The Archaeology of Clay and Glebe Farms, South Cambridge

The 2005 Evaluation

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and Ricky Patten

CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
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THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF CLAY AND GLEBE FARMS
South Cambridge
The 2005 Evaluation

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INTRODUCTION

Commissioned by Countryside Properties Ltd anticipating house construction, the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) have carried out a large-scale archaeological evaluation at Glebe Farm (centred on TL447541) and Clay Farm fields (centred on TL445550) on the southern side of Cambridge. Following fieldwalking and geophysical survey during the autumn of 2004, trial trenching occurred first in March and later throughout the autumn of 2005. In the course of this work, a total area of 112.5ha has been variously investigated (Undertaken on behalf of Cambs. County Council, the programme also included the line of the proposed road corridor, which skirts the southern side of the main fields and continues eastward beyond the line of the Cambridge/London railway route; the latter representing an additional 1.7ha.). This divides into three broad zones:

Clay Farm - The Eastern 'Green Corridor' Fields - An area of 52.5ha where, aside from trenching specifically associated with the roadway corridor and, earlier, the RTS Bus route (Cessford & Mackay 2004), only surface fieldwalking has been undertaken.

Clay Farm - The Western Fields - This c. 48.7ha area has been subject to trial trenching throughout (including two areas - 1.1ha - investigated during the earlier RTS Guided Busway evaluation; Cessford & Mackay 2004).

Glebe Farm - A separate 11.3ha land parcel to the southwest (including the road corridor along its southern side).

Throughout the main area, the ground surface lies at approximately 15m OD and the underlying geology is predominantly Second Terrace Gravels, with Lower Chalk and Third Terrace gravels along its western fringes (the Glebe Farm lands consisting entirely of the latter; see Dickens 2002 for more detailed description of area's topography and geography).

The archaeological and historical background of the proposed development area has been fully outlined in its desktop studies (Dickens 2002; Evans *et al.* 2004b; Appleby 2004) and also in the reports variously issued for the many Addenbrooke's, RTS Guided Bus Route, and the Bell Language School investigations (Evans & Mackay 2005; Brudenell 2004a; Cessford & Mackay 2004; Evans 2002 *et al.* 2004a; Dickens 2000). Therefore, this need not to be repeated here, except to note that cropmarks extend throughout both the southern and northern portions of the Clay Farm fields (none registering within its middle swathe, nor in any of the Glebe Farm fields aside from a headland; see Palmer in Dickens 2002) and which will be described in the introductions to fields (and otherwise their groupings) in the text that follows. This is the second report concerning Clay/Glebe Farm fieldwork and the first, issued last year, relates to the results of the area's geophysical surveys and fieldwalking programme (Anderson & Evans 2005), and to which extensive reference will here be made.

This fieldwork programme has always been seen as directly continuous and integral with that at the Addenbrooke's 2020 Lands to the east of the railway (Evans *et al.* 2004a). Accordingly, the lettering system that has been applied here to distinguish the trenched fields (fig. 1; Glebe Farm, A-C; Clay Farm, D, E, H, O-R, & Z) is continuous between the two (and also with the fieldwalked western 'green corridor' fields), as are also the Feature/Context and Trench numbering series, (for the sake of their separate planning representation, only their site-designations are separate).

To facilitate presentation of the amassed results, this report is organised in three parts. The first specifically outlines the Field D fieldwalking results (separately undertaken after the 2004 season). The second and third portions are respectively concerned with the trial trenching within the southern and northern field blocks of the western Clay/Glebe Farm fields; these divide at Fields E and H/Z (with Part II also including the area of the road corridor).

Generally representing a 2.5% area sample, in the course of the fieldwork 7210m length of c. 2.00m wide trial trenches were excavated (14,420sqm). The trenches were excavated by a 360° tracked excavator with a 2.00m wide toothless ditching bucket, to the depth at which archaeology could be clearly observed (between 0.35m and 0.75m deep, the average depth being nearly half a metre). Where possible, the trenches were laid out to the Ordnance Survey (OS) grid, although a number deviated from these alignments in order to test specific areas and anomalies. The trenches were base planned at 1:50 and sections drawn at 1:10. The Unit-modified version of the MoLAS recording system was employed throughout and the pertinent features were photographed.

Metal detecting was undertaken over the majority of the trenches and their feature-spoil. With its coverage detailed in the respective parts of the text that follows, given the generally very low density of metalwork recovered - to the point of being extraordinary in the case of the Field D/E settlement complex - the intensity and consistency of these surveys must be stressed from the outset.

It equally warrants mention that the trenches in the area of the WWII aircraft battery in Field Q (known before through aerial photography; Palmer in Dickens 2002), were surveyed during machining by an accredited ordnance disposal firm (BACTEC).

Finally, before proceeding, it is essential that we adequately situate the fieldwork. Not only must it be seen as a direct continuation of the larger Addenbrooke's 2020 Lands (Evans *et al.* 2005) programme, and as such falling into the hinterland of Iron Age/Roman Cambridge, but in this case as also falling into the hinterland of the River Cam. The current investigation area lies only some 1.2-1.5km east of the river and, therefore, we can anticipate some degree of difference (i.e. things 'new') from Addenbrooke's landscape investigation to date. In effect, we should not just consider the results (and their implications) unfolding from east-to-west, but also along the reverse axis (and too, north/south).

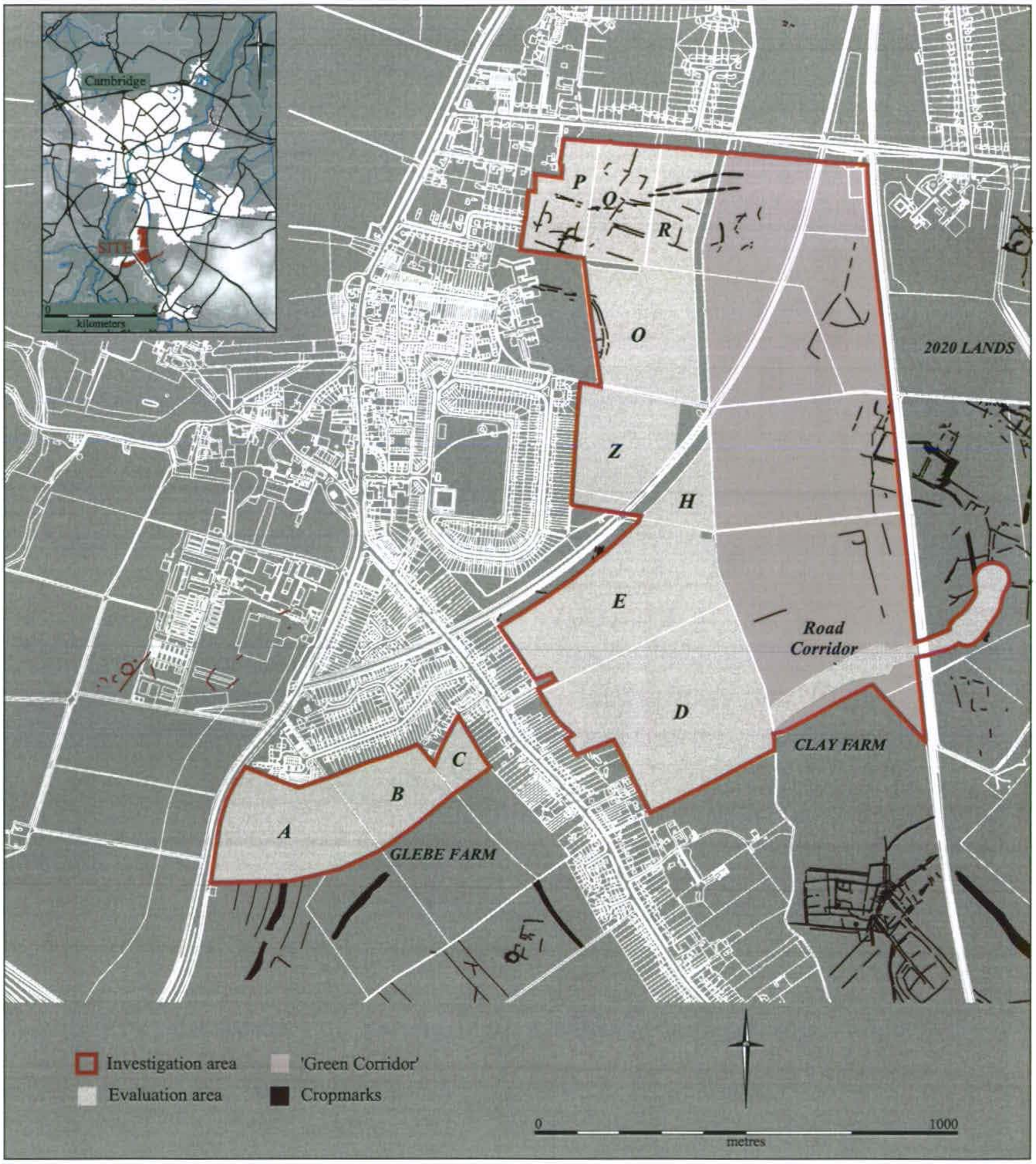

Figure 1. Site location and field designation

INVESTIGATION RESULTS

Part I - *Fieldwalking* (Field D)

In order to complete the fieldwalking programme begun in 2004 (Anderson & Evans 2005), a 20m grid, aligned on the Ordnance Survey Grid, was laid out over Field D. The grid was then walked; north-south, in transects 20m apart, with a corridor of approximately 2m, providing a 10% sample. Artefacts were bagged at 20m intervals along the transects; these divisions are referred to as transect points.

Once the transects had been completed, primarily based on the distribution of lithic finds (see below), three specific areas were targeted for more intense survey and a method of total collection was undertaken. Total collection involved dividing each 20m by 20m transect block into 10m by 10m squares, the whole square was then walked.

The transects allowed large areas to be evaluated comparatively quickly, whilst total collection provided a more detailed assessment of three key zones, in terms of artefacts, their date and density within the topsoil.

A metal detecting survey was also carried out to complement the fieldwalking data. The survey was carried out along the same transects as the fieldwalking, but at wider intervals, i.e. along north–south lines at 100m intervals. This was walked at a slow pace with the sweep covering 1.5-2.0m using a Tesoro *Laser Rapier* detector. Small iron objects were discriminated out and very recent objects of little or no archaeological significance such as milk bottle tops, ring pulls, shotgun cartridges and small calibre bullet cases etc, were collected but discarded prior to finds assessment.

All metal finds were numbered individually and plotted to within a metre along each transect. The numbering sequence does not reflect any dated chronology of the finds but reflects the order in which the objects were retrieved.

The results for each field are illustrated within Figures 2-7.

The conditions for metal detecting were excellent throughout the survey, with the fields ploughed and well weathered.

Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

Nine pieces of Roman pottery were recovered from the transects, all of which were small and abraded (fig. 4).

The assemblage was spread fairly evenly across the field, with a slight bias towards the western side. D5/B60 and D8/C40 contained pieces of black slipped ware of the mid 1^{st} – 2^{nd} century. Oxidised sandy wares were the most common fabric type, but potentially of several different dates: 2^{nd} – 4^{th} century in D8/A80, mid 1^{st} – 2^{nd} century in D9/D40, a 1^{st} – 3^{rd} century rim from a small vessel in D14/D60, and a non date-specific Romano-British sherd from D5/E20. D15/A100 contained a sandy greyware body sherd from a combed storage jar of the mid 1^{st} – 2^{nd} century, and D18/A80 a colour coated ware of the 2^{nd} – 3^{rd} centuries. D9/C40 contained a heavily abraded Romano-British fabric.

Flint (Mark Edmonds)

Fieldwalking in Field D resulted in the recovery of 34 pieces of worked flint and a further 14 pieces of burnt flint (fig. 2 and 3).

Beyond a small number of small and irregular chips, the bulk of the worked flint comprises flakes and fine blades/narrow flakes, the latter being quite common (e.g. D15/E100; D15/D20 and D15/B40). These pieces are unquestionably the products of a highly structured approach to core reduction, most of them characterised by parallel dorsal scars and small, carefully prepared platforms. That care was taken to reduce cores in a systematic and controlled manner is also supported by the presence of a core rejuvenation flake – a lateral removal – in D10/E60. Many of the finer blades and narrow flakes show signs of extensive use and occasional deliberate modification. Other tools include one 'endscraper', made on the proximal end of a tertiary flake and two other irregular scrapers

While there are few truly diagnostic pieces, these kinds of technologies are a common feature of earlier Neolithic assemblages. An even earlier date is hinted at by the presence of a small thumbnail scraper with limited steep retouch (D10/E60). These forms are more commonly associated with the later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age but do occur in earlier assemblages, a possibility which should be considered here, even if it is difficult to test.

Burnt flint from fieldwalking was generally fragmented and heavily weathered. However, at least two pieces show signs of flaking prior to their exposure to extreme heat.

Post-Medieval Pottery

A total of 98 pieces of post-Medieval pottery were recovered (fig. 5 and 6). Little could be said of its distribution, although a broad swathe of slightly higher readings crossed the field from east to west, with the northern and southern extremes yielding the least pottery. All of the post-Medieval pottery was counted, weighed and discarded.

Metal Detecting Survey (Andrew Hall)

A total of 17 non-ferrous metal artefacts were recovered from the survey area which covered approximately 15.6 hectares (fig. 7). Transects at 100m intervals provided a 2% sample coverage. Of the finds retrieved, 14 were of copper-alloy, and 3 were lead. Within this assemblage was a group of five copper pipe off-cuts of recent date recovered within a tight area on the western fringes of the field, adjacent to recently constructed properties. This group is not included within the following catalogue.

The majority of finds date from the post-Medieval period through to the modern day, with the exception of the single bronze Roman coin of the early 4th century AD. However, a proportion of the remaining finds, such as fragments of copper or lead sheet, were un-diagnostic and therefore difficult to date.

The material recovered predominantly falls within the date range of the 18th-20th centuries, with the exception of the Roman coin. The coin find indicates a presence within the landscape already attested to. Apart from this coin, the assemblage is unremarkable and typical for any rural field. In fact, the density of metalwork is very low, lower than that for the neighbouring field to the north and far lower than the small fields bordering Long Road and to the east of Clay Farm (Anderson & Evans 2005). The explanation for this result is not clear, especially with the fields previous incarnation as an agricultural fair site during the 20th century. It may well be the case that the field has been heavily detected in the past by enthusiasts attracted by the field's past use.

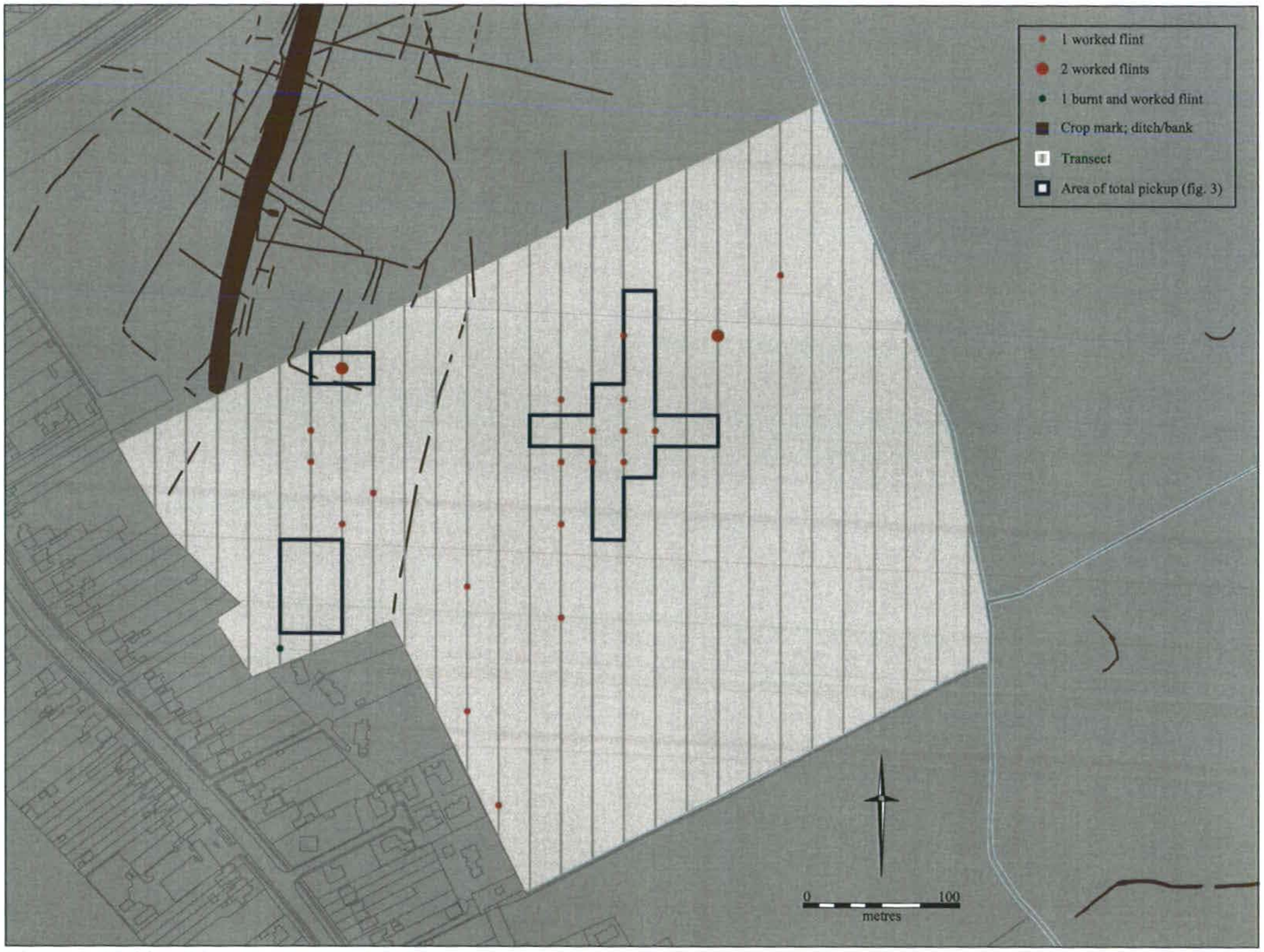

Figure 2. Fieldwalking transect results; flint

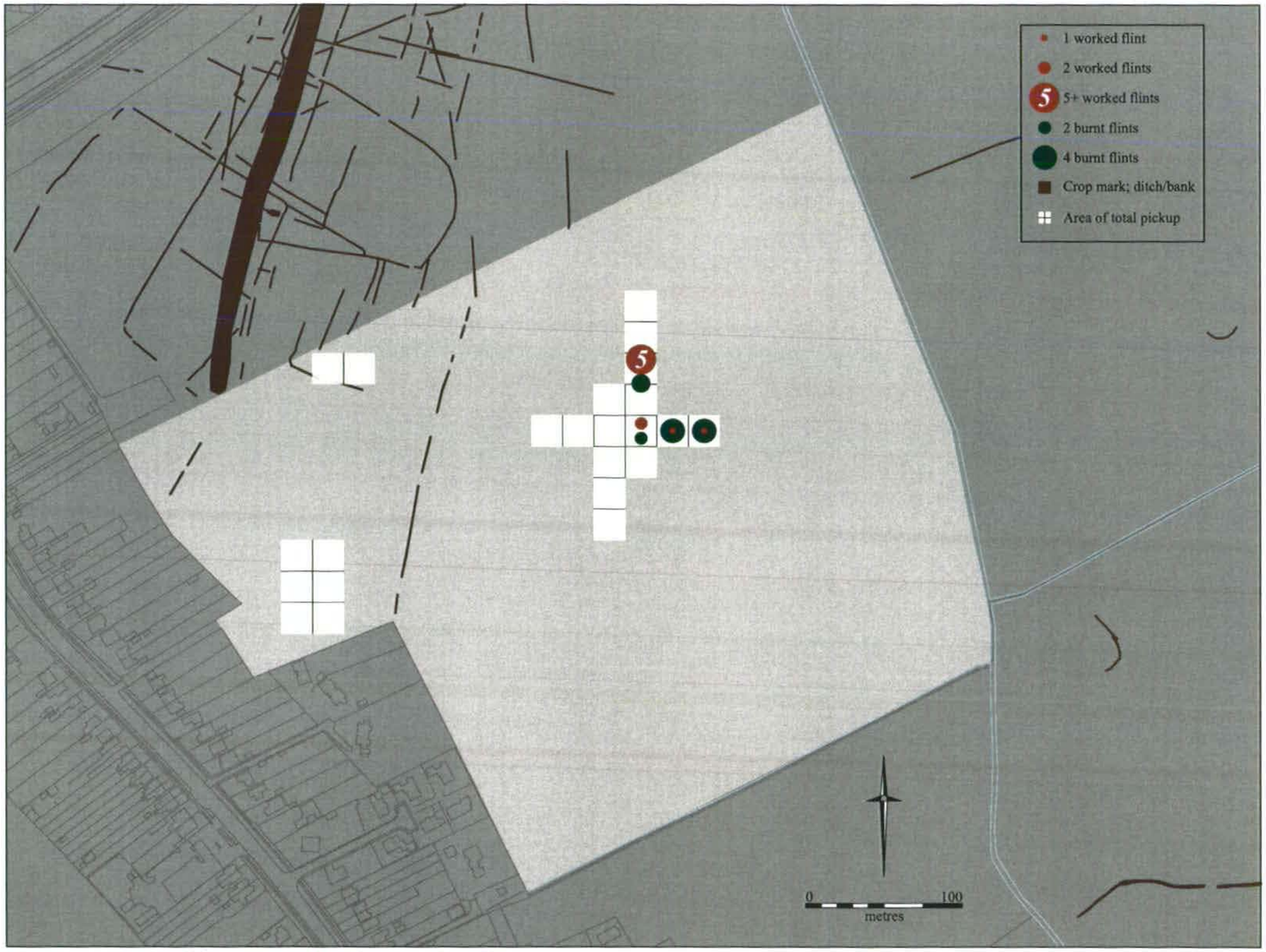

Figure 3. Fieldwalking total collection results; flint

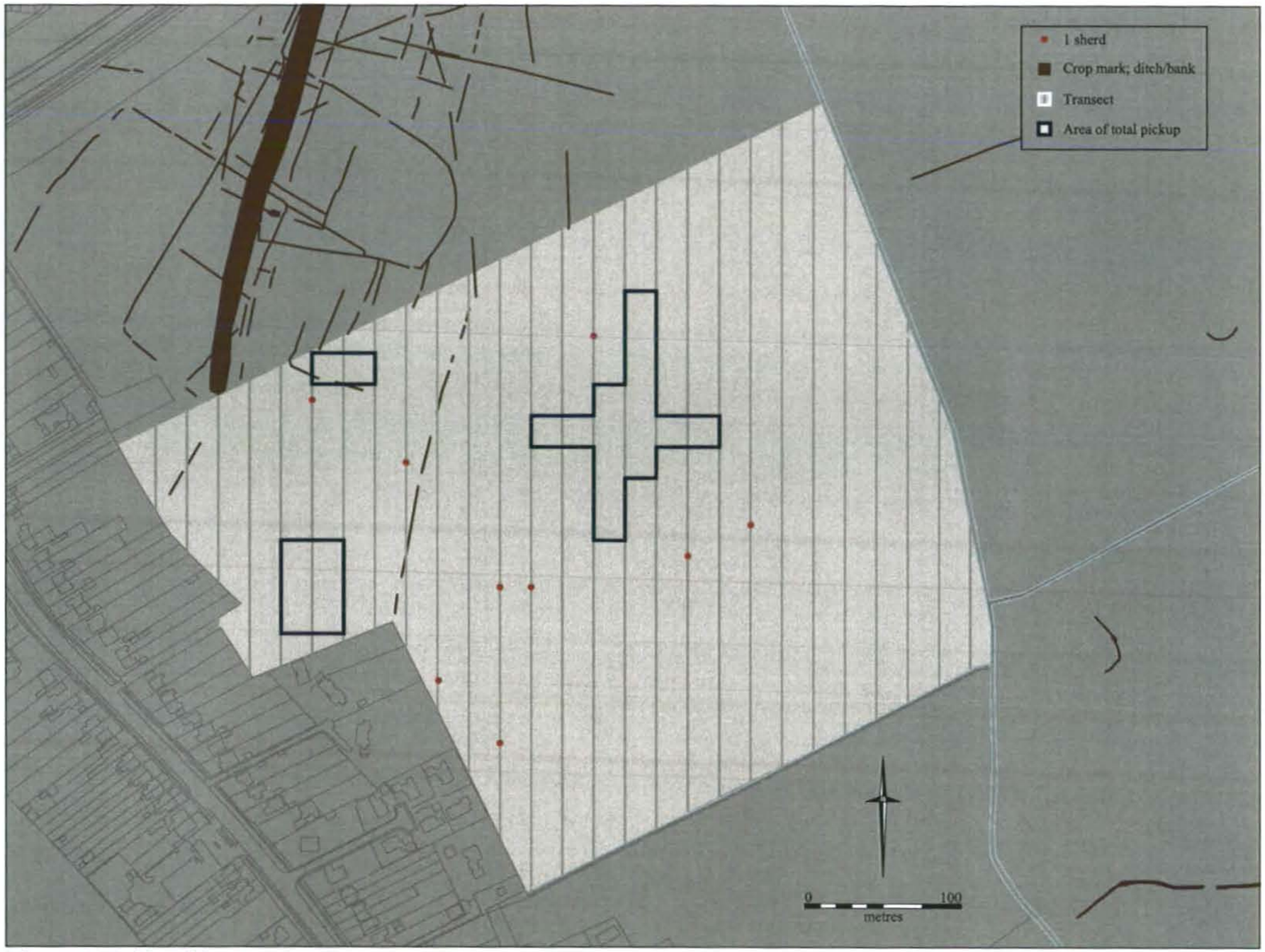

Figure 4. Fieldwalking results; Roman pottery

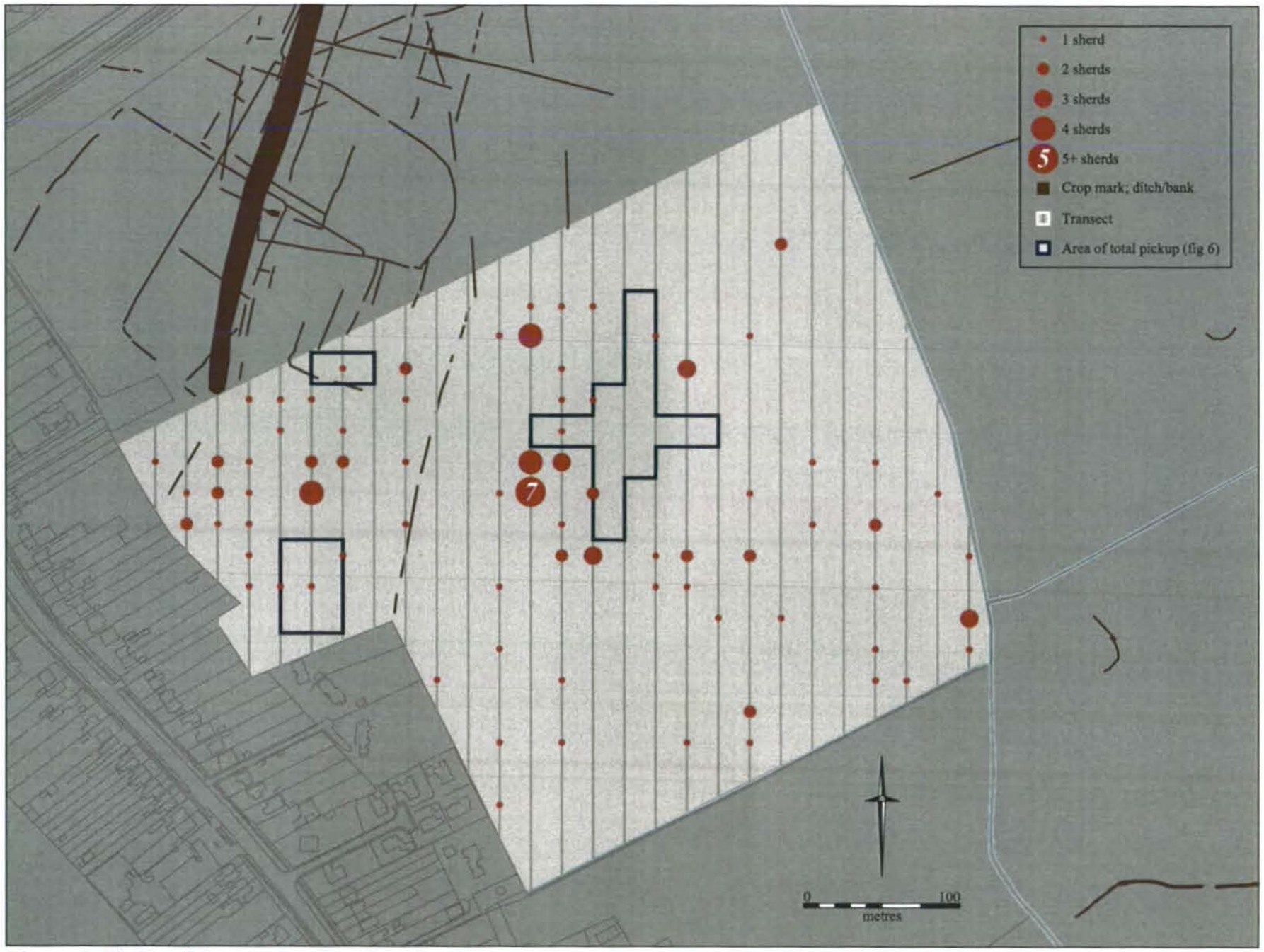

Figure 5. Fieldwalking results; Post-Medieval pottery

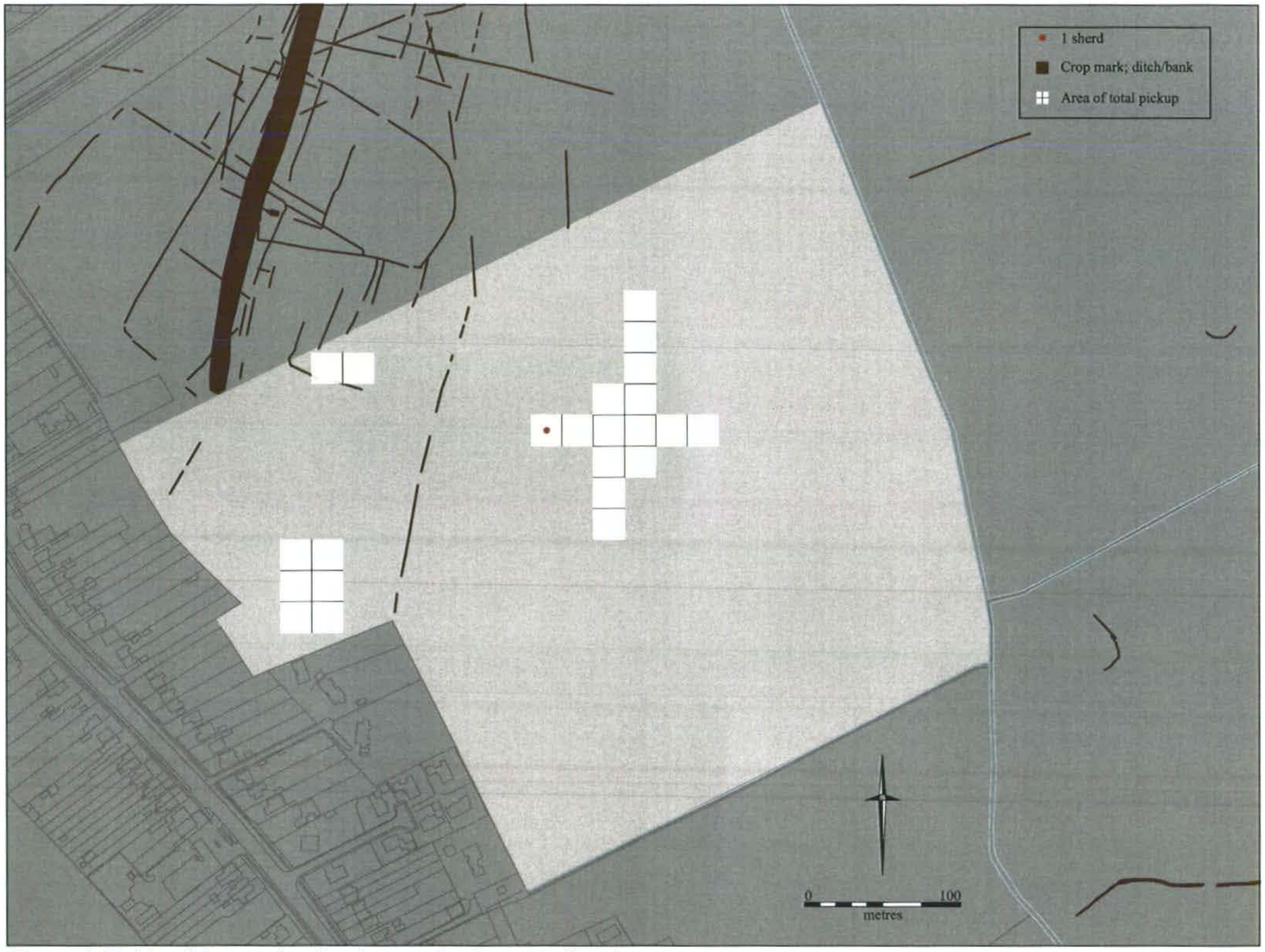

Figure 6. Fieldwalking total collection results; Post-Medieval pottery

Figure 7. Metal detecting results

Number	*Description*	Date
1	Copper-alloy eyelet (machine made)	19th/20th
2	Copper-alloy pipe sleeve	20th
3	Copper-alloy chain links	19th/20th
4	Copper-alloy thimble. Sheet made	18th/19th
5	Lead sheet off-cut	Post Med
6	Lead fragment	Undated
7	Copper-alloy four hole button	19th/20th
8	Copper-alloy horse harness buckle	19th/20th
9	Bronze Roman coin of Constantine II as Caesar. Minted AD 320-324 (A Challands pers. comm.)	4th c AD
10	Small copper-alloy button, loop intact	18th/19th
11	Fragment of lead sheet, perforated	undated
12	Copper-alloy blob, casting waste.	undated

Table 1: Metal detecting finds

The results of the surveys were consistent with the previous findings (Anderson & Evans 2004) and generally surface densities were low. This is especially true of the Roman pottery (fig. 4), which seems remarkable given that the field coincides with the southern end of a major cropmark site that must be of that date. The flint densities were, however, somewhat greater and the main, east-central total collection area may attest to a minor scatter, which is probably of Neolithic date.

Part II - *Trial Trenching* - *The Southern Fields and Road Corridor* (A-F & K)

Glebe Farm (Fields A-C)

The only cropmark known within the Glebe Farm area is a northeast-southwest oriented headland within the westernmost field (fig. 8; Anderson & Evans 2005: fig. 1). Equally, the results of the geophysical survey (undertaken in Fields B & C only) were negative, with no site-suggestive 'hot-spots' identified (*ibid*: fig. 4); no fieldwalking was undertaken within this area.

Trenches in Fields B and C revealed no archaeological features and were subsequently backfilled after details of top- and subsoil depths were recorded. Topsoil in both of these fields was thin, varying in thickness between 0.25m and 0.37m deep in Field B, and between 0.32m and 0.38m in Field C. Subsoil in Field B varied from 0.12m to 0.25m deep, and in Field C between 0.12m and 0.17m deep, with overall trench depths 0.40m to 0.75m in Field B and 0.47 to 0.55m in Field C.

Fourteen trenches were excavated across Field A. Trenches 80-82, 84-86, 88, 90-92 and Trench 104 revealed no archaeological features. The subsoil in Field A was very thin, varying in depth from between 0.05m (Trenches 84 and 86) and 0.25m (Trench 87). No subsoil was observed in Trench 89, with only a thin topsoil between 0.35m and 0.45m deep overlying natural.

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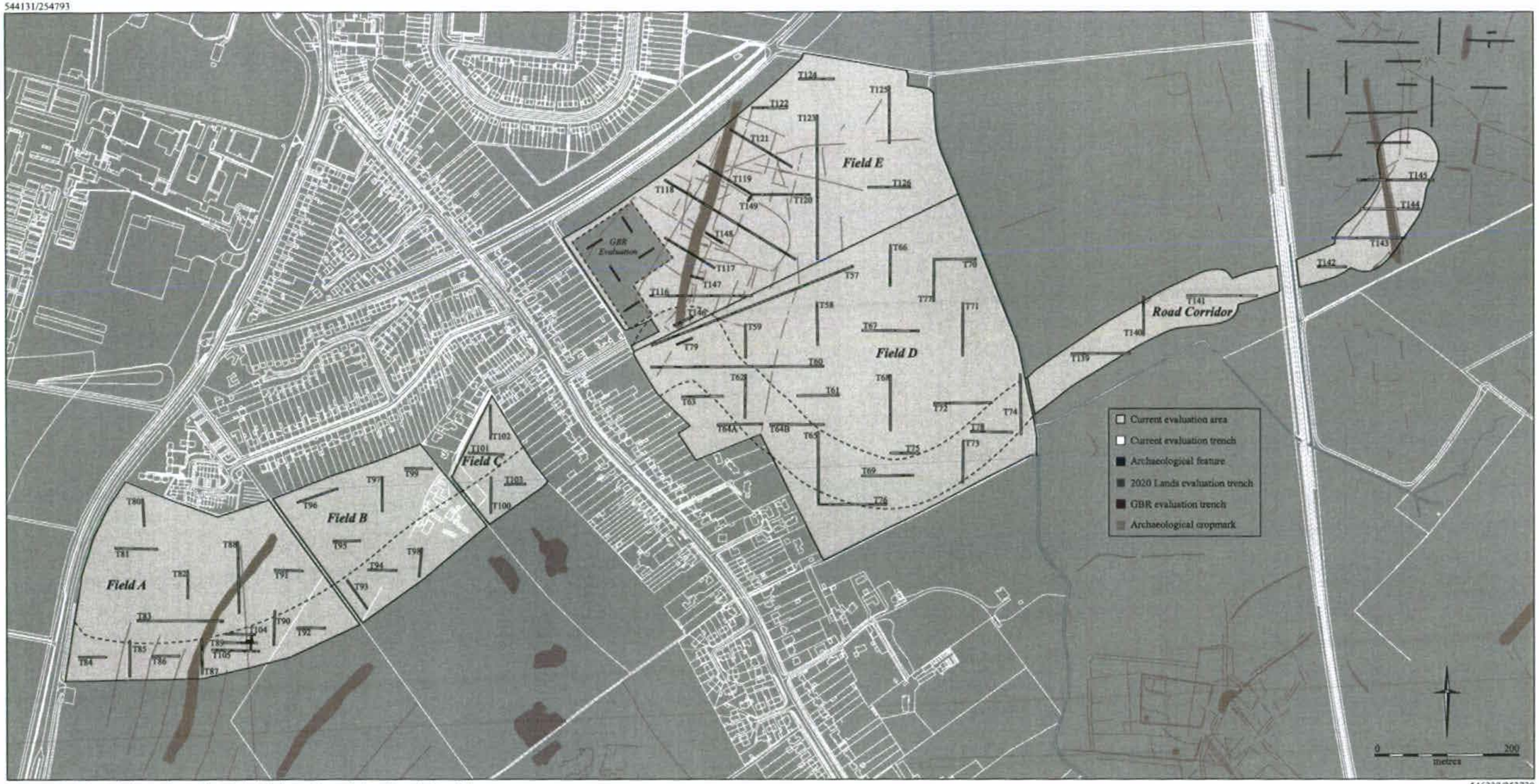

Figure 8. Trench location plan; Fields A to E and the Road Corridor

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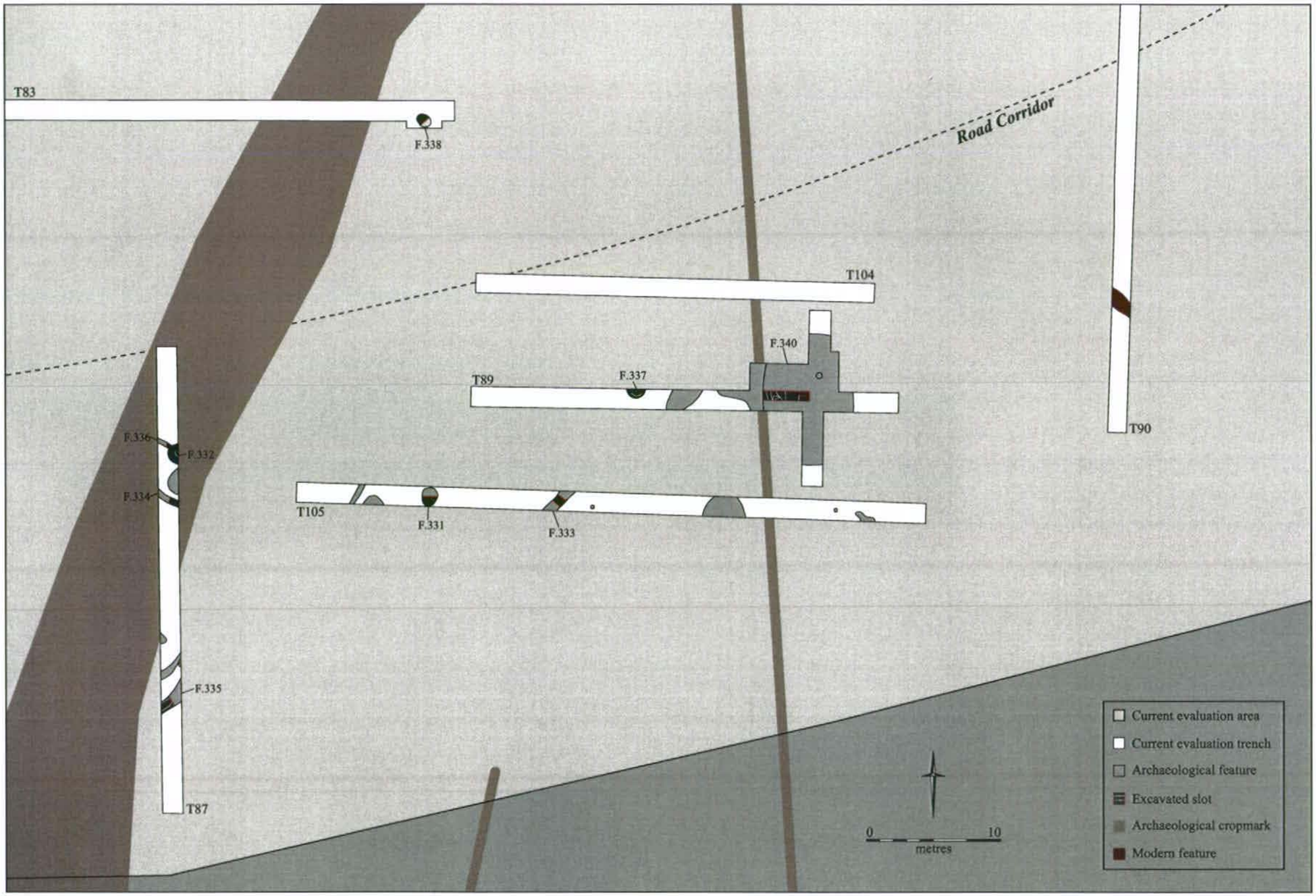


Figure 9. Field A

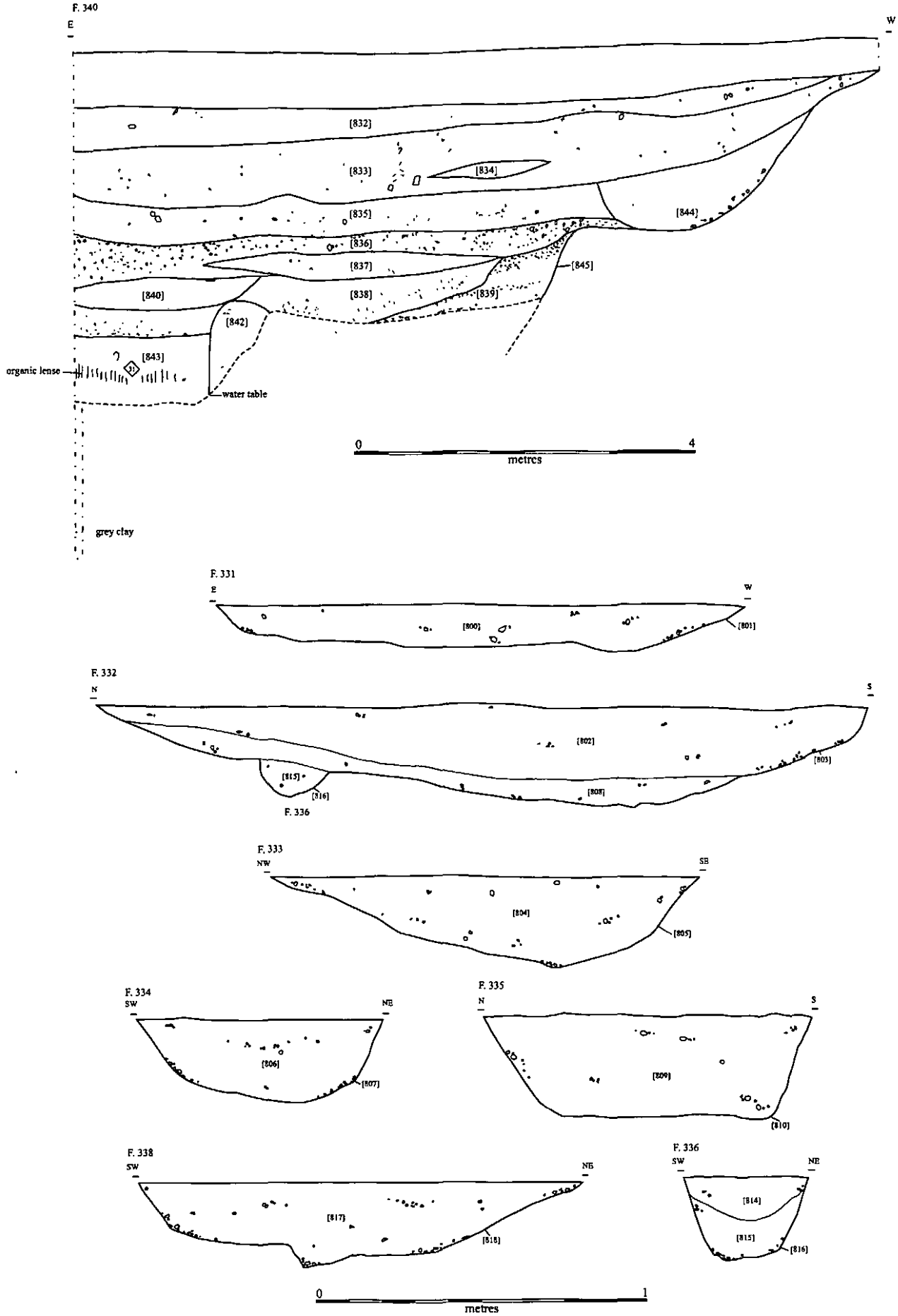


Figure 10. Sections from Field A

Trench 83 (fig. 9) - Trench 83 was 120m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was between 0.40m and 0.35m deep, and the subsoil between 0.30m and 0.18m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.53m to 0.70m. This trench contained one small pit feature, F.338, at its extreme western limit. Although F.338 is a single feature, it is located close to Trench 89. Oval in shape, the pit had a northwest-southeast orientation with a single cut and fill. Three burnt stones, one cow tooth, a piece of flint and small fragments of Iron pottery were recovered from the fill.

F.338 Pit. Fill [817], cut [818]. Fill firm friable mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small (<50mm) sub-angular and rounded gravel with rare very small (<5mm) pieces of charcoal. Length 1.60m, width 1.33m, depth 0.27m. Oval, with near vertical slightly concave sides and small depression at centre.

Trench 87 - Trench 87 was 49m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.45m deep, and the subsoil between 0.25m and 0.30m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.70m to 0.75m. This trench contained one pit and was crossed by three ditches, situated between 10m and 40m from its southern end. Parallel ditches F.334 and F.336, 5m apart, were orientated northwest-southeast, were 0.24m deep and contained Iron Age pottery, possibly forming part of an enclosure. Feature 336 was narrower (0.34m wide) than F.334 (0.70m) and continued under the eastern trench edge. Feature 336 was cut by a large pit, F.332. Feature 332 was a shallow, circular pit with pale brown fills, with Iron Age pottery, bone, flint and shell recovered from the upper fill, and probably Iron Age in date. Ditch F.335 was located towards the southern end of the ditch, with steep near vertical sides, clear break of slope and flat bottom. No datable artefacts were recovered from F.335, but its orientation suggests this may be Iron Age in origin.

F.332 (fig. 10) Large pit. Fills [802, 808], cut [803]. Fills pale brown sand with occasional flint gravel (<2cm) and rare charcoal flecks, and pale mid brown redeposited silty sand with no inclusions. Diameter 2.05m, depth 0.22m. Circular in shape with shallow concave sides, with a steeper slope on the southern edge, near vertical for top 5cm. Cuts F.336.

F.334 Ditch. NW-SE running parallel to ditch F.336, 5m to the north. Fill [806], cut [807]. Fill compact mid brown silty sand with occasional charcoal inclusions and frequent gravel *c.*3cm in size. Width 0.70m, depth 0.24m. Steep, near vertical sides, shallower on SW, with a clear break of slope to slightly concave base.

F.335 Ditch. NE-SW orientation. Fill [809], cut [810]. Fill fairly compact medium to dark grey silty sand with numerous flecks of charcoal, moderate flint pebbles and fragments. Width 0.99m, depth 0.31m. Steep near vertical sides with flat bottom.

F.336 Ditch. NW-SE running parallel to ditch F.334, 5m to the south. Fills [814, 815], cut [816]. Fills were mid brown sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal and yellowy pale brown compact sandy silt with rare charcoal flecks. Width 0.36m, depth 0.24m. Steep near vertical sides with rounded concave base.

Trench 89 - Trench 89 was 45m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was between 0.34m and 0.45m deep, and the subsoil between 0.09m and 0.17m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.65m to 0.70m. Two features were found in this trench. F.337 was located towards the western end of the trench and was partially exposed, continuing under the south-facing trench edge. F.337 was a large circular pit, with a dark upper organic fill, containing 197 sherds of Iron Age pottery, animal bone, flint

and numerous pieces of charcoal. The lower compacted yellow sandy gravel fill contained human bone, including articulated pieces and phalanges, and possibly represent a crouched inhumation. These remains were recorded and left in situ.

