LIMEBROOK PARK EAST, MALDON, ESSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

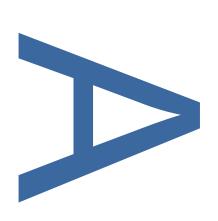
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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

Limebrook Park East, Maldon, Essex: An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Preconstruct Archaeology (PCA) at Limebrook Park East, Maldon, CM9 6GG, between the 8th of May and 15th of June 2018. The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Heritage on behalf of the Limebrook Consortium, in response to preapplication advice by Essex County Council (ECC) in line with National Planning Policy Framework 2012.

A total of 86 trial trenches was excavated in a regular grid pattern across the proposed development site.

The principal result of the evaluation was the identification of a Late Iron Age to Early Roman agricultural landscape, comprising boundary and drainage ditches forming a part of wider enclosures. The ditches were partly aligned on, and appeared to respect a contemporary palaeochannel, probalby an earlier, non-canalised iteration of the Lime Brook for which the site is named. Boundary ditches yielding the largest Iron Age and Roman finds assemblages of the evaluation were identified in Trenches 1 and 2 at the northern end of the site.

The Late Iron Age to Early Roman archaeology is considered likely to directly relate to features identified c.200m to the north, at the 'Maldon Southern Bypass' site, where a settlement with an associated field system was established in the Late Iron Age and continued into the Roman period.

The Late Iron Age to Roman archaeology was sealed by significant thicknesses of colluvial/alluvial buildup across the whole of the site area, most extensively downslope to the south. Archaeological activity also appeared to cease to the south, where the low lying topography and high water table would have made the area unsuitable for settlement or arable agriculture.

Post-medieval activity in the form of field boundary ditches and furrows was also identified.

1 INTRODUCTION

- An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. on land at Limebrook Park East, Maldon (NGR TL 84002 05258) from the 8th of May to the 15th of June 2018 (Figure 1; Plate 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by CgMs Heritage (part of RPS) on behalf of the Limebrook Consortium, in response to pre-application advice issued by Essex County Council (ECC) in line with National Planning Policy Framework 2012. This advice was issued due to the high archaeological significance of the proposed development area (PDA).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Aileen Tierney of PCA (Tierney 2018).
- 1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.
- 1.5 A total of 86 c. 50m x 2m evaluation trenches, totalling c.8600m2 were excavated and recorded (Figure 2). The WSI originally called for the excavation of 164 50m x 1.8m trenches (totalling 14760m2, equivalent to 4% of the site area). The amount of trenching was reduced after a discussion on site with and approval from of the ECC Historic Environment Consultant, Maria Medlycott. This was done due to deposits of thick overburden protecting the archaeological level and the general paucity of archaeological features to the south of the Lime Brook.
- 1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at the Colchester Museum Store, along with a copy of this report.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

- 2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2018) records the underlying geology of the study site as the London Clay Formation (Clay, Silt & Sand). Alluvial deposits (Clay, Silt, Sand & Gravel) are recorded along the northern boundary associated with the Lime Brook. This is confirmed by British Geological Survey boreholes located along the line of the B1010 to the east, the Woodham Mortimer Brook to the south and Brookhead Farm to the west (Archer 2017). These deposits were recorded during the course of the evaluation as (102), a light to mid-yellowy-brown clay with occasional patches of white degraded stone/light orangey-brown gravel.
- 2.3 The geology was overlain by thick deposits of colluvium/alluvium (101) & (211), which were in turn overlain by Topsoil (100), a mid-brownish grey silty clay.
- 2.4 Finds assemblages recovered from these deposits were mixed, as could be expected from overburden deposits in areas subject to agricultural use. The finds recovered mainly consisted of material that dated to the two main archaeological periods present on the site (Late Iron Age to Early Roman & post-medieval; see Section 7).

2.5 Topography

- 2.6 The study site generally slopes down from 11.33m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the west to 7.27m AOD in the east. Due to the large size of the site, although this general trend can be observed there are changes in the topography of the site at a micro level.
- 2.7 The Lime Brook and Limebrook Way (The B1018) forms most of the northern boundary of the study site, apart from the small area in the northwest corner of the site (Trenches 1 & 2), where the site area includes a small area to the north of the line of Lime Brook. The site is bounded to the east by Fambridge Road (The B1010), to the south by open agricultural fields and to

the west by the fields and the line of the old Woodham Ferrers to Maldon Railway, now part of the Stow Maries Halt nature reserve. A further watercourse, the Woodham Mortimer Brook runs east to west c.300m to the south of the site area, with both brooks eventually feeding into the River Chelmer and the Blackwater Estuary, located c.1.9km to the north east.

2.8 Historically, the topographic changes within the PDA were more pronounced, with higher land in the north and low lying land in the south (Figure 12).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The archaeological background detailed below has been taken from the Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) undertaken for the whole of the proposed development area, of which the current site forms the larger, eastern portion (Archer 2017). This DBA included a search of the Essex HER in addition to a historic map regression exercise.

3.1 Prehistoric: Neolithic to Bronze Age

- 3.1.1 The prehistoric evidence from the study site and the surrounding 1km is mostly in the form of findspots (Neolithic stone tools and implements), mostly derived from the Maldon river gravels and only located by a broad grid reference. There is currently no evidence of activity dating to the Palaeolithic to Mesolithic period within a 1.5km radius of the site.
- 3.1.2 Excavation at Brick House Farm c.450m north east of the study site recorded two phases of land-use, the earliest dating to the Late Bronze Age (HER Ref: MEX40129, TL 8527 0560). Features included post holes, pits and a curving gully to the east of a large field boundary ditch.

3.2 Iron Age and Roman

- 3.2.1 Various Iron Age findspots, such as coins and pottery sherds, have been recorded within the 1km of the study site.
- 3.2.2 A small rectangular cropmark enclosure, c.1.2km north west of the study site was found to be the site of a small enclosed cemetery dating to the second half of the first century BC (HER Ref: MEX40138, TL 830 062).
- 3.2.3 A late Iron Age settlement comprising at least one round house and a number of pits, some of which contained Late Iron Age pottery was identified during the course of a watching brief and subsequent excavation at the Maldon Southern Bypass Site, located c.200m north of the study site (HER Ref: MEX28794, TL 8462 0571). The Iron Age settlement developed into a Roman settlement with an associated field system (HER Ref: MEX28804, TL 8458 0571). Finds recovered included coarse ware, samian pottery sherds,

South Spanish amphora sherds and at least two cremation burials with pottery grave goods. The excavation revealed a complex pattern of interconnecting ditches containing pottery, coins and two Bronze objects. A linear feature which produced 1st - 3rd century pottery has been recorded c.200m to the west of this Roman settlement (HER Ref: MEX40145, TL 845 057).

- 3.2.4 Late Iron Age and early Roman coins have been recorded along with Roman urns and ampullae at an inexact grid reference c.600m north east of the study site (HER Ref: MEX24645, TL 85 06).
- 3.2.5 Excavations at Brick House Farm c.450m north east of the study site revealed a later phase of land-use comprising a Roman field boundary ditch (HER Ref: MEX40134, TL 8527 0560).
- 3.2.6 The route of a reputed Roman road has been recorded c.380m to the north west of the study site (HER Ref: MEX25561, TL 8296 0567; MEX25563, TL 829 056).
- 3.2.7 Spreads of Roman pottery (HER Ref: MEX1049102, TL 8374 0509 & MEX1049103, TL 8451 0518) have been found during field walking exercises across parts of the study site.
- 3.2.8 Further Roman findspots within the study area include several terracotta lamps found in Maldon at an inexact grid reference (HER Ref: MEX24668, TL 85 06), coins (HER Ref: MEX1048891, TL 84 06; MEX24906, TL 845 067; MEX1047630, TL83 05) and a bead (HER Ref: MEX25868, TL 8465 0670).

3.3 Anglo-Saxon/early medieval

- 3.3.1 Hazeleigh Hall is located c.1.1km south of the study site and is recorded by the HER as an Anglo-Saxon manor (HER Ref: MEX25182, TL 836 038).
- 3.3.2 The Saxon burh at Maldon was situated c.1.5km to the north of the study site (HER Ref: MEX 24719, TL 8512 0701). Maldon town is thought to have developed outside the eastern gates of the burh and was first mentioned in

AD 913 when Edward the Elder (AD 874-924) stationed his army and fleet there during his campaigns against the Danes.

3.4 Medieval

- 3.4.1 During this period the study site comprised agricultural land. HER records dating to the medieval period are concentrated to the north of the study site closer to Maldon and St Giles' Hospital, and to the south of the study site around Hazeleigh Hall.
- 3.4.2 Maldon retained its importance during the medieval period as an important port on the Essex coast (HER Ref: MEX24720, TL 8504 0694). A number of manorial sites are recorded within the study area, including Maldon Hall c.850m north of the study site.

3.5 Post-medieval

- 3.5.1 This section on the development of the site using the map regression data is taken from the DBA. Maps mentioned here are included in the DBA as Figures 7 16, 23, 28 and 31 (Tierney 2018).
- 3.5.2 The 1777 Chapman and Andre map of Essex shows the study site located in primarily agricultural or pastoral land south of the settlement of Maldon. The Lime Brook runs roughly west to east into the west side of the site before passing through the north-west corner and along the northern boundary. A smaller tributary (possibly the Woodham Mortimer Brook, although it is unlabelled) meets with the Lime Brook to the east and extends east to west below the south-eastern corner of the study site before petering out. Much of the north-western corner of the study site comprises an area of relatively high ground whilst the land to the south and east falls away towards the estuary. A small area of woodland is located in the south eastern corner, north of the unlabelled brook. The area around the study site is characterised by isolated farmsteads and country manors with the roads to the eastern and western end of the study site leading to Maldon.
- 3.5.3 The 1799 Ordnance Survey Drawing shows the study site in a greater level of detail and it is now shown divided into agricultural or pastoral fields. The

- course of the Lime Brook appears to have been diverted to flow south of the study site, along the route of the modern day Woodham Mortimer Brook.
- 3.5.4 A plan of the Manor of 'Hazeleigh' covered the western half of the total area of the proposed development, located directly to the west of the current site in 1836 and shows this area as pastoral fields labelled 'Limes Brook Farm'.
- 3.5.5 The study site comprises land that was situated within the parishes of Woodham Mortimer (1838), St Peter's Maldon (1840), St Mary's Maldon (1843) and Hazeleigh (1844).
- 3.5.6 The 1873 Ordnance Survey Map shows only minor field boundary changes within the study site. The Lime Brook is shown forming the northern boundary of the study site once again. An historic boundary marker post is recorded adjacent to the study site which is depicted on this Ordnance Survey map but is no longer extant (HER Ref: MEX1036128, TL 8413 0508).
- 3.5.7 By 1897-8 the Woodham Ferrers to Maldon Railway is shown in the central strip between the two halves of the study site (HER Ref: MEX1042288, TL 8313 0292). The railway line was constructed in 1889 to provide a passenger link between north east Essex and Southend but was closed in 1895 due to lack of demand. No other changes are visible on the map of the study site.
- 3.5.8 Whilst no changes are shown to the study site by 1924, much of the study site is shown in more detail as areas of old rough grassland. There appear to have been drainage ditches added, orientated roughly east to west throughout the study area. The Woodham Ferrers to Maldon Railway had been used for military purposes during the Great War and World War Two but was closed completely in 1953 (HER Ref: MEX1042288, TL 8313 0292). The cutting and embankment is recorded as well preserved nearby to Hazeleigh Hall (HER Ref: MEX1042272, TL 842 039). No other changes are visible on this map of the study site by 1960, although the areas of old rough grassland are for the most part no longer depicted.

- 3.5.9 Further minor field boundary changes are shown on the 1976-79 Ordnance Survey Map. Residential expansion of Maldon can be seen at the far northern edge of this edition, whilst the northern end of the railway has been dismantled.
- 3.5.10 Further residential expansion has occurred by the year 2000, and the B1018 Limebrook Way has been constructed.

3.6 Previous Site Investigation

3.6.1 A geophysical survey was undertaken on much of the PDA in October 2013 (Figure 3) (Stratascan, 2013 & HER Ref: EEX58892, TL 8446 0532) (as appendix in Archer 2017). It concluded that no anomalies of certain archaeological origin were identified; although these conclusions must be treated with some caution as the report notes the London Clay based geology may not have been fully responsive to the survey. A number of possible features were identified but it was noted these could be modern agricultural or natural in origin. Evidence of recent land use was identified in the form of former field boundaries and ploughing. Some anomalies were also attributed to services, land drains, ferrous objects and fencing.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 General

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised 86 2m x 50m trial trenches, totalling 8600m2. These were distributed evenly across the site in a grid pattern in order to provide a representative sample of the development area (Figure 2). The north-western corner and northern edge of the site area was more intensively investigated, due to its proximity to known archaeological sites, its higher topographic position and the greater density of archaeological features recovered from these areas.

4.2 Excavation methodology

4.2.1 Ground reduction during the evaluation was carried out using a 20 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator (Plate 2). Overburden deposits assessed to be of low archaeological value were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits, where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. The Roman archaeological level was sealed by extensive deposits of homogenous colluvium/alluvium, present in the evaluation as (101) & (211). Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. After hand excavation and subject to the approval of the ECC representative, the various palaeochannel deposits were investigated by means of machine-excavated test pits, located in Trenches 2 & 6.

4.3 Recording and Finds Recovery

- 4.3.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica GS014 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.
- 4.3.2 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009).

Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. Where more than one slot was excavated through an individual feature, each intervention was assigned additional numbers for the cutting event and for the deposits it contained (these deposits within cut features being referred to here as 'fills'). The record numbers assigned to cuts, deposits and groups are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits excavated during the evaluation and excavation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

- 4.3.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector periodically. Only objects of modern date were found and were not retained for accession
- 4.3.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, and were used to keep a record of the excavation process.

4.4 Sampling Strategy

4.4.1 Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded by a cross-section scaled drawing at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20). Linear features were investigated by means of 1m wide slots. Where stratigraphic relationships between features could not be discerned in plan, relationship slots were also excavated and these were recorded as part of the GPS survey and noted on the relevant context sheets.

4.5 Environmental Sampling

4.5.1 A total of 8 bulk samples (totalling 300 litres; commonly 40 litres in volume per sample) were taken to extract and identify micro- and macro-botanical remains. The aim of this sampling was to investigate the past environment and economy of the site, the diet of the ancient inhabitants and the agricultural basis of the settlement. An additional aim of the sampling was to

recover small objects that are not readily recovered by hand-collection, such as metalworking debris and bones of fish and small animals. These samples were taken from sealed deposits.

5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE

5.1 Paper Archive

Context register sheets	9
Context sheets	154
Plan registers	0
Plans at 1:50	0
Plans at 1:20	0
Plans at 1:10	0
Plans at 1:5	0
Section register sheets	4
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	62
Trench record sheets	86
Photo register sheets	21
Small finds register sheets	0
Environmental register sheets	1

5.2 Digital Archive

Digital photos	797
GPS survey files	5
Digital plans	1
GIS project	0
Access database	1

5.3 Physical Archive

Struck flint	
Burnt flint	
Pottery	
Ceramic building material (CBM)	
Glass	
Briquetage	
Small Finds	
Slag	
Animal bone	
Shell	
Environmental bulk samples	8
Environmental bulk samples (10 litre buckets)	30
Monolith samples	

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Other samples (specify)	
Black and white films	
Colour slides	

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Overview

- 6.1.1 The earliest activity identified consisted of a number of boundary and drainage ditches, as well as a single pit, which produced finds of a predominantly Late Iron Age to early Roman date. These ditches formed a part of a wider field system, focused on the high ground in the north-western corner of the site area (Figures 3 & 4), which appeared to have continued without hiatus throughout both periods. The layout of the field system respected an area of low, waterlogged ground, dominated by a palaeochannel of contemporary date which represented an earlier course of the Lime Brook.
- 6.1.2 This activity is likely to directly relate to the Late Iron Age and Roman settlement activity identified directly to the north of the PDA. Following the early Roman period, the whole of the site area seems to have fallen out of bounded agricultural use, and may have functioned as seasonally waterlogged pasture, based on the topographic position of the site and the observed water table. This led to the formation of significant deposits of alluvium/colluvium, sealing the Roman archaeology and 'flattening out' the topography. Activity to the north, at the 'Maldon Southern Bypass' site appeared to have continued into the Late Roman period, indicating that the cessation of activity on the current site does not relate to this settlement going out of use.
- 6.1.3 Post-medieval activity, in the form of further boundary ditches and pits cutting into the colluvium/alluvium was also identified, and in some limited cases could be linked to boundaries visible on the 1873 Ordnance Survey map of the site area (Figure 13).
- 6.1.4 Detailed plans of trenches containing significant features or groups of features, as well as section drawings can be seen on Figures 5-11.

