

LAND OFF HIGHAM ROAD BURTON LATIMER NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete a summary as possible within the terms of the method statement. All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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Key Terms

Throughout this report the following terms or abbreviations are used:

CAA	Council Archaeological Advisor
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
HER	Historic Environment Record



Non-Technical Summary

A planning application to Kettering Borough Council for residential development on land off Higham Road, Burton Latimer was granted on appeal by the Secretary of State (AN/2010/109602/01-L01). Previous non-intrusive evaluation work indicated that the site has considerable potential for the preservation of Iron Age and Roman archaeological remains. As a result, a condition was attached to the planning permission requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. The nature of the work required to fulfil the condition was set out in briefs issued by Northamptonshire County Council's County Archaeological Advisor (CAA). The first stage of that work comprised intrusive archaeological field evaluation in the form of trial trenching. This report presents the results of the work.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd, on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands), to undertake the trial trenching. It comprised the investigation of seventeen 50m-long trial trenches within the 8ha development area. The trench layout was designed to investigate geophysical anomalies and to test the apparently "blank" part of the site.

The trial trenching located numerous furrows in the eastern part of the development area, indicating the location of medieval open fields. A small number of undated or modern features were also identified. However, the most significant evidence comprised part of a Romano-British settlement.

The settlement was located in the western part of the development area (Trenches 10 – 17) and extended over c. 1.8ha. It comprised a polygonal ditched enclosure with peripheral activity to the north. Pottery suggests that it was occupied between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD, with no evidence for a late Iron Age precursor or continuity into the Saxon period. The enclosure was subdivided by a series of ditches. Many of the ditches had been redug, indicating continuity in layout over time. One possible roundhouse and a variety of possible stone walls/drains were identified.

The finds assemblage was relatively large for an evaluation. It comprised 6.7kg of pottery, the majority of which comprised locally made vessels with small quantities of regional and continental imports. It also included ceramic building material, metal objects (mainly late Roman copper alloy coins and iron objects), ferrous smithing slag (including a hearth bottom), smelting slag, animal bone and oyster shell.

Based on the animal bone and charred plant remains it seems likely that the occupants of the settlement were farmers. However, the presence of metallurgical debris suggests that iron-working was also undertaken within the settlement.

The discovery of a Romano-British farmstead within the western part of the development area is significant because, although such settlements are relatively common in the region, they 'are very unevenly distributed and poorly understood' (Cooper 2006, 143).



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

A planning application to Kettering Borough Council for residential development on land off Higham Road, Burton Latimer was granted on appeal by the Secretary of State (AN/2010/109602/01-L01).

A condition attached to the planning permission required the implementation of a scheme of archaeological investigation as a consequence of the development. A brief was issued by Northamptonshire County Council's County Archaeological Advisor (CAA), setting out the programme of work required to fulfil the condition (NCC 2010a). This will comprise three stages:

- Stage I: archaeological field evaluation of the site to locate, define and characterise any archaeological remains that exist.
- Stage II: appraisal of the results of the field evaluation and their significance with regard to the proposed development. This is likely to lead to a programme of pre-construction investigation and recording of archaeological remains which will be unavoidably destroyed by the development. Any such work will be secured by a further CAA brief.
- Stage III: implementation of the pre-construction archaeological investigation and recording.

The CAA also issued a brief for the Stage I archaeological field evaluation (NCC 2010b), which took the form of trial trenching.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

Burton Latimer lies on the east side of the River Ise, one of a small number of south-flowing tributaries of the River Nene that drain the boulder clay covered watershed between the Nene and the Welland. The site lies on the south-east fringes of the town (Figure 1). It is *c*.8ha in extent and is centred on NGR SP 9030 7450. It is bounded by Higham Road to the south and by White Lodge Farm to the east. The western boundary dog-legs around the Brooks Close development and then trends north, maintaining a buffer to the brook and the Harvest Close development to the west. The north-eastern boundary of the site is currently arable fields and the site itself has been under arable cultivation in recent years.

Topographically the site slopes gently down towards the brook from c. 75m OD in the south-east to c. 60m OD in the north-west. The geology of the area is complex and consists of bands of the lower estuarine series heading towards the brook with Northamptonshire ironstone forming the western boundary. The recent geophysical survey noted the presence in the ploughsoil of either Blisworth or Wellingborough Limestone and sandstone of the Stamford Member (ArchaeoPhysica 2010, 2). The northern part of the site contains a former opencast mine restored to agriculture (NCC 2010a).



1.3 Archaeological Background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted by a number of previous studies:

- Archaeological desk-based assessment (JSAC 2000)
- Geophysical survey (GSB 2000, ArchaeoPhysica 2010)

Together, these suggest that the western part of the site contains significant archaeological evidence. In particular, the 2010 geophysical survey has led to the identification of a complex of anomalies in the vicinity of the brook, indicating the presence of ditches, pits and possible masonry walls (Figure 2).

Within the site itself the HER records the discovery in 1954 of approximately 120 3rd-century AD coins, together with late Roman pottery, iron slag, animal bone and ceramic building material during the excavation of a silage pit. This material was almost certainly recovered from the area of geophysical anomalies. Complementary dating evidence is provided by a fieldwalking survey of the site undertaken in 2001 (CgMs 2010) where Roman pottery was found entirely within the area of the geophysical anomalies. It comprised a mixed assemblage of grey-wares, colour-coated wares and shelly wares dated to the 2nd–4th centuries AD.

With the exception of furrows, few geophysical anomalies are visible across the remainder of the site. The 2001 fieldwalking produced small quantities of medieval and post-medieval pottery, interpreted as a manuring scatter.

Approximately 1km to the north-east of the site a rectangular complex of smaller enclosures, pits and other features, dating from the 1st–4th centuries AD, was excavated in advance of construction of the Burton Wold Farm Farm (Edgeworth 2008). This probably represents a low status clayland farmstead.

1.4 Project Objectives

The project objectives were described in the Project Proposal (Albion 2010) and are, therefore, only summarised here.

Northamptonshire has benefitted from the results of English Heritage's National Mapping Programme (Deegan and Foard 2007, 81-135). The research context for Roman Northamptonshire is provided by Jeremy Taylor (Cooper ed. 2006, 137-159).

Within this research framework the specific aims of the trial trenching were to:

- establish the location, extent, nature and date of the archaeological features already identified at the site by non-intrusive evaluation;
- establish the integrity and state of preservation of the archaeological features at the site;
- recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- identify palaeo-environmental remains which could help to determine local environmental conditions.



1.5 Archiving

The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*. Details of the project and its findings have been submitted to the OASIS database (reference albionar1-91300) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.

The integrated project archive (including both artefacts/ecofacts and project documentation) will be prepared upon approval of this report. As the NCC brief notes, there is currently no archaeological archive depository able to accept material from this part of the county, although the issue is being actively addressed and it is hoped that suitable facilities will be available within 3-5 years.



2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

The methodological approach to the project was detailed in the Project Proposal (Albion 2010) and was approved by the CAA. It was designed to conform to the requirements of *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010) and the accompanying Practice Guide (DCLG/EH 2010). The archaeological investigation was conducted in accordance with appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines including:

•	IfA	Code of Conduct
		Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field
		Evaluation
•	Albion Archaeology	Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork (2nd edn,
		2001)
•	Archaeological	Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in
	Archive Forum	creation, compilation, transfer and curation (2007)
•	English Heritage	Management of Research Projects in the Historic
		Environment (2009)

2.2 Implementation

The archaeological investigation and recording were undertaken between 8th and 20th December 2010. A total of seventeen 50m-long trenches were opened (Figure 1). The trench layout was designed to investigate geophysical anomalies and to test the apparently "blank" parts of the site.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged 2.2m-wide ditching bucket, operated by an experienced driver, under close archaeological supervision. The overburden was removed down to the top of undisturbed geological or archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts. All deposits were recorded in a unique number sequence, using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

2.3 Monitoring

The CAA monitored the work on Wednesday 15th December. The following was agreed:

- Complete hand excavation and recording of the features in progress
- Dig a segment across the enclosure ditch in Trench 12
- Investigate the two 'spreads' in Trench 13 and 14
- Dig a segment across the possible curving ditch in Trench 14
- Take five ecofact samples discussed (and more if the extra segments contain deposits of environmental potential)
- No need to excavate the contingency trenches



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All archaeological features located in the trenches are shown on Figure 3 and detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in Appendix 1. The following section summarises the results, focusing on the Romano-British settlement in the western part of the development area. The medieval open fields and undated features are also briefly described. Note: numbers in brackets are used as follows [***] = feature number, (***) = fill number, {*} = geophysical anomaly.

3.2 The Romano-British Settlement

Trenches 10-17 in the western part of the development area identified the remains of a Romano-British settlement, as had been suggested by the geophysical survey (ArcheoPhysica 2010) and the Roman pottery and other finds from the site (CgMs 2010). The spatial distribution of features and finds suggests that the domestic core of the settlement was within a ditched enclosure, with peripheral activity extending to the north and east. The main components of the settlement are discussed below, with further detail available in the context appendix and finds reports.

3.2.1 The ditched enclosure (Figure 4)

The core of the Romano-British settlement appears to have been enclosed by a large ditch. This was identified as geophysical anomaly $\{9\}$ and was investigated within Trenches 11, 12 and 17. Its form and dimensions varied slightly between these trenches (see sections on Figure 4).

Within Trench 17 to the south of the development area, the ditch [1704] was in excess of 2m wide and 0.8m deep. No trace of re-cutting was evident and the single silty clay fill was homogeneous and sterile (confirmed by ecofact sample 2). No contemporary features were identified within 20m of the ditch and it may, therefore, be located away from the focus of domestic activity.

Further north, within Trench 12, the ditch was shallower, but contained more domestic debris. Ditch [1215] had been re-cut twice [1213 and 1211] and the combined width of the ditches was in excess of 3m. A total of 378g of pottery was recovered from ditch [1215] and its recuts. It also produced a fragment of roof tile, a fragment of flue tile and a copper alloy coin of Constantine. Ecofact sample 1 from recut [1211] contained small quantities of poorly preserved charred grain and weeds.

In the northernmost Trench 11, ditch [1103] was only 0.45m deep and 1.3m wide. No evidence of re-cutting was visible, but the ditch produced 205g of pottery, 21g of animal bone, 6.2g of ferrous slag, and an iron strip (RA3).

