Roman Occupation at Lyndon Farm, High Street, Maxey

(TF 1142 0793)

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SUMMARY

Between August and November 1997 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out archaeological evaluations and excavation on the site of the proposed development of poultry houses at Lyndon Farm, High Street, Maxey. The work was commissioned by G. W. Padley Poultry Ltd. This is adjacent to a site previously excavated, known as Plant's Farm. The present work demonstrates a shifting settlement pattern, occurring over some 500 years.

Prehistoric features consisted of pits and a ditch. The ditch was possibly a field boundary and indicative of an early dividing up of the landscape. The Roman period of occupation on the site can be divided into two phases with the origins of the settlement in the second century, and thereafter continuous occupation into the Saxon period. Although clear evidence for domestic structures is absent the metal working debris, the pottery assemblage and the animal bones show that this was a relatively normal native Romano-British rural settlement with some imported wares and possible lapdog indicating some higher status elements. Mollusca indicate an open landscape with some charred plant material showing cereal processing occurred in the vicinity, and other plant macrofossils revealed waste ground had developed by the end of the Roman period. A stone and oak-lined well and boxed inhumation were found, together with flue and roof tiles and coins, suggesting more important buildings stood nearer to the Roman road, King Street (to the west of the site). Of particular importance was evidence for continuation of occupation into the early Saxon period. This evidence comprised a dispersed collection of hand-made pottery found in pits, gullies and postholes across the site. A fragment of a loom-weight and a bone needle (possibly used for textile manufacture), were also found, in association with a red deer antler.

CONTENTS page

APPENDICES

LIST OF FIGURES

Roman occupation at Lyndon Farm, High Street, Maxey
(TF 1142 0793)

INTRODUCTION

Between August and November 1997 archaeological evaluation and excavation was carried out on the site of the development of the poultry farm to the north of High Street, Maxey. Although this project is referred to as Lyndon Farm, its present name, archaeological work in the field to the east of the poultry farm was referred to at 'Plant's Farm' (Simpson *et al,* 1993). The site lies just south of the braided course of the River Welland (at c. 12.5m above OD) and less than half a kilometre to the east of the north–south Roman road, King Street (Fig. 1). The work was conducted by the Archaeological Field Unit (AFU) of Cambridgeshire County Council in response to a brief issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Section (Development Control Office) and was commissioned by G. W. Padley Poultry Ltd.

The excavation site encompasses the earlier poultry farm, on the eastern part of the site, and arable land to the west – an area approaching 9000sq.m. The work followed a three stage programme with an initial stage of evaluation trenching around and between the existing poultry farm buildings (Roberts 1997). Following demolition four trenches were opened within the area to be occupied by the proposed new buildings. The potential of the present site was confirmed by the second stage of evaluation which identified a range of linear features (straight and curving), pits, and a grave. The final excavation sought to 'preserve by record' the significant concentration of features on the western part of the site. Other parts of the site were not subject to intensive investigation as there had been considerable modern disturbance in the eastern part of the site and there appeared to be a lesser density of archaeological features in this area. The majority of features date from the Roman period but there is scattered evidence for prehistoric and post-Roman occupation of parts of the site or in the vicinity.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site is immediately to the south of the present southern course of the River Welland. It lies on the edge of the 'island' of Maxey, on first terrace gravels, overlying Kellaways Clay (BGS 157, 1989) and is, in parts, overlaid by alluvial deposits from the Welland. The area slopes gently from the low-lying fens to the east of Maxey, at a height between 3m and 5mOD, to the limestone uplands to the west of Barnack, at a height of over 70mOD.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval remains are recorded in the Cambridgeshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for the surrounding area.

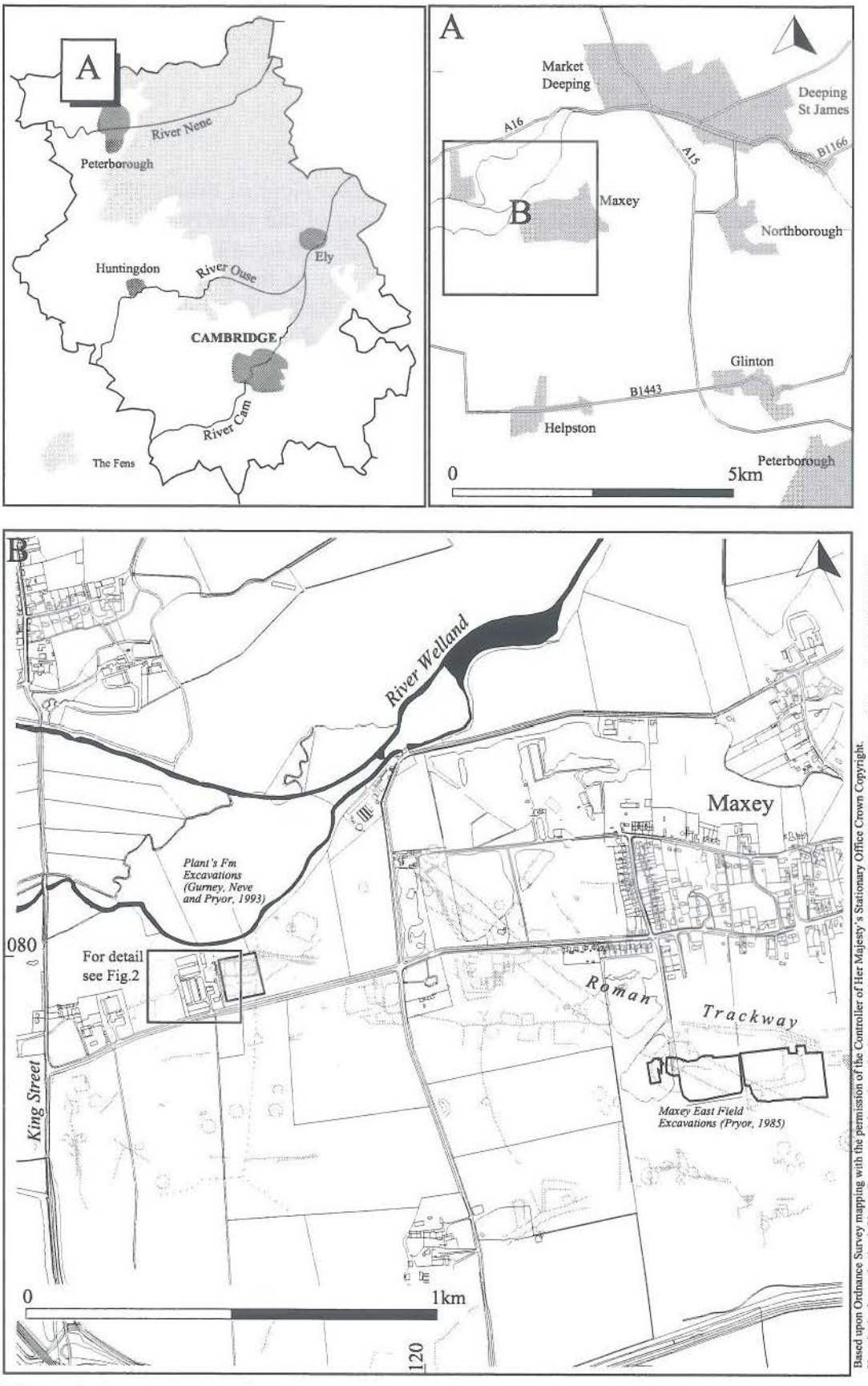


Figure 1 *Location map showing area of investigation and cropmarks (cropmarks in tone).*

Roman and Saxon remains have been reported from the subject site. The site is bounded to the east by a nationally important complex of crop marks (Scheduled Ancient Monument No. 191, SMR No. 2428), parts of which were excavated in 1964 (Gurney, Neve and Pryor, 1993, 69-101). Of immediate importance to the present site was the crop mark of a possible Bronze Age barrow (Figs. 2 and 3) which was clearly visible in the field to the east (Plant's Farm site, Simpson *et al,* 1993*)* but whose presence was masked by the buildings of Lyndon Farm. Other crop mark features (SMR No 08504) extend on to the western part of the development site. Extensive archaeological investigation in surrounding areas, threatened by gravel extraction, has identified the archaeological importance of this region (RCHME 1960; Pryor and French 1985).

Archaeological studies in the area have indicated an early neolithic presence with an organised and ceremonial landscape nearby, between the rivers Welland and Nene. There was considerable forest clearance in the area by the late fourth millennium BC with seasonal pastures and cereal growing. The extension of cleared areas allowed organisation of the land for the alignment and construction of monuments in the vicinity over a period of at least 1000 years (Pryor and French 1985).

Excavations at Plant's Farm (TF115 080), in the field immediately to the east of the site, revealed two phases of Iron Age occupation (spanning the fourth century BC to the first century AD), early Romano-British (mid-late first century AD) and later Romano-British (early third – early fourth century AD) occupation (Gurney, Neve and Pryor 1993). Gurney, Neve and Pryor (1993) suggest there was a small Iron Age and Romano-British farmstead at Plant's Farm with a period of reduced activity (if not actual abandonment) in the third century AD. Material from the site supports the suggestion of a rural settlement or native farmstead with abundant local pottery and few 'imported wares'. A trackway appears to run from west of Plant's Farm to the north of Maxey East and West Field, excavated in 1979-81 (Pryor and French 1985). The recently commissioned aerial photographic assessment (Appendix I, below) shows this trackway continuing westward through the subject site towards Lolham Hall and King Street.

The proximity of King Street (approximately 500m to the west) and the construction of Car Dyke (2km to the north-east) in the early second century allowed greater movement of agricultural produce and other material between the fens and upland regions. Excavations in the area suggest a hierarchy of settlement types with local farmsteads (e.g. Maxey East Field and Plant's Farm), villas (e.g. Helpston) and on a regional scale larger sites such as the settlement at Stonea, in the fens, and the expanding Roman town of Durobrivae 11km to the south, on Ermine Street. Work at Maxey supports this settlement model, with evidence for small, rural, Iron Age and Romano-British settlements with local trade links evident in the ceramics.

A search over the field between the subject site and King Street indicated that much of it was occupied during the fourth century suggesting the settlement at this time covered an area of approximately 15 acres (Simpson 1966). Late Roman pottery and building material, together with a few Anglo-Saxon sherds, was found during fieldwalking. This material was spread over approximately 1.6 hectares, just east of Lolham Hall, in the field to the west of the development site (Nene Valley Research Committee Annual Report 1979-80; SMR 2151).

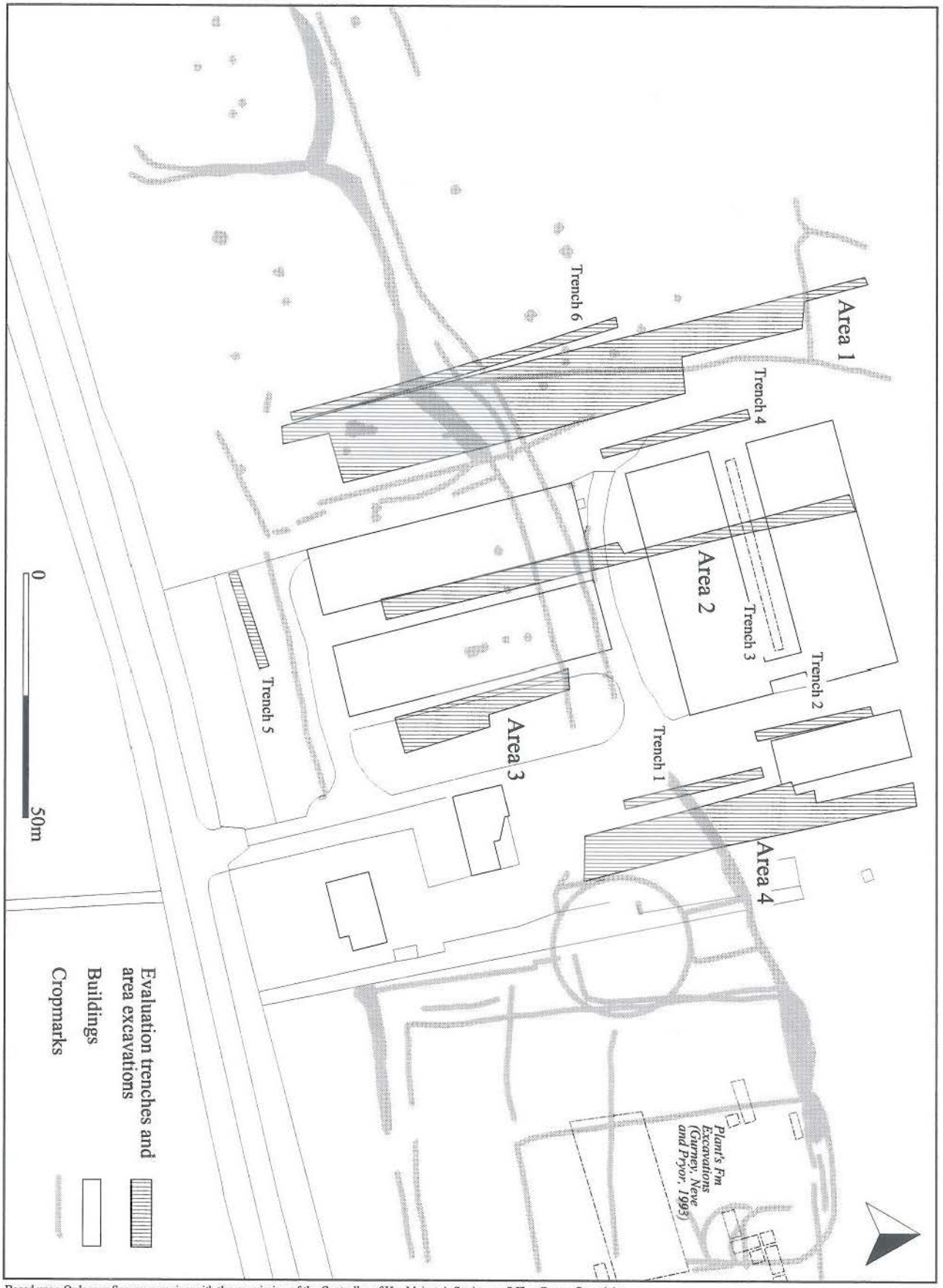


***Figure 2** Buildings, evaluation trenches and excavation areas at Lyndon Fm (previously Plant's Fm).*

A deserted medieval village is recorded at Lolham Hall (SMR 1014), at the junction of King Street and High Street. Two manors at Maxey are mentioned by an Anglo-Saxon Charter. These were given by Bishop Aethelwold to the monastery at Medeshamstede (Peterborough) *c* 963 (Simpson, 1966). One has been suggested in the area between the church and the modern village, an area excavated by Addyman (1964). Early editions of the Ordnance Survey map show Lolham as a separate small settlement, with its own mill.

It appears that the land around Lyndon Farm was farmed from the early medieval period until the mid-20th century and ploughing has had a considerable impact on the western part of the site and the adjacent field. The eastern part of the site has been used as a poultry farm since the 1960s with various buildings occupying a large part of the area.

METHODOLOGY

The primary objective of the project, following evaluation, was to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt to reconstruct the history and use of the site. Areas chosen for investigation were within the 'footprint' of the new buildings and concentrated on the density of archaeological remains in the western part of the site. The research questions identified by evaluation related to the nature and character of the prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman occupation on this site. The excavation also aimed to relate features identified in excavation to those observed in aerial photographs. This will provide information on the likely state of preservation of cropmark sites in adjacent areas and highlight implications for their future management. It was hoped environmental data could be used to reconstruct living conditions, economy and natural environment within the immediate vicinity during prehistoric and Roman times and provide evidence for metalworking or other industrial activity on the site.

Aerial photographic survey

An aerial photographic survey was commissioned to reinterpret cropmarks known from the site and the surrounding area. This survey, carried out by Air Photo Services, showed evidence of a ditch-defined drove with attached enclosures and pits to the south which align with better-recorded features to the east of the site (see Appendix I).

Evaluation and excavation

During the evaluation in August 1997 six trenches were excavated (Figs. 2 and 3) by mechanical digger. The overburden was removed in all trenches until the upper surface of the subsoil, into which archaeological features had been cut, was exposed . In Trench 5, where no features were noted in the sub-soil, the depth of the trench was

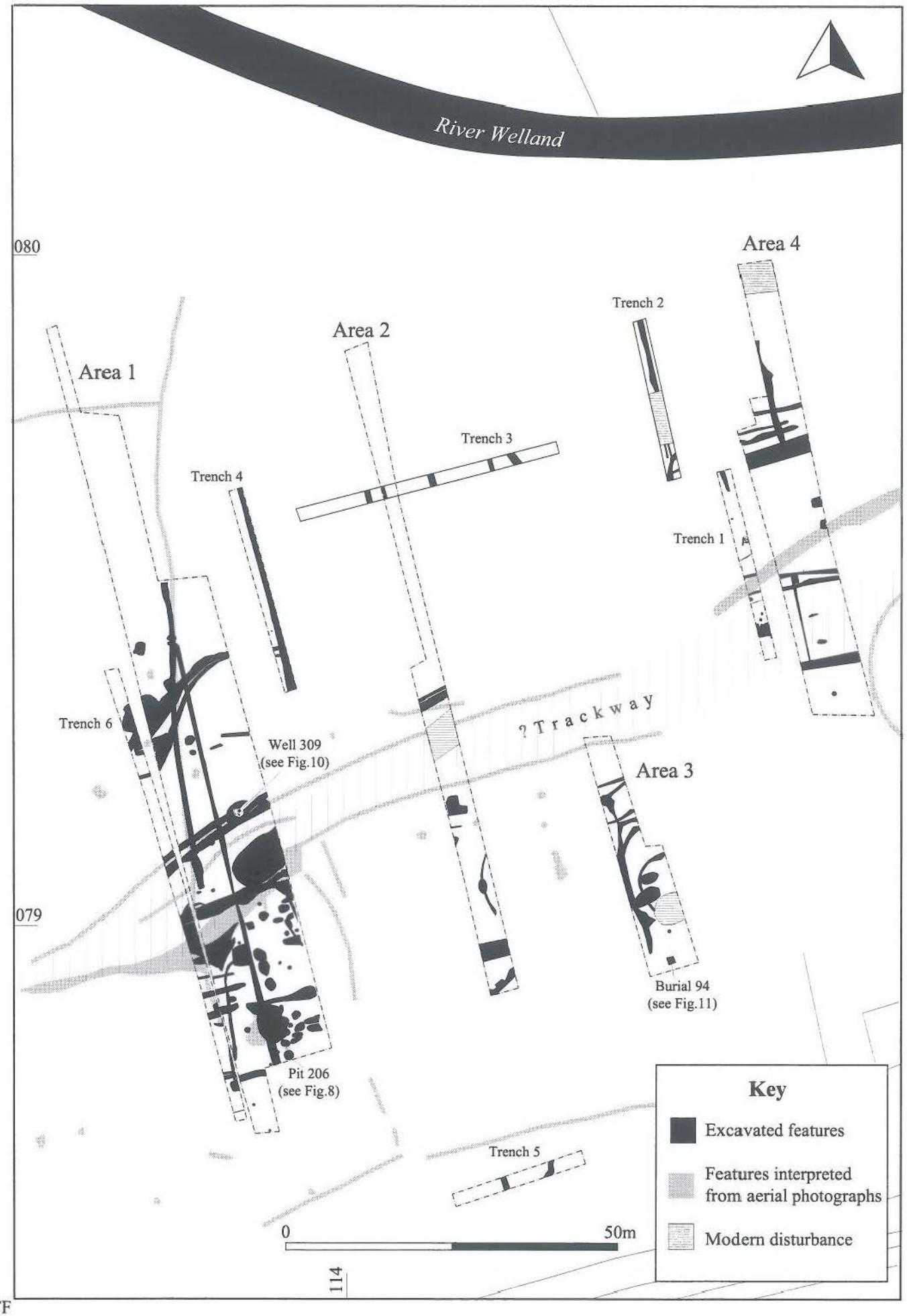


Figure 3 *Features in evaluation trenches and excavation areas with cropmarks*

extended until the underlying gravel was encountered. In other trenches sondages were dug to reveal the depositional sequence.

Trenches were aligned with buildings on the site and ran just west of north–south in the case of trenches 1, 2, 4 and 6 and just north of west–east in the case of trenches 3 and 5. In the Results section (below) the orientation of features is approximate. The exact orientation is shown in the relevant figures. The second stage of evaluation involved removal of the overburden in four areas (approximately 2500 sq.m) in the footprint of the proposed buildings. In the northern part of areas 1, 2 and 3 no features were encountered. In the northern part of area 4 modern disturbance was noted which cut through the subsoil into the underlying gravel.

The fourth area (Area 1, in the western part of the site) was cleaned and features planned. This area was excavated in the final phase of work. The site and spoil was metal detected. Thirty coins (four third century, twenty two fourth century (one pierced with two holes), one third/fourth century, one fourth-fifth century and two unidentified), two plumb bobs, a lead weight, a stud or button, two fragments of copper-alloy fibulae (one Hod Hill variant and one a two-piece fibula), a copper-alloy stud/nail and a buckle (probably medieval) were recovered together with a fragment of a decorative belt plate. Iron nails and other copper alloy artefacts were recovered during excavation and are mentioned below, in the relevant contexts.

Area 1 (measuring c15 x 75m), was designed to investigate the concentration of pits and ditches which had been noted in Trench 6 during the preliminary evaluation. A tracked 1.8 ton mini-digger was used to dig sections across larger features.

Archaeological features were recorded using a Zeiss RecElta 15 Total Station. A digital base plan of the site was produced with Prosurveyor mapping software. Metal finds in the spoil and near the surface of features were removed, and the position noted, to prevent possible looting of artefacts. A sample of archaeological features was partially excavated and recorded using the pro-forma recording sheets of the Archaeological Field Unit. Features were hand excavated and planned at a scale of 1:20. Sections and profiles across excavated features were drawn at a scale of 1:10. A written record of all excavated features was made on single context recording sheets and the drawn and written record was supplemented by monochrome and colour photographs. Environmental samples were taken from a variety of features (Appendix IX). In this report fill numbers are shown in plain text and cut numbers in bold. All site levels are above Ordnance Datum, taken from the 12.77m benchmark on Lolham Hall. Conditions for excavation and recording were variable, but being for the most part dry and bright and occasionally frosty.

RESULTS

In the northern part of the site, close to the river, the overburden was shallow and features appear to have been removed by fluvial action. Cropmarks in the adjacent field suggest the drove/road continued westwards but there no evidence for the road in

***Figure 4** Phase 1 Prehistoric*

the current excavation but the feature visible on the aerial photographs which have been interpreted as roadside ditches were found in some areas. In most other parts of the site normal processes of post-depositional truncation appeared to have been operating. Plough marks were evident in the sub-soil and it was clear that fragments of stone had been dragged across the site. There may also have been 'pan-busting' across the site. No buried soils were found. Quite a few features were discrete and appeared to have uncontaminated assemblages but in other areas features were intercutting showing sequence of excavation. Waterlogged material was recovered from one feature only. Animal bone and antler survived well across the site but the human bone was poorly preserved, possibly as a result of the age of the child.

Excavation revealed three main periods of activity: slight evidence of prehistoric occupation; Romano-British activity (which can be divided into two phases) across the site; a small amount of post-Roman activity in the vicinity.

Worked flint was found scattered across the site. There were no obvious concentrations and several features contained flint flakes. Most of these were residual and were found in combination with Romano-British and post-Roman material.

In spite of the proximity of Plant's Farm, excavated in the 1960s, no Bronze Age or Iron Age features were recorded on the Lyndon Farm site. As at Plant's Farm flint artefacts were largely unstratified or residual. The flintwork from Lyndon Farm would suggest this area is not close to an area of neolithic settlement.

No Iron Age pottery was identified from the site and most of the pottery (and the coins) dates from the third century into the fifth century where it occurs with handmade Saxon vessels. A small quantity of Hadrianic/Antonine (AD130-140) pottery (together with Flavian dishes which had probably been curated) was found. In general the pottery points to a mid-second century origin for the occupation of this site with a peak of activity in the late third/early fourth century. Activity on the site diminished after the fifth century and the site was abandoned. Saxon and medieval settlement has been found to the east, closer to the present village of Maxey.

PHASE 1: Prehistoric Features (Fig. 4)

Features ascribed to Phase 1 include those containing only flint artefacts (or no dating material) and were stratigraphically early. These features had very similar, leached, fills. Two groups of features were identified as pre-dating the Romano-British occupation of the site. The first group includes linear features which run approximately north–south. The second group includes two post-holes which are widely spaced but lie just to the west of the prehistoric ditches.

Excavations in the past have shown the area around Maxey to have been cleared during the neolithic period and cattle bone from the present development site has been identified as belonging to a 'neolithic type' suggesting grazing of the area close to the river.

Group 1: Ditch segments, oriented approximately north-south, with leached fills and no finds. Stratigraphic relationships show the Group 1 ditches were earlier than any other features in the western part of the site. There was no firm dating evidence from any of these features. The ditches are possibly segments of the same feature which were cut at approximately the same time and may have been conceived as a single feature. This ditch is approximately parallel to the pit alignment at Plant's Farm.

Ditch **217** had steep, evenly sloping sides (1.4m wide, 0.8m deep, over 5m long) and contained two fills. It was oriented approximately north-north-west–south-south-east and was cut in several places by east–west running ditches. The lower fill, 257 (0.18m thick) was a very compact dark yellowish brown sandy clay with infrequent gravels. The upper fill (216) was a dark brown clay silt, 0.55m thick and 0.6m wide with infrequent gravels.

Ditch **331** appeared to be a continuation of ditch **217** but curved northwards. If this is a segment of the same feature it would extend the length of this ditch to over 15m. The excavated section of ditch **331** was 0.6m deep and 0.92m wide with stepped sides (Fig. 15), and contained four fills (330, 329, 319 and 318). The lowest fill, 330, was a brown sandy clay with frequent gravels, 0.15m deep. This was overlaid by 329 which was a dark yellow brown sandy clay with moderate gravel. Over 329 was 319 (similar to fill 257, above) being a yellowish brown slightly silty clay with very occasional inclusions. As in the case of ditch **217** this was overlaid by a dark yellowish brown clay silt (318) with infrequent gravels, equivalent to 216.

Ditch **361** appeared to be a possible northern extension of ditches **217/331** with its steep sides and slightly concave base (0.4m wide and 0.2m deep). The fact that **361** was shallower and narrower may just reflect the greater degree of truncation in the northern part of the site, towards the river. Its single fill, 308, was a dark yellowish brown clay silt with occasional flints, similar to 257/319. No artefactual material was recovered from any of the above features.

Group 2: Two possibly prehistoric postholes, **12** (Trench 6) and **239** (in the northern part of Area 1), were cut into the underlying gravel and had a similar diameter (0.6m and 0.58m respectively). There was no stratigraphic relationship to the north–south oriented ditch (Group 1) but both of the Group 2 postholes lay to the west of the ditch and may be related to this feature.

Sub-group 2.1 Posthole **12** (13)

Posthole **12** had near vertical sides, its base was not excavated but it was at least 0.66m deep. The fill, 13, was a slightly clay silty sand with approximately 70% grit. No finds were recovered from fill 13

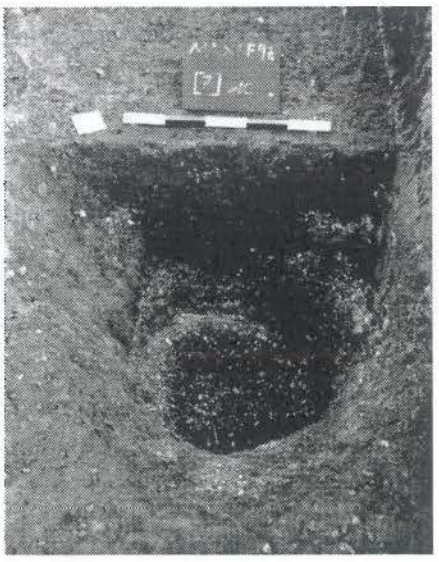


Figure 5 Prehistoric posthole **12**

Sub-group 2.2 Posthole **239** (238)

Posthole **239** was 0.58m wide and 0.61m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It had been truncated on its north-eastern edge by pit **237** (see below). The fill of **239,** 238, was a very dark grey silty clay with moderate flints and pebbles and contained a flint blade flake.

Sub-group 2.2 Posthole **239** (238)

PHASE 2 – early Romano-British (Figure 6)

Features assigned to this phase included ditches, gullies, pits and postholes dating from the mid-late first century to the early third century. Some of the ditches had been recut and other features appear to have been in use over a long period and were left open and filled slowly. Some isolated features (with no stratigraphic relationships and a broad ceramic date range) have been assigned to the general Phase 2 period. These cannot, at the moment, be more closely dated.

No clearly defined structures can be assigned to this phase but two groups of postholes (Group 3 and Group 4) were identified which are indicative of buildings, extending beyond the western edge of the site. The absence of floors or surfaces and the presence of domestic refuse in the features in the vicinity suggest the south-western part of the site was to the rear of dwellings and processing areas further west. The high density of pits in the area, dated to Phase 2, and the decreasing density to the east supports the view that the south-western part of the site was peripheral to a small scale settlement in the field to the west. The northern edge of the site appears to have been marked by the north-east/south-west aligned ditches which may have acted as a flood defence between the settlement and the nearby Welland.

Group 3: At the southern end of Area 1 six postholes were identified and four were excavated – **150** (151), **152** (153), **295** (183), **327** (190). Two further postholes located in the same area were not excavated. The postholes appear to form a rectangular structure at least 10m long and 5m wide, oriented north-east–south-west. The ceramic evidence from the postholes in this group suggest a second century date for the structure but no function can be determined.