6.2 Natural Features

Treethrows

- 6.2.1 Only two treethrows were present within the site area, in Trenches 35 and 56 ([233] & [235]), which is reflective of the predominant use of the site in the historical period as agricultural land, although the south-east corner of the site was once wooded. Prior to this, the waterlogged nature of the site area, located within the floodplain of the River Chelmer is likely to have discouraged the growth of woodland.
- 6.2.2 Treethrow [233] was located centrally within Trench 35 and was roughly curvilinear in plan with a moderately-sloping concave profile (0.45m wide x 0.19m deep), continuing out of the limit of excavation to the west. It had a single fill (232), a dark brownish-grey silty clay which contained a single intrusive sherd from a Pearl Ware plate, which could be dated to 1780-1840 AD.
- 6.2.3 Treethrow [235] was located to the north within Trench 56 and was irregular in plan with a moderately-sloping concave profile (0.78m wide x 0.19m deep). It had a single fill (234), a mid-brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.

Geology

6.2.4 Due to the varied composition of the natural geology, in three instances (contexts (138) in Trench 8, (179) in Trench 19, (182) in Trench 21 and (259) in Trench 29) the natural was tested through hand excavation and recorded. In one instance (context (138) in Trench 8), the test pit produced a small assemblage of early Roman pottery from the interface of the colluvium with the natural, which is likely to have been 'pressed in' from this overlying deposit.

Palaeochannels

6.2.5 A number of palaeochannels of various sizes ([261] in Trench 2, [128] & [130] in Trench 4, [140] in Trench 8, [196] & [249] in Trench 6 (Plate 3), [253] in Trench 10 (Plate 4), [215], [219] & [251] in Trench 14, [257] Trench 29, [201] & [205] in Trench 53 & [237] in Trench 56) were present within the site area, the majority of which were located in the northern and western areas of the site.

- 6.2.6 The larger channels varied from 2m to 17m in width and were of a shallow depth of no more than 0.40m. The fills of the channels varied from a mid blueish to a mid brownish silty clay.
- 6.2.7 These channels represent various water courses meandering down from the high ground to the north and west, where they would have been fed by rainfall and the various small offshoots of the Rivers Chelmer and Crouch prior to the formalization and canalization of these channels into the Lime and Woodham Mortimer Brooks in the modern period.
- 6.2.8 Some of the smaller channels were clearly not significant in size or extent, and can be distinguished from the larger channels which would have formed significant natural obstacles in the landscape. These were on average 1.8m in width and 0.20m in depth.
- 6.2.9 The majority of these channels could not be dated, due to the absence of finds assemblages, however, based on the stratigraphic relationships they exhibited all are likely to be of a Roman or earlier date. The exception was palaeochannels [196] and [249] in Trench 6 and [201] in Trench 53, which contained small assemblages of pottery of a Late Iron Age to early Roman (BC 50- 100 AD) date.
- 6.2.10 Small palaeochannel [237] in Trench 56 (no figure) contained two pieces of ceramic building material in an unknown sandy fabric.
- 6.2.11 Further palaeochannel deposits were also present in Trenches 7, 8, 14, 18, 25 where they were not subject to excavation. The channels are marked in yellow on Figures 3 and 4.

6.3 Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. BC 100-100 AD)

6.3.1 Features containing large assemblages of finds were in general notable by their absence on the site, with the exception of the roughly north-east to south-west and north to south aligned Ditches [112], [133] and [135] in Trench 1 and the north-west to south-east aligned Ditch [122] in Trench 2, which together contained 51% of the Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery

- recovered from the evaluation by sherd count (see Section 7.2, Plates 6 and 7). The ditches also produced relatively large assemblages of pottery, burnt clay/daub and animal bone.
- 6.3.2 The remainder of the features on site contained little datable material. However, the stratigraphic relationship of many of the ditches described in this section, below the colluvial/alluvial deposits suggests they were Roman in date.
- 6.3.3 Although relatively few ditches could be linked together, the field system they represent appeared to be positioned on a roughly ENE-WSW and NNW-SSE axis, and may have formed two main fields one covering an area in the vicinity of Trenches 1-5, the other, less well defined field in the area directly to the south of these trenches. Further ditches appear to roughly follow the suggested line of the palaeochannel located near the northern site boundary (Figures 2, 3 and 4).

Ditch descriptions

- 6.3.4 Ditch [112/135] (Plate 6) was located to the east within Trench 1 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.94m-1.13m by 0.30m. It contained a single fill (111/134), a mid-greyish-brown silty clay which contained a small assemblage (12 sherds, 75g) of pottery of a Late Iron Age to early Roman (50 BC- AD 100) date, three small fragments of daub, nine pieces of animal bone, derived from cattle and sheep/goat, as well as charred plant grains and charcoal. The ditch was cut by post-medieval Ditch [133].
- 6.3.5 Ditch [113] was located centrally within Trench 2 and was aligned roughly north-west to south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.73m by 0.39m. It contained a single fill (114), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.6 Ditch [122] was located to the west within Trench 2 and was aligned roughly

north-west to south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 1.03m by 0.25m. It contained a single fill (121), a mid-to light brownish-grey silty clay which contained a small assemblage (34.4g) of burnt flint, a relatively large assemblage (82 sherds, 786g) of pottery of a Late Iron Age to Roman (50 BC-100 AD) date, 82 fragments of daub & fired clay, some of which retained rod marks, one piece of sheep/goat bone, as well as charred plant charcoal. The ditch cut Ditch [125], but was cut by Ditch [127], to the east. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [122] is likely to have formed a later iteration of the same boundary as Ditch [125], to the east.

- 6.3.7 Ditch [125] was located to the east within Trench 2 and was aligned roughly north-west to south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 1.35m by 0.21m. It contained two fills; an upper fill (123), a 0.21m thick light to mid-brownish-grey silty clay which contained a small assemblage (2 sherds, 46g) of pottery of a Late Iron Age (BC 50-AD 50) date, one fragment of late Bronze Age early Iron Age pottery (Section 7.3.2), six pieces of abraded daub and two pieces of pig bone and a lower fill (124), a 0.05m thick mid-brown gravel which contained no finds. The ditch was cut by Ditches [122] and [127], to the west. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [125] is likely to have formed an earlier iteration of the same boundary as Ditch [122], to the west.
- 6.3.8 Ditch [127] was located to the east within Trench 2 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.76m by 0.26m. It contained a single fill (126), a mid-greyish-blue silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch cut Ditches [122] & [125], to the west.
- 6.3.9 Ditch [105] (Plate 5) was located to the east within Trench 3 and was aligned roughly north to south, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was narrow and shallow, measuring 0.65m by 0.28m. It contained two fills; an upper fill (103), a 0.21m thick light brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds and a lower fill (104), a 0.03m thick light

brownish-grey sandy-clay, which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [105] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditch [106], to the east.

- 6.3.10 Ditch [106] (Plate 5) was located to the east within Trench 3 and was aligned roughly north to south, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 1.00m by 0.36m. It contained two fills; an upper fill (108), a 0.35m thick mid-blueish-grey silty-clay which contained no finds and a lower fill (107), a 0.01m thick mid-blueish-grey gravelly-clay which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [106] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditch [105], to the west.
- 6.3.11 Ditch [115] (Plate 9) was located to the north within Trench 4 and was aligned roughly east-north-east to west-south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was narrow and shallow, measuring 0.47m by 0.17m. It contained a single fill (116), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.12 Ditch [162] was located to the south within Trench 10 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.75m by 0.15m. It contained a single fill (161), a light mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained a single sherd of pottery (2g) of an early Roman (AD 40-100) date.
- 6.3.13 Ditch [164] was located centrally within Trench 10 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.95m by 0.30m. It contained a single fill (163), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained a small assemblage (10 sherds, 48g) of pottery of a Late Iron Age (AD 0-50) date, as well as charred plant charcoal. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [164] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [154] IN Trench 12 to the east.
- 6.3.14 Ditch [176] was located to the north within Trench 31 and was aligned

roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.00m by 0.32m. It contained a single fill (175), a mid-greyish-brown sandy clay which contained a single sherd (2g) of pottery of a Late Iron Age (50 BC-AD 50) date. Based on shared alignment and profile, and its correspondence with the geophysical survey, Ditch [176] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [188], to the north.

- 6.3.15 Ditch [188] was located centrally within Trench 17 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.66m by 0.18m. It contained a single fill (187), a dark brownish-grey silty clay which contained a small assemblage of burnt flint (1.5g), a small assemblage (2 sherds, 13g) of pottery of a Roman (AD 50-400) date, a single piece of early Roman Radlett tile (50-120 AD) and charred plant grains and charcoal. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [188] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditch [190], to the east. In addition, based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [188] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [176], to the south.
- 6.3.16 Ditch [137] was located to the east within Trench 5 and was aligned roughly north-north-east to south-south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.54m by 0.16m. It contained a single fill (136), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.17 Ditch [140] was located to the north within Trench 8 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was narrow and shallow, measuring 0.40m by 0.06m. It contained a single fill (139), a mid-blueish-grey sandy clay which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [140] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [203], to the south-west.
- 6.3.18 Ditch [142] was located to the south within Trench 8 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It

- was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.90m by 0.20m. It contained a single fill (141), a mid-blueish-grey sandy clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.19 Ditch [145] was located to the south within Trench 6 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation to the east. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 1.13m by 0.30m. It contained a single fill (146), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained a single piece of cattle bone. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [145] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditches [148] & [150], to the south.
- 6.3.20 Ditch [148] was located to the south within Trench 6 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 2.32m by 0.18m. It contained a single fill (147), a mid-brownish-grey silty clay which contained two pieces of cattle bone. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [148] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditch [145] to the north. Ditch [148] is also likely to have formed an earlier iteration of the same boundary as Ditch [150], to the south.
- 6.3.21 Ditch [150] was located to the south within Trench 6 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.54m by 0.10m. It contained a single fill (149), a light brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [150] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditch [145] to the north. Ditch [148] is also likely to have formed a later iteration of the same boundary as Ditch [148], to the north. The ditch cut Ditch [148], to the north.
- 6.3.22 Ditch [152] was located to the west within Trench 9 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.55m by 0.22m. It contained a single fill (151), a mottled light to mid-blueish-grey/mid-orangey-brown sandy clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.23 Ditch [154] was located to the south within Trench 12 and was aligned

roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.10m by 0.22m. It contained a single fill (153), a mid-brown sandy clay which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [154] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [164], to the west.

- 6.3.24 Ditch [158] (Plate 10) was located to the south within Trench 12 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.35m by 0.29m. It contained a single fill (157), a light brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.25 Ditch [160] was located to the north within Trench 27 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.95m by 0.33m. It contained a single fill (159), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [160] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [213], to the north-east.
- 6.3.26 Ditch [166] was located to the north within Trench 10 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.63m by 0.36m. It contained a single fill (165), a mid-blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.27 Ditch [172] was located to the east within Trench 30 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.55m by 0.24m. It contained a single fill (171), a light to midgreyish-brown silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.28 Ditch [174] was located to the west within Trench 30 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.60m by 0.30m. It contained a single fill (173), a mid-greyish-brown silty clay which contained eight pieces of cattle bone.

- 6.3.29 Ditch [178] was located to the west within Trench 30 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 2.08m by 0.14m. It contained a single fill (177), a dark greyish-brown silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.30 Ditch [190] was located to the east within Trench 17 and was aligned roughly north-north-west to south-south-east, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.70m by 0.25m. It contained a single fill (189), a mid-brownish-grey silty clay which contained a small assemblage (4 sherds, 13g) of pottery of an early Roman date (AD 50-100), charred plant grains and charcoal. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [190] is likely to have formed part of the same boundary as Ditch [188], to the west.
- 6.3.31 Ditch [203] was located to the east within Trench 7 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively wide but shallow, measuring 0.80m by 0.28m. It contained a single fill (202), a mid-greyish-blue sandy silt which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [203] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [140], to the north-east.
- 6.3.32 Ditch [207] was located centrally within Trench 4 and was aligned roughly east-north-east to west-south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.50m by 0.30m. It contained two fills; an upper fill (206), a 0.30m thick mottled mid-greyish-blue/ mid-orange sandy silt which contained no finds and a lower fill (208), a 0.15m thick mid-greyish-orange gravel which contained no finds.
- 6.3.33 Ditch [213] was located centrally within Trench 14 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation to the south-west. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.62m by 0.12m. It contained a single fill (212), a mid-brownish-grey clayey-silt which contained no finds. Based on shared alignment and profile, Ditch [213] is likely to have formed part of the same ditch as Ditch [160], to the south-west.

- 6.3.34 Ditch [221] was located to the north within Trench 24 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.50m by 0.20m. It contained a single fill (220), a mid-orangey-brown silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.35 Ditch [223] was located to the north within Trench 26 and was aligned roughly east to west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.65m by 0.19m. It contained a single fill (222), a mid-greyish-blue silty clay which contained no finds.
- 6.3.36 Ditch [244] was located to the north within Trench 58 and was aligned roughly north-east to south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was narrow and shallow, measuring 0.23m by 0.17m. It contained a single fill (243), a dark brownish-grey silty clay which contained a single piece of medieval peg tile. Based on the lack of features of a medieval date on the site and the position of the feature below the overburden deposits this piece of tile is considered to be intrusive or may in fact be of a Roman date.

Pit

6.3.37 Pit [170] was located to the east within Trench 28 and was roughly oval in plan with a moderately-sloping concave profile (1.35m wide x 0.37m deep), continuing out of the limit of excavation to the north. It had a single fill (169), a mid-brownish-grey silty clay which contained a single sherd (2g) of pottery of an early Roman (AD 40-100) date, 29 pieces of animal bone, derived from cattle and pig, as well as rare charcoal flecks. The pit was located in the area the postulated northern Roman field, and is likely to represent an isolated event of rubbish deposition.

Natural Features

6.3.38 Layer (138) was located to the north within Trench 8 and was aligned roughly east-north-east to west-south-west, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was wide but shallow, measuring 1.25m by

0.06m. It consisted of a mid-greyish-blue silty clay which contained no finds, and was heavily churned up. This deposit represents an area of the disturbed natural substrate, which is likely to have been so affected due to its position in a waterlogged area, directly to the south of a palaeochannel. As this deposit contained a medium-sized assemblage (18 sherds, 342g) of pottery of a Late Iron Age date (BC 50-AD 50), it may provide a clue as to the date of this palaeochannel, as it is likely that this area would only have finds 'trampled in' to its surface when this palaeochannel was active.

6.4 Post Roman Overburden

- 6.4.1 The Late Iron Age to Early Roman archaeological level was sealed by extensive deposits of homogenous colluvium/alluvium, present in the evaluation as (101), a light to mid-yellowy brown clay. In certain trenches (Trenches 16, 28, 43, 128 & 143) a different deposit of colluvium/alluvium (211), a mid-brown silty clay could be identified below (101).
- 6.4.2 The combined thickness of these two deposits commonly exceeded 1.0m, although the thickness was generally less to the north-west within the site, on the area of high ground. Although the precise derivation of these deposits could not be identified, they are likely to be mixed deposits deriving from the periodic flooding of the water channels that crossed the site in the historic period, now canalised as the Lime Brook.
- 6.4.3 The wide extent of the previous areas of deposition for this water course can be extrapolated from the palaeochannels identified during the course of the evaluation (Figures 3 & 4), as well as the shifting location of the Lime and Woodham Mortimer Brooks on historic maps of the site area (Figure 12).
- 6.4.4 The overburden deposits are also likely to derive partially from soil creep moving material downslope from the north, a process that is likely to have been accelerated by more extensive and invasive medieval and later agricultural ploughing. The post-Roman date of these deposits can be inferred from their position in the stratigraphic sequence; uniformly overlying features and deposits that contained finds assemblages of an Late Iron Age to early Roman date, as well as the discovery of small assemblages of Late

Iron Age and Early Roman (50 BC-AD 100; total 12 sherds, 122g) at the interface of the overburden deposit (101) with the natural. Deposit (211) also contained a relatively large (36 sherds, 298g) assemblage of pottery of a Late Iron Age to early Roman (0-70 AD) date in Trench 67, again located at the interface of the deposit with the natural.

