

**Land at Luynes Rise,
Buntingford, Hertfordshire: An
Archaeological Evaluation**

May 2016



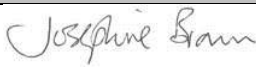

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY
R12199

LAND AT LUYNES RISE, BUNTINGFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Land off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9SQ:

An Archaeological Evaluation

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9SQ (NGR TL 358 288) between the 22nd June and the 13th July 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd prior to residential redevelopments. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

The evaluation revealed a series of archaeologically significant features which are focused in the north and south-west of the site, located primarily on areas of higher ground. In addition 31 pits, two deposits of remnant pyre material, and five pits containing burnt material were identified. The features on the site contained limited finds assemblages, some areas demonstrating higher concentrations of artefacts, indicative of occupation or settlement.

Three main phases of activity are represented on the site. The earliest activity is represented by a Bronze Age segmented enclosure (Trenches 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 66 and 67) in the north of the site. This consisted of a large segmented boundary ditch, located on an east facing hillside, which contained 29 sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (c. 1500BC-1100BC). Later Iron Age (350BC-AD50) activity was concentrated in the north of Area 1 and the south-west of Area 2. Romano-British activity was focused on the higher ground in the south-west of the site (Trenches 35-38). This consisted of a series of small field boundaries. The features located on the higher ground, in the south-west of the site, contained denser concentrations of finds, which indicates a proximity to settlement or occupational activity. The dating of the finds suggests a degree of continuity between the Late Iron Age and early Roman activity in some areas of the site.

Two cremated bone deposits were identified in Trench 35, in association with five pits containing burnt material. These are not securely dated but are likely to be of Romano-British date. This contained remnants of pyre material.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SQ9 9SQ (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 358 288) from the 22nd June to the 13th July 2015 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Bovis Homes in support of a planning application for residential redevelopment, including a new school.
- 1.3 Prior to trenching a geophysical survey was undertaken in March 2015 (Stratascan 2015), which identified four foci of probable archaeological activity, two in the north-east of the site and two in the south. These areas appeared to be comprised of enclosures and pits. Little internal detail was visible on the geophysical plot.
- 1.4 The aim of the evaluation was as follows: to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site; to assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological deposits encountered; to provide further information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable that archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed; to assess the impact of previous land use on the site; to inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains; and to produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Historic Environment Record.
- 1.5 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Paul Gajos of CgMs Consulting (Gajos 2015) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by the Historic Environment Advisor for Hertfordshire County Council (HEAHCC).
- 1.6 A total of 68 trial trenches, totalling 3315m in length, were excavated and recorded.

- 1.7 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The project archive will be deposited with an appropriate store in accordance with the terms and conditions which are to be agreed with the store in advance of deposition.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

- 2.1.1 The underlying geology of the site is Chalk of the Lewes nodular chalk formation and the Seaford chalk formation (British Geological Survey; Website 1). This consists of sedimentary bedrock formed up to 84-94 million years ago in the Cretaceous period.
- 2.1.2 The superficial geology across the site is Lowestoft formation diamicton, with patches of Glaciofluvial deposits, consisting of sand and gravel, present in the north-western corner and the far east of the site (British Geological Survey; Website 1).
- 2.1.3 The overlying soils are of the Melford association which are typical argillic brown earths. These consist of well drained, fine loamy over clayey, coarse loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 4 Eastern England).
- 2.1.4 The topsoil (100) ranged in depth across the site from 0.18 to 0.42m in thickness. The subsoil (101) was between 0.05 and 1.23m in depth, generally comprising a mid-greyish brown silty clay with chalk flecks. Colluvial deposits were noted below the subsoil in three trenches (Trenches 35, 37 and 39), measuring between 0.24m and 0.9m in depth and consisting of an orange silty clay. The natural level (102) was mixed across the site, comprising areas of gravelly clay, chalky clay, chalk and marley clay.

2.2 Topography

- 2.2.1 The site comprises an area of approximately 18.5ha. It is located in the south-western part of the village of Buntingford, 12km south of Royston, 6km north of Puckeridge and immediately to the east of the A10. The site is situated on an east facing slope dropping from approximately 110m AOD (above Ordnance Datum) at the western extremity to 90m AOD at the eastern extremity. The more localised topography within the site is more undulating and the site is bisected by a shallow, dry valley running from west to east.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance, as recorded in the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Several phases of evaluation and excavation have been conducted within the immediate vicinity of Tunbridge Lane, including Land south of Hare Street (Snee 2013), Land off Longmead (Leonard et al 2011) and land north of Buntingford (Clarke 2013). This archaeological and historical background has been drawn from the WSI compiled by CgMs Consulting (Gajos 2015) and the available 'grey literature' reports documenting the adjacent archaeological investigations.
- 3.1.2 A geophysical survey was undertaken in March 2015 (Stratascan 2015), which identified four foci of probable archaeological activity, two in the north-east of the site and two in the south. These areas were characterised by enclosures and pits.
- 3.1.3 A further geophysical survey with associated archaeological evaluations was undertaken to the south of the Hare Street evaluation at Owles Lane (Snee 2012). These investigations discovered enclosure ditches and pits which are likely to represent a small Late Iron Age or Romano-British farmstead located in the hinterland of Ermine Street.

3.2 Prehistoric

- 3.2.1 There is recorded evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site. Perhaps most significant to this site is the evidence from 2013 evaluation to the north of Buntingford (approximately 0.5km to the north of Area 1), which revealed evidence of Early and Middle iron Age activity in the form of ditches, gullies and postholes as well as a Middle Iron Age ring ditch. The site produced moderate assemblages of finds (Clarke 2013).
- 3.2.2 Three prehistoric artefacts were discovered in a findspot, c. 250m to the north of the development area, which consisted of a Basalt Neolithic axe (HHER 219), a Bronze Age barbed flint arrowhead (HHER 220) and an Iron Age bronze coin of Cunobelinus (HHER 6450).

- 3.2.3 An evaluation undertaken in May 2000, at the former Sunnyside Nursery Baldock Road (EHT 5000) identified a number of undated features, possibly associated with prehistoric agriculture.
- 3.2.4 Investigations to the north of the site identified an unurned cremation, tentatively identified as being Bronze Age in date (HHER 30580), found in a small pit within a larger complex of Roman ditches (HHER 18762).
- 3.2.5 Two lengths of ditch meeting at right-angles were found in excavation at the eastern end of the field south of St Francis Close in early 2010 (HHER 16661). They appeared to be the corner of a rectilinear enclosure obscured by the London Road (which is Roman Ermine Street). A large quantity of late Iron Age pottery was recovered from these ditches. Outside the enclosure in the centre of the site was a cremation burial, with iron nails which could suggest a Roman date.
- 3.2.6 Further afield a 'medium-sized collection of struck flint' was found in large-scale evaluation of three fields north of Buntingford (HHER 30409). The collection includes few good diagnostic pieces, but the earliest are a few blades and blade-like flakes which are Mesolithic or early Neolithic. Much of the assemblage consists of thin well-made flakes, most characteristic of later Neolithic to early Bronze Age techniques; a large early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead came from topsoil. A possible transverse arrowhead, knife, and scrapers are also likely to be late Neolithic to early Bronze Age. The flints came from 17 of the evaluation trenches.
- 3.2.7 To the west of the site there are crop-marks which may be prehistoric round barrows, or a potentially a post-medieval chalk pit (HHER 10712). These cropmarks are likely to be two ring-ditches, probably representing ploughed out burial mounds. The 1878 OS map shows an 'Old Chalk Pit' here (on the east side of the Aspenden Brook), so the rings may not be prehistoric. The pit is visible as an irregular set of marks on the 2000 vertical photomapping.
- 3.2.8 Two further crop-marks are visible to the west of the site. These consist of two circular marks in the paddock west of the buildings may be the ploughed-out remains of Bronze Age burials; alternatively, they may be

modern, the product of recent training of horses (HHER 13749).

3.3 Romano-British

- 3.3.1 An archaeological evaluation immediately to the north of Area 1 revealed a series of ditches and gullies, forming a fieldsystem suggested as being Roman in date due to the small quantity of Roman pottery and CBM (ceramic building material) recovered (Leonard 2012).
- 3.3.2 Field systems identified as being Roman in date were discovered c. 500m to the north of the development area (HHER 18762). This consisted of a series of shallow north to south aligned sinuous gullies set out on a grid system, some of which contained Roman pottery. The finds included 49 sherds of pottery (mid-1st and early 2nd century), some tile, iron nails, a little butchering waste (cattle bone), a sandstone gaming counter and the spring of a late Iron Age copper alloy brooch. A small pit was found within this Roman field system which contained cremated human bones (HHER 30580). Analysis concluded that the body was adult, but had not been a complete deposit and some of the bone may be animal. This suggests a prehistoric date rather than a later one, although in theory it could be any date from prehistoric to Saxon.
- 3.3.3 The proposed route of Ermine Street (HHER 9271) the Roman highway from London to York, runs close to the site. Ermine Street was constructed by the Roman army soon after the conquest of southern Britain in AD 43-45. It enters the south of the county west of Waltham Cross, running due north, and went via Ware and Braughing, late Iron Age and Roman settlements, to leave it north of Royston. The course survives well as earthworks, cropmarks, and lengths of the road are still in use.
- 3.3.4 Excavations in 2010-12, near Ware, found the road to have three distinct road surfaces (surviving about 6m wide, with wheel-ruts in the topmost surface) and several layers of make-up (Zeepvat 2014). The original 1st century course was represented by a pair of ditches on its west side, which soon went out of use; the road was encroached upon by buildings from the 2nd century onwards.

- 3.3.5 The 'wheel-rutted gravel surface' of the road was exposed on Wickham Hill, Braughing in 1969. This is north of a major junction and change of course [2595] at the Roman town of Braughing road.
- 3.3.6 Topsoil clearance for the Buntingford bypass (HHER 2257), c. 250m south-east of the site, revealed a linear feature at least 7m long x 60cm deep containing Roman pottery (largely 2nd century and including an amphora sherd and a piece of grog-tempered storage jar). A further similar feature was noted running at right angles to the west of this.
- 3.3.7 A potential Roman corridor villa has been identified, c. 400m to the south of the site, from cropmarks as well as from artefacts recovered from the site which include Roman building material as well as box flue tiles (HHER 13219).
- 3.3.8 Further afield an archaeological evaluation at Hare Street, c. 1.25km to the north-east of the site, revealed two Late Iron Age or Early Roman enclosures, medieval ridge and furrow as well as a number of probable palaeochannels (Fisher 2012).

3.4 Medieval

- 3.4.1 Medieval archaeology in the area is plausibly related to manor of Corneybury (MHT 4045) with a deserted medieval village also recorded in the vicinity of the manor (MHT 1007).
- 3.4.2 Buntingford is not mentioned in the Domesday Book, despite its name being of Early Saxon origin. However it is referenced in 1185 as being part of a Knights Templars land called Buntas Ford. It is also documented in 1338 with the granting of a licence to hold a market and fair.
- 3.4.3 Aspenden manor (HHER 11525) was held by the Tany family by the beginning of the 13th century. This stone-built hall is an important building: considered to be the earliest of the undefended stone houses built from the late 13th century in the county, and it is the only example built by a lay family.

- 3.4.4 Further afield earthworks are visible on air photos and are listed as Corney Bury deserted medieval village (HHER 1007). There is no trace of the earthworks on the ground and 'no local tradition of a village'. The OS Record also cites a possible association between the manor of Alfedawicha (recorded in Domesday) and the manor of Corneybury, held by the Beauchamp family in 1303.

3.5 Post-Medieval and Modern

- 3.5.1 A tannery of 18th century date is known to have stood behind 10 High Street (HHER 10380). It comprised a building of two storeys with a basement, adjoining a two storey timber-framed rear wing. This was the Town Tannery and Tanyard; it apparently consisted of a number of large sheds with deep oakum pits for tanning leather. A timber-framed structure behind the Master Tanner's House at 12 High Street (HHER 10179) was supposedly used as a drying shed for hides. Brick footings have been seen in an evaluation trench; the size and type of brick suggest an 18th-19th century date. The backfilled tannery leat (HHER 17361) was found in an evaluation of land to the south, next to no.2 High Street.
- 3.5.2 Archaeological works behind the High Street have uncovered a significant amount of post-medieval buildings and features. An evaluation behind no. 84 High Street discovered the end of a substantial brick building (HHER 13743). This is shown on the 1878 OS map from which is it evident that the property boundaries have changed. Another evaluation carried out on land behind no. 61 High Street uncovered quarry pits or ponds of post-medieval date (HHER 13572).
- 3.5.3 An archaeological evaluation to the north of Buntingford uncovered evidence of post-medieval activity comprising post-holes, ditches and quarry pits (Clarke 2013).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation initially proposed the excavation of 65 trial trenches distributed across the site. These trenches targeted areas of possible archaeology identified by the geophysical survey as well as blank areas. The trench layout was designed by Paul Gajos as agreed with the HEAHCC. This was increased to 68 trial trenches to investigate the nature of a large Bronze Age ditch encountered in Area 1 (Fig. 2). In addition to this, Trenches 20, 35 and 60 were extended/boxed in order to expose further sections of the large ditch terminuses initially uncovered during the trenching.
- 4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 21-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.
- 4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoilheaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created.
- 4.1.4 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).
- 4.1.5 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

- 4.1.6 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and, where considered appropriate, 100% excavated.

4.2 Recording Methodology

- 4.2.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.
- 4.2.2 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20).
- 4.2.3 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. The record numbers assigned to cuts and deposits are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.
- 4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital Photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits.
- 4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (IfA 2001; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are described from west to east or south to north depending on the alignment of the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil (101), unless otherwise stated.
- 5.1.2 The trenches were positioned to target areas of potential archaeology identified by a Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2015). This survey identified a number of potential ditches, which form field systems as well as a number of features interpreted as possible pits (Fig. 3).
- 5.1.3 The evaluation identified 63 ditches, which appear to form larger complexes of field systems with at least two phases (Later Iron Age and Iron Age to Romano-British) identified, as well as a large Bronze Age possibly segmented enclosure ditch. The evaluation also identified 36 pits, two cremated bone deposits and two palaeochannels were also identified in the evaluation trenches.

5.2 Blank Trenches

- 5.2.1 All trenches that contained no archaeological deposits or features are listed: Trench 1, 4, 12, 16, 21, 23, 24, 26, 30, 31, 33, 40, 41, 42, 47, 49, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 64 and 68. Technical information is tabulated in Appendix 3 for these trenches.

5.3 Trenches Containing Archaeology

- 5.3.1 Trenches containing archaeology are listed below, with technical information tabulated in Appendix 3. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil (101), unless otherwise stated.

5.4 Trench 2

- 5.4.1 This trench was positioned to reveal a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey as well as modern field boundary (Fig. 3). However upon excavation the geophysical anomaly proved to be natural geology.

5.4.2 The trench contained three ditches (Fig. 6), aligned east to west (Fig. 5). The ditches are likely to be of post-medieval date. Ditches [214] and [205] may form part of a post-medieval trackway.

5.4.3 Ditch [214] (Fig. 6) was 0.82m wide and 0.25m deep with concave shallow sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid yellow-brown silty clay (215), which contained two fragments of Roman CBM.

5.4.4 Ditch [207] (Fig. 6) was 0.63m wide and 0.11m deep with concave shallow sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid yellow-brown silty clay (208).

5.4.5 Ditch [205] (Fig. 6) was parallel to ditch [207] measuring 0.92m wide and 0.25m deep with concave shallow sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid yellow-brown silty clay (206), which contained one fragment of animal bone and single fragment of Roman CBM.

5.5 Trench 3

5.5.1 The trench contained a single northeast to southwest aligned ditch (Fig. 6), which contained a small quantity of later Iron Age pottery.

5.5.2 Ditch [216] (Fig. 6: Section 46) was 0.59m wide and 0.17m deep, with a gently-sloping rounded profile and a single fill of mid grey-brown silty clay (217) containing later Iron Age pottery (four sherds; 2g), five fragments of animal bone and seven fragments of tile.

5.6 Trench 5

5.6.1 The trench was northwest-southeast aligned (Fig. 6) and contained one ditch aligned northeast to south west, producing fragments of animal bone, and a pit.

5.6.2 Ditch [247] (fig 6: Section 62) was 1m long, 0.68m wide and 0.08m deep, aligned east to west, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid orangey-grey silty clay (248). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.6.3 Pit [251] was 1m long, 0.77m wide and 0.26m deep. It was oval in plan,

extending east beyond the limits of the trench, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid orange-brown silty clay (252) containing one fragment of animal bone.

5.7 Trench 6

5.7.1 This trench was positioned to highlight a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey, however upon further investigation this proved to be natural geology (Fig. 3).

5.7.2 The trench contained a single ditch aligned northwest to southeast and contained pottery of later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age date (Fig. 6).

5.7.3 Ditch [272] was aligned northwest to southeast continuing in both directions beyond the limit of excavation. It was 0.82m wide and 0.11m deep with shallow sides and a flat base (Fig. 6: Section 70). It contained a single fill of orange-grey silty clay (271) which contained five sherds (68g) of later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age pottery.

5.8 Trench 7

5.8.1 This trench was positioned to reveal a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey; however upon further investigation this proved to be natural geology (Fig. 3).

5.8.2 The trench contained three ditches (two of which were on the same alignment, Fig. 6), none of which produced finds from which a date could be ascertained. The trench also contained two pits, one of which contained a significant amount of charcoal and burnt material, a single posthole, as well as a tree throw.

5.8.3 Posthole [204] measured 0.26m wide and 0.15m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid grey-brown silty clay (203). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.4 Pit [212] (Plate 2; Section 44) measured 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.35m deep. It was oval in plan with steep sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of dark grey-brown silty clay (213) and contained a large amount of

charcoal and burnt material. A number of large rounded stones were deposited in the bottom of the feature, which could represent a dump of pot-boilers. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.5 Ditch terminus [321] measured 6.5m long, 0.91m wide and 0.34m deep. It was aligned northeast to southwest with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of compacted mid grey-brown silty clay (322). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.6 Tree hollow [261] was 2.14m long, 1.36m wide and 0.16m deep. It was irregular in plan, with steep sides and a flat irregular base. It contained a single fill of mid grey-brown clayey silt (262). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.7 Ditch [273] was 2.68m long, 0.9m wide and 0.28m deep and was truncated by Ditch [259]. The ditch was aligned northwest to southeast, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill mid reddish-brown silty clay (274). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.8 Ditch [259] was 2.68m long, 0.6m wide and 0.35m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast. It was parallel to ditch [273] and truncates its northern side. Ditch [259] had steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey-brown silt clay (260). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.8.9 Post-hole [202] was 0.4m wide and 0.25m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, extending beyond the limits of the trench, with steep to vertical sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey-brown silt clay (201). This post-hole truncated ditch [259] but no finds were recovered from this feature to provide a date.

5.9 Trench 8

5.9.1 This trench was positioned to expose a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey, however upon further investigation this proved to be natural geology (Fig. 3).

5.9.2 This trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.9.3 A palaeochannel [244] was identified in this trench and was also recorded in Trenches 9 and 11. It was 27m wide and contained a fill of mixed dark blue grey silt clay and orange silt gravel (245) which contained two struck flints of possible Mesolithic-Neolithic date as well as two fragments of animal bone and a fragment of Early Bronze Age pottery.

5.10 Trench 9

5.10.1 This trench was positioned to pick up a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey. A palaeochannel (see section 5.9.3 for feature description) was identified on the alignment of this anomaly (Fig. 3).

5.10.2 This trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.10.3 Tree hollow [249] (Fig. 5) was 3.0m long, 2.0m wide and 0.25m deep. It was irregular in plan, with irregular sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-blue silty clay (250). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.11 Trench 10

5.11.1 This trench was positioned to reveal a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey. This was identified and may form part of a field system with a ditch identified in Trench 17 (Fig. 3).

5.11.2 This trench contained five features; four ditches and a possible natural feature (Fig. 5).

5.11.3 Pit [230] (Fig. 5) was 1.1m long, 0.5m wide and 0.05m deep. It had an amorphous shape in plan, with shallow sides and a concave base. Although the plan is somewhat unclear, the sides and base suggest this was a cut feature, probably representing a pit. It contained a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (231) containing a fragment of struck flint.

5.11.4 Ditch [228] (Fig. 5) was 2m long, 0.69m wide and 0.14m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south and parallel to Ditch [226] located c. 3.9m to the northeast, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill

of mid greyish-brown silty clay (229). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.11.5 Ditch [226] (Fig. 5) was 2m long, 0.68m wide and 0.11m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south and parallel to Ditch [228] located c. 3.9m to the southwest, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (227) containing Late Iron Age pottery, and a fragment of poorly struck flint.

5.11.6 Ditch [224] (Fig. 5; Plate 3; Section 50) was 2m long, 1.62m wide and 0.73m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a basal fill of light greyish-brown silty clay (288) 0.21m thick, a deposit of burnt material (246) 0.16m thick, containing one fragment of animal bone, and an upper fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (225) 0.36m thick, containing one sherd (5.0g) of Late Iron Age pottery.