At the southern end of Area 1 was posthole **150** (0.59m long, 0.55m wide and 0.1m deep) with slightly concave sides and base and containing a single fill, 151. The fill was a dark brown sandy silt with very occasional small stones and pottery dating to the second century AD.

Just to the north-west of **150** was posthole **152** (0.42m long, 0.4m wide and 0.16m deep) with steep, even sides and a flat base. The fill, 153, was a dark brown sandy silt with very occasional small stones and fragments of animal bone.

Posthole **295** in the area of pitting at the south of Area 1, and cut by boundary ditch **170/184**, was circular (0.6m wide and 0.25m deep) with concave sides and a slightly concave base. The fill, 183, was a clay silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal, fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from AD150-230.

In the same group of pits and postholes in the southern part of Area 1 was posthole **327** (0.7m wide and 0.18m deep). This feature had steep, concave sides and a slightly concave base. The fill, 190, was a dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal and contained a small quantity of animal bone and pottery dating from AD120+.

Figure 6 *Phase 2 Pre-AD240*

Discussion of Group 3

The structure suggested by the above group of postholes appears to be rectangular. The absence of a surface or floor or any deposits indicative of processing make it impossible to assign a function to this putative building.

Group 4 Posthole **7** (9) An isolated posthole located in evaluation Trench 6. This feature was severely truncated and cannot be associated with other features in the vicinity.

Cutting the top of posthole **12** (Figs. 4 and 5) was a more gently sloping, oval hole **7** (2m long, 0.9m wide and 0.48m deep) with slightly concave sides which may have been used in the placing of a post (see above). The fill, 9, was a dark yellowish brown silty clay with very occasional pebbles and contained animal bone and pottery dating from the late first–early second century AD.

Group 5 pits in the southern part of Area 1. Pits **324, 355, 340, 175, 173, 240** The majority of features in the southern part of Area 1 comprised pits dating from all phases. It would appear that this area was peripheral to the settlement and used for rubbish deposition from the middle of the second century. Several of these features are approximately contemporary. The earliest features in the group were pits **324** and **355**.

Sub-group 5.1

Pit **324** was cut by pits **232** and **325**. It was not excavated because of heavy truncation by other features in this area.

Pit **355** was shallow and irregular in plan, approximately 1.4m long, 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep, with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. The fill, 356, was a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and fragments of limestone and flecks of charcoal.

Sub-group 5.2

Pit **340** (1.7m long, 0.95m wide and 0.3m deep) had a gradually sloping south-eastern edge and a more steeply sloping north-western edge with a flat base. This feature cut pit **355** and was cut by pit **175**. The single fill, 193, was a dark grey sandy silt with occasional small stones and contained fragments of animal bone, box flue and pottery dating from AD120-240.

Sub-group 5.3

To the south of pit **173** was a circular pit **175** (0.95m diameter and 0.55m deep) with a weathered western edge and a more gently sloping eastern edge. The single fill, 174, was dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal. The fill contained fragments of animal bone, tegula and fragments of pottery dating from AD160-200. The environmental sample produced cereal caryopses (including wheat) and charcoal.

Sub-group 5.4

Pit **173**, was one of a group of several oval and circular pits in this part of the trench. Pit **173** (1.6m long, 0.95m wide and 0.34m deep) had a steep northern edge and a more gradually sloping southern side and contained two fills: 171 and 172. The lower fill, 171 (0.27m deep), was a dark greyish brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones. The upper fill, 172 (0.74m wide and 0.18m deep), was a dark grey slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal. This fill contained fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from the second century AD. The eastern edge of **173** was cut by the western end of pit **232** (see below).

Group 6 pits were circular, less than a metre in diameter, in the central part of Area 3.

Pit **111** (0.75m long, 0.62m wide and 0.32m deep) had almost vertical sides and a flat base. The single fill, 112, was a brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones. There were no finds from this context.

Pit **116** (0.58m wide, 0.59m long and 0.13m deep) had concave sides and base and a single fill, 115. The fill was a dark brown silt with occasional small stones and no finds.

Group 7: A group of pits in the southern part of Area 1 were situated to the east the much later ditch **170/184**. It is possible that this ditch has obliterated an earlier boundary, in the same location. Indeed, most of the rubbish pits occur to the east of this linear.

Sub-group 7.1

Pit **218** (1.4m wide and 0.57m deep) was oval with straight sides and a flat base. The fill, 219, was a greyish brown silty clay with occasional gravels. Artefacts from this pit include a fragment of an iron knife blade (□9), pottery dating from AD160–230 and fragments of animal bone. An environmental sample from this fill revealed only charcoal fragments.

Sub-group 7.2

The oval pit, **249** (1.92m wide and 0.62m deep and cutting pit **218**) had concave sides and a flat base. The fill, 231, was a dark brown silty clay with occasional gravel and flecks of charcoal containing fragments of animal bone, iron slag, and pottery dating from AD150–200.

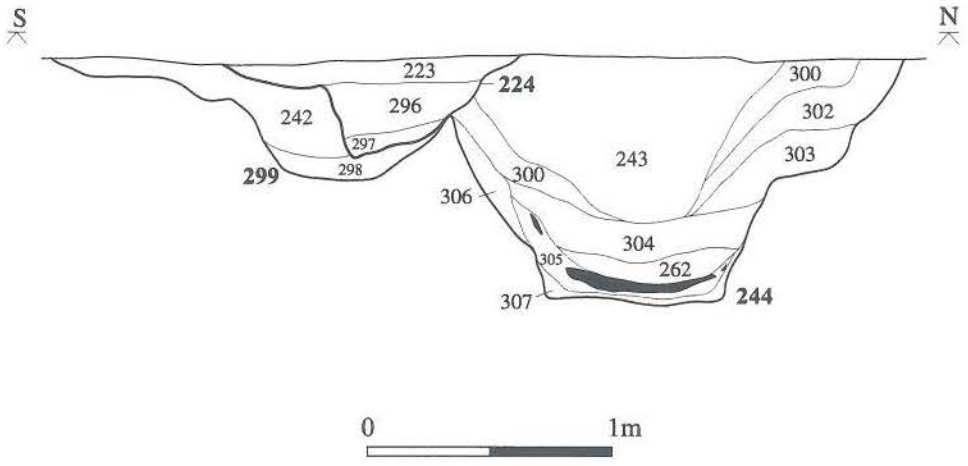


*Figure 7 Section through pit **244** and ditches **224** and **299***

Group 8: Pits in the central and northern part of Area 1.

Sub-group 8.1

Pit **244** was cut by ditches **224** and **299** in the northern part of Area 1. It was sub-rectangular with steeply sloping slightly stepped sides (1.03m deep, >1.9m wide). The pit contained nine fills (see Fig 7), none of which contained artefactual material. The upper fill, 243, (0.7m thick) was a very dark brown clay silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal and represented the final stage of silting within centre of pit. Deposit 300, (0.66m thick) beneath 243, was a dark brown clay sandy silt with occasional small stones down the edges of the pit. Fill 302 was a very dark brown clay silt with very occasional stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. This fill was 0.65m deep and 0.6m wide and was restricted to the north-eastern side of the pit. Deposit 303, under fill 302, was a dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravels and occasional flecks of charcoal. This fill also was restricted to the north-eastern edge of the pit. Fill 304, (0.16m deep) underlying fill 300 in the south west and fill 303 in the north-east, was a brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent small stones. Fill 304 sealed fill 262 (0.12m deep), a dark reddish brown sandy silt with small pieces of charcoal and frequent small fragments of burnt stone. This fill was restricted to the centre of the pit, near the base, and probably represents a deposit which was hot when it was thrown into the pit as it has discoloured adjacent layers. Deposit 305, beneath 304, was a very dark grey sandy silt with large lumps of charcoal which extended up the south-western side of the pit (possibly thrown in from this edge) to a depth of 0.43m (being at its maximum thickness 0.1m) and extending 0.81m across the pit. This fill contained a considerable amount of burnt wood. Fills 306 and 307 were along the south-western edge and base of the pit respectively and may represent weathering after the pit was dug and before it was filled. Deposit 306 (0.57m deep and 0.12m wide) was a dark yellowish brown clay silty sand with frequent small stones and deposit 307 was 0.33m deep and 0.76m wide, a dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent small stones and occasional flecks of charcoal.

Sub-group 8.2

To the south of the ditches that cut the southern edge of pit **244** was a smaller, circular pit **322** (1.7m wide and 0.94m deep) with a steep, even, southern edge, an irregular, stepped northern edge and a concave base. The fill, 321, was homogenous brown slightly sandy clay silt with very small quantities of grit and gravel with relatively few finds including fragments of animal bone, abraded tile and pottery dating from AD150–230.

Sub-group 8.3

This pit is discussed below, with Phase 3 features, as the bulk of its fills are dated from the middle of the third century. The lowest fills, however, contained either no datable material or only second century pottery. Thus it is possible that this feature was dug during the second phase of occupation but was subsequently used to dump rubbish

Pit **282** (0.4m deep, 1.2m wide and 2.3m deep) with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base was cut by ditches **317** and **215**. The fill, 283, was a dark brown slightly sandy silt with occasional gravels and frequent large pieces of limestone (probably from a nearby building). There was a small quantity of animal bone and Romano-British pottery. This pit cut the upper fills of ditch **217**.

Group 9: Small oval pits in the south-west of Area 1 with similar fills and two were cut by **161**.

Pit **154**, at the southern end of Area 1 was oval (1.22m long, 1.01m wide and 0.24m deep) with a shallow northern side, a steeply sloping southern side and a concave base. Along the northern edge of this feature was a fill, 155 (0.35m wide and 0.07m deep), which was a dark yellowish brown silty sand with a moderate amount of gravel. The upper fill, 156, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones and extended 0.84m across the pit. This fill contained fragments of animal bone and pottery dated from AD130-170, including sherds of a Lower Rhineland roughcast beaker.

To the north of pit **154** was a shallow pit, **157**, which appeared to be cut by ditch **159** (see **below**). Pit **157** was 0.8m wide, 0.96m long and 0.08m deep with a shallowly sloping north-eastern edge and a concave base. The fill, 158, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones. Pottery from this feature has been dated to the second century AD.

A shallow, elongated pit **197** (1.4m long, 0.62m wide and 0.07m deep) had a steep south-eastern side and a more shallowly sloping north-western edge, with a flat base. This pit was cut by ditch **159**. The fill, 198, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones and contained fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from AD160–230.

Group 10: Rubbish pit **102** in the southern part of Area 2.

Towards the southern end of Area 2 was a roughly circular pit, **102** (1.3m diameter and 0.15m deep) with steep sides and a flat base. The fill, 101, was a very dark greyish brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones and several large pieces of oolitic limestone, some of which showed signs of burning. Small quantities of animal bone and pottery dating between AD140-230 were also recovered. This pit was cut by the curvilinear gully **104**, discussed below.

Discussion of Groups 5 to 10

Most of the pits in Groups 5 to 10 (above) are concentrated in the southern part of Area 1, to the south of the main east–west oriented ditch. There was a notable decline in the size and density of pits of this period in the eastern part of the site. The pits appear to have been used for the disposal of rubbish. Several contained no artefactual material (other than stone, ash or charcoal fragments) but it is difficult to assign any other function to these pits.

Group 11: East–west oriented ditches in Area 1.

Sub-group 11.1

Ditch **273** was the earliest and northern-most of these ditches, it was 0.85m deep and approximately 3m wide with concave sides and a flat base. The fill (272) was a brown silty clay with a moderate amount of well sorted small gravel. Finds from this feature include a triangular loom-weight, tile, animal bone and pottery dated to AD150-240. Ditch **273** was cut on its southern edge by ditch **274** (see below). It appears that this ditch was recut, on the same alignment, but drifted southwards over time.

Sub-group 11.2

The southernmost ditch in Area 1 was **166** which had shallowly sloping sides, the southern edge stepped, and a flat base (0.12m deep and 1.10m wide). It had a single fill, 165, a dark yellowish brown slightly sandy silt with occasional gravel. This fill contained animal bone, fragments of imbrex, pottery dated between AD160-200, an iron hook, □1, and a copper alloy pin, □2, a possible brooch pin.

Group 12: Narrow gully in the central part of Area 1, running north-east–south-west. This is possibly the same as a narrow feature which was seen in the aerial photographic assessment.

A shallow 'U-shaped ditch, **317** (0.2m deep, 0.6m wide), running approximately north-east–south-west across Area 1. The single fill, 316, was a brown silty clay with very occasional small pebbles and contained a small amount of pottery dating from AD140-230.

Group 13: A narrow gully, **113**, crossed Area 3. Two further gullies crossed the trench to the north of **113**, these were not excavated. It is possible these are elements of a structure as neither appeared to continue into adjacent trenches or Areas.

In Area 3 a gully, **113** (0.3m wide and 0.12m deep) crossed the trench in a north-east–south-west direction. It had almost vertical sides and a flat base and contained fill 114 which was a dark brown, slightly clay sandy silt with two sherds of pottery dating from AD140-230.

Group 14: Ditches in Area 2. In the central part of Area 2, two parallel ditches crossed the trench. The area to the south of these ditches had been heavily disturbed by modern services trenches, but the remnants of a third ditch of similar date and approximately parallel was excavated. Two further ditches at the southern end of the trench had similar fills and have been assigned to this group.

Sub-Group 14.1

Ditch **96** (0.5m wide, 0.15m deep) had a steeply sloping southern edge, a more gradual northern edge and a concave base, the fill, 95, was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional gravels. Ditch **98** also had a steep southern edge and more gradually sloping northern edge with a concave base. The single fill, 97, was a dark yellowish brown slightly sandy silt with very few inclusions. Pottery (dating from AD160+) and animal bone was recovered from this feature.

This broad north-east–south-west running linear feature, **132**, crossed the central part of Area 2. It had been heavily disturbed by modern service trenches but appeared to be approximately 1.8m wide and the upper fill, 131, was a dark grey brown slightly sandy silt with fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from AD120-240 collected from the surface of the feature.

Sub-group 14.2

At the southern end of Area 2 was an irregular linear feature oriented north-east–south-west. The edges of ditch **128** (0.9m wide, 0.25m deep) sloped gradually and the base was slightly concave. The northern edge extended northwards in two places. Excavation suggests that this was the original shape of the feature rather that a result of re-cutting or truncation. The fill (127) was a compact yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional gravels and fragments of animal bone.

Sub-group 14.3

Gully **136** was only 0.15m wide and 0.10m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill, 135, was a compact yellowish brown very sandy gravelly silt which contained no finds.

Discussion of Groups 11 to 14

The ditches and gullies (Groups 11–14) appear to mark the northern edge of the settlement during the early phase of occupation and may have been enclosing elements of the settlement. The features which have been assigned to this phase are indicative of small scale rural settlement with access mainly to locally produced pottery and a small quantity of imported ceramics.

Cattle and sheep were being grazed on the nearby fenland in this period and bones represented in the rubbish pits are typical of domestic food waste. Similarly there was little evidence for cereal processing within the excavated area in this period but it may have been happening in the vicinity

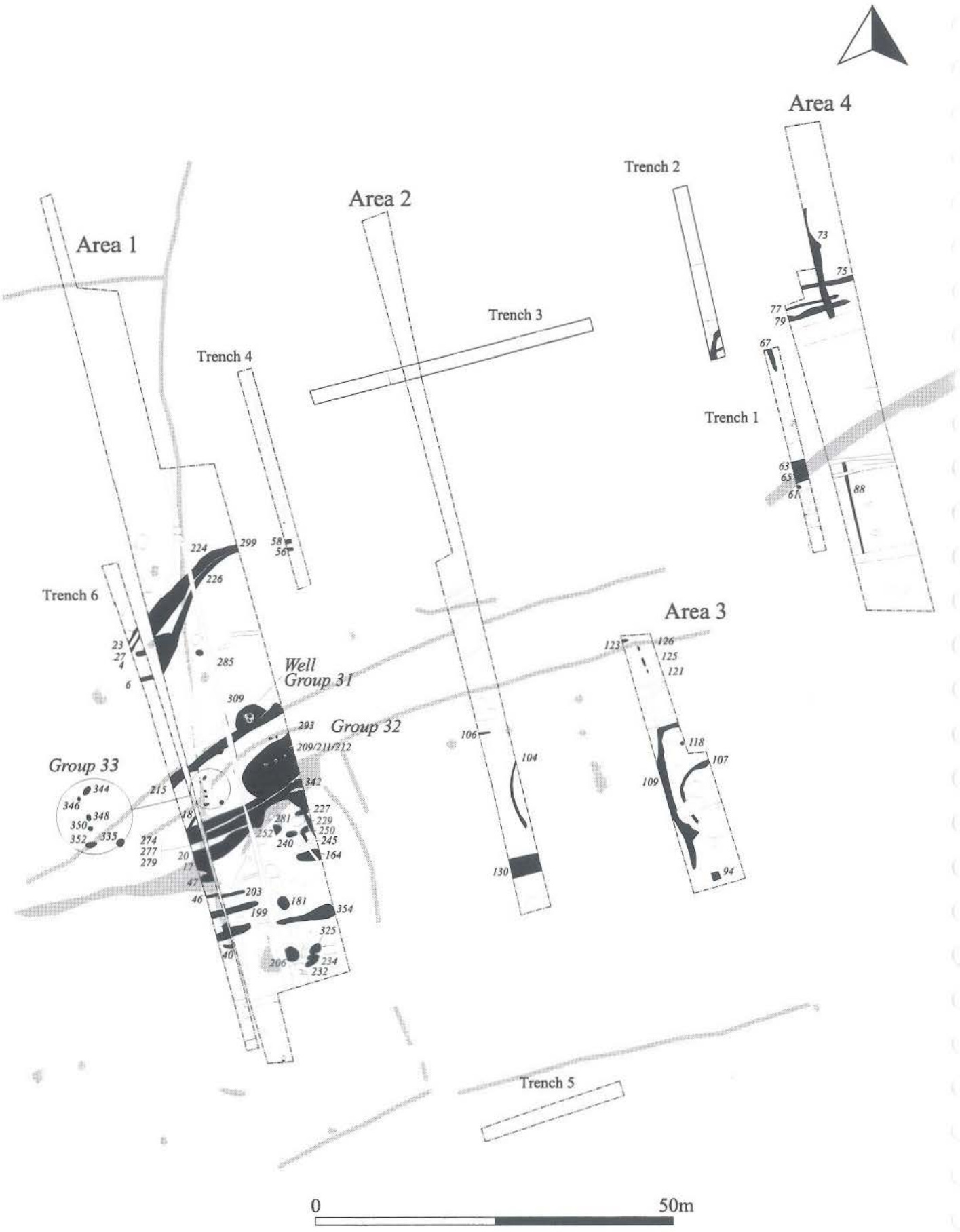


***Figure 8** Phase 3 Post-AD240*

PHASE 3 AD240–400+ (Figure 8)

As with Phase 2 (above) this phase could be sub-divided stratigraphically with re-cut ditches, pits, and other features, but falls generally within the period from the middle of the third century until the late fourth century. Again a number of features are not linked stratigraphically and fall within the general Phase 3.

Group 15 East–west oriented ditches in trench 6/Area 1

Sub-group 15.1

Ditch **226**, cut by **299** on its northern edge, was 0.27 deep and 0.45m wide and butt-ended at its eastern end, where it also became shallower and narrower. The sides were steep, almost vertical and the base slightly concave. The single fill, 225, was a brown sandy silt with occasional small stones. Tile, animal bone, a fragment of triangular loom weight and pottery (dated AD270-400+) was recovered from this feature.

Sub-group 15.2

Ditch **27** (0.78m wide and 0.43m deep), at the northern end of Trench 6 and oriented south-west–north-east, had a steeply sloping northern edge (truncated by ditch **23**) and a stepped southern edge with a slightly concave base. This feature contained three fills: 24, 25, and 26. The primary fill, 26 (0.18m thick), was a dark brown slightly sandy clay silt with grit and fragments of plaster and limestone and a small quantity of animal bone. Overlying the northern part of this fill was deposit 25 (0.08m deep and 0.2m wide) which was a dark yellowish brown clay silt with occasional pebbles. The upper fill, 24 (0.36m deep), was a dark yellowish brown clay silt with large angular stones, mortar and tile (one fragment with a shelly fabric, tegula and box flue), animal bone and pottery dating from AD240-400+.

Ditch **299** (0.48m deep, 1.23m wide) a steep south-western edge and a less steep north-eastern edge, appears to have silted up and been re-cut (see **224** above and Fig. 15). This ditch had two fills – the upper fill, 242, was a dark yellowish brown clay silt with frequent small stones (0.38m deep and 1.23m wide) which contained second century pottery, tile (tegulae with surface colour wash) and animal bone. The lower fill, 298, only appeared in the westernmost section of the ditch and was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt with frequent small stones and grit but no finds.

Sub-group 15.3

Ditch **23** which cuts the northern edge of ditch **27** (Fig. 15) and is on a similar orientation, was 0.69m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a slightly concave base. The fill, 22, was a brown slightly sandy clay silt with frequent gravels and large angular blocks of limestone and flecks of mortar. The upper part of this fill had been mixed by ploughing (plough marks were visible across much of the trench).

Ditch **224** (0.4m deep, 1.25 wide), had concave sides and base and three fills. The upper fill, 223 (0.11m thick), was very dark brown clay silt with occasional pebbles, and contained pottery (dating from AD270-400+, including possible post-Roman sherds), tile (both roof tile and other, some burnt and abraded), building stone and animal bone. The underlying fill, 296 (0.17-0.23m thick), a dark brown clay silt with frequent stones, contained no finds. The basal fill, 297 (0.09m thick), a brown clay silt contained a small quantity of pottery (dating from AD240-300+), tile, stone and animal bone. This ditch appears to be a re-cut of **299** (see above) and seems to have stayed open over a long period.

A butt ended gully, **4** (0.25m deep and 0.63m wide) with steep sides and an almost flat base extended approximately east–west 1.35m from the eastern edge of Trench 6. The fill, 3, was a brown slightly sandy clay silt with frequent small stones and contained animal bone, worked flint and a sherd of Romano-British pottery. There was no clear association of this feature with features in the northern part of Area 1 as there had been considerable disturbance caused by pitting in this area.

Sub-group 15.4

Two ditches in Trench 4 appeared to be eastern continuations of ditches **224** and **226** in the north of Area 1.
This ditch cut an east–west running ditch **56** (0.2m deep and 0.4m wide) with steeply sloping sides and a concave base which contained a single fill, 55, a very dark greyish brown with occasional small stones with animal bone and pottery dating from the period AD240-400+.

Just to the north of **56** was a further east–west running feature **58** (0.55m wide and 0.1m deep) with a gradually sloping southern edge and a more steeply sloping northern edge and a concave base. The fill, 57, was a very dark greyish brown sandy silt clay with occasional small stones and no finds.

Group 16 includes east–west oriented ditches in the central and southern part of Trench 6 and Area 1.

Sub-group 16.1 This sub-group of ditches has been recut or cleaned at least once.

Ditch **274** (0.95m deep and >2.8m wide) contained a yellowish brown silty clay fill (275) with frequent gravel evenly distributed throughout. Pottery recovered from this fill has been dated AD240-400+.

Ditch **274** was cut by the northern edge of ditch **277** (0.6m deep and >0.7m wide) which contained a dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent gravel (276). No finds were recovered from this feature.

The southernmost feature in this sub-group was a shallow pit **279** which cut the southern edge of **277**. This pit was shallow with a concave base (3m wide and only 0.1m deep) and contained a single fill (278) which was a yellowish brown silty clay with moderate gravels. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Sub-group 16.2

Ditch **18**, in Trench 6, ran north-west–south-east, was 1.34m wide and 0.31m deep with even sides and a slightly concave base. The fill, 19, was a clay silt with frequent small stones and contained animal bone, tegula with surface colour coat, and pottery dated between AD240-300+.

Sub-group 16.3

A shallow gully, **40** (0.52m wide and 0.07m deep), oriented east–west across Trench 6 had steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. The single fill, 39, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt containing flecks of charcoal and fragments of daub. There was no corresponding feature found in Area 1. No stratigraphic relationships were recorded but gully **40** has been put in this group on grounds of its orientation, location and fill.

A further gully, **46** (0.4m wide and 0.12m deep), also running east–west across Trench 6, and parallel to **40** (see above) had more gradually sloping sides and a flat base. The fill, 45, was a dark brown clay silt with occasional small stones and contained no finds. This feature continued eastwards into Area 1 where it was given the feature number **203**.

Feature **203** was a relatively broad, shallow gully with steep sides and a flat base (0.38m wide and 0.12m deep). The fill, 202, was a dark yellowish brown slightly sandy silt with very occasional gravel which contained a small quantity of animal bone and pottery dating from AD240-400+. This feature ran approximately east–west and was cut by the north–south running ditch **159/161**.

Parallel and to the south of gully **203** was ditch **199** (0.7m wide and 0.33m deep with steep sides and a flat base). This ditch contained two fills, 200 and 201. The lower fill, 200 (0.14 m deep), was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate small stones and contained no finds. The upper fill, 201 (0.19m deep), was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional gravels and contained animal bone and pottery dated to the fourth century AD.

Linear 47 just to the south of pit **17** was also not excavated, but the fill was a dark brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Again this feature has been assigned to sub-group 16.2 on the basis of its location, orientation and fill.

Sub-group 16.4

Ditch **354**, towards the southern end of Area 1 ran east–west and to the east of boundary ditch **170/184**, was steep sided with a concave base (0.84m wide and 0.23m deep). The single fill, 353, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt and contained animal bone, imbrex (or ridge tile) and pottery dated to the Romano-British period.

Group 17 gullies were next to (and continued into) the eastern section of Area 1 and may have formed a structure to the east of the area. Two postholes are associated with this group of features.

Sub-group 17.1

Gully **229** (0.4m wide and 0.15m deep) ran in a north-west–south-easterly direction with steep, even sides and a flat base. Its fill, 230, was a dark yellowish brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional stones. Fragments of animal bone and Romano-British pottery were recovered from the fill.

Sub-group 17.2

The gully cut across a further shallow gully, **227**, which ran at right-angles to **229** and butt-ended 1.05m to the west. Feature **227** was 0.75m wide and 0.12m deep with steep, even, sides. The single fill, 228, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt and also contained fragments of Romano-British pottery and a nail.

Cutting gully **229** was a slightly curved gully, **250**, which butt-ended approximately 2m from the eastern edge of Area 1. This was 0.83m wide and 0.17m deep with shallowly sloping concave sides and a slightly concave base and ran approximately east–west curving south at its western end. The fill, 251, was a dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones which contained fragments of animal bone, tile and pottery dating from AD240-400+.

Ditch **164** ran east–west, extending 3.5m westwards into Area 1. It was 0.36m deep and 1.6m wide, with concave sides and a flat base. The single fill, 163, was a dark grey brown silty clay with occasional gravels and a moderate amount of charcoal. This feature was cut by gully **247** (see below)

Group 18 ditches were found in the eastern part of the site (Area 4). These narrow linear features appear to form a rectangular enclosure or structure oriented north-west–south-east.

Sub-group 18.1

Ditch **75** (cut at right angles by **73**) was oriented approximately east–west with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The fill, 76, was a dark yellowish brown silty clay with occasional small stones and contained no finds.

To the south of **75**, and also cut at right-angles by **73**, was a further shallow linear feature, ditch **77**, (0.07m deep and 0.48m wide) with gently sloping concave sides and base which 'butt-ended' close to the eastern edge of the trench. This feature contained a single fill, 78, which was a dark yellowish brown silty clay with very occasional flints and pebbles but no artefactual material.

Ditch **79**, to the south of **77**, and cut by feature 73, also 'butt-ended' near to the eastern edge of the trench. This ditch was 0.61m wide and 0.07m deep with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. The fill, 80, was a dark yellowish brown silty clay with very occasional gravel inclusions. Romano-British pottery was recovered from this fill.

Sub-group 18.2

Ditch **73** was a shallow, wide feature (0.05m deep and 0.84m wide) running approximately north-west–south-east cutting three approximately east–west running ditches (**75**, **77**, **79**). The fill, 74, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones. No finds were recovered from the excavated portion of this feature.

The southern end of feature **73** was cut by a broad linear feature (over 3m wide) which crossed Area 4. This feature was not excavated and no evidence for it was found to the west in Trenches 1 or 2 or Area 2. No aerial photographic evidence for this feature has been plotted.

Sub-group 18.3

At the northern end of Trench 1 was a north–south oriented gully which butt-ended 3m from the end of the trench. This gully, **67**, was 0.42m wide and 0.15m deep with steep sides and a flat base and contained a single fill, 66. This was a very dark greyish brown sandy silt containing fragments of fourth century pottery. Gully **67** was parallel to a similar, unexcavated linear feature in Trench 2 and ditch **73** in Area 4 (see above).

Sub-group 18.4

Gully **88** (0.33m wide and 0.08m deep) had even almost vertical sides, a flat base and was oriented north-west–south-east. The fill, 89, was a very dark greyish brown slightly clay sandy silt and contained sherds of pottery dating between AD230-270.

GROUP 19 includes linear features in the southern part of Trench 1 which were oriented east–west. and may have been continuations of similar linear features recorded in Area 4 although no direct correlation can be made as alignments vary

Sub-group 19.1

Gully **63** (in Trench 1) oriented east–west, had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The single fill, 62, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt with occasional small stones and three blocks of limestone (>0.15m) in its base. It was thought that this feature is a continuation of linear **81** but the fills were significantly different and fill 62 contained no dating material. It has been assigned to this group mainly on its relationship to features **65** and **42** but may just as well date to Phase 4.

