 0.65m thick and contained a number of finds which included animal bone, a human jaw bone and pottery of Romano-British date.

Cut 213: EW ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 9.3m on an E–W alignment. The feature was the continuation of ditch 211 to the east of N–S ditch 215 and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The feature was 3.4m wide and was not excavated; it contained deposit 212.

Deposit 212

The deposit was the fill of ditch 213 and consisted of a friable brown (7.5YR 4/3) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments and a few medium sub-rounded limestone fragments. The deposit contained animal bone and pottery of Romano-British date.

Ditches 205, 217 and 219 could be dated broadly to the Late Iron Age or Roman period but formed no stratigraphic relationships with the other ditch features.

Cut 205: NS ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch exposed for 5.2m on a N–S alignment; and extending beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.95m wide and 0.2m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 204 and would appear to be a boundary ditch.

Deposit 204

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear ditch 205 and consisted of a firmly compacted weak red (2.5YR 5/2) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk chippings. The deposit contained shell fragments and animal bone.

Cut 219: EW slot

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 1.2m on an E–W alignment. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east and cut or was cut by N–S ditch 203 at its western end. No relationship could be established. The feature contained deposit 218.

Deposit 218

The deposit was the fill of ditch 219 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/7) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone, snail shell and pottery of Iron Age date.

Features of Post-Medieval date

Cut 215: NS ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 5m on a N–S alignment; and continued beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 0.5m wide and 0.27m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature was probably a boundary ditch and contained deposit 214.

Deposit 214

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear ditch 215 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with a small chalk gravel content. The deposit was 0.27m thick. The deposit contained a number of finds which consisted of snail shell, flint fragments and pottery of post-medieval date.

Ditch 209 could be dated to the post-Roman period.

Cut 209: modern slot

A cut for a rectangular slot trench. The feature was oriented N–S and measured 2.3m by 0.64m wide and was over 1.9m deep. The feature had vertical sides and the appearance of a machine cut trench. The feature contained deposit 208.

Deposit 208

The deposit was the fill of trench 209 and consisted of a loosely compacted brown (10R 3/3) and black (14R 2.5/2.5) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular stones. The deposit contained post-medieval pottery.

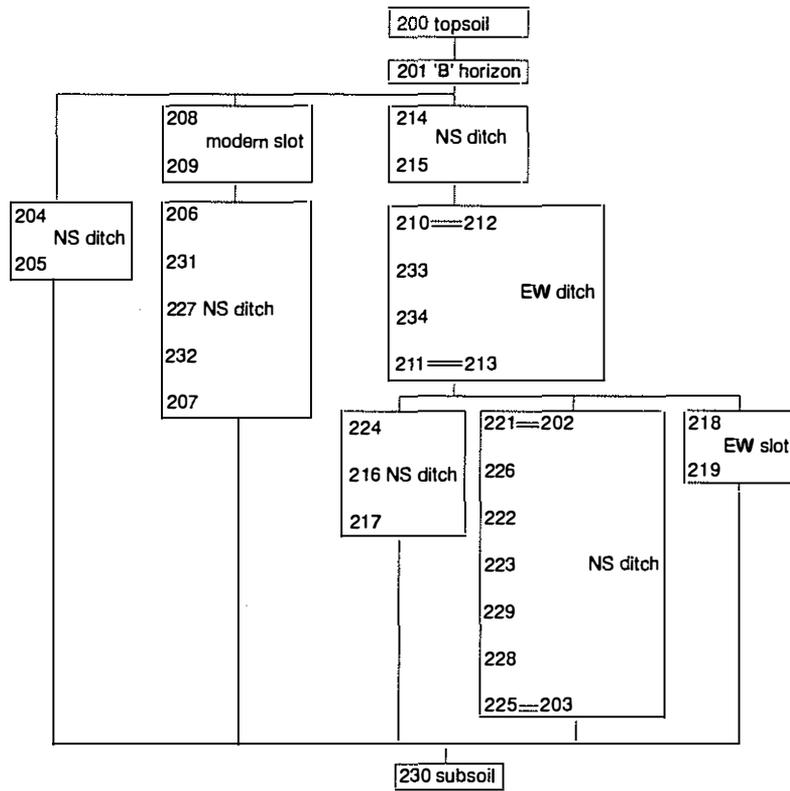
Deposit 201: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dark reddish brown (5YR 3/4) sandy silt with abundant sub-angular chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.2m thick and extensive over the trench. The deposit contained animal bone and pottery of Roman date.

Deposit 200: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 3/2) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments. The context was 0.3m thick and extensive over the area of the trench. The deposit contained pottery of Roman date and a worked flint fragment which may have been an arrowhead.

MEL94 Trench E



TRIAL TRENCH F

Deposit 390: Subsoil

The deposit was the natural subsoil within Trial Trench F and consisted of a firmly compacted reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/6) chalk gravel and marl.

Iron Age

Structure 802: hut circle

A group number allocated to a circular posthole alignment located west of ditch 304.

Cut 326: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 325.

Deposit 325

The deposit was the fill of posthole 326 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 332: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 325.

Deposit 331

The deposit was the fill of posthole 332 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 807: pit

A cut for a circular pit 0.66m in diameter. The feature was 0.25m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 806.

Deposit 806

The deposit was the fill of pit 807 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 812: posthole

A cut for a sub-rectangular posthole which measured 0.55m across. The feature was 0.3m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 811.

Deposit 811

The deposit was the fill of posthole 812 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt with numerous small angular chalk fragments. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 827: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.4m in diameter. The feature was 0.4m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 826.

Deposit 826

The deposit was the fill of posthole 827 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt with numerous small angular chalk fragments. In addition the deposit contained infrequent charcoal fragments.

Cut 829: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.38m in diameter. The feature was 0.29m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 828.

Deposit 828

The deposit was the fill of posthole 829 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (10YR 4/3) silt with common small/medium sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 839: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.36m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 838.

Deposit 838

The deposit was the fill of posthole 839 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 842: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole which measured 0.44m E-W and 0.26m N-S. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 841.

Deposit 841

The deposit was the fill of posthole 842 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 846: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 845.

Deposit 845

The deposit was the fill of posthole 846 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 848: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.36m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 847.