6.5 Post-medieval and modern

- 6.5.1 Post-medieval to modern agricultural ditches, ploughscars and rubbish pits were encountered and recorded in a number of trenches (Trenches 1, 2, 10, 16, 19, 23, 26, 29, 30, 56 & 57). The ditches were located in Trenches 1 ([109], [118] & [120]), 2 ([144]), 10 ([156]), 16 ([242]), 23 ([194] & [199]), 28 ([170)] & 29 ([168]), the pits were located in Trenches 19 ([181]) & 30 ([186]) & the ploughscars were located in Trenches 1 ([210]), 26 ([217], [225], [227], [229] & [231] & 57 ([239]). Detailed descriptions of the post-medieval and modern features can be found in Appendix 2.
- 6.5.2 Only three of the identified ditches ([156] in Trench 10, [194] & [199] in Trench 23) could be aligned to historic boundaries visible on historic maps of the site area (in this case the 1873 Ordnance Survey Map, Figure 13), and relate to the layout of the agricultural fields that comprised the site in this period. The relative lack of features that could be tied to features visible on the historic maps indicates that modern ploughing may have removed the bulk of features dating to the later historic period. The three pits relate to opportunistic, isolated episodes of waste deposition taking place on the site, whereas the ploughscars are located in positions where the comparative lack of thickness of overburden would not have protected the level of the natural.
- 6.5.3 Ditch [133] was located to the east within Trench 1 and was aligned roughly north to south, carrying on out of the limits of excavation in both directions. It was relatively narrow and shallow, measuring 0.70m by 0.36m. It contained a single fill (132), a mid-greyish-brown silty clay which contained four fragments of fired clay and a single intrusive wrought iron horseshoe. The ditch cut Ditch [112/135].

7 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Lithics

Ella Egberts

Struck flint

- 7.1.1 One worked flint has been recovered as a field-walked find from the surface at the site. It consisted of a decortication flake (L 34mm, W 29m, T 9mm, 5.8g). The entire dorsal side consists of nodular cortex except for a small, partly trimmed/flaked part of the proximal part of the left edge. The flake has been hardly knapped. The flake is in a relatively fresh condition considering it has been found on the surface of the site.
- 7.1.2 Although the struck flint is undiagnostic it shows that humans have been present at the site at some point in prehistoric times.

Burnt flint

7.1.3 Two pieces of unworked burnt flint have been found at the above named site. The largest fragment (34.4g) has been obtained from context (121), sample <1006> of Ditch [122]. The second fragment (1.5g) has been found in context (187), sample <1002>, spot-dated to 40-150 AD. Unworked burnt flint is not specific to any period in time and may be intentionally heated or accidentally burnt.

7.2 Roman Pottery

Katie Anderson with Matt Brudenell

Introduction

7.2.1 The MD60 evaluation yielded an assemblage of Later Iron Age and Roman pottery totalling 205 sherds, weighing 1929g and representing 1.21 EVEs (estimated vessel equivalent) and a minimum of 17 vessels (MNV). All of the pottery was examined and recorded in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009) and the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Perrin 2011) using the standard terminology and codes advocated by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (Symonds 2002).

Assemblage Chronology

7.2.2 The assemblage ranges in date from the later Iron Age to the early Roman period (c. 100BC-AD70/100), seemingly without hiatus. Some contexts were noted as containing a combination of later Iron Age tradition pottery alongside early Roman wares. The ceramic evidence suggests a peak in activity in the mid-1st century BC to the mid-1st century AD, and also suggests activity had ceased before the end of the 1st century AD.

Date/Pottery Tradition	No.	Wt(g)
Later Iron Age	139	1422
Late Iron Age/early Roman	46	357
Early Roman	20	150
TOTAL	205	1929

Table 1: Quantification of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery by date/pottery tradition

Assemblage Composition

- 7.2.3 The pottery varies in condition, with most sherds being small in size, with much fewer large, relatively 'fresh' sherds. The overall level of abrasion is high, reflected in the mean weight of the assemblage, which is relatively low at 9.4g. The overall impression is that much of the material had either been left on the surface for some time before being deposited within features, or else had been redeposited from elsewhere.
- 7.2.4 A variety of vessel fabrics were identified in varying quantities (see Table 2). Grog-tempered wares dominated the later Iron Age element of the assemblage, representing 57% of the assemblage (by sherd count), of which four different fabric types were recorded. Fabric QG1 is the most commonly occurring fabric, totalling 51 sherds weighing 638g, the majority of which is Late Iron Age in date, although six sherds in this fabric are dated Late Iron Age/early Roman as they occurred on wheel-made vessels.
- 7.2.5 Sandy wares represent a further 42% of the later Iron Age pottery, occurring in both a micaceous (QM1) and non-micaceous variety (Q1). The remaining 1% comprises two quartz and calcareous-tempered sherds.

Fabric Code Fabric	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
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CSGW	Coarse sandy greyware (unsourced)	1	10	0	0
CSMRDU	Coarse sandy reduced micaceous ware (unsourced)	1	2	0	0
CSOX	Coarse sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	4	34	1	0.07
CSRDU	Coarse sandy reduced wares (unsourced)	5	19	0	0
FSGW	Fine sandy greyware (unsourced)	1	13	0	0
FSMGW	Fine sandy micaceous greyware (unsourced)	5	21	2	0
FSOX	Fine sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	1	1	0	0
Q1	Coarse sandy ware with rare large quartz grains up to				
	1mm	2	17	0	0
QC1	Coarse sandy ware with moderate chalk inclusions	2	8	0	0
QG1	Fine sandy ware with common very small to small grog	51	638	8	0.9
	Moderately coarse sandy with moderate small grog				
QG2	inclusions	17	261	2	0.24
	Moderately coarse sandy with moderate to common				
QG3	medium grog up to 1mm	2	6	0	0
	fine sandy ware with occasional to moderate very small				
QG4	grog (0.1mm)	36	156	0	0
QM1	As Q1 but with common silver mica	77	743	4	0

Table 2: Quantification of Later Iron Age and Roman pottery by fabric (italics denote Later Iron Age fabrics)

- 7.2.6 The early Roman component of the assemblage is dominated by sandy coarseware fabrics, with no examples of finewares or imported wares. Given the size of the Roman assemblage this is not unexpected. However, it may have some significance to the status of the site and/or the duration of occupation, perhaps implying that activity did not continue much beyond the Roman conquest. None of the Roman fabrics could be sourced, and it is likely that most were produced locally to the site.
- 7.2.7 A minimum of 16 different vessels were identified, based on the number of unique rims present. This figure is slightly lower than might be expected from an assemblage of this size; however, this can be explained by the size and condition of much of the assemblage as detailed above. Jars are the most commonly occurring form, with a minimum of ten vessels identified.
- 7.2.8 Within the Later Iron Age component, a minimum of eight vessels were identified, comprising seven jars and one bowl, including one Thompson type B1 and one B2-1 (Thompson 1982) and one large beaded rim storage

- jar. Three vessels were decorated with an applied cordon on the neck of the vessel.
- 7.2.9 A minimum of three vessels date to the Late Iron Age/early Roman period, comprising one folded bead rim jar, one flanged rim jar and one jar with an externally thickened rim. Finally, a minimum of four early Roman vessels were identified, comprising two jars and two beaded rims from unknown vessel forms.
- 7.2.10 Overall the assemblage is indicative of a domestic assemblage, with a range of vessels for the storage, preparation and serving of foodstuffs.

Contextual Analysis

- 7.2.11 Pottery was collected from 12 of the trenches (see Table 3), with Trenches 1 and 2 in the northwest corner of the site, standing out as containing relatively large quantities of material, totalling 51% of all pottery from the evaluation (by sherd count). Each individual sherd/group of sherds was given a date range, then each context was given an overall Spotdate. Later Iron Age material was recovered from Trenches 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 31 and 67.
- 7.2.12 Trench 2 contained the largest number of sherds, totalling 89 sherds (874g), thus representing 43.4% of the entire Roman assemblage. This material derived from two contexts as well as the topsoil. 81 sherds (784g) were recovered from Ditch [122]/(121), dating 50BC-AD50. This included two grog-tempered jars and one sandy ware jar. A single sandy greyware sherd dating to the early Roman period was also recovered. It is possible that this sherd was contemporary with the later Iron Age pottery, thus suggesting a mid-1st century AD date. However, it is also possible that this was intrusive. Five sherds (46g) were collected from Ditch [125]/(123), which appear to be contemporary with the material from Ditch [122] with a date of 50BC-AD50.
- 7.2.13 Colluvium layer (211) produced 36 sherds (298g) from a single, micaceous, sandy ware jar with a folded bead rim, dating AD0-70.

Trench	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
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1	15	102	2	0
2	89	874	6	0.61
6	23	180	2	0
8	18	342	2	0.5
10	11	50	1	0
13	2	8	0	0
17	6	26	2	0
28	1	2	0	0
31	1	2	1	0
53	1	10	0	0
64	2	35	1	0.1
67	36	298	0	0

Table 3: All Roman pottery by trench

7.2.14 Early Roman pottery was recovered from features within six trenches; Trenches 1, 2, 10, 17, 28 and 53. There is therefore clearly some continuity between the later Iron Age features and the early Roman features in Trenches 1, 2 and 10. It is also Trenches 1 and 2 that appear to represent the area closest to a settlement 'core'.

Context	Cut	Trench	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE	Context spotdate
101	0	2	3	44	2	0.17	AD50-100
101	0	6	3	10	0	0	50BC-AD50 with 1 med
101	0	64	2	35	1	0.1	50BC-AD50
101	101	1	2	25	0	0	AD40-100
101	101	13	2	8	0	0	AD0-70
111	112	1	7	44	1	0	AD40-100
121	122	2	82	786	3	0.44	50BC-AD100
123	125	2	5	46	1	0	50BC-AD50
134	135	1	5	31	1	0	50BC-AD50
138	138	8	18	342	2	0.5	50BC-AD50
161	162	10	1	2	0	0	AD40-100
163	164	10	10	48	1	0	AD0-50
169	170	28	1	2	0	0	AD40-100
175	176	31	1	2	1	0	50BC-AD50
187	188	17	2	13	1	0	AD50-400
189	190	17	4	13	1	0	AD50-100
195	196	6	18	144	2	0	AD0-50
200	201	53	1	10	0	0	AD40-100

211	211	67	36	298	0	0	AD0-70
248	249	6	2	26	0	0	50BC-AD50

Table 4: All later Iron Age and Roman pottery by context

Discussion

7.2.15 Overall the pottery assemblage comprises a small, yet important collection of material, which suggests occupation began during the Late Iron Age and continued into the early Roman period. The material suggests a peak in activity between 50BC-AD50, before a decline into the mid-later 1st century AD, with seemingly continuity of activity.

7.3 Post-Roman Pottery

Chris Jarrett

7.3.1 A small assemblage of pottery (four sherds/67g) dating to the prehistoric and post-medieval periods was recovered from the site and found as single sherds in four contexts. The pottery is in a fragmentary condition and includes abraded material and was therefore more likely to have been deposited under both secondary and tertiary conditions. The classification of the fabrics follows where suitable that of the Essex post-Roman pottery codes and are according to Cunningham (1985) and Cotter (2000).

The pottery types and their distribution

7.3.2 The distribution of the pottery types are shown in Table 2. The wares come from either an Essex or a general British source (Cotter 2000).

Context	Fill of	Tr.	Period	Pottery type (Essex code)	Date range	Form	sc	ENV	Wt	Spot date
(117)	[118]	1	PM	Post- medieval redware, general (40)	1550– 1900	Unidentified	1	1	42	late 16th century
(123)	[125]	2	PH	Calcined flint- tempered ware	Bronze Age - mid Iron Age	Unidentified	1	1	19	Bronze Age - mid Iron Age
(232)	[233]	35	PM	Pearl ware	1780–	Plate	1	1	2	1780–

				(48D)	1840					1840
(245)	[246]	56	PM	Post- medieval redware, general (40)	1550– 1900	?jar	1	1	4	late 16th century

Table 5: Post-Roman pottery by context

Significance & potential

7.3.3 The pottery is of little significance as the assemblage was so small in quantity; as such the pottery has only the potential to date the contexts it was found in.

7.4 Ceramic Building Material Amparo Valcarcel

Review

- 7.4.1 The small assemblage (136 fragments, 3.24 kg) consists mainly of pieces of fragmentary and abraded fired clay and daub, and a smaller quantity of Roman, medieval and post-medieval building material. More than 75% of the assemblage consists of daub and fired clay.
- 7.4.2 All of the Roman building material is in a fragmentary condition which would suggest that it may have been dumped. The common 1st to early 2nd century red sandy group 2815 dominates, with just one example of the Radlett fabric group. Small horizontal fragments of tile are the main form, and imbrices are present with only two examples in (191) and (245). It is interesting to note the absence of bricks and tegula.

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range o	f material	Latest dat	ed material	Spot date	Spot date with mortar
101	2459a;2 586;303 3;2280; unk	Early Roman sandy tiles; medieval peg tile; post- medieval sandy brick; post- medieval drain pipe; unknown fabrics	10	50	1900	1600	1800	1600-1800	No mortar
110	3033	Post-medieval sandy red brick	1	1450	1900	1450	1900	1450-1900	No mortar
111	3102	Small daub fragments	3	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	400BC-450	No mortar
117	2271;25 86;2276 ;3033	Medieval and post-medieval peg tiles; post-medieval sandy red bricks	10	1180	1900	1480	1900	1600-1800	No mortar
121	3102	Daub with rod marks; fired clay	82	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	400BC-400	No mortar
123	3102	Abraded daub	6	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	400BC-400	No mortar
132	3102	Fired clay	4	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	400BC-400	No mortar
187	3023	Early Roman Radlett tile	1	50	120	50	120	50-120	No mortar
191	2452	Early Roman sandy imbrex	1	50	160	50	160	50-160	No mortar
194	3117	Slate roofing or levelling	1	50	1800	50	1800	50-400+	No mortar
195	3102	Fired clay?	10	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	400BC-450	No mortar
236	UNK	Unknown sandy fabric	2					Undateable	No mortar
243	2856	Medieval peg tile	1	1180	1800	1180	1800	1180-1450	No mortar
245	2452;22 71;2586	Early Roman sandy imbrex; medieval peg tiles	4	55	1800	1180	1800	1180-1450	No mortar

Table 6: Ceramic Building Material by Context

- 7.4.3 Some peg tiles defined by fabric type (2271, 2586) and the presence of coarse moulding sand attest to medieval activity in the area. Furthermore, many of the fabrics can be assigned a later medieval date (13th century). A few examples of post-medieval brick and peg tile were found in contexts (101), (110) and (117). The bricks are made of the sandy red 3033 fabric, manufactured for London City using local clay between 1450 and 1700. However, the fabric continued to be used outside of the confines of the City, where local brickearth was exploited until 1900 (Ken Sabel pers. comm.). These bricks have no fully preserved dimensions, except for an example from (117) (61mm thickness), probably dated from 1600 to 1800. A possible roofing slate was collected from (194).
- 7.4.4 Daub and fired clay are the main building material fabrics recovered from the evaluation. Rod marks are preserved in some of the examples. However, the most interesting items from this site are a cluster of fragments from (121) and (195), well fired and with rounded surfaces, suggesting that they come from an oven/hearth or from a local poorly made imbrex. The fabric is very course with angular flint and chalk intrusions.
- 7.4.5 The building material assemblage reflects the early Roman occupation, as seen in different sites surrounding the area. All the Roman material is abraded, and is probably re-deposited material from the Roman settlement located 200m to the north. Bricks and peg tiles are indicative of a medieval and post-medieval occupation, probably discarded and residual in deposits at this site.

7.5 Metalwork

Ruth Beveridge

7.5.1 A total of seven objects were recovered from the evaluation, all are composed of iron. These finds have been fully recorded and a complete listing is provided in table 4. They have been examined with the assistance of low level magnification, but without the aid of radiographs or ceramic spotdates. They are discussed below by period and material type. The objects were found in the natural infills of two ditches in Trench 1.

