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**WOODLANDS PARK
PHASES 3 AND 4
GREAT DUNMOW
ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
BY TRIAL TRENCHING
AND
OPEN AREA EXCAVATION**



Essex County Council

Field Archaeology Unit

August 2003

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GREAT DUNMOW
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TRIAL TRENCHING AND OPEN AREA EXCAVATION**

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**WOODLANDS PARK, PHASES 3 & 4,
GREAT DUNMOW, ESSEX
TRIAL TRENCHING EVALUATION AND
OPEN AREA EXCAVATION REPORT**

SUMMARY

Client: Wickford Development Company Ltd

NGR: TL 615225

Planning Application No: UTT/0084/02

Site Code: GDWP03

Project No: 1205

Date of Fieldwork: 4th March – 9th April 2003

The Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (FAU) carried out trial trenching and open area excavation on Phases 3 and 4 of the Woodlands Park development, Great Dunmow, Essex.

The trial trenching targeted 4 areas of potential archaeological activity, previously identified by fieldwalking (Davis 2003). A total of 61 trenches were excavated, the majority of which contained no archaeological remains. Of the 14 trenches with potential archaeological features, most were proven to be areas of post medieval or modern disturbance associated with agricultural practice. Trench 7, along the northern edge of Phase 4, revealed several poorly-defined features dating to the Roman period. It was agreed to expand the area Trench 7 and proceed with open area excavation.

The total area stripped was approximately 900 square metres. This included a high density of features dating to the Roman period, although residual Neolithic and Iron Age pottery was also recovered. The main features of the site were a large NE-SW orientated boundary ditch, three large pits, a series of inter-cutting gullies or slots, and an oven or kiln. It is likely that the ditches are part of an early Roman field system, whilst the oven and gullies relate to later Roman agricultural activity. It is suggested that the gullies were used for livestock stockades or as cultivation trenches. It is thought that the features encountered are peripheral to a main focus of activity, which is speculated to lie to the north of the site.

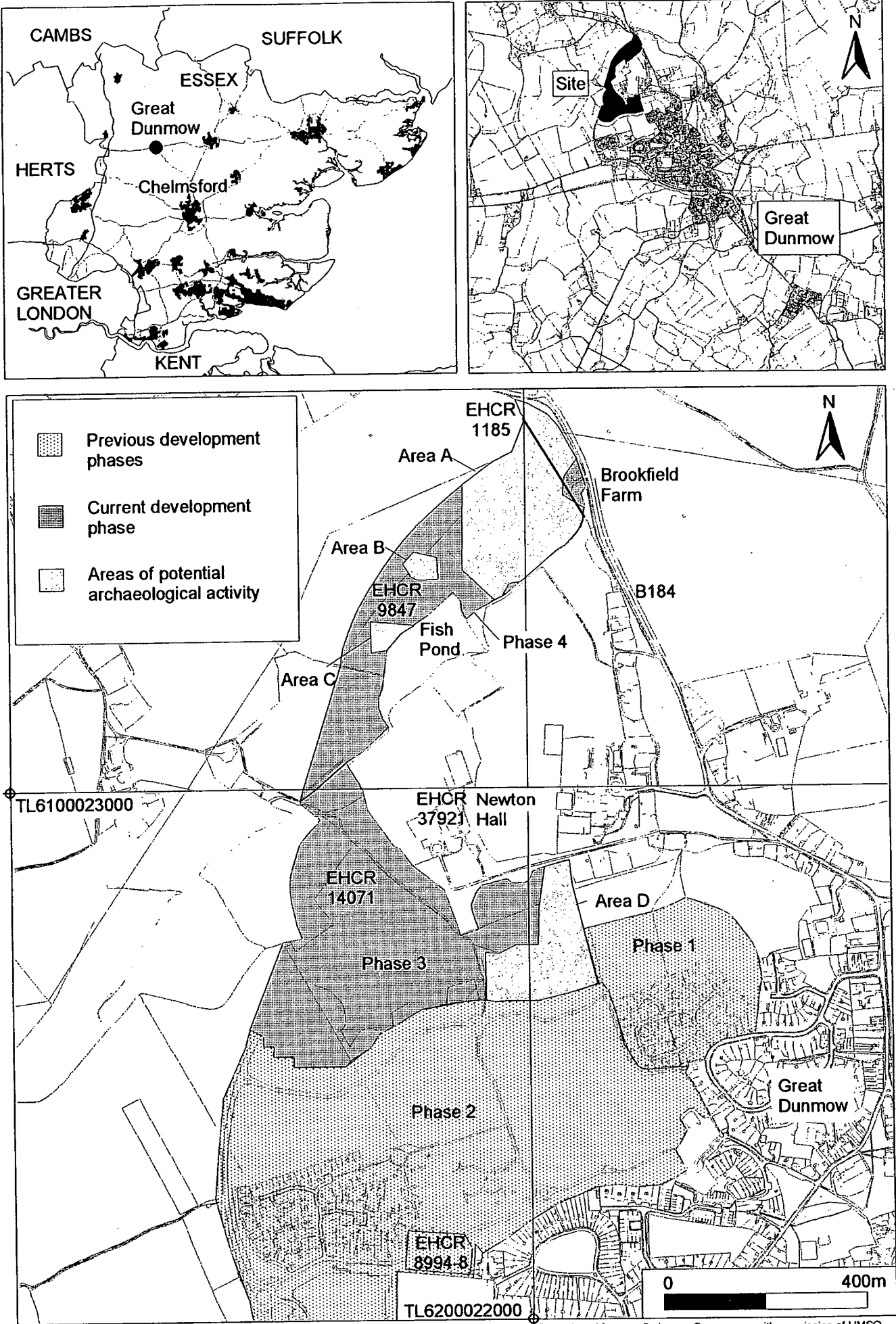


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This report contains the results of an archaeological evaluation prior to the construction of the Great Dunmow Northern Bypass and proposed housing development at Woodlands Park, Great Dunmow, Essex (Fig. 1). The evaluation consisted of trial trenching of four areas of potential archaeological significance indicated from field walking (Davis 2003) and aerial photographic evidence. The investigation was designed to determine the presence, nature, date and survival of these and any other archaeological remains in the proposed development area.
- 1.1.2 The presence of significant archaeological remains within one of the trenches led to its expansion and open area excavation.
- 1.1.3 Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) carried out the evaluation on behalf of Wickford Development Company Ltd. The project was carried out in accordance with a brief prepared by Richard Havis of the Heritage Advice, Management and Promotion (HAMP) Group of Essex County Council, who also monitored the work. The site archive will be deposited at Saffron Walden Museum. A copy of this report will be deposited with the Essex Heritage and Conservation Record (EHCR) and a summary will appear in Essex Archaeology and History (EAH).

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and Topography

- 2.1.1 Phases 3 and 4 of Woodlands Park lay to the northwest of Great Dunmow (fig.1). Phase 3 lies to the north of Phase 2 and forms an L-shaped area to the south and west of Newton Hall. It measures approximately 20 hectares in area. Phase 4 forms a c.12 hectare strip of land that runs north from Phase 3 to the B184 at Brookfield Farm.
- 2.1.2 The specific areas of investigation (A to D) were located within fields that had been ploughed for the purpose of the fieldwalking exercise. It is thought that all the land was previously under regular arable cultivation.

- 2.1.3 The topography of the survey area is varied. Area A lay on gently undulating ground at the northern end of development Phase 4. There was a general slope down towards the road to the north and the stream to the east.
- 2.1.4 Area B lay towards the centre of Phase 4, on the slope of a hill that led down to a pond to the southeast.
- 2.1.5 Area C lay on fairly flat ground, directly to the west of the pond.
- 2.1.6 Area D was located in development Phase 3, to the southwest of Newton Hall. It lay in a ploughed field that was generally flat but showed traces of prior waterlogging.

2.2 Geology

- 2.2.1 The topsoil in all of the areas consisted of silty clay loam approximately 0.30m thick. The underlying drift geology consisted of boulder clay with chalk. However, frequent variations in the subsoil were noted.
- 2.2.2 Area A contained frequent outcrops of sub-rounded gravel that was predominant at the northern end of area. At the southern end the boulder clay appeared to be capped in places by a thin layer of silty clay that did not contain chalk.
- 2.2.3 In areas of waterlogging, the natural was seen to be considerably more silty than elsewhere. No significant traces of colluvium were identified within the areas of investigation.

2.3 Archaeological Background (fig.1)

- 2.3.1 Two areas of known archaeological remains within the survey area are recorded on the Essex Heritage Conservation Record. An area of cropmarks consisting of large irregular pits (EHCR 14071) lies in Phase 3. Cropmark evidence in Phase 4 consists of field boundaries (EHCR 9847) and a possible Roman road (EHCR 1185) that runs north from Great Dunmow.
- 2.3.2 Newton Hall (EHCR 37921) and a cottage adjoining it (EHCR 37923) are both mid nineteenth century red brick houses, and listed buildings.

- 2.3.3 Fieldwalking surveys were carried out in July and October 1992 to the south of the present survey area, on Woodlands Park Phases 1 and 2. The surveys identified concentrations of prehistoric, Roman and medieval material (Atkinson and Lavender 1992; Lavender 1997).
- 2.3.4 An excavation in 1993 was centred on the largest concentration of Roman material from the 1992 survey (EHCR 8994-8). The excavation uncovered part of a Middle Iron Age settlement and a series of Late Iron Age and Romano-British field systems (Lavender 1997).
- 2.3.5 Fieldwalking on Phase 3 and 4 of the development (Davis 2003) identified 4 areas of potential archaeological activity. Area A comprised a concentration of flint work of prehistoric date and Roman pot and tile; Area B contained unabraded Roman pottery; Area C lay over a concentration of post-medieval pottery, tile and brick; and Area D included a prehistoric flint scatter as well as medieval pottery.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1.1 The main aim of the evaluation, as stated in the brief issued by HAMP, was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development. Due to the limited extent of the archaeology identified, it was agreed to proceed directly to open area excavation around the significant features found in Trench 7.

4 METHOD

- 4.1.1 A mechanical excavator with a flat bladed bucket was used to strip 61 trenches under archaeological supervision. The trenches varied between 10 and 56m in length, with an average length of c.30m. A total area of 3694m² was stripped and evaluated as part of the trial trenching exercise.
- 4.1.2 Excavation within the evaluation trenches was restricted by the client to a depth of 0.6m below the topsoil surface. This was the stated limit of the proposed groundworks.
- 4.1.3 An open area excavation, that totalled approximately 900 square metres, was subsequently opened in the northwest corner of the evaluation Area A (Fig. 2). This was located over the northern end of Trench 7, after the evaluation had identified significant archaeological features.

- 4.1.4 Standard ECC FAU methodologies were employed with regard to excavation and recording. All stratigraphy was recorded using the FAU's context recording system. Planning and surveying was tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.1.5 The surface of the trenches was sufficiently cleaned to ensure that any features present were visible. Archaeological features and deposits were excavated using hand tools. A sample of natural features (mostly root disturbance) was excavated in order to prove that they were not man-made.

5 TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 Of the 61 trenches evaluated, only Trench 7 contained significant archaeological features that were datable. Features of potential archaeological interest were recorded in 14 other trenches and the remaining 37 trenches contained no features other than areas of obviously modern disturbance. Only those trenches containing archaeological remains are described and discussed below. Additional trench and feature data is presented in Appendices 1 and 2.

5.2 Area A (fig. 2)

5.2.1 Trench 1

- 5.2.2 Ditch 11 ran NW-SE across the centre of Trench 1. The feature was excavated to a depth of 600mm and was found to be 3.3m wide and to contain at least two fills. The upper fill (12) of re-deposited natural contained one piece of modern glazed pottery, whilst the darker lower fill (13) contained two pieces of tile (one Post-medieval, one Roman), a Prehistoric flint core and a length of copper wire. It is likely that the feature constitutes a recently back-filled agricultural boundary ditch, with the flint and tile constituting residual material from the field surface.

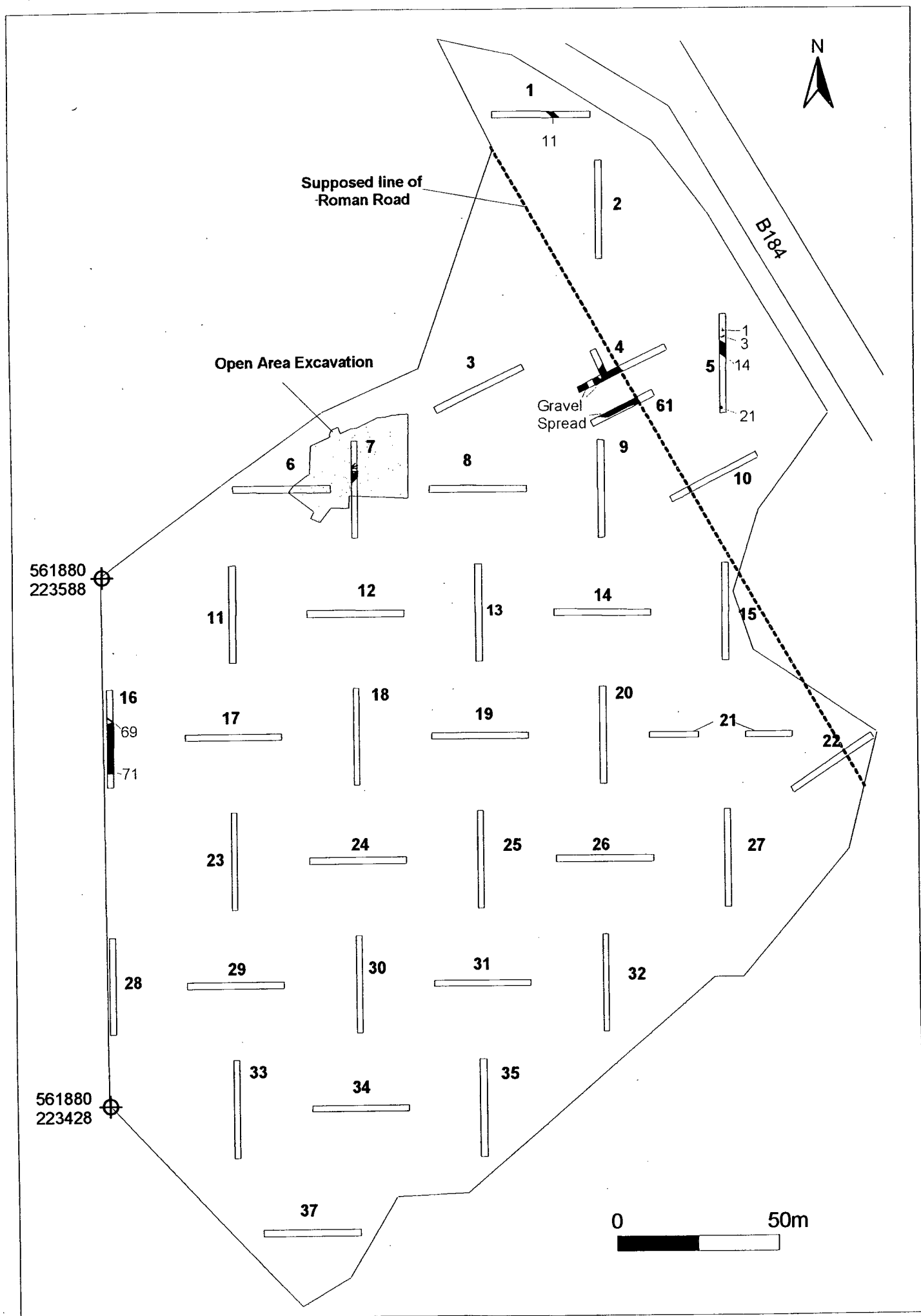


Figure 2: Area A Trench Layout

5.2.3 Trench 4

5.2.4 Trench 4 was located across the line of the purported Roman (EHCR 1185) road that ran northward from Great Dunmow. The south-western end of this trench contained a spread of gravel that was intensively investigated. Traces of possible roadside ditches were identified (55, 56, 66) and slots were dug to assess the make up of the potential metallised surface (54, 60 & 61). The trench was extended 10m to the NW to clarify the extents of these deposits. The spread of gravel was seen to fade out and to lack definite edges. It is likely that the deposits are in-situ fluvial gravels that represent a flood episode following the last Ice Age. The potential ditches are probably the result of subsequent river braiding, characteristic of cold environments. This is substantiated by a lack of artefacts from the excavated deposits.