Deposit 847

The deposit was the fill of posthole 848 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 851: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.22m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 849.

Deposit 849

The deposit was the fill of posthole 851 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 875: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.4m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 874.

Deposit 874

The deposit was the fill of posthole 875 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 881: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.18m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 880. The context was issued post-excavation.

Deposit 880

The deposit was the fill of posthole 881.

Cut 883: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.32m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 882. The context was issued post-excavation.

Deposit 882

The deposit was the fill of posthole 883.

Cut 885: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole which measured 0.38m E–W and 0.6m N–S. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 884. The context was issued post-excavation.

Deposit 884

The deposit was the fill of posthole 885.

Cut 387: pit

A cut for a circular pit 0.8m in diameter. The feature was 0.3m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature was highly truncated by ditch 304 and contained deposit 386.

Deposit 386

The deposit was the fill of pit 387 and consisted of a hard compacted grey yellow chalk gravel which contained fragments of pottery of Iron Age date and animal bone.

The alignment has been interpreted as a round-house. Posthole 812 would appear to represent a central post-setting. Posthole 807 has been proposed as an external entrance post the second of which would appear to have been removed by ditch 304; which by inference the structure would pre-date. The proposed entrance would face NE.

The only dating evidence associated with the structure was pottery identified as Iron Age. The circular form of the structure would superficially support this date.

Cut 308: pit

A cut for an oval pit which measured 1.4m by 0.75m oriented N–S. The feature was 0.15–0.3m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 307.

Deposit 307

The deposit was the fill of pit 308 and consisted of a friable grey silt with infrequent chalk gravel. In addition the deposit contained pottery and occasional small charcoal patches. The deposit contained pottery of Iron Age date.

Cut 310: pit

A cut for a circular pit 1.45m in diameter and 0.85m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 309.

Deposit 309

The deposit was the fill of pit 310 and consisted of a firmly compacted yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) fine sandy silt with frequent small angular chalk gravel. The deposit contained occasional charcoal fragments. The deposit contained a number of worked flint flakes and pottery of Iron Age date. The deposit would appear to have been a backfill of natural origin which would support an interpretation of the pit as a storage pit.

Cut 385: pit

A cut for a circular pit 1m in diameter. The feature was 0.4m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature was substantially truncated by ditch 304 and contained deposit 384.

Deposit 384

The deposit was the fill of pit 385 and consisted of a friable grey yellow silty chalk gravel. The deposit was lensed and gave the appearance of a waste deposit; it contained animal bone pottery of Iron Age date and burnt stone.

Roman

Cut 304: NS ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 14m on a N–S alignment. The feature terminated within the trench to the north and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The feature was 1.25m wide and 0.5m deep, V-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 303.

Deposit 303

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear ditch 304 and consisted of a firmly compacted very dark grey brown (10YR 3/2) fine sandy silt. The deposit contained a number of finds which included animal bone, oyster shell, worked flint flakes, metal slag, daub, a fragment of a quern stone and pottery of Romano-British date.

Cut 383: NS ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 11.5m on a N–S alignment. The feature was cut by pit 379 at its northern end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The feature was 1.15m wide and 0.52m deep, V-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 382. Recorded at its southern end as ditch 304.

Deposit 382

The deposit was the fill of ditch 383 and consisted of a friable very dark grey (10YR 3/3) silt with numerous small angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone and pottery of Romano-British date.

Ditch 304/383 appeared to cut through structure 802 which it would therefore post-date.

Cut 379: pit

A cut for a substantial circular pit 1.7m in diameter. The feature was 0.57m deep, U-shaped in profile with stepped sides and a concave base. The feature contained deposit 378 and appeared to cut ditch 383.

Deposit 378

The deposit was the fill of pit 379 and consisted of a friable very dark grey (10YR 3/1) silt with numerous small angular chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained infrequent charcoal lumps. The fill had the appearance of a waste deposit. The deposit contained a number of iron objects which included a peg with a curved eye, 23cm long, in addition to animal bone and pottery of Romano-British date.

Cut 381: EW slot

A cut for a linear construction trench which extended for 5m on an E–W alignment. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation towards the east and appeared to be cut by linear trench 376 at its western end. The feature was 0.55m wide and 0.21m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 380.

Deposit 380

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 381 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 3/3) silt with common small angular chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained infrequent charcoal lumps animal bone and pottery of Romano-British date.

The linear 381 cut or was cut by pit 379; the relationship was unclear. The linear appeared to be cut by linear 376.

Cut 376: NS slot

A cut for a linear construction trench which extended for 5m on a N–S alignment. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.06m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and a flat base. The feature had been substantially truncated horizontally.

Deposit 375

The deposit was the fill of linear trench 376 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) fine sandy silt with common angular chalk gravel fragments and very infrequent charcoal lumps.

Cut 312: NS slot

A cut for a rectilinear construction trench which measured 3.6m long and was completely exposed within the trench on a N–S alignment. The feature was 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep, V-shaped in profile with a flat base. Parallels construction trench 376 and closely associated with pit 310. The feature contained deposit 311.

Deposit 311

The deposit was the fill of construction trench 312 and consisted of a hard compacted dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt with common small chalk gravel fragments.

Linear features 312 and 376 extended on a parallel alignment and gave the appearance of being contemporary. Linear 312 cut pit 310 which would place the pit in an earlier phase or structural sequence. Linear structure 381 also predated this pair, though whether this could be taken as evidence that pit 310 and linear 381 were contemporary is conjectural.

Cut 306: EW ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 3.4m on an E–W alignment. The feature terminated within the trench to the east and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the west. The feature was 0.84m wide and 0.32m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 305.

Deposit 305

The deposit was the fill of rectilinear ditch 306 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt with numerous small chalk gravel fragments and infrequent small charcoal lumps. The deposit contained animal bone, oyster and snail shell together with daub and pottery of Romano-British date.

Cut 389: EW slot

A cut for a linear construction slot exposed for 4.45m on an E–W alignment. The feature at its western end joined post-pit 392; the relationship between the two uncertain. The eastern end of the feature extended beyond the limit of excavation. The feature was 0.4m wide and 0.14m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 388.