5.11.7 Ditch [222] (Fig. 5) was 2m long, 0.61m wide and 0.17m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (223). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.12 Trench 11

5.12.1 The trench contained a single ditch [278] (Fig. 5) cut into the palaeochannel silts, as the entire trench lay within palaeochannel [244] also recorded in Trenches 8 and 9. Three sondages were excavated into this palaeochannel at regular intervals to assess its depth.

5.12.2 Ditch [278] (Fig. 5) was 2m long, 0.41m wide and 0.07m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with shallow sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (279). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.13 Trench 13

5.13.1 The trench contained a ditch aligned northeast to southwest and a small pit.

5.13.2 Ditch [263] was 3.2m long, 0.7m wide and 0.03m deep. It was linear in plan,

aligned north to south, with straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (264).

- 5.13.3 Pit [265] measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.07m deep with sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown sandy clay (266). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.14 Trench 14

- 5.14.1 This trench was located to investigate a number of anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

- 5.14.2 The trench contained a ditch aligned northwest to southeast and a pit. Neither feature produced finds from which a date could be ascertained.

- 5.14.3 Pit [218] was 1.2m long, 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep. It was oval in plan extending north beyond the limits of excavation, with sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (219). No finds were recovered from this feature.

- 5.14.4 Ditch [220] was 2m long, 0.9m wide and 0.07m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (221). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.15 Trench 15

- 5.15.1 The trench contained a single pit containing one sherd (2g) of 1st century Roman pottery.

- 5.15.2 Pit [280] (Fig. 5) was 0.65m long, 0.56m wide and 0.13m deep. It was circular in plan, with straight sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (281) containing one sherd (2g) of Roman pottery dating to the 1st century AD.

5.16 Trench 17

- 5.16.1 This trench was positioned to expose a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey. This ditch was revealed and forms part of a possible field system along with a further ditch identified in Trench 10 (Fig. 3).

5.16.2 Ditch [209] (Fig. 5; Plate 4; Section 43) was 2m long, 2.14m wide and 0.88m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a basal fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (210) and an upper fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (211) that contained no finds.

5.17 Trench 18

5.17.1 The trench contained a single ditch aligned northeast to southwest, which may be a modern field boundary (Fig. 3).

5.17.2 Ditch [253] (Fig. 5; Section 64) was 1.8m long, 1.16m wide and 0.49m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid orange-brown silty clay (254). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.18 Trench 19

5.18.1 This trench was positioned to pick up a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

5.18.2 The trench contained a curvilinear ditch aligned northwest to southeast and containing fragments of animal bone, sherds of pottery and flint.

5.18.3 Ditch [282] (Fig.5; Plate 5; Section 75) was identified cutting high up in the trench section and measured 2.0m long, 3.96m wide and 1.36m deep. It was curvilinear in plan aligned northwest to southeast, with straight sloping sides and a concave base, potentially terminating in Trench 20. It contained a basal fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (285) containing two fragments of animal bone, three sherds (72g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and a fragment of Neolithic-Bronze Age flint. [282] also contained a burnt deposit of dark brownish-grey silty clay (284) containing six fragments of animal bone and 18 sherds (159g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, and an upper fill (283) of mid greyish-brown silty clay, from which two fragments of animal bone were recovered. This deposit also contained six fragments of charcoal, with fragments of oak, hazel and ash identified. These charcoal fragments very small and as such would have burnt quickly giving a good flame, ideal for cremation (See Morgan Section 6.11).

5.19 Trench 20

- 5.19.1 The trench contained the terminus of a curvilinear ditch which was aligned east to west. The trench was boxed-out in order to reveal more of this ditch terminus. This ditch contained fragments of bone, sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery, and fragments of flint.
- 5.19.2 Ditch terminus [309] (Fig. 5) was 2.3m wide and 0.53m deep. It was curvilinear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a basal fill of mid orange-brown silty clay (308) 0.53m thick containing two sherds (29g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, one fragment of animal bone and a fragment of struck flint. The upper fill consisted of mid brownish-grey silty clay (307) 0.23m thick contained four sherds (29g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery. This could be the terminus of the curvilinear ditch [282] identified in Trench 19.

5.20 Trench 22

- 5.20.1 The trench contained two pits.
- 5.20.2 Pit [240] was 0.9m long, 0.75m wide and 0.14m deep. It was circular in plan, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (241). The similarity between the fill of this feature and pit [242] suggests they are likely to have been contemporary.
- 5.20.3 Pit [242] was 0.75m long, 0.7m wide and 0.06m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (243). The similarity between the fill of this feature and pit [240] suggests they are likely to have been contemporary. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.21 Trench 25

- 5.21.1 The trench contained a single posthole located at the northeast end.
- 5.21.2 Posthole [238] was 0.6m long, 0.4m wide and 0.11m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (239). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.22 Trench 27

- 5.22.1 The trench contained a ditch aligned east to west that cut a small pit containing animal bone.
- 5.22.2 Pit [291] was 0.3m wide and 0.3m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with gradually sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (292). It was truncated by Ditch [289].
- 5.22.3 Ditch [289] was 2.8m wide and 0.2m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with gradually sloping sides and a concave base, and truncated earlier Pit [291]. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (290). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.23 Trench 28

- 5.23.1 This trench was positioned to investigate a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).
- 5.23.2 The trench contained two ditches, neither feature produced finds from which a date could be ascertained.
- 5.23.3 Ditch [268] (Fig. 8) was 1.4m wide and 0.12m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with gradually sloping sides and a slightly uneven base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey silty clay (267). No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 5.23.4 Ditch [270] (Fig. 8) was 4.9m long, 2.8m wide and 0.2m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with gradually sloping sides and a slightly uneven base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (269). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.24 Trench 29

- 5.24.1 The trench contained a single ditch aligned north to south, from which no finds were recovered.
- 5.24.2 Ditch [276] (Fig. 8) was 0.8m wide and 0.4m in depth. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown clayey silt (275). No finds were recovered

from this feature.

5.25 Trench 32

5.25.1 The trench contained three ditches; one aligned east to west and two aligned north to south.

5.25.2 Ditch [233] (Fig. 8) was 0.42m wide and 0.16m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey clayey silt (232) containing one sherd (7g) of later Iron Age pottery.

5.25.3 Ditch [235] (Fig. 8) was 0.46m wide and 0.08m deep. It was linear in plan, and aligned parallel with Ditch [233], with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey clayey silt (234) containing one sherd (40g) of 1st century Roman pottery.

5.25.4 Ditch [237] (Fig. 8) was 9.5m long, 1m+ wide and 0.1m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west. Its sides were not visible as the northern edge extended beyond the limit of excavation and its southwest edge was cut by a field drain. It had a slightly concave base, and contained a single fill of light yellow grey clayey silt (236) which contained one sherd of 13th-14th century pottery.

5.26 Trench 34

5.26.1 This trench was positioned in order to uncover a potential ditch identified in the geophysical survey, upon excavation of the trench this was identified as being a palaeochannel (Fig. 3).

5.26.2 The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.26.3 The trench contained a palaeochannel (302) (Fig. 8). The channel was aligned northwest to southeast and measured 30.0m wide and 0.89m in depth. It consisted of a deposit of mixed dark blue-grey silt clay and orange silt gravel. No finds were recovered from the palaeochannel.

5.27 Trench 35

5.27.1 This trench was positioned to investigate a number of anomalies identified in

the results of a geophysical survey (Fig. 3). A layer of orange silty clay colluvium was identified across most of the trench below the subsoil, while at the far eastern end of the trench, this comprised an alluvial deposit.

5.27.2 After the initial trench was machined, part of a cremated bone deposit was identified, and as a result, the trench was boxed out to ascertain if this was isolated or part of a cluster of cremations.

5.27.3 The trench contained two cremated bone deposits (Fig. 8), which may represent deposits of remnant pyre material, as well as five small pits containing burnt material.

5.27.4 Cremated bone deposit [294] (Fig. 8; Plate 6) was 0.7m in diameter and 0.2m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with shallow sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (295) containing 273.5g of cremated human remains, one fragment of animal bone and a small iron socket, possibly a tool. Fragments of charcoal were also recovered from this deposit, these included oak, ash and burnt bone. The fragments of wood were small and as such would have burnt quite quickly and given a good flame, ideal for cremation (see Morgan Section 6.11). The ill-defined nature of Cut [294], as well as a small amount of cremated bone, and the lack of a cremation vessel or grave goods indicate that rather than being a cremation burial, this deposit may represent remnant pyre material.

5.27.5 Pit [257] (Fig. 8) was 0.6m long, 0.5m wide and 0.05m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a deliberately deposited single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (258) containing burnt material. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.27.6 Pit [296] (Fig. 8) was 0.6m long, 0.3m wide and 0.05m deep. It was sub-oval in plan, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a deliberately deposited single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (297) containing burnt material and one sherd (10g) of mid-1st to 2nd century AD Roman pottery.

5.27.7 Pit [298] (Fig. 8) was 0.54m long, 0.34m wide and 0.06m deep. It was

circular in plan, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a deliberately deposited single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (299) containing burnt material and one fragment of Later Iron Age pottery.

5.27.8 Pit [196] (Fig. 8) was 0.7m long, 0.32m wide and 0.18m deep. It was sub-oval in plan, with moderate to steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark grey brown silt clay. The feature contained no finds.

5.27.9 Pit [300] (Fig. 8) was 0.3m in diameter and 0.17m deep. It was circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a deliberately deposited single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (301) containing burnt material. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.27.10 Cremated bone deposit [190] (Fig. 8) was 0.6m long, 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with gradually sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a deliberately deposited single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (191) containing burnt material, 188.5g of cremated human remains and two iron nails. Fragments of charcoal were also recovered from this deposit, including oak and burnt bone. The oak fragments were very small and as such would have burnt quite quickly and given a good flame, ideal for a cremation (see Morgan Section 6.11).

5.28 Trench 36

5.28.1 This trench was located to investigate an anomaly identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

5.28.2 The trench contained three ditches, as well as a natural feature.

5.28.3 Ditch [114] (Fig. 8) was 0.6m wide and 0.19m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown clayey silt (115) containing three sherds (20g) of mid-1st century AD Roman pottery and one iron nail, of Manning Type 1B.

5.28.4 Ditch [113] (Fig. 8) was 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with gradually sloping sides and a concave

base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey clayey silt (112).

5.28.5 Tree hollow [105] (Fig. 8) was 4.76m long, 2m wide and 0.78m deep. It was irregular in plan, with irregular sides and a concave base. It contained a basal fill of light brownish-grey silty clay (104) 0.48m thick and an upper fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (105) 0.3m thick. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.28.6 Ditch [116] (Fig. 8) was 3.85m wide and 0.48m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with gradually sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a basal fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (118) 0.13m thick containing nine sherds (52g) of mid-1st to 2nd century AD Roman pottery, two fragments of animal bone and 13 fragments of burnt clay. Upper fill (117) comprised a mid-dark reddish-brown silty clay (117) 0.4m thick containing 67 sherds (1532g) of 2nd century AD Roman pottery, one animal bone, 10 fragments of CBM (9 fragments of tile and 1 fragment of brick) and 17 fragments of burnt clay.

5.29 Trench 37

5.29.1 The trench contained seven ditches as well as a layer of colluvium, located below the subsoil in the southern end of the trench.

5.29.2 Ditch [138] (Fig. 8) was 2.25m long, 1.85m wide and 0.11m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-grey silty clay (137) containing three sherds (61g) of mid-1st century AD Roman pottery and one fragment of animal bone. This ditch was truncated by Ditch [140].

5.29.3 Ditch [140] (Fig. 8) was 2.5m long, 1.6m wide and 0.18m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (139). No finds were recovered from this feature. This ditch truncated Ditch [138] and was truncated in turn by Ditch [162].

5.29.4 Ditch [162] (Fig. 8) was 2.25m long, 1.6m wide and 0.19m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with moderately sloping sides and a

flat base. It contained a single fill of mid yellowish-brown silty clay (161). This ditch truncated Ditches [140] and [142]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.29.5 Ditch [142] (Fig. 8) was 7.65m long, 0.72m wide and 0.12m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey silty clay (141) containing one sherd (3g) of mid-1st century AD Roman pottery. This ditch was truncated by Ditches [162] and [144].

5.29.6 Ditch [144] (Fig. 8) was 1.8m long, 0.96m wide and 0.14m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with straight sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of light reddish-brown silty clay (143). No finds were recovered from this feature. This ditch truncated Ditch [142].

5.29.7 Ditch terminus [126] (Fig. 8) was 2m long, 2.35m wide and 0.08m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey clayey silt (125) containing 14 sherds (104g) of mid-1st century AD Roman pottery, fragments of animal bone and a curved strip of Iron, most likely a fitting.

5.29.8 Ditch [136] (Fig. 8) was 2.95m long, 1.34m wide and 0.36m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with straight sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (135). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.30 Trench 38

5.30.1 This trench was positioned to investigate a number of geophysical anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

5.30.2 The trench contained a single ditch, aligned north to south.

5.30.3 Ditch [121] (Fig. 8) was 1.6m wide and 0.37m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a basal fill of mid greyish-brown clayey silt (120) 0.11m thick, containing one fragment of animal bone and an upper fill of very dark grey-

brown clayey silt (119) 0.26m thick containing 126 sherds (1038g) of mid-1st century Roman pottery and five fragments of animal bone.

5.31 Trench 39

5.31.1 The trench contained a single pit that extended beyond the limit of excavation. In addition to this an orange colluvium layer was noted in the northern end of the trench, below the subsoil.

5.31.2 Pit [122] was 1.07m long, 1.1m wide and 0.44m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (123). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.32 Trench 43

5.32.1 This trench was positioned to investigate a potential ditch identified in the results of a geophysical survey (Fig. 4).

5.32.2 Ditch [124] (Fig. 7; Plate 7) was 0.8m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.06m. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with gradually sloping sides. A human skull was found at the western end of the feature, close to the trench limit of excavation (Plate 7). This was left in situ and the ditch was not fully excavated. No other finds were recovered from this feature.

5.33 Trench 44

5.33.1 The trench contained two ditches and a pit.

5.33.2 Ditch [107] (Fig. 7) was 2.75m long, 1.06m wide and 0.18m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark yellowish-brown silty clay (106).

5.33.3 Pit [109] (Fig. 7) was 0.62m long, 0.39m wide and 0.12m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid yellowish-brown silty clay (108). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.33.4 Ditch [110] (Fig. 7) was 2.2m long, 0.7m wide and 0.18m deep. It was curvilinear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with straight sides and a

narrow base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (111). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.34 Trench 45

5.34.1 This trench was located to investigate a possible ditch identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 3).

5.34.2 Ditch terminus [199] (Fig. 7) was 1.6m long, 0.9m wide and 0.28m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid yellowish-brown silty clay (200) containing five sherds (5g) of later Iron Age pottery.

5.34.3 Ditch [147] (Fig. 7) was 0.7m wide and 0.4m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of light greyish-brown silty clay (148). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.34.4 Pit [145] (Fig. 7) was 1.2m long extending northeast beyond the limit of excavation, 1m wide and 0.3m deep. It was circular in plan, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (146) containing burnt material including six fragments of burnt clay and one fragment of animal bone.

5.35 Trench 46

5.35.1 This trench was positioned to investigate a series of possible ditches, which were identified in a geophysical survey, potentially forming a small enclosure (Fig. 3).

5.35.2 The trench contained four ditches; two of the ditches as well as two pits and a post-hole.

5.35.3 Ditch [170] (Fig. 7) was 1.8m long, 0.34m wide and 0.15m deep, and truncates Pit [168]. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (169) containing a single fragment of tile.

5.35.4 Pit [168] (Fig. 7) was 1.22m long, 0.9m wide and 0.34m deep. It was circular

in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base, truncating Ditch [170]. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (167) containing 7 sherds (13g) of Later Iron Age pottery. It was cut by Ditch [170].

5.35.5 Ditch [163] (Fig. 7) was 2m long, 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (164). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.35.6 Posthole [172] (Fig. 7) was 0.35m in diameter and 0.06m deep. It was circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (171). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.35.7 Ditch [189] (Fig. 7; Plate 8; Section 35) was 2.55m long, 2.34m wide and 1.24m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (188) which produced five sherds (8g) of Later Iron Age pottery and two fragments animal bone. Due to the similarities in the fills and the proximity to Ditch terminus [165] it is likely that this forms part of an enclosure with Ditch terminus [165].

5.35.8 Ditch terminus [165] (Fig. 7) was 3.8m long, 1.15m wide and 0.5m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (166). No finds were recovered from this feature, however due to the similarities in the fills it may form part of an enclosure with Ditch [189].

5.35.9 Pit [186] (Fig. 7) was 1.2m wide and 0.15 m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (187) and was cut by Ditch [165]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.36 Trench 48

5.36.1 The trench contained two ditches; one aligned northwest to southeast, and a second ditch aligned northeast to southwest.

5.36.2 Ditch [197] (Fig. 7) was 3.2m long, 1.4m wide and 0.36m in depth. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid-yellow brown silty clay (198). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.36.3 Ditch [192] (Fig. 7) was 2.9m long, 1.25m wide and 0.98m deep. It was curvilinear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (193) containing 15 sherds (54g) of Later Iron Age pottery.

5.37 Trench 50

5.37.1 The trench contained one ditch aligned northeast to southwest and three pits. None of the features produced any finds.

5.37.2 Ditch terminus [127] was 2.1m long, 0.75m wide and 0.25m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (128). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.37.3 Pit [129] was 1.1m long, 0.9 wide and 0.16m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (130). No finds were recovered from this feature. Due to the similarities in fills it is reasonable to say that this pit is likely to be contemporary with Pits [131] and [133].

5.37.4 Pit [131] was 1.1m long, 0.85 wide and 0.1m deep. It was circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (132). No finds were recovered from this feature. It is reasonable to say, due to the similarities in fills, that this pit is contemporary to Pits [129] and [131].

5.37.5 Pit [133] was 0.7m long, 0.87 wide and 0.1m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (134). No finds were recovered from this feature. However it is reasonable to say, due to the similarities in fills, that this pit is contemporary to Pits [129] and [133].

5.38 Trench 53

- 5.38.1 The trench contained five ditches, three of which were on parallel alignments, as well as a pit. No finds were recovered from these features.
- 5.38.2 Ditch [159] was 2.1m long, 0.3m wide and 0.12m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (160). No finds were recovered from this feature. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [159], [157], [155] and [153] are all contemporary.
- 5.38.3 Ditch [157] was 2.1m long, 0.5m wide and 0.16m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (158). No finds were recovered from this feature. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [159], [157], [155] and [153] are all contemporary.
- 5.38.4 Ditch [155] was 2.1m long, 0.85m wide and 0.27m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (156). No finds were recovered from this feature. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [159], [157], [155] and [153] are all contemporary.
- 5.38.5 Ditch [153] was 2.1m long, 0.7m wide and 0.17m deep. It was curvilinear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (154). No finds were recovered from this feature. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [159], [157], [155] and [153] are all contemporary.
- 5.38.6 Ditch [151] was 3.2m long, 0.42m wide and 0.27m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned southeast to northwest, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (152). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.38.7 Pit [149] was 1.4m long, 1.15m wide and 0.28m deep. It was sub-circular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid reddish-brown silty clay (150) and was cut by Ditch [151]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.39 Trench 55

5.39.1 The trench contained four ditches aligned east to west, a pit and a natural hollow.

5.39.2 Ditch [174] was 1.8m long, 0.5m wide and 0.11m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey silty clay (173) containing fragments of tile.

5.39.3 Natural feature [175] was 0.5m in diameter, 0.12m deep and sub-circular in plan. It consisted of mid greyish-brown silty clay that had accumulated in a natural hollow. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.39.4 Pit [177] was 1.6m long, 0.88m wide and 0.42m deep. It was sub-oval in plan, with steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (176). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.39.5 Ditch [179] was 1.8m long, 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, with steep convex sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of light greyish-brown silty clay (178). No finds were recovered from this feature. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [179], [181], and [183] are all contemporary.

5.39.6 Ditch [181] was 1.8m long, 0.35m wide and 0.12m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of light brownish-grey silty clay (180). No finds were recovered from this feature. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [179], [181], and [183] are all contemporary.

5.39.7 Ditch [183] was 1.8m long, 0.95m wide and 0.31m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west and parallel to [181], with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of light greyish-brown silty clay (182) containing two sherds (2g) of mid-1st to 2nd century Roman pottery. Based on shared alignments and the similarities in fills it is reasonable to suggest that Ditches [179], [181], and [183] are all contemporary.

5.40 Trench 61

5.40.1 The trench contained a single ditch which contained no finds.

5.40.2 Ditch [185] was 1.8m long, 0.52m wide and 0.06m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (184). No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.41 Trench 65

5.41.1 This trench was positioned to investigate a series of possible ditches, identified in the geophysical survey, possibly forming a field system or larger enclosure (Fig. 4).