5.2.5 Trench 61

5.2.6 This trench was excavated c.7m to the southeast of Trench 61 to identify the extent of the previously identified gravel spread. Although a concentration of coarse sand with large sub-angular stones was present, no archaeological features could be identified. Furthermore, no traces of any metallised road-surface were present in Trenches 10 or 22. This supports the interpretation that the gravel is part of an isolated geological outcrop.

5.2.7 Trench 5

5.2.8 A possible post-hole (1) was excavated c.8m from the northern end of Trench 5. The fill (2) contained rare fragments of fired clay and charcoal, but the irregular nature of this feature suggested natural disturbance. A large fragment of decomposing wood recovered from the fill also suggested that the feature was of a fairly recent date.

5.2.9 Feature 3 was a narrow linear cut that ran NE-SW across the northern end of Trench 5. It was greater than 600mm in depth and its regularity suggest that it was likely to have been a modern field drain. Two pieces of Post-medieval/modern earthenware pottery recovered from its fill support this interpretation.

5.2.10 A group of possible stake holes (5) was recorded at the edge of feature 3. It is likely, however, that these are merely the result of root action.

5.2.11 A large ditch (14) ran NW-SE across Trench 5. It was similar to ditch 11 (Trench 1) in profile but only contained one fill (15). This yielded a selection of Post-medieval and

modern finds, including window glass, clay pipe and a horseshoe. The ditch appeared to be cut through a poorly defined layer (16) on its western side. The wide spread and lack of depth (0.14m) of this layer suggest that is probably the result of deep ploughing or colluvial action. The finds from ditch 14 also suggest a relatively recent date.

5.2.12 A small possible pit (21) was located at the southern end of the trench. It was irregular in profile and contained one small piece of modern tile. It is possible that this was the result of root disturbance, with the finds being intrusive.

5.2.13 A circular post-hole, 0.45m in diameter, was established to cut the fill of ditch 14. This feature was not excavated as it contained fragments of decaying wood and was of obviously recent date.

5.2.14 Trench 7

5.2.15 Trench 7 revealed the presence of a wide, NE-SW orientated ditch (7) that had been re-cut (9). These features were not fully excavated due to the 0.6m depth restriction. However, both yielded significant quantities of Roman finds and further prehistoric material was seen on the surface of the trench to the south.

5.2.16 To the northwest of the ditch, a complex of narrow gullies and possible post-holes were identified. A sample of these was excavated within the parameters of the evaluation. Post-hole 17 was a fairly regular circular feature, 0.6m wide by 0.22m deep. It was cut by gully 19, which was 0.5m wide and greater than 0.24m deep. Both features contained Roman pottery.

5.2.17 Trench 16

5.2.18 A small gully (69) ran NW-SE across Trench 16, c.8m from its northern end. This feature was well-defined and contained a large fragment of Post-medieval/modern brick (not retrieved) and a sherd of Post-medieval pottery. It is likely that the feature is some form of agricultural land drain and that the finds may even be intrusive.

5.2.19 To the south of drain 69 a large, poorly-defined spread of silty material was identified. A slot excavated through it revealed that this extended deeper than 600mm and was greater than 8 m wide. It was also established that the silt was contained within a very irregular cut (71) and a number of small depressions were recorded across its base. These were not excavated due to excavation depth restrictions. The main fill (72) contained a small

selection of pottery ranging from Prehistoric to Post-medieval. It is likely that this feature represents disturbance associated with a relatively modern ploughed-out field boundary, the prehistoric material being residual.

5.3 Area B (fig. 3)

5.3.1 Trench 37

5.3.2 A steep-sided ditch (31) ran NW-SE across trench 37. Due to the excavation limits this feature was not fully excavated and yielded no finds. The interpretation of this feature as a backfilled field boundary ditch was supported by the presence of similarly aligned ditch segments in Trenches 59 and 60 (ditch 43).

5.3.3 Towards the middle of the trench, traces of a poorly-defined linear feature (39) curved from the NE to the SE across the trench. The feature was found to be very shallow, suggesting that it had been a minor ditch that had been heavily truncated by ploughing. At the centre of the trench, a further segment (37) was excavated that indicated that this feature cut a narrow gully (35) that continued SW.

5.3.4 Gully 35 terminated in the centre of Trench 37, less than one metre to the SW of ditch 39. This small length of narrow gully was remarkable in that its fill (34) contained a high concentration of fresh water snail shells that might suggest that the feature was in some way connected with drainage.

5.3.5 At the north-eastern end of the trench there was a large spread of dark greyish brown silty material that extended for 20m down the eastern side. This possible linear feature was excavated in two segments (45 and 47), but both showed that the feature was very irregular and with a very gently sloping side. In the absence of any datable finds it is likely that this spread is the result of silting of a waterlogged area.

5.3.6 Trench 59

5.3.7 Trench 59 was excavated parallel to Trench 37 to determine the extent of ditch 31. It was observed to cross this trench c.8m from the SW end and was not excavated, as it was a further part of that in Trench 60.

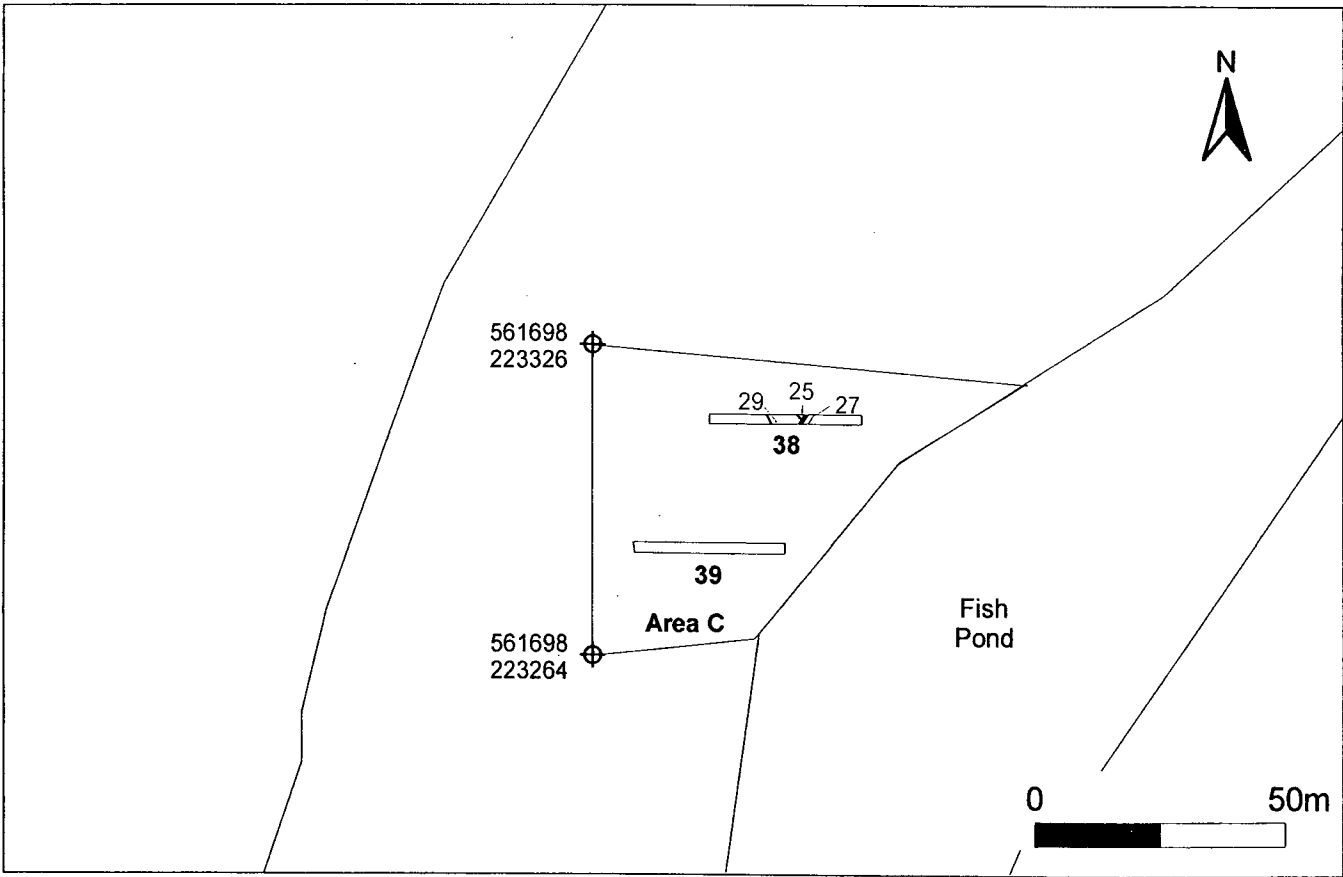
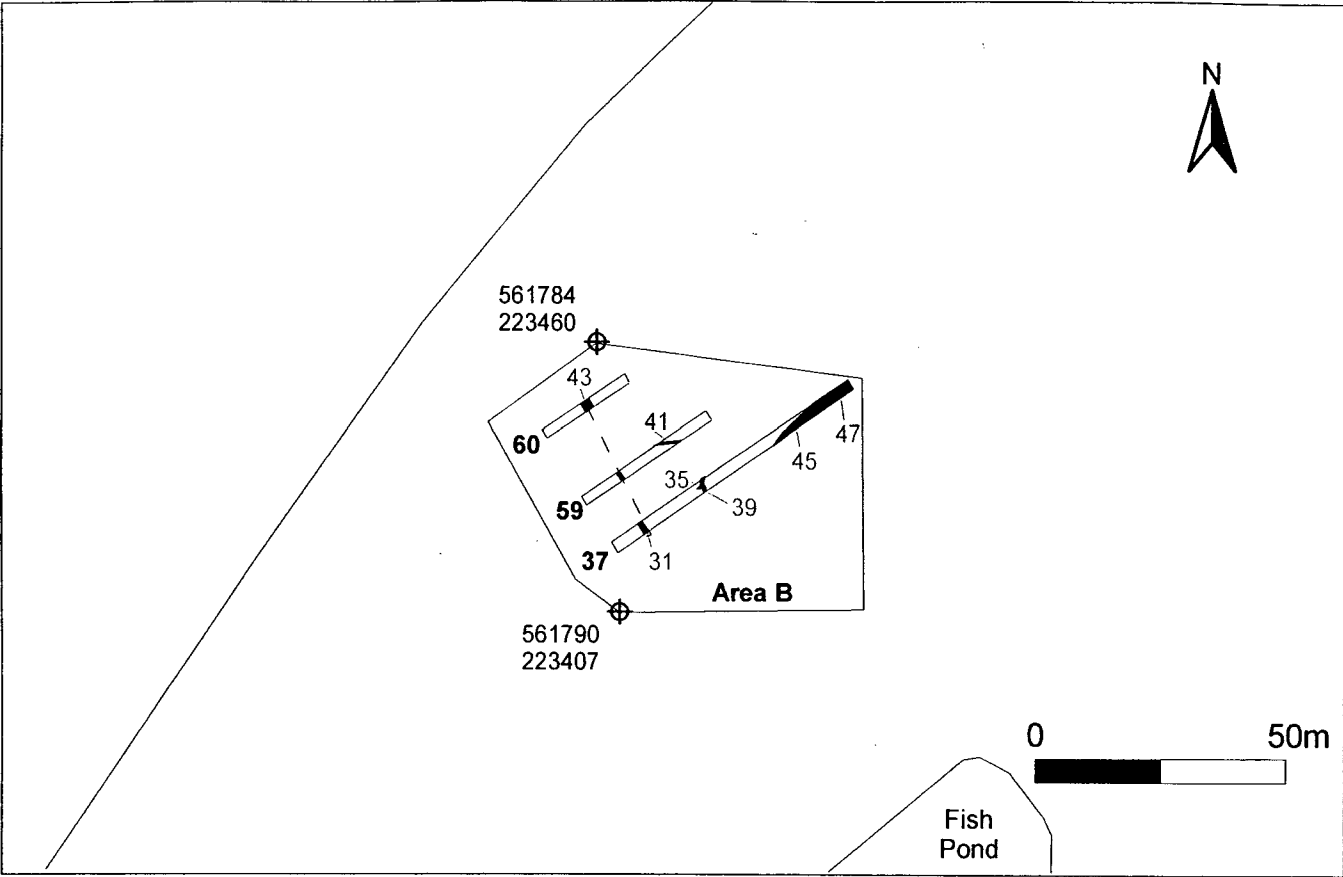


Figure 3: Area B & C Trench Location

5.3.8 Trench 60

- 5.3.9 Ditch 31, recorded in Trenches 37 and 59, extended NW into Trench 60. In this trench the ditch (segment 43) was much wider and shallower than it had been in the other trenches. It is likely that, due to its location further up the slope, it had been more heavily truncated by ploughing. At its base, however, was the void left by an agricultural field drain, which suggested that this agricultural ditch had been back-filled in the modern period.

