An Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation On Land At Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke

Site Code: POKB 06

Central National Grid Reference: SU 6020 5140

Written and Researched by Rebecca Lythe

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, November 2007

Project Manager: Peter Moore
Post-excavation Manager: Frank Meddens

Commissioning Client: Barratt Southern Counties

Contractor: Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Unit 54 Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
Brockley
London
SE4 2PD

Tel: **020 7732 3925**
Fax: **020 7639 9588**

Email: fmeddens@pre-construct.com

Website: www.pre-construct.com

CONTENTS

Appendices

Illustrations

1 ABSTRACT

1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological evaluation and excavation conducted on land adjacent to Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke. The project was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. and was commissioned by Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting Ltd. on behalf of Barratt Southern Counties.

1.2 The site is centered on National Grid Reference SU 6020 5140 (figure 1). A railway line and properties fronting Old Kempshott Lane formed the northern site boundary, agricultural land formed the western boundary and Old Kempshott Lane and properties fronting it former the eastern and western site limits. The site was assigned the code POKB 06.

1.3 The underlying geology consists of Cretaceous chalk bedrock, sealed by cryoturbated chalk gravel capped by silty clay with flints.

1.4 The evaluation and excavation identified the first phase of human activity as being Early Holocene in date. Flint scatters suggest low-intensity use of the site, perhaps by nomadic or semi-nomadic bands. Intensive exploitation did not seem to occur until the Iron Age, when it seemingly functioned as farmland. A mixed agrarian and pastoral strategy was probably employed at this period as indirect evidence of cereal cultivation and animal husbandry was encountered. What probably constituted a large 'banjo-enclosure' interpreted as a droveway and corral was uncovered, suggesting the management of animals on site. Nine deep, circular features were also excavated and interpreted as grain storage pits. They all contained similar intricate backfill sequences suggestive of deliberate closure. A number of other Iron Age pits contained evidence indicative of domestic waste, suggesting the presence of near-by habitation.

1.5 The northern and eastern portion of an early to mid Roman rectilinear ditch was found on the southwest side, which continued beyond the southwestern site boundary. This may represent the northeastern portion of an enclosure ditch around a Roman settlement.

1.6 The enclosure ditch fell out of use in the late 1st / early 2nd century AD, after which an apparent hiatus in activity seems to have occurred. After occupation resumed in the late 3rd to early 4th century, the enclosure was truncated by a 10.4m wide, 4.4m deep, circular pit. This feature was partially backfilled prior to the creation of a centrally positioned rectangular grave, which contained a human skeleton in a supine position, accompanied by a funerary vessel. After the grave was closed, backfilling of the large circular feature resumed.

1.7 A deposit of modern ploughsoil, 0.12m to 0.4m thick, sealed the entire site, which was in turn sealed by 0.18m to 0.3m of topsoil.

2 INTRODUCTION (Figure 1-2)

2.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on land adjacent to Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke, between 18th September and 27th October 2006, in advance of a residential development. The evaluation yielded positive results in four distinct areas and further mitigation was therefore deemed necessary. As a consequence, three large excavations were opened up between 30th October 2006 and 5th March 2007.

2.2 The archaeological evaluation and excavation was commissioned and monitored by Duncan Hawkins of CgMs on behalf of Barratt Southern Counties. The project was managed by Peter Moore and was supervised by Rebecca Lythe, both of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Stephen Appleby of Hampshire County Council monitored all archaeological proceedings on behalf of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

2.3 The development will consist of residential housing in the form of flats and houses. Whilst the proposed structures are not basemented, their required foundation depths, associated services and other groundworks, in addition to the movement of heavy plant across the site, will severely impact upon the underlying archaeology.

2.4 The site is situated in an Archaeological Priority Zone, as defined by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Adopted Local Plan, due to the presence of prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval remains in the immediate vicinity.

2.5 The completed archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefacts, will be stored by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. until their eventual deposition with the appropriate local archive.

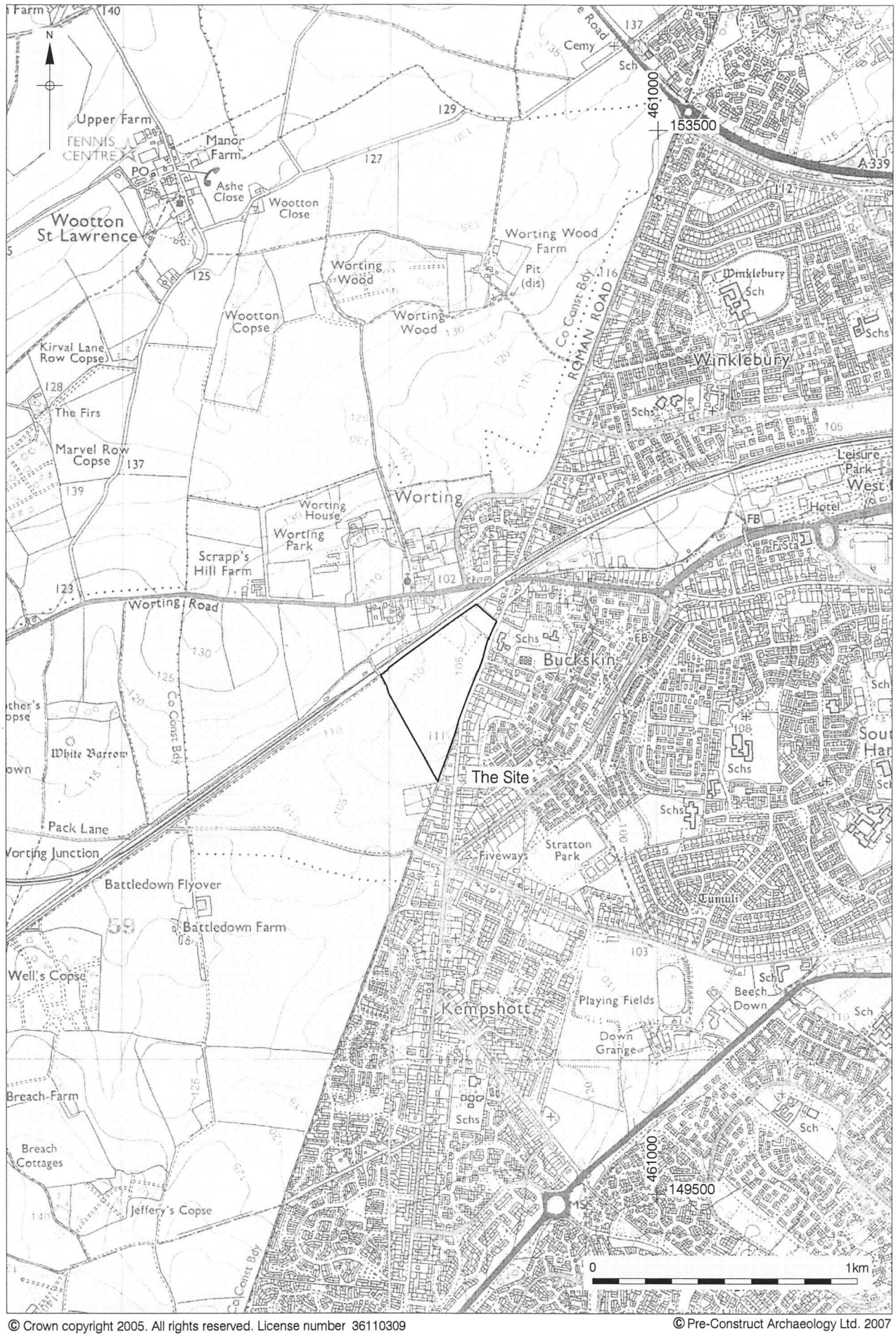


Figure 1
Site Location
1:20,000 at A3

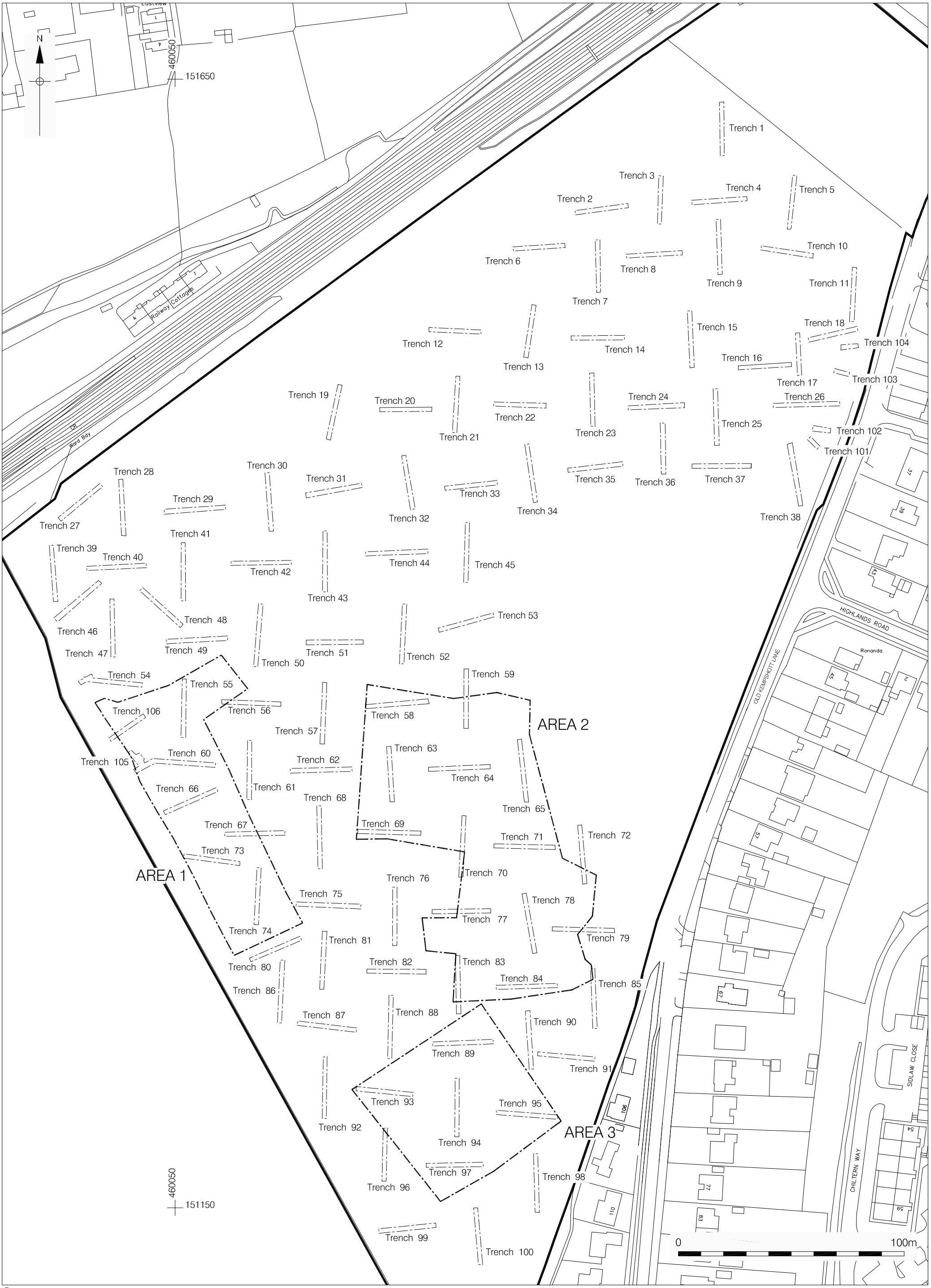


Figure 2
Trench Locations
1:1500 at A3

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1 In November 1990 the Department of the Environment issued Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16) 'Archaeology and Planning', providing guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the preservation and investigation of archaeological remains.

3.2 In short, government policies provide a framework which:

- Protects Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Protects the settings of these sites
- Protects nationally important un-scheduled ancient monuments
- Has a presumption in favour of *in situ* preservation
- In appropriate circumstances, requires adequate information (from field evaluation) to enable informed decisions
- Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not important enough to merit *in situ* preservation.

3.3 In considering any proposal for development, the local planning authority will be mindful of the policy framework set by government guidance, of existing development plan policy and of other material considerations.

3.4 Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Adopted Local Plan includes several clauses in relation to archaeological practice within the Borough, and includes the following:

Policy E4

Development proposals should be located and designed so as to avoid disturbance or other adverse effects on nationally important archaeological sites and monuments, whether scheduled or not, and their settings. Proposals should seek to preserve the archaeological remains in situ.

Development proposals which would have an adverse effect on remains of local archaeological value will be permitted only if the importance of the development outweighs the value of the remains.

Where physical preservation of the deposits in situ is not possible, applicants must make provision for the professional excavation and recording of the

archaeology, in accordance with a detailed scheme approved prior to the development commencing.

Proposals should seek to enhance the setting of visible archaeological remains.

In areas where there is evidence that archaeological remains may exist, but where the extent and importance of these remains is unknown, developers will be required to arrange an archaeological field assessment prior to the determination of a planning application.

Archaeological remains are a finite and non-renewable resource that represents an irreplaceable record of former times. These remains are fragile and vulnerable to damage or loss due to the pressures of development. Remains of national importance are scheduled as Ancient Monuments by the Government on the advice of English Heritage. The criteria for scheduling are so stringent that large numbers of nationally important archaeological sites will remain unscheduled.

The Plan area contains a number of major archaeological sites from a range of periods, some of which are of international importance. However, only a small number of the archaeological sites in the Plan area are protected as Scheduled Ancient Monuments and it is only those, which are shown on the Proposals Maps and the Inset Maps. The definitive boundaries of these sites can be acquired from English Heritage. All the other sites have no statutory protection and must rely on the sympathetic application of planning and management policies for their survival and protection.

Where preservation in situ is not possible or feasible, archaeological investigation and recording may be an acceptable alternative. Planning conditions and/or a planning S106 obligation may be used to ensure that the applicant makes satisfactory provision for archaeological investigation and recording prior to the commencement of development.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The site is situated on Cretaceous chalk capped by densely packed, angular chalk gravel, formed from the bedrock as a result of periglacial cryoturbation.

4.1.2 With the exception of the two highest points, silty clay was observed across the entire site, becoming thicker further down-slope. The thickness of the deposit ranged from a maximum of 0.4m in the northeast corner, lensing out towards the two highest points in the south and west. This variable thickness is presumed to be a product of colluvial action.

4.1.3 Cryoturbation also created regular crevices in the chalk gravel that became in-filled by the overlying silty clay. Consequently, an uneven 'wavy' contact separates the two units, as observed in the sides of sufficiently intrusive archaeological features. Seen in plan, these in-filled crevices and chalk gravel outcrops produce a series of discontinuous, linear striations of silty clay and chalk, as observed in the higher southern portion of the site, where the overlying silty clay unit was thin. This phenomenon is known as 'tiger-striping' on account of its appearance.

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 The southern corner of the site is relatively elevated at a height of 109.87m OD. The land surface then dips down to 107.38m OD in a northwesterly direction, before rising again to 111.31m OD in the western corner. This dip forms a 'dry valley' that slopes from the higher ground in the south towards the lowest point, centrally placed along the northern site boundary at a level of 101.49m OD.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 The approximate timescales used in this report are:

Prehistoric	
Palaeolithic	450,000 – 12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 – 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 – 1,800 BC
Bronze Age	1,800 – 600 BC
Early Holocene	12,000 -600 BC
Iron Age	600 BC – AD 43
Historic	
Roman	AD 43 – 410
Saxon / Early Medieval	AD 410 – 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 – 1485
Post-Medieval	AD 1485 - Present

5.2 PALAEOLITHIC

5.2.1 Hampshire's Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) suggests considerable Palaeolithic activity in the region in comparison with much of the rest of Britain. Whilst Clactonian industries are not well represented, more examples of Acheulean worked flints have been found here than in any other British county. Flints of Levallois type are also relatively common. This is probably due to Hampshire's southerly location, which enabled it to remain ice-free during all but the most intense glaciations. Hunter-gather populations could therefore exploit the area more intensely throughout the bulk of the Paleolithic. Hampshire was also not extensively affected by the erosive power of the ice sheets, which destroyed much evidence of interglacial human activity in more northerly areas (Shackley 1981).

5.2.2 Mousterian remains seem underrepresented, particularly in areas of the county that are not situated on terrace gravels. One exception to this is the concentration of such period finds found on the chalk downland around Basingstoke (Shackley 1981).

5.2.3 No evidence of Lower, Middle or Upper Palaeolithic activity is recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site, although some flint tools of Palaeolithic date have been found within 1.5km (Hawkins 2006).

5.3 MESOLITHIC

5.3.1 Extensive evidence of Mesolithic occupation has been unearthed in northeast Hampshire and the Kennet Valley, in contrast to the general lack of material from the chalk downland in central and northwest Hampshire. A number of field walking surveys suggest that this apparent absence may be due to the masking effect of vast quantities of later prehistoric flint work (Hawkins 2006; Jacobi 1981; Shennan 1981).

5.3.2 Small amounts of Mesolithic activity were recorded on the SMR within a 1.5km radius of the site (Hawkins 2006). A substantial Mesolithic flint scatter was also retrieved from Wellock's Hill on the outskirts of Basingstoke (Jacobi 1981).

5.3.3 The site and its immediate environs have not been field walked nor are chance finds known (Hawkins 2006). As a consequence, no directly relevant information concerning its Mesolithic archaeological potential existed prior to the current excavations.

5.4 NEOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE

5.4.1 Exploitation of the area around Basingstoke probably increased in intensity throughout the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, mirroring the trend recorded during recent work in east Hampshire (Fasham & Schadla-Hall 1981).

5.4.2 Pollen profiles from the region suggest that tree clearance commenced on a limited scale during the Early Neolithic, becoming more intensive towards the end of the period. Dense woodland seems to have persisted until at least 3,500 BC (Fasham & Schadla-Hall 1981).

5.4.3 Over 100 Neolithic flint axes were found during field walking exercises undertaken in the area. The flints form part of The Willis Collection, held in the Willis Museum in Basingstoke (Fasham & Schadla-Hall 1981).

5.4.3 Formalisation of the agricultural landscape in Britain had begun by the Middle Bronze Age, with the development of co-axial field systems and linear ditches (Bradley 1978; Pryor 1999). Such intensification seems to have taken place in Hampshire (Fasham & Schadla-Hall 1981), although archaeological evidence of contemporary settlement is relatively scant. Despite this, the presence of an organised and relatively complex society can be inferred from the surge in monument building (including long barrows,

causewayed enclosures, henges and later still round barrows) throughout the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods (Fasham & Schadla-Hall 1981).

5.4.4 The Hampshire SMR records three ring ditches within the site itself along with another four on 'Kite Hill' to the south. Two were depicted on the 1932 Ordnance Survey Map as 'tumuli'. The features probably represent Bronze Age barrows, their mounds having been destroyed by intensive modern ploughing (Hawkins 2006).

5.4.5 Barrow 'cemeteries' of this kind are frequently situated in prominent positions, often on high ground. Kite Hill is one of the highest points in the area and would, vegetation permitting, have commanded an excellent view in antiquity. It has been suggested that 'cemeteries' of this kind could have served as 'landscape monuments' or territorial markers, perhaps functioning as foci for ritual activity or celebrations (Woodward 2000). This may have been the case at Old Kempshott Lane. Excavation of one of the features, known as 'The Buckskin Barrow', revealed a multiphase monument consisting of a ring ditch and barrow mound overlying an arrangement of concentric stakeholes, pits and postholes. Environmental analysis of material retrieved from the feature suggests it was a potential ceremonial site, perhaps functioning as a focus for feasting activity (Allen *et al* 1995; Allen & Applin 1995). This indicates that the area surrounding the site had become significant by the Bronze Age.

5.5 IRON AGE

5.5.1 Considerably more evidence of Iron Age activity and occupation can be found in the vicinity of the site (Hawkins 2006), mirroring a regional pattern (Champion & Champion 1981).

5.5.2 Two Iron Age farmsteads are recorded on the Hampshire SMR to the immediate west and south of the site boundary. They are represented by 'banjo' enclosures, revealed during an aerial photographic survey (Hawkins 2006). Enclosures of this kind could have been used in stock control or could have functioned as settlement boundaries.

5.5.3 Excavation was undertaken on an Iron Age Farmstead at Brighton Hill South, Hatch Warren, located approximately 3 km to the south of Old Kempshott Lane. The site was occupied from the Early Iron Age to the Roman period. Archaeological remains encountered included four clusters of rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosures, a banjo enclosure, probable grain storage features, possible roundhouses and several four-post structures, indicative of occupation and farming (Fasham *et al* 1995). Similar features, suggestive of contemporary small-scale habitation, were unearthed

at Rucstalls Hill, Viables Farm, (Champion & Champion 1981; Fasham *et al* 1995) Cowdery's Down (Millet & James 1978) and Oakridge (Oliver 1992). The Basingstoke area therefore appears to have been densely populated during the Iron Age.

5.5.4 An Iron Age hill fort, known as Winklebury Camp, is located approximately 1 mile northwest of Basingstoke town center. It was partially excavated in the 1970s, prior to the construction of a housing estate. The remnants of defensive ramparts, possible roundhouses, four-post granaries, pits, grain storage features and gullies were uncovered (Robertson-Mackay 1977; Smith 1977). The site appears to have been occupied from the 6th to the 1st century BC. It may have been a higher status center, occupied by a controlling elite, or could represent a 'special purpose site', perhaps for the storage of surplus grain (Fisher 1985, 179). Either way, it probably played an important role in the lives of the Iron Age inhabitants of the Basingstoke area, including the occupants of Old Kempshott Lane.

5.6 ROMAN

5.6.1 Basingstoke is situated between the Roman *Civitas* capitols of *Calleva Atrebatum* (Silchester), located approximately 10km to the north and *Venta Belgarum* (Winchester), approximately 25km to the south (Ordnance Survey Historical Maps: Roman Britain 5th Edition, 2001). It was well connected to both, as Old Kempshott Lane follows the line of the main Roman link road between the two.

5.6.2 Settlement patterns from Hampshire suggest the arrival of the Romans initially had little physical impact on smaller scale Iron Age occupation sites, except in terms of ceramic changes. This did not last; by the early 2nd century AD, abandonment of these farmsteads can be recognised archaeologically as a regional trend. Enclosure ditches are frequently in-filled and evidence of habitation decreases. It has been speculated that this may be due to a surge in villa construction and changes in land ownership. This trend did not perpetuate throughout the period, however, as many settlements with Iron Age origins were reoccupied between the late 3rd to 4th centuries (Johnson 1981).

5.6.3 This pattern appears to apply to some, but not all, Iron Age / Romano-British transitional sites in the Basingstoke area. For example, Rucstalls Hill was intensively occupied during the Iron Age and early Roman periods, with a break of approximately 150 to 200 years before its re-occupation in the late 3rd century (Johnson 1981). Similarly, the enclosures at Cowdery's Down had all fallen out of use by the early

Roman period, the next archaeologically datable phase being late Roman. At Brighton Hill South, the Iron Age enclosures found in Sites 'K' and 'B/C' had been abandoned by the Late Iron Age / early Roman period, but at Oakridge, possible evidence of continual occupation was unearthed (Oliver 1992).

5.6.4 A small assemblage of Romano-British pottery is recorded on the Hampshire SMR to the immediate west of the site. The remains of a building and a cremation burial were also found slightly further west, along with metal artefacts, tools and building material of Roman date (Hawkins 2006). This suggests considerable Roman activity in the immediate vicinity of the site.

5.6.5 In 283 AD, Rome appointed a 'barbarian' named Carausius as head of the Imperial Fleet, in an attempt to clear the English Channel of pirates from Scandinavia and the Low Countries. He later declared himself joint Emperor with Maximian (Western Empire) and Diocletian (Eastern Empire), claiming independence for Britain and part of Gaul. Shortly afterwards, Carausius was murdered by Allectus, his second in command, before the Imperial Army landed on the south coast to reclaim the province. The critical battle, in which Allectus was defeated, took place somewhere near Basingstoke (Johnston 1981).

5.7 ANGLO-SAXON

5.7.1 Later Roman phases of occupation at Silchester and Winchester suggest a period of re-fortification. The archaeological record also indicates increased Germanic connections or influences, perhaps related to the arrival of mercenary garrisons of 'barbarian' troupes. This tentatively suggests a phase of instability in the Hampshire area, prior to the abandonment of *Britannia* (Johnston 1981). It has been suggested that Germanic settlers may have continued to migrate into the region after the collapse of Roman rule, perhaps at the request of native British leaders. Consequently, the transition to the Anglo-Saxon period may not have been a gradual process, characterised by integration or 'reluctant toleration' between natives and foreign settlers (Hinton 1981, 57).

5.7.2 Early Saxon occupation of the Basingstoke area is poorly understood. It is possible, however, that the settlement of Worting began to develop on the valley floor at this time (Hawkins 2006). Excavations at Cowdery's Down also suggests occupation continued unbroken from the late Roman period (Millet & James 1983). Basingstoke

itself grew into a 'proto-urban' pre-conquest center during Anglo-Saxon times (Hughes 1981).

5.7.3 A bias in the geographical location of Saxon settlements in Hampshire has been observed, the majority being situated on valley floors, usually near watercourses. The absence of a stream in the vicinity of the site therefore diminishes the likelihood of Anglo-Saxon activity, although re-use of the earlier Bronze Age barrow cemetery as a pagan burial ground could not be ruled out prior to excavation (Hawkins 2006).

5.8 MEDIEVAL AND POST-MEDIEVAL PERIODS

5.8.1 Basingstoke continued to expand in a fairly organic way throughout the medieval period, becoming a commercial center of increasing local importance. The town was one of the few places in Hampshire to have a market and toll recorded in the Domesday Book, the others being Titchfield, Kingsclere and possibly Alton (Hughes, 1981).

5.8.2 Basingstoke's hinterland became one of the wealthiest areas in the county during the medieval period, as the growing concentration of smaller satellite settlements demonstrates. A pattern of villages and dispersed farmsteads developed around the east and southeast of the town, as documented by an archaeological study undertaken in the environs of Dogmersfield and Hartley Mauditt (Hughes 1981). Later abandonment did sometimes occur, however, as exemplified by the deserted villages of Dogmersfield, Herriard (Hughes 1981) and Hatch (Fasham *et al* 1995).

5.8.3 Three moated-manor sites were constructed in the Basingstoke area, at Beaurepaire House, Sherfield Hall and Sherbourne. The last site is of particular interest as it may pre-date the remains of a 12th century priory, potentially representing one of the earliest moated manorial sites in the country (Hughes 1981).

5.8.4 A small ring-work, which probably contained a Saxon to early medieval castle, exists at Woodgarston Farm on the outskirts of Basingstoke. It was first recorded in a 10th century charter as *Wealagaerstune*, translated as 'grass enclosure of the Welshmen'. Reference to a small chapel was made in 1332, suggesting a small settlement may have grown around the castle (Hughes 1981). A second, larger ringwork, situated in Old Basing, contains the ruins of a residence known as Basing House. It was probably the home of Hugh de Port, Sheriff of Hampshire, in the 11th century, remaining the property of his family until the 16th century (Hughes 1981).

5.8.5 Basingstoke continued to develop as a commercial center throughout the Post-Medieval period, flourishing as a market town during the Napoleonic Wars. Attempts to improve transport and trade links were made in the late 18th century, when a canal was constructed in order to join the town with the River Wey. Road improvements were made soon afterwards and a railway was constructed in the mid 19th century (Barton 1981).

5.8.6 The site itself probably consisted of agricultural land during the medieval and post-medieval periods. It is likely to have remained under pasture until early modern times, when technological advances made arable farming on this type of land a viable option (Hawkins 2006).

5.8.7 Historical maps indicate that the northern boundary of the site was created in the mid 19th century, after the coming of the railway. The western boundary may be older, perhaps medieval, as it runs alongside a potentially medieval footpath. The southeastern boundary may be older still, as Old Kempshott Lane may follow a Roman road (Hawkins 2006).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2006), approved by Stephen Appleby of English Heritage on behalf of Hampshire County Council.

6.2 Initially, 100 evaluation trenches, all approximately 2m wide and 26m long, were machine excavated down to the top of archaeologically sensitive levels. They were distributed evenly across those parts of the site where the development had the potential of impacting on buried archaeological remains in order to explore the archaeological potential of the entire site (figure 2). Two linear features were identified, and as a result five additional evaluation trenches were excavated in order to establish their trajectories more accurately. The extra trenches were all 2m wide and of variable length. Trench 101 was 4.8m long, Trench 102 was 6.6m long, Trench 103 was 5.2m long, Trench 104 was 6.5m long and Trench 105 was roughly 'T'-shaped, being 9m long on its north-south axis and 7m long on its east-west axis.

6.3 Thirteen trenches contained evidence of past human activity, clustered in four distinct areas. Several small pits of probable Iron Age date were recorded, along with two Roman ditches. Further mitigation was therefore necessary, and a Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Excavation was designed (Moore 2006) and approved by the English Heritage Monitor.

6.4 Three excavation areas, numbered 1 to 3, were opened for investigation, situated in the locales highlighted by the evaluation. Their dimensions were as follows:

Area 1: 128m north-south x 60m east-west at the northern end and 34m east-west the southern end (figure 2)
Area 2: 88m north-south x 140m east-west
Area 3: 65m north-south x 65m east-west

6.5 Modifications were made to the size and shape of Areas 1 and 2 throughout the course of the excavation. The English Heritage monitor, Stephen Appleby of Hampshire County Council, requested a 3 to 5m 'buffer zone', devoid of archaeology, around the periphery of each area. Extensions were therefore required when features were located close to section edges. In order to manage resources effectively, areas were cut short when vast swathes of archaeologically sterile ground were encountered. This flexible approach proved beneficial, as demonstrated by the number of features recorded beyond the original limits of excavation. Had the boundaries remained static, a number of important features would have been missed. In all other respects, the areas were

excavated in accordance with the revised Written Scheme of Investigation (Moore 2006).

6.6 Between 0.3m and 0.6m of modern overburden was stripped from all trenches until archaeological horizons or natural geology were reached. The modern material was removed with a 360 type mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, operating under archaeological supervision.

6.7 All recording systems adopted during the investigations were fully compatible with those most widely used elsewhere, and published by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS 1995). Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated and exposed were entered on pro-forma recording sheets. All plans and sections of archaeological deposits were recorded on polyester based drawing film, the plans being drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and the sections being drawn at a scale of 1:10. The OD heights of all principal strata were calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections. A full photographic record of the investigations was also prepared, including both black and white prints and colour transparencies on 35mm film. Digital photographs were also taken, using a 5 mega-pixel camera.

6.8 The archaeological features were hand excavated. Small pits, postholes and stakeholes were fully excavated, whilst larger pits were half-sectioned. In the case of larger features only 'unusual' ones, particularly rich in artefactual or environmental remains, were completely excavated. Approximately 10% sections of all ditches and gullies were sampled by excavation, including their termini. All structures and deposits were hand cleaned prior to recording.

6.9 A series of Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs) was established across the site. In Area 1, levels were taken from a TBM with a value of 109.65m OD, placed to the immediate southwest of the excavation area, or from a second TBM with a value of 108.76m OD, located to the northwest. Levels within the large Roman pit [407] were taken from a TBM with a value of 105.61m OD, located on the highest section of the feature's base next to its eastern edge. In Area 2, levels were initially taken from a TBM with a value of 107.48m OD, located to the immediate west of the excavation area. This was unfortunately destroyed when the area was extended, and as a consequence a second TBM with a value of 107.90m OD was established slightly further west. In Area 3, levels were taken from a TBM located in the center of the excavation area, which had a value of 109.88m OD.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION

7.1 PHASE 1- NATURAL (Figure 3)

7.1.1 The site is situated on 'tiger-striped' Cretaceous chalk capped by densely packed, angular chalk gravel, presumed to have formed from the bedrock as a result of cryoturbation during glacial periods. This was overlain by clay with flints, observed across the entire site with the exception of the two highest points in Areas 1 and 3.

7.1.2 Two circular features, flagged as contexts [325] and [388] were encountered in Area 3. Both had been in-filled with a tertiary deposit of well-sorted silt, a secondary deposit of flint gravel and a primary deposit of well-sorted clay. A 'wavy' contact, characteristic of cryoturbated chalk, existed between the primary fill and the chalk natural. The deepest points were also offset from the centre of the features, creating asymmetrical profiles. Context [325] was sub-circular in plan with a slightly irregular diameter that varied between 11.38m and 8.65m. Context [388] was slightly more regular, with a variable diameter of 9.15m to 9.95m. Both were machine excavated and found to be between 2.5m and 3m deep. The Department of Geography at Royal Holloway confirmed their likely periglacial origins.

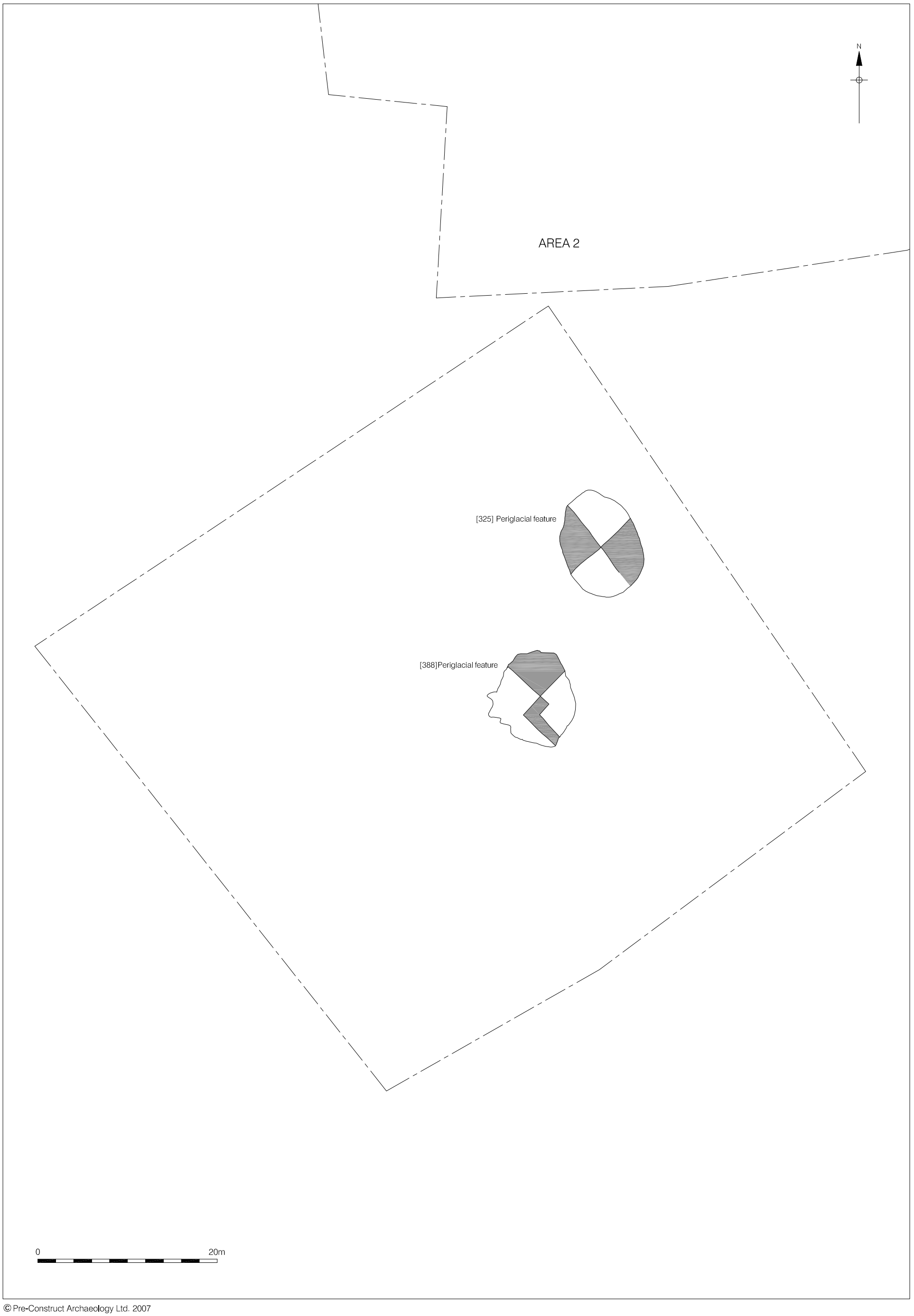


Figure 3
Area 3, Phase 1: Natural
1:400 at A3

7.2 PHASE 2- EARLY HOLOCENE ACTIVITY (Figure 4-5)

7.2.1 INTRODUCTION

7.2.1.1 The archaeological evidence suggests the site was visited intermittently throughout the Early Holocene period. It may have been subjected to woodland clearance before being exploited on a more permanent basis.

7.2.1.2 The tumuli recorded on the 1932 Ordinance Survey map were situated in Area 3. No traces of these were found during the excavation, perhaps as a result of damage caused by modern deep ploughing removing all evidence for them. Being one of the highest points on site, colluvial action appears to have had a considerable effect on the thickness of the sub-soil in the vicinity of Area 3, which was thin to non-existent. Plough damage would therefore have impacted upon the underlying archaeology to a greater extent than elsewhere on the site.

7.2.2 MESOLITHIC TO BRONZE AGE FLINT SCATTERS

7.2.2.1 A dispersed lithic scatter was uncovered both over Areas 1 and 2, the bulk being concentrated in Area 1. The flints were either unstratified, having been reworked by ploughing into the overlying subsoil, or residual, having been re-deposited into later Iron Age or Roman features. Typological analysis suggests the assemblage accumulated gradually between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age periods. Few waste flakes were found, suggesting little or no flint knapping occurred on site. Tool production therefore presumably took place elsewhere.

Discussion

7.2.2.2 The flint scatter suggests low key, intermittent stopovers by mobile family groups or bands during the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Ages. Perhaps the site and its environs were used for temporary camps throughout the Early Holocene, before being settled on a more permanent basis in the later prehistoric period. The surrounding area would certainly have been a focus for Bronze Age communities, given the presence of the near-by barrow cemetery.

7.2.3 TREE-THROWS

7.2.3.1 Several asymmetrical features were observed across the site. They were interpreted as tree-throws on account of the irregular nature of their bases, frequently of pitted appearance, reminiscent of roots and rootlets.

7.2.3.2 Two possible tree-throws, contexts [117] and [379], were observed in Area 1 at an approximate level of 108.04m OD. The most northerly, context [117], had been partially truncated to the west by a later Roman boundary ditch. The features were sub-circular in plan, were between 0.55m and 0.95m deep with variable diameters of 1.40m to 1.97m. They had been infilled with mid brown silty clay, termed contexts [116] and [378] respectively, which resembled redeposited natural. No artefacts were found within them, suggesting gradual silting as a result of natural processes.

7.2.3.3 A roughly crescent shaped feature, context [203], was observed to the southeast of Area 2. It was 1.42m long, 0.72m wide and 0.35m deep, with the top being at a level of 108.39m OD. No artefacts were found within the feature, although a small amount of charcoal was identified within fill [202]. It is possible that the hollow could have been used as a fire pit, providing shelter from the wind. Alternatively, the deposit could have formed naturally gradually as a result of silting.

7.2.3.4 A further three sub-circular features with slightly irregular edges were observed within Area 2, contexts [207], [278] and [189]. Each was between 2.40m and 0.54m in diameter, with depths that varied between 0.63m and 0.22m. The backfill sequences were very similar to one another, being composed of redeposited natural silty clay.

7.2.3.5 A fourth feature, context [249], was also interpreted as a possible tree-throw on account of the extremely irregular nature of its base, perhaps a product of root action. If this interpretation is correct, the tree that created it was of considerable size, as the dimensions of the feature were 4.72m north-south by 4.45m east-west with a maximum depth of 0.76m. The top was observed at a level of 107.48m OD, and it had been backfilled with two fills. Context [248], the first fill, consisted of a 0.5m thick layer of redeposited natural, which may have accumulated via natural processes. This was sealed by [247], a deposit of silty clay found to contain frequent fragments of charcoal. The charcoal could have been created *in situ* via reuse of the feature as a fire-pit, formed naturally, perhaps as a result of forest fire, washed in gradually or been dumped deliberately.

Discussion

7.2.3.6 The cut features were all interpreted as possible tree-throws, suggesting a phase of full or partial deforestation at Old Kempshott Lane. The mechanics of tree throw hollows have been widely discussed (Evans *et al* 1999) and it is possible that they provide evidence of primary clearance and settlement.

7.2.3.7 A series of ditches and an enclosure had been constructed at Old Kempshott Lane by the Middle to Late Iron Age and indirect evidence for Early to Middle Iron Age cereal cultivation was found. Farming of this nature needed (i) a fairly open environment in order to provide crops with sufficient sunlight and growing space and (ii) relatively open land in order to enable the construction of effective corrals, drainage and boundary ditches. It is therefore possible that removal of all or some of the trees could predate the Iron Age field system.

7.2.3.8 Whilst tree clearance could have been the result of human activity, no direct evidence was uncovered to support this. Whether deforestation occurred naturally or otherwise therefore remains open to question, as firm conclusions cannot be drawn from the available evidence. The timescale over which it took place is also uncertain. It could have occurred rapidly or over a more prolonged period.

7.2.3.9 The dates of the features remain unconfirmed due to the absence of artefactual inclusions within their fills. Consequently, whilst they may relate to Neolithic or Bronze Age clearance activity, lack of evidence negates the formulation of reliable conclusions. Only one feature, context [117], could be phased by a stratigraphic relationship. It probably predates the Early Roman period as a boundary ditch that fell out of use during this phase truncated it.

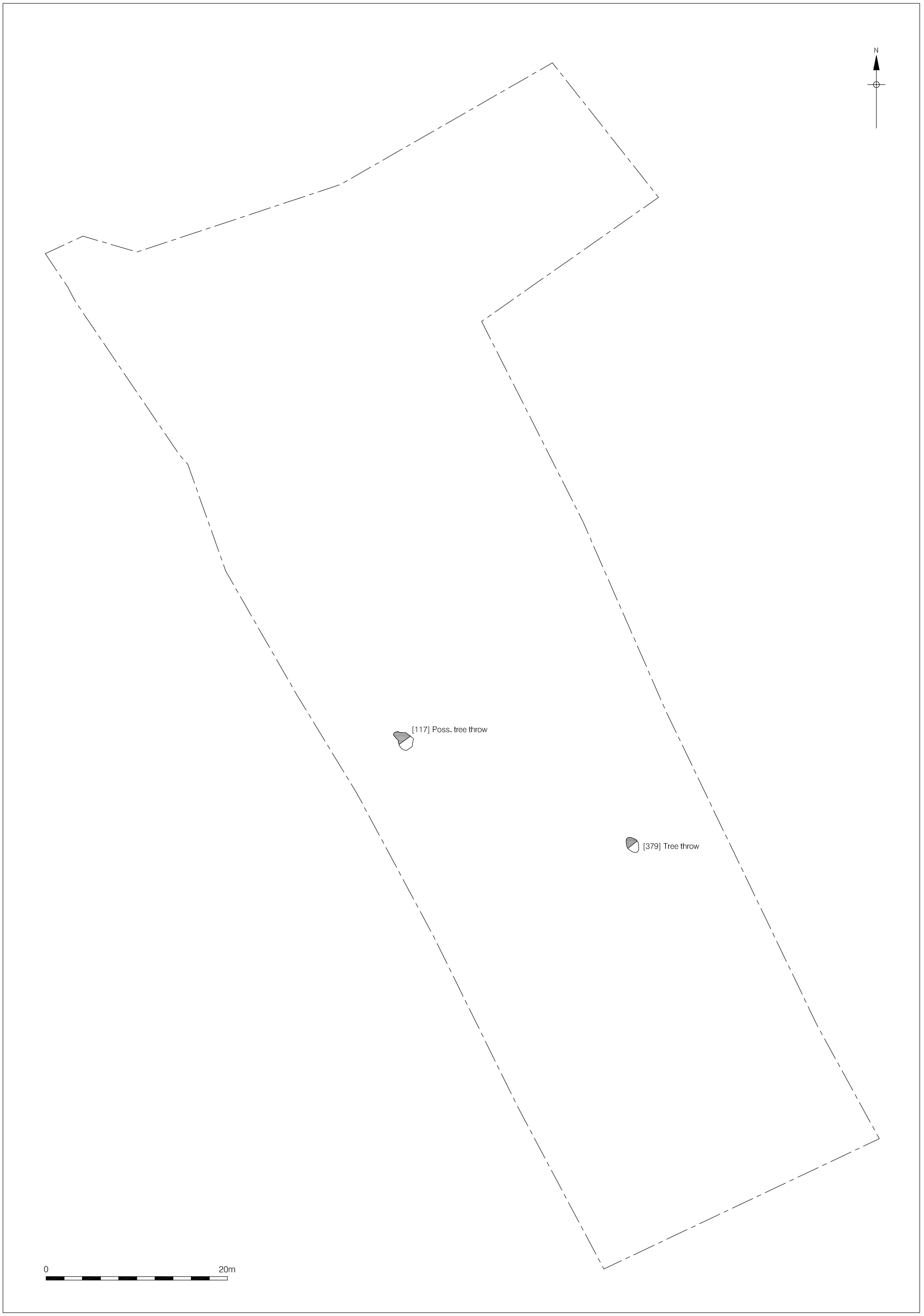


Figure 4
Area 1, Phase 2: Early Holocene
1:400 at A3

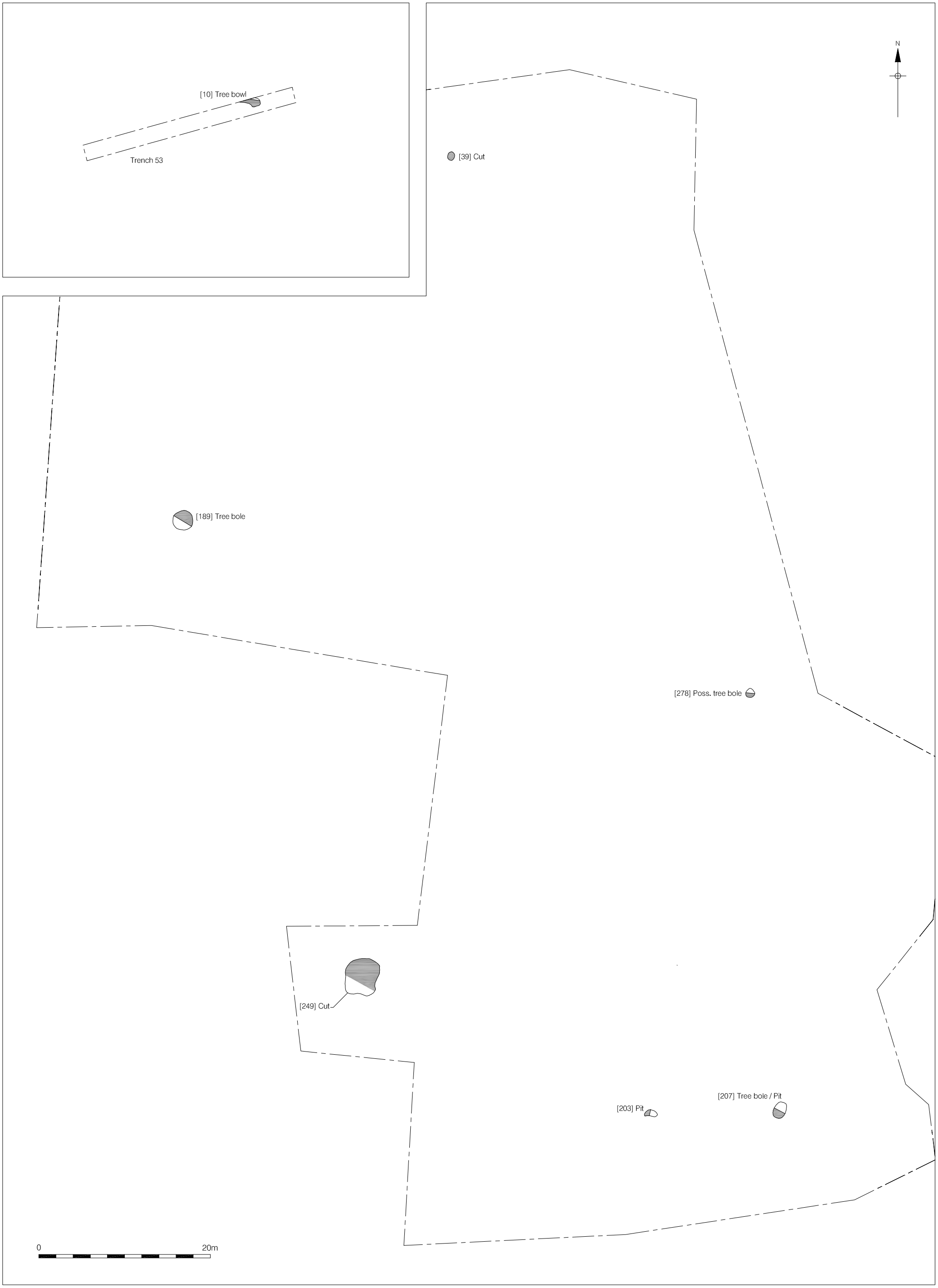


Figure 5
Area 2 & Trench 53, Phase 2: Early Holocene
1:400 at A3

7.3 PHASE 3- EARLY TO MIDDLE IRON AGE (Figure 6-8)

7.3.1 INTRODUCTION

7.3.1.1 The majority of the Iron Age features unearthed at Old Kempshott Lane could only be assigned a general Iron Age date as the artefactual evidence retrieved was insufficient to enable more accurate phasing. However, some diagnostic sherds were found, those in Area 1 being Early to Middle Iron Age and those in Area 2 being Middle to Late Iron Age. Consequently, all Iron Age features within Area 1, with the exception of the enclosure, have been placed within this earlier phase, whilst those in Area 2 have been placed within a later Iron Age phase. It should therefore be remembered that some overlap may exist between Phases 3 and 4, as this spatial and temporal division may be too simplistic. More accurate interpretation was hindered by the nature of the data.