5.41.2 The trench contained two ditches.

5.41.3 Ditch [305] (Fig. 7) was 2m long, 2.5m wide and 0.93m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned north to south, with steep sides and a narrow base. It contained a single fill of light greyish-brown silty clay (306) containing 17 sherds (202g) of Later Iron Age pottery, three fragments of animal bone and a fragment of flint. It is possible that Ditches [305] and [303] form part of a larger enclosure, but this is unclear within evaluation trenches.

5.41.4 Ditch [303] (Fig. 7) was 3.65m long, 0.89m wide and 0.26m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned east to west, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark reddish-brown silty clay (304). No finds were recovered from this feature. It is possible that Ditches [305] and [303] form part of a larger enclosure, but this is unclear within evaluation trenches.

5.42 Trench 66

- 5.42.1 This trench was positioned to investigate the alignment and potential extent of the ditch terminus identified in Trench 19 (Fig. 3).
- 5.42.2 The trench contained a substantial ditch terminus aligned northwest to southeast, and a series of eight intercutting pits. A number of the pits were not excavated during the evaluation, due the level of intercutting meaning they would be more accurately investigated during open area excavations.
- 5.42.3 Ditch terminus [316] (Fig. 5; Plate 9) was 5m long, 3.52m wide and at least 0.5m deep. It was linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast, with steep sides. It was not fully excavated. It contained a lower fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (320), a middle fill of light whitish-grey silty clay (319) redeposited natural, and an upper fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (318) containing two sherds (1g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery and two fragments of struck flint. It is suggested that this ditch formed part of a larger, curvilinear enclosure, comprising a series of segmented ditches, along with Ditches [282], Trench 19, and [309], Trench 20.
- 5.42.4 Pit [314] (Fig. 5; Plate 10) was 0.84m long, 0.36m wide and 0.08m deep. It was sub-rectangular in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of dark greyish-brown silty clay (315). No finds were recovered from this feature. This pit truncated an unexcavated pit.
- 5.42.5 Pit [286] (Fig. 5; Plate 10) was 1.5m wide. It was not excavated, as it would be better understood during the course of open area excavations, but assigned numbers for finds retrieved during cleaning. It contained a single fill of grey-brown silt clay (287) that contained 51 sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery. This pit was truncated by Pit [310] and two further unexcavated pits, and it truncated a small pit on its eastern edge.
- 5.42.6 Pit [310] (Fig. 5; Plate 11) was 1.76m wide and 0.16m deep. It was circular in plan, with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (311). This pit truncated Pits [312] and [286].
- 5.42.7 Pit [312] (Fig. 5; Plate 10) was 0.55m long, 0.18m wide and 0.08m deep. It

was curvilinear in plan, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid greyish-brown silty clay (313). No finds were recovered from this feature. This pit was truncated by Pit [310].

5.43 Trench 67

5.43.1 This trench was positioned to investigate the alignment and potential extent of the ditch terminus identified in Trench 20 (Fig. 3).

5.43.2 The trench contained a ditch terminus (Fig. 5), aligned northeast to southwest. The ditch is of probable Bronze Age date based on the fact it may form a larger enclosure, comprising a series of segmented ditches, along with the Bronze Age ditch identified in Trenches 19, 20 and 66. The ditch was not excavated in this trench.

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Flint

By Barry Bishop

Introduction

- 6.1.1 The archaeological excavations at Luynes Rise resulted in the recovery of small assemblages of struck flint and unworked burnt stone. All of the pieces have been individually catalogued and this includes details of their contextual origins, raw material and condition, and where possible a suggested date of manufacture. This report summarises the information contained in the catalogue and assesses the assemblages' archaeological significance and their potential to contribute to the further understanding of the nature and chronology of activity at the site. All metrical descriptions follow the methodology established by Saville (1980).

Quantification

Type	Decortication flake	Core shaping/rejuvenation flake	Flake	Prismatic blade	Non-prismatic blade	Burnt Stone (no.)	Burnt Stone (Wt g)
No	4	1	5	2	1	1	104

Table 1: Quantification of struck flint from Luynes Rise

- 6.1.2 A total of thirteen struck flints were recovered from nine separate features located within seven of the Evaluation trenches. The only piece of unworked burnt stone recovered came from Bronze Age ditch [309] and comprised a rounded pebble of siliceous sandstone weighing 104g.
- 6.1.3 The assemblage is predominantly produced from a fine-grained and good knapping quality translucent flint which varies in colour from black to dark grey and brown. One piece has been made from an opaque black speckled flint and another from semi-opaque light grey flint. Cortex is equally varied and ranges from being thick and relatively unweathered to worn and hard,

with thermal scar surfaces also common. The mix of different flint types and the state of the raw materials indicate that they were most likely to have been obtained from the glacio-fluvial deposits that dominate the surface geology of the area.

- 6.1.4 The condition of the assemblage is variable although the majority of pieces show some evidence of edge chipping or abrasion, as would be consistent with having been largely residually deposited. Recortication is also variable although there appears to be no chronological significance in the degree to which this has occurred to individual pieces.

Discussion

- 6.1.5 As a whole, the struck flint was very variable in both the raw materials used and the technological approaches used to reduce it. No chronologically diagnostic pieces, cores or definite retouched implements were recovered and there is a high proportion of decortication flakes, all making dating difficult. The technological attributes of the pieces indicate that the assemblage as a whole is likely to have been manufactured over a long period. The prismatic blades and also a few flakes that have blade-like traits can be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods; if the blade from ditch [309] is truncated this would place it within the Mesolithic period. There are also a number of flakes that have been competently, if not systematically, produced and which can be broadly placed within a Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age time frame, with a few of these having faceted striking platforms which are most suggestive of Later Neolithic industries. Most of the struck pieces were recovered from ditches, some of which have been provisionally dated to the Bronze Age, and whilst most of the flintwork is likely to have been residually deposited, one or two flakes could be of later prehistoric date and at least broadly contemporary. In addition to this flint micro-debitage was identified in environmental samples <7>, <8>, <9> and <12> taken from four features. Despite the likely prehistoric date for this flint it is likely that these flints are redeposited.

6.2 Prehistoric Pottery

By Sarah Percival

Summary

6.2.1 A total of 150 sherds weighing 861g were collected from eighteen excavated features (Table 2). Both earlier and later prehistoric pottery was found including a total of 80 flint-tempered, Middle Bronze Age sherds. These comprise a rim and body sherds from [282], trench 19 plus further body sherds from [309], trench 20 and [316], trench 66. A total of eight body sherds of possible Later Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age date and also in flinty fabric came from [272], trench 6 and [233], trench 32. The remainder of the assemblage comprises 59 sherds weighing 310g of later Iron Age date (350BC to AD50) including 17 sherds (202g) dating the latest Iron Age (1st century BC-1st century AD). Iron Age pottery was recovered from ditches in Trenches 3, 10, 32, 45, 46, 48 and 65 plus a single pit ([298]) in Trench 35. All the pottery is fragmentary and much is abraded with the exception of a large fresh later Iron Age base sherd from ditch [305], trench 65.

Trench	Cut	Feature type	Context	Pot date	No.	Wt (g)
3	216	Ditch	217	Later Iron Age	4	2
6	272	Ditch	271	Later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age	5	68
8	244	Natural	245	Early Bronze Age	1	18
10	224	Ditch	225	Later Iron Age	1	5
	226	Ditch	227	Later Iron Age	1	1
	247	Ditch	246	Later Iron Age	2	8
19	282	Ditch	283	Not closely datable	2	8
			284	Middle Bronze Age	18	159
			285	Middle Bronze Age	3	72
20	309	Ditch	307	Middle Bronze Age	4	34
			308	Middle Bronze Age	2	29
29	276	Ditch	275	Later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age	3	24
32	233	Ditch	232	Later Iron Age	1	7
35	298	Pit	299	Later Iron Age	1	5
45	199	Ditch	200	Later Iron Age	5	5
46	168	Pit	167	Later Iron Age	7	13
	189	Ditch	188	Later Iron Age	5	8
48	192	Ditch	193	Later Iron Age	15	54
65	305	Ditch	306	Later Iron Age (C1BC-C1AD)	17	202
66	286	Pit	287	Middle Bronze Age	51	138
	316	Ditch	318	Middle Bronze Age	2	1

Total	150	861
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Table 2: Quantification of prehistoric pottery

Methodology

- 6.2.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1997, 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion type: F representing flint, G representing grog and Q representing quartz. Vessel form was recorded: R representing rim sherds, B representing base sherds, D representing decorated sherds and U representing undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration, condition, food residues and sooting were also noted. The catalogue was recorded using Microsoft Excel 2010. The pottery and archive are curated by PCA Central

Early Bronze Age

- 6.2.3 A single undecorated body sherd in sandy fabric with sparse flint and sparse grog may early Bronze Age. The sherd came from palaeochannel [244].

Middle Bronze Age

- 6.2.4 A total of 80 sherds weighing 433g were identified as being of Middle Bronze Age date (c.1500-1100BC). All the sherds are made of flint-tempered fabrics, two with moderate to common coarse angular flints >3mm, the other two sandy with smaller flint pieces in varying quantity (Table 2). The range of fabrics is similar to those used for Bronze Age pottery found at King Harry Lane, Verulamium and with one vessel from the mid Bronze Age cremation cemetery from Kings Hill, Broom, Bedfordshire (Longworth 1989, 53; Knight 2007, 236).
- 6.2.5 The assemblage includes rims from three vessels. One, in moderate flint fabric, (F2), is from a bucket or tub-shaped vessel with flattened rim top and fingertip-impressed decoration along the rim edge. The rim sherd represents

around 5% of a substantial vessel with a diameter at the rim of c.250mm. It is similar to examples found locally at King Harry Lane and Brooklands, Broughton (Longworth 1989: Stansbie 2014) and more widely, within the large domestic assemblage from Grimes Graves, Norfolk (Ellison 1988, fig.38, 409, 410).

- 6.2.6 The second rim, in coarse flint fabric (F4) is also flattened but is apparently undecorated and too small to measure. The third rim, again in fabric F4, is rounded and slightly everted similar to Bronze Age examples from Grimes Graves (Ellison 1988, fig.35, 332-337).

Later Bronze Age / earlier Iron Age

- 6.2.7 A small assemblage of eight sherds weighing 92g has been tentatively identified as being Later Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age (1100-600BC). Comprising undecorated body sherds and an incomplete base with no surviving base angle, all are made of very coarse flint-tempered fabric (F3). The presence of the flat base indicates that the sherds are not earlier Neolithic, although the fabric is similar to pottery made at that period. The Post Deverel-Rimbury identification is based on the thin, highly fired fabric and finger wiped surface of the sherds and it is possible that the sherds are Middle Bronze Age like those described above.

Later Iron Age

- 6.2.8 The Later Iron Age pottery is characterised by the use of well-fired reduced sandy fabrics. Rims from two vessels are present. One is a slack-shouldered everted rim jar (Hill form D) with a rounded, out-turned rim. The exterior of the rim is decorated with a band formed of two shallow incised lines. The form is found widely, for example at Bancroft (Knight 1994, fig.205, 75). The second rim is from a neckless, round-bodied jar with rounded direct rim (Hill and Horne 2003, form K), also found at Bancroft (Knight 1994, fig.205 74 and 78). This form is similar to Thompson's form C3 which dates to the 1st century BC or a little before (1982). A simple base sherd and body sherds from a scored jar were also found. It is likely that these sherds date to c.350-c.50BC.

6.2.9 A small number of sherds are perhaps a little later, though contiguous with the rest of the Iron Age assemblage, spanning the late 1st century BC to 1st century AD. These include a substantial base sherd from a fairly straight-walled vessel with incised decoration forming horizontal bands over the body in micaceous sandy reduced fabric (Q1mica). Three handmade grog-tempered sherds and a fine shell-tempered sherd also belong to this late Iron Age group.

Pot date	Fabric	Fabric Description	No. sherd	Wt(g)	No.
Early Bronze Age	QspF	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz, sparse small sub-angular flint and sparse dark angular grog.	1	18	
Middle Bronze Age	F2	Moderate medium angular flint >3mm.	56	152	1
	F4	Common medium angular flint >3mm.	15	259	2
	QF	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz and moderate small sub-angular flint >2mm	2	12	
	Qfcoarse	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz and moderate coarse sub-angular flint >4mm	7	10	
Later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age	F3	Common coarse angular flint >4mm.	8	92	
Later Iron Age	F1	Moderate fine angular flint >1mm.	1	10	1
	Q1	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz,	31	70	
	Q1mica	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz, moderate mica plates	1	5	
	QFfine	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz, sparse fine sub-angular flint	4	16	1
	Qfmod	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz, sparse medium sub-angular flint	1	5	
	QS	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz, rare shell	4	2	
Later Iron Age C1BC/AD	GTW	Grog tempered ware containing common fine pale grog	3	11	
	Q1mica	Sandy with moderate small rounded	13	186	1

		quartz, moderate mica plates			
	STW	Shell tempered ware. Common white shell plates in fine clay matrix	1	5	
Not Closely Dateable	F1	Moderate fine angular flint >1mm.	1	4	
	QCh	Sandy with moderate small rounded quartz and rare sub-rounded chalk	1	4	
Total			150	861	6

Table 3: Pottery fabric descriptions

Discussion

6.2.10 The presence of pottery indicates activity at the site between c.1500 to 1100BC, a period which is poorly represented within the archaeological record of the local region, being found sparsely at Broughton and Pennylands in Milton Keynes (Stansbie 2014, Knight 1993). The lack of diagnostic sherds made more precise dating of the Later Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age pottery more problematic. The origin of the Middle Bronze Age pottery is uncertain as all was recovered from ditches and pottery of the bucket-shaped form was used in both burial and domestic contexts.

6.2.11 The Iron Age pottery, also principally recovered from ditches, is less ambiguous. The small pottery assemblage suggests that the site was occupied sometime around the second to first centuries BC and into the early 1st century AD. During this period pottery is almost exclusively associated with occupation activity suggesting settlement contemporary with Iron Age sites in the region such as Bancroft and Pennyland, Hartigans and Broughton, Milton Keynes (Williams and Zeepvat 1994; Williams 1993; Atkins et al. 2014).

6.3 Roman Pottery

By Katie Anderson

Introduction

6.3.1 An assemblage of early Roman pottery was recovered from the evaluation, totalling 231 sherds weighing 2886g and representing 4.64 EVEs (estimated vessel equivalent). All of the pottery was examined and recorded in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Perrin 2011) and using the standard terminology and codes

advocated by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (Symonds 2002).

Assemblage Composition and Dating

- 6.3.2 The assemblage was mixed in condition, comprising small to medium sized sherds, with a relatively low mean weight of 12.4g. Despite the presence of some larger sherds, the assemblage can be described as being abraded and 'mixed' in nature with few refitting sherds, suggesting that material had either been left on the surface for a period of time before being deposited, or else had been redeposited from elsewhere.
- 6.3.3 The pottery all dates to the earlier Roman period, with a date range of AD50-150, with an apparent peak between AD50-100. Dating of the assemblage was based on the fabrics and limited number of diagnostic sherds identified.
- 6.3.4 The range of fabrics was limited (Table 4), comprising primarily unsourced sandy wares, most of which were likely to have been made locally. Grog-tempered wares were also well represented, totalling 36.5% of the total assemblage. Sourced wares comprised 16 Verulamium whiteware sherds and four South Gaulish samian sherds.

Fabric code	Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
BLKSL	Black-slipped ware (unsourced)	11	48
CSGW	Coarse sandy greyware (unsourced)	32	166
CSMGW	Coarse sandy micaceous greyware (unsourced)	3	26
CSRDU	Coarse sandy micaceous reduced ware (unsourced)	6	47
FSGW	Fine sandy greyware (unsourced)	7	33
FSMBLK	Fine sandy micaceous black-slipped ware (unsourced)	2	78
FSMGW	Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware (unsourced)	19	132
FSOX	Fine sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	3	7
FSRDU	Fine sandy reduced ware (unsourced)	24	153
GROG	Grog-tempered ware	83	1341
GV1	Grog and vegetable tempered ware	1	13
OXID	Oxidised sandy ware (unsourced)	9	54
SAMSG	South Gaulish Samian	4	133
SHELL	Shell-tempered ware	1	7
VRW	Verulamium whiteware	16	583
WW	Whiteware (unsourced)	10	65

Table 4: Roman pottery by fabric

6.3.5 The assemblage was dominated by non-diagnostic body sherds, which represented 70% of the assemblage. Of the forms which could be determined jars were the best represented vessel form, with 24 sherds representing a minimum of nine different vessels. This included everted rim and beaded rim varieties, with rim diameters ranging from 10-40cm. 22 sherds from flagons were identified, although this included just one rim, a ring-necked variety dating AD70-150.

6.3.6 Two dishes were identified, included a South Gaulish samian Dragendorff 18, as well as two beakers, and single examples of a cup, bowl, lid and platter.

Contextual Analysis

6.3.7 Roman pottery was recovered from 12 contexts (including the subsoil), representing ten different features (Table 5), the majority of which were located in the southwest corner of the site. With the exception of two pits [15] and [35] (and the subsoil), the Roman assemblage derived from a series of ditches across the site. Ten contexts contained small assemblage of pottery (less than 30 sherds), while one context (117), Ditch [116] contained a medium sized assemblage (31-100 sherds) and one context (119), Ditch [121] comprised a large assemblage of over 100 sherds.

Context	Trench	No.	Wt(g)	Context Spotdate
101	14	2	5	x
115	36	3	20	AD40-100
117	36	67	1532	AD100-150
118	36	9	52	AD50-150
119	38	126	1038	AD40-100
125	37	14	104	AD50-100
137	38	3	61	AD50-100
141	37	1	3	AD50-100
182	55	2	2	AD50-150
217	3	1	17	AD50-200
234	32	1	40	AD50-100
281	15	1	2	AD50-100
297	35	1	10	AD50-150

Table 5: Roman pottery by context

6.3.8 Ditch [121] contained 126 sherds weighing 1038g, which came from a single fill (119), with a spot date of AD40-100. The pottery was fairly small and fragmented with a very low mean weight of 8.2g. Although there were few refitting sherds, there were groups of sherds which were clearly from the same vessels. A minimum of ten different vessels were identified based on the number of individual rims. This included seven body sherds from a Verulamium whiteware flagon, as well as a South Gaulish Dr18 dish and a body sherd from a second vessel.

6.3.9 The pottery from Ditch (117) [116] totalled 67 sherds weighing 1532g. This included nine Verulamium whiteware sherds, eight of which were from flagons, including a ring neck variety (AD100-150). Two South Gaulish Samian sherds were also identified; including a sherd from the lower part of a Dr37 bowl with medallion decoration. One other vessel of note was a fine sandy micaceous ware from an imitation CAM56 type bowl, dating AD50-100. The pottery from this context has a spot date of AD100-150.

Discussion

6.3.10 The Roman pottery is indicative of early Roman domestic activity with an earliest date of AD40/50, continuing until the mid-2nd century AD. The quantity recovered suggests that the associated site was probably located nearby, although the condition of the material suggests the pottery may have been left on the surface for a period of time before being deposited.

6.4 Post-Roman Pottery

By Chris Jarrett

Introduction

6.4.1 A single sherd of medieval pottery (10g) was recovered from fill [236] of ditch [237], Trench 32. The sherd of pottery consists of a basal fragment of a jug made in reduced Essex Mill Green ware, dated c. 1270-1350 (Pearce et al 1982) and this dates the context.

Discussion

6.4.2 The sherd of pottery has no significance, Mill Green ware being a pottery type marketed to Hertfordshire in limited quantities (Pearce et al 1985, 266,

fig.2; B. Seddon pers. comm.). The only potential of the pottery is to date the context it was recovered from.

6.5 Ceramic Building Material

By Sian O'Neill

6.5.1 The evaluation at Luynes Rise, Buntingford yielded a total of 28 fragments of Ceramic Building Material, weighing 1408.5g. The fragments were counted, weighed and recorded according to form (see Table 6).

Context	Cut	Feature type	Period	Tile No.	Tile Wt (g)	Brick No.	Brick Wt (g)
100		Topsoil	x	1	215	x	x
101		Subsoil	x	4	119.5	x	x
117	116	Boundary Ditch	4	9	171	1	75.5
169	170	Ditch	x	1	9.5	x	x
173	174	Ditch	x	2	55.5	x	x
206	205	Boundary Ditch	x	0	0	1	144
215	214	Boundary Ditch	x	2	15	x	x
217	218	Ditch	4	7	603.5	x	x
Total				26	1189	2	219.5

Table 6: Catalogue of CBM

6.5.2 The majority of the material comes from Roman contexts and its composition is suggestive of nearby domestic settlement, being formed entirely by brick, tile and one fragment of flue tile. There is not enough material present to be able to make any other conclusions.

6.6 Fired Clay

By Sian O'Neill

6.6.1 The evaluation at Luynes Rise, Buntingford found a total of 33 fragments of burnt clay, weighing 688g. Just one fabric type was recognised, a poorly sorted fine silty clay with frequent clay inclusions, most likely of local origin, (see Table 7). It is worth noting however that the material recovered from the

possibly prehistoric pit (146) [145] appears to be less well fired and formed. Little else can be determined due to the size of the assemblage.