The trenching has confirmed that geophysical anomaly {9} is the settlement's main enclosure ditch. No obvious return for the enclosure was located to the west, suggesting that it may have been located beyond the limit of the development area. The greater quantity of finds from Trenches 11 and 12



suggests that they are closer to the settlement's core. The relative paucity of finds from Trenches 15 and 17 suggests that the enclosed area is not entirely given over to domestic activity.

3.2.2 Internal divisions (Figure 5)

The geophysical survey identified a number of linear geophysical anomalies {10}, {11}, {16}, etc within the settlement enclosure. The trial trenching identified a greater number — at least 12 ditches. These are likely to be broadly contemporary with the enclosure and may represent internal subdivisions. The majority were aligned NW-SE and were located in Trenches 11 and 14. Although many were aligned parallel to medieval furrows, they were interpreted as ditches because they were much more substantial, better defined and had much darker fills. They were 0.4–0.55m deep in Trench 11 and 0.3–0.8m deep in Trench 14.

Within Trench 13 it was evident that NE-SW enclosure sub-division ditches survived under a build-up of up to 1m of subsoil and colluvium that is likely to be partially the product of medieval ploughing. A similar situation was observed in Trench 10 to the north. This masking layer may account for the under-representation of smaller ditches identified by the geophysical survey.

Of particular note was ditch [1405] at the south-west end of Trench 14, corresponding to geophysical anomaly {11}. It was significantly deeper that the other internal sub-division ditches (see section on Figure 5) and the fill sequence may be indicative of possible re-cutting. This ditch also produced a relatively large quantity of finds: pottery (1.6kg), brick and roof tile (1.8kg), animal bone (2.3kg) and ferrous slag (171g). It is likely that this ditch represents a major sub-division of the settlement enclosure, or possibly an earlier phase of boundary ditch. The volume and unabraded nature of the finds suggest that the ditch lies close to the domestic core of settlement. No significant features were identified to the south-west of this ditch.

Ecofact sample 3 from ditch [1408] produced small quantities of poorly preserved charred grain and weeds. Trench 14 also contained ditch [1412] — the only curving ditch found during the evaluation. It may represent a roundhouse and is described in more detail below.

3.2.3 Possible structural elements (Figure 6)

Curving ditch [1412] had a projected diameter of c. 9m and, as such, could possibly represent a drainage ditch around a roundhouse. It was, however, somewhat larger than such features typically are (see section on Figure 5)

A possible structural element was also represented in the trenches in the form of possible stone wall foundations and a stone-lined drain. Both types of features were aligned NE-SW and were constructed from rough-hewn fragments of limestone that are likely to have been locally derived; limestone bedrock was identified in Trenches 6 and 7.

The foundations were present in Trenches 10, 12 and 13 and recorded as [1005], [1203] and [1305] respectively. Possible wall foundations [1005] and [1305] in



Trenches 10 and 13 both comprised roughly coursed, tightly packed limestone fragments. They were 0.35–0.55m wide and over 0.25m deep (see photos on Figures 6 and 8). Although 93m apart, their similarities and alignment suggest they could be part of the same wall. This and the absence of a parallel wall suggest they may represent a boundary wall rather than buildings. Partial excavation of foundation [1305] produced 0.2kg of pottery, 45g of animal bone, 0.5kg of ferrous slag, two copper alloy coins, an iron sheet fragment, an iron strip and 0.42g of roof tile.

The stone foundation in Trench 12 consisted of a wide trench [1203] that contained an uncoursed assortment of limestone fragments (see section on Figure 6). As such, it may represent a partially robbed foundation or a stone-filled drain. No finds were recovered. It is likely this feature may, in part, be responsible for the high magnetic readings in the vicinity of geophysical anomaly {16}, although the extent of the foundation cannot be ascertained.

Drain (1315) was identified within foundation cut [1312], at the eastern end of Trench 13. Although partly disturbed, the drain appeared to be carefully constructed of two parallel rows of upright limestone fragments set on edge, capped by a larger, horizontal fragment (see photo and section on Figure 6). The drain was approximately 0.4m wide and in excess of 0.2m deep, set into the base of the 0.8m wide construction cut. The feature was only partially excavated to preserve its integrity, but it produced 0.9kg of pottery, 175g of animal bone; 201g of roof tile and an iron nail or staple. Ecofact sample 4 taken from the infilled drain void produced very small quantities of poorly preserved charred grain and weeds. The drain corresponds with the masonry-type geophysical anomaly {19}, {21}.

3.2.4 Other internal activity (Figure 7)

A total of six possible pits and seven post holes were identified within the ditched enclosure. All were sub-circular and relatively small, generally less than 0.25m deep (see sections on Figure 7). They only produced small quantities of artefacts: two post holes in Trench 11 produced a total of 7g of pottery; a small pit in Trench 12 produced 10g of pottery and an iron nail; whilst an isolated pit in Trench 16 produced 2g of pottery and 17g of animal bone. No meaningful pattern could be discerned in the distribution of these features.

The apparent absence of large pits or hearth-type features in the trenches may not be real as the geophysical survey identified a number of possible examples.

3.2.5 Activity outside the enclosure

Evidence was recovered for activity outside the settlement enclosure. To the east two ephemeral ditches/gulleys were identified in Trench 12 (Figure 7), but both were sterile.

More evidence for activity was located to the north of the enclosure, in the form of five ditches, *e.g.* [1009], and a NE-SW aligned wall [1004] (Figure 8). Significantly, wall [1005] truncated ditch [1009] indicating that they are not contemporary and demonstrating a sequence of development within the settlement. None of the features in Trench 10 produced finds and they lacked



any evidence of domestic debris (as indicated by the absence of charred remains in ecofact sample 5).

The majority of these peripheral features are likely to be associated with agricultural activity, such as field boundaries, although the lack of re-cutting in the northern boundary ditch [1103], and the presence of the wall foundation [1005] within Trench 10 could suggest settlement expansion, northwards, beyond the enclosure ditch.

3.3 Medieval Open Fields

Traces of medieval furrows were identified in the majority of the trenches. They were generally c. 1.8m wide and less than 0.2m deep with irregular profiles. Their distribution largely matches that revealed by the geophysical survey — anomalies {4} and {5} on a 6–8m spacing. The furrows were largely absent from the westernmost trenches. They may have ended in a headland that broadly corresponds with geophysical anomaly {6}. The build-up of soils into the headland, colluvial action, and subsequent modern ploughing has produced an artificial terrace, c.30m wide, parallel to the river. This was transected by Trenches 10 and 13 which revealed up to 1m of overburden. Enhanced preservation of archaeological features is possible beneath this build-up.

3.4 Undated and Modern Activity

To the east of the settlement two undated ditches were identified in Trenches 8 and 7 (Figure 3). They were relatively shallow and contained similar fills to the furrows but were on different alignments. Ditch terminal [803] was aligned NE-SW and may correspond to [704] in Trench 7. This in part corresponds to linear geophysical anomaly {1} which was interpreted as a service trench.

Ditch [805] was recorded in Trench 3 as ditch [302]. Although not visible on the geophysical survey and not shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map, it is likely that these ditches relate to late post-medieval enclosures, as they are parallel to the surviving modern field boundaries.

The largest feature [1111] within Trench 11 is at least, in part, an area of modern disturbance. It was approximately 4m wide and ditch-like in plan. However, on hand excavation it was only 0.2m deep. It produced 55g of Romano-British pottery, 23g of roof tile and three copper alloy coins. Significantly it contained a cast iron service pipe, a length of angle-iron (possible a fence post) and the remains of aluminium foil wrappers. The feature appears to have been excavated mechanically as the imprint of machine-bucket teeth were visible in the base. It is likely that iron items within this trench produced some of the strong magnetic geophysical anomalies $\{19-21\}$ that were interpreted as denoting the presence of a brick- or tile-built structure in this area. Although there is no obvious interpretation for this feature, it is possible it was created at the time of the discovery of the coin hoard in 1954.

To the south of the development area geophysical anomaly {3}, investigated within Trench 1, proved to be a cast iron service pipe.



3.5 Artefacts

3.5.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a sizeable finds assemblage comprising mainly pottery, ceramic building material and animal bone. Fourteen metal objects, and small quantities of ferrous slag, fired clay, oyster shell and modified flint were also recovered (Table 1). All datable artefacts are of Roman origin, mainly of the 2nd to early 4th century.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Context	Finds Summary	
8	800	Topsoil	800	Ferrous slag (144g)	
11	1103	Ditch	1104	Pottery (205g); animal bone (21g); ferrous slag (6g);	
				iron strip	
	1105	Ditch	1106	Pottery (500g); animal bone (180g); roof tile (193g)	
	1109	Post hole	1110	Pottery (6g)	
	1111	Modern	1112	Pottery (55g); roof tile (23g); copper alloy coin x3	
		disturbance			
	1113	Ditch	1114	Pottery (132g); animal bone (869g)	
	1117	Post hole	1118	Pottery (1g)	
12	1211	Ditch	1212	Pottery (207g); animal bone (343g); roof tile (257g);	
				hammerscale (<1g); copper alloy coin	
	1213	Ditch	1214	Pottery (65g); animal bone (103g); fired clay (18g)	
	1215	Ditch	1216	Pottery (106g)	
	1217	Pit	1218	Pottery (10g); iron nail x1	
13	1301	Subsoil	1301	Pottery (49g); animal bone (42g)	
	1303	Ditch	1304	Pottery (591g); animal bone (1,707g); shell (28g); iron	
				sheet	
	1305	Foundation	1306	Pottery (184g); animal bone (45g); ferrous slag (481g);	
		trench		shell (8g); copper alloy coin; iron sheet; iron strip	
			1307	5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	
				coin	
	1308	Ditch	1309	Pottery (542g); animal bone (113g); brick and roof tile	
	1210	D'. I	1211	(318g); iron nail x1	
	1310	Ditch	1311	Pottery (5g); animal bone (4g)	
	1312	Foundation	1313	Pottery (936g); animal bone (175g); roof tile (201g);	
	1216	trench	1217	hammerscale (<1g); iron nail or staple	
	1316	Ditch	1317	Pottery (270g); animal bone (119g); roof tile (237g)	
14	1403	Ditch	1404	Pottery (649g); animal bone (193g); iron strip	
	1405	Ditch	1406	Pottery (1,325g); animal bone (1,926g); brick & roof	
			1407	tile (1,676g); shell (24g); burnt flint (37g)	
			1407	Pottery (300g); animal bone (396g); ferrous slag	
	1408	Ditch	1409	(171g); roof tile (100g) Pottery (459g); animal bone (350g); roof tile (354g);	
	1406	Ditti	1409	hammerscale (<1g)	
	1408	Ditch	1410	Pottery (52g); animal bone (87g); shell (18g); roof tile	
	1700	Divii	1710	(256g)	
	1412	Ditch	1413	Pottery (25g); animal bone (517g); shell (30g)	
15	1503	Ditch	1504	Fired clay (14g)	
16	1604	Pit	1605	Pottery (2g); animal bone (17g)	
17	1704	Ditch	1703	Animal bone (290g); hammerscale (<1g)	

Table 1: Artefact summary by trench and feature

3.5.2 Pottery

A total of 321 pottery sherds, weighing 6.7kg were recovered. These were examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. The pottery survives in fair condition, with moderate surface abrasion, and has an average sherd weight of 21g. In the absence of a standardised Roman type series for Northamptonshire, 29 fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series,



currently maintained by Albion Archaeology (Table 2). Where relevant, reference has been made to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (NRFRC; Tomber and Dore 1998). No pre- or post-Roman pottery was recovered. The assemblage compares well with that recovered from nearby Burton Wold wind farm (Webster 2008, 38-39).