The eastern end of Trench 89 was dominated by a large feature, F.340. North and south extension of the trench by machining revealed this to be a large oval-shaped pit or pond-like feature approximately 14m in diameter along its north-south axis, and 11m along its east-west axis. A slot measuring 4.24m x 1.00m was excavated from near the centre to the western edge. Consisting of a minimum of thirteen fills, including redeposited natural, pieces of flint, bone, burnt stone and 146 sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered down to a depth of 1.30m. Excavation ceased at a depth of 1.72m (Fig. 10). A 2.00m pole was subsequently used to assess the depth of fills at the centre. The base was not reached. Without further investigation it is difficult to assess the function of F.340. With an underlying chalk geology, F.340 may have been cut to provide a watering hole or well, which has subsequently filled with re-deposited natural and midden material.

F.337 (fig. 17) Large pit. Fills [811, 812], cut [813]. Fill [811], dark grey organic silt with frequent charcoal and occasional gravel, containing numerous pieces of Iron Age pottery and animal bone, and flint. Fill [812], was a compacted yellow sandy gravel with numerous small stones, especially chalk and flint, containing human bone elements. Width 1.94m, depth 0.57m. Steep, near vertical sides with clear break of slope; not fully excavated.

F.340 (fig. 10 and 17) Large oval pit or pond situated in eastern end of the trench. Fills [832-844], cut [845]: Top fill [832], dark grey brown sandy silt, with occasional small stones, and contained pottery, bone and burnt stone. 0.25m thick.
Fill [833], mid orangey brown soft sandy silt, with occasional gravels and charcoal, and contained pottery, bone and flint. c. 0.40m thick.
Fill [834], flattened lozenge-shaped lens of pale orangey brown silty sand c. 0.11m thick, sandwiched between [833]. No finds.
Fill [835], soft dark orangey brown sand, with frequent gravel, charcoal flecks and some silt. No finds. 0.20m thick.
Fill [836], band of cleanish orangey brown sand, with frequent gravels and charcoal. More sandy than [835]. c. 0.30m thick. No finds.
Fill [837], mid brownish grey sandy clay containing pottery, bone and flint. c. 0.16m thick
Fill [838], mixed orangey grey mottled deposit of clay and sand containing pottery, bone and flint, partially sealing fill, [839]. c. 0.27m thick; not fully excavated.
Fill [839], series of very clean banded lens of sands and gravels/pea-grit, bright orangey brown in colour, containing pottery, bone and flint. c. 0.28m thick; not fully excavated.
Fill [840], light greyish brown silty clay with significant quantities of bone and pottery; some sherds quite large. 0.20m thick, possibly cutting [838].
Fill [841], quite clean pale greyish brown clayey sand with some inclusions and pottery. 0.15m thick.
Fill [842], very pale creamy white redeposited marl with occasional thin sandy lenses. C. 0.30-0.55m deep; not fully excavated. No finds.
Fill [843], light grey 'wet' clay with a dark grey organic grey clay lens, with small twigs, c. 0.40m deep; not fully excavated. No finds. Sample <31>.
Fill [844], located towards the western edge of F.340, possibly representing a separate cut, consisting of hard compact mid brownish grey clay. c. 0.40m thick. No finds.
Steep sided with initial concave break of slope to flat shelf at c. 0.70m with sharp break onto a near vertical slope, with fills continuing beyond 1.72m in depth. Width 14m, depth 1.72m. F.340 was not fully excavated.

Trench 105 - Trench 105 was 66m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was between 0.45m and 0.35m deep, and the subsoil between 0.18m and 0.40m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.63m to 0.75m. The trench contained one large shallow pit

towards the western end and a ditch orientated northeast-southwest. The pit, F.331, was only 0.14m deep, with a flat base and a single mid brown silty sand fill with a single sherd of Iron Age pottery. Feature 333 was a shallow ditch, 0.28m deep and 1.35m wide with a similar fill to F.331, containing eight Iron Age pottery sherds, animal bone and flint. It is probable that both these features have been truncated by agricultural activity, with the latter forming a field boundary.

F.331 (fig. 10) Pit. Fills [800], cut [801]. Fill was a moderately compact mid brown silty sand with occasional small stones and flint and gravel inclusions. Width 1.65m, depth 0.14m. Circular in shape, with moderately sloping sides and flat base.

F.333 Ditch. NE-SW Fills [804], cut [805]. Fill was a hard compact mid greyish brown silty sand with moderate small stone and flint inclusions. Width 1.35m, depth 0.28m. Steep convex slope on SE with shallow gentle slope on NW side, with concave base. Environmental sample <32>.

Discussion

A Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age presence is attested in Field A through the recovery of residual flint flakes and cores from later, Iron Age features. Two ditches, F.333 and F.334, produced flints that may also be contemporary to the Iron Age activity witnessed in the field, representing the expedient use of locally available material (see Beadsmore below). The concentration of Iron Age activity in the southern section of Field A, in Trenches 87, 89 and 105, suggests higher ground in this area was exploited during the Iron Age. Finds from these trenches, and the parallel ditches in Trench 87, argue for an enclosure possibly oriented northeast-southwest/northwest-southeast (fig. 9), with the large pit-like feature in Trench 89, F.340, cut to provide a well or watering-hole, dated to the Early to early Middle Iron Age, by the pottery evidence. One possible re-cut was visible in section (F.344), with later slumping and re-deposited natural slowly backfilling this feature, with pottery and bone either deposited or eroding into it. With waterlogged lower fills organic preservation was expected. However, environmental analysis demonstrates the feature was not completely waterlogged, or has dried-out in the past, leading to poor plant preservation. Nonetheless, surviving plant remains suggest 'rough, open ground such as spoil heaps, 'road sides or cultivated soil' (see de Vareilles below) characterised the immediate area. Faunal remains also suggest low level activity, although the 'highly processed' bone (see Swaysland below) found associated with a possible crouched inhumation in F.337 and Early Iron Age pottery may represent the remains of food consumption as part of the funerary rite (Cunliffe 1978: 319).

Taken as a whole, the evidence would suggest that what we are probably seeing within this area is an 'open' pit-type settlement cluster (possibly focused upon the F.340 pit-well) essentially of Early Iron Age date. Albeit minor, there is equally a Late Iron Age presence and, in all likelihood, this marks a secondary phase of use. The latter was probably associated with the linears in Trenches 87 and 105, and these may relate to a minor enclosure system. Hereafter referred to as Site 1, this seems quite a localised complex and it ditches clearly do not extend as any kind of area-wide fieldsystem. Given this, what is remarkable is the complete lack of any subsequent Roman activity (or at least features/finds) within the Glebe Farm fields.

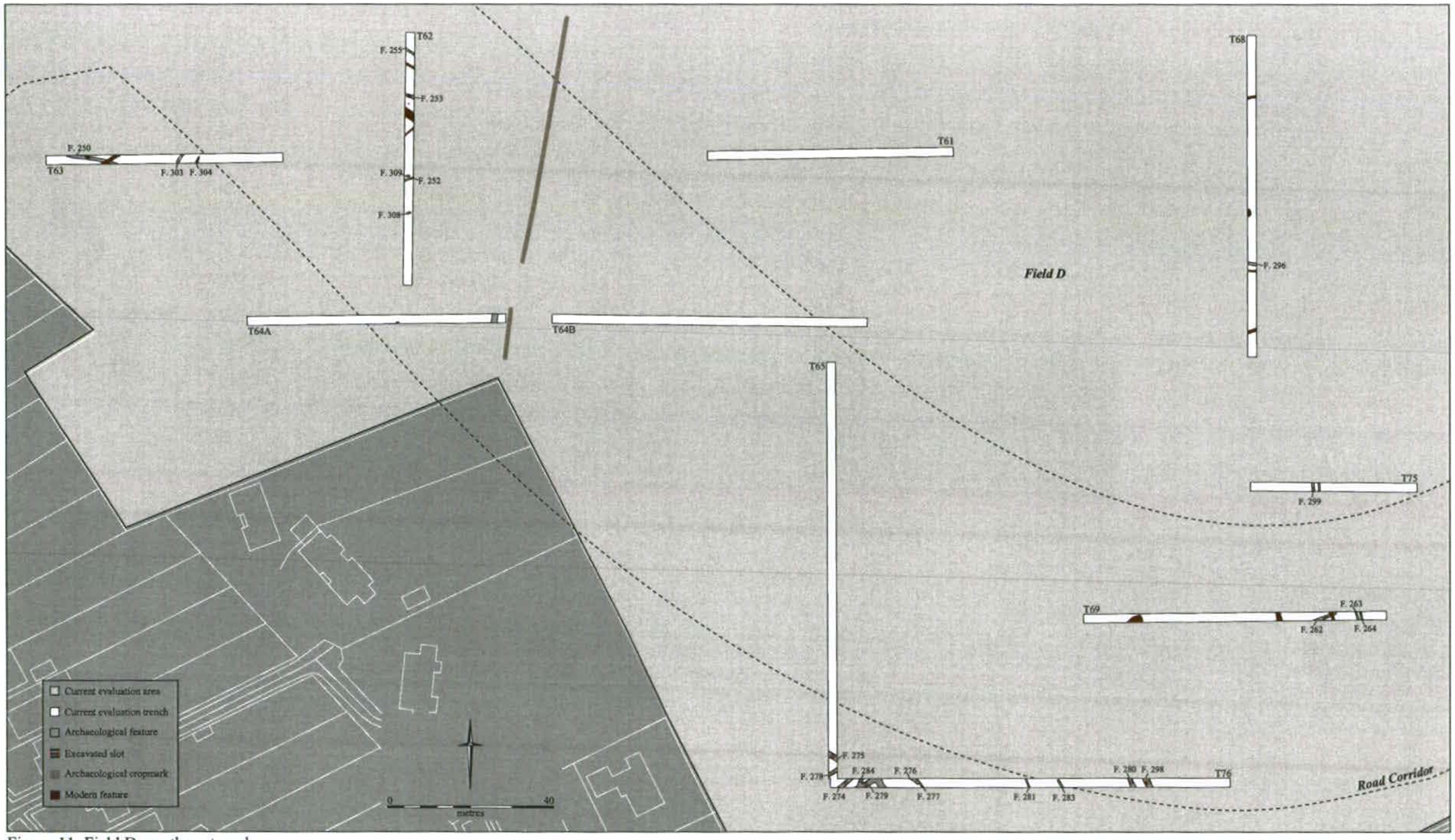


Figure 11. Field D; southern trenches

Fields D and E

A major cropmark complex extends throughout the western half/two-thirds of Field E (and just into the northern margins of Field D; fig. 8). In the main, it consists of a network of northwest-southeast oriented paddocks (and their axial return). Generally, given its regularity, this seems to be quite unified (though it does also include non-aligned/disparate elements) and, from the outset, has been identified as likely being a Romano-British settlement (Dickens 2002: No. 9). The aerial photographic plots show that the central spine of this layout is apparently crossed by a northeast-southwest oriented headland. This closely follows a marked west-to-east slope of the natural topography and the ground surface falls away by some 8.00m (over a distance of c. 10-15.00m) east of its line.

During the investigations this area was found to have very little in the way of subsoil, most of the topsoil merely bottoming straight onto dirty, plough-disturbed geology. The *subsoil depth* given in each trench description, therefore, generally refers to the depth of dirty natural removed to enable the archaeology to be clearly seen without further cleaning, and does not refer to a definable, sealing subsoil which would normally cap older archaeological features. It is likely that a certain amount of truncation of the archaeology has taken place (perhaps related to the Show-/fair-ground usage), and most features, modern, archaeological or otherwise, were generally sealed by topsoil and plough-disturbance alone.

It warrants mention that in each of these fields the fieldwalking produced evidence of possible flint scatters. That from Field D is discussed above (in Part I), whereas the Field E material was addressed in the 2005 report (Anderson & Evans). In the light of the recovery of substantial evidence of Early Iron Age occupation in this area, it is relevant that, aside from Neolithic-Early Bronze Age pieces, the latter included many coarsely worked 'chunks', *etc.* and which may well be contemporary with this first millennium BC settlement.

Whilst given the scale of the later, Roman settlement within this immediate area, the density of Roman fieldwalking pottery can only be considered very low. Relative to the rest of the Clay Farm fields its shows a degree of 'concentration' (i.e. that being relative to almost nothing; fig. 4 and *ibid.* fig. 9).

Field D

Trench 57 (fig. 15) - Trench 57 was 298m long on a northeast-southwest alignment. The topsoil was 0.24m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.23m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.41m to 0.57m. This trench contained 14 ditches and four pits, but given the relative length of trench involved, no dense concentrations were evident. In the middle of the trench there was an 85m length with no archaeology. Seven post-Medieval linears crossed the trench, and these were either test excavated until modern material was found, or were obviously later features on account of their fills.

The southwestern half of the trench was dominated by a large pit, F.292/293, 8.45m wide and 1.68m deep, with at least one very clear recut. Although the main artefact

group consisted of burnt stone, a small amount of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was recovered, as well as worked flint, a small piece of slag and a fragment of human skull. This was an impressive feature, originally assumed to be a ditch (and corresponding closely with the headland-like cropmark), but did not continue through to Trench 79, and had an irregularity more in keeping with a large pit.

The other features in the southwestern half of Trench 57 were much less substantial. Ditches F.297, F.305 and F.306, all on a roughly north-south alignment at the western end of the trench, were between 0.16m and 0.33m deep, and of these, F.297 contained a small amount of Late Iron Age and Romanizing pot, and F.306 contained a small piece of Later Iron Age pot. Very shallow, parallel north-south ditches, F.312 and F.314, both contained a very small amount of Roman pottery. Pit F.301/302 contained no dating evidence, only burnt stone and bone, but had a prehistoric feel. There were two other pits in the trench, both in the western half. Pit F.313 was an elongated, shallow feature with a dark fill. Pit F.311 was shallow, and sitting within the cut of ditch F.310, although it is not known which cut which. Ditch F.310 contained several pieces of Later Iron Age pot. The ditches crossing this half of the trench were all aligned roughly north northeast-south southwest or northwest-southeast, although not all were exactly parallel, with F.320, for example, following a more north-south line with a north northeast-south southwest tilt. All of these features were relatively shallow (0.10m to 0.41m deep), and of no great width (0.69m to 1.33m), and it is tempting to see all as part of a probable Roman field system intermittently picked up as cropmarks. One piece of non-diagnostic Roman pottery was recovered from F.320.

The northeastern half of the trench contained five ditches, four of which (F.316, F.317, F.318, F.319) were excavated (the fifth having been excavated in Trench 60 as F.258). All four excavated ditches lay on a northwest-southeast alignment, but varied in their character, with depths of 0.14m to 0.51m, and widths of 0.38m to 1.51m. Given their alignment and sterility, the ditches may all be of a similar date, but are a little skewed from the supposedly Roman field system cropmarks.

F.292 (fig. 14) Probable large pit. Fills [701-704], cut [712]. Basal fills only, then succeeded by recut F.293. Fills consisted of redeposited natural weathering and slumping. Width 8.45m, depth 1.68m. Wide irregular bowl shaped profile.

F.293 Early recut of F.292. Fills [705-715], cut [716]. Fills consist of brown sandy silt overlying large bands of similar mid brown and mid grey-brown clay-silt with occasional gravel, overlying a dark grey/black organic silt-clay. Dimensions of basal cut: width 1.61m, depth 0.43m, 'U'-shaped profile, although this feature essentially encompasses the entire cut above the basal weathering and slumping layers.

F.297 Ditch, almost N-S. Fill [724], cut [725]. Fill a mid grey sandy clay-silt. Width 0.48m, depth 0.16m with a very rounded U profile. Cuts across the top of F.292/293.

F.301/302 Pit with potential recut. Fills [732, 734], cuts [733, 735]. Mid grey-brown silt-clay overlying dark grey silt-clay. Some charcoal and burnt stone. Circular in plan, diameter 0.95m, depth 0.31m, rounded V profile.

F.305 Ditch almost N-S. Fill [741], cut [742]. Fill a mid brown-grey sandy clay-silt, occasional gravel. Width 1.01m, depth 0.26m with a rounded bowl profile.

F.306 Ditch, almost N-S. Fill [743], cut [744]. Fill a mid brown-grey sandy clay-silt. Width 1.20m, depth 0.33m with a very rounded V profile.

F.310 Ditch NW-SE, running parallel to and alongside F. 315. Fill [751], cut [752]. Fill a mid to dark grey sandy clay-silt with moderate gravel. Width 1.33m, depth 0.17m, deepest on western side.

F.311 Small pit/posthole in base of ditch F.310. Fill [753], cut [754]. Fill a dark grey sandy silt. Circular, diameter 0.52m, depth 0.13m, shallow rounded profile. Relationship with ditch unknown.

F.312 Ditch NNE-SSW with a slight kink, and machined away in the centre of the trench. Fill [755], cut [756]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt. Width 0.69m, depth 0.10m, very shallow flat profile.

F.313 Elongated pit? Fill [757], cut [758]. Fill a dark brown/black silty clay with charcoal flecks. Length 1.16m, width 0.26m, depth 0.11m, U profile.

F.314 Ditch NNE-SSW with a slight kink. Fill [759], cut [760]. Fill a mid grey-brown silty sand. Width 0.96m, depth 0.14m, shallow rounded profile.

F.315 Ditch NW-SE, running parallel to and alongside F. 310. Fills [761-763], cut [764]. Fill a mid dark grey sandy clay with a browner basal fill. Although there was nothing with which to date this feature, a post-Medieval date is a possibility. Width 0.71m, depth 0.41m, V profile.

F.316 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [765], cut [766]. Fill an orange-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel and natural stone. Width 1.51m, depth 0.16m, with a flat, irregular profile.

F.317 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [767], cut [768]. Fill an orange-grey clayey sand with frequent gravel and natural stone. Width 0.56m, depth 0.14m, with a rounded bowl profile.

F.318 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [769], cut [770]. Fill a mid to light grey clay silt with moderate gravel and natural stone. Width 0.80m, depth 0.51m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.319 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [771], cut [772]. Fill a mid grey sandy clay-silt with moderate gravel and natural stone. Width 0.38m, depth 0.19m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.320 Ditch N-S. Fill [773], cut [774]. Fill a dark grey sandy clay-silt, a little edge weathering and moderate gravel. Width 0.81m, depth 0.35m, rounded V profile.

Trench 58 - Trench 58 was 60m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.28m to 0.33m deep, and the subsoil 0.15m to 0.22m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.48m to 0.50m. This trench was crossed by a large number of seemingly linear and pit-like features, all of which were capped by a rich brown, loamy soil of almost certain post-Medieval attribution. One of these features was excavated, F.321, a surprisingly shallow feature containing no finds. In all likelihood, these features are shallow, small-scale gravel extraction pits, seemingly cut in rows with narrow spits of natural separating them.

One genuine feature was uncovered at the northern end of this trench, a ditch running northwest-southeast, which was excavated in Trench 57 as F. 318.

F.321 Quarry pit. Fill [775], cut [776]. Post-Medieval. Fill a mid rich brown sandy loam, overlain by and overlying redeposited gravel. Width 1.50m, depth 0.45m with a rounded profile.

Trench 59 - Trench 59 was 60m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.27m to 0.34m deep, and the subsoil 0.17m to 0.23m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.44m to 0.57m. Two narrow post-Medieval linears crossed the trench. No archaeology was observed.

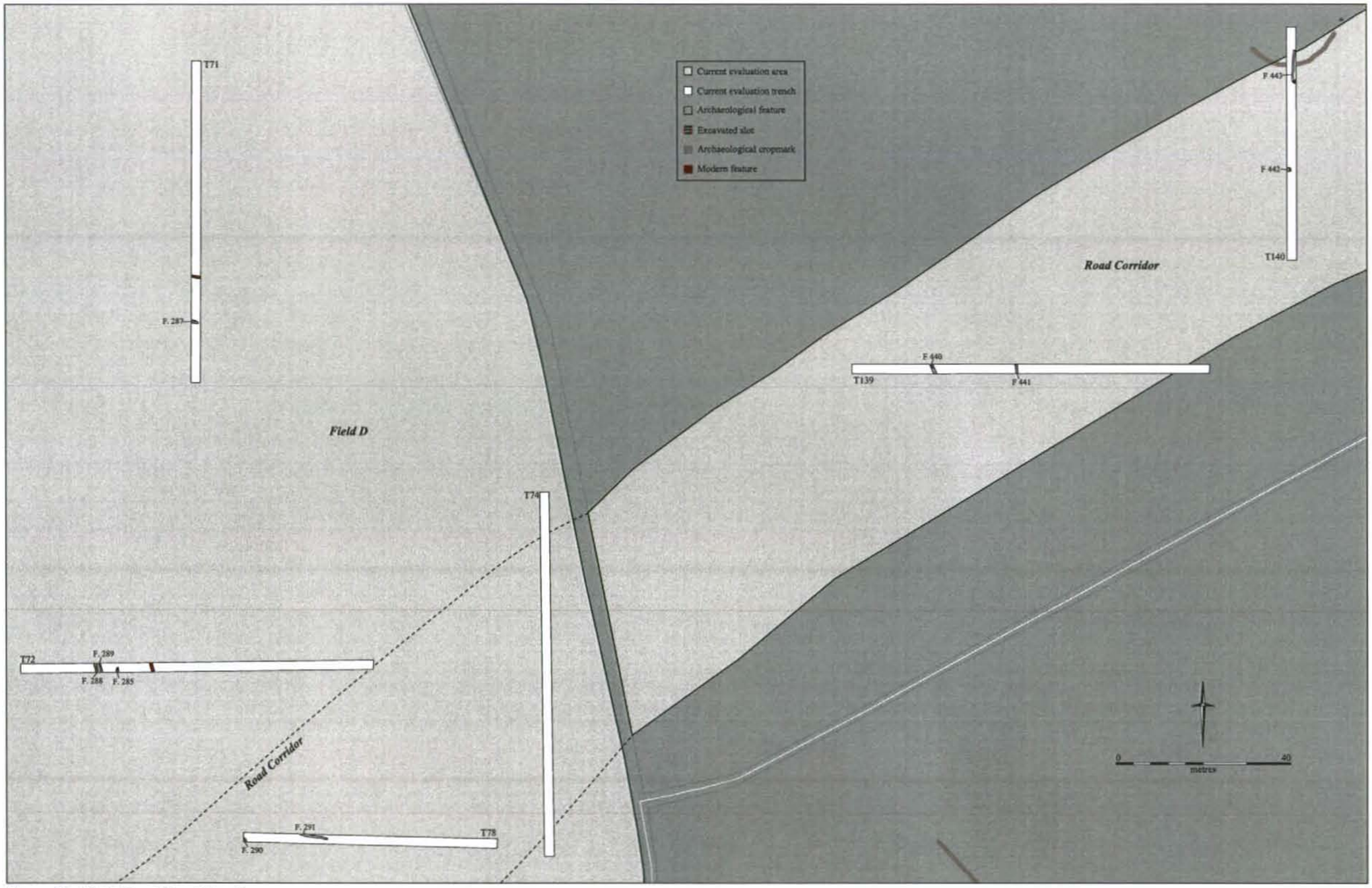


Figure 12. Field D and Road Corridor

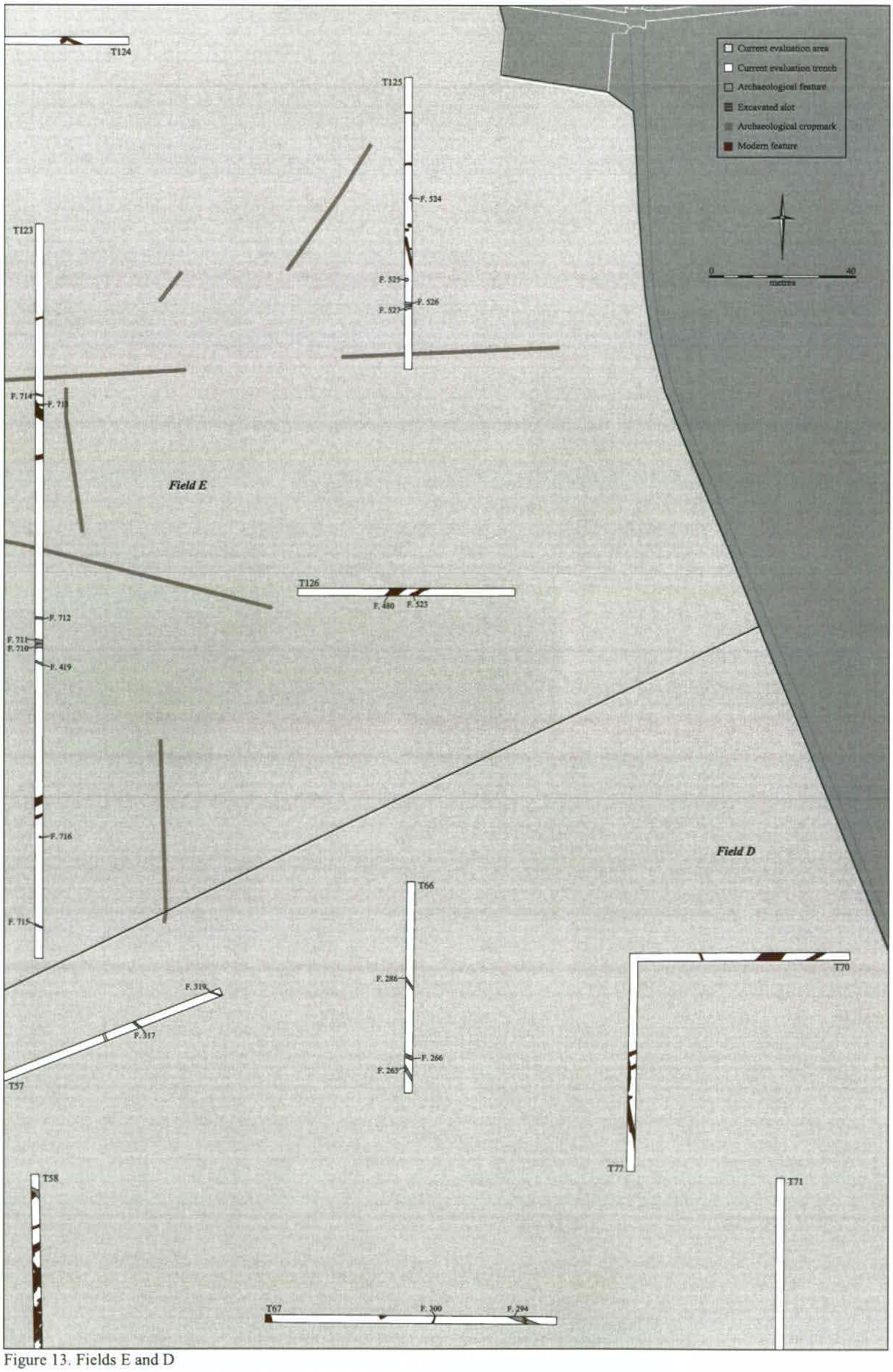


Figure 13. Fields E and D

Trench 60 - Trench 60 was 238m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.25m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.20m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.41m to 0.55m. The greatest concentration of features occurred within the western half, with the easternmost 45m containing no archaeology. In total, six post-Medieval linears crossed the trench, which were not excavated. Fourteen genuine features were uncovered, and all were excavated.

Ditch F.261, at the western end, crossed the trench on a north northeast-south southwest line, as did the narrower and much shallower F.268 beside it. Both correspond with a single cropmark seemingly coming off the Roman system, but no dating evidence was recovered. Just over 15m to the east of these ditches lay a small cluster of probable pits, F.260, F.267, F.269, F.270, although some ditch-like elements existed, and all the features were only partially exposed. All of the features were shallow, 0.43m being by far the deepest, and contained no finds. Similar features occurred within 20m of this cluster, consisting of F.254 and F.257, both large and shallow, up to 3.50m wide and 0.26m deep, and F.271, which may only have been a small tree-throw. Ditch F.272 crossed the trench on a northwest-southeast line, and was partly truncated by post-Medieval disturbance. Small isolated pit, F.307 was very like pits F.308 and F.309 in Trench 62, with a charcoal-rich fill and suspiciously well-defined. More intriguing was gully F.273 in the centre of the trench, a pale, sterile and shallow feature, butt-ending in the east, and disappearing at the western end in the vicinity of a similarly coloured but natural silt patch. Although no finds were recovered, the feature had a distinctly prehistoric feel. Pit F.259 was relatively isolated, but well defined with a clear grey fill. Ditch F.258 was the easternmost feature in the trench, and crossed on an almost north-south line. This corresponded closely with a cropmark running the width of the field, and also appearing within Trenches 57 and 64. Its only artefact was a Roman coin of AD 141-161.

F.254 Probable ditch terminal, NW-SE. Fill [608], cut [609]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with occasional gravel. Width 2.33m, depth 0.14m, very wide and flat shallow profile.

F.257 Possible pit or ditch end slighting a little ditch. Fills [614-617], cut [618]. Fill a reddish brown clay-silt overlying a grey silty clay. Width 3.50m, depth 0.26m, very wide, shallow and flat profile.

F.258 Ditch, almost N-S. Fill [625], cut [626]. Fill a mid grey sandy-clay with natural flint nodules. Width 0.88m, depth 0.33m, flat based V profile.

F.259 Pit, Fill [627], cut [628]. Fill is a grey-brown sandy clay with occasional gravel. Circular in plan and clearly defined, 0.54m x 0.56m, depth 0.12m with a shallow, slightly uneven profile.

F.260 Possible ditch terminal, N-S, possible pit. Fill [629], cut [630]. Fill a grey-brown sandy clay-silt. Capped by rich brown loam layer [645]. Width 1.24m, depth 0.25m, with a flat, irregular profile.

F.261 (fig. 14) Ditch NNE-SSW. Fills [619-623], cut [624]. Fill a pale to mid grey sandy-silt overlying darker grey silt. Width 2.16m, depth 0.56m, wide rounded V profile.

F.267 Probable pit, only partially exposed in trench edge. Fill [646], cut [647]. Capped by rich brown loam layer [645]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 2.9m, depth 0.43m, rounded profile.

F.268 Ditch NNE-SSW. Fill [648], cut [649]. Fill a mid grey sandy-silt with occasional charcoal. Width 1.15m, depth 0.16m, wide rounded saucer profile.

F.269 Ditch? Potentially a ditch aligned N-S with a pit cut on the eastern side, but the cut is ambiguous. Fill [650], cut [651]. Capped by rich brown loam layer [645]. Fill a mid grey sandy clay with regular gravel. Width 2.30m, depth 0.30m, with a wide, flat profile.

F.270 Possible ditch N-S, possible pits. Fill [657], cut [658]. Fill a mid grey sandy clay with moderate gravel. Width 2.57m, depth 0.33m, with an uneven cut, possibly representing a double cut or recut. Capped by rich brown loam layer [645].

F.271 Pit. Fill [653], cut [654]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.60m, depth 0.30m, slightly irregular cut and truncated on western side. Possible tree throw.

F.272 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [655], cut [656]. Fill a mid grey sandy-silt clay. Width 2.23m, depth 0.31m, wide flat profile, partly truncated by modern ditch.

F.273 Gully, slightly curvilinear, E-W. Fill [660], cut [661]. Fill a pale orange-grey silty clay-sand, completely sterile with occasional gravel. Clearly defined butt at eastern end, western end disappears within a natural silty hollow and could not be further defined or followed. Width 0.38m, depth 0.13m with a rounded bowl profile.

F.307 Small pit. Fill [745], cut [746]. Fill a black, charcoaly clay-silt. Oval in plan, 0.90m x 0.55m, depth 0.17m, wide rounded V profile.

Trench 61 (fig. 11) - Trench 61 was 60m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.26m to 0.34m deep, and the subsoil 0.15m to 0.22m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.48m to 0.49m. No archaeology was observed.

Trench 62 - Trench 62 was 61m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.24m to 0.38m deep, and the subsoil 0.16m to 0.22m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.46m to 0.54m. Two narrow post-Medieval linears were observed, and ditch F.251 was shown to have a ceramic field drain laid along its base. The remaining two linears were both of unknown date, although F.253 was very shallow, and F.255/256 ran alongside and parallel to a field drain of similar width. Two pits were uncovered, both small, shallow, oval and with charcoal-rich fills. Neither contained dating evidence, but both were suspiciously well defined for older features.

F.251 Ditch NW-SE, post-Medieval with ceramic field drain on base. Fill [602], cut [603]. Width 1.75m, depth 0.51m.

F.252 Ditch ENE-WSW. Fill [604], cut [605]. Fill a mid grey sandy clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.33m, depth 0.12m, wide rounded U profile.

F.253 Ditch WNW-ESE. Fill [606], cut [607]. Fill a mid brown-grey sandy clay-silt with moderate gravel. Width 0.68m, depth 0.08m, wide rounded saucer shaped profile.

F.255/256 Ditch NW-SE, with possible recut. Fills [610, 612], cuts [611, 613]. Fill a grey sandy clay over mottled grey-brown clayey sand with moderate gravel. Width 0.76m, depth 0.32m, rounded U profile. Not obviously post-Medieval, but does run parallel with and alongside a post-Medieval drain.

F.308 Pit. Fill [747], cut [748]. Fill a dark grey silty clay with frequent gravel. Length 1.10m, width 0.60m, depth 0.15m, oval in plan with a rounded bowl profile.

F.309 Pit. Fill [749], cut [750]. Fill a dark grey silty clay with frequent gravel. Length 0.95m, width 0.53m, depth 0.10m, oval in plan with a rounded bowl profile.

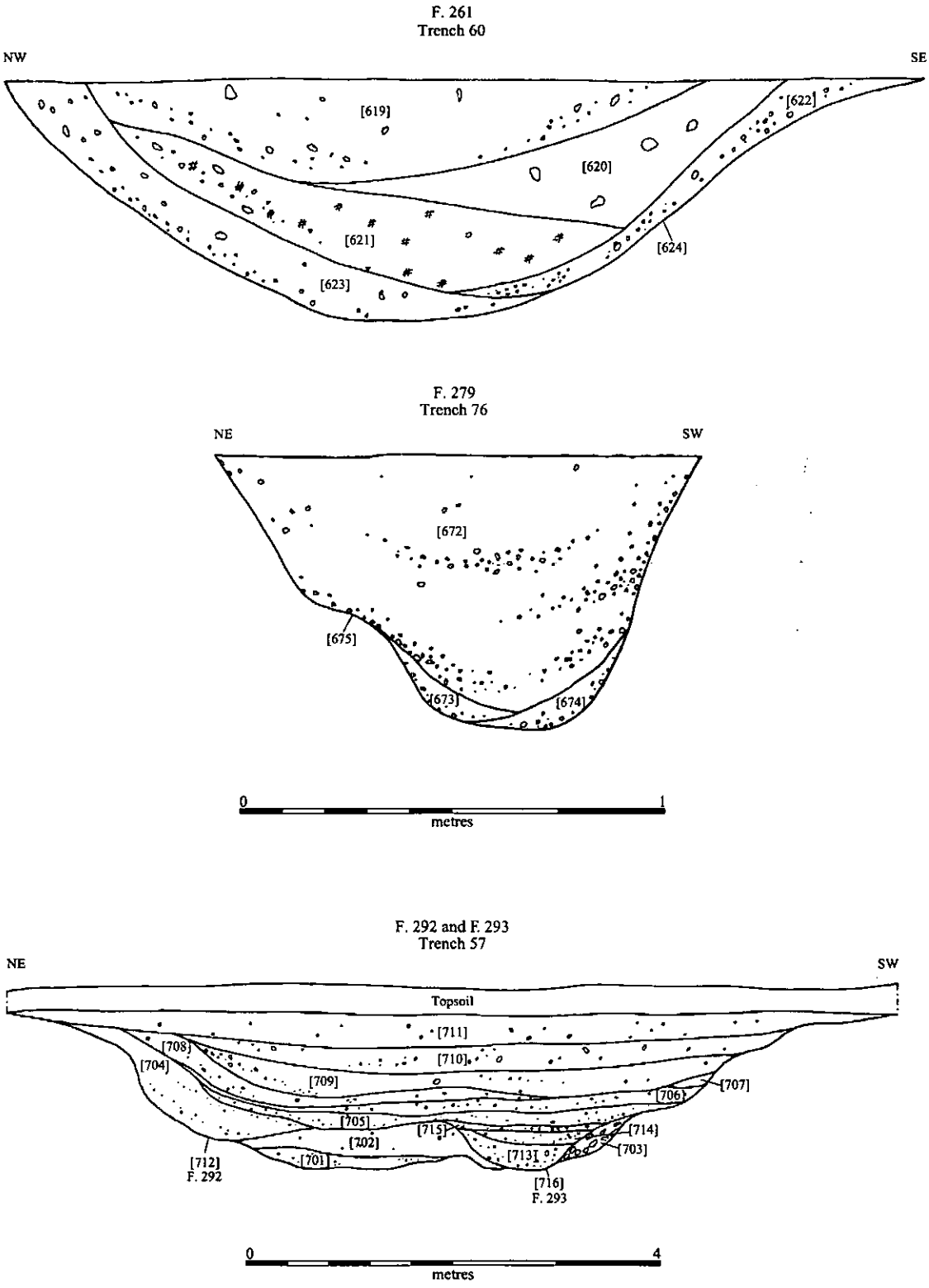


Figure 14. Sections; Field D

Trench 63 - Trench 63 was 57m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.20m to 0.30m deep, and the subsoil 0.11m to 0.22m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.41m to 0.42m. Apart from a post-Medieval drain, three ditches were exposed, F.250 on an almost east-west alignment, and F.303 and F.304 on a north northeast-south southwest alignment. The only artefact recovered was a burnt flint from F.304. Feature 250, albeit shallow, was a convincing feature on the alignment of the cropmark field systems. Features 303 and 304 were both black, with very charcoal-rich fills, and although both could be pre-modern, they occurred very cleanly at the base of the topsoil.

F.250 Ditch ESE-WNW. Fill [600], cut [601]. Fill a dark grey-brown sandy silt, occasional gravel. Width 0.58m, depth 0.15m, shallow bowl profile.

F.303 Ditch NE-SW. Fills [736, 737], cut [738]. Fill a black rich loam, very charcoal-rich, overlying a thin layer of redeposited marl. Width 0.45m, depth 0.14m, wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.304 Ditch NE-SW. Fill [739], cut [740]. The base of a feature that peters out mid trench. Fill a black rich loam, very charcoaly. Width 0.65m, depth 0.11m, rounded profile.

Trench 64 - Trench 64 was 137m long on an east-west alignment, although 11m in the middle of the trench remained unexcavated due to the presence of a service, probably related to the old showground period of the site, but not confirmed either way. The topsoil was 0.25m to 0.36m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.15m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.35m to 0.51m. A single ditch crossed the trench on a nearly north-south alignment. This feature showed as a cropmark, and also crossed Trenches 60 and 57, being excavated in Trench 60 as F.258.

Trench 65 - Trench 65 was 100m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.25m to 0.38m deep, and the subsoil 0.08m to 0.12m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.37m to 0.46m. Two ditches were uncovered, both at the southern end and related to the possible cluster of settlement features in Trench 76. Feature 275 ran northwest-southeast and also appeared in Trench 76. Feature 278 lay on a northeast-southwest line.

F.275 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [664], cut [665]. Fill a dark grey silt-clay with some large flint nodules and frequent gravel. Width 1.41m, depth 0.30m, wide rounded 'V'-shaped profile. Also appears in Trench 76 (unexcavated), and gives the appearance of being slightly curvilinear.

F.278 Ditch NE-SW. Fill [670], cut [671]. Fill a dark grey silt-clay with frequent gravel. Width 1.05m, depth 0.38m, wide rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 66 (fig. 13) - Trench 66 was 57m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m to 0.45m deep, and the subsoil 0.06m to 0.11m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.46m to 0.51m. Three ditches were revealed in this trench, F.266 on a west northwest-east southeast alignment, and F.265 and F.286 on a northwest-southeast alignment. All three ditches were convincing as archaeological features, and F.265 yielded several small pieces of Later Bronze Age pot.

F.265 Ditch NW-SE. Fills [638, 639], cut [640], with probable recut. Fill a mid grey over mid grey-brown clay-silt. Width 1.12m, depth 0.23m, rounded bowl profile.

F.266 Ditch WNW-ESE. Fills [641, 642], cut [643]. Fill a mid grey over dark grey sandy clay-silt. Width 1.20m, depth 0.57m, rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.286 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [689], cut [690]. Fill a mid to pale grey clay-silt. Width 0.56m, depth 0.14m, shallow, shallow, rounded bowl profile.

Trench 67 - Trench 67 was 79m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.28m to 0.32m deep, and the subsoil 0.23m to 0.25m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.51m to 0.57m. A post-Medieval quarry intruded into the western end, as well as a modern pit or terminating ditch in the west-centre. Ditch F.294 (which contained three sherds from the same 2nd-4th century Roman vessel), and narrow slot F.300, both crossed the trench at 90° to each other's line. Feature 295, a hollow on the base of ditch F.294, was natural in origin.

F.294 Ditch WNW-ESE. Fill [717], cut [718]. Fill a pale grey-brown silty sand, moderate gravel. Width 1.26m, depth 0.18m, wide shallow profile.

F.295 Pit, almost certainly natural, cut by ditch F.294. Fill [719], cut [720]. Fill a mid pale grey sterile sandy silt-clay. Width 0.52m, depth 0.21m, sub-circular, V profile.

F.300 Ditch E-W. Fill [730], cut [731]. Fill a mid grey silty clay with frequent gravel. Width 0.30m, depth 0.09m, rounded bowl profile.

Trench 68 (fig. 11) - Trench 68 was 77m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.36m to 0.44m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.18m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.49m to 0.58m. Excluding two post-Medieval linears and a quarry pit, this trench contained a pair of narrow linears on an east-west orientation. Initially, it was assumed that the southernmost ditch of the pair, which remained unexcavated, was post-Medieval, but its similarity of alignment and location to F.296 makes a modern date for this feature less likely. Also, it is difficult to ignore the similarity between this pair of narrow ditches and those crossing Trenches 69 and 75 immediately to the south, despite being on a different alignment.

F.296 Ditch E-W. Fills [721, 722], cut [723]. Fill an orange grey-brown gravelly, silty sand overlying a pale grey silt-clay. Width 0.71m, depth 0.25m, wide rounded U profile.

Trench 69 - Trench 69 was 72m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.22m to 0.28m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.14m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.36m to 0.38m. Two post-Medieval linears and a quarry pit were observed, but three genuine ditches survived, F.262 on an east northeast-west southwest alignment, and F.263 and F.264 running alongside each other on a north northeast-south southwest alignment. Only one animal tooth was recovered from these features, but all had fills consistent with a pre-modern date.

F.262 Ditch ENE-WSW. Fills [631, 644], cut [632]. Fill a mid to dark silt clay overlying a pale grey silt-clay. Width 0.92m, depth 0.30m, irregular wide U profile.

F.263 Ditch NNW-SSE. Fill [634], cut [635], one of a pair of parallel linears with F.264. Also appears in Trench 75. Fill a grey silt clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.38m, depth 0.17m, 'V'-shaped profile.

F.264 Ditch NNW-SSE. Fill [636], cut [637], one of a pair of parallel linears with F.263. Also appears in Trench 75. Fill a grey silt clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.49m, depth 0.37m, 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 70 (fig. 13) - Trench 70 was 57m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.11m to 0.15m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.46m to 0.55m. This trench contained two post-Medieval linears, and an area of possible quarry disturbance. No archaeology was observed.

Trench 71 (fig. 12) - Trench 71 was 74m long on a N-S alignment. The topsoil was 0.25m to 0.45m deep, and the subsoil 0.05m to 0.12m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.37m to 0.50m. Apart from post-Medieval drainage features, a single, shallow terminating ditch was observed, F.287, which contained no finds.

F.287 Ditch E-W, terminating. Fill [691], cut [692]. Fill a dark grey sandy clay with occasional gravel. Width 0.71m, depth 0.22m, with a rounded profile.

Trench 72 - Trench 72 was 80m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m to 0.36m deep, and the subsoil 0.11m to 0.20m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.43m to 0.50m. Other than a post-Medieval drain, three ditches occurred at the western end of the trench, ditch terminal or pit F.285, and narrow ditches F.288 and F.289, both almost north-south.

F.285 Ditch N-S, terminating. Fills [686, 687], cut [688]. Fill a dark grey over pale grey sandy clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.66m, depth 0.18m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.288 Ditch NNW-SSE. Fill [693], cut [694], one of a pair of parallel linears with F.289. Fill a dark grey silt clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.65m, depth 0.25m, wide, rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.289 Ditch NNW-SSE. Fill [695], cut [696], one of a pair of parallel linears with F.288. Fill a dark grey silt clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.40m, depth 0.08m, shallow, rounded bowl profile.

Trench 73 - Trench 73 was 59m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.31m to 0.37m deep, and the subsoil 0.05m to 0.16m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.42m to 0.51m. One post-Medieval linear crossed this trench. No archaeology was observed.

Trench 74 - Trench 74 was 59m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.12m to 0.18m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.52m to 0.53m. No archaeology was observed.

Trench 75 (fig. 11) - Trench 75 was 40m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.15m to 0.17m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.50m to 0.52m. Two ditches were revealed, running alongside each other, on a north-south alignment. One was excavated, F.299, and both were also present in Trench 69 as ditches F.263 and F.264.

F.299 Ditch N-S. Fill [728], cut [729]. Fill a dark grey silt-clay, with regular gravel and stones. Width 0.65m, depth 0.21m, rounded bowl profile.

Trench 76 - Trench 76 was 95m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.25m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.24m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.45m to 0.52m. This trench contained a cluster of features at the western end, and individual features intermittently along its length. All of the isolated ditches followed the same northwest-southeast alignment.

Ditch F.298, at the eastern end of the trench, was a convincing feature, which contained a piece of undiagnostic tile, as well as bone. Ditch F.278, ran alongside this feature, but contained no dating evidence. Terminating ditch F.282 was very shallow, but a seemingly modern posthole, F.283, coincided exactly with the butt, and was not visible pre excavation. Narrow ditches F.276 and F.277 contained no artefacts and may well be related to the feature cluster at the western end. This cluster (excluding F.276/277 just mentioned) consisted of five ditches, four of which occur within Trench 76, F.274, F.279, F.284 and unexcavated F.275 (excavated in Trench 65). Features 274, 279 and 284 all lay on a northeast-southwest or north northeast-south southwest line, F.284 containing bone and one small piece of very abraded pot, and F.274 and F.279 containing bone.

F.274 Ditch NE-SW. Fill [662], cut [663]. Fill a mid grey silt-clay. Width 0.99m, depth 0.30m, rounded wide V profile.

F.276 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [666], cut [667]. Fill a mid grey/orange-brown sandy clay-silt. Butt-ending portion of double ditch/recut with F.277. Width unknown but c.0.50m, depth 0.33m.

F.277 Ditch NW-SE. Fill [668], cut [669]. Fill a mid orange-brown sandy silt. Continuous portion of double ditch/recut with F.276. Width 0.47m, depth 0.25m.

F.279 (fig. 14) Ditch ENE-WSW. Fill [672-674], cut [675]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt, occasional to moderate gravel. Width 1.15m, depth 0.64m, irregular rounded profile.

F.280 Ditch NNW-SSE. Fill [676], cut [677]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy clay, frequent gravel. Width 0.80m, depth 0.26m, rounded wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.281 Gully NNW-SSE. Fill [678], cut [679]. Suspiciously shallow and diminutive. Fill a mid grey-brown silty sand. Width 0.29m, depth 0.05m, saucer profile.

F.282 Ditch. Fill [680], cut [681]. Probably post-Medieval. Fill a mid brown sandy silt-clay. Width 0.72m, depth 0.08m.

F.283 Posthole in butt of ditch F.282. Post-Medieval.

F.284 Ditch NNE-SSW. Fill [684], cut [685]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt. Width 0.90m, depth 0.39m, V profile.

F.298 Ditch NNW-SSE. Fill [726], cut [727]. Fill a dark grey silt-clay, frequent gravel and natural stone. Width 1.40m, depth 0.49m, rounded wide V profile.

Trench 77 (fig. 13) - Trench 77 was 60m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.20m to 0.22m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.50m to 0.57m. This trench contained at least four post-Medieval linears. No archaeology was observed.

Trench 78 (fig. 12) - Trench 78 was 58m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.22m to 0.44m deep, and the subsoil 0.18m to 0.20m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.42m to 0.64m. Two features occurred in the eastern half of this trench, probable pit F.290, partially exposed in the very end of the trench, and ditch F.291, lying on a west northwest- east southeast alignment. No finds were recovered.

F.290 Probable pit, only partially exposed in western end of trench. Fill [697], cut [698]. Fill a pale grey silt-clay. Width 0.80m, depth 0.20m, rounded bowl profile.

F.291 Ditch almost E-W. Fill [699], cut [700]. Fill a dark grey silt-clay with moderate gravel. Width 0.40m, depth 0.08m, shallow, rounded profile.

Trench 79 (fig. 15) - Trench 79 was 24m long on a northeast-southwest alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.20m, with an overall trench depth of 0.55m. Apart from a post-Medieval linear, this trench revealed a cluster of at least 11 pits, nine of which were excavated (F.322 to F.330 inclusive). All were shallow, with a maximum depth of 0.25m, and five less than 0.10m in depth. All had gravelly, sandy fills and contained no dating evidence, but none were obviously modern. The only finds recovered were very small amounts of bone and burnt stone, and F.328 contained a small iron object, possibly a knife.

F.322 Pit, elongated in plan and only partially exposed in trench. Fill [777], cut [778]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy clay-silt with frequent gravel. Length 2.20m, width unknown, depth 0.23m, rounded profile.

F.323 Pit, oval in plan and very shallow. Fill [779], cut [780]. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay with frequent gravel. Length 0.84m, width 0.52m, depth 0.07m, rounded profile.

F.324 Pit, oval in plan but only partially exposed, and very shallow. Fill [781], cut [782]. Fill an orange-grey sandy clay with frequent gravel. Length unknown, width 0.98m, depth 0.06m, rounded profile.

F.325 Pit, oval in plan and only partially exposed in trench. Fill [783], cut [784]. Fill an orange-brown-grey sandy clay with frequent gravel. Length 1.50m, width 0.90m, depth 0.25m, rounded profile.

F.326 Pit, rounded in plan, only partially exposed and very shallow. Fill [785], cut [786]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Width 1.37m, depth 0.12m, rounded profile.