Fabric	Fabric Description	No.	Wt (g)	Wt %
a				
F1 b	Poorly sorted fine silty clay. Common flecks and fragments of chalk (average 3mm)	27	451	65.5
l				

Table 7: Catalogue of Fired Clay

6.7 The Metalwork

By Ruth Beveridge

Introduction

- 6.7.1 A total of five metal objects were recovered from the evaluation, one of copper alloy and four of iron. These are discussed and catalogued below. The condition of the objects overall is fair with some corrosion apparent.

Copper Alloy

<1>, (100)

- 6.7.2 A complete hammered/struck copper alloy jetton was found in the topsoil layer (100). It is slightly bent across one edge. It was issued by Hanns Krauwinckel II between AD 1586 and 1635 in Nuremberg. It is a rose/orb type. On the obverse is the legend: HANNS KRAVWINCKEL.IN.NV. Within an inner circle three crowns and three lis are arranged around a central rose. On the reverse the legend reads GOTES [REI]CH BL[IBT] EWICK (God's kingdom endures forever). Within an inner circle an imperial orb, surmounted by a cross, sits within a double tressure with three alternating arches and angles. Compare to Mitchiner no. 1537 (1988; pp. 441); AD 1586-1635.

Iron

(125) [126]

- 6.7.3 A curved strip of iron was recovered from the fill (125) of boundary ditch [126]. The strip is rectangular in section and appears to have rivets in situ along its length. At one terminal there are three overlying strips of iron, possibly riveted. Some detail is masked by corrosion. It is possibly a fitting.

(295) [294]

- 6.7.4 An incomplete iron object was found in fill (295) from pit [294], probably the remnant of a pyre. It is a piece of curved sheet iron that widens and is folded to form a rectangular shaped socket; extending from the socket is a narrow, flat curved arm. Its function is unknown, the socket implies it may have been a type of tool.
- 6.7.5 A total of three nails were recovered from the evaluation. One was recovered from the subsoil layer (101); one from fill (115) of boundary ditch [114]; and a third from fill (191) of cremated bone deposit [190]. Whilst iron nails are difficult to date to a particular period, the nail recovered from fill (115) does appear to be a Manning Type 1B (Manning, 1985, Fig. 32, 133).

Discussion

- 6.7.6 Nuremberg jettons of the 16th century are a common find on many sites and reflect a period when the widespread use of counting tokens for accounts appeared to have ceased (Egan, 2005, 172). A search on the Portable Antiquities Database shows a number of comparable Hanns Krauwinckel II jettons discovered in the vicinity of Buntingdon, including one from Clothall with the same pious inscription as the one discovered in the evaluation (Laakso, 2008).
- 6.7.7 The pieces of ironwork recovered from the evaluation are likely to be associated with the later Iron Age/Roman activity on the site.

6.8 Faunal Remains

By Ian Baxter

Introduction

- 6.8.1 Animal bones were discovered in both Bronze Age and Roman features.

Methodology

- 6.8.2 Only bone fragments that can be identified to species or a broader taxonomic category (i.e. sheep/goat) have been recorded.

Description

- 6.8.3 The evaluation produced a total of 38 identifiable animal bone fragments

(Table 8). The majority of the bones have undergone some post-depositional damage, generally a low level of root etching. The preservation of the bone is generally fair and ranges from fair to poor.

6.8.4 Over one third of the faunal material derives from the Bronze Age Ditch in Trenches 19 and 20, and included remains of cattle, pig, and sheep. The remaining bones were found in trenches throughout the site, but predominantly from Roman ditches located in the western part of the site.

6.8.5 The assemblage as whole is heavily biased in favour of the domestic mammals, with cattle, sheep/goat, pig all represented. The only horse remains were found in the upper fill (245) of undated palaeochannel [244] which was located in Trench 8.

6.8.6 A juvenile hare tibia was recovered from (206). This comes from a boundary ditch of uncertain date.

PERIOD	NISP						
	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Others	Bird	Total	Comments
Bronze Age	6	4	4	0	0	14	
Iron Age/Romano-British	11	10	0	1	0	22	Includes hare
Palaeochannel	0	0	0	2	0	2	Includes horse
Total	16	12	4	3	0	38	

Table 8: Total number of identified specimens (NISP).

Conclusions

6.8.7 This is a very small assemblage of animal bones providing no reliable information regarding the relative economic importance of the domestic mammals during any period.

6.9 Human Bone

By Aileen Tierney

Introduction

6.9.1 Two cremated bone deposits were discovered in Trench 35, one of which was noted as containing possible multiple individuals, suggesting that these

features were used for the deposition of human skeletal material and pyre debris following the clearance of an, as yet, unidentified, cremation pyre. These two deposits were found in association with five pits containing burnt material. A probable inhumation burial was also identified in Trench 43, likely a burial on the periphery of settlement.

Methodology

- 6.9.2 The remains were excavated in accordance with the IFA guidelines (McKinley and Roberts, 1993). Both cremation deposits suffered truncation thus both were excavated as a single spit. Cremation deposit [190] was allocated a deposit number (191) and an associated environmental number <12>. Cremation deposit [294] was allocated a deposit number (295) and an associated environmental number <7>.
- 6.9.3 All spits were wet sieved through a 0.5mm sieve, and the residues passed through a stack of 10mm and 5mm mesh sieves. All the bone was extracted for analysis. The <5mm residue was retained and identifiable bone and any artefacts extracted by the author. All the weights were recorded and represented as a percentage of the total weight. The weights and percentages include the <5mm bone but not the residues. The largest skull and long bone fragments were recorded. Osteological analysis follows procedures for cremated bone outlined by McKinley (2004).
- 6.9.4 General methods used in the osteological evaluation of all human skeletal material are those of Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994). An assessment of age was based on the stages of dental development and eruption (Bass, 1995) and epiphyseal union, and on the degree of dental attrition (Brothwell, 1981). The age categories used in this report are listed below;

Infant	0-4 years
Sub-adult	13-18 years
Young adult	19-25 years
Middle adult	26-44 years
Mature adult	45 years +

- 6.9.5 All the cremated bone was identified macroscopically in terms of part of the skeleton (e.g. skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb and unidentified long bone). Identification of elements allowed for minimum number of individuals (MNI) analysis. The colour of the bone and any pathologies were also noted, including location. The presence or absence of pyre goods or pyre debris was recorded. Cremation deposits are discussed in order of cut number and reference the associated fill number(s)

Results

Cremated bone deposit [190]

- 6.9.6 The bone from this truncated cremated bone deposit (depth: 0.1m) weighed 188.5g (excluding the unsorted residues <5mm). The remains have been identified as an adult due to the general size. The bone displayed slight variation in colour (mainly white but with blue/black on the inside of the bone fragments), which demonstrates a less than efficient firing. The largest skull vault fragment was 25.14mm, with the longest long bone fragment measuring 36.51mm (Table 9). 27.3% of the bone fragments from this cremation were >10mm (Table 9). The bone preservation was poor to fair. Skull fragments and long bone fragments were easily recognisable, however due to the high level of fragmentation only a small fragment of mandible was specifically identified.

Cremated bone deposit [294]

- 6.9.7 The bone from this truncated cremated bone deposit (depth: 0.2m) weighed 273.5g (excluding the unsorted residues <5mm) which included at least two individuals as evidenced by adult sized fragments of femur but also an unfused humeral/femoral head (< 14 years old). It is possible that this deposit may contain more individuals but due to the high level of fragmentation, there was no identification of duplication of elements. The bone displayed a variation of colours demonstrating an inefficient firing, or perhaps more likely, multiple firings with varying levels of success. This in turn suggests that this deposit may reflect several firing events and therefore multiple individuals.

- 6.9.8 The largest skull vault fragment was 32.02mm, with the longest long bone

fragment measuring 47.2mm (Table 10). 37.5% of the bone fragments from this cremation were >10mm (Table 10). The bone preservation was poor to fair. Skull fragments and long bone fragments were easily recognisable, however due to the high level of fragmentation no specific elements were identified.

Cut	>10mm (g)	>10mm (%)	>5mm (g)	>5mm (%)	<5mm (g)	<5mm (%)	Total (g)
190	51.5	27.3	88.5	47	48.5	25.7	188.5
294	102.5	37.5	114.5	41.9	56.5	20.6	273.5

Table 9: Summary of cremated bone fragment size

Ditch [124]

- 6.9.9 A human skull was identified in the upper deposits of Ditch [124]. The skull, although highly fragmented, was likely to be part of an inhumation burial in the outer settlement boundary ditch and as a result left in-situ and backfilled.

Discussion

- 6.9.10 Cremated bone deposit [294] varies greatly with the colour ranging from white, buff through to grey, blue and black. In addition to this, some of the bones are simply charred. The differential burning displayed on the bones suggests that the cremation process was not efficient and suffered some issues in terms of temperature and oxygen supply to the pyre. While this variation in colour can occur during the firing of one individual, in this case it is highly likely that this deposit represents the result of a number of cremation processes and the associated deposition of material following the clearing of a pyre.
- 6.9.11 Cremated bone deposit [190] is more evenly fired, displaying mostly white with occasional black and blue on the inside of the bone. As there was no evidence of duplication of elements, it is more likely that this represents one individual. However, as deposit [190] appears to be associated with cremation deposit [294] and the burnt spreads [257], [298], [296], [195] and [300], listed from east to west, it is possible that remains were deposited following the clearing of a pyre.

6.9.12 The deposition of bone into these features and the possible act of clearing this material from a pyre has resulted in the fragmentation of this fragile bone. The inefficient firing and sediment infiltration would have also played a role in the fragmentation of these human remains (Table 10).

Cut	190	294
Fill	191	295
Enviro	12	7
Grave info	Un-urned	Un-urned
Largest skull (mm)	25.14	32.02
Longest long bone (mm)	36.51	47.2
>10mm (g)	51.5	102.5
5 - 10mm (g)	88.5	114.5
<5mm (g)	48.5	56.5
Age	Adult	Adult, sub-adult
Age - reasons	Size, dentition	Size, dentition and fusion
Total crem weight (g)	188.5	273.5
Colour	Mixed	Mixed
Preservation	Poor- fair	Poor - fair

Table 10: Osteological Summary table

6.10 Plant Macrofossils

By Marta Pérez

Introduction

6.10.1 This report summarises the findings from the rapid assessment of bulk samples taken from contexts at Luynes Rise, Buntingford. The aim of this environmental assessment is to: 1) provide an overview of the contents of the bulk samples, 2) determine the environmental potential of these samples and 3) identify if further analysis or sampling needs to be undertaken.

Methodology

6.10.2 Twelve samples were taken with seven selected bulk samples processed using the standard flotation method. The samples were taken from a range of archaeological features including the fills of pits, ditches, a cremated bone deposit and a possible palaeochannel. A 300 µm mesh was used to capture the flots (light fraction) and a 1mm mesh for the residues (heavy fraction).

After drying the flots were scanned for environmental material under a binocular microscope and the results selected recorded.

6.10.3 The seven flots were scanned for the presence of charred grain, chaff, weed seeds, charcoal, molluscs and other environmental remains. These were recorded on a non-linear scale to denote 'abundance': - Occasional (up to 5 items), 2- fairly frequent (5-25), 3- frequent (25-100), 4- abundant (>100). A note was also made of all other inclusions i.e. Modern plant fibres, coal, slag etc. The results of the rapid assessment of the flots from the bulk samples are presented in Table 12.

6.10.4 Two of the residues were scanned for the presence of charred plant remains and charcoal. Equivalent non-linear scale denoting abundance was applied, and a note made on each context record. The results from these two residues are presented in table 11 with those of the flots.

Sample No.	Context	Cut	Sample Type	Volume (l)
1	119	121	Ditch fill	40
2	146	143	Charcoal rich fill of pit	20
3	213	212	Charcoal rich fill of pit	20
4	246	224	Burnt lens in ditch	20
5	245	244	Palaeochannel	20
6	284	282	Bronze Age ditch	20
7	295	294	Pyre deposit	30
8	297	296	Pyre deposit	10
9	301	300	Pyre deposit	10
10	302	-	Palaeochannel	40
11	315	314	Bronze Age pit	10
12	191	190	Pyre deposit	10

Table 11: Summary of samples taken

Flots

6.10.5 The volume of the flots range from 8 to 495ml, with all of them, except sample <5>, proving very rich in wood charcoal (table 12). The wood charcoal present can be identified to species level. Only samples <2> and <6> produced some other charred plant remains. Both of these had a few fragments of charred grains, however these were too fragmented and

charred to be identifiable. Other charred seeds found in sample <2> are: Anthemis cotula (stinking Chamomile) and Agrostis sp (bentgrass). These are typical from grassland, arable land and waste places (Stace, 1997).

6.10.6 Mollusca were present in samples <2> and <6>. However, it is in sample <5> the fill of the possible palaeochannel where they are the main constituent of the flot. The land snails found have been identified as: Vallonia costata, Vertigo pygmaea, Trichia hispida, Carychium tridentatum, Aegopinella nitidula and Cochlicopa lubrica. Mostly these are found in herbage, ground litter, disturbed places, waste ground and under stones, they are indicative of a sheltered, moist environment and well vegetated waste ground (Kerney, 1999).

6.10.7 A number of freshwater snails were also found in sample <5>. The identified species Pisidium sp. and Potamopyrgus antipodarum are found mainly in flowing water of all kinds, hard or soft, in rivers, canals, streams or in brackish ditches and pools (Kerney, 1999). This evidence is consistent with the interpretation that this feature was a palaeochannel.

6.10.8 All the flots produced a large amount of roots but not any other type of modern contamination. However, the abundance of charcoal and burnt soil indicates that these roots will not have detrimentally impacted the environmental potential of these samples.

Residues

6.10.9 The two assessed residues (sample <7> and the cremation) did not produce any artefacts, with the exception of very small fragments of burnt bone and flint flakes that could represent micro-debitage.

6.10.10 Both residues yielded a large amount of wood charcoal, with fragments large enough to be identifiable.

Discussion

6.10.11 The assessed samples can provide certain economic and environmental information. The relatively small number of samples assessed limit the findings, and absence of charred plant remains in particular samples cannot

be taken to imply that all features yet to be analysed will be devoid of such material.

6.10.12 The wood charcoal found during the assessment can and should be identified so that it can provide information about the fuel used for the cremation and other possible activities in the area. The presence of some cereals and a few weeds suggest that these were probably brought to the site at the same time as the wood charcoal, rather than being grown in the vicinity.

6.10.13 Further bulk samples for environmental analysis should be taken from well-sealed contexts, and areas where there is evidence of burning. Samples should also be taken from areas rich in artefacts. At the moment, until the excavation and full analysis of other areas of the site, no further work on the processed samples is required. The only recommendation will be to identify the wood charcoal.

6.10.14 No waterlogged seeds, waterlogged wood or insects were identified during the rapid assessment of the possible palaeochannel, however mollusca remains were abundant. A comprehensive environmental reconstruction of the site using mollusca would require detailed additional sampling using the appropriate recovery methods for this purpose from an intact section of the stratigraphic sequence. The lack of waterlogged plants and the presence of mollusca indicates that it is very unlikely that there would be pollen preservation in this feature, however it would be worth checking the type of soil to be certain about this. A column sample should be taken to do a proper description of the soil and stratigraphy.

Sample no.	Context	Ft type	Flot	Residue					
			Vol (ml)		Charcoal	Seeds	Grains	Mollusca	Other
2	146	pit	8		2	1	2	3	Roots (4)
5	244	Palaeo-channel	15					4	Roots (3)
6	284	ditch	30		4		1	2	Roots (4)

7	295	pit	495		4				Cremated bone (2), roots (4), burnt soil, flint flakes
7	295	pit		x	4				Cremated bone, burnt soil, flint flakes
8	297	pit	44		4				Roots (3), burnt soil and flint flakes.
9	301	pit	15		4				Burnt soil and flint flakes.
	191	pit	335		4			1	Roots (3), cremated bone (3), burnt soil, flint flakes.
	191	pit		x	4				Cremated bone, burnt soil, flint flakes.

Table 12: Assessed flots from samples

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

6.11 Wood Charcoal

By Graham Morgan

6.11.1 The diameter is that measured in mm, the rings are those actually seen, and the age is that estimated from the rate of growth shown by the tree ring width.

Cut	Context number	Dia	Rings	Age	Species
282	284	frags			oak
	284	frags			hazel
	284	15	7	7	ash
190	191	frags			oak
	191	frags			burnt bone
294	295	frags			oak
	295	frags			burnt bone
	295	frag			ash

Table 13: Quantification of charcoal by context

Species Present:

Oak	Quercus spp.
Hazel	Corylus avellana
Alder	Alnus spp
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior

6.11.2 A number of samples of charcoal were recovered from the site. These were all very fragmentary but appear to be less than 60mm in diameter, down to about 20mm in diameter. Such small wood would have burnt quite quickly and given a good flame, ideal for a cremation.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview

- 7.1.1 The results of the evaluation show activity from the Middle Bronze Age, Iron Age and into the Romano-British period. Whilst the results of the geophysics were broadly consistent with the evidence reproduced in the Trial Trenches some features identified in the geophysics were not identified in the trenches. Further archaeological features were identified in the trenches which were not picked up by the geophysics. A number of these geophysical anomalies proved to be geological in origin, but on the whole these provided a valuable insight into the locations of the potential archaeology.
- 7.1.2 Three main phases of activity are represented on the site; middle to late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age and Later Iron Age to early Romano-British, although there appears to be a degree of overlap and continuity between the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods in some parts of the site.
- 7.1.3 The earliest activity is represented by a Bronze Age segmented enclosure (Trenches 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 66 and 67) in the north of the site. This consisted of a large segmented boundary ditch, located on the east facing hillside, which contained 29 sherds of middle Bronze Age pottery (c. 1500BC-1100BC). There is evidence for early Bronze Age activity, but this is from a single undecorated body sherd which may be early Bronze Age in date. The sherd came from palaeochannel [244] and as a result it is likely to be residual.
- 7.1.4 Further evidence for earlier prehistoric activity is demonstrated the presence of struck flint recovered from ditches, dated to the Bronze Age, most of the flintwork is likely to have been residually deposited, some flakes could be of later prehistoric date and at least broadly contemporary. In addition to this flint micro-debitage was identified in environmental samples. Despite the likely prehistoric date for this flint it is likely that these flints are redeposited.
- 7.1.5 Later Iron Age (350BC-AD50) activity was concentrated in the north of Area 1 and the south-west of Area 2, primarily located on the higher ground. This consisted of boundary ditches which formed larger field systems.

- 7.1.6 Romano-British activity, focused on the higher ground in the south-west of the site (Trenches 35-8) was identified. This consisted of a series of small field boundaries. The features located on the higher ground, in the south-west of the site, contained denser concentrations of finds, which indicates a proximity to settlement or occupational activity.
- 7.1.7 Two cremated bone deposits were identified in Trench 35, in association with five pits containing burnt material. These are not securely dated but are likely to be of Romano-British date.

7.2 Middle to Late Bronze Age Activity

- 7.2.1 The evaluation identified a large Middle to Late Bronze Age (c. 1500-1100BC) curvilinear, segmented ditch. This was present in Trenches 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 66 and 68 and was located on an east facing slope in the northern part of the site. It was sub-rectangular in plan overlooking the valley and other sites, of possible Bronze Age date, on the eastern side of Buntingford (HHER 10712). It is worth noting some parts of the enclosure were only identified by the geophysics, with these segments likely to have been ploughed away.
- 7.2.2 A series of eight intercutting pits were also identified within Trench 66, with one producing 51 sherds (138g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery. These pits were heavily truncated by modern plough activity, surviving only c. 0.37m below the modern ground level. The presence of pitting, and associated pottery is indicative of settlement. This activity could be defined by the segmented ditch also observed in this trench as well as Trenches 19 and 20.
- 7.2.3 Further settlement evidence, such as associated pits and postholes, is likely to have been heavily truncated or lost through extensive ploughing on the site. The pits identified in Trench 66 survived at a depth of 0.37m below the ground surface. This is further accentuated by the build-up of colluvial deposits at the base of the slope in the south of Area 1.
- 7.2.4 Earlier prehistoric activity seems to be focused primarily in the northern part of the site, with the potential for occupation activity to be present on the higher ground, associated with the area of pitting in Trench 66, and to the

south of the enclosure.

- 7.2.5 Some evidence for earlier prehistoric activity is also present with fragments of struck flint and a single early Bronze Age pottery sherd recovered. These are likely to be residual finds, with the pottery sherd present in a palaeochannel.

