

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Site Name  
 ASHBOURNE HOSTEL, MANGROVE RD, HERTFORD

Type of project  
 Assessment

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K813
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
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Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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**An Assessment of an Archaeological Excavation at the Former  
Ashbourne Hostels Site, Mangrove Road, Hertford**

**Site Code: HMRH 04**

**Central National Grid Reference: TL 33130 12010**

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March 2005**

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# 1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of a programme of archaeological excavation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. at the former Ashbourne Hostels Site, Mangrove Road, Hertford. The site Central National Grid Reference is TL 33130 12010. An archaeological evaluation was carried out between the 31<sup>st</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> April 2004. As a result of archaeological findings during this phase, open area excavations in the southeast corner of the site were undertaken between 15<sup>th</sup> November 2004 and 14<sup>th</sup> January 2005. The work was commissioned by Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting on behalf of his clients Fairview New Homes Ltd. The site revealed concentrated evidence of Late Bronze Age occupation, with limited evidence of activity during the Roman and post-medieval periods.
- 1.2 The evaluation comprised twelve trenches spread across the site. The six trenches located closest to the southeast corner of the site revealed a number of features of late prehistoric date, including postholes and ditches, and some evidence of Roman activity. In the other trenches recent landscaping had destroyed earlier archaeological deposits.
- 1.3 The nature of the proposed development meant that a mitigation strategy of preservation by record was adopted. Accordingly an excavation was carried out in the southeast corner of the site. Because of a number of logistical considerations, including deep modern truncations and the presence of protected trees, an irregular area measuring approximately 75m east-west by 55m north-south was stripped down to the top of archaeological deposits in this part of the site.
- 1.4 A significant number of archaeological features were recorded during the excavation, which produced a far greater concentration of archaeology than had been suggested by the evaluation. In the eastern half of the excavated area concentrations of features suggested that this area had been occupied by the edge of a multi-phase, Late Bronze Age settlement. Numerous postholes and a number of beamslots attested to the presence of a number of structures, a series of ditches suggested that some type of water management had been carried out, and there were also numerous pits. Close to the southeastern limit of excavation there was also evidence of a possible cremation cemetery. The number of features declined to the west, though some pits and post-built structures were evident, and in the southwest corner of the excavation area a field boundary ditch, also of Late Bronze Age date, was recorded.

- 1.5 The settlement area in the east of the excavation area was truncated by a north-south aligned ditch of Roman date, which traversed the whole site between the northern and southern limits of excavation. There was no evidence of activity on the site between the Roman period and the later post-medieval period. Some evidence of activity no earlier than the 18<sup>th</sup> century was detected, mostly in the eastern half of the area excavated. There was also evidence of widespread truncation of earlier deposits by disturbances in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
  
- 1.6 The results of the excavation are of local and possibly regional importance. This report will make recommendations regarding the nature of further works in light of this importance.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Between 15<sup>th</sup> November 2004 and 14<sup>th</sup> January 2005 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. carried out an archaeological excavation on land at the former Ashbourne Hostels site, Mangrove Road, Hertford. The open area excavation was carried out following the finding of significant archaeological material during an evaluation of the site in March and April 2004.
- 2.2 The site was formerly occupied by Ashbourne Hostels, a student accommodation complex belonging to the University of Hertfordshire at nearby Balls Park. This had, however remained empty for some time, following the university's relocation to Hatfield. All buildings in the proposed area of excavation had been demolished prior to the excavation phase. The site is bounded by a disused sports ground to the south, the Hags Dell (a small stream) to the west, a footpath (Hagsdell Lane) to the north, and Mangrove Road to the east (Fig. 1). The site in total covers an area of some two hectares, though the excavation was carried out in a small, irregular area, measuring c. 75m east-west by 55m north-south, in the southeast corner of the site. The central National Grid Reference for the excavation area is TL 33130 12010.
- 2.3 The evaluation and excavation were conducted in advance of proposed redevelopment of the site for residential use. The work was carried out in accordance with Department of the Environment, Planning and Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16), the Hertfordshire County Structure Plan Review and the East Hertfordshire District Local Plan. It was carried out as part of an archaeological condition placed on the planning consent for the development.
- 2.4 An archaeological desk based assessment was prepared by Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting (Hawkins 2004a), which highlighted the archaeological potential of the site. Hawkins also produced a specification for an archaeological evaluation (Hawkins 2004b). An archaeological evaluation was carried out according to the specification and in line with a prepared health and safety method statement (Hawkins 2004c). A report on the findings of the evaluation was written by Peter Boyer (Boyer 2004a), and as a result of the evaluation's findings, further work was deemed necessary. A specification for an archaeological excavation was prepared by Duncan Hawkins (Hawkins 2004d), and an excavation was carried out according to the specification and in line with a prepared health and safety plan (Hawkins 2004e).

- 2.5 The commissioning client was Duncan Hawkins of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Fairview New Homes Ltd. The work was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. under the supervision of Peter Boyer and the Project Management of Peter Moore. Lorraine Darton managed the post-excavation work.
- 2.6 The evaluation comprised the excavation of twelve trial trenches of variable dimensions, located across the area of proposed development. The excavation comprised an irregular area in the southeast corner of the site, and measured approximately 75m by 55m (Fig. 2).
- 2.7 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records and artefactual material from the evaluation and excavation will be deposited with Hertford Museum.
- 2.8 The evaluation and excavation were allocated the site code: HMRH 04.

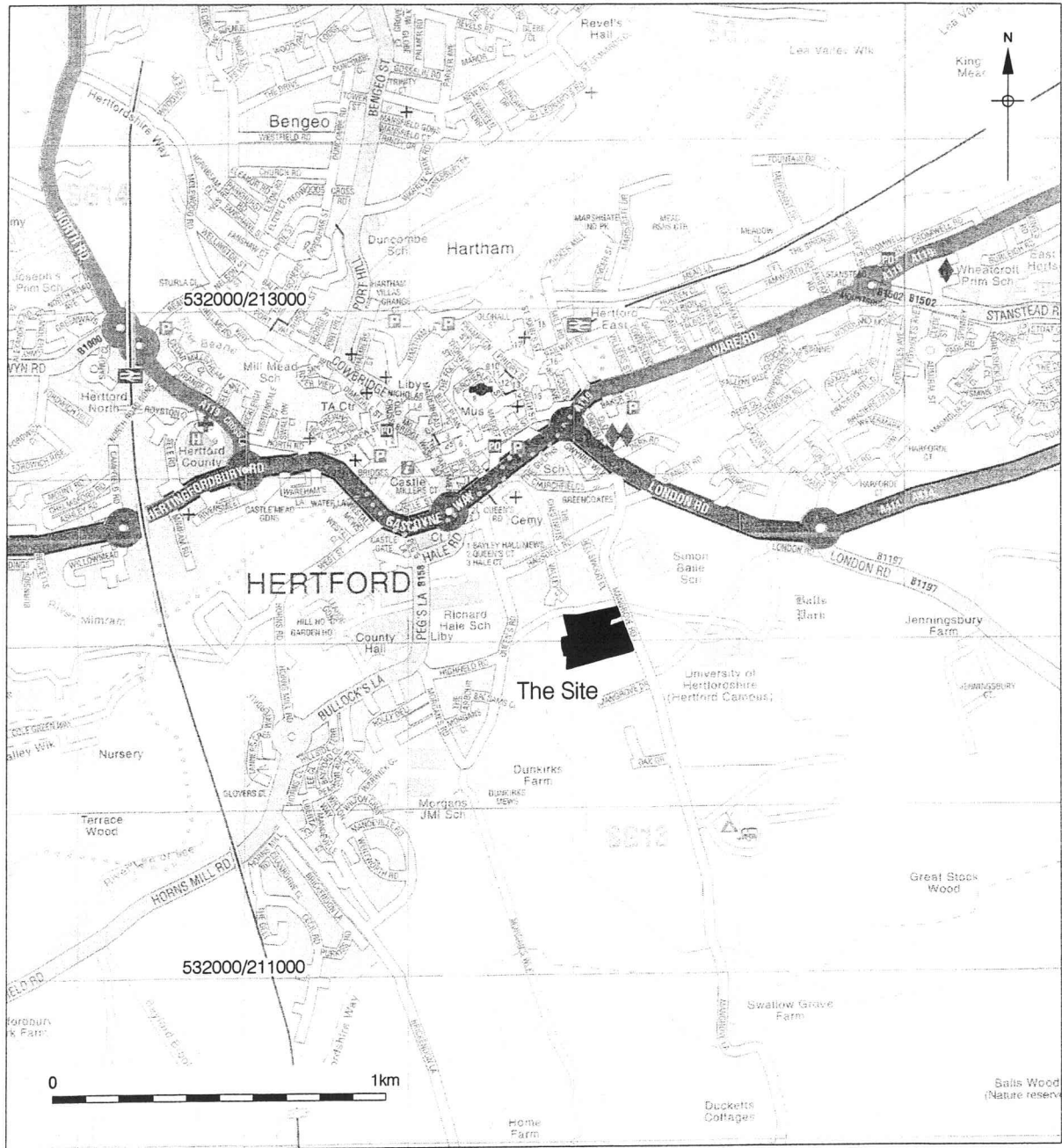
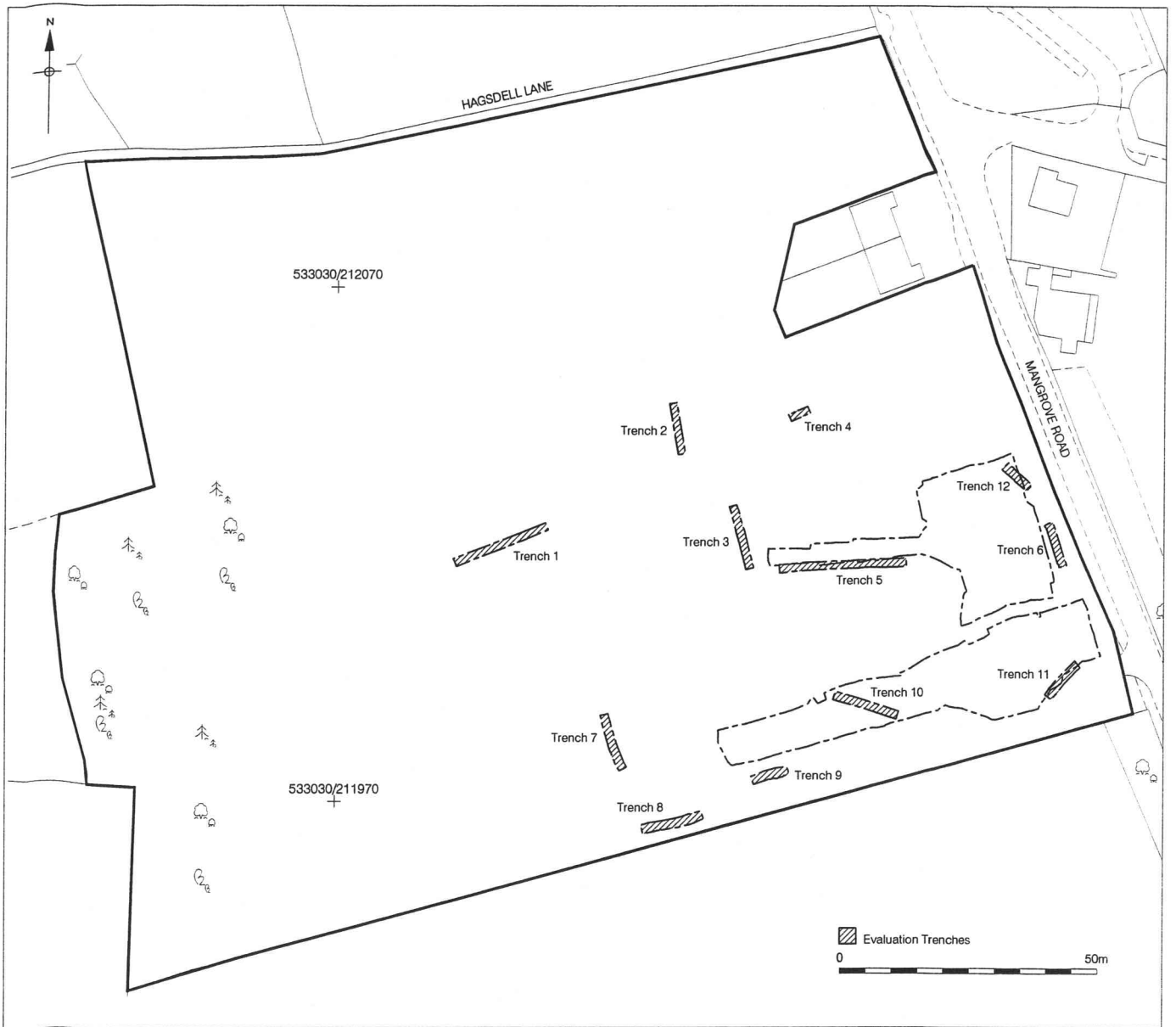


Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:20,000



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Figure 2  
Trench Location  
1:1250

### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Work on the site was carried out as part of an archaeological condition placed on the planning consent for the development, and was conducted in line with the Department of the Environment Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16).
- 3.2 The relevant development plan policy framework is provided by the Hertfordshire County Structure Plan Review 1991 – 2011, adopted on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1998. The Plan contains the following policies relating to archaeology:

#### **POLICY 14**

**The local planning authority and other agencies will make full use of all appropriate powers to conserve and enhance important archaeological remains throughout the county. Planning permission will normally be refused for any development that would adversely affect such sites or their setting. Areas of archaeological significance will be defined and included in District Local Plans. Where, exceptionally, development within these areas is allowed, access to sites will be required in order to record archaeological remains in advance of and, when necessary, during development.**

- 3.3 The Local Plan framework is provided by the East Hertfordshire District Local Plan Second Review Deposit Version, adopted in December 2000. The Plan contains the following policies relating to archaeological matters:

#### **POLICY BH1 (AMENDED EXISTING POLICY BE15/NEW POLICY) ARCHAEOLOGY & NEW DEVELOPMENT**

- I) **Development will not be permitted where the council considers that it will adversely affect archaeological sites of national importance, whether scheduled or unscheduled, and their setting.**
- II) **Permission or consent may be refused where development proposals do not satisfactorily protect archaeological remains of more local importance.**

#### **POLICY BH2 (AMENDED EXISTING POLICY BE15/NEW POLICY) ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS**

**Where applications are submitted on sites which may have archaeological interest, the District Council will expect to be provided with the results of an archaeological evaluation prior to the determination of an application. The evaluation should seek to define:**

- A) The nature and condition of any archaeological remains within the application site;**
- B) The likely impact of the proposed development on such features; and**
- C) The means of mitigating the impact of the proposed development in order to achieve preservation “in situ” or, where this is not merited, the method of recording such remains prior to development.**

**POLICY BH3 (AMENDED EXISTING POLICY BE15/NEW POLICY)  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND AGREEMENTS**

**Where development is permitted on sites containing archaeological remains, any planning permission will be subject to conditions and/or formal agreements requiring appropriate excavation and recording in advance of development and the publication of the results.**

- 3.4 Prior to the excavation, the eastern half of the site was occupied by the buildings of the Ashbourne Hostels complex. The western half of the site was occupied mostly by woodland, with some open grassland.
- 3.5 The proposed development consists of the construction of a total of 55 residential dwelling units, along with associated garages, gardens, services, car parking and access roads. This is to take place across the eastern half of the site in the area of former buildings; with the western half of the site being retained as managed woodland. A number of trees in the area of residential development are also to be retained.
- 3.6 It was believed that 20<sup>th</sup> century development of the site was likely to have had a severe but localised archaeological impact through:
  - Soil stripping and landforming in the area of existing building footprints, roads and car parks.
  - Landscaping and landforming in the area of the tennis court and sunken garden.
  - The cutting of strip footings within building footprints and service runs within buildings and across the site.



- 3.7 Prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, truncation of archaeological deposits was likely to have related to past agricultural activity, particularly across the level, south and southeast part of the site, which would have had a moderate but widespread impact.
- 3.8 The proposed development could potentially have a significant and widespread archaeological impact through;
- Stripping of existing floor slabs, roads, trackways and hardstanding.
  - Grubbing out of existing footings and services.
  - Landscaping and landforming.
  - Soil stripping in the areas of proposed building footprints, roads and car parking.
  - The cutting of strip footings and/or piling within new building footprints and service runs within buildings across the site.
  - Removal of some trees and root systems.
  - Planting of new trees.
- 3.9 The archaeological work was carried out in consultation with Jonathan Smith, County Archaeological Officer with Hertfordshire County Council, who acts as the Archaeological Planning Officer for the District of East Hertfordshire, and who also inspected and monitored the project.

## **4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **4.1 GEOLOGY**

- 4.1.1 The British Geological Survey 1:50,000 scale Geology Sheet No. 239 for Hertford indicates the site to be underlain by glacial gravels of Pleistocene age. These in turn overlie Cretaceous Upper Chalk. A comprehensive geotechnical investigation was undertaken (Hawkins 2004a, Appendix 1), which revealed the Upper Chalk to be overlain by 13.5m – 16.6m of glacial gravel. This in turn was overlain by 0.4m – 1.5m of made ground (including potential archaeological deposits), with a surface covering of topsoil, averaging 0.15m thick.

### **4.2 TOPOGRAPHY**

- 4.2.1 The site varies in elevation from 66.71m AOD at the extreme southeast to 47.35m AOD at the extreme northwest. Much of the site is broadly level at an elevation of c. 63m – 66m AOD, though there are significant slopes along the northern boundary, to the northwest, and along the western boundary. A small stream, the Hags Dell, flows from south to north to the west of the site. This forms a tributary of the River Lea, which flows from southwest to northeast within 1km northwest of the site. The site itself occupies a promontory overlooking the valley of the Lea.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The archaeological and historical background for the Mangrove Road site is based on that provided by the archaeological desk based assessment (Hawkins 2004a). Further data has also been collated from a number of publications and sources held in the Hertfordshire Records Office and privately.

### 5.2 PREHISTORIC

- 5.2.1 Evidence of early prehistoric activity (Palaeolithic to Neolithic) in the local area is rather sparse and comes mostly from chance finds within glacial sands and gravels.
- 5.2.2 A Palaeolithic handaxe is recorded from glacial sands and gravels in the churchyard of All Saints Church, Hertford, to the north of the study site (SMR Ref: 2073, TL 328 125), and two Palaeolithic handaxes, five retouched flakes and struck flakes are recorded from glacial gravels associated with the rivers Lea and Beane (SMR Ref: 4124, TL 330 125). A further Palaeolithic handaxe was recovered from a later context in Area 4 of extensive excavations at Foxholes Farm, some 2km northeast of the site (Partridge 1989, 7). Various Palaeolithic implements are recorded from old gravel pits in the Hertford area, most notably from 'Ware Road pit' to the northeast of the site (SMR Ref: 4127, TL 336 126).
- 5.2.3 A little over 1km to the east of the site a number of flint artefacts of Mesolithic date were recovered during excavations at Foxholes Farm during the 1970s and 1980s (Partridge 1989). Further down the Lea Valley Mesolithic flint assemblages have been recorded from a number of sites in the valley bottom. Rikoff's Pit, Broxbourne, for example, produced one of the most important Mesolithic assemblages in southern England (Warren *et al.* 1934), and a Mesolithic site was also identified at Roydon Road, Stanstead Abbots, during excavation for a swimming pool in 1971 (Davies *et al.* 1982). Mesolithic implements have also been recorded as residual finds in later contexts on excavations in areas overlooking the valley (e.g. Boyer 2004b).
- 5.2.4 Four Neolithic axe heads were found during building work at 'Fair Acre' in Mangrove Road prior to 1970. From the recorded grid reference the findspot appears to have been some 750m northeast of the study site (SMR Ref: 1161, TL 3312 1178). Evidence of widespread Neolithic occupation was also recorded at Foxholes Farm. This included a number of curious 'banana-shaped' pits containing quantities of struck flint and

interpreted as working hollows (Partridge 1989, 8-9). A number of 'shaft pits', including one with a noteworthy flint assemblage were also recorded on the site, and pottery sherds dating to both the earlier and later Neolithic periods were recovered. A small quantity of struck flint, broadly dated to the Neolithic to Bronze Age, was also recovered close to the Foxholes Farm site, at Rush Green (Coles 2000).

- 5.2.5 The Foxholes Farm excavations also recorded abundant evidence for later prehistoric activity, both of a domestic and agricultural nature. Two large circular huts with porches and two smaller circular structures dated to the Bronze Age were recorded at the site, along with a number of other post-built structures and pits. The evidence has been interpreted as suggesting an organised settlement (Partridge 1989, 10-12). Two cremation burials of Bronze Age date were also recorded, though they did not appear to be associated with each other, or any other features.
- 5.2.6 At Rush Green, a short distance northeast of the Foxholes Farm excavations, Evans (1892) recorded two possible Bronze Age gold bracelets. A little further afield, at Prior's Wood, Hertford Heath, some 2km to the southeast, a small quantity of Late Bronze Age axes and ingots was recovered from metal detecting (Partridge 1979).
- 5.2.7 At Foxholes Farm there appears to have been a continuity of occupation from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age, and during the Middle Iron Age an enclosed settlement developed (Partridge 1989, 13-14). During the Late Iron Age two further large enclosures were constructed, and whilst they had a number of internal features there was a dearth of evidence of domestic structures.

### **5.3 ROMAN**

- 5.3.1 A small Roman cemetery, probably comprising just four or five burials with associated grave goods, is recorded from just south of Mangrove Hall, immediately north of the study site's northern boundary (Caldecott 1900) (SMR Ref: 1164, TL 3306 1214). The finds included several pottery urns and a dish, all of 4<sup>th</sup> century type. They were found whilst levelling an area for a tennis court at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Although the tennis court was described as being at the south end of the house (Mangrove Hall), it may actually have been the disused court currently lying just within the northern boundary of the study site, though not within the area proposed for development.
- 5.3.2 A Roman coin is recorded from the area of Wesley Avenue, Hertford. The coin, from the reign of Aurelian (AD 270-275) was recovered from an allotment in 1940 (SMR Ref:

1401, TL 3255 1228). Another coin is also recorded from the area of Balls Park Road, to the east of the study site (SMR Ref: 2069, TL 335 122). This has been dated to the reign of Constans (AD 337-350).

5.3.3 From Hertford town centre itself, evidence for Roman occupation has been quite sparse. Roman pottery was recovered from Maidenhead Street during the 1890s. To the rear of 54 St. Andrew Street, remains of Late Iron Age and Roman date were recovered, which suggested a possible small settlement (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 2-3). At Millbridge, next to the River Lea, Roman remains of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD date were recovered, and included part of a circular enclosure and an urned cremation burial (Hillelson 1991). This may have been associated with the activity identified at St. Andrew Street.

5.3.4 Further evidence of Roman activity comes from the excavations at Foxholes Farm. Extensive occupation was detected on the site and could be divided into two broad themes. From the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries the site was dominated by agriculture, with farms and field systems. In the 4<sup>th</sup> century industry came to prominence, with evidence of iron and bronze working coming from the site. This may have been associated with later agricultural activity, indeed a number of features identified as corn-drying ovens were located in close proximity to industrial ovens and furnaces (Partridge 1989, 15-18).

#### **5.4 SAXON/EARLY MEDIEVAL**

5.4.1 Some time after the end of Roman occupation, probably between AD 500 and AD 600 the bridge across the River Lea at Ware had become unusable. This bridge had been a key crossing point as it carried Ermine Street and linked London with areas further to the north. An alternative fording point was found at Hertford and north-south communications to and from London began to utilise this detour from Ermine Street (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 65). This probably led to the development of the first post-Roman settlement at Hertford.

5.4.2 The first mention of Hertford in historical texts is the Synod of Archbishop Theodore, which met at Hertford on 26<sup>th</sup> September 672 (Stenton 1985 133), though there has been some debate in the past that this may have been at Hartford, now on the outskirts of Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire. The town of Hertford was first established by Edward the Elder in 912-13 AD and originally comprised two separate towns or burhs, one to the north and the other to the south of the River Lea (Westell 1931, 65). These fortified settlements were established in the early 10<sup>th</sup> century as part of Edward's campaign to

conquer the Danelaw. The River Lea marked the approximate boundary of Danish controlled land to the north and Saxon land to the south. Indeed a complete Viking sword has been recovered from the River Lea, next to McMullen's brewery (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 4).

- 5.4.3 The northern burh was constructed first, in 912 AD. Little evidence has come to light for the laying out of streets, markets or property boundaries, and is thought likely that its primary function was a military one (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 5). There has been some evidence of domestic activity, however, with a waterlogged cess pit of 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century date being excavated at Millbridge.
- 5.4.4 The southern burh was a rectangular settlement, approximately 4.5 hectares in area, centred on Salisbury Square. It would have had a regular street grid, which included the current Fore Street, Railway Street, Market Street, Church Street and Bull Plain (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 4-5). The defences of the burhs would have comprised substantial ditches and earthen banks with wooden palisades. Excavations in the early 1970s, to the rear of 31 and 33 Railway Street revealed a large NNW-SSE aligned ditch, 2.3m deep and conjectured to be in the region of 6m wide. The ditch had been backfilled during the 12<sup>th</sup> century, but its construction was probably contemporary with the establishment of the burh. However the excavator has suggested that the ditch was not large enough for defensive purposes and was probably a demarcation line within the southern burh rather than being the actual burh ditch (Petchey 1977).
- 5.4.5 There was possibly a Late Saxon or early medieval cemetery in the area of the present day Shire Hall. Excavation for a water tank at 4 Market Place in 1943, sewer works in 1975 and renovation of the hall in 1988, all revealed human remains in this area (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 13). During the construction of the Green Dragon Hotel in Parliament Square in 1903, significant quantities of Saxo-Norman pottery were recovered. However, excavations in the same area in the early 1970s revealed only post-medieval disturbance (Petchey 1977).
- 5.4.6 At about the time that the burhs were established, the county of Hertfordshire was created and Hertford established as the county town and administrative centre. The county of Bedfordshire and the double burh of Bedford were similarly established a short time afterwards.