Fabric type (NRFRC)	Common name	Sherd No.	Context/Sherd No.
R01	Samian ware	9	(1104):1, (1106):1, (1304):3, (1306):1, (1313):2, (1406):1
R02	Mica-gilded ware	1	(1406):1
R03A (VER WH)	Verulamium region white ware	1	(1407):1
R03E	Fine white ware	2	(1406):2
R05A	Orange sandy ware	3	(1304):2, (1313):1
R05B	Fine orange ware	1	(1304):1
R05C	Orange micaceous	1	(1406):1
R06A	Nene Valley grey ware	45	(1104):7, (1106):1, (1112):1, (1114):4, (1218):2, (1301):5, (1304):2, (1306):1, (1309):1, (1311):1, (1313):6, (1317):1, (1404):1, (1406):8, (1407):2, (1409):1, (1410):1
R06B	Coarse grey ware	8	(1104):6, (1304):1, (1307):1
R06C	Fine grey ware	42	(1110):2, (1112):1, (1114):1, (1214):1, (1304):2, (1306):3, (1309):2, (1313):9, (1317):2, (1404):4, (1406):5, (1407):6, (1409):1, (1410):2, (1605):1
R06D	Micaceous grey ware	36	(1104):1, (1106):1, (1112):1, (1114):1, (1212):3, (1304):3, (1306):6, (1313):5, (1404):1, (1406):10, (1407):2, (1409):2
R06E	Calcareous grey ware	1	(1406):1
R06H	White-slipped grey ware	3	(1106):3
R07B	Sandy black ware	4	(1104):1, (1301):1, (1313):1, (1407):1
R07C	Gritty black ware	5	(1104):1, (1106):3, (1114):1
R09A (PNK GT)	Pink-grogged ware	1	(1313):1
R11	Oxfordshire oxidised ware	2	(1406):2
R11D (OXF RS)	Oxfordshire colour- coated ware	6	(1216):1, (1304):1, (1406):4
R12A (LNV WH)	Nene Valley mortaria	1	(1309):1
R12B (LNV CC)	Nene Valley colour- coarsed ware	31	(1104):2, (1212):2, (1214):2, (1216):2, (1304):2, (1306):3, (1307):2, (1313):4, (1317):2, (1404):1, (1406):7, (1410):1, (1413):1
R13	Shelly ware	98	(1104):4, (1106):9, (1114):3, (1212):2, (1214):3, (1216):2, (1304):8, (1306):2, (1307):1, (1309):4, (1313):12, (1317):1, (1404):12, (1406):19, (1407):7, (1409):8, (1410):1
R14	Red-brown harsh sandy ware	1	(1406):1
R17	Smooth orange sandy ware	2	(1309):2
R21	Unsourced mortaria	3	(1212):1, (1304):1, (1317):1
R28	Gritty calcareous ware	1	(1406):1
R31	Lumpy white ware	9	(1313):1, (1404):3, (1406):4; (1407):1
R35	Roman grog-tempered ware	2	(1407):1
R35A	Roman grog-tempered ware and mica	1	(1406):1
R38	Unsourced colour- coated ware	1	(1118):1

Table 2: Pottery type series



The largest pottery group derived from the fills of ditch [1405], which yielded 1.6kg. Within this deposit, a number of vessels are represented by more than single sherds and several full vessel profiles are reconstructable, suggesting the pottery has not moved far from its place of original use. All other pottery deposits weighed less than 1kg, with the smallest, from post hole [1117], weighing only 1g.

The assemblage is primarily local in character, and is dominated by vessels in reduced sand-tempered coarse wares which constitute 43% of the pottery (by weight). Shell-tempered wares total 30% of the assemblage, and are within the general South Midlands tradition of shelly pottery, for which a local source is implied. A small quantity of Roman grogged ware, used mainly for larger storage-type vessels also occurs. Other vessel forms are jars of varying sizes, including chunky roll rim jars, supplemented by bowls and dishes, some of the latter with burnished motifs. A number of the jars are sooted, indicating use as cooking pots. Most appear to fall within a 2nd to 3rd-century date range. A single sherd of a 2nd-century mica-gilded dish is likely to derive from the lower Nene region.

Mortarium fragments are single examples from the Nene Valley, Oxfordshire and the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns. No other 'specialised' pottery forms are represented.

Fine ware imports comprise nine undiagnostic samian sherds, of probable central Gaulish origin. All are abraded and one rouletted footring has evidence for repair. Regional imports are eight late Roman colour-coated sherds from Oxfordshire, including a rouletted bowl, and three sherds likely to derive from Hadham, Hertfordshire. Nene Valley colour-coated wares total 10% of the assemblage; a range of forms is represented, including flanged bowls, folded beakers, everted rim jars, and plain rim dishes. Two of the latter are painted.

3.5.3 Ceramic building material

Thirty-three brick and tile fragments weighing 3.6kg were recovered, the majority deriving from the fills of ditch [1405]. Twenty-four shell-tempered examples are mainly flanged roof tiles (*tegulae*), with curved roof tiles (*imbrices*), combed flue tiles and brick fragments being less well represented. Shelly tile fabric is similar to the shelly pottery, and at least some examples may derive from the same source. Nine pieces of sand-tempered building material also occur. Fragments are fairly sizeable, with an average weight of 111g, and generally unabraded. The *tegulae* range in thickness from 13–22mm, *imbrices* from 16–22mm and brick fragments from 30–70mm.

Two sand-tempered, amorphous fired clay fragments (32g) derived from ditches [1213] and [1503].

3.5.4 Other finds

Registered artefacts comprise six copper alloy objects (including five late Roman coins), and six iron items. They derive mainly from the fills of foundation trench [1305] and modern disturbance [1111] (Table 3). Two incomplete flat-headed iron timber nails of Manning type 1B (1985, 134-137),



derived from pit [1217] and ditch [1308]. The sorted residues of environmental samples taken from ditches [1211], [1408], [1704] and foundation trench [1313] yielded approximately 2g of flake and spheroidal hammerscale. Ferrous smithing slag, including part of a hearth bottom, and dense smelting slag (total weight 802g) were recovered from ditches [1103], [1405], topsoil (800) and foundation trench [1305]. The latter yielded a damaged secondary flint flake (14g) and the fill of ditch [1405] an unmodified burnt flint nodule (37g).

Registered	Description	Context
Artefact		
1	Copper alloy coin; ?AE4 House of Valentinian	1307
2	Copper alloy coin; ?Radiate; PAX reverse	1112
3	Tapering iron strip fragment	1104
4	Copper alloy coin with silver wash; ?Radiate	1114
5	Copper alloy coin; ?Radiate; PAX reverse	1112
6	Tapering iron strip fragment (?knife blade)	1404
7	Iron staple or nail fragment	1313
8	Copper alloy coin; AE4 House of Constantine. Rev. Gloria exercitys - 2	1212
	standards	
9	Tapering iron strip fragment	1306
10	Iron sheet fragments	1306
11	Copper alloy ?stud fragment	1306
12	Iron sheet or strap fragment	1304

Table 3: Registered Artefacts



3.6 Ecofacts

3.6.1 Faunal remains

The faunal assemblage comprises 352 fragments weighing 7.4kg, the majority deriving from the fills of ditches [1405] and [1303], which respectively yielded 2.3kg and 1.7kg. All other bone deposits weighed less than 1kg, with the smallest weighing only 4g. Bone preservation is good, with little surface erosion, although the fragmented nature of the assemblage is reflected in an average bone weight of 21g. Diagnostic species are cattle and sheep, probably adult, represented by long bone, rib, vertebra, scapula, pelvis, phalanx, mandible, tooth and horn core fragments. No butchery marks were observed. Seven oyster shell fragments (108g) derived from ditches in Trenches 13 and 14.

3.6.2 Ecofact samples

Five bulk soil samples were collected for the potential recovery of environmental evidence (Table 4).

Γ	Sample	Context	Feature	Reason for	Quantity sampled
	no.	no.		sampling	(ltrs)
	1	1212	Enclosure ditch recut 1211	CPR	20
	2	1703	Enclosure ditch 1704	Control	20
	3	1409	Sub-division ditch 1408	CPR	20
	4	1314	Drain 1315	Control	20
	5	1008	Ditch 1009 to north	Control	20

Note. CPR= charred wood or plant remains visible, control= no visible environmental potential

Table 4: Ecofact samples

The samples were taken where charred material was visible and as controls. They were taken from two enclosure ditch fills (1212) and (1409), and a possible drain fill (1314), located within the enclosure, and two other ditch fills (1008) and (1703) on the periphery of the settlement. All samples were processed by a combination of flotation onto a 0.3mm sieve and wet-sieving of the residue through a 1mm mesh. Both the flots and residues were dried and the latter sorted for biological remains and artefacts. The flots were examined using a binocular microscope with a magnification of up to x40.