7.3 Late Iron Age Field Systems

- 7.3.1 Evidence for Late Iron Age activity occurred in the north (Trenches 1-11) and south (Trenches 28-34) of Area 1 and in the south-west (Trenches 43, 45, 46, 48 and 65) of Area 2. The finds were recovered primarily from ditches, the dating of which suggest that the site was occupied sometime around the 2nd century BC into the mid-1st century AD. The presence of later Iron Age pottery evidences activity during this period.
- 7.3.2 The Iron Age ditches in the north of Area 1, when viewed alongside the geophysics, form rectilinear field systems aligned northeast to southwest. Along with this there is limited evidence for settlement activity with pits and postholes identified in Trench 7. Pit [212], in Trench 7, contained a deposit of potential pot-boilers indicating a proximity to settlement which is likely present just beyond the limits of excavation to the north or east.

7.4 Possible Late Iron Age/Early Roman Settlement

- 7.4.1 By contrast the trenches in Areas 2 and 4, contained more pottery, which indicates this area lay closer to an associated settlement. These ditches, when viewed alongside the geophysics evidence, appear to form rectilinear field systems, with potential enclosures identified within them.
- 7.4.2 The larger, deeper ditch recorded in Trenches 46 and 65 could indicate the presence of boundaries for the settlement, especially when looked at in conjunction with the finds recovered. The geophysical survey identified a number of small circular features in Area 4, outside of the trenched area, which could be the remains of settlement related pits or hearths.
- 7.4.3 The majority of the ditches on the site represent field boundaries on the periphery of settlement. The limited number of settlement related features,

such as pits and postholes, may be explained by the site being in the transition between the agricultural 'infield' moving toward the peripheries of settlement. However, it is also possible that these more ephemeral features have been truncated away by the ploughing of the site.

- 7.4.4 The presence of Late Iron pottery alongside early Roman material in Trenches 32 and 35 indicates a continuity between the two periods, although this may simply indicate activity around the conquest period, with the two types of pottery in use at the same time.

7.5 Romano-British Activity

- 7.5.1 The evaluation, as well as the geophysical survey, identified a number of Romano-British features including boundary and drainage ditches, and pits. The quantity and condition of the Roman finds indicates that these features are likely to lie in close proximity to settlement. The ceramic evidence suggests that the activity is of predominantly earlier Roman (AD50-AD100/150) date; however this dating may only show the site at its peak, with 'quieter' phases of activity not represented within the sample provided by the trial trenching.
- 7.5.2 The Romano-British activity was focused mainly in the south-west corner of the site (Trenches 35-38), consisting of ditches and associated pits. The pottery recovered is indicative of domestic activity and this along with the concentration of finds and features in this part of the site, suggests that this area is close to Romano-British settlement.
- 7.5.3 The densest concentration of Romano-British features appears to be in the southwest part of the site, close to the A10. The largest assemblages of Roman pottery were also found in this area. This activity undoubtedly continues across the site, but it is likely that the ditches progress from the more find-rich in-field systems to more barren out-field systems.
- 7.5.4 A group of seven features comprising two cremated bone deposits and five pits containing burnt material were located towards the eastern end of Trench 35 and are tentatively dated to the Romano-British period. Given the close proximity of these features to one another as well as the similarities in

fills, it seems likely that they were contemporary with one another.

- 7.5.5 There is some evidence to suggest that these features may be early Roman in date, including the location of the features within a 'Roman' area of site. Cremated bone deposit [190] also contain a single sherd of Roman pottery as well as an iron nail, which both suggest an early Roman date. However, the sherd of pottery did not appear to represent a grave good, and it seems likely that neither the pottery nor nail were deliberate deposits associated with the cremated human remains.
- 7.5.6 The lack of any associated finds may be due to the nature of the features, with [190] and [294] suggested as 'cremated bone deposits' rather than definite cremations. It is suggested that they represent the clearing of pyre material. If this is the case then it implies the associated cremation cemetery was located within the vicinity of Trench 35.
- 7.5.7 Flint micro-debitage was identified in environmental samples taken from some of these features. Despite the likely prehistoric date for this flint it is likely that these flints are redeposited, likely to have been included in the pyre deposits once they had been redeposited.

7.6 Conclusions

- 7.6.1 The trial trench evaluation has identified features reflecting three periods of activity on the site: Middle to Late Bronze Age (c. 1500BC-1100BC), Late Iron Age (350BC-AD50) and Romano-British (1st- to 2nd-century AD).
- 7.6.2 Further earlier prehistoric evidence, which included a single sherd of early Bronze Age pottery and some struck flint, is present but this is likely to be residual.
- 7.6.3 A substantial Middle to Late Bronze Age (c. 1500-1100BC) curvilinear, segmented ditch was located on an east facing slope in the northern part of the site.
- 7.6.4 The Iron Age and Romano-British ditches form complexes of rectilinear field systems, on the periphery of settlement. The lack of associated settlement

related features is explained by the extensive ploughing that has occurred on the site, with deep deposits of colluvium identified at the bottom of the slopes of each field.

- 7.6.5 The archaeological features and deposits from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British periods are relatively well-preserved and associated with moderately large and varied finds assemblages.
- 7.6.6 The geophysical survey identified a number of features spread across the site, with particular densities of features present in the north of the site as well as in the southwest. Some of these features were not identified in the Trial Trenches, such as the ditches in the north of the site; this is likely explained by intensive ploughing. Additionally, a number of ditches were recorded in the trenches that were not identified in the geophysical survey.
- 7.6.7 The character of the Romano-British features and the associated finds is in keeping with activity relating to Romano-British settlement, even if it is on the peripheries of a settlement. This is not unexpected given the results of previous archaeological work in this part of Buntingford.

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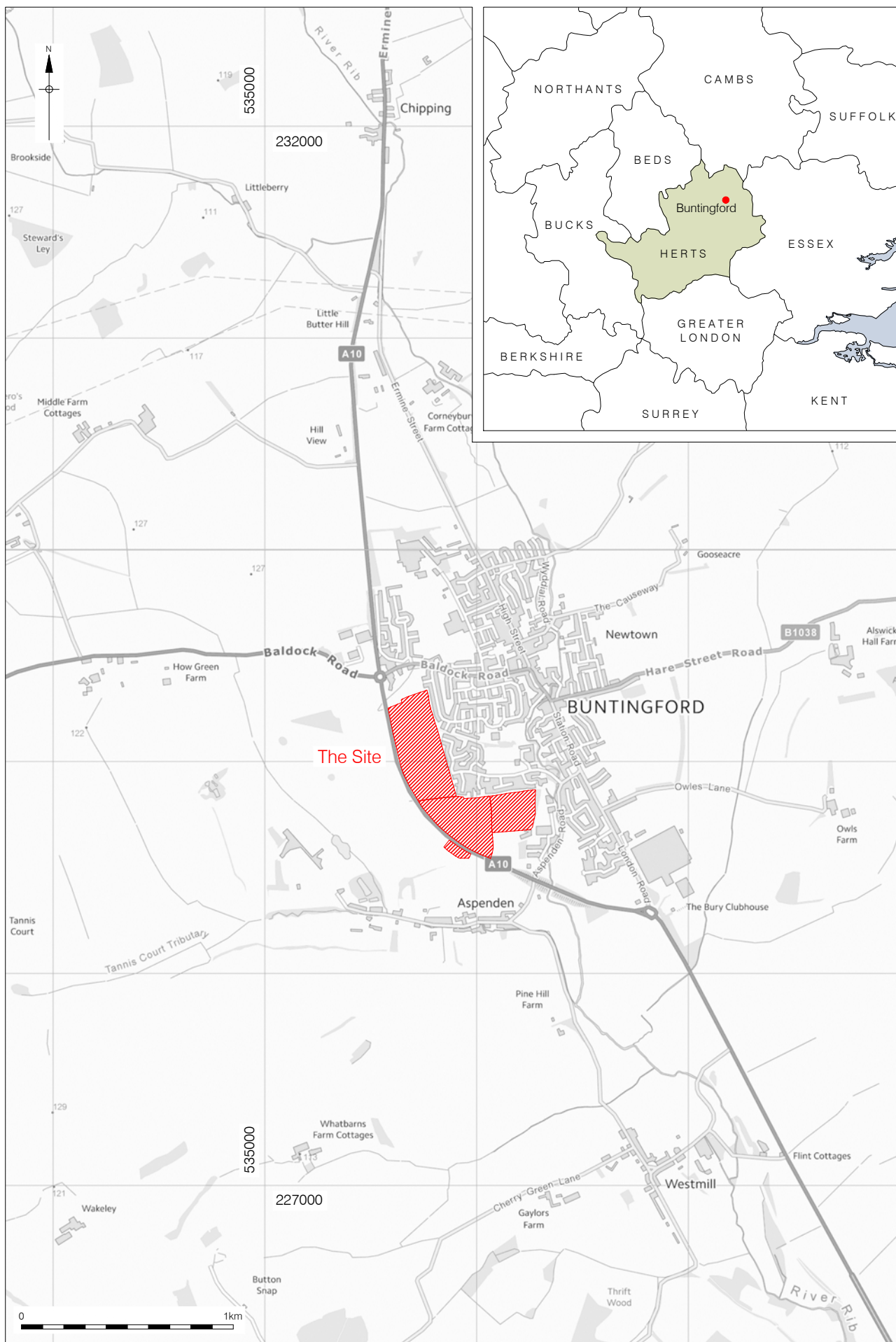
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18/09/15 JS

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000 & 1:25,000 at A4

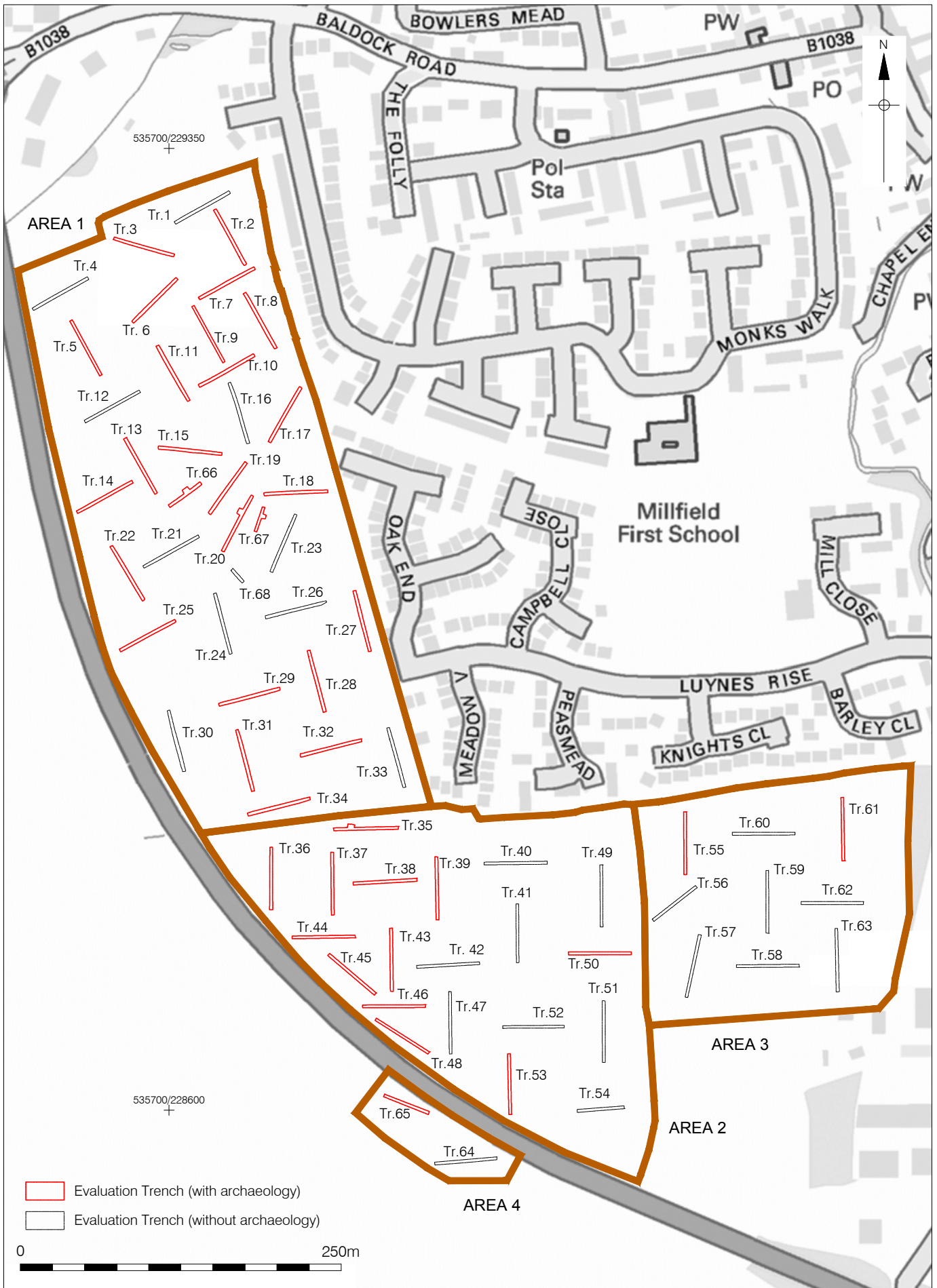


Figure 2
 Detailed Site Location
 1:5,000 at A4

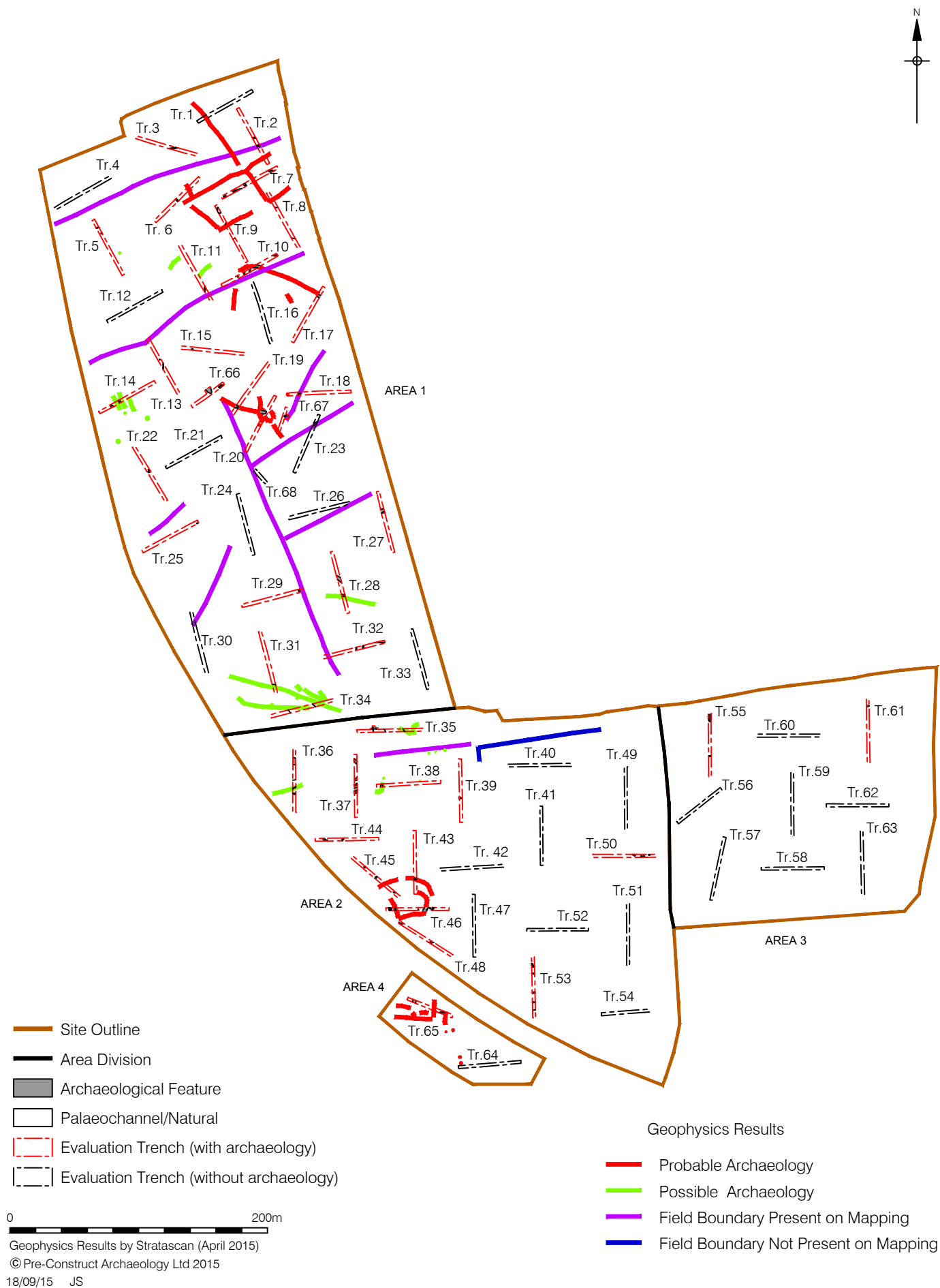


Figure 3
All Features Superimposed onto Results of Geophysics
1:4,000 at A4

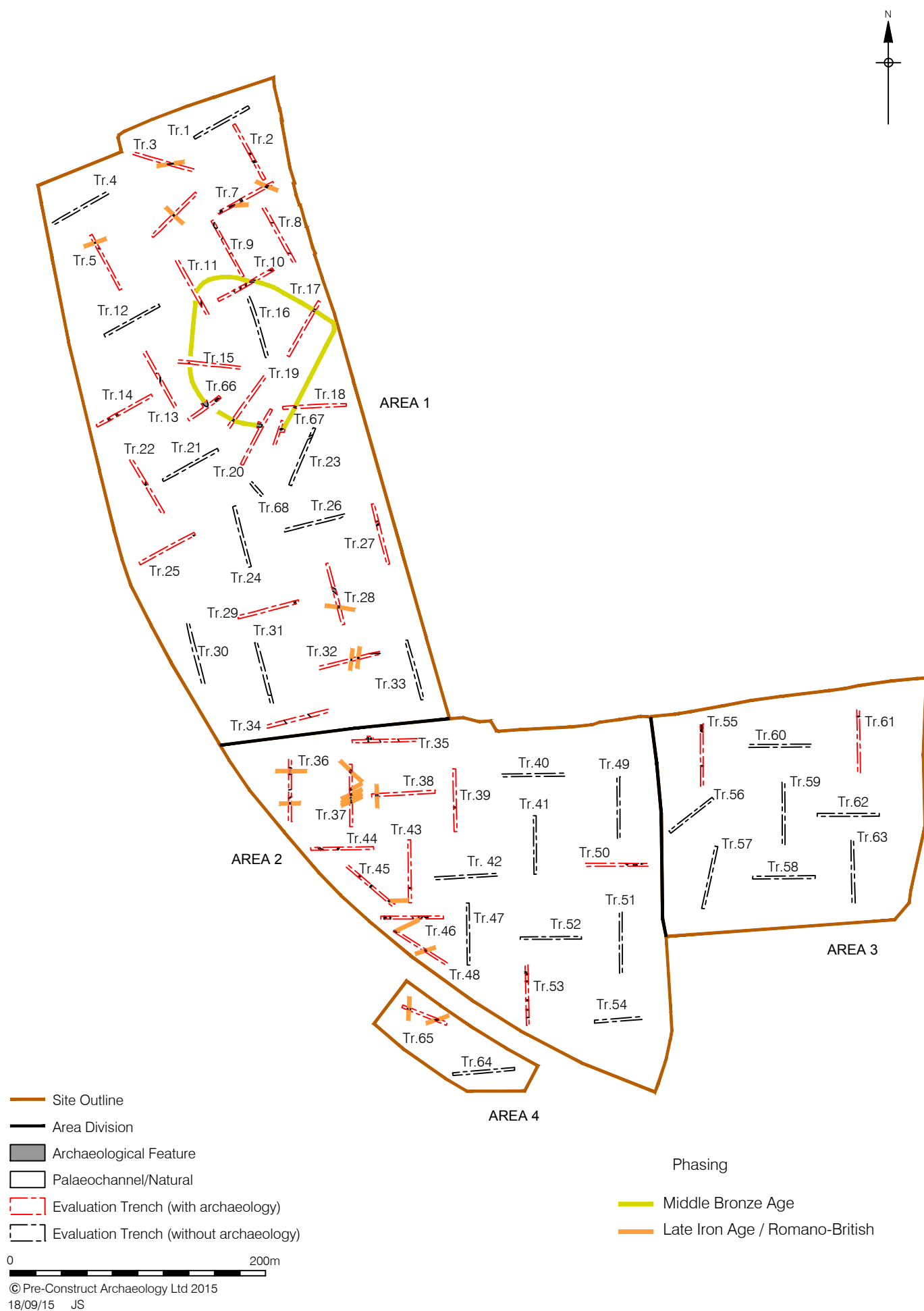


Figure 4
All Trenches with Areas of Dated Archaeology and Associated Conjectures
1:4,000 at A4