- 5.4.7 Hertford appears to have become a prosperous town between its establishment and the Norman Conquest of 1066, and housed a mint from the 920s AD. Excavations at what is now the Bircherley Green Centre, in the 1980s, showed that settlement had extended beyond the eastern defences of the southern burh by the 11<sup>th</sup> century (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 6). The northern burh banks and ditches appear to have been levelled and filled by the 12<sup>th</sup> century (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 105). Domesday Book indicates that Hertford was a large and important town, comprising 54 'houses', and was governed as a Royal Borough. Interestingly, Domesday Book also mentions that Hertford comprised ten hides, which would have been a far greater area than that covered by the two burhs. A large area of hinterland must therefore have been included and could quite feasibly have included the Mangrove Road area. A motte and bailey castle was probably erected soon after the conquest, though it was not documented until 1141 (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 7).
- 5.4.8 No finds of Anglo-Saxon or early medieval date are recorded within a 1km radius of the study site. However Middle Saxon activity has been recorded at Foxholes farm, with a number of sunken-featured buildings (SFBs), dated to c. AD 600-800 being present (Partridge 1989, 18-20), along with quantities of Saxon pottery. During the Saxon and early medieval periods the study site probably lay in woodland or agricultural land, within the hinterland of the settlements.

## **5.5 LATER MEDIEVAL**

- 5.5.1 Hertford continued to prosper until the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, despite its location, away from the main thoroughfares to and from London. Extensive rebuilding of the castle in stone was carried out under Henry II from 1170 to 1175. Evidence from excavation has shown that this rebuilding extended into areas previously under domestic occupation (Petchey 1977). It is also apparent from excavation that the outer bailey was created during these works (Zeepvat and Cooper-Reade 1996). The castle was garrisoned in 1174 and further work was also carried out in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries and a gatehouse added around 1460. From the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries the development of the castle led to ribbon development to the west (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 103). Indeed, limited evidence of occupation during the 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries has come to light along West Street (Murray and Humphrey 1998).
- 5.5.2 A market probably originated in the southern burh, though none was documented until the reign of King John in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. This was probably located between Fore

Street and Maidenhead/Railway Street. This saw fluctuating fortunes and there appears to have been encroachment of buildings into the market place by the late 16<sup>th</sup> century (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 8-9). John Speede's map of 1610 also suggests there may have been a second market on the north side of the river at Old Cross, but there is no further documentary evidence for this. A number of fairs also took place in the town. The earliest was an annual fair first documented in 1226, and further fairs were established in later years, though James I reduced the number back to one during his reign (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 9).

- 5.5.3 A number of religious houses were also established in the town. The earliest religious activity may have originated as early as the 6<sup>th</sup> century and been centred around two crosses, one at Old Cross and another in the old market place. These would have been preaching crosses and there would not have been any associated buildings (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 65-6). One of the earliest church buildings was probably that of St. Mary-the-Less located at Old Cross. Although not documented until 1218 it probably had Saxon origins, and may even have been incorporated into the northern burh defences (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 81). It appears to have been demolished at the time of the Reformation. Another church that may have had Saxon origins was that of St. Nicholas, though it was not documented until 1269. It was probably located in the area of Maidenhead Street, but was disused by 1535 and demolished by the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 9-13).
- 5.5.4 St. Mary's Priory was founded between 1086 and 1093 on land between the present Priory Street and St. John's Street, now occupied by Mitre Court. It was extended in the 15<sup>th</sup> century but demolished after the dissolution in 1538, though it was rebuilt as a small chapel in 1629. This was short-lived and also demolished (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 104). Excavations between 1988 and 1990 on the site of St. Mary's Priory and St. John's Church revealed the medieval nave of the church and numerous burials from the church and surrounding graveyard (Zeepvat 1996).
- 5.5.5 Other churches with medieval origins were All Saints and St. Andrews. Documentary evidence suggests that All Saints was founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century; this being confirmed in a document dated 1189, though the current church was erected as recently as 1895. St. Andrew's Church was first mentioned in 1208, but was rebuilt in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 9-13).



- 5.5.6 As early as the late 12<sup>th</sup> century Hertford had experienced commercial competition following the building of a new bridge across the River Lea at Ware. This was located on a more direct north-south route from London and consequently Hertford suffered a loss of passing trade. This was partly arrested by the Hertford bailiffs penalising Ware, which led to animosity between the two towns. Trade in Hertford declined at the expense of Ware from the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 15).
- 5.5.7 Despite the decline in trade Hertford remained the administrative centre of the county and the town continued to expand. It also enjoyed some level of prosperity until Elizabethan times, even housing Parliament during times of plague in 16<sup>th</sup> century London (Kiln and Partridge 1995, 114).
- 5.5.8 During the later medieval period the study site lay in agricultural land, well to the south of the urban area of Hertford, and was still shown as such in Andrew's and Drury's map of 1766.

## **5.6 POST-MEDIEVAL**

- 5.6.1 In the late 16<sup>th</sup> century Hertford suffered badly from the effects of plague and took some time to recover. However in later centuries the town again began to prosper as road links with London were improved. The rich agricultural land around the town was used to grow important crops and corn and malt could be traded through the town to the rapidly expanding London market. Along with Ware it became an important centre of the brewing and malting industry and many coaching inns were established to satisfy the increasing north-south trade. Other industries were also established in the town such as a bell foundry, built at 14 Parliament Square in 1780 and replaced by a printing works around 1830 (Bryant and Seddon 1999, 23). Trade links with the capital were cemented by the coming of the railway in 1843.
- 5.6.1 Throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods the Mangrove Road area had lain beyond the expanding urban area of Hertford. The Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile and 25" to 1 mile maps of 1884 show the study site at the southern edge of the suburbs of the town and comprising agricultural land, devoid of significant features. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century a number of field boundaries had been established on the site, but otherwise there was little change from 1884, though some landscaping may have taken place. By 1923 a large Edwardian 'villa' type house 'Ashbourne' (latterly Ashbourne House) had been established on the site, together with a lodge, stables block and servants' quarters.

5.6.2 By 1973 the site had been altered by the construction of a hostel complex to the south of the Edwardian house. Between 1973 and 2003 no further permanent buildings appear to have been erected on the site, though a site survey plan (Hawkins 2004b, Fig. 9) shows a large number of temporary buildings had been established on the site. These and the hostel buildings were formerly used to house students of the University of Hertfordshire. At the time of the archaeological evaluation, the hostel buildings were still present but disused, and the temporary buildings had been removed. The hostel buildings were demolished prior to the excavation phase.

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation strategy, followed specifications outlined by Hawkins (2004b) and a health and safety method statement prepared by Hawkins (2004c), and was designed to sample a representative portion of the open area of the site. Twelve trenches were opened across the site.
- 6.2 The six evaluation trenches closest to the southeast corner of the site all revealed archaeological features, mostly late prehistoric in date. A report was produced (Boyer 2004a) and on the basis of the evaluation findings and consultation with the local planning archaeologist an open area excavation was carried out in the southwest corner of the site, following demolition of the buildings in this area. A specification and health and safety plan for this phase were prepared by Hawkins (2004d & e).
- 6.3 Because of the potential damage that could be caused by the removal of concrete slabs and other modern features, this phase was monitored archaeologically to ensure that no damage to sensitive deposits occurred. It was also not possible to open the entire area specified as a number of trees were present in the centre of the area, which could not be disturbed due to the likelihood of future preservation requirements. An east-west baulk c. 2-3m wide was also left in the southern half of the excavation, due to a live electric cable in a large service duct. A rather irregular shaped area was thus opened for excavation (Fig. 2).
- 6.4 For the evaluation a 180° wheeled mechanical excavator and toothless bucket was used, under archaeological supervision, to remove topsoil and modern overburden down to the top of archaeological levels. The same method was employed during the excavation, using a 360° tracked machine. Topsoil and modern overburden from the excavation were stored elsewhere on the site.
- 6.4 Once the overburden had been removed down to archaeological levels the trenches and excavation area were cleaned by hand. Archaeological features were then excavated by hand. Most features were fully excavated except for linear and curvilinear features where slots totalling 40 - 100% of the feature were excavated. All excavated deposits were recorded on to pro-forma context sheets and all cut features planned at a scale of 1:20 on dedicated 5m<sup>2</sup> planning sheets. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. A black and white print and colour slide photographic record was taken of excavated features.

Photographs of work in progress were also taken. Bulk samples were taken from the fills of archaeological features where it was thought appropriate. All features were recorded on a site grid.

6.6 The evaluation and excavation took place in mostly dry and overcast conditions, though at times during the excavation, very bright conditions were experienced. This slightly affected the visibility of the archaeological features, particularly given the colour and subtlety of natural deposits and some features.

6.7 For the evaluation, eight temporary benchmarks (TBMs) were established on the site, which were all previously established survey stations. These had been transferred from the Ordnance Survey benchmark located on Red Lodge (value 60.30m AOD). For the excavation a single TBM was set up in the centre of the site (value 66.47m AOD), which had also been transferred from one of previously established survey points. This was located close to the southern edge of the site, a short distance to the west of the southeastern site entrance (value 66.445m AOD).

6.8 The evaluation and excavation trenches were surveyed in using a total station theodolite and tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid.

## **7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE (Figs. 3 - 10)**

### **7.1 PHASE 1: NATURAL DEPOSITS**

- 7.1.1 The natural deposits across the site comprised mixed, glacial sands and gravels [142]. These were mostly quite friable though firm in occasional areas. Colours varied from mid to dark greyish brown, to yellowish, greyish mid brown. Particle size varied from coarse gravel to moderate sand, and there was much interleaving of the different deposit types.

### **7.2 PHASE 2: EARLIER PREHISTORIC (Fig. 3)**

- 7.2.1 This phase was characterised by a number of what were essentially natural tree bole features, which contained no dateable finds. However, given the nature of activity in later phases it is possible that these features may have had some relationship to human activity, probably during the Bronze Age. It is suggested that the tree boles represent the location of woodland that was cleared, prior to the establishment of Late Bronze Age settlement on the site.
- 7.2.2 The tree boles were variably spaced across the site and differed considerably in size and form, though the form of all was quite irregular. The features dated to this phase were cuts [457], [430] and [436] in the southwest corner of the site, cuts [507], [521], [493], [390], [448], [319], [588] and [355] in central, southern and eastern areas of the site, and cut [148] towards the northwestern corner of the site.

### **7.3 PHASES 3 - 6: LATE BRONZE AGE**

- 7.3.1 The bulk of activity on the site has been dated to the Late Bronze Age (possibly extending into the Early Iron Age). Towards the east side of the site was a clear concentration of features, probably representing the edge of a settlement. Many of the features were intercutting and it was possible to phase the sequences stratigraphically, a broad four phase division of the period being produced. However, given the lack of high resolution dating evidence in terms of the finds recorded, it was impossible to assign phases to features on the finds evidence alone. The exact dating of discrete features was therefore difficult. For this reason a number of features have been assigned to the latest phase (Phase 6), which may have given an unfair bias to the suggested level of activity during this phase.

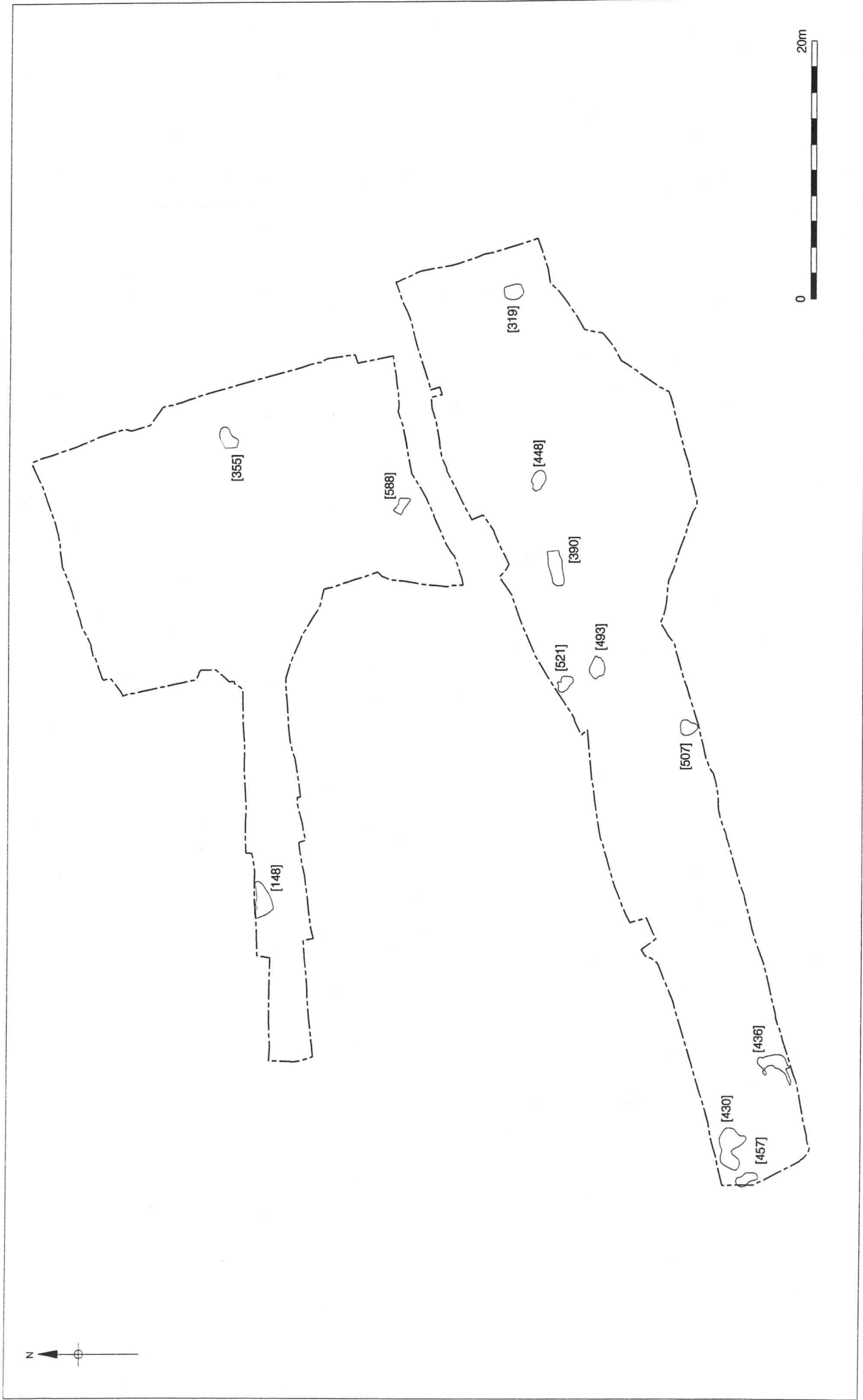


Figure 3  
Phase 2: Earlier Prehistoric  
Natural Features and Tree Boles  
1:400

#### 7.4 PHASE 3: LATE BRONZE AGE I (Fig. 4)

- 7.4.1 This phase of activity was only recognised in an area c. 15m by 15m towards the eastern edge of the site. Probably the most significant elements of this phase were a series of postholes, located mostly in the western half of the 15m by 15m area. These appear to have represented a number of post-built structures in this area. Towards the southwest corner of this area were two small, closely spaced postholes [594] and [596]. Located a little over 3m northeast of these postholes was a group of three further postholes [582], [590] and [592], forming a perpendicular alignment, suggesting a possible structure (Structure 1). The latter three postholes were more substantial than the former two, suggesting that they were possibly the locations of major structural timber posts, whereas the smaller postholes possibly represented a feature internal to a structure. The structure would appear to have been aligned northeast-southwest or northwest-southeast. Unfortunately because of substantial modern truncation in this area further postholes related to the structure were not apparent, though it is feasible that an apparently isolated posthole [562], c. 3.3m to the west, was associated. However this is more likely to have related to another structure lost to modern truncation to the south.
- 7.4.2 Associated with Structure 1, and probably internal to it, were two pits [598] and [600]. The more northerly of these, [600], was sub-circular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 1.36m by 1.20m and was 0.30m deep. Pit [598] had been heavily truncated by modern disturbances but appeared to have been at least 1.18m in diameter and 0.42m deep. The function of neither pit was clear.
- 7.4.3 A short distance to the north of Structure 1 was a group of postholes [576], [574], [535], [533], [531] and [529], forming an arc and suggestive of a possible circular, post built structure (Structure 2). The curvature of the arc suggested a structure c. 6m in diameter, though any further postholes were lost to modern truncation. Sherds of pottery were recovered from posthole [529] and struck flint was recovered from posthole [574]. A further posthole [297] to the north may have been related to Structure 2 but was more likely associated with another structure, since lost to modern truncation, to the northwest.
- 7.4.4 Located directly to the northeast of Structure 2, and possibly associated with it, was a sub-circular pit [552]. This measured 1.30m by 1.08m and was 0.38m deep. It had steepish sides and a concave base. Its function was unclear. A little further north was an irregular pit [309], measuring 1.60m by 1.20m and 0.24m deep. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. A single sherd of pottery was recovered from the fill [308], but the function of the pit was unclear. It was truncated by a further pit [249]. This was sub-

rectangular in shape (though truncated by modern disturbance to the north), with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It measured at least 1.24m north-south by 0.85m east-west. Again, no clear function was apparent.

- 7.4.5 A final group of Phase 3 features was located in the southeast corner of the 15m by 15m area. The most southerly of these was a north-south aligned gully [586]. It extended northwards from a southern butt end for 1.34m before being truncated by a later feature. It was 0.62m wide and 0.23m deep, with gently sloping, concave sides and a generally flattish base. The fill [585] contained prehistoric pottery and struck flint. However, given the small fraction of the feature that survived, it was impossible to determine its function.
- 7.4.6 A short distance to the north of gully [586] (and possibly originally cutting it) was a heavily truncated, sub-rectangular feature [602]. This measured at least 2.50m north-south by 2.41m east-west and was 0.50m deep. It had very steeply sloping, straight sides and a generally flattish base. The fill [601] contained pottery and struck flint. It was not clear whether the feature was a pit or possibly the butt end of a linear feature.
- 7.4.7 Both gully [586] and feature [602] were partly truncated by a shallow, oval pit [584], measuring 1.30m by 1.22m and 0.22m deep. It had moderately sloping, concave sides and a generally flattish base. Its function was, however, unclear.
- 7.4.8 Feature [602] was also truncated by a small oval feature [580], which had itself been so heavily truncated that its form was unclear. It had variable sides and a base that sloped down from west to east. It measured 0.67m by 0.63m and was 0.21m deep. It was not clear whether the feature was a small pit or posthole, or even the butt end of a shallow ditch.
- 7.4.9 Activity during Phase 3 appears to have centred on a small number of structures along with possibly associated pits and ditches. It appears to have been restricted to a relatively small area, though because of a lack of refinement in dating, it is possible that features beyond this area may also have belonged to this phase of activity.



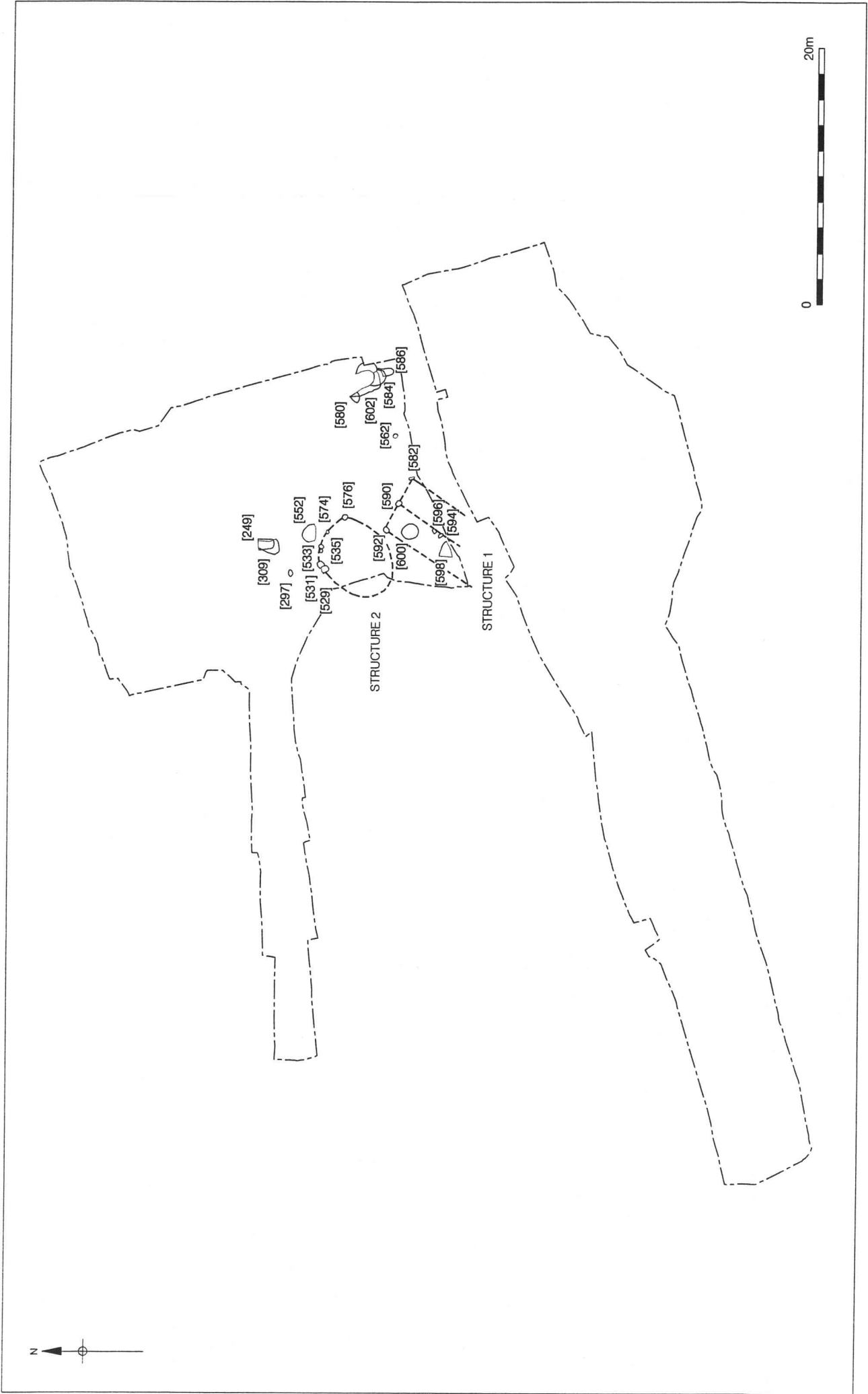


Figure 4  
Phase 3: Late Bronze Age I  
1:400

## **7.5 PHASE 4: LATE BRONZE AGE II (Fig. 5)**

- 7.5.1 This phase was characterised by a number of ditches, mostly near the eastern edge of the site, and possible structural evidence to the north. Extending northwards from the southern edge of the area of excavation and curving to the northwest was a ditch [279]. It extended for in excess of 6.2m before being truncated by a later ditch to the north. It was up to 1.34m wide and 0.64m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat to concave base (Fig. 10.1). It was not clear whether the ditch was a boundary feature at the edge of a settlement or a feature associated with water management, within a settlement.
- 7.5.2 Some 10.5m to the north was the southern butt end of a north-south aligned ditch [578], which had heavily truncated a number of the earlier features in the southeast corner of the 15m by 15m Phase 3 area. The ditch extended northwards for 3.98m before being truncated by a modern service trench. It continued north of the service trench for a further 6.10m before butt ending sharply. To the north of the service trench the ditch was recorded as [263]. Approximately 1.5m south of the northern butt end a narrow gully extended westwards from the ditch for 5m before being truncated by a Roman ditch. The form of ditch [578]/[263] was rather variable, with a width of 0.80m to 1.89m and a depth of 0.30m to 0.45m. The sides varied from near vertical to moderately sloping, concave and convex, with a flat to concave base. The westward extending gully was 0.40m wide and between 0.24m and 0.44m deep. Pottery and struck flint was recovered from the fill [577] to the south of the service trench. A similar function to the contemporary ditch [279], to the south, is envisaged.
- 7.5.3 To the west of the Roman ditch and an area of massive modern truncation, the gully extending westwards from ditch [263] appears to have extended westwards and then northwestwards as ditch [468]. This extended for 7.40m from the modern truncation before being truncated by a further modern service trench. This again varied in form, being up to 1.83m wide and 0.40m deep, with an asymmetrical profile and flattish base.
- 7.5.4 A further, though unrelated, Phase 4 ditch [541] was recorded along the southern edge of the excavation area, some 42m west of the southeast corner of the excavation area. This feature was broadly curvilinear in form, initially extending westwards and then curving to the northwest. An 8.70m length was recorded, which was up to 1.20m wide and 0.29m deep. It had moderate to steeply sloping sides and a flat to tapered base. Struck flint was recovered from the fill [540]. The ditch was possibly a remnant of a heavily truncated ring ditch, and may have been part of the same feature as ditch [16] recorded during the evaluation.

