



**HOME FARM  
HARMONDSWORTH LANE  
SIPSON  
London UB7**

London Borough of Hillingdon

An archaeological post-excavation assessment and updated  
project design

June 2010

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Site Code: HOM98

National Grid Reference: 506700 177500

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
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## **Executive summary**

*Archaeological excavations/watching briefs were undertaken in phases between 1999 and 2002, on the site of Home Farm, Harmondsworth. The watching brief was commissioned by SITA in response to an application to extract gravel. This work involved the stripping of plough soil around areas, which had previously been evaluated and found to have features of archaeological interest.*

*The completion of the post-excavation assessment and updated project design for the archaeological investigations at Home Farm was funded by Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) administered by English Heritage. Planning condition for the aggregates extraction at Home Farm was granted in 1989 and no provision was made for the assessment, analysis or publication costs of the archaeological investigations in the relevant planning condition.*

*The excavation has revealed Neolithic activity, primarily pits, and elements of an extensive later prehistoric droveway and enclosure system, comprising of a series of smaller track ways, enclosures, boundary ditches, fences/palisades, drainage ditches, and livestock control features. Associated with this are cooking pits, water holes/wells and a four-post structure. Three features were either heavily truncated or token cremations, or deposits including pyre debris. This droveway/enclosure system appears to date from the later Bronze Age, and may have been abandoned in the later Iron Age.*

*Six fragments of moulds and/or crucibles for bronze casting, had been discarded in a Late Bronze Age well.*

*Further analysis is required to phase and date this activity, and to determine the extent, if any, of Romano-British activity on the site. An undated feature appeared on stylistic grounds to be a Saxon sunken featured building, and stakehole and posthole structures may have been associated with it.*

*Elements of post-medieval, and possibly medieval, field boundary and trackway ditches were also present.*

*The sequence provides further data for Neolithic, later prehistoric, Roman, and early Saxon activity in the Heathrow area, which directly complements that in the proposed English Heritage-funded backlog publication project 'West London Landscapes', and a recent MOLA publication on early Saxon occupation in the London region.*

*It is therefore proposed that this data is further analysed to allow the prehistoric and Roman phases to be published as an integral part of the West London Landscape Project and depending on the results of further analysis, for the Saxon sunken featured building to be published as a brief article in an appropriate journal.*

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Site location

Home Farm is situated to the north of Heathrow Airport, between the villages of Harmondsworth and Sipson). It is bounded to the east by the rear of houses which front onto the west side of Sipson Road, by Harmondsworth Lane to the north, by open fields of Home Farm, Harmondsworth to the west and the rear of industrial premises fronting onto Bath Road and a recreation ground to the south. The site is centred on NGR 150700 177500 (Fig 1).

## 1.2 The scope of the project

The site of Home Farm is located on the northern Taplow terrace of the River Thames, to the north of Heathrow Airport. The site is rectangular in plan and measures approximately 220m east–west by 450m north–south, covering a total area of approximately 9.9ha. At present the site is used for arable cultivation. Modern ground level lay between 24.94m OD and 26.50m OD.

The archaeological watching brief/excavation was been commissioned and funded by SITA Waste Systems and Quarry Products in response to English Heritage advice to the Local Planning Authority to determine if there were any archaeological implications to the proposed mineral (sand and gravel) extraction on the site.

The purpose of the watching brief/excavation was to determine whether archaeological remains or features are present on the site and, if so, to record the nature and extent of such remains. A number of more site-specific research aims and objectives have been established in the preceding *Method Statement*, (MoLAS 1999) and are outlined in the following section.

This report has been prepared within the terms of the relevant Standard specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 1999). This site was given the Museum of London site code HOM98 and all original written records and finds will be submitted to the local museum (in this case the Museum of London), for archiving at the completion of this project.

### 1.3 Circumstances and dates of fieldwork

A planning application was submitted to Hillingdon Council Planning Department for proposed mineral extraction works at Home Farm, Harmondsworth Lane, Hillingdon. The archaeological advisor for Hillingdon (Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service) recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken on the site to provide information on the archaeological implications associated with the proposed mineral extraction.

A field evaluation was carried out by MoLAS (now MOL Archaeology, MOLA) between 24th August 1998 and 24th September 1999 the results of which were produced in the subsequent *Evaluation Report* (Hoad 1999). This document, which also includes the geological, archaeological and historical background of the site, informed the design (*Method Statement*) for the watching brief/excavation (Seeley 2000).

The Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service, advising the Borough of Hillingdon, reviewed the results of the evaluation, which indicated the presence of significant archaeological features dating to the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods. It was decided that further work was required within certain areas of the site. Subsequent archaeological excavations/watching briefs were undertaken by the Museum of London Archaeology Service, in October 1999, May 2000, March–July 2001, September–October 2001, May–June 2002, and August–November 2002.

#### 1.3.1 Results of the evaluation

One hundred and twenty nine archaeological evaluation trenches measuring c 2m by 20m in plan were excavated during the evaluation (Fig 2). These revealed the natural gravel surface at 24.09m OD to 25.83m OD, overlain by brickearth 0.06 to >1.1m thick, at 24.27 to 25.99m OD. A total of 82 features were recorded during the evaluation. Although they indicated a concentration to the south of the site, this may have been due to a generally greater depth of ploughsoil/topsoil over the archaeological features towards the south, allowing greater survival below the level of ploughing. To the north only the bases of deeply cut features survived.

The archaeological remains indicated the presence of prehistoric activity. A Bronze Age field system on a north-east–south-west alignment was uncovered, with a possible droveway ditch. This may have been associated with two fence lines. A Bronze Age land surface with a nearby cooking pit and rubbish pit was thought to represent some form settlement activity associated with the field systems.

A cremation burial at the northern end of the site suggested that religious or ceremonial activities were also being carried out in this area.

At the northern end of the site several east–west field ditches and plough marks were uncovered. These were on a similar alignment to modern ceramic field drains noted in some of the trenches, and were probably of post-medieval date, representing a change of alignment of the field system.

#### 1.3.2 Areas examined

As a result of the archaeological evaluation several areas were identified as requiring further investigation. These were labelled alphabetically from A–U (Fig 2).



## 1.4 Organisation of the report

The *Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design Report* is intended to 'sum up what is already known and what further work will be required to reach the goal of a well-argued presentation of the results of recording and analysis'.

The principles underlying the concept of post-excavation assessment and updated project design were established by English Heritage in the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (MAP2), (1991). More recent guidance has emphasised the need for this stage to be seen as 'brief and transitional', the document acting as a 'gateway' to further analysis and eventual publication.

## 1.5 English Heritage project 5793

IN 2009 MOLA submitted a project design as an application for funding from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) to English Heritage for the completion of the post-excavation assessment and updated project design for the archaeological investigations at Home Farm (Bowsher 2009).

The objectives were to:

- Completion of the post-excavation assessment and updated project design.
- In particular to identify the research aims for this project and the potential of the Home Farm investigations to answer these questions
- Create an ArcView project for this site.

The Home Farm site forms an important part of West London's prehistoric landscapes and would compliment the current work on the publication of the results from recent archaeological investigations at Heathrow airport and the English Heritage-funded West London Landscape's project. Planning condition for the aggregates extraction at Home Farm was granted in 1989 and no provision was made for the assessment, analysis or publication costs of the archaeological investigations in the relevant planning condition.

This report sets out a series of tasks in the updated project design that would enable the HOM98 data to be integrated into the English-Heritage funded West London Landscapes project (EH 3015). This project is currently at the stage of publication synopsis (Elsden 2008) with the analysis having been completed and the next stage of the work is integration of the analytical results and preparation of the final book.

Historical and archaeological background

## 1.6 Geology and topography

The drift geology of the Heathrow area is comprised of Third (Taplow) Thames Terrace Gravels, in places capped by an undulating deposit of Langley Silt Complex, commonly known as brickearth. The clayey-silt brickearth resembles a loess deposit, its basal layers are partially water sorted and therefore probably alluvial or colluvial in nature. Deposited over Taplow Gravels, between 19,000 to 13,000 years ago, this brickearth is a late Devensian aeolian and fluvial sediment originating from local sources within the Thames Valley.

This geology provided fertile and easily tillable soils, which are well drained. Such landscapes, with readily available water supplies (such as the Rivers Colne and Crane to the west and east of the site), would have proved attractive to early settlers and farming communities.

## 1.7 Prehistoric

A substantial collection of struck flint was recovered during a field walking survey at Home Farm in 1988, immediately to the east of the current site (Boucher 1988). The majority of this material dated to the Neolithic/Bronze Age, although a Mesolithic *tranchet* axe was also found.

In the subsequent evaluations at Home Farm in 1988 and 1991 (Hoad 1999, Elsdon 2008), the earliest phase of activity was represented by two flint flakes recovered from the base of the brickearth. These show similarities with the Palaeolithic *levallois* industry found in the Yiewsley/West Drayton area to the north.

The earliest excavated features date to the Neolithic. A north–south aligned ditch produced sherds of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery. A large pit, which contained a fragment from polished stone axe, together with three associated pits may also date from the Neolithic period.

Evidence for Bronze Age activity has been uncovered in the form of ditches forming a field system on a NE–SW alignment, with a possible driveway (Hoad 1999). Pits containing Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery of Deverel-Rimbury and post-Deverel-Rimbury traditions, as well as a Bronze Age land surface indicate there was settlement activity associated with these field system. As well as evidence of occupation during the Bronze Age the remains of a cremation burial indicates that this area also had a religious and ceremonial function.

Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age activity is represented by pits and a well and cooking pit complex. This would seem to represent a domestic settlement, although the well and cooking pit complex may have been used for ritual feasting purposes.

A few pits dating to the Iron Age were recorded along with a large ditch, which may have served as a field boundary. A series of parallel and inter cutting prehistoric ditches were located at the north of the site, although they cannot be dated more precisely.

## 1.8 Roman

The previous investigations on the Home Farm site have not produced any direct evidence of Roman activity. However Roman activity has been found on other sites in the area.

At the beginning of the Roman period, the pattern of small rural settlements and field systems is little changed from that of the later Iron Age. There is some indication of continuity in the alignment of field boundary ditches at Holloway Lane (immediately to the north of the current site) and in the cropmark complex at Mayfield Farm. Pottery dating from the 1st century BC to the 1st century AD at Imperial College Sports Ground shows continuity from the Late Iron Age into the Roman period.

Excavations at Holloway Lane and Wall Garden Farm, Sipson indicate the existence of an organised and structured landscape from the mid 1st to the mid 2nd centuries AD. At both sites this takes the form of ditched enclosures and field systems. A track or driveway was found at Holloway Lane, and a possible corn drier at Wall Garden Farm. Pitting suggests that settlement sites should be located close by, but no structures have been located.

## **1.9 Saxon**

Evidence for an extensive Early Saxon settlement has been found at a number of excavation sites around the villages of Harmondsworth and Sipson (Cowie and Blackmore 2008, 61–89). Like other early Saxon sites in Greater London, Harmondsworth is located close to the River Colne and lies on easily cultivated soils on brickearth and gravel.

The settlement apparently consisted of widely dispersed sunken huts. Isolated examples have been found adjacent to the present site at Holloway Lane in 1988, and at Bath Road (Norman Hay site) in 1997, and slightly further afield at Manor Farm Harmondsworth and at least seven sites in the surrounding area. More recent excavations at Prospect Park, to the north of Harmondsworth, revealed evidence of eleven of these structures (Cowie & Blackmore 2008, 62; Andrews & Crockett 1996, 21–2). Generally the pottery from the settlements suggests an Early Saxon date range between AD 450 and 650, and that initial occupation consisted of a row of farmsteads to the west of the current site, overlooking the River Colne, with subsequent expansion eastwards (including the Harmondsworth/Sipson area) during the 6th and 7th centuries, in the form of widely scattered farmsteads (Cowie & Blackmore 2008, 89).

## **1.10 Medieval**

In the medieval period the Heathrow area was characterised by scattered villages. The site lies in an area surrounded by the villages of Harmondsworth, Sipson, and Heathrow. This settlement pattern was little changed until the construction of the airport. The extended areas of flat land, numerous springs, and fertile well-drained soils ensured that this region possessed a chiefly agrarian character.

At Manor Farm Harmondsworth, some 900m to the west of the current site, medieval pits, ditches, and evidence for a timber building have been excavated, adjacent to a 15th-century tithe barn. Limited evidence for medieval activity has been recovered from an evaluation at Northolt Road, in the form of a ditch containing medieval pottery, and Late Saxon and medieval pottery was recovered from the site at Little Benty Footbridge.

## **1.11 Post-medieval**

The pattern of settlement to the west of London continued virtually unchanged from the medieval into the post-medieval period. The enclosures of the 18th century brought new land into agricultural management from what had once been heath or open country. The needs of an ever-expanding capital were reflected in the introduction of new crops and farming patterns. However, the communities remained small agricultural settlements until well into the 19th century. There were some changes, particularly the growth of industry

along the rivers of the region, but even these were comparatively small scale. The development of the rail network also had an impact, but it was not until the late 19th and the turn of the 20th centuries that the way of life started to alter dramatically from that which had carried on previously, particularly with the construction of the airport in the 1940s.

## 2 Original research aims

### 2.1 Objectives

The objective of the archaeological watching brief/excavation was to determine, as far as was reasonably possible, the extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of the surviving archaeological remains threatened by the proposed mineral extraction.

The watching brief/excavation brief sought to provide information with regard to several research questions and themes, which arose from the existing data in the area. This follows on from the evaluation on the site in 1998 and a watching brief/excavation, in 1999, in the area for a proposed lagoon, located in the north-west corner of the site.

The general methodology is quite straightforward – an assessment of archaeological impact leads, if necessary, to agreed remedial action – as set out in the Department of the Environments Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, 'Archaeology and Planning', November 1990 (PPG16).

The watching brief will be undertaken in accordance with the English Heritage London Region, Archaeological Guidance Papers 1–6 (November 1992, revised June 1998). Archaeological Fieldwork as defined in English Heritage Guidance Paper 4.

### 2.2 Research aims

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, and offers an opportunity to explore the following research aims and objectives, established in the *Method Statement* for the watching brief (Section 1.5):

- *To identify, investigate and record any later prehistoric, Roman, Saxon or medieval features associated with settlement and land management.*
- *To determine if the cremation burial recovered from the evaluation of Phase 11 is an individual burial or part of a cemetery group.*
- *To determine the extent and date of the features identified in the evaluation in order to more fully comprehend their form and function.*
- *To compare the results with other evidence on this site in an attempt to identify patterns of land use by period and to draw further comparisons with the evidence from the Heathrow terrace study area.*

### 3 Site sequence: interim statement on field work

#### 3.1 Methodology

All archaeological excavation and recording during the watching brief was done in accordance with the *Method Statement* (MoLAS 1999) and the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (MoL, 1994).

The locations of the areas of excavation were positioned and recorded by the MoLAS geomatics team.

A mechanical excavator removed the topsoil, which was stored in a separate location, from across the area. Under the supervision of an archaeologist the mechanical excavator, fitted with a flat bladed bucket, removed the subsoil down to the level at which archaeological features could be recognised. The location of these features was marked on the ground as they were exposed.

Following the removal of the overburden, the site was left exposed to the elements for a week to allow any further archaeological features to weather out (differential wetting and drying of the exposed ground accentuates the archaeological features enabling them to be observed more clearly). The extent and quantity of archaeological features was then assessed and an appropriate archaeological response was undertaken.

The Ordnance Datum height was calculated from a point adjacent to the radar installation, to the west of the site, which had a value of 26.15m OD.

The analysis phase of post-excavation was based around the creation of a phased matrix of the 1002 contexts.

The site finds and records will be deposited under the site code HOM98 in the Museum of London's London Archaeological Archive & Research Centre (LAARC) at the completion of this project.

#### 3.2 Results of the fieldwork

The watching brief/excavation consisted of a series of separate areas, numbered A to U consecutively. There follows a brief description of the archaeological deposits as recorded. The artefacts recovered from areas A–S have been examined and the dates have been included where applicable.

##### 3.2.1 Area A

Prior to the watching brief five trenches had been evaluated in this area (Tr 1, Tr 2, Tr 8, Tr 108, Tr 109, and Tr 115). Features recorded in these trenches comprised of five ditches and a pit.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1         | A    | 1,2,3,4  | 25.81               | 25.69             | 25.40         | 25.40 |
| 2         | A    | 5,6,7,8  | 25.91               | 25.62             | 25.52         | 25.52 |
| 8         | A    | 21,22    | 25.79               | 25.47             | -             | 25.38 |
| 108       | A    | -        | 26.05               | 25.67             | -             | 25.53 |
| 115       | A    | 285,286  | 25.83               | 25.44             | 25.26         | 25.26 |

This area measured 72m by 49m. The area produced evidence of four ditches [488], [490], [492] and [494] which ran across the south-west corner of the area. The ditches were all found on a north-west–south-east alignment. Ditch [492] contained a flint flake. Ditch [490] produced Iron Age pottery dated to 400 BC–AD 43. Ditch [494] contained fragments of Roman pottery and ceramic building material. These pottery fragments are from a Roman jar, that cannot be more closely dated than the Roman period, however the ceramic building material dates from no later than AD 160. A ditch, [496], running north-east–south-west pre-dated these four ditches but the exact age of this earlier ditch is not known. Ditch [488] was truncated by a large circular pit [486].

Approximately 20m to the north of these four ditches were two others, note quite parallel to each other or the four described above [476] and [480]. To the east of these features was a series of ditches than ran north–south across Area A. These ditches [461], [463], [465], [498] and [500] appear to date from later prehistoric period, [461] containing a small quantity of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pot. Ditches [461], [463] and [465] were found to be cut into a layer [466] of mottled grey brown silty clay which may have been lying in a shallow depression. This layer contained a flint flake. The layer was sealing ditch [469].

Two parallel ditches [476] and [480] appeared to form a driveway, which ran across Area A on a north-west–south-east alignment. The northern ditch [476], contained pottery fragments, which have been dated to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. Ditch [476] was cut by pit [478], which also contained Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery fragments within the fill.

A series of large pits found in this area have been dated by pottery in their fills, to the later prehistoric period. One of these pits [472] appears to be a large water hole probably associated with a field system, and contained Late Bronze Age pot. An undated gully [484] of uncertain function and date was recorded on the eastern side of Area A and an undated linear feature [484] was found on the western side of Area A.

A number of isolated features including posthole [421] and pits [457], [459], [470], [482], [509] and [511] were recorded in Area A. Tree root holes [453] and [455] were found to contain flint flakes. A cremation or deposit of pyre debris [504] contained frequent charcoal and burnt human bone fragments.

Modern features in Area A included [502] which appeared to be similar to a telegraph pole hole.

### 3.2.2 Area B

One trench was evaluated in this area prior to the watching brief, Tr 109. One ditch/plough mark was recorded on an east–west alignment [238].

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 109       | B    | 237,238  | 26.01               | 25.64             | -             | 25.55 |

Area B measured 20m by 40m. Four linear ditches, [425], [427], [429] and [431] ran across Area B on a north–south orientation. Three of the ditches, [427], [429] and [431], appear to be a continuation of ditches [461], [463] and [465] recorded in Area A. A flint flake and a fragment of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of ditch [461]. The pottery and ceramic building material recovered from ditch [425] would suggest that it is medieval (1050–1200) or post-medieval in date. All four ditches were filled by mottled dark grey brown fine silty clay. Both [427] and [429] contained

dateable material in the form of pottery fragments and flint flakes. The pottery has been dated to the later prehistoric period.

On the eastern side of the area a group of pits and postholes [433], [437], [439], [441], [443], [445], [447] and [449] was recorded.

### 3.2.3 Area C

Area C measured 50m by 30m. Three evaluation trenches were excavated in this area, Tr 97, Tr 104, and Tr 111, from which two features, [228] and [230] interpreted as ditches, were recovered.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 97        | C    | -               | 26.24               | 25.86             | 25.35         | 25.35 |
| 104       | C    | 227,228,229,230 | 26.05               | 25.77             | 25.43         | 25.43 |
| 111       | C    | -               | 25.98               | 25.63             | 25.52         | 25.42 |

The only features recorded in this area during the watching brief comprised of modern field drains and an undated tree root hole.

### 3.2.4 Area D

Area D measured 10m by 10m. One evaluation trench was excavated in this area, Tr 105, prior to the watching brief. This revealed a single feature interpreted as a posthole [226].

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 105       | D    | 225,226  | 26.37               | 25.98             | 25.83         | 25.83 |

During the watching brief in this area modern land drains and two undated postholes, [299] and [301], towards the eastern edge of the area, were uncovered.

### 3.2.5 Area E

Area E measured 21m by 20m. It was centred on evaluation trench Tr 106, which revealed what appears to be a heavily truncated cremation in a small Deverel-Rimbury bucket urn, of which only the base had survived [290].

| Trench No | Area | Contexts        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 106       | E    | 223,224,289,290 | 26.28               | 25.93             | -             | 25.77 |

A number of modern field drains were recorded and one was found to contain a fragment of residual medieval pottery, another Middle or Late Bronze Age pot. A modern plough mark [297] contained a residual fragment of Iron Age pottery. The only other feature recorded in Area E was a small undated pit [303].

### 3.2.6 Area F

Area F was irregular in shape with a maximum length and width of 65m by 41m. Six evaluation trenches were initially excavated in this area Tr 4, Tr 5, Tr 6, Tr 11, Tr 18, and Tr 117. Features recorded in these trenches comprised of a pit, several ditches and plough marks.



| Trench No | Area | Contexts                        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 4         | F    | 161,162,163,164                 | 25.87               | 25.47             | 25.16         | 25.16 |
| 5         | F    | 109,110,111,112,113,114,115,116 | 26.19               | 25.77             | -             | 25.66 |
| 6         | F    | 153,154,155,156,157,158,159,160 | 25.46               | 25.08             | -             | 24.98 |
| 11        | F    | -                               | 25.72               | 25.52             | -             | 25.36 |
| 18        | F    | 25,26,59,60                     | 25.78               | 25.42             | -             | 25.31 |
| 117       | F    | 253,254                         | 25.14               | 24.74             | 24.60         | 24.60 |

A series of modern field drains were recorded in the northern half of this area. To the south, however, a number of ditches were uncovered. The two earliest ditches were [409] and [413]. Ditch [413] was found to contain a flint flake. A right-angled 'enclosure' ditch [411] truncated these two earlier ditches, and contained fragments of Roman pottery, daub, and a flint blade. The enclosure ditch was truncated by an undated linear ditch [415].

### 3.2.7 Area G

Area G was irregular in plan and measured up to 85m north–south by 20m east–west. Seven evaluation trenches were excavated in this area, Tr 9, Tr 15, Tr 16, Tr 22, Tr 23, Tr 29, and Tr 30. A modern animal burial (pig?), two ditches and a pit were recorded.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 9         | G    | 15,16    | 26.02               | 25.62             | -             | 25.52 |
| 15        | G    | 23,24    | 25.93               | 25.63             | -             | 25.55 |
| 16        | G    | -        | 25.99               | 25.63             | -             | 25.53 |
| 22        | G    | -        | 25.77               | 25.41             | -             | 25.58 |
| 23        | G    | -        | 25.76               | 25.42             | 25.36         | 25.26 |
| 29        | G    | 35,36    | 25.58               | 25.33             | -             | 25.03 |
| 30        | G    | 33,34    | 25.80               | 25.48             | -             | 25.38 |

Area G contained numerous linear features, including two ditches [339] and [341], which formed a droveway cutting across the area on a north-west–south-east alignment. A flint flake and a small quantity of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of ditch [339]. The droveway was truncated by a number of features including three linear ditches [349], [351] and [335] and a circular feature [337] which was a large pit. This pit, which was 1.7m in length, did not contain any dateable material.

Other linear ditches in Area G included [319], [321] and [323]. Ditch [323] was undated but was stratigraphically earlier than ditch [319]. Ditch [319] contained a fragment of later prehistoric pottery. To the south of [319] was a short section of gully including its terminus. This gully, [321], did not contain any dateable material and its relationship with [319] cannot be proven. A number of isolated undatable features were also found in this area. These were a pit [393], two postholes [395] and [397] and an undated tree root hole [343].

The droveway was truncated by a pit, [357], and to the south by linear ditches [359] and [399]; both of which also cut across parallel ditches [355] and [365]. These two ditches which were on a north–south alignment. Ditch [371] was also on a north–south alignment and could possibly be associated with ditch [365], forming parallel ditches on either side of a second droveway. There is an uncertain relationship between the droveway and ditch [333]. Ditch [345], was found to be running parallel to ditch [333], was also undated.

An elongated feature, [361] thought to be a cooking pit was recorded. The pit, which contained fragments of burnt flint and burnt clay and undiagnostic prehistoric pottery,

truncated ditches [359] and [399] on the western side of Area G. The pit showed evidence of burning *in situ*.

Isolated features in the southern part of Area G include [347], [353], [363], [367], [369], [373], [375], [379], [381], [385], [387] and [389]. These features including pits and postholes which were found on average to be 0.45m in diameter. Two larger isolated features, [383] and [391], measured between 2m and 3m in length. Pit [383] contained Roman pottery and burnt flint. Further to the north was a large pit [377], which was undated, was 3m in length and was truncated by linear ditch [349].

### 3.2.8 Area H

Area H measured 10m by 20m. Evaluation trench Tr 10 was excavated in this area and revealed a single feature interpreted as a posthole.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|------|
| 10        | H    | 13,14    | 25.87               | 25.53             | 25.20         | 25.2 |

The watching brief revealed modern field drains, but no further archaeological features.

### 3.2.9 Area I

Area I was one of the smallest areas measuring only 20m by 7m. One evaluation trench was excavated in this area, Tr 14, which contained a posthole and a stake hole.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 14        | I    | 215,216,217,218 | 25.59               | 25.23             | -             | 21.24 |

The watching brief revealed a pit [407], which contained charcoal and burnt human bone: a token cremation or pyre debris.

### 3.2.10 Area J

This area measured 45m by 23m. Three evaluation trenches were excavated in this area Tr 25, Tr 32, and Tr 118. Two ditches were recorded.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 25        | J    | -        | 24.94               | 24.64             | 24.55         | 24.55 |
| 32        | J    | 219,220  | 25.15               | 24.77             | 24.76         | 24.76 |
| 118       | J    | 287,288  | 25.69               | 25.36             | 25.09         | 25.09 |

Several modern field drains were recorded in this area during the watching brief. Archaeologically significant features were limited to a linear ditch [405] running north-west-south-east across the centre of the area, and a truncated length of ditch running north-south at the southern end. The only other feature of note, apart from a couple of tree root holes, in Area J was an undated pit [403].

### 3.2.11 Area K

This area measured 20m in length and 10m in width. One evaluation trench was excavated in this area, Tr 35, in which was recorded a pit and a posthole

| Trench No | Area | Contexts        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 35        | K    | 209,210,211,212 | 25.46               | 25.18             | 24.99         | 24.99 |

During the watching brief an undated pit [417] and two tree root holes were uncovered.

### 3.2.12 Area L

This area measured 12m x 14m and was the southern continuation of Area G. Two evaluation trenches Tr 37 and Tr 129 were excavated in this area, but no features were noted at the time.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 37        | L    | -        | 25.67               | 25.38             | 25.28         | 25.28 |
| 129       | L    | -        | 25.61               | 25.29             | 25.15         | 25.15 |

A total of eleven features were recorded during the watching brief in this area. A north–south aligned ditch [601] appeared to be a continuation of ditch [371], recorded in Area G. This may have been the eastern ditch for a possible driveway, but no evidence for the continuation of the western ditch was uncovered.

To the east of ditch [601] was another linear feature [609]. Fragments of animal bone and flint flakes were recovered from the fill [608]. This feature appeared to form part of an enclosure ditch, which was aligned east–west. It turned through an angle of 90 degrees towards the south, at its western end, and then ran parallel with ditch [601]. It is possible that posthole [615] and pit [617] may be associated with the enclosure ditch, representing some form of ‘stock control mechanism’. A fragment of medieval pottery dating to between AD 1270–1500 was recovered from pit [617].

To the north of the enclosure ditch was a large feature interpreted as a shallow well or water hole [681], with an associated gully [605] to the south. The upper well edges [624] appeared to have been scooped out, eroded, or trampled down (eg by animals), and the fill consisting mainly of gravel might represent intentional backfilling. The upper fill in [624] contained large quantities of both Mid–Late Neolithic (Peterborough Ware) and undiagnostic prehistoric pottery, that in the lower part [681] moderate quantities of similar Neolithic pottery. This important assemblage, with a variety of decoration, is described further in section 4.5.4.1.2 (contexts [623] and [680]). This Neolithic pottery might possibly represent the date of the abandonment of the well, but is more plausibly residual in perhaps a Bronze Age feature, that may be associated with the driveways and enclosures. This was the case with one of the Middle/Late Bronze Age waterholes/sumps at Cranford Lane, which had truncated a Neolithic pit. The ‘sumps’ at that site were waterholes fed by the enclosure ditch system, possibly the case here if gully [605] were a remnant of ditches completely truncated elsewhere. (The waterhole/well and gully also bear a remarkable similarity to Late Bronze Age features found during the evaluation/excavation of the neighbouring field approximately 250m to the south-east (HOM91, Hoad 1991).

Other features recorded in this area comprised of two isolated postholes [611] and [613] and a tree root hole [607].

### 3.2.13 Area M

This area was located to the south-west of Area L and measured 14m<sup>2</sup>. One evaluation trench Tr 36 was excavated in this area and was found to contain a small pit of post-medieval date.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 36        | M    | 37,38    | 25.46               | 25.15             | 25.07         | 25.07 |

The watching brief in this area recorded a single feature [622], which was interpreted as either an isolated posthole or more likely a natural hollow.