Ditch **65** (4.5m wide) was oriented north-east–south-west, its southern edge only was investigated. The excavated depth was approximately 0.45m and revealed a gently sloping edge. The visible fill, 64, was a dark brown, slightly sandy clay silt with occasional small stones and contained animal bone, iron slag, tile and pottery dating from AD240-300+. This pit was cut by gully **63**, discussed above. This feature is identified with a crop-mark shown in the aerial photographs.

Sub-group 19.2

A shallow semi-circular feature, apparently the butt-end of a ditch or gully was noted approximately 9m from the south end of Trench 1. This ditch, **61**, was 0.58m wide and 0.13m deep and was sealed beneath spread 42 (containing tile, animal bone and fourth century pottery). It appeared to be parallel The fill, 60, of ditch **61** was a dark brown slightly clay silt with very occasional gravels which also contained fragments of fourth century pottery.

GROUP 20 comprises two ditches which appear to cross the site and have been identified on aerial photographs.

Ditch **36** (1.45m wide and 0.45m deep) oriented south-west–north-east had a concave southern edge and a stepped northern edge with a flat base. This feature had two fills, 30 and 31. The primary fill, 31 (0.2m deep) was a dark brown sandy clay silt with moderate small stones and contained fourth century pottery and animal bone. The upper fill, 30, (0.25m deep) was a dark brown sandy silty clay with

occasional small stones with charcoal flecks. The finds include animal bone, a fragment of tegula and pottery dating from AD240-300+.
Ditch **36** in Trench 6 appears to be a western continuation of ditch **215** although it had a slightly different profile and two fills.

Ditch **215** crossed Area 1 approximately east–west. It was 1.15m wide and 0.48m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This feature had a single fill, 214, a dark brown slightly sandy silt with frequent small stones and contained a small quantity of tile, and animal bone, two square-sectioned nails and a small quantity of pottery dated between AD270-400+.

To the south of ditch **215** and parallel to it was ditch **342** (1m wide and 0.6m deep) which had a concave base and sides and ran approximately east–west, cutting the northern edge of pit **281** (see below). The fill, 341, was a brownish grey silty clay with occasional small stones. A sondage along the western edge of Area 1 revealed a series of re-cut east-west running ditches which may form the ditched southern edge of the drove which was noted crossing the site on the aerial photographs (see Appendix I).

Discussion of Groups 15 to 19

During this phase of occupation further ditches were dug, to the north of the settlement features, which appear to be part of the ditched 'droveway' that was identified in excavations at Plant's Farm (Simpson *et al* 1993) and the aerial photographic reassessment. The ditches and gullies are most likely to have been used as property divisions and for stock control and for drainage of the gravel island upon which settlement was based.

Group 21 curvilinear gullies towards the southern part of the site, occurring in Areas 2 and 3. These may be eaves-drip gullies for circular structures. Those in Area 3 have associated postholes. The earliest of the gullies (**113**) has been placed in Phase 2 on the basis of the pottery from its fill and on stratigraphic grounds but it would appear to be a similarly structural feature. It is possible that gully **104** may be of the same Phase as it had similar dimensions to **113** above

Sub-group 21.1

A shallow curving gully, **104** (0.3m wide and 0.2m deep) had its butt end (possibly the entrance to the structure) to the south. It was steep sided with a concave base and cut through the edge of pit **102** (above). The fill (103) of this curvilinear gully was a dark brown sandy silt with a single sherd of Romano-British pottery.

The exposed part of gully **107** suggests it was probably circular but the eastern side extended beyond the edge of the trench. This gully was 0.39m wide and 0.19m deep and had steeply sloping even sides and a slightly concave base. The fill, 108, was a brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional gravels. There were no finds from this feature.

Sub-group 21.2

Pit **118** was a similar shape but slightly larger than **111** and **116**, being 0.7m long, 0.64m wide and 0.21m deep with a concave base and sides. The single fill, 117, was a very dark greyish brown slightly clay silt with occasional small stones and contained fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from AD240-400+. This feature may be a large posthole associated with the gullies **107** or **113**.

GROUP 22 At the northern end of Trench 3 a series of elongated pits were excavated. It is possible these form part of a circular structure that has been heavily truncated. The dimension of this feature is similar to **107**, above.

At the northern end of Area 3 was the butt-end of a shallow, probably linear feature, which extended westwards beyond the trench edge. This feature, **123** was 0.24m wide and 0.1m deep with a more gradual slope on its northern edge and a concave base. The single fill, 122, was a dark brown clay silt which contained no artefactual material.

At the northern end of Area 3 were several discrete features including **121** (1.82m long, 0.3m wide and 0.16m deep) which was sub-rectangular pit, oriented north-west–south-east widening to 0.5m towards the middle. The base was slightly concave and the sides were concave towards the middle and more steeply sloping at either end. This feature contained two fills, 119 and 120. The lowest fill, 120, was a dark reddish brown silt on the western side of the central part (0.05m wide, 0.14m deep and 0.4m long), possibly the result of burning *in situ* of a post. The upper fill, 119, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks which contained fragments of tile, animal bone and pottery dating between AD240-400+.

In the same part of Area 3 was a smaller sub-rectangular feature, **125**. This was 0.24m wide, 0.66m long and 0.21m deep with almost vertical sides and a flat base. The fill, 124, a very dark greyish brown slightly clay silt contained relatively large quantities of animal bone and 3 sherds of pottery dating from AD240-400+.

The final feature, 126, in this group was oval, 1.2m long and 0.32m wide with rounded ends and parallel sides. The surface of this feature was dark brown clay silt with occasional small stones. It appeared to have considerable animal disturbance and was, consequently, not excavated.

GROUP 23

Ditch **109** (0.58m wide and 0.13m deep) had gently sloping sides and a concave base and was oriented approximately north–south although the northern end appeared to turn a right-angle, to the east. This ditch may have been a small rectangular enclosure around structure **107**. The fill, 110, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional gravels. The pottery from this feature has been dated to AD240-400+. It truncated the western part of gully **113**.

GROUP 24

North of gully **104**, was the butt end of a narrow gully, **106**, extending 1.7m eastwards from the western edge of Area 2. It was 0.34m wide and 0.2m deep with almost vertical sides and a flat base. The single fill, 105, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones and charcoal flecks and contained animal bone, fragments of daub and Romano-British pottery.

GROUP 25

Ditch **130** at the southern end of Area 2, was 1m wide and over 0.3m deep (its base was not reached) with gradually sloping sides. There appeared to be only one fill, 129, but as the full depth was not revealed this was not confirmed. The fill was a yellowish brown very sandy gravelly silt containing fragments of animal bone and shell-tempered Romano-British pottery.

No sign of a western or eastern extension of this ditch was found in Area 1 or 3.

Discussion of Groups 21 to 25

The features in this group are possibly related to structures although no floors or surfaces can be associated with them. It is impossible to assign a function to these

structures although the circular/sub-circular ones may be the eves-drip gullies of a round house, similar to that identified in the Plant's Farm excavation (Simpson *et al*, 1993).

GROUP 26 The southern central part of Trench 6/Area 1 contained numerous rubbish pits which varied in size and shape.

Sub-group 26.1

Towards the southern end of Trench 6 a large pit, **17**, was partially excavated by machine. It was not possible to determine the exact shape in plan as it had been cut on the northern edge by ditch **20**. The machine cut section was 1.4m deep (from the present ground surface) and 1.85m wide (the apparent length of the feature, on the surface, was approximately 5m). The pit contained three fills, 16, 32, and 35. The basal fill, 35, was a dark yellowish brown silty sand with considerable amounts of gravel, 0.1m deep. The full extent of this fill was not visible in the machine-cut section. The overlying fill, 32, (0.5m deep) was a fairly compact dark brown clay silt with moderate gravel and charcoal flecks. The upper fill, 16, was a brown clay silt with occasional flint gravels. The upper fills (16 and 32) contained fragments of animal bone and Romano-British pottery. This feature extended into Area 1, south of the ditches discussed in Group 16, above.

Sub-group 26.2

On the eastern edge of Area 1 was a sub-circular pit **293** (2.3m wide, over 5m long and 0.72m deep) extending into the eastern section of Area 1. This pit cut ditch **273**, to the south. It had slightly concave sides and base and contained seven fills: 267, 268, 269, 270, 291, 292 and 294 (Fig. 15). The lowest fill, 294 (on the northern edge of the pit) was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt (0.17m thick) with occasional gravel. Overlying this and in the base of pit **293** was fill 292 (0.11m thick) a brown silty clay with very occasional small stones. Overlying 292, on the southern edge of the pit was fill 291 (0.35 thick), a dark yellowish brown clay silt with occasional small stones which contained fragments of animal bone, tile (tegula) and pottery dating from the second century AD. Sealing fills 294, 292 and 291 was fill 267 (0.31m thick), a dark brown clay silt with very occasional very small stones which contained a bent iron nail, fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from AD240–400+. Overlying fill 267 was fill 270 (0.13m thick), a brown sandy clay silt with moderate gravels. Overlying this and in the central part of the pit was a further layer, 268 (0.33m thick, 1.3m wide and over 1m long) a very dark grey clay silt with occasional stones, frequent fragments of charcoal and fired clay. Over 6kg of stone was recovered together with box flue and sub-circular hypocaust tiles (with mortar attached), animal bone and shell, glass and iron nails (including hob nails), and pottery dating from the fourth century. The latest fill in the sequence, 269 (0.14m thick, 0.55m wide and over 1m long) was a dark brown clay silt with frequent small stones, fragments of animal bone, tile and pottery dating from AD240–400+.

The early date for the lower fills may be a result of this feature cutting through ditch 273 with finds from the ditch weathering into the pit. Alternatively it may have been dug during an earlier phase of occupation and have been left open over a long period. The upper fill of this pit had been cut by Group 32 postholes (see below)

A large, sub-circular pit **314** (2.88m wide and 1.18m deep with steep even sides and a flat base) was next to, and cut by, well **309**. Pit **314** had also cut through a smaller pit **358**. Pit **314** contained two fills, the lower of which, 357 (0.18m thick), was a dark brown sandy silt with a large (40%) quantity of gravel. The upper fill, 315 (1,1m thick) was a very dark greyish brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones. This fill contained fragments of animal bone, tile (including tegula, imbrex and box flue) and pottery dating from the fourth century.

The small pit, **358**, cut by **314** (above) was only visible in section, on the south-eastern edge of **314**. The remaining width of pit **358** was 0.62m and its depth 0.35m. Two fills were noted: 359 and 360. The lower fill, 359, was a dark brown sandy silt with a high percentage of gravel. The upper fill, 360, was a dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal. No finds were recovered from this feature.

GROUP 27 pits in the southern part of Area 1 were smaller, and frequently oval or sub-circular.

Sub-group 27.1

Pit **324** was cut by pits **232** and **325**, it was not, however, excavated because of heavy truncation.

Sub-group 27.2

Pit **232** (0.2m long, 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep) was an elongated oval with steep, almost vertical sides and a flat base. Its western end cut pit **173** (see above). Pit **232** contained two fills: 187 and 233. The basal fill, 233 (0.14m deep) was a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal, and contained no artefactual material. The upper fill, 187 (0.17m deep), was a dark grey clay silt with occasional small stones and contained a small quantity of animal bone, tile and pottery dating from the third century AD.

Pit **325** (2.3m long, 1.8m wide and 0.4m deep) had a steep, almost vertical, south-eastern edge and a more gradually sloping north-western edge and a flat base and contained two fills: 188 and 326. The basal fill, 188, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt with occasional small stones and contained fragments of animal bone, pottery dating from AD240-400+ and a copper alloy coin (□4, third century 'barbarous radiate'). The upper fill, 326, was a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small stones and contained Romano-British pottery, animal bone and shell.

GROUP 28 pits in the eastern central part of the Area 1 tended to be oval or sub-circular, shallow and contained either no dating material or very few finds. No obvious function can be ascribed to these pits but they do not appear to have been used for the disposal of rubbish. No stratigraphic relationship could be determined between features in this group but pit **245** was cut by gullies **247** and **250**.

Shallow pit **252** (0.58m long, 0.55m wide and 0.2m deep) had steep even sides and a flat base and contained a fill (253) which was a dark yellowish brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones and contained a single sherd of Romano-British shell-tempered pottery.

A shallow, oval, pit **240** (1.5m long, 0.86m wide and 0.15m deep) had steep, even sides and a flat base. The single fill, 241, was a dark yellowish brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional pebbles which contained animal bone and a small quantity of pottery dating from the first half of the third century.

In the vicinity of the two above pits (**240** and **252**) was another, approximately circular pit **254** (0.83m long, 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep) with a flat base and steep even sides. The fill, 255, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones and contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery.

Another pit in this sub-group includes **245**. Pit **245** was 1.52m long, 0.95m wide and 0.11m deep. The sides were steeply sloping and even and the base was flat. The fill, 246, was a slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones. No finds were recovered from this pit.

GROUP 29 pits appeared, initially, as a single linear feature running north-south, parallel to ditch **170/184** and a further pit just to the north. Cleaning of the area showed the linear feature as a sub-group of four oval or sub-circular pits. The southern most was discrete but the others were intercutting. The northernmost of sub-group 1 was not excavated but it was cut on its southern edge by pit **218** which was,

in turn, cut by pit **249**. Both of these appeared to have been completely filled during the second phase of occupation (see above).

Sub-group 29.1

A larger pit, **281**, was approximately circular (2m wide and over 1.1m deep, the base was not fully exposed) with concave sides. The fill, 280, was a brown silty clay with a moderate amount of gravel and fragments of limestone, tile (tegula and imbrex), animal bone and pottery dating from AD240–300+.

Sub-group 29.2

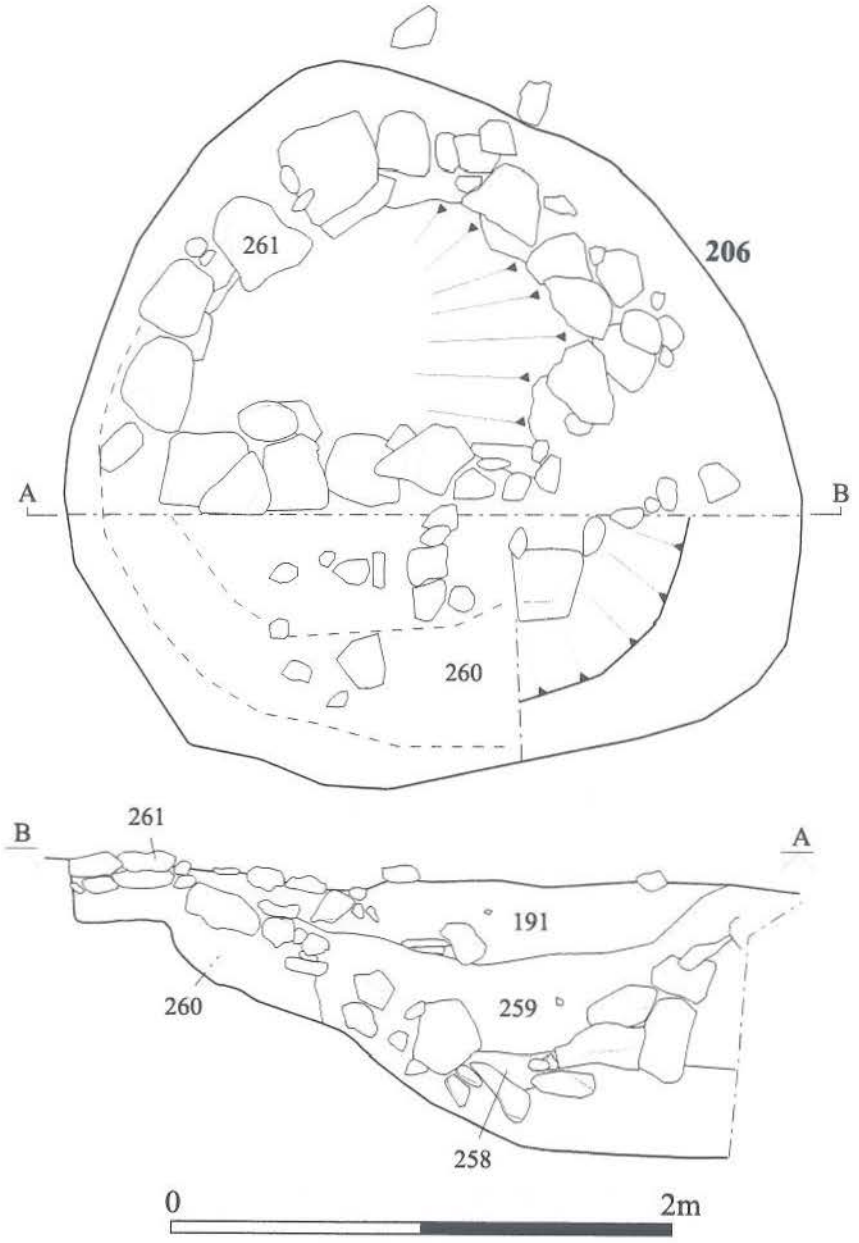
Pit **181** (1.45m wide and 0.75m deep) was oval/sub-circular with a flat base and concave sides. The single fill, 180, was a dark grey silty clay with occasional gravels and contained pottery, abraded tile and animal bone. The pottery was a mixture of Flavian types (AD70–100) and shards from later vessels (AD240–400+). As this feature was associated with the earlier pits to the north it is possible the early pottery comes from a previous feature in this position.

GROUP 30 consists of a single pit in the southern part of Area 1 which cut all other features. The upper part was stone lined. Nothing comparable was found elsewhere on the site. Initially this was thought to be a well but it differed significantly from the timber-lined well to the north.

Feature **206** (2.5m wide and 1.2m deep) had almost vertical sides and a flat base. The stepped upper part of this feature had a layer of light olive brown silty sandy gravel, 260 (0.12m thick), possibly a foundation layer for the stone lining round the top. The upper part of the pit was lined with roughly rectangular limestone blocks, 261, up to four courses high. On the eastern edge the blocks had slumped into the pit. The upper fill, 191, (0.35m thick), was a dark grey clay silt with occasional small stones, a small quantity of charcoal and fragments of limestone. Finds from this fill include slag, quern, nails (including hob nails) and unidentified ferrous objects, tegula, imbrex, box flue (sooted), possible bipedalis, pottery dating mainly from ?fourth century and a decorated copper-alloy strip (□5), possibly part of a bracelet. Fill 259 (0.35m thick), a dark greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal, contained pottery dating from AD240-300+, tile (peg tile?, imbrex or roof ridge tile, lydion or sequepedalis and other tile), a large nail, fragments of limestone and animal bone. The primary fill, 258, was dark grey silty sandy gravel with fragments of animal bone and oyster shell, tegula and pottery dating from AD240-300+.

GROUP 31

Well **309** (excavated depth 1.3m, diameter 2.3m) had a limestone block lining (311) in its upper part which appeared to have collapsed. The upper fill of the well, 310, contained fragments of limestone (possibly from the lining or from a nearby building), box flue (some of a shelly fabric and some soot blackened), tegula and imbrex, animal bone and pottery dating from AD240-300+. Below the stone lining was a rectangular oak frame (312) which lined a shaft 0.6m x 0.9m (see Appendix VIII). It is possible that the whole shaft had been wood lined but that as the water table dropped the wood from the upper part of the well rotted. The fill of the shaft, 313, was a very dark greyish brown slightly silty sandy clay with occasional small stones which contained animal bone, tile (including tegula and imbrex) and pottery dated AD240-400+. Uncharred but waterlogged plant remains were noted in the environmental sample from the shaft (312, □12, see Appendix IX).



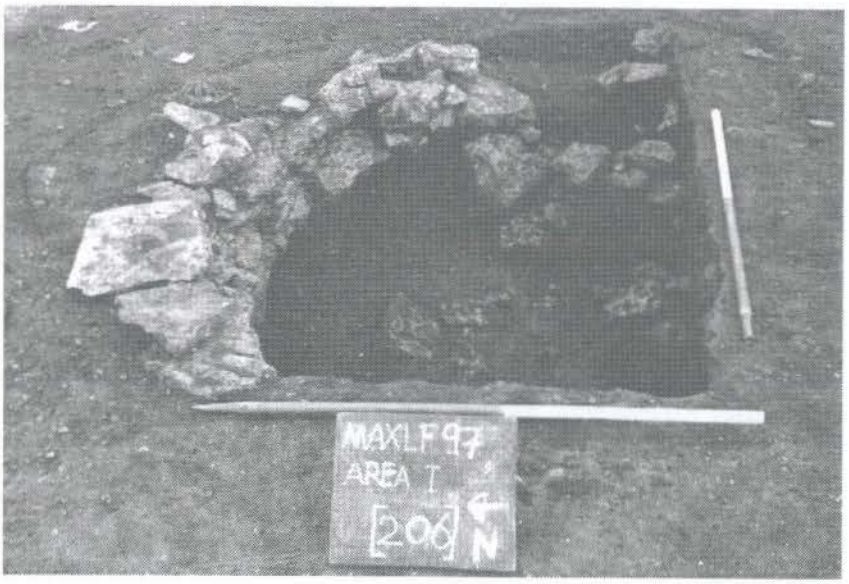


Figure 9 *Plan, section and photograph of Pit* ***206***

The well had been cut through earlier pits, **314** and **358** (sub-group 26.2), which in turn had cut ditch **215** (Group 20, above).

GROUP 32 postholes were located towards the middle of Area 1. Three of them (**209**, **211** and **213**) were cut into the upper fills of feature **293** and the remainder were cut into the adjacent gravel. Those postholes cut into the fill of pit **293** were excavated.

Posthole **209** (0.42m wide and 0.15m deep) had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The fill, 208, a dark brown slightly sandy silt with very occasional small stones contained animal bone and pottery dating from AD240-400+. Posthole **211** (0.4m long, 0.38m wide and 0.14m deep) was sub-rectangular with a vertical western edge and a flat base. The eastern edge of the feature continued beyond the edge of Area 1, thus it is possible that this represents the end of a gully or beam slot, rather than a posthole. The fill, 210, was dark yellowish brown slightly sandy silt with occasional gravels, fragments of animal bone and pottery dating from AD120-200. Posthole **213** (0.27m wide and 0.08m deep) had almost vertical sides an a flat base. The fill, 212, was a very dark greyish brown slightly sandy silt with very little gravel and a very small quantity of animal bone.

This group of postholes form an approximately rectangular shape and may have formed a structure over 5m long and 2.5m wide.

GROUP 33 postholes occurred to the west of the group 32 postholes. These were cut into the top of feature **217** and into the surrounding gravel. Six of these postholes were excavated: **335**, **344**, **346**, **348**, **350** and **352**. These were divided into two sub-groups. Sub-group 33.1 comprised postholes over 0.3m diameter and sub-group 33.2 postholes were 0.25m diameter or smaller. It was not possible to discern a pattern in the position of these postholes but they appear to extend westwards beyond the edge of excavation.

Sub-group 33.1

Posthole **335** (0.43m wide and 0.22m deep) had steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It contained three fills: 332 (0.04m thick), the upper fill, was a dusky red silty clay which appeared to have been fired or heated. A single sherd of Romano-British shell-tempered pottery was recovered from this fill. Fill 333 (0.13m thick) was a dark brown clay silt and the basal fill, 334, (0.09m thick) was a brown clay silt with a high proportion of gravel.

Posthole **344** (0.3m wide and 0.17m deep) had a slightly concave base and sides and contained a single fill, 343, which was a dark brown slightly clay silt.

The final posthole in this sub-group was **352** (0.47m wide and 0.16m deep) with fill, 351, a dark grey brown clay silt which two sherds of pottery dating from AD240-400+.

Sub-group 33.2

Posthole **346** (0.21m wide and 0.1m deep) again had a slightly concave base and sides and contained a single fill, 345, a dark brown clay silt. A very shallow posthole **348** (0.25m wide, 0.04m deep) with a flat base and slightly concave sides contained a single fill, 347, a very dark brown clay silt. Another similarly shallow posthole **350** (0.19m wide and 0.03m deep) again had a slightly concave base and concave sides and contained a dark brown clay silt fill, 349.

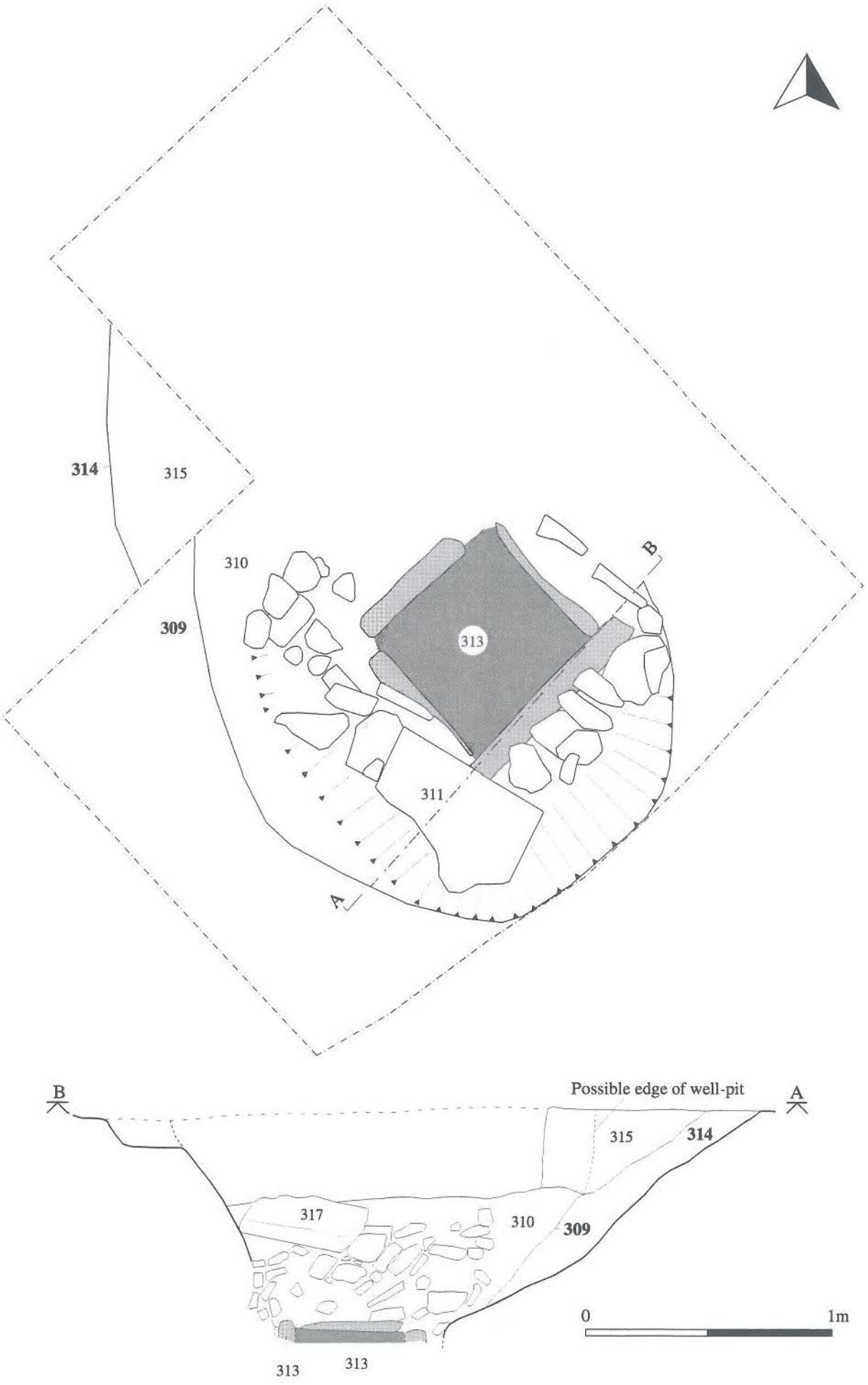


Figure 10** Plan and section of* Well ***309

on the underside). A similar example was found in earlier excavations at Plant's Farm (Gurney *et al,* 1993). The fill, 92 (0.11m deep) surrounding the skeleton was a dark yellowish brown slightly clay silt with occasional small stones and unidentified fragments of iron in the chest area and behind the knees. Pottery from this fill has been dated to AD240-400+. The basal fill, 93, (0.05m deep) was a compact dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional gravels restricted to the area around the skeleton and contained no finds.

Discussion of Groups 26 to 35

During the third main phase of occupation there was an expansion of the settlement with an increase in the range and density of finds. There was no break in the ceramic sequence suggestive of a hiatus in or abandonment of the settlement, rather there was a steady increase in activity on the site. A well had been dug and there were more substantial pits (some of which may have been used for storage). Similarly the evidence suggests ditches were dug to the north of the earlier system and also the ditches from the early phase were re-cut. A series of gullies in the eastern part of the site may reflect fenced enclosures or additional drainage close to the river.

The only burial found on the site dates to this period and is placed close to the two curvilinear gullies which have been interpreted as the eves-drip gullies for circular structures.