F.327 Pit, oval in plan and very shallow. Fill [787], cut [788]. Fill an orange-brown sandy clay with frequent gravel. Length 0.84m, width 0.50m, depth 0.07m, rounded profile.

F.328 Pit, elongated in plan and only partially exposed in trench. Fill [789], cut [790]. Fill a dark grey clay-silt with frequent gravel. Cut by a post-Medieval ditch. Length c 3-4m, width unknown, depth 0.24m, rounded profile.

F.329 Pit, sub-circular in plan and very shallow. Fill [791], cut [792]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with frequent gravel. Diameter 1.30m, depth 0.18m, rounded profile.

F.330 Pit, oval in plan and very shallow. Fill [793], cut [794]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with frequent gravel. Length 0.71m, width 0.70m, depth 0.03m, rounded profile.

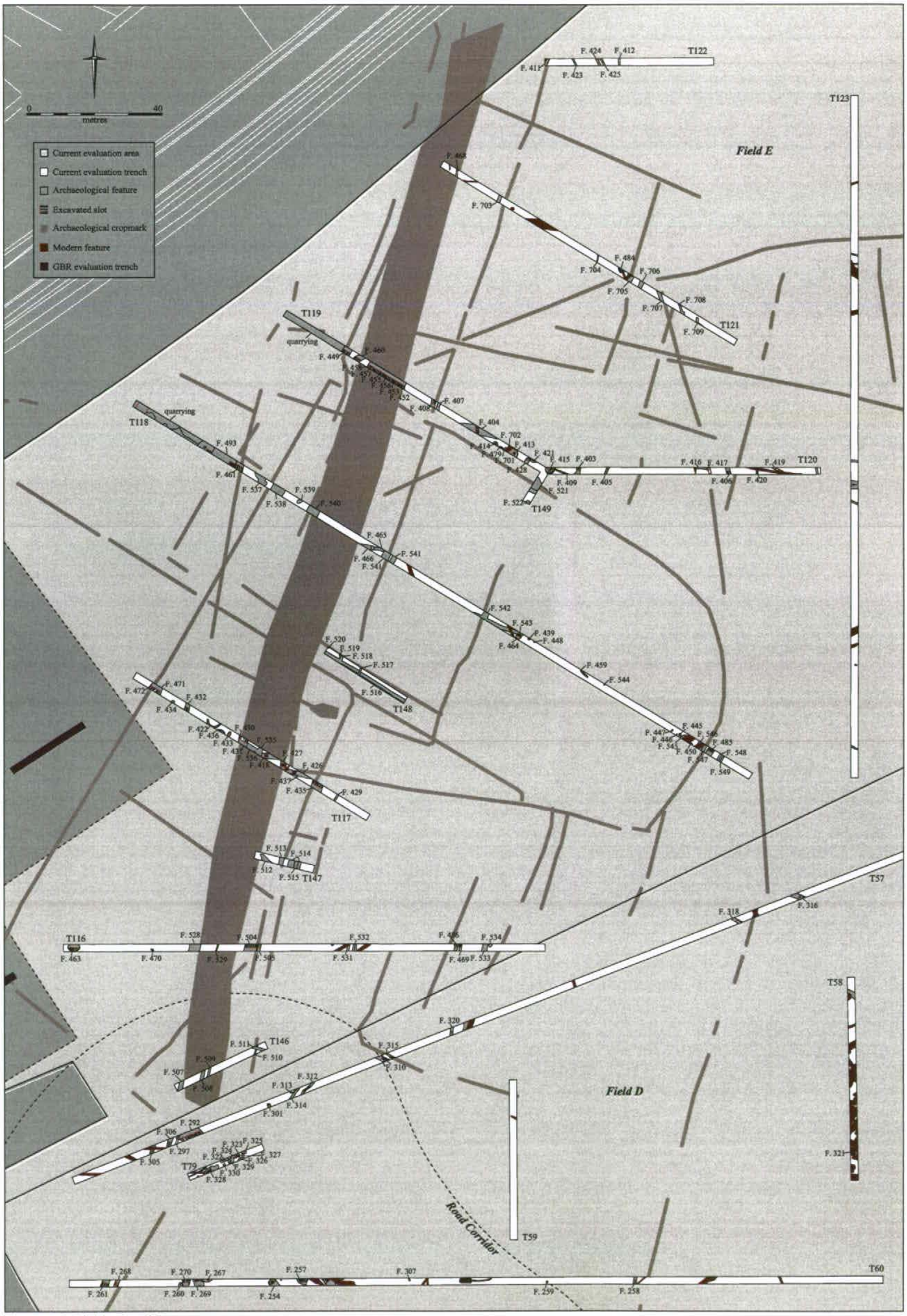


Figure 15. Fields E and D

Field E

Trench 116 (fig. 15) - Trench 116 was 140m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.29m to 0.45m deep, and the subsoil 0.15m to 0.23m deep (including 0.13m of genuine subsoil at the western end), with an overall trench depth of 0.47m to 0.65m. This trench contained 11 ditches and four pits, of which four ditches and two pits were excavated. Nine of the ditches were aligned approximately north-south or north northeast-south southwest. The two ditches that deviated from this alignment, running parallel to and alongside each other on a northeast-southwest line, were post-Medieval. Of the excavated ditches, F.469, F.486 and F.505 were all of moderate size, none exceeding 1.40m in width, and F.486 contained small fragments of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pot. Feature 504, however, was a major feature, 4.00m wide and 1.40m deep from the trench base, and initially assumed to be a ditch. Unfortunately, no pottery was recovered from this feature, but it contained significant quantities of bone and burnt stone. This feature may well represent a large pit of the Early Iron Age, and the bone assemblage would tally with this (see Swaysland in this report).

The two excavated pits, F.463 and F.470, were very different in character, but potentially similar in date. Feature 463 was 3.70m in length and 0.41m deep, containing Late Iron Age and Conquest period pottery of the mid 1st century AD, whilst F.470 was a fraction of the size, containing a fired-clay spindle whorl. The two unexcavated pits were only partially exposed, but neither was likely to exceed 1.50m in length.

F.463 Pit. Fills [1176-1180], cut [1181]. Mid brown over pale grey-brown sandy silt with moderate gravel. Length 3.70m, 1.20m plus in width (not entirely exposed), and 0.41m deep, oval in plan with irregular, bowl shaped profile.

F.469 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1199], cut [1200]. Fill a dark grey sandy silt with moderate gravel. Width 0.60m, depth 0.25m, with a rounded profile.

F.470 Pit. Fills [1215-1216], cut [1217]. Fill a dark brown to dark grey-black sandy silt with frequent charcoal and occasional gravel inclusions. 1.04m x 0.50m, 0.28m deep, elongated in plan and a rounded V profile.

F.480 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.80m wide, post-Medieval.

F.486 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1261-1264], cut [1265]. Fill consists of dark grey silts overlying paler grey and brown sandy silts. [1261] and [1262] may represent shallow recuts. Overall dimensions 1.35m wide and 0.62m deep with a rounded V profile.

F.504 Pit?, possible ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1341-1346], cut [1347]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt overlying browner sandy silts towards base, moderate gravel and occasional charcoal throughout. Width 4.00m, depth 1.40m, with a wide, rounded V profile.

F.505 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1348-1351], cut [1352]. Fill a pale brown sandy silt with moderate gravel. Width 1.40m, depth 0.50m, with a wide V profile.

F.523 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.90m wide, post-Medieval.

F.528 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, mid grey-brown clay-silt, 3.10m wide. Possibly = F.430/1 in Tr. 117.

F.529 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark brown-grey clay-silt, 0.40m wide.

F.530 Pit, unexcavated. Mid brown clay silt. Width 0.70m (not entirely exposed), oval.

F.531 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown-grey clay-silt, 0.70m wide.

F.532 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown-grey clay-silt, 1.25m wide.

F.533 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, dark brown clay-silt, 1.50m wide.

F.534 Pit, unexcavated. Oval, not fully exposed, mid grey-brown clay-silt, 0.95m wide.

Trench 117 – Trench 117 was 80m long on a northwest-southeast alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.05m to 0.20m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.40m to 0.55m. This trench contained twelve ditches, 11 of which were excavated, and two pits, both of which were excavated. Two of the ditches, F.422 and F.436, were ring-gullies. Neither was substantial, F.422 having an internal diameter of little over 3.00m, and F.436 significantly smaller still. Both contained finds, F.422 producing two very small pieces of 1st-2nd century pottery, and F.436 a piece of bone.

Eight of the remaining ditches followed a north-south or northeast-southwest line. Three of these, F.430/1, F.435 and F.471/2, were substantial features, between 3.30m and 3.85m wide, although 1.20m was by far the greatest depth, with F.430/1 being only 0.54m deep. Feature 435, originally assumed to be a large ditch in the southeastern half of the trench, contained an impressive assemblage of Early Iron Age pottery, and the irregularity of the base may suggest that this was a large pit. Ditch F.471/2 contained an adult human skull. Although a full skeleton may have been present beyond the trench edge, with the skull only partially exposed in section no evidence for this could be seen. The skull was left in situ. The ditch also contained 1st-2nd century Roman pot, as well as several residual sherds of Early Iron Age pot. Ditch F.427, was smaller, but contained a large quantity of mid 1st–2nd century Roman pottery. Several features contained isolated sherds of Roman pottery, but ditch F.432 contained a good assemblage of 1st-3rd century material.

The two ditches deviating from the main north-south alignments were F.418 and F.426, lying parallel to and alongside each other on an east-west alignment, with F.426 containing a small quantity of mid to late 1st century Roman pot, and F.418 a small, possibly hinged, iron object. The only unexcavated ditch, F.535, cut across the line of F.418 on a north northeast-south southwest alignment. An associated feature, F.536, also unexcavated, remained unidentified.

F.418 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1039], cut [1040]. Fill a mid brown clay-silt. Width 1.50m, depth 0.20m, with a shallow, flat-based profile.

F.422 Ring gully. Fills [1059, 1097], cuts [1071, 1098]. Fill a mid to dark grey-brown clay-silt. Width 0.34m, depth 0.20m, with an irregular, rounded profile, semi-circular in plan.

F.426 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fills [1053-1055,1092-1094, 1111], cuts [1056, 1353]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt overlying weathering layers. Width 1.13m, depth 0.43m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.427 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1057, 1058, 1060, 1105-1107], cuts [1061, 1108]. Fill a mid brown over grey-orange sandy silts, sealing weathering/slumping deposits. Width 1.69m, depth 0.64m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.429 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1069], cut [1070]. Fill a pale grey sandy-silt with frequent gravel. Width 0.60m, depth 0.30m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.430/431 Double ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1072-1074, 1076, 1077], cuts [1075, 1078]. Fill a pale grey-brown clay-silt overlying orange-mottled grey-brown clay-silts. Overall width 3.30m, depth 0.54m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.432 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1079], cut [1080]. Fill a mid brown-grey clay-silt, moderate gravel. Width 1.30m, depth 0.40m, with a rounded profile.

F.433 Ditch, N-S alignment, butt-ends within trench. Fill [1081], cut [1082]. Fill a grey-brown sandy silt with moderate gravel. Width 0.71m, depth 0.30m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.434 Natural feature. Fill/cut [1083]. Probable tree-bowl.

F.435 (fig. 16) Large pit/ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1085-1088, 1195, 1196], cut [1084]. Fill a mid brown-grey clay-silt, with moderate charcoal and gravel throughout. Width 3.80m, depth 0.91m, with a wide, rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.436 Gully. Fill [1099], cut [1100]. Fill a pale grey clay-silt. Width 0.25m, depth 0.05m, cut intermittent and ill-defined, potentially the base of a small ring gully

F.437 Pit or gully butt-end. Fill [1095], cut [1096]. Fill a mid brown clay-silt. Width 0.50m, depth 0.25m, with an irregular, rounded profile.

F.462 Pit? Small feature cut into the top of ditch F.435. Fill [1089], cut [1090]. Fill a mid brown silty sand with occasional gravel. Width 0.90m, depth 0.28m with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.471/472 (fig. 16 and 17) Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1201, 1203-1213], cut [1202, 1214]. Fill a mid brown to mid grey clay-silt with moderate gravel and charcoal throughout, overlying less substantial primary deposits and weathering layers. Basal fills contained an adult human skull Width 3.85m, depth 1.20m, with a flat-based 'V'-shaped profile.

F.535 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid grey-brown clay-silt, 1.50m wide.

F.536 Unidentified feature, unexcavated. Mid grey clay-silt, 3.00+m wide, only partially exposed.

Trench 118 - Trench 118 was 210m long on a northwest-southeast alignment. The topsoil was 0.28m to 0.31m deep, and the subsoil 0.08m to 0.15m deep (including 0.08m of genuine subsoil mid trench), with an overall trench depth of 0.39m to 0.43m. This trench contained nine pits, seven of which were excavated, and 19 ditches, four of which were excavated. One of these (F.461), as well as four of the unexcavated ditches, were post-Medieval. Of the remaining ditches, 10 were aligned northeast-southwest or north northeast-south southwest, two were aligned east-west, one was a possible ring gully, and one was largely obscured. Possible ring gully F.459 was ill-defined but contained a piece of bone. East-west aligned ditch F.465/6 was shallow and appeared to be recut beyond its original extent, which terminated within the trench. At the southeastern end of the trench, F.485 was a cleanly cut feature containing over half a kilo of bone and a small amount of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery.

Ditch F.461 was shown to cut through F.493, a quarry dominating the northwestern end of the trench, which contained very occasional fragments of brick, as well as lumps of topsoil that were not settled or leached enough to be of any great age. Although its relationship to the extensive area of post-Medieval quarrying seemed

unambiguous, the ditch itself contained nothing later than 1st–2nd century Roman pottery, and lies on a cropmark of uncertain attribution – it is certainly at odds with the main Roman system.

Pitting occurred in two small clusters in the southeastern half of the trench. Although bone was recovered in very small quantities from several pits, only F.464 contained pottery – a single sherd of 1st–2nd century Roman date.

F.439 Pit. Fill [1109], cut [1110]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt. Sub-circular in plan, width 0.62m, depth 0.28m, with a rounded profile.

F.445 Pit. Fills [1122, 1123], cut [1124]. Fill a dark brown/black clay-silt overlying grey clay-silt. Sub-circular in plan, 1.05m x 0.80m, depth 0.31m, with a rounded profile.

F.446 Pit/posthole. Fill [1125], cut [1126]. Fill a pale orange-brown clay-silt. Sub-circular in plan, 0.30m x 0.28m, 0.30m deep, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.447 Pit/posthole. Fill [1127], cut [1128]. Fill a pale orange-brown clay-silt. Sub-circular in plan, 0.30m x 0.28m, 0.16m deep, with a wide 'U'-shaped profile.

F.448 Pit. Fill [1129], cut [1130]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt. Sub-circular in plan, width 0.40m, depth 0.10m, with a rounded profile.

F.450 Pit. Fill [1137], cut [1138]. Fill a mid grey-brown clay-silt. Sub-circular in plan, only partially exposed, width 1.30m, depth 0.26m, with a rounded profile.

F.451 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1139], cut [1140]. Fill a dark brown clay-silt. Not excavated. Width 2.00m, depth unknown.

F.459 Gully, slightly curved. Fill [1165], cut [1166]. Fill a grey-brown clay-silt, moderate gravel. Width 0.42m, depth 0.09m, with a flat profile.

F.461 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fills [1172-1174], cut [1175]. Fill a mid to dark brown sandy silt, with frequent coarse gravel. Clearly cuts through the gravel quarry to the west. Almost certainly post-Medieval with residual Roman pottery. Width 2.48m, depth 0.89m, with a wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.464 Pit. Fill [1182], cut [1183]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with large pebbles in base. Sub-circular in plan. Width 1.65m, depth 0.56m, with a wide rounded profile.

F.465/466 Segmented ditch, E-W alignment. Fills [1184, 1185, 1187-1189], cuts [1186, 1190]. Fills grey to reddish brown-grey sandy silt with moderate gravel throughout. Width 1.55m, depth 0.35m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile. Possibly a butt-ending feature with a later recut continuing beyond the original extent.

F.480 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 2.10m wide, post-Medieval.

F.485 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fills [1256-1259, 1266, 1267], cut [1260]. Fills mid to pale grey clay-silt, moderate gravel, and potentially recut. Width 2.90m, depth 1.05m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.493 Quarry at western end of trench. Numbers apply to small hand dug section adjoining ditch F.461. Fills [1288-1291], cut [1292]. Fills of redeposited gravel and topsoil. Excavated to 0.65m depth, although machine dug section further west c. 1.20m deep demonstrated that quarry was deeper elsewhere.

F.506 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment. The wider of a pair of parallel ditches. Pottery collected from surface. 2.30m wide, possibly = F.408 in Trench 119.

F.523 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 1.25m wide, post-Medieval.

F.537 Ditch, possible quarry, unexcavated. Amorphous edges. If a ditch, runs approximately N-S. Dark brown clay-silt, c.3.00m wide.

F.538 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, dark brown clay-silt, 4.00m wide, possibly = F.472 in Trench 117.

F.539 Pit, unexcavated. Elongated, dark brown gravelly clay-silt, width 1.00m, not entirely exposed.

F.540 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark brown clay-silt, 3.75m wide, possibly = F.430/1 in Trench 117.

F.541 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, mid to dark brown-grey clay-silt, 1.50m wide, possibly = F.407 in Trench 119.

F.542 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark grey clay-silt, 1.50m wide.

F.543 Ditch, unexcavated. NNW-SSW alignment, dark grey clay-silt, 1.20m wide.

F.544 Posthole, unexcavated. Circular, mid grey clay-silt, 0.30m diameter.

F.545 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, very dark brown-grey/black clay-silt, 0.60m+ wide, truncated by F.480, and butt-ends.

F.546 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, mid grey clay-silt, 0.80m wide, cut by F.523.

F.547 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, dark grey clay-silt, 0.95m wide, cut by F.523.

F.548 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, dark mid grey clay-silt, 0.75m wide.

F.549 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, dark mid grey clay-silt, 0.50m wide.

Trench 119 - Trench 119 was 90m long on a northwest-southeast alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m to 0.38m deep, and the subsoil 0.02m to 0.20m deep (including 0.10m of genuine subsoil mid trench), with an overall trench depth of 0.37m to 0.55m. This trench contained eight ditches, seven of which were excavated, the single unexcavated ditch being post-Medieval. It also contained 11 pits, nine of which were excavated. Of the ditches, five were aligned northeast-southwest or north northeast-south southwest, although one of these, F.449, was probably post-Medieval. The remaining two ditches were aligned east-west or east northeast-west southwest. Ditches F.452 and F.460, both contained pottery of the mid to late 1st – 2nd centuries AD, and F.408 less date-specific Romano-British pottery. Pits F.413, F.414, F.428, F.453 and F.457 all contained pottery of comparable date to the ditches.

Seven of the pits occurred at the southeastern end of the trench, but varied considerably in character, despite nearly all producing 1st–2nd century Roman pottery. A second cluster occurred mid way along the trench (pits F.453, F.456, F.457, F.458, as well as probable ditches F.452 and F.455), but was characterised by all of the features being sealed by the same deposit, giving the appearance of one large feature from the surface. This area of pitting was little understood beyond stating that it lay at the edge of the gravel terrace, and that both Early Iron Age and Roman material occurred within the features. Pit F.458 produced an impressive Early Iron Age assemblage.

Ditch F.449 sat along the edge of major quarry F.493, but demonstrably cut through the backfill, exactly as ditch F.461 did in Trench 118, although these very similar ditches follow different alignments. As with F.461, it is only the apparently secure stratigraphic relationship with the quarry that suggests a late date, and this ditch lies on a cropmark seemingly related to F.472 in Trench 117 – an indisputably Roman feature. Unfortunately, the excavated section through F.449 yielded no datable finds, containing only a very small quantity of bone, but demonstrably post-Medieval material was conspicuously absent.

F.404 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1001], cut [1002]. Fill a dark mid brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 2.15m, depth 0.30m, with a rounded profile and flat, shallow step on southern side.

F.407 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1007], cut [1008]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.05m, depth 0.30m, with a wide, rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.408 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1009], cut [1010]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.50m, depth 0.36m, with a wide, rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.413/438 Pit. Fills [1022-1025, 1101-1103], cuts [1026, 1104]. Pale grey and grey-brown silt-clay overlying paler layers of weathering. Sub-circular in plan, but only partially exposed. Width 3.40m+, depth 1.18m, with a stepped 'U'-shaped profile.

F.414 Pit. Fills [1027, 1028], cut [1029]. Mid brown sandy silt overlying pale grey sandy silt. Seemingly sub-circular in plan, but only partially exposed. Width 1.70m, depth 0.33m with a wide, flat profile.

F.421 Pit. Fill [1045], cut [1046]. Very dark, almost black silt with frequent charcoal. Seemingly sub-circular in plan, but only partially exposed. Width 2.11m, depth 0.26m with a wide, saucer-shaped profile.

F.428 Pit/potential ditch butt. Fills [1064-1067, 1091], cuts [1068]. A succession of pale grey-brown and orange-grey sandy clay-silts. Elongated in plan, but only partially exposed and ill-defined towards trench edge. Width 1.20m, depth 0.86m, with an undercut, rounded profile.

F.449 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fills [1131-1135], cut [1136]. Fill a mid to dark grey-brown sandy silt, with frequent coarse gravel. Clearly cuts through the gravel quarry to the west. Almost certainly post-Medieval. Width 2.90m, depth 1.40m, with a wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.452 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fills[1146-1148], cut [1149]. Fill a pale mid grey sandy silt overlying a mid to dark grey sandy silt, moderate coarse gravel throughout. Width 2.50m, depth 0.65m, rounded profile. Sealed by [1144].

F.453 Pit. Fills [1150-1152], cut [1153]. Pale mid grey sandy silt overlying dark grey sandy silt and weathering. Only partially exposed and cut by F.452. Width 2.50m, depth 0.62m, with a rounded profile. Sealed by [1144].

F.454 Seemingly natural disturbance overlying F.453. Fill [1154].

F.455 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1155], cut [1156]. Fill a mid to pale grey sandy silt. Width 0.97m, 0.15m, shallow, rounded profile.

F.456 Pit. Fill [1157], cut [1158]. Dark grey sandy silt, moderate gravel. Only partially exposed and cuts F.453. Width 1.33m, depth 0.35m, with a rounded profile. Sealed by [1144].

F.457 Pit. Fills [1159-1160], cut [1161]. Mid to dark grey sandy silt overlying mid grey sandy silt, moderate gravel and occasional charcoal throughout. Only partially exposed. Width 2.20m, depth 0.50m, with a rounded profile. Sealed by [1144].

F.458 Pit. Fills [1162-1163], cut [1164]. Dark brown-grey sandy silt overlying pale grey sandy silt, moderate gravel throughout. Only partially exposed. Completely sealed by layer [1144] Width 1.37m, depth 0.49m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.460 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fills [1167-1170], cut [1171]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt overlying a dark grey-brown sandy silt, with dark silt and weathering at base, moderate to frequent gravel throughout. Width 2.70m, depth 0.90m, wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.479 Pit. Fills [1233-1237], cut [1238]. Fill a pale grey sandy clay-silt. Only partially exposed. Width 1.84m, depth 0.37m, with a rounded profile.

F.701 Pit, unexcavated. Sub-circular, mid brown-grey clay-silt. Diameter 0.80m.

F.702 Pit, unexcavated. Sub-circular, mid brown-grey clay-silt. Diameter 0.50m, not entirely exposed.

Trench 120 - Trench 120 was 80m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.32m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.02m to 0.10m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.37m to 0.42m. This trench joined with the southeastern end of Trench 119, and contained one pit and 10 ditches, all being excavated except for two post-Medieval ditches. Two of the excavated ditches, F.416 and F.417, were also post-Medieval. Trench 120 produced no pottery, and only a small quantity of bone and stone.

The remaining ditches followed various alignments, F.409 and F.419 lying west northwest-east southeast, F.403 and F.420 lying north-south, F.405 lying north northeast-south southwest, and F.406 lying north northwest-south southeast. All of these features were relatively small, 1.31m being the widest (F.403).

Pit F.415 was very shallow, much of its final depth being made up by animal/root disturbance.

F.403 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [997-1000], cut [1001]. Fill a mid to dark grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel overlying pale grey sandy silt. Width 1.31m, depth 0.37m, with a wide, rounded profile.

F.405 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1003], cut [1004]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.64m, depth 0.11m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.406 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fill [1005], cut [1006]. Fill a pale grey sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel. Width 1.23m, depth 0.23m, with a rounded profile and step on the eastern side.

F.409 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fills [1012-1014], cut [1015]. Black, charcoal-rich silt overlying mid brown sandy silt. Width 0.49m, depth 0.25m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.410 Very narrow and shallow linear – probably a deep plough-strike. Fill [1016], cut [1017].

F.415 Pit. Fills [1030, 1031], cut [1032]. Pale grey sandy clay-silt. Only partially exposed. Width 2.95m, depth 0.47m, with a rounded profile.

F.416 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1035], cut [1036]. Fill a pale brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.30m, depth 0.10m, with a shallow, rounded profile. Probably post-Medieval.

F.417 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1037], cut [1038]. Fill a pale brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.62m, depth 0.16m, with a shallow, rounded profile. Probably post-Medieval.

F.419 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill [1041], cut [1042]. Pale grey-brown sandy silt. Width 0.52m, depth 0.16m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.420 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1043], cut [1044]. Fill a pale grey sandy silt. Width 0.74m, depth 0.13m, with a wide, rounded profile.

F.717 Ditch, unexcavated. NNW-SSE alignment, mid grey clay-silt, 0.55m wide.

Trench 121 - Trench 121 was 100m long on a northwest-southeast alignment. The topsoil was 0.25m to 0.34m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.45m deep (including 0.45m of genuine subsoil at the northwest end), with an overall trench depth of 0.38m to 0.70m. Excluding obviously post-Medieval features (consisting of four ditches/drains on various alignments), this trench contained eight ditches, three on a north northeast-south southwest line, two of which were excavated (F.467 and F.468), two on a northeast-southwest line, and two on a north-south line. Two pits were also exposed, of which one, F.484, was excavated. The unexcavated pit was an unusual shape, and may have represented a ditch terminal.

F.467 Possible ditch base segment, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1191], cut [1192]. Fill an orange-brown sandy silt. 0.85m x 0.26m, depth 0.03m, with a rounded profile. Very shallow and almost entirely truncated. Probably associated with F.468 beside it.

F.468 Ditch base, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1193], cut [1194]. Fill an orange-grey sandy silt. Width 0.44m, depth 0.06m, with a rounded profile. Very shallow and almost entirely truncated. Probably associated with F.467 beside it.

F.484 Pit. Fill [1251-1254], cut [1255]. Mid to pale grey sandy silt, with dark brown sandy silt at base, moderate gravel. Only partially exposed. Width 2.34m, depth 0.84m, with a rounded profile.

F.703 Ditch, unexcavated. Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.90m wide. Possibly = F.411 in Trench 122.

F.704 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown-grey clay-silt, 0.35m wide. Possibly = F.412 in Trench 122.

F.705 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, mid brown-grey clay-silt, 1.90m wide.

F.706 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark grey clay-silt, 1.40m wide.

F.707 Ditch, unexcavated. NNW-SSE alignment, mid grey clay-silt, 1.00m wide.

F.708 Ditch, unexcavated. NNW-SSE alignment, mid brown-grey clay-silt, 0.60m wide.

F.709 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid grey clay-silt, 0.75m wide, butt-ends.

Trench 122 - Trench 122 was 50m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.21m to 0.31m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.13m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.34m to 0.41m. This trench contained five ditches, all of which were excavated, and all of which were small and shallow. Features 423-425 were aligned north northwest-south southeast, and F.411 and F.412 were aligned north northeast-south southwest and north-south respectively. Only F.411 contained finds, which were of post-Medieval date.

F.411 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1018], cut [1019]. Fill a dark grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.95m, depth 0.39m, with a shallow, rounded profile. Potentially post-Medieval.

F.412 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1020], cut [1021]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.80m, depth 0.15m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.423 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fill [1047], cut [1048]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.36m, depth 0.12m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.424 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1049], cut [1050]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.68m, depth 0.17m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.425 Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fill [1051], cut [1052]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.44m, depth 0.16m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

Trench 123 - Trench 123 was 200m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.29m to 0.32m deep, and the subsoil 0.06m to 0.15m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.35m to 0.47m. Excluding post-Medieval features (consisting of five ditches on northeast-southwest and northwest-southeast alignments), the trench contained six ditches, all of which lay on an approximate east-west alignment, and one small possible pit. No features were excavated.

F.419 Ditch, unexcavated. ESE-WNW alignment, mid pale grey clay-silt, 0.60m wide. Excavated in Trench 120.

F.480 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 1.80m wide, post-Medieval.

F.523 Ditch, unexcavated. NE-SW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.75m wide, post-Medieval.

F.710 Ditch, unexcavated. ENE-WSW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 1.15m wide.

F.711 Ditch, unexcavated. ESE-WNW alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 1.10m wide, lines up with a post-Medieval ditch in Trench 120.

F.712 Ditch, unexcavated. E-W alignment, mid grey clay-silt, 0.60m wide.

F.713 Ditch, unexcavated. E-W alignment, pale grey clay-silt, 0.40m wide.

F.714 Ditch, unexcavated. ESE-WNW alignment, pale grey clay-silt, 0.40m wide.

F.715 Ditch, unexcavated. ESE-WNW alignment, mid grey clay-silt, 0.50m wide.

F.716 Pit, unexcavated. Sub-circular, mid grey clay-silt, 0.45m diameter.

Trench 124 - Trench 124 was 50m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.24m to 0.30m deep, and the subsoil 0.13m to 0.20m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.43m to 0.44m. This trench contained three ditches or drains (on northwest-southeast and north northwest-south southeast alignments) and a pit, all seemingly of post-Medieval date. No features were excavated.

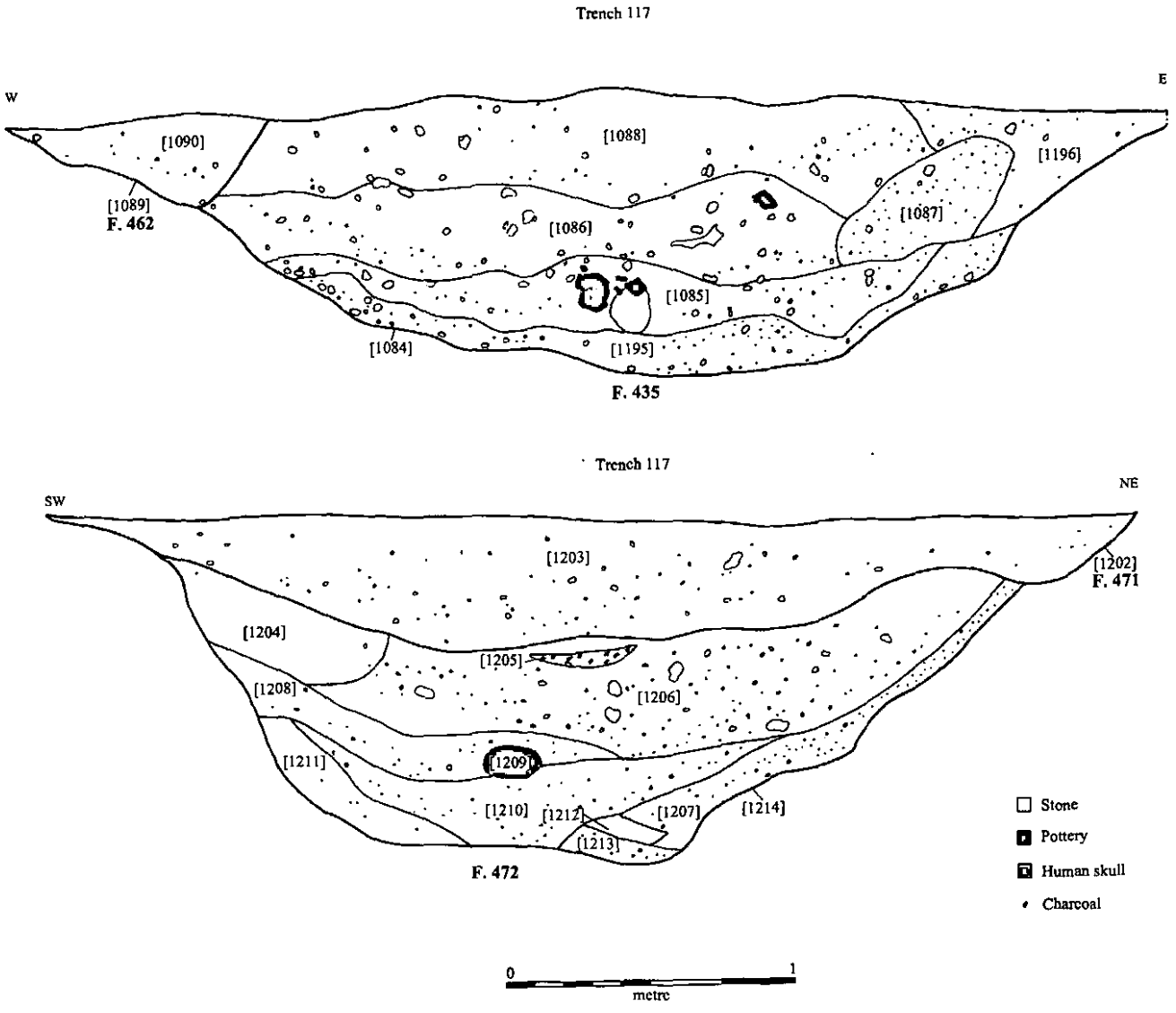
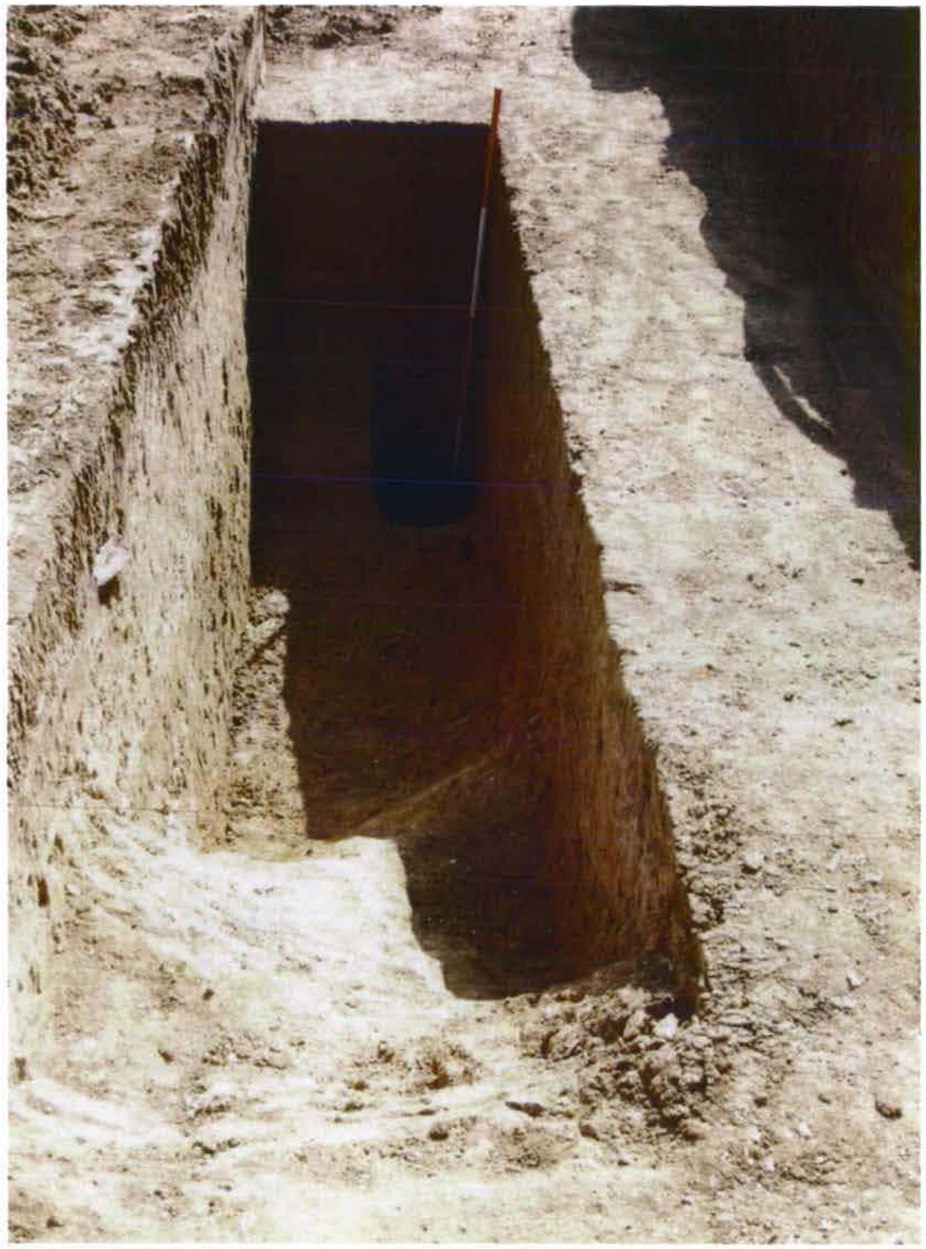


Figure 16. Sections; Field E



F. 340, Trench 89

F. 337, Trench 89

F. 471/2, Trench 117

Figure 17. Photographs; Fields A and E

Trench 125 - Trench 125 was 80m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.33m to 0.45m deep, and the subsoil 0.01m to 0.08m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.41m to 0.46m. Excluding several post-Medieval features (including two linears on east-west and north northwest-south southeast alignments), the trench contained two adjacent, narrow east-west aligned ditches, F.526 and F.527, of undetermined date. Four pits with dark brown fills were exposed, but at least two of these were post-Medieval, and the two undated features, F.524 and F.525, were very similar but potentially of greater age. This was the only trench which lay entirely on a clay geology, and was flooded for much of the time exposed. No features were excavated.

F.524 Pit, unexcavated. Sub-circular, not entirely exposed, dark brown silt-clay with high snail content, 1.75m wide.

F.525 Pit, unexcavated. Sub-circular, dark brown silt-clay with high snail content, 1.00m diameter.

F.526 Ditch, unexcavated. E-W alignment, very dark brown silt-clay, 0.75m wide.

F.527 Ditch, unexcavated. E-W alignment, very dark brown silt-clay, 0.75m wide.

Trench 126 - Trench 126 was 60m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.03m to 0.14m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.43m to 0.44m. Two post-Medieval ditches were exposed, one of which, F.480, was partially test excavated until dating evidence was found, which included a residual piece of Roman pottery as well as 19th century material. Both ditches lay on a northeast-southwest alignment.

F.480 Ditch, only partially excavated. Post-Medieval.

F.523 Ditch, unexcavated. Post-Medieval.

Trench 146 - Trench 146 was 30m long on a northeast-southwest alignment. The topsoil was 0.39m to 0.43m deep, and the subsoil 0.20m to 0.30m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.59m to 0.73m. This trench contained five ditches, the widest being 1.25m. Four of the ditches were aligned approximately north-south, and one northwest-southeast (which cut a north-south feature). No features were excavated in this trench.

F.507 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 1.25m wide.

F.508 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.90m wide.

F.509 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.60m wide.

F.510 Ditch, unexcavated. N-S alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.40m wide.

F.511 Ditch, unexcavated. NW-SE alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 1.25m wide.

Trench 147 - Trench 147 was 18m long on a west northwest-east southeast alignment. The topsoil was 0.32m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.18m to 0.38m deep (the deeper measurement being a genuine subsoil at the western end), with an overall

trench depth of 0.53m to 0.70m. This trench contained three ditches, one of which was aligned north northwest-south southeast, and terminated within the trench, and two on a north northeast-south southwest alignment, one being 3.50m wide with a visible, narrow recut, and one 1.50m wide. No features were excavated in this trench.

F.512 Ditch, unexcavated. NW-SE alignment, orange-grey-brown clay-silt, 1.50m wide.

F.513 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark orange-brown clay-silt, 1.40m wide.

F.514 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark orange-brown clay-silt, 3.60m wide. Cut by F.515.

F.515 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark orange-brown clay-silt, 1.00m wide. Cuts over the top of F.514.

Trench 148 - Trench 148 was 28m long on a northwest-southeast alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.08m to 0.15m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.43m to 0.45m. One ditch ran along the length of the trench on the same approximate northwest-southeast alignment, and two narrow features seemed to cut across it on a north northeast-south southwest line. Two other features, presumably ditches, were partially exposed, one at the northwestern end of the trench, and another truncated by both alignments of ditches, also at the northwestern end. No features were excavated in this trench.

F.516 Ditch, unexcavated. NW-SE alignment, mid brown clay-silt, 0.90m wide.

F.517 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, dark brown clay-silt, 0.55m wide.

F.518 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, orange-brown clay-silt, 0.75m wide.

F.519 Ditch, unexcavated. NNE-SSW alignment, grey clay-silt, only partially exposed beneath F.516 and F.518.

F.520 Ditch?, unexcavated. Nearly entirely obscured.

Trench 149 - Trench 149 was 10m long on a northeast-southwest alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m to 0.46m deep, and the subsoil 0.06m to 0.10m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.45m to 0.52m. This trench contained one ditch on a northwest-southeast alignment and up to 5.00m wide (although two distinct fills may suggest that a recut widened the original ditch), and a partially exposed pit. No features were excavated in this trench.

F.521 Ditch?, unexcavated. NW-SE alignment, mid to dark grey-brown clay-silt, 5.00m wide.

F.522 Pit, unexcavated. Sub-circular, grey clay-silt, diameter 1.10m.

Discussion

The trench and feature plan of Field D (fig. 8) clearly shows a relative concentration of archaeological activity around the southern and western fringes, although even the 'clusters' of activity are often composed of widely spaced, shallow and sterile

features. In the eastern half of the site, where features were particularly sparse, the ditches were nonetheless largely convincing as genuine features. The site as a whole produced very few artefacts, and the assemblage is biased towards individual trenches and features (for instance, a large part of the total assemblage came from Trench 57, of which the large pit F.292/3 produced a large proportion). Indeed, excluding Trench 76, within which lay the southern cluster, the entire eastern half of the field (Trenches 66-78) yielded only 25 fragments of bone (from three features), 15 fragments of pottery (from two features), and two flint flakes (one feature). The fieldwalking also produced little, although the not insignificant flint assemblage clustered around the north-centre of the field, in an area that exposed no features. (The trial trenching did not confirm the existence of the putative, low density scatter sites suggested by the total collection; see Part I above.) The Roman pottery assemblage from the fieldwalking was so slight that little beyond an already known Roman presence in the landscape as a whole could be surmised.

Apart from the obvious concentration of features at the western end of the field, the only other cluster of features occurs in the southern corner in Trenches 65 and 76. It is uncertain exactly what kind of activity is represented by these, stopping very abruptly in a northerly direction at F.275, and producing mainly animal bone, with no datable finds. The series of parallel ditches in the eastern half of Trench 76 may well have been related to this 'site', as might F.262 in Trench 69, which ran at a fairly convincing right-angle to the system. More difficult to associate with other features or interpret are the pairs of narrow parallel ditches in Trenches 68, 69, 72 and 75. The gap between each set of parallels was too narrow to have been used as a track, and the ditches themselves were relatively slight and sterile. Nevertheless, taking the evidence as a whole, there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the conjunction of Trenches 65 and 76 marks what is probably the northeastern fringes of a Romano-British settlement, hereafter referred to as Site 4.

The remaining isolated ditches in the eastern half of Field D fall upon alignments broadly consistent with the Roman field systems to the northwest, although only F.294 in Trench 67 contained Roman pot, consisting of three refitting rim fragments of the 2nd-4th centuries AD. The ditch that fitted least comfortably with this alignment was F.265 in Trench 66. This contained two later prehistoric flint flakes, and small fragments of later Bronze Age pottery.

The western half of the field is more difficult to interpret. Part of the concentration of archaeology is explained by the presence of more closely spaced Roman enclosure ditches, although the distribution of datable finds, given the number of features, is comparatively no greater than in the eastern half. At least some of these ditches, either as the earlier phase of a system that evolved, or coincidentally following the same alignments, seem to date to the Late Iron Age, with F.306 and F.310 both containing small quantities of later Iron Age pot. At this stage, a suggestion of a pre-Conquest system continuing to evolve post-Conquest, and being replaced by an independent later Roman system would be premature, but that was precisely the sequence identified just 1.5km to the northeast at the Hutchison site at Addenbrooke's (Evans, Mackay & Webley 2004).

The great mass of other features, namely those in Trenches 60 and 79, were mostly very shallow, sometimes ill-defined and largely sterile, although most of those

recorded and issued feature numbers were almost certainly 'genuine'. The total finds assemblage, however, consisted of small amounts of burnt stone and bone. The only exception to this was F.328 in Trench 79, which contained a small iron object, seemingly a narrow knife blade, and F.292/3, the huge Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit in Trench 57. The latter contained a large quantity of burnt stone, along with animal bone and a modest quantity of pot and worked flint, as well as a fragment of human skull. Given that the mass of non-ditch features are unlikely to be Roman (purely on the complete lack of finds), it is possible (and perhaps most likely) that the mass of undated features also date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

The cropmark plan for Field E showed an area of great potential interest, representing intercutting enclosures on at least two alignments. The trench evaluation demonstrated that this plot was largely accurate, although the actual archaeology present was inevitably more dense and complex than the cropmarks. Also fully expected, and likewise reflecting the cropmark plot, was the paucity of archaeological remains in Trenches 124-6, on the edge of the clay geology; the archaeology *per se* was largely restricted to the western two-thirds of Field E, on gravel geology.

As discussed in the text above, there is difficulty 'situating' the evidence of quarrying as it was exposed in the northwestern ends of Trenches 118 and 119. On the one hand, it seems unquestionably to be of post-Medieval attribution (and 'late' finds were recovered from its backfill). Yet, it seems cut by Romano-British ditches integral to the main cropmark paddock system - a definite relationship in the case of F.461 and 'probable' in the instance of F.449. Moreover, the fact that the Romano-British cropmarks continue through this area must imply that either these seemingly extensive quarries were more localised than has been thought, or that they must be 'early'. There is no ready way to escape the ambivalence of the quarries' attribution unless appeal is made to multiple usage and argue that both Early Roman and later, post-Medieval extraction pitting occurred.

The study of the site's Roman pottery recovered suggests a date range of the 1st-3rd centuries A.D., with a likely concentration in the late 1st-2nd centuries. Also interesting to note is the relatively low mean weight of the sherds recovered, suggesting that much of the pottery was to some extent residual, and that these enclosures were not themselves the focus of intense settlement (see Anderson below). Nevertheless, evidence of domestic activity as such is undoubtedly present, as areas of pitting and ditches, containing moderate amounts of finds, surely attest to. The low finds density of the site's Roman usage may well also reflect upon its status - i.e. relative 'poverty' - as neither during the trench evaluation or field survey stages were any definite Roman metalwork finds recovered, despite the intensity of metal detecting. However, apart from two ring gullies, neither of which was large enough to be a domestic dwelling, no obvious building or house-plots were uncovered. This, however, is not dissimilar to the Hutchinson Addenbrooke's site, which was subjected to open-area stripping and detailed excavation, where the post-Conquest buildings could only be identified by the rectangular plots they defined – a phenomenon only recognizable in plan under open-area conditions.

Particularly interesting is the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity, consisting of widely spaced features, often of considerable size. It was initially assumed, pre-excavation, that F.435 represented a large ditch crossing Trench 117, but the

excavated base, along with the impressive assemblage of Early Iron Age material recovered, may suggest that a large pit had been exposed, as was also the case in Field D with F.292/3. Despite the lack of pottery, it is possible that F.504 in Trench 116 is also a large pit attributable to this period, which would certainly be in keeping with the bone assemblage recovered (see Swaysland below). Small quantities of Iron Age pot occurred elsewhere, for instance in ditch F.485 in Trench 118, which may well be an Iron Age ditch. This ditch, or one of the adjoining parallels, lies on the line of a curving cropmark, which potentially links up with the features exposed in Trench 149.

It should be noted that a relative quantity of lithics were recovered from the trench excavations: 16 pieces each of worked and burnt flint, with the majority coming from Trenches 117 and 119 (only a few features were tested within Trench 118 intervening between them). Much of this material, like most of that recovered in the fieldwalking (both the total collection and the higher density cluster in the extreme southwest corner of the field), is likely to be of later prehistoric attribution and may well derive from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age occupation in this area.

Overviewing the site's archaeology, it seems that for both its main phases - Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (with some subsequent later, Iron Age activity) and Romano-British - that the core of occupation fell within the western third of Field E and extended southward into Field D. Hereafter, these successively settlement phases/zones will be respectively referred to as Sites 2 (prehistoric) and 3 (Roman).