### 3.2.14 Area N

Area N was irregular in plan, but at its greatest extent measured 100m north–south by 160m east–west. Eight trenches were excavated in this area, Tr 39, Tr 46, Tr 47, Tr 51, Tr 52, Tr 53, Tr 127, and Tr 128. Several ditches, three layers, and two postholes were recorded.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 39        | N    | 169,170,171,172 | 25.07               | 24.67             | 24.41         | 24.41 |
| 46        | N    | 61,62           | 25.12               | 24.79             | 24.49         | 24.49 |
| 47        | N    | 173,174         | 25.21               | 24.87             | -             | 24.76 |
| 51        | N    | 221,222         | 25.49               | 24.27             | 24.20         | 24.20 |
| 52        | N    | -               | 25.55               | 25.25             | -             | 25.16 |
| 53        | N    | 63,64,65,66     | 25.04               | 24.66             | 24.34         | 24.34 |
| 127       | N    | 281,282         | 25.16               | 24.89             | 24.80         | 24.80 |
| 128       | N    | 293             | 25.36               | 25.04             | 24.81         | 24.81 |

During the watching brief/excavation numerous features were recorded in this area, the earliest of which was located at the southern limit of the area. This was a large feature interpreted as a natural depression, and was filled with silt deposits [860]. Within these silt deposits three fragments of pottery of a Mid–Late Neolithic date were recovered. It was truncated by a later ditch [636].

Two parallel ditches [630] and [636] are interpreted as a droveway (a continuation of that recorded in Area G). The eastern ditch [630] was a continuation of ditch [339], and the western ditch [636/638], a continuation of ditch [341]. Eastern ditch [630] was recorded for a length of 45m and appeared to be a recut of an earlier ditch [645]. Both the cut and the recut finished with butt ends. Another north–south ditch [643] appeared to be the continuation of the eastern droveway ditch, suggesting several phases of layout and construction of the droveway. However the relationship between the cut and recut ditches and the north–south ditch remains uncertain. (Ditch [643] contained Late Bronze Age pot, and was recorded as being earlier than ditch [645], but it may be contemporary with ditch [636]). Finds recovered from ditch [630] comprised several flint flakes, a flint core, and a fragment of daub, and from fill [666] small quantities of both Iron Age and Romano-British pottery. The latter might date the last silting up of the ditch(es) or be intrusive.

The western droveway ditch [636] was recorded for a length of 42m, apparently . a continuation of [341], with no visible recuts. The only noteworthy facet of this ditch was a slight bend in an otherwise fairly straight ditch, suggesting that it may have been laid out respecting earlier features. Pottery sherds recovered from three of the excavated slots in this ditch were of a Late Bronze Age date, however a fragment of medieval pottery dating to between AD 1000–1100, was recovered from slot [650]. This was probably intrusive and may have originated from one of the later features, possibly [652], excavated in this area. Both of the ditches of the droveway extended into Area R to the south.

Truncating the western droveway ditch [636], in the area where it was slightly bent, were two irregular elongated oval pits [652] and [654]. Both features remain undated, but contained burnt material, which included fragments of burnt daub (recovered from [654]). These features may be associated with a small slot or gully [878] to the west. Interpretation of these features remains uncertain, but the burnt material suggests refuse from a hearth.

To the north of these features, and also apparently truncating the western droveway ditch was a large pit [634], some 2.4–3m across, containing Late Bronze Age pottery. This pit had regular sides and had appeared to have been left open for some period of time before being backfilled. It is possible that this was a sump/water hole, similar to those seen at Cranford Lane, or simply a later pit.

Located at the western edge of Area N was a large water hole/well, or perhaps quarry pit, [873]. It was irregular in plan and measured 12.50m x 8.50m x 1.90m deep. It contained numerous fills from which fragments of pottery of both Late Neolithic (Grooved Ware) and Late Bronze Age date (post Deverel-Rimbury) were recovered, along with burnt flint, daub, animal bone, charcoal, a ceramic loom-weight, a quern stone fragment, and a hammer stone. Amongst these artefacts were what are thought to be four ceramic mould and/or crucible fragments, two of which had traces of copper alloy adhering to them. A later watching brief undertaken during mineral extraction in this area (June 2002) recovered a fragment of wood from the base of this feature [1085], which could provide a radiocarbon date (if the residues on four pottery sherds were not suitable).

To the north of the quarry pit/water hole were a number of smaller pits [886], [861], [863], [864], [852], [866] and a posthole [850]. Pit [886] contained grey silty clay, but no dating evidence. Pit [861] was interpreted as a possible tree root hole.

Pit [864] was slightly different to the other pits. It was roughly rectangular in shape with rounded corners, and contained a residual worked flint tool (possibly Late Neolithic in date), with pottery sherds of a Mid–Late Neolithic date, burnt flint and daub. It may have been part of a later Neolithic occupation area, perhaps utilising a natural hollow or tree hole.

Feature [864] was truncated by pit [863] (which may in fact have been a series of features with identical fills that could not be separated during the excavation). This feature contained large assemblages of both Late Bronze Age and residual Mid–Late Neolithic pottery, the latter presumably derived from the earlier feature [864] below. A fragment of copper attached to a fragment of ceramic material was also found in this feature, assumed to be from the same activity as well/quarry pit [873]. Evidence of tip lines in pit [852] led the excavator to believe that the feature had been partially backfilled prior to it silting up by natural processes. Pit [866] was interpreted as a natural silted up hollow, which contained one fragment of Late Bronze Age pottery. The posthole [850] measured 0.28m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It contained no dating evidence and there was no obvious relationship between this feature and the ones around it.

A layer interpreted as a waterlain deposit [841], thought to represent a period of inundation, covered all of these features. This deposit was recorded for a length of 40m north–south (the extent of the excavated area) by 11m in width, had a depth of 300mm and was interpreted as a flood deposit. It contained Mid–Late Neolithic and Late Bronze Age pottery, with some early medieval (1050–1200) sherds that appear to be intrusive. Other artefacts recovered included burnt flint, flint flakes, and animal bone. Overlying this was another similar alluvial layer [840] containing quantities of burnt flint and flint flakes.

This waterlain material may have been the result of localised flooding during or after the Bronze Age, or possibly in the 11th or 12th centuries AD. Its extent contrasts with the much more extensive alluvial deposits recorded at Cranford Lane, which appear to have led to the abandonment or relocation of activity on that site in the Early Iron Age (Elsden 2008, 39). Study of the localised ground contours, might suggest why this alluvium should be relatively localised (even allowing for truncation from later agriculture)

Truncating these deposits was a small undated gully aligned north-west–south-east [880]; its alignment suggests that it may have been part of the Iron Age field system. This feature was truncated by an undated east–west ditch [833]. Ditch [833] lead into a north–south ditch [837] which appeared to be contemporary, and this ditch appeared to form part of an enclosure as it turned to the east at its northern end. Running east–west this ditch formed the northern part of the enclosure. It extended to and truncated the western driveway ditch [636]. At this point the driveway ditch may have formed the eastern boundary of the enclosure.

The western boundary of the enclosure formed by ditch [837] was truncated by a later feature interpreted as a north–south aligned ditch [628]. Pottery and ceramic building material fragments recovered from the fill of this ditch ranged in date from 1480 to 2001. Ditch [628] extended to the north beyond the limits of excavation, and along with ditch [837], to the south into Area R. However, no evidence for the continuation of either of these ditches was uncovered in this area, although traces were again seen in Area S.

To the east of the driveway ditches a series of three postholes [673], [675], and [677] were uncovered. To the north of these, two stake holes were excavated [699] and [671]. The function of these undated features is uncertain.

Also to the east of the driveway four features were seen to be in an alignment [665], [661], [659], and [657]. Two of these were identified as postholes [657] and [665], and a third was identified as a post pit [661] containing evidence for a further posthole [663]. The final feature was interpreted as a pit [659], but it may well have been another post pit. These features formed a straight alignment spread over a distance of 14m, and may be the remains of a fence. Dating evidence was recovered from [657] in the form of two sherds of pottery of Late Bronze Age date.

Truncating the eastern driveway ditch and extending north–south across the excavated area was a linear feature interpreted as a post-medieval or medieval gully [632]. It contained building material fragments dating from between 1150–1900, and was truncated by a modern field drain.

Other features in this area included an undated pit [679] and an isolated undated posthole [855].

### **3.2.15 Area O**

This area was located directly to the south of Area K, and was an extension of it. It was linear in plan measuring 21m by 4m, with an additional area on the south side, which measured 8m by 4m.

A total of 56 undated small stake holes features were excavated in this area, tightly packed together, making interpretation difficult. There appeared to be three parallel lines on a north-east–south-west alignment, each row being approximately 1m apart. The most northerly row comprised of five stake holes [707], [705], [691], [689] and [687]. The middle row comprised of five stake holes [765], [767], [769], [783], and [777]. The southern row comprised three stake holes [771], [773], and [775].

To the south of this a row of seven stake holes were on an east–west alignment extending over a distance of 5m, [785], [787], [789], [791], [793], [795], and [800].

To the east of these, what at first appeared to be a jumble of stake holes could possibly be interpreted as a rough semi-circle approximately 2.5m in diameter, with central stake holes. These comprised of features [763], [761], [751], [753], [749], [757], [759], [755], [745], [747], [743], [741], [739], [737], [733], [731], [715], [717], [719], [711], [713], [725], [727], [729], [721], and [723]. It is possible that these stake holes may have been all that remains of a small semi-circular structure.

It is possible that these stake holes may represent a small temporary enclosure and a structure such as a ‘shepherds shelter’, as well as other structures, such as sections of fence lines. They may well represent more than one period of activity, and further analysis of their form, layout, and fills may suggest structural groupings, whose alignments may in turn suggest association with dated features from other trenches.

### 3.2.16 Area P

Area P measured 20m by 20m with an additional extension examined on the western side, measuring 10m by 6m. One evaluation trench, Tr 49, was excavated to reveal a single feature, interpreted as a posthole.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 49        | 14   | 175,176  | 25.61               | 25.29             | -             | 25.18 |

Five features were recorded during the watching brief, two stake/postholes [802] and [804], a small gully [806], a natural tree root hole or animal burrow [808], and a linear ditch [798]. The ditch although linear was not straight, but seemed to curve to the north before turning south and extending beyond the limit of excavation. Flint flakes were recovered from its eastern terminal. This feature may have formed part of a small enclosure, but this interpretation is uncertain. No further dating evidence was recovered.

### 3.2.17 Area Q

Area Q measured 31m by 31m. One evaluation trench was excavated, Tr 56. This revealed two features, a ditch and a posthole.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts        | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 56        | P    | 179,180,181,182 | 25.55               | 25.20             | -             | 25.10 |

The watching brief uncovered a further nine features. Three undated postholes [810], [820], and [822] appeared to be isolated and of uncertain function. The remaining features comprised a line of six slightly elongated pits [812], [814], [816], [818], [843] and [845]. Three flint cores were recovered from the fill of pit [812], the remaining features are undated. They were laid out in a rough linear pattern, perhaps respecting a feature such as a field boundary.

### 3.2.18 Area R

Area R measured 20m x 210m extending across the entire width of the field. It was located immediately to the south of Areas N and Q. Nine evaluation trenches were excavated in this area, Tr 57–63, Tr 120, and Tr 127. Two postholes were the only features noted.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 57        | P    | -        | 25.98               | 25.12             | 24.89         | 24.89 |
| 58        | P    | -        | 25.51               | 25.07             | 24.92         | 24.92 |
| 59        | P    | -        | 25.6                | 25.23             | -             | 25.09 |
| 60        | P    | -        | 25.16               | 24.76             | 24.13         | 24.13 |
| 61        | P    | -        | 25.46               | 25.11             | 24.96         | 24.96 |
| 62        | P    | -        | 25.57               | 25.24             | 25.11         | 25.11 |
| 63        | P    | 183,184  | 25.65               | 25.31             | 25.14         | 25.14 |
| 120       | P    | -        | 25.43               | 25.10             | -             | 24.91 |
| 127       | P    | 281,282  | 25.16               | 24.89             | 24.80         | 24.80 |

The watching brief/excavation revealed numerous features in this area. Ditch [892] was aligned north–south and measured 20m in length. The ditch terminated at the south end where the base seemed to rise.

Towards the centre of this area was a small pit or posthole [940]. It contained no dating evidence and no clue as to its use or function. It was truncated by ditch [966], which extended for a length of 29m across Area R, on a north-east–south-west alignment. This ditch terminated in a rounded butt end to the north-east. This feature contained fragments of pottery of a Late Bronze Age date, worked and burnt flint. Two metres to the north-east of this ditch was a smaller ditch or gully [924]. This ditch extended for a length of 6.70m and may have been a continuation of/or related to ditch [966]. A small fragment of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery was recovered from the fill of the gully.

Truncating ditch [966] was a tree root hole [982] and a north–south ditch [926]. Ditch [926] was a continuation of the eastern driveway ditch recorded in Area G and N. The western driveway ditch was also evident in this area and was recorded as ditch [928]. Ditch [928] terminated with a rounded end approximately 4m from ditch [966]. A small flint flake was recovered from the fill of ditch [926] and a fragment of struck flint and fragments of burnt flint recovered from ditch [928].

Approximately 1m to the south of ditch [966] and on a similar alignment to the western driveway ditch was the start of another ditch [960]. Whether this was a continuation of the western driveway ditch or possibly related to it is currently uncertain and will require further spatial and stratigraphic analysis. Fragments of burnt flint were recovered from the fill, but no other artefacts were retrieved. However, this ditch truncated a small pit [962], which contained several fragments of Middle Bronze Age pottery.

Three postholes or pits were present in the slightly turned-in entranceway between driveway ditches [928] and [960]. A small square undated posthole [900] and a rounded posthole or pit [952] may have held posts for a gate or some form of stock control mechanism, c 4m wide. Posthole [952] was cut by a larger pit [954] containing only fragments of burnt flint, and probably represent alter activity post-dating the earlier structure.

To the east of the driveway was an enclosure ditch [898]. The enclosure was on a north-east–south-west alignment and three sides of this feature were evident in this area. The eastern side of the enclosure ditch terminated in a rounded end, suggesting that the enclosure was either open to the south-east, or that an above-ground barrier, perhaps a bank or a fence existed here, the evidence for which did not survive. The ditch produced only a small assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery, although the roughly trapezoidal shape is similar to late Romano-British enclosures at Cranford Lane.

The alignment of the northern side of this enclosure ditch was approximately 2m away and parallel to ditch [924]. This appeared to form a passage, perhaps used for some



form of livestock control and may have been associated with the droveway and other ditches to the west.

To the east of the enclosure was ditch [948]. This ditch extended for a length of 12.80m on a roughly NNW–SSE alignment, approximately parallel with the large droveway at this point. The ditch terminated in a butt end to the south which was near to the butt end of the eastern side of the enclosure, suggesting a possible relationship between these two features. Dating evidence from ditch [948] comprised of fragments of pottery of Mid–Late Neolithic date, and several flint flakes.

At the eastern end of Area R was a north-west–south-east aligned ditch [978]. This ditch extended across the area and measured 35m in length. This ditch ran parallel with the eastern side of enclosure ditch [898] and probably formed part of the same field system. Flint flakes, burnt flint and pottery of a Late Bronze Age date were recovered from the fill of this ditch.

At the western end of Area R two NNE–SSW aligned ditches, [998] and [974], appeared to be of a post-medieval date. The westerly ditch [998] contained a half brick, fragments of other ceramic building material, and animal bone. Pottery recovered from the fill was dated to AD 970–1100, and was probably residual. Ditch [974] contained no dating evidence, but had an unusual profile with uncharacteristic steep sides and a flat base. It also appeared to be associated with several NNE–SSW aligned plough marks (not recorded) which also appeared to be of a post-medieval date. Neither of these ditches were seen to the north in Area N.

A series of five related features comprised of four pits [984], [986], [988], and [992] and a shallow gully [1002]. In plan these features formed a circle 8m in diameter. The fill of these features comprised of a dark brown silty clay, with occasional charcoal flecks, (not the usual fill for a prehistoric/Saxon feature in this area). They survived to a depth of between 0.08m and 0.31m deep, but contained no dating evidence. It has previously been suggested that they represent the remains of part of a World War II anti-glider defence system, or an early radar platform, however, the irregular shapes and layout suggest that this is less likely than features produced by relatively modern agricultural planting or an ad-hoc structure(s).

### 3.2.19 Area S

Area S measured 30m x 210m extending across the entire width of the field. It was located immediately to the south of Area R. Eight evaluation trenches had previously been excavated in this area Tr 64–70. Features recorded comprised ditches, postholes, a cooking pit, stake holes and a pit.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts  | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|---|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 64        | S    | 53,54   | 25.75               | 25.37             | 24.78         | 24.78 |
| 65        | S    | -   | 25.42               | 25.04             | 24.86         | 24.86 |
| 66        | S    | 57,58   | 25.42               | 25.07             | 24.93         | 24.93 |
| 67        | S    | -   | 25.16               | 24.77             | 24.09         | 24.09 |
| 68        | S    | 67,68,69,70   | 25.34               | 24.99             | -             | 24.87 |
| 69        | S    | 205,206   | 25.48               | 25.12             | -             | 24.95 |
| 70        | S    | 187,188,189,190,191,<br>192,193,<br>194,195,196,197,198,<br>203,204 | 25.82               | 25.49             | -             | 25.35 |

During the watching brief/excavation a total of 404 context records were produced in this area (1003–1407 inclusive). All but one of the features were digitally recorded using PenMap.

In all a total of 112 features were recorded in this area, which comprised of thirty three ditches; thirty-nine pits; thirty-five postholes; one stake hole; one tree root hole; and two areas of animal disturbance.

At the eastern end of this area was a number of small undated pits/postholes [1004], [1006], [1008], [1010], [1012], and [1030]. These form two parallel alignment of four widely-spaced smaller post holes and two larger pits at right angles to Late Bronze Age ditch [978] in Trench R, with which they could, therefore, be contemporary.

Ditches and recuts [1103], [1099], [1020], and [1018], appear to have formed the east and southern part of a curved enclosed area, the remaining boundaries of which were not seen, but which measured at least 20m x 15m. Artefacts recovered from the fill of [1103] comprised of fragments of Mid–Late Neolithic and prehistoric pottery.

To the west of this was ditch [1091]. This ditch was aligned NNE–SSW and extended across the area. (It was not evident during the excavation of Area R, to the north, but was picked up again during the excavation of Area T to the south). It ran parallel with ditch [1121] to the west and appeared to form part of a larger field system. A fragment of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the fill of this ditch.

Ditch [1018] was truncated by pit [1014]. This pit contained orange brown fine silty clay from which a fragment of pottery of Late Bronze Age date was recovered.

Truncating [1091] was a north–south aligned ditch [1066] which contained three sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery. It continued the alignment of ditch [948] in Area R, and might form the western side of the curved enclosure [1103] etc. Located to the west of this ditch, and possibly related to it, were three small postholes [1080], [1082], and [1093]. All were undated.

Within the area enclosed by ditches [1103] etc, were a number of small pits/postholes [1028], [1038], [1040], [1042], [1044], [1046], [1048], [1050], [1052], [1054], [1056], [1058], [1060], [1087], and [1089]. Fragments of Late Bronze Age pot were recovered from pit [1048] and [1086], the remaining features although undated were possibly related. At the centre of this cluster of features was a pit [1062] containing the base of a Late Bronze Age pot, thought during excavation to be a severely truncated cremation, however, no bone was present and it is presumed to be a refuse pit or similar.

To the south of this cluster of features, and truncating ditch [1103], was a sump or waterhole/well [1101], integral with the enclosure ditch. It measured 3.96m by 2.14m and was excavated to a depth of 1.30m (it was not fully excavated). Fragments of pottery recovered from the fill were dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

To the south of well [1101] and to the east of ditch [1091] were three small pits or post holes, [1032], [1034], and [1036]. These appear to have been associated with each other and were interpreted as cooking pits. Fragments of struck and burnt flint were recovered from the pits and latter two contained sherds of Grooved Ware suggesting a Neolithic (or possibly later) date.

West of the cooking pits on the other side of ditch [1091] two small undated pits [1095] and [1097] were excavated.

Further west, ditch [1107] was aligned north–south, straighter than most of the ditches in the surrounding area, and may therefore have been post-medieval or modern. It measured 17.20m in length with a butt end to the north. (It was not seen in Area T to the south). No dating evidence was recovered from this ditch. To the west of this ditch were three pits [1115], [1117], and [1119]. The first two pits were similar, being 0.57m in diameter. Pit [1119] was sub-rectangular and contained fragments of worked and burnt flint and building material dated between AD 190–2001.

To the west of [1107] was a complicated multi-phase sequence of enclosure and droveway ditches, on several similar alignments, and continuing to the north and south into areas N, R, and T. Ditch [1121] was aligned NNE–SSW and extended across the area, into Area T to the south, where it was recorded as [1856]. (It was not seen in Area R, to the north). As mentioned above, this ditch was parallel to [1091] and may have formed part of the same field system. No dating evidence was recovered from the fill of this feature, but it was probably of a similar Late Bronze Age date.

To the west of [1121] was a short length of ditch, [1161]. This feature comprised a rounded butt end to the north, and was recorded for a length of 0.78m, before extending south into Area T, where it was recorded as ditch [1842]. A fragment of possibly Late Neolithic pottery was recovered from the fill. To the north of [1161] and probably associated with it was a short ditch, [1133]. It extended for a length of 6.0m, and had a rounded butt end to the south. A later feature truncated the northern end of the ditch. Pottery recovered from the fill of ditch [1133] included sherds of prehistoric date some of which was dated to the Mid–Late Neolithic.

Ditch [1133] was truncated by ditch [1187]. This ditch was aligned NNW–SSE and turned to the east through 90° at its southern end where it truncated [1133]. It was recorded for a length of 19.50m NNW–SSE, and 2.85m east–west. Ditch [1187] appears to form an extension of the trapezoidal enclosure recorded as [898] in Area R. Pottery recovered from the fill was dated to the Mid–Late Neolithic and the Middle Bronze Age.

Enclosure ditch [1187] truncated an earlier pit [1149], which contained pot fragments of Middle Bronze Age date. The ditch was in turn truncated by pit [1146]. This contained fragments of burnt flint, but no other dating evidence. Possibly associated with this were two pits to the south-west, [1163] and [1165]. Pit [1165] was thought to be a cooking pit, but was undated. Pit [1163] contained a fragment of prehistoric pottery.

Pit [1163] was truncated by part of the eastern droveway ditch [1151], running parallel with ditch [1187]. It was a continuation of ditch [926] in Area R, and measured 29m in length, extending into Area S to the south where it possibly continued as ditch [1903]. Pottery recovered from the fill of this ditch ranged in date from the Mid–Late Neolithic, the Middle Bronze Age, to the Late Bronze Age.

Ditch [1169] ran roughly parallel with ditch [1199] for 20m, and have been associated with it. They may have formed part of a droveway separate from the main north–south one represented by [1151] and [1177], or a different (local) phase of its construction. [1169] contained Mid–Late Neolithic pottery (Peterborough Ware), presumably residual.

Between the two droveway ditches was a feature interpreted as either a shallow pit or a layer, [1347]. This may have been an area of trample and a similar feature was recorded to the south in Area T, [1920]. A sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from this layer/fill.

To the west of ditch [1169] was ditch [1177], probably the western side of the main north–south droveway. This was on a slightly different alignment and appeared to be the

continuation of ditch [960] in Area R to the north. The ditch extended across the area to Area S and measured 31m. However, it was not evident in Area T. Three sherds of Late Bronze Age pot were recovered from the fill of this ditch. Ditch [1177] was truncated by ditch [1191] which was aligned WSW–ENE. It was recorded for a length of 13.00m before extending into Area T where it was again evident and recorded as [1657]. Pottery from the fill was dated to the prehistoric period, with one sherd thought to be of a Mid–Late Neolithic date. Ditch [1191] also truncated feature [1353], thought to be an animal burrow, from which a fragment of building material dated to between AD 50–1900 was recovered – however, if this was a burrow, it may well post-date the ditch, not pre-date it.

In turn ditch [1191] was truncated by ditch [1199], which was roughly parallel to ditch [1169]. Ditch [1199] extended across Area S and was recorded in Area T as ditch [1743], but was not evident in Area R, to the north. The ditch measured 29.90m and contained sherds of prehistoric pottery of which one sherd was thought to be of a Late Bronze Age date.

Ditch [1191] was also truncated by ditch [1189]. Only a short length, 2.65m, of this ditch was evident in this area, however it did continue to the south in Area T, where it was recorded as [1741]. The northern extent of the ditch finished in a rounded butt end, and although only a short length was evident it appeared to be parallel with ditch [1199]. No dating evidence was recovered.

Scattered across the central part of Area S were a number of smaller features, [1167], [1209], [1215], [1225], [1227], [1231], [1233], [1283], [1299], [1313], [1315], [1321], [1338], [1342], and [1345]. Of these [1209] was interpreted by the excavator as a modern pit. Feature [1345] a pit containing sherds of prehistoric pottery, some of which was dated to the Late Bronze Age. Feature [1315] was interpreted as a cooking pit and contained fragments of burnt clay. Features [1235] and [1342] were both undated pits. The remainder were isolated undated postholes. However, a number of postholes appeared to be associated and formed part of a possible fence line, on a ENE–WSW alignment, which continued into Area T to the south. These comprised [1211], [1213], [1217], [1219], [1221], [1223], [1229], [1323], [1325], [1327], and [1329]. Two other features [1334] and [1331] were identified as a natural tree root hole and an animal burrow. The tree root hole contained a sherd of Late Bronze Age pot.

A series of small ditches/gullies on an ENE–WSW alignment, running parallel to the fence line, and on a NNW–SSE alignment at 90° to it, were thought to be associated with each other. These comprised [1249], [1251], [1257], [1267], [1273], [1275], [1281], [1289] and [1295]. One of these features [1281] contained a sherd of medieval pottery dating from AD 1050–1150. Ditch/gully [1289] contained a sherd of post-medieval pottery dating from AD 1580–1800, and also a potsherd of Middle Bronze Age date. Ditch [1249] contained a small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery, which could also be residual. These features were thought to be contemporary with the fence line, and with ditch [1319], which was on a similar alignment to [1289]. Ditch [1319] was recorded for a length of 2.80m, extending south into Area T, where it was recorded as ditch [1633]. It contained two sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery. Two further ditch/gullies were also recorded in this area, [1305] and [1311]. Both were aligned NE–SW, but neither contained dating evidence.

Ditch/gully [1273] was truncated by a feature interpreted as a sump or well, [1340]. This well contained pottery fragments of a Neolithic or transitional Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age date, and of a Late Bronze Age date.

Feature [1243] was located to the west of ditch [1199], and truncated ditch/gully [1249]. It was aligned north–south and measured 17.30m by 3.50m wide. This was a wide shallow

feature interpreted as a hollow way. It contained small fragments of ceramic building material and appeared to be of a post-medieval date between AD 1480–1900.

Feature [1297] was interpreted as either a storage pit or a well, 1.5m in both depth and diameter. Unlike other wells usually found in this area, this feature had almost vertical sides and a flat base, and showed signs of a possible wattle lining. Apart from burnt flint fragments no other dating evidence was found in the fill.

Towards the western end of the site a linear feature [1363] was recorded on a north–south alignment. It measured 23.40m in length disappearing at the north end, where it was shallow, and extended towards Area T to the south. This ditch appeared to be on a similar alignment to ditches [626] and [837] in Area N, to the north, but was not evident in Area R. This discrepancy was possibly due to a combination of the depth of machine clearance, and the superficial nature of the feature. This ditch contained building material dated to between AD 1150–1900, and pottery of a medieval date c AD 1170–1350, which was similar to the dating from ditch [837].

Ditch [1391] was located at the western edge of the site. This ditch appeared to be the continuation of ditch [998] recorded in Area R. The ditch was recorded for a length of 30m, and finds recovered from the fill comprised of ceramic building material dated to between AD 1480–1900, pottery sherds dated to between AD 1580–1800, struck and burnt flint.

Ditch [1391] truncated two earlier ditches, [1383] and [1377]. Ditch [1377] was on a similar alignment to the ditch/gullies noted to the east and was probably associated with them. No dating evidence was retrieved from it. Ditch [1381] was similar to the smaller gullies seen to the east, and it to was on a similar alignment. It was truncated by a later pit [1381], which was undated.

Also at the western end of the site was a series of small pits and postholes, [1365], [1367], [1369], [1397], [1399], [1401], [1403], [1405], and [1407]. Pits [1397], [1399], [1401], [1403], and [1407] all contained redeposited topsoil and appeared to be of a recent date. Undated pit [1405] was wide and shallow, but irregular in plan. It contained a mixed deposit of mid grey brown fine silty clay, which was interpreted as a waterlain deposit, filling a natural hollow. Pit [1367] was undated. Posthole [1365] contained a fragment of Late Bronze Age pottery. Feature [1369] was interpreted as a tree root hole.