7.3.1.2 Indirect evidence of Early to Middle Iron Age agrarian activity was uncovered in Area 1, in the form of two possible grain silos and the remains of a quern stone. The features suggest cereals were stored at and probably produced on or near the site, whilst the querns suggest they were processed and presumably consumed there too. The early to middle Iron Age faunal assemblage indicates horse, cattle, pigs, sheep and / or goats were used, along with domesticated dogs. Clearly some of animals were made use of for food.

7.3.1.3 A number of possible rubbish pits and one possible stakehole were uncovered, suggesting Iron Age habitation somewhere in the vicinity.

7.3.2 LARGE, DEEPLY INTRUSIVE CIRCULAR PITS WITH 'BELL-SHAPED' PROFILES (Figure 6-7)

7.3.2.1 Two large pits, over 1.50m in diameter, contexts [377] and [384], were unearthed in Area 1. These were circular in plan and had been backfilled in comparable ways. Each was over 1.60m deep, cutting through the natural silty clay into the underlying chalk gravel. They had been filled with material containing pottery typologically typical of the Early to Middle Iron Age.

7.3.2.2 Pit [377] was 2.20m in diameter and 1.68m deep, the top being at a level of 108.29m OD. It had a flat base and steeply sloping, 'bell-shaped' sides, which were slightly convex near the top, before becoming undercut and concave. It contained seven fills, listed below from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
374	0.16m	Mid greyish brown silty clay basal fill	Primary fill of pit [377]. Re-deposited natural, which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated naturally
373	0.20m	Friable, light yellowish grey chalk	Secondary fill of [377]. Re-deposited natural possibly generated as a result of edge collapse
372	0.41m	Mid reddish brown silty clay containing 1 sheep-sized fragment of bone and 1 cattle bone	Tertiary fill of [377]. Re-deposited natural, which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated via natural processes
371	0.14m	Mid reddish brown silty clay containing 1 sheep-sized fragment of bone	Re-deposited natural within [377], which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated via natural processes
375	0.59m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited natural within [377], which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated naturally
370	0.59m	Mid reddish brown silty clay containing two flakes of worked flint	Re-deposited natural within [377], which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated naturally
369	0.51m	Dark greyish brown silty clay containing 3 sherds of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery, 4 pieces of worked flint and occasional charcoal	Final fill within [377]. Occasional artefacts and charcoal inclusions suggest the deposit was deliberately dumped

7.3.2.3 Pit [384] was 1.80m in diameter and 1.75m deep, with 'bell-shaped' sides and a flat base, the top being at a level of 108.21m OD. It had been backfilled with the following, detailed below in sequence from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
383	1.10m	Interdigitating lenses of mid reddish brown silty clay and light yellowish grey chalk. The deposit contained a fragmented human cranium along with 16 cattle bones, 14 cattle-sized fragments of bone, 3 horse bones, 1 sheep or goat bone and 3 pig bones	Primary fill of [384]. Re-deposited natural, which may have accumulated through edge collapse and natural silting and / or deliberate dumping. The presence of the human bone suggests the latter may be more probable
382	0.41m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited natural within [384], which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated naturally
381	0.47m	Mid greyish brown clayey silt containing 2 sherds of Iron Age pottery and 2 flint flakes	Tertiary fill within [384]. Inclusions of occasional pottery and animal bone suggest it is man-made material, probably deposited deliberately

7.3.2.4 The two pits had therefore been backfilled in a similar way. The probable processes that took place during their closure are summarised below, in chronological order from earliest to latest:

i. Intentional dumping or natural processes:

A series of clean silty clay fills, suggestive of re-deposited natural, made up the bulk of the lower backfill sequence in both pits. The fills could have accumulated gradually through natural silting and edge collapse, rapidly through deliberate backfilling or through a combination of the two. One noteworthy find, retrieved from the basal fill of [384], was a fragment of human cranium.

ii **Deliberate dumping of man-made material**

A deposit relatively rich in artefactual inclusions formed the final fill in each feature, both were probably deliberately dumped.

Discussion

7.3.2.5 The lower fills of both features were relatively rich in terms of pottery, bone and charcoal fragments and as a result they could be interpreted as receptacles for 'common' waste. However, no evidence of domestic habitation was found in the vicinity, the location of a settlement perhaps being somewhere beyond the limit of excavation. The distances involved would therefore make the disposal of everyday rubbish within the pits relatively impractical. Whilst this could be explained through cultural attitudes or taboos concerning dirt and pollution (Hill 1995), the lack of any other trace of settlement makes the 'rubbish-pit' hypothesis seem less likely. In any case expending effort on excavation of pits simply for the disposal of waste when there are numerous more efficient ways to dispose of rubbish does seem somewhat improbable. This suggests that the bulk of the rubbish was being disposed of elsewhere, perhaps as surface scatters or above ground in middens.

7.3.2.6 Very similar Early to Middle Iron Age pits have been found on other sites in the area, including Winklebury Camp (Smith 1977), Brighton Hill South (Fasham *et al* 1995), Cowdery's Down (Millet & James 1983) and Oakridge (Oliver 1992). All were interpreted as storage areas for seed corn. The two features here could have functioned in this way as both were deeply intrusive, penetrating 0.7m or more into the underlying, free-draining chalk gravel natural. When sealed, they would have been ideal storage features for perishable organic materials such as cereals, providing a dry, anaerobic environment inaccessible by pest such as rodents and insects.

7.3.2.7 The pits would need to be sealed in order to prevent decay of the grain, making regular repeated access difficult (Cunliffe 2004). Evidence from other sites suggests cereals destined for human consumption were stored in four post structures

interpreted as granaries, whilst seed corn was stored below ground. No 'four-posters' were found at Old Kempshott Lane, a fact that is not particularly surprising given the regional trend of intra-site zoning, in which separate areas of site are set aside for pits, houses and granaries (Champion & Champion 1981).

7.3.2.8 The pits may therefore have contained seed corn, interred for the liminal time between harvesting and sowing (Cunliffe 2004). If this were indeed the case, then the grain was likely exhumed in spring, when the majority of Iron Age cereal crops, with the possible exception of spelt, would need to be sown (Champion & Champion 1981).

7.3.2.9 No cereal grains were found within a series of bulk samples taken from the features. Whilst the lack of bioarchaeological evidence does not support the storage pit hypothesis, it should be remembered that this might be a result of taphonomy. If the pits did function as seed corn stores, the vast majority of the cereal would have been removed for sowing, whilst the few residual remnants expected in the base would be prone to decay in such a free-draining, alkaline environment.

7.3.2.10 The pits appear to have been backfilled with a combination of natural and man-made material, presumably after they fell out of use as grain stores. The primary fills were probably the result of deliberate dumping, whilst the later fills may have accumulated as a result of dumping, silting, edge-collapse or a combination of all three.

7.3.2.11 As stated in 7.3.2.5, the vast majority of domestic waste was probably disposed of on the surface, being omitted from the archaeological record as a result. It is therefore appropriate to consider why certain materials entered the ground, and whether they necessarily represent typical 'rubbish' (Hill 1995). Whilst the deliberately dumped deposits found in the pits could be interpreted as common waste or material redeposited from pre-existing middens, the presence of human bone within fill [384] should be noted. Disposal of the dead through excarnation may have been common practice in the region during the Early to Middle Iron Age (Cunliffe 2002) and it is therefore possible that the bone could have been generated in this fashion before making its way into the feature. Isolated pieces of human bone need not be the result of deliberate deposition (Cunliffe 1992); they may have been deposited accidentally or been subject of casual loss. The likelihood of this is diminished, however, due to the relatively common occurrence of other fragments of disarticulated human bone, predominantly skull and long bone fragments, in similar Iron Age contexts (Hill 1995). Whilst it remains possible that attitudes towards the disposal of the dead and the definition of rubbish in Iron Age society

were quite different to those of our own (Hill 1995), it is worth considering another hypothesis. The pits may have been backfilled in a more structured and potentially ritualistic manner, an argument that has become increasingly robust in recent years.

7.3.2.12 It has been speculated that the digging of grain storage features into the ground and the placement of seed corn within may have been acts imbued with religious meaning, connected to ideas concerning the underworld, chthonic deities and fertility rituals (Cunliffe 2004). After the grain had been entrusted to the ground, it may have been important to make some kind of offering for its safekeeping and successful germination once it had been unearthed. This practice is particularly common in Iron Age south central England, Old Kempshott Lane being situated in the heartland of the tradition, termed the 'pit belief system' by Cunliffe (2004).

7.3.2.13 Hypotheses concerning the 'pit belief system' proliferated after the discovery of complete and partially complete articulated human skeletons in grain storage pits on larger-scale sites such as Danebury (Hill 1995; Cunliffe 1992). Since articulated inhumations are atypical of Iron Age mortuary practices in south-central England, it has been speculated that some or all of these individuals were interred as special offerings after death by natural causes or after their deliberate, violent demise (Cunliffe 1992; 2004; Green 2001). Recent research has suggested that this interpretation should be extended to other grain storage features that contain fragments of human bone, 'special animal deposits' (as defined by Waite 1985) or unusual, placed inanimate objects such as pottery or metalwork. This approach cannot be done indiscriminately, without quantitative analysis of all finds on a context-by-context basis (Hill 1995). In depth examination of the material found within all features at Old Kempshott Lane will therefore be required prior to publication, in order to determine whether their contents are best interpreted as resulting from rubbish, ritual or a combination of the two. The more 'discursive', 'special' and 'exceptional' the contents of a particular fill appear, the more likely it is that the deposit formed as a result of ritualised activity (Hill 1995). Further analyses of the contents of both pits are therefore required, in order to determine whether they fit into the 'pit belief system'. This will be key to interpreting context [377] in particular, which did not appear to contain any obvious 'special' deposit.

7.3.3 **ISOLATED CIRCULAR AND OVOID PITS** (Figure 6, 8)

7.3.3.1 Nine pits were recorded in Area 1. The vast majority had been backfilled with clean silty clay devoid of artefacts, whilst some contained small fragments of ceramic material typologically typical of the Early to Middle Iron Age. As the bulk of archaeological activity in Area 1 appeared to date to the Early to Middle Iron Age, all undated pits in the vicinity were also classed as such on the balance of probability. It should be remembered, however, that some might precede or postdate this phase as other archaeological periods, particularly Roman, do occur in the vicinity. The pits are described below:

7.3.3.2 Contexts [127] and [15] were situated towards the south of Area 1 from a level of 107.73m OD. They had similar diameters, which varied between 1.5m and 1.8m, and variable depths; context [127] was 0.59m deep whilst context [15] was much shallower at 0.10m. The features were sub-circular in plan, although context [127] had been truncated to the west by a later boundary ditch. They had been backfilled with similar deposits of mid reddish brown clayey silty sand, contexts [126] and [14] respectively. The former contained 2 small crumbs of Iron Age ceramic material, whilst the latter contained 9 sherds of similarly dated pottery and a large assemblage of worked flint (84 pieces in total). Given the numbers of lithics involved, it seems unlikely that they were deposited by natural processes. It is therefore possible that the flints are Iron Age in date.

7.3.3.3 Pits [113], [115], [129], [352], [355] [357], and [368] were situated to the north of [127] and [15], between 108.26m OD and 108.37m OD. The contexts were relatively shallow, perhaps because of plough damage, being 0.23m to 0.61m deep respectively. All were sub-circular to sub-ovoid in plan with diameters that varied between 1.88m and 0.70m. They had been backfilled with similar deposits, all of which resembled redeposited natural. The primary fills, respectively termed [112], [114], [128], [351], [354], [356] and [367], were composed of mid reddish brown silty clay. Only context [367] contained artefactual evidence in the form of two sherds of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery, one fragment of cattle-sized animal bone, one piece of sheep or goat bone and a fragment of saddle quern composed of Lodsworth Greensand. Moderate amounts of charred cereal grain were also found in [115]. Secondary fills were recorded in pits [352], [355] and [368], [350], [353] and [366] respectively. They were composed of clean, mid reddish brown silty clay and were devoid of finds.

7.3.3.4 A small elongated pit, context [34] was found in Evaluation Trench 94 in the location of Excavation Area 3. The feature was 1.80m long, 0.60m wide and 0.10m deep. It was observed at a level of 109.07m OD and was orientated east-west. The feature

contained one fill, context [33], a mid greyish brown deposit of silty clay, containing several tiny crumbs of prehistoric pottery, which disintegrated upon touch, and two small, round flint pebbles. Whilst it is possible that the pebbles are natural, it may be that they were used as slingshots on account of their regular, spherical shape (Hayward this report).

Discussion

7.3.3.5 The charred cereal grain in pit [115] may represent the remains of food or cooking waste, suggesting some or all of the features were backfilled with domestic debris. They could therefore be interpreted as having been re-used as rubbish pits, although the limited quantity of artefactual material within the majority appears to negate the theory. The artefact assemblages derived from most of the pits did not appear unusual or 'special' at first glance, although the inclusion of the quern in [368] could be significant. A disproportionate number of querns, relative to other forms of domestic material, are frequently found interred in pits on Iron Age sites in the region. It has therefore been speculated that this practice may be indicative of ritual practices (Hill 1995). The large assemblage of flint within pit [15] is also unusual, and it is possible that it represents some form of 'special' deposit.

7.3.3.6 The presence of the Lodsworth Greensand quern in context [367] indicates exchange and / or social connections. This type of stone is not found in the Basingstoke area, outcropping in a relatively restricted location in the Lodsworth-Pulborough area of West Sussex, approximately 60 miles to the southeast (Hayward this report). The artefact also suggests that cereals were processed on or near the site.

7.3.4 POSTHOLES AND STAKEHOLES (Figure 6)

7.3.4.1 Only one small, undated post or stakehole was found in the south of Area 1, context [144]. It was 0.18m in diameter, 0.18m deep and was found at a level of 107.62m OD. The feature had been backfilled with [143], a deposit of mid greyish brown sandy clay, which may have accumulated through natural silting. No finds were recovered from this feature, making accurate dating difficult.

Discussion

7.3.4.2 The feature was interpreted as a posthole or stakehole. It was placed within the Early to Middle Iron Age on the balance of probability, as the bulk of archaeological

activity in Area 2 seems to have taken place during this period. It is possible that it predates or postdates this phase, however, as other archaeological periods, particularly Roman ones, are found in the vicinity. Few small features of this kind survive at Old Kempshott Lane, perhaps because of damage through intensive deep ploughing. It is therefore impossible to say whether it formed part of a larger structure.

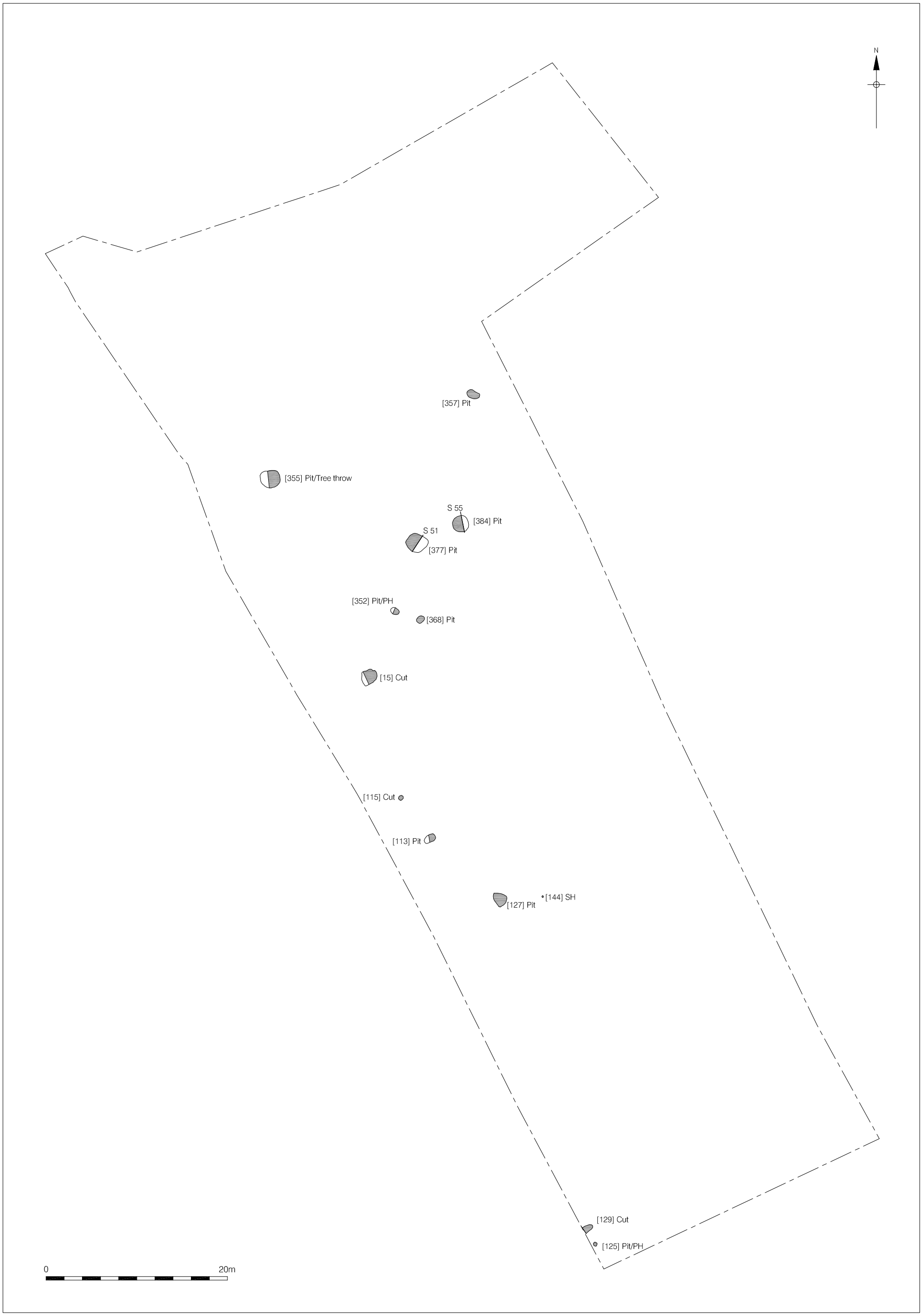
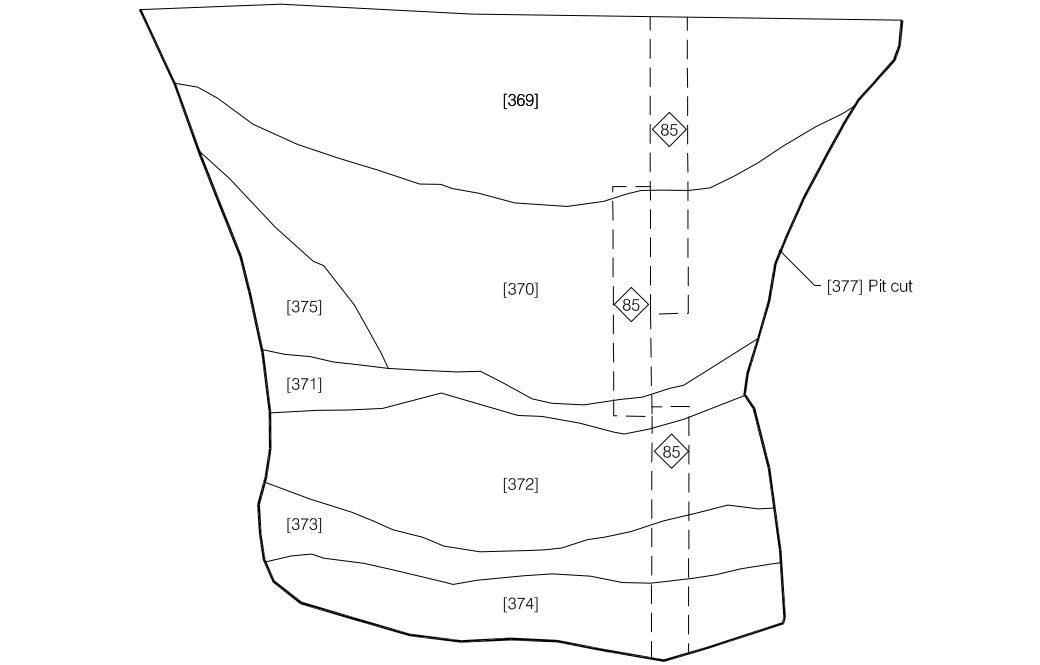
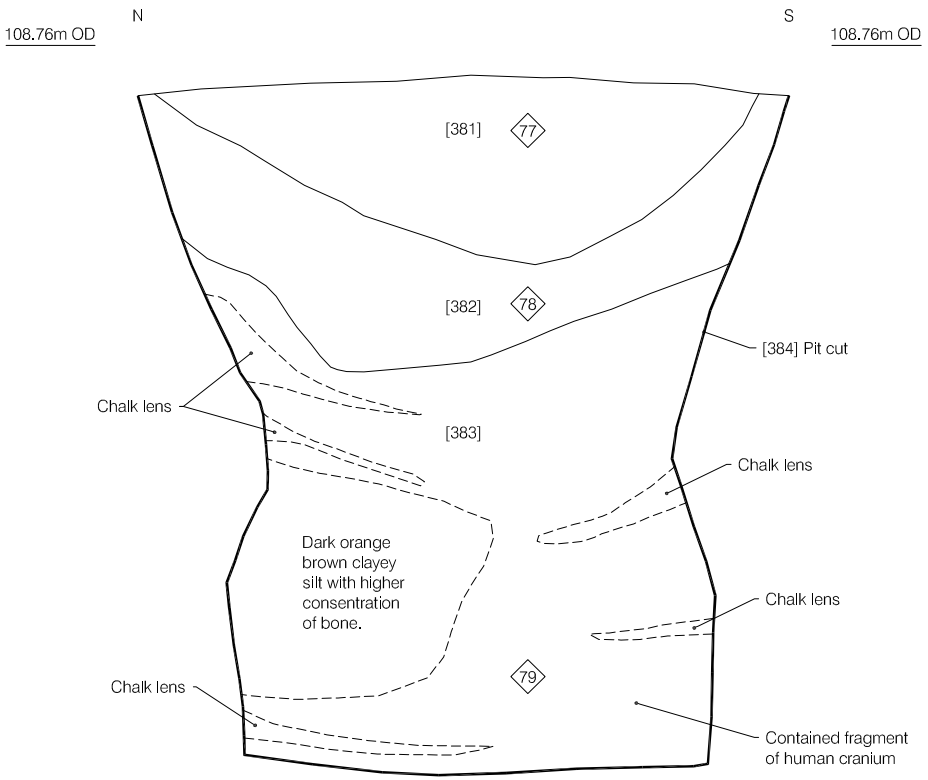


Figure 6
Area 1, Phase 3: Early to Middle Iron Age
1:400 at A3



Section 51
Northwest facing



Section 55
West facing

Figure 7
Area 1,Sections 51 & 55, Phase 3: Early to Middle Iron Age
1:20 at A4

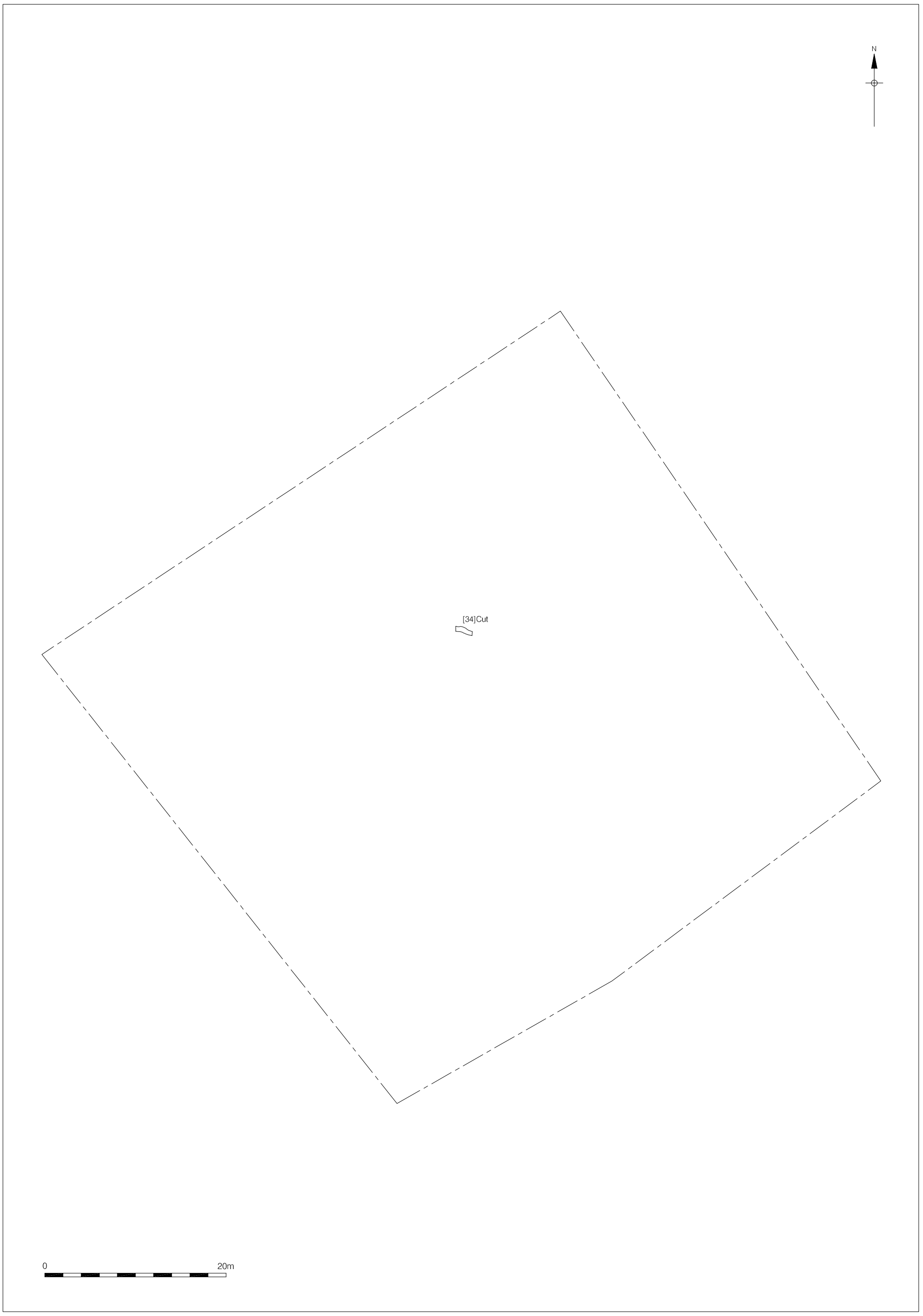


Figure 8
Area 3, Phase 3: Early to Middle Iron Age
1:400 at A3

7.4 PHASE 4- MIDDLE TO LATE IRON AGE (Figure 9-14)

7.4.1 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

7.4.1.1 A degree of continuity between the Early to Middle Iron Age and the Middle to Late Iron Age was noted. Agrarian farming appears to continue, as indirect evidence of cereal cultivation was unearthed in the form of more possible grain storage features. The charred remains of both wheat (*Triticum sp.*) and barley (*Hordeum sp.*) were also retrieved, along with a number of querns. This suggests cereals were stored, processed and presumably grown and consumed on or near the site. Possible evidence of land division and animal husbandry was observed for the first time, in the form of a possible field system and an enclosure. The latter may have been used as a droveway and corral for penning animals. It may also have enclosed a settlement, although evidence for this was very limited. Possible rubbish pits were found, suggesting the continuation of Iron Age occupation somewhere in the vicinity.

7.4.1.2 Several differences between the Early and Late Iron Age periods seem apparent in the archaeological record. The focus of activity appears to shift north and east during the later Iron Age and the frequency of features increases. This suggests more intensive exploitation within the confines of the excavations during the later period. Evidence indicative of more permanent human presence is also apparent, as exemplified by the boundary ditches and the possible banjo enclosure. It should be remembered, however, that the focus of earlier activity might be centred on an area beyond the excavated ones.

7.4.2 LARGE, DEEPLY INTRUSIVE CIRCULAR PITS WITH RECTANGULAR PROFILES (Figure 11-13)

7.4.2.1 Seven large pits of Middle to Late Iron Age date were unearthed in Area 2. In many ways, they were very similar to the two earlier storage pits encountered in Area 1, being large (over 1.5m wide), deeply intrusive and circular. However, several differences were immediately obvious, the most visually striking being the inclusion of burnt material at the top and bottom of the backfill sequence in six of the seven pits. The pits in Area 2 were also more rectangular in profile than those in Area 1, which were best described as ‘bell-shaped’. The two groups were temporally as well as spatially discrete; those found in Area 1 contained earlier artefactual assemblages than those in Area 2. The structured nature of their backfill sequences and, in some cases, the ‘special’ or unusual finds deposited within should be noted.

7.4.2.2 Six of the seven pits, contexts [192] / [19], [201], [219], [227] / [17], [242] and [295], resembled one another in a number of ways. They all fully truncated the natural silty clay, intruding 0.6m or more into the underlying natural chalk gravel. Each was virtually circular in plan, with rectangular or sub-rectangular profiles and closely comparable backfill sequences. The pits are described below:

7.4.2.3 Pit [192] / [19] was 1.8m in diameter and 1.19m deep. It had near vertical sides and a flat base, the top being at a level of 108.30m OD. It was backfilled with the following, detailed below from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
224	0.51m (max)	Friable, light brownish grey chalk and silty clay	Slumped natural chalk and silty clay within storage pit [192] / [19], probably created by edge collapse or natural processes.
223	0.05m	Friable, dark greyish-black deposit of charcoal containing moderate amounts of charred wheat (*Triticum sp.*), retrieved from bulk sample 42	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [192] / [19], created via *in situ* burning or deliberate dumping.
222	1.15m	Mid reddish brown silty clay, lacking any man-made material	Re-deposited natural tertiary fill of [192] / [19], which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated naturally.
194 / 24	0.18m	Mid reddish brown silty clay, containing 9 sherds of Iron Age pottery and frequent charcoal fragments	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Quaternary fill of [192] / [19]
191 / 18	0.29m	Firm, dark greyish brown clayey silty sand containing burnt daub, 64 fragments of middle to late Iron Age pottery, a fragment of cattle-sized bone, frequent charcoal fragments and a flint blade. Moderate amounts of charred wheat (*Triticum sp.*) was also retrieved from bulk sample 4	Deliberately dumped burnt material, rich in broken pottery. Final fill of [192] / [19]

7.4.2.4 Pit [201] was 2.12m in diameter and 1.49m deep, the top being situated at a height of 107.99m OD. It also had near vertical sides and a flat base, and had been backfilled with the following:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
244	0.04m	Friable, dark greyish-black deposit of charcoal, which contained 1 red deer bone and 1 flint flake. Moderate amounts of charred wheat (*Triticum sp.*) were retrieved from bulk sample 46.	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [201] created via in situ burning or deliberate dumping.
243	0.6m	Friable, light grey chalk. A semi-articulated horse skeleton was placed directly on top of this deposit.	Slumped deposit of natural chalk suggestive of edge collapse. Secondary fill of [201]
200	1.47m	Mid reddish-brown clayey silt containing 6 fragments of Iron Age pottery and animal bone. A semi-articulated deer skeleton (176 bones in total) was placed very close to the base of the deposit, along with 9 cattle bones, 88 cattle sized bones, 3 amphibian bones, 2 small rodent	Re-deposited silty clay natural containing lenses of dumped man-made material. Tertiary fill of [201]

		bones and 1 sheep-sized bone. Sample 47 also produced moderate amounts of charred barley (*Hordeum sp.*)	
199	0.5m	Charcoal rich, mid greyish brown clayey silt containing 14 fragments of early to middle Iron Age pottery and daub.	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Quaternary fill of [201]
198	0.34m	Charcoal rich, dark greyish brown clayey silty sand, containing 26 fragments of middle to late Iron Age pottery and inclusions of daub and charcoal	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [201].

7.4.2.5 Pit [219] was 1.78m in diameter and 1.33m deep, the top of the feature being at a level of 108.39m OD. It was identical in shape and profile to the other pits and had been backfilled in the following way:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
213	0.69m	Friable, very light yellowish grey chalk	Natural slump of chalk gravel within [219], probably generated via edge collapse
218	0.05m	Friable, dark greyish-black deposit of charcoal	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [219], created via *in situ* burning or deliberate dumping.
212	0.21m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within [219], which may have been deliberately dumped or accumulated naturally
205	1.33m	Tip-line of mid reddish brown silty clay and chalk	Slumped deposit probably formed by edge collapse. Fill of [219]
193	0.18m	Mid reddish brown silty clay, rich in charcoal fragments and burnt flint. Also contained 3 fragments of Iron Age pottery and 1 sheep or goat bone.	Deliberately dumped, redeposited silty clay natural mixed with some man-made material. Fill of [219]
170	0.54m	Mid reddish brown silty clay with inclusions of burnt daub, 9 sherds of middle Iron Age pottery, 1 cattle bone and three pieces of worked flint	Deliberately dumped, redeposited silty clay natural mixed with some man-made material. Fill of [219]
169	0.38m	Charcoal rich, mid grey deposit containing burnt daub, 13 sherds of middle Iron Age pottery, a cattle bone and an iron hammer head (small find 14).	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Upper fill of [219]
204	0.13m	Lens of mid reddish brown silty clay.	Slumped deposit of natural clay, probably formed by edge collapse or natural silting. Upper fill of [219]
168	0.35m	Charcoal rich, dark grey fill with frequent inclusions of burnt flint and burnt daub. Also contained 15 fragments of middle Iron Age pottery and a flint blade	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [219]

7.4.2.6 Pit [227] / [17] was 1.7m in diameter and 1.27m deep, the top being at a level of 108.07m OD. It had been backfilled with the following deposits, listed below from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
232	0.34m	Tip of friable, light grey chalk	Natural chalk gravel slumpage within storage pit [226], probably generated via edge collapse
231	0.38m	Tip of friable, light grey chalk	Natural chalk gravel slumpage within storage pit [226], probably generated via edge collapse
235	0.02m	Friable, dark greyish-black deposit of charcoal containing 8 fragments of late Iron Age pottery. Bulk sample 43 also contained frequent inclusions of carbonised wheat (*Triticum sp.*).	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [226], created via *in situ* burning or deliberate dumping.
234	0.15m	Mid reddish brown silty clay. A layer red deer bones were found close to the base of the deposit (184 bones in total, found in a series of partial articulations).	Re-deposited natural silty clay and chalk within storage pit [226], possibly generated via edge collapse
233	0.28m	Mid reddish brown silty clay and chalk containing 16 fragments of Iron Age pottery, 11 red deer bones and a fragment of an upper rotary quern stone, composed of Lodsworth Greensand.	Re-deposited natural silty clay and chalk within storage pit [226]. The artefactual inclusions found within suggest the material may have been dumped. Alternatively, they may have been washed in. naturally.
230	0.33m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [226]
229	0.28m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [226]
228	0.54m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [226]
48	0.25m	Charcoal rich, mid greyish brown clayey silt containing 14 fragments of middle to late Iron Age pottery and daub. Bulk sample 4 contained moderate amounts of carbonised wheat (*Triticum sp.*)	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Upper fill of [227] / [17]
16	0.25m	Charcoal rich fill with frequent burnt flint, burnt daub and 30 fragments of Iron Age pottery	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [227] / [17]

7.4.2.7 Circular feature [242] was smaller than the other pits, being 0.7m deep and 1.55m wide, the top being situated at a level of 108.42m OD. It was rectangular in profile with a flat base and contained the following deposits:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
258	0.10m	Charcoal rich silty clay containing 39 sherds of Iron Age pottery. Bulk sample 51 also contained moderate amounts of charred wheat (*Triticum sp.*)	Basal silty clay fill of storage feature [242], containing frequent charcoal. The deposit may have been dumped or created *in situ*
241	0.60m	Mid reddish brown silty clay containing 11 sherds of Iron Age pottery. A stone grinder (small find 15) had been placed directly on top of the deposit	Re-deposited silty clay natural within pit [242]

240	0.35m	Mid reddish brown silty clay containing 3 sherds of Iron Age pottery. Sample 44 also contained moderate amounts of charred wheat (*Triticum sp.*)	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [242]

7.4.2.8 Pit [295] was 2.20m in diameter and 1.80m deep, the top of the feature being at a level of 107.81m OD. It also had near vertical sides and a flat base and contained the following fills, listed below from latest to earliest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
294	0.1m	Friable, dark greyish-black deposit of charcoal. Small finds 16, 17, 23 and 22 (an iron reaping hook, an iron plate or mount, an iron strip and a bone weaving comb) were placed on top of the deposit,	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [295], created via *in situ* burning or deliberate dumping.
314	0.25m	Friable, light greyish yellow chalk gravel	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [295]
313	0.25m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
312	0.36m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
311	0.32m	Friable, light greyish yellow chalk gravel	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [295]
310	0.22m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
309	0.14m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
308	0.24m	Friable, light greyish yellow chalk gravel	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [295]
307	0.28m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
306	0.30m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
305	0.34m	Mid reddish brown silty clay. Contained small find 21 (an iron plate or mount) close to the top of the deposit.	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
304	0.50m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [295]
293	0.45m	Mid grey silty clay fill of storage pit [295] containing charcoal flecks	Deliberately dumped upper fill of [295]
292	0.29m	Charcoal rich mid greyish brown clayey silt containing 13 fragments of Iron Age pottery and occasional fragments of daub	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Upper fill of [295]
291	0.36m	Charcoal rich fill containing 24 fragments of middle to late Iron Age pottery, a flint flake, a decortication flake, and occasional burnt flint and burnt daub.	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [295]

7.4.2.9 The above descriptions illustrate how each pit was backfilled in a complex but similar way. The probable processes that took place during their closure are summarised in chronological order from earliest to latest.

i Chalk slumpage suggestive of edge collapse

A slump of chalk, almost certainly generated as a result of edge collapse, was found on the base of pits [192] / [19] and [227] / [17]. This suggests that some or all of the pits were left open for some length of time before the first intentional depositional event occurred.

ii. Purposeful distribution of a thin charcoal basal fill

Thin deposits of burnt debris, essentially composed of pure charcoal, were found either on top of the slumped chalk or at the very bottom of the sequence in all six pits. Their strikingly similar appearances and compositions strongly suggest each was created in the same way. Formation by *in situ* burning is possible though unlikely, as the surrounding chalk natural did not appear to be heat-affected in any of the cases observed. Their narrowness, coupled with their exceptionally regular and even distribution and extent, suggests they were not thrown carelessly into the pits as tips or dumps. Each had been arranged across the base, either after formation by *in situ* burning or after creation elsewhere. Those found within [192] / [19], [201], [227] / [17] and [258] all contained burnt cereal grains in variable quantities, the lack of weed seeds and chaff suggesting the crop had been processed prior to carbonisation (Branch this report).

iii. Chalk slumping suggestive of further edge collapse

In pits [201] and [295], chalk slumps indicative of natural edge collapse sealed the intentionally placed charcoal rich basal fills. This suggests that some or all of the features stood open for an unknown length of time, after the first deliberate act of *in situ* burning or dumping. A third pit, context [219], also contained a deposit of slumped chalk at the base of the sequence, although a stratigraphic relationship between it and the burnt fill could not be determined as the two did not touch. The presence of the slumped chalk does prove that the feature was left open for some time before or after, or before and after, the first purposeful act of backfilling.

vi. Deliberate placing of ecofacts and artefacts

Five out of the six pits, contexts [201], [219], [227] / [17], [242] and [295], contained items that could be described as unusual or 'special'. In each case, the objects had been carefully and intentionally placed just above the charcoal rich basal layer. The following noteworthy items were unearthed:

The virtually complete, semi-articulated skeleton of a mature red deer in pit [201], found close to the base of silty clay backfill [200], just above burnt fill [244]. It had been lain on its side and coiled to fit the pit, its head bent backwards at a sharp angle facing south. No butchery marks have been identified on any of the bones, suggesting skin and meat had not been removed from the carcass prior to burial (Rielly this report). A further 9 cattle bones, 88 cattle-sized bones and 1 sheep-sized bone were found in association.

The remains of two immature red deer in pit [227] / [17], cut into a series of partial articulations and arranged in a neat layer close to the base of [234]. The degree of articulation, the completeness of the bones and the absence of cut marks suggest the meat and skin were not used. 14 sherds of pottery were also found at a fractionally higher level, along with a fragmented upper rotary quern composed of Lodsworth Greensand.

A beehive quern (small find 15), composed of Sarsen stone in pit [242], placed between silty clay fill [241] and charcoal rich basal fill [258].

An iron reaping hook, an iron plate or mount, an iron strip and a bone weaving comb (small finds 16, 17, 23 and 22), were also found in pit [219], on top of basal charcoal fill [294].

A further two notable artefacts were found at a higher level in the backfill sequences:

An iron hammer head (small find 14) in pit [219], found close to the base of silty clay fill [170].

An iron plate or mount (small find 21) in pit [295], placed between dumped fills [305] and [304].

v. Intentional dumping of redeposited deposits coupled with natural processes

A thick series of clean, mid reddish brown silty-clay fills sealed the earlier deposits in each of the five pits. The general lack of finds, coupled with the colour and composition of the sediment, suggests the bulk were formed from redeposited natural silty clay. The silty clay fills found in pits [227] and [294] are of note, as the frequency of man-made inclusions suggests some may have been deliberately dumped. Variable amounts of anthropic material, in the form of charcoal and possible domestic waste, appear to have been mixed with the natural silty clay parent material prior to or during backfilling, creating the multiple contexts observed. Similarly, two fills, which contained charcoal, pottery and burnt flint, formed the majority of the upper half of the backfill sequence in feature [219]. This illustrates that, in at least three cases, some of the silty clay backfill was intentionally deposited. It should be remembered, however, that some of the redeposited natural could have accumulated through the action of a variety of other agents, including natural silting and edge collapse. The rodent and amphibian remains found within fill [200] supports this view, as it is possible that feature [201] could have been left open for a short time, resulting in accidental capture of these animals.

vi. Final closure through the purposeful deposition of burnt debris

Deliberately dumped charcoal rich fills were present at the top of the sequences in all six pits. *In situ* burning was again deemed unlikely, as the surrounding natural silty clay did not appear heat-affected in any of the observed instances. Two separate episodes of dumping were discernable in each pit. This was illustrated by the presence of two subtly different ashy fills at the top of the sequences, the lowest being generally lighter in colour with more frequent inclusions of burnt daub (shown in Sections 22, 23, 25, 26 and 37). Further supporting evidence can be seen in pit [219] (shown in Section 23,), where a lens of clean silty clay, probably the product of edge collapse or silting, was observed between the burnt fills, suggesting some kind of hiatus between their depositions. The only pit within the group to lack two burnt deposits at the top of the sequence was [242]. This feature was the shallowest encountered, being situated on relatively high ground. It is therefore likely that it was truncated horizontally by ploughing, causing the destruction of the upper fill.

7.4.2.10 Pit [288] was ovoid in shape, measuring 1.6m north-south by 2.00m east west. It was 1.45m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base, cut from a level of 107.56m OD. The feature was very similar in nature to the pits described

previously, with two notable exceptions. The burnt deposit found on the base of the six features described previously was not found in the same manner in [288]. Instead, a small circular pit, context [322], had been cut into the base of [288], prior to backfilling. It was 0.73m deep and ovoid in plan, measuring 0.52m north-south by 0.61m east-west. The small pit had been partially backfilled with charcoal rich material. Whether this material is synonymous with the basal fills in the other six pits is a matter of speculation. It should be noted, however, that the rest of the fills were remarkably similar, suggesting congruous depositional processes may have been at work. The fills within the features are listed below, in chronological order from earliest to latest:

Fills within [322]:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
323	0.35m	Friable, light greyish yellow chalk gravel	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel. Primary fill of storage pit [295]
321	0.07m	Charcoal rich silty clay	Deliberately dumped deposit of burnt material. Secondary fill of [322].
320	0.44m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural. Tertiary fill of small pit [322]
319	0.3m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural. Quaternary fill of small pit [322]

Fills within [288]

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
287	0.13m	Friable, light greyish yellow chalk gravel, which contained 1 cattle-sized bone.	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [295], probably a product of edge collapse
286	0.28m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [288]
285	0.33m	Mid reddish brown silty clay. Sample 58 contained frequent Mollusca and a moderate amount of carbonised cereal grain	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [288]
284	0.45m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [288]
283	0.08m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]
282	0.29m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [288]
281	0.36m	Silty clay fill of storage pit [288] containing pottery, burnt flint and daub. Sample 55 contained moderate amounts of carbonised cereal grain	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [288]
280	0.22m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [288]
279	0.4m	Dark brownish grey clayey silt fill of storage pit [288] containing charcoal, pottery, daub and burnt flint. Bulk sample 54 contained moderate amounts of carbonised wheat (*Triticum sp.*)	Deliberately dumped burnt material. Uppermost fill of [288]

7.4.2.11 The depositional agents responsible for the formation of the backfill within [288] / [322] are discussed below, from earliest to latest.

i. Infilling of small pit [322] with redeposited natural and intentionally dumped charcoal-rich material

Initially, redeposited silty clay natural accumulated on the base of small pit [322], either as a result of natural processes or intentional backfilling. This was sealed by a deliberately dumped deposit of charcoal, possibly identical in nature to the basal fills found in the other five pits. Re-deposited natural, which may represent further intentional dumping or natural silting, sealed this.

ii. Chalk slumpage suggestive of edge collapse

After small pit [322] had been fully backfilled, a deposit of chalk gravel, suggestive of edge collapse, accumulated on the base of pit [288]. This indicates that the pit was left open for a length of time before the next depositional event took place.

iii. Infilling of large pit [288] with redeposited natural via intentional dumping and / or natural slumping and silting

A thick deposit of clean silty clay accumulated as a result of deliberate dumping or natural processes.

vi. Final closure through the purposeful deposition of burnt debris

Two episodes of deliberate dumping, separated by a lens of re-deposited natural at the top of the sequence. The dumped material was rich in charcoal, suggesting it had been burnt. *In situ* burning is deemed unlikely, as the surrounding natural silty clay was not heat affected.

Discussion

7.4.2.12 The shapes and profiles of the seven features are typical of the grain storage pit tradition of the English Iron Age of the south-central zone as defined by Cunliffe (2002). The pits characteristically were all deeply intrusive, penetrating 0.6m or more into the underlying, free-draining chalk gravel, providing ideal preservational environments for the storage of seed corn. Whilst these could have been rubbish

pits, grain storage seems more probable for the reasons discussed in point 7.3.2.5 to 7.3.2.7.

7.4.2.13 The burnt basal fills found in six of the storage pits could represent an episode of *in situ* burning, designed to clear out the remnants of the seed corn prior to closure. Analysis of bulk samples taken from the basal fills produced carbonised cereal remains from four of the six pits. No chaff or weed seeds were found in association with the grain, suggesting it had been threshed and sorted prior to burning. If the cereal within the samples does represent seed corn, such processing would be expected in order to maximise the space within the storage pit for the useful element of the crop. Evidence for 'burning out' of grain silos prior to closure has been identified at other sites in the region.

7.4.2.14 This interpretation is not considered definite. The dumped remains of a cooking fire or food waste could produce a similar assemblage. Carbonised cereal grains were not found in high quantities, whilst two of the pits did not contain any. Additionally, heat affected natural did not surround the features diminishing the likelihood of *in situ* burning, although a fast moving fire would not necessarily leave much evidence for its passing on the deposits. One storage pit did not contain any trace of burnt debris at its base, although a very similar black deposit was found within a small feature cut into its north-eastern edge.

7.4.2.15 The close similarities between the highly structured backfill sequences suggest that the storage pits were not casually infilled after they fell out of use. Ad-hoc dumping is less likely to produce the repetitive, complex patterns observed. These therefore appear to be the result of a more planned, systematic sequence of events. Depositional procedures probably occurred for specific reasons, although the precise motivating factor behind each remains illusive. The observed tradition appears to have operated at a regional as well as local level, as similarly backfilled storage features have been found on many other Middle to Late Iron Age sites south-east England.