Deposit 388

The deposit was the fill of linear construction slot 389 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) sandy silt with common small sub-angular chalk gravel. The deposit contained pottery of Romano-British date.

Cut 392: postpit

A cut for a substantial oval post-pit up to 1.05m across. The feature was 0.35m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The western third of the feature extended beyond the limit of excavation. The feature contained deposit 391.

Deposit 391

The deposit was the fill of post-pit 392 and consisted of a dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) silty sand with abundant small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained metal slag and pottery of Romano-British date.

Structures which pre-dated the ridge and furrow

Structure 801: hut circle

A group number allocated to a circular posthole alignment located east of ditch 304. It consisted of features 887, 372, 322, 344, 324, 320, 342, 340, 338, 336, 334, 330, 328, 318, 804, 366, 364, 360, 362, 394.

Cut 318: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.35m in diameter and 0.2m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 317.

Deposit 317

The deposit was the fill of posthole 318 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 320: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 319.

Deposit 319

The deposit was the fill of posthole 320 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 322: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.3m in diameter and 0.28m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 321.

Deposit 321

The deposit was the fill of posthole 322 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 324: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter and 0.18m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 323.

Deposit 323

The deposit was the fill of posthole 324 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 328: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.3m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 327.

Deposit 327

The deposit was the fill of posthole 328 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey brown sandy silt.

Cut 330: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 325.

Deposit 329

The deposit was the fill of posthole 330 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 334: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 333.

Deposit 333

The deposit was the fill of posthole 334 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 336: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was 0.2m deep, V-shaped in profile with steep sides. The feature contained deposit 335.

Deposit 335

The deposit was the fill of posthole 336 and consisted of a friable grey silt with a few chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 338: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 337.

Deposit 337

The deposit was the fill of posthole 338 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt.

Cut 340: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 339.

Deposit 339

The deposit was the fill of posthole 340 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 342: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.12m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 341.

Deposit 341

The deposit was the fill of posthole 342 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt and sand.

Cut 344: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.15m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 343.

Deposit 343

The deposit was the fill of posthole 344 and consisted of a friable grey silt.

Cut 360: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.2m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 359.

Deposit 359

The deposit was the fill of posthole 360 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 362: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole 0.33m N-S and 0.21m E-W. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 361.

Deposit 361

The deposit was the fill of posthole 362 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 364: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.17m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 363.

Deposit 363

The deposit was the fill of posthole 364 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 366: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.17m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 365.

Deposit 365

The deposit was the fill of posthole 366 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 372: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.16m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 371.

Deposit 371

The deposit was the fill of posthole 372 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 804: posthole

A cut for an oval pit which measured 0.66m E-W and 0.77m N-S. The feature was 0.32m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 803.

Deposit 803

The deposit was the fill of pit 804 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt with numerous small angular chalk fragments. In addition the deposit contained infrequent charcoal fragments. The beehive quern small find from 300 may have originated from this deposit.

Cut 887: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole which measured 0.46m E-W and 0.64m N-S. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 886. The context was issued post-excavation.

Deposit 886

The deposit was the fill of posthole 887.

The alignment has been interpreted as a round-house. Two larger post-settings 804 and 887, external to the main ring, may have formed an entrance which would have faced north-east.

Structure 801 and ditch 304/383 were too close to have been contemporary, there was however no stratigraphic relationship established between the two. Structure 802 overlapped structure 801 but at no point did any of the respective postholes inter-cut; their sequence therefore remains unclear.

Structure 802 was dated to the Iron Age by a small sample of pottery, since structure 801 closely resembles this structure in form it may also be of Iron Age date.

Structure 810: rectangular structure

A group number allocated to a rectilinear posthole alignment which formed part of three sides of a rectangular structure.

Cut 818: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.33m in diameter. The feature was 0.12m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The feature contained deposit 817.

Deposit 817

The deposit was the fill of posthole 818 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey (10YR 4/2) silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 821: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was 0.09m deep with steep sides and a flat base. The feature cut or was cut by posthole 823 the relationship uncertain. The feature contained deposit 819.

Deposit 819

The deposit was the fill of posthole 821 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey (10YR 4/2) silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 823: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter. The feature was 0.1m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The feature cut or was cut by posthole 821 the relationship uncertain. The feature contained deposit 822.

Deposit 822

The deposit was the fill of posthole 823 and consisted of a hard compacted grey (10YR 4/2) silt with occasional small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 825: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.5m deep. The feature was 0.22m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The feature contained deposit 824.

Deposit 824

The deposit was the fill of posthole 825 and consisted of a friable silt with numerous small angular chalk fragments.

Cut 831: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.35m in diameter. The feature was 0.16m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 830.

Deposit 830

The deposit was the fill of posthole 831 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (10YR 4/3) silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 837: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole which measured 0.8m N-S and 0.64m E-W. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 836.

Deposit 836

The deposit was the fill of posthole 837 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 877: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 876.

Deposit 876

The deposit was the fill of posthole 877 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 879: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.34m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 878.

Deposit 878

The deposit was the fill of posthole 878 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 889: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.42m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 888. The context was issued post-excavation.

Deposit 888

The deposit was the fill of posthole 889 (number issued post-excavation, so no description recorded).

The structure could be interpreted as a building or wall line. The structure overlapped structure 802; however no stratigraphic relationship could be demonstrated between the two.

Cut 314: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter and 0.14m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 313.

Deposit 313

The deposit was the fill of posthole 314 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silty chalk gravel with no inclusions.

Cut 316: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.3m in diameter and 0.15m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 315.

Deposit 315

The deposit was the fill of posthole 315 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey silt with common chalk gravel.

Cut 346: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.15m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 345.

Deposit 345

The deposit was the fill of posthole 346 and consisted of a friable grey silt.

Cut 348: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 347.

Deposit 347

The deposit was the fill of posthole 348 and consisted of a friable grey silt.

Cut 350: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 349.

Deposit 349

The deposit was the fill of posthole 350 and consisted of a friable grey silt.

Cut 352: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.15m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 351.

Deposit 351

The deposit was the fill of posthole 352 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) silt with a few small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 354: posthole

A cut for a circular pit/posthole 0.53m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 353.