Three of the samples produced small amounts of identifiable but generally poorly preserved charred plant remains with the results shown in Table 5. There were a few cereal grains of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) and a tentative identification of hulled barley (cf. *Hordeum vulgare*). This evidence, albeit limited, agrees with previous archaeobotanical research which indicates that spelt wheat and hulled barley were the main cereals cultivated during the Roman period (Greig 1991, 309); it was not possible, however, to establish the hulled wheat species from these samples because of the absence of diagnostic chaff fragments. These grains may have been accidentally burnt during the final stages of crop-processing (de-husking of the hulled wheats) and food preparation.

A small number of weed seeds were also identified in the samples, from *Rumex* spp. (docks), *Medicago/Trifolium* spp. (medicks/clover), *Sherardia arvensis* (field madder), which grows in light calcareous loams, *Carex* sp. (sedge) and Poaceae (indeterminate grasses). These seeds are probably the residues of arable



weeds separated by sieving from the grain and used as fuel, suggesting cropcleaning activities close-by.

The small charred plant assemblages in the ditch /drain fills (1212), (1409) (1314) may be indicative of small scale crop-processing/food preparation activities taking place nearby, with the burnt remains then being deposited in these features along with other settlement-type debris (charcoal, animal bone, pottery, burnt clay, slag/hammerscale). The absence of charred botanical material and little other debris from the fills (1008) and (1703) of two peripheral ditches suggests that little activity was taking place in the vicinity of these features.

	Sample number	1	3	4
	Context number	1212	1409	1314
	vol flot (ml)	5	3	2
Cereal grains				
Triticum dicoccum/spelta	emmer/spelt wheat	2	1	
Triticum sp.	wheat	1	1	
cf. Hordeum vulgare L.	?hulled barley	1		
Cerealia	indet. cereal	2	1	
Cerealia	indet cereal fragments <2mm	++	+	+
Other plant/weed seeds				
Rumex spp.	dock		18	3
Medicago/Trifolium spp.	medicks/clovers	1	1	
Sherardia arvensis L.	field madder		1	
Carex sp.	sedge	1		
Euphrasia/Odontites sp.	eyebright/bartsia			1
Poaceae indet.	grasses (small seeds)		1	
Poaceae indet.	grasses (large seeds)	2		
indeterminate	seeds	+	+	
indeterminate	wood charcoal	++	++	++
Total		10	24	4

Key: + = 1=10 items; ++ = 11-50 items

Table 5: Summary of charred plant remains from ecofact samples

The paucity and low density of botanical material in the samples does not allow any detailed examination of human activities at the site or comments on the character of the settlement. The presence of charred remains does, however, show that human activities were taking place close-by and if the site is subject to open area excavation further sampling may enhance and clarify understanding of the nature of these activities and possibly the agricultural basis (if any) of the settlement.



4. DISCUSSION

4.1 The Romano-British Settlement

The evaluation located a Romano-British settlement within the western part of the development area. It extended over c. 1.8ha and comprised a polygonal ditched enclosure with peripheral activity to the north (Figure 9). Pottery suggests that it was occupied between the 2nd and 4th centuries, with no evidence for a late Iron Age precursor or continuity into the Saxon period. The ditched enclosure is somewhat unusual in that it is polygonal rather than rectilinear, as is the norm for this region (Taylor 2006), e.g. the settlement at nearby Burton Wold Farm (Edgeworth 2008). The reason for this is uncertain but may reflect the location of the settlement on a slightly flatter part of the valley side. The recutting of a number of ditches indicates continuity in layout, with the same boundaries being re-established again and again.

The interior of the ditched enclosure appears to have been sub-divided by a series of ditches. It contained areas of dense features and others that appeared devoid of activity. However, even where the density of features appeared very low, *e.g.* Trench 16, the density and quantity of domestic debris in adjacent Trench 14, only *c.* 3m away, suggests the "blank" evidence may be misleading.

As at Burton Wold Farm (Edgewoth 2008) no buildings were positively identified. The curving ditch in Trench 14 is a candidate for a roundhouse and such buildings are known to remain in use during the Roman period in this region (Taylor 2006, 146). In fact, Hingley believes that roundhouses may have been very common throughout lowland Britain during the 1st and 2nd centuries and that at some sites they may have continued to be built into the 3rd and 4th centuries (1989, 31). Several possible stone walls were identified. They were narrower than those at Higham Ferrers e.g. those part of Building 10810 (Lawrence and Smith 2009, 125-6) and the absence of parallel walls suggest that those at Burton Latimer were not part of buildings. The walls in Trenches 10 and 13 may represent a major boundary wall on the west side of the settlement where no enclosure ditch was clearly identified.

Although a stone-lined drain was identified similar to those within structure 13030 at Higham Ferrers (Lawrence and Smith 2009, 105), indicating a degree of sophistication in building techniques. However, insufficient brick and tile were recovered to suggest the presence of substantial buildings in anything other than timber. Generally speaking, the Roman period in this region saw a change in building architecture from circular to rectilinear plan, and from timber construction to the increasing use of stone. However, these developments were gradual and there were some geographic variations (Taylor 2006, 146). It is, therefore, possible that the apparent absence of rectangular or stone buildings at Burton Latimer may be a result of its location within the Ise valley away from the more densely settled Nene valley.

Only a relatively small number of pits and post holes were identified. However, it is possible that large pits and hearths could be present especially under the subsoil/colluvial build up to the west.



The finds assemblage was relatively large, given that it was derived from an evaluation. It comprised mainly pottery (6.7kg), ceramic building material (3.6kg) and animal bone. The pottery assemblage comprises mainly locally made vessels with small quantities of regional and continental imports. It compares well with that recovered from nearby Burton Wold Farm (Webster 2008, 38-39). In addition, smaller quantities of metal objects (late Roman copper alloy coins and iron nails and strips/sheets), ferrous smithing slag (including a hearth bottom), smelting slag and oyster shell were recovered.

It is likely that the occupants of the settlement were farmers. The relative importance of animal husbandry as opposed to arable farming is impossible to determine on the basis of the evaluation evidence. All that can be said is that both the faunal remains (dominated by cattle and sheep) and cereal remains (dominated by spelt wheat and hulled barley) are typical of the region. However, the presence of cereal remains may be significant because the nearby Burton Wold Farm settlement produced no such evidence. This led the excavator to suggest that the settlement may have been more focussed on animal husbandry and to suggest that the Boulder Clays may have been more suited to animal grazing than arable farming (Edgeworth 2008, 41). The evidence from Burton Latimer is very limited but may point to economic variations between different nearby farming communities.

The presence of slag and hammer-scale indicates that smithing and smelting were undertaken by the occupants of the settlement. Taylor noted that although iron working was common on sites in the region, its development and extent were poorly understood (Taylor 2006, 152). It is possible that the number of miscellaneous fragments of strips/sheets could represent scrap metal collected for reworking. A similar interpretation was put forward for a comparable group of iron objects, albeit in much greater numbers, found in pits at Kempston Church End, Bedfordshire (Dawson 2004, 54). It is interesting that all the metallurgical debris was recovered from the ditched enclosure rather than on its periphery; Hingley has noted smithing areas 'were often situated in the periphery of enclosed sites' (1997, 12) for which Henderson suggested both practical and symbolic reasons (1992, 114). The actual scale of iron working at the settlement is not easily deduced from the quantity of metallurgical residues recovered. The occurrence of iron working within the agricultural landscape of Northamptonshire is well attested by the presence of debris on other sites, e.g. Harringworth (Jackson 1981) and Wakerley (Jackson and Ambrose 1978). It is, however, interesting that the nearest contemporary site at Burton Wold Farm produced no such evidence. This may suggest that specific farmsteads in a locality may have specialised in iron working, while others specialised in other craft activities, such as pottery manufacture.

Brief mention should be made of the 3rd-century coin hoard discovered in 1954, partly because its possible findspot was located within Trench 11 together with three more coins. Coin hoards of this date are quite common with over 250 known in Britain. As with the Burton Latimer hoard, few are found within archaeological investigations. A recent exception was Childerley Gate, Cambridgeshire where a hoard was found in a pit on an otherwise 'typical'



farmstead (Abrams and Ingham 2008, 91 and 96). In general, the composition and provenance of hoards can be extremely varied, suggesting that their burial and loss can be the result of different factors (Abrams and Ingham 2008, 91). However, it is clear that the presence of a hoard does not *per se* indicate that a site is of higher status or religious in nature.

4.2 The Wider Landscape

The aerial photographic evidence for the Iron Age and Roman landscape is still highly fragmented especially on the Northamptonshire clays. The Burton Latimer site was not first discovered due to cropmarks but by the chance discovery of a coin hoard. It is becoming increasingly clear that the county was intensively occupied — characterised by large-scale agricultural landscapes, in some cases associated with pottery and iron production. In places, neighbouring sites, as at Burton Latimer, were no more that 1km or 2km apart, although not all were necessarily in use at the same time.

Associated with this agricultural landscape was an extensive network of roads and trackways, villas and the development of many local market and religious centres. It has been suggested that one of these roads ran northwards from Irchester on the Nene, along the east bank of the Ise near Burton Latimer and on towards the possible Roman small town located on the northern edge of Kettering (Taylor 2002, 6; Lawrence and Smith 2009, fig. 7.8). Similarly, the known and potential villas are densely concentrated along the River Nene and the valleys of minor tributaries, like the Ise. Although the Burton Latimer site appears to represent a low status farmstead at least one such high status site is known from the Ise valley — the Rushton Roman villa, *c*. 2km to the north-west of Kettering (Edwards *et al.* 2002, 277–278).