7.4.2.16 The repetitive nature of the backfill sequences provides clear evidence of structured deposition governed by a set of shared criteria. If alternatively the features were re-used as rubbish pits and backfilled with 'ad hoc' domestic waste, its disposal would have been subject to a set of attitudes and codes, which were strictly controlled by ritual characteristics. As stated in 7.3.2.5, the majority of common waste was probably disposed of on the surface, being omitted from the archaeological record as a result. It is therefore appropriate to consider why

certain materials entered the ground, and whether they represent 'typical' rubbish (Hill 1995).

7.4.2.17 The presence of unusual, potentially valuable items within the context of a rubbish pit should be highlighted. The items represented were rare, embodied energy investment and their practical functions linked them to potentially sacredly charged concepts. They therefore would have been considered of value in the Iron Age, and as a result their disposal would not have been taken lightly. Alternatively their presence could be dismissed as representing disposal of waste. The articulated deer skeleton and articulated deer joints could be interpreted as the burial of meat that had gone bad. Similarly, the metal tools and bone comb could have been disposed of after they fell out of use or could be explained in terms of accidental losses. The likelihood of this being the case is low however, as the majority of the 'special' items were carefully placed or arranged at similar points in the backfill sequences, indicative of ritualized deposition. Furthermore, the occurrence of other 'special deposits', in similar Iron Age contexts is common (Hill 1995).

7.4.2.18 It has been proposed that the digging of grain storage features into the ground and the placement of seed corn within was imbued with religious meaning, tied to ideas concerning the underworld, chthonic deities and fertility rituals (Cunliffe 2004). The 'special deposits' may represent 'offerings' deposited after the cereal grain had been removed for sowing. This probably would have taken place in the spring, perhaps forming part of a festival such as Beltane, a celebration strongly linked to fertility rites (Cunliffe 2004; Green 2001). As noted by Cunliffe (2004), some pits at Danebury appeared to have undergone partial silting before deposition of the 'special' deposits, suggesting some kind of hiatus between removal of the cereal grain and commencement of closure (Cunliffe 2004). This fits with the pattern observed in some of the pits at Old Kempshott Lane. The degree of structure encountered within the backfill sequences may also be the result of ritualised or religious practices undertaken during closure. The pits seem to fall within the 'pit belief system' of south-central England, as defined by Cunliffe (2002).

7.4.2.19 The presence of the Lodsworth Greensand quern in context [233] and the Sarsen beehive quern in context [241] suggest cereals were processed on or near to the site. The former also indicates trade, as greensand is not found locally. Petrological analysis suggests it was imported from the Lodsworth-Pulborough area of West Sussex, approximately 60 miles away (Hayward this report).

7.4.3 **PIT GROUP 1** (Figure 11-13)

7.4.3.1 The grain storage features described above were distributed among a series of other non—grain storage pits, which formed three loosely configured groups. Their distribution, associations and spatial arrangements are further discussed below.

7.4.3.2 Three groups of Middle to Late Iron Age pits were uncovered in Area 2, which have been identified as Pit Groups 1, 2 and 3 for the purpose of this report. It should be noted that features have been assigned to one of these groups on the basis of their location.

7.4.3.3. Pit Group 1 was situated to the east of Area 2. Six Middle to Late Iron Age pits formed the group, four of which, contexts [192 / 91], [201], [219] and [227], were grain storage features. As they have been discussed in depth in the preceding section, these will not be described again here. A further two, small, circular pits were also present. They were interpreted as being Middle to Late Iron Age in date due to their proximity to the four more securely dated grain storage features.

7.4.3.4 Pit [156] was situated between grain storage features [201] and [227]. It was ovoid in plan, measuring 0.55m east-west by 0.66m north-south. It had been cut from a level of 108.10m OD and was 0.21m deep. A triangular daub object (small find 12), interpreted as a possible loom weight, had been neatly placed on its base prior to closure. It was then backfilled with [155], a deposit of very dark grey charcoal rich material, which contained 13 sherds of Iron Age pottery and 1 fragment of cattle-sized animal bone.

7.4.3.5 Pit [173] was located to the immediate south of grain storage feature [201]. It was also ovoid in plan, being 0.68m north-south by 0.76m east-west and was 0.28m deep, the top being at a level of 107.87m OD. Initially, it had been backfilled with a charcoal rich deposit of silty clay, context [172], which contained 4 fragments of Iron Age pottery and a flint flake. This was sealed with a deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay, context [171], which contained a piece of worked flint in the form of a trimming blade and moderate amounts of carbonised cereal grain.

Discussion

7.4.3.6 The features within Pit Group 1 could have been backfilled with rubbish or food waste from near-by habitation, hence the presence of charred cereal grain in fill [171]. The unusually dark charcoal rich deposits encountered, coupled with the frequent pottery fragments and the complete, deliberately placed loomweight would

be atypical of domestic debris. It should also be remembered that the four grain storage pits within the group were almost certainly closed in a careful, predetermined way, with probable ritualistic overtones. Consequently, it is likely that the two associated pits found were also backfilled in a more systematic manner, with the loom weight and the pottery sherds perhaps representing further chthonic offerings.

7.4.4 PIT GROUP 2 (Figure 11, 13)

7.4.4.1 Pit Group 2 was situated approximately 6m northwest of Pit Group 1. All diagnostic pottery found within was either Iron Age or, more specifically, Middle to Late Iron Age in date. As evidence for earlier prehistoric activity was lacking, the entire group was placed within the Middle to Late Iron Age and the remainder of the assemblage dated to the 'general' Iron Age period has been deemed not to be residual. Two of the pits in the group, contexts [295] and [288], were grain storage features, detailed above. The remaining six features are described below:

7.4.4.2 Two intercutting, circular features were observed, between grain storage pits [288] and [295]. The earliest, context [261], was 1.00m in diameter and 0.54m deep, the top being at a level of 107.51m OD. Initially, the pit had been backfilled with a deliberately dumped deposit of silty clay, context [260], containing 20 sherds of Iron Age pottery, 1 piece of worked flint and occasional flecks of charcoal. A deposit of mid brownish grey silty clay, context [259], had accumulated on top.

7.4.4.3 After pit [261] had been completely backfilled, it was truncated by pit [269]. This was sub-circular in plan, with a variable diameter of 0.96m to 1.00m. It was 0.36m deep and contained three fills. The earliest, contexts [268] and [267], may have build up as a result of natural processes, being composed of clean silty clay. The latest, context [266], contained 2 sherds of Iron Age pottery and occasional fragments of burnt flint and daub. It was probably deliberately dumped as it did not resemble the surrounding natural in colour or consistency and contained man-made inclusions.

7.4.4.4 Three circular pits formed the most northerly part of group, observed at a level of 107.71m OD. The most westerly of this trio, context [274], was 0.80m in diameter and 0.56m deep. It contained two fills, the earliest of which, context [273], contained 11 sherds of Iron Age pottery and a moderate amount of charred cereal grains, retrieved from a bulk sample. This was sealed by [272], a deposit of deliberately dumped, very dark grey burnt material.

7.4.4.5 To the east of [274], two intercutting pits were observed. The earliest, context [253], was 1.53m long, 1.45m wide and 0.64m deep. Three fragments of timber plank, contexts [265], [275] and [276], had been deliberately placed on the base of the feature before it was backfilled. The fragments were incredibly fragile, being a mere 2mm thick. As a consequence, all three were photographed and recorded in detail whilst still *in situ*, as lifting would result in their destruction. Their lengths ranged between 70mm and 150mm and their widths ranged between 60mm and 70mm. They had clearly been worked, the most obvious example being context [275], which had a possible joint on its western side. Speculation on the original function of the timbers cannot be made without expert analysis of the photographs and plans. Such analysis would be useful prior to publication. A thin deposit of redeposited natural silty clay, context [290], sealed the timbers, which was in turn sealed by [252], a deposit of deliberately dumped, charcoal rich material. This burnt debris contained 24 fragment of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery, two worked flint flakes and frequent fragments of burnt daub, burnt flint and charcoal.

7.4.4.6 After pit [253] had been backfilled, its western edge was partially truncated by [251], an ovoid pit that was 1.30m long, 1.00m wide and 0.22m deep. It contained one fill, context [250], which consisted of dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional, heavily fragmented pieces of Prehistoric pottery, which disintegrated upon touch.

7.4.4.7 Circular pit [264] was situated to the immediate south of the feature described above. It was 1.19m in diameter and 0.28m deep, and contained three fills. The earliest fill, context [263], was composed of dark greyish brown burnt material, rich in artefactual remains, including 151 sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery, a fragment of a lower rotary quern and an upper rubber stone from a saddle quern, both composed of Sarsen stone. During excavation, it was speculated that the majority of the sherds could have originated from one vessel, possibly representing a 'killed' pot. The inclusion of the querns could be significant as a disproportionate number of these, relative to other artefact types, are frequently interred within pits on Iron Age sites in the region. It has therefore been proposed that this type of find and context may be indicative of ritual practice (Hill 1995). Further analysis is needed in order to confirm the veracity of such assertions prior to publication. Fill [263] was sealed by [289], which consisted of redeposited silty clay natural. This was, in turn, sealed by [262], a deposit of silty clay found to contain 7 sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery.

Discussion

7.4.4.8 The features within Pit Group 2 could have been backfilled with domestic waste or food waste, such as perhaps the presence of the charred cereal grain in context [273]. However, the presence of the unusual charcoal deposits within many of the pits, coupled with the high frequency of pottery fragments, quern stones and the deliberately placed timbers suggests ritual activity. It should also be remembered that the two grain storage pits that form part of the group were backfilled in a formalised, probably ritualised manner. Consequently, it remains possible that some or all of the associated pits in Group 2 were backfilled as part of a similar tradition.

7.4.4.9 The presence of the Sarsen and Lodsworth Greensand querns within [263] suggests cereals were processed at or near the site. Whilst Sarsen stone is found locally, Greensand is not. The latter was therefore probably imported from the Lodsworth-Pulborough area of Sussex, indicating a potential social or trade link (Hayward this report).

7.4.5 Pit Group 3 (Figure 11, 13)

7.4.5.1 Pit Group 3 was slightly different in character to Groups 1 and 2, being formed of four, large intercutting features and a smaller, rectangular pit. The tops of the features were observed at a level of 107.80m OD. Whilst some did not contain artefacts, those that did were dated to the Iron Age or Middle to Late Iron Age. As no Early to Mid Iron Age pottery was found in any of them, all features in Pit Group 3 were assigned to the Middle to Late Iron Age.

7.4.5.2 The earliest of the four intercutting pits, context [226], was a large, sub-circular feature, partially truncated along its southeastern edge by later pit [226]. Its dimensions were 4.00m north-south by 4.3m east-west and it was 0.72m deep. The pit had been backfilled with one fill, context [225], formed from redeposited natural mixed with occasional fragments of charcoal. The deposit could have accumulated naturally via silting, or could have been deliberately dumped.

7.4.5.3 Pit [226] had been truncated along its southeastern edge by [135], a similarly shaped, slightly irregular, sub-ovoid feature. The dimensions of [135] were 4.80m north-south by 5.80m east-west. It was 0.98m deep, and had been backfilled with six fills, listed below from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
239	0.25m	Mid reddish brown gravelly silty clay containing occasional charcoal fragments	Re-deposited natural
238	0.40m	Mid reddish brown gravelly silty clay containing occasional charcoal fragments	Re-deposited natural
236	0.13m	Mid reddish brown gravelly silty clay	Re-deposited natural
237	0.98m	Mid reddish brown gravelly silty clay containing occasional charcoal fragments	Re-deposited natural
134	0.22m	Mid greyish black charcoal rich silty clay rich in burnt flint, containing 1 sherd of Iron Age pottery and 2 worked flint flakes	Deliberately dumped, burnt backfill
133	0.40m	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional fragments of charcoal and burnt flint	Deliberately dumped, burnt backfill

The depositional events responsible for the accumulation of the backfill sequence are discussed below, listed in chronological order from earliest to latest:

i. Accumulation of natural silty clay via silting and / or deliberate dumping:

Initially, a large quantity of natural silty clay was lain down, the charcoal inclusions within suggesting some admixture with man-made material. Whilst the charcoal could have washed in naturally, the quantity encountered suggests it was deliberately dumped. It is probable that some natural silting did occur, as at least one extremely clean lense of silty clay, context [236], was observed. The pit may therefore have been left open for an unknown period of time between one or more episodes of deliberate deposition.

ii. Deliberate dumping of charcoal rich material

Two episodes of intentional dumping then occurred, hence the presence of two burnt fills at the top of the sequence. Although *in situ* burning cannot be ruled out completely, the surrounding natural clay was not heat-discoloured or hardened, suggesting the material was generated elsewhere.

7.4.5.4 Context [135] had been partially truncated along its southeastern edge by [132], a smaller, circular pit with steep sides and a flat base. Context [132] had a diameter of 2.80m and a depth of 1.10m. It had been backfilled with three fills, detailed below from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
210	0.20m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited natural. May have accumulated via silting processes
130	0.10m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited natural
131	0.80m	Mid greyish black charcoal rich silty clay, containing 31 sherds of Iron Age pottery. All the sherds derive from the same vessel	Deliberately dumped, burnt backfill

The depositional agents responsible for the formation of the backfill sequence are discussed upon below:

i. Accumulation of natural silty clay:

Initially, two thin deposits of silty clay accumulated on the base of the feature. They may be the result of natural silting, suggesting the feature was left open for some time prior to backfilling.

ii. Deliberate placing of a ceramic vessel

A complete vessel, small find 13, was then placed within a niche in the edge of the pit. The vessel was in poor condition, being extremely fragile. As a consequence, it disintegrated into 31 sherds after it was block-lifted.

iii. Deliberate dumping of burnt debris

A thick deposit of burnt debris, rich in flint and charcoal, was then dumped in the pit. The flint nodules were so badly heat-affected they could be crumbled easily by hand. This suggests the deposit was created in a high temperature fire or furnace. As the natural clay surrounding the pit exhibited no signs of burning or baking in the form of hardening or discolouration, it seems likely that the material was created elsewhere. *In situ* firing cannot be ruled out, however, as taphonomic processes could be responsible for the apparent lack of evidence.

7.4.5.5 Truncating pit [135], along its eastern edge, was [209], a second circular pit. The feature was 2.00m wide and 0.92m deep. Three fills were found within, detailed below from earliest to latest:

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
197	0.40m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Re-deposited natural. May have accumulated via natural silting
208	0.70m	Charcoal rich material with frequent inclusions of burnt flint	Deliberately dumped, burnt backfill
211	0.22m	Mid reddish brown laminated silty clay	Re-deposited natural

The events responsible for the deposition of the backfill sequence are speculated upon below, listed in chronological order from earliest to latest:

i. Accumulation of natural silty clay:
A deposit of silty clay initially accumulated on the base of the feature, perhaps as a result of natural silting. The feature may therefore have stood open for an unknown length of time prior to backfilling.

ii. Deliberate dumping of charcoal rich material:
An episode of deliberate dumping then seems to have taken place, hence the presence of the burnt debris. The deposit contained frequent fragments of severely burnt flint, suggesting formation in an extremely high temperature environment. Again, potential taphonomic problems mean *in situ* burning cannot be ruled out completely, although the likelihood of this is severely diminished by the total lack of any surrounding heat-affected natural.

iii. Renewed accumulation of silty clay:
A second episode of natural silting appears to have taken place after the burnt material was deposited. Partial subsidence of the dumped fill probably created a depressed area prone to flooding, producing the thin deposit of laminated, water-lain silt observed at the top of the sequence.

7.4.5.6 The fifth pit within Group 3, context [150], was situated to the immediate east of the intercutting features. It was rectangular in plan, with steep, near vertical sides and a flat base. The feature was orientated northeast-southwest, being 2.00m long and 1.90m wide. It was 0.92m deep and contained two fills. The earliest, context [149], was a 0.15m thick deposit of silty clay, which may have accumulated via natural processes. This was sealed by a deliberately dumped deposit of burnt material, rich in charcoal and severely heat-affected flint nodules.

Discussion

7.4.5.7 The functions of the features observed in Pit Group 3 remain uncertain. None of the pits were of sufficient depth to impinge upon the underlying, free-draining chalk gravel, their bases being composed of impermeable silty clay. They would therefore have been damp, probably unsuitable for storing perishable organic materials for any meaningful length of time. The irregular nature of the two large

intercutting pits, contexts [135] and [226], suggests clay extraction. Small-scale industrial activities, such as daub or pottery manufacture, could have taken place on or near the site during the Iron Age. This would have required raw materials, in the form of clay and fuel, which could have been readily obtained locally. Such an interpretation must remain speculative, however, as no direct evidence for these practices was uncovered.

7.4.5.8 Whether the pits represent clay extraction features or not, it seems as though they were backfilled with carefully selected material. The complete pottery vessel, deliberately placed within a niche in [132] could perhaps represent another chthonic offering. One theory states that certain offerings may have been selected as they represent the transformation of natural resources into useful objects (Cunliffe 2004). Perhaps the bowl could represent the transformation of natural clay, extracted from the earth, into pottery. Its re-internment into the earth from which the clay was mined could therefore be significant.

7.4.6 ISOLATED RECTANGULAR PITS (Figure 11)

7.4.6.1 Two rectangular features were found in the southwest corner of Area 2. They both resembled rectangular pit [150] in terms of their size, shape and backfill sequences.

7.4.6.2 Pit [190] was orientated east-west, being 1.32m long by 1.05m wide. It was 0.22m deep, the top being at a level of 106.30m OD. The feature had been backfilled with [187], a deposit of burnt material rich in charcoal and severely heat-affected flint nodules.

7.4.6.3 Pit [184] was situated approximately 20m southwest of pit [190]. It was orientated northeast southwest, being 1.32m long, 1.00m wide and 0.36m deep, the top being at a level of 106.48m OD. Initially, a 0.12m thick deposit of burnt debris, context [183], was dumped at its base. The deposit contained very frequent inclusions of well-preserved charcoal fragments. A thin lens of redeposited natural, indicative of natural silting, was found above, suggesting some kind of hiatus between the deliberate deposition of the primary and tertiary fills. Another deposit of deliberately dumped burnt material, context [181], was found at the top of the sequence. It contained flint nodules that had been so badly heat-affected they could be crumbled by hand.

Discussion

7.4.6.4 The two pits contained severely burnt deposits, atypical of domestic waste. Some form of industrial process requiring high temperatures, such as pottery manufacturing or metalworking, could have produced them; alternatively, they may have been created for the specific task of closing the pits, two theories that may not be mutually exclusive. In any case, the features appear to have been backfilled with carefully selected material, perhaps forming part of a 'closure ceremony'.

7.4.7 ISOLATED CIRCULAR PITS

7.4.7.1 One isolated, circular pit of Middle to Late Iron Age date was unearthed in Area 1. The feature, context [119], was roughly circular with a diameter of 1.60m and a depth of 0.55m, the top being at a level of 108.04m OD. It had been backfilled with a sequence of three deposits, the earliest of which, context [140], contained 6 fragments of Iron Age pottery and had probably been dumped deliberately. This was sealed by context [139], a deposit of slumped chalk and silty clay, probably generated by natural weathering. Dumping then resumed with tertiary fill [118], a deposit of silty clay that contained 6 fragments of Iron Age pottery, three pieces of worked flint and occasional inclusions of charcoal.

7.4.7.2 A number of small, isolated pits were recorded in Area 2. Whilst many did not contain artefactual evidence, those that did were securely dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age. As most, and possibly all, of the activity within Area 2 relates to this period, the undated features were also assigned to it on the balance of probability.

7.4.7.3 A small circular pit, context [196], was situated to the southeast of Pit Group 1. It was between 0.5m and 0.6m in diameter and was 0.16m deep, the top being observed at a level of 108.47m OD. The pit contained one fill, context [195], composed of redeposited natural silty clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal, which may have washed in naturally or been dumped deliberately. No artefacts were found within. As a consequence, the date of its formation remains ambiguous.

7.4.7.4 A further three shallow pits, termed [271], [297] and [299], were located to the north of Pit Group 2, at a level of 107.79m OD. The pits were all circular in plan, with diameters that varied between 0.48m and 0.58m and depths that ranged between 0.48m and 0.38m. They had been backfilled respectively by [270], [296] and [298], all of which were composed of mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. Pit [297] partially truncated [299], indicating that the latter had fallen out of use and been fully backfilled prior to creation of the former. Whilst

[297] and [299] did not contain any artefacts, [271] contained 4 fragments of Iron Age pottery. As a consequence, the date of [297] and [299] remains speculative, although the similarities between their fills and that of [271] suggests they may be contemporary. The fills within the pits may have laid down naturally or been deposited deliberately.

7.4.7.5 Small, circular pit [147] was situated approximately 10m northwest of Pit Group 3. It was 0.96m in diameter and 0.14m deep, having been cut from a level of 106.30m OD. The pit had been backfilled with [146], formed from redeposited silty clay natural mixed with occasional fragments of burnt flint and charcoal, which may have accumulated as a result of natural deposition or deliberate dumping.

7.4.7.6 Elongated pit [167] was situated in the southwest corner of Area 2. It was orientated northwest-southeast, being 1.00m long and 0.46m wide. The feature was 0.27m deep, the top at a height of 106.14m OD. It had been infilled with [166], a deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay, which may have accumulated through natural silting.

Discussion

7.4.7.7 Whilst some of the larger features could have functioned as rubbish pits, the general lack of artefactual material contained within the majority does not facilitate firm interpretation. If the rubbish pit hypothesis is correct, then any organic debris in their fills has left no obvious traces. The artefactual assemblages derived from the backfill sequences do not appear unusual or 'special'.

7.4.8 POSTHOLES AND STAKEHOLES (Figure 11)

7.4.8.1 A series of small postholes and stakeholes were found within Area 2. No artefactual remains were obtained from their excavation, making accurate dating impossible. The features were all assigned to the Middle to Late Iron Age because all closely datable activity in Area 2 pertained to this phase.

7.4.8.2 Three small postholes, [255], [257] and [303], were found in association with Pit Group 2. Each had been backfilled with a deposit of mid grey silty clay, termed [254], [256] and [302] respectively. They were all roughly circular in plan, with diameters ranging between 0.38m and 0.18m and depths ranging between 0.13m and 0.05m. The features formed a triangular arrangement, orientated northeast-southwest, approximately 6m long and 2m wide, with [255] and [257] being situated to the north of [303].

7.4.8.3 A second group of similarly sized postholes were found within the south-central portion of Area 2, at a level of 106.10m OD. The group consisted of four postholes, [158], [160], [162] and [164]. Each had been backfilled with mid greyish brown silty clay, [157], [159], [161] and [163] respectively. Feature [162] partially truncated [164]. This suggests that the post presumably once contained within [164] may have been replaced, perhaps after it began to deteriorate. The postholes were relatively close together, forming a roughly triangular outline, measuring 1.60m long by 0.80m wide.

7.4.8.4 A further three postholes were observed in the southwest corner of Area 2, at a level of 106.18m OD. The features, contexts [175], [180] and [186], were between 0.14m and 0.16m in diameter and were 0.12m deep, forming a curvilinear alignment approximately 5.5m long. Each had been backfilled with a deposit of sandy silty clay, respectively termed [174], [179] and [185].

7.4.8.5 Several additional isolated postholes of a similar size and shape were also found. These included contexts [215] and [217] in the north of Area 2, context [152] in the east-central portion of Area 2 and [246], situated to the immediate south of Pit Group 3.

Discussion

7.4.8.6 The ephemeral nature of the stakeholes and postholes described above makes interpretation difficult. Some could represent lightweight timber structures such as pens, fence lines, or supports for intermittent or short duration activities, although such a hypothesis is far from certain. Few small features of this kind survive at Old Kempshott Lane, possibly because of destruction via deep ploughing. Meaningful interpretation of the few that remain is therefore problematic.

7.4.9 BOUNDARY DITCHES (Figure 11, 14)

7.4.9.1 The only ditch in Area 2, context [178], was unearthed in the southwest corner of the excavation area, the top of the feature being at a level of 106.06m OD. It was 17m long, 1.5m wide and 0.50m deep, becoming gradually shallower before petering out towards each end.

7.4.9.2 Four slots were excavated across the feature. Each contained well-sorted, extremely clean silty clay fills, termed [176], [177], [300] and [301], which probably

accumulated through natural silting. This suggests the ditch was left open after it fell out of use, silting up gradually over an unknown period of time.

Discussion

7.4.9.3 The feature was probably originally longer, perhaps forming part of a more complex system of land-division. It has been placed within the Middle to Late Iron Age for three reasons:

i. Because all other dateable ditches at Old Kempshott Lane pertain to this period or later

ii Most, if not all, archaeological activity in Area 2 falls within the Middle to Late Iron Age period

iii The feature was orientated west-northwest - east-southeast, at an approximate right angle to the two Middle to Late Iron Age ditches that form part of the possible banjo enclosure.

It may therefore represent a remnant of a Middle to Late Iron Age field system, the bulk of which has not survived.

7.4.9.4 The date of the ditch remains uncertain, as no artefacts were recovered in its excavation. Its phasing is therefore subject to some uncertainty.

7.4.10 A POSSIBLE BANJO ENCLOSURE (Figure 9 – 10)

7.4.10.1 Two parallel ditches, orientated northeast southwest, and the remains of an elongated pit or short ditch were unearthed in Area 1. Ditch [346], the northernmost of the features, was 1.2m wide and 0.56m deep with a somewhat 'V' shaped profile, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the southwest. It grew shallower to the northeast, until it eventually petered out, perhaps because of plough damage. Its fills included Late Iron Age and Early Romano British pottery fragments, charcoal, animal bone and some human bone elements (see section 7.5). A similar ditch situated to the immediate south, context [338], 1.14m wide by 0.58m deep with a roughly rounded profile, ran parallel with [346] for 43.40m, creating an upstanding strip of land, approximately 8.6m wide, between the two. Ditch [346] then turned sharply towards the northwest, at which point it became

curvilinear, bending gradually westwards for a further 18m before running into the western edge of excavation. Ditch [346] continued westwards in a straight line for a further 12m, before being truncated by a Roman re-cut. This created a sub-circular enclosure, 20.20m in diameter, which could be entered by way of the upstanding strip of land located between the parallel sections of the ditch. Enclosures of this kind are known from the Middle to the late Iron Age period. They are known as banjo enclosures on account of their shape.

7.4.10.2 A small elongated pit, context [402], was situated in the centre of the entrance created by ditches [338] and [346]. The feature was orientated north-south, being 3.10m long and 1.3m wide. It was 0.30m deep, petering out gradually towards the south, perhaps because of plough damage.

7.4.10.3 Very little internal structure or features were found within the enclosure. Only one ovoid pit, context [364], was found inside, close to the southern edge of the curvilinear ditched portion. The dimensions of the feature were 1.10m north-south by 2.60m east-west. It was 0.36m deep, the top being at a level of 109.70m OD. Initially a 0.06m thick deposit of silty clay, context [363], accumulated at its base. This was sealed by [362], very similar in nature to the earlier fill. No artefacts were found within it. It was probably left open after it fell out of use and infilled gradually by natural silting.

7.4.10.4 The pit described above was sealed by a thin layer of humic rich material, context [361]. The layer was roughly circular in shape with a diameter of 6.2m and a depth of 0.15m. It was located within the circular part of the banjo enclosure, continuing beyond the limit of excavation to the west. No artefacts were found within the deposit.

Discussion

7.4.10.5 Aerial photographic surveys suggest banjo enclosures are not uncommon in the region (Palmer 1984). Several examples have been excavated, including Micheldever Wood (Fasham *et al* 1987), Bramdean, Blagden Copse, Owslebury (Champion and Champion 1981) and Nettlebank Copse (Cunliffe 2004). Their locations, when compared to trackway systems, suggest they were linked with stock control (Champion & Champion 1981; Cunliffe 2002; Cunliffe 2004), although results from a number of excavations indicate this may be too simplistic. The excavated examples, such as Micheldever wood, frequently contain considerable internal structure suggestive of settlement (Fasham 1987).

Typically, this occupation is Middle to late Iron Age in date, ranging between the 3rd century and the early Roman period (Champion & Champion 1981). Evidence from Nettlebank Copse suggests this feature started life as a seasonally used cattle-pen, before being converted into a center for permanent occupation (Cunliffe 2004). It has been proposed that some banjo enclosures started life as droveways / corrals before being converted to settlements or vice versa. Alternatively, they could have fitted both functions simultaneously (Cunliffe 2004).

7.4.10.6 The two parallel ditches at Old Kempshott Lane could have functioned as a droveway, funnelling animals into the somewhat D shaped rather than circular enclosure, at its south-western end. Whilst the shallow nature of the ditches would render them useless as a barrier against larger animals such as cattle, they may have been suitable for the management of smaller ungulates, such as sheep and goats. Although fencelines or hedgerows could have reinforced these, making them more effective for the controls of larger animals, no evidence for such an arrangement was uncovered however. The enclosure was situated close to the highest point on site, at a level of 109.85m OD, where the subsoil was virtually non-existent. The destructive nature of modern deep ploughing therefore could account for the shallowness of the ditches and the lack of evidence for hedgerows or fence lines. Potentially, small, elongated pit [402] may once have formed part of a longer curvilinear ditch, linking up with [338] to the south. This would have the effect of narrowing the entrance to the enclosure, creating an opening that would be relatively easy to barricade, thereby preventing the escape of corralled animals. Alternatively, two entrances may have existed at either side of [402]. At 1.60m and 3.50m in width, they could have been sealed with gates or fences.

7.4.10.7 The organic rich layer within the enclosure, context [361], could have been generated by the poaching and defecation of penned animals. Alternatively, the scattering or dumping of organic rich domestic waste could have enriched the soil, although the likelihood of this is significantly diminished by the lack of artefactual evidence within the deposit.

7.4.10.8 The lack of structural evidence for habitation within the enclosure could be explained by the destructive nature of deep ploughing, which would have destroyed all but the most intrusive features. However one could have expected a clear scatter of residual contemporary finds material across the area if plough damage had been responsible for the lack of internal features. Ovoid pit [364] does suggest that some internal structure may have once existed.

7.4.10.9 Whilst artefact assemblages from surrounding archaeological features indicate the presence of an Iron Age settlement somewhere nearby, no evidence was unearthed to suggest this was situated within the enclosure. The feature is therefore best explained in terms of stock control and management.

7.4.10.10 It should be noted that the lack of curvature to the south end of ditch [338], its relatively rounded profile, the comparative small width and depth of the ditches and the limited evidence for internal features are all a variance to the common characteristics (Cunliffe 1978) of other excavated examples of Banjo style enclosures.

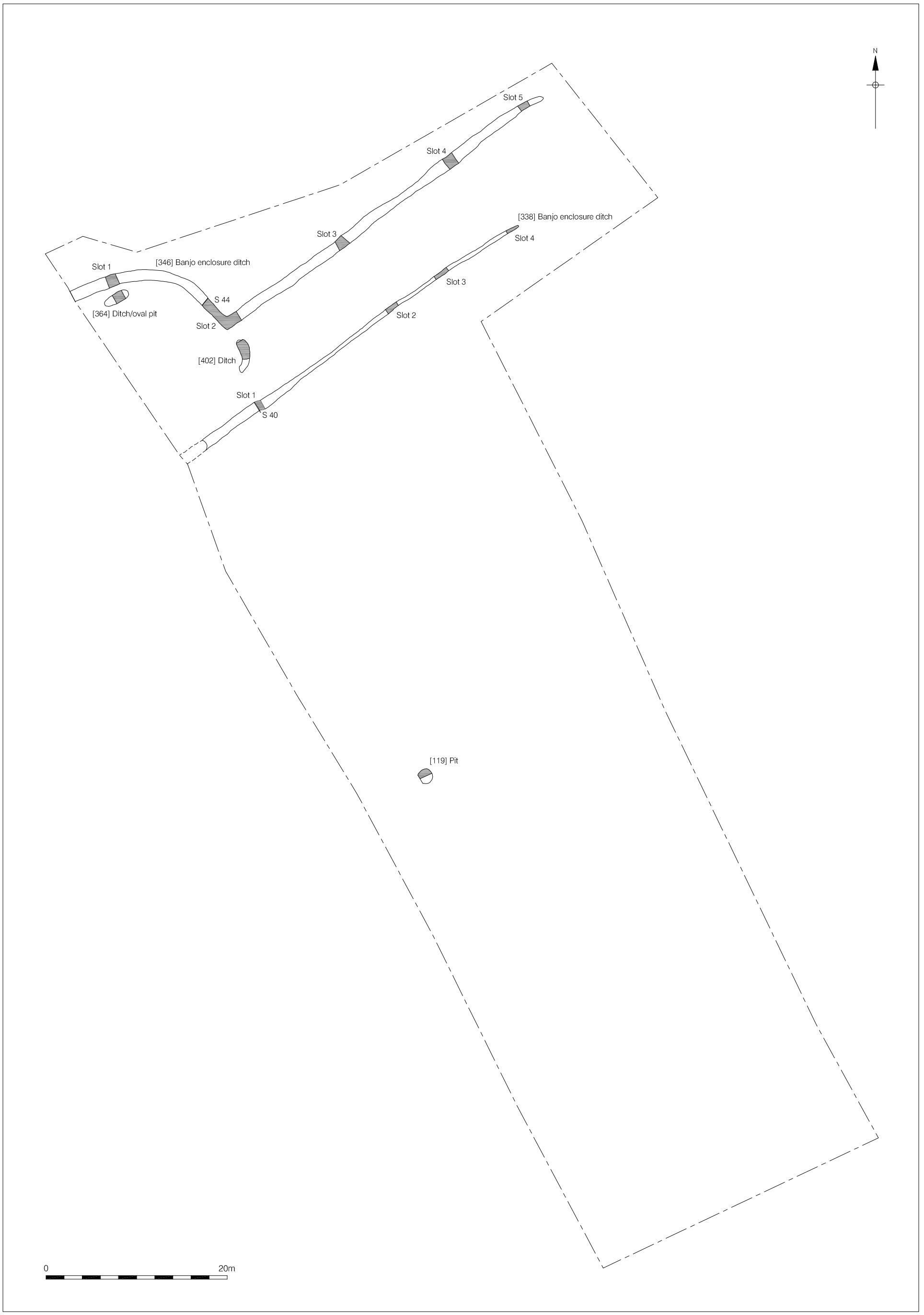
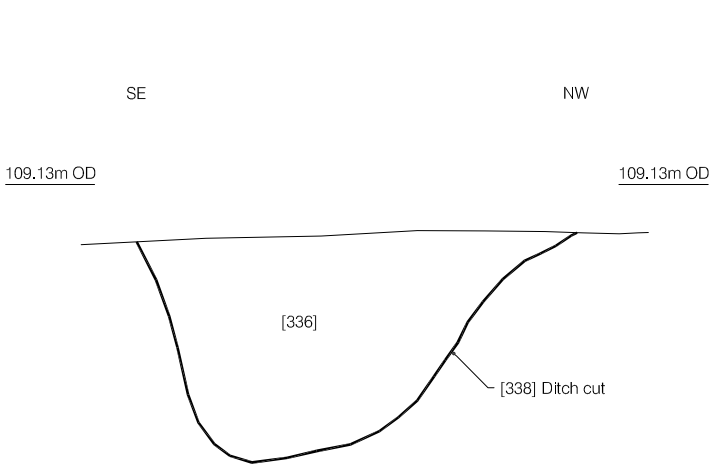
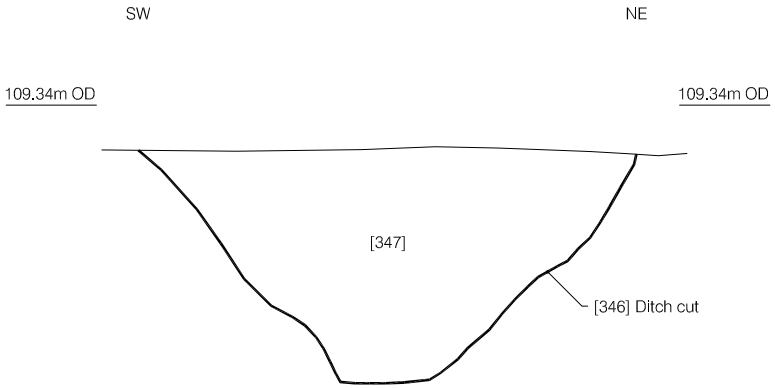


Figure 9
Area 1, Phase 4: Middle to Late Iron Age
1:400 at A3



Section 40
Northeast facing



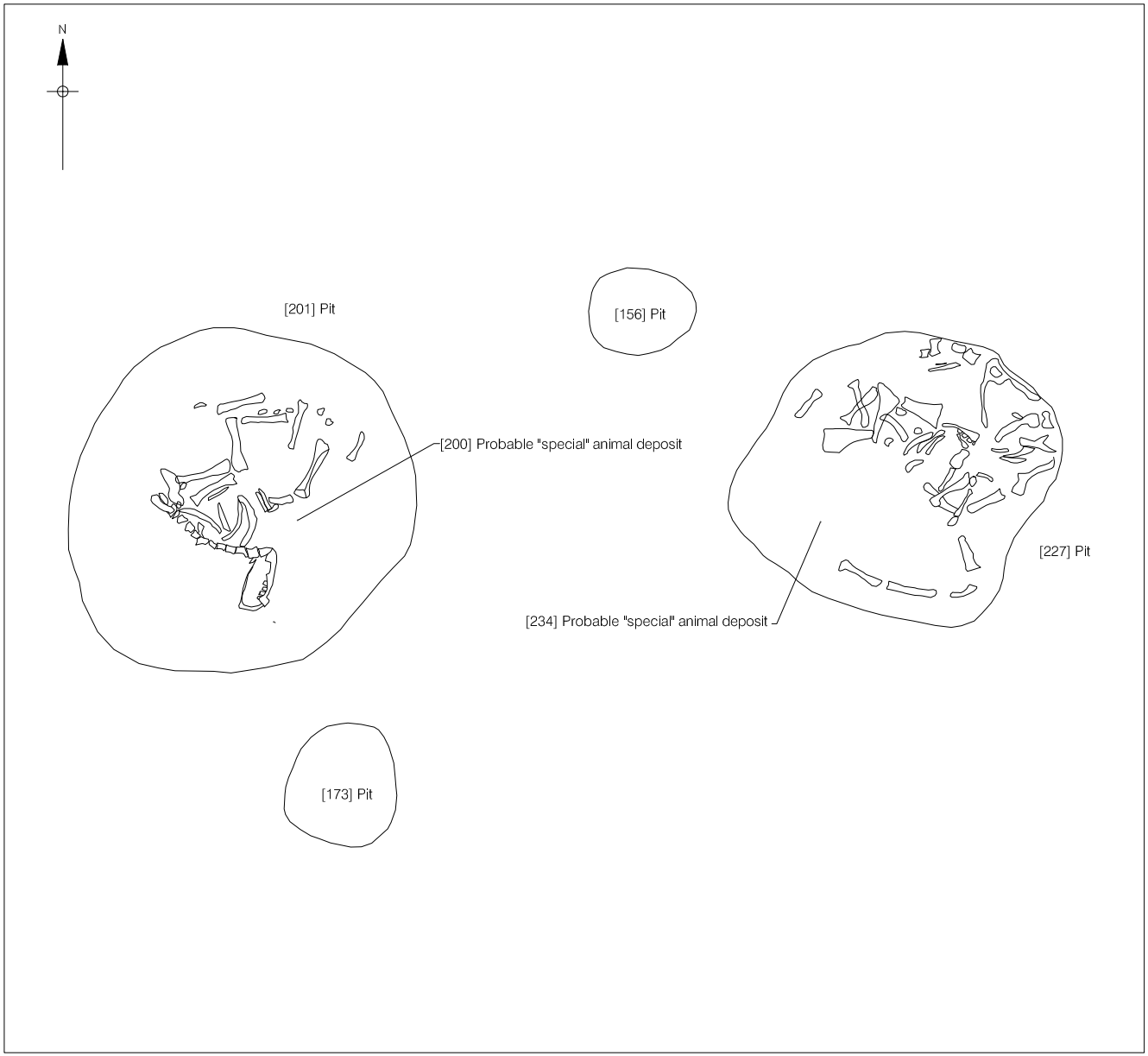
Section 44
Southeast facing

Figure 10
Area 1,Sections 40 & 44, Phase 4: Middle to Late Iron Age
1:20 at A4

N

Slot 4
Slot 3
[167] Pit
Slot 2
S 19
Slot 1
[178] Ditch
[180] PH
[175] PH
[186] PH
[184] Pit
[190] Pit
[160] SH
[158] SH
[164] PH
[162] PH
[217] PH
[215] PH
[297] Pit
[299] Pit
[271] Pit
[255] SH
[322] Cut
[288] Pit
S 33
S 38
[261] Pit
[274] Pit
[253] Pit
[251] Pit
S 29
[269] Pit
[257] PH
[303] PH
[364] Pit
S 37
[295] Pit
Pit Group 2
[152] PH
[147] Pit
[226] Pit
S 28
S 24
[135] Pit
[132] Pit
S13
[209] Pit
[246] PH
[150] Cut
Pit Group 3
[200] Animal Rems.
[156] Pit
S 18
[234]
[227] Pit
[201] Pit
S 22
S 26
[173] Pit
[219] Cut
S 23
[192] Pit
S 25
Pit Group 1
S 27
[242] Pit
[196] PH
0
20m

Fig 11
Area 2, Phase 4: Mid to Late Iron Age
1:400 at A3



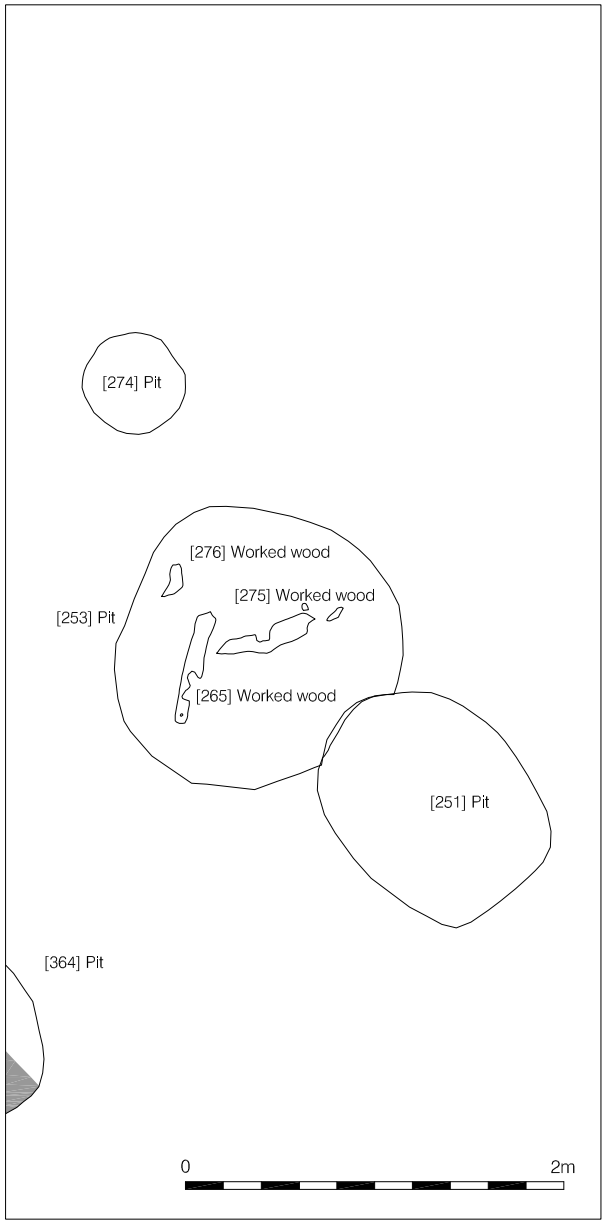
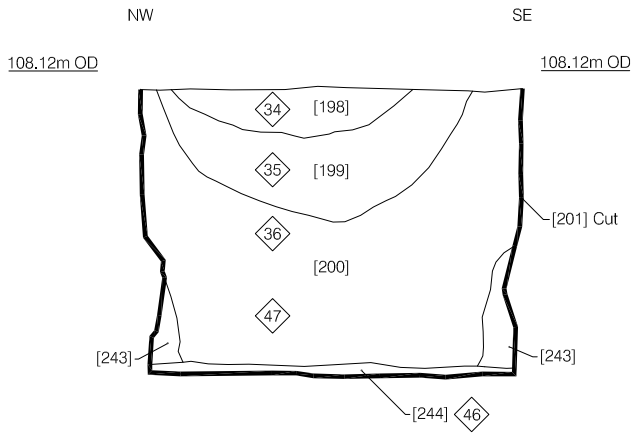
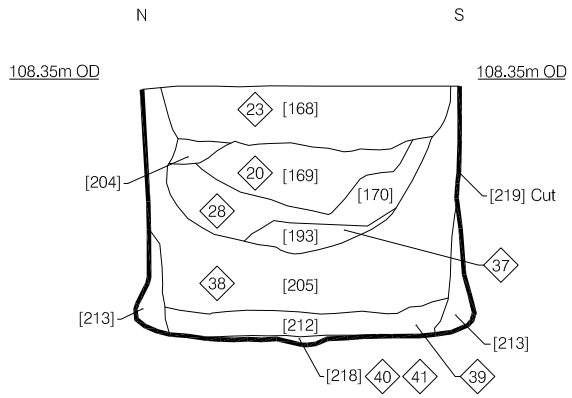


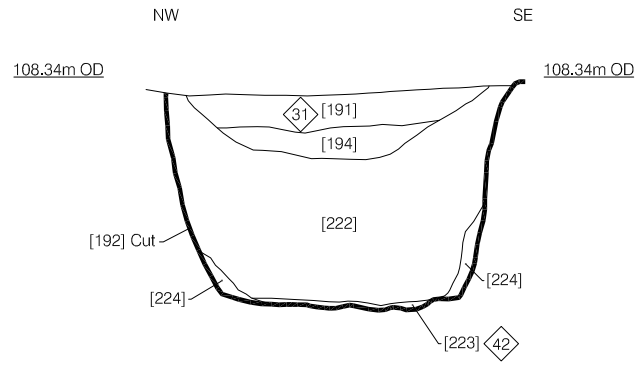
Fig 12
Area 2, Phase 4: Mid to Late Iron Age, Pit Details
1:400 at A4



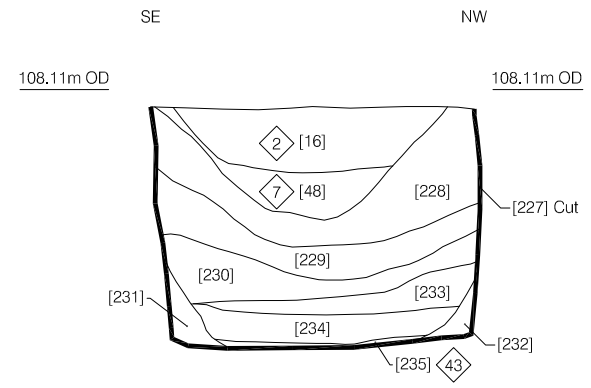
Section 22
Southwest facing
Pit group 1



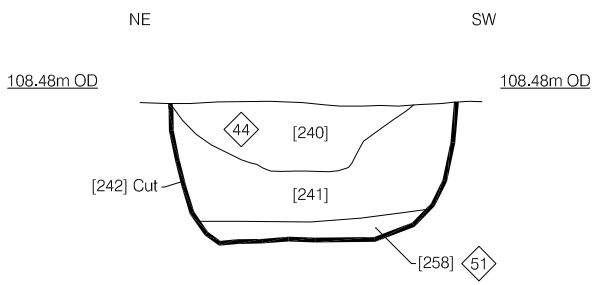
Section 23
West facing
Pit group 1



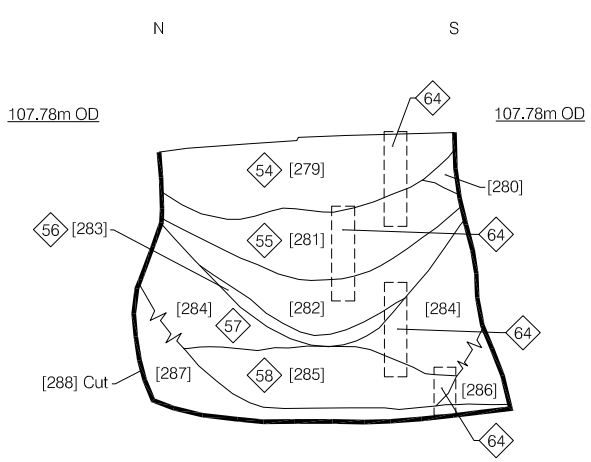
Section 25
Southwest facing
Pit group 1



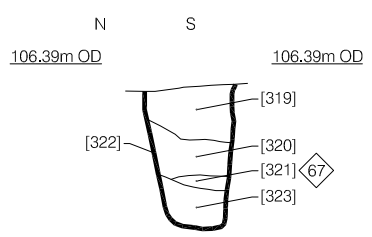
Section 26
Northeast facing
Pit group 1



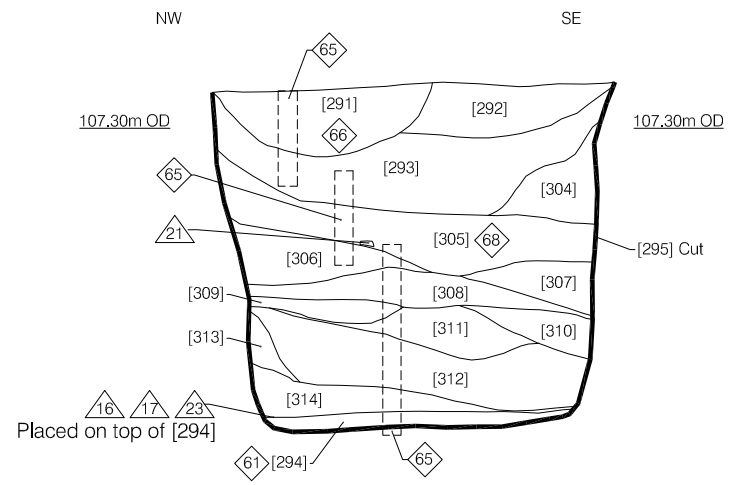
Section 27
Northwest facing



Section 33
West facing
Pit group 2



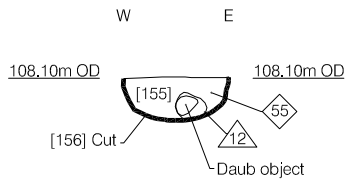
Section 38
West facing
Pit group 2
Located in base of [288]



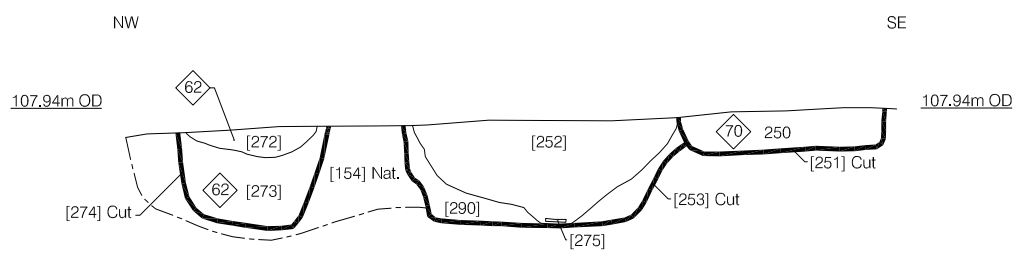
Section 37
Southwest facing
Pit group 2

0 2m

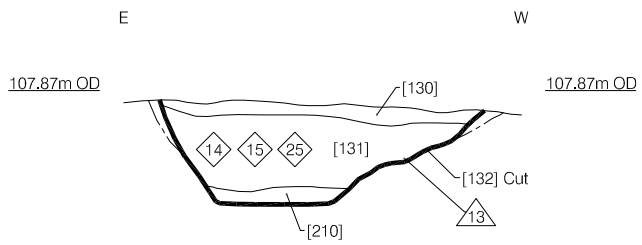
Figure 13
Area 2, Storage Pit Sections Phase 4: Middle to Late Iron Age
1:40 at A3



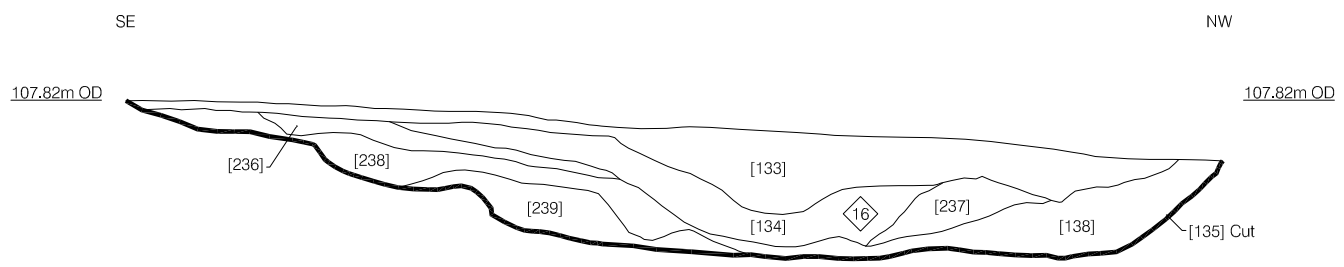
Section 18
South facing
Pit group 1



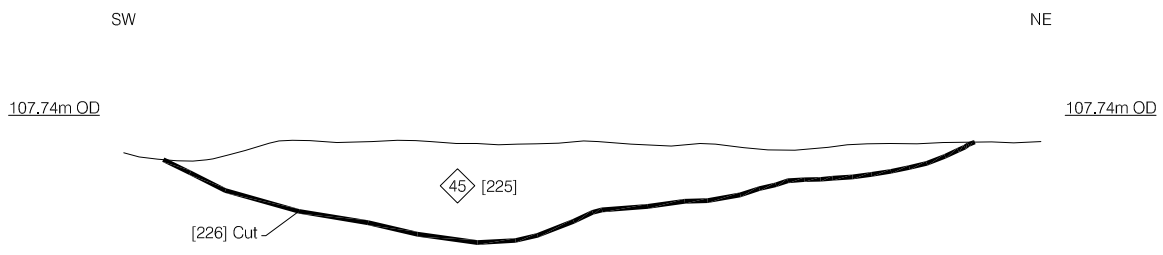
Section 29
Southwest facing
Pit group 2



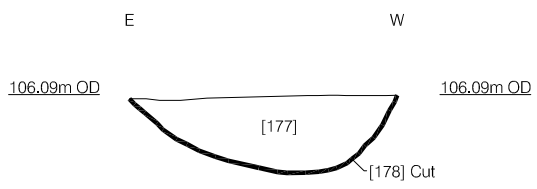
Section 13
North facing
Pit group 3



Section 24
Northeast facing
Pit group 3



Section 28
Southeast facing
Pit group 3



Section 19
North facing
Ditch

0 2m

Figure 14
Area 2, Sections, Phase 4: Middle to Late Iron Age
1:40 at A3

7.5 PHASE 5- LATE IRON AGE TO EARLY ROMANO-BRITISH (Figure 15-16)

7.5.1 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

7.5.1.1 The possible banjo style enclosure appears to have remained extant as an earthwork until the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period, when it was backfilled with a combination of natural material and probable common waste. This suggests that some form of settlement activity continued in the vicinity.