### 3.2.20 Area T

Area T was located immediately to the south of Area S. It measured approximately 50m wide and extended for 200m east–west across the width of the field. The eastern 60m of this area extended around the side of a large soil mound and increased the width of the area to the south to 120m. A total of twenty evaluation trenches had previously been excavated in this area, Tr 71–84, Tr 87, Tr 88, Tr 91, Tr 92, Tr 125, and Tr 126. Features recorded in this area during the evaluation comprised ditches, pits and postholes. Of particular note is the fact that the majority of the trenches evaluated along the eastern end of this area failed to pick up traces of the archaeological deposits, in most cases by being located in the gaps between the clusters of features recorded in the later excavation.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts    | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 71        | T    | 107,108     | 25.40               | 25.13             | -             | 25.03 |
| 72        | T    | -           | 25.48               | 25.14             | -             | 25.02 |
| 73        | T    | -           | 26.02               | 25.74             | -             | 25.08 |
| 74        | T    | 83,84,85,86 | 25.89               | 25.40             | 24.89         | 24.89 |

|     |    |   |       |       |       |       |
|-----|----|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 75  | T  | 73,74,75,76,77,78,79,<br>80,275,276,277,278 | 25.91 | 25.60 | -     | 25.49 |
| 76  | T  | -   | 26.04 | 25.69 | -     | 25.58 |
| 77  | T  | -   | 26.34 | 25.99 | -     | 25.84 |
| 78  | 16 | -   | 25.50 | 25.11 | -     | 25.01 |
| 79  | 16 | 95,96                                       | 25.42 | 25.03 | 24.91 | 24.91 |
| 80  | 16 | -   | 25.50 | 25.15 | -     | 25.05 |
| 81  | 16 | 81,82                                       | 25.05 | 24.66 | 24.43 | 24.43 |
| 82  | 16 | -   | 25.24 | 24.92 | 24.74 | 24.74 |
| 83  | 16 | -   | 25.36 | 25.00 | 24.88 | 24.88 |
| 84  | 16 | -   | 25.75 | 25.45 | 25.29 | 25.29 |
| 87  | 16 | -   | 25.27 | 24.96 | 24.82 | 24.82 |
| 88  | 16 | -   | 25.60 | 25.25 | 25.05 | 25.05 |
| 91  | 16 | -   | 25.39 | 25.05 | 24.89 | 24.89 |
| 92  | 16 | -   | 25.59 | 25.25 | 25.15 | 25.15 |
| 125 | 15 | 265,266,267,268,269,<br>270,271,272         | 25.57 | 25.29 | 25.15 | 25.15 |
| 126 | 15 | -   | 25.89 | 25.60 | -     | 25.49 |

This area was stripped and excavated in four phases, prior to ground reduction and gravel extraction. The excavation of the area started at the western end of the site and progressed eastwards. The following summary will describe the features in a similar order. A total of 518 interventions were recorded in this area comprising pits, postholes, ditches, stake holes, gullies, animal burials, layers, wells natural channels and tree root holes.

Located towards the northern edge of the site, at the western end, was a series of features interpreted as postholes. In all a total of 48 postholes were excavated. These were interpreted as part of a fence line, and comprised [1409], [1411], [1417], [1419], [1421], [1423], [1425], [1427], [1581], [1583], [1585], [1449], [1451], [1453], [1455], [1457], [1459], [1461], [1463], [1465], [1467], [1469], [1471], [1473], [1475], [1479], [1481], [1483], [1485], [1487], [1489], [1541], [1491], [1493], [1495], [1497], [1499], [1501], [1503], [1505], [1507], [1509], [1511], [1513], [1515], [1517], [1519], and [1521]. Other postholes were excavated adjacent to, but not on the alignment of the fence line, and were possibly associated with it. These comprised [1413], [1415], [1577], [1429], [1579], [1431], [1607], [1611], [1613], [1615], [1617], [1619], and [1621]. This fence line was on an ENE–WSW alignment, and appeared to be a continuation of the fence line recorded to the north in Area S. Both [1471] and [1511] contained small quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery, which may well be residual.

Crossing this fence line on a NNE–SSW alignment was the fragmentary remains of ditch [1589]. This was on a similar alignment to ditch [974] in Area R, ditch [108] in Tr 71, and ditch [2438]/recut ditch [2217] in Area U to the south. Although this ditch was not seen immediately to the north in Area S it did run parallel to ditch [1391] in this area, and probably formed part of the same field system.

Along the western edge of Area T was a group of features interpreted as pits, [1591], [1593], [1595], [1597], and a posthole [1599]. No dating evidence was recovered from the fill of these features. Postholes [1433], [1435], [1437], and [1439] were located to the east of the pit group. They were between 2–4m apart and appeared to be associated, possibly forming another fence line. To the south another group of pits was recorded. These comprised [1717], [1719], [1721], [1723], [1725], [1731], and [1733]. Ceramic building material in pit [1719] was dated to 1200–1800.

In the south-west corner of Area T a short length of ditch was recorded, [1751]. This was on a NNW–SSE alignment, extending beyond the limits of excavation to the west and south. No dating evidence was recovered from the fill. This feature may be related to other ditches on a similar alignment, such as [1635] to the east and [1289] in Area S.

Other features at the western end of Area T comprised small pits and isolated postholes. These included pits [1445], [1525], [1527], [1535], [1541], [1543], [1601], [1603], [1709]/[1755], and postholes [1441], [1443], [1529], [1537], [1545], [1547], [1551], [1555], [1641], [1701], [1703], [1705], [1707]. Pit [1445] contained a small quantity of undiagnostic pottery dated to 2000–600 BC.

Of the remaining features recorded at the western end of Area T, [1523] and [1539] were identified as modern animal burials. Bones evident in the fill were thought to belong to pigs, and were not excavated as a health and safety precaution. Six tree root holes were also noted in this area, of which only two were recorded, [1531], [1549]/[1695] and [1553].

Located along the southern edge of Area T on an ENE–WSW alignment was ditch [1763], which was recorded for a length of 8.20m. This ditch was on the same alignment as ditch [1898] to the east. Ditch [1898] was recorded for a length of 32.40m. Both of these ditches appeared to be related to enclosure ditch [1645], which contained a small assemblage of Iron Age pottery. This ditch originated in the vicinity of the break between ditches [1763] and [1898], and extended in a NNW–SSE direction for 20m, before curving to the east on an ENE–WSW, running parallel to [1898]. Ditch [1645] extended for a further 46m before appearing to finish in a rounded butt end. However, it is possible that this feature continues to the east, and it may be related to ditch slot [278] recorded in Tr 75.

Eight metres to the north of enclosure ditch [1645] was a parallel ditch [1625], which contained only undiagnostic prehistoric pottery. This was recorded for a length of 50m, extending into Area S, where it disappeared. Three metres to the north of ditch [1625] was another parallel ditch [1657]. This measured 21m, and was probably a continuation of ditch [1191] in Area S. Ditches [1625] and [1657] probably formed the boundaries of a droveway, aligned ENE–WSW, which branched off from the main droveway. These features appeared to be related to similar features in Areas R and S, and may form part of a related field system.

Feature [1771] was interpreted as a ditch remnant. The relationship between this feature and ditch [1763] was uncertain. Their intersection had been removed by later cut [1890]. Ditch [1771] was recorded for a length of 0.60m, and may have been related to ditch [1635] to the north. Ditch [1635] was thought to be a possible boundary ditch, and was a continuation of ditch [1321] in Area S. Ditch [1635] was recut by later ditch [1633], both of which truncated ditch [1625]. These ditches were thought to be associated to the short ditch/gully [1289] recorded in Area S.

A large feature interpreted as a well or water hole, [1890], truncated ditches [1763] and [1771]. This feature measured 3.90m by 3.50m and was excavated to a depth of 2.30m. The fills of this well contained numerous fragments of Late Bronze Age and Middle or Late Bronze Age pottery, including what was thought to be a complete, although crushed pot. Wood, burnt and struck flint and animal bone, which included the skull of a cow, were also retrieved.

Similar features in this area were also interpreted as wells. These included [1769], [1854], and [1872]. Well [1769] truncated enclosure ditch [1645]. It measured 4.20m by 2.80m and was excavated to a depth of 2.00m. Well [1854] measured 5.00m by 5.85m, by 2.30m deep, and contained Late Bronze Age pottery. Well [1872] measured 2.80m by 2.96m, by 1.29m deep, and contained Late Bronze Age, and Middle or Late Bronze Age pottery. (This feature had been noted during the evaluation (Tr 75, [80]), where it was incorrectly interpreted as a ditch).

In the central part of Area T a series of ditches were recorded: [1806], [1814], [1826], [1903], and [1917]. Ditches [1814] and [1826] were interpreted as the continuation of the western driveway ditch. These ditches were recorded for a length of 38.30m, and were thought to be a continuation of ditch [1169], in Area S. Ditches [1903] and [1806] appeared to represent a continuation of the eastern driveway ditch, being a continuation of ditch [1151] in Area S. They were recorded for an overall length of 39.70m. Within the southern terminal of this eastern driveway ditch a complete Late Bronze Age pot was recovered, which may have been a deliberately 'placed' deposit. The eastern driveway ditch was interrupted at this point. Further to the south it appeared again to continue as ditch [1917], which was measured for a length of 9.90m, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south.

To the west of this driveway four ditches were recorded [1741], [1743], [1882], and [1940]. These were thought to be part of the driveway ditches and it is possible that these ditches may be evidence for the shifting alignment of the driveway over time. However, ditch [1741] produced a small quantity of Roman pottery, which might be intrusive, or indicate that at least some of these ditches belong to a later enclosure system than the prehistoric ones. Ditch [1743] was aligned roughly north–south, curving slightly to the south-west. This ditch was a continuation of ditch [1199], seen in Area S. It was also noted during the evaluation, (Tr 74 [86], Tr 125 [272], and Tr 81 [82]). In Tr 81 ditch [1741] can be seen to intersect ditch [1743]. Ditch [1743] was recorded for an overall length of 49.00m. Ditch [1741], a continuation of ditch [1189], was aligned north–south and was recorded for a length of 43.60m. This ditch was also recorded during the evaluation (Tr 74 [84] and Tr 125 [268]). Ditch [1940] was aligned NNE–SSW and was recorded for a length of 7.60m. It is possible that this feature is the same as ditch [270], which was recorded in Tr 125, and a continuation of ditch [1856]. On a similar alignment to the south was ditch [1882], which measured 8.00m in length, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south.

Between the driveway ditches was a layer, [1920], interpreted as an area of trample, which contained numerous fragments of burnt and struck flint and pottery dated to the Late Bronze Age. It measured 21.80m north–south by 8.30m east–west, and overlaid enclosure ditch [1645], the eastern driveway ditch [1903], and the western driveway ditch [1814].

To the east of the driveway, ditch [1836] was recorded for a length of 27.80m. This was a continuation of ditch [1161] recorded in Area S, and was on a similar alignment to 'enclosure' ditches [1133] and [1187] to the north, and ditch [1874] to the south. It was truncated by enclosure ditch [1645] and by ditch [1866]. Ditch [1866], also located to the east of the driveway, was on an approximate east–west alignment, curving to the south at each end. It was recorded for a length of 17.65m. This ditch was possibly related to enclosure ditch [1645].

Located to the north of enclosure ditch [1645] was a feature interpreted as a cooking pit [1565]. This pit measured 1.75m by 2.00m, by 0.30m deep. It contained fragments of burnt flint and daub, and Late Bronze Age pottery.

Other features recorded in the central portion of Area T comprised a series of isolated or unremarkable features which included pits [1559], [1573], [1561], [1563], [1792], [1820], [1834], [1884], [1892], [1894], [1896], [1905], [1928], [1948], postholes [1685], [1567], [1569], [1571], [1575], [1667], [1681], [1683], [1729], [1761], [1780], [1850], [1909], [1924], [1926], [1932], [1934], ([74] and [78] in Tr 75), pit/tree root holes [1745], [1747], [1822], and gullies [1796], [1800], [1802], [1804], [1832], [1880], and [1915]. Pit [1928]



contained Middle Bronze Age pottery, postholes [1569] and [1575] Middle or Late Bronze Age pot, [1729] Iron Age pot, and [1559] undiagnostic prehistoric pot.

Truncating the eastern driveway ditch [1903] and enclosure ditch [1836] was ditch [1856]. This was aligned NNE–SSW and was a continuation of ditch [1121] in Area S. Ditch [1856] was recorded for a length of 18.00m, and terminated in a rounded butt end. It is possible that ditch [1940] to the south may be a continuation of this ditch. Parallel to ditch [1856], and to the east was ditch [1958]. This ditch was recorded for a length of 29.50m, and was a continuation of ditch [1091] in Area S. On the same alignment to the south was ditch [1946], which measured 5.15m in length. This is thought to be part of the same feature. It is possible that this ditch formed part of the same field system as [1391] located at the western end of Area T.

To the east of [1946] a series of associated ditches were recorded on the same NNE–SSW alignment, [2099], [2018], [2113], [2163], [2155], [2801], [2807], [2813], and [2817]. Ditch [2018] was recorded for a length of 32.70m. It kinked slightly to the west at its southern terminus. Here there was a break in the ditch. It continued along the same alignment to the south as ditch [2099], which was recorded for a length of 12.20m. At this point there was another break in the ditch before it resumed as ditch [2113], which was recorded for a length of 4.50m. These ditches appeared to form the western boundary ditch for another driveway. The gap between ditches [2018] and [2099] appears to have been blocked at a later date by gully [2143]. The eastern boundary for this driveway was made up of two ditches, [2155] and [2163]. Ditch [2155] was recorded for a length of 16.90m, and was truncated by later ditch [2163], recorded for a length of 40.20m. A layer of trample [2115] was recorded in between these driveway ditches. Pottery from these ditches was of Late Bronze Age, and Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

Along the eastern side of this driveway was a collection of pits comprising [2020], [2075], [2077], [2079], [2081], [2213], [2117], [2175], and [2177]. Undiagnostic Romano-British and Middle or Late Bronze Age pottery was present in [2020], and flint fragments were recovered from other pits.

In the south-east corner of Area T an interrupted ditch on the same NNE–SSW alignment was recorded. This was made up of four individual ditches, [2801], [2807], [2813], and [2817], which extended over a length of 34m extending beyond the limits of excavation to the east and south. These are thought to form part of the same field system as that of the driveway above.

To the south of the driveway, and roughly parallel with the interrupted ditch, was a series of undated postholes: [2763], [2765], [2769], [2771], [2773], [2775], [2777], [2681], [2565], [2779], [2781], [2693], [2691], [2783], [2701], [2703], [2705], [2715], and [2711]. These postholes probably represent the line of a fence, associated with the field system and the driveway.

Undated ditches [1974] and [2000] were recorded on an ENE–WSW alignment. Ditch [1974] was recorded for a length of 7.30m and ditch [2000] for 7.40m. These were thought to be part of the same feature, only the base of which survived, in places, below the level of truncation. To the south a small ditch/gully [2061] was also on a similar alignment. These ditches were orientated on the same alignment as ditch [1625] and may be associated.

Truncating the western end of ditch [1974] were two pits, [1968] and [2069]. Both pits contained large struck flint assemblages, and waste flint scatters, and [1968] produced a small quantity of Grooved Ware (which may be residual). To the north of these pits, and

potentially associated were three features interpreted as a pit [1964], a posthole [1966], and a cooking pit [2071] which contained a further sherd of Grooved Ware.

Two extensive features [2049] and [2051] were recorded on a north–south alignment at the eastern edge of Area T. Feature [2049] measured 2.10m in width and was recorded for a length of 67m. Feature [2051] measured 2.90m in width and was recorded for a length of 75.70m. Initially these features were thought to be the remnants of ridge and furrow, however they were truncated by features of a prehistoric date. Machine watching, during the ground reduction in this area, revealed that the features were in fact natural hollows or channels in the underlying gravels.

Truncating the eastern channel [2051] was a linear ditch [2191]. This was aligned north–south at its northern end, but turned to the south-east, prior to extending beyond the limit of excavation to the east. It was recorded for a distance of 33.90m. It is possible that this ditch represents the remains of an enclosure located further to the east. This ditch was adjacent to feature [2211], which was interpreted as a small spread of material from the fill of ditch [2191], created possibly during ground stripping on the site. To the south ditch [2191] also truncated a small pit [2203]. Gully [2209] adjacent to ditch [2191] may have been associated with it, but this is uncertain.

Ditch [2131] truncated the natural channel [2049]. This ditch extended towards the west on a WNW–ESE alignment for a distance of 8.55m. It had a recut [2149] which extended on the same alignment for 18.50m. This recut ditch truncated the eastern driveway ditch [2163], and ditch [2165] – which contained Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pot. The recut ditch [2149] was itself truncated at its western end by a large pit [2101]. After a brief interruption, this ditch continued on the same alignment, recorded as ditch [2091], which measured 5.60m. Ditch [2091] was truncated by the western driveway ditch [2099]. To the south of recut ditch [2149], between the driveway ditches [2163] and [2099], was a short length of ditch [2125] – which contained further Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pot. Whether this was associated with ditch [2165] to the north, or whether it was a blocking ditch across the driveway remains uncertain.

Also truncating the western driveway ditch [2018] was a well or storage pit [2004]. This feature was excavated to a depth of 1.68m and contained numerous fragments of, daub, burnt clay, struck flint, charcoal and a dozen sherds of Late Bronze Age pot.

Three features recorded on the eastern side of Area T three were identified as cooking pits [1960], [2022], and [2707]. The fills of these features contained pottery fragments, burnt clay/daub, and flint, and soil samples were taken for further analysis from the latter two features. The pottery from [2022] dated from the Late Bronze Age, and that from [1960] from that date or the Iron Age.

Three features were thought on site to represent the remains of individual cremations: [2161], [2179], and [2673]. These were dispersed across the south-eastern part of Area T, and only [2179] contained pottery fragments: from a Grooved Ware pot. All three features contained charcoal and burnt flint, from which 100% samples were taken, but proved to contain no human bone. It appears likely that they were pits or postholes containing domestic refuse.

In the south-east corner of Area T a large flat-based feature [2665], measuring 3.20m by 2.60m and 0.20m deep is interpreted as a potential sunken featured building. Two post/stake holes were evident in the base of this feature [2822] and [2824], and a small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the fill. Adjacent to one end of the feature was a posthole [2569] that could be for an end-post (R. Cowie, MOLA, pers

comm). In the area around this feature were numerous groups of postholes, which could be associated, or belong to other periods, and which are described below.

A series of postholes comprising of [2545], [2533], [2535], [2539], [2537], [2541], and [2543], were uncovered adjacent to the sunken featured building. These appeared to form a short fence line, possibly forming a windbreak, on its western side.

Further to the west was another grouping of post and stake holes consisting of: [2639], [2605], [2641], [2521], [2519], [2527], [2623], [2547], [2631], [2577], [2563], [2575], [2523], [2529], [2531], [2571], [2551], [2573], [2579], [2561], [2567], [2559], and [2669]. These features may represent the remains of a timber structure, but its exact nature is as yet undetermined. Whether it was related to the sunken featured building or to the fence line to the south is also uncertain.

A rectangular four-post structure located to the north-west of the jumble of postholes described above was formed by a group of four postholes: [2625], [2621], [2627], [2629]. Two contained small quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery. It measures c 1.9m x 1.4m between centres, well within the range of nine or more similar Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age structures seen at Cranford Lane, but slightly smaller than the similar number of Early and Middle Iron Age features at Stockley Park, which measured c 2.0 to 3.4m between centres (Elsden 2008). Such prehistoric structures are often interpreted as grain stores, but are likely to have had diverse functions.

To the east of the sunken featured building was another group of features comprising of undated pits, post and stake holes. These consist of [2553], [2719], [2721], [2671], [2723], [2555], [2729], [2731], [2743], [2759], [2733], [2735], [2727], [2725], [2749], [2751], [2737], [2753], [2755], [2757], [2747], [2745], [2741], and [2739]. Further analysis is required to interpret what type(s) of structure(s) these postholes represent.

A series of five postholes to the south of the sunken featured building: [2689], [2697], [2709], [2699], and [2761] may form the remains of a fence line, aligned east–west. Another series of postholes comprising [2791], [2795], [2793], and [2797] was recorded at the southern edge of the site, in the south-east corner. Again these features appear to form part of a fence line, aligned NE–SW.

A total of four undated pits and postholes consisting of [2525], [2687], [2683], and [2685] were located to the south-west of the sunken featured building.

A small group of pits and postholes comprising features [2197], [2171], [2183], [2185], [2821], and [2183], were recorded towards the south-eastern edge of Area T. These features contained fragments of struck and burnt flint, but no dating evidence. To the north of these a series of six more undated postholes consisting of [2819], [2181], [2139], [2141], [2137], and [2135] were thought to be a fence line.

Numerous small isolated postholes were recorded throughout the south-east corner of this area.

Running along the northern edge of Area T on a WNW–ESE alignment was a large ditch [1980]. This was parallel to ditch [2257] in Area U, and may be associated with it and other features recorded in Area U. However, [1980] contained small quantities of pottery dated to 1550–1900, and ceramic building material dated to 1200–1800. This material could be intrusive, but probably indicates a post-medieval date for this ditch. It was truncated at its eastern end by ditch [1982], which in turn was truncated by ditch [1978] – both undated. Ditch [1978] appeared to be associated with ditches [1984] and [1990], which were on a similar alignment and also appear to be of a more recent/modern date.

### 3.2.21 Area U

Area U was located immediately to the south of Area T, to the west of the large soil storage mound. It measured approximately 100m N–S by 68m E–W. A total of seven evaluation trenches had previously been excavated in this area, Tr 85, Tr 86, Tr 89, Tr 90, Tr 93, Tr 122, and Tr 123. Features recorded in this area during the evaluation comprised ditches, pits and postholes.

| Trench No | Area | Contexts                      | Ground Level (m OD) | Brickearth (m OD) | Gravel (m OD) | Base  |
|-----------|------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 85        | 16   | 103,104,105,106               | 25.37               | 25.09             | 25.23         | 25.23 |
| 86        | 16   | -                             | 25.42               | 25.10             | 24.88         | 24.88 |
| 89        | 16   | 279,280,283,284               | 25.25               | 24.92             | 24.82         | 24.82 |
| 90        | 16   | -                             | 25.38               | 25.10             | -             | 25.02 |
| 93        | 16   | -                             | 25.47               | 25.09             | 25.00         | 25.00 |
| 122       | 16   | 1007,255,256,257, 258,259,260 | 25.32               | 24.93             | 24.81         | 24.81 |
| 123       | 16   | 261,262                       | 25.36               | 24.96             | 24.78         | 24.78 |

There was only a thin subsoil, and it was noted that modern ploughing extended down to the surface of the natural gravel over the majority of the area. This area was left exposed for a period of one month, in order to enable features to show up through the weathering process. A total of 360 contexts were recorded including ditches, pits, post- and stake holes, and tree root holes.

The most striking features were two sets of parallel ditches running east–west across the area. The northernmost group consists of [2321], [2360], [2331], [2255] and possibly [2241]. The alignment of these ditches suggest that they form part of a droveway. These were wide and shallow and a segment of this droveway has disappeared, probably as a result of plough damage. Ceramic building material suggests a medieval or post-medieval date (1400–1800).

A parallel ditch [2257] to the north of this droveway was similar in nature, being wide and shallow. Other ditches on similar parallel alignments included [2428], [2619], and possibly [2436] (containing 1200–1800 ceramic building material). These features may be associated with ditch [1980] in Area T, forming part of a related ?post-medieval field system.

A series of undated east–west aligned ditches crossed the southern half of Area U. These comprised [2461], [2408], [2481], [2489], [2503], and [2477]. They formed a droveway, with the eastern ditches [2461], and [2408], being recut by later ditches [2457] and [2517] respectively (the latter containing a small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery). The northern ditches of this droveway truncated an earlier ditch [2481], and the position of these features suggests a continuation of use of the droveway over a period of time. Layer [2455], was truncated by the droveway ditches. This was interpreted as a subsoil layer, but may have been an area of trample, surviving in a dip in the natural gravels.

A series of undated postholes in and around this droveway may be associated. These features comprised [2483], [2420], [2416], [2465], [2452], [2418], [2454], [2448], [2444], [2446], [2450], [2412], [2410], and [2414]. These may represent the remains of a fence and gateway(s), used for stock control. These features may be related to a change of land use at the western end of the area, where a later enclosure ditch way blocked the droveway.

A small enclosure, c 15m across, was uncovered at the western end of the droveway. It comprised of two undated curved ditches, [2499] and [2601], separated by a pit/posthole

[2593] and posthole [2595]. This enclosure post-dated the droveway. It is possible that the southern boundary of this enclosure reused the earlier droveway ditch [2489]. However, this remains uncertain as both ditches extended beyond the limits of excavation at this point.

Drainage or boundary ditch [2591] was located towards the centre of this area. It was aligned NE–SW, and measured 52m in length. It was truncated by the medieval/post-medieval droveway ditches [2360] and [2321] and by ditch [2390], suggesting a relatively early date – potentially part of the prehistoric enclosure systems.

Ditch [2390] extended across the site on an ENE–WSW alignment. The ditch had a rounded terminal to the east, where there was a gap of approximately 2m, before the ditch continued again as [2350]. This was probably a field boundary or drainage ditch and it was on a similar alignment to ditch [1898] in Area T. A small quantity of ceramic building material dated to 1200–1800.

Ditch [2287] appeared to be one of the latest features in this area as it truncated all other features; it contained ceramic building material dating from 1200–1800. It extended across the area on a NNW–SSE alignment and was recorded for a length of 59m. It was interpreted as a field ditch and was on similar alignments to [2340], and [2348], to the west. It was not evident in Areas S and T to the north, but it could possibly be associated with ditches [1391], [1589], [1958], and the eastern droveway [2018] and [2163].

In the north-west corner of this area a cluster of undated features was present. These comprised of parallel ditches [2430], and ditch [2438]. The latter had a recut, [2217]. Three stake/postholes [2305], [2307], and [2309] were recorded in the base of ditch [2438] which may signify posts set in the ground to mark the alignment of the ditch prior to it being created. This ditch appeared to be a continuation of ditch [1589] in Area T, and [108] in Tr 71.

Feature [2432] was located towards the eastern edge of Area U. It was roughly circular in plan measuring 5.70m by 5.80m, by 0.38m deep. This was interpreted as the fill of a natural hollow. Adjacent to it was a small, undated pit [2394].

Four features interpreted on site as cremations were recorded in the north-east corner of this area, close to the edge of the soil mound. These comprised [2291], [2289], [2235], and [2334]. No pottery (eg cremation urns) was present, and soil samples taken from all of these features produced no human or animal bone, and again they may have been refuse or other pits.

In the south-west corner of the site two undated features were recorded, [2633] and [2637]. These were interpreted as either pits or tree root holes.

Throughout the remainder of this area was a scatter of unremarkable features interpreted as postholes, small pits, and tree root holes.

### **3.3 Summary of the archaeological sequence**

At the current basic level of analysis, there appear to be at least five broad phases of activity, which will probably be sub-divided further when analysed in greater detail.

#### **3.3.1 Neolithic**

There is a scattering of evidence for Middle and Late Neolithic activity, mainly in the form of pottery (550 sherds), both Grooved Ware and Peterborough Ware. Whilst much of this

appears to be residual in later features (notably driveway/enclosure ditches and wells), some may be *in situ*, suggesting contemporary activity, including two ‘cooking’ pits, a possible occupation area, and possibly two wells. The two ‘cooking’ pits and two other pits also produced large assemblages of flintwork including diagnostic Neolithic pieces (see 4.9.2). The cooking pits contained small quantities of calcined sheep-sized bone, and one produced fragments of ox-sized bone. Some of the concentrations of residual Neolithic pottery may also suggest the general location, if not the nature, of further activity.

These features suggest what was perhaps temporary or intermittent low-level occupation on the site in the 3rd and 4th millennia BC.

### 3.3.2 Middle and Late Bronze Age and Iron Age

In keeping with many sites in West London, there is virtually no evidence of Early Bronze Age activity, with the exception of some 18 sherds from a collared urn or urns, apparently residual.

There is somewhat better evidence for the Middle Bronze Age, although much of the pottery also appears to be residual. By analogy with other sites in the surrounding area,<sup>1</sup> it is quite possible that the enclosure and driveway system had its origin in the Middle Bronze Age, but that periodic cleaning out of the ditches has removed most or all of the fills dating to that phase, leaving mostly later material.

Alternatively, it may be that the enclosure system was actually founded in the Late Bronze Age, and that the Middle Bronze Age material is derived from activity that preceded the ditched enclosures (as seen in an early phase of Middle Bronze Age activity at Cranford Lane). Further analysis of the enclosure system and associated dating evidence should assist in consideration of its origin.

The main feature of the Home Farm site was a driveway that extended over 300m, but which was not seen in the north-western part of the site (Area A) – more plausibly because of truncation rather than a sharp change in alignment. The open area excavations in the southern half of the site demonstrated that this was part of a wider field system, with co-axial fields c 30–40m across. Several entranceway and short sections of ditch appear to be stock control mechanisms (cf Pryor 1996) and require further examination. Surprisingly for this area, there is also a limited assemblage of cattle, sheep, horse, and dog bone attesting the species present, and two loom weight fragments provides some evidence for use of animal products.

This orientation is shared not only by Later Bronze Age features immediately to the north at Holloway Lane (HL80–87), but as far as Cranford Lane some 2.6km to the east (Elsden 2008), and Terminal 5 c 1.8km to the south-west (Lewis et al 2006, ch. 3, Fig 3.11). This appears to be part of an extensive enclosure system of fields and driveways that originated in the later Bronze Age and extended over the whole of the Heathrow area, if not further afield on the Taplow Terrace (Yates 2001).

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<sup>1</sup> EG Cranford Lane, where a similar lack of *in situ* Middle Bronze Age material led to a preliminary conclusion that the enclosure and driveway system was of Late Bronze Age date. Further analysis of the layout and spatial relationships, in particular of a phase of activity pre-dating the enclosure system, indicated that the system was of Middle Bronze Age origin. Repeated cleaning out of the ditches over a lifespan of perhaps a thousand years is believed to be responsible for the earliest surviving ditch fills containing a mixture of Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery.

The driveway and enclosure system appears to have undergone a series of modifications and additions through the Late Bronze Age and potentially the Iron Age. Further analysis of the stratigraphy, layout, and dating evidence is required to define this – taking into account the likely problems of residuality and intrusion. Preliminary assessment indicates that minor driveways led off the main route, and that its location, but not orientation, may have shifted during its life. Two enclosure ditches which currently appear to be part of this late prehistoric system apparently suppress parts of the main driveway.

However, there is very little or no Middle to Late Iron Age pottery attesting to activity on the site in those periods. If this reflects a real phenomenon, and not simply truncation of the later fills of features such as ditches, it is a lacuna similar to that observed at Cranford Lane (Elsden 2008, 45), and possibly other sites (including Stanwell (O'Connell 1986) and Long Lane/Cargo Point (Knight in prep)). This effect appears to be more widespread in the Thames Valley, for example on 'Taplow' Gravels south of the Thames in the Wandle Valley (Howell 2005, 50).