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6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90425/74265

OS Grid Ref.: SP90445/74219

Reason: To investigate a service pipe located by geophysics.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds	Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	~	
101	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown clay silt 0.2m thick.	✓	
102	Natural	Firm light brown yellow clay silt occasional small stones Plus occasional patches of clay.		
103	Furrows	Linear dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.1m, min length 2.2m Mattock testing revealed a maximum depth of 0.1m.	\checkmark	
104	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty clay	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.35 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90385/74275

OS Grid Ref.: SP90433/74289

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pi	resent:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	V	
201	Natural	Firm mid yellow clay silt		
202	Furrows	Linear dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.1m, min length 2.2m Mattock testing suggests a maximum depth of 0.1m.	V	
203	Fill	Friable mid orange yellow silty clay	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.35 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90455/74359

OS Grid Ref.: SP90454/74309

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick	✓	
301	Natural	Firm mid yellow orange silty clay		
302	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.4m, min length 2.2m Continuation of ditch [805] within Trenc. 8.	✓	
303	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones Slightly greyer than adjacent furrows [304].	✓	
304	Furrows	Linear dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.2m, min length 2.2m Mattock testing suggests a maximum depth of 0.2m.	✓	
305	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty clay	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90457/74386

OS Grid Ref.: SP90507/74386

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Find	ds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	V	
401	Subsoil	Friable light brown yellow clay silt occasional small stones 0.1m thick -only visible in W part of trench.	y 🔽	
402	Natural	Firm light yellow clay silt moderate small stones		



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90456/74480

OS Grid Ref.: SP90456/74430

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds l	Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
501	Natural	Firm light grey brown clay silt occasional large stones		
502	Furrows	Linear dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, max depth 0.15m, min length 2.2m	✓	
503	Fill	Friable light orange brown silty clay	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90478/74497

OS Grid Ref.: SP90524/74516

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Pro	esent:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt moderate flecks stones	✓	
601	Natural	Firm light orange yellow clay silt frequent small stones		
602	Furrows	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth 0.15m, min length 2.2m	✓	
603	Fill	Friable mid orange clay silt	~	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.3 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90506/74423

OS Grid Ref.: SP90534/74465

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	✓	
701	Natural	Firm light yellow brown clay silt frequent small-medium stones		
702	Furrow	Linear dimensions: max breadth 2.m, max depth 0.1m, min length 2.2m Mattock testing revealed a maximum depth of 0.1m.	✓	
703	Fill	Friable mid orange yellow silty silt	\checkmark	
704	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.8r max depth 0.4m On same alignment as ditch terminal [803]	m, 🗸	
705	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90432/74399

OS Grid Ref.: SP90429/74350

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	✓	✓
801	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow grey clay silt 0.1m thick.	✓	
802	Natural	Firm light orange brown silty clay With occasional grey clay patches.		
803	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.m, madepth 0.4m, min length 2.m Ditch teminated to the SW.	ax 🗸	
804	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional large stones	✓	
805	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, ma depth 0.3m, min length 2.2m Slightly irregular in plan.	x 🗸	
806	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay	✓	
807	Furrows	Linear E-W sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 2.3m, max depth 0.1m, min length 2.2m Mattock testing revealed a maximum dept of 0.1m.	✓	
808	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty clay	\checkmark	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90423/74186

OS Grid Ref.: SP90472/74199

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present:
900	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	
901	Natural	Friable light brown yellow clay silt occasional small stones	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 1. m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90377/74525

OS Grid Ref.: SP90419/74498

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	✓	
1001	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt 0.2-0.7m thick. Probably contains a colluvial component.	✓	
1002	Natural	Firm light yellow brown clay silt moderate flecks manganese staining		
1005	Foundation trench	Linear NE-SW sides: steep dimensions: max breadth 0.34m, min length 2.2m Foundation cut for wall 1004. Not fully excavated. Cuts ditch [1009].	✓	
1003	Fill	Friable mid brown clay silt	✓	
1004	Wall	Firm light brown grey limestone frequent large stones Roughly hewn limestone blocks in irregular courses.	✓	
1009	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.41m, min length 2.2m Only side of ditch within trench. Cut by foundation [1005].	✓	
1006	Upper fill	Friable mid orange brown silty clay 0.11m thick.	✓	
1007	Main fill	Friable mid blue grey silty clay 0.12m thick.	✓	
1008	Lower fill	Friable mid yellow brown silty clay 0.22m thick.	✓	
1011	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.9m max depth 0.3m, min length 2.2m Cuts ditch [1015].	n, 🗸	
1010	Fill	Friable light blue white sandy clay	✓	
1015	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.39m, min length 2.2m Cut by ditch [1011].	✓	
1012	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks manganese staining 0.19m thic	ck.	
1013	Main fill	Firm mid grey grey sandy clay 0.1m thick	✓	
1014	Lower fill	Firm mid blue grey silty clay 0.15m thick.	✓	
1016	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 1.9m, min length 2.1m		
1017	Fill	Light yellow white clay silt		
1018	Fill	Light yellow brown clay silt		
1019	Natural interface	Linear NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 1.35m, min length 2.1m	✓	
1020	Fill	Mid orange brown clay silt	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.8 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90353/74441

OS Grid Ref.: SP90384/74479

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	✓	
1101	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt Ranges from 0.3m thick to the SW to 0.7m thick to the NE.	✓	
1102	Natural	Firm light brown orange clay silt occasional small stones		
1103	Ditch	Curving linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.3m, max depth 0.45m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1104	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small-mediu stones	m 🗸	✓
1105	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.2r max depth 0.39m, min length 2.2m	n,	
1106	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small-mediu stones	m 🗸	✓
1107	Posthole	Sub-square sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.09m, max diameter 0.42m Very shallow tentative posthole cut.	✓	
1108	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	
1109	Posthole	Oval NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.3m, max depth 0.06m, max length 0.7m Tentative posthole.	✓	
1110	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	✓
1111	Modern disturbance	Linear NW-SE sides: steep base: flat dimensions: max breadth 4.m, max depth 0.2m, min length 2.2m Area of modern disturbance containing a 80m diameter cast iron pipe and discarded angle-iron fence post(?). Machine bucket tooth marks visible along base.	nm	
1112	Backfill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones Contained aluminium foil visible in vicinity of iron pipe and a length of angle-iron.	✓	✓
1113	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.7m, max depth 0.55m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1114	Fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	✓	✓
1115	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 2.m, min length 2.2m		
1116	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay		
1117	Posthole	Circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.15m, max diameter 0.6m	✓	
1118	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay	✓	✓
1119	Treethrow	Irregular sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: min depth 0.1m, min diameter 2.2m General number given to an area of root disturbed natural.	✓	
1120	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay	✓	
1121	Treethrow	Sub-oval sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.2m, max diameter 1.5m	✓	
1122	Fill	Friable light grey brown silty clay Slightly mottled with manganese flecks.	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90378/74447

OS Grid Ref.: SP90420/74419

Context:	Type:	Description: Ex	cavated: Finds	Present:
1200	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
1201	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt 0.1 to 0.3m thick.	✓	
1202	Natural	Firm light yellow brown clay silt		
1203	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.28m, min length 2.2m Possible foundation cut.	✓	
1204	Backfill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones Contained frequent fragments of limestone; possible disturbed foundation.	✓	
1205	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.45m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1206	Fill	Friable mid yellow brown silty silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones	✓	
1207	Posthole	Sub-circular NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.1m, max diameter 0.45m	V	
1208	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	\checkmark	
1209	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.44m, max depth 0.17m, min length 4.5m Cut by ditch [1211] and possibly cut by pit [1229].	✓	
1210	Fill	Friable mid blue brown clay silt moderate small stones	\checkmark	
1211	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.4m, max depth 0.46m, min length 2.5m Cuts ditches [1209] and [1213].	~	
1212	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones	~	✓
1213	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.38m, min length 2.5m Cut ditch [1215] and is cut by ditch [1211].	~	
1214	Fill	Friable light yellow grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	~	✓
1215	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.5m, min length 2.5m Cut by ditch [1213] and by pit [1217].	~	
1216	Fill	Friable light yellow grey clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	~	✓
1217	Pit	Rectangular NW-SE sides: steep base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.57m, max depth 0.24m, max length 1.09m Cuts ditch [1215].	~	
1218	Fill	Friable light blue brown clay silt occasional small stones	\checkmark	✓
1219	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.19m, max length 2.5m Not very well defined.	✓	
1220	Fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt moderate small stones	✓	
1221	Ditch	Linear N-S dimensions: max breadth 1.9m, min length 2.2m		
1222	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty clay		
1223	Posthole	Circular dimensions: max depth 0.25m, max diameter 0.5m	✓	
1224	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90378/74447

OS Grid Ref.: SP90420/74419

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1225	Posthole	Oval N-S sides: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.3m, max length 0.45m	✓	
1226	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
1227	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, min length 1.3m		
1228	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones		
1229	Ditch	Linear E-W dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, min length 8.m		
1230	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small ston	es	
1231	Pit	Circular dimensions: max breadth 0.7m		
1232	Fill	Mid orange brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones		
1233	Natural interface	Rectangular NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 0.3m, max length 1.1m	✓	
1234	Fill	Light orange brown clay silt occasional medium stones, occasional small stones	✓	
1235	Natural interface	Linear NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 3.65m, min length 2.2m Natural geological variation.	✓	
1236	Natural	Mid yellow orange clay silt frequent small stones	✓	
1237	Natural interface	Linear NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 2.1m, min length 2.2m Natura geological variation.	ıl 🗸	
1238	Natural	Mid yellow brown clay silt frequent small stones	✓	
1239	Treethrow	Curving linear dimensions: max breadth 1.m, max depth 0.3m	✓	
1240	Fill	Dark orange brown clay silt occasional medium stones, occasional small stones	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.2 m. Max: 1.1 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90317/74452
OS Grid Ref.: SP90359/74424

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1300	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
1301	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt 0.2m to 0.7m thick. Probable mix of subsoil and colluvial material.	✓	✓
1302	Natural	Firm light yellow brown silty silt Changes to a dark reddish brown ironstone at NW end.		
1303	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.83m, max depth 0.16m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1304	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt moderate small-medium stones	✓	\checkmark
1305	Foundation trench	Linear NE-SW sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, midepth 0.25m, min length 2.2m Not fully excavated as stone wall (1306) was left in situ.	n 🗸	
1306	Wall	Compact light brown white limestone frequent medium-large stones Base of wall at least 0.25m deep. Comprised irregularly coursed fragments of limestone. Survives 0.35m BGL.	ı, 🗸	✓
1307	Backfill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt occasional small stones	✓	~
1308	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: convex base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.15m max depth 0.54m, min length 2.2m	, ✓	
1309	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones	✓	~
1310	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, max depth 0.15m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1311	Fill	Friable light brown grey silty clay moderate small-large stones	✓	✓
1312	Foundation trench	Linear NE-SW sides: steep dimensions: max breadth 1.8m, min depth 0.35m min length 2.2m	n, 🔽	
1313	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones Disturbed backfill of foundation cut [1312] containing displaced fragments of limestone from drain (1315).	✓	✓
1315	Drain	Hard light grey white limestone frequent medium-large stones Drain comprising two parallel vertical rows of limetone capped by a horizontal slab. Heavily disturbed. Not fully excavated.	✓	
1314	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay Material contained within drain 1315. Partially excavated for environmental sample.	y ✓	✓
1316	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 3.3m max depth 0.5m, min length 2.2m	, ✓	
1317	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones	\checkmark	✓
1318	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: convex base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.7m, min breadth 1.m, max depth 0.3m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1319	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay moderate small-medium stones	✓	
1320	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.4m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1321	Fill	Friable light brown grey clay silt	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90312/74384