7.5.2 BACKFILLING OF THE ENCLOSURE

7.5.2.1 The northern-most ditch within the possible banjo enclosure, context [346], had been partially backfilled with deliberately dumped material. Five slots were excavated through it, each of which contained between one and two fills. Two deliberately dumped deposits were found at the base of the sequence in slots 1 and 4, respectively termed contexts [359] and [345]. Their compositions were suggestive of domestic waste, as each contained occasional inclusions of charcoal and animal bone. Fill [359] also contained 31 sherds of diagnostic Late Iron Age to Early Romano British pottery. A deposit of silty clay then accumulated on top of the dumped material, presumably as a result of natural processes. The deposit, respectively termed contexts [358], [347], [349], [344] and [348] in Slots 1 to 5, was observed at the top of all 5 slots. A total of 5 sherds of Late Iron Age to Early Romano British pottery were retrieved from these upper fills, suggesting the enclosure probably ceased to function around this time. A fragment of quern, composed of quarts conglomeratic sandstone, was found in fill [358], along with an iron rivet. Human bone was also retrieved from the backfill of the feature, consisting of a femur and humerus.

7.5.2.2 Excavated sections of the southern-most ditch, context [335], contained one fill, termed [338] / [337] / [339] and [340] in slots 1 to 4 respectively. The majority of the fills probably accumulated through natural processes, being composed primarily of mid reddish brown sandy clayey silt, indicative of redeposited natural. This suggests that the ditch was left open after it fell out of use, enabling the material to accumulate. Whilst fill [338] contained 2 sherds of Iron Age pottery, the fragments were undiagnostic and could not be dated more precisely. It seems probable, however, that the southern ditch began to fill in around the same time as the northern one, during the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British period.

7.5.2.3 The central, elongated pit, context [402], contained one fill, comprising context [401]. This was composed of redeposited natural silty clay that probably accumulated via natural processes, hence the total lack of artefactual remains within. It is likely that the feature fell out of use at the same time as the two ditches, silting up during the Late Iron Age or Early Roman period.

Discussion

7.5.2.4 The enclosure ditches may have been open for some time prior to the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British period, when they fell out of use. They were then in-filled by a combination of deliberately dumped debris and natural silting. The majority of the backfill resembled domestic waste, suggesting the presence of near-by settlement. However, as stated in 7.3.2.5, most of the rubbish produced was probably disposed of on the surface, being omitted from the archaeological record as a result. It is consequently appropriate to consider why certain materials entered the ground, and whether they can be defined as rubbish (Hill 1995). The deliberately dumped deposits found in the ditch could be interpreted as domestic waste or material redeposited from middens. Human bone would be less likely to end up mixed in with common waste. Depending on the processes involved in treatment of the dead accidental or casual losses would be more or less likely. The frequency with which fragments of disarticulated human bone are found in analogous contexts is so high that the find of human long bones and skull fragments in ditch like features of Iron Age and Roman date can be defined as part of a cultural tradition (Hill 1995). It is possible that ditches may have represented symbolic as well as physical boundaries during the Late Iron Age and Roman periods, occasionally being subject to special treatment as a result (Hill 1995).

7.5.2.5 The presence of the Quartz Conglomeratic Sandstone quern in context [358] suggests cereals continued to be processed on or near the site. The artefact may be indicative of long distance exchange, as the closest petrological match is found in the Forest of Dean and Bristol areas (100 to 130 miles away respectively). Alternative sources for the raw material for the quern comprises a more local stone, such as Idsworth Stone, which outcrops in southeast Hampshire, 45 miles from the site, or it represent Millstone Grit, transported from outcrops in Derbyshire, South Yorkshire or the Bristol area (Hayward this report).

7.6 PHASE 6- EARLY ROMANO-BRITISH (Figure 15-16)

7.6.1 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

7.6.1.1 After the possible banjo enclosure fell out of use, a large rectangular ditched feature was constructed. The banjo must predate it, as the southern-most of its two ditches had been fully infilled before being truncated by the later enclosure. Old alignments were respected, as the new enclosure was at a right angle to the banjo's ditches, one of which had been partially re-cut to form its northern end. This suggests some degree of continuity between the Middle to Late Iron Age and Early Roman period. Possible rubbish pits containing probable domestic waste were found, suggesting unbroken settlement activity in the vicinity of the site. The animal bone assemblage indicates that cattle continued to be exploited, along with sheep, horse, chicken and dog. Red deer may also have been used, as a single scapula of this species was retrieved from ditch [102].

7.6.1.2 Archaeological activity appears to shift back towards the southwest during this period. With the exception of a probable roadside ditch, no Roman activity was found to the north and east of Area 1.

7.6.2 THE RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE (Figure 15 – 16)

7.6.2.1 The eastern side of a large enclosure was observed in Area 1, continuing beyond the western limit of excavation. It was rectangular in shape, its dimensions being 23.30m northwest southeast by 4.40m northeast southwest. The feature was observed at a level of 109.12m to the north, sloping down to 107.05m OD in the south. It was composed of two ditches, contexts [335] and [22] / [30] / [56] / [102] / [380], both approximately 1.40m wide and 0.73m deep with 'v'-shaped profiles. A probable entranceway, 1.62m wide, was situated in the northern corner facing northeast, with [355] to the northwest and [22] / [30] / [56] / [102] / [380] to the southeast. Ditch [355] partially recut an earlier ditch associated with the Banjo Enclosure.

7.6.2.2 Six slots were excavated through [22] / [30] / [56] / [102] / [380] and one was excavated through [335] during the evaluation and subsequent excavation, totalling just over 10% of the total length of the feature. The enclosure ditches were found to be backfilled with the following deposits, as detailed by Evaluation Trench / Slot Number below:

Ditch [22] / [30] / [56] / [102] / [380]

Evaluation Trench 105

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
55	0.22m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Primary fill of ditch. Probably accumulated via natural silting
54	0.44m	Dark brown silty clay containing 4 fragments of early Roman pottery, occasional fragments of animal bone and burnt flint and rare charcoal flecks.	Secondary fill of ditch, probably deliberately dumped.

Slot 1

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
101	0.24m	Mid brown silty clay containing 1 sherd of early Roman pottery, 3 pieces of worked flint, occasional animal bone and oyster shell.	Primary fill of ditch, possibly deposited deliberately. May be composed of domestic waste.
100	0.50m	Mid brown silty clay containing 7 sherds of early Roman pottery, occasional animal bone and 7 pieces of worked flint.	Secondary fill of ditch, probably deliberately dumped.

Slot 2

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
109	0.59m	Light yellowish brown silty clay with frequent chalk and flint inclusions	Primary fill of ditch. Probably accumulated via natural silting
108	0.25m	Mid yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional animal bone	Secondary fill of ditch, possibly deliberately dumped.
107	0.42m	Dark brown silty clay containing 3 pieces of worked flint and occasional animal bone.	Tertiary fill of ditch, possibly deliberately dumped.

Slot 3

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
138	0.04m	Very light brownish grey silty with frequent inclusions of chalk	Primary fill of ditch. Probably accumulated via natural silting
121	0.30m	Light reddish brown clayey silt containing occasional animal bone	Secondary fill of ditch, probably deliberately dumped.
120	0.37m	Dark reddish brown clayey silt containing 1 sherd of early Roman pottery, 2 pieces of worked flint and frequent inclusions of animal bone	Tertiary fill of ditch, possibly deposited deliberately. May be composed of domestic waste.

Evaluation Trench 66 / Slot 4

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
21	0.30m	Mid brown silty clay containing the disarticulated skeleton of a dog, 6 pieces of worked flint, occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional oyster shell	Primary fill of ditch, deposited deliberately.
20	0.60m	Mid brown silty clay with occasional fragments of animal bone, 1 sherd of Late Iron Age to early Romano-British pottery, 5 hobnails, small find 1, and an unidentified metal object, small find 10.	Secondary fill of ditch, probably deliberately dumped.

Slot 5

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
165	0.30m	Dark greyish brown silty sand containing 64 pieces of early Roman pottery and a single hobnail	Primary fill of ditch. Deliberately dumped deposit.
106	0.30m	Mid greyish brown clayey silty sand containing 268 sherds of early Roman pottery and occasional animal & human bone and CBM.	Secondary fill of ditch, probably deliberately dumped.
105	0.23m	Mid reddish brown clayey silty sand with 155 sherds of Roman pottery, 1 piece of worked flint, occasional animal bone and an iron sheet (40mm x 40mm x 2mm). Moderate amounts of charcoal were recovered from bulk sample 11.	Tertiary fill of ditch. Deliberately dumped deposit.

Eval Trench 73 / Slot 6

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
27	0.22m	Silty clay, containing the partial remains of a human child, including a fragmentary skull, ribs and several limb bones. Occasional cattle, sheep and the skull and mandible of a dog were also found, along with 63 early Roman pottery sherds (43-150AD) and 3 flint flakes. Small finds 2, 3 and 4 were also found, representing 30 small hobnails, a broken iron mount and a bent metal strip	Dumped quaternary fill of ditch

28	0.64m	Silty clay, resembling redeposited natural	Tertiary fill of ditch, which may have accumulated via deliberate dumping or natural processes.
46	0.08m	Charcoal rich fill. Bulk sample 6 contained frequent carbonised grains of wheat (*Triticum sp.*)	Dumped secondary fill
47	0.09m	Silty clay, resembling redeposited natural	Primary fill of ditch, resembling natural silting

Ditch [335]

Context	Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
365	0.83m	Mid dark greyish brown silty clay containing 24 sherds of early Roman pottery, 6 pieces of worked flint and occasional animal bone	Fill of ditch, probably deposited deliberately.

Discussion

7.6.2.3 The ditches seem to form part of an early Roman enclosure. Only a small section of the eastern side was revealed, making it hard to draw conclusions concerning its true size and exact function, a problem compounded by the apparent lack of contemporary internal structures. Firm conclusions are therefore limited, although further searching of available aerial photographs may facilitate interpretation. Comparison with other contemporary sites in the region suggests the ditches may have enclosed a small settlement or farmstead (Palmer 1984), supported by the frequency of find spots of Roman date on the SMR within the probable confines of the enclosure (Hawkins 2006).

7.6.2.4 Ditch [335] partially recut the western end of the most southerly ditch within the Banjo Enclosure. This suggests that Late Iron Age alignments and field boundaries continued to be respected in some form during the early Roman period.

7.6.2.5 A thin layer of silty clay, resembling redeposited natural, was found on the base of ditch [22] / [30] / [56] / [102] / [380] within slots 2 and 3. This suggests that the ditch remained open for some time prior to backfilling, allowing the deposit to accumulate naturally.

7.6.2.6 After the enclosure fell out of use, it seems to have been deliberately infilled with material resembling domestic waste. It probably ceased to function during the early

Roman period, as the backfill sequences contained ceramics produced between 43 and 110 AD.

7.6.2.7 A large assemblage of ceramic material was found in Slot 5. A total of 487 fragments were recovered, whilst a combined total of 14 sherds were retrieved from the other slots. Given the quantity of material found in Slot 5, it is extremely likely that the assemblage was deposited deliberately. The relatively complete, disarticulated skeleton of a dog had also been dumped in Slot 4, whilst the disarticulated remains of a human child, including skull, ribs and limb bones, were found in Slot 6. A human femur was also found in context [106].

7.6.2.8 Whilst the material within the ditch could be the product of rubbish disposal, it is much more likely that it was carefully selected. The ditch may have represented something more than a physical boundary, as evidence from other sites suggests such features were sometimes subject to special treatment during backfilling (Hill 1995). The archaeological record also suggests corners and termini were of particular significance, hence the occasional presence of abnormally large or unusual artefact assemblages in such locations. Deposits of this nature are therefore sometimes interpreted as products of ritual activity. Slot 5 was positioned on the eastern corner of ditch [22] / [30] / [56] / [102] / [380], whilst Slot 6 was situated to the immediate north. The large quantity of pottery recovered from Slot 5 and the human remains from Slot 6 could therefore represent votive deposits.

7.6.2.9 The identification of 'ritual' in the archaeological record is dependent on the recognition of deposits produced by activities that represent structured symbolically charged constructs. They are 'discursive', 'alerting' and 'distinctive', representing formulaic events (Hill 1995). The human remains uncovered and the unusually large assemblage of ceramic material may represent the remains of such acts. It is possible that the disarticulated dog skeleton forms part of a similar act.

7.6.2.10 A further 24 sherds of pottery were recovered from the terminus of ditch [335]. This could also be seen as atypical of the enclosure as a whole, being larger than the other assemblages with the obvious exception of Slot 5. It is therefore also possible that the terminus of the ditch was backfilled with more carefully selected material, although further work will be required in order to investigate this more thoroughly.

7.6.3 **EARLY ROMAN POSTHOLES** (Figure 15)

7.6.3.1 Two small, circular cuts of early Roman date, contexts [137] and [142], were excavated in the south of Area 1. Both were approximately the same size and shape, being between 0.54m and 0.56m in diameter and 0.12m to 0.19m in depth. They had been respectively backfilled with [136], which contained 1 sherd of early Roman pottery and [141], which contained 3 sherds of similarly dated ceramic material. The fills were composed of mid yellowish brown sandy clay, which may have accumulated by natural silting.

Discussion

7.6.3.2 The postholes were roughly aligned with the contemporary early Roman enclosure ditch described above. It is therefore possible that they may represent a continuation of this boundary to the south, perhaps forming part of a fenceline demarcating an adjacent field. Accurate interpretation is hampered by the lack of similar small features, deep ploughing perhaps being responsible for the destruction of the majority. Meaningful interpretation of the few that remain is therefore problematic.

7.6.4 THE ROMAN BOUNDARY DITCH (Figure 17)

7.6.4.1 The remnants of a Roman ditch, aligned north northeast- south southwest, were uncovered during the Evaluation in Trenches 26, 101, 102, 103 and 104 in the north of the site. The ditch was approximately 43m long, 1.75m wide and 0.48m deep, with the top being at a level of 103.70m OD. It either lensed out or terminated towards the north and south, or changed direction before reaching Evaluation Trenches 18 and 38. The former hypothesis may be more likely, as the feature could represent a roadside or boundary ditch running parallel with the Silchester-Winchester road, probably situated in the approximate position of Old Kempshott Lane.

7.6.4.2 The ditch contained two fills, contexts [3] and [4]. The primary one, context [3], was a 0.20m thick deposit of clean silty clay, suggestive of natural processes. This was sealed by context [4], a similarly clean fill of silty clay.

Discussion

7.6.4.3 The feature was interpreted as a possible Roman boundary ditch or roadside ditch, as it runs parallel with the projected line of a Roman road. This is purely speculative, however, as no dating evidence was retrieved from the feature.

7.6.4.4 The clean, fine-grained nature of the backfill indicates the ditch stood open for an unknown period of time after it fell out of use, resulting in natural silting to take place.

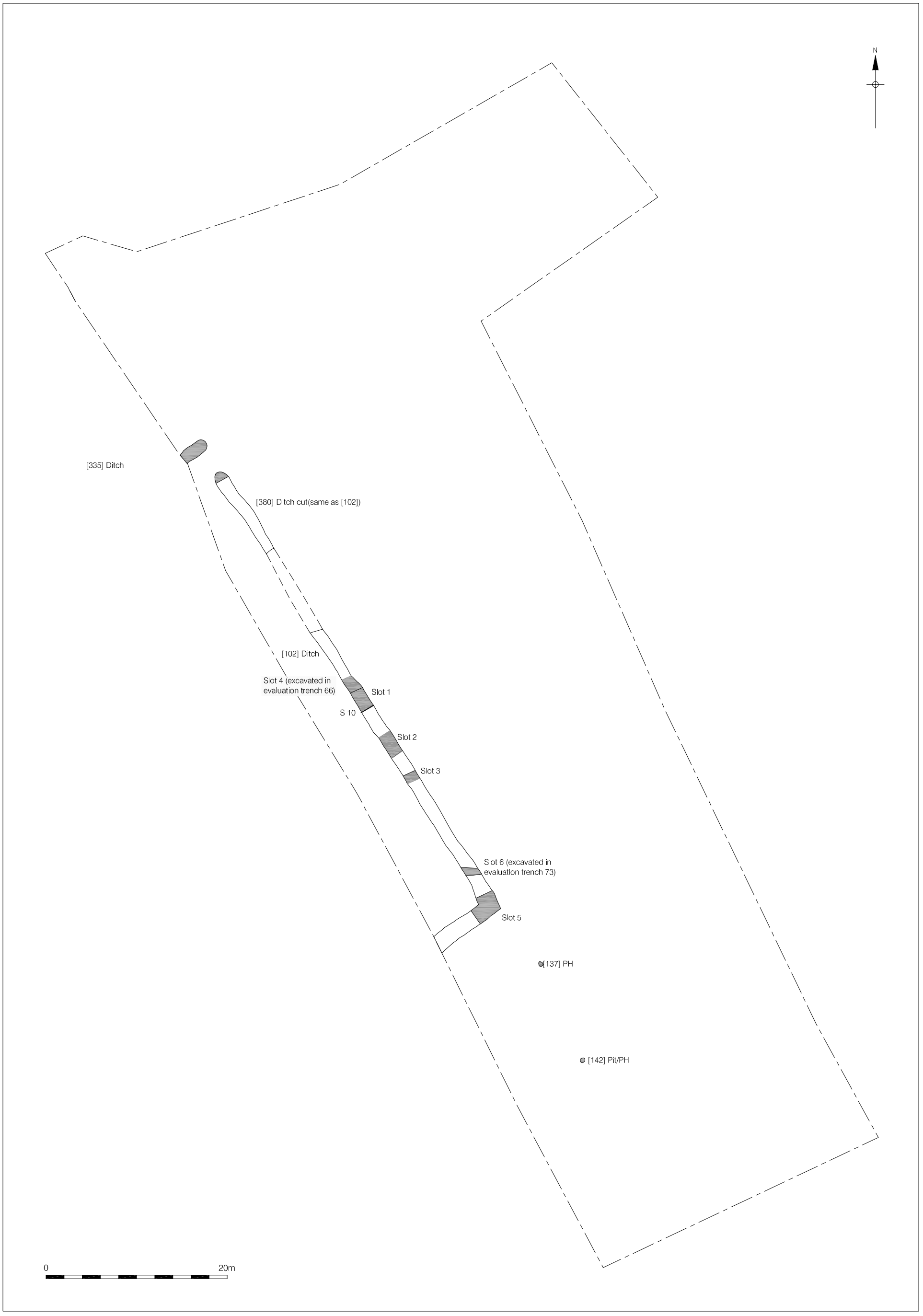
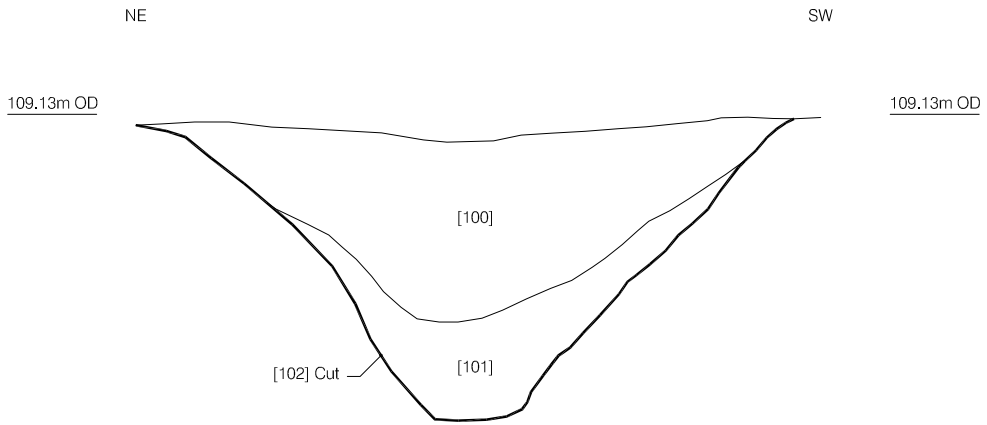


Fig 15
Area 1, Phase 6: Early Roman
1:400 at A3



Northwest facing

0 1m

Figure 16
Area 1, Section 10, Phase 6: Early Roman
1:20 at A4

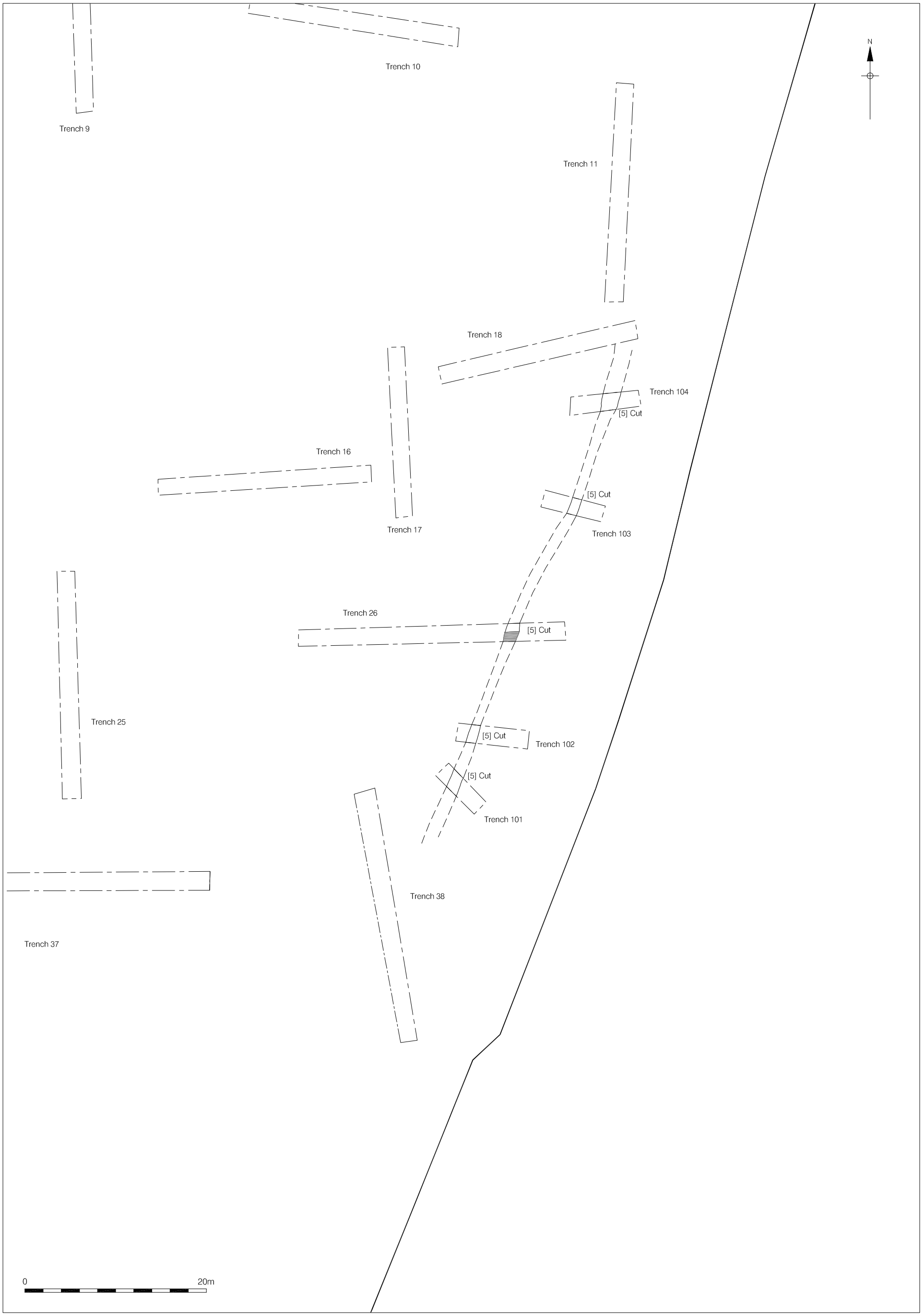


Fig 17
Ditch Cut [5], Phase 6: Early Roman
1:400 at A3

7.7 PHASE 7: ROMAN (Figure 18-20)

7.7.1 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

7.7.1.1 A small Roman pit of unknown use partially truncated the southern end of the earlier rectangular enclosure. It is possible that the feature represents a rubbish pit.

7.7.1.2 A much larger circular pit also truncated the enclosure to the north. It may be the product of a functional endeavour, such as a quarrying, or could be the result of a less profane undertaking; its final size and shape could hypothetically be the result of both. The feature was backfilled in two stages, termed Sub-Phases 7.1 and 7.2. Initially, it was partially infilled in order to create a level surface. This marked the end of Sub-Phase 7.1.

7.7.1.3 A smaller rectangular cut was then excavated in its centre. The cut was found to be a grave, which contained the remains of a single human female, buried along with a funerary vessel of late 3rd to 4th century date. The grave was then fully infilled, before backfilling of the large circular feature resumed, marking the end of Sub-Phase 7.2.

7.7.2 THE SMALL CIRCULAR PIT

7.7.2.1 The small circular pit, termed context [111], was 1.44m in diameter and 0.07m deep, observed at a level of 107.88m OD. The feature contained one fill, context [110], a deposit of mid reddish brown clayey silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal. It contained six pieces of mid to late Roman pottery and a few fragments of animal bone.

Discussion

7.7.2.2 Whilst it could have functioned as a rubbish pit, the small artefactual assemblage retrieved does not support positive interpretation. If the rubbish pit hypothesis is correct, it may have been backfilled with a high percentage of organic debris, which has left little trace in the archaeological record. Interpretation is also hampered by its shallow nature, possibly the result of damage by deep ploughing.

7.7.3 SUB-PHASE 7.1: CREATION AND INITIAL BACKFILLING OF PIT [407] (Figure 18 – 20)

7.7.3.1 A large circular pit, context [407], was observed at a level of 108.59m OD. It truncated the northern portion of early Roman enclosure ditch [22] / [56] / [102] / [380], and therefore post-dates it, being dug sometime between the late 1st to early 2nd century and the late 3rd to early 4th century (as demonstrated by a diagnostic vessel found in a grave cut between the 'upper' and 'lower' backfill sequences). The pit was substantial in size and almost perfectly circular, with a variable diameter of 10.40m to 9.75m and a neatly cut, 0.3m deep, 0.25m wide 'lip' at the top. It was between 2.6m and 4.4m deep and was sub-circular at the base, which was very uneven and irregular.

7.7.3.2 A slot was initially hand excavated through the centre of the feature, to a depth of 1.60m. It was then stepped with a machine for health and safety reasons before hand digging resumed. A second slot was offset from the initial section by approximately 1.50m. This was hand dug for a further 1.20m before a grave cut was unearthed in its base. The slot was then abandoned over health and safety concerns and the need to fully expose the grave cut. The remaining fill was therefore machine excavated to the base of the sondage, after column samples had been taken. From that point onwards, the feature was fully excavated by hand. Leaving an upstanding, *in situ* baulk for the purpose of section drawing and column sampling which unfortunately was not possible, given the loose, friable nature of the lower backfill sequence coupled with the need for full excavation given the potential for further inhumations. Boreholes were therefore taken through the remaining fill prior to excavation, in order to retrieve a full palaeoenvironmental sequence.

7.7.3.3 After [407] had been created, two smaller, irregular pits were cut into its base, [435] and [423]. They were given separate context numbers in order to facilitate their description, although it should be noted that they may have been created very shortly after [407] and may form part of what was essentially the same event. Alternatively, some time may have elapsed between the construction of [407] and the two smaller cuts.

7.7.3.4 Pit [435] was irregular in nature with an uneven base, cut from a level of 105.69m OD. The dimensions of the cut were 4.58m north-south, 6.40m east-west and 1.25m deep. The base consisted of three sloping steps, roughly semi-circular in shape, each being approximately 0.40m deep, sloping towards the northeast or northwest.

7.7.3.5 Pit [423] appeared to truncate the northwest edge of [435], although this could not be categorically proven through stratigraphic relationships (see subsequent point

4.2.4.6). The dimensions of the cut were 1.40m north-south by 1.80m east-west, with a maximum depth of 1.10m. Its base was also irregular, the northern end being flatter than the southern end, which sloped gradually down towards the deepest point in the centre.

7.7.3.6 The backfill sequences within [435] and [423] were given separate context number. It seems likely that both were infilled simultaneously in a single depositional episode, as the primary fills of both are identical. It is therefore impossible to state with certainty which pit was created first. The fills of the two are listed below, from earliest to latest. They were probably deposited in order to level the base of [407], prior to its re-use.

Pit [435]

Context	Maximum Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
439	1.10m	Mid brown silt with charcoal lenses	Primary fill, probably deliberately deposited by human action. Same as [434] in pit [423].

Pit [423]

Context	Maximum Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
[434]	1.10m	Mid brown silt with charcoal lenses containing 28 cattle bones, 3 dog bones, 63 fragments of cattle-sized bones, 1 sheep bone, 1 sheep or goat bone and 1 pig bone. 8 fragments of early Roman pottery and 1 sherd of possible late Roman date (270 AD+) were also found	Primary fill, probably deliberately dumped. Same as [439] in pit [435].
[426]	0.29m	Light grey chalk gravel.	Slump of natural chalk gravel, possibly the product of natural edge collapse.
[433]	0.30m	Light grey chalk clast-supported matrix containing very frequent inclusions of cobble-sized flint, 1 cattle bone and 3 cattle-sized bone fragments.	Secondary dump of large flint nodules, probably deposited deliberately.
[432]	0.50m	Light grey chalk gravel.	Slump of natural chalk gravel, possibly the product of natural edge collapse.
[422] / [431]	0.52m	Mid yellowish brown silty sand.	Deposit of silty sand, probably deliberately dumped.
[421] / [430]	0.41m	Mid reddish brown silty sand containing 13 cattle bones, 26 cattle-sized bone fragments, 1 sheep or goat bone, 1 pig bone, 1 piece of worked flint and 5 pieces of early Roman pottery. Sample 82 also contained moderate amounts of Mollusca.	Final fill within [423]. Probably deliberately deposited by human action.

7.7.3.7 A complex backfill sequence then accumulated above the deposits previously described, partially infilling large circular pit [407] to a depth of 2.20m below modern ground level (106.39m OD). The fills were termed 'the lower backfill sequence' for the purposes of this report and are listed below from earliest to latest:

The Lower Backfill Sequence of [407]

Context	Maximum Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
[429]	0.10m	Light grey chalk gravel mixed with light yellowish grey silt	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[419]	0.52m	Light grey chalk gravel	Slump of natural chalk gravel, possibly the product of natural edge collapse
[418]	0.40m	Light grey chalk gravel lenses mixed with mid reddish brown silt	Interdigitation lenses of deliberately dumped material and natural edge collapse
[417]	0.30m	Light grey chalk gravel	Slump of natural chalk gravel, possibly the product of natural edge collapse
[416]	0.40m	Light yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[415]	0.30m	Light yellowish brown silt	Silty material that may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[428]	0.29m	Mid yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[414]	0.09m	Mid reddish brown clay with frequent inclusions of angular chalk gravel	Clay rich deposit that was probably deliberately introduced through human action
[427]	0.35m	Light yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[413]	0.04m	Light reddish brown sandy clay with occasional inclusions of chalk	Clay rich deposit that was probably deliberately introduced through human action
[425]	0.30m	Light yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel, containing 1 cattle-sized bone	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting

[412]	1.00m	Light brownish grey silty clay with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[424]	0.25m	Mixed deposit of humic rich, dark brown and light brownish yellow silty clay with frequent inclusions of chalk	Silty material, possibly the result of natural silting, mixed with deliberately dumped humic material
[420]	0.30m	Light grey chalk gravel	Slump of natural chalk gravel, possibly the product of natural edge collapse
[411]	0.09m	Friable, mid reddish brown clayey silt	Deposit of humic rich clayey silt, probably deliberately dumped by human action
[410]	0.30m	Mid reddish brown dump of clayey silt mixed with collapsed chalk	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, probably the result of deliberate dumping
[409]	0.10m	Light yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[406]	0.16m	Light yellowish brown silty clay	Silty material that may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[405]	0.49m	Light grey chalk gravel	Slump of natural chalk gravel, possibly the product of natural edge collapse
[404]	0.56m	Mid reddish brown dump of silty clay	Clayey rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[403]	1.05m	Light yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting
[398]	0.60m	Light yellowish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting

7.7.3.8 With the exception of the possible fragment of late Roman pottery (270 AD+) within pit [423], all sherds were early Roman in date. It is therefore important to establish whether the majority of the sherds are residual, or whether the sherd of later Roman pottery was misidentified. The assemblage should therefore be reviewed prior to publication in order to determine when backfilling began.

7.7.4 SUB-PHASE 7.2.2: CREATION OF GRAVE CUT [400] AND FINAL, FULL INFILLING OF LARGE CIRCULAR FEATURE [407] (Figure 18 – 20)

7.7.4.1 After the pit had been partially infilled, a rectangular cut was excavated in its base. This was orientated northeast-southwest, was 2.20m long, 1.30m wide and 1.22m deep, the top being at a level of 106.39m OD. Excavation of the feature revealed the articulated remains of a human skeleton, context [408], arranged on the base of the cut. The skeleton was female and possibly middle aged. She was of slight build and was 1.57m tall, an average height for the Roman period. The majority of her teeth had been lost before death, suggesting poor dental hygiene or heavy dental wear. Skeletal analysis suggests she undertook manual work, regularly carrying heavy loads (Sayer this report).

7.7.4.2 The skeleton had been buried in a supine position, with her lower arms crossed over her lap. The only grave good recovered was a small New Forest indented beaker, dated AD 270-400, which had been placed to the immediate east of her head. The skeleton itself sat on top of a thin, friable, dark-brown deposit, roughly rectangular in shape, which may represent a severely degraded wooden litter. Eleven small hobnails (small find 26) were also found around the feet, suggesting the woman had been buried in her shoes.

7.7.4.3 The grave cut was then backfilled with [399], a deposit of light yellowish brown silty clay, which contained 2 sherds of Late Roman pottery and frequent inclusions of chalk. It is probable that the backfill was deliberately dumped in order to seal the inhumation. The date of the funerary vessel suggests the grave was created between AD 270 and 400.

7.7.4.4 After the grave cut had been infilled, backfilling of large circular pit [407] resumed. These fills have been termed the 'upper backfill sequence' for the purpose of this report, and are listed below from earliest to latest. Pit [407] was fully infilled during this second depositional episode.

Upper Backfill Sequence of [407]

Context	Maximum Thickness	Comments	Interpretation
[396]	0.40m	Mid brown silty clay containing 27 fragments of cattle bone, 43 fragments of cattle-sized bones and 1 small rodent bone. A moderate amount of Mollusca was also retrieved from bulk sample 83.	Deposit of silty clay, probably deliberately introduced through human action
[397]	0.30m	Mid reddish brown silty sandy clay	Clay rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting.

[395]	0.35m	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	Clay rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting.
[393]	0.30m	Mid reddish brown silty sandy clay containing 1 horse bone	Clay rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting.
[394]	0.36m	Mid reddish brown silty sandy clay with frequent small flecks of chalk	Clay rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting.
[391]	0.30m	Mid reddish brown silty sandy clay with rare flecks of chalk and charcoal. Contained 3 fragments of cattle bone, 3 fragments of cattle-sized bone, 2 horse bones, 2 sheep or goat bones and 1 sheep-sized fragment of bone. The deposit also contained 6 sherds of Late Iron Age pottery and 7 pieces of worked flint	Clay rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting.
[392]	0.20m	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	Clay rich material that may be the product of deliberate dumping or natural silting.
[390]	0.60m	Mid brown silty sandy clay containing 24 sherds of early Roman pottery and 3 pieces of struck flint, both presumed to be redeposited or residual. The feature also contained 2 fragments of cattle bone, 1 dog bone, 13 fragments of cattle-sized bone, 2 horse bones, 1 cat bone and 1 amphibian bone.	Clay rich material that was probably the result of deliberate dumping.
[398]	0.60m	Light yellowish brown to dark reddish brown silt mixed with lenses of light grey chalk gravel	Slumps of natural chalk gravel, probably the product of edge collapse, mixed with silty material, which may be the result of deliberate dumping or natural silting

7.7.4.5 As the 'upper backfill' seals the relatively securely dated grave, the pit was probably fully infilled some time after 270 AD, possibly later than 400 AD. The late Iron Age to early Roman pottery fragments found within the upper fill are therefore probably residual. It is possible that it was derived from a pre-existing dump or midden.

7.7.5 LARGE CIRCULAR FEATURE [407]: A DISCUSSION

.

7.7.5.1 The excavation of such a large pit would have been a huge undertaking in the Roman period. It therefore seems unlikely that it was created for the sole purpose of burying one single individual. Furthermore, the fact that the pit had been partially backfilled prior to the creation of grave cut [400] suggests the burial is secondary.

7.7.5.2 The pit fully truncated the natural silty clay, penetrating over 3m into the underlying, free-draining chalk gravel. As a consequence, the feature did not hold water and could not have served as a well.

7.7.5.3 The two cuts found in the base, termed [423] and [435], are suggestive of quarrying on account of their extremely irregular nature. Chalk was required for a number of industrial processes during the Roman period, including the manufacture of marl, lime mortar and concrete. It was also sometimes used as a building stone in the Hampshire area, often along with flints. For example, much of the core of Silchester's defensive walls were constructed from flint, held together with lime mortar, whilst some portions were composed of alternating courses of chalk and sandstone blocks (Blagg 1990). Consequently, it is possible that the feature was a product of chalk or flint extraction. As no seams of flint were observed in the sides of the pit and large flint nodules were found in the backfill, chalk extraction may be more probable.

7.7.5.4 No direct evidence was uncovered to firmly uphold this hypothesis. Furthermore, the well-finished, virtually circular top of the feature and neatly cut 'lip' is not what one would expect of a quarry. It also seems strange and somewhat impractical that the excavators chose to mine downwards rather than outwards, given the logistical problems involved in raising the extracted materials to the surface.

7.7.5.5 An alternative explanation could be that the pit was created for ceremonial / ritual reasons, perhaps forming some kind of ritual shaft. Shafts containing votive deposits, ranging in date from the Iron Age to the Roman period, are found in Britain. At present, such a function remains open to discussion, as no discernibly unusual, special or discursive artefacts or deposits were recovered from the lower backfill sequence. The feature is also wider and shallower than would be expected of an Iron Age or Roman ritual shaft.

7.7.5.6 It is possible that the two theories detailed above are not mutually exclusive. The feature may initially have been created as a quarry, before being reused in a more ritualistic way. Deeply intrusive Iron Age and Roman features, re-used for potential ritual purposes, are known in Britain. The presence of the grave does suggests that the feature was seen as a potentially sacred place for an unknown period of time.

7.7.5.7 Few definite examples of Roman quarrying are known in Britain, the majority being hard to recognise (Parsons 1990). Interpretation of the feature remains limited by an apparent lack of analogues from other sites.

7.7.5.8 The general lack of artefactual remains within the lower backfill sequence makes it difficult to determine the origin of many of the fills. The small, often residual assemblages of earlier pottery could easily have been re-deposited, perhaps from pre-existing middens, or be deposited naturally, although several of the fills,

including [439] / [434], [433], [421] / [430], [414], [424], [411], [410] and [404], were sufficiently alien in comparison with the surrounding natural to suggest they had been imported from elsewhere before being intentionally dumped. Tips of clean chalk, resembling edge collapse, and lenses of pure silty clay, resembling in-washed redeposited natural, were also present, indicating several hiatuses of unknown lengths between episodes of intentional backfilling. A variety of agents, both natural and human, therefore seem to have been responsible for the feature's partial infilling.

7.7.5.9 The material described above created a flat surface, approximately 2.60m below modern ground level. It is therefore possible that the initial backfill sequence represents a levelling episode, deposited in order to create a flat working area prior to the feature's re-use as a grave.

7.7.5.10 It remains possible that the pit could have been nothing more than a convenient place for disposing a dead body, saving the time and energy required to dig a grave. If this is the case, it represents an extremely unusual occurrence in the late 3rd to 4th century, when inhumation within a cemetery was the normative burial rite. Such an argument is also diminished by the fact that the skeleton was found within a rectangular grave, which had been cut into the lower backfill sequence. The dimensions of the grave suggest that it would have been necessary to move an approximate 3.5 cubic meters of spoil in order to create it, suggesting that some effort was invested in the disposal of the body.

7.7.5.11 Over 50 examples of ritual shafts have been found in Iron Age contexts in Southern Britain, including re-used quarries and wells, backfilled with potentially 'special' material containing possible votive offerings (Rice 1968). Romano-British examples are relatively scarce, although examples are known. For example, at Keston in Kent, one shaft contained the semi-complete carcases of three horses, arranged in a circle, nose to tail, suggesting deliberate, careful deposition (Philp 1985). Human remains and 'special animal deposits' (as defined by Waite 1985), were also recovered from mid to late Roman shafts at Newstead in Scotland (Clark 1999; Fulford 2001). The human remains included skulls, longbones and a complete skeleton (Clark 1999). Ritual shafts including the partial remains of a young adult male were found head down with the remains 3 de-fleshed dogs buried a little further below at the Roman site at Swan Street in Southwark in London (Beasley 2006).

7.7.5.12 Inhumation [408], with its grave cut and indented beaker, is basically typical of a late 3rd to 4th century Roman burial in every respect except its location. Whilst

further research is needed in order to interpret it more fully, it is tempting to speculate that it may represent a fusion of native British belief systems and Roman burial customs. Perhaps the individual was interred as a chthonic offering in line with indigenous beliefs, hence its location in such a deep feature, whilst 'normative' Roman burial rites were granted in every other respect.

7.7.5.14 Why one individual was chosen for internment in this way is also worth considering, given the likelihood that the bulk of the population were probably buried in more conventional ways. Perhaps the individual was a social outcast, deemed unfit for burial in a communal cemetery. Alternatively, the woman could have held a position of high status within society, increasing her value as a chthonic offering. The vessel buried with her may be significant, being a type associated with temple sites. It is therefore possible that the feature, the individual within the grave or both had some connection with religious activity. These hypotheses will remain speculative. Given the nature of the evidence, it is impossible to determine the exact motives behind the burial, other than those involved in the disposal of the dead.

7.7.5.15 A more conclusive interpretation is currently hindered by the limited evidence for contemporary analogues from other sites. The original function of this feature therefore remains enigmatic.