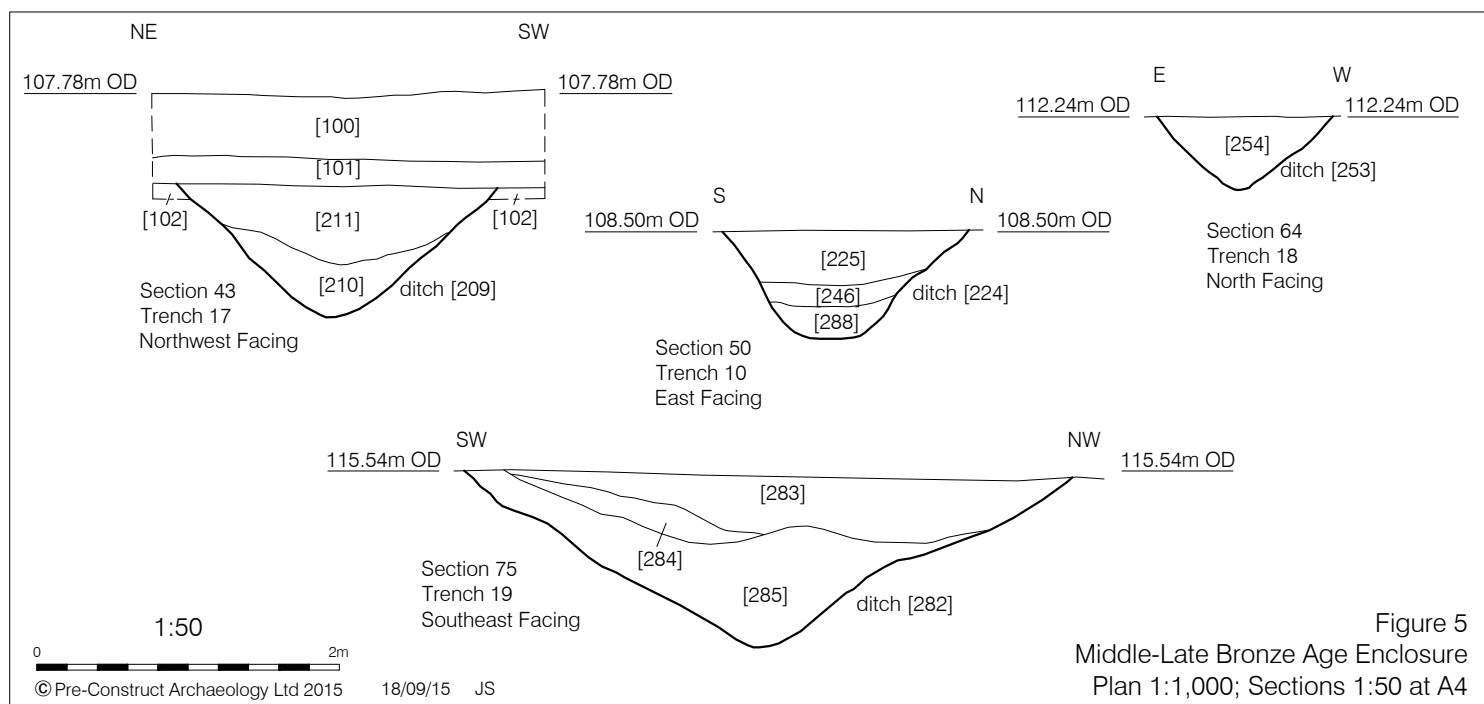
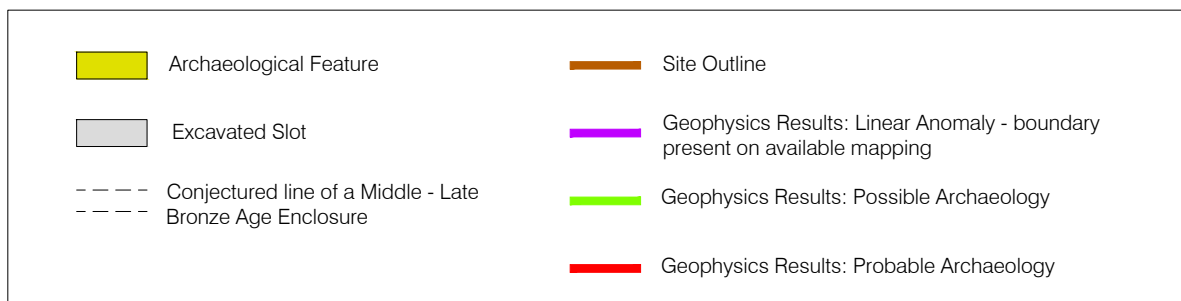
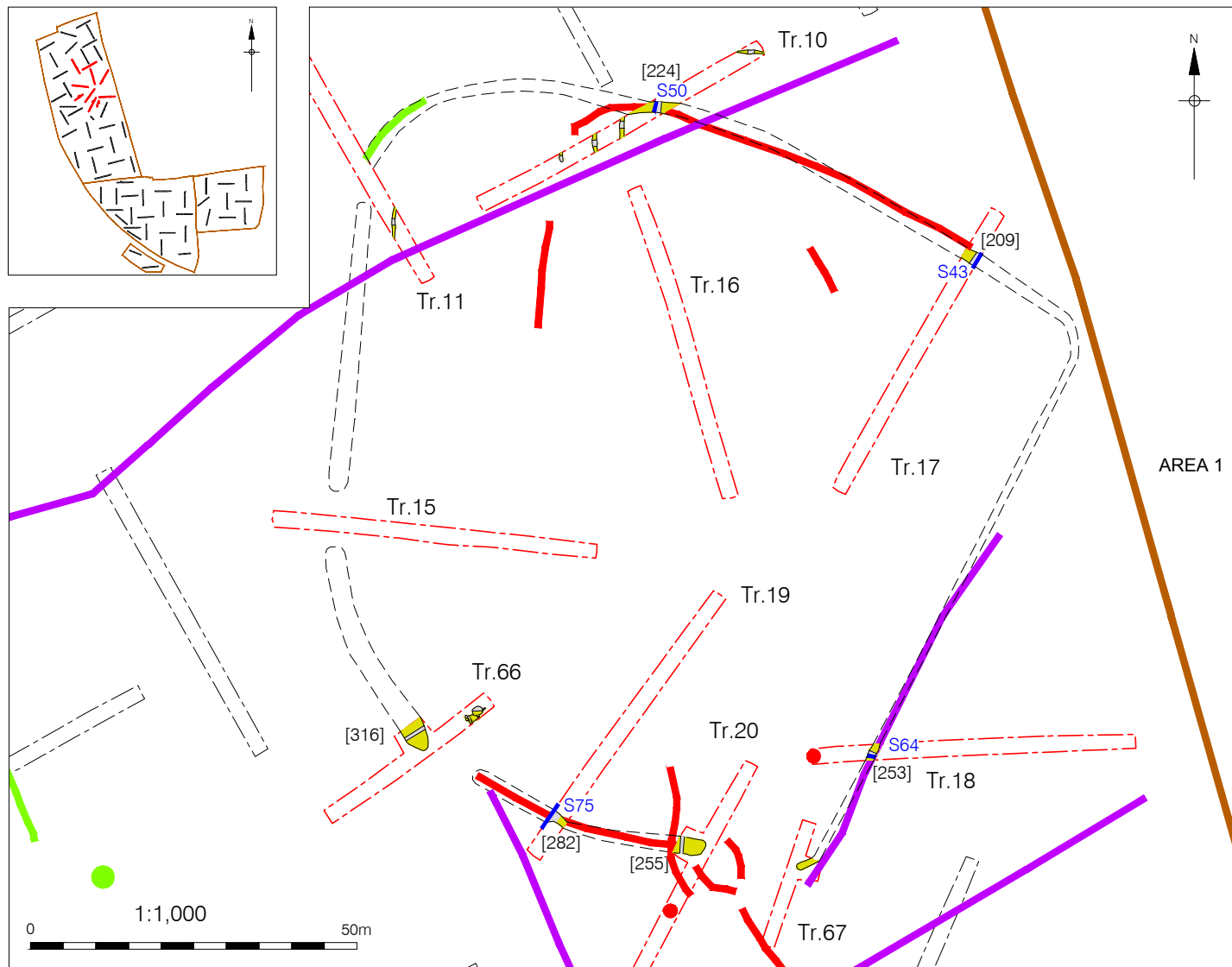
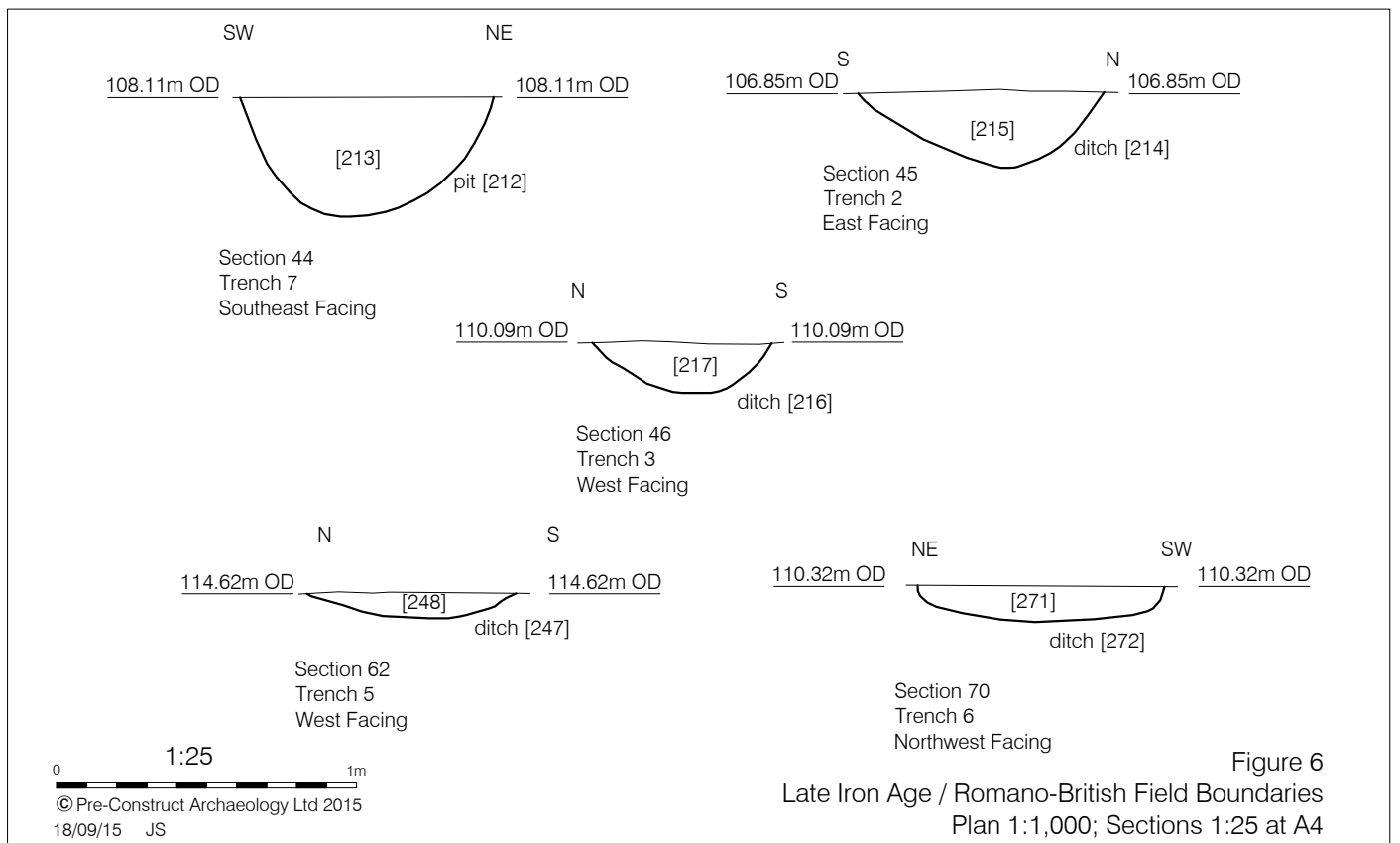
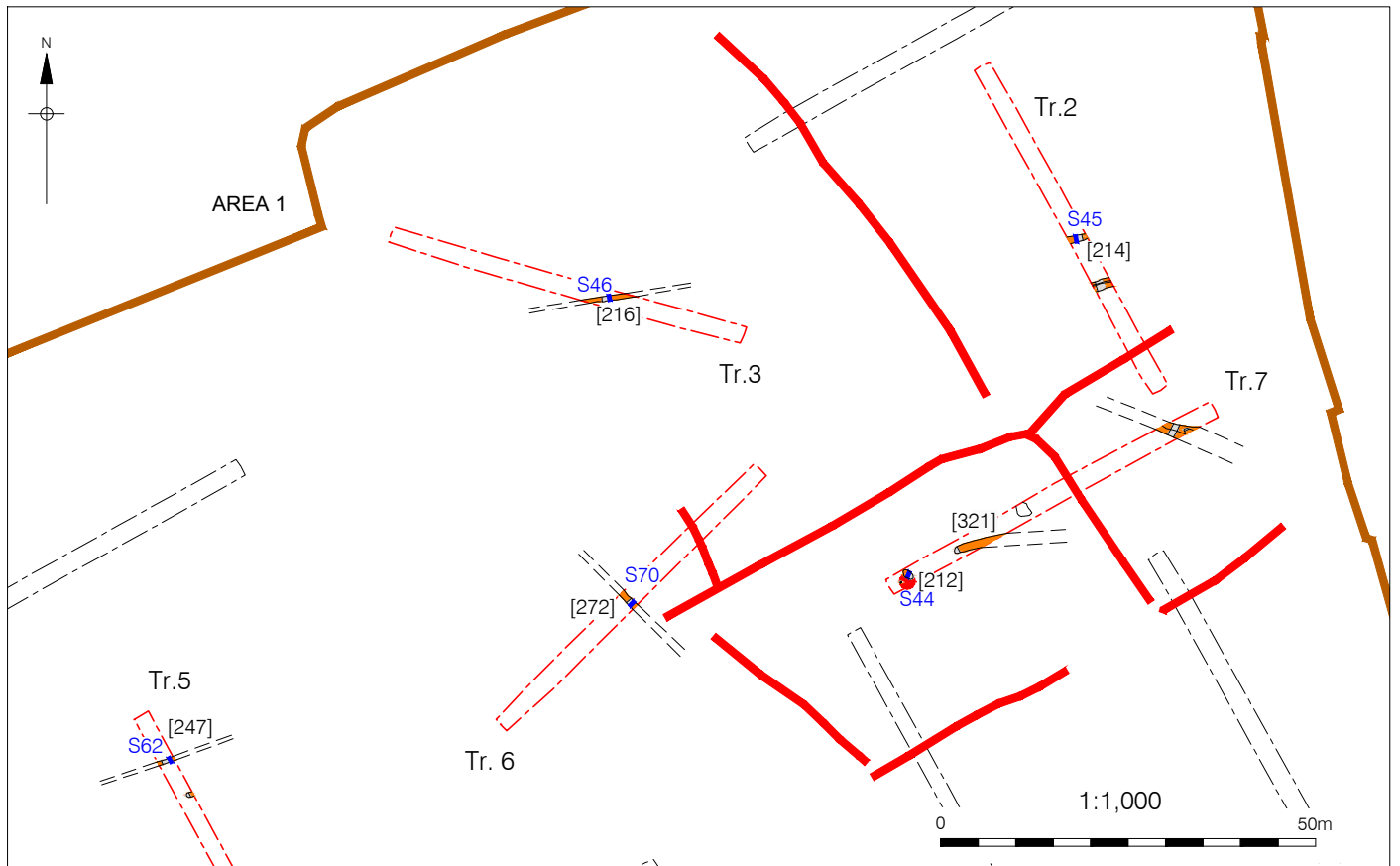
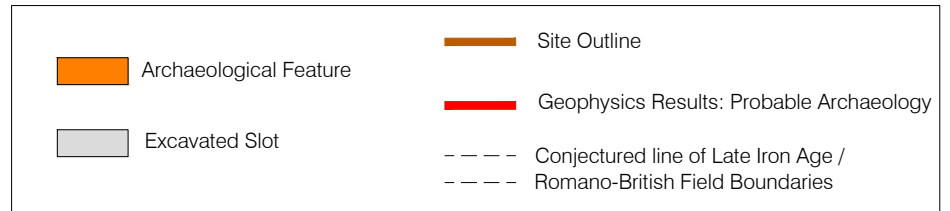
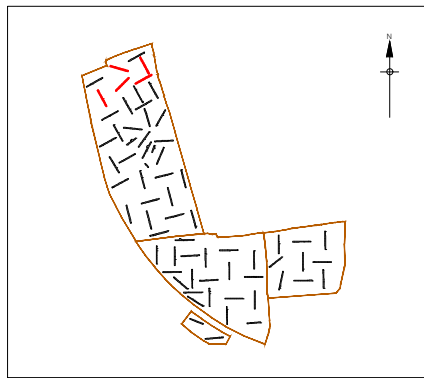