5.4 Area C (fig. 3)

5.4.1 Trench 38

- 5.4.2 A concentration of linear features ran across the centre of Trench 38. All of the features recorded appeared to be of recent origin and none are thought to be archaeologically significant. The recovered finds all date to the Post-medieval period or later.
- 5.4.3 The best-defined feature was a ditch (25) that ran NE-SW across Trench 38, c.10m from its eastern end. The feature had regular, steep sides and was in excess of 0.6m deep. The basal fill (26) contained a fragment of modern brick and it is likely that the feature represents a recently back-filled agricultural drainage ditch.
- 5.4.4 The recent activity in this area is also attested to by the presence of post-hole 29, which had a very loose fill of un-compacted topsoil that was obviously very modern. The piece of Post-medieval roof tile recovered from this fill (50) is likely to represent residual material present in the plough soil.
- 5.4.5 0.5m to the east of ditch 25 was gully 27. This ran parallel to the ditch but was considerably narrower and only 0.5m deep. Although its single fill (28) contained many Post-medieval brick fragments, the modern nature of this feature was attested to by the highly organic nature of the fill and the fact that it cut modern field drains.
- 5.4.6 All of the archaeological features within Trench 38 cut layer 30. This was a 0.15m thick layer of silty clay that covered 16m of the trench. It is likely that this layer represents silting of the area associated with waterlogging. The Post-medieval brick and tile finds retrieved from this deposit may have been introduced as an attempt to aid drainage. It is likely that the linear features recorded in Trench 38 represent the most recent attempts to improve the drainage in this area.

5.5 Area D (fig. 4)

5.5.1 Trench 41

5.5.2 The north-eastern c.6.5m of Trench 41 was covered by an amorphous spread of greyish brown sandy-clay (85). It was at least 0.28m in depth and contained fragments of post-medieval tile and pottery. The silty consistency of context 85 was probably due to waterlogging in this part of the field with the finds being intrusive. It is likely that they would have been added to the field surface at this location to assist drainage and that they have worked their way into the subsoil.

5.5.3 Trench 43

5.5.4 Trench 43 contained a number of greyish brown silty patches that had potential as possible archaeological features. Further investigation showed that most were merely variations in the natural sub-soil. One feature (81) had the appearance of a butt-ended linear feature, 0.75m wide and 0.12m deep. It should be noted, however, that this feature was directly aligned with a linear depression in the ploughed surface of the field and is likely to be the result of tractor wheel rutting.

5.5.5 Trench 44

5.5.6 A similar situation was recorded in Trench 44 where an amorphous spread (86) covered the NNE end of the trench. The mid-greyish brown silty filled an irregular depression in an area that also exhibited evidence of deep wheel ruts. A possibly worked piece of flint was recovered from this 'layer', but it is likely to have come from the plough-soil.

5.5.7 Trench 45

5.5.8 Trench 45 contained a spread of silty clay towards its NNE end within which small fragments of post medieval tile were present. Investigation revealed that this layer (83) was 0.22m deep and very likely to be a variation in the natural.

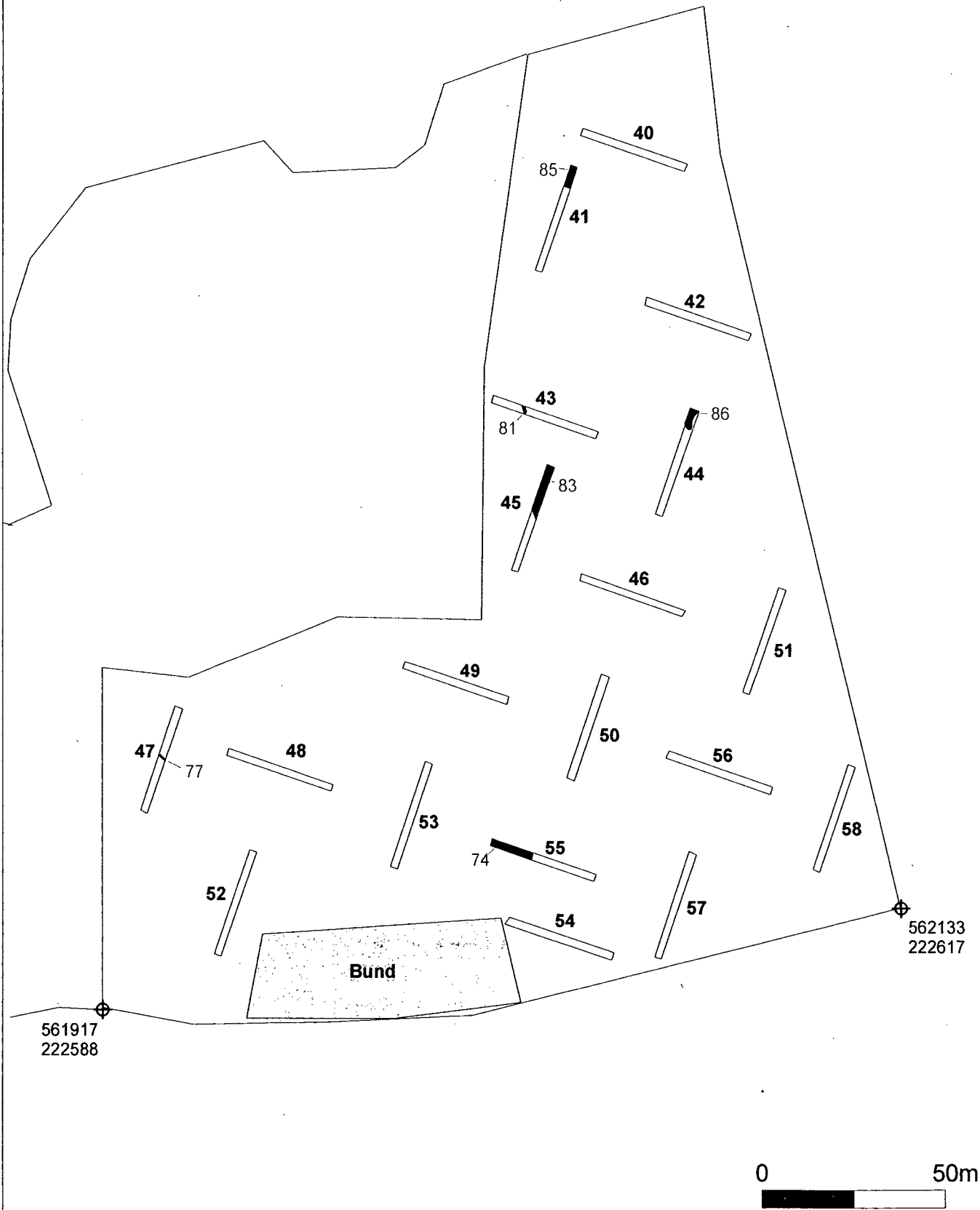


Figure 4: Area D Trench Location

5.5.9 Trench 47

5.5.10 Trench 47 contained a modern service trench (77) that ran NW-SE across the middle of the trench. The feature was 0.70m wide, straight sided, and contained a piece of modern glass. No service pipe was observed at a depth of 600mm and it is likely that the feature was considerably deeper.

5.5.11 Trench 55

5.5.12 A large spread (80) of disturbed ground was recorded 16m in length at the NW end of Trench 55. Sondages at either end of the spread, and a narrow slot along the length, showed that the deposit was highly mixed and contained frequent roots and part of a modern harrow. It is likely that the irregular cut (79) of this area of disturbance was due to the removal of a cluster of trees in recent times. The First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps show a number of trees in this area.

6 OPEN AREA EXCAVATION RESULTS (fig. 5)

6.1 Background

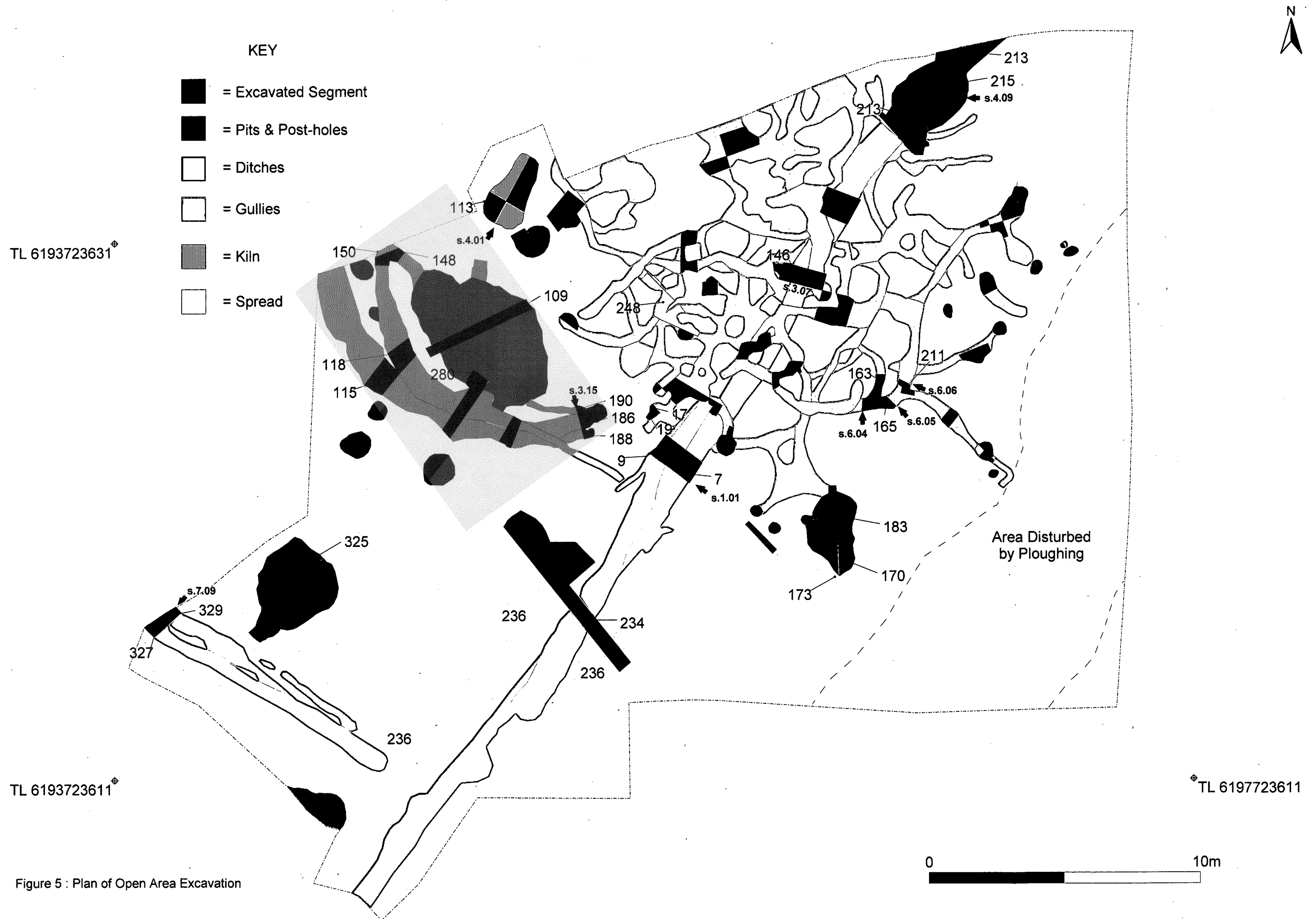
6.1.1 A c.30m by 30m area around Trench 7 was subsequently stripped on the basis of its perceived archaeological potential. The open area excavation was limited at its northern edge by the limit of the development area. To the east, deep ploughing along the edge of the modern field boundary had heavily disturbed the archaeological remains. The site was stripped back for a further 5m beyond this but no further archaeology was present. The western side of the excavation was limited by the presence of over-head power cables and the edge of the development. To the southwest, no discrete archaeological features were present. An amorphous spread of slightly greyer material (236) was recorded in this area, although a machine cut sondage suggested that this was less than 200mm deep and masked no underlying features.

6.1.2 Evidence of archaeological activity from at least three periods was evident within the site: fragments of prehistoric pottery were recovered; a complex of ditches, gullies, pit and post-holes dating to the Roman were recorded; and a line of modern fence post-holes also ran north-east to south-west across the site.

- 6.1.3 At the end of the excavation it was decided to re-machine the site in order to clarify the vertical extent of the remaining un-excavated features. This depth removed averaged c.0.3m and was constrained to within the limits of the proposed road. The site was extended by c.5m to the southwest after additional features (325, 327, & 329) were revealed under layer 236.
- 6.1.4 A fully annotated site plan is presented in Appendix 3 and further details of the excavated contexts are listed in Appendix 4.

6.2 Prehistoric Period

- 6.2.1 None of the features that were excavated could be securely dated to the prehistoric period. Most of the pottery that was recovered was abraded and accompanied by sherds of Roman pottery. This would suggest that it was residual.
- 6.2.2 The vast majority of the prehistoric pottery recovered came from context 319. This was an isolated deposit of similar sherds from within layer 236 toward the southwest of the open area. Although it is likely that all the collected sherds derive from the same vessel, possibly dating to the Neolithic, the layer lies over the top of two phases of Roman ditch and contained other Roman finds. It is therefore likely that the material came from a feature, such as a cremation, that had been disturbed by later activity.
- 6.2.3 The general low concentration of prehistoric pottery recovered suggests that there was sparse prehistoric activity in this area. The dating of material spans a considerable length of time: from the Neolithic to the Iron Age (from pits 215 and ditch 329). It is possible that ephemeral traces of occupation have been lost beneath the spread later Roman activity. However, it is unlikely that the focus of any prehistoric occupation lay within the area investigated.



6.3 Roman Period

- 6.3.1 A major NE-SW ditch represented the first phase of Roman activity within the investigation area. Although traces of it were recorded in the original evaluation trench (9), it was poorly defined and heavily truncated by later Roman pits, ditches and gullies. It was excavated in four segments (234, 146, 299 and 213). The feature proved to be fairly consistent in character along its length, roughly 1.25m wide by 0.45m deep with steep-sloping sides and a concave base. This ditch is likely to be contemporary with the NW-SE orientated ditches (327 and 329) located in the southwest of the open area. They ran perpendicular to the NE-SW ditch and were of similar proportions, though were poorly defined. Traces of at least two phases of re-cutting were evident with the latest containing sherds of both Roman and Iron Age pottery.
- 6.3.2 It is likely that these linear features are part of an early Roman or even Iron Age field system. The pottery from segment 146 dates the backfill to mid 1st century AD. The lack of obvious occupation structures within the excavation area, and of other, similarly dated, archaeological remains in the surrounding trenching, perhaps supports this agricultural interpretation.
- 6.3.3 The main NE-SW ditch appeared to have been re-established for c.20m towards the centre of the site. At the southwestern extent of this, the ground was heavily disturbed and the features were masked under spread 236. In segment 234 the later feature totally removed all trace of the boundary ditch, whilst in segment 9 it ran along the western edge of it (see Fig.6, section 1.01). This new re-establishment suggests that the earlier ditch was still evident in the later Roman period even if it was no longer in use as a boundary. It is possible that only a short length of ditch was re-cut in order to create an entrance way between it and ditch 327, whilst maintaining the original enclosure pattern.
- 6.3.4 Although spread (236) may be the result of ploughing, its concentration around the deep ditches and pits in the southwestern corner of the site may be indicative of the exploitation of these features as watering troughs by animals.
- 6.3.5 Three large pits were recorded within the excavation area. In the northeast a large pit (215) cut the NE-SW boundary ditch (213). A similar-sized pit (325) was recorded to the west of the site. Both were around 2.5m in diameter and 0.6m deep and contained only one discernible fill. A third large pit (109) was recorded to the in the northwest corner of

the site. This was poorly-defined, fairly irregular, and possibly made up of a number of smaller inter-cutting or re-cut pits.