Deposit 353

The deposit was the fill of pit/posthole 354 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 356: posthole

A cut for a circular pit 0.4m in diameter. The feature was 0.1m deep and had a shallow U-shaped profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 355.

Deposit 355

The deposit was the fill of pit 356 and consisted of a friable grey sandy silt with occasional chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained a number of animal bones.

Cut 358: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole 0.43m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 357.

Deposit 357

The deposit was the fill of posthole 358 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark grey (5YR 4/1) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 368: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 367.

Deposit 367

The deposit was the fill of posthole 368 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 370: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.25m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 369.

Deposit 369

The deposit was the fill of posthole 370 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 374: posthole

A cut for a sub-circular posthole 0.14m by 0.24m. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 373.

Deposit 373

The deposit was the fill of posthole 374 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 805: posthole

A cut for a circular post-pipe 0.55m in diameter within post-pit 392. The feature was 0.35m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 377.

Deposit 377

The deposit was the fill of a post-pipe within post-pit 392 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 394: pit

A cut for an oval pit 0.79m in diameter and oriented E–W. The feature was 0.34m deep with steep sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 393.

Deposit 393

The deposit was the fill of oval pit 394 and consisted of a loosely compacted dark grey (10YR 5) silt. The deposit contained a substantial quantity of animal bone some of which displayed signs of burning. The deposit appeared to have a humic nature and was likely to have been a waste pit.

Cut 396: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.24m in diameter. The feature was 0.2m deep, U-shaped in profile with steep sides and a concave base. The feature contained deposit 395.

Deposit 395

The deposit was the fill of posthole 396 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt with occasional chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 398: posthole

A cut for an oval posthole 0.3m in diameter. The feature was 0.25m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The feature contained deposit 397.

Deposit 397

The deposit was the fill of posthole 398 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark brown (10YR 3/3) chalk gravel. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 800: pit

A cut for a circular pit 1m in diameter. The feature was 0.18m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The feature contained deposit 399.

Deposit 399

The deposit was the fill of pit 800 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) silty gravel. The deposit contained a flint flake and animal bone.

Cut 809: posthole

A cut for a sub-rectangular posthole which measured 0.55m N–S and 0.35m E–W. The feature was 0.08m deep and concave in profile. The feature had been severely truncated and contained deposit 808.

Deposit 808

The deposit was the fill of posthole 809 and consisted of a friable dark brown (10YR 3/3) silt with a few small angular chalk fragments.

Cut 814: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.46m in diameter. The feature was 0.07m deep and concave in profile. The feature contained deposit 813.

Deposit 813

The deposit was the fill of posthole 814 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt with common small angular chalk fragments. The deposit contained animal bone.

Cut 816: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.26m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 815.

Deposit 815

The deposit was the fill of posthole 816 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt.

Cut 833: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.4m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 832.

Deposit 832

The deposit was the fill of posthole 833 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 835: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.22m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 834.

Deposit 834

The deposit was the fill of posthole 835 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 844: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.34m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 843.

Deposit 843

The deposit was the fill of posthole 844 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 853: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.28m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 852.

Deposit 852

The deposit was the fill of posthole 853 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 855: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.32m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 854.

Deposit 854

The deposit was the fill of posthole 855 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 857: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.26 in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 856.

Deposit 856

The deposit was the fill of posthole 857 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 859: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.44m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 858.

Deposit 858

The deposit was the fill of posthole 859 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 861: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.2m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 860.

Deposit 860

The deposit was the fill of posthole 861 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 863: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.22m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 862.

Deposit 862

The deposit was the fill of posthole 863 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt.

Cut 865: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.34m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 864.

Deposit 864

The deposit was the fill of posthole 865 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 5/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 867: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.24m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 866.

Deposit 866

The deposit was the fill of posthole 867 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 869: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.26 in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 868.

Deposit 868

The deposit was the fill of posthole 869 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 871: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.26m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 870.

Deposit 870

The deposit was the fill of posthole 871 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Cut 873: posthole

A cut for a circular posthole 0.34m in diameter. The feature was not excavated and contained deposit 872.

Deposit 872

The deposit was the fill of posthole 873 and consisted of a friable reddish brown (10YR 5/4) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk fragments.

Layer 302

Clean up layer over the archaeological horizon. The deposit contained a saddle quern, an unidentified metal object, and pottery of Roman date.

Deposit 301: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dark reddish brown (5YR 3/4) sandy silt with abundant sub-angular chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.2m thick and extensive over the trench.

Deposit 300: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil within Trial Trench F and consisted of a friable brown (7.5YR 5/3) sandy silt with very few small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.25m thick and extensive over the trench. The deposit contained a number of finds which consisted of animal bone, oyster shell, a glass bead, a fragment of a beehive quern, pottery of Romano-British date and a number of flint fragments which included a possible scraper.

TRIAL TRENCH G

Deposit 410: Subsoil

The deposit formed the subsoil within Trial Trench G and consisted of a firmly compacted yellowish red (5YR 5/6) chalk gravel and marl.

Roman

Cut 405: NS ditch

A cut for a rectilinear ditch which was exposed for 7.25m on a N–S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 2.95m wide and 1.48m deep, V-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposits 407, 406 and 404.

Deposit 407

The deposit was the primary fill of linear ditch 405 and consisted of a friable mid greyish brown (7.5YR 5/2) brown sandy silt with occasional chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained pottery fragments, mussel and snail shell as well as animal bone.

Deposit 406

The deposit was the secondary fill of linear ditch 406 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark red (2.5YR 4/6) sandy silt with occasional small chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained pottery fragments of Romano-British date, animal bone, snail shell and occasional burnt stones.

Deposit 404

The deposit was a tertiary fill of linear ditch 405 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey (5YR 5/1) sandy silt with common chalk gravel fragments. In addition the deposit contained daub, pottery fragments of Roman date, animal bone, oyster and snail shell, a flint fragment, part of a quem stone and occasional burnt stones.

The geophysical survey demonstrated that the feature was continuous with the boundary ditch 211/213 recorded in Trial Trench E.