- 7.5.5 A final group of Phase 4 features was located some 8m to the north of ditch [468]. The southernmost of these was an 'L-shaped' feature [375], which was aligned north-south, turning to the west at the north. It had generally straight sides sloping at c. 45° and a generally flattish base. It extended 1.47m northwards from a modern truncation and extended a further 1.82m to the west before being truncated by pit [325]. The cut was in excess of 1m wide in places but only 0.14m deep. The fill [374] contained charcoal and prehistoric pot and the feature was interpreted in the field as a possible remnant of a heavily truncated rectangular structure (Structure 3).
- 7.5.6 Pit [325], which cut [375], was sub-rectangular in plan with moderate to steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a slightly concave base. It measured 1.71m northeast-southwest by 0.96m northwest-southeast, with a depth of just 0.15m. Its function was unclear.
- 7.5.7 Located just to the northwest of pit [325] was a sub-rectangular feature [343], which appeared to be the northeastern butt end of a heavily truncated linear gully. It was 0.44m wide and 0.10m deep, with gently sloping, slightly concave sides, the base having been lost to truncation. A flint core was recovered from the fill [342].
- 7.5.8 Located just to the northeast of pit [325] was a curvilinear ditch [275]. It was 1.42m in length (having been truncated to the east), 0.54m wide and 0.12m deep. It had steep to near vertical sides and a flattish base. Its function was unclear.
- 7.5.9 A short distance to the east of feature [375] was a small, shallow, oval pit [245], measuring 1.03m by 0.85m and just 0.13m deep. It had gently sloping, slightly concave sides, but had been heavily truncated, obscuring the base. The function of the feature was unclear.
- 7.5.10 Phase 4 was thus characterised by some further structural evidence, but also the excavation of a series of ditches, suggesting a possible alteration in function of this area of the site.

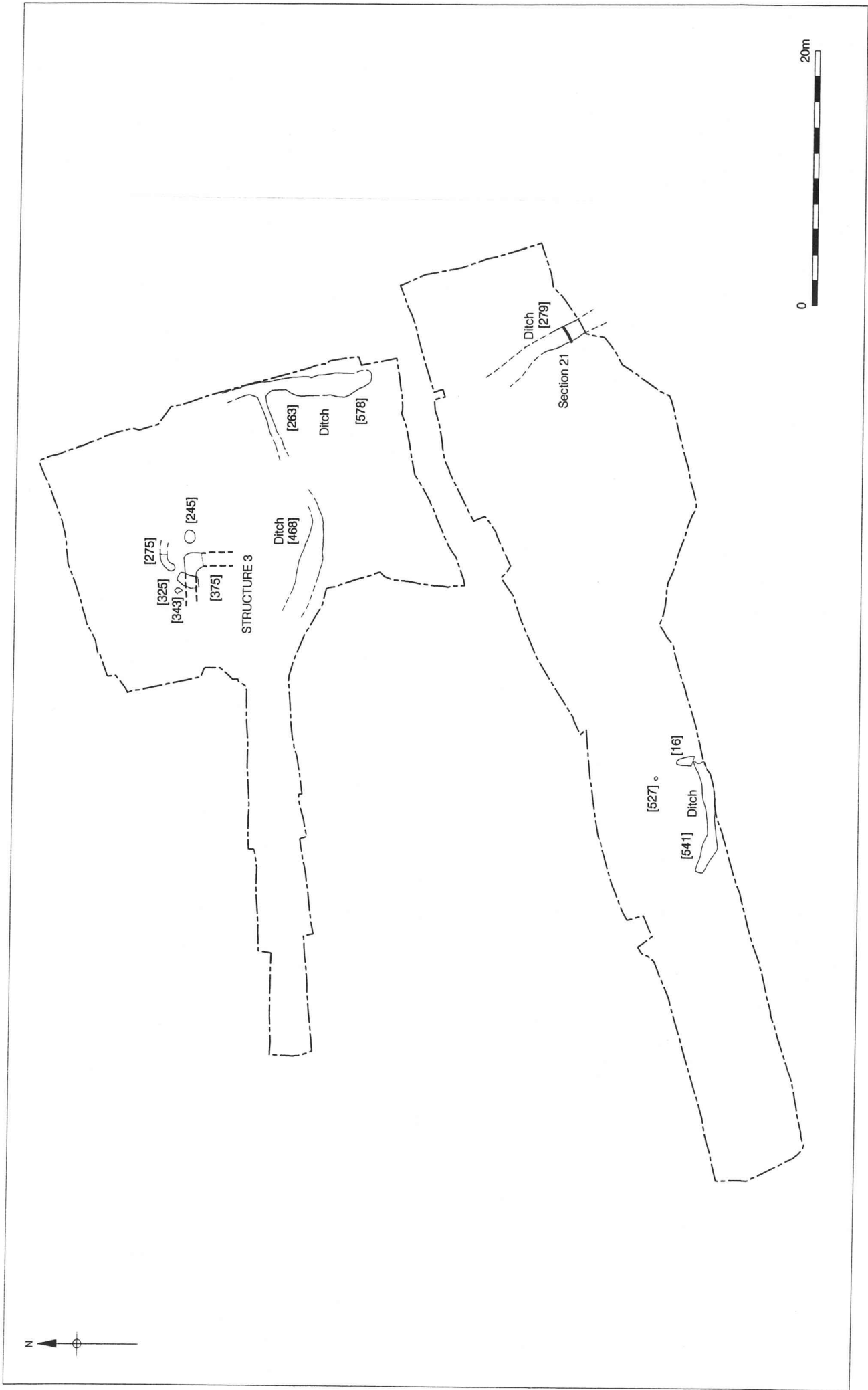


Figure 5  
Phase 4: Late Bronze Age II  
1:400

## 7.6 PHASE 5: LATE BRONZE AGE III (Fig. 6)

- 7.6.1 This phase was characterised by the modification of earlier ditches and the construction of a number of new structures, as well as the appearance of a small number of other scattered features across the site.
- 7.6.2 Towards the northeast corner of the excavation was a concentration of evidence suggesting that there may have been up to five structures here. A NNW-SSE alignment of four postholes [349], [347], [345] and [235] may have marked the western edge of a rectangular, post built structure (Structure 4). Posthole [235] also formed an ENE-WSW alignment with postholes [202] and [192] to the ENE. Together the arrangement of postholes suggested a structure measuring at least 4m NNW-SSE by 4m ENE-WSW. Two postholes [229] and [223] to the north and gully [453] to the south may also have been associated with Structure 4, however, due to modern truncation, particularly of the latter feature, no relationships could be proven.
- 7.6.3 Immediately to the east and on a similar alignment to Structure 4 was another possible rectangular structure (Structure 5), which comprised a number of linear gullies, interpreted as beamslots. The northwestern corner of the structure was marked by gully [221], which extended NNW from a modern truncation for 3.24m before turning to the ENE and extending for a further 2.50m before butt ending. The width of the gully varied between 0.65m and 0.68m and the depth between 0.21m and 0.24m. It had near vertical sides and a flat base, and struck flint was recovered from the fill [220]. Approximately 2m ENE of the butt end of gully [221] was the butt end of another gully [178], which extended to the SSE for 2.10m before being truncated by a later feature. This was 0.49m wide and 0.19m deep, and again exhibited near vertical sides and a flat base. A heavily truncated gully [440] may have marked the southwest corner of the structure. This measured 1.57m ENE-WSW by 0.77m NNW-SSE, being heavily truncated to the NNW and ENE. It was up to 0.45m wide and 0.17m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. A small, truncated gully [204] and a very heavily truncated feature [188] may have been internal features associated with the structure. The arrangement of the possible beamslots suggested a structure measuring c. 5.25m NNW-SSE by 5.20m ENE-WSW, with a possible entrance on the NNW, adjacent to the northeast corner.
- 7.6.4 Partly occupying the same area as Structure 5 was a further tentative structure (Structure 6). This comprised a NNW-SSE aligned gully [206] to the east and an ENE-WSW aligned gully [180] to the north. A further small gully [211] may also have been a part. Gully [206] extended to the NNW from a later truncation, butt ending after 1.75m. It was 0.43m wide

and 0.15m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Struck flint was recovered from the fill [205]. Some 2m NNW of the butt end of the gully was the ENE butt end of gully [180], this extended to the WSW for 2.73m. This too was 0.43m wide, though only 0.11m deep, with a similar profile to gully [206]. Gully [211] continued the alignment of [180] to the WSW for a further 1.06m, though its size and form was different from gullies [206] and [180]. Assuming gully [211] to have been part of Structure 6, then the structure would have measured at least 4.2m ENE-WSW by 4m NNW-SSE, with a possible entrance to the northeast.

- 7.6.5 Partly occupying the area of Structure 4, and possibly truncating the NNW-SSE alignment of postholes, was what has tentatively been interpreted as the northeast corner of a further structure (Structure 7). This comprised an 'L-shaped' gully [253], which extended 2.37m to the WSW and 1.92m to the SSE. It was up to 0.90m wide and 0.24m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. No further elements of this structure were apparent.
- 7.6.6 A final possible structure in this part of the site was located in the northwest corner of the excavation area (Structure 8). This comprised a ditch or gully [209], which extended for 2m south from the northern edge of excavation, before turning to the west and extending a further 1.5m, before being truncated by modern services. It was up to 0.95m wide and 0.45m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. Its size and orientation were rather different from the other Phase 5 structures in this area so it is feasible that it was not related.
- 7.6.7 Activity to the south of the area of structures appears to have been dominated by the cutting and re-cutting of ditches during Phase 5. Ditch [468] was re-cut as ditch [451], which was much narrower, deeper and with steeper sides than its predecessor (Fig. 10.2). Indeed the profile was such that it has been suggested that the ditch must have been lined to retain such a form, being cut through such friable deposits. The western extension of ditch [263] was also recut as [259], which was also narrower and more steeply sided than its predecessor. Ditches [451] and [259] were probably the same feature, a massive modern truncation having destroyed any continuity between the two. Given the form of the ditches and the need for a lining, it seems very probable that they were being exploited for some type of water management function at this time, rather than serving as simple field or property boundaries.

- 7.6.8 Further to the south, ditch [279] was truncated by the southern butt end of another ditch [475], which extended northwards for c. 8m as ditch [483], to the east-west site baulk. This ditch was up to 1.70m wide and 0.61m deep, with gentle to steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It continued for a further 1.33m north of the baulk as ditch [550] before butt-ending. A possible water management function is also suggested for this ditch.
- 7.6.9 Running parallel to the west of ditch [483]/[550] at its northern end was a short ditch (Fig. 10.3), which was also recorded to the north and south of the baulk ([477] to the south, [546] to the north). This was between 1.28m and 1.34m wide and between 0.42m and 0.47m deep, with irregular sides and a concave base. Its function was unclear but it may have been associated with the ditch directly to the east.
- 7.6.10 Ditch butt end [475] was truncated on its western side by a small oval pit [473], which measured 1.18m by 0.88m and was 0.25m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its function was difficult to determine, particularly as it, in turn had been heavily truncated by a later feature. A short distance southwest of [475] was a badly truncated, small pit or posthole [400], which may originally have been associated with the ditch. This was irregular in plan, due to the truncation, and measured 0.60m by 0.46m, with a depth of 0.14m. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base, but its function was difficult to ascertain because of the extent of truncation, both by a later Bronze Age feature and by modern footings.
- 7.6.11 In the southeast corner of the site was an area of compacted, mid greyish brown gravelly sand [298], which appeared to be the remnants of a deposit of Late Bronze Age date. The deposit covered an area 6.30m north-south by 2.62m east-west, and was up to 0.40m thick. It contained prehistoric pottery and was possibly the remains of a Bronze Age bank or mound.
- 7.6.12 Some 5.25m WSW of deposit [298] was a sub-oval pit [331], measuring 1.84m by 1.75m, and 0.32m deep. It had very gently sloping sides and a concave base, though its function was unclear. Adjacent to this was a massively truncated pit [353], which originally appeared to have been roughly circular, with a diameter of c. 1.05m and a depth of 0.28m. This had fairly steep sides and a slightly concave base. Again, the function was unclear, and this and pit [331] had been heavily truncated by later features.

- 7.6.13 Less than 2m southwest of pit [353] was a possible posthole [289], sub-oval in shape, with near vertical sides and a flat to concave base. It measured 0.46m by 0.26m and was 0.41m deep. It had been truncated by a large irregular feature [287], interpreted as a tree bole, though one that was clearly later than elements of the Bronze Age settlement.
- 7.6.14 Some 7m to the west of the tree bole, was a sub-circular pit [313], measuring 1.32m by 0.90m and 0.22m deep. It had moderately sloping, concave sides and a concave base. Immediately to the north was another sub-circular pit [357], with variably sloping, concave sides and a concave base. It measured 0.78m by 0.76m and was 0.30m deep. Both pits had been heavily truncated by a later feature and consequently their functions were unclear.
- 7.6.15 Located some 9m NNW of pit [357] was a sub-oval pit [421], which had gradually sloping, concave sides and a concave base. It measured 1.20m by 0.70m and was 0.25m deep, having been heavily truncated by a larger, later feature to the north. The function of the pit was unclear.
- 7.6.16 Some distance to the southwest, at the southern edge of the site, Phase 4 curvilinear ditch was truncated at its eastern end by another Phase 5 tree bole [548], which extended beyond the southern edge of excavation. This was irregular in plan and form, measuring in excess of 0.80m north-south by 0.78 east-west. A short distance north of this was a small, rectangular pit [525], which had truncated Phase 4 posthole [527]. The pit had slightly irregular sides and a base that sloped down from southeast to northwest. It measured 0.80m by at least 0.70m and was up to 0.18m deep. It too had been truncated by a later pit and its function was difficult to determine.
- 7.6.17 The final Phase 5 feature was a possible north-south aligned ditch [446] located at the extreme southwestern edge of the excavation area. It extended northwards from the southwestern corner of the site for 3.80m before being truncated by a later Bronze Age ditch. Ditch [446] had steep sides and a fairly flat base. It was 0.75m wide and 0.50m deep, and appeared to be a possible boundary feature, though its alignment was different from that of the later, more clearly defined ditch which truncated it.
- 7.6.18 Although Phase 5 was dominated by the possible structures and ditches on the eastern side of the site, it was also characterised by a number of pits spread across the site, the function of most being difficult to define. This was a pattern that would be repeated and intensified in the following and final Late Bronze Age phase.



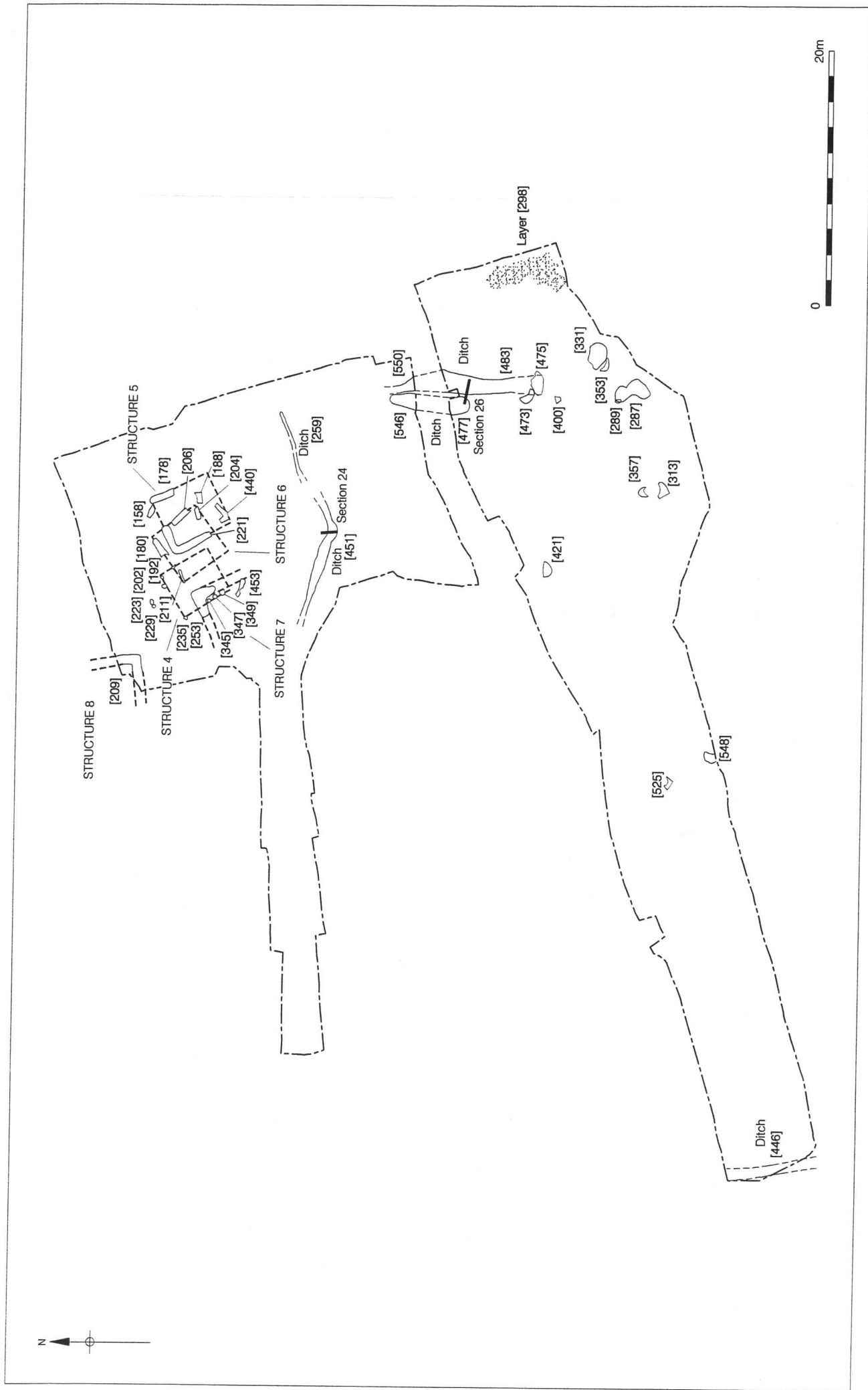


Figure 6  
Phase 5: Late Bronze Age III  
1:400

## 7.7 PHASE 6: LATE BRONZE AGE IV (Fig. 7)

- 7.7.1 This was the phase, which seemingly saw the most activity during the later Bronze Age, though the potential for bias has already been outlined above (Section 7.3). The area towards the northeast corner of the site, which had previously been occupied by a number of possible structures, became dominated during this phase by a number of pits of varying forms and sizes. At the northern edge of the site was a northwest-southeast aligned, rectangular pit [172], which extended beyond the edge of excavation. It was at least 1.80m long and 0.90m wide, with a depth of 0.20m. It had sides that sloped at c. 30° to 45°, gradually breaking to a slightly concave base. Its function could not be determined.
- 7.7.2 Some 3m to the east, and also extending beyond the northern edge of excavation, was a sub-circular pit [156], which appeared to have a diameter of 1.90m and a depth of 0.60m. The sides sloped at c. 45° - 60° to a concave base, and again the function could not be determined.
- 7.7.3 A short distance to the southeast of pit [172] and southwest of pit [156] was a roughly oval pit [146], which had been heavily truncated to the south by modern footings. It had quite steep, but variable sides and a concave base, though much of this had been removed by the truncation. It measured 1.40m by at least 1.00m and was 0.50m deep. The function of this pit was also difficult to define.
- 7.7.4 A short distance to the southeast of the northwest corner of the site was another truncated pit [247]. This was sub-rectangular in plan with quite steep sides, gradually breaking to an almost flat base. It measured at least 1.25m east-west and 1.10m north-south, with a depth of 0.50m. The function of the pit was unclear.
- 7.7.5 Less than 3m to the south of pit [247] was the eastern terminus of an ESE-WSW aligned ditch [255]. The ditch extended 2.40m from the terminus before being truncated by a modern service trench, and then probably extended beyond the western edge of excavation. The ditch was 1.40m wide and 0.30m deep, with sides sloping at c. 30° - 45° and a slightly concave base. The ditch may have been a boundary feature, but is unclear how it may have related to the settlement to the east.
- 7.7.6 Located a little over 3m northeast of ditch [255] was an ENE-WSW aligned, sub-rectangular pit [219]. It was 2.18m long, 1.26m wide and up to 0.26m deep. It had gently sloping sides, with a gradual break to a flat base, but no obvious function. Directly to the

south of the pit lay a posthole [233], which may have been related to the pit, though it is feasible that it may even have been associated with Phase 4, Structure 4. To the east of the posthole was a small pit [231], sub-oval in plan, with gently sloping, concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.06m by 0.87m but was just 0.13m deep, having apparently suffered substantial horizontal truncation. Its function was therefore somewhat unclear.

- 7.7.7 Some 6m ENE of pit [219] was another sub-rectangular pit [152], this time aligned northwest-southeast. It was 2.30m long, 1.37m wide and 0.11m deep, with gently sloping, concave sides and a flat base. Its function was unclear but its similarity to pits [172] and [219] suggests the three may have been related.
- 7.7.8 Directly to the south of pit [152] was a sub-oval small pit or posthole [154], measuring 0.80m by 0.75m, with a depth of 0.11m. It had gently sloping, concave sides and a concave base, and may have been associated with pit [152]. Another related, elongated feature may have been pit [164] located 3m south of pit [152]. It was aligned ENE-WSW though slightly more irregular in plan than the sub-rectangular pits discussed above. It measured 2.60m by 1.42m and was 0.41m deep, with irregular and uneven sides and a concave base. It was partly truncated by a smaller, shallow sub-rectangular pit [144], which measured 1.84m north-south by 1.48m east-west, but was just 0.11m deep. It had steep sides, becoming slightly concave and breaking to a flattish base. The function was unclear.
- 7.7.9 Located a little over 3m to the east of these features, and extending beyond the eastern edge of the site was another irregular pit [215]. This measured 1.80m north-south, at least 1.08m east-west, and was 0.57m deep. It had steep, regular sides and an irregular base. The fill [214] contained charcoal and burnt and struck flint. It was possibly a rubbish pit.
- 7.7.10 At the southern edge of the area of Phase 5 structures was a very truncated feature [461]. The truncation was so severe by modern services that the size and form of the feature could not be ascertained, However the fill [460] did contain prehistoric pot.
- 7.7.11 To the southeast of this feature and beyond the area of massive truncation was an oval pit [293], with steep sides and a flattish base. It measured 1.24m by 0.94m and was 0.33m. It was difficult to determine the function of the pit, but the fill [292] contained prehistoric pot.

- 7.7.12 A short distance to the southwest of pit [293] and cut into the edge of ditch [451] was a circular posthole [267], 0.52m in diameter and 0.18m deep. It had steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a concave base. Struck flint was recovered from the fill [266]. No other contemporary postholes were recorded in this area, the postholes associated with the nearby Structure 2 being earlier than ditches [451] and [468].
- 7.7.13 Some 4.5m SSE of posthole [267] was a small squarish feature [383]. It measured 0.46m north-south by 0.24m east-west and was 0.11m deep. It had steep sides and a flat base, and a pot was recovered from the fill [382]. The feature had been totally truncated to the south by a modern service trench and it was suggested by the excavator that it might have been the northern butt end of a small linear feature. However it could not be traced south of the truncation, so its actual form and function remain unclear.
- 7.7.14 Some distance northeast of feature [383] and close to the eastern edge of excavation was the first of a number of possible four-post structures (Structure 9). It comprised four postholes [160], [162], [174] and [176] arranged in a rectangle, measuring approximately 2.00m WNW-ESE by 1.80m NNE-SSW. The postholes were all squarish in plan and measured between 0.20m and 0.32m across, with depths ranging between 0.15m and 0.22m. All were vertical sided with flat bases. It is difficult to interpret what the structure may have been, but a possible grain store is suggested.
- 7.7.15 Located between postholes [174] and [176] was a small pit or posthole [243]. Although this has been placed in the same phase as Structure 9, it must have slightly pre- or post-dated it. The pit was oval in plan with near vertical sides and a concave base. It measured 0.80m by 0.60m and was 0.25m deep. Its function was unclear and it is unlikely to have been associated with Structure 9.
- 7.7.16 Immediately north of Structure 9 was a sub-rectangular pit [225], which extended beyond the eastern edge of excavation. It measured 1.70m north-south and at least 1.20m east-west, with a depth of 0.55m. The sides were steeply sloping and concave and the base was concave. The function of the pit was unclear but it may have been associated with the other sub-rectangular features recorded to the northwest.
- 7.7.17 To the west of pit [243] was a sub-rectangular pit [251], measuring 1.30m north-south by 0.95m east-west, with a depth of 0.40m. It had near vertical sides and a flat base. The function could not be determined.