PHASE 4 5th century and Saxon features (Figure 12)

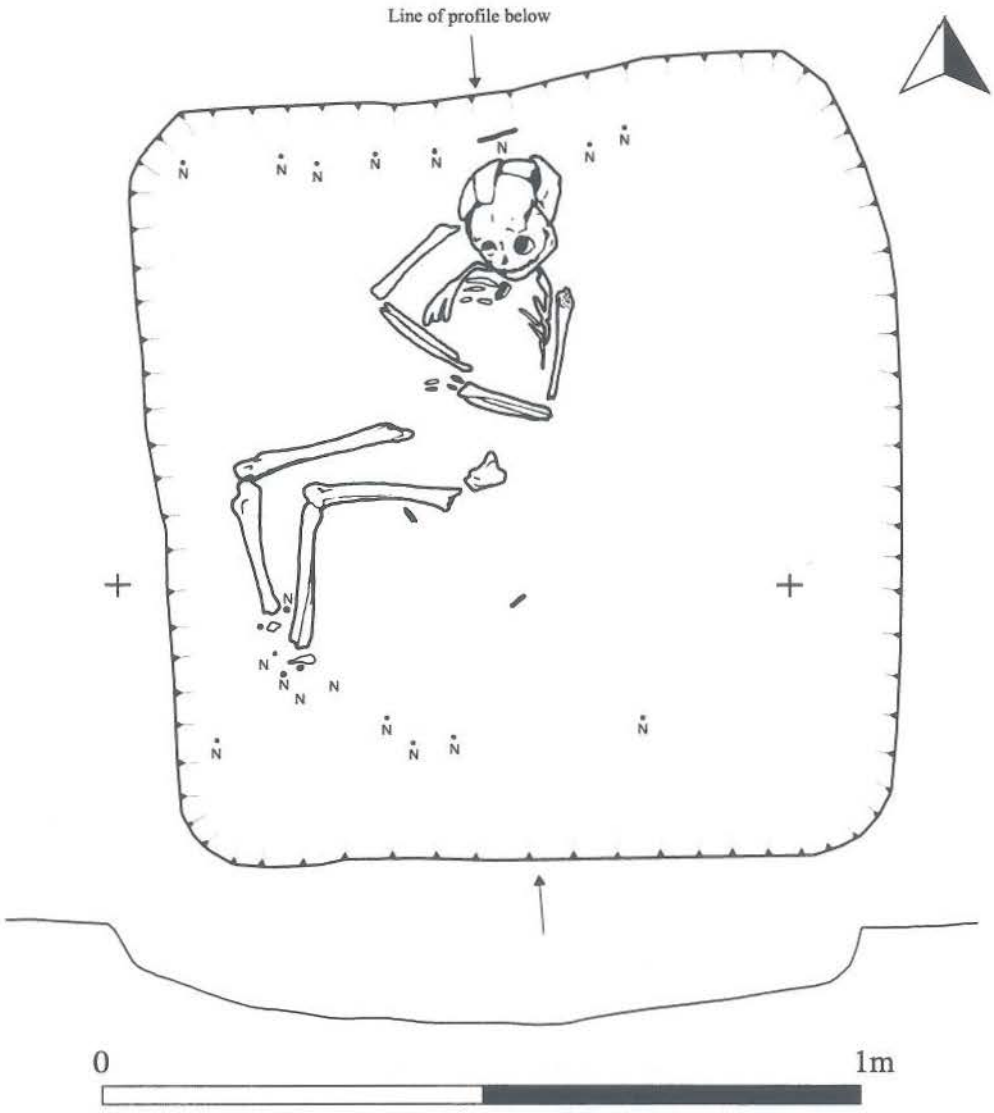
Late Roman and early Saxon features containing fifth and sixth century pottery and other finds were found dispersed across the site. Maxey ware sherds (AD650-850) were recovered during surface cleaning of Trenches 1 and 6. The presence of post-Roman/medieval sherds across the site, albeit only small quantities and very scattered, suggests small scale occupation of the site and surrounding area, possibly re-using Roman buildings or Roman building material. The density of Saxon pottery and other finds increased towards the west, particularly in Area 1, and this reinforces this impression of Saxon occupation of the site focused on the Roman buildings to the west.

GROUP 36

A shallow pit, **205** (cut by ditch **400**) had a flat base and very shallowly sloping concave sides. Its fill, 204, was a dark brown sandy silt with very little gravel containing fragments of animal bone, two nails (□3), residual Nene Valley colour coated pottery and hand-made Saxon pottery.

GROUP 37 consisted of a gully which was oriented approximately north–south along Trench 6/Area 1, with a further gully extending westwards beyond the trench and at right-angles to it.

Feature **400** (cut numbers **159**, **161** and **168**). Ditch **159** was irregular (varying between 0.07m and 0.15m deep and 0.43m to 0.84m wide), with steep even sides and a slightly concave base running



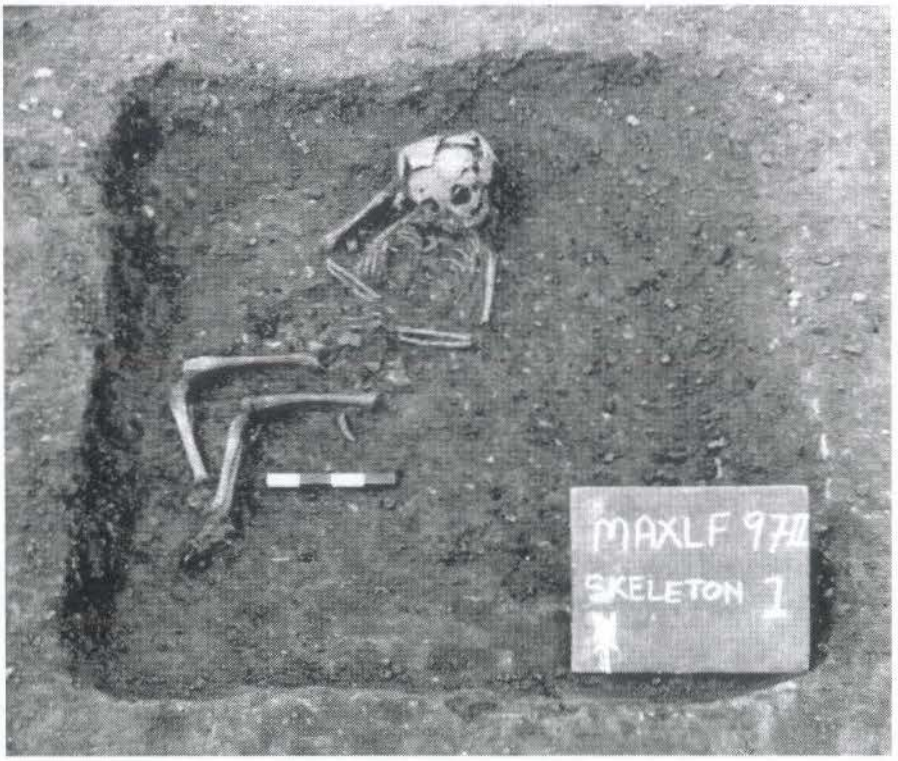


Figure 11 *Plan, profile and photograph of Grave 94*

approximately north–south. The fill, 160, was a slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional small stones and contained small quantities of pottery. A further section of ditch **400** was excavated. The cut, **161**, was 0.25m deep and between 0.46m and 0.67m wide with a concave base and steep, even sides. The fill, 162, was similar to 160 and contained small quantities of pottery. The pottery from fills 160 and 162 is dated from the third to fifth centuries. The southern end of this shallow gully **168** (0.4m wide, 0.10m deep and over 10m long) was excavated. The fill, 167, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones (equivalent to 160 and 162). There were no finds from this section of the gully.

The southern extension of the gully in Trench 6 was numbered 38 and also contained small quantities of fifth century pottery.

The pottery assemblage in these features reveals a distinct overlap between the end of the Roman period and early Saxon occupation.

GROUP 38

Gully **6** (0.28m deep and 0.6m wide) ran approximately east–west across Trench 6 and across the western half of Area 1. It had steep sides, a flat base and a single fill, 5, which was a dark yellowish brown slightly sandy clay silt with occasional stones. Fill 5 contained a flint blade flake, animal bone and fifth century pottery.

GROUP 39

Gully **247**, along the eastern edge of Area 1, (0.51m wide and 0.17m deep) had a concave base, a shallow south-western edge and a more steeply sloping north-eastern edge. The fill, 248, was a slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones and contained fragments of shell tempered (possibly fifth or sixth century) pottery.

The above groups of postholes formed no recognisable structural pattern but had been cut into the top of earlier features and may have been used as part of some form of processing.

GROUP 34

Towards the northern part of Area 1 was a sub-rectangular pit **285** (1.12m long, 0.9m wide and 0.28m deep) with steep, almost vertical sides and a flat base. The fill, 284, was a dark yellowish brown slightly sandy silt with occasional gravels and contained fragments of limestone, imbrex and other tile, animal bone and pottery dating from the fourth century.

GROUP 35 consists of a grave, similar in shape and type to that found in earlier excavations to the east (Gurney *et al,* 1993).

Grave **94**, located at the southern end of Area 3, was sub-rectangular (1.19m long, 1.12m wide and 0.15m deep) with a flat base. The grave contained the skeleton of a child, approximately 5 years old, (see Appendix IV) with small iron nails (including hob nails) around the hands and feet and much larger iron nails at the head and foot of the grave. It would appear that the grave may not have contained a coffin but may have been covered by a wooden lid (with the heads of the nails

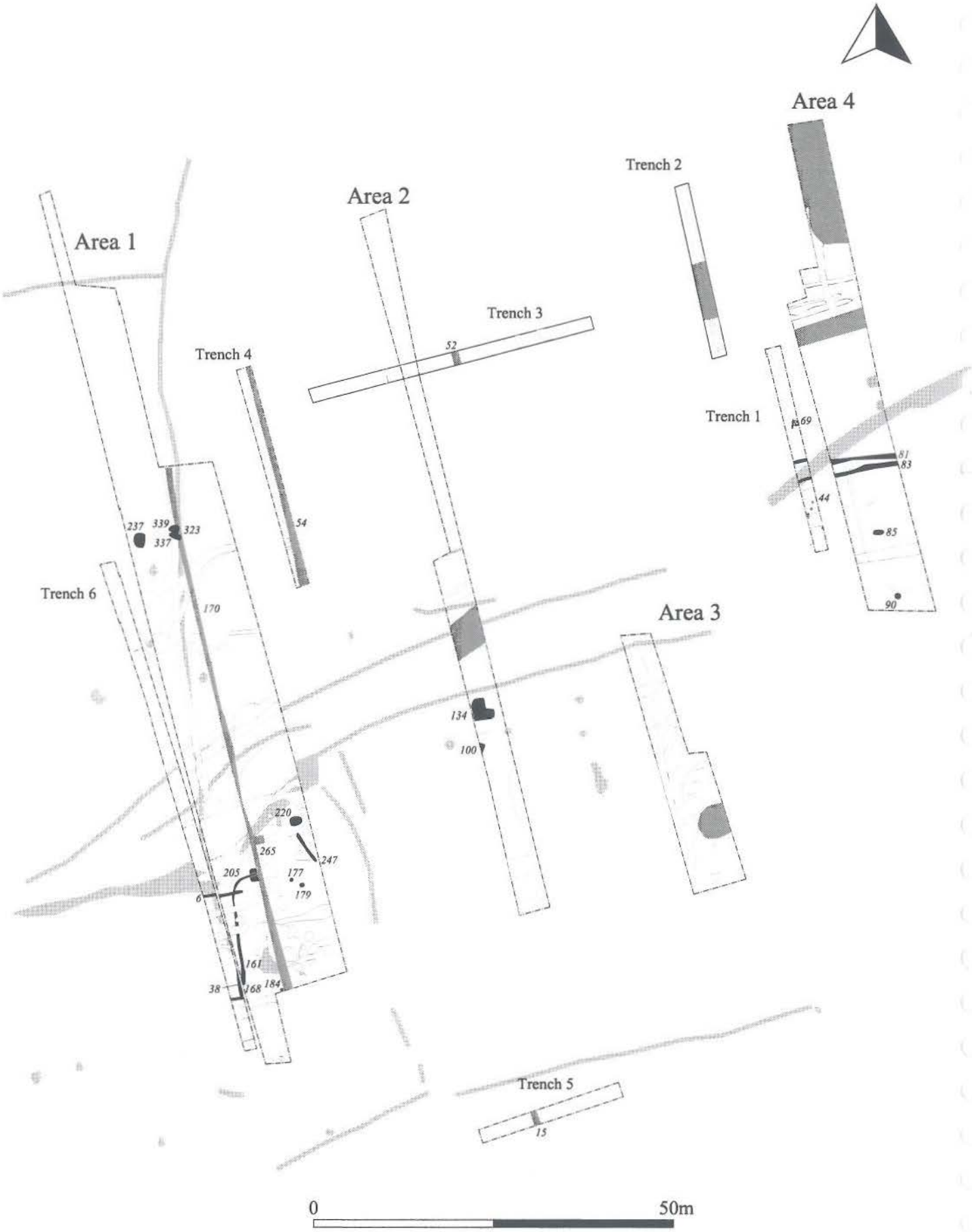


Figure 12 *Phase 4 & 5 Anglo-Saxon (features shown in black), Medieval and modern (shown in dark tone)*

GROUP 40

Pit **220** was very close to, but not stratigraphically related to, gully **247**. It was 1.78m long, 1.15m wide and 0.48m deep with even, steep sides and a flat base. This pit contained two fills: 221 and 222. The lower fill, 221 (0.2m deep) was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with a very small amount of gravel. The environmental sample (□14) contained fragments of charcoal and animal macrofossils but no plant macrofossils. It also contained fragments of domestic animal bone and pottery, including shards of a handmade shell-tempered large bowl, dated between AD400-650. The upper fill, 222 (0.28m deep), was a dark yellowish brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones and contained fragments of animal bone and a shell-tempered jar also dated to the fifth century.

GROUP 41 Two postholes **177** and **179** were located to the south-west of gully **247** and pit **220**. These two features were isolated and did not appear to have a structural relationship with other features in this area.

Posthole **177** (0.5m wide and 0.11m deep) had concave sides and an irregular base and its fill, 176, a greyish brown silty clay with occasional small stones contained pottery dating between AD400-650. Posthole **179**, to the south-east, was 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with concave sides and a flat base. The fill, 178, was a dark grey silty clay with occasional small stones and again contained pottery (shell tempered jar fragments) dating between AD400-650.

GROUP 42 A group of three pits in the northern part of Area 1 appear to be isolated. They lie beyond a series of recut ditches that remained open throughout the Roman period.

An approximately circular pit, **237**, cut posthole **239** (see above). Pit **237** (1.96m long, 1.82m wide and 0.79m deep) had concave sides and a round base and contained two fills: 235 and 236. The lower fill, 236 (0.36m deep) was a very dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent small stones, including fragments of oolitic limestone and fragments of charred wood (largest fragment 0.25m x 60mm x 20mm) and contained fifth century pottery, tile, animal bone, slag, and a bone needle (□11, see Appendix III).
The upper fill, 235, (0.5m thick) was a very dark grey silty clay with moderate gravels and sub-rectangular blocks of limestone and occasional charcoal flecks. It contained Saxon shell-tempered and quartz sand-tempered pottery, relatively large quantities of animal bone, copper alloy wire (□10), tegula, fragments of mortar/plaster, a large iron nail and slag.

To the east of pit **237** was a sub-circular pit, **323** (1.04m long, 1m wide and 0.53m deep) with steeply sloping sides and a concave base which cut ditch **361**. The single fill, 301, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt with charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. This pit contained fragments of animal bone including part of a red deer cranium with antler attached (an uncommon find for this period), tile (tegula and imbrex), clay/daub, a nail and Roman and fifth century pottery.

Figure 13 Pit 323

Adjacent to pit **323** and also cutting ditch **361** was a shallow, oval, pit **337** (1.7m long, 1m wide and 0.08m deep). This had shallowly sloping concave sides and a concave base and contained a single fill, 336. Fill 336 was a very dark greyish brown clay silt with occasional small stones and contained fragments of animal bone, tile (tegula and imbrex) and pottery dating mainly from the fifth+ century.

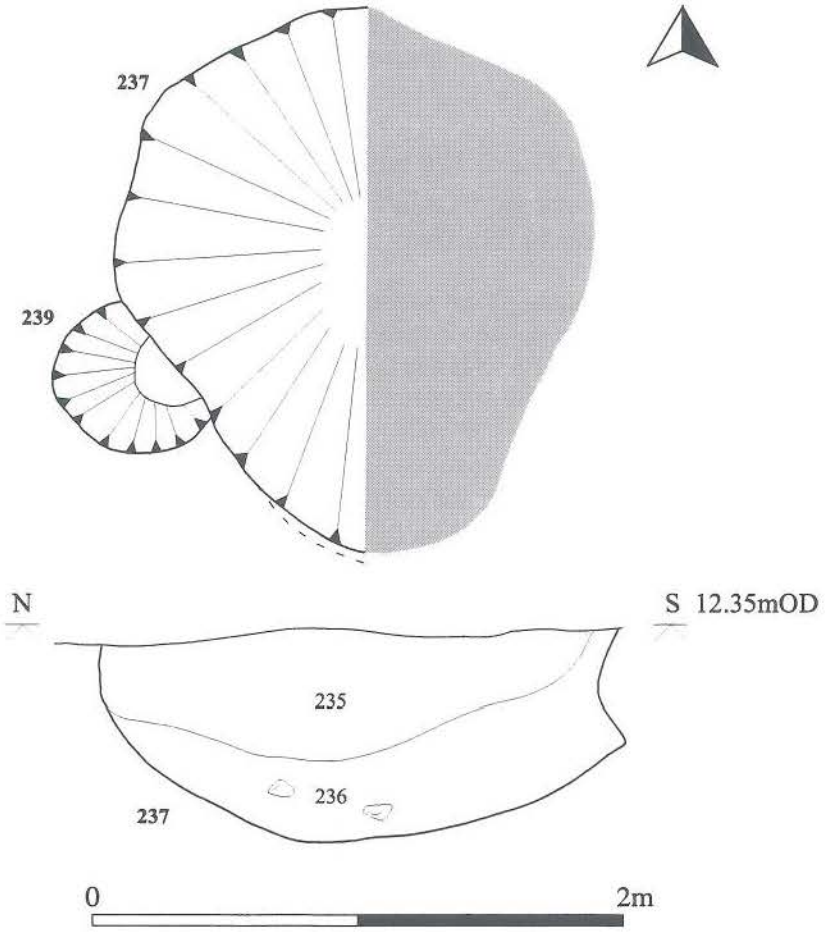


Figure 14 *Plan, west-facing section and photograph of pit 237 and posthole 239*

GROUP 43 Six pits were noted in the southern part of Area 4 of which only two were excavated. These have been grouped together because of their position and the absence of Roman or earlier pottery.

Sub-group 43.1

Oval pit, **85** (1.6m long, 0.75m wide and 0.39m deep) with steep, even sides and a flat base, contained two fills, 86 and 87. The lower fill, 86, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones, animal bone and Saxon handmade shell tempered pottery, dated between AD400-650. The upper fill, 87, was concentrated in the centre of the feature being 0.54m long, 0.38m wide and 0.1m deep. This was a black, highly organic clay sandy silt with very occasional small stones. There were no finds from the upper fill.

One of the circular pits, **90**, was excavated. This was 0.9m long, 0.85m wide and 0.15m deep with almost vertical sides and a flat base. The single fill, 91, was a dark brown slightly clay sandy silt with occasional small stones.

Sub-group 43.2

Pit **69** (in Trench 1) with a diameter of approximately 1m had a single fill, 68, which contained a number of large stone fragments, animal bone and pottery dating from AD240-400+, with one possible Maxey ware sherd (AD650-850).

GROUP 44: Two ditches crossed the southern part of Area 4.

Ditch **81** had steep, even sides and a flat base and a single dark brown sandy silt fill, 82, which contained fragments of imbrex, and pottery dated between AD240-400+ together with hand-made Saxon sherds (dated 400-650).

Ditch **83** had gradually sloping sides a concave base and a dark brown sandy silt fill (84) with very occasional gravels. No finds were recovered from the excavated portion of this feature.

GROUP 45

In Area 2 a pit containing fifth century pottery was partially excavated. This feature, **100**, continued beyond the western section of the trench. The excavated section was 1.45m wide and 0.4m deep with steep, almost vertical, sides and a flat base cut into the gravel natural. The fill, 99, was a very dark greyish brown slightly sandy clay silt with very occasional small stones and contained flecks of charcoal, burnt material (including daub), animal bone and shell tempered pottery dated between AD400-650.

Irregular, L-shaped, pit **134** (over 2.5m long and 2m wide) had steep sides and was over 0.6m deep, the base was not reached. Only one fill was visible in the excavated section and there was no truncation in the exposed part of the pit. The fill, 133, was a compact, dark grey brown slightly sandy silt with occasional pebbles and gravel and a very occasional flecks of charcoal. The fill contained small limestone blocks, fragments of animal bone, sherds of 5th century pottery and a scrap of copper alloy.

Discussion of Groups 36 to 45

Post-Roman occupation of the area excavated appears to be very limited but finds indicative of settlement were recovered from a variety of features across the site. These included a fragment of an annular loom weight and a bone needle which suggest textile production. The red deer antler would have been a valuable resource. The pottery dating to the early Saxon period includes a variety of types and fabrics and is found dispersed in a range of features. No clear pattern of settlement or structures can be discerned and the features assigned to this phase are mainly pits and gullies some of which may have been structural. By analogy with other sites of this period the gullies could relate to property boundaries around building plots but the pattern of boundaries is difficult to identify because of the limited area available in the present excavations.

PHASE 5 – Late medieval and post-medieval features (Figure 12)

In the late medieval and post-medieval period the site appears to have been used solely for agriculture with ridge and furrow and field boundaries evident in aerial photographs of the area and in the cut features. Borne D ware (1450-1650) was found

during surface cleaning of Trench 3. The sparsity of ceramic material that would normally be incorporated during manuring of fields suggests the site was some distance from the medieval settlement.

GROUP 46

Truncated by **170** was a shallow, rectangular pit **265** (1.2m long, 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep) with concave sides and flat base. The fill, 264, was a greyish brown sandy silt with flecks of limestone and occasional flecks of charcoal. There were no finds from this context.

GROUP 47

At least two small pits were noted cut into a spread of dark brown clay silt (42) which contained sherds of a large shell tempered jar (dated to the ?fourth century), fragments of tile and animal. One of the pits, **44**, was excavated. It was 0.4m long and 0.3m wide and 0.17m deep. Bird bones were recovered and it was thought that this may have been a modern burial of a chicken from the nearby poultry farm, see Appendix II. Residual fragments of pottery dating between AD240-400+ had been incorporated in the backfill.

GROUP 48 features are related to field boundaries and ridge and furrow agriculture. Ridge and furrow was identified in cropmarks to the south of the site and follows an approximately north-south alignment.

The only feature in Trench 5 in the southern part of the site was ditch **15** which ran approximately north–south, at right-angles to the High Street. This feature was 0.54m wide and 0.34m deep and had shallowly sloping sides and a slightly concave base and was cut through the overlying alluvium but sealed by a dark grey 'garden' type soil. The fill, 14, was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and flecks of charcoal, a fragment of animal bone was recovered but no dating material.

Ditch **54**, in Trench 4 ran the length of the trench and was on the same alignment as the modern field boundary and **15** in Trench 5. Its eastern edge was beyond the trench edge but the excavated portion suggests that it was a wide shallow U-shape approximately 0.1m deep with a dark brown sandy silt fill (53) with small fragments of abraded tile.
Trench 3 contained three apparently similar features, oriented approximately north–south across the trench. Only one of these features was excavated. Feature **52** had shallowly sloping sides, a concave base (0.05m deep and 0.7m wide) and contained a single fill, 51, which was a dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones. No finds were recovered from the fill but small fragments of abraded colour coated pottery were noted on the surface of the feature.

The only other ditch on a roughly north–south alignment is **170** (numbered **184** at the southern end of Area 1) which appeared to cut through the pit complex at the southern end of the area and through various ditches further to the north. At the extreme northern end of Area 1 a ditch with a similar appearance extended beyond the end of the area under investigation and into the area excavated by the contractors as a sump and headed towards the Welland. This northern section of this ditch was not excavated. Ditch **170** was very shallow in its excavated section with a concave base and sides and may represent a drain leading down to the river and/or a field boundary. Its fill, 169, was a dark yellowish brown slightly sandy silt with flecks of tile or brick and abraded pottery dating from the third century. It did not appear as a boundary on early air photos but is on the same alignment as the field boundary to the west and the ridge and furrow to the south of High Street. The air-photographic survey suggests the probability that the ridge and furrow in this area extended towards the river.

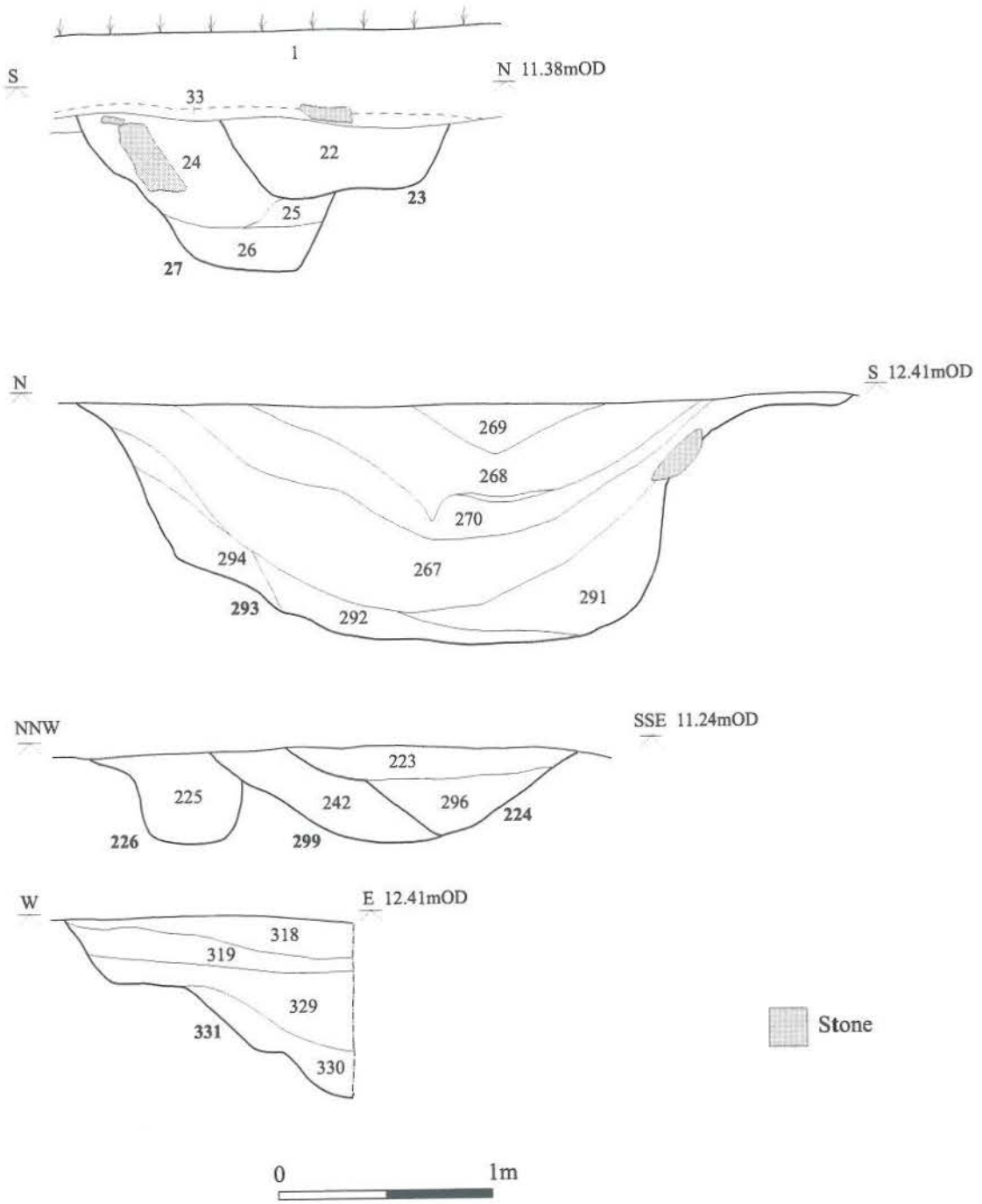


Figure 15 *Sections through pits and ditches*

Discussion of Groups 46 to 48

The features in Groups 46 to 48 can all be related to agricultural activities on the site in the late and post-medieval period and some appear to be relatively modern.

DISCUSSION

Phase 1 – Prehistoric

The relative sparsity of prehistoric features and artefactual material confirms findings from earlier, nearby, excavations (Simpson *et al*, 1993) that this site is not in an area of prehistoric settlement. Flint flakes and a cattle bones (of neolithic and Late Bronze Age types) suggest a low-level prehistoric presence in the area. It is difficult to ascribe a function or date to the ditch (Group 1), which ran over 35m approximately north–south. Two postholes (Group 2) to the west of this feature have also been assigned a prehistoric date, but again with no firm dating evidence other than a flint blade in the fill of one.

Excavation in the past has shown the area around Maxey was cleared in the neolithic and subsequent periods to create a 'monumental' landscape. The features on the site at Lyndon Farm which have been assigned to a prehistoric date, however, are more likely to be marking a boundary.

Phase 2 – Early Romano-British

The origins of settlement on the site at Lyndon Farm appear to be in the Hadrianic/Antonine period (from the mid-second century). A single feature produced a Flavian assemblage which must represent deliberate curation of a group from the first century. Activity on or near the site continued from then into the immediate post-Roman period with no apparent hiatus although there is some evidence for features going out of use and silting up or being backfilled.

There is no firm evidence for buildings on the site during Phase 2, although one group of post-holes (Group 3) in the southern part of Area 1 are indicative of a timber structure. No floor or evidence for other timber elements was found and it is possible this was a raised storage facility or a small fenced enclosure (e.g. a sheep or cattle pen). No sign of poaching was seen, however, or any sign of processing found nearby. It would appear from the distribution of features that the main part of the settlement was to the west, some distance from the earlier Iron Age settlement identified at Plant's Farm.

A group of possibly structural features in the northern part of Area 3 has also been noted (Group 13). These narrow gullies may have been beam slots or some form of fencing or stock control or the heavily truncated remains of an approximately circular structure (similar to those found to the south in Area 3).