Cut 412: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch exposed for 9.6m on an E–W alignment. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east and substantially narrowed at its western end where it joined the N–S ditch 405, the stratigraphic relationship was however uncertain. The narrow extension may well have been a lock spit which demarcated the trench layout. The feature was 1.8m wide and 0.7m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 411.

Deposit 411

The deposit was the fill of linear ditch 412 and consisted of a hard compacted reddish grey (5YR 5/2) sandy silt with occasional chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone, mussel and snail shell, flint flakes, an iron nail, flint flakes and pottery of Romano-British date.

Cut 420: pit

A cut for a circular pit 0.9m in diameter. The feature was 0.45m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature cut or was cut by ditch 412 the relationship uncertain. The feature contained deposit 419.

Deposit 419

The deposit was the fill of circular pit 420 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt with very common small angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone, snail shell and pottery of Roman date.

Medieval

Cut 403: furrow

A cut for a medieval/post-medieval furrow. The feature was exposed on a N–S alignment across the trench; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 2.85m wide and 0.12m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 402.

Deposit 402

The deposit was the fill of furrow 403 and consisted of a firmly compacted mid greyish brown silty loam with occasional small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit contained animal bone, part of a quem fragment, an iron nail, fragments of Roman building tile and pottery of Roman date.

Cut 416: furrow

A cut for a medieval/post-medieval furrow. The feature was exposed on a N–S alignment across the trench; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 1.25m wide and 0.1m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 415.

Deposit 415

The deposit was the fill of furrow 416 and consisted of a firmly compacted light brown (7.5YR 6/3) sandy silt with occasional chalk gravel fragments.

Although ridge and furrow could be identified as being extensive across the field by aerial photography and appeared to have been picked up by the geophysical survey, it was not generally identified within the trial trenches. The presence of the ridge and furrow in the record of trench G can be attributed to the shallow B horizon which allowed the base of the furrows to penetrate the subsoil.

Features of unknown date

Cut 418: EW slot

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 3.2m on an E–W alignment. The feature terminated within the trench at its eastern end and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the west. The feature was 0.9m wide and 0.25m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 417.

Deposit 417

The deposit was the fill of linear cut 418 and consisted of a firmly compacted grey (5YR 5/1) sandy silt with occasional chalk fragments.

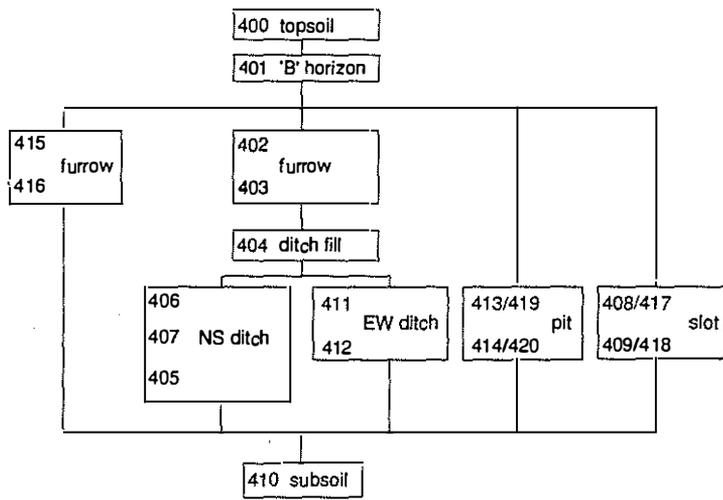
Deposit 401: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 3/3) sandy silt with common sub-angular chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.15m thick and extensive over the trench. The deposit contained an unidentified iron object, part of a glass vessel, fragments of clay pipe stem and pottery of Roman date.

Deposit 400: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil within Trial Trench G and consisted of a friable dark reddish brown (5YR 2.5/2) sandy silt with very few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.2m thick and extensive over the trench.

MEL94 Trench G



TRIAL TRENCH H

Deposit 510: Subsoil

The deposit was the natural subsoil at the south end of Trial Trench H and consisted of a firmly compacted pale brown (10YR 6/3) mixed medium/large irregular chalk fragments and marl.

Deposit 520: Subsoil

The deposit was the natural subsoil at the north end of Trial Trench H and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand with a few irregular chalk and flint fragments. The layer was excavated within a sondage and found to be 0.2m thick over a clay layer.

Iron Age

Cut 516: pit with burial

A cut for a rectangular grave-pit with rounded corners. The feature measured 1.23m N–S and 0.63m E–W and was 0.6m deep with vertical sides. The feature contained deposit 515 which included a flexed human burial which was not completely excavated.

Deposit 515

The deposit was the fill of grave-pit 516 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt with common small angular chalk fragments and very infrequent charcoal patches. The deposit contained a flexed human skeleton lying on its right hand side oriented N–S; head to the north. The skeleton was cleaned and photographed but not lifted. In addition to this the deposit contained animal bone and pottery of Iron Age date.

Roman

Deposit 505: buried B horizon

The deposit formed a layer sealed beneath layer 502. The deposit consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) very fine sand with silt and occasional small chalk gravel and flint fragments. The deposit was up to 0.25m thick. If deposit 502 was seen as a buried soil horizon then layer 505 could correspond to a buried B horizon.

Deposit 502: midden layer

The deposit formed a layer extensive beneath the B horizon. The deposit was a friable very dark grey (5YR 3/1) mottled with olive patches (5Y 5/2) and consisted of a sandy silt with infrequent small/medium irregular chalk fragments. In addition the deposit contained pottery fragments, animal bone and occasional charcoal flecks. The layer would appear to have been generated anthropogenically as waste from domestic activity. The features identified within the trench where cut through this layer. The layer may have formed the ground surface contemporary to these features. The deposit contained animal bone, snail shell and pottery of both Iron Age and Romano-British date.

Layer 502 could be demonstrated to have been cut by the features within trench H in section but not in plan. Due to this phenomenon the layer was substantially removed by machine in order to render the features visible. The nature of the deposit implied that it had accumulated in association with an earlier ground surface distinct and substantially lower than that of the present site. At no point however was there any indication of an actual habitation surface surviving.

Cut 504: enclosure ditch

A cut for an L-shaped ditch. The ditch extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north and west having turned a right angle within the trench. The feature was exposed within the trench for 6m on a N–S alignment and for 4.5m on an E–W alignment. The feature was 1.9–2.3m wide and 1m deep, V-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature would appear to have been a boundary ditch and contained deposits 534, 533, 532, 531 and 503.

