

**LAND AT PASTON RESERVE,  
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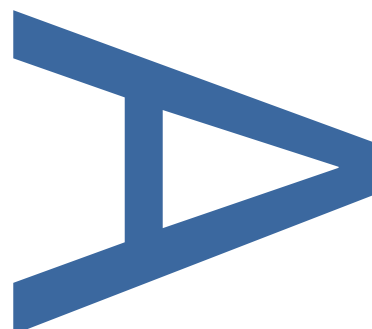
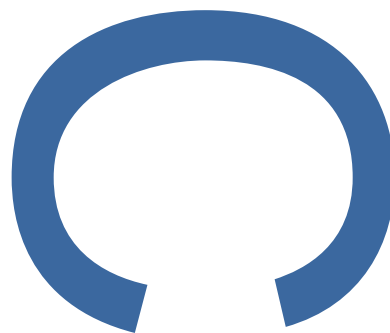
**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EXCAVATION**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:  
PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL**

**PCA REPORT NO: R. 13270**

**SITE CODE: PCCHER54076**

**JUNE 2018**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

## Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire:

### An Archaeological Excavation

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## ABSTRACT

*This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation and excavation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire (centred on OS NGR TF 1979 0298) between 24th April and 26th May 2017. The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition attached to the construction of a new residential development. The aim of the work was to preserve by record any archaeological remains which would be damaged or destroyed by the new development.*

*The fieldwork identified a small-scale Roman farmstead located c.150m south of the Car Dyke. The farmstead consisted of a series of short segments of ditch, which would likely have formed a system of enclosures and field systems, no evidence for dwellings was identified however. At least two phases of ditch alignments are present indicating that the farmstead was extant for a sustained period of time, perhaps growing to prominence due to the proximity to the Legionary fort at Longthorpe, Peterborough (Monument Number 364099) as well as the Car Dyke (Monument Number 1034621).*

*A number of pits were identified of which some contained large assemblages of pottery amongst other finds. Associated with these were two watering-holes which would have provided a water source for the farmstead, as well as providing water for the other agricultural activities on the site.*

*Three pits excavated on the site contained large quantities of charcoal and evidence for burning; however no evidence for in-situ fires was present. One of these pits contained an assemblage of iron slag which indicates these features may have had a more industrial function, albeit small-scale.*

*It is likely that this farmstead is related to the settlement located to the south-west at Manor Drive (Fletcher 2008).*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE6 7RX (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TF 1979 0298) between 24th April and 26th May 2017.
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition in advance of the construction of a new residential development (Planning Reference: tbc).
- 1.3 A trial trench evaluation of the site, carried out by PCA in September 2016 (Porter 2016), identified a concentration of archaeological remains in the northern part of the site, which consisted of a number of small pits/post-holes and a sequence of boundary ditches. Due to the amount of high-status pottery and CBM recovered it was suggested that a high-status Roman settlement is located in the vicinity. The archaeological features were significant enough to warrant further investigation and recording before they were damaged or destroyed by the proposed development.
- 1.4 The excavation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by PCA (Jones 2017) in response to a Brief for archaeological Investigation issued by Rebecca Casa-Hutton (Casa-Hutton 2017) of Peterborough City Council (PCC). The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a WSI prepared by PCA (Fletcher 2016).
- 1.5 The aim of the excavation was to 'preserve by record' any archaeological remains present in those areas of the site which would be affected by groundworks associated with the new development.
- 1.6 This report describes the results of the excavation, places the site and the identified remains in their local landscape and archaeological context, and assesses their significance against relevant regional research agendas. This document represents the full and final report on the excavation; no further analysis is required.

- 1.7 A summary of the project results will be included in the Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society journal ('PCAS').
- 1.8 The site archive will be deposited at the Peterborough Museum Stores.



## **2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **2.1 Geology**

2.2 The underlying geology comprised of the Oxford Clay formation- which formed approximately 156-165 million years ago in the Jurassic Period formed in shallow seas (British Geological Survey; Website 1)

2.3 The superficial geology consists of River Terrace deposits of sand and gravel- formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary period (British Geological Survey; Website 1).

2.4 The soils of the area are Loamy soils with naturally high groundwater, best suited for arable and root cropping (Soilscapes: Website 2).

2.5 The natural geology (102) was present on site at depths between 0.3m and 0.46m below present ground level, becoming slightly shallower to the north-west. This was overlain by the subsoil (101) arising from disturbance of the upper levels of the natural geology by past ploughing and other agricultural activity. This was present at depths of between 0.2m and 0.32m below present ground level, becoming slightly shallower to the north and west. The topsoil (100) was generally 0.3m deep.

### **2.6 Topography**

2.7 The site is located in Paston, c.4.5km north-east of Peterborough city centre. It is bounded by the Car Dyke to the north, Norwood Lane to the south, Newborough Road to the east and a modern housing development to the west (Figure 1).

2.8 Prior to the excavation, the site was undeveloped agricultural land. The site lies to the south of the Car Dyke, totalling an area of c.0.6ha.

2.9 The site slopes downwards from approximately 13m OD at the southern end of the development to 8m OD at the northern limit nearest to the Car Dyke. The site itself occupied a small plateau of locally higher ground, between 11.12-11.82m OD, with the ground around sloping gradually down.

### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

3.1 The following background is taken from the evaluation report and any available 'grey literature' of surrounding sites.

#### Roman

3.1.1 The Roman Car Dyke is located immediately to the north of the current site (Monument No. 1034621) and dates to the 1st/2nd century. The dyke is a linear watercourse running between Lincoln and Peterborough, measuring c.92km in length. It connects the River Witham, near Lincoln, to the River Nene, near Peterborough.

3.1.2 An evaluation (Fletcher 2007) and subsequent excavation (Fletcher 2008), immediately to the west of the current site, identified Iron Age and Roman features. This activity related to settlement activity with evidence for building activity also identified.

3.1.3 An excavation, located in the vicinity of the site, identified Roman enclosures and related settlement evidence (BUFAU, 1997; HER 50526).

3.1.4 An evaluation carried out close to the Car Dyke identified ditches and fragments of building material, which again may indicate the presence of settlement (Cotswold Archaeological Trust, 1997; HER 50529).

3.1.5 An evaluation located near to the current site identified two Roman ditches, a posthole and a potential buried soil horizon (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2006; Foard-Colby 2006). The post-hole may relate to a former manor house which was located nearby.

#### Medieval

3.1.6 The Deserted Medieval village (DMV) of Cathwaite may lie in close vicinity of the development area (HER 50138). Cartographic evidence indicates that the DMV is likely to be located south of Manor Drive. Earth moving during the construction of the Paston Parkway (HER 2222) uncovered medieval pottery dating to between the 11th and 13th century. This material could plausibly be from a hamlet of Cathwaite. Fieldwalking also uncovered a large assemblage of pottery and architectural stonework, dating to the 13th

century, which is also likely to be associated with the aforementioned hamlet (HER 2225).

### **3.2 Geophysical Survey Results**

3.2.1 A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Magnitude Surveys in May 2016 (Magnitude Geophysical Survey Report MSTF26). This survey was undertaken at the request of the PCC Archaeologist to inform the trenching and subsequent monitoring strategies.

3.2.2 The Geophysical report suggested that the results primarily reflected agricultural and modern activity. Despite Agricultural activity has been detected in the form ploughing schemes in Area 1. Former field boundaries have been detected across both areas. Modern activity is reflected by strong, ferrous anomalies. These are associated with spreading of refuse and debris; activity associated with horse paddocks; vehicles and roads; and modern developments.

### **3.3 Evaluation Results**

3.3.1 The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains in the north of the development area, at the topographically highest point of the site approximately 130m south of Car Dyke, an artificial water channel constructed during 1st century AD.

3.3.2 These features consisted of concentrations of small pits/postholes and two north to south aligned boundary ditches. Almost all of the features excavated in the trenches produced high-status Roman pottery and ceramic building material (CBM). These finds and the nature of the features identified strongly suggest the presence of a Roman settlement of some description in this area of the site.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 General (Figure 1)**

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised 38 trial trenches between 18m and 50m long and 1.8m wide. These were distributed in order to assess the anomalies identified in the Geophysical Survey as well as to obtain a representative sample of the 'blank' areas on the site.

4.1.2 The subsequent excavation comprised a roughly rectangular area in the north-west of the site measuring 0.6ha. The excavation area was centred on Trenches 17, 18, 37 and 38 which had identified significant Roman remains.

### **4.2 Excavation Methodology**

4.2.1 Ground reduction during the evaluation was carried out using a 21 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator. A 26-ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator and 20-ton wheeled dumper truck were used to strip the excavation area.

4.2.2 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.

4.2.3 Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools.

### **4.3 Recording and Finds Recovery**

4.3.1 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.

4.3.2 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]. Where more than one slot was excavated through an individual feature, each intervention was assigned additional unique numbers for the cutting event and for all the deposits it contained (the deposits within cut features being referred to here as 'fills').

4.3.3 Multiple sections excavated across a single feature were later grouped together by unique 'group numbers' e.g. DITCH 1. Additionally, features of contemporary date and representing the same type of activity or land-use were assigned to interpretative groups e.g. 'ENCLOSURE 1', 'WATERING HOLE 1'.

4.3.4 The record numbers assigned to cuts, deposits and groups are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits excavated during the evaluation and excavation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.3.5 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector periodically. Only objects of modern date were found and were not retained for accession.

4.3.6 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, and were used to keep a record of the excavation process. In addition, monochrome photographs were taken of significant features.

#### **4.4 Sampling Strategy**

4.4.1 Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded by a cross-section scaled drawing at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20). Linear features were investigated by means of regularly-spaced slots along their lengths.

4.4.2 Where stratigraphic relationships between features could not be discerned in plan, relationship slots were also excavated and these were recorded as part

of the GPS survey and noted on the relevant context sheets.

4.4.3 Interesting and/or unusual features were 100% excavated in order to fully assess their importance and in order to retrieve the associated finds assemblages. These include potential cremations, charcoal rich features and watering holes.

#### **4.5 Environmental Sampling**

4.5.1 A total of 63 bulk samples (generally 20-40 litres in volume) were taken from sealed deposits in order to extract and identify micro- and macro-botanical remains. The aim of this sampling was to investigate the past environment and economy of the site, the diet of the inhabitants and potentially the agricultural basis of the settlement. An additional aim of the sampling was to recover small objects that are not readily recovered by hand-collection, such as metalworking debris and bones of fish and small animals.

## 5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE

### 5.1 Paper Archive

Type	Evaluation	Excavation	Total
Context register sheets	5	20	25
Context sheets	93	365	458
Plan registers	-	1	1
Plans at 1:50	4	-	4
Plans at 1:20	-	-	-
Plans at 1:10	-	8	8
Plans at 1:5	-	1	1
Section register sheets	2	6	8
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	32	129	161
Trench record sheets	38	-	38
Photo register sheets	17	15	32
Small finds register sheets	1	1	2
Environmental register sheets	1	2	3

### 5.2 Digital Archive

Type	Evaluation	Excavation	Total
Digital photos	428	1193	1621
GPS survey files	8	12	20
Digital plans	1	10	11
GIS project	-	-	-
Access database	1	1	1

### 5.3 Physical Archive

Type	Evaluation	Excavation	Total
Struck flint	-	1	1
Burnt flint	-	-	-
Pottery	479	1737	2216
Ceramic building material (CBM)	101	66	167
Glass	1	3	4
Worked stone	-	1	1
Small Finds	7	15	22
Slag	-	55	55
Animal bone	123	471	594
Shell	-	-	-

Environmental bulk samples	9	24	33
Environmental bulk samples (10 litre buckets)	28	63	91
Monolith samples	-	-	-
Other samples (C-14)	-	7	7
Black and white films	6	1	7
Colour slides	-	-	-



## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 6.1 Overview and Phasing (Figures 1-3)

6.1.1 The excavation uncovered an area of Roman activity, likely representing a small scale farmstead located adjacent to the Car Dyke. No evidence for high-status settlement, recorded in the evaluation, was identified on the site.

6.1.2 The data will be presented in hierarchical order as follows:

Period → Group (i.e. ENCLOSURE 1) → Feature Type (i.e. DITCH 2)

→ [Context Number]

6.1.3 Group Name (i.e. ENCLOSURE 2) is the umbrella term used to gather related feature types and contexts into coherent descriptive groups. Group Names include major boundaries, enclosures and field systems.

6.1.4 Based on the finds assemblages, as well as stratigraphic and spatial associations, the features revealed on the site can be assigned to four chronological periods:

Period	Date Range
Natural	-
Early Roman	AD30-120
Middle Roman	AD120-200
Mid-Late Roman	AD200-400
Post-medieval/ Modern	AD1540-1900+

Table 1: Period List with phase colour

6.1.5 The earliest period of sustained activity present on the site occurred in the Early Roman period (AD30-120). In this period the area of higher ground had become a focus for a small Roman farmstead. This period saw the establishment of a system of north-south/east-west aligned ditches forming enclosures/boundaries associated with the running of the farmstead. This was associated with limited finds assemblages: pottery, animal bone, and limited amounts of metalworking. The presence of the Legionary fortress,

built in Longthorpe Peterborough (Monument Number 364099), may have had a bearing on the establishment of the farmstead at this time. No dwellings were identified; however the likelihood is that they have been lost because of their ephemeral nature and building techniques employed during the period.

6.1.6 By the Middle Roman period (AD120-200) there was a sharp increase in the amount of activity seen on the site, with a marked increase in the amount of pottery recovered. The field boundaries saw a slight shift in alignment to a more north-north-west/south-south-east orientation. Larger pits, including at least one watering hole, were constructed during this period, this leads to the suggestion that the farmstead had become more prosperous. The increasing economy may have led to new activities including, potentially, small-scale industry which required greater amounts of water. The watering hole may be associated with two charcoal rich pits which also points to some small-scale, industrial activity. The increase in the fortunes of the farmstead may be also be tied to the construction of Car Dyke, located c.150m to the north of the site, which, despite not being primarily for navigation, would have allowed the movement of produce short distances more easily.

6.1.7 The majority of features that date to the Mid-Late Roman period (AD200-400) are pits including one watering hole. This does not necessarily imply that the farmstead did not continue into this period, more likely it returned to the peripheries of the settlement likely returning to open fields. As the amount of clearly defined activity is reduced it appears that the farmstead had become more scaled down, potentially reflecting a return to a subsistence economy, a common pattern for sites in the region. The key factor which may have brought about this decline could be the silting up of Car Dyke.

## **6.2 Excavation Results**

6.2.1 The results of the excavation will now be presented period by period, as listed above, with Natural Features described first. Features will be described from north to south and west to east.

### **6.3 Natural Features (Slots [454], [519], [517], [515], [431], [347], [350], [360])**

- 6.3.1 Thirty-three features were identified as being natural features, the bulk of representing tree throws. Fourteen slots were excavated in these features of which eight were recorded in detail (Figure 4a). The natural features had irregular shapes in plan with irregular profiles, with diffuse edges, and no associated finds. They often contained pale/ leached fills which merged imperceptibly with the natural geology.
- 6.3.2 Most were hollows resulting from the roots of trees and underbrush; a few represent variations in the clay and gravel geology or were probably the result of processes such as frost-cracking.
- 6.3.3 Based on the natural origin and absence of finds in these features, a number of other similar silty patches with irregular appearances were planned and investigated but not recorded in detail.
- 6.3.4 Natural features were present across the excavation area, with a concentration towards the northern end of the site. The natural features were discrete, i.e. they had no stratigraphic relationships with other features.

### **6.4 EARLY ROMAN (AD30-120)**

- 6.4.1 This period saw the establishment of a small farmstead located on a slightly gravelly plateau of higher ground, surrounded by clay geologies. The presence of the freer draining gravel was likely the primary contributing factor for the location of the farmstead.
- 6.4.2 Based on the finds assemblage it is unlikely that the site was occupied before the conquest. The farmstead may pre-date the construction of the Legionary fort at Longthorpe, which may have occurred as early as AD44 but was most likely erected between AD60/61 (Frere and St. Joseph, 1974). The establishment of the fort would have provided a boost to the local economy, with the site being well within that economic bubble. The establishment of ditched boundaries likely reflect the formation of field systems, for pastoral and/ or arable use, to provide the resources necessary to fuel the settlement with any excess potentially used for trade with the fort and its inhabitants.

6.4.3 No direct evidence for dwellings was identified, but their presence can be inferred from the existence of settlement related features, i.e pits containing assemblages of domestic pottery. The poor survival of dwellings may reflect the methods by which they were constructed, with sites of the type likely occupied with timber post built structures. The level of truncation present on the site would also have had a detrimental effect on ephemeral features.

## **6.5 FIELD BOUNDARIES (DITCH 4, RECUT DITCH 4, DITCHES 8, 10, 11)**

6.5.1 The main bulk of evidence from this period incorporated a series of three ditches aligned north-south and one east-west aligned ditch. These form the beginnings of a more organised, structured landscape enabling the exploitation the prime agricultural land in which the site is situated. This may reflect the transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture.

6.5.2 The finds assemblages related to these ditches were on the whole limited, indicating that the activity in this earlier period was less intense. This is to be expected following the establishment of a new settlement, or new settlement foci.

DITCH 4 (Slots [313], [317]=[178], [565], [561], [535], [475], [473] Post Hole [559])

DITCH 4 (Figure 5; Plates 2-3) was linear in plan, measuring c.15.5m in length. DITCH 4 was aligned north to south. It measured between 0.77m wide and 0.27m deep (Slot [317]) and 0.57m wide and 0.18m deep (Slot [565]). It had steep sloping sides and a concave base, and was potentially segmented in appearance. DITCH 4 was later recut (Slots [378], [534], [563]) which suggests that this boundary was in existence for a sustained period of time. The ditch contained a single fill of mid to dark greyish brown silty clay. The ditch contained 34 sherds (195g) of Roman pottery (AD70-300), three fragments (218g) of CBM, one iron nail of Manning Type 1b design, one fragment (14g) of iron working slag (see Starley, Section 7.6) and 14 fragments of animal bone.

Post-hole [559] (Figure 5; Plate 4) was located in the eastern part of the site, and was associated with Ditch [565]. It was circular in plan, measuring 0.47m in diameter and 0.17m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (558) of dark grey brown charcoal rich silty clay. No finds were

recovered from this feature.

#### RECUT DITCH 4 (Slots [378], [534], [563])

RECUT DITCH 4 (Figure 5; Plate 4) was linear in plan aligned north to south, measuring c.8.5m in length. It measured between 1.1m wide and 0.33m deep (Slot [378]) and 0.73m wide and 0.14m deep (Slot [563]). It consistently had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The fact that the ditch was recut indicates that this boundary was in existence for a sustained period of time. The recut contained a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay which contained three fragments of animal bone.

#### DITCH 5 (Slot [539])

DITCH 5 (Figure 4b) was linear in plan, measuring c.2.5m in length. DITCH 5 was aligned east to west, with Post-hole [513] located at its western end. It measured c. 0.44 wide and 0.17m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid yellowish brown sandy clay. No finds were recovered from this ditch.

#### DITCH 8 (Slot [456], [216], [212])

DITCH 8 (Figure 4b) was linear in plan, measuring c.31m in length. DITCH 8 was aligned north to south. This ditch may form part of an enclosure system with DITCHES 9, 10 and 11 located to the east. It measured between c. 1.14m wide and 0.12m deep (Slot [456]) and 1.0m wide and 0.12m deep (Slot [216]). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid yellowish brown sandy silt. The ditch contained four sherds (94g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400) and one fragment of window glass (See Beveridge, Section 7.5).

#### DITCH 10 (Slots [286], [302], [292], [314], [331], [339], [338])

DITCH 10 (Figure 4b) was linear in plan, measuring c.17.5m in length. DITCH 10 was aligned east to west. This ditch may form part of an enclosure system with DITCHES 8, 9 and 11 located to the east. It measured between c. 0.77m wide and 0.2m deep (Slot [314]) and 0.58m wide and 0.12m deep (Slot [286]). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid yellowish brown silty clay. The ditch contained 76 sherds (522g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400), three fragments (311g) of CBM and one fragment of animal bone.

DITCH 11 (Slots [277], [275], [333], [272], [274], [289], Post Hole [301])

DITCH 11 (Figure 4b) was linear in plan, measuring c.24m in length. DITCH 11 was aligned north to south. This ditch may form part of an enclosure system with DITCHES 8, 9, and 10 located to the west. It measured between c. 0.7m wide and 0.05m deep (Slot [275]) and 0.48m wide and 0.07m deep (Slot [272]). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of pale greyish brown silty clay. The ditch contained three sherds (42g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400), one fragment (17g) of CBM and three fragments (48g) of iron working slag (See Starley, Section 7.6).

Post-hole [301] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.50m long, 0.28m wide and 0.05m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (300) of mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

## **6.6 EARLY ROMAN PITS (Figure 4b)**

6.6.1 Thirty-seven pits were identified which dated to this period (Figure 4b). These did not form any formal 'clusters' or 'groups' but, by and large, were present to the north of the field boundaries. This may indicate the presence of settlement, or that this area was set aside for a different purpose, such as storage or food preparation. The areas formerly occupied by dwellings may therefore be inferred by these telling areas of 'blank' space between pitting.

6.6.2 Pit [344] contained both the largest and earliest pottery assemblage of this period including the remains of a partially complete coarse sandy black ware vessel (29 sherds; 285g; AD50-100; see Anderson, Section 7.2). This was placed at the northern extremity of a small charcoal rich pit. It was noted on site that it could be a disturbed cremation, but no bone-cremated or other- was recovered from the feature or the associated samples. The lack of bone, however, does not preclude it from being a cremation, as observed across the site as a whole, bone survival is extremely limited.

6.6.3 Some of the pits excavated contained no finds and have been assigned to this period based on the morphological and spatial similarities as well as stratigraphic relationships with pits of known date.

Early Roman Pits (Cuts [268], [374], [372], [410], [404], [406], [381], [403], [408], [344], [546], [544], [284], [384], [376], [138], [144], [424], [476], [435],

[433], [241], [227], [229], [251], [253], [255], [162], [567], [260], [246], [249], [263], [279], [301], [290], [294])

Pit [268] (Figure 4b) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.72m long, 0.50m wide and 0.11m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (267) of mid green brown sandy clay which contained two sherds (27g) of Roman pottery (AD50-100).

Pit [374] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.48m in length, 0.35m in width and 0.22m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (373) of pale grey silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [372] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.78m in length and 0.52m in width and 0.13m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (371) of mid to dark grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (12g) of Roman pottery (AD50-400).

Pit [410] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.39m in length, 0.48m in width and 0.13m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (411) of pale grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [404] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.85m in length, 0.81m in width and 0.27m in depth. It had moderate to steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (405) of pale grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [406] (Figure 4b) was oval in plan, measuring 1.02m in length, 0.91m in width and 0.25m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (407) of pale grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [381] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.56m long, 0.53m wide and 0.06m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (382) of mid grey brown sandy clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [403] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.95m in length, 0.87m in width and 0.14m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (402) of pale grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [408] (Figure 4b) was oval in plan, measuring 0.7m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.15m in depth. It had moderate to steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (409) of pale grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [344] (Figure 4b; Plates 6-7) was circular in plan, measuring 0.42m in length, 0.38m in width and 0.24m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a basal deposit (349) of mid to dark blue grey silty clay containing six sherds (21g) of Roman pottery (AD50-200), and an upper deposit (343) of dark grey brown silty clay which contained 31 sherds (288g) of Roman pottery (AD50-100), some of which were part of a near complete vessel, one fragment (3g) of CBM, nine fragments (6g) of burnt clay and a cuboid tessera SF.103 (See Beveridge, Section 7.5).

Pit [546] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 2.1m in length and 0.71m in width and 0.17m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (547) of dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [544] (Figure 4b) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.56m in length, 0.83m in width and 0.21m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (545) of mottled pale orangey brown and dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [284] (Figure 4b) was oval in plan, measuring 0.72m long, 0.54m wide and 0.23m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (283) of mid grey silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [384] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.46m long, 0.31m wide and 0.11m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (383) of mid to dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [376] (Figure 4b; Plate 8) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.89m in diameter and 0.27m in depth. It had moderately sloping to steep sides and a concave base. It contained a two fills, a basal fill (385) of pale grey silty clay, and an upper fill (375) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (13g) of Roman pottery (AD50-100).



Pit [138] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.8m long by 0.55m wide and 0.19m in depth. It had steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid brownish grey silty clay (137) which contained one fragment of animal bone.

Pit [144] (Figure 4b) was oval in plan, measuring 0.96m long by 0.62m wide and 0.18m in depth, with steep sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (143).

Pit [424] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.49m in length, 0.47m in width and 0.27m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (423) of mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [476] (Figure 4b) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.7m in length, 0.62m in width and 0.09m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (477) of mid orange brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [435] (Figure 4b) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.08m in length, 0.7m in width and 0.22m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (434) of dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [433] (Figure 4b) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.1m in length, 0.45m in width and 0.24m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (432) of mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [241] (Figure 4b) was sub circular in plan, measuring 1.70m long, 1m wide and 0.13m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (242) of mid grey brown silt clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [227] (Figure 4b) was sub circular in plan, measuring 1.15m long, 0.95m wide and 0.18m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained two fills, a lower deposit (228) of mid grey brown clay, and an upper deposit (231) of mid grey brown silt which contained one sherd (5g) of Roman pottery (AD50-100).

Pit [229] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.85m long, 0.80m wide and 0.20m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It

contained a single fill (230) of dark brown-grey silt clay which contained one sherd (37g) of Roman pottery (AD50-400).

Pit [251] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.43m long, 0.43m wide and 0.11m in depth. It had moderately steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (252) of mid orange brown sandy silt which contained three sherds (122g) of Roman pottery (AD50-200).

Pit [253] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.15m long, 0.15m wide and 0.16m in depth. It had steep sides and a conical base. It contained a single fill (254) of dark brown grey silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [255] (Figure 4b) was sub circular in plan, measuring 1.2m long, 1.4m wide and 0.09m in depth. It had shallow sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (256) of mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature

Pit [162] (Figure 4b) was sub oval in plan, measuring 1.7m long, 0.29m wide and 0.08m in depth. It had moderately steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of light greyish-brown sandy silt (161). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [567] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.4m in diameter and 0.11m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (566) of pale grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [260] (Figure 4b) was circular in plan, measuring 0.70m long, 0.70m wide and 0.14m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (261) of mid grey brown sandy silt which contained three sherds (5g) of Roman pottery (AD50-200).

Pit [246] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.7m long, 0.6m wide and 0.17m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (245) of light grey brown silt clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [249] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.3m long, 0.75m wide and 0.33m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (250) of light orange brown clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [263] (Figure 4b) was located in the western part of the site. It was circular in plan, measuring 0.46m long, 0.35m wide and 0.03m in depth. It had moderately

sloping sides and a shallow concave base. It contained a single fill (264) of dark grey brown sandy silt which contained seven sherds (25g) of Roman pottery (AD30-70).

Pit [279] (Figure 4b) was sub-ovular in plan, measuring 0.40m long, 0.47m wide and 0.04m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (280) of mid orange brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [290] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.05m long, 0.31m wide and 0.19m in depth. It had steep sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill (291) of mid brown-grey silty clay which contained 13 fragments (7.5g) of burnt clay and eight fragments (11,537g) of iron working slag including iron waste objects as well as vitrified hearth and furnace bottom fragments (see Starley, Section 7.6).

Pit [294] (Figure 4b) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.35m long, 0.35m wide and 0.13m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (295) of mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

## **6.7 MIDDLE ROMAN (AD120-200)**

6.7.1 This period saw the realignment of the farmstead, shifting to a north-north-west/south-south-east alignment. Some of the ditches were re-established over time, suggesting longevity to/maintenance of the fields and field boundaries during this period.

6.7.2 The period saw a sharp increase in the amount of finds recovered containing the largest and most varied finds assemblages. DITCHES 1 and 7 contained the largest assemblages of Roman pottery (see Anderson, Section 7.2). The range of material recovered is indicative of domestic activity- including a range of storage vessels as well as those associated the preparation and serving of food. The quantities of material recovered attests strongly to settlement being located nearby.

6.7.3 Larger pits were constructed during this period, including at least one watering hole (WATERING HOLE 1). Two pits were also identified containing extremely charcoal rich fills, and contained evidence for limited metalworking. The presence of watering holes and potentially industrial features indicate that there was a change in focus for what was being stored/

manufactured on the site.