One of the main group of features from this phase are rubbish pits (Groups 5–10) and other pits with no obvious function (which contained few if any finds, e.g. Groups 6 and 8).

The other significant group of features from this phase were the east–west oriented ditches which were re-cut and continued as a major feature throughout Phase 3. There is no evidence that these ditches form part of an enclosure system similar to that found at Plant's Farm (Simpson *et al* 1993). The ditch appears to have almost filled before another ditch was dug (on a similar alignment) along its southern edge.

The economy was probably based on small-scale agricultural production of cereals and meat for domestic consumption (see Appendices II and IX). The excavated areas did not reveal processing areas dated to this phase of occupation.

Phase 3 – mid 3rd to 4th century

There appears to be an increase in activity from the middle of the third century with greater quantities of pottery and building material suggesting development of the site during this phase. The site probably remained a small farmstead with access to local (Nene Valley) pottery types rather than quantities of imported wares, although some imported wares were in use on the site (see Appendix V). The ditched droveway, noted in aerial photography (Simpson *et al*, 1993), runs from the north-western corner of the churchyard, for approximately 330m, to the north-east of the Plant's Farm excavation area and through parts of the Lyndon Farm site and appears to have been established in this phase.

Again, most features suggest the site is on the edge of the settlement with rubbish pits, boundary/drainage ditches and a stone and oak-lined well (Appendix VIII). A single grave (Appendix IV) was also dated to this phase and reinforces the impression that the site was peripheral to the core of the settlement.

No clear shift in the economy of the settlement was identified although it is clear that more substantial structures were built nearby, roofed with stone and ceramic tile and heated with a box flue system (Appendix VII).

The ditches, which had started to silt up during Phase 2, were re-cut on a similar alignment but in slightly different positions (Groups 15, 16 and 20). Some of these were identified from aerial photographs and appear to be continuations of ditch systems excavated to the east (Gurney *et al* 1993). There was no evidence for a drove or track between the two ditch systems which crossed the site from east–west but there had been significant truncation and plough damage in post-Roman times.

The narrow linear features toward the eastern part of the site (Groups 17, 18, 19, 24 and 25) may be fence lines or related to some form of timber structure. There is no good evidence that these are related to dwellings as no floors or hearths are associated with them.

The curvilinear features (Groups 21 to 23) in the middle of the site have been mentioned in Phase 2, above, and it is possible they pre-date the main Phase 3 activity

on the site but the ceramic evidence suggests they were still open during Phase 3 and may be eves-drip gullies for small, circular or sub-circular structures.

The presence of Romano-British occupation features towards the south-western part of the site, highlighted during the evaluation phase and confirmed during the excavation, has confirmed the importance of the western part of the site and the potential of the land between King Street and the development area. All features had been subject to truncation by agriculture. The relative absence of features in the north of the site, close to the Welland may be the result of fluvial erosion or the less attractive nature of the land for occupation or activity.

The animal bone and environmental assessments were not sufficiently phase specific for changes in the economy of the different parts of the site to be identified. Crop processing and the slaughter of animals was being carried on in the vicinity with the processed cereals and meat probably being prepared on the site for consumption in the buildings which are probably to be found in the field to the east of King Street.

It is clear that by the end of the period many of the features were falling into disrepair and that ditches and the well were not being cleaned out.

Phase 4 and 5 - post-Roman, medieval and post-medieval

Post-Roman occupation of the site appears to be present although the evidence for it is thinly dispersed. Features have been assigned to a Saxon date on the basis of artefacts found within them. It may be that these features belong to the previous phase and were no longer in use during the post-Roman period but were backfilled in the Saxon period. The very few Maxey ware sherds can probably be attributed to dispersal during manuring.

The features ascribed to the Saxon period are scattered across the site and vary in their morphology and function. No clear pattern suggestive of settlement nearby can be discerned although there are indications of occupation such as postholes, pits and gullies which may relate to property boundaries. The nature and fragility of the artefacts suggest settlement close to the excavated site. Fieldwalking to the west of the development site produced a greater density of pottery and it may be that there was post-Roman occupation of buildings close to King Street.

In the later medieval and post-medieval period the site appears to have been used solely for agriculture with ridge and furrow and field boundaries having truncated earlier features. The lack of datable artefacts suggests the site was some distance from the medieval settlement, which was centred around and to the north-east of the present church.

RESEARCH AIMS

The primary objective of the project was to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt to reconstruct the history and use of the site. Some site specific research question were raised in the specification for the excavation and have been addressed as follows:

A What is the nature and character of the Roman occupation on this site?

A considerable Romano-British structure or suite of buildings with stone elements, a tiled roof and box flue/hypocaust for heating, probably existed to the west of the development site, close to King Street (Appendix VII). The site appears to have developed close to the earlier Iron Age farmstead (Plant's Farm) and remained in occupation into the post-Roman period.

B Are there any structural remains or foundations of buildings surviving with the excavation area?

Possible earthfast buildings are suggested by postholes and 'eves drip' gullies but the limited areas excavated meant it was not possible to determine the morphology or function of these structures. Stone and timber had been used in the construction of a well and a pit in Area 1.

C What is the nature, function and date of the large quarry-like features discovered in the excavation area during the second phase of evaluation.

It is possible that several of the pits noted across the site had been created as a result of quarrying gravel to surface the drove or road which ran across the site. No gravel surface was found but this may be the result of truncation by more recent agricultural practices.

D Is there any evidence for prehistoric occupation within the excavation area and what is its character?

Very few features were devoid of artefacts or contained only prehistoric flint and it has been assumed that some of these – two of the postholes and a ditch were created during early prehistoric times. This impression was reinforced by examining the nature of their fills and their stratigraphic relationship to other features on the site.

E Is there any evidence for post-Roman occupation of the site within the excavation area?

Some early Saxon pottery, middle-Saxon (Maxey-type) wares, a loom weight fragment, a bone needle and red deer antler, were recovered from some stratigraphically late features. These features were concentrated mainly in the western part of the excavation area. Saxon material is reported from a considerable area over the field between Lolham Hall and Lyndon Farm (Hall and Martin 1980). It is likely, therefore, that there was post-Roman

occupation and re-use of the site and its material culture in the early Saxon period.

F How do the excavated archaeological features relate to those already observed from air photographs?

The density and complexity of cropmarks decreases from those in the east, on the Plant's Farm site, westwards towards Lolham Hall (Appendix I). It would seem that several of the pits and larger ditches that appear in aerial photographs reflect relatively accurately the density of underlying archaeology.

G What can this excavation tell us about the likely state of preservation of cropmark sites in adjacent areas and are there any implications for their future management?

The high level of agricultural truncation of features and the shallow topsoil, particularly n the northern part of the site, together with a large quantity of stone, building material and pottery in the topsoil suggests that remains are being heavily eroded. This impression is reinforced by the evidence of plough marks in the sub-soil and gravel. Similar conditions are likely to be affecting the field to the west of Lyndon Farm and fragments of stone were visible on the surface of the ploughsoil.

The site has been visited by unauthorised metal detectors on several occasions and will continue to be raided as access is relatively unrestricted and the site is a considerable distance from the village.

H Can environmental data be used to reconstruct living conditions, economy and natural environment with the immediate vicinity during Roman and/or prehistoric times?

The animal bone sample is well preserved and offers some indication of the animal husbandry, butchery practices and consumption patterns at this site (Appendix II). In common with other Iron Age and Roman sites the proportion of wild animals represented in the archaeological record is low. The presence of a red deer cranium with attached antler in a post-Roman context is of some note.

The human bone was eroded but firm, probably as a result of the age of the child rather than environmental conditions. Analysis suggests the child had normal growth patterns and there was no sign of malnutrition or other disorders although there was evidence of anaemia, possibly resulting from internal parasites (such as hookworm), see Appendix IV.

It is suggested that the oak from the well came from open woodland although there were too few rings for dendrochronolgy to provide a date (Appendix VIII). Waterlogged weed seeds from the well indicate that the well silted up naturally when the site was abandoned and weeds and scrub was growing in the area, possibly in the immediate post-Roman period (Appendix IX).

I What evidence for metalworking or other industrial activity exists on the site?

A small quantity of smelting or smithing residue was recovered during the excavations on both Plant's Farm and Lyndon Farm (Appendix VI). The metalworking appears to have been taking place in the vicinity, rather than on the development site itself. The exact location for this activity has not been determined by the present investigation.

The presence of a loom weight fragment and a needle (Appendix III) indicate that textiles were probably being produced or worked on site in the Anglo-Saxon period, albeit on a domestic scale. No other evidence for industrial activity was found at Lyndon Farm.

The research issues raised in connection with this project were prompted by earlier work in the area and English Heritage Research Agenda (Draft 8th April 1997). These issues have also been addressed in more recent Regional Research Agendas.

CONCLUSIONS

The recent excavations at Lyndon Farm have added new dimensions to our understanding of the archaeological landscape of the western end of Maxey island, building on the work undertaken in the 1960s (excavations to the east, Plant's Farm, and fieldwalking to the west). The results from Lyndon Farm have provided a key link both spatially and temporally.

It is now evident that subdivision of the landscape was established at least in the Iron Age, perhaps using a Bronze Age barrow as a focal point, with a pit alignment marking a major boundary to the east. A small settlement consisting of a round house, enclosure and related activities was constructed in the later Iron Age close to the eastern territorial boundary. This settlement continued in use throughout the first and second centuries with modifications to the ditched enclosures. By the third century a shift westwards occurred. Later Romano-British settlement was probably focused west of Lyndon Farm, between the site and the Roman road, King Street. This settlement appears to have been of higher status than its predecessors with stone and tiled buildings, a greater range of imported pottery and a 'lap dog'. The prosperity of the area continued into the fifth century with the site and there is evidence of the site remaining in use into the early Anglo-Saxon period. A further shift may have occurred in middle Saxon times leading to the settlement developing to the west, close to the church (Addyman 1964).

The Prehistoric Period

Tree clearance and formation of a largely pastoral landscape in the vicinity possibly started in the neolithic period. Throughout the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age the area continued to be a very open landscape (Simpson 1993). Pollen from the Iron Age pits at Maxey indicates a largely pastoral economy (based mainly on sheep) with

some evidence of cereal cultivation. The prehistoric ditch and postholes (Groups 1 and 2) may have formed an early territorial boundary which influenced the position of later monuments (viz. the barrows noted as cropmarks to the west and east) and boundaries such as the Iron Age pit alignment to the east (ibid.)

Romano-British Settlement

Comparison can be made with the small Iron Age/Romano-British farmstead at Plant's Farm, Maxey (Gurney Neve and Pryor, 1993) and Maxey East Field (Pryor and French 1985). The settlements at Maxey are joined by a ditched road or trackway (running approximately east–west) along the northern edge of Maxey island with boundary ditches coming off at right-angles, apparently following the Iron Age landscape divisions and made use of the different types of land. The fen skirtland was probably used for summer grazing and the higher land of the island used for arable cultivation. A series of low status native settlements have been found in the area and it has been suggested that there is a tendency for some farmsteads to be short lived and be rebuilt, within defined boundaries. This has led to a settlement drift which may be seen at Plant's Farm and Lyndon Farm. The earliest Iron Age settlement appears to have been close to the boundary, marked by a pit alignment, and to have shifted westwards over time developing into a more substantial, higher status, group of buildings with associated features which continued westwards towards King Street covering an area of up to 8ha. Excavation and fieldwalking suggest the site may have remained in use (albeit in a very reduced form) into the immediate post-Roman period. Abundant pottery has been found on the site from the later Roman period, mainly from local Nene Valley potteries. Like other Romano-British sites in the area there were relatively few imported wares (mainly Gaulish samian and south Spanish amphorae) (Pryor *et al,* 1985). A small quantity of early and middle Saxon pottery was also found in the excavation and in the fieldwalking of the field to the west of Lyndon Farm.

The presence of stone and ceramic roof tiles, hypocaust, etc. with lime mortar – is indicative of a bath-house or waterproofing of buildings. It would appear from modification and reuse of the tile that there were repairs to the building and possibly post-Roman use of the site. Apart from circular features which may be the eves-drip gullies of round-houses (similar to that found at Plant's Farm) earthfast post-built structures were found in the south-western part of the site. Not enough of these structures was exposed to suggest a form or function and the absence of surfaces, processing debris or poaching makes it difficult to define them more closely. The quantity of stone and ceramic tile on the western part of the site is indicative of substantial buildings in the field to the west of Lyndon Farm. Stone was used for construction of the upper part of the oak-lined well and pit in the Lyndon Farm excavation and for an oven and corn drier in Plant's Farm. The stone appears to be local 'Collyweston' types or oolitic limestones from the Barnack area. Window glass was recovered from the excavations at Plant's Farm as were several sherds of vessel glass and a glass bead but none was found in excavation at Lyndon Farm.

The great majority of datable deposits from the site appear to derive from the later Roman period (Phase 3 – mid-third to late fourth century). This dating is based on pottery spot dates, together with stratigraphic and spatial associations. Many of the

contexts have pottery assemblages which have been given a wide date range, between the second and fourth century. The hiatus in occupation suggested in the report of excavations at Plant's Farm (Simpson *et al* 1993) in the third century was not substantiated by the pottery analysis at Lyndon Farm. The pottery assemblage spans the period from *c.* AD130/140 to 400+ with a peak in ceramic activity in the later third/fourth century. The presence of fifth century Saxon vessels with Romano-British forms points to a clear period of overlap when the major pottery industries had declined but vessels were still in use, and local handmade forms began to be made (Appendix V). The nature and quantity of the pottery collected during fieldwalking in the field around Lolham Hall, also suggests a late/post-Roman occupation, just off the development site, to the west.

The nature of the later Romano-British pottery assemblage shows that the majority of wares were locally produced, from Nene Valley potteries. Imported vessels came from southern Spain, central Gaul and the southern Rhineland as well as from Dorset, Hadham (Essex), Towcester and Harrold (Bedfordshire). The assemblage had a normal range of forms with coarse and fine wares, storage and food processing vessels.

Animal remains from the site include cattle, sheep/goat and horse, which were being eaten, and a lap-dog (possibly a high status animal rather than a hunting or guard dog). Pig, chicken and red deer remains were also found in small quantities, as were oyster shells. The remains at Lyndon Farm are similar in type and proportion to those remains that would be expected from Romano-British sites of this period. The most significant find in the animal bone collection was the small dog. Both hunting-sized and 'terrier-sized' dogs were found in the animal bone from Plant's Farm. The presence of small dogs may well indicate something of the wealth or status of the occupants of the nearby settlement. It also adds to our knowledge of the existence of small 'lap' dogs in Britain at this period, although its actual use as a lap dog or a working dog is impossible to say.

The bones and shell clearly represent food waste, both from the pattern of fragmentation and from butchering chops and cuts. The animal bone includes horse bones which show evidence of systematic butchery. After the bones were discarded a proportion has been moderately to severely gnawed by canids, presumably domestic dogs.

Some cattle and horse bones indicate small individuals and the size accords with what is known of these species in Britain in the Iron Age. A few specimens of cattle bone appear to be from more robust animals. Evidence from other sites shows that more robust cattle were characteristic of certain Roman sites (perhaps those with the least native influence). Chicken bones were recovered from a few features. It is likely that the bones from larger chickens are intrusive (probably from the chicken farm that stood on the site), on the other hand some specimens are smaller and are possibly contemporary with the other discarded bones.

Charcoal was consistently present in variable, but not large, quantities. These charred plant remains point to cereal processing somewhere in the vicinity, but evidently not within the excavated area and the dispersal of processing debris from another, nearby,

location is indicated. A corn-drier and oven were found at Plant's Farm and are attributed to the third and fourth centuries.

Environmental remains from the later phases (Phases 4 and 5) are interpreted as representing areas of abandoned waste ground, which became overgrown with tall herb and scrub vegetation in the post-Roman period. Wood from the well was taken from open woodland.

The metal-working residues, taken all together, do not amount to a large weight of material, and therefore cannot be said to indicate either smelting or smithing taking place on the site. The impression is rather that these activities were taking place, perhaps on an adjacent area. A small quantity of slag was also recorded in features in the Plant's Farm excavation.
Thirty coins (mainly fourth century) were found on the site through metal detecting as were lead weights and a plumb bob. Most of the other copper alloy finds were fragmentary and are likely to have been incorporated with rubbish. The bulk of metal artefacts were iron nails, mostly hob nails and building nails found in features with domestic debris but several (over eighteen) were found associated with the burial.

As with at least one of the burials at Plant's Farm the child burial at Lyndon Farm appears to have been in a box with the lid nailed down. Hob nails were also found around the feet of this child.

Anglo-Saxon Settlement

Of particular importance to this site is the evidence it gives for Romano-British to Saxon transition. A loom weight fragment, a pin or needle (associated with textile working) and a red deer antler together with the early Saxon pottery are indicative of scattered small-scale domestic occupation of the abandoned late Roman buildings. No structures could be dated to this period although it is possible they were not recognised as such because of the limited areas available for excavation. Fieldwalking on the field between the development site and King Street by the Welland Valley Research Committee produced Saxon pottery. Small dispersed settlements in this area during the Saxon period were based mainly on the lighter soils, especially river gravels. Further evidence for a 'dark age' settlement comes from excavations undertaken in advance of destruction by gravel quarrying to the east of the church (Addyman, 1964) and to a lesser extent from excavation close to Maxey castle in 1999 (Connor, pers. comm.). There is scattered evidence for Saxon settlements in the area around Maxey such as St. Paega's hermitage at Peakirk (approx. 5km away), middle Saxon occupation at Castor (11km), and pagan Saxon cemeteries at Bainton, Helpston, Woodston, Stamford and Baston (6-11km away). Barnack, Werrington, Upton, Etton, Glinton, Walton also have evidence of Saxon remains.

Medieval and Post-Medieval Agricultural Activity

Later medieval features on the site reflect the overall picture of desertion of smaller rural/agricultural settlements to form nucleated villages with division of the

surrounding land into strips developing into ridge and furrow, in this area with ridges about 14m wide. These field boundaries and strips of ridge and furrow were found in the excavations at Lyndon Farm and noted in the aerial photographs of the surrounding fields.

Trench 2 and Area 4 had a considerable amount of modern disturbance and rubbish dumping. Modern service trenches were located in Areas 2 and 3. These all appear to relate to the buildings that occupied the site during the evaluation and recent development at Lyndon Farm.

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APPENDIX 1

POULTRY FARM, TF11420792, MAXEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT

Rog Palmer MA MIFA

INTRODUCTION

This assessment of aerial photographs was commissioned to examine an area relevant to a development of some 0.5 hectares (centred TF11420792) in order to identify and accurately map archaeological and natural features and thus provide guidance and context for field evaluation. Mapping was to be at 1:2500.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL FEATURES FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

In suitable soils, sub-surface archaeological features - including ditches, banks, pits, walls or foundations - may be recorded &from the air in different ways in different seasons. In spring and summer these may show through their effect on crops growing above them. Such indications tend to be at their most visible in ripe cereal crops, in June or July in this part of Britain, although their appearance cannot accurately be predicted and their absence cannot be taken to imply evidence of archaeological absence. In winter months, when the soil is bare or crop cover is thin (when viewed from above), features may show by virtue of their different soils. Upstanding remains are also best recorded in winter months when vegetation is sparse and the low angle of the sun helps pick out slight differences of height and slope.

Natural faults and deposits can cause similar differences in crop growth and may also appear as startling colour changes in bare winter soils. On the gravels of this assessment area we may expect indications of periglacial cracks - which may be mistaken for archaeological ditches - and of patches of deeper and shallower soil. Both can affect the growth of crops and become visible at the same times as archaeological features. The edges and extents of deep soil areas tend to vary from year to year with the amount of ground moisture content. The most informative aerial photographs of archaeological subjects tend to be those resulting &from specialist reconnaissance. This activity is usually undertaken by an experienced archaeological observer who will fly at seasons and times of day when optimum results are expected. Oblique photographs, taken using a hand-held camera, are the usual product of such investigation. Although oblique photographs are able to provide a very detailed view, they are biased in providing a record that is mainly of features noticed by the observer, understood, and thought to be of archaeological relevance. To be able to map accurately from these photographs it is necessary that they have been taken from a sufficient height to include surrounding control information.

Vertical photographs cover the whole of Britain and can provide scenes on a series of dates between (usually) 1946-7 and the present. Unfortunately these vertical surveys are not necessarily flown at times of year that are best to record the crop and soil responses that may be seen above sub-surface features. Vertical photographs are taken by a camera fixed inside an aircraft and adjusted to take a series of overlapping views that can be examined stereoscopically. They are often of relatively small scale and their interpretation requires higher perceptive powers and a more cautious approach than that necessary for examination of obliques. Use of these small-scale images can also lead to errors of location and size when they are rectified or re- scaled to match a larger map scale.

PHOTO INTERPRETATION AND MAPPING

Photographs examined
Cover searches were obtained from the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photographs (CUCAP) and the National Library of Air Photographs (NLAP), Swindon. Photographs included those resulting from specialist archaeological reconnaissance and routine vertical surveys, although the verticals seen held no relevant information.
Because of an incorrectly read NGR, the cover search made by NLAP was not of the assessment area. Consequently, it was not possible to examine vertical photographs from that collection at the time of my visit (these prints are kept in temperature-controlled storage and need to be slowly acclimatised) although obliques &from the open access area were available. Photographs consulted are listed in the Appendix to this report.

Base maps
Digital data at a scale of 1:2500 were provided by the client.

Photo interpretation and mapping
All photographs were examined by eye and under slight (1.5x) magnification, viewing them as stereoscopic pairs when possible. Vertical photographs were also examined stereoscopically using a 1.5x magnification stereoscope. Interpretations were marked on overlays to individual prints following procedures described by Paler and Cox (1993). All rectification was computer assisted and carried out using AERIAL 4.2 software (Haigh 1993).
AERIAL computes values for error of control point match between the photograph and map. 1n all but one rectification prepared for this assessment these were less than +2.0m Because of changes to boundaries and structures, greater error values of up to +2.5m were returned for the photograph that best recorded features west of the poultry sheds. Information at the extreme west end of Figure 1 is sketched &from a single extremely low oblique photograph which showed a single tree as modem control! Rectified and plotted output was combined to form the basis of the digital plan, superimposed on OS digital data, that illustrates this report (Figure 1).

COMMENTARY

Soils
The Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983) shows the area to comprise river terrace and lacustrine gravel (series 511I) with perhaps a trace of river alluvium (series 813b) on the south side of the River Welland.

Archaeological features
The river gravels of the Maxey area contain one of the best known areas of archaeological landscape in southern Britain, following their publication in *A Matter of Time* (RCHME 1960, figure 6). At the date of that publication, no archaeological features had been recorded within the assessment area although RCHME's figure showed a complex of features immediately east which, logically, would extend to the west across the assessment area (notably their enclosure system 17 and drove 21).
Despite the high number of photographs taken in the general area, very few had been targeted specifically on the assessment area. Features in that field have never shown well, and the attention of the photographers was perhaps easily distracted by more spectacularly crop-marked

fields. The assessment area can also be seen in the background of a number of photographs on dates when its crop appears to be unresponsive to any sub-surface soil differences. However, the few photographs that record archaeological features show the area &from the poultry sheds to Lolham Hall to be crossed by a ditch-defined drove which shows traces of enclosures attached to its south ditch, with a scatter of pits (thought more likely to be archaeological than due to natural causes) north and south of the drove.
Mapping for this assessment extended about 100m south of the modern east-west road and identified small ditched enclosures that may relate to features to the north. Also south of the road are parallel furrows remaining &from medieval fields which are widespread on the gravels in this area (although had not been recognised as such by RCHME in 1960). Continuation of these strip fields can be seen (but has not been mapped) in the field east of the poultry sheds, but no traces have been identified in the assessment area although it is probable that they once extended towards the river. Furrows of these may be found during field investigation on alignments close to those of earlier cut features.

Non-archaeological features
The fields mapped appeared to be almost devoid of any periglacial disturbance. Two short lengths of probable periglacial cracks have been mapped at the extreme east of Figure 1. No alluvial deposits were identified on the south side of the River Welland. East of the assessment area is a former (north-south) field division which is shown between the modern road and the arc of ring ditch by the River Welland.

Land use
The assessment area, once part of a larger field extending from Lolham Hall to the bungalow, Lyndon, has been in arable use on all dates photographed prior to its change of use. Poultry sheds were first recorded in the assessment area in 1961, had extended by 1965, and were re-erected in the form shown on the present-day map by 1972.

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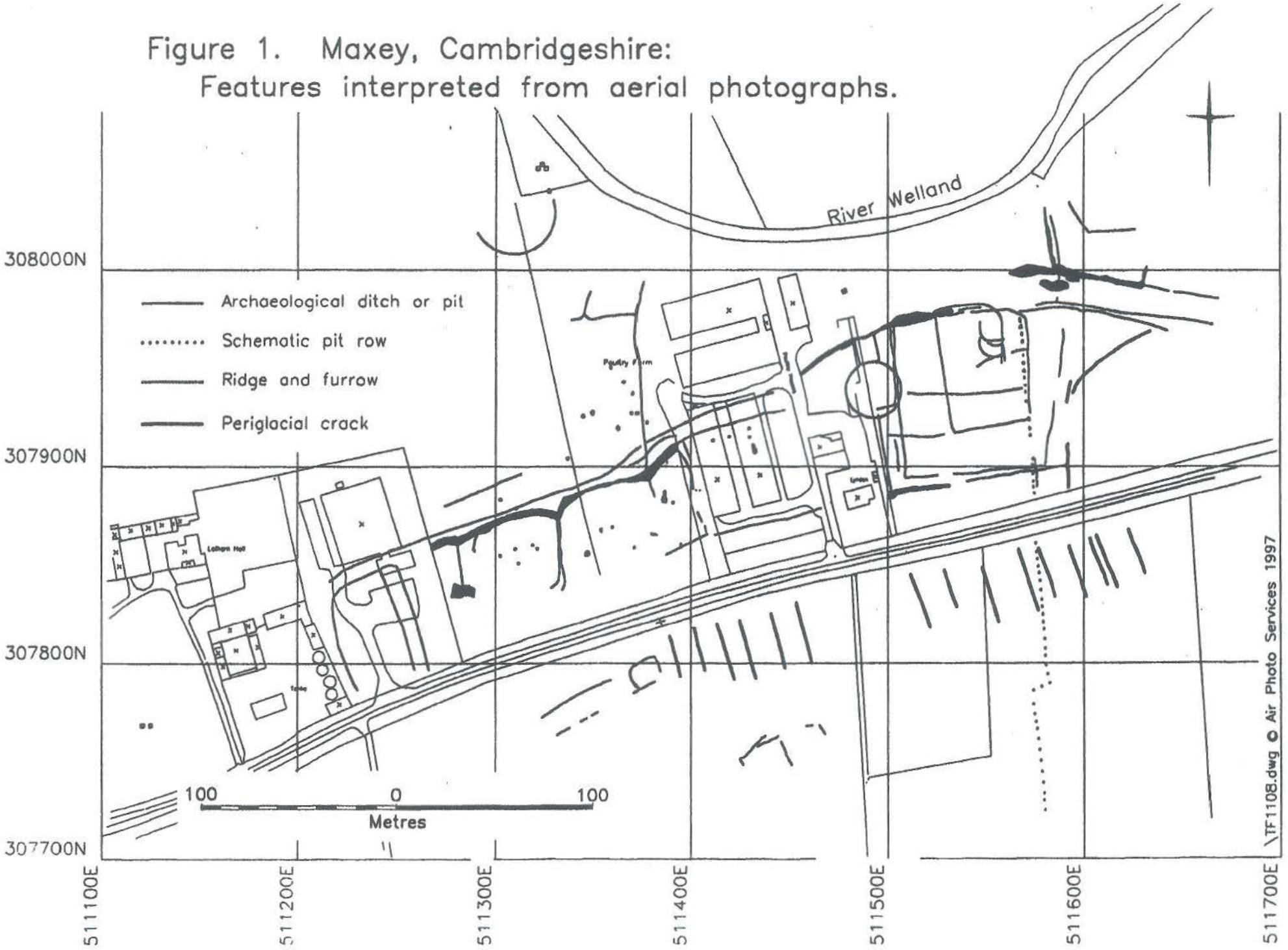
Figure 1. Maxey, Cambridgeshire:
Features interpreted from aerial photographs.



APPENDIX II

Report on the animal bones by Vernon Phillpot

Nine boxes were presented for analysis. Most of the specimens within the assemblage were in a good state of preservation, although some had a number of possible excavation or post-excavation breaks. A few specimens were stained a darker brown suggesting a possible admixture with earlier material, and a few unidentifiable bone fragments had been altered through contact with fire. Post-deposition abrasion of the bones was rare.

Bags were inspected and identifiable specimens separated from the mass of unidentifiable smaller fragments. These pieces came predominantly from broken long bones, ribs, vertebrae, mandibles and skulls. 408 fragments were identified to species level.

Where possible measurements were taken from most of the better specimens and a low intensity microscope was used to assess the existence or otherwise of possible butchery marks and dog gnawing.

None of the bones showed any obvious pathologies or remodelling through the use to which the animals had been put.

The collection was dominated by the remains of the common domesticated mammals.

TABLE 1
Number of identifiable specimens and species found as a % total (excluding loose teeth)

Cattle (*Bos taurus*)	216	52.9%
Caprines (mainly sheep *Ovis aries*)	86	21%
Horse (*Equus caballus*)	42	10%
Dog (*Canis familiaris*)	39	9.5%
Chicken (*Gallus gallus*)	12	2.9%
Pig (*Sus scrofa*)	12	2.9%
Red deer (*Cervus elaphus*) (half cranium and antler)	1	0.24%

also identified were small quantities of oyster shell.