It has proven impossible to disentangle the plans of these successive settlement phases and, indeed, whether any kind of linear ditch system accompanied the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement at all, or if it was only a matter of an open 'pit-type' occupation (*cf.* Site 1). Nevertheless, within the cropmark paddock system at least two/three different alignments can be identified and the recutting sequence along, for example, Trench 117 would suggest a comparable degree of paddock/enclosure succession. This being said, it is noteworthy that along its south-central length the western side of plotted headland does seem to correspond with a major ditch-line: F.528 (Trench 116), F.430 (Trench 117) and F.540 (Trench 118). This was only excavated in Trench 117 (F.430), where Early Iron Age pottery was forthcoming (no later material). Seeming to run over a distance of more than 140m, north of the point this ditch could continue with the line of ditch F.449 in Trench 119 (tested but undated) and, to the south (though, if so, on a much more minor scale), in F.507 (Trench 146) and F.306 in Field D, Trench 57. However, the latter would seem to date to the Late Iron Age. To be frank, the site is sufficiently complicated and its trench-exposure too limited to attempt to determine this boundary axis with any certainty. Nonetheless, the evidence does seem to indicate that there was a major boundary following this line for at least some of this length (c. 140m+). It could be that this represents no more than a large-scale 'early' division. Yet, in the light of the interpretation of the double-ditch system along the western side of Field O as possibly relating to an early north-south trackway (see Part III below), this then could represent its southern continuation (it having otherwise been truncated through quarrying over most of the intervening area in Field Z). This is an issue that will be returned to in the *Final Discussion.*

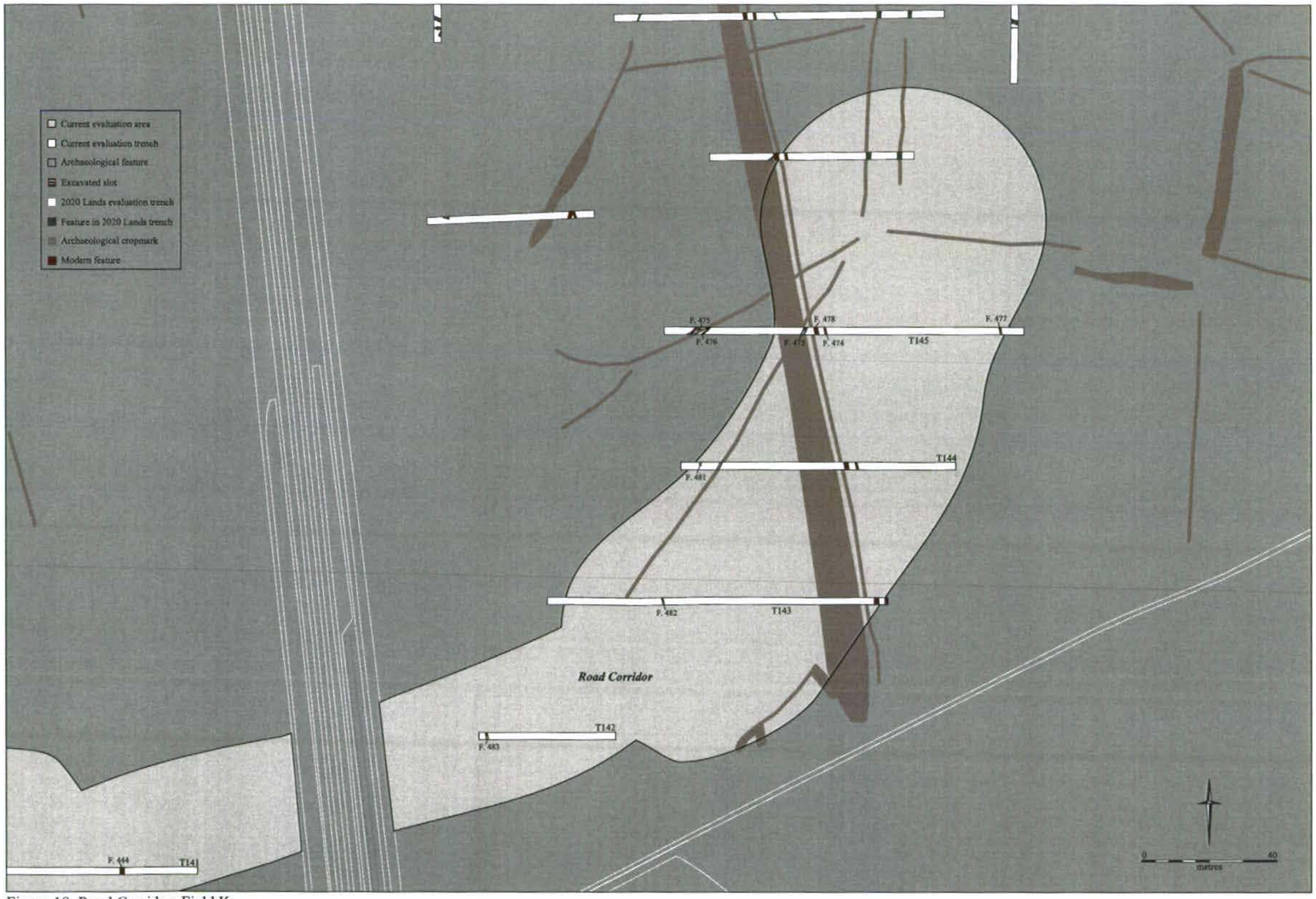


Figure 18. Road Corridor; Field K

Eastern Road Corridor

Anticipating roadway-related proposals, work within the area east of Field D was localised within a c. 50m wide corridor. This divided into two sections, with Trenches 139-41 being on the west side of the railway line and the remainder to the east, where the route arced northwards to reach the southern limits of the 2020 Land investigations (Evans & Mackay 2005).

Trench 139 (fig. 12) - Trench 139 was 80m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m to 0.33m deep, and the subsoil 0.09m to 0.13m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.39m to 0.46m. Two narrow ditches were exposed, F.440 and F.441, both on slightly differing north northwest-south southeast alignments. No finds were recovered.

F.440 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fills [1112, 1250], cut [1251]. Fill a dark brown sandy clay overlying a thin layer of trampling or weathering. Width 0.71m, depth 0.14m, with a rounded 'bowl'-shaped profile.

F.441 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fill [1247], cut [1248]. Fill a pale grey silty sand, occasional small gravel. Width 0.50m, depth 0.09m, with a rounded profile.

Trench 140 - Trench 140 was 50m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.33m deep, and the subsoil 0.12m to 0.13m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.45m to 0.46m. Two features were exposed, F.443, a narrow ditch segment aligned north-south, and a small pit, F.442. No finds were recovered.

F442 Pit. Fill [1116], cut [1117]. Fill a loose mid grey-brown clay. Not fully exposed. Sub-circular in plan. Width 0.92m, depth 0.25m, with a rounded profile. Potentially natural feature, but edges were well defined.

F.443 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1118, 1249], cut [1119]. Fill a pale grey silty clay-sand. Width 0.37m, depth 0.10m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile, c.7.50m long.

Trench 141 (fig. 18) - Trench 141 was 103 m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.31m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.06m to 0.11m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.37m to 0.46m. One ditch was exposed, F.444, lying on a north-south alignment, that on excavation proved to be a post-Medieval bush drain. No finds were recovered.

F.444 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1120, 1141, 1142], cut [1121]. Fill compacted grey-brown clay over loose brown clay with remains of branches. Post-Medieval bush drain. Width 1.21m, depth 0.63m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 142 - Trench 142 was 40m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.38m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.08m to 0.10m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.48m. One small ditch was uncovered, F.483 lying on a north northwest-south southeast alignment. No finds were recovered.

F.483 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1247], cut [1248]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt, occasional small gravel and charcoal flecks. Width 0.60m, depth 0.36m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 143 - Trench 143 was 100 m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.29m to 0.40m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.14m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.43m to 0.54m. Three ditches were uncovered, two at the eastern end of the trench, aligned north-south, which had been excavated in Trench 145 and were of post-Medieval date. A single small ditch, F.482, was excavated, lying on a north northwest-south southeast alignment. No finds were recovered.

F.482 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1243 - 1245], cut [1246]. Fill a dark grey-brown sandy, silty clay, occasional small gravel and charcoal flecks. Width 0.45m, depth 0.30m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 144 - Trench 144 was 80m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.28m to 0.33m deep, and the subsoil 0.12m to 0.17m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.40m to 0.50m. Four ditches were uncovered in this trench, two, on a north northwest-south southeast alignment and being post-Medieval in date. Of the remaining two, one was excavated in Trench 145 as F.473, and one terminating feature, F.481, was excavated. No finds were recovered.

F.481 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [1239 - 1241], cut [1242]. Fill a pale through to dark brown silt, occasional small gravel. Width 0.80m, depth 0.49m, with a 'V'-shaped profile and potential recut. Terminal within trench.

Trench 145 - Trench 145 was 105m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.29m to 0.35m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m to 0.12m deep, with an overall trench depth of 0.41m to 0.45m. Excluding an obviously modern ditch/drain, six ditches were uncovered, F.473, F.475 and F.476 on slightly different northeast-southwest alignments, and F.474, F.477 and F.478 on a north northwest-south southeast alignment. F.474 and F.478 were post-Medieval and were encountered in several other trenches. No finds were recovered from any of the features. The lack of an intact subsoil made it impossible to demonstrate if these features were of any great age.

F.473 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1218], cut [1219]. Fill a dark grey silty sandy clay, occasional small gravel. Width 0.78m, depth 0.18m, with a flat based bowl shaped profile.

F.474 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment, post-Medieval. Fill [1220], cut [1221]. Fill a dark brown sandy clay-silt, occasional small gravel. Width 0.50m, depth 0.23m, with a rounded profile.

F475 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fills [1222, 1223], cut [1224]. Fill a dark grey silty sandy clay, occasional small gravel. Width 1.20m, depth 0.30m, with a flat based bowl shaped profile.

F.476 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1225], cut [1226]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy silt, occasional small charcoal flecks. Width 0.45m, depth 0.12m, with a rounded bowl shaped profile.

F.477 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fill [1227], cut [1228]. Fill a dark brown clay-silt, occasional small gravel. Width 0.60m, depth 0.68m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.478 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment, post-Medieval. Fills [1229-1231], cut [1232]. Fill pale through to dark brown sandy silt, occasional small gravel. Width 1.20m, depth 0.47m, with a rounded profile.

Discussion

Given the complete absence of any dating evidence that was forthcoming from the tested features, it is difficult to say much concerning them. Apart from ditch F.444 in Trench 141 and F.474/478 in Trench 144 (that continue south into Trenches 143 & 144) which seem of post-Medieval attribution - the latter pair of ditches running parallel with an aerial photograph-plotted headland (fig. 18) - the remainder could all conceivably be of Roman date and relate to dispersed elements of the area-wide fieldsystem. Certainly, there is no evidence of settlement as such anywhere within this roadway swathe.

Specialist Studies

Lithics (Emma Beadsmoore, with a contribution by Mark Edmonds)

Field A

A total of nine flints were recovered from Field A, listed by feature and type in Table 2. The flint recovered from ditch F.332 is potentially Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and therefore likely to be residual, inadvertently incorporated into a later feature. Ditch F.333 also yielded a flake that is more compatible with Neolithic/Early Bronze flake production/core reduction strategies than later prehistoric flintworking.

	Feature						
Type	332	333	334	337	338	340	**Sub-totals**
secondary flake					1	3	4
tertiary flake	1	1		1			3
irregular core			1				1
single platform core						1	1
Totals	1	1	1	1	1	4	9

Table 2: Field A flints

However, the flakes recovered from ditch F.334 and pit F.338 are potentially broadly contemporary with the features they were recovered from. The core and the waste flake were the by-products of expedient and unsystematic core reduction strategies focused on producing flakes regardless of their morphology; a type of flint working that was more common in later prehistory. Two of the four flints recovered from the large pit F.340, a flake and the core, are also the products of expedient flake production/core reduction strategies and potentially broadly contemporary with the pit. Yet the remaining flakes were the products of more systematic, structured flint working focused on the production of generally thinner, sometimes narrow flakes, occasionally removed with a soft hammer; features that are more common in Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flake production.

The small quantity of material recovered from the features in Field A includes some Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint that provides evidence for limited, background earlier activity at the site. Yet several other flakes are the products of less systematic, more expedient flake production/core reduction strategies. Whilst these could be the chronologically non-diagnostic by-products of Neolithic flint working, they could also be broadly contemporary with the features that they were recovered from, providing possible evidence for later prehistoric flint working.

Field D

A similar date to the fieldwalking material can be inferred for at least some of the 28 pieces of worked flint recovered from the trenches. Here however, irregular secondary flakes are rather more frequent, with more controlled reduction sequences suggested primarily through the scars on a small number of cores (e.g. the single platform core from F.292). For this reason, it is probably best to acknowledge that the date for much of this assemblage is uncertain.

Formally retouched tools are almost conspicuous by their absence, one of the few exceptions being a scraper characterised by delicate and shallow retouch on the lateral edge of an irregular secondary flake (a topsoil find).

Field E (Mark Edmonds)

The excavated assemblage from Field E comprises some 16 pieces of worked flint and a further 16 pieces (433g) of burnt flint. The bulk of the worked flint takes the form of irregular secondary and (in smaller measure) tertiary flakes, few of which show signs of intentional modification. Cores are also represented, including a single platform example with heavy hinge fractures from F.463, Tr116. With the exception of an abruptly retouched flake from F.457, there are no retouched tools. Given the small size of the assemblage and the lack of diagnostic tools, it is difficult to assign any of this material to any specific period. That said, the likelihood is that the bulk of this material is of a similar date to the irregular flakes identified during surface collection.

While few features can be identified on the burnt flint fraction, three pieces show clear evidence of working prior to burning.

The Prehistoric Pottery (Matt Brudenell)

Field A

A small assemblage comprising 410 sherds (1704g) of Iron Age pottery was recovered from a total of seven features. The sherds are generally small and abraded with a mean weight of just 4.2g. The pottery derived from a small group of pits, ditches and a large well feature located at the southern end of Field A (Trenches 83, 87, 89, and 105). As the number of features is small, the assemblage from each is described individually followed by a general discussion.

Fabrics - The assemblage was dominated by dense, moderately coarse to coarse sandy fabrics with occasional un-burnt flint and calcareous inclusions. Sandy fabrics accounted for 68% of the assemblage by weight, and are generally more typical of Later Iron Age assemblages (c.350 BC-50 AD). 13% of the assemblage comprised of coarse and fine fossil shell fabrics, whilst 12% had a mixture of chalk, un-burnt flint and coarse sand. Both fabrics find parallel with the Early/late Early Iron Age material from Wandlebury (Webley 2005), and the assemblage from F.435 Clay Farm Field E. The remaining fabric group accounts for 7% of the assemblage and consists of medium to coarse burnt flint and sand temper typical of Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age PDR assemblages from across the region (1100-400 BC).

Forms and feature assemblages - Few diagnostic sherds were present in the assemblage, which contained a minimum of 16 vessels with a rim EVE of 0.1. The rims, shoulders and bases have characteristics of both the late Early Iron Age and Later Iron Age assemblages, suggestive of a date range centred on the 5th-3rd century BC. The quantity and character of material from each feature is considered in turn.

Pit F.331: The pit contained eight sherds weighing 103g. Seven sherds belonged to a bowl c.18 cm in diameter with a slightly flaring neck (Hill & Horn 2003 Form D). This form is more typical of Later Iron Age assemblages.

Pit F.332: Two non diagnostic flint tempered sherds were recovered from the pit weighing 6g.

Ditch F.333: The ditch contained 13 sherds weighing 29g, all in dense sandy fabrics. A single rounded direct rim was present.

Ditch F.334: The ditch contained a single sand tempered sherd weighing two grams.

Ditch F.336: The ditch contained eight sandy sherds weighing 25g.

Pit F.338: The pit contained 17 sherds weighing 28g, in flint and sand tempered fabrics.

Pit F.337: The pit contained 197 sherds of pottery weighing 692g. The pottery was very fragmented and mixed, containing rims of six different vessels, a fragment of a lug handle, and burnished and unburnished sherds in all types of fabrics. Diagnostic forms included a fragment of a finely moulded pedestal base, c.8cm in diameter, a rim with finger tip-impressions, and an internally bevelled rim belonging to a coarseware chalk-tempered vessel. In the subsoil immediately adjacent to the pit, 18 burnt flint-tempered sherds weighting 41g were found. These may originally have been part of this deposit.

Well F.340: The fills of the well contained the largest deposit comprising 146 sherds weighing 778g. The rims of three different vessels were found, together with four different bases. Early diagnostic material included the rim of a concave necked vessel with closely spaced finger-tip impressions and two possible incised/slashed lines along the base of the neck, and an everted tapered rim of a burnished fineware vessel. Sherds in all fabrics were also present implying an assemblage of mixed date.

Decoration and surface treatment - A total of 43 sherds weighing 238g were burnished, accounting for 10.5% of the assemblage. 12 sherds (2.9%) from a maximum of three vessels displayed decoration. Two of the eight rims in the assemblage were embellished with finger-tip impressions on the top of the lip; one from F.337 in a chalk, flint and sand tempered fabric; the second from F.340, which also had displayed two possible incised/slashed lines around the base of the neck. A faint scratched or incised diagonal line may also be present on the rounded shoulder of a burnished sherd from F.340. The forms of decoration are consistent with a Late Early Iron Age date, with local parallels at Wandlebury (Hartley 1057; Hill 2004; Webley 2005).

This small assemblage from Field A has characteristics which span the period between the end of the Early Iron Age and the beginning of the Middle Iron Age (c.5th-3rd centuries BC). The earliest diagnostic material was recovered from F.337 and F.340, and included the sherds from three decorated vessels, a pedestal base, and a flaring burnished rim. The forms and decorative traits are typical of the late Early Iron Age, and finds strong local parallels with the assemblage from Wandlebury (Hartley 1957; Hill 2004; Webley 2005), Edix Hill (Woudhuysem 1997) and material from Clay Farm Field E. Barrett (1978: 286-7) has emphasised the chronological significance of pedestal and foot-ring bases as a link with La Tène continental ceramics, dating no earlier than the 6th BC in Britain, and flourishing around the 5th/4th centuries BC. Similar bases are known from Swallowcliff Down, Wessex and Broom, Bedfordshire (Brudenell forthcoming).

The slightly flared necked bowl from F.331 is more typical of the Later Iron Age (c. 400 BC-50 AD), as are the dense sandy fabrics which dominate the assemblage. These fabrics are well paralleled by other Iron Age material in the Addenbrooke's environs, notably at the Hutchison Site (Evans *et al.* 2004).

Field D

A small assemblage comprising 40 sherds (185g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered from a total of five features. The sherds are generally small and abraded with a mean weight of just 4.6g. With the exception of a single base and rim fragment, the assemblage consists entirely of body sherds. As no diagnostic forms are present, assignment to period is based purely on the fabric, this having been cross referenced with the assemblage from the near by Addenbrooke's Hutchison Site (Evans *et al.* 2004).

This assemblage from Field D has characteristics which span the period between the later Bronze Age to the end of the Iron Age/early Roman period. However, given the size and abraded condition of the material, many of the sherds are likely to be residual.

The earliest pottery from the site was recovered from F.265, and comprised of crushed fragments of a soft shell tempered vessel with a rounded externally expanded rim. The fabric is suggestive of a later Bronze Age date (M. Knight pers. comm.) Pottery dating from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age was confined to large pit F.292. Context [706] contained fragments of a near complete but abraded flint-tempered pot base, c.11cm in diameter. No remains of the pot body were present, suggesting that the base may have been deliberately trimmed. Flint tempered sherds were also present in [710]. Calcined flint fabrics are typical of PDR pottery in the area, comparing well with fabrics from the Hutchison site (Evans *et. al* 2004). Unfortunately without distinct forms or decorated sherds, dating can be no more precise than c.1000-400BC.

Sherds of Later Iron Age date were recovered from three of the four features. The sherds are all dense sandy fabrics, typical of handmade Plain Ware assemblages of southern Cambridgeshire (400 BC-50 AD). Occurring alongside a Later Iron Age sherd in F.297 was pottery belonging to a combed, thin walled vessel. These sherds are best described as 'Romanizing', and should be dated around the decades of c.50 AD. As with the Later Iron Age sherd in this feature, the Romanizing vessel fragments were abraded.

Feature	Context	Fabric	No. sherds	Weight (g)	Period
292	706	F1	7 (+ crumbs)	103	LBA/EIA
292	710	F2	12 (+ crumbs)	18	LBA/EIA
306	743	Q1	1	3	Later IA
297	724	Q1	1	15	Later IA
297	724	Q1	5	12	Romanizing
310	751	Q2	6	19	Later IA
265	639	S1	8 (+ crumbs)	15	Later Bronze Age

Table 3: Assemblage breakdown.

Fabrics:
F1: Very common medium-coarse moderately well sorted calcined flint.
F2: Common coarse-very coarse poorly sorted calcined flint and moderate medium quartz sand.
Q1: Common-very common fine-medium sub-angular-rounded quartz sand.
Q2: Moderate fine sub-angular-rounded quartz sand.
S1: Soft fabric. Very common-abundant medium-coarse poorly sorted shell.

Field E

641 sherds of prehistoric pottery weighing 4992g were recovered from Field E. The pottery was retrieved from 10 separate features across Trenches 116-119. The material has a broad date range, spanning the period from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age to the decades immediately surrounding the Roman conquest (c.1100 BC-43 AD). The vast majority of pottery belongs to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, and includes a relatively small but important assemblage of diagnostic Early Iron Age pottery from F.435 and F.458. Table 4 gives the basic quantification of the assemblage. The minimum number of vessels (MNV) is calculated by the total number of different rims and bases.

Period	No. of sherds	Weight (g)	No. burnished sherds	No. decorated sherds	MNV	MSW (g)	% of assemblage
LBA/EIA (c.1100-350BC)	552	4470	74	60	10	8.1	89
Later Iron Age (c.350BC-50AD)	46	333	13	18	2	7.2	7
Conquest Period (c.43 AD)	43	189	31	1	1	4.4	4
Total	641	4992	118	77	11	7.8	100

Table 4: Field E assemblage breakdown

In keeping with the layout of the report, the pottery is discussed on a trench by trench basis. This is followed by a more general discussion of the material, focusing in particular on the group of Early Iron Age vessels from F.435 and F.458.

Fabrics - Pottery fabrics belonging to the LBA/EIA are broadly defined by the presence of burnt flint inclusions, and occasional inclusions of coarse shell, calcareous grits and chalk. Those typifying the Later Iron Age are dominated by dense sandy wares. In general, fabrics are similar to those discussed at other sites from the Addenbrooke's environs, and can be cross referenced to those at the Hutchison site (Evans *et al.* 2004)

Feature based assemblages

Trench 116 - Two features in Trench 116 produced prehistoric pottery. Seven sherds (82g) were recovered from Pit F.463. Three were handmade sherds in dense sandy fabrics typical of the Later Iron Age. The remaining sherds derived from hard, but poorly fired thin-walled vessels with coarse sandy fabrics, one with abraded rills. The fabrics are Romanizing, and probably date to the period immediately post-Conquest. Ditch F.486 yielded nine (9g) burnt and abraded sherds with coarse calcined flint inclusions characteristic of the LBA/EIA.

Trench 117 - The largest assemblage of pottery was recovered from pit/ditch F.435, with 548 sherds weighing 4577g. 527 of the sherds (4356g) belong to the Early Iron Age, accounting for 87% of the total prehistoric pottery assemblage. This EIA material forms a relatively small but important assemblage, and is therefore considered in detail.

The EIA material was in moderately good condition with a MSW of 8.3g. Most sherds were medium sized (<8cm), though many show signs of being broken during excavation. The majority of sherds were in sandy fabrics, with moderate medium-coarse flint inclusions, and rare fine-coarse calcareous grits. Sherds with common very-coarse marine fossil shell are also present, along with occasional sandy sherds and sherds with vegetal inclusions. At least nine separate vessels can be distinguished in the deposit. Together these vessels account for 72% of EIA pottery in this feature (250 sherds, 3147g). It is likely that most of the remaining sherds also belong to one of these vessels, though without more detailed refitting this cannot be proved.

Vessel 1: 35 sherds (587g) belonging to an angular tripartite coarseware jar with a flaring neck c.18cm in diameter. Portions of the jar were found in contexts [1085], [1086] and [1088], 11 sherds refitting. The fabric is sandy with moderate fine-medium crushed flint inclusions. Soot and burnt residues adhere to the neck.

Vessel 2: 44 sherd (417g) belonging to a burnished fineware tripartite furrowed bowl, with a sharp narrow shoulder and short flaring rim. Two furrows/groves are present around the base of the neck, with one immediately above the carination. These create a cordoned effect. Two

furrows are also present around the base, which displays a slight foot-ring. The vessel is a classic example of a 'Darmsden-Linton' style bowl (Cunliffe 1978: 42), c.17cm in diameter, 6.5cm high, with a 6cm base. The vessel is black, and produced in a dense sandy fabric with spare medium flint inclusions. Sherds from the vessel were recovered from context [1085] and [1086], 13 refitting. Around 60% of the vessel is present; the burnishing having worn away from large parts of the body.

Vessel 3: 9 sherds (83g) belonging to a second burnished fineware tripartite furrowed bowl, with a tall flaring neck rising from a sharply angled shoulder. Three furrows adorn the vessel; one at the base of the neck angle; one between neck and shoulder, and one immediately above the carination creating a cordon effect around the girth. The vessel is in dense sand and moderate medium-coarse flint tempered fabric. Although only a small portion of the vessel is present, it is clearly another classic 'Darmsden-Linton' style bowl. Sherds were recovered from contexts [1085] and [1086], seven refitting. The diameter of the vessel cannot be calculated.

Vessel 4: 105 sherds (1352) belonging to a large angular stepped shouldered jar with a concave neck and thick internally-flanged rim. The outer rim edge is decorated with irregularly spaced finger-tip impressions, with more regularly spaced impressions adorning the shoulder. A single finger tip impression is also present on one body sherd. The fabrics contain very-coarse marine fossil shell up to 12mm in size. Only a small section of the rim survives, the vessel having a diameter of c.34cm. Sherds were recovered from context [1085] and [1086], though only eight refit.

Vessel 5: 10 sherds (131g) belonging to a neckless round-shouldered bipartite jar with a thick square sectioned rim. Two small cordons are present on the vessel; one around the girth, the second between rim and shoulder. These appear to have been created by making a wide shallow groove or furrow just above the shoulder. The jar was produced in dense sand and common medium-coarse flint tempered fabric. Sherds were recovered from context [1086] and [1088], seven refitting.

Vessel 6: 42 sherds (419g) belonging to a burnished fineware round-shouldered deep bowl/jar. The vessel has been intensively burnt, resulting in the swelling and warping of vessels walls, and giving a 'pumice-like' texture. Refitting shows that the vessel was burnt prior to breakage, with a gradation of damage caused by the intense heat over the surface. Around the base of the vessel the pot remains in an un-burnt state showing that it was once black and burnished with a glossy finish. Towards the shoulder all the burnishing is lost; the vessel all swollen and discoloured. The vessel was produced in a dense fine sandy fabric with sparse finely crushed calcined flint inclusions. Fragments were recovered from context [1086], 16 refitting.

Vessel 7: A single burnished neck sherd with a wide shallow furrow towards the base (8g). This vessel is probably part of a third 'Darmsden-Linton' style bowl. The fabric contains moderate sand, sparse medium crushed flint and finely crushed chalk inclusions. The fragment was recovered from context [1086].

Vessel 8: Two base sherds (104g) of a coarse ware vessel. Around 35% of the base, this simple flat base is intact, although the sherds do not refit. The fabric contains moderate sand, sparse-moderate medium-coarse flint and rare calcareous inclusions. Both sherds were recovered from [1086].

Vessel 9: Two small flat-topped rim sherds (6g) in a moderate medium-coarse flint tempered fabric. Both sherds were recovered from [1086].

The remaining 25 sherds (221g) were in sand and organic tempered fabrics, and were recovered from the upper fill of the pit/ditch in context [1088]. 18 of the sherds derived from a single deeply scored vessel typically of the East Midlands Scored Ware, and dating to the Later Iron Age. These may be intrusive, and could derive from F.462, cut into the top of the feature.

Three other features produced prehistoric pottery from Trench 117. Ditch F.472 yielded six sherds (14g). Three of the sherds were characteristic of the LBA/EIA in terms of form and fabric. Two sherds

were in leached-out shell tempered fabrics; one with a flat rim pinched-out externally with a perforated hole in the neck. The remaining sherds were in dense sandy fabrics more typical of the Later Iron Age. Given the size of the sherds, all could be residual. Ditch F.426 contained three flint tempered sherds (1g), whilst ditch F.430 contained one flint tempered sherd (3g). All are undiagnostic, though most likely LBA/EIA in date.

Trench 118 - A single feature in Trench 118 yielded prehistoric pottery. Three sherds (22g) were recovered from ditch F.485, all in fabrics typical of the LBA/EIA.

Trench 119 - Three features in Trench 119 yielded prehistoric pottery. The earliest diagnostic material derived from pit F.458, from which 23 sherds (126g) were recovered. 17 (115g) belonged to an EIA coarseware slack-shouldered jar with short upright neck (Vessel 10). The vessel was adorned with diagonal slashes along the rim exterior and shoulder, and was produced in a dense sandy fabric. Burnt residues adhered to the inside of the vessel. None of the sherds refitted. The remaining sherds from the pit are also characteristic of the period, though not strictly diagnostic.

Conquest period/Early Roman pottery was recovered from pit F.414 (39 sherds, 142g). 31 (79g) belonged to a small necked burnished bowl with pedestal base; c.12cm in diameter with a 6cm base. The bowl is in a thin walled Romanizing sandy fabric and is wheel finished, though the form recalls LIA ceramics. Two undiagnostic sandy sherds (6g) were also recovered from pit F.456.

This small assemblage from Field E has characteristics which span the period between the Late Bronze Age to the beginning of the Roman period (c.1100 BC-c.43 AD). The small amount of Later Iron Age and Conquest period pottery suggests only a limited presence in Field E during this period. 88% of the assemblage derives form F.435, and F.458 (550 sherds, 4482g) which, based on the forms and decorative traits, can confidently be assigned to the Early Iron Age (c.800-400/350 BC).

In the absence of fineware decorated bowls or angular vessels, distinguishing between/close dating of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age ceramics can be problematic. In the past 25 years it has become apparent that pottery of the Early Iron Age from Eastern England forms a continuous sequence with that of the Late Bronze Age, with only subtle changes to the angularity of vessels and the incidence of decoration. On a regional level, the details of ceramic development in the first half of the first millennium are not fully understood, in particular the transition around c.800 BC from LBA 'plainware' Post-Deveral Rimbury (PDR) pottery to 'decorated'/EIA PDR pottery (Knight 2002; Brudenell forthcoming). Consequently, most assemblages are usually categorised as broadly LBA/EIA, and, to date, few 'secure', large, and well dated EIA assemblages have been published from the region. In fact, across East Anglia and Cambridgeshire our understanding of EIA pottery continues to rest on a relatively small number of old published types sites (e.g. West Harling, Wandlebury, Fengate, Linton), and is identified primarily by the presence of one particular class of vessel; namely the fineware decorated bowl. In this context, the recovery of a modest sized assemblage of decorated EIA pottery is of importance, as such assemblages remain relatively rare.

Stylistically, the pottery from F.435 and F.458 belongs to the EIA 'Darmsden-Linton' group defined by Cunliffe (1968, 1974). The three decorated fineware vessels (Vessels 2, 3 and 7) from F.435 are classic examples of 'Darmsden-Linton' bowls, which have a widespread distribution across much of East Anglia, stretching from the Thames to the Wash. Recently, 'Darmsden' style pottery has been recovered from features at Rook Hall (Adkins *et al.* 1985), Loft's Farm (Brown 1988), Beacon Green (Brown 1992), and Stansted (Brown 2004) in Essex, and Little Bealings and Barham

in Suffolk (Martin 1993). These vessel forms, characterised by their sharp narrow shoulders and short upright or slightly flared rims, possibly appeared in the ceramic repertoire as early as the 9th century BC, with a currency spanning the entire EIA (Martin 1999: 80). Closer dating of the Field E Darmsden-Linton material may be indicated by the foot-ring base on Vessel 2. Foot-ring bases are usually taken as indicating a later date in the EIA pottery sequence. Barrett (1978: 286-7) has emphasised the chronological significance of pedestal and foot-ring bases as a link with La Tène continental ceramics, dating no earlier than the 6th BC in Britain, and flourishing around the 5th/4th centuries BC. As the pottery is quite distinct from the 5th/4th century BC forms at Wandlebury (Harley 1957; Hill 2004; Webley 2005), we might suggest that the Field E assemblage dates to around the 6th century BC; broadly contemporary to the Darmsden-Linton material at Stansted (Brown 2004), and the small 'Fengate-Cromer' assemblage at Lingwood (Hill 1998).

The Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

Field D

Seven sherds weighing 38g in total were recovered from four different features on the site. Four of the sherds were recovered from features within Trench 57, with the remaining three coming from one feature in Trench 67.

Feature 294, Trench 67, contained three sherds of pottery, which could be refitted to form part of a rim from a small hooked-rim bowl, in a buff coloured sandy fabric. This vessel dates 2nd-4th century AD.

Two sherds were recovered from Feature 314, Trench 57, consisting of two oxidised sandy coarseware sherds, one of which also had occasional small flint inclusions. These sherds could only be dated Romano-British, since they were both non-diagnostic. Feature 312 was parallel to Feature 314 and contained one oxidised sandy ware body sherd, dating Romano-British.

The final feature to contain Roman pottery was Feature 320, which contained a single oxidised sandy sherd, which was non-diagnostic and therefore could only be dated Romano-British.

Field E

A total of 356 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 3641g, were recovered from Field E. All of the pottery was examined and details of fabric, form, EVE (estimated vessel equivalent) and date, where possible, were recorded along with any details of decoration and/or use-wear evidence.

The pottery will initially be discussed by trench and feature, then the assemblage will be discussed as a whole, including a discussion of how this assemblage fits in to the larger picture of Roman activity at Clay Farm.

Trench 116 - Feature 463 was the only feature in this trench to contain Roman pottery, consisting of eight sherds weighing 75g. All of the sherds were sandy coarseware body sherds, some of which had combed line decoration, dating mid-late 1st century AD.

Trench 117 - Nine features within Trench 117 contained Roman pottery. Feature 426 contained 10 sherds weighing 47g from two contexts. This included one Central Gaulish Samian sherd [1092] from a Dragendorff 18/31 dating AD 100-120. There were also sandy greyware sherds, all of which were non diagnostic. The pottery from context [1054] dates mid-late 1st century AD, while the material from [1092] has a slightly later mid 1st-2nd century AD date.

Feature 427 contained one of the largest quantities of Roman pottery from a single feature on the site with a total of 68 sherds weighing 755g from two separate contexts. Three different jars were noted, including one micaceous sandy greyware globular jar, which was burnished all over. There were also two other jars in a very similar fabric, though the exact forms could not be identified since so little of the vessels remain. The pottery from context [1105] was mid-late 1st century AD in date, while the sherd from [1057] was 2nd-3rd century AD in date.

Thirty-four sherds weighing 207g were recovered from Feature 432, only three of which were diagnostic. These consisted of two sherds from a sandy greyware everted rim jar and one sandy greyware beaded rim jar/beaker. The remaining sherds were all non-diagnostic and included 18 micaceous sandy greyware sherds. A date of mid 1st-3rd century AD is given to this feature due to the generic nature of the sherds.

Trench 118 - Feature 461 contained the joint largest quantity of Roman pottery from a single feature, with 68 sherds weighing 536g, from three contexts. Four sherds were from a fine micaceous sandy greyware (20g), including one funnel necked beaker rim sherd with a small beaded rim, which is probably pre- Flavian in date (AD 43-68). There were also nine sherds from a fine sandy greyware, which may be a local imitation of Terra Nigra. The only diagnostic sherd in this fabric was part of a pedestal base, therefore these sherds are probably Flavian in date (AD 69- 96).

Trench 119 - Nine features within Trench 119 contained Roman pottery. Feature 414 contained 42 sherds weighing 142g. This included two different micaceous sandy greyware pedestal bases, dating mid-late 1st century AD.

Thirty sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from Feature 428 (453g). This included a sandy greyware collard platter dating mid 1st-2nd AD. There were also two sandy greyware sherds from a large everted rim jar, dating mid 1st-3rd century AD.

Feature 452 contained a total of 26 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 259g, from which three different vessel types were identified. These consisted of one everted rim jar and two beaded rim jars/bowls. There was also one coarseware body sherd with a partial perforation. The pottery from this feature dates mid-late 1st century AD.

A total of 27 sherds, weighing 293g were recovered from Feature 460. This included one fine sandy grey slipped, beaded bowl and one large sandy greyware jar, both of which are mid 1st-2nd century AD.

The Roman pottery in this assemblage was generally small and abraded, with a mean weight of 10.2g and representing only 2.96 EVEs. The majority of sherds were coarsewares, which are likely to have been produced locally. Micaceous sandy greywares and sandy greywares in particular stand out in the assemblage, representing a total of 80% of all the pottery by count and 73% by weight.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Black slipped ware	3	41
Central Gaulish Samian	1	3
Coarse oxidised sandy ware	24	334
Fine grey slipped ware	5	24
Fine micaceous sandy ware	4	20
Horningsea greyware	3	340
Micaceous sandy greyware	177	1250
Reduced sandy ware	19	132
Sandy greyware	104	1421
Shell tempered ware	7	33
Very fine sandy greyware	9	43
TOTAL	**356**	**3641**

Table 5: showing all pottery by fabric type

The only imported ware consisted of a Central Gaulish Samian sherd from a Dragendorff 18/31. There were, however, other finewares within the assemblage, although these all appear to be local finewares. These consisted of nine very fine sandy greyware sherds, five fine grey slipped sherds and four fine micaceous sandy greywares, all of which appear to be early Roman in date (mid-late 1st century AD). Three sherds from a Horningsea greyware decorated jar were recovered from a single context.

260 of the sherds from Field E were non-diagnostic, with a further 19 sherds being decorated body sherds, although the decoration was restricted to rilled and combed lines. Of the forms which could be identified, jars were the most commonly occurring form with 32 sherds coming from a range of different sized vessels, included beaded rims, everted rims and globular jars. Other vessel forms represented consisted of two beaded bowls, one funnel necked beaker and one collard platter. There were also three sherds which are possibly from an amphora from the surface of Feature 480. However, as they were very small and abraded a positive identification proved difficult.

There were very few sherds (four in total) displaying any use-wear evidence, but this is probably due to the fragmentary nature of the assemblage. In the small number of examples where use-wear evidence was evident, it consisted solely of sooting on the exterior of vessels, although on two sherds it was heavy.

The high level of abrasion shown by all of the Roman sherds suggests that most had probably been redeposited, though it is not always clear as to whether sherds are residual within later features or have just been redeposited into Roman features. Feature 461 is the only feature which is known to be later and the residuality is reflected in the mean weight, which is only 7.9g. A number of the other features containing larger quantities of Roman pottery had similarly low mean weights (6g for F.432 and 3.4g for F.414), and although two had a slightly higher mean weight (10g from F.452 and 11.1g from F.427), these are still relatively low mean weights and strongly imply residuality.

Overall, although a relatively large number of sherds were recovered from the trenching, they were all small and abraded which suggests redeposition and residuality. This therefore implies that this area was not a primary focus of Roman activity.

In terms of date and function, the pottery fits in with other evidence collected from the previous excavations around Clay Farm (Cessford & Mackay 2004; Evans & Mackay 2005) of a domestic assemblage, which is dominated by local coarseware fabrics and forms, with an early to mid Roman date (mid 1st-3rd AD).

The Faunal Remains (Chris Swaysland)

The material was identified using the reference collection of the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The Field D assemblage was quantified using a modified version of Davis (1992) in brief, all teeth and a predetermined restricted suite of 'countable' elements are recorded. For most longbones 'countable' means 50% of the distal articulation must be present. Any non-countable elements from less common species or elements displaying butchery marks or pathological changes are also recorded but not used in counts. The Glebe Farm and Field E assemblages were quantified using a modified version of the methodology of Serjeantson (1996), a 'zonal' approach. No attempt has been made to distinguish between the remains of sheep and goat; these bones are recorded as sheep/goat. Information on gnawing, butchery and pathology was recorded where present. Butchery was recorded by type (i.e. chop, knife cut, sawn), location and orientation (using standard anatomical terms and orientation). Pathological conditions were categorised where possible and detailed descriptions made as to form and location. The age at death of the major domestic animals was analysed using Legge (1992) (in Field D) and Halstead (1985) (in Field E) for cattle, and Payne (1973) for sheep/goat and Hambleton (1999) for pigs.

Field A

A small assemblage numbering 167 fragments and weighing 307 grams was recovered from a series of evaluation trenches. The condition of the assemblage was quite poor; almost all specimens have suffered from root etching, this has effaced surface detail. The assemblage was recovered from six features dated to the middle/late Iron Age (Table 6).

Species	F.332	F.333	F.334	F.336	F.337	F.338	Total
Cattle *(Bos taurus)*	2	-	-	-	4	1	7
Horse *(Equus sp.)*	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pig *(Sus scrofa)*	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Sheep/goat *(Ovis/Capra)*	-	-	-	-	11	-	11
Small mammal	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Medium mammal	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Large mammal	-	3	-	-	1	-	4
Unidentified	2	7	1	-	113	-	123
Human *(Homo sapiens)*	-	-	-	-	14	-	14

Table 6: Species frequencies by feature

With one exception, the amount of animal bone recovered from each feature is very small. The capacity of this material to yield meaningful information is extremely limited. One pit, F.337, yielded a much larger quantity of bone. However, most of this bone was highly fragmented and unidentifiable; three fragments of bone showed evidence of burning. This deposit has the character of highly processed domestic waste. Of the identifiable bone, sheep/goat was the most frequent species followed by cattle. The lower levels of F.337 contained a human inhumation (see below).

Field D

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age - A large number of bones were recovered from F.292, a very large Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit/well. Bones were recovered from three contexts [706], [709] and [710]. Bones from [706] appear to have been recovered from waterlogged conditions; they are stained brown and retain excellent preservation of surface detail. Bones from the other two contexts are in less good condition.

Species	NISP
Sheep	41
Cattle	15
Pig	2
Horse	3
Human	1

Table 7: Species proportion F.292

Sheep dominate the assemblage. There is a minimum of two different sheep present in the feature. One is aged 6-10 months; almost the entire skeleton of this individual is present. The second sheep is older, aged 3-4 years this one is present in lesser amounts; the feature was not fully excavated so it is probable that more bones are to be recovered. Fine cut marks are present on 3 sheep bones, all are positioned such that they are indicative of dismemberment, a common form of Iron Age butchery.

Cattle are represented by 15 bones from a minimum of 2 individuals. There is an emphasis on good meat-bearing bones though skull and teeth are also represented. One unworn cattle lower third molar was recovered indicating an age at death of 15-26 months. Three cattle bones show evidence of carnivore gnawing.

Horse is represented by 3 bones, including one complete humerus. Two pig bones were recovered; both are of a size consistent with a domestic animal.

A human bone was recovered from the pit; this was a fragment of adult sized frontal skull bone. There was no evidence of any cuts or chops on the bone.

Interpretation of this deposit is difficult (cf Maltby 1985; Cunliffe 1992; Wilson 1992; Hill 1995, 1996), not least because the feature could not be dug in its entirety. The presence of a human skull could be taken as an indication of ritual activity. However, Iron Age pits often contain isolated fragments of human remains incorporated amongst domestic waste (Cunliffe 1992). A 'symbolic' rather than 'ritual' explanation (cf Hill 1995: 28) for this deposit is suggested by the condition of the bone. Many bones are complete and have not been processed for marrow; this could indicate that the deposit represents evidence of large scale feasting (Maltby 1985). On the available evidence, this would seem the most probable explanation; the rarity of carnivore gnaw damage and the presence of the bone in a pit is a result of having to dispose of a larger than usual quantity of obnoxious waste (Hill 1995).

Romano-British - Ten fragments were recovered from F.261 and F.262; the material is in a poor condition. Cattle are represented by eight elements, sheep by two. Cattle remains are dominated by teeth though one meat bearing bone is present. Sheep are represented by two teeth.

Field E

A quantity of animal bones numbering 2041 fragments and weighing 14546 grams was recovered from a series of evaluation trenches. The condition of the assemblage was in general reasonable, though on many specimens surface detail did not survive.

The site has two periods of occupation: early Iron Age and Romano-British. Many features lacked pottery dating evidence; features without pottery have been assigned to period by the excavator. Bones

deriving from these undated features are classified as either probable early Iron Age or probable Romano-British.

Early Iron Age - A total of 56 fragments were identified to species from features dated to the Early Iron Age and a further 26 fragments were identified from probable Early Iron Age features (Table 8). There is a good correlation between major species represented in the 'definite' and the 'probable' assemblages; in both, cattle are the major species followed by sheep/goat. Pig, horse and dog are represented in small numbers. Wild species are represented by red deer.

Just two features were securely dated to the early Iron Age: F.435 and F.485. Both contained red deer remains; five are from antler, one is a metatarsal and one is a 1st phalanx. Of the five pieces of antler, one showed a chop mark and another showed evidence of burning.

Species	Early Iron Age.	Probable Early Iron Age.	Early Iron Age & probable EIA.
Cattle	36	21	57
Sheep/goat	8	5	13
Pig	2	0	2
Horse	2	0	2
Dog	1	0	1
Red deer	7	0	7

Table 8: Number of identified specimens: Early Iron Age.

Feature F.504 was identified by the excavator as a pit or linear feature; it contained no pottery dating evidence but is considered to date from the early Iron Age. The feature contained what is believed to be cattle leg deposited articulated and surviving in good condition. The leg was not recognised as being articulated by the excavator. However, it was complete from the femur to the 1st phalanges, though the naviculo-cuboid was absent. The leg is the rear left and came from a young adult animal aged around 3 years at death. The leg shows fine cut marks consistent with removal of the flesh. The feature also contained intensively butchered bone waste. Articulated legs showing evidence of non-intensive butchery from early Iron Age pits are often interpreted as evidence for feasting (eg Hill 1995). The site was evaluated as a series of 2m wide machine cut trenches it is possible that though identified on site as being a linear feature, F.504 could be a large pit.

There was insufficient data to reconstruct husbandry practises. However, the cattle assemblage does include animals of all ages including foetal remains. The presence of the latter indicates that a breeding herd was present on or near the site.

Romano-British - A total of 38 fragments were recovered from features positively identified as Romano-British and a further 32 fragments were identified from probable Romano-British features (Table 9). For both categories, cattle are the predominant animal followed by sheep/goat. Sheep/goat are relatively more significant in those features defined as probable Romano-British than those positively identified as Romano-British. There was insufficient data to attempt to reconstruct husbandry patterns.

One instance of pathology was identified amongst the cattle population; a mandible showed periodontal disease in the region of the 2nd molar. This condition is reasonably common in archaeological material; oral pathologies can have multiple aetiologies. However, it may be an indication that the animal was raised in a poor nutritional environment (Davies 2005).

Species	R-B	Probable R-B	R-B & Prob. R-B
Cattle	24	17	41
Sheep/goat	7	10	18
Pig	4	1	7
Horse	0	3	3
Dog	3	0	3
Fox	0	1	1

Table 9: Number of identified specimens: Romano-British

As both the early Iron Age assemblage and the Romano-British assemblage are small the results must be considered tentatively. The Early Iron Age material shows a high level of cattle with much fewer sheep. This is in contrast to the assemblage recovered from Fields A-C and dated to the Middle/Late Iron Age; this sample showed higher levels of sheep and lower levels of cattle. Both the Early Iron Age assemblage and the Middle/Late Iron Age assemblages are small but it will be very interesting if the sites are excavated in full and the pattern can be repeated in a much larger sample. The Romano-British assemblage shows a high proportion of cattle remains, thus conforming to widely observed patterns in this period (e.g. King 1991).

Human Remains

Field A

Pit F.337 contained a human inhumation. The remains were somewhat disturbed but appeared to be that of an adult in a crouched position; only the legs were visible, and these were orientated in a southerly direction. The upper layers of the pit contained a quantity of animal bones consistent with domestic waste; when these bones were examined they were found to contain a quantity of bones from a human adult left foot; it is presumed these bones are from the inhumation. The burial was recorded and left *in situ*.

Field D

A single fragment of adult-sized frontal skull bone was recovered from large pit F.292/3 in Trench 57. No cutting or chopping marks were found on the bone, and it is uncertain whether deposition within the pit was deliberate or accidental.

Field E

Ditch F.471/2 contained an adult human skull. Although a full skeleton may have been present beyond the trench edge, no evidence for this could be seen with the skull only partially exposed in section. The skull was left *in situ*.

Environmental Samples (Anne de Vareilles)

Seventeen bulk soil samples were taken from Fields C-E and processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. The flots were collected in a 300μm mesh, and the remaining heavy residues washed over a 1mm mesh. Once dried, the greater than 4mm fractions of the heavy residue were sorted by eye for any ecofacts and artefacts. The flots were dried indoors and sorted for charred plant remains and molluscs under a low power microscope.

Identifications were made using the reference collection of the Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for flora and Beedham (1972) for mollusca. The contents of each sample as identified are listed in full in Tables 10 – 14.

Sample number		<32>
Context		804
Feature		333
Feature type		Ditch
Phase/Date		I. Age
Sample volume – litres		9
Flot fraction examined		1/1
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	1
Parenchymatous fragments	Plant tissue fragments	-
Charcoal fragments		
2-4 mm		++
<2 mm		++
Vitrified		+
Mollusca	**Habitat**	
Planorbis cf. *albus*	All freshwaters, often in vegetation	-
Ceciloides acicula	Blind burrowing snail	++
Indet mollusca (juvenile)		-

Sample number		<31>
Context		843
Feature		340
Feature type		Well
Phase/Date		I. Age
Sample volume – litres		0.5
Flot fraction examined		1/1
Ranunculus Subgen. *BATRACHIUM*	Crowfoot	-
Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy	+
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	-
Chenopodium sp.	Goosefoots	+
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	+
Polygonum aviculare	Knotgrass	+
Medium flat Carex sp.	Sedge	-
Large trilete Carex sp.	Sedge	-
Indet wild plant seed		-
Entomological remains	Insect remains	++
Charcoal fragments		
2-4 mm		+
<2 mm		++

Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' <10 items, '++' 10-50 items, '+++' >50 items.

Table 10: Mollusca and Charred Plant Remains Waterlogged Plant Remains

Field A

Both the non-waterlogged and waterlogged samples contained very few environmental remains. Rootlets were very common in the non-waterlogged sample, which could indicate disturbance of contexts and consequent loss of data. Vitrified charcoal indicates high firing temperatures and/or long burning fires, both of which are conditions unfavourable to the preservation of environmental macro-remains. Molluscs are also present but do not occur in significant quantities to be discussed; both types and their habitats are listed in Table 10.

The few seeds found in the waterlogged sample are in good condition. No molluscs were noted.

Iron Age Ditch, F.333 [804] - Charcoal fragments are sparse, including vitrified fragments. One hawthorn stone (*Crataegus monogyna*) was found.

Iron Age Well, F.340 [843] - Five out of the eight species present indicate rough, open ground such as spoil heaps, 'road' sides or cultivated soil. The single crowfoot seed (*Ranunculus* Subgen. *BATRACHIUM*) points to damp, poorly drained soil. Two sedge seeds (*Carex* sp.) were also found. Insect remains are quite prolific. Charcoal fragments are sparse.

The environmental remains from the Iron Age ditch are insignificant. An accurate description of the environment in and around the Iron Age well cannot be ascertained as too few seeds are present; the well has either never been properly waterlogged or has dried out in the past. Entomological remains are significant however, and could be analysed for environmental data.

Field D

Of the eight samples, four had charred grains and/or seeds. Sample 22 had a single wild plant seed too poorly preserved to be identified to any level. The small tail grain from sample 21 has been slightly distorted and lost most of its epidermis, so that identification beyond wheat/barley is precarious. Sample 26 contained three cereal grains, two of which are badly distorted and puffed (cf. Hubbard & Al Azm 1990). Sample 26 also had vitrified charcoal, indicating high firing temperatures that are probably one of the factors contributing towards the low quantity and poor preservation of the cereal grains (Boardman & Jones 1990). The only sample with well preserved charred plant remains was Sample 20. It contained far more charcoal than any other sample, one possible spelt grain and seven types of wild plant seeds.