6.7.4 As with the preceding period no clear direct evidence for dwellings was uncovered. However two curvilinear ditches may represent drip gullies surrounding former roundhouses, but due to the level of truncation on the site this is difficult to prove with certainty. However, despite the lack of clear cut structural remains, features relating to settlement, i.e pits and ditches containing domestic pottery, attest to the presence of dwellings. The construction methods of the period, being of timber post built construction, would likely have had an adverse affect on the level of survival of these features and when coupled with the amount of truncation present on the site, makes it unsurprising that evidence for dwellings is limited.

## **6.8 FIELD BOUNDARIES (DITCHES 1, 2, 3, 6, 7)**

6.8.1 Five ditches were identified on the site which date to this period. These were mostly aligned north-north-west/south-south-east. These formed part of an expanded complex of field boundaries. These formed part of the evolution of the site enabling the continued exploitation of fertile landscape. This reorganisation of the field systems may reflect an increase in agricultural production, or the transition to new farming practices.

DITCH 1 (Slots [345], [318], [554], [399]=[150], [397], [164], [444], [446], [154])

DITCH 1 (Figure 6; Plates 9-12) was linear in plan, measuring c.19.5m in length. DITCH 1 was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east. It was narrower and shallower at its southern end, measuring c. 0.35 wide and 0.1m deep (Slot [444]), with steep sides and a concave base. The northern end of the ditch was generally less truncated and therefore was wider and deeper, measuring up to 1.1m wide and 0.35m deep (Slot [554]), with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. There was evidence for a segmented appearance to the ditch with a number of termini identified along its course. This may however merely reflect the methods employed in its construction or level of truncation present on the site. DITCH 1 was truncated at its southern end by Pit [172]. DITCH 1 truncated DITCH 2 and is therefore likely to be a re-establishment of the boundary. The ditch usually contained two deposits: a lower deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay and an upper deposit of dark grey brown silty clay. The ditch contained 183 sherds (1376g) of Roman pottery (AD100-

400), five fragments (146g) of CBM, one iron nail and 424 fragments of animal bone, including 366 fragments of a near complete dog burial (see Rielly, Section 7.7).

#### DITCH 2 (Slot [401], [470])

DITCH 2 (Figure 6) was linear in plan, measuring c.3.5m in length. DITCH 2 was aligned north to south, and was truncated by DITCH 1. It measured c. 0.45 wide and 0.1m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. DITCH 2 may represent an earlier phase of boundary. The ditch contained a single fill of mid grey brown sandy clay. The ditch contained two sherds (13g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400) and four fragments (21.5g) of burnt clay.

#### DITCH 3 (Slots [270], [359], [299])

DITCH 3 (Figure 6; Plate 13) was linear in plan, measuring c.3.5m in length. DITCH 3 was aligned north to south, and was truncated by Pit [297] at its southern end. It measured c. 0.85 wide and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. At its southern end the ditch contained two fills: a lower deposit of mid grey silty clay and an upper fill of mid greenish brown sandy clay, at its northern end only the upper fill was present. The ditch contained 115 sherds (454g) of Roman pottery (AD50-400) and 69 fragments of animal bone (see Rielly, Section 7.7).

#### DITCH 6 (Slot [214])

DITCH 6 (Figure 4c) was linear in plan, measuring c.6.5m in length. DITCH 6 was aligned north north-east to south south-west, turning slightly at the northern end to become aligned north-east to south-west. This ditch may form part of an enclosure with DITCH 7 located c. 2m to the east. It measured c. 0.7 wide and 0.12m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid orangey brown sandy silt. No finds were recovered from this ditch.

#### DITCH 7 (Slots [237], [234], [232], [224], [209], [557], [222])

DITCH 7 (Figure 4c) was linear in plan, measuring c.27m in length. DITCH 7 was aligned north north-east to south south-west, turning slightly at the northern end to become aligned north-east to south-west. It may form part of an enclosure with DITCH 6, located c. 2m to the west. It measured between 1.05m wide and 0.17m deep (Slot [237]) and 0.70m wide and 0.22m deep (Slot [222]). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained two fills: a lower deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay and an upper deposit of pale greyish/orangey brown silty clay. The ditch contained 384 sherds (4619g) of Roman pottery (AD120-400),

four fragments (114g) of CBM, 118 fragments of animal bone and one oyster shell (7.5g).

## **6.9 CURVILINEAR DITCHES (DITCHES 13, 14)**

6.9.1 Two curvilinear ditch segments were identified on the site (DITCHES 13 and 14). These may represent the only direct physical evidence for occupation on the site. These ditches may form the drip gullies which surrounded post-built roundhouses or similar structures. No evidence for any other structural remains survive such as post-holes, which, whilst not being entirely surprising, hinders the positive identification of a potential dwellings.

### **DITCH 13 (Slots [243], [247])**

DITCH 13 (Figure 4c) was curvilinear in plan, measuring c.6.0m in length. DITCH 13 was aligned north-east to south-west, turning at the southern end to a north-west to south-east orientation. It measured c. 0.65m wide and 0.15m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid orange brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this ditch.

### **DITCH 14 (Slots [525], [510])**

DITCH 14 (Figure 4c) was curvilinear in plan, measuring c.5.5m in length. DITCH 14 was aligned north-east to south-west, turning slightly at the south-western end. It measured c. 0.6 wide and 0.1m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid- grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (1g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400) and ten fragments of animal bone.

## **6.10 MIDDLE ROMAN PITS (Figure 4c)**

6.10.1 Thirty-five pits were identified which dated to this period (Figure 4c). The pits were spread across the excavation area with a slight clustering in the centre of the site identified. These pits were present to the south of the area of Early Roman pitting.

6.10.2 The pits in this period were, on the whole, larger than those in the preceding period. This may indicate that storage space was at a premium, perhaps as a result of increased production or a boom in population. This is born out also with the finds assemblages recovered in this period, with a range of storage vessels recovered (see Anderson, Section 7.2).

- 6.10.3 Pit [483] contained 18 mortaria sherds (1513g), which included a stamped rim (Plate 17; see Anderson, Section 7.2), as well as other pottery types. This implies that these features were for disposal of waste domestic items. The quantity of material deposited strongly indicates a proximity to contemporary settlement.
- 6.10.4 The locations formerly occupied by dwellings may be identified by the apparent 'blank' spaces between these areas pitting and field systems. The locations finds assemblages may also aid detection of dwellings.
- 6.10.5 Not all of the pits assigned to this period contained dating evidence, and so have been assigned to this period due to shared morphologies as well as spatial and stratigraphic relationships to features of known date.

MIDDLE ROMAN PITS (Cuts [266], [307], [336], [297], [536], [172], [450], [158], [239]=[160], [437], [548], [550], [523], [492], [494], [542], [506], [508], [520], [502], [417], [419], [421], [500], [513], [487], [485], [489], [483], [481], [462], [528], [479], [505])

Pit [266] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.92m long, 0.90m wide and 0.08m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (265) of mid greenish brown sandy clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [307] (Figure 4c) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.52m long, 0.92m wide and 0.12m in depth. It had step sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (306) of mid grey silty clay which contained one sherd (4g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300).

Pit [336] (Figure 4c; Plate 13) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.26m in length, 1.08m in width and 0.47m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (335) of mid greyish brown silty clay which contained 30 sherds (343g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300) and one fragment of animal bone.

Pit [297] (Figure 4c; Plate 13-14) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.04m in length, 1.01m in width and 0.37m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (296) of mid green brown silty clay which contained 35 sherds (125g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300) and 20 fragments of animal bone.

Pit [536] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 1.3m in diameter and 0.3m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (537) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained 20 sherds (196g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300).

Pit [172] (Figure 4c) was sub circular in plan, measuring 2.2m long by 0.65m wide and 0.24m in depth. It had moderately-sloping sides and a flat base. It had a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (171) which contained five sherds (19g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), one fragment (7g) of vitrified hearth/furnace lining (see Starley, Section 7.6) and five fragments of animal bone.

Pit [450] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.54m in diameter and 0.29m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a basal deposit (449) of dark grey brown silty clay and an upper deposit (448) of pale orange brown silty clay which contained five sherds (54g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400).

Pit [158] (Figure 4c) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.23m long by 0.37m wide and was 0.14m in depth. It had steep sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (157) of pale greyish brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [239]=[160] (Figure 4c) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.70m long, 1.90m wide and 0.25m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (240) of mid yellow brown silty clay which contained one fragment (99g) of iron working slag (see Starley, Section 7.6).

Pit [437] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.62m in diameter and 0.12m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (436) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained three sherds (10g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400).

Pit [523] (Figure 4c) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.5m in length, 0.56m in width and 0.30m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It contained three fills: a basal deposit (541) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained 11 sherds (339g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400) and seven fragments of animal bone, a middle deposit (540) of dark grey brown charcoal rich silty clay which contained five sherds (74g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), 27 fragments (24g) of burnt clay, an Iron nail of Manning Type 1b design and four fragments of animal bone, and a



upper deposit (524) of mid grey brown clayey silt which contained 29 sherds (135g) of Roman pottery (AD100-300).

Post-hole [492] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.33m in diameter and 0.1m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (493) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained three sherds (1g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400).

Pit [494] (Figure 4c; Plate 18) was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 2.4m in length, 1.3m in width and 0.24m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained three fills: a slump (495) of mid grey brown silty clay, overlain by the basal deposit (496) of mid greenish brown clay which contained one sherd (2g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400) and 28 fragments (33g) of burnt clay, and an upper deposit (497) of mid grey brown clayey silt which contained six sherds (23g) of Roman pottery (AD100-300).

Pit [542] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.39m in length, 0.32m in width and 0.13m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (543) of mid orangey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [506] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 1.96m in length, 0.73m in width and 0.13m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (507) of mid orange brown silty clay which contained 20 sherds (249g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), one fragment (38g) of CBM and one fragment of Roman glass SF. 102 (see Beveridge, Section 7.5).

Pit [508] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 2.09m in length, 1.57m in width and 0.18m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (509) of mid to dark orange brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [520] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 1.21m in length, 1.02m in width and 0.11m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (521) of dark orange brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [502] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.97m in length, 0.59m in width and 0.07m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a

single fill (503) of mid orange brown silty clay which contained two sherds (10g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300).

Pit [417] (Figure 4c) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.64m in length, 1.43m in width and 0.36m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (418) of mid to dark orange-brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [419] (Figure 4c) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.07m in length, 0.71m in width and 0.25m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (420) of mid to dark orange-brown silty clay which contained ten sherds (156g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400), two fragments (442g) of CBM and one fragment of animal bone.

Pit [421] (Figure 4c) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.72m+ in length, 0.94m in width and 0.26m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (422) of dark orange-brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [500] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.61m in length, 0.39m in width and 0.05m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (501) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained two sherds (32g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300).

Post-hole [513] (Figure 4c) was located in the eastern part of the site, located at the end of a short segment of Ditch [530]. It was circular in plan, measuring 0.7m in diameter and 0.23m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (512) of mid greenish brown sandy clay which contained four sherds (41g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400).

Pit [487] (Figure 4c; Plate 15) was circular in plan, measuring 0.61m in diameter and 0.16m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills: a basal deposit (522) of pale grey brown silty clay, and an upper deposit (486) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained 28 sherds (252g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300) and five fragments (215g) of CBM.

Pit [485] (Figure 4c; Plate 15) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.93m in length, 0.81m in width and 0.21m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (484) of dark grey brown silty clay which contained 35

sherds (429g) of Roman pottery (AD150-250), one fragment (292g) of CBM.

Pit [489] (Figure 4c; Plate 15) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.7m in length, 0.62m in width and 0.09m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (488) of mid orange brown silty clay which contained one sherd (45g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400).

Pit [483] (Figure 4c; Plate 15) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.29 in length, 0.88m in width and 0.14m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (482) of dark grey brown silty clay which contained 74 sherds (1924g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300) and 15 fragments of animal bone.

Pit [481] (Figure 4c; Plate 15-17) was circular in plan, measuring 1.02m in diameter and 0.16m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (480) of mid to dark grey brown silty clay which contained 38 sherds (203g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), seven fragments (890g) of CBM, one Iron nail of Manning Type 1b design and eight fragments of animal bone.

Pit [462] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.61m in diameter and 0.13m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (461) of dark grey brown charcoal rich silty clay, which contained six sherds (45g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), two fragments (74g) of CBM and five fragments of animal bone.

Pit [528] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.52m in diameter and 0.16m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (527) of dark greyish brown charcoal rich silty clay which contained eight fragments (42g) of burnt clay.

Pit [479] (Figure 4c) was located in the eastern part of the site. It was sub oval in plan, measuring 1.1m in length, 0.46m in width and 0.1m in depth with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (478) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (1g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400)

Pit [505] (Figure 4c) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.96m in length, 0.36m in width and 0.22m in depth. It had moderate to steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (504) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (57g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300) and one fragment (105g) of CBM.

## **6.11 CHARCOAL PITS 2, 3 and 4 (Cuts [465], [463], [257])**

- 6.11.1 These pits contained significant amounts of charcoal as well as high quantities of iron slag, potentially a by-product of industry. They all had similar profiles being sub-oval in plan with gentle to moderately sloping sides and concave bases, with charcoal rich fills.
- 6.11.2 The distinctly different function of these pits is put in the spotlight due to their stark contrast to the other pits of the period. The charcoal rich fills contained in these features were of such clear difference that they were immediately set aside as being atypical. It is likely that they were used for small-scale industrial purposes. This activity was more functional and pragmatic - merely making what was required rather than for trade purposes.

### **CHARCOAL PIT 2 (Cut [465])**

Pit [465] (Figure 4c) was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.34m in length, 0.56m in width and 0.35m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and an undulating base. It contained two fills: a basal deposit (467) of dark grey brown/ black charcoal rich clay which contained 24 sherds (236g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), 82 fragments (80.5g) of burnt clay and 16 fragments of animal bone, and an upper deposit (466) of dark grey brown charcoal rich clay which contained 39 sherds (265g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), 43 fragments (28g) of burnt clay (see Haywood, Section 7.4) and 44 fragments of animal bone.

### **CHARCOAL PIT 3 (Cuts [463]=[468])**

Pit [463]=[468] (Figure 4c) was located in the southern part of the site. It was sub-oval in plan, measuring 1.5m in length, 0.66m in width and 0.24m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (464) of mid grey brown silty clay which contained 19 sherds (150g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), one fragment (262g) of tegulae mammatae (see Haywood, Section 7.4), three fragments (1363g) of iron working including 34 fragments of flake hammerscale as well as one fragment of furnace bottom (see Starley, Section 7.6), and one fragment of bone.

### **CHARCOAL PIT 4 (Cut [257])**

Pit [257] (Figure 4c; Plate 20) was located in the southern part of the site. It was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 2.60m in length, 0.58m in width and 0.11m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained three fills: a basal

deposit (262) of mid to dark red clay which contained two fragments of animal bone, a middle deposit (258) of dark brown grey silty clay which contained one sherd of residual Medieval pottery (12th-14th Century), one fragment (6g) of iron working slag (see Starley, Section 7.6) and one fragment of animal bone, and an upper fill (259) of black charcoal rich silt which contained one fragment (3g) of iron working slag (see Starley, Section 7.6).

## **6.12 STRUCTURE 1 (Figure 4c)**

6.12.1 This may form part of a rudimentary barn-like structure, but potentially may just be part of a fenced boundary. Only four posts survive, three of which forming a line with a further post-hole set at 90° to the line of posts at its western end (Figure 4c).

6.12.2 All that survived were the traces of the posts, which were likely to support the weight of a superstructure. No evidence for walls, such as footings, were uncovered. This may indicate the methods by which the structure was constructed- timber beams and associated with ephemeral beamslots which, by and large, do not survive into the archaeological record. The presence of building material in DITCH 1 may attest to the presence of daub lined walls.

### **STRUCTURE 1 (Cuts [490] [439], [443], [441])**

Post-hole [490] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.73m in length, 0.67m in width and 0.12m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (491) of mid orange brown silty clay which contained one sherd (6g) of Roman pottery (AD100-400).

Post-hole [439] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.1m in diameter and 0.06m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (438) of dark grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (10g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300).

Post-hole [443] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.12m in diameter and 0.06m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (442) of dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Post-hole [441] (Figure 4c) was circular in plan, measuring 0.14m in diameter and 0.1m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a

single fill (440) of dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

### **6.13 WATERING HOLE 1 ([321]=[323]=[126])**

6.13.1 One Roman watering hole was present in the central part of the excavation area. This was identified as such on the basis of its distinctive shape in plan, and its general size and depth. The feature was significantly deeper than other pits on the site, which immediately set it aside as having a different function. Indeed the watering hole still managed to perform its primary function- water was still retained following excavation.

6.13.2 Watering holes are often found in conjunction with field boundaries, in particular in the corner of enclosures as is the case with WATERING HOLE 1 (Figure 8). Watering holes consist of a pit, or shaft, with ramped access at one end to allow access to the water held within them. This is in sharp contrast to wells which required water to be drawn out of a pit by the user, hence the examples on the site being termed watering holes.

#### **WATERING HOLE 1 (Cut [321], [126], [323])**

Watering Hole [321] = [126] (Figure 8; Plate 19; Section 127) was located in the central part of the site and truncated Watering Hole [323]. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 2.63m in diameter and 0.54m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained five fills: a basal deposit (569) of mid to dark grey brown silty clay, a slumped deposit (568) of pale grey brown silty clay, fill (429) of mid grey brown silty clay, fill (322) of mid grey blue silty clay which contained 11 sherds (162g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400) and four fragments (697g) of CBM including one fragment of thick combed box flue tile, and an upper fill (428) of mid orange brown clayey silt which contained 25 fragments of animal bone.

Watering Hole [323] (Figure 8; Plate 19) was located in the central part of the site and was truncated by [321]. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.4m in diameter and 0.5m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base contained a single fill (324) of grey brown silty clay which contained 20 sherds (230g) of Roman pottery (AD150-400), two fragments (320g) of CBM and seven fragments of animal bone.

### **6.14 MID-LATE ROMAN (AD200-400)**

6.14.1 The majority of Late Roman features consist of larger pits, including one

watering hole, with only one short segment of ditch identified. This does not mean the farmstead derelict, merely that it utilised the pre-existing boundaries of the preceding period, with augmentations where necessary. Indeed many of the ditches on the site contained mixed assemblages, providing evidence that they were still extant in the landscape in some fashion during this period.

6.14.2 As there is less activity in this period it may be seen that the farmstead was in decline, potentially reflecting a return to the previous subsistence economy. This may be reflective of the loss of income due to the silting up of Car Dyke, meaning produce could not be transported as easily.

6.14.3 It is equally plausible, indeed maybe even more likely, is that the site had become open fields once again, the presence of a watering hole being a telltale indicator. This, again, does not indicate the decline of the settlement more likely merely indicating the fluctuations in settlement foci.

## **6.15 FIELD BOUNDARIES (DITCHES 9, 12)**

6.15.1 It is unlikely that this area was within the settlement 'core' at this time and as a result no buildings are present. The lack of ditches indicates that the site had likely returned to open fields during this period for which boundaries were not pertinent.

### **DITCH 9 (Slot [458])**

DITCH 9 (Figure 4d) was linear in plan, measuring c.3m in length. DITCH 9 was aligned east to west and extended beyond the western limit of excavation. This ditch may form part of an enclosure system with DITCHES 8, 10 and 11 located to the east. It measured 0.47m wide and 0.12m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid yellowish brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this ditch.

### **DITCH 12 (Slots [452], [572], [460])**

DITCH 12 (Figure 4d) was linear in plan, measuring c.9m in length. DITCH 12 was aligned north-east to south-west. It measured between c. 0.64m wide and 0.16m deep (Slot [452]) and 0.57m wide and 0.17m deep (Slot [460]). It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of mid to dark greyish brown silty clay. The ditch contained ten sherds (312g) of Roman pottery

(AD150-400).

## **6.16 MID-LATE ROMAN PITS (Figure 4d)**

- 6.16.1 Sixteen pits were identified which dated to this period (Figure 4d). These formed two main 'clusters', with further non-clustered pits spread across the excavation area. The pits were, on the whole, relatively large despite showing evidence for being heavily truncated. This, when coupled with the finds assemblages, may indicate that they were used primarily for storage.
- 6.16.2 The pits from this period contained more modest assemblages than the preceding period, which likely reflects the general pattern of decline in this period seen on the site. Pits [135] and [353] were the only pits in this period to contain more than a few sherds of pottery containing 24 (105g) and 19 (200g) respectively. The forms present were by and large jars and flagons indicative of storage.
- 6.16.3 Not all the pits contained dating evidence but were assigned to this period due to shared morphologies as well as spatial and stratigraphic relationships to features of known date.

MID-LATE ROMAN PITS (Cuts [369], [379], [170], [172], [415], [327], [426], [325], [263], [329], [281], [531], [353]=[140], [355]=[135], [357]=[142], [363])  
Pit [369] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.97m long, 0.63m wide and 0.22m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (370) of mid orange brown clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [379] (Figure 4d) was sub-ovular in plan, measuring 1.06m long, 1.15m wide and 0.28m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (380) of mid grey brown clay which contained two sherds (273g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400).

Pit [170] (Figure 4d) was circular in plan, measuring 0.8m long by 0.75m wide and 0.14m in depth. It had moderately-sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (169) which contained two sherds (2g) Roman pottery (AD200-400) and 247 fragments of animal bone which included the only example of butchery marks on the site (see Rielly, Section 7.7).



Pit [415] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.24m in length, 0.6m+ in width and 0.16m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (416) of mid to dark orange-brown silty clay which contained one sherd (11g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400).

Pit [327] (Figure 4d) was sub-ovular in plan, measuring 1.27m long, 1.25m wide and 0.28m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (328) of mid grey brown sandy silt which contained four sherds (132g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400), two fragments (64g) of CBM (see Haywood, Section 7.4) and one fragment of animal bone.

Pit [426] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.89m in diameter and 0.24m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (427) of mid orange-brown silty clay which contained one sherd (118g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400).

Pit [325] (Figure 4d) was sub-ovular in plan, measuring 1.25m long, 1.22m wide and 0.20m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (326) of mid grey brown sandy silt which contained 48 sherds (1849g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400), four fragments (411g) of CBM (see Haywood, Section 7.4) and one fragment of animal bone.

Pit [281] (Figure 4d) was sub-ovular in plan, measuring 0.74m long, 0.75m wide and 0.06m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (282) of mid orange brown silty clay which contained ten sherds (246g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400) and one fragment (82g) of CBM (see Haywood, Section 7.4).

Pit [531] (Figure 4d) was circular in plan, measuring 1.08m in length, 0.99m in width and 0.25m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (532) of pale orangey brown silty clay which contained nine fragments of animal bone.

Pit [353]=[140] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.06m in length, 1.02m in width and 0.19m in depth. It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. It contained two fills, a basal deposit (364) of mid-pale grey brown silty clay, and an upper deposit (352) of mid-dark grey brown silty clay which contained 19 sherds (200g) of Roman pottery (AD200-300), seven fragments (162g) of CBM, one strip of copper alloy (SF.101) and two fragments of animal bone.

Pit [355]=[135] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.62m in length, 0.35m in width and 0.11m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (354) of pale grey yellow sandy clay which contained which contained one sherd (85g) of Roman pottery (AD150-300), two fragments (7g) of CBM (see Haywood, Section 7.4) and three fragments of animal bone.

Pit [135]=[355] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan measuring 1.35m in length, 1.0m in width and was 0.15m in depth. It had gradually-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (134) of dark greyish brown silty clay which contained 24 sherds (105g) Roman pottery (AD150-300). It was truncated by Posthole [142].

Pit [357]=[142] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.61m in length, 0.54m in width and 0.11m in depth. It had moderately to gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (356) of mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit [363] (Figure 4d) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.37m in length, 0.22m in width and 0.07m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (362) of dark grey brown silty clay which contained one sherd (91g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400).

## **6.17 CHARCOAL PIT 1 (Cuts [218]=[498]=[210])**

6.17.1 One charcoal pit was identified on the site which dated to this period. This was morphologically distinct to the rest of the pits of this period. It contained an extremely charcoal rich deposit, largely devoid of finds. As with the other charcoal pits it was sub-rectangular/oval in plan with a wide, shallow profile.

6.17.2 The fact that this feature was of such stark contrast to the other pits of this date clearly indicates that it was used for a different function. The charcoal rich fill suggests that it was likely used for small-scale industrial purposes. This industrial activity was probably more functional and pragmatic - merely making what was required rather than for larger-scale trade purposes.

### **CHARCOAL PIT 1 (Cuts [218]=[498]=[210])**

Pit [218]=[498]=[210] (Figure 4d) was located in the western part of the site. It was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 2.85m in length 0.80m in width and 0.15m in depth. It had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (219)=(499)=(211) of very dark grey brown/ black charcoal rich sandy silt which

contained four sherds (14g) of Roman pottery (AD100-300) one sherd (38.5g) of intrusive Middle Saxon pottery (AD650-875).

## **6.18 WATERING HOLE 2 ([390], [392])**

6.18.1 One watering hole was present, dating to this period, in the southern-central part of the excavation area. As with WATERING HOLE 1 it was identified as such on the basis of its distinctively different shape in plan, size, vertical sides and depth. It was significantly deeper than other pits in the vicinity; thus immediately being flagged up as having a differing function. In the same way as WATERING HOLE 1 the watering hole still managed to retain water following its excavation.

6.18.2 The watering hole contained the largest pottery assemblage of this period containing 249 sherds (3810g). The sherds were less abraded than most recovered from the site, suggesting that they were deposited within a short time period. The pottery recovered indicates a domestic function, with sherds of Baetican Dressel 20 amphora as well as other amphorae and storage jars represented (see Anderson, Section 7.2). This assemblage implies proximity to contemporary settlement.

### **WATERING HOLE 2 (Cuts [390] and [392])**

Pit [390] (Figure 9; Plate 21-22; Section 117) was located in the south-central part of the site. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 2.70m in diameter and 1.02m in depth. It had steep sides and a concave base with a shaft located in its western end. It contained six fills: a slump (570) of mottled orange brown sandy gravel, a basal deposit (389) of mid grey blue mottled with orange-brown clay which contained 14 sherds (221g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400) and 36 fragments of animal bone. The next fill (395) consisted of orange grey sandy clay and was overlain by fill (388) of mottled pale grey with orange brown clay which contained 95 sherds (1439g) of Roman pottery (AD240-400) and 30 fragments of animal bone. Fill (387) of dark grey silty clay contained 100 sherds (1323g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400), four fragments (1816g) of CBM as well as fragments of a whetstone and a quernstone (see Haywood, Section 7.4) and 90 fragments of animal bone. The upper fill (386) consisted of mottled grey/orange-yellow silty clay which contained 40 sherds (827g) of Roman pottery (AD200-400) including one sherd of Baetican amphor, one quernstone fragment (1417g) (see Haywood, Section 7.4),

15 fragments of animal bone and one cockle shell (5g).

Pit [392] (Figure 9; Plate 21-22) was located in the south-western part of the site, and was truncated by Pit [390]. It was likely created to allow easier access to the water contained in the main watering hole [390] but fell out of use before the main watering hole had become silted up. It was circular in plan, measuring 0.50m in diameter and 0.20m in depth. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (391) of mid grey brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.

## **6.19 MODERN (AD1900-2000)**

6.19.1 Three ditches of clear modern date were identified in the north-western part of the excavation. These ran parallel to one another as well as the modern road. Finds of modern brick and ceramic were recovered from these features, their presence was recorded but they were not retained.

### **DITCHES 15, 16, 17**

#### **DITCH 15 (Slot [202], [206])**

DITCH 15 (Figure 3) was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west. It measured c. 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately sloped sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey brown silty clay. Finds of clear modern date were recovered from this feature but not retained

#### **DITCH 16 (Slot [200])**

DITCH 16 (Figure 3) was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 1.23m wide and 0.21m deep with moderately sloped sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey brown silty clay. Finds of clear modern date were recovered from this feature but not retained.

#### **DITCH 17 (Slot [204])**

DITCH 17 (Figure 3) was linear in plan, aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 0.95m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately sloped sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey brown silty clay. Finds of clear modern date were recovered from this feature but not retained.

## **7 THE FINDS**

### **7.1 Lithics**

**By Barry Bishop**

7.1.1 Only one struck flint was recovered from the site. This was recovered from context [215] a systematically produced blade of opaque dark brown flint that is in a good condition and which dates to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods.