- 7.7.18 Immediately to the southeast of pit [251] was an oval pit [379]. It measured 1.30m by 1.20m and was 0.30m deep. It had steeply sloping, concave sides and a slightly concave base. It may have been associated with pit [251], but again its function remains unclear.
- 7.7.19 Less than 2m to the west of pit [379] was a heavily truncated, small pit [257]. This was squarish in plan, with steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.60m north-south by at least 0.36m east-west and was 0.19m deep. Prehistoric pot was recovered from the fill [256]. Because of the heavy truncation, the actual form and function of the pit were difficult to determine, it may even have been a posthole.
- 7.7.20 Located 1.2m to the south of pit [379] was a sub-circular posthole [363], with near vertical sides and a gently concave base. It measured 0.36m by 0.34m and was 0.35m deep. Prehistoric pot and struck flint were recovered from the fill [362].
- 7.7.21 Some 5.2m southeast of posthole [363] was another posthole [495]. This was oval in plan with steep, generally straight sides and a concave base. It measured 0.53m by 0.43m and was 0.17m deep. Prehistoric pot was recovered from the fill [494]. This posthole formed a northwest-southeast alignment with posthole [363] and feature [257]. It is feasible, therefore that these features may have formed part of a fenceline, any further postholes to the northwest having been lost to the massive truncations in this area.
- 7.7.22 Directly to the south of posthole [495] was a sub-rectangular pit [497], which had moderately sloping, slightly concave sides and a generally flat base. It was aligned north-south and measured 1.93m in length, 1.14m in width and was 0.19m deep. The fill [496] produced a moderate assemblage of prehistoric pot as well as struck flint, though the function was difficult to ascertain.
- 7.7.23 Some 6.2m to the west of pit [497] was a sub-circular pit [543], measuring 1.40m by 1.10m and 0.45m deep. It had steep, regular sides and a flattish base. It was truncated by a Roman ditch to the east and modern footings to the south, and the function remains unclear.
- 7.7.24 Close to the eastern edge of the site and extending into the southern edge of the east-west baulk was a sub-circular pit [273], with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 1.10m east-west by at least 0.60m north-south and was 0.46m deep. Its function and possible relationships to other features were unclear.

- 7.7.25 Just inside the southeast corner of the site were two small features [261] and [305] interpreted as the remains of possible cremation burials. Both had been cut into Late Bronze Age layer [298], and had been severely truncated to the point that only the base of each feature survived and contained the base of a pottery vessel and charcoal. Feature [305] retained what was probably its original, circular form whereas feature [261] had been elongated along a northwest-southeast alignment, suggesting a plough may have passed through it. There were no other contemporary features in the immediate vicinity, suggesting that this part of the site may have lain at the edge of a cremation cemetery.
- 7.7.26 Located to the west of pit [273] and extending southwestwards from the southern edge of the east-west baulk was a ditch [393]. It extended for 2.80m before butt ending. It was 1.50m wide and 0.30m deep, with sides sloping at c. 30° - 45°, gradually breaking to a mostly flat base. The northeast continuation of the ditch was not visible as it firstly extended into the baulk and then probably beyond the eastern site edge. The ditch was truncated at its terminus by a sub-circular pit [367], which measured 1.42m by 0.70m and was up to 0.18m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Its function was unclear.
- 7.7.27 To the west of these two features was what may have been the second possible four-post structure (Structure 10), though only three postholes [394], [406] and [404] survived. Each of the postholes was oval in plan with near vertical sides and a concave base. Dimensions varied from 0.62m by 0.48m by 0.28m deep ([394]) to 0.36m by 0.26m by 0.19m deep ([404]). The maximum dimensions of the structure would have been approximately 2.2m northeast-southwest by 1.6m northwest-southeast. A similar function to Structure 9 is suggested.
- 7.7.28 Located just to the south of Structure 10 was a sub-circular pit or large posthole [398], which had gently sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 0.92m east-west by 0.85m north-south and was 0.28m deep. Directly to the south was another sub-circular pit or large posthole [396], also with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This measured 0.75m by 0.74m and was 0.18m deep.
- 7.7.29 Located just to the east of these two features was an oval pit [387], measuring 2.14m north-south by 1.16m east-west and 0.62m deep. It had variably sloping sides and a concave base. Its function was unclear. Just to the east lay another oval pit [369], with sides sloping at c. 45° - 60°, gradually breaking to a slightly concave base. It measured

1.60m east-west by 1.20m north-south and was 0.20m deep. Again the function could not be determined.

- 7.7.30 To the southeast of feature [396] lay two further pits or possible large postholes [402] and [307]. Feature [402] was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 0.90m by 0.89m and was 0.36m deep. Feature [307], directly to the east, was also sub-circular, with gently sloping, concave sides and a gently concave base. It measured 1.08m by 0.93m and was 0.29m deep. It has been suggested by the excavator that features [398], [396], [402] and [307] were postholes which formed part of a substantial structure. However it is unclear what form such a structure may have taken, or what its extent may have been.
- 7.7.31 To the south of features [402] and [307] was a group of postholes [333], [335], [337], [339], [341], [317], [315], [359] and possibly [269], which may have formed part of a sub-rectangular structure (Structure 11). This would have been aligned approximately north-south, and if [269] were included, would have measured at least 6.4m long by 4.5m wide. The postholes ranged in size from 0.72m by 0.64m ([269]) to 0.29m by 0.24m ([337]), and in depth from 0.10m ([317]) to 0.41m ([337]). The postholes were generally oval to sub-circular in plan and may have been associated with more than one phase of the structure. No obvious function for the possible structure could be interpreted and it may have extended beyond the southern edge of excavation.
- 7.7.32 A further three features were located within the area enclosed by the posthole arrangement and may have been internal features to the possible structure. At the eastern edge of the structure was a small pit or possible gully [291], which appeared sub-triangular in plan due to heavy truncation by a post-medieval feature to the west. The pit measured at least 1.07m east-west by 0.97m north-south and was up to 0.24m deep. It had fairly steep sloping sides and an irregular, undulating base. The post-medieval feature also truncated another pit [285] to the west. This appeared to have been sub-circular in plan with steep sides and a flat to slightly concave base. It measured 1.25m north-south by at least 0.55m east-west and was up to 0.31m deep. It is possible that [291] and [285] were originally the same feature, but their function(s) was unclear.
- 7.7.33 The third, possible internal feature was a large pit [327], irregular in plan with gently sloping, concave sides and a flat to slightly irregular base. It measured 2.44m east-west by 1.78m north-south and was up to 0.22m deep. It was interpreted in the field as a

possible tree bole, which could clearly not be an internal feature, so it may have pre- or post-dated the structure.

- 7.7.34 Some 2.6m west of posthole [269] was a north-south aligned gully [415], which extended from a modern foundation trench at the southern edge of the site for 4.36m before butt ending. It was 0.82m wide and 0.43m deep, with fairly steep sides and an undulating base. It had been truncated on its eastern side by a north-south aligned Roman ditch.
- 7.7.35 A short distance to the northwest of the butt end of gully [415] was an oval pit [385], measuring 2.85m north-south by 2.35m east-west and 0.45m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a gently concave base. It has been interpreted as a possible, small quarry pit for gravel extraction.
- 7.7.36 Some 2.4m southwest of pit [385] was a sub-circular pit [311], with moderately steep, concave sides and a concave base. It measured 1.38m by 1.12m and was 0.44m deep. It had no obvious function.
- 7.7.37 Some 2m north of pit [385] were the remnants of a small, east-west aligned gully [442]. This extended eastwards from a modern truncation, tapering to a point after 2.06m. It was 0.44m wide and 0.12m deep, with steeply sloping sides to the south and a much gentler slope to the north, giving an asymmetrical profile. It has been interpreted as a possible plough scar.
- 7.7.38 A short distance to the west of gully [442] was a small pit or posthole [361], sub-circular in plan, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 0.63m by 0.58m and was 0.16m deep. If it was a posthole, then no further associated features were observed, if a pit then its function was unclear.
- 7.7.39 A little over 1m northeast of the tapered end of gully [442] was a sub-circular pit [459] with very steep sides and a base sloping from west to east. It measured 1.13m by 1.06m and was 0.27m deep. Its function was unclear.
- 7.7.40 Located some 2m northwest of pit [459] was a sub-rectangular pit [505], which measured 2.41m east-west by 1.23m north-south and was 0.30m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Its function could not be determined.
- 7.7.41 Lying 4.8m west of pit [505] was an oval feature [419], measuring at least 1.24m north-south by 1.64m east-west and 0.57m deep. It had sides sloping at c. 40° - 60° and a



flattish base, sloping towards the north. It was truncated to the north by a modern foundation trench and possibly continued north of this beyond the area of excavation. It was not clear whether it was another pit or the southern butt end of a north-south aligned ditch. If it was the latter then it could have been a field boundary ditch. Struck flint was recovered from the secondary fill [418]. To the west of the feature were two small postholes [408] and [410], which may have marked the southern end of an alignment that continued beyond the edge of excavation to the north. As such they may have been associated with ditch [419] and provide a further argument for this having been a linear boundary feature.

- 7.7.42 Some 1.6m southwest of posthole [410] was another possible posthole [377], oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 0.36m by 0.28m and was 0.14m deep. It did not relate to any obvious structure, but immediately to the east was another oval feature [381], measuring 0.74m by 0.40m and 90mm deep. The fill [380] contained a quantity of charcoal and pottery and it was tentatively interpreted by the excavator as being another possible ploughed-out cremation burial.
- 7.7.43 Located some 5.4m west of gully [415], and close to the southern edge of excavation, was an oval pit [329], measuring 0.75m by 0.60m and 0.17m deep. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base, but served no obvious function.
- 7.7.44 Directly to the northwest of pit [329] was a larger, oval pit [323], measuring 1.52m by 1.26m and 0.36m deep. It had moderately steep sides and a flat base, and again, no function could be ascribed.
- 7.7.45 Located some 5.7m WNW of pit [323] was another possible four-post structure, again with only three postholes present. The eastern two postholes [413] and [417] were considerably larger than the surviving western posthole [434]. Together they may have formed a rectangular structure (Structure 12) measuring c. 1.9m WNW-ESE by 1.8m NNE-SSW. The structure may have served a similar function to the other, similar features already discussed.
- 7.7.46 A little over 2m northwest of Structure 12 was a further posthole [470], sub-circular in plan with steep sides and a tapered base. It measured 0.50m by 0.45m and was 0.50m deep. There were no obviously associated features.

- 7.7.47 Some 3.3m to the northwest of posthole [470] was a further, tentative, small four-post structure (Structure 13). It comprised three small postholes [486], [488] and [491] (a fourth was not identified), which together would have formed a rectangular structure, measuring c. 1.3m east-west by 1.0m north-south. As this was considerably smaller than the other four-post structures, it is likely that it served a different function, though what, is unclear.
- 7.7.48 A short distance SSW of Structure 13 were two intercutting pits [499] and [501]. As the fills of each were identical it was impossible to define the edges between the two, and therefore the stratigraphic relationship. Pit [499] was sub-circular in plan with gradually sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It measured 1.35m by 1.24m and was 0.35m deep. Pit [501] was sub-circular in plan with fairly gently sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.14m by 1.12m and was 0.25m deep. Neither pit exhibited an obvious function.
- 7.7.49 Located south of pit [501] and just within the southern boundary of the site was a slightly irregular pit [455], which had gradually sloping sides and a flattish base. It measured 1.20m by 1.10m and was 0.22m deep, though it had been recently truncated. Its function was unclear.
- 7.7.50 A little over 2m to the west of pit [455], and extending beyond the southern edge of excavation was an oval posthole [503]. It measured 0.75m by 0.70m and was 0.15m deep. It had quite steep sides and a flat base. There were no obviously associated features, but it may have been associated with a structure located beyond the southern edge of excavation.
- 7.7.51 Some 4.4m NNW of posthole [503] was another isolated posthole [509]. This was sub-circular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It measured 0.38m by 0.38m and was 0.19m deep. Again, no related features were evident.
- 7.7.52 A little over 1m to the northwest of posthole [509] was a shallow, sub-circular pit [513]. It had steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a gently concave base, and measured 1.06m by 1.01m, with a depth of 0.18m. It served no obvious function.
- 7.7.53 To the southwest of pit [513] was another sub-circular pit [523], with moderately sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It measured 0.88m by 0.88m and was 0.20m deep. It may have been associated with pit [513], but again, no obvious function was apparent.

- 7.7.54 To the west of these features was a group of postholes, which appeared to have been elements of at least one post-built structure (Structure 14). Postholes [554], [556], [558], [560] and possibly posthole [14] from the evaluation, formed an east-west alignment, which may have marked the southern edge of a structure. Postholes [554], [564] and possibly posthole [6] from the evaluation formed a perpendicular, north-south alignment, which may have marked the western edge of a structure. Other postholes, [566], [568], [570], [572], [8] and [10] may have represented internal features or divisions within the structure. The alignments of the postholes suggests a structure measuring at least 6.3m east-west by 5.2m north-south, though there was no evidence of the eastern or northern edges.
- 7.7.55 To the southeast of Structure 14 were two further postholes [537] and [539], which may have been elements of a further structure that lay mostly beyond the southern limit of excavation.
- 7.7.56 The final three Phase 6 features were located in the southwest corner of the excavation area. The most striking of these was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch [365], which cut across the southwest corner and extended beyond the excavation area to the south and west. It was 1.40m wide and up to 0.58m deep, with sides sloping at c. 45° to a narrow, flat base, giving a broad 'V' profile (Fig. 10.4). It appears to have been the same feature as ditch [31], recorded in Trench 9 during the evaluation phase. The feature has been interpreted as a Late Bronze Age field boundary ditch.
- 7.7.57 To the immediate east of the ditch was a sub-circular feature [371], with moderately steep, concave sides and an irregular base. It measured 1.02m by 0.82m and was 0.17m deep. It was interpreted by the excavator as a possible tree bole, and if so, may have represented an additional boundary marker to the ditch.
- 7.7.58 To the west of the ditch, and continuing beyond the western edge of excavation was an irregular feature [373], measuring 2.00m north-south by at least 0.65m east-west, and between 0.12m and 0.60m deep. It had variably sloping sides and a concave base. This was also interpreted as a possible tree bole. It is possible that the boundary ditch was lined with trees on either side.
- 7.7.59 Following the concentrated activity on the site during the Late Bronze Age (and possibly extending into the Early Iron Age) there was a cessation of detectable activity for a

number of centuries. It was not until the Roman period that there was evidence for the site having been utilised again.

## 7.8 PHASE 7: ROMAN (Fig. 8)

- 7.8.1 This phase was characterised by one major feature; a north-south aligned ditch, which extended from the northeast corner of the site to the southern edge of excavation, and clearly continued to the north and south of the site. The ditch was recorded in four main sections, each separated by areas of modern truncation. The northernmost section [150] extended southwards from the northeast corner of the site for 12.6m before being truncated. It had regular, slightly concave sides, gradually breaking to a slightly concave base. It was 0.70m wide and 0.28m deep. The fill [149] produced residual prehistoric pot. A north-south alignment of postholes [184], [186], [198], [166] and [200] to the west of the ditch may have been associated with it, as may a single posthole [182] to the east.
- 7.8.2 The next ditch section to the south [196] extended for 7.31m between truncations. It was up to 0.98m wide and 0.38m deep, with a broad 'U' profile. A quantity of later Roman pottery was recovered from the fill [195]. The next section to the south [519] extended for a further 5.10m to an area of massive disturbance. Here the ditch was 0.95m wide and 0.45m deep, with a broad 'U' profile (Fig. 10.5). A quantity of later Roman pottery, along with some residual earlier material was recovered from the fill [518]. The final section of ditch [301] extended south from the area of massive disturbance for 11.05m to the southern edge of excavation (Fig. 10.6). Here it was 0.60m wide and 0.25m deep, with a broad 'U' profile. Only residual prehistoric pot was recovered from the fills [299] and [300] in this area, although ceramic building material (CBM) was also recovered from [300]. The ditch appears to have been a linear boundary marker, and probably part of a much wider complex of Roman field systems. However the quantity of domestic pottery recovered from the middle two sections suggests that there was habitation in the near vicinity.
- 7.8.3 The only other feature tentatively assigned to the Roman period was a small gully [515] located 2.2m east of ditch section [519] and apparently following a parallel alignment. The gully extended for 1.36m north of the east-west site baulk before butt ending. It was 0.68m wide and 0.13m deep with moderately sloping, concave sides and a slightly concave base. It was not visible south of the baulk. The dating is tentative as only a single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the fill [514]. The function of the feature was not entirely clear.

7.8.4 Following limited activity in the latter half of the Roman period there was again a long break when there was no evidence for the site having been utilised. It was not until the 18<sup>th</sup> century, at the earliest, and more likely the 19<sup>th</sup> century, that there was further evidence for activity on the site.

## 7.9 PHASE 8: POST-MEDIEVAL (Fig. 9)

- 7.9.1 This phase comprised mostly of a number of small and dispersed features, with very few observable patterns being evident. Towards the northwest corner of the site was a circular, small pit or posthole [190], with concave sides and base. It measured 0.65m in diameter and was 0.16m deep. No obviously related features were recorded, but it may have been associated with a structure located beyond the northern edge of excavation.
- 7.9.2 Some 4m south of posthole [190] was a small NNE-SSW aligned gully [217], 2.30m long, 0.95m wide and 0.30m deep. It had sides sloping at c. 45° - 60°, gradually breaking to a slightly concave base. It served no obvious purpose. Immediately to the east of the gully was a single, sub-rectangular posthole [213] with irregular sides and base. It measured 0.60m by 0.35m and was 0.10m deep. It did not appear to be a part of any structure, but may have been associated with the gully.
- 7.9.3 Approximately 5m to the east of these features was a sub-circular pit [168], with fairly steep, slightly concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.05m by 0.92m and was 0.13m deep. Two small pieces of slag were recovered from the fill [167], but the pit did not appear to have had an industrial function.
- 7.9.4 The most substantial post-medieval feature was a NNW-SSE aligned ditch [241]/[321], which was recorded for a total length of 8m between two areas of substantial modern truncation, and cut prehistoric ditches [451] and [468]. It was 1.32m – 1.38m wide and up to 0.21m deep. It had generally steep sides and a flat base. It had no clear function but may have been associated with 19<sup>th</sup> century landscaping. Directly to the east of the ditch at its northern truncation was a rectangular pit [227], measuring 1.38m NNW-SSE by 0.52m ENE-WSW and 0.13m deep. It had almost vertical sides and a flat base. It had no obvious function but may have been associated with the ditch.
- 7.9.5 To the east of the ditch were a number of generally NNW-SSE aligned, small gullies [239], [281], [428], [533], [283], [170] and [194]. Individually these would have no obvious

function, but taken as a group it seems probable that they were remnants of ploughmarks. Within this area was also an isolated posthole [237]. This was circular, with a diameter of 0.33m and 0.15m deep, having steep sides and a lightly concave base. It did not appear to have been a part of any structure and its function remains unclear.

- 7.9.6 To the southeast of the group of ploughmarks was another linear feature [517], which extended northwards from the east-west site baulk, butt ending after 3.03m. It was 0.65m wide and 0.13m deep, with steep, slightly concave sides and a generally flat base. It did not continue south of the baulk and it did not appear to be a ploughmark. Its function therefore remains unclear.
- 7.9.7 Just to the south of the baulk was a WNW-ESE aligned, sub-rectangular feature [479], 2.12m long, 0.8m wide and 0.25m deep. It had very gently sloping sides and a concave base, and may have been another ploughmark, but would probably have belonged to a different regime from the features to the northwest.
- 7.9.8 Some 5.6m SSE of feature [479] was a sub-circular pit [303], measuring 1.30m by 1.20m and 0.30m deep. It had sides sloping at c. 45° - 60° and a slightly concave base. It was partly truncated to the south by a sub-rectangular pit [265], measuring 1.45m by 1.30m and 0.20m deep. This had sides sloping at c. 30° - 45°, with an almost imperceptible break of slope to a slightly concave base. The function of neither pit was clear.
- 7.9.9 Less than 2m southwest of pit [265] was another sub-rectangular pit [277], NNW-SSE aligned with variably sloping, concave sides and a slightly concave base. It was 1.95m long, 1.15m wide and 0.20m deep. Directly to the east was a sub-circular posthole [295], 0.30m in diameter and 0.17m deep. It had steep sides and a slightly concave base. The function of neither of these features was clear, but they may have been associated with one another.
- 7.9.10 Towards the south-central area of the site were two circular postholes [425] and [434], set 3m apart. They measured 0.28m and 0.17m in diameter respectively, with depths of 0.19m and 0.25m. They were possibly part of a northeast-southwest fenceline, which extended beyond the southern edge of the site. Some distance to the northwest was a further circular posthole [511], 0.30m in diameter and 0.10m deep. This may have been a part of an associated fenceline.

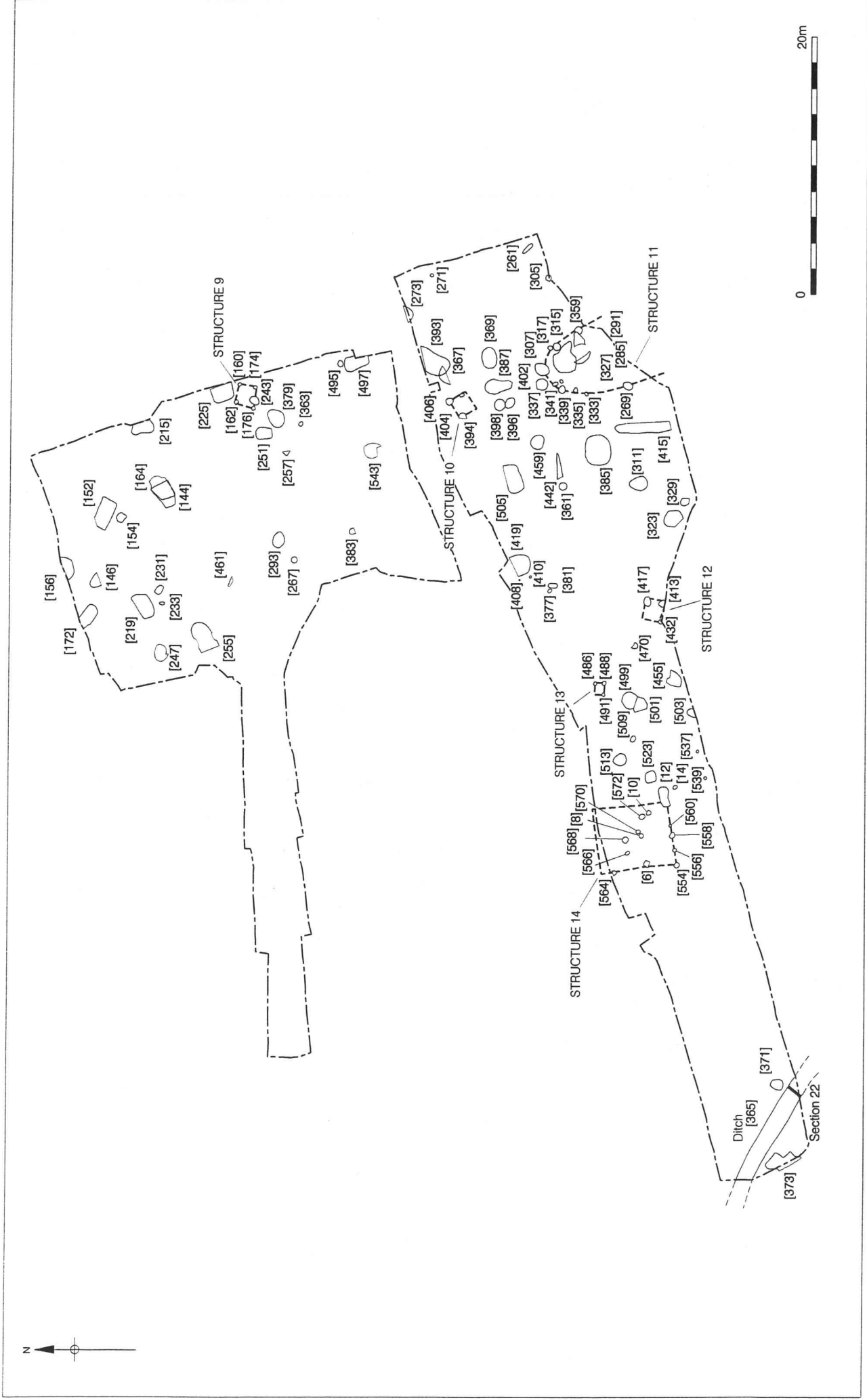
7.9.11 To the north of posthole [425] was a sub-rectangular feature [423], measuring 1.68m east-west by 1.00m north-south and 0.42m deep. It had concave sides and an uneven base, and was truncated to the west by a modern footing. The footing also truncated the eastern side of another feature [438], which was sub-circular in plan with concave sides and base. It measured 0.80m east-west by 0.90m north-south and was 0.35m deep. It is quite probable that [423] and [438] were the same feature, though the function remains unclear.

7.9.12 The final Phase 8 feature was an oval pit [463], which lay directly south of feature [438]. It had steep sides and a flattish base that sloped down to the north. It measured 1.40m by 1.10m and was 0.35m deep. The pit had no obvious function.

## **7.10 PHASE 9: MODERN**

7.10.1 The most recent phase of activity on the site related to the buildings of the former Ashbourne Hostels complex, which were demolished prior to the excavation. The foundation trenches for the buildings and associated service trenches left substantial scars in the areas of excavation, causing truncation of earlier deposits. This was most marked towards the northeast of the site where a number of drains fed into the main sewage network, causing massive disturbance and destruction of archaeological layers.