At least two enclosures appear to be later additions to the system, but locally respecting parts of the earlier system. These have a little Iron Age pottery, and more Late Bronze Age material, but the latter, or both, might be residual.

There is scattered evidence for activity contemporary with the driveway and enclosure system, including eight or more wells and sumps (water holes) many of which are integral with the driveway and enclosure ditches, and at least four so-called cooking pits filled with charcoal and burnt flint, whose function remains enigmatic (ten similar features are undated). Of the many post holes and pits on the site, a large number are undated, but further spatial analysis may suggest association with this phase, including at least one four-post structure, type conventionally interpreted as granaries, but which may also have had numerous other functions.

There are three features with charcoal and small amounts of cremations burnt human bone. One of these was contained within the truncated base of a Deverel-Rimbury vessel, probably a small bucket urn, and was probably a plough-damaged urned cremation. The other two could have been similarly truncated un-urned cremations, (perhaps from token deposits of human remains rather than full cremations), or have simply been pits containing pyre debris.

Despite the wells and cremations, there is no clear evidence for any associated settlement. In particular, there are no eaves drip gullies (although locally, these would not be expected to have survived truncation, at least for Bronze Age structures), nor identified (as yet) rings of post holes. Although this may well be the result of truncation, it is also possible that the occupation areas lay outside the area of the site (or potentially between the trenches in the northern half of the site). Analysis of the distribution of the 38kg of burnt flint may help to identify occupation, or at least activity, sites, but will need to take into account the multi-period nature of the site, and that some of this material may well be of Neolithic and/or Iron Age origin.

One suggestion of non-agricultural activity is the small assemblage of mould and crucible remains from bronze casting. They bear similarities to artefacts recovered on a site nearly 3km to the east at Cranford Lane (CLF94, Elsdén 2008, 40). The similarity of the findspot: a large well or waterhole, is notable; at Cranford Lane the well was one of two flanking a major entranceway into the enclosure system, and the relationship of the Home Farm finds to the contemporary activity and enclosure layout will need to be investigated. In addition to the industrial aspect, these remains may also imply the presence of a settlement in the vicinity.

On the western side of the site, an extensive layer of silting contained both Neolithic and Late Bronze Age pottery (and probably-intrusive medieval sherds). It sealed the well/water hole producing the mould/crucible fragments, and other Late Bronze Age and Neolithic features. This may have been the result of localised flooding, and has a parallel in a more extensive silt layer which covered the lower-lying part of the site at Cranford Lane, and which appears to have been the result of localised conditions at the end of the Bronze Age or early in the Iron Age (Elsden 2008). However, at the latter site, the origin of the flooding, the nearby River Crane, was obvious. Here, more detailed research into the topography is required to explain how this material might have accumulated.

### **3.3.3 Romano-British**

It is difficult at the current stage of analysis to clearly identify the limited Romano-British activity on the site. If the driveway/enclosure system continued in use through the Iron Age, it appears possible that it, or at least the later elements, could also have continued in use into the start of the Roman period.

The very small assemblage of Roman pottery, 33 sherds is mostly so abraded as to defy precise dating. Much of this may well be residual in medieval or later features. Three sherds tentatively suggest a presence in the area pre-AD 70, but the remainder, only generally assigned to the Roman period, could derive from later activity. Similarly, there are four ceramic building material fragments that might be Romano-British, with only one closely dated: to AD 50–160.

This suggests a very limited Romano-British presence in this area, but potentially some continuity from the pre-conquest era, before later abandonment of the driveway and enclosure system. However, it is equally possible that the Roman material from these features derives from silting accumulating some time after their abandonment. Consideration of the condition and assemblage size of the pottery and building material, along with the nature of the deposits in which they were present, may indicate which of these options is the more likely.

This lack of Romano-British activity is mirrored on the adjacent Home Farm site (HOM88 and HOM91, Elsden 2008), but contrasts strongly with other sites in the surrounding area, such as Holloway Lane, Wall Garden Farm, and Imperial College Sports Ground (Elsden 2008, Crockett 2002).

### **3.3.4 Saxon**

There is no pottery or other dating evidence to attest Saxon activity on the site until at least AD 800, if not much later. However, what on stylistic grounds may well be a sunken featured building (R. Cowie, pers comm) was present in the south-eastern corner of the site. Numerous stake holes and postholes adjacent to the possible sunken featured building may represent contemporary structures and occupation activity.

The putative building produced only a small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery, which might, however, be residual. Other sunken featured buildings from the dispersed settlement in the surrounding Harmondsworth/Sipson area have produced at least some Saxon dating evidence, albeit in two cases this was a few sherds of pottery, and in one only loom weight fragments (Cowie & Blackmore 2008, 61–89).

It is therefore uncertain, but plausible, that this represents a Early or Middle Saxon occupation site, forming an additional part of the dispersed settlement identified by



Cowie and Blackmore, as the eastward spread in the 6th and 7th centuries of widely spaced occupation (from 5th-century settlements along overlooking the River Colne).

### **3.3.5 Medieval and post-medieval**

A small amount of medieval pottery suggests some activity on the site from the 12th century onwards. Some of this material is derived from ditches that share a north–south orientation with post-medieval features. This is distinct from the orientations of the prehistoric droveway–enclosure system. The pottery also dates two pits.

Whilst this pottery may be residual in post-medieval field ditches, it suggests limited activity, perhaps simply the manuring of fields with material from farms or villages in the surrounding area, such as Sipson. However, further analysis of the ditches and other medieval and post-medieval features may indicate that some of the ditches defined mediaeval fields or other boundaries.

A series of ditches dated to the post-medieval period provide evidence of field system, or perhaps more than one system of differing periods, which includes what have been interpreted as droveways (or perhaps simply lanes between fields?) and a hollow way. In addition there are a several pits of post-medieval date.

Some of the limited dating evidence has wide date ranges, but suggests some activity from the 16th century through to the 19th century and later. Further analysis is required to separate any different phases of the post-medieval field/ditch systems, and if possible to date them more closely. They could then be compared with historic maps, to determine whether they correspond with known boundaries or not. Provisionally, a number seem to have a distinctive north–south or east–west orientation, which unsurprisingly reflects the Bath Road some 300m to the south of the site.

The assemblage of 47 post-medieval pottery sherds, and 71 ceramic building material (brick and peg tile) fragments, suggests that, as for the medieval period, activity was limited to agricultural practice in fields some distance from the associated settlements. This is supported by maps such as Rocque's survey of Middlesex in 1754.

## **3.4 A comparison of the excavation and evaluation results**

When comparing the results of the watching brief/excavation with the results of the evaluation there appears to be only a limited correspondence between the features recorded. The main reason appears to be the differences in the time of year, weather conditions, and length of time that the ground was exposed.

The evaluation was undertaken during a five to six week period in the height of summer, with little or no rain. Given the size of the site and nature of the deposits this is not ideal for uncovering features on brickearth. The limited size of the trenches and the varying depths of the subsoil would also have contributed to this.

The watching brief/excavation was undertaken over longer periods, at various times throughout the year, but with noticeably different results due to rain and weathering, which enabled features to be seen more easily. Even during the excavation it was evident that the smaller features, such as post and stake holes only showed up after protracted weathering. However, the evaluation did identify archaeological features across the site, and did indicate the overall concentration of features towards the south and centre of the site.

## **4 Quantification and assessment**

### **4.1 Post-excavation review**

The context sheets have been checked, the stratigraphic relationships established for each context and a stratigraphic matrix produced. This matrix needs to be checked and updated as a result of re-numbering of some of the features excavated. The contexts have been sub-grouped although a sub-group matrix has yet to be compiled. Context and sub-group information has been entered onto the MOLA Oracle database.

The survey data and drawn record has been digitised in relation to the Ordnance Survey National Grid within AutoCAD. The old ArcView project in which this digitised data currently resides will need to be transferred to an ArcGIS project (the GIS software now used by MOL Archaeology) for the analysis stage. The photographic register needs to be cross-referenced and indexed. The final stage of analysis will involve the establishment of a site-wide group structure and the creation of a land-use sequence and diagram.

## 4.2 The site archive and assessment: stratigraphic

Table 1 Stratigraphic Archive HOM98

| Stratigraphic Archive HOM98 |   |          |                                      |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Type                        | Description                                   | Quantity | Notes                                |
| <b>Contexts</b>             | Evaluation, excavation/watching brief – HOM98 | 2843     |                                      |
| <b>Trench Sheets</b>        | Evaluation                                    | 129      | Trench record sheets for Tr 1–Tr 129 |
| <b>Area Sheets</b>          | 'A4' sheets                                   | 5        | Areas: C, D, E, F, H                 |
| <b>Plans</b>                | 'A4' 1:100 (no. of sheets)                    | 32       | Areas A–K                            |
|                             | 'A4' 1:50                                     | 73       | Areas L–R                            |
|                             | 'A4' 1:20                                     | 1        | Area S                               |
| <b>Sections</b>             | 'A4' 1:20                                     | 6        |                                      |
|                             | 'A4' 1:10                                     | 6        |                                      |
| <b>Matrices</b>             | Context and sub-group                         | 5        | Digital and paper copies             |
| <b>Photographs</b>          | Colour slides                                 | 31       | Total number of slides               |
|                             | Colour prints & negs                          | 0        |                                      |
|                             | B/W   | 0        | Contact prints                       |

## 4.3 Site archive and assessment: finds and environmental

Table 2 Finds and environmental archive

| Finds and environmental archive   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Building material</b>          | One larger and one smaller crate, 3 boxes (some material discarded after assessment).<br>Total 9.63kg<br>Three shoe-boxes of bulk material retained  |
| <b>Prehistoric pottery</b>        | 1617 sherds; 14.343kg  |
| <b>Roman pottery</b>              | 33 sherds; 144g.   |
| <b>Saxon and medieval Pottery</b> | 32 sherds, c 23 ENV, 109+ g  |
| <b>Post-medieval pottery</b>      | 47 sherds, 15 sherds, 12 ENV, 81+ g  |
| <b>Accessioned finds</b>          | 14 objects (including 11 ceramic, 2 stone, 2 iron, 1 coal and 1 glass); all have been stabilised by conservation and packed in suitable containers for archiving. Excludes flint, BM, CTPs |
| <b>Burnt and worked flint</b>     | 1,393 pieces worked flint (6 standard boxes) and 4,255 pieces burnt flint (11 standard boxes)  |
| <b>Animal bone</b>                | 4.149kg, estimated 720 fragments of hand-collected and wet-sieved animal bone (4 standard archive boxes)   |
| <b>Human bone</b>                 | 85g  |
| <b>Bulk soil samples</b>          | 55 dry flots + 2 wet flots   |

## 4.4 The building materials

Table 3 Building material

| Material           | Count | Count as % of total | Weight (kg) | Weight as % of total |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Stone              | 19    | 4                   | 3.01        | 32.0                 |
| Daub               | 359   | 79                  | 3.98        | 41.3                 |
| Roman ceramic*     | 5     | 1                   | 0.48        | 5.0                  |
| Post-med ceramic** | 71    | 16                  | 2.09        | 21.7                 |
| <b>Total</b>       | 454   |                     | 9.63        |                      |

\* Four fragments could be post-Roman

\* Includes some which may be medieval

### 4.4.1 Introduction/methodology

All the building material has been recorded using the standard recording forms used by the Museum of London. This has involved fabric analysis undertaken with a x10 binocular microscope. The information on the recording forms has been added to an Oracle database.

### 4.4.2 Stone building material

Much of the stone building material can not be given a reliable date. Two main stone types are present, fine grained sandstone and a hard quartzite.

The fine sandstone from the upper fill of a well (context [1871], sgp 829) has a flat worn surface, suggesting it may be part of a quern stone. Other fragments of sandstone were found in a pit fill (context [1967], sgp 876). These appear to be just building rubble although one has a curved edge. It is uncertain whether this curved edge is man-made or natural.

The quartzite from the site is in the form of pebbles which were found in pit fills (context [1967], sgp 876, context [2114], sgp 876). One (context [2114]) is partly red in colour suggesting it may have been burnt.

Other stone types present comprise a black and pink coloured pebble, possibly a type of granite – but this has still to be confirmed, from a quarry pit (context [871], sgp 334), two pieces of ferruginous sandstone, possibly Roman in date, from a pit fill (context [1118], sgp 466) and what may be a flint cobble from the fill of an animal burrow (context [1352], sgp 582).

Found unstratified was a piece of fine, grey veined white marble measuring 154mm in length by 22mm in thickness. The smoothed top surface suggests it may have been used as paving. It is probably 18th–19th-century in date.

### 4.4.3 Daub and fired clay

A large amount of daub was recovered from various Neolithic and Bronze age pit, well and ditch fills. Much of this was made from fine micaceous silty clay, some of which has occasional, or more numerous quartz sand inclusions. A scatter of flint (up to 3mm) was noted in daub from one pit fill (context [1562], sgp 855).

Some pieces were recovered from the fills of undated and Neolithic cooking pits (context [1031], sgp 424; context [1033], sgp 425; context [1035], sgp 426; context [1314], sgp 564 and context [2706], sgp 1240). A few fragments were also collected from another possible cooking pit (context [1564], sgp 1142). This may not all be building material, although one piece (context [1031], sgp 424) does show a flat face and a faint wattle impression. This it is perhaps from a sheltering structure built around the cooking pit. A small number of other pieces preserve faint wattle impressions and a good deal, and not just from the cooking pit, has been burned, or part burnt. The only example with clear wattle marks was found in the upper fill of a prehistoric well (context [1853], sgp 820). This is from a wattle and daub structure with vertical oval/round shaped wattles with a horizontal wattle set between the uprights. Regrettably, most of the other daub is either so small or so abraded it is not possible to say if derives from any sort of structural feature.

#### **4.4.4 Roman ceramic building material**

The only piece of building material which can be reliably dated to the Roman period came from a ditch fill (context [493], sgp 214). This was a piece of Roman brick belonging to the fabric group 2815. It shows a sunken margin – a result of its manufacturing method – some 25mm wide. The piece is slightly abraded. Such materials were made in London and at various kiln sites situated between London and St Albans in the period AD 50–160.

Fragments of what may be Roman tile were recovered from a pit fill (context [2220], sgp 1000); two ditch fills (contexts [2326], sgp 1053, [2337], sgp 220) and a fill of a gully slot (context [2322], gp 1051). These may all, however, be small fragment of medieval/post-medieval roofing tile.

#### **4.4.5 Saxon building material**

None.

#### **4.4.6 Medieval building material**

There is no obvious medieval building material on the site, but it is possible analysis of the pottery and stratigraphy may indicate a medieval date for some of the roofing tile.

#### **4.4.7 Post-medieval ceramic building material**

##### *4.4.7.1 fabrics*

2276, 2586, 3062?, 3032, 3046, 3094, 3217?

##### *4.4.7.2 forms*

###### *Roofing tile*

2276, 2586, 3062?, 3094

A considerable number of peg tiles were recovered, none of which were glazed. This suggests a post-medieval date, as does the fairly uniform thickness (10–15mm, most are 13–15mm).

There are a number of definite post-1480 peg tiles in fabric type 2276 with characteristic fine moulding sand. These were recovered from various ditch fills (context [626], gp 1392; context [1236], sgp 525; context [1240], sgp 527; [1360], sgp 586; [1384], sgp 598; [1386], sgp 599, [1388], sgp 600; [1392], sgp 602 and [1394], sgp 603). Two of these have the remains of round nail holes.

There are no nail holes, or other signs of attachment, for the roofing tiles in other fabrics (types 2586, 3062?, 3094). It is assumed these too are peg roofing tiles, but other types, such as nib tiles, cannot be entirely discounted.

A fine sandy tile from the fill of a ditch (context [2270], sgp 1025) may also be roofing, although the extremely small fragment size (1gm) makes it impossible to be certain.

#### *Brick*

Fabrics 3032, 3046, 3217?

A fill of a ditch fill (context [995], sgp 406) produced a fairly sandy brick (fabric 3046) with a thickness of over 55mm. This is difficult to date, but is probably 16th or 17th century. A small fragment of brick, again with no full dimensions preserved, was recovered from another ditch fill (context [1236], sgp 525). This is in fabric 3032 which was introduced in the London area c 1670 and persisted down to the end of the 19th century.

A final brick was recovered from the unexcavated fill of another ditch (context [2359], sgp 1067). This brick, which is characterised by a scatter of black iron oxide inclusions (up to 4mm) in a sandy clay matrix, may be a red version of fabric 3217. Bricks in this fabric are very rarely found in London, which suggests the Home Farm example may have come from a brickyard in the vicinity of Harmondsworth. The other two bricks may originate from brickyards situated closer to London.

#### *Drain pipe*

A fragment of a 19th–20th century drain pipe was recovered from the fill of a ditch slot (context [627], sgp 1393).

### **4.4.8 Assessment work outstanding**

None.

## **4.5 The prehistoric pottery**

### **4.5.1 Introduction**

An important collection of prehistoric pottery was recovered from c 150 contexts during the evaluation and excavation of the site (minimum 1617 sherds, 14.343kg; probably c 1700 sherds, c 15kg). Dating spans the Late Neolithic to Iron Age (Table 4), with a small but significant collection of early material and a larger amount dating to the Middle Bronze Age, but little that is definitely of Late Iron Age date. Some groups have mixed dating, which needs to be made clearer at analysis stage, but as shown in Table 4, most finds date to the Late Bronze Age and can be classed as post Deverel-Rimbury.

*Table 4 The distribution of the pottery by current date range*

| <b>Period</b>                       | <b>Contexts</b> | <b>Subgroups</b> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Mid-Late Neolithic 3400-2800 cal BC | 3               | 3                |
| Mid-Late Neolithic 3400-2000 cal BC | 14              | 14               |
| Late Neolithic 2900-2000 cal BC     | 6               | 6                |
| Late Neolithic/Bronze Age 2900-1000 | 1               | 1                |
| Bronze Age 2000-600 cal BC          | 1               | 1                |
| Early Bronze Age 2000-1600 cal BC   | 2               | 2                |
| Middle Bronze Age 1600-1000 cal BC  | 16              | 16               |

|  |            |            |
|--|------------|------------|
| Middle/Late Bronze Age 1600-600 cal BC         | 17         | 17         |
| Late Bronze Age 1000–600 cal BC                | 59         | 59         |
| Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age 1000–400 cal BC | 4          | 4          |
| Iron Age 600 cal BC–AD 43                      | 13         | 13         |
| General prehistoric/mixed context              | 14         | 14         |
| <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>150</b> | <b>150</b> |

The assemblage is predominately composed of undiagnostic body sherds, but a few form types can be identified that characterise the different periods. The sherds range in size from small crumbs to large sherds (average weight c 13g). On the whole the material is in average condition for its date, but a few cremation vessels are more complete, although the rims (or bases of inverted pots) have been removed by ploughing. The pottery was scattered over a wide area, mainly in ditches and pits; other than the Grooved ware, no definite links have been noted between contexts that can aid the dating of the material.

#### 4.5.2 Methodology

The pottery was recorded in stages following the different phases of excavation work, and as a result it has been studied by three different specialists. The present report incorporates comments and text from the two earlier assessments (Rayner 2001; Thompson 2007). Thanks are due to Jon Cotton for comments on the assemblage as a whole. In all cases the sherds were examined macroscopically and using a binocular microscope (x 20), and recorded on proforma sheets by fabric, form, decoration and condition; quantification is primarily based on sherd count and weight, although the estimated number of vessels was also noted where possible. The fabric codes are as far as possible in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1997), but also in keeping with the Museum of London system. An attempt was made to separate the fabrics into sub-types, and where possible sherds were recorded on paper and bagged separately as appropriate. In the different stages of work, however, numerous different fabrics were identified (see below), and this needs to be streamlined at the analysis stage. Almost all contexts were given a spot-date based on the range of fabrics and forms present in it. In some cases the contexts were recorded in such a way that multiple dates are possible, but for the latest phase of work the finds were simply recorded as prehistoric. This means that the date either gives a long range to indicate the mixing of periods, or it give the latest range based on the relative quantities of different types of pottery. Either way, this to some extent obscures the range of material present. In all cases the dating is based on the period of use; deposition could have been rather later. As noted at Perry Oaks (Lewis et al 2006, 32), the dating of the undiagnostic flint-tempered wares is particularly problematic, and it is quite possible that some date to the Neolithic rather than the Bronze Age.

The data for the entire assemblage has been converted to an Excel file with details of context type, dating and comments on residuality; sherds currently selected for illustration are also identified in this file and the list is not repeated here.

#### 4.5.3 The fabrics

The assemblage mainly consists of predominantly flint-tempered fabrics, made using crushed calcinated flint. The finds from the earlier stages of work were divided on the basis of size and frequency of the flint inclusions. In the first stage of work six fabric codes were created (FLIN, FLIN1, 2, 3, FLIO, FLOR; Rayner 2001), while in the second stage 21 further categories were defined (Thompson 2007), 14 with varying coarseness and quantities of flint and quartz inclusions (FLIN4-17), 2 with varying quantities of leached shell voids, 1 with flint and iron rich inclusions, 1 with organic temper and 4 with

very fine quartz and other inclusions. Some of these fabric divisions have been allocated a specific period. These detailed fabric descriptions are listed below.

In the third stage of work the finds from the first phases were examined in order to understand the fabric coding, but it was found that while the sorting on the basis of inclusions was logical, fabrics with different clay matrices were included in the same fabric code. As there was not time to resolve this or to create a physical type series and apply it to the remaining sherds, and as it was not known how the material would be published (ie combined with other sites or not), it was decided to record the fabrics from context [1444] onwards in the broadest terms: mainly flint-tempered (some iron-rich), quartz tempered, grog-tempered and calcareous.

As shown in Table 4, the pottery appears to be from four periods: the Middle to Late Neolithic, the Late Neolithic, the Middle Bronze Age, and the Late Bronze Age. The fabric definitions are by necessity broad to account for the diverse variations typical of prehistoric pottery.

**FLIN:** This fabric code is used for flint-tempered sherds too small to be classified further, and finds from context [1444] onwards.

**FLIN1:** Hard fired fabric with fine to medium, sparse inclusions of crushed, calcined flint. Two fabric types, one with a very fine silty matrix, and occasional larger rounded quartz grains, the other with a sand-free matrix. Wall thickness ranges up to 6mm. The external surfaces of some of the thinner-walled vessels have been burnished.

**FLIN2:** Hard fired fabric with coarse, sparse to moderate inclusions of crushed, calcined flint up to 6mm in length. Two fabric types, one with a very fine silty matrix, and occasional larger rounded quartz grains, the other with a sand-free matrix

**FLIN3:** Hard fired fabric with fine to coarse, moderate inclusions of crushed calcined flint up to 3mm in length. Silty matrix with abundant fine sand, fine flint; cf FLIN13.

**FLIN4:** Hard fabric; very dense matrix; rare very coarse flint (up to 5mm), some pink flint; very rare medium quartz. Laminated appearance in section, but possibly this is due to the thinness of the sherds. Neolithic.

**FLIN5:** Hard fabric; dense to slightly silty matrix; sparse coarse to very coarse flint (up to 14mm), some pink flint; very rare medium quartz. Larger quartz inclusions occur in sherds from [859]. ?Neolithic.

**FLIN6:** Hard fabric, dense to silty matrix; sparse to moderate medium to coarse flint (up to 5mm); very rare medium quartz. Probably the same as FLIN1 silty and FLIN17.

**FLIN7:** Hard fabric; dense matrix; sparse coarse to very coarse flint (up to 9mm); rare coarse to very coarse voids (most likely to be leached shell). Possibly a sub-category of FLIN5. Neolithic.

**FLIN8:** Hard fabric; dense fine silty matrix; a finer and a coarser variant, the latter with granular texture; common to very common medium to very coarse quartz; very coarse sparse flint (up to 14mm).

**FLIN9:** Hard fabric; dense slightly silty matrix; sparse coarse to very coarse (up to 5mm) flint; sparse medium to coarse quartz. Neolithic.

**FLIN10:** Hard but crumbly fabric; dense slightly silty matrix with very fine quartz; common to very common coarse to very coarse (up to 7mm) flint. Middle Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury).

**FLIN11:** Hard but crumbly fabric; dense matrix with common coarse to very coarse (up to 6mm) flint; rare coarse to very coarse iron rich inclusions. Middle Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury). [1064] has abundant rounded iron oxide up to 2mm across.

**FLIN12:** Hard fabric; silty to sandy matrix; coarse to very coarse flint (up to 5mm); sparse to moderate medium to coarse quartz; occasional iron rich inclusions. Late Bronze Age.

**FLIN13:** Hard fabric; silty matrix with very fine quartz; moderate well sorted medium to very coarse flint; rare medium to coarse quartz; rare iron rich inclusions. Crunchy texture. Cf FLIN3 but with more abundant coarser flint. Late Bronze Age.

**FLIN14:** Soft fabric; silty matrix; coarse to very coarse flint (up to 5mm); rare coarse quartz and iron rich inclusions. Possible that these fabrics are slightly vitrified as they are very light. Late Bronze Age.

**FLIN15:** Hard fabric; dense matrix; common to very common very sorted fine to coarse (up to 7mm) flint; rare medium to coarse quartz. Late Bronze Age.

**FLIN16:** Hard fabric; dense to silty matrix with fine quartz; rare to sparse coarse to very coarse (up to 6mm) flint; rare medium to coarse quartz; rare iron rich inclusions. One base with coarse flint grit on underside. Late Bronze Age.



**FLIN17:** Hard fabric; silty matrix; rare sparse to coarse (up to 2mm) flint; sparse to moderate medium to coarse quartz; rare iron rich inclusions. Thin-walled fineware fabric, as silty variant of FLIN1. Can be burnished. Late Bronze Age.

**FLIO:** This fabric is similar to FLIN2 but with the addition of distinctive iron rich red inclusions.

**FLIO1:** Hard fabric; silty matrix with very fine quartz; rare to sparse coarse to very coarse flint; very rare coarse quartz; sparse coarse to very coarse iron rich inclusions.

**FLOR:** This fabric is again similar to FLIN2 but with the addition of coarse organic matter visible as voids in the fabric and elongated impressions on the surface.

**GROG:** Grog-tempered.

**QUFL:** Quartz sand and flint tempered.

**QU:** Quartz sand-tempered (coarser than SAND).

**QUOR:** Quartz and organic temper.

**QUARTZ1:** Hard fabric; silty matrix with very fine quartz inclusions and occasional mica. Difficult to identify further inclusions under x20 magnification.

**QUARTZ2:** Hard fabric; dense slightly silty matrix with very fine quartz inclusions; occasional very coarse pink flint; traces of burnt organic matter and rare voids (most likely to be from leached shell and organic inclusions). Neolithic (beaker) or Iron Age.

**QUARTZ3:** Hard fabric; dense matrix with sparse very coarse voids; rare fine to medium quartz; very rare iron rich inclusions.

**QUARTZ4:** Hard vesicular fabric; silty matrix with rare medium to coarse quartz; rare coarse to very coarse voids (most likely to be organics); very rare iron rich inclusions.

**CALCS:** The same as SHEL1?

**SAND:** Sand-tempered.

**SHEL1:** Soft vesicular fabric, moderate to common very coarse voids (most likely to be leached shell). Mostly orange-buff external surfaces although some sherds are darker throughout. Late Neolithic (Grooved Ware).

**SHEL2:** Hard, vesicular fabric with poorly mixed clay (streaking of red iron-rich bands and white clay bands); mainly very coarse voids (most likely to be leached shell); very rare quartz; rare iron rich inclusions.

**ORG1:** Soft pale orange fabric; silty matrix; common very coarse elongated voids (most likely to be organics but some leached shell). Briquetage?

#### 4.5.4 Forms

Some 122 vessels were assigned a form code, of which 39 are currently identified as jars and 45 as urns. The forms are defined by alpha-numeric codes as outlined in Table 5.

*Table 5 The form codes and dating used in the pottery recording to date*

Key: PH: Prehistoric, general; N: Neolithic; NLBE: Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age; B: Bronze Age; BE: Early Bronze Age; BM: Middle Bronze Age; BL: Late Bronze Age; BLIE: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

| Period              | Form | Expansion                           | EDate | Ldate |
|---------------------|------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| PH, B, BL, BLIE, IE | 2    | Jar                                 | -4000 | 43    |
| PH, BL              | 2B   | Jar, everted rim                    | -4000 | -700  |
| PH, IA              | 2C   | Carinated jar                       | -4000 | 43    |
| PH                  | 2I   | Jar, inverted rim                   | -4000 | 43    |
| PH, BL              | 2U   | Jar, straight-sided, upright-rimmed | -1000 | -700  |
| PH, BL, BLIE, IA    | 2X   | Carinated/bipartite jar             | -4000 | 43    |
| PH, B, BL, BLIE, IE | 4    | Bowl                                | -2900 | -1600 |
| PH, IA              | 4C   | Carinated bowl                      | -4000 | 43    |
| NLBE                | 4P   | Bowl, Peterborough-type             | -3400 | -2500 |
| PH, B, BM           | 7    | Urn, plain                          | -2000 | -600  |
| PH, B               | 7A   | Barrel urn                          | -1600 | -1000 |

|              |     |                      |       |       |
|--------------|-----|----------------------|-------|-------|
| PH, B        | 7B  | Globular urn         | -1600 | -1000 |
| PH, B        | 7C  | Bucket urn           | -1600 | -1000 |
| PH, BM       | 7DR | Urn, Deverel-Rimbury | -1600 | -1000 |
| PH, NLBE, BE | 7E  | Collared urn         | -1600 | -1200 |
| BE           | 7G  | Grooved ware urn     | -2900 | -2000 |
| BLIE         | 9B  | Rim, everted         |       |       |

Comments on specific form types are given below to demonstrate the range of material and to highlight key finds, but these are by no means comprehensive; many finds have not at present been assigned a form type, or only to a broad category, although it is likely that a good number of these can be identified more precisely at the analysis stage.

