

Period Descriptions, Great Sunnings Farm

Site code: UP-GS83

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Period Descriptions UP-GS83

Period 1: Early Iron Age

Structures

S500

Grps 5, 6, 12

Narrow EIA ditch measuring 20m e-w by c 0.5m n-s. Excavated/recorded in 5 separate segments. Appears to be curving slightly as it travels east.

S501

Grps 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

Remnants of possible circular feature which if assessment correct would have measured c 16.5m diameter. Related elements of this structure have been grouped separately as some parts definitely belong together. Just not certain yet if whole thing belongs together, but there certainly appears to be some kind of circular pattern in the scatter of post-holes and pits. It is probable that some of the post settings might have been missed in the rescue excavation conditions, or not ex, under or over ex.

S502

Grp 2

EIA ditch end trunc by 10094. No direct dating evidence.

S503

Grp 8

EIA ditch segment. EIA or BA pot in upper most fill may suggest early date. Not obviously related to anything else.

S504

Grp 9

Pit or ditch end. Not excavated just recorded in situ. Trunc by 10002.

S505

Grp 77

Enclosure ditch. Appears to be part of an early phase as cut by IA enclosure ditch [10001]. Not obviously assoc with anything else. Contains intrusive Roman finds including pot dating 120-150 and REGF.

Open Areas

OA500

Grp 1, 4

Related pit cluster. No dating evidence.

OA501

Grp 10

Large pit over 1.5m wide and with numerous fills. Not physically related to anything else. Pot in upper most fill suggests EIA date of 1600 to 1300BC.

OA502

Grp 11

Large pit, 2.65m wide and no of fills. Pot in upper most fill gives date of EIA –600 to –300 BC. Not physically rel to anything else.

OA503

Grp 78

Cluster of EIA cremations. Not located on GIS but records suggest they not associated with any of the other features on the site.

Period 2: Middle Iron Age

Structures

S506

Grp 18

Iron Age enclosure ditch segment [10094]. East-west oriented, curving southwards to the west. Length east-west 37m, width north-south 1.3m. There may be a relationship between this feature and the adjoining [10062], although not sure if contemporary and/or structurally related, or whether one earlier than other. Relationship may have been partly obscured by mid-late Roman pit cut [10202]. No direct dating evidence.

S507

Grp 20

Linear Iron Age enclosure ditch segment [10203]. Has north-south orientation and has physical relationship with segment [10060]. May be conjectured to join with [10091] to the north. Backfills have some Roman pits present in upper fills, but not necessarily surprising. No direct dating evidence. Length north-south 20.6m, width east-west 3.3m.

S508

Grp 21

Curving segment of Iron Age enclosure ditch [10091]. May be conjectured to join with [10203] to the south. East-west oriented, curving southwards to the west. On same alignment as [10090] and [10094]. May actually be part of same structure as [10090] as directly abuts it. All three of these features are obviously related in some way. Dating evidence is present in the upper fills of this feature giving a E–MIA date of -600 to -50. Length east–west is 27m, width north–south is 1.6m.

S509

Grp 22

Curving segment of Iron Age enclosure ditch [10090]. East-west oriented, curving southwards to the west. On same alignment as [10091] and [10094]. May actually be part of same structure as [10091] as directly abuts it. All three of these features are obviously related in some way.

S510

Grp 24

East-west orientated ditch segment [10032] and [10060]. Is possible that it can be conjectured to join [10033] to the west. Length 13.5m east-west, c 2.2m north-south.

Dating evidence in [10060], in lower and upper fills suggests MIA date of –300 to –50 AD.

S511

Grp 34

Linear ditch segment [10033] and primary fills. Appears to be related to [10062], to the north, which forms north-west corner of roughly rectangular enclosure. May be related to other segments as well but difficult to be sure coz badly recorded and dating is crap. Dimensions: length east-west 39.6m, width north-south 3.8m.

P2

Grp 35

Primary fills of ditch segment [10033]. No dating evidence.

P2

S512

Grp 27

Linear ditch segment [10062]. Forms north-west corner of roughly rectangular enclosure. Appears to be related to [10033] to the south. May be related to other segments as well but difficult to be sure coz badly recorded and dating is crap. Feature contains numerous fills, taken from slots dug out at certain points. Fills can't easily be related to one another for that reason. Very little Iron Age dating evidence apart from in one fill, which gives an EIA date. Contains quite a lot of REGF although date of these not clear at this point.

This LU also includes ditch segment [10063], probably the same as [10062] as appears to be just fills recorded in a slot cut across [10062].

Grp 3

Upper fills of linear ditch segment [10062]. Contains some REGF.

Grp 28

Lower fills of ditch segment [10062]. Contains EIA pot dating –600 to –300.

Grp 29

Upper fills of ditch segment [10062]. No dating evidence.

Grp 30

Fills of ditch segment [10062]. REGF but no pottery dating evidence.

Grp 31

Fills of ditch segment [10062]. REGF but no pottery dating evidence.

Grp 32

Fills of ditch segment [10062]. REGF but no pottery dating evidence.