7.1.2 No further work is required.

### **7.2 Roman Pottery**

**By Katie Anderson**

Introduction

7.2.1 The excavations at Paston Reserve produced an assemblage of Roman pottery totalling 1734 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 21011g and representing 26.97 EVEs (estimated vessel equivalent) and a minimum of 110 vessels (MNV). 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 Chronology

7.2.2 The pottery suggests activity from the early to the later Roman period, albeit in varying quantities, however it is unclear as to whether this represents continuous activity or not. The pattern suggested by the ceramics indicated a sharp rise in activity from the early Roman period (11.4% of the assemblage by sherd count) to the middle Roman period (41.5%), with the ceramics suggesting that the site peaked between the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. There was then a decline in activity in the late Roman period (16.4%). It is noteworthy that much of the material comprised locally made sandy, body sherds which could only be broadly dated as 'Romano-British', which accounted for 30.7% of the assemblage and this may therefore mask some more subtle patterns in ceramic chronology.

Phase	No.	Wt(g)
Early Roman	198	619
Middle Roman	720	8311
Mid-Late Roman	284	7059
Romano-British	532	5022
TOTAL	1734	21011

Table 2: Roman pottery quantification by phase

#### Assemblage Composition

- 7.2.3 The Roman pottery generally comprised small to medium-sized sherds with much fewer larger sherds identified, reflected by the relatively low mean weight of 12.1g. The overall level of abrasion was high and the level of fragmentation was fairly high, with a limited number of sherds which could be refitted, most of which were inter-context refits. That said, there was one vessel with sherds spread across three fills within WATERING HOLE 2 (387), (388) and (389) [390] as well as a cross feature refit between DITCH [299]/ (298) and Pit [297]/(296), although in the case of the latter, the pit cut the ditch, thus the presence of refitting sherds is a result of the truncation.
- 7.2.4 A variety of fabrics were identified in varying quantities (see Table 2). The composition of the assemblage in terms of fabrics was typical of a rural site, dominated by coarseware fabrics which represented 92.9% of all pottery by sherd count. Of these, sandy greywares were the most commonly occurring, representing 41.4% of the total assemblage by count. This included coarseware and fineware variants as well as those with or without mica. Shell-tempered wares were also well represented, totalling 30.4% of the Roman assemblage (504 sherds, 9191g). Although the exact source of the shell-tempered wares is uncertain, it is likely that these wares were made locally to the site.
- 7.2.5 The majority of the coarsewares could not be sourced; however it is likely that most of the coarsewares were made within the local area; particularly likely with the shell-tempered wares. Within the sourced coarsewares category, Nene Valley wares were the most frequent, totalling 274 sherds weighing 4114g, comprising greyware and whiteware varieties. The

frequency of Nene Valley products is not surprising given the sites relative close proximity to production sites, approximately 11km to the southwest, thus these products should be viewed as local wares.

Fabric Code	Fabric	No.	Wt (g)	MNV	EVE
AMPH	Amphora (unsourced)	1	62	1	0.1
BAET	Baetican amphora	2	185	0	0
BLKSL	Black-slipped ware (unsourced)	14	44	1	0.3
BUFF	Buff sandy ware (unsourced)	17	85	0	1
CC	Colour-coat (unsourced)	11	51	1	1
CSBLK	Coarse sandy black-slipped ware (unsourced)	30	287	0	0
CSGW	Coarse sandy greyware (unsourced)	373	3103	22	4.52
CSMGW	Coarse sandy micaceous greyware (unsourced)	2	16	1	0.09
CSOX	Coarse sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	171	879	1	1.12
CSRDU	Coarse sandy reduced ware (unsourced)	50	827	1	0.35
FSBLK	Fine sandy black-slipped (unsourced)	9	25	1	0
FSGW	Fine sandy greyware	108	930	12	2.01
FSMBLK	Fine sandy micaceous black-slipped ware (unsourced)	9	18	1	0
FSOX	Fine sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	20	211	4	0
FSRDU	Fine sandy reduced ware (unsourced)	12	19	0	0
GROG	Grog-tempered ware	21	207	1	0.2
NVCC	Nene Valley Colour Coat	25	154	1	0
NVCW	Nene Valley cream ware	4	251	0	1
NVGW	Nene Valley greyware	235	2337	24	6.95
NVSC	Nene Valley self-coloured ware	1	10	1	0.07
NVWW	Nene Valley whiteware	39	1777	3	1.62
OXFRS	Oxfordshire red-slipped ware	8	42	1	0.15
SAM	Samian (unsourced)	3	2	0	0
SAMCG	Samian Central Gaulish	1	31	0	0.14
SAMEG	Samian East Gaulish	15	113	3	0.35
SAMSG	Samian South Gaulish	2	2	1	0
SHELL	Shell-tempered ware	504	9024	28	5.23
SHELL BS	Shell-tempered ware - black-slipped	23	167	1	0.32
WW	Whiteware (unsourced)	24	152	0	0.45

Table 3: Roman fabric quantification

7.2.6 Romano-British finewares accounted for a further 5.7% of the assemblage, totalling 99 sherds, weighing 781g. Unsurprisingly, most common were the

Nene Valley finewares, with the colour-coated variety being the most common, totalling 25 sherds weighing 154g, with a further four Nene Valley cream ware sherds and one Nene Valley self-coloured ware. Eight Oxfordshire red-slipped wares were also recovered, dating to the later Roman period (AD240-400) The remaining finewares were unsourced and included 11 unsourced colour-coated sherds, 20 fine sandy oxidised wares, 12 fine sandy reduced wares and nine fine sandy black-slipped wares and a further nine micaceous black-slipped wares.

7.2.7 The remaining 1.4% of the assemblage comprised imported wares, totalling 24 sherds weighing 395g. This comprised 21 samian sherds (148g), with all three production centres represented, although vessels from the east Gaulish kilns were the most commonly occurring, totalling 15 sherds weighing 113g. This included three Dragendorff (Dr) 31 dishes, and one Dr30 bowl. One further central Gaulish Dr31 dish was also recovered, along with two sherds from a south Gaulish Dr27 cup. There were also three amphora sherds, two of which were unsourced and one Spanish Baetican amphora sherd from a Dressel 20.

7.2.8 The range of fabrics identified within this assemblage is typical of a Roman rural settlement; dominated by coarsewares, with much smaller quantities of Romano-British finewares and imported wares. The vast majority of wares deriving from the local area, with Nene Valley products particularly well represented, which is not unexpected given the location of the site and the date at which it peaked. It is noteworthy that Nene Valley greywares greatly outnumbered the colour-coated variants, which may be a reflection of the sites relative status/wealth/function, a view further supported by the limited number of finewares and imported wares in the assemblage as a whole.

7.2.9 Unsourced sandy wares were the most common fabric group, although self-tempered wares were a significant component of the pottery assemblage and are likely to have derived from the local area. A small quantity of vessels had come from outside of the local area, including pottery from Oxfordshire, as well as a very small number of sherds from Gaul and Spain.



7.2.10 A minimum of 110 different vessels were identified (MNV). The most frequently occurring vessel forms were jars (Table 3), with a minimum of 64 different vessels identified. These occurred in a range of sizes, from small vessels (rim diameters of 10cm) to very large storage jars, the largest of which was a shell-tempered storage vessel with a rim measuring 44cm in diameter. The average jar was medium-sized, measuring 20cm in diameter. The range of vessel sizes reflects a variety of different functions including cooking and storage. Ten percent of the jars were decorated with tooled lines on the shoulder being the most commonly used technique, as well as one rouletted vessel (346) and one with fingernail decoration on the shoulder (208).

7.2.11 All other vessel forms occurred in much smaller quantities than jars. A minimum of 13 dishes were identified (36 sherds, 473g, 1.62 EVEs), most of which were fineware vessels. This included four Samian Dr31s, one Nene Valley colour-coat, one Nene Valley self-coloured ware and one Oxfordshire red-slipped ware. There were also two Nene Valley greyware varieties and two other coarse sandy greyware dishes. Beaded rim and plain rim with external grooved rims were the most common dish types (excluding Dr31s).

7.2.12 Beakers were moderately well represented, with a minimum of 11 vessels representing 110 sherds weighing 619g. This included a semi-complete Nene Valley greyware beaker with an everted rim (SF100)/(335). There were also several colour-coated beakers including one vessel with white painted decoration (398) and one with roughcast decoration (486).

Form	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
Amphora	3	247	1	0.1
Beaker	110	619	11	3.82
Bowl	115	2138	7	1.25
Closed form	478	3141	1	3.45
Cup	2	2	1	0
Dish	36	473	13	1.62
Flagon	26	228	2	1.8
Jar	390	9591	64	11.93
Lid	4	56	3	0.32

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Mortaria	19	1609	1	0.72
Open form	8	123	0	0.45
Platter	1	36	1	0.16
Unknown	542	2748	5	1.35

Table 4: Quantification of Roman pottery by vessel form

- 7.2.13 115 sherds (2138g) representing a minimum of seven bowls were recorded. This included three large/very large shell-tempered flanged bowls, one of which had a rim diameter of 50cm and one with a 46cm diameter.
- 7.2.14 Other vessel forms identified included (by MNV) three lids, two flagons, and single examples of a mortarium, cup and amphora, the latter likely to have derived from Dressel 20 vessels used for the transportation of olive oil.
- 7.2.15 There was very little usewear evidence noted within the assemblage, which abrasion aside, comprised one vessel with interior timescale (319), one with interior pitting indicative of holding an acidic substance (484), as well as three vessels with post-breakage usewear consisting of two sherds with burning/sooting on the breaks (386) and (540) and one trimmed base from a shell-tempered jar (323).
- 7.2.16 Overall the assemblage is indicative of a domestic assemblage, with a range of vessels for the storage, preparation and serving of foodstuffs, with the forms and fabrics indicative of a fairly low status site.

#### Contextual Analysis

- 7.2.17 Roman pottery was collected from 96 different contexts, equating to 83 cuts. Of these, 80 contexts contained small pottery assemblages (1-30 sherds), 13 features contained medium sized assemblages (31-99 sherds) while three contexts contained large assemblages, in excess of 100 sherds.
- 7.2.18 Pottery was collected from three feature types; pits (including watering holes), accounting for 909 sherds (13267g), ditches totalling 812 sherds (7622g) and postholes, which contained a total of eight sherds (52g). The remaining five sherds (70g) of pottery were unstratified.

Group	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE	Phase
Surface Find (Misc)	5	70	0	0	n/a
CHARCOAL PIT 1	3	8	0	0	Later Roman
Ditches (Misc)	2	2	0	0	n/a
DITCH 1	183	1370	14	2.94	Romano-British
DITCH 10	76	522	4	0.42	Early Roman
DITCH 11	3	42	1	0	Early Roman
DITCH 12	10	312	2	0.12	Later Roman
DITCH 14	1	1	0	0	Romano-British
DITCH 2	2	13	0	0	Middle Roman
DITCH 3	115	454	0	1.5	Middle Roman
DITCH 4	32	193	2	0.1	Early Roman
DITCH 7	384	4619	21	3.78	Middle Roman
DITCH 8	4	94	0	0	Early Roman
Pits (Misc)	626	9057	43	11.86	n/a
Postholes (Misc)	8	52	1	0.45	n/a
WATERING HOLE 1	31	392	1	1.2	Middle Roman
WATERING HOLE 2	249	3810	21	4.6	Later Roman

Table 5: Roman pottery quantification by feature group

7.2.19 DITCH 7 contained the largest quantity of material, totalling 384 sherds weighing 4619g and representing 3.78 EVES and a minimum of 21 vessels. The pottery was collected from six fills across five interventions. The bulk of the pottery was middle-late Roman in date (AD150-400), although there were some earlier sherds, which are likely to be residual. Vessels of note include a very large shell-tempered flanged bowl (208)/[209] and a Nene Valley greyware platter (556)/[557]. Overall the pottery from this feature was indicative of material that had been left on the surface for a period of time before being deposited, or else may have been redeposited from elsewhere, due to the condition of the pottery and reflected in the low mean weight of 12g. However, the quantity of material recovered from this feature implies that it would have been located close to the settlement/domestic area of site.

7.2.20 WATERING HOLE 2 contained a total of 249 sherds weighing 3810g and representing a minimum of 21 vessels and 4.60 EVEs. The pottery was

somewhat 'fresher' than that from the ditches, which is reflected in the higher than average mean weight of 15.3g. Material was recovered from four of the six fills in varying quantities. Upper fill (386) contained 40 sherds (827g) dating to the later Roman period AD200-400. This included the rim from a large, shell-tempered jar and two sherds from a Baetican Dressel 20 amphora. Below (386) was fill (387) which contained the largest quantity of pottery in terms of sherd count, with a total of 100 sherds weighing 1323g, which included rims from two different shell-tempered storage jars, dating AD200-400. Fill (388) contained 95 sherds (1439g) which included eight sherds (42g) from an Oxfordshire red-slipped ware dish, dating this context to AD240-400. Finally 14 sherds (221g) were recovered from (389), including an unsourced amphora sherd. There was nothing to distinguish the pottery from the different fills in terms of date, which suggests that the material had been deposited within a relatively short period of time. It is also possible that the pottery had been redeposited from elsewhere, evidenced by the presence of refitting sherds from different contexts within the watering hole. Sherds from medium-sized shell-tempered beaded rim jar were recovered from (387) and (388), while refitting sherds from a sandy greyware closed vessel were collected from fills (388) and (389).

- 7.2.21 One of the earliest assemblages on the site derived from Pit [344], which contained 37 sherds, weighing 309g. This included 29 sherds (285g) from a closed coarse sandy black ware dating AD50-100. The other exclusively early Roman assemblages contained only small quantities of pottery, for example Pit [227] contained a single early Roman whiteware sherd, while [263] contained seven grog-tempered sherds and Pit [376] which contained a single grog-tempered sherd. This therefore implies that activity in the early Roman period was not as intensive as in the middle Roman period.

#### Discussion

- 7.2.22 The pottery assemblage recovered from Paston indicates that the site was in use from the early to the later Roman period, with a peak in activity seemingly in the mid-later Roman period (AD150-300). The pottery suggests that there was no obvious hiatus in activity, although the quantity of material

recovered is also not indicative of continuous activity for 300+ years.

7.2.23 The range of vessel forms suggests domestic based activity, with wares used for the storage, production and consumption of foodstuffs. The usewear evidence was limited but does support this view.

7.2.24 The fabrics present in the assemblage are indicative of a rural, domestic settlement, with the majority of the wares coming from the local area and the assemblage dominated by coarsewares, with the Nene Valley kilns the major supplier. It is of note that the number of Nene Valley greywares greatly exceeds the colour-coated products, which may reflect the relative status/wealth and/or function of the site. There were a small number of sherds from production sites outside of the immediate local area, including imported wares, which imply that the site did have the means to acquire pots from non-local suppliers. However, these appear to represent a very small number of vessels and were a rarity within the assemblage, although the site does fit a typical pattern for Cambridgeshire, where sites commonly contained fewer than 5% imported wares. This figure is even lower for sites peaking in the later Roman period, when the number of imported wares in Britain as a whole decreased.

7.2.25 Overall, the impression of the site as indicated by the pottery assemblage is of a fairly low status, small scale site with a domestic function.

#### Recommendations for Further Work

7.2.26 All of the pottery has been fully recorded and does not require further analysis. However, it is recommended that at least four vessels are illustrated for publication, based on forms and/or decoration.

7.2.27 The pottery from the evaluation stage of work should be fully incorporated with this assemblage.

7.2.28 Finally the pottery should be considered in its wider regional context, with more detailed comparisons made between this assemblage and other contemporary sites within the local area.

## **7.3 Post Roman Pottery**

**By Clare Jackson**

- 7.3.1 A small assemblage of post-Roman pottery was recovered from the excavation and evaluation, amounting to three sherds, weighing a total of 40.5g. These varied in date from Middle Saxon through to post-medieval. These were examined under x20 magnification to aid identification.
- 7.3.2 One sherd (1g) of Scarborough-Type ware was recovered from feature [257]. The pot is internally and externally glazed with a copper green glaze and dates from the mid-12th to the late 14th century.
- 7.3.3 A single (1g) of post medieval pottery dating from the mid-17th to the mid-18th century was found within feature [200].
- 7.3.4 One sherd (38.5g) of Middle Saxon pottery (650-875 AD) was recovered from feature [498]. This consisted of a simple upright rim and neck from a possible bowl, 14cm in diameter. It was of black fabric with mostly fine quartz inclusions. It had a slightly smoothed surfaces and showed evidence of slight burnishing to the inside rim. The sherd had a black internal surface, with the external surface ranging from dull orange-brown to brown.
- 7.3.5 No further work is required.

## **7.4 Ceramic Building Material and Stone**

**By Kevin Haywood**

Introduction

- 7.4.1 Ceramic building material and stone from the Paston Reserve excavation and evaluation was assessed in order to:
- 1) Identify the form and fabric of the stone, ceramic building material and any mortar in order to determine whether it was Roman, medieval or post medieval in date.
  - 2) Identify the fabric of the unworked and worked stone in order to determine what the material was made of and from where it was coming from.
  - 3) Provide a list of spot dates.

4) Database buildingmatpastonreserve.mdb accompanies this document.

5) Make recommendations for further study.

### Methodology

7.4.2 The application of a 1kg masons hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10).

7.4.3 As there was no Peterborough ceramic building material or stone fabric reference collection housed at PCA, consultation of the relevant 1:50000 geological maps for this area sheet 158 (Peterborough) and memoir (Horton 1989) provided the local geological background. Where the stone fabric matched with the Museum of London series, it was designated the appropriate MoL 4 digit code. However, where the stone fabric had no exact match, the fabric was prefixed by PET and a number thus PET1.

### Local Resources

7.4.4 The underlying bedrock is dominated locally by Upper Jurassic Oxford Clay and to a lesser extent slightly older Kellaway sands and clays (Horton 1989; BGS Sheet 158). The former are one of the major sources of brickwork clay. Within a 5km radius of the site, some of the Upper Jurassic (Cornbrash) and Middle Jurassic (Blisworth Limestone; Lincolnshire Limestone) carbonates have provided sources of stone suitable for rubble and dimension stone respectively. The site also lies close to the major Roman canal; The Car Dyke. Sources of Carrstone, an orange ferruginous sandstone from the Greensand does outcrop in Cambridgeshire but lies somewhat further away. This artificial waterway connects the site and much of this region to outcrops of older harder stone further north such as Millstone Grit from the Upper Carboniferous (Namurian) of South Yorkshire.

### Ceramic Building Material

7.4.5 58 examples, weighing 4.9kg, were recovered from the site. Of these 57 were recovered from Roman contexts.

#### Distribution and Condition

- 7.4.6 With the exception of a single Victorian wall tile (see below), all the ceramic building material consisted of abraded Roman tile or brick. All was in a highly degraded, fragmentary and abraded state with only the occasional profile. This severely limited any detailed appraisal by form. Nevertheless, some general comments can be made.

#### Fabrics

- 7.4.7 The Roman fabrics identified (prefixed by PET) are listed below:

PET 1- Very fine silty red iron oxide fabric, dispersed burnt grey flint 5mm across, flecks of white calc or shell associated with fine moulding sand and sometimes organic. Void or vuggy interior.

PET 2- as PET1 but with a very thick reduced core.

PET 3- Fine pale grey-green fabric with red ironshot inclusions.

- 7.4.8 PET 1 and PET 2 are probably from the same source of clay, different degrees of firing have resulted in PET 2 having a reduced core. They completely dominate the assemblage. There is only a tiny fragment (50g) of the pale grey-green fabric, from a very different source of clay PET 3 from pit fill [461].

#### Brick

- 7.4.9 18 examples (2067g) of Roman brick were recovered from the site.
- 7.4.10 Most of the surviving Roman brick clusters in pit fills (420), (480), (484), (486). These conform by thickness to small bessalis sized bricks and may represent pilae stacks or lacing courses within a masonry wall. Most is in a highly fragmentary and abraded condition and any mortar or opus signinum that had been present has now been removed.

#### Roofing Material

- 7.4.11 A feature of the site is the complete absence of curved imbrex roofing elements. This may suggest that preferential recycling or stockpiling of flatter elements (brick and tile) suitable for foundation material may have been



taking place.

#### Tegulae

7.4.12 5 examples (484g) of Tegulae were recovered from the site.

7.4.13 The small number of abraded flanged tegulae elements all comes from [326] and [340]. The example from [326] has the common, flat top and sloping inward face flange profile 2.

#### Roman Tile

7.4.14 32 examples (1866g) of Roman Tile were recovered from the site.

7.4.15 A further indication of the fragmentary and abraded nature of the assemblage is the large quantity of broken up tile fragments throughout the assemblage (38% by weight). Many would have come from tegulae. The fact that so few flanges are present may indicate preferential stockpiling and reuse of only the flatter elements.

#### Cavity Walling

7.4.16 Two items that are indicative of the construction underfloor heating are a tegulae mammatae fragment from (463) and a thick combed box flue tile from pit fills (322) and (463). The item of tegulae mammatae consists of a small brick with a large flat discoid mammae or lump of circular clay 45mm across and may have been affixed as a wall tile with hot air circulating between the mammae and wall side. Wall jacketing of a different kind was present in the thick (29mm) box flue tile fragment with curved medium combing which would have had mortar affixed to it.

#### Daub

7.4.17 3 examples 22g were recovered from the fill of ditch [271] and ditch [346]. These are small chunks of orange brown daub which attest to the presence of probable Romano-British timber framed wattle and daub housing.

#### Post Medieval

7.4.18 There was no early post medieval material, just a single white glazed encaustic wall tile from the fill of a modern ditch [207] that is certainly

Victorian-Edwardian in date.

Stone

7.4.19 5 examples (3.2kg) were recovered from the site.

7.4.20 A review of four rock types, their geological character, source and probable function/ form are summarised below (Table 5).

MoL fabric code	Description	Geological Type and source	Use at PCCHER54076
3108	Fine laminated glauconitic sandstone	Greensand source undetermined probably local or York stone Elland Flags (Carboniferous) South Yorkshire	Large 1.5kg Rubstone or saddle quern from fill of watering hole or pit [386]
3111	Fine compact red ferruginous sandstone	Carstone (Greensand)	1.5kg Pestle and rubblestone from fill of watering hole or pit [387]
3117	Hard, fine dark grey-black siliceous sediment breaks with a conchoidal fracture	Flint, Upper Chalk, Upper Cretaceous, Cambridgeshire	Small Design Tessara from fill of cremation pit [343]
3130	Pale cream sugary open textured coarse quartz arenite (sandstone) to gritstone	Millstone Grit Upper Carboniferous (Namurian) South Yorkshire –	Whetstone small with knife marks from from fill of watering hole or pit [387]

Table 6: Description of the stone assemblage

Quern, Pestle and Whetstone

7.4.21 The use of stone for a specific purpose often requires material being brought in from further afield. A case in point is the whetstone (possibly reused from quern), made from Millstone grit from South Yorkshire and Derbyshire from the fill of a watering hole or pit [387]. The proximity of the Car Dyke no doubt had an impact on the transportation of this material, as did the pestle and rubblestone (saddle quern) from the fill of the same watering hole or pit [387].

Tessarae

7.4.22 A small design tesserae made from tabular flint was identified from the fill of the Pit [343], which may, like the box flue tile and the tegulae mammatae, attest to the presence of a high status building somewhere in the vicinity.

7.4.23 No further work is required.

## 7.5 Small Finds and Metalwork By Ruth Beveridge

### Introduction

7.5.1 The assemblage recovered from the evaluation and excavation at Paston Reserve is made up of fifteen objects of metalwork, glass, and stone materials. In addition, thirty-four pieces of magnetic residue were recovered from the non-floating residue of sample <42>. They are listed by material and date in Table 6. Of this total, seven are nails. The objects were collected from fourteen contexts, predominantly from the fills of pits and ditches; two objects are unstratified.

7.5.2 The finds have been recorded below and a full listing is provided in the catalogue (Appendix 4). They have been examined with the aid of low magnification, but without the assistance of radiographs.

Material:	Copper alloy	Iron	Glass	Stone	Magnetic residue
Period:					
Roman	1	2	4	1	
Post Medieval	1	-	-	-	
Uncertain Date	1	5	-	-	34
Totals:	3	7	4	1	34

Table 7: Small finds by type and date

### Condition

7.5.3 The overall condition of the objects is fair with the glass vessel fragments being stable; corrosion is apparent on the metalwork.

### Roman

### Glass

7.5.4 Four pieces of Roman glass were recovered from the site; including fragments of window and vessel glass, most noticeably a piece of decorated vessel glass that is potentially imported. Overall, the glass is lightly tinted and full of bubbles, characteristic of mid-fourth century glass (Cool and Price, 1995, 218).

A fragment of mid-green, bubbly vessel glass was retrieved from fill (116) of pit [117]. It is roughly triangular in plan and curved in profile. The outer surface is decorated with two horizontal trails of cobalt blue glass, pinched together in a spectacle pattern. Such decoration occurs throughout the Roman period, but is most frequently found in the later part (Cool and Price, 1994, 176). It is therefore possible that this is a piece from a vessel such as those found between AD 300 - 350 and compares in form, though not colour, to a fragment from Colchester and illustrated in Cool and Price, 1994, 177, fig. 10.5, no. 1733.

SF 102 was retrieved from fill (507) of pit [506]. This was a fragment of the neck of a natural blue, bubbly glass vessel. The fragment is curved in profile with the straight neck expanding into the rim. The neck is an estimated 17mm in diameter externally. May be part of a funnel necked vessel.

A fragment from the base of a bottle was retrieved from the topsoil (100), it is therefore unstratified. It is a natural green colour, with fewer bubbles. The base is curved and flat, thus the bottle would be cylindrical. The vessel walls measure 7mm thick. Cylindrical bottles were widely used in the mid-fourth century AD (Cool and Price, 1994, 219).

The piece of glass from fill (455) of ditch [456] is blue tinged with a flat-matt

lower surface and a glossy upper surface, indicative of being cast, probably within a stone mould and as such could date to between the 1st and 2nd century AD (Charlesworth, 2004, 130). It is likely a shard from a square or rectangular sheet of glass of varying thickness. Such sheets would have functioned as window panes.

#### Stone

7.5.5 A single stone object was recovered from the excavation.

SF 103, fill (343) of pit [344]. It is a cuboid tessera. It is lozenge shaped in plan and square in section. It is a buff coloured stone with most of the surfaces being smooth and polished through wear. Tesserae are usually associated with the presence of

nearby mosaic floors, however, the presence of a single tessera is unusual and of note. It would be anticipated that the disturbance of a tessellated floor within the vicinity of the site would generate the discovery of larger numbers of tessellated pieces. It is possible that this single piece may have been reused, perhaps as a gaming counter, a context in which wear through handling might account for the polished appearance of the object.

#### Copper Alloy

- 7.5.6 Three copper alloy objects were recovered from the site; of the three retrieved only SF 101 appears to be of Roman date.

SF 101 was retrieved from fill (352) of pit [353] and was an elongate strip of sheet copper alloy, of medium gauge. It is folded into a narrow U-shaped section, with both edges meeting. It may have been binding to protect the edge of an object. Similar strips of binding were recovered in Colchester, Crummy, 1983, 122, fig.133, nos 4111 to 4117.

#### Iron

- 7.5.7 Seven iron objects, or fragments of, were recovered from the excavation. Many of the objects were obscured by corrosion products and the entire assemblage may benefit from undergoing x-radiography in order to confirm identification and preserve a record of the object for the archive. All seven objects have been provisionally identified as nails.
- 7.5.8 In addition, thirty-four pieces of magnetic residue were retrieved from the fill of pit [481]. It is possible they are the by-product of secondary smithing activities.

Whilst nails are usually difficult to date, having altered little over time, five of the nails recovered here are from features are of Roman date. The nail from ditch [178] and the nail from pit [481] are Manning Type 1B nails (Manning, 1985, fig. 32, 133). The small diameter of the heads suggests that they were used for joined objects of furniture or boxes; neither had diameters above 20mm, more indicative of nails utilised for structural timbers. The nails were recovered across the site from the fills of pits and ditches.

#### Post Medieval

#### Copper Alloy

SF 1 was recovered from the subsoil (101), Trench 35. This was a complete, discoidal object, worn on both faces. It is possibly a halfpenny coin of either George II or George III.