Figure 7  
Phase 6: Late Bronze Age IV  
1:400





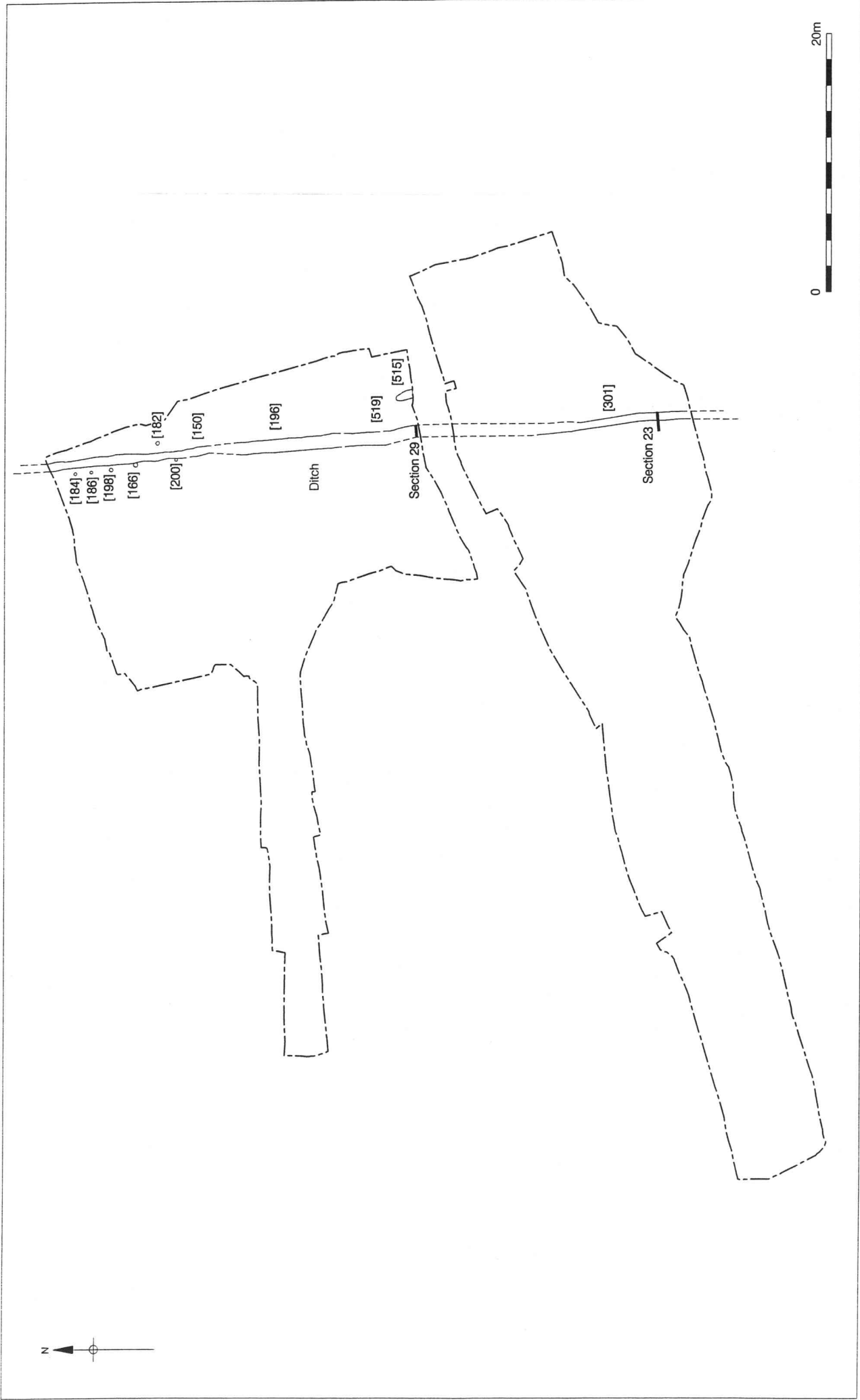


Figure 8  
Phase 7: Roman  
1:400

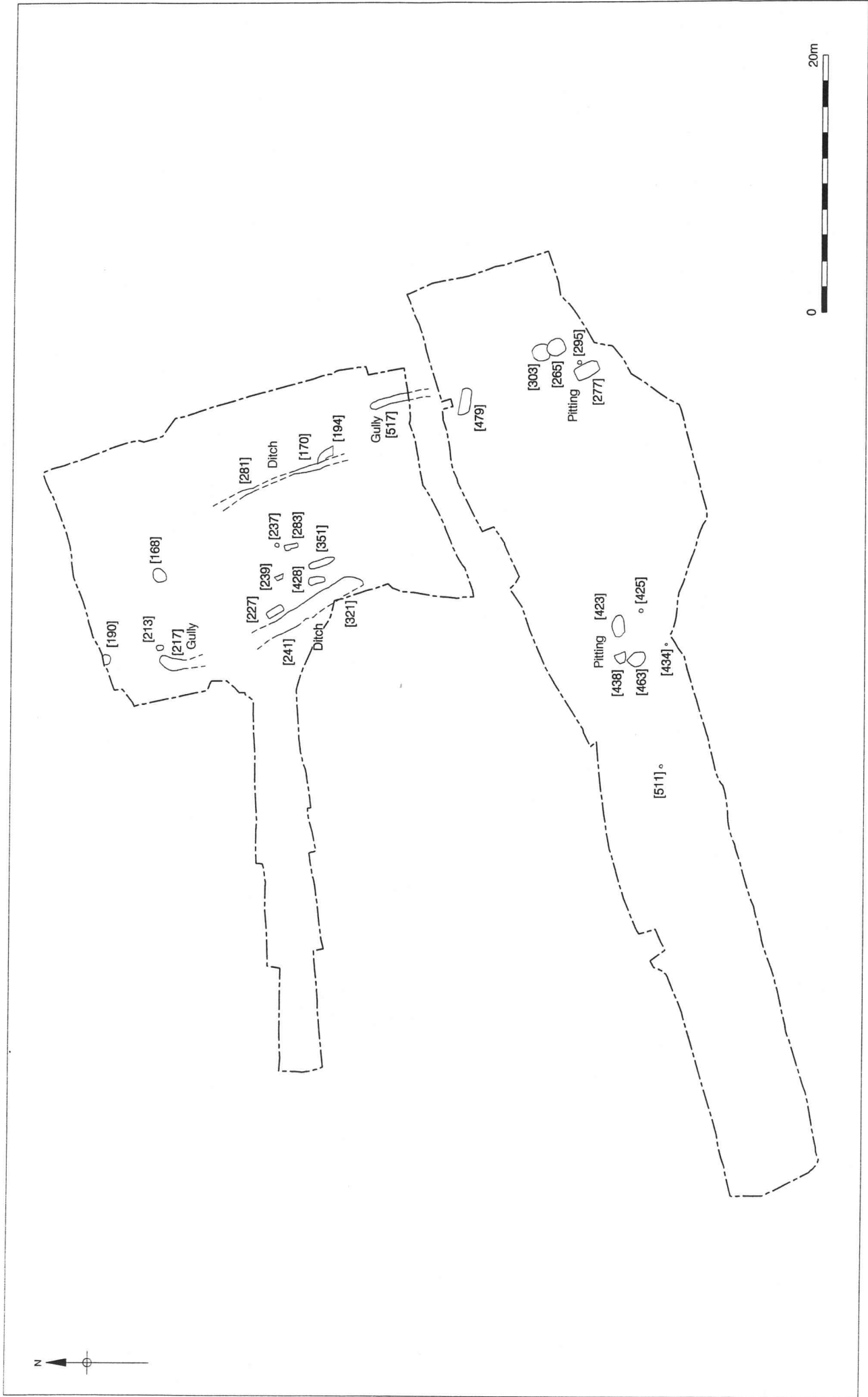
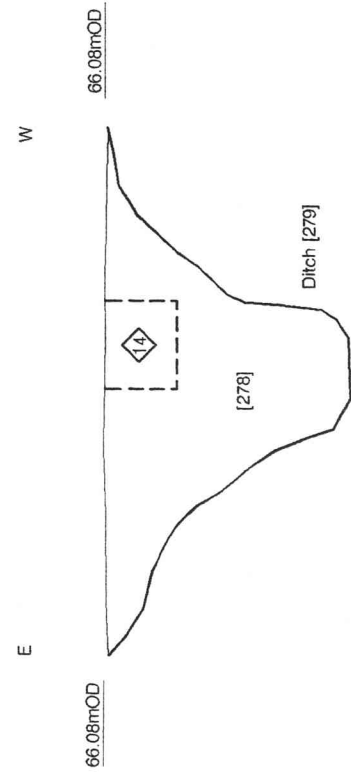
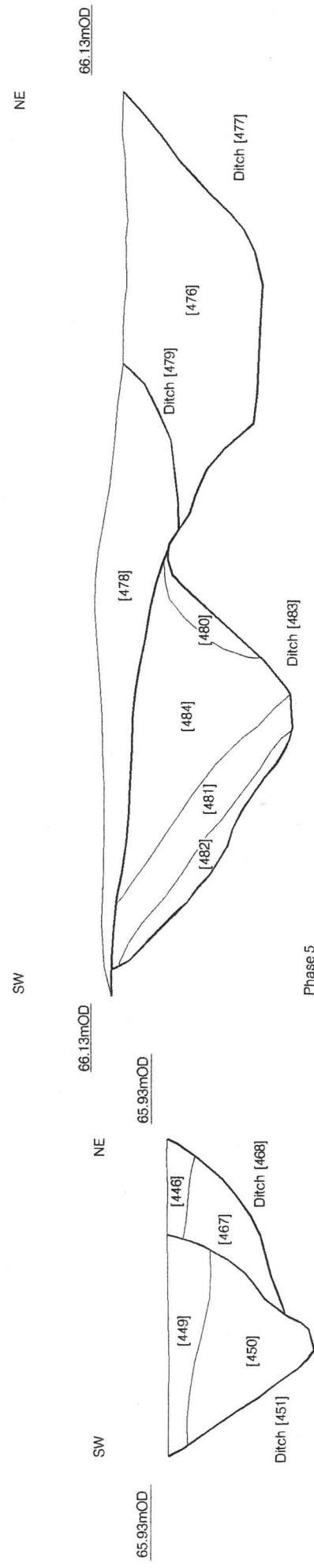


Figure 9  
Phase 8: Post-Medieval  
1:400

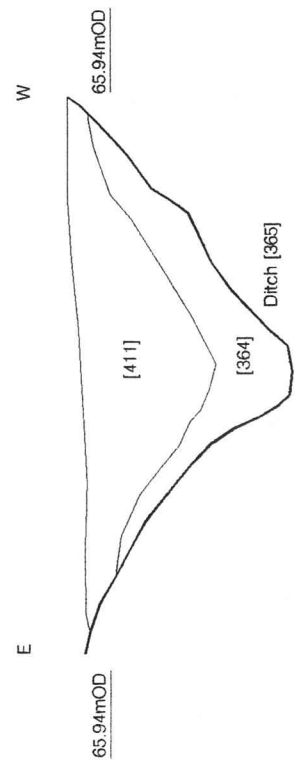


Phase 4  
Section 21  
North Facing  
Ditch [279]

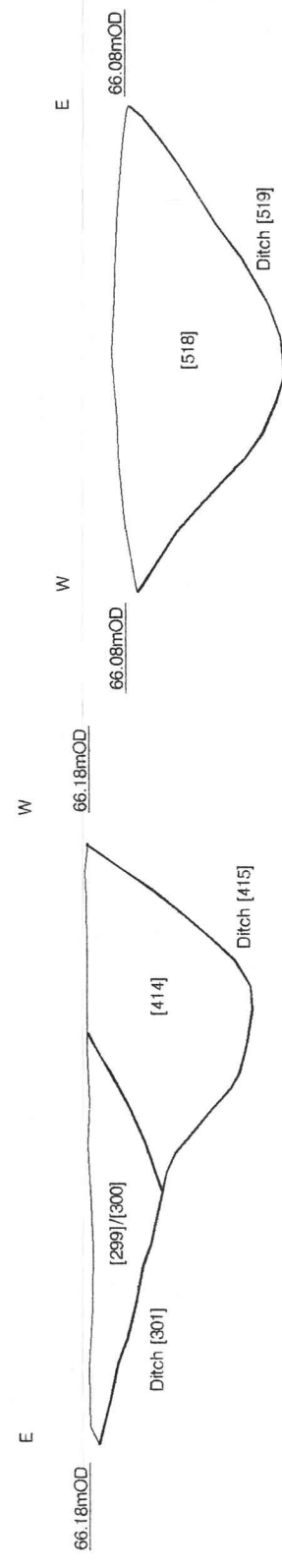


Phase 5  
Section 24  
East Facing  
Ditches [451] & [468]

Phase 5  
Section 26  
South East Facing  
Ditches [483], [477] & [479]



Phase 6  
Section 22  
North Facing  
Ditch [365]



Phase 7  
Section 23  
North facing  
Ditches [301] & [415]

Phase 7  
Section 29  
South Facing  
Ditch [519]



Figure 10  
Sections 21-24, 26 & 29  
1:20

## **8 ORIGINAL AND ADDITIONAL RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

### **8.1 ORIGINAL RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

8.1.1 Following the findings of the field evaluation, a number of research objectives were set out in the specification for the archaeological excavation (Hawkins 2004d). These were approved by the Planning Archaeologist for East Hertfordshire District and are listed below together with a statement outlining the extent to which each has been fulfilled by the archaeological evidence.

#### **8.1.2 What is the nature of the late prehistoric and early Roman settlement in the area of the study site; is there evidence for change over time?**

During the evaluation phase it was thought that the limited archaeological evidence pointed to a site that was occupied through the later prehistoric to early Roman transitional period. However, the excavation revealed more extensive evidence of later prehistoric activity than had been suggested by the evaluation, not of Late Iron Age date but more likely Late Bronze Age and/or possibly Early Iron Age. The evidence suggested the edge of a settlement comprising a number of structures, both circular and rectangular, numerous pits, water management features, associated field systems and a possible cremation cemetery. There were minor changes during the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age periods, but no extensive continuity over time. Indeed there was a substantial break between the later prehistoric activity and that during the Roman period, and the evidence suggests activity in the latter half of the Roman occupation rather than during the early transitional period. The evidence suggests the site lay in an area of Roman field systems, though probably close to a settlement.

#### **8.1.3 What evidence is there for contemporary agricultural or craft activity?**

For both the Late Bronze Age and Roman periods, the archaeological evidence suggests that at least part of the site lay within areas of agricultural field systems. These were defined by boundary ditches for each period, though it is not clear what agricultural regimes were in place. The nature of soil conditions on the site ensured there was no survival of animal bone from these periods and there was a general dearth of other environmental evidence. There was no evidence for craft activity during either the Late Bronze Age or Roman periods, though the presence of locally produced pottery in each period suggests a small industry within the area.

**8.1.4 What evidence is there for transition or continuity between the late prehistoric and early Roman periods?**

There was no evidence for transition or continuity between the late prehistoric and early Roman periods. Indeed there was a gap of perhaps 800 years between the two periods of activity, the later prehistoric evidence dating to the Early Iron Age at the latest, and the Roman evidence pointing to the latter half of the period. However this is not to say there was not continued agricultural use in the area between the different periods, just that there was no evidence for it on this site.

**8.1.5 What evidence is there for any land use or settlement during the mid-Roman period; is there evidence for change over time?**

The one major Roman feature on the site dated to no earlier than 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD and probably later than this. The feature was a boundary ditch, suggesting the site lay within Roman field systems, though the quantity of pottery recovered from the ditch suggested that there was domestic occupation nearby. Given the lack of evidence, it is impossible to prove or disprove whether there were any changes over time.

**8.1.6 What is the nature of land use in the late Roman period?**

The nature of land use in the late Roman period may have been similar to that in the mid-Roman period. Because of the local and undiagnostic nature of the pottery assemblage it is impossible to say for certain when it was deposited. It could have been at any time between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

**8.1.7 What evidence is there for land use in the centuries post-dating the Roman period up to the documented early twentieth century development of the site?**

There was no evidence of land use on the site between the Roman period and the 18<sup>th</sup> century at the earliest, and probably not for certain until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The evidence for this comes from a small number of features interpreted as ploughmarks of this date, and limited evidence for possible landscaping.

**8.1.8 What evidence is there for trade networks with other parts of Hertfordshire and beyond?**

There was very little evidence for trade with other areas. A small quantity of struck flint came from a non-local source though its location is unknown. Most of the pottery recovered was undiagnostic and probably produced locally. However a small number of sherds from imported Roman pottery were recovered, though the quantity is too small to draw any definite conclusions regarding trade networks.

**8.1.9 What can environmental evidence tell us about the inhabitants, their diet and environment?**

The environmental evidence from the site was very restricted. Due to adverse soil conditions no animal bone survived from earlier periods. Only a small quantity of post-medieval animal bone was recovered, which was largely uninformative. Very few carbonised remains were recovered so there was very little evidence of possible arable agricultural regimes and plants growing in the locality. Due to the well-drained nature of the site there was no potential for the recovery of waterlogged remains.

**8.2 ADDITIONAL RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

8.2.1 In the light of the findings from the excavation it is clear that the archaeological evidence has fulfilled some of the original objectives whilst others have been found to be of lesser importance than originally suggested. The excavation has also produced additional information. It has thus been necessary to formulate a set of Revised Research Objectives.

**8.2.2 Can the nature of the Late Bronze Age settlement be more clearly defined; and how does it compare to contemporary sites within the region?**

The concentration and type of features suggested that the excavation lay at the edge of a settlement of Late Bronze Age date. However the nature of the settlement needs to be more fully defined and the relationships between features further examined. This may be difficult given the paucity of dateable finds, but may be better understood with reference to contemporary sites and an examination of their function.

**8.2.3 What can the nature of the structures on the site tell us about Bronze Age architecture; and how does this information enhance and compare to our knowledge of Bronze Age building?**

Most of the structures on the site were post-built and rectangular. However they varied in size and form quite considerably and clearly served a number of different functions. There were also possible circular structures on the site, and towards the northern edge of the excavation were a number of possible rectangular structures built using a wholly different structural technique. A study of the different structural types with reference to previously known examples may permit a better understanding of the Mangrove Road structures, or it may add to the known archaeological record of contemporary structures.

#### **8.2.4 What was the function of the complex of ditches located on the edge of the settlement?**

A small number of slightly sinuous ditches were recorded at the edge of the settlement. Had they been a little more regular and located beyond the site, they may have been interpreted as field boundary ditches. However, as they were located within the site it appears as if they were associated with some activity on site. It has been suggested that they may have been associated with water management, though the need for artificial drainage in this raised, well-drained location would appear rather unnecessary. Reference to contemporary features on sites within the region may shed further light on the function of these features.

#### **8.2.5 Can the function of the numerous pits and other non-structural and non-linear features across the site be defined?**

A considerable number of features were excavated across the site, which although clearly defined, exhibited no clear function. The number of finds recovered from these features was minimal, suggesting that rubbish disposal was not a primary function. Also none of the features exhibited any signs of having been lined, so a storage function also seems unlikely, unless they were lined with an organic material such as wood, which had totally decayed. Reference to literature concerning the function of similar features on contemporary sites will need to be sought if the features are to be more fully understood.

#### **8.2.6 Why was there no apparent evidence of activity on the site between the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and mid to late Roman periods?**

There was considerable evidence on the site for Late Bronze Age activity, but this appears to have ended quite abruptly and was followed by a lengthy period of apparent inactivity. It may have been due to a shift in settlement focus and the site reverting to purely agricultural use, or it may have been due to population shifts as a result of wider

social, political or even environmental factors. This may only be explained by research into broader demographic patterns, as evidenced by information from contemporary sites both in the region and farther afield.

**8.2.7 Can the limited evidence of Roman activity on the site be integrated into broader known patterns of landscape exploitation during this period?**

The only evidence for Roman activity suggested that the site was located within an area of agricultural field systems, possibly close to a settlement. The evidence also suggested this activity was no earlier than the mid to late Roman period (though residual earlier material was present), and probably contemporary with the possible cremation cemetery recorded directly to the north of the site in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In other locations, a short distance from the site, in this part of the Lea Valley, evidence has pointed to a continuation of activity from the Late Iron Age into the Roman period. Does the information from Mangrove Road suggest an expansion in the areas exploited, or does it represent a shift in the areas exploited?

**8.2.8 What does the lack of post-Roman evidence suggest about land exploitation between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries AD?**

There was no evidence from the site for activity between the later Roman period and the 18<sup>th</sup> century at the earliest. There is evidence of Saxon activity to the northeast at Foxholes Farm and the town of Hertford developed from the Saxon period onwards. However there was no evidence of Saxon and later activity recovered from the site. This may simply be explained by the area reverting to agricultural use during this extensive period. However, it may also be evidence of abandonment.



## **9 IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULTS, PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER WORK AND PUBLICATION OUTLINE**

### **9.1 IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULTS**

- 9.1.1 The archaeological remains at the former Ashbourne Hostels site are of importance at a local and possibly regional level. At a local level they provide evidence of occupation and concentrated activity during the Late Bronze Age, for which there has been little previous evidence in the environs of Hertford. It has also shown that during the Roman period the widely exploited surrounding landscape also encompassed this area. At a regional level, the Late Bronze Age evidence adds to the growing body of information regarding the chronological development and exploitation of the Lea Valley, as well as adding to the evidence of settlement distribution over a wider area during this period.
- 9.1.2 There was evidence in the form of a number of tree boles for the area having been wooded prior to the Late Bronze Age. It has been tentatively suggested that this woodland was cleared during the Bronze Age to ultimately make way for the settlement and associated field systems evidenced on the site.
- 9.1.3 The bulk of evidence from the site clearly related to activity during the Late Bronze Age, and possibly extending into the Early Iron Age. The evidence suggested at least four broad phases of activity during this period, though it was not always clear which features were contemporary with one another because of a lack of direct relationships and accurate dating evidence.
- 9.1.4 The site appears to have lain at the edge of a settlement, which extended to the south and east, and was surrounded by agricultural field systems. The area of the settlement excavated included a number of structures in various forms. It seems unlikely that these were dwelling structures, but more likely associated with activities carried out at the settlement periphery. A number of four-post structures have been interpreted as possible granaries, for example. It was also apparent that the structures were not all contemporary, rather that different structures related to individual phases, suggesting subtle changes in the nature and/or location of different activities from phase to phase.
- 9.1.5 A group of ditches at the edge of the settlement appear to have been associated with some type of water management function. Their very steep edges, cut through loose

sand and gravel suggested that they must have been lined, probably with wood, otherwise the edges would have surely collapsed. A simple drainage function for the ditches seems unlikely given the well-drained nature of the site. More likely, is the possibility that water was being channelled from an, as yet unknown source, to those areas of the site where activities were being carried out, which required a water source.

- 9.1.6 Rather less clear was the function of the numerous pits spread across the site. At Foxholes Farm, less than 1km northeast of the site, similar and broadly contemporary features have been described (Partridge 1989, 74-6), but with little attempt at interpretation. The concentration of similar features on both sites suggests they may have had a common function.
- 9.1.7 There was limited evidence for cremation burials in the southeast corner of the site, where two such features were located close together, possibly suggesting a small cemetery extending to the south and east of the site. A third, more tentative cremation was recorded closer to the centre of the site. A small number of cremations of Bronze Age date were also recorded at Foxholes Farm, but tended to occur in isolation rather than in burial groups
- 9.1.8 There was no real evidence of the settlement having been enclosed, rather it lay at the edge of agricultural land, which was divided up by a series of field boundaries, as evidenced by the ditch. At Foxholes Farm the excavations were primarily concerned with on-site features so the evidence from Mangrove Road may provide more information about the nature of Bronze Age field systems.
- 9.1.9 The evidence from the Mangrove Road site clearly enhances that recovered from the Foxholes Farm site, such a short distance away. However, at both sites the Late Bronze Age has proved difficult to phase sequentially. At Mangrove Road a number of phases were clearly apparent, but it was not clear in many cases which features were contemporary with which phases. Similarly at Foxholes Farm, Partridge (1989, 10-12) concedes that the Late Bronze Age is difficult to define and that some features may actually have been Middle or even Early Bronze Age.
- 9.1.10 The Roman evidence from the site, albeit limited, does provide a further indication of activity in the area during this period, and is broadly contemporary with the small cemetery recorded at Mangrove Hall. It has suggested that the site lay within an area of agricultural field systems with some type of settlement nearby. A small agricultural

settlement with associated cemetery is envisaged. Again, contemporary material was recovered from Foxholes Farm, and a pattern of small settlements or farmsteads exploiting agricultural land on the edge of the Lea Valley in the mid to late Roman period is emerging. This compares interestingly with similar patterns observed for the earlier Roman period in nearby areas of the Lea Valley (e.g. Boyer 2004b), and questions relating to temporal variations in the areas exploited can start to be asked.