- 6.3.6 No definite function for the pits could be established. It is unlikely that these features represent quarrying, as no gravel was evident during excavation and the clay natural is unlikely to be of suitable quality for the manufacture of pottery. It is possible that large pits were dug to collect water for animals. This is supported by their proximity to ditches that may have been damp spots even after the ditches had silted up. The general paucity of finds in all of these features may suggest that they were back-filled with organic waste that has since decayed leaving little trace. The lack of finds also suggests that any centre of occupation was still some way away. The only closely datable find was a folded beaker base. This came from pit 215 and suggests that this feature was back-filled in the 3rd century AD, at the earliest.
- 6.3.7 Along the northern edge of the site a kiln-type feature (113) was recorded (fig.7). It contained a large amount of burnt material and displayed evidence burning in-situ. The feature was sub-oval with the burning concentrated at the south-western end. An alignment of Roman tile ran along the northwestern edge of the feature. The northeastern end of this feature was poorly defined and it is likely that the feature had been disturbed, possibly due the robbing of the tiles or other structural material. It possible that feature 113 is some form of oven or corn dryer. However, the lack of large quantities of burnt grain, or other finds suggestive of use, leaves this interpretation open. The finds from the kiln are suggestive of general refuse deposited after disuse. This material suggests a late Roman date for the basal fill, with the pottery from the upper fill probably not earlier than the third century AD.
- 6.3.8 The main component of the archaeological features evident within the site was an extensive network of irregular inter-connecting gullies. These covered the central area of the site and extended beyond its northern edge. No discernible pattern could be seen within the network of gullies, and little differentiation was evident between their fills, which were of silty-clay with common charcoal inclusions. A sample of these features was excavated (Fig. 6). Although most of the gullies appeared to be of a similar width (c.0.5m) they showed considerable variation in depth (between 0.2 - 0.5m). Indeed, it was established that each gully varied depth along its length. Some, such as 163, displayed evidence of possible stake settings along their bases (plate 1). With no obvious variations

in fills, and no consistency in form, it was impossible to isolate individual gullies within the network. Three of the best-defined gully sections are presented in figure 8.

6.3.9 The gullies are likely to have been backfilled soon after they were dug. This was shown by the near vertical sides and homogenous fills. It is assumed that the features are broadly contemporary and shared the same function. Any relationships seen in plan (fig.5) were rarely evident in the excavated section. It is possible that these features are structural slots that were dug as the foundation for wattle-fences. This may explain the considerable depth of some of the slots and the presence of stake-holes in the bases. Such irregular structures may have been used to fence-off small working areas or stock enclosures. Another suggestion is that they are agricultural bedding trenches, with the stake-hole representing root disturbance or post supports. The irregular nature of the features in plan, and the lack of domestic refuse within the area, suggest that the slots relate to agricultural or processing activity. The gullies probably represent the latest phase of Roman activity within the site. This is shown by the fact that the gullies cut, not only the large ditches, but also the substantial pits. Based on the little dating evidence available, and assuming that the gullies are broadly contemporary, this suggests that this activity dated to the late 3rd century AD.

6.3.10 Sixteen post-holes were recorded across the site, most of which were poorly-defined and less than 0.3m deep. No obvious structural groups could be identified within the array of post-holes, although it is possible that the more ephemeral traces have been masked by later activity. The majority of these features probably represent insubstantial structures such as fence lines, windbreaks, or isolated posts possibly associated with the gullies. One post-hole (222), at the northern edge of the site, differed in that it was 0.8m in diameter by nearly 1m deep. Although no datable material was recovered from its fill, there is a possibility that this feature may be associated with an earlier alignment of the nearby telegraph poles.

6.3.11 The lack of large Roman boundary ditches enclosing the later activity within the excavation area may suggest that it occupied agricultural land peripheral a centre of occupation. The only other possible enclosure ditches were seen in the northwestern quarter of the site. Here, at least two fairly substantial ditches (115 and 118) curved around eastward from the northeast corner of the site. These were associated with a number of smaller ditches and gullies (including 186, 188 and 190) that all followed a similar alignment. The lack of finds and the repeated re-cutting of these features suggest continual activity. Alternatively, the

position of these features may infer an association with kiln 113, perhaps for the construction of a wind-break or the definition of a working area around it.

6.3.12 Finds retrieved from the middle of this ditch sequence (context 187) date the backfilling of at least one of these features to the late third century. This would suggest that this activity, represented by the curvilinear ditches, belongs to the latest phase of Roman activity. The fact that the gully network respects both the kiln and the curvilinear ditches supports this interpretation.

6.4 Modern Period

6.4.1 No further evidence of archaeological activity was found within the boundaries of the site other than a line of modern post-holes that crossed the site. These were often seen as voids and were clearly of recent origin. To the southeast of this fence line a c.7m band of disturbance was recorded. It is likely that this was the result of deep ploughing along the boundary of the site, and it is possible that it has destroyed traces of shallow archaeological features.

7 FINDS REPORT by Joyce Compton

7.1 Pottery

7.1.1 Post-medieval and modern pottery, amounting to 16 sherds weighing 91g, was found in a total of seven contexts, all from the evaluation stage of work.

7.1.2 Forty-seven contexts produced pottery dating to the Late Iron Age and Roman periods, most of which appears to be mid to late Roman, although very little was closely datable. Where identifiable forms were present, the pottery was recorded using the typology devised for Chelmsford (Going 1987, 13-54). A total of 295 sherds, weighing 2745g, was recovered, mainly in the form of body sherds in coarse fabrics derived from utilitarian vessels. Many of these forms and fabrics are long-lived and are therefore not closely datable within the Roman period. The fragmentary nature of most of the assemblage indicates deposition, and perhaps redeposition, of pottery along with domestic waste.

- 7.1.3 Prehistoric pottery came from ten contexts, 80% of which came from a single context and likely to be from the same vessel. This pottery forms the subject of a separate report (see below).

7.2 Tile

- 7.2.1 Post-medieval and modern tile fragments were recovered in small quantities, mainly from evaluation contexts. Roman tile was also present in small amounts, except for a collection of *tegulae*, weighing more than 13kg, recovered from fill 128 of a kiln (113). *Tegulae* are a type of flat Roman roofing tile which has a flange along opposing long edges. It is unlikely that the tiles from this feature have been reused following conventional use as building material. They may represent accidental breakages which proved adaptable for use elsewhere. A fragment of box flue tile came from the fill of pit 109, otherwise all of the remaining tile fragments appear to be also derived from *tegulae*.

7.3 Baked clay

- 7.3.1 Baked clay fragments, with a total weight of 450g, were recovered from 21 contexts. These mainly comprise small fragments, with the most significant amount (236g) coming from fill 128 of kiln 113. The presence of baked clay fragments in such a structure would not be unexpected. None of the fragments has flat surfaces, nor any features which might indicate use as daub.

7.4 Metalwork

- 7.4.1 Few items of metalwork were retrieved. Several modern items were found in evaluation contexts, but most of the remainder appears to comprise nails of probable Roman date. The recognisable exception is the blade of a knife from fill 128 of kiln 113. This has a triangular-sectioned blade typical of the Roman period. Several other objects may be present, but X-ray would be necessary for precise identifications to be made. Fill 287 of pit 280 contained a small number of hobnails.

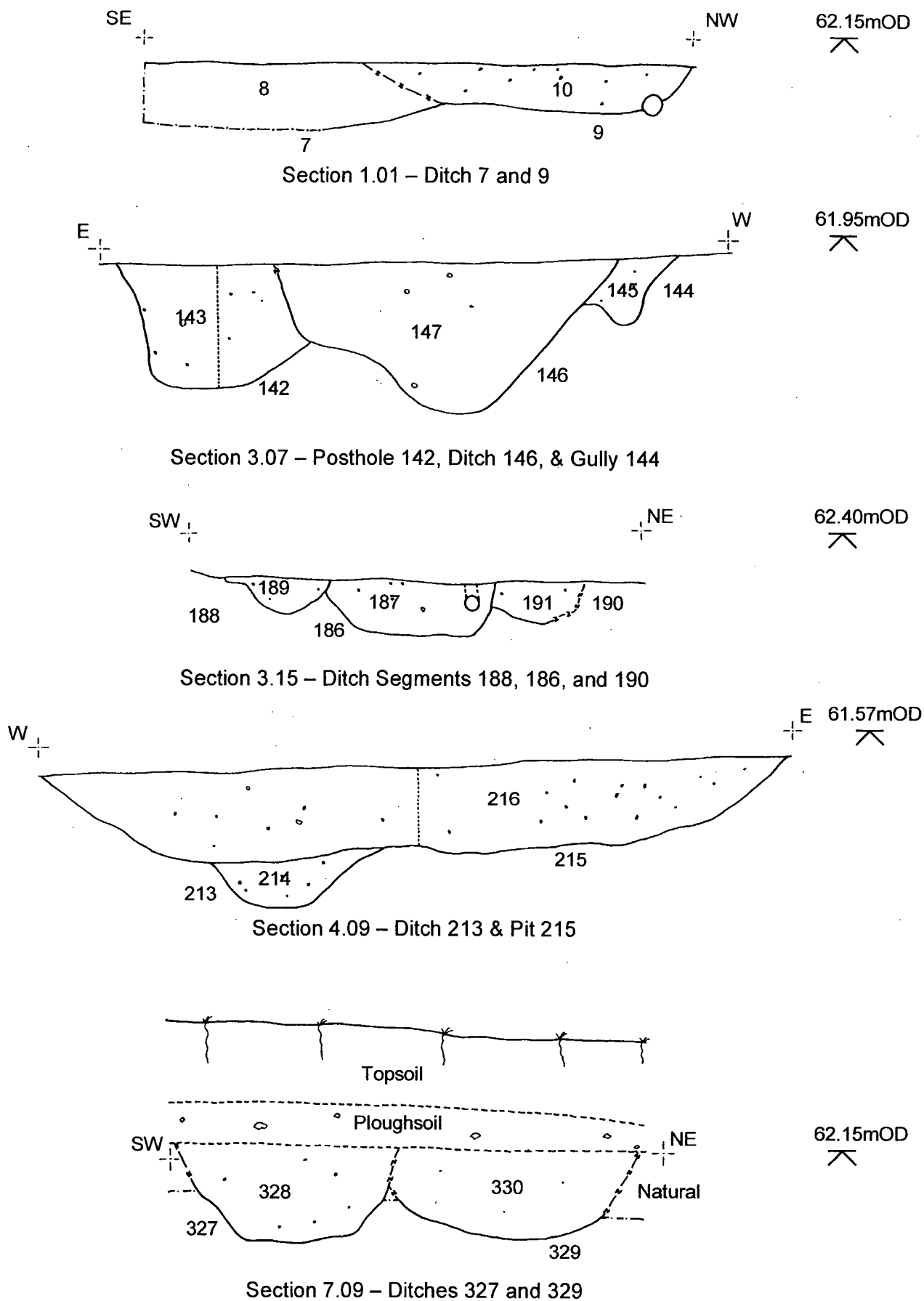
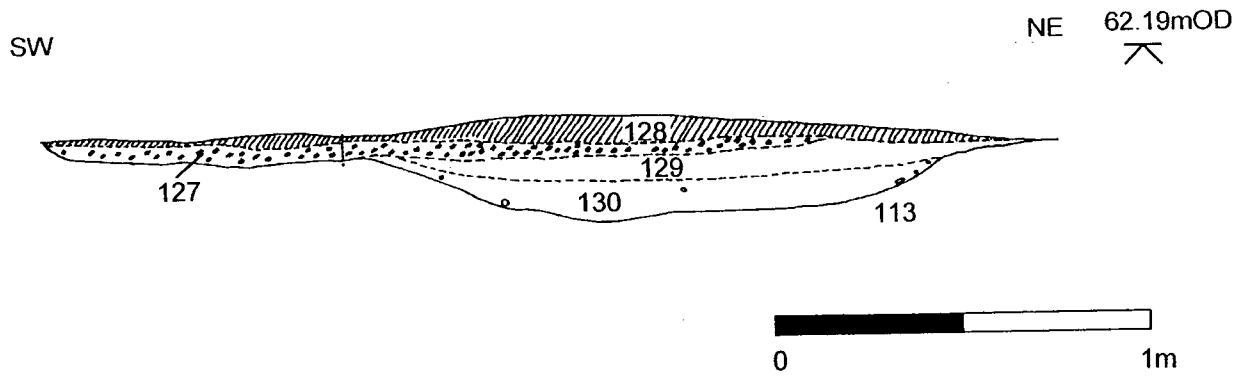
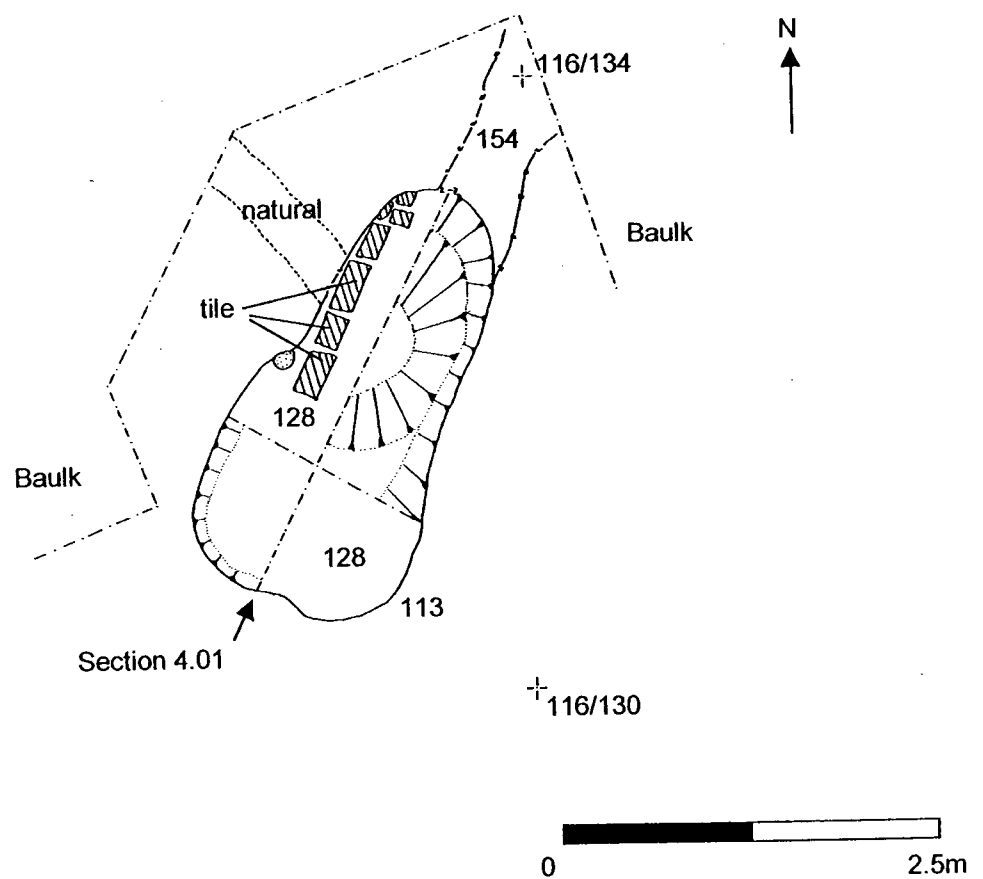