#### 4.5.4.1 Middle to later Neolithic c 3400 BC to c 2400/2000 BC

Neolithic pottery, probably stratified, was found in several contexts, notably [249], [623], [680], [848], [859], [862], [869], [933], [1021], [1023], [1033], [1035], [1130], [1134], [1140], [1150], [1174], [1354], [1967], [2178], amounting to c 550 sherds (c 3kg).

In some cases Neolithic sherds are mixed with Bronze Age material ([832], [841], [853] (mainly Neolithic, seven later sherds), [867], [1064], ?[1638]).

Earlier Neolithic plain wares dating to before c 3300 BC appear to be absent or very rare, although present at Perry Oaks (Lewis et al 2006, 34); even if more are identified at the analysis stage, they will not be common. The main features of the collection are noted below.

##### 4.5.4.1.1 CARINATED AND PLAIN-RIMMED BOWLS

No definite carinated bowls were identified, but it is possible that on re-inspection some rims can be assigned to this category. Possible plain-rimmed bowls were noted in contexts ([623] and [680] and perhaps in [853], parallels for which can be found at Staines (Robertson-Mackay 1987); others may well be present and all rims from early contexts need to be compared with the Staines series (ibid, fig 5).

##### 4.5.4.1.2 PETERBOROUGH-TYPE WARE

For this assessment, a dating of c 3400–2800 BC has been used for the Peterborough ware tradition.

There is a significant amount of Peterborough-type pottery on the site, with sherds present in [249], [623] and possibly [680]. As a whole the decoration is more in keeping with the Mortlake style than Ebbsfleet, which is less common in this part of the Thames valley (J Cotton pers comm), but parallels with both types are evident.

The vessel from [249] has cross hatched incised decoration on the rim and below the sharply carinated shoulder, while the rim sherd from [680] has whipped cord impressions on the rim. The largest group is from [623] (the backfill of large pit or sump), which yielded sherds from some ten vessels with form and decoration in the Peterborough tradition. The whole of this group needs to be laid out and checked for sherd links and total number of vessels, but the range of decoration includes finger nail impressions, incised herringbone decoration, impressed cord 'maggots', nested chevrons and incised lattice decoration. One or two sherds have what appear to be swags made up of oblique rows of fine knife cuts. The rims of some vessels have incised lattice decoration around the top of the rim (cf Smith 1973, fig 6), while others are neatly frilled, with possible impressions in the angle of the neck and shoulder (cf Grimes 1960, fig 71.3). Some sherds in this group are very thin-walled with exceptionally fine decoration and were

clearly high quality vessels. Some of these decorative techniques are paralleled in the Staines assemblage (Whittle 1987), and very similar forms have been found at Mixnams's pit, Thorpe (Grimes 1960, fig 71.3; Field and Cotton 1987, fig 4.12), in Sipson Lane (Cotton et al 1986, 36) and on the RMC Land site in Victoria Lane, Harlington (Wessex Archaeology, excavations in progress; J Cotton pers comm.) Problematic finds in this group are part of a flat base which appears to be in the same fabric as the above, and sherds from a thicker walled vessel with denser flint-temper, which has parallel incisions around the top of the rim. The latter could be part of the Ebbsfleet tradition, but as the feature also contains later pottery dating of these two finds is uncertain and needs to be resolved.

#### 4.5.4.1.3 GROOVED WARE

This tradition spans the period c 3000/2900 BC to c 2000 BC (Gibson 2002, 84–7; Lewis et al 2006, 36). Body and base sherds from flaring tub/bucket-shaped urns in fabrics recorded as SHEL1 and CALCS (number of vessels to be established, but possibly three represented in [1967]) were present in contexts [868], [1033] and [1035], [1967], [2070]. The finds from [1033] include thick flat base sherds, while the decorated sherds are mainly from [1967] and [2070], which have wide grooved lines and impressed dimples. A few possible sherds were also found in other contexts, notably [868]. Up to c 1995 Peterborough-type ware was more common in the area than Grooved ware (Laidlaw and Mephram 1996, 28-30), but the situation is now reversed, with very large assemblages of Grooved ware recognised at Holloway Lane, Sipson (Merriman 1990, 25), just to the north of the site, and in earlier phases of excavation at Home Farm, Harmondsworth (Cotton et al 1986, 37; Field and Cotton 1987, 89-90). It has also been found in at Prospect Park, Harmondsworth (Laidlaw and Mephram 1996, 27-30), at Perry Oaks and at other sites in the area (Lewis et al 2006, 36).

#### 4.5.4.2 Early Bronze Age c 2900 BC to c 1600 BC

This period is not well represented on the site; there are no obvious beaker sherds and only one collared urn. The former are rare in the Heathrow area as a whole, but the latter are more common, but still not numerous (Lewis et al 2006, 88).

##### 4.5.4.2.1 COLLARED URN

This form was in use from c 2200 BC to 1200 BC (Gibson 2002, 96, 101), although an alternative dating of c 2050 BC to c 1500 BC has been suggested (Lewis et al 2006, 37). Of note are 18 sherds from [2242] (ditch [2243]), one from the edge of the collar, the other from the slightly convex girth, which has broad horizontal finger impressions around it. This find must be compared with the profiles as defined by Longworth (1984) and needs more research and a special note in the publication. Collared urns have been found in excavations at Terminal 5 (Framework Archaeology), at Imperial College Sports Ground (Wessex Archaeology; J Cotton pers comm.) and at Perry Oaks (Lewis et al 2006, 37).

#### 4.5.4.3 Middle Bronze Age c 1600 BC to c 1000 BC

In southern England this period is dominated by the Deverel-Rimbury tradition, which appeared toward the end of the Early Bronze Age period (Barrett 1980, 298–301). Middle Bronze Age sherds of Deverel-Rimbury type from the site can mainly be identified by their densely packed flint fabric (FLIN10 and FLIN11) and the thickness of the walls, as well as the distinctive barrel, globular or bucket urn forms. The small cremation vessel from [290] is a particularly problematic find, as it could fit within at least three different categories and should perhaps be classed as an accessory vessel.

## 4.5.4.3.1 BARREL URNS

Barrel urns have a rim diameter that is narrower than the maximum girth (Barrett 1980, 300; Gibson 2002, 105). On this basis the small truncated cremation vessel ([289]) recovered from pit fill [290] could belong to this group, although very straight-sided; The rim is missing (lost in antiquity), but base is flat while lower body is quite straight-sided up to point of fracture (extant height c 115mm), where it is slightly incurving. This pot contained a token quantity of cremated human bone; it is probably of Middle Bronze Age date, but could be a little later than this (see below). This vessel needs cleaning for photography. No other examples of barrel urns have so far been noted.

## 4.5.4.3.2 BUCKET URNS

Finds from Home Farm include the greater part of a large, thick base from a truncated cremation urn ([1062]), and body sherds with applied cordons from [1186], [1604], [1775] and [1871] (residual). A bossed sherd was found in [1144]. Similar decoration can be found at Prospect Park (Laidlaw and Mephram 1996, 30, fig 23) and in other Bronze Age cremation cemeteries in Middlesex (Barrett 1973, fig 4 no. 4; Cotton et al 1986, 42–4). The small truncated cremation vessel ([289]) recovered from pit fill [290] could also belong to this group, although the upper edge of the wall is clearly incurving.

## 4.5.4.3.3 GLOBULAR URNS

Finds that probably belonging to this category include sherd from contexts [1144] and [1672]. The former has a clay boss added to the exterior wall, a decorative feature found in the Stoneyfield cemetery in Farnham (Needham 1985, 110, and in the Middlesex cemeteries (Barrett 1973, fig 1 nos 7, 10 and 14). The sherds from [1672] are from a carefully finished jar with stamped or impressed decoration below combed horizontal lines decoration; similar decoration has been found at the World Cargo site (CDS95; J Cotton pers comm.). This is an interesting find that needs more research.

4.5.4.4 *Late Bronze Age to Iron Age c 1000 BC to c 400 BC*

Most forms from the site probably belong to the post-Deverel-Rimbury plain ware series of southern Britain as defined by Barrett (1980), which have a broad dating of c 1000 BC to c 600 BC. There are, however, a number of jars with finger-tipped decoration on the shoulder or rim, which may be later in the series, ie c 8th-century BC (Barrett 1980, 307; Laidlaw and Mephram 1996, 33). The main forms are noted below; the present finds are broadly similar to those from Carshalton (Adkins and Needham 1985) and Prospect Park (Laidlaw and Mephram 1996, 30–2, fig 24). This group probably includes the finds from [1249]. Examples of flint-gritted bases were found in several contexts, including [642] and [832] (three examples in FLIN12, FLIN13, FLIN14), which is a common trait of Late Bronze Age assemblages (Bryant 1995, 17). Context [2478] contained three fragments of ?potter's waste, which may be related to the mould fragments found on the site. A rim sherd of Late Bronze Age date with slight neck and square rim profile can be paralleled to examples from Runnymede (Longley 1991, 202 fig 99, P462, P467). There appears to be very little or no Middle to Late Iron Age activity on the site.

## 4.5.4.4.1 SHOULDERS AND BIPARTITE JARS

These forms are usually Late Bronze Age in date (c 11th to 9th-century BC; Barrett 1980, fig 5). They have a short upright rim and convex shoulder (cf *ibid*, fig 11.8, 11.9). In some cases there is evidence for fingertip decoration around the shoulder (cf *ibid*, fig 12.14D); this occurs as both large impressions ([1564], [1871], [2041]) and as much oblique nicks or stab marks ([868]); a jar from [2978] has an applied cordon with vertical impressions creating a series of small square bosses. Rims with decoration on the surface include [1150] (thumbed) and [2041] (cabled). Some of these can be paralleled in Runnymede (Longley 1991) and Mucking (Bond 1988).

Forms include a flaring rim from pit fill [853] and a substantially complete small ?slab-built vessel from fill [1807] of ditch [1808], which has a carinated profile with inverted rim; the lower body has vertical smearing where the clay has been dragged upwards to the shoulder, giving a rusticated effect. This technique becomes more marked in the Iron Age and so this piece could date to the 8th- to 5th- centuries BC. The same surface treatment is also seen on a much larger jar from [2056] (ditch [2057]).

It is possible that the lower part of a cremation vessel ([289]) found in pit fill [290] (see above, Middle Bronze Age), which contained a token quantity of cremated human bone, is an usually straight-sided, and possibly early, example of this form type; the fabric contains very large flint grits, but they are much less abundant than in the usual Middle Bronze Age wares.

#### 4.5.4.4.2 LUGGED GLOBULAR/SHOULDERED JAR

A remarkable find is a substantially complete jar with rounded shoulder, inverted neck and short upright rim from the fill [1889] of well [1890]. Vertical lugs are quite common on this form of vessel, with several examples from Carshalton (Adkins and Needham 1985, 32–3, figs 7, 8), but no parallels have been found for the large horizontal lug with twin perforations present on the jar from [1889]. This suggests that this high quality vessel was a one-off piece, but more work is needed to confirm this. Given its findspot, it is curious that, while the entire rim is present, the base of the vessel is completely missing. The rim of a similar vessel was found in pit fill [853].

#### 4.5.4.4.3 CARINATED FORMS

A small flint-tempered ?cup with slashed decoration around the carination was found in the same ditch fill as the small shouldered vessel noted above. Originally with smoothed, if not burnished outer surface, Clearly a high quality piece, it is very thin-walled, with extremely neatly applied finger impressions around the carination and ?omphalos base.

#### 4.5.4.4.4 BOWLS AND FINEWARES

Pit [96] (fill [95]) contained three joining rim sherds from a small jar with slightly convex /slightly flaring body and internally bevelled rim, while a similar form was found in [1339]. Parallels for this type of vessel can be found amongst the Late Bronze Age assemblage, from Queen Mary's Hospital site, Carshalton (Adkins and Needham 1985, 28, fig 11 no. 331-3). Also present in [95] and in [872], [1807], [1809], [1887], [1871] (amongst other contexts) are body sherds in fabric FLIN1 from well made vessels which are thin walled and have burnished surfaces and are likely to be Late Bronze Age fine ware vessels, such as Barrett's class II jars or bowls (Barrett 1980, 302).

#### 4.5.4.4.5 PERFORATED CLAY SLABS

Pit fill [95], well fills [2003] and [2044] and ditch fill [2478] all contained fragments of perforated clay slab. These fired clay objects are commonly found on LBA settlements sites in the Thames Valley and are considered a characteristic item in the material assemblage (Champion 1980, 237). Numerous examples have been found at sites in Surrey and in the Heathrow area, for example at Cranford Lane, Holloway Lane, M4 Widening, and Stockley Park in the West London Landscapes project (Elsden 2008), and also at Carshalton, Coombe Warren, Kingston Hill and Caesar's Camp, Heathrow (Adkins and Needham 1985, 33–5, fig 12-3; Field and Needham 1986, 138–40 Fig 5; Grimes and Close-Brooks 1993, 342, fig 25 no. 17).

#### 4.5.5 *Distribution*

The pottery indicates multi-period activity on the site, but in the absence of detailed context information it was not possible in the time available to consider the spatial distribution of the finds, but the majority derives from ditches and widely dispersed pits. Some of these were used for cremation, notably pit [2179] (Grooved ware), [1062] (fill [1064], truncated Deverel Rimbury urn) and [224] (fill [290], Middle/Late Bronze Age). The fact that 100% of the rim of the Late Bronze Age lugged jar in well [1890] (fill [1889]) was found but no base suggests that this too may have been inverted when buried, possibly as a cremation pot.

There appear to be few significant large deposits of pottery on the site other than in the Neolithic period, when an important collection of Peterborough-type ware was deposited in pit [624] (fill [623], 164 sherds), and others of Grooved ware in pit fills [1033] (40 sherds) and [1967] (47 sherds) respectively, although in both cases the number of vessels is not high. Other Neolithic groups include pit fills [680] (33 sherds), and [862], 45 sherds). A large mixed group of mainly Neolithic but also Bronze Age pottery was found in pit [863], fills [848] and [853] (total 217 sherds). This may be the result of a Mid-Late Neolithic pit ([864]) being truncated by a Late Bronze Age feature (however, [864] may be of Late Bronze Age or later date and therefore contain residual pottery). One sherd of Neolithic pottery was present in an otherwise Late Bronze Age group from fill [832] of quarry pit [873] (58 sherds), while single sherds of Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery were found in the waterlain deposit [841]. Other groups of apparently mixed date remain to be verified and explained. Later Bronze Age features with between 30 and 50 sherds include pit fill [95], quarry pit fill [870], ditch fill [1807] and well fill [1889].

#### 4.5.6 *Discussion*

Several contexts of different periods contain pottery that is well made and probably of a high status (eg [1889] LBA x2 vessel). The clusters of Peterborough Mortlake- and Ebbsfleet-type ware forms, and the groups of Grooved ware are of particular interest because of the relatively solid parallels, and the evidence for concentrations of such wares in this general area (Cotton et al 1986; Field and Cotton 1987, 95; Lewis et al 2006, 36), although Peterborough ware was absent from the Perry Oaks site (ibid, 36). From the comments above, it seems likely that deposition of pottery was to some extent controlled in the Neolithic period, but (with the exception of cremations) much more random thereafter.

The presence of fabrics FLIO and FLOR is of interest. Comparable fabrics tempered with flint and ferruginous inclusions and flint and organic matter have also been identified in a Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age group from Snowey Fielder Waye, Isleworth and at Caesar's Camp, Heathrow (Timby 1996, 43). Thin section analysis of sherds from Caesar's Camp has confirmed the presence of iron-rich inclusions, probably naturally occurring in the clay body (Williams 1993, 351). The same fabrics also occur in the Early Saxon period. This suggests that a fairly local source is likely for much of the pottery from these sites.

#### 4.5.7 *Assessment work outstanding*

It transpired that some contexts from the earlier stage of work somehow escaped being recorded, or at least the data was not entered onto Oracle. Those that have been identified comprise: [648], [1067], [1249] (1 box, large sherds) and [1977] (first thought to be Roman). The date ranges for [1067] and [1249] are included in the totals above, but there was not time to complete the recording, and this work needs to be done before the analysis commences.

## 4.6 The Roman pottery

### 4.6.1 Summary/Introduction

All stratified Roman pottery was spot-dated from the site; this comprised 33 sherds (144g) from 15 contexts. The assemblage consists entirely of small groups (fewer than 30 sherds), and most of the material is abraded and small. The condition of the pottery means that only three contexts had identifiable forms, with the rest being unidentifiable body sherds.

### 4.6.2 Methodology

The pottery was spot-dated using standard MOL Archaeology methods. It was quantified by sherds, weight and estimated number of vessels (ENV). The resulting data has been entered into the MOL Archaeology Oracle database.

### 4.6.3 Summary/discussion by date

The poor condition of the sherds, and consequent lack of forms, has resulted in most contexts being given a general Roman date range of AD 50–400. There are two exceptions to this: a large rim sherd from a bead-rimmed jar (2A) from context [648], and two rim sherds from a bowl which appears to be imitating a Ritterling form 12 bowl (4RT12) in context [2122]. Both of these vessels are likely to have originated from early Roman activity (possibly pre-AD 70). However, much of the assemblage is likely to have been disturbed and redeposited. Context [648] in particular has medieval pottery present and the Roman sherd is likely to be residual.

## 4.7 The post-Roman pottery

### 4.7.1 Medieval pottery (c 400–1500)

#### 4.7.1.1 Introduction

A small amount of medieval pottery was found in up to 15 contexts; all sherds are small and in poor condition.

#### 4.7.1.2 Methodology

The pottery was examined in three stages, with some finds being recorded in 2001 and 2007; for these sherds weights are not known. The remaining finds, and some of those from the earlier phases of work, were studied macroscopically and using a binocular microscope (x 20) where appropriate, and recorded on paper and on the MOLA Oracle database using standard Museum of London codes for fabrics, forms and decoration. The numerical data comprises sherd count, estimated number of vessels and weight. The few unstratified sherds were not recorded.

#### 4.7.1.3 Fabrics

The fabrics fall into four main groups as defined by general source area, and within these there are nine fabric types. The main category appears to be locally made early medieval wares, mainly early South Herts-type greyware (ESHER; 10 sherds, 29g), with early medieval sandy ware (EMS, two sherds), early medieval flint-tempered ware (EMFL, two sherds) and iron-rich early medieval Surrey ware (EMIS, one sherd). Surrey whitewares comprise six sherds, one of Kingston-type ware (KING) dating to c 1240–1400, the others of coarse Surrey-Hampshire border ware (CBW) and dating to c 1270–1500. In

addition there are single sherds of London-type ware (LOND, sherd dating to c 1180–1350) and South Herts greyware (SHER, c 1170–1350).

#### 4.7.1.4 Forms

The sherds are generally small, but most appear to be from jars and cooking pots. The only definite jug is represented by a handle in London-type ware.

#### 4.7.1.5 Discussion

The amount of pottery is too small to indicate occupation on the site, and it probably derives from the spreading of rubbish to manure the fields from the 12th century onwards. Most sherds occur without later material, but those from [294] and [1446] are residual.

### 4.7.2 Post-medieval (c 1500–1900)

#### 4.7.2.1 Introduction

A small amount of post-medieval pottery was found in 12 contexts; all sherds are small and in poor condition.

#### 4.7.2.2 Fabrics

The fabrics fall into four main groups as defined by general source area, and within these there are ten fabric types. The main category appears to comprise post-medieval redwares, which date to c 1480–1600 (PMRE), c 1580–1700 (PMFR) and c 1580–1900 (PMR). Industrial finewares of the late 18th and 19th centuries amount to four sherds of creamware (CREA), refined white earthenware (REFW) and transfer-printed ware. Three sherds are Surrey-Hampshire border whitewares and redwares, while one is in Nottingham stoneware (NOTS).

#### 4.7.2.3 Forms

The sherds are very small but all are of domestic origin; the redwares are mainly vessels used for food preparation and cooking, while the others are mainly from table wares

#### 4.7.2.4 Discussion

The amount of pottery is too small to indicate occupation on the site, and it probably derives from the spreading of rubbish to manure the fields.

## 4.8 The accessioned finds

Table 6 Summary of accessioned finds by material and period

| Material                            | Prehistoric | Roman | Medieval | Post-med | Not known | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------|----------|----------|-----------|-------|
| Stone (excludes BM)                 | 1           | 1     |          |          |           | 2     |
| Ceramic (excludes BM, tobacco pipe) | 11          |       |          |          |           | 11    |
| Glass                               |             |       |          | 1        |           | 1     |
| Iron                                |             |       |          |          | 2         | 2     |



| Material     | Prehistoric | Roman    | Medieval | Post-med | Not known | Total     |
|--------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Coal         |             |          |          | 1        |           | 1         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>12</b>   | <b>1</b> |          | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b>  | <b>17</b> |

#### 4.8.1 Introduction/methodology

The finds were accessioned in accordance with MOLA procedures; records are held on the Oracle database. The artefacts were examined individually for assessment, but not X-rayed. They have been listed by period and material.

#### 4.8.2 Categories by dating and materials

##### 4.8.2.1 Prehistoric

###### 4.8.2.1.1 STONE

<30> [871] Rounded) probably water-worn) black and pink basalt/granitite large sub-rectangular pebble. The stone is not indigenous to the area, and could not have travelled this far south glacially. Neolithic macehead? Charm? In Late Bronze age quarry pit.

###### 4.8.2.1.2 CERAMIC

Mould/crucible fragments (cf CFL94)

<23> [832] Fragment of mould/crucible with copper alloy adhering. In fill of a well or quarry pit [873], SG 334 with LBA ceramics

<24> [832] Two pieces mould; in fill of a well or quarry pit [873], SG 334 with LBA ceramics

<25> [868] Fragment of mould/crucible with copper alloy adhering. In fill of a well or quarry pit [873], SG 334 with LBA ceramics

<27> [868] Flint-tempered mould; in fill of a well or quarry pit [873], SG 334 with LBA ceramics

<31> [848] Fragment of mould/crucible or possibly hearth with copper alloy adhering. Accessioned as waste. In the fill of a small gully with presumably residual Neolithic and 'prehistoric' ceramics

###### 4.8.2.1.3 LOOM WEIGHTS

<26> [868] Five small loom weight fragments; could be cylindrical or pyramidal loom weight type. In fill of quarry pit with LBA ceramics

<28> [832] Part of (eg) pyramidal loom weight?

Perforated slabs

<\*> [2004]; flint-tempered fabric; good example; almost certainly LBA (draw/photo)

<\*> [2478]; flint-tempered fabric; almost certainly LBA

###### 4.8.2.1.4 OTHER

<2> [95] Flint-tempered fragment, thick, badly wedged, partially burnt/reduced; accessioned as perforated slab. Re-examine at analysis stage

#### 4.8.2.2 *late iron age/Roman/medieval*

<29> [870] Fragment of sandstone rotary quern; (?) intrusive in LBA quarry pit.

#### 4.8.2.3 *Post-medieval*

##### 4.8.2.3.1 GLASS

<33> [1977] Jar; moulded rim with lid-seating; colourless lead glass; 19th-century

#### 4.8.2.4 *Unknown date*

##### 4.8.2.4.1 IRON

<34> [1981] Corroded large hook (L 125mm); (?) post-medieval

<35> [2431] (?) mount (two conjoined domed discs; each D approx 15mm)

##### 4.8.2.4.2 COAL

<1> [277] Four small pieces of coal; late medieval or post-medieval

### 4.8.3 **Functional analysis**

The prehistoric ceramic finds are related to textile working (fragments of loom weight) and bronze casting (fragments of crucible and/or mould).

### 4.8.4 **List of objects for investigative conservation**

None

### 4.8.5 **List of objects for X-raying**

<35> [2431] Iron mount

### 4.8.6 **List of objects for illustration/photo**

<\*> 2044 perforated slab  
mould fragments <23>–<31>

## 4.9 **The worked and burnt flint**

### 4.9.1 **Introduction**

1,393 pieces of worked flint were identified according to standard MOLA procedures and recorded in an Excel spreadsheet. Burnt flint (4,255 pieces) was recorded in a separate Excel spreadsheet, by number and weight per context.

The struck/worked flint assemblage was spread over 163 contexts plus unstratified material, and including sixteen contexts with material from wet-sieved samples. In addition, there were 4,255 pieces of burnt flint weighing 38,839g, including eleven contexts with material from wet-sieved samples.

#### **4.9.2 Description**

This large assemblage incorporates much knapping material with 646 flakes, 594 blades, bladelets, blade-like flakes and seventy-four cores and core fragments. The sixty-one retouched forms recovered are dominated by forty-one scrapers with three serrated blades, four piercers, two burins, a fabricator, a knife, three miscellaneous retouched pieces, two notched flakes and at least three blades probably utilised as end scrapers. This indicates the presence of domestic activity on the site with a range of processing of hides, skins and foodstuffs. Evidence for knapping was also present, with plentiful small flake and blade/bladelet debitage and spalls recovered via wet-sieved samples, but mainly absent from hand collected recovery.

The flint knapping utilised rolled river cobbles derived from the local terrace gravels with several cores working pebbles. Hard hammer technology and the opportunistic use of pebbles with several cores, and flakes exhibiting removals that cut earlier orange-yellow patinated surfaces, suggest Middle to Late Bronze Age activity – complemented by the recovery of mainly Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery from the site.

Some of the raw material is of very poor quality. A few pieces of Bullhead flint and chert are present. Most of the knapped material forms the later stages of reduction, with many worked out flake cores. Very few primary flakes are present, and rather few corticated pieces, but small chips and other debitage are revealed from wet-sieved recovery and reduced pebbles do indicate the earlier stages of knapping.

Disc scrapers, side/end scrapers and end scrapers usually utilise better quality flint with a few pieces on black flint. Earlier to Middle Neolithic technology is suggested by much of the retouched material:

- Context [1033] has yielded six convex end scrapers, a nosed scraper, a serrated blade and a burin of probable Neolithic provenance, plus twenty-eight flakes and seventy-nine blades/bladelets (some recovered via wet-sieving), and 108 pieces of burnt flint weighing 374g.
- Context [1035] yielded a disc scraper on a large thick flake, a nosed scraper and a serrated blade along with forty flakes and 260 pieces of blade/bladelet debitage, and 144 pieces of burnt flint weighing 810g.
- Context [1967] produced three Neolithic disc scrapers, four side/end scrapers, three nosed scrapers, three end scrapers, a side scraper on a thick blade end, and two piercers, plus a large amount of small debitage and burnt flint.
- Context [2068] produced a Neolithic horseshoe scraper on a broken flake in black flint, a small end scraper on the side of a broken flake, a convex end scraper, a nosed scraper on a core fragment and a nosed scraper on a flake plus eight cores, fifty-five flakes and fifty-five blades/bladelets, and 448 pieces of burnt flint weighing 1,963g.

#### **4.9.3 Conclusions**

Diagnostic pieces confirm the presence of Early to Middle Neolithic worked flint (eg disc scrapers), and of Middle to Late Bronze Age flint knapping (with ad hoc opportunistic utilisation of poor quality nodules and pebbles, and previously struck/patinated flint with a large number of crude flake cores).

Domestic activities including the processing of hides and foodstuffs are suggested by the predominance of scrapers along with burins, piercers, serrates and a knife. The flint material is scattered over a wide number of contexts, and is probably mainly residual or

redeposited. However, there are a few concentrations of struck/worked flint including tools and burnt flint in contexts such as [1033], [1035], [1967], [2068] and [2114].