## **9.2 FURTHER WORK**

- 9.2.1 The findings from the site have produced evidence of a number of phases of human activity. The evidence for earlier prehistoric periods is rather tentative and poorly dated. However there appears to have been evidence for woodland existing until the Bronze Age, when it was cleared for settlement and agriculture. Further work may involve some investigation into the nature of late prehistoric deforestation in order to place the origins of the site within a broader chronological framework.
- 9.2.2 The bulk of the archaeology recorded on the site dates to a number of phases of activity in the Late Bronze Age, possibly extending into the Early Iron Age, or the period that Partridge (1989, 21) refers to as Late Bronze Age-Transitional (c. 1000-600 BC). There are a number of facets of Late Bronze Age activity that require further investigation. Firstly the broad nature of the site needs to be considered. The excavation appears to have been at the settlement edge, with the site having extended to the east and south of the area excavated. Activity here would have differed from that in areas closer to the settlement focus. Comparisons therefore need to be sought with other, contemporary sites in order to more fully understand the Mangrove Road site. An obvious parallel is the broadly contemporary activity at Foxholes Farm, but research will also need to be extended to sites farther afield.
- 9.2.3 Further work will also be required on the nature of the structures on the site. These varied in size and form and clearly were associated with different functions. The work will require a further definition of the structures, including a more detailed assessment of which structures stood within different phases. Further interpretation of the structures is required, which will require a comparison with similar features from contemporary sites.
- 9.2.4 The numerous other features on site require further investigation with a view to a fuller interpretation of the function of many. The function of a number of linear features has

already been tentatively interpreted, but for the majority of non-structural and non-linear features, function remains unclear. Again parallels need to be sought with contemporary sites in order that the Mangrove Road material may be better understood.

- 9.2.5 Although there was no evidence for later prehistoric activity on the site after the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, further work should consider evidence from other sites in the area during this period. This should be done in order to place the Mangrove Road site within a broader chronological framework and more fully understand the reasons for its apparent abandonment towards the end of the first half of the first millennium BC.
- 9.2.6 The Roman evidence from the site is somewhat limited but useful in extending the body of information concerning patterns of settlement and landscape exploitation in east Hertfordshire and the upper Lea Valley during the Roman period. Further work should therefore involve the integration of the information from the site with that from the wider area. At the local scale the evidence suggests a contemporaneity and possible association with the small cemetery at Mangrove Hall, and further afield contemporary sites are recorded at Foxholes Farm and beyond.
- 9.2.7 The lithic assemblage from the site is quite small and includes material characteristic of Mesolithic/Neolithic as well as Bronze Age industries. The material does contribute to the body of evidence for prehistoric activity in the area and a description of the assemblage should be included in any published account of the fieldwork. It is therefore recommended that the assemblage should be examined in more detail and described for publication, alongside illustrations of relevant pieces. The publication should include some consideration of local geology, raw material sources and previous finds and research in the local area.
- 9.2.8 The prehistoric pottery assemblage from the site although small and generally scrappy is of some importance, especially given a lack of other dating evidence. Some further analysis is therefore required, particularly on the sherds recovered from possible cremation contexts. There is also charcoal suitable for <sup>14</sup>C dating from two of the cremation contexts. Parallels should be sought with contemporary materials from the region.
- 9.2.9 The Roman pottery assemblage needs some further analysis. The bulk of the Roman material comes effectively from one feature and the assemblage is very mixed, comprising material from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. The later material has clearly

provided a *terminus post quem* for activity on the site and suggests activity contemporary with the small cemetery to the north. However the earlier material also suggests activity in the vicinity of the site over a longer period, the dating of which, can be used to enhance known patterns of chronology and development in the local area during the Roman period.

9.2.10 The metal finds from the site are quite unremarkable and recent in date. No further work is recommended. However a single fragment of slag was recovered from a late prehistoric context and may merit further analysis.

9.2.11 The archaeobotanical remains from the site were largely unremarkable. However, charcoal present in Phase 6 (Late Bronze Age IV), contexts (304) and (380), is suitable for identification. This material is also suitable for radiocarbon dating, which should be carried out in order to provide an extra dimension to the dating provided by the late prehistoric pottery assemblage.

9.2.11 It is not recommended that any further work be carried out on the post-Roman pottery, the building material, the glass, the clay tobacco pipe or the animal bone from the site.

### **9.3 PUBLICATION OUTLINE**

9.3.1 Ideally a report on the results of the excavation work, covering all periods of activity on the site would be published in a local journal, however the relevant journal for Hertfordshire; Hertfordshire Archaeology is only published sporadically. It is therefore intended that publication of this site will be in a volume of the Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. monograph series, covering sites in the upper Lea Valley in eastern Hertfordshire. It will be included along with reports of excavations carried out in Hoddesdon and Ware, also by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

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CBM	116 fragments
Clay Tobacco Pipe	5 fragments
Glass	8 fragments
Lithics	46 x struck flints, 359g burnt flint
Iron Objects	10 objects
Copper Alloy Objects	1 object
Slag	3 fragments of cinder/clinker
Animal Bone	16 fragments
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## 11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 11.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Fairview New Homes Ltd. for funding the excavation and Duncan Hawkins of CgMs for commissioning PCA to undertake the work on their behalf, and for providing advice and support during the evaluation and excavation phases.
- 11.2 Thanks also to the Archaeological Officers for Hertfordshire County Council; Jonathan Smith and Stuart Bryant, for their help and advice during the evaluation and excavation.
- 11.3 Thanks are due to the project manager Peter Moore, and Lorraine Darton for post-excavation management and support.
- 11.4 The author would like to thank all members of the post-excavation assessment team who have contributed to this report: Barry Bishop, John Brown, Sarah Carter, Märit Gaimster, Chris Jarrett, Lynne Keys, Malcolm Lyne, Louise Rayner, Berni Sudds, Alice Vaughan-Williams and Lisa Yeomans. Also many thanks to Josephine Brown and Hayley Baxter and for their work on the illustrations in this report; to Fiona Keith-Lucas for surveying; to Marit Gaimster and Rob Nicholson for finds processing and to Chris Rees for environmental processing.
- 11.5 Finally, thanks to all those who worked on the site, whose contribution is greatly appreciated: Rick Archer, Tony Baxter, Mike Bazley, Stelle Bickelmann, Tim Carew, Mary-Ellen Crothers, Strephon Duckering, Ireneo Grosso, Anies Hassan, Neil Hawkins, Stuart Holden, Will Johnston, James Langthorne, Shane Maher, Roddy Mattinson, Jon Noble, Chris Pickard, Ashley Pooley, Ellie Sayer, Guy Seddon, Jo Taylor, Aidan Turner, Stuart Watson and Elliott Wragg. Thanks also to Lisa Lonsdale for technical support.

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## APPENDIX 1

### CONTEXT INDEX

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
1	10	Layer	*	1	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
2	10	Layer	*	1	Yes	*	9	Made ground
3	10	Layer	*	1	Yes	*	9	Made ground
4	1-3, 5-12	Layer	TR1-3, 5-12	1-9, 11	Yes	*	1	Natural sand and gravel
5	10	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [6]
6	10	Cut	TR10	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-rectangular posthole
7	10	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [8]
8	10	Cut	TR10	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of circular posthole
9	10	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [10]
10	10	Cut	TR10	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-rectangular posthole
11	10	Fill	TR10	*	Yes	*	6	Fill of pit [12]
12	10	Cut	TR10	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-rectangular pit
13	10	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [14]
14	10	Cut	TR10	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of oval posthole
15	10	Fill	*	1	No	*	4	Fill of ditch [16]
16	10	Cut	TR10	1	Yes	*	4	Butt-end of N-S ditch
17	9	Layer	TR9	2	Yes	*	9	Modern tarmac
18	9	Layer	TR9	2	Yes	*	9	Made ground
19	9	Fill	*	2	No	*	6	Fill of pit [20]
20	9	Cut	TR9	2	Yes	*	6	Cut of semi-circular pit
21	9	Fill	*	2	No	*	6	Fill of pit/posthole [22]
22	9	Cut	TR9	2	Yes	*	6	Cut of irregular pit/posthole
23	9	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit/posthole [24]
24	9	Cut	TR9	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-triangular pit/posthole
25	9	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of tree bole [26]
26	9	Cut	TR9	*	Yes	*	8	Cut of tree bole
27	9	Fill	TR9	*	Yes	*	6	Fill of ditch [28]
28	9	Cut	TR9	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of NE-SW ditch
29	9	Fill	TR9	*	Yes	*	6	Secondary fill of ditch [31]
30	9	Fill	TR9	*	Yes	*	6	Primary fill of ditch [31]
31	9	Cut	TR9	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of NW-SE ditch, same as [365]
32	5	Layer	*	9	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
33	5	Layer	*	9	Yes	*	9	Made ground
34	5	Fill	TR5	9	Yes	*	7	Fill of ditch [35]
35	5	Cut	TR5	9	Yes	*	7	Cut of N-S ditch
36	9	Layer	*	2	Yes	*	9	Sandy gravel layer
37	5	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [38]
38	5	Cut	TR5	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-circular posthole
39	3	Fill	TR3	*	Yes	*	8	Fill of ditch [40]
40	3	Cut	TR3	*	Yes	*	8	Cut of E-W ditch
41	3	Fill	TR3	*	No	*	9	Fill of ditch [42]
42	3	Cut	TR3	*	No	*	9	Cut of E-W ditch
43	5	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [44]
44	5	Cut	TR5	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-circular posthole
45	3	Layer	*	3	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
46	3	Layer	*	3	Yes	*	9	Made ground
47	3	Layer	*	3	Yes	*	9	Made ground
48	12	Fill	*	5	Yes	*	7	Fill of ditch [49]
49	12	Cut	TR12	5	Yes	*	7	Cut of curvilinear ditch, same as [150], [196], [301] and [519]
50	12	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of natural feature [51]
51	12	Cut	TR12	*	Yes	*	2	Irregular natural feature
52	11	Layer	*	4	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
53	11	Layer	*	4	Yes	*	9	Bedding for layer [52]
54	11	Layer	*	4	Yes	*	9	Mixed bedding/levelling deposits
55	11	Layer	*	4	Yes	*	9	Gravel lens

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
56	11	Layer	*	4	No	*	1	Gravelly layer, possibly natural
57	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of ditch [58]
58	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	6	Butt-end of NW-SE ditch
59	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [60]
60	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-circular posthole
61	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of ditch [62]
62	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	4	Butt-end of NW-SE ditch
63	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [64]
64	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-circular posthole
65	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [66]
66	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of oval posthole
67	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of gully [68]
68	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of NW-SE gully
69	11	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of natural feature [70]
70	11	Cut	TR11	*	Yes	*	2	Cut of natural feature
71	11	Fill	TR11	4	Yes	*	6	Fill of ditch [72]
72	11	Cut	TR11	4	Yes	*	6	Cut of N-S ditch
73	11	Fill	TR11	4	Yes	*	6	Fill of ditch [74]
74	11	Cut	TR11	4	Yes	*	6	Cut of N-S ditch
75	12	Layer	*	5	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
76	12	Layer	*	5	Yes	*	9	Garden soil
77	12	Layer	*	5	Yes	*	9	Made ground
78	6	Layer	*	6	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
79	6	Layer	*	6	Yes	*	9	Garden soil
80	6	Layer	*	6	Yes	*	9	Made ground
81	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [82]
82	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of squarish posthole
83	6	Fill	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Fill of gully [84]
84	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of NW-SE gully
85	6	Fill	TR6	6	Yes	*	6	Secondary fill of ditch [86]
86	6	Cut	TR6	6	Yes	*	6	Cut of NW-SE ditch
87	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [88]
88	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-rectangular posthole
89	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [90]
90	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of squarish posthole
91	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [92]
92	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of irregular posthole
93	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [94]
94	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of irregular posthole
95	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [96]
96	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-rectangular posthole
97	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [98]
98	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of sub-rectangular posthole
99	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [100]
100	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of square posthole
101	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [102]
102	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	6	Cut of square posthole
103	6	Fill	*	6	No	*	6	Fill of gully [104]
104	6	Cut	TR6	6	Yes	*	6	Cut of NW-SE gully
105	6	Fill	TR6	*	Yes	*	8	Upper fill of pit [106]
106	6	Cut	TR6	*	Yes	*	8	Cut of sub-circular pit
107	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Primary fill of ditch [86]
108	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [106]
109	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [106]
110	6	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Primary fill of pit [106]
111	7	Layer	*	8	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
112	7	Layer	*	8	Yes	*	9	Made ground
113	7	Layer	*	8	Yes	*	9	Made ground
114	5	Layer	*	9	Yes	*	7	Layer of sandy silt
115	5	Fill	TR5	*	Yes	*	7	Fill of pit [116]
116	5	Cut	TR5	*	Yes	*	7	Cut of oval pit
117	5	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of pit/ditch [118]
118	5	Cut	TR5	*	Yes	*	7	Shallow pit/butt-end of N-S ditch
119	1	Layer	*	10	Yes	*	9	Modern topsoil
120	1	Layer	*	10	Yes	*	8	Made ground/subsoil

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
121	1	Layer	TR1	10	Yes	*	8	Terrace infilling deposit
122	1	Layer	TR1	10	Yes	*	8	Colluvial silt
123	8	Layer	*	7	Yes	*	9	Modern tarmac
124	8	Layer	*	7	Yes	*	9	Bedding for tarmac [123]
125	8	Layer	*	7	Yes	*	9	Bedding for layers above
126	2	Layer	*	11	Yes	*	9	Modern turf and topsoil
127	2	Layer	*	11	Yes	*	9	Made ground
128	4	Layer	*	12	Yes	*	9	Modern tarmac
129	4	Layer	*	12	Yes	*	9	Bedding for tarmac [128]
130	4	Layer	*	12	Yes	*	9	Modern rubble bedding
131	4	Layer	*	12	Yes	*	9	Made ground
132	4	Layer	*	12	Yes	*	8	Sandy lens
133	4	Layer	*	12	Yes	*	8	Made ground
134	4	Layer	TR4	12	Yes	*	8	Possible colluvium
135	Not Used							
136	Not Used							
137	Not Used							
138	Not Used							
139	Not Used							
140	All	Layer	*	20, 28	No	*	9	General number for modern disturbances
141	All	Layer	*	20	No	*	9	Modern topsoil
142	All	Layer	*	*	Yes	*	1	Natural sands and gravels
143	190/255, 195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [144]
144	190/255, 195/255	Cut	144	*	No	*	6	Shallow, sub-rectangular pit
145	185/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [146]
146	185/260	Cut	146	*	No	*	6	Truncated oval pit
147	160/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [148]
148	160/250	Cut	148	*	No	*	2	Tree bole
149	195/250 - 195/265	Fill	150	20	Yes	*	7	Fill of ditch [150]
150	195/250 - 195/265	Cut	150	20	Yes	*	7	Roman ditch, same as [49], [196], [301] and [519]
151	190/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [152]
152	190/260	Cut	152	*	No	*	6	Shallow, sub-rectangular pit
153	190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [154]
154	190/255	Cut	154	*	Yes	*	6	Irregular pit base
155	185/260, 190/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [156]
156	185/260, 190/260	Cut	156	*	No	*	6	Truncated pit
157	190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully [158]
158	190/255	Cut	158	*	No	*	5	Shallow gully
159	200/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [160]
160	200/245	Cut	160	*	No	*	6	Part of four post structure, assoc. with [162], [174] and [176]
161	200/245, 200/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [162]
162	200/245, 200/250	Cut	160	*	No	*	6	Part of four post structure, assoc. with [160], [174] and [176]
163	190/255, 195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [164]
164	190/255, 195/255	Cut	164	*	Yes	*	6	Irregular, elongated pit
165	195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of posthole [166]
166	195/255	Cut	166	*	No	*	7	Posthole, assoc. with [184], [186], [198] and [200]
167	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [168]
168	185/255	Cut	168	*	Yes	*	8	Possible industrial pit

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
169	195/240, 195/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of ditch [170]
170	195/240, 195/245	Cut	170	*	No	*	8	Probable post-medieval field boundary, same as [281]
171	180/260, 185/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [172]
172	180/260, 185/260	Cut	172	*	No	*	6	Rectangular pit
173	200/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [174]
174	200/245	Cut	160	*	No	*	6	Part of four post structure, assoc. with [160], [162] and [176]
175	200/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [176]
176	200/245	Cut	160	*	No	*	6	Part of four post structure, assoc. with [160], [162] and [174]
177	190/255, 195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully/beamslot [178]
178	190/255, 195/255	Cut	178	*	Yes	*	5	Probable beamslot
179	185/255, 190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of probable beamslot [180]
180	185/255, 190/255	Cut	180	*	Yes	*	5	Probable beamslot
181	195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of posthole [182]
182	195/255	Cut	166	*	No	*	7	Posthole, possibly assoc. with ditch [150]
183	195/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of posthole [184]
184	195/260	Cut	184	*	No	*	7	Posthole, assoc. with [166], [186], [198] and [200]
185	195/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of posthole [186]
186	195/260	Cut	184	*	No	*	7	Posthole, assoc. with [166], [184], [198] and [200]
187	190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of truncated feature [188]
188	190/255	Cut	188	*	Yes	*	5	Small pit/linear feature
189	180/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of small pit/posthole [190]
190	180/260	Cut	190	*	No	*	8	Small pit/posthole
191	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [192]
192	185/255	Cut	192	*	Yes	*	5	Posthole
193	195/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [194]
194	195/240	Cut	194	*	No	*	8	Base of pit
195	195/240 - 195/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of ditch [196]
196	195/240 - 195/250	Cut	196	*	No	*	7	Roman ditch, same as [49], [150], [301] and [519]
197	195/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of posthole [198]
198	195/260	Cut	184	*	No	*	7	Posthole, assoc. with [166], [184], [186] and [200]
199	195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	7	Fill of posthole [200]
200	195/255	Cut	166	*	No	*	7	Posthole, assoc. with [166], [184], [186] and [198]
201	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of scoop [202]
202	185/255	Cut	202	*	Yes	*	5	Scoop or possible posthole
203	190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully/beamslot [204]
204	190/255	Cut	204	*	Yes	*	5	Probable beamslot
205	190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully/beamslot [206]
206	190/255	Cut	206	*	Yes	*	5	Probable beamslot
207	180/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Upper fill of possible beamslot [209]
208	180/260	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Lower fill of possible beamslot [209]
209	180/260	Cut	209	*	Yes	*	5	Probable beamslot
210	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully [211]
211	185/255	Cut	211	*	Yes	*	5	Small linear gully
212	180/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of posthole [213]
213	180/255	Cut	213	*	No	*	8	Posthole

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
214	195/255, 200/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [215]
215	195/255, 200/255	Cut	215	*	No	*	6	Irregular pit
216	180/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of gully [217]
217	180/255	Cut	217	*	No	*	8	Gully or possible beamslot
218	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [219]
219	185/255	Cut	219	*	Yes	*	6	Large, sub-rectangular pit
220	190/250, 190/255	Fill	*	*	No	10	5	Fill of beamslot [221]
221	190/250, 190/255	Cut	221	*	Yes	*	5	Probable beamslot, probably assoc. with [178] and [204]
222	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [223]
223	185/255	Cut	223	*	Yes	*	5	Posthole
224	200/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [225]
225	200/250	Cut	225	*	No	*	6	Possible pit
226	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [227]
227	185/245	Cut	227	*	No	*	8	Rectangular pit
228	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [229]
229	185/255	Cut	229	*	Yes	*	5	Posthole
230	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [231]
231	185/255	Cut	231	*	Yes	*	6	Base of pit
232	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of scoop [233]
233	185/255	Cut	233	*	Yes	*	6	Scoop, possible slumped posthole
234	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [235]
235	185/255	Cut	235	*	Yes	*	5	Posthole
236	190/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of posthole [237]
237	190/245	Cut	237	*	No	*	8	Post-medieval posthole
238	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [239]
239	185/245	Cut	239	*	No	*	8	Rectangular pit
240	180/245, 185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of ditch [241]
241	180/245, 185/245	Cut	241	*	No	*	8	Post-medieval ditch, same as [321]
242	200/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [243]
243	200/245	Cut	243	*	No	*	6	Small pit/posthole
244	195/250, 195/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of pit [245]
245	195/250, 195/255	Cut	245	*	Yes	*	4	Small, shallow, oval pit
246	180/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [247]
247	180/255	Cut	247	*	No	*	6	Pit of uncertain function
248	190/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of pit [249]
249	190/245	Cut	249	*	No	*	3	Shallow pit
250	195/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [251]
251	195/245	Cut	251	*	No	*	6	Sub-rectangular pit
252	185/250, 185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully [253]
253	185/250, 185/255	Cut	253	*	Yes	*	5	L'-shaped gully, possible beamslot
254	180/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of ditch/gully terminus [255]
255	180/250	Cut	255	*	No	*	6	Ditch/gully terminus
256	195/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [257]
257	195/245	Cut	257	*	No	*	6	Remnant of prehistoric pit
258	195/245, 200/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of ditch [259]
259	195/245, 200/245	Cut	259	*	No	*	5	V'-shaped ditch
260	210/225	Fill	*	*	No	11	6	Remains of possible cremation in pit [261]
261	210/225	Cut	261	*	No	*	6	Ploughed out cremation pit
262	195/245, 200/240 - 200/250	Fill	*	*	No	13	4	Fill of ditch 263

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
	200/250							
263	195/245, 200/240 - 200/250	Cut	263	*	No	*	4	North-south and east-west ditch
264	200/225, 205/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [265]
265	200/225, 205/225	Cut	265	*	No	*	8	Sub-rectangular pit
266	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [267]
267	185/245	Cut	267	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
268	195/215, 200/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of small pit/posthole [269]
269	195/215, 200/215	Cut	269	*	No	*	6	Small pit/posthole
270	205/230	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [271]
271	205/230	Cut	271	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
272	205/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [273]
273	205/235	Cut	273	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
274	185/255, 190/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of ditch [275]
275	185/255, 190/255	Cut	275	*	Yes	*	4	Curvilinear ditch
276	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [277]
277	200/220	Cut	277	*	No	*	8	Sub-oval pit
278	200/220, 200/225, 205/220	Fill	279	21	No	14	4	Fill of ditch [279]
279	200/220, 200/225, 205/220	Cut	279	21	No	*	4	Northeast-southwest aligned ditch
280	195/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of ditch [281]
281	195/250	Cut	281	*	No	*	8	Post-medieval ditch, same as [170]
282	190/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [283]
283	190/245	Cut	283	*	No	*	8	Irregular pit
284	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [285]
285	200/220	Cut	285	*	No	*	6	Heavily truncated pit
286	195/215 - 200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of tree bole [287]
287	195/215 - 200/220	Cut	287	*	No	*	5	Irregular tree bole
288	195/200	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [289]
289	195/200	Cut	289	*	No	*	5	Sub-oval posthole
290	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [291]
291	200/220	Cut	291	*	No	*	6	Irregular pit
292	185/245, 190/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [293]
293	185/245, 190/245	Cut	293	*	No	*	6	Oval pit
294	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of posthole [295]
295	200/220	Cut	295	*	No	*	8	Sub-circular posthole
296	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [297]
297	185/245	Cut	297	*	No	*	3	Sub-circular posthole
298	200/225, 205/225	Layer	298	*	No	*	5	Gravelly prehistoric layer
299	195/215 - 195/225	Fill	301	23	No	*	7	Fill of ditch [301]
300	195/215	Fill	301	23	No	*	7	Fill of ditch [301]
301	195/215 - 195/225	Cut	301	23	No	*	7	Roman ditch, same as [49], [150], [196] and [519]

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
302	205/220, 205/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [303]
303	205/220, 205/225	Cut	303	*	No	*	8	Sub-circular pit
304	205/225	Fill	*	*	No	12	6	Remains of possible cremation in pit [305]
305	205/225	Cut	305	*	No	*	6	Possible cremation pit
306	200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [307]
307	200/225	Cut	307	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
308	185/245, 190/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of pit [309]
309	185/245, 190/245	Cut	309	*	No	*	3	Irregular pit
310	190/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [311]
311	190/215	Cut	311	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
312	190/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit [313]
313	190/215	Cut	313	*	No	*	5	Sub-circular pit
314	200/220, 200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [315]
315	200/220, 200/225	Cut	315	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
316	200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [317]
317	200/225	Cut	317	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
318	215/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [319]
319	215/225	Cut	319	*	No	*	2	Oval tree bole
320	185/240, 185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of ditch [ 321]
321	185/240, 185/245	Cut	321	*	No	*	8	Post-medieval ditch, same as [241]
322	185/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [323]
323	185/215	Cut	323	*	No	*	6	Circular pit
324	185/250, 185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of pit [325]
325	185/250, 185/255	Cut	325	*	Yes	*	4	Sub-rectangular pit
326	200/220, 200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [327]
327	200/220, 200/225	Cut	327	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval pit
328	190/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [329]
329	190/215	Cut	329	*	No	*	6	Shallow pit
330	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit [331]
331	200/220	Cut	331	*	No	*	5	Sub-oval pit
332	195/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [333]
333	195/220	Cut	333	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
334	195/220, 200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [335]
335	195/220, 200/220	Cut	333	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval posthole
336	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [337]
337	200/220	Cut	333	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval posthole
338	195/220, 200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [339]
339	195/220, 200/220	Cut	333	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
340	200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [341]
341	200/225	Cut	333	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval posthole
342	185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of gully butt end [343]
343	185/255	Cut	343	*	Yes	*	4	Butt end of truncated gully
344	185/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [345]
345	185/250	Cut	345	*	Yes	*	5	Part of posthole alignment, assoc. with [347] and [349]



Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
346	185/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole[347]
347	185/250	Cut	345	*	Yes	*	5	Part of posthole alignment, assoc. with [345] and [349]
348	185/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of posthole [349]
349	185/250	Cut	345	*	Yes	*	5	Part of posthole alignment, assoc. with [345] and [347]
350	185/240, 185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of linear feature [351]
351	185/240, 185/245	Cut	351	*	No	*	8	Short linear feature
352	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit [353]
353	200/220	Cut	353	*	No	*	5	Semi-circular pit
354	195/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [355]
355	195/250	Cut	355	*	No	*	2	Irregular tree bole
356	190/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit [357]
357	190/220	Cut	357	*	No	*	5	Sub-circular pit
358	200/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [359]
359	200/220	Cut	359	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
360	190/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [361]
361	190/225	Cut	361	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
362	195/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [363]
363	195/245	Cut	363	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
364	135/210 - 140/215	Fill	*	22	Yes	*	6	Primary fill of ditch [365]
365	135/210 - 140/215	Cut	365	22	Yes	*	6	Northwest-southeast aligned boundary ditch, same as [31]
366	200/230	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [367]
367	200/230	Cut	367	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
368	200/225, 200/230	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [369]
369	200/225, 200/230	Cut	369	*	No	*	6	Oval pit
370	140/210	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of tree bole [371]
371	140/210	Cut	371	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular tree bole
372	135/210	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of tree bole [373]
373	135/210	Cut	373	*	No	*	6	Irregular tree bole
374	185/250, 185/255	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of 'L'-shaped feature [375]
375	185/250, 185/255	Cut	375	*	Yes	*	4	L'-shaped feature, possible beamslot
376	180/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [377]
377	180/225	Cut	377	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval posthole
378	195/245, 200/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [379]
379	195/245, 200/245	Cut	379	*	No	*	6	Oval pit
380	180/225, 185/225	Fill	*	*	No	16	6	Possible cremation in pit [381]
381	180/225, 185/225	Cut	381	*	No	*	6	Possible cremation pit
382	190/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of small gully/beamslot [383]
383	190/240	Cut	383	*	No	*	6	Small gully/beamslot
384	190/220, 195/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of possible quarry pit [385]
385	190/220, 195/220	Cut	385	*	No	*	6	Possible quarry pit
386	200/225, 200/230	Fill	*	27	No	*	6	Fill of pit [387]
387	200/225, 200/230	Cut	387	27	No	*	6	Sub-oval pit
388	200/225	Fill	*	27	No	*	4	Fill of ditch [465]

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
389	185/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of natural feature [390]
390	185/225	Cut	390	*	No	*	2	Natural feature
391	195/230	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [394]
392	200/230, 200/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of ditch terminus [393]
393	200/230, 200/235	Cut	393	*	No	*	6	Ditch terminus
394	195/230	Cut	394	*	No	*	6	Posthole, probably assoc. with [404] and [406]
395	195/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole[396]
396	195/225	Cut	396	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval posthole
397	195/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [398]
398	195/225	Cut	398	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
399	195/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit/posthole [400]
400	195/225	Cut	400	*	No	*	5	Irregular pit/posthole
401	195/225, 200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [402]
402	195/225, 200/225	Cut	402	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
403	200/230	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [404]
404	200/230	Cut	404	*	Yes	*	6	Posthole, probably assoc. with [406] and [394]
405	195/230, 200/230	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [406]
406	195/230, 200/230	Cut	406	*	Yes	*	6	Posthole, probably assoc. with [404] and [394]
407	185/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of stakehole [408]
408	185/225	Cut	408	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval stakehole
409	185/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [410]
410	185/225	Cut	408	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
411	135/210 - 140/215	Fill	*	22	Yes	15	6	Secondary fill of ditch [365]
412	180/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [413]
413	180/215	Cut	413	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval pit
414	195/215, 195/220	Fill	415	23	No	*	6	Fill of ditch [415]
415	195/215, 195/220	Cut	415	23	No	*	6	Shallow, north-south aligned ditch
416	180/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [417]
417	180/215	Cut	417	*	No	*	6	Sub-oval pit
418	185/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Upper fill of ditch [419]
419	185/225	Cut	419	*	No	*	6	Possible ditch terminus
420	185/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit [421]
421	185/225	Cut	421	*	No	*	5	Sub-oval pit
422	180/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [423]
423	180/220	Cut	423	*	No	*	8	Sub-rectangular pit
424	180/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of posthole [425]
425	180/220	Cut	425	*	No	*	8	Circular posthole
426	185/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Primary fill of ditch [419]
427	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of feature [428]
428	185/245	Cut	428	*	No	*	8	Sub-rectangular feature
429	135/215, 140/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [430]
430	135/215, 140/215	Cut	430	*	No	*	2	Irregular tree bole
431	180/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [432]
432	180/215	Cut	432	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
433	180/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of posthole [434]
434	180/215	Cut	434	*	No	*	8	Circular posthole
435	145/210	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [436]
436	145/210	Cut	436	*	No	*	2	Irregular tree bole
437	180/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of feature [438]

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
438	180/220	Cut	438	*	No	*	8	Sub-circular feature
439	190/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of beamslot [440]
440	190/250	Cut	440	*	Yes	*	5	Possible 'L'-shaped beamslot
441	190/225, 195/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of gully [442]
442	190/225, 195/225	Cut	442	*	No	*	6	Shallow gully
443	185/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	9	Fill of modern cuts [444]
444	185/250	Cut	*	*	No	*	9	Modern truncations
445	135/210	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of ditch [446]
446	135/210	Cut	446	*	No	*	5	Possible ditch
447	190/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [448]
448	190/225	Cut	448	*	No	*	2	Sub-oval tree bole
449	185/245 - 190/240	Fill	*	24	No	*	5	Secondary fill of ditch [451]
450	185/245 - 190/240	Fill	*	24	No	18	5	Primary fill of ditch [451]
451	185/245 - 190/240	Cut	451	24	No	*	5	Northwest-southeast aligned ditch
452	185/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of gully [453]
453	185/250	Cut	453	*	Yes	*	5	Small gully
454	175/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [455]
455	175/215	Cut	455	*	No	*	6	Semi-circular pit
456	135/210 - 140/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [457]
457	135/210 - 140/215	Cut	457	*	No	*	2	Sub-rectangular tree bole
458	195/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [459]
459	195/225	Cut	459	*	No	*	6	Shallow pit
460	185/250	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of feature [461]
461	185/250	Cut	461	*	No	*	6	Heavily truncated feature
462	175/220, 180/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of pit [463]
463	175/220, 180/220	Cut	463	*	No	*	8	Oval pit
464	200/225, 200/230	Fill	*	27	No	19	5	Fill of ditch [483]
465	200/225	Cut	*	27	No	*	4	Ditch, only observed in section
466	185/240 - 190/245	Fill	*	24	No	*	4	Secondary fill of ditch [468]
467	185/240 - 190/245	Fill	*	24	No	*	4	Primary fill of ditch [468]
468	185/240 - 190/245	Cut	468	24	No	*	4	Northwest-southeast aligned ditch
469	175/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [470]
470	175/220	Cut	470	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
471	200/230	Fill	*	25	No	17	5	Fill of ditch [483]
472	195/225, 200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of small pit/posthole [473]
473	195/225, 200/225	Cut	473	*	No	*	5	Small pit/posthole
474	200/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of ditch butt end [475]
475	200/225	Cut	475	*	No	*	5	Ditch butt end
476	200/230	Fill	*	26	No	*	5	Fill of ditch butt end [477]
477	200/230	Cut	477	26	No	*	5	Ditch butt end
478	200/230	Fill	*	26	No	*	8	Fill of furrow [479]
479	200/230	Cut	479	26	No	*	8	Possible plough furrow
480	200/230	Fill	*	26	No	*	5	Slumped fill of ditch [483]
481	200/230	Fill	*	26	No	*	5	Slumped fill of ditch [483]
482	200/230	Fill	*	26	No	*	5	Slumped fill of ditch [483]

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
483	200/225, 200/230	Cut	483	25, 26, 27	No	*	5	Cut of north-south aligned ditch
484	200/230	Fill	*	26	No	*	5	Fill of ditch [483]
485	175/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [486]
486	175/225	Cut	486	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
487	175/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [488]
488	175/225	Cut	486	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
489	Not Used							
490	175/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [491]
491	175/225	Cut	486	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
492	175/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [493]
493	175/220	Cut	493	*	No	*	2	Irregular tree bole
494	200/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [495]
495	200/240	Cut	495	*	No	*	6	Oval posthole
496	200/235, 200/240	Fill	*	*	No	20	6	Fill of pit [497]
497	200/235, 200/240	Cut	497	*	No	*	6	Sub-rectangular pit
498	170/220, 175/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [499]
499	170/220, 175/220	Cut	499	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
500	170/225, 175/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [501]
501	170/225, 175/225	Cut	501	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
502	170/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [503]
503	170/215	Cut	503	*	No	*	6	Oval posthole
504	190/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [505]
505	190/225	Cut	505	*	No	*	6	Sub-rectangular pit
506	170/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [507]
507	170/215	Cut	507	*	No	*	2	Irregular tree bole
508	170/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [509]
509	170/220	Cut	509	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole
510	170/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of posthole [511]
511	170/220	Cut	509	*	No	*	8	Circular posthole
512	170/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [513]
513	170/220	Cut	513	*	No	*	6	Shallow pit
514	200/235	Fill	*	*	No	21	7	Fill of gully [515]
515	200/235	Cut	515	*	No	*	7	Shallow gully
516	200/235, 200/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	8	Fill of gully [517]
517	200/235, 200/240	Cut	517	*	No	*	8	Shallow gully
518	195/235, 195/240	Fill	519	28, 29	No	22	7	Fill of ditch [519]
519	195/235, 195/240	Cut	519	28, 29	No	*	7	Roman ditch, same as [49], [150], [196] and [301]
520	175/225	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of tree bole [521]
521	175/225	Cut	521	*	No	*	2	Irregular tree bole
522	165/215, 165/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of pit [523]
523	165/215, 165/220	Cut	523	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
524	165/215, 165/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of pit [525]
525	165/215, 165/220	Cut	525	*	No	*	5	Square/rectangular pit
526	165/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	4	Fill of posthole [527]
527	165/215	Cut	527	*	No	*	4	Sub-square posthole
528	185/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [529]

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
529	185/240	Cut	529	*	No	*	3	Sub-circular posthole, assoc. with [531], [533], [535], [574] and [576]
530	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [531]
531	185/245	Cut	531	*	No	*	3	Sub-circular posthole, assoc. with [529], [533], [535], [574] and [576]
532	185/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [533]
533	185/245	Cut	531	*	No	*	3	Circular posthole, assoc. with [529], [531], [535], [574] and [576]
534	190/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [535]
535	190/240	Cut	535	*	No	*	3	Circular posthole, assoc. with [529], [531], [533], [574] and [576]
536	170/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [537]
537	170/215	Cut	537	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole, probably assoc. with [539]
538	165/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [539]
539	165/215	Cut	539	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular posthole, probably assoc. with [537]
540	160/215 - 170/215	Fill	541	*	No	24	4	Fill of ditch [541]
541	160/215 - 170/215	Cut	541	*	No	*	4	Curvilinear ditch
542	195/235, 195/240	Fill	*	*	No	23	6	Fill of pit [543]
543	195/235, 195/240	Cut	543	*	No	*	6	Sub-circular pit
544	200/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Upper fill of ditch [546]
545	200/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Primary fill of ditch [546]
546	200/235	Cut	546	*	No	*	5	North-south aligned ditch
547	170/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of tree bole [548]
548	170/215	Cut	548	*	No	*	5	Irregular tree bole
549	200/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	5	Fill of ditch [550]
550	200/235	Cut	550	*	No	*	5	Ditch butt end
551	190/245	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of pit [552]
552	190/245	Cut	552	*	No	*	3	Small, circular pit
553	160/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [554]
554	160/215	Cut	554	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
555	160/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [556]
556	160/215	Cut	554	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
557	160/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [558]
558	160/215	Cut	554	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
559	165/215	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [560]
560	165/215	Cut	560	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
561	195/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [562]
562	195/235	Cut	562	*	No	*	3	Posthole, possibly assoc. with [535], [533], [531], [582], [590], [592], [594], [596], [576] and [574]
563	160/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [564]
564	160/220	Cut	564	*	No	*	6	Possible circular posthole
565	160/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [566]
566	160/220	Cut	564	*	No	*	6	Oval posthole
567	160/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [568]
568	160/220	Cut	564	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
569	165/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [570]
570	165/220	Cut	570	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
571	165/220	Fill	*	*	No	*	6	Fill of posthole [572]
572	165/220	Cut	570	*	No	*	6	Circular posthole
573	190/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [574]
574	190/240	Cut	535	*	No	*	3	Sub-circular posthole, assoc. with [529], [531], [533], [535] and [576]
575	190/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [576]
576	190/240	Cut	535	*	No	*	3	Circular posthole, assoc. with [529], [531], [533], [535] and [574]

Context No.	Grid/ Trench	Type	Plan	Section	Photo	Sample	Phase	Comments
577	200/240	Fill	578	30	No	25	4	Fill of ditch [578]
578	200/240	Cut	578	30	No	*	4	North-south aligned ditch, probably same as [263]
579	200/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of feature [580]
580	200/240	Cut	580	*	No	*	3	Heavily truncated feature
581	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [582]
582	190/235	Cut	582	*	No	*	3	Possibly rectangular posthole
583	200/235, 200/240	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of pit [584]
584	200/235, 200/240	Cut	584	*	No	*	3	Shallow, oval pit
585	200/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of gully [586]
586	200/235	Cut	586	*	No	*	3	North-south aligned gully
587	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	2	Fill of natural feature [588]
588	190/235	Cut	582	*	No	*	2	Natural feature
589	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [590]
590	190/235	Cut	582	*	No	*	3	Posthole, possibly assoc. with [535], [533], [531], [582], [562], [592], [594], [596], [576] and [574]
591	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [592]
592	190/235	Cut	582	*	No	*	3	Posthole, possibly assoc. with [535], [533], [531], [582], [562], [590], [594], [596], [576] and [574]
593	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [594]
594	190/235	Cut	594	*	No	*	3	Posthole, possibly assoc. with [535], [533], [531], [582], [562], [590], [592], [596], [576] and [574]
595	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of posthole [596]
596	190/235	Cut	594	*	No	*	3	Posthole, possibly assoc. with [535], [533], [531], [582], [562], [590], [592], [594], [576] and [574]
597	185/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of pit/ditch [598]
598	185/235	Cut	598	*	No	*	3	Pit/ditch butt end
599	190/235	Fill	*	*	No	*	3	Fill of pit [600]
600	190/235	Cut	600	*	No	*	3	Sub-circular pit
601	200/235, 200/240	Fill	*	*	No	26	3	Fill of feature [602]
602	200/235, 200/240	Cut	602	*	No	*	3	Heavily truncated feature

## APPENDIX 2

### LITHIC ASSESSMENT

Barry John Bishop

#### INTRODUCTION

Excavations at the Mangrove Road site recovered 46 struck flints and 359g of burnt flint fragments.

This report quantifies the material by context according to a basic technological/typological scheme (see Table 1), assesses its ability to contribute to further understanding of the nature and chronology of the activities identified during the project, and recommends any further work required.

No statistically based technological, typological or metrical analyses were attempted and a more detailed examination may alter or amend any of the interpretations offered here.

#### QUANTIFICATION

Context	Phase	Preparation Flake	Chip	Useable Flake	Flake Fragments	Flake with Blade Attributes	Blade	Broken Blade	Minimal core	Context Total Struck	Burnt Flint (No.)	Burnt Flint (Wt. g)
+		5	3	4	2		1		2	17	1	7
19										0	1	5
21	6									0	1	71
29	6									0	1	35
57	6			1						1		
93	6									0	1	28
205	5	1								1		
214	6									0	1	1
220	5	1								1		
240	8	1								1	1	51
299	7			1						1		
320	8	2	4							6		
362	3			1						1		
364	6	1		2						3	1	115
418	6	1		1						2		
460	6	1								1		
496	6					1	1			2		
514	7									0	1	38
518	7	1		2				1		4	1	8
577	4						1	1		2		
585	3	1								1		
601	3					1		1		2		

Table 1: Quantification of Lithic Material by Context

## BURNT FLINT

Ten burnt flint fragments weighing 359g were recovered. These were recovered in small quantities and from a variety of features. The fragments were variably burnt, and the quantities recovered would be consistent with incidental burning. They most probably represent general 'background' residual waste, indicating sporadic hearth-use in the vicinity

## STRUCK FLINT

### *Raw Material*

Two types of raw material could be discerned. A few pieces were manufactured from a semi-opaque grey flint with yellowish-grey cherty patches, and these included the blade-like flake from [601] and blades from [496] and [577]. They were associated with a fine-grained semi-translucent grey flint, which may represent the same raw material type but without the inclusion of the cherty impurities. No original cortex was present. The distinctiveness of this type of flint suggests it may have been imported to the site.

The other type of raw material consisted of a fine-grained translucent black, grey or brown flint, exhibiting a cortex that varied from hard rounded to weathered chalky. It is likely that this was obtained from alluvial or glacial deposits, and would have been easily available in the vicinity of the site.

### *Condition*

Much of the material was in good condition, consistent with it having experienced little or no post-depositional disturbance. Some of the pieces, however, did exhibit slight chipping and abrasion; these nearly all originated from Roman and later contexts and would be consistent with their presumed residuality.

### *Technology / Typology*

No typologically diagnostic pieces were present. However, two distinct technological traditions were apparent. The earliest consisted of a number of thin blades, broken blades and flakes with blade attributes. These are characteristic of Mesolithic and Neolithic industries, although the slightly unsystematic way the blades were produced may be, tentatively, more characteristic of Neolithic industries.

The other technological tradition apparently consisted of the production of thick and squat flakes with wide, cortical or unmodified striking platforms, and often retaining significant quantities of cortex. The cores present were opportunistically and minimally worked, with no evidence for



preparation or maintenance. Such traits would be most characteristic of later prehistoric industries, dating from the Middle Bronze Age onwards.

## DISCUSSION

It was apparent that two chronological periods were represented by the lithic material. The earliest, possibly Neolithic, consisted of a small quantity of blades and flakes, the raw materials for which had probably been imported to the site. These pieces were concentrated within fills [496], [577] and [601], with the blades from [496] and [577] sequentially refitting. Although from later contexts, they were in good condition and recovered from the same general area, grid square 200/240, suggesting that the later features may have disturbed a discreet activity area in this location. The small number of these pieces suggests that this activity was limited and ephemeral, probably representing a short term 'stopping-off point' as part of a much more widely inhabited landscape.

The majority of pieces were more crudely produced, being most characteristic of Middle Bronze Age or later industries, utilizing locally obtainable flint. The good condition of the pieces recovered from the Late Bronze Age features identified during the excavations suggest that the flintwork may be contemporary with this phase. However, struck flints were only recovered in small numbers from any individual feature and no concentrations were present that may indicate sustained use. This may not be surprising as flintworking during this period is usually considered to have been opportunistic and flint was probably only knapped when needed and used for the specific purpose in mind.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to its size and lack of chronologically diagnostic artefacts, this report is all that is required of the material for the purposes of the archive and no further analytical work is proposed. The material does contribute to the body of evidence for prehistoric activity in the area and a description of the assemblage should be included in any published account of the fieldwork. It is therefore recommended that the assemblage should be examined in more detail and described for publication, alongside illustrations of relevant pieces. The publication should include some consideration of local geology, raw material sources and previous finds and research in the local area.

## APPENDIX 3

### PREHISTORIC POTTERY ASSESSMENT

Louise Rayner

#### INTRODUCTION

A small assemblage of 128 sherds (561g) was examined for dating and assessment. The assemblage was generally composed of fragmentary and abraded sherds and consequently dating and fabric groupings were problematic.

The assemblage was recorded in line with recommendations of the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1997) in a digital file. Each sherd was examined, although fabrics were not defined in detail due to the small size and poor condition of the assemblage. Few feature sherds are present although a small number of decorated sherds have been recorded.

Pottery was recovered from 19 individual contexts including those associated with possible cremations, postholes, ditches and gullies.

#### FABRICS

The assemblage is dominated by flint-tempered fabrics, which accounts for 63% of the material by sherd count (see Table 1). The flint fabrics are fairly varied and few obviously group together, with the exception perhaps of the sherds in [260] and [298]. Flint tempering is widespread in southern and southeast England from the Neolithic through to the Middle Iron Age, which can make it difficult to place material, particularly from small assemblages that lack diagnostic sherds. It seems likely the majority of the flint-tempered material from this site dates to the later 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium – early 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC (Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age).

Also present are a handful of sherds with organic material (ORG), shell (SHEL) and sandy wares (SAND). Amongst these is one Roman rim in [195] (very shattered) and one probable Late Iron Age – Early Roman rim from the unstratified material. The other sherds are likely to be Iron Age.

Fabric Type	Count	%Ct
CLAY	2	1.6
FLIN	81	63.3
ORG	3	2.3
POT	1	0.8
POT?	1	0.8
QUFL1	18	14.1
QUFL2	10	7.8
QUFL	2	1.6
SAND	9	7.0
SHEL?	1	0.8
Total	128	

Table 1: Assemblage by main fabric types

#### FEATURE SHERDS

There are few feature sherds and given that they are depended upon for much of the dating that has been suggested, it is worth considering them in a little more detail.

Contexts [260] and [298] both contain sherds decorated with fingernail impressions (QUFL1 FND). Context [260] is the fill of pit [261] interpreted as the remains of a possible cremation. Context [298] is a gravelly prehistoric layer. The fabric of both these vessels is flint with quartz (QUFL1) and the quartz is very well rounded and clearly visible on the surface macroscopically. The use of fingernail impressions for decoration has its origins in the mid-late Neolithic and was commonly used to decorate Peterborough bowls, continuing throughout the Later Neolithic and Early-Mid Bronze Age. The fabric of these vessels does not however suggest a date in the Neolithic and unfortunately aside from the decorated body sherds only a small fragment of base is present and nothing else more diagnostic. At present it seems likely these vessels date to the Bronze Age but further work is needed to find suitable local parallels and attempt to refine the dating.

The second context of pottery associated with a possible cremation pit is [304]. In some ways the pottery from this context is harder to place. The sherds are clearly from the rim (flat and square in profile) of a vessel with a reasonably large diameter. A small fragment that joins to one of these rim sherds gives an angle suggestive of a flaring rimmed vessel and given the sandy fabric an

early 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC date would seem most likely. Again further work is needed to attempt to parallel this and refine the dating. The features are potentially of interest but the scrappy nature of the ceramic evidence is restrictive.

Two rims sherds are present one with fingernail impressions along the upper edge (in [460]) and one with oblique impressions that give a cabled effect ([496]). Both are easily paralleled amongst other Late Bronze Age assemblages and along with the majority of the flint-tempered body sherds, it seems likely they date broadly to this period.

One last sherd of interest is a body sherd from [195] which is soft and buff/pale orange in colour. Only fine voids remains but it was probably originally shell-tempered. The fabric is most comparable to those used in the Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age and it is possible this sherd derives from an Urn of that period.

## CONCLUSIONS

Given the small and scrappy nature of the assemblage there is little potential from further analysis. Ideally further consideration should be made of the pottery from the possible cremation pits but if suitable material is available for C14 dating that may provide a more satisfactory answer as to the date of these features.

The rest of the assemblage suggests activity across a range of periods and certainly in the Later Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman period. The information recorded during assessment could be used to provide a publication text if required.

To provide publication text and further research into pottery from cremation pits: 1 day

## REFERENCE

PCRG 1997 *Guidelines for the Recording and Publication of Prehistoric Pottery*, Occ papers 1 & 2

## APPENDIX 4

### ROMAN POTTERY SPOT DATES

Malcolm Lyne

#### FABRICS

1. 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware
2. Grog and coarse-sand tempered 'Braughing' jar fabric
3. Coarse-sanded buff/grey fabric with profuse up-to 1.00 mm multi-coloured quartz filler and soft brown ferrous inclusions.
- 4A. Coarse Hadham grey-ware with profuse up-to 0.50mm quartz
- 4B. Fine Hadham grey-ware with silt-sized to 0.10mm quartz filler
5. Fine Hadham oxidised fabric with similar filler
6. Oxidised orange fabric with profuse up-to 0.20mm multi-coloured quartz filler
7. Verulamium Region Whiteware
8. South Gaulish La Graufesenque Samian
9. Oxfordshire Whiteware mortarium fabric
10. Miscellaneous amphora fabric

#### CATALOGUE

Context	Fabric	Form	Date-range	No of sherds	Weight in gm	Comments
+	1		L.I.A.-AD.100	2	10	Very abraded
	4A	Braughing jar	AD.70-200	3	22	Abraded
	4B	Necked-jarsx3	AD.150-300	4	55	
			AD.70-250	9	87gm	
34	4A	Jar	AD.43-70	1	20gm	
114	9	Mortarium	AD.240-400	1	13gm	Abraded
195	1	Combed store jar	L.I.A.-AD.100			Fresh
	2	Braughing jars	AD.43-100	2	91	
	4A	Braughing jars	AD.70-200	6	148	
	4B	Necked jars	AD.150-300	12	109	
	10	Strap handle		12	116	
			AD.70-150/250	1	75	
			33	539gm		
240	4B	Jar	AD.200-400	1	5gm	Very abraded
256	1		L.I.A.-AD.100	1	6gm	Very abraded
300	1		L.I.A.-AD.100	3	4	Abraded
	6	Closed	AD.70-150	10	17	Abraded
				13	21gm	
514	3	4M bowl	AD.270-400	1	9gm	Abraded
518	1	Braughing jar etc	L.I.A.-AD.100			Abraded
	2	Braughing jars	AD.43-100	17	275	
	4A	Braughing jars	AD.70-200	8	215	
	4B	Necked jars	AD.150-300	16	145	
		Flanged bowl	AD.170-250	25	286	
	5	Necked-jars	AD.200-400			
		Flagon	AD.200-400	4	24	
	7	Mortarium	AD.150-200	1	34	
	8	Dr 33 etc	AD.43-110	6	34	
	MISC			2	9	
			79	1022gm		

## APPENDIX 5

### POST-ROMAN POTTERY ASSESSMENT

Chris Jarrett

#### INTRODUCTION

A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (1 box). Most sherds are in a poor condition, often small sized and occasionally abraded, indicating that they are probably in secondary or even tertiary deposition conditions. There are no vessels with complete profiles represented. All the individual contexts produced small groups of pottery (under 30 sherds).