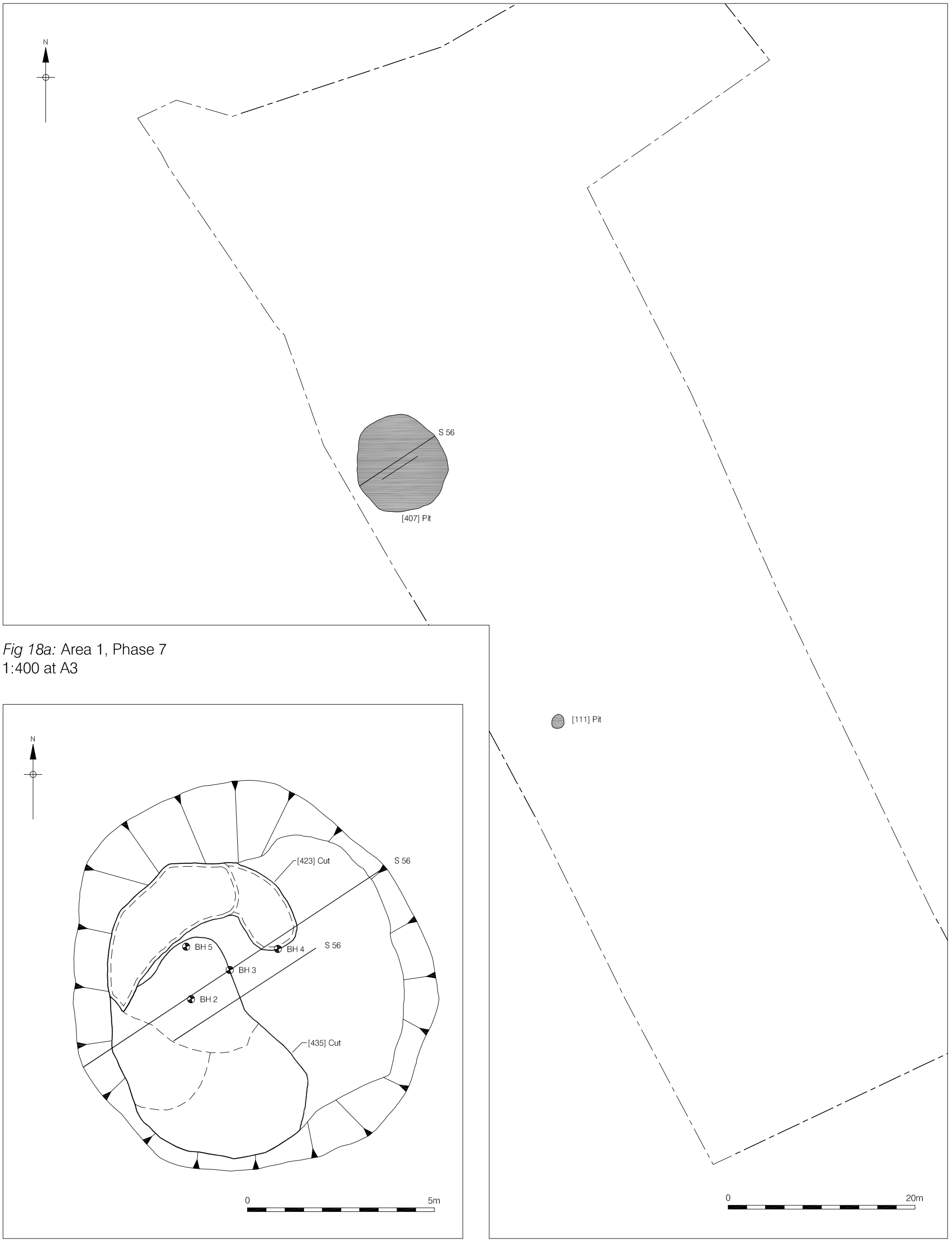
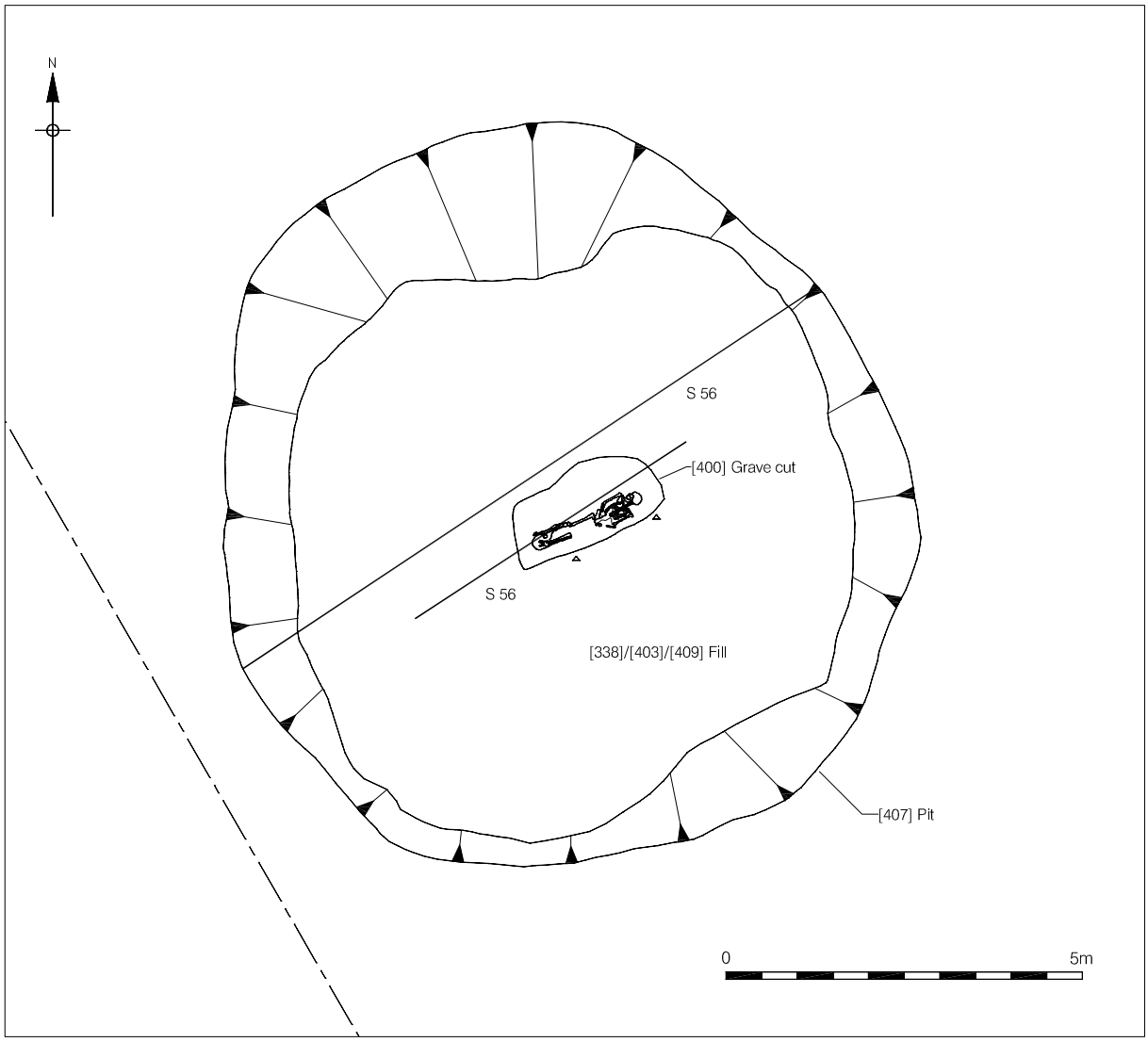
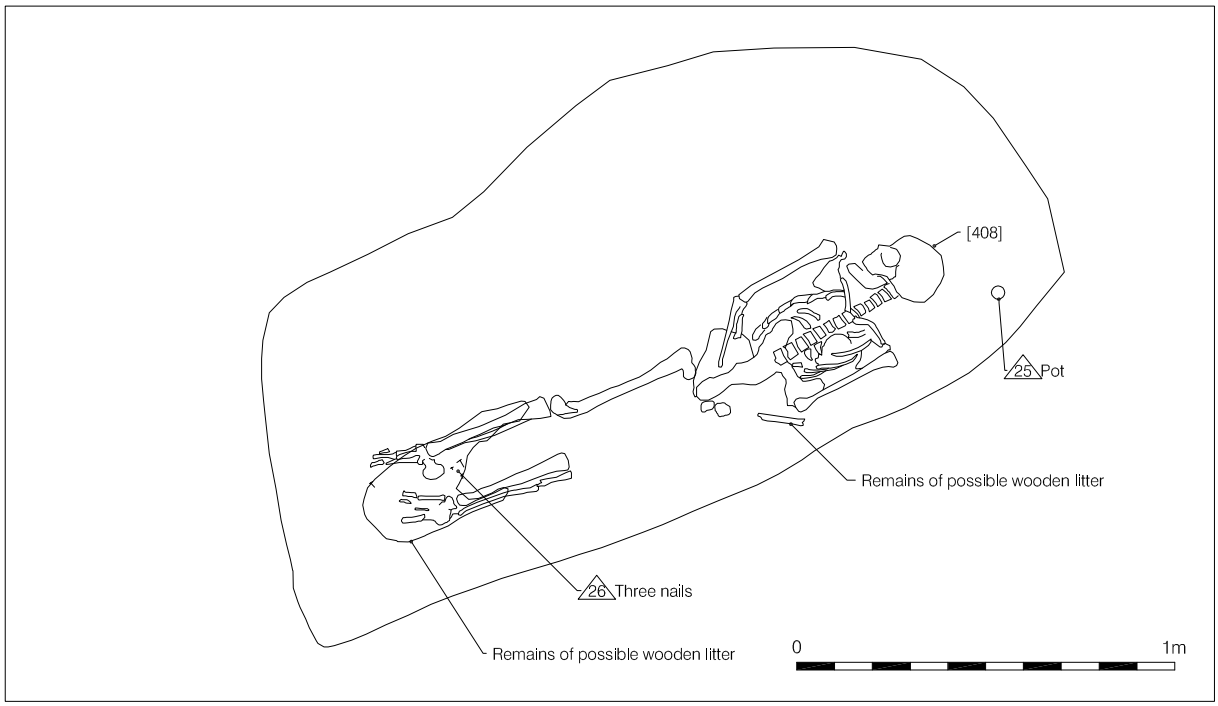


Fig 18a: Area 1, Phase 7
1:400 at A3

Fig 18b: Area 1, Sub-Phase 7.1
1:100 at A3

Fig 18
Area 1, Phase 7: Roman
1:400 at A3





Skeleton Detail
1:20

Fig 19
Area 1, Sub-Phase 7.2: Roman
1:100 at A4

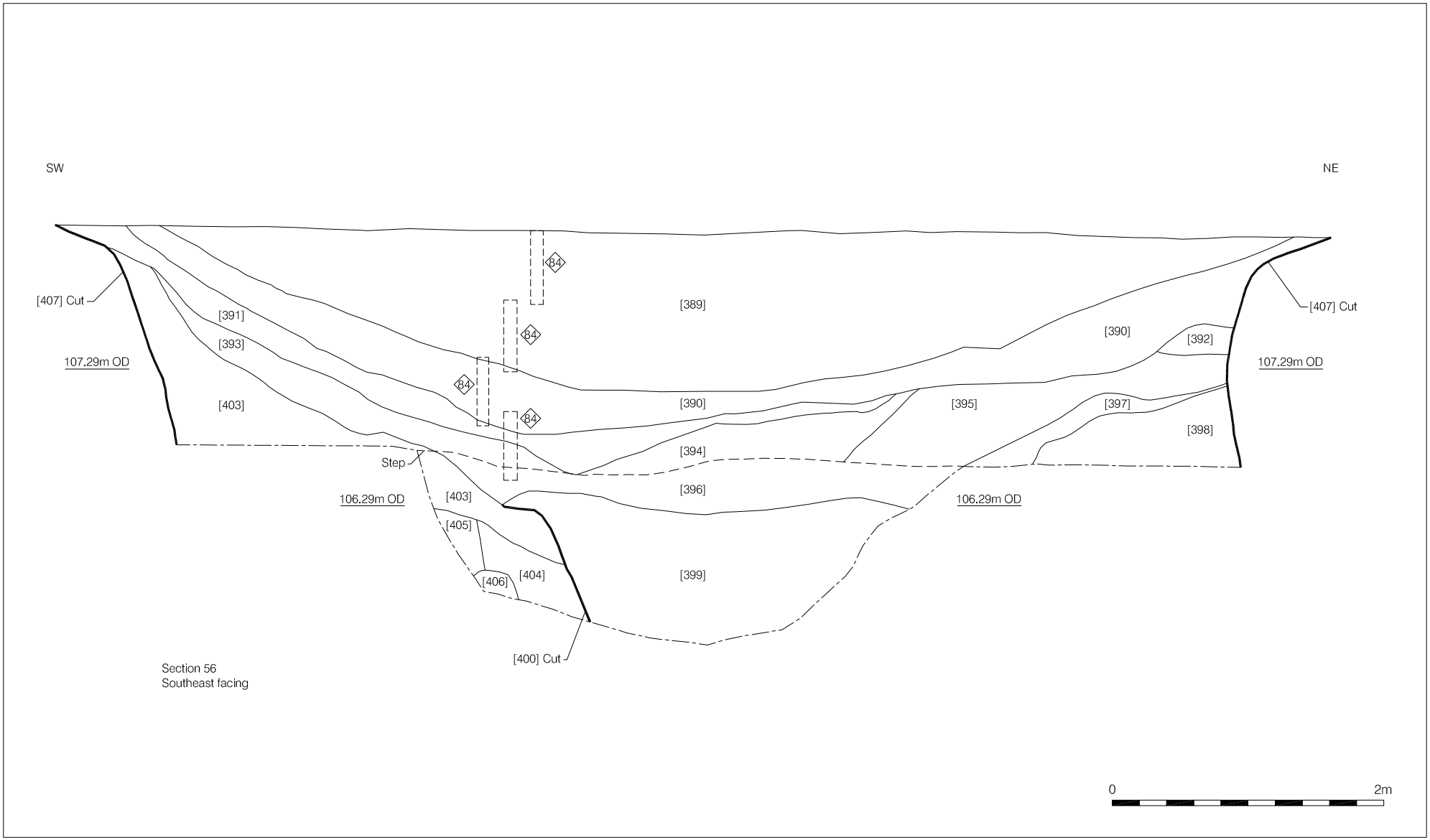


Figure 20
Area 2, Pit Section, Phase 7: Roman
1:40 at A4

7.8 Phase 8: Modern Agricultural Activity

7.8.1 The only evidence of post-medieval activity encountered during the excavation consisted of a 0.12m to 0.4m thick layer of ploughsoil, found across the entire site. It was identified with context [103] in Area 1, [153] in Area 2 and [328] in Area 3. The horizon was probably formed between the late 19th to early 20th century and the late 20th to early 21st century, as confirmed by the presence of occasional plastic and metal artefactual inclusions within it. Such artefacts were not retained for analysis and archiving due to their exceptionally recent date. Background research suggests the site was used as pastoral land until the early modern period, when arable farming became a more viable, profitable option (Hawkins 2006). Consequently, it seems unlikely that the layer pre-dates the late 19th century.

7.8.2 Occasional Early Holocene, Iron Age and Roman objects were found within the layer and retained. These finds were presumably churned up from underlying archaeological deposits during deep ploughing. This process may have been responsible for the horizontal truncation of most, if not all, features at Old Kempshott Lane and the complete destruction of many smaller ones. It probably also played an important part in redistributing objects. As noted in the Pottery Assessment (Appendix 3), 'the presence of small quantities of mediaeval and post-mediaeval material in a number of contexts would suggest that the plough has been instrumental in moving material culture around the site'. It should therefore be remembered that some artefacts of Roman, Iron Age and Early Holocene date could have been redeposited in an identical way. Issues surrounding residuality therefore remain potentially problematic, especially for small artefactual assemblages.

7.8.3 The field was converted back to grassland immediately prior to its redevelopment. A thin topsoil, 0.20m to 0.15m thick, was found across the entire site. It is presumed to be relatively modern.

8 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

8.1 ORIGINAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The excavation's aims and objectives, as defined after the evaluation but before the excavation were as follows (Moore 2006):

8.1.1 To define the natural deposits and the processes that formed them

8.1.2 To see how the archaeological activity on the site relates to the site's topography and the surrounding landscape in terms of settlement, agriculture, industry, burial and ritual

8.1.3 To characterise the depositional sequence that led to the formation of the site, and the environmental contexts in which this took place

8.1.4 To define the prehistoric land usage, settlement pattern and activities on the site

8.1.5 To define the Romano-British settlement, cultural, trade and industrial networks that the site formed a part of

8.1.6 To define the Romano-British environment of the site and any changes that occurred to it over time

8.2 REVISED RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Questions arising out of the excavation are as follows:

8.2.1 Did the topography of the site influence the distribution of the archaeology? Were certain areas preferentially selected for certain activities in the past?

8.2.1.1 The site was situated within a dry valley, and as a consequence the western and southern portions were relatively elevated. The archaeology discovered was largely located on the higher ground, whilst the bulk of the lower lying areas appeared sterile.

8.2.1.2 It is recommended that:

i Archive sources will be reviewed in order to establish whether other contemporary sites in the local area are also commonly found on higher ground.

8.2.2 What can the probable tree throw hollows tell us, and do they represent land clearance?

8.2.2.1 A number of sub-circular and sub-ovoid features were half sectioned during the excavation, each of which possessed uneven bases disturbed by probable root action. None of the features contained dating evidence. It was hypothesised that they represent tree throws or tree boles, perhaps indicating a phase of intentional land clearance prior to more intensive settlement during the Iron Age. Deforestation may also have intensified colluvial action, hence the thin nature of the subsoil on the high ground compared with the thick deposits encountered on the valley floor. Further research will be done to refine the following questions:

i. what periods do they relate to?
ii were they created naturally or as a result of human action?
iii were they created rapidly or over a longer period of time?

8.2.2.2 In order to facilitate 8.2.2.1. it is therefore recommended that:

i Further analysis of environmental samples from potential tree throws or tree boles is undertaken in order to flag-up potential dating evidence and woodland taxa

ii Published material and grey literature sources will be consulted in order to determine the time scale over which deforestation may have taken place in the area.

8.2.3 Had the area around the site become a focus for later Holocene communities?

8.2.3.1 A possible Bronze Age barrow cemetery is located to the immediate west of the site. One barrow was excavated during the 1970s, revealing evidence indicative of feasting, whilst at least two others are recorded on a 1932 Ordnance Survey map within the site itself. Whilst no traces of these were found, perhaps because of plough damage during the later 20th century, the frequency of residual flints of probable Mesolithic to Bronze Age date does suggests the site was visited throughout the early Holocene. It therefore seems as though the area had become a focus for communities by the Bronze Age period.

8.2.3.2 It is recommended that:

i. Archive sources and aerial photographs will be further consulted in order to review the evidence for the location and nature of the possible barrow cemetery. Their location relative to the site should also be investigated.

ii The Mesolithic to Bronze Age assemblage of residual flints is indicative of a series of low-key visits throughout the early Holocene. A short description of the flint assemblage will be included in the proposed publication.

8.2.4 Is it possible that some of the flints within the lithic assemblage date to the Iron Age?

8.2.4.1 Several features contained worked flint, presumed to date between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age periods. Some of the flints were found in association with Iron Age pottery, suggesting they are residual. This assumption needs to be further clarified. In particular, the flints found within feature [15] are of interest as the size of the assemblage diminishes the likelihood of residuality. The

assemblage consists of 84 pieces of worked flint, found alongside 9 sherds of Iron Age pottery. If the flints are Iron Age in date, they may give important information concerning lithic typology, technology, depositional practices and the role and utility of such artefacts during the later prehistoric period. This will provide important evidence for the continuation of flint working into the Iron Age, an area that has recently been identified as a research priority (Bishop this report).

8.2.4.2 It is recommended that:

i. The flint assemblage will be further examined. Other dating evidence, particularly pottery, should be made available to the flint specialist in order to facilitate interpretation.

ii The large assemblage from feature [15] should be assessed in detail and fully described for publication alongside illustrations of relevant pieces.

iii Archive sources should be consulted in order to compare the assemblage with those obtained from other similarly dated sites in the region and place the results within a wider archaeological context.

8.2.5 Can the precise use of Early to Middle Iron Age pits [377] and [384] be ascertained? If they represent grain storage features, what can this tell us about the nature of agricultural activities and practices.

8.2.5.1 Pits [377] and [384] were interpreted as grain storage pits on account of their size, shape associated materials and similarities to other known features of this type and date. Evidence from other sites suggests features of this nature were commonly burnt out, perhaps to cleanse them, after the bulk of the seed corn was removed.

8.2.5.2 It is therefore recommended that:

i. Further analysis on selected of samples from the basal fills is to be undertaken The samples analysed so far have yielded cereal grains.

ii The samples are to be analysed in order to determine whether they contain any seasonal bioarchaeological evidence to suggest the pits were closed during a particular time of year. If the features were used to store seed corn, it is likely they fell out of use after the cereal was exhumed and sown, probably in the spring.

iii Further searched of published and grey literature will need to be undertaken in order to draw comparisons with similar features on other Iron Age sites.

8.2.6 Do the Early to Middle Iron Age grain storage features fit the pattern highlighted by Cunliffe's in his 'pit belief system'? Where they backfilled in a structured fashion or used in the disposal of 'common' waste?

8.2.6.1 It is possible that the pits were backfilled with 'special' deposits indicative of ritual behaviour. If this is the case, 'alerting', 'discursive' and 'exceptional' patterns may emerge from a detailed interdisciplinary examination of artefact assemblages. The data will need to be compared with analogues from other contemporary sites.

8.2.6.2 It is recommended that:

i. Tables detailing the ratio of pottery weights and sherd sizes within each fill are compiled. It has been theorised that the presence of larger sherds from one vessel within a fill may represent deliberate deposition in non-funerary contexts, whilst larger weight ratios from lower fills may represent offerings (Hill 1995).

ii The spatial distribution of the pottery assemblage is assessed. It should also be reviewed in order to determine whether sherd fits or cross-joins exist, which should be plotted. It will be necessary to determine the relative frequencies of vessel types present.

iii The animal bone assemblages are considered in terms of the distribution of different species and bone elements on a context-by-context basis. Are certain species more common? Does a bias towards certain skeletal elements exist? The spatial distribution of the faunal assemblage will also need to be taken into account.

iv. The distribution of human remains will be plotted as well as the anatomies represented, any pathologies or other associated distinguishing characteristics.

v. Environmental analysis of samples identified in the assessment.

vi It is necessary to attempt to identify whether the act of backfilling took place quickly or over a longer period. The presence of small amphibians and rodents within bulk samples suggests that the features were left open for at least some days, enabling them to function as pit traps.

vii. It will be necessary to compare the entire assemblage with others obtained from similar features on other sites, in order to identify possible similarities and trends indicative of ritual behaviour.

8.2.7 Did Early Iron Age pits [15], [113], [127], [129], [352], [355], [357] and [368] function as rubbish pits?

8.2.7.1 Eight small pits of uncertain function were uncovered in Area 1, which were tentatively identified as rubbish pits. They contained few artefacts and as a result were hard to interpret accurately. The few man-made objects retrieved did not appear unusual or 'special', and as a result they do not seem to possess ritualistic undertones. The exceptions to this were pits [15] and [368], which respectively contained a large assemblage of worked flint (84 pieces in total) and a broken quern.

8.2.7.2 It is necessary to demonstrate which, if any, of the features contain deposits with possible ritual significance and which were backfilled with 'common waste'. It is recommended that:

i Qualitative and quantitative analyses of all finds will be undertaken prior to publication on a context-by-context basis. Specifically, the distribution of animal bones (species and limb elements) will be considered, along with the distribution of quern stones and pottery sherds. Tables detailing the ratio of pottery weights and sherd sizes within each fill will also be compiled, along with an assessment of the frequency and distribution of different vessel types.

ii Further environmental analysis should be undertaken, in order to determine whether bulk samples taken from the features contain remains more indicative of domestic waste or more exotic material.

iii The results should be compared with those from similar features on other sites, in order to identify possible trends indicative of ritual behaviour.

8.2.8 As with the similar Early Iron Age features can the precise function of Middle to Late Iron Age pits [192] / [19], [201], [219], [227] / [17], [242], [295] and [288] / [322] be ascertained? If they represent grain storage features, what can this tell us about the nature of agricultural activities in the vicinity of the site?

8.2.8.1 Pits [192] / [19], [201], [219], [227] / [17], [242], [295] and [288] / [322] have been interpreted as grain storage pits as a result of their contents and comparison with other such features from other Iron Age sites and on account of their size and shape. Evidence from other sites suggests features of this nature were commonly burnt out after the bulk of the seed corn was removed, which would carbonise the remaining grain. This process may be represented by the presence of a dark, charcoal rich basal fill on the base of six of the seven pits, with the exception of [228] / [322]. No heat effected natural was found around them, and as a result further research is required in order to verify the data.

8.2.8.2 It is therefore recommended that:

i. Further analysis of a selection of samples from the basal fills is undertaken in

ii Do the samples contain any evidence for seasonality indicative of pits being closed during a particular time of year? If the features were used for the storage of seed corn, it is likely they fell out of use after the cereal was exhumed and sown, probably in the spring.

iii Further review of the published and grey literature will be needed to draw comparisons with similar features on other Iron Age sites.

8.2.9 As with the Early Iron Age examples the Middle to Late Iron Age grain storage features fit the pattern anticipated in Cunliffe's 'pit belief system'?

8.2.9.1 It is possible that the pits were backfilled with 'special' deposits indicative of ritual behaviour. The backfill sequences were all similarly structured, resembling one another in a number of ways. This suggests each accumulated in a roughly analogous, way. If this is the case, 'alerting', 'discursive' and 'exceptional' patterns may emerge from a detailed examination of artefact assemblages.

8.2.9.2 It is recommended that:

i. The ratios of pottery weights and sherd sizes within each fill will be compiled (Hill 1995).

ii The spatial distribution of the pottery assemblage will need to be reviewed. As should the presence or absence of any sherd fits or cross-joins. The frequency distribution of vessel types should be determined.

iii The spatial distribution of the faunal assemblage will need to be considered. The distribution of different species and bone elements should be analysed

iv. Research will be required to determine whether the possible 'special' artefacts and faunal remains recovered from the grain storage features can be confirmed as representing 'special' or 'placed' deposits.

v. More in depth environmental analysis will be undertaken, in order to amplify on the data flagged up in this assessment.

vi It will be attempted to verify whether the act of backfilling took place quickly or over a longer period. The presence of small amphibians and rodents within bulk samples will assist in clarifying this question.

vii. It will be necessary to compare the entire assemblage with others obtained from similar features on other sites, in order to identify possible similarities and trends indicative of ritualized processes and behaviour.

8.9.10 Can the use of the remaining Middle to Late Iron Age Pits be ascertained? Were they backfilled with waste, or do they contain 'special deposits'? Do some contain deposits indicative of industrial processes?

8.9.10.1 With the exception of the probable grain storage pits, which have been discussed in detail, the remaining features within Pit Groups 1, 2 and 3, along with a few isolated rectangular and circular pits, require consideration. None penetrated into

the natural chalk, and as a consequence all would have been too damp for successful grain storage. It is possible that the majority functioned as rubbish pits, whilst the larger, irregular pits in Group 3 could be the result of clay extraction. Due to the severely heat damaged nature of the backfill within some of the 'clay extraction' features, it is also possible that some or all were backfilled with 'industrial' rather than 'common' type waste. A selection of the pits may have been backfilled in a structured manner, potentially indicative of ritual.

8.9.10.2 It will be necessary to demonstrate which, if any, of the features contain deposits of ritual significance. Differentiation between potential domestic and industrial waste is also required. As a result the following considerations are in order:

i Qualitative and quantitative analysis of the animal bones, pottery, quern stones and small finds and their distribution will be completed.

ii Further environmental analysis should be undertaken, in order to determine which elements are associated with the primary use of the features and which with the secondary use. The assemblages should be considered in the light of the postulated storage and ritual uses of the associated features.

iii It will be necessary to compare the assemblages with others known from similar features on other sites, in order to determine whether they are part of a wider tradition.

8.9.11 How was the Iron Age enclosure identified compare to the Banjo type category? How does it measure up to other examples in terms of its size, shape and its general lack of internal structure?

8.9.11.1 The possible banjo enclosure may have functioned as a droveway and corral for the management of animals, an enclosure around a settlement or both. The lack of internal structure within the feature suggests the former may be more likely.

8.9.11.2 It is recommended that:

i. Further comparisons will be made with other known banjo and other contemporary enclosures at similar sites.

8.9.12 Is there evidence to suggest selective deposition of cultural material within the banjo enclosure ditches after they fell out of use? If so, what is the significance of this?

8.9.12.1 It is possible that certain elements within the backfill sequence of the Iron Age enclosure represent a sustained cultural tradition, as is suggested by the presence of a human remains in the boundary ditch.

8.9.12.2 It is recommended that:

i Qualitative and quantitative analyses of all assemblages is undertaken.

ii Further environmental analysis to be undertaken.

iii Comparisons will be made with excavated banjo and other similar enclosures.

8.9.13 How was the early Roman rectangular enclosure used? How does it compare with other examples in terms of its size and shape?

8.9.13.1 Only a small percentage of the early Roman enclosure fell within the boundary of the site, and as a result its function remains uncertain. It can clearly be seen on aerial photographs, so its probable size and shape can be inferred. The feature may represent a boundary around a settlement as seems to be reflected in the frequency of Roman find-spots on the Sites and Monuments Record in its approximate location.

8.9.13.2 It is recommended that:

i. The data from aerial photos and the SMR will be assembled and compiled for integrated analysis with the site data.
ii. Further comparisons will be made between the enclosure at Old Kempshott Lane and contemporary examples from other sites.

8.9.14 There is evidence suggesting patterned deposition of cultural material within the early Roman enclosure ditch after it fell out of use. What is its configuration and significance?

8.9.14.1 It is possible that certain elements within the backfill sequence of the early Roman rectangular enclosure represent evidence for a cultural tradition. These include sizeable pottery assemblages including one group found in the corner section of the ditch, and the disarticulated remains of a dog.

8.9.14.2 It is recommended that:

i Qualitative and quantitative analyses of all assemblages will be undertaken

ii Further environmental analysis to be undertaken.

iii Comparisons will be made with other excavated contemporary enclosures.

8.9.15 What was the original function of the large Roman circular pit [407]?

8.9.15.1 The original function of the large Roman pit remains enigmatic. It is possible that it represents a quarry or a ritual shaft, or a quarry, which was re-used for ritual purposes.

8.9.15.2 It is therefore recommended that:

i. The feature will be compared with examples of Roman quarries, particularly those for chalk or flint extraction.

ii The feature will be compared and contrasted with Roman ritual shafts found at other sites.

8.9.16 Are there any analogues for the grave located within [407]? Does it represent a fusion of indigenous beliefs, perhaps involving chthonic deities and the underworld, and Roman burial practices?

8.9.16.1 So far, no analogues for this grave in its wide shaft have been found. Deposits of human bone within Roman ritual shafts generally mirror Iron Age predecessors.

8.9.16.2 It is recommended that:

i. Further searches of the published and grey literature will be undertaken for comparable examples.

8.9.17 Feature [407] truncates the early Roman rectangular enclosure. The centre point of the circular feature is positioned on the ditch. It is important to establish whether the location of [407] had some significance i.e., was the ditch purposefully truncated in this way? Would the location of the earlier ditch still have been discernable?

8.9.17.1 It is recommended that:

i. Further searches of the published and grey literature will be undertaken for comparable examples.
ii. The stratigraphic and environmental data will be reviewed to establish the visibility of the ditch feature in the later Roman period.

8.9.18 Was the pit backfilled with material indicative of 'common' waste, or does it contain 'special deposits' indicative of ritualised behaviour in its 'lower' (pre-dating the grave cut) and 'upper' (post-dating the grave cut) fill sequences?

8.9.18.1 With the exception of the contents of grave [400], the fill of large pit [407] did not appear to contain any deposits or assemblages indicative of ritualised behaviour. More detailed analysis of the finds will be carried out to establish whether this impression can be confirmed.

8.9.18.2 It is therefore recommended that:

i Qualitative and quantitative analyses of all finds assemblages will be undertaken.

ii Further environmental analysis of the relevant samples will be undertaken.

iii Further searches of the existing published and grey literature will be completed, in order to contrast the results with those from other Roman ritual shafts and quarry pits.

8.9.19 Can the dating of pit [407] be further refined?

8.9.19.1 Currently, the stratigraphic relationships and diagnostic artefacts indicate that pit [407] was created between the late 1st and early 2nd century AD and 270 to 400 AD,

representing a broad date range. With the exception of the possible fragment of late Roman pottery (270 AD+) within [423], all sherds within the 'upper' and 'lower' backfill sequences were early Roman or Iron Age in date. It is therefore important to establish whether the majority are residual, whether the single sherd of later Roman pottery could have been intrusive or whether there are other forms of dating the deposition of these sequences, which can be applied to elucidate this question.

8.9.19.2 It is recommended that:

i. The finds assemblage is analysed in greater detail.

ii. Establish whether there are any suitable samples for absolute dating and whether if such material is available the likely temporal resolution would be helpful in clarifying the question.

8.9.20 How does the site fit in with settlement patterns within the Basingstoke Area? What is the site's regional context?

8.9.20.1 It is recommended that:

i. Further search of the published and grey literature will be undertaken in order to establish how the site relates to others in the area.

ii. The results of the excavation will be compared with the results of other Iron Age and Roman examples from the local / regional area.

9 IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULTS AND PUBLICATION OUTLINE

9.1 IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULTS

9.1.1 The most important material uncovered at Old Kempshott Lane concerns the Early and Late Iron Age periods, the Early Roman period and the Late Roman period. As a whole, the remains are important at a local and regional level. The discovery of large pit [407] may be of greater importance, due to the feature's seeming unique aspects.

9.1.2 Early Holocene Activity (Mesolithic to Bronze Age)

9.1.2.1 A series of Mesolithic to Bronze Age flint scatters were identified across the site, suggesting the area had been visited sporadically throughout the Early Holocene. This is of importance, given the possible existence of a barrow cemetery in the southwest corner of the site, as it may indicate that the area had become a focus for intermittent activity by communities by the Bronze Age.

9.1.2.2 A number of possible tree-throws were found. They are of importance as pollen profiles suggest deforestation occurred in the Basingstoke area between the Neolithic and Bronze Age. They may therefore provide additional evidence for land clearance before the advent of more intensive settlement and agriculture.

9.1.3 Early to Middle to Late Iron Age

9.1.3.1 Indirect evidence of Early to Middle Iron Age agrarian activity was uncovered, in the form of two possible grain storage pits containing some carbonised grains of wheat (*Triticum sp.*). A quern stone was also found, suggesting cereals were processed and consumed on or near the site. The remains of cattle, horse, sheep / goat and pig were found, suggesting some or all of these animals were exploited for meat and consumption. These results are of importance, as they will provide additional information on Iron Age subsistence and agricultural practices.

9.1.3.2 Nine smaller pits of similar date were also uncovered. They contained material indicative of domestic debris, indicating the presence of near-by settlement. Some may contain ‘special’, placed deposits suggesting ritual activity. Similar evidence was also recovered from the backfill sequences of the grain storage pits, suggesting they may have been filled in a structured way with the inclusion of ‘special’ deposits. This is of importance as it may provide additional information on Iron Age ritual practices and belief systems.

9.1.3.5 A quern, composed of a non-local stone, was found. It indicates potential social connections or trade links with the Lodsworth-Pulborough area of West Sussex. This is of importance, as it provides additional information on Iron Age trade and social links.

9.1.3.6 Most Early to Middle Iron Age features contained some charcoal. This is of importance as analysis may provide new information concerning woodland use and management.

9.1.4 Middle to Late Iron Age

9.1.4.1 Occupation in the vicinity of the site appears to have continued unbroken into the Middle to Late Iron Age. Further grain storage features and querns were unearthed, suggesting grain continued to be processed, consumed, stored and probably cultivated on or near to the site. The presence of wheat (*Triticum sp.*) and barley (*Hordeum sp.*) indicates both crops were used. A possible banjo enclosure was identified and interpreted as a droveway and corral for the management of domesticated livestock. Cattle, horse, sheep / goat, pig, and chicken bones were found, suggesting some or all of these animals were husbanded and used. The presence of domestic dog and cat bones also indicates that these animals were kept on or near the site. Red deer remains imply that hunting continued to take place, providing an alternative resource to farming and husbandry. These results are of importance, as they will provide information on Iron Age subsistence and farming practices. The results obtained from the enclosure are also of significance, as relatively few features of this kind have been excavated or published in detail.

9.1.4.2 Several smaller pits of similar date were also uncovered. They contained material suggestive of domestic debris, implying the presence of near-by settlement. Some also contained potentially 'special', placed deposits indicative of possible ritual activity. The grain storage features also contained highly structured backfill sequences, which included potential 'special' deposits that may represent chthonic offerings. Additionally, some human remains were retrieved from the banjo enclosure, and interpreted as evidence for further votive deposition. This is of importance as it supports the theory that ditches sometimes represented symbolic as well as physical boundaries. It may therefore provide additional information on Iron Age ritual practices and belief systems.

9.1.4.3 Querns, composed of Lodsworth Greensand and Quartz Conglomeratic Sandstone (non-local stone types), were found. They respectively indicate potential links or trade with the Lodsworth-Pulborough area of West Sussex and the Forest of Deane / Bristol area, the Waterlooville-Havant area of Hampshire or the South Yorkshire / Derbyshire area. This is of importance, as it will provide additional information on Iron Age trade and social connections.

9.1.5 Early Roman

9.1.5.1 An early Roman boundary ditch was uncovered towards the north of the excavation area, running parallel with Old Kempshott Lane. This is of importance, as it supports the belief that Old Kempshott Lane runs along the line of the Roman road from Silchester to Winchester.

9.1.5.2 An early Roman enclosure was also found in Area 1. It supports the notion that a Roman settlement existed in the field to the immediate west of the site. It also contains some 'special' deposits, including human remains. This may provide information regarding early Romano-British belief systems, and the continuation of Iron Age traditions into the early Roman period..

9.1.6 Roman (Late 3rd to 4th Century)

9.1.6.1 Late Roman pit [407] is of particular importance given its seemingly unique nature. It may represent a ritual shaft or a quarry that was re-used for ritualistic purposes. Alternatively, the feature may initially have been created as a quarry. Few definite examples for Roman chalk extraction have been positively identified. The inhumation within the feature is very important, as no similar examples are known. Ritual shafts are indigenous to Britain, first beginning in the Iron Age period. Human remains recovered from them are generally disarticulated and not placed within grave cuts. The burial at Basingstoke is classically Roman in every way except its location. It is therefore tempting to see the feature as a fusion between native belief systems and Roman burial practices.

9.2 PUBLICATION PROPOSAL

9.2.1 The results of the excavation at Old Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke, will be published in a relevant period or regional journal. The format the publication will follow is that of a conventional publication report:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Geological and topographic background
- Archaeological background
- Phased summary of the archaeological evidence
- Interpretations of the evidence
- Discussion

The illustrations will include:

- Location plans
- Phase plans
- Plans of features and groups of features
- Sections
- Photographs
- Finds illustrations

9.2.2 The multi-period nature of the site suggests that the findings would benefit from being published as one site report rather than divided into separate periods.

10 Contents of the Archive

10.1 The contents of the archive are:

10.2 The Paper Archive:

	Scale	Number of Drawings	Number of Sheets
Context sheets	N/A	N/A	381
Other notes	N/A	N/A	0
Plans	1:20	107	244
Plans	1:10	2	2
Sections	1:10	59	68

10.3 The Photographic Archive:

Black and white print film:	612	exposures
Colour slide film:	612	exposures
Black and white medium format:	45	exposures
Colour medium format:	45	exposures
Digital photographs:	118	exposures

10.4 The Finds Archive:

Animal Bone:	23 boxes
Pottery:	5 boxes
Daub and Ceramic Building Material:	2 boxes
Lithics:	1 box
Human Bone:	1 box
Clay Tobacco Pipe:	< 1 box
Small Finds:	
Iron:	1 box
Ceramic:	Less than 1 box
Stone:	Less than 1 box
Bone:	Less than 1 box

10.5 The Environmental Archive:

Bulk Samples:	68
Column Samples:	4

11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Duncan Hawkins of CgMs consulting Ltd. for commissioning the work on behalf of Barratt Southern Counties. Thanks also to Stephen Appleby of English Heritage for monitoring the site on behalf of Hampshire County Council.

11.2 The author would like to thank Peter Moore for his project management, Frank Meddens for his post-excavation management and editing, Dave Harris and Angelo Indelicato for the illustrations, Cheryl Blundy and Streph Duckering for the photography, Nathalie Barrett and Gareth Holes for the surveying and Lisa Lonsdale for her technical and logistical support. Thanks also to Kevin Rielly for the animal bone assessment, Ellie Sayer for her analysis of the human bone, Barry Bishop for his lithic assessment, James Gerrard for the pottery analysis and small finds report, Kevin Hayward for his analysis of the worked stone and Nick Branch of Archaeo Scape, Royal Holloway University, for the environmental assessment.

11.3 Last, but by no means least, the author would like to thank the field staff for their effort and dedication in frequently difficult, wet and windy conditions. Thanks to: Kari Bower, Matt Edmunds, Amelia Fairman, Neil Hawkins, Clare Henshaw, Gareth Holes, Angleo Indelicato, James Langthorne, Paul Morrison, Marlene Nastadius, Des O'Donaghue, Tom O'Gorman, Ashley Pooley, Sandy Pullen, Helen Robertson, Andy Sergeant, Aidan Turner and Stuart Watson. Special thanks are extended to Mark Bagwell for supervising the evaluation and for his hard work, assistance and guidance during the excavation. The author would also like to thank Chris Lainsbury, N.J. Jones and Sean Allen of Stacey's Plant Hire for the efficient topsoil and subsoil strip. Thanks in particular to Sean, whose help and advice was instrumental in ensuring the machining was completed on time.

12 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allen, M.J. & Applin, B. 1995 "The Story of the Buckskin Barrow" *Current Archaeology* **XII** (1993-1995): 146

Allen, M.J., Morris, M. & Clark, R.H., with contributions by Applin, B., Simon, A.P., King, A.C., Newbury, M., Russell, M.J.G., Seager Smith, R. and Whitbread, I.K. "Food for the Living: A Reassessment of a Bronze Age Barrow at Buckskin, Basingstoke, Hampshire

Barton, K.J. 1981 "The Post-Medieval Archaeology of Hampshire" In: *The Archaeology of Hamphshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Local Plan 1996- 2011 (adopted July 2006) http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/localplan/localplan.htm

Blagg, T.C.F. 1990 "Building Stone in Roman Britain" In: D. Parsons (Ed.) *Stone Quarrying and Building in England 43 AD - 1525* Winchester: Phillimore & Co. in association with The Royal Archaeological Institute

Bradley, R. 1978 *The Prehistoric Settlement of Britain* London, Henley and Boston: Routledge and Kegan Paul

British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid and Drift Edition, 1998. Nottingham: Keyworth

Champion, T. and Champion, S. 1981 "The Iron Age in Hampshire" In: *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Clark, S. 1999 "In Search of a Different Roman Period: The Finds Assemblage at the Newstead Military Complex" *Proceedings of the Ninth Annual Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference (TRAC99)*

Cunliffe, B. 1992 "The Deposition of the Human Remains" In: *Danebury: An Iron Age Hillfort In Hampshire 1979-1988: The Finds.* CBA Research Report No 73b. http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/cba/rr73b.cfm

Cunliffe, B. 2002 *Iron Age Communities in Britain. An Account of England, Scotland and Wales from the Seventh Century BC until the Roman Conquest.* London: Routledge

Cunliffe, B. 2004. *Iron Age Britain.* B.T. Batsford, Chrysalis Book Group.

Evans, C., Pollard, J. and Knight, M., 1999 "Life In The Woods: Tree-throws, Settlement and Forset Cognition" *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* **18**

Fasham, P.J. 1987 *A Banjo Enclosure in Micheldever Wood, Hampshire* Hampshire Field Club Monograph No. 5. Gloucester: Alan Sutton Publishing

Fasham, P.J. and Keevill, C. with Coe, D., *Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren): An Iron Age Farmstead and Deserted Medieval Village in Hampshire (Wessex Archaeology Report No. 7)*. Salisbury: The Trust for Wessex Archaeology

Fasham, P.J. and Schadla-Hall, R.T. "The Neolithic and Bronze Ages" In: *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Fisher, A. R. 1985 "Winklebury Hillfort: A Study of Artefact Distributions from Subsoil Features" *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* **51**

Fulford, M. 2001 "Links with the Past: Pervasive "Ritual" Behaviour in Roman Britain" *Britannia* **32**

Green, M. J. 2001 *Dying for the Gods: Human Sacrifice in Iron Age Europe.* Stroud, Gloucester: Tempus

Hawkins, D. *Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation: Land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke.* CgMs Consulting Ltd., Unpublished Report

Hill, J.D., 1995 *Ritual and Rubbish in Iron Age Wessex. A Study on the Formation of a Specific Archaeological Record.* BAR British Series 242 Oxford: Tempus Reparatum Archaeological and Historical Associates Ltd.