#### Uncertain Date

#### Copper Alloy

Fill (118) of ditch [119], Trench 34. Cast copper alloy ingot, rectangular in plan, slightly curved; trapezoidal in section. It has a weight of 49g. The base is flat and there are ovoid shaped mouldings on the exterior of the inner long edge. Possibly an ingot of Roman to Medieval date.

#### Discussion

- 7.5.9 The small finds assemblage has been fully recorded. The objects recovered appear to reflect a low level of Roman activity scattered across the site over a long period of time, primarily in the form of casual loss or accumulation of debris.
- 7.5.10 The copper alloy ingot may be an indication of the re-use of resources either during the Roman or later periods. It was not found in association with pottery that could aid its dating.
- 7.5.11 The post-medieval coin, found in the subsoil, is likely to be intrusive as the result of a later casual loss.
- 7.5.12 Overall the small finds assemblage has the potential to add further to the interpretation of general occupation activities on the site during the Roman period. There is no evidence for medieval or later occupation.

#### Recommendations

- 7.5.13 All of the ironwork and the copper alloy binding should be x-rayed. This will confirm identification of the objects as well as preserving a record of each item for the archive.
- 7.5.14 The small finds results should be integrated with the site phasing, compared to similar assemblages locally and included in future publications.

7.5.15 The following objects should be photographed to preserve a record for the archive and as illustration for future publication: SF 101 binding, SF 103 tessera and the piece of decorated glass from Pit [117].

## 7.6 Slag

**By David Starley**

### Summary

7.6.1 The examination of 13kg of industrial debris from excavations at Paston Reserve, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire (NGR TF 1979 0298) produced evidence for both iron smelting and iron smithing. The association between the two activities and with the occupation of the small Roman farmstead on the site is not clear.

### Methodology

7.6.2 The full 13kg of metalworking debris, including bulk finds and material extracted from soil samples, was visually examined during this assessment. This material was classified into the standard categories used by the specialist, based on those developed by the former English Heritage Ancient Monuments Laboratory. Visual observation of the exterior was backed up, where necessary, by examination under low magnification, the use of a geological streak plate and a magnet. A summary of these findings, based on the categories and divided by activity group is presented in Table 7, and a full listing, by context, can be found in Appendix 5.

Activity	Classification	No. contexts	Mass (g)
Iron smelting	Tap slag	1	1392
	Fayalitic run slag	2	706
	Furnace bottom	2	1740
Iron smithing	Flake hammerscale	1	Not quantified
Non-diagnostic ironworking	Undiagnostic ironworking	6	8231
	Iron-rich cinder	1	14
Metalworking or other high temp. process	Vitrified hearth/furnace lining	2	552
	Cinder	2	134

Activity	Classification	No. contexts	Mass (g)
	Fired clay	1	57
Fuel	Coke	2	3
Possible products/ waste products	Iron objects / waste	1	251
	Total		13080

Table 8: Metalworking by activity and type

### Description of the Assemblage

#### Diagnostic- Iron Smelting

- 7.6.3 Smelting slags are predominantly of fayalitic (iron silicate) composition. The material forms by the chemical combination of some of the iron from the ore with all the gangue material, particularly silicate minerals. At the temperatures reached by a forced draft furnace, around 1200°C, this slag becomes fluid. From the Late Iron Age, furnaces were developed which allowed this material to be removed by 'tapping' which allowed the furnace to continue operating and a larger iron bloom to be produced.
- 7.6.4 Although the more massive sheets of slag produced by the more developed Roman and late medieval furnaces were absent at Paston Reserve, a significant quantity of smaller fragments of slag conforming to tap slag were identified within the assemblage. The flattish plates of slag showing a 'ropey' flowed upper surface, solidify as it is released (tapped) from the front of the furnace.
- 7.6.5 On occasional fragments the imprints of chopped wood/charcoal, against which the slag had solidified were visible. A similar material is fayalitic run slag. This tends to be the smaller sized runs and dribbles. Experimental smithing has shown that similar material is occasionally produced in small quantities in smithing hearths. However, the high proportion of this material here clearly points to iron smelting. Two larger fragments of slag appear too large for smithing hearth bottoms and therefore have been classified as furnace bottoms; the slag residue that is not tapped from the furnace. However these, with a maximum dimension of 120mm and 130mm are still



small for the type. No evidence of any ore was encountered within the assemblage.

- 7.6.6 It may be significant that all the tap and fayalitic run slag together with one of the furnace bottoms, at Paston derived from fill (291) of pit [290].

#### Diagnostic- Iron Smithing

- 7.6.7 Normally the most obvious form of iron smithing debris is smithing hearth bottoms - recognisable as distinctive plano-convex sectioned lumps of slag. They form in the blacksmith's hearth in the high temperature zone where iron, or iron scale, reacts with silica to form a predominantly iron silicate (fayalite:  $2\text{FeOSiO}_2$ ) mass. No whole examples were noted in the Paston assemblage, but some of the undiagnostic ironworking slag from the fill (469) of pit [468] looked to be shattered fragments of these.
- 7.6.8 Micro slags in the form of hammerscale are also diagnostic of smithing (Starley 1995). In the absence of any sieve residues, the loose fragments of slag and soil in the bulk finds bags were tested with a magnet, but only minimal quantities were detected, and these were again from pit fill (460) evidence. These two examples were of flake hammerscale morphology, which forms when the oxide skin of the hot iron breaks away when the iron is hammered or quenched.

#### Non-diagnostic Ironworking

- 7.6.9 Undiagnostic ironworking slag was, not untypically, the most commonly encountered type at Paston Reserve. This comprises irregularly shaped fayalitic slag lumps which may derive from either iron smelting or iron smithing processes. These are most likely to derive from the same process as the diagnostic forms with which it is associated in the context, i.e. for this site, smelting in pit [290] and smithing in pit [468]. A small amount of iron-rich cinder was also present. This material is distinguished by its significant content of iron not chemically combined as silicates, but visible as rust-orange coloured hydrated iron oxides and iron hydroxides.

#### Undiagnostic- Metalworking or Other High Temperature Process

- 7.6.10 Under this heading are included the various categories of heat-transformed

clay. In both iron smithing hearths and smelting furnaces, not to mention copper alloy melting furnaces, the clay around the tuyère gets sufficiently hot that its surface reacts with alkali fuel ash to produce vitrified hearth/furnace lining. The material cannot be used to differentiate between these processes. Cinder has a similar range of origins and forms when some of the clay lining spalls away from the lining and the whole surface becomes vitrified. The smaller amount of fired clay may derive from a wide range of industrial or domestic hearths, kilns and furnaces and is even less informative in identifying processes.

#### Fuel

- 7.6.11 No fragments of charcoal were noted during examination of the metalworking debris although the impressions of this fuel were visible in the surface of the furnace bottom from pit [468]. Coke was identified from two contexts, including the subsoil (101) and fill (155) of ditch [156]. It is most probably of significantly later date, than the archaeological features.

#### Possible Product/ Waste Products

- 7.6.12 The assemblage included numerous of small fragments which visual examination and testing with a magnet, suggested to be either fragments of iron objects, or waste iron from manufacturing. All were heavily mineralised.

#### Conclusions

- 7.6.13 The relatively small assemblage of debris from Paston Reserve, suggests that both iron smelting and iron smithing were carried out on the site. The former is most strongly evidenced by the fill of pit [290] and the latter by pit [468]. The style of furnace which produced the smelting debris, was of the tapping type, but appears to have been of a smaller, fairly primitive, type, rather than those encountered in the more established Roman period. Whether the smithing was connected to the same operation, perhaps for consolidating the bloom, or to a separate, purely iron forging, operation is unclear, but there does seem to be some spatial separation of the two activities. There was no evidence of any other metallurgical activities on the site.

## Recommendations

- 7.6.14 It is unlikely that further examination of the debris would shed further light on the nature of the ironworking being carried out.

## 7.7 Animal Bone

**By Kevin Rielly**

### Introduction

- 7.7.1 This report features an amalgamation of the bones recovered in both excavation phases, the evaluation collection originally discussed in Rielly (2016). These were essentially taken from the Roman levels i.e. in the eastern trench. Both collections feature a hand collected and sieved element and both show a high degree of fragmentation accompanying a generally poor level of preservation, here referring to the surface condition of the bones.

### Methodology

- 7.7.2 The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments.
- 7.7.3 Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered.
- 7.7.4 Ages described in this report are taken from Schmid (1972) unless otherwise stated.
- 7.7.5 The sample collections were washed through a modified Siraf tank using a 1mm mesh and the subsequent residues were air dried and sorted.

### Description of Faunal Assemblage

- 7.7.6 The site provided a grand total of 594 bones by hand collection (123 from the evaluation) and 724 from the samples (230 from the evaluation). After refitting, these totals were reduced to 273 and 691 respectively. As stated,

fragmentation was at a high level and indeed there are very few bones greater than 25% complete while the vast majority of the sieved collections are composed of indeterminate pieces. This level of damage in combination with the poor preservation no doubt accounts for the rather small proportion of bones identifiable to species (Table 8).

- 7.7.7 A possible contributory factor to the perceived level of fragmentation is shown by the generally abraded state of the potsherds scattered throughout these deposits. Such damage could be suggestive of material spread over the neighbouring fields prior to their eventual deposition within near-by cut features. It can be supposed that a proportion of the bones, given their described condition, display the effects of a similar taphonomic history. However, the concentration of bones within certain features (see below) would indicate deliberate deposition rather than a broad scattering as might be expected from a more 'manure' based redeposition pattern.
- 7.7.8 The Roman stratigraphy within the excavation area has been divided into Early Roman (ER), Middle Roman (MR) and Mid-Late Roman (MLR). There are also a number of deposits which are not so well dated and these have been classed as Roman (R), while the periods used here for the evaluation are based on the dating evidence, here confined to AD140-400 classed as MLR and a general AD50-400 (R).
- 7.7.9 At the evaluation stage, animal bones were principally recovered from the eastern area (Trenches 17, 30, 34 and 38) with a small proportion from Trenches 1 and 3 in the western area (see Table 8).
- 7.7.10 The excavation, located within the northern central part of the eastern area, incorporated the previously excavated Trenches 17 and 38 (Figure 2). Notably, the latter two trenches provided the major part of the evaluation assemblage. In the foregoing description, the bones from the open area and those from Trenches 17 and 38 will be discussed as a single entity (as shown in Table 8), unless stated otherwise.
- 7.7.11 A notably common feature of all the phased collections (evaluation and later excavation) is that they were all retrieved from cut features, essentially pits

and ditches.

Period:	Roman Early	Middle Roman			Roman Mid-Late	Roman							All	
		1 7	38	EX		EX	1	3	17	30	34	38		EX
Hand collected														
Cattle		1	2	6	10	2			1		3		25	
Equid		1		7	3		1					1	13	
Cattle-size	5	4	6	44	18		1	3		1	7	1	90	
Sheep/Goat		1	4	9	4				2				20	
Sheep-size			10	106	1		1						118	
Dog				7									7	
Total	5	7	22	179	36	2	3	3	3	1	10	2	273	
Sieved														
Cattle-size			5	2					1				8	
Sheep/Goat			20		4							1	25	
Sheep-size			175	91	84							4	354	
Dog				304									304	
Total			200	397	88				1			5	691	

Table 9: Species representation by period

#### Early Roman

7.7.12 A small collection of just five cattle-size bones were hand collected from three separate ditches located within the excavation area (see Table 8). They were all in poor condition.

#### Middle Roman

7.7.13 This phase provided the majority of the bones, these mainly recovered, as mentioned above, from the excavation (in combination with the contents of Trenches 17 and 38).

7.7.14 Most of these bones are unidentifiable to species; however, there is also a small quantity of cattle, equid, sheep/goat and dog (Tables 8 and 9). A notable proportion of the Middle Roman bones were taken from a small

number of features (see Table 10), the species abundance shown by these deposits reflecting the general pattern, with the exception of all the dog bones deriving from ditch [318], this situated in the northern part of the excavation area. These bones represent a single adult individual and while it is extremely fragmented, the condition was sufficient to suggest that all of the limb bones were fused, thus suggesting an animal in excess of 2 years of age. There were no complete limb bones but the few articular ends are indicative of an animal of middling height, perhaps up to 40-50cm at the shoulder.

7.7.15 The other three species are represented by a mix of skeletal parts, which in the case of cattle and sheep/goat can be interpreted as waste from both the processing and food stages. Not surprisingly, considering the level of preservation, there were few butchered items, in fact limited to a single cattle pelvis from pit [170] (Trench 38). In addition there are more shaft than articular end pieces, the latter generally preferentially succumbing to fragmentation compared to the former. There is nonetheless some epiphyseal age data, which in combination with the teeth data, suggest a plethora of adult individuals. It is not possible to accurately gauge the size of these animals as there were very few measurable bones.

Period:	Early Roman	Middle Roman	Mid-Late Roman	Roman
Recovery/Species				
Hand collected				
Cattle	-	9	10	6
Equid	-	8	3	2
Cattle-size	5	54	18	13
Sheep/Goat	-	14	4	2
Sheep-size	-	116	1	1
Dog	-	7	-	-
Total	5	208	36	24
Sieved				
Cattle-size	-	7	-	1
Sheep/Goat	-	20	4	1
Sheep-size	-	266	84	4

Dog	-	304	-	-
Total		597	88	6

Table 10: Species representation by period

7.7.16 It can perhaps be supposed that equids may have also featured as a dietary item. This is based on the obvious dispersal of parts with notably very few feature collections including more than one equid bone. However, it is possible that these may also derive from burial following scavenger dismemberment. The age and size of these animals is intimated by an unfused distal tibia from ditch [321] (age of fusion at 2 years), while all other articular ends are fused; a mandible from ditch [209] with heights of the second adult premolar and third adult molar of 30.2 and 52.2mm respectively indicative of an equid aged about 9 years (after Levine 1982).

Feature:	Ditch			Pit			
Period:	Middle Roman			Middle Roman			Mid-Late Roman
Cut:	222	318	All	170	321	All	390
Hand collected							
Cattle	1		2	1	4	7	9
Equid			2		2	5	2
Cattle-size	7	21	35	5	5	19	14
Sheep/Goat		2	6	4	1	8	3
Sheep-size	60	20	103	10		13	1
Dog		7	7				
Total	68	50	155	20	12	52	29
Sieved							
Cattle-size			3	2		4	
Sheep/Goat				20		20	4
Sheep-size			29	175		237	81
Dog		304	304				
Total		304	336	197		261	85

Table 11: Species representation by feature group

#### Mid-Late Roman

7.7.17 Bones dating to this phase were found in the excavation area, a major proportion taken from Pit [390] (see Table 10). The phase collection is

essentially similar to those previously described, in terms of state and species. Amongst the latter, there are again a small number of equid bones, here including one of the few measurable fragments, a humerus from pit [390], which provided a minimum shaft breadth (SD after von den Driesch 1976) of 27.8mm. This compares favourably with a rather small humerus (an SD of 28.3mm) from a partial articulation of an equid from a Late Iron Age/early Roman site in north London (Rielly 2016). This was confirmed by its overall size (a shoulder height of 1215.9mm using Boessneck and von den Driesch 1974) and various attributes of its metacarpus (using Eisenmann and Bekouche 1986) as a donkey. With only a small part of the humerus it is not possible to ascertain if this equid is also a donkey but otherwise it would certainly represent a rather small horse.

#### Conclusions

- 7.7.18 The evaluation and later excavation collections have combined to produce a reasonably sized animal bone assemblage all dated to the Roman period. The majority of the assemblage was clearly defined into Early, Middle and Mid-Late Roman phases.
- 7.7.19 However, most of the bones are unidentifiable, comprising a large proportion of indeterminate cattle- and sheep-size pieces. This is clearly related to the soil conditions and perhaps to a certain extent to the depositional history of these collections. As noted, much of the potsherds are abraded suggestive of ploughsoil waste. The level of damage is clearly sufficient to suggest that the recovered assemblage is biased against the smaller domesticates, younger age groups (especially first year animals), various skeletal parts (especially the smaller ones) and even parts of bones (witness the better representation of shaft rather than articular end pieces).
- 7.7.20 The level of fragmentation within the dog skeleton (Ditch [318]) is a subtle indication of the likely survival of any species of this size or smaller.
- 7.7.21 Thus it follows that the potential value of the site collection is minimal. The available information is essentially limited to the presence of adult cattle, sheep/goat, equid and dog. It is not possible to suggest which species were



preferred, although the apparent abundance of sheep/goat relative to cattle, with respect to the noted condition of the bones, could be indicative of a more (native) Romano-British diet contrasting with the beef-rich Romanised regime found for example in urban centres and villas (after King 1978 and 1984). Environmental issues will inevitably have some effect on the proportions of these species and it is perhaps surprising to find sheep so well represented at this site. Indeed it can be imagined that the rather damp nature of this area, laced with water meadows, would be far more conducive to the keeping of cattle than sheep.

7.7.22 It can be observed from the age evidence that secondary products were important but not to what extent. The good representation of equid is interesting, with the spread of bones possibly intimating that they were utilised for their primary products (meat and hides).

7.7.23 Finally, the rather small equid is potentially of national significance if it is a donkey, here related to the rather sparse evidence for this equid in Roman Britain. In her thesis, Johnstone (2010, 22) refers to just 11 cases of definite donkey or mule from Roman levels, this now added to by the recent specimen, as mentioned above, from London (Rielly 2016).

7.7.24 Animal bone collections have been recovered from other sites in this area, most notably from those associated with the A1 Alconbury to Peterborough road scheme (Albarella 1998). Comparisons are difficult considering the very different condition of the bones (as shown by the presence of pig and various small species) as well as the greater size of the assemblage from this road scheme site. However, there is a notably good representation of sheep/goat relative to cattle as well as a notable proportion of equid bones. It was suggested that this species may have been bred at this site, perhaps to supply the animals required for transport of people and goods along nearby Ermine Street (*ibid*, 103).

#### Recommendations for Further Work

7.7.25 It is recommended that the information described in this report should be included in any publication of this site. However, apart from a publication

worthy write-up of this evidence, no further work on these bones is required. This will include the potential donkey humerus as little more can be done to confirm the identification of this specimen.

## **7.8 Plant Macrofossils**

**By Kate Turner**

### Introduction

7.8.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of the environmental remains found in thirty-eight bulk samples taken during the archaeological evaluation, and subsequent excavation of land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough. These samples were taken from a series of ditches and pits and a single posthole, the context information for which is given in Appendix 6.

7.8.2 The aim of this assessment is to:

1. Give an overview of the contents of the assessed samples;
2. Determine the environmental potential of these samples;
3. Establish whether any further analysis is necessary.

### Methodology

7.8.3 Thirty-eight environmental bulk samples, of between one and forty-six litres in volume, were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300 µm mesh for the light fraction and a 1 mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4 mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items).

7.8.4 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was

recorded as above. A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material.

## Results

- 7.8.5 All of the processed samples produced flots, ranging between 0.1 and 1800 millilitres in volume. For the purpose of this report, the contents of the flots and heavy residues will be collated, and presented by phase. The nine samples were taken during the evaluation phase are undated, and will be discussed separately.
- 7.8.6 Cultural material collected from the heavy residues has been catalogued and passed to the relevant specialists for further assessment. A full account of the sample contents is given in Appendix 6.

## Early Roman

- 7.8.7 Six samples were taken from contexts dating to the Early Roman period of the site; two from ditch fills, one from a pit fill ([290]), and three from pit fills in feature [344], which has been identified as a possible cremation burial.

## Ditches

- 7.8.8 Of the two ditches sampled, [378] contained the greatest abundance of environmental remains; the bulk of the float residue from this deposit was comprised of fragmented wood charcoal, including a moderate proportion that was of suitable size for species identification (>4 mm in length/width). Other archaeobotanical material was however minimal, with only a low concentration (<10) of carbonised seeds, including specimens of sedge (*Carex* sp.) and pea (*Fabaceae* sp.), recorded. This context was additionally found to contain a small amount of terrestrial snail shell, including several examples of *Vallonia* sp. and a number of juvenile specimens.
- 7.8.9 Wood charcoal was also recorded in ditch [317]; however, the majority of material was highly fragmented, and less than ten pieces were suitable for species ID. Weed seeds were scarce, as were molluscs. There is little diagnostic value to this deposit.

## Pits

7.8.10 As would be expected from a cremation burial, the three samples taken from pit [344] were rich in wood charcoal, each containing over one-hundred fragments of varying size, including a substantial number of examples that may be identifiable to species. Charred and/or non-charred weed seeds were also present throughout, though concentration and taxon diversity were universally low, with no sample containing more than ten identifiable specimens. In addition, a small number of molluscs were reported, though less than twenty shells were recorded across the sample set.

7.8.11 Pit [350] was also found to contain a significant assemblage of charred wood, with at least one hundred viable fragments recovered. As with feature [344], a low concentration of seeds was found in this deposit, including specimens of speedwell (*Veronica* sp.) and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), several of which are likely to be modern intrusions. Less than ten shells were recorded, all from species of small terrestrial molluscs.

#### Early Roman Summary

7.8.12 In summary, the samples from the early Roman period contain evidence for domestic or potentially funerary or industrial burning being undertaken, illustrated by the substantial wood charcoal assemblages collected from features [290], [344] and [378]. There is little in the way of other diagnostic material; both seeds/plant material and molluscs are poorly represented, and cannot therefore be used to make inferences regarding environmental conditions during this phase of occupation. Worth noting is the moderate concentration of modern root material in five out of six samples, which may be an indication of bioturbation.

#### Middle Roman

7.8.13 Fifteen environmental bulk samples were taken from features thought to date to the mid to Late Roman occupation of the area, nine samples from pits, and six from ditches. Samples <53>, <54>, <55> and <56> were all collected from the same ditch, [318], a feature containing a dog skeleton. Multiple samples were also taken from pit [465], incorporating the upper and lower fills of this feature, thought to be an oven.

## Ditches

7.8.14 Aside from the expected assemblage of animal bone, feature [318] yielded few environmental remains; only a low concentration of heavily fragmented wood charcoal, though nothing of diagnostic size, and a small amount of modern root material was reported. Preservation of environmental material was similarly poor in the other sampled ditches. [305] yielded the greatest density of ecofacts, with an abundance of wood charcoal reported; a moderate number (30-100) of sizeable fragments were found, though the majority were less than <2 mm in length/width. [446] also contained charcoal, however material was fragmented and sizeable specimens were scarce (<5). Seeds were very rare, with only a small amount of rush (*Juncus* sp.) in sample <39>, and a charred pea (*Fabaceae* sp.) in sample <29>. Little diagnostic material was recorded in any of the assessed samples.

## Pits

7.8.15 In terms of the mid to late Roman pits, preservation of environmental remains was generally poor; wood charcoal was identified in all of the assessed samples, in small to abundant densities, however only sample <38>, taken from feature [450], contained more than ten fragments of a size for species identification. Weed seeds were recorded in six samples, including specimens of goosefoot and knotweed (*Fallopia* sp.), though concentrations were again low (<10 seeds per sample). As well as wood charcoal, sample <38> contained a moderate number (<50) of carbonised seeds, pea was the most abundant, but small amounts of buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) and mint (*Mentha* sp.) were also found. Charred cereals, the vast majority of which were too degraded for species to be identified, were additionally recovered from samples <45>, <46>, <51> and <52>. Abundances were low, with none of the viable samples containing more than ten grains.

7.8.16 Molluscs were present throughout the sample set. In general, densities were low, less than thirty specimens per sample, and taxon diversity was limited; the majority of adult specimens were of the genera *Vallonia* sp. and *Vertigo* sp., though small juvenile assemblages were also reported in six samples.

Animal bone was identified in four samples, which will be discussed in a separate report.

#### Middle Roman Summary

7.8.17 Preservation of environmental remains in the mid to late Roman deposits was generally poor, with little of diagnostic value being recovered. The low concentration of cereals identified suggests that grains may have formed part of the local diet, but without a more sizeable sample, it is impossible to say. The wood charcoal assemblage is likely to be the by-product of domestic burning, though only sample <38> contained more than ten sizeable pieces, indicating that this deposit could represent waste from a fire pit. Modern root material was encountered throughout.

#### Mid- to Late Roman

7.8.18 Eight samples were taken from contexts provisionally dated to late Roman period, one each from features [210], [218], [369], [390] and [498], and three from the same pit, feature [257].

#### Pits

7.8.19 Wood charcoal was well preserved throughout the late Roman pits. All of the assessed residues, with the exception of sample <36>, contained over one hundred fragments, with <20>, <23>, <24>, <25> and <48> each producing a significant proportion that were of a size for species identification (>100 pieces). Of the three samples taken from pit [257] (<24>, <25> and <26>) all were charcoal rich, which suggests that this deposit contains combustion waste.

7.8.20 Weed seeds were infrequent, being recorded in 50% of the assessed samples. <20> and <40> contained only a small number of specimens (<10), including several un-burnt seeds of goosefoot and sow thistle (*Sonchus* sp.), and the charred remains of grasses (*Poaceae* sp.), peas (*Fabaceae* sp.) and bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) in low concentrations. Samples <24> and <25>, both from pit [257], contained a greater density of material, with between eleven and thirty specimens recorded in each, including goosefoot, sow-thistles and brambles (*Rubus* sp.), though not enough to produce a significantly sized

sample set. A minimal number of carbonised wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were additionally recovered from samples <20> and <40>, along with a small amount of chaff in <25>. These were not present in sufficient density to suggest that any large scale cereal production or consumption was being carried out on site during this period.

- 7.8.21 Terrestrial molluscs were recorded throughout the assemblage, the most commonly occurring species being *Vallonia* sp., recovered from eight samples, and *Vertigo* sp., identified in four. Though several samples contained multiple taxa, none yielded more than one hundred specimens in total. Small densities of insect remains were additionally recovered from five samples.

#### Mid- to Late Roman Summary

- 7.8.22 With the exception of the wood charcoal, the environmental remains in the late Roman contexts are minimal, with only a moderate concentration of weed seeds and charred seed/grain material being produced across the entire assemblage. The presence of wheat in several samples may indicate that cereals were being consumed; however, the grain density is too low to come to any conclusions as to the level to which wheat was being used, and the relevance to local diet. The abundance of wood charcoal throughout the majority of deposits could be indicative of domestic and industrial burning, and may prove a useful proxy for reconstructing local environment and land use.

#### Undated

- 7.8.23 Nine samples were taken during the archaeological evaluation phase, for which no spot dates have been attributed. Four were taken from ditches, four from pits and one from a posthole.

#### Ditches

- 7.8.24 The samples from the undated pit features were all found to contain small to abundant concentrations of wood charcoal, with each sampled context yielding at least ten pieces of a size for species identification. Sample <8> contained the greatest density of viable material. Other archaeobotanical

remains were scarce; a minimal number of weed seeds (<20) were recovered from features [154] and [193], including specimens of goosefoot and knotweed, with sample <4> additionally producing a single charred cereal grain, which is too degraded to identify to species.

- 7.8.25 All four samples contained molluscs, with the largest density being recovered from sample <9>. This deposit contained over one hundred shells of the freshwater genus *Planorbis* sp., which is an indication that the feature may have become waterlogged for extended periods. The remaining samples each contained less than thirty specimens, including the juvenile assemblage, with, as seen in other samples from across the site, the most common genera being *Vallonia* sp. and *Vertigo* sp.

#### Pits

- 7.8.26 Four pits were sampled for recovery of environmental remains. Preservation of wood charcoal was good across the sample set, with all of the assessed samples containing at least thirty specimens. The majority of pieces were unfortunately heavily fragmented however, with only samples <24> and <41> containing any of a suitable size for species to be identified. Aside from wood charcoal, environmental material was relatively scarce; weed seeds were recorded in contexts (116) and (134), including sow thistle and goosefoot, though neither deposit contained more than ten specimens. A small number of molluscs were recorded in each feature though, again, none contained a significant concentration.

#### Posthole

- 7.8.27 Preservation of environmental material in the sample taken from the posthole fill was variable. As with other samples from this sequence, a large concentration of wood charcoal was recorded, including an abundance of sizeable specimens. A single charred cereal grain was also reported, which was heavily degraded, likely because of prolonged or high-temperature burning, along with a small number of weed seeds, some of which may be modern contaminants.

#### Undated Summary



7.8.28 The sampled contexts produced a substantial amount of wood charcoal, with several samples containing identifiable material. This material is likely to represent waste from domestic burning, and may yield information about local vegetation, if a chronology for these features can be established. Preservation of other archaeobotanical material is poor, and no diagnostic assemblages were identified. Whilst the mollusc assemblage is similarly poor, the abundance of freshwater specimens in feature [193] indicates a shift to wetter conditions during this period.