A rich and well preserved molluscan assemblage was, however, present in all the samples, including the shells of juveniles and those of tiny and fragile leaf litter dwelling species. None of the shells were burnt, which suggests that they represent a different depositional event to that of the charcoal. It is worth noting that molluscs, especially *C. acicula* the blind burrowing snail, may be intrusive and should ideally be analysed in conjunction with the relevant wild plant seeds for a reliable description of the immediate environment.

The low density of wheat and/or barley grains demonstrate that during all periods few, if any, crop processing and cooking activities appear to have taken place around the areas sampled.

The wild plant seeds from Sample 20 of the possible Roman field system ditch, are not necessarily crop weeds. Apart from oak-leaved goosefoot, which thrives on rich waste-land soils, the other varieties all enjoy moist or marshy conditions. This information agrees with the molluscan environmental data, which purports an at least seasonally waterlogged habitat for all eight features sampled. The few terrestrial and other marsh loving taxa reflect a surrounding of damp open woodland or scrub. Interestingly, the local environment in Field D does not seem to have altered significantly from prehistoric times up to the Medieval period.

The large quantity of charcoal, and the presence of burnt and un-burnt bone in the greater than 4mm fraction of the heavy residue of Sample 20, suggests that the waste from at least one fire, and possibly meal, was discarded into this probably Roman ditch.

Sample 21 (LBA/EIA large pit) also had a relatively large amount of charcoal, as well as a few burnt stones and bone. Whilst this sample probably represents the remains of a hearth, no conclusive remarks can be made as to the latter's function or purpose.

Apart from Samples 20 and 21, levels of charcoal, ecofacts and artefacts were very low, indicating low levels of domestic activities in the area. Samples 20, 21 and 26 do not, unfortunately, contain enough charred caryopsis for any reliable conclusions to be drawn concerning crop processing and cooking activities.

The molluscan assemblage is uncharred and well preserved. It reflects temporarily waterlogged features surrounded by open woodland and vegetated marsh. The environmental conditions in Field D appear to have changed very little from prehistoric times to the Medieval period. Very similar environmental conditions were described for Fields U and K (Simmons in Evans & Mackay 2005).

To confirm the current environmental reconstruction, further sampling should be taken from all areas of Field D. Features of undisturbed, securely dated and/or waterlogged contexts should be preferentially targeted. For an accurate environmental reconstruction pollen analysis should also be included. Systematic 15 litres or larger bulk soil sampling is required for a better understanding of activity areas within Field D.

Trench		79	57	66	60	60	57	57	76
Sample number		<27>	<21>	<24>	<20>	<22>	<25>	<26>	<23>
Context		[789]	[713]	[642]	[621]	[625]	[769]	[773]	[672]
Feature		F.328	F.293	F.266	F.261	F.258	F. 318	F.320	F.279
Feature type		Pit	Large pit	Ditch	Field system ditch	Ditch	Field system ditch	Field system ditch	Ditch
Phase/date		**Pre-historic ?**	**LBA/ EIA**	**IA/ Rom?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom or Med ?**
Sample volume – litres		7	15	9	15	12	15	15	6
Flot fraction examined		1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Triticum cf. *spelta* grain	Possible spelt wheat grain				1			1	
Triticum / Hordeum sp. Grain	Wheat / barley grain							2	
Triticum / Hordeum sp. Tail grain	Wheat / barley tail grain		1						
Medium Poaceae	Medium grass family							1	
Carex remota	Remote sedge				1				
Carex sp. type 1	Perennial rhizomatous herb				1				
Carex sp. type 2	Perennial rhizomatous herb				1				
Carex sp. type 3	Perennial rhizomatous herb				1				
Cladium cf. *mariscus*	Possible great sedge seed				1				
Chenopodium glaucum	Oak-leaved goosefoot				4				
Rumex palustris	Marsh dock				1				
Galuim boreale	Bedstraw				1				
Indet wild plant seed					1	1		2	
Indet wild plant seed fragment					1				
Charcoal fragments									
>4mm			-		+++				
2 – 4mm		-	-	-	+++	-		-	
<2mm		-	+++	-	+++	+	++	+	+
Vitrified		-					-	-	
Rootlets		+++	++	+++	++	+++	+++	+++	+++

Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' < 10 items, '++' 10 - 50 items, '+++' > 50 items

Table 11: Charred plant remains

Trench		79	57	66	60	60	57	57	76
Sample number		<27>	<21>	<24>	<20>	<22>	<25>	<26>	<23>
Context		[789]	[713]	[642]	[621]	[625]	[769]	[773]	[672]
Feature		F.328	F.293	F.266	F.261	F.258	F. 318	F.320	F.279
Feature type		Pit	Large pit	Ditch	Field system ditch	Ditch	Field system ditch	Field system ditch	Ditch
Phase/date		**Pre-historic ?**	**LBA/ EIA**	**IA/ Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom ?**	**Rom or Med ?**
Sample volume – litres		7	15	9	15	12	15	15	6
Flot fraction examined		1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
	Habitat								
Ceciloides acicula	blind burrowing snail	-		+	++	++	++	++	-
Vertigo antivertigo	wild and cultivated wet areas, e.g. marshes, meadows.	++	+	+				+	-
Pupilla muscorum	in turf, under stones, dry places				-		+	+	+
Planorbis planorbis	ditches and ponds	-							
Planorbis leucostoma	ditches and ponds. Resists drying	-	+++	++	-		++		-
Carychium tridentatum / minimum	damp locations, leaf mould, moss	++	+++	-		-			
Succinea putris/pfeifferi	damp marshy locations	++							
Cochlicopa lubrica / lubricella	damp locations, leaf mould, moss etc	-	+		+				-
Lymnaea palustris / peregra	marshes, ponds, ditches	++	++			+		-	+
Lymnaea truncatula	marshy shallow waters	-	+					-	
Lymnaea stagnalis	prefers hard water, slow moving or stagnant		-						
Discus rotundatus	leaves, moss & rotten wood		+						
Euconulus fulvus	In woods, grassy areas, moss and also marshes	-					-		
Vallonia excentrica / pulchella	dry locations / damp grass, leaf litter		++	+	-			+	++
Oxychilus alliarius	almost ubiquitous throughout British Isles	-		-	-		-		
Oxychilus / Aegopinella	moist & shady places	++	++		+	-		-	-
Clausilia sp.	woods, hedges, tree trunks and walls		-						
Indet mollusc fragments		+++	+++	++	+	+	++	++	+

Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' < 10 items, '++' 10 - 50 items, '+++' > 50 items

Table 12: Mollusca

Trench	79	57	66	60	60	57	57	76
Sample number	<27>	<21>	<24>	<20>	<22>	<25>	<26>	<23>
Context	[789]	[713]	[642]	[621]	[625]	[769]	[773]	[672]
Feature	F.328	F.293	F.266	F.261	F.258	F. 318	F.320	F.279
Feature type	Pit	Large pit	Ditch	Field system ditch	Ditch	Field system ditch	Field system ditch	Ditch
Phase/date	Pre-historic ?	LBA/ EIA	IA/ Rom ?	Rom ?	Rom ?	Rom ?	Rom ?	Rom or Med. ?
Sample volume – litres	7	15	9	15	12	15	15	6
Burnt bone fragments		-		+				
Bone fragments		+		++				
Burnt flint				-				
Worked flint		-					-	
Burnt stone	-	+						

Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' < 10 items, '++' 10 - 50 items, '+++' > 50 items
Note: all molluscs and charcoal found within the >4mm fraction of the heavy residues are included in Tables 11 and 12.

Table 13: Ecofacts and artefacts retrieved from >4mm fraction of the heavy residues

Field E

The two samples from the Iron Age are very poor in charred plant remains, though F.485 does contain a good mollusc assemblage. The sample from F.409 (possible Romano-British ditch) is the only one that is well preserved. In fact, it is so rich in charred macro remains that only 3% of the total flot was required. The remaining samples are practically devoid of any environmental remains.

EIA Ditch, F.435 [1086] - There are few charcoal fragments, and only one charred wild plant seeds was recovered.

EIA Ditch, F.485 [1258] - The only charred plant remains noted are a few pieces of charcoal and one poorly preserved wheat or barley grain. The mollusc assemblage, however, is good and primarily consists of damp-loving species. *Planorbis leucostama* is the most abundant species; it prefers wet habitats, though it does withstand drying. Also present is *Vallonia costata,* which only lives in dry areas. Species of *Trichia* were noted but can not be used as environmental indicators since their habitats vary considerably.

Possible Romano-British Ditch, F.409 [1012] - From the small fraction of the total flot analysed there were 24 spelt grains, one of which had germinated, and 392 spelt glume bases. 16 indeterminate wheat grain and 1041 glume bases, as well as nine emmer or spelt wheat glume bases were also extracted. No definite barley grains were noted, though one barley ear stem fragment was found, and eight grains were identified as wheat or barley. Undifferentiated vegetative plant tissue (possibly from cereal grains), hulled wheat ear stem fragments and spelt wheat glume fragments were common. 32 fragments of large grass seeds and seven whole medium grass seeds were counted. The spelt grains vary considerably in size, so that some of the large grass seed fragments may in fact represent spelt grains. One rye-grass (*Lolium* sp.) and 19 possible rye-grass (cf. *Lolium* sp.) stem fragments were noted. Two small wild plant seeds were found.

1st-2nd Century Romano-British Ditch, F.402 [1210] - All this sample revealed was a small piece of vitrified charcoal.

1st-2nd Century Romano-British Ditch, F.452 [1146] - This sample contained a little charcoal, some undifferentiated vegetative plant tissue (possibly from cereal grains), and one wheat or barley grain.

1st-2nd Century Romano-British Ditch, F. 413 [1025] - Like the sample from F.402, this sample has no charred plant remains or significant molluscs.

F.486 [1265] - Charcoal quantities are quite high but no other charred plant remains were seen. Seven mollusc species are present, though none occur in meaningful quantities.

The mollusc assemblage from the Early Iron Age ditch F.485 shows a range of conditions: from wet, through damp and shady, to dry environments. It appears that the ditch was at least seasonally wet. It also seems that the feature was not kept clear of organic debris (at least during the accumulation of the snail assemblage), such as rotting leaves and moss, which would have provided shade for snails and insects, and helped to maintain the damp conditions. The dry-loving species *V. costata* probably testifies to dryer habitats surrounding the ditch. It is interesting to note that the other Iron Age ditch, F.435, contained no significant snail assemblage, which could indicate that it was intentionally kept clear of organic debris and/or regularly disturbed in some way. For a more accurate understanding of the EIA landscape, further samples for molluscs and insects should be taken, as well as pollen cores.

The charred plant remain assemblage from the probably Romano-British ditch F.409, dominated by spelt wheat chaff, is typical for a Roman assemblage from around Cambridge (R. Ballantyne pers. comm.). The remains clearly represent waste from dehusking spelt and possibly emmer. Although spelt and barley were the main crops in Roman Britain (Greig 1991), the presence of barley in this sample is ambiguous, and whilst hulled barley may also have been dehusked it is possible that the single piece of barley chaff is intrusive from other/previous processing activities. There are various ways of de-husking; a common form in wetter climates is by parching which involves lightly burning or parching the cereal (and remaining grass) spikelets in order to help detach the chaff from the cereals (Meurers-Balke & Luning 1999). This process usually results in good chaff preservation since the fires used are not intense. Parching also has the dual purpose of drying out the grain so it can be better stored whole. Another, sometimes complimentary, form of de-husking is through the use of two surfaces (wooden boards or a quern saddle for example) (*ibid.*). The idea is to grind or pound the spikelets to extract the grains from their protective envelopes without crushing them (*ibid.*). Once the chaff has been detached from the grain it is removed through sieving or winnowing and then burnt as fuel or fed to domestic animals. The choice of dehusking could be further investigated by a more in-depth analysis of this sample and an understanding of this feature's relationship to the site and its wider landscape.

Further Roman features should be sampled for agricultural remains and analysed in the context of their relation to each other and other samples from the remaining fields of Clay Farm. It would be interesting to establish the scale at which these agricultural activities are taking place (whether at a domestic or industrial level), where certain crop processing stages are occurring (in the fields, centralised areas, or in the home), and what effect such practices had on the local and wider economy.

Sample number		<38>	<42>	<37>	<39>	<40>	<41>	
Context		1086	1258	1012	1210	1146	1025	1265
Feature		435	485	409	402	452	413	486
Feature type		Large Ditch	Ditch	Shallow Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	
Phase/Date		EIA	EIA	Possibly Roman	1-2nd C Roman	1-2nd C Roman	1-2nd C Roman	
Sample volume - litres		10	11. 5	9	8	3. 5	4	10
Flot fraction examined		1/1	1/1	1/32	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Cereals								
Triticum cf. *spelta*	Likely Spelt grain			24				
Triticum sp.	Wheat grain			16				
Triticum/Hordeum	Wheat/Barley grain		1	8		1		
Indet cereal grain frags.				11 (6 embryos)				
Hordeum vulgare sensu lato rachis internode	Barley ear stem fragment			1				
T. dicoccum/spelta glume base	Emmer or Spelt glume base			9				
T. spelta spikelet fork	Spelt spikelet fork			24				
T. spelta glume base	Spelt glume base			344				
Triticum sp. spikelet fork	Wheat spikelet fork			119				
Triticum sp. glume base	Wheat glume base			803				
Hulled wheat rachis internode	Hulled wheat ear stem fragment			++				
Undeveloped grain embryos				2				
Wild plant seeds								
Rumex conglomeratus/ obtusifolius/ sanguineus	Small seeded Dock			1				
Large Poaceae frags.	Large grass seed frags.			32 (9 embryos)				
Medium Poaceae	Medium grass seed			7 whole				
Lolium sp. rachis internode	Rye-grass ear stem fragment			1				
cf. *Lolium* sp. rachis internode	Possible Rye-grass ear stem fragment			19				
Indet wild plant seed		1		1				
Parenchyma tissue fragments	Undifferentiated storage plant tissue		-	+++		++		+
Charcoal frags.								
>4 mm		+						-
2-4 mm		+	-	+		-		++
<2mm		++	++	++		+++	+	+++
Vitrified		-			-	-	-	
Mollusca	**Habitat**							
Lymnaea palustris	Ponds, ditches		+					
Planorbis leucostama	Wet, resists drying		+++					-
Carychium tridentatum/minimum	In damp-wet areas: in moss, under logs		+++			-		+
Succinea putris/pfeifferi	Damp, marshy areas		+					-
Cochlicopa lubrica	Damp localities							-
Columella edentula	Woodlands and damp localities	-	++				-	
Vallonia costata	Dry areas, usually avoiding woodland		++			-		+
Ceciloides acicula	Blind burrowing snail	++		-		+	+	-
Trichia striolata/hispida	Varying habitats		++			-	-	-
Discus rotundatus	Leaves, rotten wood		++					
Oxychilus/Aegopinella	Generally damp		++					

Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' <10 items, '++' 10-50 items, '+++' >50 items

Table 14: Plant Remains of Field E

Two Roman Bronze Bracelets from 145 Shelford Road

During the course of the fieldwork, the Site Director was approached by Mrs Holmes of 145 Shelford Road, whose garden backed onto Field D, and who produced two bronze Roman bracelets which were dug up in her garden several decades before. Mrs Holmes kindly allowed the CAU to photograph the bracelets. The bracelets are of twisted and spiral form and of Roman date. Although one of the bracelets has an unusual style of clasp, the general overall form is not obviously more date-specific.

Finding two such bracelets together, with no other metalwork in a non funerary context would be unusual, particularly with so little archaeology immediately next to the garden, although ditch F.258, which contained nothing except a Roman coin, has a projected line that runs directly beneath the garden of No.145, in the approximate area of the find. It would seem likely, therefore, that a grave, or cemetery, lies to one side of this boundary ditch.

The bracelets are now back in the possession of Mrs Holmes, and the photographs are in the CAU archive.

Metalwork (Andrew Hall and Grahame Appleby)

During the evaluation, all features exposed were scanned with a metal detector. In addition, the spoil heaps of separated subsoil and topsoil adjacent to the trenches were flattened by machine and detected. Spoil from the hand excavation of features was also scanned. This methodology was adopted to aid the recovery of small metallic finds such as coins and other datable material culture. The following iron objects all require x-raying to confirm identification.

Field D

1. Trench 79, <2025> Surface find. Small heavily corroded iron fragment 65mm long with thin rectangular section. Probable nail. Undated

Field E

2. Trench 112,<2601> Surface find. Incomplete/broken shoe patten iron ring. Weight 71g. Medieval or post-Medieval. Pattens are wooden clogs used with iron rings attached to the underside and used as an overshoe to protect the shoe from dirt and damp. Dates to the 17th and early 18th centuries (Margeson 1993: 60).

3. Trench 117, <2598> F.418 Tapering iron fragment 52mm long with rivet at terminal. Undated.

4. Trench 117, <2599> F.430/F.431 Thin iron fragment 46mm long tapering to a blunt point. Possible buckle/harness or latch pin. Undated.

5. Trench 118, <2600> F.461. Brace hand drill approximately 365mm. Undated.

These finds are largely non-diagnostic and undated with the exception of the shoe patten ring. The low number of finds is of note and unexpected as the area was used as an agricultural showground in the 1950s and 1960s.

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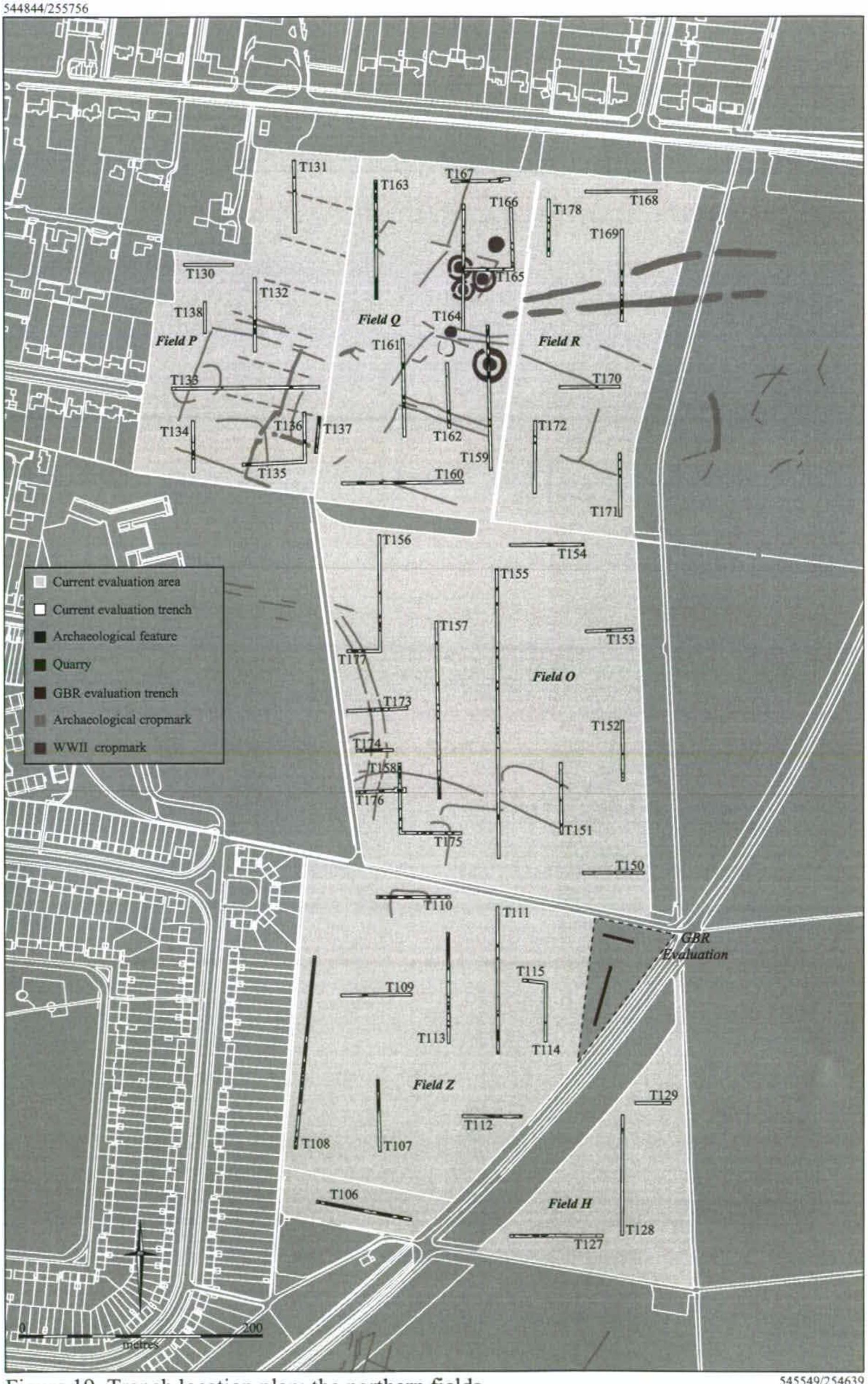

Figure 19. Trench location plan; the northern fields

545549/254639

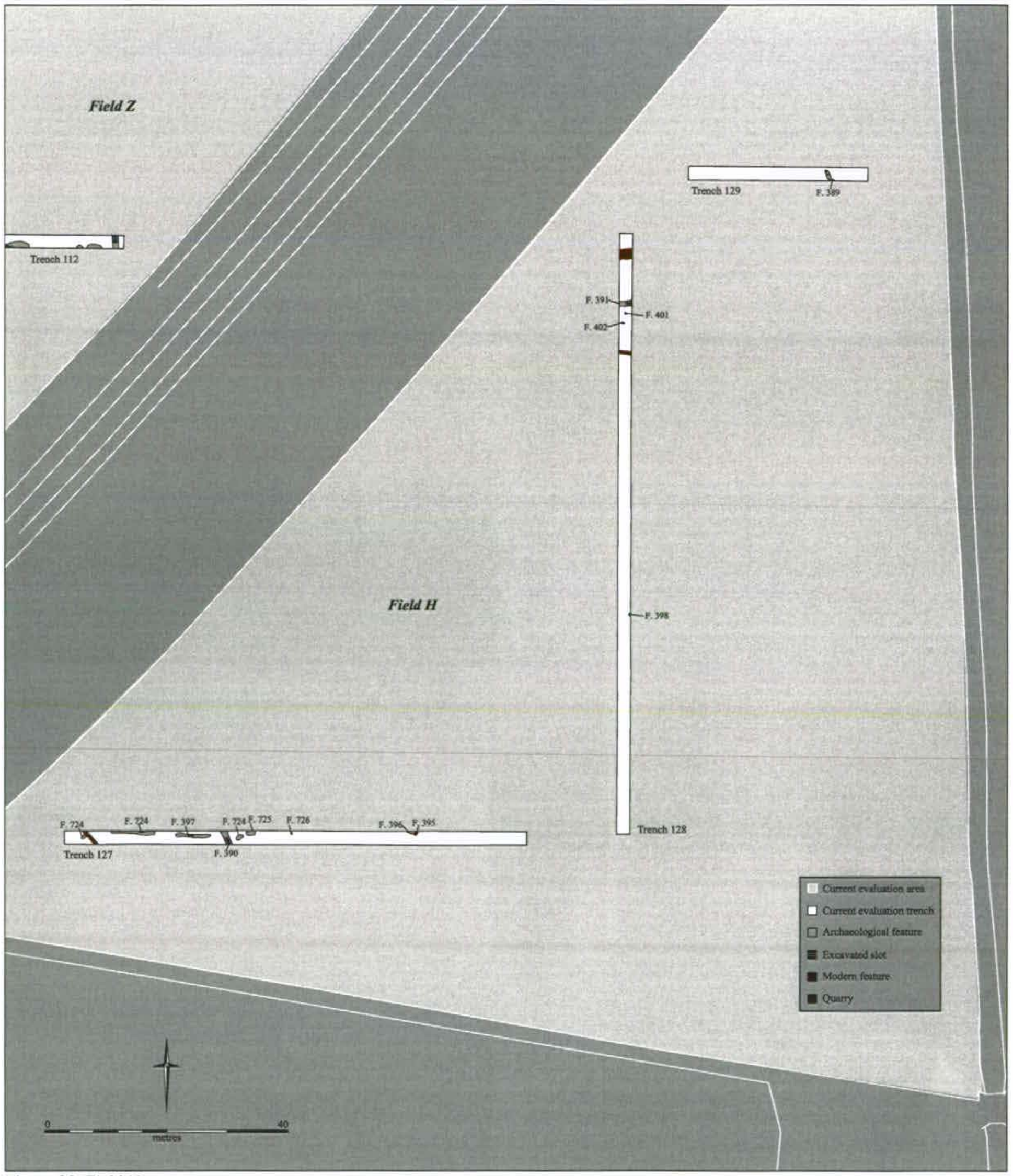

Figure 20. Field H

Part III - *Trial Trenching* - *The Northern Fields* (fig. 19)

Fields H and Z

Very little was recovered from Field H in the course of the fieldwalking, only three flints and no Roman pottery (Anderson & Evans 2005: fig. 7). Field Z to the west was unavailable for surface collection and was, instead, subject to geophysical survey. There, enhanced magnetic susceptibility values along its east-central swathe were subsequently surveyed by magnetometry and, demonstrating the existence of features, eventually proved to be an area of Romano-British settlement (*ibid*: fig. 4 & 5).

The aerial photographs showed the existence of a localised/small sub-rectangular cropmark along the northern side of Field Z and, otherwise, that much of the field had been quarried (see Palmer in Dickens 2002). This was confirmed by the trial trenching where large post-Medieval quarry features were exposed in Trenches 106, 107 and 108.

Field H

Trench 127 (fig. 20) - Trench 127 was 76m long on an E-W alignment. The topsoil was 0.3m thick, lying directly onto natural, with an overall trench depth of 0.45m to 0.48m. A total of nine features were recorded within this trench. Three possible pits, a posthole and an east-west linear (following the baulk edge) were left uninvestigated, with three further linears (F.390, F.396 & F.397) and a single posthole (F.395) excavated. Feature 396 was the terminal of a northwest-southeast linear which extended 1.3m into the trench, at the very end of which was a single posthole (F.395). Feature 390 was a northwest-southeast linear which cut across the trench, and, F.397, a 5.8m long and 0.5m wide linear. None of these features produced any artefactual material.

F.390 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [966], cut [967]. Fill a dark brown-grey silt-clay with occasional gravel and charcoal. Width 1.00m, depth 0.35m, with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.395 Posthole. Fills [977-978], cut [979]. Fill an orange-brown sandy silt overlying loose silty sand. 0.30m x 0.36m, 0.18m deep, sub-circular in plan and a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.396 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill [980, 981], cut [982]. Fill a mottled dark orange-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel, overlying loose silty sand. Width 0.55m, depth 0.20m, with a wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.397 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [983], cut [984]. Fill a mid grey silt-clay with occasional gravel. Width 0.40m, depth 0.06m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.399 Pit. Fills [987, 988], cut [989]. Fill a mid brown fine sandy silt with occasional gravel over brown-grey silty sand. 0.34m x 0.32, depth 0.20m, sub circular with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.722 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Cut by field drain, length 1.00m +, width 0.60m. Not excavated.

F.723 Ditch segment, E-W alignment. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Only partially exposed, length 7.00m, width 0.70m+. Not excavated. Associated with F.397.

F.724 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. 1.00m x 0.60m, oval in plan. Not excavated.

F.725 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Only partially exposed, length 1.70m, width unknown. Not excavated.

F.726 Pit/posthole. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Diameter 0.35m. Not excavated.

Trench 128 - Trench 128 was 99m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was up to 0.34m deep, lying directly onto natural at the southern end; it was 0.22m think and bedded upon 0.18m of subsoil, with an overall depth of 0.4m, at the northern end. A total of five features were recorded within the trench. Only two post-Medieval east-west ditches were left unexcavated, with three postholes (F.398, F.401 & F.402), and two linears (F.391 & F.392) excavated. Two of the postholes, F.401 and F.402, were in close association (1.5m apart) and could represent part of a structure of some form (possibly a four poster). No artefacts were recovered from any of the features within the trench.

F.391 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [968], cut [969]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.88m, depth 0.26m, with a wide 'U'-shaped profile.

F.392 Probable tree-throw. Fills/cut [970-972]. Fill a dark brown-black silt-clay with occasional gravel and moderate charcoal overlying dark grey clay. Width 0.90m, depth 0.35m, with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile. Despite the charcoal flecks, this was a probably natural feature.

F.398 Pit. Fill [985], cut [986]. Fill a mid grey compact clay with occasional gravel. 1.20 x 0.24m, 0.45m deep, oval in plan with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.401 Pit/posthole. Fill [993], cut [994]. Fill a mottled orange-grey silt-clay with occasional gravel. 0.32m x 0.31m, 0.09m deep, circular in plan with a rounded profile.

F.402 Pit/posthole. Fill [995], cut [996]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with occasional gravel. 0.32m x 0.20m, 0.20m deep, oval in plan with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 129 - Trench 129 was 58.5m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.26m thick, lying directly onto natural at the western end and 0.46m directly onto natural at the eastern end. One potential feature was recorded within the trench, F.389, but this proved to be of natural origin.

Field Z

Trench 106 (fig. 21) - Trench 106 was 79m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.23m, and the subsoil 0.23m, with an overall depth of 0.46m. Two features were excavated, F.365 and F.366, northeast-southwest parallel ditches approximately 0.1m apart. Three features were left unexcavated while the rest of the trench was dominated by post-Medieval quarry pits and strip quarries.

F.360 Quarry. Fill [893], cut [894]. Fill a loose dark brown sandy silt.

F.365 Quarry. Fill [903], cut [904].

F.366 Quarry. Fill [905], cut [906].

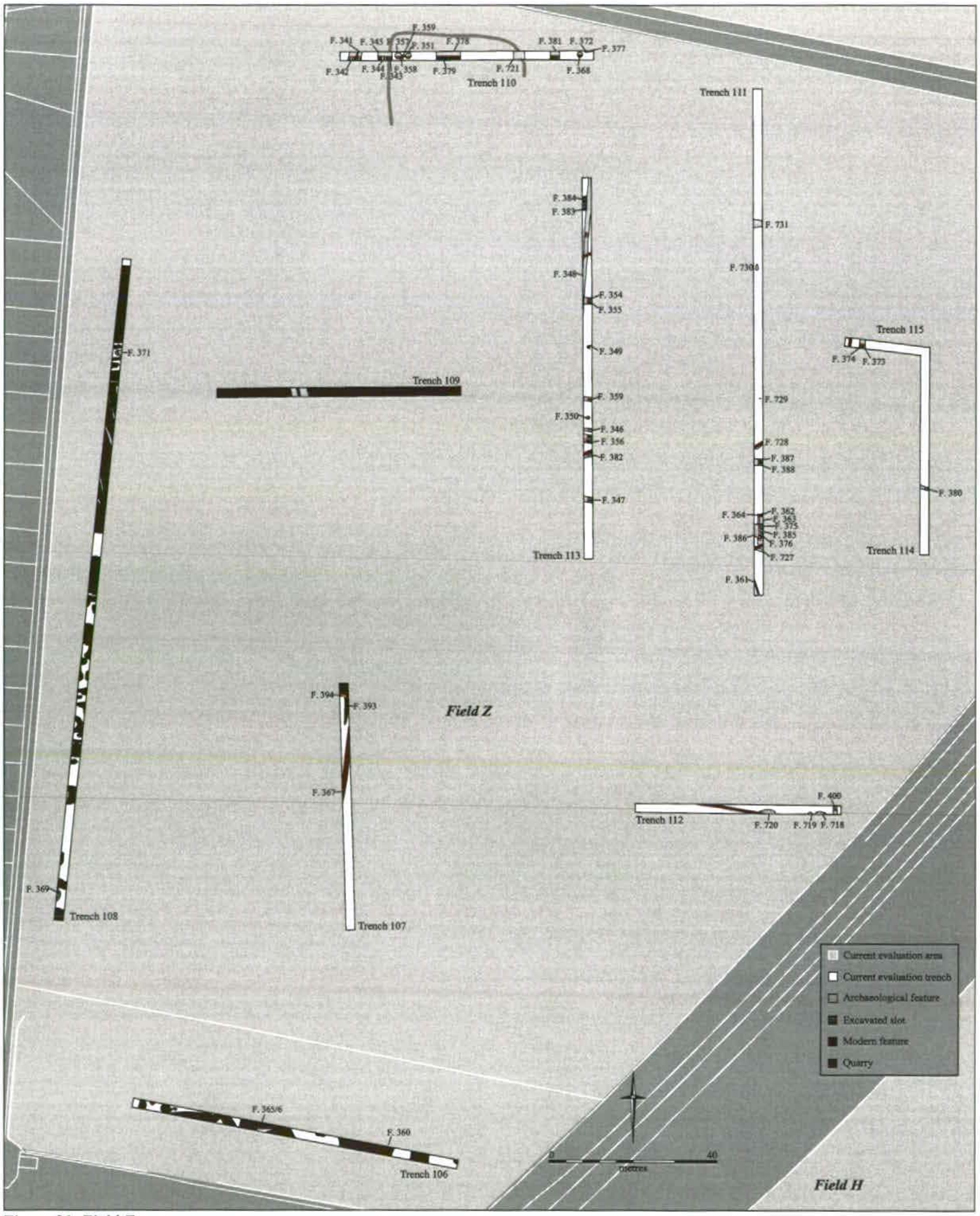

Figure 21. Field Z

Trench 107 - Trench 107 was 59m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.4m thick, lying directly onto natural. Three features were recorded within this trench, two ditches and a pit, and all were post-Medieval.

F.367 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [907], cut [908]. Fill a grey-brown sandy silt, frequent stone. Width 0.92m, depth 0.46m, with a 'V'-shaped profile. Post-Medieval.

F.393 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [973], cut [974]. Fill a mid brown silty sand. Width 0.90m, depth 0.30m, with a rounded profile. Post-Medieval.

F.394 Pit. Fill [975], cut [976]. Fill a brown silty sand. Width unknown, depth 0.46m, with an irregular profile. Post-Medieval.

Trench 108 - Trench 108 was 159m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.4m thick, lying directly onto natural. This trench was dominated by post-Medieval quarry pits with only three features being excavated F.369, F.370 and F.371. Much of the gravel base of this trench appeared to consist of redeposited quarry upcast, and although stretches of genuine natural undoubtedly existed, these proved difficult to distinguish.

F.369 Quarry. Post-Medieval. Fill [912], cut [913]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt, occasional gravel. 2.90m x 0.84m, depth 0.10m, elongated with a shallow, flat profile.

F.370 Quarry. Post-Medieval.

F.371 Quarry. Post-Medieval. Fill [916], cut [917]. Fill a mid brown slightly sandy silt. 1.27m x 1.05m, depth 0.10m, elongated with a flat, shallow profile.

Trench 109 - Trench 109 was 58.2m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.36m deep. Two north-south post-Medieval parallel linears were recorded, 1.8m/1.5m wide and 0.5m meters apart, and the entire trench appeared to be composed of redeposited quarry backfill.

Trench 110 - Trench 110 was 60.2m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.4m thick, lying directly onto natural at the western end; it was 0.35m deep and bedded upon 0.26m of subsoil at the eastern end, with an overall depth of 0.61m. Fourteen features were excavated within this trench, eight linears including re-cuts (F.341, F.342, F.343, F.344, F.345, F.358, F.378 & F.381), and six pits and postholes (F.357, F.359, F.368, F.372, F.377 & F.379). Linear Features 341 and 342 were the only ones not on a north-south alignment. Instead they were cut northeast-southwest parallel to each other and 0.25m apart. Feature 378 was a substantially wide but very shallow feature at 5.70m wide, and sealed a small pit F.379, of which only half extended into the trench. Feature 343 represented a north-south linear which was re-cut by F.344.

F.341 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [848], cut [849]. Fill a mid brown-grey silty sand with occasional charcoal. Width 0.92m, depth 0.35m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.342 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [850-853], cut [854]. Fill a yellow-green-brown silty sand with frequent charcoal towards surface, becoming browner towards base. Width 1.73m, depth 0.63m, with a rounded profile.

F.343 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [824-826], cut [827]. Fill a mid to dark brown sandy silt with occasional gravel becoming very dark towards base. Width 2.55m, depth 0.64m, with a wide rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.344 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [828], cut [829]. Fill a dark brown sandy silt. Width 0.32m, depth 0.24m, with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.345 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [830], cut [831]. Fill a mid grey silty sand with occasional charcoal. Width 0.45m, depth 0.15m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.351 Pit. Fill [870], cut [871]. Fill an orange-grey silty sand, occasional charcoal and frequent gravel. 1.30m x 1.00m, depth 0.18m, oval with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.357 Pit. Fills [886, 887], cut [888]. Fill an orange-grey silty sand, moderate gravel. Diameter 1.49m, depth 0.48m, circular with a rounded bowl shaped profile.

F.358 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [889], cut [890]. Fill a mid grey-orange sandy silt with regular gravel. Width 0.75m, depth 0.29m, with a flat based profile.

F.359 Pit. Fill [891], cut [892]. Fill a mid to dark grey silty sand with occasional gravel. Width 0.52m, depth 0.30m, with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.368 Pit. Fills [909, 910], cut [911]. Fill a dark brown sandy silt, occasional gravel, much stonier towards base. 1.35m x 1.05m, depth 0.15m, sub circular with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.372 Pit. Fills [918, 919], cut [920]. Fill a dark grey-black clay-silt overlying mid grey-brown sandy clay-silt, occasional gravel. Diameter 1.04m, depth 0.25m, sub-circular with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.377 Pit. Fills [929, 930], cut [931]. Fill a mid grey-brown sandy clay-silt, becoming pale grey-brown towards base, occasional gravel. Diameter 0.80m, depth 0.26m, sub-circular with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.378 Spread sitting in shallow hollow. Buried soil remnant? Fills [932-934], cut [935]. Fill a dark to mid grey-brown and pale grey sandy silt, occasional gravel. Extends both north and south of trench. 5.70m wide, depth 0.25m, flat, irregular profile.

F.379 Pit. Fill [936], cut [937]. Fill a dark brown-grey clay-silt, occasional stone and charcoal. Width 0.95m, depth 0.35m, circular with a wide 'U'-shaped profile.

F.381 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [940], cut [941]. Fill a dark grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal and frequent gravel. Width 2.43m, depth 0.42m, with a wide, shallow, rounded profile.

F.721 Ditch, N-S alignment, possibly = F.343/4/5. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Width 2.75m. Not excavated.

Trench 111 - Trench 111 was 121m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.36m deep, and the subsoil 0.12m, with an overall depth of 0.48m. The majority of the archaeology was confined to the southern end of the trench. A total of fifteen features were recorded. Two linears, one northwest and one east-west, two pits and a posthole were left unexcavated. Seven of the features (F.392, F.393, F.394, F.375, F.376, F.385 & F.386) were intercutting 15m from the southern end of the trench. These consisted of four curvilinear features (F.375, F.376, F.385 & F.386), which possibly represented several re-cuts; a short north-south linear F.364, approximately 2.5m long, and two pits, F.362 and F.363. Feature 387/388 was a recut east-west linear.

F.361 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fill [895], cut [896]. Fill a pale grey-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.34m, depth 0.13m, with a wide, shallow, rounded profile.

F.362 Pit. Fill [897], cut [898]. Fill a mid grey-brown clay-silt. Only partially exposed. Width 0.75m, depth 0.24m, circular, with a round 'U' profile.

F.363 Pit. Fill [899], cut [900]. Fill a mixed dark grey-brown, black and grey-yellow clay-silt and clay. 2.20m x 1.20m, depth 0.11m, elongated with a flat, shallow profile.

F.364 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [901], cut [902]. Fill a dark grey-brown clay-silt. Width 0.34m, depth 0.07m, with a very shallow, rounded profile.

F.375 Ditch, E-W alignment? Excavated section is difficult to relate to alignment on surface. Fill [925, 955], cut [926]. Fill a dark grey/brown-black clay-silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.30m, depth 0.20m, with a wide, flat profile.

F.376 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [927], cut [928]. Fill a mid grey clay-silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.50m, depth 0.17m, with a wide, flat profile.

F.385 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [956], cut [957]. Fill a mid grey-brown clay-silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.30m, depth 0.14m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.386 Ditch, butt-ending, or possible pit, NW-SE alignment. Fill [958], cut [959]. Fill a mid grey-brown clay-silt with occasional gravel. Dimensions uncertain.

F.387/388 Ditch and recut, E-W alignment. Fills [960, 962], cuts [961, 963]. Fill a dark grey to black sandy silt with occasional gravel. Little of original fill survives. . Width 1.70m, depth 0.30m, with a wide, shallow, flat profile.

F.727 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Width 0.65m. Not excavated.

F.728 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Only partially exposed, width 1.75m. Elongated in plan. Not excavated.

F.729 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Diameter 0.30m, circular in plan. Not excavated.

F.730 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. 1.40 x 0.50m, oval in plan. Not excavated.

F.731 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Width 2.00m. Not excavated.

Trench 112 - Trench 112 was 48.6m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30-0.37m deep, and the subsoil 0.20m, with an overall depth of 0.44-0.57m. Five features were recorded within this trench. Three were the edges of pits which extended from the baulk edge, one a north-south linear, and a post-Medieval linear. Of these, ditch F.400, was excavated, which produced fragments of animal bone and burnt flint.

F.400 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [990], cut [991]. Fill a mid brown silty sand overlying a dark grey organic silty clay. Width 1.34m, depth 0.34m, with a wide bowl-shaped profile.

F.718 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Only partially exposed, length 2.50m, elongated. Not excavated.

F.719 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Only partially exposed, width 1.25m, rounded. Not excavated.

F.720 Pit. Fill a mid grey-brown silt-clay. Only partially exposed, length 4.00m, elongated. Not excavated.

Trench 113 - Trench 113 was 95m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.32m deep, and the subsoil 0.12m, with an overall depth of 0.41-0.47m. Eleven features were recorded within this trench, nine linears (F.339, F.346, F.347, F.348, F.354, F.355, F.382, F.383 & F.384) and two pits (F.349 & F.350). Feature 348 was the only linear not orientated east-west, but rather northeast-southwest, and cut Features 354, 355, 383 and 384, and in turn was cut by a field drain. Three of the linears, F.339, F.346, and F.382, were approximately 6m apart from each other and of similar size (0.8m wide), and could have been related to each other. Linears F.383 and F.384 were arranged parallel to each other, 0.4m apart; F.383 was 0.75m wide and F.384 2.2m across.

F.339 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fills [820-822], cut [823]. Post-Medieval ditch with brick rubble in base.

F.346 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fills [856-858], cut [855]. Fill a dark grey sandy silt overlying mid and pale grey sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 0.78m, depth 0.48m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.347 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fills [859, 860], cut [861]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt capping mid brown-grey silty sand, both with moderate to frequent gravel. Width 1.24m, depth 0.27m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.348 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fills [862, 863], cut [864]. Fill a soft brown silty loam. Probably post-Medieval. Width 0.98m, depth 0.25m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.349 Pit. Fills [865, 866], cut [867]. Fill a pale to mid brown-grey silty sand. Diameter 0.78m, depth 0.24m, oval with a rounded profile.

F.350 Pit. Fill [868], cut [869]. Fill a grey-brown sandy silt. 0.87m x 0.69m, depth 0.13m, oval with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.352 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill [872], cut [873]. Fill a grey, gravelly, silty sand. Width 0.85m.

F.353 Field drain.

F.354 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [877], cut [878]. Fill a pale brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.10m, depth 0.34m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.355 Recut of F.354. Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [879], cut [880]. Fill a dark grey-brown rich sandy silt with moderate gravel and stone. Width 1.39m, depth 0.31m, with a wide, rounded profile.

F.356 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill [883, 884], cut [885]. Fill a Grey-brown overlying dark grey rich sandy silt with frequent gravel and stone. Width 2.10m, depth 0.68m, with a wide 'V'-shaped profile.

F.382 Ditch, ENE-WSW alignment. Fills [942-948], cut [949]. Fill a dark brown-grey sandy silt overlying weathering layers. Width 0.85m, depth 0.41m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.383 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [950], cut [951]. Fill a mid grey-brown clay-silt with frequent gravel. Width 0.92m, depth 0.13m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.384 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fills [952, 953], cut [954]. Fill a mid orange-brown sandy silt capping a very dark grey sandy silt with frequent pebbles. Width 2.20m, depth 0.42m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

Trench 114 - Trench 114 was 49.5m long on a N-S alignment. The topsoil was 0.34m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m, with an overall depth of 0.39m to 0.44m. One east-west curvilinear (F.380) 0.80m wide.

F.380 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [938], cut [939]. Fill a dark grey-brown silty sand with occasional gravel and charcoal. Width 0.80m, depth 0.08m, with a very shallow, rounded profile.

Trench 115 - Trench 115 was 49m long on an E-W alignment. The topsoil was 32m deep, and the subsoil 0.10m, with an overall depth of 0.44m. Cut at right-angles at the northern end of Trench 114. One north-south linear (F.373) with a re-cut (F.374) 1.70m wide.

F.373/374 Ditch and recut, N-S alignment. Fills [921, 923], cut [922, 924]. Fill a dark brown sandy silt with occasional gravel. Width 1.70m, depth 0.24m, with a very shallow, rounded profile.

Discussion

The Roman activity very much centred on Trenches 110, 111 and 113, with no residual Roman material occurring outside of these trenches. The large area of quarrying represented a severe scale of truncation (although it was not always possible to differentiate between 'pure' redeposited gravels and natural gravels; see Plamer in Dickens 2002 for plotting of these quarries), with no residual material recovered from it either during the machining or hand-excavation episodes. As in Field H, immediately to the east, any genuine features lying beyond the major concentration were sterile and relatively minor, occurring on the periphery of the settlement activity. No artefacts whatsoever were recovered from features in Field H and those recorded failed to produce any dateable material. The few features uncovered were unimpressive, and undoubtedly some of the possible pitting was natural in origin. It is possible that the ditches represent outliers to the main Roman system (and Site 3 to the south), although a post-Medieval date cannot be ruled out.

Romano-British activity was concentrated at the northern east-central quarter of Field Z where a number of different features produced quantities of Roman pottery. This will hereafter be referred to as Site 5 (the paucity of settlement features within Trenches 106 & 112 in the southern half of the field indicates that it cannot be continuous with the Site 3 complex). The majority of the pottery recovered from Field Z suggests a date range of mid to late Roman times, with some earlier pieces being identified (see Anderson below). Feature 357 in Trench 110 produced two fragments of later prehistoric pottery (see Brudenell below), which could indicate a connection to/extension of the pre-Conquest activity within Field O, further tying the two areas together. It seems probable that the activity within Field Z was continuous with that in Field O.

In this capacity it is essential to recognise that the linears associated with Site 5 are generally on an east-west axis and not the northwest-southeast orientation of the contemporary Site 3 settlement and the 'landscape-system' elsewhere. This seems marked in the case of those in Trench 110, which has major implications for understanding the archaeology within Field O (see below).

Field O

A series of sub-rectangular and also curvilinear cropmarks are known across the southern half of the field, with a north-south oriented double-ditch system arcing along much of the length of its western side (see Palmer in Dickens 2002 and also Anderson & Evans 2005: fig. 6 for supplementary imagery). During the fieldwalking 21 pieces of flint were recovered, of which 11 were unworked burnt chunks, nine were flakes, and one a hammerstone. These were all ascribed a Bronze Age or later date. The flint was distributed within the western half of the field with the higher concentrations occurring at the northern end. A single sherd of Samian, dated mid to late 1st century AD, was also recovered (see *ibid.*).

Fourteen trenches were machine excavated within this field, with each exposing features. The field had a west-to-east slope, which went from 16m OD down to 13m OD (measurements from trench bases), with no evidence for a subsoil over much of the area except along the highest point.

Trench 150 (fig. 22) - Trench 150 was 46m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Five pits and a ditch terminal (F.552) were recorded in this trench. The majority of the linears contained an organic matrix within the primary fills suggestive of 'bush drains', where the bottom of a ditch is lined with sticks and branches to improve the drainage. None of these appeared to indicate prehistoric or early historic character and were most probably post-Medieval.