S513

Grp 36

Iron Age enclosure ditch [10001] and primary fills. Contains IA pot and REGF. Forms the SW corner of a possible rectangular shaped enclosure. Unsure as to which other linear features it may relate to. Ditch [10060] appears to turn at the east end in order to meet it. It may alternatively be the innermost of three concentric rectangular ditches, with the other rings formed by [10203], [10091], [10094] and [10090]. There is Roman pot in the upper fills suggesting disuse or levelling in the early Roman period.

Grp 37

Upper fills of enclosure ditch [10001]. Contains Roman pot in three different fills and REGF in one giving date of 120-150 and 40-100

Open Areas

OA504

Grp 19

MIA pit group. Pit [639] cuts into ditch [10094] so group probably dates Later Iron Age, when enclosure began to go out of use. No direct dating.

OA505

Grp 33

Iron Age well [10205], cut by later Roman field system [10035]. Dimensions: north-south 2.5m, east-west 3.3m. No finds?

Period 3: post-Iron Age enclosure, pre-Romano-British field systems

Structures

S510

Grp 23

Upper fills of curving ditch segment [10060]. Contains Roman pot dating 50-70 AD and 40-70 AD so upper part may have been levelled in Roman period.

S511

Grp 25

Upper fills of linear ditch segment [10033]. Contains much Roman pot of dates: 100-150 AD, 120-250 AD, 150-250 AD. 40-100 AD, so parts may have been backfilled and levelled up in the Roman period.

Grp 26

Upper fills of linear ditch segment [10033]. Contains much Roman pot of dates: 100-150 AD, 120-250 AD, 150-250 AD. 40-100 AD, so parts may have been backfilled and levelled up in the Roman period.

S514

Grp 43

Pre-Roman enclosure. Square shaped and formed by ditches [10008] and [10010]. Contains residual IA pot.

S515

Grp 46

Linear feature [138]. Again doesn't appear to be related to anything else.

S516

Grp 38

Gully [221] appears to pre-date Roman field systems and post-date Iron Age enclosures. No dating evidence. Narrow, measuring 0.7m NS and 8.65m EW. Orientated with larger [10044] which cuts it. May, therefore, be an earlier phase of same thing. Also parallel to [10003] to the south. Not sure of exact association though.

S517

Grp 45

Random ditch [10037] that doesn't appear to be related to anything else.

Open Areas

OA506

Group of pits

Grp 40

Narrow ditch [501] measures 0.25m wide NS and 3.45m long EW. No other obvious related features.

Grp 44

Pit [10065]. Cut by later field systems.

Grp 47

Vaguely regular alignment of pits led by [633]. Also included in this group are pits [552] and [732], as they are similar sizes and are spaced evenly.

Grp 48

Random pit 10046 cut by later enclosure.

OA507

Grp 41

Pit sequence [32] and [10004]. Cut by Rom-Br field system. Contains E-MIA pot. This groups also contains other undated pits that may have a spatial relationship with these: [10034], [102], [103], [101], [10021], [105].

Grp 42

Possible related pit group [111] and [35] cut by later field system. No dating evidence.

OA508

Grp 39

Possible related pits led by [10031] which has residual IA pot and Roman pot dating 120-300, 150-250, 50-100, 40-400, 40-250 in upper fills. This pit large at 4.6m across. Group also includes undated pits [10054] and [10055].

Period 4: Romano-British field systems and related features

Structures

S518

Grp 69

RB ditch [10068]

Grp 70

RB ditch [10035]

Grp 71

RB ditch [10061]

Grp 72

RB ditch [10080]

S519

Grp 50

Romano-British field ditch [10006]

Grp 51

Romano-British field ditch [10100]. Residual E-MIA pot in upper fills dating –600 to –50.

Grp 52

Romano-British field ditch [10009]

Grp 53

Romano-British field ditch [208]. Residual E to MIA pot dating –600 to -50

Grp 54

Romano-British field ditch [414]

Grp 59

Romano-British field ditch [10097] and [10045]. Contains Rpot 120-250 in two sep fills. Also REGF

Grp 75

RB recut ditch [588]

S520

Grp 57

Romano-British field ditch [10036]

S521

Grp 68

RB ditches [10016] and [17]. Contains unspec IA/Rpot, two lots BM and REGF

S522

Grp 55

Romano-British field ditch [10038]. Contains BM and REGF.

Grp 56

Romano-British field ditch [10041] and [10007]. Contains Rpot 120-250 and BM REGF.

Grp 58

Romano-British field ditch [10003]

Grp 65

Right-angled ditch [10042]; part of rb field system. Contains BM and REGF.

Grp 66

Small segment of rb ditch [10040] and pit [174]

Grp 67

RB ditch [10039] and pit [10204]. Contains Rpot 40-100 and 60-140, also two REGF.

S523

Grp 49

Romano-British field ditch [10044]. RPot dating 70-150.

S524

Grp 60

Romano-British field ditch [10005]. Contains 2nd c Rpot.

Open Areas

OA509

Pit group

Grp 61

Random pit [10099] cut into rb field system [10100]

Grp 62

Small segment through ditch cut [10059]

Grp 63

Small rb ditch/pit [10202], cut into earlier IA enclosure

Grp 64

Large rb pit [10064] with multiple fills

Grp 73

RB pit [327]. Contains BM

Grp 74

RB posthole [343]

Grp 76

RB pit [628]