Cattle

As can be seen from Table 1 above cattle dominate the remains from Lyndon Farm, accounting for nearly 53% of the assemblage.

Most of the post-cranial skeleton was present (a catalogue of fragments is with the archive) including the main meat carrying bones (scapula, humerus, radius, femur, tibia) which taken together form almost 27% of the identifiable post-cranial bones. Besides data on the specific identification of bones, a detailed record of the part of each bone (zones) was made. The sum of identified zones for each bone then gives a minimum number for each. From this the minimum number of animals for each species in the assemblage can be calculated. For cattle, this calculation suggests that the bones from at least 15 animals were present. It is commonly found that the mandible is the best represented bone. The cattle at Lyndon Farm do not show this; the number of M_{3S} found suggests 8 animals, a considerably lower representation than was found from the limb bones.

The age at which the cattle died was estimated using tooth eruption and wear stages Legge (1991), Ewbank *et al* (1964) and Grant (1982), coupled with consideration of epiphysis fusion data from Silver (1963) and Habermehl (1961).

An analysis of the amount of wear on the third permanent mandibular molars (one of the most effective teeth for ageing) suggest that all the cattle represented in the assemblage examined by Legge and Phillpot died or were slaughtered before reaching 3 years old, with the bulk of the sample (64%) dying between the ages of 1.5 and 3 years. Unusually, no cattle appear to have survived beyond 26-36 months. This is supported by bone fusion data and suggests that there was a peak of slaughter/death at

around 20-24 months. At least one neonate and one calf (less than 12 months) were present in the assemblage.

One cattle cranium was examined by Ian Baxter. The animal was an adult bull, over ten years old at the time of death and had not been poleaxed. The animal seems more likely to be a shorthorn than a Celtic small horn. In life it would have been a small animal compared to modern dairy or beef cattle.

The pattern of slaughter/death suggests that the cattle bones on the site represent the waste from domestic production/consumption of animals raised as beef.

One left mandible is of particular note. It was broken into a number of pieces but was reconstructed to enable measurements to be taken. It was unusually long and rangy and its measurements were similar to those produced by Degerbol (1970) for neolithic domestic cattle.

A cattle frontal bone and attached horn core came from context 235. This particular specimen had a pronounced central peak, which is more typical of cattle appearing in the Late Bronze Age (Legge 1991) than of the earlier neolithic type.

The cattle in general, based on visual inspection and measurements, would appear to have been about as tall as modern Jersey cattle (2 years 123cm) which is about the height one would expect for cattle of this period. This might suggest weights of approximately 360kg at two years (Groham, 1976).

Sheep/Goats

As with the cattle, most of the post-cranial skeleton was present including the main meat carrying bones, which were better represented than among the cattle bones. Both bone zones counts and mandibles indicate that the minimum number of animals present was seven.

The age at slaughter/death of the sheep/goats was also estimated using tooth eruption and wear stages from Payne (1973), Simonds (1854) and epiphysis fusion data from Cornwall (1956), Habermehl (1961), Wolf-Heidegger (1961) and Legge *et al* (1991).

At least three of the sheep died or were killed before the first permanent molar was in wear. Overall, four died within the first year of life and about two during the second year. After two years of age the rate of slaughter/death continues fairly evenly with four animals living long enough to attain Payne's stage F/G (34-100 months). None survived to the very advanced age, as represented by Payne's stage I (at which point the infundibulum of the M_3 is becoming reduced), of more than 100 months.

It would appear that approximately one third of sheep died as lambs, while similar proportions died as young stock, possibly fattened wethers or as elderly sheep over 5 years old, possibly representing redundant ewes.

Bone fusion data also suggests a similar pattern: the death of a small neonate group, the death of young stock somewhere between three months and 27 months, and a later slaughter/death grouping between 27 months and 42 months. By its very nature, fusion data cannot help to establish late death, since most bones are fused well before the age at which ewes and rams become redundant.

Overall the timing of slaughter/death would seem to indicate the standard pattern of a sheep economy.

Horse

The age at which the horses died was estimated using tooth development (Levine 1982) coupled with consideration of epiphysis fusion data (Cornwall, 1956; Habermehl, 1961; and Wolf-Heidegger, 1961).

The post-cranial bones of the horse were not as well represented as those of the cattle and caprines and were few in number. A summation of bone zones indicates that the minimum number of animals present on the site was three. At least one of these was young. Unfortunately most of the teeth available for ageing were upper molars, and these were often damaged. This has meant that many measurements could only be estimates. Using what information was available, including wear, an age of death/slaughter was estimated to between 7–10 years for the two older animals.

Although of limited use, fusion data suggests at least one horse died between 1 and 3.5 years and that the others were older than 3.5 years.

The horses were, by estimation of bone size, small, with a withers height of about 1-1.2m, which would accord with what is known of this species in the Iron Age.

Dog

As can be seen from Table 1, there was a considerable dog presence in the assemblage. A summation of the bone zones and mandibles suggests a minimum number of three animals. Not included in the data were the unfused remains of a very young puppy (less than 6 months) making the actual number four.

One of the dogs from context 223 was of special interest. This dog was very small, with a shoulder height of approximately 24cms, which is about the height of a Norwich terrier. At this period dogs of this size were unusual (Baxter 1998). The remains were measured and visually checked against similar sized carnivores in order to eliminate the possibility that the animal was a wild species and not a dog. There is no doubt that the bones are not those of a fox, nor are they from any similar sized carnivore, and it is concluded that the bones from context 223 are those of a small dog.

All of the permanent teeth were fully erupted (M_3 was absent) and in wear and all of the surviving post-cranial bones were fully fused. The dog was over 18 months old. The amount of wear on the teeth suggested a fully adult but not an aged dog. In the mandible the lower M_2 encroached a little on the vertical ramus. Unfortunately the skull was represented by only a few fragments and a small part of the maxilla.

Baxter (1998) has suggested that small Romano-British dogs fall into two groups: 1) a dwarf hound similar in appearance to a dachshund, and 2) a lap dog resembling a small Spitz (Pomeranian). The smaller dogs, be they lap dogs or dwarf hound, were almost certainly luxury imports in Roman times and may be an attribute of an upper class or at least the more wealthy among the citizens of the empire' (Baxter *op. cit.*, 7).

The limb bones of the dog from context 223 were not significantly bowed, as would be expected in a dwarf hound, and were sufficiently gracile to fit Baxter's suggestion that they came from a small Spitz-like dog. If this were the case, a Pomeranian of about the same size would weigh between 1.8kg and 2kg, if a dog and between 2kg -2.5kg if a bitch (Harmar 1977).

The puppy skeleton was incomplete. The various skull fragments included part of the left premaxilla plus three incisors and fractured parts of the left and right maxilla. Right maxilla + dp^1, dp^2, and dp^3. Left maxilla + dp^1 (loose), dp^2, and dp^3. Left mandible without ramus + dp_1, dp_2, and dp_3 roots, canine and closest incisor. Right mandible without symphysis + dp_1 roots, dp_2, and dp_3. Humerus, radius and ulna left and right unfused diaphysis. Left femur and left tibia both unfused diaphyses. Two metacarpals and fragments from at least eight ribs.

Pig

Unlike the other animals, pig bones are scarce. They form only 2.9% of the assemblage and the range of bones surviving tells us very little other than that the main meat carrying bones are completely absent.

Based on surviving M_3s and mandibles the minimum number of animals on the site is estimated to have been three.

Age was estimated using Bull and Payne (1982) tooth eruption and wear stages, and on the basis of this it is suggested that the pigs died early, none being older than 2.5 – 3 years at the time of death. One tooth, a deciduous molar, had no wear and was from a pig that died before 7 months.

Chicken

The small number of chicken bones retrieved is of interest as this species was introduced only at this time. The proximity of the former chicken farm and the possible spreading of chicken carcasses during

manuring make it a distinct possibility that some of the remains may be modern intrusions, but despite this, some of the specimens are smaller than one would expect from modern commercial birds and could be contemporary with other discarded bones.

Red Deer

The red deer antler and pieces of frontal and temporal bones indicate the presence of at least one adult male. The antler was damaged but there was nothing to indicate that it had been cut or chopped away from its original skull, the main separation line of the frontal being the sagittal suture and a more ragged fracture along the junction of the temporal and occipital bones. Above the pedicle was a broken brow tine. The bez showed an old break, the trez was in two pieces and the beam ended a little way beyond this point. This damage did not appear to have been caused by post-mortem use or working of the antler. Red deer were relatively uncommon at this time and antler was a valuable raw material. This particular one could easily have been removed from an already dead animal and brought back for later use.

Butchery marks

Cattle: Of the 207 post-cranial cattle bones 15% showed some signs of butchery: single knife cuts 3, multiple fine knife cuts 13, single chop marks 6, multiple chop marks 12. The most common bones to show marks were the metapodials, the humerus and the tibia. In addition six bones had lengthways splits: 4 metapodials, 2 humeri and one radius. These splits could have been made as a result of human intent to remove the fatty marrow.

Sheep: Of the 79 post-cranial sheep bones 8% showed some signs of butchery: single knife cuts 1, multiple fine knife cuts 3, single chop marks 1. One horn core could have been sawn off. The most common bones to show marks were the main meat carrying bones: the humerus, radius and tibia. In addition six bones had lengthways splits: 1 humerus, 1 tibia, 3 metapodials and a horn core.

Horse: Of the 43 post-cranial horse bones 19% showed signs of butchery: 3 multiple fine knife cuts, 2 single chops, one multiple chop. In addition one metatarsal had been split lengthways.

Dog attrition

32% of cattle bones had been gnawed, 29% of sheep and 14% of the horse. The most commonly gnawed cattle bones were metacarpals (31% of gnawed bones and mandibles 10.6% of gnawed bones). 88% of the gnawed bones were from what might be considered bones carrying the least immediately usable meat, bones that could have been discarded at the point of slaughter or butchery.

In contrast to this, the most commonly gnawed sheep bones were the main meat carrying bones (humerus, radius and tibia) 56% and the metapodials 30%. Perhaps the dogs were given the leftovers from meals to gnaw on in the case of sheep, whilst the missing cattle long bones were used elsewhere.

Of the few horse bones that showed significant dog gnawing, most were from the economically less important bones of the pelvis (67%).

Worked bone

One bone, a sheep distal tibia from context 259, appeared to have a hole made through the sides of the shaft. The bone was also moderately dog gnawed. Dogs can puncture bones and produce holes that resemble worked openings, but these holes, from their form and alignment, and seen under magnification, appear to have been made by human action.

Comment

The animal remains at Lyndon Farm, Maxey clearly represent food wastes and are similar to those remains that would be expected from Romano-British sites of this period. The most significant find is the small dog and its presence may well indicate something of the wealth or status of neighbouring

occupants. It also adds to our knowledge of the existence of small lap dogs in Britain at this period, although its actual use as a lap dog or a working dog is impossible to say.

The condition of preservation is generally excellent, the bones having well preserved surface detail. Occasional specimens show slight post-deposition abrasion.

Economic indications

The bones clearly represent food waste, both from the pattern of fragmentation and from butchering chops and cuts. This includes the horse bones, which also show evidence for systematic butchery. After the bones were discarded a proportion has been moderately to severely gnawed by canids, presumably domestic dogs.

The visual impression is that some cattle and horses were small, and the size accords with what is known of these species in the Iron Age. A few specimens of cattle appear to be from more robust animals than would be expected from a late prehistoric site. Evidence from other sites shows that more robust cattle were characteristic of certain Roman sites (perhaps those with the least native influence).

Chicken bones from Iron Age sites are of interest as this species was introduced only at that time. It is likely that the bones from larger chickens are intrusive, on the other hand some specimens are smaller and are probably contemporary with the other discarded bones.

The sample is well preserved and offers considerable potential for elucidation of the environmental circumstances and animal husbandry at this site. In common with other Iron Age and Roman sites the proportion of wild animals is small, although the presence of a red deer cranium with attached antler is of some note here.

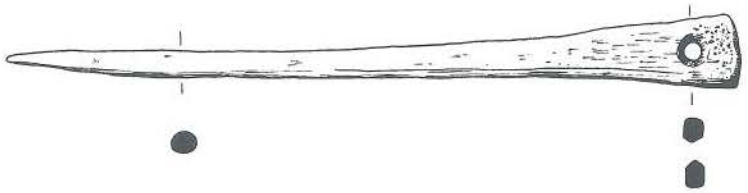
APPENDIX III

Bone needle by Ian Riddler

A complete bone needle, made from a pig fibula, with the head cut from the distal end of the bone. The head is perforated by a splayed, circular hole, and the shaft is polished from use.

Length:	97mm
Hole diameter:	4mm

Objects of this type are commonly found on Anglo-Saxon sites, and particularly on those of early or middle Saxon date. They can also be seen on contemporary British and Irish sites (Riddler 1993, 114). An example of a modified pig fibula from Maxey has been published previously (Addyman 1964, 64 and fig. 16.19). Formerly identified as a rudimentary form of dress pin, it now seems much more likely that the majority of examples of modified pig fibulae, and particularly those of early Anglo-Saxon date, were used in textile manufacture (Leeds 1923, 182-3; MacGregor 1985, 120 and 193; Riddler 1993, 114; Walton Rogers 1997, 1783). Although pig fibulae were certainly adapted in the late Saxon period for the production of dress pins, both the spatial distribution and the object associations of the earlier examples confirm that they were used in textile processing. The later, decorative forms of dress pins should, therefore, be distinguished from these simpler object types. Possible functions for them include coarse woollen repairs, netting manufacture and repair, rush work and the tensioning of selvedges. With this in mind, they can be regarded as utilitarian implements which were often used in weaving processes.



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APPENDIX IV

Human remains analysis by Corinne Duhig

General methods used are those of Cho *et al.* (1996), Steele and Bramblett (1988), Stewart (1979) and Ubelaker (1989). Approximately 35% of the skeleton is present, the loss being predominantly from the vertebrae and ribs and the small bones of the extremities. The skull has been almost entirely recovered, with most of the teeth, both the deciduous and the unerupted permanent dentition; indeed, to the credit of the excavator, only 8 of the possible 48 teeth are missing. Much of the cortex has been eroded away, but the bone is firm.

That this is the skeleton of a child of five years (±6 months) is shown unequivocally by the development state of the 20 permanent teeth, which were unerupted or, in the case of the first molars, coming into eruption. The tibiae, the only long bones which could be measured, give an identical age (five years ±6 months), showing that the child had a normal growth pattern and had no growth restriction from malnutrition or other disorder.

The condition of *cribra orbitalia*, indicative of an anaemic condition – usually iron-deficiency anaemia — is present in the eye orbit at stage 3-4 (Stuart-Macadam 1982), demonstrating that it was active relatively close to the time of death. The anaemia might have been due to inadequate iron intake, but is more commonly a result of internal parasites which cause malabsorption and bleeding from gut and/or bladder, the most significant parasite of this kind being hookworm (*Ancylostoma duodenale*: Waldron 1989).

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APPENDIX V

Assessment of the pottery by Gavin Lucas

Introduction

Over 1400 sherds weighing nearly 30kg were assessed in order to provide a basic outline of the range of fabrics and forms present for each context. Where possible, a spot date was given although in most cases only a broad characterisation was possible. No detailed fabric analysis or quantification was undertaken, this requiring substantially more time.

A tabulated summary of the pottery is given below followed by a more general discussion on the assemblage.

Context	sherd count	sherd weigh (g)	Forms	Date
u/s	118	4549	NVCC wide-mouthed jar; NVGW rouletted everted jar, bifid rim jar, tall-necked jar, hooked bowl & DR.36 copy; shell-tempered jars; coarseware pinchneck flagon; Dressel 20 amphora; CG Samian ?Dr.31R;	mostly AD160-230, with some later (AD240+) material.
2	17	551	NVCC wide-mouthed jar; NV mortarium; shell-tempered vessel (?handmade)	?4th-5th century AD
3	1	1	beaker	RB
5	2	20	shell-tempered everted rim jar; Saxon calcite-gritted handmade jar	5th century AD
9	11	130	grog & shell-tempered necked jar	Late 1st-early 2nd century AD
16	13	359	large shell-tempered jar; greyware jar	RB
19	18	393	NVGW necked jar; NVCC wide-mouthed jar; greyware flanged bowl; shell-tempered jar; buffware jar; 'London Ware' f.37 (residual)	AD240-300+
24	3	9	NVCC vessel; greyware jar	AD240-400+
30	8	125	NVGW jar; NVCC dogdish; shell-tempered & greyware jars	AD240-300+
31	14	96	NVSC everted rim jar; Hadham black-slipped vessel; shell-tempered jar	?4th century
33	3	87	NVGW bowl/dish; NVCC beaker; NV reeded mortarium	AD260-300
34	15	153	NVCC flanged bowl, beaker and dog dish; shell-tempered everted rim jar; Hadham flagon; greyware flanged dish (residual)	AD270-400+
38	2	41	shell-tempered storage jar & Saxon handmade shell-tempered jar	5th century AD
41	1	2	greyware jar	RB
42	6	237	large shell-tempered jars	?4th century AD
43	4	44	NVGW jar; NVCC dogdish	AD240-400+
55	2	7	NVCC vessel	AD240-400+
60	2	11	shell-tempered vessel	?4th century AD
64	32	1386	NVCC dogdishes, everted rim jar; NVSC & NVGW jars; shell-tempered jar	AD240-300+
66	3	3	NVCC painted beaker	4th century AD
68	26	259	NVCC beaker & dogdish; shell-tempered jar	AD240-400+
70	2	69	NVCC flagon/jar; greyware jar	AD240-400+
71	3	42	various	Late medieval/ post-medieval

72	5	35	BB2 type flanged bowl	AD270-400+
80	1	14	shell-tempered jar	RB
82	2	12	NVCC dogdish; shell-tempered vessel	AD240-400+
86	3	245	Saxon handmade shell-tempered vessel	5th century AD+
89	3	155	NVCC flagon & flanged bowl	AD230-270
92	4	19	NVCC & greyware vessels	AD240-400+
97	2	11	NVCC castor box; NVGW vessel	AD160+
99	23	439	Saxon handmade shell-tempered jars	5th century AD+
101	6	56	NVGW hooked bowl & jar; shell-tempered jar	AD140-230
103	1	25	shell-tempered jar	RB
105	1	13	shell-tempered vessel	RB
110	2	21	NVCC & greyware vessels	AD240-400+
114	2	23	greyware flanged bowl	AD140-230
117	10	93	NVCC flagon, dogdish, jar; NVSC painted vessel; coarseware jar; CG Samian, ?Dr.31	AD240-400+
119	4	34	NVCC & shell-tempered vessels	AD240-400+
124	3	38	NVCC dogdish; shell-tempered & greyware vessels	AD240-400+
129	1	9	shell-tempered jar	RB
131	10	173	NVGW vessel; greyware vessels; shell-tempered storage jar	AD120-240
133	5	123	?handmade, shell-tempered vessel	?5th century AD?
151	6	49	greyware & shell-tempered jar	?2nd century AD
156	13	220	Lower Rhineland Roughcast Beaker; NVGW jar; NVSC jar; greyware jar; shell-tempered lid	AD130-170
158	2	298	VRW hooked mortarium; NVGW jar	2nd century AD
160	3	73	shell-tempered & greyware vessels	3rd/4th century AD
162	5	72	handmade shell-tempered jar; coarse sandy oxidised vessel	5th century AD+
165	15	176	NVCC vessel; NVGW bifid jar; shell-tempered vessel; BB1 vessel; 'London Ware' f.36	AD160-200
169	7	28	NVCC vessel	?3rd century AD
172	4	82	NVGW jar; greyware carinated jar	2nd century AD
174	19	495	NVGW vessel; rouletted folded beaker; shell-tempered everted rim jar & storage jar; greyware necked jar	AD160-200
176	6	76	handmade shell-tempered jar; coarse sandy oxidised vessel	5th century AD+
178	4	69	Saxon handmade shell-tempered jar	5th century AD+
180	37	673	NVCC jar; shell-tempered jar; greyware jars; 'slitted' greyware jar; 'London Ware' f.37; SG Samian Dr.18 dishes	Mixture of Flavian (AD70-100) & later vessel (AD240-400+)
183	9	381	shell-tempered everted rim jars, flanged bowl; ?EG Samian Dr.31 bowl	AD150-230
187	8	46	NVCC vessel; greyware jar; platter base (residual)	AD240-400+
188	10	88	NVCC rouletted flagon/narrow-mouthed jar; Hadham greyware wide-mouthed jar; shell-tempered vessel; CG Samian Dr.36 (residual)	AD240-400+
190	2	11	NVGW jar	AD120+

191	226	3836	NVCC flagon/narrow-mouthed jar, flanged bowl, dogdish, wide-mouthed jar, globular beaker, & Dr.38 copy; NVSC red painted Dr.36 copy; NV mortarium; NVGW flanged bowl; shell-tempered everted rim jars & lid; greyware jar; pink grog-tempered storage jar; BB1 dogdish	?4th century AD
193	8	91	NVGW everted rim jar & necked jar; shell-tempered lid	AD120-240
198	7	80	NVGW jar; greyware jar; shell-tempered vessel; CG Samian Walters 79	AD160-230
201	35	970	NVCC scale folded beaker & painted flanged bowl; NVGW narrow-mouthed jar; shell-tempered narrow-mouthed jar	?4th century AD
202	6	23	NVCC & shell-tempered vessels	AD240-400+
204	19	163	?Saxon handmade shell-tempered vessel; NVCC vessels (residual)	5th century AD
208	1	11	NVCC dish/bowl	AD240-400+
210	18	305	NVGW jar & dogdish; shell-tempered jar	AD120-200
214	62	577	NVCC flanged bowl & beaker; shell-tempered & greyware jars; ?EG Samian vessel	AD270-400+
219	12	494	NVGW beaded jar & carinated jar; shell-tempered necked jar; VRW mortarium; CG Samian Dr.33 cup; Dressel 20 amphora	AD160-230
221	44	690	Saxon Handmade shell-tempered large bowl	5th century AD+
222	17	226	Saxon handmade shell-tempered jar	5th century AD
223	45	529	NVCC jar, flanged bowl & dogdish; greyware narrow-mouthed jar; shell-tempered jar	AD270-400+
225	62	1210	NVCC wide-mouthed jar; flanged bowl (?Dr.24/25 copy), flanged bowl, castor box, Dr.36 copy & narrow-mouthed jar; shell-tempered storage jar & jar; NVGW everted rim jar; CG Samian Dr.31	AD270-400+
228	2	17	shell-tempered vessel	RB
230	1	10	greyware jar	RB
231	25	809	shell-tempered jar, flanged rounded bowl, grooved flanged bowl and storage jar; NVGW everted rim jar & necked jar; greyware jar	AD150-200
235	11	172	greyware flanged bowl; NVCC jar; handmade shell-tempered jar	5th century AD
236	2	137	Saxon handmade quartzite-tempered & burnished jar; NVCC vessel (residual)	5th century AD
241	5	71	NVCC incipient flanged bowl; NVGW vessel	AD200-240
242	5	53	NVGW vessel; shell-tempered jar	2nd century AD+
248	8	81	shell-tempered jar	?RB
251	7	113	NVCC beaker & jar; NVGW jar	AD240-400+
253	1	5	shell-tempered vessel	?RB
255	1	9	greyware	RB
256	6	106	NVCC, NVGW vessels; shell-tempered jar	AD240-300+
258	15	132	NVCC jar; NVGW vessel; greyware jar; shell-tempered vessel	AD240-300+
259	26	569	NV reeded mortarium; NVCC flanged bowl; NVGW flanged bowl & necked jar; shell-tempered jar & dogdish	AD240-300+
267	11	111	NVCC jar; shell-tempered vessel	AD240-400+

268	23	220	NVCC folded beaker; NVGW flagon; shell-tempered jar	4th century AD
269	5	61	NVCC, greyware & shell-tempered vessels	AD240-400+
272	26	1547	NVCC wide-mouthed jar; NVGW jar; shell-tempered storage jar; greyware carinated jar; CG Samian Dr.31; Dressel 20 amphora	AD150-240
275	6	138	greyware & shell-tempered jars; ?NVCC flanged bowl (?Dr.24/25 copy)	AD240-400+ (or AD70-140)
280	34	620	NVCC dogdish; NVGW tall-necked jar; shell-tempered jar; blackware everted rim bowl/jar; greyware lids	AD240-300+
283	3	24	greyware vessel	RB
284	4	29	NVCC grooved dish	4th century AD
291	21	977	shell-tempered jar	2nd century AD
297	7	155	NVCC dogdish, flanged bowl; NVGW jar; shell-tempered jar	AD240-300+
301	32	227	NVCC jar; shell-tempered jar; Saxon handmade quartz-gritted jar; handmade black sandy jar	5th century AD
310	20	586	NVCC flagon, wide-mouthed jar; NVGW tall-necked jar; shell-tempered jar	AD240-300+
313	1	443	NVCC wide-mouthed jar; shell-tempered jar	AD240-400+
315	30	669	NVCC wide-mouthed jar, flanged bowl & other vessels; greyware jar; shell-tempered storage jar; OXCC	4th century AD
316	10	114	shell-tempered jar; NVGW dogdish; BB1 cooking jar; greyware jar	AD140-230
321	6	51	NVGW jar; shell-tempered jar	AD150-230
326	3	122	greyware jar; shell-tempered jar	RB
332	1	6	shell-tempered vessel	RB
336	3	97	Saxon handmade shell-tempered jar; handmade grog-tempered jar	5th century AD+
338	3	8	NVCC & greyware vessels	AD240-400+
351	2	7	NVCC jar/bowl	AD240-400+
353	1	29	shell-tempered jar	RB
Total	**1416**	**29,969**		

Discussion

Dating

Most of the pottery clearly falls in the late bracket, i.e. later third century up to the early fifth where it occurs with handmade Saxon vessels. However, there are sufficient groups dated earlier to point to an origin probably sometime in the Hadrianic/Antonine, *c.* AD130/140. The only earlier pottery is a group of Flavian South Gaulish Dr.18 dishes from [180]; since these occur (with a London Ware bowl) in a pit with later Roman pottery, the likelihood is that these are curated vessels which in themselves do not prove first century occupation; indeed there is a distinct lack of any first/earlier second century forms, even as residual, which one would expect if the site's origins extend that far back. Given a mid-second century origin, there is no reason to suggest any hiatus in activity from the ceramic evidence and in summary, the assemblage as a whole spans from *c.* AD 130/140 - 410+, with a peak in ceramic activity in the later third/fourth century. The presence of fifth century Saxon vessels with Romano-British forms points to a clear period of overlap when the major pottery industries had declined but vessels were still in use, and local handmade forms begin to be made. Some contexts have exclusively Saxon pottery or definitely residual Roman, suggesting that activity continued well into the fifth century but probably not much further.

The nature of the assemblage

Undoubtedly, and unsurprisingly, the majority of the pottery comes from the Lower Nene Valley kilns and includes all fabric types - grey wares, colour-coats and self-coloured wares. The range of forms is also quite standard with the usual range of mortaria, jars, dogdishes, flanged bowls and various imitation Samian forms - not a particularly large number of beakers were noticed and on the whole the assemblage was dominated by the forms already mentioned. After the Lower Nene Valley wares, shell-tempered fabrics dominate, usually as jar forms; these appear to come from a variety of sources (including possibly the Nene Valley) and at least three to four different fabric types were noted, one of which almost certainly comes from the Harrold kilns in Bedfordshire. Other fabrics in substantial numbers include sandy grey wares of a fairly local source of which there were two or three different fabric types, including a London Ware variety which may also be from the Nene Valley. Significantly, no Horningsea storage jars were noticed, indeed most of the storage jars appeared to be in shell-tempered fabrics. One example of a pink grog-tempered storage was identified, which probably comes from the Towcester/Milton Keynes area; a rare (but not unique) occurrence as the distribution of this form is usually further west in Northants/Buckinghamshire/Warwickshire.

Other rare fabric types include a few vessels in BB1 from Dorset, not atypically as the site lies on the very margins of its distribution too. Slightly more common but still rare are vessels from Hadham in Essex, both the red-slipped ware (flagons) and the greyware (jars). Pottery from the Verulamium region is confined to a few examples of mortaria, although its rarity may have as much to do with the date of the site (see above). Imports comprise chiefly Samian, mostly from Central Gaul with the occasional South and East Gaulish examples, and are primarily Dr.31 bowls. A roughcast beaker, probably from the Lower Rhineland was noted and a few sherds of the South Spanish Dressel 20 amphorae.

The post-Roman or Saxon fabrics include several different types but a shell-tempered variety appears to be the most common and may have been made locally. Other fabrics include sandy and quartz/quartzite gritted types.

The pottery was also scanned by Dr. Paul Spoerry, specialist on medieval pottery. The following contexts were commented upon:

Context	Comment
2	?Maxey wares present (650-850)
34	Two possible Maxey ware sherds
68	1 possible Maxey ware sherd (gully **69**, Trench 1)
71	Bourne D ware (1450-1650)
82	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (ditch **81**, Area 4)
99	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (ditch **100**, Area 2)
133	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (pit **134**, Area 2)
162	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (gully **161**, Area 1)
176	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (posthole **177**, Area 1)
178	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (posthole **179**, Area 1)
204	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (pit **205**, Area 1)
221	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (pit **220**, Area 1)
222	Handmade Saxon (400-650) (pit **220**, Area 1)
223	A few sherds handmade Saxon (400-650) (ditch **224**, Area 1)
235	Handmade Saxon (400-650), shell tempered jar and quartz sand temper (pit **237**, Area 1)
248	Shell tempered jar – possibly Saxon (fifth-sixth century) (gully **247**, Area 1)
336	One sherd in crushed stone-tempered fabric: like Ipswich ware but much baser (pit **337**, Area 1)

APPENDIX VI *Slag analysis* by William Wall

Slag from contexts investigated during the evaluations and excavation at Maxey was examined by eye in order to make a rapid assessment of its potential for further research. Classification was based on gross morphological characteristics, and no chemical or other analyses were attempted.