#### Conclusions

7.8.29 A rapid assessment of the samples from Paston Reserve has shown that, with the exception of wood charcoal, preservation of environmental remains is poor. Weed seeds are scarce, as are charred cereals, and none of the assessed samples produced a statistically significant mollusc assemblage. Thirteen samples were found to contain significant concentrations of wood charcoal, <1>, <4>, <8>, <20>, <23>, <24>, <25>, <28>, <31>, <35>, <37>, <38> and <48>. It is recommended that further specialist analysis be carried out on this material as the results may aid in our interpretation of the local landscape during the Roman occupation of the area, albeit only providing a partial reconstruction due to the problems of selection bias. Analysis of the charcoal assemblage may also shed light on the types of wood that are being selected for use in domestic fires.

#### Recommendations

7.8.30 A summary of this assessment should be included in the final publication.

## **8 DISCUSSION**

### **8.1 Overview**

8.2 The fieldwork identified part of a Roman farmstead, likely related in some fashion to the settlement identified in the excavations at Manor Drive (Fletcher 2008). The farmstead would have been ideally located to exploit the fertile agricultural land prevalent in this part of the Peterborough environs. As with any period the presence of a plentiful water-source is a powerful factor in choosing the location for settlement. As little or no later activity is present on the site the farmstead represents the first, and indeed last, major occupation of this area.

8.3 The site was established in the Early Roman period (AD30-120) whereby systems of ditches were created. These likely formed part of an organised agricultural landscape- acting as field boundaries/drainage ditches. Associated with these were a number of pits, although not forming any coherent 'groups', clustered at the northern end of the site. This attests to the need for storage and/or deposition of waste materials.

8.4 The site continued to develop into the Mid Roman period (AD120-200) following the analysis of the Roman pottery assemblage a potential 'peak' of activity is present in this period. This period saw a minor shift in alignments of the field boundaries, likely indicating an agriculture expansion was in progress at this time. There may also be the tentative identification of dwellings; two small curvilinear ditches (DITCHES 13 & 14) as well as a post-built structure. When coupled with large domestic finds assemblages this indicates that contemporary settlement is located on or near the site.

8.5 The pits dating to the Mid Roman period were larger, and on the whole deeper, suggestive of being used more intensively potentially for storage of produce. The presence of a watering hole indicates that the land use was becoming more intensified- be it arable or pastoral. Two pits contained evidence for small-scale iron working likely for self-sufficiency.

8.6 There is a marked decline in activity on the site in the Mid-Late Roman

period (AD200-400). This is made up of a scatter of pits and truncated ditch segments. Intriguingly however one watering hole was present, which belonged to this period, which was located near a cluster of similarly dated pits. This may indicate a return to open pastoral land.

## **8.7 Prehistoric**

8.7.1 The only prehistoric activity on the site came from a single residual flint fragment. This suggests that at this time the site was not a focus for extensive prehistoric activity, likely owing to the fact that the landscape would have been extremely wet at this time (Hall 1987).

8.7.2 The focus for the Iron Age period appears to be further to the west at the Manor Drive site (Fletcher 2008). Between the later Bronze Age and the Roman period the site would have been located near to the Fen edge and as such not particularly suitable for occupation.

## **8.8 Roman**

8.8.1 A series of thematic 'themes' pertaining to the Roman period were identified. These will be discussed chronologically in more detail below.

## **8.9 Settlement: Life and Labour**

### EARLY ROMAN (AD30-120)

#### Life

8.9.1 The site occupies a rich agricultural landscape, on an area of higher ground adjacent to a gentle east facing slope which leads towards the naturally marshy ground. This site, therefore, would have access to plentiful resources- prime agricultural ground suitable for arable and/or pastoral usage as well as access to the season resources prevalent in marshland environments (Hall 1987).

8.9.2 While no direct evidence for dwellings were identified on the site, such as roundhouses, this does not mean that they were not present. Features that relate to settlement, i.e. areas of pitting/large pottery assemblages, attest to the presence of contemporary settlement. Given the presence of such features it may be possible to locate missing dwellings by identifying areas of

'blank space' between areas of activity. The finds assemblages may also provide assistance in identifying locations for dwellings, for instance fragments of daub were recovered from DITCH 11 could indicate proximity to dwellings. The presence of Roman glass in DITCH 8 also attests to the presence of a building located in the vicinity.

- 8.9.3 The apparent absence of dwelling evidence is also in likely to in part be due to building methods employed at the time- with post or timber-built structures set into beamslots with daub covered walls the representing norm during post-conquest period.

#### Labour

- 8.9.4 The boundary ditches associated with this period of activity form a system of boundaries/enclosures; whether they were used for paddocks/pens for livestock, or for cultivation/crop processing is unclear. Nevertheless a combination of pastoral and arable agriculture is the most likely- this fusion providing the suitable mix of resources allowing the farmstead to develop and ultimately thrive.
- 8.9.5 The animal bone assemblage for this period is entirely cattle. This is potentially a by-product of the location of the site- being on the edge of the marshy fen laced with water meadows. This would form an environment more suited to the rearing of cattle which tend to suit lowland areas with good access to water and, therefore, suitable for the pasturage of cattle (Abrams and Ingham 2008). However given the general lack of bone survival and the limited assemblage these results may be misleading. If only the larger more robust bones survive, this would inevitably lead to a preponderance of cattle (being the most robust of the major domesticates).
- 8.9.6 This dominance of cattle is often seen as being an indicator of Roman influence. This may indicate that the settlement may have had witnessed Roman influences or was, potentially, an entirely Roman settlement. This dominance of cattle is by no means an isolated occurrence: early cattle rich assemblages are recorded at Longthorpe (King 1987), Haddon (Hinman et al 2003), Jobs Lane (Jones in prep) and Prickwillow Road (Atkins 2003),

amongst others.

- 8.9.7 Remains of burnt wood recovered from the samples contained evidence for domestic and even potentially industrial burning. Some of the wood charcoal remains may represent funerary activity (see Turner, Section 7.8.12). The bulk of this wood charcoal was recovered from Pits [344] and [350] and as such it is plausible that these represent heavily truncated cremations, however no cremated bone was recovered.

#### MIDDLE ROMAN (AD120-200)

##### Life

- 8.9.8 The site continued to develop into the Middle Roman period, in part due to the rich agricultural landscape it occupies. The location near a plentiful water source, and indeed the presence of the newly established Car Dyke, would have still been a powerful factor in maintaining the site. The presence of newly dug ditches and boundaries implies the need to keep the land drained but it would still have been an agriculturally rich landscape. Mackreth notes at Orton Hall Farm, a similarly wet landscape, that "once the centre had been firmly established; there would have been a degree of inertia at the thought of moving to drier quarters" (Mackreth 1996, 220). This indicates that the presence of a firmly established farmstead required large impetus to leave. However settlement abandonment, or at least the relocation of the populace, is observed at Haddon (Hinman et al 2003).
- 8.9.9 However, as with the Early Roman period, no clear evidence for dwellings was identified on the site. As before this does not mean that they were not present as indicators of occupation are still present- such as pitting, and large pottery assemblages.
- 8.9.10 However, three features display characteristics which may indicate that they represent truncated dwellings. Two curvilinear ditches were identified (DITCHES 13 and 14) which may form the drip gullies surrounding post-built roundhouses or similar structures. No further associated evidence for structural remains survive, such as post-holes, which, whilst not being entirely surprising, hinders the indisputable recognition dwellings. The third

represented a possible structure, potentially something akin to a makeshift barn, was identified in the north-eastern part of the site. It is worth noting that this may merely form part of a fenced boundary. Four post-holes survive, three of which formed a line with a further post-hole set at 90° at its western end (Figure 4c). It is plausible that this represents a rectangular building because, as Wachter states, during this period "Iron Age roundhouses give way to simple rectangular cottages often of cob or half-timbered construction" (Wacher 1978, 113).

8.9.11 It is possible to work out plausible locations for dwellings using features related to settlement as well as finds assemblages. These provide signs of former dwellings by highlighting areas of apparent 'blank space' between features. Coupled with this the finds assemblages could aid the identification of locations of dwellings. For instance fragments of daub recovered from DITCH 1 and fragments of box flue in Pit [325] attests to the presence of a building located in the vicinity (see Haywood, Section 7.4).

8.9.12 The presence of a small number of charred seeds may indicate that cereal crops were either being cultivated/processed on the site or being consumed (see Turner, Section 7.8.17). This is largely to be expected with a small-scale farmstead likely combining arable and pastoral agricultural practices.

#### Labour

8.9.13 The prevalence of sheep bones over those of cattle is of interest as cattle would be more susceptible to the poorer ground conditions in which the site is located (i.e. marshy ground). Sheep are undoubtedly a hardier beast, and, possess the added benefit of not requiring over-wintering in barns that cattle require. This may, largely, explain the prevalence of sheep bones within the domesticated assemblage. This also adds credence to the site being a small-scale farmstead, perhaps lacking the resource or man-power required to tend to herds of cattle. This small-scale single family run farmstead fits the general pattern for the region, with Monument 97 as well as Werrington being two prominent examples of family unit settlements (Mackreth 2001 and 1988).

- 8.9.14 Some small-scale ironworking was occurring in this period- Pit [172] contained fragments of vitrified hearth, furnace bottom and iron waste objects. Further iron working evidence is represented by a deposition of iron working slag in a ditch nearby. The ditched boundaries present across the site therefore may have had a subsidiary role; acting as demarcations for differing activity types, separating agricultural areas from industrial. This is to be expected- livestock would predictably have an adverse effect on hearths and ovens. Although it is unlikely that the remains of the hearth/furnaces are in-situ it still attests to small-scale industry being present in close proximity. This activity was small-scale crafting what was needed as opposed for trading, for instance for shoeing livestock.
- 8.9.15 The lack of in-situ burning may also imply that the structures which remained were sub-terrainian in nature providing the means for draughts and air to feed the main fires above them. As a result direct evidence of scorching may not necessarily be present, but the by-products (charcoal) would be, as is the case here. This is similar to examples identified at Orton Hall Farm, albeit these were more intact (Mackreth 1996).

#### MID-LATE ROMAN (AD200-400)

##### Life

- 8.9.16 During the later Roman period there is a decline in the activity, in comparison to the Middle Roman period, evidenced by the decline in pottery (16.4% was Late Roman, in comparison to 41.5% in the Middle Roman period). This suggests that during this later period the site was in decline, or merely that the settlement core had shifted elsewhere at this time potentially towards the Manor Drive site (Fletcher 2008). This decrease in the pottery assemblage is interesting as during the later Roman periods pottery production is more intensified and as such would be more accessible. This provides further evidence that the 'core' of the settlement is elsewhere in the later Roman periods.
- 8.9.17 However, this is at odds with the building materials recovered from Watering Hole [390]. This feature contained a significant assemblage which attests to the presence of a building located in the vicinity of this feature, as these

building materials are likely to be deposited relatively nearby to the structure they formed. Therefore it is entirely plausible that the settlement core, whilst shifting at this time, was not located too far away.

#### Labour

8.9.18 It is likely that during this period the site had returned to a more agricultural bias, evidenced by the decrease in the pottery assemblage as well as the presence of agricultural features, such as waterholes, and the dearth of settlement related features.

8.9.19 The major domestic assemblage at this time was dominated by cattle once more, however in significantly reduced amounts. This potentially suggests that, whilst being away from the settlement 'core', the site at this time was split between arable and pastoral agriculture.

### **8.10 Military Influences**

#### EARLY ROMAN (AD30-120)

8.10.1 The arrival of the Roman army brought about the necessity for a vast increase in agricultural produce. The interrelationship between the current farmstead and the vexillation fortress, located at Longthorpe (Monument No. 364099) is of interest. It is plausible that the farmstead was established as a result of the construction of the fort at Longthorpe. The fort would, naturally, have brought with it a large influx of troops, as well as supplementary populations associated support-settlements.

8.10.2 The rations required for the Roman army were accrued through compulsory requisitions from local farmers, in a tax known as the 'annona militaris' (Wacher 1978, 106-7). The amount was calculated as a percentage of the crop produced, meaning that subsistence farmers would have had to produce a surplus in order to have a sufficient amount on which to survive. This may explain the expansion of the farmstead from the latter half of the first century onwards: the compulsory subscription would have required an increase in agricultural output.

#### MIDDLE ROMAN (AD120-200)



8.10.3 As this period sees the continued expansion of the settlement, indeed potentially containing the 'peak' of activity on the site, indicates that it was still being exploited for agricultural produce in some way. Its proximity to Car Dyke and the Roman Roads of Ermine Street, King Street and the Fen Road would give it ideal transport links to supply the advancing Roman Legions throughout this period (Margary 1955, 202-4).

## **8.11 Trade Expansion**

### MIDDLE ROMAN (AD120-200)

8.11.1 The Car Dyke was constructed between AD100-130, with part of the dyke system potentially being constructed earlier, such as at Waterbeach where pottery was recovered dating to roughly AD50 (Clarke 1949). The dyke is generally accepted to have fallen out of use by the end of the 2nd Century AD.

8.11.2 The sites location near to the Car Dyke likely had an impact on its economic growth- it provided the means to transport excess resources, even if it only short distances. It is debatable as to whether Car Dyke was navigable at all- it is both not level nor continuous (Simmons 1979, 192-6). General consensus is that the dyke was merely a catch water drain unsuitable for navigation. Despite this, it still seems plausible that the Car Dyke would have allowed the transport and trade of larger quantities, or rather greater weights, over short distances.

8.11.3 This potential expansion may also be tied to the consolidation of the road system- the Fen Causeway linked the settlements which exploited the fenland environments following their proper drainage (Margary 1955, 165). The Fen Causeway went from the civitas capitol at Water Newton (Durobrivae) through Peterborough and March to Denver, and was likely associated with the subsidiary King Street. This would have meant produce could be transported more easily around the region, with livestock being able to be moved 'on the hoof' a trend observed at the Haddon site (Hinman 2003).

8.11.4 From the age evidence of the animal bone assemblage it can be suggested

that secondary products were more valuable, such as wool and milk. The apparent lack of cattle during this period may reflect a market based economy, or merely that the resources to tend to cattle were not available (i.e. manpower/barns). However these results, as discussed above (see Reilly, Section 7.7), may merely reflect the differential survival between mature/juvenile animals.

8.11.5 Iron working appears to have taken place on the site during this period, with at least two pits containing furnace/hearth bases and/or vitrified linings. Associated with these were pits which contained iron working waste, such as run-off slag and iron waste, indicating that iron-working was occurring on the site. It is likely that this was for self-subsistence rather than more intensively industrial in nature perhaps making iron items functional for the farmstead setting. Iron working sites are present, but by no means widespread along the course of Car Dyke. However, iron working was present at Morton Fen (Hayes and Lane 1992) where much iron slag was seen adjacent to the Car Dyke as well as at Water Newton (Durobrivae).

8.11.6 The pottery assemblage is indicative of a fairly low status site, with a clear domestic function. This is based upon a range of storage, preparation and serving vessels being present in the assemblage. The assemblage consists mainly of locally made coarsewares (92.9% of the assemblage) with limited amounts of imported finewares present. This may reflect the relative status, or perhaps function, of the site- with little disposable income for imports.

#### MID-LATE ROMAN (AD200-400)

8.11.7 During the later Roman period little of the evidence pertaining to trade continued with the likelihood that during this period the site had returned to open field, attested to by the presence of WATERHOLE 2.

8.11.8 However, WATERHOLE 2 contained fragments of Baetican Amphora, a likely Spanish import, attests to the farmstead retaining a certain amount of prosperity. The presence of a charcoal pit (CHARCOAL PIT 4), identified in the west of the site, hints at the continued presence of industrial activities, but at this time either the site was outside of this industrial 'zone' or, merely,

that the activity was more restricted.

## **8.12 Decline of the farmstead**

### MID-LATE ROMAN (AD200-400)

- 8.12.1 In this period the farmstead appears to reduce in size and intensity which reflects the general pattern within the region, with shifts in focus from site to site. At this time the settlement at Manor Drive (Fletcher op. cit.) had once again become the focus, placing the farmstead on the peripheries, as a result it returned to open agricultural land. This is paralleled by sites such as Monument 97 (Mackreth 2001), Orton Hall Farm (Mackreth 1996), and Haddon (Hinman 2003) all of which demonstrated a hiatus in activity or shifts between foci.
- 8.12.2 The presence of the watering hole may indicate that this area had returned to agricultural practices- most likely pastoral. This is in keeping with the identified pattern of activity in this period- rural sites of Late Iron Age and Early Roman date are more prevalent than Later Roman rural sites (Medlycott 2011, 47).
- 8.12.3 This may be tied to the rise and subsequent fall in the use of Car Dyke as a navigable waterway, if indeed it ever was navigable (Simmons 1979). By the end of the second century the course of the Car Dyke had become silted up and categorically unnavigable, therefore incapable of transporting goods even short distances. This may in part explain why there is an apparent decline in activity during this period.
- 8.12.4 However the deposition of quernstone and whetstone fragments in WATERING HOLE 2 suggests that the farmstead was in active use at this time. However the deposition only provides a terminus ante quem for the feature- querns may have been retained for long periods. The deposition in a watering hole is likely of significance too- perhaps symbolising the 'death' of the feature similar to deposits at Haddon (Hinman 2004).
- 8.12.5 The presence of a significant amount of building material within Watering Hole [390] attests to the presence of a building located in the vicinity of this

feature. It also contained fragments of Baetican Amphora, likely a Spanish import, which attests to the farmstead retaining a certain amount of prosperity.

### **8.13 Wider Site Context**

- 8.13.1 The fact that there appears to be very little pre-Roman activity, both in terms of the finds assemblages as well as features of definitively Iron Age date, is worthy of note. Here it is worth assessing the interrelationship between the current farmstead and the settlement identified to the south-west at Manor Drive (Fletcher 2008). The Manor Drive settlement is of Late Iron Age origins and, if it is related to the current site, would mean that the current farmstead represents the establishment/shift towards a new focus during the 1st Century. However given the distance between the two sites it is difficult to ascertain if the settlement and farmstead are one and the same, or, if the farmstead is a different entity in its own right. If the two sites are part of the same settlement it implies a shift in foci throughout the lifetime of the settlement- something which would be expected to occur in long lived sites.
- 8.13.2 'Romanisation' is generally accepted to have occurred gradually during the 2nd century AD (Medlycott 2011, 47) in East Anglia. However as the farmstead is founded closely around the conquest, and indeed may pre-date it, suggests that it reflects the expansion of a fundamentally native settlement. This may be mirrored by the composition of the animal bone assemblage with more sheep and goat being represent in comparison to cattle indicative of a more native Romano-British diet (King 1978 and 1984).
- 8.13.3 The potential that the site was continuously settled, in conjunction with the Manor Drive site, from around the time of the conquest to the late Roman period would be interesting as many sites of the region have a distinctive hiatus, or indeed cessation, in occupation at the start of the 2nd century. The continuous occupation appears is at odds with other settlements, such as Monument 97 (Mackreth 2001), Werrington (Mackreth 1988) and Haddon (Hinman 2003) each of which has the hiatus or termination of settlement around the beginning of the second century.

## **9 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

### **9.1 Additional Specialist Research**

#### Roman Pottery

- 9.1.1 Illustrate four vessels for publication, based on forms and/or decoration.
- 9.1.2 Incorporate pottery from the evaluation stage.
- 9.1.3 The pottery should be considered in its wider regional context, with more detailed comparisons made between this assemblage and other contemporary sites within the local area.

#### Small Finds

- 9.1.4 X-ray ironwork and the copper alloy.
- 9.1.5 Compare to similar local assemblages.
- 9.1.6 Photograph: SF 101 binding, SF 103 tessera and the piece of decorated glass from Pit [117].

### **9.2 Additional Research and Reporting**

- 9.2.1 Investigate the Updated Research Questions listed below, by means of library and Cambridgeshire HER research, in order to realise the site's research potential.
- 9.2.2 Update this report with an expanded Discussion (with additional illustrations as necessary) based on the additional research into context/ parallels. The report will then be reissued as the Final Report on the project
- 9.2.3 Disseminate the significant results of the project by publication (see Publication Proposal in Section 10, below).
- 9.2.4 Prepare the site archive for long-term storage and deposit it at Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store in order to facilitate future research.

### **9.3 Regional Research Topics**

- 9.3.1 The following relevant topics are highlighted within "Research and

Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England" (Medlycott 2011).

9.3.2 The relevant sections are noted below in quotation marks and are followed by a brief discussion of how the results of the excavation may help with the specific themes and objectives identified.

9.4 Iron Age/ Roman Transition:

"Does the evidence suggest a seamless transition to a change in the use of the land or farmstead, or a continued occupation of the site but a change in building-types or agricultural practices" (Medlycott 2011, 31).

9.4.1 Can the farmstead provide evidence for Iron Age/ Roman continuity or can it be seen as an entirely new 'Romanised' farmstead. Compare to local examples such as Orton Hall Farm (Mackreth 1996), Haddon (Hinman 2003), Monument 97 (Mackreth 2001). Look at finds assemblages and animal bone assemblages.

9.5 Roman

"What forms do the farms take, and is the planned farmstead widespread across the region? Are there any chronological/ regional/ landscape variations in settlement location, density or type?" (Medlycott 2011, 47)

9.5.1 Can the farmstead be compared to local examples and can this help look at the role of farmsteads in the local area. Compare to regional examples Orton Hall Farm (Mackreth 1996), Haddon (Hinman 2003).

"Understanding both the continuity of Iron Age into Roman settlement and the 2nd-century 'Romanisation', identifying continuity as well as new settlement structure and land use" (Medlycott 2011, 47)

9.5.2 Investigate any other excavated evidence for 2nd century settlements in and around Paston and compare/ contrast with the evidence from this site (Manor Drive, Fletcher 2008; Haddon, Hinman 2003 any Grey Literature).

"What was the economic and social impact of the military on the region?"  
 (Medlycott 2011, 47)

- 9.5.3 Look at the impact of the Legionary fort at Longthorpe (Monument No. 364099). Can the expansion and subsequent decline of the farmstead be influenced by the military presence, or, does the farmstead likely shift elsewhere. Compare to regional examples such as Haddon (Hinman 2003) and further afield Grandford (Potter 1981) and Jobs Lane, March (Jones 2018).

"River management and the role of canals such as the Car Dyke...need further study." (Medlycott 2011, 48)

- 9.5.4 Look at the relationship between the Car Dyke and the farmstead. Compare the establishment of other farmsteads in the region along the course of the Car Dyke and other transport links. Can comparisons be made between the growth of farmsteads and the use of transport links. Compare to regional examples such as Haddon (Hinman 2003), Jobs Lane, March (Jones 2018).

## 9.6 Tasks for Post-Excavation Analysis and Publication

Task	Description	Complete?
1	Generate bibliography for library/ HER research	
2.1	Library research (Cambridge University Library)	-Parallels for Roman farmsteads. -Published reports on fieldwork in the area.
2.2	HER research (Cambridge)	-Any cropmarks from landscape around site. -Grey reports on unpublished fieldwork in the area.
3	Incorporate results of additional research into PXA and reissue as Final Report	
4	Write publication report (see Section 10)	
4.1	Cutting down, reordering and changing emphasis of existing text into publication format + writing expanded discussion of the significant elements.	

4.2	Re-working of Assessment Report figures for publication New figures x c. 1-2	
5	Liaise with PCAS regarding publication	
6	Prepare and deposit site archive with Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store.	

## 9.7 Timetable

- 9.7.1 All additional specialist work will be commissioned within 3 months of acceptance of this report.
- 9.7.2 Publication ready text and figures will be submitted to Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society within two years of completion of fieldwork.



## 10 PUBLICATION PROPOSAL

10.1 It is recommended that this site is published in the annual fieldwork report in the Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society ('PCAS'), entitled 'A Roman farmstead at Paston Reserve'. The presence of a Roman farmstead located to near the Car Dyke and potentially part of the settlement identified at Manor Drive is of local significance.

10.2 The publication will either be a short note, or, a short article whichever is deemed the most relevant by the PCC archaeologist and the PCAS editor. A synopsis for the short article is outlined below:

### 10.3 Estimated Report Statistics

Estimated Word Count

10.3.1 Approximately 2000-2500.

Figures (see Table 12)

10.3.2 Figures will use colour/ greyscale as required by the journal.

Figure No.	Title	Content
1	Phase Plan	Plan of the site phases of enclosures and boundaries, based on Assessment Report Fig. 4.  Each period to be represented by a colour, with a key. Labelling will be kept to a minimum so that the figure does not become cluttered at this scale.
2	Local Sites and Cropmarks	The excavated relevant local Roman sites and finds recorded in the Cambridgeshire HER, and any relevant cropmarks, plotted against the main local landscape features and the natural topography.

Table 12: Proposed publication figures

### 10.4 Report Structure and Headings (approximate word count)

Abstract (100 words)

- 10.4.1 Non-technical summary of the background to the project, the principal results, the content of the article and the significance of the findings.

Introduction and Background (200 words)

- 10.4.2 Site location, geology & topography, the previous phases of survey and trial trenching, the known archaeology of the Paston area and details of previous archaeological work and any cropmarks, some general discussion about the growing body of evidence for Roman settlement in fenland environment in East Anglia, reason for current fieldwork, fieldwork methodology, where to access 'grey' report and site archive.

Farmstead Continuity and Romanisation (1500 words)

- 10.4.3 Brief physical description of the farmstead structure. The description will focus on the overall layout and alignments, supported by a plan, rather than the specifics. Discussion of the dating evidence (pottery, bone and CBM/stonework) and its limitations. Discussion of probable agricultural/ industrial functions. Relationship of the site with topography and the main natural and man-made landscape features, discussion of any links to recorded cropmarks or other known sites in the area.

- 10.4.4 Discussion of development of agriculture/ industry over time with reference to other sites. Contextualisation of evidence/ other applicable sites in the Cambridgeshire fens. Discussion of identified parallels, with comparative plans. Discussion of the impact of military/ transport networks with reference to other sites, with regional contextualisation and discussion of parallels.

Conclusions (200 words)

- 10.4.5 Summary of the principal results of the project, their context and significance.

Acknowledgements

- 10.4.6 Client, planning archaeologist, manager, CAD Department and officer, site team, site manager, others.