7.5.2 Overall, the condition of the metalwork is poor. The iron objects are corroded, with detail being masked by dirt.

Post-medieval or modern

- 7.5.3 From fill (117) of Ditch [118] in Trench 1 a near complete U-shaped staple with arms that are rectangular in cross-section and taper to pointed tips was recovered. The end of one arm is missing the tip. Similar staples have been recorded in Norwich from contexts ranging in date from the 13th century to the 18th century AD (Margeson, 1993, 145, fig. 107, nos 1053, 1061 and 1067). U-shaped staples could have been utilised for a range of functions from binding timbers together to holding chains and hasps in place within structural buildings (Goodall, 1993, 143). During the Roman period loopheaded spikes would have served a similar function (Manning, 1985, 130).
- 7.5.4 From fill (133) of Ditch [132] in Trench 1 a branch of a wrought horseshoe was recovered. The web is wide, tapering to a narrower toe and heel. There is no evidence of a calkin. Overall detail is obscured by corrosion and encrusted dirt making it difficult to allocate to type.
- 7.5.5 The evaluation produced five iron nails, all from fill (117) of Ditch [118] in Trench 1. Where complete, the shank diameter of the nails is between 6 8mm and their head diameter is between 11 and 21mm. Although these measurements are affected by the levels of corrosion and concretion, it can be suggested that such iron nails were small to medium in size and were primarily used for joined objects of furniture or boxes.

Discussion

7.5.6 The small assemblage of finds is entirely post-medieval or later in date. Overall, the assemblage consists of structural objects that could be associated with fixtures and fittings that have been discarded as debris during the natural infilling of the ditches. Similarly, the horseshoe can be considered as a casual loss, or breakage that has been discarded.

Context	Material	Object	Description	Width	Length	Depth	Diameter	Weight
Context	Materiai	Object	Description	(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	(g)
(117) [118]	Iron	Staple	U-shaped staple with arms that are rectangular in cross- section and taper to pointed tips. End of one arm missing tip. Corroded.	58.7	119.1	16.3		156
(117) [118]	Iron	Nails	Five nails, or fragments of nails. Three of the nails have flat, sub-rectangular heads and tapering shanks, rectangular in cross section. Two are fragments of tapering shanks, rectangular in section.	21.6	53.3	7.2		10.2
				14.8	46.5	8.3		9.7
				11.1	49.6	6.7		6.4
				10.4	37	5.8		3.7
				6.5	22.1	4.5		1.8
(132) [133]	Iron	Horses hoe	Branch of a wrought horseshoe. The web is wide, tapering to a narrower toe and heel. No evidence of a calkin. Overall detail is obscured by corrosion and encrusted dirt.	37	149.3	12.5		157.6

Table 7: Metalwork by Context

Recommendations for further work

7.5.7 Should further investigation be undertaken on the site, the objects should be re-examined in light of new finds and the results of radiography.

7.6 Animal Bone

Karen Deighton

Introduction

7.6.1 A small quantity of animal bone was collected by hand from six trenches located in the northwest, north and west of the site during the course of evaluation. Material was also collected from the residues of two sieved environmental samples (mesh sizes 2mm and 10mm).

Methodology

7.6.2 The material was analysed using standard zooarchaeological methods (Schmid 1972) and input into an access type database.

Preservation

7.6.3 Fragmentation was extremely heavy with no complete long bones and most bones at the fragment stage. Surface condition was poor with suffering heavy root erosion which no doubt obscured evidence for butchery and canid gnawing. A single burnt fragment was noted.

Context	Cut	Date	Trench	Cattle	Cattle size	Sheep/goat	Pig	Total
111	112	40-100AD	1	6				6
119	120		1		1			1
121	122	50BC-50AD	2			1		1
123	125	40-100AD	2				2	2
143	144		2	1				1
147	148		2		2			2
169	170	50-200AD	28	20			1	21
173	174		20	8				8
241	242		16	11				11
Total				46	3	4	4	54

Table 8: Taxa by Context

Context	sample	Sheep/goat	Pig	Total
111[112]	1004	3		3
169[170]	1000		1	1
Total		3	1	4

Table 9: Taxa by Context and Sample

7.7 Environmental Remains

Lisa Grey

Aims and Objectives

7.7.1 Four samples were presented for assessment. The aims of this assessment are to determine the significance and potential of the plant macro-remains in the samples, consider their use in providing information about diet, craft, medicine, crop-husbandry, feature function and environment.

Sampling and Processing Methods

- 7.7.2 All samples were completely processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve then dried. 187 litres of soil were sampled.
- 7.7.3 The flots were scanned under a low powered stereo-microscope with a magnification range of 10 to 40x. The whole flots were examined. The abundance, diversity and state of preservation of eco- and artefacts in each sample were recorded. A magnet was passed across each flot to record the presence or absence of magnetised material or hammerscale.
- 7.7.4 Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers et al. 2006; Charles 1984; Fuller 2007; Hillman 1976; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once and the common names used thereafter. Low numbers of non-charcoal charred plant macro-remains were counted. Uncharred plant remains, fauna and magnetic fragments were given estimated levels of abundance unless, in the case of seeds, numbers are very low in which case they were counted.

7.7.5 At this stage numbers given are estimates but where only one item is present that has been noted. Identifiable charred wood >4mm in diameter has been described as that. Charred wood <4mm diameter are described as 'flecks'. Samples this size are easier to break to reveal the cross-sections and diagnostic features necessary for identification and are less likely to be blown or unintentionally moved around the site (Asouti 2006, 31; Smart and Hoffman, 1988, 178-179). Fragments smaller than this and larger then 2mmØ were scanned incase any fragments of twig or roundwood survived.

Results

7.7.6 Each sample contained low to abundant number of charcoal flecks and abundant uncharred root/rhizome fragments. Identifiable charcoal was found in fill (169) of Pit [170] (sample <1000>) and Ditch [112] (sample <1004>). Uncharred, possibly dried waterlogged seeds were found in low numbers in fill (187) of Ditch [188] (sample <1002>), fill (189) of Ditch [190] (sample <1003>) and fill (121) of Ditch [122] (sample <1006>). Seeds of ruderals fat hen (Chenopodium album L.), stinging nettle (Urtica dioica L.), blackberry (Rubus fruticosus L.) and black bindweed (Fallopia convolvulus L.) seeds and fat hen seeds were found in fill (189) of Ditch [190] (sample <1003>). Charred cereal grains were found in fill (169) in Pit [170] (sample <1000>), fill (187) of Ditch [188] (sample <1002>), fill (189) of Ditch [190] (sample <1003>) and fil (111) of Ditch [112] (sample <1004>). One straight hulled barely (Hordeum vulgare L.) grain was found in fill (169) of Pit [170]. One poorly preserved wheat (Triticum sp.) grain was found in fill (187) of Ditch [188]. One bread/club/rivet wheat grain each were found (T.aestivum/durum/turgidum) were found in fill (189) of Ditch [190] and fill (111) of Ditch [112]. No charred cereal chaff or seeds were recovered.

Fauna

7.7.7 Low numbers of earthworm cocoons were found in fill (189) of Ditch [190] (sample <1003>) and fill (111) of Ditch 112 (sample <1004>). Single whole and fragments of oyster shell were found in fill (119) of Ditch [120] and fill (185) of Pit [186].

Inorganic Remains

7.7.8 No artefactual inorganic remains were found in the flots.

Discussion

Biases in Recovery, Residuality, Contamination

7.7.9 Evidence for bioturbation and possibly intrusivity was present in the form of abundant fragments of uncharred root/rhizome and low numbers of earthworm cocoons. Due to this, it is possible that the dried waterlogged seeds are intrusive.

Quality and type of preservation

- 7.7.10 The plant remains in these samples were preserved by charring and anaerobically rather than by waterlogging, as the uncharred seeds that are present are types with robust endocarps that can survive changing levels of waterlogging and aeration of the soil.
- 7.7.11 Charring of plant macrofossils occurs when plant material is heated under '...reducing conditions...' where oxygen is largely excluded (Boardman and Jones 1990, 2) leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to biological and chemical decay (English Heritage 2011, 17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds, 1979, 57).

Potential

- 7.7.12 The number of charred plant remains relative to bulk samples size are low so it is not possible to be sure that they are the same date as the features. These grains are small and durable enough to have been moved about the site in backfill, re-working and bioturbation so cannot be guaranteed to be the same date as or originate from the sampled feature or context.
- 7.7.13 A recent study of intrusion and residuality in the archaeobotanical record for southern England (Pelling et al. 2015) has highlighted the problem of assigning charred plant remains such as these to the dated contexts they were taken from because it is possible that these durable charred plant remains survived being moved between contexts by human action and

bioturbation so cannot be properly interpreted unless radiocarbon dates are gained from the plant macro-remains themselves. That is the only way to secure a genuine date for the charred plant macro-remains like these (Pelling et al. 2015, 96).

7.7.14 If the identifiable charcoal in fill (169) of Pit [170] (sample <1000>) and fill (111) of Ditch [112] (sample <1004>) is identified and of suitable taxa fragments may be found that are suitable for radiocarbon dating. The charred grains in fill (169) of Pit [170], fill (189) of Ditch [190] and fill (111) of Ditch [112] may also be suitable for radiocarbon dating.

8 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The evaluation revealed a low density of archaeological remains. The majority of features identified represent a late Iron Age to early Roman field system, with a slightly larger concentration of features located in Trenches 1 and 2 at the northern edge of the PDA. These latter features also produced c. 50% of the overall finds assemblage.
- 8.2 Across the rest of the PDA few features contained any finds and the majority of finds assemblages were small. As a result, the phasing of many of the ditches is largely based on stratigraphic relationships. This mainly relied on the position of the features below the thick deposits of colluvium/alluvium present across the site, which sealed all of the features that could be conclusively dated as Late Iron Age to early Roman.

8.3 Late Iron Age to Early Roman field system

- 8.3.1 The principal result of the evaluation was the identification of a Late Iron Age to early Roman (c. 100 BC-AD 100) agricultural landscape, comprising boundary and drainage ditches forming part of wider field system, and a single pit.
- 8.3.2 Boundary ditches on a slightly different alignment to the main field system were revealed in Trenches 1 and 2. These ditches also contained the majority of the finds assemblage and are therefore likely to be located close to the settlement identified at the 'Maldon Southern Bypass' site directly to the north, which contained a farming settlement, established in the Later Iron Age, continuing in use to the 3rd 4th Centuries AD (Brown 1989, 1990, 1991).
- 8.3.3 The wider field system was present on the northern and western portions of the PDA, located on an area of relatively high ground. Although relatively few ditches could be linked together, the fields they represent appeared to be positioned on a roughly ENE-WSW and NNW-SSE axis, one covering an area in the vicinity of Trenches 1-5, the other, less well defined field in the area directly to the south of these trenches.

- 8.3.4 The identified field system ditches were partly aligned on, and appeared to respect a meandering palaeochannel, which was present running roughly north-north-west to south-south-east near the northern boundary of the site. It is possible that this watercourse formed the boundary between the two main topographically higher areas to the north-west in the site area, creating two rough outfield enclosures.
- 8.3.5 A number of palaeochannels of various sizes were present within the site area, the majority of which were located in the northern and western areas of the site, possibly representing various water courses meandering down from the high ground to the north and west, where they would have been fed by rainfall and the various small offshoots of the Rivers Chelmer and Crouch, prior to the formalization and canalization of these channels into the Lime and Woodham Mortimer Brooks in the modern period.
- 8.3.6 Two excavated segments through the channels produced small assemblages of late Iron Age and early Roman pottery and daub but the majority contained no finds. However, although the paleochannels are likely to have been active in various archaeological periods, the position of these the features beneath the colluvial/alluvial deposits and the way in which the Late Iron Age to early Roman ditches respect them suggests the majority are of a Roman or earlier date.

8.4 Post-medieval

- 8.4.1 Post-medieval agricultural ditches, ploughscars and rubbish pits were encountered and recorded in a number of trenches, again mainly focused to the north within the site area. These deposits all cut into the colluvial/alluvial deposits which sealed the Late Iron Age to early Roman archaeological level and in some cases contained small assemblages of pottery, animal bone and ceramic building material. None of the ditches could be matched up to boundaries visible on the 1873 Ordnance Survey map of the site, or any earlier or later maps.
- 8.4.2 Curiously, the paleochannel identified in Trenches 6, 7 and 10 seem to coincide with a possibly metalled, or unsurfaced, track shown on the 1873

Ordnance Survey map (Figure 13). However, it is likely that this is coincidental, as the deposits within the features were near sterile soils with no signs of any post-medieval material. The track did not show up in any sections.

8.5 Degree of Confidence

8.5.1 In the author's opinion there were no conditions that inhibited the identification of archaeological features within the trenches on the site. However, in some areas relatively large gaps were present between the ditches identified in various trenches; therefore, correlations between these features should be treated with caution. Furthermore, across much of the southern field, the archaeological level could not be reached and therefore features could not be identified.

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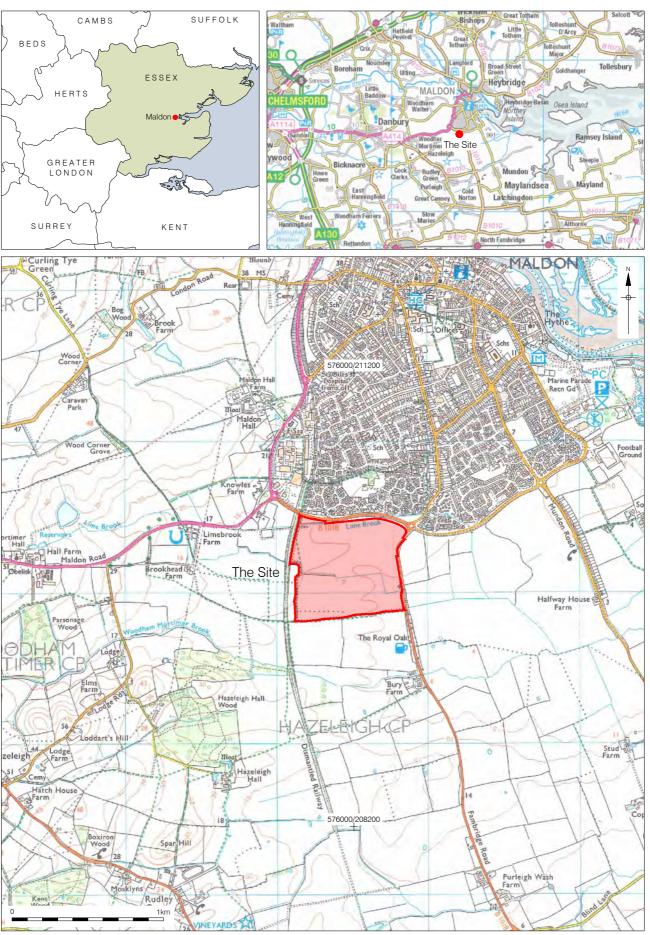
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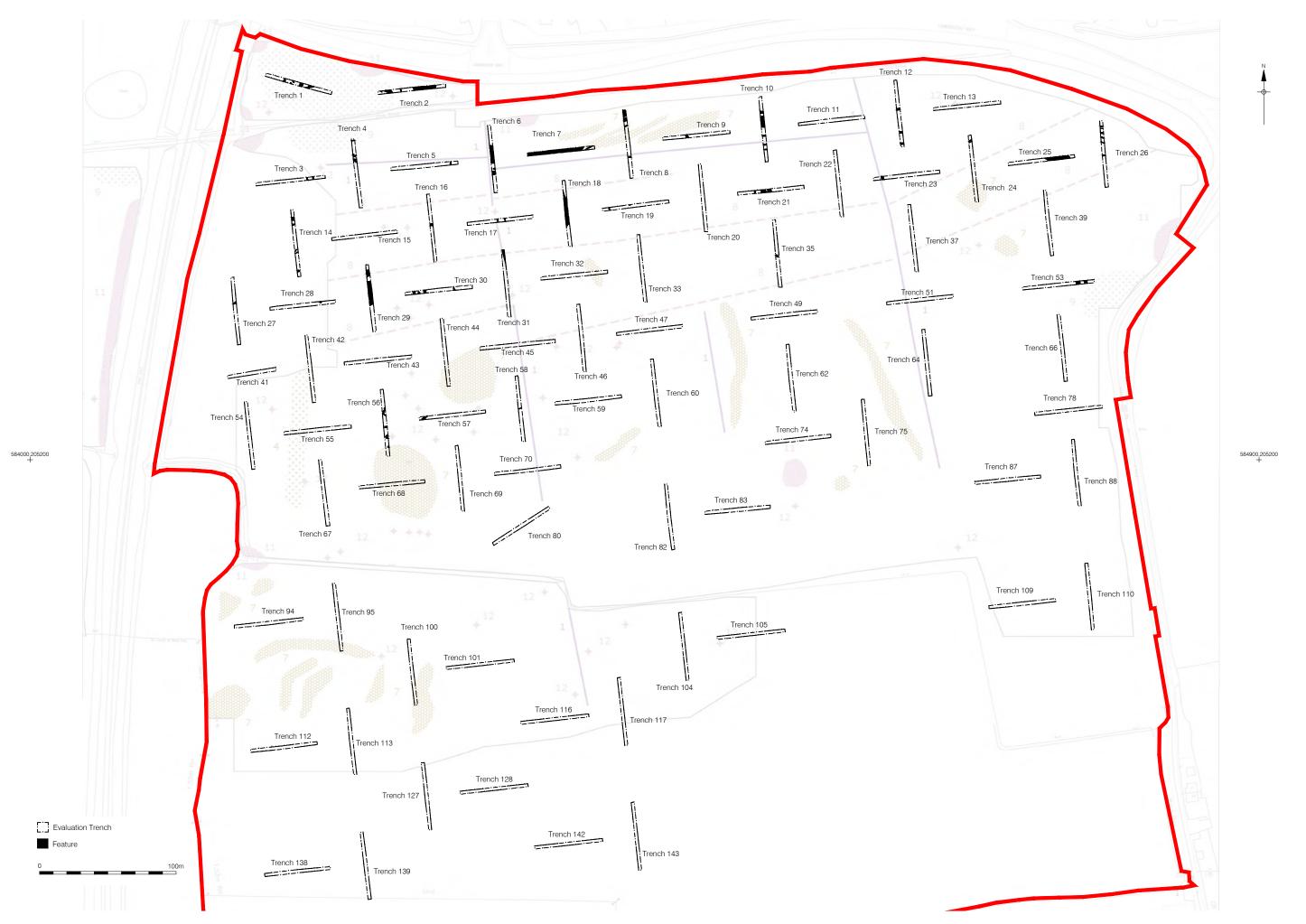
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11 FIGURES