F.550 Pit. Fill [1500, 1501], cut [1502]. Fill a dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions, overlying a light blue grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions. Diameter 1.15m, depth 0.24m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.551 Pit. Fill [1503], cut [1504]. Fill a light grey sandy silt with frequent organic inclusions and occasional stone inclusions. Diameter 0.51m, depth 0.16m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.552 Ditch terminal, N-S alignment. Fill [1505], cut [1506]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions. Width 0.83m, depth 0.13m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.553 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1507], cut [1508]. Fill a mid to dark grey sandy silt with occasional stone and organic inclusions. Width 0.64m, depth 0.14m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.554 Pit. Fill [1509], cut [1510]. Fill a dark brown silt loam with occasional stone inclusions. Length 1.52m, width 0.46m (exposed from trench edge), depth 0.16m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.555 Pit. Fill [1511], cut [1512]. Fill a dark brown silt loam with frequent organic material and occasional stone inclusions. Length 1.56m, width 0.87m (exposed from trench edge), depth 0.10m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

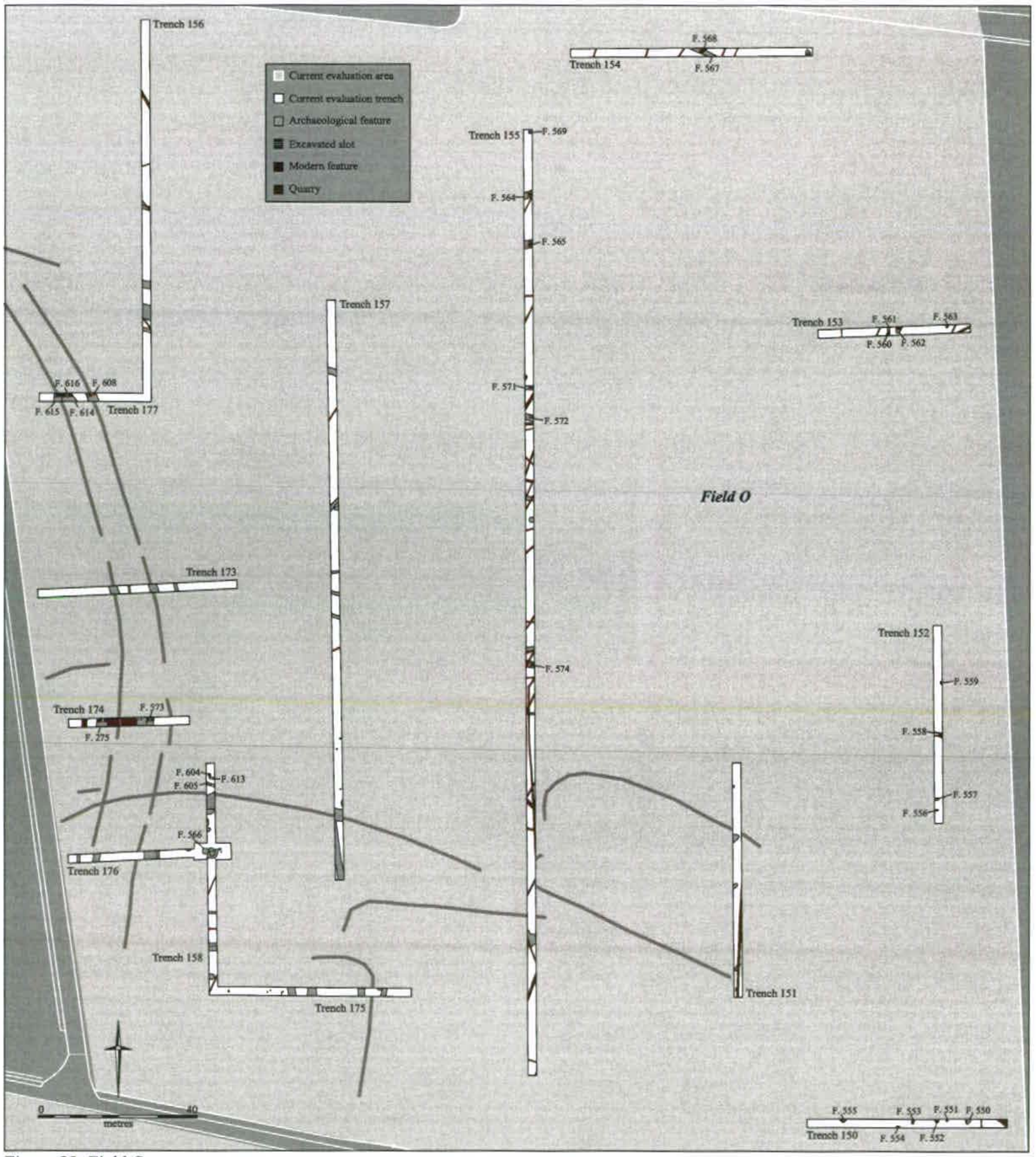

Figure 22. Field O

Trench 151 - Trench 151 was 59m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.25m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Five features were recorded, the possible terminals of two northeast-southwest linears (1.5m wide and 0.9m wide), two postholes 0.4m in diameter (one of which was truncated by a field drain), and a rectangular feature (0.6m wide and 2.05m long) orientated northeast-southwest, none of which were dug. The trench was sited on two linears identified from aerial photographs, neither of which were found within the trench.

Trench 152 - Trench 152 was 45m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.32m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Three postholes were recorded, one (F.559) 15m from the northern end, and the other two at the southern end 2.2m apart. Between the postholes was a northwest-southeast linear (F.558). This linear may have been F.574 in Trench 155, which could then continue into Trench 157.

F.556 Pit. Fill [1513], cut [1514]. Fill a light grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions. Length 0.71m, width 0.63m, depth 0.12m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.557 Pit. Fill [1515, 1516], cut [1517]. Fill a dark grey silt loam with occasional organic material overlying a light grey and yellow grey mottled sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions. Length 1.34m (exposed from trench edge), width 0.68m, depth 0.36m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.558 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1518], cut [1519]. Fill a dark brown silt loam with occasional stone and organic inclusions. Width 1.21m, depth 0.58m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.559 Pit. Fill [1520, 1521], cut [1522]. Fill a dark grey brown silt loam with occasional organic material overlying a light grey sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions. Length 1.11m, width 0.46m, depth 0.56m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 153 - Trench 153 was 35m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Four features were recorded and excavated. A single metal artefact was recovered from F.560, a Late Medieval/Early post-Medieval circular mount. This represented the only artefact recovered from the eastern half of Field O. With the exception of some animal bone recovered from Trench 155, only features along the western edge of field produced any dateable material.

F.560 Pit. Fill [1523, 1524], cut [1525]. Fill a dark brown silt loam with frequent stone inclusions towards the base overlying a dark brown silt loam with occasional gravel inclusions. Length 1.06m, width 0.42m (exposed from trench edge), depth 0.42m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.561 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1526], cut [1527]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions. Width 0.59m, depth 0.13m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.562 Ditch terminal, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1528, 1529], cut [1530]. Fill a mid brown sandy loam with occasional stone inclusions overlying a dark grey organic rich silty loam. Width 1.53m, depth 0.61m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.563 Pit. Fill [1531], cut [1532]. Fill a dark brown silt loam with occasional stone inclusions and organic material. Length 0.68m (exposed from trench edge), width 0.51m, depth 0.29m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 154 - Trench 154 was 59m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Two features were recorded in this trench, a northwest-southeast linear (F.567) which cut a circular pit (F.568).

F.567 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1553], cut [1554]. Fill a dark brown sandy clay silt with frequent stone inclusions. Width 0.80m, depth 0.10m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.568 Pit. Fill [1555, 1557], cut [1556]. Fill a grey silt clay with occasional stone inclusions overlying a dark brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions. Length 1.10m, width 0.50m, depth 0.50m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 155 - Trench 155 was 237m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Seven features were recorded. Two pits were recorded, of which one was dug, F.569, this was 0.67m in diameter and the other was 1.3m in diameter. Five linears were excavated and a sixth left (underwater). Five modern features and twenty-six field drains were noted. Feature 574 appeared to be a continuation of F.558 in Trench 152 and could be traced through to Trench 157, after which it was not observed. The alignment of this linear is comparable to the double ditch lines in Field R of potential track-/routeways. The majority of the linears identified appeared to have been 'bush drains', with very similar profiles and a basal organic deposit. The eastern portion of the field had poor drainage (as was evidenced by sitting water both on the field and in the trenches at the time of the evaluation) and within this trench were a large number of modern field drains. It seems probable that these linears represented continual attempts at draining the field.

F.564 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1533, 1534, 1535, 1536, 1537, 1538, 1539, 1540, 1541], cut [1542]. Fill a reddish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks overlying a grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint and charcoal inclusions, overlying a yellow grey silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions, overlying a light grey brown silt occasional gravel inclusions, overlying a mottled yellow grey silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions, overlying a brownish grey clay with occasional charcoal inclusions, overlying a dark brown silt with occasional charcoal inclusions, overlying a grey silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions, which overlays a mottled orange grey coarse sand. Width 1.75m, depth 0.52m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.565 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1543, 1544, 1545, 1546, 1547, 1548, 1549], cut [1550]. Fill a mid grey brown clay silt with occasional stone inclusions, overlying varying mixes of grey brown sandy clay deposits with a mid grey sandy silt basal fill. Width 1.00m, depth 0.50m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.569 Pit. Fill [1558], cut [1559]. Fill a brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions overlying a dark brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions. Diameter 0.67m, depth 0.18m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.571 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1562, 1563, 1564, 1565], cut [1566]. Fill a light grey brown clay silt with occasional stone inclusions, overlying a light grey sandy clay silt and a dark grey brown clay silt with a pale grey sandy silt basal deposit. Width 1.00m, depth 0.42m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.572 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1567, 1568, 1569, 1570], cut [1571]. Fill a mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional stone and charcoal inclusions, overlying a grey brown sandy clay with frequent stone inclusions, a mid brown sandy clay and a grey silt sand basal deposit. Width 1.74m, depth 0.61m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.574 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1576, 1577], cut [1578]. Fill a mid brown clay silt with occasional stone inclusions, overlying a grey brown clay silt with occasional stone inclusions and organic material. Width 1.00m, depth 0.57m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 156 - Trench 156 was 98.5m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.33m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Three east-west linears were recorded, one was 1.9m wide, another 3.8m wide and, the third, 0.85m wide. All lay within a 15m swath towards the southern end of the trench.

Trench 157 - Trench 157 was 121m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Two northwest-southeast features at the northern end of the trench were recorded and left unexcavated: one was 1.6m wide and, the other, 2.1m across. At the southern end were three postholes *c.* 0.4m in diameter, an east-west linear 3m wide, a northwest-southeast linear 1.6m wide, and the edge of a pit. Four linears and a terminal were recorded at the southern end of the trench. The latter was from a northeast-southwest linear 0.8m wide; near to it was a northeast-southwest linear 0.9m wide. One linear was orientated east-west 0.5m wide. Two others were aligned northwest-southeast, being 5m apart, both 0.70m wide.

Trench 158 - Trench 158 was 57m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Fourteen features were recorded within this trench; five were excavated and nine left uninvestigated. Two linears were excavated (F.600 & F.605) and two left, both of which were large (2m and 4m wide); one ditch terminal (F.613) was excavated and another left uninvestigated (1.25m wide); a single pit (F.604) was completely excavated and produced burnt clay, and two further possible pits extending from the baulk were also left. At the southern end of the trench was the terminal of an east-west linear, 1.35m wide.

A metal detecting survey revealed the presence of two metal artefacts (small finds/SFs 15 & 16) from a single feature mid way along the trench. These were recovered close to the trench edge, within a feature (F.566) which extended only slightly into the trench. As a result, a small hand-excavated block 0.50m long was dug back into the trench edge in an attempt to better elucidate the feature. A further four artefacts were recovered within the hand-dug spits, suggesting that it would be prudent to expose a larger area to better identify the feature. A box 9.30m long and 4.10m wide was eventually cut by means of a tracked excavator, exposing a series of features.

Feature 566 was a sub-square feature (1.58 x 1.48m) which had cut into the western edge of a similar, but larger, feature (2.4m), and appeared to cut a northeast-southwest linear segment 0.60m wide and 4.10m long. By the eastern edge were two postholes 0.25m in diameter. Initial excavation continued with F.566. This was divided into four quadrants (I-IV), with each quadrant excavated separately and all artefacts plotted on a 1:10 plan. The feature was an 'Aylesford-Swarling' burial (Hill *et.al* 1999), which had undergone severe truncation and only survived to a depth of 0.15m. A range of artefacts associated with this tradition of burial were recovered.

Within the northeastern quadrant (I) an amphora (SF 26) was found in the corner (these have been found resting upright in the corners of burials such as in 'the Doctor's grave' at Stanway, Essex; Crummy 1997). To the west of this were a selection of food vessels comprising a Samian dish (SF 27), two Terra Nigra dishes

(SFs 28 & 29) and a Terra Nigra cup (SF 30). Placed on top of the Terra Nigra cup was a flagon (SF 31) which, at some point after deposition, had collapsed in on itself. Within the northwestern quadrant (IV) the lower jaw of a pig (SF 25) was recovered. This rested on a heavily corroded triangular iron blade (SF 33). Slightly southwest of this was an iron rod (SF 32) of unknown function, and two bone rectangular gaming counters (SFs 20 & 21) which had different combinations of bored holes on each surface; a concentration of burnt bone was also identified within this quadrant. The southwest quadrant (III) produced the majority of the burnt bone recovered from the feature with five distinct deposits identified (SF 36 producing the highest concentration). Three metal artefacts were recovered comprising a thin fragment of copper-alloy sheet (SF 37; possibly from another vessel), a fragment of an iron sheet (SF 38), and a small silver plaque (SF 24). The silver plaque was one of three found, (SF 23 was recovered from spoil and SF 22 from Quadrant II). The most likely interpretation for these is that they were decorative attachments or fastenings to leather; the location of SFs 22 and 24 could represent two points along a length of material (see fig. 23). Also recovered from Quadrant III was a small bone pin fragment (SF 34). A total of six pieces of metalwork were recovered from the southeast quadrant (II). As noted above, SF 22 was a small silver plaque. Found in close proximity to this was a cast copper-alloy appliqué (SF 19) which appeared to be decorated with the image of a crouching animal and could have been a rim fastening for a hanging cauldron or similar vessel. Towards the southeast corner of the grave in this quadrant, a set of four metal artefacts were recovered in close association (SFs 15, 16, 17 & 18), and it was these which first identified the feature. They comprised a copper-alloy rams head terminus from a patera handle (SF 15) and three copper-alloy pelta-shaped patera feet. These items would likely have been found on a metal-saucer like vessel, with the rams head at the end of the handle and the feet arranged in a circle around the base. That only these items survive and not the rest of the vessel could suggest that they were deliberately chosen and deposited without the rest of the patera. The latter are commonly associated with libations to the dead in the Greek and Roman world, a practice incorporated into some of the funerary practices of pre-Conquest period Southeast England.

The entire assemblage recovered appears to have one common theme, that of dining or feasting. The amphora, flagon, plates and cup are all vessels used for the storage and consumption of food and drink; the pig jaw and other animal bone fragments representative of the food. The metal artefacts associated with cauldrons and patera mark other forms of food and libation vessels; the gaming pieces may represent other activities undertaken at a feast.

Once the nature of F.566 was apparent, it was determined that any similar features would be left unexcavated. The potential for night-time metal detectorists had already been evidenced during the excavation of previous fields, and it was thought prudent not to expose any other features to those risks. To better protect any other burials, the area was seeded with metal discs prior to the backfilling of the trenches.

F.566 (fig. 23 and 24) Burial. Fill [1551], cut [1552]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions. Length 1.58m, width 1.48m, depth 0.15m, with vertical sides and a flat base.

F.600 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1626], cut [1627]. Fill a dark brown clay silt. Width 0.50m, depth 0.17m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

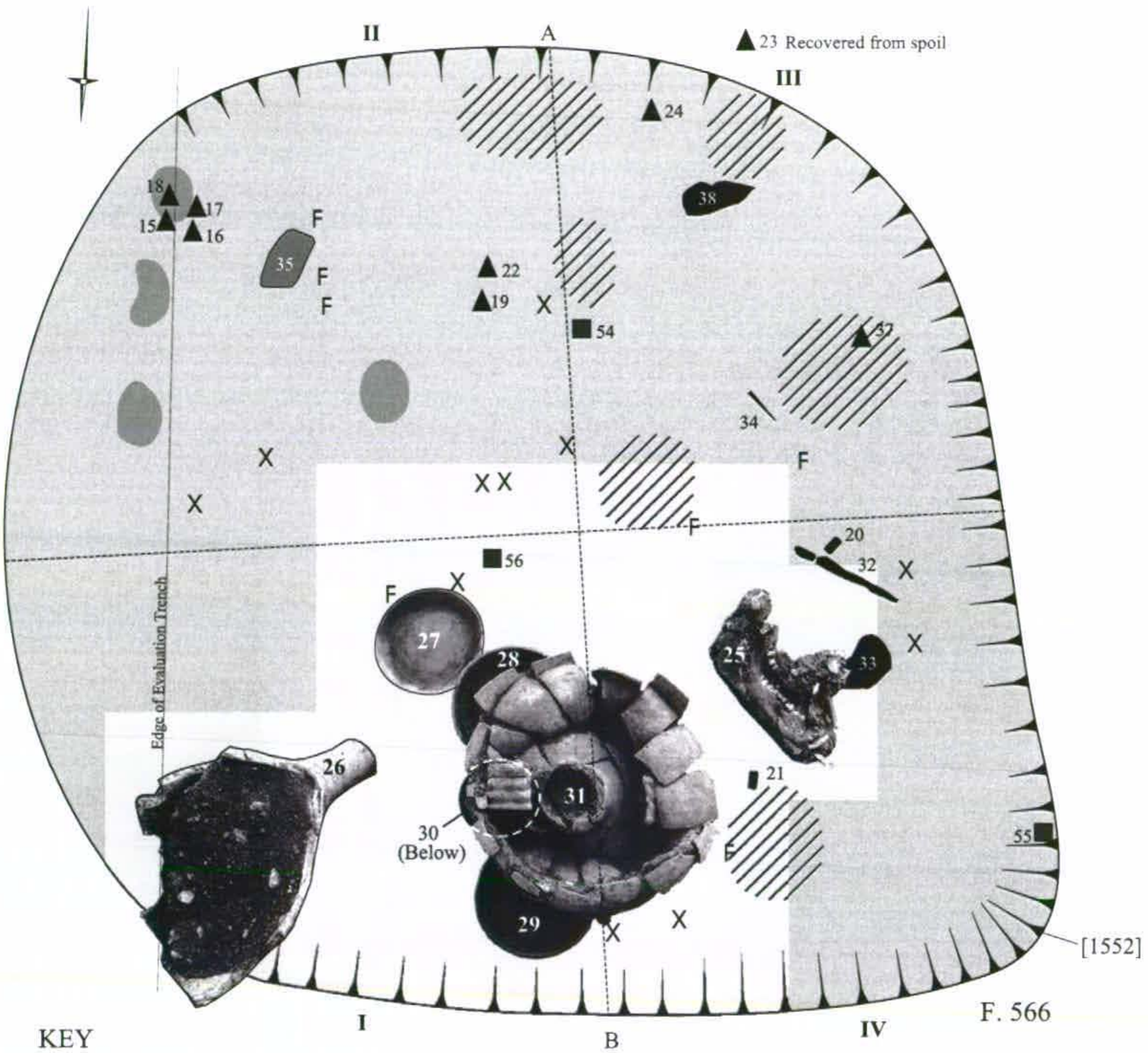

Figure 23. Plan and section of F. 566

Figure 24. The pottery assemblage from F. 566

F.604 Pit. Fill [1634, 1635, 1636, 1637, 1638, 1639], cut [1640]. Fill a dark brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions, overlying alternating pale grey and dark brown clayey silts with a pale orange sand basal deposits. Length 0.75m, width 0.55m, depth 0.37m, with vertical sides and a flat base.

F.605 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1641, 1642, 1643, 1644], cut [1645]. Fill a brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions, overlying pale grey clays and a brown clayey silt basal deposit. Width 0.55m, depth 0.26m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.613 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1670], cut [1671]. Fill a dark grey brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions. Width 0.60m, depth 0.30m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 173 - Trench 173 was 37m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Four linears were recorded and left unexcavated: three northwest-southeast, one north-south (0.5m wide). At the western end of the trench, two of the linears were 2.1m and 2m wide set 7.5m apart. These were the continuations of F.573 and F.576 in Trench 174 which appeared to represent some form of Late Iron Age system ditch.

Trench 174 - Trench 174 was 32m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Evidenced within this trench were a series of seven strip- and pit-quarries of a post-Medieval date. Amidst these were two north-south linears (F.573 & F.576), identified from aerial photographs as curving parallel ditches. These linears continued to the north and south in Trenches 173, 176 and 177, and appeared to have a slight curve. Their function was never fully elucidated within the confines of the evaluation; however, two potential explanations can be suggested. The first is of a double ditched enclosure; the profiles of the two features could suggest that the inner ditch (F.576) was constructed on a larger scale. These linears were sealed by a deep deposit of subsoil seen only along the western edge of the field (and could be traced through into Field P). This deposit may have been the result of the topography (this was at the brow of a rise) or a headland. Within this trench it was not possible to ascertain whether a potential bank had been located between the two ditches or outside. However, in Trench 177, traces of a possible bank were identified along the eastern edge of F.615 (F.576), placing it between the two ditches. Alternatively, the two ditches could have formed a route or trackway extending from Site 3 to the south with a slight curve in the alignment. The difference noted in the depth and width of the two linears may have been the result of topographical and preservation factors. The larger of the ditches was higher up slope, near the edge of the current field boundary, and protected under deeper 'headland-like' deposits. These would explain the greater preservation for this ditch; the smaller shallower ditch would be affected more by truncation.

Located within the fills of F.573 were the articulated remains of a horse. These were only partially exposed within the trench, continuing into the baulk, and as a result they were left *in situ*.

F.573 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1572, 1573, 1575], cut [1574]. Fill a dark grey silt clay becoming increasingly darker as the deposits went down. The articulated skeleton of a horse was encountered during the excavation of this feature which precluded its total excavation.

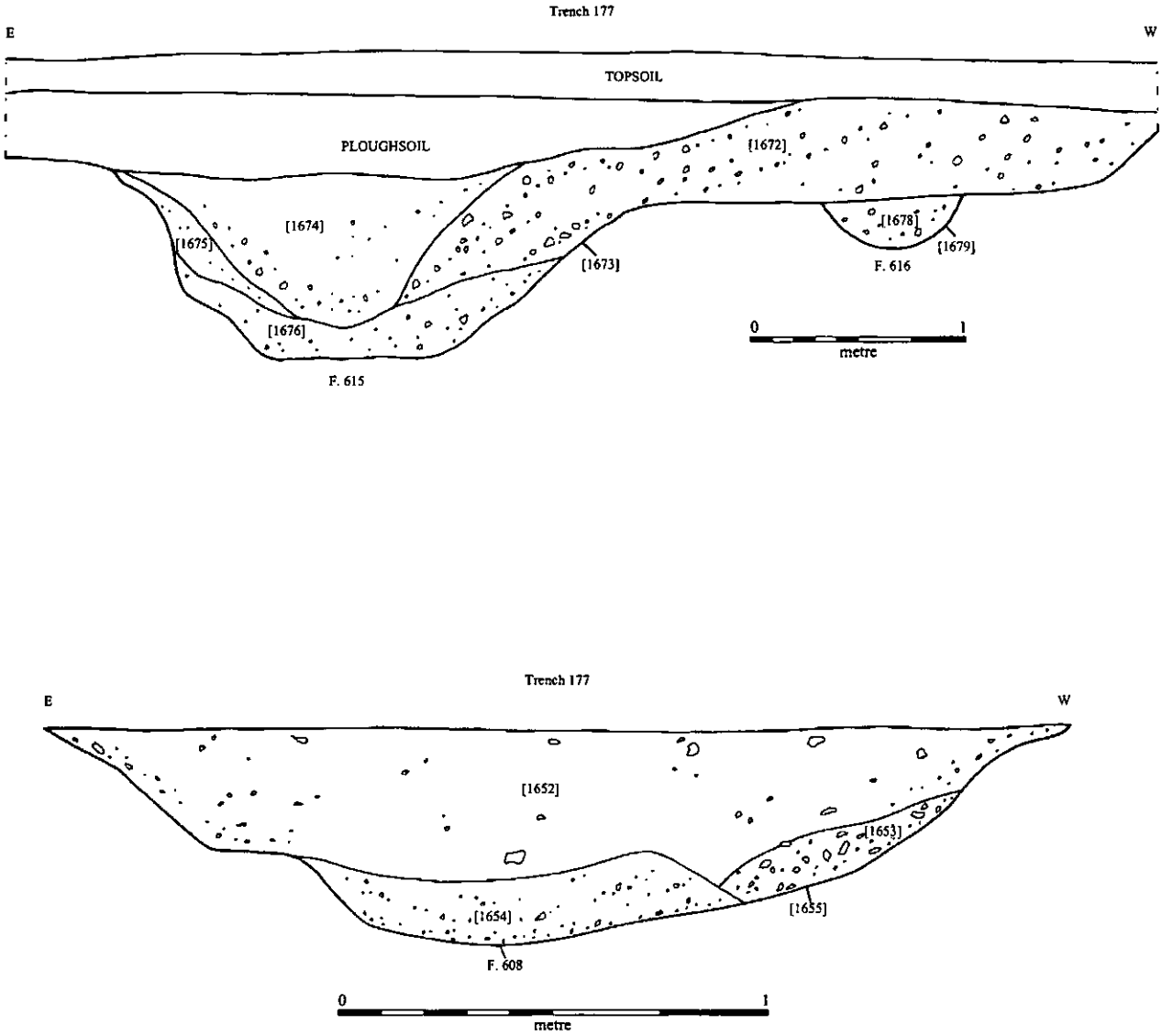

Figure 25. Sections; Field O

F.576 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1581, 1582, 1583], cut [1584]. Fill a grey brown sandy silt with frequent stone and occasional charcoal inclusions, a dark grey black sandy silt with frequent large stone inclusions, and an orange brown sandy silt basal deposit with frequent stone inclusions. Width 3.26m, depth 1.15m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 175 - Trench 175 was 50m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Four linears and a pit were recorded, along with five postholes that were left unexcavated. There were two northwest-southeast orientated linears (1.7m and 1.8m wide), another, north-south orientated (2.3m wide) and a northeast-southwest, 1.2m wide linear, which cut a possible pit. Of the five postholes, four were in close proximity to each other and were of a similar size, 0.25m in diameter. However, it was not possible to determine what type of structure they formed (if indeed they did). The fifth posthole was 0.4m in diameter and was located within the western end of the trench near to the other four. The linears identified within this trench follow an alignment similar to that recorded within Trench 110 in Field Z (see above). These features suggested Romano-British activity (i.e. Site 4 related) and it is probable that this continued through to Field O.

Trench 176 - Trench 176 was 22m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural at the eastern end, with 0.25m of topsoil overlying 0.20m of subsoil to the west. This trench was cut in response to the cremation in Trench 158 and the Late Iron Age ditches in Trenches 173, 174 and 177. Three north-south linears were recorded and left unexcavated: one 0.7m wide, another 1.6m wide, and the easternmost 3.9m wide. The two easternmost linears were continuations of the Late Iron Age ditches in Trench 174. West of F.566 (in Trench 158) and at the eastern end of the trench, a small pit extended from the northern baulk. This was left unexcavated with the possibility of it being another burial, or an associated feature.

Trench 177 - Trench 177 was 26m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural at the eastern end, 0.25m of topsoil overlying 0.30m of subsoil to the west. A series of three linears (F.608, F.615 & F.616) were recorded along with traces of possible bank material (F.614); Feature 608, the eastern linear, equated to F.573 in Trench 174. Feature 615 was the western larger ditch with a smaller ditch (F.615) alongside it which was sealed by a deposit thought to be the remnants of the bank. It is possible that the presence of a headland could have preserved traces of the bank. However, it may have been that the headland obscured and became 'confused'/mixed with bank material.

F.608 (fig. 25) Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1652, 1653, 1654], cut [1655]. Fill a mid grey sandy silt with occasional stones and charcoal, a light grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions, and a dark grey sandy silt basal deposit with frequent stones. Width 2.39m, depth 0.59m, with 'U'-shaped profile.

F.614 Deposit [1672]. A brownish red silty sand with frequent stone and occasional charcoal .

F.615 (fig. 25) Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1674, 1675, 1676], cut [1673]. Fill a dark blackish grey sandy silt with occasional stone and charcoal inclusions, a light grey sandy silt, and a dark grey sandy silt basal deposit with frequent stone inclusions. Width 2.50m, depth 0.70m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.616 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1678], cut [1679]. Fill a reddish grey silty sand with frequent stone and occasional charcoal inclusions. Width 0.63m, depth 0.20m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

Discussion

The archaeology within Field O was concentrated along the western edge within the area of higher ground. Although some features were identified in the lower lying areas, these appeared to consist primarily of drainage features (indeed this was seen to continue into Field R where very little archaeology was encountered). Two linear alignments were recorded, one spanning Trenches 155, 156 and 157, and, the other, Trenches 152, 155, and 157; both of which were northwest-southeast orientated. The nature of these linears and their projected alignments suggest they *may* have been of Romano-British origin, with a similar patterning of linears (although more representative of route ways) evident to the north in Fields Q and R.

The concentration of features along the western edge of the field suggested intense activity including settlement. The 'Aylesford-Swarling' burial excavated was potentially one of a number in this immediate area. It was observed to cut a similar, only larger feature, and other possible burial pits were also noted extending slightly beyond the edges of Trenches 158 and 176. All suggested the occurrence of a much more extensive cemetery, in which upward of ten or more interments may be presumed.

Found in association with this burial were a number of discrete features, such as pits and postholes. Although no definite structures were evident as such, it seems most likely that they are represented by the postholes in Trenches 158 and 175. The difficulty arises when these two feature sets (i.e. respectively burial and settlement-related) are placed in such close proximity. This could suggest that what is represented here are the fringes of a settlement, most likely that identified in Field Z (Site 5; see above). The burial represents an earlier phase of Late Iron Age usage which predates the settlement at Site 5 (mid to late Roman) and may even attest to Iron Age/Roman continuity.

Here, however, it is relevant to note that ditches in Trench 175 and the southern half of Trench 158 are on a more (true) north-south/east-west alignment and not the northwest-southeast orientation of those through the north-centre of this field and elsewhere in this landscape. This 'true' alignment clearly reflects the northward continuation of the Site 5 features from Field Z. Particularly important in this regard is its interrelationship with the double-ditch system along the western edge of this field, which over its southern length appears also to change alignment coming away from a northwesterly arc and, instead, running more due southward. Given the attributes of the relatively high quantity of finds recovered from this double-ditch system in Trenches 174 and 177, there can be little doubt that it was later Iron Age in date. The quantities are such to suggest adjacent contemporary settlement. Yet, rather than being a settlement enclosure as such, this double-ditch line may instead mark a Late Iron Age trackway – arguably a road – which may have continued south across Field E as the headland parallel boundary discussed above (truncated by quarries in Field Z south of Trench 110). This interpretation would then have the Trench 158 interments as a Late Iron Age roadside cemetery and also account for the change in alignments of the Site 5 Romano-British features, as it, in effect, would be a Romano-British roadside settlement whose alignment would attest to the continuity of use of this possibly major north-south 'way'.

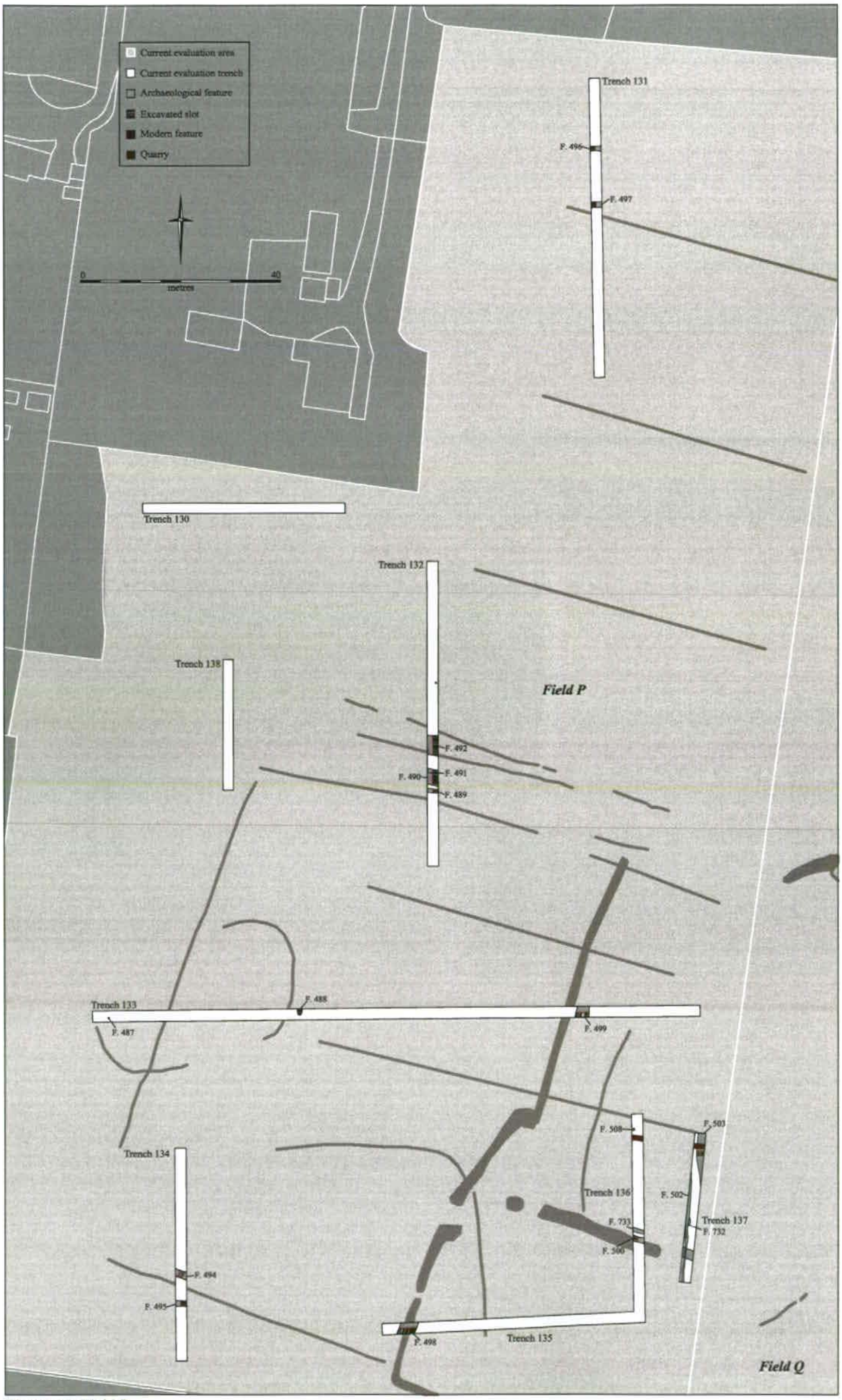

Figure 26. Field P

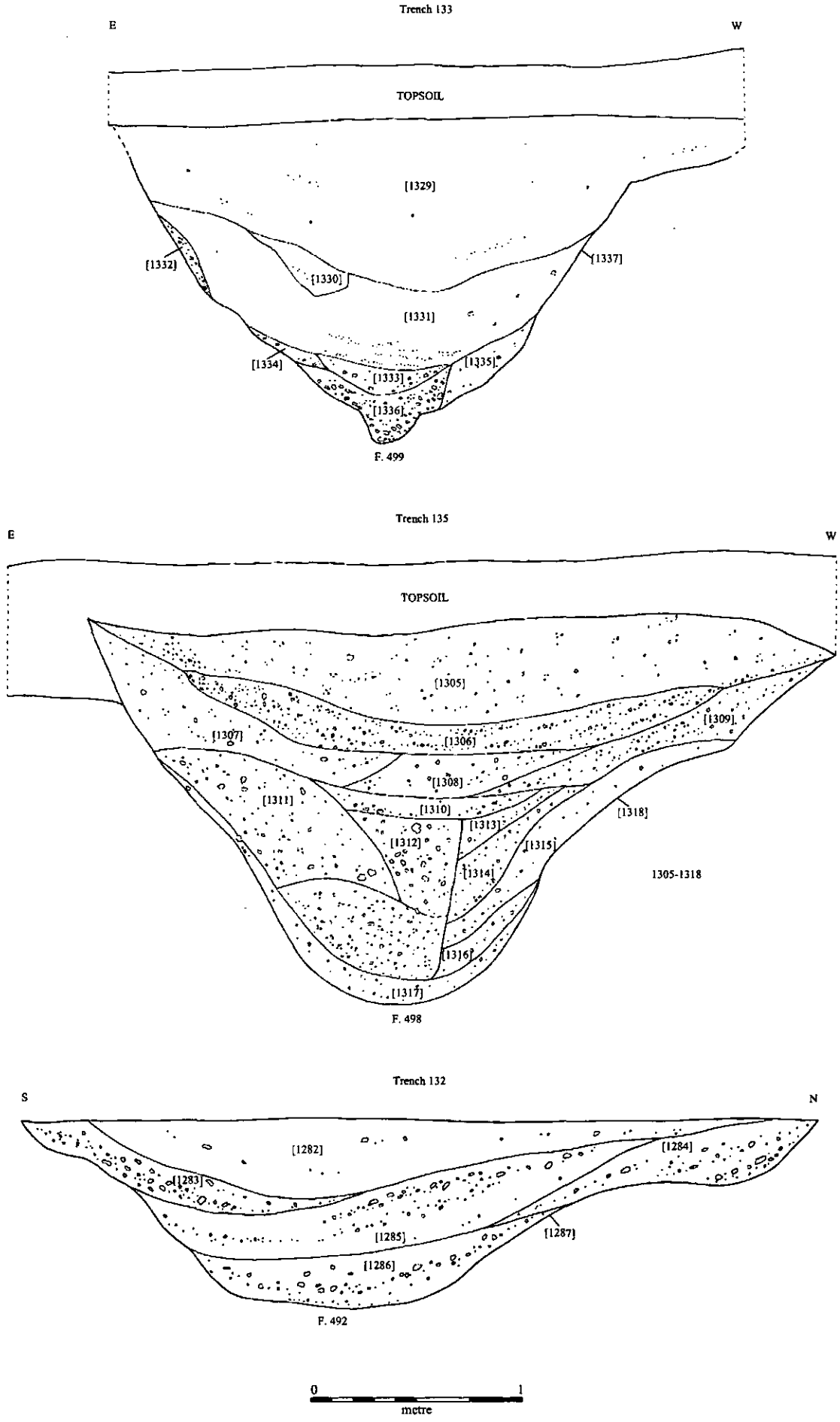

Figure 27. Sections; Field P

Fields P, Q, and R

The aerial photographs show two areas/groupings of cropmarks in these, the northernmost fields. On the one hand, there are the circular, almost 'barrow-like' rings of the WWII battery positions in Field Q, and three trenches (159, 164 & 165) were targeted upon these. (During the metal detector survey in this area a Royal Artillery cap badge and several 303 rifle cartridges were recovered. Alerted to the presence of munitions and WWII features, a representative from BACTEC Ordnance Disposal was present during the machine stripping; no further evidence of munitions was, however, recovered. On the other hand, extending throughout all three fields are a series of rectangular cropmarks, predominately set on northwest-southeast orientation and, thereby, suggestive of a reeve-like fieldsystem. Many of the trenches in these fields were located to test this system and, also, to straddle the projected westward line of the (parallel) Addenbrooke's Roman road (Evans *et al.* 2004a)

Obviously continuing from the higher densities found in Field O to the south, relative quantities of worked flint were recovered from Fields P and Q through the fieldwalking, especially within the latter (Anderson & Evans 2005: fig. 7). While most of this material is undiagnostic, both distinctly Late Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic and, also, Bronze Age 'or later' pieces were recovered.

As detailed in the Oxford Archaeotechnics report (Johnson 2005), high value magnetic susceptibility swathes were detected in the geophysical survey within Field P and, accordingly, two areas therein were subject to magnetometry trials. Whereas, based on the trenching results, that to the north is probably of recent source-origin, the southern portion (Area 2; see also Anderson & Evans 2005; figs. 4 & 5) does, indeed, seem to reflect early settlement activity/features (Site 7; see below).

Field P

Trench 130 (fig. 26) - Trench 130 was 40m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.3m thick, lying directly onto natural. No archaeology was recorded within this trench.

Trench 131 - Trench 131 was 60m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.4m thick, lying directly onto natural. Two parallel ditches (F.496 and F.497) were recorded 10.2m apart, possibly part of a track or route way between fields (these may represent one of the trackways recorded in Field Q; see below).

F.496 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1301], cut [1302]. Fill a mid orange-brown silty sand with occasional gravel. Width 1.00m, depth 0.14m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.497 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1303], cut [1304]. Fill a pale grey-brown sandy silt with frequent gravel. Width 1.10m, depth 0.19m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

Trench 132 - Trench 132 was 61m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m directly onto natural. Five features were recorded within this trench; one, a

posthole, was left unexcavated. Feature 490 was a northwest-southeast re-cut of F.491 a linear 2.5m wide. This was aligned parallel to F.492 (4m wide) and 2.8m apart. Features 490 and 491 both produced SFs 10 and 12 respectively.

F.489 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1272], cut [1273]. Fill a dark orange-brown silty sand with moderate gravel. Width 0.95m, depth 0.29m, with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.490 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fills [1274-1277], cut [1278]. Fill a pale to mid brown silty sand with occasional gravel overlying edge slumping/weathering. Width 2.15m, depth 0.35m, with a wide, flat based profile.

F.491 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fills [1279, 1280], cut [1281]. Fill a pale brown silty sand with occasional gravel overlying dark brown weathering/slumping. Width 1.15m, depth 0.41m, with a rounded bowl-shaped profile.

F.492 (fig. 27) Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill [1282-1286], cut [1287]. Fill a pale to mid grey-brown sandy silt with moderate gravel. Width 3.80m, depth 0.90m, with a wide, rounded profile.

Trench 133 - Trench 133 was 121m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m thick, lying directly onto natural. Three features were recorded and excavated within this trench. Feature 487 was a isolated posthole at its western end; F.488, the terminal of a north-south linear and, F.499, a north-south linear (2.6m wide).

F.487 Pit/posthole. Fill [1268], cut [1269]. Fill a dark orange-brown silty sand, occasional gravel. 0.22m x 0.15m, 0.16m deep, sub-circular in plan with a rounded 'U'-shaped profile.

F.488 Pit/ditch terminal, N-S alignment. Fill [1270], cut [1271]. Fill a mid orange-brown silty sand with occasional gravel. Width 1.20m, depth 0.60m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

F.499 (fig. 27) Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fills [1329-1336], cut [1337]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional gravel sealing pale grey silty sand, with gravelly basal slumping. Width 3.05m, depth 1.55m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 134 - Trench 134 was 42.5m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.3m thick, lying directly onto natural at the northern end; it was 0.4m deep and underlain by 0.4m of subsoil at the southern end giving a total overall depth of 0.8m. Two ditches were uncovered within this trench, F.494 and 495. Feature 494 was a northwest-southeast linear (1.4m wide) and, F.495, an east-west linear (1.1m wide). These were 4m apart; however, a pit protruding from the baulk between them appeared unrelated to the ditches.

F.494 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fills [1293-1296], cut [1297]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt, becoming increasing gravelly towards base. Width 1.62m, depth 0.86m, with a severe 'V'-shaped profile.

F.495 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fills [1298, 1299], cut [1300]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and paler basal fill. Width 1.79m, depth 0.49m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 135 - Trench 135 was 50m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.45m directly onto natural. A single feature was recorded within the trench, F.498 a northeast-southwest linear (4m wide); this corresponded with a major cropmark.

F.498 (fig. 27) Ditch, NNE-SSW alignment. Fills [1305-1317], cut [1318]. Fill predominantly of mid brown sandy silt with moderate gravel, with banding on western side – a potential recut slices through these in an almost vertical cut. Width 4.00m, depth 1.85m, with a rounded 'V'-shaped profile.

Trench 136 - Trench 136 was 41.5m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m thick, lying directly onto natural. Four features were recorded within the trench, of which two east-west linears (one being post-Medieval in date) were left unexcavated. A linear (F.500), orientated east-west, was located 0.7m from an unexcavated linear, F.733, and the two were probably related. Feature 508 was a posthole, 0.5m in diameter.

F.500 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill [1319-1322], cut [1323]. Fill a dark brown sandy silt with occasional gravel, with paler, more gravelly layers at the base. Width 1.00m, depth 0.62m, with a rounded 'V' profile.

F.501 Pit. Fill [1325], cut [1326]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt, occasional gravel. Diameter 0.40m, 0.12m deep, circular in plan with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.733 Ditch, WNW-ESE alignment. Fill a mid brown gravelly clay-silt. Width 0.75m. Not excavated. Beside and parallel to F.500.

Trench 137 - Trench 137 was 29.6m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30-0.37m deep; the subsoil divided into two horizons, a mid orange brown (0.25-0.31m thick) sealing a dark orange brown subsoil (0.3m thick). The overlying soils, therefore, had an overall depth of 0.95m. Five features were recorded within the trench. A modern east-west linear, a northwest-southeast linear (F.500) and a pit (F.732) were left unexcavated, with F.500 being excavated in Trench 136. Two features were dug; a narrow north-south linear (0.4m wide; F.502), which cut a linear and the pit; and, F.503, one edge of a northwest-southeast linear which cut through the corner at the northern end of the trench.

F.502 Ditch, N-S alignment. Fill [1327], cut [1328]. Fill a mid brown gravelly, sandy silt. Width 0.50m, depth 0.21m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.503 Ditch, NNW-SSE alignment. Fill [1339], cut [1340]. Fill a mid brown gravelly, sandy silt. Width 1.50+m (full width not exposed), depth 0.32m, with a shallow, rounded profile.

F.732 Pit. Only partially exposed. Fill a mid to dark gravelly sand. Cut by F.502. Width 1.60m. Not excavated.

Trench 138 - Trench 138 was 26m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.4m thick, lying directly onto natural. No archaeology was recorded within this trench.

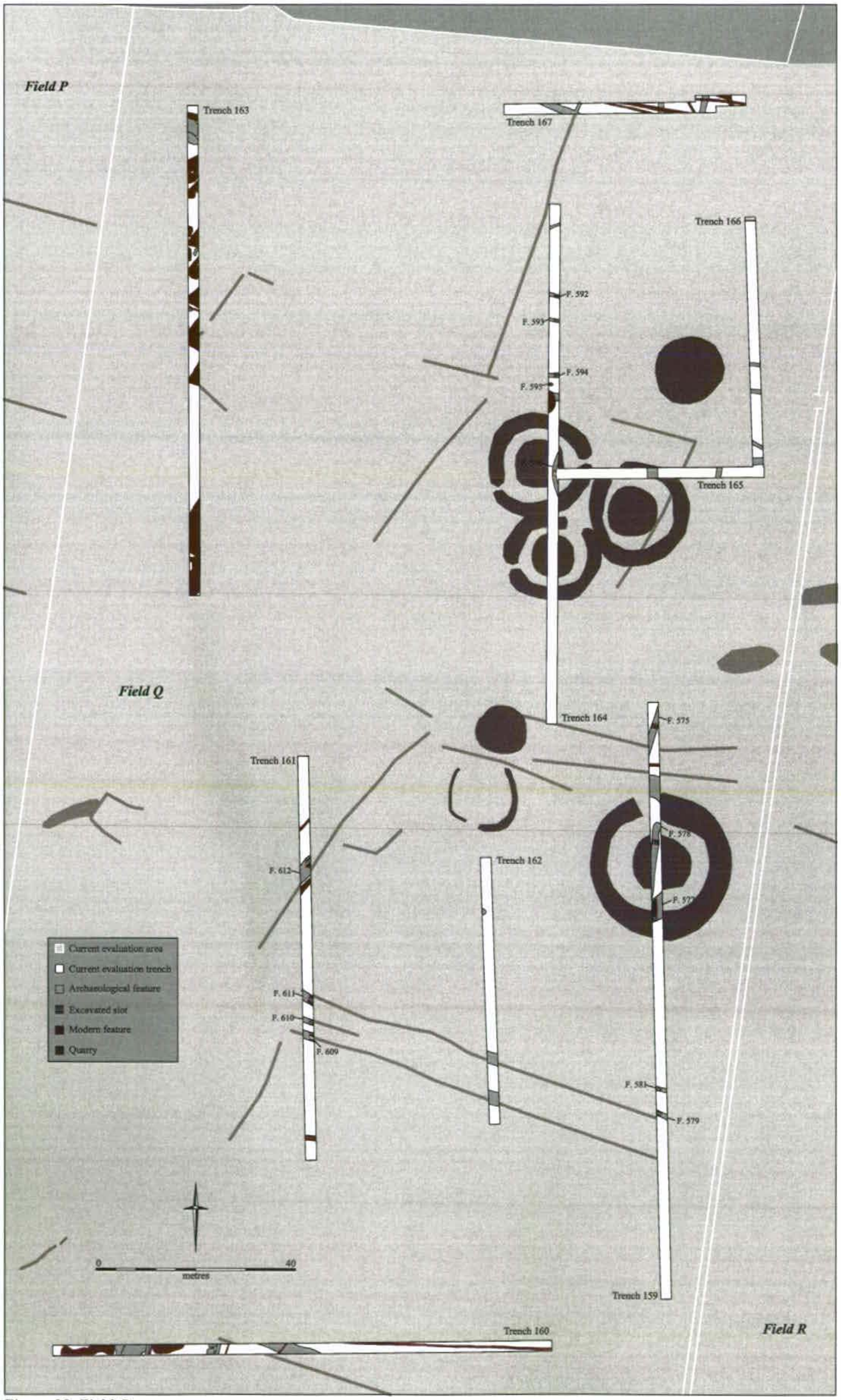

Figure 28. Field Q

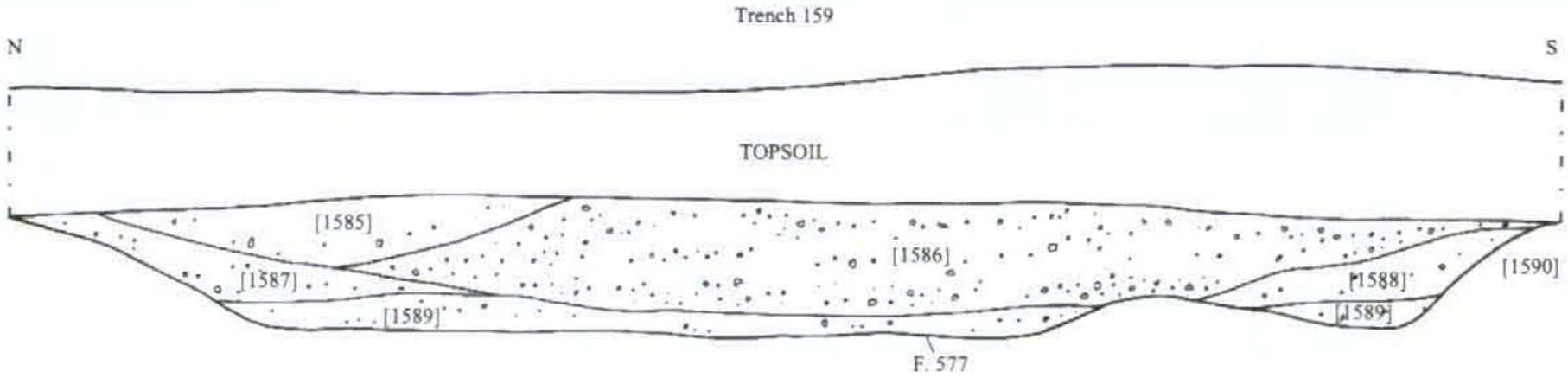

Figure 29. 1944 aerial photograph and section across the WWII gun emplacement

Field Q

Trench 159 (fig. 28) - Trench 159 was 120m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.36m thick, lying directly onto the natural. This trench was sited in order to target a series of cropmarks and a WWII anti-aircraft gun emplacement. Six features were recorded within this trench, two were the outer ditch of the WWII anti-aircraft gun emplacement (F.577); two were northeast-southwest linears, of which one (F.578) contained a large quantity of burnt stone, and a further two were northwest-southeast linears (F.579 & F.581). The latter two could be traced across the field within Trenches 162 and 161, where they were recorded as F.609 and F.611 respectively. They were also identified continuing into Field R in Trench 172, where they were recorded as F.606 and F.607. These linears were visible from the cropmark plot and appeared to represent a trackway, potentially running between field enclosures. A similar system of parallel ditches was identified to the north within Trenches 164, 165 and 166, and also within Field R in Trench 178.