Bibliography

- 10.4.7 List of sources consulted

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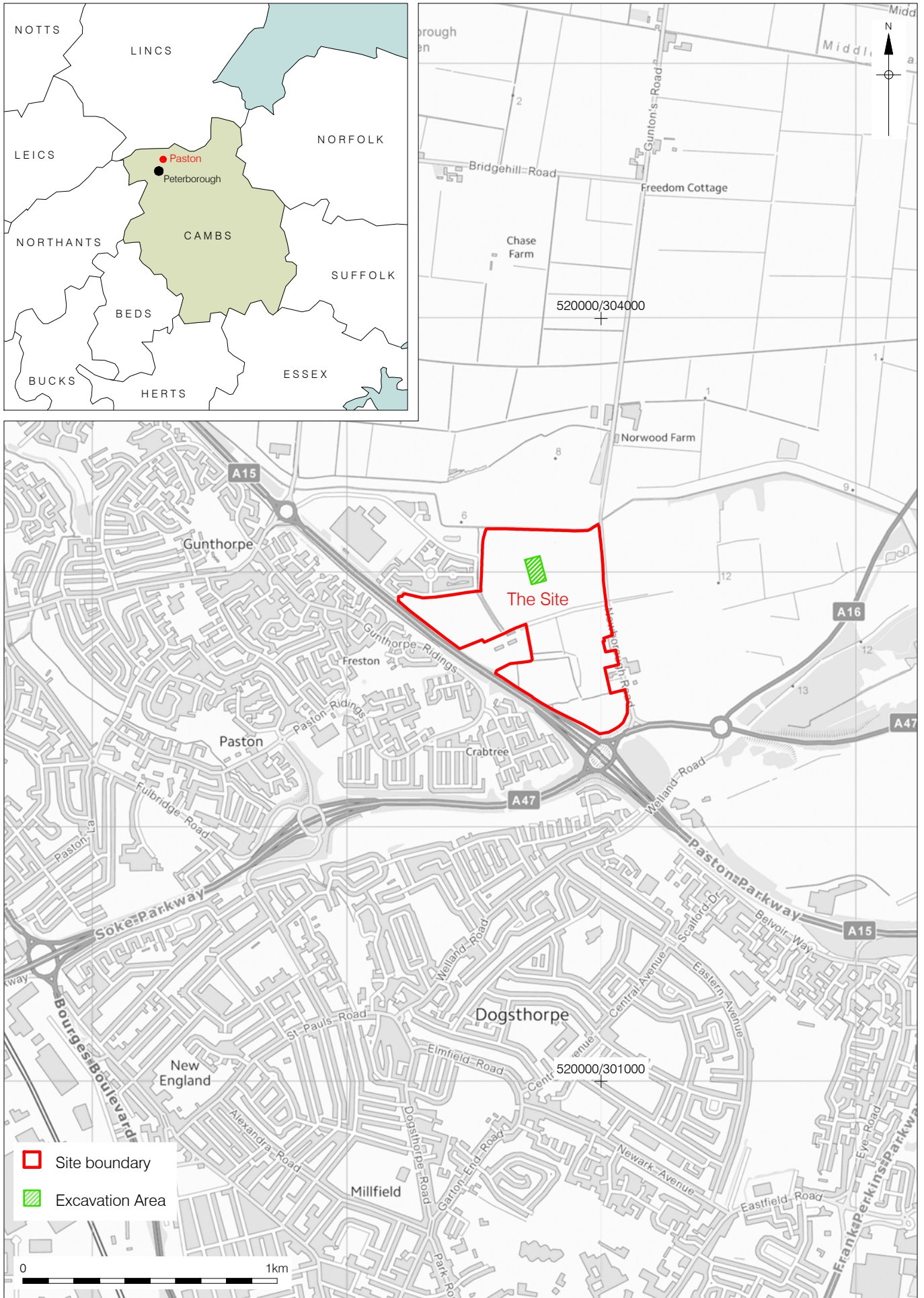
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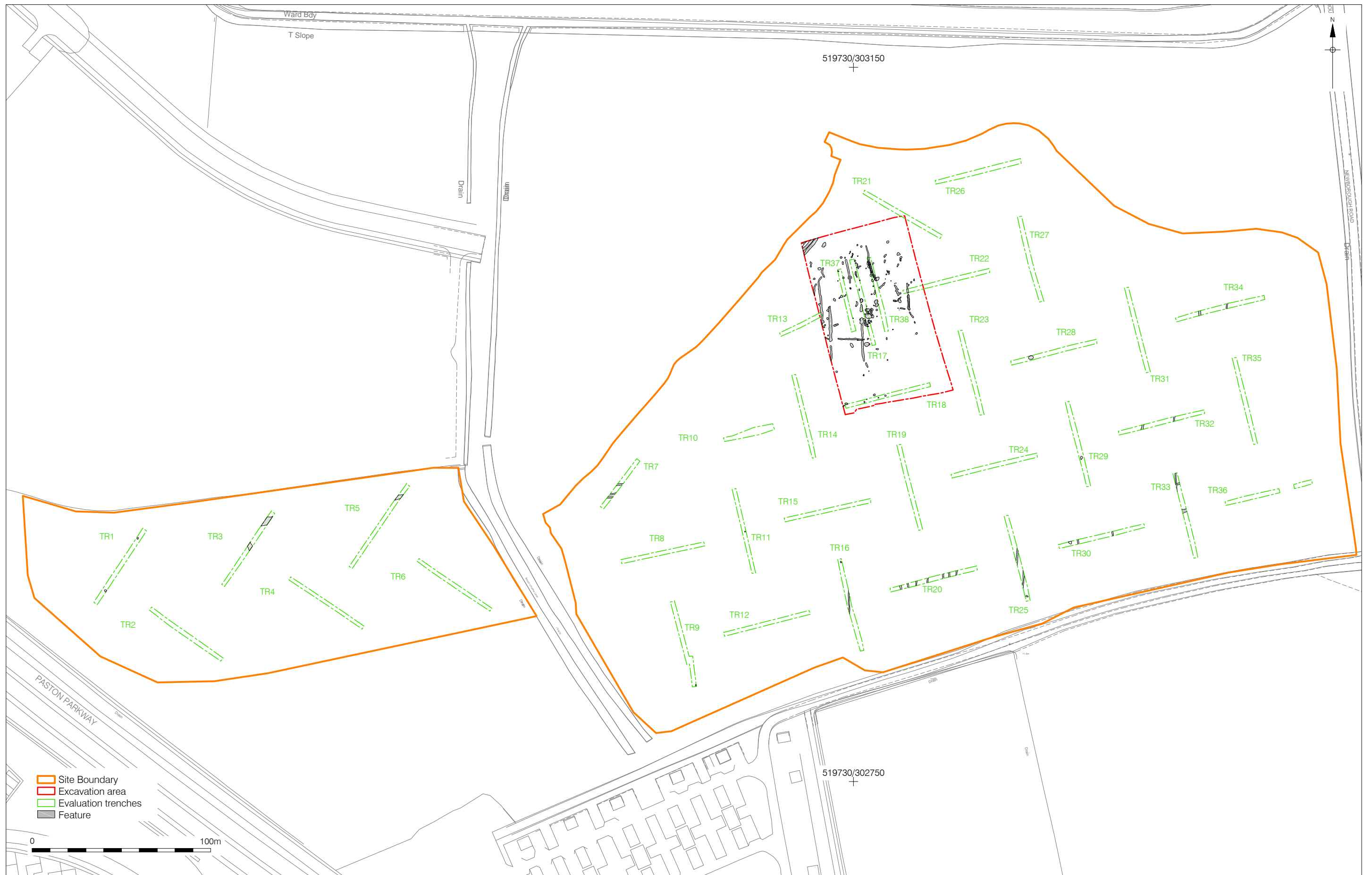
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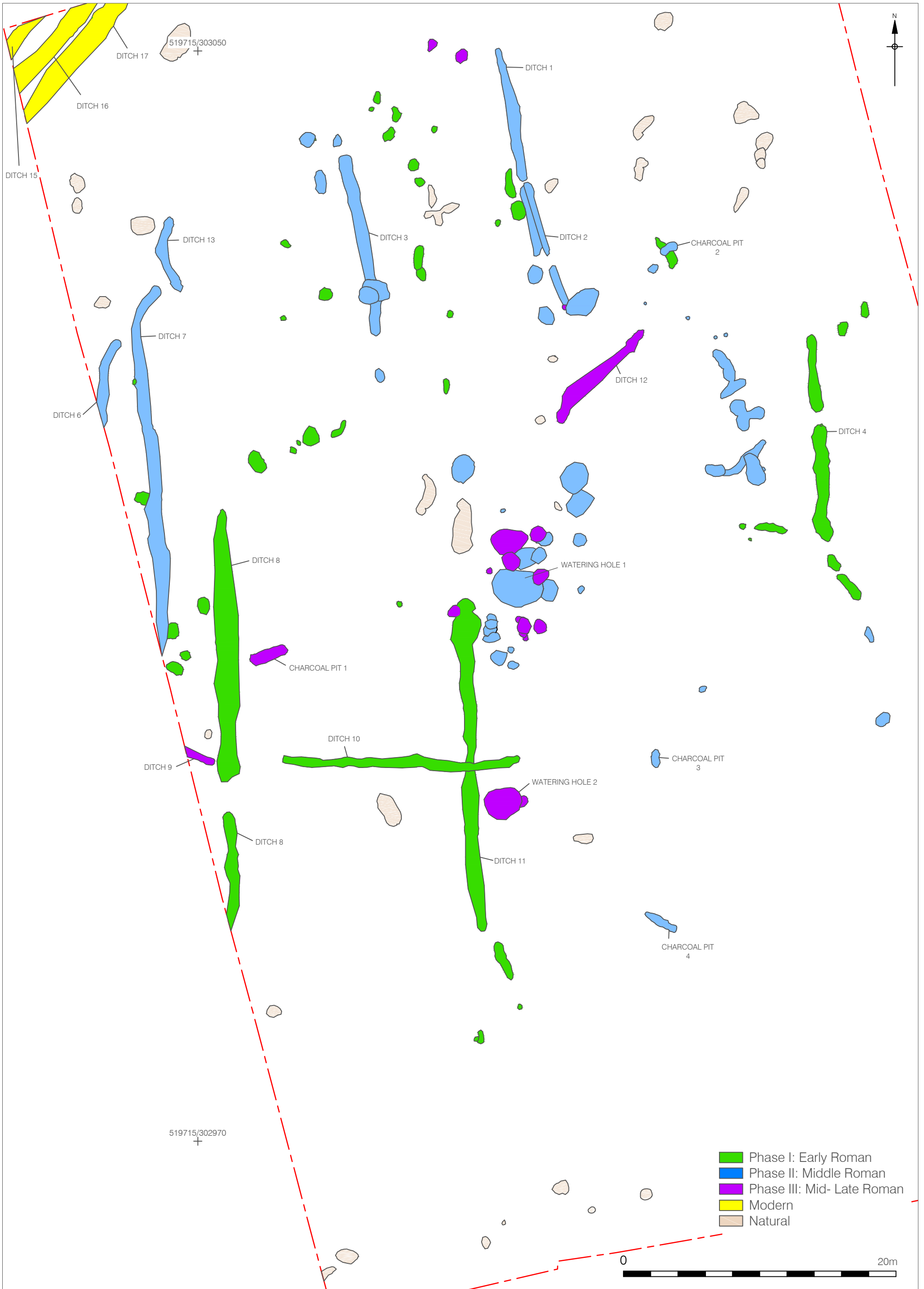
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Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:2,000,000 & 1:20,000 at A4



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Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:2,000 at A3



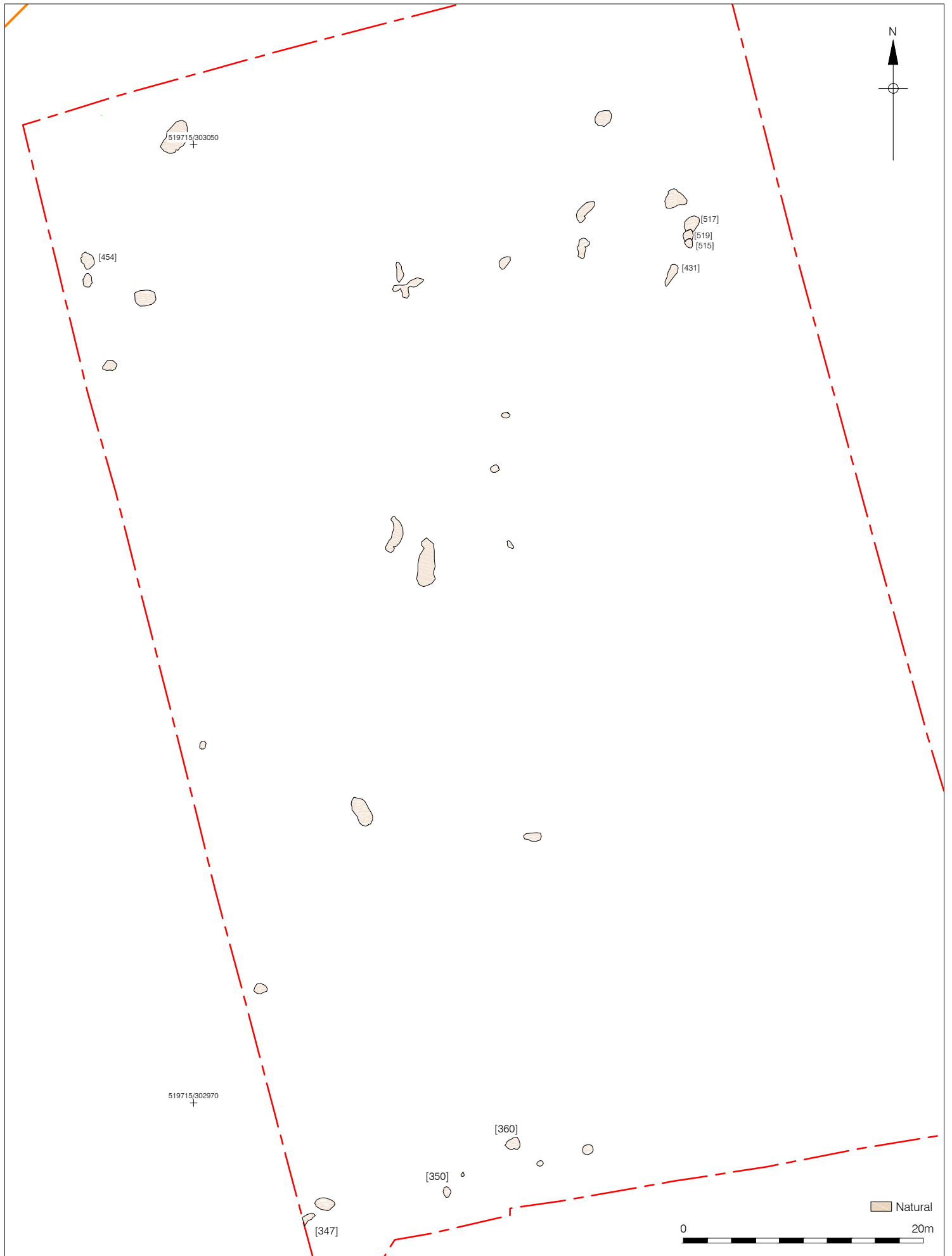


Figure 4a  
 Natural Features  
 1:400 at A4

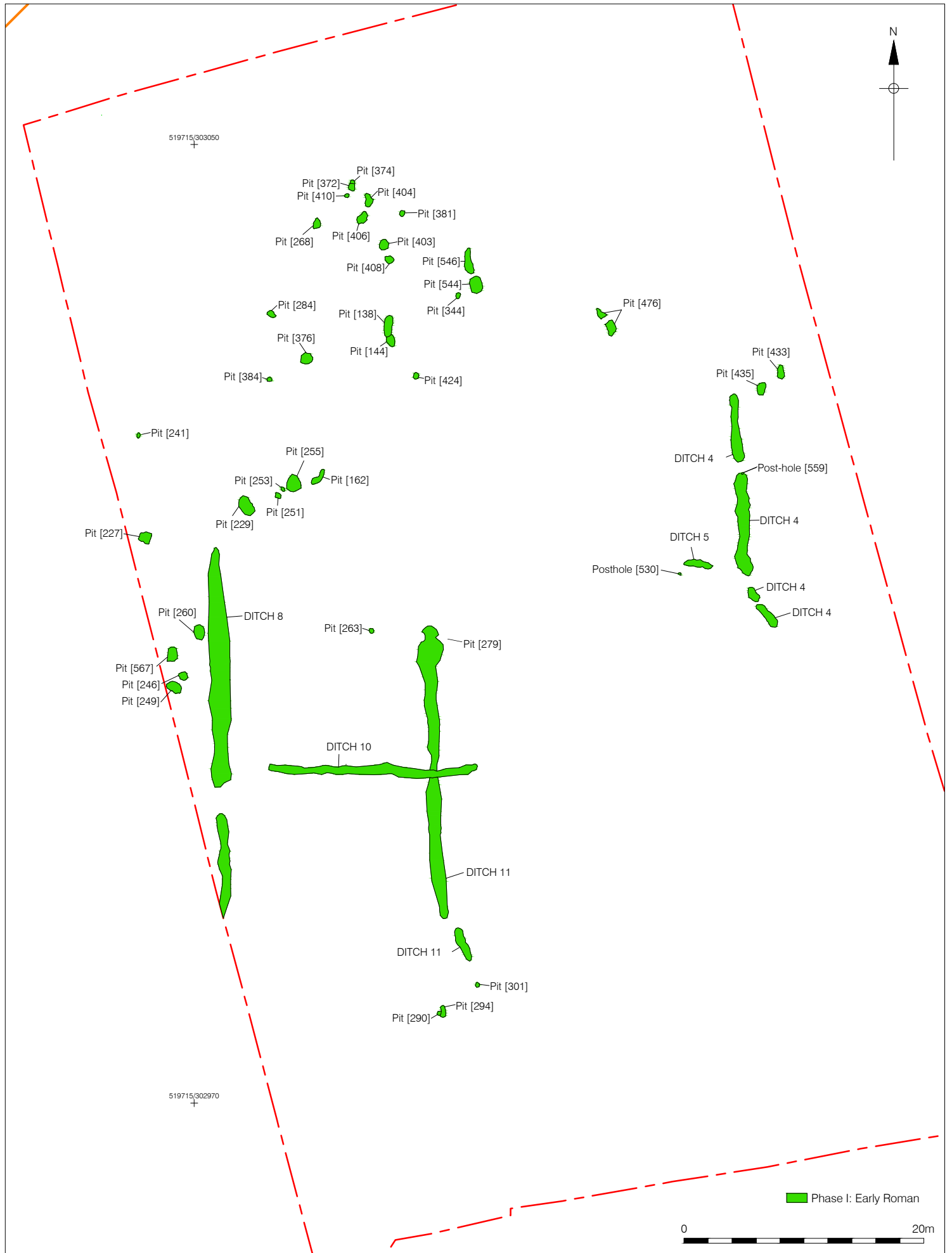


Figure 4b  
Early Roman 1:400  
at A4

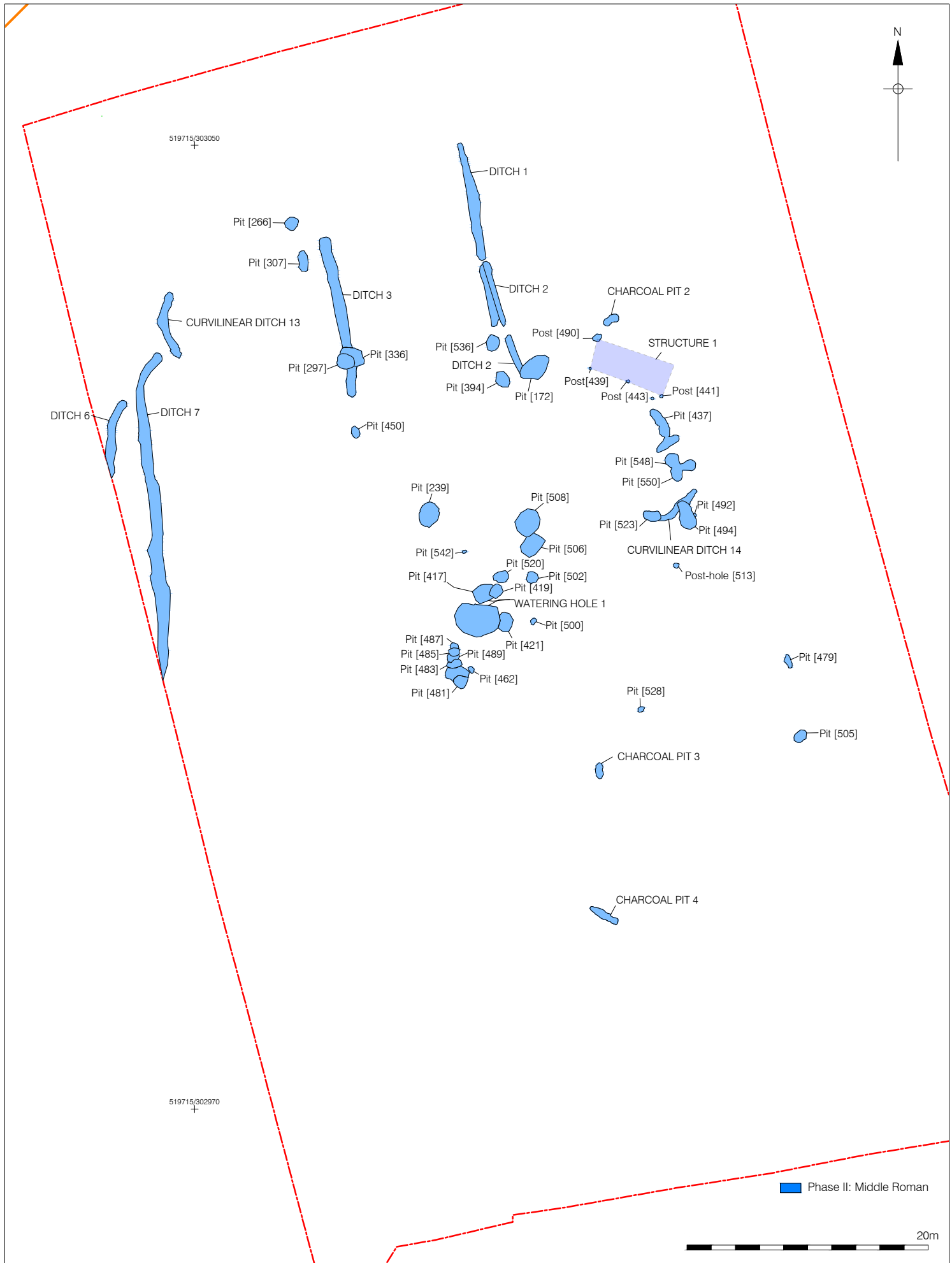


Figure 4c  
 Mid-late Roman Features  
 1:400 at A4

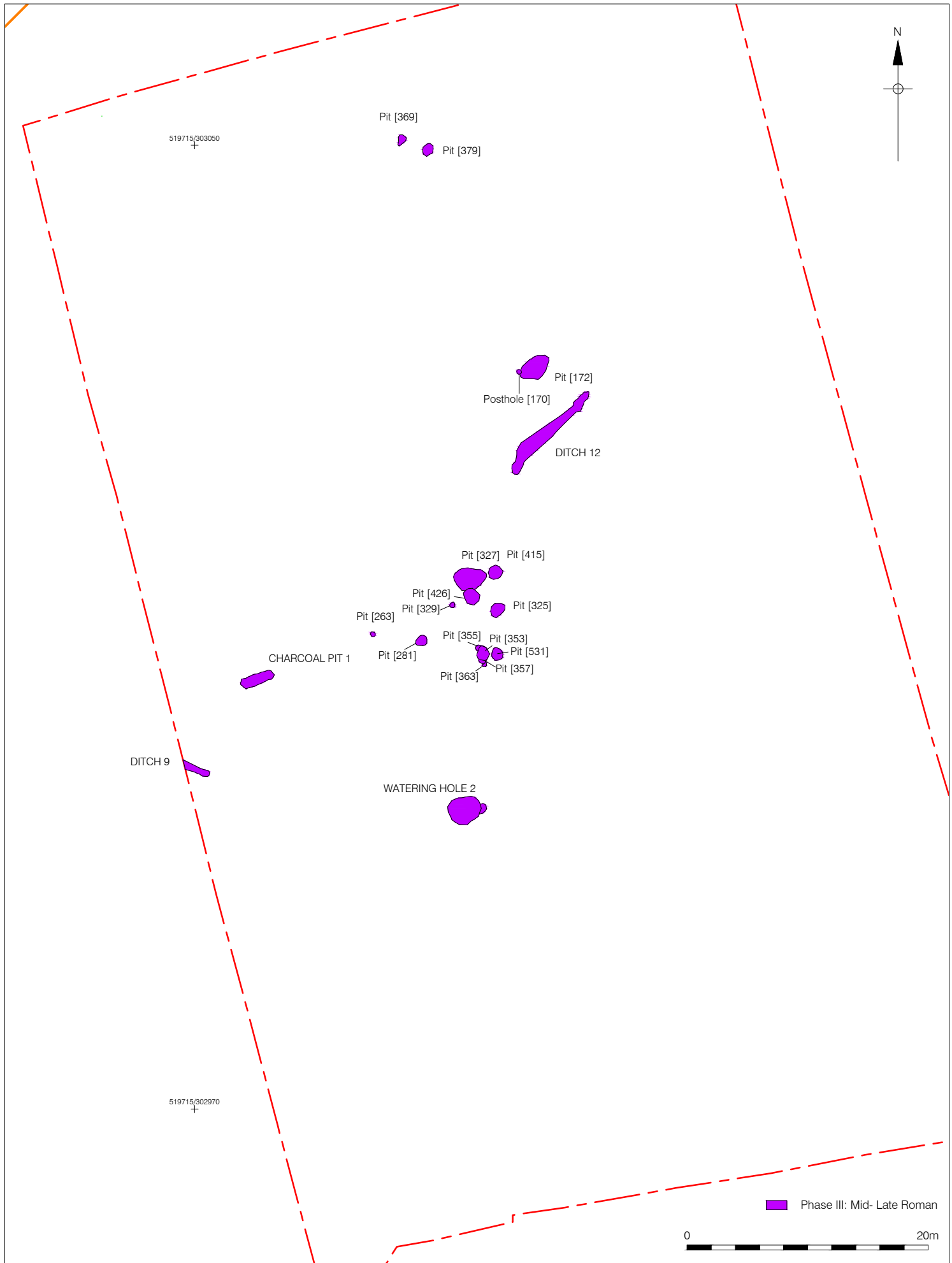
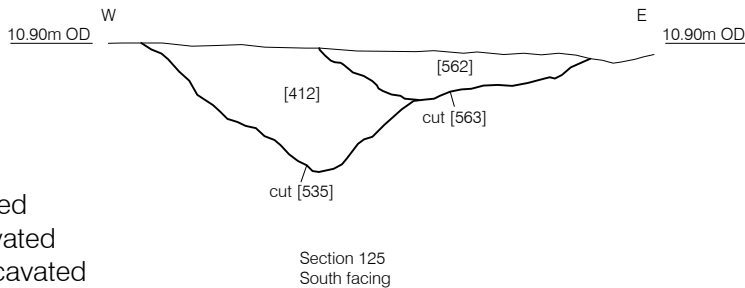
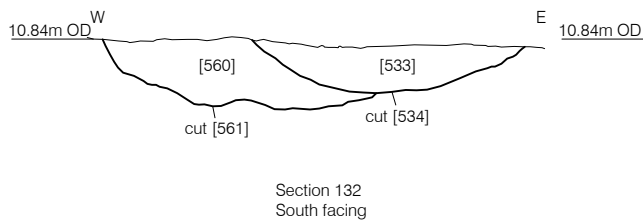
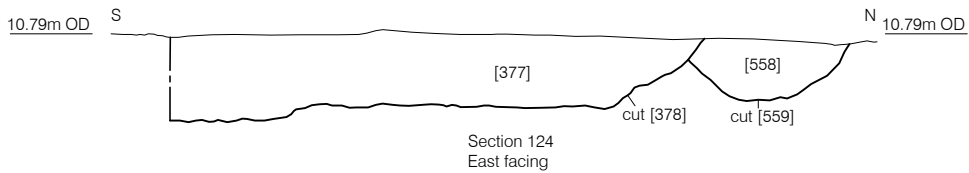
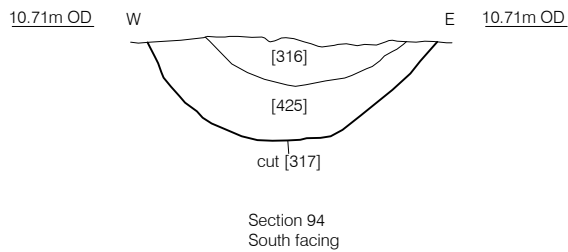
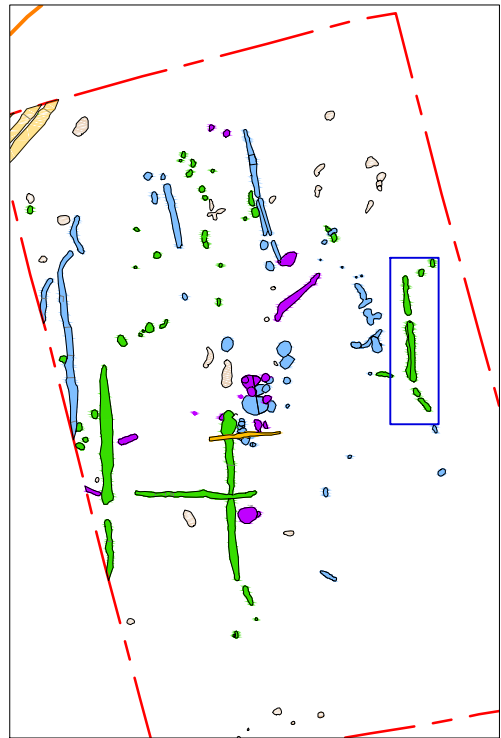
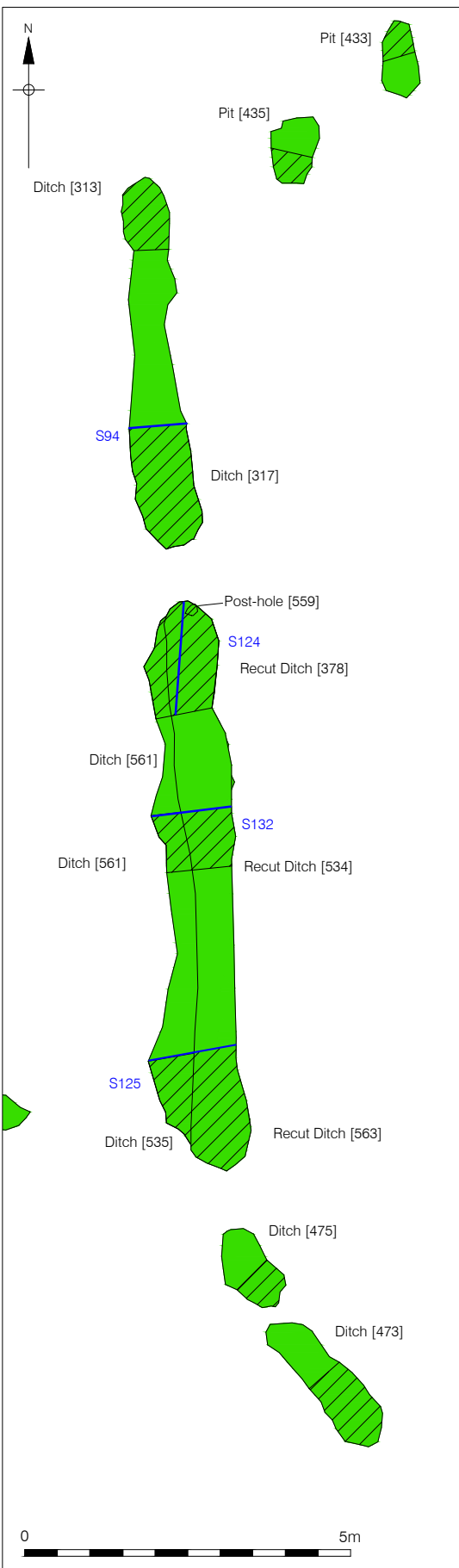