Figure 6: Section Drawings of Key Features





Section 4.01 – Feature 113



Post Excavation Plan of Feature 113

Figure 7: Plan and Section Drawing of Feature 113

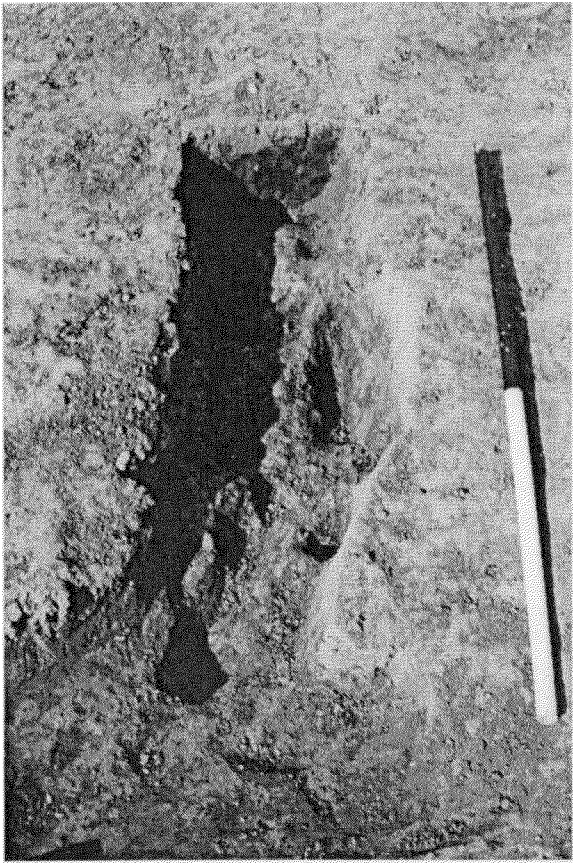


Plate 1: Gully 163 with stake holes – looking north

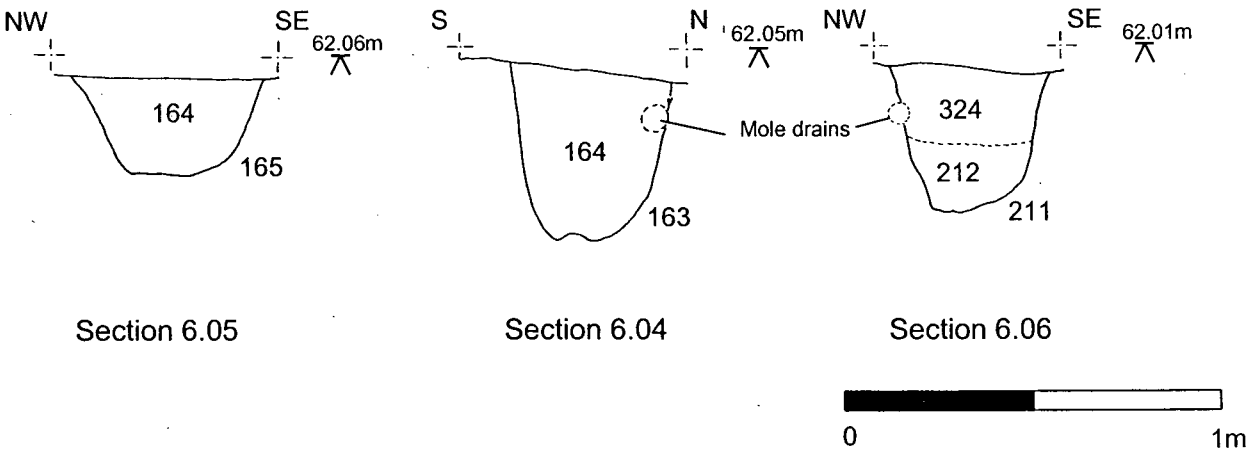


Figure 8: Section Drawings of isolated Gullies

7.5 Prehistoric pottery by N. J. Lavender

- 7.5.1 A total of 86 sherds (314g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered from 10 contexts. The material has been recorded using a system devised for prehistoric pottery in Essex (Brown 1988, details in archive). Fabrics were identified on the basis of type, size and frequency of inclusions.
- 7.5.2 Most of the material was in a flint-tempered fabric, and the whole assemblage showed signs of abrasion. All but one sherd, weighing 8g, was accompanied by later pottery and should be regarded as residual.
- 7.5.3 All of the sherds from deposit 319 appear to be from the same pot, a vessel with a simple rim and the suggestion of an S-shaped profile. This may be part of an Early Neolithic bowl. However, its original context had evidently been disturbed by a Roman ditch and so little of the pot survives that this date can only be tentative. The rest of the material cannot be closely dated, although the sandy sherds from contexts 216 (Pit 215) and 328 (Ditch 327) are likely to be Iron Age.

7.6 The Stone by H. Major

- 7.6.1 A small amount of stone was recovered. It includes five fragments from Roman rotary querns, three of them made from millstone grit or similar (features 113, 216, and 325), and two from Rhenish lava. Both pieces of lava come from feature 234, and are probably from the same stone.
- 7.6.2 One grit quern has a kerb round the edge, a feature more usually found in lava, and undoubtedly an imitation of that form. Kerbed millstone grit querns are relatively rare but fairly widespread. Other examples from Essex come from Elms Farm, Heybridge (Major in prep), Chelmsford (Major in prep), Chignall St. James (Major and Buckley 1998), Harlow (in Harlow Museum), and Stebbing Green, near Dunmow (Major 1999).
- 7.6.3 Dating querns within the Roman period is difficult; lava querns are more common than millstone grit in the earlier part of the period, but their use probably continues throughout. The kerbed grit quern is more likely to be early Roman, though there is insufficient data to be certain that the form is solely early Roman. Gritstone querns were frequently re-used as sharpening stones (as was the fragment from feature 216), or as coarse building material, and are therefore often residual in their contexts.

7.6.4 The unworked stone includes fragments of septaria, and indurated gravel, both commonly used as coarse building stone by the Romans. Septaria is a fine-grained calcareous mudstone which occurs as nodules along the north Essex and Suffolk coast. Indurated gravel is a 'mature' form of iron pan, found in various locations in Essex.

7.7 Worked flint

7.7.1 Sixty-one pieces of worked flint were recovered. Although it is likely that all of them are residual, the assemblage includes several pieces of interest. Two blades, from features 213 and 217, may be mesolithic or early Neolithic, as they exhibit a milky patina. A biface from context 310 is probably Neolithic, and there is one definite, and one possible scraper, probably later Bronze Age. Most of the flakes and blades are waste from flint working, although some have been utilised, as they have fine retouch.

7.8 Other Categories

7.8.1 Few other categories were present and these are minimal in quantity. Further post-medieval and modern finds came from evaluation contexts, in the form of clay pipe stems and glass fragments. Small amounts of animal bone were found in the fills of oven 113 and fill 249 of gully 248, and cattle tooth fragments came from layer 233. These all represent food waste, as does the oyster shell from fill 128 of oven 113.

7.9 Finds from Significant Features

7.9.1 The N-S Ditches

7.9.2 The finds from excavated ditch segments are minimal in quantity and there is nothing present which contradicts the proposed early date for the ditches. The fills from ditch re-cuts 9 and 234 contained small amounts of pottery, and other finds, of a general mid Roman date, suggesting that the ditch went out of use perhaps during the 2nd century.

7.9.3 The Kiln Structure 113

7.9.4 The fills, 127 and 128, of this structure contained a variety of finds, which include ironwork, animal bone, baked clay, tile fragments and pottery. The largest component is tile (over 13kg), comprising *tegula* fragments and spalls, which presumably formed part of the

structure itself. A substantial amount of pottery was also present, the datable pieces are mainly mid to late 3rd century types. A large section from a flanged dish (Going 1987, Type B5.1) was found in the upper fill. These dishes were current in the middle decades of the 3rd century. Other body sherds, one probably from an H39 beaker, are also 3rd century or later. None of the pottery has the appearance of kiln waste, and it seems unlikely that the feature was used to produce pottery. Nothing in the finds assemblage gives an indication for the use of the structure. As a whole, the finds are strongly suggestive of disposal of rubbish after the kiln went out of use. This is likely to have taken place before the end of the 3rd century.

7.9.5 Pit 109, and associated/equivalent Pit 280

7.9.6 The fills contained small groups of finds, including ironwork, tile and baked clay fragments and pottery. Finds of note include iron hobnails in the fill of pit 280 and a fragment of box flue tile in fill 110 of pit 109. The pottery has a mid to late Roman date, although diagnostic forms are few. Sherds from a samian dish are present in fill 111 of pit 109; these are very abraded, but are probably all from the same Dr.31 dish. These were common from the mid 2nd century, but the condition of the sherds and character of the other pottery suggests a 3rd century date. The fill of pit 280 contained a square-rimmed jar shoulder in Hadham oxidised ware, confirming a 3rd century+ date for the pottery as a whole. A notable sherd was found in fill 111 of pit 109; this is a base sherd which bears a complex 'X' graffito on the underside.

7.9.7 Pits 215 and 325

7.9.8 Similar assemblages to those of pits 109 and 280 were recovered from the fills of these pits, with the addition of quern fragments found in both. The amount of pottery from pit 325 is too small for comment and that from pit 215 comprises mainly body sherds. There is a base from a Nene Valley colour-coated ware folded beaker and sherds of Hadham oxidised ware. These provide a similar 3rd century+ date for this assemblage. The presence of burnt sherds is not significant, and may just represent accidental burning of broken cooking vessels.

7.9.9 The Gullies/Slots

7.9.10 A network of gullies produced a sparse collection of undistinguished finds, comprising small amounts of baked clay, flints and pottery. The pottery, in particular, is a small and

abraded collection with an average sherd weight of 4.5g. These comprise body sherds in coarse fabrics, not closely datable within the Roman period. The assemblage as a whole has the appearance of material which has been redeposited, perhaps following incorporation into a midden along with other domestic waste.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

- 8.1.1 Seven bulk environmental samples were collected, four from kiln 113 and three from deposits rich in organic material. These samples were wet-sieved and divided into a coarse fraction, a fine fraction, and a 'flot'. A summary of finds from these are detailed below:-
- 8.1.2 Sample 1 was taken from the second from top fill (127) from kiln 113. This yielded a high amount of charcoal content and traces of carbonised seeds. Small fragments of bone and fragments of pot were also present. Daub recovered from the fine fraction may have originated from a collapsed superstructure. However, the lack of significant quantities of burnt grain suggests that the feature was unlikely to have been used as a corn dryer.
- 8.1.3 Sample 2 was taken from the uppermost fill (128) of kiln 113. This sample also contained frequent charcoal and baked clay, plus rare bone, carbonised seeds, grain and pottery. The inclusion of such a range of material may support the interpretation as a multipurpose oven, rather than as a pottery kiln or corn dryer. However, as an upper fill, this deposit may merely be the result of the dumping of domestic waste. This is supported by the fact that the small bone fragments showed no evidence of burning.
- 8.1.4 Sample 3 was taken from a basal 'fill' (129) of corn-dryer 113. No archaeological material was recovered other than rare charcoal flecks. It is likely that this context (and those below) represent natural that has been scorched by burning and that the charcoal has infiltrated the deposit through natural processes.
- 8.1.5 Sample 4 was taken from the primary fill (130) of corn-dryer 113. No archaeological material was recovered other than rare charcoal flecks. Again it is likely that that this context represents scorched natural with intrusive charcoal inclusions.
- 8.1.6 Sample 5 came from a primary 'fill' (287) of pit segment 280. This context was likely to be part of large pit 109. The sample contained occasional pottery, rare burnt bone, charcoal

and carbonised seeds. This shows that the pit was probably back-filled with domestic refuse, possibly with the 'rake-out' from ovens/hearths.

- 8.1.7 Sample 6 came from the fill (164) of one of the deeper gullies (163) that have been identified as of possible agricultural function. This sample contained rare pottery, but occasional carbonised seeds and grain in the flot, the fine fraction and the coarse fraction. Although the deposit may represent domestic refuse, the lack of bone fragments and relative abundance of grain may suggest that corn drying was being carried out nearby.
- 8.1.8 Sample 7 came from the primary fill (235) of the re-cut of the NE-SW boundary ditch (234). It too was found to contain carbonised cereal grain, but in very small quantities, along with one sherd of pottery, a possible iron nail and rare flint flakes. Although such material may be general domestic refuse, it is likely that some of the finds are residual and originated from earlier features disturbed by the re-cut.

9 CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1.1 The trial trenching evaluation phase of this project revealed very little in the way of significant archaeological features. Although Area A contained a number of features, most of these dated to the post-medieval period or later. With the exception of the features in Trench 7, all the contexts recorded are likely to have been a project of standard agricultural practices over the last 200 years.
- 9.1.2 The purported Roman road that was postulated to run through the northern end of Area A was not identified. The cropmark evidence for the supposed road did, however, correspond with a natural outcrop of gravel. It is likely that this more freely draining material could have caused crop parching. Possible features were recorded within this gravel spread. However, the lack of consistency suggests that they were merely natural variations within a fluvial deposit.
- 9.1.3 Although the main NW-SE linear feature in Area B was found to be of modern origin, a number of other ditches in the area were devoid of dateable material. The alignment of these suggests that they may be contemporary with the main ditch; although their poor definition may suggest an earlier date. If they are field boundaries, it is likely that they were filled by 1881 as they do not appear on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of this area. No definite evidence for Roman activity, as suggested by the fieldwalking, was identified.

- 9.1.4 Area C contained a number of modern features that are all believed to be associated with the drainage of this low-lying area. All of the finds recovered indicated a late 19th to 20th century date for this activity. The material recovered from fieldwalking supports this.
- 9.1.5 Area D contained a number of features that were found to be areas of natural disturbance. Early editions of Ordnance Survey Maps showed that prior to 1896 the area contained many trees and is likely to have been pasture. Although many of the features recorded were caused by root disturbance, it is likely that some are partly due to waterlogging in this area. This is likely to account for the spreads of silty subsoil layers. The high incidence of post-medieval tile from this area is likely to have originated from Newton Hall, and was perhaps added to the field to aid drainage.
- 9.1.6 The enlargement of Trench 7, within Area A, revealed a variety of features dating to the 1st to late 3rd century AD. The main features of the site were a large NE-SW orientated boundary ditch, three large pits, a series of inter-cutting gullies or slots, and a possible oven or kiln type feature. It is likely that the ditches were part of an early Roman field system, whilst the gullies or slots and the oven related to later agricultural and processing activity. The exact purpose of the inter-cutting gullies was not determined, but their depth and inclusion of 'stake-holes' may suggest that they were cultivation trenches for crops or formed foundations for livestock enclosures. It is thought that the features encountered are peripheral to the main focus of activity, which is likely to lie to the north of the site, outside the present development area.
- 9.1.7 Evidence for agricultural activity is attested to by the presence of carbonised cereal grain from environmental samples and the recovery of two types of quern stone, the latter indicative of processing activity. The incidence of Roman tile, box flue, and building stone within the site may suggest that a building of some substance was located in the vicinity. The production of cereal crops, and associated processing activity attested to by the features recorded, would be consistent with this type of Roman settlement in this part of Essex.