All the pottery (eighteen sherds, of which two sherds are unstratified) was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in an ACCESS 2000 database, by fabric, form, decoration, sherd count and estimated number of vessels. The standard Museum of London Specialist Services codes for fabric, form and decoration have been used as these can be paralleled to Hertfordshire. Its types and distribution discuss the pottery.

#### POTTERY TYPES AND FORMS

The dating of the pottery as recorded consists one sherd of Roman pottery and seventeen sherds of post-medieval wares.

##### *Roman Pottery*

One sherd form white-firing, sandy fabric

##### *Post-medieval pottery*

Fine red earthenwares (Hertfordshire or Essex)

Metropolitan slipware (METS), dated 1630-1700, one sherd. Forms: uncertain.

Post-medieval black-glazed ware (PMBL), dated 1580-1700, two sherds. Forms: mug.

Post-medieval fine redware (PMFR), dated 1580-1900, four sherds. Forms: bowl or dish and chimney pot.

Coarse red earthenwares (London)

Post-medieval redware (PMR), dated 1580-1900, five sherds. Forms: flowerpots.

Stoneware

London stoneware (LONS), dated 1670-1900, one sherd. Forms: 19<sup>th</sup>-century bottle.

White salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG), dated 1720-1780, one sherd. Forms: plate.

Industrial finewares

Pearl ware (PEAR), dated 1770-1860, one sherd. Forms: uncertain.

Refined whiteware (REFW), dated 1800-1900, one sherd. Forms: uncertain.

Yellow ware (YELL), 1800-1900, dated one sherd. Forms: uncertain

## DISTRIBUTION

The pottery is present in phases 6 to 8 and Table 1 shows the contexts the pottery was found in, its phase, the size of the group, and a spot date for the final deposition of the context.

Context	Phase	Size	Spot date
39	8	S	1670-1900
193	8	S	1580-1900
195	7	S	0-400
240	8	S	1800-1900
256	6	S	1580-1900
320	8	S	1770-1860
350	8	S	1580-1900
382	6	S	1630-1700
516	8	S	1580-1900

*Table 1. Distribution of pottery showing, the phase it occurs in, the size of the group, and the deposition spot date. S: small (1-30 sherds), M: medium (31-100 sherds), L: large (over 101 sherds).*

### *Phase 6 - Late Bronze Age IV*

From the small gully or beam slot [383] was found in fill [382] a small, abraded sherd of Metropolitan slipware dated 1630-1680. A very small sherd of unglazed post-medieval redware (PMR), dated 1580-1900, was recovered from fill [256] of pit [257]. Both post-medieval pottery sherds recovered from features in this phase may very well be intrusive.

### *Phase 7 - Roman*

The sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from fill [195] of ditch [196].

### *Phase 8 – post-medieval*

The largest group of post-Roman pottery on the site was recovered from fills [240/320] of ditch [241/320] as nine sherds. The pottery types in these fills are Post-medieval fine redwares as a chimney pot and an externally glazed vessel, Post-medieval black-glazed ware from a mug and Post-medieval redware as a flowerpot rim. There is also present the rim of a 1720-1780 white salt-glazed stoneware plate, but the latest pottery types include small sherds of Pearl ware, Refined whiteware and Yellow ware indicating a 19<sup>th</sup>-century deposition date.

Pit [194] produced a single sherd of Post-medieval redware in its fill [193], while fill [516] of gully [517] produced part of a Post-medieval fine redware bowl or dish. Both pottery types are dated 1580-1900 in Hertfordshire, but it is possible that these are both 19<sup>th</sup>-century examples.

The sherd of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century London stoneware bottle was solely found in fill [39] of ditch [40] in evaluation Trench 3.

### SIGNIFICANCE AND POTENTIAL OF THE COLLECTION

The post-Roman pottery assemblage from the site is of little significance being mundane and almost entirely fragmentary reflecting the agricultural and landscaping use of the site during the later post-medieval period.

The pottery has the potential to date the contexts in which they were found and provide a sequence for them. Otherwise the pottery has very little potential to show what social activities were happening on the site.

### RESEARCH AIMS

There are no research aims

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

It is recommended that no further work is undertaken on the post-Roman pottery assemblage from the site. If information is required for a publication of the site then it should be taken from this assessment report.



## **APPENDIX 6**

### **CLAY TOBACCO PIPE ASSESSMENT**

**Chris Jarrett**

A total of five plain clay tobacco pipe stems in a good condition are recorded on the site. The stems are moderately thin in thickness and cautiously can be dated to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century. All the stem fragments were recovered from fill [240/320] of ditch [241/320].

The stems have very little significance and little potential for dating the ditch fills they occur in. No further work is recommended on this material.

## **APPENDIX 7**

### **BUILDING MATERIALS ASSESSMENT**

**John Brown**

#### **QUANTITY AND CONDITION**

Total No. Assessed boxes: 2

Total No. Assessed contexts producing Building material: 19

Total Count: 116

Total Weight kg: 4.165

Total No. Complete pieces: N/A

Total No. Masonry Samples: N/A

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The majority of the material assessed consisted of residual and fragmented tile and brick fabrics of medieval and post-medieval date. The remainder of the material was comprised of residual Roman CBM and very small amounts of abraded daub fragments of uncertain age. This assemblage includes post-medieval brick fabrics of probable local origin, although most of the medieval tile fabrics are analogous to fabrics found in London. Materials of different periods and forms are discussed below. The phase discussion follows the excavator's phasing where possible.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The building materials were examined using the London system of fabric classification. Examples and descriptions of the fabrics can be found in the archives of PCA and/or the Museum of London.

Quantification of items was undertaken and the data recorded and entered onto a computer database (Microsoft Access 2000). After analysis common fabric types were discarded, with a type sample kept for archive. Unusual pieces or uncommon fabrics were also kept for archive.

## BUILDING MATERIAL TYPES

Fabrics and forms are tabulated below and shown in order of period and occurrence. Roman CBM forms follow Brodrigg (1987). Medieval and post-medieval forms follow the Museum of London DUA guide to identifying ceramic building material.

Period	Source	Fabric	Description
OTHER	Daub (usually local clay sources)	3102	Daub
	Sandstone medium laminated	3108	Rubber stone?
ROMAN	Eccles, Kent	2454	Imbrex
	Radlett, Hertfordshire	3023	Roman tile/brick
	Local London fabric group 2815	2459a	Roman tile/brick
		2815	Roman brick
	Niedermendig lava stone	3123	Lava Quern
Hertfordshire/Buckinghamshire	3069	Roman brick	
EARLY	Local (early) London clay sources	3228	Roof tile (uncertain form)
MED/PMED	Local London clay sources	2271	Roof tile (uncertain form) Peg tile, roof
		3216	Roof tile (uncertain form)
	Local London clay sources	2816	Roof tile (uncertain form)
	TRANS	Local 'Tudor' red firing brick	3046
3065			Brick (uncertain form)
PMED	Local London clay sources	2276	Roof tile (uncertain form) Peg tile, roof
		Local London 'post-fire' brick	3065nr3032
	Temporary local brick fabric?	hmrh04/1	Brick (uncertain form)
	Temporary local brick fabric?	hmrh04/2	Brick (uncertain form)
	Temporary local brick fabric?	hmrh04/3	Brick (uncertain form)
MODERN	Machine-made (industrial)	3498	Floor tile
		3038	Wire cut/machine made brick

### *Uncommon fabrics/forms*

Three different brick fabrics were identified as probably of local manufacture. None of the brick showed any dimensions, but all were probably from hand-made stock bricks of post-medieval date. The fabrics probably represent localised variations from a geographically close clay source.

FABRIC	PERIOD	COMMENT
hmrh04/1	PMED	Fairly hard pinkish-orange firing brick with moderate coarse quartz, frequent medium quartz, moderate to frequent calcium carbonate <2mm, red iron oxide <2mm, frequent voids <15mm.
hmrh04/2	PMED	Fairly hard marbled dark red and light yellow brick with fine sandy matrix. Frequent coarse quartz, frequent medium quartz, moderate to frequent calcium carbonate speckles <0.1mm, moderate red iron oxide <2mm, frequent voids <8mm. KA ref. similar to 3034
hmrh04/3	PMED	Red-firing with orange/yellow silty streaks. Moderate coarse quartz, frequent medium quartz, moderate calcium carbonate speckles <1mm, moderate red iron oxide <2mm, frequent voids <8mm. KA ref.

## DISTRIBUTION

### *Phase 6: Prehistoric (Late Bronze Age)*

Apart from a small fragment of abraded ?daub from the fill [334] of a posthole [335], no building material was allocated to this phase. A fragment of worked, laminated sandstone pebble from the fill [502] of a posthole [503] may represent an artefact such as a rubbing stone, rather than building material.

### *Phase 7: Roman*

The majority of the Roman material came from two features allocated to Phase 7. In both the fill [195] of ditch [196] and the fill [518] of ditch [519] fragments of intrusive medieval or post-medieval material were also present. In both cases the Roman CBM was heavily abraded, indicating that the material had been redeposited, rolled, or subject to water abrasion.

### *Phase 8: Post-medieval*

Material from this phase consisted of residual medieval and in some instances residual Roman CBM mixed with small, abraded fragments of post-medieval brick and modern machine-cut Fletton-type bricks or tiles. The material is largely typical of background material accumulated in agricultural deposits.

## SIGNIFICANCE AND POTENTIAL

Nearly all of the material is abraded and residual and is too limited in character to determine anything other than the general presence of building material from the ?prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods.

With the exception of locally produced brick fabrics of post-medieval date, the material is unremarkable, and likely to be of little significance locally, regionally and nationally.

The assemblage is thought to be very limited in potential and was in the main discarded following quantification and identification of common fabric types.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

Examples of temporary fabric types have been kept for reference, and may be compared to a local fabric reference collection if one such exists, but otherwise no further work is recommended.

## DATE RANGES

The Date range is the earliest date for the earliest CBM within the context and the latest date of the latest CBM in the context. The Latest Date represents the range for the latest dated CBM fabric. The Best-fit date compares the latest date for the earliest CBM and the earliest date for the latest CBM. The Deposition Date is the suggested date of deposition for the materials in the context. Also noted is the Size (number of sherds) and Weight (grams) of each context. Groups are determined as small (1-30 sherds), medium (31-100 sherds), large (over 100 sherds), very large (over 10 boxes).

*CBM by context with size/weight and date ranges*

Phase	Context	Size	Weight	Date Range	Latest Date	Best Fit Date	Deposition Date
8	<b>25</b>	1	12	1850 1950	1850 1950	1850 1950	1850 to 1950
7	<b>48</b>	1	6	-1500 1666	-1500 1666	-1500 1666	prehistoric to post-medieval
8	<b>105</b>	4	116	50 1900	1675 1900	1675 160	1675 to 1900 [R]
7	<b>185</b>	3	10	-1500 1666	-1500 1666	-1500 1666	prehistoric to post-medieval
8	<b>193</b>	7	116	1180 1950	1850 1950	1850 1800	1850 to 1950 [R]
7	<b>195</b>	4	744	50 1900	1675 1900	1675 100	1675 to 1900 [R]
8	<b>236</b>	1	166	1850 1950	1850 1950	1850 1950	1850 to 1950
8	<b>238</b>	1	6	70 100	70 100	70 100	70 to 100 (post-Roman) [R]
8	<b>240</b>	21	352	1100 1950	1850 1950	1850 1700	1850 to 1950 [R]
8	<b>280</b>	2	33	1450 1950	1850 1950	1850 1700	1850 to 1950 [R]
8	<b>282</b>	2	26	1200 1950	1850 1950	1850 1800	1850 to 1950 [R]
7	<b>300</b>	3	46	-1500 1800	1200 1800	1450 1666	1450 to 1700 [R]
8	<b>320</b>	31	980	1100 1900	1675 1900	1675 1500	1675 to 1900 [R]
6	<b>334</b>	1	1	-1500 1900	-1500 1900	-1500 1900	prehistoric to post-medieval
8	<b>350</b>	2	56	1200 1800	1200 1800	1450 1700	1450 to 1700
6	<b>502</b>	1	256	50 1500	50 1500	50 1500	Date uncertain
7	<b>514</b>	1	8	1200 1800	1200 1800	1200 1800	1200 to 1800 (post-medieval) [R]
8	<b>516</b>	3	71	1200 1800	1200 1800	1450 1700	1450 to 1700
7	<b>518</b>	26	1156	50 1800	1200 1800	1200 80	1200 to 1800 (post-medieval) [R]

*Contexts in italic are samples from masonry contexts.*

[I] Possibly inclusive material [r] Residual material

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## APPENDIX 8

### GLASS ASSESSMENT

**Sarah Carter**

Number of boxes: 1

Number of fragments: 8

Number of contexts: 3

Only 8 fragments of glass were recovered from this site. All the glass is in fair condition but is very fragmentary. All the fragments are from bottles and apart from one fragment are all 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

### CATALOGUE

#### *Bottles*

Context 226: 1 fragment of colourless glass from the neck of a bottle. 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

Context 320: 1 body fragment of natural emerald green glass from a bottle. 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

Context 320: 3 body fragments of natural green glass from wine bottles. 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century.

Context 320: 1 body fragment of natural green glass with surface patina from a wine bottle. 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century.

Context 350: 1 fragment of natural green glass from the neck and rim of a wine bottle with a double string rim. Late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Context 350: 1 body fragment of natural green glass from a wine bottle. 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century.

### POTENTIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The glass fragments from this site do not represent anything of interest and there are therefore no recommendations for future work.

### REFERENCES

Dumbrell R. Understanding Antique Wine Bottles 1992

## APPENDIX 9

### METAL FINDS ASSESSMENT

#### Märit Gaimster

No metal or small finds were retrieved from the Bronze Age and Roman phases of the site. However, one piece of slag came from a Phase 5 context. From the post-medieval Phase 8, finds included numerous heavily encrusted and incomplete iron nails along with some ferrous slag or concretions. An incomplete copper-alloy fitting <10> was retrieved from the modern Phase 9, associated with the former Ashbourne Hostels. The fitting retains two rivet holes and is similar in shape and size to heel irons.

context	sf	description	phase
298		one piece of slag	Phase 5
105		iron nail, incomplete	Phase 8
108		two iron nails, incomplete	Phase 8
110		four iron nails	Phase 8
167		iron slag or concretion	Phase 8
240		iron slag or concretion	Phase 8
282		iron nail, incomplete	Phase 8
320		iron slag or concretion	Phase 8
350		iron nail	Phase 8
516		iron nail, incomplete	Phase 8
443	<10>	part of copper-alloy fitting with oval-shaped edge; W 10mm; two rivet holes	Phase 9

*Metal and small finds from HMRH04*

The piece of slag, from a prehistoric gravel layer, could be seen by a specialist. Otherwise, no further work is recommended on these metal finds, the majority of which may also be discarded.

## APPENDIX 10

### ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

Lisa Yeomans

#### INTRODUCTION

A very small faunal assemblage was recovered from the site; no bone was present in the prehistoric features having been destroyed by taphonomic processes.

#### PHASE 7

Bone was recovered from context ditch fill [48] but they were poorly preserved with the surface displaying a mottled white colour. Ten fragments of bone, all displaying modern breaks, could only be identified as part of a long bone shaft of a cattle/horse-sized mammal. Two pieces of burnt cattle/horse sized mammal bone were found in [514] and probably preserved by the carbonisation process.

#### PHASE 8

Three phase 8 contexts contained animal bone. In [516] a single sheep/goat femur fragment displayed a series of fine cut-marks on the posterior side of the proximal shaft. This differed from the bone in [169] in that the butchery was markedly different. In [169] a cattle/horse-sized mammal long bone shaft fragment had been sawn into segments; the context also contained a vertebral fragment of a sheep-sized displaying evidence of butchery using saws and one unidentifiable fragment. Context [320] also produced evidence for the use of saws in butchering cattle carcasses. An unfused distal tibia shaft was sawn through twice. One sawing cut was across the fusion plane and the other more proximally but still below the mid shaft in a lateral to medial direction. The dorsal part of spinous process from a thoracic vertebra was sawn off and the butcher had even attempted to halve the joint of meat by sawing down the centre of the spinous process. The only other bone in this context was an unfused distal epiphysis of tibia. Butchery using saws became common in the 18<sup>th</sup> century providing a late post-medieval date for two of the contexts.

#### SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The size of the assemblage is very limited and there is lack of bone from the prehistoric features; no further work is recommended.



## APPENDIX 11

### ARCHAEOBOTANICAL REMAINS ASSESSMENT

#### A. Vaughan-Williams

##### INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the findings arising out of the archaeobotanical assessment undertaken by *ArchaeoScape* at the former Ashbourne Hostel site, Mangrove Road, Hertford (Site code: HMRH '04). During recent excavations by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd., Late Bronze Age and Roman contexts were uncovered and bulk samples taken from ditches, gullies, pits, possible cremations and a beam slot (Boyer, 2004). The aim of this assessment was to establish the potential of the samples: (1) to provide suitable sub-fossil biological materials for dating the Late Bronze Age features; (2) to establish spatial variations in human activities across the site during the different phases of occupation, and (3) to provide information on the local environment during the phases of occupation.

##### METHODS

10 litre sub-samples were taken from the bulk samples and processed by flotation using 300 micron and 1mm mesh sieves by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. The dried residues were sorted 'by eye' to retrieve unfloted environmental archaeological evidence and artefacts. The flots were scanned using a low power stereo-zoom microscope. Identifications were made with use of the reference collection at Royal Holloway University London. Plant nomenclature follows Stace (1997). The results are summarised in Table 1.

##### RESULTS

###### *Phase 3 (Late Bronze Age I)*

Sample <26> was taken from ditch fill [601]. No archaeological or archaeobotanical evidence was preserved in the sample.

###### *Phase 4 (Late Bronze Age II)*

Four samples were taken from ditches dating to Phase 4. Context [262] contained only occasional struck flint. Contexts [278] and [577] presented occasional fragmented charcoal. Context [577] also presented a small quantity of hammerscale. Context [540] contained no charcoal but occasional waterlogged seeds: elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and birch (*Betula* sp.). Both are modern.

#### *Phase 5 (Late Bronze Age III)*

Context [220], taken from a beam slot, and ditch fill [471] both produced occasional fragmentary charcoal. The ditch fill also produced occasional hammerscale, struck flint and coke. Pit fill [450] produced occasional waterlogged seeds of goosefoot (*Chenopodiaceae* sp.) and birch. These are probably modern in date. Ditch fill [464] contained no archaeological or archaeobotanical evidence.

#### *Phase 6 (Late Bronze Age IV)*

Three cremations were sampled from this phase – contexts [260], [304] and [380]. All three contained charcoal. The charcoal in context [260] was fragmentary and unidentifiable. Contexts [304] and [38] contained one moderately sized piece of charcoal each. Ditch fill [411] and pit fill [496] contained occasional fragmentary charcoal. The pit fill also produced a charred seed of bramble (*Rubus* sp.). The assemblage of pit fill [542] produced no archaeobotanical remains.

#### *Phase 7 (Roman)*

Gully fill [514] and ditch fill [518] produced occasional fragmentary charcoal and occasional struck flint, coke and hammerscale. Occasional waterlogged seeds of the goosefoot family (*Chenopodiaceae* sp.) were also recovered from the ditch fill.

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The aim of this assessment was to establish the potential of the samples: (1) to provide suitable sub-fossil biological materials for dating the Late Bronze Age features; (2) to establish spatial variations in human activities across the site during the different phases of occupation, and (3) to provide information on the local environment during the phases of occupation. Unfortunately, due to the poor preservation and low concentration of archaeobotanical remains, it will not be possible to establish either the nature of human activities at the site, or the local environmental conditions. However, charcoal present in Phase 6 (Late Bronze Age IV), contexts (304) and (380), is suitable for identification, and may also be suitable for radiocarbon dating. The artefacts present in the Late Bronze Age and Roman features have provided evidence for industrial activities e.g. slag, coke and struck flint.

### REFERENCES

Boyer, P. 2004 'Land at the former Ashbourne Hostels Site, Mangrove Road, Hertford (HMRH 04): an excavation summary', PCA unpublished report.

Sample	Context	Sample / floated vol (l)	Flot vol (ml)	Feature	Phase	Charred items	W'logged items	Charcoal	Struck flint	Coke	Hammer scale
26	601	30/10	1	Ditch	3			-			
13	262	30/10	1	Ditch	4			-	0		
14	278	20/2	2	Ditch	4			O1			
24	540	30/10	1	Ditch	4		0	-			
25	577	30/10	1	Ditch	4			O1			0
10	220	30/10	1	Beam slot	5			O1			
17	471	20/20	2	Ditch	5			O1	0	0	0
18	450	30/10	1	Pit	5		0	-	0		
19	464	20/10	1	Ditch	5			-			
11	260	30/10	1	Crem	6			O1			
12	304	30/10	1	Crem	6			F3			
15	411	30/10	20	Ditch	6			O1			
16	380	5/5	1	Crem	6			O3			
20	496	30/10	1	Pit	6	0		O1			
23	542	10/10	1	Pit	6			-			
21	514	30/10	1	Gully	7			O1	0	0	0
22	518	15/10	1	Ditch	7		0	O1	0	0	0

Table 1: Ashbourne Hostels Site, Hertford – Archaeobotanical Assessment

Key:

- O(1) occasional (fragmented)
- F(2) frequent (moderate preservation)
- A(3) abundant (identifiable)

## APPENDIX 12

### OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

**OASIS ID: preconst1-7297**

#### Project details

Project name Mangrove Road, Hertford

Short description  
of the project

The site was located at the former Ashbourne Hostels complex, Mangrove Road, Hertford. Excavation revealed a concentration of archaeological features in the southeastern corner of the site. Most of these features were Late Bronze Age in date, though there may have been some continuity into the Early Iron Age. A number of rectangular post-built and trench-built structures were present and it appeared that the site lay at the edge of a Late Bronze Age settlement. One or two possible circular structures were also present. A series of ditches in the same area suggested that some type of water management had also been carried out at the settlement. Numerous pits were also present though the function of these was largely unclear. Close to the main concentration of features two heavily truncated features appeared to be the remains of contemporary cremation burials. Some distance to the west of the main feature concentrations a linear ditch appeared to be a boundary feature associated with contemporary field systems. After the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age no activity was detected until the Roman period, when a north-south aligned field system ditch was excavated across the area of the earlier settlement edge. Following the Roman period there was then another long period of apparent inactivity until the 18th to 19th centuries, when the site was heavily landscaped. Further truncations of earlier deposits continued through the 19th century and into the 20th century, culminating with the building of the Ashbourne Hostels complex.

Project dates Start: 15-11-2004 End: 14-01-2005

Previous/future  
work Yes / No

Any associated  
project reference  
codes HMRH04 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Current Land use Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed

Monument type AGGREGATE FIELD SYSTEM Late Bronze Age

Monument type AGGREGATE FIELD SYSTEM Roman

Monument type SETTLEMENT Late Bronze Age

Investigation type 'Open-area excavation'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

#### **Project location**

Country England

Site location HERTFORDSHIRE EAST HERTFORDSHIRE HERTFORD Former Ashbourne Hostels Site, Mangrove Road, Hertford

Study area 3000 Square metres

National grid reference TL 33130 12010 Point

#### **Project creators**

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator Duncan Hawkins

Project director/manager Peter Moore

Project supervisor Peter Boyer

Sponsor or funding body Fairview New Homes Ltd.

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Local museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Industrial','Metal','Worked stone/lithics','other','Animal Bones'
Physical Archive Exists?	Yes
Digital Archive recipient	Local museum
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Industrial','Metal','Stratigraphic','Survey','Worked stone/lithics','other'
Digital Media available	'Database','Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
Digital Archive Exists?	Yes
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Industrial','Metal','Stratigraphic','Survey','Worked stone/lithics','other'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Diary','Drawing','Manuscript','Map','Matrices','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey','Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive Exists?	Yes

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Assessment of an Archaeological Excavation at the Former Ashbourne Hostels Site, Mangrove Road, Hertford
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Boyer, P.

Date	2005
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	MAP 2 Assessment Report
Entered by	Peter Boyer (pboyer@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	11 March 2005