Hinton, D.A., 1981 "Hampshire's Anglo-Saxon Origins" In: *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Hughes, M., 1981 "Settlement and Landscape in Medieval Hampshire" In: *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Jacobi, R.M., 1981 "The Last Hunters in Hamphsire" In: *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Johnson, D.E., 1981 "Hampshire: The Roman Period" *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Millet, M. & James, S. "Excavations at Cowdery's Down Basingstoke, Hampshire, 1978-81" *Archaeological Journal* **140**

Moore, P. 2006 *An Archeaological Written Scheme of Investigation for an Excavation of Land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke, Hampshire.* Pre-Construct Archaeology Unpublished Report

Oliver, M. 1992 "Excavation of An Iron Age and Romano-British Settlement Site At Oakridge, Basingstoke, Hampshire, 1965-6" *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club* **48**

Ordnace Survey Historical Maps: Roman Britain 5th Edition 1:625 000, 2001. Southampton: Ordance Survey

Palmer, R., 1985 *Danebury, An Iron Age Hillfort in Hampshire: An Aerial Photographic Interpretation of its Environs* Supplimentary Series: 6 Royal Commision on Historical Monuments (England)

Parsons, D. 1990 "Review and Prospect: The Stone Industry in Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Medieval England" D. Parsons (Ed.) *Stone Quarrying and Building in England 43 AD - 1525* Winchester: Phillimore & Co. in association with The Royal Archaeological Institute

Philp, B.J. 1985 "The Excavation of a Roman Ritual Shaft at Keston" *Kent Archaeological Review* **82**

Pryor, F. 1999 *Farmers in Prehistoric Britain* Stroud, Gloucester: Tempus

Robertson-Mackay, R., 1977 "The Defences of the Iron Age Hill-Fort at Winklebury, Basingstoke, Hampshire" *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* **43**

Ross, A., 1968 "Shafts, Pits and Wells- Sancturies of the Belgic Britons" In Coles, J. and Simpson, D.A.A. *Studies in Ancient Europe*

Shackley, M. 1981 "On the Palaeolithic Archaeology of Hampshire" *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Shennan, S. J. 1981 "Settlement History in East Hampshire" *The Archaeology of Hampshire from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Revolution* Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 1, S. Shennan & R.T. Schadla-Hall (Eds.) Farnborough, Hampshire: Hampshire Field Club

Smith, K. 1977 "The Excavation of Winklebury Camp, Basingstoke, Hampshire" *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* **43**

Waite, G. 1985 *Ritual and Religion in Iron Age Britain,* British Archaeological Report Series 149. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports

Woodward, A. 2000 *British Barrows: A Matter of Life and Death*. Stroud, Gloucester: Tempus

Appendix 1- Context Index

Context No.	Same As	Trench No.	Plan	Section / Elevation	Type	Description	Date	Phase
1	N/A	Tr. 26	N/A	S1	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
2	N/A	Tr. 26	N/A	S1	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
3	N/A	Tr. 26	N/A	S1	Fill	Of ditch [5]	Early Roman	6
4	N/A	Tr. 26	N/A	S1	Fill	Of ditch [5]	Early Roman	6
5	N/A	Tr. 26	Tr. 26	S1	Cut	Cut of boundary ditch / roadside ditch	Early Roman	6
6	N/A	Tr. 26	N/A	S1	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
7	N/A	Tr. 53	N/A	S2	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
8	N/A	Tr. 53	N/A	S2	Layer	Silty clay	Modern	8
9	N/A	Tr. 53	N/A	S2	Fill	Of tree throw [10]	Early Holocene	2
10	N/A	Tr. 53	Tr. 53	S2	Cut	Natural hollow or tree throw	Early Holocene	2
11	N/A	Tr. 53	Tr. 53	S2	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
12	N/A	Tr. 66	N/A	S4	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
13	N/A	Tr. 66	N/A	S4	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
14	N/A	Tr. 66	Tr. 66	S3	Fill	Of pit or tree throw [15]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
15	N/A	Tr. 66	Tr. 66	S3	Cut	Pit or tree throw	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
16	N/A	Tr. 78	Tr. 78	S7	Fill	Of pit [17]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
17	[227]	Tr. 79	Tr. 78	S7	Cut	Grain storage pit,	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
18	N/A	Tr. 66	Tr. 78	S6	Fill	Of pit [19]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
19	[192]	Tr. 66	Tr. 78	S6	Cut	Grain storage pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
20	N/A	Tr. 66	Tr. 66	S4	Fill	Of ditch [22]	Early Roman	6
21	N/A	Tr. 66	N/A	S4	Fill	Of ditch [22]	Early Roman	6
22	[30] [56] [102] [380]	Tr. 66	Tr. 66	S4	Cut	Boundary ditch	Early Roman	6
23	N/A	Tr. 66	TR 66	S3 S4	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
24	N/A	Tr. 78	TR 78	S6	Fill	Of pit [19]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
25	N/A	Tr. 73	N/A	S8	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
26	N/A	Tr. 73	N/A	S8	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
27	N/A	Tr. 73	Tr. 73	S8	Fill	Of ditch [30]	Early Roman	6
28	N/A	Tr. 73	N/A	S8	Fill	Of ditch [30]	Early Roman	6
29	N/A	Tr. 73	Tr. 73	S8	Layer	Subsoil	Natural	1
30	[22] [56] [102] [380]	Tr. 73	Tr. 73	S8	Cut	Ditch	Early Roman	6
31	N/A	Tr. 94	N/A	N/A	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8

32	N/A	Tr. 94	N/A	N/A	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
33	N/A	Tr. 94	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of gully [34]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
34	N/A	Tr. 94	Tr. 94	N/A	Cut	Gully, possibly created naturally	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
35	N/A	Tr. 94	N/A	N/A	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
36	N/A	Tr. 94	N/A	N/A	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
37	N/A	Tr. 59	N/A	N/A	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
38	N/A	Tr. 59	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [39]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
39	N/A	Tr. 59	N/A	Tr. 59	Cut	Pit	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
40	N/A	Tr. 59	N/A	Tr. 59	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
41	N/A	Tr. 80	N/A	S5	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
42	N/A	Tr. 80	N/A	S5	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
43	N/A	Tr. 80	N/A	S5	Fill	Of pit or ditch [44]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
44	N/A	Tr. 80	N/A	S5	Cut	Pit revealed in section only	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
45	N/A	Tr. 80	N/A	S5	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
46	N/A	Tr. 73	N/A	S8	Fill	Of ditch [30]	Early Roman	6
47	N/A	Tr. 73	N/A	S8	Fill	Of ditch [30]	Early Roman	6
48	N/A	Tr. 78	N/A	S7	Fill	Of pit [17]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
49	N/A	Tr. 73	N/A	S8	Layer	Chalk gravel	Natural	1
50	N/A	Tr. 105	N/A	N/A	Layer	Topsoil	Modern	8
51	N/A	Tr. 105	N/A	N/A	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
52	N/A	Tr. 105	Tr. 105	S9	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
53	N/A	Tr. 105	Tr. 105	S9	Layer	Chalk gravel visible in base of ditch [56]	Natural	1
54	N/A	Tr. 105	Tr. 105	S9	Fill	Of ditch [56]	Early Roman	6
55	N/A	Tr. 105	Tr. 105	S9	Fill	Of ditch [56]	Early Roman	6
56	[22] [30] [102] [380]	Tr. 105	Tr. 105	S9	Cut	Boundary ditch	Early Roman	6
57-99	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
100	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S10	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 1	Early Roman	6
101	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S10	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 1	Early Roman	6
102	[22] [30] [56] [380]	Area 1	102	S10	Cut	Boundary ditch	Early Roman	6
103	[153] [328]	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
104	[154] [329]	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Layer	Silty clay	Natural	1
105	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S17	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 5	Early Roman	6
106	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S17	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 5	Early Roman	6
107	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S11	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 2	Early Roman	6
108	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S11	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 2	Early Roman	6
109	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S11	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 2	Early Roman	6
110	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [111]	Roman	7
111	N/A	Area 1	111	N/A	Cut	Pit	Roman	7

112	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [113]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
113	N/A	Area 1	113	N/A	Cut	Small ovoid pit	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
114	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [115]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
115	N/A	Area 1	115	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
116	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of natural feature [117]	Early Holocene	2
117	N/A	Area 1	117	N/A	Cut	Probable natural tree throw	Early Holocene	2
118	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [119]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
119	N/A	Area 1	119	S12	Cut	Pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
120	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S12	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 3	Early Roman	6
121	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S12	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 3	Early Roman	6
122-123	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
124	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [125]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
125	N/A	Area 1	125	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
126	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [127]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
127	N/A	Area 1	127	N/A	Cut	Pit truncated by Roman ditch [102]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
128	N/A	Area 1	128	N/A	Fill	Of elongated pit or gully	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
129	N/A	Area 1	129	N/A	Cut	Elongated pit or gully	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
130	N/A	Area 2	132	S13	Fill	Re-deposited natural clay within pit [132]. Tertiary fill.	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
131	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S13	Fill	Dumped, burnt backfill within pit [132]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
132	N/A	Area 2	132	S13	Cut	Pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
133	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S24	Fill	Deliberately dumped charcoal rich fill of large irregular pit [135]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
134	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S24	Fill	Deliberately dumped, burnt backfill within large irregular pit [135]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
135	N/A	Area 2	135	S24	Cut	Irregular pit [135]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
136	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [137]	Early Roman	6
137	N/A	Area 1	137	N/A	Cut	Of small pit or posthole	Early Roman	6
138	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S12	Fill	Of ditch [102] within Slot 3	Early Roman	6
139	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [119]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4

140	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [119]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
141	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit [142]	Early Roman	6
142	N/A	Area 1	142	N/A	Cut	Pit	Early Roman	6
143	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [144]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
144	N/A	Area 1	144	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
145	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
146	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S15	Fill	Of small pit [147]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
147	N/A	Area 2	147	S15	Cut	Small pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
148	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S14	Fill	Burnt fill pit [150]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
149	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S14	Fill	Of pit [150]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
150	N/A	Area 2	150	S14	Cut	Pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
151	N/A	Area 2	151	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [152]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
152	N/A	Area 2	152	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
153	[103] [328]	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
154	[104] [329]	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Layer	'Tiger-striped' silty clay with striations of chalk gravel	Natural	1
155	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S18	Fill	Of small pit [156], sealing a large, triangular lump of daub deliberately placed on the base	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
156	N/A	Area 2	156	S18	Cut	Small pit with a large triangular lump of daub deliberately placed on the base	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
157	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [158]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
158	N/A	Area 2	158	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
159	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [160]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
160	N/A	Area 2	160	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
161	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [162]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
162	N/A	Area 2	162	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
163	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [164]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
164	N/A	Area 2	164	N/A	Cut	Of small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
165	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S17	Fill	Dumped fill of ditch [102] in Slot 5, containing domestic debris	Early Roman	6
166	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of elongated pit or gully [167]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
167	N/A	Area 2	167	N/A	Cut	Elongated pit or gully	Middle to Late Iron Age	4

168	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Dumped fill of storage pit [219], rich in burnt flint and burnt daub	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
169	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Dumped deposit of burnt clay and daub within storage pit [219]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
170	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Dumped silty clay within storage pit [219], containing burnt daub	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
171	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Of pit [173]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
172	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [173], containing charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
173	N/A	Area 2	173	S20	Cut	Small ovoid pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
174	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
175	N/A	Area 2	175	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
176	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of ditch [178] in Slot 1. Sterile nature suggests gradual deposition of silty clay.	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
177	N/A	Area 2	N/A	19	Fill	Of ditch [178] in Slot 2. Sterile nature suggests gradual deposition of silty clay.	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
178	N/A	Area 2	178	S19 S35 S36	Cut	Field boundary or drainage ditch	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
179	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit / posthole [180]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
180	N/A	Area 2	180	N/A	Cut	Small pit / posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
181	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S21	Fill	Of pit [184] consisting of burnt, dumped fill	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
182	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S21	Fill	Of pit [184] consisting of re-deposited natural	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
183	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S21	Fill	Of pit [184] consisting of burnt, dumped fill	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
184	N/A	Area 2	184	S21	Cut	Small rectangular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
185	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
186	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
187	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [190]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
188	N/A	Area 2	189	N/A	Fill	Of possible tree throw [189]	Early Holocene	2
189	N/A	Area 2	189	N/A	Cut	Probable natural tree throw	Early Holocene	2
190	N/A	Area 2	190	N/A	Cut	Pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
191	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S25	Fill	Of pit [192]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
192	[19]	Area 2	N/A	S25	Cut	Grain storage feature	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
193	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Of pit [219], rich in charcoal fragments and burnt flint	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
194	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S25	Fill	Dumped silty clay within [192], containing burnt clay and charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4

195	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [196]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
196	N/A	Area 2	196	N/A	Cut	Small circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
197	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [209]. Consists of re-deposited natural mixed with occasional inclusions of charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
198	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S22	Fill	Of pit [201]. Dumped, burnt fill with inclusions of pottery, daub and charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
199	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S22	Fill	Of pit [201]. Dumped clayey silt with inclusions of pottery, daub and charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
200	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S22	Fill	Of storage pit [201], containing dumped animal bone and a semi-articulated horse skeleton	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
201	N/A	Area 2	201	S22	Cut	Grain storage feature	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
202	N/A	Area 2	203	N/A	Fill	Of pit or tree throw / tree-throw [203]	Early Holocene	2
203	N/A	Area 2	203	N/A	Cut	Sub-ovoid pit or tree throw / tree-throw	Early Holocene	2
204	N/A	Area 2	N/A	23	Fill	Of storage pit [219], consisting of re-deposited silty clay natural	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
205	N/A	Area 2	N/A	23	Fill	Of storage pit [219], probably formed by slumping of edges	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
206	N/A	Area 2	207	N/A	Fill	Of natural tree throw [207]	Early Holocene	2
207	N/A	Area 2	207	N/A	Cut	Tree throw	Early Holocene	2
208	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Burnt fill of pit [209] containing severely hear affected flint	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
209	N/A	Area 2	209	N/A	Cut	Sub-circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
210	N/A	Area 2	132	S13	Fill	Of [132], containing charcoal flecks	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
211	N/A	Area 2	209	N/A	Fill	Of [209], consisting of re-deposited natural laminated silty clay	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
212	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [219]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
213	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Chalk gravel slumpage (?) within storage pit [219]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
214	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [215]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
215	N/A	Area 2	215	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
216	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [217]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
217	N/A	Area 2	217	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
218	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S23	Fill	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [219]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
219	N/A	Area 2	N/A	23	Cut	Grain storage pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
220-221	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A

222	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S25	Fill	Re-deposited natural fill of storage pit [192]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
223	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S25	Fill	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [192]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
224	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S25	Fill	Chalk gravel slumpage (?) within storage pit [192]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
225	N/A	Area 2	N/A	28	Fill	Re-deposited natural within pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
226	N/A	Area 2	226	28	Cut	Sub-circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
227	17	Area 2	227	26	Cut	Grain storage feature	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
228	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
229	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
230	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
231	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Chalk gravel slumpage within storage pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
232	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Chalk gravel slumpage within storage pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
233	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Interdigitating slumps (?) of silty clay and chalk natural within storage pit [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
234	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Silty clay sealing disarticulated deer skeleton and animal bone within [226]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
235	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S26	Fill	Burnt basal fill within storage pit [227]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
236	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S24	Fill	Natural silty clay within irregular pit [135]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
237	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S24	Fill	Natural silty clay within irregular pit [135], recorded in section only	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
238	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S24	Fill	Natural silty clay within irregular pit [135], recorded in section only	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
239	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S24	Fill	Natural gravelly clay within [135]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
240	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S27	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay in storage pit [242]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
241	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S27	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay in storage pit [242]. A stone grinder had been placed directly on top of the deposit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
242	N/A	Area 2	242	S27	Cut	Possible grain storage feature	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
243	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S22	Fill	Re-deposited natural chalk within storage pit [201]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
244	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S22	Fill	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [201]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
245	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [246]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
246	N/A	Area 2	246	N/A	Cut	Pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
247	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S30	Fill	Of natural hollow or tree throw [249]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4

248	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S30	Fill	Of natural hollow or tree throw [249]	Early Holocene	2
249	N/A	Area 2	249	S30	Cut	Natural hollow or tree throw	Early Holocene	2
250	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S29	Fill	Clayey silt fill of pit [251]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
251	N/A	Area 2	251	S29	Cut	Pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
252	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S29	Fill	Of pit [253], sealing worked wood (265), (275) and (276).	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
253	N/A	Area 2	253	S29	Cut	Pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
254	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of possible stakehole [255]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
255	N/A	Area 2	255	N/A	Cut	Possible stakehole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
256	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [257]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
257	N/A	Area 2	257	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
258	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S27	Fill	Basal silty clay fill of storage feature [242], containing frequent charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
259	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S31	Fill	Silty clay within pit [261]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
260	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S31	Fill	Silty clay containing charcoal within pit [261]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
261	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S31	Fill	Sub-circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
262	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S32	Fill	Silty clay fill of [264]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
263	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S32	Fill	Silty clay fill of [264], containing frequent charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
264	N/A	Area 2	264	N/A	Cut	Small pit containing burnt debris	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
265	N/A	Area 2	265	N/A	Timber	Timber plank deliberately placed on the base of [253]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
266	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S31	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within pit [269]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
267	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S31	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within pit [269]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
268	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S31	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within pit [269]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
269	N/A	Area 2	269	S31	Cut	Sub-circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
270	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Burnt fill of pit [271]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
271	N/A	Area 2	271	N/A	Cut	Circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
272	N/A	Area 2	274	S29	Fill	Burnt fill of pit [274]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
273	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S29	Fill	Silty clay fill of pit [274]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4

274	N/A	Area 2	274	S29	Cut	Circular pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
275	N/A	Area 2	265	S29	Timber	Timber plank deliberately placed on the base of [253]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
276	N/A	Area 2	276	N/A	Timber	Timber plank deliberately placed on the base of [253]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
277	N/A	Area 2	278	N/A	Fill	Silty clay fill of pit [278]	Early Holocene	2
278	N/A	Area 2	278	N/A	Cut	Tree throw	Early Holocene	2
279	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Clayey silt fill of storage pit [288] containing pottery, daub and burnt flint	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
280	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Re-deposited natural within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
281	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Silty clay fill of storage pit [288] containing pottery, burnt flint and daub	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
282	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
283	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Silty clay (?) within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
284	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
285	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
286	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
287	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S33	Fill	Chalk slump (?) at base of storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
288	N/A	Area 2	288	S33	Cut	Large ‘bell-shaped’ grain storage feature, heavily undercut. Small, circular pit [322] cut into its base	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
289	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S32	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay natural within pit [264]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
290	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S29	Fill	Re-deposited natural within pit [253]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
291	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Dumped top fill of storage pit [295], containing charcoal, pottery, daub and burnt flint	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
292	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Fill of storage pit [295] containing charcoal, pottery and daub	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
293	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Dumped grey silty clay fill of storage pit [295] containing charcoal flecks	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
294	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [295], with 3 deliberately placed metal tools on the base	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
295	N/A	Area 2	295	S37	Cut	Large, slightly undercut storage pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
296	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S34	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [297]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
297	N/A	Area 2	297	S34	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
298	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S34	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [299]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
299	N/A	Area 2	299	S34	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4

300	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S35	Fill	Of ditch [178] in Slot 3. Sterile nature suggests gradual deposition of silty clay.	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
301	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S36	Fill	Of ditch terminus [178] in Slot 4. Sterile nature suggests gradual deposition of silty clay.	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
302	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of small pit or posthole [303]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
303	N/A	Area 2	303	N/A	Cut	Small pit or posthole	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
304	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay in storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
305	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay in storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
306	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
307	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
308	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
309	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
310	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
311	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
312	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
313	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [295]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
314	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S37	Fill	Re-deposited natural chalk within storage pit [201]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
315-318	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
319	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S38	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
320	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Silty clay backfill within pit [322]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
321	N/A	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Fill	Silty clay backfill within pit [322], containing charcoal	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
322	N/A	Area 2	288	N/A	Cut	Small pit cut into base of grain storage feature [288]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
323	N/A	Area 2	N/A	S38	Fill	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within [322]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
324	N/A	Area 3	324, 325	S48 S49 S50	Fill	Compact gravel fill of periglacial feature [325]	Natural	1
325	N/A	Area 3	325	S47 S48 S49 S50	Cut	Natural periglacial feature presumably created by collapse of underlying chalk bedrock	Natural	1
326	N/A	Area 3	N/A	S47 S48 S49 S50	Fill	Thin deposit of clay within natural periglacial feature [325]	Natural	1
327	N/A	Area 3	N/A	S47 S48 S49 S50	Fill	Extremely well sorted sandy clayey silt fill of periglacial feature [325]	Natural	1
328	[103] [153]	Area 3	N/A	N/A	Layer	Plough soil	Modern	8
329	[104] [154]	Area 3	N/A	S47 S48 S49 S50	Layer	'Tiger-striped' silty clay with striations of chalk gravel	Natural	1

330-333	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
334	[436] [438]	Area 3	N/A	S47 S48 S49 S50	Layer	Periglacial chalk gravel	Natural	1
335	N/A	Area 1	335	N/A	Cut	Settlement boundary ditch recut through southern end of banjo enclosure [338]	Early Roman	6
336	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S40	Fill	Of eastern side of ditch [338] within Slot 1	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
337	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S41	Fill	Of eastern side of ditch [338] within Slot 1	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
338	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S40 S41	Cut	Ditch running northeast-southwest, forming southeastern 'arm' of banjo enclosure	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
339	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S42	Fill	Of eastern side of ditch [338] within Slot 3	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
340	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of eastern side of ditch [338] within Slot 4	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
341-343	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
344	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Silty clay fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 4.	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	5
345	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Silty clay fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 4.	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	5
346	N/A	Area 1	346	S43	Cut	Ditch; western arm of banjo enclosure	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
347	N/A	Area 1	346	S43	Fill	Silty clay fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 2.	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	5
348	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S45	Fill	Silty clay fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 5.	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	5
349	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Silty clay fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 5.	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	5
350	N/A	Area 1	352	S58	Fill	Silty clay fill of pit [352]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
351	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S58	Fill	Of pit [352]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
352	N/A	Area 1	352	S58	Cut	Pit	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
353	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S59	Fill	Of pit [355]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
354	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S59	Fill	Of pit [355]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
355	N/A	Area 1	355	S59	Cut	Of pit [355]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
356	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of pit [357]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3

357	N/A	Area 1	357	N/A	Cut	Pit	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
358	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Silty clay fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 1	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	5
359	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Clayey silt fill of banjo enclosure [346] within Slot 1	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
360	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
361	N/A	Area 1	361	N/A	Layer	Silty clay layer within banjo enclosure, possibly created via poaching	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
362	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S34	Fill	Of pit [364], composed of clean, natural	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
363	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S34	Fill	Of pit [364], composed of re-deposited natural, possibly from collapse of edge	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
364	N/A	Area 1	364	S34	Fill	Elongated pit	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
365	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S57	Fill	Dumped domestic waste within settlement boundary ditch [338]	Early Roman	6
366	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S46	Fill	Of pit [368]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
367	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S46	Fill	Of pit [368]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
368	N/A	Area 1	368	S46	Cut	Pit	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
369	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
370	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
371	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
372	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
373	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Re-deposited natural chalk gravel within storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
374	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay basal fill of storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
375	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S51	Fill	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [377]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
376	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	**NOT USED**	N/A	N/A
377	N/A	Area 1	377	S51	Cut	Grain storage feature	Early to Middle Iron Age	3

378	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of tree throw [379]	Early Holocene	2
379	N/A	Area 1	379	S52	Cut	Tree throw	Early Holocene	2
380	[22] [30] [56] [102]	Area 1	380	N/A	Cut	Settlement boundary ditch	Early Roman	6
381	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S55	Fill	Dumped silty clay containing pottery, struck flint and bone within storage pit [384]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
382	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S55	Fill	Re-deposited sandy silty clay within storage pit [384]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
383	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S55	Fill	Interdigitating slumps (?) of silty clay and chalk natural within storage pit [384]	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
384	N/A	Area 1	384	S55	Cut	Large 'bell-shaped' grain storage feature with slightly undercut sides	Early to Middle Iron Age	3
385	N/A	Area 3	388	S53 S54	Fill	Extremely well sorted sandy clayey silt fill of periglacial feature [388]	Natural	1
386	N/A	Area 3	N/A	S53 S54	Fill	Compact gravel fill of periglacial feature [388]	Natural	1
387	N/A	Area 3	N/A	S53 S54	Fill	Thin deposit of clay within natural periglacial feature [388]	Natural	1
388	N/A	Area 3	N/A	S53 S54	Cut	Natural periglacial feature presumably created by collapse of underlying chalk bedrock	Natural	1
389	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Upper-most fill of silty sandy clay, rich in domestic waste, within large circular cut [407]	Roman	7
390	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Upper fill of silty sandy clay, rich in domestic waste, within large circular cut [407]	Roman	7
391	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Upper fill of silty sandy clay, rich in domestic waste, within large circular cut [407]	Roman	7
392	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Distinct, small tipped deposit of silty clay stratified within the upper-most fills of [407]	Roman	7
393	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Dumped silty sandy clay forming part of the upper backfill of circular cut [407]	Roman	7
394	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Dumped silty sandy clay forming part of the upper backfill of circular cut [407]	Roman	7
395	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Dumped sandy clay forming part of the upper fill sequence of circular cut [407]	Roman	7
396	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Dumped silty clay, rich in animal bone, forming part of the upper fill sequence of circular cut [407]	Roman	7
397	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Dumped silty sandy clay forming part of the upper fill sequence of circular cut [407]	Roman	7
398	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Interdigitating lenses of dumped silty clay and collapsed chalk from the edge of [407], forming part of its upper fill sequence	Roman	7

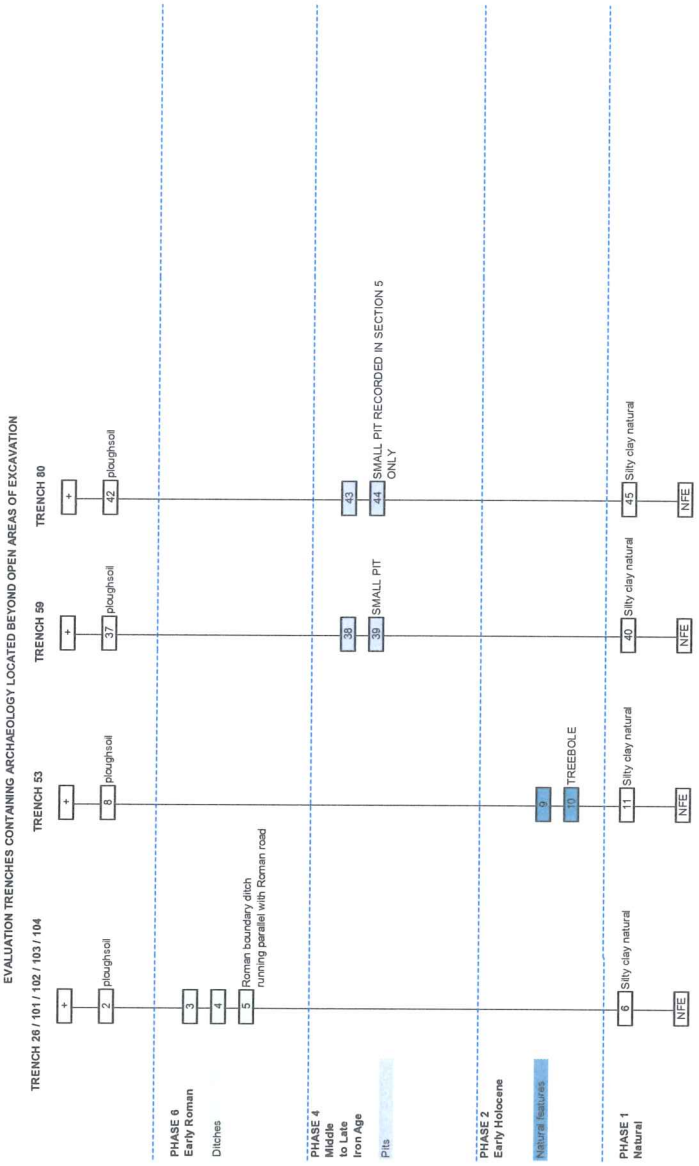
399	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Fill of Roman grave [400], sealing a virtually complete skeleton.	Roman	7
400	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Cut	Roman grave cut truncating lower fills of [407] and sealed by upper fills of [407]. Centrally located within the pit	Roman	7
401	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Of ditch [402]	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
402	N/A	Area 1	401	N/A	Cut	Shallow, curved ditch, probable remnant of the banjo enclosure's eastern arm	Middle to Late Iron Age	4
403	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Uppermost deposit within lower fill sequence of large pit [407]. Composed of interdigitating lenses of dumped silty clay and chalk collapse. Truncated by grave cut [400]	Roman	7
404	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Soft reddish brown dump of silty clay forming part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
405	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Light brownish grey dump of slumped chalk gravel forming part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
406	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Fill	Dumped light yellowish brown silty clay forming part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
407	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Cut	Large circular pit truncating Roman settlement boundary ditch. Contains an upper sequence of deliberately deposited dumps that seal a grave cut, which in turn truncates a lower sequence of dumped fills and edge collapses	Roman	7
408	N/A	Area 1	N/A	S56	Skeleton	Inhumation of a probable female. Supine, with straight legs and arms crossed over the lap.	Roman	7
409	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Uppermost deposit within lower fill sequence of large pit [407]. Composed of interdigitating lenses of dumped silty clay and chalk collapse. Truncated by grave cut [400]	Roman	7
410	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Soft reddish brown dump of clayey silt mixed with collapsed chalk forming part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
411	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Soft reddish brown dump of silty clay forming part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
412	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Light brownish grey dump of silty clay with lenses of slumped chalk gravel forming part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
413	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Dump of sandy clay forming part of lower fill sequence within pit [407]	Roman	7
414	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Dump of chalky clay forming part of lower sequence of fills within pit [407]	Roman	7
415	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Light yellowish brown sandy silt dump forming part of lower fill sequence within pit [407]	Roman	7
416	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Light yellowish brown silt dump mixed with collapsed chalk forming part of lower fill sequence within pit [407]	Roman	7

417	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Chalk gravel slumping. Forms part of lower fill sequence of [407]	Roman	7
418	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Lenses of dumped brown silt and chalk gravel slumping. Forms part of lower fill sequence in [407]	Roman	7
419	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Chalk gravel slumping. Forms part of lower fill sequence in [407]	Roman	7
420	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Chalk gravel slumping. Forms part of lower fill sequence in [407]	Roman	7
421	430	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Mid reddish brown silty sand dump. Top fill of irregular cut [423] in base of pit [407].	Roman	7
422	431	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Mid yellowish brown silty sand dump. Quaternary fill of irregular cut [423] cut into base of pit [407].	Roman	7
423	N/A	Area 1	407	N/A	Cut	Curvilinear, slightly irregular cut in the base of pit [407]	Roman	7
424	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Mixed deposit of silty clay dumping and chalk gravel slumping. Forms part of lower fill sequence in [407]	Roman	7
425	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Mixed deposit of silty clay dumping and chalk gravel slumping. Forms part of lower fill sequence in [407]	Roman	7
426	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Chalk gravel slumping. Primary fill of irregular cut [426] at base of pit [407]	Roman	7
427	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Chalk gravel slumping with occasional lenses of dumped light brown silt. Forms part of lower fill sequence within [407]	Roman	7
428	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay dump with lenses of collapsed chalk. Forms part of lower fill sequence within [407]	Roman	7
429	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Deposit comprised of re-deposited natural chalk mixed with introduced sandy clay. Forms part of lower fill sequence within [407]	Roman	7
430	421	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Deliberate dump of mid brown silty sandy clay, containing animal bone and a human tooth. Top fill of irregular cut [423] cut into base of large pit [407]	Roman	7
431	422	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Light yellowish brown silty clay dump with lenses of collapsed chalk. Quaternary fill of irregular cut [423] cut into base of large pit [407]	Roman	7
432	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Very light yellowish grey chalk slumping with occasional lenses of light brown sandy clay. Tertiary fill of irregular cut [423] cut into base of large pit [407]	Roman	7
433	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Isolated dump of large flint nodules within cut [423]. Secondary fill of irregular cut [423] truncating the base of large pit [407]	Roman	7

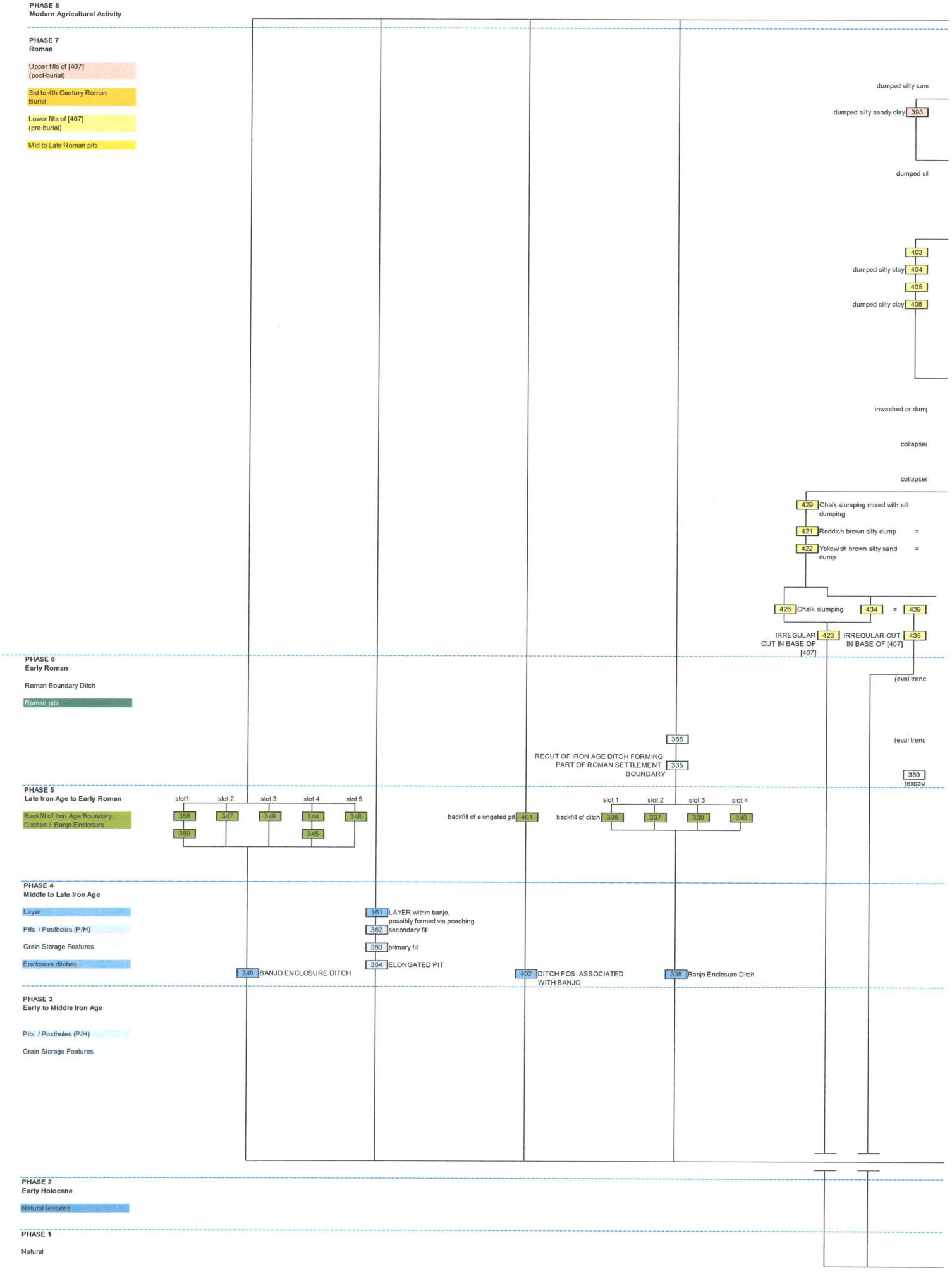
434	439	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Deliberate dump of mid brown clayey sandy silt and occasional charcoal patches. Primary fill of irregular cut [423].This deposit is the same as [439] (fill of irregular cut [435]), indicating that the cuts were backfilled at the same time	Roman	7
435	N/A	Area 1	407	N/A	Cut	Irregular cut at base of pit [407]	Roman	7
436	[334] [438]	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Layer	Periglacial chalk gravel. Presumably underlies entire excavation area, but only exposed in sides of deeply intrusive features	Roman	7
437	N/A	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Layer	Chalk bedrock. Presumably underlies entire excavation area, but only exposed in sides and base of pit [407]	Roman	7
438	[334] [436]	Area 2	N/A	N/A	Layer	Periglacial chalk gravel. Presumably underlies entire excavation area, but only exposed in sides of deeply intrusive features	Roman	7
439	434	Area 1	N/A	N/A	Fill	Deliberate dump of mid brown clayey sandy silt and occasional charcoal patches within irregular cut [435]. This deposit is the same as [434] (fill of irregular cut [423]), indicating that the cuts were backfilled at the same time	Roman	7

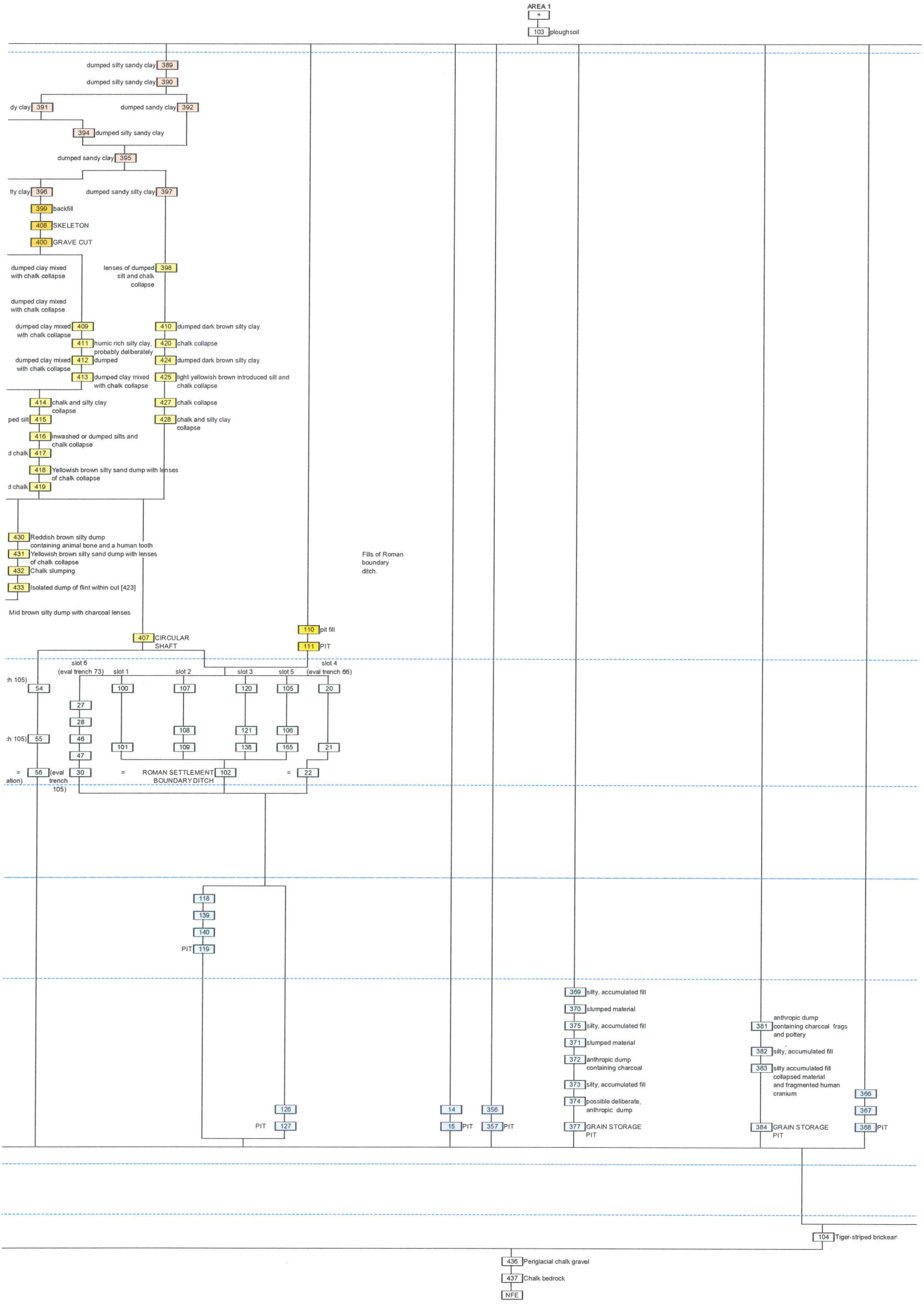
Appendix 2 Matrixes

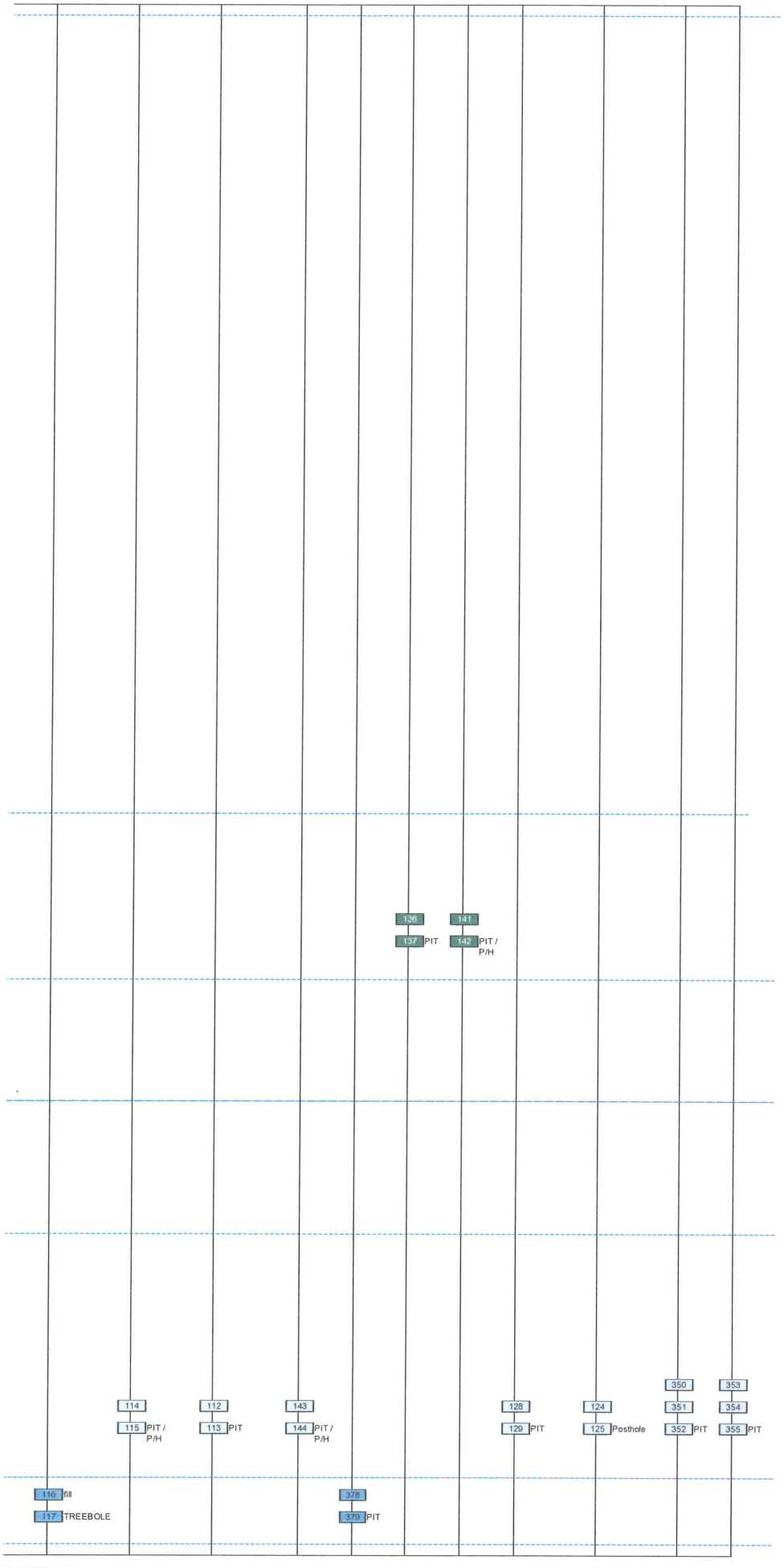
Appendix 2 Matrixes



ARCE 401 - SITE MATRIX




AREA 1
103 ploughsoil
dumped silty sandy clay 389
dumped silty sandy clay 390
dy clay 391
dumped sandy clay 392
394 dumped silty sandy clay
dumped sandy clay 395
lty clay 396
dumped sandy silty clay 397
399 backfill
408 SKELETON
400 GRAVE CUT
dumped clay mixed with chalk collapse
lenses of dumped silt and chalk collapse 398
dumped clay mixed with chalk collapse
dumped clay mixed with chalk collapse 409
410 dumped dark brown silty clay
411 humic rich silty clay, probably deliberately dumped
420 chalk collapse
dumped clay mixed with chalk collapse 412
424 dumped dark brown silty clay
413 dumped clay mixed with chalk collapse
425 light yellowish brown introduced silt and chalk collapse
414 chalk and silty clay collapse
427 chalk collapse
ped silt 415
428 chalk and silty clay collapse
416 inwashed or dumped silts and chalk collapse
d chalk 417
418 Yellowish brown silty sand dump with lenses of chalk collapse
d chalk 419
430 Reddish brown silty dump containing animal bone and a human tooth
431 Yellowish brown silty sand dump with lenses of chalk collapse
432 Chalk slumping
433 Isolated dump of flint within cut [423]
Mid brown silty dump with charcoal lenses
Fills of Roman boundary ditch.
110 pit fill
407 CIRCULAR SHAFT
111 PIT
slot 6 (eval trench 73)
slot 1
slot 2
slot 3
slot 5
slot 4 (eval trench 66)
:h 105) 54
100
107
120
105
20
27
28
108
121
106
:h 105) 55
46
101
109
138
165
21
47
= 56 (eval trench 105)
30
= ROMAN SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY DITCH 102
= 22
118
139
140
PIT 119
126
PIT 127
14
15 PIT
356
357 PIT
369 silty, accumulated fill
370 slumped material
375 silty, accumulated fill
371 slumped material
372 anthropic dump containing charcoal
373 silty, accumulated fill
374 possible deliberate, anthropic dump
377 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
381 anthropic dump containing charcoal frags and pottery
382 silty, accumulated fill
383 silty accumulated fill collapsed material and fragmented human cranium
384 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
366
367
368 PIT
104 Tiger-striped brickear
436 Periglacial chalk gravel
437 Chalk bedrock
NFE



th and chalk gravel

PHASE 8
Modern Agricultural Activity

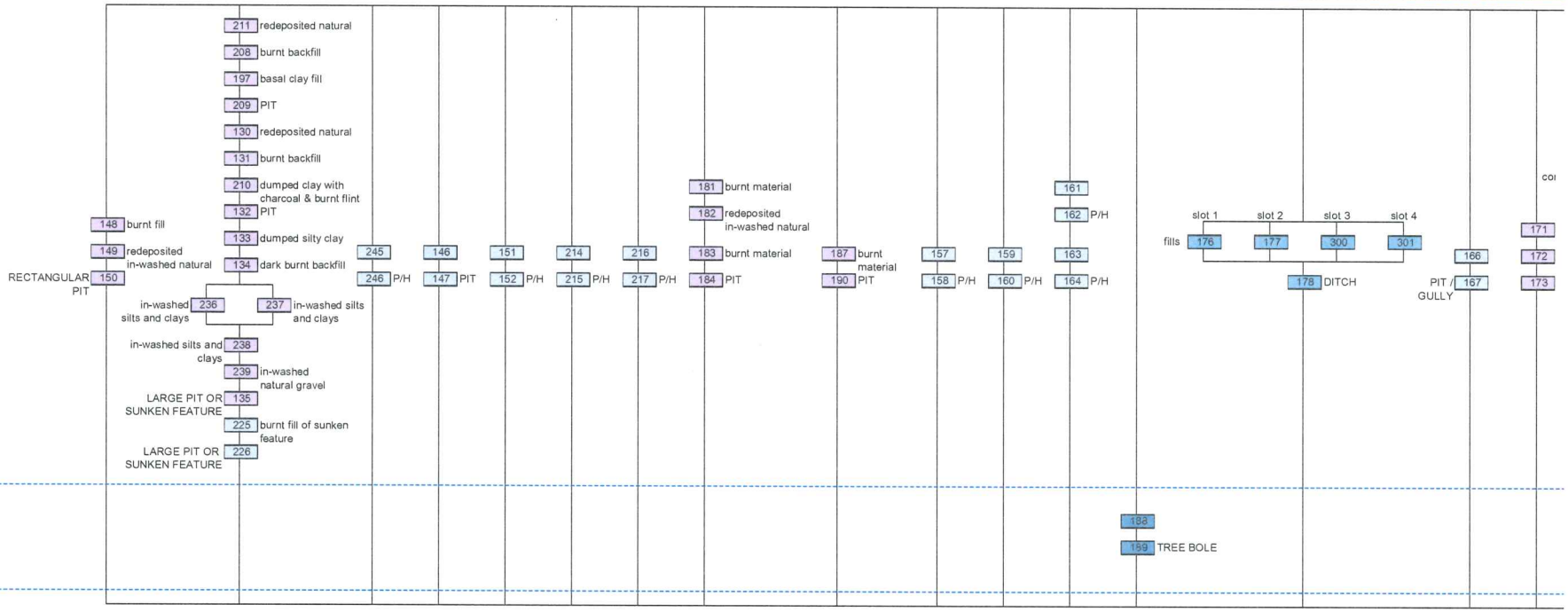
PHASE 4
Middle to Late Iron Age

Pits / Postholes (P/H)

Grain storage features containing deposits suggestive of closure ceremony

Other pits containing deposits suggestive of closure ceremony

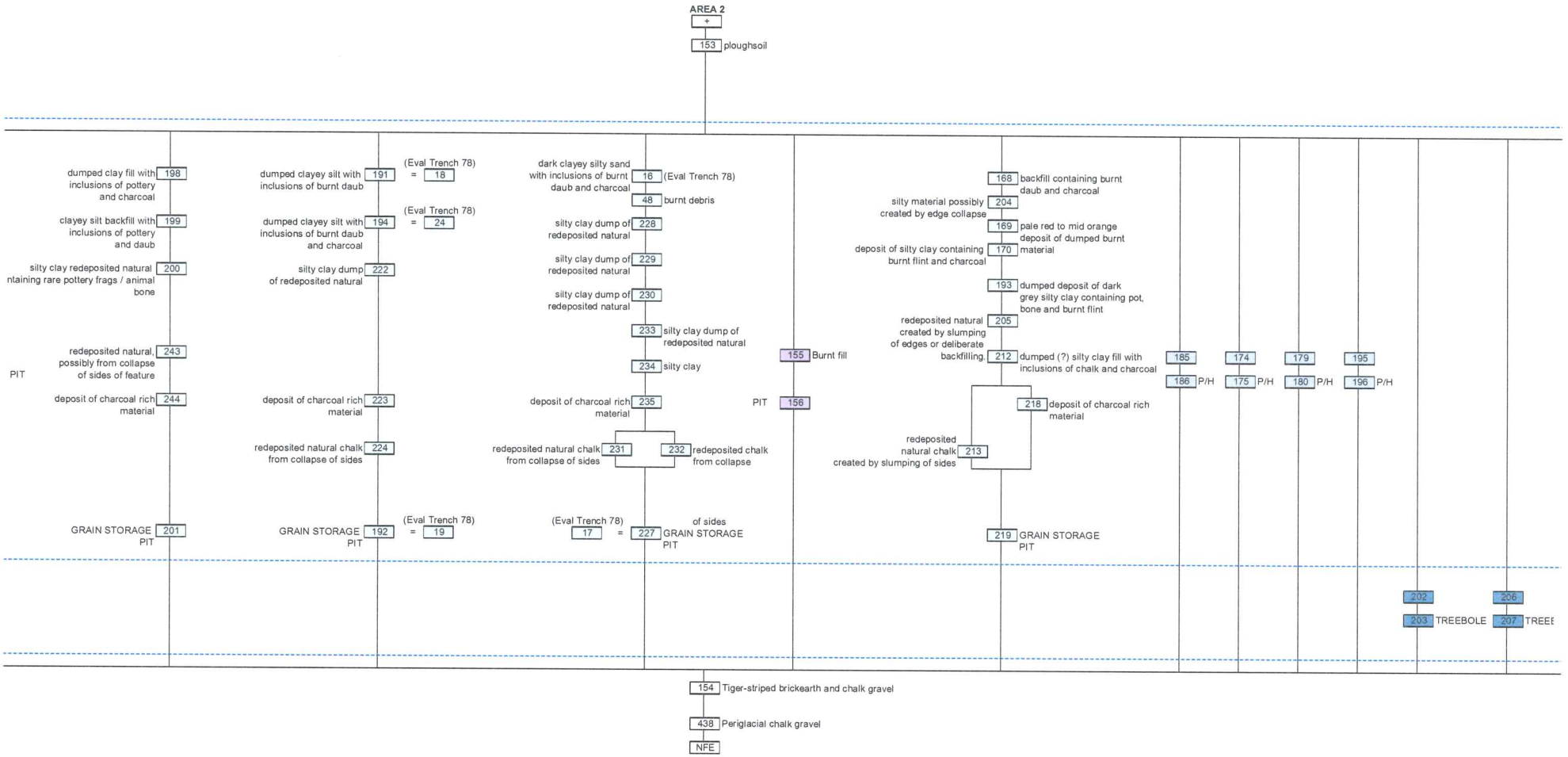
Enclosure ditches

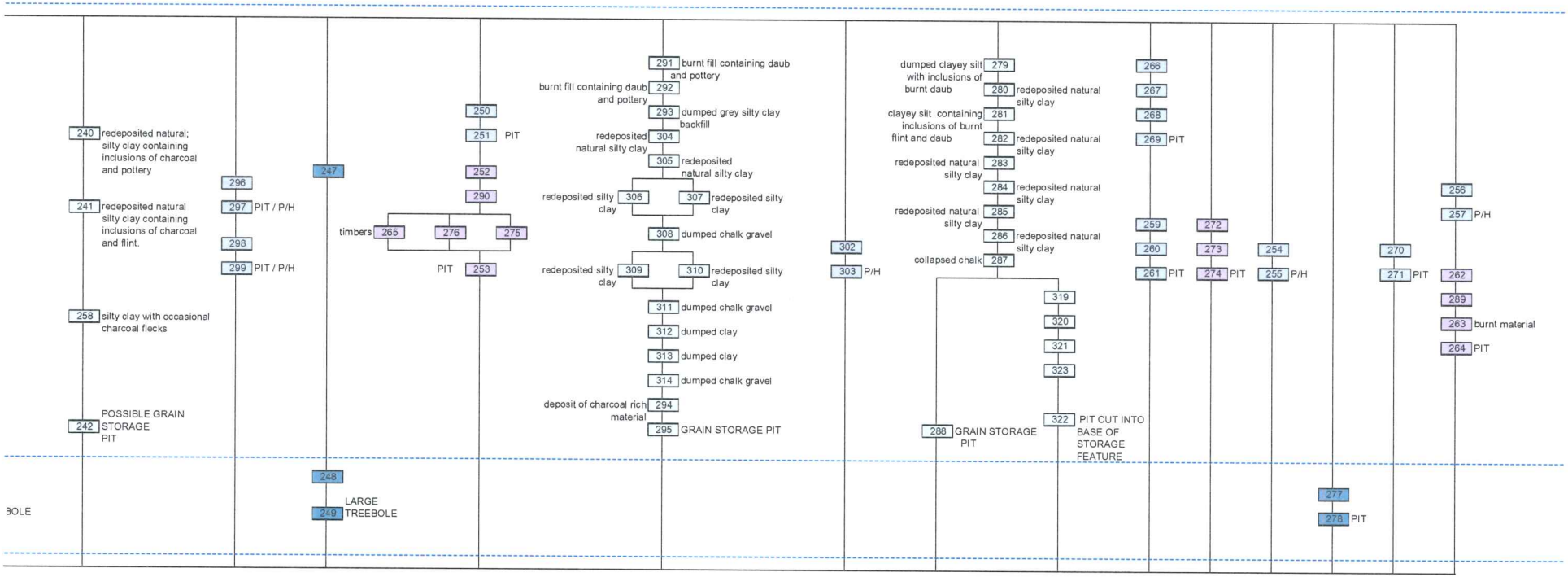


PHASE 2
Early Holocene

Natural features

PHASE 1
Natural features


AREA 2
153 ploughsoil
198 dumped clay fill with inclusions of pottery and charcoal
199 clayey silt backfill with inclusions of pottery and daub
200 silty clay redeposited natural ntaining rare pottery frags / animal bone
243 redeposited natural, possibly from collapse of sides of feature
PIT
244 deposit of charcoal rich material
201 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
191 dumped clayey silt with inclusions of burnt daub
(Eval Trench 78) = 18
194 dumped clayey silt with inclusions of burnt daub and charcoal
(Eval Trench 78) = 24
222 silty clay dump of redeposited natural
223 deposit of charcoal rich material
224 redeposited natural chalk from collapse of sides
192 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
(Eval Trench 78) = 19
16 dark clayey silty sand with inclusions of burnt daub and charcoal (Eval Trench 78)
48 burnt debris
228 silty clay dump of redeposited natural
229 silty clay dump of redeposited natural
230 silty clay dump of redeposited natural
233 silty clay dump of redeposited natural
234 silty clay
235 deposit of charcoal rich material
231 redeposited natural chalk from collapse of sides
232 redeposited chalk from collapse
(Eval Trench 78) 17 = 227 GRAIN STORAGE PIT of sides
155 Burnt fill
PIT 156
168 backfill containing burnt daub and charcoal
204 silty material possibly created by edge collapse
169 pale red to mid orange deposit of dumped burnt material
170 deposit of silty clay containing burnt flint and charcoal
193 dumped deposit of dark grey silty clay containing pot, bone and burnt flint
205 redeposited natural created by slumping of edges or deliberate backfilling.
212 dumped (?) silty clay fill with inclusions of chalk and charcoal
218 deposit of charcoal rich material
213 redeposited natural chalk created by slumping of sides
219 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
185 186 P/H
174 175 P/H
179 180 P/H
195 196 P/H
202 203 TREEBOLE
206 207 TREE
154 Tiger-striped brickearth and chalk gravel
438 Periglacial chalk gravel
NFE


240 redeposited natural; silty clay containing inclusions of charcoal and pottery
241 redeposited natural silty clay containing inclusions of charcoal and flint.
258 silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks
242 POSSIBLE GRAIN STORAGE PIT
3OLE
296
297 PIT / P/H
298
299 PIT / P/H
247
248
249 LARGE TREEBOLE
250
251 PIT
252
290
timbers 265 276 275
PIT 253
291 burnt fill containing daub and pottery
burnt fill containing daub and pottery 292
293 dumped grey silty clay backfill
redeposited natural silty clay 304
305 redeposited natural silty clay
redeposited silty clay 306 307 redeposited silty clay
308 dumped chalk gravel
redeposited silty clay 309 310 redeposited silty clay
311 dumped chalk gravel
312 dumped clay
313 dumped clay
314 dumped chalk gravel
deposit of charcoal rich material 294
295 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
302
303 P/H
dumped clayey silt with inclusions of burnt daub 279
280 redeposited natural silty clay
clayey silt containing inclusions of burnt flint and daub 281
282 redeposited natural silty clay
redeposited natural silty clay 283
284 redeposited natural silty clay
redeposited natural silty clay 285
286 redeposited natural silty clay
collapsed chalk 287
288 GRAIN STORAGE PIT
319
320
321
323
322 PIT CUT INTO BASE OF STORAGE FEATURE
266
267
268
269 PIT
259
260
261 PIT
272
273
274 PIT
254
255 P/H
277
278 PIT
270
271 PIT
256
257 P/H
262
289
263 burnt material
264 PIT

Appendix 3 Assessment of the Iron Age and Romano-British pottery

James Gerrard

Introduction

The excavations produced an assemblage of mainly Iron Age and Early Roman pottery totalling 1452 sherds, weighing 16.801kgs from 67 contexts. The majority of assemblages were very small in size (1-30 sherds) with smaller numbers of contexts containing medium (30-100 sherds) or large (100+ sherds) quantities of pottery.