10 ASSESMENT OF RESULTS

- 10.1.1 The results of the evaluation were broadly consistent with those from the fieldwalking exercise (Davis 2003). The open area excavation was centred over the highest concentration of fieldwalked Roman pottery (Area A) and areas post-medieval disturbance

were recorded where concentrations of post-medieval pottery were identified (Areas C and D). Although the fieldwalking suggested possible prehistoric activity within Area A, the evaluation has shown that most of the material is residual. It is likely that the later Roman features have disturbed most traces of early activity.

- 10.1.2 The quality of the preservation of most of the features encountered was variable. The majority of features were poorly-defined unless they contained high concentrations of finds or charcoal. The re-machining of the excavation area revealed that, although the original post-excavation plan was largely accurate, some features were not visible at surface level. In this situation, traces of earlier prehistoric features that were less finds-rich might not have been detected. Differential preservation may also have influenced the results, with deep ploughing possibly affecting the survival of remains at the tops of slopes where the topsoil was thinner.
- 10.1.3 The results of the investigation are likely to be of local significance. The occurrence of a rural Roman settlement in the vicinity of a known small Roman Town is not surprising. Traces of Romano-British field systems were identified in Phases 1 and 2 at Woodlands Park (Lavender 1997). Furthermore, C. J. Going has identified at least ten known or probable villas in the Dunmow district (Wickenden 1998). The results of this current fieldwork add to this knowledge and increase our understanding of the exploitation of the rural hinterland around Great Dunmow.
- 10.1.4 The importance of dating the origin of present day field systems is identified in the East Anglian Regional Research Agenda (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, 19). The fact that those of the earliest date within the excavation area were on a different alignment to those of post-medieval date, would suggest that the field system around Dunmow is not a remnant of Roman or Prehistoric occupation of the area.
- 10.1.5 The study of food consumption and production is another area of interest highlighted within the Regional Research Agenda: "Further work is needed on rural sites, characterising activities associated with crop cleaning, malting and storage" (*ibid*). The results of this investigation suggest the presence of an agricultural settlement, possibly involved in the production of food to supply a local market economy centred in Great Dunmow. Further specialist analysis of the carbonised grain and seeds, from the environmental samples, would establish the types of crops under cultivation. Any information that may have been gained on pastoral agriculture (i.e. animal bone) has probably been lost due to the acidity of the soil.

- 10.1.6 The finds are such a disparate collection that further study would produce few results. The ironwork would benefit from X-ray examination, as this would provide probable identifications, along with stable radiographs for archive use. Since the pottery consists mainly of body sherds, there is little potential for obtaining further information regarding pottery supply and function.
- 10.1.7 Although the worked flint forms a fairly small group, the majority of which is residual, it is worth further examination by a specialist, particularly the biface.
- 10.1.8 It is recommended that all of the material should be retained, except for the post-medieval tile and perhaps the minor categories of finds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1 : TRENCH SUMMARY

Trench No	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Area (m ²)	Grid Ref. N/E end	Grid Ref. S/W end	Features
1	30	2	0.30	60	562001223730	562031223730	11
2	30	2	0.28	60	562033223715	562033223685	None
3	30	2	0.35	60	562010223654	561983223641	None
4	44	2	c.0.30	88	562054223659	562027223647	56;57;64;66;68
5	30	2	c.0.30	60	562071223669	562071223639	1;3;5;14;21;23;
6	30	2	0.30	60	561920223617	561950223617	None
7	30	2	c.0.36	60	561957223631	561957223601	Open Area
8	30	2	0.30	60	561981223617	562011223617	None
9	30	2	0.30	60	562033223631	562033223601	None
10	30	2	c.0.30	60	562081223627	562055223613	None
11	30	2	c.0.30	60	561919223593	561919223563	None
12	30	2	c.0.30	60	561943223579	561973223579	None
13	30	2	0.30	60	561995223593	561995223563	None
14	30	2	0.23	60	562019223529	562049223579	None
15	30	2	0.37	60	562071223593	562071223563	None
16	30	2	0.34	60	561881223555	561881223525	69;71
17	30	2	0.33	60	561905223541	561935223541	None
18	30	2	0.30	60	561957223555	561957223525	None
19	30	2	0.32	60	561981223541	562011223541	None
20	30	2	0.25	60	562033223555	522033223525	None
21	30	2	0.31	60	562057223541	562087223541	None
22	30	2	c.0.34	60	562116223540	562091223523	None
23	30	2	c.0.36	60	561919223517	561919223487	None
24	30	2	0.30	60	561943223503	561973223503	None
25	30	2	c.0.30	60	561995223517	561995223487	None
26	30	2	c.0.30	60	562019223503	582049223503	None
27	30	2	0.34	60	562071223517	562071223487	None
28	30	2	0.25	60	561881223479	561881223449	None
29	30	2	0.37	60	561905223465	561935223465	None
30	30	2	0.30	60	561957223479	561957223449	None
31	30	2	0.30	60	561981223465	562011223465	None
32	30	2	0.29	60	562033223479	562033223449	None
33	30	2	0.50	60	561919223441	561919223411	None
34	30	2	0.30	60	561943223427	561973223427	None
35	30	2	0.32	60	561995223441	561995223411	None
36	30	2	0.37	60	561927223389	561957223389	None
37	56	2	0.30	112	561835223450	561778223420	31;33;35;37;39;41;43
38	30	2	0.30	60	561720223313	561750223313	25;27;29;30;
39	30	2	0.30	60	561705223287	561735223287	None
40	30	2	0.30	60	562048222826	562076222817	None
41	30	2	0.31	60	562044222817	562035222788	85
42	30	2	0.33	60	562065222781	562094222771	None
43	30	2	0.27	60	562023222754	562052222745	81
44	30	2	0.30	60	562077222751	562068222722	86
45	30	2	0.26	60	562038222736	562028222707	83;84
46	30	2	0.30	60	562047222706	562076222696	None
47	30	2	0.27	60	561937222670	561927222641	77
48	30	2	0.28	60	561951222658	561980222649	None
49	30	2	0.25	60	562000222682	562028222673	None
50	30	2	0.28	60	562053222679	562043222650	None
51	30	2	0.34	60	562101222703	562092222674	None
52	30	2	0.26	60	561957222631	561947222603	None
53	30	2	c.0.27	60	562005222655	561995222627	None
54	30	2	0.30	60	562062222599	562033222608	None
55	30	2	c.0.27	60	562023222634	562052222624	79

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56	30	2	c.0.28	60	562071222658	562100222648	None
57	30	2	c.0.27	60	562077222631	562067222602	None
58	30	2	c.0.33	60	562120222655	562111222626	None
59	27	2	0.30	54	561805223445	561781223428	45
60	17	2	0.30	34	561758223456	561772223441	47
61	23	2	0.45	46	562053223647	562031223638	None
Total				3694			

APPENDIX 2 : EVALUATION CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Feature	Trench	Category	Details	Period
1	1	5	Post-hole	Irregular cut, 0.8m by 0.33m, orientated NE-SW. Steep-sided with a curved base, 0.25m deep.	Modern
2	1	5	Fill	Dark brownish grey silt with orange mottles. Rare stones, charcoal and burnt clay, plus large piece of decomposing wood.	Modern
3	3	5	Field Drain	Regular linear feature with vertical sides, orientated NE-SW. 0.3m wide, >0.2m deep.	Modern
4	3	5	Fill	Greyish brown silty sand with rare stones and charcoal flecks. Contained glazed pottery.	Post-med/modern
5	5	5	Root Holes	Group of six irregular stake holes(?), <0.3m diameter. Un-excavated but some seen to cut (4).	Modern
6	5	5	Fill	Generic dark greyish brown silty sand fill of [5]. Unexcavated.	Modern
7	7	7	Ditch	Poorly defined NE-SW orientated ditch cut. 0.80m wide but not bottomed.	Roman
8	7	7	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare stones. Not bottomed, cut by [9].	Roman
9	9	7	Ditch	Poorly defined NE-SW orientated concave ditch cut. 1.2m wide but not bottomed. Cuts (8)	Roman
10	9	7	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with small stones and occasional charcoal plus pottery.	Roman
11	11	1	Ditch	NW-SE orientated poorly defined linear feature. >0.6m deep and 3.3m wide. Not bottomed.	Post Med/Modern
12	11	1	Fill	Mid orangish brown silty sand, 0.15m deep with occasional stones and 1 sherd of pottery. Upper fill of [11].	Post Med/Modern
13	11	1	Fill	Dark brownish grey sandy clay with rare stones and pot, flint and metal finds. Lower fill of [11], >0.15m deep, not bottomed.	Modern
14	14	5	Ditch	1.5m wide, NW-SE orientated linear feature. Well defined with straight sloping sides. >0.23m deep, not bottomed but cuts (16).	Modern
15	14	5	Fill	Mid greyish brown sandy clay with occasional stones and modern finds. >0.25m deep, cut by [23].	Modern
16	14	5	Fill	Poorly defined spread of mid orangish brown silty sand. 0.14m deep and > 3m wide. Cut by [14].	Modern
17	17	7	Post-hole (?)	Circular post-hole with vertical sides, 0.6m diameter by 0.22m deep.	Roman
18	17	7	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with pot sherds. Cut by [19].	Roman
19	19	7	Gully	0.5m wide gully with near vertical sides. Not bottomed >0.24m deep. Cuts (18).	Roman
20	19	7	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay. No finds but not bottomed.	Roman
21	21	5	Pit/Root Disturbance	Pit-like feature, 1.29m by 0.96m. >0.26m	Modern




				deep but not bottomed.	
22	21	5	Fill	Mixed brownish grey sandy clay with orangish brown bands. Occasional stoes and charcoal flecks. Not bottomed.	Modern
23	23	5	Post-hole	c.0.45m diameter circular post-hole. Unexcavated due to modern inclusions. Cuts (14).	Modern
24	23	5	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty sandy clay containing fragments of decaying wood. Unexcavated.	Modern
25	25	38	Ditch	NE-SW orientated linear feature, 1m wide and >0.30m deep. Not fully excavated. Cuts (30).	Modern
26	25	38	Fill	Mid orangish brown sandy clay with occasional small stones. Basal fill containing brick fragments. Not fully excavated.	Modern
27	27	38	Gully	NE-SW orientated linear, 0.4m wide by 0.2m deep. Straight sides and a concave base. Cuts layer (30).	Modern.
28	27	38	Fill	Dark orangish grey clayey silt with common small stones and brick fragments. Very similar to topsoil.	Modern
29	29	38	Post-hole	0.15m diameter circular post-hole, 0.43m deep. Cuts layer (30).	Modern
30	30	38	Layer	0.15m thick deposit of mid greyish orange silty clay with common small stones, brick and tile fragments. 16m by 2m.	Natural
31	31	37	Land Drain	SE-NW orientated linear feature, 0.55m wide by 0.30m deep. Near vertical sides, not bottomed.	Modern?
32	31	37	Fill	Mid yellowish brown chalky clay, >0.30m deep. No finds but not bottomed.	Modern?
33	33	37	Gully	Butt end of short linear feature (same as 35). 0.24m wide by 0.1m deep with concave profile.	?
34	33	37	Fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay including common small rounded stones and frequent snail shells.	?
35	25	37	Gully	Segment of [33], showing relationship with [37].	?
36	35	37	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common small rounded stones and snail shells. Same as (34), cut by [37].	?
37	37	37	Cut	Segment of [39], 0.13m deep, showing relationship with [35]. Cuts (36).	?
38	37	37	Fill	Mid orangish brown silty clay with no finds. Same as (40).	?
39	39	37	Cut	Irregular, poorly defined NE-SW orientated curvilinear feature. >4m long and 0.85m wide, not fully excavated. Same as [37].	?
40	39	37	Fill	Mid orangish brown silty clay >0.12m deep. Same as (38). No finds recovered.	?
41	41	59	Field Drain	E-W orientated linear feature with steep sided profile. 0.8m wide, > 0.30m deep. Not bottomed.	Modern
42	41	59	Fill	Mid yellowish brown chalky clay, >0.30m deep, no finds.	Modern
43	43	60	Ditch	NW-SE orientated linear feature, 1.70m wide and 0.30m deep. Gradually sloping sides with void at base. Same as [31]	Modern
44	43	60	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional medium sized stones. Contains	Modern