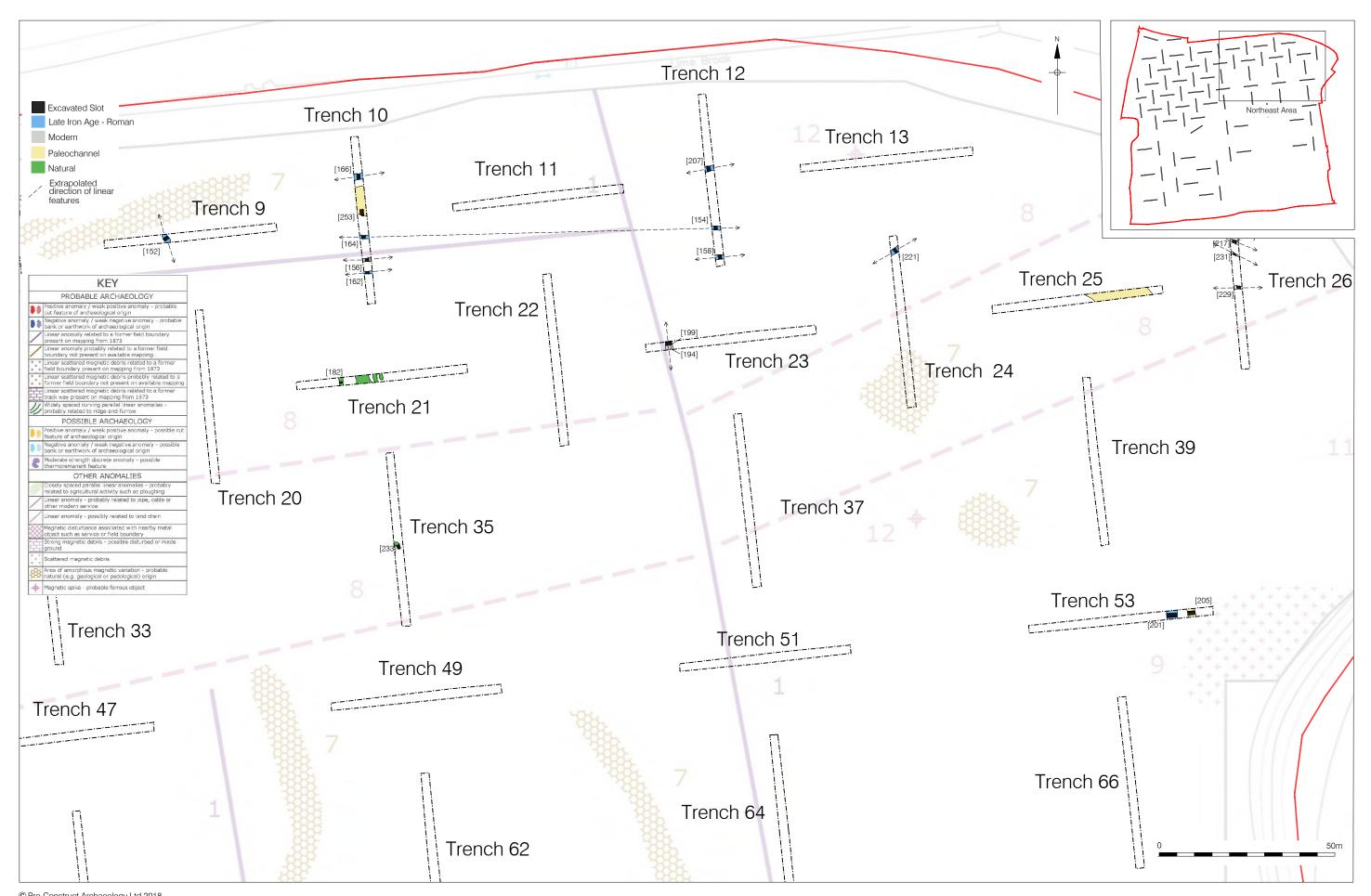
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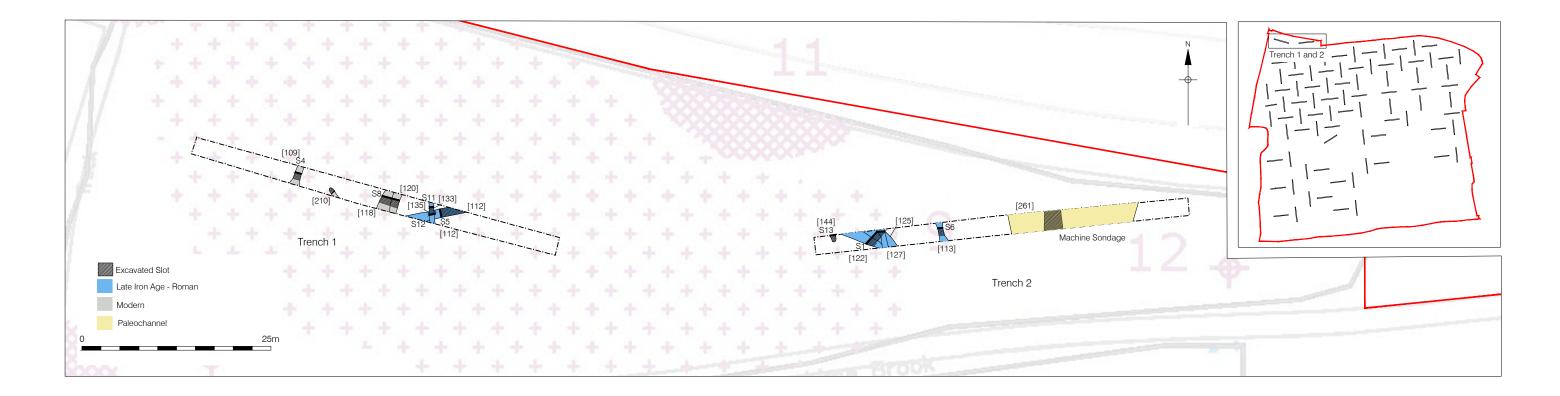
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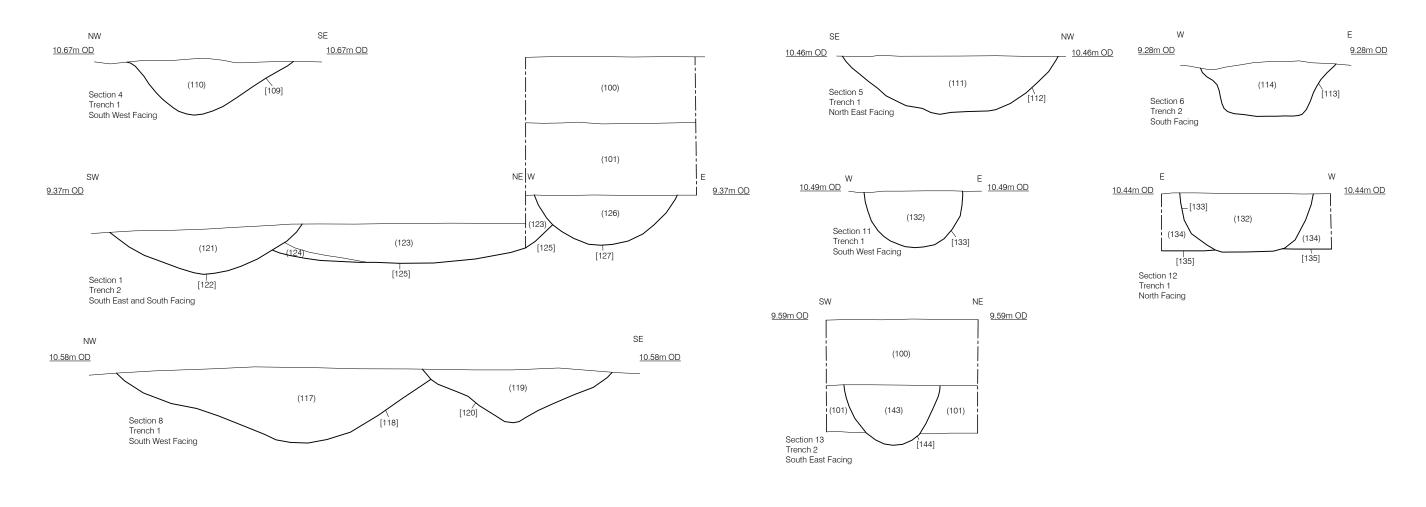


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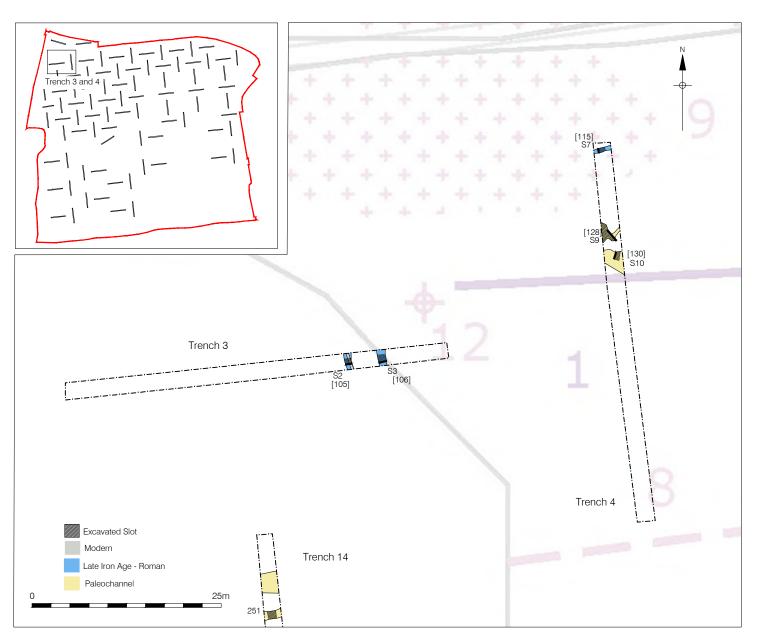
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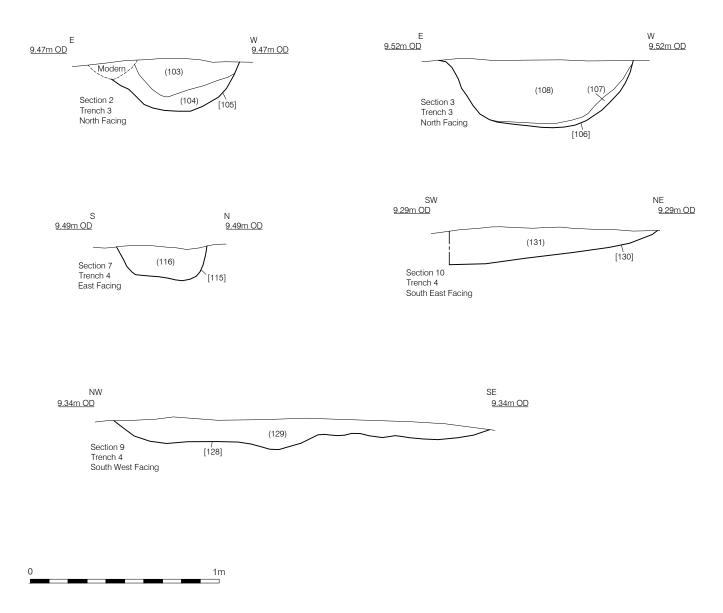


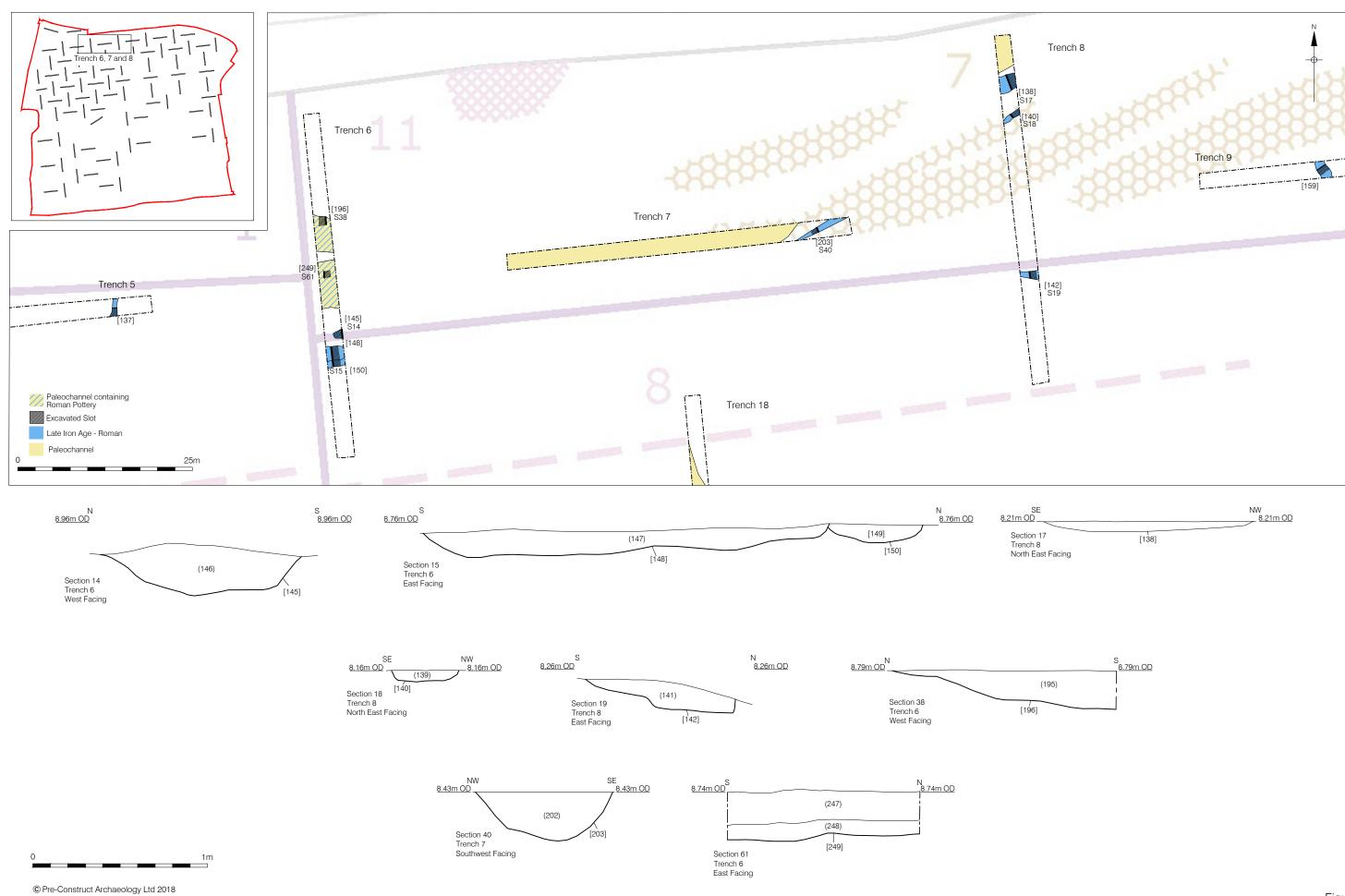
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Figure 7
Trench 6, 7 an 8 Plan and Sections
Plan 1:500; Sections 1:20 at A3