Figure 5
Middle-Late Bronze Age Enclosure
Plan 1:1,000; Sections 1:50 at A4



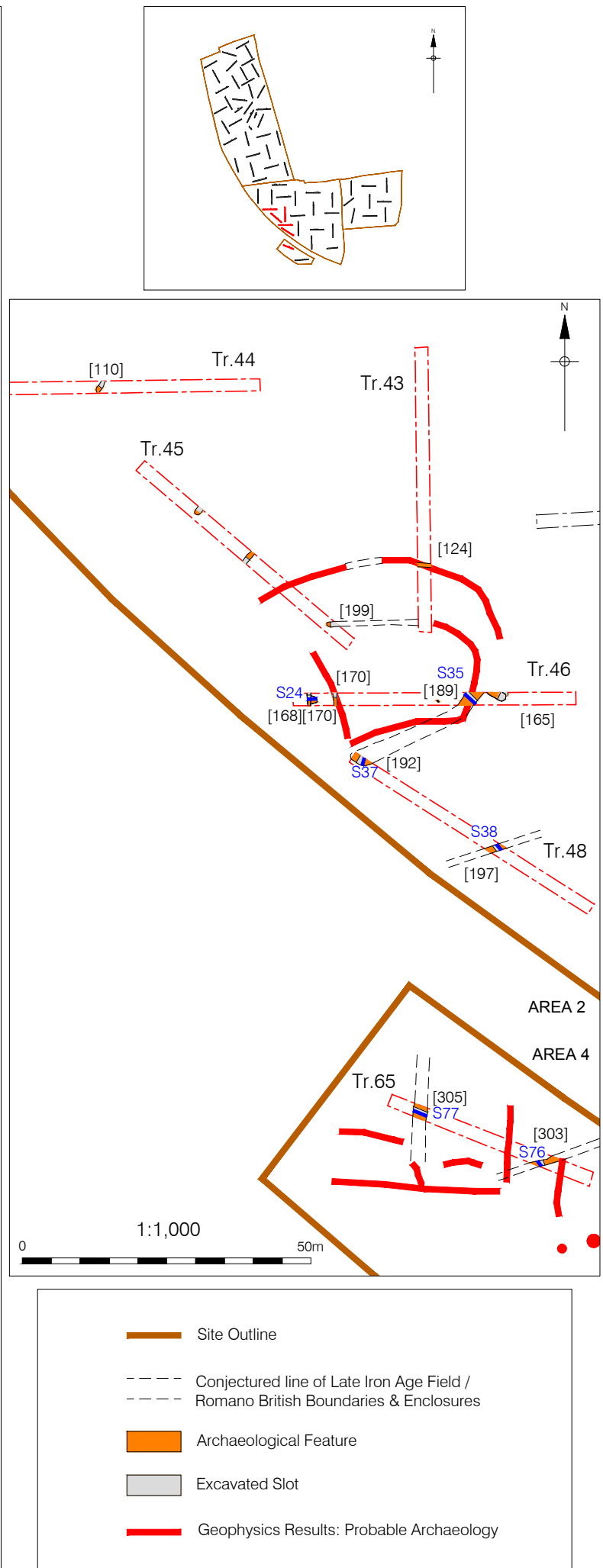
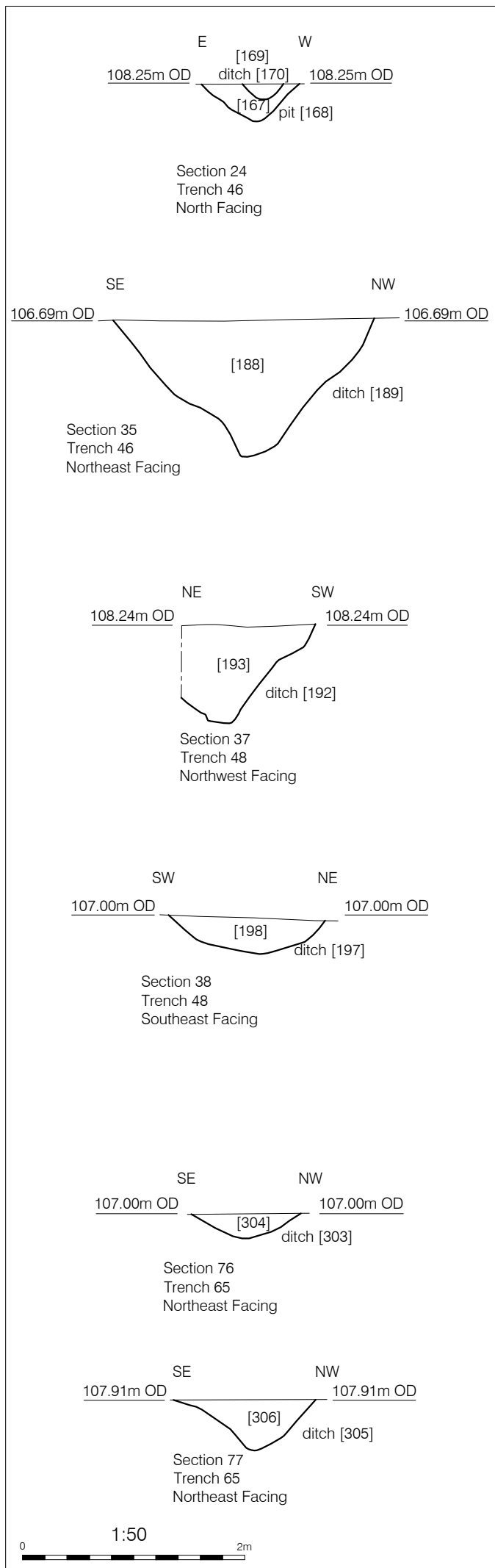
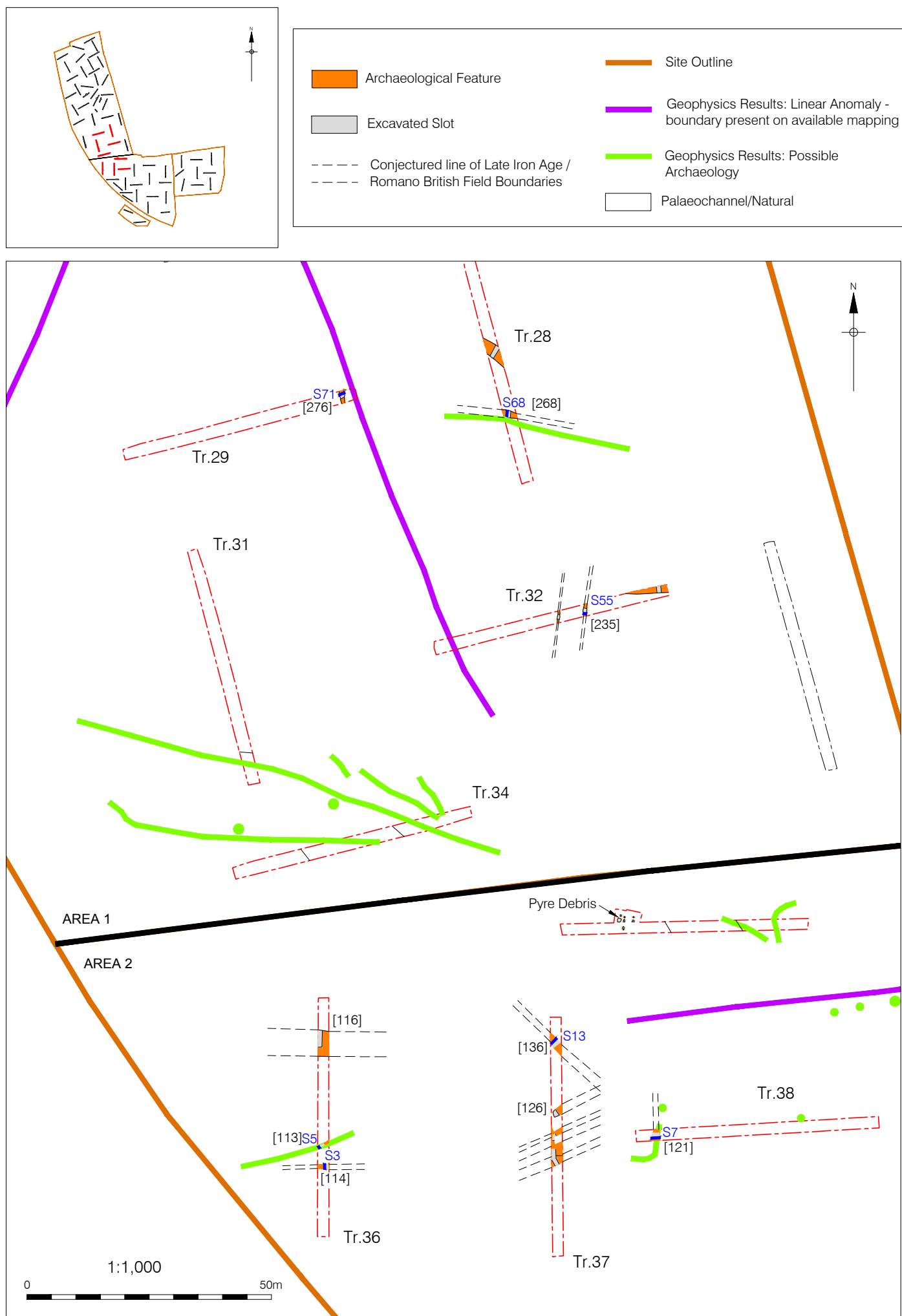
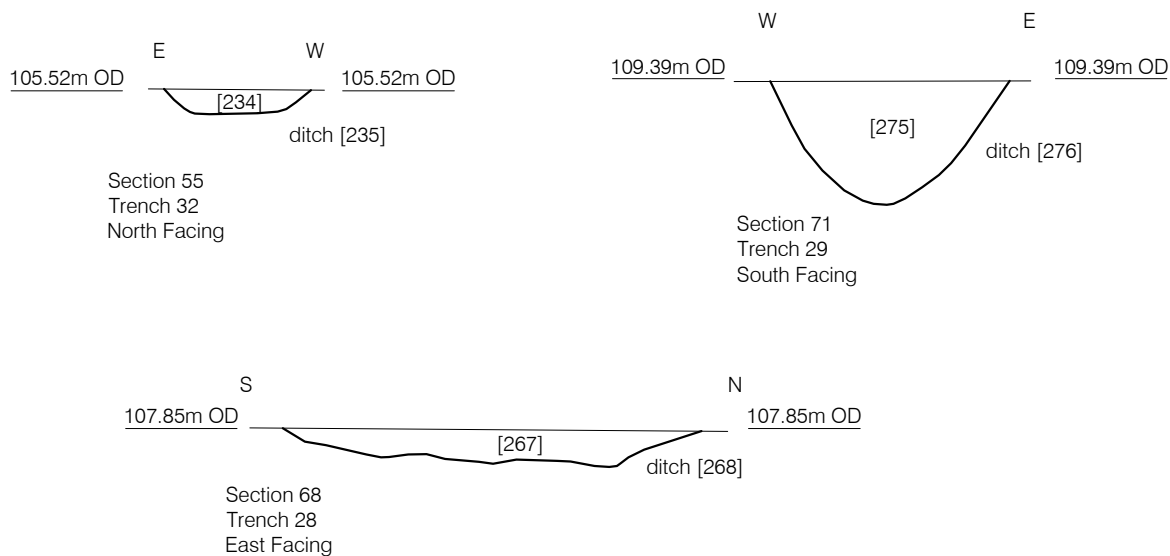
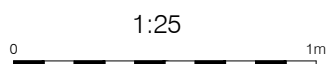
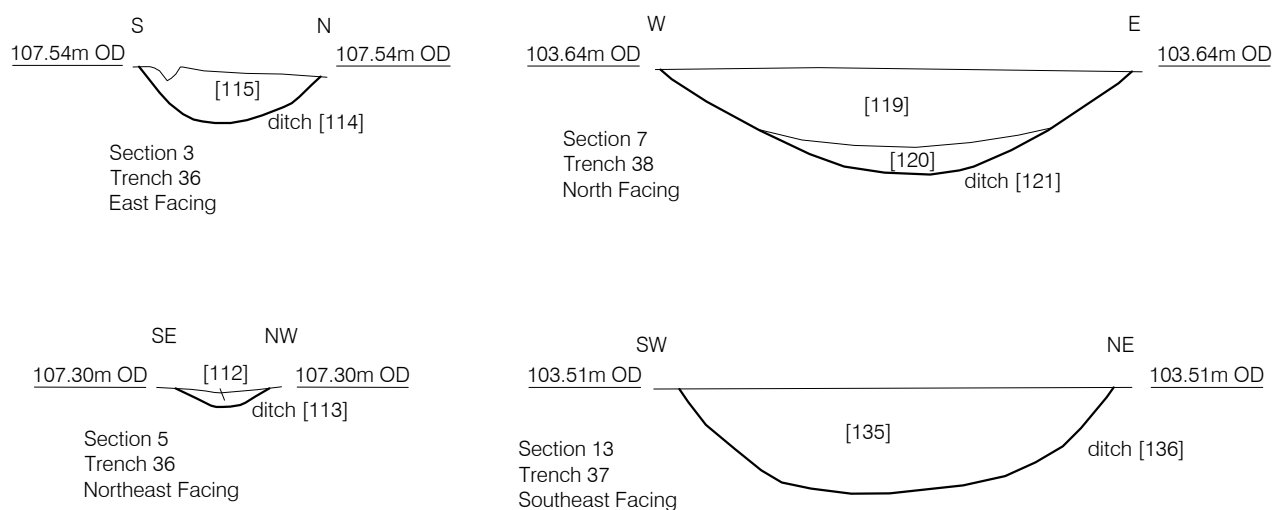


Figure 7
Late Iron Age / Romano Field Boundaries and Enclosures
Plan 1:1,000; Sections 1:50 at A4





AREA 1



AREA 2

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Area 2, view south-east



Plate 2: Trench 7, view north-west showing Pit [212] mid-excavation



Plate 3: Trench 10, view south-east showing Ditch [224]



Plate 4: Trench 17, view south showing Ditch [209]



Plate 5: Trench 19, view north showing Ditch [282]



Plate 6: Trench 35, view north showing pyre deposit [294] post-excavation



Plate 7: Trench 43, view west showing Ditch [124] mid-excavation



Plate 8: Trench 46, view south-west Ditch [189]



Plate 9: Trench 66, view south with Ditch [316] mid-excavation



Plate 10: Trench 66, view north-east showing area of pitting



Plate 11: Trench 66, view south showing Pit [310]

11 APPENDIX 2: TRENCH PHOTOGRAPHS



Plate 12: Trenches 1-4 (clockwise)



Plate 13: Trenches 5-8 (clockwise)



Plate 14: Trenches 9-12 (clockwise)



Plate 15: Trenches 13-16 (clockwise)



Plate 16: Trenches 17-20 (clockwise)



Plate 17: Trenches 21-24 (clockwise)



Plate 18: Trenches 25-28 (clockwise)



Plate 19: Trenches 29-32 (clockwise)



Plate 20: Trenches 33-36 (clockwise)



Plate 21: Trenches 37-38



Plate 22: Trenches 39-40



Plate 23: Trenches 41-42



Plate 24: Trenches 43-44



Plate 25: Trenches 45-46



Plate 26: Trenches 47-48



Plate 27: Trenches 49-50





Plate 28: Trenches 51-52



Plate 29: Trenches 53-54



Plate 30: Trenches 55-56





Plate 31: Trenches 57-58





Plate 32: Trenches 59-60





Plate 33: Trenches 61-62





Plate 34: Trenches 63-64





Plate 35: Trenches 65-68 (clockwise)

12 APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Trench	Cut	Type	Category	Interpretation
100	All	n/a	Layer	Topsoil	
101	All	n/a	Layer	Subsoil	
102	All	n/a	Layer	Natural	
103	36	105	Fill	Natural	Natural hollow
104	36	105	Fill	Natural	Natural hollow
105	36	105	Cut	Natural	Natural hollow
106	44	107	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
107	44	107	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
108	44	109	Fill	Pit	
109	44	109	Cut	Pit	
110	44	110	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
111	44	110	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
112	36	113	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
113	36	113	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
114	36	114	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
115	36	114	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
116	36	116	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
117	36	116	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
118	36	116	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
119	38	121	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
120	38	121	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
121	38	121	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
122	39	122	Cut	Pit	
123	39	122	Fill	Pit	
124	43	124	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
125	37	126	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
126	37	126	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
127	50	127	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
128	50	127	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
129	50	129	Cut	Pit	
130	50	129	Fill	Pit	
131	50	131	Cut	Pit	
132	50	131	Fill	Pit	
133	50	133	Cut	Pit	
134	50	133	Fill	Pit	
135	37	136	Fill	Ditch	

136	37	136	Cut	Ditch	
137	37	138	Fill	Ditch	
138	37	138	Cut	Ditch	
139	37	140	Fill	Ditch	
140	37	140	Cut	Ditch	
141	37	142	Fill	Ditch	
142	37	142	Cut	Ditch	
143	37	144	Fill	Ditch	
144	37	144	Cut	Ditch	
145	45	145	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
146	45	145	Fill	Pit	Burnt pit
147	45	147	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
148	45	147	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
149	53	149	Cut	Pit	
150	53	149	Fill	Pit	
151	53	151	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure
152	53	151	Fill	Ditch	Enclosure
153	53	153	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
154	53	153	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
155	53	155	Cut	Ditch	
156	53	155	Fill	Ditch	
157	53	157	Cut	Ditch	
158	53	157	Fill	Ditch	
159	53	159	Cut	Ditch	
160	53	159	Fill	Ditch	
161	37	162	Fill	Ditch	
162	37	162	Cut	Ditch	
163	46	163	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
164	46	163	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
165	46	165	Cut	Ditch	Ditch terminus
166	46	165	Fill	Ditch	Ditch terminus
167	46	168	Fill	Pit	
168	46	168	Cut	Pit	
169	46	170	Fill	Ditch	
170	46	170	Cut	Ditch	
171	46	172	Fill	Posthole	
172	46	172	Cut	Posthole	
173	55	174	Fill	Ditch	
174	55	174	Cut	Ditch	

175	55	175	Layer	Natural	Natural hollow
176	55	177	Fill	Pit	
177	55	177	Cut	Pit	
178	55	179	Fill	Ditch	
179	55	179	Cut	Ditch	
180	55	181	Fill	Ditch	
181	55	181	Cut	Ditch	
182	55	183	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
183	55	183	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
184	61	185	Fill	Ditch	
185	61	185	Cut	Ditch	
186	46	186	Cut	Pit	
187	46	186	Fill	Pit	
188	46	189	Fill	Ditch	
189	46	189	Cut	Ditch	
190	35	190	Cut	Pit	
191	35	190	Fill	Pit	
192	48	192	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
193	48	192	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
194	35	194	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
195	35	196	Fill	Pit	Burnt pit
196	35	196	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
197	48	197	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
198	48	197	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
199	45	199	Cut	Ditch	Ditch terminus
200	45	199	Fill	Ditch	Ditch terminus
201	7	202	Fill	Posthole	
202	7	202	Cut	Posthole	
203	7	204	Fill	Posthole	
204	7	204	Cut	Posthole	
205	2	205	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
206	2	205	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
207	2	207	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
208	2	207	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
209	17	209	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
210	17	209	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
211	17	209	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
212	7	212	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
213	7	212	Fill	Pit	Burnt pit

214	2	214	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
215	2	214	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
216	3	216	Cut	Ditch	
217	3	216	Fill	Ditch	
218	14	218	Cut	Pit	
219	14	218	Fill	Pit	
220	14	220	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
221	14	220	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
222	10	222	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
223	10	222	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
224	10	224	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
225	10	224	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
226	10	226	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
227	10	226	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
228	10	228	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
229	10	228	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
230	10	230	Cut	Pit	
231	10	230	Fill	Pit	
232	32	233	Fill	Ditch	
233	32	233	Cut	Ditch	
234	32	235	Fill	Ditch	
235	32	235	Cut	Ditch	
236	32	237	Fill	Ditch	
237	32	237	Cut	Ditch	
238	25	238	Cut	Posthole	
239	25	238	Fill	Posthole	
240	22	240	Cut	Pit	
241	22	240	Fill	Pit	
242	22	242	Cut	Pit	
243	22	242	Fill	Pit	
244	8	244	Cut	Natural	Palaeochannel
245	8	244	Fill	Natural	Palaeochannel
246	10	224	Fill	Ditch	
247	5	247	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
248	5	247	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
249	9	249	Cut	Natural	Tree hollow
250	9	249	Fill	Natural	Tree hollow
251	5	251	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
252	5	251	Fill	Ditch	Boundary

253	18	253	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
254	18	253	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
255	0	0	VOID	VOID	
256	0	0	VOID	VOID	
257	35	257	Cut	Pit	Burnt spread
258	35	257	Fill	Pit	Burnt spread
259	7	259	Cut	Ditch	
260	7	259	Fill	Ditch	
261	7	261	Cut	Natural	Tree hollow
262	7	261	Fill	Natural	Tree hollow
263	13	263	Cut	Ditch	
264	13	263	Fill	Ditch	
265	13	265	Cut	Pit	
266	13	265	Fill	Pit	
267	28	268	Fill	Ditch	
268	28	268	Cut	Ditch	
269	28	270	Fill	Ditch	
270	28	270	Cut	Ditch	
271	6	272	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
272	6	272	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
273	7	273	Cut	Ditch	
274	7	273	Fill	Ditch	
275	29	276	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
276	29	276	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
277	2	0	Layer	Topsoil	
278	11	278	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
279	11	278	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
280	15	280	Cut	Pit	
281	15	280	Fill	Pit	
282	19	282	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
283	19	282	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
284	19	282	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
285	19	282	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
286	66	286	Cut	Pit	
287	66	286	Fill	Pit	
288	10	224	Fill	Ditch	
289	27	289	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
290	27	289	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
291	27	291	Cut	Pit	

292	27	291	Fill	Pit	
293	0	0	VOID	VOID	
294	35	294	Cut	Pit	
295	35	294	Fill	Pit	
296	35	296	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
297	35	296	Fill	Pit	Burnt pit
298	35	298	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
299	35	298	Fill	Pit	Burnt pit
300	35	300	Cut	Pit	Burnt pit
301	35	300	Fill	Pit	Burnt pit
302	34	0	Layer	Natural	Palaeochannel
303	65	303	Cut	Ditch	
304	65	303	Fill	Ditch	
305	65	305	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
306	65	305	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
307	20	309	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
308	20	309	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
309	20	309	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
310	66	310	Cut	Pit	
311	66	310	Fill	Pit	
312	66	312	Cut	Pit	
313	66	312	Fill	Pit	
314	66	314	Cut	Pit	
315	66	314	Fill	Pit	
316	66	316	Cut	Ditch	Boundary
317	66	317	Layer	Subsoil	
318	66	316	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
319	66	316	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
320	66	316	Fill	Ditch	Boundary
321	7	321	Cut	Ditch	
322	7	321	Fill	Ditch	

13 APPENDIX 4: TRENCH TABLES

TRENCH 1	Figure 3		Plate 12	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.3-106.5m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SW End	NE End	
Topsoil (Thickness)	(100)	0.25m	0.21m	
Subsoil (Thickness)	(101)	0.33m	0.42m	
Natural (Depth)	(100)	0.60m+	0.65m+	
Summary				
Trench 1 was located close to the north-eastern boundary of the site.				
The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.				

(Subsequently listed as Thickness= (T); Depth= (D))

TRENCH 2	Figures 3 & 5		Plate 12	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 107-105.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NW End	SE End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.23m	0.21m	
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.20	0.22m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.55m+	0.45m+	
Summary				
Trench 2 was located in the north-east of the site.				
Three ditches were identified in the trench, aligned east to west.				

TRENCH 3	Figures 3 & 5		Plate 12	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 111.4-109.1m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SE End	NW End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.24m	0.27m	
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.18m	0.05m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.44m+	0.35m+	
Summary				
Trench 3 was located towards the north of the site.				
The trench contained a single ditch, aligned northeast to southwest, of Iron Age date which contained four sherds of Later Iron Age pottery and five fragments of animal bone.				

TRENCH 3	Figures 3 & 5	Plate 12
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 111.4-109.1m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SE End NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.24m 0.27m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.18m 0.05m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.44m+ 0.35m+
Summary Trench 3 was located towards the north of the site. The trench contained a single ditch, aligned northeast to southwest, of Iron Age date which contained four sherds of Later Iron Age pottery and five fragments of animal bone.		

TRENCH 5	Figure 3 & 5	Plate 13
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 114.5-113.9m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SE End NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m 0.29m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.08m 0.06m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.35m+ 0.35m+
Summary Trench 5 was located in the north-western corner of the site. A single east-west aligned ditch and a pit were identified.		

TRENCH 6	Figures 3 & 5	Plate 13
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 111.5-109.1m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SW End NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m 0.33m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.66m 0.47m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.9m+ 0.80m+
Summary Trench 6 was located in the northern part of the site. The trench contained a single ditch, aligned northwest to southeast, which contained five sherds of Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age pottery.		