Table 7 Breakdown of struck/worked flint assemblage

| Ctxt | Flakes | Blades, blade-like flakes | Cores, core fragments | Retouched forms | Other | Comments                             |
|------|--------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 0    | 8      | 2                         | 2                     | 2               | 1     | Side/end scraper; retouched piece    |
| 21   | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 79   | 1      |                           |                       | 1               |       |                                      |
| 85   | 1      |                           |                       |                 | 1     |                                      |
| 95   | 3      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 97   |        |                           |                       |                 | 1     |                                      |
| 171  |        |                           | 1                     |                 |       | Pebble core                          |
| 221  | 4      |                           |                       |                 | 2     |                                      |
| 271  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 338  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 410  |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Miscellaneous retouch                |
| 412  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 426  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 428  | 1      |                           |                       | 2               |       | End scraper; side/end scraper (Neo)  |
| 454  |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Notched piece                        |
| 452  | 3      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 460  | 1      |                           |                       | 1               |       | Serrated flake                       |
| 466  |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Miscellaneous retouch                |
| 491  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 608  | 1      |                           |                       | 1               |       | Poss side scraper                    |
| 623  | 2      | 4                         |                       |                 | 1     | Broad blade poss utilised as scraper |
| 639  | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 666  | 3      |                           | 1                     |                 |       | 2 platform core                      |
| 680  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 796  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 811  |        |                           | 2                     |                 |       | Flake cores on pebbles               |
| 840  | 1      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 848  | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 859  | 4      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 862  |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 867  |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Bronze Age knife, black flint        |
| 887  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 931  |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 933  | 2      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 935  |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 937  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 945  | 3      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 961  | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1003 | 4      | 1                         |                       | 1               |       | Piercer                              |
| 1009 |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Broken piercer                       |
| 1023 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1027 | 4      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1033 | 28     | 79                        | 3                     | 9               | 2     | 7 scrapers; 1 serrate; 1 burin       |
| 1035 | 40     | 260                       | 2                     | 3               |       | 2 scrapers; 1 notched piece          |
| 1067 | 1      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1069 | 1      |                           |                       |                 | 1     | Flake poss utilised as scraper       |
| 1071 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1073 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1118 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1138 | 1      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1150 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1152 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                      |
| 1160 |        | 1                         | 1                     |                 |       | Worked out flake core                |

| Ctxt | Flakes | Blades, blade-like flakes | Cores, core fragments | Retouched forms | Other | Comments                          |
|------|--------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1166 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1168 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1172 | 1      |                           |                       | 1               |       | Piercer                           |
| 1176 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1184 |        |                           | 2                     |                 |       | Worked out flake cores            |
| 1248 |        |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1264 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1270 | 2      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1276 | 3      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1284 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1314 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1350 | 3      | 1                         | 1                     | 1               |       | Serrate; worked out flake core    |
| 1354 |        | 1                         | 4                     |                 |       | Pebble core; worked out cores     |
| 1370 | 1      | 2                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1380 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1388 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1452 |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Serrate                           |
| 1496 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1500 |        |                           | 1                     |                 |       |                                   |
| 1502 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1558 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1562 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1565 | 2      |                           | 2                     |                 |       | Worked out cores                  |
| 1624 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1636 | 3      |                           | 3                     |                 |       | Worked out flake cores            |
| 1638 | 3      |                           | 1                     |                 |       | Worked out core                   |
| 1640 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1644 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1646 |        | 2                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1650 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1668 | 1      | 2                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1670 | 2      |                           |                       | 1               |       | Disc scraper                      |
| 1672 | 3      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1674 |        | 4                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1699 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1708 |        | 2                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1710 |        |                           |                       | 1               |       | Disc scraper                      |
| 1712 | 2      |                           | 2                     |                 |       | Flake cores                       |
| 1714 | 4      |                           | 1                     | 1               |       | Pebble core; backed bladelet      |
| 1726 | 1      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1728 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1742 | 1      |                           | 1                     |                 |       | Worked out core                   |
| 1774 | 5      | 2                         |                       |                 | 1     | Split nodule; 2 blade-like flakes |
| 1781 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1785 | 2      | 3                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1787 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1801 | 1      | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1807 | 2      | 5                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1835 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1839 | 1      | 1                         | 1                     |                 |       | Worked out core                   |
| 1841 | 1      |                           | 3                     |                 |       | 3 pebble cores                    |
| 1853 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1857 |        | 3                         | 1                     |                 |       | Flake core                        |
| 1859 | 1      | 1                         | 1                     |                 |       | Core on white patinated pebble    |
| 1863 | 1      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1871 | 2      |                           |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1875 |        |                           | 2                     |                 |       | Pebble core and nodule flake core |
| 1877 |        | 1                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |
| 1883 |        | 2                         |                       |                 |       |                                   |

| Ctxt         | Flakes     | Blades, blade-like flakes | Cores, core fragments | Retouched forms | Other     | Comments  |
|--------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------|---|
| 1889         | 4          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 1897         | 1          |                           | 1                     |                 |           | Flake core  |
| 1914         |            | 1                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 1916         |            |                           | 1                     |                 |           | Flake core  |
| 1920         | 6          |                           | 6                     |                 |           | Flake and blade core remnants                         |
| 1949         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 1951         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 1963         | 20         | 2                         | 6                     |                 | 1         | 2 disc cores; 4 flake core remnants; spall            |
| 1967         | 233        | 18                        | 4                     | 16              | 1         | 2 piercers; 14 scrapers; spall; lot of small debitage |
| 1979         | 8          |                           | 1                     |                 |           | Flake core  |
| 1993         | 2          |                           | 1                     |                 |           |   |
| 1995         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 1997         | 2          | 1                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2003         |            | 1                         | 2                     |                 |           | 2 flake cores   |
| 2009         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2019         | 3          | 1                         | 2                     |                 |           | 2 flake cores, one on patinated flint                 |
| 2021         | 2          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2068         | 55         | 55                        | 8                     | 5               | 4         | 2 nosed, 1 horseshoe, 2 end scrapers Neo              |
| 2070         | 15         | 26                        |                       |                 | 2         | 2 spalls  |
| 2072         | 1          | 2                         |                       | 1               |           | End scraper on thermal flake, BA                      |
| 2100         | 6          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2104         |            | 1                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2106         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2114         | 21         | 4                         | 2                     | 4               |           | 2 disc scrapers, 2 nosed scrapers                     |
| 2115         | 3          |                           | 1                     |                 |           | Worked out flake core, 20% cortex                     |
| 2122         | 2          | 2                         |                       |                 | 1         | Split nodule  |
| 2150         | 6          | 2                         | 1                     |                 |           | Partly worked core bad quality flint                  |
| 2160         | 2          | 2                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2164         | 3          |                           |                       | 1               |           | End scraper   |
| 2170         |            |                           |                       | 1               |           | Disc scraper  |
| 2178         | 4          | 19                        |                       | 2               |           | Burin; side/end scraper                               |
| 2184         |            |                           | 1                     |                 |           |   |
| 2186         | 2          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2198         | 5          | 2                         |                       | 1               |           | Fabricator  |
| 2200         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2242         |            | 1                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2330         | 1          | 1                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2401         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2417         | 2          | 14                        |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2431         | 11         | 2                         |                       |                 | 2         | 2 flakes poss utilised as end scrapers                |
| 2449         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2453         |            | 2                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2628         | 1          | 2                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2630         | 1          | 7                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2672         |            | 6                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2674         | 2          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2706         | 4          | 4                         | 1                     |                 |           | Flake core  |
| 2768         |            | 1                         |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2784         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| 2802         | 1          |                           |                       |                 |           |   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>646</b> | <b>594</b>                | <b>74</b>             | <b>61</b>       | <b>20</b> | <b>1379</b>   |

## 4.10 The animal bone

### 4.10.1 Site archive: finds and environmental, quantification and description

Table 8 Contents of animal bone archive

|                              | Weight (g) | No. fragments | No. boxes                               |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------|---|
| Animal bone (hand-collected) | 4147       | 710           | 4 standard archive boxes                |
| Animal bone (wet-sieved)     | 2          | 10            | boxed with hand-collected bone          |
| Total                        | 4149       | 720           | Estimated 720 fragments. Total 4.149kg. |

### 4.10.2 Introduction/methodology

This report identifies, quantifies and interprets the animal bone from contexts [15]–[2351], derived from hand-collection and wet-sieving of bulk samples. Hand-collected animal bone from [15]–[2351]; and wet-sieved animal bone from [1033] {2009} and [1035] {2008} was recorded directly onto Excel spreadsheets in terms of weight (kg), estimated fragment count, species, carcase-part, fragmentation, preservation, modification, and the recovery of epiphyses, mandibular tooth rows, measurable bones, complete long bones, and sub-adult age groups. The assemblage was not recorded as individual fragments or identified to skeletal element. All identifications referred to the MOLA reference collection; and Schmid 1972. Fragments not identifiable to species or genus level were generally allocated to an approximate category, ‘ox-sized’ or ‘sheep-sized’, as appropriate. Each context and sample assemblage was then considered with any available dating and feature description.

Table 9 gives a summary of the hand-collected context groups and wet-sieved sample groups in terms of weight (kg), estimated fragment count, fragmentation, preservation, faunal composition, and the recovery of evidence for ageing and stature.

Table 10 gives a detailed summary of the hand-collected context groups and wet-sieved sample groups in terms of taxon, carcase-part, modification and the recovery of sub-adult age groups.

Table 9 Hand-collected and wet-sieved animal bone from HOM98/summary

| CONTEXT      | SAMPLE | WT (kg)      | FRAG (mm) | PRES   | NOS        | LMAM       | SMAM     | FISH     | BIRD     | AMPH     | MAND     | MEAS     | EPI       | COMPLETE |
|--------------|--------|--------------|-----------|--------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 15           | 0      | 0.85         | 25-75     | good   | 450        | 450        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 2        | 1        | 80        | 0        |
| 608          | 0      | 0.04         | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 618          | 0      | 0.01         | <25       | medium | 15         | 15         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 623          | 0      | 1.1          | >75       | medium | 150        | 150        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 6         | 0        |
| 633          | 0      | 0.02         | 25-75     | good   | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 680          | 0      | 0.02         | 25-75     | good   | 9          | 9          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 831          | 0      | 0.01         | <25       | good   | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 832          | 0      | 0.02         | 25-75     | medium | 12         | 12         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 848          | 0      | 0.01         | 25-75     | medium | 3          | 3          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 853          | 0      | 0.005        | <25       | good   | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 862          | 0      | 0.1          | 25-75     | good   | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 870          | 0      | 0.06         | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 874          | 0      | 0.04         | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 899          | 0      | 0.005        | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 939          | 0      | 0.025        | <25       | poor   | 7          | 7          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 995          | 0      | 0.01         | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1033         | 2009   | 0.001        | <25       | medium | 5          | 5          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1035         | 2008   | 0.001        | <25       | medium | 5          | 5          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1164         | 0      | 0.04         | 25-75     | medium | 2          | 2          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1343         | 0      | 0.13         | 25-75     | medium | 10         | 10         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1350         | 0      | 0.02         | 25-75     | medium | 15         | 15         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1352         | 0      | 0.03         | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1354         | 0      | 0.02         | 25-75     | medium | 5          | 5          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1538         | 0      | 0.075        | 25-75     | good   | 2          | 2          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1604         | 0      | 0.002        | <25       | poor   | 5          | 5          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1628         | 0      | 0.005        | 25-75     | medium | 1          | 1          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1889         | 0      | 1.3          | >75       | poor   | 5          | 5          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| 1901         | 0      | 0.1          | 25-75     | good   | 7          | 7          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        | 11        | 0        |
| 2351         | 0      | 0.1          | 25-75     | medium | 2          | 2          | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |        | <b>4.149</b> |           |        | <b>720</b> | <b>720</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>0</b> |



Table 10 Hand-collected and wet-sieved animal bone from HOM98/detailed summary

| CONTEXT | SAMPLE | TAXON       | PART       | AGE      | MODIFICATION |
|---------|--------|-------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| 15      | 0      | sheep       | head       | juvenile |              |
| 15      | 0      | sheep/goat  | upper limb | juvenile |              |
| 15      | 0      | sheep/goat  | lower limb | juvenile |              |
| 15      | 0      | sheep/goat  | foot       | juvenile |              |
| 15      | 0      | sheep/goat  | vertebra   | juvenile |              |
| 15      | 0      | sheep/goat  | toe        | juvenile |              |
| 15      | 0      | sheep-sized | rib        |          |              |
| 608     | 0      | dog         | head       | adult    |              |
| 618     | 0      | sheep-sized | long bone  |          |              |
| 623     | 0      | ox          | upper limb | adult    | butchered    |
| 623     | 0      | ox          | lower limb | adult    |              |
| 623     | 0      | ox          | foot       |          |              |
| 623     | 0      | ox          | head       | juvenile |              |
| 633     | 0      | ox          | tooth      |          |              |
| 680     | 0      | ox          | head       |          |              |
| 680     | 0      | ox-sized    | rib        |          |              |
| 831     | 0      | sheep/goat  | head       | adult    |              |
| 832     | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 832     | 0      | sheep/goat  | lower limb |          |              |
| 848     | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 848     | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          | calcined     |
| 853     | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 862     | 0      | ox          | foot       |          | calcined     |
| 870     | 0      | horse       | upper limb |          |              |
| 874     | 0      | ox          | upper limb |          |              |
| 899     | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 939     | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 995     | 0      | ox          | foot       |          |              |
| 1033    | 2009   | sheep-sized | long bone  |          | calcined     |
| 1035    | 2008   | sheep-sized | long bone  |          | calcined     |
| 1164    | 0      | ox          | tooth      | adult    |              |
| 1343    | 0      | horse       | foot       |          |              |
| 1343    | 0      | ox          | head       | adult    |              |
| 1350    | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 1352    | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 1354    | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 1538    | 0      | ox          | head       | adult    |              |
| 1604    | 0      | ox-sized    | tooth      |          |              |
| 1628    | 0      | ox-sized    | long bone  |          |              |
| 1889    | 0      | ox          | head       | juvenile |              |
| 1889    | 0      | ox          | horn core  | juvenile |              |
| 1889    | 0      | sheep-sized | rib        |          |              |
| 1901    | 0      | sheep/goat  | upper limb | adult    |              |
| 1901    | 0      | sheep-sized | vertebra   | adult    |              |
| 1901    | 0      | sheep-sized | rib        |          |              |
| 2351    | 0      | ox-sized    | rib        |          |              |

#### 4.10.3 Summary, prehistoric and undated

Deposit [623] from the top of well [681] included 1.100kg, estimated 150 fragments, of moderately-preserved hand-collected animal bone with a maximum fragment size generally greater than 75mm. The bulk of the identifiable bone in this context derived from adult and juvenile ox *Bos taurus*, particularly a very fragmentary mandible, but with upper limb, lower limb and foot. The mandible showed a fine blade cut close to the posterior end. The well itself [680] showed only a few fragments of ox head and ox-sized rib.

Two Neolithic cooking pits, [1034] and [1036] produced samples, [1033] {2009} and [1035] {2008}, derived from small numbers of burnt sheep-sized long bone fragments. Each of these fragments had been calcined indicating a combustion temperature of at least 500 degrees Celsius.

Ditch fill [1354] produced fragments of ox-sized long bone. Pit [864] contained a fragment of calcined ox metapodial.

Late Bronze Age fills [848] and [853] contained small quantities of unidentifiable ox-sized and sheep-sized long bone fragments, all of which were of medium preservation. As the pottery in this pit contained residual late Neolithic pottery, it is possible that the animal bone from the fills was also re-deposited from earlier features.

Four fills of quarry pit/water hole [873] contained a small quantity of animal bones. Included in the fills were a sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) maxillary tooth and lower limb bone, a cattle lower limb bone and fragment of juvenile cattle upper limb bone, and a mid-shaft fragment of a small horse (*Equus caballus*) humerus.

Fill [633] from pit [634] contained a young ox tooth. A fragment of cattle tooth was also recovered from cooking pit fill [1164]. A small quantity of animal bones from well fill [1343] included fragments from a young horse metapodial with dog gnawing evident. In addition, fragments from a cattle mandible, skull and horn core were recovered.

Fragments of a dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*) skull were recovered from undated ditch fill [608]. A second fill of the same ditch, fill [618], produced sheep-sized long bone fragments. Ditch fill [1350] contained ox-sized long bone fragments, and similar unidentifiable fragments were recovered from unspecified feature [1353].

With the exceptions of fragments of adult ox head from [1538]; juvenile calf horn core and head from [1889]; and adult sheep/goat upper limb from [1901], all remaining contexts produced ox-sized and sheep-sized vertebra, rib and long bone fragments.

There was no recovery of fish, amphibian, poultry, game, other wild species or human bone. There were no foetal, neonate or infant animals.

There was no evidence for gnawing, working, pathological change or any other modification.

The group produced limited evidence for age at death of the major domesticates with four mandibular tooth rows and 97 epiphyses; metrical evidence was negligible with only two measurable bones with no complete long bones.

#### 4.10.4 Assessment work outstanding

There is no outstanding assessment work.

### 4.11 The human bone

Cremated human bone came from three contexts: [290], [406] and [503]. The white colour of the bones suggests that they were well-calcined due to a high pyre temperature. All of these contexts were 'samples' of burials, and may be token cremations or deposits of (or including) pyre debris, in either case likely to be heavily truncated. Context [290] was associated with an urn [289]. Each contained fragments of bone that could be identified.

| Context No. | Colour | Weight (g) | Maximum size |
|-------------|--------|------------|--------------|
| 290         | White  | 35         | 50 X 20 mm   |
| 406         | White  | 40         | 35 X 15 mm   |
| 503         | White  | 10         | 20 X 20 mm   |

Table 11 Summary of cremated human bone from HOM98

The cremated bone was the only human skeletal material on the site. During the excavations, eight further deposits had been thought to be cremations, but none of these contained human bone: [1062]/[1063], [2160] <2135>, [2178] <2137>, [2288] <2138>, [2234] <2139>, [2290] <2140>, [2333] <2141>, [2672] <2150>.

### 4.12 The environmental samples: botanical remains

#### 4.12.1 Introduction/methodology

Fifty-seven samples were taken during excavation of the site. Samples were taken from features including cremation pits, waste pits, cooking pits and well features. The samples were processed at MOLA using a modified Siraf flotation tank. The residues were sorted by eye for organic material and other artefacts (Tables 3 and 4). The flot was scanned using a stereomicroscope at x10 up to x50 where necessary. The rating system used for recording remains was as follows:

##### *Abundance*

1 = 1-10 items (occasional); 2 = 11-100 items (moderate); 3 = >100 items (abundant)

##### *Diversity*

1 = 1-3 species (low); 2 = 4-8 species (intermediate); 3 = >8 species (high)

The processing and assessment data were stored on the MOLA Oracle database in order to be integrated with other archaeological data from the site and compiled to summary tables.

#### 4.12.2 Charred remains

Charred remains were noted in most of the samples. In most cases (see Table 12 to Table 14) these remains were no more than very low concentrations of charcoal flecks. About one third of the samples contained charcoal of a size and quality suitable for wood species identification. Six samples contained evidence of charred cereal grains. These were samples {2130} from [2044], {2141} from [2333], {2115} from [1564], {2149} from [2624], {2148} from [2626] and {2151} from [2630]. The grains were generally too abraded to be identified to species. The grains that could be identified at the assessment level included hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and wheat types (*Triticum* sp.). Samples {2141} and {2151} are currently undated but the

remaining samples that contain evidence of grain are broadly dated to the Bronze Age (1000-600 BC).

#### **4.12.3 Waterlogged remains**

Many of the samples contained waterlogged plant remains but it is suggested that many of these represent either modern intrusions or biased preservation rather true waterlogged material. This is suggested in cases where there is a very limited range of species with hardy testa (*Sambucus nigra*, *Rubus* sp.), and where the presence of root material and worm eggs indicate intrusive elements. Sample {2110} from [1314] was the only sample to contain plant remains of species that tend to prefer wetter habitats, with very low concentrations of rush (*Juncus* sp.) seeds recovered.

#### **4.12.4 Faunal remains**

Very low concentrations of terrestrial molluscs and beetle fragments were noted in some of the samples. Ehippia or water flea eggs were also noted in sample {203} [874], taken from a possible cooking pit which dates to 1000–600 BC. Water flea eggs are generally laid only in very wet environments.

#### **4.12.5 Artefactual remains**

Many possible artefacts were noted at the processing stage, including flint, burnt flint, CBM, clinker and daub. These have been passed to the Finds department.

#### **4.12.6 Assessment work outstanding**

None.

Table 12 Botanical remains

CHD = charred, WL = waterlogged, F = flot,  
A = abundance, D = diversity

| SGP | Context | Sample | BI | Dating       | proc vol. | flot vol. | Proc | charred grain |   | charred seeds |   | charred misc |   | charred wood |   | w'logged seeds |   | w'logged misc |   | w'logged wood |              | Comments                  |
|-----|---------|--------|----|--------------|-----------|-----------|------|---------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|----------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|     |         |        |    |              |           |           |      | A             | D | A             | D | A            | D | A            | D | A              | D | A             | D | A             | D            |                           |
| 334 | 1085    | 2007   | W  | 1000-600 BC  | 1.1       |           | WL   |               |   |               |   |              |   |              | 1 | 1              |   |               | 3 | 1             |              |                           |
| 425 | 1033    | 2009   | PK | 2900-2000 BC | 1.7       | 10        | WL   |               |   |               |   |              |   |              | 2 | 1              |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 426 | 1035    | 2008   | PK | 2900-2000 BC | 2.8       |           | F    |               |   |               |   | 3            | 1 | 2            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               | DRY          |                           |
|     |         |        |    |              |           |           | W    |               |   | 1             | 1 |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              | BNT & WKD FLINT, 10L KEPT |
| 564 | 1314    | 2110   | PK |              | 1.2       | 5         | F    |               |   |               |   | 2            | 1 | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               | DRY          |                           |
| 576 | 1343    | 2111   | W  | 1000-600 BC  | 1.5       | 5         | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               | DRY          |                           |
| 628 | 1444    | 2112   | P  |              | 4         | 10        | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 693 | 1594    | 2113   | P  |              | 2         | 15        | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 698 | 1604    | 2114   | D  |              | 1.5       | 50        | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
|     |         |        |    |              |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   | 2            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              | SILT, OCC GRAVEL          |
| 745 | 1698    | 2116   | PK |              | 2         | 5         | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 756 | 1720    | 2117   | P  |              | 3         |           | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 757 | 1722    | 2119   | P  |              | 3         | 40        | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 759 | 1726    | 2118   | P  |              | 3         | 10        | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 761 | 1730    | 2120   | P  |              | 2.5       | 25        | W    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               | GRAVEL, SILT |                           |
| 780 | 1775    | 2121   | W  |              | 5         | 10        | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 797 | 1807    | 2122   | D  |              | 2         |           | F    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |              |                           |
| 820 | 1886    | 2123   | W  |              | 3         | 40        | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 2            | 1 | 1              | 1 | 1             | 1 | 1             | 1            |                           |

| SGP  | Context | Sample | BI | Dating | proc vol. | flot vol. | Proc | charred grain |   | charred seeds |   | charred misc |   | charred wood |   | w'logged seeds |   | w'logged misc |   | w'logged wood |   | Comments |                                |
|------|---------|--------|----|--------|-----------|-----------|------|---------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|----------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|---|----------|--------------------------------|
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           |      | A             | D | A             | D | A            | D | A            | D | A              | D | A             | D | A             | D |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           |      |               |   |               |   |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT & GRAVEL                  |
| 835  | 1883    | 2127   | P  |        | 2.5       | 75        | F    |               |   | 1             | 1 |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, OCC GRAVEL, BFLINT       |
| 836  | 1889    | 2124   | W  |        | 1         | 15        | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, OCC GRAVEL               |
|      | 1901    | 2126   | W  |        | 1         |           | W    |               |   | 1             | 1 |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | GRAVEL                         |
|      | 2003    | 2129   | W  |        | 2         | 40        | F    |               |   | 2             | 1 | 1            | 1 |              |   | 2              | 1 |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
| 894  | 2044    | 2130   | W  |        | 3.5       |           | F    | 1             | 1 | 1             | 1 |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    | 1             | 1 |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, BFLINT                   |
|      | 2082    | 2132   | W  |        | 4         | 10        | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
| 903  | 2021    | 2128   | PK |        | 3         | 50        | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | GRAVEL, SILT                   |
|      |         |        |    |        |           | 15        | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
| 907  | 2029    | 2131   | P  |        | 1         |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, OCC GRAVEL.              |
| 925  | 2068    | 2134   | P  |        | 2         |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | BFLINT, OCC GRAVEL             |
| 970  | 2160    | 2135   | -  |        | 3         | 60        | W    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, OCC GRAVEL, OCC CHARCOAL |
| 979  | 2178    | 2137   | -  |        | 2         | 60        | F    |               |   | 1             | 1 |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | GRAVEL, SILT                   |
| 1034 | 2288    | 2138   | CR |        | 3         | 25        | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 2            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT AND GRAVEL                |
| 1035 | 2290    | 2140   | CR |        | 1         | 10        | F    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                                |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              |   | 1            | 1 |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, OCC GRAVEL               |
| 1057 | 2333    | 2141   | CR |        | 3         |           | F    | 1             | 1 | 1             | 1 |              |   | 2            | 1 | 1              | 1 |               |   |               |   |          |                                |

| SGP  | Context | Sample | BI | Dating | proc vol. | flot vol. | Proc | charred grain |   | charred seeds |   | charred misc |   | charred wood |   | w'logged seeds |   | w'logged misc |   | w'logged wood |   | Comments |                   |
|------|---------|--------|----|--------|-----------|-----------|------|---------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|----------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|---|----------|-------------------|
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           |      | A             | D | A             | D | A            | D | A            | D | A              | D | A             | D | A             | D |          |                   |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | FREQ GRAVEL       |
| 1096 | 2415    | 2144   | P  |        | 2         | 15        | F    |               |   |               |   |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
| 1097 | 2417    | 2142   | P  |        | 8         |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | GRAVEL, FREQ DAUB |
| 1115 | 2453    | 2143   | P  |        | 2         | 5         | F    |               |   |               |   |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
| 1142 | 1564    | 2115   | PK |        | 3         | 25        | F    | 1             | 1 |               |   |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
| 1187 | 2596    | 2146   | D  |        | 3         | 50        | W    |               |   |               |   |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | BFLINT, GRAVEL    |
| 1201 | 2624    | 2149   | SP |        | 2.5       | 40        | F    | 1             | 1 |               |   |              | 2 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
| 1202 | 2626    | 2148   | SP |        | 1.5       | 50        | F    | 1             | 1 |               |   |              | 2 | 1            | 1 | 1              |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
| 1204 | 2630    | 2151   | PR |        | 2.5       |           | F    | 1             | 1 | 1             | 1 |              |   |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
|      |         |        |    |        |           |           | W    |               |   |               |   | 1            | 1 |              |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |
| 1217 | 2658    | 2147   | P  |        | 2.5       |           | W    |               |   |               |   |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          | SILT, OCC GRAVEL  |
| 1223 | 2672    | 2150   | CR |        | 2         | 20        | F    |               |   | 1             | 1 |              | 1 | 1            |   |                |   |               |   |               |   |          |                   |

Table 13 Biological remains  
*F= flot, W = residue*

| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating       | Process | Constituent  | Abundance | Diversity | Comment              |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| 170   | 406     | 101    | CR |              | W       | BONE L MAM   | 1         | 1         | CREMATED FRAGS       |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | CHD ID WOOD  | 3         | 1         | FOR C14              |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | MOLSC TR     | 1         | 1         |                      |
| 219   | 503     | 102    | CR |              | W       | BONE L MAM   | 1         | 1         | CREMATED             |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | CHD ID WOOD  | 1         | 1         | FOR C14              |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG MISC     | 1         | 1         | EGG CASE?/<br>PUPAE? |
| 261   | 680     | 200    | P  | 3400-2000 BC | F       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |                      |
| 334   | 832     | 201    | PQ | 1000-600 BC  | F       | CHD ID WOOD  | 3         | 1         |                      |
|       |         |        |    |              | W       | CHD ID WOOD  | 2         | 1         |                      |
| 334   | 871     | 204    | PQ | 0-0          | W       | WLG WOOD     | 1         | 1         | SMALL FRAGS NOT KEPT |
|       |         |        |    |              | WL      | CHD WOOD     | 2         | 1         |                      |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG WOOD     | 2         | 1         | SMALL FRAGS          |
| 334   | 874     | 203    | PQ | 1000-600 BC  | F       | INV BEETLES  | 1         | 1         | FRAG                 |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | INV EPHIPPIA | 1         | 1         |                      |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG SEEDS    | 1         | 1         | CHE,RAN              |
| 334   | 1085    | 2007   | W  | 1000-600 BC  | W       | CHD ID WOOD  | 1         | 1         |                      |
|       |         |        |    |              | WL      | WLG SEEDS    | 1         | 1         | POLAV                |



| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating       | Process | Constituent | Abundance | Diversity | Comment            |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG WOOD    | 3         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG STEMS   | 3         | 1         |                    |
| 400   | 983     | 1003   | P  |              | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 1         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | CHD WOOD    | 2         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG ROOTS   | 3         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | SIL POOR PRES, CHE |
| 401   | 985     | 1004   | P  |              | F       | MOLSC TR    | 1         | 1         | CECI               |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG ROOTS   | 3         | 1         |                    |
| 402   | 987     | 1005   | P  |              | F       | CHD WOOD    | 2         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG ROOTS   | 3         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | CHE/ATR            |
| 403   | 989     | 1002   | D  |              | F       | INV BEETLES | 1         | 1         | FRAGS              |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | MOLSC TR    | 1         | 1         | CECI               |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG ROOTS   | 2         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | RUBFRID,RESLU      |
| 404   | 991     | 1006   | P  |              | F       | CHD WOOD    | 3         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG ROOTS   | 2         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | URTDI              |
|       |         |        |    |              | W       | CHD ID WOOD | 1         | 1         |                    |
| 425   | 1033    | 2009   | PK | 2900–2000 BC | W       | BONE L MAM  | 1         | 1         | BNT FRAGS          |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | CHD ID WOOD | 1         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              | WL      | WLG ROOTS   | 2         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | WLG SEEDS   | 2         | 1         | URTDI,CHE,SIL      |
| 426   | 1035    | 2008   | PK | 2900–2000 BC | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 1         | 1         |                    |
|       |         |        |    |              |         | CHD WOOD    | 3         | 1         |                    |

| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating     | Process | Constituent | Abundance | Diversity | Comment        |
|-------|---------|--------|----|------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG LEAF    | 1         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG ROOTS   | 3         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | CHE            |
|       |         |        |    |            | W       | BONE L MAM  | 1         | 1         | BNT FRAGS      |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | CHD ID WOOD | 1         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | CHD SEEDS   | 1         | 1         |                |
| 564   | 1314    | 2110   | PK |            | F       | CHD WOOD    | 2         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG ROOTS   | 2         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | JUN,CHE        |
|       |         |        |    |            | W       | CHD ID WOOD | 1         | 1         |                |
| 576   | 1343    | 2111   | W  | 1000-600BC | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         | V. SMALL FRAGS |
| 628   | 1444    | 2112   | P  |            | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         | VERY SMALL     |
| 693   | 1594    | 2113   | P  |            | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         | TINY FRAGS     |
| 698   | 1604    | 2114   | D  |            | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 2         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | MOLSC TR    | 1         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | CHE, SOL?      |
|       |         |        |    |            | W       | CHD WOOD    | 2         | 1         |                |
| 745   | 1698    | 2116   | PK |            | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                |
| 756   | 1720    | 2117   | P  |            | F       | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | RUM, CHE       |
| 757   | 1722    | 2119   | P  |            | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                |
| 759   | 1726    | 2118   | P  |            | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         | VERY SMALL     |
|       |         |        |    |            |         | WLG SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | SIL, CHE       |
| 761   | 1730    | 2120   | P  |            | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 2         | 1         |                |
|       |         |        |    |            | W       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                |

| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating | Process | Constituent | Abundance | Diversity | Comment               |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------|---------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 780   | 1775    | 2121   | W  |        | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                       |
| 797   | 1807    | 2122   | D  |        | F       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         | V. TINY               |
| 820   | 1886    | 2123   |    |        | F       | INV BEETLES | 1         | 1         | V. LOW CONCENTRATIONS |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | WLG WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | WLG SEEDS   | 2         | 1         | SAMNI, RUBFRID        |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | WLG MISC    | 1         | 1         | FEATHER, WORM EGGS    |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                       |
| 835   | 1883    | 2127   | P  |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 2         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD SEEDS   | 1         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                       |
| 836   | 1889    | 2124   | W  |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 2         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         | TINY FRAGS            |
| 836   | 1901    | 2126   | W  |        | W       | CHD SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | MODERN?               |
| 894   | 2003    | 2129   | W  |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD | 2         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD MISC    | 1         | 1         | BEAN?                 |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | WLG SEEDS   | 2         | 1         | GAL, CHE, SAMNI       |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD SEEDS   | 2         | 1         | CHE, RUM              |
| 894   | 2044    | 2130   | W  |        | F       | CHD GRAIN   | 1         | 1         | TRIT, HORVU           |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD SEEDS   | 1         | 1         | CHE                   |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD ID WOOD | 2         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD    | 1         | 1         |                       |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD GRAIN   | 1         | 1         |                       |

| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating | Process | Constituent  | Abundance | Diversity | Comment     |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 894   | 2082    | 2132   | W  |        | F       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | MOLSC TR     | 1         | 1         |             |
| 903   | 2021    | 2128   | PK |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD  | 2         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | MOLSC TR     | 1         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |             |
| 907   | 2029    | 2131   | P  |        | F       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         | SMALL FRAGS |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |             |
| 925   | 2068    | 2134   | P  |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD  | 2         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | BONE L MAM   | 1         | 1         | BURNT BONE  |
| 926   | 2070    | 2133   | PK |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD  | 3         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD NUTSHELL | 1         | 1         | CORAV       |
| 970   | 2160    | 2135   | CR |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD  | 3         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD NUTSHELL | 1         | 1         | CORAV       |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | MOLSC TR     | 1         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD MISC     | 1         | 1         | 10% SAMPLED |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | BONE L MAM   | 1         | 1         | CREMATION   |
| 979   | 2178    | 2137   | CR |        | F       | CHD ID WOOD  | 3         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD SEEDS    | 1         | 1         | CHE         |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD NUTSHELL | 1         | 1         |             |
| 1034  | 2288    | 2138   | CR |        | F       | CHD WOOD     | 2         | 1         | SMALL FRAGS |

| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating | Process | Constituent    | Abundance | Diversity | Comment                |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------|---------|----------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|
|       |         |        |    |        |         | MOLSC TR       | 1         | 1         |                        |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         |                        |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | BONE L MAM     | 1         | 1         | BURNT BONE             |
| 1035  | 2290    | 2140   | CR |        | F       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         | TINY FRAGS             |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | BONE L MAM     | 1         | 1         | CREMATION?             |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         |                        |
| 1057  | 2333    | 2141   | CR |        | F       | CHD GRAIN      | 1         | 1         | TRIT, INDET            |
|       |         |        |    |        | F       | CHD SEEDS      | 1         | 1         | CHE                    |
|       |         |        |    |        | F       | CHD WOOD       | 2         | 1         |                        |
|       |         |        |    |        | F       | WLG SEEDS      | 1         | 1         | CHE                    |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | BONE L MAM     | 1         | 1         | BURNT<br>CREMATION?    |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         |                        |
| 1096  | 2415    | 2144   | P  |        | F       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         | VERY SMALL             |
| 1097  | 2417    | 2142   | P  |        | W       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         | VERY TINY<br>FRAGMENTS |
| 1115  | 2453    | 2143   | P  |        | F       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         |                        |
| 1121  | 2464    | 2145   | P  |        | F       | CHD ID<br>WOOD | 1         | 1         |                        |
| 1142  | 1564    | 2115   | PK |        | F       | CHD GRAIN      | 1         | 1         | INDET                  |
|       |         |        |    |        | F       | CHD ID<br>WOOD | 2         | 1         |                        |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         |                        |
| 1187  | 2596    | 2146   | D  |        | F       | CHD ID<br>WOOD | 3         | 1         |                        |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         |                        |
| 1201  | 2624    | 2149   | SP |        | F       | CHD GRAIN      | 1         | 1         | INDET                  |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD WOOD       | 2         | 1         |                        |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD       | 1         | 1         | 20% COLLECTED          |
| 1202  | 2626    | 2148   | SP |        | F       | CHD GRAIN      | 1         | 1         | INDET                  |

| Subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating | Process | Constituent  | Abundance | Diversity | Comment |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD WOOD     | 2         | 1         | ID      |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | WLG SEEDS    | 1         | 1         | FRAGS   |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | BONE L MAM   | 1         | 1         | BURNT   |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |         |
| 1204  | 2630    | 2151   | PR |        | F       | CHD GRAIN    | 1         | 1         | TRIT    |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD ID WOOD  | 2         | 1         |         |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD NUTSHELL | 1         | 1         | CORAV   |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD SEEDS    | 1         | 1         | CHE     |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |         |
| 1217  | 2658    | 2147   | P  |        | W       | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |         |
| 1223  | 2672    | 2150   | CR |        | F       | CHD SEEDS    | 1         | 1         |         |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | CHD WOOD     | 1         | 1         |         |
|       |         |        |    |        |         | MOLSC TR     | 1         | 1         |         |
|       |         |        |    |        | W       | CHD NUTSHELL | 1         | 1         |         |

Table 14 Inorganic finds from the soil samples

O = occasional M=Moderate

| subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating           | constituent | proportion |
|-------|---------|--------|----|------------------|-------------|------------|
| 170   | 406     | 101    | CR |                  | CBM         | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | FLINT       | O          |
| 219   | 503     | 102    | CR |                  | CBM         | O          |
| 334   | 871     | 204    | PQ | 0-0              | BFLINT      | O          |
| 400   | 983     | 1003   | P  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
| 404   | 991     | 1006   | P  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | CLNK        | O          |
| 425   | 1033    | 2009   | PK | 2900- 2000<br>BC | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | DAUB        | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
| 426   | 1035    | 2008   | PK | 2900- 2000<br>BC | BFLINT      | M          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | DAUB        | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
| 564   | 1314    | 2110   | PK |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | DAUB        | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
| 576   | 1343    | 2111   | W  | 1000-600<br>BC   | BFLINT      | O          |
| 628   | 1444    | 2112   | P  |                  | DAUB        | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | POT         | O          |
| 698   | 1604    | 2114   | D  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | POT         | O          |
| 745   | 1698    | 2116   | PK |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
| 756   | 1720    | 2117   | P  |                  | POT         | O          |
| 759   | 1726    | 2118   | P  |                  | POT         | O          |
| 797   | 1807    | 2122   | D  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
| 820   | 1886    | 2123   | W  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
| 835   | 1883    | 2127   | P  |                  | BFLINT      | M          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
| 836   | 1889    | 2124   | W  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | DAUB        | O          |
| 894   | 2003    | 2129   | W  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | POT         | O          |
| 894   | 2044    | 2130   | W  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | POT         | O          |
| 903   | 2021    | 2128   | PK |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | POT         | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | DAUB        | O          |
| 907   | 2029    | 2131   | P  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | POT         | O          |
| 925   | 2068    | 2134   | P  |                  | BFLINT      | A          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | DAUB        | O          |
| 926   | 2070    | 2133   | PK |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
| 970   | 2160    | 2135   | CR |                  | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |                  | WFLINT      | O          |
| 975   | 2170    | 2136   | P  |                  | BFLINT      | O          |

| subgp | context | Sample | BI | Dating | constituent | proportion |
|-------|---------|--------|----|--------|-------------|------------|
|       |         |        |    |        | WFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 979   | 2178    | 2137   | CR |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | WFLINT      | O          |
| 1096  | 2415    | 2144   | P  |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | DAUB        | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | WFLINT      | O          |
| 1097  | 2417    | 2142   | P  |        | BFLINT      | A          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | DAUB        | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | FLINT       | O          |
| 1115  | 2453    | 2143   | P  |        | DAUB        | M          |
|       |         |        |    |        | FLINT       | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 1121  | 2464    | 2145   | P  |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 1142  | 1564    | 2115   | PK |        | BFLINT      | M          |
|       |         |        |    |        | DAUB        | M          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 1187  | 2596    | 2146   | D  |        | BFLINT      | A          |
| 1201  | 2624    | 2149   | SP |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 1202  | 2626    | 2148   | SP |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | FLINT       | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 1204  | 2630    | 2151   | PR |        | BFLINT      | M          |
|       |         |        |    |        | DAUB        | M          |
|       |         |        |    |        | WFLINT      | O          |
| 1217  | 2658    | 2147   | P  |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | FLINT       | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | POT         | O          |
| 1223  | 2672    | 2150   | CR |        | BFLINT      | O          |
|       |         |        |    |        | WFLINT      | O          |



## 5 Potential of the data

### 5.1 Realisation of the original research aims

Original Research Question: *To identify, investigate and record any later prehistoric, Roman, Saxon or medieval features associated with settlement and land management.*

Realisation: The remains of an isolated feature, dated by pot fragments to the early–middle Neolithic period represents the earliest activity on the site. Flint and pottery dated to the Middle–Late Neolithic period has also been recovered. The majority of features and artefacts recovered date to the Middle–Late Bronze Age. The features represent the remains of more than one phase of land management, with shifting field patterns, and possible settlement remains. Drove ways, enclosures, fence lines, and boundary ditches have been found across the site.

Iron Age activity in the form of pottery has been recovered, but no definite features have been identified. A very small assemblage of Roman pottery recovered from the site, together with brick fragments, attest to some limited Roman presence in the surrounding area, but no features were identified from this period. A possible sunken featured building, stylistically of Saxon date was recorded on the site.

Medieval and post-medieval pottery has been recovered from the site. Several of the ditches recorded during the watching brief/excavation, were of a late date, and are thought to represent continuing agricultural activity on the site.

Original Research Question: *To determine if the cremation burial recovered from the evaluation of Phase 11 is an individual burial or part of a cemetery group.*

Realisation: The cremation with a Deverel-Rimbury urn base appears to be an isolated feature. Two other features containing burnt human bone, either unurned cremations or accidental deposits of pyre debris, were widely-spaced, and there is no evidence for a cemetery area.

Original Research Question: *To determine the extent and date of the features identified in the evaluation in order to more fully comprehend their form and function.*

Realisation: Several of the features recorded during the evaluation, were not seen during the watching brief/excavation. As stated in section 3.3, this may have been due to the differences in the time of the year that the various archaeological investigations took place, or in the amount of weathering of the features uncovered. However, where features from the evaluation were uncovered during the watching brief/excavation, it was possible to acquire more information, on their function, extent and date.

Original Research Question: *To compare the results with other evidence on this site in an attempt to identify patterns of land use by period and to draw further comparisons with the evidence from the Heathrow plateau study area.*

Realisation: The results of the watching brief/excavation indicate a highly organised land management system that appears to change over time. The shifting pattern of these field systems, at first glance appears to be repeated on similar sites within the immediate vicinity, such as at Imperial College Sports Ground, and at Cranford Lane. The nature of this land management will need further analysis.

## 5.2 General discussion of the potential

### 5.2.1 *The building material*

The majority of the fired ceramic building material is post-medieval brick and roofing tile. There is only one definite piece of Roman tile which may have been brought in from elsewhere. There appears to be no material of medieval date, although once the dating and stratigraphy are finished it is possible some of the roofing tile could be of this date.

The majority of the building material assemblage comprises a large quantity of daub like material of Neolithic and Bronze Age date, mostly in the form of very small fragments. Very little of this can be identified, although a few have a flat surface, whilst others have what appears to be wattle marks. The latter probably come from some kind of wattle and daub structure. Other fragments show signs of burning, suggesting they may be from hearth or oven structures.

### 5.2.2 *The prehistoric pottery*

#### 5.2.2.1 *Dating*

This is a good size assemblage with diagnostic pieces. The spot-dating process has been as thorough as possible, and the summary of the forms present on the site shows a sequence for much of the prehistoric period, with the identification of several phases of activity. The Neolithic pottery is clearly a very important component of the collection, but the amounts of pottery are at present hard to define for all periods and further investigation is desirable, not only to refine the chronology but also to establish the nature and extent of activity relating to each period or phase. There is considerable potential to develop and refine the dating framework by checking the form types once more when the first phase of stratigraphic analysis has been carried out and then modifying the period dating within the Oracle database, a process that would permit a better identification and dating of groups where more than one period is present. The finds can also help to better understand the smaller groups from earlier phases of work on the site (in 1988 and 1991). In particular the apparent absence of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery needs to be verified and explained in comparison with similar phenomena on some, but not all, sites in the surrounding area (Elsden 2008, 45).

Several sites within the general area (already included in the West London Landscapes project) and that at Prospect Park, Harmondsworth) have produced a very similar range of finds to that recovered over the three phases at Home Farm. From both sites, late Neolithic grooved ware, middle Bronze Age cremation urns and late Bronze Age plain wares have been recovered, which demonstrates the multi-period nature of occupation in the area (Laidlaw and Mephram 1996, 26–33) and the fact that the assemblage can be considered within a broader regional framework. This in turn would benefit other assemblages and sites in the Heathrow area, providing, for example, good comparative data for the dating of Peterborough ware at Wall Garden Farm and Middle/Late Bronze Age activity at Cranford Lane and Holloway Lane in the West London Landscapes project.

A few sherds have sufficient carbonised residues to allow radiocarbon dating, and that from [623] would be of value for understanding the dating of Peterborough-type ware on the site. Three others from [832] and one from [1085] are probably of Late Bronze Age date and perhaps less useful as the pottery is better understood.

#### **5.2.2.2 Pottery use and supply**

Although time has been spent analysing the fabrics from the first part of the excavation, the fabric categories need to be merged with, or converted to, those developed for the West London gravels project. This would provide a more consistent and unified system for the area as a whole and make it possible to come to more valid conclusions regarding pottery use and supply.

A number of different form types have already been identified, and it should be possible to add to and develop this classification once further publications on relevant assemblages have been consulted. The fact that there is pottery from a range of periods provides the opportunity to see the patterns of usage of the site, and there is good potential for studying the spatial distribution of the assemblage in relation to different feature types, and the relationship of changing ceramic fashions to burial rite and domestic use.

The probable ritual deposits of Peterborough-type ware and Grooved ware are of particular interest, as the vessels are clearly of high quality, and Grooved ware is generally associated with ritual and prestige sites. These groups merit special study, within the context of known sites and monuments in the area, with full discussion of the parallels for the forms and decorative styles present. The Middle Bronze Age cremation vessel contributes to the growing pattern of burial distribution for this area. Likewise the indication of a Late Bronze Age phase is of regional interest and should be considered in relation to the spread of extensive enclosure systems across both the surrounding area, and more widely in the Thames Valley, during the Middle and Late Bronze Age.

The assemblage also has the potential to contribute to the understanding of ceramic technology, eg: vessel size, manufacture, decorative techniques. This in turn can contribute to a consideration of wider issues such the social use of fine wares and coarse wares, changes in society during the Bronze Age and symbolism of the size and decoration of ceramic vessels used in funerary rites. At present c 50 vessels merit illustration, although some as rim profiles only.

#### **5.2.3 The Roman pottery**

The Roman pottery assemblage is small and in poor condition, and therefore has limited potential for refinement of dating once integration with the stratigraphic sequence is complete.

#### **5.2.4 The post-Roman pottery**

The medieval and post-medieval pottery has no potential other than as dating evidence and an indicator of later intrusions into the prehistoric landscape.

#### **5.2.5 The accessioned finds**

The prehistoric (Late Bronze Age) finds consist of fragments from loom weights, moulds and/or crucibles used for bronze casting, and perforated slabs. The crucible and/or mould fragments, with their adhering copper alloy, are relatively rare regionally, apart from the large assemblages at Runnymede. They provide evidence for bronze casting in the Late Bronze Age to complement a larger assemblage from Cranford Lane of refined crucible fragments and sword or spear blade moulds (Elsden 2008, 40). The only other comparable material to date from west London appears to be a small Late Bronze Age assemblage from Chiswick (J. Cotton, pers comm; Boucher 1989, 8–9 & The Pottery, 5).

These should be examined by an appropriate specialist, preferably in comparison with the material from Cranford Lane, eg for any evidence of reuse of crucibles, possible identification of inner/outer mould valves, ties for mould valves, items being cast, etc. the material from Home Farm should be published, preferably in conjunction with that from Cranford Lane.

The loom weight fragments are also very small and it may not be possible to tell whether they are cylindrical or pyramidal (Late Bronze age to Early Iron Age). They do at least suggest a pastoral element to the local economy, and should be described (fabric) and mentioned in a publication, although not necessarily illustrated. The pieces of perforated slab are common finds on Late Bronze Age sites in south-east England; many different uses have been suggested involving cooking, ventilation and oven/kiln furniture. However, their precise function remains unknown. In summary, apart from the crucible/mould fragments, the prehistoric finds are fragmentary and standard for their period with limited publication potential, while the very small number of later finds (iron and coal) do not have publication potential.

### **5.2.6 *The worked and burnt flint***

Further analysis of the worked flint (and to a limited extent the distribution of the burnt flint) has potential to help characterise the prehistoric activity on this site in conjunction with the stratigraphic and other finds and environmental data. These activities, and the flintwork, can be compared with other prehistoric sites from the surrounding area, such as those in the English Heritage-funded West London Landscapes project.

### **5.2.7 *The animal bone***

The moderately-preserved hand-collected and wet-sieved assemblage has some limited potential for further study of the local meat diet and patterns of waste disposal, particularly with reference to carcass-part selection and age at death of cattle and sheep/goat. There is also some potential for interpretation of disposal of other domesticates, horse and dog. The very small wet-sieved assemblages from this period provide no evidence for the consumption of fish and none for the exploitation or local presence of wild species generally. In view of this, there is no potential for interpretation of local habitats.

### **5.2.8 *The human bone***

The three cremation contexts should be fully analysed. They appear to be part of a wider pattern of isolated (surviving) cremations (mostly unurned), or deposits of pyre debris, distributed amongst field systems and potential occupation sites across this part of the Taplow Gravel Terrace, contrasting with the few finds of more formal, concentrated, cremation cemeteries.

Comparative material has been discovered locally, at Imperial College Sports Ground (IMP96/IMC96), Cranford Lane (CFL94), and possibly at Bath Road (NHS97). These may be compared with cremations from further afield, eg two at Prospect Park (PPK93) and a similar number at Perry Oaks, Terminal 5 (Lewis et al 2006, 151–2), and much larger cemeteries at Western International Market (HYA01) and Longford, Terminal 5 (Lewis et al 2006, 151–2).

## **5.2.9 The environmental samples**

### *5.2.9.1 Botanical samples*

Given the rural and dry land character of the site, the charred material has the most potential to add to the interpretation of the site. Those samples containing cereal grain could potentially aid in the reconstruction of crop cultivation and consumption at the site, as very little archaeobotanical material has been analysed from the prehistoric periods in this area to date.

The charcoal present, where suitable for identification, could be used to reconstruct fuel selection strategies at the site, particularly with reference to the fuel used for the cremation activities.

Any charred grain, charred nut shell or identifiable charcoal could be used for radiocarbon dating.

### *5.2.9.2 Faunal remains*

The faunal remains were extremely scarce in the samples, and in most cases, such as the terrestrial molluscs, were represented either by single occurrences in the samples or by burrowing species. As such, they do not have the potential to contribute to the understanding of the deposits at the site.

## **6 Significance of the data**

The site has produced evidence for prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activity.

### **6.1 The building material**

The full significance of much of the building material can only be fully ascertained when the site phasing is matched with the available dating evidence. Much of the daub would appear to relate to the Neolithic and, in particular, the Bronze occupation in the area.

There is limited evidence for Roman activity on the site, and this is confirmed by the lack of Roman building material. The one definite tile of Roman date could have been brought in as building rubble from elsewhere.

Similarly, the building material assemblage suggests there was little or no building activity on the site in the medieval period, or at least nothing requiring ceramic roofing tile or brick.

Post-medieval material is restricted to what appears to be peg roofing tile and a few scattered pieces of brick. The roofing tiles probably originate from nearby farm buildings or the cottages of agricultural workers. No higher status material, such as floor or wall tile, is present on the site with the exception of what may be marble flooring. This, however, probably relates to the late 19th century, or later development of the area.

### **6.2 The prehistoric pottery**

As an assemblage in its own right, the prehistoric pottery is mainly of local significance, with the Neolithic wares and one or two other vessels of regional interest. The Peterborough Mortlake/Ebbsfleet ware and other groups of Neolithic pottery are of particular interest as they were at the time of excavation one of the largest stratified collections of such vessels found in west London, and now fit within a general cluster in this area. When considered in the light of the finds from sites in the surrounding area, it is clear that the area was a major focus of prehistoric activity that included both burial rituals and settlement. As such, the finds are collectively of regional and national interest, and publication of the fabrics and forms present will be of value to students of the Late Neolithic and Bronze Ages in southern England and the country as a whole.

### **6.3 The Roman pottery**

The Roman pottery assemblage has limited local significance, as it confirms continuity from the Late Iron Age into the early Roman period, reflecting a number of other sites in the Heathrow area, such as Terminal 5 (Lewis et al, 2006), and probably at Imperial College Sports Ground, Mayfield Farm, Holloway Lane, and Wall Garden Farm.

### **6.4 The post-Roman pottery**

The medieval and later pottery is of limited local significance only.

## **6.5 The accessioned finds**

The crucible/mould fragments have regional significance, particularly if published in conjunction with those from Cranford Lane. The other accessioned finds have local significance only.

## **6.6 The worked and burnt flint**

The flint assemblage is of local significance. If it is analysed in comparison with that from other sites in the surrounding West London area, group value would raise this significance.

## **6.7 The animal bone**

The hand-collected and wet-sieved animal bone is of limited significance, particularly in terms of meat diet. There is no wider significance, or significance in terms of local habitats.

## **6.8 The human bone**

The three small deposits of cremated human remains are of local significance.

## **6.9 The environmental samples**

The material present is of significance only to the study of the site in question, and this of local significance only.

## **6.10 Summary**

The evidence for limited Neolithic activity is of local interest, but the assemblages of Grooved Ware and Peterborough Ware are of at least regional significance.

The more extensive Bronze Age, and potentially Iron Age, phases of droveways and enclosures, with some associated activity, is of at least local significance, demonstrating further the extent of such field systems across this part of the Thames terraces. It is of some regional interest, contributing to the study of this wide ranging agricultural regime.

The small number of Late Bronze Age mould and/or crucible fragments are of regional importance, being one of the few finds locally or regionally providing evidence for such industrial practices in the Bronze Age.

The Roman, medieval, and post-medieval evidence is both sparse and confined to indications of an agricultural regime. It is of limited local interest only.

The potentially Saxon sunken featured building, with suggestions of contemporary activity, could be of local, and some regional importance, if it can be more confidently identified.

## 7 Publication project: aims and objectives

### 7.1 Revised research aims

#### 7.1.1 Stratigraphic

*RRA 1 General: how does the pattern, nature, and sequence of prehistoric and Romano-British activity compare with that demonstrated on other sites in the Heathrow/west London area ?*

*RRA 2 What is the nature and dates(s) of the Neolithic activity on the site ? What intensity of activity or occupation does it imply ?*

*RRA 3 What evidence is there for any Early Bronze Age activity ?*

*RRA 4 What is the nature and sequence of construction and modification of the droveway/enclosure system, and the dating of the different phases ?*

*RRA 5 Does the use of the droveway/enclosure system, and associated activity, continue into the Middle and Later Iron Age ? If not, how does this compare with a similar phenomenon at Cranford Lane and other sites ?*

*RRA 6 How does the orientation, layout, and construction sequence of the droveway/enclosure system compare with that in the surrounding area ? Is it part of a wider system?*

*RRA 7 What activities were taking place within, or associated with, the droveway/enclosure system ? (eg domestic/cooking, cremation, bronze casting, etc )*

*RRA 8 How does the silting on the western side of the site relate to both the local topography and the evolution of the droveway/enclosure system or other prehistoric activity ?*

*RRA 9 What do the mould/crucible fragments indicate about bronze-casting technology, industrial activity on the site, and how does their findspot compare with the layout of the droveway/enclosure system ? How does this compare with similar finds from Cranford Lane ?*

*RRA 10 Does the droveway/enclosure system continue in use after the Roman conquest ? If so for how long ?*

*RRA 11 What other Romano-British activity took place on the site, and how does this compare with contemporary occupation and activity in the surrounding area ?*

*RRA 12 Can the possible sunken featured building be more confidently identified ? What other activity is associated with it ? How does this fit into the pattern of Early and Middle Saxon settlement described by Cowie and Blackmore (2008) ?*

*RRA 13 Is there evidence for a medieval field system or ditches on the site ? What other medieval activity is there?*



*RRA 14 What evidence is there for post-medieval field boundaries and other activity on the site ? How does this compare with cartographic evidence ?*

### **7.1.2 The building material**

None

### **7.1.3 The prehistoric pottery**

The following are some pottery-specific research aims that should be considered. Others will inevitably emerge during the course of the analysis. The research should also be tailored to fit with that proposed for the West London Landscapes project.

#### *7.1.3.1 Fabrics and forms*

*RRA 15 What is the full range of fabrics?*

*RRA 16 Can any of the non Peterborough-type flint-tempered wares be dated to the Neolithic period?*

*RRA 17 How does the fabric of the Grooved ware compare with that at Perry Oaks (Lewis et al 2006, 36) and other sites in the area?*

*RRA 18 Can the vessel forms be identified more precisely, and the number of sherds without a form type be reduced?*

*RRA 19 Can a typo-chronology of form types be prepared for the area?*

*RRA 20 What are the likely sources of pottery supply?*

*RRA 21 How do the fabrics compare with those of other sites in the surrounding area (within a radius of c 20km?)*

*RRA 22 How does the thin section and chemical data compare with that of others from relevant sites in the UK Thin section database?*

*RRA 23 Can any trends in the selection of inclusions be detected?*

#### *7.1.3.2 Use of the site*

*RRA 24 What is the spatial distribution of the different fabrics across the site?*

*RRA 25 Does the focus of occupation change over time?*

*RRA 26 What is the spatial distribution of the different vessel forms across the site?*

*RRA 27 How many vessels were used for cremation?*

*RRA 28 How many can be related to domestic activity?*

#### 7.1.3.3 Dating

*RRA 29 Can the dating of the pottery be refined in the light of location on the site or other forms of dating evidence?*

*RRA 30 Do the clusters of Peterborough-type ware and Grooved ware represent the deliberate deposition of selected (decorative) wares (Lewis et al 2006, 86)?*

*RRA 31 Can any distinction be made between Deverel Rimbury and post-Deverel Rimbury groups? Is there any evidence for an overlap between the two?*

*RRA 32 Can this help to identify changes in landuse over time, or was the whole area in use at all times?*

*RRA 33 Can radiocarbon analysis of the carbon residues on sherds noted above help to phase the site?*

*RRA 34 How does the radiocarbon dating of Mortlake/Ebbsfleet-type ware compare with other radiocarbon dates for Ebbsfleet from the region?*

*RRA 35 Can any chronological trends be detected in either the spatial distribution of the material on the site or the fabric and forms used?*

#### 7.1.3.4 Social

*RRA 36 How does the assemblage compare with others from the surrounding area?*

*RRA 37 What is the proportion of decorated to undecorated pottery over time? How does this compare with other sites in the area?*

*RRA 38 Can the late Neolithic Grooved Ware activity be related to activity at Holloway Lane (HL84)?*

*RRA 39 What is the ratio of fine, everyday and heavy-duty wares in the middle Bronze Age period (Woodward 1995, 199)?*

*RRA 40 Can vessel style or vessel size be related to social identity?*

*RRA 41 How does vessel size relate to data from the cremated bone?*

*RRA 42 What is the relationship of form to fabric?*

*RRA 43 What can be learnt about ceramic technology?*

*RRA 44 What were the modes of pottery production? Were the pots made as one-offs by individuals, or in specific centres?*

*RRA 45 What can be learnt of intra-regional production and distribution of ceramics?*

*RRA 46 What does the assemblage tell about the community that used the site?*

#### **7.1.4 The Roman pottery**

No new research aims can be proposed for the Roman pottery.

### **7.1.5 The post-Roman pottery**

No new research aims can be proposed for the post-Roman pottery.

### **7.1.6 The accessioned finds**

*RRA 47 What can specialist analysis of the mould/crucible fragments tell us about the metal-working technology on the site, and how this compares with other sites the surrounding area and regions ? (eg Cranford Lane, Runnymede, and Mucking and Springfield in Essex).*

*RRA 48 Can radiocarbon dating of residues on pottery from the contexts containing the mould/crucible fragments provide an absolute date for the metal-working more accurate than the pottery dating ?*

### **7.1.7 The worked and burnt flint**

*RRA 49 What human activities do the worked and burnt flint assemblages represent in each period, and how do these compare with the stratigraphic and other evidence from the site ?*

*RRA 50 How does the worked flint assemblage, and the activities that it represents, compare with other reported prehistoric flint in the West London area ?*

### **7.1.8 The animal bone**

*RRA 51 What are the characteristics of the local meat diet in terms of the selection of species, carcass-part and age-group?*

### **7.1.9 The human bone**

*RRA 52 What is the date and character of the disposal of human remains on the site ? Is the human bone from cremation burials or from deposits of pyre debris ? How does this compare with the activities represented by other data (such as stratigraphy and other finds) ? Do the cremated remains contain single or multiple individuals ?*

*RRA 53 To what extent do the cremated remains reflect evidence from other local cremation cemeteries ?*

### **7.1.10 The environmental samples**

*RRA 54 What does the charred grain indicate about crops being grown in the various field/enclosure systems ?*

*RRA 55 How does the charcoal selected for use in cremations compare with that from domestic activities ?*

## 7.2 Preliminary publication synopsis

It is proposed that the prehistoric and Roman results of these archaeological investigations should be published as an integral part of the English Heritage-funded West London Landscapes backlog publication project, as they directly complement the results in that project both geographically (from adjacent sites such as Home Farm 1988 and 1991, Holloway Lane, Wall Garden Farm and Bath Road (Norman Hay Site), and others in the surrounding area), and thematically (notably the similarities of the prehistoric sequence from low-level Neolithic activity, through agricultural expansion the Bronze Age with evidence for bronze casting, and possible Iron Age lacuna).