Deposit 534

The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 504 recorded in section at the N end of an excavated 2m segment. The deposit consisted of a firmly compacted (7.5YR 4/2) clayey sandy silt with infrequent chalk gravel fragments and occasional small irregular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.3m thick.

Deposit 533

The deposit formed the secondary fill of ditch 504 recorded in section at the N end of an excavated 2m segment. The deposit consisted of a firmly compacted clayey sandy silt with infrequent chalk gravel fragments and occasional small clay patches. The deposit was 0.2m thick.

Deposit 532

The deposit was the primary fill of ditch 504 recorded in section at the N end of an excavated 2m segment. The deposit consisted of a firmly compacted (7.5YR 3/2) clayey sandy silt with infrequent chalk gravel fragments and occasional irregular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.45m thick.

Deposit 531

The deposit was the secondary fill of ditch 504 recorded in section at the N end of an excavated 2m segment. The deposit consisted of a firmly compacted (2.5Y 2.5/1) clayey sandy silt with occasional chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.15m thick.

Deposit 503

The deposit was the tertiary fill of ditch 504 and consisted of a firmly compacted (7.5YR 4/4) clayey sandy silt with occasional chalk and flint fragments together with infrequent small clay patches. The deposit was 0.5m thick, it contained snail shell and pottery of both Iron Age and Romano-British date. The boundary between this deposit and layer 502 was difficult to discern, it is possible therefore that the two deposits were of similar origin.

Cut 514: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 5m on an E–W alignment. The feature terminated to the east in a narrow gully which joined boundary ditch 504; and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The feature was 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep, U-shaped in profile with an uneven flat base. The ditch contained deposit 513.

Deposit 513

The deposit was the fill of ditch 514 and consisted of a friable very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) silty sand with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Ditches 504 and 514 were joined by a narrow gully or lock spit, a phenomenon noted elsewhere in trench G. No stratigraphic relationship could be discerned by excavation; it is possible therefore that the features were contemporary.

Cut 509: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which extended for 5m across the trench on an E–W alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 1.8m wide and 0.76m deep, V-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposits 524 and 508.

Deposit 524

The deposit was the primary fill of linear ditch 509 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty clay with sand and numerous medium sub-angular chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.4m deep and appeared to have been generated by erosion of the sides of the feature.

Deposit 508

The deposit was the secondary fill of linear ditch 509 and consisted of a firmly compacted light olive brown (2.5YR 5/4) sandy silt. The deposit was 0.37m deep and contained pottery of both Iron Age and Romano-British date together with snail shell and animal bone.

A silted boundary ditch which may be associated with the proposed E–W trackway. The feature paralleled ditch 507.

Cut 521: pit

A cut for a sub-oval pit which measured 1.2m E–W and 0.8m N–S. The feature was 0.22m deep with steep sides and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 519.

Deposit 519

The deposit was the fill of pit 521 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty sand with a moderate number of small chalk gravel fragments and occasional medium sized flint fragments. It was noted that some of the chalk fragments displayed signs of burning. The deposit contained pottery of both Iron Age and Romano-British date.

The pit was cut into a patch of burnt chalk on its NW side which would explain the presence of the burnt chalk within the pit fill. The patch of burnt chalk was not associated with any other features, the reason for its existence was therefore unknown.

Features of unknown date

Cut 507: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 5m on an E–W alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 1.85m wide and 0.8m deep, U-shaped in profile with steep sides and a concave base. The feature extended parallel to ditch 509 and contained deposits 526, 525 and 506.

Deposit 526

The deposit was the primary fill of linear ditch 507 and consisted of a firmly compacted yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty sand with frequent small chalk gravel and a moderate number of larger stones. In addition the deposit contained a considerable number of snail shells and infrequent very small patches of charcoal. The deposit was 0.25m thick.

Deposit 525

The deposit was the secondary fill of linear ditch 507 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) silty sand with occasional small chalk gravel fragments and occasional larger stones. In addition the deposit contained a number of snail shells. The deposit would appear to have been generated by a process of natural silting and was 0.36m thick.

Deposit 506

The deposit was a tertiary fill of linear ditch 507 and consisted of a friable dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) silty sand with a moderate number of chalk gravel fragments and occasional larger stones. In addition the deposit contained occasional snail shells and animal bone.

A silted boundary ditch which may be associated with the proposed E–W trackway. The feature paralleled ditch 509.

Cut 512: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which was exposed for 9m on an E–W alignment. The feature appeared to terminate within the trench to the west and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.32m deep, U-shaped in profile and a flat base. The feature contained deposit 511.

Deposit 511

The deposit was the fill of linear ditch feature 512 and consisted of a loosely compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) very fine silty sand with a few small chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 530: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch feature which was exposed within the trench for 9m on an E–W alignment. The feature appeared to terminate within the trench to the west and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.23m deep, U-shaped in profile with an uneven base. The feature contained deposit 529.

Deposit 529

The deposit was the fill of linear feature 530 and consisted of a loosely compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand with a few small chalk gravel fragments.

The two linear ditch features 512 and 530 extended exactly parallel to each other and were certainly inter-cut. The stratigraphic relationship could not be discerned in either plan or section.

Cut 528: pit

A cut for a circular posthole 0.23m in diameter. The feature was 0.07m deep, U-shaped in profile with a flat base. The feature contained deposit 527.

Deposit 527

The deposit was the fill of circular posthole 528 and consisted of a loosely compacted very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) fine silty sand.