Methodology and Recording

Where possible Roman fabrics were identified using the national codes proposed by Tomber and Dore (1998). Unidentified fabrics were given full fabric descriptions using the using the standard terminology outlined by Orton, Tyers and Vince (1993) and given unique codes based on their principle inclusions. These fabrics were predominantly of Late Iron Age and Early Roman date and included sand and grog tempered wares. Some of the former are probably local variation on early Alice Holt / Surrey ware types (Lyne and Jefferies 1979). The solely Iron Age fabrics were in general in a poorer state of preservation and have been described using the fabrics established by Wessex Archaeology at the nearby Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren) site (Rees 1995).

The pottery has been quantified using the standard measures of sherd count and weight. No group was large enough for quantification by Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) and all data has been recorded directly into an *Access 2000* database. The database design is that used by mediaeval and post-mediaeval pottery specialists within Pre-Construct Archaeology (with some variation) and is ultimately based on standards established by the Museum of London's Archaeology and Specialist Services (Symonds 2002). A copy of this database is available for consultation in the archive.

Iron Age Fabrics (from Rees 1995, 35)

BHSFAB1: handmade; fairly soft, variable colour; abundant flint

BHSFAB2: handmade; fairly soft, variable colour; abundant quartz sand

BHSFAB3: handmade; virtually inclusion-free, poorly mixed; sparse iron ore, occasional organic material and very fine quartz, the latter giving a slightly sandy texture

BHSFAB4: handmade; fairly soft, variable colour; abundant fine-coarse quartz sand and moderate-common flint

Unidentified Roman Fabrics

SOX: Oxidized sand tempered wares. Probably variants of S1-S3

SOXWS: Hard, orange with white slipped external surface. Wheel thrown with moderate, rounded clear quartz <2mm and occa. rounded red Fe grains < 1mm.

S1: Hard, black with brownish black external surfaces. Wheel thrown, with wiped / smoothed external surface. Freq poorly sorted sub-angular 'milky' quartz <1mm, occa. sub-angular colourless quartz <0.5mm and occa. white quartz <0.5mm. Reminiscent of BB1

S2: Hard, grey with white margins and brownish grey external surfaces. ?Hand made, with harsh surfaces that a product of visible and frequent clear sub-angular quartz <1mm. In a fresh break there is less quartz visible. Occa – Mod poorly sorted sub-angular colourless quartz <1mm, occa voids / splits <1mm. Possibly an Alice Holt product?

S3: Hard, dark grey wheel thrown with hackly fracture and smoothed external surfaces. Occa poorly sorted sub-angular colourless quartz <1mm and freq well sorted colourless quartz <0.5mm. Possibly an Alice Holt product?

G1: Soft, handmade light pinkish orange with hackly fracture and wiped external surface. Frequent well sorted rounded – angular red grog <2mm. Similar sized and shaped voids in surface.

G2: Soft, ?handmade fine light grey with smooth orange surfaces with a fine fracture. Occa poorly sorted rounded red grog <2mm and occa well sorted mica flecks <0.5mm

G3: Soft, wheelthrown fine light grey with dark grey surfaces and fine fracture. Occa well sorted grey/black rounded grog <0.5mm

SG1: Hard, wheel thrown grey with brownish grey wiped external surfaces and fine fracture. Freq sub-angular quartz <1mm, occa rounded grog <3mm, especially prominent in the surface.

Discussion

The Iron Age assemblage is essentially comprised of a large number of small groups of pottery from cut features. This material contains very few diagnostic sherds, although saucepan pots, proto-saucepan pots, shouldered jars and decorated body sherds are represented. This obviously has ramifications for the dating of features in that many spot-dates have been assigned on the basis of small, undecorated body sherds. In this context the problems of residuality, re-deposition and intrusion are of paramount importance but difficult to gauge. Certainly the presence of small quantities of

medieval and post-medieval material in a number of contexts would suggest that the plough has been instrumental in moving material culture around the site. Nevertheless, by analogy with Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995) a crude ceramic phasing can be achieved using a combination of the few diagnostic sherds and fabric attributes.

At Brighton Hill South, where there were a greater number of stratigraphic relationships between prehistoric features and larger assemblages of pottery, sand tempered fabrics (BHSFAB2) were seen to be characteristic of the Early to Middle Iron Age with flint tempered fabrics (BHSFAB1) becoming more common from the Middle Iron Age onwards (Rees 1995, Fig 23). A similar pattern of fabric change from sand to flint over time was also observed at Danebury (Cunliffe 1994, Fig 6.3) and thus similar principles can be used to date deposits at Old Kempshott. The dates are presented in Appendix 1.

Given the caveats expressed above, there are certain levels of ambiguity present in this type of analysis. A large number of contexts can only be phased to the Iron Age given the small quantities of pottery they contain and there is also a level of overlap between the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods. Groups of pottery dated to the Romano-British periods usually contain imported wares of post-AD43 date but other groups lacking these imports and containing so-called 'Belgic-grog tempered wares' and early Alice Holt fabrics may also be current until *c.*AD70/AD100. It is also clear that there is some spatial zoning in material of different dates. Early and Middle Iron Age material appears to be concentrated in Area 2 while later Iron Age and early Roman sherds appear in Area 1. This might suggest a shift in activity over time and supports the temporal interpretation placed on the variations in fabric.

AREA	IA	E-MIA	MIA	MIA-LIA	LIA	LIA-ERB	RB
1	4	3	0	1	1	5	14
2	17	1	4	8	1	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1: The number of contexts by ceramic phase and area (excluding evaluation trenches)

There were a few Iron Age contexts that contained noteworthy ceramic finds. These include [131] from which the base of a large vessel was recovered and [18] and [118] which yielded four sherds of briquetage. These indicate contact with the coast for salt (Rees 1995, 46-47).

The Romano-British assemblage is, as was observed above, closely connected with the preceding Iron Age traditions and a number of pottery fabrics were identified that could be classed as early Alice Holt products or variant wares (S2 and S3). The largest groups of Roman pottery came from fills [105] and [106] of ditch [102] and were dominated by cordoned jars and everted rim jars (Lyne and Jefferies 1979). A variety of 'Gallo-Belgic' grog tempered vessels also occurred and these can be paralleled in early

groups at Silchester (Fulford and Timby 2000). Interestingly, no coarse flint-tempered 'Silchester ware' sherds were identified (Fulford and Timby 2000, 239-243). This is not thought to be due to their misidentification as Iron Age vessels as there were no characteristic rim forms (particularly bead rims) present in the early Roman groups. The presence of a number of sherds of Dorset BB1 in these fills indicates a deposition date after *c.*AD110 but the bulk of the material is better suited to a first-century date and suggest nearby occupation.

Imported material includes a number of small and abraded Samian sherds, probably of South Gaulish origin. Forms Dr 18, Dr 45 and Dr 30 are present. Only two sherds represent Mortaria and neither of these can be easily sourced. A number of white ware sherds may be products of the Verulamium region and a few BB1 sherds reached the site from south-east Dorset. The only amphora were represented by a few sherds of Baetican Dressel 20 used for transporting olive oil. However, its appearance here may only represent the reuse of a convenient large vessel.

One aspect of the site that is deserving of some comment is the burial [400] at the bottom of a large shaft. This inhumation was accompanied by a small, complete New Forest indented beaker of Fulford (1975) type 27, dated AD270-400 (SF25). Drinking vessels are common as grave goods but the small size may be significant as such vessels occur on temple sites. This beaker was the only definitely Late Roman vessel from the site, although a fragment from [434] may be part of a post-AD270 Alice Holt storage jar. Clearly, by the mid-second century archaeologically visible activity had substantially declined at the site and this heightens the strangeness of this isolated third- or fourth-century burial.

Recommendations

This pottery assemblage is of local significance and should be published as a short summary note in the final report. No further quantification is required. Approximately ten sherds should be illustrated. This should include beaker SF25, four representative Iron Age vessels and five sherds from contexts [105] and [106]. It would also be useful to show the mortarium sherds to a relevant specialist (Kay Hartley) and to further review the early Alice Holt and prehistoric material with Malcolm Lyne.

References

Cunliffe, B. 1984 *Danebury: an Iron Age Hillfort in Hampshire Volume 2*. London, CBA Research Report 52

Fulford, M. 1975 *New Forest Roman Pottery*. Oxford, British Archaeological Report 17

Fulford, M. and Timby, J. 2000 *Late Iron Age and Roman Silchester.* London, Britannia Monograph 15

Lyne, M. and Jefferies, R. 1979 *The Alice Holt / Farnham Roman Pottery Industry*. London, Council for British Archaeology Research Report 30

Orton, C., Tyers, P. and Vince, A. 1993 *Pottery in Archaeology*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press

Rees, H. 1995 'Iron Age / Roman Pottery', in P. Fasham, G. Keevil and D. Coe *Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren): an Iron Age Farmstead and deserted medieval Village in Hampshire*. Salisbury, Wessex Archaeology Report 7, 35-45

Symonds, R. 2002 *Recording Roman pottery: a description of the methodology used at Museum of London Specialist Services (MoLSS) and Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS)* (Unpublished document available from MoLSS)

Tomber, R. and Dore, J. 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: a handbook.* London, MoLAS Monograph 2

Appendix 1: spot dates

Context	Sc	Weight (g)	Spot Date	Comments
+	9	220		Unstratified
14	9	20	IA	
16	30	137	IA	
18	57	244	MIA	
20	1	13	LIA-ERB	
29	63	496	43-150	Int. Med. sherd?
38	1	0	-	Tiny crumb
48	6	14	MIA-LIA	
54	4	33	43-150	
100	7	87	43-120	
101	1	37	43-100	
105	155	2348	110-150	Probably formed during mid-late C1 and deposited early in C2
106	268	5564	110-150	Int. Med. sherd? Probably formed during mid-late C1 and deposited early in C2
110	6	9	110-400	
118	6	59	IA	Briquetage
120	1	15	110-400	
122	4	15	LIA-ERB	
124	3	131	IA	
126	2	1	-	Tiny crumbs
131	31	110	IA	All one pot
134	1	40	IA	
136	1	3	110-400	
140	6	21	MIA-LIA	
141	3	9	43-100	
155	13	98	IA	
165	64	1818	43-100	
168	15	43	MIA	
169	13	80	MIA	

170	9	31	MIA	
172	4	12	IA	
191	7	52	MIA-LIA	
193	3	23	IA	
194	9	136	IA	
198	26	194	MIA-LIA	
199	14	97	EIA-MIA	
200	6	26	IA	
233	16	139	IA	Intrusive CBM frag?
235	8	198	LIA	
240	3	12	IA	
241	11	94	IA	
252	8	24	IA	
258	39	348	MIA-LIA	
260	20	26	IA	
262	7	67	MIA-LIA	
263	151	681	MIA-LIA	
266	2	6	IA	
270	4	27	IA	
273	11	30	IA	
279	15	92	MIA	
281	14	64	IA	Includes briquetage
282	5	68	IA	
283	1	2	IA	
285	6	21	MIA-LIA	
291	24	293	MIA-LIA	
292	13	60	MIA-LIA	
336	2	6	IA	
347	2	94	LIA-ERB	
358	3	36	LIA-ERB	
359	31	543	LIA-ERB	
365	24	272	LIA-ERB	
367	2	12	EIA-MIA	
369	3	3	EIA-MIA	
381	2	3	IA	
389	9	39	EIA-MIA	
390	24	150	43-120	
391	6	53	LIA	
399	2	192	270-400	Includes complete beaker SF25
421	1	10	LIA-ERB	
430	5	12	43-120	
434	9	204	43-120	One sherd might be a frag. of late ALH RE storage jar of 270+ date
TOTAL	**1452**	**16801**		

Appendix 4 Assessment of the animal bone

By Kevin Rielly

Introduction

This rural site provided a range of deposits dating from the Early Iron Age through to the Late Roman era. A moderate quantity of animal bones was recovered from two out of the three large areas excavated at this site, with a smaller quantity taken from the previous evaluation trenches. Approximately equal amounts were recovered from Areas 1 and 2, with the former mainly provided by early Roman (Phase 3) and late Roman (Phase 4) deposits, while the Area 2 bones were all taken from Iron Age levels (see Table 1). Bones were also recovered from 4 evaluation trenches, with the majority raised from a feature in Trench 66. The same feature was later revealed in Area 1 (see below).

The bones from these deposits have all suffered from mechanical damage, the vast array of fresh breakages showing that most of this damage occurred during excavation. In addition, all bones have suffered to some degree from root etching. Most are only mildly affected, but severe damage was noticed on some collections. This damage has an effect on the preservation of cut marks and, when severe, on the potential for identification. Preservation factors undoubtedly affected the recovery of the bone. Several bulk samples were taken from this site, but only three of these provided bone fragments.

Methodology

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. 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.

Description of faunal assemblage by phase

As a measure of the degree of fragmentation, the various context assemblages were quantified in terms of the total number of bone fragments as well as the total number following attempts made to refit as many bones as possible. Table 1 shows the total numbers found in the feature assemblages (amalgamating fill collections from the same features) as well as the percentage decrease in the quantity of bones following refitting. Thus, the greater the percentage decrease the greater the degree of fragmentation. There are notable variations in fragmentation throughout these deposits but there does appear to be a greater level of damage amongst the Iron Age (Phase 2) compared to the Roman (Phases 3 and 4) assemblages.

Feature	Area	Phase							
		1		2		3		4	
		TF1/TF2	%D	TF1/TF2	%D	TF1/TF2	%D	TF1/TF2	%D
pit 19	E66			1/1	0				
ditch 22	E66					185/123	33.5		
natural 29	E73	60/19	68.3						
ditch 56	E105					35/9	74.3		
ditch 102	1					401/214	46.7		
pit 119	1			1/1	0				
pit 156	2			7/1	85.7				
pit 201	2			361/278	23.0				
pit 219	2			15/1	93.3				
pit 226	2			285/195	31.5				
pit 264	2			20/1	95				
pit 288	2			22/4	81.8				
ditch 338	1			80/10	87.5				
ditch 346	1					20/4	80		
pit 368	1			15/2	86.7				
pit 377	1			13/10	23.0				
pit 384	1			125/46	63.2				
grave 400	1							8/6	25
pit 407	1							133/93	30.1
pit 423	1							279/151	45.9

Table 1: Distribution of hand collected bones by phase, area and feature using total number of fragments (TF1) and total number following refitting (TF2), with percentage decrease (%D) equal to 100 – (TF2/TF1 x 100). Area divided into evaluation (E) and main trenches (1 and 2).

Table 2 shows the range and relative abundance of the various species identified in each phase assemblage. Most of the bones date to phases 2 and 3. There is a notably high count of cattle-size bones. This is not necessarily a result of the noted levels of fragmentation, as these include a large quantity of rib and vertebra fragments.

It can be assumed that these assemblages do not contain the full range of species that were either exploited or present at this site, due to the preservation affecting the recovery of the smaller species. The 3 sample assemblages (mentioned above) are all rather small (see Table 2 and below) and the smaller species are limited to a very few bird, shrew and small rodent bones. Oddly, the few amphibian bones were recovered by hand.

All bone counts given in the following descriptions refer to refitted totals i.e. TF2.

Phase 1

A small collection of bones were found in a natural silty clay deposit [29], this positioned below a phase 3 Roman boundary ditch [30] within evaluation trench 73 The same deposit provided a few

potsherds dating between the mid 1st and mid 2nd centuries. It can perhaps be assumed that the bones date to a similar period. The majority of the bones probably represent the partial remains of two cattle, one early second year animal and one at least 2 years old. There was also a single sheep bone and a fragment of skull and mandible from an adult dog. In addition, this feature provided the partial remains of a young child, including a fragmentary skull, ribs and several limb bones, all of which are unfused. Note similarly aged human bones were found in two Phase 3 deposits i.e. [106] and [359] (see below) (E. Sayer 'assessment of the human remains' this report).

	Phase			
Species/Animal size class	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Cattle (*Bos taurus*)	11	35	100(5)	76(3)
Horse (*Equus caballus*)		8	9	14
Cattle-size	4	111	102	137(16)
Red deer (Cervus elaphus)		372(1)	1	
Sheep/Goat (*Ovis aries*/*Capra hircus*)	1	6	8	6
Sheep (*Ovis aries*)	1	1		5
Sheep-size		4	6	8
Pig (*Sus scrofa*)		3		1
Dog (*Canis familiaris*)	2	7	122	5
Dog/cat (*Canis familiaris*/ *Felis domesticus*)			2	
Cat (*Felis domesticus*)				1
Chicken (*Gallus gallus*)			(1)	
Small rodent		1(1)		(1)
Common shrew (*Sorex araneus*)		(1)		
Amphibian		3		
Grand Total	19	551(3)	350(6)	253(20)

Table 2: Counts of animal bone (TF2) in each occupation phase

Phase 2

Animal bones were recovered from 7 out of the 9 large, probably storage, pits discovered in Areas 1 and 2, as well as from 4 of the smaller pits and from one of the two parallel ditches in the western end of Area 1 which could be the remains of a droveway. The majority of these deposits were given a broad Iron Age date, although there are subtle indications suggesting that the Area 2 features may be earlier, possibly early to mid Iron Age, compared to those from Area 1, late Iron Age to early Roman.

A large proportion of the phase 2 assemblage was taken from the storage pits, with 536 bones, and in particular from [201] and [226], both in Area 2, these held 278 and 195 fragments respectively. All of the bones from [226] and the vast majority from [201] were identified as red deer, comprising the relatively complete remains of two immature individuals and one adult individual respectively. The latter assemblage also included a few cattle limb bones accompanying a large number of cattle-size vertebrae and rib fragments. The field notes as well as the in-situ photographs of these two bone groups, clearly show that the [201] deer was fully articulated when recovered, while the [226] examples were represented by a series of partial articulations. These include a series of leg articulations, as well as an antlered skull with several neck vertebrae, here showing that at least one of these animals was male. It

can be postulated that the [201] deer remains represent the remains of an entire animal, which had been dumped into this pit and deliberately buried. The [226] deer bones could represent the remains of well-rotted carcasses, the relatively complete state of the separate articulations perhaps suggesting that their carcasses were moved at an earlier stage of the rotting process. Alternatively, these carcasses may have been deliberately dismembered; perhaps as an aid to burial i.e. cutting the bodies up to best fill the available space. It is unlikely, in all these examples (cattle and deer) that any use was made of their meat or their skins. This is related to the level(s) of articulation, the completeness of the bones and the absence of cut marks.

With the exception of [201] and [226], the feature assemblages tended to be dominated by cattle and cattle-size bones. A large proportion of the former were recovered from pit [384] with 16 bones. Notably, most of the cattle bones tend to be relatively complete and butchery is restricted to just one fragment, a skull fragment with skinning marks, from pit [384]. It is possible that certain bones may actually represent the remains of discarded carcasses, similar to the articulated group from [201]. However, the butchery evidence would suggest the presence of some cattle food waste. The few ageable bones indicate the presence of a roughly equal number of young adults (3^{rd}/4^{th} year animals) and older adults.

The remainder of the Iron Age assemblage is largely composed of small quantities of horse, sheep/goat, pig and dog. The first of these includes a selection of bones, from four different features, all from adult individuals. Of interest was a mandible fragment showing a series of deep knife cuts just below the articulation, indicative of the method used to separate this bone from the skull. The few sheep/goat bones include a juvenile (less than 6 months) and a sub adult (2^{nd} year) individual, while all three of the pig bones, which could represent the same 1^{st} year animal, were recovered from storage pit [384]. This same pit also provided most of the dog bones (5 fragments), these were from one adult individual. Finally, there were a few small rodent and amphibian bones, plus the mandible of a common shrew, all from pit [201] (and hand collected and from a bunk sample).

Phase 3

The Phase 3 bones were all recovered from ditches in Area 1, with the vast majority from the boundary ditch [102] (including ditch [22] from evaluation trench 66), and the remainder from one of the other boundary ditches, [56], and also from the backfill of the Iron Age 'banjo enclosure' ditch [346]. These features are approximately dated between the mid 1^{st} and the mid 2^{nd} century. Cattle is the dominant species throughout these deposits, represented by a thorough mix of skeletal parts belonging to at least 7 adult individuals, the majority aged at least 3.5 to 4 years (see Table 3). However, there were also a few bones from young calves. A large proportion of the cattle bones are relatively complete, which could point to non-usage except for the state of disarticulation and the presence of some butchery. Defleshing marks were noticed on a scapula and two humerii, a dismemberment cut on another scapula and a probable skinning mark on a metatarsus.

Phase	Juvenile	Early		Intermediate		Late	
		F	UF	F	UF	F	UF
3	3	21	0	13	0	13	5
4	1	19	0	6	1	1	11

Table 3. Distribution of cattle age groups, using the following groups: - Juvenile – the number of bones identified by the porosity, state of epiphyses fusion and/or the stage reached in the tooth eruption sequence; Early – fusion of the P scapula, D humerus, P radius and pelvis acetabulum; Intermediate – fusion of the tibia D and metapodial D: Late – fusion of the P humerus, P ulna, D radius, P and D femur, P tibia and P calcaneus, where P is proximal and D is distal. F, JF and UF are the number of fused, just fused and unfused epiphyses respectively. Ages of fusion (from Schmid 1972, 75) are Early – 0.5 to 1.5 years, Int - and Late – 3.5 to 4 years. Juvenile represents older calves i.e. not neonates or infants, probably aged between 0.5 and 1 year.

The other domesticates were poorly represented, with the exception of dog. This species was represented by a relatively complete male adult skeleton in ditch [22] and a partial adult articulation from ditch [102]. The first of these was a rather short animal measuring some 39cm at the shoulder (calculated using indices described in Harcourt 1974), while the second may have been a little larger. The few horse and sheep bones are all from adult individuals. Amongst the sheep collection there is one rather large radius, which clearly belonged to a ram. Finally, a single red deer scapula and a chicken humerus, both from adult individuals, were recovered from ditch [102] fills, the latter from a sample.

Human bones, of a similar age to those recovered from the 'natural' deposit [29] (see above) where found in the 'banjo enclosure' ditch and also in ditch [102], these represented by a femur and a humerus and a femur respectively (E. Sayer 'assessment of the human remains' this report).

Phase 4

Animal bones were recovered from various fills associated with the large circular shaft [407]. In sequential order, these include fills from an irregular cut [423] in the base of this feature; a lower fill (pre-burial) in the southeastern part of the shaft [425]; the backfill of the burial cut [400]; and a selection of the upper fills. This large feature clearly post-dates the phase 3 boundary ditches. However, the lowest fills, those from [423], suggest a contemporaneity with the previous ditch fills. Further up the sequence, the burial clearly dates to the 3rd/4th century, which would therefore suggest that the upper fills are at least late Roman.

Most of the bones were taken from the lower fills of cut [423] with 151 bones and the upper fills with 96 bones (59 taken from [396], this directly over the grave backfill [399]). Cattle and cattle-size bones are dominant throughout these assemblages, the former represented by a wide distribution of skeletal parts. The age of the cattle is similar to those described from the previous phase. Considering the number of adults this phase clearly witnessed a greater cull of young adults, that is 3rd and 4th year animals (as shown by the quantity of unfused bones in the Late age group, see Table 3). There are

again very few cattle bones with butchery cuts, these limited to knife marks found on three mandibles and one radius, exhibiting a mixture of jointing and defleshing cuts.

Horse is the best represented amongst the remainder of the phase 4 assemblage, and in particular in the upper fills. They account for 13 out of the total number of 14 bones. All were taken from adult individuals. Dog and sheep/goat bones were recovered throughout the pit fills, while the single cat and pig fragments were found in the two uppermost fills, [390] and [389] respectively. Finally the single small rodent bone was recovered from the sample from the upper fill [396].

It has been suggested that this feature may have had some ritual significance; apart that is from the obvious inclusion of a burial. However, there is no clear indication of such from the bones, as perhaps typified by the rather mundane nature of the assemblage recovered from the burial backfill. These include a dog femur, plus a few cattle limb bone and cattle-size fragments.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

Cattle and cattle-size fragments are clearly the dominant element within the majority of assemblages throughout these phases. While this undoubtedly relates to the noted high levels of fragmentation, it should be pointed out that the variable levels of fragmentation, as for example from the Iron Age and later collections, are not highlighted by a similar variation in the proportion of cattle bones. In fact, it would appear that cattle are best represented amongst those assemblages with the least fragmentation, in phase 4. It can therefore be suggested that the noted species distribution is not entirely related to fragmentation. Of interest in this respect is the clear difference in cattle and sheep/goat abundance at the nearby site of Brighton Hill South (Maltby 1995), where the Early Iron Age through to Early Roman collections show a dominance of sheep/goat or an approximate parity between these two species. It cannot be supposed that the bones were any less fragmented or preserved from this site. Maltby (ibid, 51) refers to other Iron Age and Romano-British sites in Hampshire, which show similar results (including others from chalkland areas), while a more comprehensive comparison of Romano-British sites by King (1984) clearly demonstrates that rural settlement assemblages tend to produce large proportions of sheep/goat bones.

The question mark whether the Kempshott assemblage shows an anomalous proportion of cattle bones compared to the apparent rural settlement trend, hinges on whether the Brighton Hill bone collection had suffered similar levels of damage. Given a similar soil substrate and the recovery of the majority of bones at both sites, from relatively deep contexts, it follows that levels of fragmentation and preservation should be roughly similar. The explanation for a high count of cattle bones should therefore relate to dietary and/or economic concerns. King (ibid) does include cattle dominated assemblages from a few rural sites, but these tend to be highly Romanised settlements as for example villas. While this evidence may not necessarily point to the nearby presence of such a structure during phases 3 and 4, the argument for an advanced level of Romanisation amongst the local population could be entertained as a possible explanation.

As well as the food waste and/or domestic utilisation element of the various phase assemblages, there would also appear to be evidence for ritual activity. The human burial within the late Roman circular shaft is the most obvious example. Unfortunately, any suggestion that this shaft may have also had some ritual significance (extra to the burial) cannot be confirmed by the bone evidence. Other burials are suggested by the presence of at least 3 disarticulated child skeletons, one from a phase 1 (probably dating to phase 2) context and two from phase 2 ditches. Again, the associated animal bones showed no obvious differences to the general pattern of cattle-dominated assemblages. Of great interest, however, was the recovery of the red deer skeletons from the two Iron Age storage pits. One pit contained a complete adult individual, while the other provided a series of articulations representing two sub adult animals. It was suggested that the latter individuals might have been deliberately dismembered. The absence of butchery marks may not be significant, as it is possible for a skilled practitioner to butcher a carcass without leaving any marks on the skeleton. However, it is recommended that a closer inspection should be made of these deer bones in order to confirm or deny the presence of cut marks. A brief attempt was made to find any comparative depositions within this general locality, and this provided just one example. A juvenile red deer skeleton was recovered in a nose-to-tail arrangement with an adult horse and a dog, within a large pit, possibly dating between the mid 1st and second centuries AD, at 49-59 Mansell Street in London (Barber and Bowsher 2000, 19).

The human remains require further analysis by the human bone specialist and will need to be included in the human bone summary for the publication text.

The species representations discussed in this section may well change following a more detailed review of the stratigraphical and dating evidence, although such changes, given the obvious dominance of cattle, are likely to be minimal. Further work should include comparisons with other contemporary sites, concerning the general usage of the relevant domesticates including any differences/similarities in the size and type of these domesticates. Comparisons are also required for the presence of red deer articulations, as well as some research into the significance of deer in Iron Age religious practises.

References

Barber, B, and Bowsher, D, 2000 *The eastern cemetery of Roman London: excavations 1983–90*. MoLAS Monograph No 4.

Harcourt, R, A, 1974, The dog in prehistoric and early historic Britain, *J.Archaeol.Science* 1, 151-76.

King, A.C. 1984. Animal bones and the dietary identity of military and civilian groups in Roman Britain, Germany and Gaul. In Blagg, T.C. and King, A.C. (eds). *Military and civilian in Roman Britain: cultural*

relationships in a frontier province. British Archaeological Reports, British Series 136**.** Oxford. 187-218.

Maltby, M, 1995 Animal bone, in P, J, Fasham and G, Keevil with D, Coe, *Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren): an Iron Age Farmstead and Deserted Medieval Village in Hampshire,* Wessex Archaeology Report No 7.

Schmid, E, 1972, *Atlas of Animal Bones.*

Appendix 5 Assessment of the human remains

By Kathelen Sayer

Introduction

The following report details the results of the assessment of a skeleton [408] found buried within a grave cut [400], placed centrally within a large late Roman pit, [407]. The burial included a funerary vessel, hob nails and possible evidence of a wooden litter. Disarticulated human bone was also recovered from fill [383], as well as disarticulated juvenile human remains from the fills of ditch (102) and deposit (29) (see Reilly this report).

Methodology

The skeletal remains were analysed to assess the condition of the remains and where possible the age, sex and stature of the individual, any gross pathology present was recorded to site and morphological changes described.

The condition and completeness of a skeleton affects the amount of data that can be recorded. The condition of the bone was recorded according to the stages of surface preservation suggested by McKinley (2004) and the completeness of the skeleton was based on a complete skeleton consisting of:

Skull	20%
Torso	40%
Arms	20%
Legs	20%

Age was assessed using the stages of epiphyseal fusion, measurement of long bone length, dental eruption, dental attrition (Brothwell, 1981), changes within the pubic symphysis (Brooks and Suchey, 1990) and the auricular surface (Lovejoy, 1985). All individuals where ageing data could be collected were placed into one of the following age ranges:

Neonate	0-1 month
Infant	birth - one year
Juvenile	1 - 12 years
Adolescent (Adol)	12 - 20 years
Young Adult (YA)	20 – 35 years
Middle Adult (MA)	35 – 50 years
Old Adult	50 + years
Adult	>20 years
Undetermined	

Sexually dimorphic traits in the pelvis and skull were used to ascertain the sex of the individual. Each individual was placed into one of the following categories; male, female (positive identification), male?, female? (compares favourably to a sex but not conclusive), 'I' (indeterminate) and '?' (inconclusive).

The living stature of the skeletons was, where possible, calculated from the long bone lengths using the regression equations devised by Trotter and Gleser (1958). The choice of long bones used was based on the preservation of the skeleton and the order of preference suggested by Brothwell and Zakrzewski (2004) for the regression equations.

The dentition was recorded in the following way: -

	Right								Left							
Maxilla	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mandible	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

/	lost post-mortem	X	lost ante-mortem	-	tooth present but jaw missing
U	present				

NP	not present	PE	partially erupted
O	tooth erupting	B	broken
V	tooth unerupted	--	tooth and jaw not present
PU	pulp exposed	R	root only

Dental pathology was recorded to site and severity. Brothwell (1981) devised the scoring system used for calculus and the following grading system of severity was used for caries:

1 Pit/fissure
2 <half crown destroyed
3 >half crown destroyed
4 All crown destroyed

1.1.1.1 Results

Skeleton [408]

Condition and Completeness

The remains are in moderate condition with some flaking of the bone surfaces. There is quite extensive fragmentation of the bones with the only areas not fragmented being the vertebrae and the left humerus and radius. The skull is largely complete however the facial bones are fragmented. A number of bones were labelled as [399], the grave fill of the burial, however all these bones seem to

be part of skeleton [408] and have been included as such. The skeleton is c 90% complete with most skeletal areas represented.

Age and Sex

The remains were of a female possibly of middle adult age. Ageing of the woman was limited due to the lack of teeth and suitable areas used for ageing within the pelvis.

Stature

The woman was of slight build and her stature was estimated using the complete radius at 1.57m (5ft1"), an average height for a woman during the Roman period.

Pathology

Osteophytic lipping - extra bone growth – was recorded on the 4th cervical vertebrae through to the 2nd thoracic vertebrae and suggests that the woman was used to carrying heavy loads.

All of her mandibular teeth had been lost ante-mortem, as had the right maxillary 2nd premolar and 1st, 2nd and 3rd molars. Although largely closed over at the time of her death the healing and remodelling of the tooth sockets was still in process. The loss of so many teeth could indicate either poor oral hygiene or heavy dental wear, leading to super-eruption of the teeth or subsequent dental pathologies such as caries.

Disarticulated Remains

Fill [383] of storage pit [384] contained two fragments of an adult right parietal bone. The bone is in good condition. Further disarticulated human remains, including a fragmentary skull, ribs and several limb bones, all of which un-fused and of a young child came from Roman ditch (30), and two femurs and a humerus came from Late Iron Age enclosure ditch (102).

Recommendations

The disarticulated human remains will require further recording and a summary of this report and the results of the further recording work should be included in any publication resulting from this assessment.

Appendix 6 Lithic Assessment

Barry Bishop

Introduction

The archaeological excavations recovered 170 struck flints and a stone hammer or pounder. This report quantifies and describes the material, offers some comments on its significance and provides recommendations on the further work required.

Quantification

Context	Decortication Flake	Flake	Trimming Flake	Flake Fragment	Blade	Blade-Like Flake	Core	Conchoidal Chunk	Retouched	Pounder	
Tr8		1									
Tr69		1									
Tr64						1					
Tr56		2									
014	11	26	3	13	7		1	5	18		
020	1	3					1		1		
021		1	1	3							
029		3									
100	1	2							4		
101		2			1						
105		1									
107		2			1						
118		1				1			1		
120	1				1						
122						1					
133		1				1					
134		2									
134		1			1						
168					1						
170		1		1	1						
171			1								
172		1									
191					1						
244	1										
260									1		
262										1	
291	1	1									
349		1									
365	1	4			1						
369		2	1					1			
370		2									
381		2									
383					1						
390						1			2		
391		3	1		2				1		
421		3	1								

Table 1: Quantification of Worked Flint by Context

Raw Material

The assemblage was manufactured from thermally affected flint nodules that had a hard but thick and relatively unweathered yellow or greyish white (c.1-10mm) cortex. Recent breaks exposing the original colour and showed it to consist of fine-grained mottled translucent black and opaque light grey flint. It was of good knapping quality and only occasionally had thermal flaws, which significantly affected the knapping process. The weathering and thermal flawing of the nodules would suggest that they were obtained from superficial mass wastage deposits as commonly present around the edges and infilling valleys of the chalklands (Gibbard 1986), and they would easily be obtainable in the environs of the site.

The pounder or hammerstone from context [262] consisted of a lenticular pebble of hard siliceous sandstone with evidence of abrasion and battering around the two ends; it clearly had been used pounding or hammering.

Condition

The condition of the struck flint varied considerably. The material recovered from tree-throw hollow [15] and ditch [22/102] was mostly in good condition although some thinner edges were slightly chipped and abraded, probably from movement within the burial matrix although the assemblage may have been re-deposited into the hollow *en masse*. The remainder of the assemblage ranged from being in good condition to exhibiting edge rubbing and chipping, consistent with it being re-deposited. All of the struck flint had a slightly milky surface-sheen, caused by incipient recortication.

Technology, Typology and Dating

Taken as a whole, the group predominantly consists of blades and flakes exhibiting various technological traditions. Precise dating of individual pieces is hampered by the absence of chronologically distinct implements, although the technological strategies identifiable would suggest that more than one period is represented. A few systematically produced blades characteristic of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic industries were present, although the bulk of the assemblage consisted of relatively broad and thick, hard-hammer struck, flakes, which were most typical of Later Neolithic or Bronze Age industries. Twenty-eight retouched pieces, or 16.5% of the assemblage, a notably high proportion, were identified. These all consisted of simple edge-trimmed flakes and opportunistically made scrapers, none of which could be described as particularly chronologically diagnostic and could be matched in assemblages dating from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age. The general expediency demonstrated by their manufacture combined with the absence of more-formally retouched implements, would suggest that the majority of these probably belonged to the latter parts of this date range.

Distribution and Context

The bulk of the assemblage, comprising 144 pieces, was recovered from Area 1, most of which came from tree-throw hollow [15]. Area 2 produced 17 struck pieces and one stone pounder, whilst the remaining struck flints came from sub-soil deposits revealed within the Evaluation Trenches. Overall, the material represents a light scatter distributed across Areas 1 and 2, with a notable concentration in and around tree-throw hollow [15]. This produced by far the largest sub-assemblage from the site, with 84 pieces. Of very similar characteristics and probably associated with this material were the sub-assemblages from ditch [22/102], which provided a further 27 pieces, as well as the material from some other nearby features. It would appear that the material within the tree-throw was part of a more extensive spread of struck flint. This material was predominantly in good condition although a few of the flakes had been burnt. Most of the flakes were fairly thick and had been opportunistically produced. They mostly had visible points of percussion and developed Hertzian cones and bulbs of percussion, all indicating a perhaps exclusive use of hard-hammers. Most had multidirectional dorsal scars and nearly all retained some patches of original cortex. Their striking platforms were generally thick with only minimal attempts made at trimming the platform edges, and no other forms of platform modification or core rejuvenation were observed. Some long and narrow flakes of blade dimensions were present but these were not systematically produced; they did not exhibit parallel dorsal scars and all had thick striking platforms with similar evidence of hard hammer production as observed on the flakes. Furthermore, no blade-like flakes, that may indicate repeated blade production, were present. Although large numbers of flakes were produced, the almost exclusive presence of cortical flakes would suggest that the nodules were only partially reduced. Only one core was present from the hollow, suggesting that others may have been removed for use or discarded elsewhere. The core that was present had a number of flakes randomly removed and one of its ends was heavily battered, suggesting it may have been reused as a hammerstone or pounder. A very high proportion of retouched pieces were present, these forming over 20% of the assemblage from the hollow. They all consisted of flakes with minimal, light to medium, edge retouch that had been undertaken at variable points along the flakes perimeter. The blanks used for retouching varied considerably in shape, size and degree of original cortex present and there were no attempts to significantly alter their shapes other than provision of the retouched edge.

Interpretation

The light scatter of struck flint from across Areas 1 and 2 is indicative of a low-key visitation of the site from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age / Iron Age. This material was generally found in small quantities residually deposited in later features or from unstratified/sub-soil contexts. Some features produced slightly larger assemblages, such as context [407], although this material was also likely to have been re-deposited during the infilling of the feature. The most notable concentration was from tree-throw hollow [15] and its environs, although this is somewhat harder to interpret. Its general technological attributes and the range of retouched pieces present would suggest it belongs to the later prehistoric period, although typological and technological changes in lithic industries during this period are poorly understood and it can only be broadly assigned to between the Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age periods (Young and Humphrey 1999; Humphrey 2003; 2007). The assemblage predominantly consisted of the

waste from knapping, although only two cores were present, one of which had probably been reused as a pounder or hammerstone. The relative lack of trimming flakes and the smaller fragments from core reduction would suggest that the actual knapping may have occurred elsewhere, with only the larger products deposited here. The assemblage included very high proportion of retouched pieces, none were formal types and they consisted of simply made pieces that were suggestive of scraping or cutting implements. The dominance of informally retouched pieces is typical of later prehistoric industries although the high proportions and limited range of types identified here suggests that task-specific activities were being undertaken. Their possible selective deposition in and around the tree-throw hollow may indicate a degree of formality to their disposal. It is widely thought that in the later parts of the Bronze Age and the Iron Age the symbolic and ceremonial significance of stone tools, including that relating to their deposition, had largely been supplanted by other artefact types and practices (Edmonds 1995, 177). However, there are a growing number of sites in southern Britain, particularly on the chalklands, where the particular circumstances surrounding the deposition of struck flint, the range of artefacts included and the sheer volume of material, suggest that complex conventions may have occasionally surrounded its generation and disposal (eg Bradley 1972; Fasham and Ross 1978; Saville 1981; Drewett 1982; Smith 1987; Herne 1991; Pollard 1998; Seager Thomas 1999; Greatorex 2001; Ballin 2002; Pollard 2002; Bishop and Mortimer 2005).

Recommendations

The main interest of the struck flint assemblage concerns the material recovered from the tree-throw hollow and its environs. Its significance chiefly lies in its ability to inform on the poorly understood changes in lithic typology and technology, depositional practices and the role and utility of lithic artefacts during the later prehistoric period. These interests would be greatly enhanced if precise dating, such as from pottery or radiocarbon, could be obtained. Depending on the eventual dating of this feature, the material may add support for a continuation of flint-working into the Iron Age, a subject of much contention and recently identified as a research priority (Haselgrove *et al*. 2001, 21). It is therefore recommended that the assemblage should be examined in more detail and fully described for publication, alongside illustrations of relevant pieces. The remainder of the assemblage indicates low-key activity spanning the Mesolithic to Bronze Age / Iron Age and this should be mentioned in any published account of the site.

Bibliography

Ballin, T.B. 2002 Later Bronze Age Flint Technology: a presentation and discussion of post-barrow debitage from monuments in the Raunds Area, Northamptonshire. *Lithics* 23: 3-28.

Bishop, B.J. and Mortimer, R. (in preparation) Middle Bronze Age Enclosures and Depositional Activity at Sawston, South Cambridgeshire.

Bradley, R. 1972 The Flint Industry. In E.W. Holden, A Bronze Age Cemetery-barrow on Itford Hill, Beddingham, Sussex, 93-102. *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 110: 70-117.

Drewett, P. 1982 Later Bronze Age Downland Economy and Excavations at Black Patch, East Sussex. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 48, 321-400.

Edmonds, M. 1995 *Stone Tools And Society: working stone in Neolithic and Bronze Age Britain*. Batsford. London.

Fasham, P.J. and Ross, J.M. 1978 A Bronze Age Flint Industry from a Barrow in Micheldever Wood, Hampshire. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 44, 47-67.

Gibbard, P.L. 1986 Flint Gravels in the Quaternary of Southeast England. In: G. De C. Sieveking and M.B. Hart (Eds) *The Scientific Study of Flint and Chert*, 141-149. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge.

Greatorex, C. 2001 Evidence of Sussex Prehistoric Ritual Traditions. The Archaeological Investigation of a Bronze Age Funerary Monument Situated on Baily's Hill, near Crowlink, Eastbourne. *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 139, 27-73.