The putative sunken featured building should be briefly published separately, as a short article in the *London Archaeologist* (the West London Landscapes project does not include post-Roman periods, the most significant material being part of Cowie and Blackmore 2008), effectively forming a footnote to Cowie and Blackmore 2008.

It is not considered that the extremely limited medieval and post-medieval results justify separate publication. If phasing and analysis of the site sequence produces appropriate information, it would be included, very briefly in the section 'Summary of the knowledge of the post-Roman landscape pattern, uses and development' of the West London Landscapes project.

### 7.2.1 Contributions to West London Landscapes project synopsis

The relevant section headings of the publication synopsis of the West London Landscapes project (Elsden 20018) are repeated below, with the contributions from the current site (with the non-relevant sections struck-through). Note that the period numbers shown below are from the analysis phase of the WLL project, and will probably be revised for the final publication.

#### 1 Front matter

HOM98 to be added to the background, circumstances, and organisation of the project sections.

#### ~~2 Topographical and Geological Setting, Mobile Hunter-gatherers (up to the 5th millennium BC)~~

##### ~~2.1 Introduction/background~~

##### ~~2.2 Period 1: Scattered Palaeolithic flintwork (up to c 11th millennium BC)~~

##### ~~2.3 Period 2: A Mesolithic knapping episode and scattered flintwork (c 10th to 5th millennium BC)~~

##### ~~2.4 Discussion/conclusions~~

#### 3 Early agriculturists and a ritual landscape (4th to mid 2nd millennium BC)

##### 3.1 Introduction/background

### ~~3.2 — Period 3: Pits and a probable building (early/mid 4th millennium BC)~~

### **3.3 Period 4: Pits with Grooved Ware and Peterborough Ware, and a double-ditched enclosure and penannular ditch (mid/late 3rd millennium BC)**

The Neolithic cooking pits (with Grooved Ware and burnt sheep bone), pits with pottery and flintwork, conclusions from pottery distribution, the Grooved Ware and Peterborough Ware assemblages.

### **3.4 Period 5: an aurochs burial, cremations or pyre debris, and pits (early to mid 2nd millennium BC)**

Discussion of the collared urn fragments and their dating.

### **3.5 Discussion/conclusions**

To include HOM98, in particular comparison of the pits and inferred activities with those from the other sites

## **4 Agricultural expansion and intensification (mid 2nd millennium BC to c mid 1st century AD)**

### ~~4.1 — Introduction/background~~

### ~~4.2 — Period 6: possible occupation pre-dating the enclosure system at Cranford Lane (c 1700–1400 BC)~~

### ~~4.3 — Period 7: Foundation of the enclosure system and settlement at Cranford Lane (c 1500 to 1000 BC)~~

### ~~4.4 — Period 9: minor changes to the occupation area at Cranford Lane (post-1000 BC ?)~~

### ~~4.5 — Period 10: Later changes to the enclosure and settlement layout at Cranford Lane (c 1100–900 BC)~~

### ~~4.6 — Period 11: Further revisions to the enclosure system at Cranford Lane, and abandonment (c 800–500 BC)~~

### **4.7 Period 8: elements of enclosure systems and activity at other sites (simultaneous with periods 6 and 7: c 1600–1000 BC)**

Discussion of the potential Middle Bronze Age origin of the droveway/enclosure system at HOM98, the few dated features and conclusions from the quantity and distribution of the residual pottery. The cremation with a Deverel-Rimbury urn. The pottery.

### **4.8 Period 12: Other Sites – enclosure ditches and associated activity (simultaneous with periods 9 to 11: c 1000–600 BC)**

The droveway and enclosure system at HOM98 (some or all of this may need to be moved to Period 8), including several likely stock control mechanisms, the later modifications (further analysis may show that some belong in Period 15), cotemporary activity including wells/water holes, cooking pits, the bronze casting material, and cremations or pyre debris. The flood deposit. The pottery, flint, perforated clay slabs, loom weights, and animal bone.

### ~~4.9 — Period 13: initial settlement at Stockley Park (c 550–390 BC)~~

### ~~4.10 — Period 14: changes to the settlement at Stockley Park (c 390–340 BC)~~

#### **4.11 Period 15: Other Sites – enclosure system, occupation and other activity (c 600 BC – c AD 50)**

*(Depending on whether further analysis shows that the later stages of the droveway/enclosure system took place at the beginning of the Iron Age, or whether it continued in use) either: continued use of and modification to the droveway/enclosure system through the Iron Age, or apparent abandonment – and possible reasons for it.*

#### **4.12 Discussion/conclusions (periods 6 to 15)**

To include HOM98, in particular the place of its droveway/enclosure system in the later Bronze Age expansions of co-axial field systems across the surrounding area and region. Potentially: comparison and discussion of the Middle/Late 'lacuna' with Cranford Lane and other sites, and contrast with those sites where there is continuity. Comparison of the locations of the bronze casting material with that from Cranford Lane, and wider discussion of that industrial activity. The cremations/pyre debris as part of the wider pattern of later Bronze Age burials in the surrounding area, or lack of the same. Discussion of the flood deposit with that from Cranford Lane, and the potential environmental implications.

### **5 The evolution of the post-Roman conquest landscape (mid 1st to early 5th centuries AD)**

#### **5.1 Introduction/background**

#### **5.2 Period 16: earlier Romano-British (c AD 50–200)**

The evidence suggesting very limited Romano-British activity on the site, and (depending on further analysis) the possibility of continued use of the earlier droveway/enclosure system.

#### **5.3 Period 17: later Romano-British (c AD 200–410+)**

As Period 16.

#### **5.4 Discussion/conclusions**

To include HOM98, depending on the results of further analysis, this may include a comparison of the limited Romano-British activity with the adjacent Home Farm sites (1988 and 1991) and Cranford Lane (in the 1st and 2nd centuries), but its contrast with other sites such as Holloway Lane, Wall Garden Farm, Cranford Lane (in the 3rd and 4th centuries), Terminal 5, and Imperial College Sports Ground.

#### **5.5 Summary of the knowledge of the post-Roman landscape pattern, uses and development**

To include brief reference to the HOM98 medieval and post-medieval field/trackway systems, where appropriate, and the possible Saxon sunken featured building.

### **6 Conclusions: the changing landscape**

To include HOM98 where appropriate, eg discussion of Neolithic pit activity, Bronze Age enclosure systems, potential abandonment in the later Iron Age, and the pattern of Roman occupation and its change into that of the early Saxon period.

### **7 Specialist Appendices**

#### **7.1 Stratigraphic**

#### **7.2 Prehistoric ceramics**

To include the HOM98 assemblages.

**7.3 — Roman ceramics**

**7.4 — Building Material**

**7.5 Accessioned Finds**

To include relevant HOM98 finds.

**7.6 Flint**

To include relevant HOM98 flintwork.

**7.7 Burnt human Bone**

To include the HOM98 cremations/pyre debris.

**7.8 Animal Bone**

To include the HOM98 assemblages.

**7.9 Botany**

To include relevant HOM98 data.

**7.10 Radiocarbon determinations**

To include relevant HOM98 information, if required.

**7.11 — Pollen**

**7.2.2 Synopsis for article on sunken featured building (if required)**

- Introduction with , circumstances of fieldwork, and brief summary of current knowledge of early Saxon settlement in west London (from Cowie and Blackmore 2008). *Site location plan* (to also show other early Saxon sites in the surrounding area).
- Description of the sunken featured building. *Plan, 1 or 2 sections*.
- Description of the undated but potentially associated stokehole and posthole structures in the vicinity of the SFB.
- Conclusions, discussion of how this fits into the pattern of early Saxon settlement and activity in Harmondsworth/Sipson, especially its relationship to neighbouring finds at Holloway Lane and Bath Road.

## **8 Publication project: task sequence**

All work carried out on this project is subject to the MOL Archaeology health and safety policy statement as defined in *Health And Safety Policy*, MOLA 2009. This document is available on request. *It is MOLA policy to comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992 and all Regulations and Codes of Practice made under the Act which affect MOLA operations.*

## 8.1 Stratigraphic method statement

The tasks described below are those required to bring this site up to the point where its results can be integrated into the future West London Landscapes project publication, and that a brief article can be written on the potential sunken featured building.

The stratigraphic records have been sub-grouped, but require groups to be identified and database, and site phasing (land-use and Periods) to be undertaken. Analysis of the distribution of worked and burnt flint, Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age, and Late Bronze Age pottery in relation to other activity, features, and finds (to a basic level appropriate to the data).

| Task     | Description   | Resources |
|----------|---|-----------|
| TASK 1:  | Transfer old ArcView project to ArcGIS  | 0         |
| TASK 2:  | Produce sub-group matrix and annotate with spot dates   | 2 p/day   |
| TASK 3:  | Grouping: define group sequence by arranging c 1415 subgroups into groups at a rate of c 3 subgroups per group and 25 groups per day (estimated 470 groups). The subgroups created at assessment level will be grouped using stratigraphic, spatial and chronological analysis, the subgroup matrix and dating evidence | 18 p/day  |
| TASK 4:  | Produce/analyse group plans in ArcGIS <sup>2</sup> , produce group descriptions by creating a brief text description for each, noting the formative subgroups and including reference to dating and elevation information, at a rate of 20 groups per day   | 23 p/day  |
| TASK 5:  | Create group matrix electronically from subgroup matrices   | 1 p/day   |
| TASK 6:  | Map subgroups to groups on MOLA Oracle database at a rate of 300 per day  | 4 p/days  |
| TASK 7:  | Phasing: landuse (define landuses, database, produce/analyse landuse plans in ArcGIS <sup>2</sup> , produce landuse diagram). Define land use sequence by arranging c 470 groups into identified buildings, open areas, structures and roads at a rate of c 35 groups per day   | 14 p/day  |
| TASK 8:  | Phasing: Periods (define periods, database, produce/analyse plans in ArcGIS <sup>2</sup> , produce Period definitions). Define Periods representing chronological phases of activity across the site, identified from analysis of the group matrix and land uses; map to Oracle database.                               | 5 p/day   |
| TASK 9:  | Analysis of the distributions of worked and burnt flint, Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age, and Late Bronze Age pottery  | 2 p/day   |
| TASK 10: | Preparation of Radiocarbon documentation and analysis of results in conjunction with Alex Bayliss of English Heritage (to be confirmed by Alex)   | 1 p/day   |
| TASK 11: | Cross-reference and index the photographic register   | 1 p/day   |
| TASK 12: | Update West London landscapes publication synopsis (Elsden 208)   | 3 p/day   |

<sup>2</sup> These may be temporary on-screen plans for analysis, from querying the linked Oracle database, rather than permanent shapefiles.



|  |                                 |                  |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|
|  | <b>Total stratigraphic time</b> | <b>74 p/days</b> |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|

## 8.2 Finds review and meetings

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Resources</b>              |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
| TASK 13:    | Finds review - specialists<br>Finds review - illustrator and photographer<br>Finds review - principle author | 1 p/day<br>1 p/day<br>1 p/day |
| TASK 14:    | Meetings   | 5 p/day                       |
| TASK 15:    | Estimated travel expenses of external specialists  | £500                          |
|             | <b>Total general finds time</b>  | <b>5 p/days</b>               |

## 8.3 Building material method statement

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| TASK 16:    | Identification of unusual pink and black stone at Natural History Museum  | 0.5 p/day        |
| TASK 17:    | The building material assemblage should be compared with the stratigraphic sequence and all available dating evidence | 0.5 p/day        |
| TASK 18:    | Write building material publication report  | 3 p/days         |
|             | <b>Total building material time</b>   | <b>4 p/days</b>  |

## 8.4 Prehistoric pottery method statement

### 8.4.1 Preliminary tasks (4.25 days)

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| TASK 19:    | Correlate existing fabric types for earlier finds from Home Farm and from HOM98 with it   | 3 p/days         |
| TASK 20:    | Discuss possible radiocarbon analysis of residues on prehistoric pottery samples  | 0.25 p/day       |
| TASK 21:    | Preparation and documentation of radiocarbon samples of   | 1 p/day          |
| TASK 22:    | Radiocarbon analysis of residues on Peterborough Ware and potentially on later Bronze Age pottery (later also dating the mould/crucible fragments). | c £2,400         |

### 8.4.2 Project tasks (up to 28.75 p/days)

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|--|------------------|
| TASK 23:    | Correlate prehistoric pottery with stratigraphic sequence and check preliminary dating   | 1 p/day          |
| TASK 24:    | Analyse spatial distribution of the prehistoric pottery by period using ArcView, check dating and discuss with field archaeologist             | 2.5 p/days       |
| TASK 25:    | Confirm and rationalise all prehistoric pottery fabric identifications in the light of the West London Gravels series and spatial distribution | 2.5 p/days       |
| TASK 26:    | Complete recording of prehistoric pottery from [1249] and other contexts   | 1.25 p/days      |
| TASK 27:    | Modify prehistoric pottery dating and quantification where relevant and update records on paper, and Oracle                                    | 2 p/days         |

|          |   |                           |
|----------|---|---------------------------|
| TASK 28: | Study Neolithic pottery, especially Peterborough-type ware in detail to establish number of vessels and sherd links and to enable description of forms/decoration   | 1.25 p/days               |
| TASK 29: | Work on comparison of the Neolithic Grooved Ware from Home Farm and Holloway Lane (including finding material)  | 1.5 p/days                |
| TASK 30: | Background prehistoric pottery research to confirm form identifications and research parallels and dating for other sites, specifically for Runnymede and be sure of current thinking on dating and interpretation (including library visits) | 3.5 p/days                |
| TASK 31: | Consider other forms of dating evidence for the site and adjust prehistoric pottery dating if necessary   | 0.5 p/day                 |
| TASK 32: | Discuss prehistoric pottery from adjacent sites with Jon Cotton and specialists from Wessex and Oxford Archaeology  | 2.5 p/days (incl. travel) |
| TASK 33: | Write report on the distribution of the prehistoric pottery across the site, with comments on dating  | 2.5 p/days                |
| TASK 34: | Write discussion of prehistoric pottery forms types and general discussion of the assemblage  | 2 p/days                  |
| TASK 35: | Make final selection of prehistoric pottery for illustration and prepare drawing instructions; attend finds review and check drawings   | 2 p/days                  |
| TASK 36: | Prehistoric pottery editorial work (all stages)   | 2 p/days                  |
| TASK 37: | Prehistoric pottery archive deposition  | 0.75 p/day                |
| TASK 38: | The prehistoric pottery is currently re-organised by period. Restore all finds to proper boxes  | 0.5 p/day                 |

#### 8.4.3 Total prehistoric pottery time

|  |                                       |                   |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>Total prehistoric pottery time</b> | <b>32.5 p/day</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------|

### 8.5 Roman pottery method statement

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|--|------------------|
| TASK 39:    | Full integration of Roman pottery spot-date information with stratigraphic sequence on the Oracle database, checking of discrepancies to finalise phasing and write contributing text to the chronological narrative (if required) | 1.5 p/day        |
|             | <b>Total Roman pottery time</b>  | <b>1.5 p/day</b> |

### 8.6 Post-Roman pottery method statement

No further work is proposed for the post-Roman pottery, given its minimal potential and significance, and that the proposed form of publication does not include those periods.

### 8.7 The accessioned finds method statement

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| TASK 40:    | Catalogue the prehistoric and Roman finds only, compare ceramic fabrics with the pottery fabrics, and | 2 p/days         |

|          |   |                 |
|----------|---|-----------------|
|          | write short report with other site parallels  |                 |
| TASK 41: | External specialist analysis and reporting for the six crucible/mould frags, incl. XRF (estimated cost) | <b>£1,200</b>   |
|          | <b>Total accessioned finds time</b>   | <b>2 p/days</b> |

### 8.8 The worked and burnt flint method statement

Analysis of the worked flint. (distribution analysis to be carried out by the stratigraphic specialist, q.v.). Several pieces should be illustrated including: a nosed scraper, a disc scraper, the horseshoe scraper, a serrate, a burin, the knife, a piercer, a crude flake core, a pebble core, and any others to be decided later.

| Task     | Description  | Resources        |
|----------|--|------------------|
| TASK 42: | Analysis of worked and burnt flint, and publication text | 15 p/days        |
| TASK 43: | Worked flint illustration preparation                    | 1 p/day          |
|          | <b>Total worked and burnt flint time</b>                 | <b>16 p/days</b> |

### 8.9 The animal bone method statement

The material will be recorded, as individual bones, directly onto the MOLA Oracle animal bone post-assessment database, and then analysed as a discrete assemblage with reference to available stratigraphic data and to contemporary local sites.

| Task     | Description  | Resources       |
|----------|--|-----------------|
| TASK 44: | Recording of animal bone assemblage onto database  | 1.5 p/days      |
| TASK 45: | Analysis of data/preparation of animal bone report | 2 p/days        |
|          | <b>Total animal bone time</b>                      | <b>4 p/days</b> |

### 8.10 The human bone method statement

Further study, to include determination, where possible, of sex and approximate age at death, and any visible skeletal pathological lesions.

| Task     | Description                      | Resources       |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| TASK 46: | Analysis of human bone           | 1 p/day         |
| TASK 47: | Write and edit human bone report | 2 p/days        |
|          | <b>Total human bone time</b>     | <b>3 p/days</b> |

### 8.11 The environmental samples method statement

It is recommended that the 6 samples containing charred grain be fully analysed. This analysis will include comprehensive identification and quantification. The first four of those samples listed below have been broadly dated to the Bronze Age, while the remaining two are undated. As very little archaeobotanical evidence of prehistoric cultivation has been recovered from this area, it is suggested that all of the samples be analysed as comparisons may be drawn between the samples.

- {2130} [2044] 1600–600 BC
- {2115} [1564] 1000–600 BC
- {2149} [2624] 1000–600 BC
- {2148} [2626] part of a four-post structure dated to 1600–600 BC

- {2141} [2333] undated
- {2151} [2630] undated

This data should be entered into Oracle and discussed in relation to the archaeology of the site, incorporating any relevant information from the assessment stage and other specialist reports.

It is also recommended that charcoal of a size suitable for ID from the two samples associated with cremation activity be analysed. These samples are

- {101} [406]
- {102} [503]

Charcoal from a selection of samples not related to the cremation activity, but dating to the same phase of use, should also be analysed in order to produce a control against which the cremation charcoal can be interpreted, if possible. It is suggested that two further samples with identifiable charcoal be selected for this at the analysis stage. **Charcoal analysis will be undertaken by an external specialist.**

| Task     | Description  | Resources          |
|----------|--|--------------------|
| TASK 48: | Analysis of botanical material from 6 samples  | 2.0 p/day          |
| TASK 49: | Table preparation and analysis report for samples  | 2.25 p/day         |
| TASK 50: | Selection of 4 samples for charcoal identification as well as extraction of cremation charcoal | 0.5 p/day          |
| TASK 51: | Identification of charcoal from 4 cremation contexts and four further contexts                 | 6 p/day            |
|          | <b>Total environmental time</b>  | <b>10.75 p/day</b> |

## 8.12 Conservation method statement

Three items require conservation input to prepare them for drawing and photography. The material appears to be stable, but it does require repacking to prevent physical damage to the archive. The following work is required to bring the accessioned finds up to the Museum of London standards (1999).

| Task     | Description   | Resources         |
|----------|---|-------------------|
| TASK 52: | prehistoric pottery: urn [290] needs cleaning for photography, and jar [1807] and lugged jar [1889] need cleaning/restoring for photography | 1.5 p/day         |
| TASK 53: | Repacking non-ceramic finds   | 1 p/day           |
| TASK 54: | Stabilisation for the archive   | 1 p/day           |
|          | <b>Total Conservation time</b>  | <b>2.5 p/days</b> |

## 8.13 Graphic method statement

The final requirements for photographic illustration will be agreed at the finds review. The method of illustration either line drawing or photography or a combination of the two will be decided upon as part of the finds review process.

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| TASK 55:    | Illustration of prehistoric pottery items (some probably as profiles only: TBA) and flint artefacts, estimated (to be confirmed at finds review): | 15 p/days        |
| TASK 56:    | Illustration of other objects   | 2 p/days         |
| TASK 57:    | Photography of selected items   | 2 p/days         |
| TASK 58:    | Preparation of site images  | 2 p/days         |
|             | <b>Total Drawing officer time</b>   | <b>17 p/days</b> |
|             | <b>Total Photography time</b>   | <b>4 p/days</b>  |

#### 8.14 Project management method statement

| <b>Task</b> | <b>Description</b>                    | <b>Resources</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| TASK 59:    | Project management of overall project | 10 p/days        |
|             | <b>Total Project management time</b>  | <b>10 p/days</b> |

## **9 Publication project: resources and programme**

The costs of the tasks presented in the updated project design section will be subject to an application to the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) via the Historic Environment Enabling Programme (English Heritage) with the intention to analyse the data to a level whereby it can be included in the West London Landscapes English Heritage-funded backlog project. This will subject of further discussions between English Heritage and MOLA.

## 10 Acknowledgements

The evaluation, watching brief and excavations that have taken place at Home Farm, Harmondsworth, between 1998 and 2002, would not have been possible without the funding and co-operation of SITA Waste management Systems. During the archaeological investigations the archaeologists had a great deal of help from the quarry staff, and MOLA would particularly like to thank quarry manager Stuart Inglis.

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The post-excavation team comprised Sophie Lamb and Juan Fuldaine (Drawing Office), Louise Rayner, Lyn Blackmore, Amy Thorp, Penny MacConoran, Alison Nailer, Beth Richardson, Tony Grey, Brian Connell, Bill White, Don Walker, Lisa Gray, Karen Stewart, Jane Liddle, Alan Pipe, Terry Smith, Ian Betts, Liz Goodman (MOLA specialists), and Jon Cotton (Museum of London), and was managed by David Bowsher.

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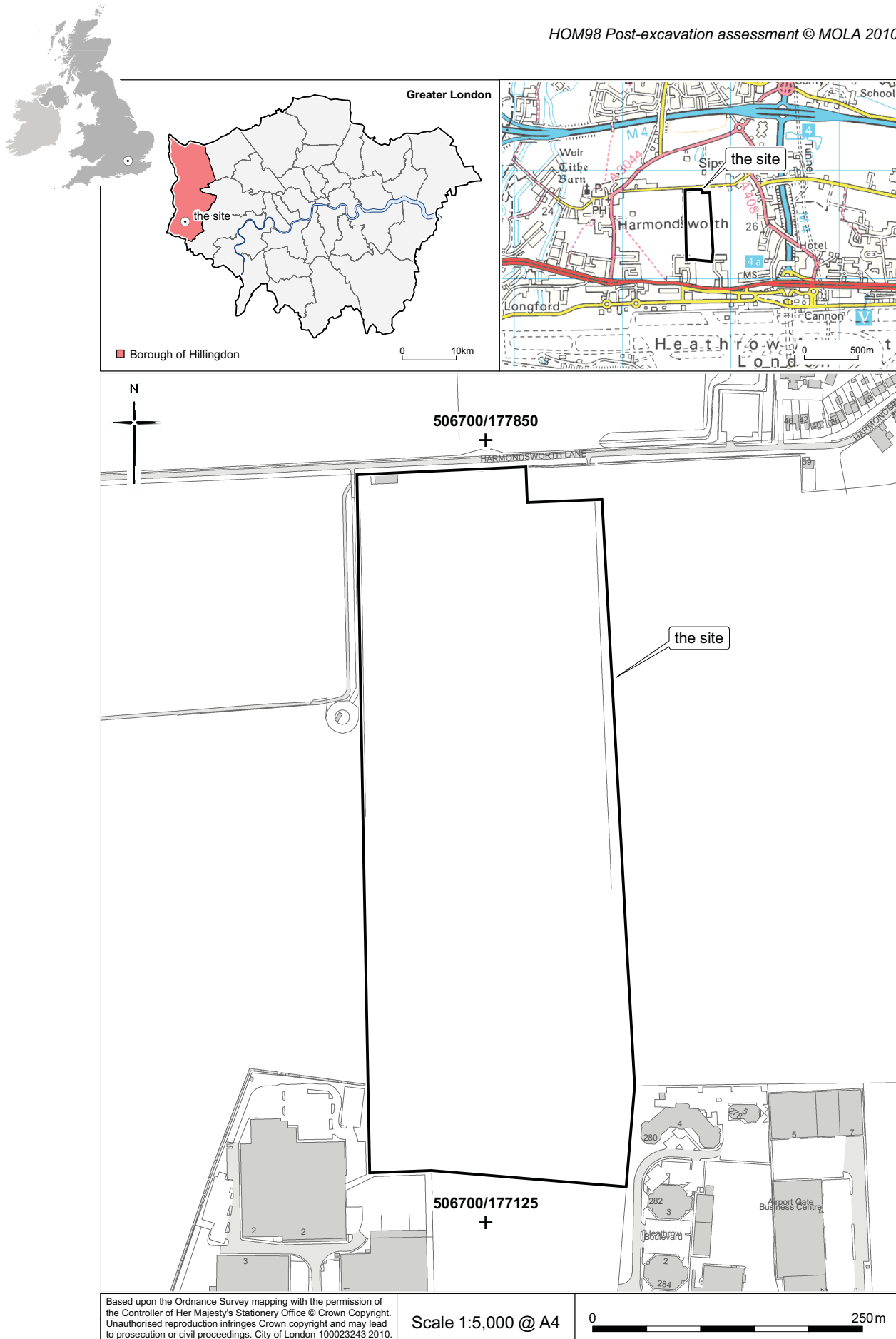


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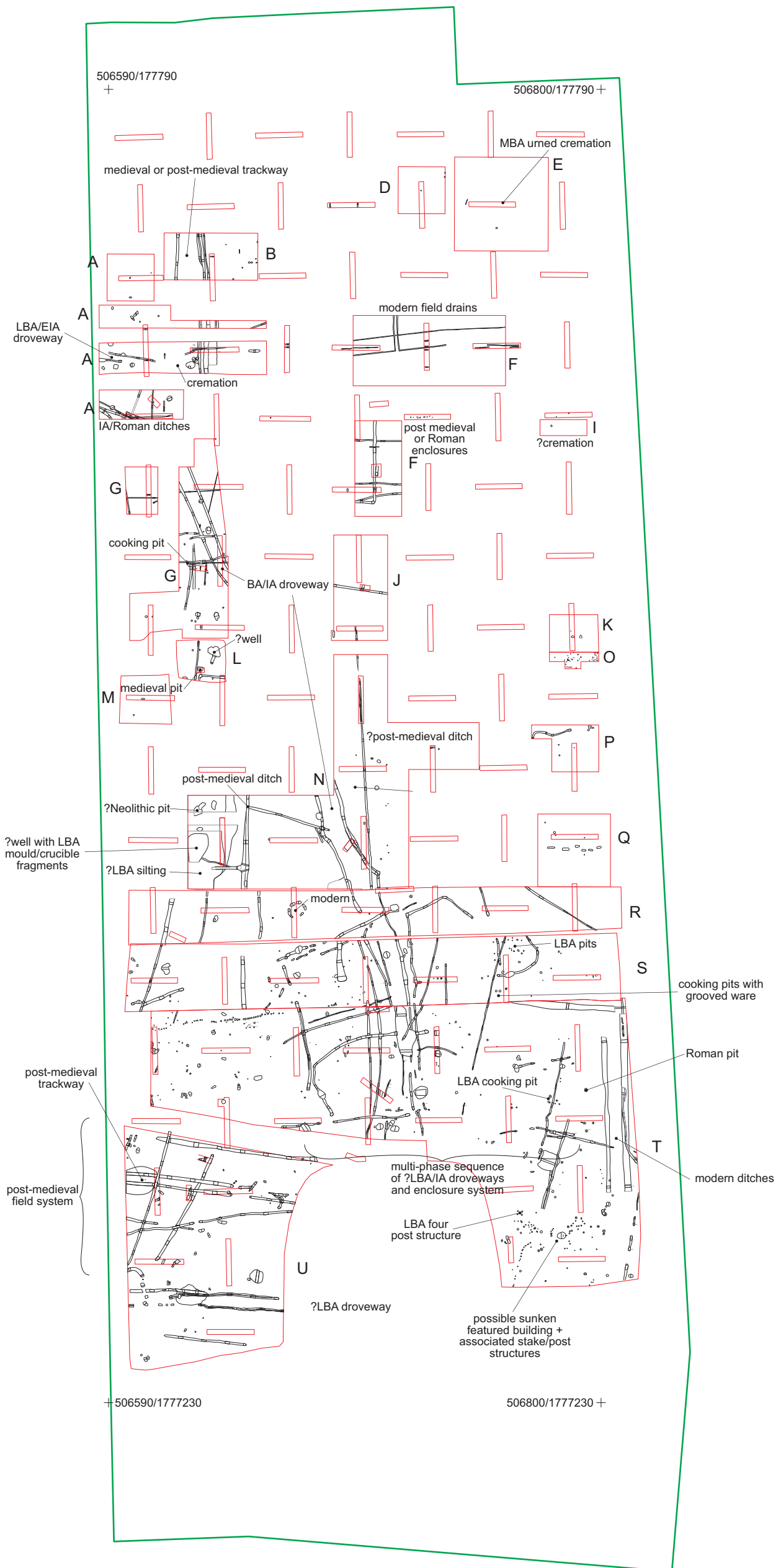
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Fig 1 Site location



Fig 2 Location of evaluation trenches and watching brief/excavation areas



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HOM98 Post-excavation assessment © MOLA 2010

Fig 3 Stratigraphy – all phases