The WWII gun emplacement was seen as two slightly curving linears (F.577), 4.20m wide and 19.6m apart. A section was excavated across the southernmost arc (see fig. 29) and as a result is was possible to propose an interpretation concerning the construction of the emplacement. The ditch appeared to have been cut to a depth of 0.80m from the current topsoil surface and to a width of 4.15m as visible at the archaeological level with a flat base. This produced a wide shallow ditch, constructed as a blast defence and to create banks and mounds surrounding the gun. Deposit [1585] along the outside edge of the ditch comprised of redeposited natural and included barbed wire, the presence of which suggests that there may have been a bank located outside the ditch. The primary deposit [1589] appeared to suggest that grass had been allowed to develop along the base of the feature. Deposit [1856] characterised the demise of the gun emplacement, with a high proportion of redeposited natural within its matrix suggesting that the banks had been purposefully backfilled into the ditch.

F.575 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1579], cut [1580]. Fill a mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions. Width 1.00m, depth 0.21m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.577 (fig. 29) Curvilinear. Fill [1585, 1586, 1587, 1588, 1589], cut [1590]. Fill a greyish brown silt clay with frequent redeposited natural overlying a backfill mixture of 75% redeposited natural with brown yellow coarse sand and patches of dark grey sandy silt, overlying a light brown grey silty clay, overlying a light brown grey sandy clay, which overlies a dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions. Width 4.17m, depth 0.43m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.578 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1591, 1592, 1593, 1594], cut [1595]. Fill a pale grey brown silt with frequent stone inclusions including burnt stones, overlying a mid grey slightly clayey silt with frequent stone (including burnt stone fragments) and occasional charcoal inclusions, overlying a pale grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions, which overlies an organic rich brown clayey silt occasional stone and charcoal inclusions. Width 1.00m, depth 0.63m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.579 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1596, 1597], cut [1598]. Fill a blue grey clayey silt with occasional stone and charcoal inclusions with a rich brown clayey silt basal fill with frequent stone inclusions. Width 1.39m, depth 0.68m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.581 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1604, 1605], cut [1603]. Fill a dark grey silt with a light grey sandy silt basal fill. Width 1.03m, depth 0.50m, with steep sides and a flat base.

Trench 160 - Trench 160 was 100m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.33m thick, lying directly onto the natural. This trench revealed intercutting quarry pits of a post-Medieval date which had been truncated by later linears. One potential earlier feature was recorded, a northwest-southeast linear 3m wide. None of these were excavated.

Trench 161 - Trench 161 was 80m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.32m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Four linears and one modern feature were recorded in this trench. Two of these linears (F.609 & F.611) were identified as cropmarks and were recorded continuing through Trenches 162 and 159 to the east, and into Field R, Trench 172 (see above). A similar pair of parallel linears was identified within Trenches 164 and 166 to the north, sharing the same alignment (only on a shallower scale); to the south in Field O, instances of single linears on this alignment were recorded (see below). It is thought that these represent a portion of a Romano-British fieldsystem with track/routeways, probably fossilizing a system that had its origins in later prehistory. Feature 612 was a large northeast-southwest linear which had a high percentage of gravel and pebble within its fill. Two small sherds of abraded pottery were recovered from it, which suggests a possible later prehistoric date (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age). Feature 578 within Trench 159 was similar and, therefore, may have been of a comparable date; however, the lack of any dateable material makes this pure supposition.

F.609 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1656], cut [1657]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions. Width 1.72m, depth 0.45m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.610 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1658], cut [1659]. Fill a mid brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions. Width 1.10m, depth 0.12m, with gradual sides and a flat base.

F.611 Ditch, NW-SE alignment. Fill [1660, 1661, 1662, 1663], cut [1664]. Fill a light to dark brown loamy silt with occasional gravel inclusions, overlying a grey brown sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions, which in turn overlay a red brown sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions and a grey clay silt basal fill. Width 1.95m, depth 0.95m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.612 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1665, 1666, 1667, 1668], cut [1669]. Fill a mixed stone and gravel with mid brown sandy silt, overlying a mixed stone and gravel mid grey sandy silt, which in turn overlay a yellow white sandy gravel mix with a mid grey basal silt. Width 2.75m, depth 0.60m, with steep sides and a flat base.

Trench 162 - Trench 162 was 54m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.42m thick, lying directly onto the natural. A portion of a single pit extruded from the baulk 0.8m and 1.5m wide, and was left unexcavated. Towards the southern end were two northwest-southeast linears (5m apart), 2.3m and 2.7m wide, but which were not excavated. These were the two linears identified in Trenches 159 and 161, which formed part of a trackway (see above).

Trench 163 - Trench 163 was 100m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was generally 0.46m thick, lying directly onto the natural. However, at the northern end, 0.40m of topsoil was found to overlay 0.30m of subsoil. This trench evidenced a number of field drains (nine) and a series of intercutting quarry pits and other modern intrusions. It is possible that these disturbances were related to the anti-aircraft

emplacement and its associated features, although nothing is visible on either the relevant 1940 Luftwaffe aerial photo or the 1944 USAAF training flight shot. The topography of the western edge of the field suggested large-scale quarrying represented by a substantial dip. This was further confirmed within Trench 160.

Trench 164 - Trench 164 was 105m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick overlying 0.25m of subsoil. Eight features were recorded within the trench. Five were linears; three northwest-southeast orientated, of which one (1.5m wide and obscured by a modern pit) was not excavated; a northeast-southwest linear, 0.5m wide, which was not excavated, and an east-west linear. Two of the northwest-southeast linears (F.592 and F.593) were set parallel 5m apart which could be traced through to Trench 166 and into Field R, Trench 178. These parallel ditches were similar to those recorded to the south running through Trenches 159, 161 and 162, and into Field R, Trench 172. They probably represent a track or routeway between field enclosures. Two pits were also recorded, one of which was modern (4.5m wide and 1.3m extending into trench) and not excavated, and a small pit of unknown date.

The trench was located in an attempt to investigate two possible WWII gun or searchlight emplacements identified from aerial photographs. A length of a curvilinear linear was recorded (F.596), which probably encircled a WWII searchlight as identified on an USAAF training flight aerial photograph (April 1944). Unlike the emplacement ditch in Trench 159, this feature was more reminiscent of a slit trench (0.75m wide and 1m deep from the topsoil surface with vertical sides). Trench 165 was cut to the east at right-angle to Trench 164 in an attempt to locate the return of this ditch.

F.592 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1610], cut [1611]. Fill a yellow brown grey sandy clay. Width 0.88m, depth 0.15m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.593 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1612], cut [1613]. Fill a light brown grey sandy clay. Width 0.59m, depth 0.15m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.594 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1614], cut [1615]. Fill a brown grey silty clay. Width 0.89m, depth 0.27m, with a shallow V shaped profile.

F.595 Pit. Fill [1616], cut [1617]. Fill a light brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions. Length 1.02m, width 0.60m, depth 0.32m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.596 Curvilinear. Fill [1618, 1619], cut [1677]. Fill a dark brown silt with occasional stone inclusions overlying a mid grey sandy clayey silt. Width 0.75m, depth 0.70m, with vertical sides and a flat base.

Trench 165 - Trench 165 was 50m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Cut at right-angles to the south of Trench 165, this trench targeted the WWII features identified on various aerial photographs. Two north-south linears (one 2m wide; 17.5m from western end of trench) and, the other (1m wide), were identified and left unexcavated. The westernmost linear was interpreted as the return of F.596, the searchlight ditch

Trench 166 - Trench 166 was 50m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m thick, lying directly onto the natural. This trench was cut at right-angles to Trench 165 to determine whether F.592 and F.593 continued. Three east-west linears were recorded at the southern end; one of these was 1.4m wide, and two were parallel, 4.5m apart, one 0.6m wide and, the other, 0.8m wide. These appeared to be F.592 and F.593 continuing from Trench 164 (see above). The slight difference in alignment could be representative of minor variations along their lengths. There was also a northwest-southeast linear, 0.60m wide, at the southern end of the trench.

Trench 167 - Trench 167 was 50m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.35m thick, lying directly onto the natural. A number of services (drain pipes and metal cables) were recorded cutting four earlier linears. The aerial photographs from the WWII show a series of structures along the northern edge of the field in close proximity to this trench. The pipes and cable were all out of use and probably serviced these wartime structures until their removal. Truncated by the later services at the eastern end of the trench were two north-south linears (1.2m and 1.1m wide) that were left unexcavated. At the western end of the trench and truncated by the cable, was a northwest-southeast linear (1.4m wide) with a 0.60m wide linear extending at right-angles from it.

Field R

Trench 168 (fig. 30) - Trench 168 was 60m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. No archaeological features were encountered within this trench.

Trench 169 - Trench 169 was 75.9m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. A total of nine features were excavated. It is possible that F.597 and F.599 were the continuation of the parallel linears identified at the northern end of Field Q (Trench 164; see above). The cropmark plot for this field identified several large linears which this trench targeted. Feature 603 matched the location of one of these features, suggesting that they may represent wide shallow ditches of unknown date or function. These features, however, should have been visible in Trench 178. Yet there was no trace of these there, suggesting the possibility that F.603 may have been 'something else'.

F.580 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1599, 1600, 1601], cut [1602]. Fill an orange grey clay with occasional stone inclusions, overlying an orange grey clay with a grey clay basal fill containing occasional stone inclusions. Width 2.32m, depth 0.51m, with steep sides and a flat base.

F.590 Pit. Fill [1606], cut [1607]. Fill a mid brown grey sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions. Length 1.00m (exposed from trench edge), width 2.39m, depth 0.29m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.591 Pit. Fill [1608], cut [1609]. Fill a light brown grey sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions. Length 1.00m (exposed from trench edge), width 1.86m (exposed from trench edge), depth 0.30m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.597 Pit. Fill [1620], cut [1621]. Fill a dark brown clay silt. Length 1.40m, width 0.88m, depth 0.14m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

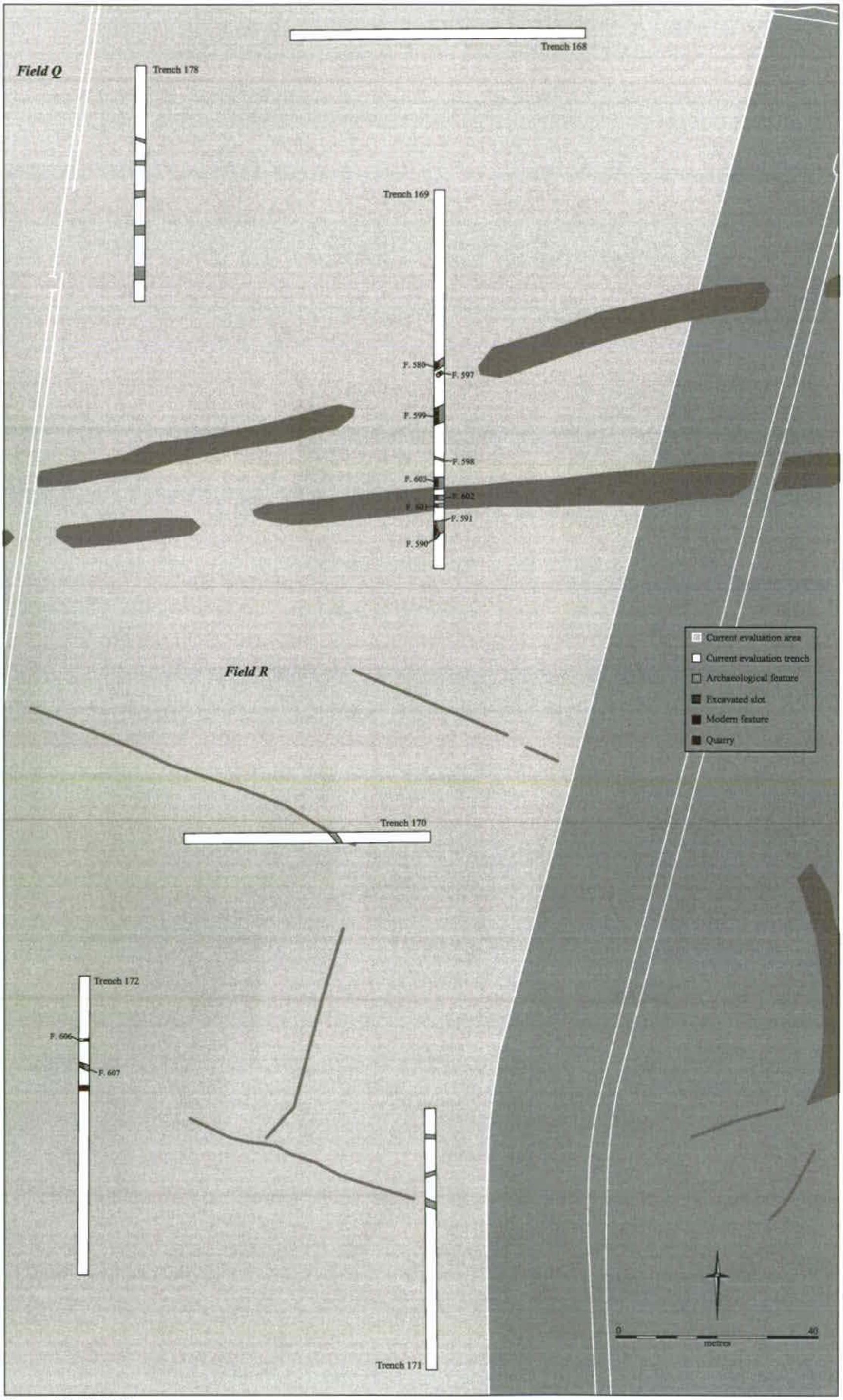

Figure 30. Field R

F.598 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1622], cut [1623]. Fill a mid grey silty clay. Width 0.50m, depth 0.22m, with a 'V'-shaped profile.

F.599 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1624], cut [1625]. Fill a light orange brown mid grey silty clay. Width 3.50m, depth 0.20m, with a gradual sides and a concave base.

F.601 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1628], cut [1629]. Fill a light to mid brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions. Width 0.75m, depth 0.28m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.602 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1630], cut [1631]. Fill a light to mid brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions. Width 1.00m, depth 0.35m, with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile.

F.603 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1632], cut [1633]. Fill a grey brown sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions. Width 2.40m, depth 0.16m, with gradual sides and a flat base.

Trench 170 - Trench 170 was 49m long on an east-west alignment. The topsoil was 0.36m thick, lying directly onto the natural. A single northwest-southeast linear (unexcavated; 1m wide) was recorded in this trench, which featured on the cropmark plot.

Trench 171 - Trench 171 was 52.3m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.27m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Three linears at the northern end, one east-west (0.85m wide), another northeast-southwest (0.70m wide) and, the third, northwest-southeast (1.35m wide), were recorded and left unexcavated. (For the duration of the excavation the majority of the trench contained sitting water, as did the surrounding field.)

Trench 172 - Trench 172 was 59.7m long on a north-south alignment. The topsoil was 0.30m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Two linears (F.606 & F.607) were recorded at the northern end, it was possible that these represented the continuation of the parallel ditches identified at the southern end of Field Q in Trench 159 (see above). Feature 606 which would equate to the northern of the two linears was on a slightly different alignment. This could represent no more than a slight kink in its line. However, F.607 was identified further east in Trench 171 while F.606 was not, suggesting that the parallel system identified in Field Q only continued as a single ditch in Field R.

F.606 Ditch, E-W alignment. Fill [1646], cut [1647]. Fill a brown grey silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. Width 0.45m, depth 0.20m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

F.607 Ditch, NE-SW alignment. Fill [1648, 1649, 1650], cut [1651]. Fill a dark brown clay becoming lighter towards the base. Width 0.99m, depth 0.35m, with a 'U'-shaped profile.

Trench 178 - Trench 178 was 50m long on a N-S alignment. The topsoil was 0.32m thick, lying directly onto the natural. Five linears were identified, one northwest-southeast, with the other four orientated east-west. Two of these represented the continuation of the parallel ditches identified at the northern end of Field Q, Trench 166 (see above); these were all left unexcavated.

Discussion

The archaeology in Field P was largely restricted to the southeastern corner. The two ditches recorded in Trench 131, at the northern end of the field, were sterile and diminutive, and their attribution, even as genuine features, must remain uncertain. The most northerly unambiguous features occurred in Trench 132, including F.492, a ditch of significant size, but from which no dating evidence was recovered. Throughout the field the only pottery recovered dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (Trenches 133 & 137) and Late Iron Age (Trench 136), but artefact densities in general were low. The major cropmarks recorded in the southeastern corner of Field P were readily identified archaeologically, and the main north northeast-south southwest feature was substantial size, measuring 4.00m across and over 1.50m deep in Trench 135. The section through the cropmark in Trench 133 (as F. 499) contained 13g of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, and the continuation of this ditch as F.503 in Trench 137 produced 43g.

Albeit producing only limited quantities of finds, there can be little doubt that we are seeing evidence of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement in the southeastern corner of this field and, accordingly, this will hereafter be referred to as Site 7. It seems probable that this continued into the Field Q to the east, with F.578 (Trench 159) and F.612 (Trench 161) standing out as being slightly different to the other features there. Both of these had a relatively pale fill and a high proportion of large stones within their matrix (some of which were burnt). Feature 612 produced a few fragments (6g) of abraded pottery which tentatively suggests a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date (see Brudenell below). It is possible that these features were related to the enclosure system identified within Field P. Unfortunately, the evidence from the trenches in Field Q suggests a degree of truncation from later quarrying activities which may have there damaged this site.

Two distinct phases of 'archaeology' were encountered within Field Q. One was represented by the various linears identified in the trenches; the parallel ditches of a possible Romano-British fieldsystem and its potentially earlier, prehistoric origins as identified by F.578 (Trench 159) and F.612 (Trench 161). The other, was the more recent WWII remains; the ditches for the gun emplacements and searchlights, the services for structures, and potentially the quarrying identified in Trenches 160 and 163.

Relating to the main northwest-southeast oriented fieldsystem layout, two potential Romano-British routeways were identified: one at the northern end of the site and the other at the south. Both were on the same alignment, and possibly represent a means of passage between fields. These were traced continuing to the east in Field R and possibly to the west within Field P. The presence of a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age enclosure system in Field P could suggest that these 'ways' represent part of a system which has its origins in later prehistory. This is part of the system that was also identified within Field O (it also has the same orientation as the main Site 3 Roman settlement in Fields D/E). The issue of its attribution, and whether it should be assigned a Roman or prehistoric date, will be returned to in the *Final Discussion.*

Evidence of the impact of WWII on Cambridge was prominent within this field. The presence of a defensive network of features, which included searchlight positions and an anti-aircraft gun emplacement, and the structures which those manning these stations may have occupied, all attested to the town's involvement in this world-scale conflict.

Very little activity was evidenced within Field R. The continuation of linears from Field Q further attests to the pattern identified within Field O of a broad landscape-scale fieldsystem. Indeed, the low density of features and artefacts from this field mirrors that of Field O.

Specialist Studies

Flint (Emma Beadsmoore)

From the evaluated area a total of 46 (609g) flints were retrieved; 31 (394g) worked and unburnt, one (54g) worked and burnt and 14 (161g) unworked and burnt. The flints were recovered from four fields; nine from Field O, 12 from Field P, seven from Field Q and 18 from Field Z.

Field Z

The remaining 18 flints recovered from Field Z are listed by feature and type in Table 15. Seven features in Field Z yielded 18 flints. A residual later Neolithic flake was recovered from ditch F.343. Whilst F.356, F.363, F.365 and F.376 yielded chronologically non-diagnostic waste flakes and unworked burnt chunks. A small assemblage was recovered from pit F.379 that includes a biface thinning flake, likely to be Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Two secondary flakes recovered from the pit are also potentially later Neolithic. A later Neolithic flake and two later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age scrapers were recovered from the topsoil in Field Z.

	Feature								
Type	343	356	363	365	376	379	400	topsoil	**Sub totals**
chip/chunk						2			3
secondary flake				1		2		1	5
tertiary flake	1	1							4
retouched flake				1					1
thinning flake						1			1
sub circular scrapers								2	2
unworked burnt chunk			3		1	1	1		9
Totals	1	1	3	2	1	6	1	3	25

Table 15: Fields Z flint

Field O

The nine flints recovered from Field O are listed by feature and type in Table 16. The material was recovered from three features and comprises flint working waste and one retouched flake; all of which are the products of expedient flake production/core reduction sequences. Although the flints are not clearly chronologically diagnostic, the expedient and uncontrolled method of their manufacture is characteristic of Late Bronze Age/Iron Age flake production strategies.

Type	Feature 566	576	615	Sub totals
chip/chunk	1			1
secondary flake	2	1		3
retouched flake	1			1
irregular core	1		1	2
unworked burnt chunk	1	1		2
Totals	6	2	1	9

Table 16: Field O flint

Field P

The twelve flints recovered from three features in Field P are listed by feature and type in Table 17. Ditch F.498 yielded chronologically non-diagnostic chips and unworked burnt chunks. Whereas a residual later Neolithic blade was recovered from ditch F.500, as well as an expediently reduced irregular core that is more likely to be broadly contemporary with the ditch.

A small assemblage of flint working waste and utilised flints was recovered from F.501. Two scrapers are the products of systematic Neolithic flake production/core reduction strategies. Yet, both tools had become patinated before the scraper ends were freshly retouched. The fresh retouch could have been carried out comparatively soon after the initial manufacture of the flints, or much later; the tools may have been manufactured in the Neolithic, utilised and discarded, then found, retouched and used again in later prehistory.

The seven flints recovered from Field Q are listed in Table 17. All of the flints were recovered from one feature, ditch F.578. The material comprises chronologically non-diagnostic waste flakes and unworked burnt chunks.

Type	Feature 498	500	501	578	Sub totals
chip/chunk	1			1	2
secondary flake		1	1	1	3
tertiary blade		1		2	3
end scraper			1		1
end and side scraper			1		1
core rejuvenation flake			1		1
single platform core			1		1
irregular core		1			1
unworked burnt chunk	3			3	6
Totals	4	3	5	7	19

Table 17: Field P and Q flint

A comparatively limited quantity of flint was recovered from the trial trenches. The expediently manufactured material recovered from Field O could be tentative evidence for later prehistoric flint utilisation. Additional evidence for expedient flake production strategies was supplied by material recovered from Field P. However, Field P also yielded Neolithic material, some of which had been reused. Chronologically non-diagnostic waste flakes were recovered from Field Q, whilst, a small assemblage of later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age material was amongst the chronologically non-diagnostic flint recovered from Field Z. Further evidence of later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity in Field Z was supplied by three flints recovered as stray finds.

Later Prehistoric Pottery (Matt Brudenell)

A small assemblage comprising 61 sherds weighing 419g was recovered from eight features across Fields O, P, Q and Z. The sherds were generally small and moderately abraded, with a mean sherd weight of 6.9g. With the exception of two rim sherds, a single base and two shoulder fragments, the assemblage consisted entirely of body sherds. As few diagnostic forms were present, assignment to period is based primarily on the fabric, this having been cross referenced with the assemblage from the near by Addenbrooke's Hutchison Site (Evans *et al.* 2004), and pottery from neighbouring Fields D and E.

In total, 16% of the assemblage belongs to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c.1100 BC-400 BC), and is characterised by flint and shell tempered fabrics. The majority of the assemblage, 69%, is dated to the later Iron Age (c.350 BC-c.50 AD). This period is typified by mainly plain, undecorated sherds in dense sandy fabrics which continue to be made alongside Late Iron Age handmade and wheel turned pottery of the 'Aylesford-Swarling' tradition from c.50 BC-c.50 AD. Forms and fabrics characteristic of the latter period account for 15% of the assemblage, and include grog and sand tempered sherds. Overall, only four sherds in the assemblage were burnished, all in dense handmade sandy fabrics of the later Iron Age (c.350 BC-50 AD). Six sherds of similar date were also scored.

Feature based assemblages

Field Z

A single feature in Field Z produced prehistoric pottery. Pit F.357 yielded four abraded body sherds (12g), including two grog tempered sherds characteristic of the Late Iron Age and two flint-tempered sherds characteristic of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. The latter material is residual.

Field O

Forty-five sherds weighing 333g were recovered from three features in Field Q. All bar two sherds were recovered from boundary ditch F.576/615 in Trenches 174 and 177. The two slots through the ditch yielded 328g of pottery, datable to the final stages of the Iron Age, c.50 BC-c.50 AD. Forms and fabrics typical of both the Middle/later Iron Age and the Late Iron Age proper were present. 72% (by weight) of the pottery was in quartz-tempered handmade fabrics typical of the later Iron Age (c.350 BC-50 AD), including three fragments of a small barrel shaped vessel c.11cm in diameter, with an in-turned rim and scored surface (Hill & Horn 2003: Type K), and three further later Iron Age scored sherds. The remaining sherds in F.576/615 were grog tempered and handmade. This fabric type is more typical of Late Iron Age assemblages dated between c.50 BC-50 AD. The only diagnostic Late Iron Age form was a handmade neck sherd with cordon.

As a whole, the assemblage from F.567/615 belongs to the Late Iron Age c.50 BC- c.50 AD. During this period handmade vessels typifying the Middle Iron Age/later Iron Age continued to be produced alongside a set of new forms belonging to the 'Aylesford-Swarling' tradition. This pottery is commonly wheel turned, though handmade versions of the forms are also present, as with the cordoned neck sherd from F.576/615. The remaining two sherds (5g) from Field O were recovered from F.566. Both are residual, and comprise small and abraded fragments in dense sandy fabrics typical of the later Iron Age.

Field P and Q

Ten sherds weighing 68g were recovered from three features in Field P. Two features in Trench 133 contained prehistoric pottery datable to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c.1100 BC-c.400 BC). Ditch F.499 yielded four sherds (11g) in flint and shell fabrics, whilst ditch F.503 yielded four flint tempered sherds (42g). Ditch F.500, in Trench 136, produced two (14g) possible later Iron Age sherds in dense sandy fabrics (c.350 BC-c50 AD).

Two handmade shell-tempered sherds weighing 6g were recovered from F.612 in Field Q. The sherds are small, abraded and undiagnostic. On the basis of the fabric, the sherds are assigned a broad date range spanning the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age (c.1100 BC-c.50 AD). More specifically, the fabric has similarities to the Early Iron Age material from Field E, though such close dating is not advised.

Overall, very little Later Prehistoric pottery was recovered from Fields O, P, Q and Z. The infrequent occurrence of pottery suggests this was not an area densely occupied during the first millennium BC. Notably, evidence for activity prior to c.50 BC is limited to the occasional sherd. Although most sherds in the assemblage are in fabrics typical of the Middle/later Iron Age, these often occur in context containing material characteristic of the Late Iron Age. This may imply that most of the later Iron Age handmade pottery post-dates c.50 BC, continuing to be made alongside the forms and fabrics commonly associated with the 'Aylesford-Swarling' tradition.

The Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A total of 211 sherds of Roman Pottery, weighing 2549g, were recovered from Field Z, from three of the trenches. The only other pottery from across the evaluated fields was from the burial (F.566) in Field O. From this single feature, a total of 172 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 7525g were recovered (two sherds came from the spoil). All of the pottery was examined and details of fabric, form, Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) and date, along with any information on decoration and stamps were recorded.

Field Z

Trench 110 – A total of 43 sherds, weighing 606g, were recovered from eight different features. Feature 341 contained three sherds (40g) consisting of one Nene Valley colour-coated base sherd from a large dish/bowl. There were also two non-diagnostic sandy greyware sherds. This feature therefore dates mid 2nd-4th century AD.

Eight sherds were recovered from Feature 342, weighing 214g. This included one Nene Valley colour-coated convex, shallow dish, dating 3rd-4th century AD. There were also two micaceous sandy greywares, as well as one small rim sherd from a sandy greyware jar, which dates 2nd-4th century AD.

Feature 343 contained 15 sherds weighing 224g, including five Central Gaulish Samian sherds, although only one of these was diagnostic, consisting of a rim sherd from a Dragendorff 33, dating AD 120-150. A handle from a Nene Valley colour-coated flagon was also found, along with one rim sherd from a large shell-tempered jar, both of which can be dated 2nd-4th century AD.

Feature 381 contained eight sherds (49g) of predominately sandy greywares, of which only two were diagnostic, consisting of two medium sized jars with beaded rims dating mid 1st-3rd century AD.

The remaining four features (351, 358, 378 and 379) all contained fewer than five sherds each, all of which were small and abraded, suggesting that they had been redeposited and dating 2nd-3rd century AD.

Trench 111 - A total of 69 sherds weighing 860g were recovered from five features within Trench 111. Feature 375 contained 32 sherds (490g), which included one large body sherd from a Late Baetican amphora dating 2nd-3rd century AD. There were also four sandy greyware jars represented, which date mid 1st-3rd century AD.

Eighteen sherds, weighing 200g were recovered from Feature 376, most of which were sandy greywares, including one rim from a small bowl or dish. There was also an oxidised sandy reeded bowl dating mid 1st-2nd century AD.

Feature 388 contained 11 sherds, weighing 99g, which included two micaceous sandy greywares, one from a beaded rim bowl and one from a flanged bowl. The pottery from this feature was 2nd-4th century AD in date.

Feature 385 contained six sherds (58g), most of which were non-diagnostic sandy greywares, with the only exception being a flat base from a jar or beaker, dating 2nd-4th century AD.

One Pakenham colour-coated ware was recovered from Feature 387, dating 2nd-3rd century AD.

Trench 113 - A total of 99 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 968g, were recovered from six features within Trench 113. Feature 339 contained six sherds weighing 61g, which included one Central Gaulish Samian sherd dating mid-late 2nd century AD and one rim sherd from a coarse, sandy flanged bowl, dating 2nd-3rd century AD.

Seventeen sherds (361g) were recovered from Feature 355, most of which were locally made, sandy greywares. This included three different jars, one of which was relatively large with a base diameter of 18cm. The pottery from this Feature was mid 1st-2nd century AD in date.

Feature 356 contained 63 sherds, weighing 469g. Two Central Gaulish Samian body sherds were recovered along with one rim sherd from a black-slipped beaded bowl. There was also a large sandy greyware lid, measuring 24cm in diameter, dating 2nd-3rd century AD. Three different jars of varying size were also represented and these have a similar 2nd-3rd century AD date.

Seven sherds (49g) were recovered from Feature 350, including two grey-slipped wares, one of which was a rim sherd from a small beaded, jar, dating mid 1st-2nd century AD.

Five sherds were recovered from Feature 384, weighing 115g. This consisted of three non-diagnostic sandy greywares and two sherds from a large, coarseware jar. The pottery from this feature could only be dated Romano-British.

Feature 348 contained one coarse sandy greyware sherd, weighing 6g, which could only be dated Romano-British.

Field O Cremation Assemblage Composition (F.566 Trench 158)

Eight different vessels were represented in this assemblage, five of which were complete and three of which were largely complete. All but three of these vessels were in a structured deposition, with a further Samian vessel just to the north of the main group and a small sandy greyware sherd from a small beaker/jar, along with a Southern Gaulish Samian sherd which were both recovered from the spoil heap.

Forty-nine sherds were recovered from a Dressel 1B amphora (SF26), including one very large base sherd which included the spike. This vessel would probably have been used to transport wine from Italy to Britain and has a date of pre-AD43, with some suggestion that it may be as early as pre AD10 (Tyers 1996). The upper half of this vessel is likely to have been ploughed away, since it was placed upright in the feature and therefore would have gone high into the ploughsoil.

Three complete Terra Nigra vessels were recovered, comprising a Camulodunum Type 56C, a small cup (SF30) and two Camulodunum Type 8 plates (SF's 28 and 29; fig. 31). The two plates were

stamped, reading 'VNDILOF' (SF28) and 'EDATO' (SF29). The date range for the all three vessels is AD 20-65, although the other vessels within this feature suggest a pre-Conquest date; an identification of the stamps is needed to date them even more closely. These vessels were produced in Northern Gaul and form part of the 'Gallo-Belgic' type assemblages.

A complete South Gaulish Dragendorff 18 (SF27; fig. 31), a medium sized plate, was also recovered from the feature. This vessel had a complete stamp on the base, the middle section wass heavily abraded which means two of the letters were unidentifiable. Those which could be identified read 'OF IC_ _CO'. This vessel was mid 1st century AD in date, more specifically pre-Flavian (AD 43-68).

The final complete vessel in this group was a large collard flagon (SF31), consisting of 105 sherds plus crumbs, which had collapsed under the weight of the soil. This was the only vessel in the assemblage which appeared to have been locally made rather than an import. The fabric was a soft, sandy oxidised ware with a reduced core, with common mica and occasional red iron ore inclusions. The exact source of this vessel is as yet unclear as it is unlike any of the early Roman kiln products made in the local area such as Cherry Hinton or Greenhouse Farm (Lucas 1999) and the Addenbrooke's kilns (Webley in Evans & Mackay 2004). This is likely to be because the vessel was probably immediately post-Conquest in date (40s-50s AD), based on the vessel form which is similar to a Camulodunum Type 165, and generally pre-Conquest in date (Tyers 1996).

Six large sherds from a South Gaulish Dragendorff 29 were also recovered (SF's 35 and 54). This was a decorated carinated bowl with scrolled leaf decoration, which has been identified as being the work of Salvetus, dating AD 30-35 (Geoff Dannell pers comm.). This vessel was not complete and was found away from the main group of vessels, suggesting that this was not part of the main cremation group. This is further supported by the dating evidence from the other vessels in the main group which are post-Conquest in date, with the exception of the amphora. As well as being incomplete, this vessel was also more heavily abraded than the other vessels, which suggests that it may have been redeposited in the backfill of this feature.

The quantity of Roman pottery recovered from Field Z is relatively small, which limits any discussion. However, there are several things which are useful in providing information on the assemblage and the site as a whole. The pottery is predominately mid to late Roman in date (2nd-4th century AD), with a few examples of earlier material. The general condition of the pottery is moderate to poor, and many of the sherds are likely to have been redeposited. The forms and fabrics identified are comparable to the material recovered from other Clay Farm sites, which are dominated by locally made coarsewares, with jars being the most commonly occurring vessel form. There are a small number of fine and imported wares, primarily consisting of Nene Valley colour-coated wares with a few Central Gaulish Samian sherds. Overall, the pottery evidence from Field Z suggests a relatively poor site, which had a domestic focus. The relatively small quantity of material recovered suggests that this area was not a main focus of Roman activity.

The assemblage from F.566 is unique, consisting almost entirely of imported, fineware vessels from the immediate post-Conquest period and, in the case of the Dragendorff 29 and the Dressel 1B amphora pre-Conquest. The pottery dates this feature to the 40s-50s AD, based on the Samian and the Terra Nigra, which have the potential to be even more closely dated, if parallels for the stamps can be found.

The Dressel 1B and Dr29, may suggest an earlier date. However, the Dragendorff 29 does not appear to be part of the cremation group and could even be residual within the feature. The amphora is also pre-Conquest in date and although it did form part of the cremation group, it is likely that this vessel could have been curated and retained for a period of time because it was considered 'special'.

Figure 31. Terra Nigra and Samian plates from F. 566

All of the vessels within the cremation group appear to have been in use for a period of time before being deposited into the feature, reflected by the type of abrasion seen on the vessels. The level of abrasion is, however, variable and the Dragendorff 18 is more heavily abraded than the three Terra Nigra vessels. A likely explanation for this is that the Terra Nigra vessels are more robust than the Samian. The levels of abrasion, though significant, also imply that even though these vessels had been used, it had not been for a sustained period of time, since compared to other sherds, particularly those from the Dr29, the level of abrasion was relatively low.

Comparable Early Roman cremation deposits can be found at King Harry Lane (Stead & Rigby 1989), Baldock (Stead & Rigby 1986) and Skeleton Green (Partridge 1981), which all have examples of assemblages consisting of imported wares and local wares from the immediate post-Conquest period. However, when compared to the pottery evidence from the other Clay Farm fields this assemblage is unique and although this is largely due to the nature of the context, its importance should not be overlooked. The Roman pottery recovered from previous excavations at Clay Farm most commonly reflects relatively poor, settlement sites, with a small number of fine, imported wares, especially from the 1st century AD. Even the large settlement at the Hutchinson Site (Evans *et al.* 2004) produced only a very small quantity of early imported wares.

The vessel types which were found within this feature appear to represent a person (people?) of importance, since all of the vessels which were deposited would have stood out as being 'special', which is supported by the evidence that all of the vessels had been curated before finally being used as grave goods. The pottery is also important in providing evidence that this site had access to high-quality, imported wares in the Late Iron Age and Early Roman periods.

In order to obtain a more accurate date range, further work to identify the stamps from the Samian and Terra Nigra is nessasary. Further excavations would show whether this feature was a 'one-off' or part of a larger cremation cemetery, which would have important implications for the understanding of the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period at Clay Farm.

The Faunal Remains (Chris Swaysland)

A quantity of animal bones numbering 1387 fragments and weighing 6187 grams was recovered from a series of evaluation trenches. The condition of the assemblage was in general reasonable, though on many specimens surface detail did not survive.

The material was identified using the reference collection of the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The assemblage was quantified using a modified version of the methodology of Serjeantson (1996), a 'zonal' approach. No attempt has been made to distinguish between the remains of sheep and goat; these bones are recorded as sheep/goat. Information on gnawing, butchery and pathology was recorded where present. Butchery was recorded by type (i.e. chop, knife cut, sawn), location and orientation (using standard anatomical terms and orientation). Pathological conditions were categorised where possible and detailed descriptions made as to form and location. The age at death of the major domestic animals was analysed using

Halstead (1985) for cattle, Payne (1973) for sheep/goat and Hambleton (1999) for pigs.

Species	Field O NISP (LIA)	Field P NISP (LBA/EIA)	Field Q NISP (LIA)	Field Z NISP (R-B)
Cattle (*Bos taurus*)	27	8	7	26
Sheep/Goat (*Ovis/Capra*)	11	1	1	7
Pig (*Sus. domesticus*)	4	1	0	0
Horse (*Equus calabus*)	3	0	0	7
Chicken (*Gallus dom.*)	1	0	0	3
Medium Bird	0	0	0	3
Medium sized mammal	1	1	1	4
Large sized mammal	8	0	2	5

Table 18: NISP by phase and field.

Field Z

The majority of features in Field Z were dated to the Romano-British period. Identifiable animal bone was recovered from 15 features; the condition of the bone was variable though mainly fair. The assemblage was dominated by cattle; sheep/goat and horse were present in smaller amounts; no pig bones were recovered (table 18). Wild mammals are represented by three fragments of red deer antler from F.356. The red deer fragments were weathered and in poor condition. Although they do not refit they are probably from one antler. Six bird bones were present in the assemblage; two species were identified: chicken and duck. It is very difficult to identify duck species from isolated bones so it is not known if this duck was wild or domestic.

Bone processing was evidenced by the presence of heavy chops to the base of a cattle horn core from F.343 in order to remove the horn sheath; this would have been a valuable resource. The same cattle skull exhibited occipital perforations; the aetiology of this condition is uncertain (Brothwell, Dobney & Ervynck 1996; Manaseryan, Dobney & Ervynck 1999). However, new evidence (Swaysland in prep.) suggests that it maybe a result of a calcium deficiency caused by an intensive breeding and milking regime.

Ditch/pit feature F.375 yielded a small section of worked bone in two pieces (length 43.3mm). The piece had been turned on a lathe and had 'spool and bead' decoration (Crummy 1983; 158). The artefact was probably made from a cattle metatarsal and may represent part of a knife handle

Field O

Animal bone remains were recovered from five ditches, and survived generally in reasonable condition. The assemblage was dominated by cattle and to a lesser extent sheep/goat (table 18). Pig, horse and chicken form a minor contingent of the assemblage.

The burial deposit F.566 contained numerous grave goods including complete samian vessels, beads, and metal objects. The animal bone remains from this deposit were characterised by small clusters of semi-articulated and non-articulated remains. By far the most common elements were pig vertebrae and ribs. The vertebrae were unfused and thus from a young animal. There was also part of a pig's skull as represented by the right sided maxillary and mandibular teeth and skull fragments; wear on the teeth

indicates that they are from an animal aged around 14-21 months (Hambleton 1999). Left and right shaft sections of tibiotarsus were recovered together; these particular specimens are rather undiagnostic but are tentatively identified as chicken. Fragmentary sheep/goat teeth were also present scattered within the deposit. A metacarpal from a foetal sheep/goat was also recovered. The most intriguing animal bone deposit recovered from F.566 was that of the left and right sides of a pelvis of a small dog or more probably a fox. The significance of this find is unknown; however, given the truncated nature of the deposit this may be an accidental inclusion. The animal bone remains in this deposit are suggestive of a single episode of meat consumption *viz.* a feast. The bones are predominantly vertebrae and ribs; elements with a high meat yield; the meat was eaten then the bones cast into the pit. However, it must be remembered that this burial had been disturbed; it is possible that the vertebrae and ribs were interred in an articulated state as an offering and that the scattered location in which they were recovered is a result of secondary processes. Food deposits in the late 1st century to early 2nd century Romano-British cremation cemetery at Skeleton Green indicate that the type of animal deposited with a cremation is symbolically bounded. Sheep occur with both sexes but cattle occur only with men and bird bones only with females (Green 1992). The symbolism related to pig bones as recovered from the Clay Farm cremation is unknown.

In addition to animal bones that were the remains of food, three bone artefacts were recovered from F.566. Small finds 20 and 21 were rod dice/gaming pieces (fig. 32) and small find 34 a bone point. Rod dice are similar to conventional dice but with one significant difference; instead of being cubes with equal size faces they are cuboids; *viz.* three-dimensional rectangular boxes (rectangular parallelepiped). An assessment of rod dice was made by Clarke (1970). In England and Wales their use seems restricted to the Late Iron Age and early Romano-British period. The form of use remains uncertain; Clarke (*ibid.*) reports that, as at Clay Farm, they are repeatedly found in sets of two or three. More recent work on rod dice are reported from the Roman fort at Birdoswald (Riddler 1998) and Meare Village East (Coles 1987).

Small find 20 - This piece measured 21.7mm x 9.0mm x 8.3mm. Small holes measuring between 1.7 and 2.0 mm in diameter have been drilled into the four larger faces to denote the number of the face. The holes were of varying size and have been drilled at irregular intervals. The two largest faces (opposite one another) are the five and the six; the two faces that are slightly smaller in area are the three and the four. The two smallest faces did not have any holes drilled into them.

Small find 21 - This piece measured 23.6mm x 10.6mm x 8.2mm. Small holes surrounded by a concentric ring have been drilled into each of the faces to denote the number of the face. The spacing of the holes is much more regular than that seen on the other dice. The largest two faces are the six face and what appears to be the five face. The five face is slightly ambiguous because the middle spot of the five is represented only by a hole and does not have a surrounding concentric ring. The next largest faces are the four and the three. The two smallest ends are the two and surprisingly where one might expect to find one dot there are in fact three.

Figure 32. Rod dice / gaming pieces

Small find 34 - This was the tip of worked bone point in two refitting pieces. It measured 33.8mm in length and had a diameter of 3.8mm at the larger end. The internal structure of the bone strongly

indicates that the artefact has been fashioned from a horse vestigial metapodial; this is a bone that is naturally pointed and requires little work to produce such an artefact.

Field P and Q

A small number of bones were recovered from Field P dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. The assemblage was in quite poor condition; only eleven identifiable elements were recovered from three features (F.499, F.500 and F.501). Clearly, the assemblage is dominated by cattle (table 18). However, the extremely small size of the assemblage means the data should be treated with extreme caution.

A small number of bones were recovered from Field Q from ditches dating to the Late Iron Age period. The assemblage is dominated by cattle; however, the small size of the assemblage precludes further analysis.

The assemblages from Fields O and Z may be compared to Fields A to E, though these are also small assemblages. The assemblage from Fields A-C was dated to the Middle/Late Iron Age which showed there to be a slightly higher proportion of sheep to cattle. The assemblage from Field E has material dating from the Early Iron Age and the Romano-British period. The assemblages from both these periods have high proportions of cattle with lesser amounts of sheep/goat and are thus more in keeping with the assemblages from Fields O and Z

The animal bone assemblages from Fields O, P, Q and Z are dominated by cattle. Data from the larger assemblages (Fields O and Z) indicate that sheep/goat also played a significant role in the diet. Pig, horse and chicken form a minor contingent of the assemblage. To form conclusions on the basis of small assemblages is problematic, particularly as many of the bones are derived from ditch deposits which are less likely to be directly the result of anthropological action. The assemblages are, however, broadly in keeping with more observed trends.

Human Remains (Catherine Ranson)

One unurned human cremation deposit [1551], F.566, was recovered in Trench 158, possibly as part of an assemblage, with deposits of burnt animal and human bone in close proximity.

The cremation was 100% sampled on site for later wet sieving with bone >4mm extracted for examination, while finer residues were scanned. The bone was well cremated and uniformly white/buff in colour indicative of full oxidation of organic components of the bone. The total weight of all the human bone from this deposit was 196g. Fragment size varied from 5mm to 70mm, but there was nothing to suggest any deliberate fragmentation of the bones prior to cremation.

Age and sex cannot be accurately estimated due to the size and number of identifiable fragments, either not recovered post-mortem or lost during the cremation process. The remains are likely to be from a single individual, suggesting cremation on a pyre and remains collected after for burial, rather than in situ burning.

Environmental Samples (Anne de Vareilles)

Thirty samples taken from Fields O, Q and Z (twenty of which were from cremation F.566) were processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. The flots were collected in a 300μm mesh and the remaining heavy residue washed over a 1mm mesh. The flots were dried indoors and scanned for the presence of charred plant remains, molluscs and charcoal. Sorting and identification of ecofacts were carried out under a low power binocular microscope. Identifications were made using the reference collection of the George Pitt-Rivers Laboratory, McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for plants and Beedham (1972) for molluscs. All environmental remains are listed in full in tables 19 - 22.

Field Z

Small Pit (probably Romano-British), F.379 [936] - Charcoal fragments were sparse and no charred cereal grains or wild plant seeds were recovered. Only three mollusc species were present, all in negligible quantities.

Ditch (probably Romano-British), F.400 [991] - Only a little charcoal was found, including one or two vitrified pieces. The intense fire(s) indicated by the vitrified charcoal may explain the low occurrence of charred macro remains. Four wheat glume bases were recovered, three of which were spelt wheat. The indeterminate cereal fragment was of wheat, barley or rye. There were nine species of molluscs, of which seven were adapted to wet or damp ecosystems; the remaining two occur in negligible quantities. Three of the seven damp/wet loving species live in hard waters.

Burnt Deposit (probably Romano-British), F.363 [899] - This sample was in very good condition and extremely rich in charred cereal remains; fragments from the stem of hulled wheat ears for example (rachis internodes), that rarely ever survive, were present in their hundreds. Wheat chaff is much more frequent than wheat grain. One-hundred and thirteen spelt, five possibly emmer and eight-hundred and ninety-one indeterminate wheat glume bases were counted. Wheat grains, however, comprise of only six possible spelt, two possible emmer and fifteen indeterminate wheat grains. Only one barley (hulled) grain was identified, although three grains (including a tail grain) were classified as wheat/barley and twenty-four fragments and three grains were identified as either wheat, barley and/or rye. Grass seeds occur in relatively high quantities; fifty-nine of the larger seeds were retrieved and eighteen of a medium size. One-hundred and ten grass seed fragments, of either the large or medium varieties, were also found. Other wild plant seeds include three small seeds of dock (*Rumex conglomerates/ sanguineus/obtusifolius*), and fourteen orache seeds (*Atriplex prostrata/patula*).

Ditch (probably Romano-British), F.387 [961] - The sample from this feature was not as rich as the one from F.363, though it does also contain more cereal chaff than grain. Two possible emmer, four possible spelt and fifteen indeterminate wheat grains were recovered. Eight hulled barley grains, two of which are definitely six-rowed, and three barley ear stem fragments (rachis internodes), one of which was probably six-rowed, were found. Sixty-four spelt, five possibly emmer and one-hundred and forty-two indeterminate wheat glume bases make up the wheat chaff remains. One legume (*Vicia/Lathyrus*) was noted. The most common grass seeds in this sample were of the small type (<1mm). There are six large and four medium grass seeds. The ten grass seed fragments were of the large or medium category. Two rye-grass ear stem fragments (*Lolium* sp. rachis internodes) were identified, raising the probability that the large grass seeds were also of rye-grass. One small and one larger dock seed (*Rumex* sp.) were present. The most commonly occurring mollusc is *Trichia striolata/hispida* which can live in varying habitats. Three water-loving species occur, but only in negligible quantities. Apart from *Vallonia costata*, the remaining five species of interest all prefer damp habitats, protected from direct sun-light.

Table 19: (following page) Plant remains from Field Z Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' <10 items, '++' 10-50 items, '+++' >50 items; WL = waterlogged. Note: the large grass seeds are almost as long as the wheat and barley grains, though they are about half the width. The cereal grain and grass seed fragments do not necessarily represent a whole seed/grain each, though none of the fragments obviously fit together. The wheat glume bases and spikelet forks vary in size and in the length of the remaining lemna. The legume is no more than 2mm and could be wild or a cultivar.