OS Grid Ref.: SP90343/74423

Context:	Type:	Description: E	xcavated: Finds	Present:
1400	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	✓	
1401	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt 0.2m thick.	~	
1402	Natural	Firm mid orange brown silty clay		
1403	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.65m, max depth 0.32m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1404	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt frequent small-medium stones	\checkmark	✓
1405	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.2m, max depth 0.77m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1406	Upper fill	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt frequent small-large stones	\checkmark	✓
1407	Lower fill	Friable mid orange brown sandy silt frequent small-large stones	✓	✓
1408	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, max depth $0.35m$, max length $2.2m$	V	
1409	Upper fill	Friable dark grey black clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones $0.35 \mathrm{m}$ thick.	~	✓
1410	Lower fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones 0.28m thick.	✓	✓
1411	Subsoil	Compact mid yellow brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones Layer of subsoil at NE end of trench. Cut by ditch [1412] and [1408].	~	
1412	Ditch	Curving linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.35m, max depth 0.65m, min length 7.3m Curves to the NW.	✓	
1413	Fill	Firm mid grey yellow clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small stones	\checkmark	✓
1414	Ditch	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 2.5m, min depth 0.35m, min length 2.2m On alignment of furrow but depth suggests it is a ditch.	✓	
1415	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	\checkmark	
1416	Gulley	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.35m, max length 2.2m	✓	
1417	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt	\checkmark	
1418	Ditch	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.4m, min depth 0.35m, min length 2.2m On alignment of furrow but depth suggests it is ditch.	✓	
1419	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones	\checkmark	
1420	Gulley	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.35m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1421	Fill	Friable mid green brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones	\checkmark	
1422	Ditch	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, min depth 0.3m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1423	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones	\checkmark	
1424	Ditch	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 1.m, min depth 0.35m, min length 2.2m On alignment of furrow but depth suggests it is ditch.	✓	
1425	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt frequent small-large stones	✓	
1426	Posthole	Sub-circular dimensions: max depth 0.3m, max diameter 0.4m	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90312/74384

OS Grid Ref.: SP90343/74423

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds Present	:
1427	Backfill	Friable light grey brown clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, frequent small stones	~]_
1428	Gulley	Linear NW-SE dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.35m, min leng 2.2m	th 🗸]
1429	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90352/74404

OS Grid Ref.: SP90394/74377

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1500	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	✓	
1501	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt 0.1m to 0.3m thick.	✓	
1502	Natural	Firm mid orange silty clay		
1503	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.9m max depth 0.48m, min length 2.2m	, ✓	
1504	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones	✓	✓
1505	Pit	Circular sides: steep base: uneven dimensions: max depth 0.54m, max diameter 0.8m	✓	
1506	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt	✓	
1507	Pit	Circular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.2m, max diameter 0.65m	✓	
1508	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt	✓	
1509	Pit	Sub-oval N-S sides: steep base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.25m, max length 1.m	✓	
1510	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay	✓	
1511	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, min length 2.2m		
1512	Fill	Friable dark grey brown silty clay		
1513	Ditch	Linear NE-SW dimensions: min breadth 0.8m, min length 2.2m Slightly disturbed at NE end near baulk.		
1514	Fill	Friable dark grey brown silty clay Included occasional lumps of pale yellowish brown clay.		
1515	Treethrow	Irregular sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 2.2m, min depth 0.15m, max length 3.5m General number given to an area of root disturbance.	✓	
1516	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt	✓	



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.9 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90297/74383

OS Grid Ref.: SP90339/74358

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1600	Topsoil	Friable dark yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.29m thick.	✓	
1601	Subsoil	Firm light grey brown sandy silt moderate small-medium stones 0.38m thic	ek.	
1602	Colluvium	Compact mid grey brown sandy silt 0.17m thick.	✓	
1603	Natural	Compact mid brown orange silty sand frequent small-medium stones		
1604	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max diameter 0.68n	ı 🗸	
1605	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt frequent flecks charcoal, occasional small stone	s 🗸	✓



Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.35 m. Max: 0.6 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP90375/74355

OS Grid Ref.: SP90417/74327

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1700	Topsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt occasional small stones	✓	
1701	Subsoil	Friable mid yellow brown clay silt 0.1 to 0.2m thick.	✓	
1702	Natural	Firm light orange brown clay silt		
1704	Ditch	Linear NE-SW sides: stepped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.3m max depth 0.8m, min length 2.2m Probably consists of mutiple re-cuts but fi (1703) is homogeneous.	*	
1703	Fill	Firm mid grey brown clay	✓	\checkmark
1705	Treethrow	Irregular NE-SW sides: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.18m, min length 1.55m	✓	
1706	Fill	Plastic mid yellow brown silty clay	✓	
1707	Treethrow	Irregular NE-SW sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 1.15m, max depth 0.3m, min length 1.25m	✓	
1708	Fill	Plastic mid orange brown silty clay	✓	
1709	Natural interface	Linear NE-SW dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, min length 1.5m		
1710	Fill	Mid orange brown clay silt frequent flecks manganese staining		
1711	Furrow	Linear NW-SE dimensions: min breadth 1.25m, max depth 0.15m, min length 17.5m		
1712	Fill	Mid orange brown clay silt frequent flecks manganese staining		
1713	Natural interface	Assymetrical NNE-SSW dimensions: max breadth 2.3m, min length 2.2m	✓	
1714	Fill	Light yellow white clay silt	✓	





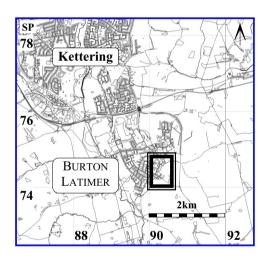
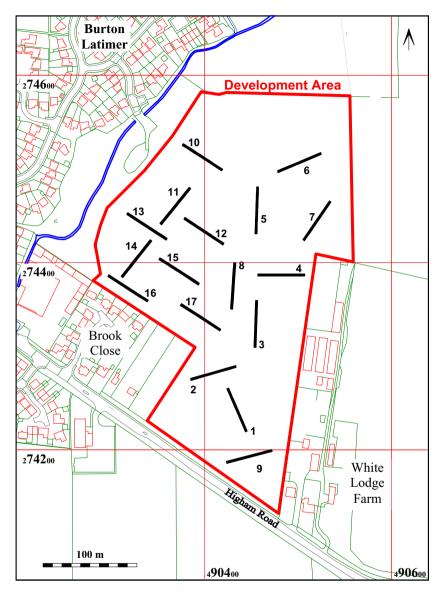


Figure 1: Site location plan and trench layout

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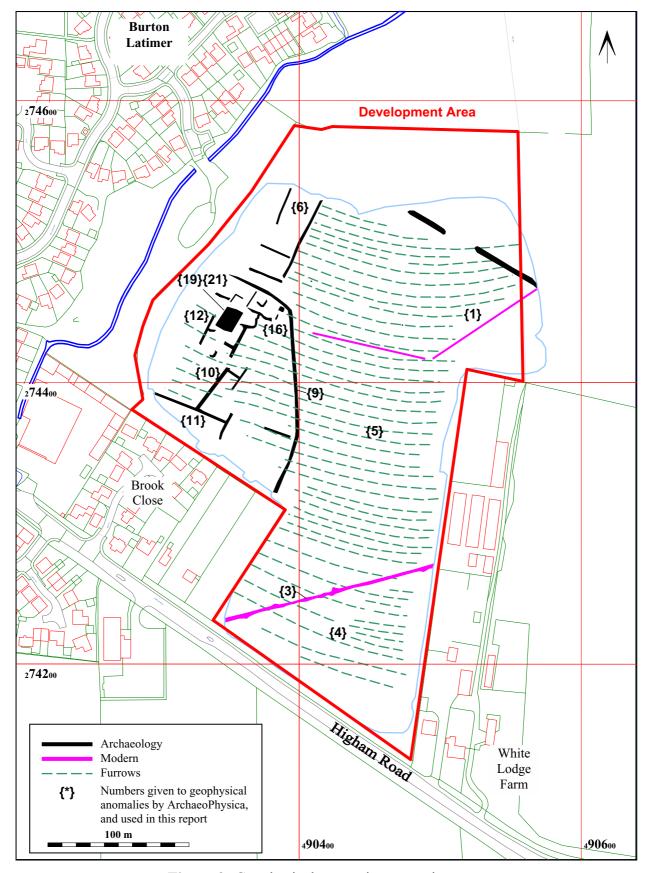