TRENCH 7	Figure 3 & 5	Plate 13
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.3-105.7m

Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.26m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.11m	0.21m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.37m+	0.47m+
Summary Trench 7 was located in the north-east corner of the site. Seven features were identified comprising three ditches and three pits, one of which contained a large amount of charcoal and other burnt material as well as a deposit of stones at its base, possibly a dump of pot boilers. Other feature comprised a posthole and tree hollow.			

TRENCH 8	Figure 3 & 5		Plates 13
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 106.5-105.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.23m	0.25m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.14m	0.19m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.4m+	0.45m+
Summary Trench 8 was located in the north-eastern part of the site. The trench contained a palaeochannel also recorded in Trenches 9 and 11			

TRENCH 9	Figure 3 & 6		Plate 14
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 107.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.32m	0.28m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.32+	0.28m+
Summary Trench 9 was located in the northern part of the site. The trench contained a tree hollow and a palaeochannel, also recorded in Trenches 8 and 11			

TRENCH 10	Figures 3 & 6		Plate 14
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 110-107.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End

Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.27m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.18m	0.16m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.44m+	0.43m+
Summary Trench 10 was located in the northern part of the site. There were five features in the trench; four ditches and a possible natural feature.			

TRENCH 11	Figures 3 & 6	Plate 14	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 111.7-111m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.18m	0.22m
Palaeo-silt (T)	(245)	0.3m	0.33m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.48m+	0.55m+
Summary Trench 11 was located centrally within the northern part of the site. The trench contained a ditch cut into paleo-silt, as the entire trench lay within a palaeochannel that was also recorded in Trenches 8 and 9. The natural geology was revealed in three test pits throughout the trench at a depth of 1.2m below the ground surface.			

TRENCH 12	Figure 3	Plate 14	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 115.2-112.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.3m	0.28m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.07m	0.53m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.37m+	0.81m+
Summary Trench 12 was located in the northern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 13	Figure 3 & 6	Plate 15	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 116.2-114.4m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.24m	0.29m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.09m	0.13m

Natural (D)	(102)	0.33m+	0.42m+
Summary Trench 13 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site. The trench contained a ditch aligned north to south, and a pit.			

TRENCH 14	Figure 3 & 6	Plate 15	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 118.2-116.1m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.19m	0.21m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.06m	0.09m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.25m+	0.3m+
Summary Trench 14 was located in the north-western corner of the site. The trench contained a ditch aligned northwest to southeast and a pit. Neither feature produced finds from which a date could be ascertained.			

TRENCH 15	Figure 3 & 6	Plate 15	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 113.9-113.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.22m	0.28m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.07m	0.11m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.29m+	0.39m+
Summary Trench 15 was located in the centrally in the northern part of the site. The trench contained a single pit which produced a sherd of 1st century Roman pottery.			

TRENCH 16	Figure 3	Plate 15	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 112.3-109.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.2m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.12m	0.08m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.38m+	0.28m+
Summary Trench 16 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 17	Figure 3 & 6	Plate 16
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 111-107.3m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SW End NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.28m 0.23m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.14m 0.12m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.42m+ 0.35m+
Summary Trench 17 was located close to the eastern boundary of the site. The trench contained a single ditch aligned northwest to southeast.		

TRENCH 18	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 16
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 112.9-109.3m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		E End W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.25m 0.27m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.12m 0.13m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.37m+ 0.4m+
Summary Trench 18 was located close to the eastern boundary of the site. The trench contained a single ditch aligned northeast to southwest.		

TRENCH 19	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 16
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 114.6-113m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SW End NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.38m 0.9m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.07m 0.6m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.45m+ 1.5m+
Summary Trench 19 was located in the northern part of the site. The trench contained a single curvilinear ditch aligned northwest to southeast and containing animal bone, Middle Bronze Age pottery and flint.		

TRENCH 20	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 16
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 115-113.6m

Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.3m	0.32m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.11m	0.16m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.41m+	0.48m+
Summary Trench 20 was located centrally in the northern part of the site. The trench contained a ditch aligned east to west and is the terminus of the ditch identified in Trench 19. It contained fragments of animal bone, sherds of pottery and fragments of struck flint.			

TRENCH 21	Figure 3	Plate 17	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 116.9-115.7m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.29m	0.29m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.08m	-
Natural (D)	(102)	0.37m+	0.29m+
Summary Trench 21 was located centrally in the northern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 22	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 17	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 117.9-116.1m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.29m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.08m	0.11m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.34m+	0.4m+
Summary Trench 22 was located close to the western limit of the site. The trench contained two pits.			

TRENCH 23	Figure 3	Plate 17	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 112.9-111.7m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.2m	0.19m

Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.17m	0.08m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.37m+	0.27m+
Summary Trench 23 was located in the northern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 24	Figure 3	Plate 17	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 114.5-112.1m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.22m	0.26m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.1m	0.11m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.32m+	0.37m+
Summary Trench 24 was located centrally within the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 25	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 18	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 114.8-114.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.29m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.26m+	0.29m+
Summary Trench 25 was located close to the western limit of the site. The trench contained a single posthole located at its northeast end, from which no finds were retrieved.			

TRENCH 26	Figure 3	Plate 18	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 112.2-109.8m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.24m	0.27m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.21m	0.17m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.45m+	0.44m+
Summary Trench 26 was located in the centrally within the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 27	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 18
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.3-107.3m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SE End NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.21m 0.28m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.11m 0.08m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.32m+ 0.36m+
Summary Trench 27 was located close to the eastern limit of the site. The trench contained a ditch aligned east to west which truncated a small pit.		

TRENCH 28	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 18
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 109.5-107.2m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SE End NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.27m 0.27m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.27m+ 0.36m+
Summary Trench 28 was located centrally within the site. The trench contained two ditches, neither feature produced finds from which a date could be ascertained.		

TRENCH 29	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 19
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 109.9-109.2m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SW End NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.29m 0.27m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.29+ 0.27m+
Summary Trench 29 was located in the southern corner of the site. The trench contained a single ditch aligned north to south, from which no finds were recovered.		

TRENCH 30	Figure 3	Plate 19
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 110.6-108.5m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SE End NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.38m 0.23m

Subsoil (T)	(101)	1.2m+	0.58m
Natural (D)	(102)	Not reached	0.81m+
Summary Trench 30 was close to the western limit of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 31	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 19	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.3-105.2m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.4m	0.38m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	1.2m+	0.33m
Natural (D)	(102)	Not reached	0.71m+
Summary Trench 31 was located centrally within the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits, but there was part of a palaeochannel at the southern end of the trench.			

TRENCH 32	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 19	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 106.1-105.2m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SW End	NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.31m	0.29m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.11m	-
Natural (D)	(102)	0.42m+	0.29m+
Summary Trench 32 was located centrally within the site. The trench contained three ditches.			

TRENCH 33	Figure 3	Plate 20	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 104.8-102.4m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.36m	0.29m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.36m+	0.29m+
Summary Trench 33 was located close to the eastern limit of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 34	Figure 3 & 7	Plate 20
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 105.5-103.5m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		SW End NE End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.29m 0.34m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.63m 0.89m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.92m+ Not reached
Summary Trench 34 was located in centrally within the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits. A palaeochannel was identified in the eastern end of the trench aligned northwest to southeast, measuring in excess of 30.0m wide and 0.9m in depth.		

TRENCH 35	Figures 4 & 9	Plate 20
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 102.8-100.9m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		E End W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.38m 0.3m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.7m 0.9m
Colluvium (T)		0.9m 0.24m
Alluvial (T)		X 0.7m
Natural (D)	(102)	1.02m+ 1.2m+
Summary Trench 35 was located centrally within the site and contained both colluvium and alluvial deposits. The trench contained two cremated bone deposits, as well as five pits containing burnt material.		

TRENCH 36	Figure 4 & 10	Plate 20
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 107.7-106.2m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		S End N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.32m 0.38m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.18m 0.21m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.5m+ 0.59m+
Summary Trench 36 was located close to the western limit of the site. The trench contained three ditches, two aligned east to west and one aligned northwest to southeast. Pottery of early-mid Roman date (AD50-150) was recovered from these ditches.		

TRENCH 37	Figure 4 & 10		Plate 21	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 105.6-103.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		S End	N End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.32m	0.32m	
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.44m	0.3m	
Colluvium (T)		x	0.18m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.94m+	0.62m+	
Summary				
Trench 37 was located in the southern-western part of the site.				
The trench contained seven ditches; three aligned northeast to southwest, two aligned north to south and one aligned east to west. Three of these ditches produced Roman pottery of 1st century date.				

TRENCH 38	Figure 4 & 10		Plate 21	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 103.6-102.1m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		E End	W End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.36m	0.42m	
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.3m	0.17m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.66m+	0.59m+	
Summary				
Trench 38 was located in the south-western part of the site.				
The trench contained a single ditch, aligned north to south, which contained 126 sherds of mid-1st century (AD40-100) Roman pottery.				

TRENCH 39	Figure 4 & 10		Plate 22	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 102.8-100.1m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		S End	N End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.3m	0.31m	
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.08m	0.89m	
Colluvium (T)		0.89m	x	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.38m+	1.2m+	
Summary				
Trench 39 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained a single pit				

that extended beyond the limit of excavation. The feature contained no finds.

TRENCH 40	Figure 4	Plate 22	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 99.6-98m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.31m	0.28m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.2m	0.23m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.51m+	0.51m+
Summary Trench 40 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 41	Figure 4	Plate 23	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 101-99.7m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.28m	0.32m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	-	0.22m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.28m+	0.54m+
Summary Trench 41 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 42	Figure 4	Plate 23	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 105.1-102.6m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.32m	0.35m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.32m+	0.35m+
Summary Trench 42 was located in the south-western part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 43	Figure 4 & 10	Plate 24	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 106.7-104.7m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End

Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.32m	0.32m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.14m	0.24m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.36m+	0.56m+
Summary Trench 43 was located in the south-western part of the site. The trench contained a single ditch aligned north to south that contained human remains which were left in situ.			

TRENCH 44	Figure 4 & 10	Plate 24	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.2-106.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.28m	0.22m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.11m	0.31m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.39m+	0.53m+
Summary Trench 44 was located in the south-western corner of the site. The trench contained two ditches and pit. One ditch was aligned northwest to southeast and was possibly associated with a pit, the other aligned northeast to southwest.			

TRENCH 45	Figure 4 & 10	Plate 25	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108-107.6m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.28m	0.28m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.28m+	0.28m+
Summary Trench 45 was located in the south-western corner of the site. The trench contained a pit containing burnt deposits, a ditch aligned north to south and ditch terminus aligned east to west from which Late Iron Age pottery was recovered.			

TRENCH 46	Figure 4 & 11	Plate 25	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.4-105.7m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.34m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.26m+	0.34m+
Summary Trench 46 was located in the south-western corner of the site.			

The trench contained four ditches; two aligned north to south, one aligned northeast to southwest with the final ditch aligned northwest to southeast. The trench also contained two pits and a posthole.

TRENCH 47	Figure 4		Plate 26	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 105.2-104.4m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		S End	N End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.36m	0.32m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.36m+	0.32m	
Summary				
Trench 47 was located in the south-western corner of the site.				
The trench contained no archaeological features.				

TRENCH 48	Figure 4 & 11		Plate 26	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 6m		Level of Natural (m OD): 108.4-106.2m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		SE End	NW End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.28m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.26m+	0.28m+	
Summary				
Trench 48 was located in the south-western corner of the site.				
The trench contained two ditches; one with finds of Late Iron Age date, and a second ditch aligned northeast to southwest.				

TRENCH 49	Figure 4		Plate 27	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m		Level of Natural (m OD): 97.9-96.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		S End	N End	
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.32m	0.35m	
Subsoil (T)	(101)	-	0.34m	
Natural (D)	(102)	0.32m+	0.69m+	
Summary				
Trench 49 was located in the southern part of the site.				
The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.				

TRENCH 50	Figure 4 & 11	Plate 27
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 99.1-97.6m

Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.3m	0.36m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.34m	-
Natural (D)	(102)	0.64m+	0.4m+
Summary Trench 50 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained one ditch aligned northwest to southeast and three pits.			

TRENCH 51	Figure 4	Plate 28	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 98.6-98.2m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.31m	0.25m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.09m	0.1m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.4m+	0.35m+
Summary Trench 51 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 52	Figure 4	Plate 28	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 102.3-99.8m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.22m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.26m+	0.22m+
Summary Trench 52 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 53	Figure 4 & 11	Plate 29	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 102.3-102.2m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.38m	0.32m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.38m+	0.32m+
Summary Trench 53 was located in the southern part of the site.			

The trench contained five ditches and a pit. No artefacts were recovered from any of these features.

TRENCH 54	Figure 4	Plate 29	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 99.1-97.4m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.29m	0.26m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.29m+	0.26m+
Summary Trench 54 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 55	Figure 4 & 12	Plate 30	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 94.7-93.8m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.31m	0.27m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.49m	0.23m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.8m+	0.5m+
Summary Trench 55 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained four ditches, aligned east to west, one of which produced pottery of Roman date (AD50-150). A pit and a natural hollow were also identified.			

TRENCH 56	Figure 4	Plate 30	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 96.4-94.5m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.26m	0.25m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.26m+	0.25m+
Summary Trench 56 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 57	Figure 4	Plate 31	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 95.7-94.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	

		S End	N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.25m	0.25m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.25m+	0.25m+
Summary Trench 57 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 58	Figure 4	Plate 31	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 93.8-90.8m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.4m	0.28m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.8m	-
Natural (D)	(102)	Not reached	0.28m+
Summary Trench 58 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 59	Figure 4	Plate 32	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 92.1-91.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		S End	N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.24m	0.35m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.44m	0.19m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.68m+	0.54m+
Summary Trench 59 was located in the southern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 60	Figure 4	Plate 32	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 92.9-91m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.28m	0.26m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.28m+	0.26m+
Summary Trench 60 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 61	Figure 4 & 12	Plate 33
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 88.9m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		S End N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.28m 0.27m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.35m 0.21m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.63m+ 0.48m+
Summary Trench 61 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained a single east to west aligned ditch, which contained no artefacts.		

TRENCH 62	Figure 4	Plate 33
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 90.6-87.6m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		E End W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.27m 0.35m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.17m 0.85m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.44m Not reached
Summary Trench 62 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.		

TRENCH 63	Figure 4	Plate 34
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 88.6-88.5 m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		S End N End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.42m 0.34m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	1.78m 0.68m
Natural (D)	(102)	Not reached 1.02m+
Summary Trench 63 was located in the eastern corner of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.		

TRENCH 64	Figure 4	Plate 34
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 106.3-103.6m
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)
		E End W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.25m 0.19m

Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.13m	0.08m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.38m+	0.27m+
Summary Trench 64 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

TRENCH 65	Figure 4 & 12	Plate 35	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 108.2-106.6m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		SE End	NW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.18m	0.18m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.02m	0.27m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.2m+	0.44m+
Summary Trench 65 was located in the southern part of the site. The trench contained two ditches, one of which produced 17 sherds of Late Iron Age pottery, three fragments of animal bone, and fragments of struck flint.			

TRENCH 66	Figure 3 & 8	Plate 35	
Trench Alignment: W-E	Length: 30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 116.1-114.9m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.3m	0.44m
Subsoil (T)	(101)	0.07m	0.08m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.37m+	0.52m+
Summary Trench 66 was located centrally in the northern part of the site. The trench contained a ditch terminus aligned northwest to southeast, related to the ditch identified in Trenches 19 and 20, as well as a series of eight intercutting pits.			

TRENCH 67	Figure 3	Plate 35	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 20m	Level of Natural (m OD): 114-113.4m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.24m	0.27m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.24m+	0.27m+
Summary Trench 67 was located centrally in the northern part of the site.			

The trench contained a ditch terminus aligned northwest to southeast, of probable Bronze Age date, that was not excavated.

TRENCH 68	Figure 3	Plate 35	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 14m	Level of Natural (m OD): 114.6-114m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil (T)	(100)	0.39m	0.36m
Natural (D)	(102)	0.39m+	0.36m+
Summary Trench 68 was located centrally in the northern part of the site. The trench contained no archaeological features or deposits.			

14 APPENDIX 5: HER SUMMARY SHEET

Site name and address: Land off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9SQ		
County: Hertfordshire		District: East Herts
Village/Town: Buntingford		Parish: Buntingford
Planning application reference: 3/14/2304/OP		
HER Enquiry reference: n/a		
Funding source: Bovis Homes		
Nature of application: Residential development, including a new school		
Present land use:		
Size of application area: 20ha		Size of area investigated: 3315m
NGR (to 8 figures minimum): TL 358 288		
Site code (if applicable): HLRB15		
Site director/Organization: Pre-Construct Archaeology		
Type of work: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation		
Date of work	Start: 22.06.2015	Finish: 13.07.2015
Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum: Hertford Museum		
Related HER Nos: 17892; 2258		Periods represented: Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British
Relevant previous summaries/reports -		
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p>The evaluation revealed a series of archaeologically significant features which are focused in the north and south-west of the site, located primarily on areas of higher ground. In addition 31 pits, two deposits of remnant pyre material, and five pits containing burnt material were identified. The features on the site contained limited finds assemblages, some areas demonstrating higher concentrations of artefacts, indicative of occupation or settlement.</p> <p>Three main phases of activity are represented on the site. The earliest activity is represented by a Bronze Age segmented enclosure (Trenches 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 66 and 67) in the north of the site. This consisted of a large segmented boundary ditch, located on an east facing hillside, which contained 29 sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery (c. 1500BC-1100BC). Later Iron Age (350BC-AD50) activity was concentrated in the north of Area 1 and the south-west of Area 2. Romano-British activity was focused on the higher ground in the south-west of the site (Trenches 35-38). This consisted of a series of small field boundaries. The features located on the higher ground, in the south-west of the site, contained denser concentrations of finds, which indicates a proximity to settlement or occupational activity. The dating of the finds suggests a degree of</p>		

continuity between the Late Iron Age and early Roman activity in some areas of the site.

Two cremated bone deposits were identified in Trench 35, in association with five pits containing burnt material. These are not securely dated but are likely to be of Romano-British date. This contained remnants of pyre material.

Author of summary: Sian O'Neill

Date of summary: 23.02.2016

15 APPENDIX 6: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-221202

Project details

Project name Land off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire: An Archaeological Evaluation

Short description of the project This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9SQ (NGR TL 358 288) between the 22nd June and the 13th July 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of Bovis Homes prior to residential redevelopments. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The evaluation found a series of ditches which are focused in the north and west of the site, located on areas of higher ground. 31 pits, two deposits of remnant pyre material, and five pits containing burnt material were also identified. The features on the site contained limited finds, some areas demonstrating higher concentrations of artefacts, which could indicate areas of more intensive activity relating to occupation or settlement. Three main phases of activity are represented on the site with an initial Bronze Age phase, located on the high ground (Trenches 19, 20, 66, 67) in the north of the site. This consisted of a large segmented boundary ditch identified in Trenches 19, 20 and 66. The ditch contained 29 sherds of middle Bronze Age pottery (c. 1500BC-1100BC), with little prehistoric pottery discovered from other features on the site. There is also an Iron Age (350-50BC) phase concentrated in the north of Area 1 and the south-west of Area 2. A Roman phase is also represented focused on the higher ground in the south-west (Trenches 36-46) of the site; these consisted of a series of smaller ditches likely to be field boundaries. The features located on the higher ground, in the south-west of the site, contained a more dense concentration of finds, which indicates a proximity to settlement or occupational activity.

Project dates Start: 22-06-2015 End: 13-07-2015

Previous/future work Not known / Not known

Any associated HLRB15 - Sitecode
 project reference
 codes

Type of project Field evaluation

Monument type DITCH Bronze Age

Monument type DITCH Late Iron Age

Monument type DITCH Roman

Monument type PIT Bronze Age

Monument type PIT Roman

Monument type CREMATION Uncertain

Significant Finds POTTERY Bronze Age

Significant Finds POTTERY Iron Age

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds BONE Uncertain

Significant Finds METAL Post Medieval

Significant Finds FLINT Bronze Age

Methods & "Sample Trenches", "Targeted Trenches"
 techniques

Development type Housing estate

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the Not known / Not recorded
 planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE BUNTINGFORD Land
 off Luynes Rise, Buntingford, Hertfordshire, SG9 9SQ

Postcode SG9 9SQ

Study area 18.7 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 358 288 51.940656768821 -0.02419193962 51 56 26 N 000 01 27

W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 88.6m Max: 110m

Project creators

Name of PCA

Organisation

Project brief Hertfordshire County Council
 originator

Project design Mark Hinman
 originator

Project Mark Hinman
 director/manager

Project supervisor Matthew Jones

Type of Consultant
 sponsor/funding
 body

Name of CgMs Consulting Ltd
 sponsor/funding
 body

Project archives

Physical Archive Hertford Museum
 recipient

Physical Archive HLRB15
 ID

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Human Bones","Metal"

Digital Archive Hertford Museum
 recipient

Digital Archive ID HLRB15

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media "Database","Images raster / digital
 available photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive Hertford Museum

recipient

Paper Archive ID HLRB15

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media "Context
available sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

Project

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Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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