Sample number		<33>	<36>	<34>	<35>
Context		899	936	961	991
Feature		363	379	387	400
Feature type		Burnt deposit	Small pit	Ditch	Ditch
Phase/Date		RB?	RB?	RB?	RB?
Sample volume - litres		7	7	15	6
Flot fraction examined		1/16	1/1	1/1	1/1
Cereals					
Hordeum vulgare sensu lato	Hulled Barley grain	1		6	
H. vulgare Subsp. *vulgare.*	Hulled six-rowed Barley grain			2	
Triticum cf. *dicoccum*	Likely Emmer grain	2		2	
Triticum cf. *spelta*	Likely Spelt grain	6		4	
Triticum sp.	Wheat grain	15		15	
Triticum/Hordeum	Wheat/Barley grain	2		12	
Triticum/Hordeum	Wheat/Barley tail grain	1			
Indet cereal grain fragments		24 + 3 whole		6	1
Hordeum vulgare sl. rachis internode	Barley ear stem fragment			2	
cf. **H. vulgare** Subsp. **vulgare** rachis internode	Six-rowed Barley ear stem fragment			1	
cf. *T. dicoccum* spikelet fork	Likely Emmer spikelet fork			1	
cf. *T. dicoccum* glume base	Likely Emmer glume base	5		3	
T. spelta spikelet fork	Spelt spikelet fork	3		3	
T. spelta glume base	Spelt glume base	107		58	3
Triticum sp. spikelet fork	Wheat spikelet fork	112		19	
Triticum sp. glume base	Wheat glume base	667		104	1
Hulled wheat rachis internode	Hulled wheat ear stem fragment	+++		+++	
Undeveloped grain embryos				2	
Legumes					
Vicia/lathyrus	Vetches/Peas			1	
Wild plant seeds					
Chenopodium cf. *album*	Fat-hen		+ WL		
Atriplex prostrata /patula	Spear-leaved/ Common Orache	14			
Rumex sp.	Docks			1	
R. conglomeratus/ obtusifolius/ sanguineus	Small seeded Dock	3		1	
Lemna sp.	Duckweeds			++ WL	
Large Poaceae	Large grass seed	59		6	
Medium Poaceae	Medium grass seed	18		4	
Small Poaceae	Small grass seed	1		12	
cf. *Lolium* sp. rachis internode	Possible Rye-grass ear stem fragment			2	
Poaceae fragments	Grass seeds frags.	110		10	
Indet wild plant seed		3		1	
Parenchyma tissue fragments	Undifferentiated storage plant tissue	++	+	++	-
Charcoal frags.					
>4 mm		-		-	
2-4 mm		+		+	-
<2mm		++	++	+++	++
Vitrified			-		-

Sample number		<33>	<36>	<34>	<35>
Context		899	936	961	991
Feature		363	379	387	400
Feature type		Burnt deposit	Small pit	Ditch	Ditch
Phase/Date		RB?	RB?	RB?	RB?
Sample volume - litres		7	7	15	6
Flot fraction examined		1/16	1/1	1/1	1/1
Mollusc	**Habitat**				
Bithynia tentaculata	Favours hard water, quiet rivers and still waters				++
Viviparus contectus	Slow moving, hard waters				+
Valvata cristata	Hard or soft, muddy or stagnant waters			-	
Lymnaea truncatula	Marshy shallow waters				+
Lymnaea cf. *truncatula*				-	
Planorbis planorbis	Hard waters in small habitats: ponds, pits			-	++
Planorbis leucostama	Ponds, ditches, resists drying				+++
Planorbis albus	All freshwaters, often amongst veg.				-
Carychium tridentatum/minimum	In damp-wet areas: in moss, under logs	+		++	
Succinea putris/pfeifferi	Damp, marshy areas	+		++	++
Cochlicopa lubrica	Damp localities	-	+	+	
Vertigo pygmaea/ antivertigo	Wild and cultivated dry to damp areas	+		+	-
Columella edentula	Woodlands and damp localities			+++	
Vallonia costata	Dry areas, usually avoiding woodland	+		++	
Vallonia sp.					-
Ceciloides acicula	Blind burrowing snail . Probably intrusive		+	+++	
Trichia striolata/hispida	Varying habitats		+	+++	
Indet specimens				++	

Key: '-' 1 or 2 shells, '+' <10 shells, '++' 10 – 50 shells, '+++' >50 shells

Table 20: Mollusca from Field Z

Field O

Upper Fill of Pit (possibly LIA), F.604 [1634] - One indeterminate cereal fragment and one indeterminate wild plant seed were recovered from this sample.

Basal Fill of LIA Boundary Ditch, F.608 [1654] - This sample revealed little charcoal, less than ten pieces of undifferentiated plant storage tissue and an insignificant mollusc assemblage. Unlike F.615, below, no cereal grains or chaff were found.

Basal Fill of LIA Boundary Ditch, F.615 [1676] - Three cereal grains were identified: one was a wheat type, the others wheat or barley. The cereal chaff consisted of three emmer wheat glume bases, one likely emmer glume base and one hulled wheat (possibly emmer) ear stem fragment (rachis internode). Also found were two oat grains (*Avena* sp.), one blinks (*Montia fontana* ssp. *Minor*), one stitchwort (*Stellaria* sp.), an unidentified wild plant seed, twelve large grass seed fragments and three small grass seeds. Other than seeds, a grass stem node and base were recovered.

LIA/early Romano-British Cremation, F.566 [1551] - The twenty samples from this cremation differ remarkably little in their archaeobotanical composition. None of the samples contained much charcoal and only two of them (52 and 63) had any pieces larger than 4mm. Only five of the samples had charred seeds or grains: 51 had one cereal grain fragment; 52 had one large grass seed fragment; 57 contained two oat grains, and both the fill of small find 41 and the top fill of small find 31 revealed one inderterminate wild plant seed. Sample 54 contained 25 to 30 small, hard lumps of iron encrusted soil.

The mollusc assemblage was made up of eight (un-charred) species. Excluding the blind burrowing snail (*Ceciloides acicula* – which is almost certainly intrusive) and *Trichia* sp. (whose habitat(s) is unknown), none of the remaining six species occur in meaningful quantities in individual samples. If the cremation is analysed as a whole, however, it becomes evident that the damp loving species *Carychium tridentatum/minimum, Succinea putris/pfeifferi, Cochlicopa lubrica, Vertigo* cf. *antivertigo* and *Columella edentula* occur repeatedly.

Sample number		<63>	<67>	<68>	<62>	<?>	<?>	<?>
Context		[1634]	[1654]	[1676]	[1551]	[1551]	[1551]	[1551]
Feature		604	608	615	566	566	566	566
Feature type		Upper fill of pit	Bottom fill of boundary ditch	Bottom fill of boundary ditch	CRE	MA Fill of 27	TI Fill of 36	ON Fill of 41
Phase/Date		LIA ?	LIA	LIA	LIA	/	Early	RB
Sample volume - litres		10	10. 5	9. 5	<0. 5	<0. 5	1	1. 5
Flot fraction examined		1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Cereals								
Triticum sp.	Wheat grain			1				
Triticum/Hordeum	Wheat/Barley grain			2				
Indet cereal grain frags.		1		5 (2 embryos)				
T. dicoccum glume base	Emmer glume base			3				
cf. *T. dicoccum* glume base	Possible Emmer glume base			1				
Hulled wheat rachis internode	Hulled wheat ear stem fragment			1				
Avena sp.	Oats			2				
Wild plant seeds								
Montia fontana ssp. *Minor*	Blinks			1				
Stellaria sp.	Stitchwort			1				
Large Poaceae frags.	Large grass seed frags.			12 (3 embryos)				
Small Poaceae	Small grass seed			3 whole				
Indet wild plant seed		1		1				1
Culm node	Grass stem node			1				
Culm base	Grass stem base			1				
Parenchyma tissue fragments	Undifferentiated storage plant tissue		+	+				
Charcoal frags.								
>4 mm				-				
2-4 mm		-	-	+				
<2mm		+++	++	++				++
Vitrified			-					-
Mollusca	**Habitat**							
Carychium tridentatum/minimum	In damp-wet areas: in moss, under logs		+					
Succinea putris/pfeifferi	Damp, marshy areas	-						-
Vallonia sp.			-					
Ceciloides acicula	Blind burrowing snail	+++	++	++				
Trichia striolata/hispida	Varying habitats	+	++					

Note: The numbers 27, 36 and 41 in the 'Feature Type' row refer to small finds

Table21: Plant remains and Mollusca from Field O; Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' <10 items, '++' 10-50 items, '+++' >50 items

Field Q

F.577 [1589] - Although no grains or seeds, and only a little charcoal were recovered from this sample, its mollusc assemblage comprises of seven species. Unfortunately, however, the habitats of only one of those species is certain; *Cochlicopa lubrica* lives in damp areas such as leaf mould, moss, rotting wood, etc.

F.609 [1656] - Out of the three samples, this one contained the most charcoal, including vitrified pieces. Two wheat/barley seeds were noted (*Triticum/Hordeum*), as well as three indeterminate cereal fragments. Three goosefoot seeds (*Chenopodium* sp.) make up the wild plant assemblage. The mollusc finds are insignificant.

F.611 [1663] - One charred wheat/barley and one charred goosefoot seed were found. The majority of the seeds recovered, however, were waterlogged elder seeds. The only mollusc species that occured in meaningful quantities was *Planorbis planorbis*. It is a species that lives in still hard water in small habitats, such as ponds, pits and ditches.

Sample number		**<64>**	**<66>**	**<65>**
Context		[1589]	[1656]	[1663]
Feature		577	609	611
Feature type		Ditch	Ditch	Bottom fill of ditch
Phase/Date		Modern	Possibly RB	Possibly RB
Sample volume - litres		9	10. 5	10
Flot fraction examined		1/1	1/1	1/1
Cereals				
Triticum/Hordeum	Wheat/Barley grain		2	1
Indet cereal grain frags.			3	
Wild plant seeds				
Chenopodium sp.	Goosefoots		3	1
Sambucus nigra	Elder			+++ WL
Parenchyma tissue fragments	Undifferentiated storage plant tissue		+	-
Charcoal frags.				
>4 mm			-	-
2-4 mm		-	+	-
<2mm		++	+++	++
Vitrified			+	
Mollusca	**Habitat**			
Planorbis planorbis	Hard water in small habitats, e.g. ponds			+++
Cochlicopa lubrica	Damp areas	++		-
Vertigo pusilla	Dry walls, banks, dead leaves, moss	-		
Vertigo cf. *antivertigo*	Wet locations	+++		
Lauria/Pupilla		+++		
Vallonia costata	Dry areas, usually avoiding woodland			-
Vallonia sp.		+++		
Ceciloides acicula	Blind burrowing snail	+	+	++
Trichia striolata/hispida	Varying habitats	++	-	+

Key: '-' 1 or 2 items, '+' <10 items, '++' 10-50 items, '+++' >50 items; WL = waterlogged
Table 22: Plant remains and Mollusca from Field Q

The huge majority of wheat chaff over wheat grains in F.363 [899] and the presence of cereal sized and smaller non volatile crop weed seeds (Jones 1984), represent the by-products of the final sieving and sorting stages of crop processing (Hillman 1984). Once the straw and awn fragments have been removed after pounding, the crop is sieved to remove the broken chaff and smaller weed seeds. This by-product is often kept as animal fodder or fuel (c.f. Hillman 1984; Jones 1984). Further agricultural questions, such as: "Were crops irrigated?", "Did they weed their crops?" and "Were emmer and spelt grown as a maslin (intentionally mixed) crop?" could be addressed with a more thorough analysis of this sample.

The composition of F.387 [961] is very similar in quality (though considerably poorer in quantity) to that of F.363, and can also be characterised as waste from the final stages of crop processing. Feature 387 does, unlike F.363, contain hulled barley chaff as well as grain. Interestingly, although the barley count is insignificant compared to that of the wheat, barley grains are more common than barley chaff, which suggests that the barley has come form another crop or is a contaminant of the wheat crop. Spelt and barley were the main crops in Roman Britain (Greig 1991), and it is likely that they were grown and processed separately. Although this feature has significantly less grass seeds than F.363, it does have a larger quantity of small grass seeds. The difference in crop weed assemblages, if looked at in more detail, could reflect variations in agricultural regimes. The mollusc data from this context is rather ambiguous; the general interpretation is that of a damp and shady ditch with possibly dryer surroundings. This ditch was certainly not as wet as F.400.

The seven significant mollusc species indicate that F.400 [991] was usually, if not always, waterlogged. *Bithynia tentaculata* and *Viviparus contectus* suggest that water rich in calcium occasionally (probably seasonally) gently flowed along the ditch, displacing and dispersing charred archaeobotanical remains. *Lymnaea truncatula* and *Planorbis planorbis* show that the water within the ditch was not always flowing. The most abundant snails in the sample belong to *Planorbis leucostama*: a species that withstands drying. It seems possible, therefore, that the ditch would occasionally dry out. The overall picture is that of a seasonally, if not almost permanently, waterlogged ditch, where hard water would flow gently at times and remain stagnant at others.

Emmer wheat is not very common in the Iron Age and Romano-British period, where spelt (*Triticum spelta*) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare sensu lato*) tend to dominate (Greig 1991). The presence of emmer in the basal deposit of F.615 [1676], and the apparent lack of spelt, is even more significant when one compares it to Romano-British assemblages in other fields of Clay Farm, where spelt is by far more important than emmer. It would be interesting to further analyse the possibility of an Iron Age to Romano-British transition from the cultivation of emmer to spelt in the areas around modern Cambridge. Although the quantities of cereal chaff, wild plant seeds and grass stem fragments are low, their presence suggests this sample represents waste from crop processing before the clean grain is cracked or ground to flour for consumption. The oat grains are more likely to be crop weeds than intentionally grown. The grass stem base may indicate that crops were uprooted. (I must reiterate that the quantities of macro-remains are too low to be firmly evaluated).

The almost complete lack of large charcoal in the cremation F.566 [1551] could be a result of long, intensive burning. The cereal fragment and the weed seeds, including

the oat, were probably part of the collected fuel. The absence of any important quantities of cereal grains and chaff tends to suggest that no cereal 'offerings' were made, though this may just be a reflection of preservation factors. The oxidised-iron encrusted soil lumps in sample 54 indicate that the funerary pyre was on or very close to the soil surface, or that soil was added when the ashes were still hot. The mollusc assemblage is likely to be intrusive. The damp loving species mentioned above live on the soil surface. Even if the cremation pit was dug and left open long enough for a snail community to establish itself before the cremation was added, one would expect the molluscs to quickly die and not burrow randomly through the ashes. It is possible they were added to the, or above the, cremation along with soil, in which case they do represent the damp surface conditions of the Late Iron Age at Clay Farm. The most likely explanation, however, is that the molluscs died on the surface and were buried and integrated into the cremation (when the latter was truncated by ploughing) through leaching and other natural processes. These bio-chemical processes suggest charcoal, seeds and grains may also have been lost.

Wheat and/or barley are present in F.609 [1659], albeit in meaningless quantities. Goosefoots are a common plant of open or cultivated land, and so may be associated with the cereals. As with F.609, all one can say about the cereals in F.611 [1663] is that wheat or barley is present, and that the goosefoot seed may be a crop weed. Elder seeds are common in history and prehistory. They are also one of the more robust seeds that can withstand drying out after having been waterlogged, it is therefore difficult to know whether or not these seeds are intrusive. Nevertheless, the important presence of *Planorbis planorbis* strengthens the likelihood that the bottom of this ditch was waterlogged whilst it was still open.

Grave F.566 Metal Finds (Dave Webb & Matt Brudenell)

A total of 13 metallic artefacts were recovered from grave F.566 in Trench 158. Given the regional importance of this feature and its contents, a detailed description of each artefact is called for, together with an outline summary of the methodology behind their retrieval. The significance of F.566 was initially alluded to when two artefacts were retrieved from its partially exposed surface during routine metal detection (small find 15 and 16 below). Subsequent detection of the adjacent trench section gave further signals, and given the risk of clandestine metal detecting, it was decided to recover these objects. This was achieved by hand excavating a small boxed area around the feature in 5cm spits, plotting the metal finds in plan. Following the retrieval of a further four artefacts, the whole feature was exposed by cutting a box 4.10m by 9.30m. The position of individual finds within the grave were plotted on a 1:10 plan (fig. 23), enabling clusters of objects and their spatial relationship to be appreciated. For the purposes of this report, the spatial position of finds is referenced to which quadrant of the grave they appeared.

In total, 13 metallic artefacts were recovered from the grave fill; three of silver, six of copper-alloy, and four of iron. Given the circumstances of recovery, the accuracy to which individual artefacts can be plotted varies. For instance, small find 24 was recovered in an adjacent soil heap, and its original position can only be 'guestimated' by reference to other identical objects in the grave. Of the remaining artefacts, small finds 17 and 18 were in a loose cluster in the southeast quadrant of the grave, whilst

small finds 33 and 31 were situated in the northwest quadrant in close proximity to a fragment of pig skull. Small finds 22, 24 and 38 were also located in the southwest quadrant, with small find 19 positioned centrally in the southern half. Small find 37 was located in the south west quadrant in a deposit of cremated bone.

Small find no.	Description	Weight
15	Cu alloy rams head terminus of patera handle	123g
16	Cu alloy pelta shaped petera feet	36g
17	Cu alloy pelta shaped petera feet	39g
18	Cu alloy pelta shaped petera feet	39g
19	Cu alloy appliqué	32g
22	Small metal Plaque	>1g
23	Small metal Plaque	>1g
24	Small metal Plaque	>1g
32	Fe Rod	46g
33	Fe Tri angular knife	100g
37	Cu alloy sheet	3g
38	Fe sheet	49g
<2726>	Fe Lump	1g

Table 23: Small Finds from F.566

Small finds 22, 23 and 24: Plain silver plaques with rivets
Three undecorated silver rectangular plaques complete with rivets were recovered from the grave fill. The plaques were 21mm x 18mm in diameter, each weighing less than 1g. The plaques had plain surfaces and slightly rounded corners, except small find 24 (fig. 33) which had a single sharp corner. On the reverse, rivets awere centrally positioned, 3mm in depth. The plaques were most likely decorative attachments or fastenings for leather or other organic material. No direct parallels of similar date have been found, although small rivets attached to irregular shaped plaques have been recovered in association with hobnails in a cremation burial at Skeleton Green. Here it was suggested that they functioned as fastenings for leather sandals (Partridge 1981). An alternative, though far less likely, interpretation is that the plaques were for repairs. Thin strips of metal with rivets were sometimes used to repair ceramic vessels. However, these are usually longer strips with at least two rivets to bind either side of the join. As repair plugs for ceramic vessels the depth of rivet on these plaques is shallow, and could only have been used with very thin sectioned pots. The depth of the rivets would, however, be suitable for metal vessels. Given that the plaques were silver and flat, with no curvature as would be expected if they were used on the side of a vessel, this interpretation is unlikely.

Figure 33. Small Find No.24 Front and back view

Small finds 15, 16, 17 and 18: Ram's head patera handle terminus and pelta shaped feet
Small finds 15, 16, 17 and 18 are discussed as a group as they may be components of a single vessel. Small find 15 (fig. 34) comprised a cast copper-alloy patera handle terminus in the shape of a ram's head. In total, the terminus measured 40mm long, and was 35mm from ear to ear, with a neck diameter of 24mm. The terminus weighed 123g. On the back of the terminus was a socket.

The distribution of animal headed patera with fluted handles appears to be largely confined to the southeast of Britain within an area bounded by the Fosse Way. The only exception to this, is the three patera found in a hoard at Welshpool, dated to the 2nd century AD and the finds from Dorset and Exeter (Moore 1973). Two main types of zoomorphic petera termini are known in the UK; those decorated with the ram's head, and those with a dog's head. A number of parallels from across eastern England can be found for the ram's head terminal in F.566. This type of termini has been recorded on fluted hollow cylindrical patera handles from: Verulamuim, Hert's; Turnershall Farm, Wheathampstead, Hert's (Treasure Report 2002); Bartlow Hills, Essex; Stanway Warrior's grave, Essex (Crummy 1997); Black Notley, Essex (Moore 1973); Hallaton, Leicestershire (Moore 1973); Richborough, Kent and Exeter, Devon (Holbrook 1986). There is an example of a finely detailed ram's head terminus from Shefford, Bed's (Moore 1973), with a plain cylindrical handle lacking fluting. On the continent similar styled patera have been found in burials in Northern Germany (Eggers 1966).

In addition to the Ram's head terminus there is a smaller group of handles with a dog's head terminus with a similar distribution (Moore 1973). Examples have been discovered at Dry Doddington, Lincolnshire; Canterbury, Kent; Santon Downham, Suffolk (Smith 1909); Olney Hyde Farm, Buckinghamshire (Petchey 1979) and Thornborough, Buckinghamshire. A dog's head terminal with an ornate handle was found at Annandale, Dumfries and was dated to the Agricolan occupation (Curle 1932). This appears to be an extreme outlier to the distribution of zoomorphic handled patera.

Patera with animal heads have been found in grave assemblages of the pre-Conquest period and later. Moore (1973) suggests that Italian manufactured patera and oinochoë were imported to Britain some time before the Roman conquest, but importation of patera from Italy was likely to have declined from 60 AD onwards in the face of competition from Gaulish Workshops. In burials, patera are commonly accompanied with copper-alloy jugs, ewers or oinochoë (*ibid*). The two vessels in combination are normally associated with the ritual pouring of libations at altars, Roman practices which may well have been incorporated into the funerary rituals in areas of late pre-Conquest Eastern England.

Figure 34. Small find 15 Ram's Head

Figure 35. Small find 16 Pelta shaped patera feet

Small finds 16 (fig. 35), 17 and 18 comprise a 'set' of near identical cast copper-alloy pelta shaped feet. The pelta range from 65mm to 67mm in length, 5mm in depth, and weigh 36-39g. Originally, the feet would have been arranged in a circle around the base of a metal vessel. The traces of solder on the back suggest these were once attached to another object. A similarly dated parallel for this arrangement of pelta is found at Snailwell, attached to the base of a ram's headed patera (Lethbridge 1953). It is plausible that the pelta from F.566 once belonged to the same patera as the ram's head terminus. Alternatively, the objects are from two separate vessels, the feet having been removed. In the Snailwell report, Lethbridge (1953) describes the frequent occurrence of separated pelta being found on sites

Small find 19: Copper-alloy appliqué
A cast copper-alloy pendant shaped appliqué (fig. 36) with broken loop, measuring 28mm by 32mm with a weight of 32g. The appliqué appears to be decorated with a relief zoomorphic motif, possibly of a crouching hound or deer. The upper segment shows signs of a break on the back, where two indentations are suggestive of a loop fastening. The artefact could be a rim fastening for a hanging cauldron or similar vessel. Alternatively, there is the possibility that it may have been a part of a jug or ewer.

Figure 36. Copper-alloy Appliqué of Deer or Hound

Small find 37: Copper-alloy sheet
Irregular thin fragment of sheet copper-alloy, 32mm by 12mm, weight 3g. Function of artefact is unknown, probably a fragment from another vessel.

Small find 32: Iron Rod
Two fragments of a tapering iron rod, 154mm in length with a total weight of 46g. At the point the artefact was broken. A 5mm by 5mm square cross-section could be observed beneath the corrosion. At the thinnest end of the rod, the square cross section measured 2mm by 2mm. Function of the artefact is unknown.

Small find 33: Iron triangular knife/razor
A triangular iron knife 92mm in length, 65mm in width, and weighing 100g, was recovered from the northwest quadrant of the grave (fig. 37). The knife was estimated to be 80% intact, with one broken corner. Several smaller fragments were recovered adjacent to the main body of the knife suggesting it was intact when buried. The lower edge of the blade appeared to be slightly curved. However, since the artefact has not been conserved or X-rayed, the corrosion prevents a definitive description of its shape. The top of the knife is thicker than the main part of the blade.

Figure 37. Triangular Knife with traces of wood

During metal detecting a copper-alloy signal was detected from the artefact. This may suggest the presence of a copper-alloy handle, perhaps akin to the knives from Welwyn Garden City, Herts (Stead 1967) and Walmer, Kent (Parfitt 1995), or potentially the bronze rivets on the knife from Snailwell, Cambridgeshire (Lethbridge 1953). Triangular iron knives similar to the one at Clay Farm have been recovered from Late Iron Age and Early Roman burials at King Harry Lane, Herts (Stead & Rigby 1989), Walmer, Snailwell (Lethbridge 1953), and Welwyn Garden City (Stead 1967).

The function of these knives is not clear and suggestions include razors, saddlers or furriers knives, or for use in food production (Hussen 1983). The majority of artefacts in graves can be associated with feasting and an attribution with food processing may also be appropriate but not certain. Where sex of the burial could be determined, the knives have only been found in male graves (Boon 1991). Boon (*ibid*) suggests that the design of these knives would make them unsuitable for the application of any force or leverage on the blade and strongly argues they were used as razors. However this would not rule out their use in treatment of skins or for some type of food processing. Based on size Hussen suggests the larger Snailwell knife was not a razor, but that the Welwyn Garden knife was. As the Clay Farm blade is smaller than all the other blades its description as a razor may be more appropriate. Traces of wood grain could be seen on the surface of one side of the blade and this may be the remains of a scabbard as suggested for the knife from Welwyn Garden, King Harry Lane (grave KHL 316) and Walmer. Triangular knives have been found in graves of the pre-Conquest period and extending into the early Roman period.

Small find 38: Unidentified Iron fragments
Flat sub-rectangular shaped iron artefact measuring 95mm by 44mm, with a weight of 49g. The object had two slightly upturned edges, and was recovered in five fragments, all with fresh breaks. The cross-section at the breaks appears to show two sheets of iron.

Small find <2726>: Iron fragment
An irregular shaped iron object 14mm by 10mm, weighing 1g.

Only five of the artefacts can be reasonably dated; the triangular knife, the ram's head petera handle terminus and the three pelta feet. Triangular knives appear in several burials including Welwyn Garden, King Harry Lane and Snailwell with dates ranging between 25 BC and 60 AD (Lethbridge 1953; Stead 1967; Stead & Rigby 1989). Equally, the artefacts associated with a patera, or other such metallic vessels, appear in the pre-Conquest period and remain in circulation until at least the 2nd century AD.

Overall, the metal finds in the grave represent high status items of personal adornment and objects associated with eating and drinking in a Romanized style. In general, the copper-alloy items have parallels with objects from other high status burials, including Welwyn Garden, Stanway, and Turnershall Farm, Wheathampstead. Intriguingly, most of the metalwork is fragmentary. This may be due to disturbance by agricultural activity (ploughing), resulting in the heavy truncation of this feature. Certain items within the grave may therefore have either been broken, displaced from their original position, or removed entirely. However, this does not explain the dismantled objects such as the ram's head terminus or pelta feet. The traces of solder on the reverse of the feet suggest that these components were detached prior to deposition in the grave. It is possible that the rest of the dismantled vessel was originally included as part of the assemblage, but has been subsequently destroyed or lost. Patera are seen to have a role in ritual activities, represented on coins and alters, where they are often paired with other vessels such as ewers. If the copper-alloy appliqué was from a ewer then it may suggest that the presence of components of both a ewer and a patera signify the whole ritual for which they are associated. These patera components included in the grave may therefore have acted as token deposits; possibly symbolising the complete vessel.

Metalwork (Andrew Hall)

During the evaluation, all features exposed were scanned with a metal detector. In addition, the spoil heaps of separated subsoil and topsoil adjacent to the trenches were flattened by machine and detected. Spoil from the hand excavation of features was also scanned. This methodology was adopted to aid the recovery of small metallic finds such as coins and other datable material culture.

Field Z

1. Trench 107, <2590> Recovered from backfilled quarry pit. Cast copper-alloy Crotal bell (animal bell) with loop missing. Iron pea corroded within. Dating to 16th-17th century.
2. Trench 108, <2591> Retrieved from surface of unexcavated feature. Copper-alloy rivet. Terminals 9mm diameter. Post-Medieval.
3. Trench 108, <2592> Retrieved from upper fill of unexcavated feature. Copper-alloy hammered jetton from Nuremberg. Krauwinkle type. 22mm diameter. 16th century.

Field P and Q

4. Trench 132, <2594> Surface find. Small silver hammered coin of Edward III (1344-1351) Poor condition. Possibly London mint. Farthing ? 0.36g (Martin Allen pers comm.)
5. Trench 132, <2595> Surface find. Small fragment of cast copper-alloy. Possibly from a crotal bell. 7mm x 5mm. Undecorated. Likely to be Later Medieval or early post-Medieval.
6. Trench 133, <2595> Surface find. Copper-alloy Jetton from Nuremberg. 24mm diameter. Heavily worn and corroded. 16th century
7. Trench 159, <2715> F.577 Copper-alloy cartridge case for small calibre rifle bullet. 20th century.

8. Trench 164, <2716> F.596 Undiagnostic copper-alloy blob. Undated.

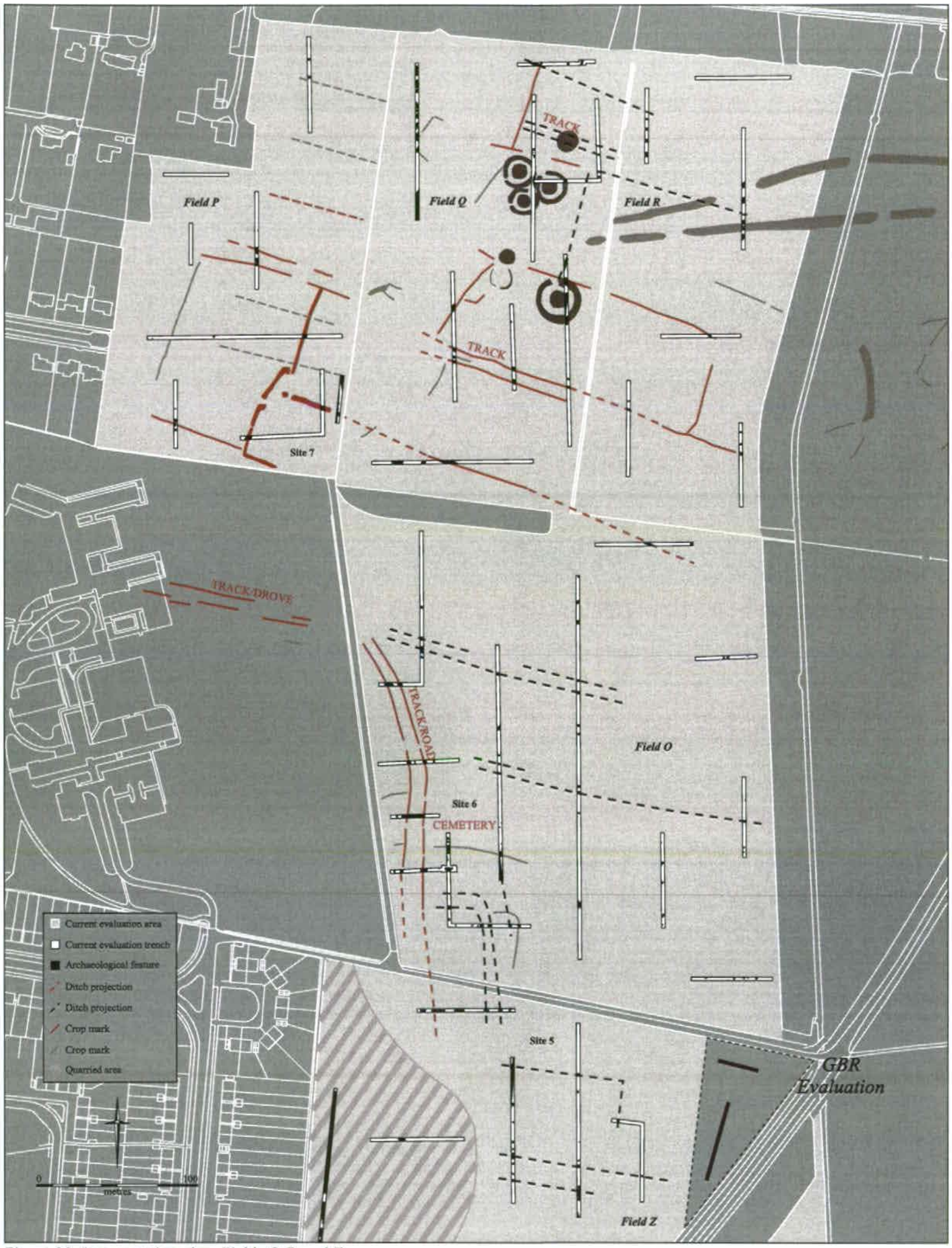

Figure 38. Interpretation plan; Fields O-R and Z

DISCUSSION

As was the case on the 2020 Lands (Evans & Mackay 2005), the aerial photographic plots provided a quite accurate general 'picture' of the archaeology. Of course, it was not perfect and, for example, Site 1 in Field A failed to register and many features at Site 3 did not generate cropmarks. Equally unsurprising was that the archaeology, or at least the evidence of early settlement, focused along the western margins of the main fields and did not extend down to the lower, more claggy/clayish eastern ground. This pattern is also evident in the fall-off of features along this side and the even more marked paucity thereof in both the Eastern Road Corridor area and, earlier, the Guided Busway trenching (Cessford & Mackay 2004) across the lowest ground separating the Clay Farm and 2020 Land investigation areas.

Given the general distribution of archaeology within the main fields, what is surprising - given the 'high' and well-drained nature of its geology - is how little archaeology was present within the Glebe Farm fields (A-C) and what was there was entirely restricted to the area of Trenches 83, 87, 89 and 105. While although within the area of that cluster (Site 1, see below) linears did occur on the same orientation as in the early fieldsystem that extends throughout the main Clay Farm fields, that system *per se* was not present within the southwestern, Glebe Farm area.

Of the fieldwork methodologies applied, and the recovery of archaeology as such, it would have to be said that the fieldwalking did not prove particularly successful. While, for example, relative concentrations of lithic material occurred in both Fields D and E, in contrast to their dense sub-surface features, the Romano-British settlement areas did not significantly register in the fieldwalking. Though in this context the occurrence of the agricultural showground on the southern Clay Farm fields (D, E & H; Sites 2-4, see below) in the 1950s and '60s is uncertain. Aerial photographs of it show the area literally covered in stalls and there were even substantial brick-built pavilions (with thousands of people clearly in attendance), and clearly it would have resulted in extensive disturbance/truncation of the ploughsoil, both during its construction and the area's subsequent landscape grooming.

Whatever degree of disturbance this showground activity entailed, it is worth outlining the lithic-relating fieldwalking results; not only in terms of their generic area-wide trends, but also for those specific scatters that have been identified (and that the latter also fall within the area of the eastern fields that were not subject to trial trenching). Generally, the results reveal higher densities along the western portions of the area. In contrast to the lowlying and more clayish east/central land, this relates to the higher and better-drained qualities of the western terraces. Yet immediate topography/geology are unlikely to be the sole explanation of this, as equivalent densities were not found on those portions of the 2020 lands that were so surveyed and which have broadly comparable qualities (Evans & Mackay 2005: fig. 5). Given this, it is quite likely that the increased lithic densities along the western side of the Clay Farm fields also reflect their great proximity to the river valley-corridor of the Cam.

Figure 39. Fieldwalking - lithic scatters and Roman pottery

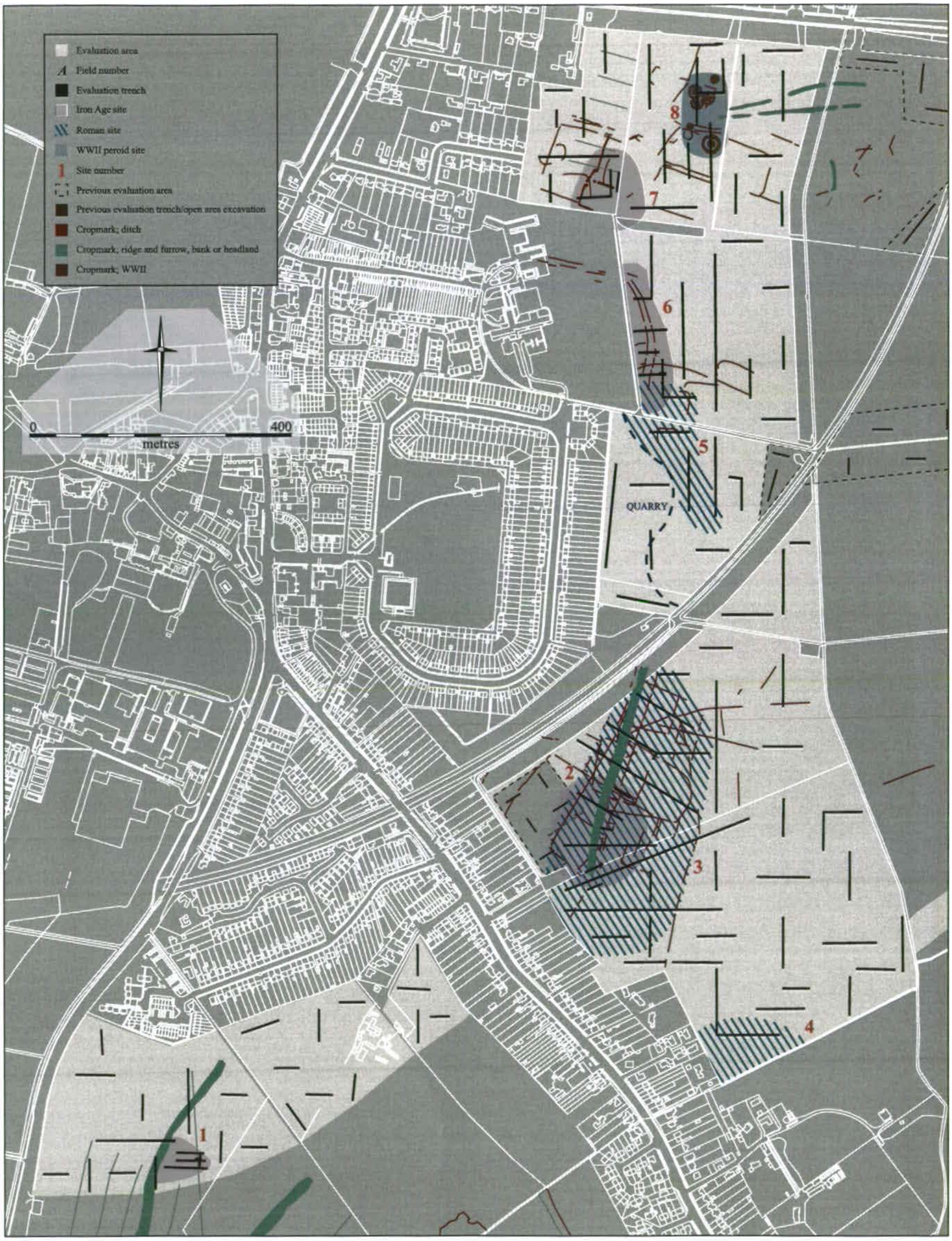

Figure 40. Site designations

As shown on Figure 39, five fieldwalking flint scatters can be tentatively identified. Of these, A and B would seem essentially to be of later Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic attribution. It should be noted that the latter, located along the eastern edge of Field G, correlates with the area of the 2020 Lands Site I, and from where flint of this same date was also recovered during trial trenching (Evans & Mackay 2005). Otherwise, while also including earlier material, Scatters C-E would all essentially seem to be of 'Bronze Age or later' attribution, and are probably essentially Late Bronze Age. In all actuality less a scatter/cluster than an area-wide higher value 'spread', the wider distribution of the 'E' material in Fields O and Q may reflect on the date of the fieldsystem there (see below). Also note that Scatter C, though localised in terms of the total collection area, is considered to be continuous with the higher values in the extreme southwestern corner of Field E and probably also reflects a more general 'area-type' distribution (and questionably relating to Site 2). Yet, despite these findings, the extent of pre-1st millennium BC usage/occupation of this area can only be considered as low, and it warrants notice that, for example, no pre-Late Bronze Age pottery (nor features) were recovered whatsoever.

As was the case for the 2020 Lands on the eastern side of the railway line (*ibid.*), the evaluation fieldwork revealed that what we are essentially dealing with is (near-) landscape-wide fieldsystems, whose dispersed ditch boundaries extended throughout the area. Given this, the definition of sites *per se* is problematic and it is rather a matter of delineating settlement 'hot-spots' against a broader 'landscape-wide' background. By this criteria, in the course of the investigations the following sites were identified (fig. 40):

1) What seems to be a settlement of Early-early Middle Iron Age attribution was found to extend throughout the area of Trenches 83, 87, 89 and 105. Although this assignation would be typical of the large pit features found in this area (including the F.340 watering hole/hollow in Trench 89), the minor ditches recovered in Trench 87 and 105 would more comfortably suit a later Iron Age attribution, and material of that date was also recovered. Given this, what we seem to essentially be seeing here is an open Early Iron Age settlement cluster probably superseded by a later Iron Age settlement enclosure. The inhumation recovered in Trench 83 is presumed to be generally contemporary with this occupation. Alternatively, it is equally possible that the minor linears associated with this settlement actually related to a more extensive Late Bronze/Early Iron Age fieldsystem and that could, thereby, be comparable to the evidence from Fields O (north) – R discussed below.

2) Extending into the area of the road corridor in the extreme southern end of Field E and the northwestern corner of Field D was a scatter of Iron Age features, many of which seem quite substantial. While including some later Iron Age material, this is largely of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age date and its pottery assemblage is clearly quite important. In some instances, these sherds seem to relate to ditch features, though some of this material is arguably of residual status in later Roman features. Whereas in other cases, some of these linears could well prove to be large pits/hollows, in the instance of F.435 in Trench 117 this material would indeed seem to be ditch-associated. Despite this, and based on precedent, what we are probably essentially seeing is a large open settlement of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age date; though this may not necessarily be continuous and could include multiple settlement foci.

3) This large site, which extends into the western thirds of Fields D and E, is unquestionably the most major site investigated (Site 2 also falls within its bounds). Of 1st-3rd century, Early-mid/later Roman date, it essentially consists of a relative regular series of interlinked rectilinear enclosures that must variously represent in-field plots and animal paddocks. This being said, although the quantities of its associated finds were not particularly great, at two points the density of features (and finds) would certainly attests to settlement *per se* (Trench 117 and Trenches 119/120/149).

4) Although distinguished by a marked paucity of associated finds, the density of features within the southern arm of Trench 76 (and possibly extending into Trench 69) would suggest that they relate to the northeastern margin of a Roman settlement. This is probably comparable to Site 3, and must be localised to the southwestern corner of this field and continue beyond its boundaries.

5) A relatively dense spread of Roman settlement features in Fields Z and O (the southwestern side of this swathe being truncated by post-Medieval quarries within the former field). The 'true' north-south/east-west alignment of this settlement (as opposed to the orientation of Site 3) may reflect its roadside situation in relationship to the line of the Field O ditch-flanked trackway (see below).

6) A later Iron Age double-ditch boundary with a Late Iron Age cremation cemetery set immediately exterior to its southeastern perimeter. One grave of the cemetery cluster was excavated in the course of the fieldwork and it proved to be rich; it is estimated that, in total, the cemetery might include upwards of 10-15 such cremations.

The quantity of later Iron Age pottery recovered from the double-ditch boundary would both date that system and suggest the occurrence of contemporary settlement within the vicinity. Yet, rather than being settlement-related *per se*, this more likely marks the line of major north-south trackway/road, which may well have continued southward into the area of Site 3 as the main headland-parallel boundary (having been truncated by late quarrying across most of the intervening area of Field Z). If this trackway/road interpretation is, indeed, valid, then the cremation cemetery would have had a roadside location, as would also the Site 5 Romano-British settlement (presuming a degree of Iron Age/Roman continuity).

7) Relative quantities of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age pottery (and also a much more minor Late Iron Age presence) was associated with the deeply cut 'settlement compound-type' ditches that extend throughout this area of Field P (and into Q). Having the same orientation as the fieldsystem throughout the four northernmost fields, this raises the question of whether that system as a whole is actually of later prehistoric - as opposed to Roman - origins, and this issue will be further discussed below.

8) The variously circular ditched emplacements relating to the WWII defensive battery.

What does warrant mention is the enormous chronological gap between the area's much-evident Iron Age/Roman usage and the Site 8, 20th century defences. Unlike at both the Hutchison Site and the 2020 Lands investigations (Evans *et al.* 2004a; Evans & Mackay 2005), while 'late' metalwork was recovered in the surface surveys, no Saxon - nor otherwise Medieval - material was recovered.

The discovery of the Site 6 cemetery in Field O is of major significance; the one cremation that was excavated was rich and had many more grave goods (and those of far better quality) than, for example, the three Conquest period/1st century AD cremations (plus another 'possible') within the Hutchison Site, Addenbrooke's cemetery (Evans *et al.* 2004a). By extrapolation from the number of possible cremation pits exposed within the trenches, the Clay Farm cemetery is estimated to include upwards of 10-15 such interments. Obviously it would be rash to overly speculate upon the implications of the one cremation that was dug, without the others being in anyway investigated (or even confirmed as such). Nevertheless, given its contents some comments are clearly warranted. As typified by the Hinxton cemetery (Hill *et al.* 1999), such cremation burials are a hallmark of the Romanised/Gaulish-influenced, Late Iron Age Aylesford-Swarling 'culture' of Southeast England and their grave goods - aside from items of personal ornament - generally attest to the anticipated pursuits of the afterlife: eating (bowls, platters, *etc.*), drinking (amphora,

etc.) and gaming (dice, *etc.*). In other words, exactly what we see in the F. 566 burial. However, in this case two points are relevant. First, it is apparent absence of brooches (*cf.* Hinxton; *ibid.*), despite the quality of its other metalwork and the inferred status of the deceased individual. The second, however, turns conversely on the first point, or at least recasts it. Certainly, the quality of the grave's pottery was of a very high standard and shows that the local community had direct (down-the-line) access to imported goods. However, aside from the triangular knife, the same is not necessarily true of its metalwork. The occurrence of the probable patera ram's head handle-end and the three pelta-shaped feet (which were stacked as a group together) suggests their presence as detached objects and not as (complete) container fittings (organic or otherwise); the ram's head may have occurred as some manner of small personal totem of sculpture, with the pelta-shaped patera feet perhaps serving as decorative belt/harness fittings. If this was the case, then it could suggest that these pieces may have been retrieved from a southern scrap-metal source and it might, thereby, indicate that the circulation of high quality Late Iron Age goods - variously metal and pottery - was separate (i.e. access to one did not necessarily ensure access to the other).

Further to observations made within the Hinxton cemetery study (Hill *et al.* 1999), given the finding of another 'formal' cremation cemetery south of Cambridge (when they are not found through fieldwork in lands north of the town) further attests to the 'reality' of the northern Aylesford-Swarling border. Beyond this, its occurrence in the light of other recent findings (post the 1999 Hinxton overview; *ibid.*) equally attests to just how widespread/frequent such cremation cemeteries are within the southern Cambridge area. Not only does its discovery resonate with the Hutchison, Addenbrooke's cemetery, but other burials of this period and type have also been found to the south at Shelford and at Duxford (Hinman 1999; Roberts forthcoming).

Given the Iron Age finds from the double-ditch line just west of the cemetery there can be little doubt of adjacent occupation of that date, the interpretation that this relates to a trackway/road - rather than enclosing a settlement of that period - seems much more plausible. An enclosure of that size and double-ditch plan-form would be without direct precedent within the region (Wandlebury's *hill*fort situation being very different), and a roadside location of the Late Iron Age cemetery would be paralleled at the Hutchison site (Evans *et al.* 2004a). Moreover, the distinction of this as a north-south 'way' would also account for the change of alignment of the Site 5 Roman settlement. As opposed to the northwest-southeast orientation (and its axial return) of the main Site 3 complex also of that date - and which seems to be the dominant alignment of the Roman fieldsystems there and in the 2020 Lands - Site 5 clearly sees a shift in orientation to a more 'cardinal' layout and a roadside location would explain this. (Note that this more 'true' orientation became the secondary, Late Roman alignment on the Hutchison settlement, with the earlier, Late Iron Age/Early Roman system being on the '45 degree'/off-cardinal axes; Evans *et al.* 2004a. If the Field O, north-south through 'road' - *vs.* a later Iron Age, double-ditch enclosure - argument eventually proves wrong, then the 'cardinal' orientation of Site 5 could, alternatively, reflect its greater *later* Roman settlement evidence.)

Having established this, however, we must now consider the date of the fieldsystem in the northernmost fields (O-R; fig. 38). The key issue here is whether, based on the complete absence of any Roman material recovered throughout this area and instead the occurrence of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age finds (including the frequency of

Scatter E's flint of that date) and what seems to be the essentially integral relationship of Site 7 enclosure to its axes, is if itself was of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age attribution. Equally is its layout, as its reeve-like pattern (including small through/along system droves/tracks) would be comparable to Late Bronze Age fieldsystems now known throughout the region and that generally its arrangement seems much more dense and regular than the fieldsystem associated with Site 3 or across the 2020 Lands to the east.

Yet here the problem that would seem to face us is that this system would then share the same basic northwest-southeast orientation as the Roman paddocks at Site 3, the fieldsystem over the 2020 Lands as a whole and, more tellingly, the line of the Roman road at the Hutchison site. When projected, the latter should have run through the middle of Fields P-R, and certainly no 'way' of comparable size was there. It is in this context that a sense of landscape perspective or 'the axis of understanding' becomes relevant. It should not be a matter that the Addenbrooke's investigations have somehow 'set the rules' for this broader landscape's study. The western Clay Farm fields do, indeed, lie that much closer to the river-corridor of the Cam that they may well have seen fieldsystem-enclosure at a much earlier date. Moreover, does this proposal really fly in the face of the Addenbrooke's evidence? There, the Site I enclosure did seem to be of prehistoric attribution - but at the same time fell on the alignment of the main fieldsystem - and the Hutchison road was thought to have an Iron Age precursor (Evans *et al.* 2004a; Evans & Mackay 2005). Equally, in the Bell Language School investigations, the line of a main Roman ditch appeared to be determined by a Middle Iron Age boundary, that was itself proceeded by an post alignment, probably of Late Bronze Age attribution (Brudenell 2004; nearby, evidence of later Bronze Age enclosure has also been found at the Babraham Road Park-and-Ride site; Hinman 2001). Therefore, what we are probably seeing in the northern Clay Farm fields is a later Bronze Age fieldsystem, whose orientation was projected throughout this area and, effectively, became fossilised in the layout of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman landscape. Perhaps in this case, it was hedge-delineation of later prehistoric fields that was the mechanism of such long continuity.

Issues of settlement density and interval (and continuity) must also be considered. At first glance, as plotted on Figure 41, these seem high for the area's later prehistoric sites. Yet we must bear in mind the multi-phased character of these occupations. Site 7, for example, seems only 'early' and sees Late Bronze/Early Iron Age occupation alone (and which is also present on Sites 1 & 2), while later Iron Age settlement is present - if to varying degrees - at Sites 1, 2 and 6. However, of the latter, falling at distances of *c.* 500-600m from each other, this is actually quite a dispersed distribution. At, for example, West Cambridge, Longstanton or parts of the Isle of Ely, later Iron Age sites generally lie only *c.* 300-500m apart (Evans forthcoming), and many of the eastern, 2020 Lands settlements of this period are located at an interval of 200-400m. What is, however, singularly important in the case of the Clay Farm later prehistoric sites is the unequivocal evidence of Early Iron Age occupation, as such settlement evidence is generally rare. In this capacity, and by the quality/frequency of their ceramics, the evidence of Sites 1 and 2 is particularly noteworthy.