Figure 2: Geophysical survey interpretation

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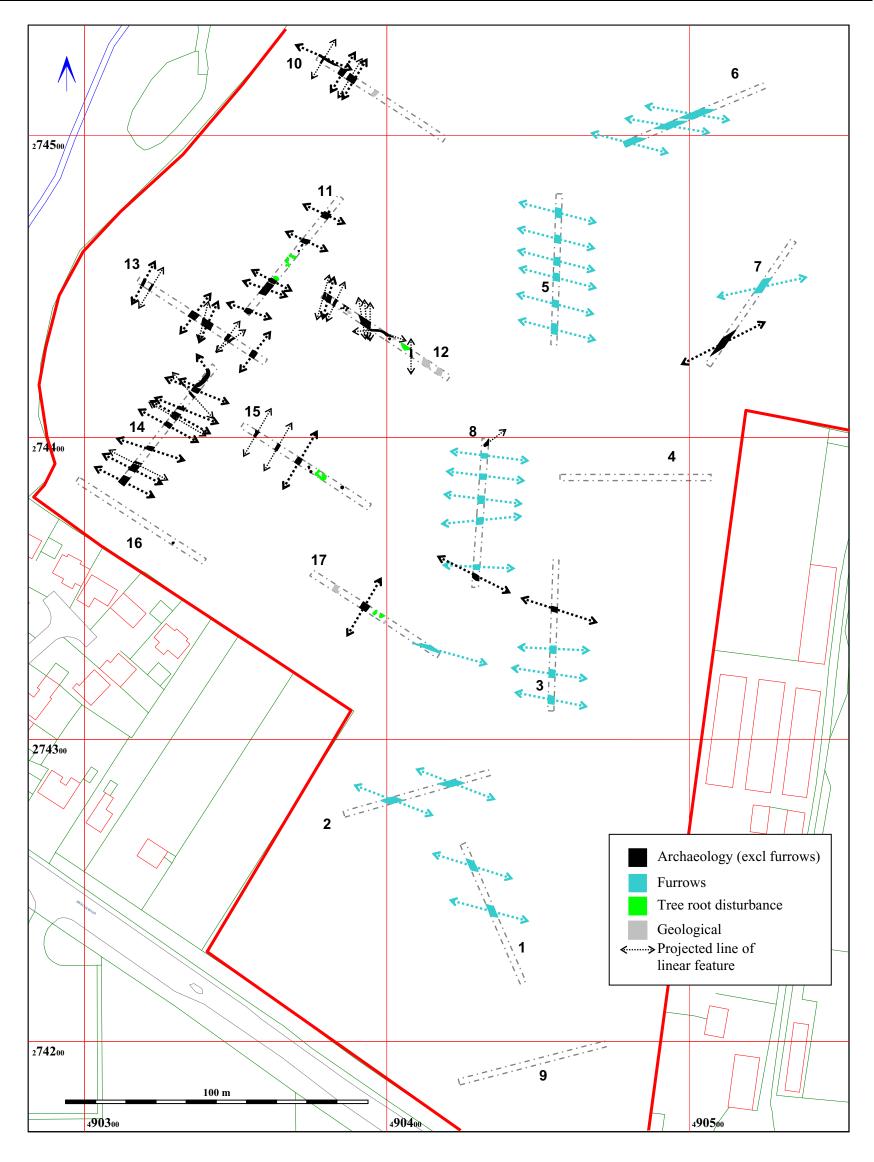


Figure 3: Plan of all features

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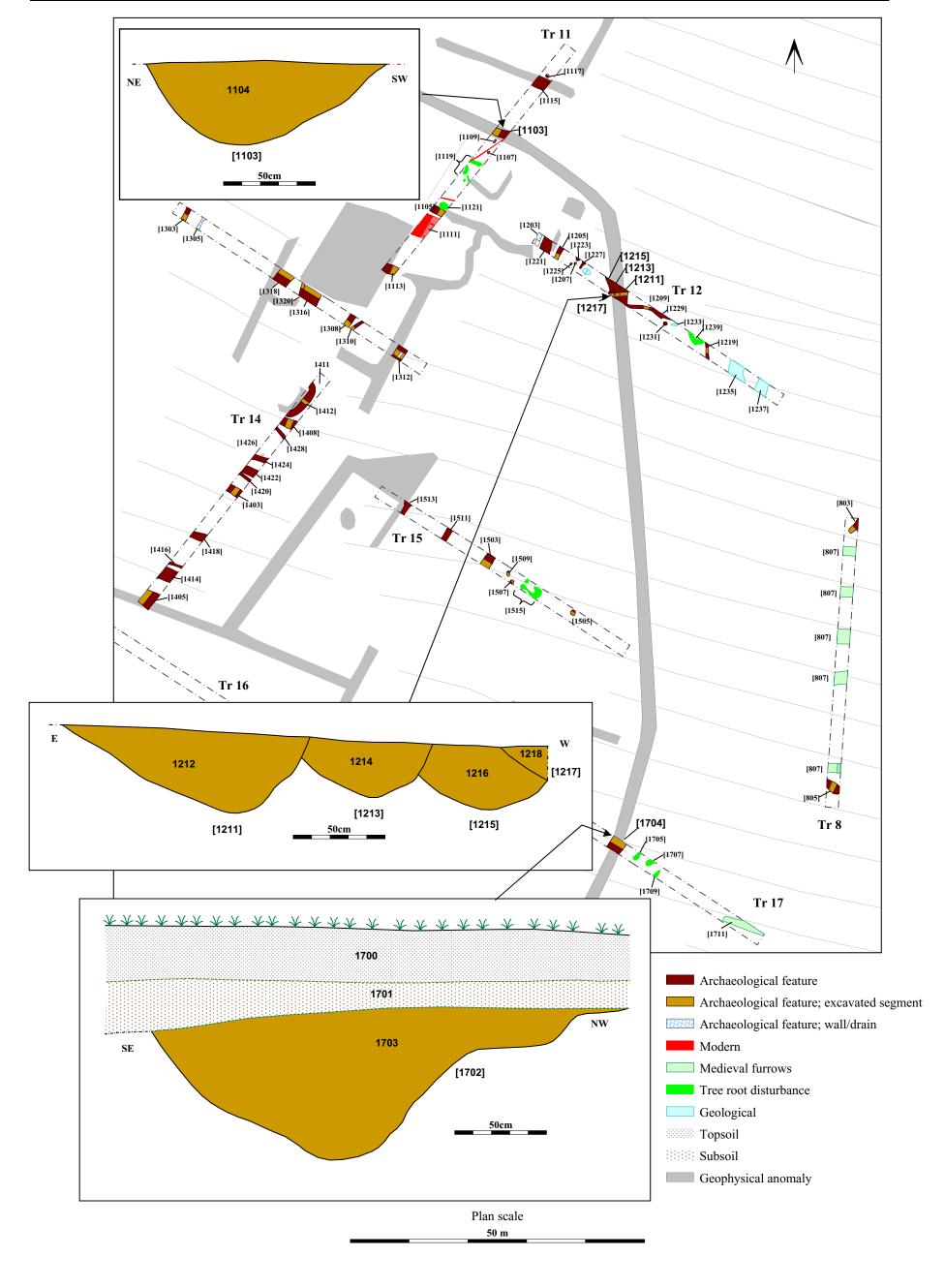


Figure 4: Close-up plan of domestic focus with sections of enclosure ditch



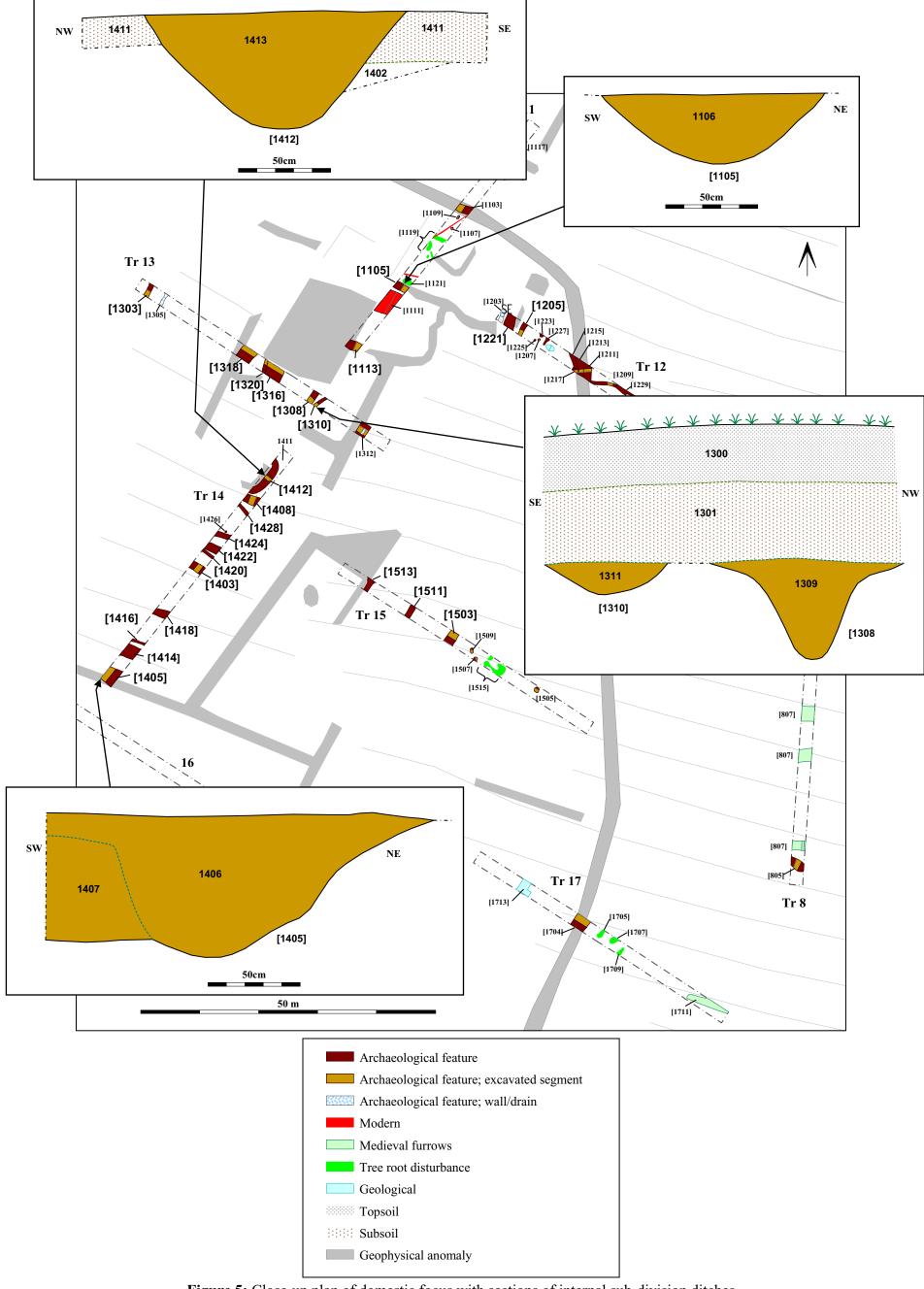


Figure 5: Close-up plan of domestic focus with sections of internal sub-division ditches