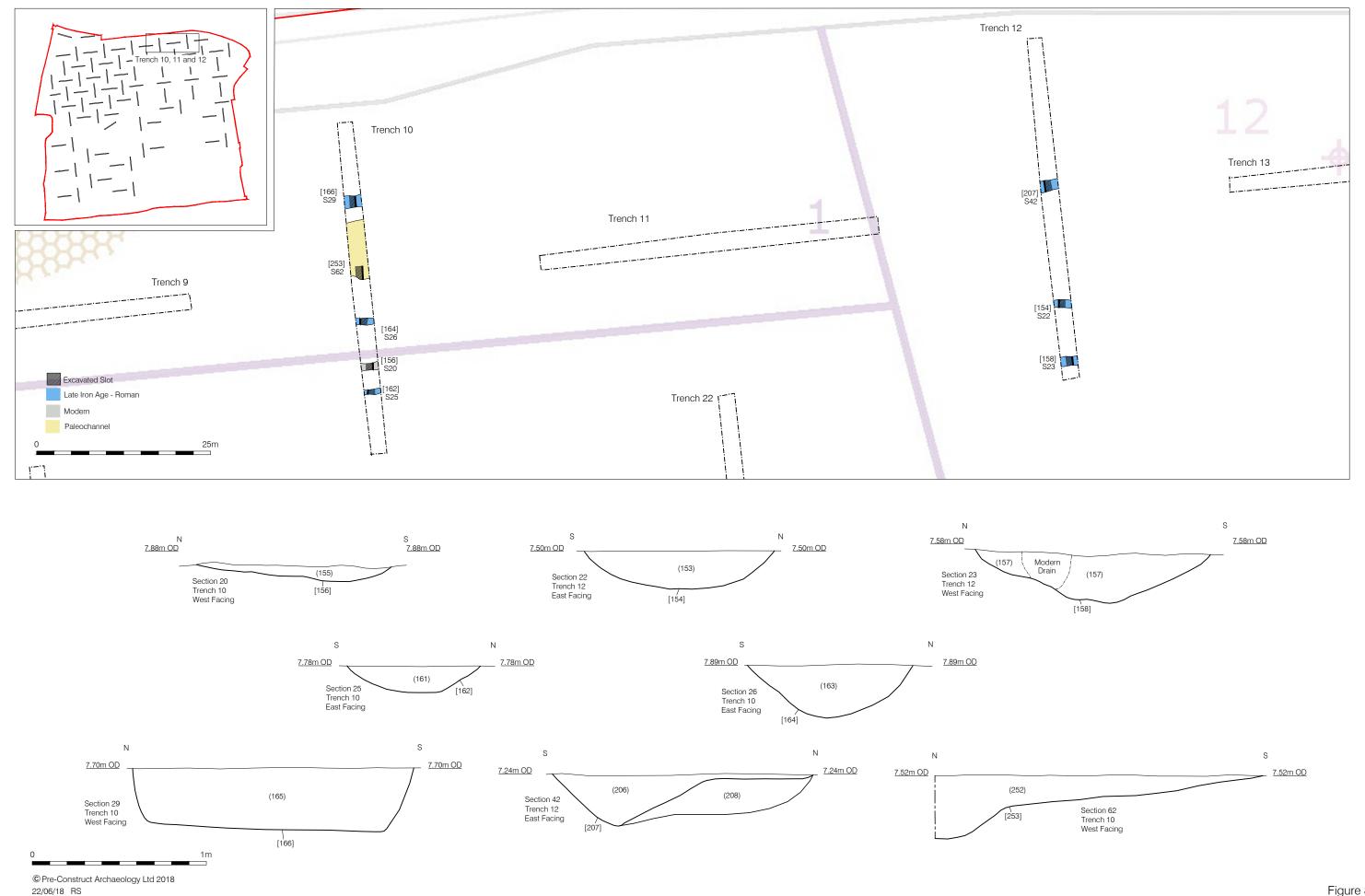
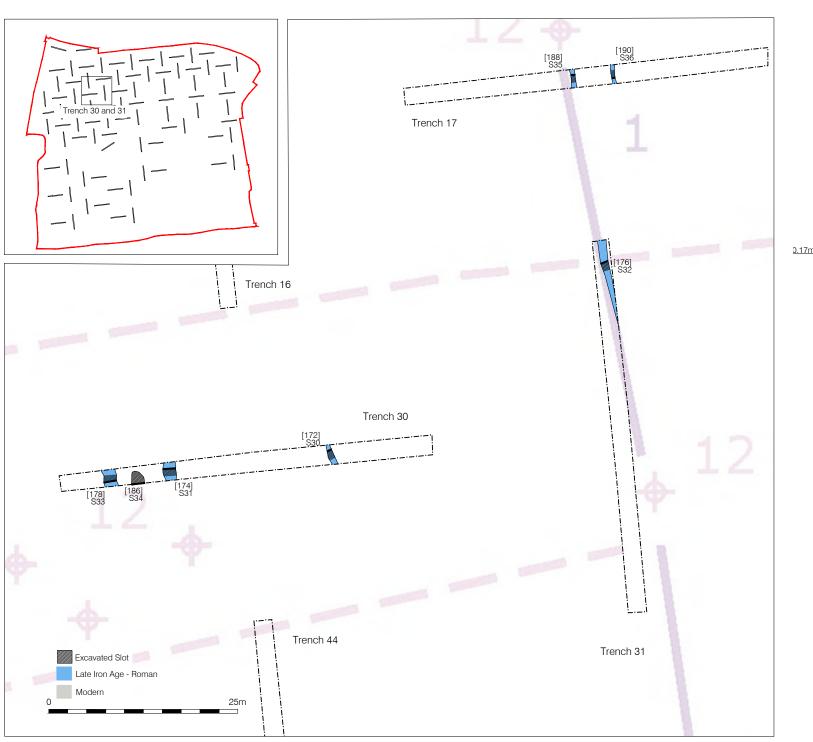
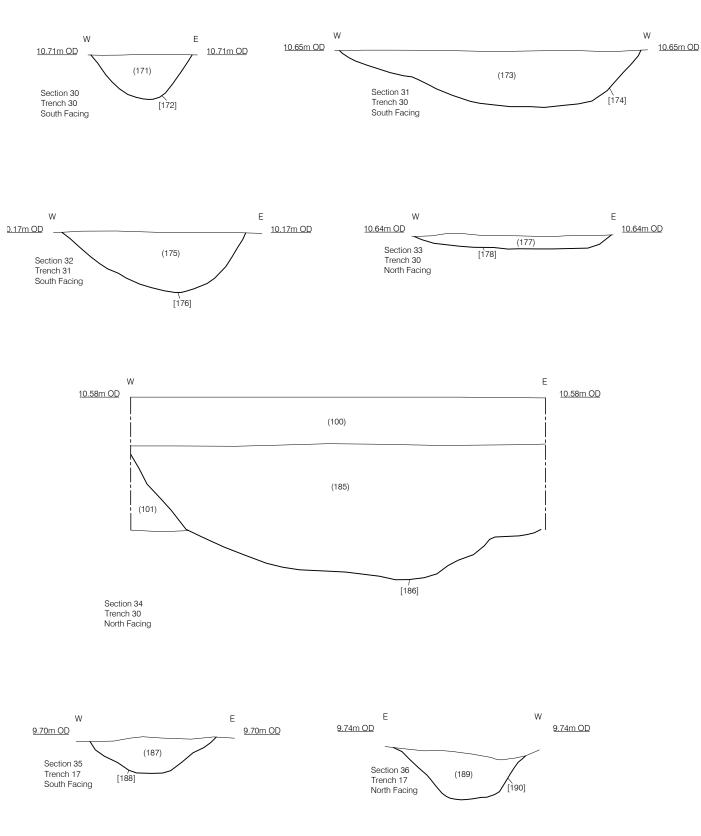
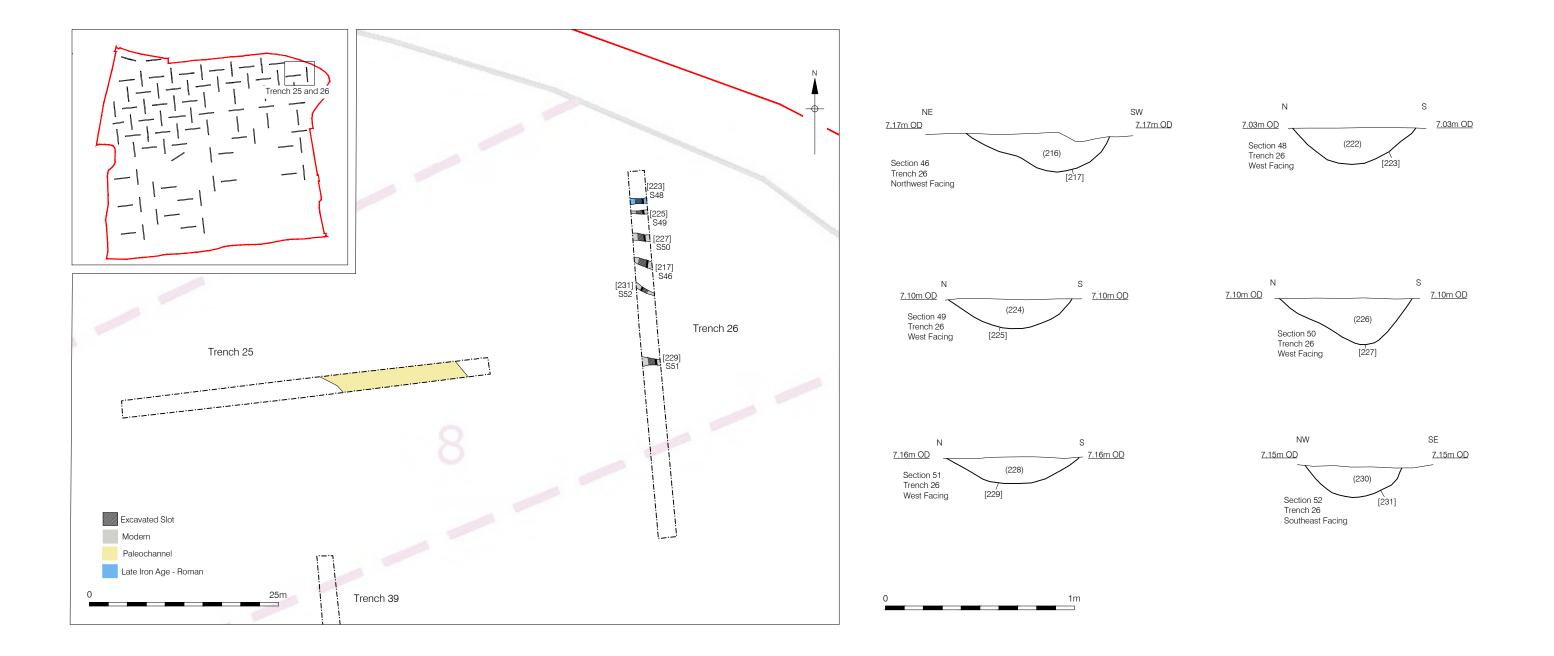
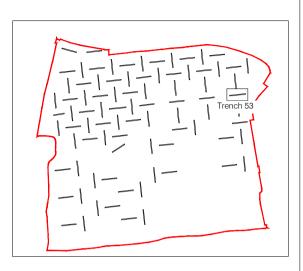


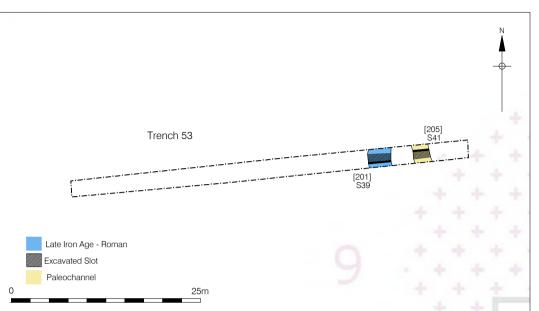
Figure 8
Trench 10, 11 and 12 Plan and Sections
Plan 1:500; Sections 1:20 at A3