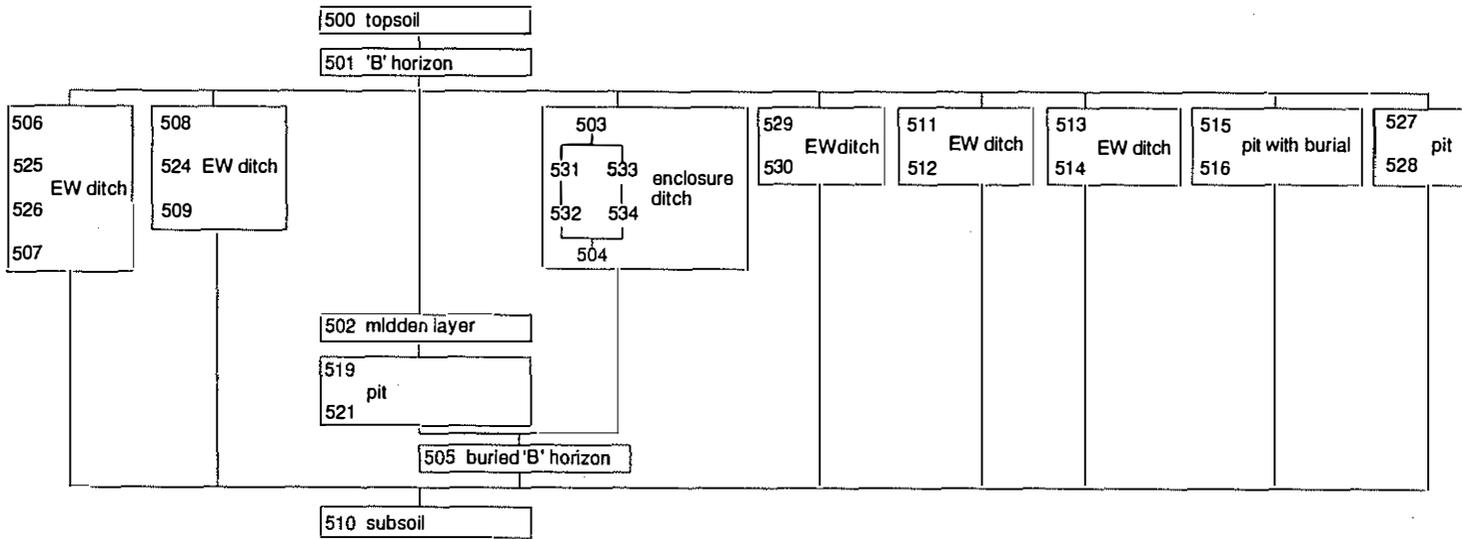
Deposit 501: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 3/4) sandy silt with infrequent small/medium sub-angular chalk fragments. The deposit was 0.52m thick at its northern end and 0.25m thick at its southern end. The deposit was extensive over the trench. The deposit contained animal bone, a quern fragment and pottery of Iron Age date.

Deposit 500: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil within Trial Trench H and consisted of a friable dark reddish brown (5YR 3/2) sandy silt with very few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was 0.2m thick and extensive over the trench.

MEL94 Trench H



TRIAL TRENCH I

Deposit 760: Subsoil

The deposit was the natural subsoil at the south end of Trial Trench I and consisted of a friable reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) chalk gravel and marl.

Cut 753: NS slot

A cut for a linear ditch/gully which was exposed for 1.8m on a N–S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 1.4m wide and 0.27m deep, V-shaped in profile with an irregular base. The feature was very probably a highly truncated boundary ditch and contained deposit 752.

Deposit 752

The deposit was the fill of ditch/gully 753 and consisted of a loosely compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 3/4) silty sand with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 755: NS slot

A cut for a linear ditch/gully which was exposed for 1.8m on a N–S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep, V-shaped in profile with a slightly concave base. The feature was very probably a highly truncated boundary ditch and contained deposit 754.

Deposit 754

The deposit was the fill of ditch/gully 755 and consisted of a friable brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand with common small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

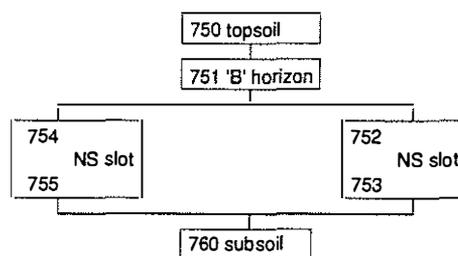
Deposit 751: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dusky red (2.5YR 4/4) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-rounded chalk fragments with very infrequent small irregular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.25m thick and was extensive over the trench.

Deposit 750: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil within Trial Trench I and consisted of a friable dark brown (5YR 3/3) sandy silt with very few small sub-rounded chalk gravel fragments and very infrequent irregular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.2m thick and extensive over the trench.

MEL94 Trench I



TRIAL TRENCH J

Deposit 610: Subsoil

The deposit was the natural subsoil at the south end of Trial Trench J and consisted of a friable yellowish red (5YR 5/6) chalk gravel and marl.

Cut 603: EW ditch

A cut for a linear ditch which extended for 3m on an E–W alignment. The feature extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east and could not be traced further to the west due to the intrusion of the ridge and furrow 607. The feature was 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep, U-shaped in profile with a concave base. The feature contained deposit 602.

Deposit 602

The deposit was the fill of linear ditch 603 and consisted of a loosely compacted dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) fine sandy silt with a few small chalk gravel fragments.

Cut 605: pit

A cut for a circular pit 0.6m in diameter. The feature was 0.11m deep, U-shaped in profile with an irregular base. The feature contained deposit 604.

Deposit 604

The deposit was the fill of circular ditch 605 and consisted of a firmly compacted brown (10YR 4/3) fine silty sand with numerous small chalk gravel fragments.

Medieval

Cut 607: furrow

A cut for a furrow of medieval or post-medieval date. The feature was exposed within the trench for 15m on a N–S alignment; and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The feature was 2.5m wide, U-shaped in profile with an uneven base. The feature contained deposit 606.

Deposit 606

The deposit was the fill of furrow 607 and consisted of a firmly compacted dark red (2.5YR 3/6) sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments.

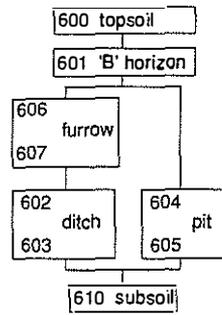
Deposit 601: B Horizon

The deposit consisted of the B Horizon formed beneath the topsoil and consisted of a friable dark red (2.5YR 3/6) sandy silt with infrequent small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments. The deposit was up to 0.12m thick and was extensive over the trench.