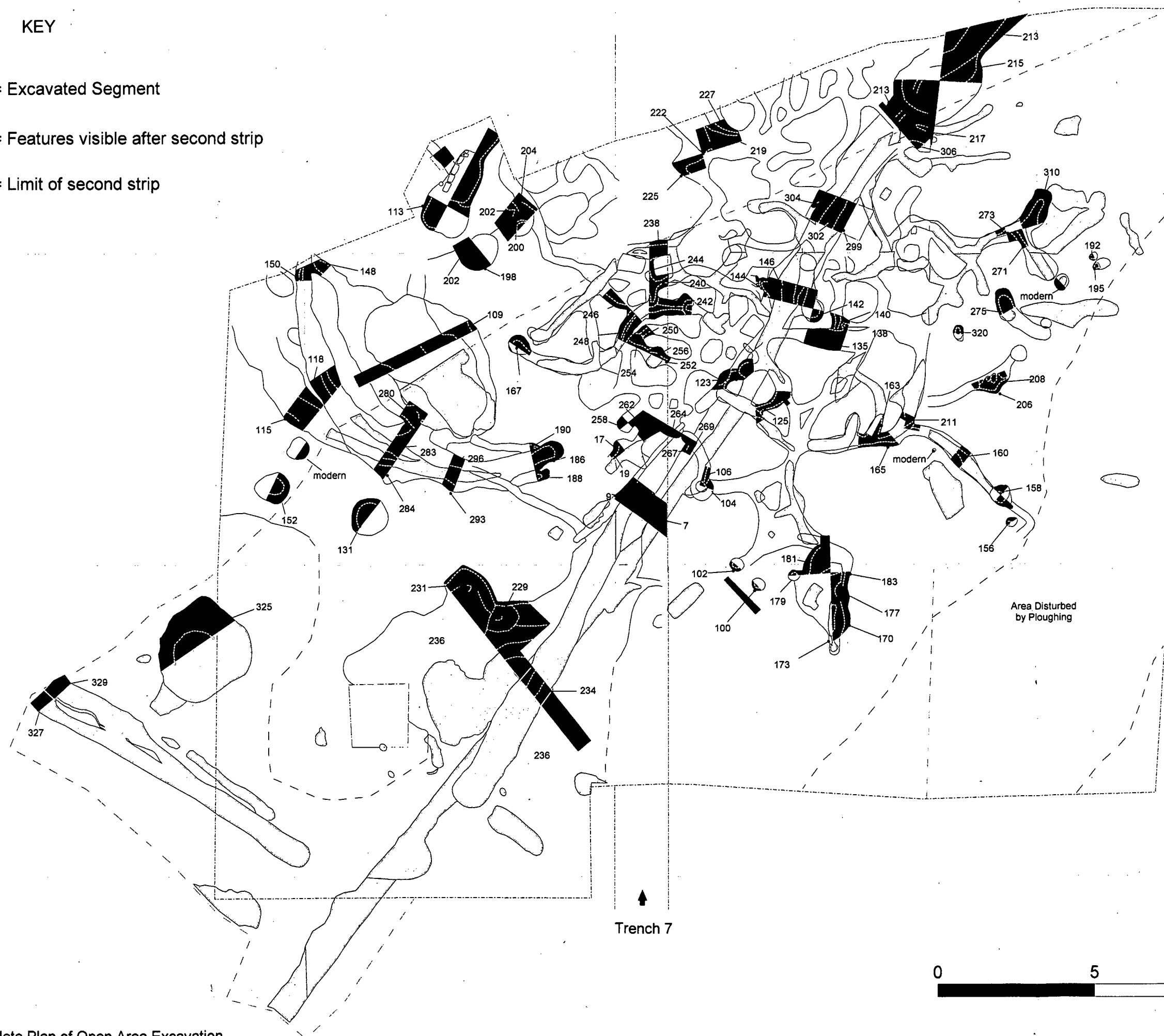
				circular void at base. Same as (32).	
45	45	37	Cut of Feature	Poorly defined shallow feature with diffuse edges. 0.30m deep by 20m long. Same as [48].	Natural
46	45	37	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional medium stones. 1.2m wide and <0.30m deep. Same as [47].	Natural
47	47	37	Cut of Feature	Irregular poorly defined spread with shallow sloping sides. Not fully excavated. Same as [45].	Natural
48	47	37	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional small-medium stones. Same as (46).	Natural
49	25	38	Fill	Dark orangish grey sandy clay including common small stones. Subject to root and animal disturbance. Upper fill of [25] above (26).	Modern
50	29	38	Fill	Very loose dark orangish grey clayey silt. Single fill of [29]. Similar to topsoil.	Modern
51	51	4	Layer	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with common small-medium stones. < 0.33m thick, above (52) and (53).	Natural
52	52	4	Layer	Mid orangish brown sandy clay with occasional small-large stones. 0.06m thick, above (61).	Natural
53	553	4	Layer	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay with rare to occasional stones. Above (59) and (60).	Natural
54	54	4	Layer	Mid orangey brown silty sand with abundant small-large stones Above (58), below [56] and [57].	Natural
55	55	4	Layer	Brownish orange coarse sand with abundant grit and gravel. Cut by [56].	Natural
56	56	4	Ditch(?)	0.6m wide by 0.22m deep poorly defined possible linear feature recorded in section only. Cuts (54) and (55)	Natural (?)
57	57	4	Ditch(?)	0.5m wide by >0.33m deep, NW-SE orientated, steep-sided linear feature. Not fully excavated. Cuts (54) and (61).	Natural (?)
58	58	4	Layer	Mid brownish orange silty sand with occasional-common small stones. Below (54), > 0.08m deep.	Natural (?)
59	56	4	Fill	Mid orangish brown silt including occasional small-medium stones. Below (53), fill of [56].	Natural (?)
60	57	4	Fill	Mid to dark brown silty sand with occasional-common small-large stones. Below (53), fill of [56].	Natural (?)
61	61	4	Layer	Mid orangish brown silty sand with common small-large stones. Associated with (68), above (58), cut by [57].	Natural
62	62	4	Layer	Mid brownish orange silty sand with occasional small-medium stones. Cut by [64], above (65).	Natural
63	64	4	Fill	Mid-dark yellowish brown sandy clay with rare-occasional small-medium stones. Below (51)	Natural
64	64	4	Post-hole (?)	Possible feature seen in section. 0.5m wide by 0.22m deep. Cuts (62).	Natural
65	66	4	Fill	Mid brownish orange silty sand with rare small-medium stones and occasional manganese flecks.	Natural (?)
66	66	4	Ditch (?)	Possible NNW-SSE orientated linear	

				feature seen in section. 0.95m wide, >0.2m deep. Not fully excavated. Cuts (67)	Natural (?)
67	67	4	Layer	Mixed orangish brown silty sand with dark grey patches, including common small-medium stones. Cut by [66].	Natural
68	68	4	Layer	Poss. Metalled surface consisting of layers (54), (60) and (61). 6.8m wide but no finds or correlation with possible ditches.	Natural
69	69	16	Gully	NW-SE orientated linear feature 0.76m wide by 0.12m deep. Steep sided with an irregular base. Poorly defined and heavily disturbed.	Post-med./ Modern
70	69	16	Fill	Mid yellowish/greyish brown silty clay, including rare small flints and brick and pot sherds.	Post-med./ Modern
71	71	16	Cut	SW-NE orientated linear feature, poorly defined but c.12m wide and >0.23m deep. Uneven base, not fully excavated.	Post-med./ Modern
72	71	16	Fill	Mid yellowish Brown silty clay with rare small-medium stones and some pottery. Above (73), (75) and (76).	Post-med./ Modern
73	71	16	Deposit	Loose gravel fill at base of [72] composed of frequent medium sized stones. Not fully excavated. Above (74).	Post-med./ Modern
74	71	16	Deposit	Mid yellowish/greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small-medium sized stones. Not excavated, below (73).	Post-med./ Modern
75	71	16	Deposit	Dark greyish brown clayey silt with rare small stones. Not fully excavated. Below (72).	Post-med./ Modern
76	71	16	Deposit	Dark to mid greyish brown clayey silt with rare small-medium stones. Below (72)	Post-med./ Modern
77	77	47	Service Trench	0.70m wide, vertically sided, NW-SE orientated linear feature. Not fully excavated.	Modern
78	77	47	Fill	Mid brown sandy clay and chalky boulder clay mix. 0.3m deep including a fragment of glass.	Modern
79	79	55	Natural Feature	16m wide depression with gently sloping sides and a very irregular base. Not fully excavated.	Modern
80	79	55	Backfill	Highly mixed deposit composed of topsoil, boulder clay and silty clay.	Modern.
81	81	43	Gully (?)	Butt-ended linear orientated NNS-ESE, 0.4m wide by 0.13m deep. shallow concave profile.	Natural (?)
82	81	43	Fill	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with no inclusions.	Natural (?)
83	83	45	Layer	0.22m deep orangish brown clay layer. No finds or inclusions. Above (84).	Natural
84	84	45	Layer	>0.13m deep layer of orangish brown clay with common small chalk fragments.	Natural
85	85	41	Layer	Light to mid greyish orangey brown silty clay with occasional small-medium stones and post-med pottery.	Post-med./ Modern
86	86	44	Layer	Spread of mottled mid greyish brown silty clay with yellowish orange clay mottles.	Natural
87	87	5	Layer	Find from cleaning layer.	Post-med./ Modern



KEY

-  = Excavated Segment
-  = Features visible after second strip
-  = Limit of second strip



APPENDIX 4 : OPEN AREA EXCAVATION CONTEXT LIST

Context	Feature	Category	Period
100	100	Post-hole	Roman
101	100	Fill	Roman
102	102	Post-hole	Unknown
103	102	Fill	Unknown
104	104	Gully	Unknown
105	104	Fill	Unknown
106	106	Post-hole	Unknown
107	106	Fill	Unknown
108	106	Fill	Unknown
109	109	Pit	Roman
110	109	Fill	Roman
111	109	Fill	Roman
112	112	Layer	Roman or Earlier
113	113	Kiln	Roman
114	109	Fill	Roman
115	115	Ditch	Roman
116	115	Fill	Roman
117	115	Fill	Roman
118	118	Ditch	Roman
119	118	Fill	Roman
120	118	Fill	Roman
121	121	Natural Feature	Roman or Earlier
122	121	Fill	Roman or Earlier
123	123	Gully	Roman
124	123	Fill	Roman
125	125	Gully	Unknown
126	125	Fill	Unknown
127	113	Fill	Late Roman
128	113	Fill	Mid to Late 3 rd C+
129	113	Fill	Roman
130	113	Fill	Roman
131	131	Pit	Roman
132	131	Fill	Roman
133	133	Natural Feature	Unknown
134	134	Fill	Unknown
135	135	Gully	Unknown
136	135	Fill	Unknown
137	135	Fill	Unknown
138	138	Gully	Unknown
139	138	Fill	Unknown
140	140	Gully	Unknown
141	140	Fill	Unknown
142	142	Post-hole	Roman
143	142	Fill	Roman
144	144	Cut of Feature	Roman or Earlier
145	144	Fill	Roman or Earlier
146	146	Ditch	Mid 1 st C
147	146	Fill	Mid 1 st C
148	148	Gully	Roman or Earlier
149	148	Fill	Roman or Earlier
150	150	Gully	Roman
151	150	Fill	Roman
152	152	Pit	Unknown
153	152	Fill	Unknown

154	113	Fill	Unknown
155	113	Fill	Unknown
156	156	Post-hole	Unknown
157	156	Fill	Unknown
158	158	Post-hole	Roman
159	158	Fill	Roman
160	160	Gully	Roman or Later
161	160	Fill	Roman or Later
162	160	Fill	Roman or Later
163	163	Gully	Roman
164	163	Fill	Roman
165	165	Gully	Roman
166	165	Fill	Roman
167	167	Gully	Roman
168	167	Fill	Roman
169	167	Fill	Roman
170	170	Pit	Unknown
171	171	Fill	Unknown
172	171	Fill	Unknown
173	173	Post-hole	Unknown
174	173	Fill	Unknown
175	175	Gully	Unknown
176	175	Fill	Unknown
177	177	Post-hole	Unknown
178	177	Fill	Unknown
179	179	Post-hole	Unknown
180	179	Fill	Unknown
181	181	Gully	Unknown
182	181	Fill	Unknown
183	183	Gully	Unknown
184	183	Fill	Unknown
185	170	Fill	Unknown
186	186	Ditch	Roman
187	186	Fill	Late 3 rd C+
188	188	Gully	Roman or Later
189	188	Fill	Roman or Later
190	190	Gully	Roman or Earlier
191	190	Fill	Roman or Earlier
192	192	Stake Hole	Unknown
193	192	Fill	Unknown
194	192	Fill	Unknown
195	195	Post-hole	Unknown
196	195	Fill	Unknown
197	195	Fill	Unknown
198	198	Pit	Unknown
199	198	Fill	Unknown
200	200	Pit	Unknown
201	200	Fill	Unknown
202	202	Gully	Unknown
203	202	Fill	Unknown
204	204	Gully	Unknown
205	204	Fill	Unknown
206	206	Pit	Roman or Earlier
207	206	Fill	Roman or Earlier
208	208	Gully	Roman
209	208	Fill	Roman
210	208	Fill	Roman
211	211	Ditch	Roman
212	211	Fill	Roman

213	213	Ditch	Roman
214	213	Fill	Roman
215	215	Pit	Roman
216	215	Fill	?3rdC+
217	217	Gully	Roman
218	217	Fill	Roman
219	219	Gully	Roman or Later
220	219	Fill	Roman or Later
221	219	Fill	Roman or Later
222	222	Post-hole	Roman or Later
223	222	Fill	Roman or Later
224	222	Fill	Roman or Later
225	225	Ditch	Roman
226	225	Fill	Roman
227	227	Ditch	Unknown
228	227	Fill	Unknown
229	229	Post-hole	Roman or Earlier
230	229	Fill	Roman or Earlier
231	231	Post-hole	Roman or Earlier
232	231	Fill	Roman or Earlier
233	233	Layer	Roman
234	234	Ditch	Roman
235	234	Fill	Roman
236	236	Layer	Roman
237	279	Fill	
238	238	Gully	Roman
239	238	Fill	Roman
240	240	Gully	Roman
241	240	Fill	Roman
242	242	Gully	Roman
243	242	Fill	Roman
244	244	Gully	Unknown
245	244	Fill	Unknown
246	246	Gully	Roman
247	246	Fill	Roman
248	248	Gully	Roman
249	248	Fill	Roman
250	250	Gully	Unknown
251	250	Fill	Unknown
252	252	Gully	Unknown
253	252	Fill	Unknown
254	254	Post-hole/Pit	Roman
255	254	Fill	Roman
256	256	Post-hole/Pit	Roman
257	256	Fill	2 nd C+
258	258	Post-hole	Unknown
259	258	Fill	Unknown
260	260	Gully	Unknown
261	260	Fill	Unknown
262	262	Gully	Unknown
263	262	Fill	Unknown
264	264	Gully	Unknown
265	264	Fill	Unknown
266	264	Fill	Unknown
267	267	Ditch	Roman or Earlier
268	267	Fill	Roman or Earlier
269	269	Gully	Roman
270	269	Fill	Roman
271	271	Gully	Roman

272	271	Fill	Roman
273	273	Gully	Roman or Later
274	273	Fill	Roman or Later
275	275	Gully	Roman
276	275	Fill	Roman
277	275	Fill	Roman
278	271	Fill	Roman
279	279	Pit	Roman
280	280	Pit	Roman
281	281	Ditch	Roman
282	282	Post-hole	Roman
283	283	Ditch	Roman
284	284	Ditch	Roman or Earlier
285	279	Fill	Roman
286	286	Layer	Late 2 nd C+
287	280	Fill	Mid to Late Roman
288	282	Fill	Roman
289	289	Gully	Roman or Later
290	281	Fill	3 rd C+
291	283	Fill	Roman
292	284	Fill	Roman or Earlier
293	293	Ditch	Roman?
294	293	Fill	Roman?
295	295	Ditch	Roman
296	295	Fill	Mid Roman
297	109	Fill	Roman
298	289	Fill	Roman or Later
299	299	Ditch	Roman or Earlier
300	299	Fill	Roman or Earlier
301	299	Fill	Roman or Earlier
302	302	Post-hole	Roman or Earlier
303	302	Fill	Roman or Earlier
304	304	Gully	Roman
305	304	Fill	Roman
306	306	Gully	Unknown
307	306	Fill	Unknown
308	308	Gully	Unknown
309	308	Fill	Unknown
310	310	Gully	Roman or Earlier
311	310	Fill	Roman or Earlier
312	310	Fill	Roman or Earlier
313	313	Ditch	Roman or Later
314	314	Ditch	Roman or Later
315	313	Fill	Roman or Later
316	314	Fill	Roman or Later
317	234	Deposit	Roman
318	318	Deposit	Roman or Later
319	319	Deposit	Roman
320	320	Post-hole	Unknown
321	321	Gully	Unknown
322	321	Fill	Unknown
323	320	Fill	Unknown
324	211	Fill	2 nd C+
325	325	Pit	Roman
326	325	Fill	Roman
327	327	Ditch	Roman
328	327	Fill	Roman
329	329	Ditch	Roman or Earlier
330	329	Fill	Roman or Earlier