Three contexts from the first phase of evaluation and five contexts from the excavation contained slag. The largest weight of slag from a single context was 1125g from context 235. This was tap slag, a diagnostic residue which indicates smelting. It is much less, however, than the amount of slag likely to have been produced by even a single smelt, which would probably have been in the order of at least 50kg. The plano-convex hearth bottom (PCB) from 64 is also a diagnostic residue, this time of smithing. At 478g this PCB is around the lower to middle part of the weight range for Roman and Anglo-Saxon smithing hearth bottoms (*c* 100g to *c* 1500g).

The residues, taken all together, do not amount to a large weight of material, and therefore cannot be said to indicate either smelting or smithing taking place on the site. The impression is rather of these activities taking place perhaps on an adjacent area, with the site itself being used for the disposal of waste.

The relatively small quantities of material and the lack of any evidence for *in situ* metalworking suggest that further work on these residues would not be worthwhile.

Context Description

16	2 fragments totalling 40g of vesicular vitrified material (probably cinder or fuel ash slag)
64	a single plano-convex hearth bottom (PCB), 478g.
70	a single lump (101g) of tap slag, blue-black and vesicular with several prills
187	a single tiny fragment of probable tap slag (4g)
191	probable tap slag (179g). This context also contained a few small fragments (10g) of ceramic material with signs of exposure to high temperature processes in the form of vitrification. This may be hearth or furnace lining.
235	1125g of tap slag. One lump (981g) has entrapped chalk on the base where it was run out of the furnace onto the ground. Top side has a slag 'runner' or 'feeder' 20mm long, left attached from when the semi-liquid slag was run out of the furnace. There are also two smaller lumps of tap slag, together weighing 137g.
236	A single lump of tap slag weighing 414g. Entrapped chalk on base, where slag was run out of furnace onto the ground.

APPENDIX VII *Ceramic tile assessment* by Phil Copleston

Methodology

The ceramic tile assemblage consists of 32330g of ceramic material, as listed below. Fragments were examined by eye within their context groups, after washing and drying, separated into types, quantified by fragment weight, and notes made on the range of forms represented (where identifiable), together with other comments and condition (abrasion, etc.).

Fabric

Most tile is in a typically Roman orange-red sandy fabric. Some, however, has grey cores with oxidised surfaces (contexts 242 tegula, 251 other tile and 336 tegula), some in a softer brown fabric (contexts 258 tegula, 310 imbrex, 313 other tile), some is in a shelly fabric (contexts 191 tegula, 310 reduced ware box flue, and 315 box flue), and some has a surface colour-wash (contexts 242 tegula, 111 other tile, 336 imbrex and tegula). Only the shelly fabrics may be significant, perhaps indicating late Roman repairs.

Flat stone tiles (a few with nail holes and nails *in situ*) were recovered from features dated to the Roman period by pottery and other artefacts. These tiles are not discussed in this report. Stone tiles may have been overlooked on some sites because when split they leave sparse remains but there is evidence that flat stone tiles were common on regions where limestone and schists can be split into relatively thin sheets (Adam, 1994). Stone was quarried in the Roman period around Barnack (less than 10km from Maxey) and then transported overland in the first instance along the Roman road system and then via fenland watercourses. Barnack is just over 3km from King Street, thus Barnack and nearby quarries could have been a useful source of construction material at this time. Examples of the use of stone roof tiles in Roman contexts have been found at the bath-house at Godmanchester (Green 1960) and Drayton, Northamptonshire. (Connor, pers. comm.) and it is likely that there was widespread use of limestone in the area as roofing material. There is also evidence in the area for re-use of demolition material during the Saxon period.

Forms

Identifiable Roman forms were roof tiles (tegulae and imbreces/roof ridge), heating flue tiles (box flue), floor tiles (bipedalis), and general tiles (lydion and sequepedalis). Tiles not specifically identified have been described as "other tile" (although many may be tegulae fragments).

Roman Form Types

- **Tegulae** are side-flanged tiles about one and a quarter Roman feet long by 20-25mm thick. Intended as basic roof tiles.
- **Imbreces** are half-round in section, between 10-12mm thick and also about one and a quarter Roman feet long (roof ridge tiles are similar but generally larger in proportion). Intended as supplementary roof tiles (to cover tegulae flanges).
- **Box flue** tiles are hollow box in section, circa one to one and a half Roman feet in length, one Roman foot in section and about 10-15mm thick, with distinctive cross scoring or combing on external surfaces to key into mortar. Frequently soot blackened or burnt.
- **Bipedalis** are very thick, coarse tiles 2 Roman feet square by 50-90mm thick. Usually employed to span hypocaust pilae and form sub-floor structure.
- **Lydion** (or **Sequepedalis**) are more general tiles, often found as string coursing in rubble or stone walls, stacked to form hypocaust pilae, or boxed to form drains, etc. Lydion are one Roman foot by one and a half Roman feet and 25-30mm thick (fragments are often difficult to distinguish from parts of tegulae); sequepedalis are similar, but are one Roman foot square.
- **'Other tile'** is a category for all other tile fragments not positively identified (but the majority of fragments, in all probability are parts of tegulae).

Although used for their intended purpose, Roman tiles are often found adapted as new for other uses, or reused, e.g. tegulae used as drain foundation, or after removal of flanges as improvised "lydion"; imbreces stood on end in pairs as hypocaust pilae, etc. This should always be borne in mind when

attempting to interpret any tile and brick assemblage. Tiles were also frequently sawn up to form tesserae for the formation of mosaics.

Occurrence, phasing and dates

The following contexts contain tile and brick fragments: 19, 24, 30, 33, 34, 42, 53, 64, 70, 72, 82, 119, 165, 169, 174, 181, 191, 193, 214, 223, 225, 235, 236, 242, 251, 258, 259, 268, 269, 272, 280, 284, 291, 297, 301, 313, 315, 321, 336 and 353. Unstratified tile, brick, roofing and building stone were recovered but are not considered as part of this study.

Almost all fragments examined can be reliably dated to the Roman period. Occasionally, it is possible to "date" Roman tile and brick more closely, but on this occasion this was not possible except some fragments in a shelly fabric (contexts 24, 191, 310 and 315) usually regarded as late Roman repairs.

Condition and residuality

All recovered tiles are fragmentary but in good condition and unabraded, except the following contexts which are of note:
Abraded 42, 53, 70, 72, 191, 223, 258 and 336
Burnt/sooted: 191, 223, 258, 310 and 315

General conclusions

This assemblage can be characterised as typical of many Roman tile and brick assemblages in its range of forms, fabrics and condition. The presence of tegula and imbrex (22833g), box flue (980g), bipedalis and lydion/sequepedalis (703g), is likely to represent a demolished Roman building or buildings nearby which possessed tiled roofs and heated underfloors/walls/ceilings/ vaults. This would clearly be a structure of some status, such as a villa, mansio, bath house, temple, late Roman church, etc. There was no evidence of tesserae fragments within the assemblage.

Context	weight (g)	description	condition
unstrat	874	tegula	
unstrat	182	imbrex	
19	325	tegula with dark colour wash	
24		tegula (1 frag. shelly fabric)	
24		imbrex with top surface colour wash	
24		box flue	
30	227	tegula	
33		tegula with chamfered underside margins	
33		2 plain fragments	
34		tegula	
34		imbreces	
34		shelly bipedalis	
34		plain tile	
42	7	tile brown/grey fabric	very abraded
53	2	imbrex	abraded
64	25	tile	abraded
64	146	tile with dark brown colour wash	
64	52	tegula	
70		tegula	abraded, re-shaped?
70		imbrex	
72		imbrex	
72		flat tile, 30mm thick	very abraded
82	262	imbrex	
119	38	other tile	

165	21	imbrex	
169	196	tegula	
174	98	tegula	
180	114	other tile	abraded
191	3880	tegula	some abraded
191	147	tegula (shelly fabric)	
191	1652	imbrex	
191	214	box flue	part sooted
191	181	poss. bipedalis	
191	967	other tile (mostly 20mm thick, various fabrics)	
193	51	box flue	
214	16	tegula	
223	398	tegula	
223	642	imbrex	
223	364	other tile	
223	388	prob. tegula (not shelly fabric)	burnt, abraded
225	1291	tegula	
225	192	imbrex	
225	575	bipedalis (50mm thick)	
225	224	bipedalis (43mm thick)	
225	48	other tile	
235	134	tegula (flange only)	
236	67	other tile	fabric pock-marked from leached out shell temper
242	353	tegula (grey core with surface colour wash)	
251	111	other tile (grey core with dark brown surface colour wash)	
258	130	tegula (brown fabric)	abraded, pos. burnt
259	895	imbrex or roof ridge tile	
259	532	lydion or sequepedalis	
259	196	misc. other tile frags.	
259	84	?peg tile - med?	
268	68	box flue	
269	4	other tile frags.	
272	158	imbrex	
280	64	tegula	
280	264	imbrex	
284	83	imbrex	very thin, *c* 8mm
284	70	other tile frag	
291	312	tegula	
297	117	prb. tegula	
297	143	imbrex	
301	71	tegula	
301	26	imbrex	
310	3918	tegula	
310	406	imbrex (brown fabric)	
310	200	box flue	slightly sooted
310	120	box flue (reduced ware shelly fabric)	soot blackened
310	491	other tile	
310	991	other tile (prob. tegula)	
313	492	tegula	
313	42	imbrex	
313	35	other tile (soft brown fabric)	

315	3723	tegula (one frag. with shell inclusions)	
315	648	imbrex	
315	50	box flue (shelly fabric)	burnt
315	140	other tile	
321	10	imbrex (surface frag.)	
321	134	other tile	abraded
336	183	tegula (grey core with surface colour wash)	
336	75	imbrex (one frag. with surface colour wash)	
353	347	imbrex or roof ridge tile	

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APPENDIX VIII

Wood analysis by Richard Darrah

Four timbers were recovered from a well structure at Maxey (Well **309**, see photograph below). There were found in an unjointed horizontal rectangle. The timbers did not appear to meet at the corners of the rectangle and this gap may represent missing vertical timbers.

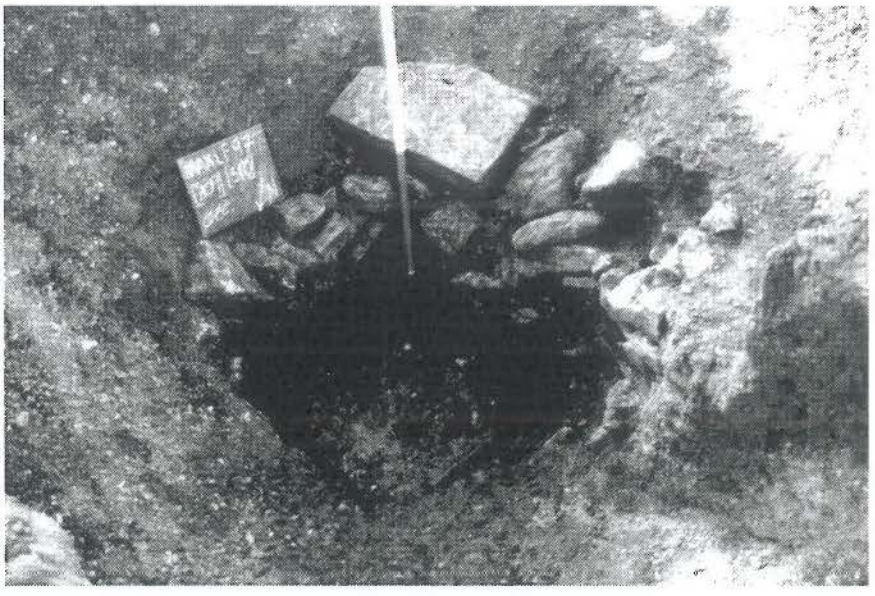
All four pieces of wood were heavily decayed oak with no surviving surface features. Two were originally 0.9 x 0.125 x 0.06m, the other two were approximately 0.6 x 0.1 x 0.1m, they may have been rectangular in cross section or left in the round.

The parts that survive were all heartwood that had a distinct band of 10 wavy annual rings under 2mm wide inside an area of faster grown wavy rings up to 4mm width. The similarity of the ring form and the band of narrower rings indicate that the four pieces all came from the same trunk. In all cases the innermost ring was within 20mm of the tree centre. A maximum of 20 rings survived which is too few for dendrochronology. The wood was straight grained. Piece 4 (RD numbering) had a steep angled branch growing at approximately 40° to the trunk. Both the relatively fast growth rate and the steep angle of the branch suggest open woodland.

No heartwood/sapwood boundary survives, but as all the surviving heartwood rings lie within approximately 25 rings of the tree centre it may be assumed that this is the limit of the heartwood. If this is the case then the trunk from which the piece came was less than 0.25m diameter.

Three of the four pieces (1, 2 and 3) were the remains of halved sections of trunk lengths. The fourth (4) was the remains of a quarter section of trunk length. All the surfaces were heavily decayed with circular pockets of decay over 10mm deep, and long fissures of decay up to 60mm deep. Both these are indicators of serious amounts of decay and it is likely that at least 10mm of wood are missing from all surfaces. This means that no tool marks are present and no features can be confidently interpreted as joints as all changes in the sizes of the timber could be attributed to decay and were not tool marks as their surfaces were stepped not cut smoothly. No peg holes or nails were seen. The absence of the original surface means that it is impossible to say whether the timbers have been split, sawn or hewn to shape.

Insufficient rings remain for dendrochronology, carbon dating would be a possibility but would only give dates for when the wood was growing, not when it was used. As no sapwood is present it is not possible to tell whether the timber is from the centre of a tree that was felled when it was 40 years old or 400 years old.



APPENDIX IX Environmental assessment by Peter Murphy

Fifteen 20 litre samples were taken for environmental analysis, from a variety of features. The samples were processed by staff of the CCCAFU using a bulk sieving/flotation tank with 0.5mm collecting meshes. The flots were dried and sent to Peter Murphy, Centre of East Anglian Studies, University of East Anglia, Norwich, for rapid scanning for an assessment of plant and animal macrofossils.

Intrusive modern plant material included fibrous roots, seeds of *Atriplex* sp., *Betula* sp., *Chenopodium album, Polygonum aviculare, Sambucus nigra* and indeterminate Cupressaceae shoots. The flots included generally small quantities of charred cereal grain (wheat, barley, oats), but no chaff and few arable weed seeds. Occasional charred grass/cereal culm fragments were noted. Charcoal was consistently present, in variable, but not large quantities. These charred plant remains point to some cereal processing somewhere in the vicinity, but evidently not within the excavated area: dispersal of material from another location appears to be indicated.

Uncharred plant macrofossils preserved in waterlogged conditions came from the well shaft (sample 12, context 313). Taxa represented comprised mainly weed seeds with some scrub plants (bramble, elder, sloe/hawthorn). Although Roman well fills sometimes produce rich assemblages, interpretable in terms of on-site human activities (e.g. Murphy 1997), assemblages of this type are more common (e.g. Greig 1988). They are interpreted as representing natural infilling in areas of abandoned waste ground, which became overgrown with tall herb and scrub vegetation.

Small numbers of mollusc shells were present: mainly open-country terrestrial species with a few fresh-water molluscs. Beetle elytra were noted in sample 12, and amphibian and small mammal bones also occurred.

The low density scatters of charred material from the site are essentially uninformative, and were not considered to merit full analysis. Similarly, though further work on the uncharred material from the well shaft would probably lengthen the species list, it is unlikely to add to the interpretation of the assemblage offered above. Further analysis of the present samples was not recommended.

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APPENDIX X Finds by context

Maxey, Lyndon Farm 1997 – Finds types by context (by weight and count)

Context	Pottery	Pottery sherds	Tile and brick	Clay/ Daub	Loom weight	Mortar/ Plaster	Iron	Copper alloy	Lead/ Silver	Slag	Stone	Worked stone	Quern	Flints	Flint frags	Glass	Animal bone	Shell	Charcoal/ Coal	Total weight by context
Surface	5150	135	1059				368	61	119		116	318					1255			8446
3	1	1												9	1		12			22
5	20	2												1	1		12			33
9	130	11															71			201
14																	59			59
16	359	13								40							994			1393
19	393	18	325														366			1084
24	9	3	517			18											192			736
26						51											6			57
30	125	8	227														78			430
31	96	14															476			572
33	87	3	901											2	2		14			1004
34	153	15	569														28			750
38	41	2															40			81
41	2	1																		2
42	237	6	7														139			383
43	44	4															1			45
47																	10			10
53			53																	53
55	7	2															332			339
60	11	2																		11
64	1386	32	223							478							423			2510
66	3	3															5			8
68	259	25															34			293
70	69	2	179							101										349
71	42	3																		42
72	35	5	448																	483
80	14	1																		14
82	12	2	261																	273
86	245	3															93			338
89	155	3																		155
92	19	4					272										6			297
97	11	2															8			19
99	439	23		15													196			650
101	56	6															86			142
103	25	1																		25
105	13	1		24													110			147
110	21	2																		21
114	23	2																		23
117	93	10															16			109
119	34	4	43														58			135
124	38	3															637			675
127																	93			93
129	9	1															19			28
131	173	10															241			414
133	123	5						1									134			258
151	49	6																		49
153																	15			15
156	220	13															35			255
158	298	2																		298
160	73	3																		73
162	72	5																		72
165	176	15	22				2	2									387			589
169	28	7	200														6			234
172	82	4															56			138
174	495	19	100														204			799
176	76	6																		76
178	69	4															65			134
180	673	37	116														69			858
183	381	9															128			509
187	46	8	19							4							31			100
188	88	10						1									106			195
190	11	2															6			17
191	3836	226	7453				128	1		179	6993		9139				5310	28	1	33068
193	91	8	53														48			192
194							9													9
198	80	7															155			235
201	970	35															190			1160
202	23	6															10			33
204	163	19					16										309			488
208	11	1															12	22		45
210	305	18															265			570
212																	1			1
214	577	62	17				21										279			894
219	494	12					59										101			654
221	690	44															153			843
222	226	17															27			253
223	529	45	1895								910						1121			4455
225	1210	62	2311		129												724			4374
228	17	2					2										1			20
230	10	1																		10
231	809	25								2							101			912
235	172	11	135			11	18			1125							1931			3392
236	137	2	67							414	365						1228			2211
238														10	1					10
241	71	5															179			250
242	53	5	361														77			491
248	81	8																		81
251	113	7	112														486			711
253	5	1																		5
255	9	1																		9
256	106	6															8			114
258	132	15	132														195			459
259	569	26	1716				12				399						329			3025
267	111	11					9										39			159
268	220	23	68				23				1927					5	91	20	18	2372
269	61	5	4														35			100
272	1547	26	158		608												587			2900
275	138	6																		138
280	620	34	504								84						1385			2593
281	5	1															4			9
283	24	3															9			33
284	29	4	152								305						905			1391
291	977	21	312														237			1526
297	155	7	257								42						171			625
301	227	32	98	8			2										1372			1707
310	586	20	6166														3113			9865
313	443	18	574														1329			2346
315	669	30	4553														627			5849
316	114	10																		114
321	51	6	146														191			388
326	122	3															6	17		145
332	6	1																		6
336	97	3	258														62			417
339	8	3			49												38			95
351	7	2																		7
353	29	1	348														289			666
Total weight/ count	**30734**	**1490**	**33119**	**47**	**786**	**80**	**941**	**66**	**119**	**2343**	**11141**	**318**	**9139**	**22**	**5**	**5**	**31082**	**87**	**19**	**120048**

Appendix XI Small finds

Small finds					
number	context no.	material	description	date	
	92	iron	nails (18+)		
	133	copper alloy	flat frag		
1	165	iron	hook		
2	165	copper alloy	brooch pin		
4	188	copper alloy	coin	3rd c	
5	191	copper alloy	bracelet?	Roman?	
6	191	iron	nails and plate		
7	191	iron	nails and hob nails		
7	191	iron	square perforated		
	194	iron	nail		
3	204	iron	nails		
	214	iron	nails (x2)		
9	218	iron	knife blade		
	227	iron	nail?		
10	235	copper alloy	wire		
	235	iron	nail		
11	236	bone	needle	Saxon	
	259	iron	nail		
	267	iron	nail		
10	268	iron	stud		
	268	iron	nail		
	301	iron	nail?		
	m/d	copper alloy	fibula	2nd c	
	m/d	copper alloy	belt decoration	Roman/med	
	m/d	copper alloy	buckle	13/14th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	Hod Hill variant	1st c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	Maximanus
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	stud	?	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	?	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4-5th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	3rd c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	3-4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	3rd c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	3rd c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	3rd c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	copper alloy	coin	4th c	
	m/d	lead?	stud/button	med?	
	m/d	lead	weight		
	m/d	lead	weight		
	m/d	lead	plumb bob		

APPENDIX XII Context list

TRENCH	CONTEXT	CATEGORY	DEPTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	FINE COMPO	COARSE COM	CONSISTENC	SHAPE	SIDES	BASE	BREAK_OF_S	ORIENTATIO	FILLS	FINDS	FEATURE NO	FEATURE TY	DATE	POTTERY	TILE BRICK	MORTAR PLA	COPPER ALL	IRON	FLINT	ANIMAL BON	HUMAN BONE	SLAG
	1		0	0	0												topsoil										
T1	2		0	0	0										bone pot		cleaning		551						154		
T6	3	fill	0.25	0	0.63	sandy clay silt	frequent small stones	friable							bone flint pot	4	gully	RB	1					1	12		
T6	4	cut	0.25	0	0.63				linear / butt end	even 70°+	almost flat	sharp	e - w	1		4	gully										
T6	5	fill	0.28	0	0.6	sandy clay silt	occasional gravels	friable							bone flint pot	6	gully	5th	20					1	12		
T6	6	cut	0.28	0	0.6				linear	even 70°	flat	sharp	e - w	1		6	gully										
T6	7	cut	0.48	2	0.9				oval	even 85°	concave	none	se - nw	1		7	pit										
T6	8		0	0	0												natural										
T6	9	fill	0.48	2	0.9	silty clay	occasional pebbles	slightly plastic							bone pot	7	pit	late 1st - early 2nd	130						71		
T6	10		0	0	0												natural										
T6	11		0	0	0												natural										
T6	12	cut	0	-0	0.6				circular	even 89°	-	-	-	1		12	posthole										
T6	13	fill	0	-0	0.6	clayey silty sand	70% grit	friable							none	12	posthole										
T5	14	fill	0.34	0	0.54	sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							bone	15	ditch								59		
T5	15	cut	0.34	0	0.54				linear	even 45°	slightly concave	gradual	n - s	1		15	ditch										
T6	16	fill	0.45	0	7	clay silt	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	17	pit	RB	359						994		40
T6	17	cut	1.4	0	7				oval?	steep?	?	?	?	3		17	pit										
T6	18	cut	0.31	0	1.34				linear	ne 48° sw 75°	slightly concave	gradual	nw - se	1		18	ditch										
T6	19	fill	0.3	0	1.34	clay silt	frequent gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot tile	18	ditch	240 - 300+	393	325					366		
T6	20	cut	0	0	0.15											20	gully										
T6	21	fill	0	0	0.15											20	gully										
T6	22	fill	0.24	0	0.69	sandy clay silt	frequent gravel	friable							none	23	gully										
T6	23	cut	0.24	0	0.69				linear	45°	slightly concave	gradual	sw - ne	1		23	gully										
T6	24	fill	0.36	0	0.4	sandy clay silt	occasional limestones	friable							bone mortar tile	27	ditch	240 - 400+	9	517	18				192		
T6	25	fill	0.08	0.8	0.2	sandy clay silt	occasional pebbles	friable							none	27	ditch										
T6	26	fill	0.18	0	0.46	sandy clay silt	frequent grit	friable							bone mortar	27	ditch				51				6		
T6	27	cut	0.43	0	0.78				linear	slightly stepped 50°	slightly concave	sharp	ne - sw	3		27	ditch										
	28		0	0	0												not used										
	29		0	0	0												not used										
T6	30	fill	0.25	0	1.45	sandy silty clay	occasional small stones	firm							bone pot stone tile	36	ditch	240 - 300+	125	227					78		
T6	31	fill	0.2	0	0.75	sandy clay silt	moderate small stones	soft							bone pot stone	36	ditch	4th	96						476		
T6	32	fill	0.5	0	0	clay silt	frequent gravel	slightly compact							bone pot	17	pit	R									
T6	33		0	0	0										bone pot tile		cleaning	260 - 300	87	901				2	14		
T6	34		0	0	0										bone pot tile		cleaning	270 - 400	153	569					28		
T6	35	fill	0.1	0	0	silty sand	frequent gravel	friable							none	17	pit										
T6	36	cut	0.45	0	1.45				linear	complex	flat	sharp	ene - wsw	2		36	ditch										
T6	37	fill	0	0	0.6	clay silt	frequent small stones	friable	linear								unexcavated										
T6	38	fill	0	0	0.4	clay silt	occasional small stones	friable	linear						bone pot		unexcavated	5th	41						40		
T6	39	fill	0.07	0	0.52	clay silt	frequent small stones	friable							charcoal daub	40	gully										
T6	40	cut	0.07	0	0.52				linear (butt end)	45 - 50°	slightly concave	gradual	e - w	1	none	40	gully										
T6	41	fill	0	0	1	sandy clay silt	occasional small stones	friable	linear?						bone pot tile		unexcavated	RB	2								
T1	42	silting	0	0	0										pot		spread	4th	237	7					139		

TRENCH	CONTEXT	CATEGORY	DEPTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	FINE COMPO	COARSE COM	CONSISTENC	SHAPE	SIDES	BASE	BREAK_OF_S	ORIENTATIO	FILLS	FINDS	FEATURE NO	FEATURE TY	DATE	POTTERY	TILE BRICK	MORTAR PLA	COPPER ALL	IRON	FLINT	ANIMAL BON	HUMAN BONE	SLAG
T1	43	fill	0	0.4	0.3										bone pot	43	pit	240 - 400+	44						1		
T6	44	fill	0	0	1	clay silt	occasional small stones	friable	linear				e - w				unexcavated										
T6	45	fill	0.12	0	0.4	clay silt	occasional small stones	friable							none	46	gully										
T6	46	cut	0.12	0	0.4				linear	45°	slightly concave	gradual	e - w	1		46	gully										
T6	47	fill	0	0	1.2	clay silt	occasional stones	friable	linear				e - w		bone		unexcavated								10		
	48		0	0	0												not used										
	49		0	0	0												not used										
	50		0	0	0												not used										
T3	51	fill	0.05	0	0.7	sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable								52	gully										
T3	52	cut	0.05	0	0.7				linear	30°	concave	none	n - s	1		52	gully										
T4	53	fill	0.1	0	0	sandy silt	occasional small stones	soft friable							tile	54	ditch	R		53							
T4	54	cut	0.1	0	0				linear		concave	gradual	n - s	1		54	ditch										
T4	55	fill	0.2	0	0.4	sandy clay silt	occasional small stones	soft							bone pot	56	ditch	240 - 400+	7						332		
T4	56	cut	0.2	0	0.4				linear	50°	concave	none	e - w	1		56	ditch										
T4	57	fill	0.1	0	0.56	sandy silty clay	occasional small stones								pot tile	58	ditch	R									
T4	58	cut	0.1	0	0.55				linear	s 30° n 60°	concave	none	e - w	1		58	ditch										
	59		0	0	0												not used										
T1	60	fill	0.13	0	0.58	clay silt	occasional gravel	friable							pot	61	gully	4th	11								
T1	61	cut	0.13	0	0.58				butt end / pit?	35°	concave	none	e - w	1		61	gully										
T1	62	fill	0.31	0	0.38	clay silt	limestone blocks	friable							stone	63	gully										
T1	63	cut	0.31	0	0.38				linear	60°	concave	none	e - w	1		63	gully										
T1	64	fill	0	0	2	sandy clay silt	grit and gravel	friable							bone pot slag tile	65	pit	240 - 300+	1386	223					423		478
T1	65	cut	0	0	2				oval?	40°	?	?		1		65	pit										
T1	66	fill	0.15	0	0.42	sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	67	gully	4th	3						5		
T1	67	cut	0.15	0	0.42				linear	75°	flat	sharp	n - s	1		67	gully										
T1	68	fill	0.27	0	0.35	clay silt	limestone blocks	friable							bone pot stone	69	gully	240 - 400+	259						34		
T1	69	cut	0.27	0	0.35				linear		concave	gradual	e - w	1		69	gully										
T5	70		0	0	0										pot slag tile		cleaning	240 - 400+	69	179							101
T3	71		0	0	0										pot		cleaning	Post-med	42								
T4	72		0	0	0										pot tile		cleaning	270 - 400+	35	448							
A4	73	cut	0.05	0	0.84				linear	20°	concave	none	nnw-sse	1		73	ditch										
A4	74	fill	0.05	0	0.84	sandy silt (litle clay)	<5% flint and pebbles	slightly plastic								73	ditch										
A4	75	cut	0.23	0	0.56				linear	70°	flat "U"	gradual	nw - se	1		75	ditch										
A4	76	fill	0.23	0	0.56	silty clay	<5% 5-15mm	slightly plastic								75	ditch										
A4	77	cut	0.7	0	0.48				linear	35°	concave	none	nw - se	1		77	ditch										
A4	78	fill	0.7	0	0.48	silty clay	<5% flint and pebbles	slightly plastic								77	ditch										
A4	79	cut	0.07	0	0.61				linear	35-40°	slightly concave	none	e - w	1		79	ditch										
A4	80	fill	0.07	0	0.61	silty clay	very occasional flints								pot	79	ditch	RB	14								
A4	81	cut	0.33	0	0.49				linear	85-90°	flat	gradual	e - w	1		81	ditch										
A4	82	fill	0.33	0	0.49	clay sandy silt	occasional flints	slightly plastic							pot	81	ditch	200 - 400+	12	261							
A4	83	cut	0.22	0	0.66				linear	s 75° n 60°	concave	none	e - w	1		83	ditch										
A4	84	fill	0.22	0	0.66	clay sandy silt	very occasional flints	slightly plastic							none	83	ditch										
A4	85	cut	0.39	1.6	0.75				oval	80°	flat	gradual	e - w	2		85	pit										
A4	86	fill	0.39	1.6	0.75	clay sandy silt	rare flints	slightly plastic							bone pot	85	pit	5th	245						93		