Haselgrove, C., Armit, I., Champion, T., Creighton, J., Gwilt, A., Hill, J.D., Hunter, F. And Woodward, A. 2001 *Understanding The Iron Age: An Agenda For Action*. Iron Age Research Seminar / Council Of The Prehistoric Society.

Herne, A. 1991 The Flint Assemblage. In: I. Longworth, A. Herne, G. Varndell and S. Needham, *Excavations at Grimes Graves Norfolk 1972 - 1976. Fascicule 3. Shaft X: Bronze Age flint, chalk and metal working*, 21 - 93. British Museum Press. Dorchester.

Humphrey, J. 2003 The Utilization and Technology of Flint in the British Iron Age. In: J. Humphrey (Ed.), *Re-Searching the Iron Age*, 17 - 23. Leicester Archaeology Monograph 11.

Humphrey, J. 2007 Simple Tools for Tough Tasks or Tough Tools for Simple tasks? Analysis and Experiment in Iron Age Flint Utilisation. In: C. Haselgrove and R. pope (Eds.) The earlier Iron Age in Britain and the near Continent, 144-159. Oxbow Books. Oxford.

Pollard, J. 1998 Prehistoric Settlement and Non-Settlement in Two Southern Cambridgeshire River Valleys: the lithic dimension and interpretative dilemmas. *Lithics* 19, 61 - 71.

Pollard, J. 2002 The Ring-Ditch and the Hollow: excavation of a Bronze Age ‘shrine’ and associated features at Pampisford, Cambridgeshire. *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* 91, 5-21

Saville, A. 1981 *Grimes Graves, Norfolk. Excavations 1971–2, Volume II: The Flint Assemblage*. Department of Environment Archaeological Reports 11, London.

Seager Thomas, M. 1999 Stone Finds in Context: a contribution to the study of later prehistoric artefact assemblages. *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 137, 39-48.

Smith, G.H. 1987 A Beaker Burial Monument and a Late Bronze Age Assemblage from East Northdown, Margate. *Archaeologia Cantiana* 104, 237-289.

Young, R. and Humphrey, J. 1999 Flint Use in England after the Bronze Age: time for a re-evaluation? *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 65, 231-242.

Appendix 7 **The Small finds**
By James Gerrard

The excavations produced a small assemblage of Iron Age and Roman small finds. As is usual the majority of objects were unidentifiable pieces of iron and the occasional nail.

Only four Iron Age finds are worthy of note. The first of these is a bone/antler-weaving comb (SF22) from context [294], which also produced a small strip of iron (SF23). The comb is largely intact with a tapered butt. It is undecorated and only one of its eight teeth survives. Weaving combs are difficult to date but at Danebury this form was uncommon and of Late Iron Age date (Cunliffe and Poole 1991, 257). Further west at the hillfort of Cadbury Castle (Somerset) the form is unknown (Barrett *et al*. 2000, 181-183). The third object is a small, socketed reaping hook of well-known Iron Age type (for instance Barrett *et al*. 2000, Fig 38). A similar example was recovered from excavations at Brighton Hill South (Keevil 1995, 33).

The fourth Iron Age find is an unusual object, the iron head of a small curved hand hammer (SF14, [170]). It has a square face and straight pane (Fell 1998, Fig 5) and is similar to an example from a first century BC grave at Rudston in East Yorkshire (Fell 1998, Fig 3.15). The Kempshott Lane hammer is a curved example (Fell 1998). Iron Age hammers are uncommon with excavations at Danebury yielding just a single example (Cunliffe and Poole 1991, 351) and Cadbury Castle (despite evidence of metalworking) none (Barrett *et al*. 2000, 230-231). This makes our find significant. Given that this hammer was recovered from the fill of a grain storage pit [219] that had been backfilled with burnt material, it would be worth examining any related soil samples for high or unusual concentrations of hammer scale.

Overall the Iron Age assemblage suggests an agricultural economy with some evidence for specialist activities such as metalworking. The assemblage is more extensive than that recovered at Brighton Hill South (Keevil 1995).

There were few Roman finds of note. However, three groups of hobnails should be noted. Two of these (SF1, [20] and SF2, [27]) probably represent the discard of worn out shoes and indicates the presence of nearby settlement activity. The third group of hobnails (SF26, [399]) were recovered from around the feet of the skeleton in Grave [400]. Burials accompanied by footwear are common in the Late Roman period.

Recommendations

- The iron objects should be further x-rayed for archive purposes and to clarify the form of hammer SF14

- Hammer SF14, pruning hook SF17 and comb SF22 should be illustrated
- These finds should be published with a short specialist report. The text for that report can largely be drawn from this assessment, although a little further work ascertaining parallels for SF14 is required.

Catalogue

Context No.	Small Finds No.	Material	Description	Object Date	Phase
[+]	-	Fe?	Sphere, 25mm in diameter. Looks like a shot but very light, possibly a concretion		-
[+] Tr 86, subsoil	11	Fe	Nail tip 18mm		-
[20]	1	Fe	Five hobnails	Roman	6
[20]	10	Fe	Unid. Object 20mm x 20mm x 1mm		6
[27]	2	Fe	*c*.30 small hobnails – shoe	Roman	6
[27]	3	Fe	Broken semicircular mount?		6
[27]	4	Fe	Bent strip 100mm x 3mm x 1mm		6
[105]	-	Fe	Sheet, 40mm x 40mm x 2mm with edges bent up		6
[165]	11	Fe	Single hobnail	Roman	6
[170]	14	Fe	Small hammer head, 90mm x 17mm x 8mm		4
[294]	16	Fe	Reaping hook, socketed		4
[294]	17	Fe	Plate / mount 45 x 30 x 1mm		4
[294]	22	Bone	Weaving comb. 8 teeth (only 1 surviving). Undecorated. Tapered butt. 155mm x 28mm x 11mm.	Iron Age	4
[294]	23	Fe	Iron strip 115mm x 10mm x 3mm. In two pieces.		4
[305]	21	Fe	Plate / mount 200 x 45 x 3mm. In two pieces		4
[358]	-	Fe	Rivet		5
[399]	26	Fe	11 small hobnails from grave [400] – shoe	Roman	7

References

Barrett, J. Freeman, P. and Woodward, A. 2000 *Cadbury Castle, Somerset: the later prehistoric and early historic archaeology*. London, English Heritage Archaeological Report 20

Cunliffe, B. and Poole, C. 1991 *Danebury: an Iron Age hillfort in Hampshire Vol 5: the finds*. London, CBA Research Report 73b

Fell, V. 1998 'Iron Age ferrous hammerheads from Britain'. *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 17(2), 207-225

Keevil, G. 1995 Objects of iron. In P. Fasham, G. Keevil, and D. Coe *Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren): an Iron Age farmstead and deserted medieval village in Hampshire*. Salisbury, Wessex Archaeology Report 7, 33-34

Appendix 8 **The Worked Stone Assessment**

By Kevin Hayward

Introduction

A small assemblage (8 fragments, 11.11kg) of worked, portable stone artefacts (quern stones) from Middle Iron Age to Early Roman occupation levels were examined to determine their geological character, source and archaeological type.

Aims

This assessment serves a number of purposes.

- The identification (in hand specimen) of the main rock types being worked during the Middle Iron Age to early Roman occupation phases at Old Kempshott Lane.
- Identify (where possible) their geological source in order to identify how far the material had travelled.
- The function of the stone.
- The compilation of a stone catalogue.

Local Geology

The site SU 6020 5140 lies on the Upper Chalk (Upper Cretaceous) of Hampshire. This formation also contains flint and hard chalk 'clunch' both of which are suitable for walling materials. The Tertiary Plateau circa 20km to the north is characterised by hard ironstones and Sarsens as well as poorly consolidated sediments. Finally, this part of Hampshire is within reach of a small outcrop (15-20km) of Upper Greensand sited around the Kingsclere area. Apart from Sarsen stone, none of these outcrops have material hard or coarse enough to be used in quern stones – which means the material from this assemblage needed to have been brought in from afar.

Geological Character

Each of the 8 examples of quern and other material were examined in hand specimen using a hand lens (Gowland x10) in order to identify the type of rock in use. As well as the specialists' knowledge of stone-type and source from Late Iron Age/Roman Silchester, referral was also made to a comparative petrological collection from this site. Consultation of the stone report from the adjoining site of Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren) site (Fasham et al 1995) was necessary in order to identify comparable material types. Where a match was not possible, recommendation for further petrological and geochemical work has been given in the final section of this assessment report

Lodsworth Greensand

A common worked stone type at Old Kempshott Lane was Lodsworth Greensand (3 examples) 2.035kg (18.3% of all stone). This was used in upper rotary quern stones [233] and saddle querns [263], [367] from Early to Late Iron Age occupation levels at Old Kempshott Lane.

Lithological Description

Olive green (glauconitic) hardened medium grained sandstone surface with small black wisps of chert which infill the burrows of the sediment. These harder grains facilitate the grinding of foodstuffs. Where the chert flakes are large (up to 3-4cm) e.g. saddle quern [263] these stand out. Quern stones of identical lithological character have been identified by the specialist from the late Iron Age/Early Roman Levels at Insula IX Silchester and at Roman Chichester and much further afield (Peacock 1987).

Suggested Provenance

The outcrop of Lodsworth (or Pulborough) Greensand (Lower Greensand) has a relatively restricted geographical distribution sited around the Lodsworth-Pulborough area of West Sussex (Peacock 1987) This exposure lies about 60 miles south-east from Old Kempshott Lane and was accessible during the Roman period via the Silchester- Chichester Road and then Stane Street north to Pulborough). Before this the material would have been brought in along established prehistoric trackways running the length of the South and Hampshire Downs.

Sarsen Stone

Three large quern examples are made from this material including a beehive example [241], lower rotary stone [263] and upper rubber stone for a saddle quern [263] all from Middle to Late Iron Age occupation levels. The rubber stone seems to form the upper part of the concave saddle quern made from Lodsworth Greensand from this context.

Lithological Description

Coarse sugary white quartzite. Fine to medium grained crystalline angular quartz between 0.5mm and 1mm across. (glauconitic).

Suggested Provenance

Outcrops of Sarsen are found within the Quaternary deposits of the Silchester Plateau 20km to the north. These examples are however too fine and do not appear to have been used at Silchester for quern stone manufacture. The source is difficult to pinpoint as Sarsen can be found throughout central-southern England but a more local source seems probable.

Quartz Conglomeratic Sandstone

One example of quartz conglomeratic sandstone from an Upper Iron Age to Early Roman Banjo Enclosure/Corral [358] in the form of a large lower rotary quern fragment was identified.

Lithological Description

Some large angular fractured pebbles 10mm of quartz set within a fine to medium grained quartz crystalline angular quartz matrix.

Suggested Provenance

Unclear. The closest match is with a Quartz Conglomerate from the Basal Upper Old Red Sandstone from the Forest of Dean/Bristol area (100-130 miles). Fractured quartz pebbles are characteristic of these sandstones as they are geologically old. They have been used as quern stones since the Late Iron Age/Roman Period throughout south-central England including Silchester (Shaffrey 2006)

However, this example is also similar to a local quartz conglomerate (Idsworth Stone from the Tertiary of South east Hampshire (Waterlooville-Havant 45 miles away)) used in one rotary quern example from Idsworth (now at Fishbourne Store).

A third possibility is that it is a coarse Millstone Grit (Upper Carboniferous) probably Bristol (100-120 miles) but could come as far as South Yorkshire/Derbyshire (250 miles).

Flint

One example (2 slingshots) from the fill of an Early to Middle Iron Age gully [33].

Lithological Description

Dark grey hard fine cryptocrystalline silica rock that breaks with a chonchoidal fracture.

Suggested Provenance

The Upper Chalk of this part of Hampshire contains numerous bands of tabular and nodular flint – so it comes from nearby or even or site.

Function

As expected for an Iron Age/Early Roman quern stones dominate the stone assemblage [99% by weight]. Most of these seem to relate to the Iron Age (Storage) Pits excavated in areas 1 and 2 including the beehive stone grinder of Sarsen stone [241], which may relate to some kind of closure ceremony. Saddle querns are more common than Rotary querns, which reinforces the idea that these were in use during the Iron Age rather than Roman occupation. Examples of under and upper (nether) rotary stones are found, as are saddle querns and rubbers.

It is possible that the two flint pebbles are slingshots due to the regularity in size

Summary

The variety of rock types (3) used in quern stones at Old Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke should be seen in terms of its accessibility to outcrops the Gravel Plateau – (Sarsen), South Downs Lower Greensand (Lodsworth Greensand) and even the Millstone Grit/Quartz Conglomerate of the Bristol region. Prior to Roman occupation, trackways supplying Lodsworth Greensand to Late Iron Age Silchester[1] would have run close to this site and then later the Roman Silchester to Basingstoke road ran close by, connecting it with the rest of the road network via Silchester.

The results mirror the stone analysis (by function and rock type) done at the nearby Brighton Hill South site (Hatch Warren) comprising an Iron Age farmstead (Fasham et. al. 1995). Here, fragments of Lower (probably Lodsworth) Greensand Rotary and Saddle Querns have also been unearthed and the *'grey sandstone'* (Fasham et al 1995, 49) may also be Sarsen.

Recommendations

Rationalisation

All eight examples of worked stone need to be retained – they provide very good examples of well-dated Late Iron Age quern/Roman quern stone at a time when both saddle and rotary querns could be worked in tandem. Sarsen querns are unusual materials for quern stone use and this site also shows the importance of Lodsworth quern during the Iron Age in south-central England.

Petrological and Geochemical Characterisation

One example of a possible Forest of Dean (Devonian) Sandstone needs to be sampled and examined at a higher magnification (possibly as a thin-section) in order to verify the source. If this were the material then the use of Devonian Quern stones during the Roman period would extend east beyond Silchester.

A sample of the Sarsen quern stone would also benefit from further analysis in order to verify its source of origin.

[1] Quantities unearthed during the Late Iron Age/Early Roman phases at Silchester Insula IX (Hayward pers obs)

Bibliography

Fasham, P.J. & Keevil, G (1995) *Brighton Hill South (Hatch Warren): an Iron Age Farmstead and Deserted Medieval Village in Hampshire, Salisbury*, Wessex Archaeol. Rep.65.

Peacock, D. P. S., (1987), Iron Age and Roman quern production at Lodsworth, W Sussex, *Antiquaries' Journal*, 67, 61-8.

Shaffrey, R. (2006) *Grinding and Milling. A study of Roman-British rotary querns and millstones made from Old Red Sandstone*. BAR 409.

Appendix 9 **Bioarchaeological assessment**

By N.P. Branch

INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the findings arising out of the Bioarchaeological assessment undertaken by *ArchaeoScape*. The archaeological excavation (Lythe, 2007), permitted the recovery of sixty-eight bulk samples from archaeological contexts provisionally dated to *Natural (Phase 1), Iron Age (Phase 2), early-middle Roman (Phase 3) and late Roman (Phase 4).* Stratigraphic evidence along with spot dating of the recovered artefacts suggests the site was utilised continuously from the Iron Age to the late Roman period (Lythe, 2007). The assessment exercise consisted of an evaluation of the bulk samples to record the concentration of fossilised macroscopic plant remains (charcoal, and charred and waterlogged seeds) in order to determine their suitability for reconstructing the local environmental conditions, and the economy and diet of the former inhabitants.

GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The site is on the western outskirts of Basingstoke in a broad dry valley tributary to the River Loddon. At the site, the dry valley is aligned from SW to NE and the site is on the western flank about 5-10m above the valley floor. The bedrock beneath the site is the Upper Chalk. No superficial deposits are recorded by the British Geological Survey underlying the area (1:50,000 Sheet 284).

METHODS

The bulk sub-samples were processed by flotation by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, using 1mm and 300µm mesh sizes (Table 1). The bulk sub-sample 'flots' were scanned using a low-power zoom-stereo Olympus BX41 microscope and the residues were sorted 'by eye'. Provisional identifications of charred plant macrofossils were made using reference collections at Royal Holloway, and recommendations for further analysis are based on the concentration of the remains. Plant nomenclature follows Stace (1997). Sixty-eight bulk samples were assessed. Two samples were provisionally dated to Phase 1 (Natural), fifty-eight samples to Phase 2 (Iron Age), two to Phase 3 (early to middle Roman) and six to Phase 4 (late Roman).

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE BIOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Phase 1: Natural

Two contexts assigned to Phase 1, (326) and (324), were the clay-rich fills of natural periglacial features (Lythe, 2007). They contained no Bioarchaeological remains.

Phase 2: Iron Age

All of the pit fills examined for this phase contained charcoal in variable quantities with the exception of contexts (256), (148) (sample <17>) and (200) (samples <47> and <36>). In particular, contexts (183) and (218), which contained significant quantities of charcoal. Fifteen contexts contained charred cereal grains, which included both *Triticum* sp (Wheat) and *Hordeum* sp (Barley), namely contexts (273), (114),

(48), (18), (223), (200), (171), (170), (285), (281), (258), (279), (244), (240) and (235). Three contexts also contained high concentrations of mollusca, namely (382), (381) and (285). These results are entirely consistent with the field-based interpretations of Lythe (2007), who suggests that the features represent grain storage pits, typical of those recorded elsewhere in southern England. Further support for this interpretation may be found in the absence of evidence for cereal processing (e.g. weed seeds and chaff) suggesting that prime grain was being stored in the pits. This does not mean, however, that cereal processing was not taking place on the site. The presence of both wheat and barley grain suggests that both crops were being used for human consumption, although the latter could also have been used for animal fodder.

Phase 3: Early to Middle Roman

The ditch fills examined contained charcoal in contexts (165) and (46). Context (46), fill of ditch [30], was particularly interesting because it contained high concentrations of charred cereal grain (*Triticum* sp). The presence of charred cereal grain and charcoal in the ditch fills suggests that the remains were removed from their primary depositional context e.g. hearth, and discarded into a secondary context i.e. the ditch, as a component of domestic waste. It is highly likely therefore, that the grain and fuel wood became charred during a typical domestic activity e.g. cooking over a hearth, or following the disposal of unwanted grain into a domestic hearth or bonfire. The presence of wheat grain indicates that this cereal was undoubtedly used for human consumption.

Phase 4: Late Roman

All of the contexts examined in phase 4 contained charcoal in variable quantities with the exception of contexts (396) and (390). Only one context (393) contained charred cereal grain (*Triticum* sp). Two contexts contained significant qualities of Mollusca, namely contexts (430) and (396). Four of the contexts represent the fills of a large circular feature of unknown function ([407]), whilst two of the samples were taken from fills of a later rectangular feature ([423]) (see Table 1 and Lythe, 2007). The function of these enigmatic features has not been elucidated by the assessment, but there is some evidence that they may have been associated with domestic occupation i.e. the presence of cereal grains of wheat and charcoal fragments.

Table 1: Bioarchaeological assessment, Land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Context number	Sample number	Volume processed (litres)	Volume remaining (litres)	Phase	Area	Description	Charcoal	Charred plant macrofossils	Waterlogged plant macrofossils	Main Taxa
326	73	10	50	1	3	Thin deposit of clay within natural periglacial feature [325]	/	/	/	/
324	72	10	20	1	3	Compact gravel fill of periglacial feature [325]	/	/	/	/
24	5	10	10	2	Trench 78	Of pit [19]	1	/	/	/
356	76	10	30	2	1	Of pit [357]	1	/	/	/
330	74	10	30	2	1	Burnt fill of small pit [332]	1	/	/	/
321	67	10	0	2	2	Silty clay backfill within pit [322], containing charcoal	1	/	/	/
291	66	10	30	2	2	Dumped top fill of storage pit [295], containing charcoal, pottery, daub and burnt flint	1	/	/	/
273	63	10	10	2	2	Silty clay fill of pit [274]	1	1	/	Possible cereal grain
272	62	10	30	2	2	Burnt fill of pit [274]	1	/	/	/
263	60	10	30	2	2	Silty clay fill of [264], containing frequent charcoal	1	/	/	/
260	49	10	20	2	2	Silty clay containing charcoal within pit [261]	1	/	/	/
256	48	10	0	2	2	Of small pit or posthole [257]	/	/	/	/
250	70	10	20	2	2	Clayey silt fill of pit [253]	1	/	/	/
225	45	10	10	2	2	Re-deposited natural within pit [226]	1	/	/	/

199	35	10	10	2	2	Of pit [201]. Dumped clayey silt with inclusions of pottery, daub and charcoal	1	/	/	/
198	34	10	10	2	2	Of pit [201]. Dumped, burnt fill with inclusions of pottery, daub and charcoal	1	/	/	/
193	37	10	20	2	2	Of pit [219], rich in charcoal fragments and burnt flint	1	/	/	/
191	31	10	20	2	2	Of pit [192]	1	/	/	/
183	30	10	20	2	2	Of pit [184] consisting of burnt, dumped fill	2	/	/	/
181	29	10	30	2	2	Of pit [184] consisting of burnt, dumped fill	1	/	/	/
172	22	10	10	2	2	Of pit [173], containing charcoal	1	/	/	/
155	24	10	10	2	2	Of small pit [156], sealing a large, triangular lump of daub deliberately placed on the base	1	/	/	/
148	18	10	0	2	2	Of pit [150]	1	/	/	/
148	17	10	30	2	2	Of pit [150]	/	/	/	/
146	19	10	30	2	2	Of small pit [147]	1	/	/	/
134	16	10	30	2	2	Of large irregular pit [135]	1	/	/	/
131	14	10	30	2	2	Of pit [132]	1	/	/	/
124	10	10	30	2	1	Of small pit or posthole [125]	1	/	/	/
114	27	10	15	2	1	Of small pit or posthole [115]	1	1	/	Possible cereal grain
262	59	10	30	2	2	Silty clay fill of [264], containing frequent charcoal	1	/	/	/
48	7	10	20	2	Trench 78	Of pit [17]	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.

18	4	10	20	2	Trench 66	Of pit [19]	1	1	/	Cf. *Triticum* sp.
16	2	10	20	2	Trench 78	Of pit [17]	1	/	/	/
131	15	10	30	2	2	Of pit [132]	1	/	/	/
14	1	10	20	2	Trench 66	Of pit or tree bole [15]	1	/	/	/
383	79	10	10	2	1	Interdigitating slumps (?) of silty clay and chalk natural within storage pit [384]	1	/	/	/
382	78	10	10	2	1	Re-deposited sandy silty clay within storage pit [384]	1	/	/	Mollusca 1
381	77	10	10	2	1	Dumped silty clay containing pottery, struck flint and bone within storage pit [384]	1	/	/	Mollusca 1
305	68	10	20	2	2	Re-deposited natural silty clay in storage pit [295]	1	/	/	/
223	42	10	20	2	2	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [192]	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.
218	41	10	0	2	2	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [219]	2	/	/	/
212	39	10	20	2	2	Re-deposited silty clay natural within storage pit [219]	1	/	/	/
205	38	10	20	2	2	Of storage pit [219], probably formed by slumping of edges	1	/	/	/
200	47	5	0	2	2	Of storage pit [201], containing dumped animal bone and a semi-articulated deer skeleton	/	1	/	*Hordeum* sp.
200	36	10	10	2	2	Of storage pit [201], containing dumped animal bone and a semi-articulated deer	/	1	/	*Atriplex* sp.

						skeleton				
197	33	10	30	2	2	Of storage pit [209]. Consists of re-deposited natural mixed with occasional inclusions of charcoal	1	/	/	/
171	21	10	10	2	2	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [219]	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.
170	28	10	20	2	2	Dumped silty clay within storage pit [219], containing burnt daub	1	/	/	/
169	20	10	20	2	2	Dumped deposit of burnt clay and daub within storage pit [219]	1	/	/	/
168	23	10	20	2	2	Dumped fill of storage pit [219], rich in burnt flint and burnt daub	1	/	/	/
285	58	30	0	2	2	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]	1	1		Unidentified cereal grain Mollusca 1
284	57	10	30	2	2	Re-deposited natural silty clay within storage pit [288]	1	/	/	/
283	56	10	10	2	2	Silty clay in-wash (?) within storage pit [288]	1	/	/	/
281	55	10	30	2	2	Silty clay fill of storage pit [288] containing pottery, burnt flint and daub	1	1	/	Unidentified cereal grain
258	51	10	0	2	2	Basal silty clay fill of storage feature [242], containing frequent charcoal	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.
279	54	10	30	2	2	Clayey silt fill of	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.

						storage pit [288] containing pottery, daub and burnt flint				
294	61	10	40	2	2	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [295], with 3 deliberately placed metal tools on the base	1	/	/	/
244	46	10	10	2	2	Burnt basal fill of storage pit [201]	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.
240	44	10	0	2	2	Re-deposited natural silty clay in storage pit [242]	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.
235	43	10	20	2	2	Burnt basal fill within storage pit [227]	1	3	/	*Triticum* sp.
165	11	10	20	3	1	Dumped fill of ditch [102] in Slot 5, containing domestic debris	1	/	/	/
46	6	10	0	3	Trench 73	Of ditch [30]	1	2	/	*Triticum* sp.
434	90	10	50	4	1	Primary fill of irregular cut [423].This deposit is the same as (439) (fill of irregular cut [435])	1	/	/	/
430	89	10	40	4	1	Top fill of irregular cut [423] cut into base of large pit [407]	1	/	/	Mollusca 1
396	83	10	30	4	1	Part of the upper fill sequence of circular cut [407]	/	/	/	Mollusca 1
393	82	10	30	4	1	Part of the upper backfill of circular cut [407]	1	1	/	*Triticum* sp.
390	81	10	30	4	1	Upper fill of silty sandy clay, rich in domestic waste, within large circular	/	/	/	/

						cut [407]				
389	80	10	30	4	1	Upper-most fill of silty sandy clay, rich in domestic waste, within large circular cut [407]	1	/	/	/

Key to concentration values: 0 = absent, 1= 1 to 25 fragments, 2= 26 to 50 fragments, 3 = 51 to 75 fragments, 4 = 76 to 100 fragment

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Phase 2 (Iron Age) contexts contained variable quantities of charcoal with the exception of contexts (256), (148) (sample <17>) and (200) (samples <47> and <36>). These contexts have the potential to provide important new information on fuel wood utilisation, woodland composition, and woodland management and/or exploitation practices during the Iron Age. Only those samples from secure 'closed' contexts should be analysed to avoid problems of residuality. The selection of these samples will be made after consultation with the project manager. Following this selection process, all of the remaining sample material should be processed by flotation, and the entire unsorted 'flot' and unsorted residue transferred to *ArchaeoScape* for analysis.

Fifteen Iron Age contexts contained charred cereal grains, which included both *Triticum* sp (Wheat) and *Hordeum* sp (Barley), namely contexts (273), (114), (48), (18), (223), (200), (171), (170), (285), (281), (258), (279), (244), (240) and (235). These contexts have the potential to provide important new information on the economy and diet of the Iron Age inhabitants of the site. As with phase 2 only those samples from secure contexts should be analysed to avoid problems of residuality. The selection is to be made in consultation with the site supervisor and project manager. Following this process, all of the remaining sample material will be processed by flotation, and the entire unsorted 'flot' and unsorted residue analysed.

Three Iron Age contexts also contained high concentrations of Mollusca, namely (382), (381) and (285). These contexts will provide useful information on the local environment, in particular the structure and broad composition of the vegetation cover. Only those samples from contexts without residuality problems should be analysed. The selection of these will be made following consultation. All selected sample material will be processed by wet sieving and hydrogen peroxide treatment.

The Phase 3 (early to middle Roman) ditch fills examined contained charcoal in contexts (165) and (46), and high concentrations of charred cereal grain (*Triticum* sp) in context (46). It is recommended that context (46) be analysed, and that all of the remaining sample material should be processed by flotation, and the entire unsorted 'flot' and unsorted residue analysed. This single sample will provide interesting, albeit limited, new information on the economy and diet of the Roman inhabitants of the site.

Due to the low concentration of charcoal and charred plant macrofossils in the Phase 4 (late Roman) contexts, no further analysis is recommended for this material.

The results of the analysis will be compared and contrasted with plant macrofossil assemblages from contemporary sites in the vicinity.

REFERENCES

British Geological Survey, Sheet 284 (1:50,000).

Lythe, R. (2007) *Land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06): An interim summary report*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd, Unpublished Report.

Stace, C. (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Assessment 10 **Geoarchaeological Investigation**

By C.P. Green, C.R. Batchelor and N.P. Branch

INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the findings arising out of the geoarchaeological investigation undertaken by *ArchaeoScape* in connection with the proposed development at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (Site Code: POKB06; National Grid Reference: SU 6020 5140). Four sequences of column samples were taken:

1. Sample <85> from the infill of a grain storage pit ([377]) dated to Phase 2 (Iron Age)
2. Sample <64> from the infill of a grain storage pit ([288]) dated to Phase 2 (Iron Age)
3. Sample <65> from the infill of a grain storage pit ([295]) dated to Phase 2 (Iron Age)
4. Sample <84> from a circular pit ([407]) dated to Phase 4 (Late Roman).

In addition, five borehole gouge samples (<BH1>, <BH2>, <BH3>, <BH4> and <BH5>) were taken along the base of pit [407] in order to record the depth of the feature and the sedimentary infill.

The aims of the investigation were to provide a detailed record of the sedimentary fills of the features and to identify, if possible, sedimentary contexts that may have been water lain in contrast to dumped deposits and contexts indicating deliberately placed materials.

GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The site is on the western outskirts of Basingstoke and occupies a shallow dry valley tributary to in a larger dry valley, which is itself tributary to the River Loddon. The dry valley occupied by the site is aligned from SW to NE and its floor slopes down from c. 107m OD to c. 101m OD. The valley sides slope gently up within the site to levels about 9m to 11m above the dry valley floor. The bedrock beneath the site is the Upper Chalk. No superficial deposits are recorded by the British Geological Survey beneath the site (1:50,000 Sheet 284) but archaeological trenching has shown that across most of the site the Chalk is overlain by a thin layer of silty clay, up to c. 0.4m in thickness on the floor of the dry valley, thinning to vanishing point on the higher ground within the site.

METHODS

Field investigations

Column samples (<84>, <85>, <64> and <65>) were recovered from the site by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. Boreholes <BH1> to <BH4> were taken in a line, following this borehole <BH5> was placed between boreholes <BH2> and <BH3>, which recorded the deepest sequences. Borehole

<BH1> hit chalk at the surface and therefore was not retained. The continuous borehole gouge samples were retrieved using an Atlas Copco Cobra 2-stroke percussion engine and Eijkelkamp gouge set (Table 1).

Table 1: Details of samples taken at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Sample type	Sample number	Phase	Feature	Cut	OD Height at top (m OD)	Depth (m)
Column	<85>	2	Grain storage pit	377	108.30	NA
Column	<64>	2	Grain storage pit	288	107.85	NA
Column	<65>	2	Grain storage pit	295	107.85	NA
Column	<84>	4	Circular pit	407	108.33	NA
Borehole	<BH1>	4	Circular pit - not retained	407	105.78	Chalk at 0.00
Borehole	<BH2>	4	Circular pit	407	105.77	Chalk at 1.30
Borehole	<BH5>	4	Circular pit	407	105.75	Chalk at 1.35
Borehole	<BH3>	4	Circular pit	407	105.74	Chalk at *ca*. 1.00
Borehole	<BH4>	4	Circular pit	407	105.73	Chalk at 0.12

Lithostratigraphic descriptions

The lithostratigraphy of all column and borehole samples was described in the laboratory using standard procedures for recording unconsolidated sediment, noting the physical properties (colour), composition (gravel, sand, clay, silt and organic matter), unit boundaries and inclusions (e.g. artefacts) (Tables 2 to 9).

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Grain storage pit [377]

In the column samples from the grain storage pit (column sample <85>), the upper part of the sequence was occupied by a brown (7.5YR5/4) clayey silt with flint grit and clasts of flint: contexts (369), (370), (371), (372). No chalk was recorded in the uppermost context (369) but chalk became increasingly common downward. This upper part of the sequence rested with a sharp contact on a thin (30mm) layer of chalk debris, context (373), overlying a coarser chalk rubble breccia, context (374). There was evidence of soil forming processes in the upper part of the sequence, in the form of root, faunal channels, but soil development with relatively immature, clay coatings were thin and patchy, and there were few traces of earthworm activity. No anthropogenic material was recorded in these column samples.

Table 2: Lithostratigraphic sequence from column samples <85>, Grain storage pit [377], Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Context number	Description
108.30 to 107.59	369/370	7.5YR 5/4 brown; moderately sorted slightly gritty clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm); massive; common slightly clay-coated root channels with common root fibres; worm burrows; no acid reaction.
107.88 to 107.55	370	7.5YR 5/4 brown; moderately sorted slightly gritty clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm); massive; common slightly clay-coated root channels with common root fibre; worm burrows; acid reaction at 007 - single particle of chalk.
107.55 to 107.28	370/371	As above but containing clasts of chalk (up to 20mm); moderate to strong acid reaction.
107.27 to 106.73	372	7.5YR 5/4 brown; moderately sorted slightly gritty clayey silt with clasts of flint and chalk (up to 30mm); massive; common slightly clay-coated root channels with root fibre; worm burrows; moderate to strong acid reaction; Sharp contact with:
106.73 to 106.70	373	Inclined bed consisting mainly of small (<10mm) chalk clasts in a sparse matrix comprising a complex mix of chalk paste and brown clayey silt; strong acid reaction; Sharp contact with:
106.70 to 106.56	374	Breccia of chalk clasts in matrix comprising complex mixture of light brown chalk/clayey silt paste and brown clayey silt.

Grain storage pit [288]

In the column samples from the grain storage pit (column sample <64>), the upper part of the sequence was occupied by dark yellowish brown (7.5YR 3/4) clayey silt with charcoal and clasts of flint: contexts (279) and (281). This upper part of the sequence rested on a layer of brown silty clay (7.5YR 4/6), context (282), which overlay several contexts comprising dark brown silt and clay with charcoal: contexts (283) to (285). The chalk surface was recorded at 106.25m OD (context (285)).

Table 3 Lithostratigraphic sequence from column sample <64>, grain storage pit [288], Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Context number	Description
107.85 to 107.75	279	10YR 3/4; Ag3, As1, Gg+, Ga+, charcoal+, chalk+; Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with gravel, charcoal and chalk inclusions; diffuse contact into:
107.75 to 107.59	279	7.5YR 4/4; As2, Ag2, gravel+, chalk+, charcoal+; Brown clay and silt with chalk, charcoal and gravel inclusions; diffuse contact into:
107.59 to 107.46	279	7.5YR 3/4; As3, Ga1, charcoal+, chalk+, rootlets+ Dl+, molluscs+; Dark brown sandy silt with charcoal, chalk, rootlet, detrital wood and mollusc inclusions; diffuse contact into:
107.46 to 107.35	281	10YR 3/3; As3, Ga1, charcoal+, Sh+, Dl+, chalk+, molluscs+; Dark brown sandy silt with charcoal, organic, detrital wood, chalk and mollusc inclusions.
107.33 to 107.18	281	10YR 3/4; Ag3, As1, Ga+, chalk+, charcoal+, brick+, Sh+; Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with sand, chalk, charcoal, brick and organic inclusions; diffuse contact into:

107.18 to 107.00	281	10YR 3/6; Ag3, As1, Ga+, chalk+, charcoal+, brick+, Sh+; Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with sand, chalk, charcoal, brick and organic inclusions; diffuse contact into:
107.00 to 106.83	282	7.5YR 4/6; As3, Ag1, Ga+, Gg+, charcoal+; Strong brown silty clay with sand, gravel, chalk and charcoal inclusions.
106.83 to 106.73	282/283/284	7.5YR 4/4; As3, Ga1, Gg+, chalk+, charcoal+, molluscs+; Brown sandy clay with gravel, chalk, charcoal and mollusc inclusions; diffuse contact into:
106.73 to 106.55	284	7.5YR 4/6; As3, Ga1, chalk+, charcoal+; Strong brown sandy clay with chalk and charcoal inclusions; diffuse contact into:
106.55 to 106.43	285	10YR 4/4; Ag2, As1, Ga1, Gg+, chalk+, charcoal+, molluscs+; Dark yellowish brown sandy, clayey silt with chalk, charcoal and mollusc inclusions.
106.48 to 106.38	284	7.5YR 3/4; As2, Ag1, Ga1, Gg+, charcoal+, chalk+; Dark brown sandy, silty clay with gravel, chalk and charcoal inclusions; diffuse contact into:
106.38 to 106.29	285	7.5YR 4/6; As3, Ag1, Ga+, Gg+, charcoal+, chalk+; Strong brown silty clay with sand, gravel, chalk and charcoal inclusions; diffuse contact into:
106.29 to 106.25	285	7.5YR 4/4; As3, molluscs1, Gg+, charcoal+, chalk+, sand+; Brown mollusc rich silt with gravel, charcoal, chalk and sand inclusions; sharp contact into:
106.25 to 106.22	287	2.5Y 8/1; Chalk4; White chalk.

Grain storage pit [295]

In the column samples from the grain storage pit (column sample <65>), the upper part of the sequence was occupied by dark brown to yellowish brown clayey silt with charcoal and clasts of flint: context (291). This upper part of the sequence rested on a layer of brown clay (7.5YR 4/6), context (293), which overlay several contexts comprising brown silt and clay with charcoal: contexts (305) and (306).

Table 4: Lithostratigraphic sequence from column sample <65>, grain storage pit [295], Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Context number	Description
127.9 to 97.0	291	10YR 3/3; Ag3, As1, Ga+, Gg+, charcoal+, Sh+, chalk+, rootlets+; Dark brown clayey silt with sand, gravel, charcoal, chalk, organic and rootlet inclusions; diffuse contact into:
	291	10YR 3/4; Ag3, As1, Ga+, Gg+, charcoal+, Sh+, chalk+, rootlets+; Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with sand, gravel, charcoal, chalk, organic and rootlet inclusions; diffuse contact into:
	291	7.5YR 4/4; As4, Ga+, chalk+, charcoal+, rootlets+; Brown clay with sand, chalk, charcoal and rootlet inclusions; diffuse contact into:
97.0 to 72.0	293	7.5YR 4/6; As2, Ag2, Ga+, chalk+; Strong brown silt and clay with sand and chalk inclusions.
72.0 to 52.0	293/305	7.5YR 4/4; As2, Ag2, Gg+, charcoal+, chalk+, Ga+, flint+; Brown silt and clay with gravel, charcoal, chalk, sand and clay inclusions; diffuse contact into:

52.0 to 37.0	305/306	7.5YR 4/6; As2, Ag2, Gg+, charcoal+, chalk+, flint+; Strong brown silt and clay with gravel, charcoal, chalk and clay inclusions.

Circular pit [407]

In the column samples from the circular pit in Area 1 (column sample <84>), the infill is a clayey silt with flint grit and clasts of flint, similar to but slightly darker (mainly 7.5YR4/2) than the infill in the grain storage pit and largely non-calcareous. Only in the lowest unit, context (396), were chalk particles present and an acid reaction recorded. Fragments of animal bone were present throughout the upper part of the sequence but were not recorded in the lowermost unit, context (396). There was evidence of soil-forming processes throughout the sequence in the form of root and faunal channels, but soil development was relatively immature; clay coatings were thin and patchy and there was little evidence of earthworm activity.

Table 5: Lithostratigraphic sequence from column sample <84>, large circular pit [407], Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Context number	Description
108.33 to 107.83	389	7.5YR 4/2 brown/dark brown; gritty sandy clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm); poorly sorted; massive; sparsely clay-coated root channels with scattered root remains; worm burrows with undisturbed casts; piece of bone (40mm); no acid reaction.
107.83 to 107.33	389/390	7.5YR 4/2 brown/dark brown; gritty sandy clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm); poorly sorted; massive; sparsely clay-coated root channels with scattered root remains; worm burrows with undisturbed casts; piece of bone (40mm); no acid reaction.
107.39 to 106.89	390/391	7.5YR 4/2 brown/dark brown; gritty sandy clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm); poorly sorted; massive; sparsely clay-coated root channels with scattered root remains; worm burrows with undisturbed casts; piece of bone (40mm); no acid reaction.
106.99 to 106.62	390/391/393	7.5YR 4/2 brown/dark brown; gritty sandy clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm); poorly sorted; massive; sparsely clay-coated root channels with scattered root remains; worm burrows with undisturbed casts; piece of bone (40mm); no acid reaction.
106.62 to 106.49	396	7.5YR 4/2 brown/dark brown; gritty sandy clayey silt with clasts of flint (up to 30mm) and particles of chalk (up to 10mm); poorly sorted; massive; sparsely clay-coated root channels with scattered root remains; worm burrows; moderate acid reaction.

The borehole record from the base of the pit [407] comprises four cores (<BH2>, <BH5>, <BH3>, and <BH4>) all of which show the contact between the bedrock chalk and the overlying infill. In boreholes <BH2>, <BH5> and <BH3> between 1.0m and 1.5m of the lower part of the infill deposit is preserved. The infill in all cases includes sediment similar to the brown clayey silt with flint clasts seen in both sets of column samples (boreholes <BH2> units 2, 3 and 6; <BH4> unit 2; <BH5> units 3 and 6). It also includes discrete units of both coarse chalk rubble (boreholes <BH2> unit 4; <BH3> unit 2 and <BH5> unit 5) and fine chalk rubble (borehole <BH2> unit 5) and units comprising mixtures of these

components in varying proportions (Boreholes <BH3> units 3 and 4; <BH5> units 2 and 4). The borehole record shows that in the lower part of the infill in Area 1 these sediments are crudely layered. In borehole <BH3>, remnants of a very thin (2-3mm) layer of peaty silt (<BH3> unit 1) were preserved between the bedrock chalk and the overlying infill deposits. Sparse remains of Mollusca were present in borehole <BH5> (units 4 and 6).

Table 6: Lithostratigraphic sequence from borehole sample <BH2>, Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Unit number	Description
105.77 to 105.59		Void
105.59 to 105.50	6	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown; gritty clayey silt with particles of chalk and flint (up to 10mm); very poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction; gradual transition to
105.50 to 105.32	5	10YR 7/4 very pale brown; gritty paste of chalk particles (up to 10mm) in matrix of silt and finely divided chalk; strong acid reaction; sharp contact with:
105.32 to 105.04	4	White; chalk rubble; very poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction; very sharp contact with:
105.04 to 104.77	3	7.5YR 5/4 brown; gritty clayey silt with particles of chalk and flint (up to 10mm) with inclusion of cf. 027-045; poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction.
104.77 to 104.50		Void
104.50 to 104.25	2	7.5YR 5/4 brown; gritty clayey silt with clasts of chalk (up to 20mm); poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction; very sharp contact with:
104.25 to 103.77	1	White; chalk rubble (clasts up to 35mm but mainly <10mm) in paste of finely divided chalk; strong acid reaction.

Table 7: Lithostratigraphic sequence from borehole sample <BH5>, Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Unit number	Description
105.75 to 105.67		Void
105.67 to 105.30	6	7.5YR 5/4 brown; gritty clayey silt with clasts of flint and chalk (up to 20mm); moderately sorted; massive; clay coated voids and root channels; scattered mollusc remains (broken shell and one complete juvenile); strong acid reaction; sharp contact with:
105.30 to 105.16	5	10YR 7/4 very pale brown; chalk clasts (up to 40mm) in gritty paste of finely divided chalk; very poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction; gradual transition to:
105.16 to 105.04	4	Complex mixture of overlying and underlying units; single complete mollusc shell; strong acid reaction; gradual transition to:
105.04 to 104.75	3	7.5YR 5/4 brown; cf. 008-045; no mollusc remains observed.
104.75 to 104.60		Void
104.60 to 104.40	2	7.5YR 5/4 brown; gritty clayey slightly sandy silt with clasts of flint and chalk (up to 15mm); very poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction; gradual transition (with mixing of sediments) to:
104.40 to 103.75	1	White; chalk rubble, clasts mainly <10mm in paste of finely divided chalk.

Table 8: Lithostratigraphic sequence from borehole sample <BH3>, Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Unit number	Description

105.74 to 105.52		Void
105.52 to 105.37	4	7.5YR 5/4 brown; gritty clayey slightly sandy silt with chalk and flint clasts (up to 15mm) and inclusion of underlying (037-058) sediment; poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction (probably chalk particles); well marked transition to:
105.37 to 105.22	3	10YR 5/6 yellowish brown; gritty clayey silt with chalk and flint clasts (up to 20mm); very poorly sorted; complex mixture of finely divided chalk and cf.022-037; strong acid reaction; gradual transition (with mixing of sediments) to:
105.22 to 104.74	2	Cf. 022-037 with clasts of flint and chalk up to 30mm; between 051 and 075 a slice of clean chalk up to 20mm wide is present in the edge of the core; scattered re-precipitation of fibrous calcium carbonate in voids; strong acid reaction.
104.74 to 104.49	1	(collected in field from gouge as a semi-coherent bulk sample c.150mm in length) Mainly white with patchy 7.5YR5/4 brown in uppermost 60mm; blocky chalk (up to 30mm) with sparse silty clay matrix in uppermost 60mm; remnants of thin layer (2-3mm) of dark brown peaty silt, preserved as small (up to 8mm) fragments; probably originally a layer at contact between chalk and overlying silty sediment. (Sample retained)

Table 9: Lithostratigraphic sequence from borehole sample <BH4>, Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06)

Depth (m OD)	Unit number	Description
105.73 to 105.63	2	7.5YR 5/4 brown; gritty clayey silt with chalk and flint clasts (up to 15mm); poorly sorted; massive; strong acid reaction.
105.63 to 105.61	1	White; chalk rubble.

The infill of all features appears to have resulted from episodic collapse and in wash of chalk debris from the margins of the feature and in wash of silty and stony soil material from the surrounding land surface. In addition, some of the material undoubtedly represents deliberate back filling but there is no specific evidence in the borehole records to support or confirm this possibility. During the later stages of infill, when the chalk no longer remained exposed, the infill consisted entirely of non-calcareous soil material. There is no evidence in either the borehole record or the column samples for any period of stability of sufficient length to allow recognisable development of a discrete soil horizon. The sedimentological evidence suggests however that the circular feature in Area 1 remained open at least for long enough to allow a thin (2-3mm) and localised accumulation of fine-grained mineral particles and plant debris on the exposed surface of the chalk on the floor of the pit prior to infilling.

REFERENCES

British Geological Survey (1:50,000 Sheet 284)

Lythe, R. (2007) *Land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke (POKB06): An interim summary report*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Unpublished Report.

APPENDIX 11- OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-32013

Project details

Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation on land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation and excavation was undertaken on land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke. Flint scatters were found across the site, indicating low-key use throughout the early Holocene. Intensive exploitation did not occur until the Iron Age, when the site seemingly functioned as farmland. Evidence of cereal cultivation and animal husbandry was found, in the form of grain storage features and a possible banjo-enclosure. Some features also contained dumped debris indicative of near-by habitation. An early Roman enclosure was also found, suggesting occupation continued into the Roman period. A possible boundary ditch or roadside ditch of similar date was also unearthed. It is possible that some form of hiatus in occupation took place between the late 1st century / early 2nd century and the late 3rd / 4th century. Later Roman activity was represented by a small pit and a large circular feature. The latter was partially backfilled before a solitary grave was created in the centre.
Project dates	Start: 18-09-2006 End: 05-03-2007
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	POKB 06 - Site code
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PITS Iron Age
Monument type	RITUAL PITS Iron Age
Monument type	BANJO ENCLOSURE Iron Age

Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	POST HOLES Iron Age
Monument type	BOUNDARY DITCHES Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	POST HOLES Roman
Monument type	GRAVE Roman
Monument type	RITUAL SHAFT / QUARRY Roman
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENTS Mesolithic
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENTS Neolithic
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENTS Bronze Age
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENTS Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	HUMAN BONE Iron Age
Significant Finds	MAMMAL REMAINS Iron Age
Significant Finds	BEHIVE, SADDLE AND ROTARY QUERNS Iron Age
Significant Finds	MAMMAL REMAINS Iron Age
Significant Finds	AMPHIBIAN REMAINS Iron Age
Significant Finds	MOLLUSCA REMAINS Iron Age
Significant Finds	PLANT MACRO REMAINS Iron Age

Significant Finds	REAPING HOOK Iron Age
Significant Finds	HAMMER HEAD Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	HUMAN SKELETON Roman
Significant Finds	MAMMAL REMAINS Roman
Significant Finds	MOLLUSCA REMAINS Roman
Significant Finds	PLANT MACRO REMAINS Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Open-area excavation'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE BASINGSTOKE Old Kempshott Lane
Postcode	RG22
Study area	13.13 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 6020 5140 51.2580683567 -1.137194124690 51 15 29 N 001 08 13 W Point
Height OD	Min: 101.49m Max: 111.31m

Project creators

Name of	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Organisation	
Project brief originator	CgMs Consultants Ltd
Project design originator	Peter Moore
Project director/manager	Peter Moore
Project supervisor	Rebecca Lythe
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Barratt Southern Counties

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Excavation and Publication on land at Old Kempshott Lane, Worting, Basingstoke
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Lythe, R.
Date	2007
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Brockley, London
Description	A-4 sized, ring bound document with a blue cover.

Entered by	Rebecca Lythe (rlythe@pre-construct.com)

Entered on 30 September 2007