APPENDIX 5 : FINDS DATA

Post med. Pottery data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
u/s	Tr.5	1	2	White earthenware body sherd (Discarded)	Post med.
4	3	3	2	White earthenware with blue transfer print, joining body sherds	Post med.
12	11	1	6	Grey stoneware, brown glaze, body sherd	Modern
15	14	6	20	White earthenware, cup rim sherd with blue stripes, and body sherds, ?same vessel	Post med.
		2	6	Post-medieval red earthenware, body sherds, one brown glaze, one green	Post med.
70	69	1	50	Post-medieval red earthenware, thick rim sherd, green internal glaze	Post med.
72	71	1	2	Post-medieval red earthenware, body sherd, int. green glaze and white slip	Post med.
85	Layer	1	3	Post-medieval red earthenware, body sherd, flowerpot	Post med.
	Totals	16	91		

Roman Pottery data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
10	9	7	42	Body sherds, GRS, GRF and BUF	Roman
18	17	5	78	Joining dish rim and body sherds with lattice, BSW; body sherds, GRS	Roman
20	19	2	4	Body sherds, GRF and GRS	Roman
72	71	1	24	Body sherd, GRS	Roman
101	100	1	6	Body sherd, GRS	Roman
111	109	13	154	Dish rim and body sherds, TSG 5/84g; E2 bowl-jar rim sherd, GRF; beaker rim sherd, RED; base and body sherds, BSW and GRS, one has graffito (SF1)	Roman
116	115	3	6	Body sherds, GRS	Roman
119	118	10	44	E2 bowl-jar rim sherd; joining jar rim sherds; base and body sherds, GRS/GRF; body sherd, BSW	Roman
124	123	3	10	Body sherds, GRS, GRF and RED	Roman
127	113	12	38	Body sherds, RET, GRS, NVC and ?HAX [the latter may be from an H39 beaker], inc. 4/2g from sample 1, three are NVC, rouletted	?Late Roman
128	113	37	615	B5.1 dish, mostly joining sherds, whole profile, BSW; jar base and body sherds, rim sherd from another vessel, GRS; jar rim sherd, STOR, inc. 2/1g body sherds from sample 2	Mid to late 3rd C+
132	131	3	14	Body sherds, GRS and HAX	Roman
143	142	1	8	Body sherd, GRS	Roman
147	146	6	122	Body sherds, GROGC and BSW	Mid 1st C
151	150	6	66	Body sherds, GRF, GRS and BSW	Roman
159	158	2	14	Body sherds, GRS/GRF	Roman
164	163	5	12	Body sherds, GRS and GRF with rouletting, inc. 3/6g body sherds from sample 6, one sherd has rouletting, another is GROG	Roman
166	165	7	16	Rim and body sherds, BSW	Roman
168	167	3	4	Body sherds, GRS	Roman
187	186	23	254	Rim and body sherd, B5.2 dish, BB1; ?bowl-jar rim sherds, GRS; b/s, GRS/GRF; rim and b/s, HAX	Late 3rd C+
209	208	1	4	Body sherd, GRS	Roman
216	215	28	256	Folded beaker base, NVC; base and body sherds, GRS/GRF; b/s, HAX; b/s, some burnt, BSW	?3rd C+
218	217	2	2	Body sherds, GRS and BUF	Roman
226	225	6	16	Body sherds; GRS and BSW	Roman

233	Layer	13	126	Base sherds and bodysherd, GRS; rim sherd, ?TSG; ?beaker rim sherd, abraded, BSW; bodysherds, BSW	Roman
235	234	5	8	Small rim sherd, TSG; body sherds, NVC, GRS and burnt UPOT, inc. a tiny body sherd GRS from sample 7	Roman
236	Layer	22	372	Base and body sherds, GRS [all same vessel]	Roman
239	238	1	14	Lower wall sherd, GRS	Roman
241	240	1	6	Body sherd, GRS	Roman
243	242	3	10	Body sherds, GRS and BSW	Roman
247	246	1	8	Body sherd, GRS	Roman
249	248	4	28	Base and body sherds, GRS and BSW	Roman
255	254	3	16	Body sherds	Roman
257	256	6	62	G24 jar rim, and body sherd, GRS; jar shoulder sherds, BSW; body sherd, GRF	2nd C+
270	269	2	12	Joining jar rim sherds, GRS	Roman
272	271	2	22	Jar rim sherd, GRS; body sherd, ?burnt, GROG	Roman
286	Layer	7	38	G5 jar rim sherds, GRF; body sherds, GRS, one rouletted, and HAX	Late 2ndC+
287	280	17	80	Body sherd, TSG; jar rim and body sherds, burnt, GRS; joining jar rim and shoulder sherds, HAX, inc. 7/10g body sherds from sample 5, TSG, GRS and GRF	Mid to late Roman
290	281	4	8	Shoulder sherd, scale beaker, NVC; body sherds, HAX and GRF/GRS	3rd C+
291	283	1	14	Thick body sherd, GRS	Roman
296	295	2	24	Base and body sherds, BSW, one has traces of rouletting	Mid Roman
305	304	1	4	Rim sherd, GRS	Roman
317	234	6	54	Body sherds, all same vessel, GRF	Roman
319	Deposit	1	2	Body sherd, RED	Roman
324	211	1	12	G24 jar rim, GRS	2nd C+
326	325	3	12	Body sherd, TSG; jar rim sherd and body sherd, GRS	Roman
328	327	2	4	Very small rim sherd and chip, ?GRS	Roman
	Totals	295	2745		

Prehistoric Pottery data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
72	71	2	6	Body sherds	Prehistoric
110	109	1	8	Body sherd	Prehistoric
111	109	1	2	Body sherd	Prehistoric
116	115	2	4	Body sherds	Prehistoric
168	167	1	14	Body sherd	Prehistoric
216	215	4	12	Body sherds	Prehistoric
218	217	4	8	Body sherds	Prehistoric
228	227	1	2	Body sherd	Prehistoric
319	Deposit	69	234	Rim and body sherds, ?all same vessel	Prehistoric
328	327	1	24	Body sherd	Prehistoric
	Totals	86	314		

Post med. Tile data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
13	11	1	46	Tile fragment	Post med.
15	14	2	12	Tile spalls, probably post med.	?Post med.
16	14	3	40	Roof tile fragments	Post med.
22	21	1	14	Roof tile fragment	Modern
26	25	3	50	Brick and roof tile fragments	Modern
28	27	1	14	Brick fragment	?Post med.
30	Layer	4	184	Roof tile fragments, one with peg hole	Post med.
50	29	1	38	Brick fragment	Post med.
85	Layer	1	80	Roof tile fragment	Post med.
87	Layer	2	30	Roof tile fragments	Post med.
124	123	2	28	Roof tile fragments	Post med.

136	135	1	12	Roof tile fragment	Post med.
	Totals	22	548		

Roman Tile data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
13	11	1	6	Tile fragment	?Roman
110	109	1	328	Box flue tile fragment	Roman
128	113	58	13145	Tile fragments and spalls, nearly all <i>tegulae</i>	Roman
151	150	1	12	Tile fragment	Roman
159	158	1	2	Tile spall, probably Roman	?Roman
216	215	2	392	<i>Tegula</i> fragment and ?brick fragment	Roman
235	234	5	246	Tile fragments, probably Roman	?Roman
236	Layer	2	30	Tile fragments	?Roman
243	242	1	16	Tile fragment	Roman
277	275	1	10	Tile fragment	Roman
	Totals	73	14187		

Metalwork data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
10	9	1	16	Iron object	-
13	11	1	12	Copper wire (Modern – Discarded)	Modern
15	14	1	1110	Iron cart-horseshoe (Discarded)	-
		1	10	CuA sheet (?clock mechanism - Discarded)	Modern
20	19	1	4	Iron nail	-
111	109	1	2	Iron nail head	-
116	115	1	8	Iron object	-
119	118	3	18	Iron nails	-
126	125	2	40	Iron nails	-
127	113	1	2	Iron nail	-
128	113	4	58	Iron blade, SF2; iron nails, SFs 3 and 4; iron nail	-
151	150	1	4	Iron nail	-
216	215	2	16	Iron nails	-
235	234	2	60	Iron object; iron object/nail from sample 7 (6g)	-
236	Layer	1	20	Iron nail	-
286	Layer	4	16	Iron nails	-
287	280	3	66	Iron objects/nails	-
		16	28	Iron hobnails	-

Baked clay data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description
72	71	-	2	Baked clay
101	100	-	12	Baked clay
111	109	-	8	Baked clay
116	115	-	2	Baked clay
127	113	-	4	Baked clay, inc. 2g from sample 1
128	113	-	236	Baked clay, inc. 90g from sample 2
132	131	-	10	Baked clay
159	158	-	6	Baked clay
164	163	-	1	Baked clay from sample 6
196	195	-	2	Baked clay
201	200	-	28	Baked clay
205	204	-	2	Baked clay
209	208	-	1	Baked clay
210	208	-	8	Baked clay
216	215	-	4	Baked clay
235	234	-	48	Baked clay
241	240	-	12	Baked clay
243	242	-	42	Baked clay

286	Layer	-	2	Baked clay
287	280	-	18	Baked clay from sample 5
319	Deposit	-	2	Baked clay
		Total	450	

Other finds data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
15	14	1	4	Clay pipe stem	Post med.
		1	2	Window glass, clear (Discarded)	Modern
		1	48	Bottle glass, dark green, ?phial base	Post med.
78	77	1	1	Window glass fragment	Post med.
87	Layer	1	2	Clay pipe stem	Post med.
127	113	21	6	Animal bone; rib fragment, medium-sized mammal; 20 fragments from sample 1 (2g)	-
128	113	4	1	Animal bone fragments from sample 2	-
		1	18	Oyster shell, one valve	-
		2	192	Stone; samples	-
216	215	1	242	Stone; possible quern	-
233	Layer	6	4	Animal bone; cattle tooth fragments	-
235	234	1	50	Stone; chalk sphere	-
		1	2040	Stone, unworked	-
		2	2155	Lava quern fragments	-
249	248	9	56	Animal bone, all surfaces abraded; rib fragments, large mammal; humerus, distal end, ?pig; other frags	-
287	280	4	1	Burnt bone fragments from sample 5	-
326	325	1	1895	Quern fragment	-

Stone data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
128	113	1	54	Septaria fragment, unworked	-
		1	140	Millstone grit fragment, burnt. Probably originally from a quern, it may have been reshaped into a block, now broken.	-
216	215	1	242	Millstone grit rotary quern fragment, re-used as a sharpening stone. It has a grooved grinding surface, apparently not very worn. The full thickness may be present, but the other face is damaged. The edge, which is possibly not the original edge of the quern, is flat and polished by wear. Max. th. 41mm.	Roman
235	234	1	50	Chalk pebble, unworked	-
		1	2040	Indurated gravel. Unworked.	-
		2	2155	Lava quern fragments. Upper stone, probably both from the same stone, but not joining. The surfaces are eroded. There is a slight trace of a low kerb c. 54mm wide. Th. at edge 31mm, diam. 440mm.	Roman
326	325	1	1895	Grit, probably millstone grit. Rotary quern, upper stone fragment The top has a low, narrow kerb round the edge. The top inside the kerb is pecked, the edge is pecked, and the grinding surface is worn smooth. It may have been deliberately cut down into a roughly rectangular block c. 110x120mm. Th. at edge 70mm, diam. indeterminable.	Roman

Worked Flint data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description
u/s	Tr.5	1	6	Flake
13	11	1	34	Core
111	109	1	18	Flake
116	115	8	86	6 flakes, one with a possibly deliberate notch; 2 bashed lumps, possibly unworked
119	118	2	2	Flake; blade segment
128	113	1	16	Scraper
132	131	1	1	Flake
147	146	1	2	Flake
159	158	1	6	Flake
168	167	4	12	Flakes, one with fine retouch
187	186	2	12	Flakes
205	204	2	20	Flake fragment; large blade with possible small area of retouch
210	208	1	2	Blade
214	213	13	138	5 flakes, one with fine retouch to the edge; 3 blades/blade fragments, one with milky patination, and one with partial fine retouch; 4 lumps working waste; scraper?, minimal retouch to the edge.
216	215	5	63	2 flakes; 1 blade segment; bashed lump; irregular piece with possible retouch.
218	217	3	18	2 flakes, one possibly retouched; blade with slight milky patina
235	234	2	1	Flakes
243	242	3	36	Flake; blade segment, retouched; damaged, burnt piece, possibly worked
255	254	1	1	Blade
272	271	5	68	Flakes, one with partial retouch and one dubious.
277	275	1	9	Flake, dubious
311	310	2	38	Flake; bifacial ovate, possibly cut down from an axe
	Totals	61	589	

APPENDIX 6 : EHR SUMMARY SHEET

Site name/Address: Woodlands Park, Phases 3 and 4, Great Dunmow, Essex.	
Parish: Great Dunmow	District: Uttlesford
NGR: TL 615225	Site Code: GDWP03
Type of Work: Trial Trenching Evaluation and Open Area Excavation	Site Director/Group: Ben Barker. Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 4 st March- 9 th April 2003	Size of Area Investigated:
Location of Finds/Curating Museum:- Saffron Walden Museum	Funding source: Wickford Development Company Ltd
Further Seasons Anticipated?: No	Related EHR Nos.: EHCR 1185
Final Report: Davis, E. 2003: <i>Woodlands Park, Phases 3 and 4, Great Dunmow, Essex: Fieldwalking Survey</i> , ECCFAU Internal Report.	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p>The Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (FAU) carried out trial trenching and open area excavation on Phases 3 and 4 of the Woodlands Park development, Great Dunmow, Essex.</p> <p>The trial trenching targeted 4 areas of potential archaeological activity, previously identified by fieldwalking (Davis 2003). A total of 61 trenches were excavated, the majority of which contained no archaeological remains. Of the 14 trenches with potential archaeological features, most were proven to be areas of post medieval or modern disturbance associated with agricultural practice. Trench 7, along the northern edge of Phase 4, revealed several poorly defined features dating to the Roman period.</p> <p>An open area was subsequently excavated in the vicinity of Trench 7. The total area stripped was approximately 900 square metres. This included a high density of features dating Roman period, although residual Neolithic and Iron Age pottery was also recovered. The main features of the site were a large NE-SW orientated boundary ditch, three large pits, a series of inter-cutting gullies or slots, and a possible oven or kiln. It is likely that the ditches are part of an early Roman field system, with an oven and stockades or cultivation trenches relating to later agricultural activity. It is thought that the features encountered are peripheral to a main focus of activity, which is likely to lie to the north of the site.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports:- Davis, E. 2003: <i>Woodlands Park, Phases 3 and 4, Great Dunmow, Essex: Fieldwalking Survey</i> , ECCFAU Internal Report.	
Author of Summary: Ben Barker (ECCFAU)	Date of Summary: August 03