TRENCH	CONTEXT	CATEGORY	DEPTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	FINE COMPO	COARSE COM	CONSISTENC	SHAPE	SIDES	BASE	BREAK_OF_S	ORIENTATIO	FILLS	FINDS	FEATURE NO	FEATURE TY	DATE	POTTERY	TILE BRICK	MORTAR PLA	COPPER ALL	IRON	FLINT	ANIMAL BON	HUMAN BONE	SLAG
A4	87	fill	0.1	0	0.38	clay sandy silt (peat)	rare flints	slightly plastic							none	85	pit										
A4	88	cut	0.8	12.5	0.33				linear	85°	flat	gradual	nnw-sse	1		88	gully										
A4	89	fill	0.8	12.5	0.33	clay sandy silt	rare gravels	slightly pastic							pot	88	gully	230 - 270	155								
A4	90	cut	0.15	0.9	0.85				circular	89°	flat	gradual	-	1		90	pit										
A4	91	fill	0.15	0.9	0.85	clay sandy silt	occasional gravels	slightly plastic							none	90	pit										
A3	92	fill	0.11	1.19	1.12	slightly clay silt	occasional gravels	friable							bone nails pot	94	grave	240-400+	19				272		6	1	
A3	93	fill	0.06	-0	-0	sandy silt	occasional gravels	compact friable							none	94	grave										
A3	94	cut	0.15	0.19	0.12				sub-rectangle	40°	flat	gradual	n - s	2		94	grave										
A2	95	fill	0.15	0	0.5	clay sandy silt	occasional gravels	friable							none	96	gully										
A2	96	cut	0.15	0	0.5				linear	35°	concave	gradual	e - w	1		96	gully										
A2	97	fill	0.3	0	0.95	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravels	friable							bone pot	98	ditch	160+	11						8		
A2	98	cut	0.3	0	0.95				linear	s 60° n 45°	concave	none	e - w	1		98	ditch										
A2	99	fill	0.4	0	1.45	sandy clay silt	v. occasional gravels	friable							bone pot	100	pit	5th	439		15				196		
A2	100	cut	0.4	0	1.45				sub-circular	85°	flat	sharp		1		100	pit										
A2	101	fill	0.15	-0	1.3	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	friable							bone pot stone	102	pit	140 - 230	56						86		
A2	102	cut	0.15	-0	1.3				sub-circular	75°	flat	gradual		1		102	pit										
A2	103	fill	0.2	0	0.3	sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	compact							pot	104	gully	RB	25								
A2	104	cut	0.2	0	0.3				curvilinear	50°	concave	none	n - s	1		104	gully										
A2	105	fill	0.2	0	0.34	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	compact							bone pot	106	gully	RB	13		24				110		
A2	106	cut	0.2	0	0.34				linear	80°	flat	sharp	e - w	1		106	gully										
A3	107	cut	0.19	0	0.39				curvilinear	75°	flat	gradual		1		107	ditch										
A3	108	fill	0.19	0	0.39	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							none	107	ditch										
A3	109	cut	0.13	20	0.58				linear	e 45° w 40°	concave	none	n - s	1		109	ditch										
A3	110	fill	0.13	20	0.58	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	109	ditch	240 - 400	21								
A3	111	cut	0.32	0.75	0.62				circular	88°	flat	sharp	-	1		111	pit										
A3	112	fill	0.32	0.75	0.62	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							none	111	pit										
A3	113	cut	0.12	0	0.3				linear	89°	flat	sharp	ne - sw	1		113	gully										
A3	114	fill	0.12	0	0.3	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	113	gully	140 - 230	23								
A3	115	fill	0.13	0.59	0.58	silt	occasional pebbles	friable							none	116	pit										
A3	116	cut	0.13	0.59	0.58				circular	e 40° w 35°	concave	gradual	-	1		116	pit										
A3	117	fill	0.21	0.7	0.64	slightly clay silt	occasional pebbles	friable							bone pot	118	pit	240 - 400+	93						16		
A3	118	cut	0.21	0.7	0.64				sub-circular	e 40° w 30°	concave	none	-	1		118	pit										
A3	119	fill	0.16	1.82	0.5	clay silt	occasionnal pebbles	semi-plastic							pot tile	121	slot	240 - 400+	34	43					58		
A3	120	fill	0.14	0.4	0.05	silt		friable							none	121	slot										
A3	121	cut	0.16	1.82	0.5				sub-rectangle	e 70° w 50°	concave	sharp	nw - se	2		121	slot										
A3	122	fill	0.1	0	0.78	clay silt		semi-plastic							none	123	ditch										
A3	123	cut	0.1	0	0.78				linear	n 30° s 40°	concave	gradual	e - w	1		123	ditch										
A3	124	fill	0.21	0.66	0.24	slightly clay silt	occasional pebbles	friable							bone pot	125	slot	240 - 400+	38						637		
A3	125	cut	0.21	0.66	0.24				sub-rectangle	80°	concave	sharp	nw - se	1		125	slot										
A3	126	fill	-0	1.02	0.32	clay silt	occasional gravel	semi-plastic	sub-rectangle	-	-	-	n - s	0	none	126	unexcav										
A2	127	fill	0.25	0	0.9	sandy silt	occasional gravel	compact							bone	128	ditch								93		
A2	128	cut	0.25	0	0.9				linear	35°	concave	gradual	ne - sw	1		128	ditch										
A2	129	fill	0	0	1	very sandy silt	frequent gravel	compact							none	130	ditch	RB	9						19		
A2	130	cut	0	0	1				linear	n 45° s 30°	-	-	e - w	1		130	ditch										

TRENCH	CONTEXT	CATEGORY	DEPTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	FINE COMPO	COARSE COM	CONSISTENC	SHAPE	SIDES	BASE	BREAK_OF_S	ORIENTATIO	FILLS	FINDS	FEATURE NO	FEATURE TY	DATE	POTTERY	TILE BRICK	MORTAR PLA	COPPER ALL	IRON	FLINT	ANIMAL BON	HUMAN BONE	SLAG
A2	131	fill	-0	0	1.8	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	132	ditch	120 - 240	173						241		
A2	132	cut	-0	0	1.8				linear	-	-	-	ne - sw	0		132	ditch										
A2	133	fill	0	0	0	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot stone	134	pit	5th	123			1			134		
A2	134	cut	0	0	0				irregular	85°	-	-	-	0		134	pit										
A2	135	fill	0.1	0	0.15	very sandy silt	frequent gravel	compact							none	136	gully										
A2	136	cut	0	0	0				linear	45°	concave	none	e - w	1		136	gully										
	137		0	0	0												not used										
	138		0	0	0												not used										
	139		0	0	0												not used										
	140		0	0	0												not used										
	141		0	0	0												not used										
	142		0	0	0												not used										
	143		0	0	0												not used										
	144		0	0	0												not used										
	145		0	0	0												not used										
	146		0	0	0												not used										
	147		0	0	0												not used										
	148		0	0	0												not used										
	149		0	0	0												not used										
A1	150	cut	0.1	0.59	0.55				sub-circular	45°	concave	none	-	1		150	posthole										
A1	151	fill	0.1	0.59	0.55	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	150	posthole	2nd	49								
A1	152	cut	0.16	0.4	0.42				circular	nne 89° ssw 80°	flat	gradual	-	1		152	posthole										
A1	153	fill	0.16	0.4	0.42	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone	152	posthole								15		
A1	154	cut	0.24	1.22	1.01				sub-circular	n 35° s 85°	concave	none	-	2		154	pit										
A1	155	fill	0.7	-0	0.35	silty sand	gravel	friable							none	154	pit										
A1	156	fill	0.24	1.22	0.84	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot	154	pit	130 - 170	220						35		
A1	157	cut	0.08	0.96	0.8				sub-circular	35°	concave	none	-	1		157	pit										
A1	158	fill	0.08	0.96	0.8	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	157	pit	2nd	298								
A1	159	cut	0.15	0	0.43				linear	sse 35° nnw 45°	concave	none	nnw - sse	1		159	ditch										
A1	160	fill	0.15	0	0.43	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	159	ditch	3rd - 4th	73								
A1	161	cut	0.24	0	0.46				linear	85°	flat	gradual	nnw - sse	1		161	ditch										
A1	162	fill	0.24	0	0.46	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	161	ditch	5th	72								
A1	163	fill	0.36	0	1.6	silty clay	occasional gravel	plastic							bone pot	164	ditch										
A1	164	cut	0.36	0	1.6				linear	80°	flat	gradual	e - w	1		164	ditch										
A1	165	fill	0.12	0	1.1	sandy silt	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot stone 1 & 2	166	ditch	160 - 200	176	22		2	2		387		
A1	166	cut	0.12	0	1.1				linear	30°	concave	none	e - w	1		166	ditch										
A1	167	fill	0.1	0	0.4	sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							none	168	gully										
A1	168	cut	0.1	0	0.4				linear	45°	concave	gradual	n - s	1		168	gully										
A1	169	fill	0.12	0	0.83	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot tile	170	ditch	3rd	28	200					6		
A1	170	cut	0.12	0	0.83				linear	35°	concave	none	n - s	1		170	ditch										
A1	171	fill	0.27	-0	0.95	clay sand	occasional gravel	compact							none	173	pit										
A1	172	fill	0.18	-0	0.74	clay sand	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot	173	pit	2nd	82						56		
A1	173	cut	0.34	1.6	0.95				oval	n 90° s 45°	flat	gradual	nw - se	2		173	pit										

TRENCH	CONTEXT	CATEGORY	DEPTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	FINE COMPO	COARSE COM	CONSISTENC	SHAPE	SIDES	BASE	BREAK_OF_S	ORIENTATIO	FILLS	FINDS	FEATURE NO	FEATURE TY	DATE	POTTERY	TILE BRICK	MORTAR PLA	COPPER ALL	IRON	FLINT	ANIMAL BON	HUMAN BONE	SLAG
A1	174	fill	0.55	-0	0.9	silty sand	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot	175	pit	160 - 200	495	100					221		
A1	175	cut	0.55	-0	0.9				circular	45°	flat	gradual	-	1		175	pit										
A1	176	fill	0.11	-0	0.5	silty clay	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	177	posthole	5th	76								
A1	177	cut	0.11	-0	0.5				oval	concave	irregular	gradual	-	1		177	posthole										
A1	178	fill	0.2	-0	0.5	silty clay	occasional gravel	friable							none	179	posthole	5th	69						65		
A1	179	cut	0.2	-0	0.5				oval	concave	flat	gradual	-	1		179	posthole										
A1	180	fill	0.75	-0	1.4	silty clay	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	181	pit	70 - 100 & 240+	673	116					69		
A1	181	cut	0.75	-0	1.4				circular	concave	flat	gradual	-	1		181	pit										
A1	182	fill	0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	183	fill	0.25	-0	0.6	clay sand	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot	295	posthole	150 - 230	381						128		
A1	184	fill	0	0	0											0	unexcavat										
A1	185	fill	0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	186	fill	0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	187	fill	0.17	2	0.6	clay silt	occasional gravel	soft							bone pot	232	pit	240 - 400+	46	19					31		4
A1	188	fill	0.2	2.3	1.8	silty clay	occasional gravel	firm							bone pot	325	pit	240 - 400+	88			1			108		
A1	189		0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	190	fill	0.18	0	0.7	silty sand	occasional gravel	soft							bone pot	327	posthole	120+	11						6		
A1	191	fill	0.35	-0	1.7	silty clay	occasional gravel	compact							bone pot shell tile	206	pit	4th	3836	7453		1	128		5310		179
A1	192		0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	193	fill	0.27	1.7	0.95	silty sand	occasional gravel	soft							pot	340	pit	120 - 240	91	53					48		
A1	194		0	0	0												unexcavat						9				
A1	195		0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	196		0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	197	cut	0.07	0	0.62				elongated oval	nnw 25° sse 50°	flat	gradual	e - w	1		197	pit										
A1	198	fill	0.07	0	0.62	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly pastic							pot	197	pit	160 - 230	80						155		
A1	199	cut	0.33	0	0.7				linear	75°	flat	gradual	nne - ssw	2		199	ditch										
A1	200	fill	0.14	0	0.47	sandy silt	gravel	slightly plastic							none	199	ditch										
A1	201	fill	0.19	0	0.7	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot	199	ditch	4th	970						190		
A1	202	fill	0.12	0	0.38	slightly sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	compact							bone pot	203	ditch	240 - 400+	23						10		
A1	203	cut	0.12	0	0.38				linear	80°	flat	gradual	e - w	1		203	ditch										
A1	204	fill	0.11	1.5	1.12	sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	205	pit	5th	163				16		309		
A1	205	cut	0.11	1.5	1.12				irregular oval	25°	flat	gradual	e - w	1		205	pit										
A1	206	cut	1.2	-0	2.5				circular	90°	flat	sharp	-	5		206	pit										
A1	207		0	0	0												not used										
A1	208	fill	0.15	-0	0.42	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							none	209	posthole	240 - 400+	11						12		
A1	209	cut	0.15	-0	0.42				circular	85°	flat	sharp	-	1		209	posthole										
A1	210	fill	0.14	0.4	0.38	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable								211	posthole	120 - 200	305						265		
A1	211	cut	0.14	0.4	0.38				rectangular	w 80°	concave	sharp	e - w	1		211	posthole										
A1	212	fill	0.08	-0	0.27	slightly sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	friable								213	posthole										
A1	213	cut	0.08	-0	0.27				circular	80°	flat	sharp	-	1		213	posthole										
A1	214	fill	0.48	0	1.15	slightly sandy silt	frequent gravel	friable							bone nails pot	215	ditch	270 - 400+	572	17			21		271		
A1	215	cut	0.48	0	1.15				linear	60°	concave	gradual	e - w	1		215	ditch										

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A1	216	fill	0.55	0	0.6	clay silt	v. occasional gravel	compact							pot	217	ditch										
A1	217	cut	0.8	0	1.4				linear	50°	concave	gradual	n - s	2		217	ditch										
A1	218	cut	0.57	-0	1.4				linear	60°	flat	gradual	n - s	1		218	pit										
A1	219	fill	0.57	-0	1.4	silty clay	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	218	pit	160 - 230	494						101		
A1	220	cut	0.48	1.78	1.15				oval	nnw 75° sse 55°	flat	gradual	-	2		220	pit										
A1	221	fill	0.2	-0	1	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot	220	pit	5th	690						153		
A1	222	fill	0.28	1.78	1.15	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot	220	pit	5th	226						27		
A1	223	fill	0.11	-0	1.25	clay silt	occasional pebbles	friable							bone pot tile	224	ditch	270 - 400+	529	1895					1121		
A1	224	cut	0.4	-0	1.25				linear	n 40° s 30°	concave	gradual	e - w	3		224	ditch										
A1	225	fill	0.27	0	0.45	sandy silt	v. occasional pebbles	friable							none	226	ditch	270 - 400+	1210	2311					724		
A1	226	cut	0.27	0	0.45				linear	70°	concave	sharp	e - w	1		226	ditch										
A1	227	cut	0.12	0	0.75				linear	75°	flat	sharp	ne - sw	1		227	ditch										
A1	228	fill	0.12	0	0.75	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	227	ditch	RB	17				2		1		
A1	229	cut	0.15	0	0.4				linear	60°	flat	sharp	nnw - sse	1		229	gully										
A1	230	fill	0.15	0	0.4	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	229	gully	RB	10								
A1	231	fill	0.62	-0	1.92	silty clay	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot	249	pit	150 - 200	809						101		2
A1	232	cut	0.3	2	0.7				oval	80°	flat	sharp	ne - sw	2		232	pit										
A1	233	fill	0.14	2	0.65	silty sand	occasional gravel	firm							bone pot	232	pit										
A1	234	unexcavat	0	0	0											234	pit										
A1	235	fill	0.5	1.96	1.82	silty clay	moderate gravel	friable							bone pot nail slag tile 10	237	pit	5th	172	135	11	1	18		1960		1125
A1	236	fill	0.36	1.94	1.82	silty clay	frequent gravel	friable							bone pot slag 11	237	pit	5th	137	67					1228		414
A1	237	cut	0.79	1.96	1.82				sub-circular	75°	concave	none	-	2		237	pit										
A1	238	fill	0.61	0.58	0.44	silty clay	moderate gravel	friable							flint blade	239	posthole							10			
A1	239	cut	0.61	0.58	0.44				circular	75°	flat	gradual	-	1		239	posthole										
A1	240	cut	0.15	0	0.87				oval	nnw 80° sse 45°	flat	gradual	nw - se	1		240	pit										
A1	241	fill	0.15	0	0.87	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot	240	pit	200 - 240	71						179		
A1	242	fill	0.38	0	1.23	clay silt	frequent gravel	friable							bone pot	224	ditch	2nd	53	361					77		
A1	243	fill	0.7	-0	1.3	clay silt	occasional gravel	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	244	cut	1.03	-0	0				sub-rectangle	irregular	flat	sharp	-	9		244	pit										
A1	245	cut	0.11	1.52	0				sub-rectangle	75°	concave	gradual	nw - se	1		245	pit										
A1	246	fill	0.11	1.52	0.48	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							none	245	pit										
A1	247	cut	0.17	0	0.51				linear	sw 45° ne 75°	concave	gradual	nw - se	1		247	gully										
A1	248	fill	0.17	0	0.51	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	247	gully	RB?	81								
A1	249	cut	0.62	-0	1.92				sub-circular	concave	irregular	gradual	-	1		249	pit										
A1	250	cut	0.17	0	0.83				curvilinear	s 45° n 35°	concave	gradual	e - w	1		250	ditch										
A1	251	fill	0.17	0	0.83	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot	250	ditch	240 - 400+	113	112					486		
A1	252	cut	0.2	0.58	0.55				circular	85°	flat	gradual	-	1		252	pit										
A1	253	fill	0.2	0.58	0.55	clay sandy silt	v. occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	252	pit	RB?	5								
A1	254	cut	0.15	0.8	0.83				circular	se 75° nw 60°	flat	gradual	-	1		254	pit										
A1	255	fill	0.15	0.8	0.83	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							pot	254	pit	RB	9								
A1	256	fill	0	0	0												unexcavat	240 - 300+	106						8		
A1	257	fill	0.18	0	1.4	sandy clay	frequent gravel	compact							none	217	ditch										
A1	258	fill	0.3	-0	2	silty sand	frequent gravel	compact							bone pot	206	pit	240 - 300+	132	132					195		

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A1	259	fill	0.35	-0	2.2	silty sand	occasional gravel	compact								206	pit	240 - 300+	569	1716			12		329		
A1	260	fill	0.1	-0	0.4	silty sand	frequent gravel	compact							stone	206	pit										
A1	261	fill	0.3	-0	2.5		limestone blocks								pot stone	206	pit										
A1	262	fill	0.12	-0	0.77	sandy silt	burnt stone	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	263		0	0	0												not used										
A1	264	fill	0.1	-0	0.2	silty sand	occasional limestones	friable							none	265	pit										
A1	265	cut	0.1	-0	0.2				rectangular	concave	flat	gradual	-	1		265	pit										
A1	266	cut	0	0	0											266	unexcavat										
A1	267	fill	0.62	0	2.3	clay silt	v. occasional gravel	soft							pot	293	pit	240 - 400+	111				9		3		
A1	268	fill	0.35	0	1.3	clay silt	occasional stone	very soft							bone pot tile	293	pit	4th	220	68			23		91		
A1	269	fill	0.14	0	0.55	clay silt	frequent gravel	friable							none	293	pit	240 - 400+	61	4					35		
A1	270	fill	0.42	0	1.58	sandy clay silt	moderate gravel	soft							none	293	pit										
A1	271	fill	0	0	0												unexcavat										
A1	272	fill	0.85	-0	3	silty clay	moderate gravel	friable							none	273	ditch	150 - 240	1547	158					587		
A1	273	cut	0.85	-0	3				linear	concave	flat	sharp	e - w	1		273	ditch										
A1	274	cut	0.95	-0	2				linear	concave	flat	gradual	e - w	1		274	ditch										
A1	275	fill	0.95	-0	2	silty clay	frequent gravel	friable							none	274	ditch	240 - 400+	138								
A1	276	fill	0.6	-0	0.7	silty clay	frequent gravel	friable							none	277	ditch										
A1	277	cut	0.6	-0	0.7				linear	concave	flat	gradual	e - w	1		277	ditch										
A1	278	fill	0.3	-0	3.5	silty clay	moderate gravel	friable							pot	279	pit										
A1	279	cut	0.3	-0	3.5				circular	concave	concave	gradual	e - w	1		279	pit										
A1	280	fill	1.1	-0	2.5	silty clay	frequent gravel	friable							bone pot	281	pit	240 - 300+	620	504					1385		
A1	281	cut	1.1	-0	2.5				circular	concave	-	gradual	-		none	281	pit										
A1	282	cut	0.4	1.2	2.3				oval	70°	flat	gradual	-	1		282	pit										
A1	283	fill	0.4	1.2	2.3	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot stone tile	282	pit	RB	24						9		
A1	284	fill	0.28	1.12	0.9	slightly sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							bone pot stone tile	285	pit	4th	29	152					905		
A1	285	cut	0.28	1.12	0.9				sub-rectangle	80°	flat	sharp	e - w	1		285	pit										
A1	286		0	0	0												not used										
A1	287		0	0	0												not used										
A1	288		0	0	0												not used										
A1	289		0	0	0												not used										
A1	290		0	0	0												not used										
A1	291	fill	0.68	0	0.85	clay silt	occasional gravel	soft							bone pot	293	pit	2nd	977	312					237		
A1	292	fill	0.72	0	0.9	silty clay	v. occasional gravel	soft							none	293	pit										
A1	293	cut	0.72	0	2.3				sub-circular	85°	concave	sharp	-	7		293	pit										
A1	294	fill	0.62	0	0.5	sandy silt	occasional gravel	soft							none	293	pit										
A1	295	cut	0.25	-0	0.6				circular	45°	flat	gradual	-	1		295	posthole										
A1	296	fill	0.23	-0	0.65	clay silt	frequent gravel	friable							none	224	ditch										
A1	297	fill	0.09	-0	0.4	clay silt		friable							none	224	ditch	240 - 300+	155	257					171		
A1	298	fill	0.1	-0	0.7	sandy silt	frequent gravel	friable							none	299	ditch										
A1	299	cut	0.48	0	1.23				linear	45°	concave	gradual	e -w	2		299	ditch										
A1	300	fill	0.66	-0	0.3	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	301	fill	0.53	1.04	1	clay silt	occasional gravel	friable							antler bone pot	323	pit	5th	227	98	8		2		1372		
A1	302	fill	0.65	-0	0.6	clay silt	v. occasional gravel	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	303	fill	0.35	-0	0.7	sandy silt	v. frequent gravel	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	304	fill	0.21	-0	0.88	sandy silt	frequent gravel	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	305	fill	0.43	-0	0.81	sandy silt		friable							none	244	pit										
A1	306	fill	0.57	-0	0.12	clay silty sand	frequent gravel	friable							none	244	pit										

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A1	307	fill	0.33	-0	0.76	silty sand	frequent gravel	friable							none	244	pit										
A1	308	fill	0.2	0	0.4	clay silt	occasional gravel	friable							none	361	ditch										
A1	309	cut	1.3	-0	2.3				circular	48°	-	-		1		309	well										
A1	310	fill	1.3	-0	2.3	sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot tile	309	well	240 - 300+	586	6166					3113		
A1	311	wall	0.7	1.4	1.4		limestone blocks								none	309	well										
A1	312	shaft	0	0	0.12		wood planks								wood	309	well										
A1	313	fill	-0	0.74	0.74	sandy silty clay	occasional gravel	plastic							bone pot	309	well	240 - 400+	443	574					1329		
A1	314	cut	1.18	-0	2.88				sub-circular	nnw 45° sse 85°	flat	gradual	-	2		314	pit										
A1	315	fill	1	-0	2.86	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							bone pot tile	314	pit	4th	669	4553					627		
A1	316	fill	0.2	0	0.6	silty clay	v. occasional pebbles	soft							none	317	ditch	140 - 230	114								
A1	317	cut	0.2	0	0.6				linear	45°	concave	gradual	e - w	1		317	ditch										
A1	318	fill	0.15	0	1.53	clay silt										331	ditch										
A1	319	fill	0.22	0	1.59	slightly silty clay										331	ditch										
A1	320		0	0	0												not used										
A1	321	fill	0.94	-0	1.7	sandy clay silt	v. occasional gravel	compact							bone pot	322	pit	150 - 230	51	146					191		
A1	322	cut	0.94	-0	1.7				circular	s 80° n70°	concave	gradual	-	1		322	pit										
A1	323	cut	0.53	1.04	1				sub-circular	80°	concave	sharp	-	1		323	pit										
A1	324	cut	0	0	0				sub-rectangle							324	unexcavat										
A1	325	cut	0.4	2.3	1.8				oval	80°	flat	gradual	-	2		325	pit										
A1	326	fill	0.2	2.3	1.6	silty sand	occasional gravel	firm							bone pot	325	pit	RB	122						6		
A1	327	cut	0.18	0	0.7				circular	50°	flat	sharp	-	1	bone pot	327	posthole										
A1	328	cut	0	0	0											328	unexcavat										
A1	329	fill	0.17	0	1.76	sandy clay	moderate gravel									331	ditch										
A1	330	fill	0.15	0	1.91	sandy clay	frequent gravel									331	ditch										
A1	331	cut	0.6	0	0				linear	irregular	concave	sharp	n - s	4		331	ditch										
A1	332	fill	0.04	0	0.16	silty clay										335	posthole	RB	6								
A1	333	fill	0.14	0	0.43	clay silt										335	posthole										
A1	334	fill	0.09	0	0.39	slightly silty sand	frequent gravel									335	posthole										
A1	335	cut	0.23	0	0.43				circular	85°	flat	gradual	-	3		335	posthole										
A1	336	fill	0.08	1.7	1	clay silt	occasional pebbles	friable							bone pot	337	pit	5th	97	258					62		
A1	337	cut	0.08	1.7	1				oval	10°	concave	none	e - w	1		337	pit										
A1	338	fill	0.09	0.84	0.5	clay silt	occastional pebbles	friable							bone loom weight pot	339	pit	240 - 400+	8						38		
A1	339	cut	0.09	0.84	0.5				oval	10°	concave	none	-	1		339	pit										
A1	340	cut	0.3	1.7	0.95				oval	45°	flat	sharp	-	1		340	pit										
A1	341	fill	0.6	0	1	silty clay	occasional gravel	friable							pot	342	ditch										
A1	342	cut	0.6	0	1				linear	concave	concave	gradual	e - w	1		342	ditch										
A1	343	fill	0.17	0	0.29	clay silt										344	pit										
A1	344	cut	0.17	0	0.29				oval	75°	concave	gradual	-	1		344	pit										
A1	345	fill	0.11	-0	0.22	clay silt										346	posthole										
A1	346	cut	0.11	0	0.22				circular	concave	concave	gradual		1		346	posthole										
A1	347	fill	0.04	0	0.25	clay silt										348	posthole										
A1	348	cut	0.04	0	0.25				circular	concave	flat	gradual		1		348	posthole										
A1	349	fill	0.04	0	0.19	clay silt										350	posthole										
A1	350	cut	0.04	0	0.19				circular	concave	flat	gradual		1		350	posthole										
A1	351	fill	0.16	0	0.47	clay silt										352	posthole	240 - 400+	7								
A1	352	cut	0.16	0	0.47				circular	concave	flat	sharp		1		352	posthole										
A1	353	fill	0.23	0	0.84	clay silt										354	ditch	RB	29	348					289		
A1	354	cut	0.23	0	0.84				linear	concave	concave	none	e - w	1		354	ditch										

TRENCH	CONTEXT	CATEGORY	DEPTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	FINE COMPO	COARSE COM	CONSISTENC	SHAPE	SIDES	BASE	BREAK_OF_S	ORIENTATIO	FILLS	FINDS	FEATURE NO	FEATURE TY	DATE	POTTERY	TILE BRICK	MORTAR PLA	COPPER ALL	IRON	FLINT	ANIMAL BON	HUMAN BONE	SLAG
A1	355	cut	0.3	1.4	0.6				oval	45°	concave	non	-	1		355	pit										
A1	356	fill	0.3	1.4	0.6	silty sand	occasional gravel	compact							pot	355	pit										
A1	357	fill	0.18	-0	2.78	sandy silt	frequent gravel	v. slightly plastic							none	314	pit										
A1	358	cut	0.35	0	0.62				sub-circular	70°	flat	sharp	-	2		358	pit										
A1	359	fill	0.1	0	0.62	clay sandy silt	frequent gravel	friable							none	358	pit										
A1	360	fill	0.25	0	0.55	clay sandy silt	occasional gravel	slightly plastic							none	358	pit										
A1	361	cut	0.2	0	0.4				linear	45°	concave	gradual	n - s	1		361	ditch										