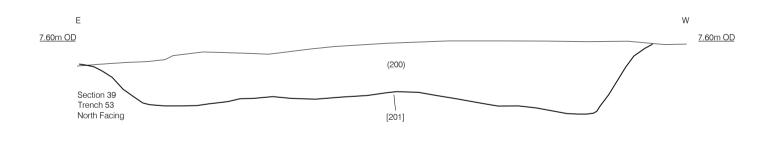


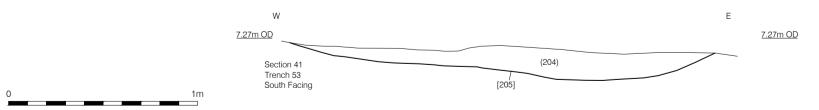


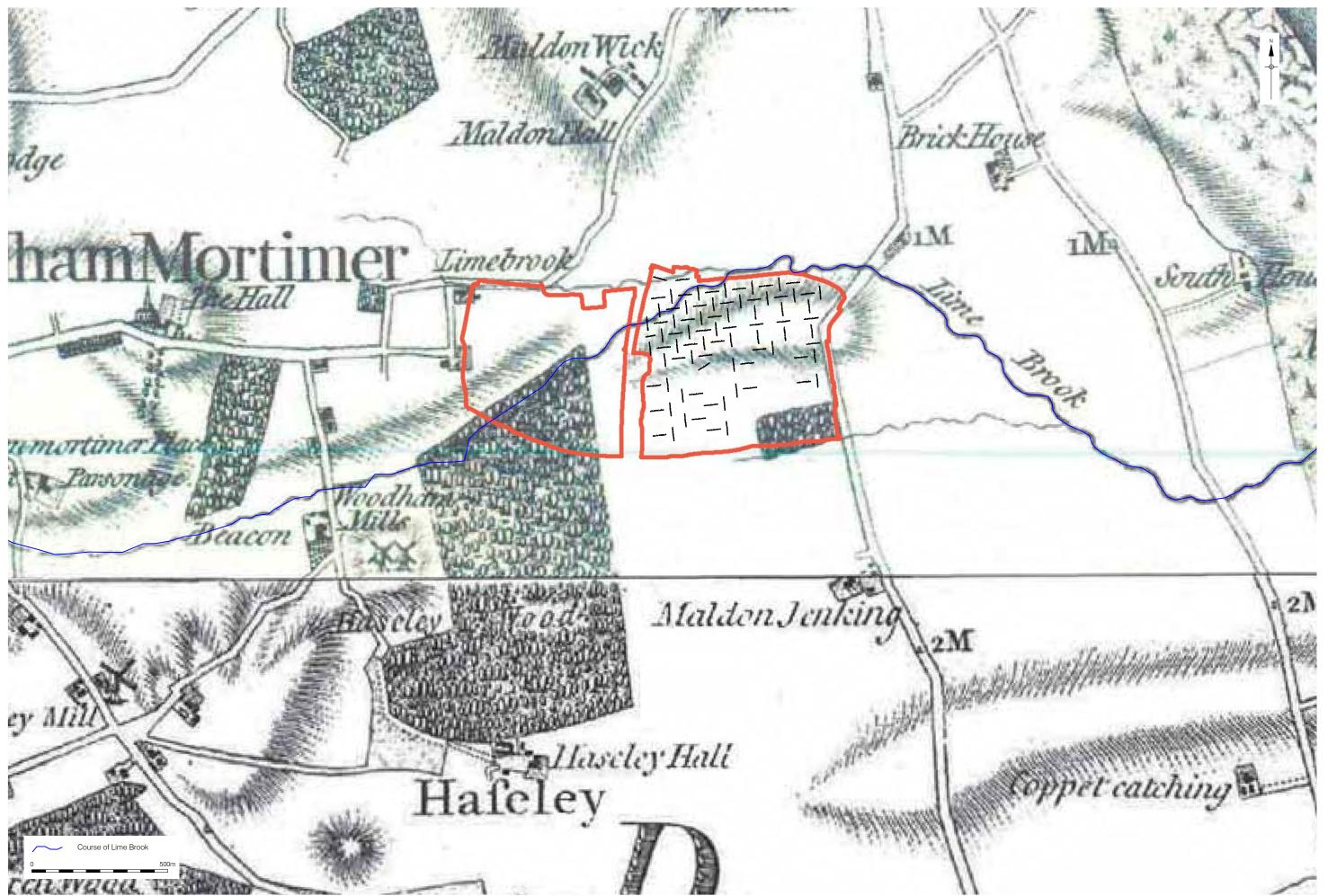






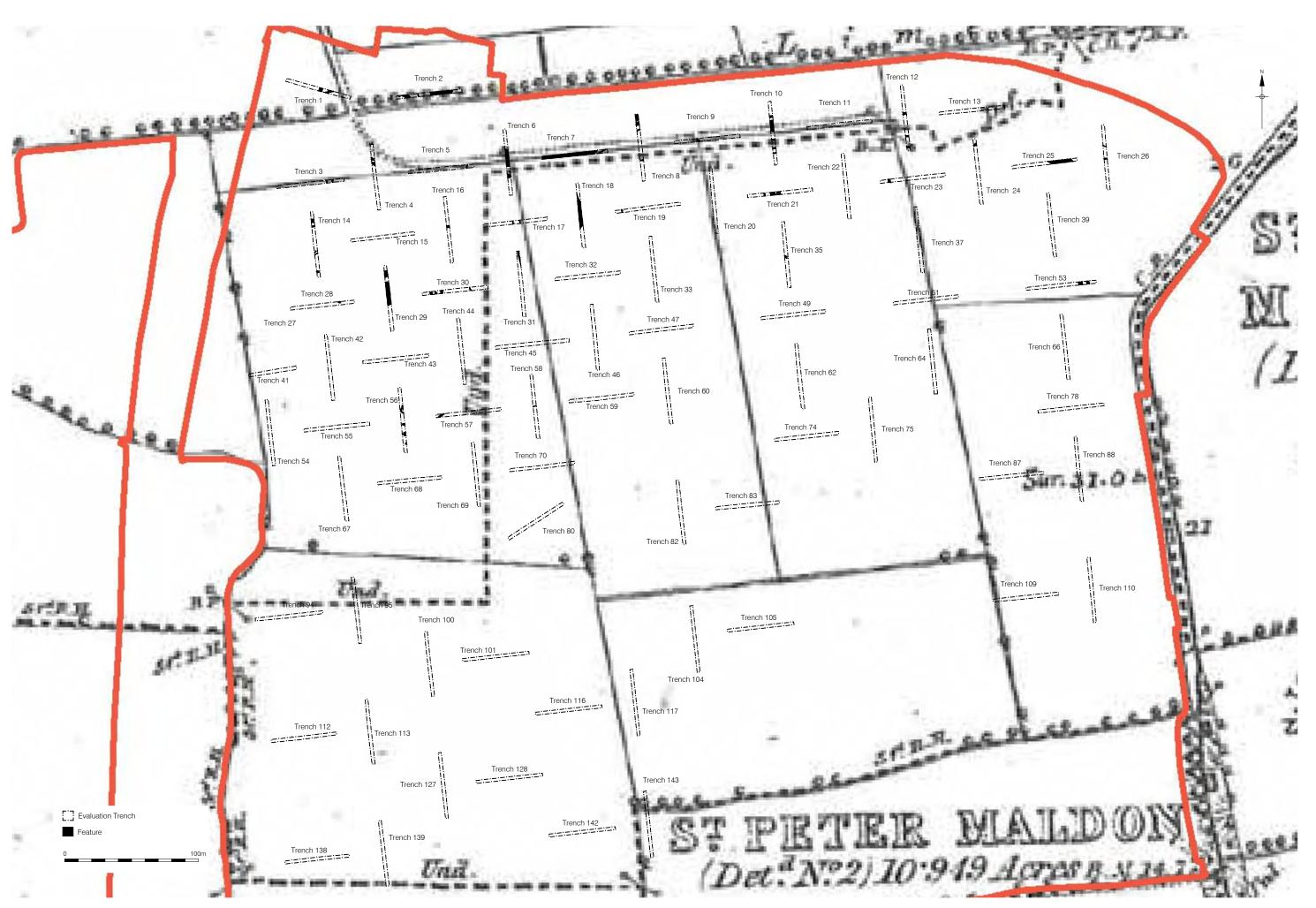






1777 Chapman and Andre Map of Essex, Taken from CGMS (2017) Desk Based Assessment and Walkover Survey © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2018 03/07/18 RS

Figure 12 1777 Map Overlay, showing earlier course of Lime Brook 1:12,500 at A3



12 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: The site, pre-excavation, from the north-east corner, view west.



Plate 2: The site, machining, view south.



Plate 3: Trench 6; Palaeochannel [249], view west.



Plate 4: Trench 10, Palaeochannel [253], view east.



Plate 5: Trench 3; Ditches [105] & [106], view south-east.



Plate 6: Trench 1; Ditch [112] view north-east.



Plate 7: Trench 2; Ditches [122], [125], and [127], view north-west



Plate 8: Trench 2; Ditch [113] view north



Plate 9: Trench 4; Ditch [115] view west.



Plate 10: Trench 12; Ditch [158] view east.

13 APPENDIX 2: TRENCH AND CONTEXT TABLES

Trench	1		End 1	End 2
Alignment	wnw ese	Topsoil depth (m)	0.22	0.37
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.59	0.58
Max machine depth (m)	0.59	Natural depth (m O	D]10.76	10.26

5 ditches, 1 ploughscar

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
109	109	Cut	Ditch	1	0.95	0.3	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
110	109	Fill	Ditch	1	0.95	0.3	Firm, mid greyish brown clay.
111	112	Fill	Ditch	1	1.13	0.3	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
112	112	Cut	Ditch	1	1.13	0.3	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.
117	118	Fill	Ditch	1	1.6	0.41	Firm, light brownish grey silty clay.
118	118	Cut	Ditch	1	1.6	0.41	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
119	120	Fill	Ditch	1	0.98	0.28	Firm, light brownish grey silty clay.
120	120	Cut	Ditch	1	0.98	0.28	Linear in plan, steep sides, concave base, N- S oriented.

-							
132	133	Fill	Ditch	1	0.7	0.36	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
133	133	Cut	Ditch	1	0.7	0.36	Linear in plan, steeply sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE oriented.
134	135	Fill	Ditch	1	0.94	0.3	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
135	135	Cut	Ditch	1	0.94	0.54	Linear in plan, steeply sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.
209	210	Fill	Ploughscar	1	0.5	0.17	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
210	210	Cut	Ploughscar	1	0.5	0.17	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE oriented.

Trench	2		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.36	0.41
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.69	0.68
Max machine depth (m)	0.69	Natural depth (m O	D)9.4	9.36

5 ditches, 1 palaeochannel

.		_					
Context	Cut	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
113	113	Cut	Ditch	1	0.73	0.39	Linear in plan, moderately to steeply sloping sides, flat base, N-S oriented.
114	113	Fill	Ditch	1	0.73	0.39	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
121	122	Fill	Ditch	1	1.03	0.25	Compact, mid to light brownish grey silty clay.
122	122	Cut	Ditch	1	1.03	0.25	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE oriented.
123	125	Fill	Ditch	1	1.35	0.21	Compact, mid to light brownish grey silty clay.
124	125	Fill	Ditch	1	0.5	0.05	Loose, mid brown medium gravel.
125	125	Cut	Ditch	1	1.35	0.21	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, slightly concave base, NW-SE oriented.
126	127	Fill	Ditch	1	0.76	0.26	Compact, mid greyish blue silty clay.

127	127	Cut	Ditch	1	0.76	0.26	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
143	144	Fill	Ditch	1	0.6	0.31	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
144	144	Cut	Ditch	0.75	0.8	0.2	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
260	261	Fill	Paleochannel	2	17.43	0.41	Firm, mid greyish blue silty clay, rare charcoal flecks.
261	261	Cut	Paleochannel	2	17.43	0.41	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, base flat, N-S orientated.

Trench	3		End 1	End 2
Alignment	sw-ne	Topsoil depth (m)	0.31	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.68	0.68
Max machine depth (m)	0.91	Natural depth (m O	D]9.63	9.55

2 ditches

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
103	105	Fill	Ditch	1	0.55	0.21	Compact, light brownish grey silty clay.
104	105	Fill	Ditch	1	0.65	0.03	Firm, light brownish grey sandy clay.
105	105	Cut	Ditch	1	0.65	0.28	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
106	106	Cut	Ditch	1	1	0.36	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
107	106	Fill	Ditch	1	0.7	0.01	Firm, mid blueish grey gravelly clay.
108	106	Fill	Ditch	1	1	0.35	Compact, mid blueish grey silty clay.

Trench	4		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.38	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.67	0.94
Max machine depth (m)	0.96	Natural depth (m Ol)]9.51	9.26

1 ditch, 2 small palaeochannels

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
115	115	Cut	Ditch	1	0.47	0.17	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
116	115	Fill	Ditch	1	0.47	0.17	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.
128	128	Cut	Small paleochan	1	1.87	0.17	Linear/irregular in plan, gently sloping sides, irregular base.
129	128	Fill	Small paleochan	1	1.87	0.17	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.
130	130	Cut	Small paleochan	1	1.11	0.19	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, irregular base.
131	130	Fill	Small paleochan	1	1.11	0.19	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.

Trench	5		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.35
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.71	1
Max machine depth (m)	1.02	Natural depth (m O	D]9.97	9.08

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
136	137	Fill	Ditch	1	0.54	0.16	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.
137	137	Cut	Ditch	1	0.54	0.16	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.

Trench	6		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.36
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.7	0.64
Max machine depth (m)	0.73	Natural depth (m O	D)8.99	9.18

3 ditches, 2 palaeochannels

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
145	145	Cut	Ditch	1.06	1.13	0.3	Linear in plan, moderately to gently sloping sides, concave base, E-W oriented.
146	145	Fill	Ditch	1.06	1.13	0.3	Firm, light blueish grey silty clay.
147	148	Fill	Ditch	1	2.32	0.18	Firm, light brownish grey silty clay.
148	148	Cut	Ditch	1	2.32	0.18	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
149	150	Fill	Ditch	1	0.54	0.1	Firm, light brownish grey silty clay.
150	150	Cut	Ditch	1	0.54	0.1	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
195	196	Fill	Paleochannel	1	1.3	0.22	Firm, mid greyish blue silty clay, rare charcoal flecks.

196	196	Cut	Paleochannel	1	1.3	0.22	Linear in plan, gentle to steep sides, concave base, E-W oriented.
247	249	Fill	Paleochannel	1	1.1	0.19	Firm, mid greyish blue silty clay.
248	249	Fill	Paleochannel	1	1.1	0.09	Firm, mid greyish blue silty clay.
249	249	Cut	Paleochannel	1	1.1	0.28	Linear in plan, flat base, E-W oriented.

Trench	7		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.31
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.46	0.62
Max machine depth (m)	1	Natural depth (m O	D)8.74	8.51

1 ditch, 1 palaeochannel

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
202	203	Fill	Ditch	1	0.8	0.28	Firm, mid greyish blue silty sand.
203	203	Cut	Ditch	1	0.8	0.28	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.

Trench	8		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.34
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.6	0.64
Max machine depth (m)	1.11	Natural depth (m Ol	D)8.33	8.45

2 ditches, 1 layer, 1 palaeochannel

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
138	138	Layer	Natural	1	1.25	0.06	Compact, mid blueish grey silty clay.
139	140	Fill	Ditch	1	0.4	0.06	Compact, mid blueish grey silty sandy clay.
140	140	Cut	Ditch	1	0.4	0.06	Linear in plan, irregular sides, irregular base, NE-SW oriented.
141	142	Fill	Ditch	1	0.9	0.2	Compact, mid blueish grey silty clay.
142	142	Cut	Ditch	1	0.9	0.2	Linear in plan, gently sloping to vertical sides, flat base, E-W oriented.

Trench	9		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.69	0.74
Max machine depth (m)	1.03	Natural depth (m O	D)8.11	8.01

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
151	152	Fill	Ditch	1	1.55	0.22	Compact, mottled light to mid blueish grey/mid orangeish brown sandy clay.
152	152	Cut	Ditch	1	1.55	0.22	Linear in plan, gently to moderately sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE oriented.

Trench	10		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.33	0.33
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.76	8.0
Max machine depth (m)	1.1	Natural depth (m O	D)7.92	7.76

4 ditches, 1 palaeochannel

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
155	156	Fill	Ditch	1	1.12	0.1	Moderate, mid greyish brown silt.
156	156	Cut	Ditch	1	1.12	0.1	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base, E-W oriented.
161	162	Fill	Ditch	1	0.75	0.15	Firm, mottled mid blueish grey/mid orange silty clay.
162	162	Cut	Ditch	1	0.75	0.15	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base, E-W oriented.
163	164	Fill	Ditch	1	0.95	0.3	Firm, mottled mid blueish grey/mid orange silty clay.
164	164	Cut	Ditch	1	0.95	0.3	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
165	166	Fill	Ditch	1	1.63	0.36	Compact, mid blueish grey silty clay.
166	166	Cut	Ditch	1	1.63	0.36	Linear in plan, very steep to vertical sides, flat base, E-W oriented.

252	253	Fill	Paleochannel	1	1.9	0.36	Firm, mid greyish blue silty clay.
253	253	Cut	Paleochannel	1	1.9	0.36	Linear in plan, verticle to gently sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.

Trench	11		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.64	0.76
Max machine depth (m)	0.85	Natural depth (m OD)7.83		7.44

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	12		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.8	0.76
Max machine depth (m)	0.84	Natural depth (m OD)7.27		7.55

3 ditches

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
153	154	Fill	Ditch	1	1.1	0.22	Compact, mid brown sandy clay.
154	154	Cut	Ditch	1	1.1	0.22	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
157	158	Fill	Ditch	1	1.35	0.29	Firm, light brownish grey silty clay.
158	158	Cut	Ditch	1	1.35	0.29	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
206	207	Fill	Ditch	1	1.5	0.3	Firm, mottled mid greyish blue/ mid orange silty sand.
207	207	Cut	Ditch	1	1.5	0.3	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
208	207	Fill	Ditch	1	1.1	0.15	Firm, mid greyish orange gravel.

Trench	13		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.34	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.77	0.61
Max machine depth (m)	0.79	Natural depth (m OD)7.23		7.04

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	14		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.24	0.32
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.91	0.69
Max machine depth (m)	1.03	Natural depth (m OD)9.4		9.33

1 ditch, 1 palaeochannel, 2 small palaeochannels

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
212	213	Fill	Ditch	1	0.62	0.12	Moderate, mid brownish grey clayey silt.
213	213	Cut	Ditch	1	0.62	0.12	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, uneven base, NE- SW oriented.
214	215	Fill	Small paleochan	1	0.4	0.17	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.
215	215	Cut	Small paleochan	1	0.4	0.17	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.
218	219	Fill	Small paleochan	1	1.62	0.16	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.
219	219	Cut	Small paleochan	1	1.62	0.16	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, uneven base, NE- SW oriented.
250	251	Fill	Paleochannel	1	1	0.11	Compact, mottled mid brownish orange/mid greyish blue silty clay.

251 Cut Paleochannel 1 1 0.11 Linear/Irregular, linear in plan, irregular base, E-W oriented.

Trench	15		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.35	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.92	0.92
Max machine depth (m)	1	Natural depth (m OD)9.54		9.55

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	16		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.36	0.27
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.06	0.77
Max machine depth (m)	1.09	Natural depth (m OD)		

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
241	242	Fill	Ditch	1	1.5	0.54	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
242	242	Cut	Ditch	1	1.7	0.54	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.

Trench	17		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.59	0.49
Max machine depth (m)	0.67	Natural depth (m OD)9.76		9.6

2 ditches

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
187	188	Fill	Ditch	1	0.66	0.18	Firm, dark brownish grey silty clay.
188	188	Cut	Ditch	1	0.66	0.18	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
189	190	Fill	Ditch	1	0.7	0.25	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
190	190	Cut	Ditch	1	0.7	0.25	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.

Trench	18		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.38	0.31
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.95	0.66
Max machine depth (m)	1	Natural depth (m OD)8.71		9.8

1 paleochannel

Trench	19		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.28
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.61	0.54
Max machine depth (m)	0.63	Natural depth (m OD)9.28		8.86

1 pit

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
179	179	Layer	Natural	2	0.8	0.25	Compact, mid brown silty clay.
180	181	Fill	Pit	0	0.9	0.7	Compact, mid orangeish brown silty clay.
181	181	Cut	Pit	0	0.9	0.7	Sub-circular in plan, moderately to gently sloping sides, concave base.

Trench	20		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.28
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.51	0.82
Max machine depth (m)	0.85	Natural depth (m OD)8.6		8.59

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	21		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.26	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.78	0.76
Max machine depth (m)	0.83	Natural depth (m OD)8.07		7.76

No archaeological features revealed

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
182	182	Layer	Natural	2	1	0.29	Compact, mid to light brown clay.