Figure 4d  
 Late Roman Features  
 1:400 at A4

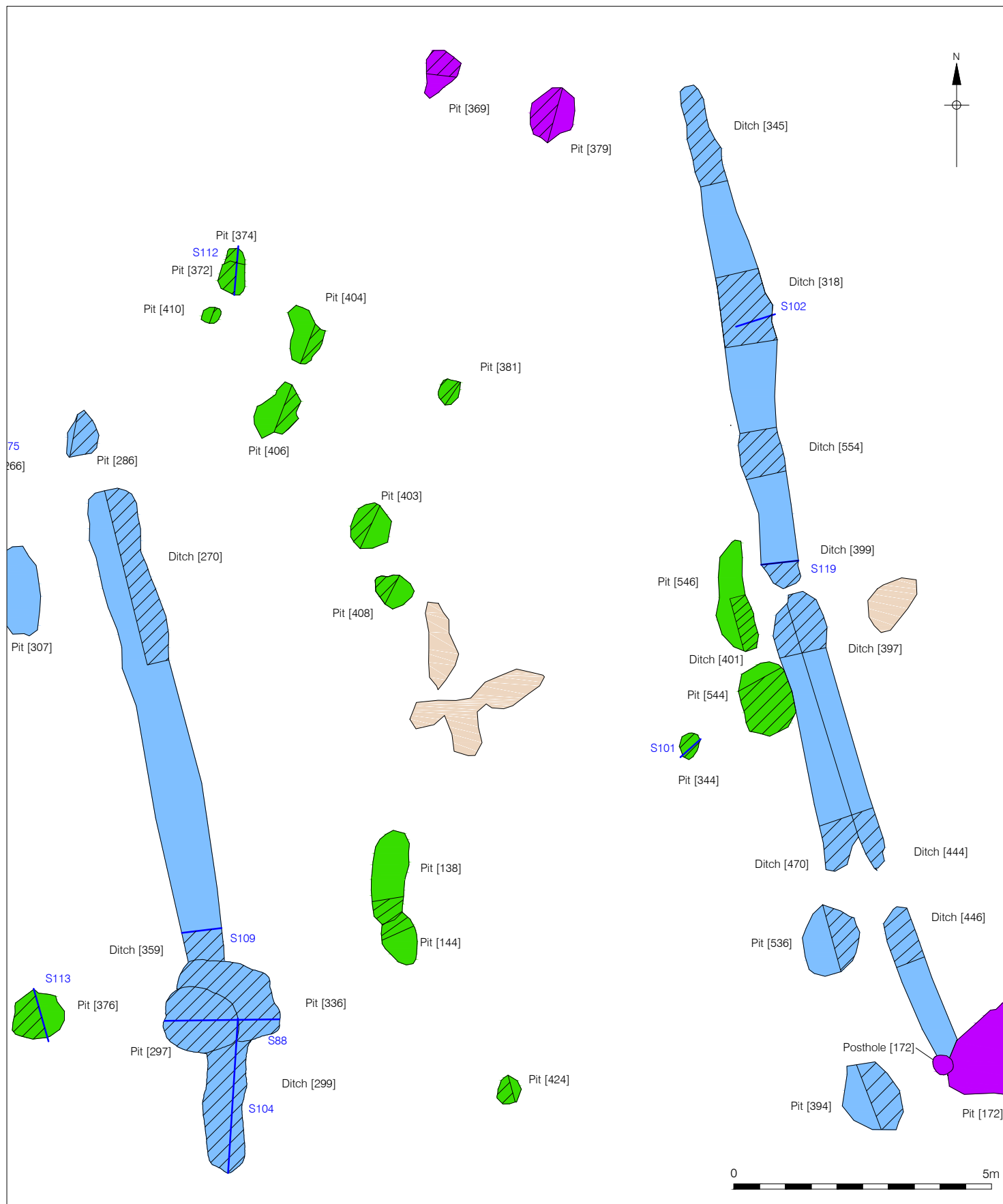


- Phase I: Early Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Phase II: Middle Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Phase III: Mid-Late Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Modern: excavated/unexcavated
- Natural



Figure 5  
Ditch 4  
Plan at 1:100, sections at 1:20 at A4





- Phase I: Early Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Phase II: Middle Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Phase III: Mid-Late Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Modern: excavated/unexcavated
- Natural

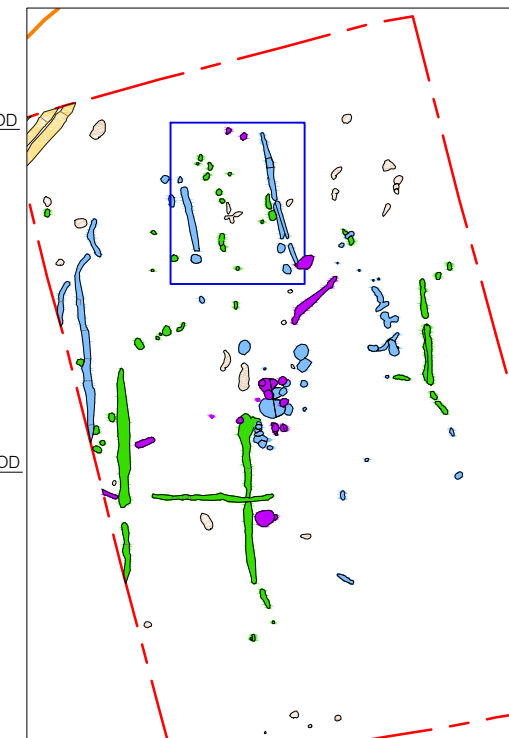
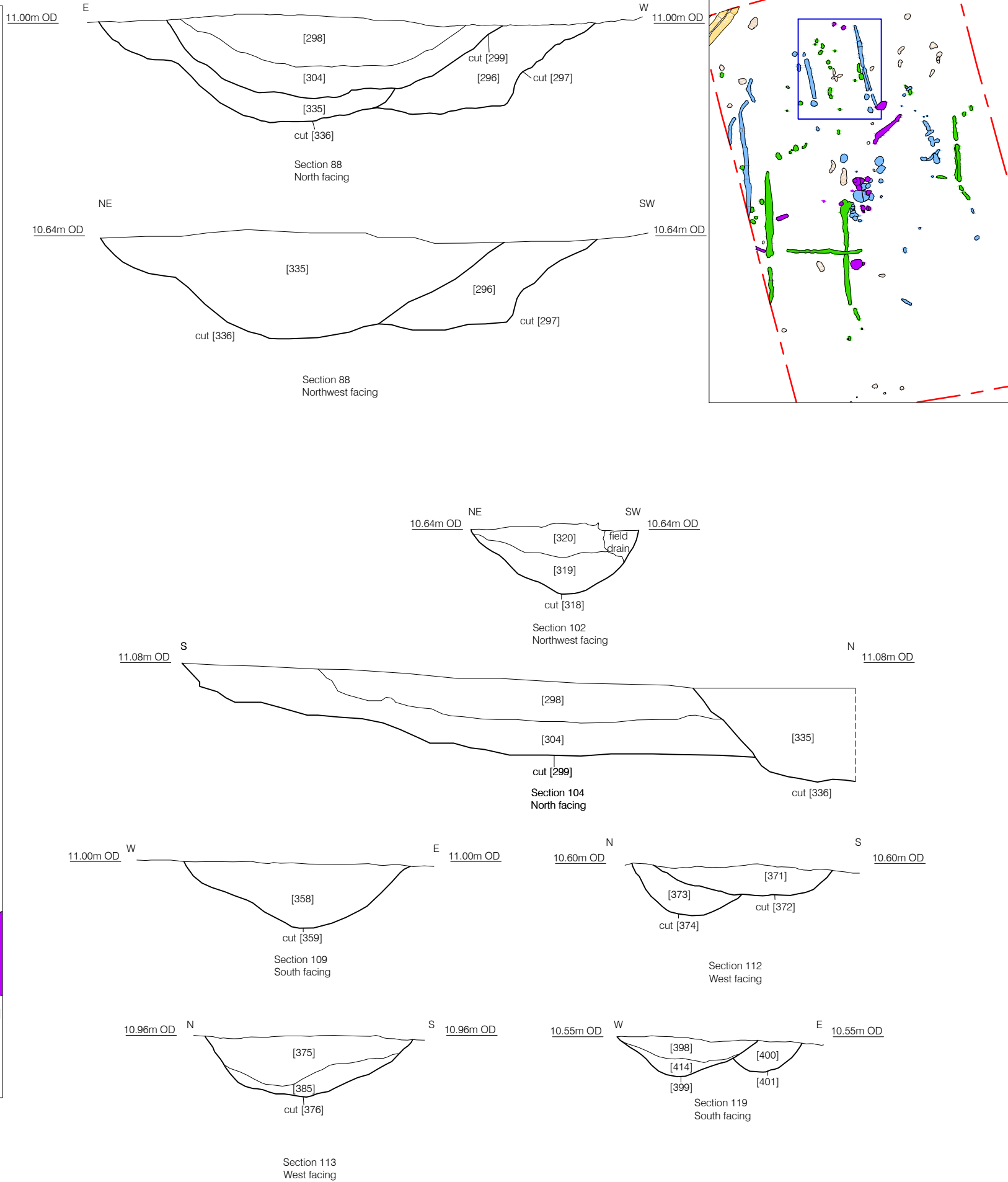
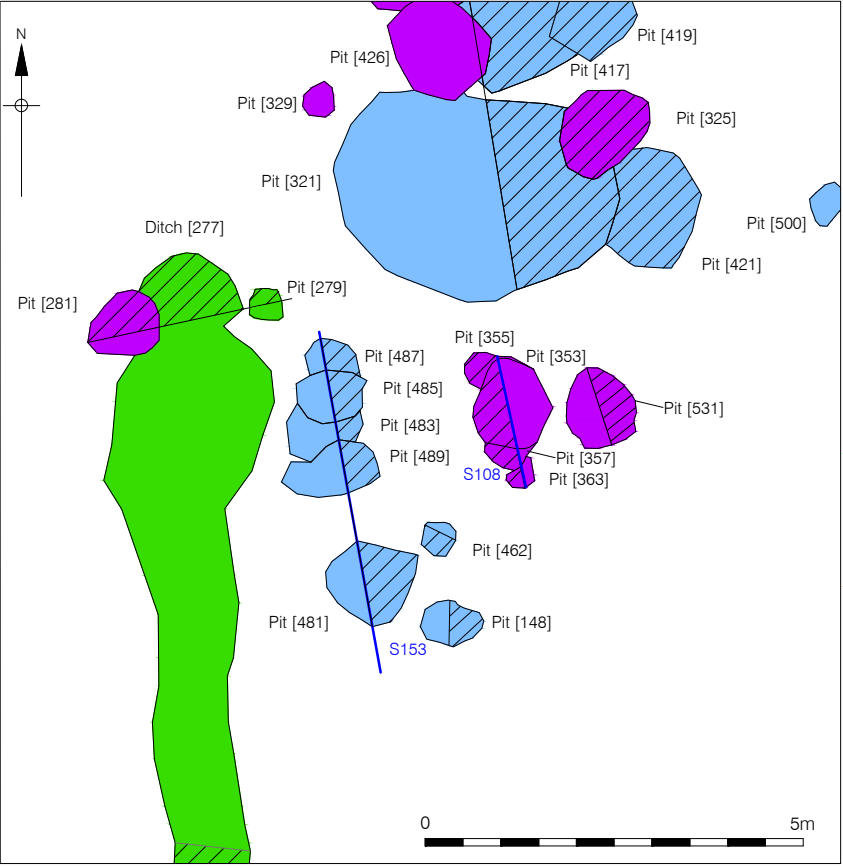


Figure 6  
Ditches 1-3 and pitting  
Plan at 1:100, sections at 1:20 at A3



- Phase I: Early Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Phase II: Middle Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Phase III: Mid-Late Roman: excavated/unexcavated
- Modern: excavated/unexcavated
- Natural

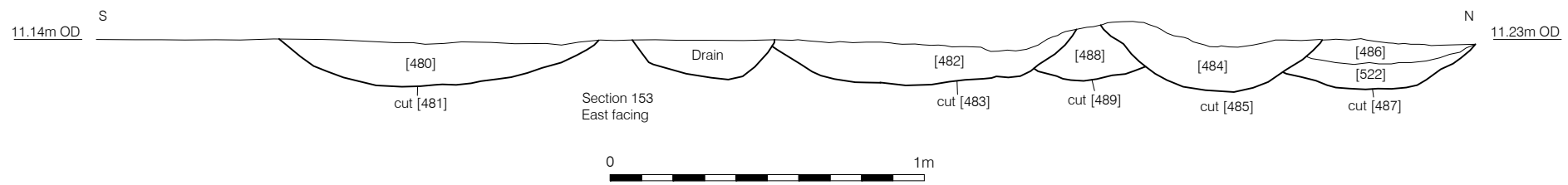
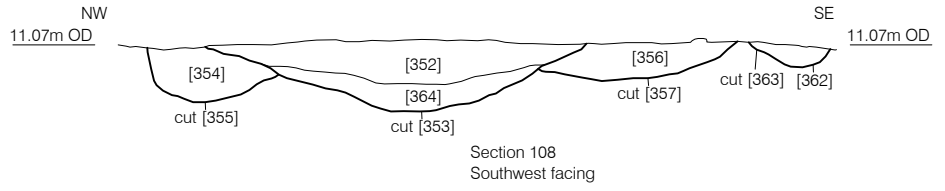
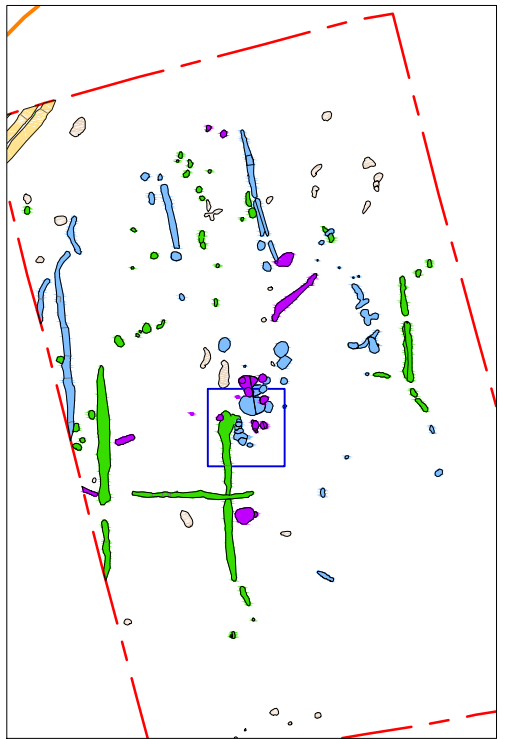
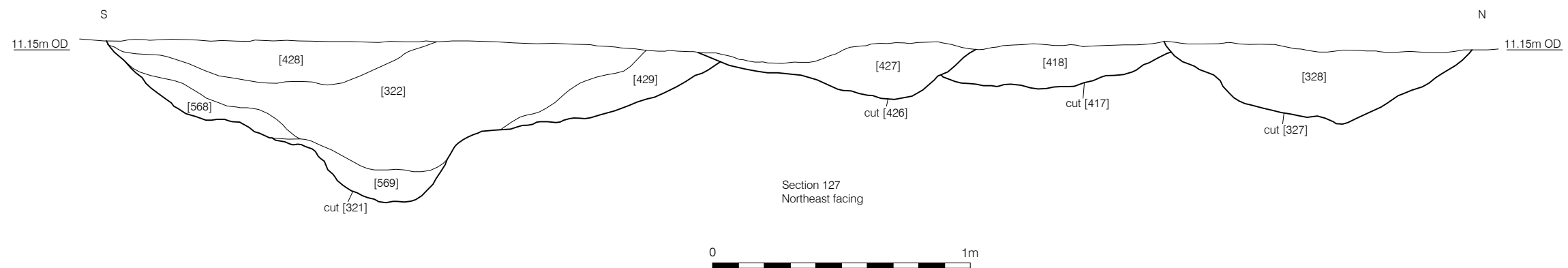
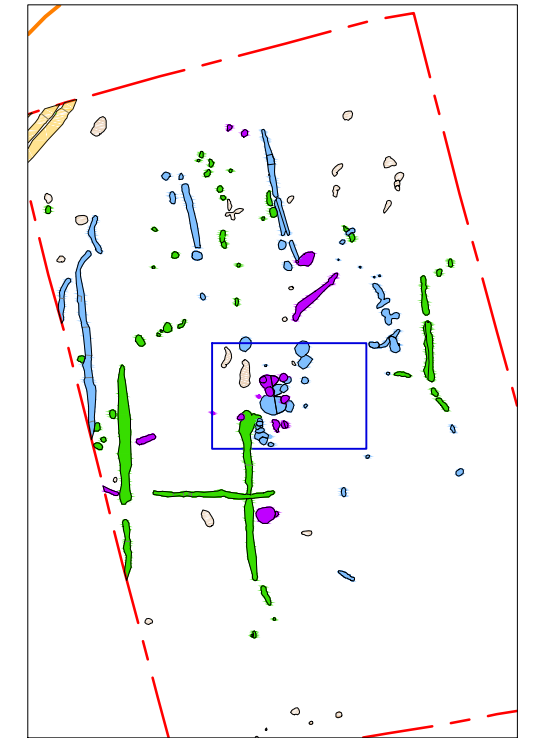
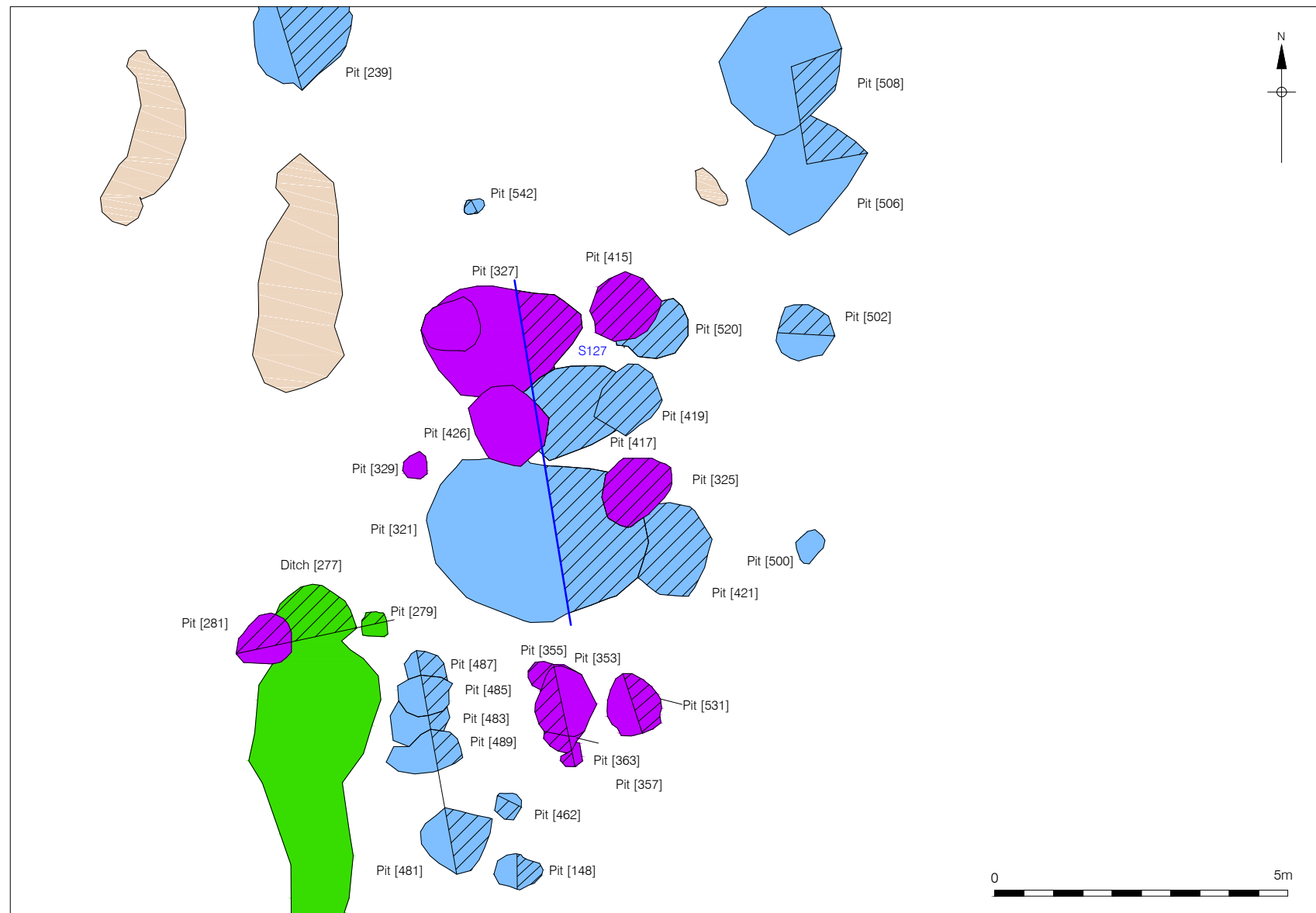
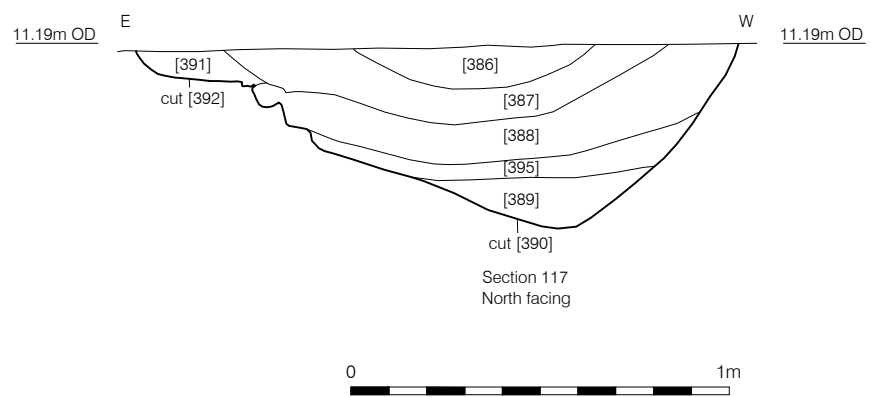
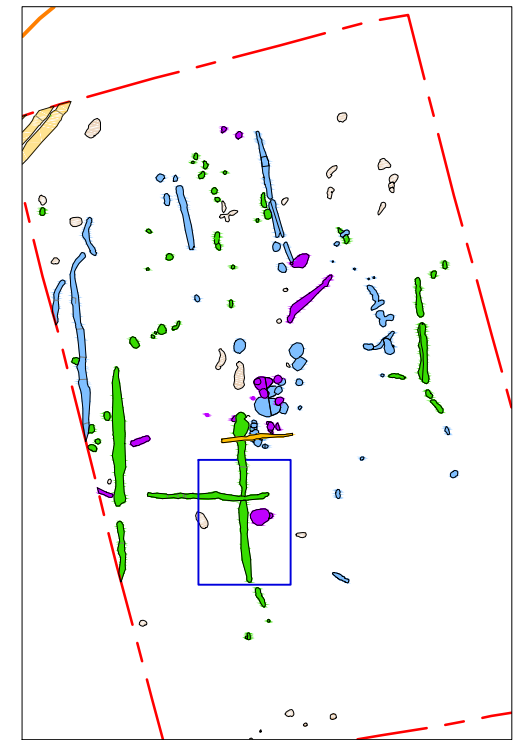
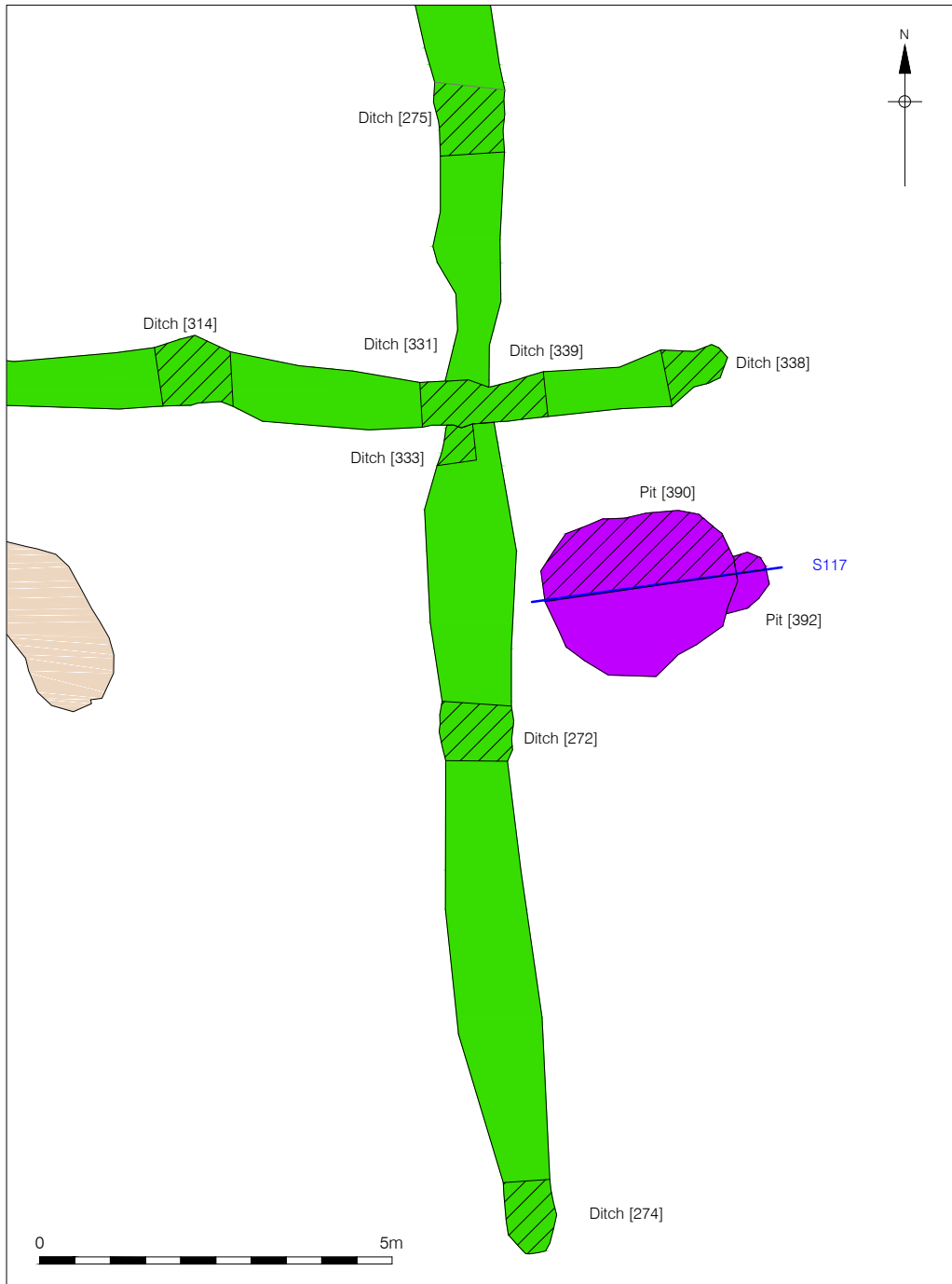