Deposit 600: Topsoil

The deposit formed the topsoil within Trial Trench J and consisted of a friable very dark grey (7.5YR 3/1) sandy silt with a few small sub-angular chalk gravel fragments and very infrequent irregular flint fragments. The deposit was 0.25m thick and extensive over the trench.

MEL94 Trench J



APPENDIX 2/1: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

The following catalogue contains selected information on each of the archaeological sites or finds identified within the search area. The extent of this area is defined on figure 2 (volume1).

Each archaeological site, area or find identified within the search area is allocated a Site Reference Number. This is the reference number of the site as recorded for this survey and which is used throughout the report.

For each site, area or find, the following information is provided.

SMR No: the reference number of the site or find if recorded on the Sites and Monuments Record held by the Humberside Archaeology Unit of Humberside County Council (HCC SMR).

NAR No: the reference number of the site or find if recorded on the National Archaeological Record (NAR) held by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME); this record is based on information collected by the Ordnance Survey (OS).

SAM No: the county reference number if the site is scheduled as an Ancient Monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979).

LB No: the reference number of the Listed Building as recorded in the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest which covers the search area.

NGR No: the National Grid Reference for each site or find. This is qualified as to whether the NGR is "accurate", "centred", "approximate", "uncertain" or "linear". NOTE: for linear features, the grid references relate only to the study area and so may not be their full extent.

Map: the reference number of the 1:10,000 scale map on which each site, area or find is located.

Site name and location: the site name and the name of the place or geographical area where the site is located or the find made. In rural locations, this is often the name of the nearest adjacent farm or other geographical or topographical feature.

Parish: the modern civil parish within which the site, area or find is located.

Extent of site (OS): the extent of the site in terms of Ordnance Survey field numbers (where allocated and known) which have been collated from the most recent 1:2,500 maps.

Proximity and nature of threat: a description of the proximity and nature of the threat to the site, area or find, as specified on Drawing DTP0508/000/PH/014 (Proposed Junction Layout) dated September 1992 provided by the Consulting Engineers. An initial assessment of the impact of the proposed scheme on each site, area or find, taking into account all construction and landscaping works is also given as a simple three tier grading system, as follows:

Major impact	Total or significant destruction of the archaeological site
Moderate impact	Partial damage to the archaeological site
Minimal impact	Little disturbance to the archaeological site

In drawing up this information, consideration is made of the scale, importance and current condition of the site (ie grade of site), and whether the site has been affected by previous developments.

Recommendations: recommendations are made for any further archaeological investigations that might be required to assess the importance and state of preservation of each site, area or find. These works are primarily carried out as part of the stage 2 (detailed evaluation) or stage 3 (pre-construction excavation) archaeological studies.

SITE REF: 20

Concordance details

SMR No:	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE977 269, SE975 266 centred	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Parkland (site of), North and South Lawn	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS): 6300

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat:</p> <p>The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road and associated roundabouts in an approximate 100m wide corridor in the southern part of South Lawn, will have a moderate impact on this low grade site. However, most archaeological deposits associated with this site appear to have been destroyed by previous agricultural activities.</p>
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>No further action.</p>

SITE REF: 21

Concordance details

SMR No:	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE977 269, SE975 266 centred	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Ridge and furrow (site of), North and South Lawn	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS): 6300

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat:</p> <p>The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road and associated roundabouts in an approximate 100m wide corridor in the southern part of South Lawn, will have a moderate impact on this low grade site. However, most archaeological deposits associated with this site appear to have been destroyed by previous agricultural activities.</p>
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>No further action.</p>

SITE REF: 22

Concordance details

SMR No:	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE976 264 centred	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Possible Romano-British settlement, South Lawn	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS): 6300 (part)

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat:</p> <p>The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road and associated roundabouts in an approximate 100m wide corridor in the southern part of South Lawn, will have a major impact on this high grade site.</p>
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Further detailed field walking and geophysical survey work, followed by trial evaluation, will be required in advance of any disturbance to assess the extent and importance of this high grade site. This work should be undertaken as part of the programme of stage 2 and stage 3 archaeological studies.</p>

SITE REF: 23

Concordance details

SMR No: 8241	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE97262649-SE97902634 linear	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Course of Melton Old Road, South Lawn	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS): 6300 (part)

Mitigation

Proximity and nature of threat:

The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road and associated roundabouts in an approximate 100m wide corridor in the southern part of South Lawn, will have a major impact on this low grade site.

Recommendations:

Further geophysical survey work, followed by trial evaluation, will be required in advance of any disturbance to assess the extent and importance of this high grade site. This work should be undertaken as part of the programme of stage 2 and stage 3 archaeological studies.

SITE REF: 24

Concordance details

SMR No:	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE97302645 centred	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Home Farm, Melton Old Road (north side)	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS):

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat: The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of new slip roads, will have a major impact on this medium grade site, resulting in the demolition of all the buildings in this complex.</p>
<p>Recommendations: These structures will require further analysis and/or detailed recording in advance of their destruction. This work should be undertaken as part of the programme of stage 2 or stage 3 archaeological studies.</p>

SITE REF: 34

Concordance details

SMR No: 11542	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE97872634 accurate	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Melton Hill Lodge	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS):

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat: The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road, will have a major impact on this medium grade site, resulting in the demolition of this building.</p>
<p>Recommendations: This structure will require further analysis and/or detailed recording in advance of their destruction. This work should be undertaken as part of the programme of stage 2 or stage 3 archaeological studies.</p>

SITE REF: 35

Concordance details

SMR No:	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE97922635 accurate	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Pillar (site of) east of Melton Hill Lodge	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS):

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat: The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road, will have a major impact on this low grade site. However, no archaeological deposits are associated with this site.</p>
<p>Recommendations: No further action.</p>

SITE REF: 36

Concordance details

SMR No: 11543	NAR No:	SAM No:	LB No:
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Location information

NGR: SE97572630 accurate	Map: SE92NE
Site name & location: Mile stone (site of), A63 (south side)	
Parish: Welton	Extent of site (OS):

Mitigation

<p>Proximity and nature of threat: The new road and landscaping proposals, which involve the construction of a new slip road, will have a major impact on this low grade site. However, no archaeological deposits are associated with this site.</p>
<p>Recommendations: No further action.</p>