Trench	22		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.26
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.71	0.7
Max machine depth (m)	0.75	Natural depth (m OD)7.83		7.85

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	23		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.24	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.79	0.88
Max machine depth (m)	0.91	Natural depth (m OD)8.55		7.21

2 ditches

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
191	194	Fill	Ditch	1	0.88	0.39	Firm, dark greyish brown silty clay.
192	194	Fill	Ditch	1	0.4	0.5	Firm, light greyish brown silty clay.
193	194	Fill	Ditch	1	0.51	0.18	Firm, dark brownish grey silty clay.
194	194	Cut	Ditch	1	1.08	0.62	Linear in plan, steeply sloping sides, concave base, N-S oriented.
198	199	Fill	Ditch	1	1.64	0.64	Firm, light greyish brown silty clay.
199	199	Cut	Ditch	1	1.64	0.64	Linear in plan, steeply sloping sides, concave base, N-S oriented.

Trench	24		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.57	
Max machine depth (m)	1.03	Natural depth (m OD)7.39		6.97

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
220	221	Fill	Ditch	1	1.5	0.2	Compact, mid orangey brown silty clay.
221	221	Cut	Ditch	1	1.5	0.2	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.

Trench	25		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.26	0.32
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.84	0.92
Max machine depth (m)	0.95	Natural depth (m OD)7.28		7.21

1 palaeochannel

Trench	26		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.23
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.44	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.11	Natural depth (m OD)7.13		7.02

1 ditch, 4 ploughscars

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
216	216	Fill	Ploughscar	1	0.75	0.21	Firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt.
217	217	Cut	Ploughscar	1	0.75	0.21	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.
222	223	Fill	Ditch	1	0.65	0.19	Firm, mid greyish blue silty clay.
223	223	Cut	Ditch	1	0.65	0.19	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
224	225	Fill	Ploughscar	1	0.65	0.15	Firm, mid orangey brown silty clay.
225	225	Cut	Ploughscar	1	0.65	0.15	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base, E-W oriented.
226	227	Fill	Ploughscar	1	0.7	0.24	Firm, mid orangey brown silty clay.
227	227	Cut	Ploughscar	1	0.7	0.24	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.

228	229	Fill	Ploughscar	1	0.7	0.14	Firm, mid orangey brown silty clay.
229	229	Cut	Ploughscar	1	0.7	0.14	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base, E-W oriented.
230	231	Fill	Ploughscar	1	0.5	0.17	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
231	231	Cut	Ploughscar	1	0.5	0.17	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE oriented.

Trench	27		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.26
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.69	0.83
Max machine depth (m)	0.86	Natural depth (m O	D)	9.8

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
159	160	Fill	Ditch	1	0.95	0.33	Firm, mid blueish grey silty clay.
160	160	Cut	Ditch	1	0.95	0.33	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NE-SW oriented.

Trench	28		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.36
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.83	0.7
Max machine depth (m)	1.02	Natural depth (m Ol)]10.05	10.51

1 pit

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
169	170	Fill	Pit	0.9	1.35	1.15	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
170	170	Cut	Pit	0.9	1.35	1.15	Oval in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base.

Trench	29		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.34	0.32
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.81	1.08
Max machine depth (m)	1.1	Natural depth (m O	D)10.04	10.11

1 ditch, 2 palaeochannels

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
167	168	Fill	Ditch	1	0.52	0.23	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
168	168	Cut	Ditch	1	0.52	0.23	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, E- W oriented.
254	257	Fill	Paleochannel	2	1.85	0.38	Firm, light to mid greyish blue clayey silt.
257	257	Cut	Paleochannel	2	1.85	0.38	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, base not reached, NE-SW orientated.
258	259	Fill	Natural	2	17.21	0.39	Firm, light to mid greyish blue clayey silt.
259	259	Cut	Natural	2	17.21	0.39	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, base not reached, NE-SW orientated.

Trench	30		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.28
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.56	0.51
Max machine depth (m)	0.58	Natural depth (m Ol)]10.72	10.6

3 ditches, 1 pit

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
171	172	Fill	Ditch	1	0.55	0.24	Compact, light to mid greyish brown silty clay.
172	172	Cut	Ditch	1	0.55	0.24	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
173	174	Fill	Ditch	1	1.6	0.3	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay.
174	174	Cut	Ditch	1	1.6	0.3	Linear in plan, gently to moderate sloping sides, concave base, N-S oriented.
177	178	Fill	Ditch	1	2.08	0.14	Firm, dark greyish brown silty clay.
178	178	Cut	Ditch	1	2.08	0.14	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, N- S oriented.
185	186	Fill	Pit	1.6	1.9	0.26	Firm, mottled mid greyish brown/mid orange silty clay.

186 186 Cut Pit 1.6 1.9 0.26 Sub-circular in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base.

Trench	31		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.31
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.56	0.58
Max machine depth (m)	0.62	Natural depth (m Ol) 10.15	10.59

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
175	176	Fill	Ditch	1	1	0.32	Compact, mid greyish brown sandy clay.
176	176	Cut	Ditch	1	1	0.32	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, NW-SE oriented.

Trench	32		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.27
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.42	1.02
Max machine depth (m)	1.05	Natural depth (m O	D]10.43	9.61

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	33		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.4	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.99	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.12	Natural depth (m O	D)9.24	9.03

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	35		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.85	0.91
Max machine depth (m)	0.93	Natural depth (m OD)8.09		7.83

1 treethrow

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
232	233	Fill	Treethrow	1	0.45	0.19	Firm, dark brownish grey silty clay.
233	233	Cut	Treethrow	1	0.45	0.19	Sub-circular in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base.

Trench	37		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.86	1.09
Max machine depth (m)	1.11	Natural depth (m OD)7.55		7.36

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	39		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.26	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.75	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.11	Natural depth (m OD)7.6		7.41

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	41		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.28
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.74	0.88
Max machine depth (m)	0.99	Natural depth (m OD)10.21		10.03

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	42		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.26	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.99	0.98
Max machine depth (m)	1.08	Natural depth (m OD)10.18		10.27

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	43		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.27	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.75	0.91
Max machine depth (m)	0.92	Natural depth (m OD)10.34		10.34

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	44		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.26
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.94	1.09
Max machine depth (m)	1.12	Natural depth (m OD)10.36		10.44

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	45		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.33	0.35
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.94	0.83
Max machine depth (m)	1	Natural depth (m OD)10.48		10.18

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	46		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.74	1
Max machine depth (m)	1.05	Natural depth (m OD)9.95		9.46

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	47		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.29	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.79	0.86
Max machine depth (m)	0.87	Natural depth (m OD)9.45		8.74

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	49		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.27
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.95	1
Max machine depth (m)	1.03	Natural depth (m O	D)8.05	7.63

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	51		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.31	0.31
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.8	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.17	Natural depth (m Ol) 7.5	6.99

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	53		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.34
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.92	1.03
Max machine depth (m)	1.03	Natural depth (m Ol) 7.32	7.19

2 palaeochannels

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
200	201	Fill	Paleochannel	1	3.02	0.38	Firm, mid brownish grey clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
201	201	Cut	Paleochannel	1	3.02	0.38	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, flat base, N-S oriented.
204	205	Fill	Paleochannel	1	2.23	0.16	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
205	205	Cut	Paleochannel	1	2.23	0.16	Linear in plan, gently sloping sides, flat base, N-S oriented.

Trench	54		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.23	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.1	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.12	Natural depth (m O	D]9.97	10.06

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	55		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.29
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.85	0.82
Max machine depth (m)	0.89	Natural depth (m O	D)10.16	9.97

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	56		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	0.9
Max machine depth (m)	1.2	Natural depth (m O	D]10.01	9.61

1 pit, 1 palaeochannel, 1 treethrow

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
234	235	Fill	Treethrow	1	0.78	0.38	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
235	235	Cut	Treethrow	1	0.78	0.38	Curvilinear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base.
236	237	Fill	Small paleochan	1	0.71	0.22	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.
237	237	Cut	Small paleochan	1	0.71	0.22	Curvilinear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base.
245	246	Fill	Pit	1	1.52	0.35	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay.
246	246	Cut	Pit	1	1.52	0.35	Sub-circular in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base.

Trench	57		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.99	1.09
Max machine depth (m)	1.7	Natural depth (m O	D]10.1	10.16

1 ploughscar

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
238	239	Fill	Ploughscar	1	1.22	0.29	Firm, dark brownish grey silty clay.
239	239	Cut	Ploughscar	1	1.22	0.29	Linear in plan, moderately sloping sides, concave base, SW-NE oriented.

Trench	58		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.85	0.95
Max machine depth (m)	0.95	Natural depth (m OI)]9.89	9.34

1 ditch

Context	Cut	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
243	244	Fill	Ditch	1	0.23	0.17	Firm, dark brownish grey silty clay.
244	244	Cut	Ditch	1	0.23	0.17	Linear in plan, steeply sloping slopes, concave base, NE-SW oriented.

Trench	59		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1	1.03
Max machine depth (m)	1.07	Natural depth (m O	D)9.31	8.41

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	60		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.07	0.85
Max machine depth (m)	1.1	Natural depth (m O	D]8.43	7.62

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	62		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.35
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.08	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.1	Natural depth (m O	D)7.2	6.14

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	64		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.28	0.32
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.96	0.89
Max machine depth (m)	1.06	Natural depth (m O	D)6.89	5.9

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	66		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.32
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.01	1.04
Max machine depth (m)	1.05	Natural depth (m O	D]7.49	7.17

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	67		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.3	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.3	Natural depth (m O	D)9.52	8.84

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	68		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	0.95	1.05
Max machine depth (m)	1.11	Natural depth (m O	D)9.14	8.76

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	69		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D)9.35	7.96

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	70		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.23	0.23
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D)8.59	7.89

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	74		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.1	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D)5.89	5.31

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	75		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m Ol) 5.68	4.76

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	78		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D)6.39	7.9

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	80		End 1	End 2
Alignment	sw-ne	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D]7.19	7.42

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	82		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D)5.99	5.3

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	83		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m OD)5.09		4.71

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	87		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.4
Max machine depth (m)	1.41	Natural depth (m OD)4.75		6.1

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	88		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.21	Natural depth (m O	D)7.51	6.93

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	94		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.25
Max machine depth (m)	1.26	Natural depth (m Ol) 9.06	8.67

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	95		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.3
Max machine depth (m)	1.3	Natural depth (m OD)8.06		7.7

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	100		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.3	1.5
Max machine depth (m)	1.51	Natural depth (m O	D)6.67	6.59

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	101		End 1	End 2
Alignment	e-w	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.25
Max machine depth (m)	1.5	Natural depth (m OD)		

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	104		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.1	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.15	Natural depth (m OD)		

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	105		End 1	End 2
Alignment	e-w	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.25	Natural depth (m OD)		

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	109		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.4	1.6
Max machine depth (m)	1.61	Natural depth (m O	D)3.9	3.94

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	110		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.5
Max machine depth (m)	1.51	Natural depth (m O	D)4.69	3.76

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	112		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.35	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.45	Natural depth (m O	D)8.18	7.26

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	113		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.25	1.4
Max machine depth (m)	1.4	Natural depth (m O	D)6.73	6.49

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	116		End 1	End 2
Alignment	e-w	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.26
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.2
Max machine depth (m)	1.3	Natural depth (m OD)		

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	117		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.25
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1	1.15
Max machine depth (m)	1.2	Natural depth (m OD)		

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	127		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.2
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.6	1.6
Max machine depth (m)	1.61	Natural depth (m O	D)5.45	5.51

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	128		End 1	End 2
Alignment	e-w	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.35
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.18	1.1
Max machine depth (m)	1.2	Natural depth (m OD)		

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	138		End 1	End 2
Alignment	w-e	Topsoil depth (m)	0.2	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.2	1.5
Max machine depth (m)	1.51	Natural depth (m O	D)6.49	6.3

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	139		End 1	End 2
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.3	0.3
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.4	0.6
Max machine depth (m)	1.41	Natural depth (m Ol) 5.76	6.72

No archaeological features revealed

Trench	142		End 1	End 2		
Alignment	e-w	Topsoil depth (m)	0.25	0.27		
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.19	1.25		
Max machine depth (m)	1.3	Natural depth (m OD)				

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

Trench	143		End 1	End 2		
Alignment	n-s	Topsoil depth (m)	0.31	0.3		
Trench length (m)	50	Subsoil depth (m)	1.39	1.34		
Max machine depth (m)	1.4	Natural depth (m OD)				

Machined to 1m depth of development formation level (natural not reached)

14 APPENDIX 3: ENVIRONMENTAL FLOTS

			Bulk	Flot	Charred Plant Remains				Uncharred Plant Remains		l	Uncharred/Modern			
Sample	Fill	Cut	Sample description/ Feature info.	sample volume (L)	ole Volume	Gra	ins	Charcoal >4mmØ		Charcoal <4mmØ	Seeds	3		Root/Rhizome Fragments	
						а	d	р	а	а	а	d	р	а	
1000	169	170	Fill of pit [170] TR28	11	25	1	1	2	2	3	-	-	-	3	
1001	163	164	Fill of pit [164] TR10	30	150	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	
1002	187	188	Fill of ditch [188] TR17	34	150	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	3	3	
1003	189	190	Fill of ditch [190] TR17	24	100	1	1	3	-	1	1	1	3	3	
1004	111	112	Fill of ditch [112] TR1	24	100	1	1	3	3	3	-	-	-	3	
1005	200	201	Fill of ditch [201] TR53	11	25	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	
1006	121	122	Fill of boundary ditch [122] TR2	27	50	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	3	
1007	195	196	Fill of ditch [196] TR9	26	50	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	

15 APPENDIX 4: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-321168

Project details

Project name

Limebrook Park East, Maldon, Essex: An Archaeological Trial Trench

Evaluation

This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-construct Archaeology (PCA) at Limebrook Park East, Maldon, CM9 6GG, between the 8th of May and 15th of June 2018. The principal result of the evaluation was the identification of a Late Iron Age to Early Roman agricultural landscape, comprising boundary and drainage ditches forming a part of wider enclosures. This field system was present on the northern and western portions of the site area, located on an area of relatively high ground. The field system ditches were partly aligned on, and appeared to respect a meandering

the project

Short description of palaeochannel (an earlier, non-canalised iteration of the Lime Brook for which the site is named), which was present running roughly northnorth-west to south-south-east near the northern boundary of the site. The stratigraphy, as well as the limited finds assemblages recovered from the palaeochannel indicated it was of a contemporary date to the archaeological features, and would have acted as a significant boundary marker and obstacle in this period. The Late Iron Age to early Roman archaeology is considered likely to directly relate to that identified c.200m to the north, at the 'Safeways' site, where a settlement with an associated field system was established in the Late Iron Age and continued into the Roman period.

Project dates

Start: 08-05-2018 End: 15-05-2018

Previous/future

Yes / Not known

work

Any associated

reference MD60 - Sitecode project

codes

Field evaluation Type of project

Site status None

Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m Current Land use

Monument type **DITCH Roman** Monument type PIT Roman

Monument type DITCH Post Medieval

Monument type PLOUGHSCAR Post Medieval

Monument type PIT Post Medieval

Monument type DITCH Late Iron Age

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval

Significant Finds METALWORK Post Medieval

Significant Finds FLINT Late Prehistoric

Significant Finds POTTERY Late Iron Age

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Late Iron Age

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Roman

Methods

& "'Sample Trenches'"

techniques

Development type Housing estate

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the

Pre-:

planning process

Pre-application

Project location

Country England

ESSEX MALDON MALDON Limebrook Park East, Maldon, Essex: An Site location

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Postcode CM9 6XT

Study area 44 Hectares

TL 84992 05258 51.714977922247 0.678206680768 51 42 53 N 000

Site coordinates 40 41 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 3.9m Max: 10.76m

Project creators

of PCA Name

Organisation

Project brief

Essex County Council

originator

Project design

Aileen Tierney

originator

Project

Christiane Meckseper

director/manager

Project supervisor Judyta Mlynarska

of Type

sponsor/funding CgMs

body

Name of

sponsor/funding The Limebrook Consortium

body

Project archives

Archive Physical

Colchester Museum

recipient

Physical Contents

Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Worked "Animal

stone/lithics"

Archive Digital

recipient

Colchester Museum

Colchester Museum

Digital Contents

"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Worked

stone/lithics"

Digital

Media "Database","Text"

available

Archive

Paper

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"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Worked

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