Figure 7  
Middle and Mid-Late Roman Pits  
Plan at 1:100, section 1:20 at A4










-  Phase I: Early Roman: excavated/unexcavated
-  Phase II: Middle Roman: excavated/unexcavated
-  Phase III: Mid-Late Roman: excavated/unexcavated
-  Modern: excavated/unexcavated
-  Natural

Figure 9  
Watering hole 2: Plan and Section  
Plan at 1:100, section at 1:20 at A4

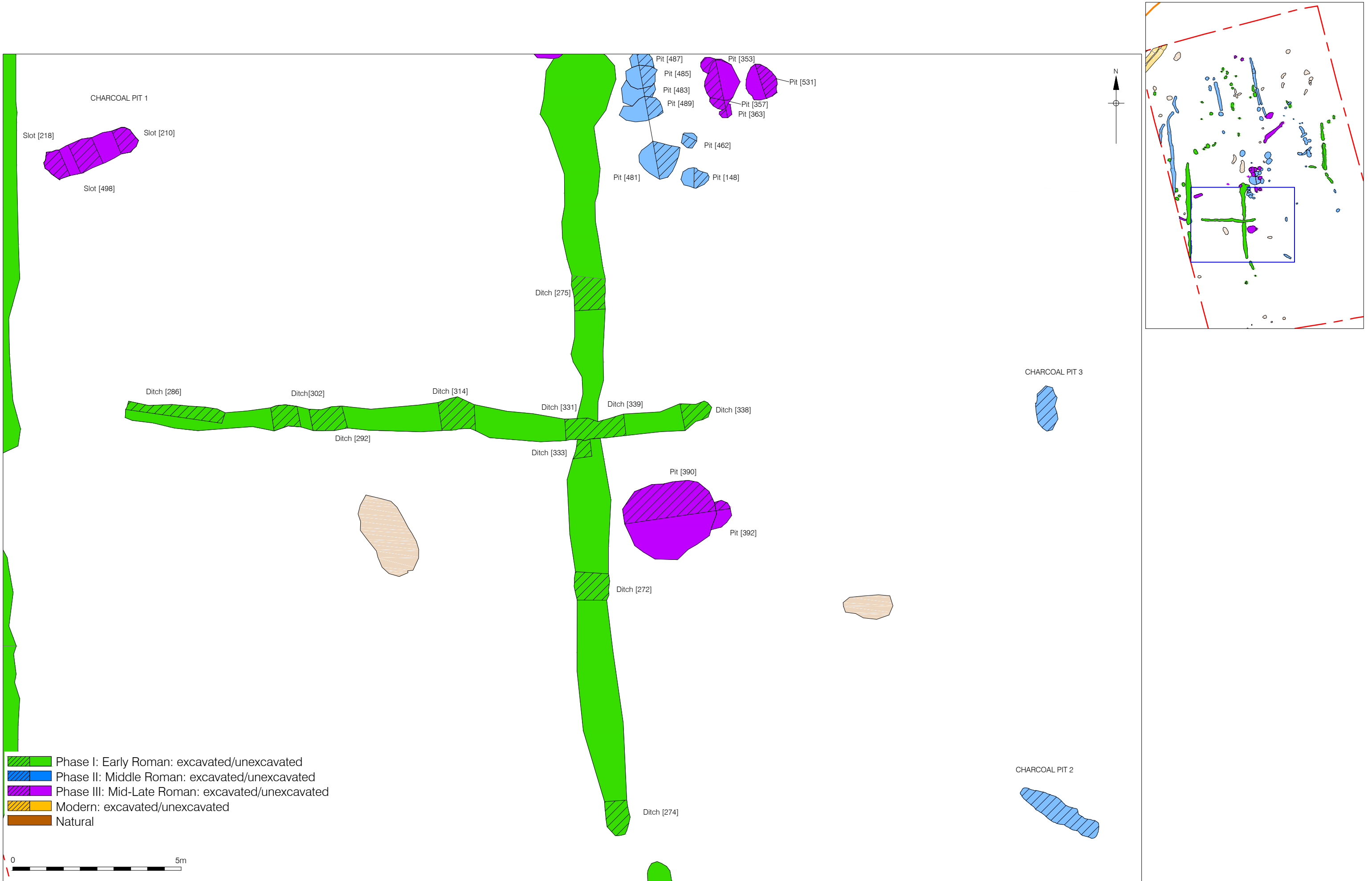


Figure 10  
Charcoal pits  
1:100 at A4

**13 APPENDIX 1: PLATES**



Plate 1: Site, view south-west



Plate 2: DITCH 4, Slot [317] view north



Plate 3: DITCH 4, pottery in-situ, view north



Plate 4: DITCH 4 Slot [378] and Post-hole [559]



Plate 5: DITCH 4, Slot [565] showing charcoal dump



Plate 6: Pit [344], mid excavation showing in-situ pottery





Plate 7: Pit [344], view south



Plate 8: Pit [376], view east



Plate 9: DITCH 1 Slot [318], view south



Plate 10: DITCH 1, animal burial in [318]



Plate 11: DITCH 1, Terminals [399], [397] and Ditch [401]



Plate 12: DITCH 1, Pottery assemblage in Slot [154]



Plate 13: DITCH 3, Slot [299] showing Pits [297] and [339]



Plate 14: Pit [297], in-situ pottery



Plate 15: Pits [481], [483], [485], [487]



Plate 16: Pit [481], in-situ pottery



Plate 17: Stamped mortaria rim, recovered from [481]



Plate 18: Pit [494], view north



Plate 19: WATERING HOLE 1, view west

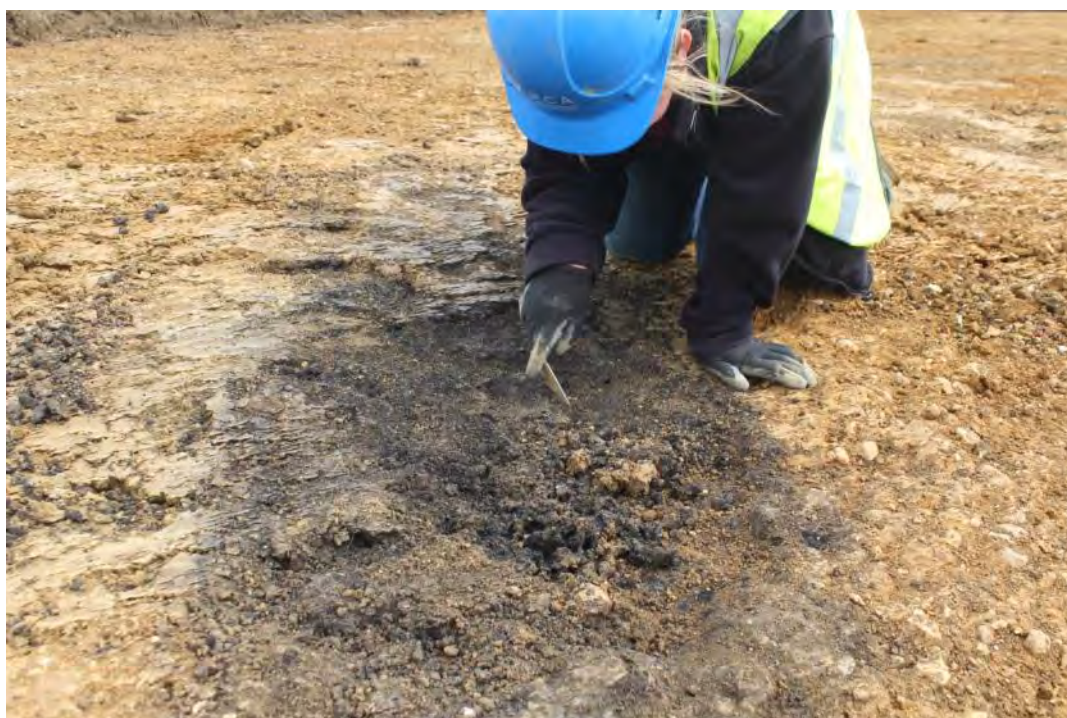


Plate 20: CHARCOAL PIT 4, mid excavation



Plate 21: WATERING HOLE 2, view south



Plate 22: WATERING HOLE 2 fully excavated, view east



## 14 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
100	0	Layer	Topsoil		
101	0	Layer	Subsoil		
102	0	Layer	Natural		
103	104	Fill	Pit		
104	104	Cut	Pit		
105	106	Fill	Furrow		
106	106	Cut	Furrow		
107	108	Fill	Furrow		
108	108	Cut	Furrow		
109	111	Fill	Posthole		
110	111	Fill	Posthole		
111	111	Cut	Posthole		
112	113	Fill	Pit		
113	113	Cut	Pit		
114	115	Fill	Pit		
115	115	Cut	Pit		
116	117	Fill	Pit		
117	117	Cut	Pit		
118	119	Fill	Furrow		
119	119	Cut	Furrow		
120	121	Fill	Furrow		
121	121	Cut	Furrow		
122	124	Fill	Pit		
123	124	Fill	Pit		
124	124	Cut	Pit		
125	126	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
126	126	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
127	128	Fill	Pit		
128	128	Cut	Pit		
129	130	Fill	Furrow		
130	130	Cut	Furrow		
131	132	Fill	Pit		
132	132	Cut	Pit		
133	136	Fill	Pit		
134	135	Fill	Pit		
135	135	Cut	Pit		
136	136	Fill	Pit		

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
137	138	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
138	138	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
139	140	Fill	Posthole		
140	140	Cut	Posthole		
141	142	Fill	Posthole		
142	142	Cut	Posthole		
143	144	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
144	144	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
145	146	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
146	146	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
147	148	Fill	Pit		
148	148	Cut	Pit		
149	150	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
150	150	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
151	152	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
152	152	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
153	154	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
154	154	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
155	156	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
156	156	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
157	158	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
158	158	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
159	160	Fill	Pit		
160	160	Cut	Pit		
161	162	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
162	162	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
163	164	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
164	164	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
165	166	Fill	Ditch		
166	166	Cut	Ditch		
167	168	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
168	168	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
169	170	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
170	170	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
171	172	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
172	172	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
173	174	Fill	Posthole		
174	174	Cut	Posthole		

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
175	176	Fill	Pit		
176	176	Cut	Pit		
177	178	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
178	178	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
179	180	Fill	Ditch		
180	180	Cut	Ditch		
181	182	Fill	Pit		
182	182	Cut	Pit		
183	184	Fill	Pit		
184	184	Cut	Pit		
185	178	Fill	Ditch		
186	187	Fill	Ditch		
187	187	Cut	Ditch		
188	189	Fill	Ditch		
189	189	Cut	Ditch		
190	191	Fill	Ditch		
191	191	Cut	Ditch		
192	193	Fill	Ditch		
193	193	Cut	Ditch		
200	200	Cut	Ditch	modern	DITCH 15
201	200	Fill	Ditch	modern	DITCH 15
202	202	Cut	Ditch	modern	DITCH 16
203	202	Fill	Ditch	modern	DITCH 16
204	204	Cut	Ditch	modern	DITCH 17
205	204	Fill	Ditch	modern	DITCH 17
206	206	Cut	Ditch	modern	DITCH 16
207	206	Fill	Ditch	modern	DITCH 16
208	209	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
209	209	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
210	210	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1
211	210	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1
212	212	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 8
213	212	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 8
214	214	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 6
215	214	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 6
216	216	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 8
217	216	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 8
218	218	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
219	218	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1
220	218	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1
221	209	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
222	222	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
223	222	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
224	224	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
225	224	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
226	224	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
227	227	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
228	227	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
229	229	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
230	229	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
231	227	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
232	232	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
233	232	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
234	234	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
235	234	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
236	234	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
237	237	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
238	237	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
239	239	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
240	239	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
241	241	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
242	241	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
243	243	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 13
244	243	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 13
245	246	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
246	246	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
247	247	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 13
248	247	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 13
249	249	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
250	249	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
251	251	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
252	251	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
253	253	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
254	253	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
255	255	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
256	255	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
257	257	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 4
258	257	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 4
259	257	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 4
260	260	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
261	260	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
262	257	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 4
263	263	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
264	263	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
265	266	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
266	266	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
267	268	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
268	268	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
269	270	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
270	270	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
271	272	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
272	272	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
273	274	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
274	274	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
275	275	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
276	275	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
277	277	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
278	277	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
279	279	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
280	279	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
281	281	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
282	281	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
283	284	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
284	284	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
285	286	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
286	286	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
287	289	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
288	289	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
289	289	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
290	290	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
291	290	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
292	292	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
293	292	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
294	294	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
295	294	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
296	297	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
297	297	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
298	299	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
299	299	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
300	301	Fill	Posthole	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
301	301	Cut	Posthole	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
302	302	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
303	302	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
304	299	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
305	305	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
306	307	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
307	307	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
308	0	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
309	0	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
310	0	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
311	0	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
312	313	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
313	313	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
314	314	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
315	314	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
316	317	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
317	317	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
318	318	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
319	318	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
320	318	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
321	321	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
322	321	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
323	323	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
324	323	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
325	325	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
326	325	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
327	327	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
328	327	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
329	329	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
330	329	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
331	331	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
332	331	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
333	333	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
334	333	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 11
335	336	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
336	336	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
337	338	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
338	338	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
339	339	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
340	339	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 10
341	342	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
342	342	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
343	344	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
344	344	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
345	345	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
346	345	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
347	347	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
348	347	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
349	344	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
350	350	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
351	350	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
352	353	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
353	353	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
354	355	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
355	355	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
356	357	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
357	357	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
358	359	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
359	359	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 3
360	360	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
361	360	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
362	363	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
363	363	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
364	353	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
365	368	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
366	368	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
367	368	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
368	368	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
369	369	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
370	369	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
371	372	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
372	372	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
373	374	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
374	374	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
375	376	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
376	376	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
377	378	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
378	378	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
379	379	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
380	379	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
381	381	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
382	381	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
383	384	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
384	384	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
385	376	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
386	390	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
387	390	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
388	390	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
389	390	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
390	390	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
391	392	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
392	392	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
393	0	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
394	0	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
395	390	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
396	397	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
397	397	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
398	399	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
399	399	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
400	401	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
401	401	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
402	403	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
403	403	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
404	404	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
405	404	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
406	406	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
407	406	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
408	408	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS



Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
409	408	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
410	410	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
411	410	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
412	535	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
413	397	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
414	399	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
415	415	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
416	415	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
417	417	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
418	417	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
419	419	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
420	419	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
421	421	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
422	421	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
423	424	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
424	424	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
425	317	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
426	426	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
427	426	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
428	321	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
429	321	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
430	431	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
431	431	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
432	433	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
433	433	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
434	435	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
435	435	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
436	437	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
437	437	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
438	439	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
439	439	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
440	441	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
441	441	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
442	443	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
443	443	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
444	444	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
445	444	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
446	446	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
447	446	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
448	450	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
449	450	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
450	450	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
451	452	Fill	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 12
452	452	Cut	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 12
453	454	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
454	454	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
455	456	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 8
456	456	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 8
457	458	Fill	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 9
458	458	Cut	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 9
459	460	Fill	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 12
460	460	Cut	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 12
461	462	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
462	462	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
463	463	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 3
464	463	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 3
465	465	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 2
466	465	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 2
467	465	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 2
468	468	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 3
469	468	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 3
470	470	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
471	470	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 2
472	473	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
473	473	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
474	475	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
475	475	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
476	476	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
477	476	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
478	479	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
479	479	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
480	481	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
481	481	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
482	483	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
483	483	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
484	485	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
485	485	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
486	487	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
487	487	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
488	489	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
489	489	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
490	490	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
491	490	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	STRUCTURE 1
492	492	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
493	492	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
494	494	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
495	494	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
496	494	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
497	494	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
498	498	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1
499	498	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	CHARCOAL PIT 1
500	500	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
501	500	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
502	502	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
503	502	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
504	505	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
505	505	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
506	506	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
507	506	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
508	508	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
509	508	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
510	510	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 14
511	510	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 14
512	513	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
513	513	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
514	515	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
515	515	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
516	517	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
517	517	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
518	519	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
519	519	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
520	520	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
521	520	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
522	487	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
523	523	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
524	523	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
525	525	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 14
526	525	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 14
527	528	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
528	528	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
529	530	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 5
530	530	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 5
531	531	Cut	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
532	531	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	MID-LATE ROMAN PITS
533	534	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
534	534	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
535	535	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
536	536	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
537	536	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
538	539	Fill	Posthole	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
539	539	Cut	Posthole	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
540	523	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
541	523	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
542	542	Cut	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
543	542	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	MIDDLE ROMAN PITS
544	544	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
545	544	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
546	546	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
547	546	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
548	548	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
549	548	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
550	550	Cut	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
551	550	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
552	517	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
553	517	Fill	Natural		NATURAL FEATURES
554	554	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
555	554	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 1
556	557	Fill	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
557	557	Cut	Ditch	Middle Roman	DITCH 7
558	559	Fill	Posthole	Early Roman	DITCH 1
559	559	Cut	Posthole	Early Roman	DITCH 1
560	561	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Group
561	561	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
562	563	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
563	563	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
564	565	Fill	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
565	565	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	DITCH 4
566	567	Fill	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
567	567	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	EARLY ROMAN PITS
568	321	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
569	321	Fill	Pit	Middle Roman	WATERING HOLE 1
570	390	Fill	Pit	Mid-Late Roman	WATERING HOLE 2
571	572	Fill	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 12
572	572	Cut	Ditch	Mid-Late Roman	DITCH 12

## 15 APPENDIX 3: ROMAN POTTERY CATALOGUE

Context	Cut	No.	Wt(g)	Context Spotdate
0	n/a	5	70	N/A
134	135	24	105	AD150-300
153	154	28	42	AD150-400
155	156	4	3	AD150-400
169	170	2	2	AD200-400
171	172	5	19	AD150-300
177	178	2	2	AD50-400
208	209	186	2889	AD200-400
211	210	1	3	AD50-400
219	218	2	5	AD200-400
223	222	40	401	AD120-200
225	224	51	200	AD150-400
226	224	21	372	AD150-300
230	229	1	37	AD50-400
231	227	1	5	AD50-100
233	232	8	77	AD150-400
252	251	3	122	AD50-200
261	260	3	5	AD50-200
264	263	7	25	AD30-70
267	268	2	27	AD50-100
269	270	1	1	AD50-400
271	272	3	42	AD50-200
282	281	10	246	AD200-400
285	286	15	111	AD100-400
293	292	29	90	AD150-300
296	297	35	125	AD150-300
298	299	110	202	AD70-150
303	302	21	174	AD150-300
304	299	4	251	AD150-400
306	307	1	4	AD150-300
315	314	6	65	AD200-400
316	317	26	173	AD150-300
319	318	21	160	AD150-300
320	318	10	45	AD100-400
322	321	11	162	AD150-400
323	321	1	53	AD150-400
324	323	19	177	AD150-300

326	325	48	1849	AD200-400
328	327	4	132	AD200-400
335	336	30	343	AD150-300
338	337	2	15	AD150-300
340	339	3	67	AD100-400
343	344	31	288	AD50-100
346	345	7	25	AD50-100
349	344	6	21	AD50-200
353	352	19	200	AD200-300
354	355	1	85	AD200-400
362	363	1	91	AD200-400
371	378	1	12	AD50-400
375	376	1	13	AD50-100
377	378	6	20	AD70-200
379	380	2	273	AD200-400
386	390	40	827	AD200-400
387	390	100	1323	AD200-400
388	390	95	1439	AD240-400
389	390	14	221	AD200-400
396	397	25	375	AD150-400
398	399	12	30	AD100-300
416	415	1	11	AD200-400
420	419	10	156	AD100-400
427	426	1	118	AD200-400
436	437	3	10	AD150-400
438	439	1	10	AD150 300
445	444	15	167	AD150-400
447	446	65	526	AD150-250
448	450	5	54	AD150-400
451	452	1	222	AD200-400
455	456	4	94	AD150-400
459	460	9	90	AD150-300
461	462	6	45	AD150-300
464	463	19	150	AD150-300
466	465	39	265	AD150-300
467	465	24	236	AD150-300
471	470	2	13	AD150-400
478	479	1	1	AD100-400
480	481	38	203	AD150-300

482	483	74	1924	AD150-300
484	485	35	429	AD150-250
486	487	28	252	AD150-300
488	489	1	45	AD100-400
491	490	1	6	AD100-400
493	492	3	1	AD150-400
496	494	1	2	AD100-400
497	494	6	23	AD100-300
499	498	1	6	AD100-300
501	500	2	32	AD150-300
503	502	2	10	AD150-300
504	505	1	57	AD150-300
507	508	20	249	AD150-300
512	515	4	41	AD150-400
524	523	29	132	AD100-300
526	525	1	1	AD100-400
537	536	20	196	AD150-300
540	523	5	74	AD150-300
541	523	11	339	AD100-400
556	557	78	680	AD200-400



**16 APPENDIX 4: SMALL FINDS CATALOGUE**

SF	Context	Material	Object	Type	Description	Date	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Depth (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Extent
	116	Glass	Vessel		A fragment of mid-green, bubbly vessel glass, roughly triangular in plan and curved in profile. The outer surface is decorated with two horizontal trails of cobalt blue glass, pinched together in a spectacle pattern.	Roman	20	23.5			Incomplete
1	101	Copper alloy	Coin		Discoidal object, worn on both faces. Possibly a halfpenny coin of either George II (1727 - 60) or George III (1760 - 1820).	Post-Med			1.3	27.3	Complete
	118	Copper alloy	Ingot		Cast copper alloy ingot, rectangular in plan, slightly curved; trapezoidal in section. It has a weight of 49g. The base is flat and there are ovoid shaped mouldings on the exterior of the inner long edge.		13	41	18.5		?Complete
	U/S	Iron	Nail		Elongate object with rectangular section shank tapering to a point. Possibly a nail or tack. No head.		7	24.5			Incomplete
	177	Iron	Nail	Manning Type 1b	Incomplete nail with slightly convex, sub-square head and tapering shank that is square in section. Tip missing.		7	18			Incomplete

SF	Context	Material	Object	Type	Description	Date	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Depth (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Extent
	101	Iron	Nail		Incomplete nail with flat, sub-square head and shank that is rectangular in section. Corroded.		11.5	43			Incomplete
	186	Iron	Nail		Incomplete nail with globular head and shank that is square in section. Tip missing.		11	42			Incomplete
10 1	352	Copper alloy	Binding		Elongate strip of sheet copper alloy, of medium gauge. It is folded into a narrow U-shaped section, with both edges meeting. May have been binding over the edge of an object.	Roman	5	51	6		Incomplete
10 2	507	Glass	Vessel		A fragment of the neck of a natural blue, bubbly glass vessel. The fragment is curved in profile with the straight neck expanding into the rim. The neck is an estimated 17mm in diameter externally. May be part of a funnel necked vessel.	Roman	26	17	14		Incomplete
10 3	343	Stone	Tessera		Cuboid tessera. It is lozenge shaped in plan and square in section. It is a buff coloured stone with most of the surfaces being smooth and polished through wear.	Roman	6	7	5		Complete
	100	Glass	Vessel		A fragment from the base of a bottle. It is	Roman	14	41	24		Incomplete

SF	Context	Material	Object	Type	Description	Date	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Depth (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Extent
					a natural green colour, with few bubbles. The base is curved and flat, thus the bottle would be cylindrical. It is thick walled measuring 7mm.						
	320	Iron	?Nail		Two co-joining fragments of an elongate object, square in section. Possibly shank of a nail. Corroded.		7	26	6		Incomplete
	455	Glass	Window		A fragment of natural blue window glass. It is triangular in plan and rectangular in section. It has a flat matt lower surface and an upper glossy surface, possibly from being cast.	Roman	11	29	6		Incomplete
	464	Iron	Residue		Thirty-four small magnetic fragments recovered from the non-floating residue of soil sample 42. They are irregular in shape with molten or pitted surfaces. Largest piece measured.		4.5	8	4		Incomplete
	480	Iron	Nail	Manning Type 1b	Elongate object with flat, sub-rectangular head and tapering shank, square in section. Corroded and encrusted.	Roman	12	51	8		Incomplete
	540	Iron	Nail		Elongate object, square in section. Possibly a piece of a nail shank. Corroded.		8	22	7		Incomplete

## 17 APPENDIX 5: METALWORKING CATALOGUE

Context	Cut	Category	Sample	Slag classification	Wt (g)	Comments
101	-	Subsoil		Coke	2	
155	156	Ditch	5	Coke	1	
159	160	Pit		Undiagnostic ironworking slag	99	
171	172	Pit	7	Vitrified hearth/furnace lining	7	
258	257	Pit	24	Undiagnostic ironworking slag	6	
259	257	Pit	24	Undiagnostic ironworking slag	3	
271	272	Ditch	25	Fayalitic run slag	18	
271	272	Ditch		Undiagnostic ironworking slag	10	
273	274	Ditch		Cinder	20	
291	290	Ditch	28	Cinder	114	
291	290	Ditch	28	Fayalitic run slag	688	
291	290	Ditch	28	Fired clay	57	
291	290	Ditch	28	Furnace bottom	781	130x90x70mm
291	290	Ditch	28	Iron waste/object	251	
291	290	Ditch	28	Tap slag	1392	
291	290	Ditch	28	Undiagnostic ironworking slag	7709	
291	290	Ditch	28	Vitrified hearth/furnace lining	545	
469	468	Pit		Flake hammerscale	not quantified	
469	468	Pit		Furnace bottom	959	120x100x70mm
469	468	Pit		Undiagnostic ironworking slag	404	Prob fragmentary smithing hearth bottoms

**18 APPENDIX 6: OASIS FORM**

<b>OASIS ID: preconst1-299471</b>	
Project details	
Project name	Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough: Archaeological Excavation
Short description of the project	<p>This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation and excavation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire (centred on OS NGR TF 1979 0298) between 24th April and 26th May 2017. The archaeological work was commissioned by Keepmoat in response to a planning condition attached to the construction of a new residential development. The aim of the work was to preserve by record any archaeological remains which would be damaged or destroyed by the new development. The fieldwork identified a small-scale Roman farmstead located c.50m south of the Car Dyke. The farmstead consisted of a series of short segments of ditch, which would likely have formed a system of enclosures and field systems, no evidence for dwellings was identified however. At least two phases of ditch alignments are present indicating that the farmstead was extant for a sustained period of time, perhaps growing to prominence due to the proximity to the Legionary fort at Longthorpe, Peterborough (Monument Number 364099) as well as the Car Dyke (Monument Number 1034621). A number of pits were identified with some producing significant assemblages of pottery amongst other finds. Associated with these were two watering-holes which would have provided a water source for the farmstead, as well as providing water for the other agricultural activities on the site. Three pits excavated on the site contained large quantities of charcoal and evidence for burning; however no evidence for in-situ fires was present. One of these pits contained an assemblage of iron slag which indicates these features may have had a more industrial function, albeit small-scale. It is likely that this farmstead is related to the settlement located to the south-west at Manor Drive (Fletcher 2008).</p>
Project dates	Start: 24-04-2017 End: 26-05-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	PCCHER54076 - Sitecode

Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLE Roman
Monument type	WATERHOLE Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE PETERBOROUGH PETERBOROUGH Paston Reserve, Peterborough
Postcode	PE6 7RX
Study area	0.6 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 1979 0298 52.611003419141 -0.230644197746 52 36 39 N 000 13 50 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 10.68m Max: 11.63m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Project brief originator	Peterborough City Council Planning Services
Project design originator	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project director/manager	Mark Hinman
Project supervisor	Matt Jones

Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Archive ID	PCCHER54076
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Digital Archive ID	PCCHER54076
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Geophysics","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Archive ID	PCCHER54076
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text","Unspecified Archive"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Paston Reserve, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Excavation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jones, M.
Date	2017

Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Pampisford
Description	A4 bound report including figures, plates and appendices



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