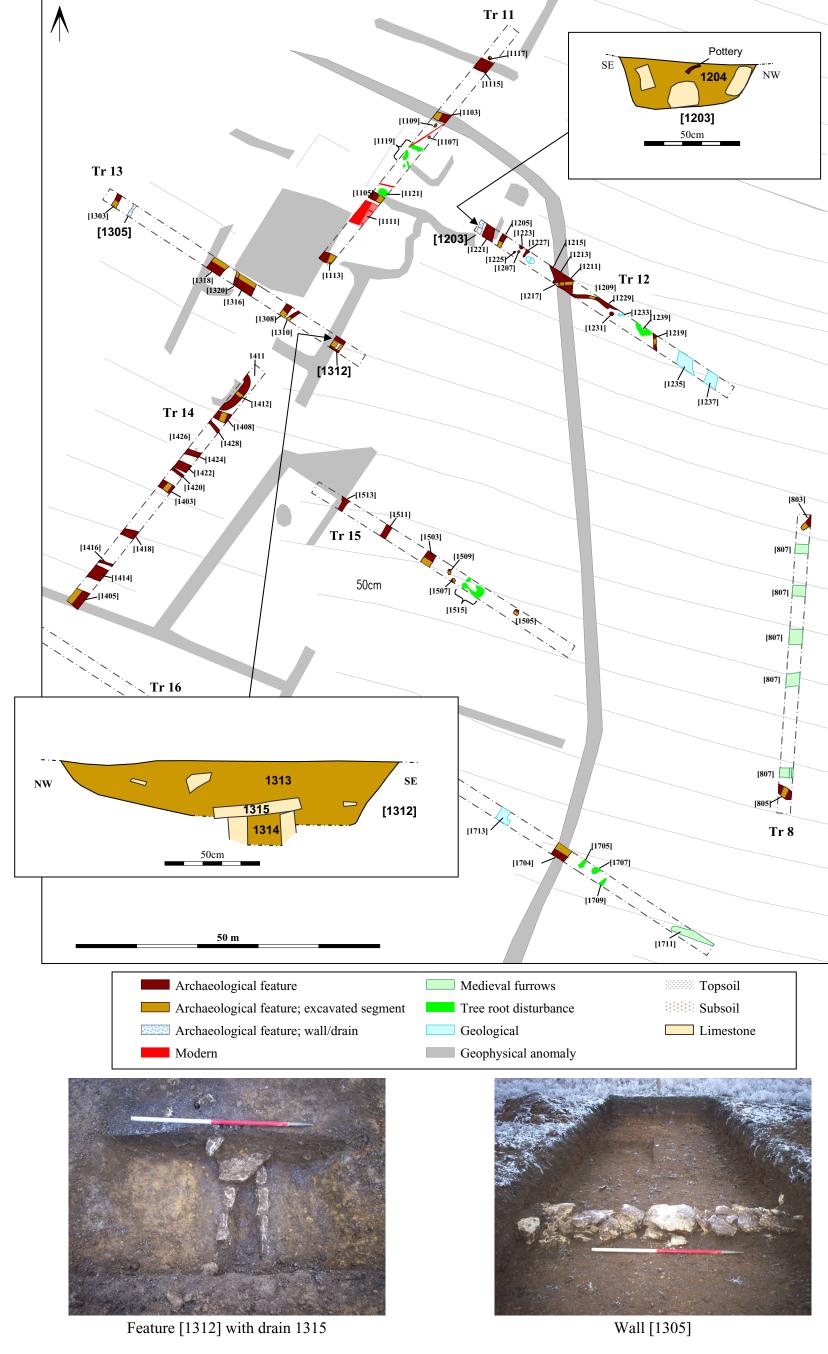


Figure 6: Close-up plan of domestic focus with sections and photos of selected stone structures



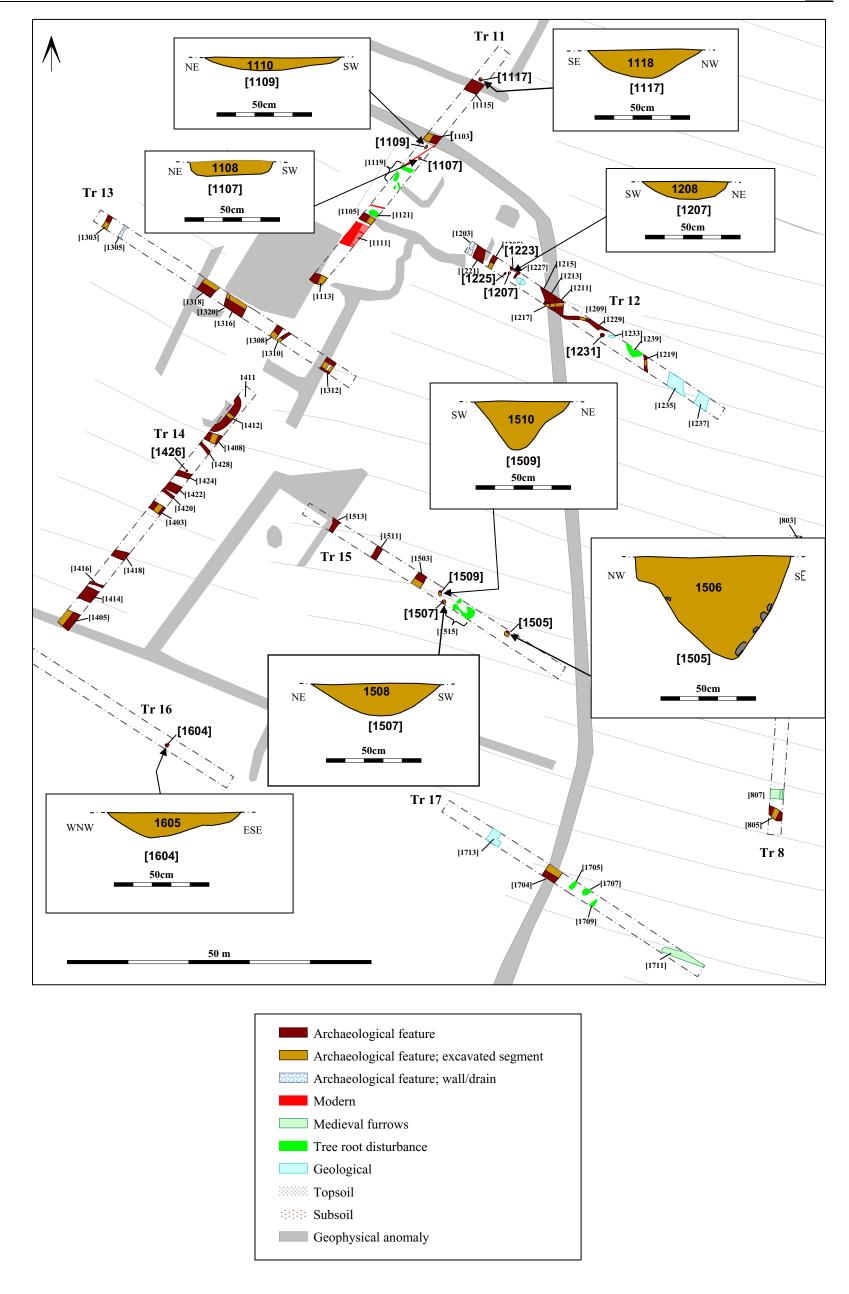


Figure 7: Close-up plan of domestic focus with sections of pits and post holes



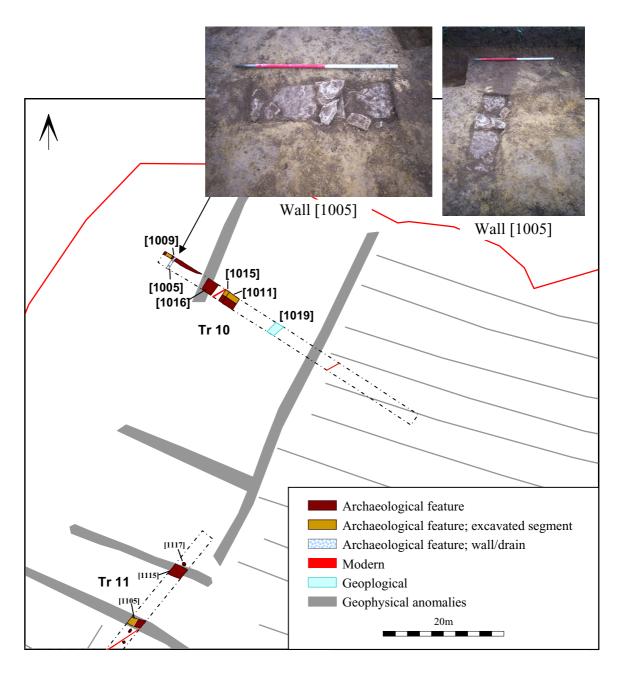


Figure 8: Close-up of Trench 10 with photos of wall [1005]



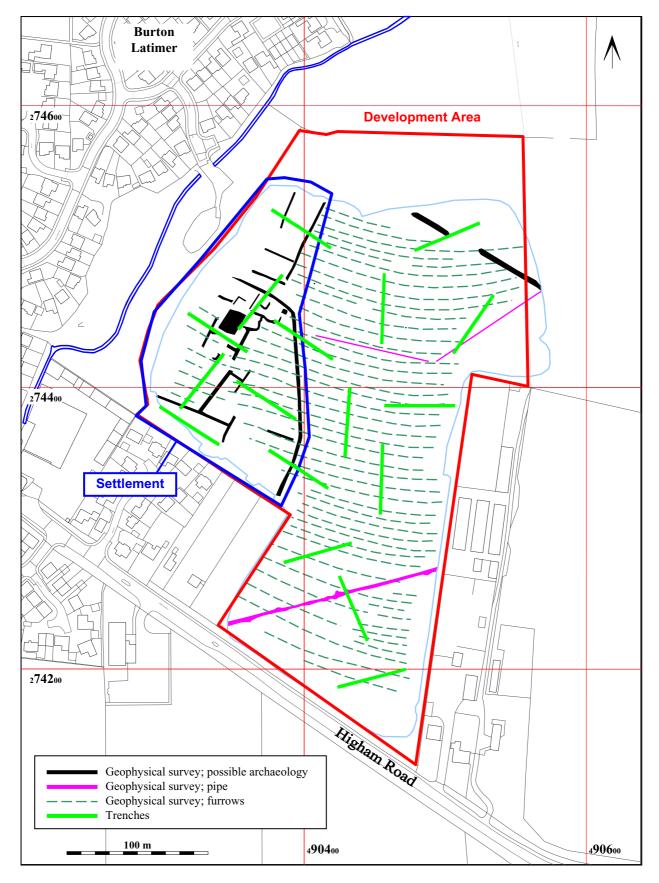


Figure 9: All features plan showing area of Romano British settlement

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